

College students' cultivation evaluation index system and grey performance measurement model

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Abstract

The performance evaluation of the quality of higher schools' talents cultivation is an effective way of measuring higher schools' abilities of cultivating high talents. It also works efficiently for measuring higher schools' adaptabilities and abilities to serve the society. The process of evaluating performance of higher schools' talent cultivation is complicated and affected by many factors. With analyses of the factors that can affect the quality of higher schools' talents cultivation, a talents cultivation evaluation index system is established. With a metric analytical investigation of relevant evaluation criteria of the index system, and based on the grey system theory, a grey performance measurement model of higher schools' talents cultivation is proposed. The grey relevancy of the performance evaluation of higher schools' talents cultivation is obtained by considering weights of different evaluations. Then higher schools' abilities and qualities of cultivating talents can be evaluated and analysed based on the grey relevancy. Lastly, the model and algorithm are analysed and verified through specific application cases: it is proven that the model and algorithm are operable and functional

Keywords: Higher school; talents cultivation; performance evaluation; grey system; model)

1 Introduction

Along with the rapid development and universal implementation of the quality education in the modern society, the issues of educating and cultivating high talents in higher schools are of great importance. An effective performance evaluation of higher schools' talents cultivation is not only a crucial means of measuring higher schools' abilities of cultivating students, but is also urgently required during the educational reform and sustainable development of high talents cultivation in the modern society^[1-3]. Thus, establishing a scientific and effective performance evaluation system and related model of higher schools' talents cultivation is of great theoretical and application values. To date, some researchers have already conducted researches and investigations in this area and have proposed some related performance evaluation systems and models with valuable theoretical insights^[4-8]. Nevertheless, limitations exist due to several reasons: 1) the process of evaluating and analysing higher schools' talents cultivation is a system engineering that has a high complexity and can be affected and constrained by factors of various forms and types; 2) existing performance evaluation systems in most cases only consider local influencing factors of students' cultivation quality thus 3) the related models and criteria of specific forms are also limited. Therefore, on the basis of existing research achievements, this thesis proposes a new performance evaluation system of higher schools' talents cultivation and establishes a performance evaluation model based on the

grey system theory, attempting to realize effective evaluation and analysis of higher schools' abilities to cultivate talents and the cultivation quality.

2 The performance evaluation index system of higher schools' talents cultivation quality

Talents cultivation quality is the core of higher schools education, the quality and capacity of talents cultivation is the key part reflecting directly how well higher schools perform in the allocation of educational resources, implementing educational development and reform, and how well they teach. Therefore, establishing a scientific, reasonable and comprehensive performance evaluation index system that can reflect higher schools' abilities to educate students and their talents cultivation quality can potentially help higher schools with their planning and formulation of talents cultivation methods in an effective and targeted way and enhance the quality of higher schools' talents cultivation. Most of the existing performance evaluation index systems of higher schools' talents cultivation look at higher schools' development only from local perspectives. They often fail to analyse the issues thoroughly and comprehensively. The ideas of building the evaluation index systems and related index design have certain limitations. For this purpose, this thesis attempts to develop a new performance evaluation index system of higher schools' talents cultivation that complies with scientific, comprehensive, integrated, reasonable and practical principles. The structure and contents of the system are shown below.

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TABLE 1 Performance evaluation index system of higher schools' talents cultivation quality

System	Criterion	Criterion
Performance evaluation index system of higher schools' talents cultivation quality A	Input in teaching A_1	Proportion of teachers with high-grade professional titles in all teaching staff a_{11}
		Number of quality courses at and above the provincial level a_{12}
		Number of teaching awards at and above the provincial level a_{13}
Input in scientific research A_2		Investment in teaching a_{14}
		Annual number of scientific and research projects at and above the provincial level a_{21}
		Annual number of scientific and research awards at and above the provincial level a_{22}
Teaching and training capacity A_3		Number of key laboratories at and above the provincial level a_{23}
		Average annual number of qualified personnel trained a_{31}
		Year average ratio of qualified talents a_{32}
		Innovation ability trained a_{33}
Scientific research training capacity A_4		Application ability trained a_{34}
		Leadership trained a_{35}
		Average annual number of high-level papers published a_{41}
		Average annual number of patents a_{42}
Social Service capacity A_5		Average annual number of scientific and innovative contests participated at and above the provincial level a_{43}
		Average annual number of scientific and innovation awards at and above the provincial level a_{44}
		Graduate employment rate a_{51}
		Science and technology service ability a_{52}
		Social satisfaction a_{53}

3 The grey measurement model for performance evaluation of higher schools' talents cultivation quality

3.1 THE ACCURATE GREY MEASUREMENT MODEL FOR PERFORMANCE EVALUATION OF TALENTS CULTIVATION QUALITY

In the performance evaluation index system of higher schools' talents cultivation quality, some indicators can be measured by specific values. Meanwhile, among these indicators which can be measured by precise values, some are benefit-type and some are cost-type. In order to adopt a unified metric in the grey measurement model for performance evaluation, standardizing the indicators that are measured by specific figures is necessary.

Hypothetically, in the performance evaluating process of higher schools' talent cultivation quality, the accurate magnitude of the evaluation indexes j in the higher school G_i is $f_j(G_i)$; then if j refers to indicators of benefit-

type, the standardized magnitude $v_j(G_i)$ of the evaluation indexes j in the higher school G_i is:

$$v_j(G_i) = \frac{f_j(G_i)}{\sup_{1 \leq k \leq n} (f_j(G_i), \dots, f_j(G_k), \dots, f_j(G_n))} \tag{1}$$

If j refers to indicators of cost-type, then the standardized magnitude $v_j(G_i)$ of the evaluation indexes j in the higher school G_i is:

$$v_j(G_i) = \frac{\inf_{1 \leq k \leq n} (f_j(G_i), \dots, f_j(G_k), \dots, f_j(G_n))}{f_j(G_i)} \tag{2}$$

If the optimum magnitude of the evaluation indexes j which is already known as $v_j(G_0)$, then:

$$d_{ij} = |v_j(G_0) - v_j(G_i)| \tag{3}$$

Especially, if the optimum magnitude exists, then:

$$v_j(G_0) = \sup_{1 \leq k \leq n} (v_j(G_i), \dots, v_j(G_k), \dots, v_j(G_n)) \tag{4}$$

Formula (3) can be transformed as well as:

$$d_{ij} = \left| \sup_{1 \leq k \leq n} (v_j(G_i), \dots, v_j(G_k), \dots, v_j(G_n)) - v_j(G_i) \right| \tag{5}$$

According to the grey system theory, the grey relational coefficient γ_{ij} between the evaluation indexes j and the optimum magnitude $v_j(G_0)$ in the higher school G_i is:

$$\gamma_{ij} = \frac{\min_i \min_j d_{ij} + \rho \max_i \max_j d_{ij}}{|d_{ij}| + \rho \max_i \max_j d_{ij}}, \tag{6}$$

where ρ represents resolution ratio, normally $\rho = 0.5$.

$$v_j(G_i) = (v_j^a(G_i), v_j^b(G_i)) = \left(\frac{v_j^a(G_i)}{\sup_{1 \leq k \leq n} (f_j(G_k))}, \frac{v_j^b(G_i)}{\sup_{1 \leq k \leq n} (f_j(G_k))} \right) \tag{7}$$

And if the evaluation indexes j are of cost-type, then the standardized magnitude $v_j(G_i)$ is:

$$v_j(G_i) = (v_j^a(G_i), v_j^b(G_i)) = \left(\frac{\inf_{1 \leq k \leq n} (f_j(G_k))}{v_j^a(G_i)}, \frac{\inf_{1 \leq k \leq n} (f_j(G_k))}{v_j^b(G_i)} \right) \tag{8}$$

If the optimum magnitude of evaluation indexes j is already known as:

$$v_j(G_0) = (v_j^a(G_0), v_j^b(G_0)) = \left(\sup_{1 \leq k \leq n} v_j^a(G_i), \sup_{1 \leq k \leq n} v_j^b(G_i) \right) \tag{9}$$

Then:

$$D_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} (|v_j^a(G_0) - v_j^a(G_i)| + |v_j^b(G_0) - v_j^b(G_i)|) \tag{10}$$

According to the grey system theory, the grey relational coefficient γ_{ij} between the evaluation indexes j and the optimum magnitude among the indexes $v_j(G_0)$ in higher school G_i is:

$$\gamma_{ij} = \frac{\min_i \min_j D_{ij} + \rho \max_i \max_j D_{ij}}{|D_{ij}| + \rho \max_i \max_j D_{ij}}. \tag{11}$$

where ρ represents resolution ratio, normally $\rho = 0.5$.

3.3 WEIGHTS OF PERFORMANCE EVALUATION INDEXES OF TALENTS CULTIVATION QUALITY BASED ON AHP (ANALYTIC HIERARCHY PROCESS)

After obtaining various types of evaluation indicators in the evaluation index system, the weights of the different

3.2 THE FUZZY GREY MEASUREMENT MODEL FOR PERFORMANCE EVALUATION OF TALENTS CULTIVATION QUALITY

In the performance evaluation index system of higher schools' talents cultivation quality, some performance evaluation indicators of talents cultivation quality need to be described qualitatively and some indicators have fuzziness. At the same time, among these fuzzy indicators some are benefit-type and some are cost-type. Therefore, it is required to standardize these fuzzy indicators for the purpose of using them in a more appropriate way in the grey measurement model for performance evaluation of higher schools' talents cultivation quality.

Presumably, the fuzzy magnitude of the evaluation indexes j in the higher school G_i is

$$f_j(G_i) = (f_j^a(G_i), f_j^b(G_i)),$$

and if the indexes are particularly qualitative, the magnitude can be transformed by means of ratio scale. If the evaluation indexes j are of benefit-type, then the standardized magnitude $v_j(G_i)$ is:

evaluation indicators need to be analyzed. This thesis allocates the weights of evaluation index according to AHP method, adopting a rating scale ranging from 1 to 9 to represent the significances of different evaluation index. A questionnaire analysis in the form of expert scoring is conducted to ultimately generate a comparative judgment matrix P of the performance evaluation index of higher schools' talents cultivation quality:

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} p_{11} & p_{12} & \dots & p_{1n} \\ p_{21} & p_{22} & \dots & p_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ p_{n1} & p_{n2} & \dots & p_{nn} \end{pmatrix}, \tag{12}$$

where $1 \leq p_{ij} = \frac{1}{p_{ji}} \leq 9$

And the equation of the eigenvalue λ and the eigenvector W in the comparative judgment matrix P is:

$$P * W = \lambda * W \tag{13}$$

Through formula (13) we can get the maximum eigenvalue λ_{max} , then the coincidence indicator CI as:

$$CI = (\lambda_{max} - n) / (n - 1) \tag{14}$$

If $CR = \frac{CI}{RI}$ meets the demands of consistency check where RI is the random coincidence indicator corresponding to the evaluation index, the eigenvector W of the maximum eigenvalue λ_{max} can be generated as

$$W = (W_1, \dots, W_j, \dots, W_n)$$

And after the normalization processing of W , the weight w_j of the evaluation index j is obtained as:

$$w_j = \frac{W_j}{(W_1 + \dots + W_j + \dots + W_n)} \tag{15}$$

3.4 THE GREY MEASUREMENT ALGORITHM IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION OF HIGHER SCHOOLS' TALENTS CULTIVATION QUALITY

According to the hierarchical structure of the performance evaluation index system of higher schools' talents cultivation quality, the evaluation has a two-tier hierarchical structure. And based on the weights of different tiers, the grey measurement models of different tiers can be generated. If the weight of evaluation index is W_{ijk} :

Then the grey metric ϕ_{ij} of the evaluation index k at the level of index under criterion j in the higher school G_i is:

$$\phi_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^n (w_{ijk} * \gamma_{ijk}) \tag{16}$$

Similarly, if the weight of evaluation criterion is w_{ip} , the grey metric ϕ_i of the evaluation index p at the level of criterion in the higher school G_i is:

$$\phi_i = \sum_{p=1}^m (w_{ip} * \phi_{ip}) \tag{17}$$

According to the physical significance of the grey metric ϕ_i , it is stated that the bigger ϕ_i is, the closer it is from the optimum value, the better is the talents cultivation quality in the higher school G_i . Consequently the evaluation criterion of performance evaluation of higher schools' talents cultivation quality can be generated on the basis of the grey metric ϕ_i , which is:

$$\phi_0 = \max(\phi_1, \dots, \phi_i, \dots, \phi_s) = \phi_s \tag{18}$$

It can be claimed that the evaluation results of talents cultivation quality in the higher school G_s are the best.

4 Application cases and explanations

This thesis attempts to take the comprehensive appraisals of 3 higher schools within the same system in a specific place as examples. The examples help to analyze and explain the performance evaluation index system and the grey measurement model of higher schools' talents cultivation quality. As shown below in Table 2, the specific evaluation indexes of these 3 higher schools are collected on the basis of investigation and survey and statistical analysis.

TABLE 2 The performance evaluation indexes of higher schools' talents cultivation quality

Criterion	Criterion	Weight	Indicator value		
			college 1	college 2	college 3
Input in teaching A_1	Proportion of teachers with high-grade professional titles, in all teaching staff a_{11}	0.193	0.95	0.93	0.93
	Number of quality courses at and above the provincial level a_{12}	0.166	26	21	24
	Number of teaching awards at and above the provincial level a_{13}	0.122	47	36	28
	Investment in teaching a_{14}	0.531	8-9	8-9	7-8
Input in scientific research A_2	Annual number of scientific and research projects at and above the provincial level a_{21}	0.613	308	364	347
	Annual number of scientific and research awards at and above the provincial level a_{22}	0.269	11	15	18
	Number of key laboratories at and above the provincial level a_{23}	0.117	16	18	14

Teaching and training capacity A_3	Average annual number of qualified personnel trained a_{31}	0.250	8785	7936	8922
	Average annual ratio of qualified personnel trained a_{32}	0.250	0.98	0.98	0.95
	Innovation ability trained a_{33}	0.250	7-8	8-9	8-9
	Application ability trained a_{34}	0.250	8-9	7-8	8-9
	Leadership trained a_{35}	0.250	8-9	8-9	7-8
Scientific research training capacity A_4	Average annual number of high-level papers published a_{41}	0.208	2032	1896	2411
	Average annual number of patents a_{42}	0.083	68	85	71
	Average annual number of scientific and innovative contests participated at and above the provincial level a_{43}	0.208	18	16	16
	Average annual number of scientific and innovation awards at and above the provincial level a_{44}	0.501	6	4	3
Social Service capacity A_5	Graduate employment rate a_{51}	0.635	0.98	0.96	0.98
	Science and technology service ability a_{52}	0.105	8-9	8-9	7-8
	Social satisfaction a_{53}	0.261	8-9	8-9	8-9

The standardized results of the data in Table 2 via standardization model are shown in Table 3.

TABLE 3 the standardization of the evaluation index data

Criterion	Indicator value		
	college 1	college 2	college 3
Proportion of teachers with high-grade professional titles in all teaching staff a_{11}	1.000	0.979	0.979
Number of quality courses at and above the provincial level a_{12}	1.000	0.808	0.923
Number of teaching awards at and above the provincial level a_{13}	1.000	0.766	0.596
Investment in teaching a_{14}	0.889-1.000	0.889-1.000	0.778-0.889
Annual number of scientific and research projects at and above the provincial level a_{21}	0.846	1.000	0.953
Annual number of scientific and research awards at and above the provincial level a_{22}	0.611	0.833	1.000
Number of key laboratories at and above the provincial level a_{23}	0.889	1.000	0.778
Average annual number of qualified personnel trained a_{31}	0.985	0.889	1.000
Annual average ratio of qualified talents a_{32}	1.000	1.000	0.969
Innovation ability trained a_{33}	0.778-0.889	0.889-1.000	0.889-1.000
Application ability trained a_{34}	0.889-1.000	0.778-0.889	0.889-1.000
Leadership trained a_{35}	0.889-1.000	0.889-1.000	0.778-0.889
Average annual number of high-level papers published a_{41}	0.843	0.786	1.000
Average annual number of patents a_{42}	0.800	1.000	0.835
Average annual number of scientific and innovative contests participated at and above the provincial level a_{43}	1.000	0.889	0.889
Average annual number of scientific and innovation awards at and above the provincial level a_{44}	1.000	0.667	0.500

Graduate employment rate a_{51}	1.000	0.980	1.000
Science and technology service ability a_{52}	0.889-1.000	0.889-1.000	0.778-0.889
Social satisfaction a_{53}	0.889-1.000	0.889-1.000	0.889-1.000

The specific indicator-level grey magnitudes generated based on the grey measurement model at the level of index are shown in Table 4.

TABLE 4 Parameter-level grey magnitudes

Criterion	Indicator value		
	college 1	college 2	college 3
Proportion of teachers with high-grade professional titles in all teaching staff a_{11}	1.000	0.906	0.906
Number of quality courses at and above the provincial level a_{12}	1.000	0.513	0.724
Number of teaching awards at and above the provincial level a_{13}	1.000	0.463	0.333
Investment in teaching a_{14}	1.000	1.000	0.645
Annual number of scientific and research projects at and above the provincial level a_{21}	0.559	1.000	0.806
Annual number of scientific and research awards at and above the provincial level a_{22}	0.333	0.541	1.000
Number of key laboratories at and above the provincial level a_{23}	0.637	1.000	0.468
Average annual number of qualified personnel trained a_{31}	0.789	0.333	1.000
Year average ratio of qualified talents a_{32}	1.000	1.000	0.644
Innovation ability trained a_{33}	0.645	1.000	1.000
Application ability trained a_{34}	1.000	0.645	1.000
Leadership trained a_{35}	1.000	1.000	0.645
Average annual number of high-level papers published a_{41}	0.614	0.539	1.000
Average annual number of patents a_{42}	0.556	1.000	0.602
Average annual number of scientific and innovative contests participated at and above the provincial level a_{43}	1.000	0.693	0.693
Average annual number of scientific and innovation awards at and above the provincial level a_{44}	1.000	0.429	0.333
Graduate employment rate a_{51}	1.000	0.779	1.000
Science and technology service ability a_{52}	1.000	1.000	0.333
Social satisfaction a_{53}	1.000	1.000	1.000

TABLE 5 The grey magnitudes at the level of criterion

Criterion	Indicator value		
	college 1	college 2	college 3
Input in teaching A_1	1.000	0.721	0.652
Input in scientific research A_2	0.510	0.847	0.758
Teaching and training capacity A_3	0.887	0.796	0.858
Scientific research training capacity A_4	0.793	0.665	0.657
Social Service capacity A_5	1.000	0.926	0.778

The performance evaluation results of these 3 higher schools' talents cultivation quality are obtained based the grey magnitudes of different indexes and criterion in Table 5. They are $\varphi = (0.838, 0.791, 0.768)$, from which we can see that the grey magnitude of the performance evaluation of the higher school 1's talents cultivation quality is the biggest. That concludes that higher school 1 has the best ability of cultivating students

5 Conclusions

This thesis has analyzed and discussed the issues regarding the performance evaluation of higher schools' talents cultivation quality, and has constructed a new performance evaluation index system of higher schools' talents cultivation quality. Additionally, a grey measurement

model for performance evaluation based on the grey system theory has been proposed. The evaluation index system analyzes the issues of higher schools' talents cultivation quality from the perspectives of comprehensiveness and integrity, thus it is believed that the system is scientific, objective and reasonable. In the meantime, relevant grey metrics are obtained in the grey measurement model through processing indexes of various types. It can be seen that the physical significance of this method is clear and the calculation is simple. It strongly supports the computer implementation of the performance evaluation of higher schools' talents cultivation quality. The effectiveness of the measurement model and related performance evaluation index system has also been proven by the application cases and analysis in this thesis

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