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BattleBots: Distinguishing the ‘best’ from the ‘rest’

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Synopsis

An engineering school in southern India is developing a BattleBot to compete in the upcoming BattleBots season. For this, the features of the strongest performers in the previous seasons need to be compared, particularly, those between 2016 and 2022. The subjectivity of the success criterion adds a layer of complexity to the analysis. For example, a bot’s main weapon may be configured in a variety of ways, such as installing a rotary blade, hammer, or a vertical drub; thereby making it impossible to distinguish one bot from another using a single parameter. A focus group, assigned with the task of an objective analysis of these bots through rigorous methods, was concerned with the technical and developmental assessment such as timeline, cost, and feasibility. Further, the group must also identify the ‘what next’ on product development as the chosen concept ought to be realized in terms of functional physical solutions.

Keywords: BattleBots, Group decision-making, Pair-wise comparison, AHP

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