

# **Identifying and Prioritizing CSFs in Data Science and AI: The Case of tiket.com Using DEMATEL and ANP**

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## **Abstract**

One significant advancement in Online Travel Agency (OTA) technology is the implementation of Artificial Intelligence (AI) for data processing in OTA systems. However, previous research indicates that the adoption of AI in OTAs faces challenges, such as algorithmic bias and data privacy risks. To address these issues, this study aims to analyze eight Critical Success Factors (CSFs) identified in prior research that have been proven to significantly influence the performance of AI project teams in overcoming the challenges associated with AI implementation. Through analysis using DEMATEL and Analytic Network Process (ANP) methods, this study provides an output in the form of an impact digraph that illustrates the interrelationships among CSF indicators and the priority weights of

each CSF. The findings reveal that all eight CSFs are interrelated in terms of influence and dependence, with the exception of Knowledge & Skill. The CSFs categorized as causal factors include problem-driven approach, data understanding, and knowledge and skill, while communication, collaboration, top management support, operational agility, and cost-benefit analysis are categorized as effect factors. The top three most critical factors are problem-driven approach with a weight of 0.105, followed by Data Understanding (0.088) and communication (0.074).

## **Keywords**

Critical Success Factors, Artificial Intelligence, Online Travel Agency, DEMATEL, ANP

## **1. Introduction**

Technological developments in Indonesia have significantly transformed operational processes from manual to automated systems across various industries. One significant result of this development is the emergence of data science, a multidisciplinary field combining computer science, statistics, and business, to create insights from massive datasets and support informed decision-making (Martinez et al., 2021). However, the number of data scientists in Indonesia remains limited compared to growing demand, creating a gap that needs to be addressed (Surbakti et al., 2023). Artificial Intelligence is directly connected with data science, which also handles large-scale data analysis to identify patterns, detect anomalies, and support strategic decisions. While artificial intelligence (AI) was first introduced in Indonesia in the 1980s within limited sectors, such as oil and gas, it is now widely applied through Internet-based platforms (Yusriadi et al., 2023). These technologies hold great promise for industries that rely on large volumes of data, including tourism.

One application of technological advancements in AI and data science is in the tourism industry. Indonesia's tourism sector continues to grow rapidly, supported by numerous attractive destinations. In the first half of 2023, there were 433.57 million domestic tourist trips or a 12.57% increase compared to the previous year. Additionally, international arrivals reached 6.31 million trips, marking a 196.85% increase from 2022 (Dávid et al., 2024). This growth calls for more advanced travel services that can handle increasing demand efficiently.

Online Travel Agencies (OTAs) have emerged as digital innovations in this space, offering online platforms for booking flights, accommodation, holiday packages, and other travel services (Oktavia & Abner, 2023). A study by Jolene (2023) indicates that promotions through Online Travel Agencies (OTAs) have an  $R^2$  value of 0.767, suggesting that approximately 76.7% of the increase in room occupancy can be attributed to OTA-based promotional strategies—highlighting the effectiveness of such promotions in the hospitality sector. Furthermore, Start.io (2024) reports that 53.5% of OTA users in Indonesia belong to the 18–24 age group and commonly use OTAs for flights, hotels, and rentals. This supports high OTA usage among younger Indonesians. This strong preference underlines the growing importance of OTAs in national tourism ecosystems. To maintain user satisfaction and operational efficiency, many OTAs have begun integrating AI technologies, such as chatbots, preference-based recommendation engines, and automated service processes. These systems rely heavily on big data collected from user interactions (Sousa et al., 2024). For instance, AI can suggest personalized travel options based on user history, simplify the booking process, and improve the overall experience (Yang et al., 2024).

Despite these advantages, several challenges have arisen in the application of AI to OTA systems. As demand increases, managing large-scale data becomes more complex, raising concerns regarding algorithmic bias and data privacy (Surbakti et al., 2024). Pagano et al. (2023) emphasize that bias and unfairness in machine learning often stem from imbalanced datasets, inadequate fairness metrics, and insufficient mitigation strategies, posing significant challenges to ethical AI deployment. To address these challenges, it is essential to effectively implement AI projects in OTAs. Critical Success Factors (CSFs) play a vital role in determining the success of projects. According to Surbakti et al. (2024), key CSFs include problem-driven approaches, cost-benefit analysis, data understanding, top management support, collaboration, communication, knowledge and skills, and operational agility. Although these factors have been studied in other contexts, research specific to OTAs remains limited.

### **1.1 Objectives**

This study focuses on identifying and analyzing the interrelationships and prioritization of these CSFs within the OTA environment, particularly on tiket.com, one of the top two most preferred OTAs in Indonesia. Focusing on tiket.com, the results are expected to be broadly applicable across the OTA industry. To achieve this, this study applies the

DEMATEL method to map causal relationships among CSFs and uses Analytics Network Process (ANP) to prioritize them. DEMATEL is well-suited for analyzing interdependencies, whereas ANP supports a network-based decision structure that offers greater flexibility and realism than traditional hierarchical methods such as Analytical Hierarchical Process (AHP). tiket.com can develop more targeted strategies for AI project implementation by identifying the most influential CSFs and understanding their relationships. This will not only enhance project success, but also boost competitiveness, customer satisfaction, and sustainable digital transformation in the OTA landscape.

## **2. Literature Review**

Critical Success Factors (CSFs) are analytical methods that consider essential aspects within a company's environment to determine the factors that influence a company's goals. This method helps companies identify key aspects of operational activities that affect their performance in achieving their vision and mission. The purpose of CSFs is to enhance organizational objectives by determining necessary actions and relevant information. CSFs are required to achieve a company's mission and are usually established after strategic analysis (Kim, 2022). In this study, there are eight CSFs that will be analyzed: problem-driven approach, cost-benefit analysis, data understanding, top management support, collaboration, communication, knowledge and skills, and operational agility (Surbakti et al., 2024).

### **2.1 Competence and Teamwork Category**

The CSFs identified in the study by Surbakti et al. (2024) can be categorized into competency aspects and teamwork aspects. Competence can be understood as a combination of abilities, skills, experience, and success in performing job responsibilities. Competence consists of three main indicators: knowledge relevant to the job and desire for continuous self-development, technical expertise aligned with the field of responsibility, and ability to recognize and solve problems. It also includes attitudes such as showing initiative in assisting colleagues and demonstrating friendliness and politeness while performing tasks (Calhau et al., 2024).

Teamwork refers to the ability of individuals to effectively collaborate in a group to achieve common goals. This includes good communication among team members, collaboration, and mutual support to synergistically complete tasks. Moreover, teamwork also involves regular coordination and mutual trust among members to ensure a smooth workflow and optimal results (Paredes-Saavedra et al., 2024). The following are the explanations of each CSF.

### **2.2 Problem-Driven Approach**

The problem-driven approach is a decision-making method that focuses on identifying specific problems before collecting relevant data to guide problem-solving. This approach is highly beneficial for supporting strategic decisions by observing the environment and identifying potential issues. The most crucial first step in this approach is identifying the problem that needs to be resolved using relevant data and then seeking appropriate solutions (Wu et al., 2023).

### **2.3 Cost-Benefit Analysis**

Cost-benefit analysis (CBA) is a method used to evaluate the effectiveness of an activity by comparing the benefits obtained with the costs incurred, while also considering potential risks. Previous studies have shown that CBA play a critical role in assessing whether big data projects achieve their goals. Moreover, analyzing cost-benefit factors is essential to ensure the feasibility of big data initiatives (Chatterjee et al., 2023).

### **2.4 Data Understanding**

Data understanding is used to identify the relevant data used in solving problems, particularly in the context of a problem-driven approach. Data from various sources cannot be used directly because of differences in origin and reliability. Therefore, several processes are required, including finding links between data and business processes, identifying primary data sources, assessing data value, selecting and integrating data, analyzing data trends, and finding additional sources for improvement. The goal is to understand the strengths and weaknesses of the data and ensure their suitability for solving the identified problem (Holstein et al., 2024).

### **2.5 Top Management Support**

Top management support refers to the active involvement and support of top-level leaders such as CEOs and other executives. This includes providing sufficient resources such as time, funding, skills, and team motivation. Top

management support plays a crucial role in creating a supportive environment to ensure project success through influences that can shape team behavior (Fareed & Su, 2022).

## **2.6 Collaboration**

Collaboration involves active interaction and cooperation between two or more individuals within an organization. It aims to combine all the relevant resources to produce outcomes that are more effective and efficient than working individually (Meyers et al., 2023).

## **2.7 Communication**

Communication in organizations refers to the process of sharing information required by all team members for decision-making. It is essential to organize and execute tasks. Focused and efficient communication initiatives are necessary to ensure smooth operation within an organization (Subiyanto et al., 2024).

## **2.8 Knowledge and Skills**

In the corporate context, knowledge refers to the information and understanding possessed by employees regarding the procedures needed to perform tasks and responsibilities in a particular field. This knowledge enhances the operational effectiveness and efficiency. Skilled employees tend to complete tasks more accurately and productively, positively impacting overall company performance (Arévalo et al., 2022). Skills refer to the level of expertise employees possess in executing their assigned tasks. This includes choosing effective methods, adapting to different situations, and utilizing prior experience to deliver better outcomes. Knowledge and skills are critical factors for any company (Sony & Mekoth, 2022).

## **2.9 Operational Agility**

Operational agility is a key factor that reflects how quickly a company can adapt to changes in market and customer needs. This involves internal adjustments and the rapid adoption of new technologies. Operational agility enables organizations to respond to challenges and uncertainty by redesigning internal processes, adopting technology, and adjusting production or service operations to remain competitive. These reasons make operational agility a vital factor in achieving business success (Asghar et al., 2025).

## **2.10 CSF's Indicators**

CSF indicators are measurable signs or criteria that indicate whether a Critical Success Factor is successfully achieved. Each CSF typically has one or more indicators that provide concrete evidence of its performance or effectiveness. These indicators are essential for monitoring success, guiding decision-making, and identifying areas that need improvement. The indicators for each CSF are listed in Table 1.

Table 1. CSF's Indicators

Aspect	Critical Success Factor	Indicators	Source
Competence	Problem Driven Approach	Problem Identification Ability Root Cause Identification Ability Solution-Finding Ability	(Marmaras & Pavard, 1999)
	Cost Benefit Analysis	Cost Understanding Benefit Potential Understanding Risk Analysis Ability	(Ananyi & Somieari-Pepple, 2023)
	Data Understanding	Basic Data Understanding Selection & Integration Ability Trend Analysis Ability	(Holstein et al., 2024)
	Knowledge and Skill	Work Experience Educational Background Fit SOP Understanding Level	(Sony & Mekoth, 2022)
Teamwork	Collaboration	Teamwork Ability Trust Level Employee Empowerment	(Meyers et al., 2023)

Aspect	Critical Success Factor	Indicators	Source
	Communication	Focused Communication Ability Knowledge Sharing Ability Initiative in Communication	(Subiyanto et al., 2024)
	Operational Agility	Internal Adaptability New Technology Adoption Ability Productivity Level Management	(Asghar et al., 2025)
	Top Management Support	Leader Involvement in Monitoring Leader Involvement in Decision-Making Leader Involvement in Analysis	(Fareed & Su, 2022)

### 3. Methods

#### 3.1 Data Collection and Participants

The primary data collection was conducted using a questionnaire. A questionnaire is a data-collection method that involves a series of structured questions. Respondents were asked to provide answers that could be evaluated either by choosing from predefined options or completing available open-ended sections. This technique is commonly used in quantitative research to collect data from broader samples (Kuphanga, 2024). In this study, the data were collected twice using questionnaires.

Two types of questionnaires were designed for this study due to the need for two rounds of data collection. The first questionnaire was designed to gather information on the interrelationships among CSFs using the DEMATEL method. The second was a pairwise comparison questionnaire used in the ANP method to determine the weight of each CSF with the aim of identifying the CSF that most significantly influences the desired goal. Both questionnaires were distributed to the entire AI project team as they were directly involved with the issues being studied.

Both questionnaires were designed using Excel to improve the efficiency of the completion process and ease the response burden. The DEMATEL questionnaire was filled out by entering scale values in designated Excel cells, following the instructions described in the previous chapters. For the ANP questionnaire, respondents highlighted the cells using colors based on the selected scale. The format of the questionnaire is provided in the Appendix.

To ensure that data were sourced from valid respondents, data collection was conducted among all employees on tiket.com from Data Science and Machine Learning Engineer who were related to the topic and were available during the data collection period, totaling 26 individuals. The results of this questionnaire served as the basis for data processing using the DEMATEL method to identify the interrelationships among CSFs and the ANP method to determine the factors that most influence goal achievement.

#### 3.2 DEMATEL Method for Data Processing

Based on the results of the collected data, the first set of data obtained from the DEMATEL questionnaire was processed using the following steps: determining the questionnaire scale, creating a direct relation matrix, normalizing the matrix, constructing the total relation matrix, calculating vectors, and creating an impact digraph (Nyimbili et al., 2023).

##### 3.2.1 Creating the Direct Relation Matrix

The measurement was carried out using a previously established scale derived from the questionnaire responses. These results were compiled into a direct-relation matrix. The matrix is structured as a pairwise matrix labeled A with dimensions of  $n \times n$ , where the value of  $A_{ij}$  represents the extent to which factor i influences factor j.

### 3.2.2 Normalizing the Direct Relation Matrix

The constructed matrix represents the direct relationships between the respective factors, which can be normalized using the following formula:

$$D = k \times A \dots\dots\dots(1)$$

$$k = \frac{1}{\max \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij}}, i, j = 1, 2, \dots, n \dots\dots\dots(2)$$

Where D represents the normalized direct relation matrix.

### 3.2.3 Constructing the Total Relation Matrix

After normalizing the direct relation matrix, the next step is to create the total relation matrix using the following formula:

$$T = D(I - D)^{-1} \dots\dots\dots(3)$$

Where T is the total relation matrix.

### 3.2.4 Calculating Vectors Ri (Received Influence) and Ci (Centralized Influence)

The row and column sums are denoted by the vectors Ri and Ci, respectively. The horizontal axis (Ri + Ci), known as prominence, was calculated by summing Ri and Ci to reflect the importance level of each criterion. The vertical axis (Ri – Ci), referred to as relation, is used to categorize the cause and effect groups, where a positive value is categorized as a cause and a negative value as an effect. The formulas used are as follows:

$$T = [t_{ij}]_{n \times n} \quad i, j = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n \dots\dots\dots(4)$$

$$D = \left[ \sum_{j=1}^n t_{ij} \right]_{n \times 1} \dots\dots\dots(5)$$

$$R = \left[ \sum_{j=1}^n t_{ij} \right]_{1 \times n} \dots\dots\dots(6)$$

### 3.2.5 Impact Digraph

Based on the total relation matrix, each value within the matrix indicates the degree of interconnection between factors i and j. These values were used to create an impact digraph that visualizes the relationships among the factors. However, if all relationships are shown in the digraph, the structure becomes too complex for effective decision making. Therefore, it is necessary to determine a threshold value to filter out only the most influential relationships. Only relationships with values exceeding this threshold will be considered in the construction of the impact digraph, which will serve as the foundation for the ANP structure. This diagram provides crucial insights for supporting decision making by clearly illustrating factor interrelationships. The DEMATEL method complements ANP by identifying the interdependencies among groups of factors. The combination of ANP and DEMATEL is highly effective in managing interdependent and feedback relationships more accurately and realistically.

## 3.3 ANP Method for Data Processing

Following the distribution of the second questionnaire, the responses were processed using the ANP questionnaire data in several steps: creating a pairwise comparison matrix, weighting, conducting a consistency check, and designing a supermatrix (Taherdoost & Madanchian, 2023). At the first step, the output from the questionnaire responses was in the form of pairwise comparisons with highlighted weights to indicate the relationship strength. At the second step, Based on the questionnaires distributed to the AI team at tiket.com, the responses yield priority weights for each CSF involved in the study. The weighting process was conducted using Super Decisions software, which processes the questionnaire data to determine the priority level of each criterion.

The third step, a consistency check was performed using the consistency ratio to ensure the reliability and coherence of respondents' pairwise comparisons. A comparison matrix is considered consistent if its consistency ratio (CR) does not exceed 10%. The formula for CR is:

$$CR = CI / IR \dots\dots\dots(7)$$

Where:

CR = Consistency Ratio

CI = Consistency Index

IR = Random Index

A consistency ratio close to zero indicates a high consistency. If any weights were found to be inconsistent, they were excluded, and the weighting process was repeated. This consistency check can also be performed using the Super Decisions software.

Next step is designing the supermatrix. In the ANP method, a supermatrix is a large table used to display the relationships among the elements in a system, including CSFs, criteria, and objectives. The process consists of three main steps, create unweighted, weighted, and limit supermatrix. Unweighted Supermatrix is the initial table containing raw relationship weights between system elements. The next step is creating weighted Supermatrix. This matrix is adjusted by multiplying the initial weights with the results of the pairwise comparisons, producing more accurate final weights. The weighted supermatrix is raised to powers until it converges, producing a final matrix called the limit supermatrix, which serves as the final result.

#### 4. Results and Discussion

Based on the ANP structure shown in Figure 1, there are interrelated influences among the CSFs owing to the connection between indicators across different CSFs and even within the same CSF. However, all CSFs influence and are influenced by others, except for the "Knowledge and Skill" factor. This CSF is influenced only by two indicators from the "Problem-Driven Approach" (problem identification ability and solution-finding ability) and one of its own indicators (SOP understanding ability). This indicates that "knowledge and skills are relatively independent and unaffected by changes in the other CSFs.

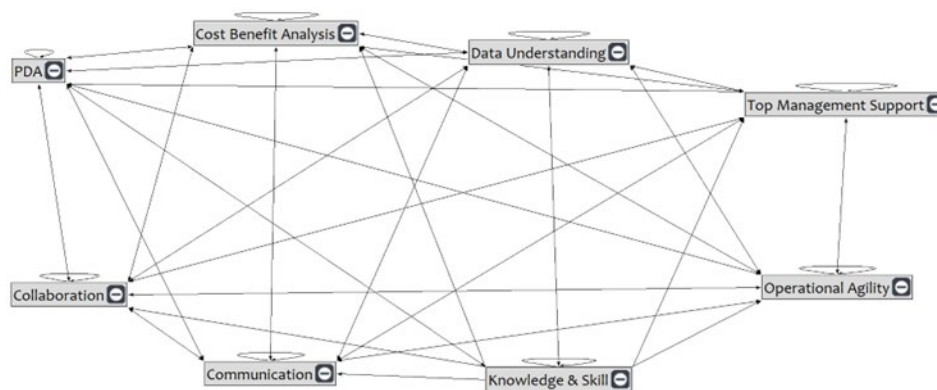


Figure 1. Interrelation CSF Cluster Structure

In Figure 2, the yellow-highlighted cells indicate values above the defined threshold, representing significant relationships considered in the ANP structure. In this matrix, rows represent the influencing factors (causes), while columns represent the affected factors (effects). Figure 3 summarizes the number of relationships between the indicators and the CSFs. According to Haghighat (2017), influencing factors tend to drive change more than the affected ones. The "Problem-Driven Approach" is identified as the most influential factor, followed by "Operational Agility." Agility is essential for adapting to change, which positively impacts organizational performance (Nguyen et al., 2024).

Furthermore is "Data Understanding" with 38 influences, followed by "Communication" (36 influences) and "Top Management Support." Employees' ability to understand data is crucial for decision making, reducing inefficiencies, and improving communication. Understanding data also supports strategic planning and risk reduction (Society, 2025). The less influential group includes "Collaboration," "Knowledge & Skill," and "Cost-Benefit Analysis." These

are more often affected than influencing; therefore, these CSFs should not be prioritized as key drivers. Improving other key factors will indirectly enhance collaboration, cost-benefit analysis, and knowledge and skills.

DEMATEL Questionnaire	Problem Identification Ability	Root Cause Identification Ability	Solution-Finding Ability	Cost Understanding	Benefit Potential Understanding	Risk Analysis Ability	Basic Data Understanding	Selection & Integration Ability	Trend Analysis Ability	Leader Involvement in Monitoring	Leader Involvement in Decision-Making	Leader Involvement in Analysis	Teamwork Ability	Trust Level	Employee Empowerment	Focused Communication Ability	Knowledge Sharing Ability	Initiative in Communication	Work Experience	Educational Background Fit	SOP Understanding Level	Internal Adaptability	New Technology Adoption Ability	Productivity Level Management
Problem Identification Ability	0.38816	0.46383460	0.46314	0.39811	0.43274	0.44932	0.41811	0.42726	0.4216	0.41447	0.43476	0.412	0.48367	0.46151	0.46206	0.4523	0.44159	0.45194	0.46623	0.34611	0.35848	0.4313	0.42949	0.45074
Root Cause Identification Ability	0.42177	0.387011856	0.4660	0.38196	0.41569	0.44239	0.40263	0.4161	0.4038	0.39449	0.41818	0.39517	0.43836	0.44856	0.42618	0.43277	0.42431	0.42997	0.38521	0.32416	0.37067	0.43046	0.40712	0.43096
Solution-Finding Ability	0.43210	0.46024777	0.42383	0.41063	0.44877	0.45732	0.41795	0.4377	0.4265	0.43046	0.47893	0.4733	0.46509	0.47963	0.46127	0.45977	0.44487	0.40795	0.40384	0.34534	0.39318	0.44343	0.44301	0.46836
Cost Understanding	0.34094	0.364147542	0.37377	0.39728	0.36148	0.37540	0.33347	0.34556	0.340	0.33560	0.35458	0.33018	0.35961	0.35609	0.35436	0.36152	0.34602	0.35873	0.33108	0.26596	0.3116	0.34837	0.34875	0.37142
Benefit Potential Understanding	0.36947	0.386870561	0.39522	0.38241	0.33909	0.39083	0.38325	0.3702	0.3707	0.36405	0.37942	0.36341	0.39349	0.4019	0.38527	0.38574	0.37903	0.3907	0.38708	0.29282	0.32867	0.38043	0.37724	0.39347
Risk Analysis Ability	0.3359	0.413023867	0.42713	0.37693	0.40477	0.37015	0.37583	0.3957	0.3919	0.38422	0.41094	0.4201	0.41193	0.41945	0.40403	0.4124	0.37821	0.33116	0.35123	0.39639	0.39175	0.41691		
Basic Data Understanding	0.41693	0.43534834	0.44027	0.38608	0.41503	0.42409	0.34967	0.4043	0.4093	0.38638	0.41091	0.38753	0.42564	0.44327	0.4243	0.42388	0.41636	0.42611	0.38592	0.31937	0.36092	0.40497	0.40171	0.42697
Selection & Integration Ability	0.37304	0.393814454	0.41676	0.36397	0.39601	0.39928	0.36997	0.3473	0.3759	0.37036	0.39033	0.36518	0.42712	0.42334	0.40978	0.41038	0.40477	0.40846	0.36612	0.30158	0.34514	0.39746	0.38986	0.4061
Trend Analysis Ability	0.373	0.384875801	0.39918	0.34278	0.37683	0.38592	0.34673	0.3688	0.3289	0.36231	0.37131	0.34995	0.38801	0.40083	0.38928	0.38699	0.37546	0.37878	0.34678	0.28978	0.32734	0.37137	0.3710	0.39122
Leader Involvement in Monitoring	0.35587	0.3720039	0.37593	0.3412	0.37106	0.35061	0.3475	0.3606	0.3512	0.33717	0.38266	0.3833	0.39912	0.40147	0.39164	0.38926	0.37719	0.33354	0.34418	0.28754	0.31778	0.37011	0.35927	0.39101
Leader Involvement in Decision-Making	0.37599	0.394117626	0.40963	0.38697	0.38599	0.39411	0.36392	0.37777	0.3759	0.37074	0.38518	0.37913	0.41471	0.42779	0.40356	0.41096	0.39524	0.40662	0.38906	0.30569	0.34203	0.39453	0.38101	0.4233
Leader Involvement in Analysis	0.40746	0.42702764	0.43316	0.37498	0.40793	0.42177	0.38304	0.4019	0.3985	0.39623	0.42409	0.38317	0.4389	0.44238	0.4259	0.43147	0.41374	0.42614	0.37676	0.31849	0.35604	0.41257	0.40341	0.43596
Teamwork Ability	0.33844	0.403023636	0.41901	0.35433	0.38428	0.39894	0.37093	0.39335	0.3773	0.3714	0.39761	0.37497	0.38966	0.43889	0.42143	0.42887	0.41104	0.42248	0.37404	0.31018	0.34796	0.40696	0.39106	0.41713
Trust Level	0.35047	0.366641677	0.37533	0.32973	0.35487	0.36936	0.33684	0.3557	0.3414	0.35169	0.38118	0.36344	0.39586	0.35771	0.392	0.3943	0.37804	0.3911	0.34509	0.28821	0.31678	0.37463	0.36064	0.38276
Employee Empowerment	0.33345	0.39783181	0.41391	0.35216	0.38351	0.388	0.36118	0.3832	0.3659	0.37145	0.39041	0.36378	0.42975	0.36917	0.42002	0.39962	0.41427	0.36599	0.30315	0.34645	0.39564	0.37756	0.40984	
Focused Communication Ability	0.38560	0.40932741	0.42081	0.38967	0.39726	0.409	0.37124	0.3891	0.37629	0.40488	0.38641	0.42991	0.44192	0.42434	0.37595	0.41444	0.42474	0.37111	0.30539	0.34981	0.41833	0.39347	0.42149	
Knowledge Sharing Ability	0.38146	0.39756544	0.40931	0.35444	0.38069	0.39448	0.3693	0.38443	0.37572	0.36484	0.38655	0.3717	0.42327	0.42831	0.4148	0.4254	0.35593	0.4127	0.3699	0.30665	0.34603	0.39285	0.38907	0.40626
Initiative in Communication	0.37599	0.395975695	0.40709	0.38994	0.38374	0.38578	0.3565	0.3759	0.37	0.37016	0.39679	0.37212	0.41847	0.42553	0.41211	0.41893	0.40066	0.38654	0.36189	0.29745	0.34465	0.39617	0.37114	0.39939
Work Experience	0.43008	0.48124566	0.46906	0.40013	0.43163	0.44714	0.41746	0.4334	0.4177	0.40583	0.43743	0.40846	0.45979	0.46885	0.45106	0.45792	0.43709	0.44996	0.39924	0.34316	0.39008	0.4274	0.42902	0.4586
Educational Background Fit	0.35902	0.39945017	0.38467	0.33995	0.35219	0.36734	0.34911	0.3511	0.3503	0.33709	0.36043	0.33989	0.37196	0.38776	0.37292	0.37256	0.3611	0.37025	0.33621	0.25429	0.32603	0.35979	0.35698	0.37677
SOP Understanding Level	0.36054	0.37479777	0.38446	0.34238	0.36974	0.37754	0.35021	0.3638	0.3528	0.35233	0.37294	0.36096	0.39474	0.40179	0.38714	0.38696	0.37811	0.38757	0.35491	0.29536	0.29513	0.37903	0.36196	0.38712
Internal Adaptability	0.3306	0.39244437	0.40721	0.38362	0.38626	0.36113	0.3385	0.3775	0.37013	0.39205	0.3738	0.41497	0.43045	0.40844	0.4076	0.40176	0.4162	0.37499	0.30619	0.34963	0.38694	0.39996	0.41706	
New Technology Adoption Ability	0.38536	0.40218496	0.4217	0.36696	0.39312	0.40682	0.36394	0.3994	0.3963	0.37964	0.39323	0.37438	0.41632	0.42926	0.41698	0.41711	0.40493	0.41448	0.37489	0.31861	0.35069	0.40403	0.38401	0.42744
Productivity Level Management	0.39289	0.40923427	0.41769	0.36613	0.39554	0.40283	0.36704	0.3874	0.37584	0.37361	0.40154	0.37922	0.42218	0.42729	0.40985	0.42418	0.40263	0.41408	0.37611	0.31383	0.35254	0.40289	0.36538	0.37756

Figure 2. Impact Diagram Map

No	Indicator	CSF	Total Influence Given (Indicator)	Total Influence Received (Indicator)	Total Influence Given (CSF)	Total Influence Received (CSF)
1	Problem Identification Ability	Problem Driven Approach	21	8	62	42
2	Root Cause Identification Ability		19	16		
3	Solution-Finding Ability		22	18		
4	Cost Understanding		0	3		
5	Benefit Potential Understanding	Cost Benefit Analysis	6	12	21	31
6	Risk Analysis Ability		15	16		
7	Basic Data Understanding	Data Understanding	17	4	38	23
8	Selection & Integration Ability		14	11		
9	Trend Analysis Ability		7	8		
10	Leader Involvement in Monitoring	Top Management Support	4	5	34	23
11	Leader Involvement in Decision-Making		12	14		
12	Leader Involvement in Analysis		18	4		
13	Teamwork Ability	Collaboration	13	21	27	61
14	Collaboration Trust Level		4	21		
15	Employee Empowerment		10	19		
16	Focused Communication Ability	Communication	15	19	36	54
17	Knowledge Sharing Ability		11	16		
18	Initiative in Communication		10	19		
19	Work Experience	Knowledge and Skill	22	2	24	4
20	Educational Background Fit		0	0		
21	SOP Understanding Level		2	2		
22	Internal Adaptability	Operational Agility	13	16	43	48
23	New Technology Adoption Ability		15	13		
24	Productivity Level Management		15	19		

Figure 3. Recapitulation of the Number of Relationships Between Indicators & CSFs

Collaboration is the most affected CSF, followed by "Communication." Collaboration includes teamwork, trust, and workforce empowerment, and its quality improves when the driver factors are strengthened. Most competency-related factors serve as causes, whereas teamwork-related factors are mostly effects. Competency includes skills, experience, and achievements at the individual level (Ramírez-Zavala et al., 2024), whereas teamwork involves collective effort, communication, and shared goals (Meneses-La-Riva et al., 2025). For example, "Problem-Driven Approach," "Data Understanding," and "Knowledge & Skill" Knowledge and Skill are the dominant causes. Meanwhile, "Collaboration," "Communication," and "Operational Agility" are the effects.

This shows that teamwork in this case was largely driven by individual competencies. According to Kusbandono et al. (2024), to improve collaboration, companies should enhance their individual skills through interpersonal communication training. Although "Knowledge & Skill" has a low total influence score, the "Work Experience"



indicator has a high influence score (22), indicating that experience significantly affects operational performance. In contrast, educational background and SOP understanding had little impact. Similarly, "Cost Understanding" is not relevant to data scientists or MLE roles, as it is more aligned with financial functions.

The priority of each factor was calculated based on the weighting results. The problem-driven approach has the highest limiting weight (0.105) among all CSFs. This indicates that it is the most critical factor compared with the other seven factors. This is supported by Jackson Nickerson's symposium, which concludes that an organization's ability to identify problems, define problem-based solutions, and prioritize issues is essential for success (Nickerson et al., 2012). The Data Understanding factor ranked second with a limiting weight of 0.088. The shift toward data-centric AI highlights the importance of data quality over algorithmic complexity. Machine learning is increasingly viewed as data-driven software supported by big data and modern computing infrastructure (Whang et al., 2023). Therefore, a strong understanding of the data is crucial to ensure unbiased and accurate datasets.

Communication ranked third with a limiting weight of 0.074. According to Fan et al. (2025), effective communication is central to Shared Mental Models (SMMs), which are key to smooth team collaboration and operational success. Interestingly, most factors in the competence aspect received higher rankings than those in teamwork. Pairwise comparison results showed that respondents considered competence twice as important as teamwork. The results showed that competence had a limiting weight of 0.282, while teamwork had a limiting weight of 0.218. This suggests that, within the Data Scientist and MLE divisions at tiket.com, individual understanding, skills, and experience are prioritized over team collaboration.

Using the Balanced Scorecard (BSC) perspective, the top three prioritized CSFs can be further explored as solutions for improving team performance. From the BSC perspective, these CSFs fall under the learning and growth dimension as they relate to human resources and work culture at tiket.com (Nafari & Rezaei, 2022). The BSC distinguishes between leading and lagging indicators. Leading indicators drive performance, whereas lagging indicators measure outcomes (Fabac, 2022). Based on the DEMATEL analysis, the problem-driven approach and data understanding act as leading indicators because they influence other CSFs. In contrast, communication serves as a lagging indicator because it is more often affected by other factors.

This analysis provides insights into improving an AI team's performance on tiket.com. As leading indicators, the quality of problem-driven approaches (PDA) and data understanding must be enhanced. To strengthen PDA, companies can conduct training in problem framing, prioritization, and analysis tools, such as the five reasons, fishbone diagram, and root cause analysis (Ito et al., 2022). Integrating PDA-based SOPs into projects can improve analytical skills, decision-making, and solution effectiveness. To improve Data Understanding, training in statistics, data visualization, and certification exams can be provided. Research by Sahni and Chilton (2025) shows that most employees prefer informal learning because of time constraints and learning preferences. One possible solution is to form mentoring groups to regularly share insights into data understanding (Sahni & Chilton, 2025). Once the leading indicators are strengthened, communication, as a lagging indicator, can be measured using tools such as the Communication Satisfaction Questionnaire (Jaafari et al., 2023), as shown in Figure 3. Regular evaluations using this tool can help track improvements in communication and reflect progress in leading indicators.

## **6. Conclusion**

The analysis revealed several key insights into Critical Success Factors (CSFs). Among the eight CSFs identified, the majority reflect bidirectional relationships, where they affect and are affected in return by one another, except for Knowledge & Skill, which appears to be affected only by the problem-driven approach and by itself. This suggests that Knowledge & Skill function as independent factors that are relatively unaffected by external factors. Furthermore, the analysis categorizes problem-driven approach, data understanding, and knowledge and skill as causal factors, meaning that they tend to drive change to other CSFs. In contrast, communication, collaboration, top management support, operational agility, and cost-benefit analysis emerged more as effect factors, often shaped by the influence of others. Of all the CSFs, the problem-driven approach stands out as the most critical, with the highest weight of 0.105, followed by Data Understanding at 0.088 and communication at 0.074.

Based on the results of this study, several recommendations are suggested for future research and practical improvements within the company. To gain a more comprehensive and globally relevant understanding, future studies

could explore similar analyses within international Online Travel Agencies (OTAs). Meanwhile, for the Data Scientist and Machine Learning Engineer (MLE) divisions at tiket.com, it is important to focus on strengthening the quality of the most influential CSFs, that is, the problem-driven approach and data understanding. In parallel, the ongoing evaluation of communication, which serves as an outcome indicator, can help assess the impact of improvements made to the leading factors, ensuring a balanced and sustainable enhancement of team performance.

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