

# SUBJECTIVE DATA AND DECISION MAKING PROCESS IN RAILWAY SAFETY : THE RADIO ALERT CASE STUDY



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# CONTEXT

My PhD project deals with the introduction of subjective data in the Information System for risk management through the experimentation of a decision aid.

Collaboration with Safety Department of SNCF (National French Railway Undertaking) → case study

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# **DECISION MAKING PROCESS, CASE STUDY AND SUBJECTIVE DATA**

# FORMAL REPRESENTATION OF THE DECISION MAKING PROCESS

## Decision system

Decision maker A

Decision maker B

Decision maker C

Status quo

modification

4

...On which the **choice** is based

1

Each alternative has a **potential effect** on...

3

...measured by a **prospective risk analysis**

2

...the safety level of a **sociotechnical subsystem...**

## Information system

## Operating system

*Number of injured person*  
*Number of severes injured person*  
*Number of killed person*

# RADIO ALERTS CASE STUDY

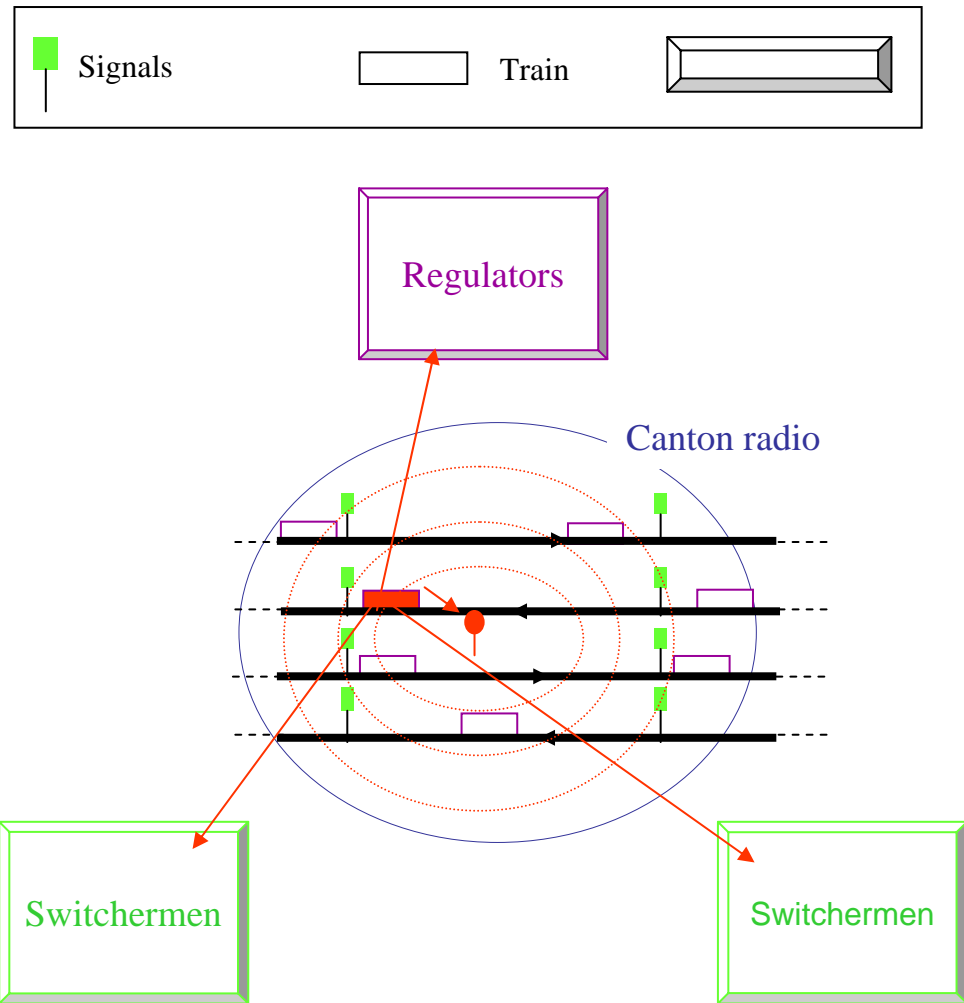
Radio alert can be set off by a driver in case of danger or high presumption of danger on the rail. It provokes the emission of a signal heard by:

- Switchermen who have to shut signals down to stop trains and protect the danger zone;
- Drivers who have to stop in urgency;
- Regulators who are responsible for the traffic.

Everything must stop, but how do circulations restart ?

Rule 1 : restart after orders

Rule 2 : restart self sufficiency



By limiting the risk of fall, we take the risk to collide the cause of the alert....

No solution is dominating the other of every risks

	A	B
Fall from train	+	-
Collision with human	?	?
Collision with obstacle	-	+

—————→ Different impacts -A quantitative prospective risk analysis is required.

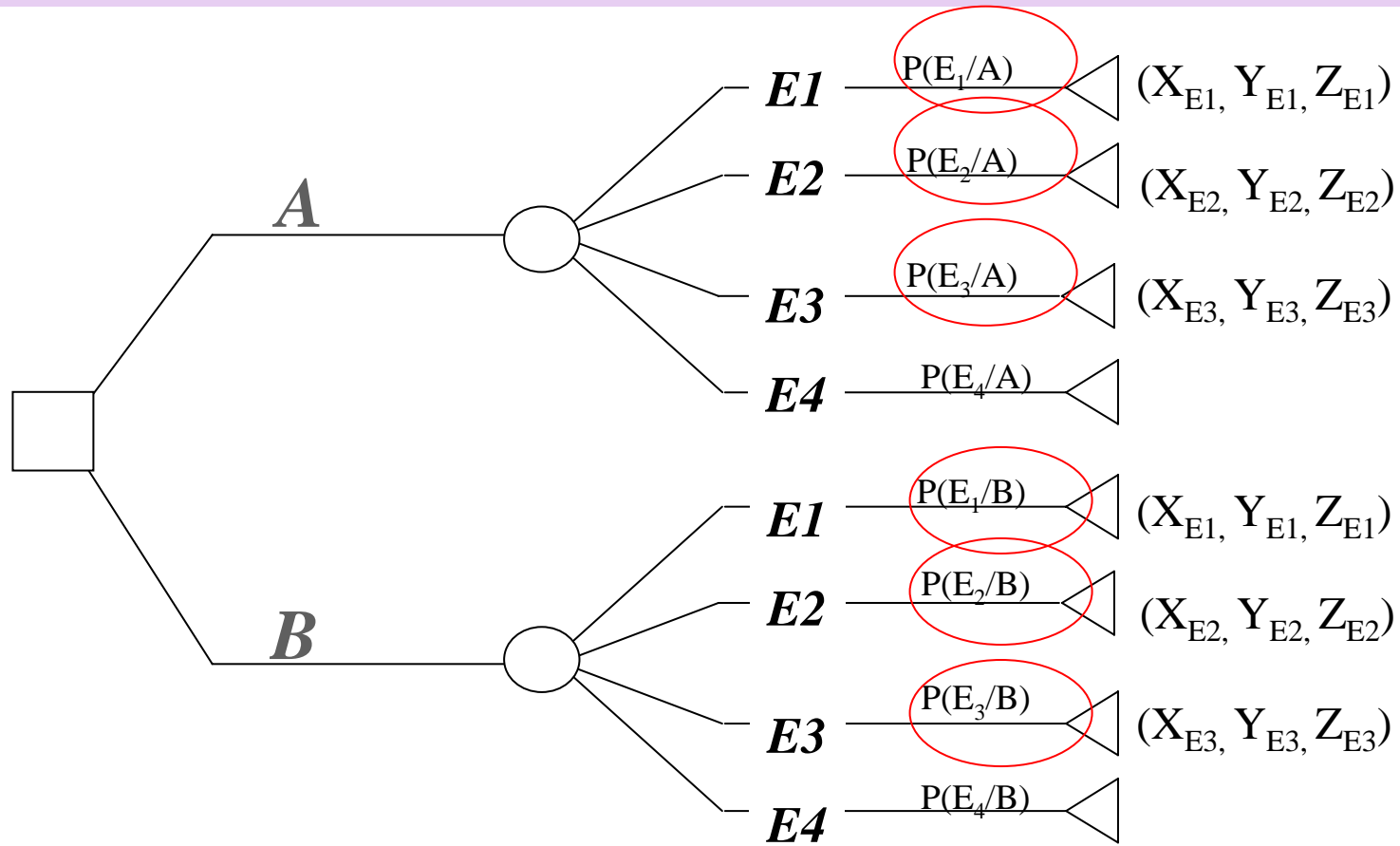
Very low probability of severe consequences (expressed in terms of death)  
VS high probability of low consequences (express in terms of injured)

—————→ Comparing severity of death person VS injured person... Risk perception and consensus between decision makers are needed

# SUBJECTIVE DATA ?

	Issue	Current practice	Suggestion
Subjective probability	Measure of the risks of each alternative	Frequency and database	Expert judgement
Utility function	How to compare two distributions of risks ?	Average value	Expected utility
Trade-off	Trade off between multiple dimensions	IDRAC scale : 1 killed = 10 severe injured person = 50 injured person	Multi Attribute Utility Theory

# DECISION TREE



A: stopping rule

B: restart rule

E1: Collision with obstacle

E2: Collision with human

E3: Fall

E4: No incident



The “Safety level” by using MAUT by Keeney & Raïffa will be measured by:

$$S(D) = \sum_{i=I,HI,DP} k_i U_i^D + \sum_{\substack{j \neq i \\ i=I,HI,DP; \\ j=I,HI,DP}} k_{i,j} U_i^D U_j^D + k_{I/HI/D} U_I^D U_{HI}^D U_{DP}^D$$

$U_I^A = EU_I(\tilde{x} / A)$  : Expected Utility of risk distribution of number of injuries with choice A

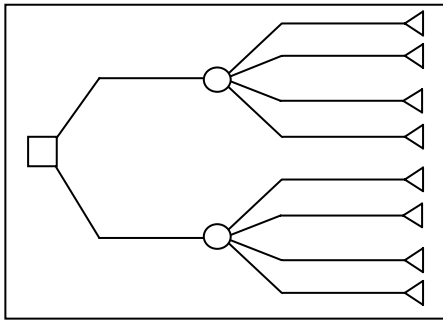
$k_{i,j}$  : Trade off between I and J dimension

# 2

## **EXPERIMENTATION OF A DECISION AID**

# EXPERIMENT AND DECISION AID : HOW ?

## STEP 1 : RISK IDENTIFICATION



## STEP 2 : RISK ASSESSMENT

*Individual*



x N



*Collective*

Distributions de probabilités	Chef de service	Chef d'équipe	Cariste	Moyenne	Consensus
Invalidité totale	0,7			1,2	0,2
Invalidité partielle					1,8
Douleur permanente					2
Douleur fréquente					15
Douleur ponctuelle	16	18	11,3	15,1	15
Fatigue	56	76,2	50	60,7	66

## STEP 3 : SUBJECTIVE RISK PERCEPTION

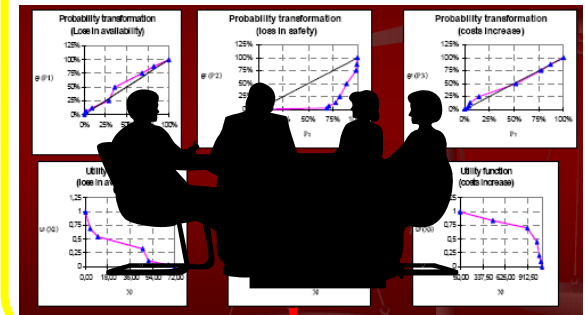
*Individual*



x M



*Collective*



## STEP 4 : PRESCRIPTION

DECISION RULE

# ELICITATION TECHNIQUES

Technical points are developed in the article.

	Technique ?
Subjective probability	First, Techniques based on choices But finally Direct Judgement
Utility function	SERUM : (Système d'Evaluation des Risques par Utilité Multicritère)  GRID / EDF (Electricity of France).
Trade-off	

# EXAMPLE OF INTERFACE FOR UTILITY FUNCTION AND TRADE OFF

SERUM

Détermination de l'utilité suivant la dimension Blessés légers

**OPTION No. 1**

- 70,00% → -125,00 en BL
- 30,00% → -500,00 en BL

**OPTION No. 2**

- 30,00% → 0,00 en BL
- 70,00% → -500,00 en BL

Quelle option préférez-vous ?

L'option 1  
 L'option 2  
 Les deux options sont équivalentes

**VALIDER** PI

SERUM

Comparaison deux à deux des coefficients

L'option 1 est telle que :

Blessés graves =	0,00	blessés légers =	-500,00
	0		0

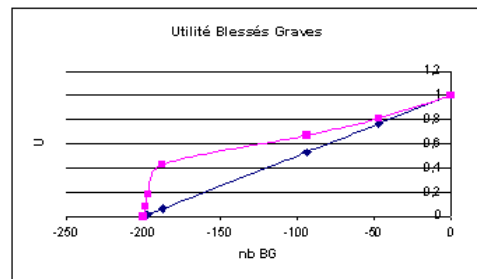
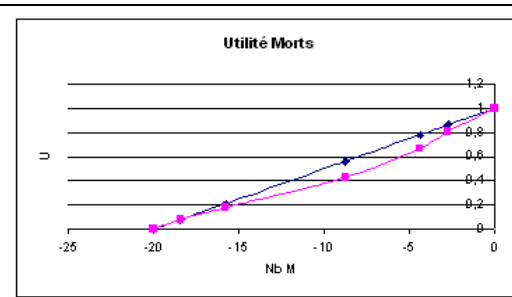
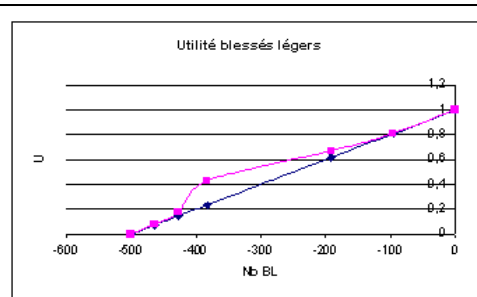
L'option 2 est telle que :

Blessés graves =	-100,00	blessés légers =	-250,00
	0		0

Quelle option préférez-vous ?

L'option 1  
 L'option 2  
 Les deux options sont équivalentes

**VALIDER**



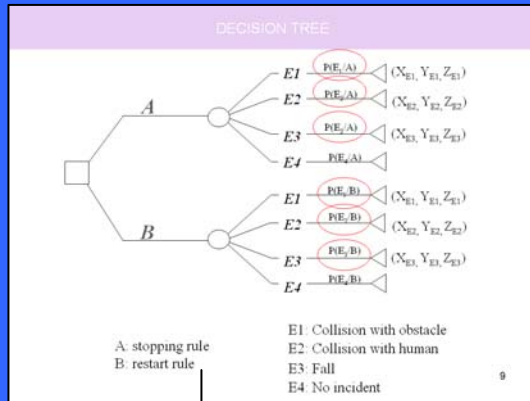
LES COEFFICIENTS DE PONDERATION

Coefficient	Valeur
Coefficient K 1	0,011
Coefficient K 2	0,039
Coefficient K 3	0,235
Coefficient K 2 3	-0,263
Coefficient K 1 3	-0,208
Coefficient K 1 2	0
Coefficient K123	1,187

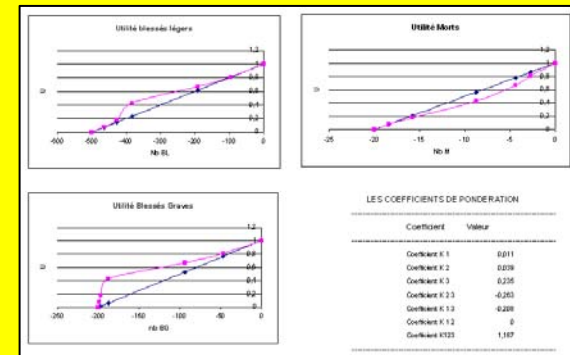
# HOW TO ESTABLISH THE PRESCRIPTION ?

PROBABILITIES + CONSEQUENCES

6 DISTRIBUTION OF RISKS



UTILITY FUNCTION AND K ATTRIBUTES



TWO SCORE ARE CALCULATED  
(decision rule)  
ESTABLISHMENT OF A PRESCRIPTION

3

**AS A CONCLUSION**

## AS A CONCLUSION

We are currently exploiting the data collected...

To make progress, we need to overpass frontiers :

- Between scientific discipline : expert judgement, decision analysis, uncertainty analysis – idea for potential productive collaboration ?
- Theory and Practice : idea for further theoretical and practical problems !

**THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION**