

A framework for decision aiding (part 2)

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From part 1

- It is possible to treat the elements of the "decision space" (ω , c, d) in a coordinated way.
- If the elements are independent it is possible to eliminate them one-by-one, thus obtaining a final function or vector M1 of the (continuous or discrete) decision variables.
- On the contrary, if there is a dependence (i.e. the criteria depend on the states of nature) the elimination follows a forced path.
- Finally, if there is a mutual dependence you must proceed "along the diagonals" (by examining the behavior of the alternatives one by one).

ExA – Palio	\rightarrow	(MC-RA, ranking) $\rightarrow 6-2(3)-1$	
ExB – nurses	\rightarrow	(MC-SC, assign) $\rightarrow 5-2 \text{ or } 3-1$	
ExC – saus.	\rightarrow	(MC, cluster)	\rightarrow 3 – 1
ExD – paths	\rightarrow	(MC, rating-rank))	\rightarrow 3 – 1

Now let's consider specific tools

Tools for «point 2» problems

(i) Perception(ii) Experiments & dec. tree

(i) A real decision process: perception

- <u>Uncertainties</u> (non deterministic context, ...)
- Complexity (problem dimension, non linearity, ...)
- Several stakeholders (distributed decision power)
- Different rationalities (criteria and preferences)
- Different time horizons (often)
- Need of simulation models



The DM perception of the problem

Decision processes in a non-deterministic context







(b) Cognitive theory → what the DM (descriptive) really does → experimental tests





Examples

- > Change names or positions for the options
- Change measure units
- > Add a constant value for all the results



Lotteries (case A and case B)







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Lotteries (case C)





Ellsberg





Given the two preferences on A1 and B2, it is **not guaranteed** that their aggregation (C1) is the preferred one

- Caution: do not combine too easily the options
- Normally, the ambiguity is avoided, "even if this is not rational " (Ellsberg)





Counterexamples (see in next lessons) → Extraction (Tversky, Kahneman, 1986) → see the following sl. The possible choices in uncertainty conditions (with the DM risk attitude)

Extraction (in two conditions)

room 1

room 2

n. of balls	situation A	situation B
90 white	0	0
6 red	45	45
1 green	30	45
1 blue	-15	-10
2 yellow	-15	-15

n. of balls	situat. C	situat. D	n. of balls
90 white	0	0	90 white
6 red	45	45	7 red
1 green	30	-10	1 green
3 yellow	-15	-15	2 yellow

Better A or B ?



better ...





Choice (in two conditions)





Cognitive theory: three more principles





Principle of TRANSITIVITY

If the decision prefers A over B and B over C, then A **must** be preferred over C

Examples:

V. Rossi is better than Stoner, and Stoner is better than Melandri, so ...
 Buying emission units (Kyoto prot.) is better than cutting the production, and cutting the production is better than not respecting the emission constraints, so ...





Principle of CRASH

The DM is (relatively) indifferent to small progressive changes, but at some point (s)he becomes aware of the (large) gap and ...

Cognitive theory: estimation



C-5°

A famous	example: the frame effect
	 Avian influenza (possible death) Group at risk: 600 people
Protocol A	200 people will survive
Protocol B	$\begin{cases} \text{with } p=1/3 & \text{600 will survive} \\ \text{with } p=2/3 & \text{nobody will survive} \end{cases} \text{ Better A or B ?} \end{cases}$
Protocol A	400 people will die
Protocol B	
-	
	 Aversion to the risk in case of winnings (better A) Propensity for risk in case of losses (better B)

(ii) Experiments: axioms of probability theory

- **A1** Probability $\mathbf{p}(\mathbf{e})$ of an event (e): value between $< \begin{array}{c} 0 \text{ (impossible)} \\ 1 \text{ (certain)} \end{array}$
- A2 Complementary probability (the event does not occur): 1-p(e)
- A3 For events (e₁, e₂, ..., e_k) that are mutually exclusive : $p(e_1 \text{ or } \dots \text{ or } e_k) = p(e_1) + \dots + p(e_k)$
- A4 For 2 independent events (e_1, e_2) : $p(e_1 \text{ and } e_2) = p(e_1) * p(e_2)$



Probabilities before and after the experiment (Bayes)



Uncertainty: the expected value

- If the probability distribution of $\boldsymbol{\omega}$ is available \ldots
- ... consider the logic of the expected value (to be maximized)
- In the example $\rightarrow p(\omega_1) = 0.3$, $p(\omega_2) = 0.7$



 $\bar{f}(x_j)$ = the expected value is calculated multiplying the values f (x_j, ω_i) by the probabilities p(ω_i) and then summing them.

 Sometimes also variance is considered (to be minimized)

The expected value logic removes the dependence from the state of nature (if probabilities are available)



An example: oil extraction





The final outcome: a strategy



Tools for «point 3» problems

(i) Pairwise comparison(ii) Choquet integral

(i) Pairwise comparison

To obtain the vector w of the weights it is possible to do a set of pairwise comparisons, thus obtaining a matrix A



From matrix A to vector w





All the columns represent (with a coeff. of proportionality) the vector w easy case !



Vector of the weights



x is the main eigenvector



vector w of the weights:

w is the main eigenvector normalized (sum = 1)

Supporting (spanning) tree

The minimum number of pairwise comparisons is n-1 but only if they are «spanning» the graph



 $a_{14} = a_{12} \cdot a_{24}$

 $a_{34} = a_{32} \cdot a_{24} = (1/a_{23}) \cdot a_{24}$

If matrix A is not consistent ?



We must estimate the main eigenvector (and the error)

If the consistency error is "small" OK (if no ...)

What about the cons. error μ ?

$$A^*x = \lambda_{max}^*x \qquad \forall i \qquad \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij}x_j = \lambda_{max}x_i \qquad (\text{row i-th of the matrix})$$

$$\forall i \qquad \lambda_{max} = \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij}\frac{x_j}{x_i} \implies \lambda_{max} = \sum_{j=1}^n \sigma_{ij}$$

Sum of the rows $\rightarrow \qquad \qquad \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_{max} = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \sigma_{ij}$
$$n\lambda_{max} = n + \sum_{1 \le i < j \le n}^n \left(\sigma_{ij} + \frac{1}{\sigma_{ij}}\right)$$

$$\sum_{1 \le i < j \le n}^n \left(\sigma_{ij} + \frac{1}{\sigma_{ij}}\right) = n(\lambda_{max} - 1)$$

Divide the result by n(n-1) and subtract 1

$$\mu \implies \frac{\sum_{1 \le i < j \le n}^{n} \left(\sigma_{ij} + \frac{1}{\sigma_{ij}} \right)}{n(n-1)} - 1 = \frac{n(\lambda_{max} - 1)}{n(n-1)} - 1 \implies \mu = \frac{\lambda_{max} - n}{n-1}$$

If A consistent: $\lambda_{max} = n \rightarrow \mu = 0$

(ii) Going back to the MAUT ... Choquet

What happens if the attributes (objectives or criteria) are not mutually independent ?

OR

if it is not possible to demonstrate their independence ?

The Choquet integral

Palio di Siena (ExA)

You have to help a Palio bookmaker. His evaluation concerning the contrada's chance to win are based on two attributes: values (utilities) of horse and jockey. The situation (utilities) of the four contrada are in the following table.



Which weight is it possible to assign to the two attributes ?

In the utility space ...



- No couple of weights (a,β) determines the victory of Torre, the contrada indicated by the bookmaker as the best one.
- It's necessary to change the model ...

MAUT modifications

- Association of a unique value U (utility) to each alternative (among the n, finite or infinite, possible alternatives):
 U expresses the overall satisfaction with respect to the m attributes t₁, t₂, ... t_m considered.
- It is necessary to obtain the utility function U on the base of the utilities of each attribute.
- Both comments are true, but it is necessary to take care of:
 (i) synergies,
 (ii) redundance
Example: a student grant

You have to help the commission for an Erasmus grant. The evaluation is based on three attributes, the results of the student in **M** (mathematics), **F** (physics), **L** (literature). The situation is the following.

	Colorni	Lué	Noce	Lia
– mathematics \rightarrow	9	5	7	8
– physics →	8	6	7	5
– literature →	5	10	7.5	8
Average	7.33	7	7.16	7
Minimum	5	5	7	5
Maximum	9	10	7.5	8

The commission (decision maker) says that:

Μ

F

- 1. criteria **M** and **F** have the same importance (weight)
- 2. criteria **M** and **F** are more relevant than **L** (1.5 time)
- 3. criteria **M** and **F** are redundant (a student good in **M** is also ...)
- 4. students are favorite if they are balanced (synergy M-L and F-L)

Case of criteria not mutually independent

- It is based on the definition of two elements:
 - a capacity (fuzzy measure)
 - a sum (Choquet integral)
- Capacity:
 - if $M = \{1, ..., m\}$ is the attributes (criteria) set
 - **capacity** is a function μ : $2^{M} \rightarrow [0, 1]$ such that

 $\mu(\Phi) = 0$; $\mu(M) = 1$; $\mu(A) \le \mu(B)$ if A is included in B

- Choquet integral:
 - μ is a capacity M = {1, ..., m} and f is the function that represents the results (utility) of the alternatives among the different criteria
 - □ the Choquet integral C_{μ} is the sum (with i=1,...,m) $C_{\mu} = [f(\sigma_1) - f(\sigma_0)]^* \mu(A_1) + ... + [f(\sigma_m) - f(\sigma_{m-1})]^* \mu(A_m)$ with $A_i = \{\sigma_i, \sigma_{i+1}, ..., \sigma_m\}$ and σ_i permutation with $f(\sigma_i)$ ascending

Representation (lattice)



Results

- There are n candidates (n=4: Colorni, Luè, Noce, Lia)
- For each it is necessary to calculate C_u (Choquet integral)
- For each it should be necessary to define a permutation
- It is better to use a graphic scheme (see next slide)
- Each candidate has an ascending order of results
- It is possible to represent it as a path between ϕ and MFL
- To each node an increment Δ is associated (added value)
- To each node a weight is associated (weight is the capacity)
- C_µ value is calculated with a weighed sum

Student Colorni



Student Luè



Student Noce



Student Lia



Final result

- Colorni seemed to be the best candidate
- But we weren't considering the redundancies
- The best one is Lia, thanks to the synergy
- A graph is used for calculating (lattice 2^M)
- Increment represents the added value

In this way it is possible to take into account:

□ synergies → given µ_{ij} > µ_i + µ_j
□ redundancies → given µ_{ij} < µ_i + µ_j

Palio di Siena (more)

Bookmaker's perception: (i) same weights to the attributes (ii) Torre is the favourite

The couple horse-jockey makes contrada Torre the favorite for the bookmaker. The weights have to be given: to the 2 attributes and to the combination of these \rightarrow **how**?

	Onda	Bruco	Torre	Selva
Horse	100	0	45	30
Jockey	0	100	45	65
$\mu_i = \dots$				
$\mu_j = \dots$				
$\mu_{ij} = \dots$				

Synergy \rightarrow $\mu_i + \mu_j < \mu_{ij}$

The "horse/jockey" factor



 C_{μ} (**O**) = ..., C_{μ} (**B**) = ..., C_{μ} (**T**) = ..., C_{μ} (**S**) = ...

Tools for «point 4» problems

(i) Two approaches(ii) Peer evaluation

(i) The two approaches to group decision



Possible conflict ...

How to manage it ?

- Research of the critical points
- Proposing new/mitigating/compensative measures (from "dividing" to "enlarging the cake")
- Do "win-win» solutions exist? (game can be not a zero-sum game)

Create information / 1

Analytic support: calculation of the indices of conflict, based on the distances between decision makers.

✤ Impacts (numbers of impacts may not coincide):

o distance of each player from the average value of each impact

 \checkmark Utility funct. \rightarrow examination of those which do not coincide

Weights: construction of distance D matrix

$$D = [d_{ij}], \text{ with } d_{ij} \ge 0 \text{ (symmetric ?)}$$

Distance matrix among [weights vectors of] decision makers

Create information / 2



Individual indeces of conflict:

- \Box sum for rows = distance of the row player from the others
- □ sum for columns = distance of others from the column player
- Global indeces of conflict:
 - □ number $d_{ii} \neq 0 \rightarrow$ number of different vectors of weights
 - \Box average d_{ii} \rightarrow average distance among weight vectors
 - \Box max d_{ii} \rightarrow maximum level of conflict among two players
- Barycentric solution:

vector at the minimum distance from the vectors of the others



Distillation



Distillation: compromise research

Cooperative approach: trust building

becision makers move to barycentric position

□ synchronous method → together
 □ a-synchronous method → the first is the most critical decision maker

- For each step:
 - information about global conflict (global conflict index)
 - information about the most critical decision maker (individual conflict index)

Distillation: to the barycenter

Weighted barycentric vector



We calculate the distances between the components of the vectors of the weights of each decision maker and the components of the weighted barycentric vector



Maastricht

Decision maker 1	Decision maker 2	Decision maker n
Multi criteria analysis (or other): Sorting creation 1	••••	Multi criteria analysis (or other): Sorting creation n



(ii) Peer evaluation

Have all the decision makers the same importance ?

Weights determined a priori:

- a meta-decision maker exists;
- he has a weight proportional to the number of people that he represents.

Solution: See Strain Strai

- □ (1) average method
- □ (2) eigenvector method
 - ✓ player can assign a weight to himself,
 - ✓ player must assign weights just to other players.

1. Average method

Player **Di** can vote to himself



Inconsistent \rightarrow players have the same relevance !

2. Eigenvector method

Player **Di** can vote to himself

	D1	D2	D3
D1	0.80	0.10	0.10
D2	0.05	0.70	0.30
D3	0.15	0.20	0.60

Sw = w

Vectors of the weights expressed by each player (column sum = 1)

Sw =
$$\lambda$$
W (principal eigenvalue = 1)

Vectors of the weights of the players

W

0.330

0.363



Rule (now) → player **Di** can not give a weight to himself



Possible solutions:

each player has to vote at least for two players;

𝔅 0 can not be used (weights ≥ predeterminated ε).

Veto → United Nations Security Council

15 members, 5 can veto

(USA, Russia, China, France, Great Britain)

Rule \rightarrow a resolution is approved if:

- (i) gets at least 9 votes,
- (ii) there is no veto (from 1 of the 5).



How to determinate the weight of the members (USA, Russia, China, ..., D1, D2, ..., D9, D10) and coalition threshold in order to simulate UN Security Council working process ???

Service design

Green Move

Objective: design & test an electric car-sharing system in Milan

Coordinating a 2½ years project financed by the Lombardia Region (5 millions €), **involving 8 research centers** of Politecnico di Milano

Outcome:

- the design of a **full scale** service
- a trial with a limited number of docking stations in Milan

Switch from "buy a vehicle" paradigm to "buy mobility services"





The scheme



How to design/formalize the service ?

Problem characteristics:

- different actors and stratification of governance levels,
 e.g. public administration (municipality, region), associations, ...
- uncertainty in the definition of the variables,
 e.g. future policies for urban mobility, travel demand estimation for a non-existing service
- conflicting criteria,
 - e.g. costs vs territorial coverage (such as in BikeMI)
- structuring the problem itself is an issue,
 e.g. definition of the configuration options to be evaluated is a key issue (Hull and Tricker, 2005; Kelly et al., 2008; Jones et al., 2009)

How to formalize the complexity ?





Casual maps & MCDA

Integration of causal maps with multi-criteria analysis:

- a powerful way of capturing decision-makers' views
- widely used in problem-structuring (Rosenhead and Mingers, 2004)
- model the effects of a link

(qualitative or quantitative methods)

definition of
 aggregation rules
 qualitative → experts
 quantitative
 models (e.g.
 demand analysis)



A (partial) map for GM



for the design of a vehicle sharing service

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Parameters

- 1. Type of vehicle (EV, hybrid, ICE)
- 2. Service area
- 3. Capillarity and intermodality
- 4. Spatial flexibility \rightarrow 1w-2w
- 5. Flexibility of service \rightarrow temporal flexibility of booking
- 6. Fare:
 - 6.1. modes (hourly, km)
 - 6.2. function type (concave, convex, linear)
 - 6.3. level (high, medium, low)
- 7. Economic incentives (parking, congestion tax, LPT)
- 8. Incentives for service (areas with traffic restrictions, lanes ...)
- 9. Re-allocation model
- 10. Mechanisms for promotion and marketing

Indicators

After the setting up of different options (alternatives), they can be evaluated and compared thanks to adequate indicators.

Evaluation and performance indicators (to measure

the achievement of the objectives of stakeholders):

- Net Present Value
- Δ km traveled on the network
- Δ greenhouses gases
- Δ polluting emission
- Modal shift to sustainable mobility
- Number of users
- Connection in the social network
- Space occupied by parking
- Accessibility indicators

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Flow chart





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Conclusions (part 2)

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Thank you