

**POLITECNICO**  
MILANO 1863

DIPARTIMENTO DI ENERGIA

# A CONDITION-BASED RISK-INFORMED DECISION-MAKING FRAMEWORK FOR SEVERE ACCIDENT MANAGEMENT

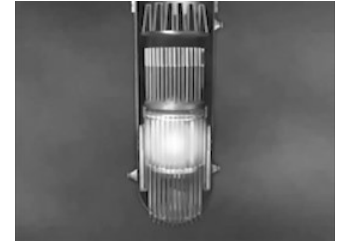
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# Context of the work

**Severe Accident Management Guidelines (SAMGs)**  
are devoted to prevent accident escalation and  
avoid release of radioactive materials

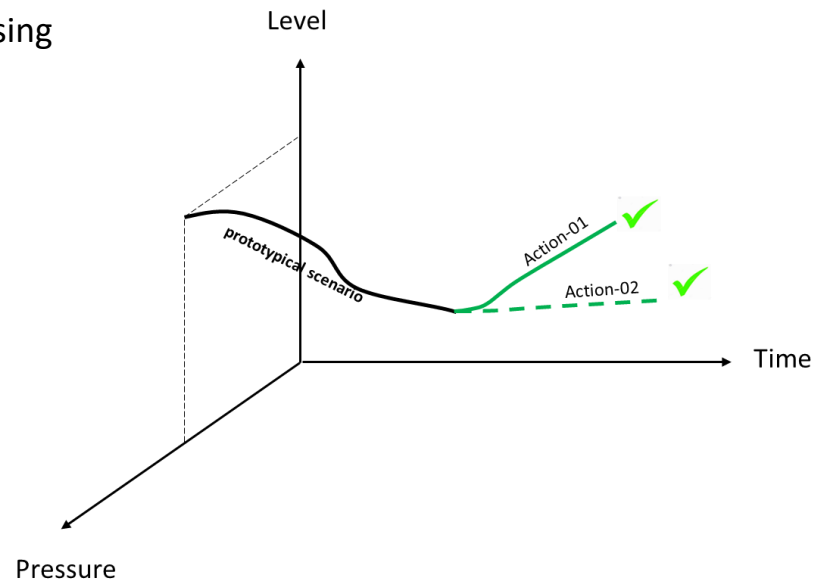


$$SAMG = f(\text{Knowledge, Information, Data})$$



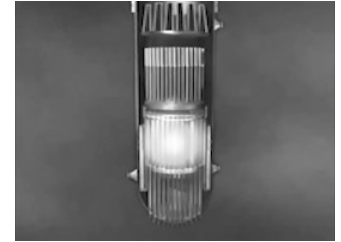
$$SAMG = f(\text{prototypical accident scenarios})$$

limited/missing



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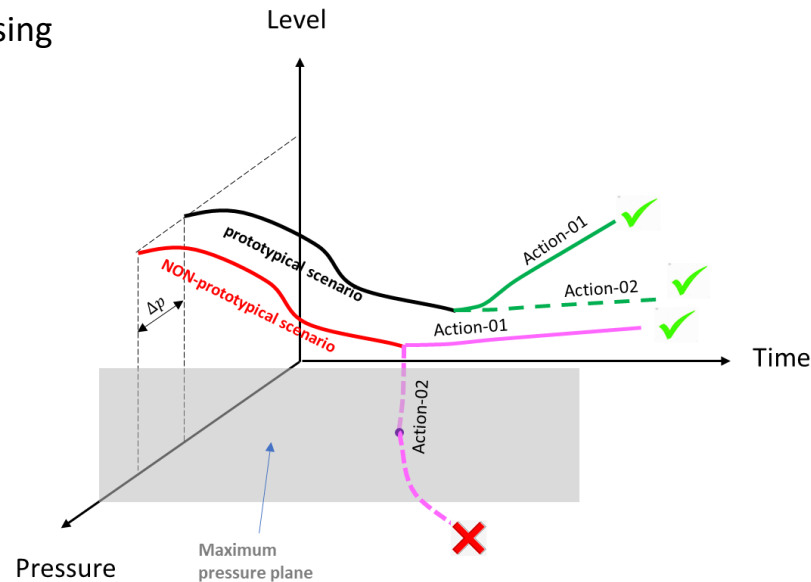


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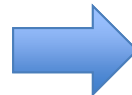


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limited/missing



**DIFFERENT ACTIONS HAVE  
DIFFERENT IMPACTS**

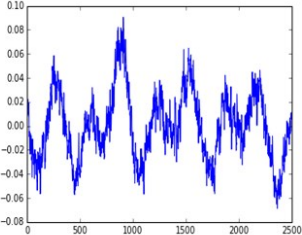


**IS THE PROTOTYPICAL SCENARIO  
ENOUGH REPRESENTATIVE**



# Problem Statement

## 1) Plant Damage State

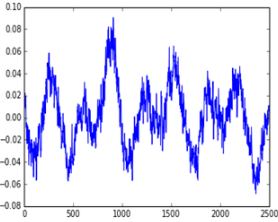


DATA FROM SENSORS

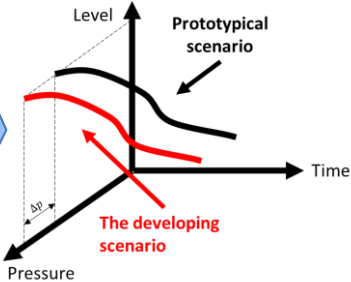


UNCERTAIN PLANT DAMAGE STATE (PDS)

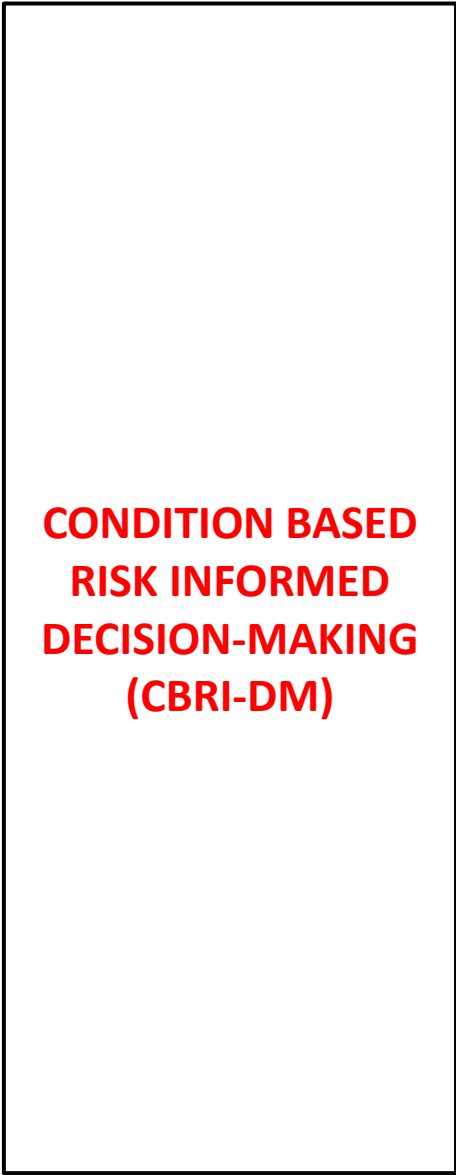
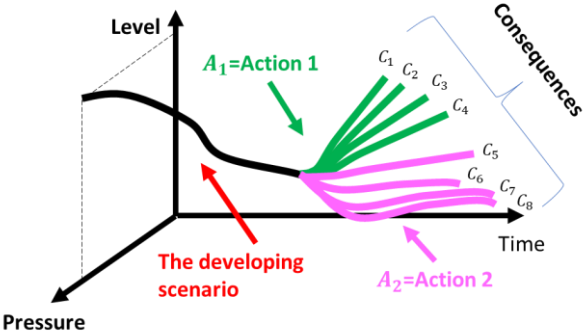
## 2) Developing scenario



DATA FROM SENSORS



## 3) Set of alternative candidate actions



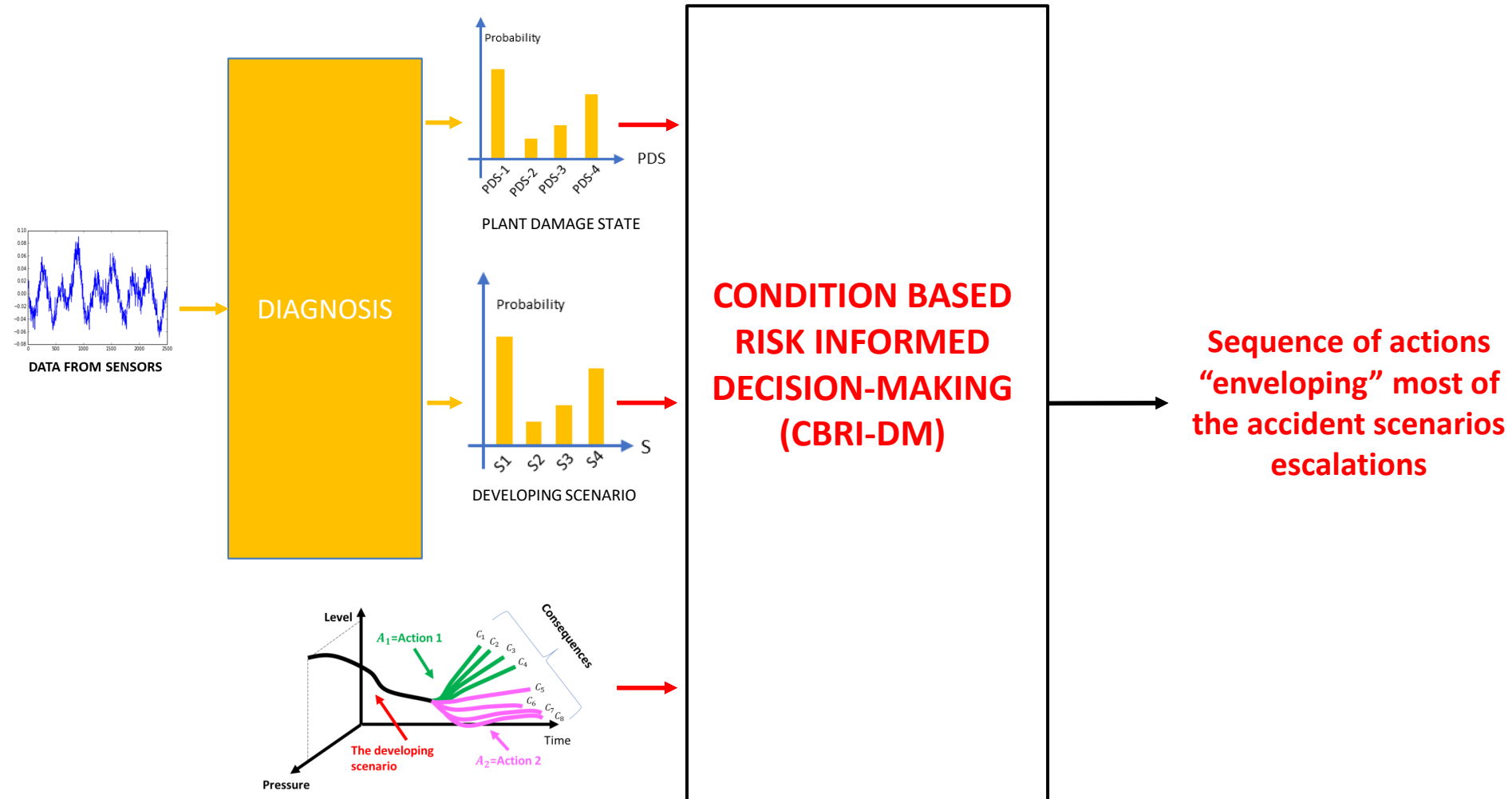
**CONDITION BASED  
RISK INFORMED  
DECISION-MAKING  
(CBRI-DM)**

**Sequence of actions  
“enveloping” most of  
the accident scenarios  
escalations**

# CBRI-DM: Desiderata (1/3)

A **DIAGNOSIS MODULE** to identify:

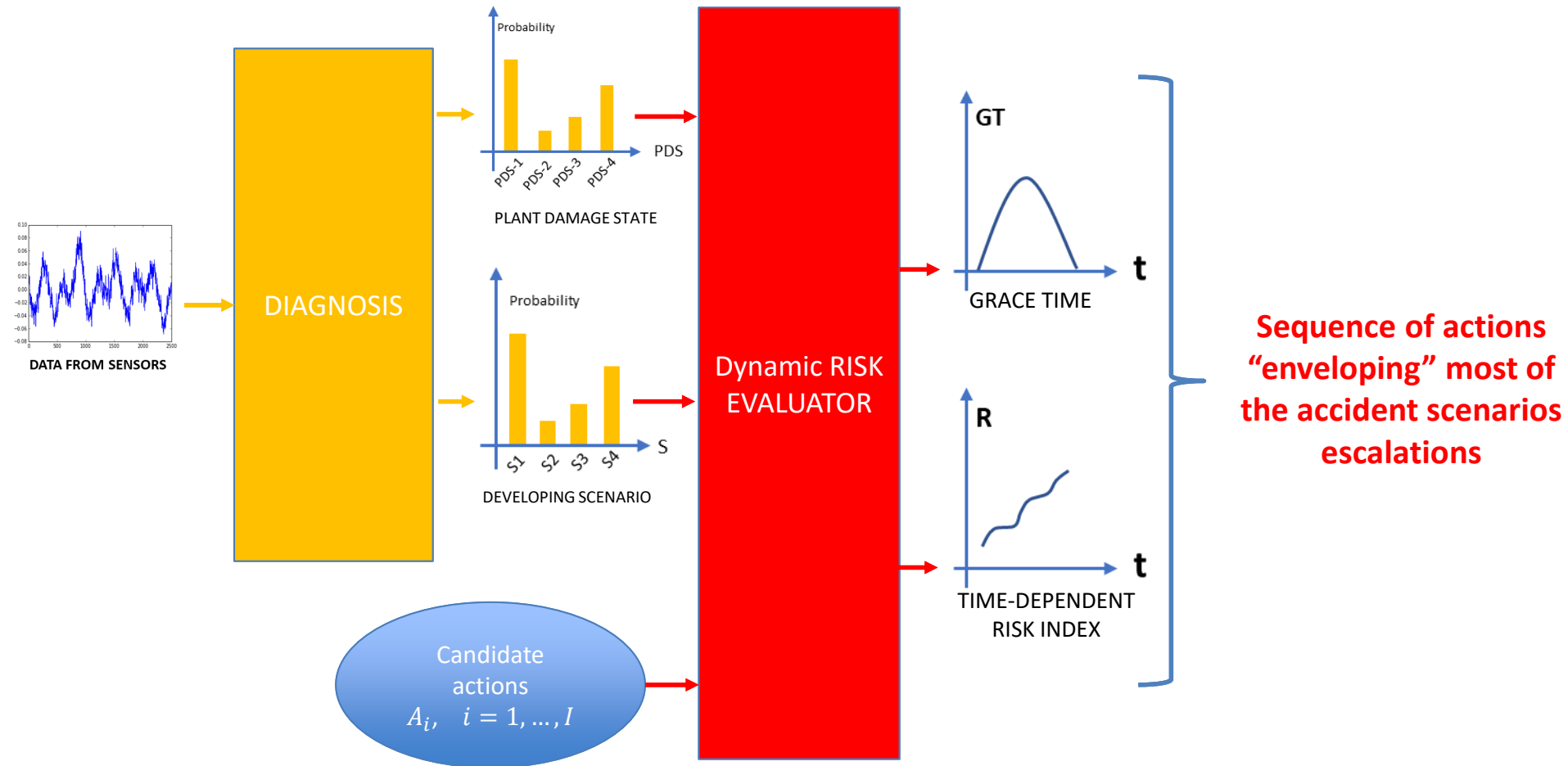
- 1) The Plant Damage States (PDSs) (and estimate their probability);
- 2) The developing scenarios (and estimate their probability).



# CBRI-DM: Desiderata (2/3)

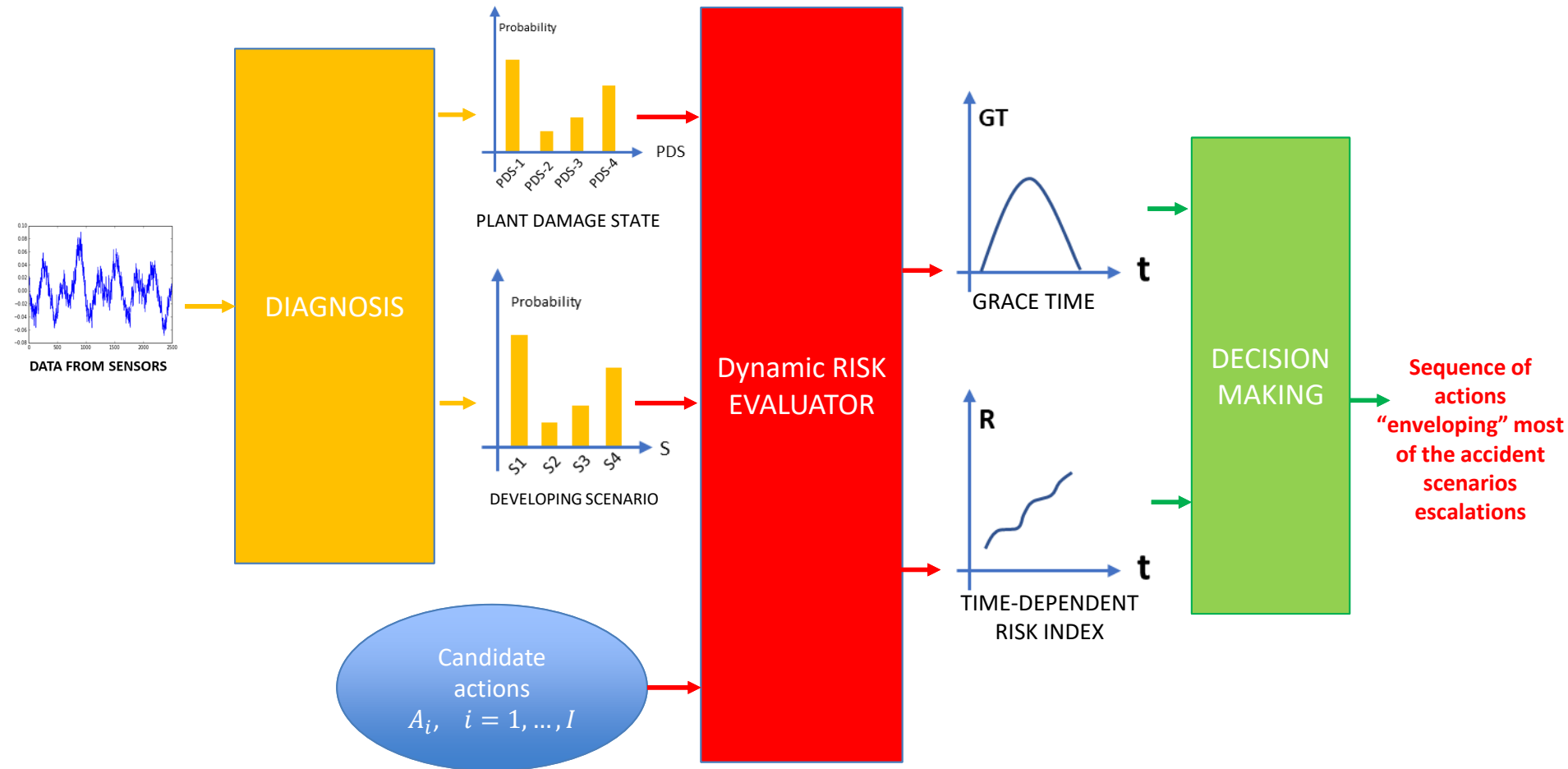
A **DYNAMIC RISK EVALUATOR** to provide:

- 1) The probability distribution of the Grace Time (**GT**);
- 2) The (time-dependent) risk index **R** @future times;

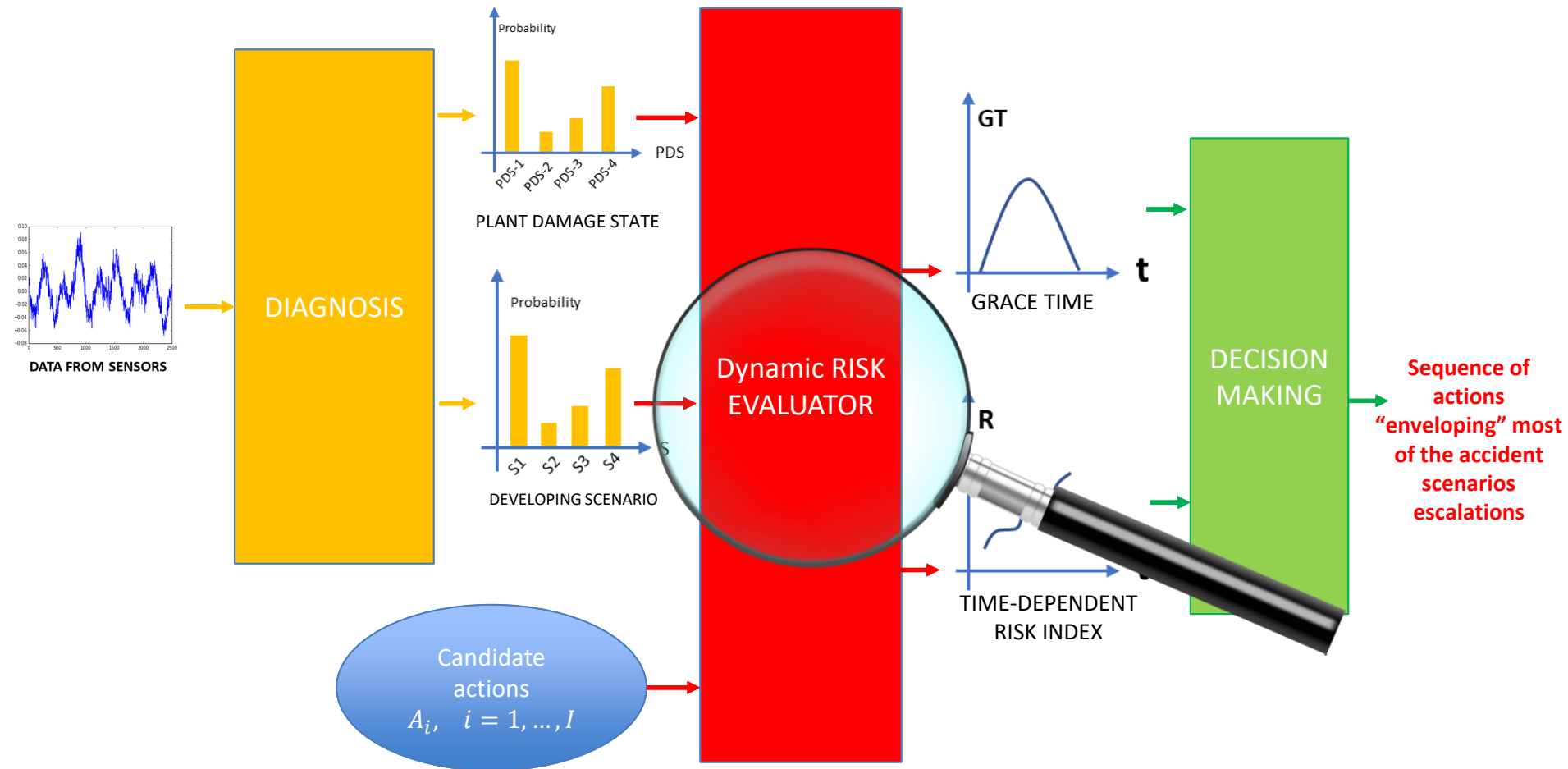


# CBRI-DM: Desiderata (3/3)

A **DECISION-MAKING MODULE** to prescribe the best sequence of actions (i.e., the one “enveloping” most of the accident scenarios escalations)



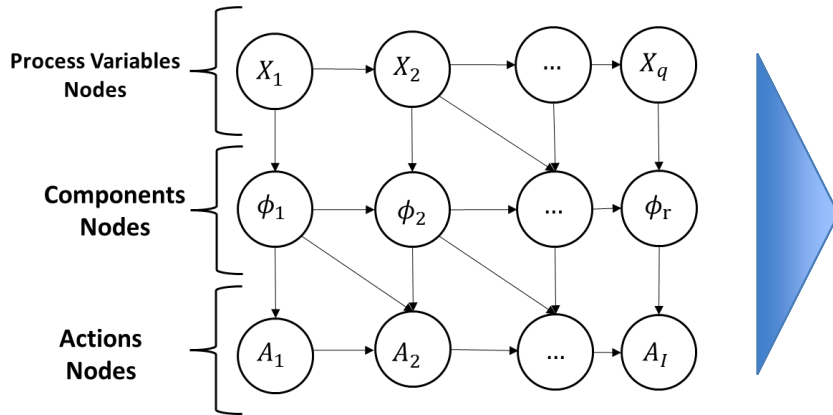
# Proposed technical solution





# The dynamic risk evaluator

## BAYESIAN NETWORK (BN)



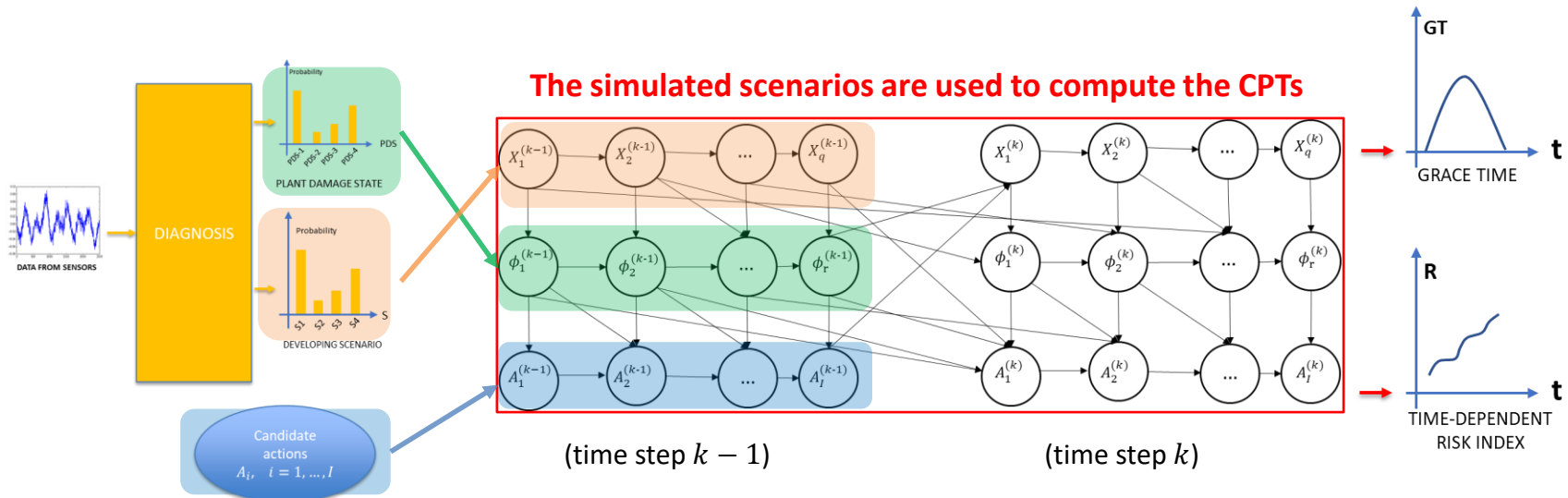
Dependencies are:

- Qualitatively represented through arrows;
- Quantitatively represented through Conditional Probability Tables (CPTs), e.g.:

	$\phi_1 = 0$		$\phi_1 = 1$	
	$X_2 = 0$	$X_2 = 1$	$X_2 = 0$	$X_2 = 1$
$\phi_2 = 0$	0,99	0,95	0,80	0,5
$\phi_2 = 1$	0,01	0,05	0,20	0,5

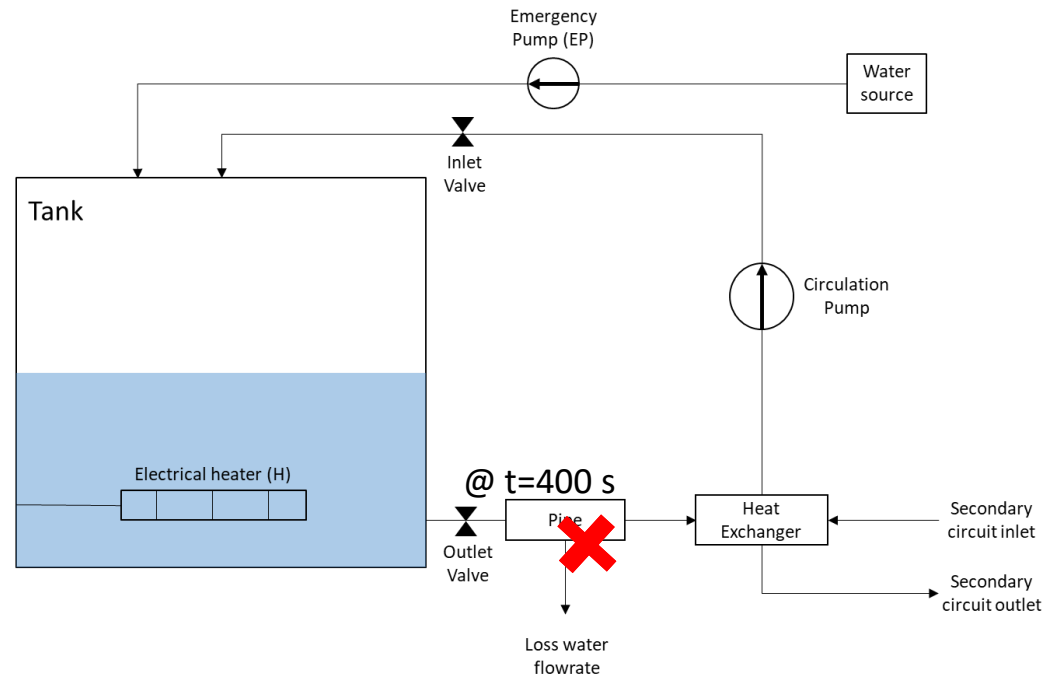
(Example of CPT for binary nodes)

## DYNAMIC BAYESIAN NETWORK (DBN)



# Case study (1/2)

- **System:** Electric Heating System [6] ;
- **Model:** Simulink;
- **System goals:**
  - Water Level ( $L$ )  $> 2\text{ m}$ ;
  - Water Temperature ( $T$ )  $< 80\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ ;
- **Transient time:**  $t = [0\text{ s}, 1000\text{ s}]$ ;



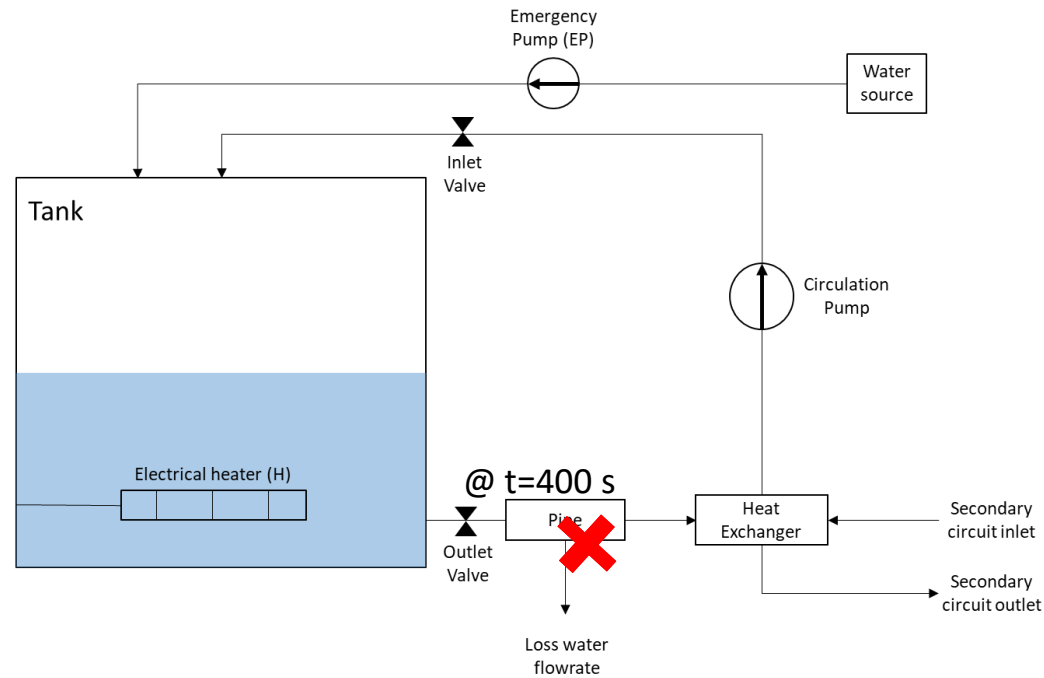
- **Assumptions:**
  - The EP and the H cannot be simultaneously switched ON and OFF, respectively;
  - The heater H and the EP have two possible operational status (i.e., ON-OFF);
  - Once the heater become OFF it will not become ON again;
  - No running failure for the EP.

EP= Emergency Pump;  
H= Electrical Heater;

# Case study (2/2)

- **Accidental Scenarios characteristics:**

- Primary circuit pipe rupture @  $t=400$  s;
- Random variables for scenarios generation:
  1. Fraction of loss flowrate:  
Uniform  $U[0.05, 0.10]$ ;
  2. Type of operating option:  
Uniform  $U$ [turn on the EP first, turn off the H first];
  3. Time to turn ON the Emergency Pump (EP):  
Uniform  $U [100$  s, 350s];
  4. Time to turn OFF the Heater (H):  
Uniform  $U [100$  s, 350s]

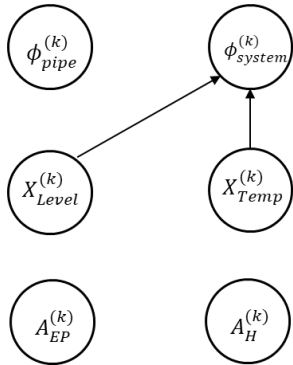


## Four actions are compared:

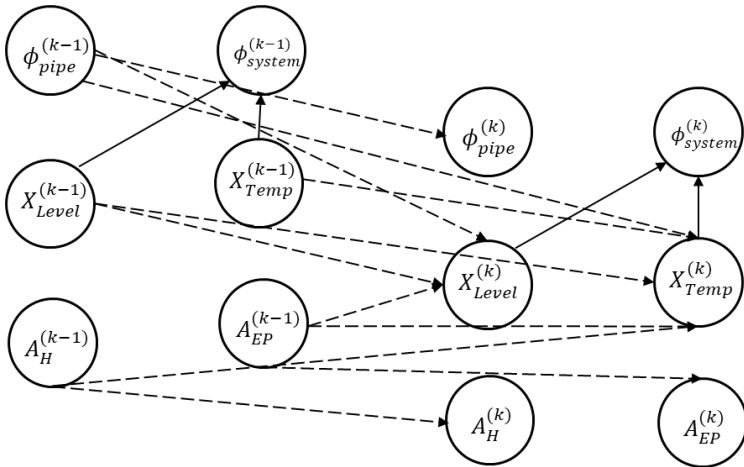
- $A_1 = (EP = on @t = 500s, H = off @t = 600s)$ ;
- $A_2 = (EP = on @t = 600s, H = off @t = 500s)$ ;
- $A_3 = (EP = on @t = 500s, H = off @t = 700s)$ ;
- $A_4 = (EP = on @t = 700s, H = off @t = 500)$ ;

# The DBN

## The BN of the system



## The DBN of the system



$\Delta t = 50 \text{ s} \rightarrow k=(0,1,\dots,21)$

## System nodes are discretized

Pipe_state	
State	Description
TRUE	Pipe failed
FALSE	Pipe working

Sys_state	
State	Description
TRUE	System failed
FALSE	System working

Water Level (L)	
State	Description
L1	$L < 2\text{m}$
L2	$2\text{m} < L < 3\text{m}$
L3	$3\text{m} < L < 4\text{m}$
L4	$L > 4\text{m}$

Temperature (T)	
State	Description
T1	$T < 20^\circ\text{C}$
T2	$20^\circ\text{C} < T < 40^\circ\text{C}$
T3	$40^\circ\text{C} < T < 60^\circ\text{C}$
T4	$60^\circ\text{C} < T < 80^\circ\text{C}$
T5	$T > 80^\circ\text{C}$

Heater (H)	
State	Description
ON	H on
OFF	H off

Emergency Pump (EP)	
State	Description
ON	EP on
OFF	EP off

**Monte Carlo Simulations are performed to compute the CPTs**

# Case study: Results (1/2)

System state @t=450s:

- $X_L^{(9)} = L3$ ;
- $X_T^{(9)} = T4$ ;

Action – 1:

- Turn On EP @ t=500s;
- Turn off H @ t=600s;

Action – 2:

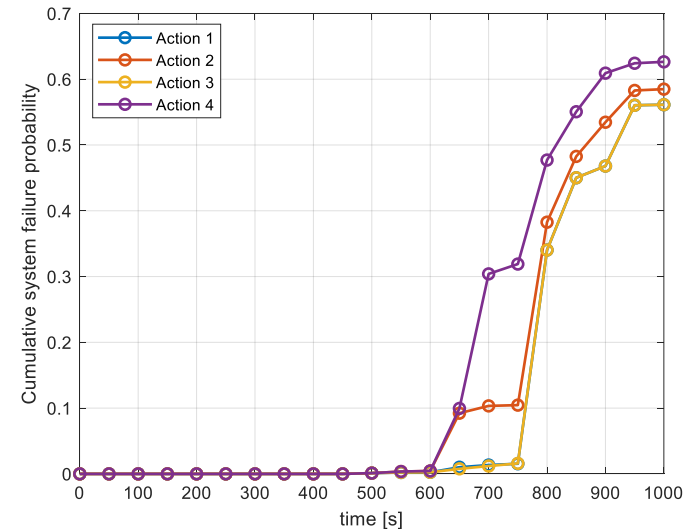
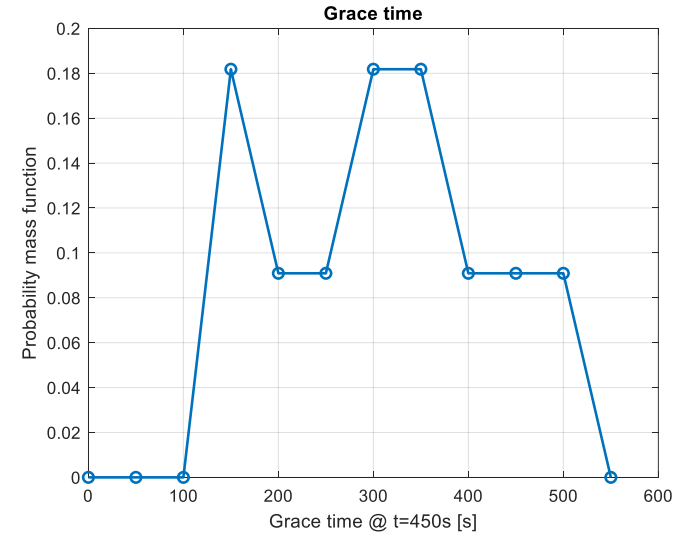
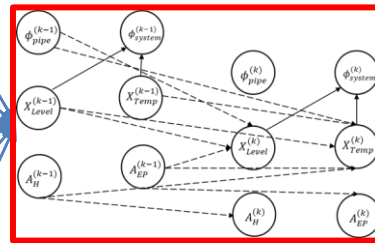
- Turn On EP @ t=600s;
- Turn off H @ t=500s;

Action – 3:

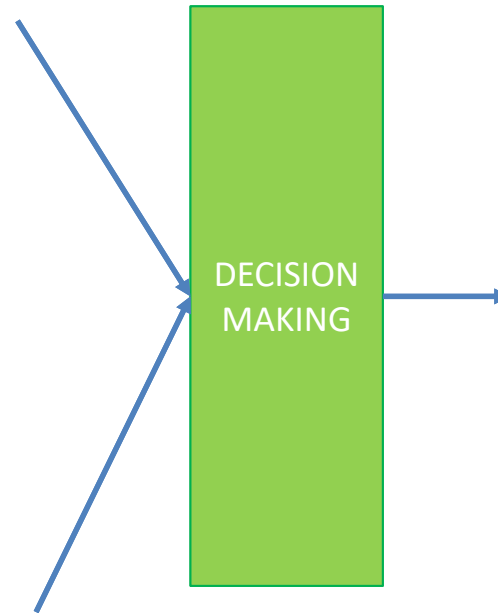
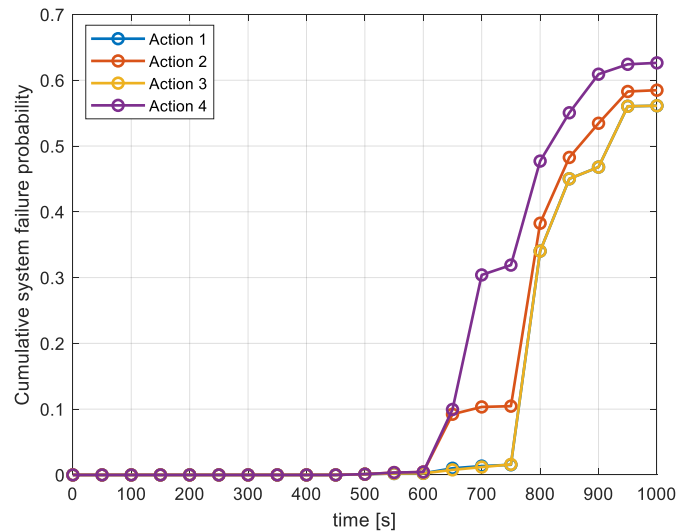
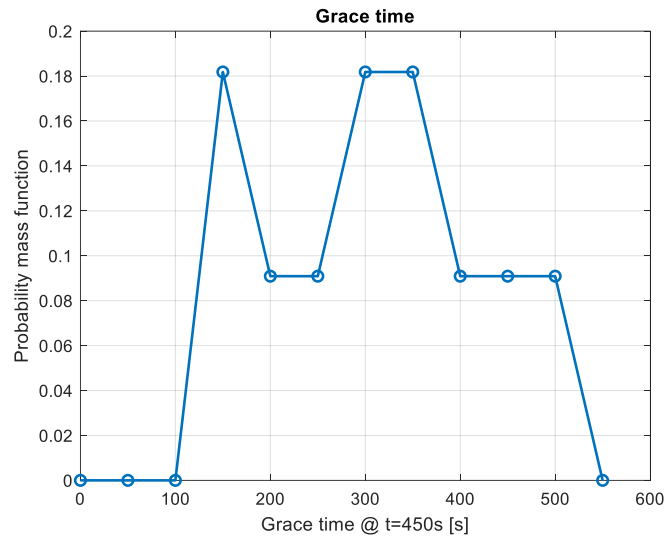
- Turn On EP @ t=500s;
- Turn off H @ t=700s;

Action – 4:

- Turn On EP @ t=700s;
- Turn off H @ t=500s;



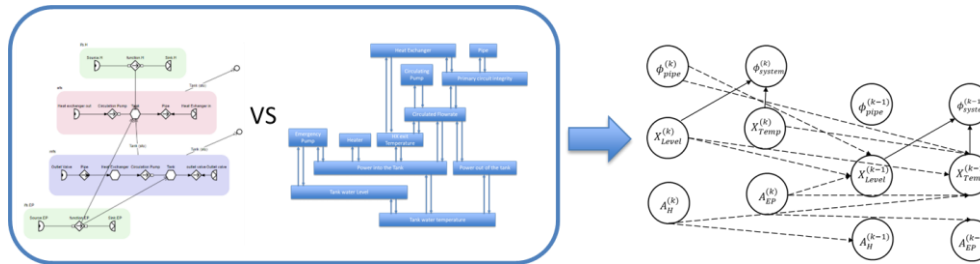
# Case study: Results (2/2)



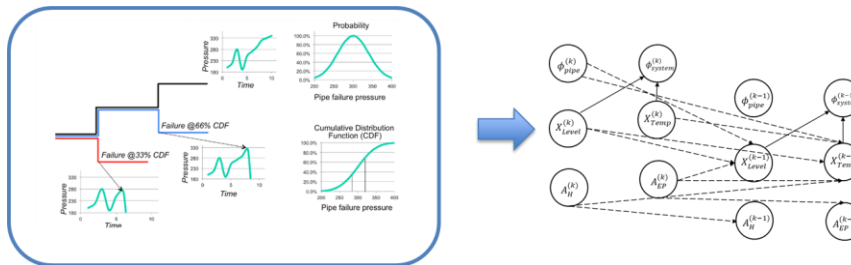
**Action 1 and Action 3 are those “enveloping” most of the accident scenarios escalations**

# Conclusions and future works

1. A framework based on DBNs for combining condition-monitoring data with dynamic risk assessment has been proposed for decision-making in support of SAMGs;
2. The feasibility of application of the proposed framework has been shown on a case study;
3. Technical issues for the informed construction of the DBN need to be addressed with respect to the opportunity of using:
  - a) Multilevel Flow Modelling (MFM) or System Theoretic Accident Model and Processes (STAMP) to model the interdependencies in the system;



- b) Dynamic PRA methodologies for a **comprehensive coverage of accidental scenarios for the inference of CPTs**;



- c) Hybrid Bayesian Network to **avoid parameters discretization**.

# References

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- 1) Jaewhan Kim, Jaehyun Cho. Technical challenges in modeling human and organizational actions under severe accident conditions for Level 2 PSA. *Reliability Engineering & System Safety*, Volume 194, February 2020, 106239.
- 2) IAEA. Implementation of Accident Management Programmes in Nuclear Power Plants - Safety Reports Series No. 32 2004:129.
- 3) NEA. Informing Severe Accident Management Guidance and Actions for Nuclear Power Plants through Analytical Simulation, NEA/CSNI/R(2017)16. Organ Econ Co-Operation Dev 2018.
- 4) Mahdi Saghafi, Mohammad B. Ghofrani. Accident management support tools in nuclear power plants: A post-Fukushima review *Progress in Nuclear Energy* 92 (2016) 1-14.
- 5) Weber P, Jouffe L. Complex system reliability modelling with Dynamic Object Oriented Bayesian Networks (DOOBN)☆☆Revised version of the paper presented at QUALITA 2003. *Reliab Eng Syst Saf* 2006;91:149–62. <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.res.2005.03.006>.
- 6) J. Kim et al. System risk quantification and decision making support using functional modeling and dynamic Bayesian network. *Reliability Engineering and System Safety* 215 (2021) 107880.
- 7) MORTEN LIND and XINXIN ZHANG. FUNCTIONAL MODELLING FOR FAULT DIAGNOSIS AND ITS APPLICATION FOR NPP. *Nuclear engineering and technology*. Volume 46, Issue 6, December 2014, Pages 753-772.
- 8) NANCY G. LEVESON, JOHN P. THOMAS. STPA handbook. MARCH 2018.
- 9) Salmerón A, Rumí R, Langseth H, Nielsen TD, Madsen AL. A review of inference algorithms for hybrid Bayesian networks. *J Artif Intell Res* 2018;62:799–828. <https://doi.org/10.1613/jair.1.11228>.
- 10) Tunc Aldemir. A survey of dynamic methodologies for probabilistic safety assessment of nuclear power plants. *Annals of Nuclear Energy* 52 (2013) 113–124.





**Thank you for your  
attention!**



# Appendix 1: Identifying interdependencies within the system (1/3)

## ISSUE

Classical approaches:

- Fault Tree;
- Event Tree;
- Bow-Tie

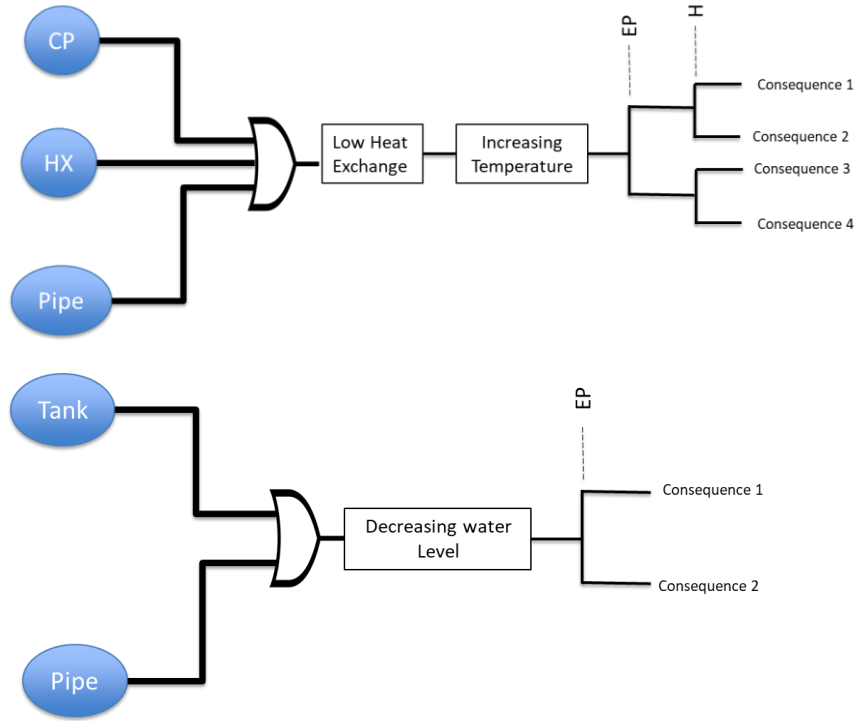


Used to find relations between system's states/events.

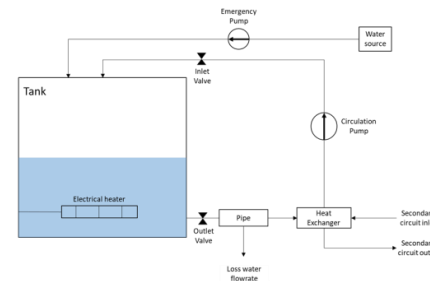


No explicit representation of system/component's functions and objectives.

## EXAMPLE



**Legend:**  
CP= Circulation Pump;  
HX= Heat Exchanger;  
EP= Emergency Pump;  
H= Heater



## PROPOSED SOLUTIONS

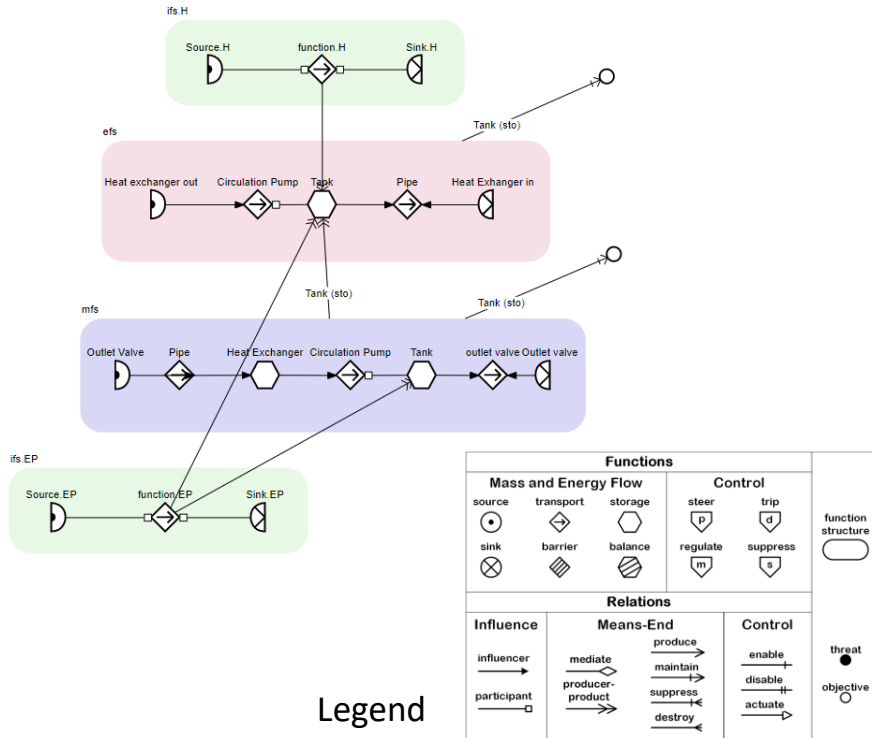
Two alternatives:

- A. Multilevel Flow Modeling (MFM);
- B. System Theoretic Accident Model and Processes (STAMP)

# Appendix 1: Identifying interdependencies within the system (2/3)

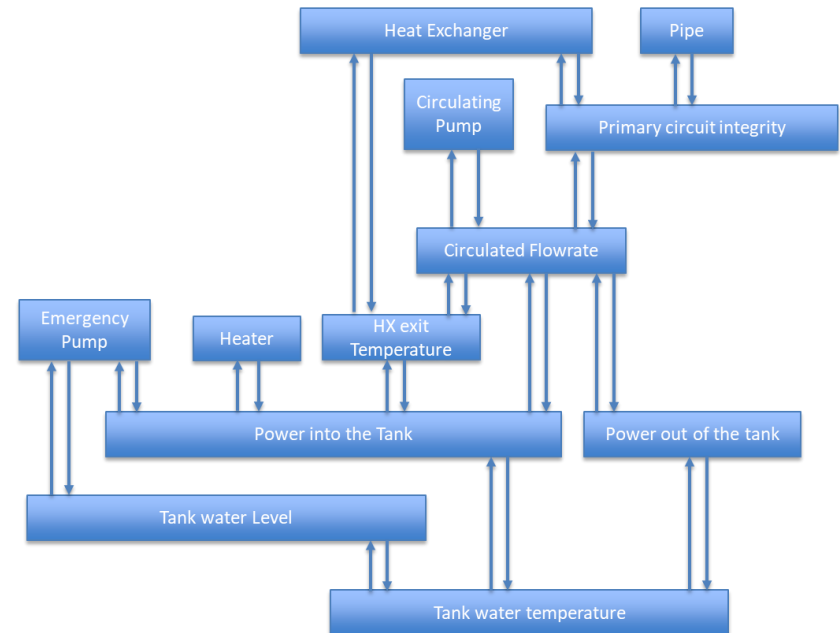
## Multilevel Flow Modelling [7]

- Representation of the system's:
  - Goals;
  - Functions to reach the goals;
  - The relationships and interactions between them.
- Hierarchical decomposition of the system in sub-systems and components.



## System Theoretic Accident Model and Processes [8]

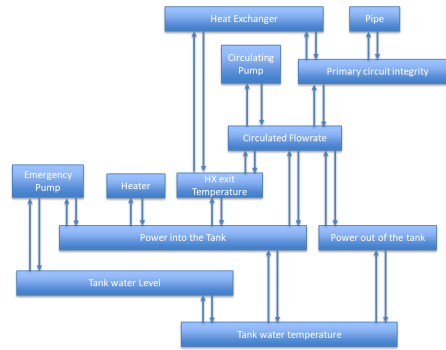
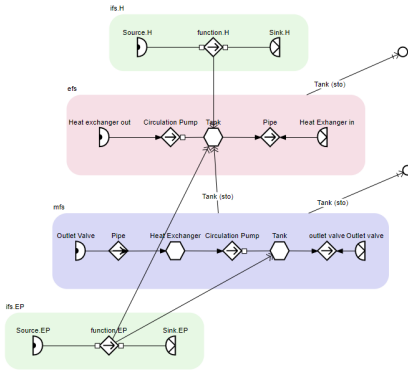
- Representation of the system in terms of:
  - Controllers;
  - Controlled processes/variable;
  - The relationships and interactions between them (in terms of control actions and feedback).
- Hierarchical decomposition of the system in sub-systems, components and processes.



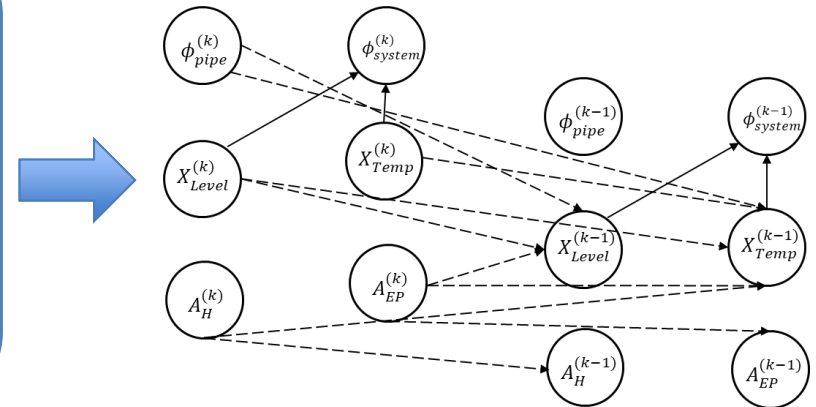
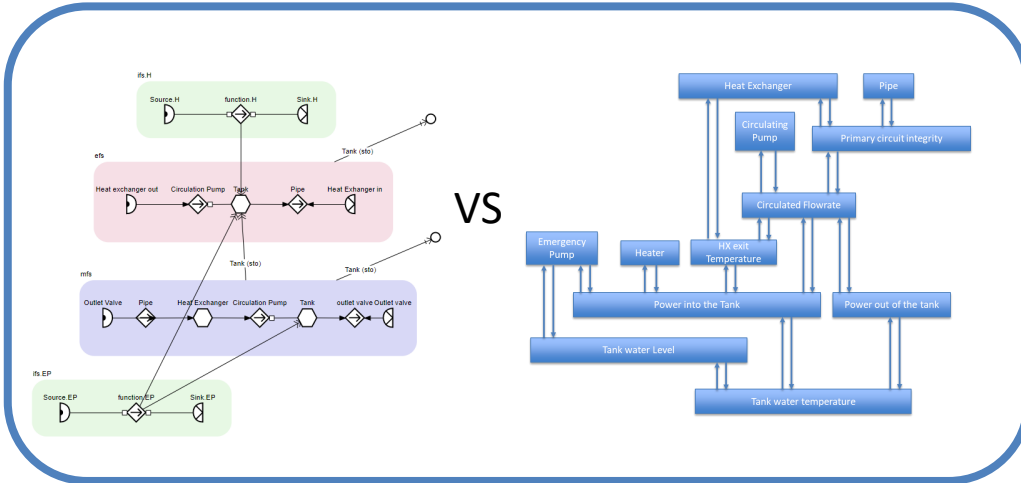
# Appendix 1: Identifying interdependencies within the system (3/3)

## Steps to build the structure of DBN:

### 1. Identify interdependencies within the system through MFM or STAMP:



### 2. Map the MFM or the STAMP control structure into a DBN:



# Appendix 2: Coverage of accidental scenarios for the inference of CPTs (1/2)

## ISSUE

Classical approach:

- Event Tree (ET);

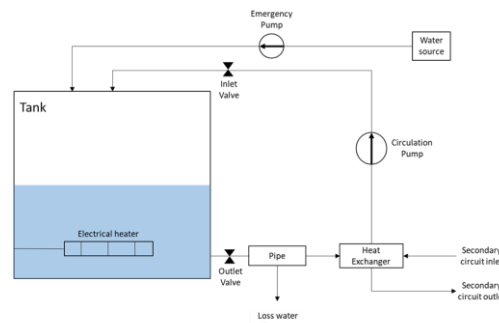
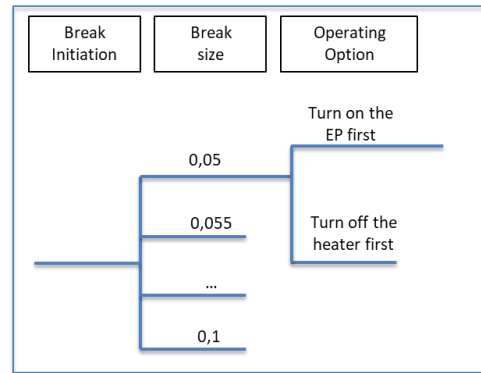


Used to generate accidental scenarios.



- Timing of events not taken explicitly into account
- ET headers a priori chosen

## EXAMPLE

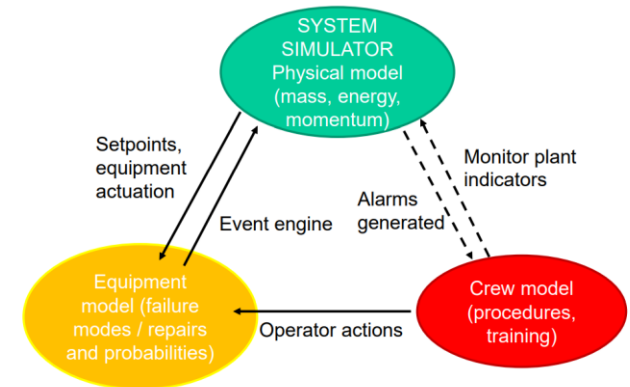


## PROPOSED SOLUTION

Dynamic PRA  
Methodologies (e.g., DET)



- Integration of deterministic (i.e., simulator) and stochastic processes (i.e., degradation and failure event occurrences)
- Explicit modelling of the plant-crew interactions.



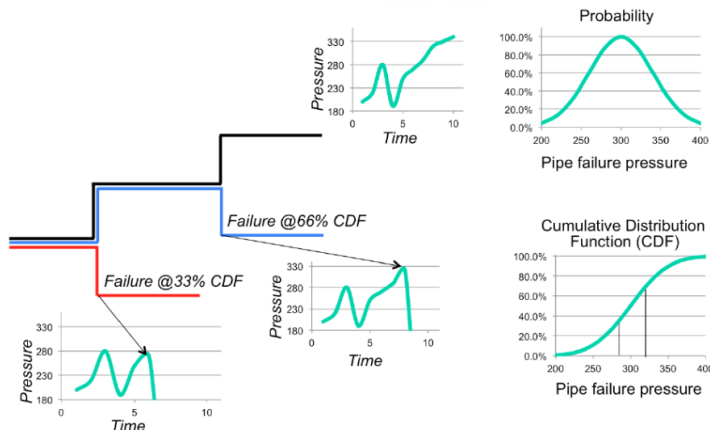
# Appendix 2: Coverage of accidental scenarios for the inference of CPTs (2/2)

## DET logic

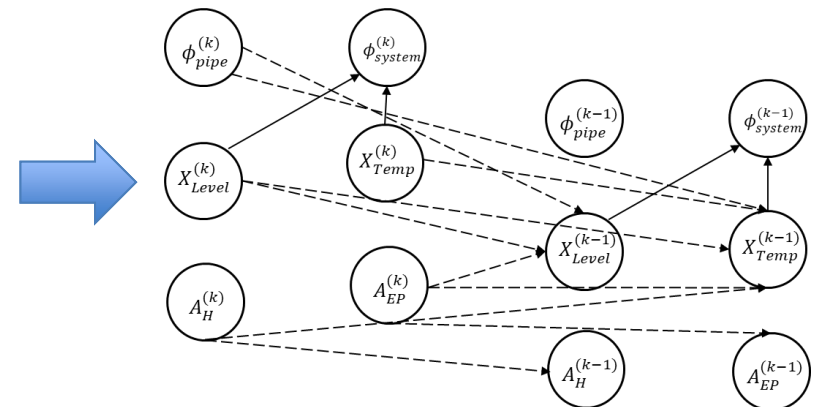
- Events in the system occur at specified branching points according to the branching rules;
- Branching rules are specified by users (through PDFs);
- According to these rules, the simulation spoons different branches
- For each spoon, the system is simulated until another event occurs and a new set of branching is spooned;
- The simulation ends when an exit condition or a maximum mission time is reached.

## Advantages

- Timing of events is explicitly considered;
- Identification of accident scenarios which may have been overlooked by the analyst in the (static) PRA analysis;
- Time-dependent PDFs of components and process variables can be found;



Rabiti, Cristian et al. "HYBRID DYNAMIC EVENT TREE SAMPLING STRATEGY IN RAVEN CODE A.Alfonsi\*\*," (2014).

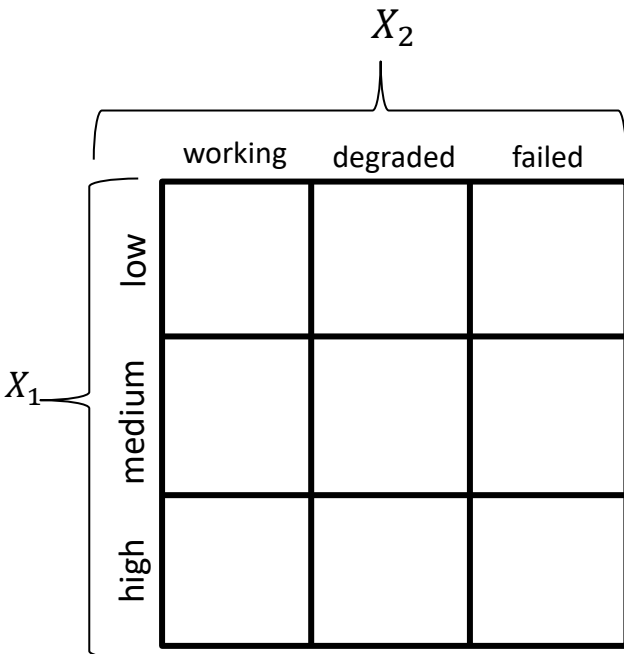


## Appendix 3: Discretization of nodes' states

**ISSUE**



**Node Discretization**



**TECHNICAL SOLUTION**



**Hybrid Dynamic Bayesian Networks [9]**

### ADVANTAGES

1. No need to discretize critical parameters (which may impact on the reliability assessment);
2. Continuous and discrete variables (nodes) handled simultaneously.

### DRAWBACK

- Higher computational cost;
- Need to explore suitable inference algorithms.

# Appendix 4: The Integrated Framework

