Risk and Safety in Engineering

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Contents of Today's Lecture

- Introduction to Bayesian Probabilistic Nets (BPN)
- Causality as a support in reasoning
- Basic theory of BPN with discrete states
- Risk analysis and decision making using BPN
- Large scale risk management using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and BPN



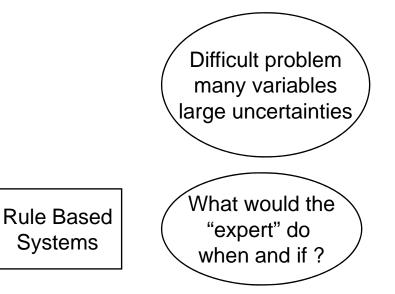
Introduction to Bayesian Probabilistic Nets (BPN)

As stated many times previously

Risk analysis supports decision making subject to uncertainty

Bayesian Probabilistic Nets (or Networks) (BPN) or Bayesian Belief Networks (BBN)

 were developed during the last decade for purposes of decision making in artificial intelligence engineering

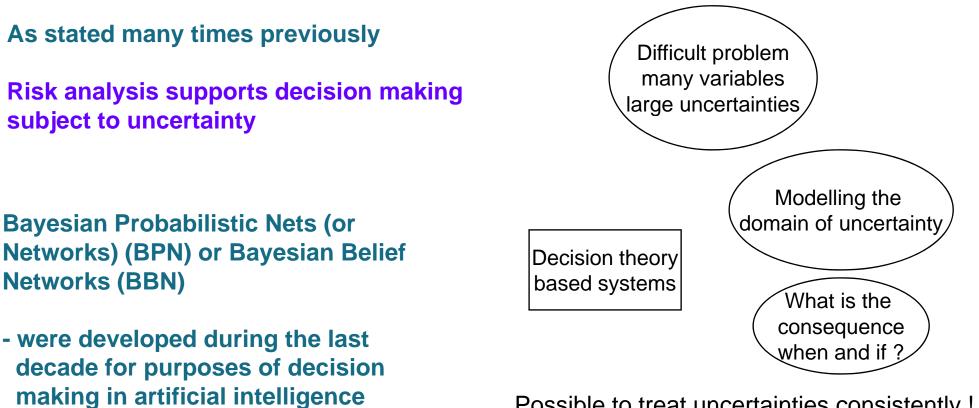


Not possible to treat uncertainties consistently !

Bad decisions – "Dutch Books"



Introduction to Bayesian Probabilistic Nets (BPN)



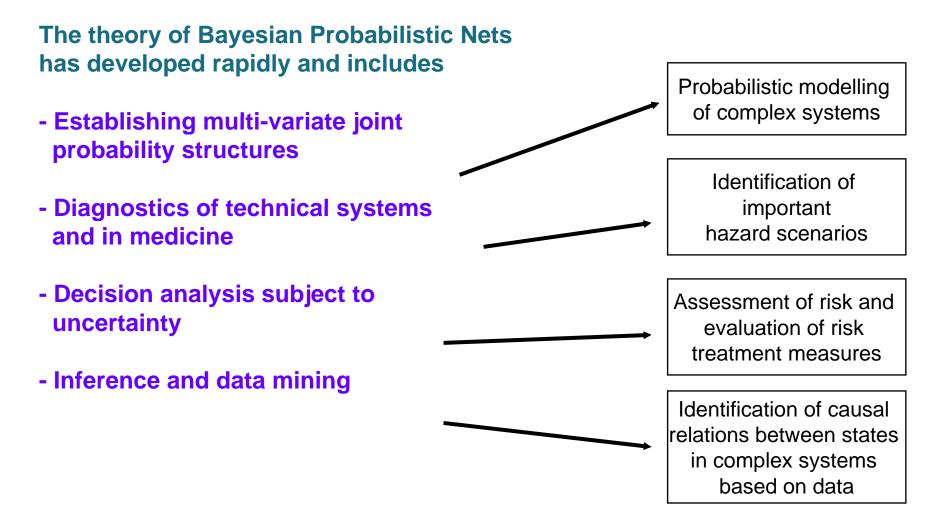
Possible to treat uncertainties consistently !

- Supporting the expert in decision making !
- Not replacing the expert !



engineering

Introduction to Bayesian Probabilistic Nets (BPN)







Causality and Reasoning

In our daily lives we reason on the basis of causal relations

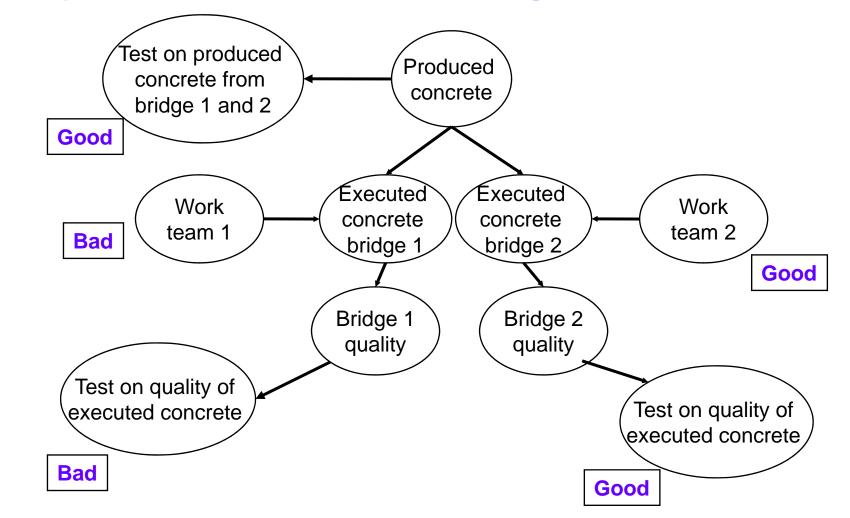
Consider the following situation:

You are the owner of two new and almost identical bridges 1 and 2 made of concrete produced on site (small factory)

- Tests performed on bridge 1 indicates that the quality of the executed concrete used in bridge 1 is bad The question is :

– What is the quality of the executed concrete of bridge 2?



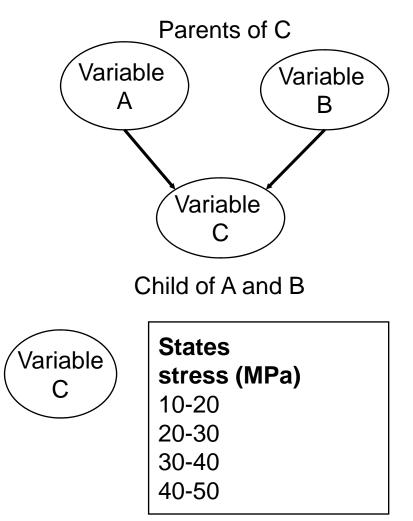




Causal Networks and BPNs

Formally speaking :

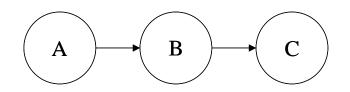
- a directed graph representing the causal interrelation between uncertain events
- interrelations expressed in terms of "family relations"
- a variable can have any number of discrete states or a continuous state space



Networks can be categorized in accordance with their configuration

For serially connected networks :

Information may be passed only if the states of the connecting variables are unknown



Serially connected network

B depends on A, C depends on B

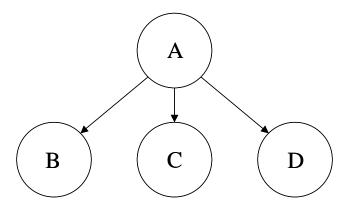
If the state of B is known with certainty variable A and variable B become independent

A and C are *d*-connected given B



For diverging networks :

Information about any of the child variables will influence the uncertainty of the states of the other children as long as the state of the variable A is unknown



Diverging network

B, C and D depend on A

B, C and D are *d*-connected given A

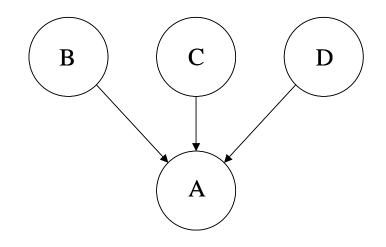


For converging networks :

The parent variables remain independent as long as the state of the child variable is unknown

Given the state of the child variable or any of the parent variables, all the parent variables become dependent

This is called conditional dependence



Converging network

A depends on B, C and D

B, C and D are independent as long as the state of A is unknown

Given the state of A the variables B, C and D become dependent



- Formally a BPN is composed of:
 - A set of variables and a set of directed *edges* (or connections) between the variables.
 - Each variable may have a countable or uncountable set of mutually exclusive states.
 - The variables together with the directed edges form a directed a-cyclic graph (DAG)
 - To each variable A with parents B, C, D, ... there is assigned a conditional probability structure P(A|B,C,D,..)

Assume that all *n* variables A_i , i = 1,2,..n of a BPN are collected in the vector $A = (A_1, A_2, ..., A_n)^T$ - also called the *universe U*.

In general it is of interest to be able to assess:

 $P(\mathbf{U}) = P(A_1, A_2, ..., A_n)$ - the joint probability distribution of the universe,

 $P(A_i)$ - any marginalized set of the universe, and

any probability distribution subject to evidence with regard to the states of individual variables, e.g. $P(A_i | e)$.

A BPN can be considered to be a special representation of such probability distributions.

Using the chain rule of probability calculus it is possible to write the probability distribution function in the following form:

$$P(\mathbf{U}) = \prod_{i} P(A_i | pa(A_i))$$

where $pa(A_i)$ is the parent set of the variable A_i .

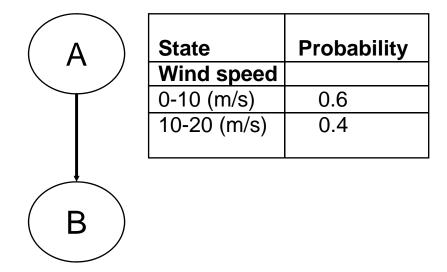
The probability distribution function for elements of \mathbf{U}_{i} , e.g. for A_{i}

can be achieved by *marginalization* i.e. $P(A_j) = \sum_{\mathbf{U} \setminus A_j} P(\mathbf{U}) = \sum_{\mathbf{U} \setminus A_j} \prod_i P(A_i | pa(A_i))$

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BPNs are sometimes referred to as directed acyclic graphs (DAG).

The states of each variable is allocated a conditional probability structure.



State Wind force	Probability Wind speed (m/s)	
	0-10	10-20
50-60 (kN)	0.6	0.3
60-70 (kN)	0.4	0.7

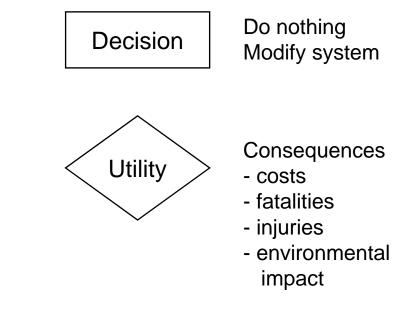
Bayesian Probabilistic Nets

BPNs may in addition to uncertain variables include

- decision nodes
- utility nodes

Decision nodes contain the various actions which may be decided

Utility nodes prescribe the consequences given the state of the variables and the decisions



Bayesian Probabilistic Nets

The probabilities assigned to the states of a variable may be conditional on the decisions.

The utility may be given as a function of the states of the variables and the decisions.

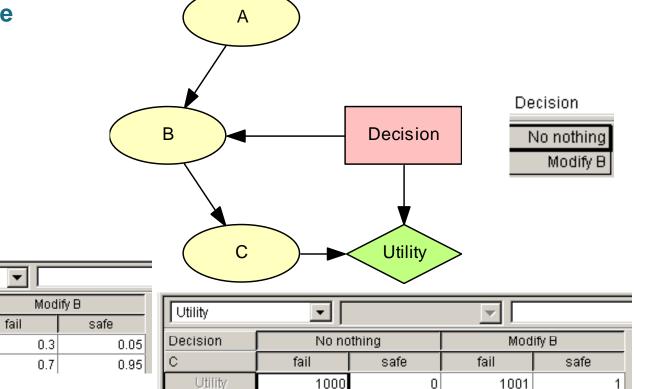
B

A

Decision

fail

safe





Labelled

safe

0.2

0.8

No nothing

0.5

0.5

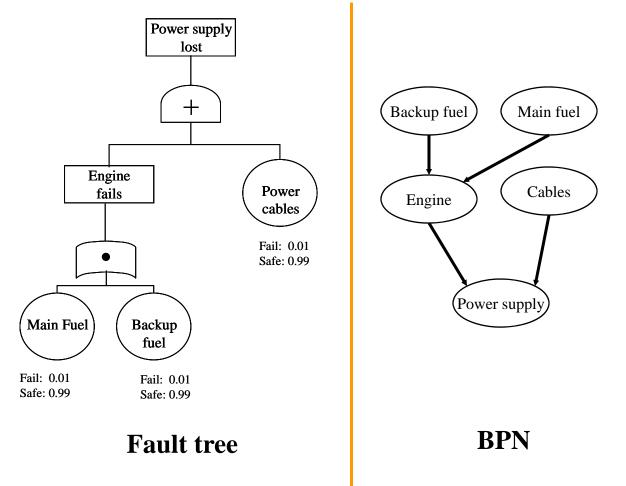
fail

BPNs for Risk Analysis

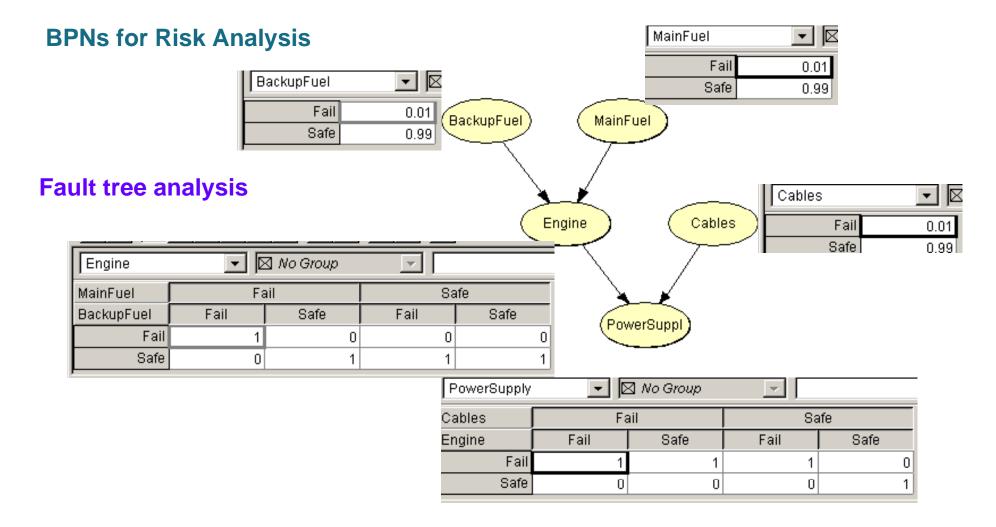
BPNs may readily substitute fault trees, event trees, cause consequence charts and decision trees in risk analysis

No problems with common cause failures when using BPN.

Let us consider the simple power supply example again

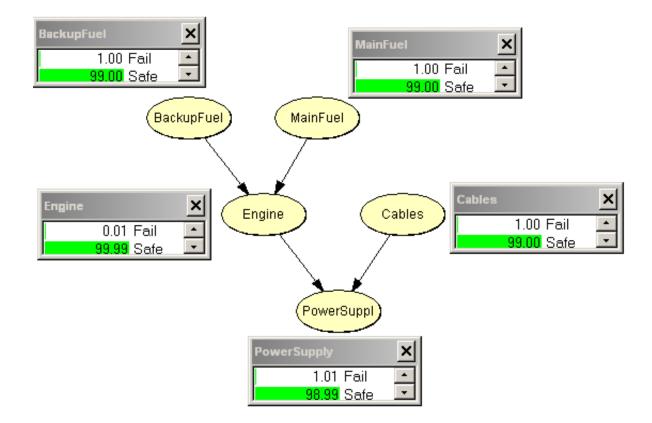




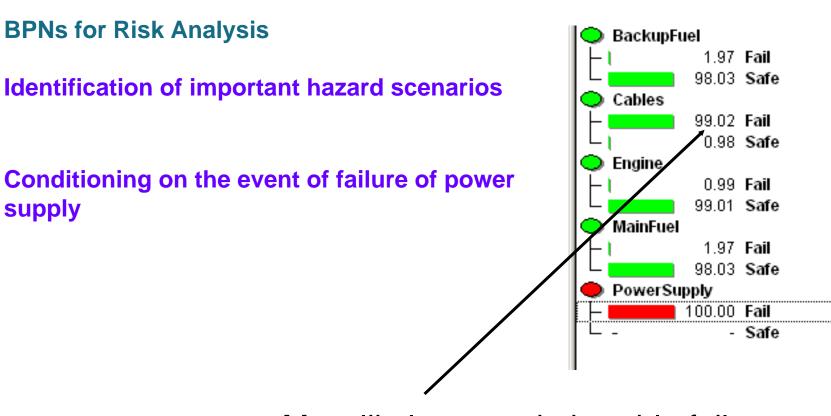


BPNs for Risk Analysis

Fault tree analysis



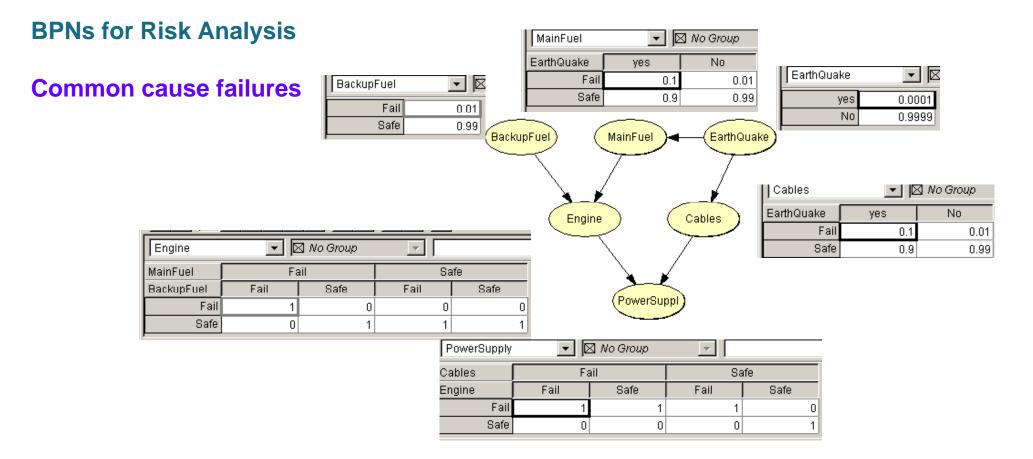


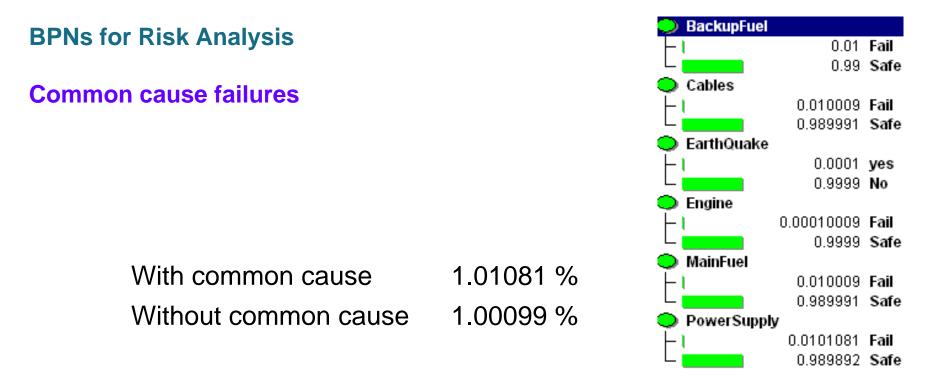


Most likely scenario is cable failure - this scenario should be detailed

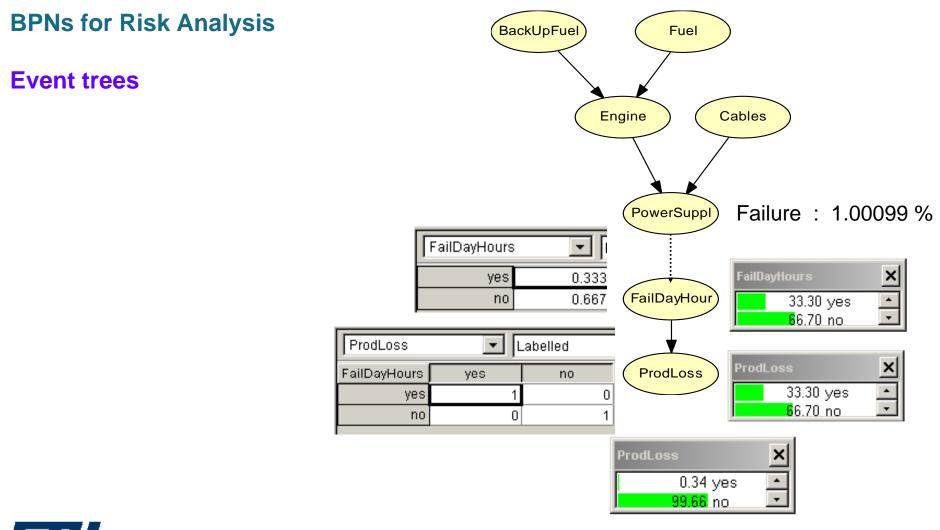
further in the modelling

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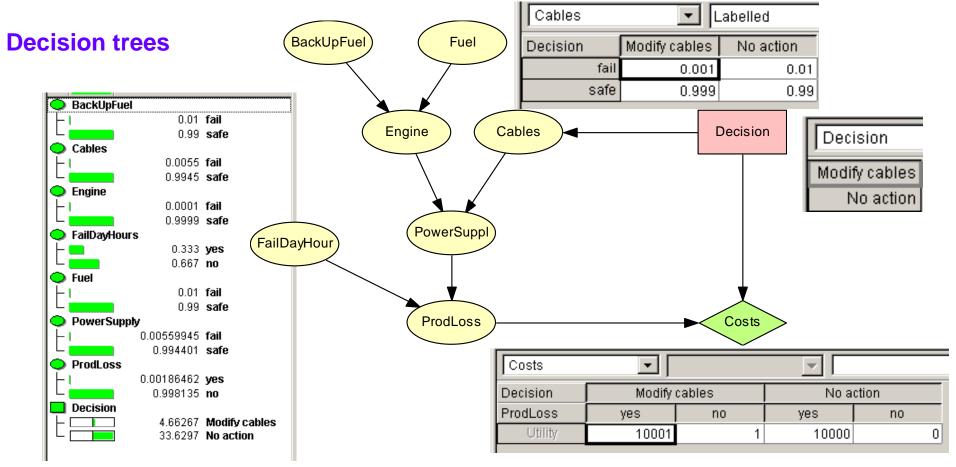








BPNs for Risk Analysis



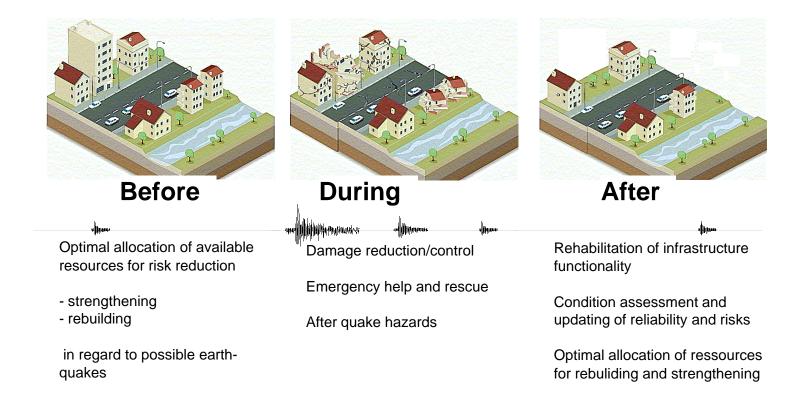
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Risk management concerning natural hazards often involves large geographical areas



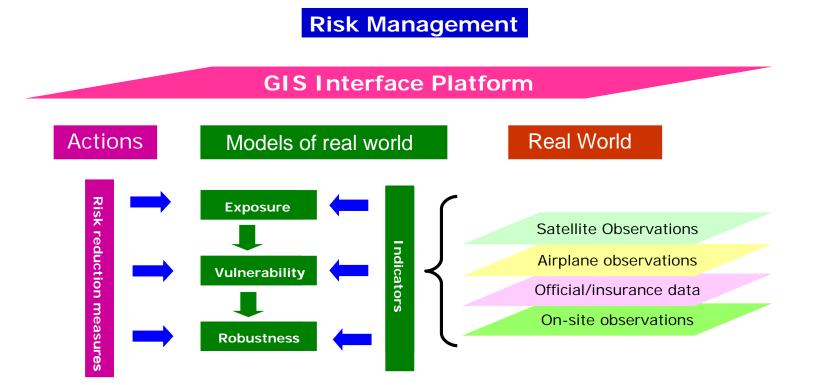


 It is important to be able to provide decision support in the situations before, during and after the occurrence of natural hazards



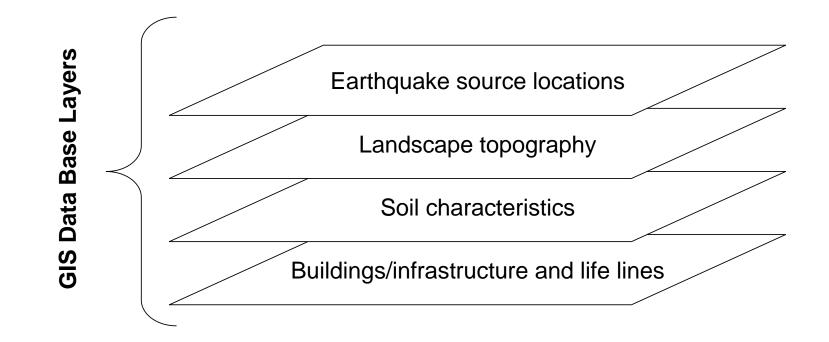


 A general framework for natural hazards risk management using GIS can be visualized as:

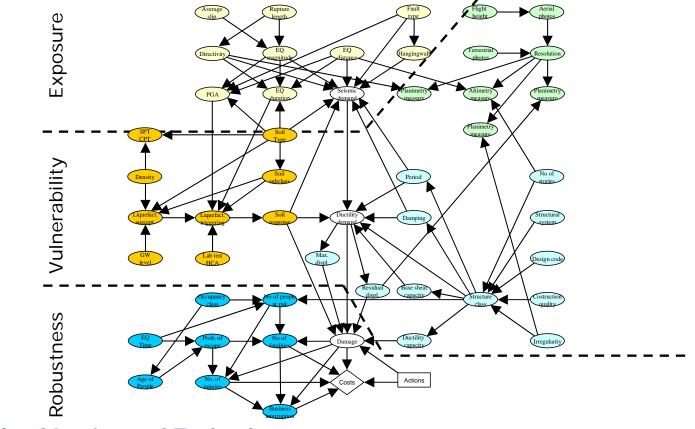




• The GIS database is important as most of the required data generally are spatially distributed for the considered system, e.g. city or region

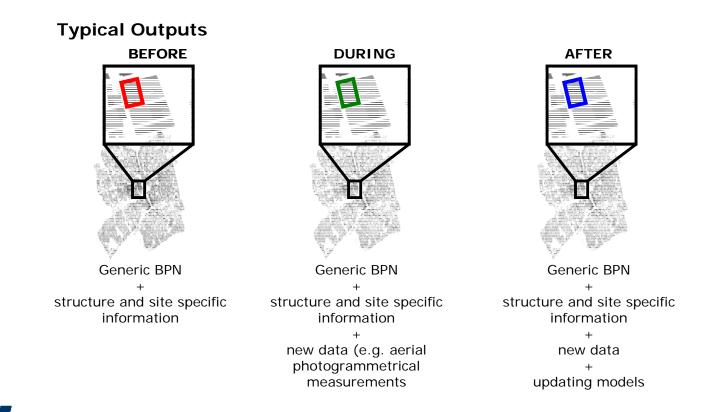


 Utilizing that indicators of exposures (hazards) and consequences (vulnerability and robustness) can efficiently be stored and managed in the GIS data base, BPN risk models may be established and linked to each asset in the considered system



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 Utilizing that indicators of exposures (hazards) and consequences (vulnerability and robustness) can efficiently be stored and managed in the GIS data base, BPN risk models may be established and linked to each asset in the considered system



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 The generic BPN risk models linked with the GIS database facilitate the efficient risk assessment for large numbers of buildings and other assets



Damage State

Fully Operational
Operational
Life Safety
Near Collapse
Collapse



 The generic BPN risk models linked with the GIS database facilitate the efficient risk assessment for large numbers of buildings and other assets

