

# **Beyond the Black Box:** *Using WoE to Transparently Integrate Data*

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# EFSA Challenges of Emerging Technology Innovation

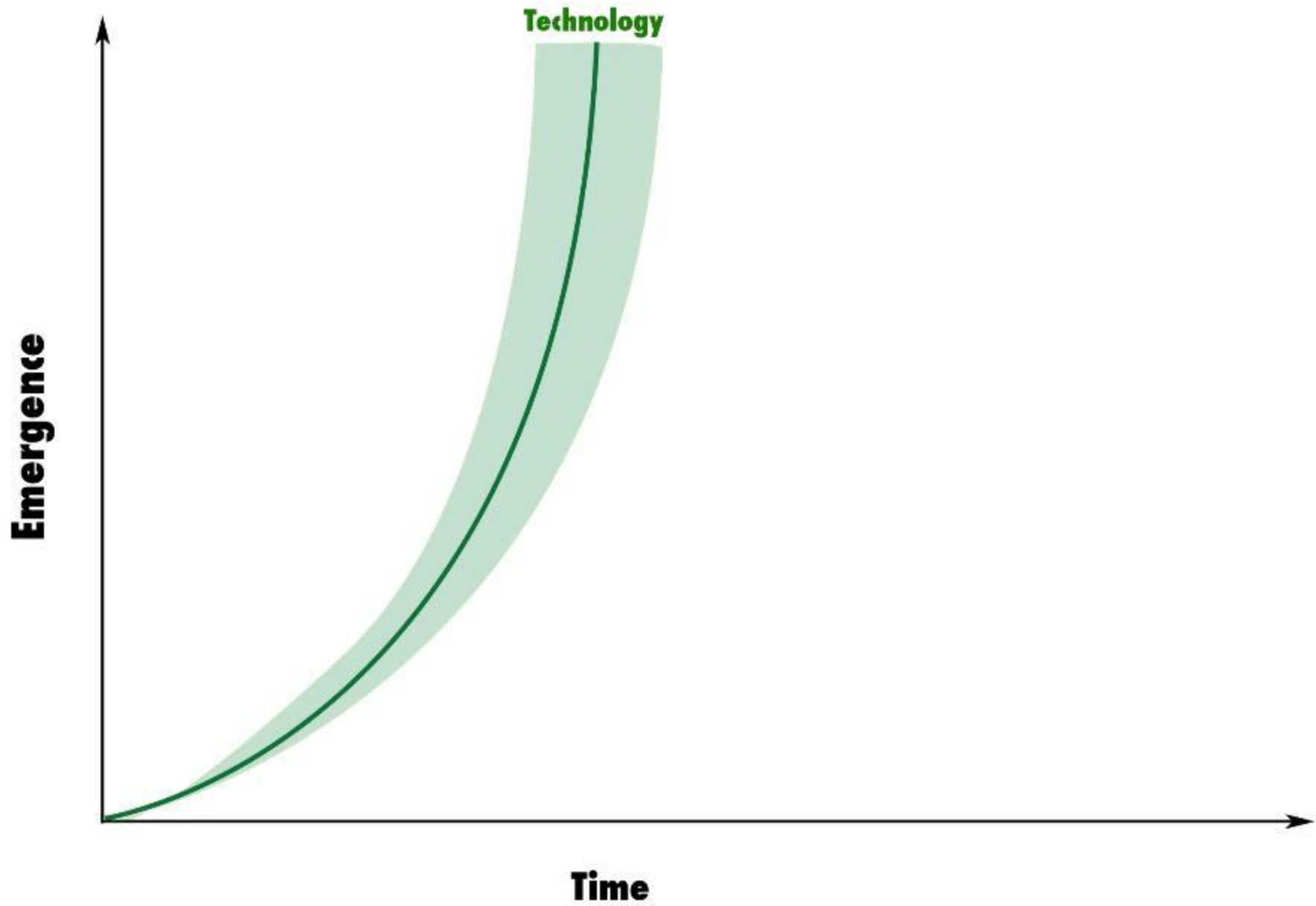


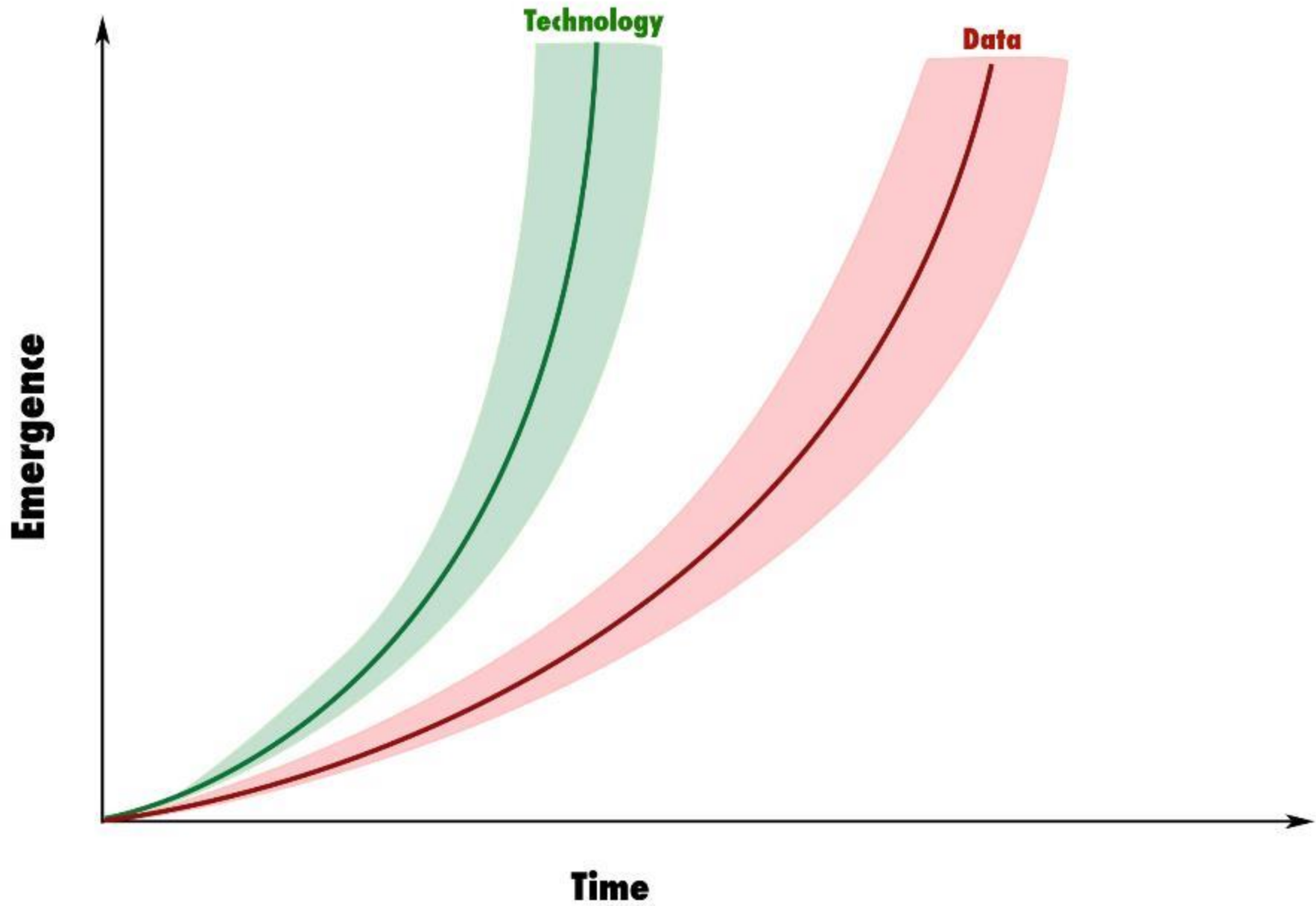
- Pace of invention and innovation is growing
  - Likewise, getting further refined and specified
  - Revolutionary potential to benefit health – pressures to innovate
- For public health, also breaching existing scientific knowledge
  - Nanotechnology, synthetic biology/systems engineering, many others
- Existing governance structures ill equipped to deal with new technologies
  - Often captured under general chemical regulation or other conventional materials
  - Behave differently than conventional technologies, defy existing knowledge of hazard and exposure assessment

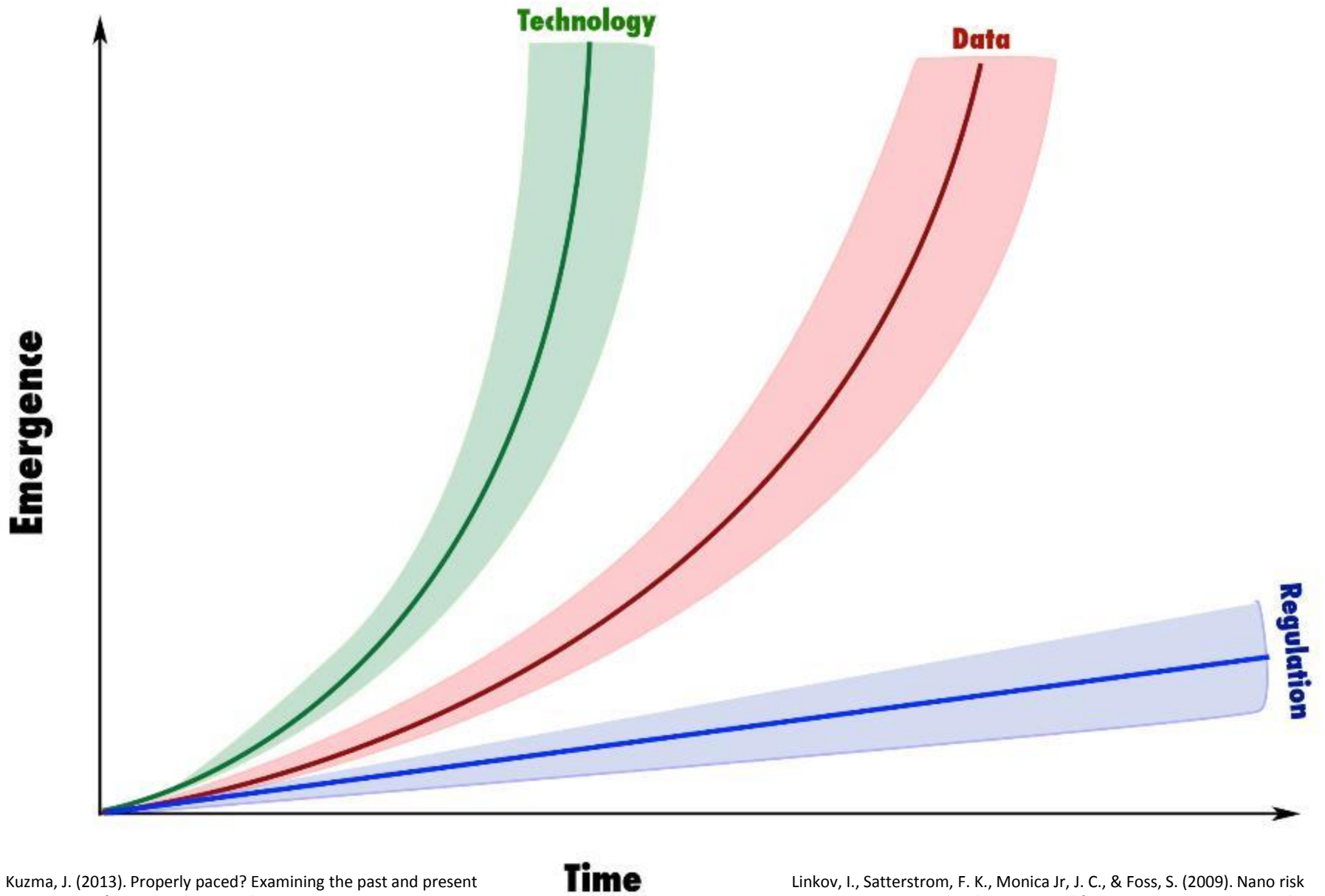


**Emergence**

**Time**

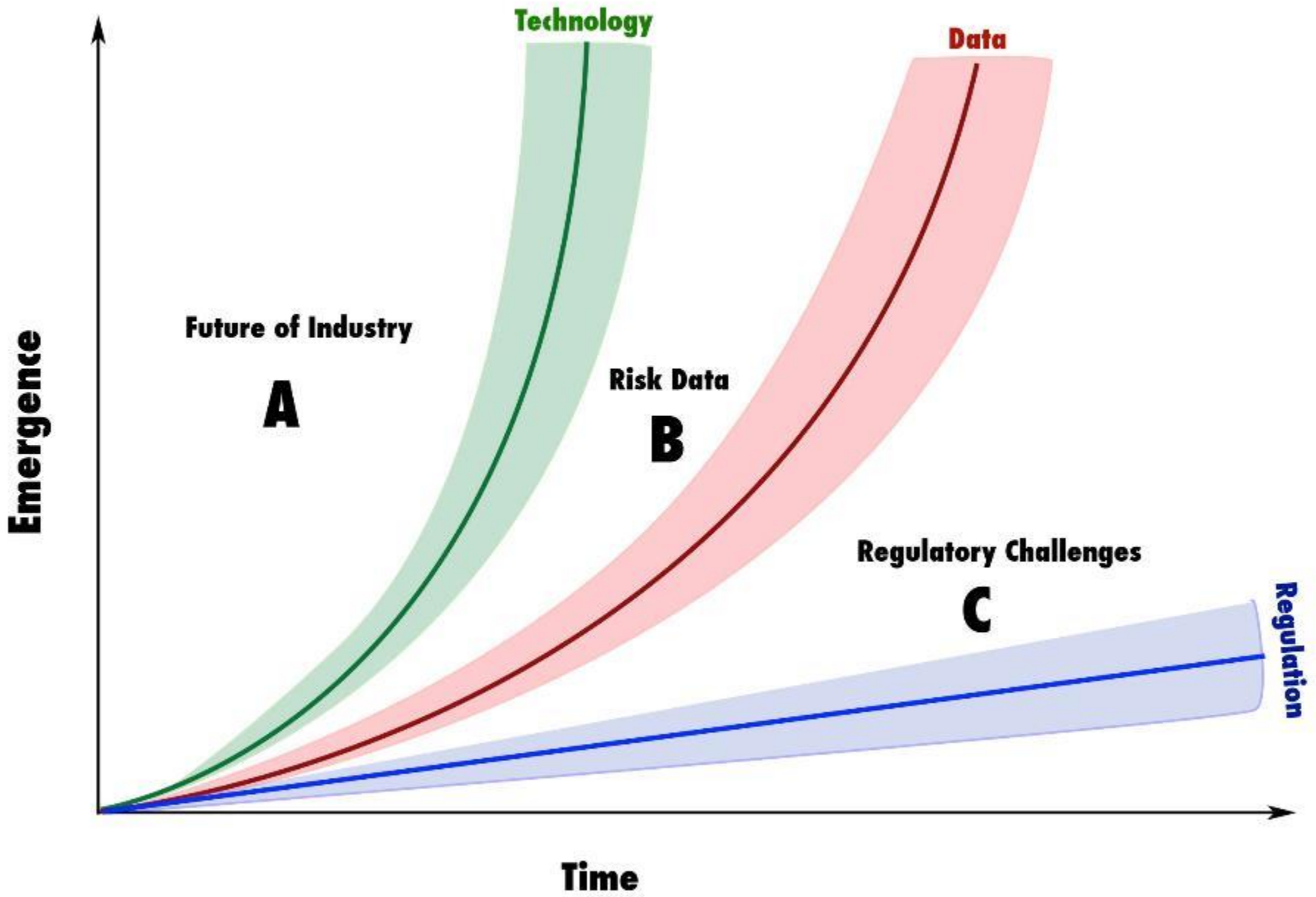




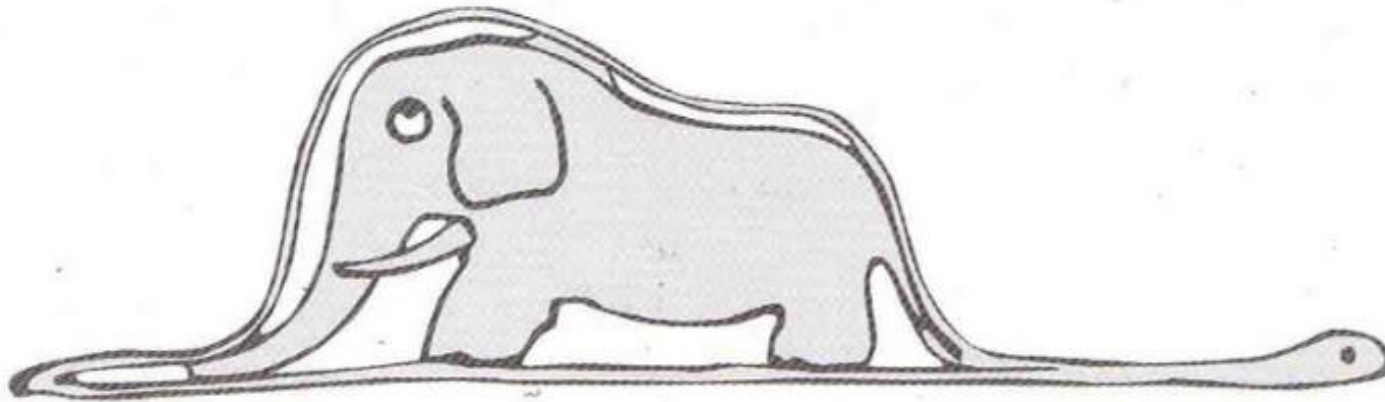


Kuzma, J. (2013). Properly paced? Examining the past and present governance of GMOs in the United States. *Innovative governance models for emerging technologies*, Edward Elgar, Cheltenham, UK, 176-197.

Linkov, I., Satterstrom, F. K., Monica Jr, J. C., & Foss, S. (2009). Nano risk governance: current developments and future perspectives. *Nanotech. L. & Bus.*, 6, 203.



# EFSA - What Do You See?

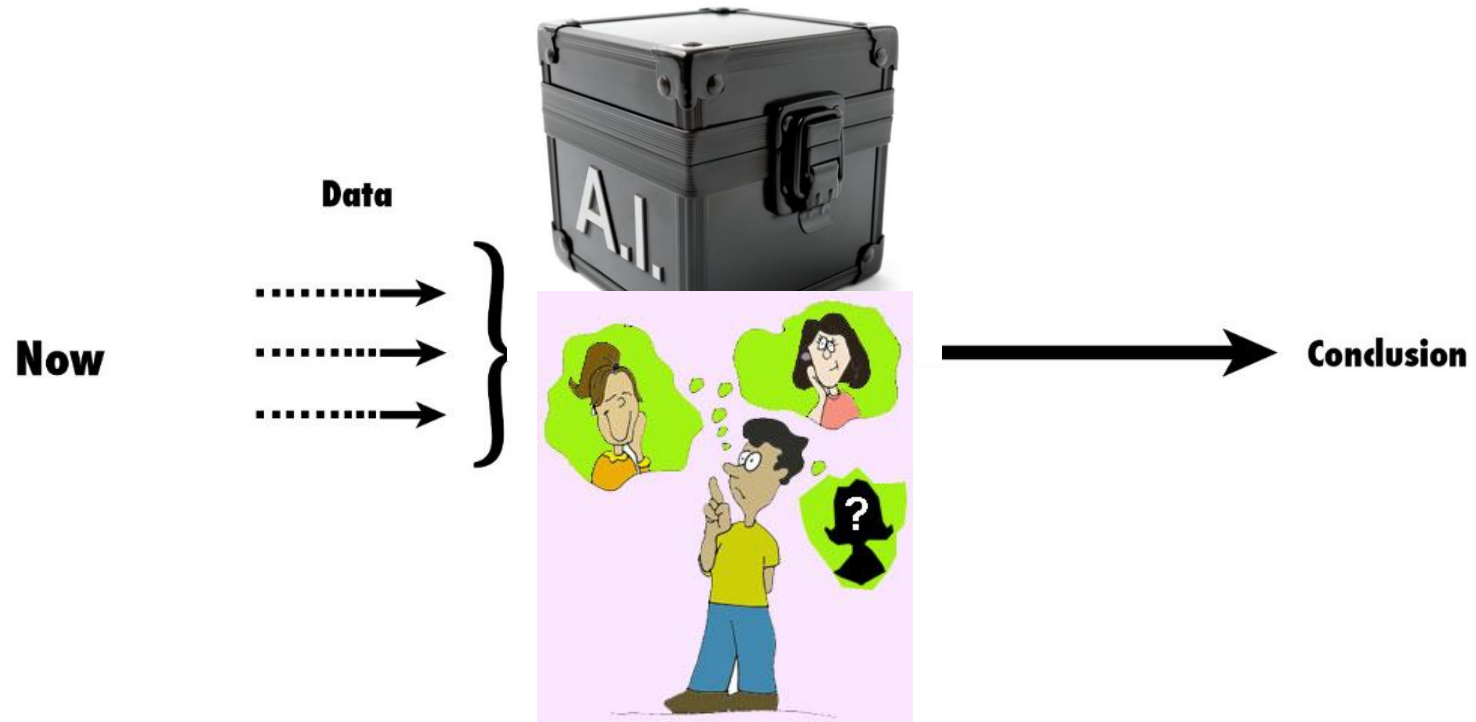


*J'ai alors dessiné  
l'intérieur du serpent boa, afin que les grandes personnes  
puissent comprendre. Elles ont toujours besoin d'explications*



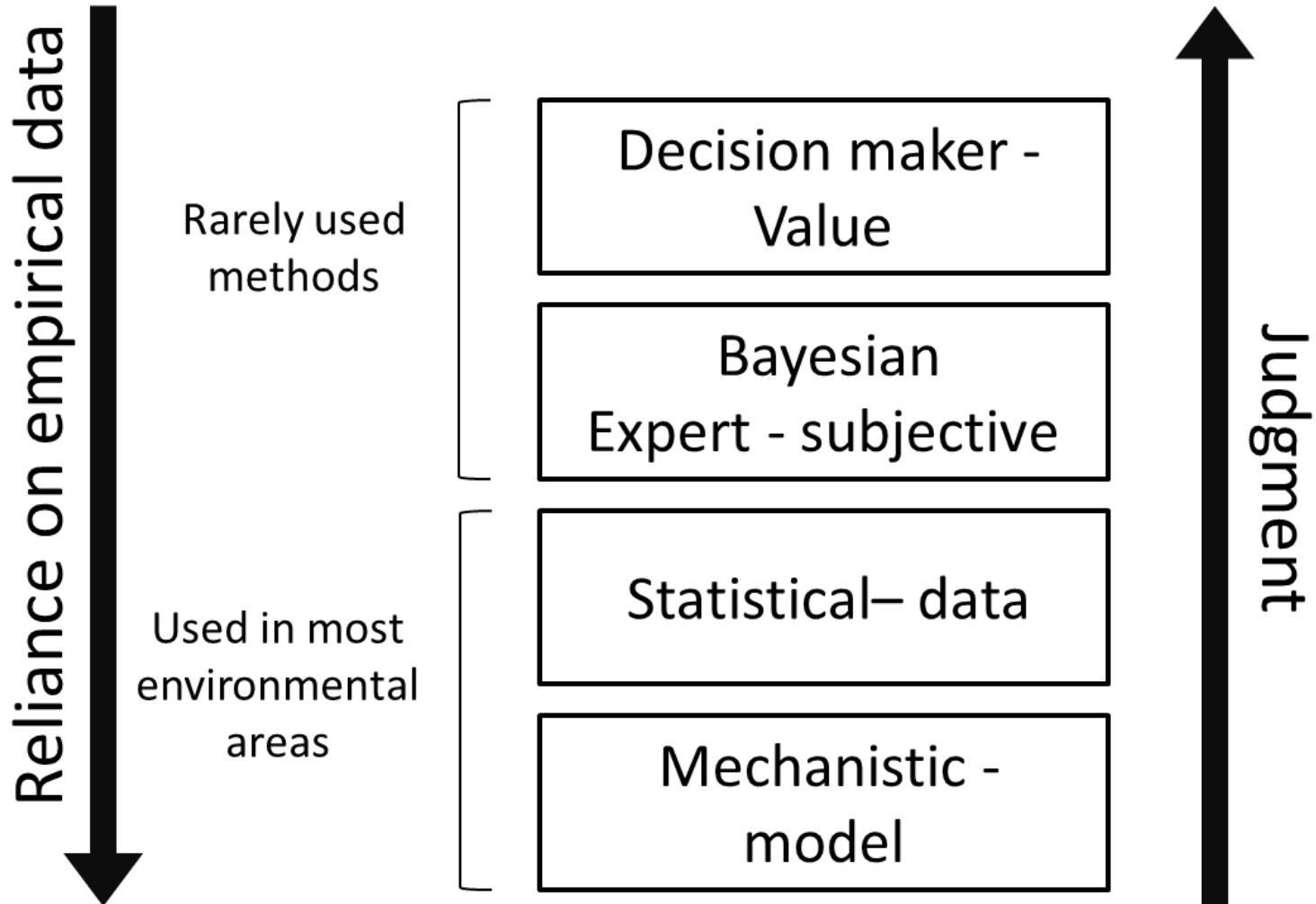


Hypothesis free?

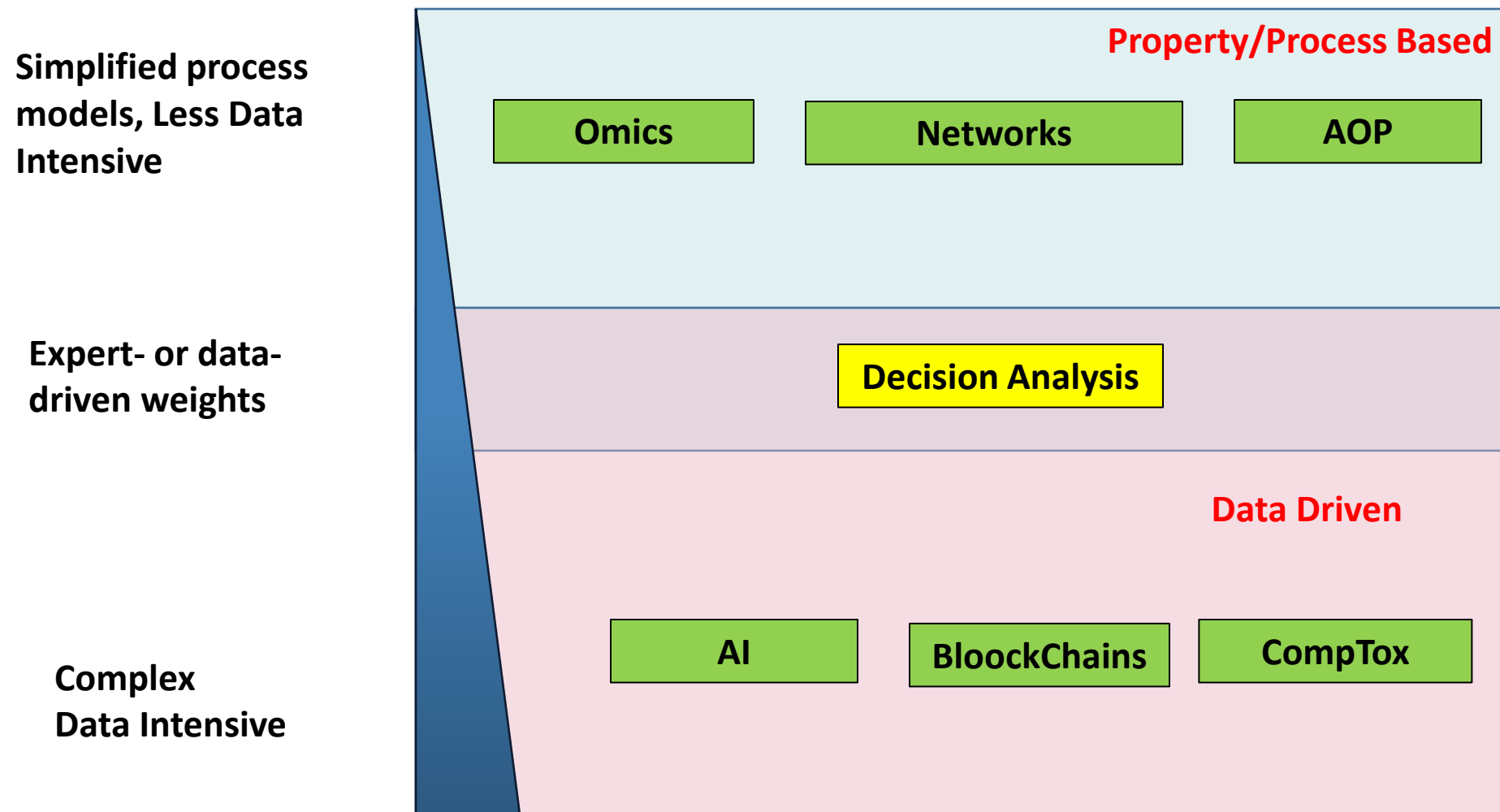


# Ways to Integrate Evidence

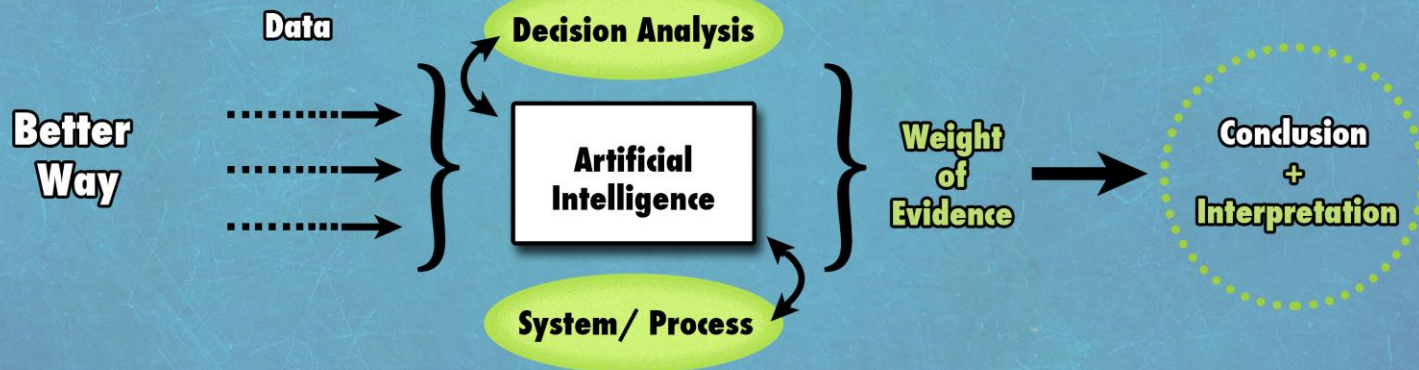
# Ways to Model



# Approaches to Data Integration in Food Safety

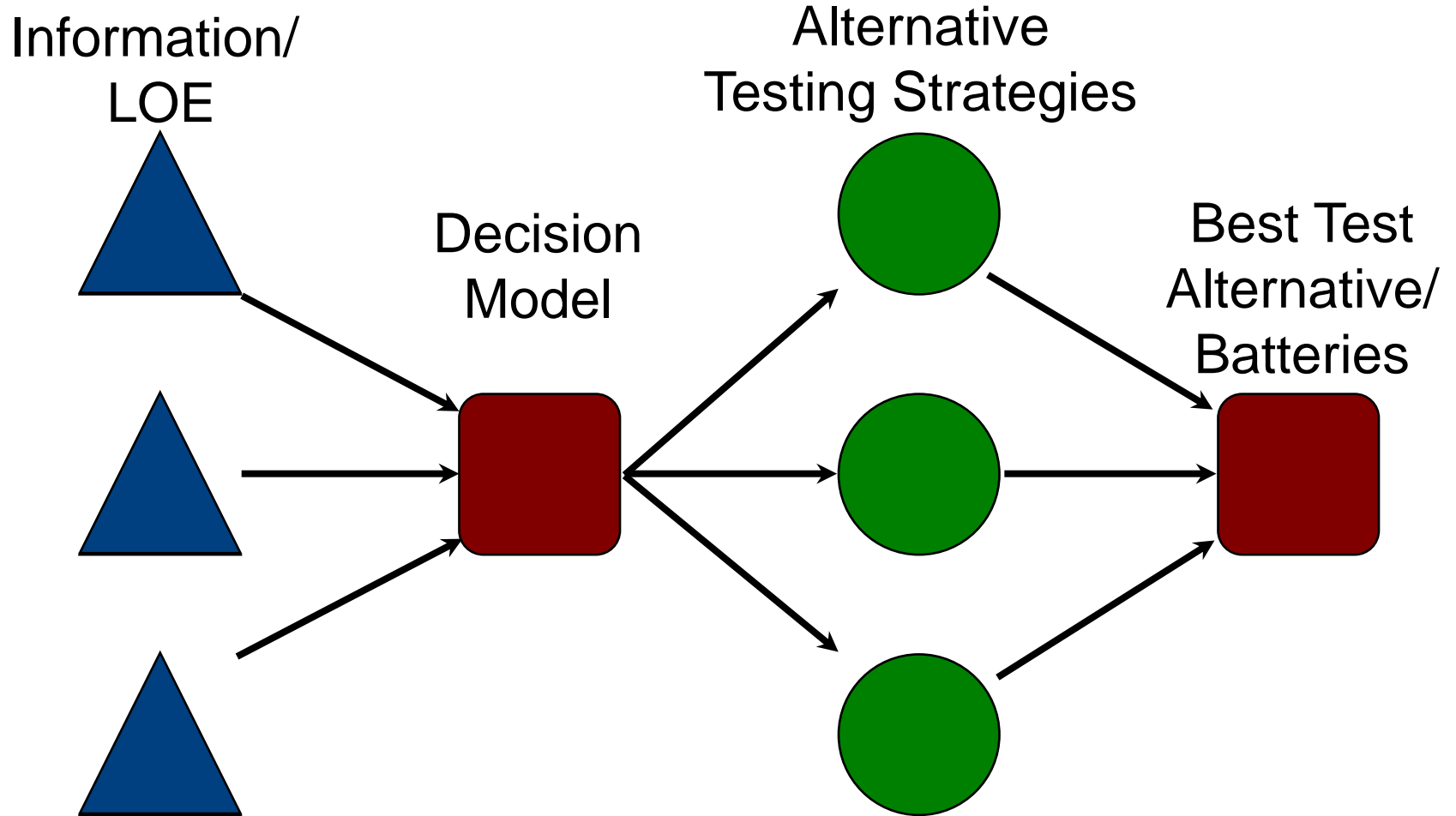


# Proposed Approach



# Case 1: Alternative Testing Strategy

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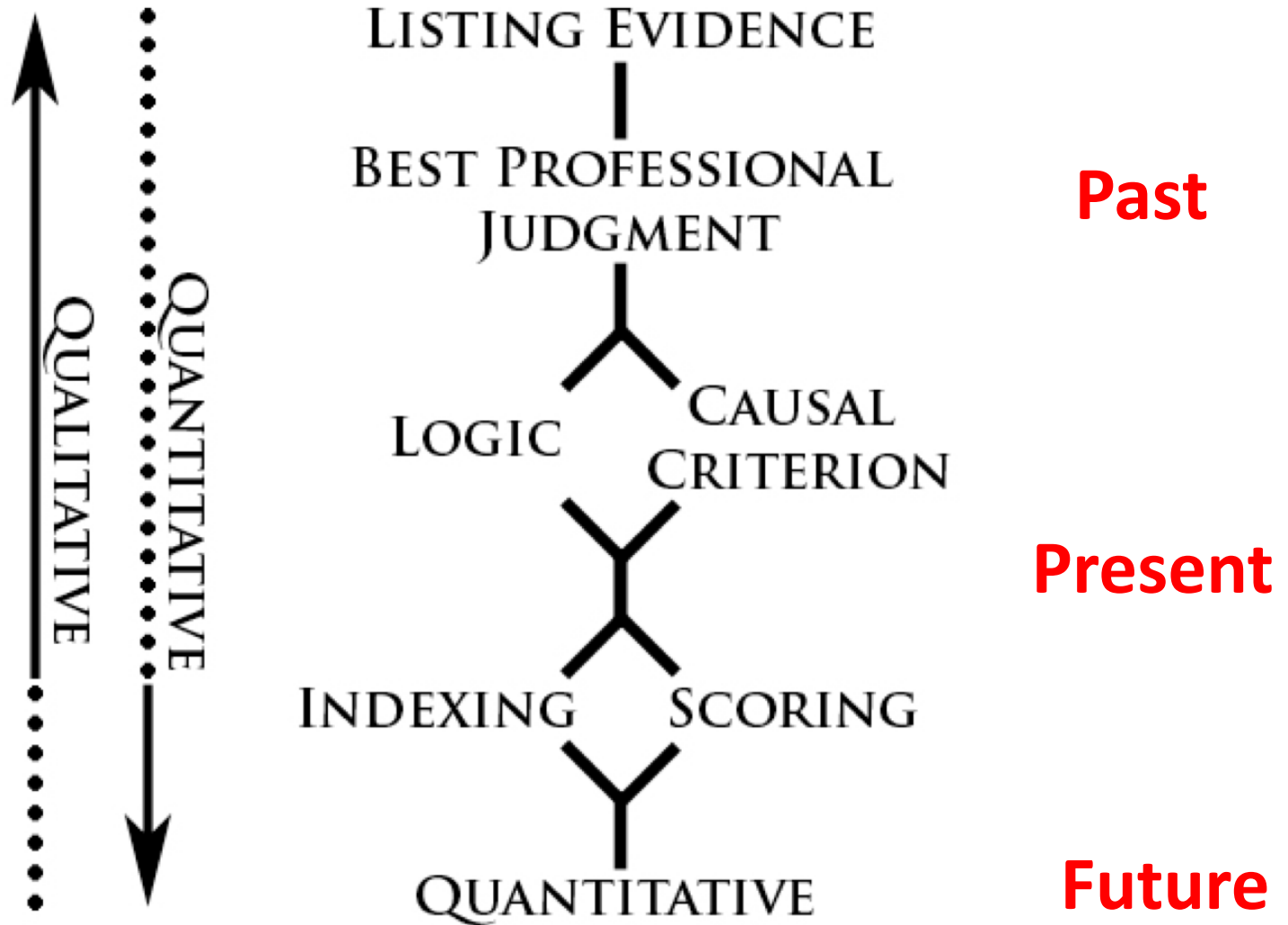


# What are the purposes for WOE in ATS context?

- Determine if there is enough evidence to support a determination or action (threshold)
- Compare alternative to see what is better supported (carcinogen MOA)
- Identify gaps in understanding
- Highlight scientific consensus to bolster use of an approach/tool

**Selected WOE methodology needs to reflect the reason for the analysis.**

# WOE: From Qualitative to Quantitative



# Implementation in Current Guidelines

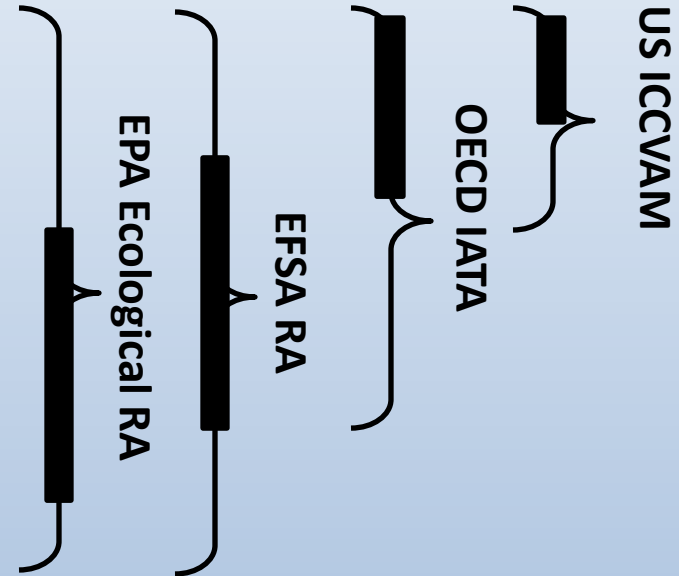
Papers

Approaches

Wu et al. →

Becker et al. →

Jaworska →





# Multi-Criteria Decision Analysis

- Multi-Criteria Decision Analysis (MCDA) methods:
  - Evolved as a response to the observed inability of people to effectively analyze multiple streams of dissimilar information
  - Many different MCDA approaches based on different theoretical foundations (or combinations)
- MCDA methods provide a means of integrating various **inputs** with stakeholder/technical expert **values**
- MCDA methods provide a means of **communicating** model/monitoring outputs for regulation, planning and stakeholder understanding
- **Risk-based MCDA** offers an approach for organizing and integrating varied types of information to perform rankings and to better inform decisions

## In the world

Contextual cues and preexisting knowledge

Context  
e.g., instruction

Two possible states  
{*up*, *down*}

One state holds  
e.g., *up*

Information flow  
for each decision

Consequence  
of action & state  
(4 possible)

One action  
e.g., answer "*up*"

Evaluation



## In the brain

Motivation to  
perform the task

Consideration of  
two propositions  
(hypotheses)

$h_1$ : *up* or  $h_2$ : *down*

Sensory data  
 $\mathbf{x} = \{x_1, x_2, \dots\}$

Useful form  
of evidence  
 $e$

Decision variable  
e.g.,  $y \approx \dots$   
$$l_{12}(e) = \frac{P(e|h_1)}{P(e|h_2)} \text{ or } \log LR_{12} = \log[l_{12}(e)]$$

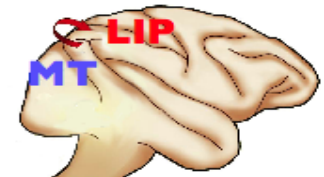
Apply decision rule  
e.g., choose left if  
 $l_{12}(e) \geq \text{criterion}$

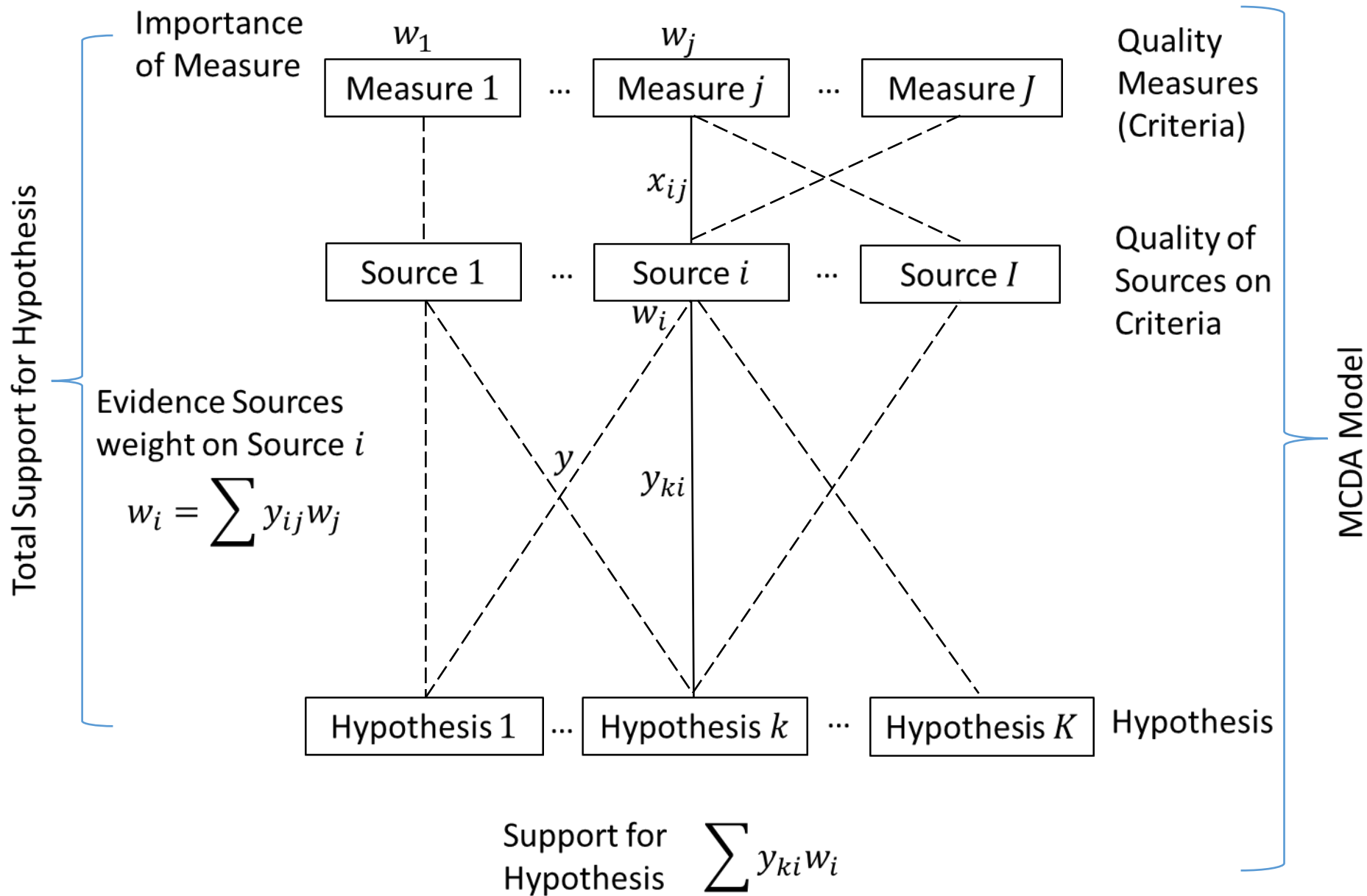
Experience payoff or cost  
value or utility

$V_{j \in \{1,2\}}$

Statistical knowledge  
likelihoods:  $P(e|h_i)$   
priors:  $P(h_i)$   
values:  $v(H_j|h_i)$

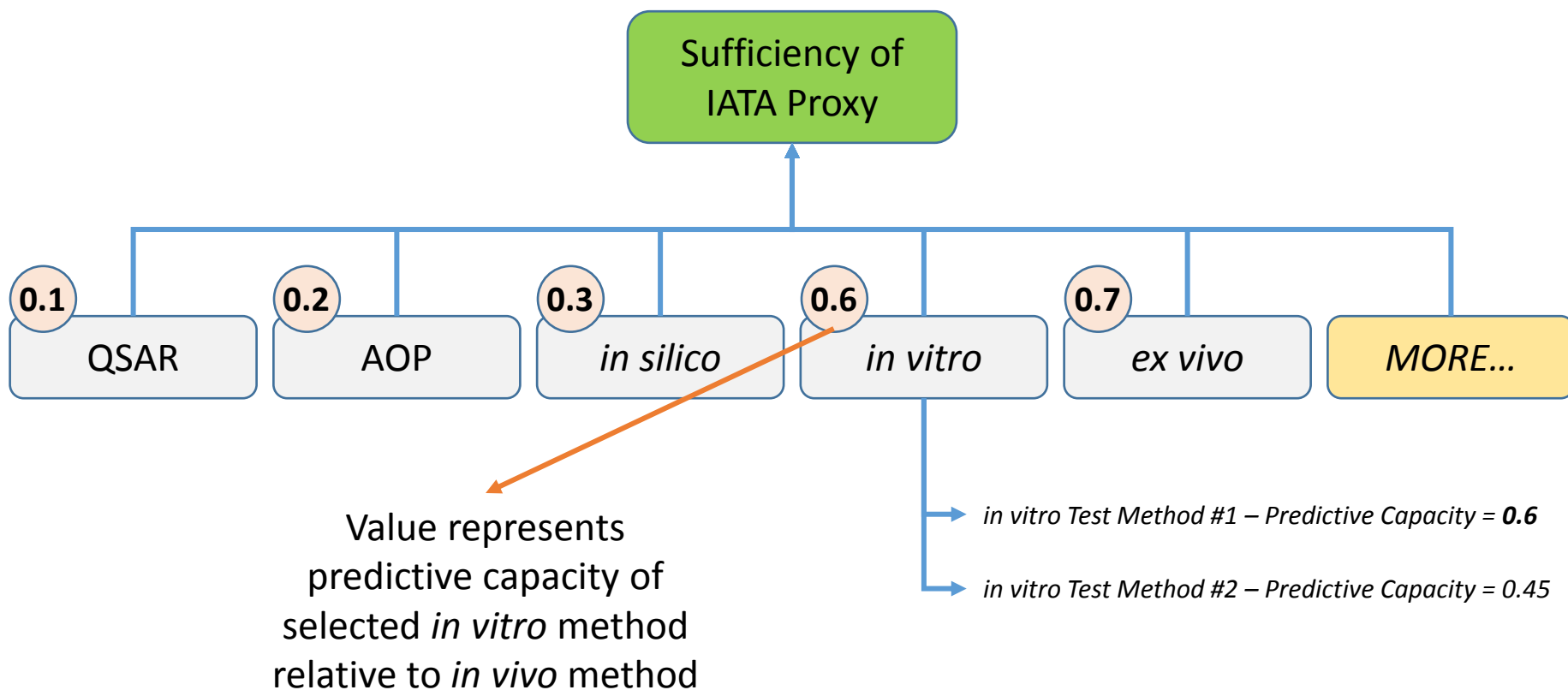
Establish  
decision rule  
based on goals







# What Batteries of IATA Methods Serve as Sufficient Proxies for *in vivo* toxicological endpoints?



# Case 2: Nano Prioritization Tool

- Numerous stakeholders across the globe are concerned with safety of nano-enabled consumer products (a **30-fold increase** from 2005 to 2015)
- Even the largest stakeholders do not have the resources to perform a formal risk assessment for every nano-enabled consumer product

## Cosmetic products

(improved cleansing and absorption)



## Food packaging

(reduce moisture & bacteria)



## Children's toys and blankets

(antimicrobial protection)



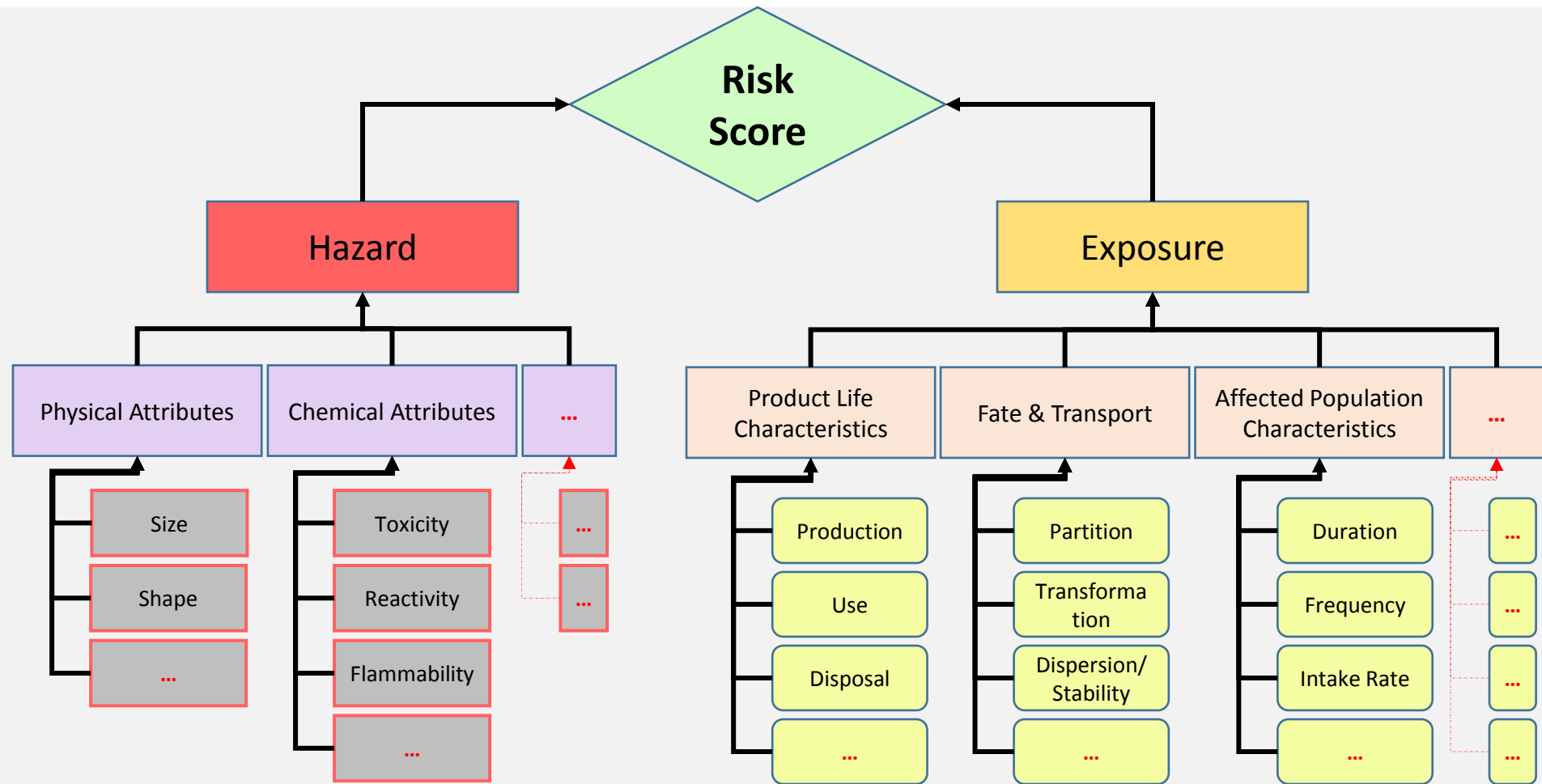
## Polymer composite materials

(lighter and more durable)



- Stakeholders need the ability to screen and prioritize a diverse array of nano-enabled consumer products in order to prioritize research into risks, triage reported safety concerns, and **allocate limited resources more efficiently**

# Best of Risk Assessment: Integrating Metrics through Decision Analysis

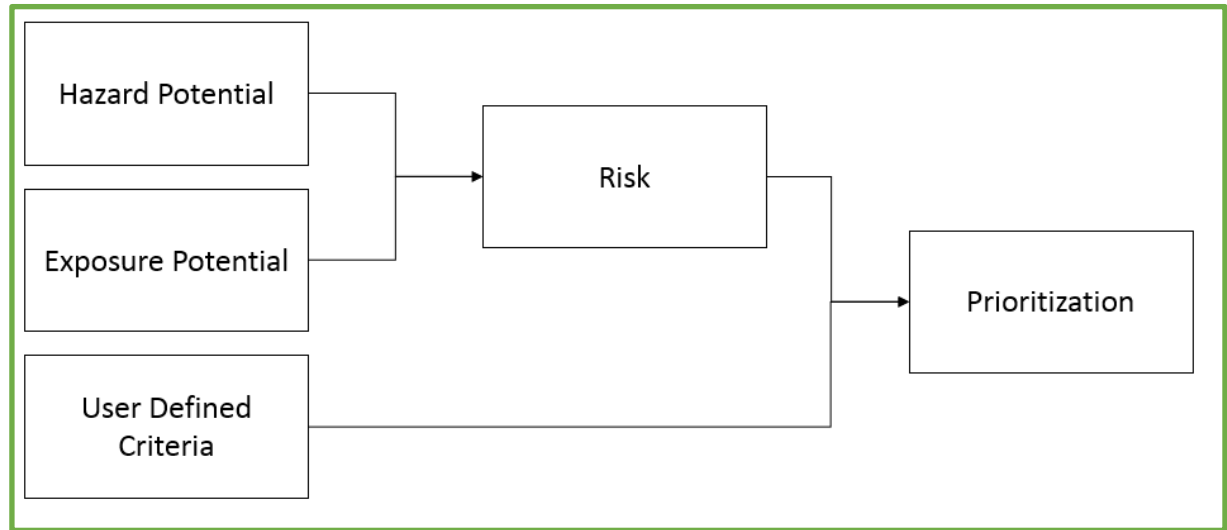


# How the NPF Works

➤ Three modules:

- Hazard
- Exposure
- User Defined Criteria

➤ User answers questions within each module



➤ Answers are scored and integrated into an overall **prioritization score** using **Multi-Criteria Decision Analysis (MCDA)** methods

- The prioritization score is *relative* – must be compared to other scores in the product catalog



# Pilot Tool Product Catalog

- The Product Catalog allows the user to analyze outputs from the Pilot Tool for all products that have been evaluated:

Create New Sorted List

<b>Sort On</b>	Total Score
<b>Direction</b>	Descending
<b>Display</b>	Weighted Values

Serial #	User	Material	Product Name	Score - Weighted Values			
				Total	Hazard	Exposure	User
1	u4ep9ter	CNT-10	A Product	51.57	6.65	7.40	26.98
1	u4ep9ter	Carbon Nanotubes - Multi-Wall (MWCNTs)	A Product	51.46	6.62	7.40	26.98
1	u4ep9ter	Rycroft	A Product	51.46	6.62	7.40	26.98
1	u4ep9ter	Alumina Nanoparticles	A Product	51.33	6.58	7.40	26.98
1	u4ep9ter	Alumina Nanoparticles	NanoRacket	50.92	6.47	7.40	26.98
1	u4ep9ter	Alumina Nanoparticles	A Product	50.92	6.47	7.40	26.98

Choose Sorting Options

Please choose a column to sort the data with:

Total Score

Choose Direction

Ascending

Descending

Sort

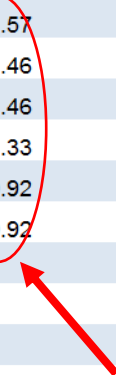
Choose Display Format

Weighted Scores/Uncertainty

Raw Scores/Uncertainty

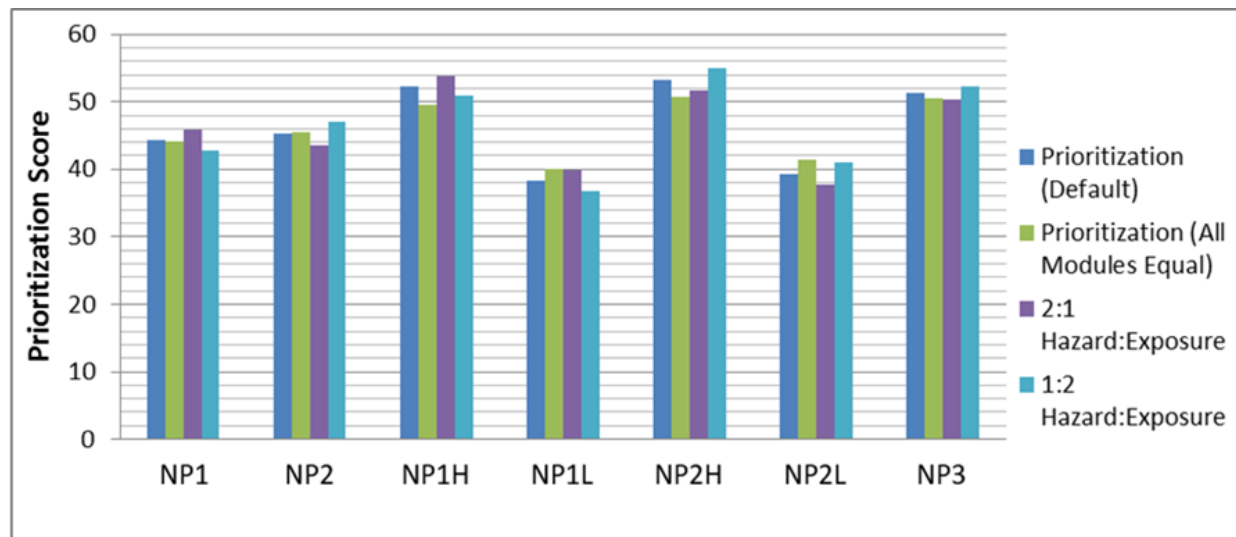
Cancel

Allows for comparison of Prioritization Scores



# Calibration / Hypothetical Case Study

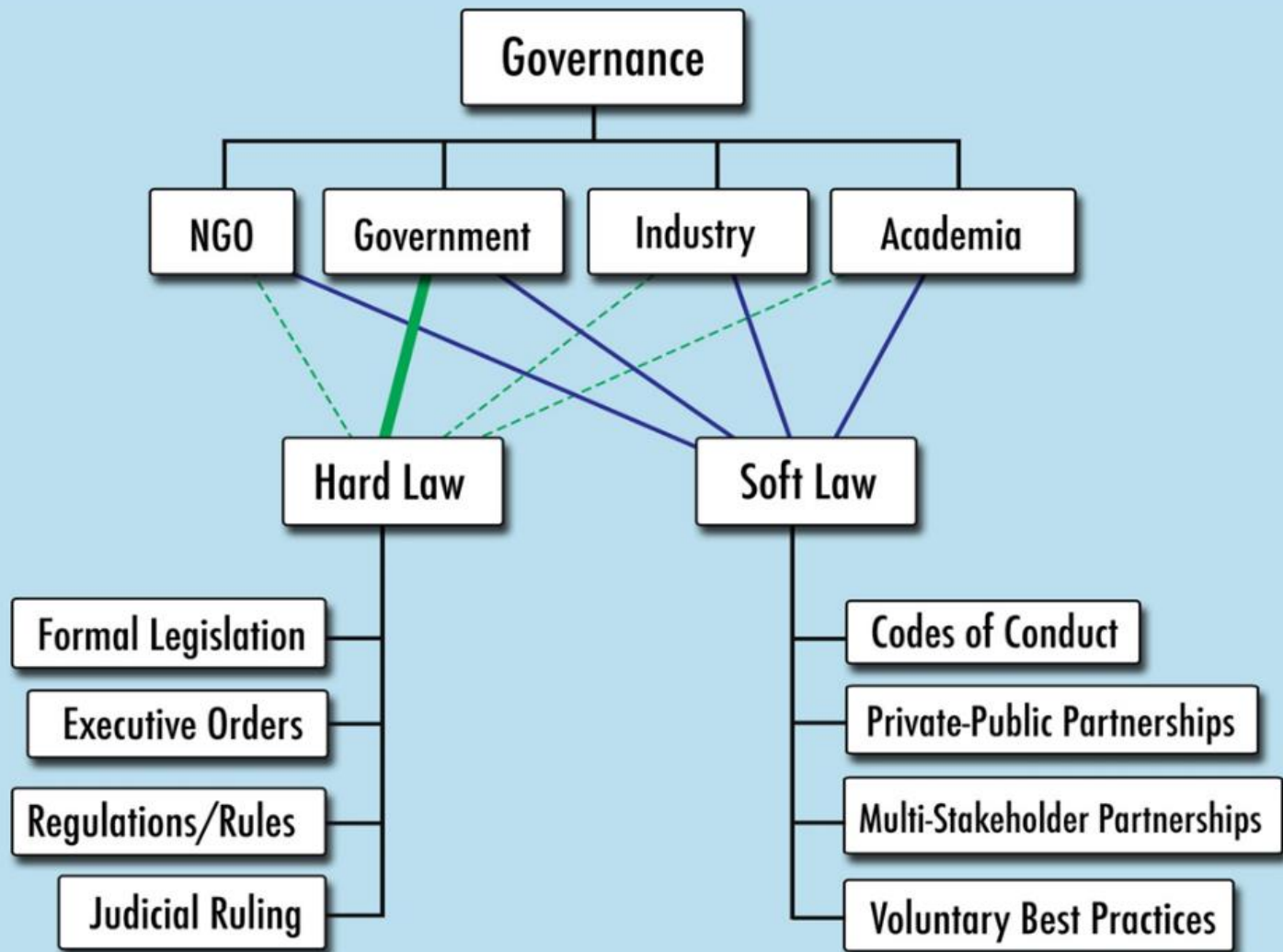
- Seven hypothetical nano-enabled products
- Sensitivity analysis used to recommend default weight schemes



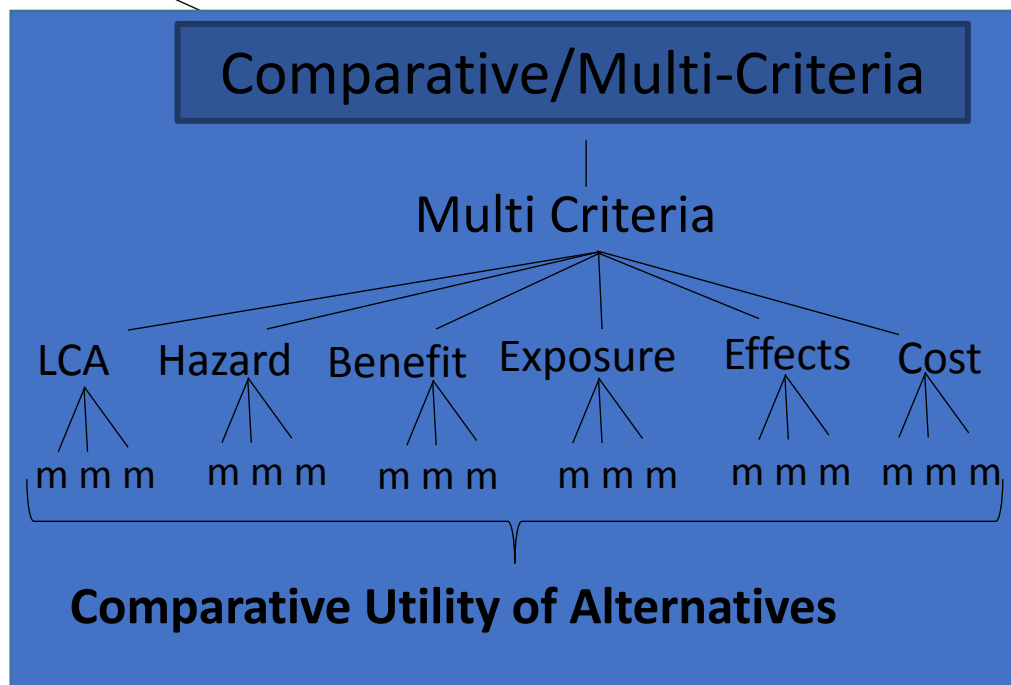
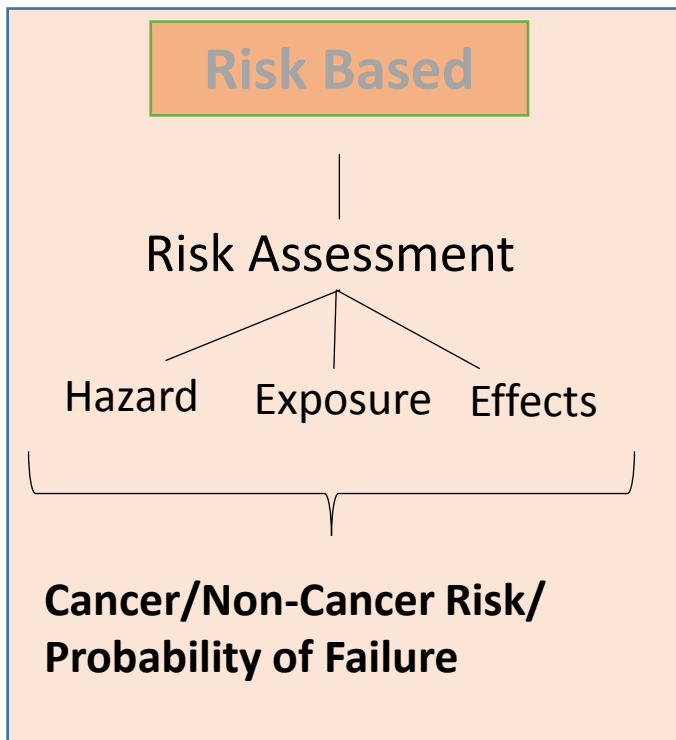
NP1	High hazard score, low exposure score
NP2	Low hazard score, high exposure score
NP1H	NP1 with high User Defined Criteria score
NP1L	NP1 with low User Defined Criteria score
NP2H	NP2 with high User Defined Criteria score
NP2L	NP2 with low User Defined Criteria score
NP3	Mostly unknown inputs across modules

# Data-Driven Risk Governance

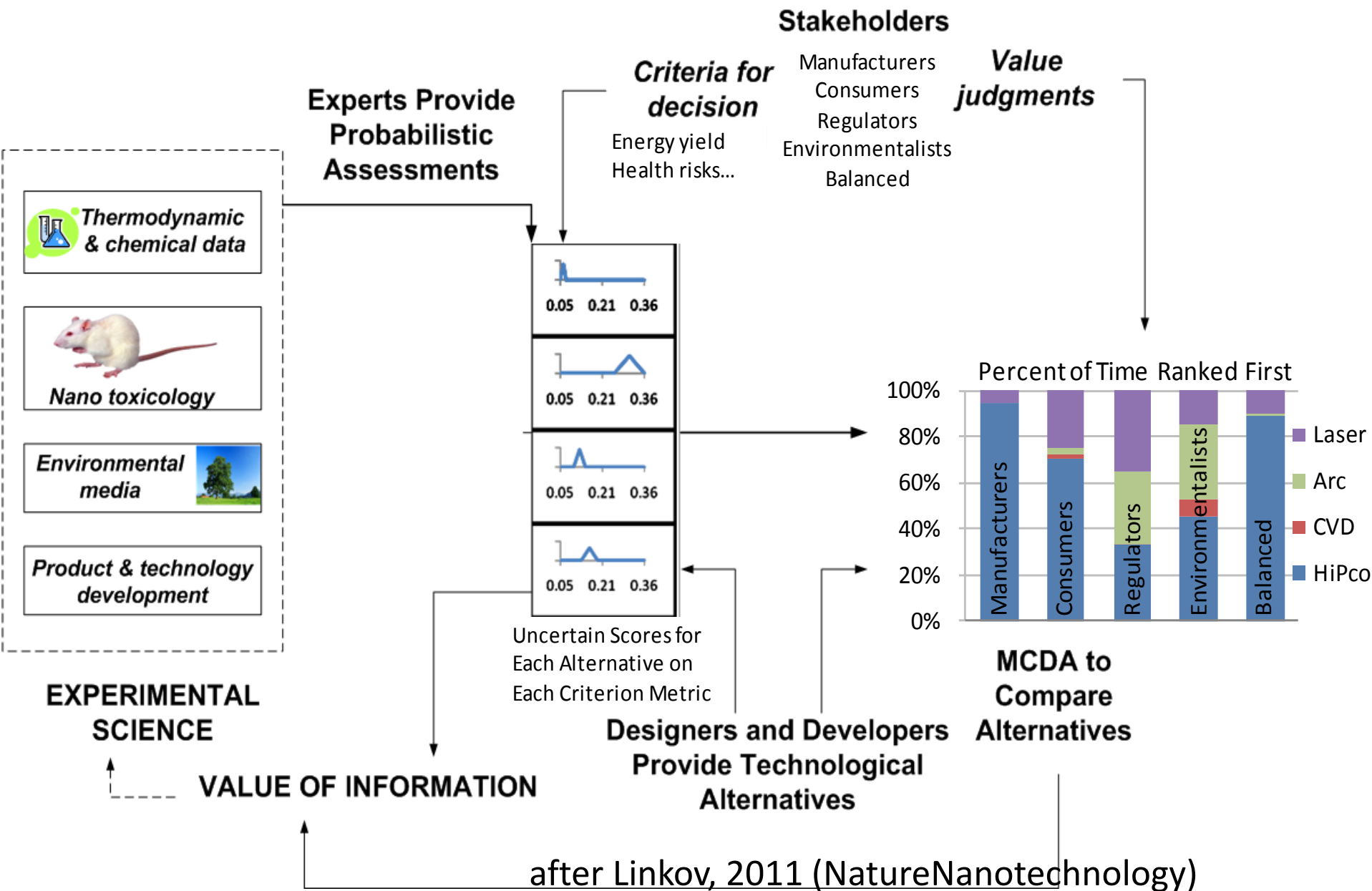
- **Definition of risk governance (IRGC)**
  - *Governance* refers to the actions, processes, traditions and institutions by which authority is exercised and decisions are taken and implemented.
  - *Risk governance* (RG) applies the principles of good governance to the identification, assessment, management and communication of risks
  - Requires the coordination of multiple stakeholders – cannot simply be a top-down approach to governance
  - ***Traditional RA & RM are important subsections of RG***



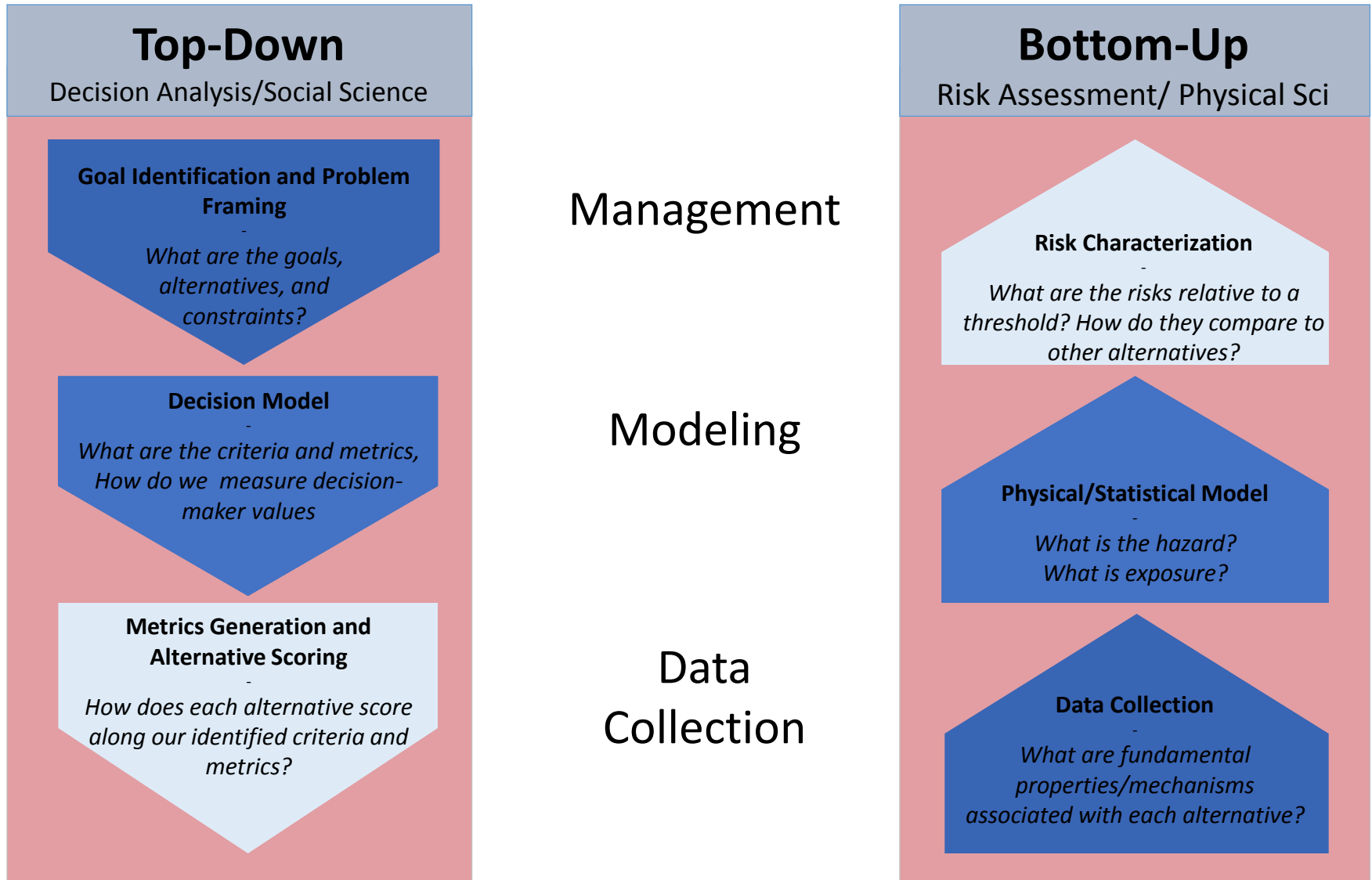
# Comparative Risk Governance in Practice



# Approach: Physical and Social Science Integration



# Data-Driven Risk-Governance Integration



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# Security and Resilience for Emerging Synthetic Biology and Biotechnology Threats



## NATO Advanced Research Workshop

Lausanne, Switzerland, July 7-10 2019