"Project Relays"
Online hands-on learning with peer feedback and peer appraisal
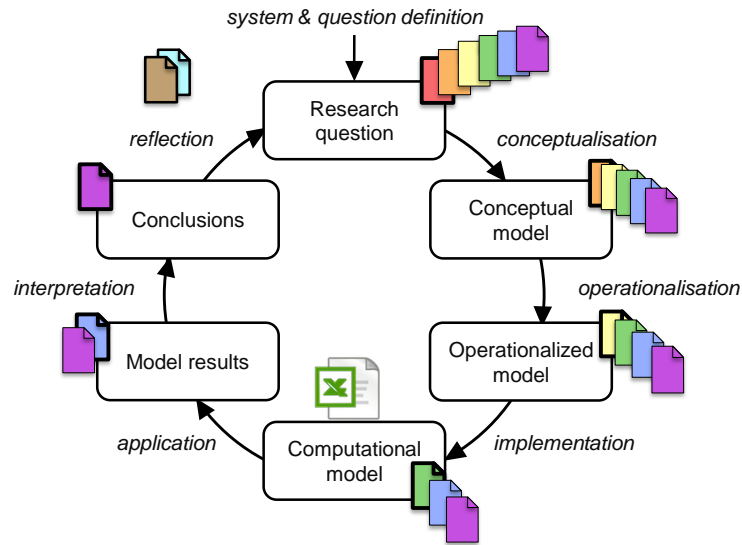
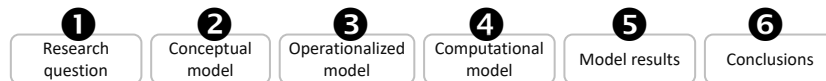**TU**Delft

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The project relay concept

- Open-ended assignment
  - e.g., writing, design, programming
- Divisible into 2 or more *consecutive* steps
  - incremental development of final document
- Learners add a step and then pass on their work
  - after improving the work they received
- Learners review & appraise the work they receive
  - double-blind review following clear guidelines
- Checks and balances to ensure fair play
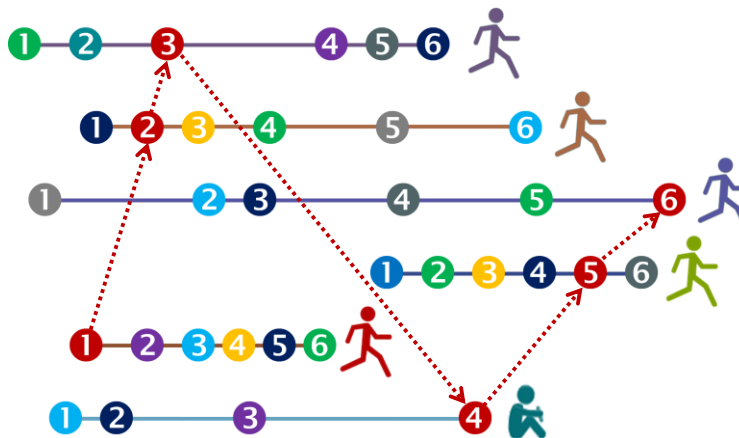 - incentives for critical review; learners can appeal to the instructor

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Systems modelling project relay

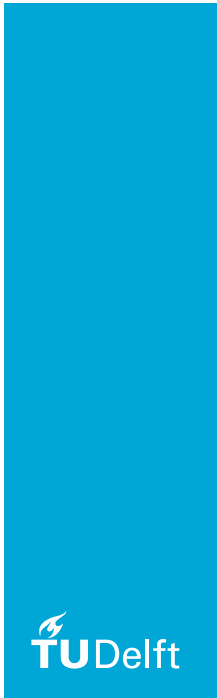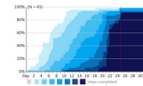---

Six modeling steps:

❶	❷	❸	❹	❺	❻
Research question	Conceptual model	Operationalized model	Computational model	Model results	Conclusions

Six or more different cases: A B C D E F G H

0/45 **EPA1124-2017** *Real PA-MAS estafette* (45 participants)

Start time: Thursday, 28 September 2017 12:00 Deadline: Monday, 23 October 2017 09:00
End time: Monday, 30 October 2017 18:00

Name	Score	Received reviews	Given reviews
3% Thursday, 28 September 2017 13:13	0		
100% Thursday, 26 October 2017 12:43	2.0	G B A E F G	B A E F G D
100% Sunday, 22 October 2017 23:51	-4.5	B G A E B E	G A E B E F
100% Thursday, 19 October 2017 12:19	-4.0	C D F C C C	D F C C C C
100% Tuesday, 24 October 2017 00:59	1.5	E B G A A C	B G A A C B
100% Thursday, 26 October 2017 15:58	-7.0	D C C F F G	C C F F G E

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1 G 2 B 3 A 4 E 5 F 6 G 7 D

Case G — Kidney donation
Submitted on Wednesday, 4 Oct 2017 18:41

| Uploaded work: | Report | Diagrams | ⬇ Download |

Reviewed by ▓▓▓▓ **on Thursday, 5 Oct 2017 14:25**

Very well written first step. The means-ends analysis is exhaustive without going into too much detail, and the choice for the focal objective is well supported with arguments. I initially found the discussion of side-effects a bit limited (because in the end, the only side-effect identified is high prices), but looking at the focal means I could not really identify any other side-effects. The problem statement properly reflects the objective and the side-effect.

Rating: ★★★★★

| Successor's work: | Report | Diagrams | ⬇ Download |

3

Appraised on Sunday, 22 Oct 2017 23:05

First of all, thank you for the feedback. However, the given arguments do not justify the chosen grade.

- Firstly, as we know from the literature every analysis always subjective. Thus, it is a personal point of view how to measure different means. In addition, there were some comments on this issue related to measuring such complex concepts as dignity and inequality. Secondly, there is no formal rule about the number and levels of objectives tree. Finally, the project works itself ("Project Estaffete") forcing us to keep the analysis simple as possible. Therefore, the number of criteria is relatively low.
- The meaning of the "note" is to give a vision of the government as an institution which serves its citizens interests. Of course, this idea is quite obvious, but it still needs to be named. Positive influence on some of the client's criteria can be considered by other actors also positively. To conclude, it is just a "note" and it does not affect results of the analysis in any way.The case description supposes many stakeholders involved, such as countries and their governments, private medical companies, non-governmental organizations, doctors and so on and so forth. Nevertheless, it does not seem possible to include all their interests into the objective tree. To overcome this difficulty, we supposed that interests of our client match with the interest of the stakeholders.
- Finally, founded "grammatical mistakes" and inappropriate "cuts" do not to grade the work as a two stars work.

Participant has appealed

Appeal assigned on Thursday, 02 November 2017 16:18. Appeal first viewed on Thursday, 02 November 2017 16:20. Decision pronounced on Thursday, 02 November 2017 16:36.

Referee motivation

Step 1: very well elaborated; would merit 4 stars (-1 for leaving the client implicit in the problem formulation).
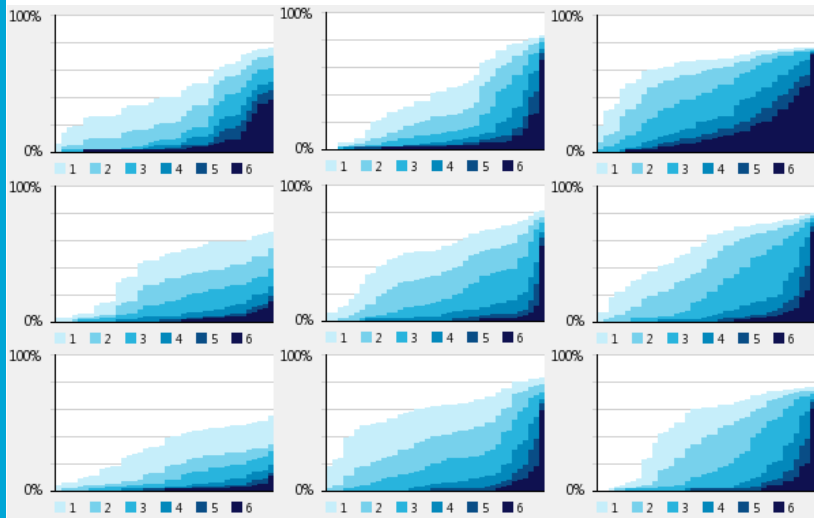
Step 2: not so good; I concur with the successor that the operationalization of "human dignity", "payment inequity" and "public health" should have been explained/substantiated with arguments (and yes, this could have been done quite efficiently using a more layered objectives tree). Moreover, the introduction of additional criteria (negotiation process time, implementation costs) should have been motivated.
However, the flaws observed by the successor do not warrant a rating lower than 3 stars.

Referee's rating of predecessor's work: ⭐⭐⭐☆☆

Tuesday, 24 October 2017 12:30

Experiences (since 2013)

- Applied in two courses
  - TPM undergraduate course on modelling (250+ students, 15 relays)
  - TPM graduate course on policy analysis (40+ students, 2 relays)

- Learner experience: instructive but stressful
  - good practice (albeit a lot of work)
  - difficult to appraise quality
  - uncertainty about final grade
  - students either love it or hate it:
    - "You really have to think about the methods"
    - "I learnt a lot from my predecessors' work"
    - "You're mainly correcting the mistakes of others"
    - "The system turns students against each other"

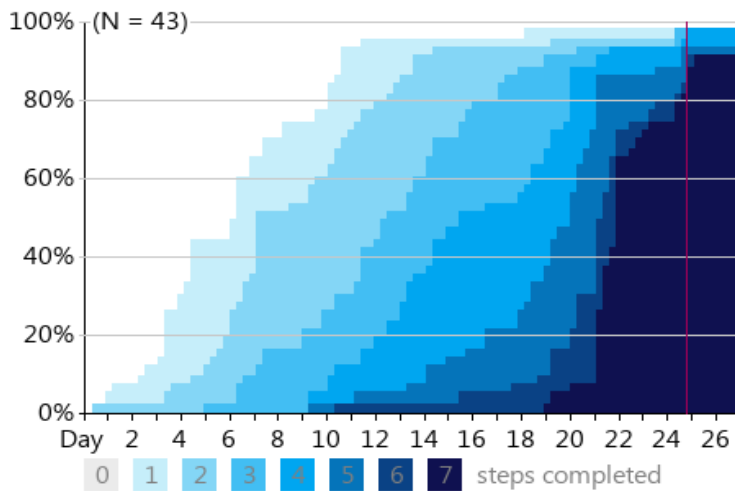**TU**Delft

Progress chart first-year undergraduates

2013-2014
(100% = 283)

2014-2015
(100% = 321)

2015-2016
(100% = 310)

Progress chart first-year MSc Policy Analysis

Current developments

- Application in MOOCs

- Referee exams
  - learners can qualify to decide on appeal cases

- Motivational video clips

- Alternative scoring systems and deadline
  - e.g., 3 stars on average $\Rightarrow$ pass

- Incentives
  - badges, letters of acknowledgement

- Community development
  - sharing of relay templates and cases
  - open source software

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