



Capacity for Rail

## Optimal strategies to manage major disturbances

Workshop on Operations for enhanced capacity, Olomouc – 04/27/2017

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WP3.3 Lead

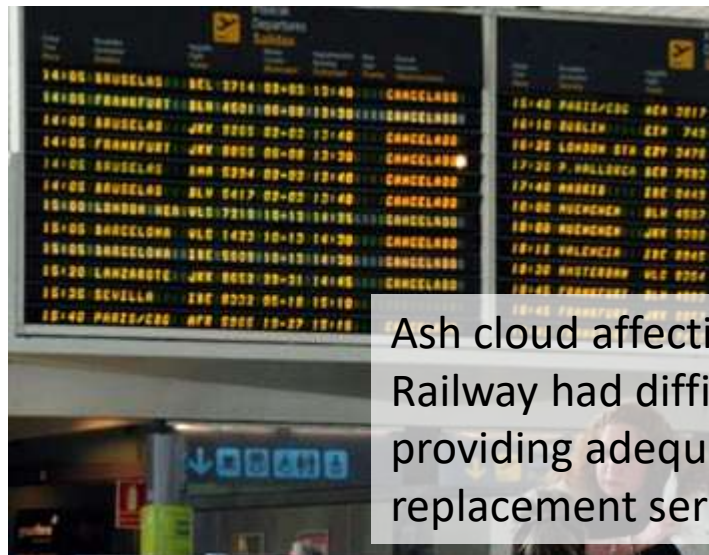


# Objectives of WP3.3

## Optimal Strategies (Extreme Situations)

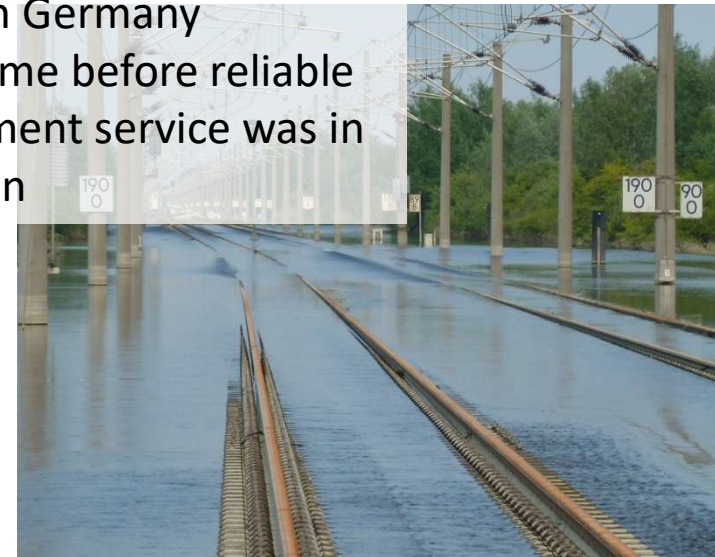
Review of operational strategies in use or being developed and outcomes when different strategies are employed

- **D3.3.1: Analysis of European best practices and levels of automation for traffic management under large disruptions**
- **D3.3.2: Recommendations for a European standard for traffic management**



Source: theguardian.com

Floods in Germany  
A long time before reliable  
replacement service was in  
operation



Source: DB Mediathek

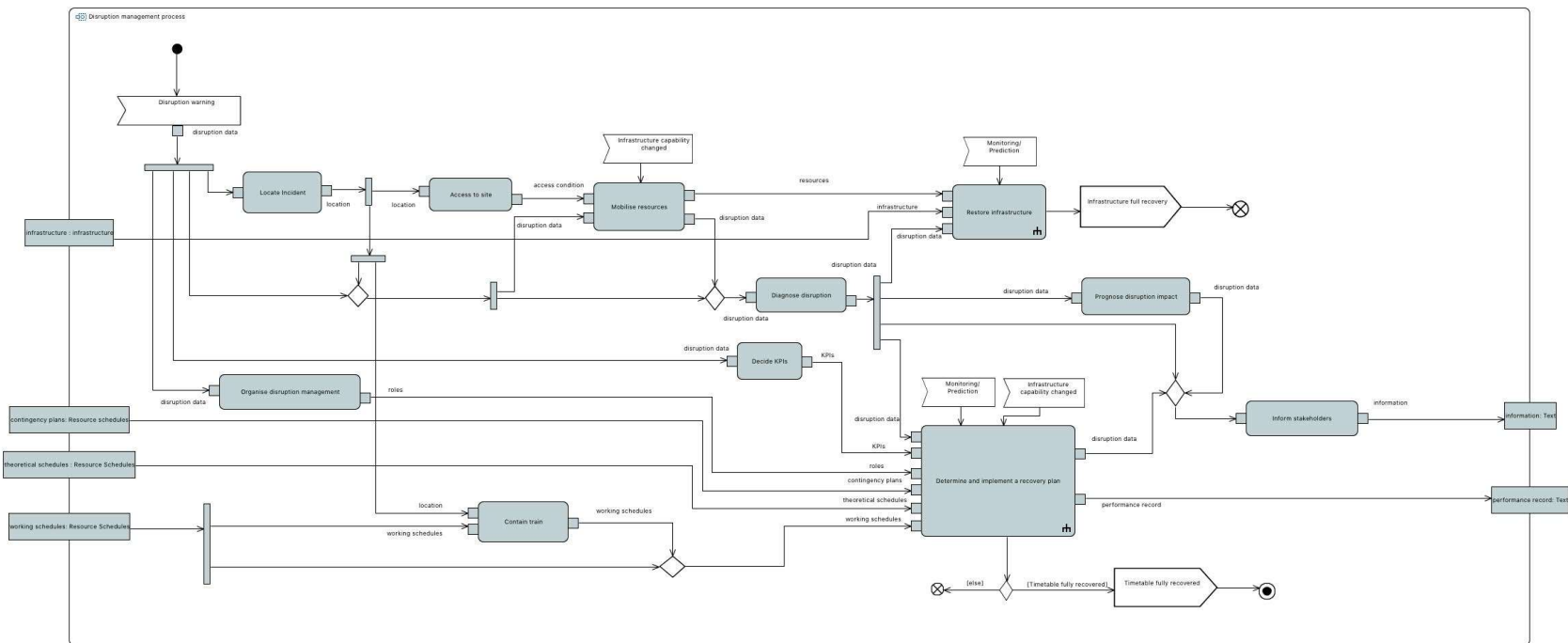
# Disruption management process

The process has been formalised through **SysML activity diagrams**

SysML is a **standardised and open source** modelling language for system engineering

SysML allows specifying

- abstract system requirements
- main system's structures
- activity flows and data exchanges



# Benefits of the SysML formalisation

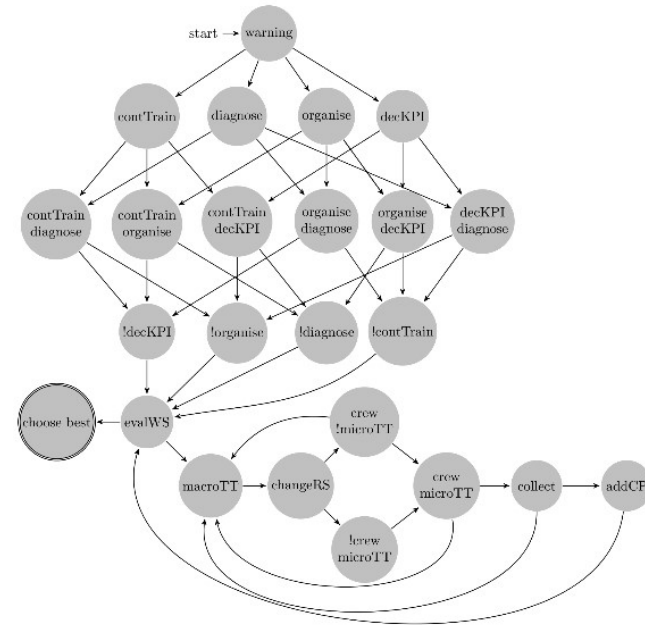


Ease of translation of the activity diagrams into state graphs to check the main properties of the **system's behaviour**

Possibility of analysing the **level of automation** currently implemented and envisaged

Definition of a **unified framework** for the disruption management process throughout Europe

- Network Rail, Trafikverket, ADIF and SNCF could validate the model and specify country-specific procedures



# Disruption management by ADIF

## Analysis of the 2016 Network Statement 10 phase **general contingency plan**

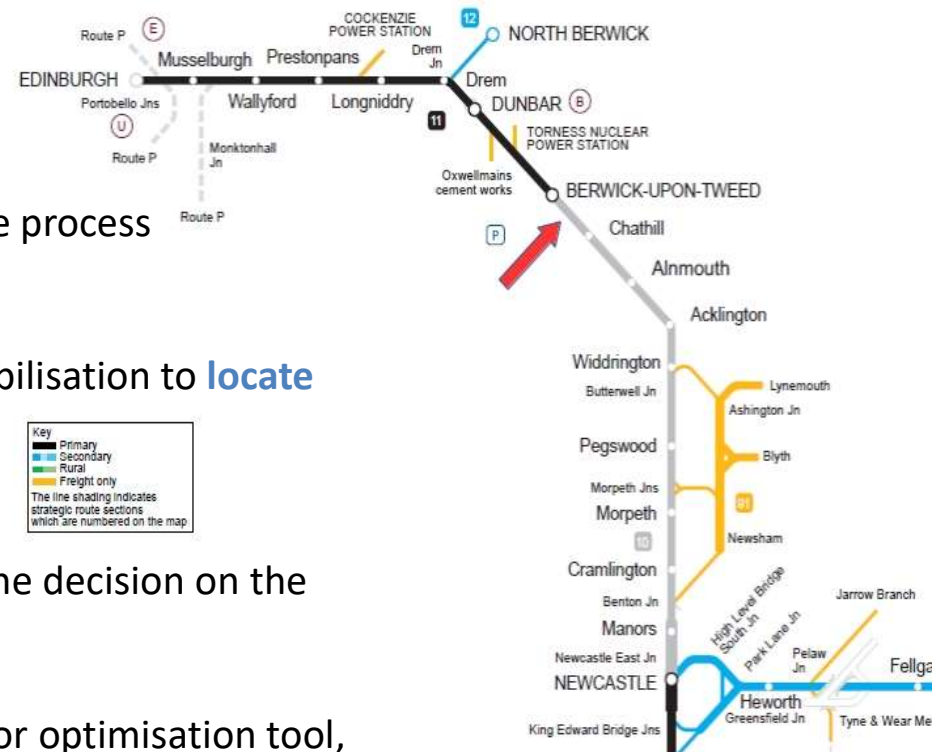
Scheduled procedures	Phase 1	<b>Urgent security measures</b> and protection of traffic for incident prevention or minimisation
	Phase 2	<b>Identification</b> of the type of incident and gathering of information
	Phase 3	<b>Notice</b> to emergency services and to the internal and external security departments
	Phase 4	<b>Mobilising</b> the intervention resources
	Phase 5	<b>Information</b> to the RUs and bodies of the Railway Infrastructure Administration
	Phase 6	Information to the affected <b>passengers</b>
	Phase 7	<b>Report</b> on the status of victims in accidents
	Phase 8	<b>Control measures</b> about trains in transit
Coordinated efforts	Phase 9	<b>Coordination</b> in the place of the incident and between the incident point and the central level
	Phase 10	<b>Alternative Transportation Plan</b>

### Analysis of SPIRs: **Significant Incident Performance Reviews**

- Cause
- Prevention
- Incident response
- Detection, diagnosis & repair
- Train service management & recovery
- Service to Passengers
- What went well?
- Transferable lessons
- Urgent performance advice

# Analysis of incident records

## SPITTAL (TWEEDMOUTH) FLOODING ON FRIDAY 10TH DECEMBER 2010 - London North Eastern route G



The management of this disruption follows the process formalized in the SysML diagrams

In the SPIR, details are given on the teams mobilisation to **locate the incident** and **restore the infrastructure**

The intervention of the experts allowed the **diagnosis of the disruption**, which triggered the decision on the recovery plan

The **recovery plan** was set with no automatic or optimisation tool, but based on personal agreements among the several stakeholders

No automatic sensors were used to **detect** the start, the duration or the end of the disruption

The **communication** was mostly phone-based

## *Lessons learned*

- Generic contingency plans are not appropriate: **specific** responses must be provided for each incident
- **Coordination** of disruption management and emergency management is necessary
- The **implementation** of disruption management strategies is a sovereign task of the IMs
- Oral **coordination and communication** are highly important



The level of human-automation interaction is generally quite low in case of disruption

Possible improvements:

- Automatic **integration** of weather forecast models in the preparation for extreme weather events
- Automatic **information** sharing: communication across organizations
- Automatic **decision support tools**: quick and optimized
- Automatic state **monitoring**

## *Roadmap for automation increase*



On the basis of the lessons learned, a **roadmap** for automation is provided.

We first focus on different **individual aspects** of the railway system.

Then, we collect the relevant elements into a **unified framework**.

Finally, we assess through **simulation** the validity of the roadmap.

# Rolling stock

Driving	Description
Manual	The <b>driver</b> is <b>completely</b> in <b>control</b>
Semi-Automatic	The <b>driver</b> is in <b>control</b> and the train is equipped with an <b>interventionist computer</b> that enforces movement authority instructions (LOA)
Driverless	The <b>driver is a supervisor</b> and only intervenes when the system is in a faulty condition
Unattended	An ATO equivalent system is integrated into ETCS system and drives the train <b>without any need for supervision</b>

# Command, control and communication (CCC) system and Platform



## Command, control and communication (CCC) system

Train Detection	Train Protection	Traffic Management
Manual	Train stops	Junction box based TM
Track circuits and axle counters	Induction based	Manual TM
Radio based detection	Radio based	Rule based-TM
	Autonomous	Autonomous

## Platform

Platform Management	Passenger Guidance	Train Dispatch	Passenger Management
Manual	Manual door operation	Manual	Platform staff
Automatic	Automatic door operation	Automatic	Active monitoring

# Infrastructure

Level of Automation	Human	Machines
<b>Manual</b>	Primary <b>identifiers</b> of critical areas based on experience	Used to <b>measure and quantify</b> the area under investigation, also used to rectify issues under human control
<b>Semi-Automatic</b>	Primary analysis of fault labelled areas <b>using metrics provided by the machines</b>	Processor based machines that can <b>measure</b> areas for current condition and <b>predict</b> failures
<b>Automatic</b>	<b>Operate</b> the machines, such as dedicated infrastructure measurement trains. The human task is then limited to <b>planning</b> for maintenance activity	Intelligent machines that can <b>identify and analyse</b> a fault for possible root causes and provide recommendations for intervention criteria
<b>Autonomous</b>	Operational trains regularly <b>measure</b> infrastructure and create a rich database that can be mined for <b>identifying</b> critical areas autonomously	
	With the introduction of robotics and autonomous systems it is possible to schedule a maintenance period with respect to an operational timetable	

# Roadmap



A roadmap helps to **visualise** all of the individual changes into a **single table** to show the progression of the railway system

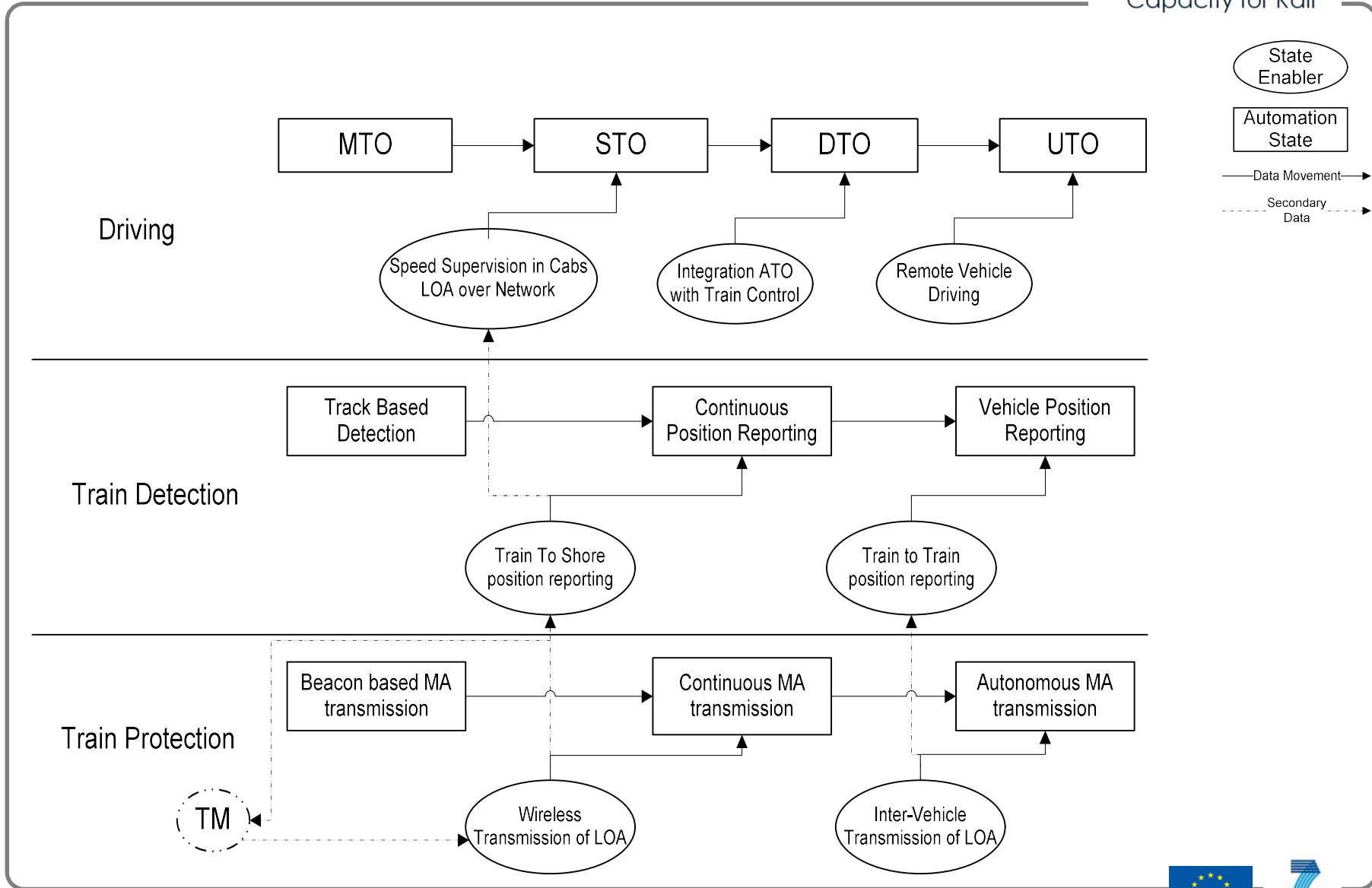
**from a manual system to a fully automated one**

The overall improvement of capacity and reliability will be achieved only when the **whole system** will have reached a maturity level

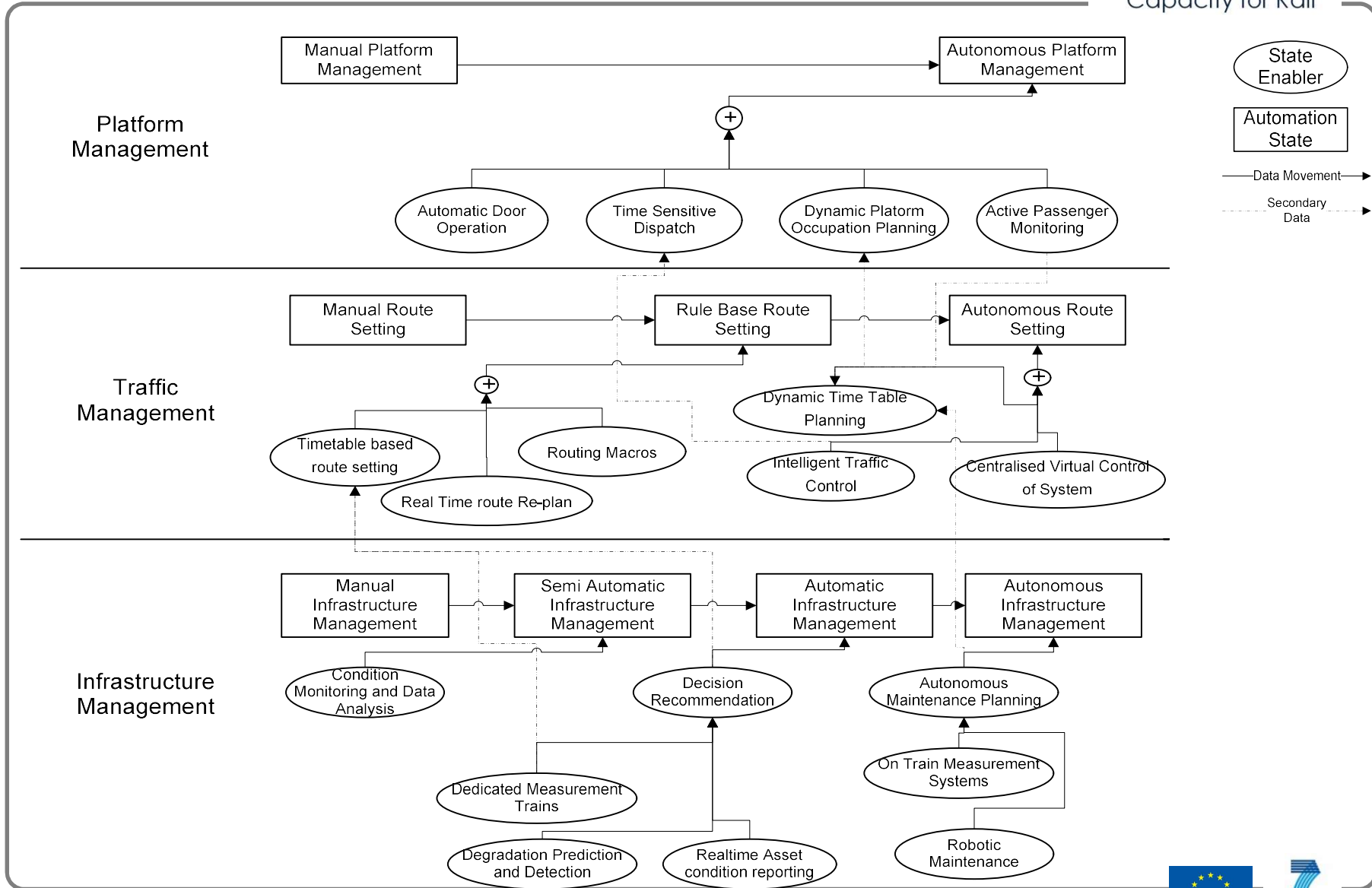
<b>Infrastructure</b>	Manual	Semi-Automatic	Semi-Automatic	Automatic	Automatic	Autonomous
<b>Platform Management</b>	Manual	Manual	Manual	Automatic	Automatic	Automatic
<b>Traffic Management</b>	Manual TM	Manual TM	Manual TM	Rule Based TM	Rule Based TM	Autonomous TM
<b>Train Protection</b>	Induction Based	Induction Based	Radio Based	Autonomous	Autonomous	Autonomous
<b>Train Detection</b>	Track Circuits & Axle Counters	Augmented Train Detection	Augmented Train Detection	Autonomous	Autonomous	Autonomous
<b>Driving</b>	Manual	Semi-Automatic	Driverless	Driverless	Unattended	Unattended
<b>Grade of Automation</b>	<b>GoA 0</b>	<b>GoA 1</b>	<b>GoA 2</b>	<b>GoA 3</b>	<b>GoA 4</b>	<b>GoA 5</b>



# Roadmap: graphical representation (1)

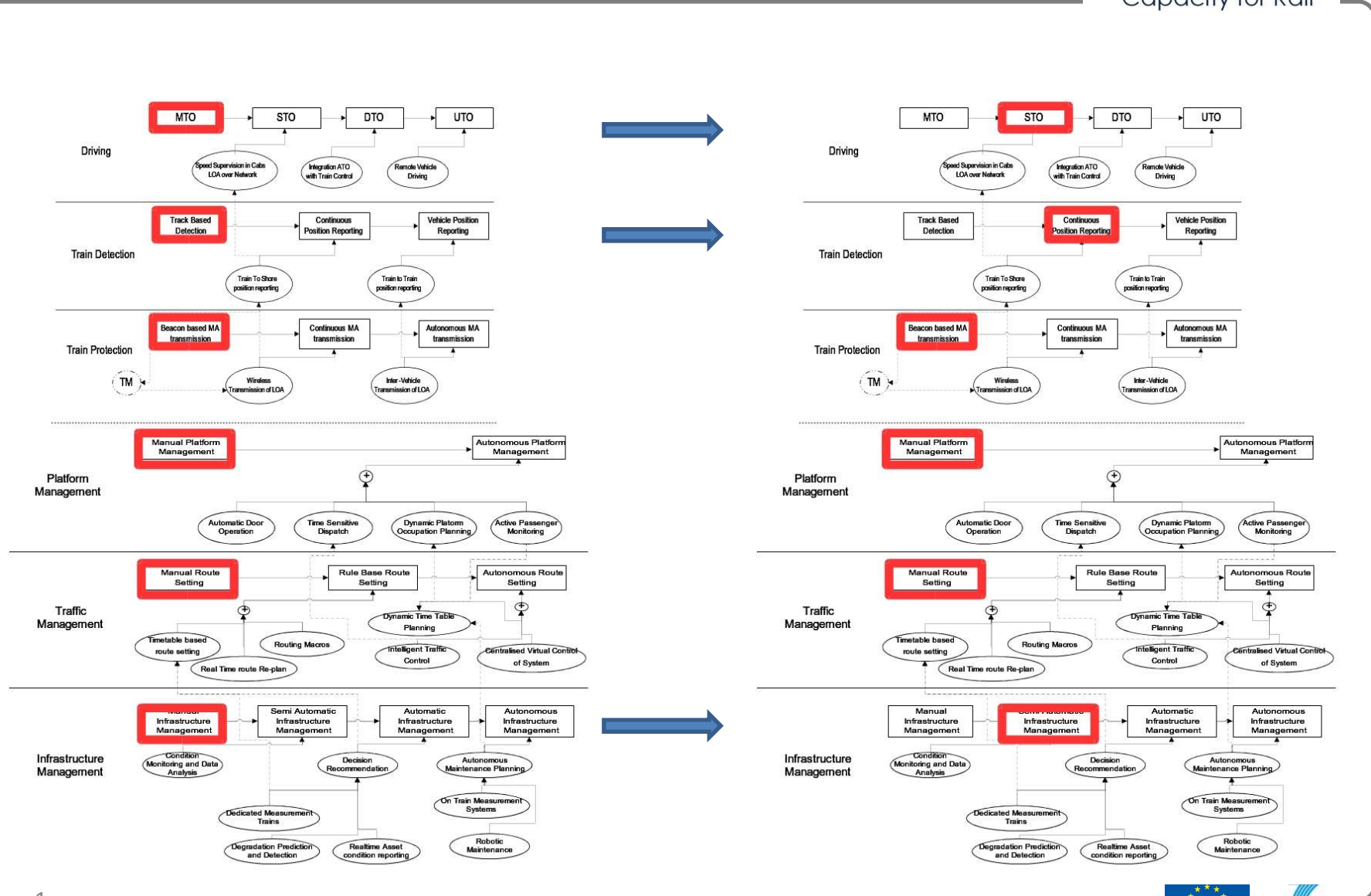


# Roadmap: graphical representation (2)

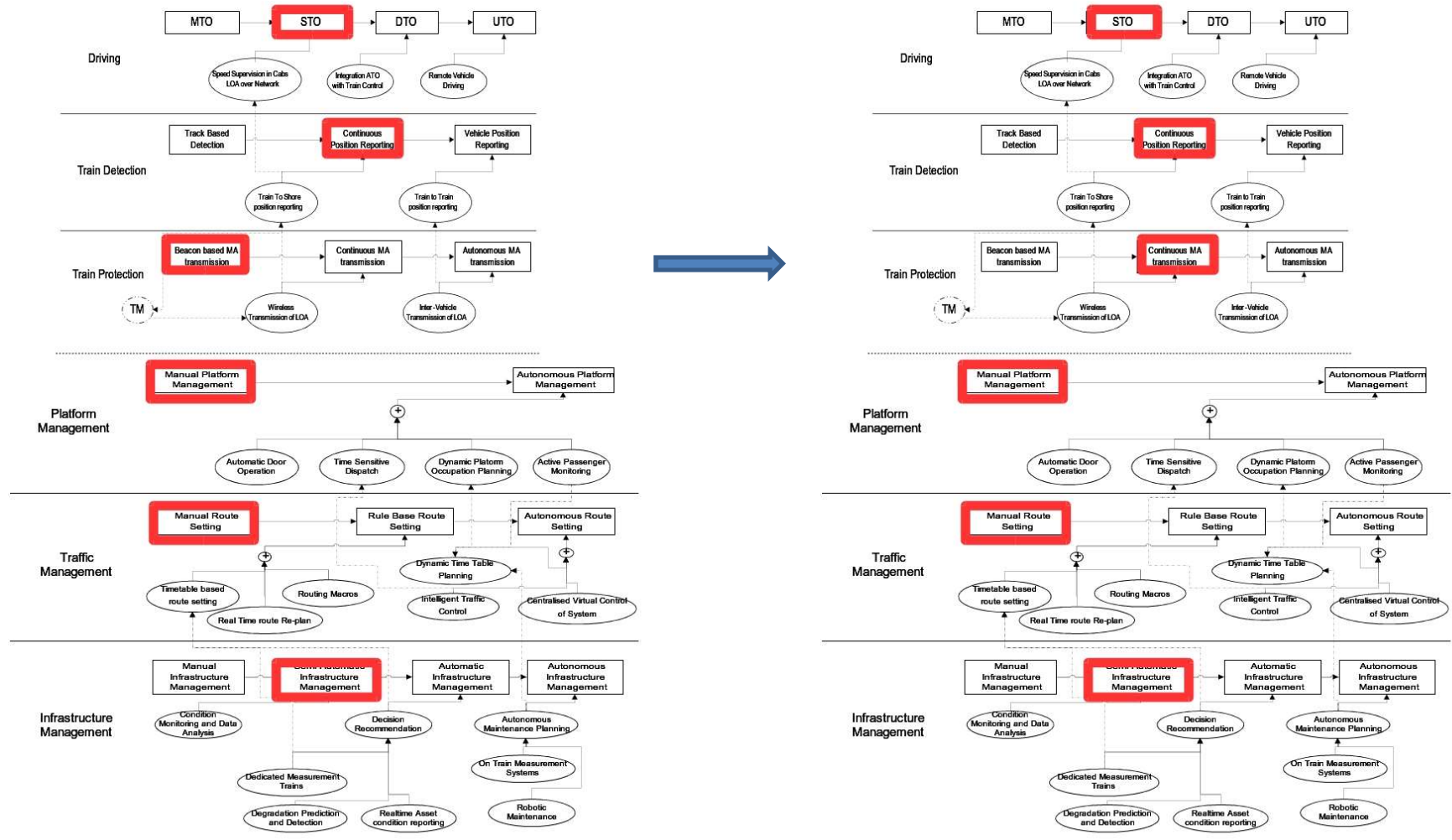




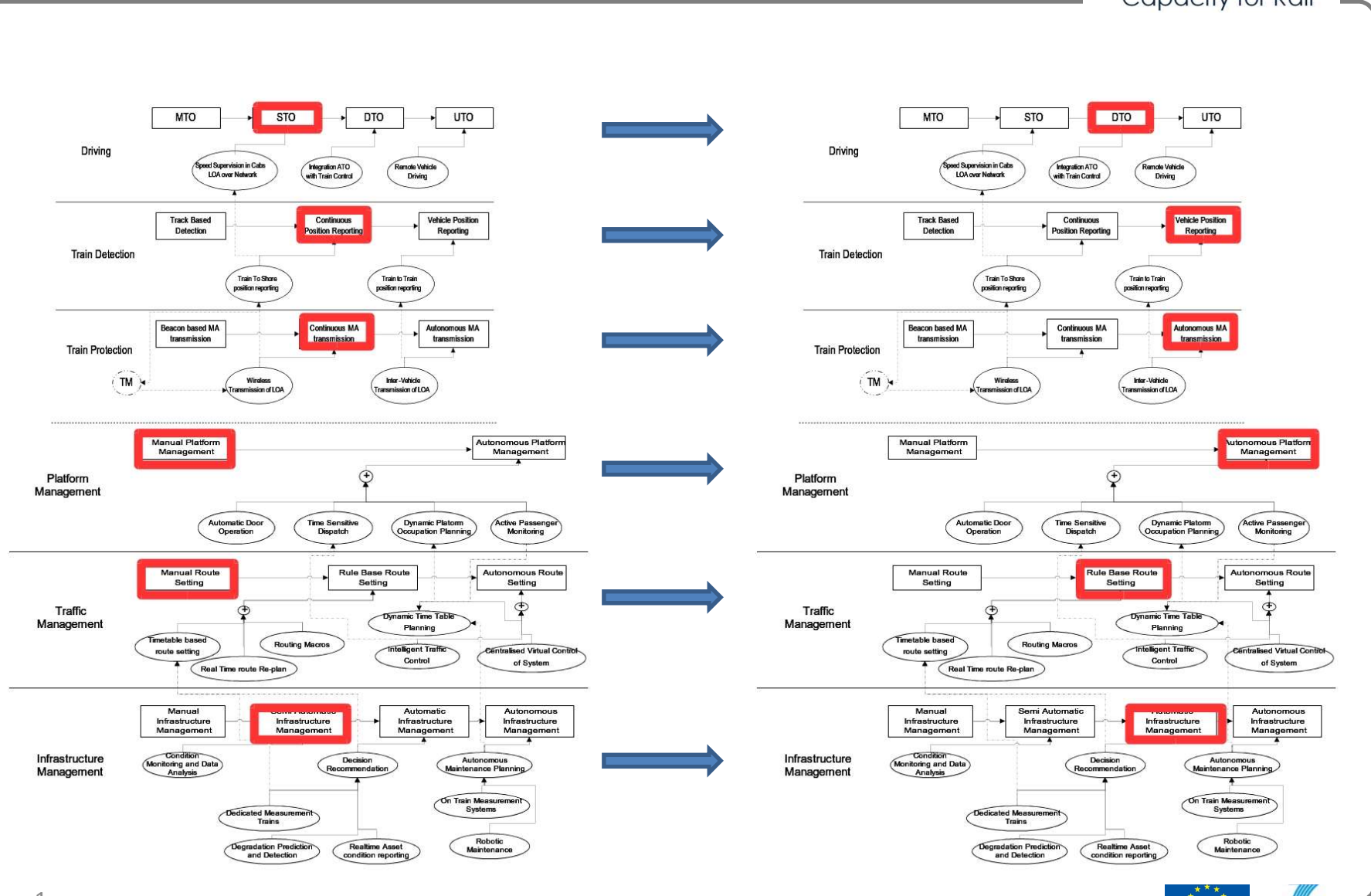
# Roadmap: GOA 0 and GOA 1



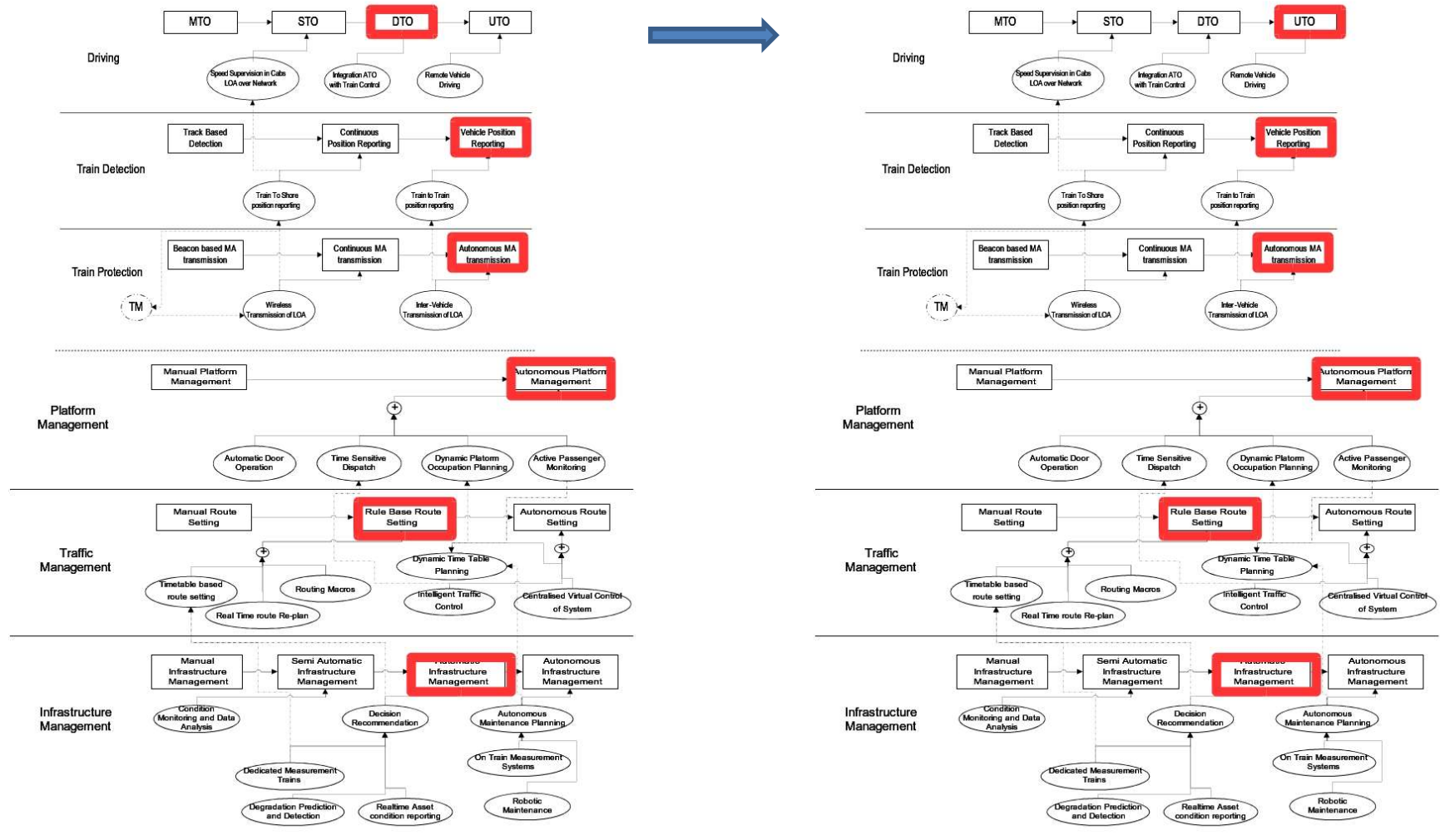
# Roadmap: GOA 1 and GOA 2



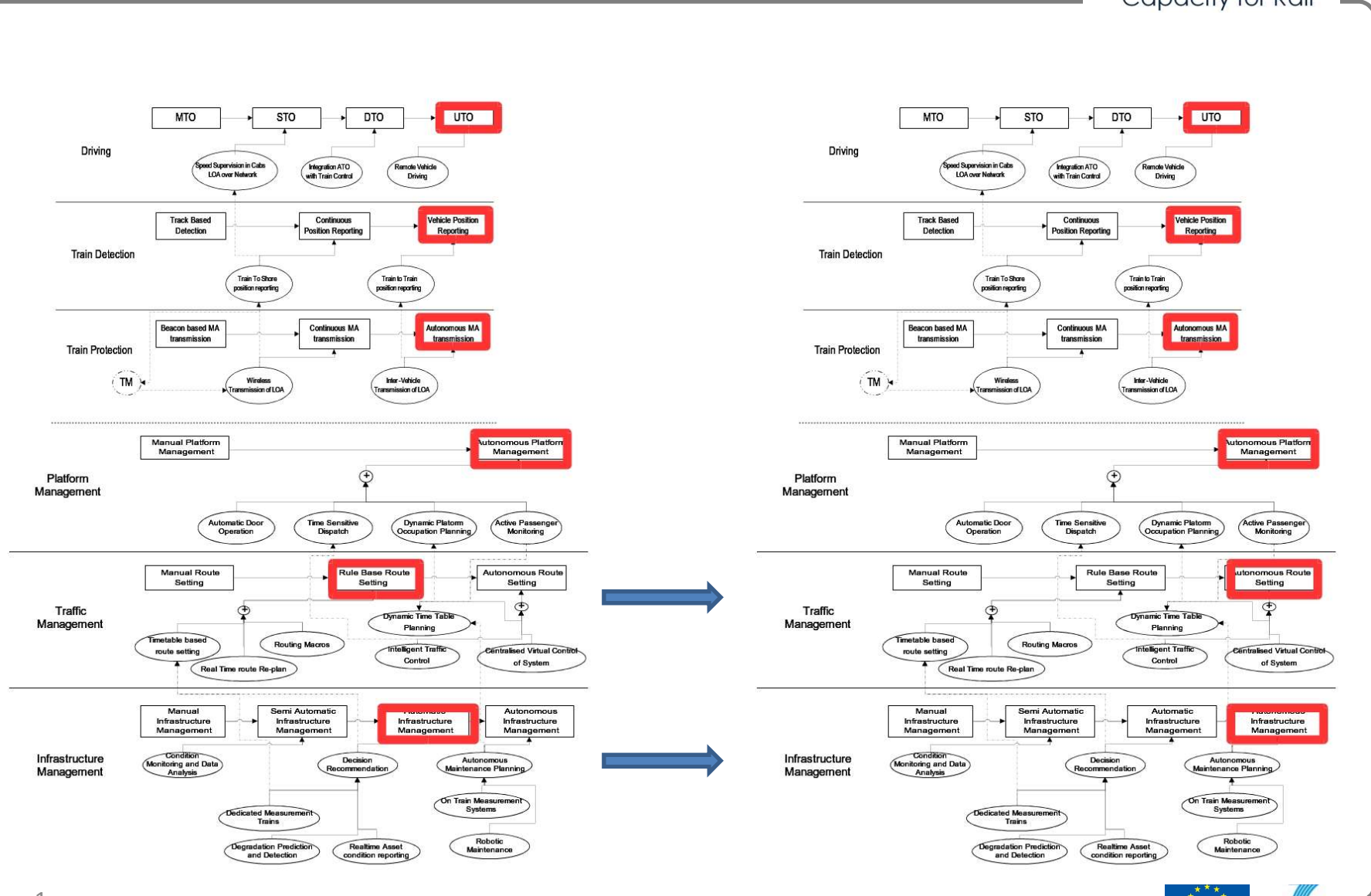
# Roadmap: GOA 2 and GOA 3



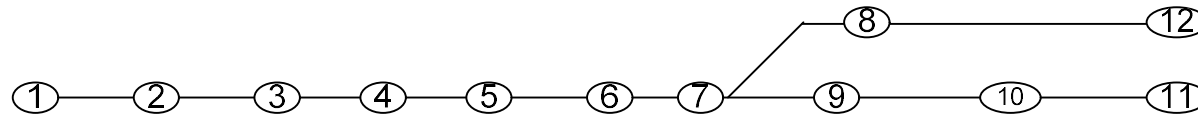
# Roadmap: GOA 3 and GOA 4



# Roadmap: GOA 4 and GOA 5



# Validation of the roadmap through simulation



Simulation with BRaVE

Assessment of journey times (proxy of capacity) with increasing levels of automation:

- Four types of signalling (4 Aspect, ETCS 1, ETCS 2 and ETCS 3)



Automation



Automation

- level1: Manual Driving + Train Staff Supervised Platform Departures;
- level2: Manual Driving + Station Staff Supervised Platform Departures;
- level3: Automatic Driving + Train Staff Supervised Platform Departures;
- level4: Automatic Driving + Station Staff Supervised Platform Departures;
- level5: Automatic Driving + Automatic Platform Departures

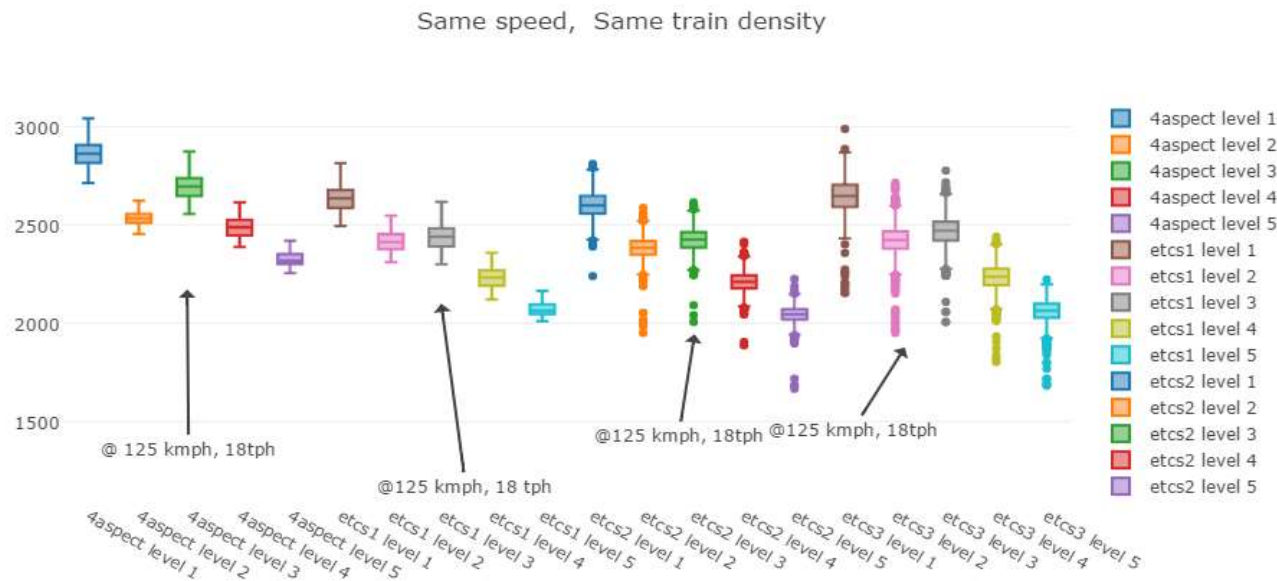
Three test cases:

1. Same speed, same traffic density
2. Different speed, same traffic density
3. Different speed, different traffic density

# Simulation results for validation

The results show that incremental improvements do not necessarily show capacity improvements

Automation when applied in groups, such as the one proposed in the roadmap above, yields better results



# *Analysis of an instance of automation increase: delay prediction*



A specific **instance of automation increase** is studied.




The focus is the development of an algorithm for **delay prediction**.

**An experimental analysis** shows the validity of the algorithm.



# Identification of the requirements

Four different delay categories should be addressed:

- 1. Structural (systemic) delay:** a delay that is due to small errors in the calibration of the model.  

- 2. Meaningful statistical recurrent delay:** a delay that occurs a certain number of times on the same train and on the same line.  

- 3. Delay caused by known, recurrent exogenous events:** a delay due to recurrent exogenous events (e.g., rainy days, etc.) which can be known in advance.  

- 4. Unpredictable delay:** a delay due to unknown non-recurrent events that result in a delay over the line (e.g., train disruptions, natural disasters or, in general, sudden exogenous events that are not known in advance).



# *Analysis and forecasting of time series: state of the art*



Three main families of models have been identified:

- **Autoregressive** models  
sample autocorrelation function which allow inference
- **Data mining** models  
computational processes for discovering patterns in data sets  
involve methods at the intersection of  
artificial intelligence,  
machine learning, and  
statistics
- **Feature selection and rank** models  
process of selecting a subset of relevant variables for the model  
construction

# Data sources identification and formal definition of data characteristics

Two principal data sources have been analyzed:

- Railway information systems - traffic management system (*case study for RFI*)

Data about train movements

including precise time and position references

Theoretical timetables

including planning of exceptional train movements

## Data retained: 4 tables

list of stations	list of trains
minutes that can be regained in each section of the network	information that characterizes each train movement

- Exogenous data sources

Information about the tourists' presence

Information about the number of passengers on each train

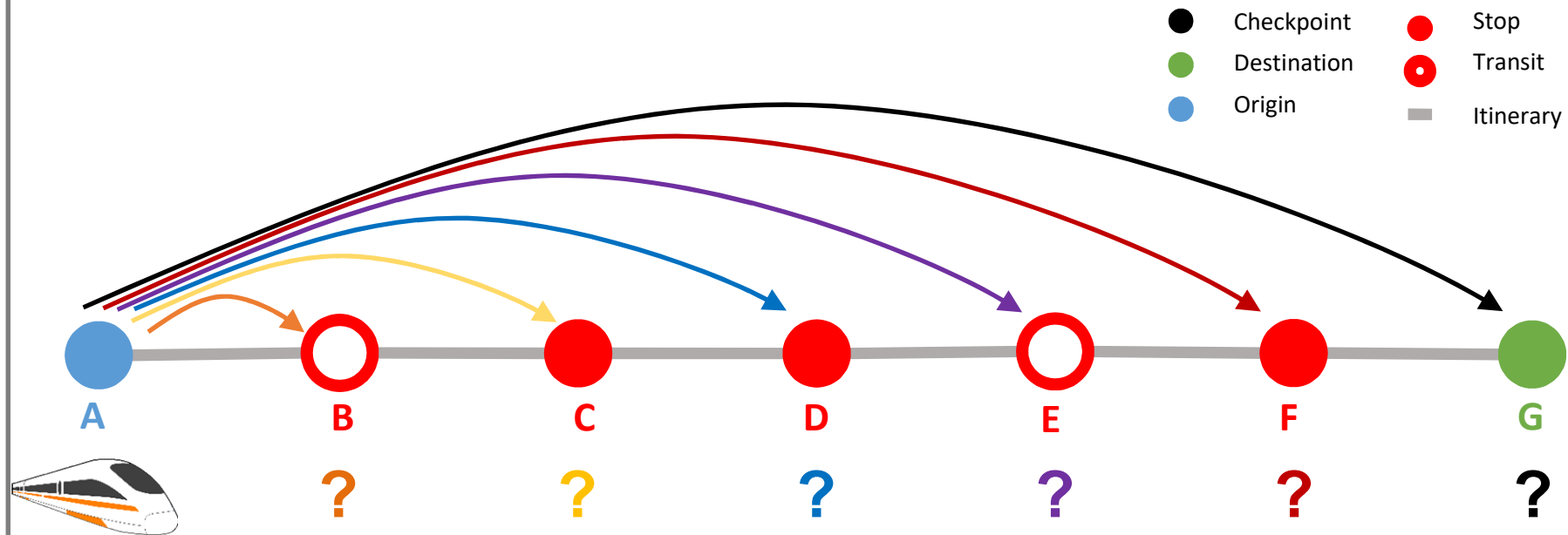
Information about weather conditions

*These exogenous variables are only theoretically introduced*

# Proposed modeling solution

For each train and for each of the successive checkpoints composing its trip  
a **data-driven multivariate regression model** is built

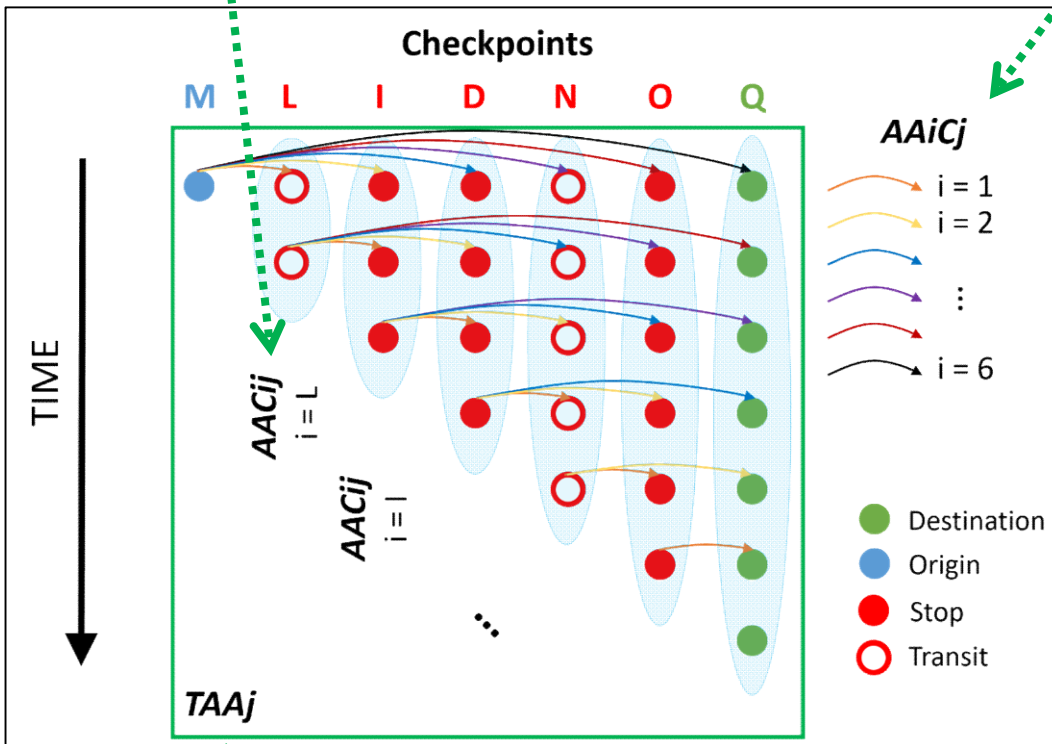
It outputs **delay predictions** for arrival and departures for the corresponding  
checkpoint



# KPI's

for train  $j$  and checkpoint  $i$ : average of |predicted delay - actual delay|

for train  $j$  and the  $i$ -th following checkpoint with respect to the prediction position: average of |predicted delay - actual delay|

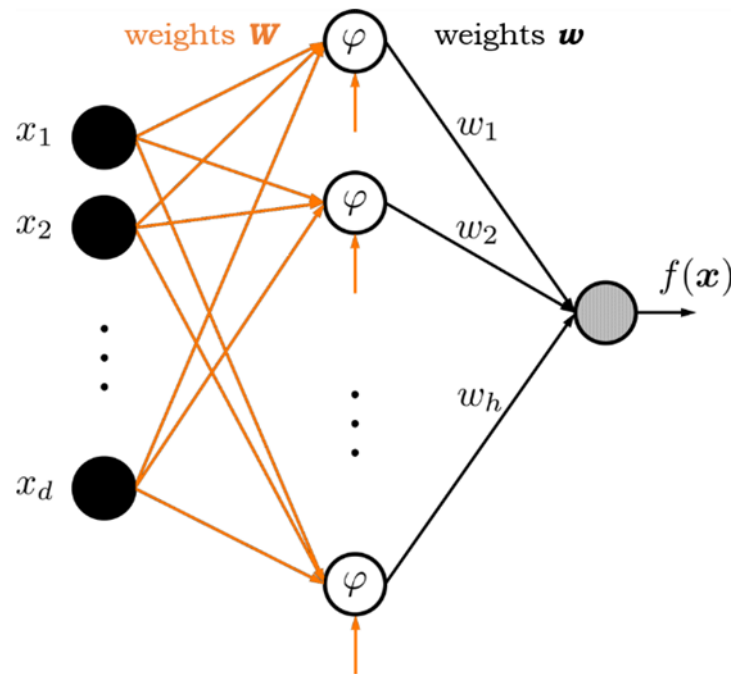


for train  $j$ : average over  $i$  of  $AAC_{ij}$

# Model building

The selected state-of-the-art Machine Learning algorithm able to solve multivariate regression problems is the **Extreme Learning Machines (ELM)** algorithm

It builds a particular type of **artificial neural network** model



# Model assessment

The **performance assessment** is based on state-of-the-art statistical tools (e.g., hold out, cross-validation, etc.)

The general idea behind these tools is to use part of the available data to **build models**, and then to **assess their performance** using the rest of the data.



## *Experimental analysis: setup*



We use **real data**, provided by RFI

The available data refers to

- **6 months** of movements in the area of **Milan** and
- **1 year** in the area of **Genoa**

We adopt an online-approach: it updates the predictive models every day

We compare the model with the **current technique used by RFI**





## Experimental analysis: simulation steps

The simulation includes several steps, which are repeated for each day:

- **build the model** for each train based on training set
- tune the models' **hyperparameters** through Cross Validation
- consider the **next test day**
- **consider** each train and all the passed **checkpoints**
- for each train and for each checkpoint, **predict the delay** of the train at each of its subsequent checkpoint
- **validate the models** in terms of performance based on what had really happened at a future instant
- take out the data related to the current day from the test set, and add them to the **training set**
- **repeat** the procedure until the test set is empty

Test of the performance on a part of the training set

# Example of results (1)

for train  $j$  and the  $i$ -th following checkpoint with respect to the prediction position: average of  $|\text{predicted delay} - \text{actual delay}|$

ELM improves **up to x5**

AAiCj	RFI	ELM	RFI	ELM	RFI	ELM	RFI	ELM	
j \ i	1st		2nd		3rd		4th		
1	1.8	1.6	2.1	1.8	2.3	2.1	2.5	2.3	
2	3.2	1.8	3.4	1.9	3.8	2.2	4.2	2.4	
3	1.9	1.4	2.0	1.6	2.3	1.8	2.6	1.9	
4	2.0	1.5	2.2	1.6	2.6	1.9	3.0	2.1	
5	1.4	0.9	1.7	1.0	2.0	1.2	2.3	1.4	
6	1.4	1.3	1.7	1.5	2.0	1.8	2.3	2.1	
7	1.3	1.0	1.4	1.1	1.6	1.3	1.8	1.5	
8	1.3	1.0	1.6	1.3	1.9	1.4	2.1	1.6	
9	1.2	0.8	1.2	0.9	1.4	1.0	1.5	1.1	
10	1.5	1.0	1.6	1.1	2.0	1.3	2.3	1.5	
11	1.4	1.2	1.5	1.3	1.7	1.5	1.9	1.6	
12	2.1	1.6	2.6	1.9	3.1	2.1	3.5	2.3	
13	1.2	0.9	1.3	1.0	1.4	1.1	1.6	1.3	
14	3.1	2.1	2.2	2.0	-	-	-	-	
15	2.9	1.3	2.4	1.5	2.9	1.7	3.4	1.9	...
16	1.7	1.1	2.0	1.3	2.4	1.5	2.8	1.6	
17	1.9	1.3	2.2	1.4	2.7	1.6	3.1	1.8	
18	1.3	0.4	1.3	0.4	1.5	0.5	1.7	0.6	
19	1.5	0.7	1.6	0.7	1.8	0.8	1.9	0.9	
20	1.5	0.3	1.7	0.4	1.8	0.5	1.8	0.6	
21	1.1	0.5	1.2	0.6	1.2	0.7	1.2	0.8	
22	1.2	0.4	1.2	0.5	1.3	0.6	1.3	0.7	
23	1.9	0.7	2.0	0.8	2.4	1.0	2.6	1.1	
24	1.0	0.4	1.1	0.5	1.1	0.6	1.1	0.7	
25	1.0	0.4	1.1	0.4	1.2	0.5	1.1	0.6	
26	1.9	0.7	2.0	0.8	2.3	0.9	2.6	1.0	
27	1.0	0.4	1.1	0.4	1.2	0.5	1.1	0.7	
28	1.0	0.4	1.0	0.5	1.2	0.6	1.4	0.7	
29	1.1	0.3	1.1	0.4	1.2	0.5	1.1	0.6	
30	2.0	0.6	2.1	0.7	2.4	0.9	2.7	0.9	

accuracy  $\downarrow$  as  $i \uparrow$ : the forecast refers to an event further in the future

# Example of results (2)

for train *j*: average over *i* of AAC<sub>ij</sub>

ELM improves **for all the trains**

ELM improves **up to more than x3**

j	TAA <sub>j</sub>	
	RFI	ELM
1	2.2	2.0
2	4.3	2.2
3	2.3	1.6
4	2.4	1.7
5	1.7	1.1
6	1.9	1.7
7	1.5	1.2
8	1.9	1.5
9	1.4	0.9
10	1.8	1.2
11	1.8	1.5
12	2.8	2.0
13	1.4	1.1
14	3.1	2.1
15	1.8	1.2
16	3.9	1.0
17	5.8	2.7
18	6.7	4.3
19	2.8	1.8
20	3.7	1.0
21	5.0	2.4
22	4.9	2.2
23	6.5	3.6
24	5.1	2.3
25	4.6	1.8
26	5.6	2.9
27	6.2	2.8
28	5.5	2.8
29	4.2	1.1
30	4.7	1.8
	..	..

## *Results: summary*



The results over the testing data have shown a promising result:  
**for the specific train considered, the data-driven models  
outperform the current technique  
by a factor of  $\approx 2x$  (on total average)**

Future works will consider also **exogenous information**

- weather information,
- passenger flows
- railway assets conditions
- ...

# The team



THE UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM



*Thank you for your kind attention*

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