

Quick dive into XMCD A-2.0

Raymond Bisdorff* Patrick Meyer† Thomas Veneziano*

For a complete documentation about XMCD A, please visit
<http://www.decision-deck.org/xmcd a>

Abstract

This article presents the main features of XMCD A, a standardised XML proposal to represent *objects* and *data* issued from the field of Multiple Criteria Decision Aid (MCDA). Its main objective is to allow different MCDA algorithms to interact and to be easily callable from a software like, e.g., the diviz platform of the Decision Deck project¹. We present the structure of XMCD A and detail the main underlying data structures via examples speaking for themselves. Note that this document does not replace a detailed documentation of the related XML schema.

Contents

1	Introductory considerations	1
1.1	On the names of the tags	1
1.2	On the attributes of the tags	1
2	Outline of the structure of an XMCD A file	2
3	Elementary XMCD A types	2
3.1	Values	2
3.2	Intervals	3
3.3	Points	3
3.4	Scales	3
3.5	Functions	3
3.6	Description	4
4	Detailed structure of an XMCD A file	4
4.1	Method and project specific data	4
4.1.1	How to describe the current project?	4
4.1.2	How to implement method-specific parameters?	4
4.1.3	How to store method-specific messages?	5
4.2	Definition of alternatives, criteria, attributes and categories	5
4.2.1	How to define alternatives?	5
4.2.2	How to define criteria?	5
4.2.3	How to define attributes?	6
4.2.4	How to define categories?	6
4.3	The performance table	6
4.4	Advanced information on alternatives, criteria, attributes and categories	6
4.4.1	xSet	6
4.4.2	xValue	7
4.4.3	xLinearConstraints	7
4.4.4	xComparisons	8
4.4.5	xMatrix	8

*Université du Luxembourg, FSTC - ILIAS - CSC, Decision Systems Group, 6, rue Richard Coudenhove-Kalergi, L-1359 Luxembourg

†Institut Télécom, Télécom Bretagne, UMR CNRS 3192 Lab-STICC, Technopôle Brest-Iroise CS 83818, F-29238 Brest Cedex 3, Université européenne de Bretagne, patrick.meyer@telecom-bretagne.eu

¹<http://www.decision-deck.org>

4.4.6	Categories profiles	9
4.4.7	Categories contents	9
4.4.8	Alternatives affectations	9
4.4.9	Specifying a hierarchy of concepts	10
5	Examples	10
5.1	The output of the Rubis web service	10
5.2	The output of the Kappalab web service	13

1 Introductory considerations

The abstract description of the XMCDA structure is performed via a detailed XML schema. This document does not intend to replace the documentation of this schema, but it is rather meant to present the XMCDA structure in a practical and natural way. In order to motivate as many programmers as possible to adopt the XMCDA representation, we have decided to express as many MCDA concepts as possible through a few general data structures coded in XML. In this section we first present the conventions used on the tag names, and then present three XML attributes which are used in all the data structures of XMCDA.

To avoid misunderstandings, note the following conventions which are used in this document:

- The term MCDA *concept* describes an real or abstract construction related to the field of MCDA which needs to be stored in XMCDA (like, for example, the importance of the criteria);
- The term XMCDA *type* stands for an XML structure that we created for the purpose of XMCDA (like, for example, `criteriaValues` to store general values related to a set of criteria).

1.1 On the names of the tags

By convention, the name of a tag starts by a lower-case letter. The rest of the name is in mixed case with the first letter of each internal word capitalised. This allows to easily read and understand the meaning of a tag. We use whole words and avoid as much as possible acronyms and abbreviations. Consider for example the tagnames `methodOptions`, `performanceTable` and `criterionValue`. Note that objects of the same XMCDA type can in general be gathered in a compound tag, represented by a single XML tag named after the plural form of its components (e.g., `alternatives`).

1.2 On the attributes of the tags

The three following attributes can be found in any of the main data tags: `id`, `name` and `mcdaConcept`. They are in general optional, except for the `id` attribute in the description of an alternative, a criterion or a category (see Section 3 for further details). Each of these three attributes has a particular purpose in XMCDA:

- The `id` attribute allows to identify an object with a *machine readable* code or identifier. As an illustration consider the following set of two alternatives `a03` and `a04` which is identified by `set1`.

```
<alternativesSet id="set1">
  <element>
    <alternativeID>a03</alternativeID>
  </element>
  <element>
    <alternativeID>a04</alternativeID>
  </element>
</alternativesSet>
```

- The `name` attribute allows to give a *human-readable* name to a particular object. As an illustration consider the following code, which shows how a named parameter could be passed to an MCDA method.

```
<parameter id="numIt" name="number of iterations">
  <value><integer>3</integer></value>
</parameter>
```

- The `mcdConcept` attribute allows to identify the MCDA concept linked to a particular instance of an XMCD type. To illustrate this, consider the following example, where the set of alternatives `{a03,a04}` is considered as a kernel of a graph.

```
<alternativesSet mcdConcept="kernel" name="a kernel with two elements">
  <element>
    <alternativeID>a03</alternativeID>
  </element>
  <element>
    <alternativeID>a04</alternativeID>
  </element>
</alternativesSet>
```

After these preliminary considerations, we present in the following section the general structure of an XMCD file, before turning to a detailed description of the fundamental XMCD types in Section 3.

2 Outline of the structure of an XMCD file

An XMCD file may contain several tags under the root element. These tags allow to describe various MCDA related data from the a few general categories:

- Project or file description;
- Output messages from methods (log or error messages) and input information for methods (parameters);
- Description of major MCDA concepts as attributes, criteria, alternatives, categories;
- The performance table;
- Further preferential information related to criteria, alternatives, attributes or categories.

We detail these general categories later in Section 4. However, first we present in the following section, the fundamental data structures which are defined in XMCD. They represent the basis of any XML file which respects the XMCD standard.

3 Elementary XMCD types

3.1 Values

To store a *value*, we use the XMCD type `value` which can represent an integer, a real number, an interval, a rational, a nominal value, an ordinal value, a *not available* value or a *binary64* string. The following listing shows a set of values containing 4 elements of different types.

```
<values>
  <value><integer>8</integer></value>

  <value><rankedLabel>
    <label>Good</label>
    <rank>1</rank>
  </rankedLabel></value>

  <value><rational>
    <numerator>10</numerator>
    <denominator>3</denominator>
  </rational></value>

  <value><real>3.141526</real></value>
</values>
```

Note that there also exists an XMCD type called `numericValue` which restricts `value` to numeric values.

3.2 Intervals

The type `value` can represent an interval of numeric or ordinal values which are coded as follows.

```
<interval>
  <lowerBound><value>[. .]</value></lowerBound>
  <upperBound><value>[. .]</value></upperBound>
</interval>
```

```
<interval>
  <lowerBound><rankedLabel>[. .]</rankedLabel></lowerBound>
  <upperBound><rankedLabel>[. .]</rankedLabel></upperBound>
</interval>
```

3.3 Points

Some more complex XMCDAs types, as, e.g., `function`, require the concept of *point* which is represented by the following code. Note that the abscissa as well as the ordinate are of the type `value`.

```
<point>
  <abscissa><real>2.7182818</real></abscissa>
  <ordinate><integer>23</integer></ordinate>
</point>
```

3.4 Scales

The concept of *scale* is described as follows. Note that a scale may be *quantitative*, *qualitative* or *nominal* scale.

```
<scale>
  <quantitative>
    <minimum><real>0.00</real></minimum>
    <maximum><real>1.00</real></maximum>
  </quantitative>
</scale>
```

3.5 Functions

A `function` can either be a constant, a linear, a piecewise linear function or simply a set of points. Note that the functions appear in more complex types related to the criteria.

```
<function>
  <constant><real>456.3847</real></constant>
</function>

<function>
  <linear>
    <slope><real>4.00</real></slope>
    <intercept><real>4.00</real></intercept>
  </linear>
</function>

<function>
  <points>[. .]</points>
</function>
```

3.6 Description

Each tag defined in XMCDAs owns a description which allows to clearly describe it. A short example is given hereafter for a list of alternatives.

```

<alternatives>
  <description>
    <title>The list of alternatives</title>
    <comment>Only european cars are considered.</comment>
  </description>
  [...]
</alternatives>

```

The description tag is used to add some comments on a value, a criterion, etc., or to specify, e.g., the author of a piece of information. All the tags are optional.

4 Detailed structure of an XMCD file

In Section 3 we have presented the elementary XMCD types which are very general and can therefore be used in various situations. In this section we give a more detailed description of the different information categories presented in Section 2 and which reuse the fundamental XMCD types.

4.1 Method and project specific data

4.1.1 How to describe the current project?

The tag `projectReference` can be used to describe the current project by different tags from the `description` type which was explained earlier. The following code gives a short example of such a description.

```

<projectReference id="testProblem">
  <version>1.2</version>
  <creationDate>2008-10-20T22:24:02</creationDate>
  <author>Patrick Meyer and Thomas Veneziano</author>
</projectReference>

```

4.1.2 How to implement method-specific parameters?

Some methods require some specific parameters in order to guide the resolution of a decision problem. Those parameters can be specified by the `methodParameters` tag as follows. Notice that a parameter can be either a value or a function.

```

<methodParameters>
  <approach>outranking</approach>
  <problematique>choice</problematique>
  <methodology>Rubis</methodology>
  <parameter name="variant">
    <value><label>standard</label></value>
  </parameter>
</methodParameters>

```

4.1.3 How to store method-specific messages?

Certain methods might generate some error or log messages. These can be stored in the `methodMessages` tag.

```

<methodMessages>
  <errorMessage>
    <number>404</number>
    <name>Error 404</name>
    <message>Data not found. Did you specify a bad file name?</message>
  </errorMessage>
  <logMessage>
    <number>0</number>
    <name>OK</name>
    <message>Execution successful.</message>
  </logMessage>
</methodMessages>

```

4.2 Definition of alternatives, criteria, attributes and categories

4.2.1 How to define alternatives?

Alternatives are defined and described under the `alternatives` tag. They can be either `active` or not and either be `real` or `fictive` alternatives. In addition, they can also be flagged as `reference` alternatives (for profiles in a sorting problem, e.g.). The `id` of an alternative is mandatory.

```
<alternatives name="myAlternatives">
  <alternative id="x1" name="Red Ferrari"/>
  <alternative id="x2" name="Blue Corvette">
    <type>real</type>
    <active>true</active>
    <reference>false</reference>
  </alternative>
  <alternative id="x3" name="UFO">
    <type>fictive</type>
  </alternative>
</alternatives>
```

Note that it is possible to define sets of alternatives under the `alternativesSets` tag (see Section 4.4.1 for further details).

4.2.2 How to define criteria?

Criteria are defined and described under the `criteria` tag. For each criterion one has to define its `id`. In the following example, the first criterion `g1` represents the power of a car.

```
<criteria>
  <criterion id="g1">
    <description>
      <comment>Power in horsepowers</comment>
    </description>
    <attributeReference>att1</attributeReference>
    <scale>
      <quantitative>
        <preferenceDirection>max</preferenceDirection>
        <minimum><real>50</real></minimum>
        <maximum><real>200</real></maximum>
      </quantitative>
    </scale>
  </criterion>
  <criterion id="g2"/>
</criteria>
```

Note that criteria can be linked to other criteria (or attributes) via a `criteriaReference` (or an `attributeReference` tag. Note that it is possible to define sets of criteria under the `criteriaSets` tag (see Section 4.4.1 for further details).

4.2.3 How to define attributes?

Attributes are defined the same way as criteria under the `attributes` tag and can also be linked to other attributes (or criteria).

4.2.4 How to define categories?

Categories are defined under the tag `categories` as shown in the following example.

```
<categories>
  <category id="g" name="goodStudents">
    <active>true</active>
  </category>
  <category id="m" name="mediumStudents">
    <active>false</active>
  </category>
</categories>
```

Note that it is possible to define sets of categories under the `categoriesSets` tag (see Section 4.4.1 for further details).

4.3 The performance table

The performance table is defined and described under the tag `performanceTable`. It contains, for each alternative (given by its id), a list of performances, given by a criterion id (or attribute id) and a corresponding performance value.

```
<performanceTable>
  <alternativesPerformance>
    <alternativeID>alt1</alternativeID>
    <performance>
      <criterionID>g1</criterionID>
      <value><real>72.10</real></value>
    </performance>
    <performance>
      <criterionID>g2</criterionID>
      <value><real>82.62</real></value>
    </performance>
  </alternativesPerformance>
  <alternativesPerformance>
    <alternativeID>alt2</alternativeID>
    [...]
  </alternativesPerformance>
</performanceTable>
```

4.4 Advanced information on alternatives, criteria, attributes and categories

Let us now present some more advanced XMCDAs tags which allow to represent many structures issued from the field of MCDA.

To simplify the presentation of XMCDAs, we have defined a few generic structures which we have adapted for alternatives, criteria, attributes and categories. To avoid some redundant explanations and notation, we write `xSet` for the generic structure related to the XMCDAs types `alternativesSet`, `criteriaSet`, `attributesSet` and `categoriesSet`. The same convention is used for the `xValue`, `xLinearConstraint`, `xComparisons` and `xMatrix` types, described in the following subsections. Note that all those tags are defined directly under the root XMCDAs tag.

4.4.1 xSet

An `xSet` is a set of elements. Each of the elements, as well as the whole set, can be valued. The following code represents a set of alternatives, where one alternative is valued (e.g., by the credibility of its membership to the set), and where the whole set is valued by two *qualities*.

```
<alternativesSet id="good1" mcdaConcept="goodChoice">
  <element>
    <alternativeID>a03</alternativeID>
  </element>
  <element>
    <alternativeID>a04</alternativeID>
    <value><real>0.88</real></value>
  </element>
  <values name="qualities">
    <value name="independence"><real>100.00</real></value>
    <value name="outranking"><real>74.00</real></value>
  </values>
</alternativesSet>
```

4.4.2 xValue

An `xValue` is a value associated with an object or a set of objects.

```

<alternativeValue mcdaConcept="overallValue">
  <alternativeID>alt1</alternativeID>
  <value>[...]</value>
</alternativeValue>

<criterionValue>
  <criteriaSetID>cs3</criteriaSetID>
  <value>[...]</value>
</criterionValue>

```

Note that if the set has not been defined earlier, it is possible to define it here.

```

<categoryValue mcdaConcept="cardinality">
  <categoriesSet>
    <element><categoryID>cat1</categoryID></element>
    <element><categoryID>cat2</categoryID></element>
  </categoriesSet>
  <value>[...]</value>
</categoryValue>

```

4.4.3 xLinearConstraints

The following example gives us the representation of the constraint

$$2 \cdot \text{weight}(c_2) + \text{weight}(c_4) \leq 0.5$$

```

<criteriaLinearConstraints mcdaConcept="weight">
  <constraint name="a strange constraint">
    <constraintNumber>4</constraintNumber>
    <element>
      <criterionID>c2</criterionID>
      <coefficient><real>2.00</real></coefficient>
    </element>
    <element>
      <criterionID>c4</criterionID>
      <coefficient><real>1.00</real></coefficient>
    </element>
    <operator>leq</operator>
    <rhs>0.5</rhs>
  </constraint>
</criteriaLinearConstraints>

```

The operator tag can either be eq (=), leq (≤) or geq (≥).

4.4.4 xComparisons

An xComparisons allows to represent valued binary relations on criteria, alternatives, categories and attributes. A tag valuation of type `xmcda:scale` can be used to determine the scale of the valuation and the tag `relationType` allows to express what kind of relation is stored (we recommend to use keywords like *preference*, *indifference*, *incomparability*, *outranking*, *geq*, *leq*, *eq*, *neq*, *gtr*, *less*, or any personalised strings).

```

<alternativesComparisons mcdaConcept="outrankingDigraph" name="Stilde">
  <valuation>[...]</valuation>
  <relationType>preference</relationType>
  <pairs>
    <pair>
      <initial><alternativeID>a01</alternativeID></initial>
      <terminal><alternativeID>a01</alternativeID></terminal>
      <value><real>0.00</real></value>
    </pair>
    <pair>
      <initial><alternativeID>a01</alternativeID></initial>
      <terminal><alternativeID>a02</alternativeID></terminal>

```



```

        <value><real>1.00</real></value>
      </pair>
    </pairs>
  </alternativesComparisons>

```

4.4.5 xMatrix

An xMatrix allows to represent matrixes on criteria, alternatives, attributes and categories. A **scale** can be defined to determine the domain of the valuation.

```

<criteriaMatrix mcdaConcept="correlationTable">
  <row>
    <criteriaID>g01</criteriaID>
    <column>
      <criteriaID>g01</criteriaID>
      <value>
        <real>1.00</real>
      </value>
    </column>
    <column>
      <criteriaID>g02</criteriaID>
      <value>
        <real>-0.33</real>
      </value>
    </column>
  </row>
  <row>
    <criteriaID>g02</criteriaID>
    <column>
      <criteriaID>g01</criteriaID>
      <value>
        <real>-0.33</real>
      </value>
    </column>
    <column>
      <criteriaID>g02</criteriaID>
      <value>
        <real>1</real>
      </value>
    </column>
  </row>
</criteriaMatrix>

```

For preferential information related to categories, we have defined the three supplementary tags **categoryProfile**, **categoriesContents** and **alternativesAffectations**.

4.4.6 Categories profiles

The tag **categoryProfile** is used to describe the characteristics of a category via *central* or *limit* profiles, as shown in the following piece of code.

```

<categoriesProfiles>
  <categoryProfile>
    <alternativeID>alt3</alternativeID>
    <central>
      <categoryID>cat4</categoryID>
      <value><real>0.354</real></value>
    </central>
  </categoryProfile>
  <categoryProfile>
    <alternativeID>alt1</altenativeID>
    <limits>
      <lowerCategory>
        <categoryID>medium</categoryID>

```

```

        <value><real>1.00</real></value>
      </lowerCategory>
      <upperCategory>
        <categoryID>good</categoryID>
        <value><real>0.678</real></value>
      </upperCategory>
    </limits>
  </categoryProfile>
</categoriesProfiles>

```

4.4.7 Categories contents

The tag `categoriesContents` allows to store the content of each category in terms of alternatives belonging to it.

```

<categoriesContents>
  <categoryContent>
    <categoryID>cat1</categoryID>
    <alternativesSet>
      <element>
        <alternativeID>alt3</alternativeID>
        <value><real>0.89</real></value>
      </element>
      <element>
        <alternativeID>alt4</alternativeID>
      </element>
    </alternativesSet>
  </categoryContent>
</categoriesContents>

```

4.4.8 Alternatives affectations

Finally, the tag `alternativesAffectations` allows to store which alternative belongs to which category (or set of categories).

```

<alternativesAffectations>
  <alternativeAffectation>
    <alternativeID>alt2</alternativeID>
    <categoryID>cat03</categoryID>
  </alternativeAffectation>
  <alternativeAffectation>
    <alternativeSetID>alts3</alternativeSetID>
    <categoriesSetID>catSet13</categoriesSetID>
  </alternativeAffectation>
  <alternativeAffectation>
    <alternativeID>alt4</alternativeID>
    <categoriesInterval>
      <lowerBound><categoryID>medium</categoryID></lowerBound>
      <upperBound><categoryID>veryGood</categoryID></upperBound>
    </categoriesInterval>
  </alternativeAffectation>
</alternativesAffectations>

```

Finally, to specify a hierarchy of concepts (criteria, alternatives, attributes and categories), we have defined the `hierarchy` tag.

4.4.9 Specifying a hierarchy of concepts

The following code shows a hierarchy of criteria. Each node can contain one or more values.

```

<hierarchy>
  <description>
    <comment>A hierarchy of criteria</comment>
  </description>

```

```

<node>
  <criteriaID>economical</criteriaID>
  <node>
    <criteriaID>maintenance</criteriaID>
  </node>
  <node>
    <criteriaID>price</criteriaID>
  </node>
</node>
<node>
  <criteriaID>ecological</criteriaID>
  <node>
    <criteriaID>CO2</criteriaID>
  </node>
  <node>
    <criteriaID>Cx</criteriaID>
  </node>
</node>
</hierarchy>

```

5 Examples

5.1 The output of the Rubis web service

```

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<?xml-stylesheet href="xmcdaxsl.xsl" type="text/xsl" ?>
<?xml-stylesheet href="cssStyle.css" type="text/css" ?>
<xmcdaxsl:xmcdaxsl xmlns:xmcdaxsl="http://www.decision-deck.org/2009/XMCDAXSL-2.0.0"
  xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
  xsi:schemaLocation="http://www.decision-deck.org/2009/XMCDAXSL-2.0.0
  file:../XMCDAXSL-2.0.0.xsd">
  <projectReference>
    <title>Rubis Best Choice Recommendation</title>
    <subTitle>Performance Tableau in XMCDAXSL format.</subTitle>
    <author>digraphs Module (RB)</author>
    <version>saved from Python session</version>
  </projectReference>
  <methodParameters id="Rubis" name="Rubis best choice method"
    mcdaxslConcept="methodData">
    <description>
      <subTitle>Method data</subTitle>
      <comment>Rubis best choice recommendation in XMCDAXSL format.</comment>
      <version>1.0</version>
    </description>
    <parameter name="variant">
      <value><label>standard</label></value>
    </parameter>
    <parameter name="valuationType">
      <value><label>bipolar</label></value>
    </parameter>
  </methodParameters>
  <alternatives mcdaxslConcept="actions">
    <description>
      <title>List of Alternatives</title>
      <subTitle>Potential decision actions.</subTitle>
    </description>
    <alternative id="a01" name="random expensive decision action">
      <type>real</type>
      <active>true</active>
    </alternative>
    <alternative id="a02" name="random expensive decision action">
      <type>real</type>
      <active>true</active>
    </alternative>
    <alternative id="a03" name="random neutral decision action">
      <type>real</type>
      <active>true</active>
    </alternative>
  </alternatives>
  <criteria>
    <description>
      <title>Rubis family of criteria.</title>
    </description>
    <criteria id="g01" name="random benefit criterion">
      <active>true</active>
      <scale>
        <qualitative>
          <rankedLabel>
            <rank>1</rank>
            <label>good</label>
          </rankedLabel>
          <rankedLabel>
            <rank>2</rank>
            <label>medium</label>
          </rankedLabel>

```

```

        </rankedLabel>
        </qualitative>
        </scale>
        <thresholds>
          <threshold mcdaxslConcept="ind">
            <constant>
              <real>0.61</real>
            </constant>
          </threshold>
          <threshold mcdaxslConcept="pref">
            <constant>
              <real>20.17</real>
            </constant>
          </threshold>
          <threshold mcdaxslConcept="veto">
            <constant>
              <real>98.61</real>
            </constant>
          </threshold>
        </thresholds>
      </criteria>
    <criteria id="g02" name="random cost criterion">
      <active>true</active>
      <scale>
        <quantitative>
          <preferenceDirection>minimum</preferenceDirection>
          <minimum>
            <real>0.00</real>
          </minimum>
          <maximum>
            <real>100.00</real>
          </maximum>
        </quantitative>
        </scale>
        <thresholds>
          <threshold mcdaxslConcept="ind">
            <constant>
              <real>19.81</real>
            </constant>
          </threshold>
          <threshold mcdaxslConcept="pref">
            <constant>
              <real>21.58</real>
            </constant>
          </threshold>
          <threshold mcdaxslConcept="veto">
            <constant>
              <real>98.33</real>
            </constant>
          </threshold>
        </thresholds>
      </criteria>
    </criteria>
    <criteriaValue mcdaxslConcept="Majority threshold">
      <value><real>0.5</real></value>
    </criteriaValue>
    <criteriaValues mcdaxslConcept="Importance" name="significance">
      <criteriaValue>
        <criteriaID>g01</criteriaID>
        <value>
          <real>1.00</real>
        </value>

```

```

</criterionValue>
<criterionValue>
  <criterionID>g02</criterionID>
  <value>
    <real>1.00</real>
  </value>
</criterionValue>
</criteriaValues>

<criteriaMatrix mcdaConcept="correlationTable">
  <description>
    <title>Ordinal Criteria Correlation Index</title>
    <comment>
      Generalisation of Kendall's tau to nested homogeneous semiorders.
    </comment>
  </description>
  <row>
    <criterionID>g01</criterionID>
    <column>
      <criterionID>g01</criterionID>
      <value>
        <real>1.00</real>
      </value>
    </column>
    <column>
      <criterionID>g02</criterionID>
      <value>
        <real>-0.33</real>
      </value>
    </column>
  </row>
  <row>
    <criterionID>g02</criterionID>
    <column>
      <criterionID>g01</criterionID>
      <value>
        <real>-0.33</real>
      </value>
    </column>
    <column>
      <criterionID>g02</criterionID>
      <value>
        <real>1.00</real>
      </value>
    </column>
  </row>
</criteriaMatrix>

<alternativesSets mcdaConcept="choices">
  <description>
    <title>Rubis Choice Recommendation</title>
    <comment>
      In decreasing order of determinateness. All values expressed in %
    </comment>
  </description>

  <alternativesSet id="good.1" mcdaConcept="goodChoice">
    <description>
      <comment>Best choice</comment>
    </description>
    <element>
      <alternativeID>a03</alternativeID>
    </element>
    <value name="good choice scheme">
      <imageRef>http://mysite.com/myscheme.jpg</imageRef>
    </value>
    <values name="qualities">
      <value name="choiceSet independence">
        <real>100.00</real>
      </value>
      <value name="outranking">
        <real>74.00</real>
      </value>
      <value name="outranked">
        <real>0.00</real>
      </value>
      <value name="determinateness">
        <real>75.00</real>
      </value>
    </values>
  </alternativesSet>
</alternativesSets>

<alternativesComparisons mcdaConcept="outrankingDigraph" name="Stilde">
  <description>
    <title>Bipolar-valued Outranking Relation</title>
    <comment>Rubis Choice Recommendation Relation</comment>
  </description>
  <scale mcdaConcept="bipolar">
    <description>
      <subTitle>Valuation Domain</subTitle>
    </description>
    <quantitative>
      <preferenceDirection>maximum</preferenceDirection>
      <minimum>
        <real>-100</real>
      </minimum>
      <maximum>
        <real>100</real>
      </maximum>
    </quantitative>
  </scale>
  <pairs>
    <pair>
      <initial>
        <alternativeID>a01</alternativeID>
      </initial>
      <terminal>
        <alternativeID>a02</alternativeID>
      </terminal>
      <value>
        <real>100.00</real>
      </value>
    </pair>
  </pairs>

```

```

</pair>
<pair>
  <initial>
    <alternativeID>a01</alternativeID>
  </initial>
  <terminal>
    <alternativeID>a03</alternativeID>
  </terminal>
  <value>
    <real>0.00</real>
  </value>
</pair>
<pair>
  <initial>
    <alternativeID>a02</alternativeID>
  </initial>
  <terminal>
    <alternativeID>a01</alternativeID>
  </terminal>
  <value>
    <real>0.00</real>
  </value>
</pair>
<pair>
  <initial>
    <alternativeID>a02</alternativeID>
  </initial>
  <terminal>
    <alternativeID>a03</alternativeID>
  </terminal>
  <value>
    <real>-100.00</real>
  </value>
</pair>
<pair>
  <initial>
    <alternativeID>a03</alternativeID>
  </initial>
  <terminal>
    <alternativeID>a02</alternativeID>
  </terminal>
  <value>
    <real>50.00</real>
  </value>
</pair>
<pair>
  <initial>
    <alternativeID>a03</alternativeID>
  </initial>
  <terminal>
    <alternativeID>a02</alternativeID>
  </terminal>
  <value>
    <real>100.00</real>
  </value>
</pair>
</pairs>
</alternativesComparisons>

<performanceTable id="rubis">
  <description>
    <title>Rubis Performance Table</title>
  </description>
  <alternativePerformances>
    <alternativeID>a01</alternativeID>
    <performance>
      <criterionID>g01</criterionID>
      <value>
        <real>72.10</real>
      </value>
    </performance>
    <performance>
      <criterionID>g02</criterionID>
      <value>
        <real>82.62</real>
      </value>
    </performance>
  </alternativePerformances>
  <alternativePerformances>
    <alternativeID>a02</alternativeID>
    <performance>
      <criterionID>g01</criterionID>
      <value>
        <real>4.74</real>
      </value>
    </performance>
    <performance>
      <criterionID>g02</criterionID>
      <value>
        <real>78.84</real>
      </value>
    </performance>
  </alternativePerformances>
  <alternativePerformances>
    <alternativeID>a03</alternativeID>
    <performance>
      <criterionID>g01</criterionID>
      <value>
        <real>62.88</real>
      </value>
    </performance>
    <performance>
      <criterionID>g02</criterionID>
      <value>
        <real>25.69</real>
      </value>
    </performance>
  </alternativePerformances>
</performanceTable>
</xmcda:XMCDa>

```

5.2 The output of the Kappalab web service

```

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<?xml-stylesheet href="xmcdaxsl.xsl" type="text/xsl" ?>
<?xml-stylesheet href="cssStyle.css" type="text/css" ?>
<xmcdaxsl:xmcdaxsl xmlns:xmcdaxsl="http://www.decision-deck.org/2009/XMCDAXSL-2.0.0"
  xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
  xsi:schemaLocation="http://www.decision-deck.org/2009/XMCDAXSL-2.0.0
  file:../XMCDAXSL-2.0.0.xsd">
  <projectReference id="testProblem">
    <version>1.2</version>
    <creationDate>2009-03-20T22:24:02</creationDate>
  </projectReference>
  <methodParameters>
    <parameter name="identificationMethod">
      <value><label>mini.var.capa.ident</label></value>
    </parameter>
    <parameter name="kadditivity">
      <value><integer>2</integer></value>
    </parameter>
  </methodParameters>
  <methodMessages>
    <logMessage name="executionStatus">
      <text>OK</text>
    </logMessage>
    <message name="objectiveFunction">
      <text>0.4899995</text>
    </message>
  </methodMessages>
  <alternatives mcdaxsl:concept="Actions">
    <alternative id="x1">
      <active>true</active>
    </alternative>
    <alternative id="x2">
      <active>true</active>
    </alternative>
    <alternative id="x3">
      <active>true</active>
    </alternative>
    <alternative id="x4">
      <active>false</active>
    </alternative>
  </alternatives>
  <criteria>
    <description>
      <title>List of criteria</title>
    </description>
    <criteria id="g1">
      <description>
        <comment>Power in horsepowers</comment>
      </description>
      <scale>
        <quantitative>
          <preferenceDirection>maximum</preferenceDirection>
          <minimum>
            <real>0</real>
          </minimum>
          <maximum>
            <real>1</real>
          </maximum>
        </quantitative>
      </scale>
      <criteriaFunction>
        <piecewiseLinear>
          <segment>
            <head>
              <abscissa>
                <real>50</real>
              </abscissa>
              <ordinate>
                <real>0</real>
              </ordinate>
            </head>
            <tail>
              <abscissa>
                <real>100</real>
              </abscissa>
              <ordinate>
                <real>0.125</real>
              </ordinate>
            </tail>
          </segment>
          <segment>
            <head>
              <abscissa>
                <real>100</real>
              </abscissa>
              <ordinate>
                <real>0.125</real>
              </ordinate>
            </head>
            <tail>
              <abscissa>
                <real>200</real>
              </abscissa>
              <ordinate>
                <real>1</real>
              </ordinate>
            </tail>
          </segment>
        </piecewiseLinear>
      </criteriaFunction>
    </criteria>
    <criteria id="g2">
      <description>

```

```

        <comment>Design appreciation</comment>
      </description>
      <scale>
        <quantitative>
          <preferenceDirection>maximum</preferenceDirection>
          <minimum>
            <real>0</real>
          </minimum>
          <maximum>
            <real>1</real>
          </maximum>
        </quantitative>
      </scale>
      <criteriaFunction>
        <points>
          <point>
            <abscissa>
              <rankedLabel>
                <label>bad</label>
              </rankedLabel>
              <rank>3</rank>
            </abscissa>
            <ordinate>
              <real>0</real>
            </ordinate>
          </point>
          <point>
            <abscissa>
              <rankedLabel>
                <label>medium</label>
              </rankedLabel>
              <rank>2</rank>
            </abscissa>
            <ordinate>
              <real>0.3</real>
            </ordinate>
          </point>
          <point>
            <abscissa>
              <rankedLabel>
                <label>good</label>
              </rankedLabel>
              <rank>1</rank>
            </abscissa>
            <ordinate>
              <real>1</real>
            </ordinate>
          </point>
        </points>
      </criteriaFunction>
    </criteria>
    <criteria id="g3">
      <description>
        <comment>Price in Euros</comment>
      </description>
      <scale>
        <quantitative>
          <preferenceDirection>maximum</preferenceDirection>
          <minimum>
            <real>0</real>
          </minimum>
          <maximum>
            <real>1</real>
          </maximum>
        </quantitative>
      </scale>
      <criteriaFunction>
        <linear>
          <slope>
            <rational>
              <numerator>-1</numerator>
              <denominator>15000</denominator>
            </rational>
          </slope>
          <intercept>
            <real>2</real>
          </intercept>
        </linear>
      </criteriaFunction>
    </criteria>
  </criteria>
  <criteriaValues mcdaxsl:concept="capacityMoebius">
    <criteriaValue>
      <criteriaSet>
        <element>
          <criteriaID>g1</criteriaID>
        </element>
      </criteriaSet>
      <value>
        <real>0.48989898572209</real>
      </value>
    </criteriaValue>
    <criteriaValue>
      <criteriaSet>
        <element>
          <criteriaID>g2</criteriaID>
        </element>
      </criteriaSet>
      <value>
        <real>0.0236248732152609</real>
      </value>
    </criteriaValue>
    <criteriaValue>
      <criteriaSet>
        <element>
          <criteriaID>g3</criteriaID>
        </element>
      </criteriaSet>

```

```

<value>
  <real>137365.556042755715066</real>
</value>
</pairs>
</criteriaValues>
<criteriaComparisons mcdaConcept="importancePreorderConstraints">
  <comparisonType>geq</comparisonType>
  <pairs>
    <pair>
      <initial>
        <criteriaID>g1</criteriaID>
      </initial>
      <terminal>
        <criteriaID>g2</criteriaID>
      </terminal>
      <value>
        <real>0.1</real>
      </value>
    </pair>
    <pair>
      <initial>
        <criteriaID>g3</criteriaID>
      </initial>
      <terminal>
        <criteriaID>g2</criteriaID>
      </terminal>
      <value>
        <real>0.1</real>
      </value>
    </pair>
  </pairs>
</criteriaComparisons>
<alternativesValues mcdaConcept="overallValues">
  <alternativeValue>
    <alternativeID>x1</alternativeID>
    <value>
      <real>0.598899898572209</real>
    </value>
  </alternativeValue>
  <alternativeValue>
    <alternativeID>x2</alternativeID>
    <value>
      <integer>24</integer>
    </value>
  </alternativeValue>
  <alternativeValue>
    <alternativeID>x3</alternativeID>
    <value>
      <real>0.398899898572209</real>
    </value>
  </alternativeValue>
</alternativesValues>
<alternativesComparisons mcdaConcept="preorderConstraints">
  <description>
    <subTitle>
      Preorder constraints on the overall values of the alternatives
    </subTitle>
  </description>
  <comparisonType>preference</comparisonType>
  <pairs>
    <pair>
      <initial>
        <alternativeID>x1</alternativeID>
      </initial>
      <terminal>
        <alternativeID>x2</alternativeID>
      </terminal>
      <value>
        <real>0.1</real>
      </value>
    </pair>
    <pair>
      <initial>
        <alternativeID>x2</alternativeID>
      </initial>
      <terminal>
        <alternativeID>x3</alternativeID>
      </terminal>
      <value>
        <real>0.1</real>
      </value>
    </pair>
  </pairs>
</alternativesComparisons>

```

```

</pair>
</pairs>
</alternativesComparisons>
<performanceTable id="original">
  <description>
    <title>Original performance table</title>
  </description>
  <alternativePerformances>
    <alternativeID>x2</alternativeID>
    <performance>
      <criteriaID>gd2</criteriaID>
      <value>
        <rankedLabel>
          <label>bad</label>
          <rank>3</rank>
        </rankedLabel>
      </value>
    </performance>
    <performance>
      <criteriaID>g3</criteriaID>
      <value>
        <real>30000</real>
      </value>
    </performance>
    <performance>
      <criteriaID>g1</criteriaID>
      <value>
        <real>200</real>
      </value>
    </performance>
  </alternativePerformances>
  <alternativePerformances>
    <alternativeID>x1</alternativeID>
    <performance>
      <criteriaID>g3</criteriaID>
      <value>
        <real>15000</real>
      </value>
    </performance>
    <performance>
      <criteriaID>g1</criteriaID>
      <value>
        <real>50</real>
      </value>
    </performance>
    <performance>
      <criteriaID>g2</criteriaID>
      <value>
        <rankedLabel>
          <label>medium</label>
          <rank>2</rank>
        </rankedLabel>
      </value>
    </performance>
  </alternativePerformances>
  <alternativePerformances>
    <alternativeID>x3</alternativeID>
    <performance>
      <criteriaID>g3</criteriaID>
      <value>
        <real>22500</real>
      </value>
    </performance>
    <performance>
      <criteriaID>g1</criteriaID>
      <value>
        <real>100</real>
      </value>
    </performance>
    <performance>
      <criteriaID>g2</criteriaID>
      <value>
        <rankedLabel>
          <label>good</label>
          <rank>1</rank>
        </rankedLabel>
      </value>
    </performance>
  </alternativePerformances>
</performanceTable>
</mcda:XMCDa>

```