

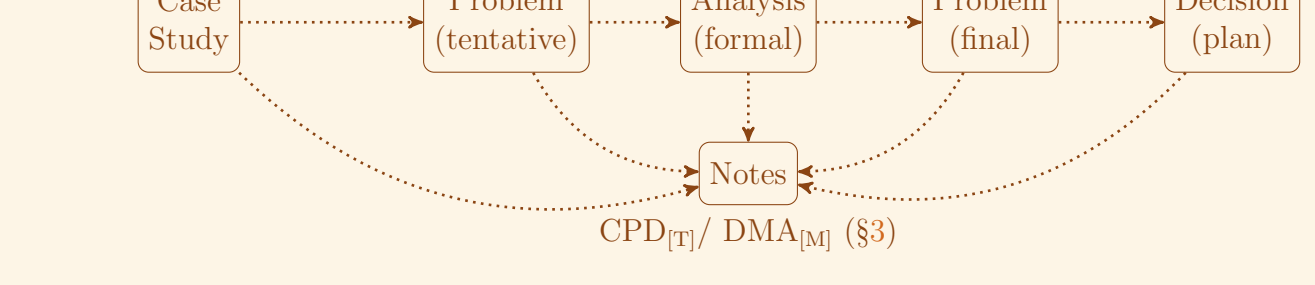
# S·P·M™

The Systems Planning™ Methodology (SPM™) contains normative process protocols (*methods*) corresponding to important ‘high-level’ planning tasks (Perdicoulis, 2014b), and is accompanied by the *techniques* of SPML™ (Perdicoulis, 2014a). Since its initial documentation (Perdicoulis, 2010, 2011b), the SPM™ is always in evolution, registered in new publications.

## Methods

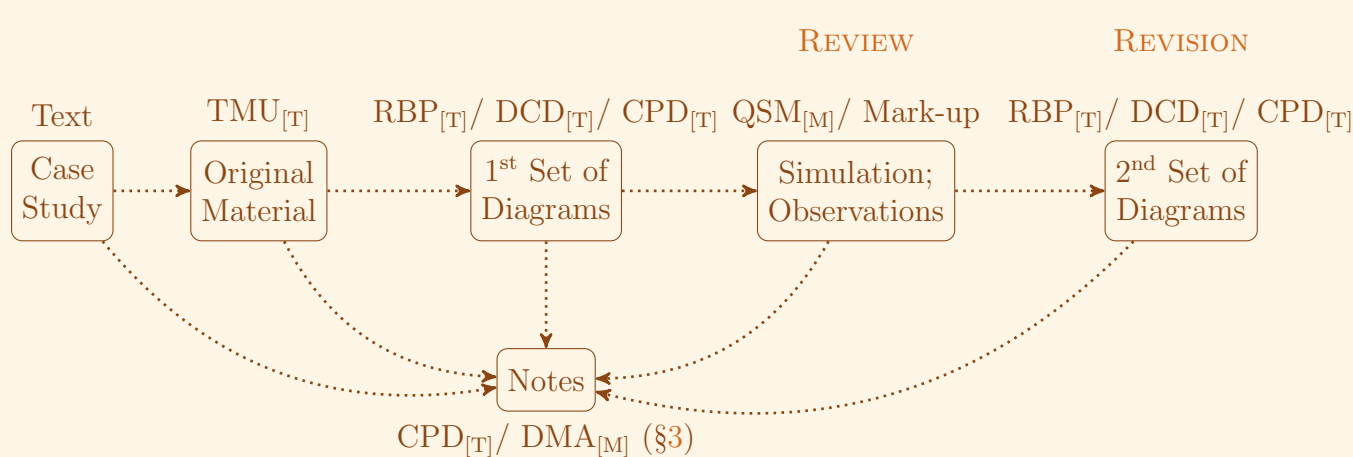
ABBR.	REF.	TASK	Documentation
ECT <sub>[M]</sub>	(§1)	Create new plans	Perdicoulis (2010, 2011b)
DCA <sub>[M]</sub>	(§2)	Review and revise existing plans	Perdicoulis (2010, 2011b)
DMA <sub>[M]</sub>	(§3)	Document and refine decision-making	Perdicoulis (2010, 2011b)
XPD <sub>[M]</sub>	(§4)	Define the planning problem efficiently	Perdicoulis (2010, 2011b)
QSM <sub>[M]</sub>	(§5)	Preview the function of systems, processes, or plans	Perdicoulis (2010, 2011b)
EFI <sub>[M]</sub>	(§6)	Assess the efficiency of plans and/ or planning/ conduct	Perdicoulis (2011a, 2013)
IRS <sub>[M]</sub>	(§7)	Solve a planning problem holistically by iterations	Perdicoulis (2014a, 2017)

## 1 Explanative Causal Thinking (ECT)



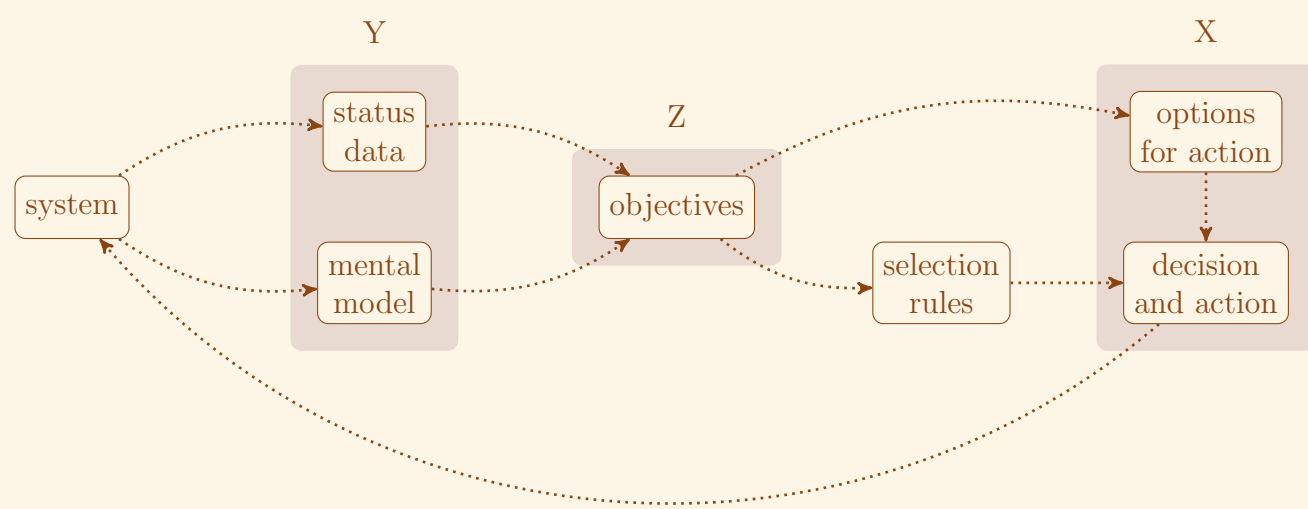
Information-flow view of the ECT method

## 2 Diagrammatic Causal Analysis (DCA)



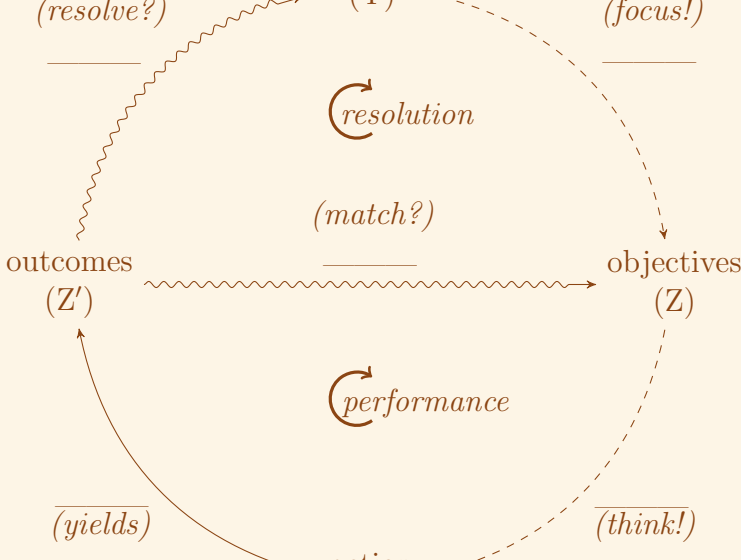
Information-flow view of the DCA method

## 3 Decision Model Analysis (DMA)



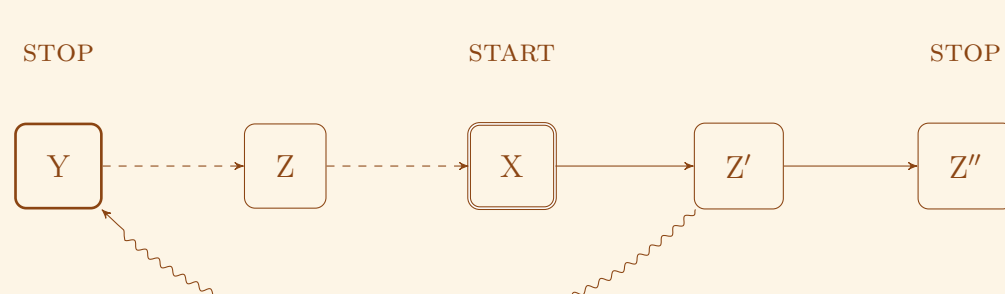
Sample DMA information flow: a systems-learning ‘XYZ’ decision-making model

## 4 ‘XYZ’ Problem Definition (XPD)



‘XYZ’ problem template with guidance (in parentheses) for the completion of the blanks

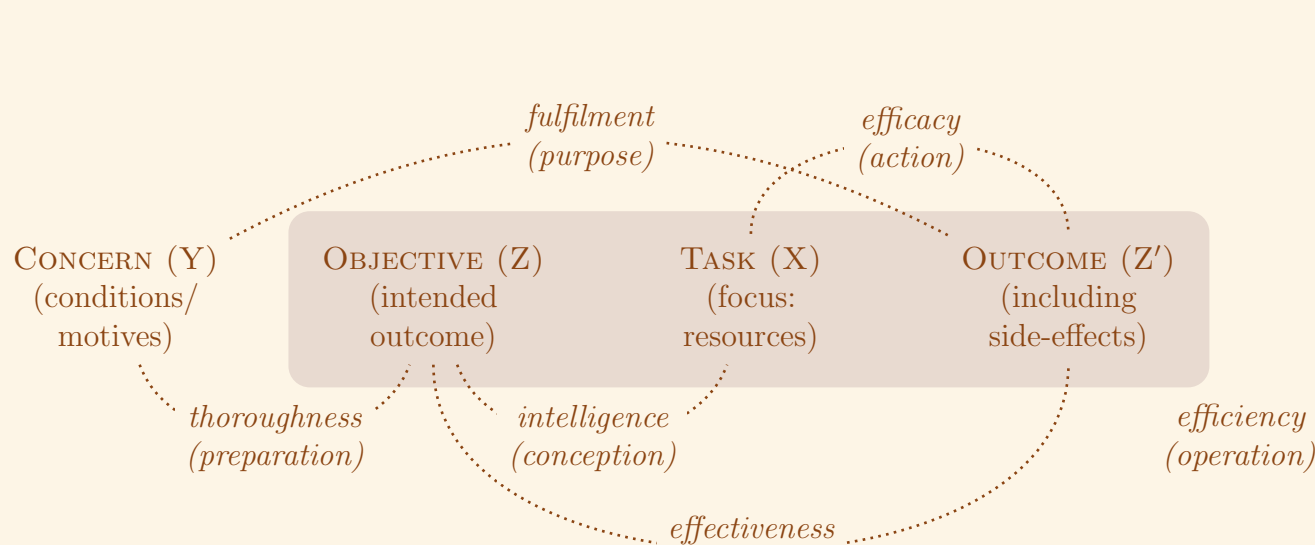
## 5 Qualitative Simulation (QSM)



Qualitative simulation of a generic ‘XYZ’ problem; also applicable to systems and processes

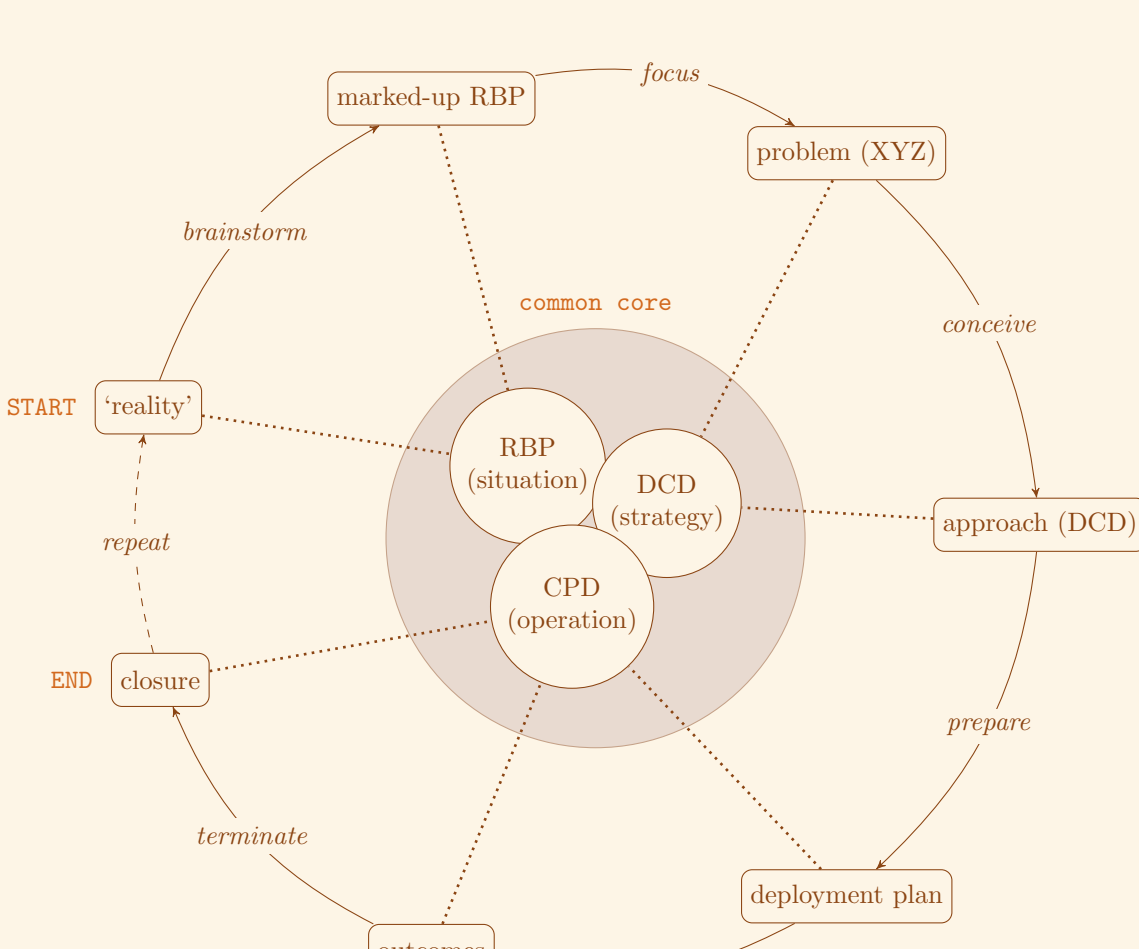
## 6 Efficiency Assessment (EFI)

$$efficiency = \frac{\text{intended outcome} - \text{side effects}}{\text{required resources}}$$



Efficiency and related assessments (in italics) around the ‘XYZ’ problem; the same four nodes can be also seen as ‘verbs of essence’ (Perdicoulis, 2014c,d)

## 7 Iterative Refinement Schema (IRS)



Solving a planning problem holistically requires a ‘common core’ (Perdicoulis, 2014a) as a foundation; then the process can be iterated to perfection in an agile fashion (Perdicoulis, 2017)

## Bibliography

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