

# Simple approaches for portfolio quantitative decision-making

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# Outline

- Introduction
- Probability of success and Net Present Value
- Prediction of Marketing Authorizations over time
- Portfolio risk-value profile
- Discussion

*Without financial  
considerations*

# Introduction

Quantitative Decision-Making is increasingly used in the pharma industry

- Many questions → many methods
- Evidence-based methods
- Statistical methods permit to incorporate **uncertainties**
- **Subjectivity** can be incorporated (but should also be challenged)

# Decisions at different levels in drug development

## Study level

- Choice of the dose range, therapeutic scheme, ....
- Population, design (sample size, control arms, duration)
- Stop/continue at interim analyses
- Operational aspects (recruitment projections, number of events, ....)

## Development level

- Strategy: indication, population, number of studies, timing of the studies
- Go/No Go at strategic milestones
- Due diligences
- Global project value assessment

## Portfolio level

- Strategy: Go/No Go and selection of development projects
- Financial resource allocation
- Return-On-Investment evaluation

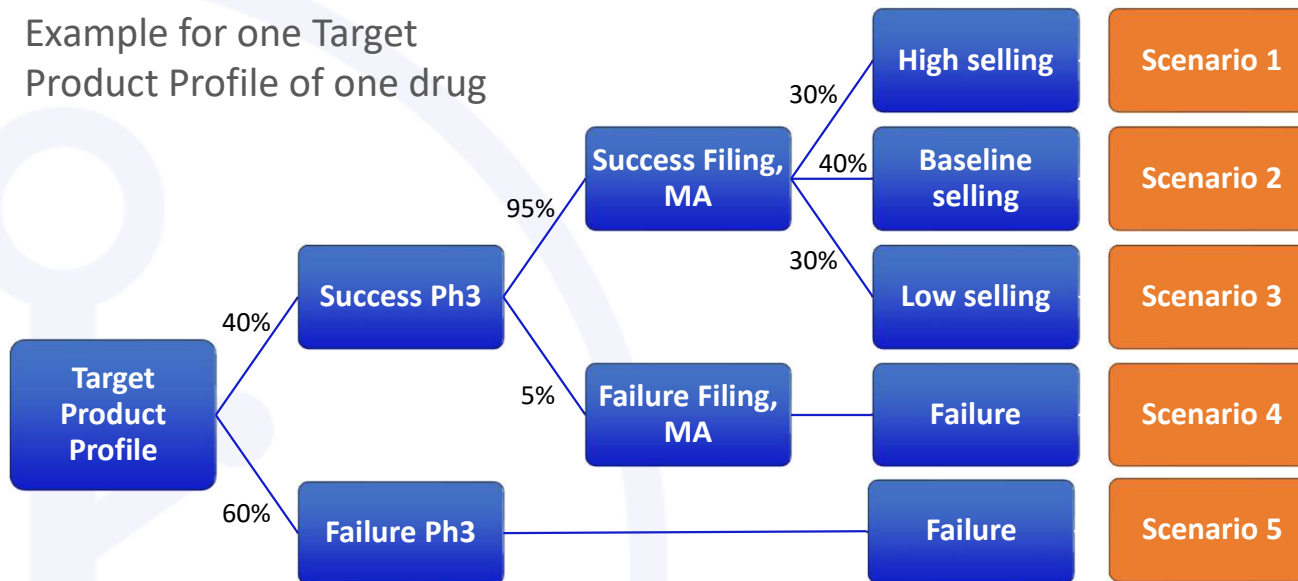
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# Net Present Value (NPV)

Example for one Target  
Product Profile of one drug



	Probability	NPV (M€)	Probability x NPV
High selling	11.4%	30	3.42
Baseline selling	15.2%	25	3.8
Low selling	11.4%	20	2.28
Failure	2%	-10	-0.2
Failure	60%	-8	-4.8

**eNPV = 4.5 M€**  
 (= 3.42 + 3.8 + 2.28 - 0.2 - 4.8)

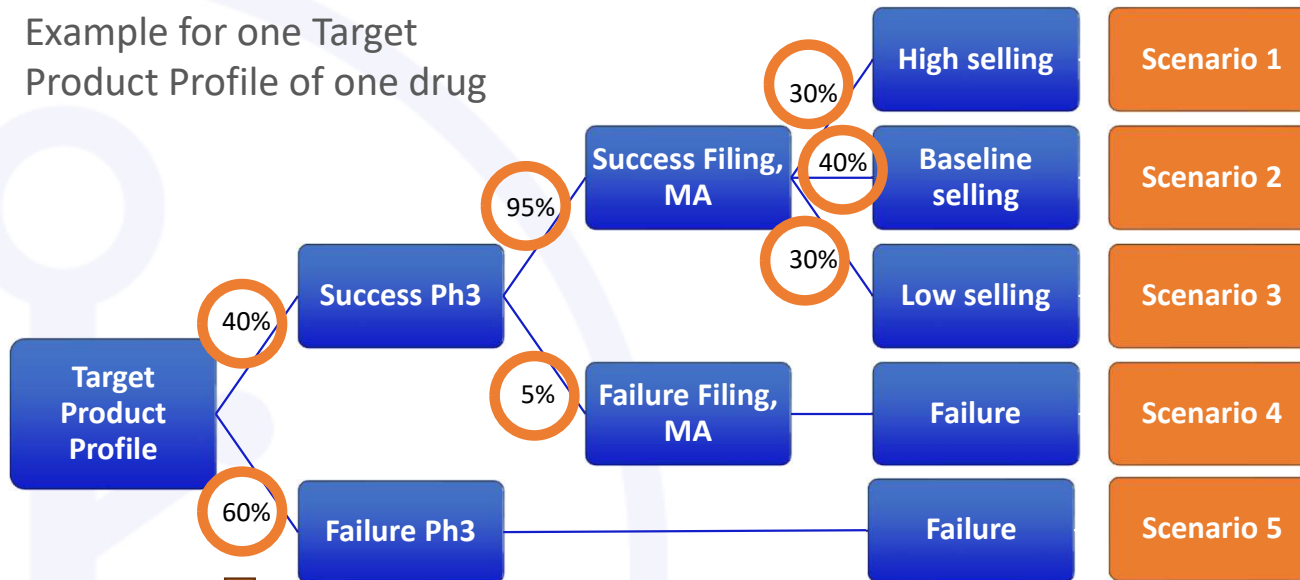
**NPV** = diff between present value of future returns and amount of future investment

**eNPV** = expected NPV (averaged over probabilities of scenarios)

**Portfolio NPV** = sum of all Project's NPV

# Net Present Value (NPV)

Example for one Target Product Profile of one drug



Probability      NPV (M€)      Probability x NPV

11.4%	30	3.42
15.2%	25	3.8
11.4%	20	2.28
2%	-10	-0.2
60%	-8	-4.8

**eNPV = 4.5 M€**

(= 3.42 + 3.8 + 2.28 - 0.2 - 4.8)

Where do these “probabilities of success” come from?

Often: from benchmark + internal qualitative assessment

**NPV** = diff between present value of future returns and amount of future investment

**eNPV** = expected NPV (averaged over probabilities of scenarios)

**Portfolio NPV** = sum of all Project's NPV

# Probability of Success

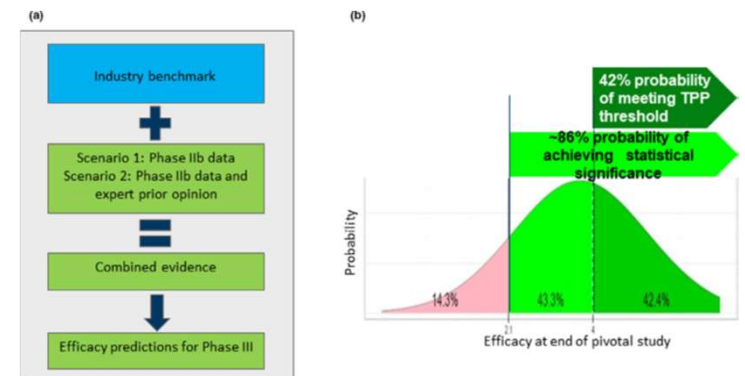
- In the past, Probabilities of Success used to be based on **industry benchmark and subjective assessment only**
  - Usually provide limited (and sometimes unreliable) information
- More and more, **“evidence-based” Probabilities of Success** are calculated by statisticians
  - Based on **prior knowledge** rather than on questionable hypotheses
  - Expert elicitation and industry benchmark could be combined with prior data
  - PoS are updated with the accumulation of knowledge from trial to trial
  - The scenarios (= definitions of success) should be agreed with the project team

## A New Comprehensive Approach to Assess the Probability of Success of Development Programs Before Pivotal Trials

Lisa V. Hampson<sup>1,\*,</sup> Björn Holzhauser<sup>1,</sup> Björn Bornkamp<sup>1,</sup> Joseph Kahn<sup>2,</sup> Markus R. Lange<sup>1,</sup> Wen-Lin Luo<sup>2,</sup> Pritibha Singh<sup>1,</sup> Steffen Ballerstedt<sup>1</sup> and Giovanni Della Cioppa<sup>2</sup>

Hampson's approach to PoS calculation is certainly the most achieved and complete one in the pharma industry...

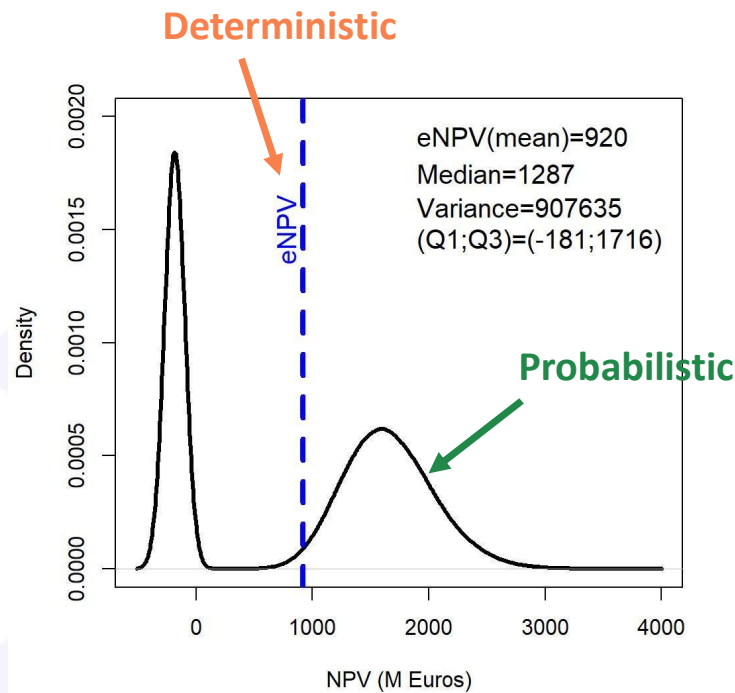
... but necessitates a substantial amount of resources



**Figure 2** (a) A schematic of the Bayesian approach used to calculate the probability of efficacy success in phase III. (b) An example of how we can use simulation to assess the probability of observing different phase III outcomes. TPP, Target Product Profile. [Colour figure can be viewed at [wileyonlinelibrary.com](http://wileyonlinelibrary.com)]



# Net Present Value (NPV)



Two-peaked NPV distribution and associated descriptive metrics for one fictive project

eNPV = 920 M€

But  $Prob(NPV \in [eNPV - 10\%; eNPV + 10\%]) = 2\%$  !

“Probabilistic” way to describe the NPV:

$Prob(NPV > 0 \text{ M€}) = 60\%$

“min value”

$Prob(NPV > 1000 \text{ M€}) = 58\%$

“target value 1”

$Prob(NPV > 2000 \text{ M€}) = 11\%$

“target value 2”

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# Prediction of the number of Marketing Authorizations over time

- Objective: estimate the probability to reach a target number of Marketing Authorizations (MAs) over time
- Fictive example
  - Portfolio of 76 projects in 4 therapeutic areas (Oncology, Neurology, Immunology, Cardiology)

# Prediction of the number of Marketing Authorizations over time

## Method: simulation of 100 000 portfolios

Data

Project	TA	Date MA	Prob MA
A001	Immuno	2025-03	72%
B002	Neuro	2030-10	81%
...	...		...
C003	Cardio	2029-05	72%
...	...		...
D004	Onco	2027-01	81%
...	...		...

Simulated data in N+5

Simulation 1		
Project	TA	MA Yes / No
A001	Immuno	No
B002	Neuro	Yes
...	...	...
C003	Cardio	Yes
...	...	...
D004	Onco	No
<b>Total</b>		<b>11</b>

72% chances to have a Yes  
28% chances to have a No

Total number of MA for this  
simulated portfolio

MA = Marketing Authorization

# Prediction of the number of Marketing Authorizations over time

## Method: simulation of 100 000 portfolios

Data

Project	TA	Date MA	Prob MA
A001	Immuno	2025-03	72%
B002	Neuro	2030-10	81%
...	...	...	...
C003	Cardio	2029-05	72%
...	...	...	...
D004	Onco	2027-01	81%
...	...	...	...

Simulated data in N+5

Simulation 1						
Simulation 2						
Simulation 3						
...						
Simulation 100 000						
	Project	TA	MA Yes / No			
Pr	A001	Immuno	No			
A	B002	Neuro	Yes			
E	...	...	...			
C	C003	Cardio	Yes			
D	D004	Onco	No			
T	Total		8			

**Simulations:** permit to assess the variability of the number of MAs (uncertainty)

→ **Descriptive statistics on the number of MAs:**

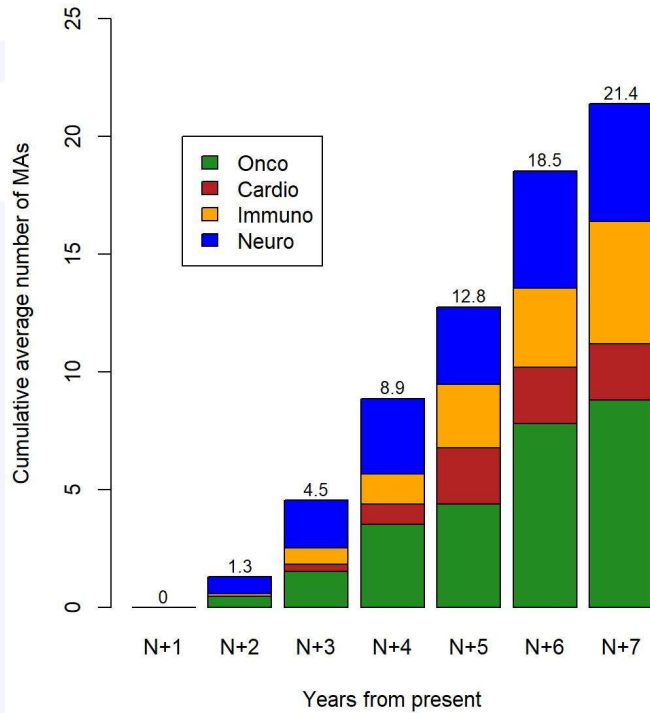
- Mean, Median, Variance, Confidence Intervals...
- Prob( $\geq x$  MAs) at different time points

MA = Marketing Authorization

# Prediction of the number of Marketing Authorizations over time

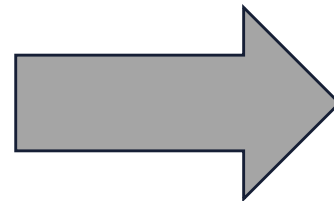
## Fictive example: results

### Deterministic

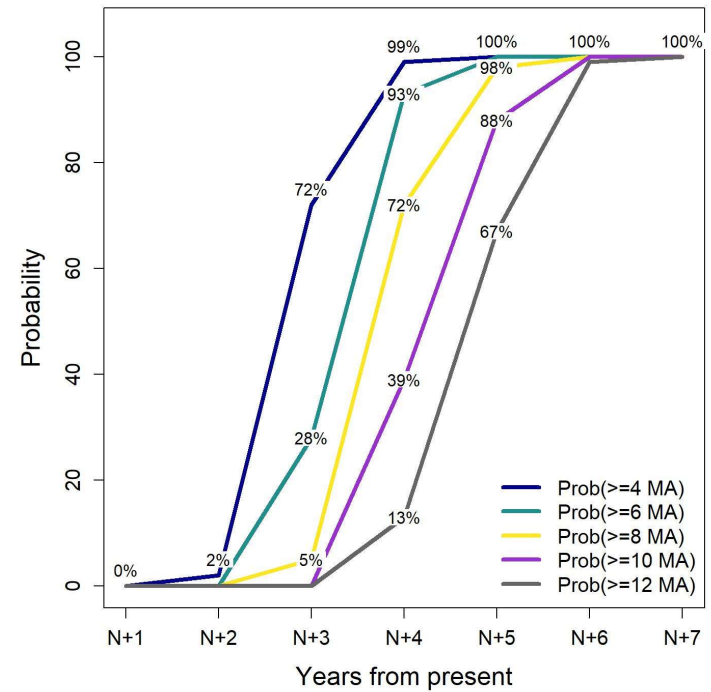


Cumulative average number of marketing authorisations per year

Portfolio: 76 projects



### Probabilistic



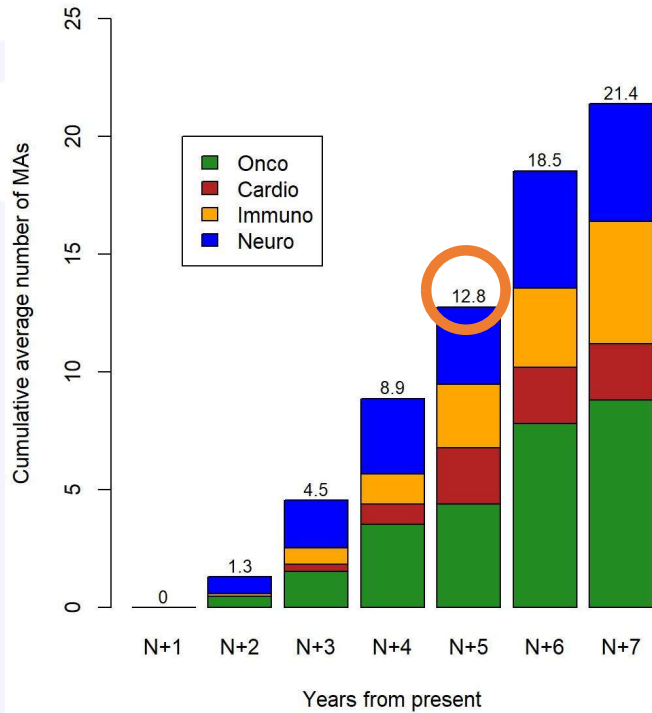
Prediction of the number of marketing authorisations over time

MA = Marketing Authorization

# Prediction of the number of Marketing Authorizations over time

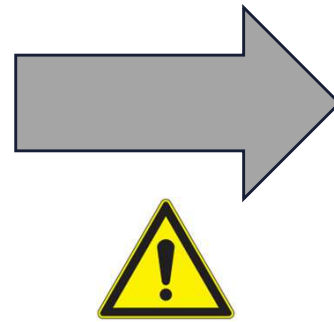
## Fictive example: results

### Deterministic



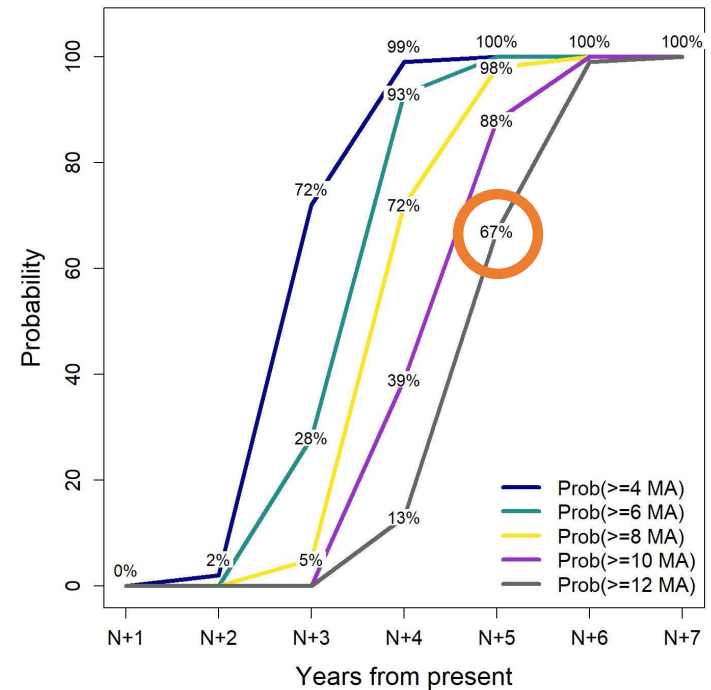
Cumulative average number of marketing authorisations per year

Portfolio: 76 projects



Within 5 years  
Average number of MA = 12.8  
< 67% chance to reach it!

### Probabilistic



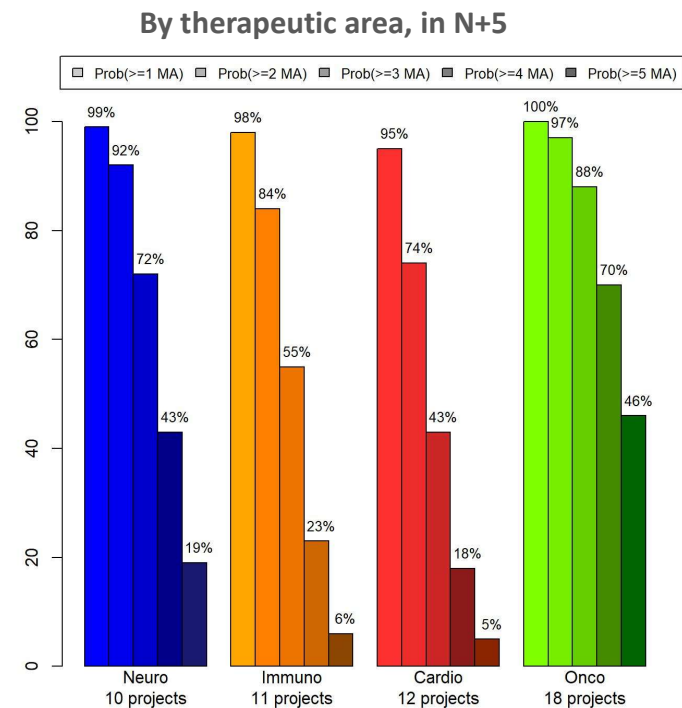
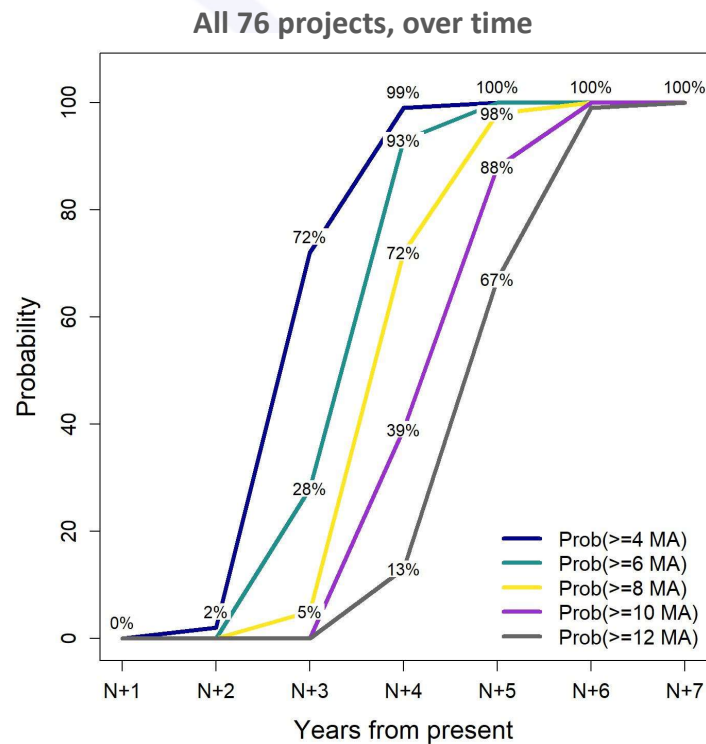
Prediction of the number of marketing authorisations over time

MA = Marketing Authorization

# Prediction of the number of Marketing Authorizations over time

## Fictive example: results

Portfolio: 76 projects



MA = Marketing Authorization



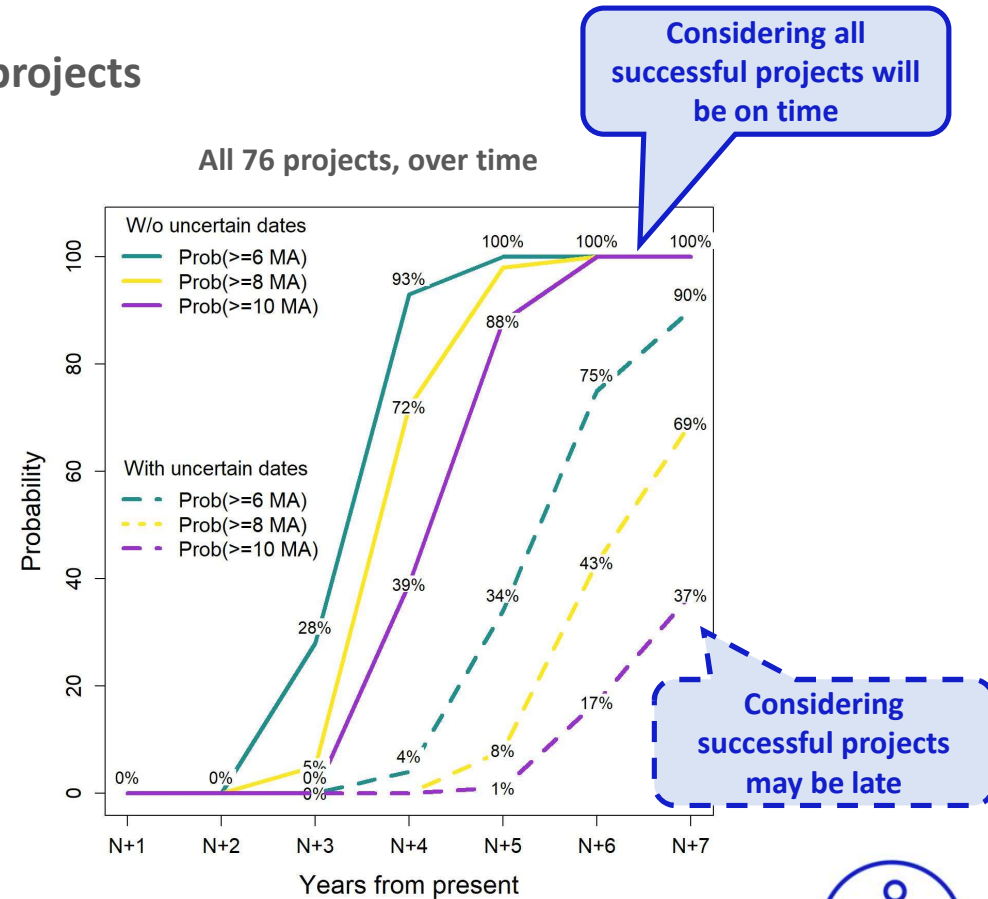
# Prediction of the number of Marketing Authorizations over time

## Fictive example: results

Portfolio: 76 projects

Data, with uncertain MA dates

Project	TA	Target date MA	Prob On Time	Prob 1y late	Prob 2y late	Prob MA
A001	Immuno	2025-03	90%	10%	0%	72%
B002	Neuro	2030-10	70%	20%	10%	81%
...	...					...
C003	Cardio	2029-05	30%	40%	30%	72%
...	...					...
D004	Onco	2027-01	50%	25%	25%	81%
...	...					...



MA = Marketing Authorization

# Prediction of the number of Marketing Authorizations over time

- Permits to **identify potential weaknesses**, by therapeutic area and overall, and to **trigger action plans** (licensing-in, partnerships)
- Increasingly used in the Pharma industry
- **Simple approach**
  - Monte-Carlo simulations (no complex model)
  - No need for a large amount of data (only time of MA and probability of MA for each project in the portfolio)
- Same predictions are possible for other milestones, other criteria (e.g. turnover over time)

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- **Portfolio risk-value profile**
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# Portfolio risk-value profile

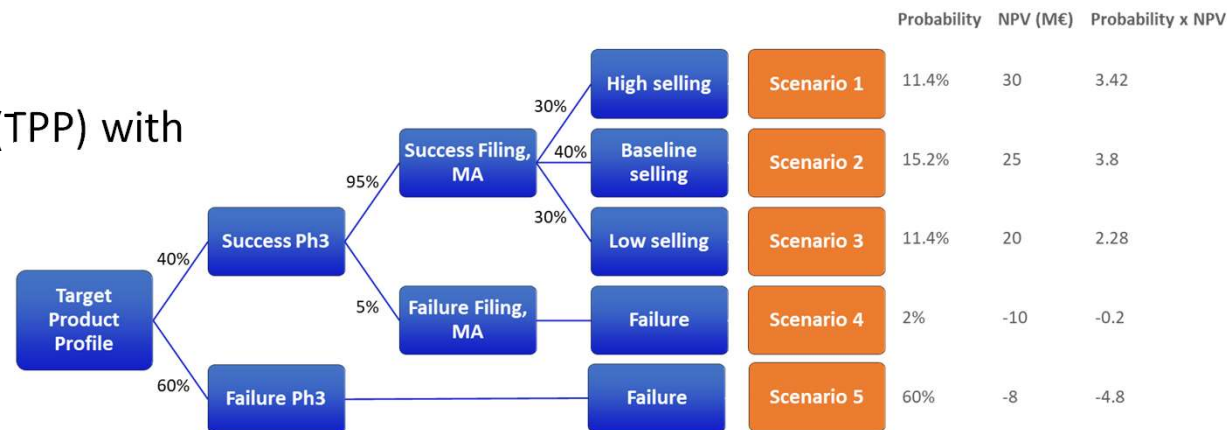
## Objective and Data

- **Objective: simulate the financial sustainability of the portfolio and compare different portfolios**

- Calculate the probabilities to have **Portfolio Net Present Value (NPV) > pre-specified targets**

- **Data for each project:**

- One or several Target Product Profiles (TPP) with
  - Probability of selection
- For each TPP, several scenarios with
  - Probability of occurrence
  - NPV



**NPV** = diff between present value of future returns and amount of future investment

**Portfolio NPV** = sum of all Project's NPV

# Portfolio risk-value profile

Method: simulation of 100 000 portfolios

Data

Project	TPP	Prob TPP	Scena-rio	Prob scenario	NPV (M€)
A001	1	100%	1	18%	27
A001	1	100%	2	36%	26
...	...	...	...	...	...
B002	2	20%	3	14%	-20
...	...	...	...	...	...
E005	1	100%	1	73%	104
...	...	...	...	...	...

Simulated portfolios

Simulation 1			
Project	TPP	Scena-rio	NPV (M€)
A001	1	1	27
B002	2	3	-20
...	...	...	...
E005	1	5	-14.7
...	...	...	...
F006	1	1	104
<b>Total</b>			<b>413</b>

*Random simulation  
18% chances to have an  
NPV=27 M€ for Project A001*

*Portfolio NPV = sum of  
all Project's NPV*

# Portfolio risk-value profile

Method: simulation of 100 000 portfolios

## Data

Project	TPP	Prob TPP	Scena-rio	Prob scenario	NPV (M€)
A001	1	100%	1	18%	27
A001	1	100%	2	36%	26
...	...	...	...	...	...
B002	2	20%	3	14%	-20
...	...	...	...	...	...
E005	1	100%	1	73%	104
...	...	...	...	...	...

## Simulated portfolios

Simulation 1							
Project	Simulation 2						
A001	Project	Simulation 3					
B002	A001	Project	...				
...	B002	A001	Project	Simulation 100 000			
E005	...	B002	A001	Project	TPP	Scena-rio	NPV (M€)
...	E005	...	B002	A001	1	2	26
F006	...	E005	...	B002	2	3	-20
<b>Total</b>	F006	...	E005	...	...	...	...
	<b>Total</b>	F006	...	E005	1	5	-14.7
		<b>Total</b>	F006	...	...	...	...
			<b>Total</b>	F006	1	1	104
				<b>Total</b>			<b>543</b>

**Simulations:** permit to assess the variability of the Portfolio NPV (uncertainty)

→ **Descriptive statistics on the Portfolio NPV:**

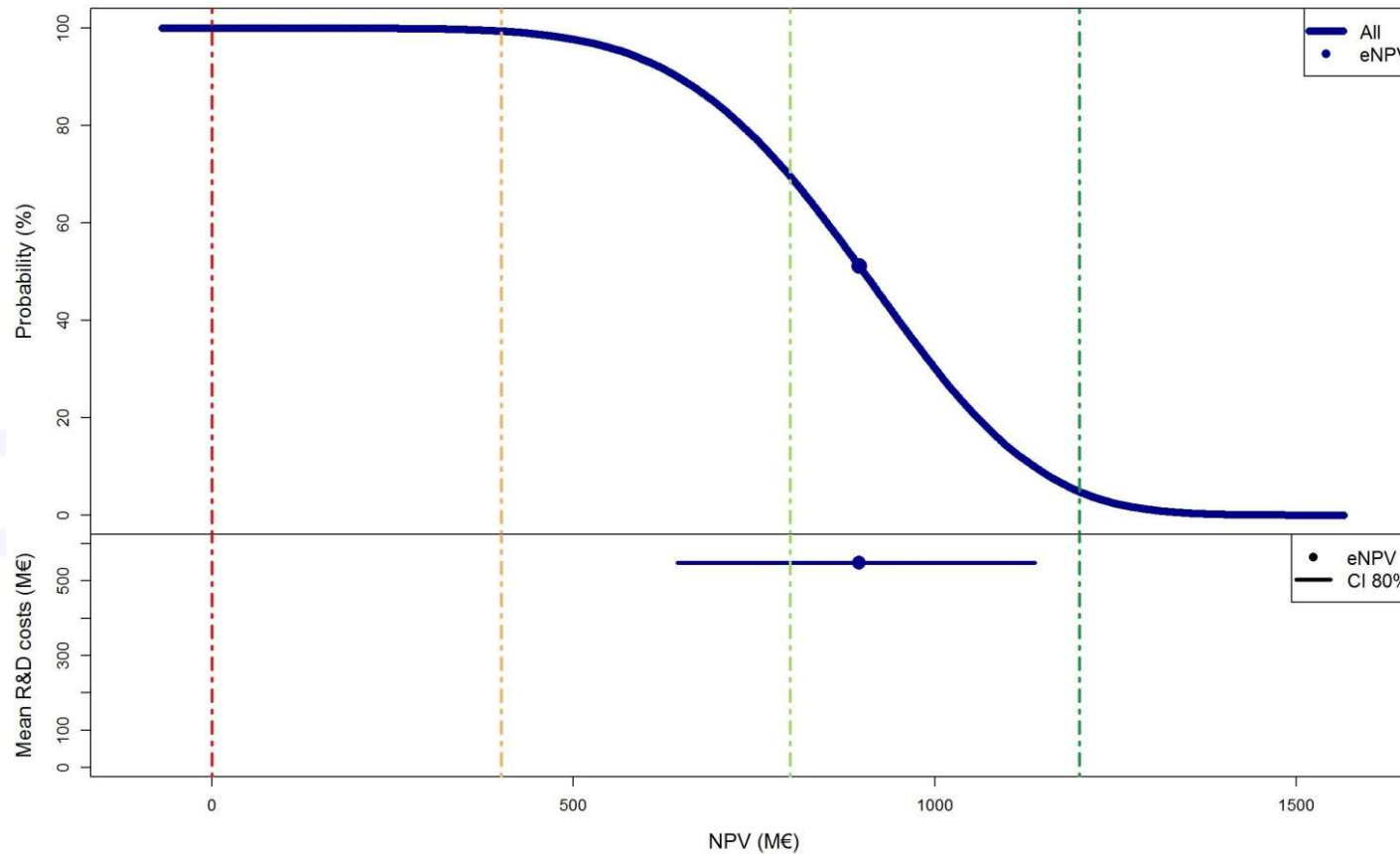
- Mean (=eNPV), Median, Variance, Confidence Intervals...
- Prob(Portfolio NPV > target)

# Portfolio risk-value profile

## Fictive example: results for all projects

P(Portfolio NPV>0M€)= 100%  
P(Portfolio NPV>400M€)= 99%  
P(Portfolio NPV>800M€)= 69%  
P(Portfolio NPV>1200M€)= 5%

(% obtained in  
100 000  
simulated  
realizations of  
the portfolio)

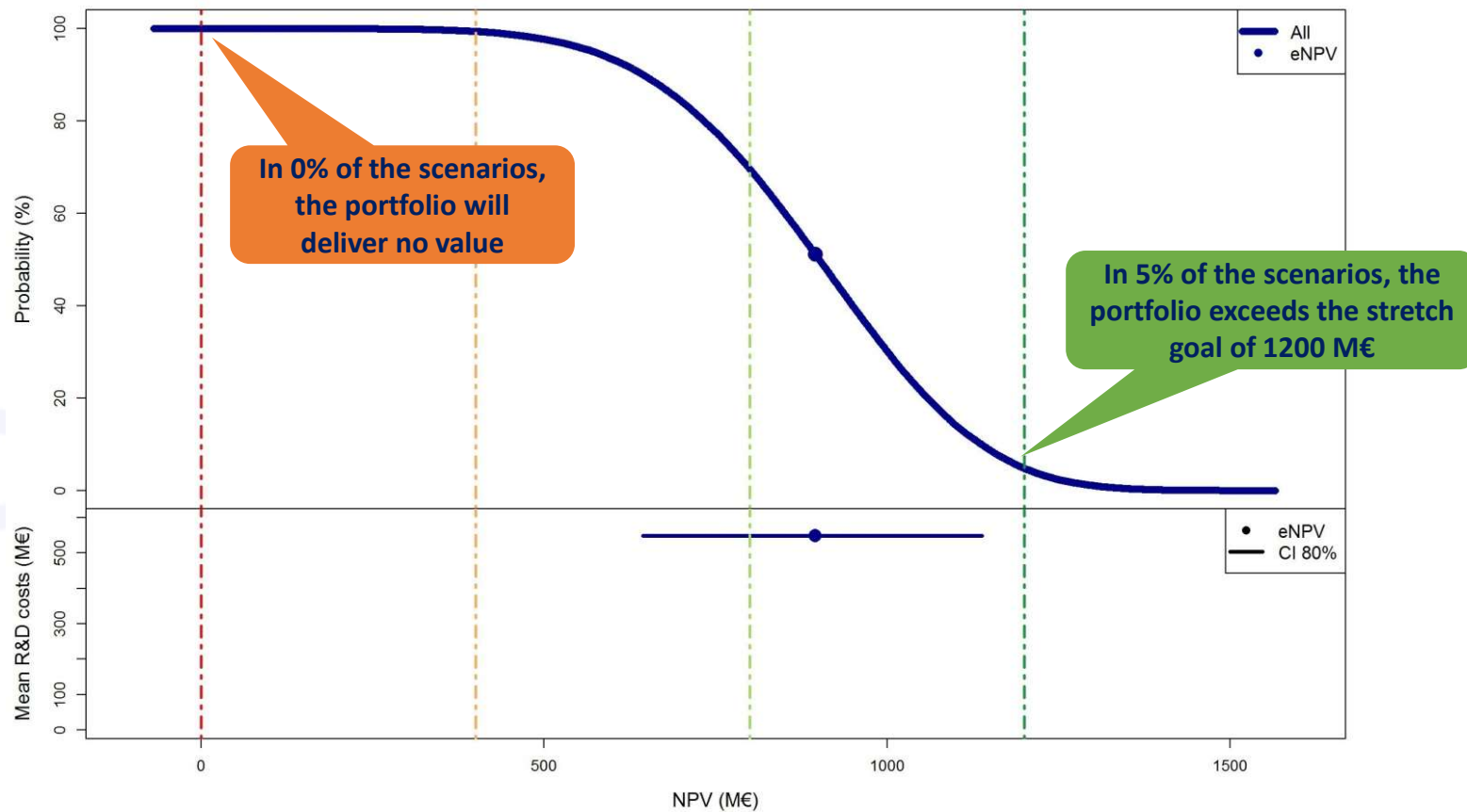


# Portfolio risk-value profile

## Fictive example: results for all projects

$P(\text{Portfolio NPV} > 0\text{M€}) = 100\%$   
 $P(\text{Portfolio NPV} > 400\text{M€}) = 99\%$   
 $P(\text{Portfolio NPV} > 800\text{M€}) = 69\%$   
 $P(\text{Portfolio NPV} > 1200\text{M€}) = 5\%$

(% obtained in 100 000 simulated realizations of the portfolio)



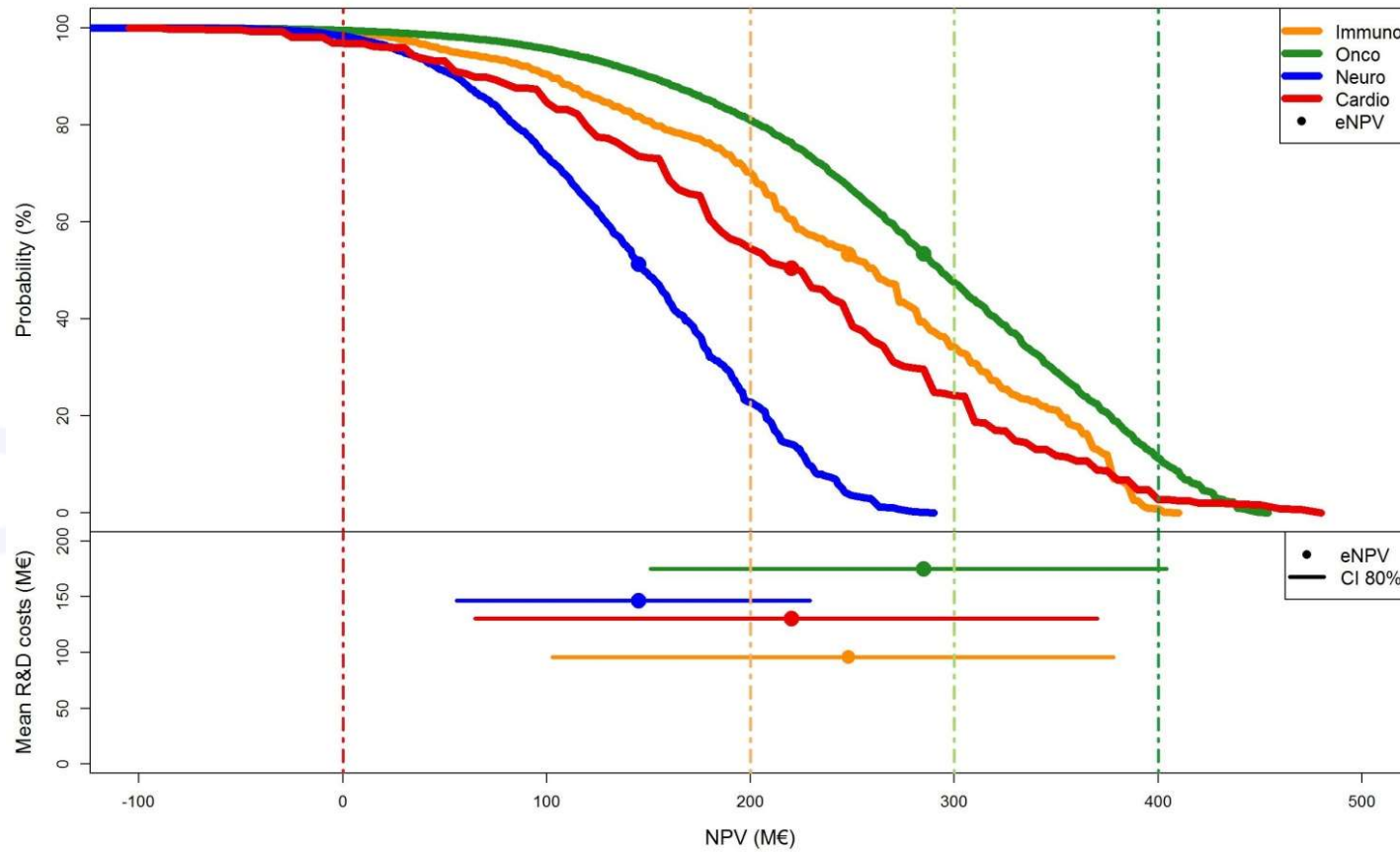


# Portfolio risk-value profile

Fictive example: results by therapeutic area

P(Portfolio NPV>0M€)=	99%	100%	98%	97%
P(Portfolio NPV>200M€)=	70%	81%	23%	54%
P(Portfolio NPV>300M€)=	34%	48%	0%	24%
P(Portfolio NPV>400M€)=	1%	11%	0%	3%

(% obtained in  
100 000  
simulated  
realizations of  
the portfolio)



# Portfolio risk-value profile

- Permits to **identify potential weaknesses**, by therapeutic area and overall, and to **trigger action plans** (licensing-in, partnerships)
- **Relatively simple approach**
  - Monte-Carlo simulations (no complex model)
  - No need for a large amount of data
- **Warning:** ideally, all NPVs should be calculated at the same time, just before the analysis – may be difficult to achieve in practice...

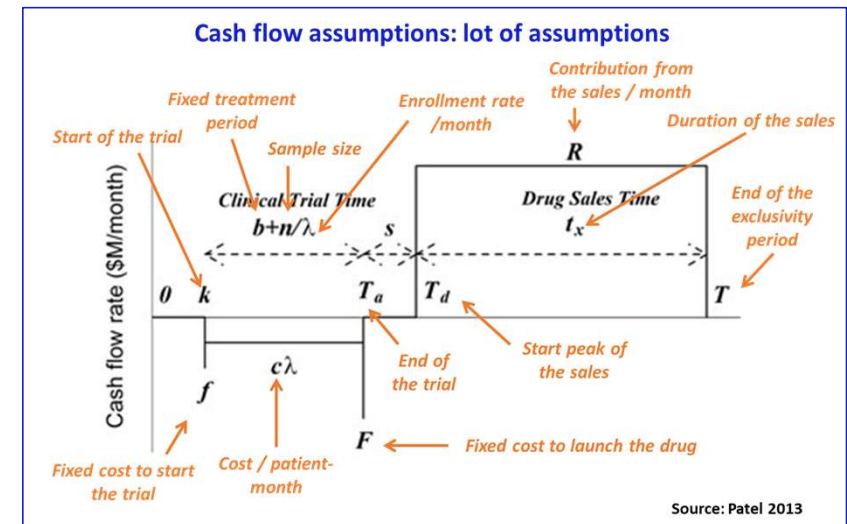
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# A more sophisticated method: portfolio optimization

- Maximizes the **value of a portfolio** under a **global budget constraint**
  - Better than optimizing each drug separately
  - Optimizes the variables that have the greatest impact on the costs: sample size and timing
- **Complexity**
  - Lots of data as input
  - Lot of assumptions: high level of uncertainty  
→ importance of sensitivity analyses
  - Challenging communication with governance boards
- Focus on the **financial** value of the portfolio
  - Lack of clinical considerations?
- Need knowledge of experts from different teams (statistics, finance, strategy, regulatory affairs...)



# Conclusion

- Quantitative Decision-Making is increasingly used in the pharma industry
  - Many questions → many methods
  - Evidence-based methods avoid relying on questionable assumptions
  - Subjectivity can be incorporated but should also be challenged
  - Statistical methods permit to incorporate uncertainties
- Quantitative tools are intended to **support** but **not to replace** the human decision-making process for strategic decisions
- Importance of sensitivity analyses
- **Statisticians** are the right person to initiate and drive the discussions around quantitative decision making
  - Interactions between statisticians and multi-disciplinary teams

# Main references

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