***This scenario is entirely fictitious for the purposes of this workshop and in no way represents the current threat or military planning.***

**Scenario**

The military have been tasked to send humanitarian and military support to a country that is threatened by another state aggressor.

Aid is provided via a Sea Port of Disembarkation (SPOD), however, intelligence indicates that the aggressor is preparing to deny the SPOD using a Chemical or Biological strike. The commander must decide whether to evacuate the town surrounding the SPOD to limit civilian casualties. Due to the current situation, the state of the country and the population in the area, it is likely that any evacuation will result in fatalities. However, the fatalities incurred from any CB strike would potentially be far greater.

It has been ascertained that the strike will come in a three day window, however, if the aggressor sees any evacuation it is likely that they will move to strike earlier. The longer the planning time, the less the number of casualties incurred from evacuation, however, the prediction of casualties from the CB release is weather dependent and the forecast becomes more uncertain through time. Furthermore the meteorological conditions in the area vary over the three days during which the populace could be evacuated.

Scientists can use mathematical and statistical models to provide a sample of potential outcomes from any strike, sampled over the various meteorological conditions as well as the potential strikes.

Given this information the commander must decide

1. Whether to evacuate the area
2. If evacuation is deemed the best course of action they must determine the optimal day to evacuate

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**Workshop Aim**

Each of three groups will be given a different set of dispersion data and casualty estimates for a sample of potential strikes. They will also be provided with the potential outcomes of an evacuation. Over the course of the workshop it is hoped that the groups will use this data to explore ways of visualising and communicating the available data, which can be summarised as multidimensional statistical distributions, in a way that will enable a military commander to make an informed decision about the best course of action. These potential visualisation and communication strategies will then be discussed and compared for the different data sets of the final day.

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