Franco-Japanese Seminar

Simulation of On-Ground Mobility in Critical Situations: Cognitive Models and

Computerized Modeling

The purpose of this seminar is to establish scientific collaboration between France and Japan,

in the field of mobility-behavior simulation in critical situations. The project will bring together

researchers specializing in computerized modeling and simulation of behavior, and ones

specializing in the study of human behavior and its determining factors.

By "critical situations" we mean situations involving industrial or natural catastrophes,

situations requiring large-scale evacuation in cases of a major breakdown, accident, or act of

terrorism, and situations where an actor must make a decision under constraints of time and/or risk.

A critical situation, then, can be defined as any situation in which factors, whether internal or

external, cause it to deviate from what actors are accustomed to or know how to control. Factors

internal to the individual include his/her emotional state, physical capabilities, knowledge of the

location or locale, and so on; external factors include ones related to the dimensions and

configuration of the place in question, the nature of the physical environment, the number of other

persons present and their behaviors, the type of actions potentially implemented to manage the

critical situation, etc. When human behavior is no longer "habitual" it is difficult to predict,

especially due to the scarcity of available studies on the determinants of individual and collective

behavior in this type of situation.

The seminar will provide the opportunity for both Japanese and French researchers (1) to

present their current work and issues tackled, and identify common research interests, (2) to

discover research avenues and topics for potential projects, and (3) to appoint a committee that will

organize an international conference to be held every other year -- alternately in France and Japan --

and plan the first "edition" (expected in 2020).

Previsional Organization

Duration: Two days

City: Paris (exact location to be specified)

Dates: September 9 and 10, 2019

Number of contributors: 10 to 20 from each country

Selection of contributors: by co-optation or invitation