

Decision Support System Guide

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The decision support tool organizes, chunks and delegates tasks before letting the user(s) make a simple choice on how they would like to organize themselves. Based on their choice, the computer then displays these tasks into an easy-to-read calendar. At the start of the program you must enter the number of people in your group, as well as the start date and final due date for your project, as seen in Figure 1. Next, a calendar must be created by pressing the “Create Calendar” button, Figure 1. The number of your teams must then be entered so that the decision support tool can delegate

	A	B	C	D
1				
2				
3				
4		[1] Click here to create	Create Calendar	
5		your calendar ☞		
6				
7				
8				
9				
10		[2] Input the start/end		
11		dates for your project		
12		☞ Start Date:		
13		End Date:		
14				
15				
16		[3] Add the number		
17		of people in your		
18		team ☞	Number of Team members	
19				
20				

Figure 1:

Top: A button to be pressed by the user that creates a calendar.

Middle: The user must input the start and end dates in the two cells to the right.

Bottom: The user must then input the number of team members so the computer can help delegate.

	A	B	C	D
22				
23		[4] Input the	Task Name (String)	
24		necessary data	Duration (Integer)	
25		for your tasks ➡	Start Date (yyyy-mm-dd)	
26			Due Date (yyyy-mm-dd)	
27			Importance (Integer)	
28			Number of Chunks	
29				
30		[5] Add		
31		your task to a list	Add tasks	Done adding tasks
32		of things to do ➡	(addtolistbutton)	
33				
34		[6] Decide if		
35		decide between the 2 buttons ➡	Delegate work evenly	Delegate work unevenly
36				
37				

Figure 2: Top: A table the user must fill out. Note that the required form of the input is between the brackets else the decision support tool may not function. Middle-bottom: There are 4 buttons, “Add tasks” adds a task to the tool’s “to-do” list, “Done adding tasks” lets the tool know that it can begin to organize the information. The “delegate work evenly” button and “delegate work unevenly” button let the users see the potential delegation plan.

The user must then input the following information, as seen in Figure 2

- the task’s name (string)
- the duration of the task (integer)
- the duration of the task (integer)
- the start and due dates of the task (yyyy-mm-dd)
- an importance rating from (integer from 1-10)
- the number of chunks desired by the user (integer)

After adding the tasks, the user must then click the “Add tasks” button. The computer will then add this onto a list of tasks to do (a “to-do” list). The user can add many tasks by replacing the information in the table with another task, over and over.

After the user has added as many tasks as they would like, they press the “Done adding tasks” button, leading to 2 copies of the “to-do” list. Both lists are sorted, prioritizing tasks coming up, an estimated long duration and a higher importance.

[illegible]

After the user considers the two possible delegations, they must make a choice; to delegate evenly or unevenly. They must then enter their group member's names into the column shown in Figure 3. The computer shows its recommended delegations by placing a thick line between different people's task

In Figure 3, for example, we can see that for a group of 5, one person would do the first third of the PowerPoint, and the ending/conclusion of the report, another person would do the first half of the activity log/status report and one part of the body paragraph of the report etc. This approach allows for the team to cover the most ground in a short period of time if everyone sticks to the plan and members do not slack off.

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Finally, when the user is satisfied with the computer's delegation and their choices regarding team member delegation, they may press the "add to calendar" button, which adds the task across the calendars.

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problems were due to code causing counters to behave incorrectly. A major strategy that was used to help make the testing and debugging process faster was to comment out large portions of the code so that the problems could be identified in each individual portion of the code.