

A top-down view of a doctor's hands shaking a patient's hands over a desk. The doctor is wearing a white lab coat and a stethoscope. The patient is wearing a dark suit and a watch. On the desk, there is a laptop, a stethoscope, a smartphone, a pair of glasses, and a newspaper. The text "Explainable Decision Support using Defeasible Logic" is overlaid on the image.

# Explainable Decision Support using Defeasible Logic

# Structure



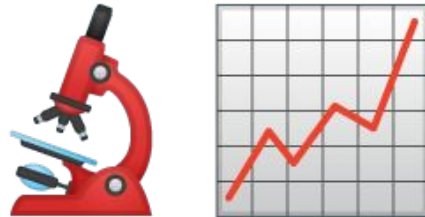
David Pomerence

Progress



ZingYang Zeng

Demo



Laurens Rutten

Outlook

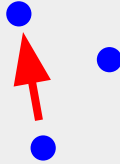


David Pomerence

Progress

# Introduction

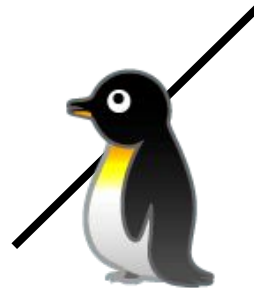
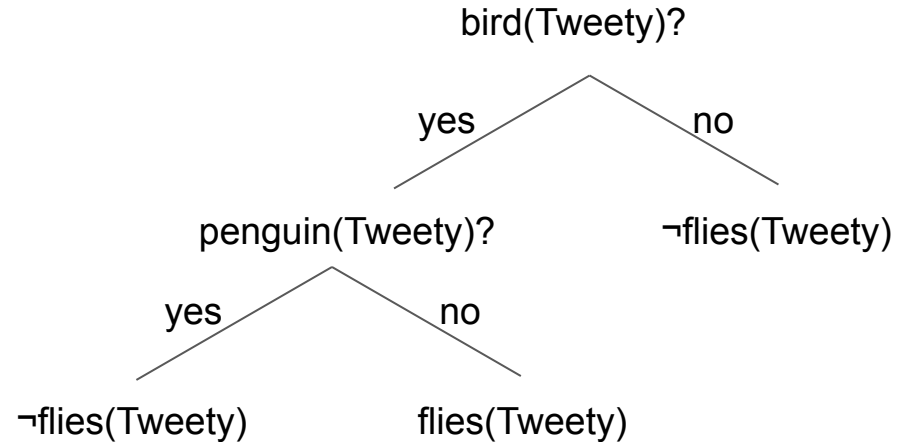
bird(x)  $\sim \rightarrow$  flies(x)  
penguin(x)  $\sim \rightarrow$   $\neg$ flies(x)  
penguin(x)  $\rightarrow$  bird(x)



**flies(Tweety)?**

penguin(Tweety) <b>penguin(x) <math>\sim \rightarrow</math> <math>\neg</math>flies(x)</b>	$\neg$ flies(Tweety)
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penguin(Tweety) penguin(x) $\rightarrow$ bird(x) <b>bird(x) <math>\sim \rightarrow</math> flies(x)</b>	flies(Tweety)
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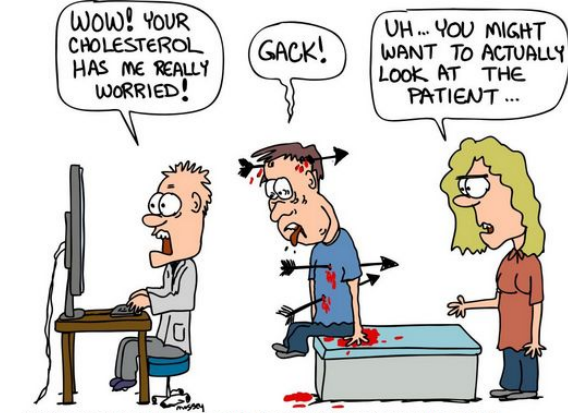
# Results

- Layperson's website
- Presentation
- Argumentation Tableau

Progress

## Explainable Artificial Intelligence Explainable Decision Support Systems

Best idea Ever: Implement a pseudo decision support system (Should I read this paper: Did you read it before? y=> Did you understand it? y=> Were there changes since the last time you read? n=> dun readit kek) Decision support systems become increasingly important in our every day lifes. Examples can be found in medicine and law, amongst other domains. Consider doctors that consult computer programmes to analyse a patient and get recommendations for potential treatments. Or tax software which asks the right questions for you to make the optimal financial decisions given the legal and financial situation you find yourself in. Already today we can see the impact that decision support systems have. However, more often than not, those systems are so called black box systems, meaning that their inner workings are unknown, in some cases not only to the users, but even to the developers. This can have serious ramifications: Thinking of the medical example given above, the reader may ask themselves whether they would trust a decision made by a computer for reasons unknown to us! The savvy reader might be inclined to trust the machine, but the issue is at least controversial and shows that a lack of understanding a decision making process might lead to a lack of confidence in the decision came by that process.



Beyond trust issues, even legal or moral implications need to be considered: Change your perspective from the patient to the doctor. Are you willing to take responsibility for the decision you make based on the computer-aided system? And if you do, can you be held accountable for them, given that you had no full knowledge of the underlying reasoning? These, again, are undecided matters.

Contemporarily, legislative instance in several countries pick up on that issue and regulations are being put in place [MIGHT ADD INFO BOX ABOUT COURT DECISIONS]

### Arguments and Rules

To gain insights into the rationale behind decisions made or supported by a computer system, we leverage the relation between rules and arguments. Both rules and arguments exhibit a similar logical structure:   
- A rule checks whether a number of conditions apply. If they do, then the rule tells what action should follow.   
- An argument checks whether a number of reasons hold. If they do, then the argument tells us what consequence should be concluded.   
- Out approach, figuratively speaking, is to utilize this similarity in their logical structure to map the decisions of a decision support system to reasons which should be found in the application domain, i.e. the medical or juridical field.   
- The advantage of that approach is that ...

### Explainable Decisions via Argumentation

Our approach to explainable decisions support systems is to explicate the rules underlying a decision support system within a given domain. We then analyse the relation between these rules and under which conditions they apply. Finally, we bring this analysis back to the decision support system so that given any decision, we can explicate the rationale leading to that decision. (This is then, by nature, limited to some kinds of decision support systems.

## Downloads/Links

Second Period Presentation
Final Report (to be added upon project completion)
Documentation (to be added upon project completion)
Code (permission will be granted on individual basis)
Test Site

Demo

Outlook

# Prototypes

## Propositional Tableau

Enter a formula in propositional logic. All expressions except atoms need to be nested with brackets. The logical symbols can be typed as you prefer:

- implies, impl,  $\rightarrow$ ,  $\Rightarrow$ ,  $\rightarrow$  will all work for the logical implication
- f, fAlSe, 0 will all work for false
- etc.

$\neg((p \vee (q \wedge r)) \rightarrow ((p \vee q) \wedge (p \vee r)))$

Get Tableau

$\neg((p \vee (q \wedge r)) \rightarrow ((p \vee q) \wedge (p \vee r)))$

$p \vee (q \wedge r)$

$\neg((p \vee q) \wedge (p \vee r))$

$p$

$\neg(p \vee q)$

$\neg p$

$\neg q$

✗

$\neg(p \vee r)$

$\neg p$

$\neg r$

✗

$q \wedge r$

$q$

$r$

$\neg(p \vee q)$

$\neg p$

$\neg q$

✗

$\neg(p \vee r)$

$\neg p$

$\neg r$

✗

Progress

Demo

## Defeasible Tableau

Enter a formula in propositional logic. All expressions except atoms need to be nested with brackets. The logical symbols can be typed as you prefer:

- implies, impl,  $\rightarrow$ ,  $\Rightarrow$ ,  $\rightarrow$  will all work for the logical implication
- f, fAlSe, 0 will all work for false
- etc.

Rules:

Employed  $\rightarrow$  CanMakeRequestForChange

Employed & LessThanTenEmployees  $\rightarrow$   $\neg$ CanMakeRequestForChange

Employed & ReachedOldAgeInsurance  $\rightarrow$   $\neg$ CanMakeRequestForChange

Employed & MilitaryOfficial  $\rightarrow$   $\neg$ CanMakeRequestForChange

Initial information:

Employed

$\neg$ LessThanTenEmployees

$\neg$ ReachedOldAgeInsurance

MilitaryOfficial

WorkedForAtLeastTwentySixWeeks

Question:

CanMakeRequestForChange

Get Arguments

Pro:

$(((((\text{Employed}), \text{Employed} \rightarrow \text{CanMakeRequestForChange})), \text{CanMakeRequestForChange}))$

Contra:

$(((((\text{Employed}), \text{MilitaryOfficial}), \text{Employed} \wedge \text{MilitaryOfficial} \rightarrow \neg \text{CanMakeRequestForChange})), \neg \text{CanMakeRequestForChange}))$

Outlook

# Implementation

## Phase 1

- class Proposition
  - class Variable
  - class True
  - class False
  - class Complex
    - classes And, Or, ...
  - method evaluate(model=...)
- method parse('(a & b) -> c')
- class Node
  - method expand()
- class PropositionalTableau
  - method evaluate()

Progress

Demo

Outlook

# Challenges

How to check whether  
the precondition of a  
rule is matched?

How to merge the  
closure supports for  
multiple branches?

How to implement test  
propositions?

How to eliminate  
repetitive arguments?

How to combine  
expansion of nodes  
and addition of new  
arguments to the root?

How to prevent endless loops?



How to program  
effectively in a team?

How to improve  
efficiency?

## Progress

## Demo

## Outlook

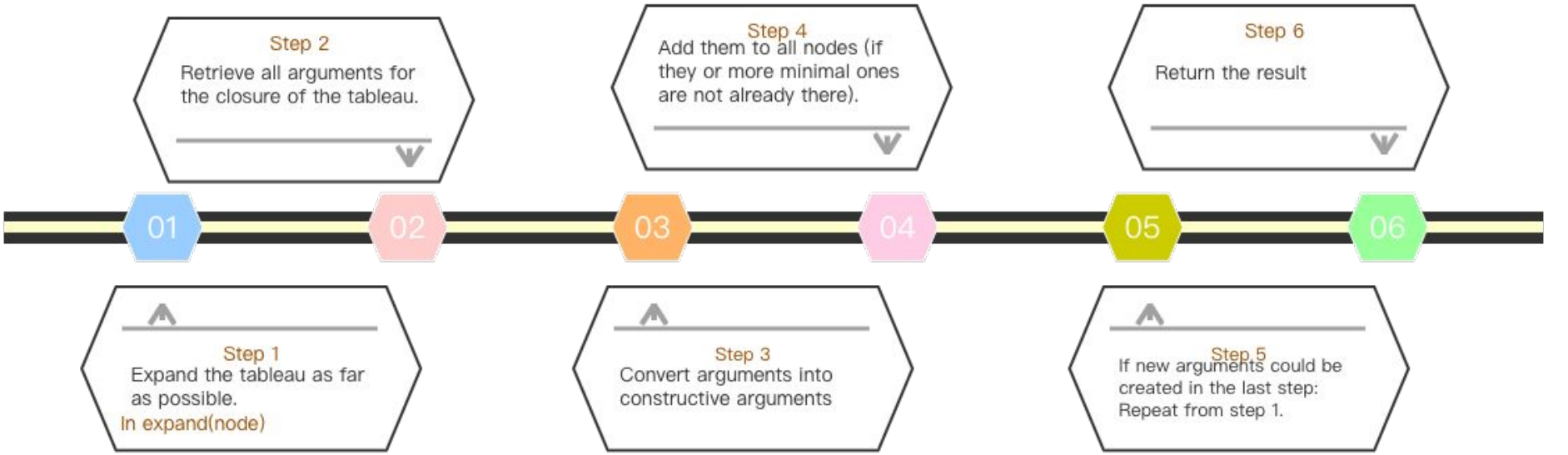




ZingYang Zeng

Demo

# The Implementation steps



Progress

Demo

Outlook

# The Implementation

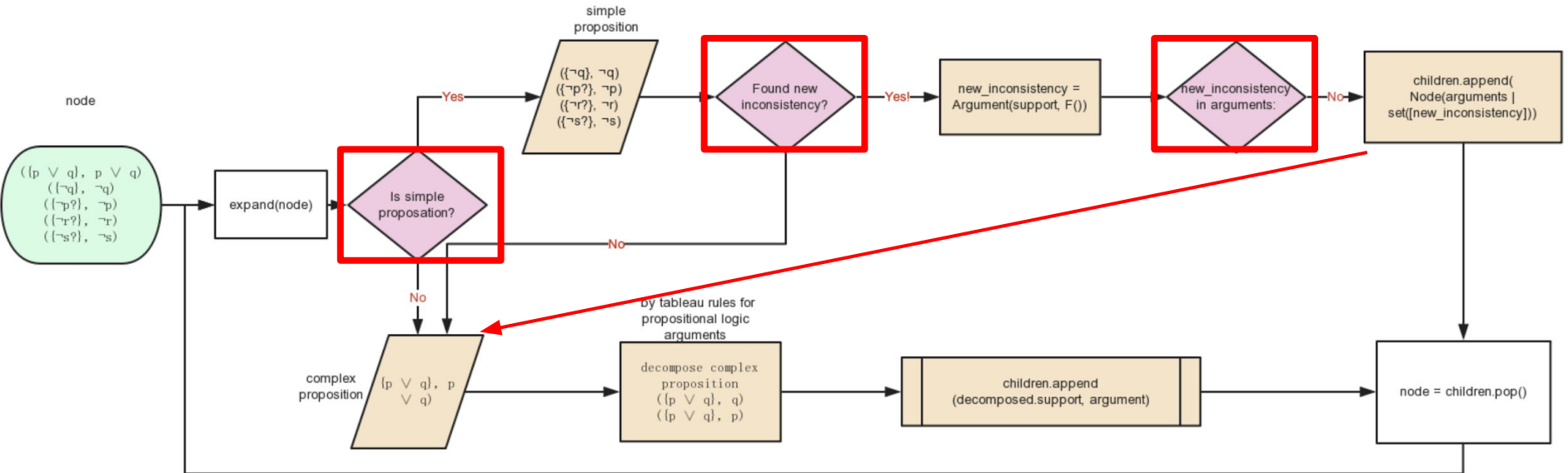
Argument

$$\begin{array}{c} p \vee q \\ \neg q \end{array} \Bigg| \vdash p \rightsquigarrow r \mid \vdash r \rightsquigarrow s \mid \vdash s$$

initial root node

$(\{p \vee q\}, p \vee q)$ $(\{\neg q\}, \neg q)$	Arguments for the initial information
$(\{\neg p?\}, \neg p)$ $(\{\neg r?\}, \neg r)$	Tests for the antecedence of all rules
$(\{\neg s?\}, \neg s)$	Tests for the final conclusion

# Expand the tableau as far as possible



Progress

Demo

Outlook

# Defeasible Tableau

Enter a formular in propositional logic. All expressions except atoms need to be nested with brackets. The logical symbols can be typed as you prefer:

- implies, impl,  $\rightarrow$ ,  $\Rightarrow$ ,  $\supset$  will all work for the logical implication
- f, fAlSe, 0 will all work for false
- etc.

## Rules:

```
Employed ~> CanMakeRequestForChange
Employed & LessThanTenEmployees ~> ¬CanMakeRequestForChange
Employed & ReachedOldAgeInsurance ~> ¬CanMakeRequestForChange
Employed & MilitaryOfficial ~> ¬CanMakeRequestForChange
```

## Initial information:

```
Employed
¬LessThanTenEmployees
¬ReachedOldAgeInsurance
MilitaryOfficial
WorkedForAtLeastTwentySixWeeks
```

## Question:

```
CanMakeRequestForChange
```

# Defeasible Tableau

Enter a formular in propositional logic. All expressions except atoms need to be nested with brackets. The logical symbols can be typed as you prefer:

- implies, impl,  $\rightarrow$ ,  $\Rightarrow$ ,  $\supset$  will all work for the logical implication
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## Rules:

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Employed ~> CanMakeRequestForChange
Employed & LessThanTenEmployees ~> ¬CanMakeRequestForChange
Employed & ReachedOldAgeInsurance ~> ¬CanMakeRequestForChange
Employed & MilitaryOfficial ~> ¬CanMakeRequestForChange
```

## Initial information:

```
Employed
¬LessThanTenEmployees
¬ReachedOldAgeInsurance
MilitaryOfficial
WorkedForAtLeastTwentySixWeeks
```

## Question:

```
CanMakeRequestForChange
```

Get Arguments

# Defeasible Tableau

Enter a formular in propositional logic. All expressions except atoms need to be nested with brackets. The logical symbols can be typed as you prefer:

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## Rules:

Employed  $\sim \rightarrow$  CanMakeRequestForChange  
Employed & LessThanTenEmployees  $\sim \rightarrow$   $\neg$ CanMakeRequestForChange  
Employed & ReachedOldAgeInsurance  $\sim \rightarrow$   $\neg$ CanMakeRequestForChange  
Employed & MilitaryOfficial  $\sim \rightarrow$   $\neg$ CanMakeRequestForChange

## Initial information:

Employed  
 $\neg$ LessThanTenEmployees  
 $\neg$ ReachedOldAgeInsurance  
MilitaryOfficial  
WorkedForAtLeastTwentySixWeeks

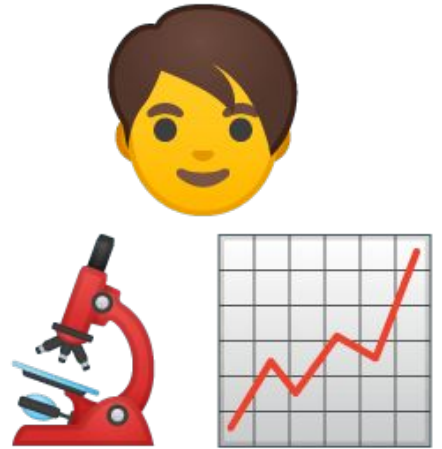
## Question:

CanMakeRequestForChange

Get Arguments

Employed Employed $\sim \rightarrow$ CanMakeRequestForChange	— CanMakeRequestForChange
Employed, MilitaryOfficial (Employed $\wedge$ MilitaryOfficial $\sim \rightarrow$ $\neg$ CanMakeRequestForChange)	— $\neg$ CanMakeRequestForChange

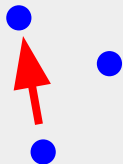




Laurens Rutten

Outlook

$\text{bird}(x) \sim \rightarrow \text{flies}(x)$   
 $\text{penguin}(x) \sim \rightarrow \neg \text{flies}(x)$   
 $\text{penguin}(x) \dashrightarrow \text{bird}(x)$

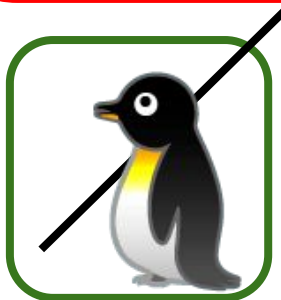
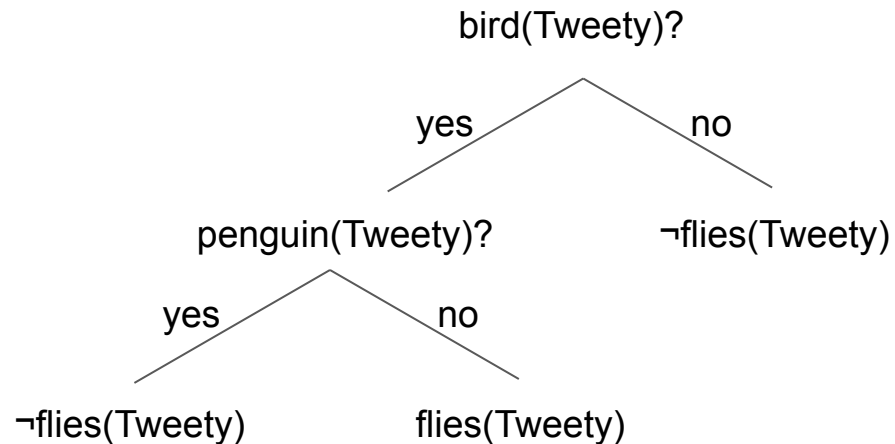


**flies(Tweety)?**

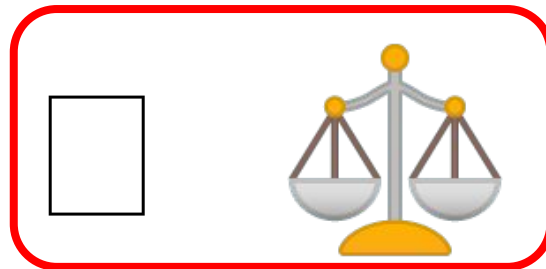
$\text{penguin}(\text{Tweety})$ $\text{penguin}(x) \sim \rightarrow \neg \text{flies}(x)$	$\neg \text{flies}(\text{Tweety})$
--	------------------------------------

$\text{penguin}(\text{Tweety})$ $\text{penguin}(x) \dashrightarrow \text{bird}(x)$ $\text{bird}(x) \sim \rightarrow \text{flies}(x)$	$\text{flies}(\text{Tweety})$
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Progress



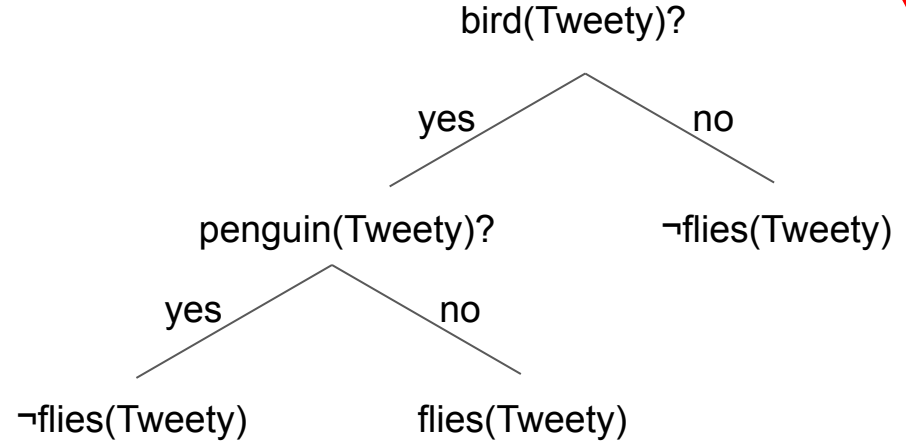
Demo

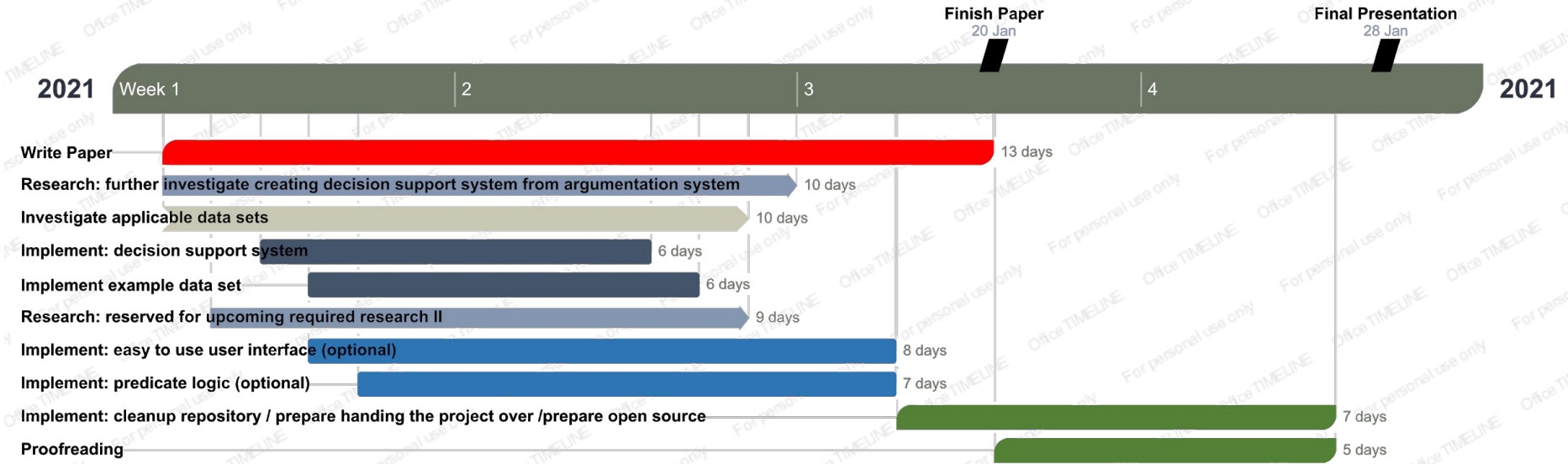


Outlook

# Decision Support System

- Approach 1:
  - “brute force” generate outcomes for all possible worlds
  - apply conventional entropy-based decision tree generator
- Approach 2:
  - based on the relevant rules
  - apply more general rules first





Progress

Demo

Outlook

## Done

- Defeasible logic
- Visualize results
- Layperson's website

## To Do

- Implement Decision Support System
- Apply to real world data
- Write the report
- Final presentation

Progress

Demo

Outlook

A top-down view of a doctor's desk. A stethoscope is on the left. A smartphone shows the time 08:15. A laptop is open on the right, with a hand pointing at the screen. A newspaper is in the top right corner. A person in a white lab coat is at the bottom, and a person in a dark suit is at the top.

Thank you for listening!

Questions?

# Image sources

- Front slide

[pexels.com/en/public-domain-photo-zkxit](https://pexels.com/en/public-domain-photo-zkxit)

public domain