

jDMN: A DMN engine in Java

May 2024

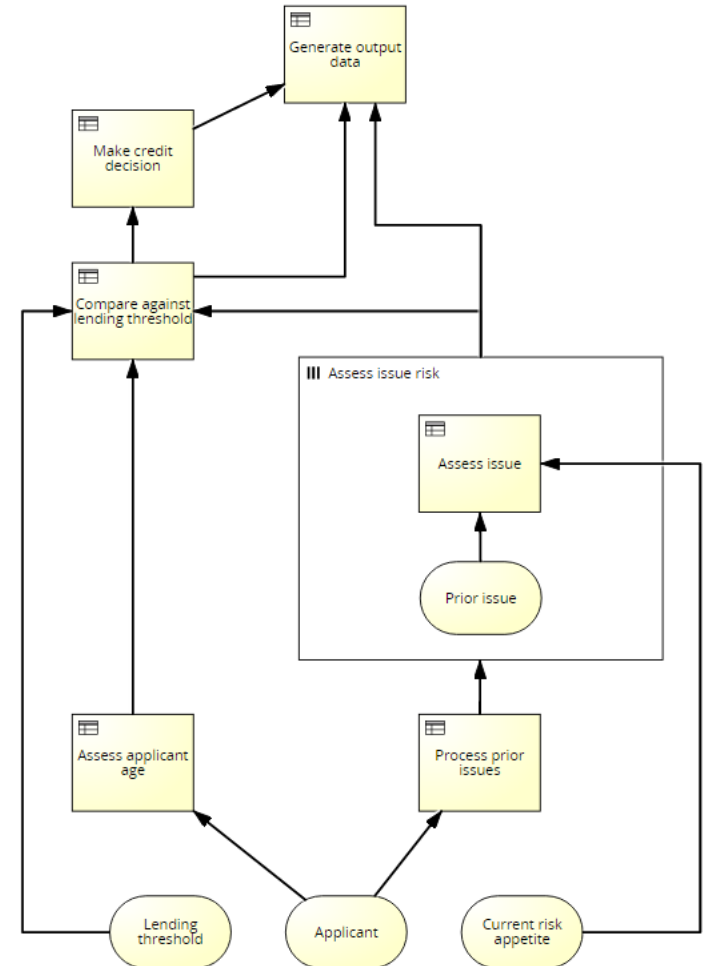
Content

- ▶ What is DMN?
- ▶ Overall structure of jDMN
- ▶ Transpiler to Java / Kotlin / Python
- ▶ Code optimisation
- ▶ Q&As

What is DMN?

Decision Model and Notation (DMN)

- Standard published by OMG
- Notation to support decision management and business rules
- Users
 - Business People: manage and monitor decisions
 - BAs or Functional Analysts: specify decision models
 - Technical developers: execution and automation
- DSL
 - Diagrammatic notation
 - Templates
 - Expression language FEEL
- Standalone or with BPMN & CMMN



Overall Structure

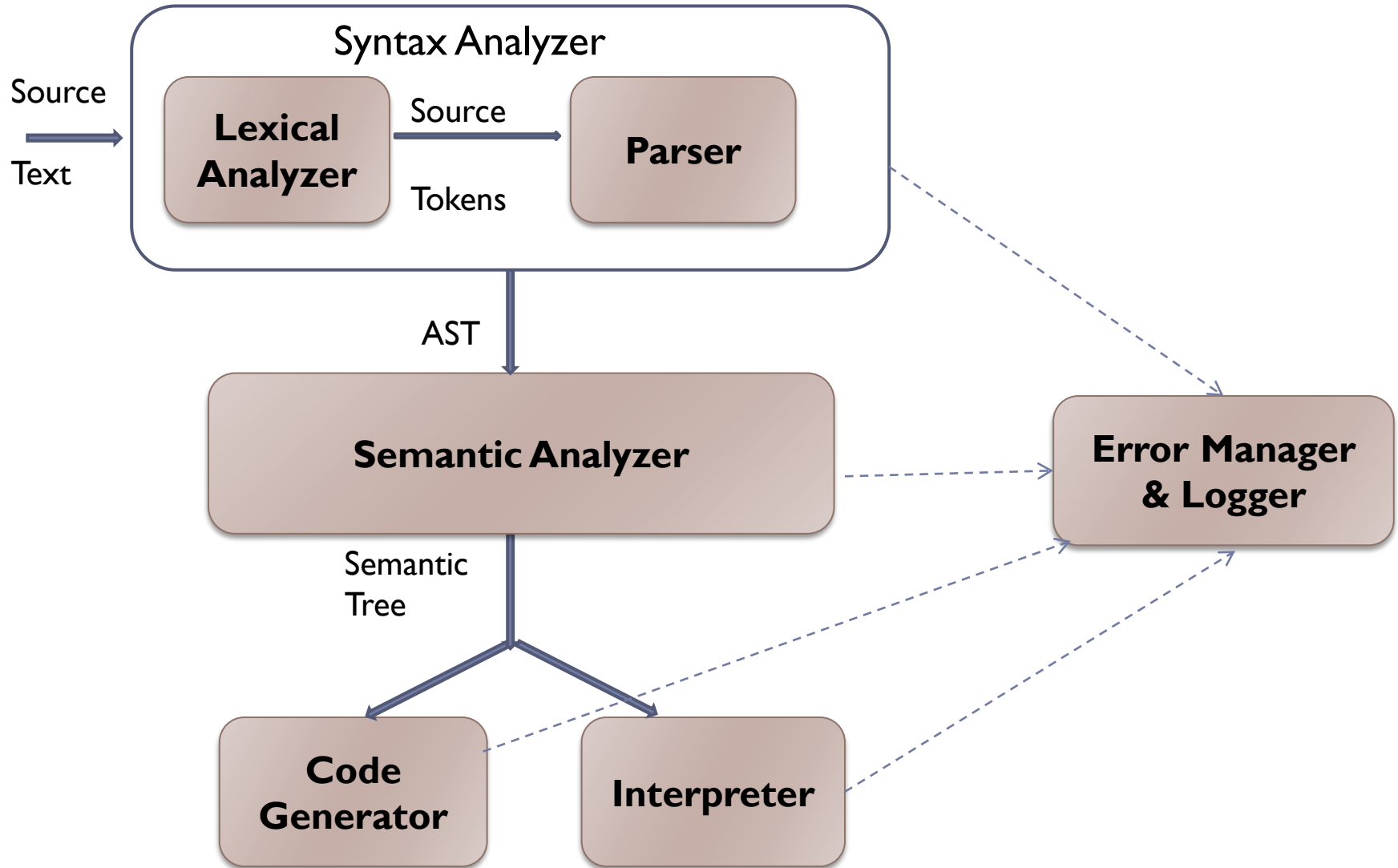
- ▶ **DMN Processors**

- ▶ Reader / Writer
- ▶ Validators
- ▶ Transformers
- ▶ Interpreter
- ▶ Translator

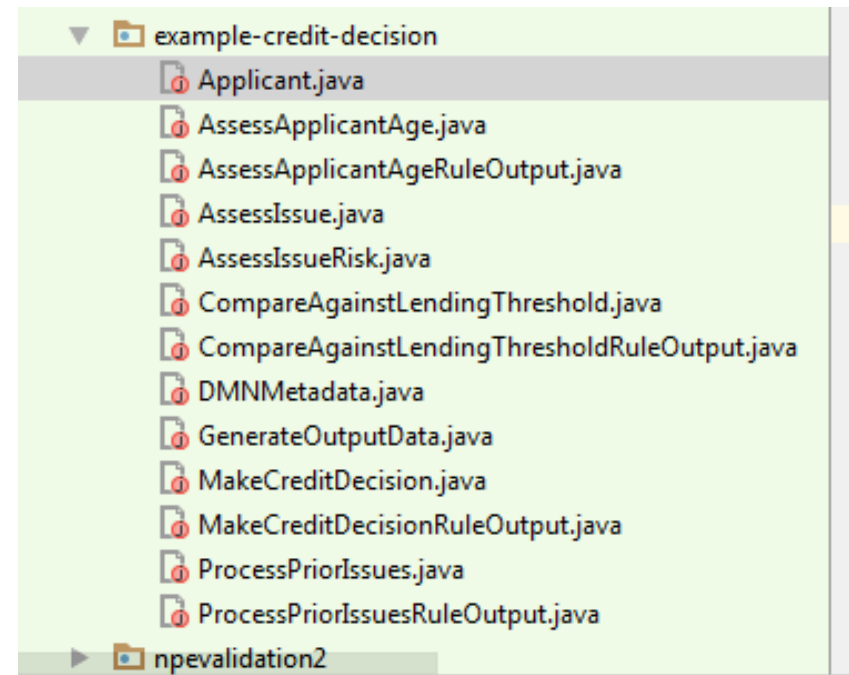
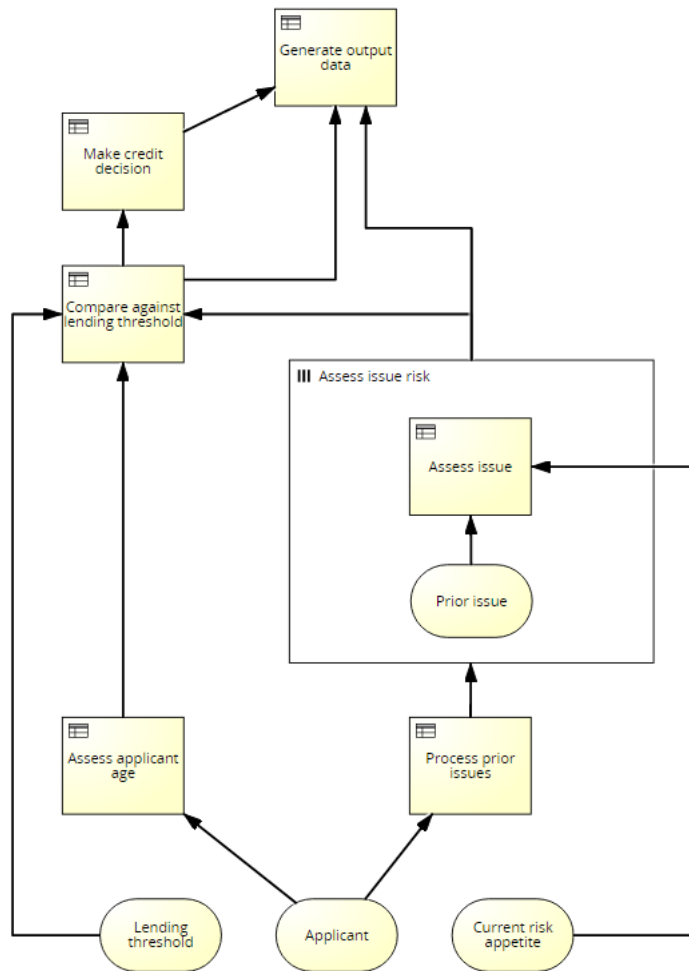
- ▶ **Dialects**

- ▶ DMN 1.1 – 1.5
- ▶ Signavio

Overall Structure



Translation



Translation

Make credit decision

Add rule | Remove rule | Add input | Remove column

	Inputs	Outputs
U	...are against lending threshold	New Output
	Number	{Accept, Recommend further a...
1	< -0.1	Reject
2	[-0.1..0.1]	Recommend further asse...
3	> 0.1	Accept
+	Add new row	



1: Proj

Structure

MakeCreditDecision

- MakeCreditDecision()
- apply(AnnotationSet, Applicant, BigDecimal, BigDecimal): String
- rule0(AnnotationSet, BigDecimal): RuleOutput
- rule1(AnnotationSet, BigDecimal): RuleOutput
- rule2(AnnotationSet, BigDecimal): RuleOutput
- compareAgainstLendingThreshold: CompareAgainstLendingThresh

Translation

- ▶ How did we built it?
 - ▶ Syntax-Driven Translation Schematas (SDTS)
 - ▶ Based on Knuth's attributed gramars
 - ▶ Synthesized attributes
 - ▶ Inherited Attributes

```
Expr1 → Expr2 + Term    { Expr1.value = Expr2.value + Term.value }  
Expr → Term                { Expr.value = Term.value }  
Term1 → Term2 * Factor   { Term1.value = Term2.value * Factor.value }  
Term → Factor              { Term.value = Factor.value }  
Factor → "(" Expr ")"      { Factor.value = Expr.value }  
Factor → integer           { Factor.value = strToInt(integer.str) }
```

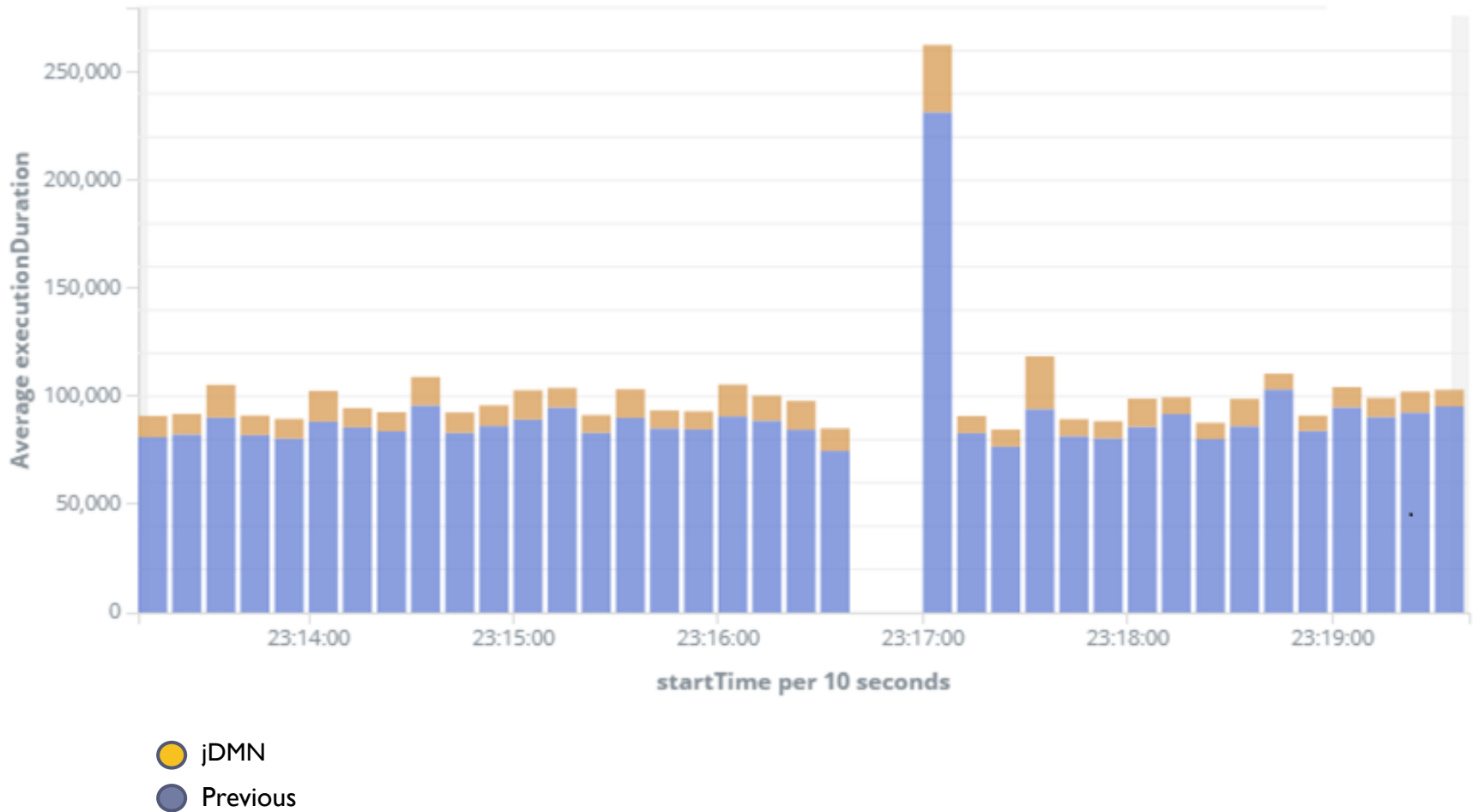

Translation

- ▶ **Advantages include**

- ▶ *Performance*: we have seen runtimes 4-10 times faster than previous engine execution in complex decision tests
- ▶ *Stability*: given that we now control the code generation, we are able to resolve issues without relying on the vendor
- ▶ *Functionality*: the fact that we control the code generation means that we are also able to enable more advanced functionality for DMN/Java models

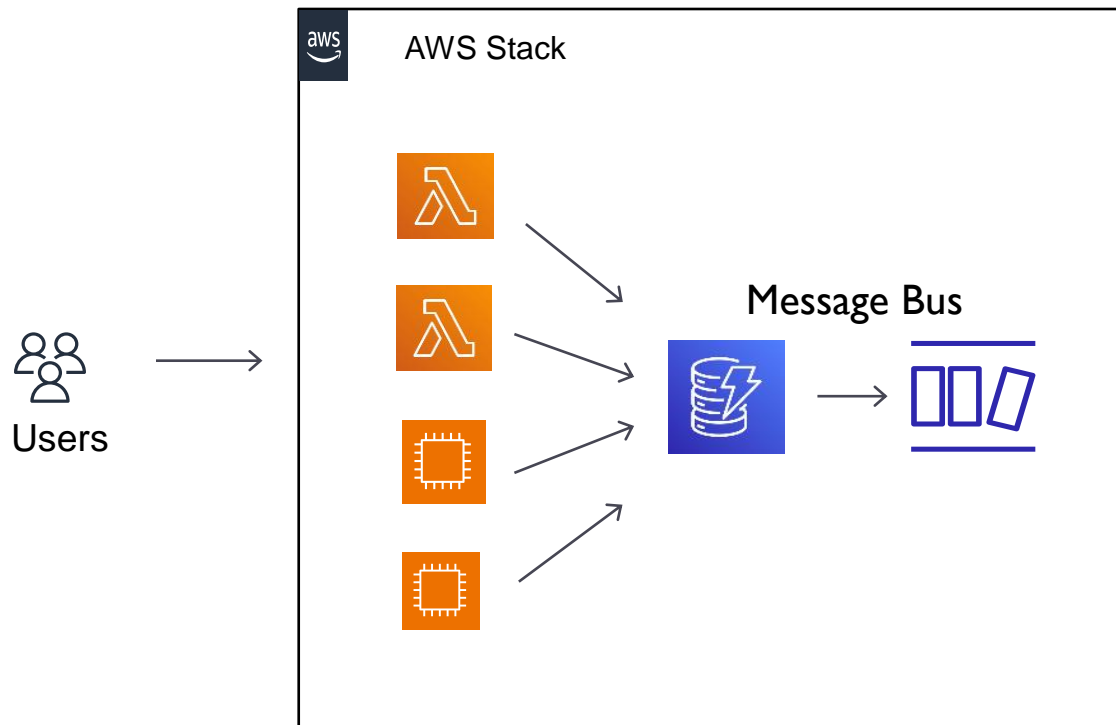
Performance

Execution engines compared over a time series

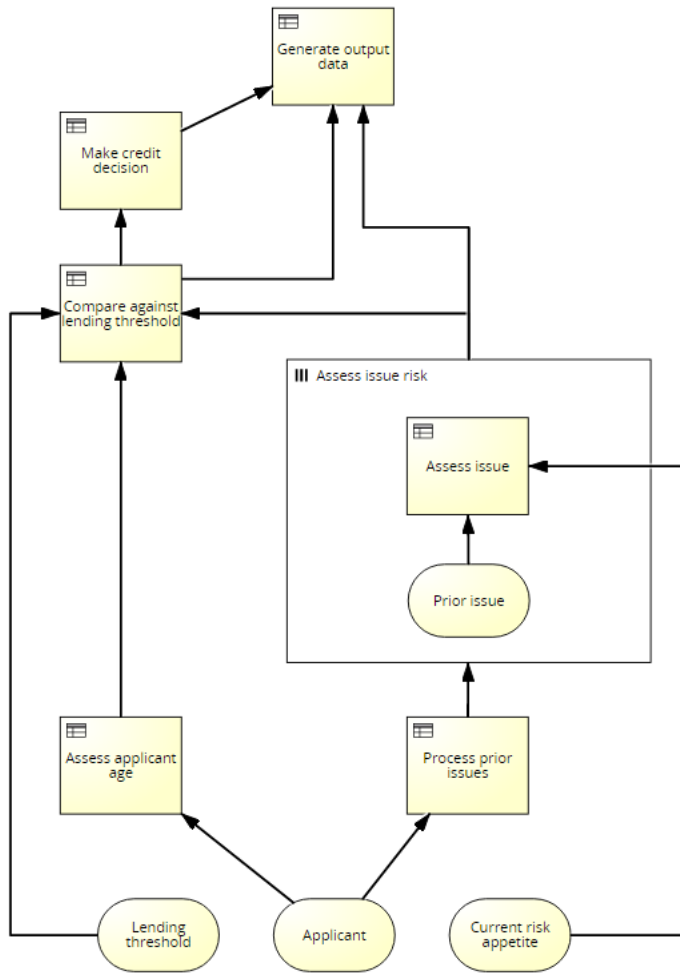


Code Optimisation – Model Level

- ▶ AWS Lambda
- ▶ gRPC / protobuf



Code Optimisation – DRG Element Level



- ▶ Caching
- ▶ Map-reduce for
 - ▶ MID

Code Optimisation – DRG Element Level

- ▶ **Lazy evaluation**

- ▶ Inner nodes (Decisions, BKM's, Decision Services)
- ▶ Leaves (Input Data)

F	E		
	A	B	<i>Output</i>
1	= "1"	= "2"	# C
2	= "2"	-	# D

Code Optimisation – DRG Element Level

Performance Before DRG Optimization				
Decision Name	Request Count	Response Time 90 th (ms)	Min Response Time (ms)	Max Response Time (ms)
D1	12899	40	4	5562
D2	361	6676	21	9653
D3	28731	15	1	933
D4	86165	39	4	6367

Performance After DRG Optimization				
Decision Name	Request Count	Response Time 90 th (ms)	Min Response Time (ms)	Max Response Time (ms)
D1	12899	35	5	7150
D2	361	315	153	4603
D3	28745	12	1	606
D4	86204	37	4	7736

Code Optimisation at FEEL level

- ▶ Native Types
- ▶ Built-in functions
- ▶ Native Compiler / Interpreter (e.g. JIT compiler)

Recent features

- ▶ DM composition
- ▶ Cross-translation for Java, Kotlin and Python
- ▶ Optimised execution (e.g. map-reduce for MID)
- ▶ Support for gRPC / protobuf
- ▶ Explanation: Annotations and Tree / Postorder Listeners