

COMP90041 Final Project

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<https://github.com/COMP90041/final-project-moral-machines-leonw3>

Reflection Task

My decision algorithm was heavily weighted on the whether or not the pedestrians were legally crossing. This was due to my personal belief that those who are obeying the law should not be punished regardless of their characteristics. Additionally, this design choice was implemented as I believe that the individuals who choose to use a self-driving car should know the risks associated with them. This bias was clearly visible after viewing the results as more pedestrians survived showing that if they were crossing legally, they would most likely survive. A surprising result was the high number of criminals that survived despite the negative weights that were put on them. This was mostly likely due to the weight of the legality of the crossing.

Designing a fair algorithm is impossible as each programmer will value different things. Whether it is right or wrong is entirely subjective which is where the difficulty of developing such a program comes into play. Because of this, I designed the algorithm to my personal beliefs. I do not believe that I am fit to judge the value of someone's life which is why I opted to put such a heavy weight on whether it was a legal crossing as I believe you should be punished for breaking the law. Before programming the decisions of a self-driving car, companies will need to discuss what is morally correct, which will not be a simple task.