



# AI Explainability 360

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IBM Research AI

Jan 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020



## CONTRIBUTORS

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## AGENDA

- **Why Explainable AI?**
  - Types and Methods for Explainable AI
- AI Explainability 360 Toolkit
  - Taxonomy and Guidance

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30
- Interactive Web Experience Demo

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15
- Hands on session 1
  - Package Installation and Git walkthrough
  - Use case (Industry): Personal finance

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45
- Break

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30
- Hands on session 2
  - Use case (Government): Health and nutrition

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25
- Hands on session 3
  - Use case (Medicine): Clinical Medicine
  - Metrics

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30
- Summary and future directions

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30



AI IS NOW USED IN MANY HIGH-STAKES DECISION MAKING APPLICATIONS



**Credit**



**Employment**



**Admission**



**Sentencing**





WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO TRUST A DECISION MADE BY A MACHINE (OTHER THAN THAT IT IS 99% ACCURATE)



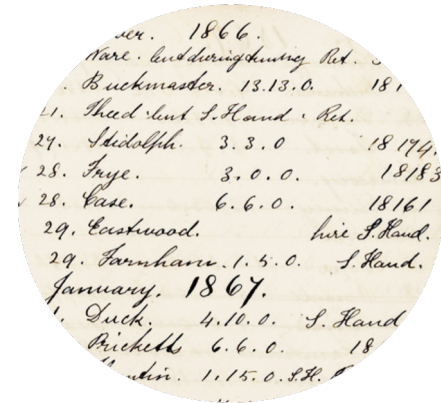
**Is it fair?**



**Is it easy to understand?**



**Did anyone tamper with it?**



**Is it accountable?**



## THE QUEST FOR "EXPLAINABLE AI"

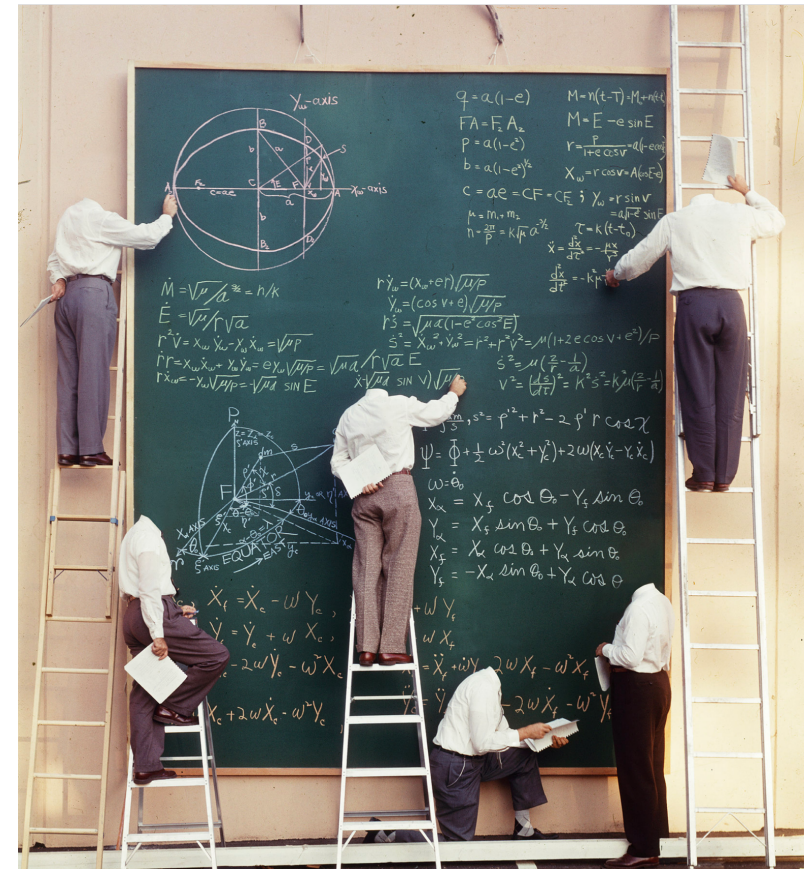
GO JOURNAL

Companies Grapple With AI's Opaque Decision-Making Process  
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Why Explainable AI Will Be the Next Big  
Disruptive Trend in Business 

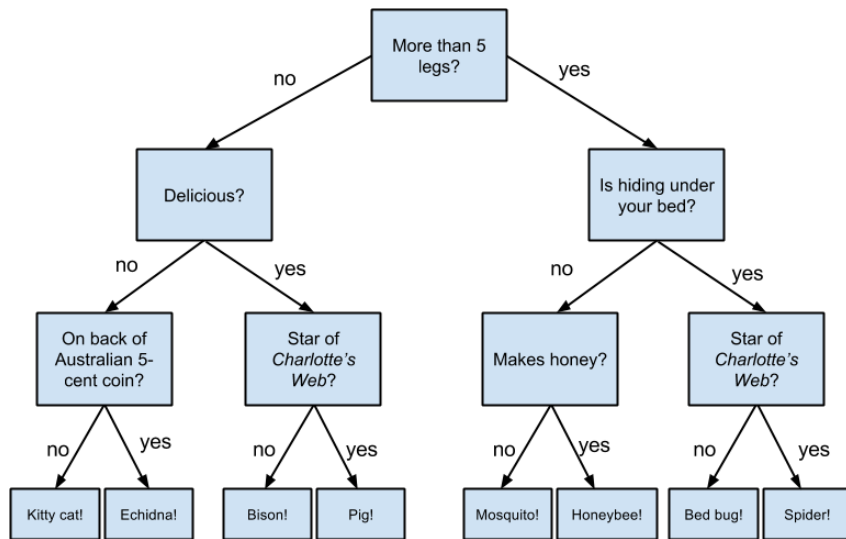
When a Computer Program Keeps You in Jail

Don't Trust Artificial  
Intelligence? Time To Open The  
AI 'Black Box'



## WHY EXPLAINABLE AI?

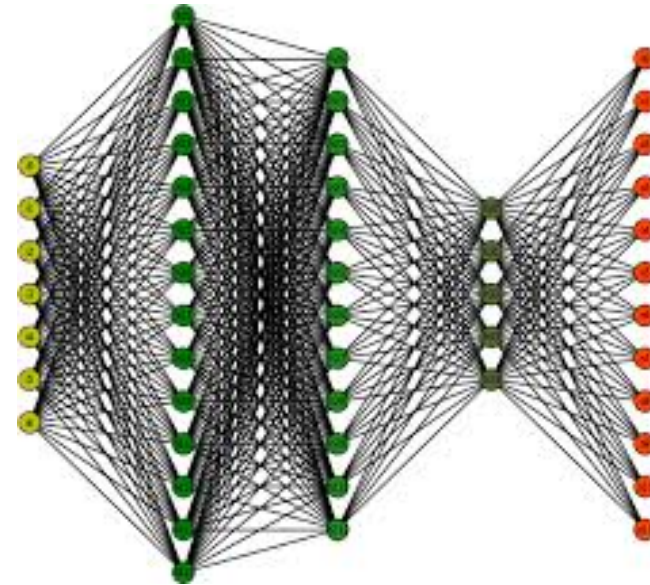
### Decision Tree



Interpretable?

**YES**

### Neural Network



Interpretable?

**NO**



## BUT WHAT ARE WE ASKING FOR?

### The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

- Limits to **decision-making** based solely on **automated processing** and profiling (Art.22)
- Right to be provided with **meaningful information** about the **logic** involved in the decision ( Art.13 (2) f. and 15 (1) h)

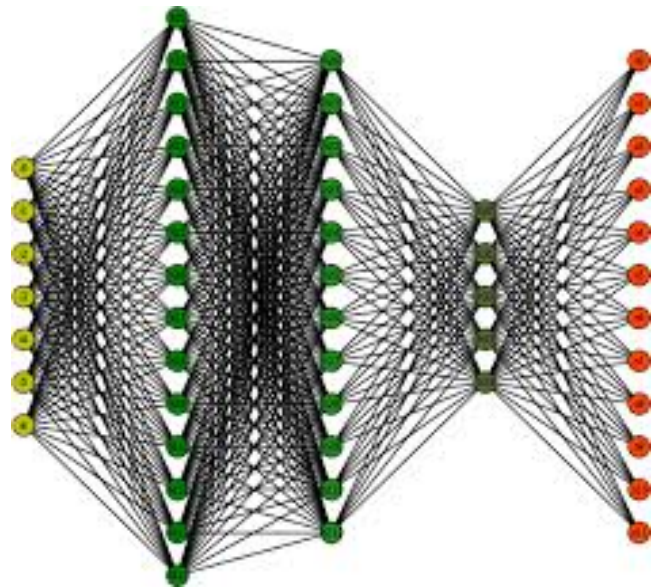
**“meaningful” ???**





## Simplification

Understanding what's truly happening can help build simpler systems.



Insight



Check if code has comments



## Debugging

Can help to understand what is wrong with a system.



Self driving car slowed down but  
wouldn't stop at red light???



## Existence of Confounders

Can help to identify spurious correlations.

Pneumonia

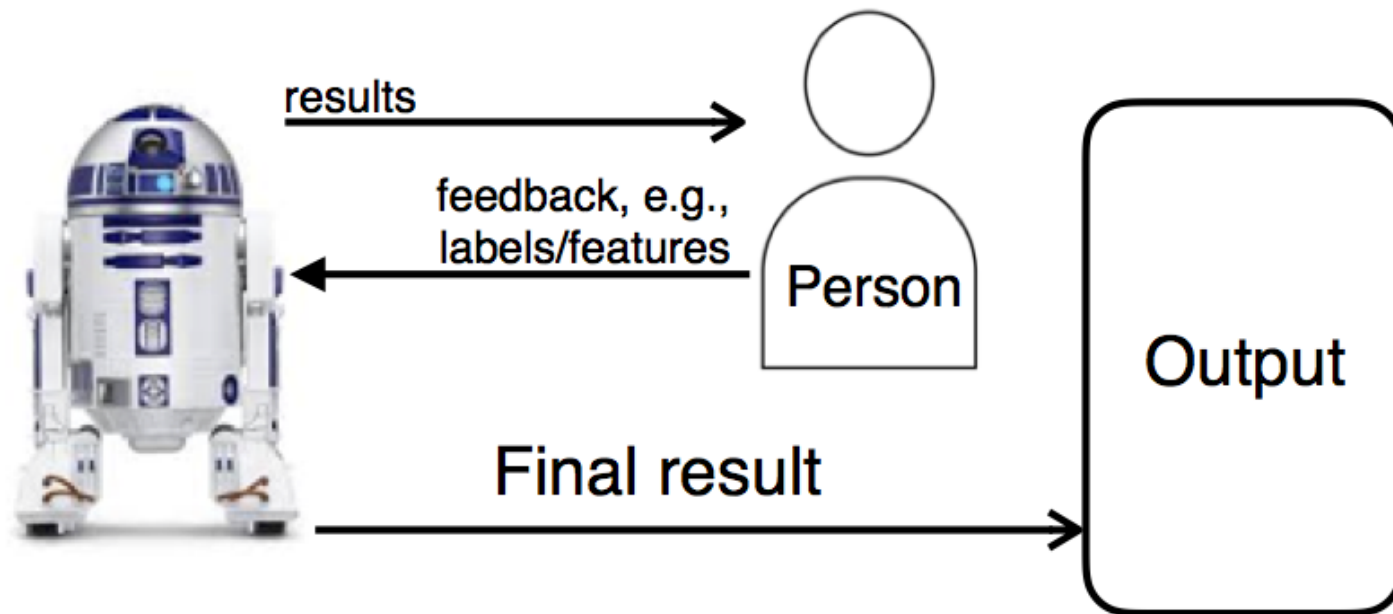


Diabetes



## Enhance Performance

Humans in combination with a system can be much more effective than just a more accurate system.





## WHY EXPLAINABLE AI? (CONTINUED)

### Fairness

Is the decision making system fair?



### Robustness and Generalizability

Is the system basing decisions on the correct features?



**Wide Spread Adoption**



**Interesting article**

**Geoff Hinton Dismissed The Need For Explainable AI: 8 Experts Explain Why He's Wrong**

***Hinton: "I'm an expert on trying to get the technology to work, not an expert on social policy. One place where I do have technical expertise that's relevant is [whether] regulators should insist that you can explain how your AI system works. I think that would be a complete disaster."***

[Geoff Hinton Dismissed - The Need For Explainable AI: 8 Experts Explain Why He's Wrong](#)



## THREE DIMENSIONS OF EXPLAINABILITY

One explanation does not fit all: There are many ways to explain things.

### **directly interpretable**

The oldest AI formats, such as decision rule sets, decision trees, and decision tables are simple enough for people to understand. Supervised learning of these models is directly interpretable.

### **global (model-level)**

Shows the entire predictive model to the user to help them understand it (e.g. a small decision tree, whether obtained directly or in a post hoc manner).

### **static**

The interpretation is simply presented to the user.

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**vs.**

### **post hoc interpretation**

Start with a black box model and probe into it with a companion model to create interpretations. The black box model continues to provide the actual prediction while the interpretation improves human interactions.

**vs.**

### **local (instance-level)**

Only show the explanations associated with individual predictions (i.e. what was it about this particular person that resulted in her loan being denied).

**vs.**

### **interactive (visual analytics)**

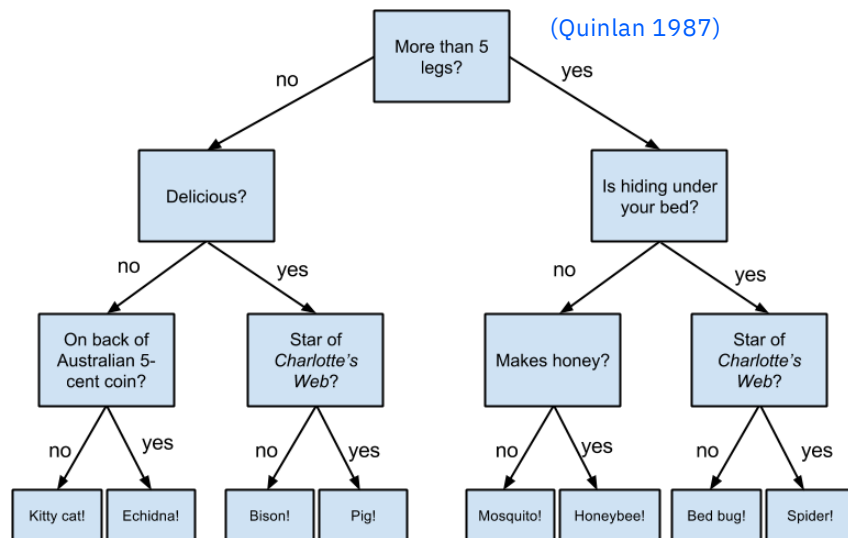
The user can interact with interpretation.



## Directly interpretable

The oldest AI formats, such as decision rule sets, decision trees, and decision tables are simple enough for people to understand. Supervised learning of these models is directly interpretable.

### Decision Tree



### Rule List

(Wang and Rudin 2016)

if	capital-gain>\$7298.00	then probability to make over 50K = 0.986
else if	Young, Never-married,	then probability to make over 50K = 0.003
else if	Grad-school, Married,	then probability to make over 50K = 0.748
else if	Young, capital-loss=0,	then probability to make over 50K = 0.072
else if	Own-child, Never-married,	then probability to make over 50K = 0.015
else if	Bachelors, Married,	then probability to make over 50K = 0.655
else if	Bachelors, Over-time,	then probability to make over 50K = 0.255
else if	Exec-managerial, Married,	then probability to make over 50K = 0.531
else if	Married, HS-grad,	then probability to make over 50K = 0.300
else if	Grad-school,	then probability to make over 50K = 0.266
else if	Some-college, Married,	then probability to make over 50K = 0.410
else if	Prof-specialty, Married,	then probability to make over 50K = 0.713
else if	Assoc-degree, Married,	then probability to make over 50K = 0.420
else if	Part-time,	then probability to make over 50K = 0.013
else if	Husband,	then probability to make over 50K = 0.126
else if	Prof-specialty,	then probability to make over 50K = 0.148
else if	Exec-managerial, Male,	then probability to make over 50K = 0.193
else if	Full-time, Private,	then probability to make over 50K = 0.026
else	(default rule)	then probability to make over 50K = 0.066.

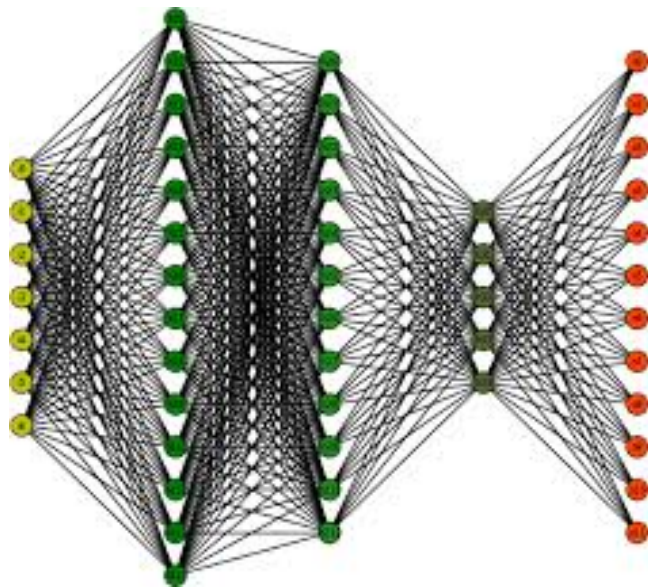




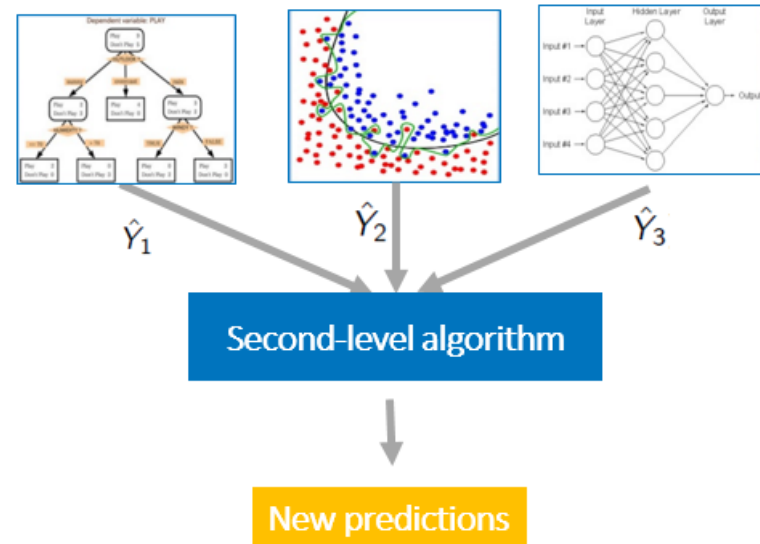
## Post hoc interpretation

Start with a black box model and probe into it with a companion model to create interpretations. The black box model continues to provide the actual prediction while interpretation improve human interactions.

### (Deep) Neural Network



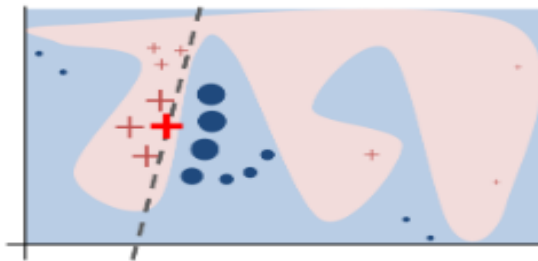
### Ensembles



## Post hoc (local) interpretation

### Locally Interpretable Model Agnostic Explanations (LIME)

(Ribeiro et. al. 2016)



*Figure 1.* Toy example to present intuition for LIME. The black-box model's complex decision function  $f$  (unknown to LIME) is represented by the blue/pink background. The bright bold red cross is the instance being explained. LIME samples instances, gets predictions using  $f$ , and weighs them by the proximity to the instance being explained (represented here by size). The dashed line is the explanation that is locally (but not globally) faithful.




---

#### Algorithm 1 Sparse Linear Explanations using LIME

---

**Require:** Classifier  $f$ , Number of samples  $N$

**Require:** Instance  $x$ , and its interpretable version  $x'$

**Require:** Similarity kernel  $\pi_x$ , Length of explanation  $K$

$\mathcal{Z} \leftarrow \{\}$

**for**  $i \in \{1, 2, 3, \dots, N\}$  **do**

$z'_i \leftarrow \text{sample\_around}(x')$

$\mathcal{Z} \leftarrow \mathcal{Z} \cup \{z'_i, f(z_i), \pi_x(z_i)\}$

**end for**

$w \leftarrow \text{K-Lasso}(\mathcal{Z}, K)$   $\triangleright$  with  $z'_i$  as features,  $f(z)$  as target

**return**  $w$

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## Post hoc (local) interpretation

### Maximum Mean Discrepancy Critic

(Kim et. al. 2016)

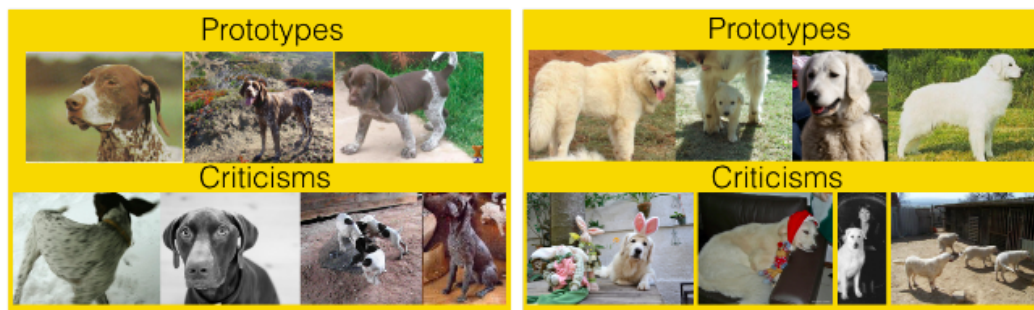


Figure 2: Learned prototypes and criticisms from Imagenet dataset (two types of dog breeds)

### Health care



#### Prototypes

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i \in [n]} k(x, x_i) - \frac{1}{m} \sum_{j \in [m]} k(x, z_j).$$

#### Criticisms

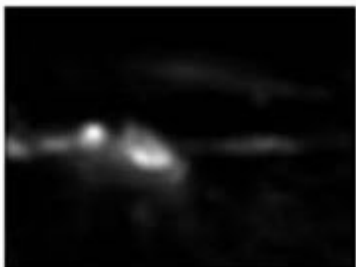
$$\begin{aligned} J_b(S) &= \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{i,j=1}^n k(x_i, x_j) - \text{MMD}^2(\mathcal{F}, X, X_S) \\ &= \frac{2}{n|S|} \sum_{i \in [n], j \in S} k(x_i, y_j) - \frac{1}{|S|^2} \sum_{i,j \in S} k(y_i, x_j). \end{aligned}$$



## Post hoc (local) interpretation

### Saliency Maps

(Simonyan et. al. 2013)



$$w = \left. \frac{\partial S_c}{\partial I} \right|_{I_0} .$$

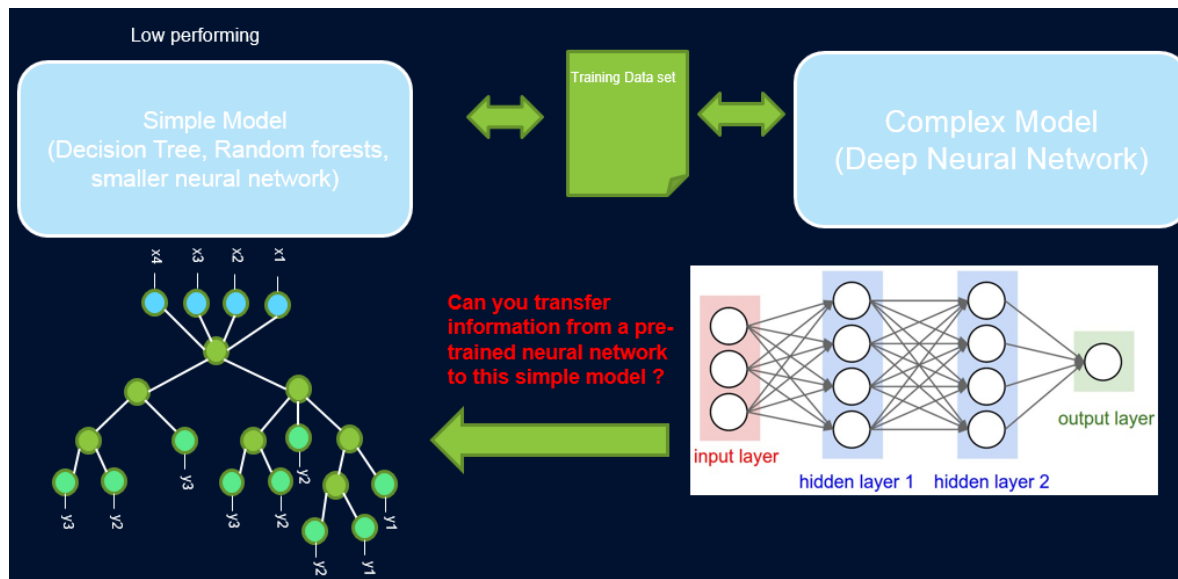




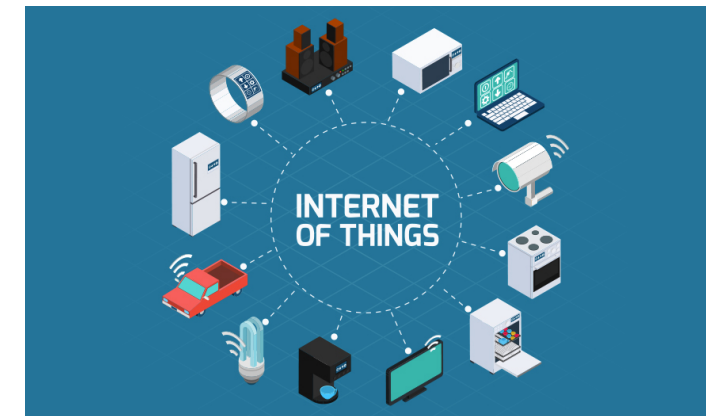
## Post hoc (global) interpretation

### Knowledge Distillation

(Hinton et. al. 2015)



## Complex Systems



$$\frac{\partial C}{\partial z_i} = \frac{1}{T} (q_i - p_i) = \frac{1}{T} \left( \frac{e^{z_i/T}}{\sum_j e^{z_j/T}} - \frac{e^{v_i/T}}{\sum_j e^{v_j/T}} \right)$$

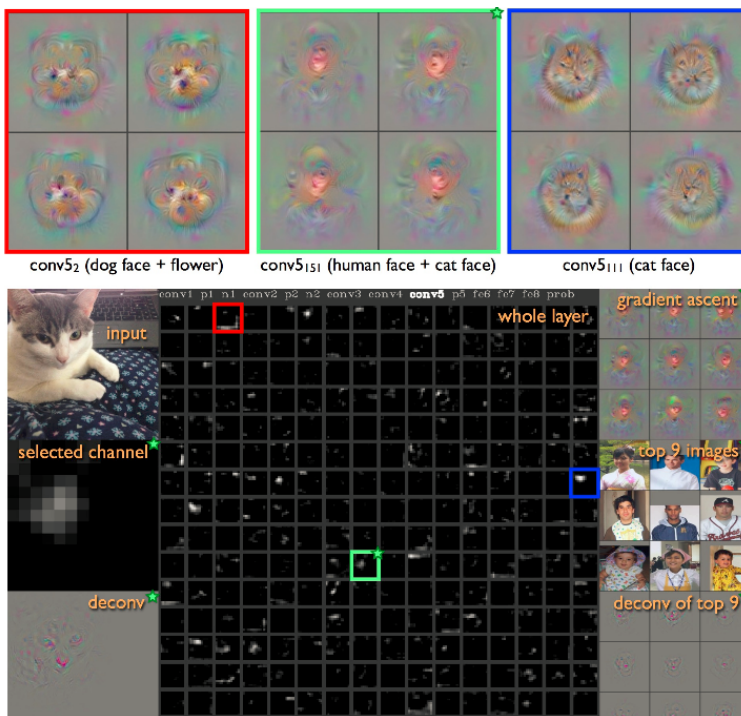


## Static/Interactive (visual) interpretation

Start with a black box model and probe into it with a companion model to create interpretations. The black box model continues to provide the actual prediction while the interpretation improves human interactions.

## Deep Visualization

(Yosinski et. al. 2015)



## ONE EXPLANATION DOES NOT FIT ALL

Different stakeholders require explanations for different purposes and with different objectives. Explanations will have to be tailored to their needs.

### End users

“Why did you recommend this treatment?”

Who: Physicians, judges, loan officers, teacher evaluators

Why: trust/confidence, insights(?)

### Affected users

“Why was my loan denied? How can I be approved?”

Who: Patients, accused, loan applicants, teachers

Why: understanding of factors

### Regulatory bodies

“Prove that your system didn't discriminate.”

Who: EU (GDPR), NYC Council, US Gov't, etc.

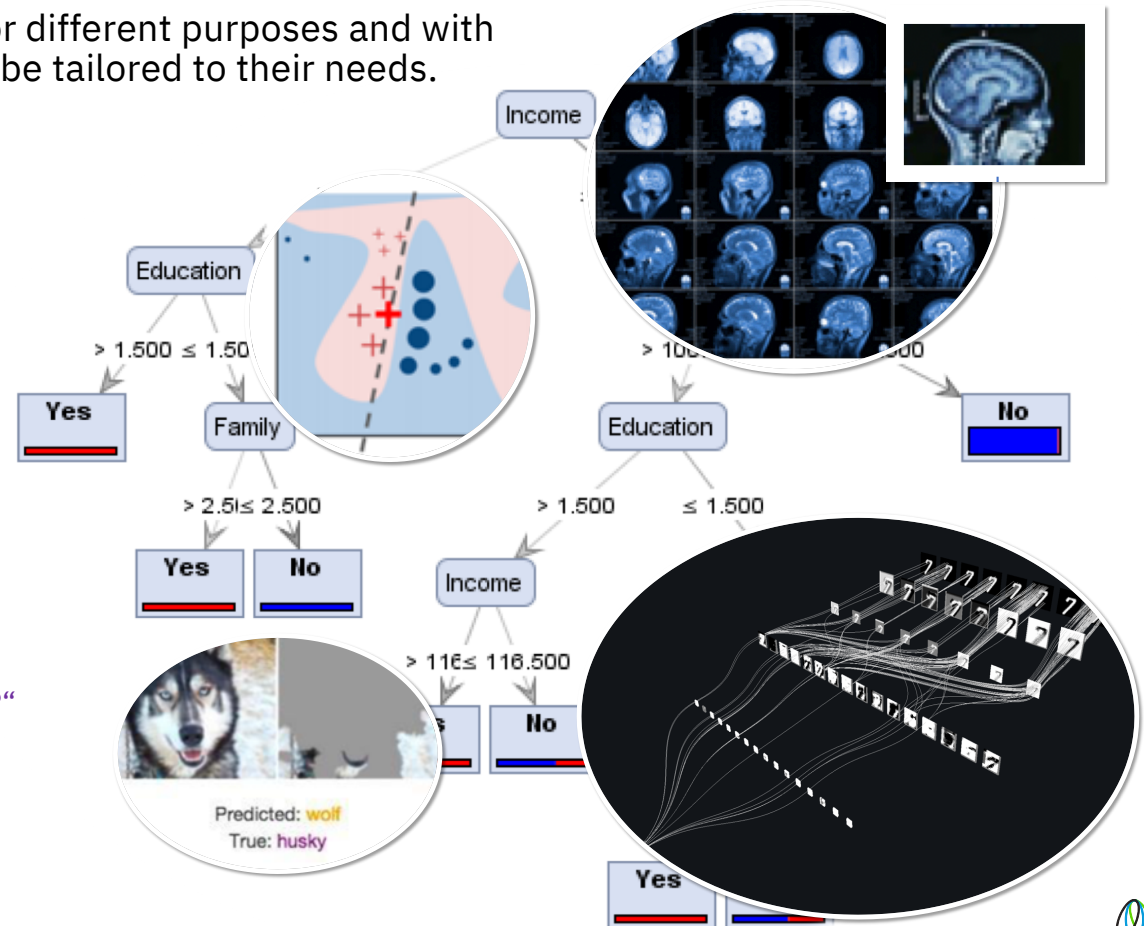
Why: ensure fairness for constituents

### AI system builders/stakeholders

“Is the system performing well? How can it be improved?”

Who: EU (GDPR), NYC Council, US Gov't, etc.

Why: ensure or improve performance



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# AIX360: IBM RESEARCH AI EXPLAINABILITY 360 TOOLKIT

## Goals

- Support a community of users and contributors who will together help make models and their predictions more transparent.
- Support and advance research efforts in explainability.
- Contribute efforts to engender trust in AI.

IBM Research AIX360	
Explainability Algorithms	10 algorithms to explain data and AI models + 2 metrics
Repositories	<a href="https://github.com/ibm/AIX360">github.ibm.com/AIX360</a> <a href="https://github.com/IBM/AIX360">github.com/IBM/AIX360</a>
Interactive Experience	<a href="https://aix360.mybluemix.net">aix360.mybluemix.net</a>
API	<a href="https://aix360.readthedocs.io">aix360.readthedocs.io</a>
Tutorials	13 notebooks (finance, healthcare, lifestyle, Attrition, etc.)
Developers	> 15 Researchers + Software engineers across YKT, India, Argentina

## Trusted AI Toolkits



**Adversarial  
Robustness  
360**



**AI  
Fairness  
360**



**AI  
Explainability  
360**



**Causal  
Inference  
360**

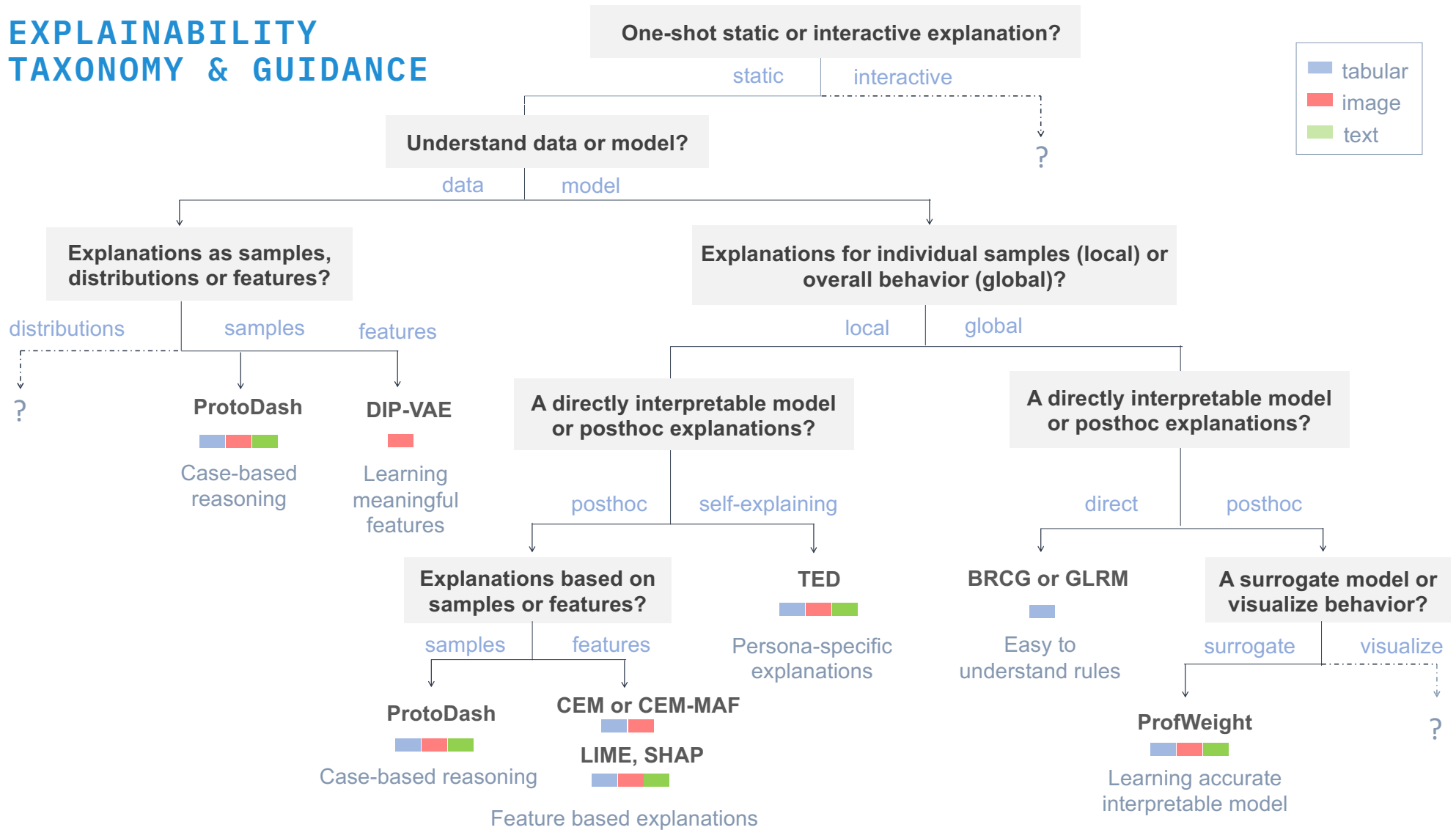
**Why Explainable AI Will Be the Next Big Disruptive Trend in Business** 

**Don't Trust Artificial Intelligence? Time To Open The AI 'Black Box'**

CIO JOURNAL

**Companies Grapple With AI's Opaque Decision-Making Process**  
THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

# EXPLAINABILITY TAXONOMY & GUIDANCE





## AIX360: AI EXPLAINABILITY OPENSOURCE LANDSCAPE

Toolkit	Data Explanations	Directly Interpretable	Local Post-hoc	Global Post-hoc	Custom Explanation	Metrics
IBM AIX360	2	2	5	1	1	2
Seldon Alibi			✓	✓		
Oracle Skater		✓	✓	✓		
H2o		✓	✓	✓		
Microsoft Interpret		✓	✓	✓		
Ethical ML				✓		
DrWhyDalEx				✓		

All algorithms of AIX360 are developed by IBM Research

AIX360 also provides demos, tutorials, and guidance on explanations for different use cases.

Paper: One Explanation Does Not Fit All: A Toolkit and Taxonomy of AI Explainability Techniques:

<https://arxiv.org/abs/1909.03012v1>



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## AI Explainability 360 Open Source Toolkit

This extensible open source toolkit can help you comprehend how machine learning models predict labels by various means throughout the AI application lifecycle. Containing eight state-of-the-art algorithms for interpretable machine learning as well as metrics for explainability, it is designed to translate algorithmic research from the lab into the actual practice of domains as wide-ranging as finance, human capital management, healthcare, and education. We invite you to use it and improve it.

[API Docs](#) [Get Code](#)

Not sure what to do first? Start here!

**Boolean Decision Rules via Column Generation (Light Edition)**

Directly learn accurate and interpretable 'or'-of-'and' logical classification rules.

→

**Generalized Linear Rule Models**

Directly learn accurate and interpretable weighted combinations of 'and' rules for classification or regression.

→

**ProfWeight**

Improve the accuracy of a directly interpretable model such as a decision tree using the confidence profile of a neural network.

→

**Teaching AI to Explain its Decisions**

Predict both labels and explanations with a model whose training set contains features, labels, and explanations.

→

**Contrastive Explanations Method**

Generate justifications for neural network classifications by highlighting minimally sufficient features, and minimally and critically absent features.

→

**Contrastive Explanations Method with Monotonic Attribute Functions**

Contrastive explanations for colored images or images with rich structure.

→

**Disentangled Inferred Prior VAE**

Learn disentangled representations for interpreting unlabeled data.

→

**ProtoDash**

Select prototypical examples from a dataset.

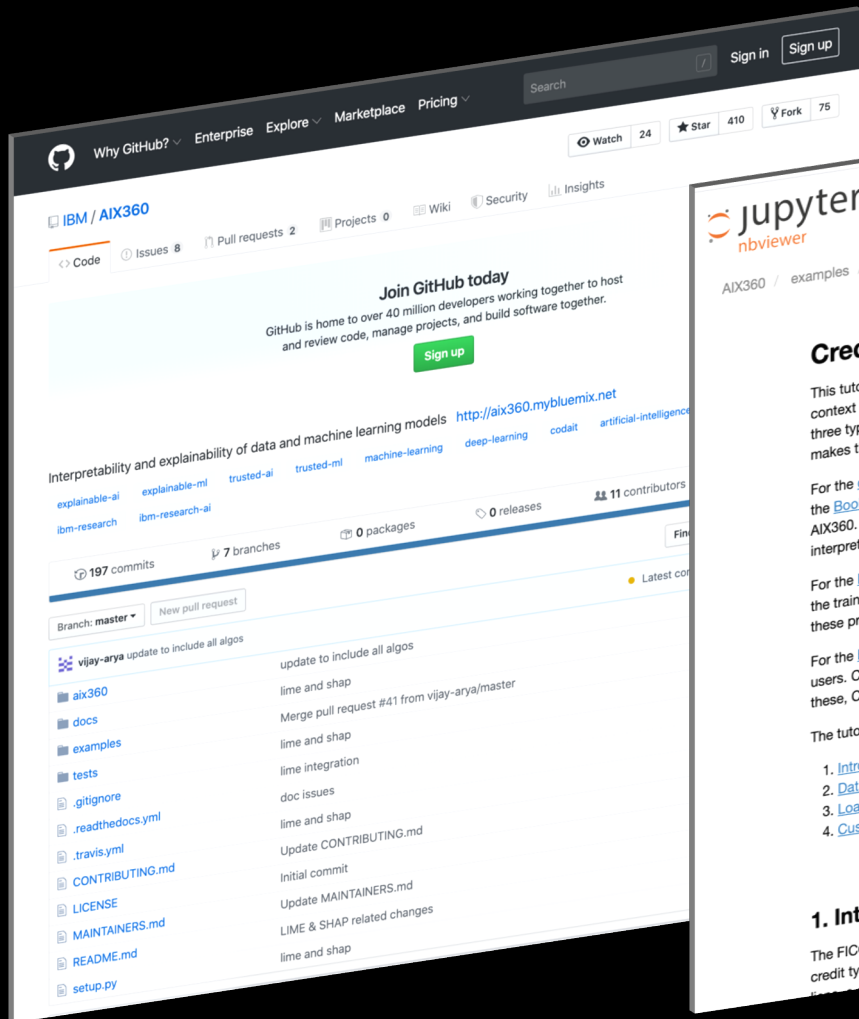
→

<http://aix360.mybluemix.net/>

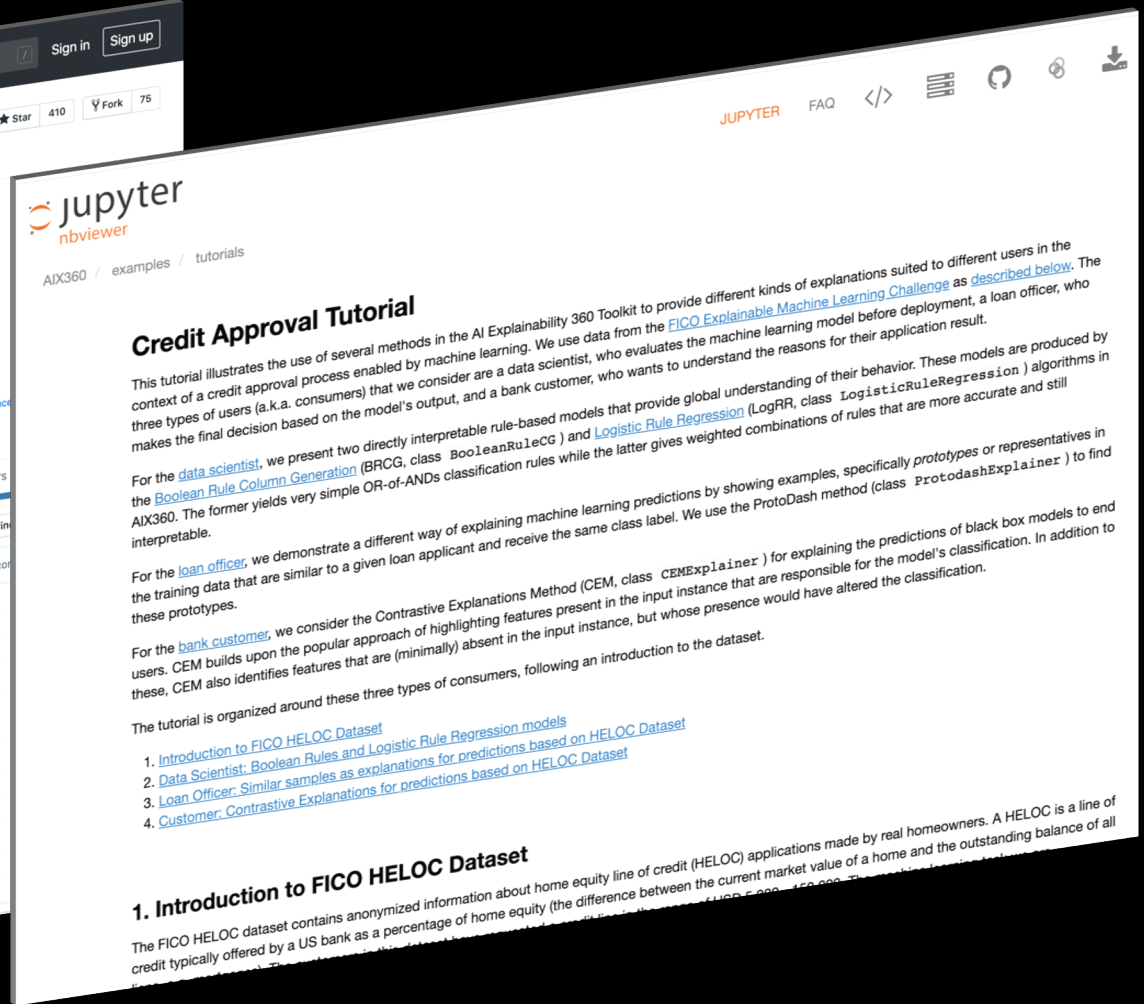
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<http://github.com/IBM/AIX360>



<https://github.com/IBM/AIX360/tree/master/examples>

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## Health and Lifestyle Survey Questions Tutorial

In this tutorial, we showcase how the ProtoDash explainer algorithm from AI Explainability 360 Toolkit implemented through the *ProtoDashExplainer* class could be used to summarize the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) datasets ([Study 1](#)) available through the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Moreover, we also show how the algorithm could be used to distill interesting relationships between different facets of life (i.e. early childhood and income), which were found by scientists ([Study 2](#)) through decades of rigorous experimentation. This study shows that in using ProtoDash, one can potentially uncover such insights cheaply, which could then be reaffirmed through rigorous experimentation.

Data from this survey is typically used in epidemiological studies and health science research, which helps develop public health policy, direct and design health programs and services, and expand health knowledge. Thus, the impact of understanding these datasets and the relationships that may exist between them are far reaching for a social scientist.

### Introduction to Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) datasets

The [NHANES CDC questionnaire datasets](#) are surveys conducted by the organization involving thousands of civilians about various facets of their daily lives. There are 44 questionnaires that collect data about income, occupation, health, early childhood and many other behavioral and lifestyle aspects of individuals living in the US. These questionnaires are thus a rich source of information indicative of the quality of life of many civilians.

This tutorial presents two studies. We first see how a CDC questionnaire answered by thousands of individuals could be summarized by looking at answers given by a few prototypical users. Next, an interesting endeavor is to uncover relationships between different aspects of life by analyzing data across the different CDC questionnaires. In the second study, we do exactly that with the help of the ProtoDash explainer algorithm. We show how the algorithm is able to uncover an interesting [insight](#) known only through decades of experimentation, solely from the questionnaire datasets. This by no means suggests the method as a substitute for rigorous experimentation, but showcases it as an avenue for obtaining interesting insights at low cost, which could inspire further indepth studies. The manner in which this is accomplished is by finding prototypical individuals for each of the questionnaires and then evaluating how well they represent the income questionnaire (w.r.t. the method's objective function). The more representative these prototypes are, the more that questionnaire is indicative/representative of income.

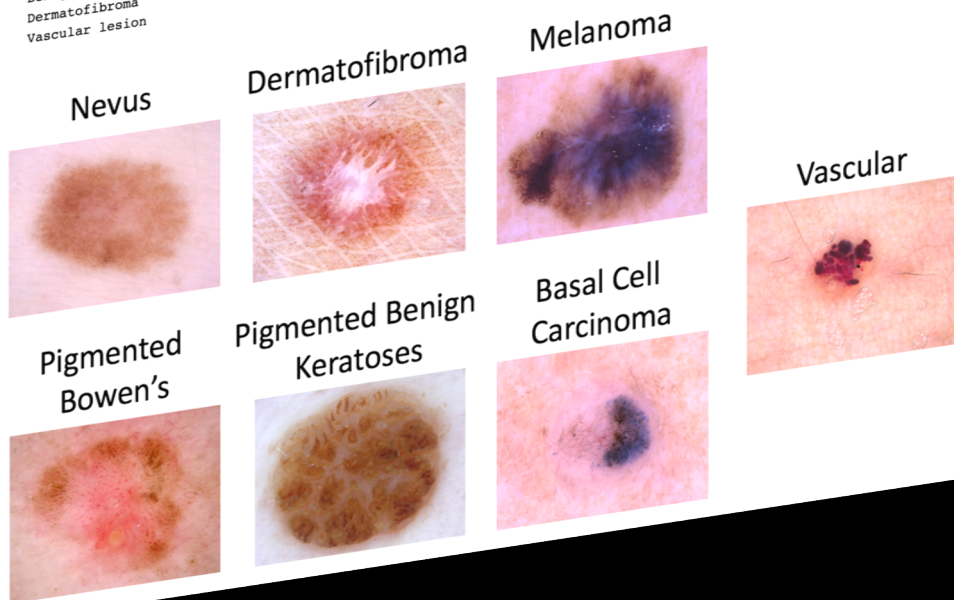
For this use case, we are selecting prototypes from specific questionnaires. Hence, the group we want to explain is the dataset itself, which — in this case — are the questionnaires. We are not training an AI model. Rather, we are trying to summarize each questionnaire, which was filled by thousands of people, by selecting a few representative individuals for each of them.

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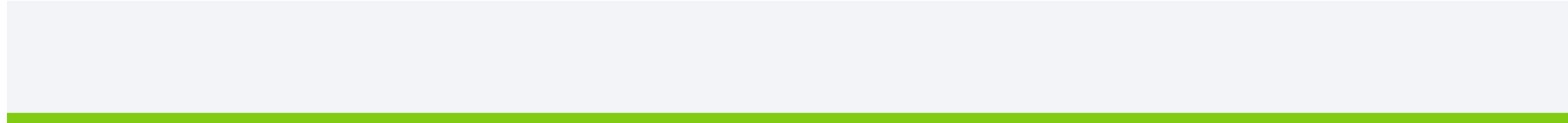
Melanoma  
Melanocytic nevus  
Basal cell carcinoma  
Actinic keratosis / Bowen's disease (intraepithelial carcinoma)  
Benign keratosis (solar lentigo / seborrheic keratosis / lichen planus-like keratosis)  
Dermatofibroma  
Vascular lesion



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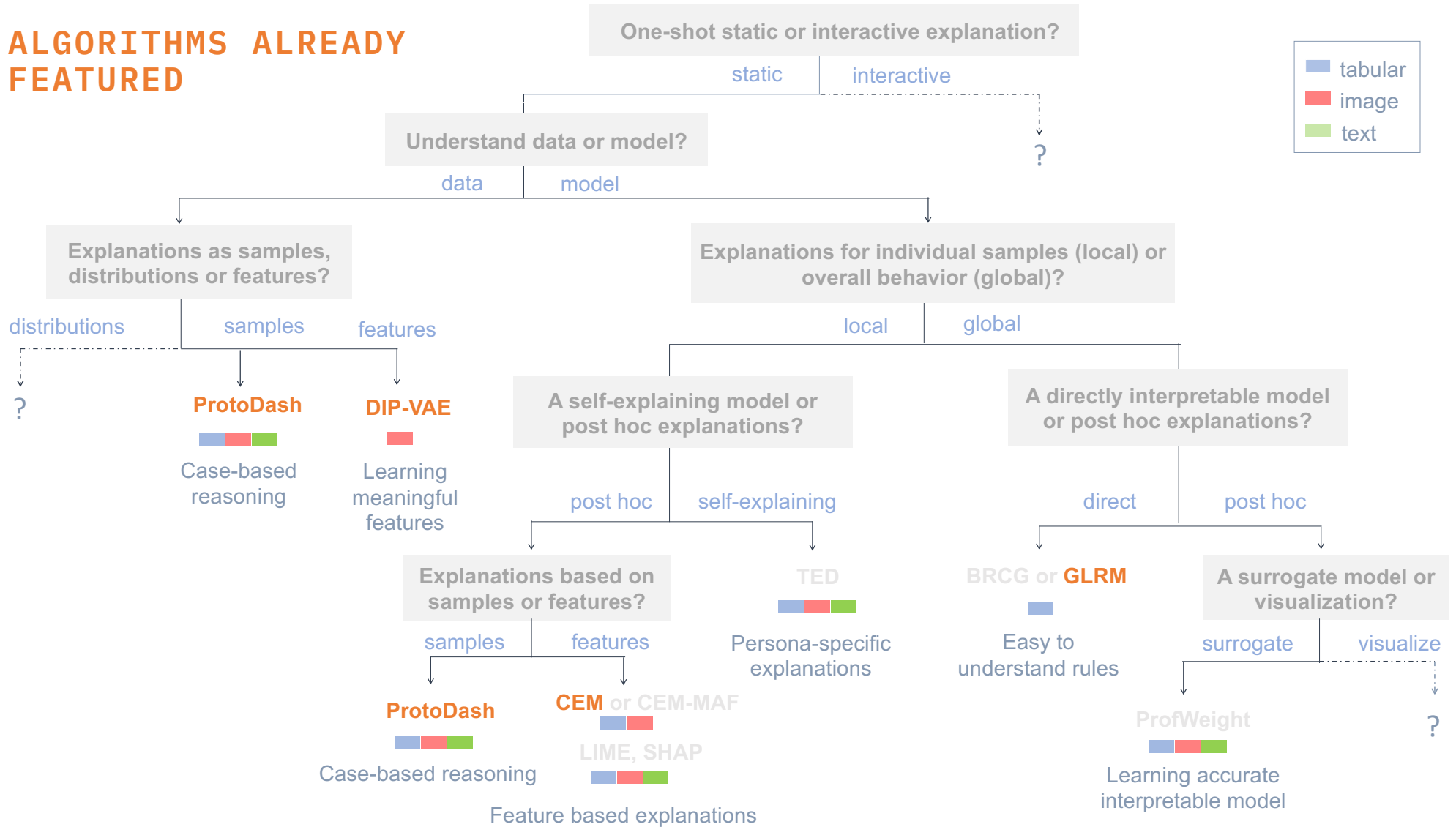


## Summary and Future Directions

- **Algorithm Summary**
- AIX360 for Developers
- Future Directions in Explainability
- Future Directions for AIX360

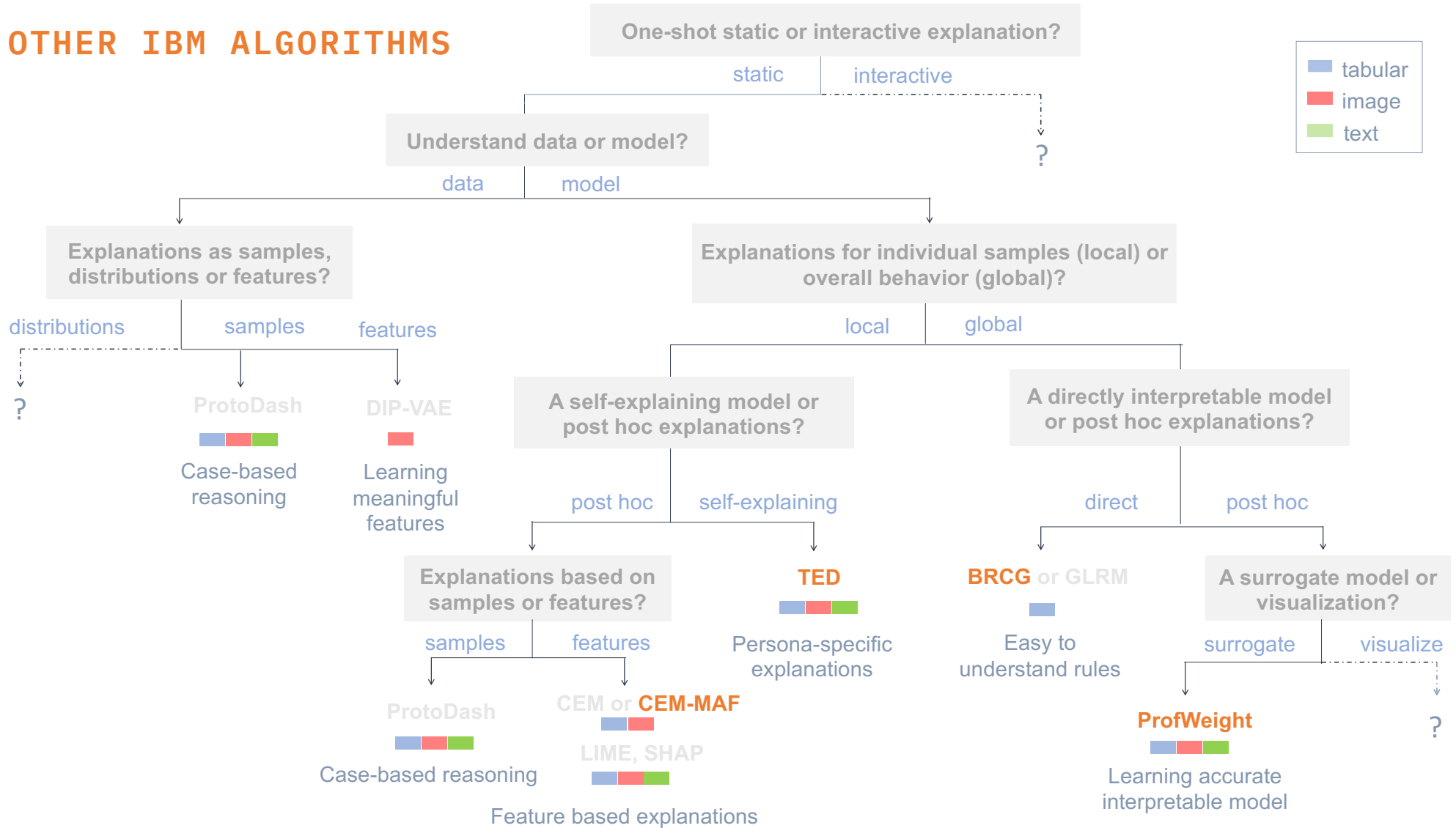


# ALGORITHMS ALREADY FEATURED





# OTHER IBM ALGORITHMS



## CEM-MAF: CONTRASTIVE EXPLANATIONS FOR COMPLEX IMAGES

MODEL - LOCAL - POST HOC

CEM produces

- Pertinent positives (PP): Present, minimally sufficient to yield classification
- Pertinent negatives (PN): Absent but (minimal) **addition** would change classification

Define **addition** in terms of higher-level concepts  
*e.g. high cheekbones, hair color, hair length*

Represent concepts using *monotonic attribute functions* (MAF)

Advantages:

- More realistic output images
- Interpretable additions (PN)

INPUT

old, male,  
not smiling



INPUT + PN

old, male,  
smiling



+ cheekbones

PP

20 features



young, female,  
not smiling



young, male,  
not smiling



+ single hair  
color, - bangs

5 features



## BRCG: BOOLEAN RULES VIA COLUMN GENERATION

MODEL – GLOBAL – DIRECTLY INTERPRETABLE

Learns Boolean rules for binary classification

- Disjunctive normal form (DNF, OR of ANDs)
- Conjunctive normal form (CNF, AND of ORs)



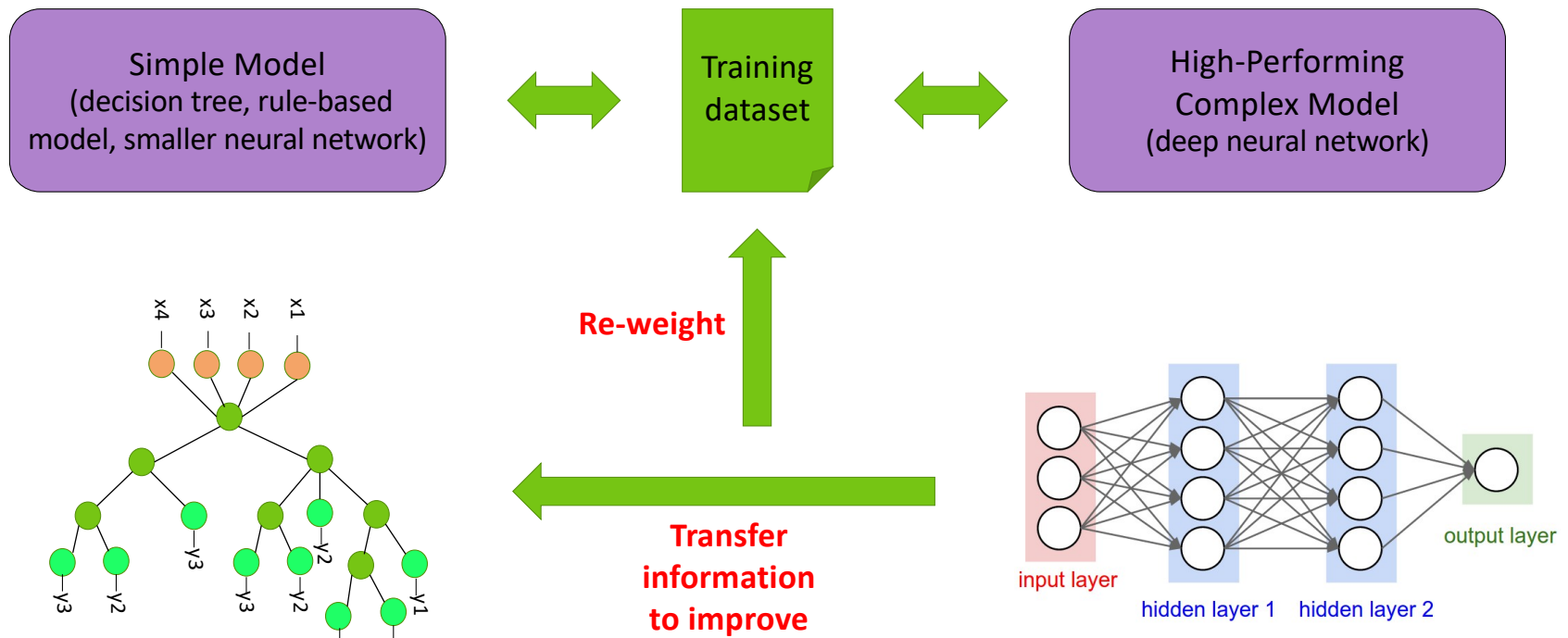
BRCG and GLRM are complementary rule-based methods

	GLRM	BRCG
Model produced	Generalized linear model (e.g. linear/logistic regression)	Binary classifier
Rule combination method	Linear combination	Logical OR or AND
Directly interpretable?	Yes	Even more so
How interpretability achieved	Few rules, short rules	
Optimization technique	Column generation	



# PROFWEIGHT: IMPROVING INTERPRETABLE SURROGATES

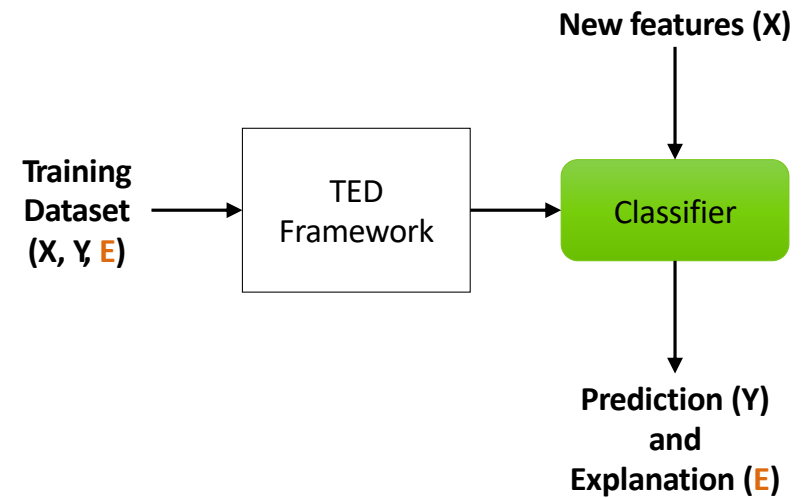
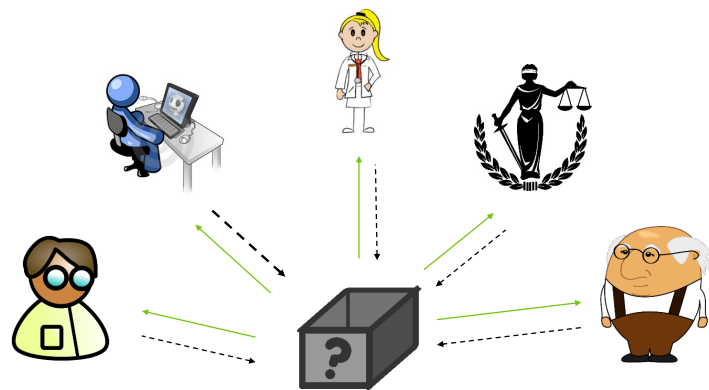
MODEL - GLOBAL - POST HOC



# TED: TEACHING EXPLANATIONS FOR AI DECISIONS

MODEL - LOCAL - SELF-EXPLAINING

Different explanation consumers require different explanations



Consumer provides **training explanations** in addition to training labels  
Learn to predict both label and explanation for unseen data point





## Summary and Future Directions

- Algorithm Summary
- **AIX360 for Developers**
- Future Directions in Explainability
- Future Directions for AIX360



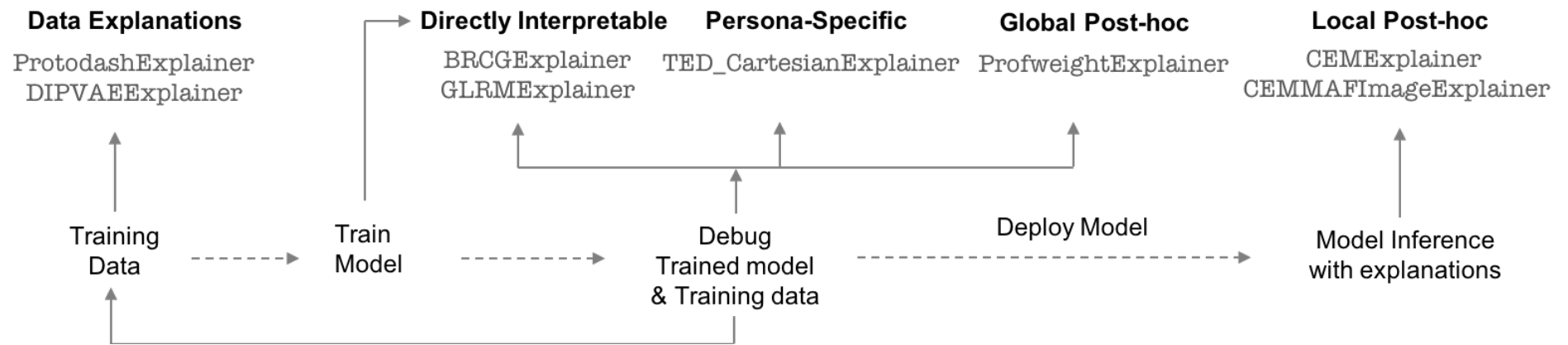


## AIX360 CLASS HIERARCHY

- ❑ DIExplainer (Directly Interpretable unsupervised)
  - ProtodashExplainer
  - DIPVAEEExplainer
- ❑ DISExplainer (Directly Interpretable Supervised)
  - BRCGExplainer
  - GLRMExplainer
  - TED\_CartesianExplainer
- ❑ LocalBBExplainer (Local Black-Box)
  - LIME Explainers
  - SHAP KernelExplainer
- ❑ LocalWBExplainer (Local White-Box)
  - CEMExplainer
  - CEM\_MAFImageExplainer
  - SHAP Explainers
- ❑ GlobalBBExplainer (Global Black-Box)
- ❑ GlobalWBExplainer (Global White-Box)
  - ProfweightExplainer



## CLASSES IN ML PIPELINE





## Summary and Future Directions

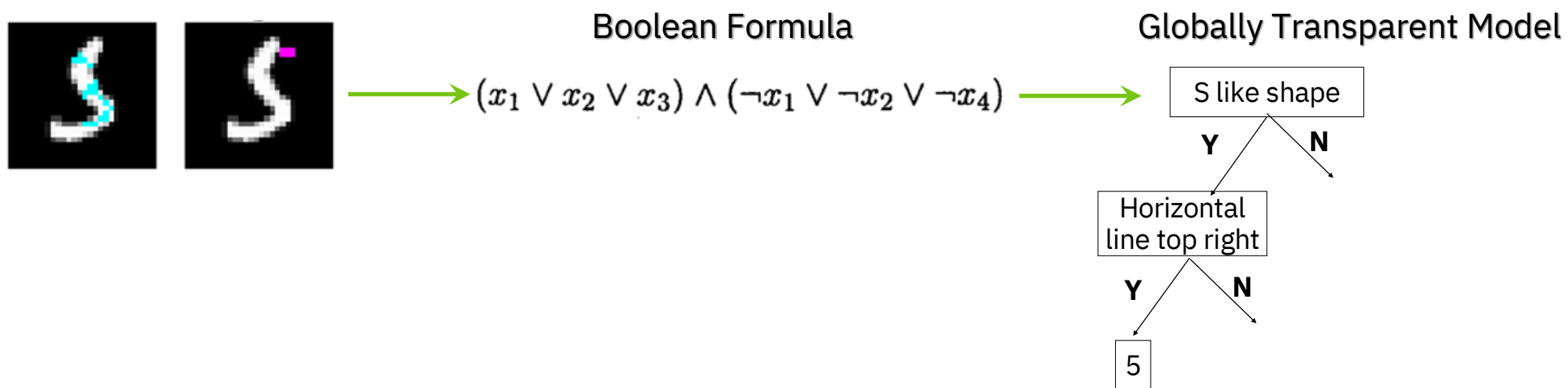
- Algorithm Summary
- AIX360 for Developers
- **Future Directions in Explainability**
- Future Directions for AIX360



## Local-to-Global Interpretation

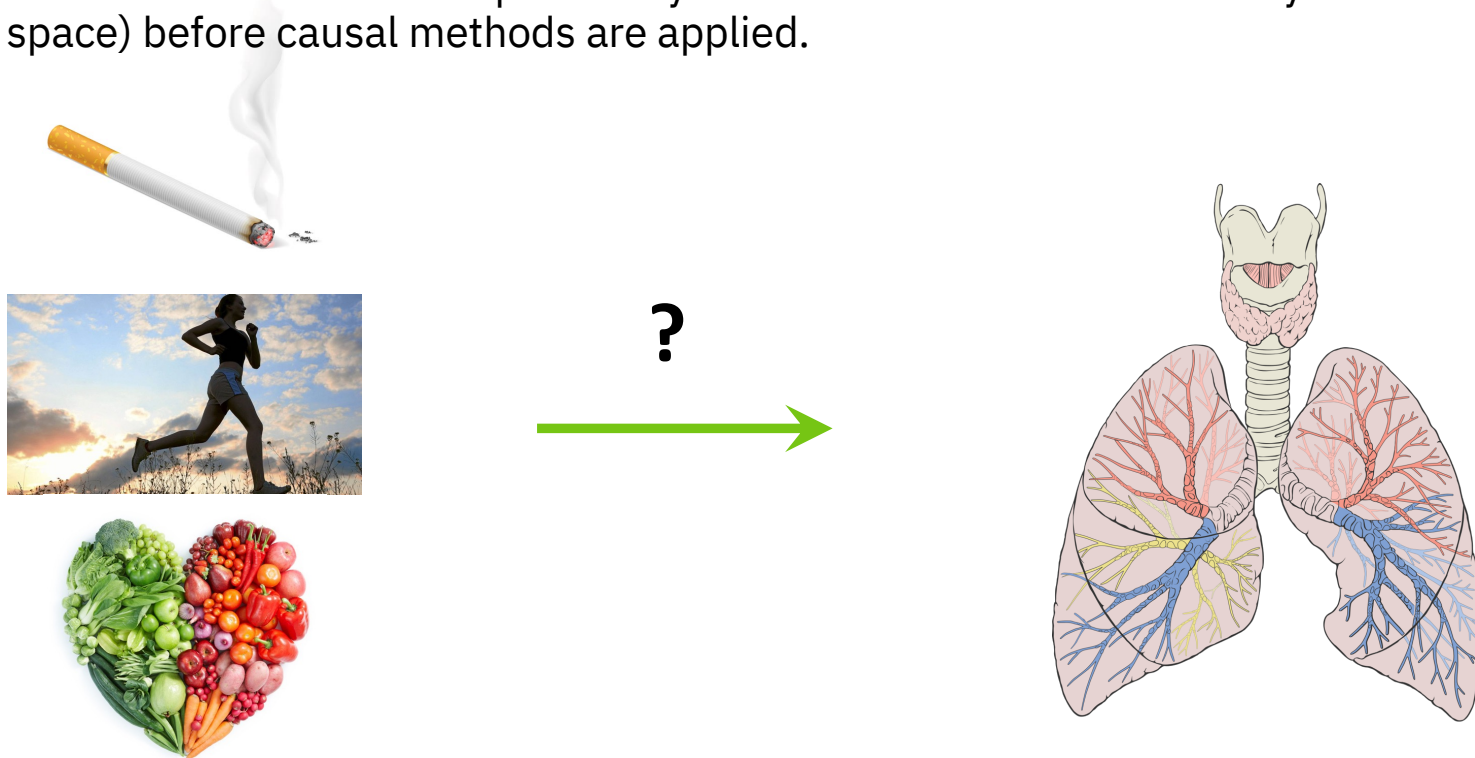
Local explanation methods could

- Extract useful features or a superset of rules to be passed to logic programs
- Be integrated into a coarse-to-fine hierarchy of explanations



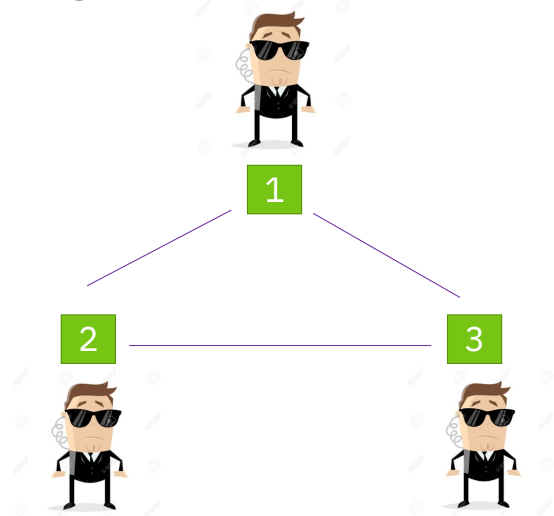
## Causality

What is the true cause for an event? Interpretability methods can be used to identify where to look (reduce search space) before causal methods are applied.



## Reinforcement Learning

Explanation methods are essentially communication methods that convey feature importances or representative examples. One could envision these methods being used in multiagent systems for teaching one another.





## Summary and Future Directions

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The future of AIX360 is people like you!



## CONTRIBUTING TO AIX360

Want to contribute?

- Start a discussion in our Slack workspace
- Create a GitHub issue
- Get working!

**AIX360** ▾  
Dennis Wei

Jump to... < >

Threads  
Apps

Channels

- # aix360-developers
- # aix360-users
- # fat-tutorial-2020
- # general
- # random

+ Add a channel

Direct Messages

- Slackbot

**#aix360-developers** 40 | 1 | Add a topic

December 1st, 2019

Oracle Skater	✓	✓	✓
H2o	✓	✓	✓
Microsoft	✓	✓	✓
Interpret	✓	✓	✓
Ethical ML	✓	✓	✓
OpenHyalix	✓	✓	✓

All algorithms of AIX360 are unique and developed by IBM Research. AIX360 also provides demos, tutorials, and guidance on explanations for different use cases.

**Kush Varshney** 6:41 PM  
Hi @Arpit Sisodia, thanks for pointing these out. The trust score is a number that reports how confident we should be in a classifier's prediction (as an alternative to some classifiers' own confidence score, e.g. the margin). It won't act as a proxy (in lieu of a human judgment) for how good an explanation is. The linearity measure reports how locally linear the decision boundary classifier is; for example, decision trees have fairly linear decision boundaries, whereas nearest neighbor classifiers tend to have more nonlinear decision boundaries. This also doesn't particularly report how good an explanation is.

**Arpit Sisodia** 9:15 PM  
@Kush Varshney, makes sense.. I will go deeper into monotonicity and faithfulness of 360 and back to u.. thanks for clarification.

2 replies Last reply 7 days ago

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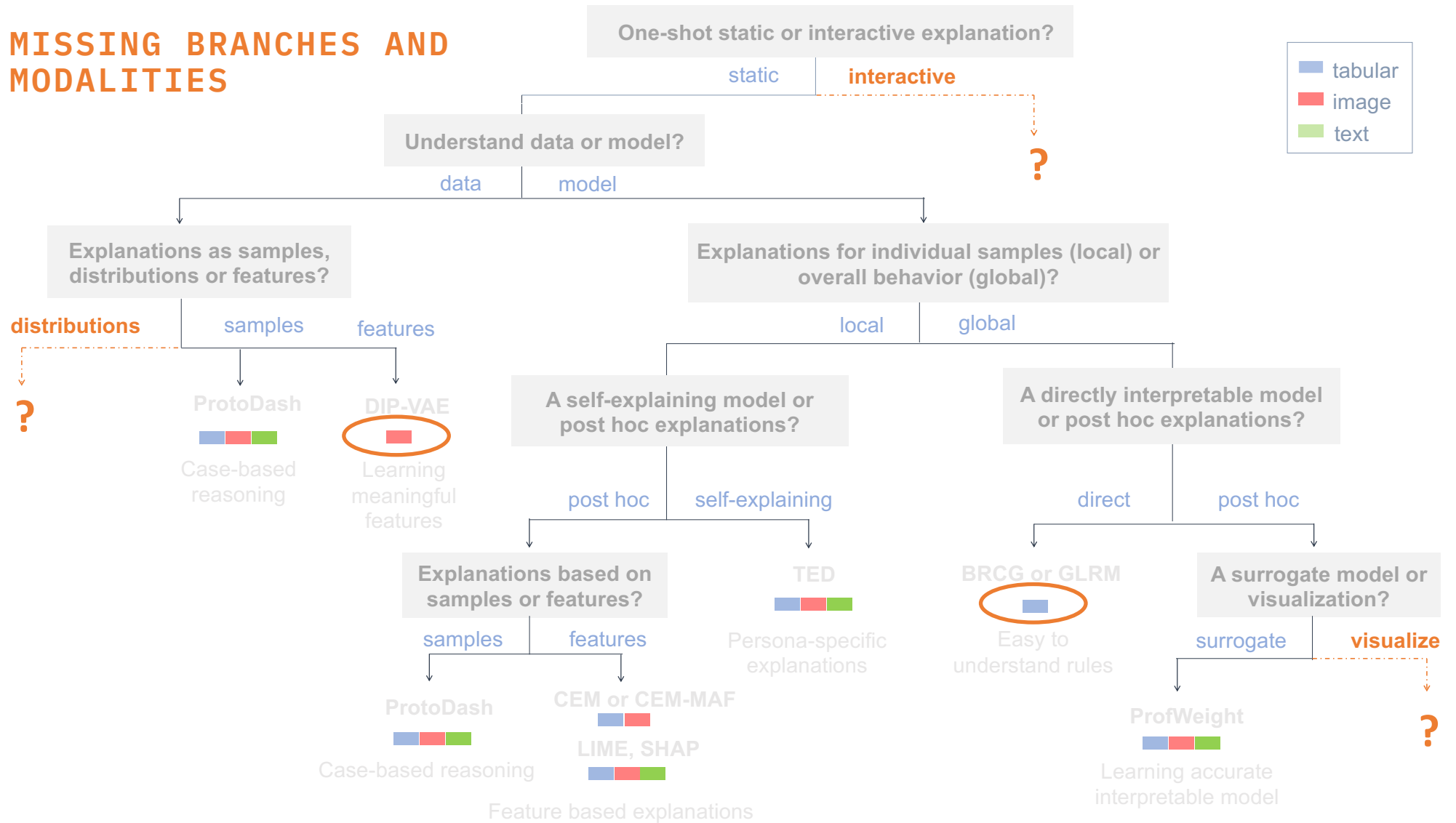
Assignees  
No one—assign yourself

Labels  
None yet

Projects  
None yet

Milestone  
No milestone

# MISSING BRANCHES AND MODALITIES

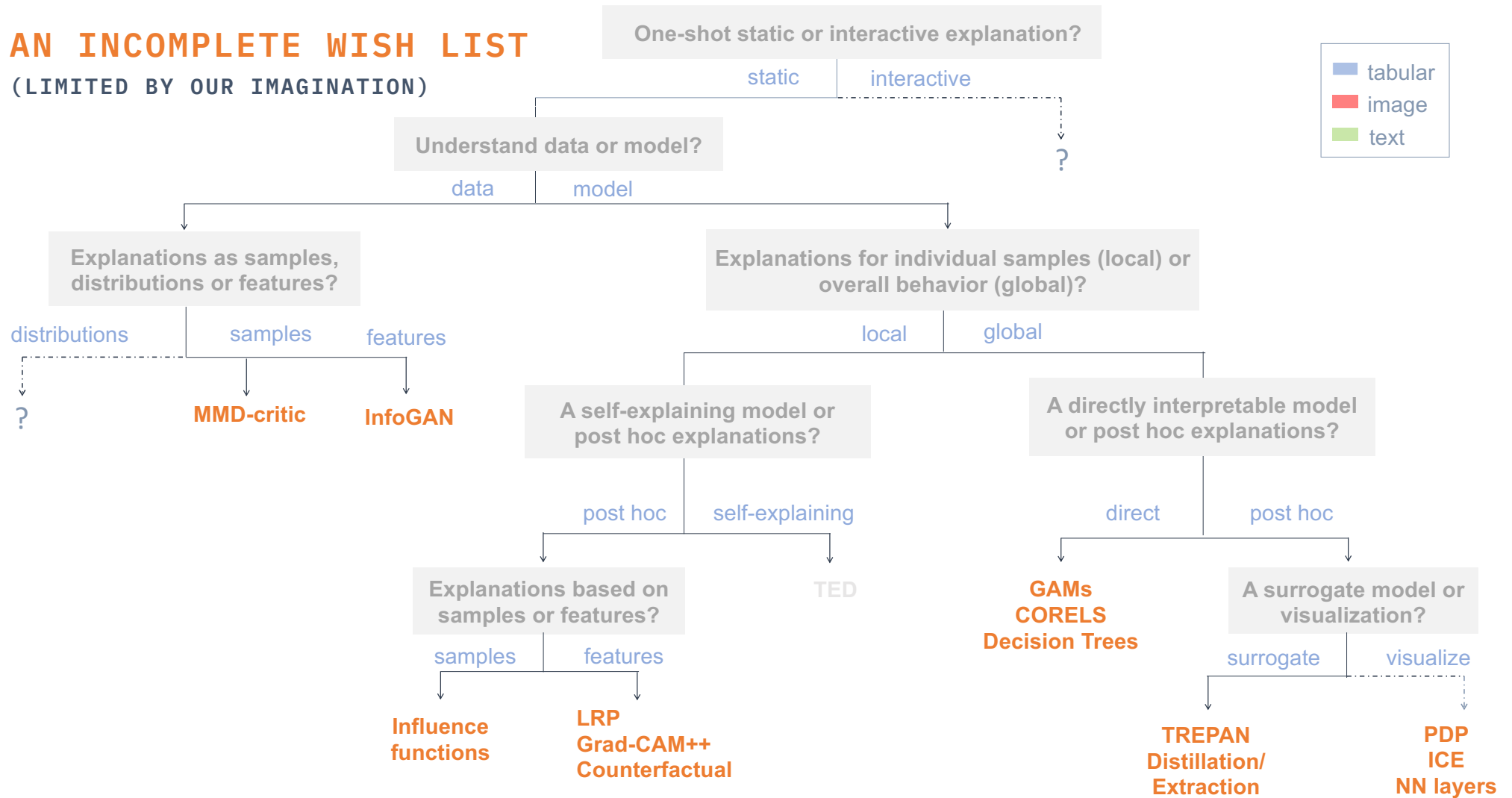


Legend for modalities:

- tabular (blue square)
- image (red square)
- text (green square)

# AN INCOMPLETE WISH LIST

(LIMITED BY OUR IMAGINATION)



## SUMMARY

- Why Explainable AI?
  - **Trust**, societal calls, better systems, etc.
- AIX360 Toolkit
  - **Many ways to explain**
  - 10 algorithms and 2 metrics (currently)
  - Data vs. model, local vs. global, direct vs. post hoc
- Toward an Explainability Community
  - Users: web demo, 3 in-depth use cases
  - Developers: Solicit contributions to fill in gaps and expand scope

