



## **Ment - Better Decisions, Together**

Problem solving is a complex process. Good solutions should be based on broad discussion as well as on evidence emerging from data. We at Epistema are focused on “knowledge analytics” to support better collaborative thinking, and Ment is our SaaS offering. Ment is the first smart, AI based, discussions engine, designed for big communities. It is based on combination of human knowledge and data.

In most scenarios today collaborative thinking is sub optimal: Broader discussion is hindered by the lack of communication vehicles that allow an efficient deep discussion. Email threads are cumbersome and full of clutter. They amount to TL;DR. Whatsapp, Slack and Workplace are too shallow and cannot run a broad evidence based discussion. Furthermore, because of the inherent limitations of NLP, chat and email discussions cannot be analysed and arguments cannot be followed.

Ment adopts a slightly more structured process which results with more semantic and syntactic content that allows algorithms to analyse the discussion and assign level of confidence to each claim and each contributor. Each discussion starts with a question posed by one of the participants. Then, alternative answers or hypotheses are suggested, and each of them is debated, while data sets and evidence can be presented by the participants to support any claim.

The more structured and rigorous discussion is captured by Ment on a graph database (Neo4j). Each discussion is represented as a tree on the graph, and an NLP engine is used just to find similarities between different discussions (Topic modeling and Text segmentation). Initially, we implement Bayesian algorithms to assign a score to each alternative answer based on smart patterns of agreement and disagreement within the group of participants. Furthermore, we score each participants and build her “cognitive matrix” (e.g whether she is contrarian or supportive, thinking fast or slow, clear or ambiguous). As traction builds we implement machine learning to weigh the different features of the participants and discussions. We devised a proprietary metrics for “thought-buddies” so we can cluster the participants and recommend whom should be conversing with who on what topic. Thus, a much deeper discussion ensues.

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