

# Future of Personalized Recommendation Systems

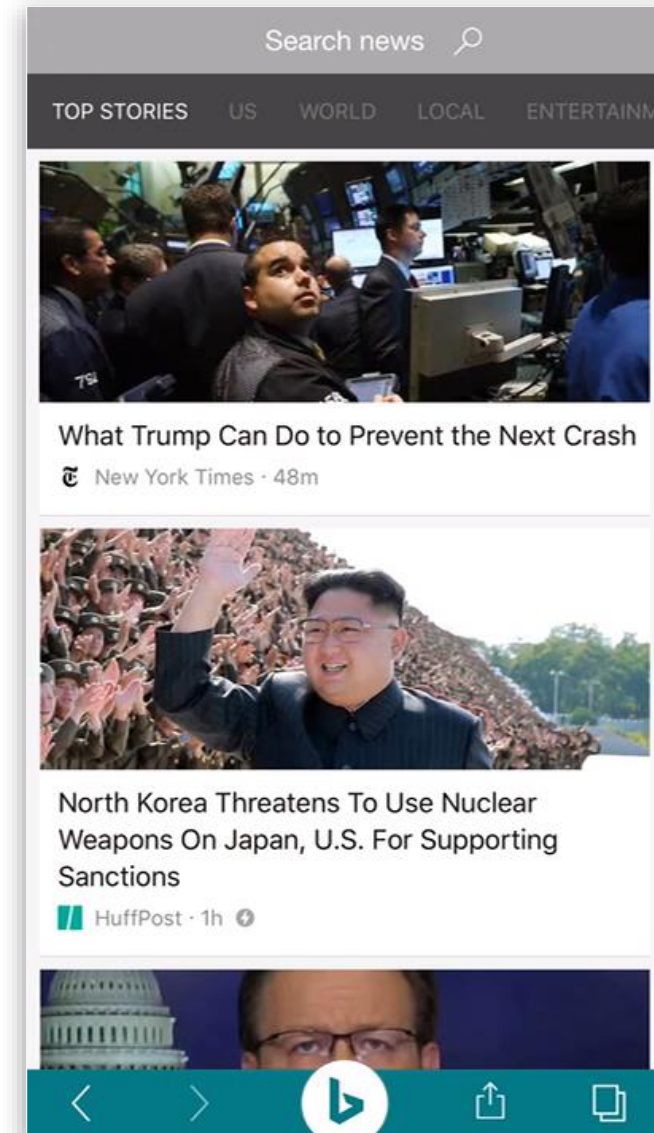
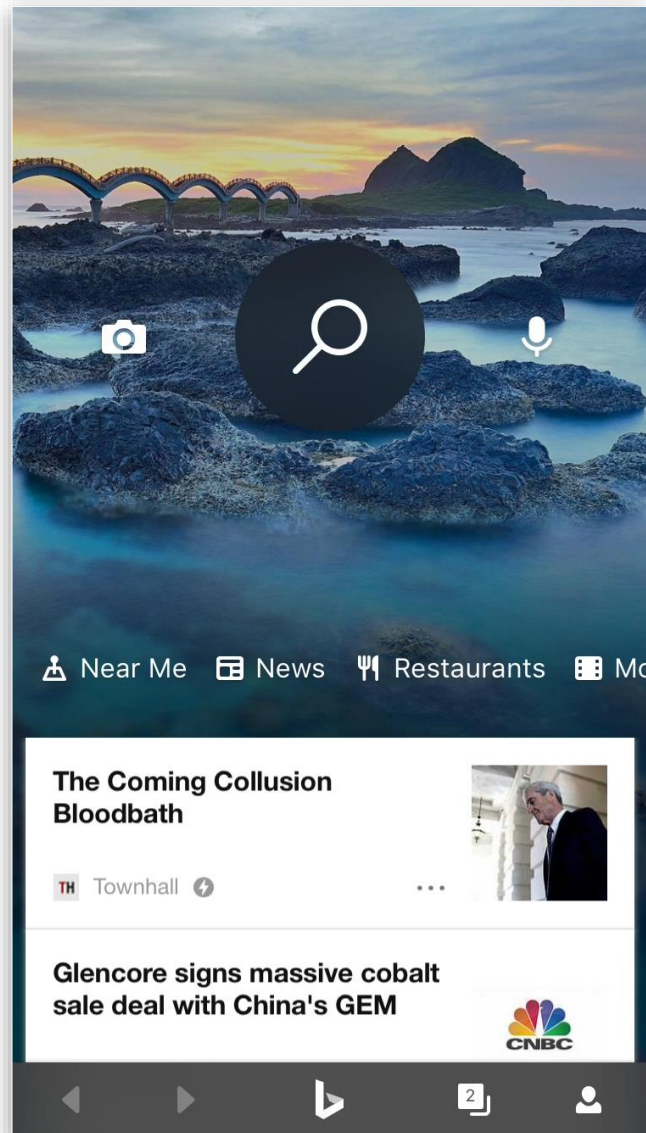
Xing Xie

Microsoft Research Asia

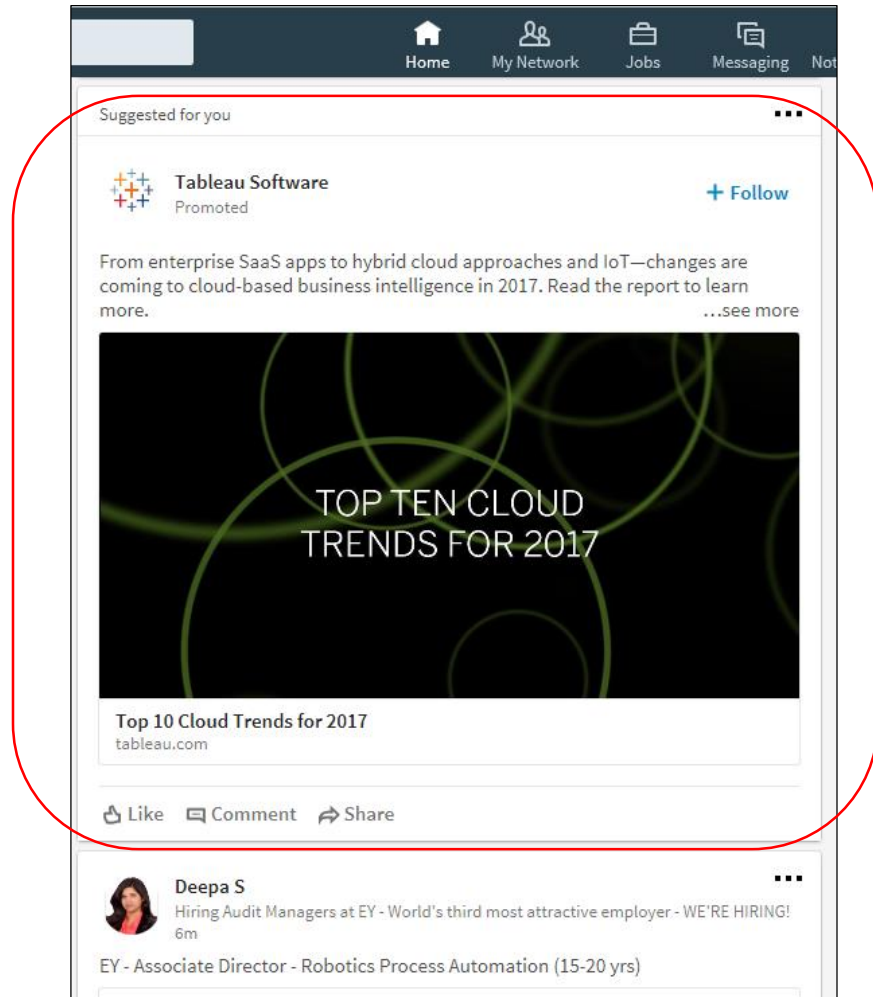
# Recommendation Everywhere



# Personalized News Feed



# Online Advertising



This screenshot shows a LinkedIn feed. At the top, there's a navigation bar with icons for Home, My Network, Jobs, and Messaging. Below this, a section titled "Suggested for you" features a promoted post from Tableau Software. The post includes the Tableau logo, the word "Promoted", and a "+ Follow" button. The text of the post reads: "From enterprise SaaS apps to hybrid cloud approaches and IoT—changes are coming to cloud-based business intelligence in 2017. Read the report to learn more." Below the text is a video thumbnail with the text "TOP TEN CLOUD TRENDS FOR 2017". Under the video, it says "Top 10 Cloud Trends for 2017" and "tableau.com". At the bottom of the post are icons for Like, Comment, and Share. Below the promoted post is a post from a user named Deepa S, who is hiring Audit Managers at EY.

Home My Network Jobs Messaging

Suggested for you

**Tableau Software**  
Promoted + Follow

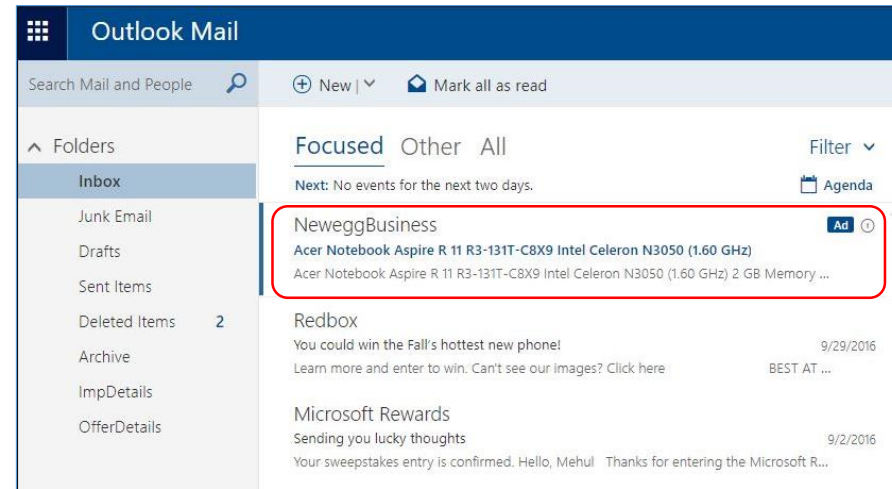
From enterprise SaaS apps to hybrid cloud approaches and IoT—changes are coming to cloud-based business intelligence in 2017. Read the report to learn more. ...see more

**TOP TEN CLOUD TRENDS FOR 2017**

Top 10 Cloud Trends for 2017  
tableau.com

Like Comment Share

**Deepa S**  
Hiring Audit Managers at EY - World's third most attractive employer - WE'RE HIRING!  
6m  
EY - Associate Director - Robotics Process Automation (15-20 yrs)



This screenshot shows an Outlook Mail interface. The top bar includes a search icon and buttons for "New" and "Mark all as read". On the left, there's a "Folders" pane with "Inbox" selected. The main area shows a list of emails. The first email is from NeweggBusiness, which is highlighted with a red box. It's an advertisement for an Acer Notebook Aspire R 11 R3-131T-C8X9 Intel Celeron N3050 (1.60 GHz). Below it are emails from Redbox and Microsoft Rewards.

Outlook Mail

Search Mail and People New | Mark all as read

Folders: Inbox, Junk Email, Drafts, Sent Items, Deleted Items (2), Archive, ImpDetails, OfferDetails

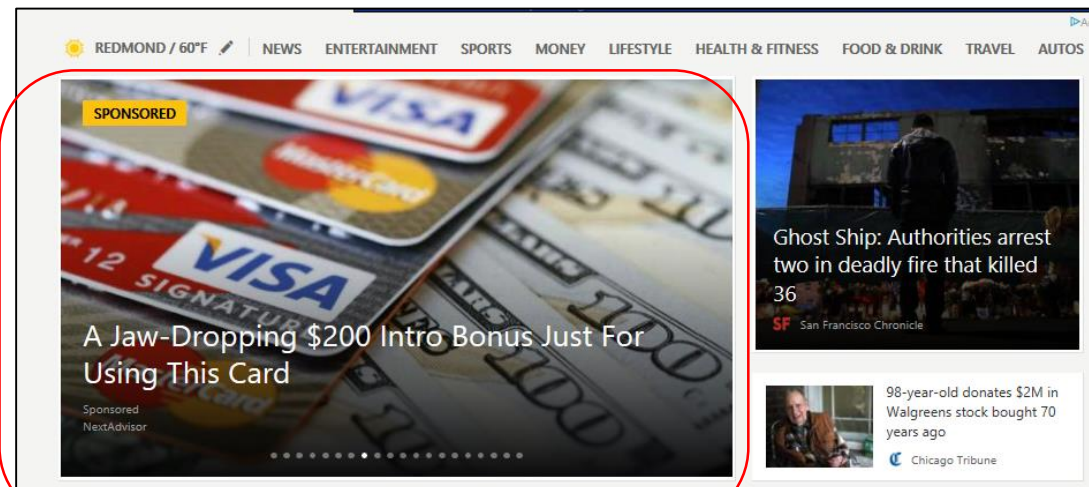
Focused Other All Filter

Next: No events for the next two days. Agenda

**NeweggBusiness** Ad  
Acer Notebook Aspire R 11 R3-131T-C8X9 Intel Celeron N3050 (1.60 GHz)  
Acer Notebook Aspire R 11 R3-131T-C8X9 Intel Celeron N3050 (1.60 GHz) 2 GB Memory ...

Redbox  
You could win the Fall's hottest new phone!  
Learn more and enter to win. Can't see our images? Click here 9/29/2016  
BEST AT ...

Microsoft Rewards  
Sending you lucky thoughts  
Your sweepstakes entry is confirmed. Hello, Mehul Thanks for entering the Microsoft R... 9/2/2016



This screenshot shows a news website with a navigation bar at the top including "REDMOND / 60°F", "NEWS", "ENTERTAINMENT", "SPORTS", "MONEY", "LIFESTYLE", "HEALTH & FITNESS", "FOOD & DRINK", "TRAVEL", and "AUTOS". The main content area features a large sponsored advertisement for Visa, which is highlighted with a red box. The ad shows several Visa Signature credit cards and text that reads "A Jaw-Dropping \$200 Intro Bonus Just For Using This Card". To the right of the ad are two news snippets: "Ghost Ship: Authorities arrest two in deadly fire that killed 36" from the San Francisco Chronicle, and "98-year-old donates \$2M in Walgreens stock bought 70 years ago" from the Chicago Tribune.

REDMOND / 60°F NEWS ENTERTAINMENT SPORTS MONEY LIFESTYLE HEALTH & FITNESS FOOD & DRINK TRAVEL AUTOS

**SPONSORED**

**VISA**

**A Jaw-Dropping \$200 Intro Bonus Just For Using This Card**

Sponsored by NextAdvisor

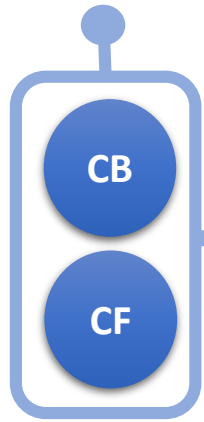
**Ghost Ship: Authorities arrest two in deadly fire that killed 36**  
San Francisco Chronicle

**98-year-old donates \$2M in Walgreens stock bought 70 years ago**  
Chicago Tribune

# History

1990s (Tapestry, GroupLens)

Content based filtering  
Collaborative filtering



2006 (Netflix prize)

Factorization-based Models  
SVD++

2010 (Various data competitions)

Hybrid models with machine learning  
LR, FM, GBDT, etc.  
Pair-wise ranking

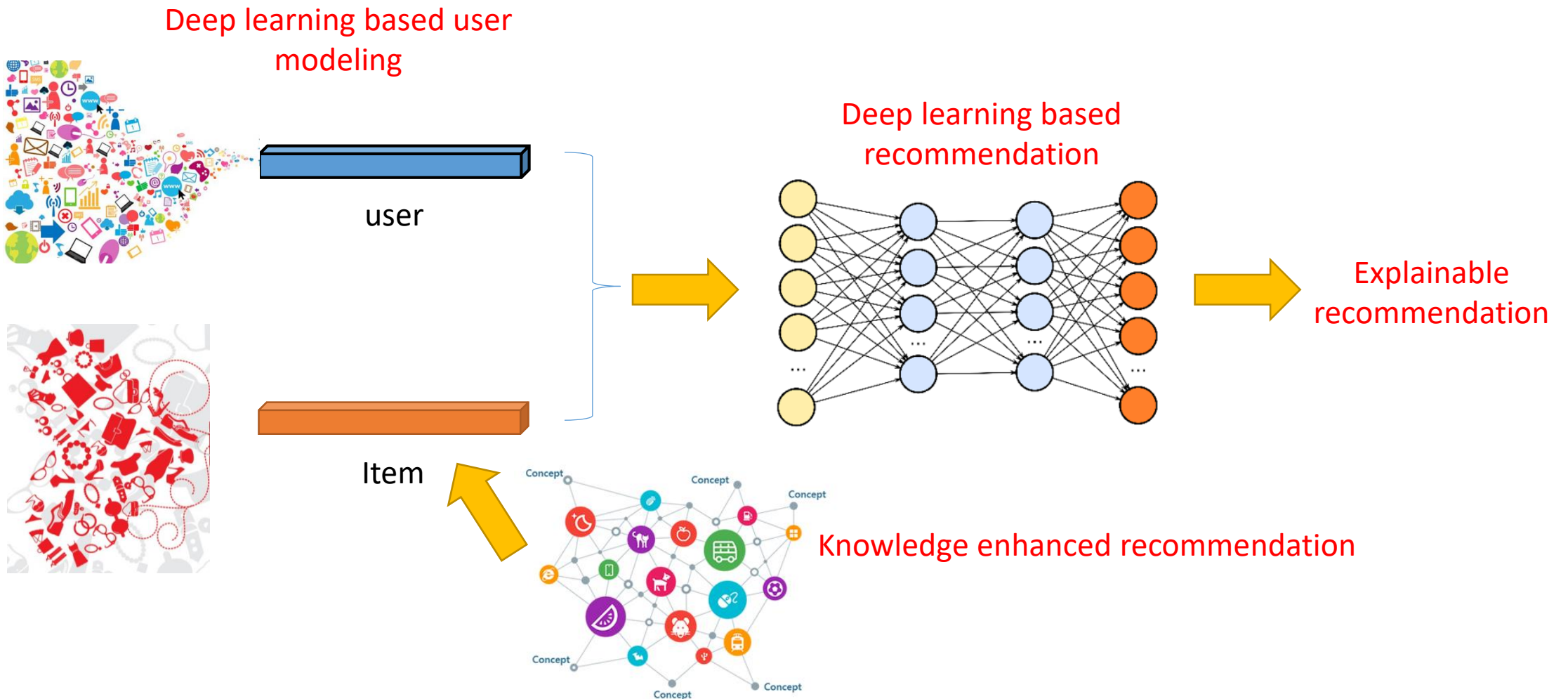
2015 (Deep learning)

Flourish with neural models  
PNN, Wide&Deep, DeepFM, xDeepFM, etc.

Explainable recommendation  
Knowledge enhanced recommendation  
Reinforcement learning  
Transfer learning  
...

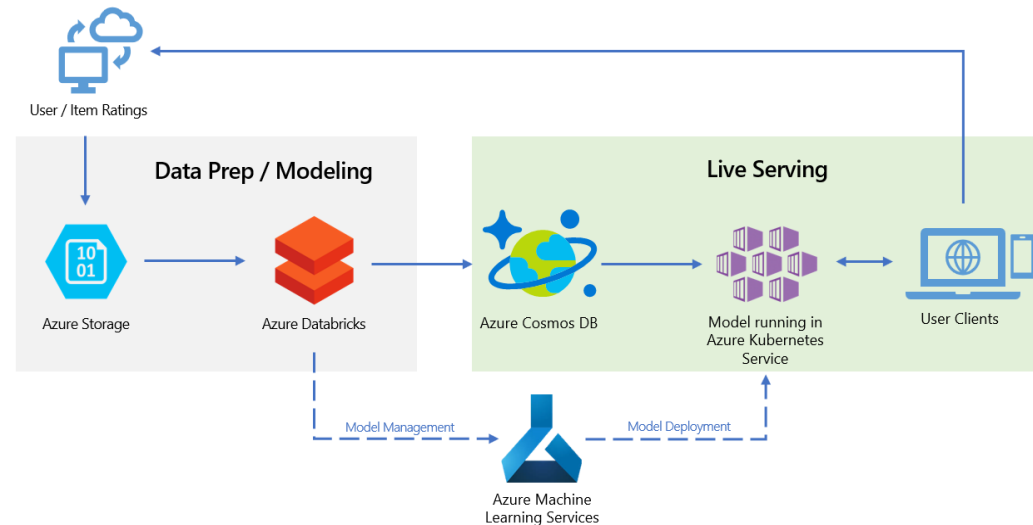


# Our Research

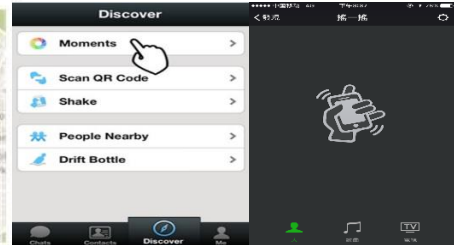
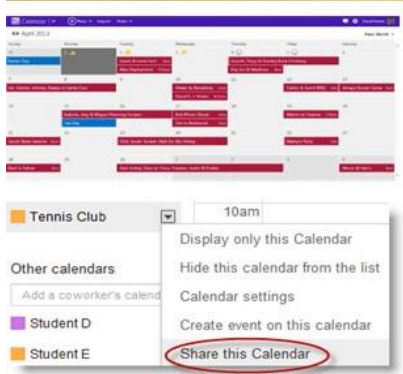
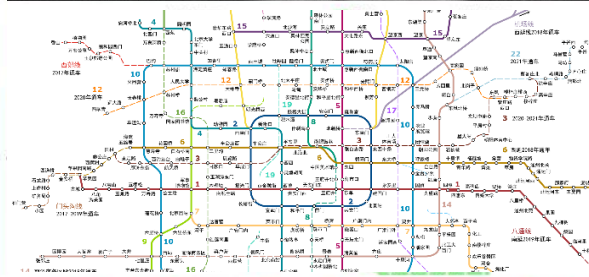


# Microsoft Recommenders

- Helping researchers and developers to quickly select, prototype, demonstrate, and productionize a recommender system
- Accelerating enterprise-grade development and deployment of a recommender system into production
- <https://github.com/microsoft/recommenders>

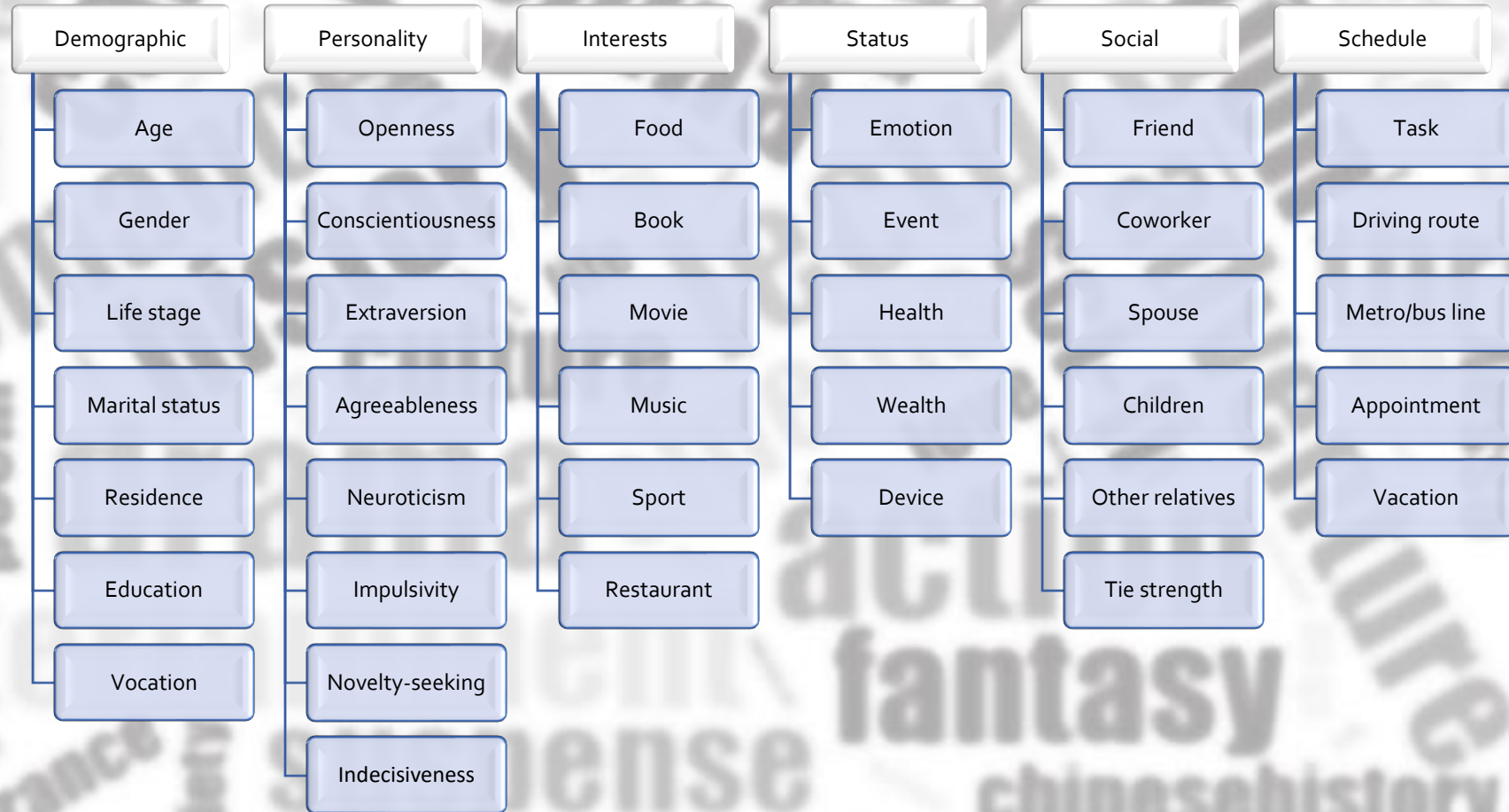


# User Behavioral Data



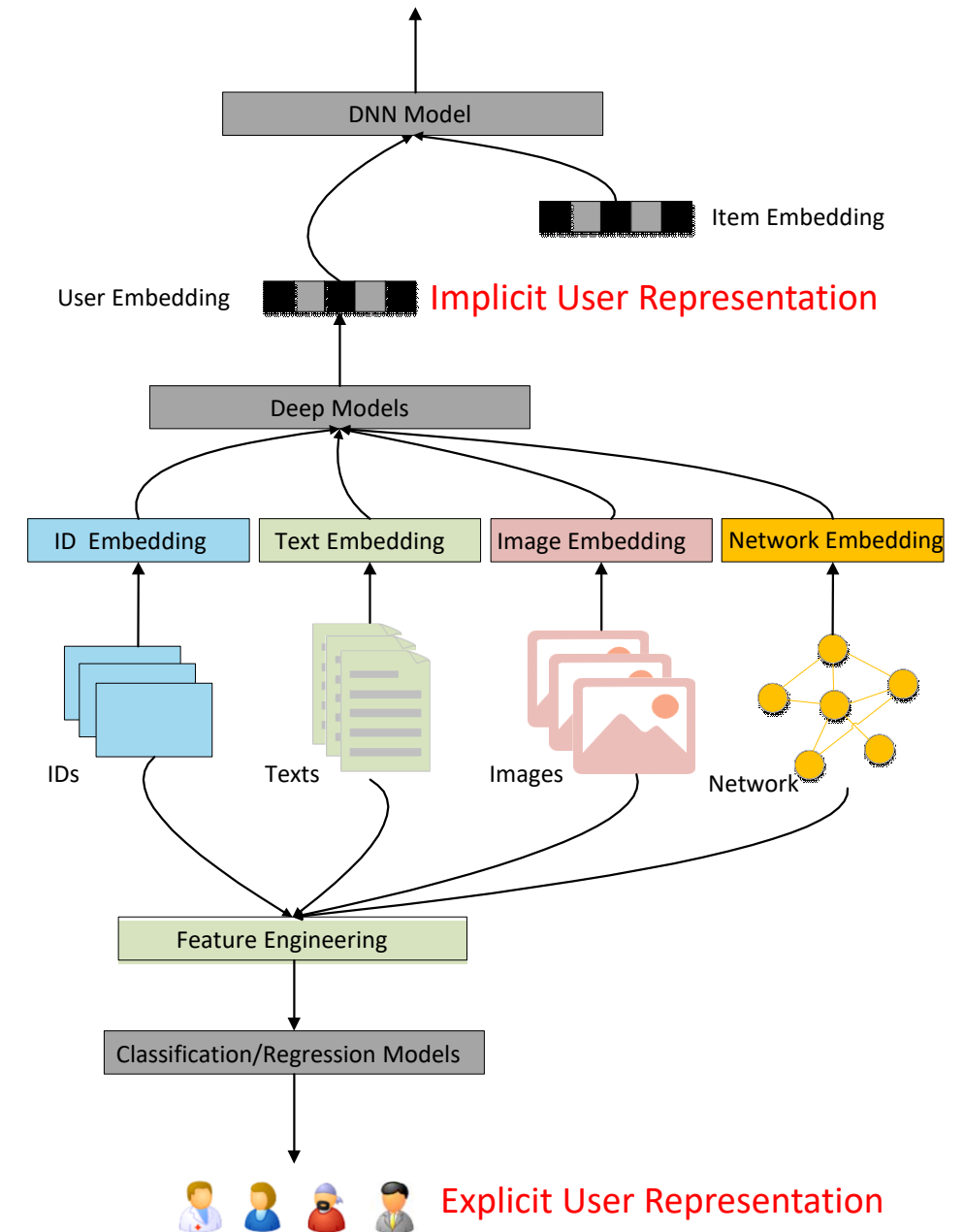


# Explicit User Representation

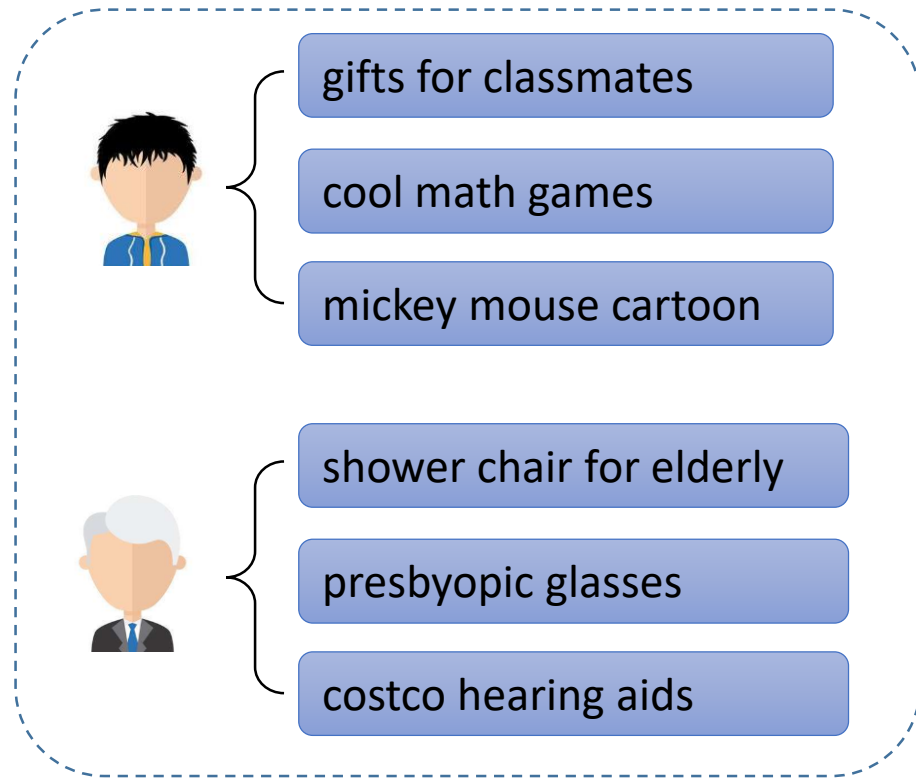


# Explicit vs Implicit

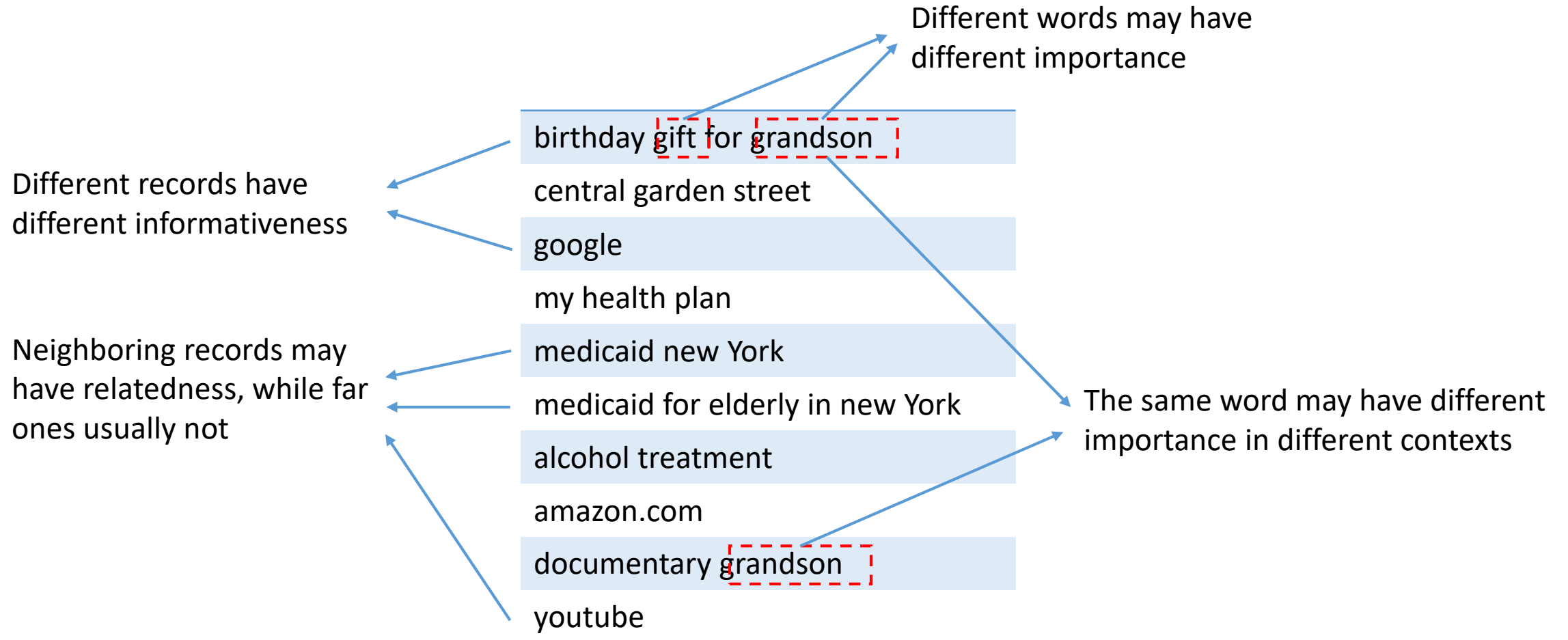
Representation	Pros	Cons
Explicit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Easy to understand;</li><li>• Can be directly bidden by advertisers</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hard to obtain training data;</li><li>• Difficult to satisfy complex and global needs;</li></ul>
Implicit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Unified and heterogenous user representation;</li><li>• End-to-end learning</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Difficult to explain;</li><li>• Need to fine-tune in each task</li></ul>



# Query Log based User Modeling

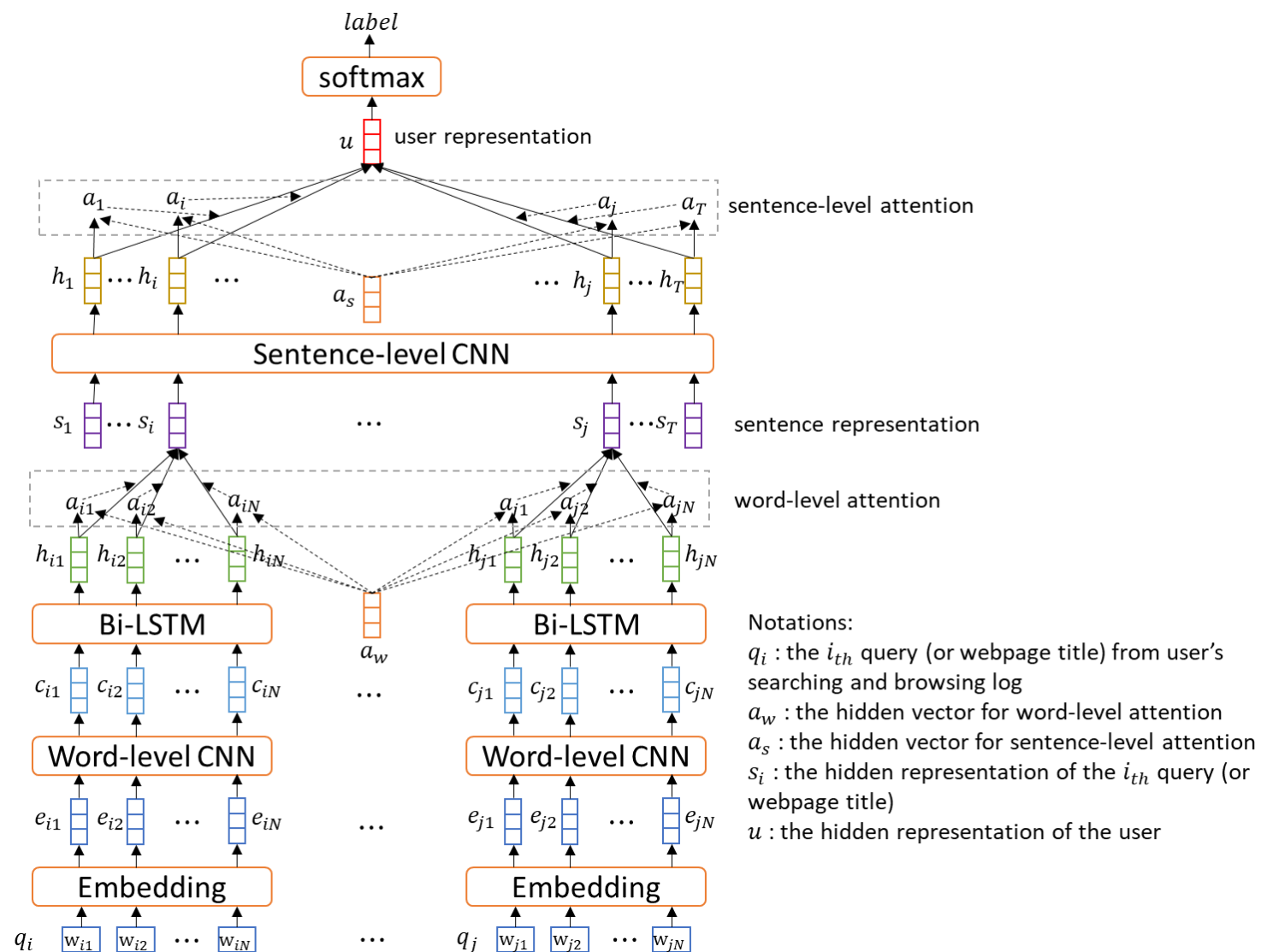


# Query Log based User Modeling





# Query Log based User Modeling

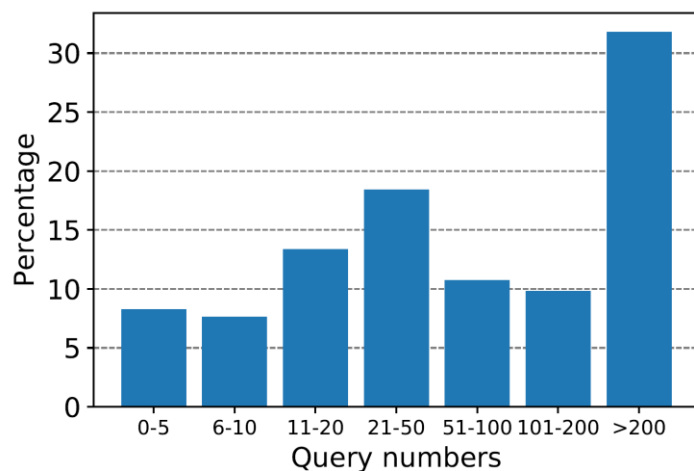


# Experiments

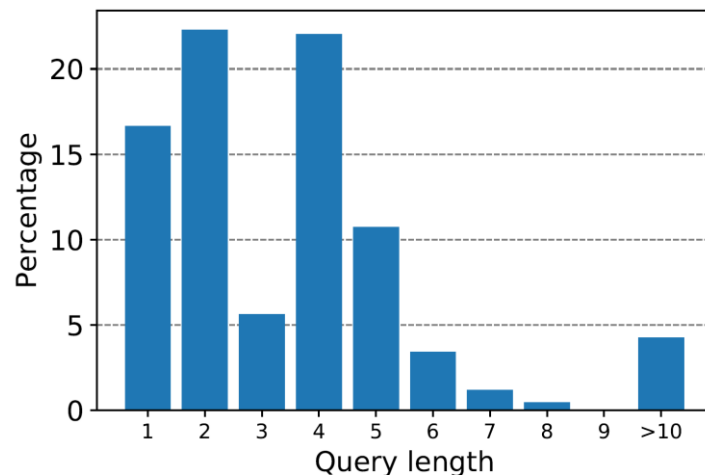
Mapping between age category and age range

Age category	1	2	3	4	5	6
Age range	< 18	[18, 24]	[25, 34]	[35, 49]	[50, 64]	> 64

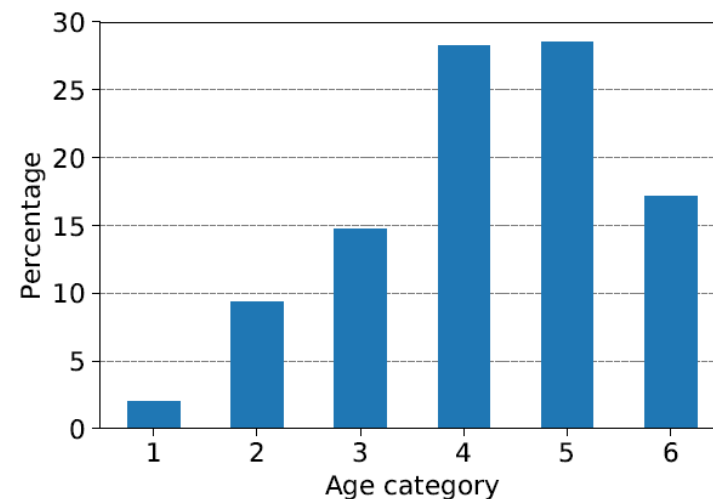
- Dataset:
  - 15,346,617 users in total with age category labels
    - Randomly sampled 10,000 users for experiments
    - Search queries posted from October 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018



Distribution of query number per user



Distribution of query length



Distribution of age category

# Experiments

	10%		50%		100%	
	Accuracy	Fscore	Accuracy	Fscore	Accuracy	Fscore
SVM	31.97	21.96	34.20	26.32	34.53	27.44
LR	31.61	21.55	33.09	25.94	33.91	26.92
LinReg	27.12	17.38	29.64	22.48	30.34	23.52
FastText	28.65	21.09	30.40	23.55	30.90	24.01
CNN	30.08	19.66	35.58	26.17	37.31	26.96
LSTM	30.15	20.46	36.11	24.67	37.96	25.28
HAN	32.06	22.58	37.04	25.88	39.86	29.79
HURA	34.07	24.16	39.68	28.68	41.22	31.18

} discrete feature, linear model

} continuous feature, linear model

} flat DNN models

} hierarchical LSTM model

# User Age Inference

signin  
unit 1 geometry basics answers  
google  
spanish  
cool math games  
quiz  
office365  
login

Queries from a young user

mail  
credit report  
elderly tax credit form  
county elderly tax credit form  
google chrome install  
vanguard login  
car washes  
western

Queries from an elder user



# Car / Pet Segment

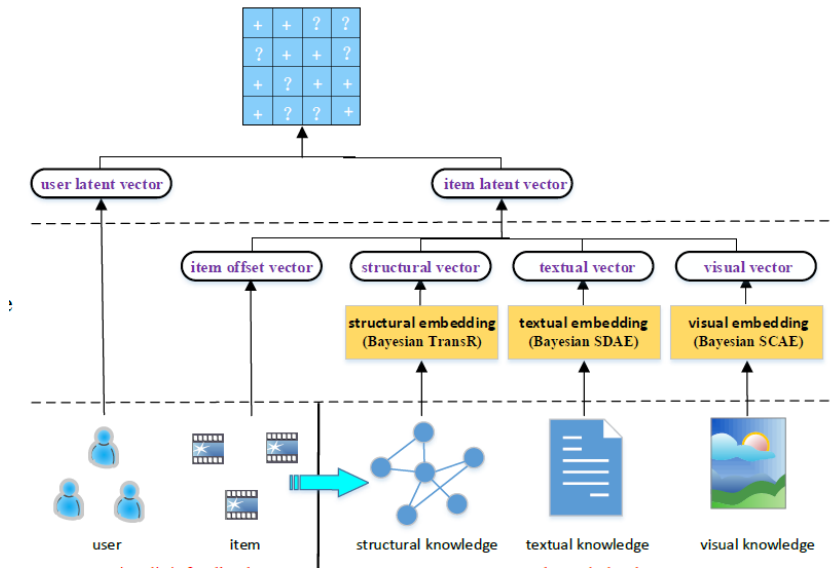
- 2018 mazda cx9 reliability
  - mathway math problem solver
  - open the dvd or cd drive in windows 10
  - lowes van & truck rental
  - facebook log in or sign up
  - buying high quality cars at a low price
  - plot summary imdb
  - how can i block a phone number from my home phone
- 
- dog food, cat food, and treats
  - the denver post official site
  - easybib: free bibliography generator
  - chords crowder guitar video
  - akc golden retriever pet adoption northern California
  - among large uk newspapers, which are considered
  - gmail email from google
  - heritage animal hospital care.com

# Universal User Representation

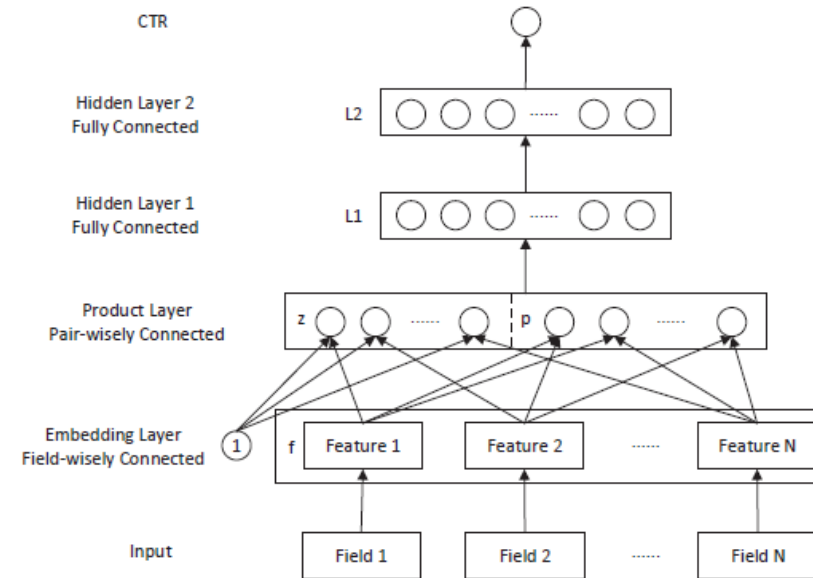
- Existing user representation learning are task-specific
  - Difficult to generalize to other tasks
  - Highly rely on labeled data
  - Costly to exploit heterogenous unlabeled user behavior data
- Learn universal user representations from heterogenous and multi-source user data
  - Capture global patterns of online users
  - Easily applied to different tasks as additional user features
  - Do not rely on manually labeled data

# Deep Learning Based Recommender System

## Learning latent representations



## Learning feature interactions

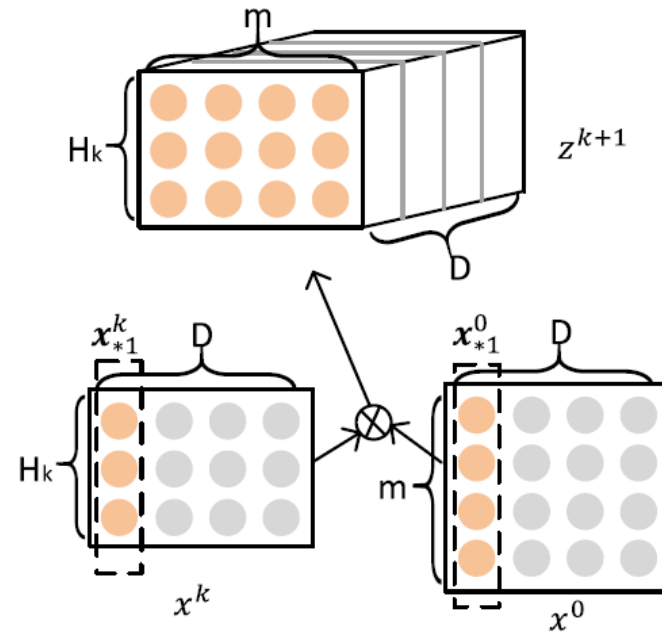
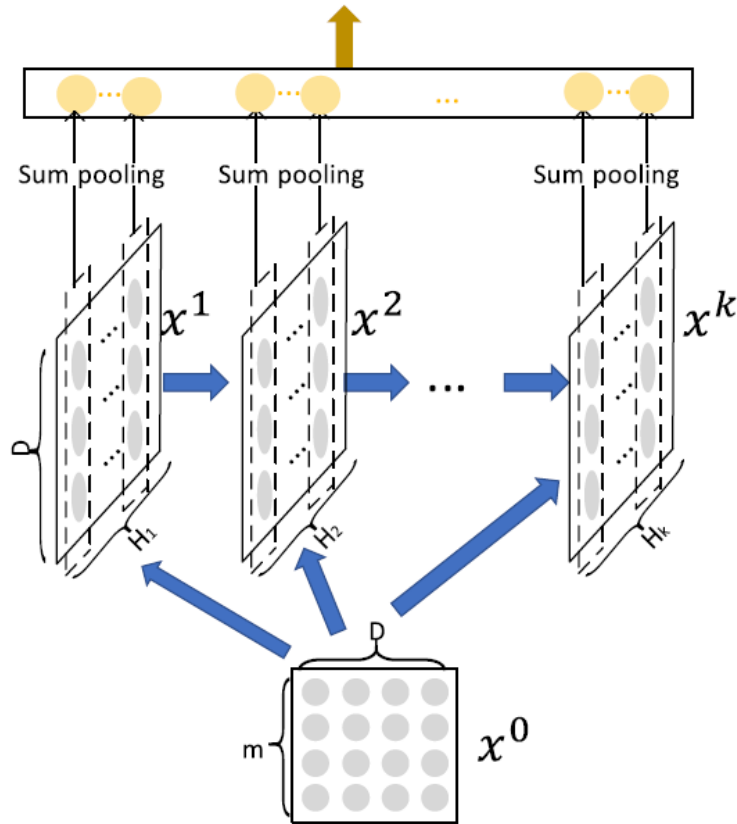


# Motivations

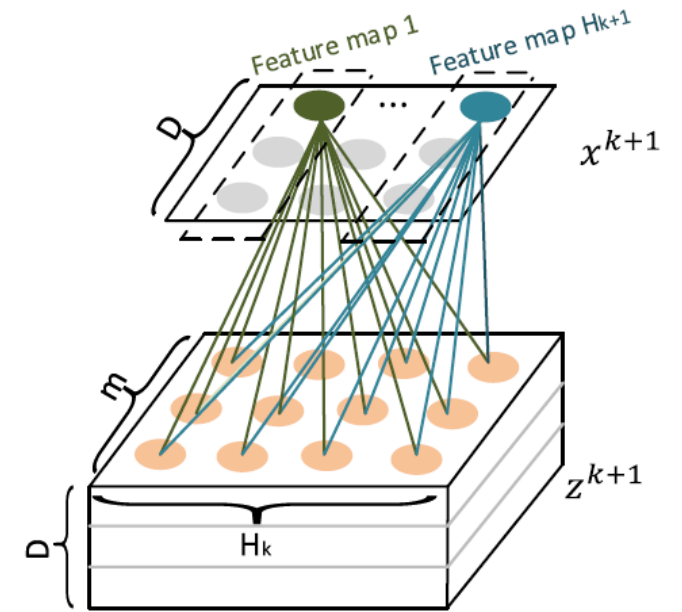
- We try to design a new neural structure that
  - Automatically learns explicit high-order interactions
  - Vector-wise interaction, rather than bit-wise
  - Different types of feature interactions can be combined easily
- Goals
  - Higher accuracy
  - Reducing manual feature engineering work



# Compressed Interaction Network (CIN)

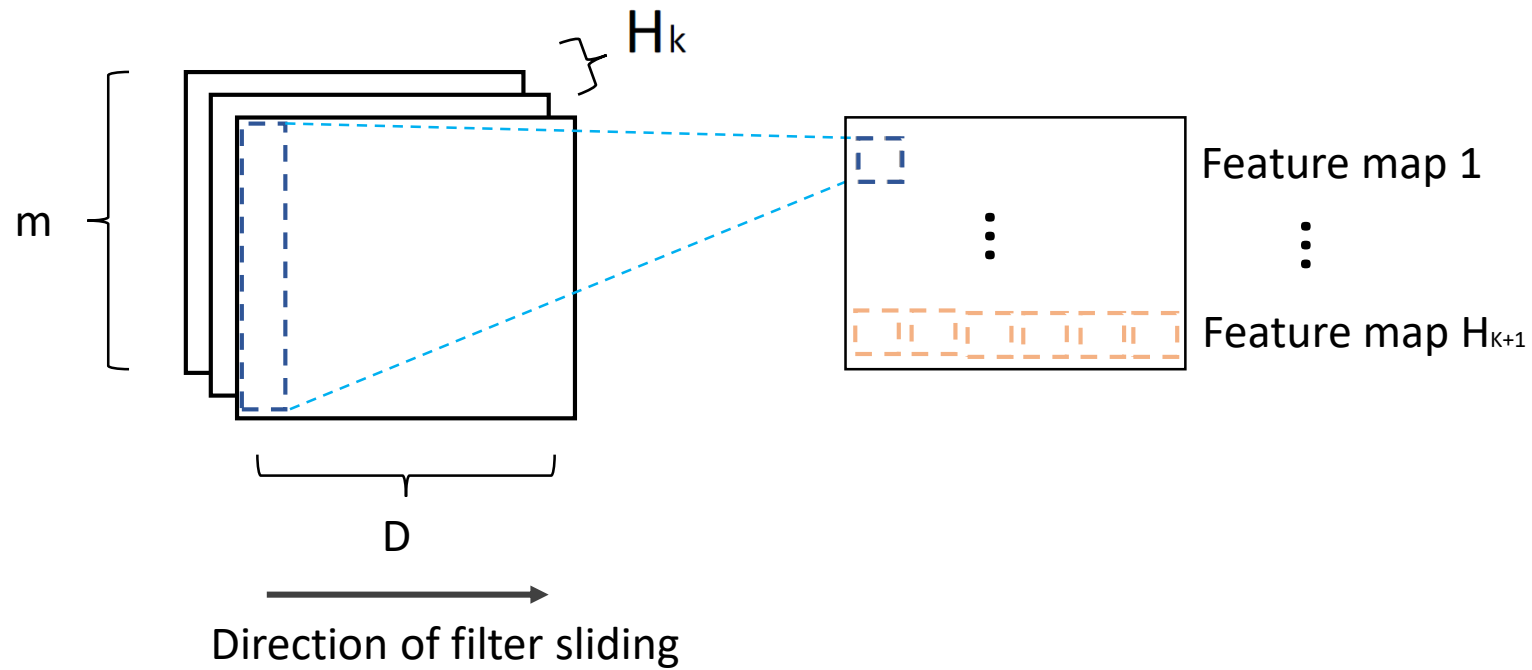


(a) Outer products along each dimension for feature interactions. The tensor  $Z^{k+1}$  is an intermediate result for further learning.

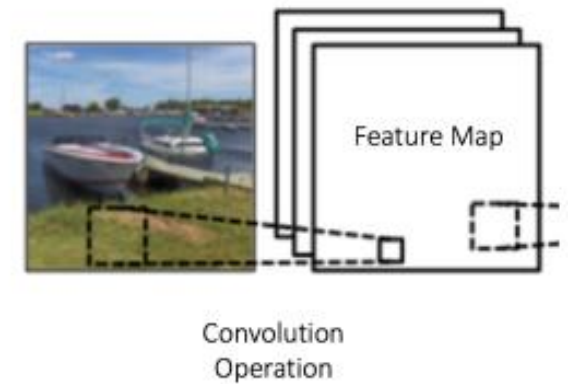


(b) The  $k$ -th layer of CIN. It compresses the intermediate tensor  $Z^{k+1}$  to  $H_{k+1}$  embedding vectors (also known as *feature maps*).

# Relation with CNN

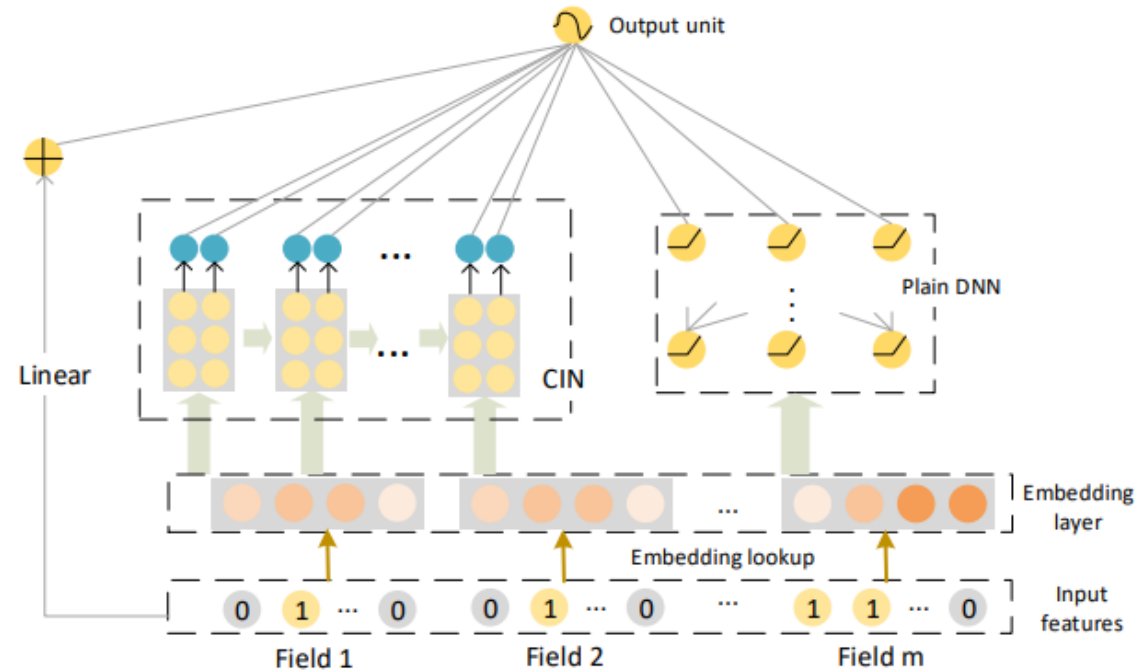


An example of image CNN



# Extreme Deep Factorization Machine (xDeepFM)

- Combining explicit and implicit feature interaction network
- Integrate both memorization and generalization



# Data

- Criteo: ads click-through-rate prediction
- Dianping: restaurant recommendation
- Bing News: news recommendation

Datasest	#instances	#fields	#features (sparse)
Criteo	45M	39	2.3M
Dianping	1.2M	18	230K
Bing News	5M	45	17K



# Experiments

	Criteo			Dianping			Bing News		
Model name	AUC	Logloss	Depth	AUC	Logloss	Depth	AUC	Logloss	Depth
LR	0.7577	0.4854	-, -	0.8018	0.3608	-, -	0.7988	0.2950	-, -
FM	0.7900	0.4592	-, -	0.8165	0.3558	-, -	0.8223	0.2779	-, -
DNN	0.7993	0.4491	-, 2	0.8318	0.3382	-, 3	0.8366	0.2730	-, 2
DCN	0.8026	0.4467	2, 2	0.8391	0.3379	4, 3	0.8379	0.2677	2, 2
Wide&Deep	0.8000	0.4490	-, 3	0.8361	0.3364	-, 2	0.8377	0.2668	-, 2
PNN	0.8038	0.4927	-, 2	0.8445	0.3424	-, 3	0.8321	0.2775	-, 3
DeepFM	0.8025	0.4468	-, 2	0.8481	0.3333	-, 2	0.8376	0.2671	-, 3
xDeepFM	<b>0.8052</b>	<b>0.4418</b>	3, 2	<b>0.8639</b>	<b>0.3156</b>	3, 3	<b>0.8400</b>	<b>0.2649</b>	3, 2

# Experiments

Model name	AUC	Logloss	Depth
Criteo			
FM	0.7900	0.4592	-
DNN	0.7993	0.4491	2
CrossNet	0.7961	0.4508	3
CIN	<b>0.8012</b>	0.4493	3
Dianping			
FM	0.8165	0.3558	-
DNN	0.8318	0.3382	3
CrossNet	0.8283	0.3404	2
CIN	<b>0.8576</b>	<b>0.3225</b>	2
Bing News			
FM	0.8223	0.2779	-
DNN	0.8366	0.273	2
CrossNet	0.8304	0.2765	6
CIN	<b>0.8377</b>	<b>0.2662</b>	5

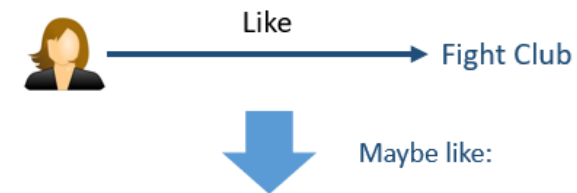
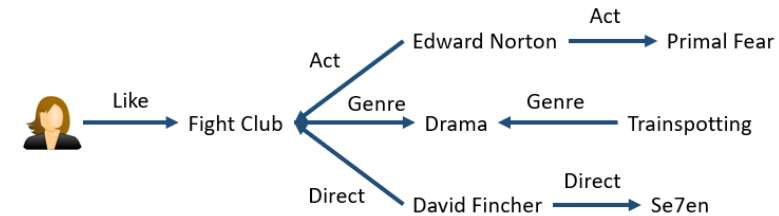
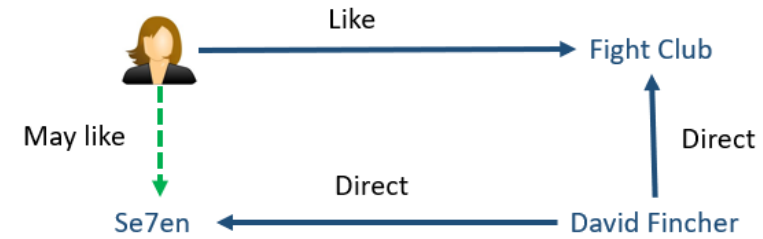
# Knowledge Graph

- A kind of semantic network, where node indicates entity or concept, edge indicates the semantic relation between entity/concept



# Knowledge Enhanced Recommendation

- Precision
  - More semantic content about items
  - Deep user interest
- Diversity
  - Different types of relations in knowledge graph
  - Extend user's interest in different paths
- Explainability
  - Connect user interest and recommendation results
  - Improve user satisfaction, boost user trust



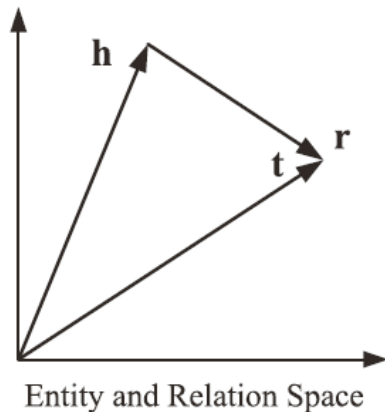
**Primal Fear**, because they share the same actor  
**Trainspotting**, because they share the same genre  
**Se7en**, because they share the same director

# Knowledge Graph Embedding

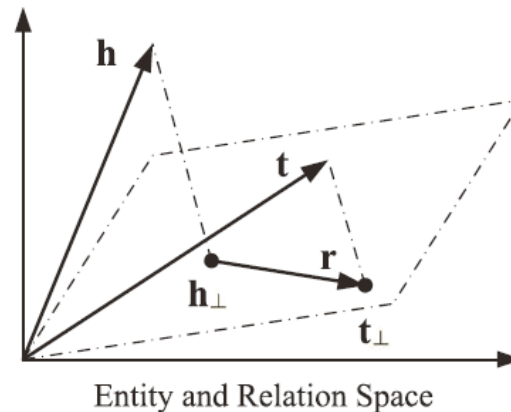
- Learns a low-dimensional vector for each entity and relation in KG, which can keep the structural and semantic knowledge

## Distance-based Models

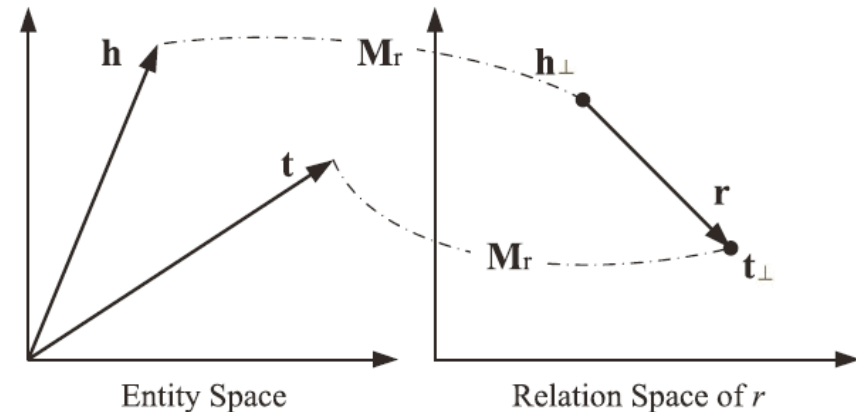
- Apply distance-based score function to estimate the triple probability
- TransE, TransH, TransR, etc.



(a) TransE.



(b) TransH.

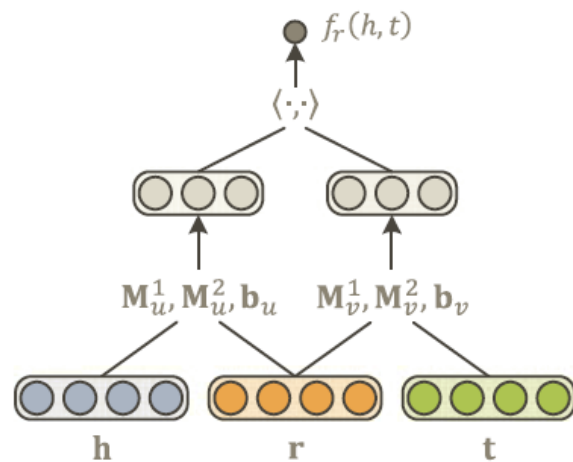


(c) TransR.

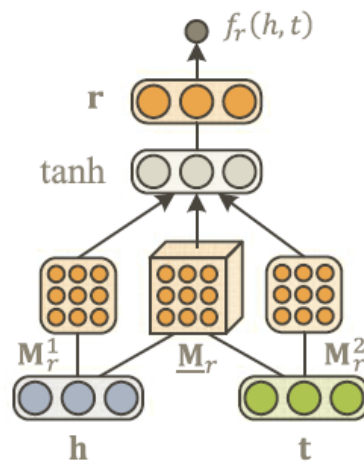
# Knowledge Graph Embedding

## Matching-based Models

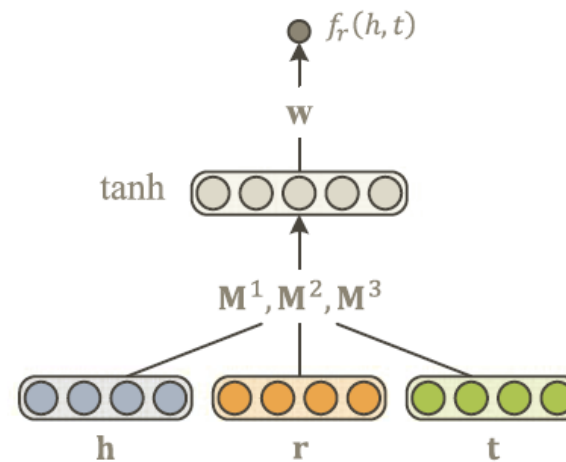
- Apply similarity-based score function to estimate the triple probability
- SME, NTN, MLP, NAM, etc.



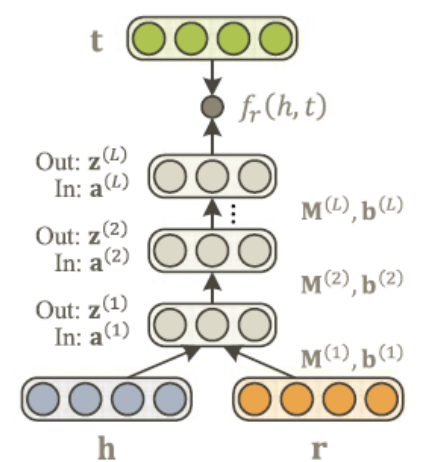
(a) SME.



(b) NTN.

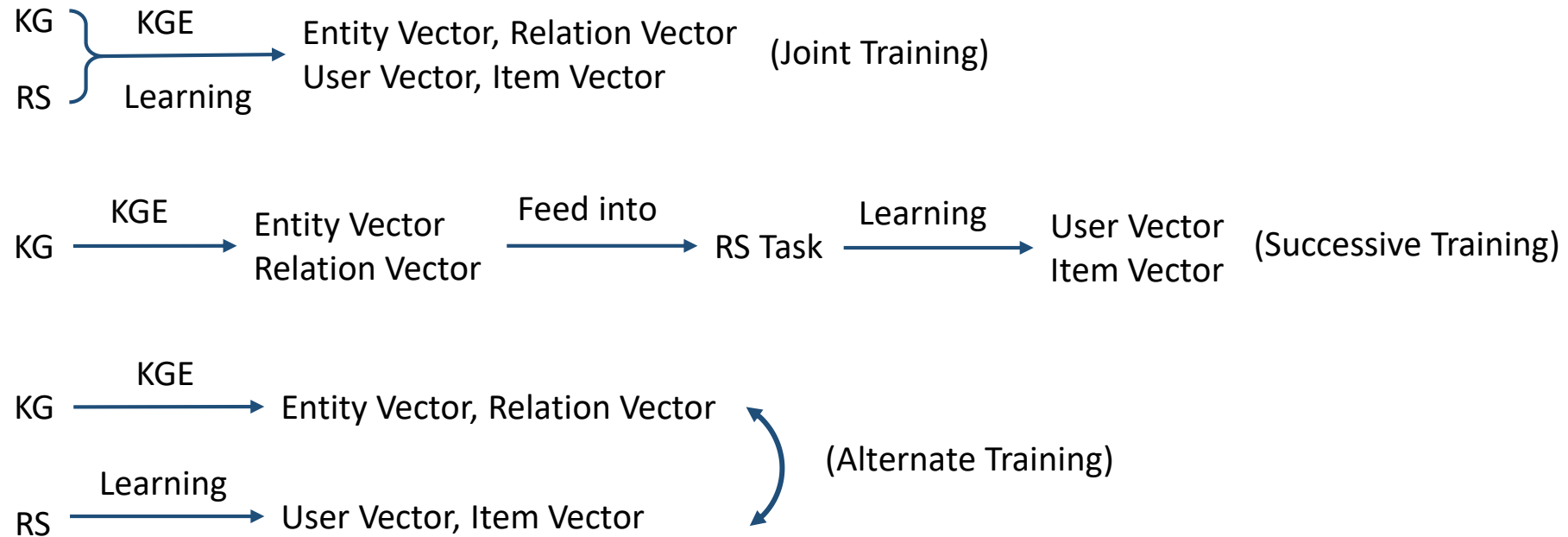


(c) MLP.



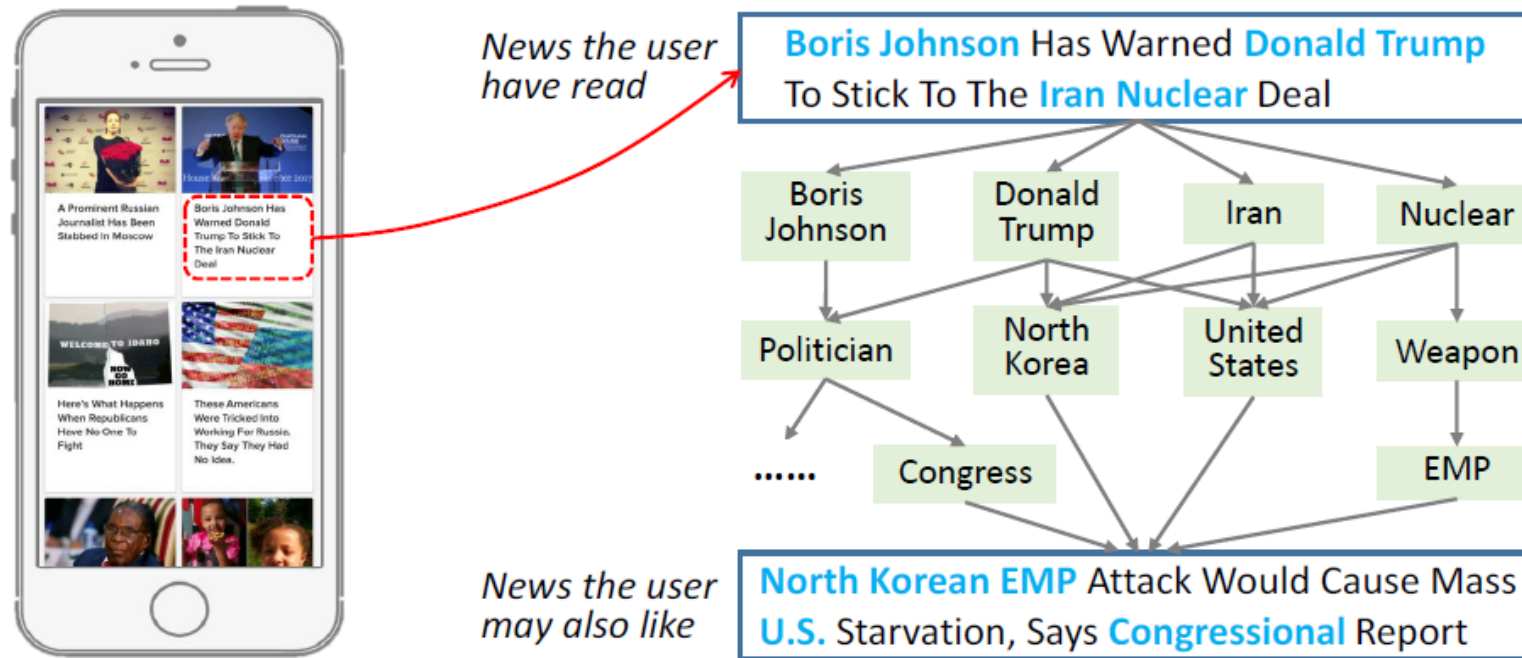
(d) NAM.

# Knowledge Graph Embedding

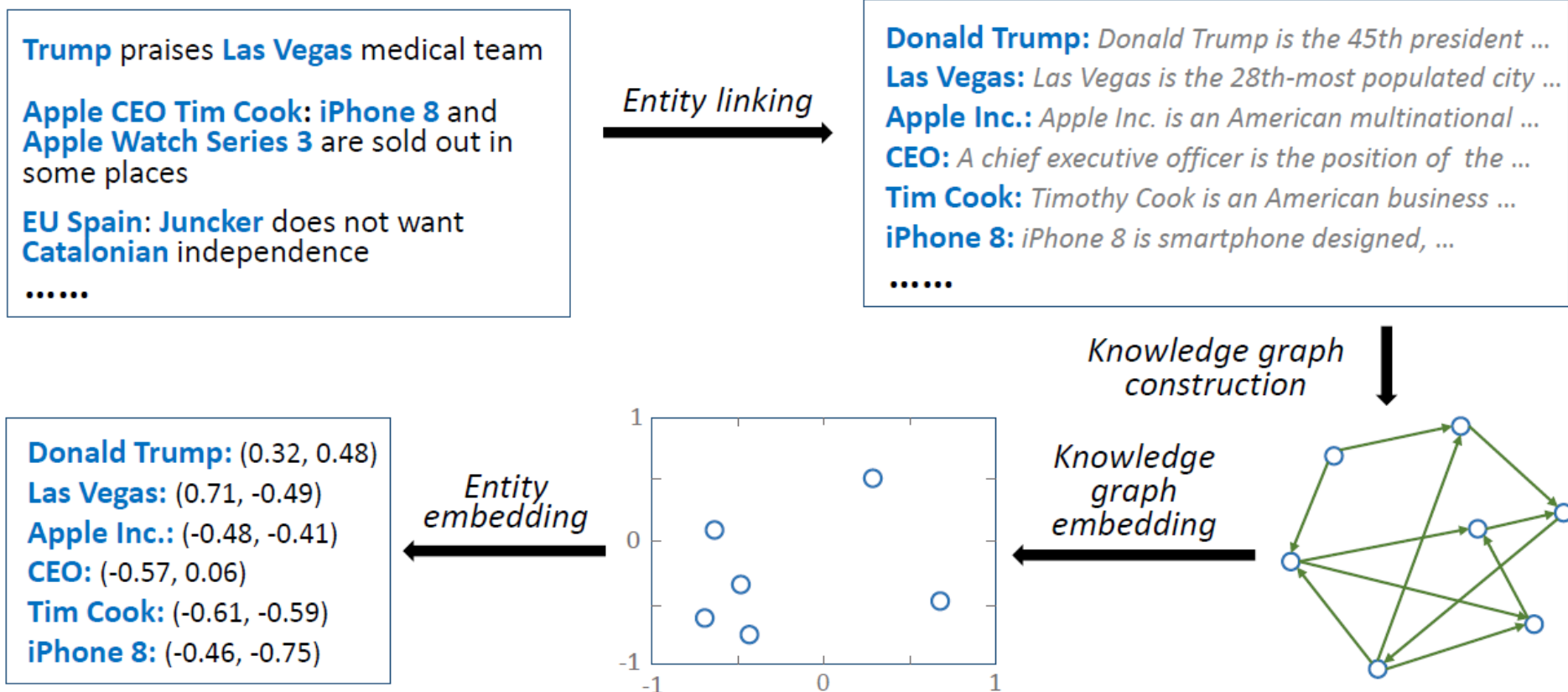




# Deep Knowledge-aware Network

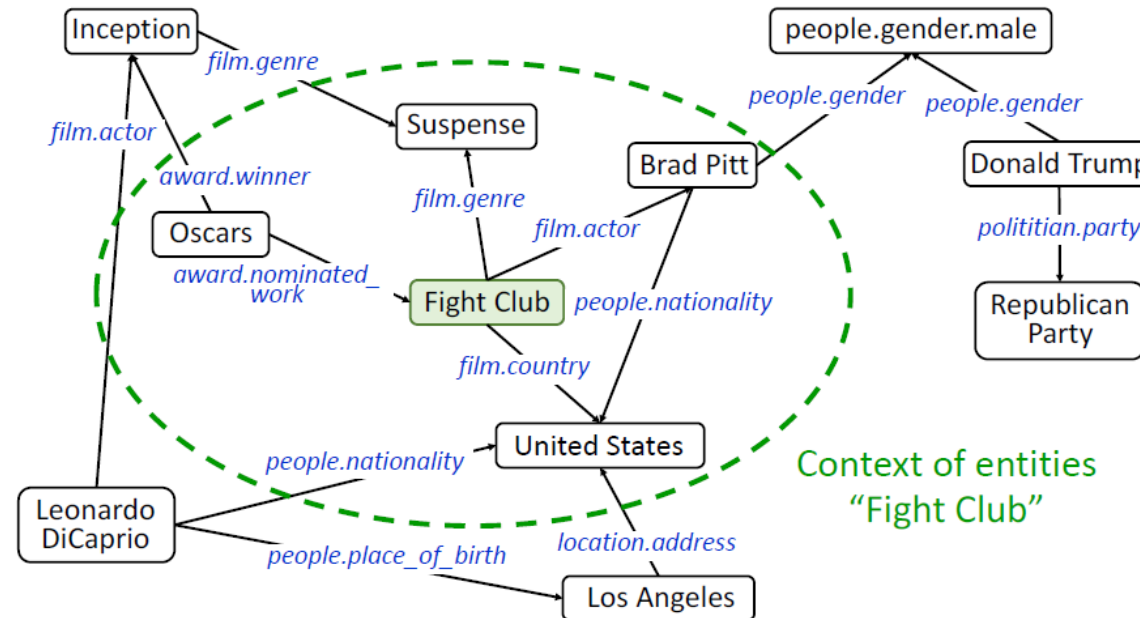


# Deep Knowledge-aware Network

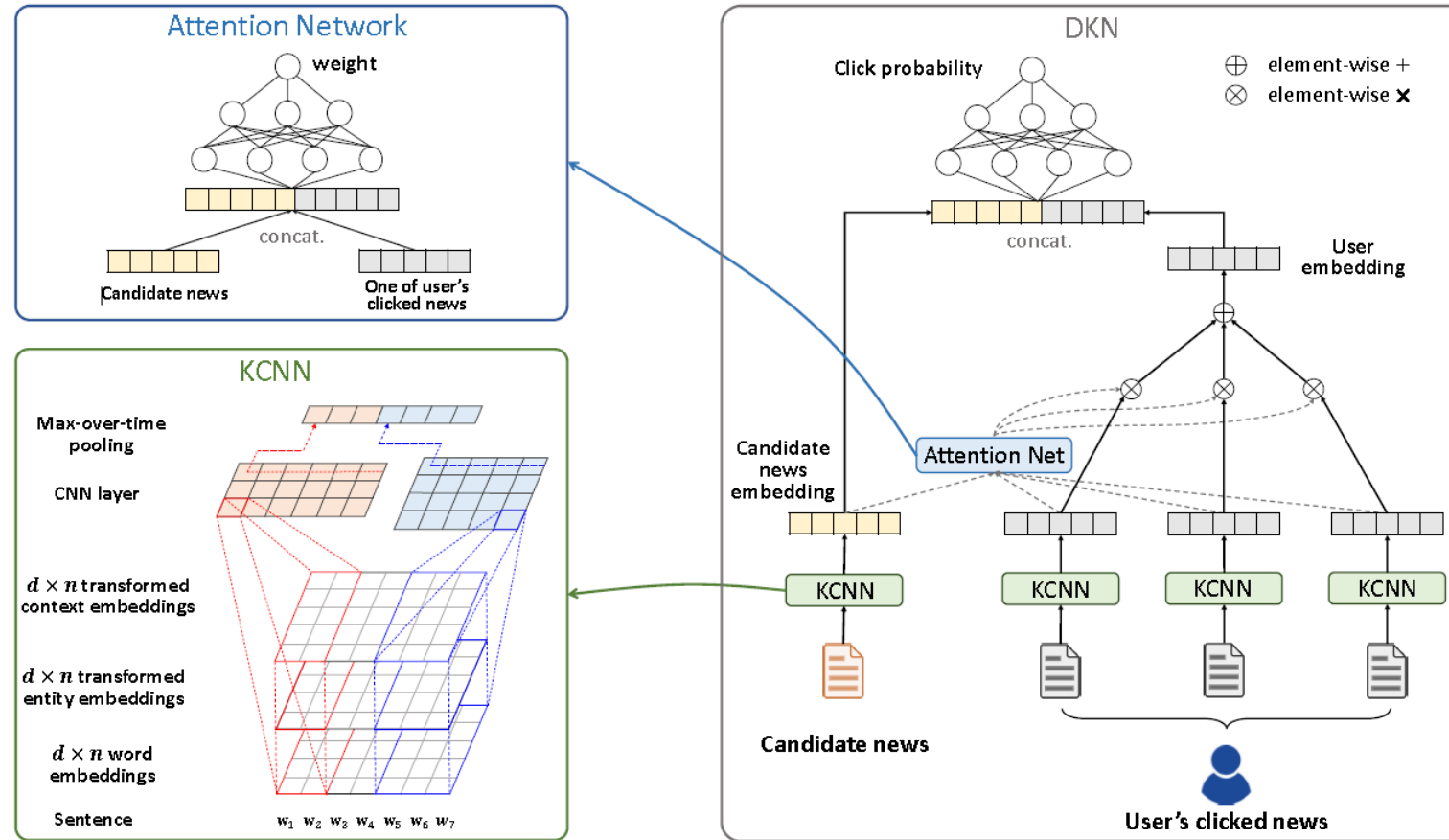


# Extract Knowledge Representations

- Additionally use contextual entity embeddings to include structural information
- Context implies one-step neighbor



# Deep Knowledge-aware Network

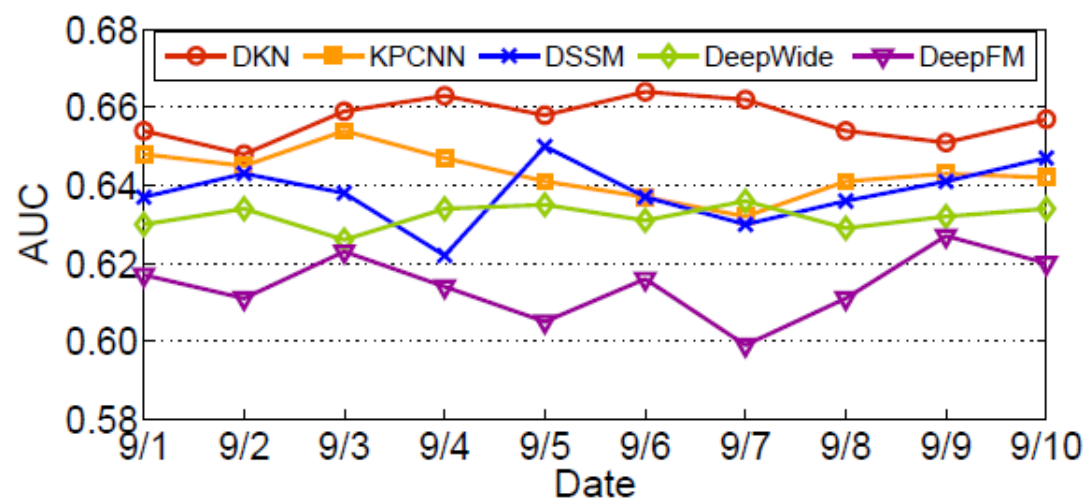


# Experiments

Models*	F1	AUC	$p$ -value**
DKN	<b><math>68.9 \pm 1.5</math></b>	<b><math>65.9 \pm 1.2</math></b>	—
LibFM	$61.8 \pm 2.1$ (-10.3%)	$59.7 \pm 1.8$ (-9.4%)	$< 10^{-3}$
LibFM(-)	$61.1 \pm 1.9$ (-11.3%)	$58.9 \pm 1.7$ (-10.6%)	$< 10^{-3}$
KPCNN	$67.0 \pm 1.6$ (-2.8%)	$64.2 \pm 1.4$ (-2.6%)	0.098
KPCNN(-)	$65.8 \pm 1.4$ (-4.5%)	$63.1 \pm 1.5$ (-4.2%)	0.036
DSSM	$66.7 \pm 1.8$ (-3.2%)	$63.6 \pm 2.0$ (-3.5%)	0.063
DSSM(-)	$66.1 \pm 1.6$ (-4.1%)	$63.2 \pm 1.8$ (-4.1%)	0.045
DeepWide	$66.0 \pm 1.2$ (-4.2%)	$63.3 \pm 1.5$ (-3.9%)	0.039
DeepWide(-)	$63.7 \pm 0.9$ (-7.5%)	$61.5 \pm 1.1$ (-6.7%)	0.004
DeepFM	$63.8 \pm 1.5$ (-7.4%)	$61.2 \pm 2.3$ (-7.1%)	0.014
DeepFM(-)	$64.0 \pm 1.9$ (-7.1%)	$61.1 \pm 1.8$ (-7.3%)	0.007
YouTubeNet	$65.5 \pm 1.2$ (-4.9%)	$63.0 \pm 1.4$ (-4.4%)	0.025
YouTubeNet(-)	$65.1 \pm 0.7$ (-5.5%)	$62.1 \pm 1.3$ (-5.8%)	0.011
DMF	$57.2 \pm 1.2$ (-17.0%)	$55.3 \pm 1.0$ (-16.1%)	$< 10^{-3}$

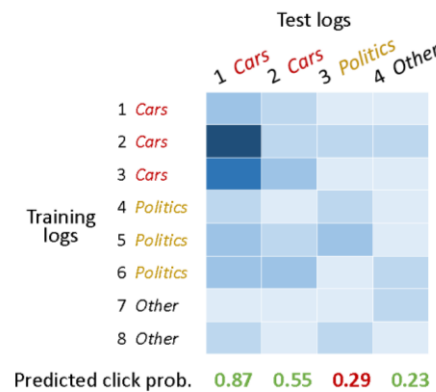
\* “(-)” denotes “without input of entity embeddings”.

\*\*  $p$ -value is the probability of no significant difference with DKN on AUC by  $t$ -test.

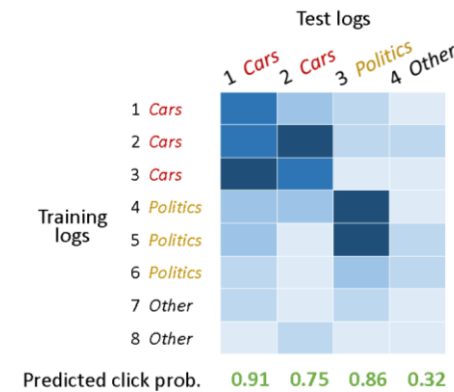


# Examples

	No.	Date	News title	Entities	Label	Category
training	1	12/25/2016	Elon Musk teases huge upgrades for Tesla's supercharger network	Elon Musk; Tesla Inc.	1	Cars
	2	03/25/2017	Elon Musk offers Tesla Model 3 sneak peek	Elon Musk; Tesla Model 3	1	Cars
	3	12/14/2016	Google fumbles while Tesla sprints toward a driverless future	Google Inc.; Tesla Inc.	1	Cars
	4	12/15/2016	Trump pledges aid to Silicon Valley during tech meeting	Donald Trump; Silicon Valley	1	Politics
	5	03/26/2017	Donald Trump is a big reason why the GOP kept the Montana House seat	Donald Trump; GOP; Montana	1	Politics
	6	05/03/2017	North Korea threat: Kim could use nuclear weapons as "blackmail"	North Korea; Kim Jong-un	1	Politics
	7	12/22/2016	Microsoft sells out of unlocked Lumia 950 and Lumia 950 XL in the US	Microsoft; Lumia; United States	1	Other
	8	12/08/2017	6.5 magnitude earthquake recorded off the coast of California	earthquake; California	1	Other
test	1	07/08/2017	Tesla makes its first Model 3	Tesla Inc; Tesla Model 3	1	Cars
	2	08/13/2017	General Motors is ramping up its self-driving car: Ford should be nervous	General Motors; Ford Inc.	1	Cars
	3	06/21/2017	Jeh Johnson testifies on Russian interference in 2016 election	Jeh Johnson; Russian	1	Politics
	4	07/16/2017	"Game of Thrones" season 7 premiere: how you can watch	Game of Thrones	0	Other



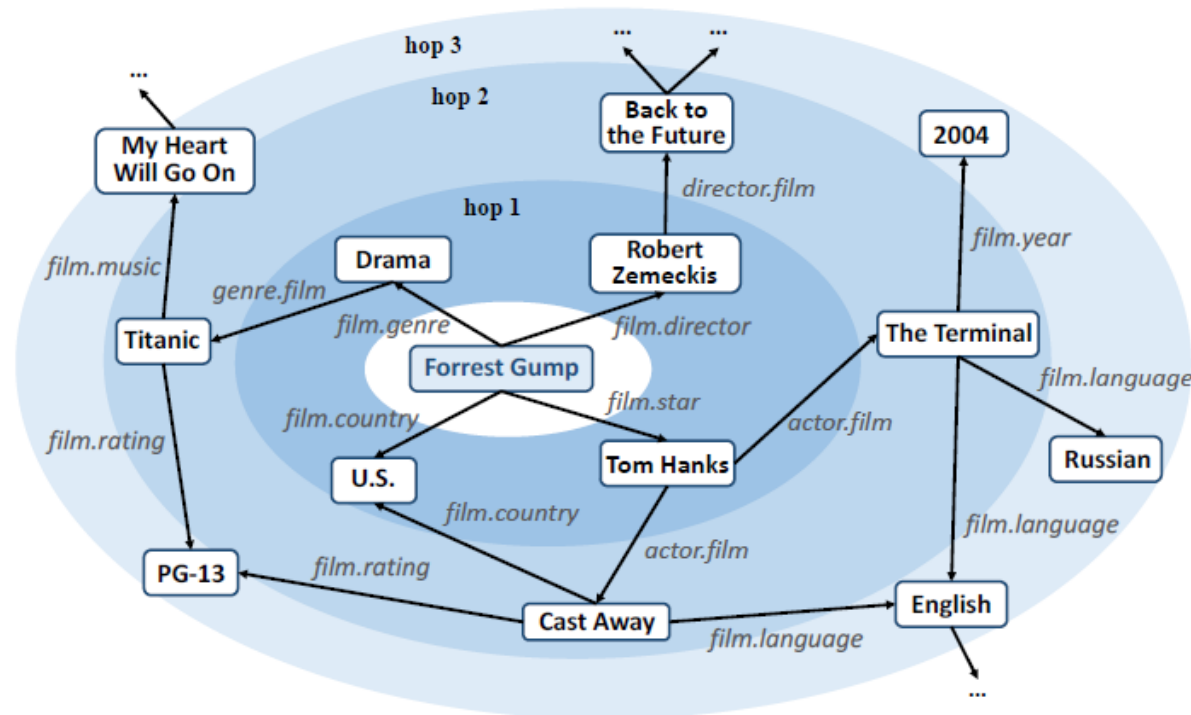
(a) without knowledge graph



(b) with knowledge graph

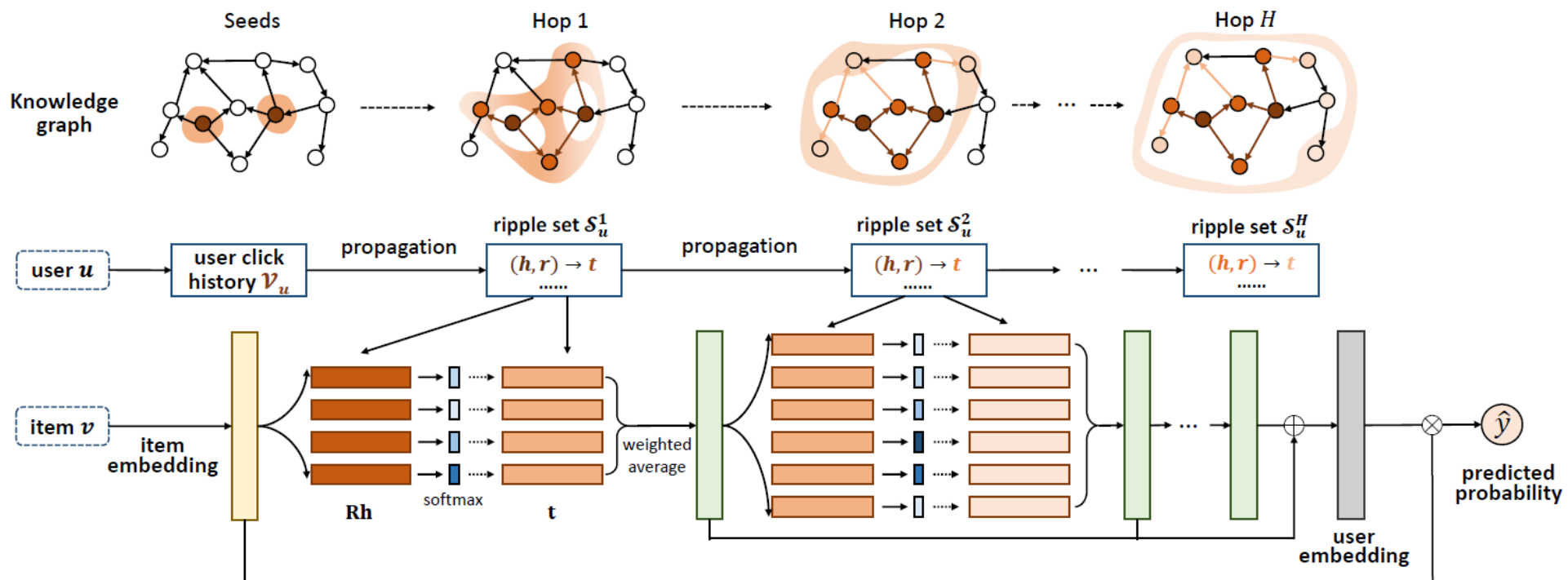
# Ripple Network

- Users interests as seed entity, propagates in the graph step by step
- Decay in the propagating process





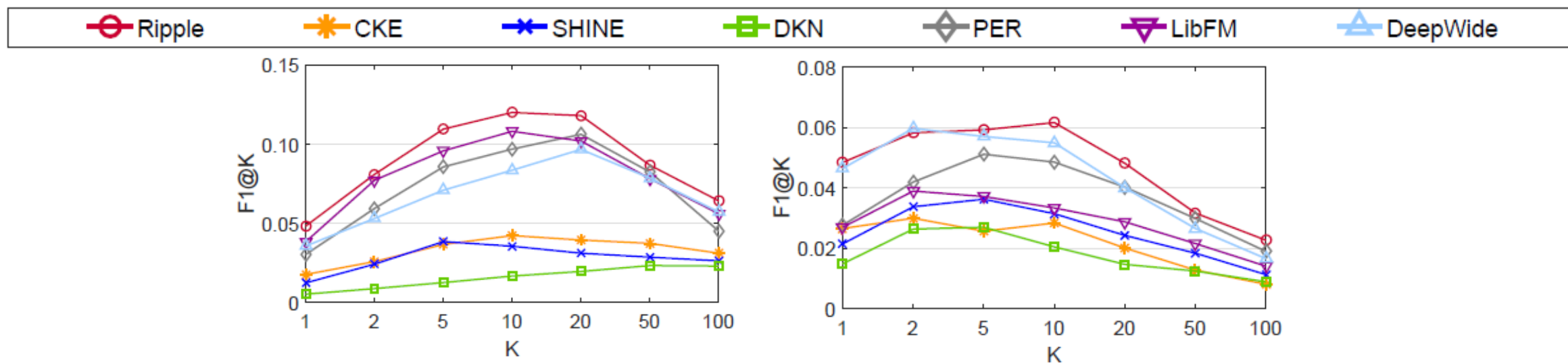
# Ripple Network



# Experiments

Model	MovieLens-1M		Book-Crossing		Bing-News	
	<i>AUC</i>	<i>ACC</i>	<i>AUC</i>	<i>ACC</i>	<i>AUC</i>	<i>ACC</i>
Ripple*	<b>0.913</b>	<b>0.835</b>	<b>0.840</b>	<b>0.775</b>	<b>0.778</b>	<b>0.732</b>
CKE	0.796	0.739	0.634	0.606	0.660	0.617
SHINE	0.778	0.732	0.668	0.636	0.614	0.587
DKN	0.655	0.589	0.621	0.598	0.761	0.704
PER	0.901	0.826	0.814	0.735	-	-
LibFM	0.892	0.812	0.763	0.705	0.744	0.688
DeepWide	0.903	0.822	0.806	0.731	0.754	0.695

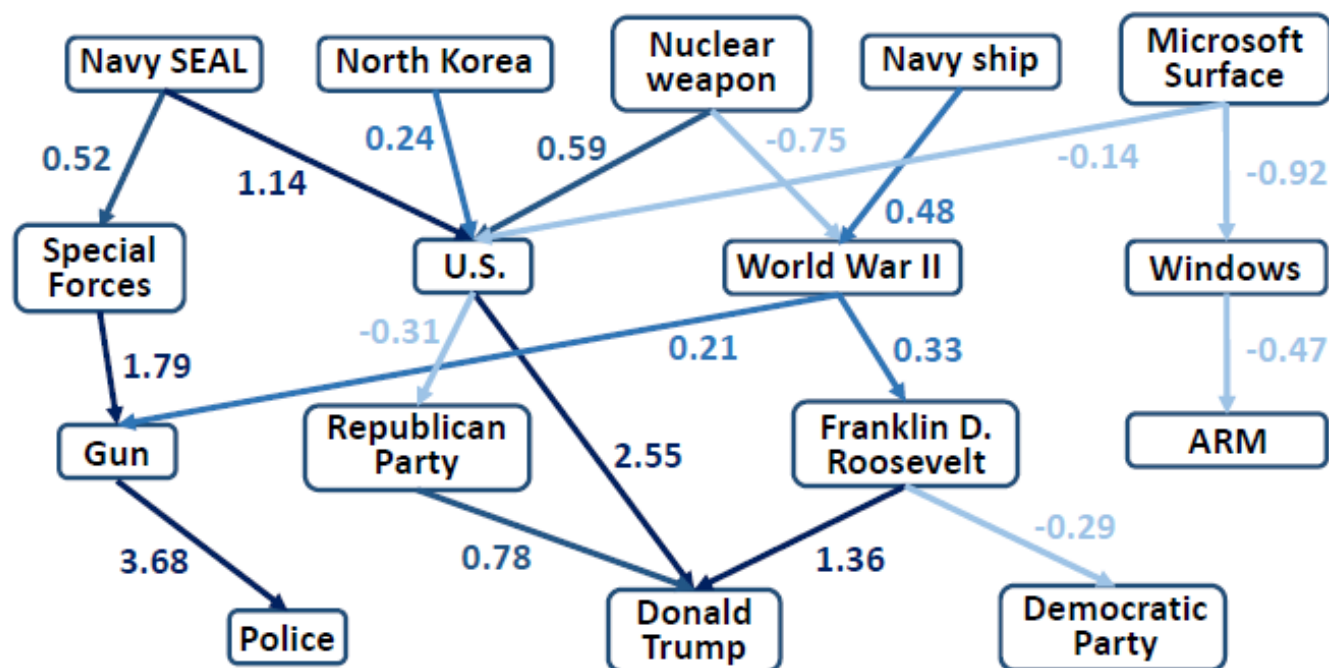
\* Statistically significant improvements by  $t$ -test.



# Example

## Click history:

1. Family of **Navy SEAL** Trainee Who Died During Pool Exercise Plans to Take Legal Action
2. **North Korea** Vows to Strengthen **Nuclear Weapons**
3. **North Korea** Threatens 'Toughest Counteraction' After **U.S.** Moves **Navy Ships**
4. Consumer Reports Pulls Recommendation for **Microsoft Surface** Laptops

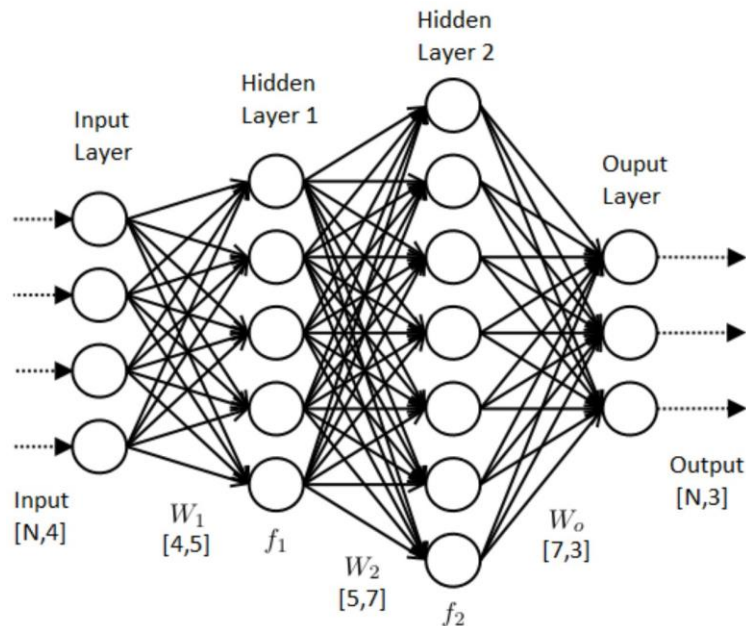


Candidate news: **Trump** Announces Gunman Dead, Credits 'Heroic Actions' of **Police**

# Explainable Recommendation Systems

Model Explainability { Transparency  
Trust

Effectiveness  
Persuasiveness  
Readability } Presentation Quality



# Explainable Recommendation Systems



## Fog Harbor Fish House

★★★★☆ 4703 reviews

Their **tan tan noodles** are made of magic. The chili oil is really appetizing.

However, **prices** are on the high side.

## 1-800-FLOWERS.COM – Elegant Flowers for Lovers

Ad · **1800Flowers.com** · 40,100+ followers on Twitter

**Ratings:** Product Selection 4.5/5 - Price 4/5 - Customer Service 4/5

1800flowers.com has been visited by 10K+ users in the past month

1800flowers.com is rated ★★★★★ (321,968 reviews)



Model Explainability { Transparency  
Trust

Effectiveness  
Persuasiveness  
Readability } Presentation  
Quality

# Problem Definition

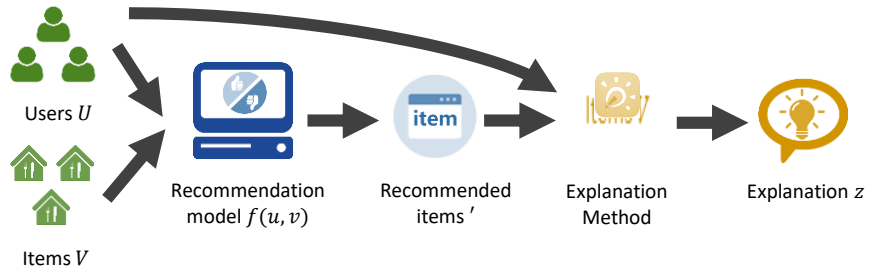
- Input

- User set  $U$ ,  $u \in U$  is a user -----  $u$ : user ID and user attributes
- Item set  $V$ ,  $v \in V$  is an item -----  $v = (i, l_1, l_2, \dots, l_m)$   
 $i$ : item ID     $l_j$ : interpretable component
- A recommendation model to be explained  $f(u, v)$

- Output

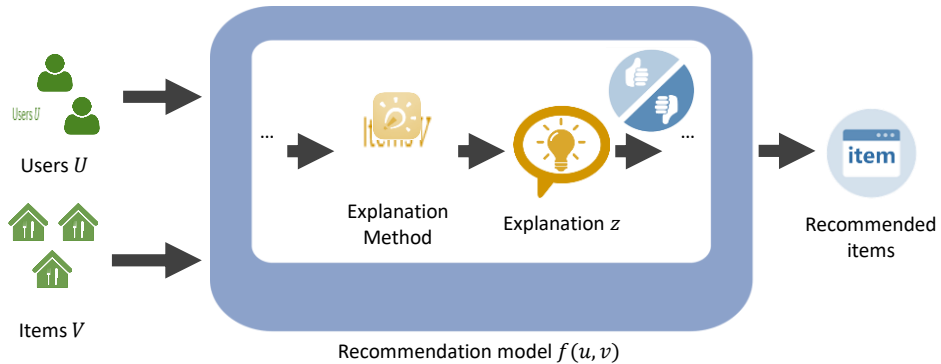
- $z$  is generated based on the selected components
- Explanation  $z = \text{expgen} (z_1, z_2, \dots, z_m)$ 
  - $z_j = 1$     The  $j$ th interpretable component is selected
  - $z_j = 0$     The  $j$ th interpretable component is not selected

# Outline



Can we enhance persuasiveness (**presentation quality**) in a data-driven way?

*Feedback Aware Generative Model, Shipped to **Bing Ads**, revenue increased by 0.5%*



Can we build an explainable deep model (enhance **model explainability**)?

*Explainable Recommendation Through Attentive Multi-View Learning, **AAAI 2019***

Can we design a pipeline which better balances **presentation quality** and **model explainability**?

*A Reinforcement Learning Framework for Explainable Recommendation, **ICDM 2018***



# Explainable Recommendation for Ads

## Search Ads

1-800-FLOWERS.COM® - Elegant Flowers for Any Occasion.

Ad · 1800Flowers.com · 40,100+ followers on Twitter

Ratings: Product Selection 4.5/5 - Price 4/5 - Customer Service 4/5

Elegant Flowers for Any Occasion. 100% Smile Guarantee!

1800flowers.com has been visited by 10K+ users in the past month

1800flowers.com is rated ★★★★★ (321,968 reviews)

"Quick and fast - good choice of flowers!" - from consumer review

### Anniversary Flowers.

Perfect Anniversary Flowers & Gifts  
Special Moments with Your Loved One

### Best Selling Flowers.

Our Most Popular Flower Bouquets  
Great Gifts for any Event!

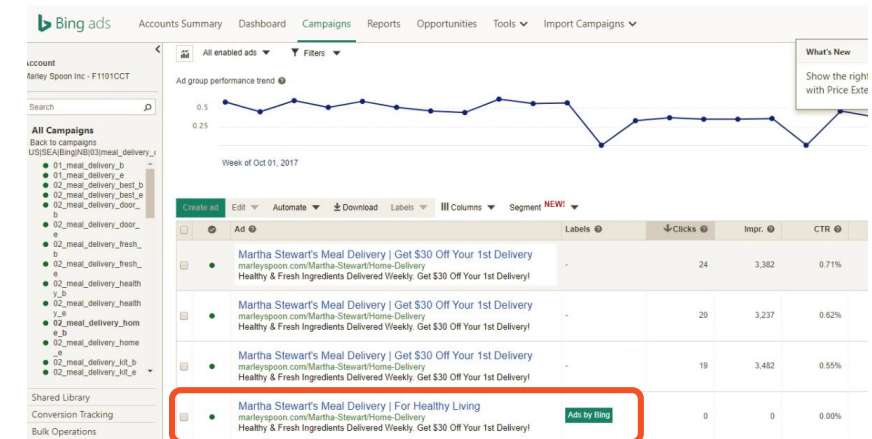
### Gift Baskets.

Bountiful Baskets of Gourmet Snack  
Perfect Gift for Sharing Smiles!

### Sympathy.

Send a Personalized  
Message of Condolences.

## Advertiser Platform



## Native Ads / MSN

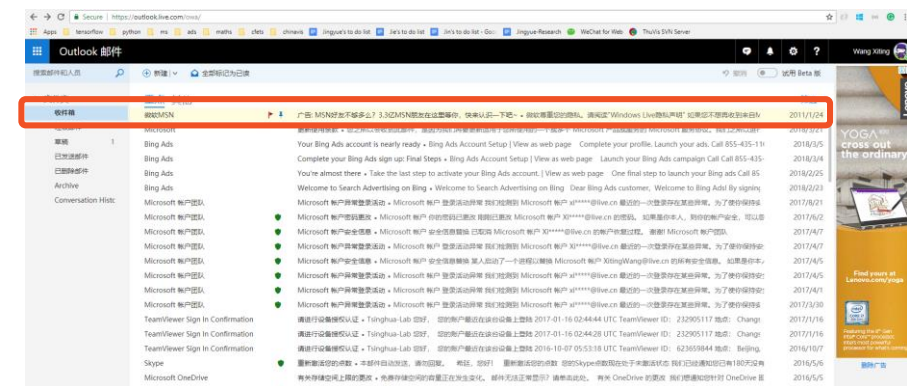


24 of the Coolest Set Photos  
in Movie History

Sponsored

Esquire

## Native Ads / Outlook.com



# Feedback Aware Generative Model

- Traditional Seq2Seq model

$$\operatorname{argmax}_{\theta} \prod_i p(y_i | x_i; \theta)$$

- Feedback aware model

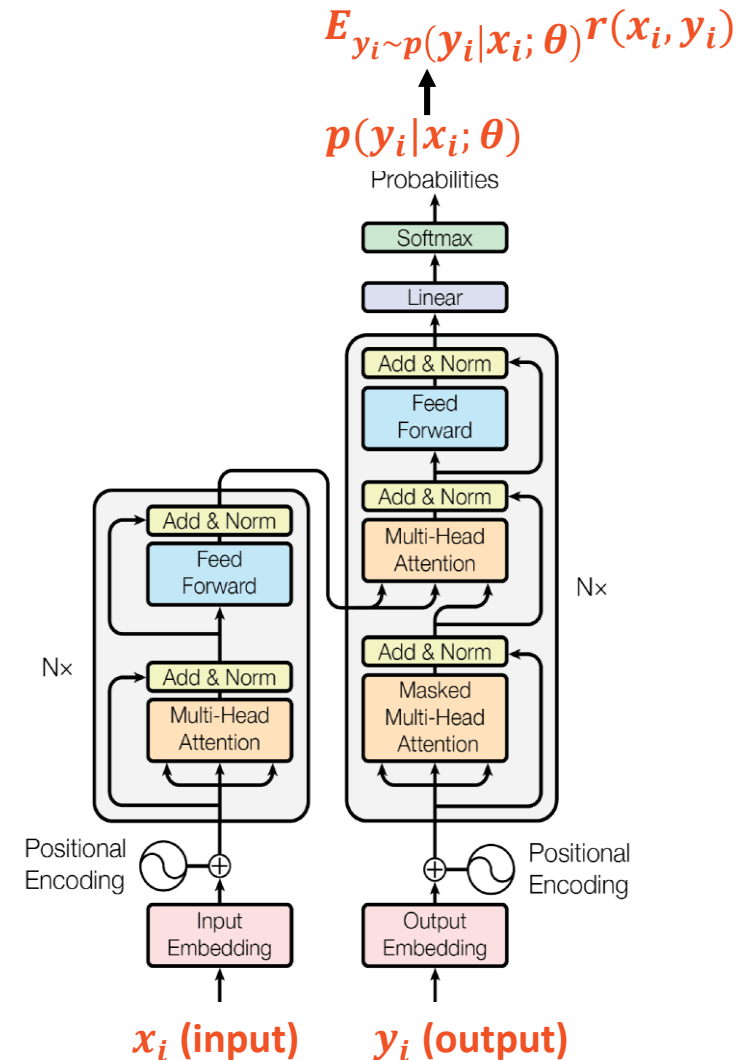
$$\operatorname{argmax}_{\theta} \sum_i E_{y_i \sim p(y_i | x_i; \theta)} r(x_i, y_i)$$

Input $x_i$	Output $y_i$	Reward $r(\cdot)$
Ad title, category, keyword, sitelink title	Ad title, Ad description, sitelink description	CTR

Ad title: *Flowers delivered today*  
Category: *Occasions & Gifts*



Elegant flowers for any occasion.  
100% smile guarantee!



# Example Results

The model has the ability to generate persuasive phrases

Diversified results

The model can differentiate similar inputs

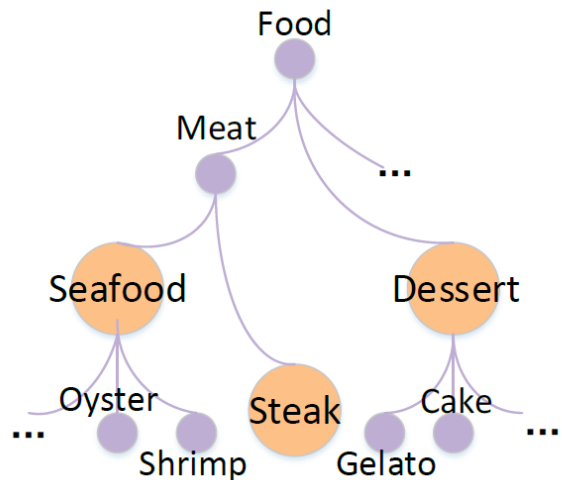
Input AdTitle	job applications online
Output AdDescriptions	New: job application online. Apply today & find your perfect job!
	Now hiring - submit an application. Browse full & part time positions.
	3 open positions left -- apply now! Jobs in your area
	Open positions left -- apply now! Job application online.
	7 open positions left -- apply now! Jobs in your area
	Sales positions open. Hiring now - apply today!

Input AdTitle	US passport application
Output AdDescriptions	Find US passport application and related articles. Search now!
	Quick & easy application. Apply for your passport online today!
	Quick & easy application. Find government passport application and related articles.
	Government passport application. Quick and easy to search results!
	Start your passport online today. Apply now & find the best results!
	Open your passport online today. 100% free tool!

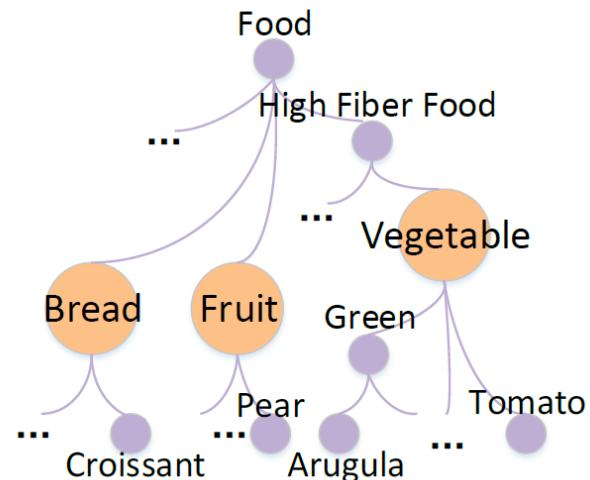
# Explainable Recommendation Through Attentive Multi-View Learning

- Existing methods are either “deep but unexplainable” or “explainable but shallow”
- We want to develop an explainable deep model which
  - Achieves the state-of-art accuracy and is also explainable
  - Models multi-level user interest in an unsupervised manner

26-year-old female user

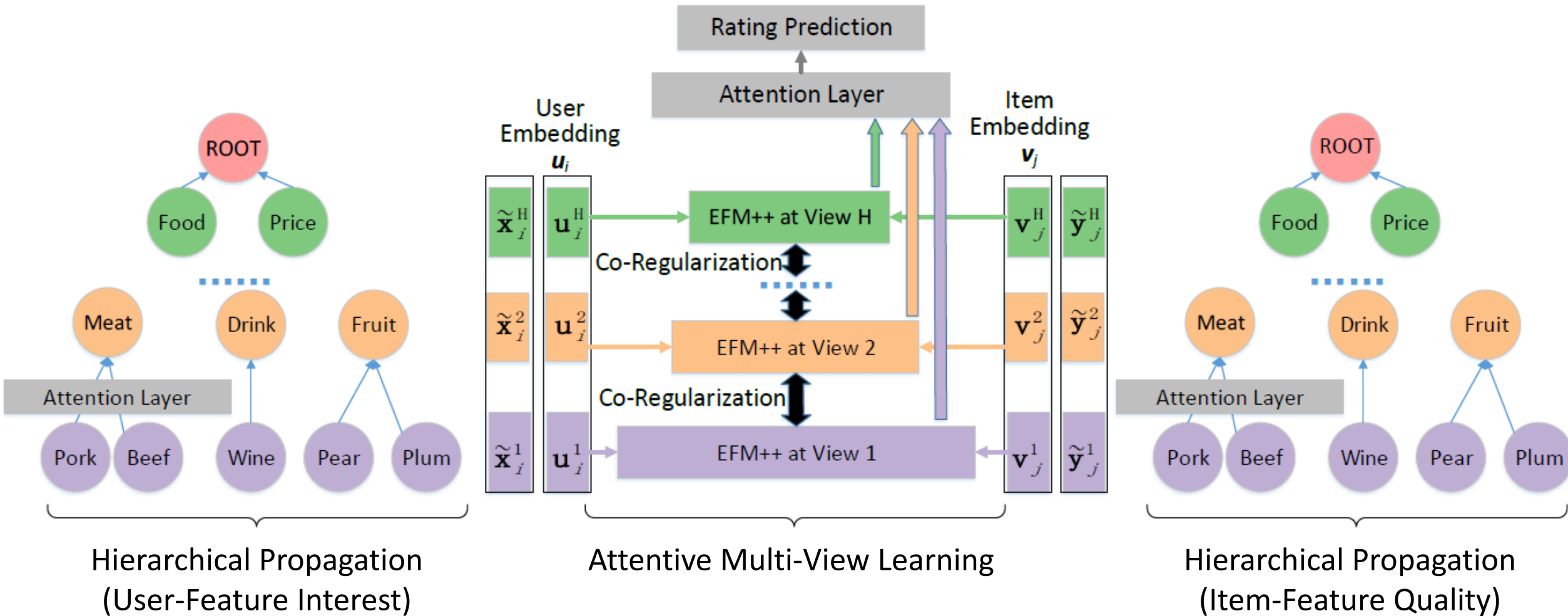


30-year-old male user



# Model

*You might be interested in [features in  $E$ ], on which this item performs well*



# Data

Amazon	Dataset	#Users	#Items	#Reviews
	Toys and Games	19,412	11,924	167,597
	Digital Music	5,541	3,568	64,706
	Yelp	8,744	14,082	212,922

Review: user, item, rating, review text, timestamp

## Amazon

 S. R. Bullock

★★★★★ **A Wonderful Device**

December 26, 2017

Color: Heather Gray Fabric | Configuration: Echo | **Verified Purchase**

I was a bit cautious about buying this- but it went on sale and I figured, even if I hate it I can return it... Well, I LOVE IT! I am not a super-tech-savvy guy, but I had it set up and playing music within 20 minutes of it being delivered to my home. I used my iPad to "install" it (after getting the free Alexa app), and that was it. No problems. Sound is fantastic, and even though I bought it mainly for the music, I can see me using it to ask about the weather, how far it is to the nearest Domino's pizza, and how late does my local grocery stay open. If you like to listen to music and ask general questions, this is fantastic. If you are really interested, you can do all kinds of other stuff with it. I think I will keep it simple. Highly recommended!

## Yelp



**Adrian R.**

Manhattan, NY

👤 2 friends

★ 5 reviews

📷 1 photo

 [Share review](#)

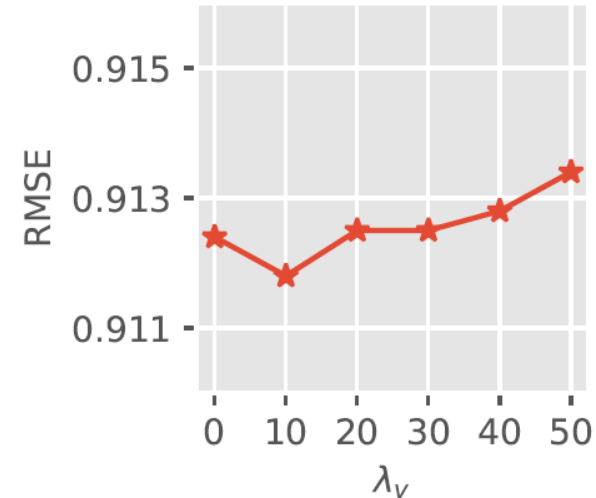
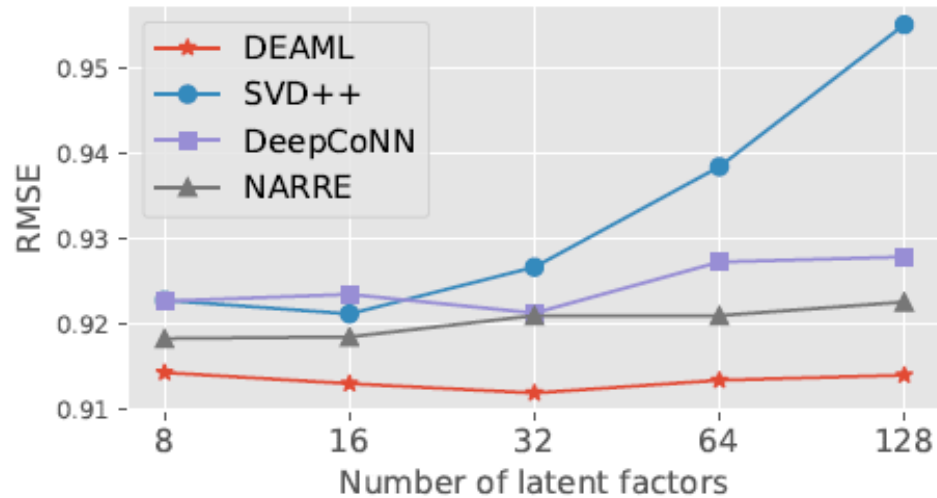
★★★★★ 10/19/2018

I freaking love Square Pie Guys. The pizza is so good that you'll spend your days yearning for another slice. Very few places can live up to Square Pie Guys and their quality ingredients, inventive toppings, and consistent execution. FEED ME!!!!

# Accuracy

RMSE comparison with baselines on three datasets. Best results are highlighted in bold.

	G1			G2	G3				Ours	
	NMF	PMF	SVD++	CKE	HFT	EFM	DeepCoNN	NARRE	DEAML-V	DEAML
Toys and Games	1.1489	1.1832	0.9071	0.9923	0.9958	0.9534	0.9199	0.9084	0.9062	<b>0.9040</b>
Digital Music	1.1520	1.2619	0.9211	0.9849	1.0910	0.9696	0.9212	0.9209	0.9190	<b>0.9118</b>
Yelp	1.2678	1.2413	1.1561	1.2279	1.2738	1.2019	1.1503	1.1348	1.1343	<b>1.1333</b>



$\lambda_v$ : weight for the co-regularization term



# Explainability

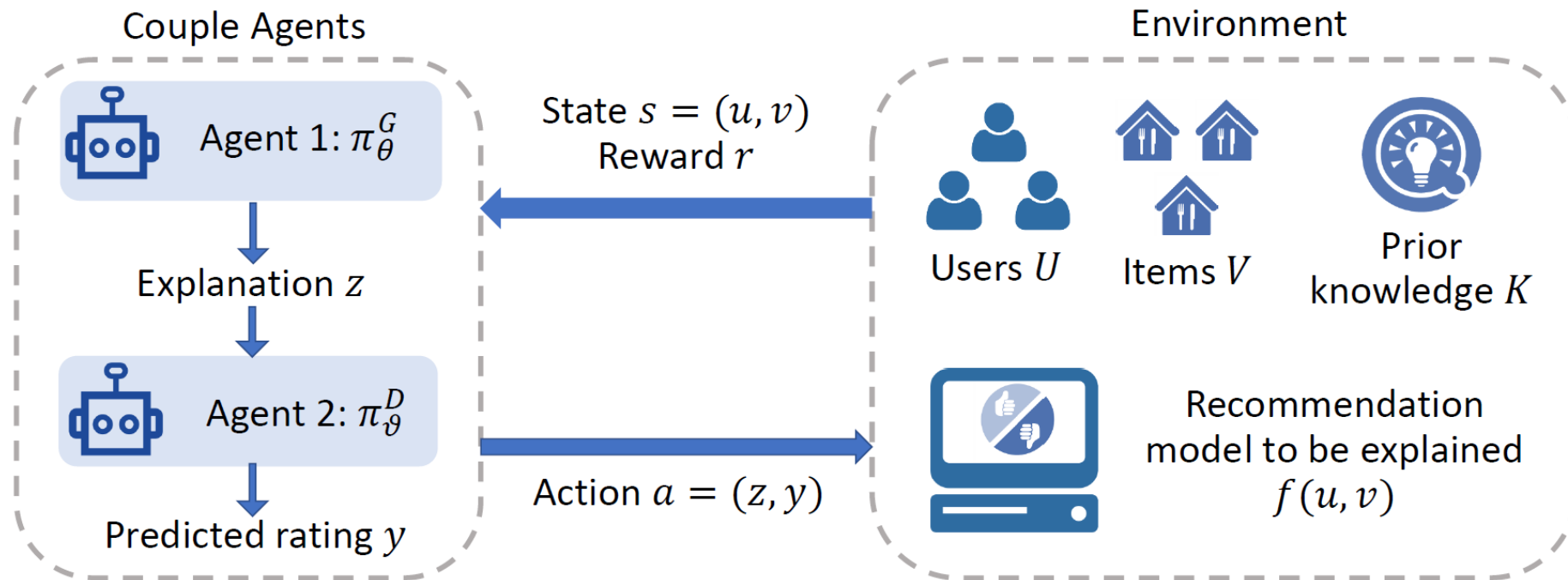
- 20 participants, all Yelp users
- Collect their Yelp reviews and generate personalized explanations
- Ask them to rate the usefulness of each explanation

Average score on explanation usefulness.  $<30$  and  $\geq 30$  refer to two age groups.

	Male	Female	$<30$	$\geq 30$	Overall
<b>PAV</b>	1.35	1.51	1.65	1.11	1.41
<b>EFM</b>	3.18	3.13	3.03	3.32	3.16
<b>DEAML</b>	<b>3.69</b>	<b>3.52</b>	<b>3.58</b>	<b>3.68</b>	<b>3.63</b>

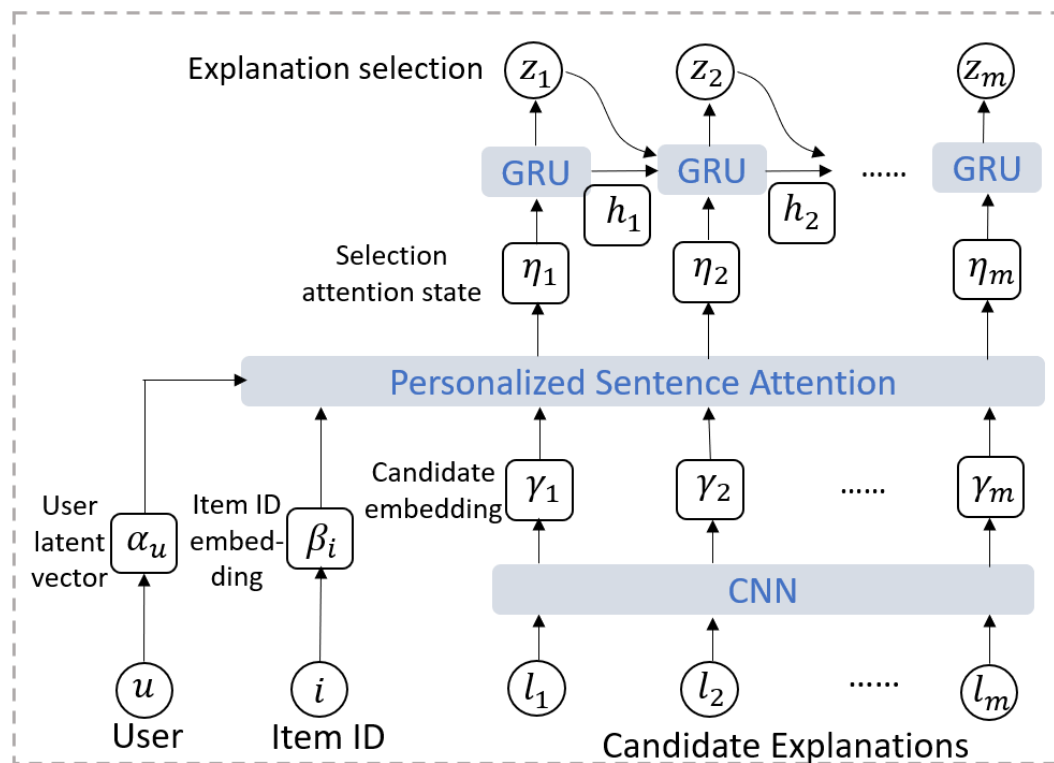


# Reinforcement Learning Framework for Explainable Recommendation

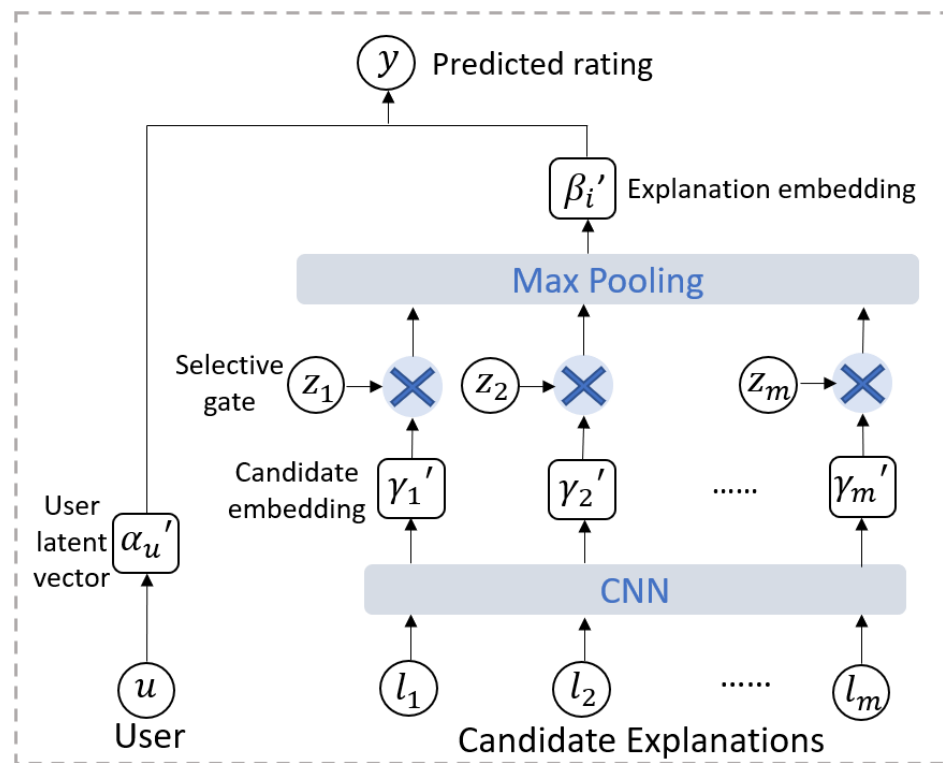


# Couple Agents

**Agent 1:**  $\pi_{\theta}^G(z, u, v) = p(z|u, v, \theta)$



**Agent 2:**  $y = \pi_{\theta}^D(u, v, z)$

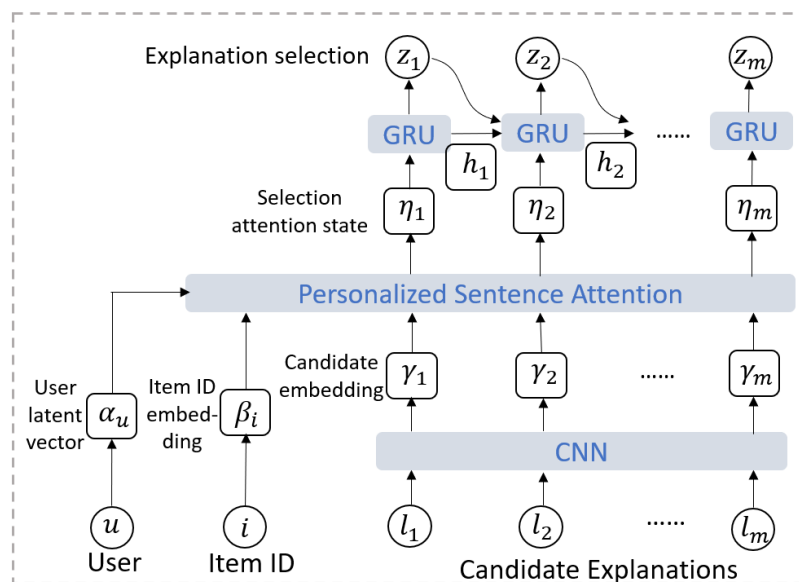


# Optimization Goal

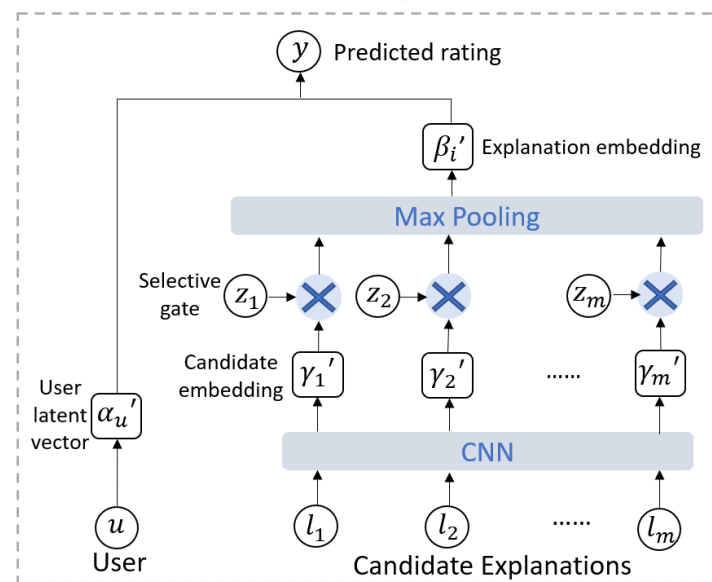
$$\arg \max_{\theta, \vartheta} \sum_{u, v} E_{z \sim p(\cdot | u, v, \theta)} [\underbrace{\mathcal{L}(f(u, v), \pi_{\vartheta}^D(u, v, z))}_{\text{Model explainability}} + \underbrace{\Omega(z)}_{\text{Presentation quality}}].$$

Reward  $r$

**Agent 1:**  $\pi_{\theta}^G(z, u, v) = p(z | u, v, \theta)$



**Agent 2:**  $y = \pi_{\vartheta}^D(u, v, z)$



# Evaluation

	Amazon_Toys_and_Games	Yelp_2018_LasVegas
#users	19,412	23,196
#items	11,924	13,433
#reviews and ratings	167,597	568,454

Explaining different recommendation models trained on the **Amazon\_Toys\_and\_Games** dataset. Here NMF, PMF, SVD++, and CDL are recommendation models to be explained.  $M_c$ : presentation quality  $M_e$ : explainability

	$M_c$					$M_e$				
	NMF	PMF	SVD++	CDL	GT	NMF	PMF	SVD++	CDL	GT
Random	0.006	0.007	0.035	0.010	0.030	-1.329	-1.046	-0.150	-1.080	-0.981
NARRE	0.012	0.022	0.038	0.043	0.048	-1.271	-1.032	-0.142	-0.967	-0.927
Ours	<b>0.025</b>	<b>0.028</b>	<b>0.048</b>	<b>0.079</b>	<b>0.155</b>	<b>-1.234</b>	<b>-0.956</b>	<b>-0.130</b>	<b>-0.956</b>	<b>-0.903</b>

Explaining different recommendation models trained on the **Yelp\_2018\_LasVegas** dataset. Here NMF, PMF, SVD++, CDL, and GT are recommendation models to be explained.

	$M_c$					$M_e$				
	NMF	PMF	SVD++	CDL	GT	NMF	PMF	SVD++	CDL	GT
Random	-0.030	-0.030	-0.031	0.012	0.007	-0.478	-0.287	-0.266	-0.517	-1.488
NARRE	-0.015	-0.000	0.018	0.031	0.038	-0.448	-0.266	-0.239	-0.482	-1.424
Ours	<b>0.018</b>	<b>0.037</b>	<b>0.041</b>	<b>0.227</b>	<b>0.168</b>	<b>-0.421</b>	<b>-0.258</b>	<b>-0.232</b>	<b>-0.460</b>	<b>-1.380</b>

# Case Study

Frequent words in reviews:

User A **chicken**, **buffet**, portions, **sushi**, **beef**

User B **service**, **pizza**, **server**, **table**, **clean**

	NARRE	User A	User B
Item 1	By the way, try to park at the side of gold coast farthest from the rio if you want to have a shorter walk, which is healthier than it sounds due to less secondhand smoke exposure.	The <b>chicken</b> 's feet was tasty, so were the <b>har</b> <b>gow</b> .	In the past we had <b>trouble communicating with the staff</b> because they usually speak in their own language , this last time though it seems they have hired more <b>English speaking staff</b> and it was <b>considerably easier to order</b> .
Item 2	If you needa <b>fajita</b> , your search should end here.	They came with red & green <b>peppers</b> and <b>onions</b> . First, I thought the <b>salsa</b> was delicious, and i appreciated it was actually spicy versus the mild you typically receive.	Overall, the <b>service</b> throughout our meal was swift & friendly.
Item 3	Unfortunately, after living in the city for a few years and trying a lot of wonderful <b>food</b> that this city has to offer, we returned for a visit and I was less than impressed.	It was the perfect <b>burger</b> , <b>cheesy</b> with just the right amount of dressing and <b>chips</b> !	At least <b>put the stuff in a fancy container?</b>

■ Words related to food

■ Words related to services

# Conclusions and Future Work

- Personalized recommendation systems will continue to develop in various directions, including effectiveness, diversity, computational efficiency, and explainability
- Develop an easy-to-use tool for implementing deep learning based user representation and recommendation models
- Collaborate with researchers in psychology, sociology and other disciplines

Thanks!