



北京邮电大学

BEIJING UNIVERSITY OF POSTS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS



## Enhanced User Interest and Expertise Modeling for Expert Recommendation

**Tongze He**, Caili Guo, Yunfei Chu

Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications

ICPR 2020

January 10, 2021



# OUTLINE

- Motivations
- **E**nhanced **U**ser **I**nterest and **E**xpertise  
**M**odeling for Expert Recommendation (EUIEM)
- Experiment:
- Conclusions & Future Work



# Motivations

User Interest  
User Expertise

Key

Expert  
Recommendation

## Handcrafted features:

question features,  
user features,  
user feedback features

## Deep learning methods:

high-level semantics  
end to end learning

But



- Statistics features
- Low-level representation

But



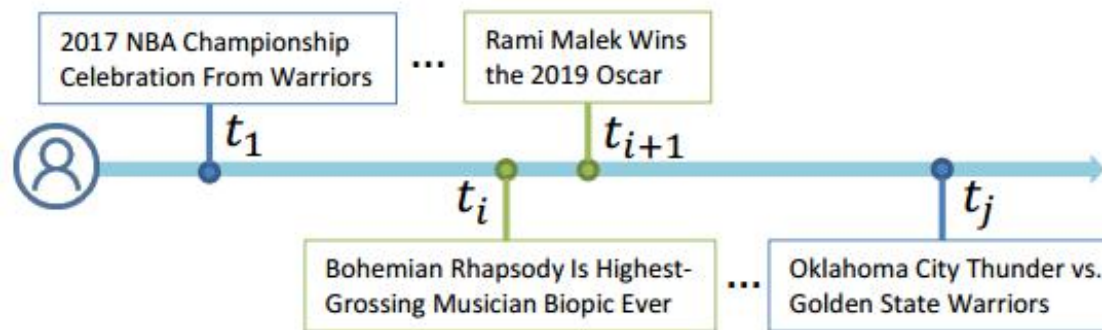
- Static representation for user interest
- Implicit representation for User Expertise

Thus, a learning framework that captures user interest dynamically and models user expertise explicitly is badly needed.



# Motivations

In the real-world CQA websites, **users' interest** is **changing over time**. A user may not answer the question because his current interest is not in this question domain even if he has high expertise on it.



Thus:

1. capture users' short-term interests
2. combine short-term and long-term interests



# Motivations

The feedback information(votes) from users' answering questions can reflect the expertise of users in this question field.

That car freshener hints at the existence of a certain vehicle that cannot yet be shown to us without spoiling the big surprise:

21

So even though we cannot really draw any conclusions from this visual signifier that early in the film, it makes for a more satisfying experience to at least have been shown *some* evidence of something more going on in the background, thus making us feel a little complicit.

share improve this answer follow

answered 21 hours ago

ojdo

401 2 6

New contributor

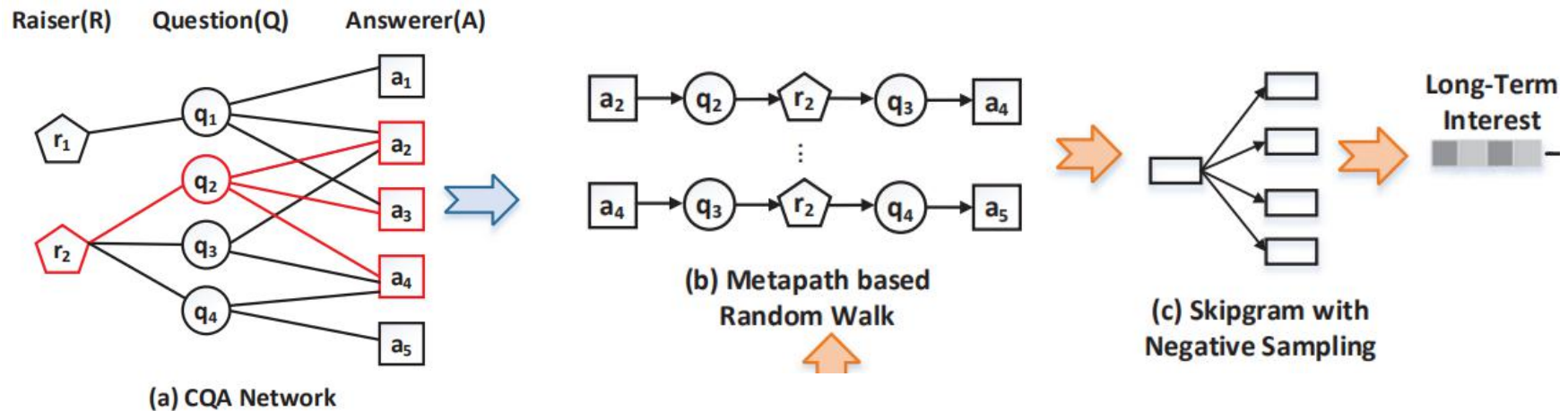
Thus:

1. learn the expertise embedding and interest embedding respectively.
2. use the feedback to learn the expertise embedding.



# Enhanced User Interest and Expertise Modeling for Expert Recommendation

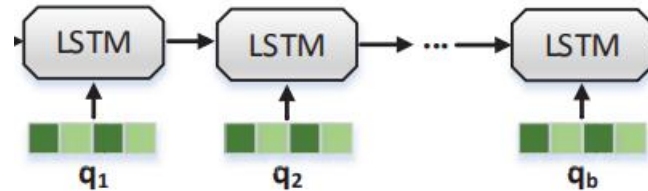
- To capture the long-term interests, we use metapath based random walk and skipgram algorithm for superiority in dealing with sparsity.



- To capture the short-term interests, we input user's recent behavior into LSTM due to its remarkable ability in processing sequential data.

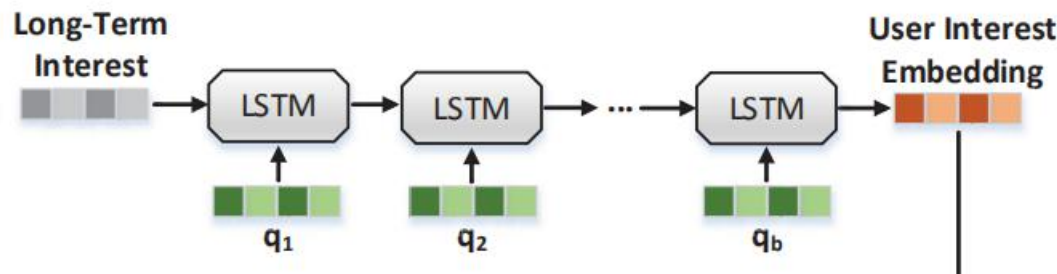


# Enhanced User Interest and Expertise Modeling for Expert Recommendation



(d) Short-Term Interest Modeling

- In order to combine the long-term interest and short-term interest more naturally, we use the long-term interest to initialize the first hidden state of the LSTM, So that the last hidden state is a combination of short-term and long-term interest and we use it as users' interest embedding.

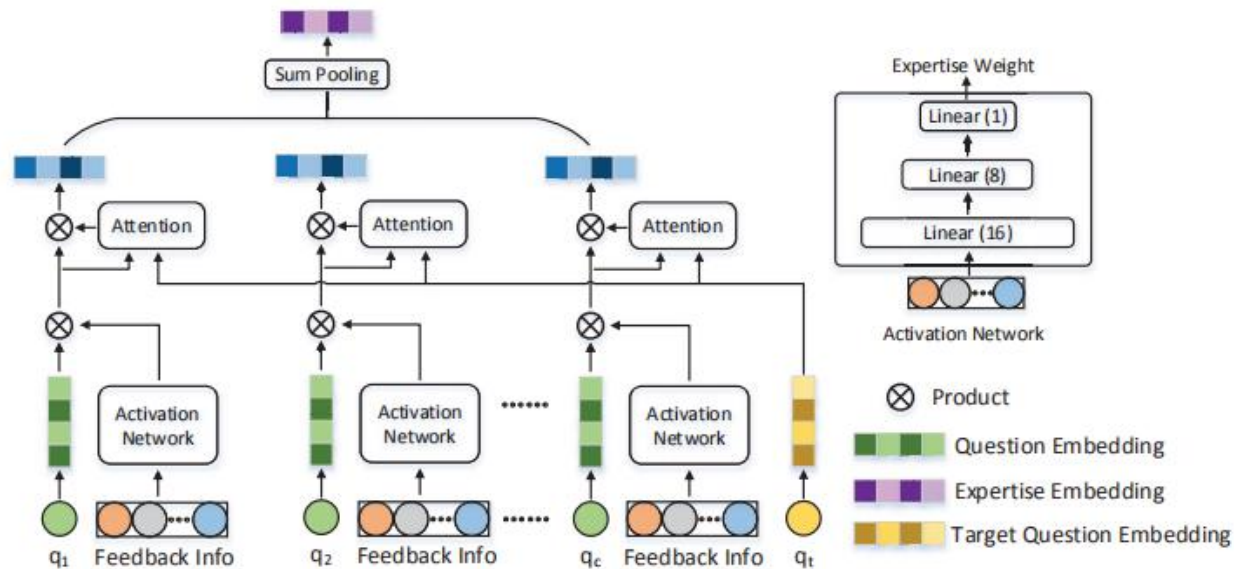






# Enhanced User Interest and Expertise Modeling for Expert Recommendation

- We mine user history answers and feedback to model user expertise explicitly.



We construct several statistics of the feedback and put them into a feed-forward network to get the expertise weight. We also use attention mechanisms to pay more attention to the answers which are related to the target question.



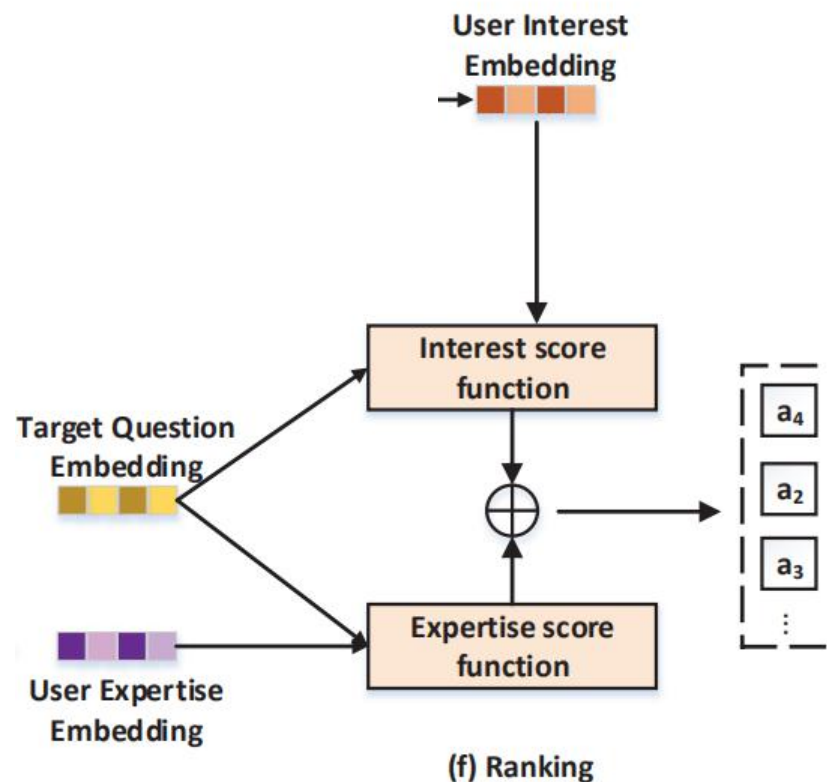


# Enhanced User Interest and Expertise Modeling for Expert Recommendation

- We introduce the relative rank to model the score. Given the votes of the answers, we design the following rules:

(1) Answerers with higher vote score higher than those with lower vote.

(2) Answerers who answered question score higher than those who did not.





# Model Training

## ■ The ranking loss:

$$Obj_{rank} = \sum_{(i,j,q_t,r) \in D_1} S(\mathbf{p}_i^a, \mathbf{e}_i^a, \mathbf{q}_t, \mathbf{p}^r) - S(\mathbf{p}_j^a, \mathbf{e}_j^a, \mathbf{q}_t, \mathbf{p}^r) + \\ \sum_{(y,z,q_t,r) \in D_2} S(\mathbf{p}_y^a, \mathbf{e}_y^a, \mathbf{q}_t, \mathbf{p}^r) - S(\mathbf{p}_z^a, \mathbf{e}_z^a, \mathbf{q}_t, \mathbf{p}^r)$$

We alternatively maximize the two objective functions

$$\log p(j|i) = \log \sigma(u_i^T v_j) + \sum_{l=1}^k \mathbb{E}_{j' \sim P(j')} [\log \sigma(-u_i^T v_{j'})]$$

$$Obj_{rank} = \sum_{(i,j,q_t,r) \in D_1} S(\mathbf{p}_i^a, \mathbf{e}_i^a, \mathbf{q}_t, \mathbf{p}^r) - S(\mathbf{p}_j^a, \mathbf{e}_j^a, \mathbf{q}_t, \mathbf{p}^r) + \\ \sum_{(y,z,q_t,r) \in D_2} S(\mathbf{p}_y^a, \mathbf{e}_y^a, \mathbf{q}_t, \mathbf{p}^r) - S(\mathbf{p}_z^a, \mathbf{e}_z^a, \mathbf{q}_t, \mathbf{p}^r)$$



## Experiments: dataset

Stack Exchange Dataset:

we choose two sub-dataset: Biology and English

<b>Dataset</b>	<b># of users</b>	<b># of r</b>	<b># of q</b>	<b># of a</b>	<b># of a/q</b>	<b># of p/a</b>
<b>Biology</b>	5858	4176	8296	2429	6.8	3.4
<b>English</b>	41013	22229	42972	23123	7.6	5.6



# Experiments

**Q1:** How does the proposed EUIEM perform comparing with other state-of-the-art methods?

■ Compared Methods:

■ Metric

■ Results

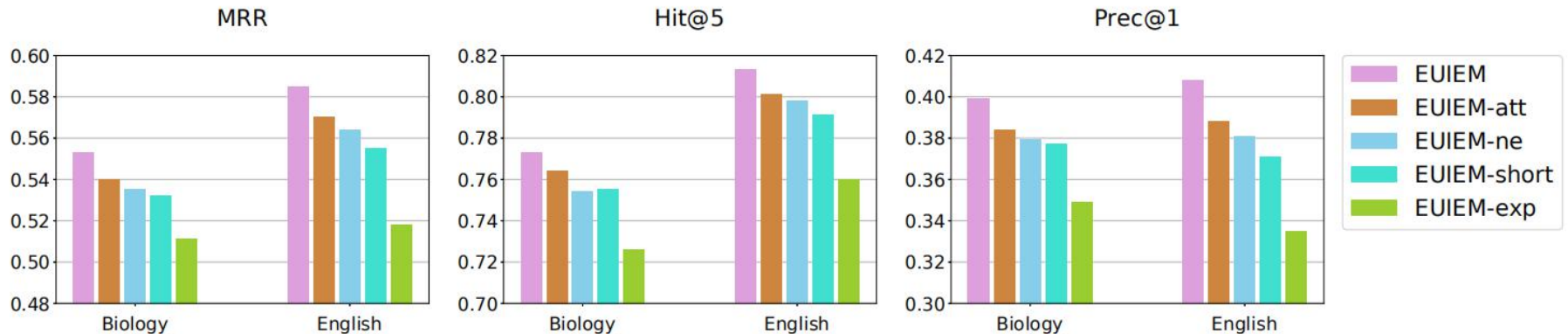
Method	T=2019-01-01						T=2018-10-01					
	Biology			English			Biology			English		
	MRR	Hit@5	Prec@1	MRR	Hit@5	Prec@1	MRR	Hit@5	Prec@1	MRR	Hit@5	Prec@1
Similarity	0.211	0.387	0.102	0.225	0.406	0.097	0.216	0.374	0.100	0.218	0.398	0.099
GBDT	0.329	0.491	0.203	0.372	0.612	0.188	0.301	0.483	0.185	0.362	0.600	0.192
ConvNCF	0.392	0.611	0.274	0.417	0.668	0.245	0.366	0.601	0.277	0.422	0.669	0.246
RMNL	0.483	0.697	0.315	0.491	0.717	0.336	0.488	0.691	0.317	0.492	0.708	0.331
NeRank	0.518	0.737	0.351	0.528	0.775	0.343	0.501	0.730	0.337	0.515	0.766	0.341
EUIEM	<b>0.553</b>	<b>0.773</b>	<b>0.399</b>	<b>0.585</b>	<b>0.813</b>	<b>0.408</b>	<b>0.541</b>	<b>0.765</b>	<b>0.389</b>	<b>0.572</b>	<b>0.797</b>	<b>0.403</b>



# Experiments

**Q2:** How does the proposed EUIEM perform comparing with its variants?

- Compared variants
- Metric
- Results





## Future work

- the profile of user such as user personal description should be considered to solve cold-start problem,
- the dynamic modeling of expertise can be applied since user expertise keeps improving over time.



# Thanks!

Tongze He  
@BUPT

[tongzehe@bupt.edu.cn](mailto:tongzehe@bupt.edu.cn)