



Empower MOOCs with AI

Jie Tang

Tsinghua University

The slides can be downloaded at

<http://keg.cs.tsinghua.edu.cn/jietang>

Big Data in MOOC

- **149** partners
- 2400+ courses
- **33,000,000** users



- **1,000+** courses
- **10,000,000** users
- Chinese EDU association

- **110** partners
- 1,800 courses
- **14,000,000** users
- 10+ MicroMaster



- **host >1,000 courses**
- millions of users

- **~10** partners
- 40+ courses
- **1.6 million** users
- “nanodegree”



Growth of MOOCs



Source: CLASS CENTRAL



58M

Students



700+

Universities



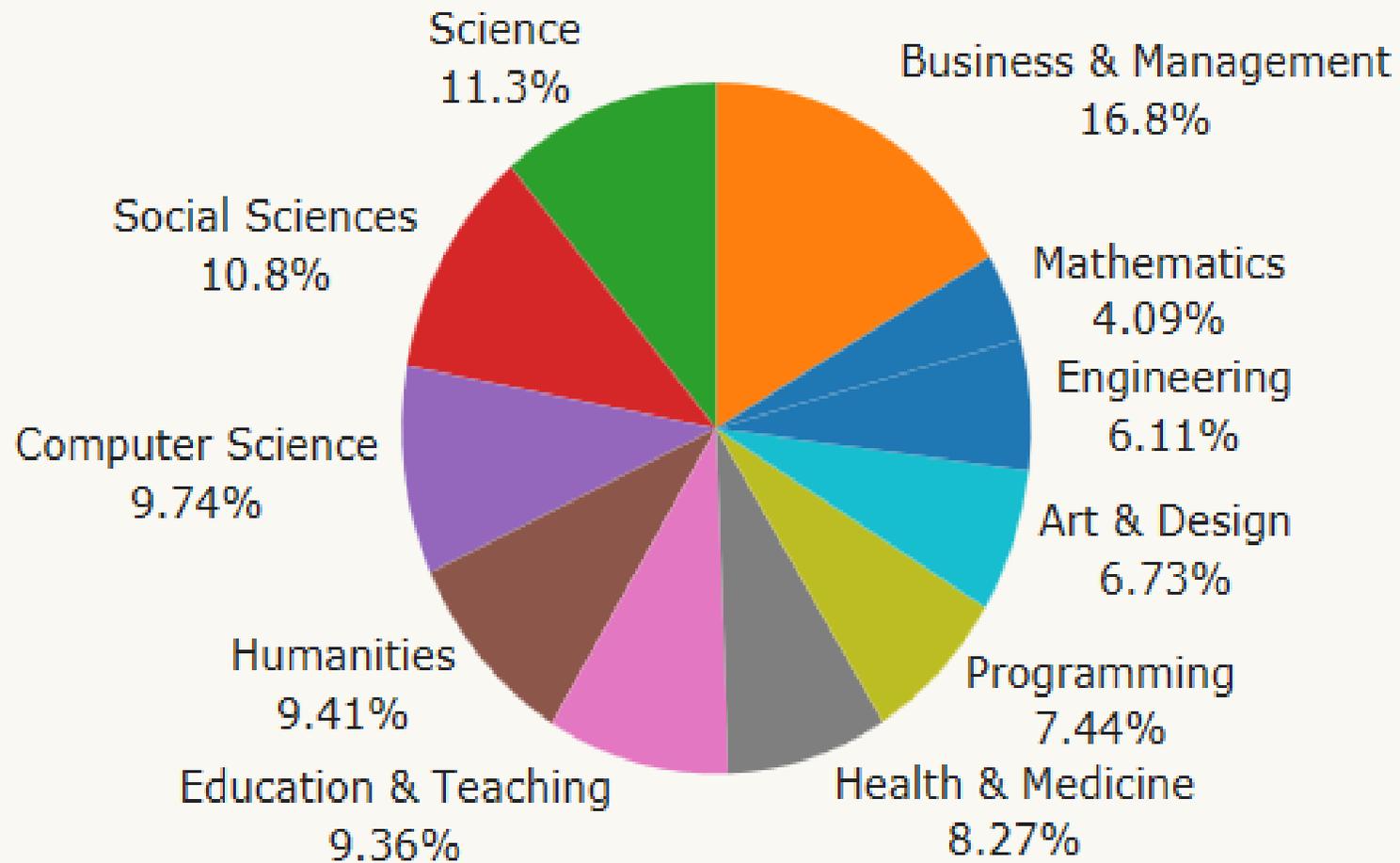
6850

Courses

MOOCs in 2016. Analysis by Class Central

2019/6/21

Course Distribution by Subjects



2019

Coursera

coursera

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搜索目录



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Neural Networks for Machine Learning

总览

授课大纲

制作方

评分和审阅

Neural
Networks for
Machine
Learning

Starts 11月 28

助学金仅对无法承担费用的学生提供。
[了解更多并申请。](#)

关于此课程： Learn about artificial neural networks and how they're being used for machine learning, as applied to speech and object recognition, image segmentation, modeling language and human motion, etc. We'll emphasize both the basic algorithms and the practical tricks needed to get them to work well.

▼ [更多](#)

制作方： 多伦多大学



教学方： Geoffrey Hinton, Professor
Department of Computer Science



Deep Learning in Python

via *DataCamp*

Stanford University

Machine Learning

via *Coursera* ⌚ 5-7 hours a week, 11 weeks long

Goldsmiths, University of London

Machine Learning for Musicians and Artists

via *Kadenze* ⌚ 7 weeks long

Google

Deep Learning

via *Udacity* ⌚ 6 hours a week, 12 weeks long

University of Washington

Machine Learning Foundations: A Case Study Approach

via *Coursera* ⌚ 6 weeks long

University of California, Berkeley

CS188.1x: Artificial Intelligence

via *edX* ⌚ 12 weeks long

Johns Hopkins University

Practical Machine Learning

via *Coursera* ⌚ 4-9 hours a week, 4 weeks long

 Earn A Credential

Part of the [Data Science Specialization](#)

Stanford University

Introduction to Artificial Intelligence

via *Udacity* ⌚ 6 hours a week, 16 weeks long

University of Toronto

Neural Networks for Machine Learning

via *Coursera* ⌚ 7-9 hours a week, 16 weeks long

XuetangX



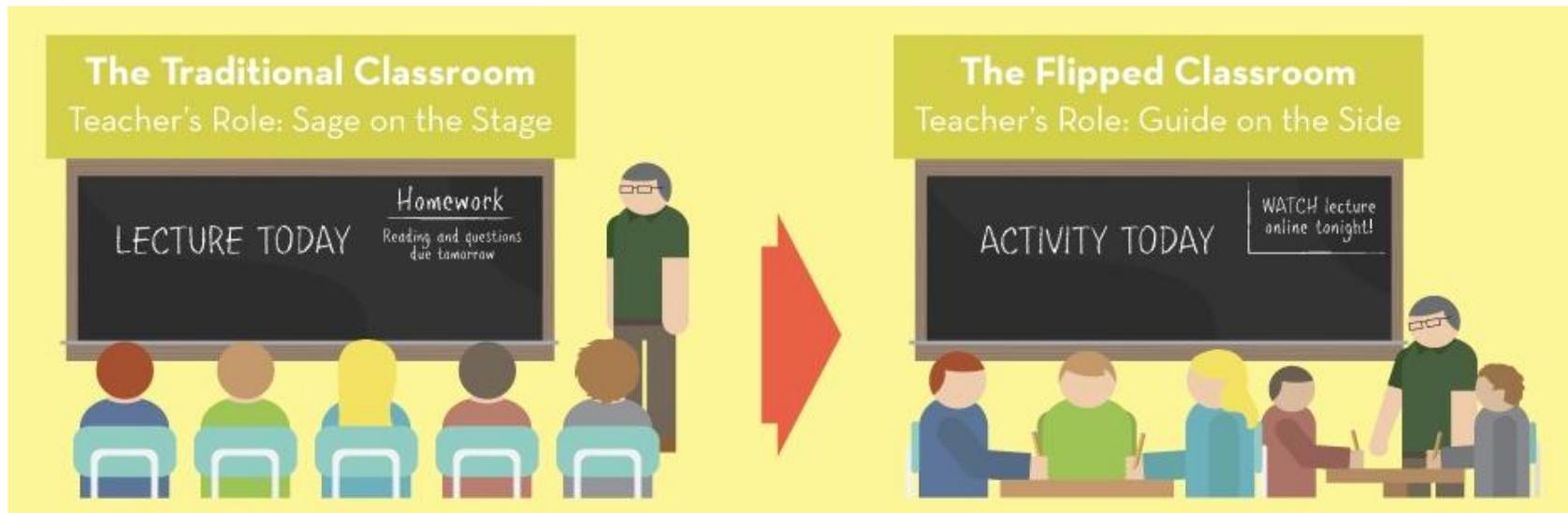
广袤世界 在你指尖



Launched in 2013

Some exciting data...

- Every day, there are **10,000+** new students
- An MOOC course can reach **100,000+** students
- **>35%** of the XuetangX users are using mobile
- traditional->**flipped classroom**->**online degree**





Some exciting data...

- Every day, there are 5,000+ new students
- An MOOC course can reach 100,000+ students
- >35% of the XuetangX users are using mobile
- traditional->flipped classroom->online degree
- **“Network+ EDU”** (O2O)
 - edX launched 10+ MicroMaster degrees
 - Udacity launched NanoDegree program
 - GIT+Udacity launched the largest online master
 - **Tsinghua+XuetangX** will launch a MicroMaster soon



However...

- **only ~3% certificate rate**
 - The highest certificate rate is **14.95%**
 - The lowest is only **0.84%**
- Can **AI** help MOOC and how?

MOOC user = Student?

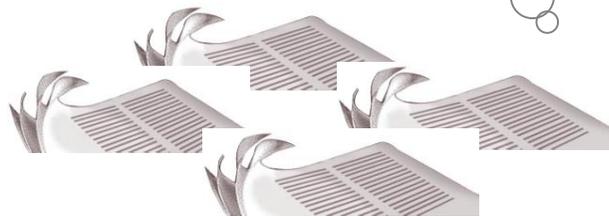
How to learn more
effectively and more
efficiently?



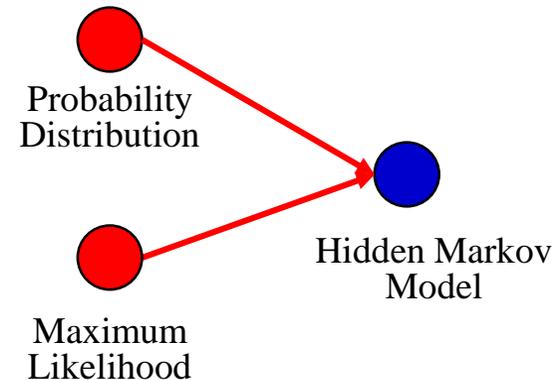
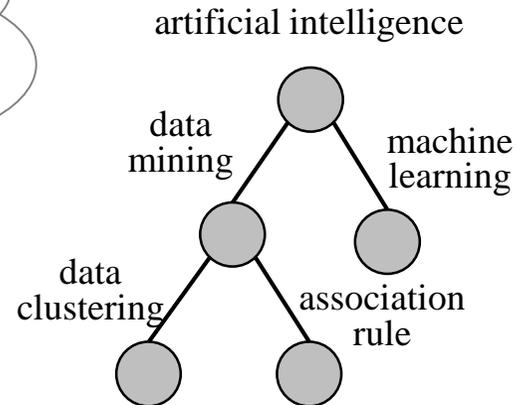
- **Who is who?** background, where from?
- **Why MOOC?** motivation? degree?
- **What is personalization?** preference?

MOOC course = University course?

How to discover the **prerequisite relations** between concepts and generate the **concept graph** automatically?

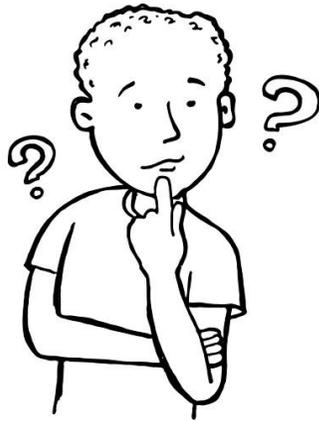


Thousands of Courses

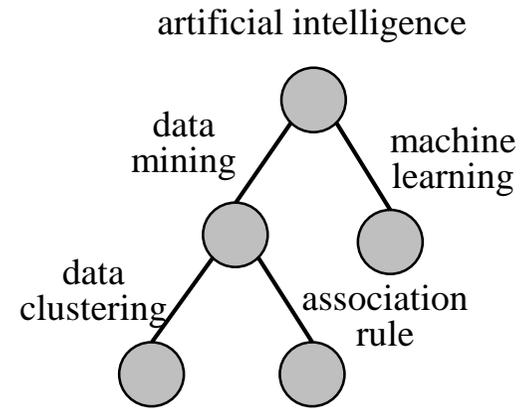


How to leverage the **external** knowledge?

However to improve the engagement?



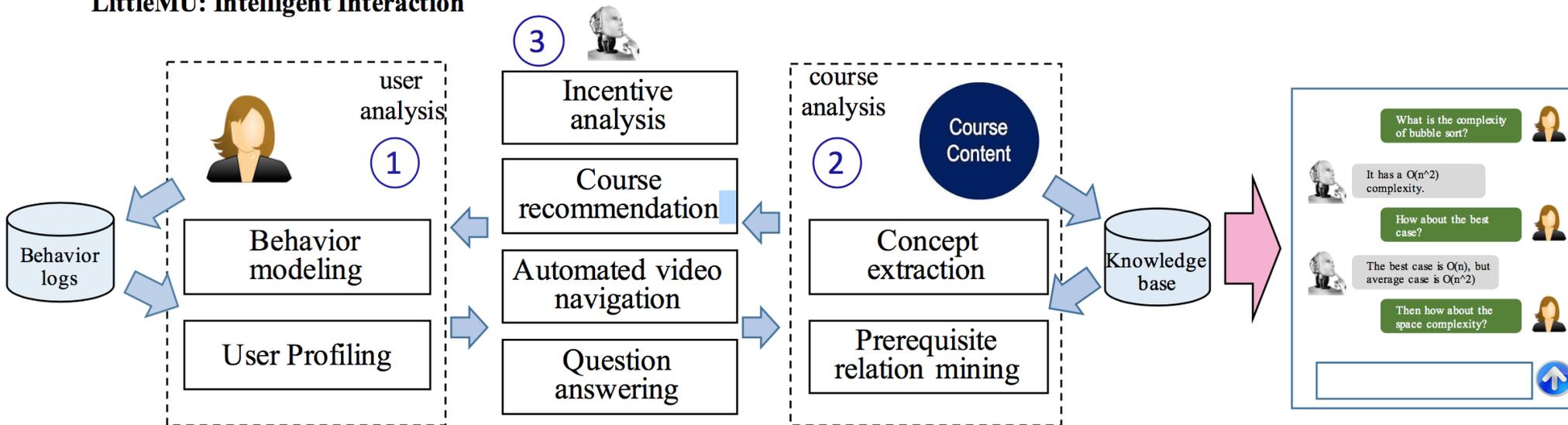
User



Knowledge

LittleMU (小木)

LittleMU: Intelligent Interaction



What is XiaoMU? Another Watson?

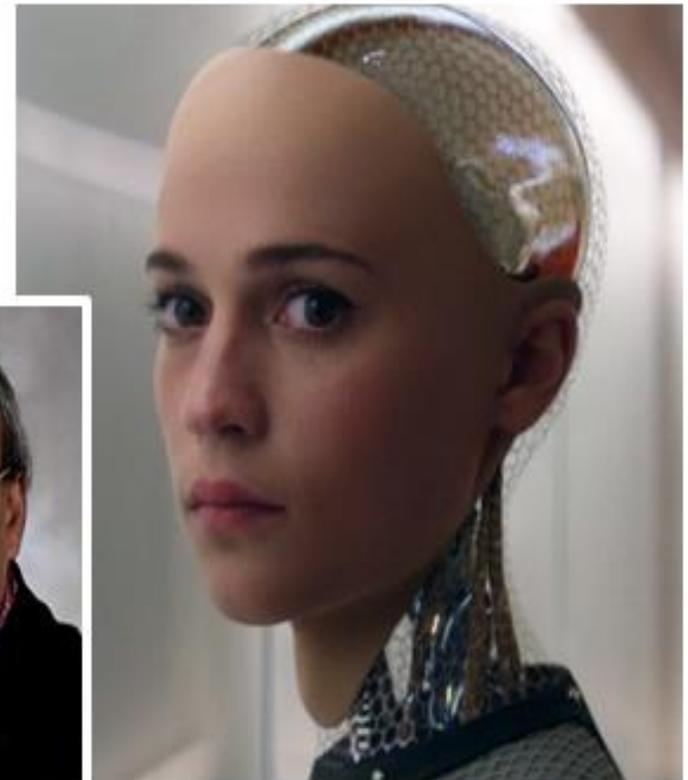


Jill Watson: Our Newest TA

- Creation of Prof. Ashok Goel
- TA for CS 7637: Knowledge-Based Artificial Intelligence
- Based on IBM Watson platform
- Anticipate that Jill will be able to answer 40% of ~10,000 questions posted to online forum



Ashok Goel



From the 2015 film, Ex Machina

What is XiaoMU(“小木”)

- Not a Chatbot
 - “Good morning”, “did you have the breakfast?”—**NO**
- Not a teacher/TA
 - “Can you explain the equation for me?” —**NO**
- **Instead**, “小木” is more like a learning peer
 - **Tell** you some basic knowledge in her mind
 - **Tell** you what the other users are thinking/learning
 - Try to **understand** your intention
 - **Teach** “小木” what you know

学堂小木

有用 无用

吃了吗

吃了点土，喝了点西北风呢。
换一换

有用 无用

我肚子疼

难不成是有喜了?
换一换

有用 无用

什么是层次网络模型

层次网络模型：
层次网络模型是概念结构理论的一种，除此之外较为公认的还有里伯的内隐学习理论，Bourne等人的特征表理论和Rosch的原型模型

先修知识点：
思维
来自知识库

有用 无用

这门课有多少学生

一共35172
来自课程信息

有用 无用

老师是谁

彭凯平
来自课程信息

有用 无用

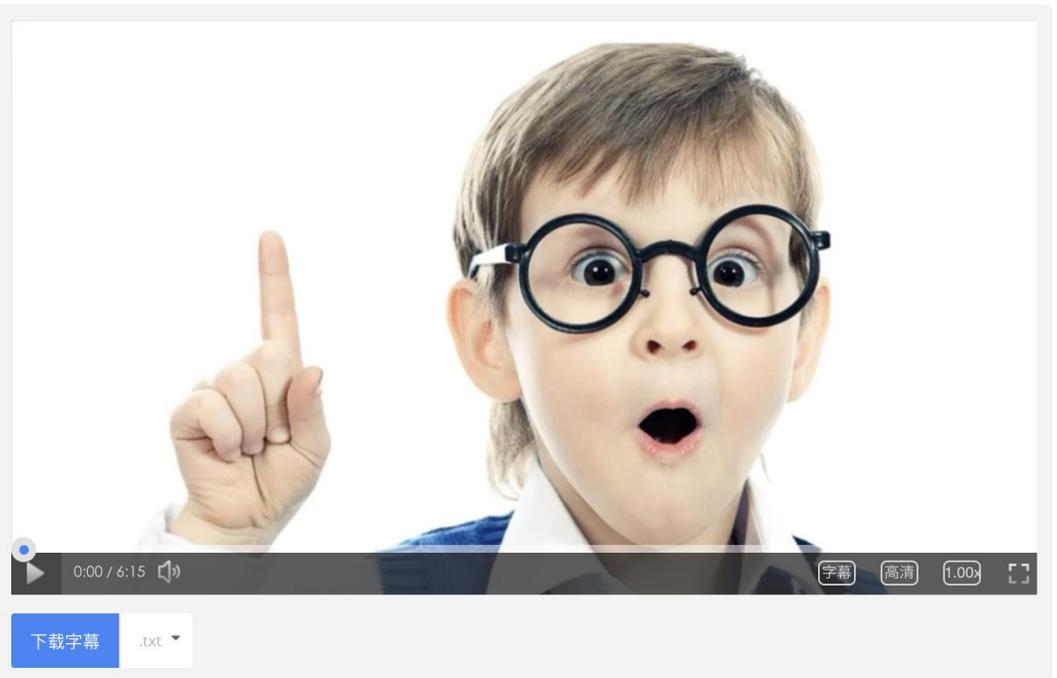
彭凯平还讲了其他什么课

心理学概论（2016暑期班）
来自课程信息

有用 无用

- 第三章：感觉与知觉
- 第四章：思维
- 第五章：意识与自我
- 第六章：语言与沟通
- 第七章：情绪与情感
- 第八章：社会心理学
- 第九章：文化心理学
- 第十章：个体差异
 - 个体的心理差异
 - 智力的测量方法
 - 人格的差异
 - 价值观的差异
 - 个体差异习题作业
- 第十一章：学习与记忆
- 第十二章：积极心理学
- 期末考试

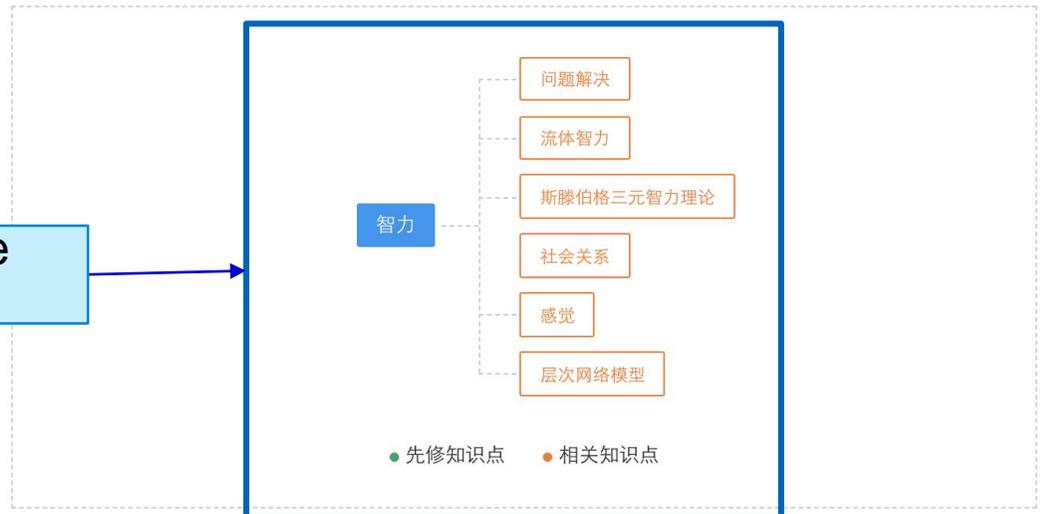
智力的测量方法



遇到疑问，小木来帮忙！点击下方知识点，查看解答

- 智力
- 记忆
- 问题解决

Knowledge Graph



Acrostic Poem: 小木作诗—by 九歌



学堂小木

30240184X 数据结构(上)(自主模式)

部分课程可见)；小木会作诗逗你开心~~~更多的功能敬请期待噢~~~

来自问答库

作诗



进退年华事事幽
制成滋味自优游
转蓬山色侵书幌
换骨苔痕上钓舟

再来一首

再来一首



动摇碧落步崔嵬
态度西风万壑雷
规矩自来天下事
划然一叶作龙媒

再来一首

再来一首



计日经纶世才
算来心事转堪哀
模糊不尽山河恨
型在天南万里开

再来一首

再来一首



冒雪峰峦万里开
泡沲浮动水云来
排空一阵东风紧
序齿双黄绝世埃

再来一首

讨论区 Wiki 课程进度 常见问题 教材 习题解析



05E4-1 次序



小木提问：什么是层次遍历？(2个同学已问过类似问题)

5. 二叉树

(e4) 层次遍历

0:16 / 3:34

字幕

高清

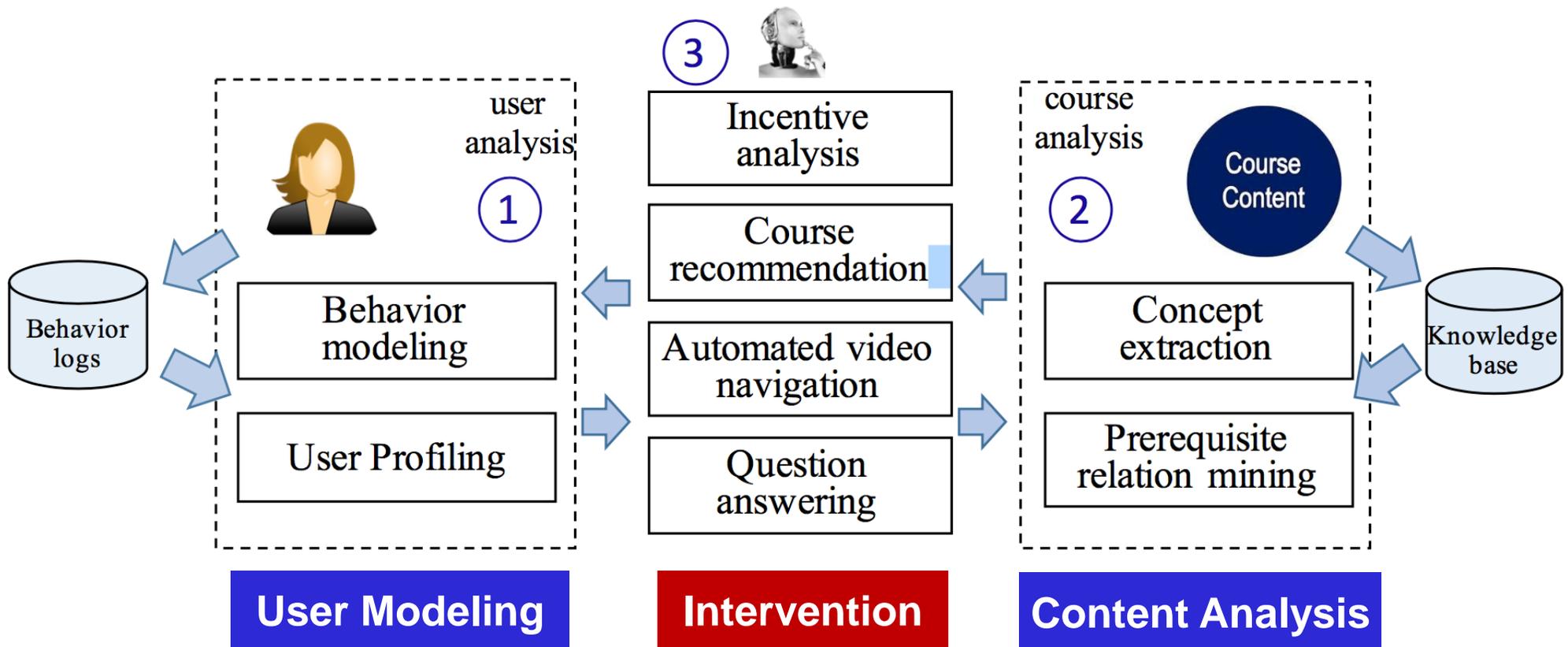
1.00x

下载字幕

.txt

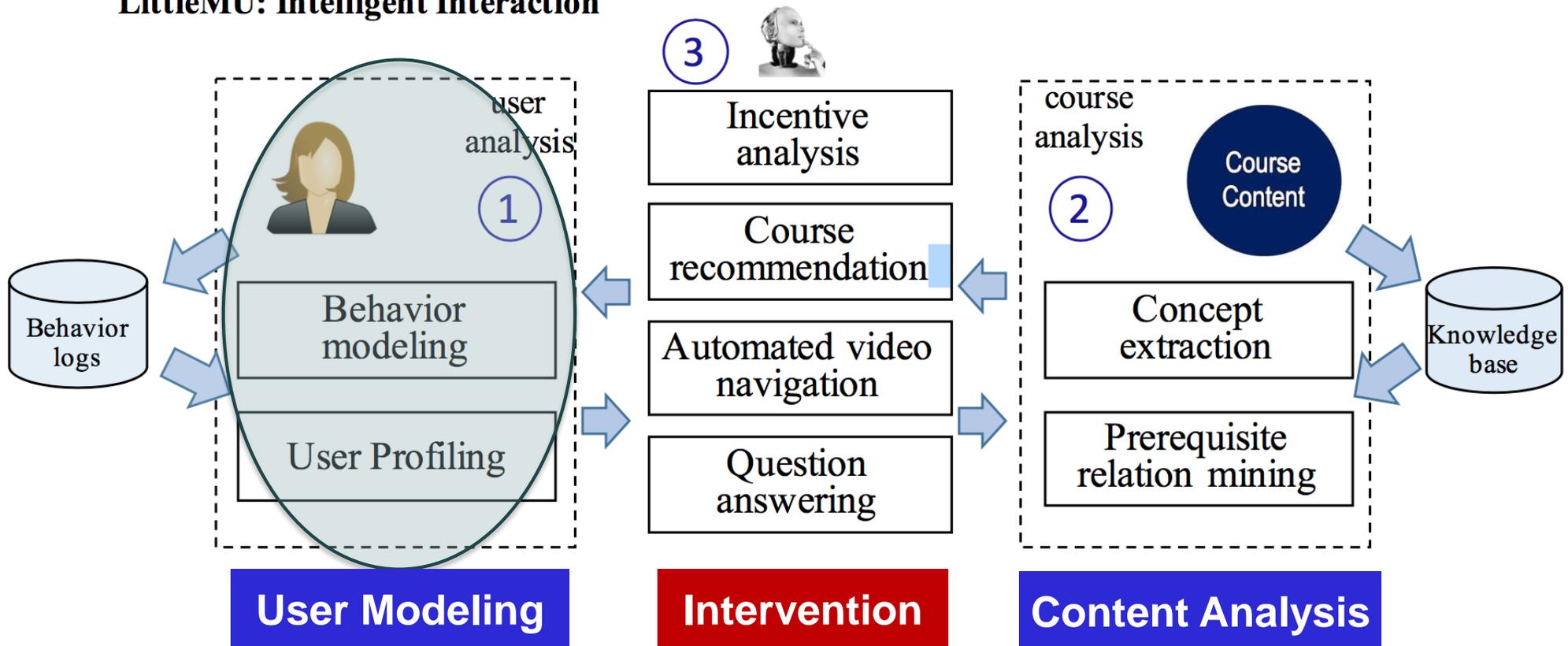
XiaoMU (小木)

But most existing systems focus on **passively interactions**...



XiaoMU (小木)

LittleMU: Intelligent Interaction



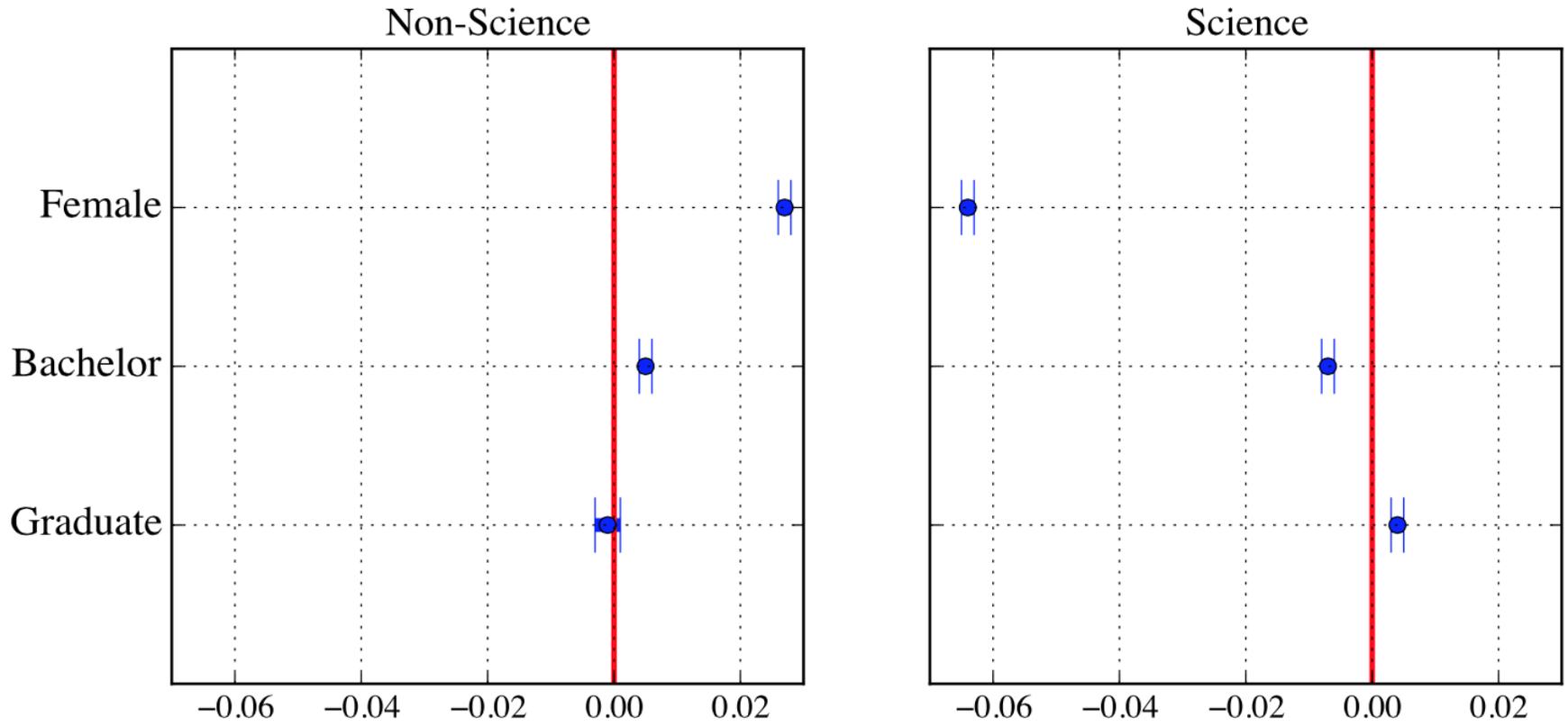
MOOC user



- **Who is who?** background, where from?
- **Why MOOC?** motivation? degree?
- **What is personalization?** preference?



Basic Analysis



Observation 1 – Gender Difference



Table 4: Regression Analysis for Certificate Rate: All Users

	Model 1		Model 2	
	Non-Science (1)	Science (2)	Non-Science (3)	Science (4)
Female	0.014*** (0.002)	-0.003 (0.002)	0.002* (0.001)	0.001 (0.002)
New Post	—	—	0.004*** (0.001)	0.038*** (0.008)
Reply	—	—	0.004** (0.002)	0.001* (0.001)
Video	—	—	0.000*** (0.000)	-0.000 (0.000)
Assignment	—	—	0.003*** (0.000)	0.000*** (0.000)
Bachelor	0.014*** (0.002)	0.003* (0.002)	0.011*** (0.001)	-0.001 (0.001)
Graduate	0.007*** (0.002)	0.004 (0.002)	0.013*** (0.002)	0.001 (0.002)
Effort	-0.072*** (0.003)		-0.072*** (0.003)	
Constant	0.286*** (0.013)	0.018*** (0.006)	0.280*** (0.011)	0.006 (0.004)
Obs.	74,480	19,269	74,480	19,269
R^2	0.024	0.001	0.462	0.363

Model 1: Demographics vs Certificate

Model 2: Demographics + Forum activities vs Certificate

- Females are significantly more likely to get the certificate in non-science courses.
- The size of the gender difference decreases significantly after we control for forum activities.

Observation 2 – Ability v.s. Effort



Table 4: Regression Analysis for Certificate Rate: All Users

	Model 1		Model 2	
	Non-Science (1)	Science (2)	Non-Science (3)	Science (4)
Female	0.014*** (0.002)	-0.003 (0.002)	0.002* (0.001)	0.001 (0.002)
New Post	—	—	0.004*** (0.001)	0.038*** (0.008)
Reply	—	—	0.004** (0.002)	0.001* (0.001)
Video	—	—	0.000*** (0.000)	-0.000 (0.000)
Assignment	—	—	0.003*** (0.000)	0.000*** (0.000)
Bachelor	0.014*** (0.002)	0.003* (0.002)	0.011*** (0.001)	-0.001 (0.001)
Graduate	0.007*** (0.002)	0.004 (0.002)	0.013*** (0.002)	0.001 (0.002)
Effort	-0.072*** (0.003)		-0.072*** (0.003)	
Constant	0.286*** (0.013)	0.018*** (0.006)	0.280*** (0.011)	0.006 (0.004)
Obs.	74,480	19,269	74,480	19,269
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Model 1: Demographics vs Certificate

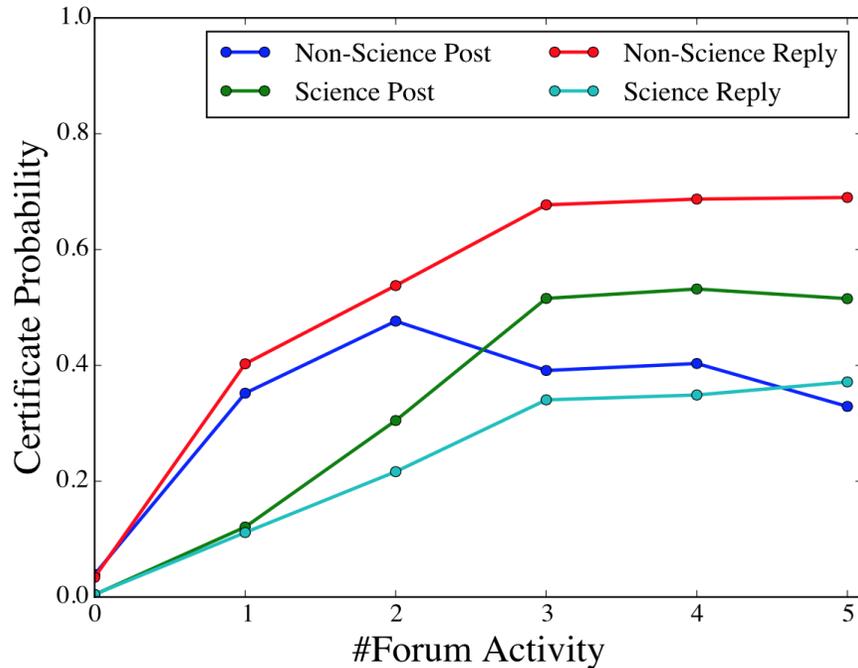
Model 2: Demographics + Forum activities vs Certificate

- Bachelors students are significantly more likely to get the certificate in non-science courses.

- Graduate students are more likely to get the certificate in science courses. After controlling for learning activities, the size of the effect is almost doubled.

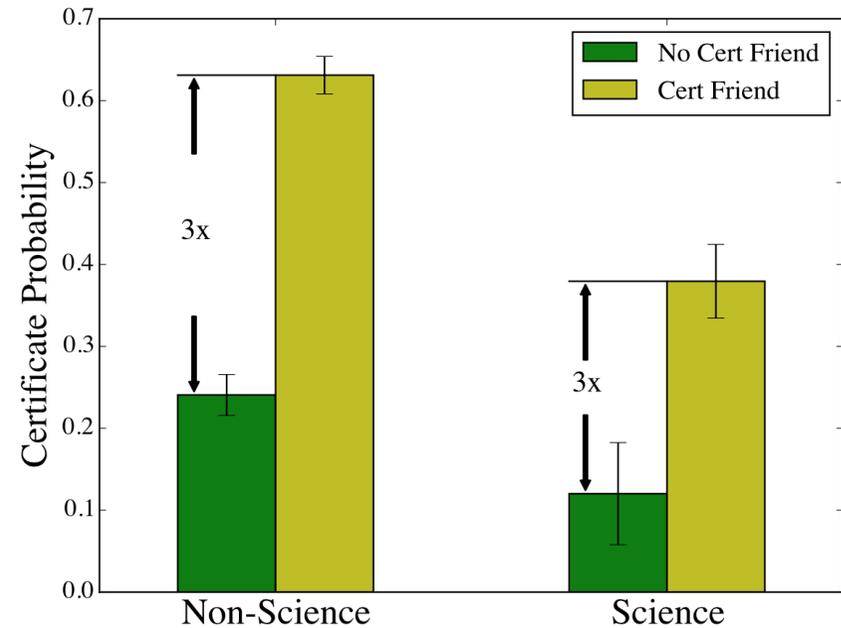
- Forum activities are good predictors for getting certificates.

Forum activity vs. Certificate



Forum activity vs. Certificate

— It is more important to be presented in forum, while the intensity matters less.



“近朱者赤” (Homophily)

— Certificate probability tripled when one is aware that she has certificate friend(s)

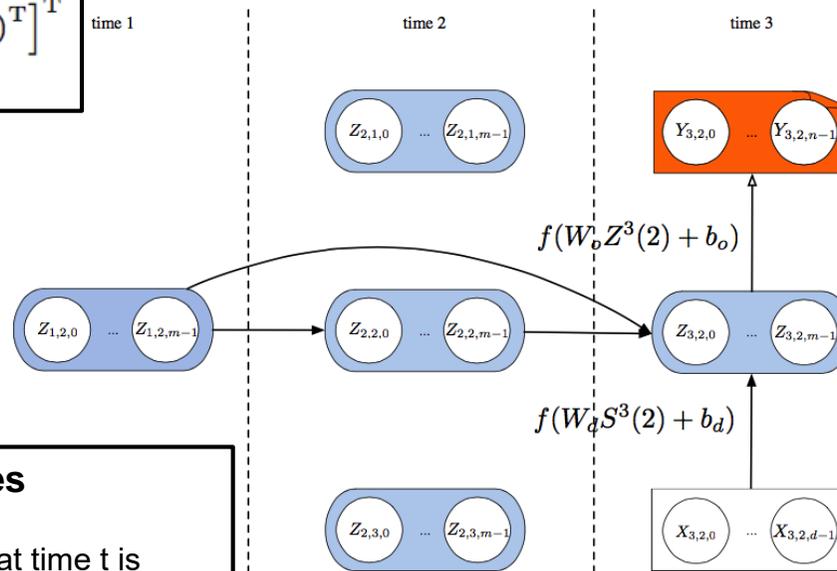
Dynamic Factor Graph Model

Model: incorporating “embedding” and factor graphs

$$Y^t(i)^* = f(W_o Z^t(i) + b_o)$$

$$Z^t(i)^* = f(W_d S^t(i) + b_d)$$

$$S^t(i) = [\mathbf{z}_{t-p}^{t-1}(i)^T, X^t(i)^T]^T$$



Prediction labels:

Activities we are interested in, e.g., assignments performance and getting certificates.

$$Y^t(i) = [Y_{t,i,0}, Y_{t,i,1}, \dots, Y_{t,i,n-1}]^T$$

Latent learning states

Every student's status in at time t is associated with a vector representation

$$Z^t(i) = [Z_{t,i,0}, Z_{t,i,1}, \dots, Z_{t,i,m-1}]^T$$

All features: time-varying attributes:

1. Demographics
2. Forum Activities
3. Learning Behaviors

$$X^t(i) = [X_{t,i,0}, X_{t,i,1}, \dots, X_{t,i,d-1}]^T$$

Certificate Prediction

Category	Method	AUC	Precision	Recall	F1-score
Science	LRC	92.13	83.33	46.51	59.70
	SVM	92.67	52.17	83.72	64.29
	FM	94.48	61.54	74.42	67.37
	LadFG	95.73	73.91	79.07	76.40
Non-Science	LRC	94.16	76.93	89.20	82.57
	SVM	93.94	76.96	88.60	82.37
	FM	94.87	80.22	86.23	83.07
	LadFG	95.54	79.76	89.01	84.10

- LRC, SVM, and FM are different baseline models
- LadFG is our proposed model



Predicting more

- Dropout
 - KDDCUP 2015, 1,000+ teams worldwide
- Demographics
 - Gender, education, etc.
- User interests
 - computer science, mathematics, psychology, etc.
- ...



User Tagging

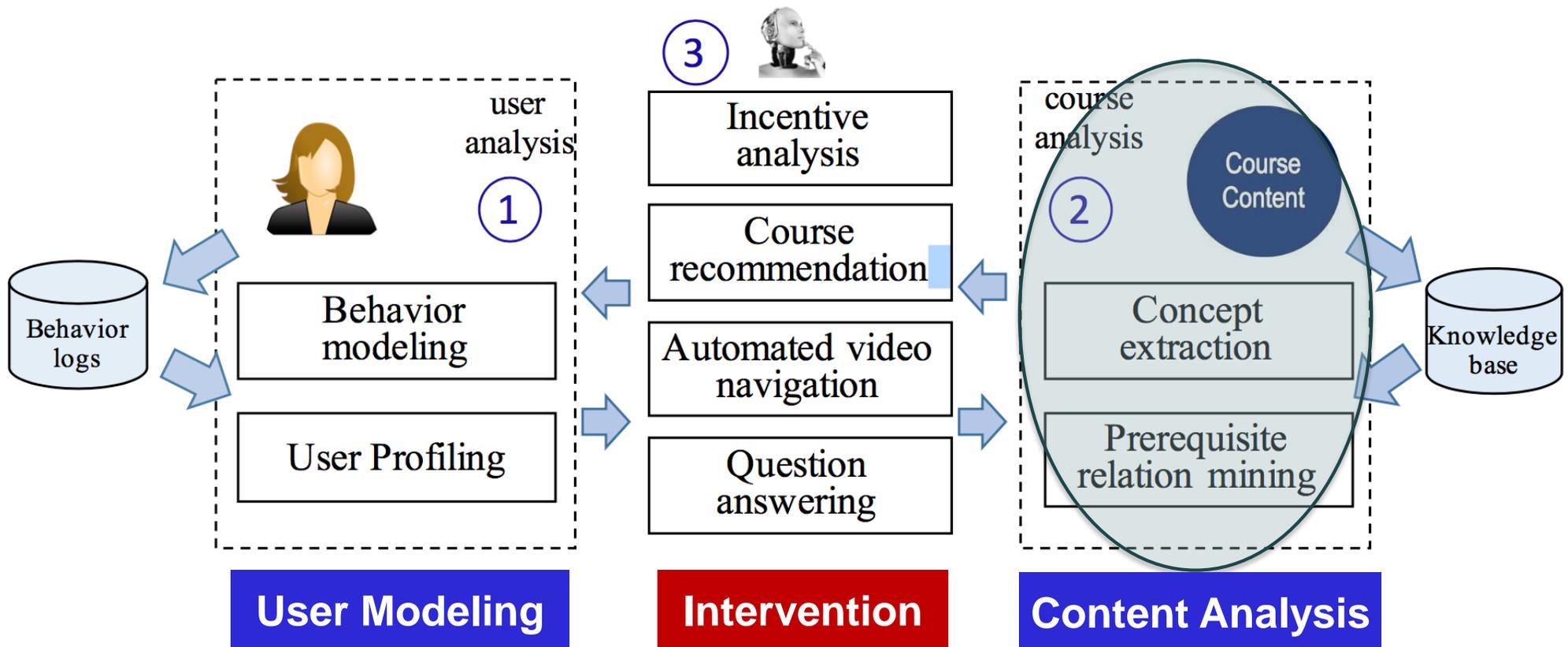
- **Observation:** With probability **43.91%**, a user will enroll in a course in the same category as the last course (s)he enrolled in.
- **Method:** Use course categories to tag users who enroll in courses under this category to aid course recommendation.

Random Walk with Restart

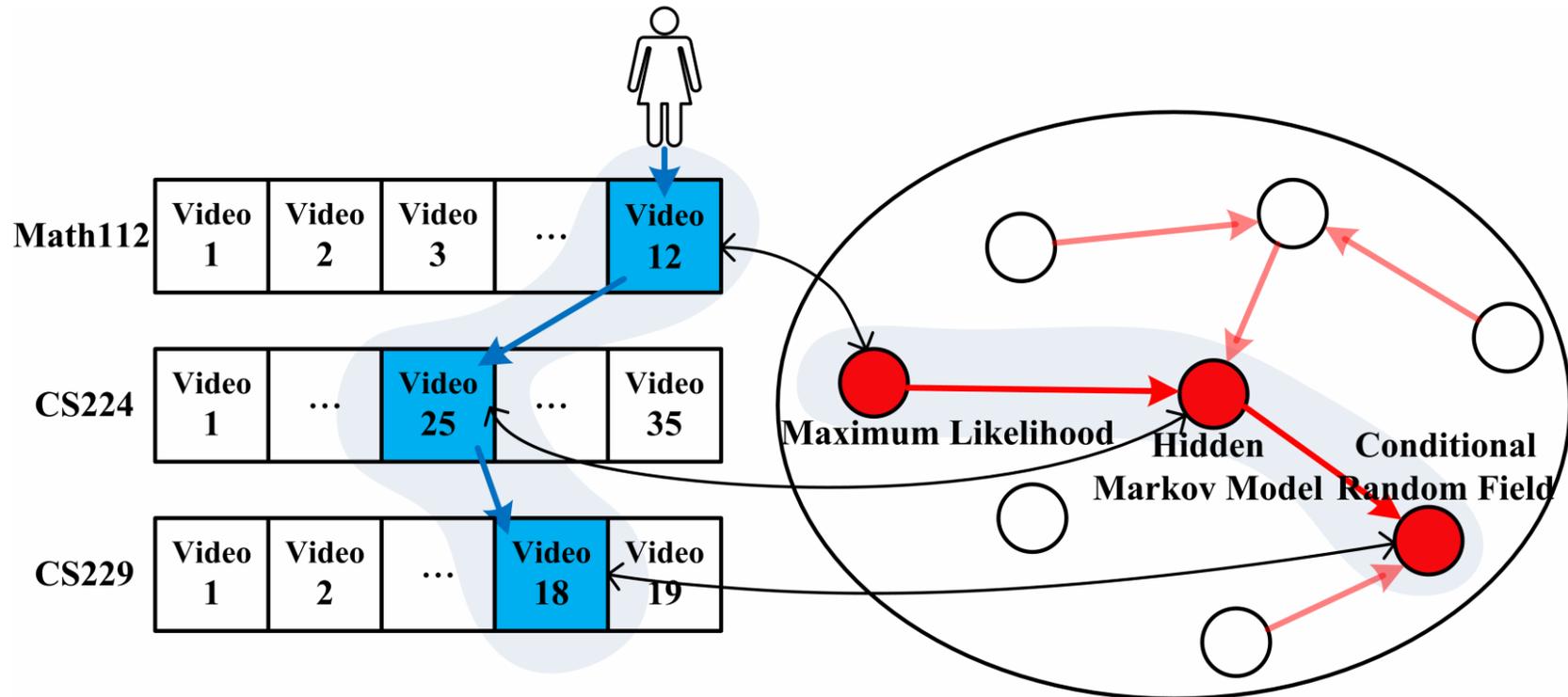
- Use RWR on the user-tag bipartite with # of enrolled courses in the tag (category) as edge weight to generate tag preference of users.
- Offline test in course recommendation

	top1	top3	top5	top10
Original	0.0071	0.0247	0.0416	0.0890
+Tag	0.0185	0.0573	0.1022	0.2198

XiaoMU (小木)

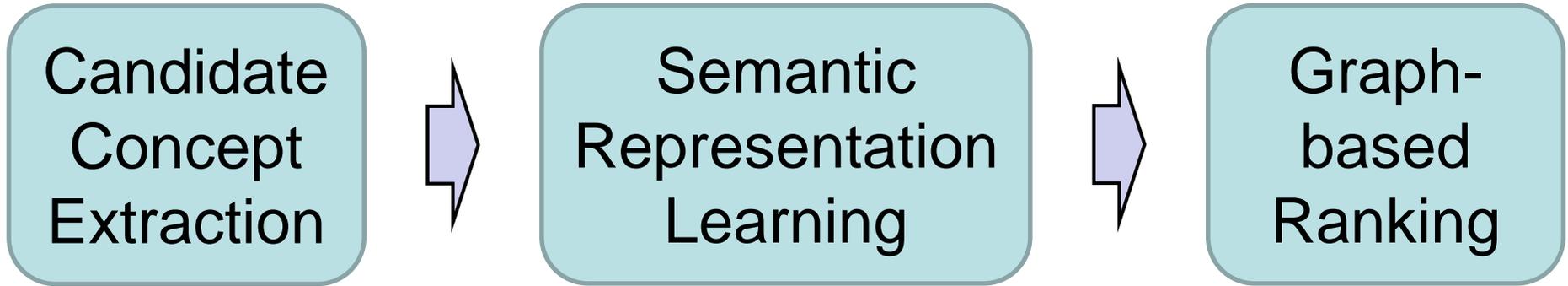


Knowledge Graph



- How to extract concepts from course scripts?
- How to recognize (prerequisite) relationships between concepts?

Concept Extraction



In this course, we will teach some basic knowledge about **data mining** and its application in **business intelligence**.

Video script

data mining

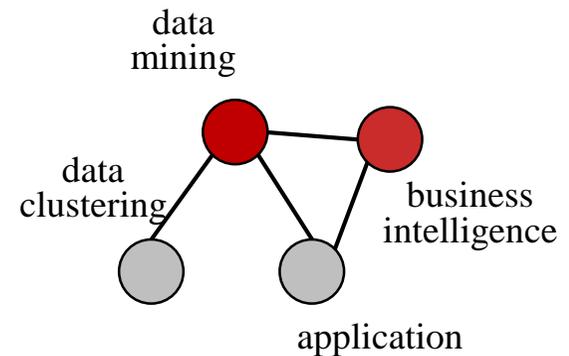
0.8	0.2	0.3	...	0.0	0.0
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

business intelligence

0.1	0.1	0.2	...	0.8	0.7
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

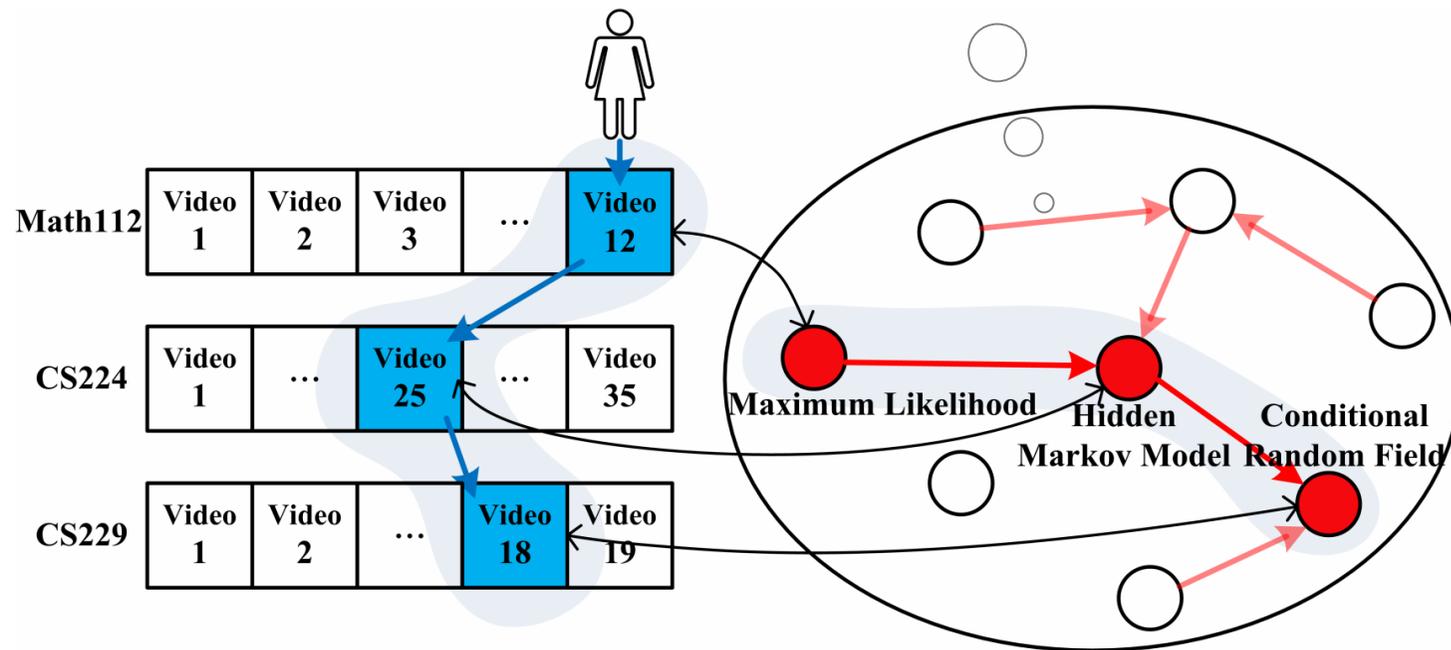
Vector representation

Learned via embedding or deep learning



Prerequisite Relationship

How to extract the prerequisite relationship?



Prerequisite Relationship Extraction

- Step 1: First extract important concepts
- Step 2: Use Word2Vec to learn representations of concepts

data mining

0.8	0.2	0.3	...	0.0	0.0
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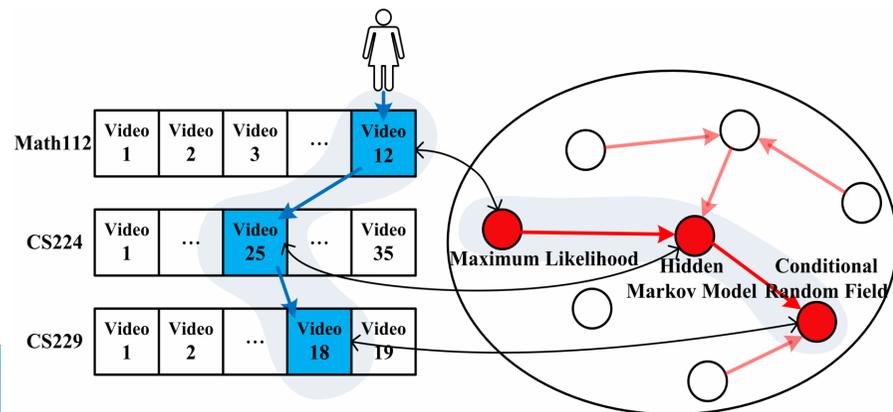
business intelligence

0.1	0.1	0.2	...	0.8	0.7
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Vector representation
Learned via embedding or
deep learning

Prerequisite Relationship Extraction

- Step 1: First extract important concepts
- Step 2: Use Word2Vec to learn representations of concepts
- Step 3: Distance functions
 - Semantic Relatedness
 - Video Reference Distance
 - Sentence Reference Distance
 - Wikipedia Reference Distance
 - Average Position Distance
 - Distributional Asymmetry Distance
 - Complexity Level Distance



Result of Prerequisite Relationship



Classifier	M	ML		DSA		CAL	
		1	10	1	10	1	10
SVM	P	63.2	60.1	60.7	62.3	61.1	61.9
	R	68.5	72.4	69.3	67.5	67.9	68.3
	F_1	65.8	65.7	64.7	64.8	64.3	64.9
NB	P	58.0	58.2	62.9	62.6	60.1	60.6
	R	58.1	60.5	62.3	61.8	61.2	62.1
	F_1	58.1	59.4	62.6	62.2	60.6	61.3
LR	P	66.8	67.6	63.1	62.0	62.7	63.3
	R	60.8	61.0	64.8	66.8	63.6	64.1
	F_1	63.7	64.2	63.9	64.3	61.6	62.9
RF	P	68.1	71.4	69.1	72.7	67.3	70.3
	R	70.0	73.8	68.4	72.3	67.8	71.9
	F_1	69.1	72.6	68.7	72.5	67.5	71.1

Table 2: Classification results of the proposed method(%).

- SVM, NB, LR, and RF are different classification models
- It seems that with the defined distance functions, RF achieves the best

System Deployed

第三章：感觉与知觉

第四章：思维

第五章：意识与自我

第六章：语言与沟通

第七章：情绪与情感

第八章：社会心理学

第九章：文化心理学

第十章：个体差异

个体的心理差异

智力的测量方法

人格的差异

价值观的差异

个体差异习题
作业



第十一章：学习与记忆

第十二章：积极心理学

期末考试

智力的测量方法

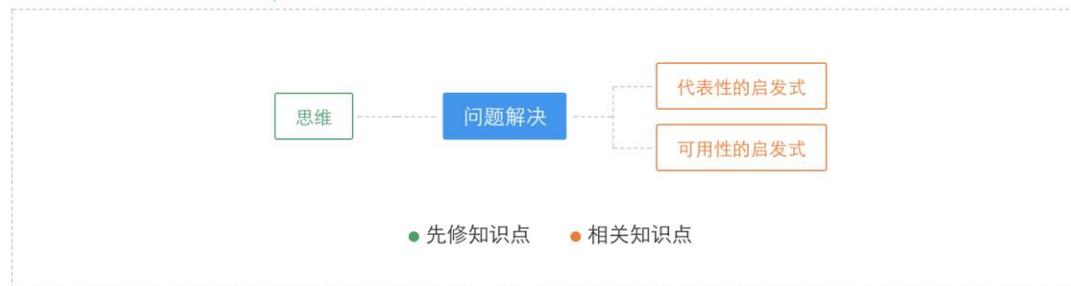


遇到疑问，小木来帮忙！点击下方知识点，查看解答

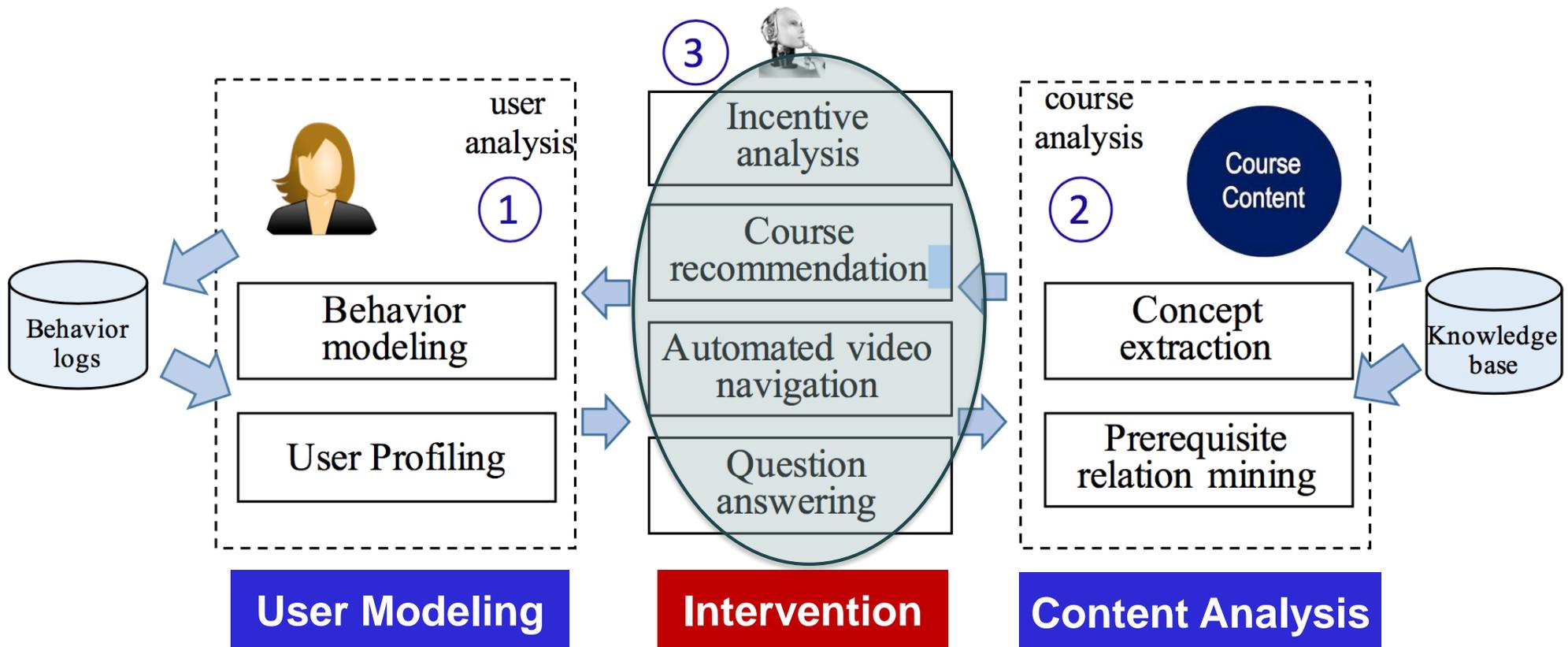
智力

记忆

问题解决



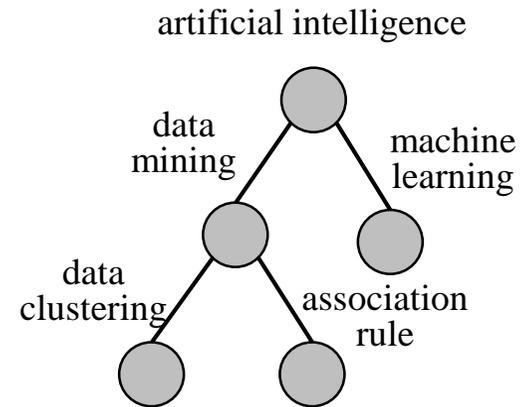
XiaoMU (小木)



What we can do?



User modeling

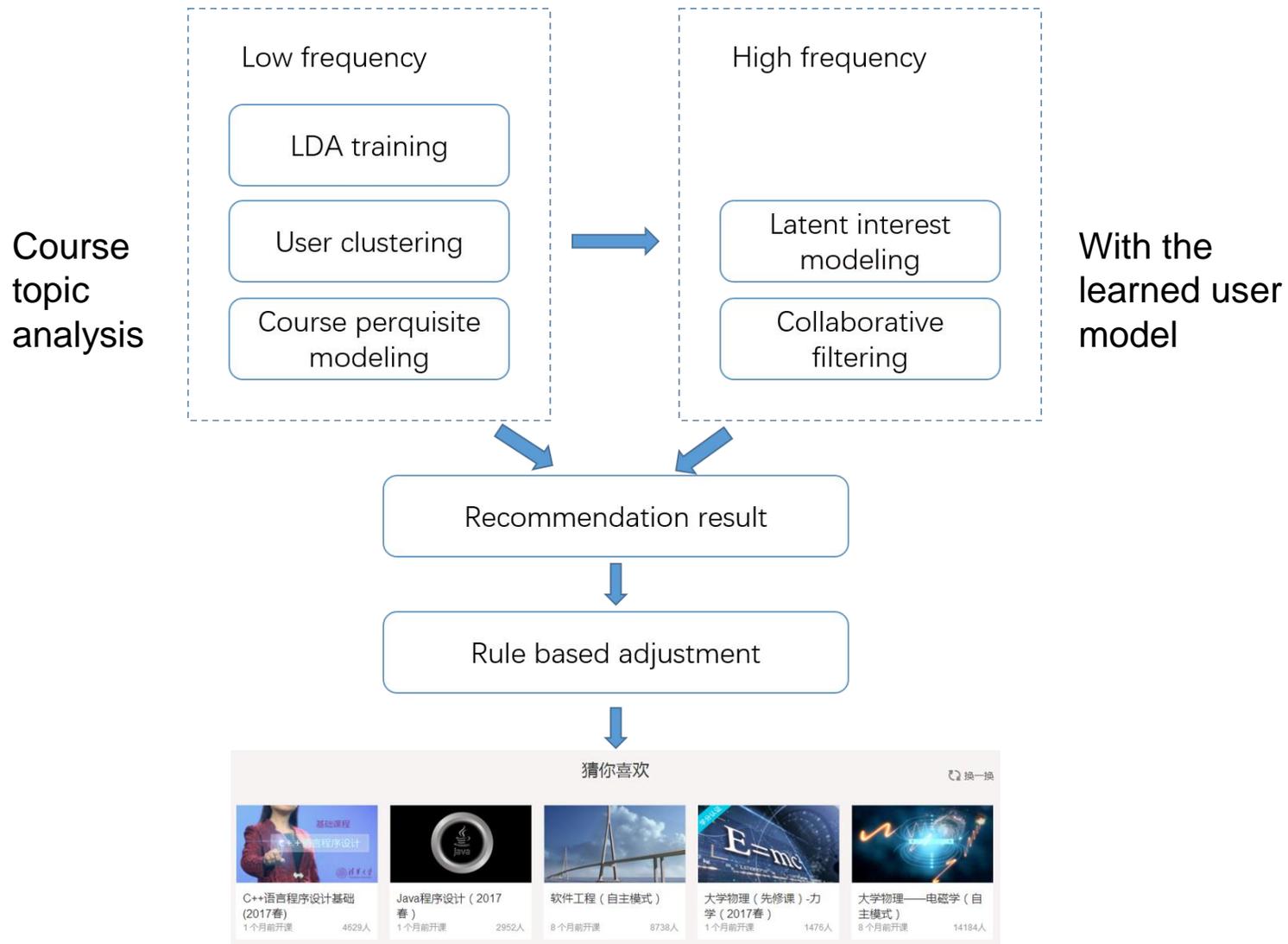


Knowledge



- Let start with a simple case
 - **Course recommendation** based on user interest

Course Recommendation



Course Recommendation



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课程 院校 广场 学堂云 雨课堂 App下载

课程、老师、学校

Q

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Course Recommendation:

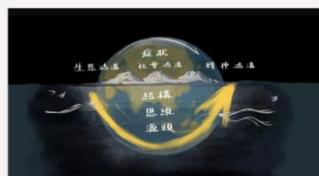
Guess you like

猜你喜欢

换一换



决胜移动互联网：创业者的商业模式课 (2017春)
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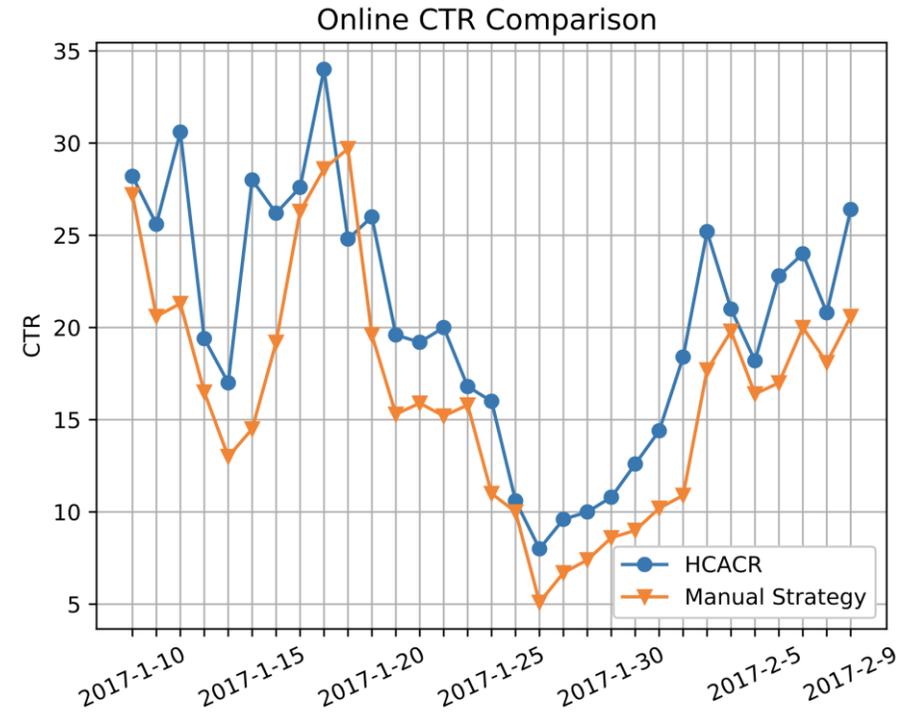
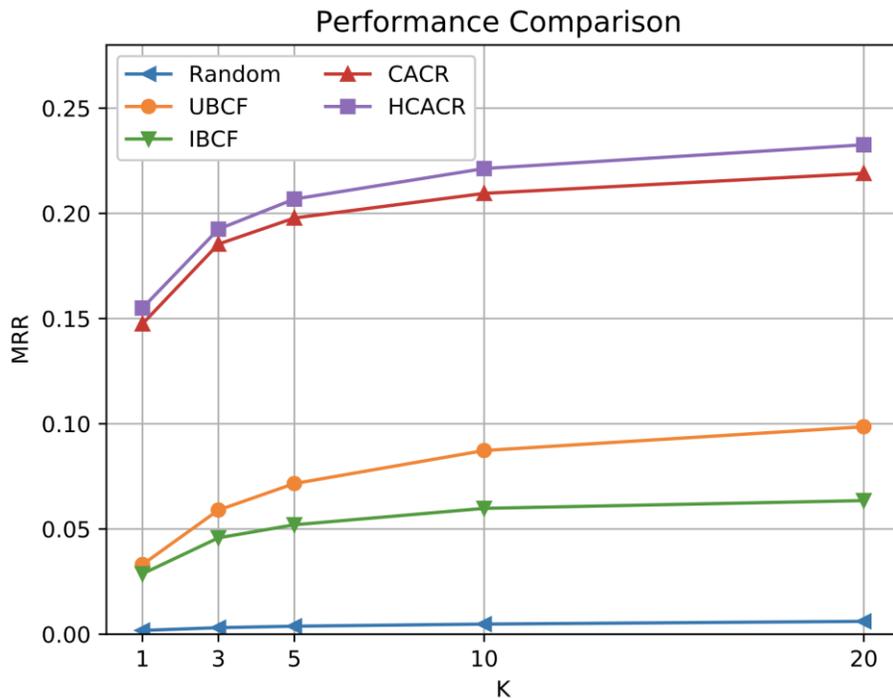


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 3个月前开课 2907人

Online A/B Test



Top-k recommendation accuracy (MRR)

Comparison methods:

HCACR – Hybrid Content-Aware Course Recommendation

CACR – Content-Aware Course Recommendation

IBCF – Item-Based Collaborative Filtering

UBCF – User-Based Collaborative Filtering

Online Click-through Rate

Comparison methods:

HCACR – Our method

Manual strategy

Context based Recommendation



学堂小木

Hi, jietang, 我是智能学习助理小木, 有什么想要问我的? 学习疑问、平台使用问题, 我都会尽力回答噢~~ 试试这样:

- 如何申请电子版证书?
- 自主课程什么意思?
- 人工服务
- 作诗

课程推荐

- 数据库系统 (上): 模型与语言(自主模式)
- 数据结构-算法基础 (微慕课)
- 数据结构-向量 (微慕课)
- 经典与思考——人文清华大师面对面 (2017秋)
- 计算几何 (自主模式)

感觉与知觉

思维

意识与自我

语言与沟通

情绪与情感

社会心理学

文化心理学

个体差异

差异

方法

差异

问题

学习与记忆

积极心理学

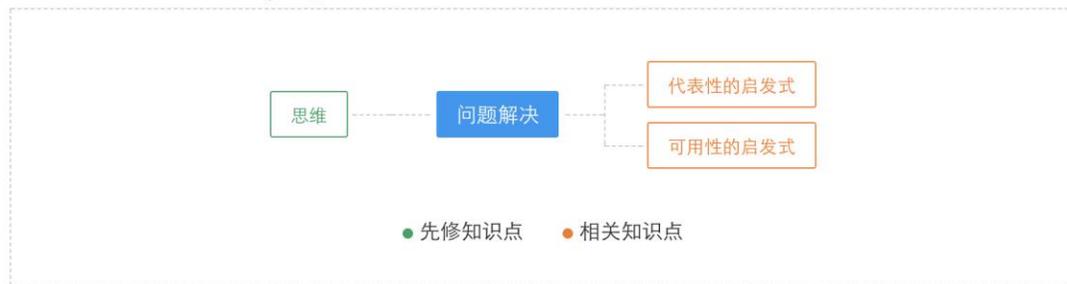
在这里提问, 按enter(回车键)发送

智力的测量方法



遇到疑问, 小木来帮忙! 点击下方知识点, 查看解答

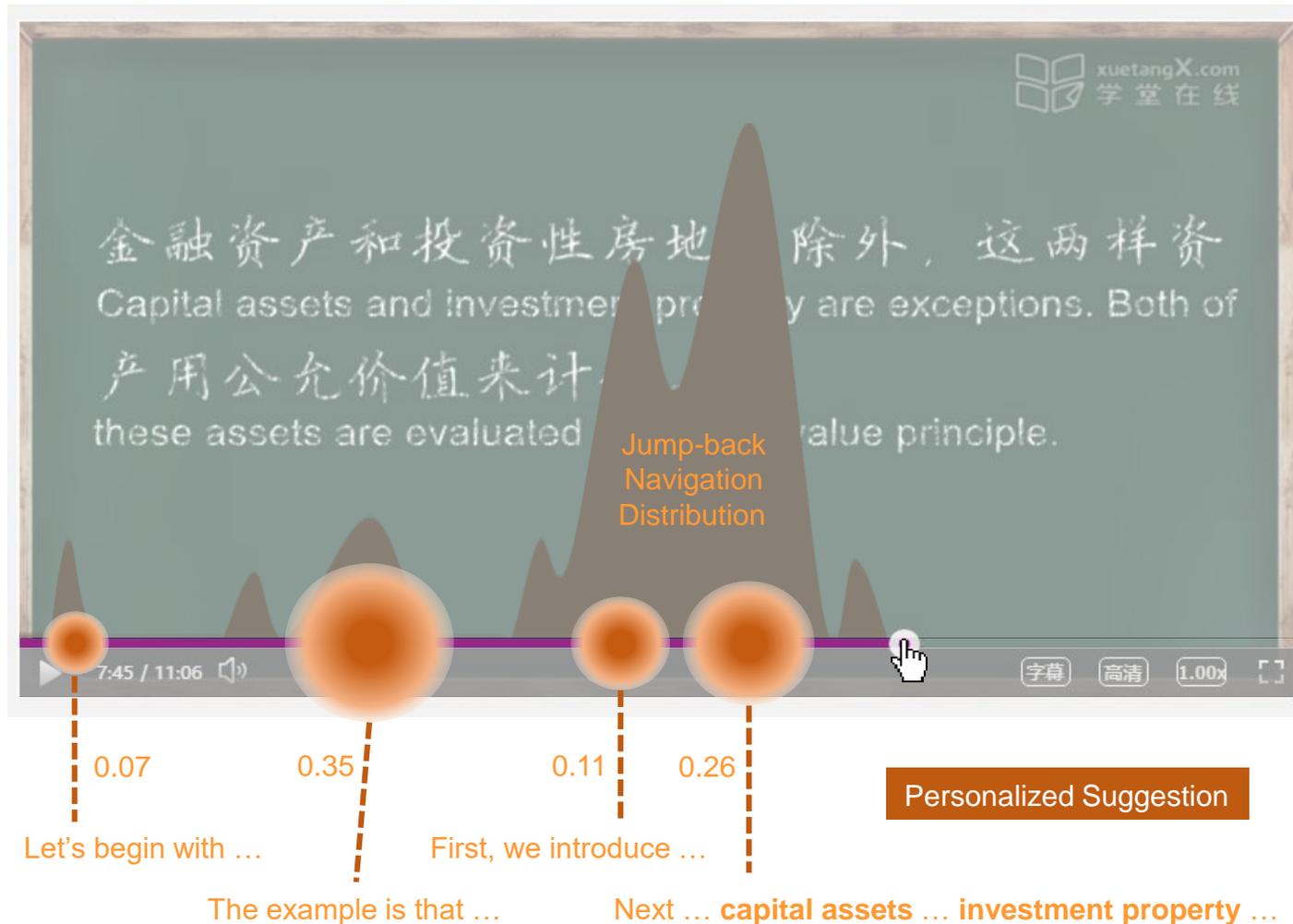
智力 记忆 **问题解决**



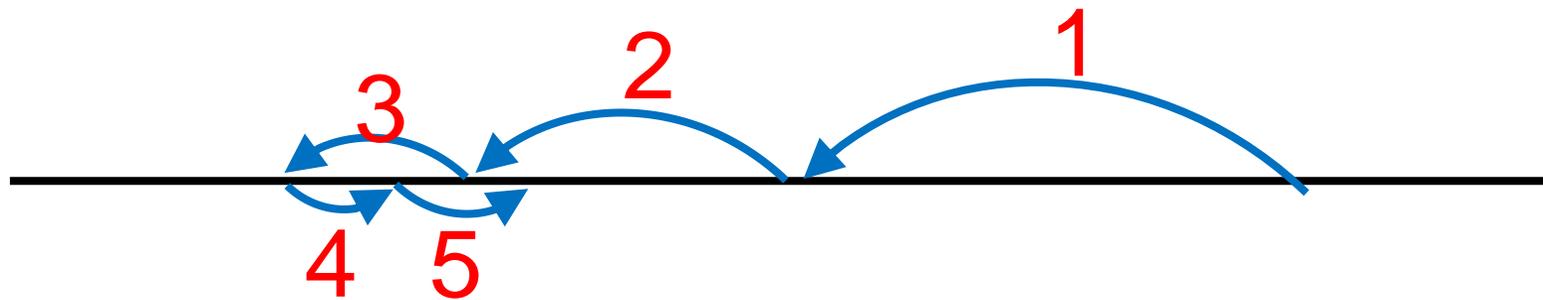
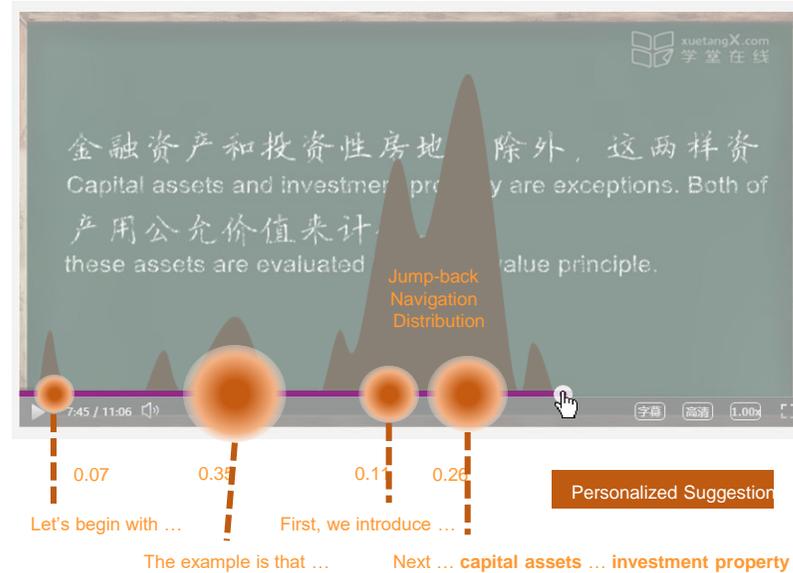
- Let start the simplest case
 - Course recommendation based on user interest
- What can we else?
 - **Interaction** when watching video?

Smart Jump

—Automated suggestion for video navigation

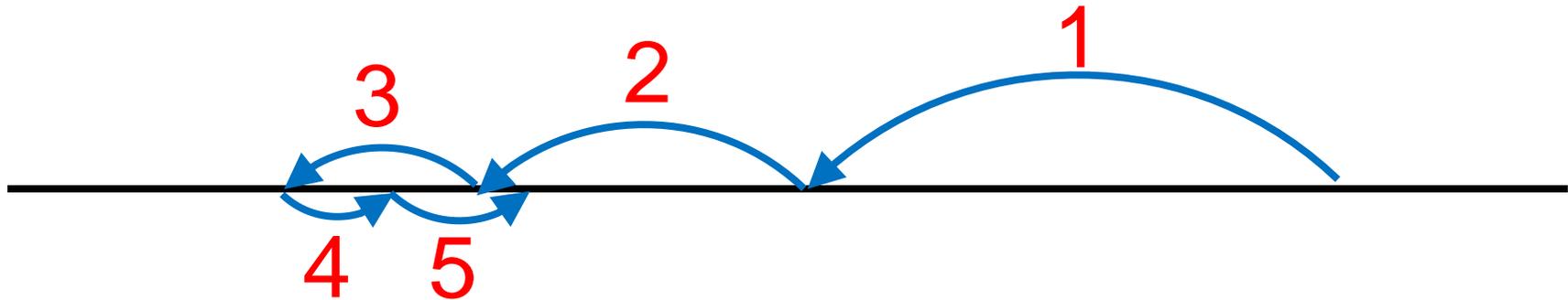


Average Jump

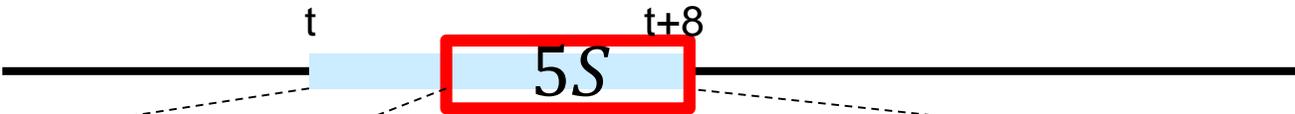


On Average: 2.6 Clicks = 5 seconds

Two Numbers



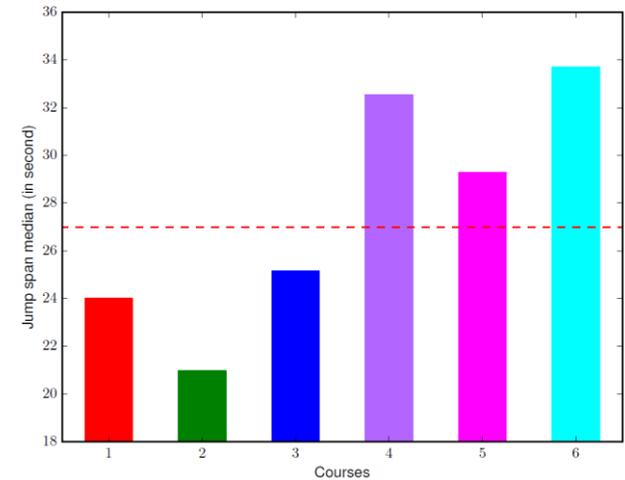
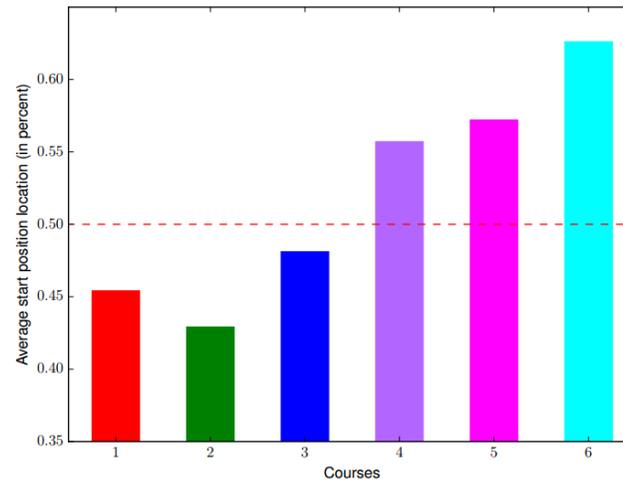
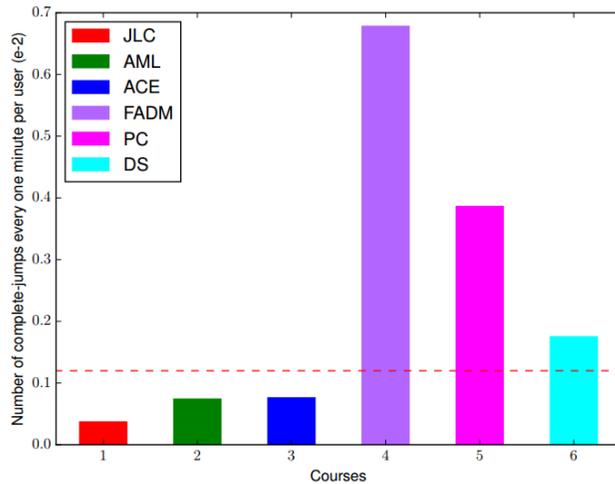
On Average: **2.6 Clicks = 5 seconds**



According to what we have discussed we find that the fifth activity belongs to cash outflow of a business activity.

$$5S \times 8,000,000 \text{ users} = 1.3 \text{ years}$$

Observations – Course Related

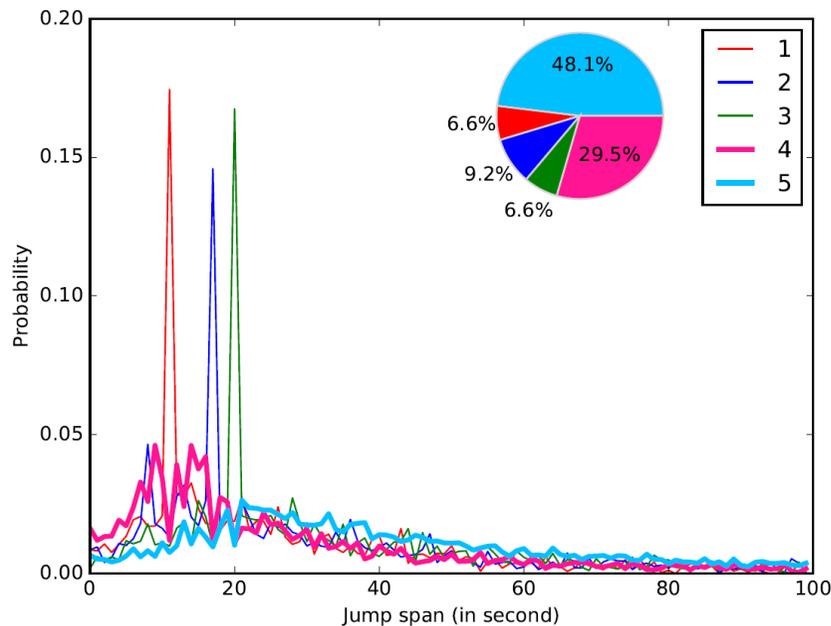


Science courses contain much more frequent jump-backs than non-science courses.

Users in non-science courses jump back earlier than users in science courses.

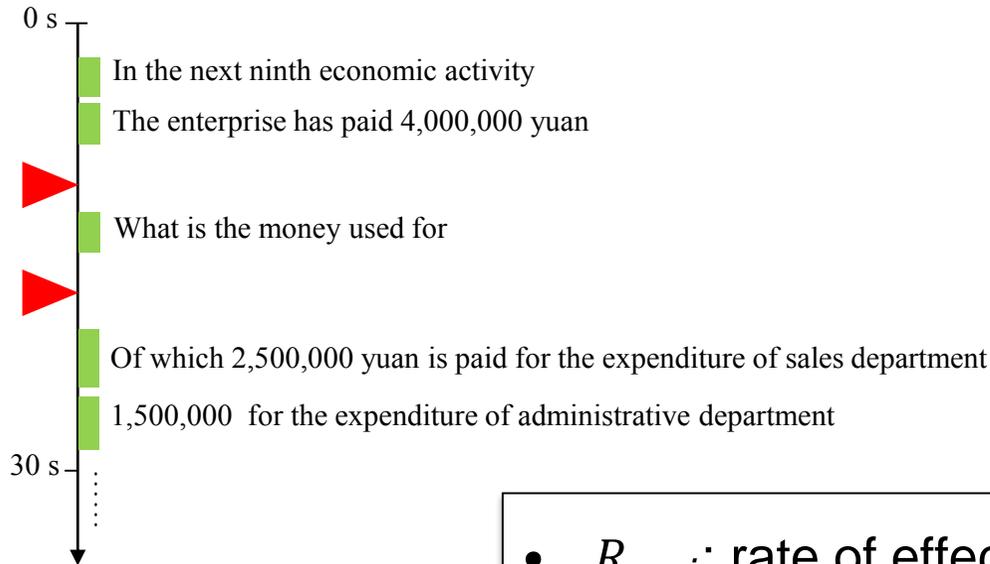
Users in science courses are likely to rewind farther than users in non-science courses.

Observations – User Related



- 6.6% users prefer 10 seconds
- 9.2% users prefer 17 seconds
- 6.6% users prefer 20 seconds

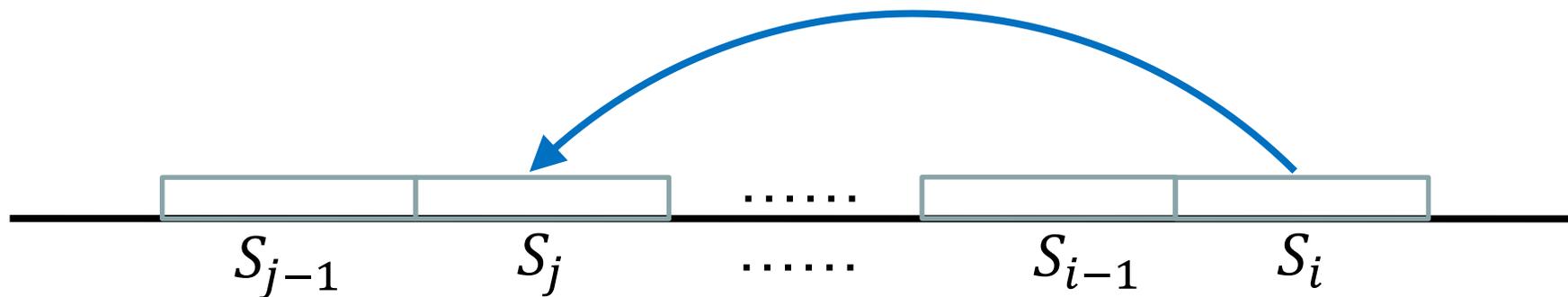
Video Segmentation



$$\operatorname{argmax}_{\Delta t} 2 \frac{R_{e_cj}}{R_{e_cj} + R_{n_s}} \cdot \frac{R_{n_s}}{R_{e_cj} + R_{n_s}}$$

- R_{e_cj} : rate of effective complete-jumps (start position and end position located in different segments).
- R_{n_s} : rate of non-empty segments (contains at least one start position or end position of some complete-jumps).

Problem Formulation



$$\operatorname{argmax}_{\Theta} P(s_j | u, v, s_i; \Theta)$$

Prediction Results

Course	Model	AUC	P@1	P@3	P@5
Science	LRC	72.46	35.95	65.54	80.13
	SVM	71.92	35.45	66.15	81.99
	FM	74.02	37.61	76.04	89.59
Non-science	LRC	72.59	69.23	73.23	89.32
	SVM	73.52	68.39	76.64	91.30
	FM	73.57	67.56	88.43	96.05

- LRC, SVM, and FM are different models
- FM is defined as follows

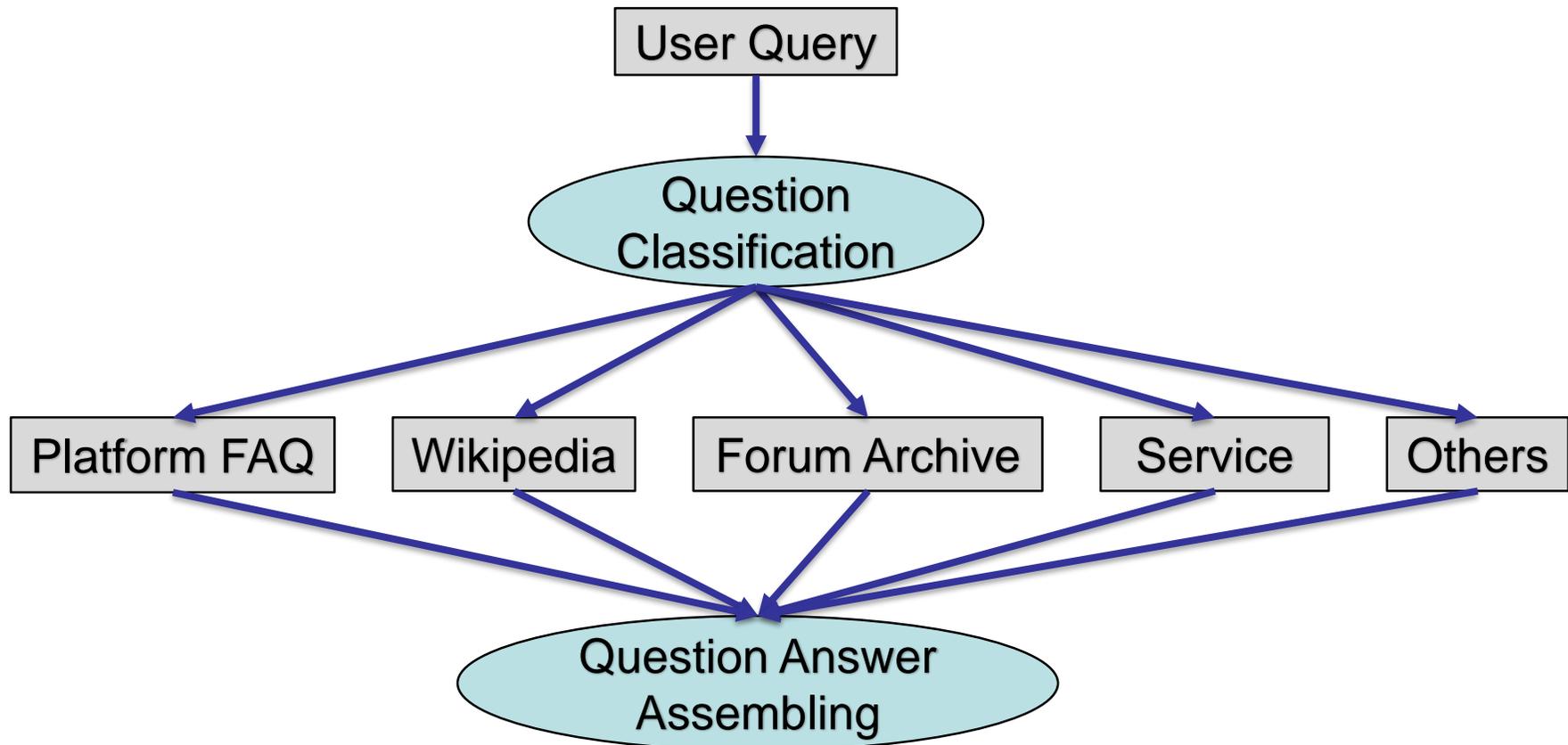
$$\hat{y}(\mathbf{x}_i) = w_0 + \sum_{j=1}^d w_j x_{i,j} + \sum_{j=1}^{d-1} \sum_{j'=j+1}^d x_{i,j} x_{i,j'} \langle \mathbf{p}_j, \mathbf{p}_{j'} \rangle$$



More

- Let start the simplest case
 - Course recommendation based on user interest
- What can we else?
 - Interaction when watching video?
 - What kind of questions did the users ask?

Question Answering

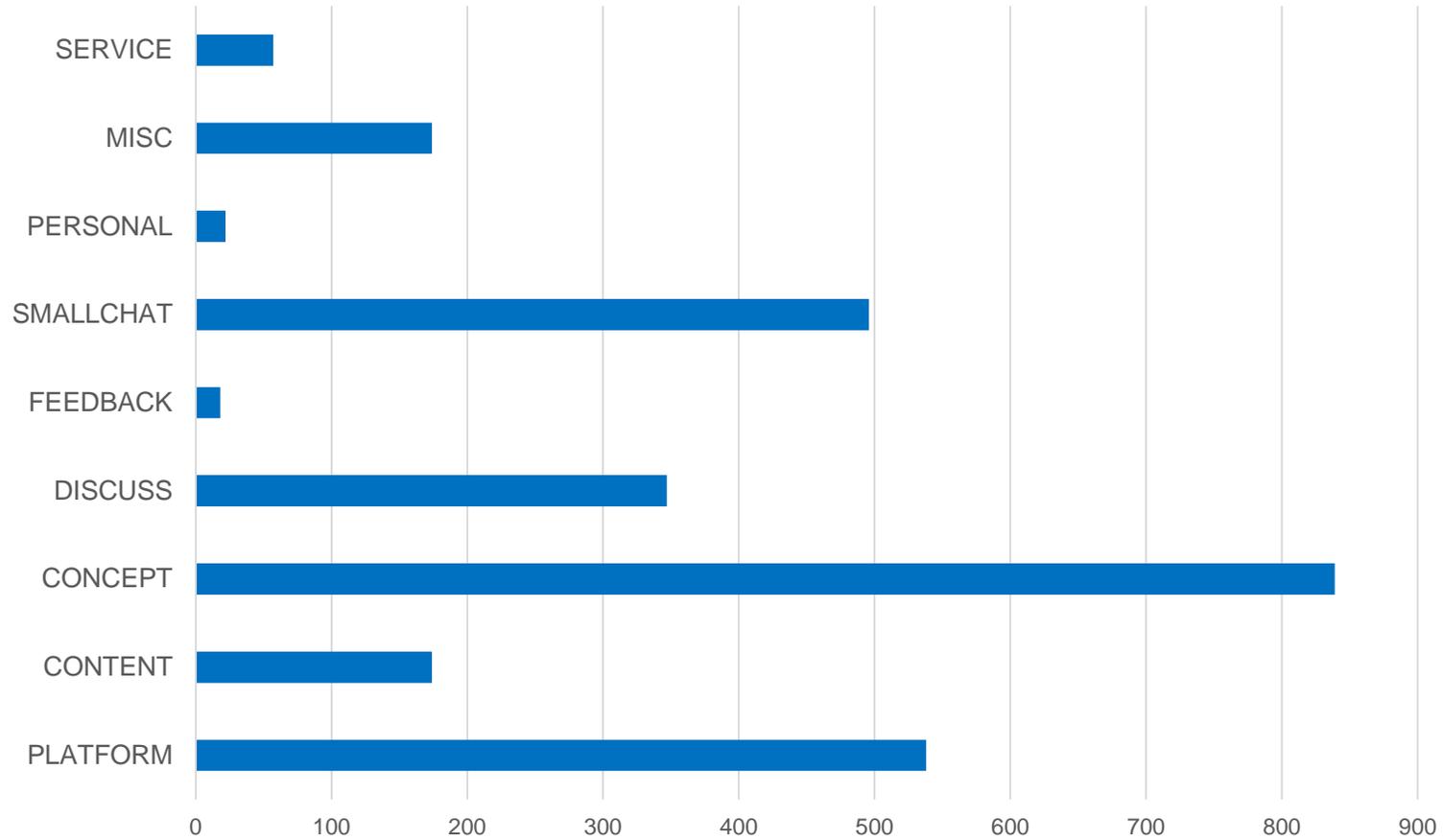




Query Categories

- PLATFORM: XuetangX platform
- CONTENT: enrollments, courses, teachers
- CONCEPT: simple knowledge point
- DISCUSS: general discussion, comparison
- FEEDBACK: suggestions, complains
- SMALLCHAT: small chat
- CUSTOMER: personal questions (e.g., account)
- MISC: meaningless questions (e.g., asjedkjqw)
- SERVICE: poem, recommendation

Category Distribution

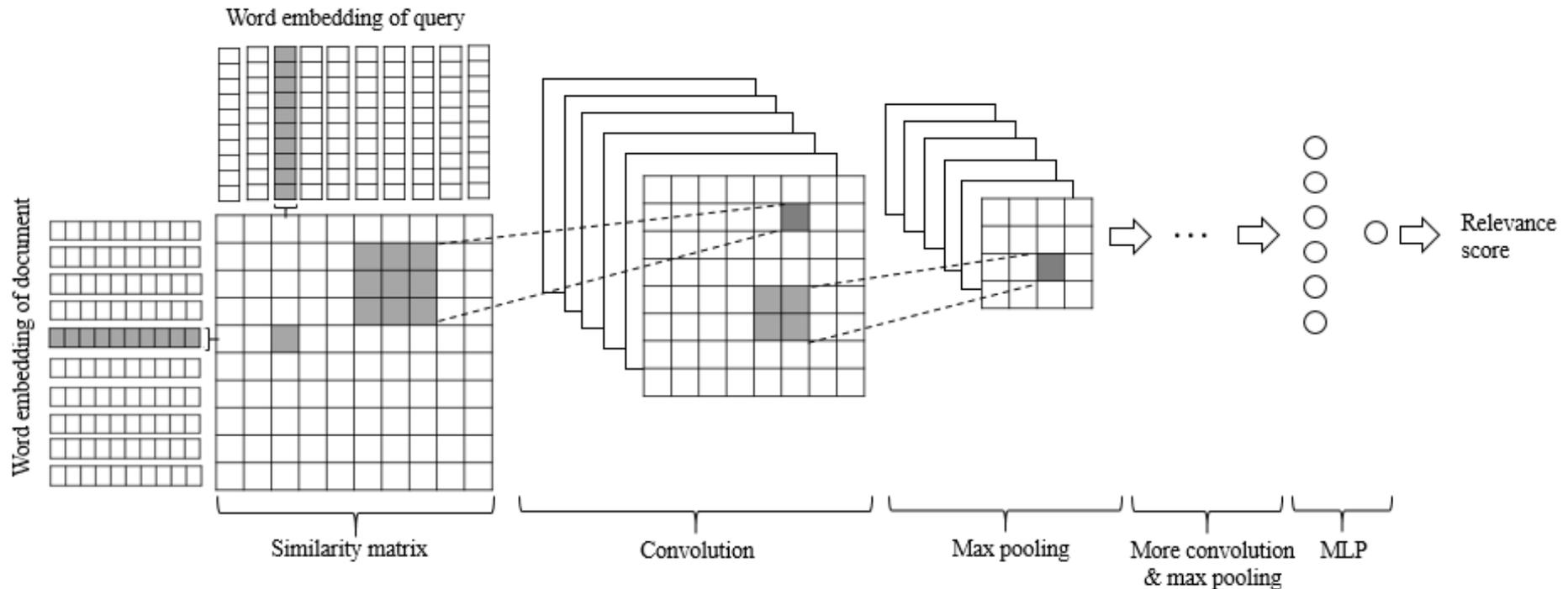




Candidate Dataset

- Wikipedia: 892,185
- Forum Archive: 65,001
- Platform FAQ: 137
- Zhihu: 1,000+
- CSDN: 670
- Course Structure: 8 types

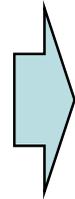
Question Classification



- #Training (March 2017 – August 2017): 2162
- #Test (September 2017): 499

Precision: 0.77, Recall: 0.78

Online Result



	#Questions
Total_request	20604
feedback	470
Feedback_ratio	0.023
User-thumb_up	245
User-thumb_down	225
Thumb_ratio	0.52

Question Retrieval

- Queries in PLATFORM category: 538
- Q-A pairs in Candidate Set: 77

	MRR	Hit @ 1	Hit @ 3	Hit @5
ES (TF-IDF)	0.617	0.558	0.698	0.748
Word2vec + WMD	0.695	0.602	0.745	0.817
Word2vec + Cosine	0.653	0.577	0.685	0.726
1.0*WMD+1.5*ES	0.728	0.640	0.781	0.845

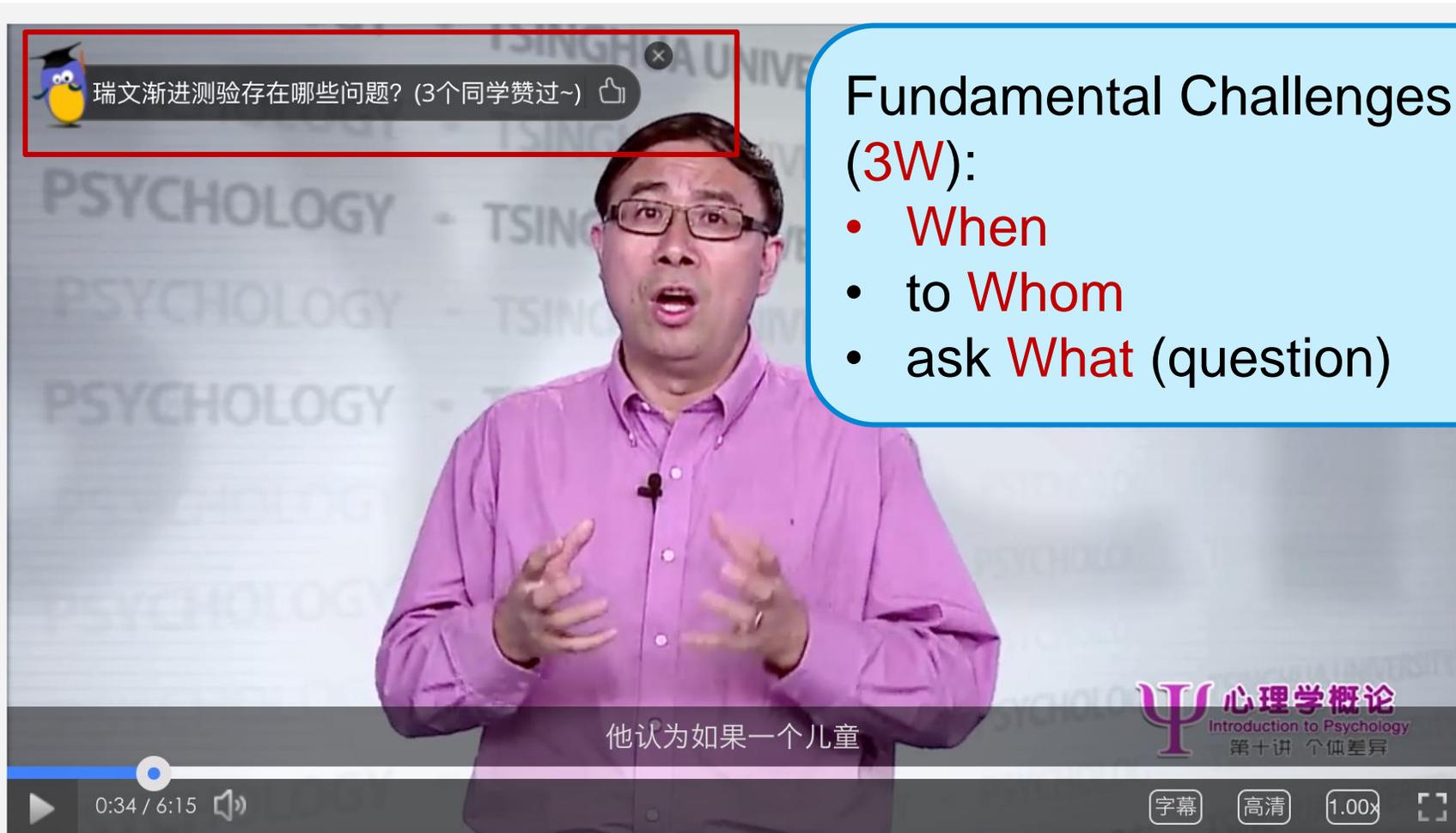


More

- Let start the simplest case
 - Course recommendation based on user interest
- What can we else?
 - Interaction when watching video?
 - What kind of questions did the users ask?
 - **Interaction->intervention**

XiaoMU would like to ask you

Question: What are the shortcomings of Raven Progressive Test? (3 users thumbs up)



瑞文渐进测验存在哪些问题? (3个同学赞过~)

Fundamental Challenges
(3W):

- When
- to Whom
- ask What (question)

他认为如果一个儿童

心理学概论
Introduction to Psychology
第十讲 个体差异

0:34 / 6:15

字幕 高清 1.00x

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.txt

Preliminary study—first version

Question: What are the shortcomings of Raven Progressive Test?



瑞文渐进测验存在哪些问题?

他认为如果一个儿童

心理学概论
Introduction to Psychology
第十讲 个体差异

0:34 / 6:15

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Active Question

Positive Direct Feedback:

Time	Classified Type	Feedback ratio(at least once)	Thumb_up Ratio
0914 -- 0917	On/Off	12.4%(17/134)	31.2%(10/32)
0923 -- 0930	Social Pressure/None	17.5%(151/864)	47.1%(113/240)

- Each question lasts for 10 seconds;
- Displaying questions are selected manually to ensure strong connection with the on-going content;

Bandit Learning with Implicit Feedback



Bandit (Online) Learning

An **online learning** framework: contextual bandit

- Click/Buy etc. as reward, features of content/user/etc. as context.
- Adaptively and sequentially learning
- Successfully deployed for recommender system and ad displaying.

The problem is about the definition of rewards

- Is non-click indicates negative impression?
- Examination hypothesis:
 - Click occurs if and only if examination happens
 - Implication: no-click DOES NOT necessarily mean negative feedback

Model

Classical bandit model with linear reward:

$$\mathbf{E}[r_{t,a}|\mathbf{x}_{t,a}] = \mathbf{x}_{t,a}^\top \boldsymbol{\theta}_a^*.$$

- Reward is 1 if clicked, 0 if non-clicked.
 - Inevitably linear regret.

Our model: E-C bandit (Examination-click bandit)

$$\mathbb{P}(C_t = 1 | E_t = 0, \mathbf{x}_{C,t}) = 0$$

$$\mathbb{P}(C_t = 1 | E_t = 1, \mathbf{x}_{C,t}) = \rho(\mathbf{x}_{C,t}^\top \boldsymbol{\theta}_C^*)$$

$$\mathbb{P}(E_t = 1 | \mathbf{x}_{E,t}) = \rho(\mathbf{x}_{E,t}^\top \boldsymbol{\theta}_E^*)$$

Thus:

$$\mathbb{E}[C_t | \mathbf{x}_t] = \rho(\mathbf{x}_{C,t}^\top \boldsymbol{\theta}_C^*) \rho(\mathbf{x}_{E,t}^\top \boldsymbol{\theta}_E^*).$$

The common goal: regret minimization

$$\text{BayesRegret}(T, \pi) = \sum_{t=1}^T \mathbb{E} \left[\max_{a \in \mathcal{A}_t} f_{\boldsymbol{\theta}^*}(\mathbf{x}^a) - f_{\boldsymbol{\theta}^*}(\mathbf{x}^{a_t}) \right]$$

Model

E-C bandit

- A generative model of click, explicitly incorporating examination;
- Examination as a binary variable, is by nature NOT observable, thus a latent variable;

The essential problem

- Is it possible to learn E-C bandit under online learning's paradigm?
 - Regret analysis affirms learnability to some extent.
- How to learning E-C bandit on the fly?
 - Variational approximation together with Thompson sampling

Algorithm– Parameter Estimation



The Log-likelihood of one sample:

$$\begin{aligned}\log \mathbb{P}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_C, \boldsymbol{\theta}_E | \mathbf{x}_C, \mathbf{x}_E, C) &= \log \mathbb{P}(C | \boldsymbol{\theta}_C, \boldsymbol{\theta}_E, \mathbf{x}_C, \mathbf{x}_E) + \log \mathbb{P}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_C, \boldsymbol{\theta}_E) + \log \text{const} \\ &= C \log \rho(\mathbf{x}_C^\top \boldsymbol{\theta}_C) \rho(\mathbf{x}_E^\top \boldsymbol{\theta}_E) + (1 - C) \log (1 - \rho(\mathbf{x}_C^\top \boldsymbol{\theta}_C) \rho(\mathbf{x}_E^\top \boldsymbol{\theta}_E)) \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{2} (\boldsymbol{\theta}_C - \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_C)^\top \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_C^{-1} (\boldsymbol{\theta}_C - \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_C) - \frac{1}{2} (\boldsymbol{\theta}_E - \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_E)^\top \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_E^{-1} (\boldsymbol{\theta}_E - \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_E) + \log \text{const}\end{aligned}$$

The variational lower bound:

$$\rho(x) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-x}}$$

- Jensen's inequality for log-sum;
- 2-degree polynomial lower bound of log-logistic function;
- Thus, a lower bound in the form of 2-degree polynomial, which leads to an approximate Gaussian posterior when given a Gaussian prior and allows for $O(1)$ update.

Algorithm – Decision Making



Thompson sampling:

- Choose any arm by its probability of being the best among the candidate;
- Easy to implement and well integrated with our estimation procedure (Recall we have approximate Gaussian posterior of the parameters).

Algorithm

Algorithm 1 Thompson sampling for E-C Bandit

- 1: Initiate $\Sigma_C = \lambda I, \Sigma_E = \lambda I, \hat{\theta}_C = \theta_{C,0}, \hat{\theta}_E = \theta_{E,0}$.
 - 2: **for** $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ **do**
 - 3: Observe the available arm set $\mathcal{A}_k \subset \mathcal{A}$ and its corresponding context set $\mathcal{X}_k := \{(\mathbf{x}_C^a, \mathbf{x}_E^a) : a \in \mathcal{A}_k\}$.
 - 4: Randomly sample $\tilde{\theta}_C \sim N(\hat{\theta}_C, \Sigma_C), \tilde{\theta}_E \sim N(\hat{\theta}_E, \Sigma_E)$.
 - 5: Select:

$$a_k = \arg \max_{a \in \mathcal{A}_k} \rho((\mathbf{x}_C^a)^\top \tilde{\theta}_C) \rho((\mathbf{x}_E^a)^\top \tilde{\theta}_E)$$
 - 6: Play the selected arm a_k and Observe the reward C_k .
 - 7: Update $\Sigma_C, \hat{\theta}_C, \Sigma_E, \hat{\theta}_E$ according to Eq (3), (4), (5), (6) respectively.
 - 8: **end for**
-

$$\Sigma_{C,\text{post}}^{-1} = \Sigma_C^{-1} + 2q^{1-C} \lambda (\xi_C) \mathbf{x}_C \mathbf{x}_C^\top \quad (3)$$

$$\hat{\theta}_{C,\text{post}} = \Sigma_{C,\text{post}} (\Sigma_C^{-1} \hat{\theta}_C + \frac{1}{2} (-q)^{1-C} \mathbf{x}_C) \quad (4)$$

$$\Sigma_{E,\text{post}}^{-1} = \Sigma_E^{-1} + 2\lambda (\xi_E) \mathbf{x}_E \mathbf{x}_E^\top \quad (5)$$

$$\hat{\theta}_{E,\text{post}} = \Sigma_{E,\text{post}} (\Sigma_E^{-1} \hat{\theta}_E + \frac{1}{2} (2q - 1)^{1-C} \mathbf{x}_E) \quad (6)$$

Regret Analysis

Sublinear regret is guaranteed if:

- MLE estimate (i.e., log-loss estimate in our 0-1 reward case) is accurate;
- Thompson sampling samples from the true posterior.
- See detailed proof in the paper and appendix.
- Proof's framework is the same as Russo,2014. Key proposition: aggregated empirical discrepancy is bounded within a sub-linear increasing ellipse w.h.p.(Proposition 1 in the paper.)

By experiment we demonstrate the approximation is tight, and result improving.

Evaluation - Simulation

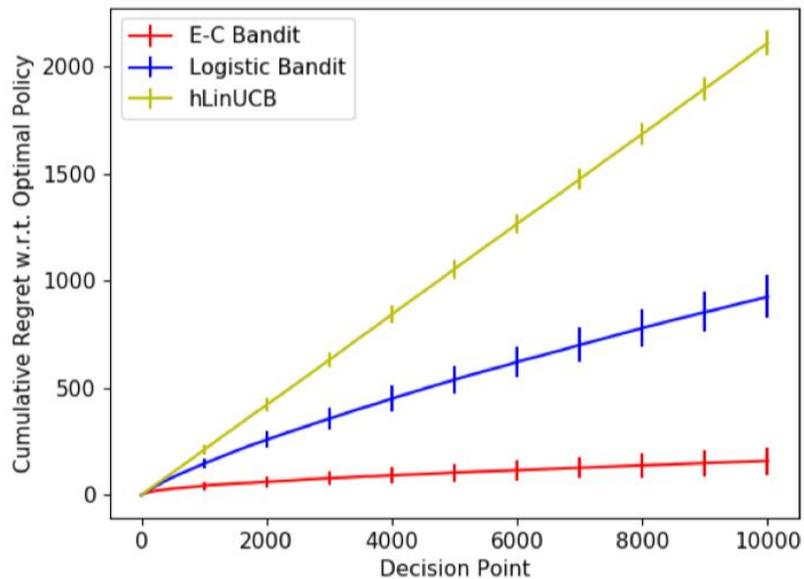


Figure 1: Cumulative regret over 100 simulations.

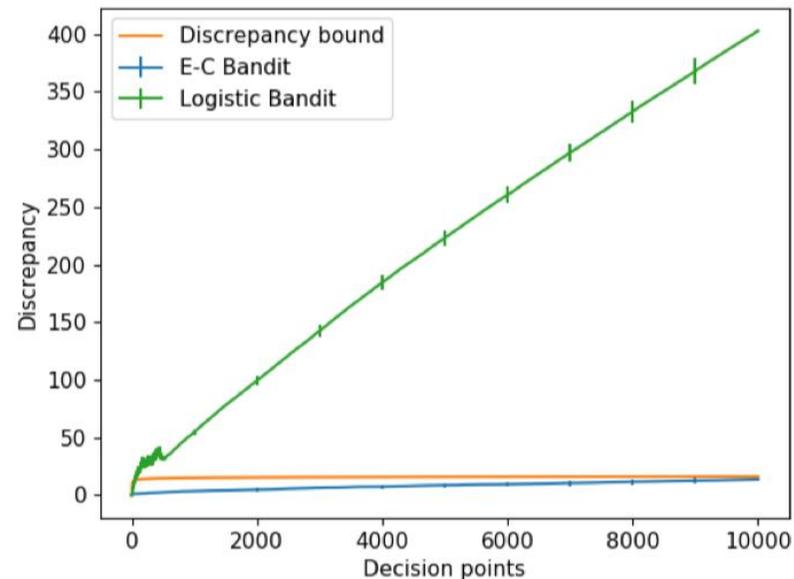


Figure 2: Discrepancy bound given by Proposition 1

Evaluation – Empirical data

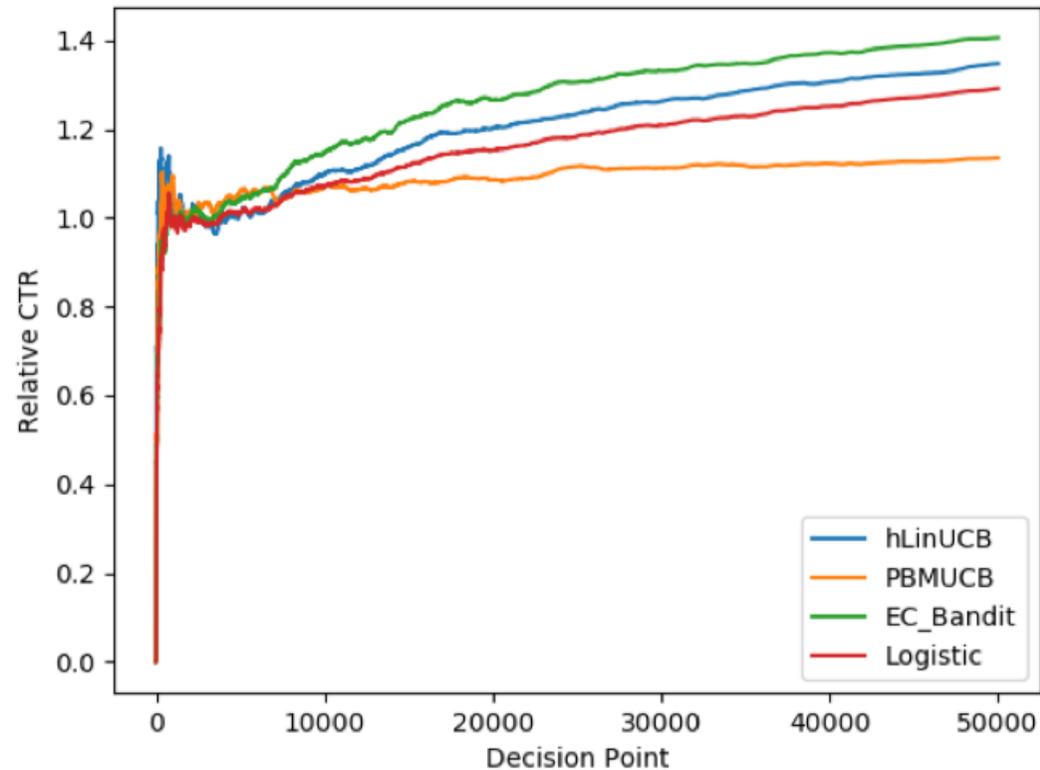


Figure 4: Performance comparison on MOOC videos' data

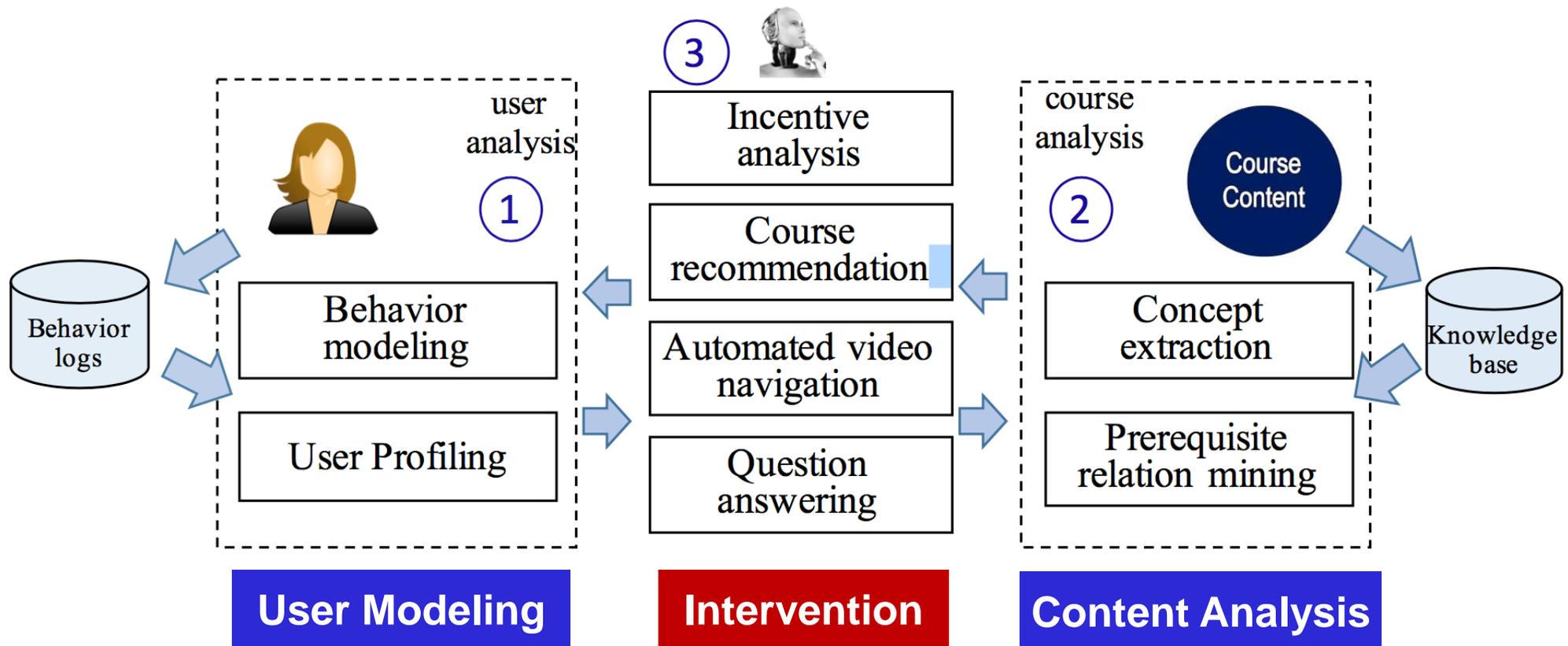
Conclusion

Explicitly modeling implicit feedback as composition of examination and relevance judgement provides finer modeling and leads to better result.

Further work:

- Quantitative analysis on the impact of approximated posterior on the cumulative regret;
- Generalization from one item's recommendation to multiple items case.

XiaoMU (小木)





Recent Publications

- Liangming Pan, Chengjiang Li, Juanzi Li, and Jie Tang. Prerequisite Relation Learning for Concepts in MOOCs. In ACL'17.
- Xia Jing, Jie Tang, Wenguang Chen, Maosong Sun, and Zhengyang Song. Guess You Like: Course Recommendation in MOOCs. WI'17.
- Han Zhang, Maosong Sun, Xiaochen Wang, Zhengyang Song, Jie Tang, and Jimeng Sun. 2017. Smart Jump: Automated Navigation Suggestion for Videos in MOOCs. In WWW'17 Companion.
- Jiezhong Qiu, Jie Tang, Tracy Xiao Liu, Jie Gong, Chenhui Zhang, Qian Zhang, and Yufei Xue. 2016. Modeling and Predicting Learning Behavior in MOOCs. In WSDM'16. 93–102.
- Jie Gong, Tracy Xiao Liu, Jie Tang, and Fang Zhang. Incentive Design on MOOC: a Field Experiment on XuetaoX, Management Science (top in management). Submitted.
- Jie Tang, Tracy Xiao Liu, Zhenyang Song, Xiaochen Wang, Xia Jing, Jiezhong Qiu, Zhenhuan Chen, Chaoyang Li, Han Zhang, Liangmin Pan, Yi Qi, Xiuli Li, Jian Guan, Juanzi Li, and Maosong Sun. LittleMU: Enhancing Learning Engagement Using Intelligent Interaction on MOOCs. submitted to KDD.
- 李曼丽, 徐舜平, 孙梦嫻. MOOC 学习者课程学习行为分析——以“电路原理”课程为例[J]. 开放教育研究, 2015, 21(2): 63-69.
- 薛宇飞, 黄振中, 石菲. MOOC 学习行为的国际比较研究--以“财务分析与决策”课程为例[J]. 开放教育研究, 2015 (2015 年 06): 80-85.
- 薛宇飞, 敬峡, 裘捷中, 唐杰, 孙茂松. 一种在线课程中的作业互评方法: 中国, 201510531490.2. (中国专利申请号)
- 唐杰, 张茜, 刘德兵. 用户退课行为预测方法及装置. 201610292389.0 (中国专利申请号)

Thank you !

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Wendy Hall (**Southampton**)

Maosong Sun, Tracy Liu, Juanzi Li (**THU**)

Xia Jing, Zhenhuan Chen, Liangmin Pan, Jiezhong Qiu, Han Zhang,
Zhengyang Song, Xiaochen Wang, Chaoyang Li, Yi Qi (**THU**)

Jie Tang, KEG, Tsinghua U,
Download all data & Codes,

<http://keg.cs.tsinghua.edu.cn/jietang>

<http://arnetminer.org/data>

<http://arnetminer.org/data-sna>