

# Sequence-Aware Query Recommendation Using Deep Learning

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### **BACKGROUND & MOTIVATION**

Objective: help users write SQL queries using past queries

- Database management systems understand SQL queries
- SQL queries are questions in structured query language
- Challenge: users lack field- & database-related expertise

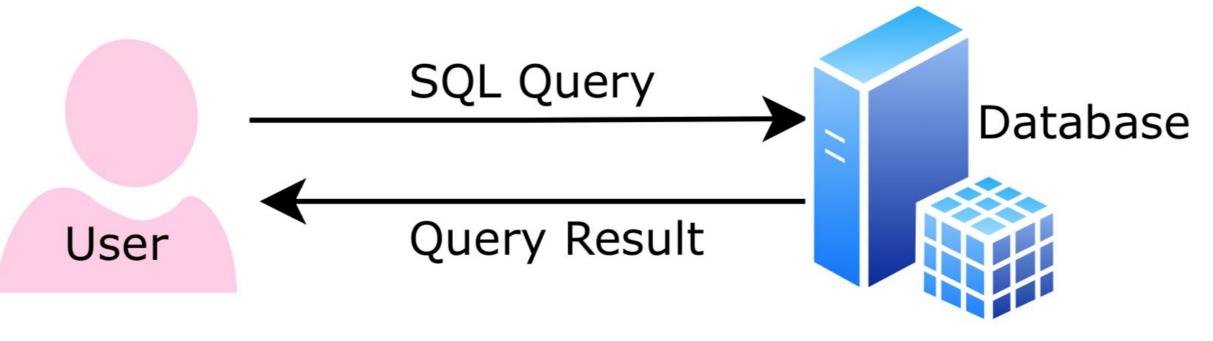


Figure 1: User interaction with databases.

Intuition: predict the user's next query by learning from the queries posted by past users

# PROBLEM & PRELIMINARIES

Model query recommendation as a query prediction task

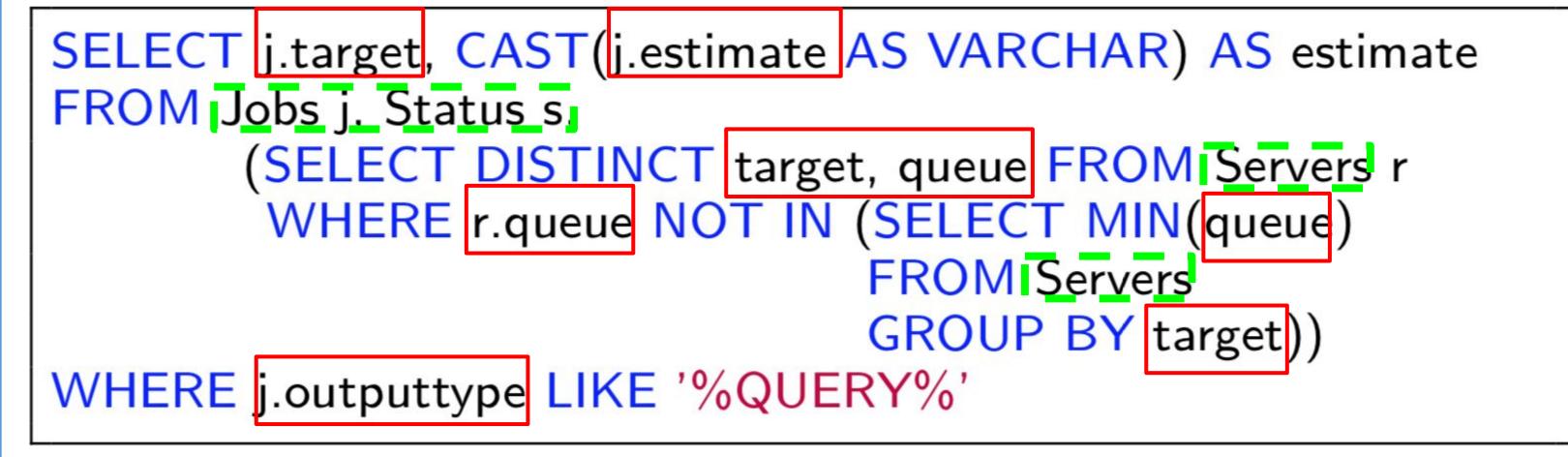


Figure 2: Sample SQL query Q.  $\Box$  is table,  $\Box$  is attribute

Use sequence-to-sequence (seq2seq) models

- Advantages: less human intervention, etc.
- Other applications: sentence-level NLP (e.g., chatbot)
- Recurrent neural networks (RNNs)

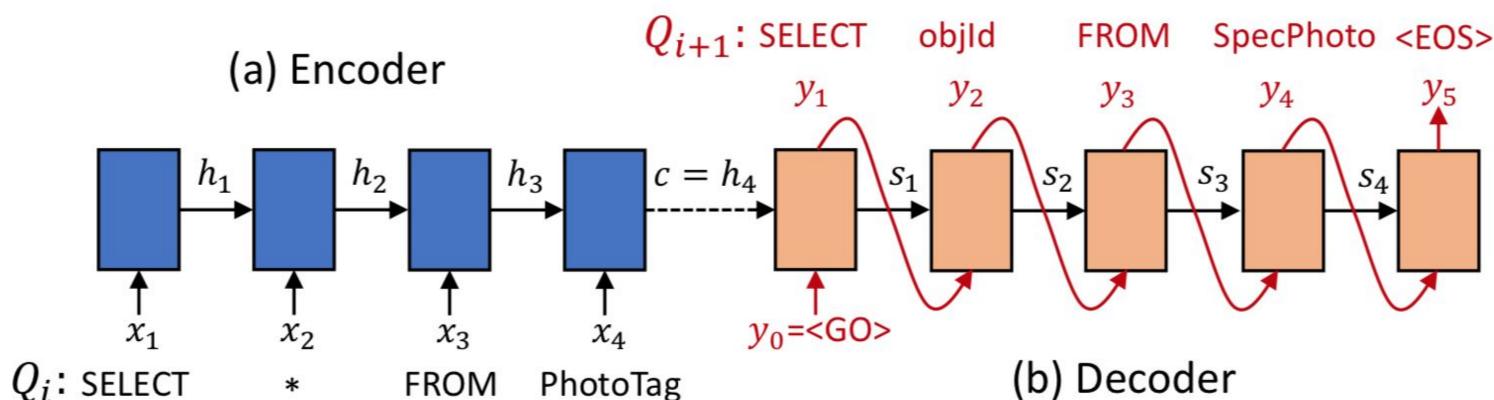


Figure 4: An RNN seq2seq model that takes query Q in a session and predicts the next query  $Q^*$ .

#### **CONTRIBUTIONS**

Leverage whole queries and query session sequences

- Define a new approach to guide DBMS users' next-step query formulation
- Adapt a broad set of deep learning models to our problem
- Empirically evaluate our approach using two real-world datasets and compare to the existing approach

# METHOD OVERVIEW

First, train seq2seq models

- sequence-aware: with query prediction task using query subsequences  $\langle Q_i, Q_{i+1} \rangle$
- sequence-blind (in comparison) with query reconstruction task using  $\langle Q_i, Q_i \rangle$

Then, recommend query fragments using the trained model

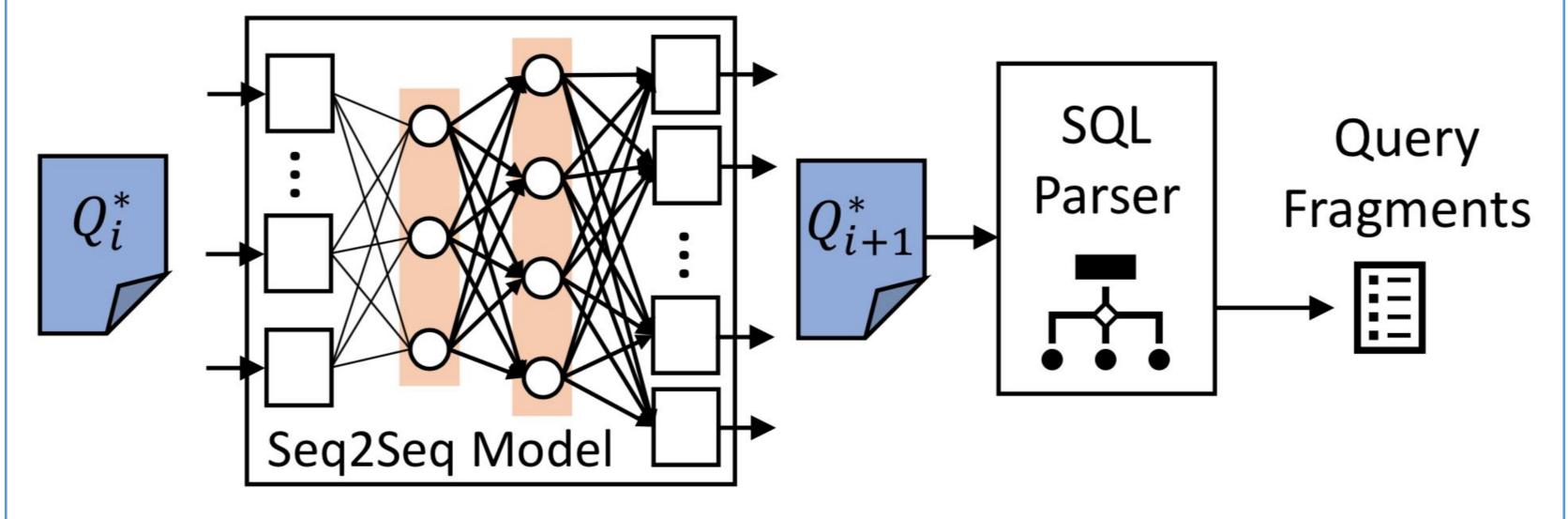


Figure 5: Query fragment prediction.

# **EXPERIMENTAL SETUP**

Evaluate the efficacy of the combination of deep learning models and query subsequences in query recommendation

- Task: Use test set, given  $Q_i$ , predict fragments in  $Q_{i+1}$
- Methods compared
- o baseline1: the most popular queries
- QueRIE framework: existing method
- o seq-aware vs. seq-blind RNN seq2seq models
- Metric: F-measure

#### **RESULTS & DISCUSSION**

Fragment prediction result shows that seq-aware RNN

- outperforms other approaches by far in table & function
- slightly outperforms others in attribute prediction

The seq-blind RNN performs best in literal prediction

• may suggest weak sequential patterns in changes in literal

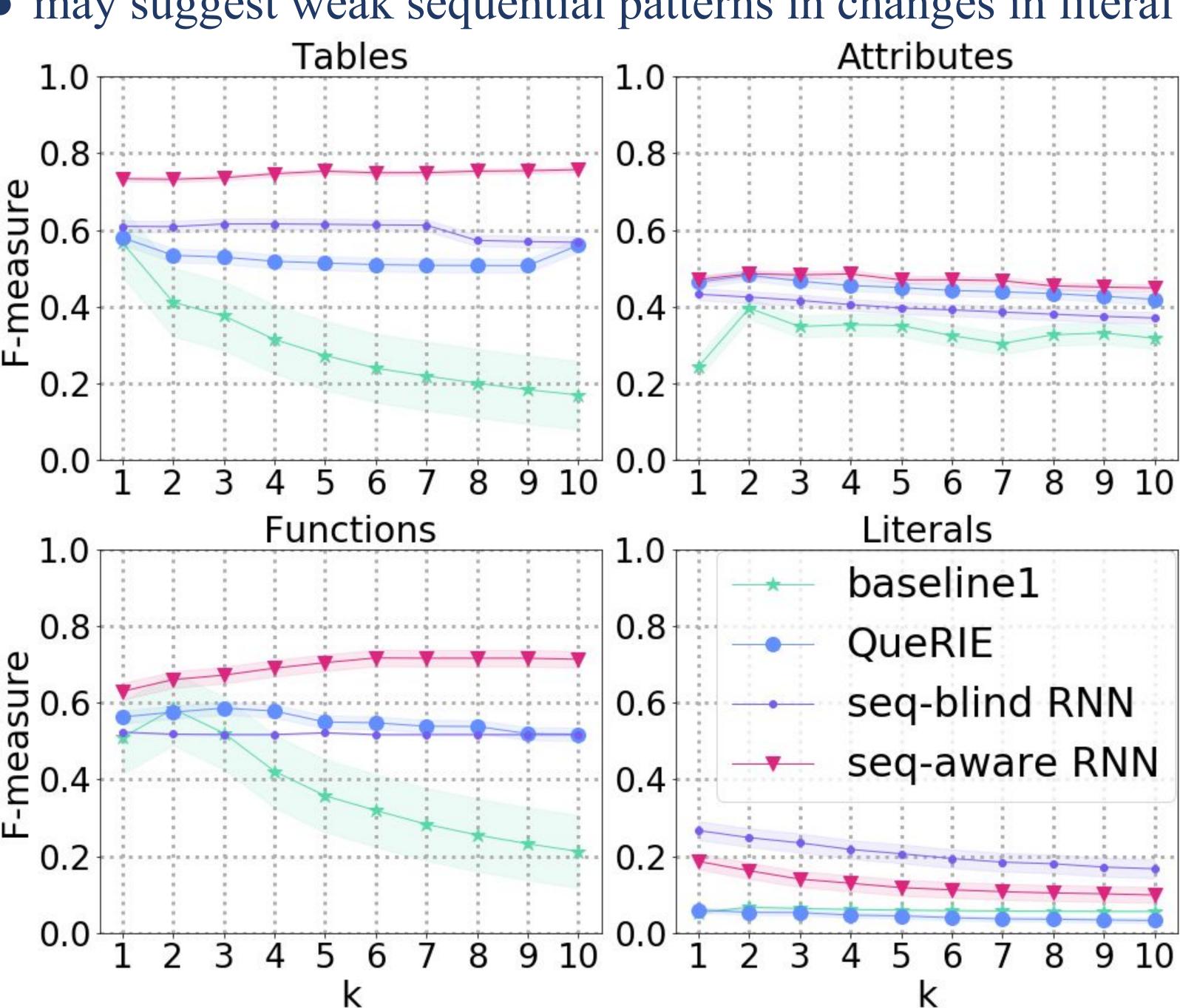


Figure 6: k is the number of model-predicted queries. Shadow is the 95% confidence interval.

# **CONCLUSION & FUTURE WORK**

Deep learning + query session sequences is effective

Next steps: strengthen the evaluation

- Conduct a user study
- Compare to more existing methods
- Evaluate time complexity
- Evaluate the semantic distance of query fragments

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