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ABSTRACT

A finely made distributed QA system should facilitate a hike in efficacy of parameters such as question response rate and answer quality, while also trying to deliver a spam-free environment for users. The reputation systems employed by previous works evaluate a user with an overall rating for all questions the user has answered regardless of the question categories, thus it does not accurately reflect the user's ability to answer a question in a specific category.

The dissertation aims to address the issues that reside in the community based Q&A websites with KweriME, a reputation based QA system which employs a category and theme based reputation management system to evaluate users willingness and capability to answer various kinds of questions, while at the same time improving the response latency and answer quality.