INFO4990/INFO5993 Clearer Writing Handout

Activity 1: 2 1 4 3

1. Kotkov et al. (2024) conducted a user study on an article recommendation system and found that many recommendations users considered serendipitous were not captured by traditional metrics.

2. Unlike accuracy, which can be easily calculated using known user-item ratings, serendipity is a subjective and user-centred concept.

3. Their study showed that no single definition or metric matched user opinions well, highlighting the need for better evaluation methods.

4. This revealed a kind of "dark matter" of serendipity—valuable experiences that existing methods missed.

Activity 2/Activity 3: Which paragraph is clearer?

The peer-to-peer model is used to broadcast transaction data across the network. Each node in the network receives the data. Broadcasts between one node and another is how transactions are made.

Transactions are broadcast to the network using the peer-to-peer model. This model sees each node broadcast to its neighbour. Eventually, each node in the network will have received the data.

Activity 4: Let's bring it all together

1. Can you see the MEAL structure?
2. What information structure has been used?
3. What conjunctions have been used?
4. How would you change the paragraph to make it clearer?

In many practical scenarios, the probability distributions involved can be nontrivial and complex.

This applies not only for distributions that are used to model stochasticity inherent in real world systems, but also for those that are used to express uncertainty due to limited knowledge.

Consequently, they benefit from high complexity models that allow for rich representations of the probability distributions involved.

In particular, relationships between variables of interests are often expressed as conditional distributions.

It is due to the vastly intricate and complex ways variables can interact in the real world that practical frameworks must be careful to not oversimplify representations that describe the relevant conditional distributions.