

Exploring attributes, sequences, and time in Recommender Systems: From classical to Point-of-Interest recommendation

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Under the supervision of
Alejandro Bellogín Kouki

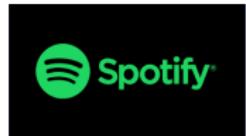
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July 8, 2021

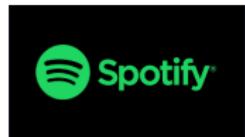
- 1 Introduction
- 2 New perspectives for evaluating Recommender Systems
- 3 Sequences in k -NN recommender systems
- 4 Point-Of-Interest recommendation
- 5 Sequences in POI recommendation
- 6 Conclusions and future work

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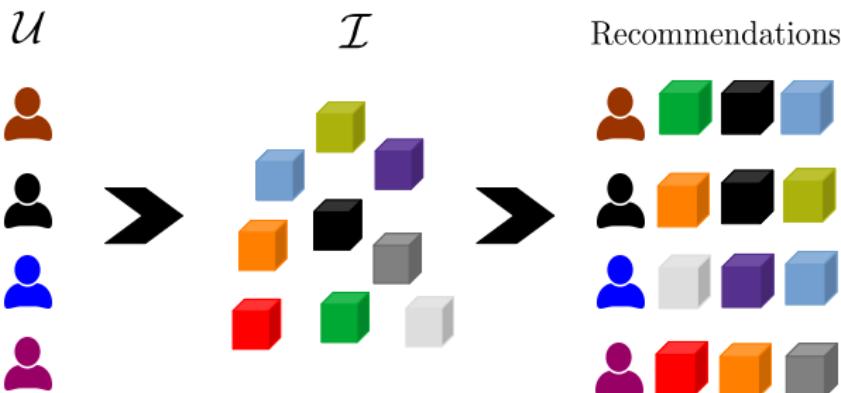
Introduction



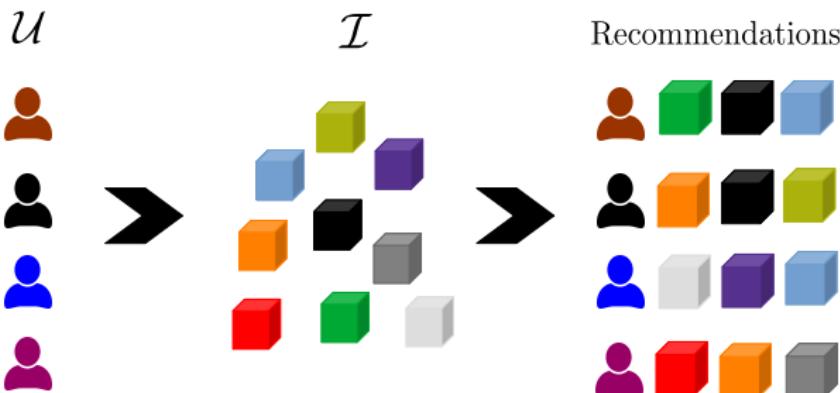
Introduction



Introduction



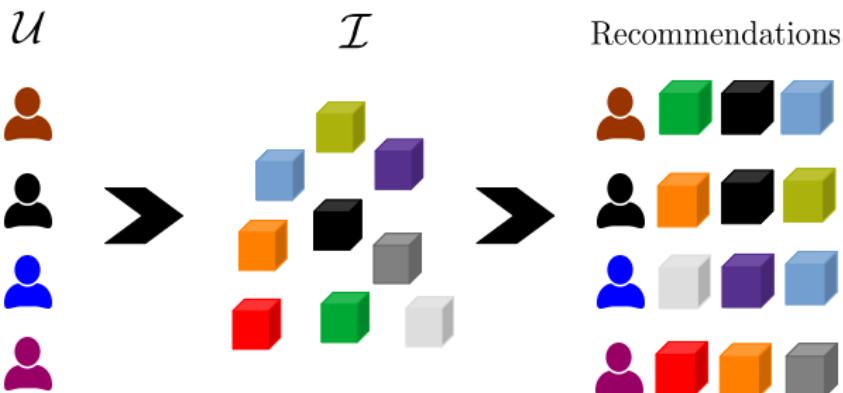
Introduction



	i_1	i_2	i_3	i_4	\dots
u_1	-	-	-	3	\dots
u_2	4	-	4	-	\dots
u_3	5	5	-	-	\dots
u_4	-	2	1	-	\dots
u_5	-	-	-	-	\dots
u_6	-	-	-	1	\dots
\dots	\dots	\dots	\dots	\dots	\dots

Sparsity $\sim 99\%$

Introduction



	i_1	i_2	i_3	i_4	\dots
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u_2	4	-	4	-	\dots
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u_5	-	-	-	-	\dots
u_6	-	-	-	1	\dots
\dots	\dots	\dots	\dots	\dots	\dots

Objective: maximize the **usefulness** of the items for the target user ($\max g(u, i)$)

Recommender Systems

$$i^*(u) = \arg \max_{i \in \mathcal{I}} g(u, i) \quad (1)$$

—[Adomavicius and Tuzhilin, 2005]

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- More information: **Chapter 2**

Recommender Systems: offline evaluation

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- Metrics:
 - Error metrics (rating prediction): MAE, RMSE, ...

$$\text{RMSE} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{|\mathcal{R}_{test}|} \sum_{r_{ui} \in \mathcal{R}_{test}} (\hat{r}(u, i) - r_{ui})^2} \quad (2)$$

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Recommender Systems: offline evaluation

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 - Novelty and diversity: Item Coverage (IC), Gini, EPC, ...

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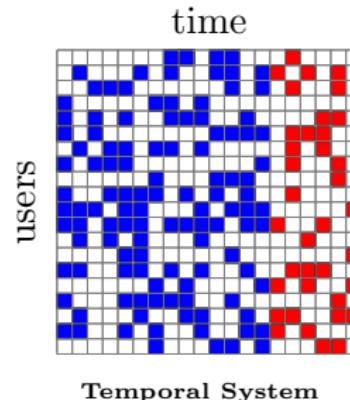
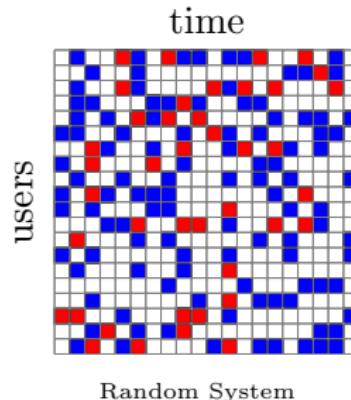
$$IC = \left| \bigcup_{u \in \mathcal{U}} R_u \right| \quad (4)$$

Recommender Systems: types of data splitting

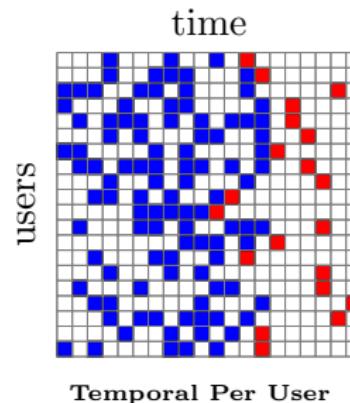
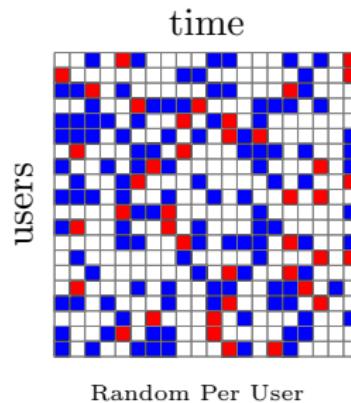
Training



Test



- Data splitting
 - Random vs Temporal
 - Per user vs system

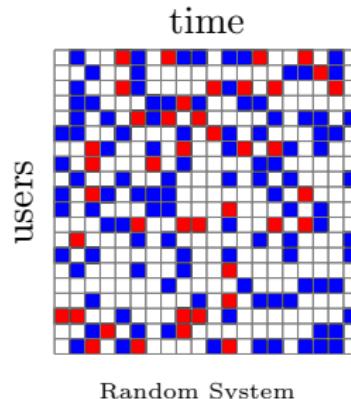


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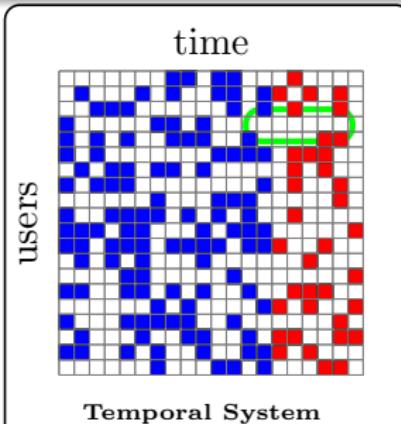
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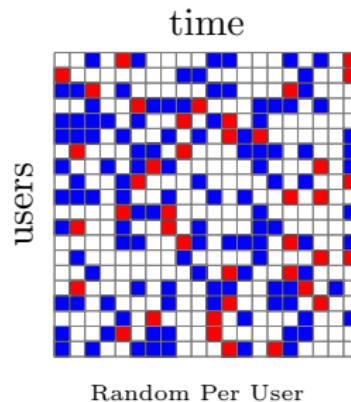
Test



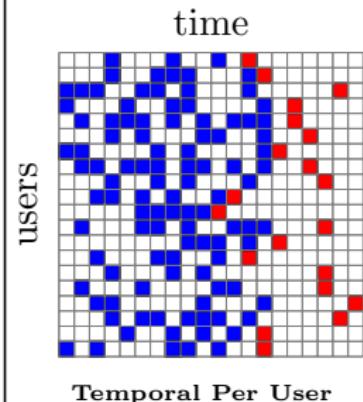
Random System



Temporal System



Random Per User



Temporal Per User

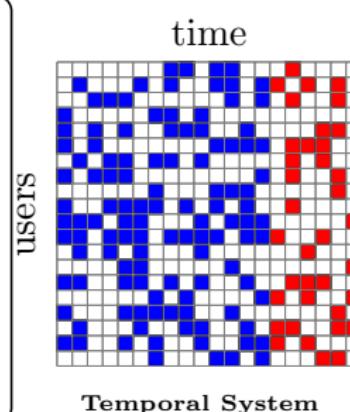
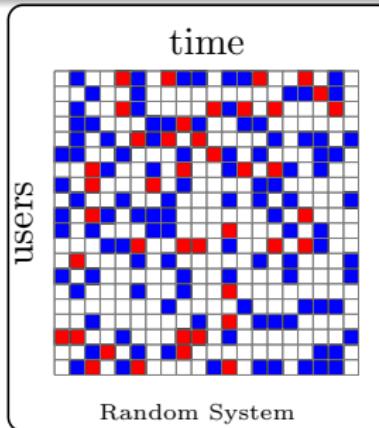
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Recommender Systems: types of data splitting

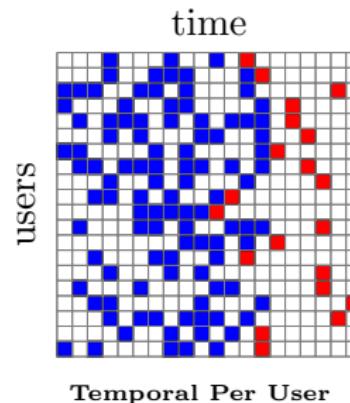
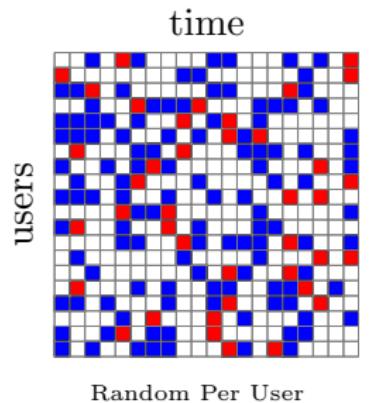
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Test



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Research Objectives

- RO1: Integrating **additional dimensions beyond relevance** in evaluation metrics
 - We use temporal information, attributes, and low ratings for evaluating the recommenders
 - We obtain more complete results of the performance of the recommenders and we detect additional biases

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 - We use temporal information, attributes, and low ratings for evaluating the recommenders
 - We obtain more complete results of the performance of the recommenders and we detect additional biases
- RO2: Incorporate **sequentiality** in **neighborhood-based recommenders**
 - We develop a sequential similarity metric and we redefine the formulation of k -NN recommenders
 - Our approaches are highly competitive in relevance, novelty and diversity

- RO3: Review the **state-of-the-art on Point-of-Interest Recommender Systems**
 - We characterize POI recommendation works between 2011 and 2019 analyzing the algorithms, the information, and the evaluation methodology used

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 - We propose multi-city aggregation strategies to augment the information of the recommenders
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- RO4: **Improve the performance of POI** recommendation algorithms
 - We propose multi-city aggregation strategies to augment the information of the recommenders
 - We improve the performance of most recommenders by selecting the cities by proximity
- RO5: **Generate full sequences from Location-Based Social Networks** data
 - We will use reranking techniques to generate routes from independent POIs
 - We demonstrate how we can improve the recommendations across different dimensions (category and/or distance) using our reranking approaches

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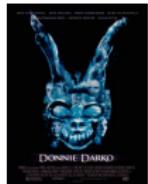
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- **Contributions published** in ECIR [Sánchez and Bellogín, 2018b] and RecSys [Sánchez and Bellogín, 2019a, Sánchez and Bellogín, 2018a]

Time-aware novelty metrics

Time-aware novelty metrics

R_1



(2001)



(1994)



(1994)



(1997)



(1993)

R_2



(1972)



(2001)



(1994)



(1994)

R_3



(2018)



(2017)

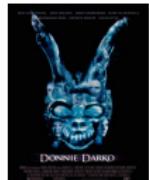


(2016)



Time-aware novelty metrics

R_1



(2001)



(1994)



(1994)

- Best in Relevance?



(1972)



(1997)



(1993)



R_2



(1972)



(1997)



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R_3



(2018)



(2017)

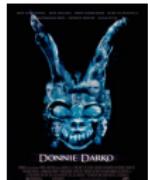


(2016)



Time-aware novelty metrics

R_1



(2001)



(1994)



(1994)

- Best in Relevance?

$$\bullet R_2 > R_1 > R_3$$

R_2



(1972)



(1997)



(1993)



R_3



(2018)



(2017)



(2016)



Time-aware novelty metrics

R_1



(2001)

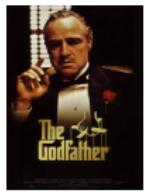


(1994)



(1994)

R_2



(1972)



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R_3



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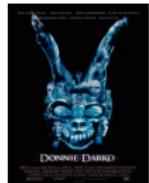
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$$R_2 > R_1 > R_3$$

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Time-aware novelty metrics

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(2001)



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(2016)



- Best in Relevance?

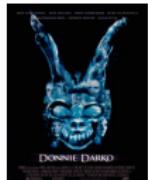
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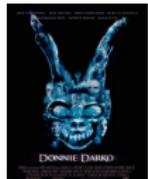
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- Probabilistic framework from [Vargas and Castells, 2011]

$$m(R_u \mid \theta) = C \sum_{i_n \in R_u} \text{disc}(n)p(\text{rel} \mid i_n, u)\text{nov}(i_n \mid \theta) \quad (5)$$

Time-aware novelty metrics

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- Where:

- R_u items recommended to user u
- θ contextual variable (e.g., the user profile)
- $\text{disc}(n)$ is a discount model (e.g. nDCG)
- $p(\text{rel} \mid i_n, u)$ relevance component
- $\text{nov}(i_n \mid \theta)$ **novelty model**

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- However, all the metrics derived from this framework are *time-agnostic*
- We propose to replace the novelty component defining new **time-aware novelty models**

Time-aware novelty metrics

- Every item in the system can be modeled with a temporal representation:

$$\theta_t = \{\theta_t(i)\} = \{(i, \langle t_1(i), \dots, t_n(i) \rangle)\} \quad (7)$$

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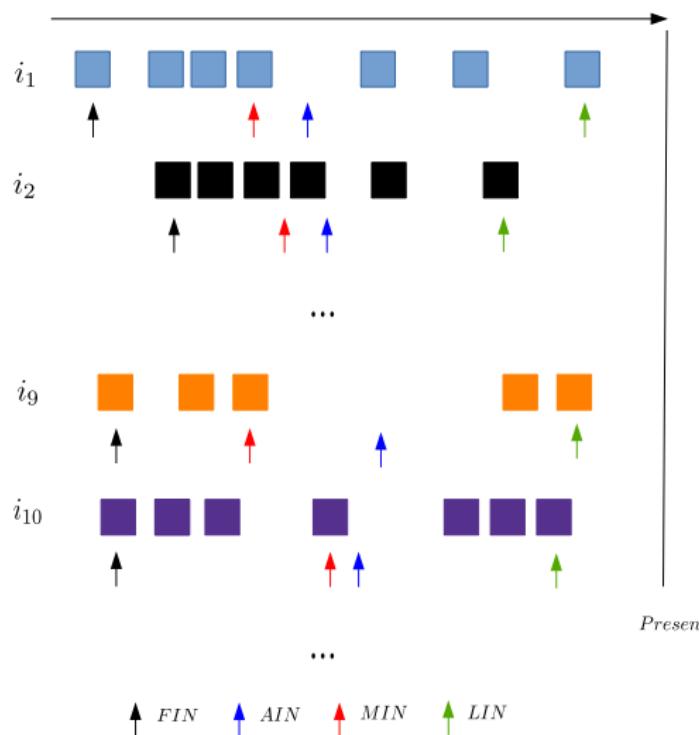
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- We explore 4 aggregation functions: the first interaction (FIN), the last interaction (LIN), the **average of the ratings times (AIN)** and the **median of the ratings times (MIN)**
- We normalize the values to be suitable for the probabilistic framework (min-max normalization)

Time-aware novelty metrics

- Differences between the proposed aggregation functions

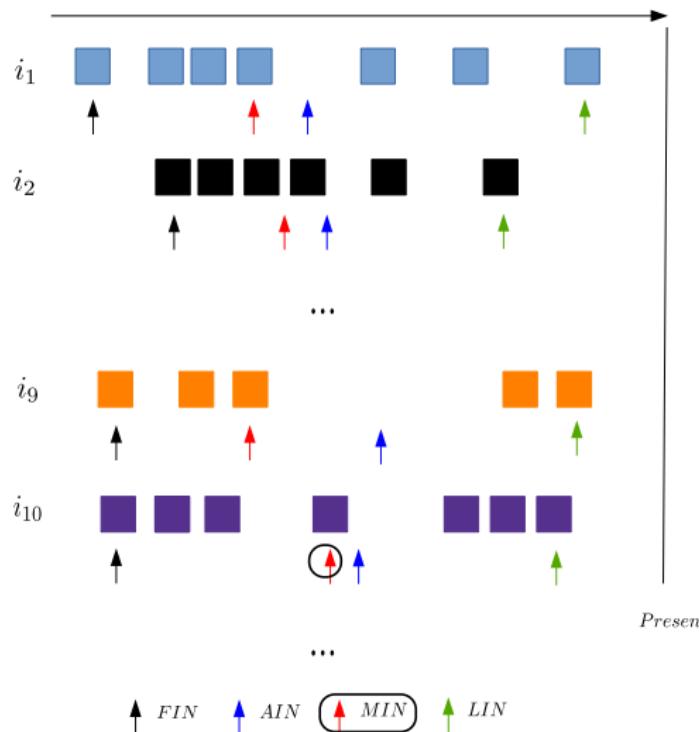
Time



Time-aware novelty metrics

- Differences between the proposed aggregation functions

Time

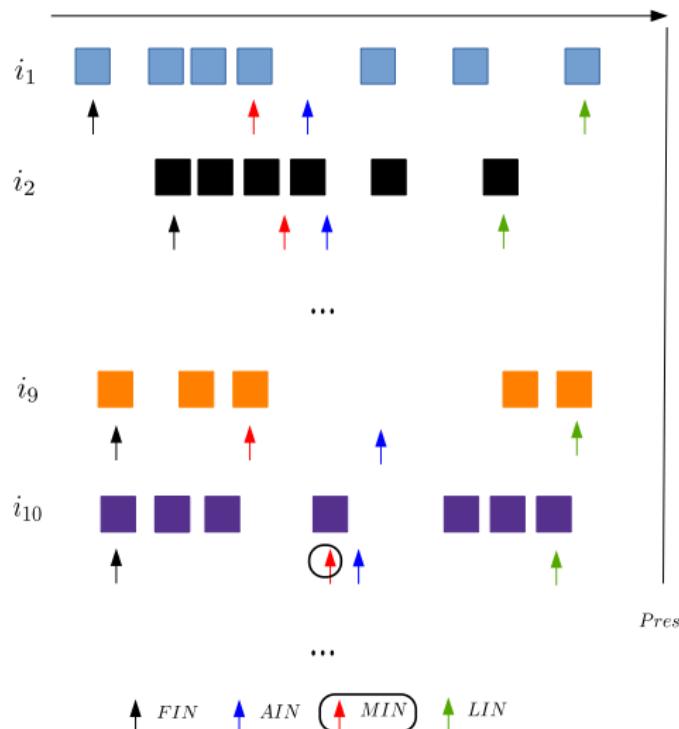


- MIN

Time-aware novelty metrics

- Differences between the proposed aggregation functions

Time



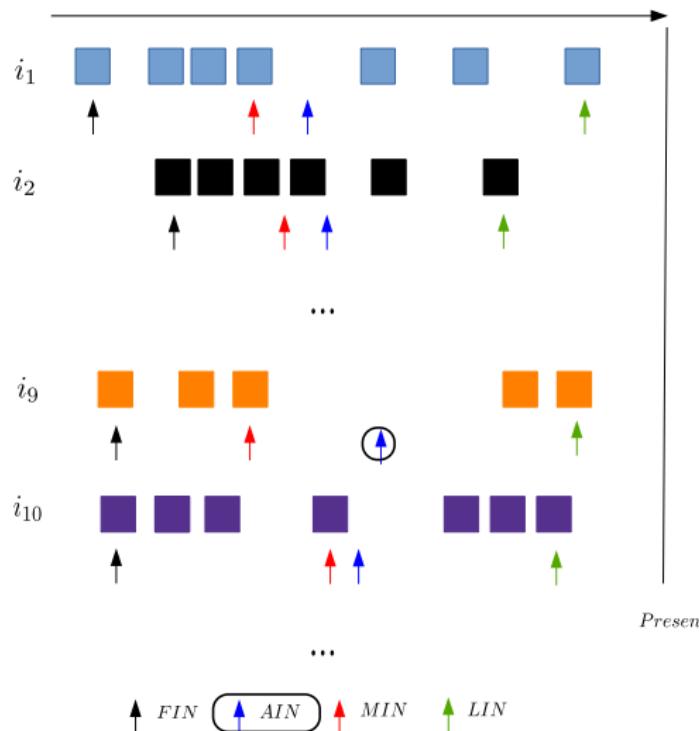
- MIN

$$i_{10} > i_2 > i_9 > i_1$$

Time-aware novelty metrics

- Differences between the proposed aggregation functions

Time



- MIN

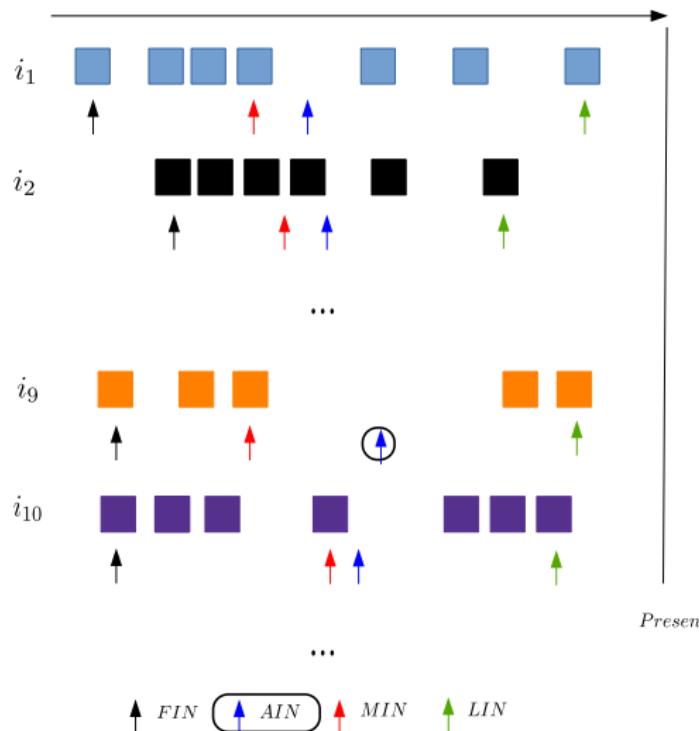
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- AIN

Time-aware novelty metrics

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Time



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$i_{10} > i_2 > i_9 > i_1$

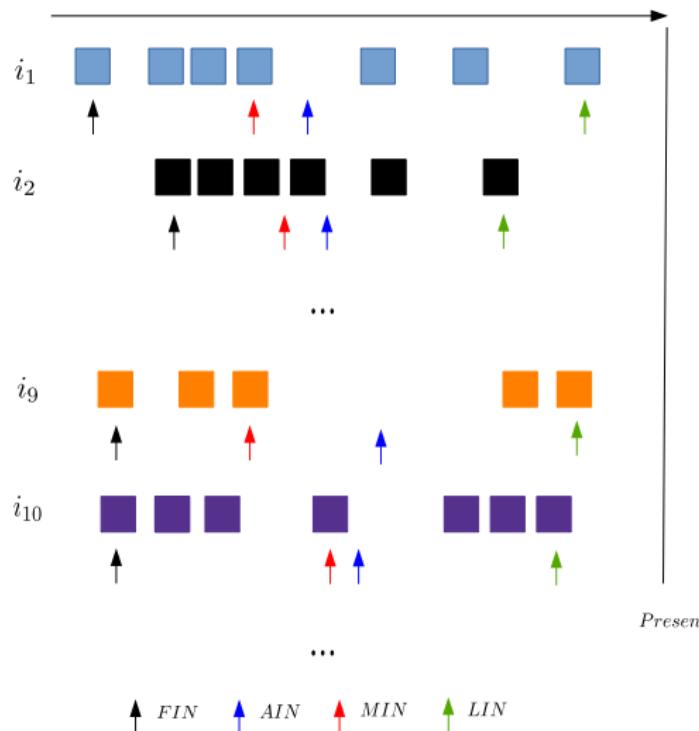
- AIN

$i_9 > i_{10} > i_2 > i_1$

Time-aware novelty metrics

- Differences between the proposed aggregation functions

Time



- MIN

$$i_{10} > i_2 > i_9 > i_1$$

- AIN

$$i_9 > i_{10} > i_2 > i_1$$

- FIN

$$i_2 > i_{10} > i_9 > i_1$$

- LIN

$$i_9 > i_1 > i_{10} > i_2$$

Time-aware novelty metrics: a summary

- We propose metrics that **exploit the temporal information of the interactions of the items**

Time-aware novelty metrics: a summary

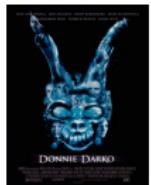
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- Our metrics allow us to measure the **temporal novelty** of the items in the system
- Our metrics are **integrated** in a previous defined **novelty framework**
- We believe that **AIN** and **MIN** are the strategies that capture better the **temporal evolution** of the items

Anti-relevance metrics

Anti-relevance metrics



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(1993)



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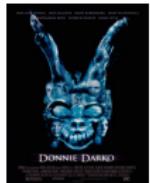


(2017)



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Anti-relevance metrics



(2001)



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R_1

- Best recommendation list?



(1972)



(1997)



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R_2



(2018)



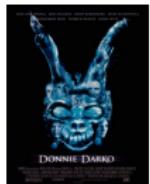
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R_3

Anti-relevance metrics



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(1994)



(1994)

R_1

- Best recommendation list?
- All lists return 1 relevant item



(1972)



(1997)



(1993)

R_2



(2018)



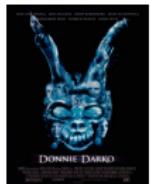
(2017)



(2016)

R_3

Anti-relevance metrics



(2001)



(1994)



(1994)

R_1



(1972)



(1997)



(1993)

R_2



(2018)



(2017)

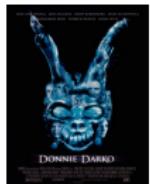


(2016)



- Best recommendation list?
- All lists return 1 relevant item
- But R_3 return 2 bad items

Anti-relevance metrics



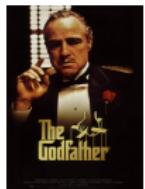
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(1997)



(1993)



(2018)



(2017)



(2016)

- Best recommendation list?
- All lists return 1 relevant item
- But R_3 return 2 bad items
- We should also **measure** the **anti-relevant** items

- The Probabilistic Ranking Principle (PRP):

If a system's response to a query is a ranking of documents in order of decreasing probability of relevance, the overall effectiveness of the system to its users will be maximized

—[Robertson, 1997]

Anti-relevance metrics

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If a system's response to a query is a ranking of documents in order of decreasing probability of relevance, the overall effectiveness of the system to its users will be maximized

—[Robertson, 1997]

- Most ranking-based accuracy metrics are formulated to estimate the classical PRP:

$$m(R_u | \theta_{rel}) = C \sum_{i \in R_u} m(\theta_{rel}(r_{ui}) | u, i) \quad (8)$$

Anti-relevance metrics

- We study the dual PRP problem:

$$\begin{aligned}\overline{m}(R_u|\theta_{arel}) &= C \sum_{i \in R_u} (1 - \overline{m}(\theta_{arel}(r_{ui})|u, i)) \propto \\ &\propto 1 - C' \sum_{i \in R_u} m(\theta_{arel}(r_{ui})|u, i) = \boxed{1 - m(R_u|\theta_{arel})}\end{aligned}\quad (9)$$

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- Our anti-relevance metrics formulation is equivalent to computing any relevance-based metric using an anti-relevance model (where an item is relevant if $r_{ui} \leq \tau_{AR}$) and returning its complement. **Higher value implies less anti-relevant items recommended**

- Relevance metrics **only measure** the amount of **highly relevant** items recommended by the user

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- However, we should also **measure** the number of items **with low ratings** that we are recommending to the users. Users tend to **penalize** the recommenders **mistakes**
- We can analyze the **anti-relevance** of the items by computing classical relevance metrics with an **anti-relevance models**

Incorporating user and item attributes in our metrics

User attributes

- We **usually** assume that all users in the system are **equal**



User attributes

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- But some users may belong to **less represented groups** and our recommendations may be **biased** towards the **majority groups**



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- Should not we be analyzing the **performance of specific groups** of users?

$$m(\theta) = C^{-1} \sum_{u \in \mathcal{U}} c(u) \cdot m(R_u, \theta) \quad (10)$$

Item attributes

- In every recommendation we can distinguish the **items that appear in the test set w^+** , non-relevant items that share similarity with the items in test w^* and the rest w^-

$$m(R_u, \theta) \propto \sum_{i \in I^+(u)} w^+(u, i) + \sum_{i \in I^*(u)} w^*(u, i) + \sum_{i \in I^-(u)} w^-(u, i) \quad (11)$$

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Test \sim R₁

$$|I^+| = 0$$

$$|I^*| = 0$$

$$|I^-| = 3$$

Test \approx R₂

$$|I^+| = 0$$

$$|I^*| = 3$$

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- We can use **user attributes** to **detect** possible **biases** in the algorithms. The recommendations might be biased toward the majority groups

- We can use **user attributes** to **detect** possible **biases** in the algorithms. The recommendations might be biased toward the majority groups
- **Item attributes** can be integrated into classical relevance metrics to consider more items in the recommendations as **partially relevant**

Experiments on new metrics

- Objective: **test our metrics in well-known datasets**

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 - **Movielens1M: 6k users, 3.7k items, 1M ratings (1-5)**
 - FS (Tokyo): 11.6k users, 51.1k items, 998k interactions

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 - k -NN: UBCB, IB, UB
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 - Skylines: Skyline
- Splits:
 - **Temporal system split (TS, 80% training)**
 - Random system split (RS, 80% training)

Experiments

Experiments: time-aware novelty metrics

Experiments: time-aware novelty metrics. Metrics @5

- Skyline obtain high results in our time-aware novelty metrics. Temporal novel items are relevant

Recommender	FIN	AIN	MIN	LIN
Rnd	0.118	0.630	0.616	0.971
Rnd _{CF}	0.112	0.626	0.611	0.972
Pop	0.000	0.614	0.592	†1.000
PopCF	0.000	0.613	0.591	1.000
UBCB	0.001	0.608	0.579	0.999
IB	0.001	0.605	0.570	0.999
UB	0.004	0.610	0.581	0.999
HKV	0.005	0.611	0.585	0.999
BPRMF	0.003	0.614	0.591	0.999
TD	0.004	0.612	0.587	0.999
MC	0.028	0.629	0.614	0.999
FPMC	0.001	0.606	0.577	0.999
Fossil	0.004	0.613	0.591	0.999
Caser	0.025	0.626	0.609	0.999
Skyline	0.136	0.666	0.661	0.998
Skyline _{CF}	†0.145	†0.671	†0.670	0.997

Experiments: time-aware novelty metrics. Metrics @5

- Some sequential recommenders do not obtain high results in time-aware novelty metrics

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Experiments

Experiments: anti-relevance metrics

Experiments: anti-relevance metrics. Metrics @5

- Rnd recommender achieves highest values in anti-relevance metrics

Recommender	P	\bar{P}	nDCG	\bar{nDCG}
Rnd	0.019	0.993	0.012	0.996
Rnd_{CF}	0.015	0.994	0.008	0.997
Pop	0.281	0.977	0.221	0.981
Pop_{CF}	0.210	0.979	0.161	0.983
UBCB	0.254	0.979	0.195	0.985
IB	0.234	0.979	0.177	0.987
UB	0.248	0.985	0.195	0.990
HKV	0.257	0.985	0.202	0.990
BPRMF	0.231	0.975	0.172	0.983
TD	0.248	0.987	0.194	0.990
MC	0.177	0.972	0.134	0.978
FPMC	0.212	0.979	0.159	0.985
Fossil	0.227	0.974	0.170	0.984
Caser	0.192	0.969	0.136	0.977
Skyline	†0.943	†1.000	†1.000	†1.000
$\overline{\text{Skyline}}_{\text{CF}}$	0.911	1.000	0.999	1.000
$\overline{\text{Skyline}}$	0.000	0.189	0.000	0.001
$\overline{\text{Skyline}}_{\text{CF}}$	0.000	0.221	0.000	0.001

Experiments: anti-relevance metrics. Metrics @5

- Personalized recommenders sometimes fail in the recommendations

Recommender	P	\bar{P}	nDCG	\bar{nDCG}
Rnd	0.019	0.993	0.012	0.996
Rnd _{CF}	0.015	0.994	0.008	0.997
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Skyline	†0.943	†1.000	†1.000	†1.000
Skyline _{CF}	0.911	1.000	0.999	1.000
<u>Skyline</u>	0.000	0.189	0.000	0.001
<u>Skyline_{CF}</u>	0.000	0.221	0.000	0.001

Experiments

Experiments: user and item attributes

Experiments: user and item attributes (nDCG@5)

- In MovieLens1M, users with more than 56 years ($\sim 5\%$) tend to obtain lower results in terms of relevance

Family	Std	Gender		Age				Test Quartile			
		F	M	1	18	35	56	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Rnd	0.012	0.011	0.012	0.011	0.014	0.009	0.005	0.003	0.004	0.016	0.023
Rnd _{CF}	0.008	0.010	0.008	0.003	0.009	0.009	0.000	0.002	0.003	0.006	0.027
Pop	0.221	0.177	0.238	0.192	0.250	0.190	0.132	0.055	0.160	0.260	0.406
Pop _{CF}	0.161	0.131	0.171	0.185	0.178	0.135	0.101	0.043	0.114	0.219	0.344
UBCB	0.195	0.177	0.202	0.195	0.206	0.180	0.164	0.057	0.178	0.264	0.368
IB	0.177	0.153	0.185	0.168	0.187	0.161	0.166	0.052	0.144	0.239	0.351
UB	0.195	0.173	0.202	0.194	0.208	0.176	0.160	0.067	0.165	0.274	0.352
HKV	0.202	0.184	0.209	0.207	0.213	0.185	0.191	0.074	0.166	0.284	0.366
BPRMF	0.172	0.166	0.175	0.180	0.179	0.164	0.144	0.056	0.144	0.232	0.330
TD	0.194	0.176	0.200	0.188	0.205	0.178	0.171	0.066	0.162	0.270	0.358
MC	0.134	0.127	0.137	0.127	0.142	0.123	0.122	0.052	0.109	0.170	0.257
FPMC	0.159	0.139	0.166	0.196	0.176	0.134	0.085	0.044	0.124	0.215	0.327
Fossil	0.170	0.178	0.168	0.160	0.177	0.160	0.172	0.062	0.134	0.221	0.333
Caser	0.136	0.141	0.135	0.114	0.143	0.128	0.129	0.044	0.109	0.202	0.248
Skyline	†1.000	†1.000	†1.000	†1.000	†1.000	†0.999	†1.000	†1.000	†1.000	†0.999	†1.000
Skyline _{CF}	0.999	1.000	0.999	1.000	1.000	0.999	1.000	1.000	1.000	0.998	1.000

Experiments: user and item attributes (nDCG@5)

- In MovieLens1M and FS (Tokyo), females (~27% and ~11%) also tend to obtain lower in terms of relevance

Family	Std	Gender		Age				Test Quartile			
		F	M	1	18	35	56	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Rnd	0.012	0.011	0.012	0.011	0.014	0.009	0.005	0.003	0.004	0.016	0.023
Rnd _{CF}	0.008	0.010	0.008	0.003	0.009	0.009	0.000	0.002	0.003	0.006	0.027
Pop	0.221	0.177	0.238	0.192	0.250	0.190	0.132	0.055	0.160	0.260	0.406
Pop _{CF}	0.161	0.131	0.171	0.185	0.178	0.135	0.101	0.043	0.114	0.219	0.344
UBCB	0.195	0.177	0.202	0.195	0.206	0.180	0.164	0.057	0.178	0.264	0.368
IB	0.177	0.153	0.185	0.168	0.187	0.161	0.166	0.052	0.144	0.239	0.351
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MC	0.134	0.127	0.137	0.127	0.142	0.123	0.122	0.052	0.109	0.170	0.257
FPMC	0.159	0.139	0.166	0.196	0.176	0.134	0.085	0.044	0.124	0.215	0.327
Fossil	0.170	0.178	0.168	0.160	0.177	0.160	0.172	0.062	0.134	0.221	0.333
Caser	0.136	0.141	0.135	0.114	0.143	0.128	0.129	0.044	0.109	0.202	0.248
Skyline	†1.000	†1.000	†1.000	†1.000	†1.000	†0.999	†1.000	†1.000	†1.000	†0.999	†1.000
Skyline _{CF}	0.999	1.000	0.999	1.000	1.000	0.999	1.000	1.000	1.000	0.998	1.000

Experiments: user and item attributes (nDCG@5)

- The higher the test quartile, the higher the results obtained (more items in the test set)

Family	Std	Gender		Age			Test Quartile			Q4	
		F	M	1	18	35	56	Q1	Q2	Q3	
Rnd	0.012	0.011	0.012	0.011	0.014	0.009	0.005	0.003	0.004	0.016	0.023
Rnd _{CF}	0.008	0.010	0.008	0.003	0.009	0.009	0.000	0.002	0.003	0.006	0.027
Pop	0.221	0.177	0.238	0.192	0.250	0.190	0.132	0.055	0.160	0.260	0.406
Pop _{CF}	0.161	0.131	0.171	0.185	0.178	0.135	0.101	0.043	0.114	0.219	0.344
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Skyline _{CF}	0.999	1.000	0.999	1.000	1.000	0.999	1.000	1.000	1.000	0.998	1.000

Experiments: user and item attributes (nDCG@5)

- Using the both main and secondary features we obtain higher results than the pure metric

Family	nDCG			
	$\tau = 0$	τ_m	τ_s	τ_{ms}
Rnd	0.012	0.034	0.269	0.276
Rnd _{CF}	0.008	0.023	0.251	0.255
Pop	0.221	0.244	0.361	0.372
Pop _{CF}	0.161	0.189	0.308	0.322
UBCB	0.195	0.221	0.356	0.366
IB	0.177	0.206	0.322	0.337
UB	0.195	0.224	0.347	0.360
HKV	0.202	0.230	0.364	0.375
BPRMF	0.172	0.201	0.334	0.347
TD	0.194	0.223	0.347	0.361
MC	0.134	0.170	0.312	0.327
FPMC	0.159	0.181	0.314	0.325
Fossil	0.170	0.195	0.331	0.342
Caser	0.136	0.166	0.309	0.321
Skyline	†1.000	†1.000	†1.000	†1.000
Skyline _{CF}	0.999	0.999	0.999	0.999

$\tau = 0$: pure metric

τ_m : main feature
(directors)

τ_s : secondary feature
(genres)

Experiments: user and item attributes (nDCG@5)

- Misleading results might be obtained using higher values of the similarities (Rnd recommender becomes competitive)

Family	nDCG			
	$\tau = 0$	τ_m	τ_s	τ_{ms}
Rnd	0.012	0.034	0.269	0.276
Rnd _{CF}	0.008	0.023	0.251	0.255
Pop	0.221	0.244	0.361	0.372
Pop _{CF}	0.161	0.189	0.308	0.322
UBCB	0.195	0.221	0.356	0.366
IB	0.177	0.206	0.322	0.337
UB	0.195	0.224	0.347	0.360
HKV	0.202	0.230	0.364	0.375
BPRMF	0.172	0.201	0.334	0.347
TD	0.194	0.223	0.347	0.361
MC	0.134	0.170	0.312	0.327
FPMC	0.159	0.181	0.314	0.325
Fossil	0.170	0.195	0.331	0.342
Caser	0.136	0.166	0.309	0.321
Skyline	†1.000	†1.000	†1.000	†1.000
Skyline _{CF}	0.999	0.999	0.999	0.999

$\tau = 0$: pure metric

τ_m : main feature
(directors)

τ_s : secondary feature
(genres)

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- The RS community should **exploit** the **attributes** of both users and items to better analyze the performance of the recommenders

- 1 Introduction
- 2 New perspectives for evaluating Recommender Systems
- 3 Sequences in k -NN recommender systems
- 4 Point-Of-Interest recommendation
- 5 Sequences in POI recommendation
- 6 Conclusions and future work

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- **Contributions published** in Information Processing and Management [Sánchez and Bellogín, 2020b] journal. Based on the future work of [Sánchez and Bellogín, 2019b] and [Bellogín and Sánchez, 2017]. Research conducted during the master's degree.

Defining a new similarity metric

k -NN recommender systems

- Classic formulation of k -NN recommender systems:

$$\hat{r}_{ui} = \sum_{v \in \mathcal{N}_i(u)} r_{vi} [w_{uv}] \quad (12)$$

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- We propose a sequential similarity metric between users u and v :

$$w_{uv} \sim LCS(u, v)$$

Longest Common Subsequence

- Applications on text comparison and DNA sequences

```
1: procedure LCS( $x, y$ ) ▷ LCS between  $x$  and  $y$ 
2:    $L[0 \dots m, 0 \dots n] \leftarrow 0$ 
3:   for  $i \leftarrow 1, m$  do
4:     for  $j \leftarrow 1, n$  do ▷ There is a match
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11:    end for
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Longest Common Subsequence: example

Longest Common Subsequence

$$L[i, j] = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i=0 \text{ or } j=0 \\ L[i - 1, j - 1] + 1 & \text{if } i, j > 0 \text{ and } X_i = Y_j \\ \max(L[i, j - 1], L[i - 1, j]) & \text{if } i, j > 0 \text{ and } X_i \neq Y_j \end{cases} \quad (15)$$

	\emptyset	A	G	G	T	A	C
	<hr/>						
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The LCS may
not be unique

Longest Common Subsequence for RS

```
1: procedure LCS_RECSYS( $u, v, f, \delta$ )     $\triangleright$  The LCS of users  $u$   
   and  $v$  applying transformation  $f$   
2:    $(x, y) \leftarrow (f(u), f(v))$        $\triangleright$  String  $x$  contains  $m$  symbols  
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4:   for  $i \leftarrow 1, m$  do  
5:     for  $j \leftarrow 1, n$  do           $\triangleright$  There is a  $\delta$ -matching  
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LCS normalizations

- LCS algorithm obtain values in the $[0, \min(|f(u)|, |f(v)|)]$ interval

$$\text{sim}_1^{f,\delta}(u, v) = \text{LCS_Recsys}(u, v, f, \delta) \quad (16)$$

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$$\text{sim}_2^{f,\delta}(u, v) = \frac{\text{sim}_1^{f,\delta}(u, v)^2}{|f(u)| \cdot |f(v)|} \quad (17)$$

$$\text{sim}_3^{f,\delta}(u, v) = \frac{2 \cdot \text{sim}_1^{f,\delta}(u, v)}{|f(u)| + |f(v)|} \quad (18)$$

$$\text{sim}_4^{f,\delta}(u, v) = \frac{\text{sim}_1^{f,\delta}(u, v)}{\max(|f(u)|, |f(v)|)} \quad (19)$$

$$\text{sim}_5^{f,\delta}(u, v) = \frac{\text{sim}_1^{f,\delta}(u, v)}{\min(|f(u)|, |f(v)|)} \quad (20)$$

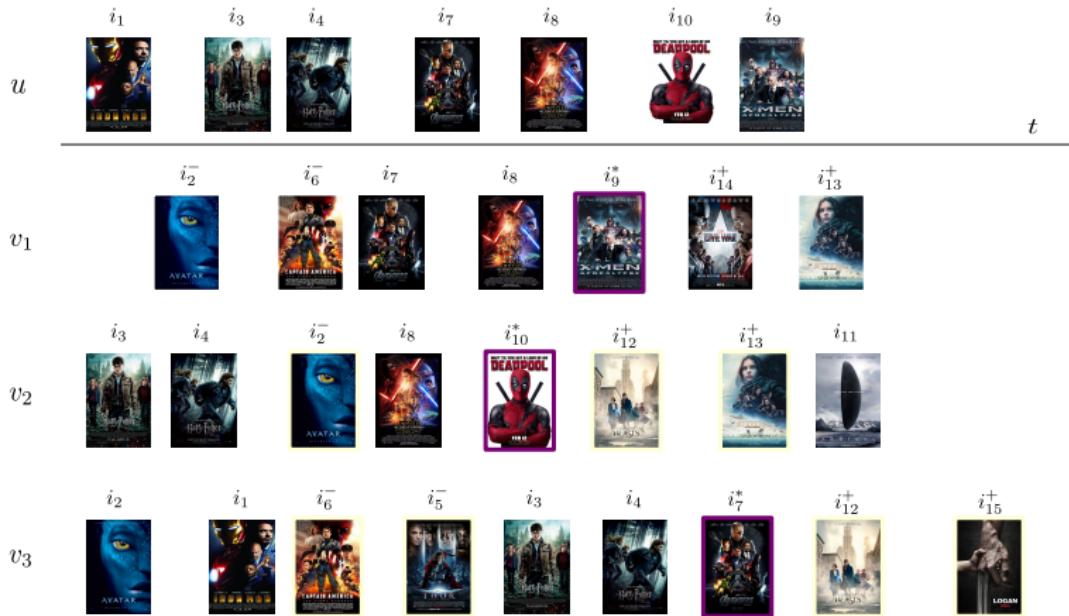
Redefining k -NN recommender systems

- Obtain the neighbors using any similarity metric (classical or sequential)

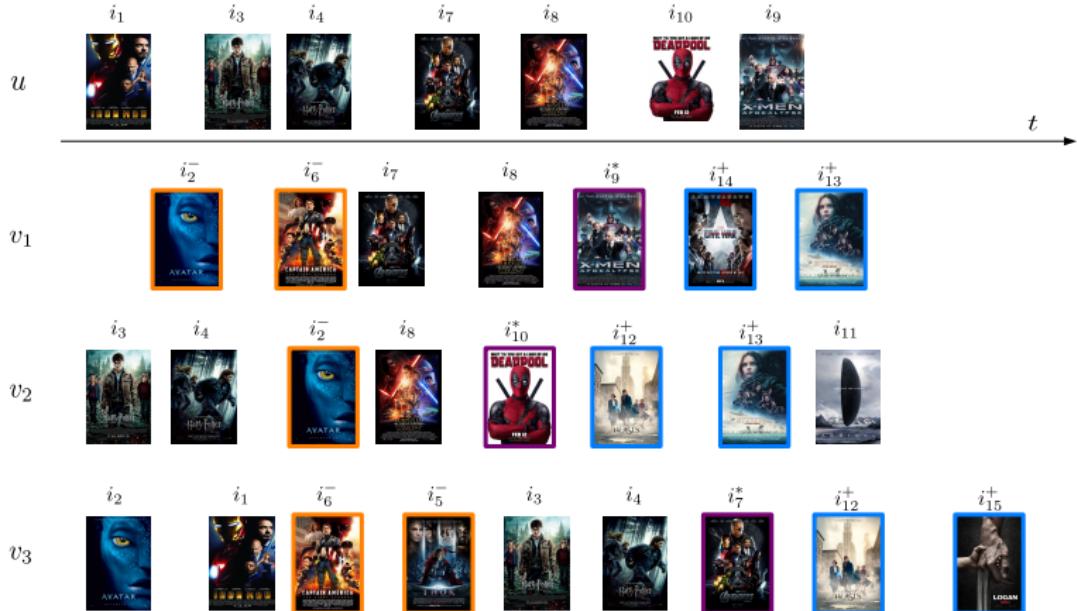
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Redefining k -NN RS: Backward-Forward algorithm

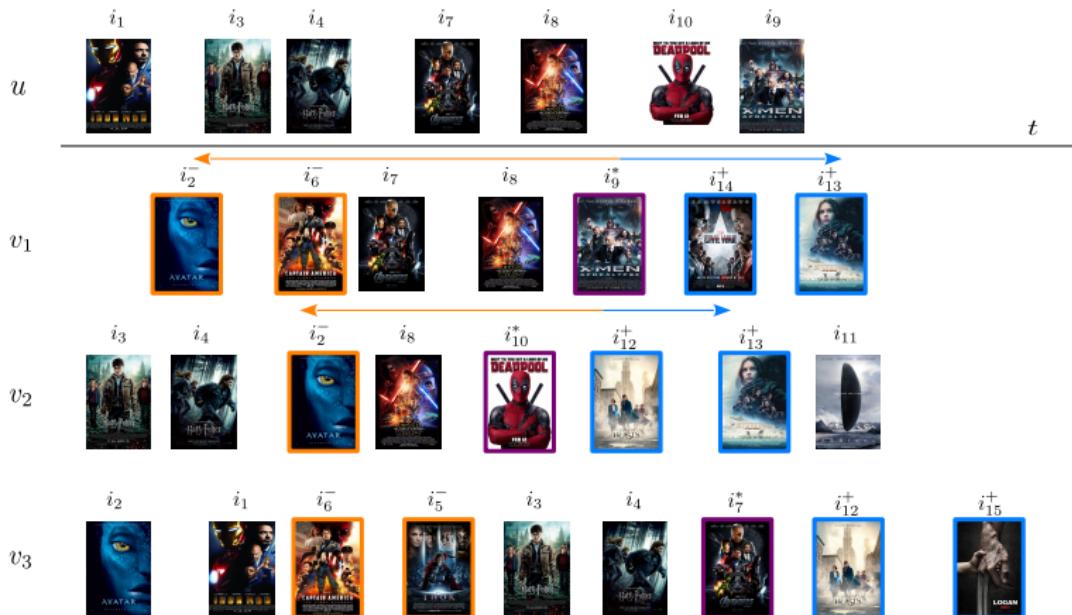
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Backward-Forward algorithm (2)



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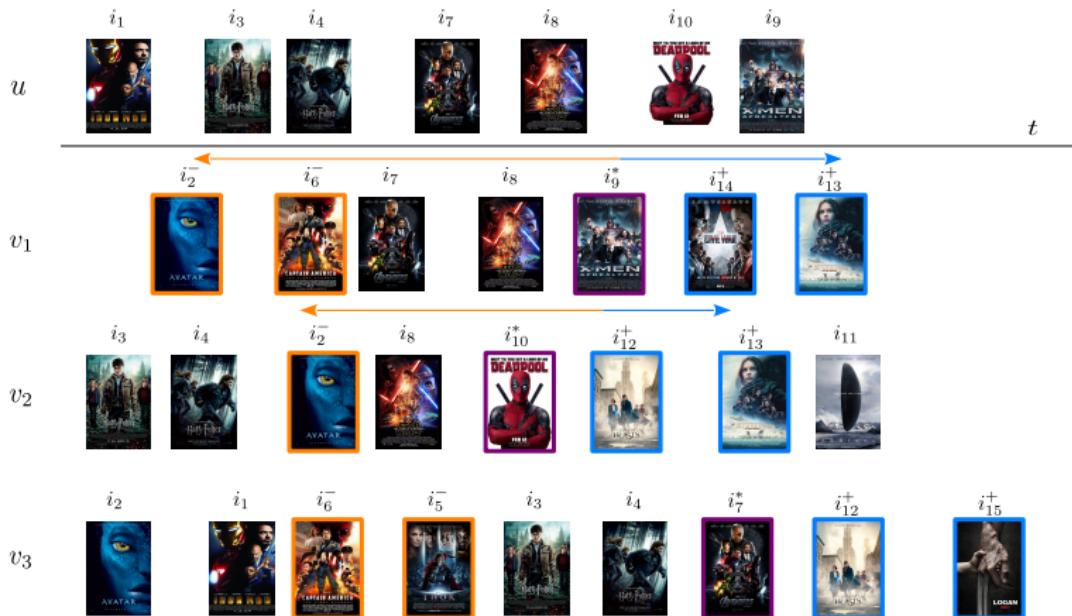


$$L_2^+(v_1; u) = (i_{14}, i_{13}), L_2^-(v_1; u) = (i_6, i_2)$$

$$L_2^+(v_2; u) = (i_{12}, i_{13}), L_2^-(v_2; u) = (i_2)$$

$$L_2^+(v_3; u) = (i_{12}, i_{15}), L_2^-(v_3; u) = (i_5, i_6)$$

Backward-Forward algorithm (2)



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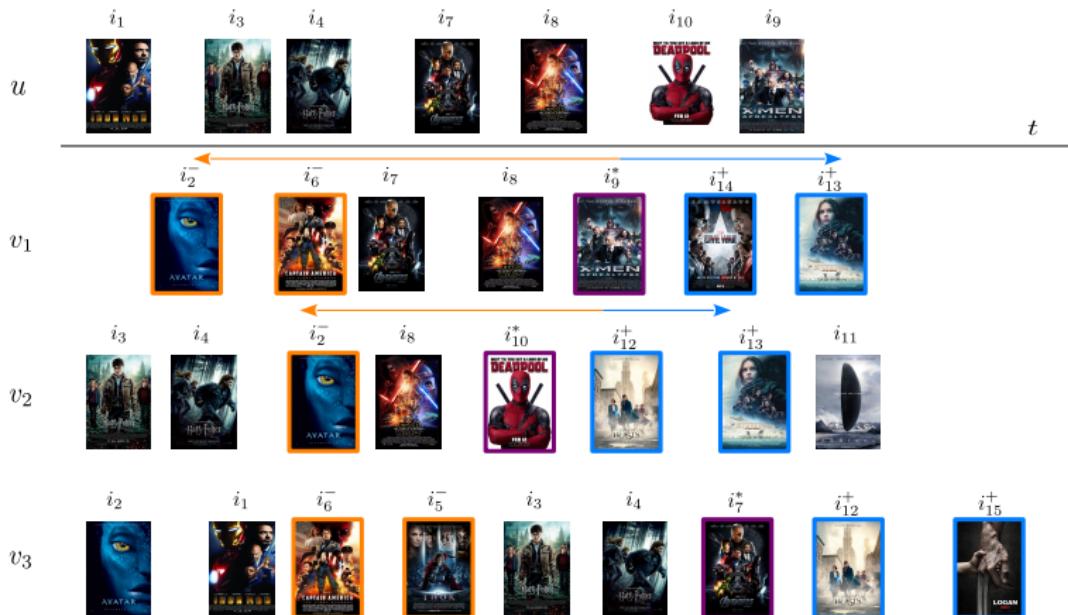
$$L_2^+(v_3; u) = (i_{12}, i_{15}), L_2^-(v_3; u) = (i_5, i_6)$$

- Normalize the rankings obtained for each neighbor
 - Standard normalization: $x' = \frac{x - x_{min}}{x_{max} - x_{min}}$
 - Rank normalization: $x' = 1 - \frac{rank(x) - 1}{|X|}$
 - Default normalization: $x' = x$
 - Other

Backward-Forward algorithm (3)

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 - Default normalization: $x' = x$
 - Other
- Generate a single list for each user using her neighbors rankings
 - **Sum combiner**
 - Min combiner
 - Max combiner
 - Other

Backward-Forward algorithm (4)



$$BF_2^+ = \{i_{12}, i_{13}\}$$

$$BF_2^- = \{i_2, i_6\}$$

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Experiments: sequences in k -NN RS

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Dataset	Users	Items	Ratings	Density	Scale	Unique times	Time interval
Foursquare	16k	3k	105k	0.205%	1	102k	Dec 2011 - Apr 2012
MovieTweetings	15k	8k	519k	0.399%	0-10	517k	Feb 2013 - Apr 2017

Experiments: BF. Temporal System. All metrics @5

- Relevance (nDCG), novelty (EPC), temporal-novelty (MIN), diversity (IC)

MovieTweetings

Recommender	nDCG	EPC	MIN	IC
Rnd	0.001	†0.996	0.410	†0.949
Rnd _{CF}	0.000	0.996	0.411	0.900
Pop	0.003	0.853	0.207	0.006
Pop _{CF}	0.003	0.854	0.210	0.006
IB	0.010	0.914	0.585	0.126
UB	0.016	0.907	0.585	0.030
HKV	0.024	0.934	0.573	0.081
BPRMF	0.016	0.923	0.579	0.125
TD	0.023	0.916	0.697	0.053
BFUB	0.031	0.927	0.728	0.077
BFsUB	0.034	0.936	†0.828	0.076
MC	0.031	0.919	0.707	0.043
FPMC	0.020	0.913	0.634	0.040
Fossil	0.025	0.915	0.647	0.028
Caser	0.026	0.939	0.771	0.129
Skyline	0.806	0.977	0.588	0.295
Skyline _{CF}	†0.812	0.977	0.616	0.251

Foursquare

Recommender	nDCG	EPC	MIN	IC
Rnd	0.001	0.998	0.615	†1.000
Rnd _{CF}	0.001	†0.998	0.612	1.000
Pop	0.130	0.879	0.515	0.004
Pop _{CF}	0.130	0.879	0.515	0.004
IB	0.155	0.952	0.613	0.828
UB	0.173	0.929	0.573	0.293
HKV	0.154	0.949	0.585	0.029
BPRMF	0.146	0.886	0.511	0.071
TD	0.170	0.929	0.582	0.307
BFUB	0.173	0.929	0.573	0.293
BFsUB	0.174	0.921	0.569	0.281
MC	0.133	0.945	0.624	0.269
FPMC	0.133	0.935	0.608	0.196
Fossil	0.163	0.938	0.624	0.131
Caser	0.170	0.929	0.610	0.301
Skyline	†0.998	0.960	†0.671	0.577
Skyline _{CF}	0.998	0.960	0.670	0.573

Experiments: BF. Temporal System. All metrics @5

- Sequential recommenders highly competitive in MovieTweetings but not in Foursquare

MovieTweetings

Recommender	nDCG	EPC	MIN	IC
Rnd	0.001	†0.996	0.410	†0.949
Rnd _{CF}	0.000	0.996	0.411	0.900
Pop	0.003	0.853	0.207	0.006
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Experiments: BF. Temporal System. All metrics @5

- Our Backward-Forward approaches are the best in terms of relevance and competitive in other dimensions

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Experiments: BF. Temporal Per User. All metrics @5.

- Sequential recommenders are less competitive in this split for both datasets

MovieTweetings

Recommender	nDCG	EPC	MIN	IC
Rnd	0.000	†0.996	0.383	0.980
Rnd _{CF}	0.000	0.996	0.383	†0.980
Pop	0.024	0.870	0.159	0.005
Pop _{CF}	0.024	0.870	0.159	0.005
IB	0.050	0.919	0.402	0.185
UB	0.049	0.910	0.360	0.038
HKV	0.050	0.934	0.367	0.075
BPRMF	0.037	0.933	0.363	0.218
TD	0.081	0.916	0.451	0.077
BFUB	0.070	0.918	0.424	0.054
BFsUB	0.111	0.928	0.518	0.086
MC	0.062	0.905	0.436	0.073
FPMC	0.038	0.913	0.365	0.065
Fossil	0.050	0.909	0.386	0.045
Caser	0.083	0.928	0.483	0.158
Skyline	†1.000	0.962	†0.525	0.260
Skyline _{CF}	1.000	0.962	†0.525	0.260

Foursquare

Recommender	nDCG	EPC	MIN	IC
Rnd	0.001	0.998	0.540	†1.000
Rnd _{CF}	0.002	†0.998	0.538	1.000
Pop	0.133	0.878	0.501	0.004
Pop _{CF}	0.133	0.878	0.501	0.004
IB	0.186	0.950	0.535	0.829
UB	0.191	0.926	0.516	0.169
HKV	0.174	0.948	0.503	0.032
BPRMF	0.157	0.947	0.515	0.489
TD	0.185	0.929	0.536	0.232
BFUB	0.192	0.927	0.515	0.176
BFsUB	0.190	0.925	0.515	0.259
MC	0.159	0.940	0.558	0.185
FPMC	0.145	0.933	0.554	0.149
Fossil	0.177	0.939	0.563	0.080
Caser	0.182	0.932	0.559	0.307
Skyline	†1.000	0.960	†0.568	0.687
Skyline _{CF}	1.000	0.960	†0.568	0.687

Experiments: BF. Temporal Per User. All metrics @5.

- Our Backward-Forward approaches are still competitive against state-of-the-art algorithms

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- We have **redefined** the k -NN recommenders by exploiting the **last common interactions** between the neighbors named Backward-Forward (BF)
- Our Backward-Forward algorithm can be used with **any kind** of **similarity** (sequential or not sequential)
- Our approach is **highly competitive** in two datasets using a time-aware evaluation

- 1 Introduction
- 2 New perspectives for evaluating Recommender Systems
- 3 Sequences in k -NN recommender systems
- 4 Point-Of-Interest recommendation
- 5 Sequences in POI recommendation
- 6 Conclusions and future work

Point-Of-Interest (POI) recommendation

- We will address the objectives regarding the **analysis of current POI recommendation works** and **improve the performance of POI recommenders**

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- We develop mechanisms to **increase the performance** of the recommenders in POI recommendation by using cross-domain techniques
- **Contributions under review** in ACM Computing Surveys journal (**2º round of review**) and **published** in the Information Processing and Management journal [Sánchez and Bellogín, 2021] (**new**)

Point-Of-Interest (POI) Recommendation

- Recommending **new venues** to the users when they arrive a city

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 - **Implicit and repeated interactions:** users visit the same places more than once
 - **External influences:** geographical, temporal, social, and sequential influences

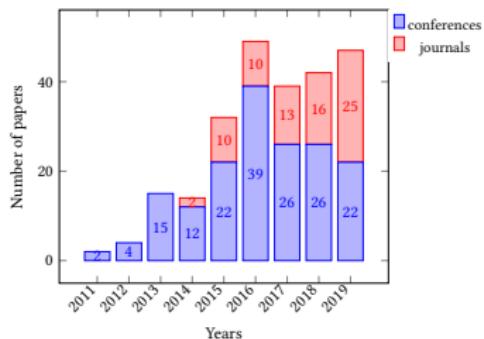
Everything is related to everything else, but near things are more related than distant things —[Miller, 2004]

- Types of algorithms: based on similarities, factorization machines, neural networks, ...
- Information used: geographical, temporal, sequential, social, ...
- Evaluation methodology: metrics, splits, validation, datasets, ...

Point-Of-Interest recommendation: a survey

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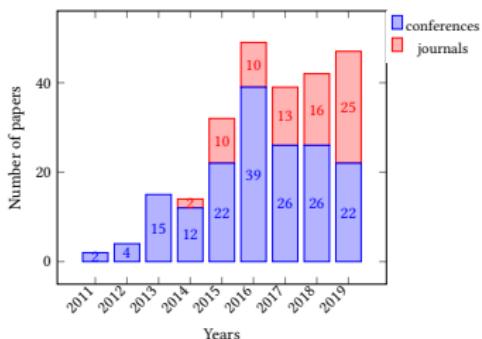
Source	Papers retrieved	Valid papers
Scopus	321	238
ScienceDirect	36	22
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Unique papers	347	244



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- More information in **Chapter 3**

Point-Of-Interest recommendation: a survey

Year	Reference	Acronym	Details			Evaluation configuration				Cold Start Analysis	Baselines	Split type	Split level
			Filter data	Validation	Error	Ranking	Region Split	Check-in(✓) POI(X)					
2011	[Ye et al., 2011]	USG			✓			X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2012	[Levandoski et al., 2012]	LARS					✓	X		✓	✓	✓	✓
2012	[Bao et al., 2012]	(N.A.)	✓		✓	✓		X		✓			✓
2013	[Yang et al., 2013]	LBSMF	✓		✓		✓	✓		✓		✓	✓
2013	[Liu et al., 2013]	GT-BNMF				✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓
2013	[Yuan et al., 2013]	UTE+SE	✓	✓		✓	✓	X		✓	✓	✓	✓
2014	[Ying et al., 2014]	UPOI-Walk			✓	✓	✓	?		✓	✓		
2014	[Yuan et al., 2014]	GTAG	✓	✓		✓	✓	X		✓	✓	✓	✓
2014	[Lian et al., 2014]	GeoMF	✓			✓		X		✓		✓	✓
2015	[Yin et al., 2015]	LA-LDA		✓		✓		X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2015	[Li et al., 2015]	RankGeoFM	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
2015	[Zhang and Chow, 2015]	GeoSoCa			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
2015	[Feng et al., 2015]	PRME-G	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
2016	[Li et al., 2016]	ASMF	✓			✓	✓	X		✓	✓	✓	✓
2016	[Zhao et al., 2016]	STELLAR	✓			✓		✓		✓		✓	✓
2017	[Zhao et al., 2017]	Geo-Teaser	✓			✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
2017	[Yang et al., 2017]	PACE	✓			✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
2017	[Ren et al., 2017]	TGSC-PMF	✓		✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
2018	[Ma et al., 2018]	SAE-NAD	✓			✓	✓	X		✓	✓	✓	✓
2018	[Gao et al., 2018]	GeoEIso	✓			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
2018	[Wang et al., 2018]	GeoIE	✓	✓		✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
2019	[Ying et al., 2019]	MEAP-T	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
2019	[Si et al., 2019]	APRA-SA			✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
2019	[Qian et al., 2019]	STA	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Most Representatives			24	10	5	38	23	C:21 P:16	7	3	30	26	18
Total			135	37	22	229	135	C:150 P:66	27	29	147	142	123
												82	14
												101	104

- Most POI models use **ranking based accuracy metrics**

Point-Of-Interest recommendation: a survey

Year	Reference	Acronym	Details		Evaluation configuration				Cold Start Analysis	Baselines	Split type	Split level	
			Filter data	Validation	Error	Ranking	Region Split	Check-in(✓)					
2011	[Ye et al., 2011]	USG			✓			X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2012	[Levandoski et al., 2012]	LARS						✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
2012	[Bao et al., 2012]	(N.A.)	✓		✓	✓		X		✓			✓
2013	[Yang et al., 2013]	LBSMF	✓		✓	✓		✓		✓		✓	✓
2013	[Liu et al., 2013]	GT-BNMF			✓	✓		✓		✓		✓	✓
2013	[Yuan et al., 2013]	UTE+SE	✓	✓	✓	✓		X		✓	✓	✓	✓
2014	[Ying et al., 2014]	UPOI-Walk			✓	✓		?		✓	✓		
2014	[Yuan et al., 2014]	GTAG	✓	✓		✓	✓	X		✓	✓		✓
2014	[Lian et al., 2014]	GeoMF	✓			✓		X		✓			✓
2015	[Yin et al., 2015]	LA-LDA		✓	✓			X	✓	✓	✓		✓
2015	[Li et al., 2015]	RankGeoFM	✓		✓	✓		✓		✓	✓		✓
2015	[Zhang and Chow, 2015]	GeoSoCa			✓	✓		✓		✓	✓		✓
2015	[Feng et al., 2015]	PRME-G	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓
2016	[Li et al., 2016]	ASMF	✓		✓	✓		X	✓	✓	✓		✓
2016	[Zhao et al., 2016]	STELLAR	✓			✓		✓		✓			✓
2017	[Zhao et al., 2017]	Geo-Teaser	✓			✓		✓		✓	✓		✓
2017	[Yang et al., 2017]	PACE	✓			✓		✓		✓	✓		✓
2017	[Ren et al., 2017]	TGSC-PMF	✓		✓	✓		✓		✓	✓		✓
2018	[Ma et al., 2018]	SAE-NAD	✓			✓	✓	X		✓	✓		✓
2018	[Gao et al., 2018]	GeoEISo	✓			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓
2018	[Wang et al., 2018]	GeoIE	✓	✓		✓		✓		✓	✓		✓
2019	[Ying et al., 2019]	MEAP-T	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓
2019	[Si et al., 2019]	APRA-SA			✓	✓		✓		✓	✓		✓
2019	[Qian et al., 2019]	STA	✓		✓			✓	✓		✓		✓
Most Representatives			24	10	5	38	23	C:21 P:16	7	3	30	26	18
Total			135	37	22	229	135	C:150 P:66	27	29	147	142	123
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- Some researchers apply some data filtering

Point-Of-Interest recommendation: a survey

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2013	[Yang et al., 2013]	LBSMF	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓
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2015	[Yin et al., 2015]	LA-LDA		✓		✓		X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2015	[Li et al., 2015]	RankGeoFM	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
2015	[Zhang and Chow, 2015]	GeoSoCa			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
2015	[Feng et al., 2015]	PRME-G	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓
2016	[Li et al., 2016]	ASMF	✓			✓	✓	X		✓	✓	✓	✓
2016	[Zhao et al., 2016]	STELLAR	✓			✓		✓		✓		✓	✓
2017	[Zhao et al., 2017]	Geo-Teaser	✓			✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
2017	[Yang et al., 2017]	PACE	✓			✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
2017	[Ren et al., 2017]	TGSC-PMF	✓		✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
2018	[Ma et al., 2018]	SAE-NAD	✓			✓	✓	X		✓	✓	✓	✓
2018	[Gao et al., 2018]	GeoEISo	✓			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
2018	[Wang et al., 2018]	GeoIE	✓	✓		✓		✓		✓		✓	✓
2019	[Ying et al., 2019]	MEAP-T	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
2019	[Si et al., 2019]	APRA-SA			✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
2019	[Qian et al., 2019]	STA	✓			✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Most Representatives			24	10	5	38	23	C:21 P:16	7	3	30	26	18
Total			135	37	22	229	135	C:150 P:66	27	29	147	142	123
												82	14
												101	104

- It is not common to use a validation split

Point-Of-Interest recommendation: a survey

Year	Reference	Acronym	Details			Evaluation configuration			Baselines			Split type		Split level			
			Filter data	Validation	Error	Ranking	Region Split	Check-in(*) POI(X)	Cold Start Analysis	C. Non Personalized	C. Personalized	Geographical	Random	Temporal	Other	System	Per User
2011	[Ye et al., 2011]	USG				✓		✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
2012	[Levandoski et al., 2012]	LARS				✓		✗		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
2012	[Bao et al., 2012]	(N.A.)	✓			✓	✓	✗			✓	✓		✓			
2013	[Yang et al., 2013]	LBSMF	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
2013	[Liu et al., 2013]	GT-BNMF				✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
2013	[Yuan et al., 2013]	UTE+SE	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	?		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
2014	[Ying et al., 2014]	UPOI-Walk				✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓			
2014	[Yuan et al., 2014]	GTAG	✓	✓		✓	✓	✗			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
2014	[Lian et al., 2014]	GeoMF	✓				✓		✗		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
2015	[Yin et al., 2015]	LA-LDA		✓		✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
2015	[Li et al., 2015]	RankGeoFM	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
2015	[Zhang and Chow, 2015]	GeoSoCa				✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
2015	[Feng et al., 2015]	PRME-G	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
2016	[Li et al., 2016]	ASMF	✓			✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
2016	[Zhao et al., 2016]	STELLAR	✓			✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
2017	[Zhao et al., 2017]	Geo-Teaser	✓			✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
2017	[Yang et al., 2017]	PACE	✓			✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
2017	[Ren et al., 2017]	TGSC-PMF	✓		✓	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
2018	[Ma et al., 2018]	SAE-NAD	✓			✓	✓	✗			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
2018	[Gao et al., 2018]	GeoElSo	✓			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
2018	[Wang et al., 2018]	GeoIE	✓	✓		✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
2019	[Ying et al., 2019]	MEAP-T	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
2019	[Si et al., 2019]	APRA-SA				✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
2019	[Qian et al., 2019]	STA				✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Most Representative			24	10	5	38	23	C:21 P:16	7	3	30	26	18	17	1	13	22
Total			135	37	22	229	135	C:150 P:66	27	29	147	142	123	82	14	101	104

- No standard procedure for evaluating the models

Point-Of-Interest recommendation: a survey

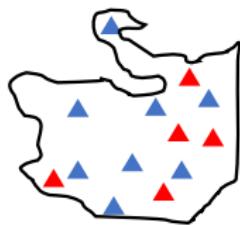
Year	Reference	Details		Evaluation configuration				Region Split	Check-in(\mathcal{X})	Cold Start Analysis	Baselines		Split type		Split level		
		Acronym	Filter data	Validation	Error	Ranking	C. Non Personalized				C. Personalized	Geographical	Random	Temporal	Other	System	Per User
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2015	[Feng et al., 2015]	PRME-G	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		✓		✓	
2016	[Li et al., 2016]	ASMF	✓			✓	✓	✗		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	
2016	[Zhao et al., 2016]	STELLAR	✓			✓		✓			✓	✓	✓			✓	
2017	[Zhao et al., 2017]	Geo-Teaser	✓			✓			✓		✓	✓	✓			✓	
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- Some researchers use some kind of **region/city split**

Improving POI recommendation performance

- Some researchers tend to consider each city/region as an independent dataset (same city/region for training and test)

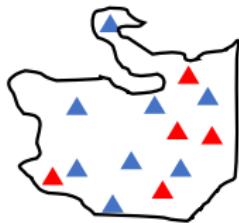
Training with one city
and **test** with the same city



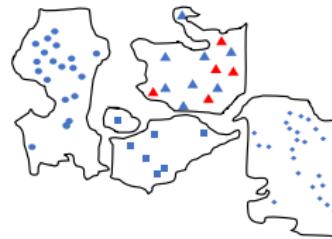
Improving POI recommendation performance

- Some researchers tend to consider each city/region as an independent dataset (same city/region for training and test)

Training with one city
and test with the same city



Training with many cities
and test with one city



- We propose different strategies to select the training cities:
based on distance (N-MCA and C-MCA) and based on the
number of check-ins (most popular, P-MCA)

Experiments: POI recommendation

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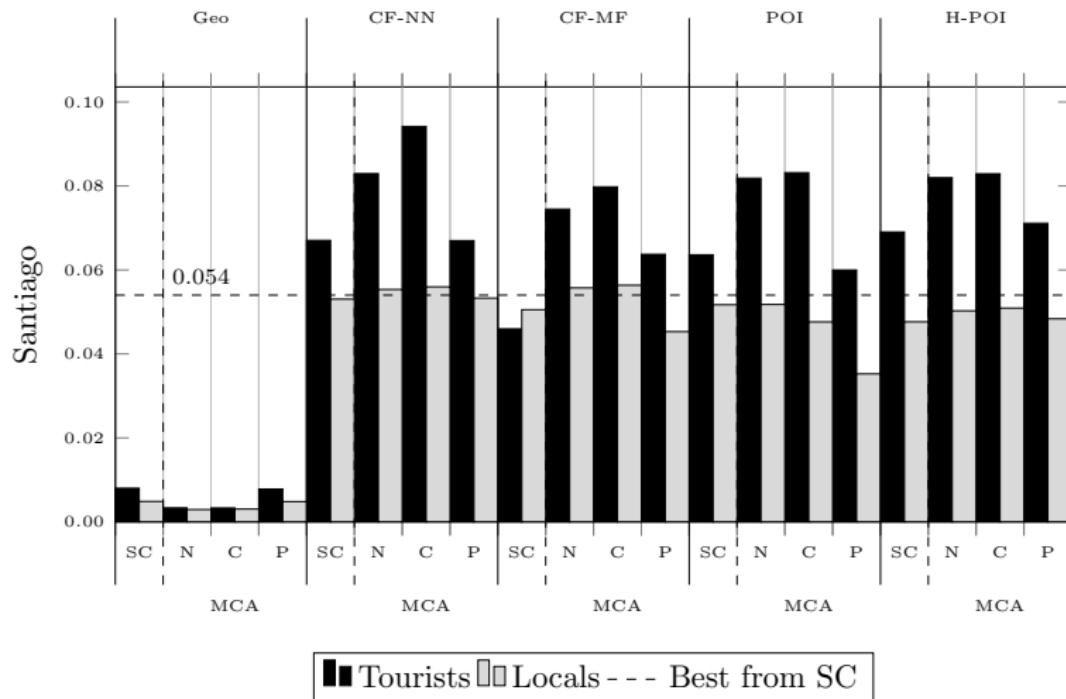
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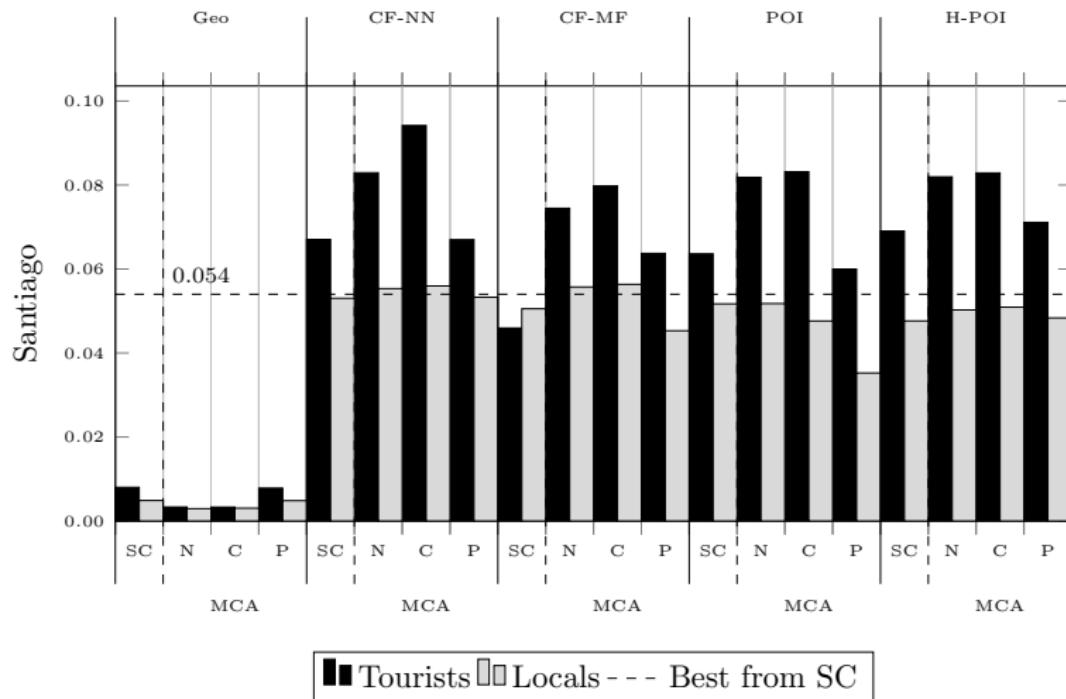
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- **3 different MCA** strategies: the test set is always formed by the target city
- **2 different** groups of users: **tourists and locals**

Experiments: POI recommendation. nDCG@5



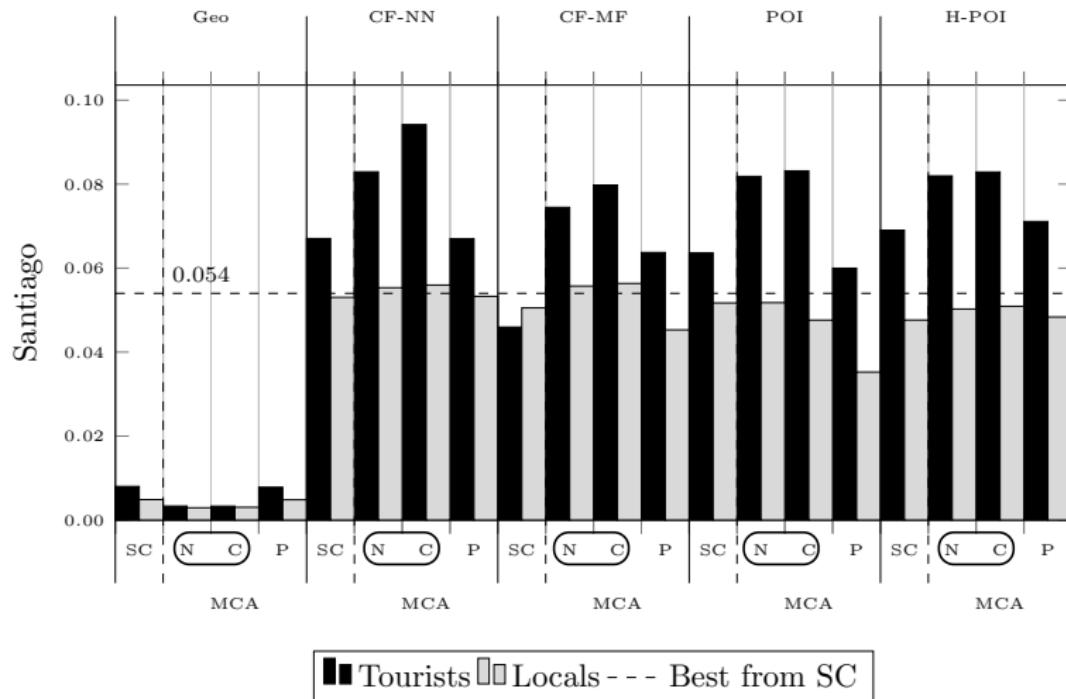
- Families: Geo, CF-NN, CF-MF, POI, H-POI

Experiments: POI recommendation. nDCG@5



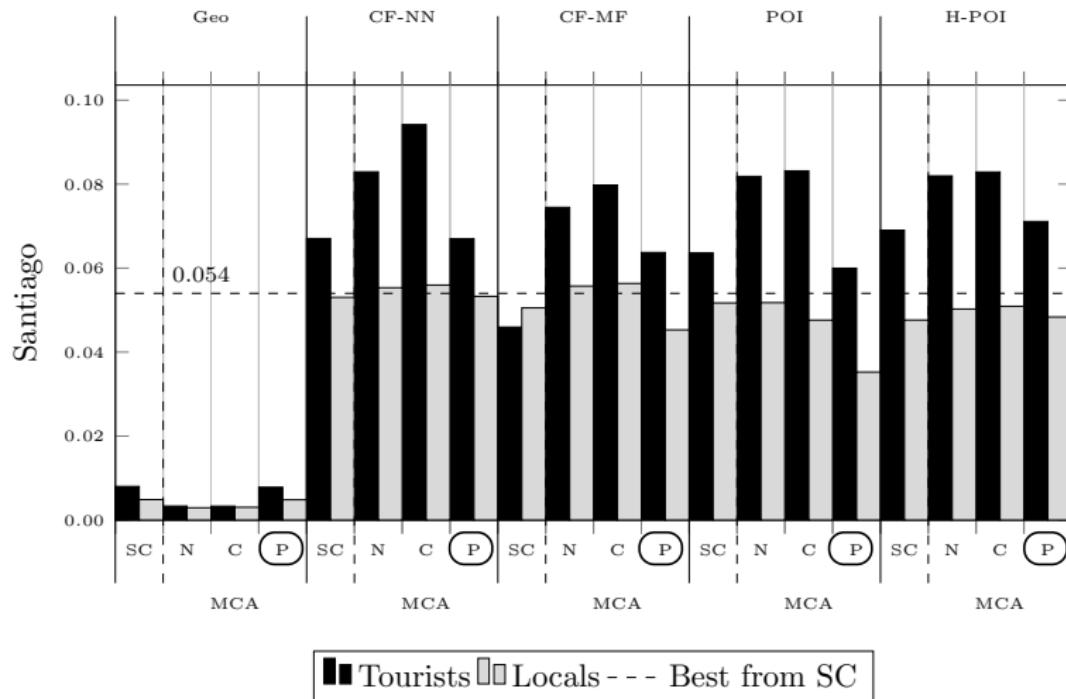
- N-MCA (closest), C-MCA (country), P-MCA (popular)

Experiments: POI recommendation. nDCG@5



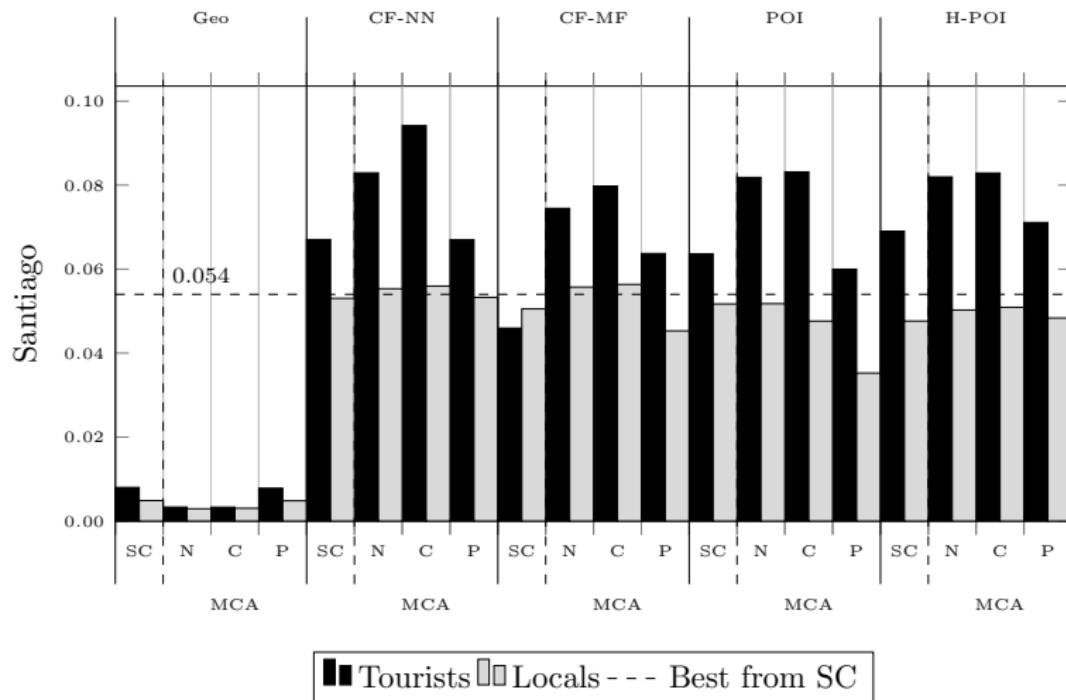
- N-MCA and C-MCA increase relevance

Experiments: POI recommendation. nDCG@5



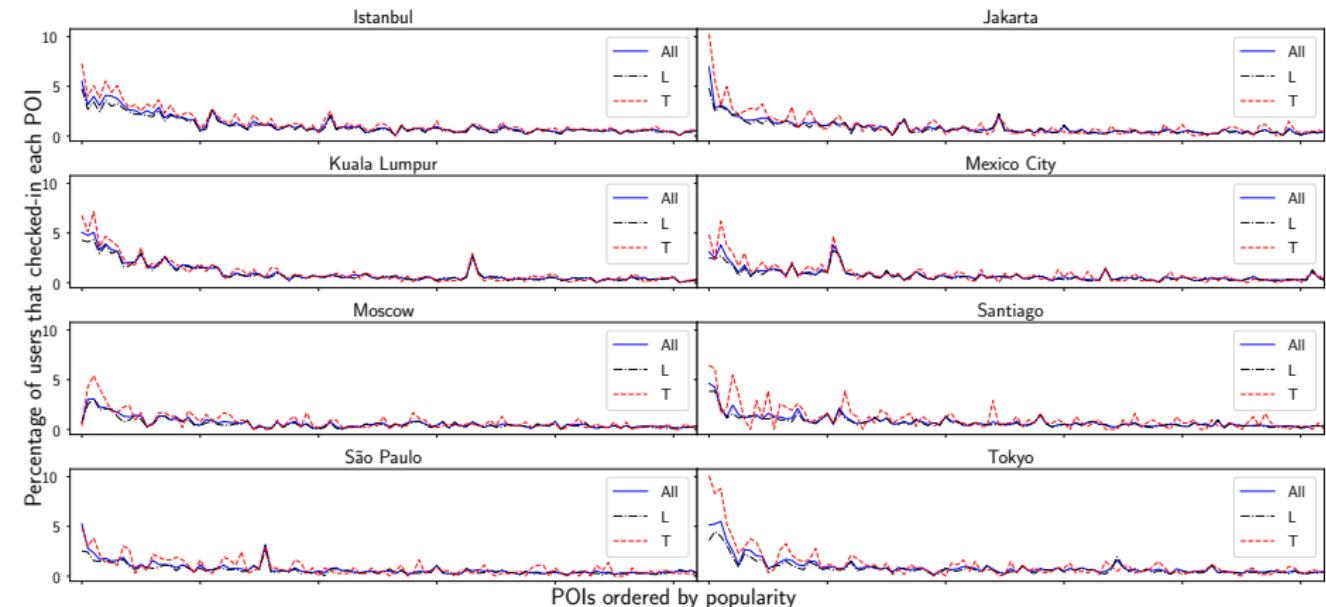
- P-MCA sometimes decreases relevance

Experiments: POI recommendation. nDCG@5



- Great differences between tourists and locals

Experiments: popularity bias in tourists



- Tourist tend to visit the most popular venues

Summary

- **Most POI recommendation algorithms are not comparable between them**

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- Most POI recommendation algorithms are not comparable between them
- POI recommendation is highly affected by the geographical influence and its sparsity
- We can improve the performance of the recommenders by using multi-city aggregation strategies
- Quality over quantity (of the data)

- 1 Introduction
- 2 New perspectives for evaluating Recommender Systems
- 3 Sequences in k -NN recommender systems
- 4 Point-Of-Interest recommendation
- 5 Sequences in POI recommendation
- 6 Conclusions and future work

Sequences in POI recommendation

- We address the last objective: **generate routes** from POI data

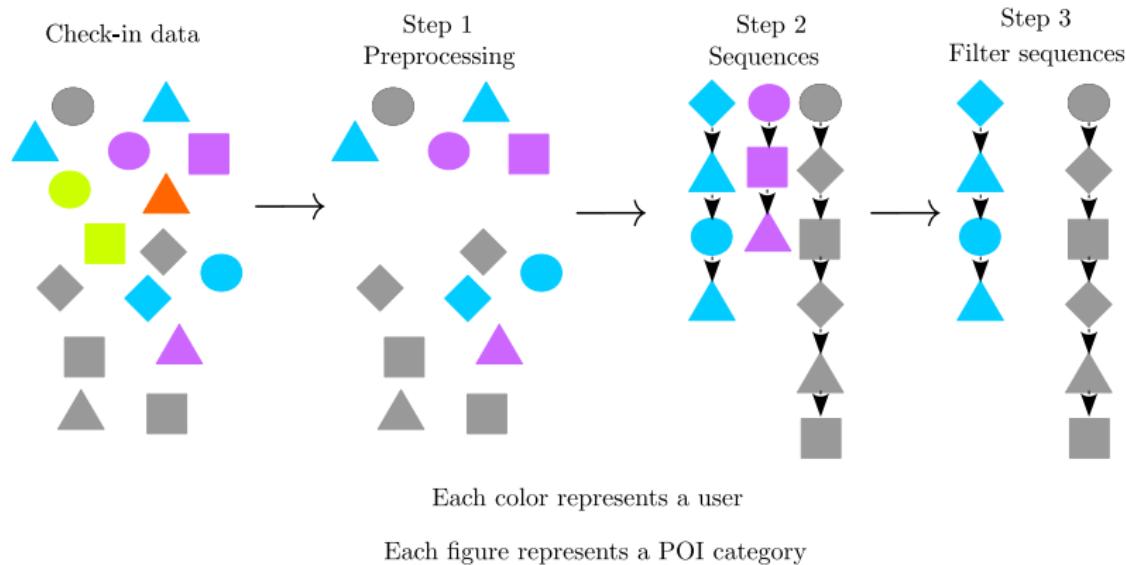
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- **Contributions published** in User Modeling and User-Adapted Interaction [Sánchez and Bellogín, 2020a] journal

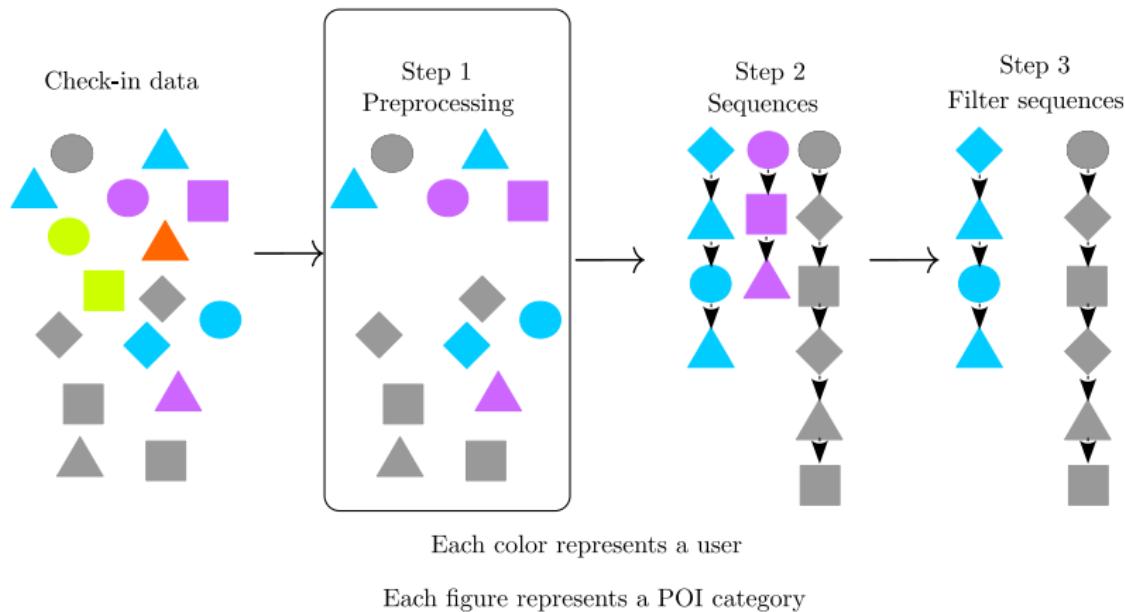
Generate sequences from check-in data

- From LBSN like Foursquare or Gowalla



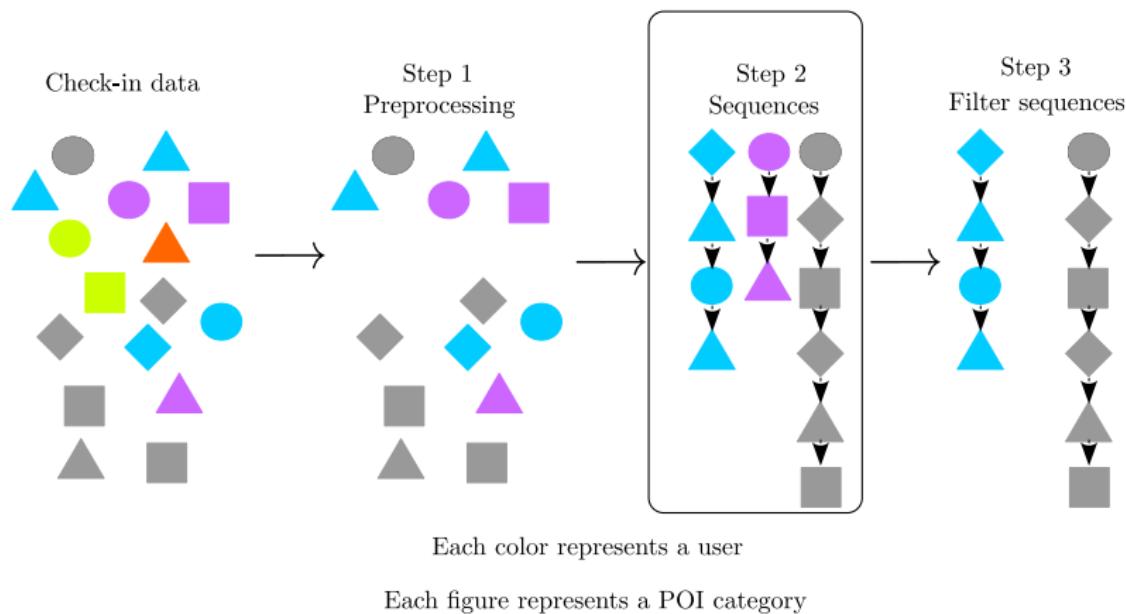
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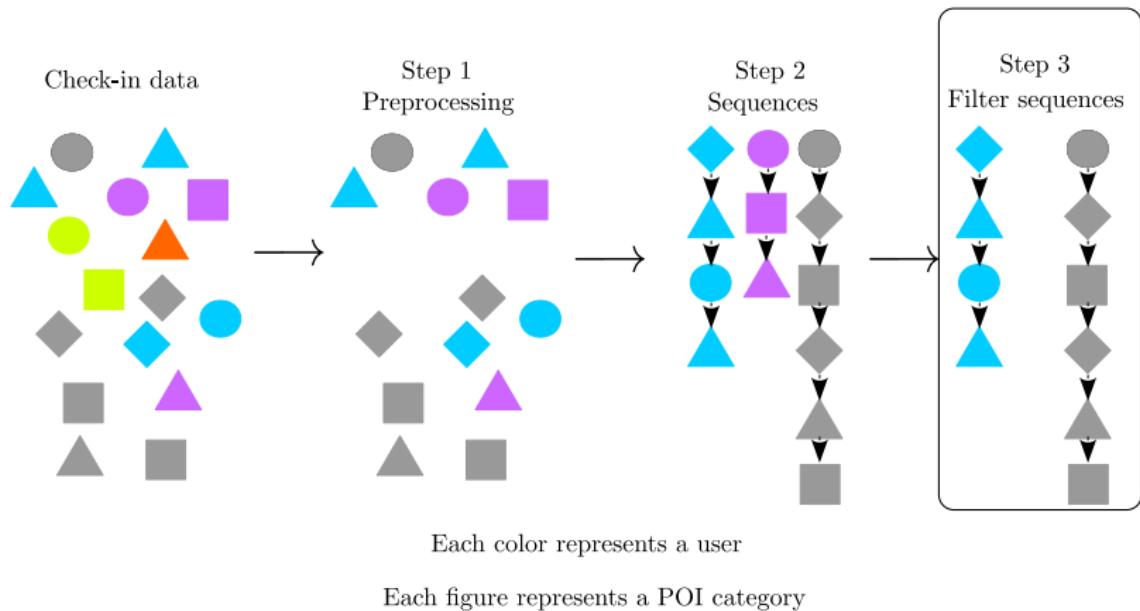
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Using reranking techniques to generate routes

$$f_{obj}(u, i, R_u) = \lambda \cdot f_{rec}(u, i) + (1 - \lambda) \cdot f_{seq}(u, i, R_u)$$

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 1. Independent
 - Random: $f_{seq}^{rnd}(u, i, R_u) = \text{rnd} \in [0, 1]$
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2. Dependent on the last item

- Distance: $f_{seq}^{dist}(u, i, R_u) = 1/dist(i_{n-1}, i)$
- Feature Markov Chain: $f_{seq}^{feat}(u, i, R_u) = p(i^a | i_{n-1}^a)$
- Item Markov Chain: $f_{seq}^{item}(u, i, R_u) = p(i | i_{n-1})$

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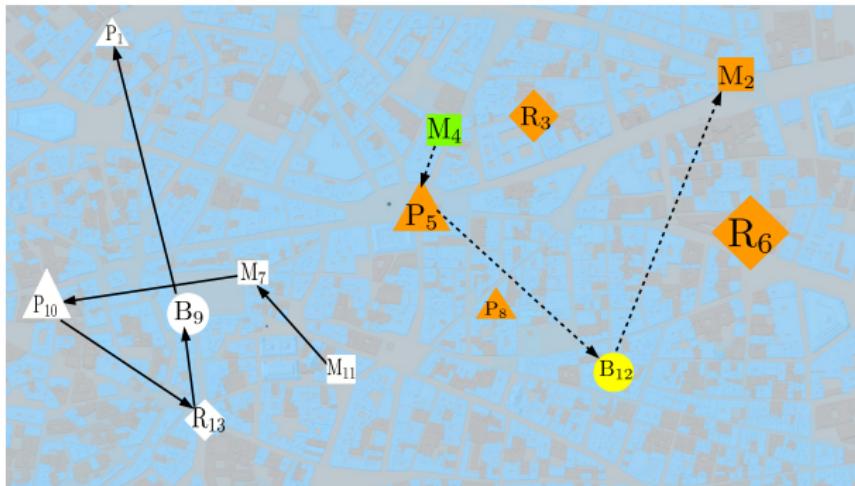
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3. Dependent on the whole sequence

- LCS-based: $f_{seq}^{lcs}(u, i, R_u) = lcs((R_u + i)^a, u^a)$
- Suffix tree: $f_{seq}^{stree}(u, i, R_u) = \delta_{ST(u^a)}(\{(R_u + i)^a\}_m)$
- Oracle: $f_{seq}^{oracle}(u, i, R_u) = order_{test}(u, i)$

Using reranking techniques to generate routes



f_{seq}^{lcs} M₄ → P₅ → R₃ → P₈ f_{seq}^{dist} M₄ → P₅ → P₈ → R₃ → M₂ → R₆

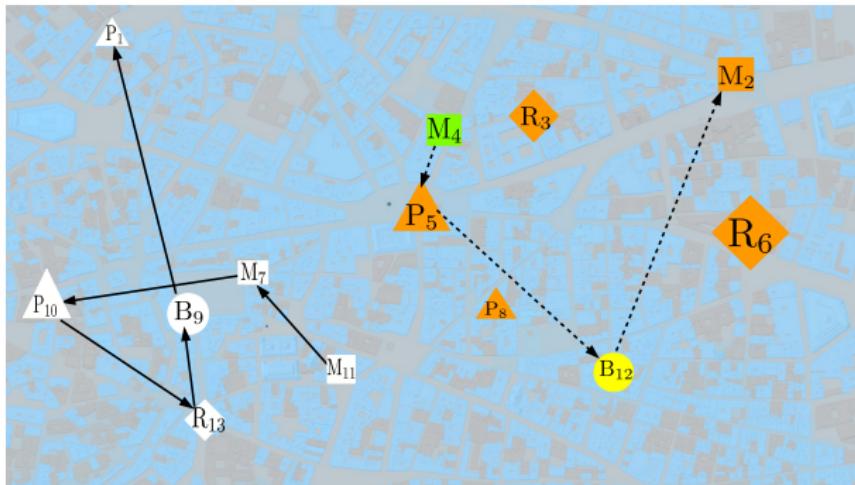
f_{seq}^{stree} M₄ → P₅ → R₃ f_{seq}^{rec} M₄ → R₆ → P₅ → R₃ → M₂ → P₈

f_{seq}^{oracle} M₄ → P₅ → M₂

Training ■ Recommended venues ■ First venue in the sequence

■ Venue in test not recommended -----► Test route of the user

Using reranking techniques to generate routes



f_{seq}^{lcs} $M_4 \rightarrow P_5 \rightarrow R_3 \rightarrow P_8$ f_{seq}^{dist} $M_4 \rightarrow P_5 \rightarrow P_8 \rightarrow R_3 \rightarrow M_2 \rightarrow R_6$

f_{seq}^{stree} $M_4 \rightarrow P_5 \rightarrow R_3$

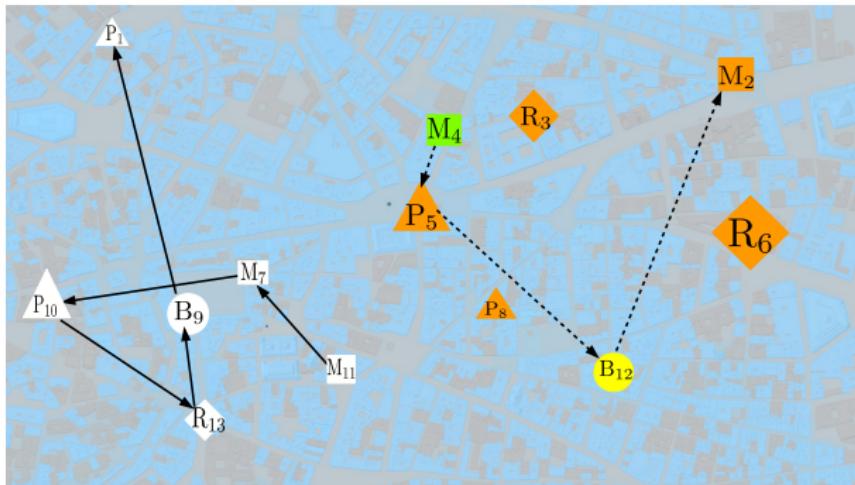
f_{seq}^{rec} $M_4 \rightarrow R_6 \rightarrow P_5 \rightarrow R_3 \rightarrow M_2 \rightarrow P_8$

f_{seq}^{oracle} $M_4 \rightarrow P_5 \rightarrow M_2$

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f_{seq}^{lcs} M₄ → P₅ → R₃ → P₈ f_{seq}^{dist} M₄ → P₅ → P₈ → R₃ → M₂ → R₆

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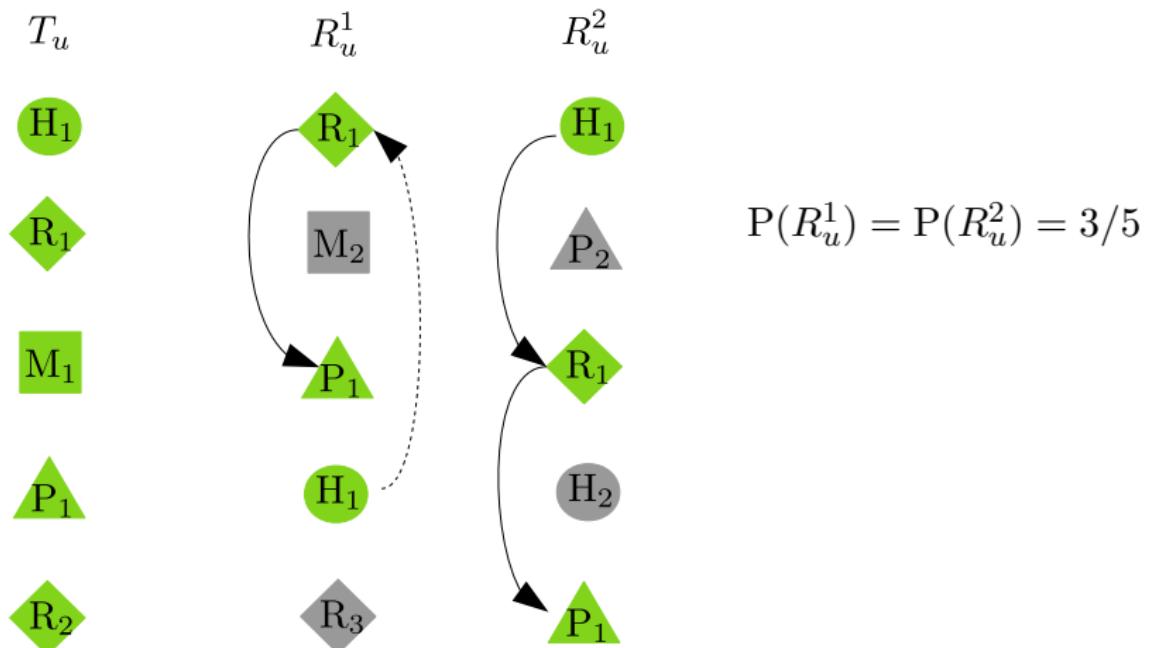
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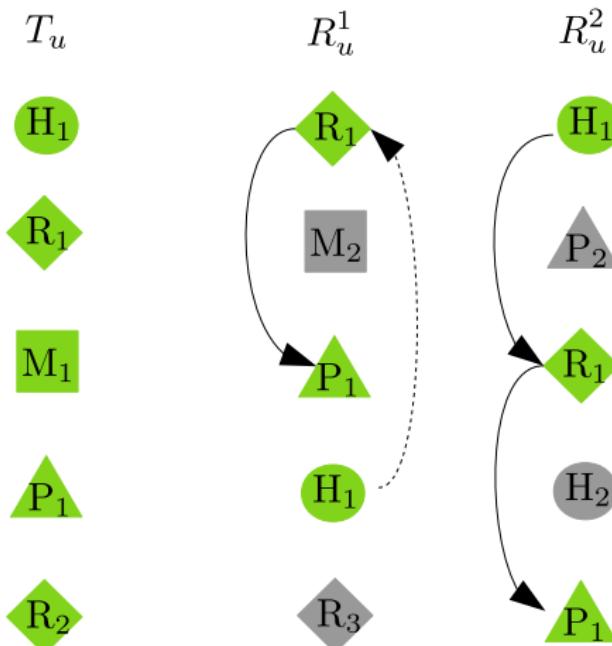
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Sequential evaluation



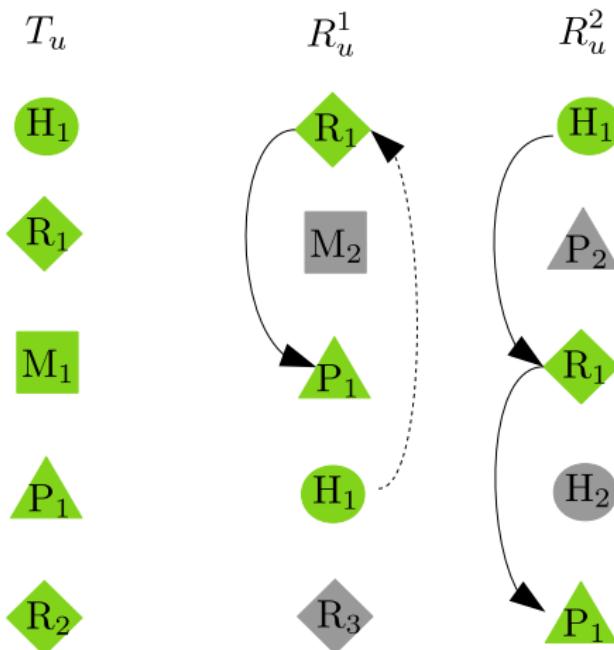
Sequential evaluation



$$P(R_u^1) = P(R_u^2) = 3/5$$

$$\begin{aligned}LCS(T_u, R_u^1) &= 2 \\LCS(T_u, R_u^2) &= 3\end{aligned}$$

Sequential evaluation



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$$LCS(T_u, R_u^1) = 2$$
$$LCS(T_u, R_u^2) = 3$$

$$P_s(R_u^2) = P(R_u^2) = 3/5$$
$$P_s(R_u^1) = 2/5$$

- Objective: check if our **reranking strategies improve** the performance of the recommenders

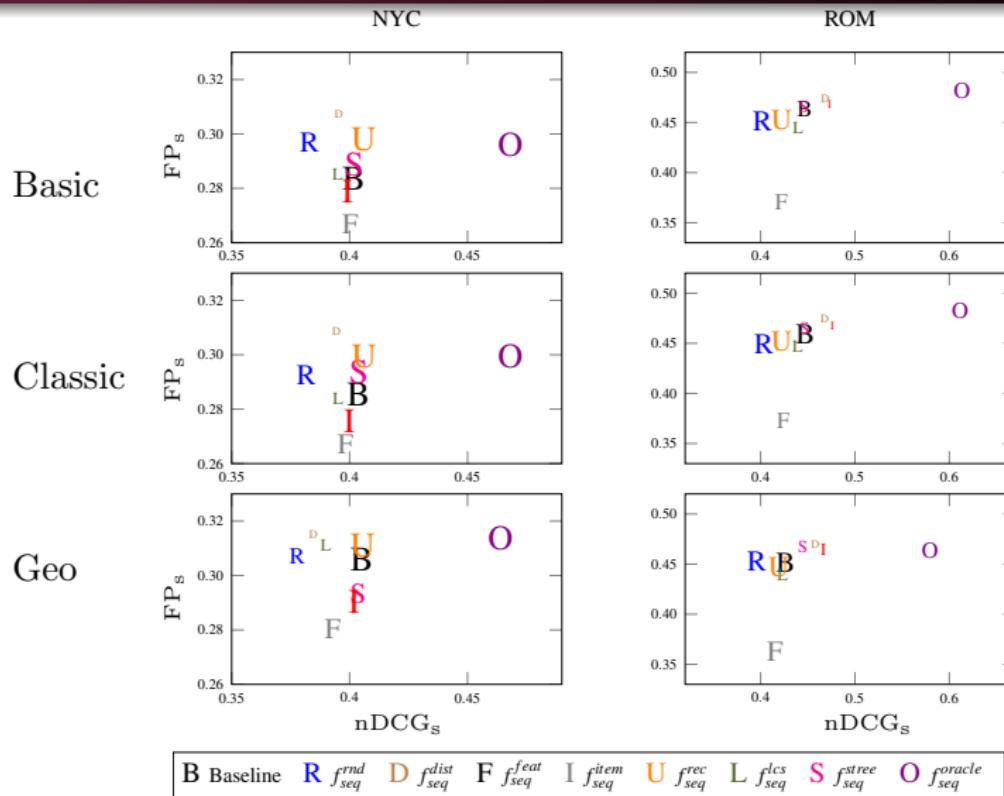
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- **Families** of recommenders: Basic, Classic, Temporal, Geo, Tour
- Analysis on relevance, **sequential relevance**, novelty, diversity, **attribute evaluation** and **distance**

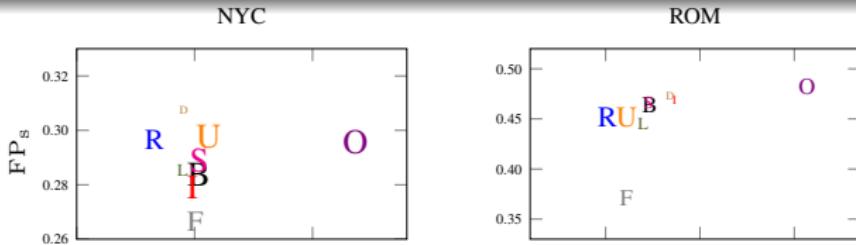
Experiments: effect of rerankers



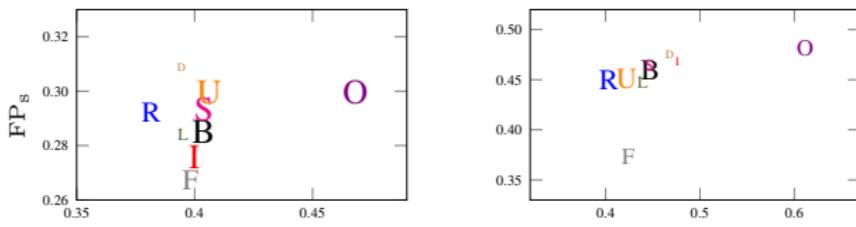
- Accuracy (x-axis), feature accuracy (y-axis), distance (size)

Experiments: effect of rerankers

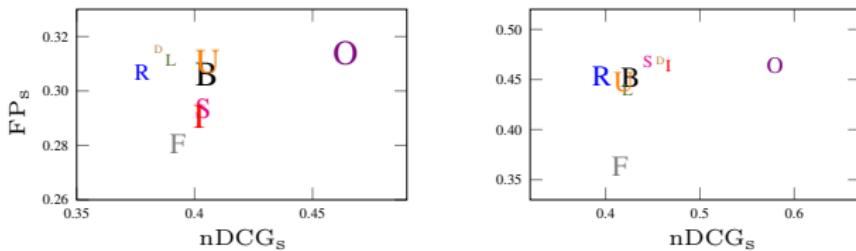
Basic



Classic



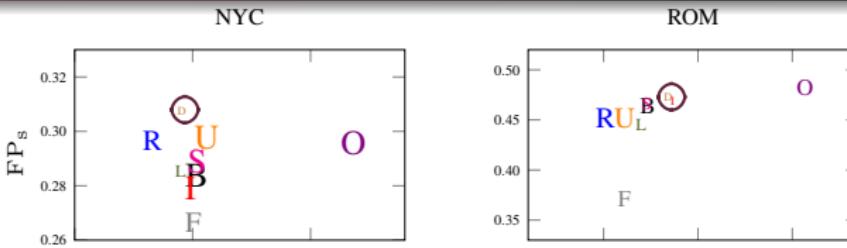
Geo



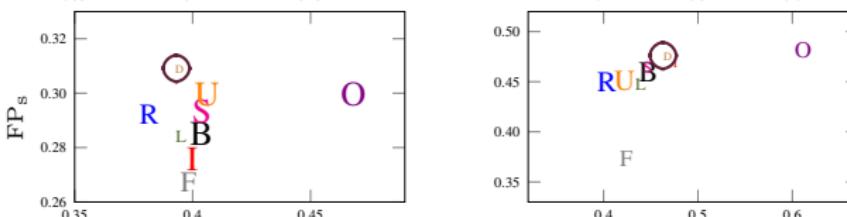
- There is always at least one reranker that improves the baseline

Experiments: effect of rerankers

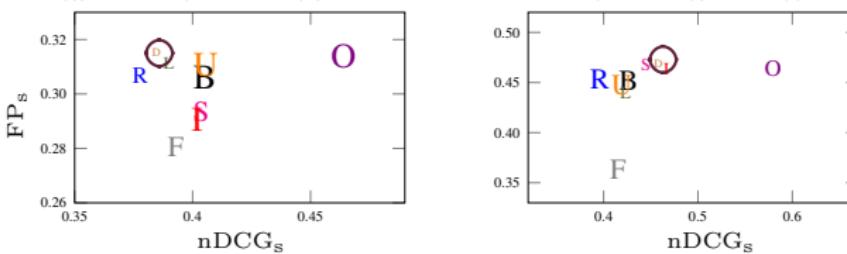
Basic



Classic



Geo

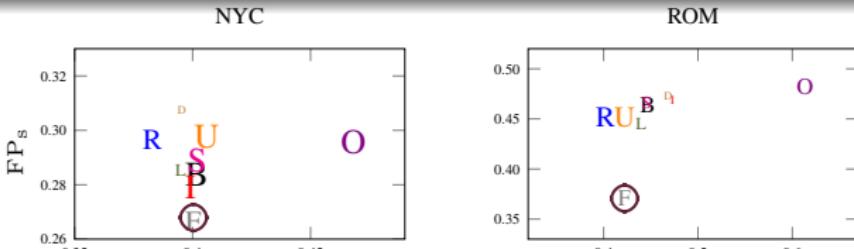


B Baseline	R f_{seq}^{rnd}	D f_{seq}^{dist}	F f_{seq}^{feat}	I f_{seq}^{item}	U f_{seq}^{recv}	L f_{seq}^{lcs}	S f_{seq}^{tree}	O f_{seq}^{oracle}
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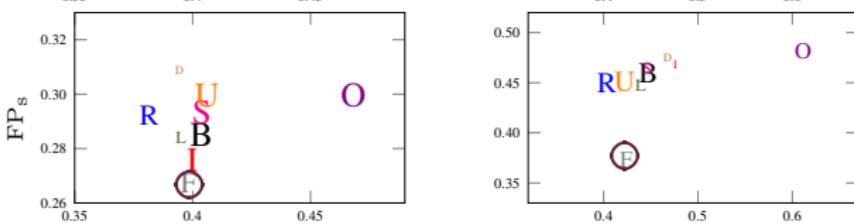
- Distance reranker often improves the relevance

Experiments: effect of rerankers

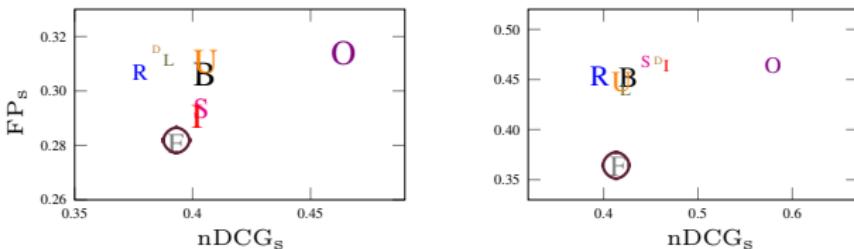
Basic



Classic



Geo



B	Baseline	R	f_{seq}^{rnd}	D	f_{seq}^{dist}	F	f_{seq}^{feat}	I	f_{seq}^{item}	U	f_{seq}^{rec}	L	f_{seq}^{cls}	S	f_{seq}^{tree}	O	f_{seq}^{oracle}
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- Categorical rerankers do not always obtain better results

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- We have shown how we can use **reranking techniques** for **generating routes** optimizing different criteria

- 1 Introduction
- 2 New perspectives for evaluating Recommender Systems
- 3 Sequences in k -NN recommender systems
- 4 Point-Of-Interest recommendation
- 5 Sequences in POI recommendation
- 6 Conclusions and future work

Conclusions

- RO1: Recommender Systems evaluation

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Personalized recommendations often return **anti-relevant items** for the users

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- There is a clear **relationship** between the temporal novelty of the items and their relevance
- Importance of analyzing the **anti-relevance** of the items.
Personalized recommendations often return **anti-relevant items** for the users
- With the **user attributes** we may detect **biases** in specific **groups of users**. With **item attributes** we can **increase** the performance of the recommenders in very sparse datasets

Conclusions (II)

- RO2: Sequences in k -NN recommenders

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- RO2: Sequences in k -NN recommenders

- We showed how to incorporate **sequential** information in **k -NN recommenders** by defining a **similarity metric** and by **reformulating** them
- Our reformulation of k -NN recommenders is **intuitive**, easy to explain and allows us to work with any **similarity metric**
- Our proposal was **highly competitive** against other **state-of-the-art** algorithms in **different dimensions**

Conclusions (III)

- RO3: Review POI algorithms

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 - Most POI approaches are **not comparable** as they use very different **evaluation protocols**

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- Very few **researchers** provide the **source code** of their models

Conclusions (IV)

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 - **Useful information** is better than more information

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 - We can use **reranking techniques** for generating routes improving dimensions like **feature precision** and/or **distance**

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 - Test our **anti-relevance models** in domains with **implicit information**
 - Detect **biases in different groups** of users and in other recommendation domains
 - Apply our **attribute metrics** in **other domains** like music

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 - Propose different **aggregation strategies** and use other algorithms based on **items similarities** like Factored Item Similarity Models (FISM) or Sparse Linear Methods (SLIM)

Exploring attributes, sequences, and time in Recommender Systems: From classical to Point-of-Interest recommendation

Pablo Sánchez Pérez

Under the supervision of
Alejandro Bellogín Kouki

Information Retrieval Group
Department of Computer Science
Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Spain

July 8, 2021

Thank you

<https://bitbucket.org/PabloSanchezP>



Publications: journals

- ① **Pablo Sánchez** and Alejandro Bellogín. (2020). Point-of-Interest Recommender Systems: A Survey from an Experimental Perspective. Submitted to *ACM Computing Surveys*. Under Review (2nd round of review)
- ② **Pablo Sánchez** and Alejandro Bellogín. On the effects of aggregation strategies for different groups of users in venue recommendation. *Information Processing and Management*, 58(5):102609, 2021.
- ③ **Pablo Sánchez** and Alejandro Bellogín. Applying reranking strategies to route recommendation using sequence-aware evaluation. *User Modeling and User-Adapted Interaction*, 30(4):659-725, 2020
- ④ **Pablo Sánchez** and Alejandro Bellogín. Time and sequence awareness in similarity metrics for recommendation. *Information Processing and Management*, 57(3):102228, 2020
- ⑤ **Pablo Sánchez** and Alejandro Bellogín. Building user profiles based on sequences for content and collaborative filtering. *Information Processing and Management*, 56(1):192-211, 2019.
- ⑥ Alejandro Bellogín and **Pablo Sánchez**. Collaborative filtering based on subsequence matching: A new approach. *Information Sciences*, 418:432-446, 2017

Publications: conferences

- ① **Pablo Sánchez** and Alejandro Bellogín. Time-aware novelty metrics for recommender systems. In Gabriella Pasi, Benjamin Piwowarski, Leif Azzopardi, and Allan Hanbury, editors, *Advances in Information Retrieval - 40th European Conference on IR Research*, ECIR 2018, Grenoble, France, March 26-29, 2018, Proceedings, volume 10772 of Lecture Notes in Computer Science, pages 357-370. Springer, 2018
- ② **Pablo Sánchez** and Alejandro Bellogín. Measuring anti-relevance: a study on when recommendation algorithms produce bad suggestions. In Sole Pera, Michael D. Ekstrand, Xavier Amatriain, and John O'Donovan, editors, *Proceedings of the 12th ACM Conference on Recommender Systems*, RecSys 2018, Vancouver, BC, Canada, October. 2-7, 2018, pages 367-371. ACM, 2018
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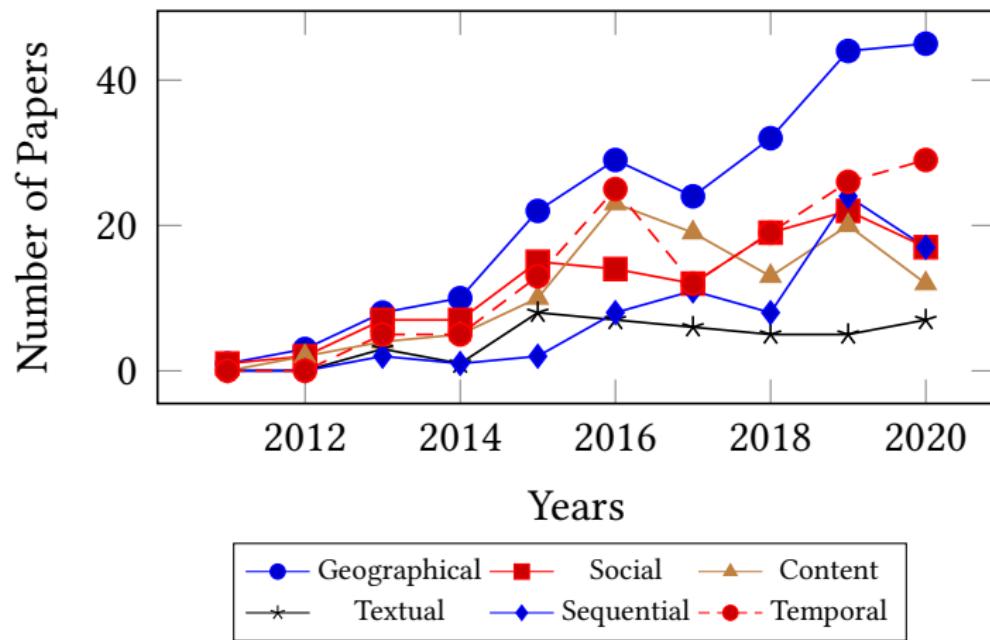
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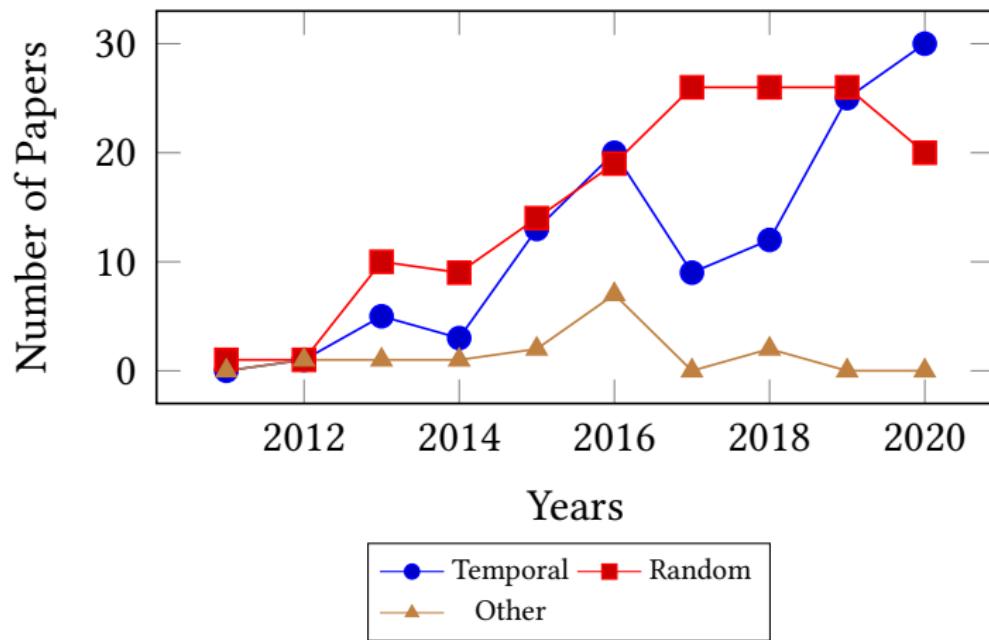
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Point-Of-Interest recommendation: a survey

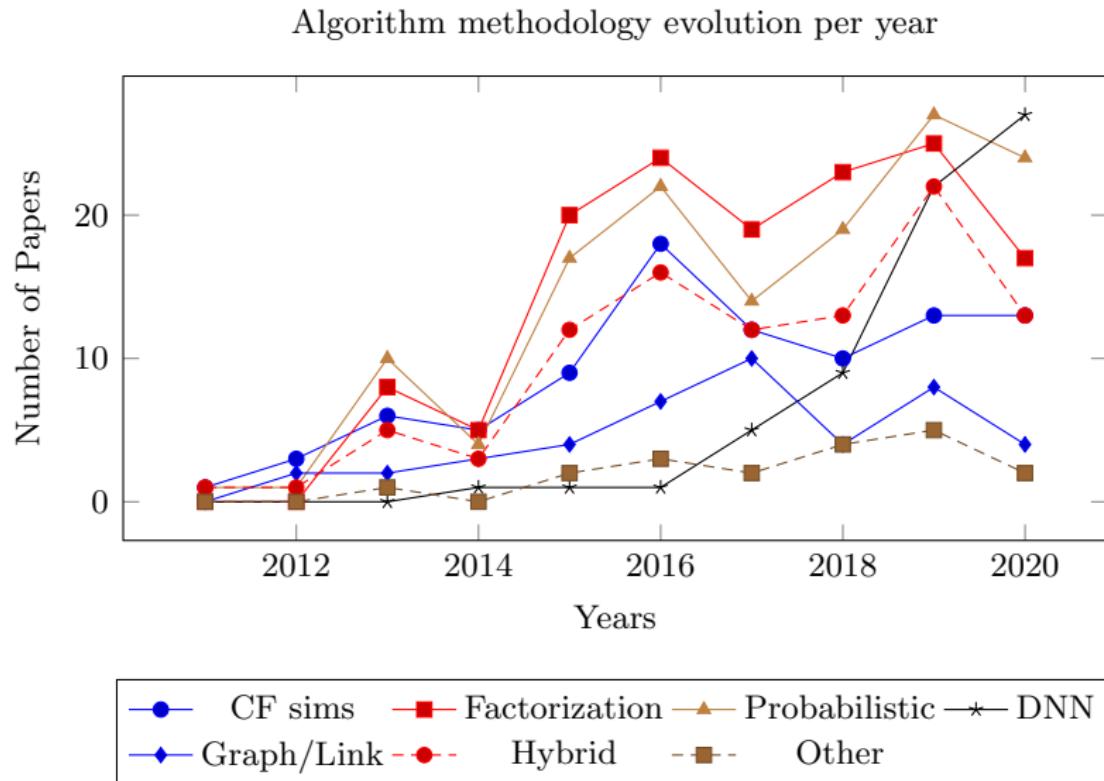
Information usage evolution per year



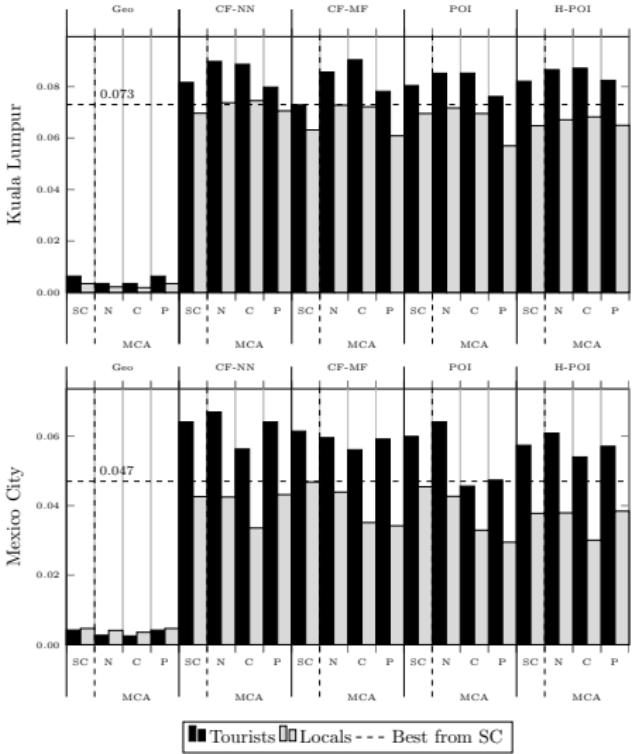
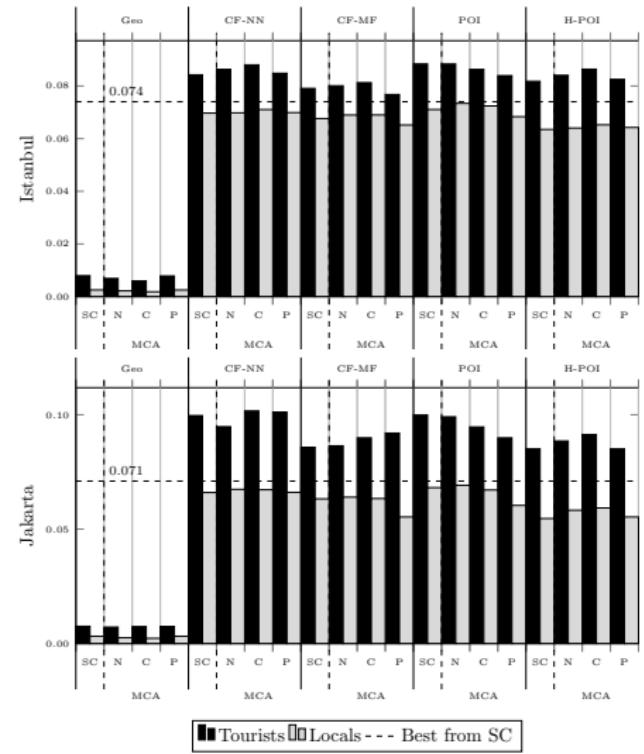
Evaluation methodology evolution per year



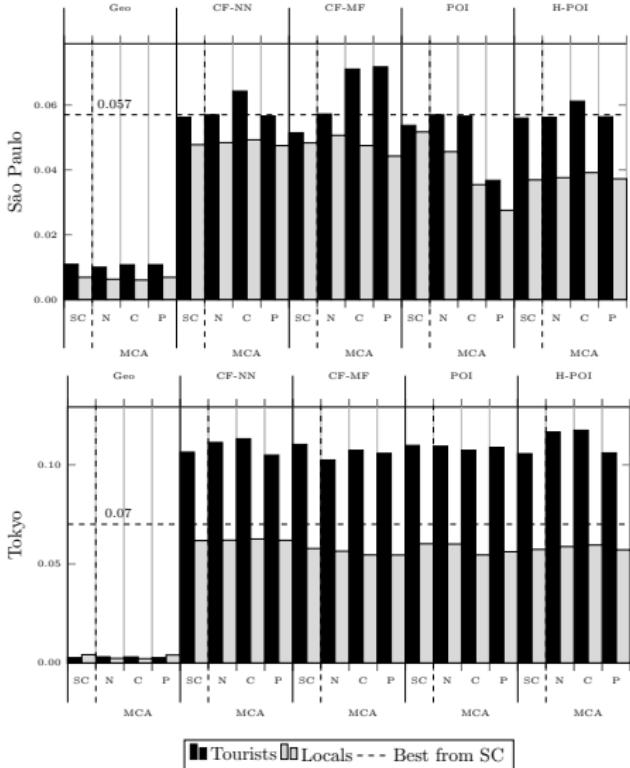
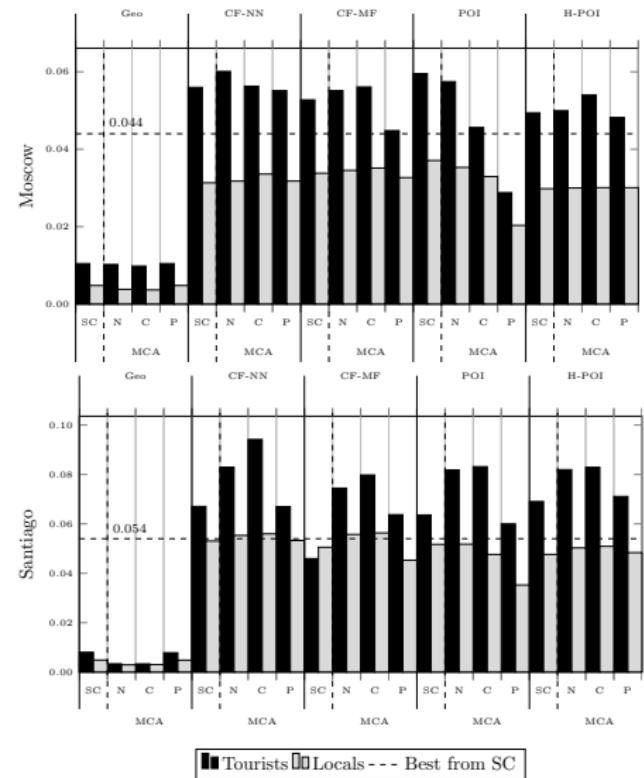
Point-Of-Interest recommendation: a survey



Experiments: POI recommendation. nDCG@5



Experiments: POI recommendation (2). nDCG@5



Experiments: POI recommendation. Popularity bias.

Table: Performance in terms of nDCG@5 of the Popularity recommender in all cities in both Tourists and Locals.

City	All Users	Tourists	Locals	Δ Tourists (%)	Δ Locals (%)
Istanbul	0.054	0.064	0.048	19.04	-9.77
Jakarta	0.066	0.091	0.053	38.33	-19.92
Kuala Lumpur	0.066	0.077	0.060	17.34	-8.46
Mexico City	0.041	0.059	0.034	45.69	-15.70
Moscow	0.027	0.037	0.026	34.02	-4.48
Santiago	0.051	0.067	0.044	30.47	-13.21
São Paulo	0.053	0.061	0.031	14.85	-40.33
Tokyo	0.069	0.106	0.056	53.48	-18.73

Experiments: POI recommendation. Santiago

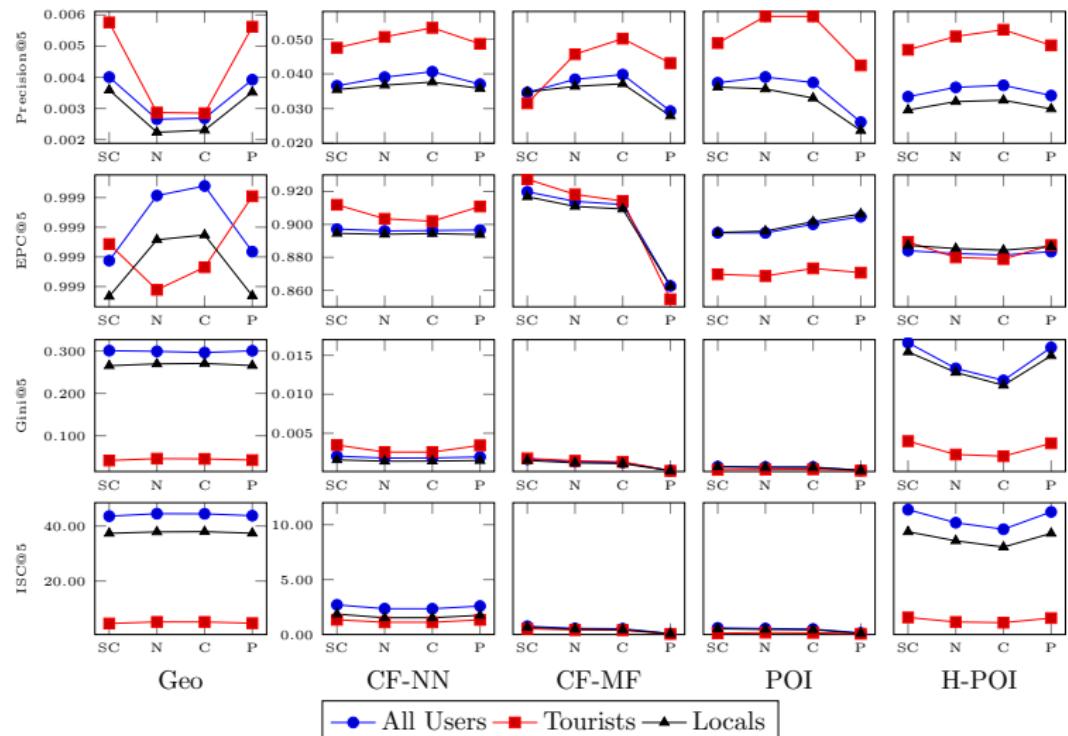


Figure: Results of tourists (7.62% of the users) and local (72.43% of the users) users in Santiago.

Experiments: Sequences in POI recommendation

Family	Reranker	New York			Rome			Petaling Jaya		
		nDCGs	FPs	Dist	nDCGs	FPs	Dist	nDCGs	FPs	Dist
Basic	Baseline	0.402	0.284	43.9	0.447	0.464	5.0	0.404	0.245	35.0
	f_{seq}^{rnd}	0.383	0.297	28.0	0.402	0.452	5.9	0.387	0.274	29.5
	f_{seq}^{dist}	0.396	▲0.308	▲4.1	0.469	†0.474	▲1.4	†0.409	▲0.296	▲7.2
	f_{seq}^{feat}	0.400	0.267	33.3	0.422	0.371	5.0	0.402	0.267	33.2
	f_{seq}^{item}	0.399	0.279	37.8	†0.473	0.469	1.8	0.408	0.262	19.5
	f_{seq}^{rec}	†0.406	0.298	42.4	0.422	0.452	6.0	0.407	0.271	26.3
	f_{seq}^{lcs}	0.395	0.285	17.8	0.440	0.446	2.3	0.403	0.274	14.8
	f_{seq}^{tree}	0.402	0.289	38.4	0.446	0.466	3.2	0.403	0.263	25.9
	f_{seq}^{oracle}	▲0.468	0.296	43.2	▲0.614	▲0.482	4.2	▲0.456	0.247	34.2
	Baseline	0.404	0.285	45.3	0.447	0.460	6.3	0.408	0.270	30.0
Classic	f_{seq}^{rnd}	0.382	0.292	30.3	0.403	0.450	5.9	0.394	0.278	30.7
	f_{seq}^{dist}	0.395	0.309	▲4.2	0.468	†0.475	▲1.4	†0.410	▲0.294	▲7.4
	f_{seq}^{feat}	0.398	0.267	33.5	0.424	0.373	5.0	0.402	0.269	34.0
	f_{seq}^{item}	0.400	0.276	38.0	†0.476	0.468	1.8	0.409	0.268	18.5
	f_{seq}^{rec}	†0.406	0.300	42.4	0.422	0.452	6.0	0.407	0.273	26.5
	f_{seq}^{lcs}	0.395	0.284	17.9	0.440	0.447	2.3	0.405	0.279	13.2
	f_{seq}^{tree}	0.404	0.294	38.6	0.447	0.465	3.7	0.405	0.275	22.1
	f_{seq}^{oracle}	▲0.468	0.300	44.3	▲0.612	▲0.482	4.9	▲0.455	0.269	29.0
	Baseline	†0.404	0.302	42.4	0.447	†0.469	4.9	†0.416	0.285	26.6
	f_{seq}^{rnd}	0.379	0.317	25.3	0.409	0.449	6.0	0.383	0.308	28.1
Temporal	f_{seq}^{dist}	0.389	▲0.319	▲3.5	0.464	0.468	▲1.4	0.412	▲0.326	▲5.6
	f_{seq}^{feat}	0.388	0.272	30.6	0.421	0.375	5.0	0.397	0.291	30.2
	f_{seq}^{item}	0.400	0.293	37.2	†0.474	0.465	1.9	0.412	0.283	17.5
	f_{seq}^{rec}	0.403	0.309	41.5	0.422	0.452	6.1	0.407	0.292	26.1
	f_{seq}^{lcs}	0.388	0.314	10.8	0.441	0.447	2.3	0.407	0.311	10.9
	f_{seq}^{tree}	0.398	0.311	29.6	0.445	0.468	3.1	0.411	0.301	17.3
	f_{seq}^{oracle}	▲0.462	0.308	39.9	▲0.608	▲0.482	4.1	▲0.457	0.287	25.8
	f_{seq}									

Experiments: Sequences in POI recommendation

Family	Reranker	New York			Rome			Petaling Jaya		
		nDCGs	FPs	Dist	nDCGs	FPs	Dist	nDCGs	FPs	Dist
Basic	Baseline	0.402	0.284	43.9	0.447	0.464	5.0	0.404	0.245	35.0
	f_{rnd}	0.383	0.297	28.0	0.402	0.452	5.9	0.387	0.274	29.5
	f_{seq}^{dist}	0.396	▲0.308	▲4.1	0.469	†0.474	▲1.4	†0.409	▲0.296	▲7.2
	f_{seq}^{feat}	0.400	0.267	33.3	0.422	0.371	5.0	0.402	0.267	33.2
	f_{item}^{feat}	0.399	0.279	37.8	†0.473	0.469	1.8	0.408	0.262	19.5
	f_{seq}^{rec}	†0.406	0.298	42.4	0.422	0.452	6.0	0.407	0.271	26.3
	f_{seq}^{lcs}	0.395	0.285	17.8	0.440	0.446	2.3	0.403	0.274	14.8
	f_{seq}^{tree}	0.402	0.289	38.4	0.446	0.466	3.2	0.403	0.263	25.9
	f_{seq}^{oracle}	▲0.468	0.296	43.2	▲0.614	▲0.482	4.2	▲0.456	0.247	34.2
	Baseline	0.404	0.285	45.3	0.447	0.460	6.3	0.408	0.270	30.0
Classic	f_{rnd}	0.382	0.292	30.3	0.403	0.450	5.9	0.394	0.278	30.7
	f_{seq}^{dist}	0.395	0.309	▲4.2	0.468	†0.475	▲1.4	†0.410	▲0.294	▲7.4
	f_{seq}^{feat}	0.398	0.267	33.5	0.424	0.373	5.0	0.402	0.269	34.0
	f_{item}^{feat}	0.400	0.276	38.0	†0.476	0.468	1.8	0.409	0.268	18.5
	f_{seq}^{rec}	†0.406	0.300	42.4	0.422	0.452	6.0	0.407	0.273	26.5
	f_{seq}^{lcs}	0.395	0.284	17.9	0.440	0.447	2.3	0.405	0.279	13.2
	f_{seq}^{tree}	0.404	0.294	38.6	0.447	0.465	3.7	0.405	0.275	22.1
	f_{seq}^{oracle}	▲0.468	0.300	44.3	▲0.612	▲0.482	4.9	▲0.455	0.269	29.0
	Baseline	†0.404	0.302	42.4	0.447	†0.469	4.9	†0.416	0.285	26.6
	f_{rnd}	0.379	0.317	25.3	0.409	0.449	6.0	0.383	0.308	28.1
Temporal	f_{seq}^{dist}	0.389	▲0.319	▲3.5	0.464	0.468	▲1.4	0.412	▲0.326	▲5.6
	f_{seq}^{feat}	0.388	0.272	30.6	0.421	0.375	5.0	0.397	0.291	30.2
	f_{item}^{feat}	0.400	0.293	37.2	†0.474	0.465	1.9	0.412	0.283	17.5
	f_{seq}^{rec}	0.403	0.309	41.5	0.422	0.452	6.1	0.407	0.292	26.1
	f_{seq}^{lcs}	0.388	0.314	10.8	0.441	0.447	2.3	0.407	0.311	10.9
	f_{seq}^{tree}	0.398	0.311	29.6	0.445	0.468	3.1	0.411	0.301	17.3
	f_{seq}^{oracle}	▲0.462	0.308	39.9	▲0.608	▲0.482	4.1	▲0.457	0.287	25.8

Experiments: Sequences in POI recommendation

Family	Reranker	New York			Rome			Petaling Jaya		
		nDCGs	FPs	Dist	nDCGs	FPs	Dist	nDCGs	FPs	Dist
Basic	Baseline	0.402	0.284	43.9	0.447	0.464	5.0	0.404	0.245	35.0
	f_{seq}^{rnd}	0.383	0.297	28.0	0.402	0.452	5.9	0.387	0.274	29.5
	f_{seq}^{dist}	0.396	▲0.308	▲4.1	0.469	†0.474	▲1.4	†0.409	▲0.296	▲7.2
	f_{seq}^{feat}	0.400	0.267	33.3	0.422	0.371	5.0	0.402	0.267	33.2
	f_{seq}^{item}	0.399	0.279	37.8	†0.473	0.469	1.8	0.408	0.262	19.5
	f_{seq}^{rec}	†0.406	0.298	42.4	0.422	0.452	6.0	0.407	0.271	26.3
	f_{seq}^{cls}	0.395	0.285	17.8	0.440	0.446	2.3	0.403	0.274	14.8
	f_{seq}^{stree}	0.402	0.289	38.4	0.446	0.466	3.2	0.403	0.263	25.9
	f_{seq}^{oracle}	▲0.468	0.296	43.2	▲0.614	▲0.482	4.2	▲0.456	0.247	34.2
	Baseline	0.404	0.285	45.3	0.447	0.460	6.3	0.408	0.270	30.0
Classic	f_{seq}^{rnd}	0.382	0.292	30.3	0.403	0.450	5.9	0.394	0.278	30.7
	f_{seq}^{dist}	0.395	0.309	▲4.2	0.468	†0.475	▲1.4	†0.410	▲0.294	▲7.4
	f_{seq}^{feat}	0.398	0.267	33.5	0.424	0.373	5.0	0.402	0.269	34.0
	f_{seq}^{item}	0.400	0.276	38.0	†0.476	0.468	1.8	0.409	0.268	18.5
	f_{seq}^{rec}	†0.406	0.300	42.4	0.422	0.452	6.0	0.407	0.273	26.5
	f_{seq}^{cls}	0.395	0.284	17.9	0.440	0.447	2.3	0.405	0.279	13.2
	f_{seq}^{stree}	0.404	0.294	38.6	0.447	0.465	3.7	0.405	0.275	22.1
	f_{seq}^{oracle}	▲0.468	0.300	44.3	▲0.612	▲0.482	4.9	▲0.455	0.269	29.0
	Baseline	†0.404	0.302	42.4	0.447	†0.469	4.9	†0.416	0.285	26.6
	f_{seq}^{rnd}	0.379	0.317	25.3	0.409	0.449	6.0	0.383	0.308	28.1
Temporal	f_{seq}^{dist}	0.389	▲0.319	▲3.5	0.464	0.468	▲1.4	0.412	▲0.326	▲5.6
	f_{seq}^{feat}	0.388	0.272	30.6	0.421	0.375	5.0	0.397	0.291	30.2
	f_{seq}^{item}	0.400	0.293	37.2	†0.474	0.465	1.9	0.412	0.283	17.5
	f_{seq}^{rec}	0.403	0.309	41.5	0.422	0.452	6.1	0.407	0.292	26.1
	f_{seq}^{cls}	0.388	0.314	10.8	0.441	0.447	2.3	0.407	0.311	10.9
	f_{seq}^{stree}	0.398	0.311	29.6	0.445	0.468	3.1	0.411	0.301	17.3
	f_{seq}^{oracle}	▲0.462	0.308	39.9	▲0.608	▲0.482	4.1	▲0.457	0.287	25.8
	Baseline	†0.404	0.302	42.4	0.447	†0.469	4.9	†0.416	0.285	26.6
	f_{seq}^{rnd}	0.379	0.317	25.3	0.409	0.449	6.0	0.383	0.308	28.1
	f_{seq}^{dist}	0.389	▲0.319	▲3.5	0.464	0.468	▲1.4	0.412	▲0.326	▲5.6

Experiments: Sequences in POI recommendation

Family	Reranker	New York			Rome			Petaling Jaya		
		nDCG _s	FP _s	Dist	nDCG _s	FP _s	Dist	nDCG _s	FP _s	Dist
Geo	Baseline	0.405	0.306	43.9	0.427	0.457	5.6	0.406	0.286	30.0
	f_{seq}^{rnd}	0.378	0.307	22.5	0.397	0.447	5.9	0.390	0.307	25.1
	f_{seq}^{dist}	0.385	0.315	▲3.6	0.456	†0.468	▲1.4	0.405	▲0.315	▲5.8
	f_{seq}^{feat}	0.393	0.281	32.8	0.414	0.364	5.3	0.397	0.282	26.8
	f_{item}	0.402	0.291	37.1	†0.467	0.466	2.1	†0.412	0.270	18.8
	f_{seq}^{rec}	†0.405	0.311	42.0	0.417	0.453	6.0	0.407	0.290	25.8
	f_{seq}^{lcs}	0.390	0.311	11.9	0.426	0.440	2.2	0.401	0.308	10.5
	f_{seq}^{street}	0.402	0.321	31.3	0.431	0.458	3.5	0.404	0.302	19.4
	f_{seq}^{oracle}	▲0.464	0.314	41.7	▲0.586	▲0.472	4.6	▲0.449	0.287	28.8
	Baseline	0.391	0.279	44.9	†0.477	0.473	2.0	0.403	0.240	28.4
Tour	f_{seq}^{rnd}	0.364	0.305	23.9	0.400	0.448	5.7	0.390	0.291	30.8
	f_{seq}^{dist}	0.381	0.311	▲4.2	0.467	†0.474	▲1.4	†0.412	▲0.309	▲7.1
	f_{seq}^{feat}	0.374	0.277	20.9	0.420	0.359	5.0	0.401	0.278	31.6
	f_{item}	0.397	0.283	38.1	0.477	0.470	1.8	0.406	0.271	16.9
	f_{seq}^{rec}	†0.403	0.289	41.4	0.427	0.451	5.8	0.408	0.273	26.6
	f_{seq}^{lcs}	0.382	▲0.312	12.0	0.438	0.446	2.1	0.406	0.290	13.9
	f_{seq}^{street}	0.386	0.295	32.4	0.457	0.466	2.4	0.403	0.272	21.5
	f_{seq}^{oracle}	▲0.442	0.285	44.4	▲0.600	▲0.482	3.0	▲0.455	0.244	28.0
	f_{seq}									

Experiments: Sequences in POI recommendation

Family	Reranker	New York			Rome			Petaling Jaya		
		nDCG _s	FP _s	Dist	nDCG _s	FP _s	Dist	nDCG _s	FP _s	Dist
	Baseline	0.405	0.306	43.9	0.427	0.457	5.6	0.406	0.286	30.0
	f_{seq}^{rnd}	0.378	0.307	22.5	0.397	0.447	5.9	0.390	0.307	25.1
	f_{seq}^{dist}	0.385	0.315	▲3.6	0.456	†0.468	▲1.4	0.405	▲0.315	▲5.8
Geo	f_{seq}^{feat}	0.393	0.281	32.8	0.414	0.364	5.3	0.397	0.282	26.8
	f_{seq}^{item}	0.402	0.291	37.1	†0.467	0.466	2.1	†0.412	0.270	18.8
	f_{seq}^{rec}	†0.405	0.311	42.0	0.417	0.453	6.0	0.407	0.290	25.8
	f_{seq}^{lcs}	0.390	0.311	11.9	0.426	0.440	2.2	0.401	0.308	10.5
	f_{seq}^{stree}	0.402	0.321	31.3	0.431	0.458	3.5	0.404	0.302	19.4
	f_{seq}^{oracle}	▲0.464	0.314	41.7	▲0.586	▲0.472	4.6	▲0.449	0.287	28.8
	Baseline	0.391	0.279	44.9	†0.477	0.473	2.0	0.403	0.240	28.4
	f_{seq}^{rnd}	0.364	0.305	23.9	0.400	0.448	5.7	0.390	0.291	30.8
Tour	f_{seq}^{dist}	0.381	0.311	▲4.2	0.467	†0.474	▲1.4	†0.412	▲0.309	▲7.1
	f_{seq}^{feat}	0.374	0.277	20.9	0.420	0.359	5.0	0.401	0.278	31.6
	f_{seq}^{item}	0.397	0.283	38.1	0.477	0.470	1.8	0.406	0.271	16.9
	f_{seq}^{rec}	†0.403	0.289	41.4	0.427	0.451	5.8	0.408	0.273	26.6
	f_{seq}^{lcs}	0.382	▲0.312	12.0	0.438	0.446	2.1	0.406	0.290	13.9
	f_{seq}^{stree}	0.386	0.295	32.4	0.457	0.466	2.4	0.403	0.272	21.5
	f_{seq}^{oracle}	▲0.442	0.285	44.4	▲0.600	▲0.482	3.0	▲0.455	0.244	28.0

Experiments: Sequences in POI recommendation

Family	Reranker	New York			Rome			Petaling Jaya		
		nDCG _s	FP _s	Dist	nDCG _s	FP _s	Dist	nDCG _s	FP _s	Dist
Geo	Baseline	0.405	0.306	43.9	0.427	0.457	5.6	0.406	0.286	30.0
	f_{seq}^{rnd}	0.378	0.307	22.5	0.397	0.447	5.9	0.390	0.307	25.1
	f_{seq}^{dist}	0.385	0.315	▲3.6	0.456	†0.468	▲1.4	0.405	▲0.315	▲5.8
	f_{seq}^{feat}	0.393	0.281	32.8	0.414	0.364	5.3	0.397	0.282	26.8
	f_{item}	0.402	0.291	37.1	†0.467	0.466	2.1	†0.412	0.270	18.8
	f_{seq}^{rec}	†0.405	0.311	42.0	0.417	0.453	6.0	0.407	0.290	25.8
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	f_{seq}^{stree}	0.402	0.321	31.3	0.431	0.458	3.5	0.404	0.302	19.4
	f_{seq}^{oracle}	▲0.464	0.314	41.7	▲0.586	▲0.472	4.6	▲0.449	0.287	28.8
	Baseline	0.391	0.279	44.9	†0.477	0.473	2.0	0.403	0.240	28.4
Tour	f_{seq}^{rnd}	0.364	0.305	23.9	0.400	0.448	5.7	0.390	0.291	30.8
	f_{seq}^{dist}	0.381	0.311	▲4.2	0.467	†0.474	▲1.4	†0.412	▲0.309	▲7.1
	f_{seq}^{feat}	0.374	0.277	20.9	0.420	0.359	5.0	0.401	0.278	31.6
	f_{item}	0.397	0.283	38.1	0.477	0.470	1.8	0.406	0.271	16.9
	f_{seq}^{rec}	†0.403	0.289	41.4	0.427	0.451	5.8	0.408	0.273	26.6
	f_{seq}^{lcs}	0.382	▲0.312	12.0	0.438	0.446	2.1	0.406	0.290	13.9
	f_{seq}^{stree}	0.386	0.295	32.4	0.457	0.466	2.4	0.403	0.272	21.5
	f_{seq}^{oracle}	▲0.442	0.285	44.4	▲0.600	▲0.482	3.0	▲0.455	0.244	28.0