

C3879C Capstone Project

Yelper Assistant

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

A(CKNO	WLED	GEMENTS	2
	ТАВ	LE OF (CONTENTS	3
ΑE	3STR/	ACT		6
1	11	NTPOD	OUCTION	7
2	Р	ROJEC	T SPECIFICATION AND PLAN	8
	2.1	Proje	CT Overview	
	2	.1.1	Objective	8
	2	.1.2	Scope	8
	2	.1.3	Assumptions	8
	2.2	Func	TIONAL REQUIREMENTS	9
	2	.2.1	Functional Requirement 1	9
	2	.2.2	Functional Requirement 2	9
	2.3	Proje	ECT PLAN	9
3	R	IISINE	SS ANALYSIS	10
•				
	3.1		IESS ISSUES	
	3.2		KET ANALYSIS	
	3.3	Busin	iess Solutions	11
4	S	YSTEM	DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION	12
	4.1	Syste	M Architecture	12
	4.2	DETA	ILED SYSTEM DESIGN	12
	4	.2.1	Introduction	12
	4	.2.2	Use Cases	13
		4.2.2.	1 Search Business	13
		4.2.2	2 Search Businesses with Food Delivery services	13
		4.2.2	3 Search for Businesses with specific characteristics	13
		4.2.2	4 Get Recommendations	13
		4.2.2	5 Featured Events	14
	4	.2.3	Implementation	14
	4	.2.4	Deployment	14
	4	.2.5	Recommendation Engine Design	15
		4.2.5	1 Dataset	15
		4.2.5	2 Algorithm Evaluation	15
		4.2.5	3 Recommender Implementation	16
		4.2.5	4 Recommender Model Persistence	18

		4.2.5.	5 Recommender Update	18
	4.	2.6	Chatbot Design	19
		4.2.6.	1 Introduction	19
		4.2.6.	2 Interface Design	19
		4.2.6.	3 Conversation Design	19
		4.2.6.	4 Implementation	21
		4.2.6.	5 Entities	22
		4.2.6.	6 Context	22
		4.2.6.	7 Fulfilment	22
		4.2.6.	8 Integration	22
5	S۱	YSTEM	TESTING	23
	5.1	Func	FIONAL TESTING	23
6	U	SER AI	ND TECHNICAL DOCUMENTATIONS	24
	6.1	USER	Documentation/Guide/Manual	24
	6.	1.1	Introduction	24
	6.	1.2	Search Business	24
	6.	1.3	Search Businesses with Food Delivery services	24
	6.	1.4	Search for Businesses with specific characteristics	25
	6.	1.5	Get Recommendations	
	6.	1.6	Featured Events	25
			vical Documentation (Installation guide/Manual)	
		2.1	Introduction	
		2.2	Desktop/Tablet Access	
		2.3	Mobile App Installation	
	0.	2.3	Widdle App installation	20
7	C	ONCLU	ISIONS	27
	7.1	INTRO	DUCTION	27
	7.2	FURT	IER ENHANCEMENTS	27
8	RI	EFEREI	NCES	28
9	Al	PPEND	OICES	29
	9.1	APPE	NDIX 1	29
10	PI	ROJEC [.]	Γ POSTER	35
	46.4	_		
	10.1		OSTER	
	10.2	Sc	URCE FILE	35

TABLE OF FIGURES

FIGURE 1 — FUNCTIONAL NEQUIREMENT OSE CAASE	9
Figure 2 – Project Schedule	9
Figure 3 – System Architecture	12
Figure 4 – Data Flow	14
FIGURE 5 – RECOMMENDER WORKFLOW	18
FIGURE 6 — DISPLAY FORMAT FOR TYPICAL SEARCH RESULT	19
Figure 7 - Conversation Flow	20
Figure 8 – YelperAssistant Browser Interface	26
FIGURE 9 – YELPERASSISTANT MOBILE INTERFACE	26
LIST OF TABLES	
Table 1 – Yelp Open Dataset	15
Table 2 – Recommender Algorithm Evaluation Results	16
Table 3 – Recommender Model Information	18
Table 4 - Action-Intent Mapping	22
Table 5 – Entity List	22
TARLE 6 - FUNCTIONAL TEST CASES	23

ABSTRACT

This report documents the design of a virtual assistant application powered with a recommendation engine for the Yelp search service. This system supplements the existing Yelp website and expands user reach and exposure through the use of social media platforms and customized recommendations. With the successful proof-of-concept implementation of this system, it is expected that the expanded interactivity will attract more users to this search service.

1 Introduction

Yelp is a search service using crowd-sourced reviews about local businesses. Besides reviews, it also facilitates searching for events, lists and communication between Yelp users.

Being a single-platform (web-based), the user interface has not kept pace with the advancement of modern technologies e.g. social media etc. and this has limited the scope of reach to potential users.

In addition, there are 2 major issues with the user interface design that needs to be addressed by this system, and they are:

- Currently, the reviews display functionality on the Yelp website provides keyword-based search results, and thus, the user need to manually sift through the results individually to find the one closest to their intended search, thus making it a tedious and time-consuming process.
- 2. All information is currently scattered throughout different subsections of the website, thus making it difficult for the user to search for the information required.

In view of the above problems identified, the objective of this project is twofold: The scope of this project is twofold:

- 1. To develop a personalized recommender based on reviews data to reduce time spent on searching for relevant information.
- 2. To provide a virtual assistant interface to allow users to query for the personalized recommendations and to facilitate searching for required information

2 Project Specification and Plan

2.1 Project Overview

2.1.1 Objective

The main objective of this project is to develop a virtual assistant and recommendation system for the Yelp search website.

2.1.2 Scope

In order to ensure the timeliness of the project deliverables due to the short duration of this project (less than 2 months), the focus will be on developing a prototype to evaluate the feasibility of the project objectives identified in order to achieve a minimum viable product. Thus, the emphasis will not be on developing a ready for commercial production system, but on system proofing the viability of the system.

2.1.3 Assumptions

It is assumed that cloud hosting of the system components will be necessary due to the web-based nature of the system. Trial or free accounts will be used for platform hosting and development in order minimize the costs involved.

For the virtual assistant component of the system, although various BOT frameworks e.g. Microsoft Bot Framework are available, Google DialogFlow is used as it is taught during the course.

For the recommender component of the system, Spark MLLib, Scikit Surprise, LightFM open source packages will be evaluated and the most suitable used in this project. Paid auto-recommender services e.g. Amazon Personalize, Google Recommendations AI etc. will not be considered. In addition, to minimize computational resources and costs involved, the original Yelp Open Dataset will be trimmed down to a manageable size.

2.2 Functional Requirements

The diagram below illustrates the overall requirement for the Smart Water Quality Monitoring System:

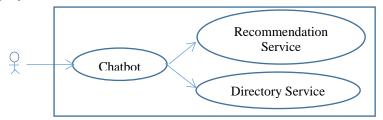


Figure 1 – Functional Requirement Use Caase

The subsequent sections below list the specific functional requirements of the system.

2.2.1 Functional Requirement 1

The. system will have a recommendation engine to provide personalized recommendation

2.2.2 Functional Requirement 2

The system will have a virtual assistant with social media integration e.g. Slack.

2.3 Project Plan

The figure below lists the project tasks and time allocated for each including the project milestone deliverables:

Task							١	Neek N	0						
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Data Cleaning/															
Exploration															
Recommender algorithm															
analysis and evaluation															
Recommender															
Development															
Chatbot Development															
Recommender/ Chatbot															
Integration															
Testing															
Demo Preparation/															
Presentation															

Figure 2 – Project Schedule

3 Business Analysis

3.1 Business Issues

The current reviews-only site at Yelp faced the following challenges that needs to be addressed in the design of the system:

- 1. **Ease of access** The site adopts the traditional menu type access whereby the user needs to search for the exact option to fulfill his/her search requirement. Although a search functionality is available to shorten this process, the subsequent search results are numerous and the user has to sift through the results to find the ones relevant to his/her search. These factors result in a hidden barrier between the system and the user and increases the time needed by the user.
- 2. **Results Differentiation** The site provides seemingly generic information that may or may not be relevant to the user. This will turn off the user who will search for other sites that can provide customized results.
- 3. **User Engagement** The site content layout adopts a traditional approach more suited for a desktop browser experience and lacks the personalized touch associated with modern interfaces.

These are major issues that the system will address in its system design and implementation.

3.2 Market Analysis

The competitive landscape for online local business ratings and reviews platforms is shared by the prominent players such as Google, Facebook, Yelp, Foursquare, and TripAdvisor [1]. All have experienced tremendous growth for the past number of years, with Google strongly outpacing the others.

The behavioural shift observed throughout the last few years is that reviews have migrated from review-only sites like Yelp or TripAdvisor to a much bigger space

on social media (Facebook/ Google) [2]. The frictionless access to social media sites like Facebook/ Google on web and mobile plaforms make it a seamless experience for users, thus, helping to generate more reviews traffic on these multi-platform providers. Furthermore, in a joint study by Google/Nielsen, 93% of people who use mobile to research go on to complete a purchase of a product or service [3]. This highlights the importance of mobile as a platform of choice for modern users.

Thus, it is imperative that review-only sites e.g. Yelp need to adapt to the changing landscape by adopting mobile technologies and social media reach in order to retain existing users and to solicit new users to their platforms.

The rapid adoption of chatbots as a interaction mechanism on mobile platforms is prompted by the fact that chatbots are particularly well suited for mobile interfaces, perhaps more so than apps as messaging is at the heart of the mobile experience [9]. In fatct, by outfitting social messaging channels with chatbots, a business creates further growth prospects as prompt feedback to businesses through this channel and the expectation of improved customer care form a virtuous cycle benefitting both businesses and customers [10].

3.3 Business Solutions

To address the issues identified in Section 3.1, the system incorporates several major features that target to eliminate the blocking issues:

- A virtual assistant is incorporated to provide a natural language interface for interactting with the system. This reduces the time spent searching for the relevant menu/ option in the reviews-only site and also sifting through the long list of search results returned from keyword-based search.
- 2. A recommender engine is incorporated to provide personalized recommendations based on a user's prevous rating behaviour and similarity to other users. This provides an avenue for users to look up businesses that they might not have searched for using traditional search and quickly filters out non-relevant businesses that the user most probably will not be interested in.

4 System Design and Implementation

4.1 System Architecture

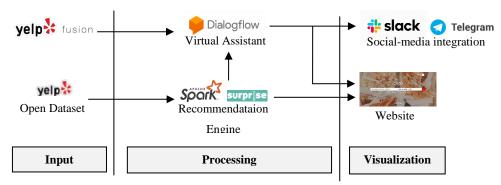


Figure 3 – System Architecture

The figure above illustrates the overall system architecture, which comprises the following components:

- 1. The yelp open dataset is used to power the recommendation engine used to provide customized recommendations for the user.
- 2. The yelp fusoin API acts as a fulfillment engine for the business and events directory information portal for the DialogFlow-based chatbot.
- 3.Slack and Telegram are used as the social media integration platforms for DialogFlow and is the main user interface for interacting with users.
- 4. Scikit-Surprise, a Python scikit building and analyzing recommender systems, is used to build the recommendation model used to serve customied recommendations to users.
- 5.Google DialogFlow, a conversation system development platform with machine learning and natural language processing (NLP) capabilities, is used to power the chatbot.

4.2 Detailed System Design

4.2.1 Introduction

The virutal assistant comprises of 2 main components:

1. A Reviews Recommendation engine to provide personalized recommendation.

2. A virtual assistant using Google DialogFlow with fulfilment provided by the Yelp Fusion REST API and recommendation engine for serving events/services information and personalized recommendations respectively.

Both web-based and social media integration e.g. Slack, Telegram will be developed

4.2.2 Use Cases

The following illustrates the typical use cases fulfilled by the system.

4.2.2.1 Search Business

This use case allows the user to search for businesses using the following criteria:

- 1. **Category** category filters e.g. Bike Rental, Bakeries, breweries etc.
- 2. Name business name identifier e.g. Starbucks
- 3. **Phone** business contact number, including country/area code e.g. +19147137865
- 4. **Price** Price Level indicator e.g. 1 for \$, 4 for \$\$\$\$, 2,3 for \$\$ and \$\$\$ etc.
- 5. **Business ID** –business identifier e.g. MpF9j5-fBH0H6L9AzzyArA

4.2.2.2 Search Businesses with Food Delivery services

This use case allows the user to search for a business served by food delivery services.

4.2.2.3 Search for Businesses with specific characteristics

This use case allows the user to search for businesses with specific characteristics

- 1. Hot and New popular businesses which recently joined Yelp
- 2. Cashback businesses offering Yelp Cash Back to in-house customers
- 3. **Deals** businesses offering Yelp Deals on their profile page
- 4. Wheelchair Accessible businesses which are Wheelchair Accessible
- 5. **Reservation** businesses with Yelp Reservations bookings enabled on their profile page
- 6. **Waitlist Reservation** businesses with Yelp Waitlist bookings enabled on their profile screen (iOS/Android)

4.2.2.4 Get Recommendations

This use case allows the user to search for customized recommendation based on his/her Yelp user ID.

4.2.2.5 Featured Events

This use case allows the user to search for events as chosen by Yelp's community managers.

4.2.3 Implementation

The diagram below illustrates the hosting platforms used for the deployment of the various components of the sysem:

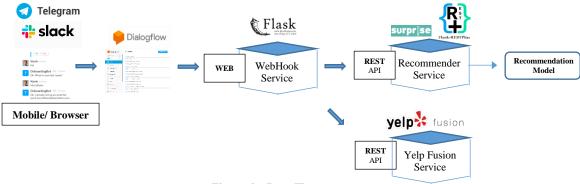


Figure 4 – Data Flow

The system uses a microservice architecture with 3 services:

- 1. **WebHook Service** Fulfilment engine for DialogFlow webhook
- 2. **Recommender Service** Recommendation engine using Scikit-Surprise for serving customized recommendations
- 3. **Yelp Fusion API Service** Directory service using Yelp Fusion API for accessing Yelp directory information

The interaction entry point is via the slack workspace created at https://yelperassistant.slack.com, which is accessible via a web browser or via the slack mobile app on mobile devices. The slack workspace is integrated with a DialogFlow chatbot, which is used for developing the chatbot interface.

4.2.4 Deployment

The WebHook service is hosted on the Heroku platform at https://yelperassistant-wh.herokuapp.com,

The Yelp Fusion API Service is hosted by Yelp and is available via https://api.yelp.com

The Recommender service is hosted on the Heroku platform at https://yelperassistant-rec.herokuapp.com/api/v1.

4.2.5 Recommendation Engine Design

4.2.5.1 Dataset

The Yelp open dataset [4] was used as input data to build the model for generation of recommendations for users. For the purpose of this project, 3 of the data files were used as detailed in the table below:

s/n	Name	Description	Size
1	business	Contains business information e.g. address,	192K
		attributes, operating hours etc.	
2	review	Contains review ratings for businesses by users	6.7M
3	user	Contains user information e.g. name, # of reviews,	1.6M
		average rating etc.	

Table 1 – Yelp Open Dataset

The json to csv converter from the examples website [7] was used to convert the .json files to csv format to facilitate data manipulation and analysis.

As the purpose of this project is to develop a prototype to evaluate the feasibility of the project objectives identified and to minimize the computational costs involved, **20K reviews** were extracted from the original review dataset to facilitate development using a CPU-powered machine.

4.2.5.2 Algorithm Evaluation

2 open source recommender packages were evaluated, namely Spark MLLib [5] and Scikit-Surprise [6].

ALS (alternating least squares) algorithm from the Spark MLLib package is a matrix factorization algorithm that uses Alternating Least Squares with Weighted-Lamda-Regularization (ALS-WR) to reduce user-to-item ratings matrix into a user-to-feature and item-to-feature matrices to uncover the latent factors that explain the observed user to item ratings and tries to find optimal factor weights to minimize the least squares between predicted and actual ratings.

Scikit Surprise is a easy-to-use Python scikit for recommender systems that implements many of the recommender algorithms e.g. collaborative filtering, matrix factorization, kNN (k-Nearest Neighbours)-based etc.

The table below summarizes the recommender algorithms evaluated and the resulting RMSE (Root Mean-Squared Error) scores:

s/n	Algorithm	Description	RMSE
1	KNNBasic	Basic collaborative filtering algorithm	1.4678
2	KNNWithMeans	Basic collaborative filtering algorithm, taking	1.4906
		into account the mean ratings of each user	
3	KNNWithZScore	Basic collaborative filtering algorithm, taking	1.4906
		into account the z-score normalization of each	
		user	
4	SVD	SVD algorithm popularized by Simon Funk	1.4344
		during the Netflix Prize	
5	SVDpp	SVD++ algorithm that is an extension of SVD	1.4309
		but taking into account implicit ratings	
6	NMF	Collaborative filtering algorithm based on Non-	1.5043
		negative Matrix Factorization	
7	ALS	Matrix factorization algorithm that uses	3.9320
		Alternating Least Squares with Weighted-	
		Lamda-Regularization (ALS-WR)	

Table 2 – Recommender Algorithm Evaluation Results

Based on the tabulated results above, the SVDpp algorithm from the Scikit-Surprise library is selected as the recommender algorithm used to build the recommendation model. Refer to Appendix 1 for the Jupyter Notebook analysis.

4.2.5.3 Recommender Implementation

The recommender is designed to cater for 3 types of users:

- 1. New users who have not given any business ratings (cold-start problem)
- 2. Users with few given ratings (less than 5)
- 3. Active users who have given more ratings (more than 5)

Thus, for each type of user identified above, a specific recommender model is implemented as described below.

4.2.5.3.1 Popularity-Based Model

This provides generic non-personalized recommendations to all users assuming no information about the user is available. The top 5 businesses with the highest number of user ratings and average rating value is recommended to the user.

4.2.5.3.2 Content-Based Model

This uses the "categories" attribute e.g. for each business (see below illustration) available in the business dataset to calculate the similarity scores between businesses using similarity measures e.g. cosine-similarity, correlation etc.

	business_id	categories
0	7340	Golf, Active Life
1	82973	Specialty Food, Restaurants, Dim Sum, Imported
2	134808	Sushi Bars, Restaurants, Japanese
3	186365	Insurance, Financial Services
4	56458	Plumbing, Shopping, Local Services, Home Servi
5	21350	Shipping Centers, Couriers & Delivery Services
6	18832	Beauty & Spas, Hair Salons
7	134267	Hair Salons, Hair Stylists, Barbers, Men's Hai
8	105796	Nail Salons, Beauty & Spas, Day Spas
9	15664	Beauty & Spas, Nail Salons, Day Spas, Massage
10	131422	Local Services, Professional Services, Compute

The similarity scores are used to find the top 5 similar businesses for each of the business that were rated by the user of interest. The combined list of businesses is then sorted by the aggregated count of each business in the list, and the top 5 business (by count) is recommended to the user.

4.2.5.3.3 Matrix Factorization-Based Model

This uses the SVD++ matrix factorization algorithm and leverages a latent factor model to capture the relationship between users and businesses. The *SVDpp* class from the *Scikit-Surprise* package is used to derive 2 matrices (user-factor and business-factor) that maps the users/businesses to latent factors that can be used to predict ratings for businesses that the user has not rated yet. However, it is incapable of modeling new users unless the whole model is retrained, thus rendering it not suitable for new users in which case, the popularity-based model is used instead.

4.2.5.3.4 Recommender Workflow

The diagram below illustrates the process that the system follows when a user makes a request for recommendations:

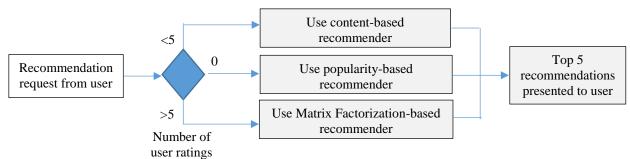


Figure 5 – Recommender Workflow

4.2.5.4 Recommender Model Persistence

The recommender models are saved to disk when manual update requests are made. The purpose of saving the model outputs is for subsequent quick loading when requests for user recommendations are made instead of having to rebuild the model again for each request. The table below summarizes the model saved filename and stored information:

s/n Recommender Type		Model Filename	Model Info		
1	Popularity-based	PopularityModel.pkl	For new users		
2	Content-based	TfidfRecommender.pkl	For users with <5 ratings		
3	Matrix Factorization-based	SurpriseSVDppRecommender.pkl	For users with >5 ratings		

Table 3 – Recommender Model Information

4.2.5.5 Recommender Update

The recommender models need to be re-trained and updated to incorporate new user/ratings information. To facilitate this operation, the recommender microservice includes a updateModels() API method that can be invoked via a scheduled cron job (batch) or manual request (on-demand).

4.2.6 Chatbot Design

4.2.6.1 Introduction

In this project, Google DialogFlow [8] is chosen as the natural language processing engine which incorporates machine learning to provide engaging and human-centred conversational interfaces with the user.

4.2.6.2 Interface Design

The chatbot is designed to be Q&A type in order to provide quick digestible search results with navigable links to more detailed information if required:

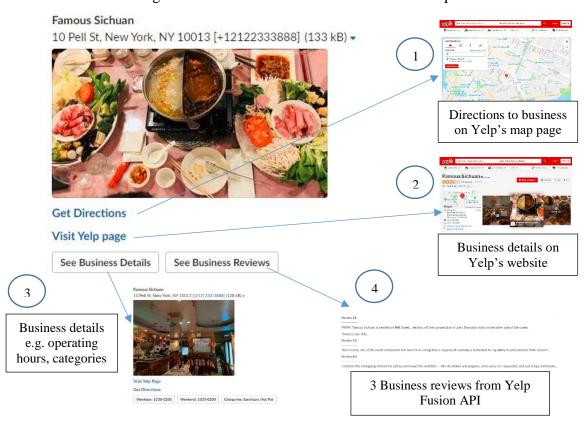


Figure 6 - Display format for typical search result

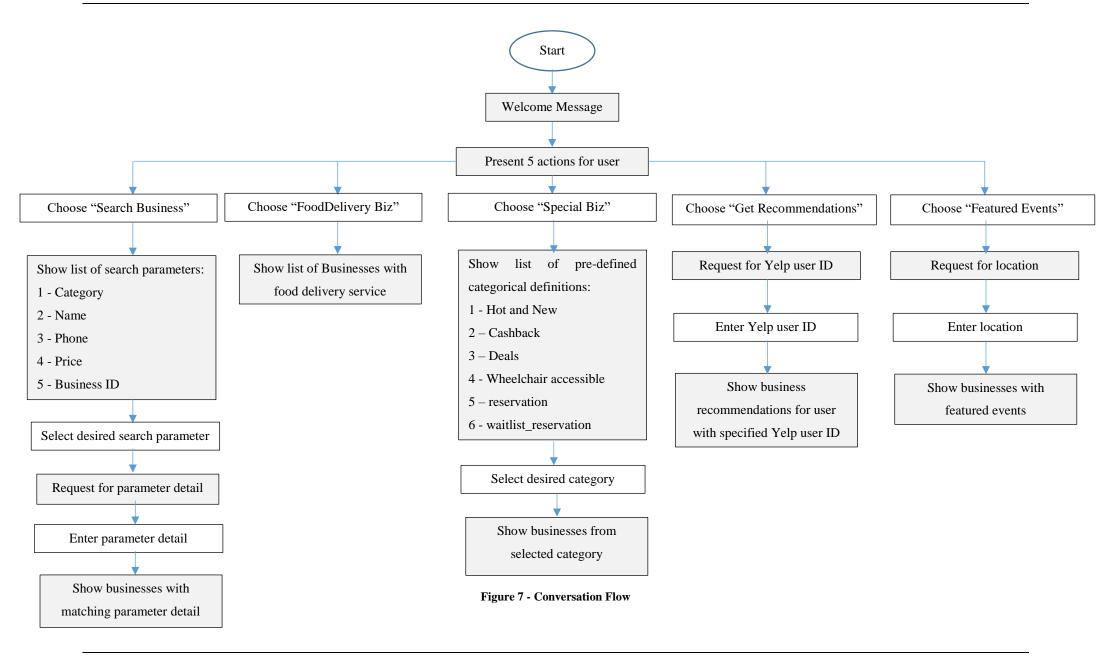
4.2.6.3 Conversation Design

The conversation flow of the chatbot is divided into both main and alternate flow paths to cater for all encountered situations.

4.2.6.3.1 Main

The main conversation flow is designed such that the user is presented with 5 options corresponding to each use case as detailed in section 4.2.2. Buttons are used where appropriate to minimize input error.

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4.2.6.3.2 Alternate

In case the user deviate from the main conversation flow path e.g. type in invalid selection etc., the chatbot will inform the user to re-select the service required through the Default.Fallback intent.:

4.2.6.4 Implementation

4.2.6.4.1 Intents

For each action as shown in the Conversation Flow diagram (Figure 5), an intent is created to service the request from the user as listed below:

s/n	Action	Intent	Purpose	Parameters
1	-	Default.Welcome	Greet user and offer	-
			services	
2	-	Default.Fallback	Handles	-
			unexpected users'	
			responses	
3	-	General.ConnectionTest	Tests connection to	-
			webhook service	
4	getBusinessReviews	Directory.getBusinessReviews	Gets 3 reviews for	businessID
			specified business	
5	getFeaturedEvents	Directory.getFeaturedEvents	Gets 3 featured	latitude,
			events for specified	longitude,
			location	location
6	matchBusiness	Directory.matchBusiness	Finds matching	See (1)
			businesses with	
			search parameters	
7		Directory.searchBusiness	"Search Business"	
			parameter listing	
8	searchBusiness	Directory.searchBusinessByAttribute	Gets businesses	See (1)
			with matching	
			attribute	
9	searchBusiness	Directory.searchBusinessByCategory	Gets businesses in	See (1)
			specified category	
10	getBusiness	Directory.searchBusinessByID	Gets businesses	businessID
			with specified ID	
11	searchBusiness	Directory.searchBusinessByName	Get business with	See (1)
			matching name	

s/n	Action	Intent	Purpose	Parameters
12	searchBusinessByPhone	Directory.searchBusinessByPhone	Gets business with	phone
			matching phone #	
13	searchBusiness	Directory.searchBusinessByPrice	Gets business with	See (1)
			matching price	
			ranges	
14	searchFoodDeliveryBusinesses	Directory.searchFoodDeliveryBusinesses	Gets buseinsses	latitude,
			with food delivery	longitude,
			services	location
15	getRecommendations	Rec.getRecommendations	Gets	user_id
			recommendations	
			for specified user	

Table 4 - Action-Intent Mapping

(1) term, latitude, longitude, radius, locale, offset, sort_by, price, open_now, open_at, attributes, limit, location, categories

4.2.6.5 Entities

The list of entities created for are as defined below:

s/n	Entity		Description				Examples		
1	categories	List	of	categories	for	bikerentals,	dentists,		
		"Director	"Directory.searchBusinessByCategory" intent				eaches, bbq		

Table 5 – Entity List

4.2.6.6 Context

The "Directory.searchBusinessByCategory", "Directory.searchBusinessByName", "Directory.searchBusinessByPhone" and "Directory.searchBusinessByPrice" intents are assigned one input context "searchBusiness" to control the conversation flow to start from the "Directory.searchBusiness" intent.

4.2.6.7 Fulfilment

Webhook for fulfilment of Yelp directory information search and recommendations is developed as a Flask web application and hosted on https://yelperassistant-wh.herokuapp.com.

4.2.6.8 Integration

This chatbot is enabled for Slack and Telegram integration. The Slack messaging workspace is at https://yelperassistant.slack.com whereas for Telegram is at https://web.telegram.org/#/im?p=@YelperAssistantbot

5 System Testing

5.1 Functional Testing

The following lists the functional tests conducted to verify the functional requirements of the system as identified in section 2.2.

Test Specification ID: TS1

Name of Tester : Lim Yuan Her

Use Case ID : UC1

Date of Test : 29 July 2019

Description of Test : Verify system functional requirements

S/No	Test Case	Expected Result	Pass/ Fail	Remarks
Funct	ional Requirement 1 (Section 2.	2.1)		
1.	Check \recommendation	5 recommendations are	Pass	
	availability by selecting 'Get	provided		
	Recommendations" from the			
	virutal assistant default display			
Funct	ional Requirement 2 (Section 2.2)	2.2)		
1.	Check virtual assistant is	Slack Messaging Workspace	Pass	
	accessible from social media	https://yelperassistant.slack.com		
	platforms with user greeting	Telegram Messaging	Pass	
	and services available	https://web.telegram.org/#/im?		
	displayed.	p=@YelperAssistantbot		
2.	Check the functionality of each	Search Business	Pass	
	use case detailed in section	Search Businesses with Food	Pass	
	4.2.2 is available from the	Delivery services		
	virutal assistant	Search for Businesses with	Pass	
		specific characteristics		
		Get Recommendations	Pass	
		Featured Events	Pass	

Table 6 – Functional Test Cases

6 User and Technical Documentations

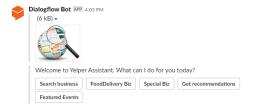
6.1 User Documentation/Guide/Manual

6.1.1 Introduction

This section details the steps to access the various functions of the virtual assistant.

6.1.2 Search Business

1. Type "Hi" in the virtual assistnat interface. The virtual assistant default greeting and services will be displayed:



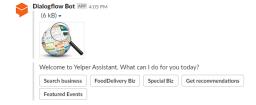
2. Click on "Search Business". The search type menu will be displayed:



- 3. Click on the desired search parameter type e.g. Category.A prompt will be displayed requesting for the parameter details/
- 4. Enter the parameter details e.g. "bikerentals" for category etc.
- 5. The matched businesses details will be displayed with navigable links to further information as specified in section 4.2.6.2.

6.1.3 Search Businesses with Food Delivery services

1. Type "Hi" in the virtual assistnat interface. The virtual assistant default greeting and services will be displayed:

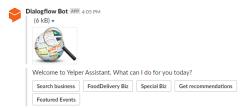


- 1. Click on "FoodDelivery Biz". A prompt requesting for the location will be displayed.
- 2. Enter the location information e.g. NYC.

2. The matched businesses details will be displayed with navigable links to further information as specified in section 4.2.6.2:

6.1.4 Search for Businesses with specific characteristics

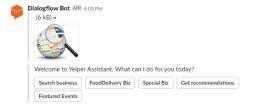
1. Type "Hi" in the virtual assistnat interface. The virtual assistant default greeting and services will be displayed:



- 2. Click on "Special Biz". The attributes menu will be displayed:
 - 1 Hot and New, 2 Cashback, 3 Deals, 4 Wheelchair accessible, 5 reservation, 6 waitlist_reservation
- 3. Enter the number corresponding to the desired search attribute e.g. Hot and New. A prompt will be displayed requesting for the parameter details/
- 4. Enter the parameter details e.g. "NYC" for location etc.
- 5. The matched businesses details will be displayed with navigable links to further information as specified in section 4.2.6.2.

6.1.5 Get Recommendations

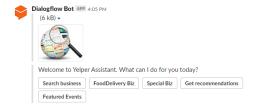
3. Type "Hi" in the virtual assistnat interface. The virtual assistant default greeting and services will be displayed:



- 4. Click on "Get recommendations". A prompt requesting for the Yelp user ID will be displayed.
- 5. Enter the Yelp user ID corresponding to the desired user.
- 6. The recommended businesses details will be displayed with navigable links to further information as specified in section 4.2.6.2:

6.1.6 Featured Events

3. Type "Hi" in the virtual assistnat interface. The virtual assistant default greeting and services will be displayed:



- 7. Click on "FoodDelivery Biz". A prompt requesting for the location will be displayed.
- 8. Enter the location information e.g. NYC.
- 4. The matched businesses details will be displayed with navigable links to further information as specified in section 4.2.6.2:

6.2 Technical Documentation (Installation guide/Manual)

6.2.1 Introduction

This section details the installation steps to install/access the virtual assistant.

6.2.2 Desktop/Tablet Access

Basic web browser e.g. Internet Explorer is installed by default in desktop/ tablet. No additional installation is required. Navigate to https://yelperassistant.slack.com (for Slack) and https://web.telegram.org/#/im?p=@YelperAssistantbot (for Telegram) to access the virtual assistant.



Figure 8 – YelperAssistant Browser Interface

6.2.3 Mobile App Installation

- 1. Install the Slack mobile App from the Google Playstore.
- 2. Add "yelp-directory-bot" channel to the Slack mobile App.
- 3. Add the "DialogFlow Bot" app to the "yelp-directory-bot" channel.

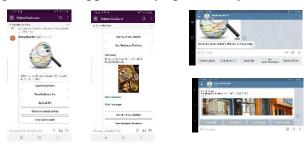


Figure 9 – YelperAssistant Mobile Interface

7 Conclusions

7.1 Introduction

This report detailed the design and implementation results of a virtual assistant for Yelp using Google DialogFlow using Slack messaging platform as the conversational interface. The Yelp directory information is provided by Yelp Fusion API and customized recommendations are powered by a recommendation engine using Scikt-Surprise open source recommendation library implemented as a REST API based microservice.

7.2 Further Enhancements

Some further system enhancements that could be considered for future work are as listed below:

- Integrating with other social messaging platforms e.g. Facebook Messenger,
 LINE etc. and physical virtual assistant devices e.g. Google Assistant,
 Amazon Alexa etc.
- Perform sentiment analysis based on business textual reviews for ratings verification
- Use Baynesian ranking for popularity-based recommender model to take into account number of ratings and average rating given for specific business instead of current simple aggregated count sorting method
- Perform anomaly detection for detecting shilling attacks (manipulation of recommendation rankings)
- Integrate Yelp's security framework to facilitate business rating/review directly from chatbot

8 References

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- [10] Chatbots Magazine, *Chatbot Report 2019: Global Trends and Analysis*, https://chatbotsmagazine.com/chatbot-report-2019-global-trends-and-analysis-a487afec05b

9 Appendices

9.1 Appendix 1

Install Surpriselib/ Environment Preparation

```
In [0]: lapt-get install openjdk-8-jdk-headless -qq > /dev/null
lwget -q https://archive.apache.org/dist/spark/spark-2.4.2/spark-2.4.2-bin-hadoop2.7.tgz
ltar xf spark-2.4.2-bin-hadoop2.7.tgz
                                  !pip install -q findspark
                                  !pip install scikit-surprise
                                  !pip install lightfm
                               Requirement already satisfied: scikit-surprise in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages (1.0.6)
Requirement already satisfied: scipy>=1.0.0 in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages (from scikit-surprise) (1.3.0)
Requirement already satisfied: numpy>=1.11.2 in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages (from scikit-surprise) (1.16.4)
Requirement already satisfied: poblibu==0.11 in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages (from scikit-surprise) (0.13.2)
Requirement already satisfied: six>=1.10.0 in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages (from scikit-surprise) (1.12.0)
Requirement already satisfied: numpy in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages (from lightfm) (1.16.4)
Requirement already satisfied: scipy>=0.17.0 in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages (from lightfm) (1.2.0)
Requirement already satisfied: requests in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages (from lightfm) (2.21.0)
Requirement already satisfied: chardet<a.1.e.,b=3.0.2 in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages (from requests->lightfm) (3.0.4)
Requirement already satisfied: chardet<a.1.e.,b=3.0.2 in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages (from requests->lightfm) (2.8)
Requirement already satisfied: chardet<a.1.e.,b=3.0.2 in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages (from requests->lightfm) (2.8)
Requirement already satisfied: chardet<a.1.e.,b=3.0.2 in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages (from requests->lightfm) (2.8)
Requirement already satisfied: chardet<a.1.e.,b=3.0.2 in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages (from requests->lightfm) (2.8)
                                    -/
Requirement already satisfied: urllib3<1.25,>=1.21.1 in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages (from requests->lightfm) (1.24.
                                3)
Requirement already satisfied: PyOrive in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages (1.3.1)
Requirement already satisfied: google-api-python-client>=1.2 in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages (from PyDrive) (1.7.9)
Requirement already satisfied: PyYAML>=3.0 in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages (from PyDrive) (3.13)
Requirement already satisfied: oauth2client>=4.0.0 in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages (from PyDrive) (4.1.3)
Requirement already satisfied: six<2dev,>=1.6.1 in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages (from google-api-python-client>=1.2->
Puprival (1.2.0)
                               Requirement already satisfied: six<2dev,>=1.6.1 in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages (from google-api-python-client>=1.2->
PyDrive) (1.12.0)
Requirement already satisfied: google-auth>=1.4.1 in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages (from google-api-python-client>=1.2
->PyDrive) (1.4.2)
Requirement already satisfied: uritemplate<4dev,>=3.0.0 in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages (from google-api-python-client>=1.2->PyDrive) (3.0.0)
Requirement already satisfied: google-auth-httplib2>=0.0.3 in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages (from google-api-python-client>=1.2->PyDrive) (0.0.3)
Requirement already satisfied: httplib2<1dev,>=0.9.2 in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages (from google-api-python-client>=1.2->PyDrive) (0.1.3)
Requirement already satisfied: httplib2<1dev,>=0.9.2 in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages (from google-api-python-client>=1.2->PyDrive) (0.1.3)
Requirement already satisfied: pyasn1-modules>=0.0.5 in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages (from oauth2client>=4.0.0->PyDrive) (0.2.5)
                                  Requirement already satisfied: pyasn1>=0.1.7 in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages (from oauth2client>=4.0.0->PyDrive) (0.
                                 4.5) Requirement already satisfied: rsa>=3.1.4 in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages (from oauth2client>=4.0.0->PyDrive) (4.0) Requirement already satisfied: cachetools>=2.0.0 in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages (from google-auth>=1.4.1->google-api-python-client>=1.2-PyDrive) (3.1.1) Requirement already satisfied: msgpack in /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages (0.5.6)
       In [0]: import os
    os.environ["JAVA_HOME"] = "/usr/lib/jvm/java-8-openjdk-amd64"
    os.environ["SPARK_HOME"] = "/content/spark-2.4.2-bin-hadoop2.7"
       In [0]: import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
import math
                                       import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import urllib.request
import zipfile
                                        from collections import defaultdict
                                        import msgpack
                                       import os
from pydrive.auth import GoogleAuth
from pydrive.drive import GoogleDrive
from google.colab import auth
from oauth2client.client import GoogleCredentials
                                         from sklearn.preprocessing import LabelEncoder
from sklearn.model_selection import train_test_split as sk_tts
                                       import findspark
findspark.init()
from pyspark.sql import SparkSession
from pyspark.sql.functions import isnan
from pyspark.sql import functions as F
from pyspark.ml import Pipeline
from pyspark.ml.feature import stringIndexer, IndexToString
from pyspark.ml.evaluation import RegressionEvaluator
from pyspark import SparkContext
from pyspark.sql.functions import lit
from pyspark.sql.functions import ALS
                                        from surprise import Reader, Dataset from surprise import SVD, SVDpp, NMF, KNNBasic, KNNWithMeans, KNNWithZScore, BaselineOnly from surprise import accuracy from surprise.model_selection import train_test_split as surprise_tts from surprise.model_selection import GridSearchCV
                                         from lightfm import LightFM
from lightfm.evaluation import precision_at_k
from lightfm.evaluation import auc_score
from scipy.sparse.coo import coo_matrix
                                        pd.set_option('display.max_rows', 500)
pd.set_option('display.max_columns', 500)
pd.set_option('display.width', 1000)
```

Datasets download

```
In [0]: auth.authenticate user()
                        addinatelentate_user()
gauth = GoogleAuth()
gauth.credentials = GoogleCredentials.get_application_default()
drive = GoogleDrive(gauth)
  In [0]: file_list = drive.ListFile({'q': "'root' in parents and trashed=false"}).GetList()
                       for file1 in file_list:
    print('title: %s, id: %s' % (file1['title'], file1['id']))
                       title: LUO8.ipynb, id: 1DQowNBWFeaXI6CumEPKT9CpLQ7pCdLIZ
title: SPAAI, id: 15xHXYty3TvHWI56hSagt11q-fXg8H-Xao
title: BookCrossing, id: 1UBNtfrt6niZ6ad3p_Bbys15pmKVg7fkq
title: Yelp2, id: 117_23fep26PWLAPTCWBitChCW17DTINT
title: Colab Notebooks, id: 1D1Kjnr4ZJkGIIzTqHV3A7SwMZCZdUvn8
title: Yelp, id: 1G0-MKdJMIZHCCENP_8_GK3aQKYl_435
title: DLSD_Project, id: 1_aiIGyPkPSojOrZLHWBD2eP-JayI_dB
title: Getting started, id: 08zLIX_JXOSMSc3RhcnRlc19maWxl
 In [0]: file_list = drive.ListFile({'q': "'160-MKdJMIzHCcEnP_8_6Gk3aQKyl_435' in parents and trashed=false"}).GetList()
for file1 in file_list:
                        for file1 in file_list:
print('title: %s, id: %s' % (file1['title'], file1['id']))
                      print('title: %s, id: %s' % (file1['title'], file1['id']))

title: user_mapping.pickle, id: 1ZVPjsWGwK0qXg3Wh5e2SnQYstk6tFSfp
title: business_mapping.pickle, id: 10j46ti8KLY4QFH3X8_PORNvOmSXBRPME
title: review_enc_3Mc.csv, id: lm5ipRxAg3_Nt2b0BqUalirihbdiqXg5P
title: review_enc_12Mc.csv, id: 1m1doi0iv4zr8M7PD002W42JHtVPySkIF
title: review_enc_2Mc.csv, id: 1fxfkaQpvemH4G110Q0-8GfyaC19PyXnQ
title: review_enc_3M.csv, id: 1fxfkaQpvemH4G110Q0-8GfyaC19PyXnQ
title: review_enc_3M.csv, id: 15zg4xaoocd143Z0MwybSxD18f3gxRct
title: review_enc_1Mc.csv, id: 15zg4xaoocd143Z0MwybSxD18f3gxRct
title: review_enc_1Mc.csv, id: 17snwcnZn1Mba2P6WGoQg5mySy1W9WB-8
title: review_enc_10eK.csv, id: 17snwcnZn1Mba2P6WGoQg5mySy1W9WB-8
title: business_enc.csv, id: 18AHXH3p5NIGPWqIBWIG_GieXfW5fc02F
title: review_enc.csv, id: 112UBfXYPtgkS3dIIOKVwXNGj_m6V-UZL
title: review_15000.csv, id: 11LXIXJ9ijq2qqM-XP-y1qV-fvWloS1ZP9
title: review_15000.csv, id: 1fgh6Ba2MUN-1Xc93ZY7nqHFeIddScShnyG
title: review_10000.csv, id: 1fgh6Ba2MUN-1Xc93ZY7nqHFeIddScShnyG
title: review_11000.csv, id: 1fgh6Fk-t1NBDnDRN8kfaMXx3brE8cgfVx
title: review_10000.csv, id: 1fghf6ktVh_INV7KDSEDeHT2fhilaGrN3
title: review_10000.csv, id: 1fghf6ktVh_INV7KDSEDeHT2fhilaGrN3
title: review_10000.csv, id: 1fgyf6ktVh_INV7KDSEDeHT2fhilaGrN3
title: review_10000.csv, id: 113QKzlE-EWBXSUE288ALRCy3cgnDuKyE
  In [0]: for file1 in file_list:
    if('_enc') in file1['title']:
        id = file1['id']
        filed = drive.CreateFile({'id': id})
                                    filename = file1['title']
print(filename)
fileId.GetContentFile(filename) # Save Drive file as a local file
                         review_enc_30K.csv
review_enc_20K.csv
review_enc_10K.csv
review_enc_3M.csv
review_enc_1M.csv
cftest_enc.csv
review_enc_100K.csv
                          user_enc.csv
business_enc.csv
                           review_enc.csv
                         Loading and parsing datasets
  In [0]: ratings_raw_data = pd.read_csv('review_enc_10K.csv')
ratings_raw_data_header = ratings_raw_data.columns
                         ratings_data = ratings_raw_data[['user_id', 'business_id', 'stars']]
ratings_data.columns = ['user_id', 'business_id', 'stars']
                         ratings_data.head(3)
  Out[0]:
                                   user_id business_id
                                                                                        stars
                           0 1158189
                                                       176750
                                                                                        1.0
                           1 1599679 74082
                                                                                       5.0
                           2 1307908 100927
                                                                                       5.0
  In [0]: ratings_data.shape
  Out[0]: (10000, 3)
In [0]: business_raw_data = pd.read_csv('business_enc.csv', encoding = "latin-1") business_raw_data_header = business_raw_data.columns
                       business_data = business_raw_data.replace(to_replace='None', value=np.nan)
                       business_raw_data.head()
                       /usr/local/lib/python3.6/dist-packages/IPython/core/interactiveshell.py:2718: DtypeWarning: Columns (6,28,31) have mixed types. Specify dtype option on import or set low_memory=False. interactivity=interactivity, compiler=compiler, result=result)
```

Out[0]:

	address	attributes	attributes_AcceptsInsurance	attributes_AgesAllowed	attributes_Alcohol	attributes_Ambience	attributes_BYOB	attrib
0	2818 E Camino Acequia Drive	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN
1	30 Eglinton Avenue W	NaN	NaN	NaN	u'full_bar'	{'romantic': False, 'intimate': False, 'classy	NaN	NaN
2	10110 Johnston Rd, Ste 15	NaN	NaN	NaN	u'beer_and_wine'	{'romantic': False, 'intimate': False, 'touris	NaN	NaN
3	15655 W Roosevelt St, Ste 237	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN
4	4209 Stuart Andrew Blvd, Ste F	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN

In [0]: business_data.shape

```
Out[0]: (192609, 60)
```

```
In [0]: user_raw_data = pd.read_csv('user_enc.csv')
user_raw_data_header = user_raw_data.columns

user_data = user_raw_data[['user_id', 'name']]
user_raw_data.head()
```

Out[0]:

	user_id	name	review_count	yelping_since	useful	fans	average_stars
0	1256813	Rashmi	95	2013-10-08 23:11:33	84	5	4.03
1	141378	Jenna	33	2013-02-21 22:29:06	48	4	3.63
2	1013852	David	16	2013-10-04 00:16:10	28	0	3.71
3	1054713	Angela	17	2014-05-22 15:57:30	30	5	4.85
4	596783	Nancy	361	2013-10-23 07:02:50	1114	39	4.08

```
In [0]: user_data.shape
```

Out[0]: (1637138, 2)

Data Cleaning

```
In [0]: ratings_data_nodup = ratings_data.drop_duplicates()
    print("Before:", ratings_data.shape)
    print("Heri", ratings_data_nodup.shape)

Before: (10000, 3)
    After: (9991, 3)

In [0]: idx_dup = np.where(ratings_data_nodup.index.duplicated())
    print(idx_dup)
    (array([], dtype=int64),)

In [0]: #Filter records for users who have rated at least 5 businesses
    user_rating_counts = ratings_data_nodup['user_id'].value_counts()
    print(user_rating_counts.shape[0])

9366

In [0]: #Filter records for businesses who have rated at least 5 ratings
    business_rating_counts = ratings_data_nodup['business_id'].value_counts()
    print(business_rating_counts.shape[0])

4618

In [0]: rating_counts = ratings_data_nodup['stars'].value_counts()
    rating_counts
    rating_counts

Out[0]: $.0     4418
    4.0     2177
    1.0     1527
    3.0     1069
    2.0     800
    Name: stars, dtype: int64
```

Dataset Presentation

Scikit-SurpriseLib

Train/Test Split

Collaborative Filtering

```
In [0]: for Algo in ["KNNBasic", 'KNNWithMeans', 'KNNWithZScore']:
                for sim_metric in [ 'cosine', 'pearson', 'msd', 'pearson_baseline']:
                   if(Algo == "KNWBasic"):
    model_user = KNNBasic(sim_options=sim_options, verbose=False)
elif(Algo == "KNNWithWeans"):
    model_user = KNNWithWeans(sim_options=sim_options, verbose=False)
elif(Algo == "KNNWithZscore"):
    model_user = KNNWithZscore(sim_options=sim_options, verbose=False)
                    model user.fit(training)
                    predictions user = model user.test(test for predict)
                    # Then compute RMSE
                    error_user = accuracy.rmse(predictions_user)
                   # best RMSE score
print('Algo: {}, similarity metric: {}, RMSE: {}'.format(Algo, sim_metric, error_user))
              RMSE: 1.4733
Algo: KNNBasic, similarity metric: cosine, RMSE: 1.473314935577257
RMSE: 1.4739
              Algo: KNNBasic, similarity metric: pearson, RMSE: 1.4738796557934557
              RMSE: 1.4733
              RVISE: 1.4733
Algo: KNNBasic, similarity metric: msd, RMSE: 1.473314935577257
RMSE: 1.4739
Algo: KNNBasic, similarity metric: pearson_baseline, RMSE: 1.4738796557934557
RMSE: 1.4932
Algo: KNNWithWeans, similarity metric: cosine, RMSE: 1.4932031581304874
              Algo: KNNWith
RMSE: 1.4936
             RMSE: 1.4936
Algo: KNNWithMeans, similarity metric: pearson, research (1.4932
Algo: KNNWithMeans, similarity metric: msd, RMSE: 1.4932031581304874
RMSE: 1.4936
Algo: KNNWithMeans, similarity metric: pearson_baseline, RMSE: 1.4935800059696343
              RMSE: 1.4936
              Algo: KNNWithZScore, similarity metric: pearson, RMSE: 1.4935800059696343
RMSE: 1.4931
Algo: KNNWithZScore, similarity metric: msd, RMSE: 1.4930825798422611
              RMSE: 1.4936
Algo: KNNWithZScore, similarity metric: pearson_baseline, RMSE: 1.4935800059696343
```

Matrix Factorization

Spark ML

Train/Test split

Matrix Factorization

```
In [0]: seed = 5
iterations = 25
regularisation_parameter = 5.0
regularisation_parameter = 6.0.2

min_error = [0, 0, 0, 0]
min_error = float('inf')
best_rank = -1
b
```

Recommendation

```
In [0]:

testSubject = 956232

print("\nsullding recommendation model...")

trainset = data.build_full_trainset()

model = SVDPp(n_epochs=40, lr_all=0.01, reg_all=0.2)

model.fit(trainset)

print("Computing recommendations...")

trainset = data.build_full_trainset()

fill = trainset.globel_mean

anti_testset = []

u = trainset.to_inner_uid(testSubject)

user_items = set([] for (f, _) in trainset.ur[u]])

anti_testset += [(trainset.to_raw_uid(u), trainset.to_raw_uid(i), fill) for

i in trainset.all_items() if

testset = anti_testset

predictions = model.test(testSet)

recommendations = []

print ("\text{"twe recommend:"})

for user_id, business_id, stars, estimatedRating, _ in predictions:

recommendations.append((business_id, estimatedRating)))

recommendations.append((business_id, estimatedRating))

recommendations.append((business_id, estimatedRating))

recommendations = []

print (business_data[business_data.business_id == ratings[0]]["name"].values[0], ratings[1])

sullding recommendation model...

Computing recommendation model...

We recommend:
Animal kindness Veterinary Hospital 4.542446337259187

Gio Rana's Really Really kide Restaurant 4.528699723489563

singgio's Pizzeria 4.51663373064823

Nikii's Akropolis Pizzeria 4.45142315121283

Clear View Nome Inspections 4.453661394887028

Poka Gatcher 4.4436391808305

Poka Gatcher 4.4436391808305

Poka Gatcher 4.4436391808305

Poka Gatcher 4.443639180805

Poka Gatcher 4.45369180805

Poka Gat
```

10 Project Poster

10.1 Poster



YelperAssistant

Project Overview

Introduction: Yelp is a search service using crowd-sourced reviews about local businesses and facilitates searching for events, lists and communication between Yelp users

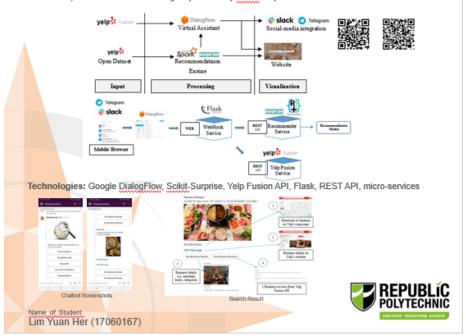
Problem: Non user-friendly search interface coupled with generic information not personalized to user's interest resulting in onerous search experience

Requirements:

- To develop a personalized recommender based on reviews data
- To provide a virtual assistant interface to allow users to query for personalized recommendations and to facilitate Yelp information search

Solution:

Slack/Telegram chatbot powered by Google DialogFlow with fulfilment by Yelp Fusion API (for Yelp information) and recommendation engine powered by Scikit-Surprise.



10.2 Source File

