



# Disentangling Long and Short-Term Interests for Recommendation

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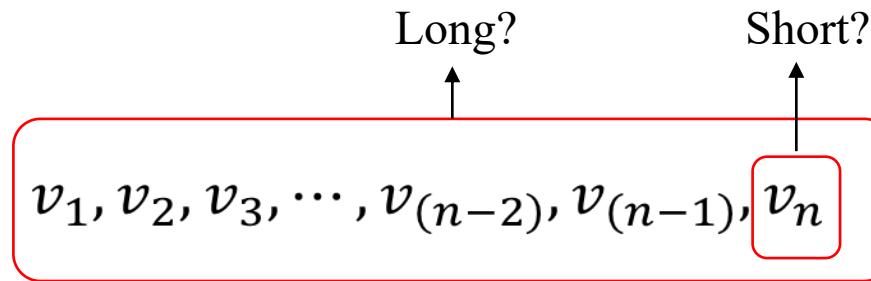


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Reported by Gu Tang

# Introduction



$$\zeta = \begin{cases} U_l = f_1(U), \\ U_s^{(t)} = f_2(U_s^{(t-1)}, V^{(t-1)}, Y^{(t-1)}, U), \\ Y^{(t)} = f_3(U_l, U_s^{(t)}, V^{(t)}, U), \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

$$(2)$$

$$(3)$$

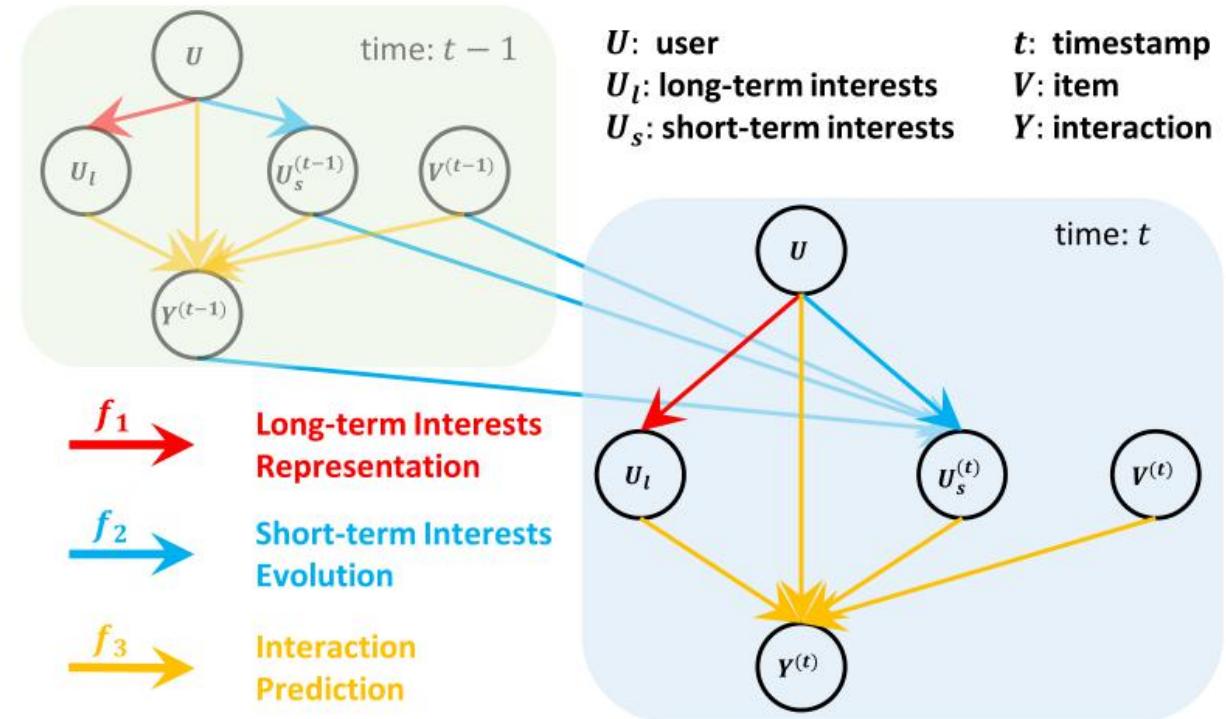
case as a toy example, suppose a recommendation model entangles LS-term interests as follows,

$$U'_l = 0.6U_l + 0.4U_s, \quad U'_s = 0.4U_l + 0.6U_s, \quad (4)$$

where  $U'_l$  and  $U'_s$  are the learned entangled interests. Given the fusion weights (importance) of LS-term interests as 0.8 and 0.2 respectively, the actual fused interests are computed as follows,

$$U'_{fuse} = 0.8U'_l + 0.2U'_s = 0.56U_l + 0.44U_s, \quad (5)$$

which is quite different from the desired interests.



**Figure 1: User interests modeling  $\zeta$  (best viewed in color) which consists of three mechanisms, namely long-term interests representation (red edges), short-term interests evolution (blue edges) and interaction prediction (yellow edges).**

# Method

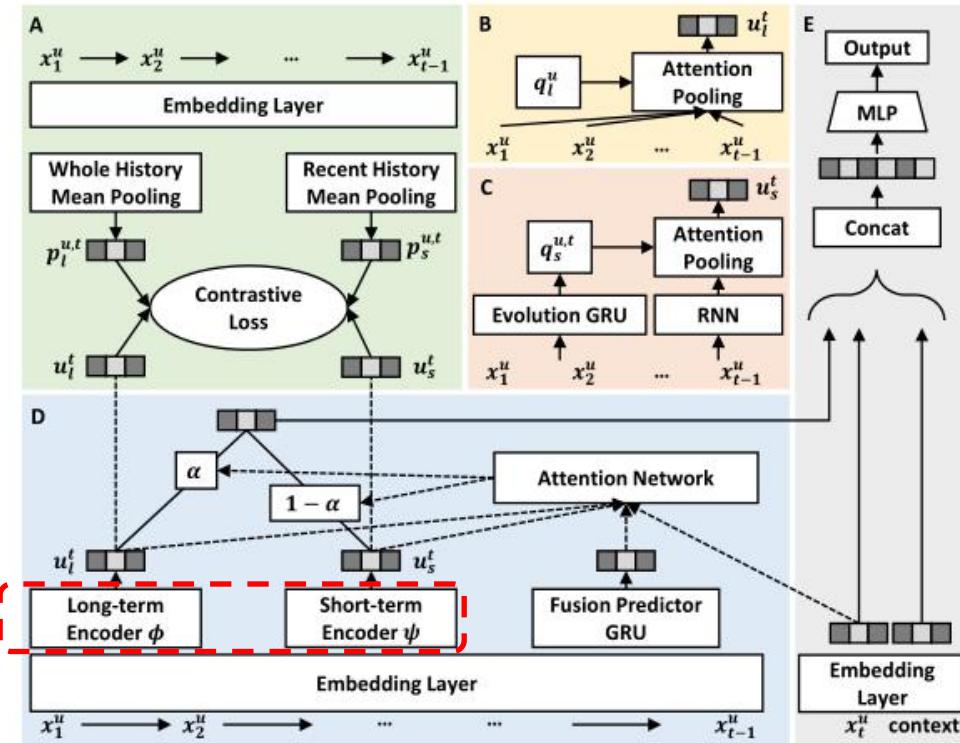


Figure 2: Our proposed CLSR framework based on self-supervised learning. A) contrastive tasks on the similarity between representations and proxies of LS-term interests to enhance disentanglement; B) long-term interests encoder  $\phi$ ; C) short-term interests encoder  $\psi$ ; D) adaptive fusion of LS-term interests with attention on the target item and historical interactions; E) interaction prediction network.

$\rho$  represents a RNN model.

$\tau_l$  is a multi-layer perceptrons

$\tau_l$  映射到一维

$$q_l^u = \text{Embed}(u), \quad (6)$$

$$q_s^{u,t} = \text{GRU}([x_1^u], \dots, [x_t^u]), \quad (7)$$

$$u_l^t = \phi(q_l^u, \{x_1^u, \dots, x_t^u\}), \quad (8)$$

$$u_s^t = \psi(q_s^{u,t}, \{x_1^u, \dots, x_t^u\}), \quad (9)$$

$$v_j = W_l E(x_j^u), \quad (10)$$

$$\alpha_j = \tau_l(v_j \| q_l^u \| (v_j - q_l^u) \| (v_j \cdot q_l^u)), \quad (11)$$

$$a_j = \frac{\exp(\alpha_j)}{\sum_{i=1}^t \exp(\alpha_i)}, \quad (12)$$

$$u_l^t = \sum_{j=1}^t a_j \cdot E(x_j^u). \quad (13)$$

$$\{o_1^u, \dots, o_t^u\} = \rho(\{E(x_1^u), \dots, E(x_t^u)\}), \quad (14)$$

$$v_j = W_s o_j^u, \quad (15)$$

Time4LSTM [47]. Similar as Eqn (10) and (11), we use  $q_s^{u,t}$  as the query vector, and obtain attention scores  $b_k$ . Then the learned representation for short-term interests can be computed as follows,

$$u_s^t = \sum_{j=1}^t b_j \cdot o_j^u.$$

# Method

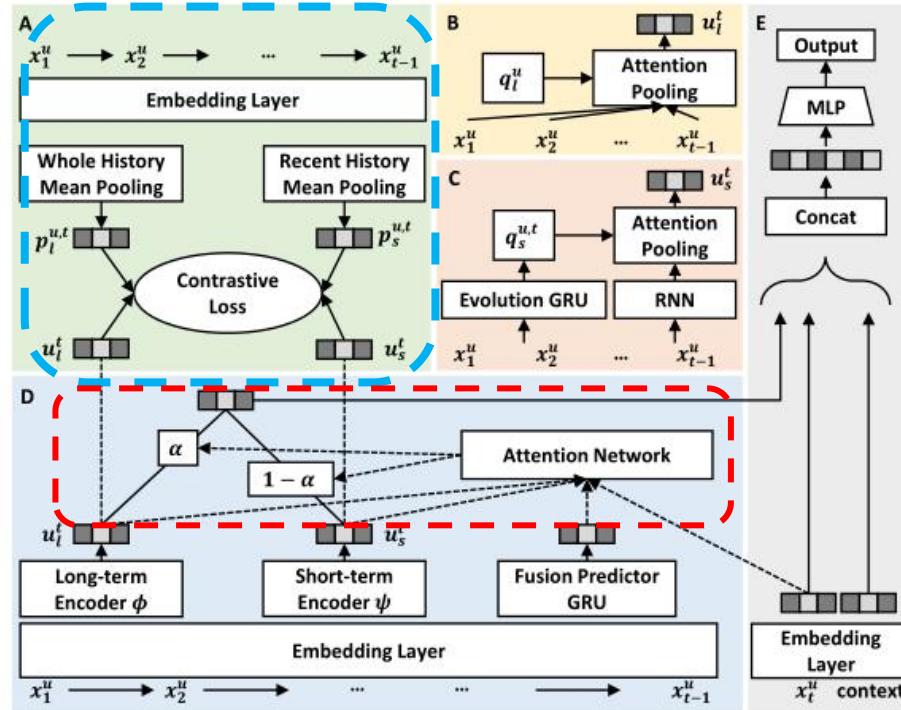


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denotes a positive margin value. Both  $\mathcal{L}_{bpr}$  and  $\mathcal{L}_{tri}$  are designed for making the anchor  $a$  more similar to the positive sample  $p$  than the negative sample  $q$ . Thus the contrastive loss for self-supervised

$$p_l^{u,t} = \text{MEAN}(\bar{\{x_1^u, \dots, x_t^u\}}) = \frac{1}{t} \sum_{j=1}^t E(x_j^u), \quad (17)$$

$$p_s^{u,t} = \text{MEAN}(\{x_{t-k+1}^u, \dots, x_t^u\}) = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{j=1}^k E(x_{t-j+1}^u), \quad (18)$$

$$\rightarrow sim(u_l^t, p_l^{u,t}) > sim(u_l^t, p_s^{u,t}), \quad (19)$$

$$sim(p_l^{u,t}, u_l^t) > sim(p_l^{u,t}, u_s^t), \quad (20)$$

$$sim(u_s^t, p_s^{u,t}) > sim(u_s^t, p_l^{u,t}), \quad (21)$$

$$sim(p_s^{u,t}, u_s^t) > sim(p_s^{u,t}, u_l^t), \quad (22)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{bpr}(a, p, q) = \sigma(\langle a, q \rangle - \langle a, p \rangle), \quad (23)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{tri}(a, p, q) = \max\{d(a, p) - d(a, q) + m, 0\}, \quad (24)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{con}^{u,t} = f(u_l, p_l, p_s) + f(p_l, u_l, u_s) + f(u_s, p_s, p_l) + f(p_s, u_s, u_l) \quad (25)$$

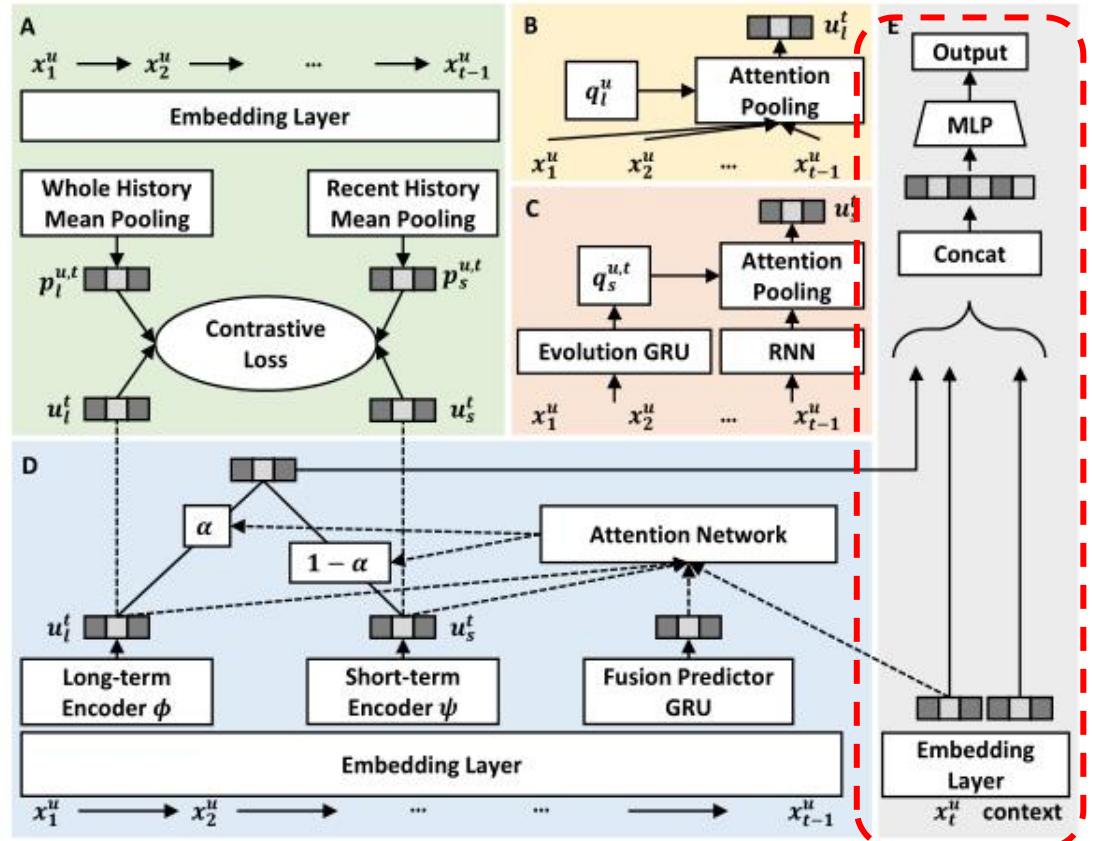


$$\mathbf{h}_t^u = \text{GRU}(\{E(x_1^u), \dots, E(x_t^u)\}), \quad (26)$$

$$\alpha = \sigma(\tau_f(\mathbf{h}_t^u \| E(x_{t+1}^u) \| \mathbf{u}_l^t \| \mathbf{u}_s^t)), \quad (27)$$

$$\mathbf{u}^t = \alpha \cdot \mathbf{u}_l^t + (1 - \alpha) \cdot \mathbf{u}_s^t, \quad (28)$$

# Method



$$\hat{y}_{u,v}^{t+1} = \text{MLP}(\mathbf{u}^t \| E(v)). \quad (29)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{rec}}^{u,t} = -\frac{1}{N} \sum_{v \in O} y_{u,v}^{t+1} \log(\hat{y}_{u,v}^{t+1}) + (1 - y_{u,v}^{t+1}) \log(1 - \hat{y}_{u,v}^{t+1}), \quad (30)$$

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{u=1}^M \sum_{t=1}^{T_u} (\mathcal{L}_{\text{rec}}^{u,t} + \beta \mathcal{L}_{\text{con}}^{u,t}) + \lambda \|\Theta\|_2, \quad (31)$$

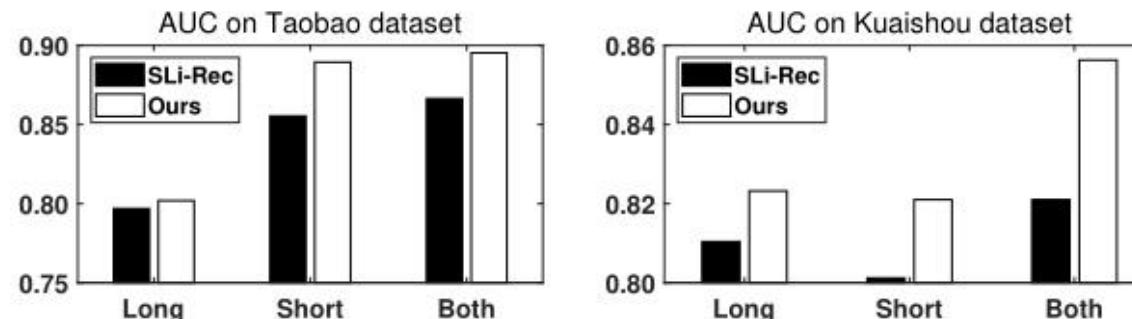
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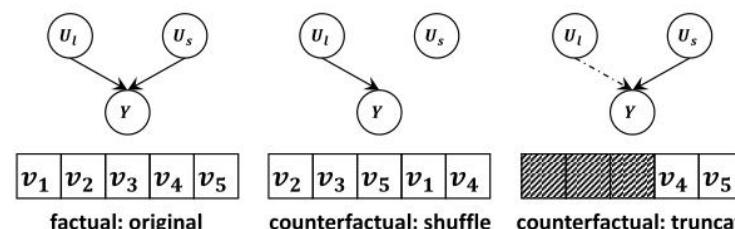
**Table 2: Overall performance on Taobao and Kuaishou datasets. Underline means the best two baselines, bold means  $p$ -value  $< 0.05$ , \* means  $p$ -value  $< 0.01$ , and \*\* means  $p$ -value  $< 0.001$ .**

Dataset		Taobao				Kuaishou			
Category	Method	AUC	GAUC	MRR	NDCG@2	AUC	GAUC	MRR	NDCG@2
Long-term	NCF	0.7128	0.7221	0.1446	0.0829	0.5559	0.5531	0.7734	0.8327
	DIN	0.7637	0.8524	0.3091	0.2352	0.6160	0.7483	0.8863	0.9160
	LightGCN	0.7483	0.7513	0.1669	0.1012	0.6403	0.6407	0.8175	0.8653
Short-term	Caser	0.8312	0.8499	0.3508	0.2890	0.7795	0.8097	0.9100	0.9336
	GRU4REC	0.8635	0.8680	0.3993	<u>0.3422</u>	0.8156	<u>0.8298</u>	<u>0.9166</u>	<u>0.9384</u>
	DIEN	0.8477	<u>0.8745</u>	<u>0.4011</u>	0.3404	0.7037	0.7800	0.9030	0.9284
	SASRec	0.8598	0.8635	0.3915	0.3340	<u>0.8199</u>	0.8293	0.9161	0.9380
	SURGE	<u>0.8906</u>	<u>0.8888</u>	<u>0.4228</u>	<u>0.3625</u>	<u>0.8525</u>	<u>0.8610</u>	<u>0.9316</u>	<u>0.9495</u>
LS-term	SLi-Rec	<u>0.8664</u>	0.8669	0.3617	0.2971	0.7978	0.8128	0.9075	0.9318
	Ours	<b>0.8953**</b>	<b>0.8936**</b>	<b>0.4372**</b>	<b>0.3788**</b>	<b>0.8563</b>	<b>0.8718</b>	<b>0.9382*</b>	<b>0.9544*</b>

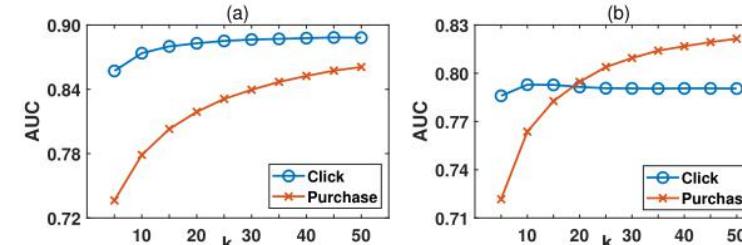
# Experiment



**Figure 3: Comparison of using single and both interests between CLSR and SLi-Rec.**



**Figure 4: Counterfactual evaluation.** Shuffle: short-term interests are removed by shuffling. Truncate: long-term interests are weakened by discarding early history.



**Figure 5: Counterfactual evaluation under truncate protocol.**  
(a) CLSR. (b) CLSR with only long-term interests.

**Table 3: Comparison between CLSR and SLi-Rec on predicting click and purchase/like.**

Dataset	Method	Click		Purchase/Like	
		AUC	AVG( $\alpha$ )	AUC	AVG( $\alpha$ )
Taobao	SLi-Rec	0.8572	0.4651	0.8288	0.4350 (-6.47%)
	CLSR	0.8885	0.3439	0.8616	0.3568 (+3.75%)
Kuaishou	SLi-Rec	0.8153	0.7259	0.7924	0.7543 (+3.91%)
	CLSR	0.8618	0.2528	0.7946	0.2757 (+9.06%)

**Table 4: Counterfactual evaluation under shuffle protocol.**

Dataset	Method	Click		Purchase/Like	
		AUC	MRR	AUC	MRR
Taobao	SLi-Rec	0.8092	0.2292	0.8480	0.3151
	CLSR	<b>0.8413</b>	<b>0.2744</b>	<b>0.8790</b>	<b>0.4194</b>
Kuaishou	SLi-Rec	0.7992	0.9088	0.8165	0.9113
	CLSR	<b>0.8431</b>	<b>0.9380</b>	<b>0.8197</b>	<b>0.9167</b>

# Experiments

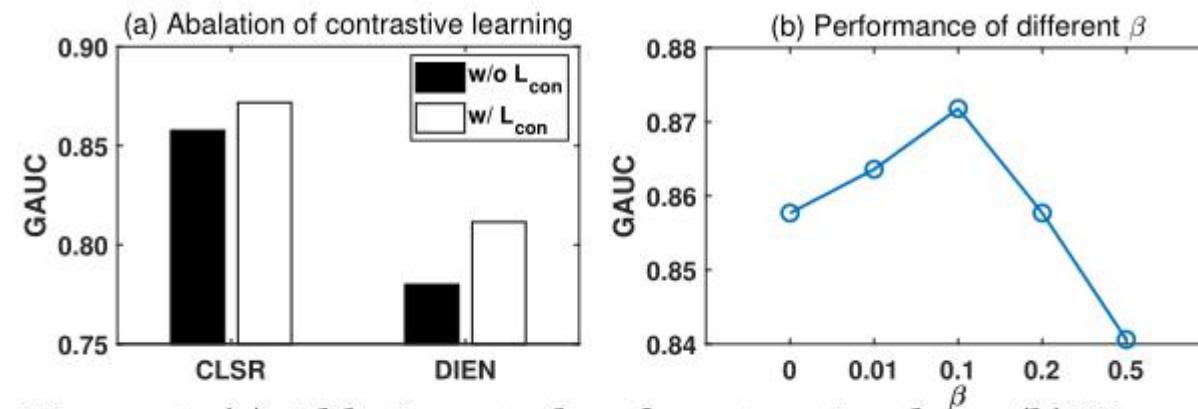


Figure 6: (a) Ablation study of contrastive loss. (b) Hyper-parameter study of  $\beta$ .

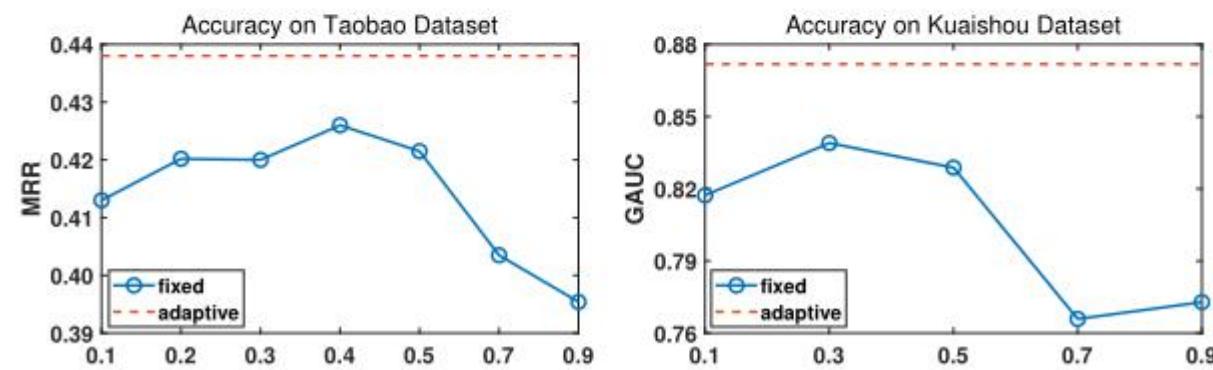


Figure 7: Comparison between adaptive and fixed fusion.



# Thanks