

### **One for All, All for One: Learning and Transferring User Embeddings for Cross-Domain Recommendation**

Chenglin Li University of Alberta Edmonton, AB, Canada

Yuanzhen Xie Platform and Content Group, Tencent Shenzhen, China

Chenyun Yu Sun Yat-sen University Shenzhen, China

Bo Hu Platform and Content Group, Tencent Shenzhen, China

Zang Li Platform and Content Group, Tencent Shenzhen, China

Guoqiang Shu Platform and Content Group, Tencent Shenzhen, China

Xiaohu Qie Platform and Content Group, Tencent Shenzhen, China

Di Niu University of Alberta Edmonton, AB, Canada

#### https://github.com/Chain123/CAT-ART







Leibniz-Institut







Chongqing University of Technology

ATAI Advanced Technique of Artificial Intelligence



### **1.Introduction**

2.Method

### **3.Experiments**







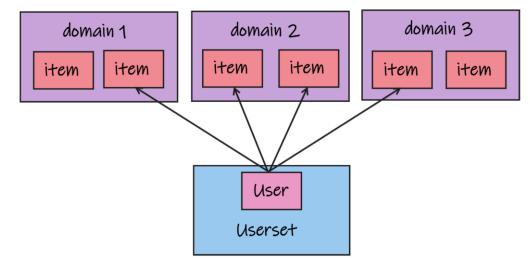






## Introduction

- The cross-domain user representation, extracted directly on the collected data from all domains, may be severely biased by the domains with richer data and may fail to model the user preferences in sparse domains.
- 2. Directly transferring these features may cause performance degradation in the target domain due to various reasons, e.g., low-quality embeddings transferred from irrelevant domains.





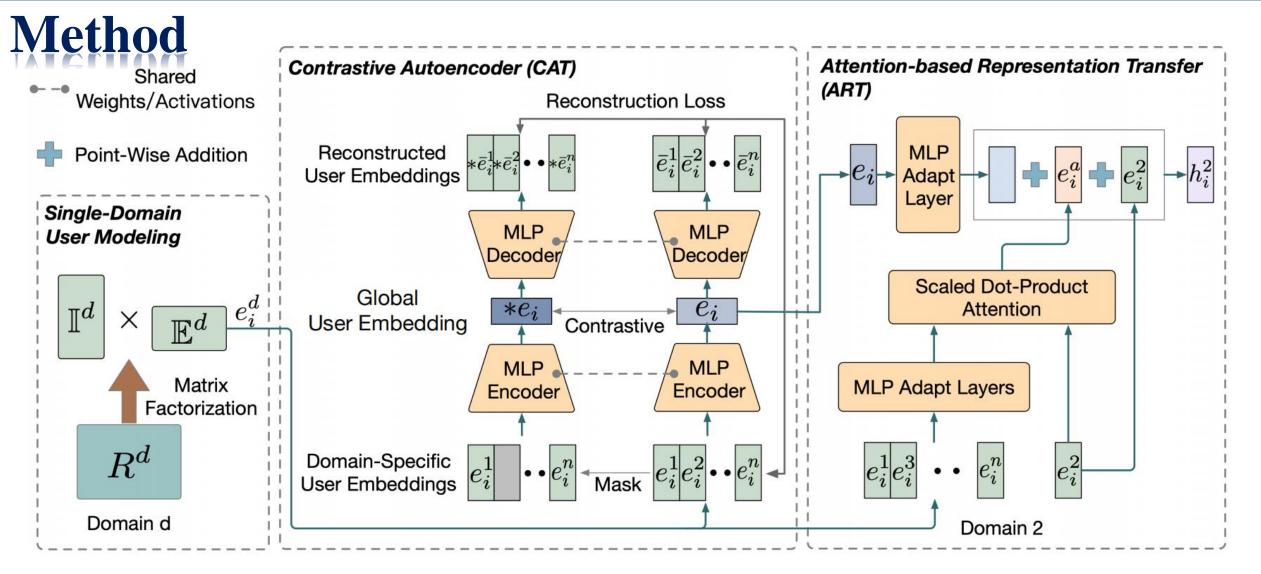


Figure 1: The architecture of the CAT-ART model. The CAT module takes domain-specific user embeddings as input and generates global user representation in a self-supervised manner. Then, the global user embedding  $e_i$  and the domain-specific embeddings from all the other domains are transferred to a target domain, e.g., domain 2, for boosted recommendations.



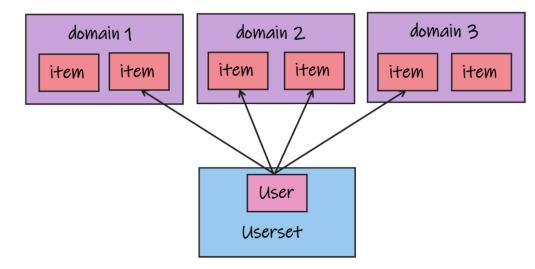
### Method

### Preliminaries

a global user set U, and item sets  $\{V_1, \dots, V_n\}$  in  $n \ge 3$  domains.

matrix  $\mathbb{R}^d$  shape  $|U| \times |V_d|$ for user *i* and item *j* in domain  $d, r_{ij}^d \in [0, 1]$ ,

Our goal is to improve the recommendation accuracy in all n domains simultaneously based on the interaction matrices.





## Method

**Domain-specific User Embedding** 

$$r_{ij}^d = \boldsymbol{e}_i^d \boldsymbol{I}_j^d.$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{bpr}^{d} = -\sum_{i \in U} \sum_{j \in p_i^d} \sum_{l \notin p_i^d} \log \sigma(r_{ij}^d - r_{il}^d),$$

#### **Contrastive Autoencoder**

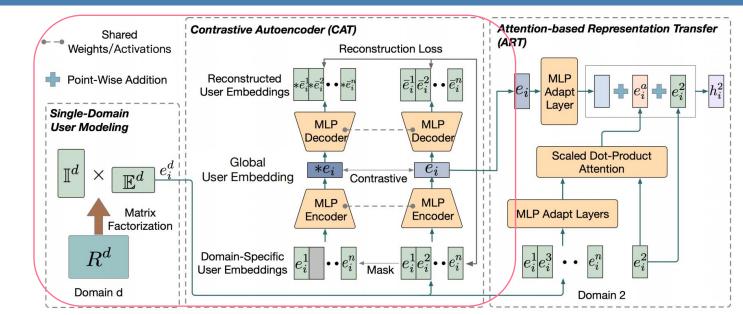
$$\boldsymbol{e}_{i} = \mathrm{MLP}_{\mathrm{enc}}(\boldsymbol{e}_{i}^{1} \boldsymbol{e}_{i}^{2} \cdots \boldsymbol{e}_{i}^{n})$$
$$\bar{\boldsymbol{e}}_{i}^{1} \boldsymbol{\bar{e}}_{i}^{2} \cdots \boldsymbol{\bar{e}}_{i}^{n} = \mathrm{MLP}_{\mathrm{dec}}(\boldsymbol{e}_{i}), \qquad (2)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{rec} = \frac{1}{|U|} \sum_{i \in U} \sum_{d=1}^{n} ||\boldsymbol{e}_{i}^{d} - \bar{\boldsymbol{e}}_{i}^{d}||_{2}.$$
(3)

(1)

$$\boldsymbol{e}_{i}^{1} \widehat{\boldsymbol{e}_{m}} \cdots \widehat{\boldsymbol{e}_{i}^{n}} = \operatorname{Mask}(\boldsymbol{e}_{i}^{1} \widehat{\boldsymbol{e}_{i}^{2}} \cdots \widehat{\boldsymbol{e}_{i}^{n}})$$

$$*\boldsymbol{e}_{i} = \operatorname{MLP}_{\operatorname{enc}}(\boldsymbol{e}_{i}^{1} \widehat{\boldsymbol{e}_{m}} \cdots \widehat{\boldsymbol{e}_{i}^{n}})$$
(4)



$$\phi(\boldsymbol{e}_i, \ast \boldsymbol{e}_i) = \frac{\boldsymbol{e}_i \ast \boldsymbol{e}_i^T}{|\boldsymbol{e}_i|| \ast \boldsymbol{e}_i|}$$

$$l_{i} = -\log \frac{\exp(\phi(\boldsymbol{e}_{i}, \ast \boldsymbol{e}_{i})/\tau)}{\sum_{k=1}^{N} \exp(\phi(\boldsymbol{e}_{i}, \ast \boldsymbol{e}_{k})/\tau)} - \log \frac{\exp(\phi(\ast \boldsymbol{e}_{i}, \boldsymbol{e}_{i})/\tau)}{\sum_{k=1}^{N} \exp(\phi(\ast \boldsymbol{e}_{i}, \boldsymbol{e}_{k})/\tau)},$$
(5)



## Method

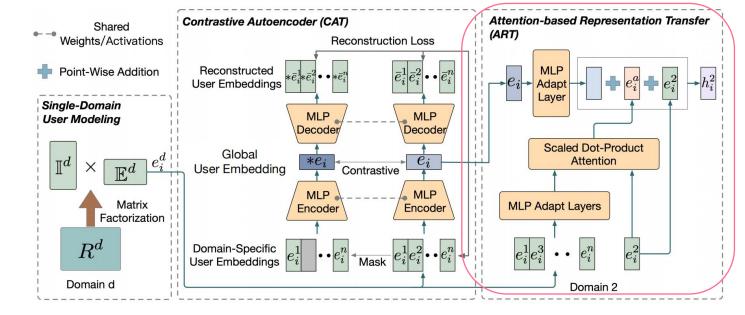
$$*\bar{\boldsymbol{e}}_{i}^{1} \widehat{\boldsymbol{e}}_{i}^{2} \widehat{\boldsymbol{e}}_{i}^{2} \widehat{\boldsymbol{e}}_{i}^{n} = \mathrm{MLP}_{\mathrm{dec}}(*\boldsymbol{e}_{i}),$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{rec}^{*} = \frac{1}{|U|} \sum_{i \in U} \sum_{d=1}^{n} ||\boldsymbol{e}_{i}^{d} - *\bar{\boldsymbol{e}}_{i}^{d}||_{2}.$$

$$(6)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{cat} = \alpha_{1} \mathcal{L}_{rec} + \alpha_{2} \mathcal{L}_{rec}^{*} + (1 - \alpha_{1} - \alpha_{2}) \sum_{i=1}^{|U|} l_{i},$$

$$(7)$$



**Attention-based Representation Transfer** 

$$Q = \boldsymbol{e}_{i}^{d}$$

$$K = V = MLP_{adapt}(\{\boldsymbol{e}_{i}^{k}\}, k \neq d) \qquad (8)$$

$$\boldsymbol{e}_{i}^{a} = Attention(Q, K, V) = \operatorname{softmax}(\frac{QK^{T}}{\sqrt{m}})V,$$

$$\boldsymbol{h}_{i}^{d} = \boldsymbol{e}_{i}^{d} + \mathrm{MLP}_{\mathrm{ind}}(\boldsymbol{e}_{i}) + \boldsymbol{e}_{i}^{a}, \qquad (9)$$

### **Model Training**

- 1. Train multiple single domain with eq(1)
- 2. Train CAT with eq(7)
- 3. Fixed single domain embedding and global embedding to train ART





#### Table 1: Statistics of the Collected Dataset with 5 Domains.

Domain	#Users	#Items	#Interactions	Density(‰)
App-Ins		100,000	101,981,793	0.874
APP-Use		100,000	18,156,535	0.155
Articles	1,166,552	50,000	102,832,656	1.763
Video-S		50,000	74,911,020	1.284
Video-L		50,000	11,412,988	0.196







#### Table 2: Results (in %) of the Proposed Method and Baselines. The $\downarrow$ represents negative transfer compared with SMF.

Model	Domain	Precision		Recall		NDCG	
		@10	@20	@10	@20	@10	@20
	APP-Ins	33.82±0.70	$25.46 \pm 0.88$	21.51±0.39	31.91±1.22	32.56±0.43	32.53±0.89
	APP-Use	20.91±0.23	$12.21 \pm 0.26$	65.5±0.89	75±1.50	57.39±1.46	60.81±1.72
SMF	Article	16.02±0.73	$12.05 \pm 0.58$	$16.64 \pm 0.43$	$23.25 \pm 0.40$	$21.59 \pm 1.30$	$21.93 \pm 1.06$
	Video-S	3.9±0.03	$3.86 \pm 0.02$	$3.59 \pm 0.44$	6.9±0.77	$3.83 \pm 0.13$	$4.84 \pm 0.25$
	Video-L	5.98±0.20	$3.91 \pm 0.10$	26.73±0.87	$34.6 \pm 0.88$	$20.37 \pm 1.19$	$22.91 \pm 1.2$
	APP-Ins	33.57±0.37↓	25.19±0.37↓	21.8±0.19	$32.05 \pm 0.43$	32.39±0.29↓	32.45±0.27↓
	APP-Use	20.41±0.11↓	12.17±0.05↓	64.91±0.27↓	$75.54 {\pm} 0.16$	43.99±0.78↓	47.89±0.74↓
CMF	Article	10.29±0.27↓	8.37±0.19↓	8.83±0.23↓	13.79±0.28↓	11.24±0.34↓	12.07±0.31↓
	Video-S	3.87±0.12	3.81±0.12↓	4.08±0.17	7.6±0.29	$4.00 \pm 0.14$	$5.04 \pm 0.18$
	Video-L	4.74±0.03↓	3.26±0.01↓	21.44±0.12↓	29.14±0.06↓	12.67±0.07↓	15.14±0.05↓
	APP-Ins	36.08±1.53	$27.11 \pm 0.41$	23.28±0.99	$34.29 \pm 0.44$	36.95±5.56	$36.53 \pm 4.02$
	APP-Use	$20.95 \pm 0.12$	$12.26 \pm 0.16$	65.55±0.44	$75.18 \pm 0.84$	55.67±2.71↓	59.14±2.52↓
MPF	Article	14.55±0.16↓	$11.14 \pm 0.11^{\downarrow}$	15.35±0.07↓	21.72±0.12↓	20.96±0.63↓	21.29±0.52↓
	Video-S	3.63±0.29↓	3.67±0.13↓	3.71±0.30	$7.16 \pm 0.68$	$3.85 \pm 0.40$	$4.91 \pm 0.11$
	Video-L	2.74±0.95↓	2.09±0.52↓	11.96±4.31↓	18.2±4.66↓	8.03±3.65↓	10.01±3.79↓
	APP-Ins	16.77±0.05↓	10.35±0.02↓	11.7±0.01↓	14.37±0.03↓	17.81±0.08↓	16.01±0.03↓
	APP-Use	13.88±0.05↓	10.46±0.01↓	45.44±0.13↓	67.2±0.16↓	32.35±0.13↓	40.16±0.1↓
GA-MTCDR	Article	4.62±0.13↓	3.73±0.03↓	4.12±0.14↓	6.37±0.11↓	6.22±0.18↓	6.36±0.13↓
	Video-S	3.44±0.03↓	3.1±0.02↓	3.48±0.08↓	6.03±0.06↓	4.22±0.05	$4.69 \pm 0.04$
	Video-L	3.18±0.15↓	2.22±0.07↓	14.21±0.74↓	19.76±0.54↓	10.46±0.63↓	12.23±0.49↓
HeroGRAPH-L	APP-Ins	34.05±2.01	24.47±1.16↓	22.34±1.14	31.61±1.35↓	40.5±1.91	38.12±1.51
	APP-Use	20.68±0.36↓	11.98±0.15↓	66.11±0.83	74.96±0.61↓	59.51±1.08	62.74±0.98
	Article	11.27±0.12↓	8.61±0.12↓	15.01±0.2↓	20.68±0.33↓	18.19±0.16↓	18.86±0.23↓
	Video-S	3.99±0.14	$3.7 \pm 0.15$	5.29±0.21	8.97±0.34	5.31±0.18	6.2±0.23
	Video-L	5.42±0.29↓	3.65±0.15↓	24.62±1.22↓	32.84±1.29↓	18.71±1.21↓	21.35±1.24
CAT-ART	APP-Ins	38.36±0.58	27.96±0.31	24.86±0.34	35.46±0.39	43.47±1.23	41.55±0.94
	APP-Use	<b>21.23</b> ±0.18	$12.33 \pm 0.18$	66.53±0.65	75.66±1.02	<b>59.98</b> ±0.86	63.27±1.02
	Article	16.82±0.21	12.4±0.13	18.76±0.56	$25.47 \pm 0.6$	25.97±0.61	25.79±0.58
	Video-S	3.93±0.08	3.93±0.06	3.83±0.50	$7.35 \pm 0.82$	$3.93 \pm 0.14$	$5.05 \pm 0.24$
	Video-L	6.08±0.09	3.96±0.08	27.18±0.39	35.01±0.67	<b>21.03</b> ±0.38	23.54±0.86





Table 3: Results (in %) of ablation studies. The  $\downarrow$  represents negative transfer compared with the SMF model.

Domain	Metric	SMF	+Autoencoder	+Contrastive	+ART	-Attention
App-Ins	Precision@10	33.82±0.70	$37.64 \pm 1.17$	$37.95 \pm 0.45$	<b>38.36</b> ±0.58	36.24±0.26
	Recall@10	21.51±0.39	$24.35 \pm 0.76$	$24.58 \pm 0.35$	$24.86 \pm 0.34$	$23.35 \pm 0.23$
	NDCG@10	$32.56 \pm 0.43$	$41.34 \pm 3.75$	$42.56 \pm 2.02$	<b>43.47</b> ±1.23	$36.08 \pm 1.54$
APP-Use	Precision@10	20.91±0.23	$21.00 \pm 0.11$	$21.08 \pm 0.23$	<b>21.23</b> ±0.18	21.01±0.07
	Recall@10	65.50±0.89	$65.77 \pm 0.33$	$66.01 \pm 0.88$	66.53±0.65	65.92±0.41
	NDCG@10	$57.39 \pm 1.46$	$59.09 \pm 0.37$	$58.61 \pm 0.40$	<b>59.98</b> ±0.86	59.28±0.24
	Precision@10	$16.02 \pm 0.73$	$16.54 \pm 0.46$	$16.46 \pm 0.34$	<b>16.82</b> ±0.21	$15.88 \pm 0.15^{\downarrow}$
Article	Recall@10	$16.64 \pm 0.43$	$17.48 \pm 1.21$	$17.19 \pm 1.13$	18.76±0.56	15.89±0.38↓
	NDCG@10	$21.59 \pm 1.30$	$23.98 \pm 2.28$	$23.54 \pm 2.75$	<b>25.97</b> ±0.61	$22.25 \pm 1.71$
	Precision@10	$3.89 \pm 0.025$	$3.91 \pm 0.08$	3.97±0.13	$3.93 \pm 0.08$	3.82±0.28↓
Video-S	Recall@10	$3.59 \pm 0.44$	$3.71 \pm 0.40$	$3.72 \pm 0.37$	3.83±0.50	3.46±0.25↓
	NDCG@10	$3.83 \pm 0.13$	$3.87 \pm 0.08$	$3.91 \pm 0.05$	<b>3.93</b> ±0.14	3.73±0.18↓
	Precision@10	$5.98 \pm 0.20$	$6.04 \pm 0.01$	$6.07 \pm 0.04$	6.08±0.09	5.86±0.03↓
Video-L	Recall@10	26.73±0.87	$27.00 \pm 0.08$	$27.17 \pm 0.20$	27.18±0.39	26.27±0.09↓
	NDCG@10	20.37±1.19	$21.00 \pm 0.14$	$21.12 \pm 0.21$	<b>21.03</b> ±0.38	20.26±0.15↓

- SMF: The single-domain Matrix Factorization (MF) model.
- +Autoencoder: We add the original autoencoder to extract global representations for CDR.
- +Contrastive: We further add the contrastive loss for the training of the autoencoder, i.e., the CAT module.
- **+ART**: The ART module is further incorporated to integrate domain-specific user embedding.
- -Attention: We remove the attention from the ART and only use MLP layers to integrate domain-specific features.



### Experiments

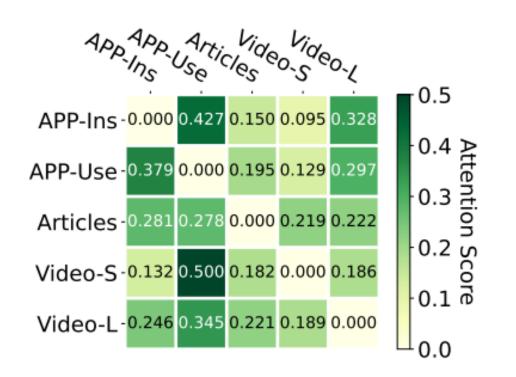


Figure 2: Averaged attention scores on the test set.



# Thank you!