



TREA: Tree-structure Reasoning Schema for Conversational Recommendation

Wendi Li^{1,2}, Wei Wei^{1,2,✉}, Xiaoye Qu¹,
Xianling Mao³, Ye Yuan⁴, Wenfeng Xie⁴, Dangyang Chen⁴

¹Cognitive Computing and Intelligent Information Processing (CCIIP) Laboratory,
Huazhong University of Science and Technology

²Joint Laboratory of HUST and Pingan Property & Casualty Research (HPL)

³Department of Computer Science and Technology, Beijing Institute of Technology

⁴Ping An Property & Casualty Insurance company of China

¹{wendili, weiw, xiaoye}@hust.edu.cn ³maoxl@bit.edu.cn

⁴{yuanye503, xiewenfeng801, chendangyang273}@pingan.com.cn

Code: <https://github.com/WindyLee0822/TREA>.

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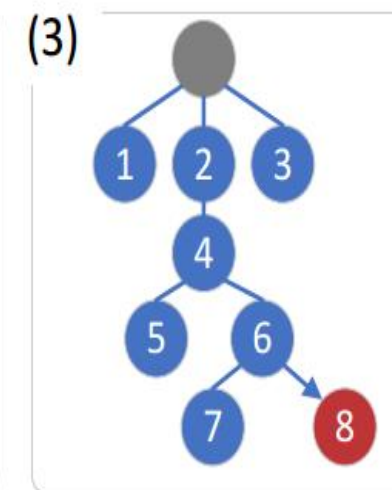
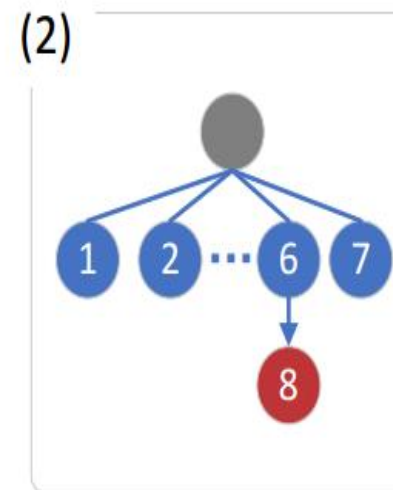
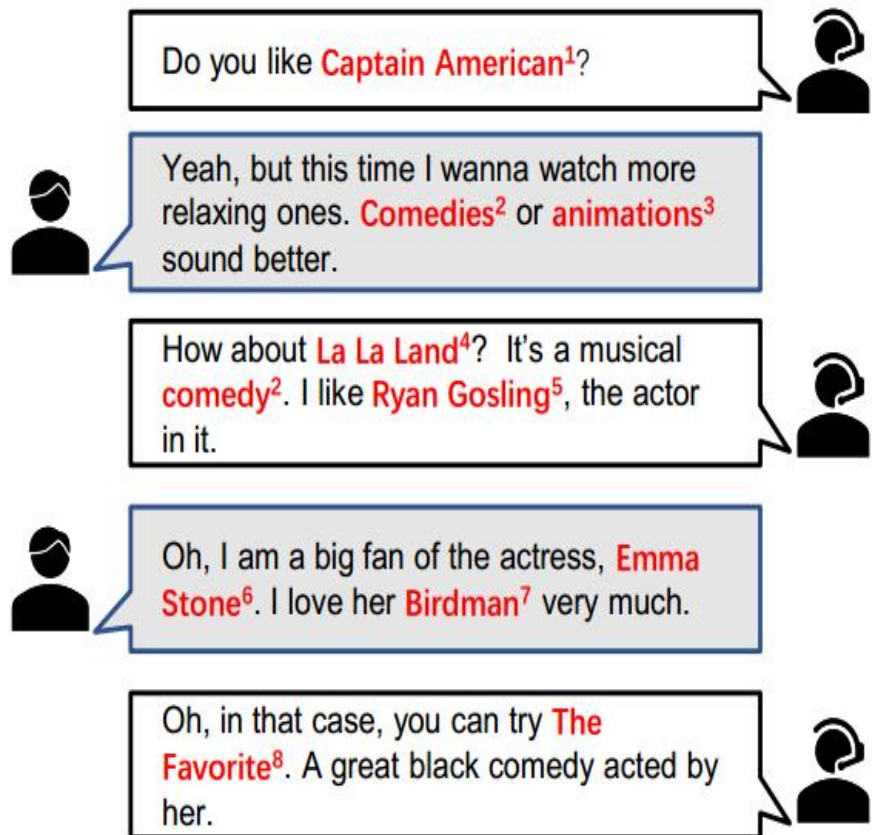
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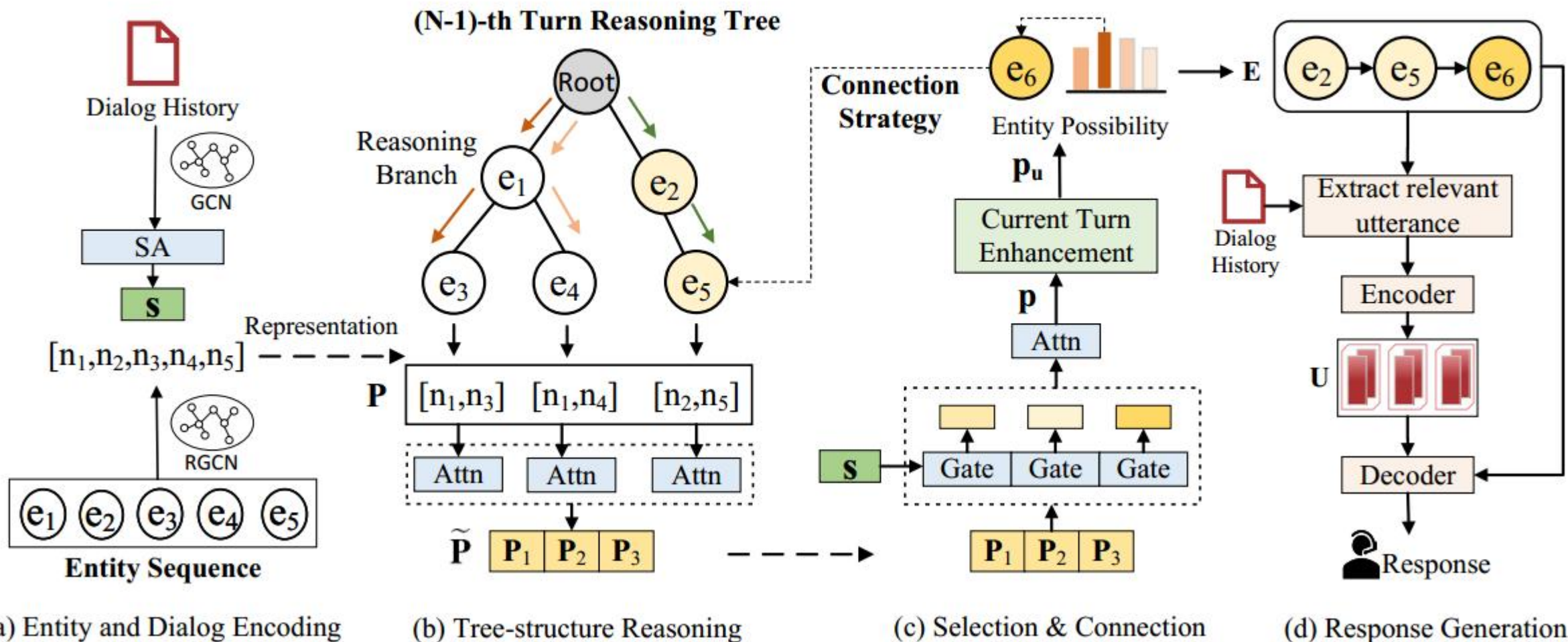
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Motivation

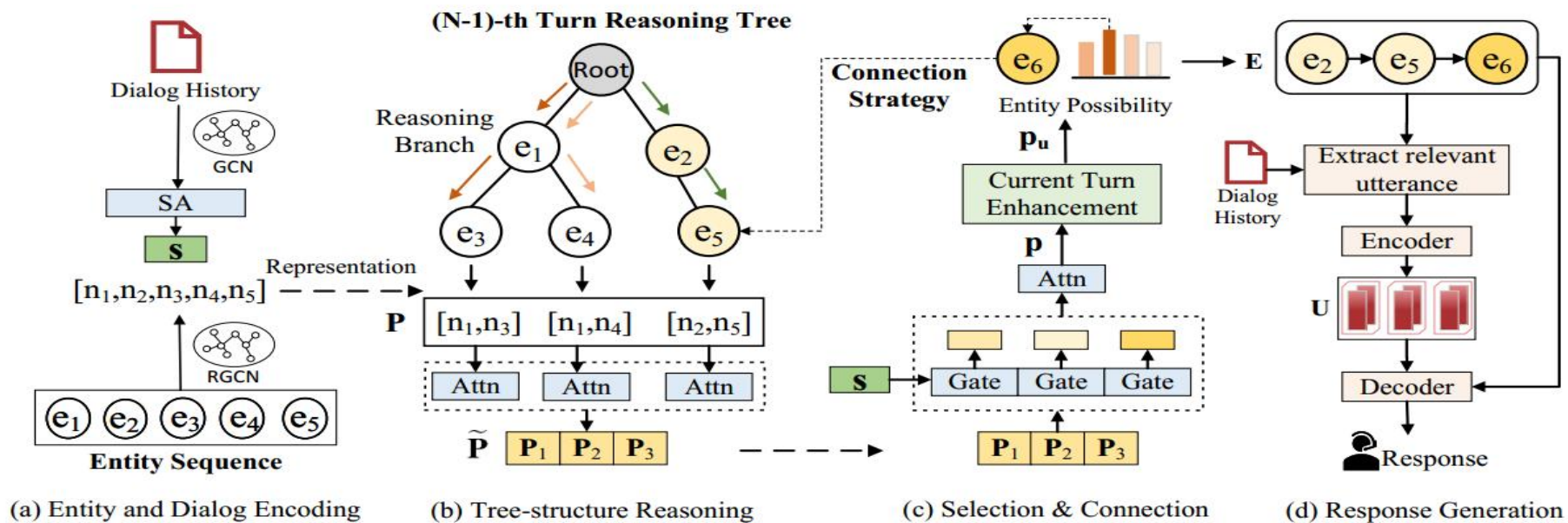
(1) these methods fail to model the complex causal relations among mentioned entities, owing to the diversity of user interest expression and the frequent shift of conversation topic



Overview



Method



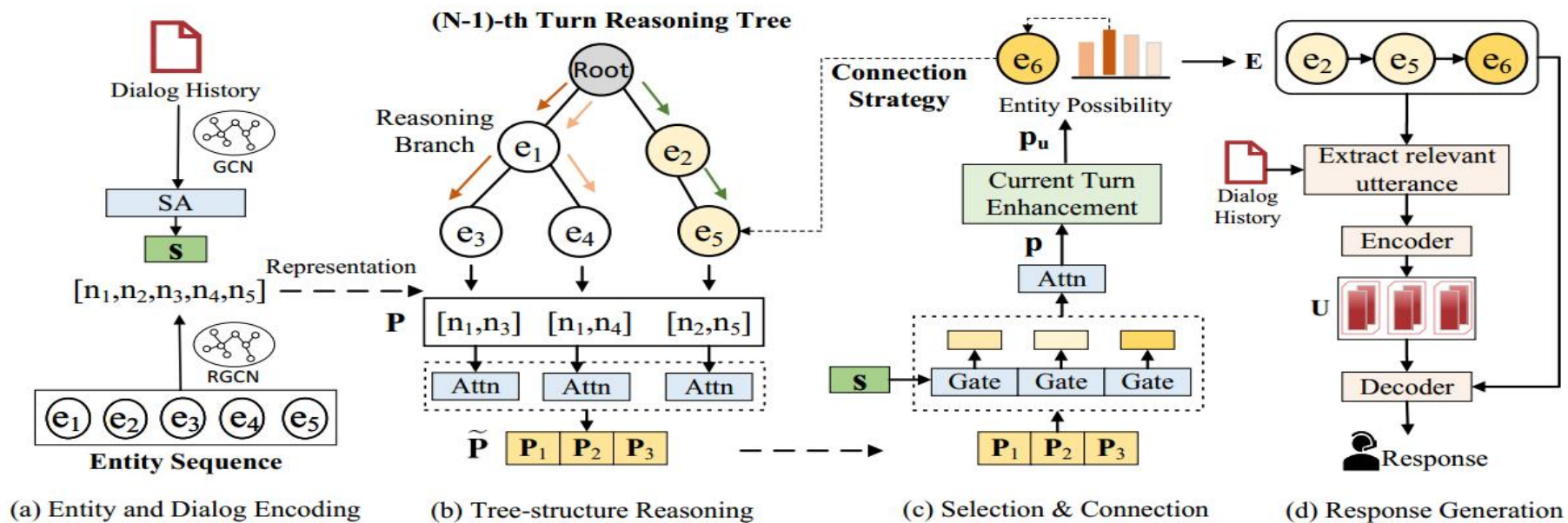
$$\mathbf{n}_e^{l+1} = \sigma \left(\sum_{r \in \mathcal{R}} \sum_{e' \in \mathcal{N}_e^r} \frac{1}{Z_{e,r}} \mathbf{W}_r^l \mathbf{n}_{e'}^l + \mathbf{W}^l \mathbf{n}_e^l \right) \quad (1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\mathbf{P}} &= \text{Attn}(\mathbf{P}) = \mathbf{P} \alpha_r \\ \alpha_r &= \text{Softmax}(\mathbf{b}_r \tanh(\mathbf{W}_r \mathbf{P})) \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{p} &= \text{Attn}(\gamma \tilde{\mathbf{P}} + (1 - \gamma) \mathbf{s}) \\ \gamma &= \sigma(\mathbf{W}_s \text{Concat}(\tilde{\mathbf{P}}, \mathbf{s})) \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

$$\mathbf{p}_u = g(\mathbf{p}, g'(\text{Attn}(\mathbf{e}_c), \text{Attn}(\mathbf{s}_c))) \quad (4)$$

Method



$$\mathcal{P}_r^u = \text{Softmax}([\mathbf{p}_u \mathbf{e}_0^T, \dots, \mathbf{p}_u \mathbf{e}_n^T]) \quad (5)$$

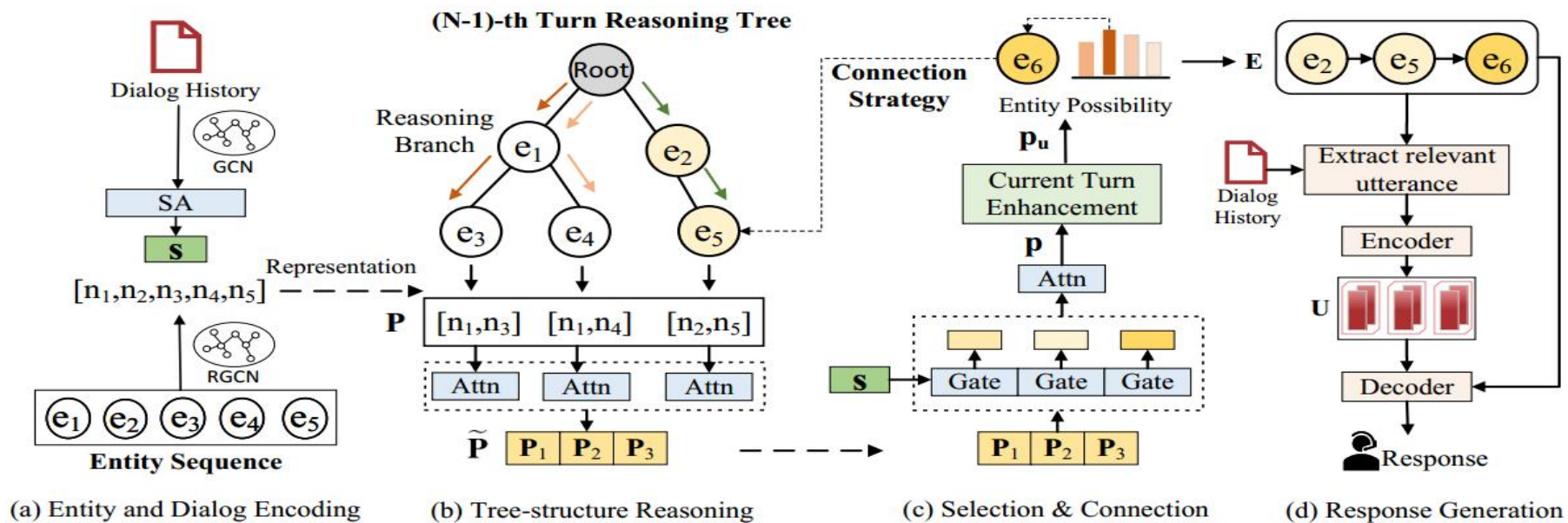
$$\mathcal{P}_g = \text{Softmax}(\mathbf{R}^l \mathbf{V}^T + \mathbf{R}^b \mathbf{W}^v) \quad (8)$$

$$\mathbf{R}^l = \text{Decoder}(\mathbf{R}^{l-1}, \mathbf{E}, \mathbf{U}) \quad (6)$$

$$\mathbf{R}^b = \text{FFN}(\text{Concat}(\text{Attn}(\mathbf{E}), \mathbf{R}^l)) \quad (7)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_I = \sum_{i \neq j} \text{sim}(\tilde{\mathbf{p}}_i, \tilde{\mathbf{p}}_j) = \sum_{i \neq j} \frac{\tilde{\mathbf{p}}_i \tilde{\mathbf{p}}_j}{|\tilde{\mathbf{p}}_i| \cdot |\tilde{\mathbf{p}}_j|} \quad (9)$$

Method



$$\mathcal{L}_a = \lambda_c \text{sim}(\mathbf{p}_c, \mathbf{s}_c) + (1 - \lambda_c) \text{sim}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{s}) \quad (10) \quad \mathcal{L}_g = -\frac{1}{N} \sum_{t=1}^N \log \mathcal{P}_g^t(s_t | s_1, s_2, \dots, s_{t-1}) \quad (12)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_r = -\sum_u \sum_{e_i} \log \mathcal{P}_r^u[e_i] + \lambda_I \mathcal{L}_I + \lambda_a \mathcal{L}_a \quad (11)$$

Experiments

| Dataset | ReDial | | | | | | TG-ReDial | | | | | |
|---------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Method | R@10 | R@50 | Dist-3 | Dist-4 | Bleu-2 | Bleu-3 | R@10 | R@50 | Dist-3 | Dist-4 | Bleu-2 | Bleu-3 |
| ReDial | 0.140 | 0.320 | 0.269 | 0.464 | 0.022 | 0.008 | 0.002 | 0.013 | 0.529 | 0.801 | 0.041 | 0.010 |
| KBRD | 0.150 | 0.336 | 0.288 | 0.489 | 0.024 | 0.009 | 0.032 | 0.077 | 0.691 | 0.997 | 0.042 | 0.012 |
| KGSF | 0.183 | 0.377 | 0.302 | 0.518 | 0.025 | 0.009 | 0.030 | 0.074 | 1.045 | 1.579 | 0.046 | 0.014 |
| RevCore | 0.204 | 0.392 | 0.307 | 0.528 | 0.025 | 0.010 | 0.029 | 0.075 | 1.093 | 1.663 | 0.047 | 0.014 |
| CR-Walker | 0.187 | 0.373 | 0.338 | 0.557 | 0.024 | 0.009 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| CRFR | 0.202 | 0.399 | 0.516 | 0.639 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| C ² -CRS | 0.208 | 0.409 | 0.412 | 0.622 | 0.027 | 0.012 | 0.032 | 0.078 | 1.210 | 1.691 | 0.048 | 0.015 |
| UCCR | 0.202 | 0.408 | 0.329 | 0.564 | 0.026 | 0.011 | 0.032 | 0.075 | 1.197 | 1.668 | 0.049 | 0.014 |
| TREA | 0.213* | 0.416* | 0.692* | 0.839* | 0.028* | 0.013* | 0.037* | 0.110* | 1.233* | 1.712* | 0.050* | 0.017* |

Table 1: Automatic evaluation results on two datasets. Boldface indicates the best results. Significant improvements over best baseline marked with *. (t-test with $p < 0.05$)

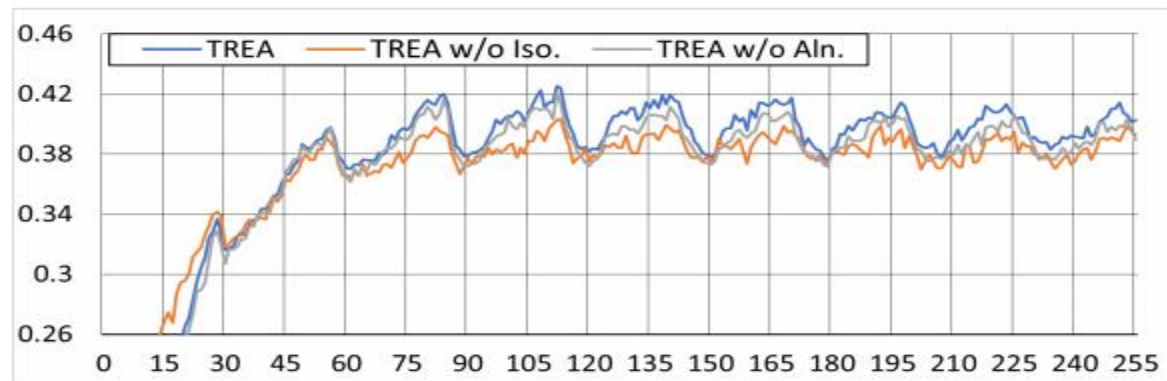


Experiments

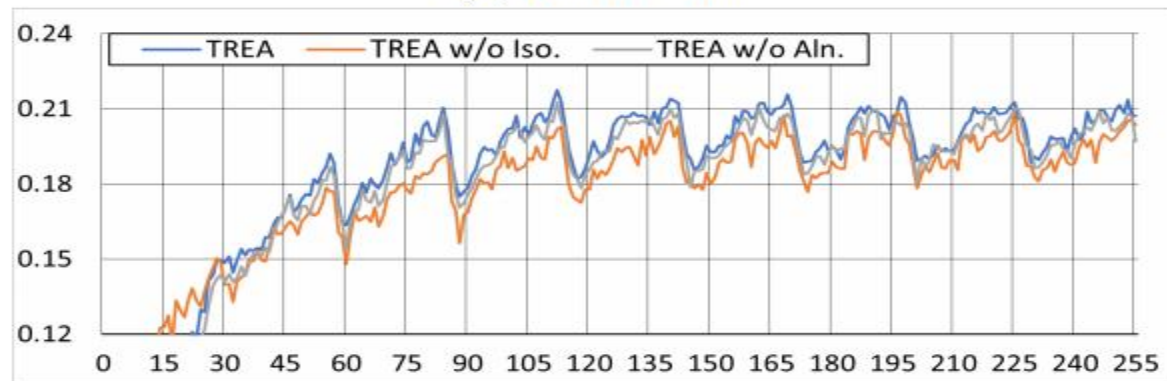
| Method | Rel. | Inf. | Flu. | Kappa |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------|
| RevCore | 1.98 | 2.22 | 1.53 | 0.78 |
| CR-Walker | 1.79 | 2.15 | 1.68 | 0.77 |
| C ² -CRS | 2.02 | 2.25 | 1.69 | 0.66 |
| UCCR | 2.01 | 2.19 | 1.72 | 0.72 |
| TREA | 2.43 | 2.26 | 1.75 | 0.75 |

Table 2: Human evaluation results on the conversation task. Rel., Inf. and Flu. stand for Relevance, Informativeness and Fluency respectively. Boldface indicates the best results (t-test with $p < 0.05$).

Experiments



(a) Recall@50



(b) Recall@10

Figure 3: Performance comparison of TREA and its two variants. One step (X-axis) denotes parameter updates for 20 batches of training data.



Experiments

| Dataset | ReDial | | TG-ReDial | |
|---------------|--------|-------|-----------|-------|
| Method | R@10 | R@50 | R@10 | R@50 |
| TREA | 0.214 | 0.418 | 0.037 | 0.110 |
| TREA w/o Iso. | 0.202 | 0.405 | 0.028 | 0.079 |
| TREA w/o Aln. | 0.209 | 0.412 | 0.035 | 0.103 |
| TREA w/o IA. | 0.201 | 0.403 | 0.026 | 0.076 |

Table 3: Ablation results on the recommendation task.
(t-test with $p < 0.05$)

Experiments

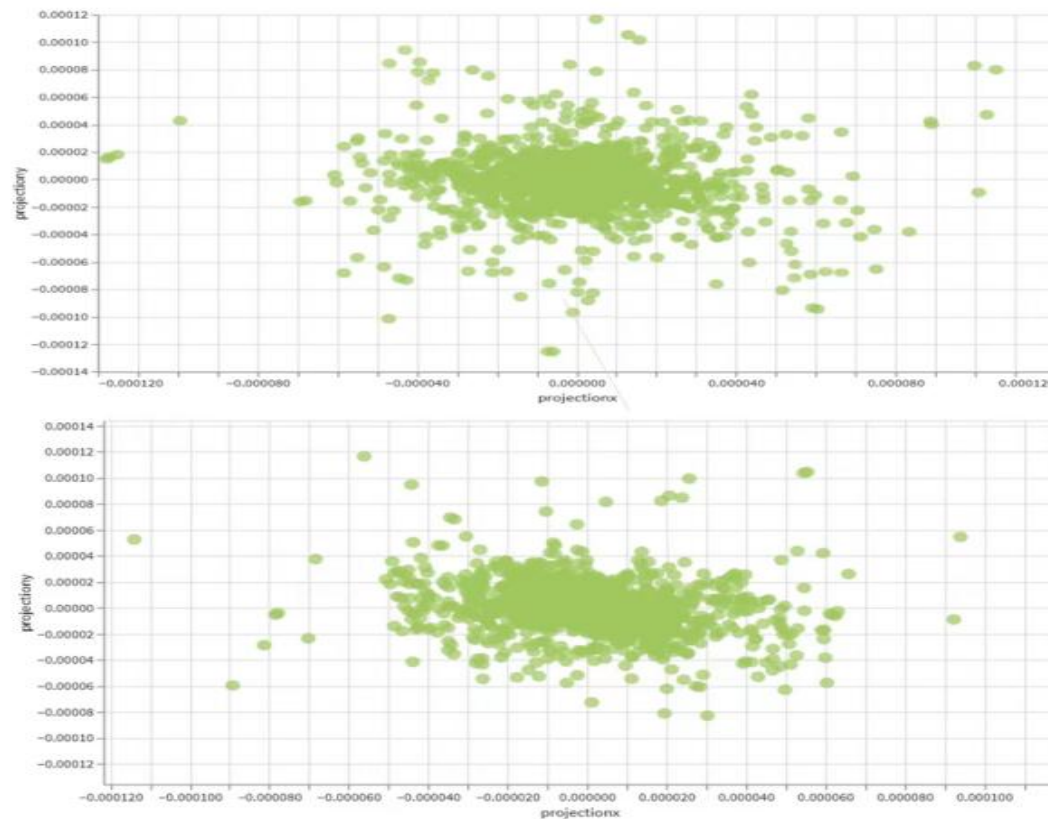


Figure 4: 2D projection of KG embeddings trained by TREA (the above) and TREA w/o Iso. (the below) to illustrate the impact of the isolation loss \mathcal{L}_I . (Embeddings are projected through t-SNE with Perplexity set to 10 and the Iterations set to 13.)



Experiments

| Model | Dist-4 | Bleu-3 | PPL(↓) | Rel. |
|---------------|--------|--------|--------|------|
| TREA | 0.839 | 0.013 | 4.49 | 2.43 |
| TREA w/o Ent. | 0.799 | 0.012 | 4.56 | 2.28 |
| TREA w/o Utt. | 0.764 | 0.011 | 4.61 | 2.13 |
| TREA w/o EU. | 0.789 | 0.011 | 4.78 | 2.10 |

Table 4: Evaluation results on the ablation study of the generation task. Fleiss's kappa values of Rel. all exceed 0.65.

Experiments

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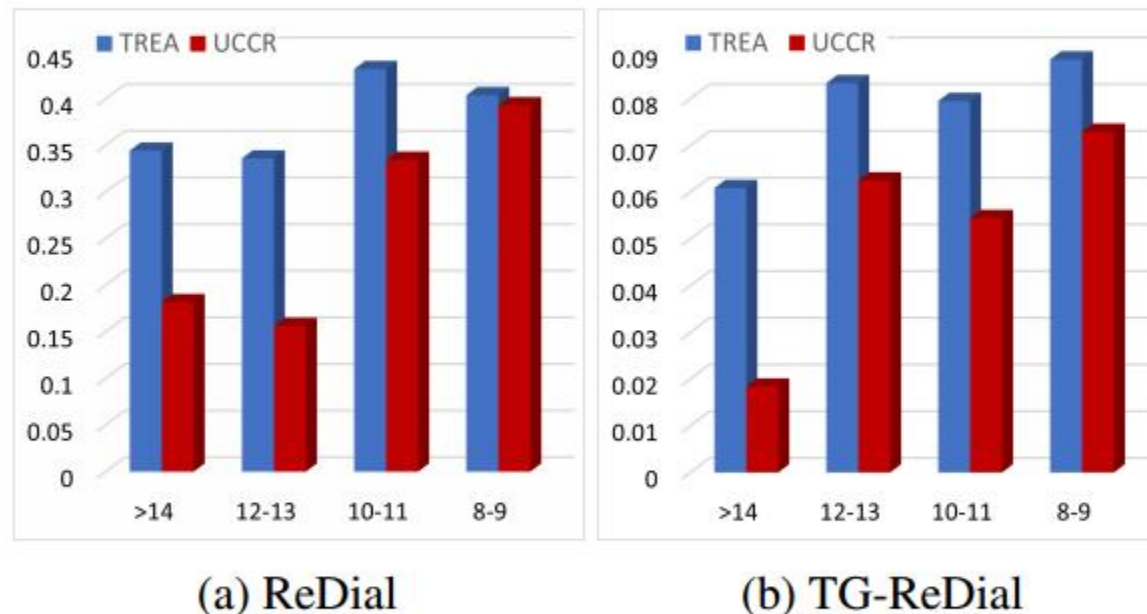


Figure 5: Evaluation results (R@50) of TREA and UCCR on data of different conversation rounds.



Thanks!