ConsRec: Learning Consensus Behind Interactions for Group Recommendation

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Code&data： https://github.com/FDUDSDE/WWW2023ConsRec

Reported by Nengqiang Xiang

Introduction

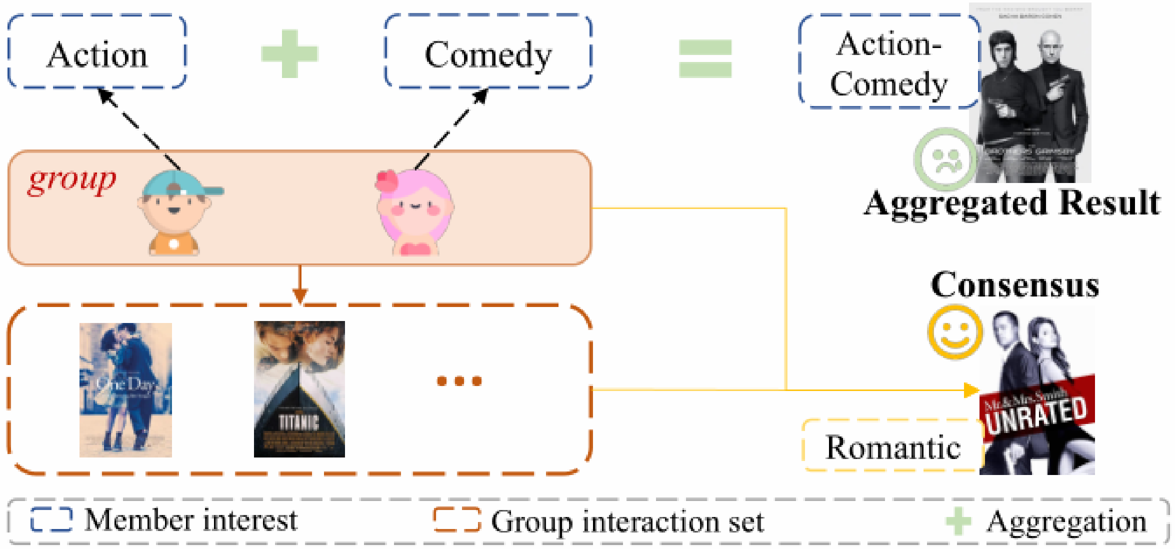


Figure 1: An illustrative example of the gap between aggregated result and group's consensus. Merely aggregating diverse members' interests lacks the holistic consideration of the group's overall taste, failing to capture the consensus.

Existing individual information aggregation lacks a holistic group-level consideration, failing to capture the consensus information. Besides, their specific aggregation strategies either suffer from high computational costs or become too coarse-grained to make precise predictions.

In this paper, the author explores the group consensus behind the interaction between group-item and user-item, and proposes a new model named ConsRec to address these limitations accordingly.

Method

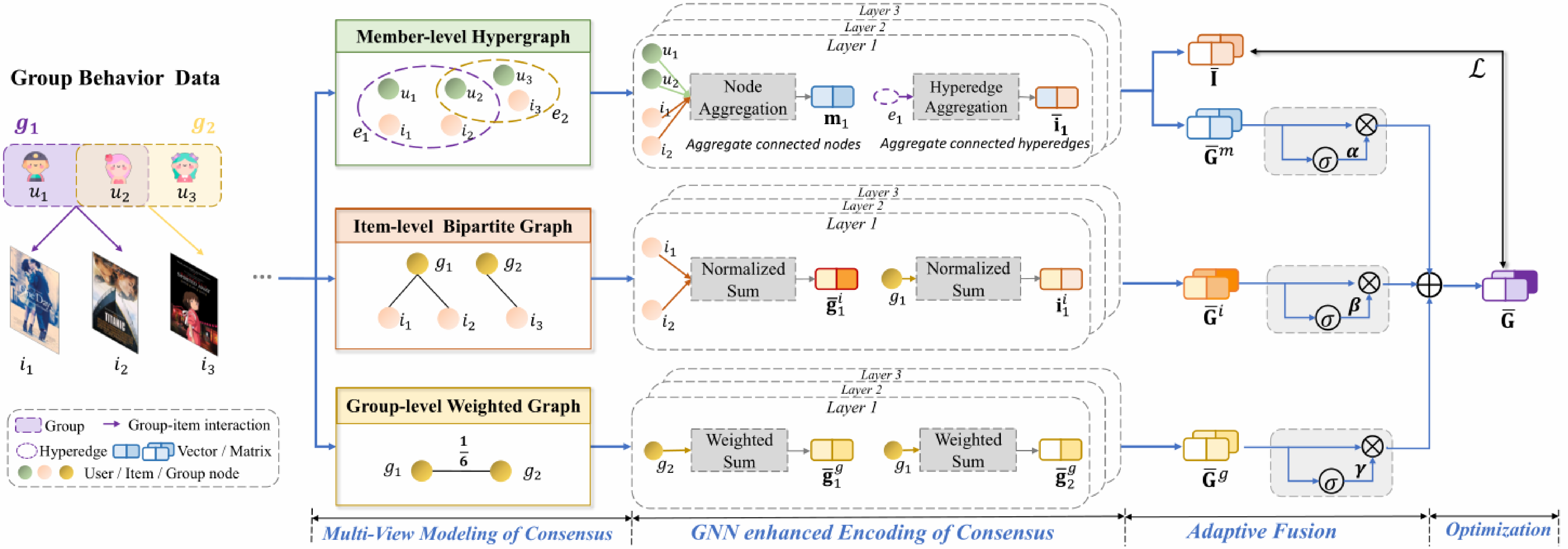
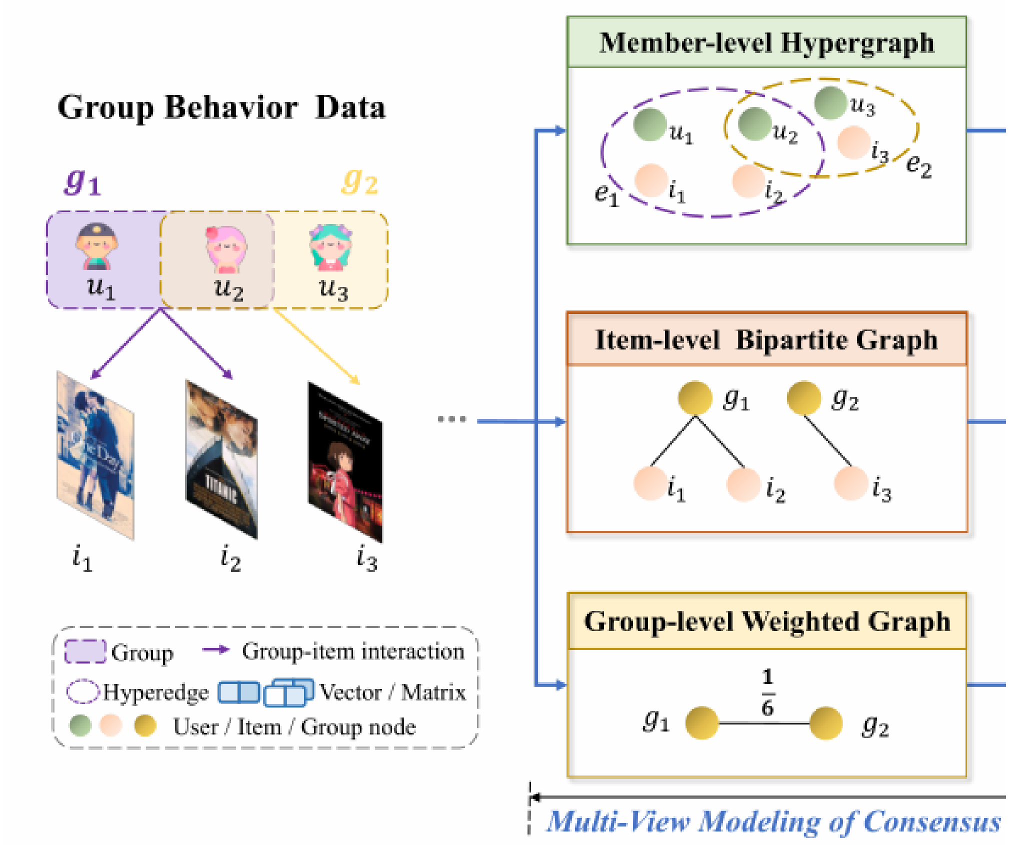


Figure 2: ConsRec Overview. We construct three distinct views for consensus modeling and adopt specific graph neural networks for representation learning. We further integrate these view-specific representations for group-item prediction.

Method



PRELIMINARIES:

user set: $\mathcal{U} = \{u_1, u_2, ..., u_M\}$

item set: $\mathcal{I} = \{i_1, i_2, ..., i_N\}$

group set: $\mathcal{G} = \{g_1, g_2, ..., g_K\}$

The t-th group of user:

$$\mathcal{G}_t = \{u_1, u_2, ..., u_s, ..., u_{|\mathcal{G}_t|}\}$$

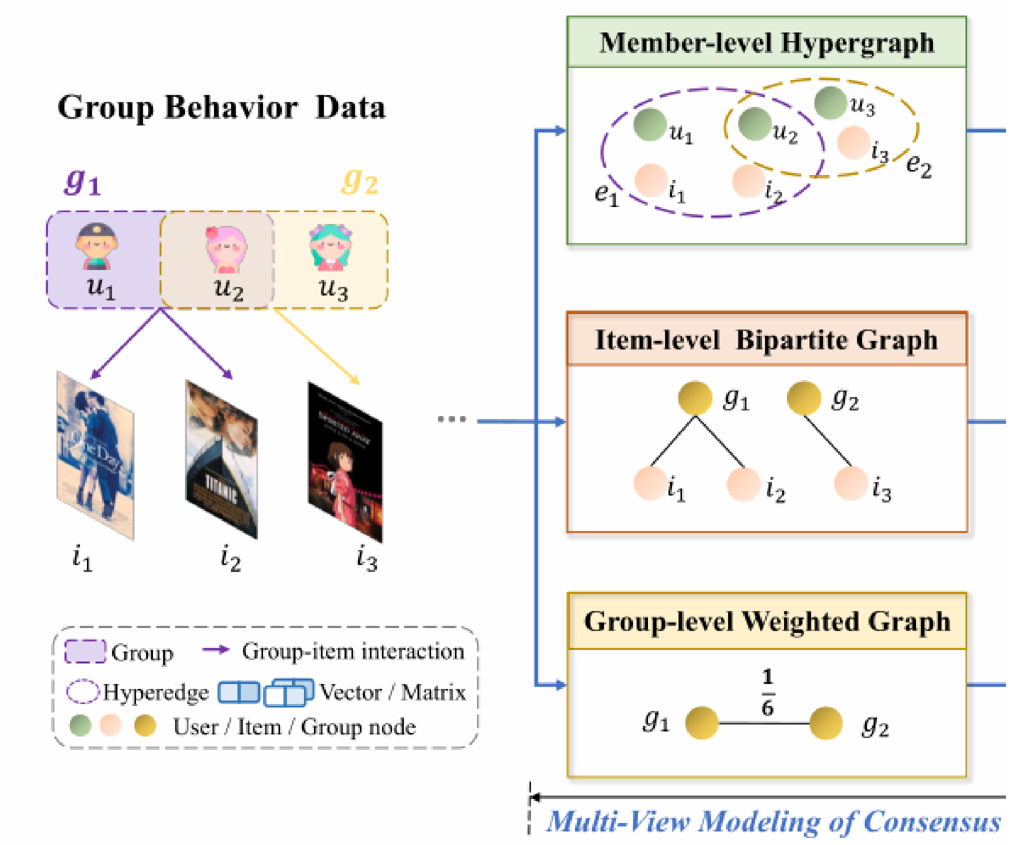
group-item interactions:

$$\mathrm{Y}(t, j) = 1$$

User set:

$$\mathcal{Y}_t = \{i_1, i_2, ..., i_j, ..., i_{|\mathcal{Y}_t|}\}$$

Method



Multi-view Modeling of Consensus:

Member-level.

$$G^m = (\mathcal{V}^m, \mathcal{E}^m, \mathbf{H}^m)$$

Item-level.

$$G^i = (\mathcal{V}^i, \mathcal{E}^i, \mathbf{A}^i)$$

$$\mathcal{E}^i = \{(g_t, i_j) | g_t \in \mathcal{G}, i_j \in \mathcal{I}, \mathrm{Y}(t, j) = 1\}$$

Group-level.

$$G^g = (\mathcal{V}^g, \mathcal{E}^g, \mathbf{A}^g) \qquad \mathbf{A}^g(p,q) = \frac{|\mathcal{G}_p \cap \mathcal{G}_q| + |\mathcal{Y}_p \cap \mathcal{Y}_q|}{|\mathcal{G}_p \cup \mathcal{G}_q| + |\mathcal{Y}_p \cup \mathcal{Y}_q|}$$

$$\mathcal{E}^g = \{(g_p, g_q) | g_p, g_q \in \mathcal{G}, |\mathcal{G}_p \cap \mathcal{G}_q| \geq 1 \text{or } |\mathcal{Y}_p \cap \mathcal{Y}_q| \geq 1\}$$

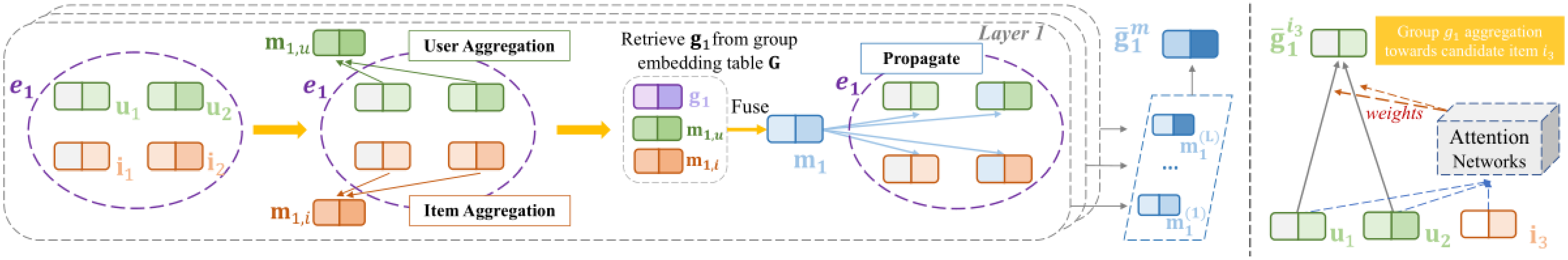


Figure 3: Comparison between our hypergraph learning-based aggregation (left) and the commonly adopted attentive aggregation (right). Ours wins in efficiency, fairness, and expressiveness with details explained in Section 4.2.2.

Member-level Hypergraph Networks：

Preference-aware hypergraph neural network：

$$\mathbf{m}_{e,u} = \mathbf{AGG}_{node}(\{\mathbf{u}_s | u_s \in \mathcal{G}_e\})$$

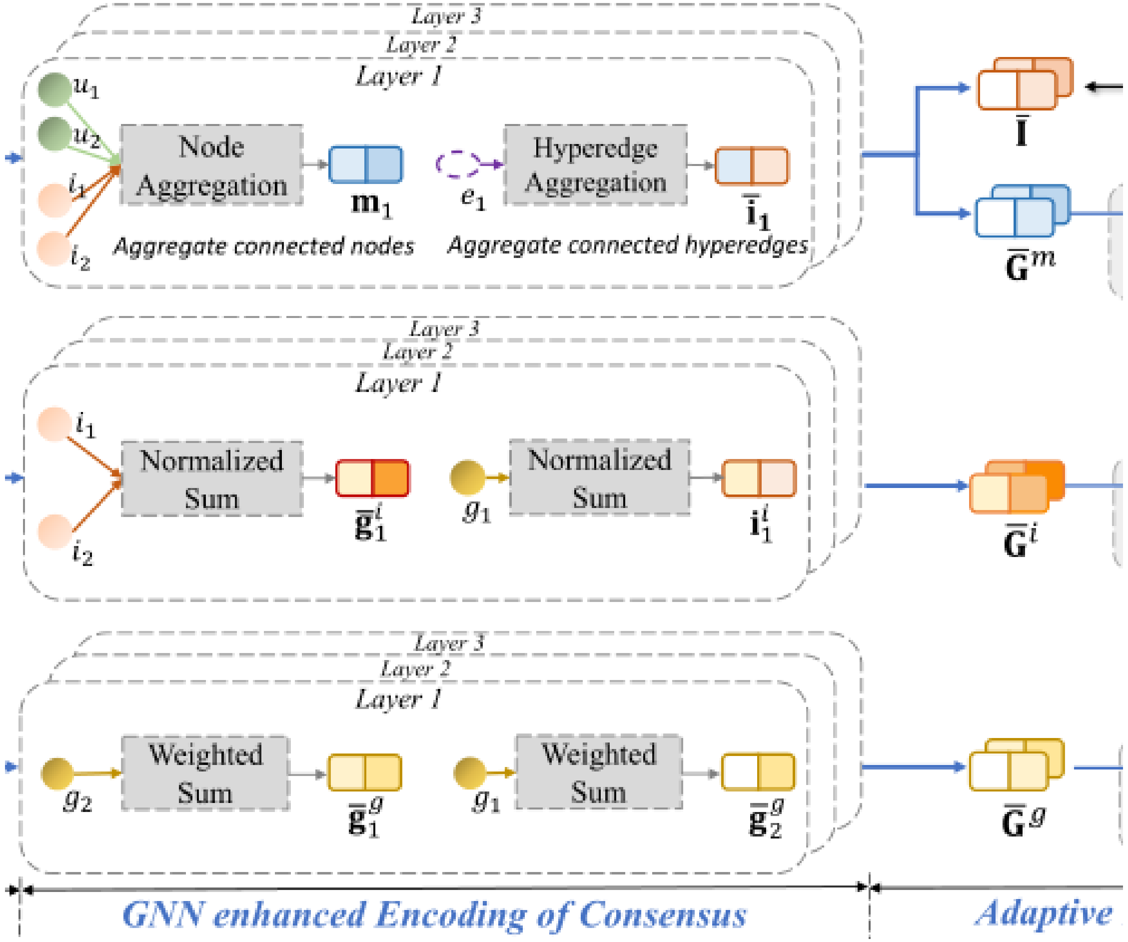
$$\mathbf{m}_{e,i} = \mathbf{AGG}_{node}(\{\mathbf{i}_j | i_j \in \mathcal{Y}_e\})$$

$$\mathbf{m}_e = \mathbf{CONCAT}(\mathbf{m}_{e,u}\ ,\ \mathbf{m}_{e,i}\ ,\ \mathbf{m}_{e,i} \odot \mathbf{g}_e)\mathbf{W}^f, \tag{1}$$

$$\bar{\mathbf{i}}_j = \mathbf{AGG}_{he}(\{\mathbf{m}_e | e \in \mathcal{E}_j\}), \tag{2}$$

$$\bar{\mathbf{i}}_j = \frac{1}{L+1}\sum_{l=0}^{L} \mathbf{i}_j^{(l)}, \qquad \bar{\mathbf{g}}_e^m = \frac{1}{L+1}\sum_{l=0}^{L} \mathbf{m}_e^{(l)},$$

Method



Item-level graph Networks:

$$\mathbf{E}^{(l+1)} = \mathbf{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}}\mathbf{A}^{i}\mathbf{D}^{-\frac{1}{2}}\mathbf{E}^{(l)}, \tag{3}$$

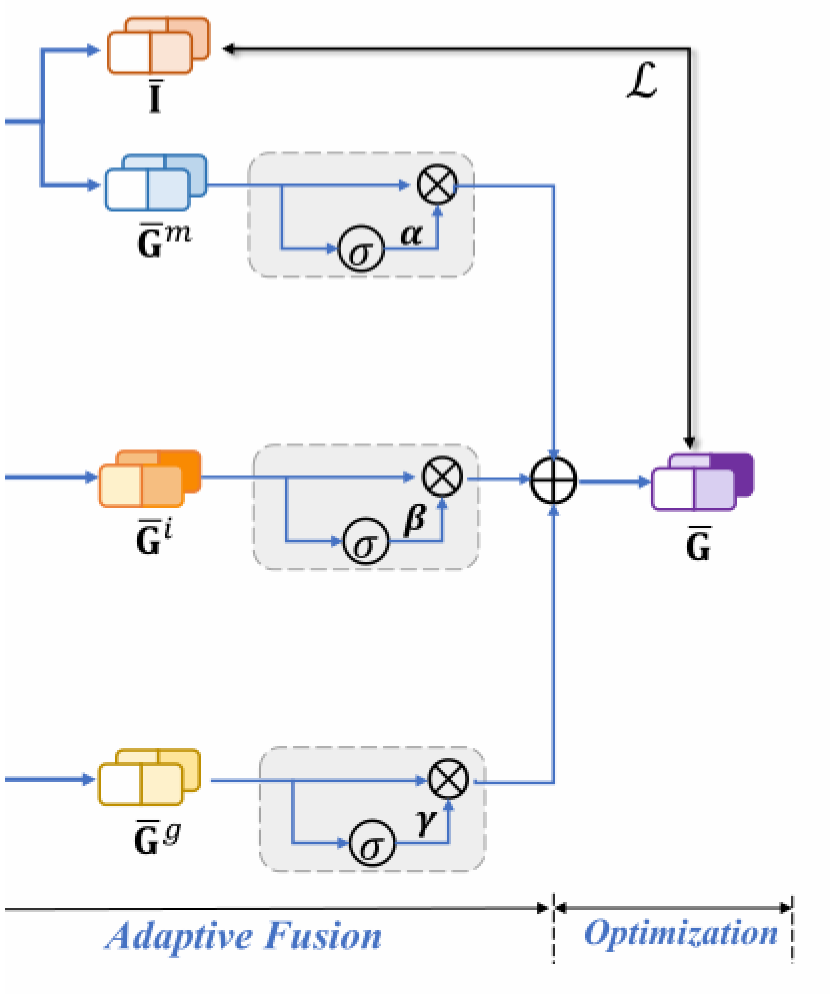
$$\overline{\mathbf{E}} = \frac{1}{L+1}\sum_{l=0}^{L}\mathbf{E}^{(l)} = \begin{bmatrix}\overline{\mathbf{G}}^{i}\\ \overline{\mathbf{I}}^{i}\end{bmatrix}$$

$$\overline{\mathbf{g}}_e^{i} = \overline{\mathbf{G}}^{i}(e,:)$$

Group-level graph Networks:

$$\overline{\mathbf{G}}^{g} = \frac{1}{L+1}\sum_{l=0}^{L}\mathbf{G}^{(l)}$$

Method



Adaptive Fusion & Optimization:

$$\overline{\mathbf{G}} = \boldsymbol{\alpha}\overline{\mathbf{G}}^m + \boldsymbol{\beta}\overline{\mathbf{G}}^i + \boldsymbol{\gamma}\overline{\mathbf{G}}^g, \quad (4)$$

where $\boldsymbol{\alpha} = \sigma(\overline{\mathbf{G}}^m \mathbf{W}^m)$, $\boldsymbol{\beta} = \sigma(\overline{\mathbf{G}}^i \mathbf{W}^i)$, and $\boldsymbol{\gamma} = \sigma(\overline{\mathbf{G}}^g \mathbf{W}^g)$.

$$\mathcal{L}_{group} = -\sum_{g_t \in \mathcal{G}} \frac{1}{|\mathcal{D}_{g_t}|} \sum_{(j,j') \in \mathcal{D}_{g_t}} \ln \sigma(\hat{y}_{tj} - \hat{y}_{tj'}), \quad (5)$$

$$\hat{y}_{tj} = \mathbf{MLP}(\overline{\mathbf{g}}_t \odot \overline{\mathbf{i}}_j)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{user} = -\sum_{u_s \in \mathcal{U}} \frac{1}{|\mathcal{D}_{u_s}|} \sum_{(j,j') \in \mathcal{D}_{u_s}} \ln \sigma(\hat{r}_{sj} - \hat{r}_{sj'}), \quad (6)$$

$$\hat{r}_{sj} = \mathbf{MLP}(\mathbf{u}_s \odot \mathbf{i}_j)$$

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{group} + \mathcal{L}_{user}.$$

Experiments

Table 1: Statistics of datasets.

Dataset	#Users	#Items	#Groups	#U-I interactions	#G-I interactions
Mafengwo	5,275	1,513	995	39,761	3,595
CAMRa2011	602	7,710	290	116,344	145,068

Table 2: Performance comparison of all methods on group recommendation task in terms of HR@K and NDCG@K.

Dataset	Metric	Pop	NCF	AGREE	HyperGroup	HCR	GroupIM	S^2-HHGR	CubeRec	**ConsRec**
Mafengwo	HR@5	0.3115	0.4701	0.4729	0.5739	0.7759	0.7377	0.7568	<u>0.8613</u>	**0.8844**
	HR@10	0.4251	0.6269	0.6321	0.6482	0.8503	0.8161	0.7779	<u>0.9025</u>	**0.9156**
	NDCG@5	0.2169	0.3657	0.3694	0.4777	0.6611	0.6078	0.7322	<u>0.7574</u>	**0.7692**
	NDCG@10	0.2537	0.4141	0.4203	0.5018	0.6852	0.6330	0.7391	<u>0.7708</u>	**0.7794**
CAMRa2011	HR@5	0.4324	0.5803	0.5879	0.5890	0.5883	**0.6552**	0.6062	0.6400	<u>0.6407</u>
	HR@10	0.5793	0.7693	0.7789	0.7986	0.7821	**0.8407**	0.7903	0.8207	<u>0.8248</u>
	NDCG@5	0.2825	0.3896	0.3933	0.3856	0.4044	0.4310	0.3853	<u>0.4346</u>	**0.4358**
	NDCG@10	0.3302	0.4448	0.4530	0.4538	0.4670	0.4914	0.4453	<u>0.4935</u>	**0.4945**

Table 3: Performance comparison of all methods on user recommendation task in terms of HR@K and NDCG@K.

Dataset	Metric	Pop	NCF	AGREE	HyperGroup	HCR	GroupIM	S^2-HHGR	CubeRec	**ConsRec**
Mafengwo	HR@5	0.4047	0.6363	0.6357	0.7235	0.7571	0.1608	0.6380	0.1847	**0.7725**
	HR@10	0.4971	0.7417	0.7403	0.7759	0.8290	0.2497	0.7520	0.3734	**0.8404**
	NDCG@5	0.2876	0.5432	0.5481	0.6722	0.6703	0.1134	0.4637	0.1099	**0.6884**
	NDCG@10	0.3172	0.5733	0.5738	0.6894	0.6937	0.1420	0.5006	0.1708	**0.7107**
CAMRa2011	HR@5	0.4624	0.6119	0.6196	0.5728	0.6262	0.6113	0.6153	0.5754	**0.6774**
	HR@10	0.6026	0.7894	0.7897	0.7601	0.7924	0.7771	0.8173	0.7827	**0.8412**
	NDCG@5	0.3104	0.4018	0.4098	0.4410	0.4195	0.4064	0.3978	0.3751	**0.4568**
	NDCG@10	0.3560	0.4535	0.4627	0.5016	0.4734	0.4606	0.4641	0.4428	**0.5104**

Experiments

Table 4: Ablation study on different views with group recommendation results reported. “w/o. M”, “w/o. I”, and “w/o. G” refer to the variant that eliminates the member-level, item-item, and group-level view, respectively.

Dataset	Metric	w/o. M	w/o. I	w/o. G	**Full**
Mafengwo	HR@5	0.8201	0.8704	0.8593	**0.8844**
	HR@10	0.8724	0.9075	0.9005	**0.9156**
	NDCG@5	0.7021	0.7597	0.7376	**0.7692**
	NDCG@10	0.7192	0.7718	0. 7510	**0.7794**

Experiments

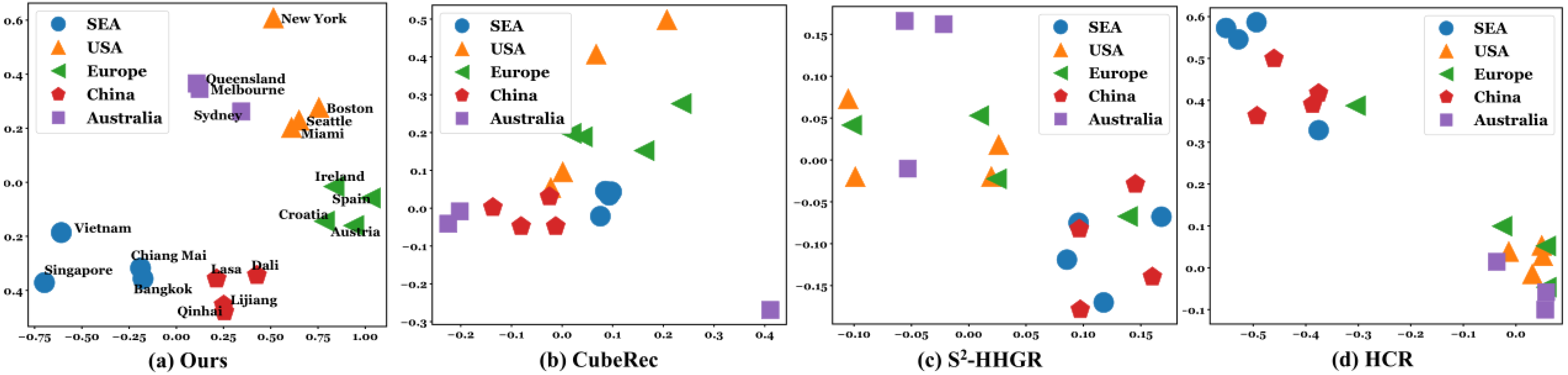


Figure 4: Visualization of learned item embeddings. We plot two dimensions of item representations on Mafengwo-S. ConsRec learns the latent properties of items as geographically similar items are close to each other in the embedding space.

Experiments

Figure 5: Case study on Mafengwo-S. Both the group and its members have visited European cities. ConsRec captures this consensus and suggests Hungary that hits the ground truth. On the contrary, HCR, GroupIM, S^2-HHGR, and CubeRec are biased by one member's interests towards Iceland and recommend unsatisfying islands or coastal cities.

Experiments

Table 5: Performance comparison on group recommendation task on Mafengwo-S dataset.

Metric	HCR	GroupIM	S^2-HHGR	CubeRec	**ConsRec**
HR@5	0.4845	0.5824	0.5928	<u>0.6237</u>	**0.6409**
HR@10	0.6099	<u>0.6959</u>	0.6546	0.6873	**0.6993**
NDCG@5	0.3947	0.4591	0.5348	<u>0.5357</u>	**0.5447**
NDCG@10	0.4353	0.4983	0.5545	<u>0.5567</u>	**0.5642**

Experiments

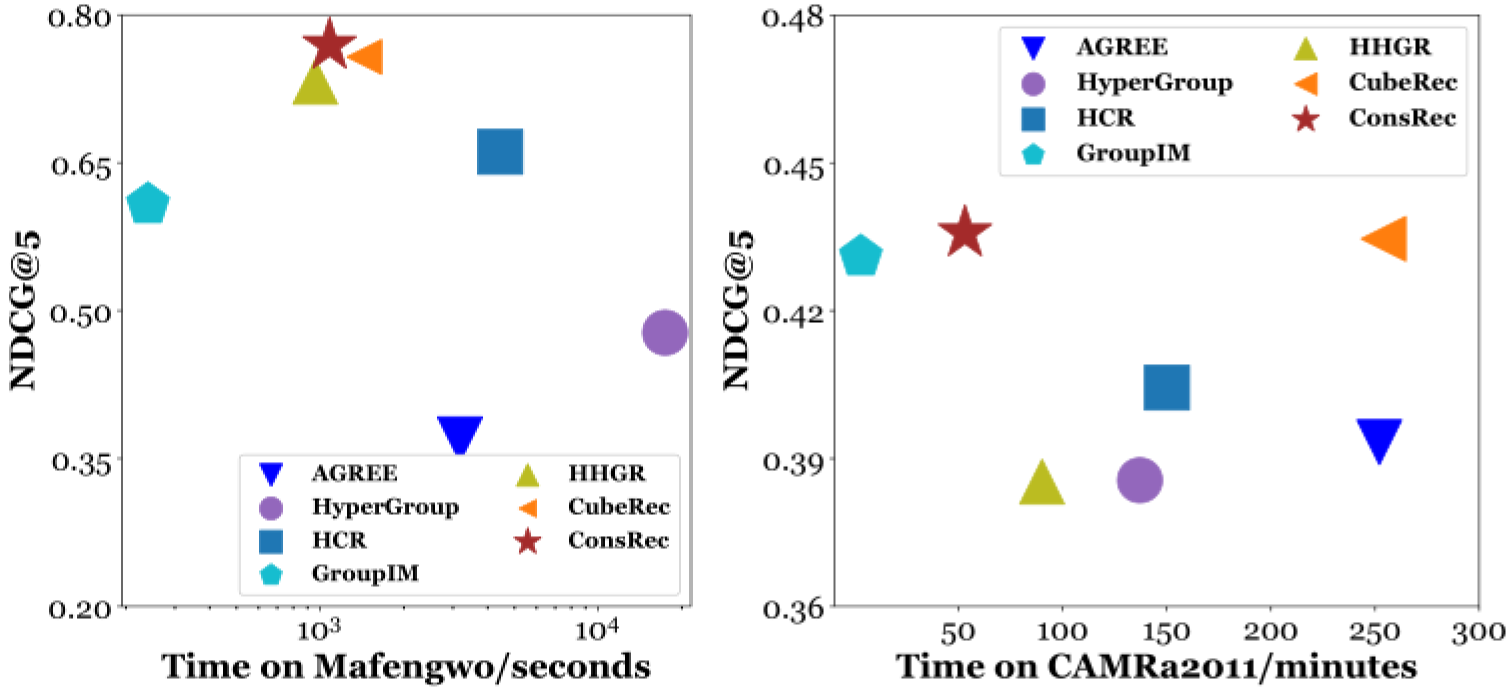


Figure 6: Efficiency Study

Experiments

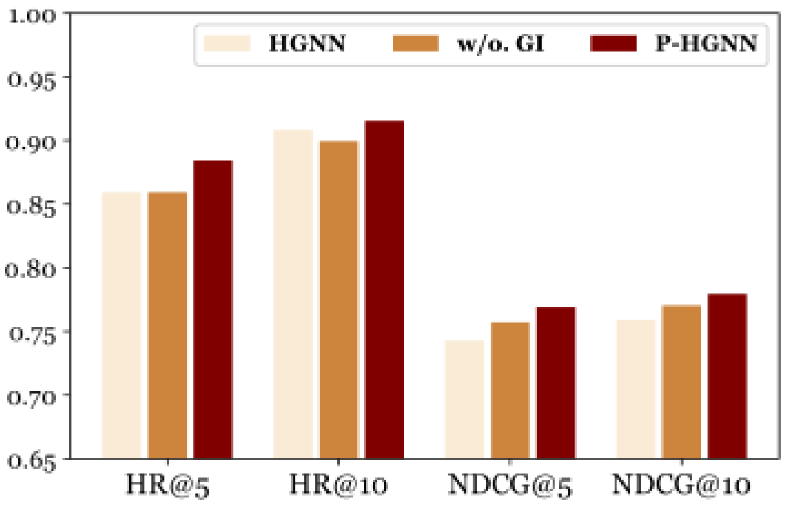


Figure 7: Ablation study on different hypergraph neural networks on Mafengwo with group recommendation results reported.

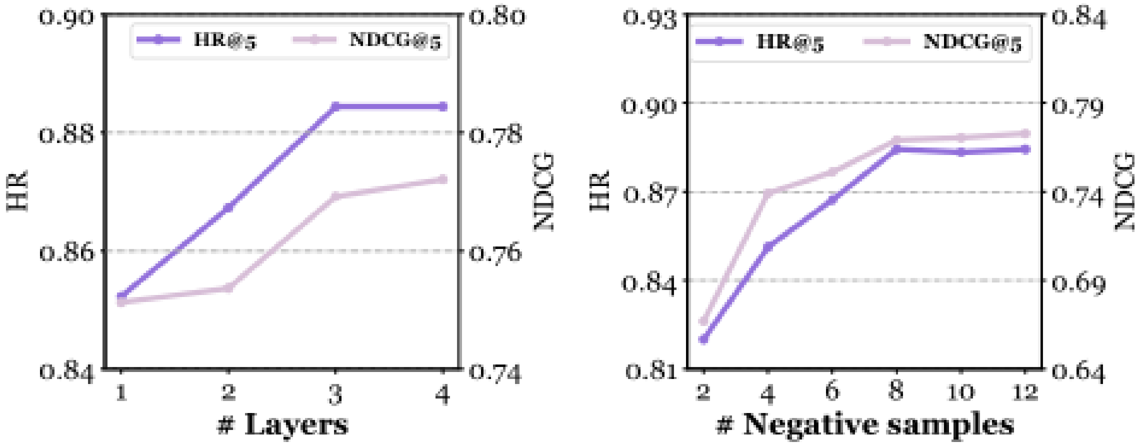


Figure 8: Parameters study on group recommendation task on Mafengwo.