VideoRecSys: 1st Workshop on Large Scale Video Recommender Systems

Opening Remarks

1st Workshop on Large Scale Video Recommender Systems

Mission: Bring together renowned researchers and industry experts in the field to delve into the latest advancements, cutting-edge techniques and innovative approaches that are shaping the future of large-scale video recommender systems

Khushhall Chandra Mahajan

Meta

Menlo Park, CA

Amey Porobo Dharwadker

Meta

Menlo Park, CA

Saurabh Gupta

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Brad Schumitsch

Meta

Menlo Park, CA

Why This Workshop

- Video consumption very common application
  - 4.8 Billion* people watch video over Internet every week

- Large importance to society

*Source: https://www.oberlo.com/statistics/how-many-people-use-internet

Challenges in Video Recommendations

- Content understanding involves many time-variant modalities
  - Audio, visual, object detection, motion, story, etc.

- Users (often) desire novelty
  - Rare to watch same piece of content 10+ times – where as for example, people may order food stable (i.e. carrots) repeatedly

- Content often new; sometimes at large scale
  - Content cold-start problem often important

Want To Achieve

- Exchange knowledge

- Highlight interesting problems and solutions

- Foster discussions

Speakers

- Lukasz Heldt :: Keynote
  - *Youtube Discovery Evolution*
  - Principal Engineer at YouTube Discovery. Working on improving YouTube's recommendation systems for 8 years. Graduated from Warsaw University focusing on Distributed Systems and transitioned to quality work after joining Google 12 years ago.

Lukasz Heldt
Google
Mountain View, USA

Speakers

Lukasz Heldt
Google
Mountain View, USA

Thomas Bredillet
Instagram
New York, USA

Minmin Chen
Google DeepMind
Mountain View, USA

Ko-Jen (Mark) Hsiao
Netflix
Los Gatos, USA

Qingpeng Cai
Kuaishou
Beijing, China

Speakers

- Thomas Bredillet – 2:45-3:15
  - *Large Scale Recommendations at Instagram*
  - Bio: Facebook 6 years leading ML at Instagram – focus areas are recommendations, ranking and content understanding. Before that worked at Google doing Ads optimization. Studied in France and NYU and holds three masters in Mathematics, Statistics and Financial Engineering.

Thomas Bredillet
Instagram
New York, USA

Speakers

- Minmin Chen – 4:05-4:35
  - *Intents and Journeys: An LLM Approach*
  - Bio: Senior Research scientist in Google Brain. Leads both fundamental and applied research, delivered ~100 launches within different Google rec products since 2017. Passion lies in innovating and realizing RL and ML techniques to improve long term user experience/journey on recommendation platforms and optimize long term value.

Minmin Chen
Google DeepMind
Mountain View, USA

Speakers

- Ko-Jen (Mark) Hsiao – 4:35-5:05
  - *From Stranger Things to Your Things: Netflix's Recommendation Evolution*
  - Bio: Senior research scientist at Netflix doing machine learning for personalized video ranking. Previously, machine learning engineer at Whispertext. Obtained PhD degree in machine learning and dual MS degrees in Applied Mathematics and Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (EECS) at the University of Michigan.

Ko-Jen (Mark) Hsiao
Netflix
Los Gatos, USA

Speakers

- Qingpeng Cai – 5:05-5:35
  - *Reinforcement Learning for Short Video Recommender Systems*
  - Bio: Staff Algorithm Engineer in KuaiShou, where leads the Reinforcement Learning for Recommender System group. Member of CCF Multi-Agent Group. Previously, a Senior Algorithm Engineer in Alibaba Group(Ali Star, 2019). Received Ph.D. from Institute for Interdisciplinary Information Sciences headed by Prof. Andrew Yao, Tsinghua University.

Qingpeng Cai
Kuaishou
Beijing, China

Format

- Invited Talks 25 minutes, with 5 minutes for questions

- Take questions from Zoom Call or in Person

Agenda

14:15-14:45 SGT	**Keynote: YouTube Discovery Evolution [Slides]** Lukasz Heldt, Google
14:50-15:20 SGT	**Foundational Models for Long Range Interactions History Modeling [Slides]** Thomas Bredillet, Instagram
15:20-16:05 SGT	**Coffee Break Networking**
16:05-16:35 SGT	**Intents and Journeys: An LLM Approach [Slides]** Minmin Chen, Google DeepMind
16:35-17:05 SGT	**From Stranger Things to Your Things: Netflix's Recommendation Evolution [Slides]** Ko-Jen (Mark) Hsiao, Netflix
17:05-17:35 SGT	**Reinforcement Learning for Short Video Recommender Systems [Slides]** Qingpeng Cai, KuaiShou