# Recommender Systems and Education (with Report on Practical Experiences)

Radek Pelánek

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# Warm-up Quiz



educational applications with focus on

- relation to topics discussed so far (collaborative filtering, evaluation, ...)
- specific examples
- connections between seemingly different techniques from various research directions
- personalization and different types of recommendations

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my experience

You are a member of a team developing a personalized learning system, e.g.:

- learning new language
- improving English vocabulary (advanced words)
- learning (advanced) math and machine learning
- (your favourite topic that everybody should learn) You are responsible for the recommendation part of the project.

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How would you approach the problem?

# Designing New System: Questions

#### requirements:

• What is the target group? Who are users?

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- What are user needs?
- What should it do?
- techniques, solutions:
  - How should it work?
  - What data you need?

#### Motivation: Personalization in Education

- each student gets suitable learning materials, exercises
- tailored to a particular student, adequate for his knowledge (mood, interests, ...)
- mastery learning fixed outcome, varied time (compared to classical education: fixed time, varied outcome)



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Vygotsky, zone of proximal development

time scale	learning unit	personalization
10 seconds 1 minute	step task	adaptive hints difficulty adjustment, personal- ized feedback
10 minutes	activity	mastery learning, activity rec- ommendation
hours	course	course recommendation

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- ... gets lot of attention:
  - Khan Academy
  - Duolingo
  - MOOC courses
  - Carnegie Learning
  - Pearson
  - ReasoningMind
  - and many others

e-learning, m-learning, technology-enhanced learning, computer-based instruction, computer managed instruction, computer-based training, computer-assisted instruction, computer-aided instruction, internet-based training, flexible learning, web-based training, online education, massive open online courses, virtual education, virtual learning environments, digital education, multimedia learning, intelligent tutoring system, adaptive learning, adaptive practice, ...



Adaptive, Intelligent, and Personalized: Navigating the Terminological Maze Behind Educational Technology

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Tasks	Description	Generic recommender	TEL recommenders	New requirements					
Existing User Tasks supported by Recommender Systems									
1. Annotation In Context	Recommendations while user carries out other tasks	E.g. predicting how relevant the links are within a web page	E.g. predicting relevance/usefulness of items in the reading list of a course	Explore attributes for representing relevance/usefulness in a learning context					
2. Find Good Items	Recommendations of E.g. receiving list of suggested items web pages to visit		E.g. receiving a selected list of online educational resources around a topic	None					
3. Find All Good Items	D ALL GOOD Recommendation of E.g. receiving a all relevant items complete list of references on a		E.g. suggesting a complete list of scientific literature or blog postings around a topic	None					
4. Recommend Sequence	Recommendation of a sequence of items	E.g. receive a proposed sequence of songs	E.g. receiving a proposed sequence through resources to achieve a particular learning goal	Explore formal and informal attributes for representing relevancy to a particular learning goal					

Recommender Systems in Technology Enhanced Learning

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5. JUST BROWSING	Recommendations out of the box while user is browsing	E.g. people that bought this, have also bought that	E.g. receiving recommendations for new courses on the university site	Explore formal and informal attributes for representing relevance/usefulness in a learning context	
6. Find Credible Recommender	REDIBLE Recommendations E.g. movies the ENDER during initial will definitely exploration/testing phase of a system		E.g. restricting course recommendations to ones with high confidence /credibility	Explore criteria for measuring confidence and credibility in formal and informal learning	
	TEL User Tasks that o	could be supported by I	Recommender Systems		
1. Find Novel Resources	Recommendations of particularly new or novel items	E.g. receiving recommendations about latest additions or particularly controversial items	ring E.g. receiving very Explore ndations new and/or recomm st additions controversial techniqu larly resources on covered items be sial items topics similarit		
2. Find Peers	Recommendation of other people with relevant interests	E.g. being suggested profiles of users with similar interests	E.g. being suggested peer students in the same class	Explore attributes for measuring the similarity with other people	
3. Find Good Pathways	FIND GOOD Recommendation of E.g. receive THWAYS alternative learning alternative seq paths through of similar song learning resources		E.g. receiving a list of alternative learning paths over the same resources to achieve a specific learning goal	Explore criteria for the construction and suggestion of alternative (but similar) sequences	

Recommender Systems in Technology Enhanced Learning

Name	Short description	Advantages	Disadvantages	Usefulness for TEL	
Collaborative Fil	tering (CF) techniques				
User-based CF	Users who rated the same item similarly probably have the same taste. Based on this assumption, this technique recommends the unseen items already rated by similar users.	No content analysis Domain-independent Quality improves Bottom-up approach Serendipity	New user problem New item problem Popular taste Scalability Sparsity Cold start problem	Benefit from experience Allocate learners to groups (based on similar ratings)	
Item-based CF	Focus on items, assuming that the items rated similarly are probably similar. It recommends items with the highest correlation (based on ratings for the items).	No content analysis Domain-independent Quality improves Bottom-up approach Serendipity	New item problem Popular taste Sparsity Cold start problem	Benefit from experience	
Stereotypes or demographics CF	Users with similar attributes are matched, then it recommends items that are preferred by similar users (based	No cold start problem Domain-independent Serendipity	Obtaining information Insufficient information	Allocate learners to groups Benefit from experience	
	on user data instead of ratings).		Only popular taste Obtaining metadata information	Recommendation from the beginning of the PRS	

Personal recommender systems for learners in lifelong learning networks: the requirements, techniques and model

#### Content-Based (CB) techniques

Case-based reasoning	Assumes that if a user likes a certain item, s/he will probably also like similar items. Recommends new but similar items.	No content analysis Domain-independent Quality improves	New user problem Overspecialisation Sparsity Cold start problem	Keeps learner informed about learning goal Useful for hybrid RS
Attribute-based techniques	Recommends items based on the matching of their attributes to the user profile. Attributes could be weighted for their importance to the user.	No cold start problem No new user/new item problem Sensitive to changes of preferences Can include non-item-related features Can map from user needs to items	Does not learn Only works with categories Ontology modelling and maintenance is required Overspecialisation	Useful for hybrid RS Recommendation from the beginning

Personal recommender systems for learners in lifelong learning networks: the requirements, techniques and model

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many techniques applicable in principle, but application more difficult than in "product recommendation"

- longer time frame
- pedagogical principles
- domain ontology, prerequisites
- types of knowledge and learning processes (declarative vs procedural knowledge)

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• learning outcomes not directly measurable

- evaluation even more difficult than for other recommender systems
- compare goals:
  - product recommendations: sales
  - text (blogs, etc) recommendations: clicks (profit from advertisement)

- education: learning
- learning can be measured only indirectly
- hard to tell what really works

## Student Modeling and Collaborative Filtering

- user  $\sim$  student
- product  $\sim$  problem, question
- rating  $\sim$  student performance (correctness of answer, problem solving time, number of hints taken)

#### Learner Modeling



Bayesian Knowledge Tracing, Logistic Models, and Beyond: An Overview of Learner Modeling Techniques

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- our projects (FI MU) "adaptive practice"
  - Problem Solving Tutor
  - "Slepé mapy" (Map Outlines) geography
  - Umíme (česky, anglicky, matiku, ...) umimeto.org

- Wayang Outpost math
- ALEF programming
- CourseRank course recommender

- math and computer science problems, logic puzzles
- performance = problem solving time
- focus: predictions of times
- recommendations problems of similar difficulty

### **Problem Solving Tutor**



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Kuželosečky - hyperboly Neřešeno Předpověď 1:12	Komplexní čísla - násobení Vyřešeno Čas 0:58	Logaritmy a mocniny - vzorečky Neřešeno Předpověď 1:14	Komplexní čísla - mocniny i Vyřešeno Čas 1:24	Vlastnosti funkcí Neřešeno Předpověď 1:17	Kuželosečky 2 Vyřešeno Čas 1:05	Zlomky Neřešeno Předpověď 1:19	Komplexní čísla - absolutní hodnoty Vyřešeno Čas 0:45	Logaritmy - hodnoty 2 Neřešeno Předpověď 1:23
Kvadratické rovnice - řešení Vyřešeno Čas 1:45	Vzdálenosti Vyřešeno Čas 1:16	Kuželosečky Neřešeno Předpověď 1:35	Množiny - základní operace Neřešeno Předpověď 1:42	Kombinační čísla Neřešeno Předpověď 1:42	Kvadratická funkce 2 Neřešeno Předpověď 1:44	Definiční obory a obory hodnot Neřešeno Předpověď 1:46	Logaritmy - vzorečky Vyřešeno Čas 2:42	Množiny Neřešeno Předpověď 1:56
Směs Neřešeno Předpověď 2:02	Derivace - goniometrické funkce Vyřešeno Čas 2:15	Součty Vyřešeno Čas 1:10	Kombinační čísla - vzorečky Neřešeno Předpověď 2:17	Komplexní čísla Neřešeno Předpověď 2:17	Úhly 2 Neřešeno Předpověď 2:29	Nerovnosti Neřešeno Předpověď 2:39	Kuželosečky - kružnice Neřešeno Předpověď 2:56	Limity funkcí Vyřešeno Čas 2:36

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## Model of Problem Solving Times



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- data: student s solved problem p in time  $t_{sp}$
- we need to estimate:
  - $\bullet\,$  student skills  $\theta$
  - problem parameters *a*, *b*, *c*
- stochastic gradient descent
- very similar to the "SVD" collaborative filtering algorithm

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- 20 types of problems
- data: 5000 users, 8000 hours, more than 220000 problems
- difficulty of problems: from 10 seconds to 1 hour
- offline evaluation: train, test set
- metrics: RMSE
- results:
  - significant improvement with respect to a baseline (mean times)
  - more complex models do not bring much improvement

#### same basic difficulty



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- adaptive practice of geography knowledge (facts)
- focus on prior knowledge
- ullet choice of places to practice  $\sim$  recommendation (forced)



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# Geography – Difficulty of Countries



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Model (prior knowledge):

- global skill of a student  $\theta_s$
- difficulty of a country  $d_c$

Probability of correct answer = logistic function (difference of skill and difficulty):

$$P(correct|d_c, heta_s) = rac{1}{1+e^{-( heta_s-d_c)}}$$

# Logistic Function



• Elo rating system (originally from chess)

$$\theta := \theta + K(R - P(R = 1))$$

$$d := d - K(R - P(R = 1))$$

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- $\bullet\,$  magnitude of update  $\sim\,$  how surprising the result was
- related to stochastic gradient descent, "SVD" algorithm in collaborative filtering (but only single latent factor)

• estimation of knowledge after sequence of answers for a particular place

- extension of the Elo system
- short term memory, forgetting
question selection (based on predicted probability of correct answer)  $\sim$  item recommendation (based on predicted rating)

based on students' history of answers, we want to create a new question

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how?

question selection (based on predicted probability of correct answer)  $\sim$  item recommendation (based on predicted rating)

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scoring function - linear combination of several factors:

- predicted success rate, target success rate
- viewed recently
- how many times asked

# Geography – Multiple Choice Questions

• number of options - based on estimated knowledge

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choice of options – ???

Example:

- correct answer is Hungary
- we need 3 distractors
- which countries should we use?

choice of options (distractors) – confused places ( $\sim$  collaborative filtering aspect)

realization: roulette wheel selection (as used in genetic algorithms)



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#### evaluation of predictions

- offline experiment
- comparison of different models (basic Elo, extensions, ...)

- issue with metrics: RMSE, AUC (⇒ "Metrics for Evaluation of Student Models" paper)
- evaluation of question construction ("recommendations")
  - online experiment, AB testing
  - issue with metrics: enjoyment vs learning

# **AB** Testing

### 4 groups:

Target item	Options
adaptive	adaptive
adaptive	random
random	adaptive
random	random

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## Measuring Engagement – Survival Analysis



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- we cannot measure knowledge (learning) directly
- estimation based on answers
- adaptive questions fair comparison difficult
- use of "reference questions" every 10th question is "randomly selected"
- problem with attrition (different number of answers per student)

## Measuring Learning – Learning Curves



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- difficulty of questions
- choice of distractors (competitive vs adaptive)

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- maximal number of distractors
- user control of difficulty

- ullet  $\sim$  1000 users per day
- sometimes minimal or no differences between experimental conditions (in the overall behaviour)
- reasons:
  - conditions not sufficiently different (differences manifest only sometimes)
  - disaggregation (users, context) shows differences, which cancel out in overall results

What is suitable target difficulty of questions? Target success rate:

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- 50 %
- 65 %
- 80 %
- 95 %

## Difficulty and Explicit Feedback



- http://www.umimecesky.cz/ Czech grammar and spelling
- http://www.umimeanglicky.cz/ English (for Czech students)

- http://www.umimematiku.cz/ math
- and more... https://www.umimeto.org/

# Czech Grammar – Project Evolution

#### initial version

- target audience: adults
- single exercise type
- coarse-grained concepts
- focus on adaptive choice of items
- current version
  - target audience: children
  - many exercise types
  - fine-grained concepts
  - focus on mastery learning
  - recommendations of practice sets

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several domains



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# Personalization: Mastery Learning

- skill of the learner estimated based on the performance, taking into account:
  - correctness of answers
  - response time
  - time intensity of items (median response time)
  - probability of guessing
- mastery criterion comparison of skill to threshold

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• progress bar - visualization of skill

#### 🔄 Grammar

#### Be, have, do

To be in present simple	lehké	
To do, to have, to be in present simple $\hfill\square$	🚺 lehké 🚯 střední	
To do, to have, to be: questions and negatives $\hfill\square$	lehké 🚯 střední	
To do, to have, to be in past simple $ \square$	3 lehké 3 střední	
Be, have, do: mix	lehké 🚯 střední	
Tenses		
Talking about the present		
Present simple tense	🚺 lehké 🚯 střední	těžké
Present tense: questions and negatives	💿 lehké 🚯 střední	
Present simple vs. present continuous	🚯 lehké 💽 střední	těžké

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# Activity Recommendations



_ <b>○</b> ▲_	Cásti Pexes	těla • těžké			Rozhodovačka • střední	Frázová slovesa: Rozhodovačka • těž	: get, take		
	jizva	eyelid	<b></b>	scar	Expands reveause utility inducer statesy I went tohospital yesterday to do an interview with the determine	Listado vz9tši v 11 hodn. The plane takes at 11 o'clock.			
	rostril	kloub	throat	nosni dirka	- the	off	on		

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## **Recommendations Goals**

### • predicting intentions

- something the students would like to do on their own
- follow-up topics, homeworks
- related to follow-up recommendations in other setting (e.g., news)

#### facilitating exploration

• guiding students towards content they might not actively seek out on their own

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• related to serendipidity

### • reinforcing knowledge

- spaced repetition, interleaved practice
- specific to education

# **Domain Model**



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	predicting intentions	facilitating exploration	reinforcing knowledge
homepage	$\checkmark\checkmark$	$\checkmark\checkmark$	$\checkmark\checkmark$
follow-up	$\checkmark \checkmark \checkmark$	$\checkmark$	
navigation defaults	$\checkmark \checkmark \checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
special		$\checkmark\checkmark$	$\checkmark$ $\checkmark$ $\checkmark$

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# **Recommendation Approach**

- IF-THEN rules with priorities
- IF condition THEN recommendation
- conditions:
  - student state / previous activity
  - practice set features / relations

## **Recommendation Framework**



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Rule examples:

- X mastered easily and Y follows X with respect to difficulty ⇒ recommend Y, high priority
- X mastered weakly and Y preceeds X with respect to topic ⇒ recommend Y, middle priority
- X mastered weakly T days ago ⇒ recommend Y, priority depends on T
- $\bullet\,$  user grade G, X is popular for G  $\Rightarrow\,$  recommend X, low priority

different situations use different rules

- homepage
- follow-up recommendations
- spaced repetition recommendations

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# **Evaluation Approach**

formative, stupidity-avoiding, short-term evaluation  $\Rightarrow$  iterative improvement of the system



**Table 7** Click-through rates for a selection of rules across a selection of situations, subjects, and populations. Recommendation situations: Homepage, Next to solve, Navigation in the exercise dashboard. Subjects: English, Mathematics, Computer Science. Grades: unset, primary and secondary school (grades 1–9), high school, and older (grade 10+).

	situation				subject			grade		
	Home	Next	Navig.	Eng.	Math	CS	unset	1 - 9	10+	
follow-up-diffRank	1.2	-3.1	3.5	2.7	2.0	1.1	2.9	1.4	1.3	
follow-up-kc	1.1	1.6	2.5	1.9	1.3	0.7	1.7	1.1	1.1	
pred-for-weak-kc	0.8	0.7	2.1	1.1	0.8	0.4	1.1	0.7	0.9	
pred-for-weak-diffRank	1.2	0.8	2.0	1.4	0.9	0.7	1.3	0.9	0.6	
repetition-for-weak	0.5	0.6	2.3	0.8	0.5	0.3	0.8	0.4	0.7	
repetition-for-normal	0.4	0.6	1.7	0.8	0.5	0.3	0.7	0.4	0.8	
homework-follow	1.2	5.1	0.0	0.7	1.0	1.8	2.0	1.1	1.0	
homework-deadline	1.8	0.0	0.0	1.1	1.8	2.3	3.2	1.6	1.6	
featured	0.7	0.6	4.1	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.8	1.6	1.2	
peers	1.0	0.8	2.2	1.1	0.7	1.6	1.6	1.0	0.6	

## **Evaluation Warning: Simpson's Paradox**



"design adaptation", "avoiding stupidity"

data  $\Rightarrow$  analysis  $\Rightarrow$  insights  $\Rightarrow$  revision of items or system behaviour

- difficulty of items
- survival analysis, length of practice
- response times
- item similarities

- closely related to item-item collaborative filtering
- item similarities: Pearson correlation of answers

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- clustering: *k*-means
- visualization: tSNE
- key issue: do we have enough data?





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# Note on Different Approaches

using data, models for:

- "automatic" interventions
  - recommendations
  - personalization choices
  - mastery learning
- support for "manual" interventions
  - items behaviour
  - system behaviour
  - user behaviour

"asking right questions" often more important than "using sophisticated methods"

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# Illustrations of Other Techniques and Tools

- learning networks
- intelligent tutoring systems
- addressing metacognition and affect

- limited time recommendations
- course recommendations

# Learning Networks



Fig. 2. Evolution of a learning network (left: starting phase with a first learner moving through possible learning activities; right: advanced phase showing emerging learning paths from the collective behavior of all learners)

Recommender Systems in Technology Enhanced Learning
- interactive problem solving
- behavior
  - outer loop selection/recommendation of "items" (problems, exercises)
  - inner loop hints, feedback, ...
- adaptation based on learner modeling
- knowledge modeling more involved than "taste modeling" (domain ontology, prerequisites, ...)

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### Carnegie Learning: Cognitive Tutor



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## Carnegie Learning: Cognitive Tutor

🕈 Carnegie Learning's Algebra I							_ 8
File Tutor GoTo View Help 26 - Quadratic Models and Vertical Motion 1 - Using the Vertical Motion Model				Sam Sample Bottle Rocket	0	Ø	-
Look Ahead Problems Look Back			C	) Solver 👜 Glossary	Hint	Done	
Scenario	WORKSHEET						
v is the initial velocity of the object		Expression	t	- 16t <sup>2</sup> + 80i			
b is the initial height above the ground.		Question 1	1	64		Graph Point 1	
i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i		Question 2	4.5	36		Graph Point 2	
Suppose that a bottle rocket is shot from ground level with an initial unward velocity of 80 feet ner		Question 3		2 96		Graph Point 3	
second. Further imagine that the bottle rocket turns						Graph Point 4	
out to be a dud. That is, it does not explode in mid-air but simply travels upward to some maximum.		Question 5	25			Granh Point 5	
height then falls back to the ground.		Question 6	1.25	75		Graph Point 6	
Use the formula above to write an expression for the		Question 7	5			Graph Point 7	
height of the bottle rocket in terms of the time after	GRAPHER	Draw Curve		X Interval	1.0	Y Interval	20
Note: Since the bottle rocket is being shot from ground level, its initial height is 0 feet.	200	200 -					
I How high will the bottle rocket be 1 second alter it was shot?	<u> </u>	180 -					_
2 How high will the bottle rocket be 4.5 seconds after it was shot?		160 -					
3 How many seconds after it was shot will the bottle rocket first be 96 feet high?		120 -					_
4 How many seconds after it was shot will the bottle rocket next be 96 feet high?	ě	80 -					
Please graph the height of the bottle rocket as a function of the time since it was shot.		60 - 40 -					
<b>5</b> What is the maximum height that the bottle rocket will reach?	0.0	20 - 0 - 1	2 3	4 5 6	7	8 9	10
6 When is the first time that the bottle rocket will be 75 feet high?				seconds			
7 How many seconds after being launched will the bottle rocket hit the ground?		0.0		30001105			10.0

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• A Multimedia Adaptive Tutoring System for Mathematics that Addresses Cognition, Metacognition and Affect

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- adaptive tutoring system for math
- Wayang Outpost → MathSpring, http://mathspring.org/
- specific feature: focus on affect and metacognition

## Wayang Outpost



Fig. 1 The Wayang Outpost Math Tutor interface. An animated companion provides individualized comments and support

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## Wayang Outpost: Open Learner Model



Fig. 9 The open student model in Wayang is called the Student Progress Page (SPP). It encourages students to reflect on their progress for each topic (column 1). The plant (column 2) demonstrates the tutor's assessment of student effort, while the mastery bar (column 3) records presumed knowledge (according to Bayesian Knowledge Tracing). The tutor comments on its assessment of the student's behavior (column 4) and offers students the choice to continue, review or challenge themselves and make informed decisions about future choices (column 5)

## Wayang Outpost: Affect, Metacognition





Fig. 11 a. Progress Charts in Wayang show students the accuracy of their answers. b. Tips in Wayang encourage good learning habits

## Wayang Outpost: Affective Learning Companions



Fig. 14 Animated pedagogical agents display a range of emotions. Companions act out their emotion and resolve negative ones, expressing full sentences of affective and metacognitive nature, to support growth of mindset towards the view that intelligence is a state (and thus changeable)

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Table 1 The effort-based tutoring algorithm informs pedagogical moves and affective decisions (last two columns) for each stutent on each problem. The algorithm first infers a reason for student babeau of (count) columns) based on the number of incorrect stutent answers, hirst requested and the acount of time spent (first three columns). The mean of the student models which pedagogical action the tutor should take (last two columns). The algorithm encourages transfer of student knowledge to subsequent questions of similar difficulty (rows 2, 4, 9), encouraging students to transfer stills and "fuid" their tend for help

Observed behavior and inferred reason for this behavior					Pedagogical Model Moves Cognitive or Affective or Metacognitive			
	Incorrect	Hints	Time	Most Likely Reason	Decision	Affective/Metacog. Decisions		
1	$\leq E(Ii) - \delta_{IL}$	$\leq E$ (Hi) $-\delta_{HL}$	$\leq E(Ti) - \delta_{TL}$	Mastery without effort	Increase Problem Difficulty	Show learning progress		
2	$\leq E(Ii) - \delta_{IL}$	$\leq E$ (Hi) – $\delta_{HL}$	$> E(Ti) + \delta_{TH}$	Mastery with high effort	Maintain Problem Difficulty	Affective feedback: Praise Effort		
3	$\leq E(I) - \delta_{IL}$	$> E (Hi) + \delta_{HH}$	$\leq E(Tl) - \delta_{TL}$	Hint abuse, low effort	Reduce Problem Difficulty	Deemphasize importance of immediate success		
4	$\leq E(I) - \delta_{IL}$	$> E (Hi) + \delta_{HH}$	$> E(Ti) + \delta_{TH}$	Towards mastery, effort	Maintain Problem Difficulty	Praise effort		
5	$> E(Ii) + \delta_{IH}$	$\leq E$ (Hi) $-\delta_{HL}$	$\leq E(Ti) - \delta_{TL}$	Quick guessing, low effort	Reduce Problem Difficulty	Deemphasize importance of immediate success		
6	$> E (Ii) + \delta_{IH}$	$\leq E$ (Hi) – $\delta_{HL}$	$> E(Ti) + \delta_{TH}$	Hint avoidance and high effort	Reduce Problem Difficulty	Offer hints upon incorrect answer in the next problem		
7	$> E(Ii) + \delta_{IH}$	$> E (Hi) + \delta_{HH}$	$\leq E(Tl) - \delta_{TL}$	Quick guess and hint abuse	Reduce Problem Difficulty	Deemphasize importance of immediate success		
8	$> E(Ii) + \delta_{IH}$	$> E (Hi) + \delta_{HH}$	$> E(Ti) + \delta_{TH}$	Low mastery and High Effort	Reduce Problem Difficulty	Emphasize importance of effort and perseverance		
9	Otherwise	Expected Behavior	Maintain Problem Difficulty					

# Note: Expected response (correct, hints, time) based on answers of other students $\sim$ collaborative filtering



Fig. 4 Massachusetts Statewide Standardized Test (MCAS) passing rates for experimental groups (using Wayang, dark grey) and control groups (in regular math class, light grey), within the same school, same grade and same teachers. Passing rates include several ratings above warning/failing

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Fig. 7 Mean improvement (and standard deviations) on hardest items of the math pre/posttest. The *thick line* represents students who received both the Wayang Tutor and math facts retrieval training software; all other groups did not really improve on these harder multi-step items

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 Table 2
 Students in the experimental group (last row) received tips and charts every 6 problems. Means and standard deviations in performance measures before and after tutoring for the three groups

Group	Math Pretest	Math Posttest	Passing Rate in State Standard Exam
No Tutor Control			76 % ( <i>N</i> =38)
Tutor Control	40 % (20) (N=40)	40 % (28)* (N=40)	79 % (N=34)
ProgressTips Tutor	33 % (19) (N=36)	42 % (22)* (N=36)	92 % (N=24)



Fig. 12 High gaming students improve math performance when they receive progress tips and interventions (*left*) but not when they don't receive interventions (*right*)

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- PeWe (Personalized Web) Group at UISI FIIT STU, Bratislava
- adaptive education (mainly) for programming exercises

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• specific aspect: recommendations for limited time



ALEF: A Framework for Adaptive Web-Based Learning 2.0, Šimko, Barla, Bieliková

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ALEF: A Framework for Adaptive Web-Based Learning 2.0, Šimko, Barla, Bieliková

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- recommendations of whole courses
- course evaluation and planning social system
- ranking of courses, grade distribution, other statistics
- originally Stanford, later many (US) universities, out of order now
- similar features e.g. in Coursera
- some attempts done in IS MU (but hard to practically apply in real university setting)

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personalized education  $\leftrightarrow$  recommender systems

- many similarities
- specific challenges
- difficult evaluation