



VisualLens: Personalization through Task-Agnostic **Visual History**

> **Presenter:** Wang Bill Zhu wangzhu@usc.edu





Collaborators



Deging Fu



Kai Sun



Yi Lu



Zhaojiang Lin



Seungwhan Moon



Kanika Narang



Mustafa Canim



Yue Liu



Anuj Kumar

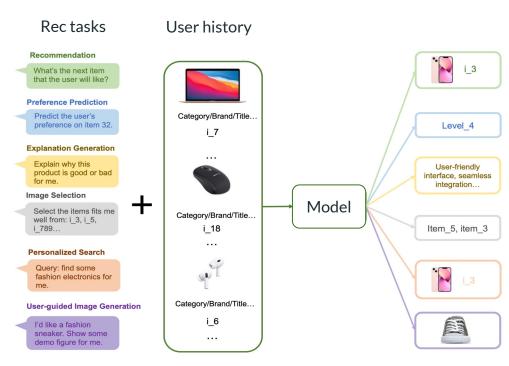


Xin Luna Dong

Traditional RecSys rely on domain-specific user history

- Online shopping
 - Amazon baby, clothes, etc.
- Watching movies / books
 - MovieLens, Netflix
- Online social connection
- Ordering takeouts

Easy to get record as the history



(Wei et al. ICLR 2024)

Visual record as user history

- Bob comes to San Diego for the first time and would like to visit museums
- Nancy is starving and would like to search for food nearby.

Without past museum or restaurant history, what can we recommend?













Your personal photos reveal your taste!

Challenges: noisy history and new evaluation



Existence of visual record as user history



Noisy history:

- no explicit item ID in history
- category diversity in history
- no guarantee on **positive** feedback



No existing benchmarks for evaluation













Key idea: retrieval with spectrum user profiling



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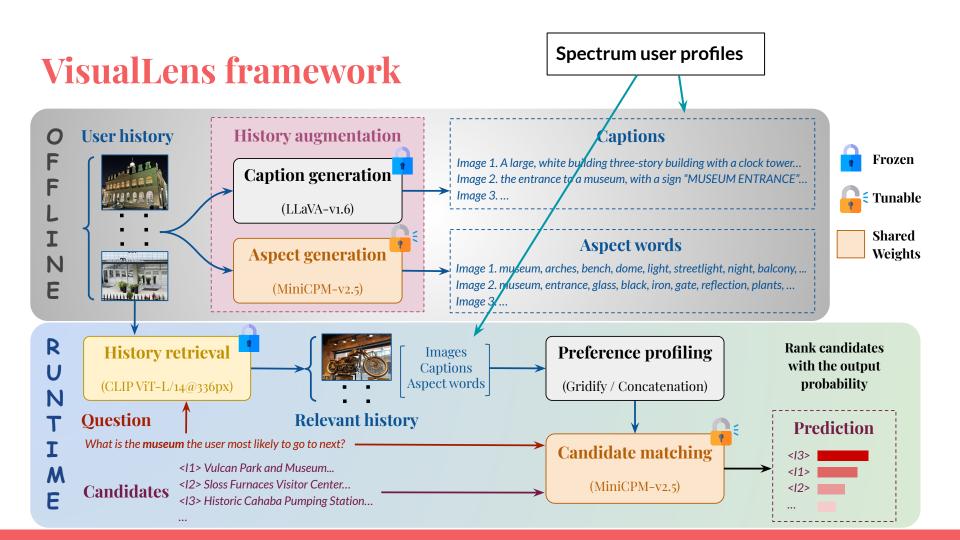


Effective retrieval:

- based on question category
- with spectrum user profile augmentation



New benchmark creation



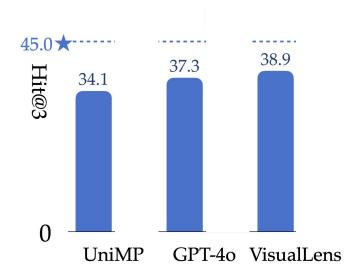
Dataset creation: Google-Review-V and Yelp-V

We create two benchmarks, Google-Review-V and Yelp-V, leveraging publicly available data from Google Local Review and Yelp.



VisualLens outperforms prior SotA and frontier VLMs

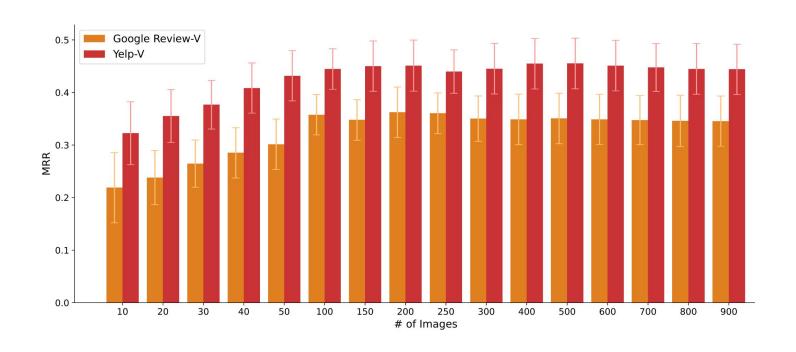




Retrieval and spectrum user profiling are crucial

Representation			Ret.	Google Review-V				Yelp-V			
Asp.	Cap.	Img.		Hit@1	Hit@3	Hit@10	MRR	Hit@1	Hit@3	Hit@10	MRR
√	1	1	1	15.7	35.2	75.4	32.5	26.9	57.5	88.2	42.9

VisualLens is effective with limited visual history



Takeaways

- We proposed a novel VisualLens framework as a first step towards harnessing users' visual records for recommendation.
- We find a spectrum user profile is crucial for task-agnostic visual recommendation.
- We created Google-Review-V and Yelp-V as benchmarks for evaluating task-agnostic visual recommendation.



User history



Question

What are the museums the user most likely to go to next?