

# zalando

Outfit Generation and Recommendation – an Experimental Study

> MARJAN CELIKIK MATTHIAS KRIMSE TIMO DENK PIERRE GAGLIARDI SAHAR MBARECK DUY PHAM

> > Sep 26, 2020









• **Outfit**: set of pairwise compatible fashion items

• Outfit generation:



• Personalized outfit generation:

# CONTENTS

- MOTIVATION
- NON-PERSONALIZED ALGORITHMS
- ALGORITHMS FOR PERSONALIZED OUTFIT GENERATION
- EMPIRICAL EVALUATION



# MOTIVATION

- No extensive performance analysis of different outfit generation algorithms in the fashion domain
- We contribute to close this gap by **comparison of 3 main classes** of algorithms
  - Siamese-Nets based
  - $\circ \quad \text{LSTM-based}$
  - Attention-based
- In addition, we **adapt** a few of these algorithms to the personalized outfit generation use-case



# ALGORITHMS FOR ITEM COMPATIBILITY

NON-PERSONALIZED OUTFIT GENERATION





Learns a **compatibility function** which outputs a score "how compatible a pair of items is"

Consists of identical feature extraction blocks and compatibility block

Contrastive training on compatible pairs of items versus pairs with random replacements





Learns a **compatibility function** which outputs a score for "how compatible a pair of items is"

Consists of identical **feature extraction blocks** (without weight sharing) and **compatibility block** 

Contrastive training on compatible pairs from stylist created outfits and pairs with random replacements





Learns a **compatibility function** which outputs a score for "how compatible a pair of items is"

Consists of identical **feature extraction blocks** (without weight sharing) and **compatibility block** 

Contrastive training on compatible pairs from stylist created outfits and pairs with random replacements







# LSTMs FOR OUTFIT GENERATION



Models item compatibility via learning the **transition probability** between items as a proxy

Outfit represented as a **sequence** of fashion categories

Trained by **predicting the next** and **the previous item** in the outfit



# **GPT FOR OUTFIT GENERATION**



Item compatibility modeled via **self-attention**, where each item attends to all previous items

Outfit **represented as a set** by removing positional encoding

Model trained by **predicting the next item in the outfit** 



# **BERT FOR OUTFIT GENERATION**



Item compatibility modeled via **self-attention** - each item attends to all other items

Outfit represented as a set by removing the positional encoding as well as the next sentence task

Model trained by **filling in the blank** of a masked item in the outfit



# PERSONALIZED OUTFIT GENERATION



#### **GENERIC ALGORITHM FOR PERSONALIZED OUTFIT GENERATION**





Generate enough outfits

# **GENERIC ALGORITHM FOR PERSONALIZED OUTFIT GENERATION**



Generate enough outfits

#### **GENERIC ALGORITHM FOR PERSONALIZED OUTFIT GENERATION**



Generate enough outfits

#### SEQ-TO-SEQ LSTMS FOR PERSONALIZED OUTFIT GENERATION



Learns a fixed dimensional representation of the **user interacted items** 

Generates an outfit sequence conditioned on the state of the first LSTM



## TRANSFORMER FOR PERSONALIZED OUTFIT GENERATION



Encoder: learns a user preference signal from the interacted items, by attending each item to every other item



Decoder: generates an outfit by attending to the previous items and the user preference signal



#### CONTEXTUAL BERT AND GPT FOR PERSONALIZED OUTFIT GENERATION



Add global contextual data to BERT / GPT / TRM as an additional token

The fixed size context is **encoded as an embedding** with the same dimensionality as the item embedding

The model can attend to the context vector and utilize it for prediction as with any other token

Gender, age, location, favorite brands, favorite colors, height, body shape, etc.



# **EMPIRICAL EVALUATION**



### **OUTFIT DATASETS**

Name	Personalization	#Outfits	#Articles	Avg. outfit length
Zalon	Questionnaire	380k	31k <sup>1</sup>	5.0
Zalando GTL & STL	Click history	250k	65k <sup>1</sup>	4.5



Outfits for every occasion

<sup>1</sup> after filtering by occurrence frequency





# **RESULTS FOR NON-PERSONALIZED MODELS**

Zalon Dataset					
Model	Perplexity	Compatibility	FITB Accuracy		
Siamese	-	71.9%	0.1%		
LSTM	28,637	64.1%	0.7%		
GPT	1,212	92.1%	2.4%		
BERT	9,934	89.0%	4.8%		

Zalando Dataset					
Model	Perplexity	Compatibility	FITB Accuracy		
Siamese	-	73.7%	0.4%		
LSTM	34,290	68.6%	2.4%		
GPT	92	96.9%	17.7%		
BERT	182,586	97.9%	49.3%		





# **RESULTS FOR NON-PERSONALIZED MODELS**

Zalon Dataset							
Model Perplexity Compatibility FITB Accuracy							
Siamese	-	71.9%	0.1%				
LSTM	28,637	64.1%	0.7%				
GPT	1,212	92.1%	2.4%				
BERT	9,934	89.0%	4.8%				

Zalando Dataset						
Model Perplexity Compatibility FITB Accuracy						
Siamese	-	73.7%	0.4%			
LSTM	34,290	68.6%	2.4%			
GPT	92	96.9%	17.7%			
BERT	182,586	97.9%	49.3%			



### **RESULTS FOR NON-PERSONALIZED MODELS**

Zalon Dataset					
Model	Perplexity	Compatibility	FITB Accuracy		
Siamese	-	71.9%	0.1%		
LSTM	28,637	64.1%	0.7%		
GPT	1,212	92.1%	2.4%		
BERT	9,934	89.0%	4.8%		

Zalando Dataset					
Model	FITB Accuracy				
Siamese	-	73.7%	0.4%		
LSTM	34,290	68.6%	2.4%		
GPT	92	96.9%	17.7%		
BERT	182,586	97.9%	49.3%		





# PERSONALIZED OUTFIT DATASETS: ZALON

Name	Personalization	#Outfits	#Articles	Avg. outfit length
Zalon	Questionnaire	380k	31k	5.0
Zalando GTL & STL	Click history	250k	65k	4.5



# **RESULTS FOR PERSONALIZED OUTFIT MODELS (ZALON)**



Personalized Zalon Dataset						
Model	lel Brand-category KR Color-category KR Brand-color-category KR Personalization rate					
Contextual GPT	2.0%	2.3%	0.7%	0.5%	5.6%	
Contextual BERT	0.6%	1.6%	0.2%	0.5%	33.6%	



# PERSONALIZED OUTFIT DATASETS: ZALANDO

Name	Personalization	#Outfits	#Articles	Avg. outfit length
Zalon	Questionnaire	380k	31k	5.0
Zalando GTL & STL	Click history	250k	65k	4.5







# **RESULTS FOR PERSONALIZED OUTFIT MODELS (ZALANDO)**

Personalized Zalando Dataset							
Model	Brand-category CTR Color-category CTR Brand-color-category CTR Personalization rate Item c						
Siamese Nets	5.8%	9.3%	2.7%	10.7%	7.7%		
Transformer	40.8%	40.2%	35.6%	24.1%	31.4%		
Seq-to-Seq LSTM	9.4%	12.8%	7.4%	51.9%	35.7%		



#### SUMMARY



- **Comparison** of different algorithms for personalized and non-personalized outfit generation/recommendation
- Evaluation on **real-world data** from Zalando and Zalon
- Transformer-based models perform best

