

A deep learning-based approach for identifying unresolved questions on Stack Exchange Q&A communities

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### Work Summary

Many questions on the Stack Exchange (SE) question-answering (Q&A) platform still go unresolved. We have developed a novel approach to identify these unresolved questions by analysing the surrounding communication networks. Using a property graph model (PGM) and graph neural networks (GNNs), our approach captures both communication structure and message content. Tests on historical data from three SE communities show our method outperforms baselines, focusing only on question content. We believe that the introduced approach can help improve the viability of the platform and subsequently improve the knowledgesharing process facilitated by it. See [AF23] for complete details.

### Select Result

1: Results of	on Computer Science SE dataset (v	with majori	ty class	s ratio
Method	Node feature set	Metric	Mean	SD
		Accuracy	0.68	0.01
	Text embeddings + node type	Recall	0.64	0.04
		Precision	0.65	0.01
		F1-score	0.65	0.02

GCNAccuracy 0.640.00Recall0.540.04

### Motivation



**Figure 1:** For the Computer Science SE, like many other communities on the SE platform, the percentage of resolved questions follows a decreasing trend over the years

# **Proposed Approach and Experiments**

		Precision	0.62	0.01
		F1-score	0.58	0.02
		Accuracy	0.65	0.00
	Node type	Recall	0.67	0.01
		Precision	0.61	0.00
		F1-score	0.64	0.01
		Accuracy	0.70	0.01
	Text embeddings + node type	Recall	0.81	0.05
		Precision	0.63	0.02
GGNN		F1-score	0.71	0.01
		Accuracy	0.68	0.01
	Text embeddings	Recall	0.73	0.03
		Precision	0.63	0.01
		F1-score	0.68	0.01
	Node type	Accuracy	0.68	0.00
		Recall	0.94	0.02
		Precision	0.59	0.00
		F1-score	0.73	0.01
LogReg		Accuracy	0.56	0.00
		Recall	0.32	0.01
		Precision	0.54	0.01
	F1-score	0.40	0.01	
		Accuracy	0.50	0.02
Few-shot(5)	Recall	0.44	0.19	
		Precision	0.46	0.01
		F1-score	0.43	0.11
		Recall	0.47	0.06
Few-shot(10)		Accuracy	0.50	0.01
		Precision	0.45	0.01
		F1-score	0.46	0.03
Few-shot(20)		Accuracy	0.49	0.00
		Recall	0.53	0.07
		Precision	0.45	0.00
		F1-score	0.49	0.03

#### The Approach

- PGM [BFVY18] to model the communication network formed around questions
- Two GNN architectures: GCN [KW16] and GGNN [YYL20]
- Three node representations: *text embeddings plus node type*, *only text embeddings*, and *only node type*



**Figure 2:** The communication graph of a question; the blue nodes represent users, the purple nodes represent answers, the orange nodes represent comments, and the yellow node in the middle represents the question

## Funding, Data, and the Code

This work was carried out in the context of the Trondheim Analytica project, supported by the NTNU Digital Transformation programme. Furthermore, the code and the data used in the experiments are available on GitHub.com (https://github.com/habedi/GNNforUnresolvedQuestions).

# References

#### [AF23] Hassan Abedi Firouzjaei. A deep learning-based approach for identify-

#### Experiments

- Used the whole data dump of three SE communities, namely, {Computer, Data, Political} Science SE in the experiments
- Logistic regression (LogReg) and few-shot learners (few-shot(x)) for baselines
- Evaluation metrics: accuracy, precision, recall, and f1-score
- Stratified 5-fold cross-validation
- 5x2cv t-test [Die98] with p-value at 0.005
- Notebooks including the full information and data, are shared on GitHub

- ing unresolved questions on Stack Exchange Q&A communities through graph-based communication modelling. *Int. J. Data Sci. Anal.*, Sep 2023.
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- [KW16] Thomas N. Kipf and Max Welling. Semi-Supervised Classification with Graph Convolutional Networks. *arXiv preprint arXiv:1609.02907*, 2016.
  [YYL20] Jiaxuan You, Zhitao Ying, and Jure Leskovec. Design Space for Graph Neural Networks. In *NeurIPS*, pages 17009–17021, 2020.

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