Filling Conversation Ellipsis for Better Social Dialog Understanding

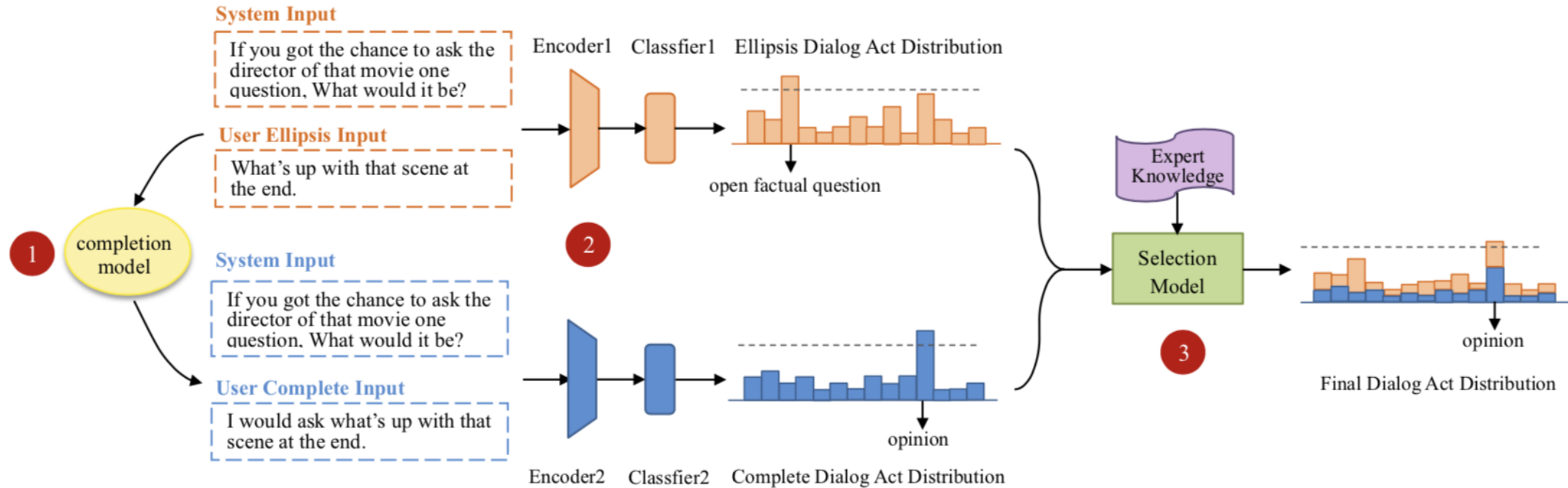Xiyuan Zhang[1], Chengxi Li[1], Dian Yu[2], Samuel Davidson[2], Zhou Yu[2]

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Motivation:

- **Frequent ellipsis** (i.e. omitting words that are understood from context) poses a challenge for language understanding for social chatbots (e.g. <u>I would like to know</u> when he fell off the bridge. *Question or statement?*)
- **Automatic completion may introduce errors** that can lead to other misunderstandings in downstream tasks.
- **We propose a hybrid framework** that considers both utterances with ellipsis and their automatically completed counterparts.

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Proposed Model: Hybrid Framework

Poster: #280
Project Website: https://xiyuanzh.github.io/projects/AAAI2020
Code and Data: https://gitlab.com/ucdavisnlp/filling-conversation-ellipsis