

In search of an adequate yet affordable tutor in online learning networks

- Peter Sloop, Peter van Rosmalen, Liesbeth Kester, Francis Brouns, Rob Koper - ICALT 2006, Kerkrade

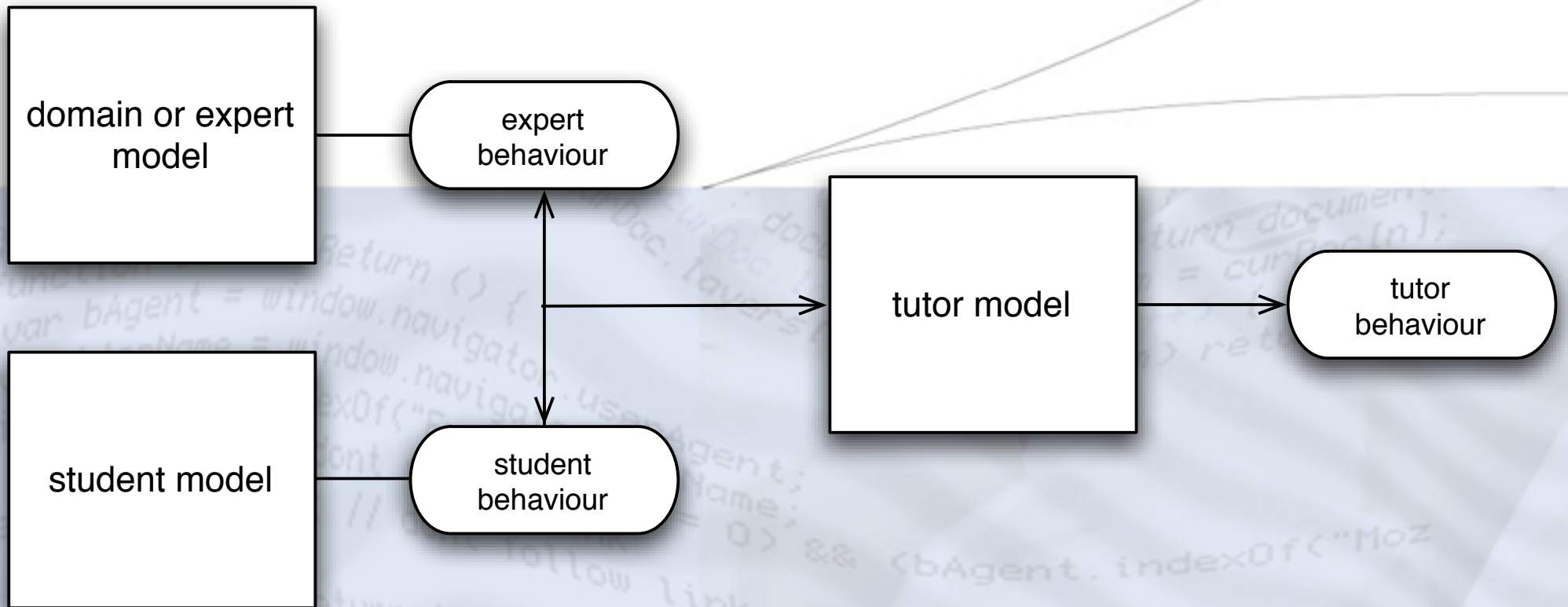
The challenge of the social web

- In offline environments, because of time-space constraints, you can only afford to know a limited number of people.
 - But is the right person among those?
- In online environments, there are lots of people with whom you could get in touch easily.
 - But how do you find the right persons?

Our specific problem

- Problem: students in online learning environments, particularly those who are not organised in cohorts, cannot easily obtain answers to the questions they may have
- Subsidiary problem: lone learner problem
- Subsidiary problem: teacher bandwidth problem.

Solution 1: intelligent tutoring system



Conclusion

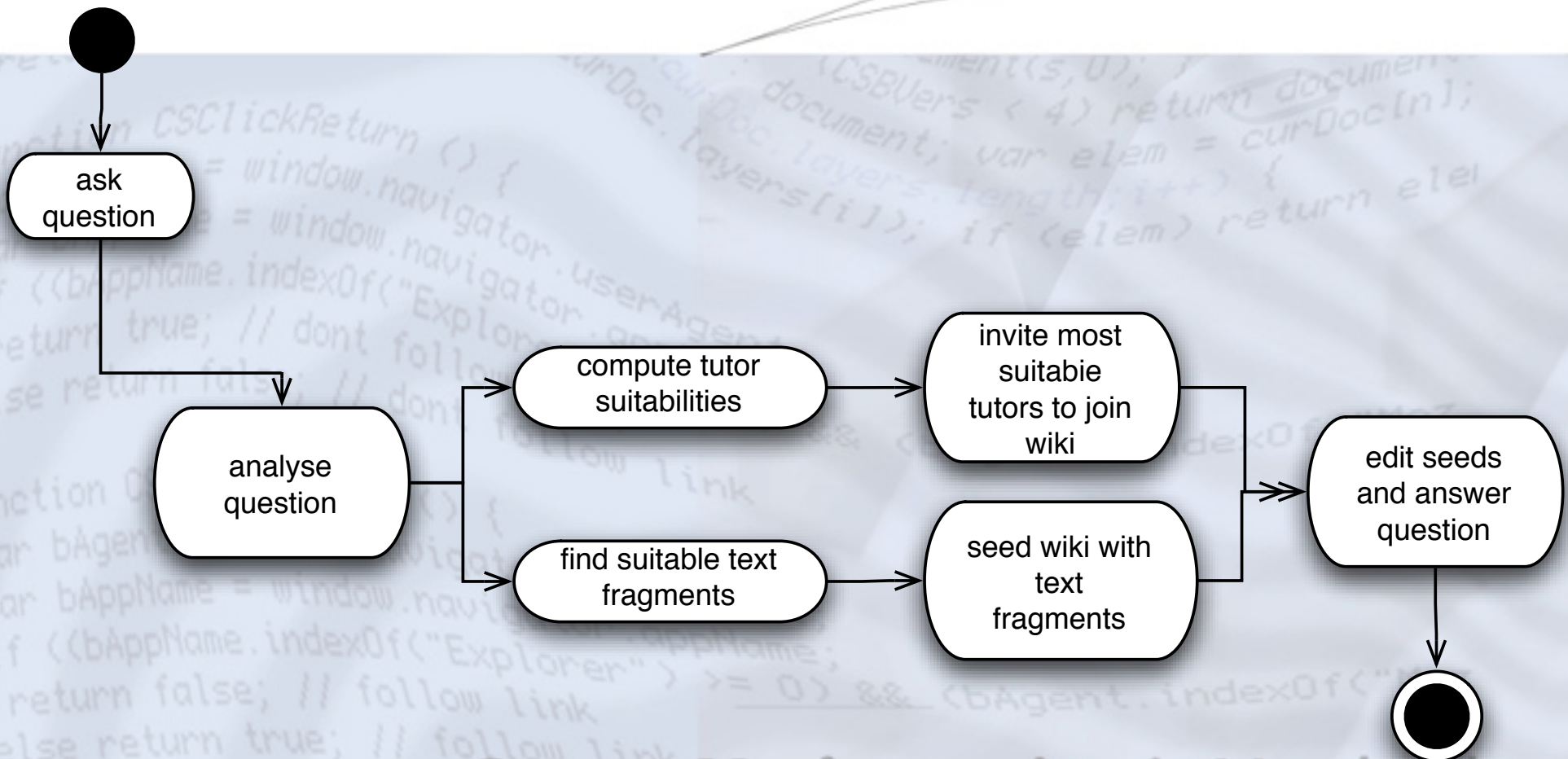
- Addresses the problem of getting an answer
- Addresses the teacher bandwidth problem
- Does not address the lone-learner problem
- Is inflexible, hence costly to maintain

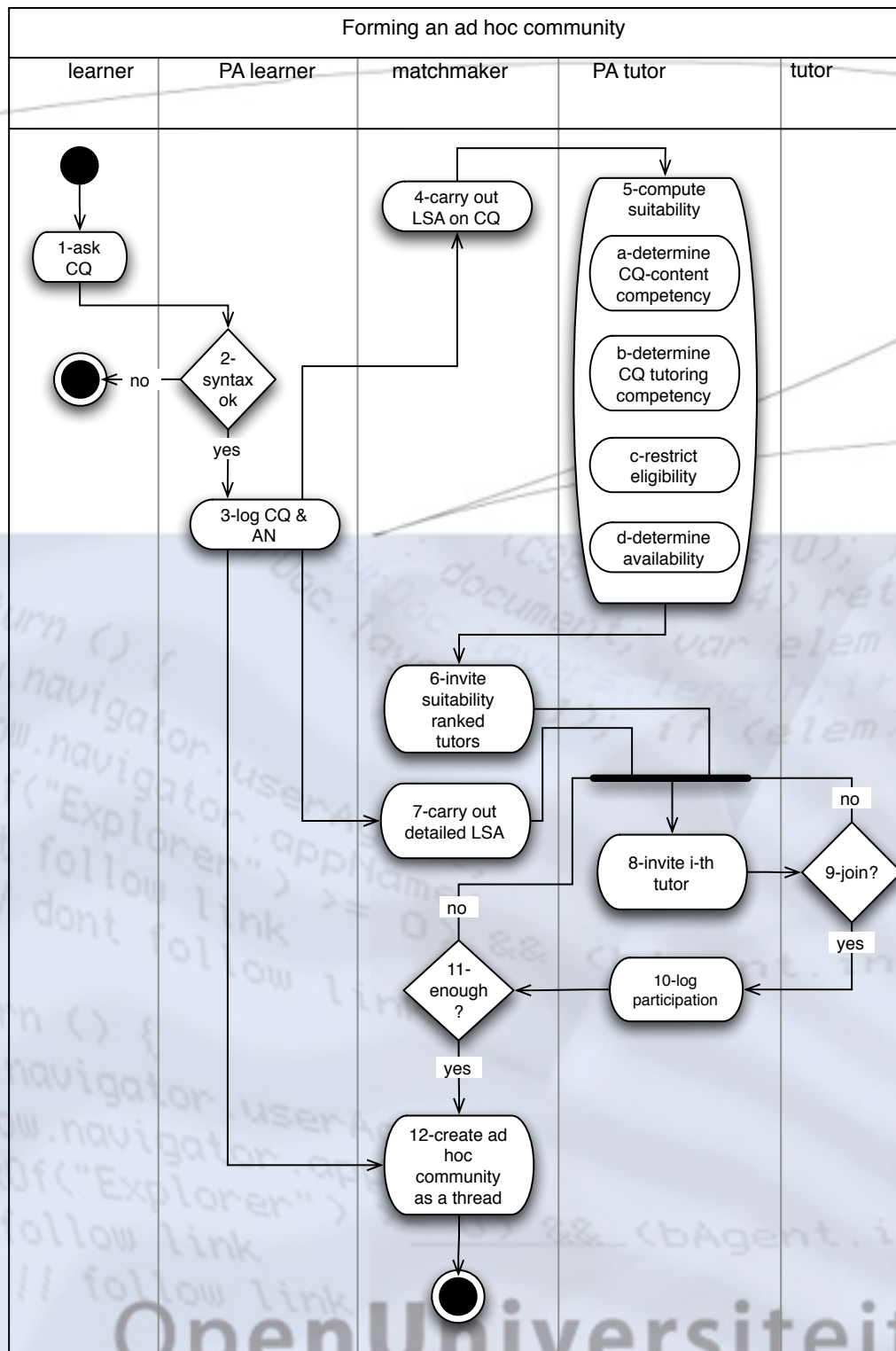
Solution 2 ad hoc transient communities

learner

matchmaker

peer tutor





documents

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | | | j | | | m |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|--|--|----------|--|--|---------|
| <i>ape</i> | 5 | 11 | 0 | | | | | | |
| <i>left</i> | 1 | 2 | 33 | | | | | | |
| <i>the</i> | 110 | 156 | 144 | | | | | | |
| <i>kind</i> | 25 | 19 | 0 | | | | | | |
| i | | | | | | $fr(ij)$ | | | |
| n | | | | | | | | | $f(mn)$ |

terms

question

B

A

C

Conclusion

- Addresses the problem of getting an answer
- Addresses the teacher bandwidth problem
- Addresses the lone-learner problem
- Is flexible, hence cheap to maintain
- Check out p. 132, latent semantic analysis in small-scale corpora by Jan van Bruggen and other