



## Contextual word embeddings for recommender systems

**Manas Ranjan Kar, Practice Lead, Juxt Smart Mandate**

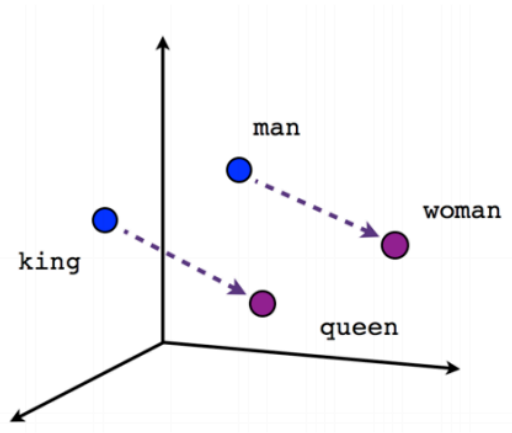
**Akhil Gupta, Intern, Amazon India**

Version 2  
Date – 25.09.2016

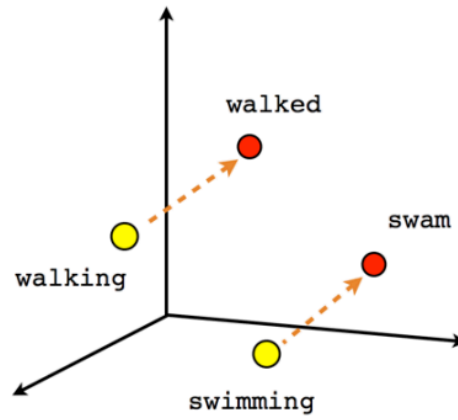
**GOAL:** To showcase a methodology to create recommendations using contextual word embeddings

***SECRET GOAL:*** To show that hypothesis/experimental tinkering can lead to real business impact + open source experiments !

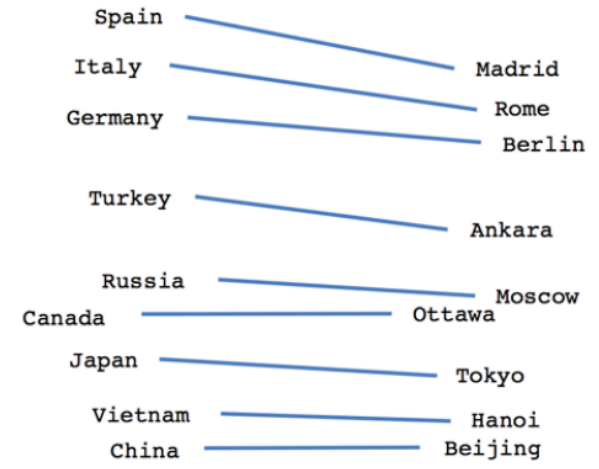
## word2vec– famous outcomes



Male-Female



Verb tense



Country-Capital

word2vec is *not* deep learning;

The whole idea behind word2vec is to demonstrate that **you can get better word representations if you trade the model's complexity for efficiency**, i.e. the ability to learn from much bigger datasets.

*“A word is known by the company it keeps”*

word2vec is a shallow word embedding model.

STEPS:

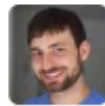
1. Create word IDs – 0 to length of the vocab in the corpus
2. IDs are mapped into vector space, taking their distributional properties into account
3. Training is online – one example at a time
4. Target for CBOW and SKIP respectively – predict the target word ( $w$ ), given the context ( $c$ ) i.e.  $P(w|c)$  OR predict the context, given the word i.e.  $P(c|w)$

数据量非常大时可以使用skip-gram

**Thumb Rule:** More data, use SKIP. Less data, use CBOW

Or not, decide depending on your experiments. Conflicting views do exist

recommendations can be broken, well sometimes !



**Andreas Mueller**  
@amuellerm1

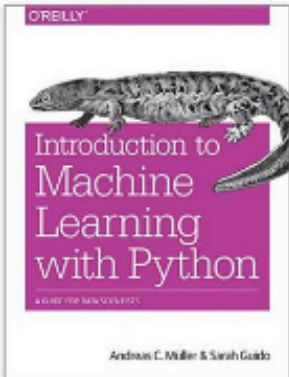


Following

Amazon recommends "Excel for Dummies"  
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### Introduction to Machine Learning with Python: A Guide for Data Scientists 1st Edition

by [Andreas C. Müller](#) (Author), [Sarah Guido](#) (Author)



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Many Python developers are curious about what machine learning is and how it can be concretely applied to solve issues faced in businesses handling medium to large amount of data. *Introduction to Machine Learning with Python* teaches you the basics of machine learning and provides a thorough hands-on understanding of the subject.

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Word representations took the world by storm when it was introduced by Google. Numerous papers have been written after that in the domain of topic modelling, sentiment analysis and social media user profiling.

This is our attempt to propose and demonstrate a framework that's more rounded and preserves context while generating recommendations.

Amazon Reviews and user browsing history for more than 18 years, contains product reviews and metadata from Amazon, including 142.8 million reviews spanning May 1996 - July 2014.

**Digital Music Reviews**– 800K+

**User Browsing History:** 9.4 M records



**META MODEL:** 行为序列

Created with the user browsing history. This contains more than 9.4 million product histories. The attempt is to mimic and improve upon existing product-product systems.

**USER REVIEW MODEL:** 文本数据

Currently many food reviews or travel sites don't allow us to search on "context". This model intakes reviews and attempts to create a framework for a "contextual search engine".

## USER REVIEWS

```
{
  "reviewerID": "A2SUAM1J3GNN3B",

  "asin": "0000013714",

  "reviewerName": "J. McDonald",
  "helpful": [2, 3],

  "reviewText": "I bought this for my
husband who plays the piano. He is
having a wonderful time with Shankar
Mahadevan.

  "overall": 5.0,
  "summary": "Heavenly Highway Hymns",
  "unixReviewTime": 1252800000,
  "reviewTime": "09 13, 2009"
}
```

## METADATA

```
{
  "asin": "0000031852",
  "title": "Girls Ballet Tutu Zebra
Hot Pink",
  "price": 3.17,
  "imUrl": "http://ecx.images-
amazon.com/images/I/
51fAmVkTbyL._SY300_.jpg",
  "related":
  {
    "also_bought": ["B00JHONN1S",
"B002BZX8Z6", "B00D2K1M3O", ....],
    "also_viewed": ["B002BZX8Z6",
"B00JHONN1S", "B008F0SU0Y"...],
    "bought_together": ["B002BZX8Z6"]
  },
  "salesRank": {"Toys & Games":
211836},
  "brand": "Coxlures",
  "categories": [["Sports & Outdoors",
"Other Sports", "Dance"]]
}
```

## USER REVIEWS

I bought this for my husband who plays the piano. He is having a wonderful time with Shankar Mahadevan.



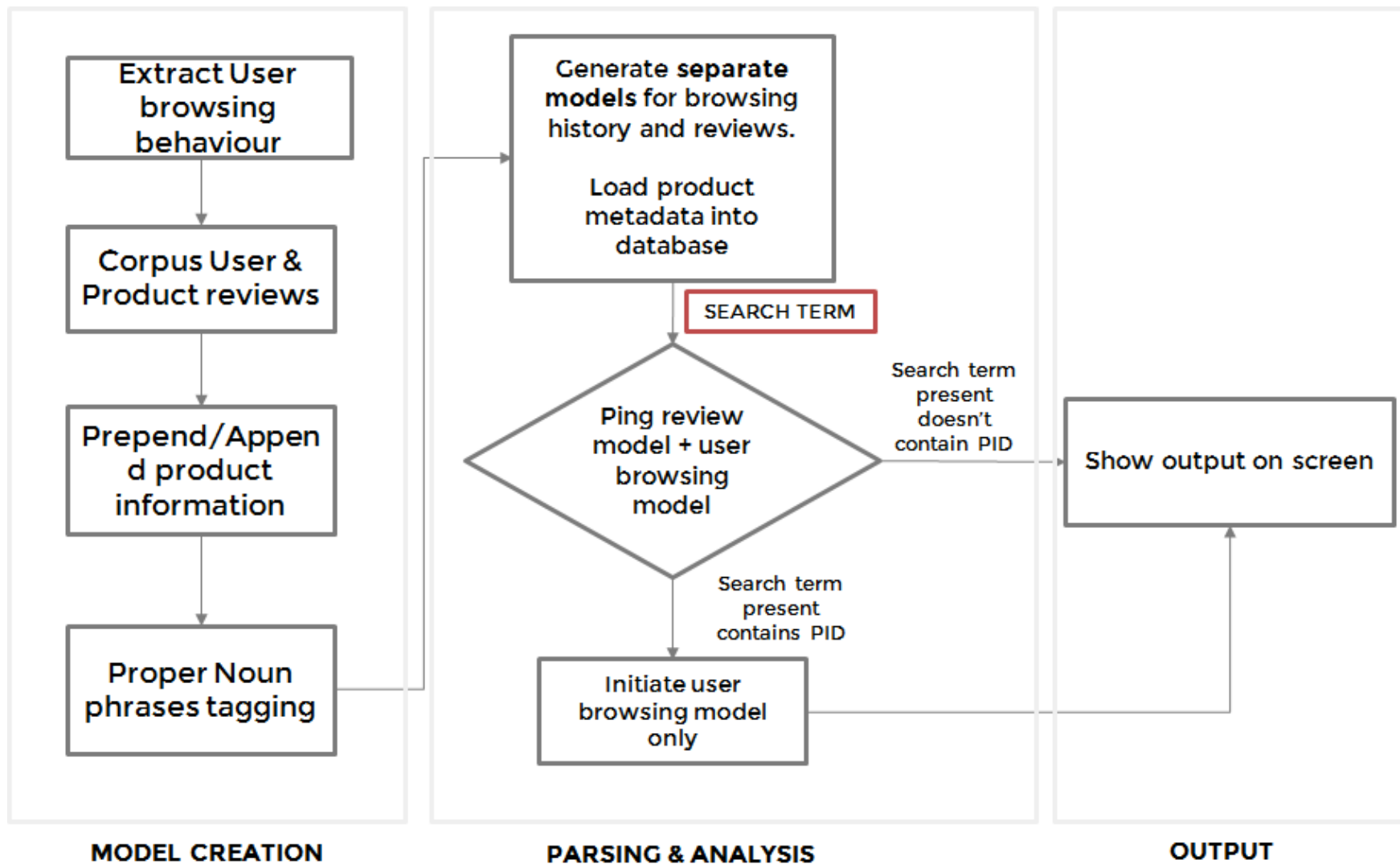
<p\_5> <0000013714> i bought this for my husband who plays the piano. he is having a **wonderful\_time** with **shankar\_mahadevan**. <0000013714> <p\_3.17>

## METADATA 行为轨迹序列

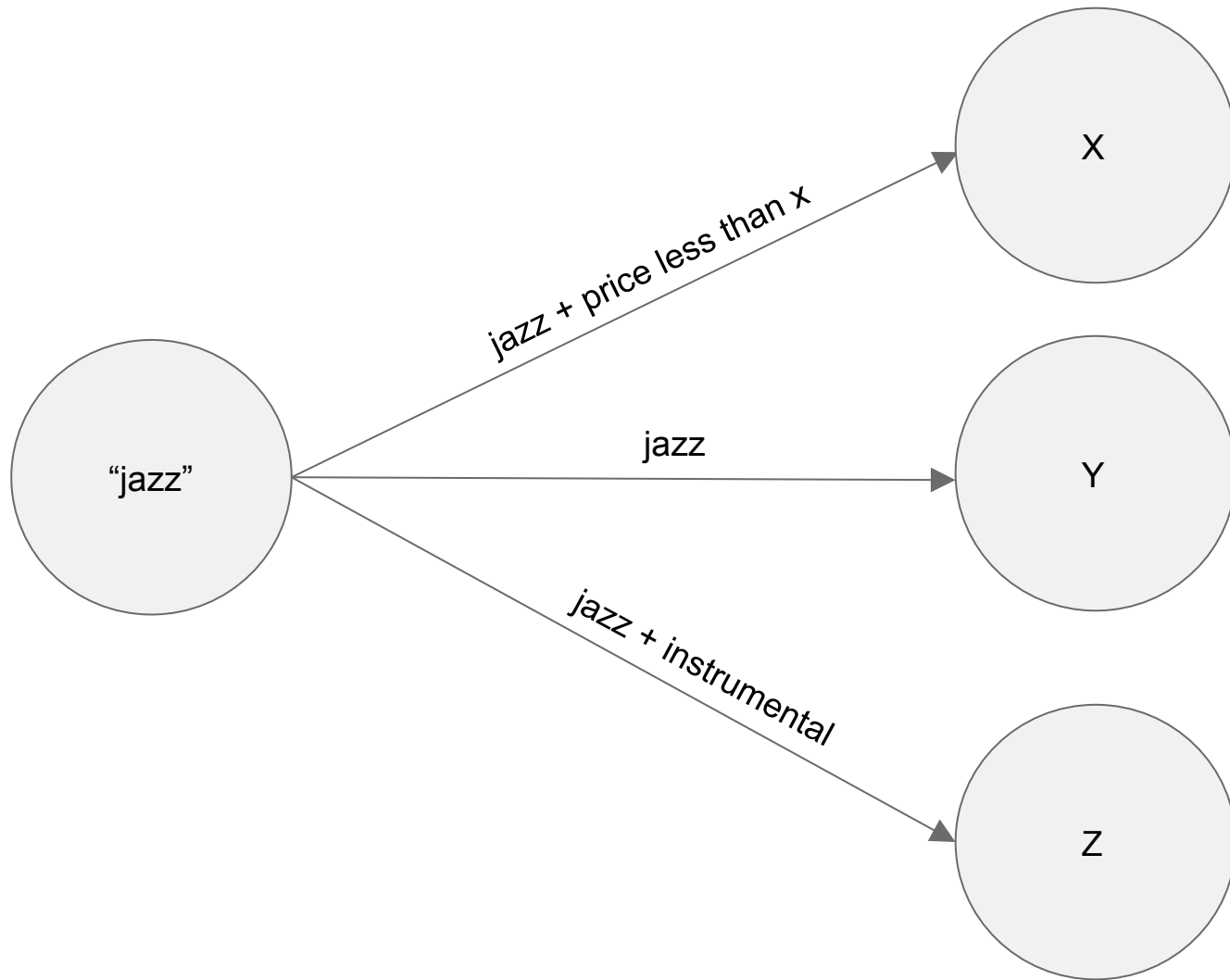
"0000031852", "B002BZX8Z6", "B00JHONN1S",  
"B008F0SU0Y"



"0000031852", "**b\_t**\_B002BZX8Z6",  
"**a\_b**\_B00JHONN1S", "**a\_v**\_B008F0SU0Y"



用户行为序列, 对每一个商品进行向量化, 分析商品之间的向量距离进行推荐



- Article/product titles re-writes for better SEO
- Compact text features during ML - **WIP**
- Validate and refine ontologies for domains
- SKU reorganization and genre validation
- Sentiment Analysis, with Sentiwordnet
- Recommendation engine for Indian restaurants

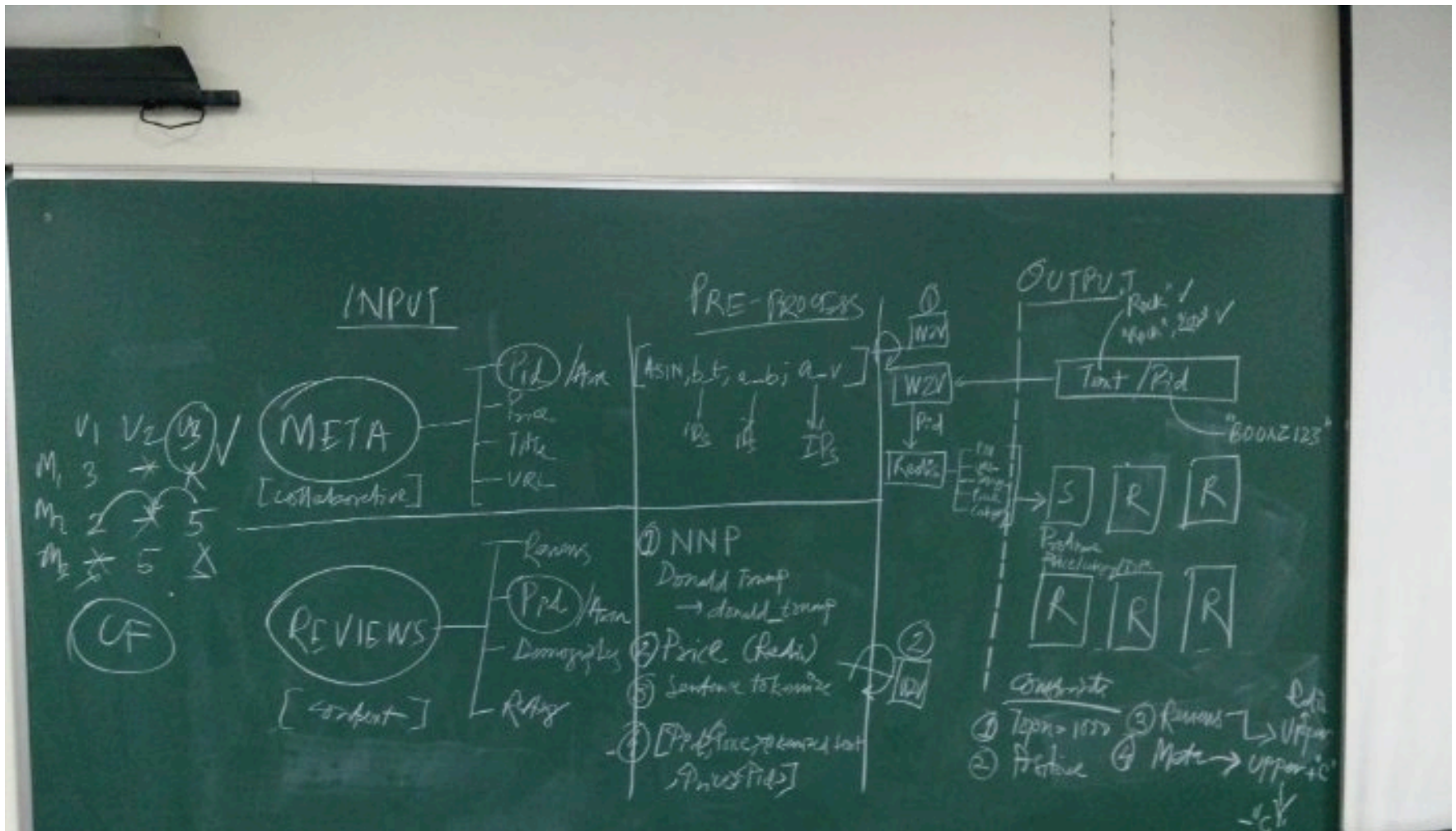
DEMO

## what could have done better

- Better pre-processing using DBpedia – currently relies on a NNP parser only
- Investigating ‘rogue’ results and experimenting with more hyper-parameters
- Mixing metadata and user reviews into one
- Developing metrics and automated techniques for measuring performance



# QUESTIONS?



<https://github.com/manasRK/word2vec-recommender>

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