

**APPLIED MARKOV DECISION PROCESS AND  
REINFORCEMENT LEARNING**  
MINI REPORT - II

on

**A Deep Reinforcement Learning Based Long-Term  
Recommender System**

**Submitted By :**  
Ashirbad Sarangi  
SC23M002

**Under Esteemed Guidance of :**  
Dr. Vineeth B. S.  
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR



Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology ( IIST ),  
India  
March 29, 2024

# 1 Problem Statement and Solution

The main aim of the recommender systems are to maximise the overall accuracy of the long-term recommendations for the user. However, according to ? there are certain limitations that exist for most of the recommenders that exist presently such as :

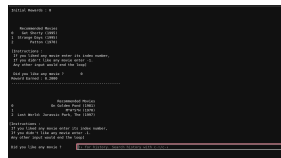
## 1.1 Limitations of previous recommenders

1. Most of the existing recommenders use the collaborative filtering based matrix factorisation method which adopts a static view during recommendation process and ignores the dynamic and sequential nature of the recommendation problem. The recommender doesn't evolve as the user choice preferences change and keeps on repeating the recommendations.
2. As the recommender depends entirely upon the historical data of the user, it suffers from the cold start problem.
3. Mostly recommenders fail to exploit the sequential decision nature of the recommendations. And out of the RNN based recommenders present, most of them aim for short term recommendation which maximises the immediate reward and does not guarantee optimal long-term reward.

## 1.2 Advantages of the proposed recommender

1. The ability of long term recommender. Using the Markov Decision Process ( MDP ) in the process helps to select the recommendation list in order to get the optimal reward.
2. User state can be dynamically updated. As reinforcement learning is used, the state of the user depends upon the action taken by him/her in previous time slot. The recommender reacts to the feedback it receives and generates the list accordingly for the next recommendation.
3. Suitable for both cold start and warm start model without additional content information. The use of RNN helps in generate the probability transition matrix which learns exclusively for the user/

In the current report an effort is made to simulate the recommender in a simple Markov Decision Process (MDP). In the Python simulation , the user is recommended a list of items and based on that, the user is asked to either choose any of the items ( if he/she liked any item from the list ) or to reject the whole list.



# 2 Assumptions

1. Each user  $u$  has a total of  $|I_u|$  rounds of interactions with his/her personal recommendation agent.

2.  $u$  can select at most one item in  $P_{u,t}^N$  at each time  $t$ .
3. At each time  $t$ , if  $P_{u,t}^N \cap I_u = \phi$ , user  $u$  should select only one item  $\hat{a}_{u,t} \in P_{u,t}^N \cap I_u$  with the highest estimated probability, and responds a positive feedback
4. At each time  $t$ , if  $P_{u,t}^N \cap I_u = \phi$ , there is no hit item, and user  $u$  responds a negative feedback.
5. If  $i \in P_{u,t}^N \cap I_u$  is selected, it should be removed from  $I_u$  to avoid being repeatedly chosen.

where

Notation	Description
$I$	the set of all items
$I_u$	the subset of $I$ , which includes items that user $u$ likes
$s_{u,t}$	the $t^{th}$ state of RNN for user $u$
$P_{u,t}^N$	the $t^{th}$ recommendation list including $N$ items for user $u$
$f_{u,t}$	the $t^{th}$ feedback responded by user $u$
$V_{u,t}$	the $t^{th}$ immediate reward with respect to $f_{u,t}$
$R_{u,t}$	the $t^{th}$ accumulative reward with respect to $f_{u,t}$

### 3 Procedure

#### 3.1 Data Collection and Preprocessing

The MovieLens100K data set was used to make this Markov Decision Process. This dataset contains the information of :

- 100,000 ratings (1-5) from 943 users on 1682 movies.
- Movies are classified into 19 genres
- Each user has rated at least 20 movies.
- Simple demographic info for the users (age, gender, occupation, zip)

The data was initially present segregated into mainly three different files -  $u.user$ ,  $u.item$ ,  $u.data$ . Owing to the large scale of the data it is scaled down to simpler dimensions by the following process :

1. The ratings of the was centralised.
2. From the  $u.item$  dataset, all the non-essential headers were dropped and only the necessary details of the movie and genre information is retained.
3. The user with maximum positive ratings was picked. Accordingly, only the movies rated by her were filtered out. A combined analytical dataset is created containing userid, movieid, movietitle and genres are kept and saved in another csv file which is used as the ultimate dataset for the MDP.

The recommender system is designed to provide personal recommendation to a particular user only. This is equivalent to select only one user of the many users present. Basically, of the 943 users, the focus is now shifted only one particular customer, who is 35 years old female working as an educator who had rated 540 movies.

### 3.2 Data Preparation

This step takes the csv file created in ???. Currently there are 18 genres available for each movie selected by the user. Due to the high complexity of computation, the data was further reduced to the two most rated genres by the user : *Drama* , *Comedy*. Thus this is  $I$ . There was 4 classes made based on the genres :

Class	Drama	Comedy
0	0	0
1	0	1
2	1	0
3	1	1

### 3.3 Declarations and Definitions

The interested set of user  $I_u$  was found from the  $I$ .

$$f(i) = \begin{cases} 1 & \tilde{R}(i) > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

After the interested set is found out, then the feedback function is defined as :

$f_{u,t}$  = User gives the feedback and actions are taken accordingly

The state space  $s_t$  can be defined as the number of movies at the time instant  $t$  in the recommended list  $P_{u,t}^N$ . As  $N = 3$ , and there are 4 classes. It can be equivalently imagined as solving a linear combination of 4 non-negative integers which add up to 3. Thus there are  $\binom{6}{3} = 20$  states. Thus the state space is discrete in nature. The *transition* function can be defined as :

1. New list is created with 60% weightage to the liked movies in the recommended list and 40% weightage to old list.
2. Once the new list is available it is normalised and discretised to know which class has how many occurrences or in other words which is the next state/
3. In case the recommended was not at all liked by the user then the system switches back to the previous state.

The action is also discretised as this will have  $N$  movies at any time  $t$  ( i.e.  $P_{u,t}^N$ ). The *generate* function can be defined as a complex series of functions mathematically. But basically, it takes input as current state and the previously recommended movies for masking them so that they don't appear in the immediate next recommendation. The function can be explained in the following steps :

1. Based on the current state, randomly movies are picked as candidates from each class corresponding to their occurrences in the state, given that the movies are available for selection i.e. are unmasked.
2. In case , the number of movies selected are not equal to  $N$ , then randomly unmasked movies are selected to fill in the shortage.
3. Now the exploration and exploitation in such a way that 8% times exploration is done by randomly selecting  $N$  movies from the candidate list, else rest of the times, the top  $N$  movies are selected.

4. Finally, masking is done of the final selection of candidate list and the movie ids are stored for use in the next time  $t$

The reward function can be defined as :

$$V_{u,t} = \begin{cases} 1 & f_{u,t} > 0, \\ -0.2 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
$$R_{u,t} = \sum_{k=0}^{M-k} \gamma^k V_{u,t+k}$$

where  $\gamma \in (0,1)$

## 4 Simulation

---

**Algorithm 1** Simulation

---

```
restart()
while  $t \leq |I_u|$  do
     $t \leftarrow t + 1$ 
     $f_{u,t} \leftarrow$  User Input
     $state \leftarrow transition(P_{u,t}^N, oldstate)$ 
     $P_{u,t}^N \leftarrow generate(state, oldmovies)$ 
     $R_{u,t} = \sum_{k=0}^{M-k} \gamma^k V_{u,t+k}$ 
end while
```

---

In the code, the recommendation list for the user is randomly generated based on the initialisation of the states. The list is flashed to the user and feedback is received. Based on the feedback received by the user, the new recommendation list is generated. This code is optimised to select the movies in such a way that the reward is maximum as based on the feedback received, an optimal list of movies is generated which increases the reward. Once the time limit is reached or the loop is ended, the final reward is flashed.

```
Initial Rewards : 0

Recommended Movies
0  Get Shorty (1995)
1  Strange Days (1995)
2  Patton (1970)

[Instructions :
If you liked any movie enter its index number,
If you didn't like any movie enter -1.
Any other input would end the loop]

Did you like any movie ?      0
Reward Earned : 0.2000
-----

Recommended Movies
0  On Golden Pond (1981)
1  M*A*S*H (1970)
2  Lost World: Jurassic Park, The (1997)

[Instructions :
If you liked any movie enter its index number,
If you didn't like any movie enter -1.
Any other input would end the loop]

Did you like any movie ?      1
Reward Earned : 0.0400
-----
```

## 5 Codes

### 5.1 Exploratory Data Analysis

```
[1]: import pandas as analytics
import numpy as maths
import os
```

```

Recommended Movies
0 Field of Dreams (1989)
1 Good Will Hunting (1997)
2 Ghost (1990)

[Instructions :
If you liked any movie enter its index number,
If you didn't like any movie enter -1.
Any other input would end the loop]

Did you like any movie ?      2
Reward Earned : 0.0080
-----

Recommended Movies
0 Monty Python's Life of Brian (1979)
1 Free Willy (1993)
2 Thin Man, The (1934)

[Instructions :
If you liked any movie enter its index number,
If you didn't like any movie enter -1.
Any other input would end the loop]

Did you like any movie ?      3
Reward Earned : -0.0003
-----

| Wrong Value Entered ! Ending the simulation |
-----

| Total Rewards Earned : 0.0480 |
-----

```

```
[2]: source_path = 'MovieLens100k_dataset'
data_path = os.path.join(source_path, 'u.data')
genre_path = os.path.join(source_path, 'u.genre')
item_path = os.path.join(source_path, 'u.item')
occupation_path = os.path.join(source_path, 'u.occupation')
user_path = os.path.join(source_path, 'u.user')
```

```
[3]: def extract_values(a):
      return [i.strip().replace(" ", "_") for i in a.split("|")]
```

```
[4]: data_headers = """user id | movie id | rating | timestamp"""
item_headers = """movie id | movie title | release date | video release date |
IMDb URL | unknown | Action | Adventure | Animation |
Children's | Comedy | Crime | Documentary | Drama | Fantasy |
Film-Noir | Horror | Musical | Mystery | Romance | Sci-Fi |
Thriller | War | Western |"""
user_headers = """user id | age | gender | occupation | zip code"""

data_headers = extract_values(data_headers)
item_headers = extract_values(item_headers)[: -1]
user_headers = extract_values(user_headers)
genres = analytics.read_csv(genre_path, sep="|")['unknown'].tolist()
```

```
[5]: df_data = analytics.read_csv(data_path, header = None, sep="\t", names = _
↳ data_headers)
df_data['rating'] = df_data['rating'] - 3
```

```
df_data
```

```
[5]:      user_id  movie_id  rating  timestamp
0         196       242        0  881250949
1         186       302        0  891717742
2          22       377       -2  878887116
3        244        51       -1  880606923
4        166       346       -2  886397596
...      ...      ...      ...      ...
99995     880       476        0  880175444
99996     716       204        2  879795543
99997     276      1090       -2  874795795
99998      13       225       -1  882399156
99999      12       203        0  879959583
```

```
[100000 rows x 4 columns]
```

```
[6]: df_users = analytics.read_csv(user_path,header=None,sep = "|",names = _
      ↪user_headers)
df_users
```

```
[6]:      user_id  age gender  occupation  zip_code
0          1    24     M    technician    85711
1          2    53     F         other    94043
2          3    23     M         writer    32067
3          4    24     M    technician    43537
4          5    33     F         other    15213
..      ...  ...  ...      ...      ...
938      939    26     F        student    33319
939      940    32     M  administrator    02215
940      941    20     M        student    97229
941      942    48     F        librarian    78209
942      943    22     M        student    77841
```

```
[943 rows x 5 columns]
```

```
[7]: df_items = analytics.read_csv(item_path, header = None, sep = "|", names = _
      ↪item_headers)
df_items = df_items.drop(['release_date','video_release_date','IMDb_URL'],axis = _
      ↪1)
df_items = df_items[df_items['unknown'] == 0]
df_items = df_items.drop('unknown',axis = 1)
df_items
```

```
[7]:      movie_id      movie_title  Action  Adventure  \
0          1      Toy Story (1995)        0          0
1          2      GoldenEye (1995)        1          1
```



2	3	Four Rooms (1995)	0	0
3	4	Get Shorty (1995)	1	0
4	5	Copycat (1995)	0	0
...	...	...	...	...
1676	1678	Mat' i syn (1997)	0	0
1677	1679	B. Monkey (1998)	0	0
1678	1680	Sliding Doors (1998)	0	0
1679	1681	You So Crazy (1994)	0	0
1680	1682	Scream of Stone (Schrei aus Stein) (1991)	0	0

	Animation	Children's	Comedy	Crime	Documentary	Drama	Fantasy	\
0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
3	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	
4	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
1676	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
1677	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
1678	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
1679	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	
1680	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	

	Film-Noir	Horror	Musical	Mystery	Romance	Sci-Fi	Thriller	War	\
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
4	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
1676	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
1677	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	
1678	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	
1679	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
1680	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

	Western
0	0
1	0
2	0
3	0
4	0
...	...
1676	0
1677	0
1678	0
1679	0

1680            0

[1679 rows x 20 columns]

```
[8]: df_users
```

```
[8]:
```

	user_id	age	gender	occupation	zip_code
0	1	24	M	technician	85711
1	2	53	F	other	94043
2	3	23	M	writer	32067
3	4	24	M	technician	43537
4	5	33	F	other	15213
...	...	...	...	...	...
938	939	26	F	student	33319
939	940	32	M	administrator	02215
940	941	20	M	student	97229
941	942	48	F	librarian	78209
942	943	22	M	student	77841

[943 rows x 5 columns]

```
[9]: df_data
```

```
[9]:
```

	user_id	movie_id	rating	timestamp
0	196	242	0	881250949
1	186	302	0	891717742
2	22	377	-2	878887116
3	244	51	-1	880606923
4	166	346	-2	886397596
...	...	...	...	...
99995	880	476	0	880175444
99996	716	204	2	879795543
99997	276	1090	-2	874795795
99998	13	225	-1	882399156
99999	12	203	0	879959583

[100000 rows x 4 columns]

```
[10]: df_data.sort_values('user_id')
```

```
[10]:
```

	user_id	movie_id	rating	timestamp
41842	1	46	1	876893230
38751	1	257	1	874965954
8976	1	12	2	878542960
3248	1	74	-2	889751736
3260	1	134	1	875073067
...	...	...	...	...

95594	943	217	0	888640067
77956	943	94	1	888639929
76855	943	943	2	888639614
94966	943	566	1	888639886
90134	943	2	2	888639953

[100000 rows x 4 columns]

```
[11]: # max_user_id = df_data['user_id'].value_counts(ascending = False).reset_index().
      ↪set_index('count').sort_values(by= 'count',ascending = False).
      ↪iloc[0]['user_id'].tolist()
max_user_id = df_data.groupby('user_id').agg({'rating':lambda x:x.sum()}).
      ↪reset_index().sort_values(by = 'rating',ascending = False)['user_id'].iloc[0]
df_users = df_data[df_data['user_id'] == max_user_id]
df_users
```

```
[11]:      user_id  age gender occupation zip_code
449      450   35      F    educator    11758
```

```
[12]: df_ratings = df_data[df_data['user_id'] ==
      ↪max_user_id][['user_id','movie_id','rating','timestamp']]
df_ratings
```

```
[12]:      user_id  movie_id  rating  timestamp
17656      450      470        2  887139517
17680      450      783        0  882399818
17764      450     1147        1  882374497
17963      450      100        1  882374059
18055      450       58        0  882373464
...      ...      ...      ...      ...
98566      450      584        2  882397223
98871      450      732        0  882395662
99039      450      388        0  882471604
99614      450     1490        0  882396929
99772      450      654        1  882373928
```

[540 rows x 4 columns]

```
[13]: df_items = df_data[df_data['movie_id'].isin(df_data['movie_id'])]
df_items
```

```
[13]:      movie_id      movie_title  Action  Adventure \
0           1  Toy Story (1995)        0          0
1           2  GoldenEye (1995)        1          1
2           3  Four Rooms (1995)        0          0
3           4  Get Shorty (1995)        1          0
4           5  Copycat (1995)         0          0
```

...	...	...	...	...
1676	1678	Mat' i syn (1997)	0	0
1677	1679	B. Monkey (1998)	0	0
1678	1680	Sliding Doors (1998)	0	0
1679	1681	You So Crazy (1994)	0	0
1680	1682	Scream of Stone (Schrei aus Stein) (1991)	0	0

	Animation	Children's	Comedy	Crime	Documentary	Drama	Fantasy	\
0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
3	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	
4	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
1676	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
1677	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
1678	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
1679	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	
1680	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	

	Film-Noir	Horror	Musical	Mystery	Romance	Sci-Fi	Thriller	War	\
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
4	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
1676	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
1677	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	
1678	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	
1679	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
1680	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

	Western
0	0
1	0
2	0
3	0
4	0
...	...
1676	0
1677	0
1678	0
1679	0
1680	0

[1679 rows x 20 columns]

```
[14]: df_rated_items = df_items.merge(df_ratings,on='movie_id',how = 'inner')
req_order = ['user_id','movie_id','movie_title','rating'] + genres + \
↳['timestamp']
df_rated_items = df_rated_items[req_order]
```

```
[15]: df_rated_items.to_csv('rated_movies.csv',index= False)
```

## 5.2 Simulator

```
[1]: import pandas as analytics
import numpy as maths
import warnings
import time
warnings.filterwarnings("ignore")
```

```
[2]: df_rated_movies = analytics.read_csv('rated_movies.csv')
user_id = df_rated_movies['user_id'].unique()[0]
df_rated_movies = df_rated_movies.drop(['user_id','timestamp'],axis = 1)
df_movies_mapping = df_rated_movies[['movie_id','movie_title']]
df_rated_movies
```

```
[2]:
```

	movie_id	movie_title	rating	Action	Adventure	\
0	1	Toy Story (1995)	1	0	0	
1	2	GoldenEye (1995)	1	1	1	
2	3	Four Rooms (1995)	1	0	0	
3	4	Get Shorty (1995)	0	1	0	
4	7	Twelve Monkeys (1995)	1	0	0	
..	...	...	...	...	...	
535	1480	Herbie Rides Again (1974)	0	0	1	
536	1490	Fausto (1993)	0	0	0	
537	1518	Losing Isaiah (1995)	1	0	0	
538	1521	Mr. Wonderful (1993)	0	0	0	
539	1603	Angela (1995)	0	0	0	

	Animation	Children's	Comedy	Crime	Documentary	...	Fantasy	\
0	1	1	1	0	0	...	0	
1	0	0	0	0	0	...	0	
2	0	0	0	0	0	...	0	
3	0	0	1	0	0	...	0	
4	0	0	0	0	0	...	0	
..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
535	0	1	1	0	0	...	0	
536	0	0	1	0	0	...	0	
537	0	0	0	0	0	...	0	
538	0	0	1	0	0	...	0	
539	0	0	0	0	0	...	0	

	Film-Noir	Horror	Musical	Mystery	Romance	Sci-Fi	Thriller	War	\
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
4	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	
..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
535	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
536	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
537	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
538	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	
539	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

	Western
0	0
1	0
2	0
3	0
4	0
..	...
535	0
536	0
537	0
538	0
539	0

[540 rows x 21 columns]

```
[3]: genres = list(dfRated_movies.drop(['movie_id','movie_title','rating'],axis = 1).
    ↪columns)
selected_genres = dfRated_movies[genres].sum().sort_values(ascending = False).
    ↪reset_index(drop = False).iloc[:2]['index'].tolist()
print("Most Popular user #",user_id," are ",selected_genres,"\n")

dfRated_movies['class'] = dfRated_movies[selected_genres[0]] * 2 +_
    ↪dfRated_movies[selected_genres[1]]
class_mapping = dfRated_movies[selected_genres + ['class']].drop_duplicates().
    ↪sort_values('class').set_index('class')      # mapping of drama ,comedy movie to_
    ↪respective class
classes = class_mapping.index.tolist()

selected_columns = ['movie_id','rating','class']
dfRated_movies = dfRated_movies[selected_columns]
dfRated_movies
```

Most Popular user # 450 are ['Drama', 'Comedy']

```
[3]:      movie_id  rating  class
      0         1      1      1
      1         2      1      0
      2         3      1      0
      3         4      0      3
      4         7      1      2
      ..      ...      ...      ...
     535      1480      0      1
     536      1490      0      1
     537      1518      1      2
     538      1521      0      1
     539      1603      0      2
```

[540 rows x 3 columns]

```
[4]: N = 3
```

```
[5]: df_interested = df_rated_movies.copy()
      df_interested['F'] = df_interested['rating'].apply(lambda x : 1 if x > 0 else 0)
      df_interested = df_interested[df_interested['F'] > 0].drop('F',axis=1)
      df_interested
```

```
[5]:      movie_id  rating  class
      0         1      1      1
      1         2      1      0
      2         3      1      0
      4         7      1      2
      5        10      1      2
      ..      ...      ...      ...
     529      1425      1      3
     530      1435      1      1
     532      1444      1      1
     533      1446      1      1
     537      1518      1      2
```

[378 rows x 3 columns]

```
[6]: def feedback(user_feedback,feedback_values,t):                                # instead of
      ↪ actual fut definition, its changed a bit, i.e. if in the selected list there
      ↪ is a movie user likes then it is feedback is 1 else 0
      value = 0
      try :
          if 0 <= int(user_feedback) <= 2 :
              value = 1
          elif int(user_feedback) == -1 :
              value = 0
          else :
```

```

        value = -1
    except ValueError as e :
        value = -1
    feedback_values.insert(t,value)
    return feedback_values

def generate(state,old_movies):
    movie_ids = []
    for _class in state.index :
        df_temp = df_rated_movies[(df_rated_movies['mask'] == 1)
→1)][df_rated_movies['class'] == _class].sample(n = int(state[_class])+1)
        movie_ids = movie_ids + df_temp['movie_id'].to_list()

    if len(movie_ids) < N :
        diff = N - len(movie_ids)
        additional_ids = df_rated_movies[df_rated_movies['mask'] == 1
→1][~df_rated_movies['movie_id'].isin(movie_ids)].sample(n = diff)['movie_id'].
→tolist()
        movie_ids = movie_ids + additional_ids
        df_candidates = df_rated_movies[df_rated_movies['movie_id'].isin(movie_ids)]

    if maths.random.random() > 0.08 :                                # exploitation
        df_candidates = df_candidates.iloc[:N]
    else : df_candidates = df_candidates.sample(n = N)                # exploration
    df_candidates = df_candidates.drop('mask',axis = 1)
    df_interested[df_interested['movie_id'].isin(movie_ids)]['mask'] = 0
    df_rated_movies[df_rated_movies['movie_id'].isin(old_movies)]['mask'] = 1
    return df_candidates,movie_ids

def find_rewards(values,rewards, feedback_value):
    gamma = 0.2
    if feedback_value > 0 : value = 1
    else : value = -0.2
    values.append(value*gamma**t)
    rewards.append(sum(values[:t]))
    return values, rewards

def transition(P,old_state):                                         #equivalent to the RNN
→function. So it is the most complex and challenging function
    alpha = 0.6
    next_state = (P[P['rating'] > 0]['class'].value_counts()*alpha + old_state *
→(1-alpha)).fillna(0)
    next_state = next_state / next_state.sum()
    next_state = round(next_state * N)

```



```

    if next_state.sum() < N :
        next_state = old_state

    return next_state

def restart():
    t = 0
    df_rated_movies['mask'] = 1
    rewards = []
    values = []
    feedback_values = [0]
    old_movies = []
    states = []

    initial_state = df_interested['class'].value_counts(normalize = True)*N #
    →State Space ( discrete :- ) [Out of 3 items , how many belong to each class
    →is each state. That is 4 non-negative integers add upto 3]. 20 ways are there.
    P , old_movies = generate(initial_state, old_movies) # Action Space (
    →discrete :- )
    states.append(initial_state)

    values , rewards = find_rewards(values , rewards, feedback_values[t])
    return rewards, values, feedback_values, old_movies, states, initial_state, P

```

```

[7]: df_raw = analytics.DataFrame(data = [maths.arange(0,N+1)]).T
df_merge = analytics.merge(df_raw, df_raw, how = 'cross',suffixes=('_1','_2'))
df_merge = analytics.merge(df_merge, df_raw, how = 'cross',suffixes=('_x','_y'))
df_merge = analytics.merge(df_merge, df_raw, how = 'cross')
df_merge['sum'] = df_merge.sum(axis = 1)
df_all_states = df_merge[df_merge['sum'] == N].drop('sum',axis = 1).
    →reset_index(drop = True)
df_all_states.columns = list(maths.arange(N+1))
all_states = []
for i in range(len(df_all_states)) :
    all_states.append(df_all_states.iloc[i].astype('float64'))

```

```

[8]: t = 0
rewards, values, feedback_values, old_movies, states, initial_state, P =
    →restart()
recommendations = []

# print("Initial State")
# print("=====")
# print(initial_state)

print("Initial Rewards :",rewards[-1])

```

```

while t <= len(df_interested) :
    t = t + 1
    state = transition(P,states[t-1])
    states.append(state)
    P , old_movies = generate(state,old_movies)
    print("\n\n")
    print(P.merge(df_movies_mapping,on = 'movie_id')[['movie_title']].
→rename(columns={'movie_title':'Recommended Movies'}))
    print()
    user_feedback = input("[Instructions : \n If you liked any movie enter its_
→index number, \n If you didn't like any movie enter -1. \n Any other input_
→would end the loop] \n\n Did you like any movie ? \t")

    feedback_values = feedback(user_feedback,feedback_values,t)
    recommendations.append(P)
    values , rewards = find_rewards(values , rewards, feedback_values[t])
    print("Reward Earned :","{:.4f}".format(values[-1]))
    print("-----")
    if feedback_values[t] == -1 :
        print("\n")
        print("-----")
        print('| Wrong Value Entered ! Ending the simulation |')
        print("-----")
        break

states_policy = states
rewards_policy = rewards
recommendations_policy = recommendations

print("\n\n-----")
print("| Total Rewards Earned :","{:.4f}".format(rewards[-1]),"|")
print("-----")

```

Initial Rewards : 0

	Recommended Movies
0	Schindler's List (1993)
1	Apple Dumpling Gang, The (1975)
2	Maltese Falcon, The (1941)

[Instructions :  
 If you liked any movie enter its index number,  
 If you didn't like any movie enter -1.

Any other input would end the loop]

Did you like any movie ?           0

Reward Earned : 0.2000

-----

Recommended Movies

- 0       Forrest Gump (1994)
- 1   Cyrano de Bergerac (1990)
- 2       Murder at 1600 (1997)

[Instructions :

If you liked any movie enter its index number,

If you didn't like any movie enter -1.

Any other input would end the loop]

Did you like any movie ?           1

Reward Earned : 0.0400

-----

Recommended Movies

- 0   Carlito's Way (1993)
- 1       Aladdin (1992)
- 2   Restoration (1995)

[Instructions :

If you liked any movie enter its index number,

If you didn't like any movie enter -1.

Any other input would end the loop]

Did you like any movie ?           2

Reward Earned : 0.0080

-----

Recommended Movies

- 0                   Ed Wood (1994)
- 1   Monty Python's Life of Brian (1979)
- 2                   Henry V (1989)

[Instructions :  
If you liked any movie enter its index number,  
If you didn't like any movie enter -1.  
Any other input would end the loop]

Did you like any movie ?            -1

Reward Earned : -0.0003

-----

                  Recommended Movies  
0    Dances with Wolves (1990)  
1    Room with a View, A (1986)  
2            Fly Away Home (1996)

[Instructions :  
If you liked any movie enter its index number,  
If you didn't like any movie enter -1.  
Any other input would end the loop]

Did you like any movie ?            3

Reward Earned : -0.0001

-----

-----  
Wrong Value Entered ! Ending the simulation

-----  
Total Rewards Earned : 0.0477