Book Recommender System ¶

Based on Ratings

Purpose

Create a book recommender system using data from the "Book Recommendation Dataset" (https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/arashnic/book-recommendation-datasetUsing). The system will allow users to input a book they like (limited to the titles within the data set) and recommends other book for them to add to their reading list.

```
In [1]:  # Import libraries
2  import pandas as pd
3  import numpy as np
4  import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
5  import seaborn as sns
6
7  # Hide warnings
8  import warnings
9  warnings.filterwarnings('ignore')
```

Data Import

In [2]:	2	<pre># Import data from the Books.csv into a dataframe and then display books = pd.read_csv (r'/Users/kimberlyadams/Documents/GitHub/Portf books.head()</pre>

Out[2]:

	ISBN	Book-Title	Book- Author	Year-Of- Publication	Publisher	
0	0195153448	Classical Mythology	Mark P. O. Morford	2002	Oxford University Press	http://images.amazon.com/image
1	0002005018	Clara Callan	Richard Bruce Wright	2001	HarperFlamingo Canada	http://images.amazon.com/image
2	0060973129	Decision in Normandy	Carlo D'Este	1991	HarperPerennial	http://images.amazon.com/image
3	0374157065	Flu: The Story of the Great Influenza Pandemic	Gina Bari Kolata	1999	Farrar Straus Giroux	http://images.amazon.com/image
4	0393045218	The Mummies of Urumchi	E. J. W. Barber	1999	W. W. Norton & Company	http://images.amazon.com/image

In [3]:

- # Import data from the Ratings.csv into a dataframe and then displ
 ratings = pd.read_csv (r'/Users/kimberlyadams/Documents/GitHub/Por
- | ratings = pu.read_csv (r /osers/kimbertyadams/bocuments/Github/Posers/kimbertyadams/bocuments/github/Posers/kimbertyadams/bocuments/github/Poser
- Out[3]:

	User-ID	ISBN	Book-Rating
0	276725	034545104X	0
1	276726	0155061224	5
2	276727	0446520802	0
3	276729	052165615X	3
4	276729	0521795028	6

Exploration and Cleanup

```
In [4]:
            # Determine number of values in each column
          2
            books.count(axis=0)
Out[4]: ISBN
                                271360
        Book-Title
                                271360
        Book-Author
                                271359
        Year-Of-Publication
                                271360
        Publisher
                                271358
        Image-URL-S
                                271360
        Image-URL-M
                                271360
        Image-URL-L
                                271357
        dtype: int64
In [5]:
            # Determine number of unique values in each column
            books.nunique(axis=0)
Out[5]: ISBN
                                271360
        Book-Title
                                242135
        Book-Author
                                102023
        Year-Of-Publication
                                   202
        Publisher
                                 16807
        Image-URL-S
                                271044
        Image-URL-M
                                271044
        Image-URL-L
                                271041
        dtype: int64
```

Note that the counts of the ISBN and Book-Title are the same, but the unique values number is different. This indicates that a book title might have multiple ISBN numbers.

Out[6]: 251184

Looks like there are 251,184 unique books in the dataset based on Title and Author combinations. I will add a column combining these columns so I can avoid duplicates later on. I can't just assume that each title is unique since multiple authors can write books with the same title and unlikely as it is, some authors might even share names.

```
In [7]: 1 # Concatenate Title and Author text into a new column
2 books["TitleAuthor"] = books["Book-Title"] + " by " + books["Book-
```

Out[8]:

	ISBN	Book- Title	Book- Author	Year-Of- Publication	Publisher	
0	0195153448	Classical Mythology	Mark P. O. Morford	2002	Oxford University Press	http://images.amazon.com/imag
1	0002005018	Clara Callan	Richard Bruce Wright	2001	HarperFlamingo Canada	http://images.amazon.com/imag
2	0002005018	Clara Callan	Richard Bruce Wright	2001	HarperFlamingo Canada	http://images.amazon.com/imag
			Richard			

My computer also started having issues with the larger dataset, so I also trimmed out users that had not rated at least 9 books so as to only view the "active" users. Normally I would NOT have done this step, but the computer crashed non-stop until I did.

Many books have a rating of 0. Since most rating system will only let you rate as low as 1 star, I am going to assume that 0 means the user did not rate the book and thereby I am going to replace the 0s with null values.

In [11]:

Create new dataframe with active user ratings that are greater t

BookRatings = BookRatingsActiveUsers[BookRatingsActiveUsers['Book-

3 BookRatings.head()

Out[11]:

	Publisher	Year-Of- Publication	Book- Author	Book- Title	ISBN	
http://images.amazon.com/images/	HarperFlamingo Canada	2001	Richard Bruce Wright	Clara Callan	0002005018	1
http://images.amazon.com/images/	HarperFlamingo Canada	2001	Richard Bruce Wright	Clara Callan	0002005018	3
http://images.amazon.com/images/	HarperFlamingo Canada	2001	Richard Bruce Wright	Clara Callan	0002005018	5

Looks like there are multiple listings now for each book so we might need to average the ratings to get an overall score and then remove the duplicates.

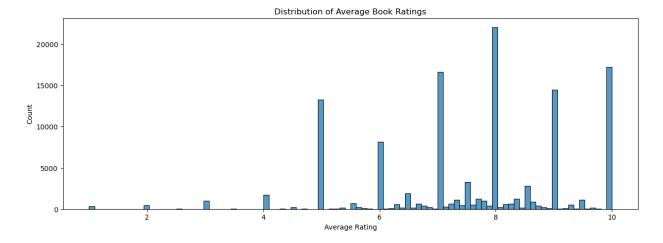
```
In [12]:
```

- $1 \mid$ # Group the rows by the book's ISBN to get all the reviews for each
- 2 # Get the average rating for the book from all the user ratings
- 3 # Sort the resulting dataframe by rating
- 4 Summary = BookRatings.groupby('TitleAuthor').agg({'Book-Rating':'m

In [13]:

- 1 # Group the combined dataframe rows by the book's title/author com
- 2 | # Put count values into new column
- 3 Summary['RatingsNum'] = pd.DataFrame(BookRatings.groupby('TitleAut

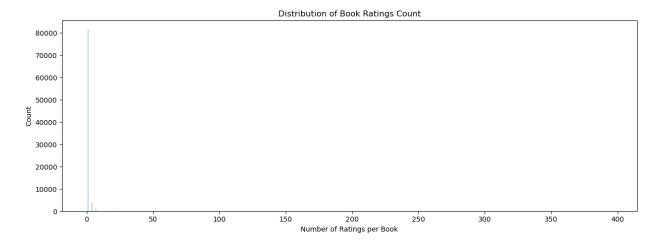
Out[14]: Text(0, 0.5, 'Count')



From this distribution we can see that most of the ratings are 5-10 so overall users are rating books they liked. There are a few lower ratings so occasionally users indicated they did not like a book, but these are rare.

In addition to the overall skew towards higher values, there is still a large number of 5 ratings that would potentially keep this from an otherwise normal distribution (when only looking at the higher values).

Out[15]: Text(0, 0.5, 'Count')



That's a little hard to see anything. Let's look at the data itself.

```
In [16]:
              # Allow all rows of dataframe to show
           2
              pd.set_option('display.max_rows', None)
           3
              # Display the number of books with each number of ratings
              Summary.RatingsNum.value_counts().sort_index()
Out[16]:
                 81590
          1
          2
                 17492
          3
                  6935
          4
                  3671
          5
                  2226
                  1513
          6
          7
                  1092
          8
                   805
          9
                   566
          10
                   487
          11
                   356
          12
                   297
          13
                   287
          14
                   269
          15
                   219
          16
                   158
          17
                   157
          18
                   122
          19
                   119
```

```
In [17]:
                # What is the highest number of ratings on a single book?
                print(max(Summary['RatingsNum']))
           395
In [18]:
                # What is the average number of ratings?
                print(Summary[['RatingsNum']].mean(axis=0))
           RatingsNum
                            2.412841
           dtype: float64
           From this plot and table we can see that most books are not rated and after that most have
           only 1 or 2 ratings. The book with the highest number of ratings has only 707. On average
           books have only 2.75 ratings so that isn't very high.
           The recommender will need to take into account movies that just have a single rating may
           not be accurately portrayed by that rating as that is a single person's opinion. However,
           since there is not much data available on each book, any rating is better than none.
           Recommendation
In [19]:
                # Create a pivot table with each user's ratings for all books with
             2
                recommend = BookRatings.pivot_table(index='User-ID', columns='Titl
             3
                recommend.head()
Out [19]:
                       A Light in
                                                      Earth
                            the
                                                    Prayers
                                    Ask
                         Storm:
                                                      From
                                    Lily
                                                                 Final
                        The Civil
                                                 around the
                                                                        Flight of
                                 (Young
                                                              Fantasy
                                                                                    Garfield
                       War Diary
                                                  World: 365
                                                                          Fancy:
                                 Women
                                                            Anthology:
                                                                                  Bigger and
```

of Amelia Dark Prayers, American Official **Better** of Heiresses Martin, Justice Poems, Faith: Strategy (Garfield P **TitleAuthor Fenwick** by and (Zebra Lily Guide (Numbered Island, **Jack Invocations** Ballad Series, (Brady Paperback)) Romance) Delaware, **Higgins** for Book Games) by by Jim 1861 Honoring by Tracy 5) by David **Davis** the Earth Cozzens (Dear Nancy Cassady America) by N. Rue by Karen Elizabeth Hesse **Roberts User-ID**

This table is mostly NaNs because not every user has seen every movie or at very least submitted a rating for it.

```
In [20]:
             # Type in book and author combination from database to search for.
             # Note: If this were a stanealone app, the user would ideally have
          3
             search = 'The Da Vinci Code by Dan Brown'
             # Lookup rating for the searched book
             Rating_Lookup = recommend[search]
          7
             # Find similar book ratings from the `recommend` pivot_table based
             # Create a dataframe with results as a Correlation column
          9
             correlation = pd.DataFrame(recommend.corrwith(Rating_Lookup), colu
         10
         11
         12
             # Drop the empty values
             correlation.dropna(inplace=True)
         13
         14
         15
             # Add the number of users who rated that book to the dataframe
             correlation = correlation.join(Summary['RatingsNum'])
         16
         17
         18
             # Get recommendations by looking for high correlation values betwe
         19 # Only consider books that over 25 users have read to weed out les
         20 # Print out top 10 recommendations
         21 | correlation[correlation['RatingsNum']>25].sort_values(by='Correlat
```

Out [20]:

		U
TitleAuthor		
Let Me Call You Sweetheart by Mary Higgins Clark	1.0	28
On the Road (Penguin 20th Century Classics) by Jack Kerouac	1.0	26
The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (The Chronicles of Narnia, Book 2) by C. S. Lewis	1.0	37
Foucault's Pendulum by Umberto Eco	1.0	30
The Da Vinci Code by Dan Brown	1.0	314
The Mulberry Tree by Jude Deveraux	1.0	41
Open House (Oprah's Book Club (Paperback)) by Elizabeth Berg	1.0	34
Shell Seekers by Rosamunde Pilcher	1.0	26
Speak by Laurie Halse Anderson	1.0	26
Milkrun by Sarah Mlynowski	1.0	30

Correlation RatingsNum

```
In [21]:
             # Running again with a different book to compare results
          2
          3
             # Type in book and author combination from database to search for.
             # Note: If this were a stanealone app, the user would ideally have
             search = 'A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens'
          7
             # Lookup rating for the searched book
             Rating_Lookup = recommend[search]
          9
          10 | # Find similar book ratings from the `recommend` pivot_table based
             # Create a dataframe with results as a Correlation column
             correlation = pd.DataFrame(recommend.corrwith(Rating_Lookup), colu
          12
          13
          14
             # Drop the empty values
          15
             correlation.dropna(inplace=True)
         16
          17
             # Add the number of users who rated that book to the dataframe
             correlation = correlation.join(Summary['RatingsNum'])
          18
          19
          20 | # Get recommendations by looking for high correlation values between
          21 | # Only consider books that over 25 users have read to weed out les
            # Print out top 10 recommendations
          22
            correlation[correlation['RatingsNum']>25].sort_values(by='Correlat
```

Out [21]:

	Correlation	RatingsNum
TitleAuthor		

Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Cafe by Fannie Flagg

-1.0

97

Overall, this recommendation system only seems to be recommending similarly rated books without taking anything else into account. This makes sense as this is the only data we fed the model. However, this approach returns a lot of titles that would likely not interest the user due to other characteristics of the book such as distasteful genres. Or in the case of A Christmas Carol, barely returned any suggestions at all.

I feel like there is a better way to take more details about the book into account.

Based on Content

Purpose

Create a book recommender system using data from the "Goodreads' Best Books Ever" dataset found on Kaggle (https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/meetnaren/goodreads-best-books)).

The system will allow users to input a book they like (limited to the titles within the data set) and recommends other books for them to add to their reading list. Recommendations are based on the similarity of the books' descriptions and thus is more tailored to individual tastes than a flat rating system. By factoring in the actual content of the book, we can avoid recommending something in a completely different genre that just happened to be highly rated.

Data Import

```
In [22]: 1 # Import libraries
2 import pandas as pd
3 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
4 import seaborn as sns
5
6 from sklearn.feature_extraction import text
7 from sklearn.metrics.pairwise import linear_kernel
```

Out [23]:

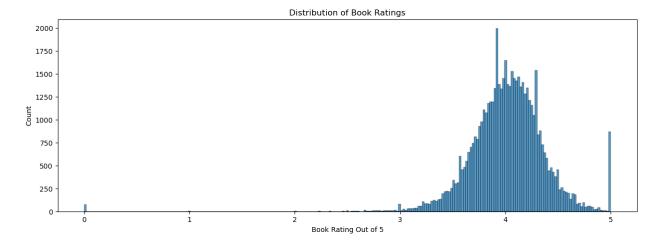
	book_authors	book_desc	book_edition	book_format	book_isbn	book_pages	book_
0	Suzanne Collins	Winning will make you famous. Losing means cer	NaN	Hardcover	9.78044E+12	374 pages	
1	J.K. Rowling Mary GrandPré	There is a door at the end of a silent corrido	US Edition	Paperback	9.78044E+12	870 pages	
2	Harper Lee	The unforgettable novel of a childhood in a sl	50th Anniversary	Paperback	9.78006E+12	324 pages	
3	Jane Austen Anna Quindlen Mrs. Oliphant George	«È cosa ormai risaputa che a uno scapolo in po	Modern Library Classics, USA / CAN	Paperback	9.78068E+12	279 pages	
4	Stephenie Meyer	About three things I was absolutely positive.F	NaN	Paperback	9.78032E+12	498 pages	

Data Exploration

In [24]: 1 # Determine number of unique values in each column
2 books.nunique(axis=0)

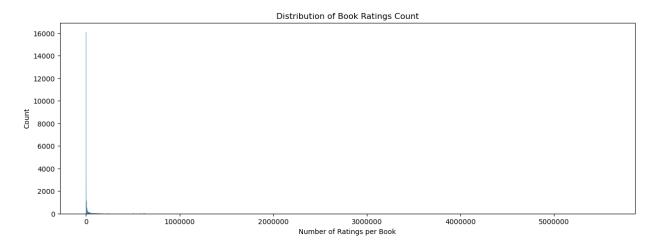
Out [24]: book_authors 27159 book desc 51781 book_edition 2134 book_format 147 book_isbn 548 book_pages 1403 book_rating 259 book_rating_count 21860 book_review_count 6895 book title 48483 genres 30094 image_url 53618 dtype: int64

Out[25]: Text(0, 0.5, 'Count')



The graph shows a nicely normal distribution centered around 4 but it quickly tapers off to 3 and 5, effectively cutting off anything below a 3 rating. This shows that the users who rate books enjoyed them and that users are unlikely to put the effort into rating a book they did not enjoy. There is also a fun little spike at 5 which shows people love to rate their favorite books.

Out[26]: Text(0, 0.5, 'Count')



When looking at the number of ratings each book had, a graph just was no showing much so a table is a better visual here. There are some books (like The Hunger Games) that were rated by over 550,000 users, while 75 books in the database have no ratings and 357 only have 1 rating. Such a difference made the scale of the graph so large, the data was invisible on it.

Overall there is fairly good showing of ratings for the books in the database. Based on the count earlier though, only 259 books in the database have a rating, so probably not going to be useful for this recommendation system as the data is too sparse to take into meaningful account.

```
In [27]:
              # Allow all rows of dataframe to show
           2
              pd.set_option('display.max_rows', None)
           3
              # Display the number of ratings and the number of books with that
           4
              books.book_rating_count.value_counts().sort_index()
Out [27]:
                       75
                      357
          1
          2
                      373
          3
                      353
          4
                      278
          5
                      218
          6
                      209
          7
                      180
          8
                      187
          9
                      179
          10
                      157
          11
                      165
          12
                      162
          13
                      143
          14
                      156
          15
                      135
          16
                      110
          17
                      106
          18
                      101
                      100
```

Data Cleaning and Processing

```
In [28]: 1 # Trim dataframe to needed columns for book title, description, ar
2 books = books[["book_title", "book_authors", "book_desc", "genres"
```

```
In [29]:
             # Count null values in each column.
           2
            books.isna().sum()
Out[29]:
         book title
                                  0
         book_authors
                                  0
         book_desc
                               1331
                               3242
         genres
         book_rating_count
                                  0
         dtype: int64
In [30]:
             # Drop rows with missing data
             books = books.dropna()
In [31]:
             # Group same named books together to avoid duplicated results
             # Grab the description and rating count from first encountered lin
             books = books.groupby("book_title", as_index=False).agg({"book_tit
In [32]:
             # Re-determine number of unique values in each column after trimmi
             books.nunique(axis=0)
Out[32]:
         book_title
                               44526
         book authors
                               23552
         book desc
                               44129
                               28423
         genres
         book_rating_count
                               19316
         dtype: int64
In [33]:
             # Add quotes to beginning and end of book description
             books["book desc"] = books["book desc"].apply(lambda x: "'" + str(
         Set Up Model and Access Function
In [34]:
             # Define characteristic feature and vectorizing model
             feature = books["book_desc"].tolist()
             tfidf = text.TfidfVectorizer(stop_words="english")
In [35]:
             # Form matrix from model and calculate simularity
             tfidf_matrix = tfidf.fit_transform(feature)
           2
             similarity = linear_kernel(tfidf_matrix, tfidf_matrix)
In [36]:
             # Set book title as search parameter
           2
             indices = pd.Series(books.index,
           3
                                  index=books['book_title']).drop_duplicates()
```

```
In [37]:
             # Define a function to return up to 20 recommended titles
             # Sort based on similarity to entered title
             def book_recommendations(title, similarity = similarity):
          3
                 index = indices[title]
                 similarity_scores = list(enumerate(similarity[index]))
           5
                 similarity_scores = sorted(similarity_scores, key=lambda x: x[
           6
                 similarity_scores = similarity_scores[0:20]
           7
                 bookindices = [i[0] for i in similarity_scores]
           8
                 recommendations = pd.DataFrame(books[['book_title','book_author
          9
                 return recommendations
          10
```

Perform Query and Return Results

In [38]:

1 # Enter book to search for recommendations within quotes

2 # Results will be displayed in a dataframe with corresponding genr

3 book_recommendations("The Da Vinci Code")

Out[38]:

	book_title	book_authors	genres
30961	The Da Vinci Code	Dan Brown	Fiction Mystery Thriller
2783	Angels and Demons / The Da Vinci Code	Dan Brown	Fiction Mystery Thriller Historical Historical
34365	The Lost Symbol	Dan Brown	Fiction Mystery Thriller
22419	Oprindelse	Dan Brown	Fiction Thriller Mystery Thriller Mystery Thri
2774	Angels & Demons	Dan Brown	Fiction Mystery Thriller
2775	Angels & Demons - Malaikat dan Iblis	Dan Brown Isma B. Koesalamwardi	Fiction Mystery Thriller
21792	O Código Da Vinci	Dan Brown Celina Cavalcante Falck- Cook	Fiction Mystery Thriller
31282	The Devil's Chord	Alex Archer Michele Hauf	Fantasy Fiction Fantasy Urban Fantasy Action A
37127	The Smile	Donna Jo Napoli	Historical Historical Fiction Young Adult Hist
10645	Evil in the Beginning	Gary Williams Vicky Knerly	Mystery Thriller Adventure Fiction
17844	Leonardo da Vinci	Walter Isaacson	Biography Nonfiction History Art Science
16681	King Dork	Frank Portman	Young Adult Fiction Humor Young Adult Teen Mus
3790	Be Great!: 365 Inspirational Quotes from the W	Daniel Willey	Classics
17846	Leonardo, the Terrible Monster	Mo Willems	Childrens Picture Books Childrens Childrens St
8831	Digital Fortress	Dan Brown	Fiction Thriller Mystery Suspense
17845	Leonardo's Notebooks	Leonardo da Vinci H. Anna Suh	Art Nonfiction History Science Classics Biography
38082	The Uncanny	Sigmund Freud Adam Phillips David McLintock Hu	Nonfiction Psychology Philosophy Philosophy Th
40473	Unbreakable	Kami Garcia	Young Adult Fantasy Paranormal Fantasy Paranor
33190	The Hourglass Door	Lisa Mangum	Young Adult Fantasy Romance Science Fiction Ti
29410	The Aylesford Skull	James P. Blaylock	Science Fiction Steampunk Fantasy Science Fict

In [39]:

[#] Running again with a different book to verify different results

² book_recommendations("A Christmas Carol")

	book_title	book_authors	genres
416	A Christmas Carol	Charles Dickens Joe L. Wheeler	Classics Fiction Holiday Christmas Fantasy Lit
417	A Christmas Carol and Other Christmas Writings	Charles Dickens Michael Slater	Classics Fiction Holiday Christmas Short Stori
418	A Christmas Carol, The Chimes and The Cricket	Charles Dickens Katharine Kroeber Wiley	Classics Fiction Holiday Christmas Literature
95	12 Stocking Stuffers	Beverly Barton Helen Bianchin Janelle Denison	Romance Contemporary Holiday Christmas Antholo
30393	The Christmas Box	Richard Paul Evans	Holiday Christmas Fiction Holiday Inspirational
11309	Finding Noel	Richard Paul Evans	Holiday Christmas Fiction Romance Holiday
400	A Charlie Brown Christmas	Charles M. Schulz	Holiday Christmas Childrens Childrens Picture
4101	Belstarr The Lost Toymaker	David Jacks Daniel S. Morrow	Holiday Christmas Childrens Picture Books
30391	The Christmas Basket	Debbie Macomber	Holiday Christmas Romance Holiday Fiction Wome
6321	Christine Kringle	Lynn Brittney	Holiday Christmas
21604	North Pole Reform School	Jaimie Admans	Young Adult Holiday Christmas Fantasy Romance
32142	The First Christmas Carol	Marianne Jordan	Holiday Christmas Christian Fiction Christian
34124	The Life and Times of Scrooge McDuck	Don Rosa	Sequential Art Comics Sequential Art Graphic N
30394	The Christmas Box Collection: The Christmas Bo	Richard Paul Evans	Holiday Christmas Fiction Romance
12878	Grace	Richard Paul Evans	Holiday Christmas Fiction Romance Holiday Youn
16799	Kissing Under the Mistletoe	Bella Andre	Romance Romance Contemporary Romance Contempor
21603	North Pole High: A Rebel Without a Claus	Candace Jane Kringle	Holiday Christmas Romance Young Adult Humor Fi
30392	The Christmas Books, Volume 1: A Christmas Car	Charles Dickens Michael Slater	Classics Fiction Holiday Christmas Short Stories
1674	A wartime Christmas	Carol Rivers	Historical Historical Fiction Holiday Christma

The results of this model are much nicer than the previous approach, but it too has some drawbacks. The recommendations often include the title submitted and variations there of. This makes sense as there is nothing preventing it from doing so and the variations would be similar to the original from the descriptions.

References

Aman Kharwal. July 19, 2022. *Book Recommendation System using Python*. https://thecleverprogrammer.com/2022/07/19/book-recommendation-system-using-python/)

Book Recommendation Dataset. (2024, February 9).

https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/arashnic/book-recommendation-dataset (https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/arashnic/book-recommendation-dataset)

Jayashree Domala. April 8, 2021. *Movie Similarity Recommendations Using Python.* https://betterprogramming.pub/movie-similarity-recommendation-using-python-b98a2670a2ad)

Naren. Goodreads Best Books Ever. Kaggle.

https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/meetnaren/goodreads-best-books (https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/meetnaren/goodreads-best-books)

Sisodia, R. (2021a, December 11). Movie recommendation system. Medium. https://medium.com/@rahulsisodia06/movie-recommendation-system-c8113226c0aa (https://medium.com/@rahulsisodia06/movie-recommendation-system-c8113226c0aa)