



 31.7.-10.8.

PETNICA SUMMER INSTITUTE  
**MACHINE  
LEARNING 6**

# Recommender systems

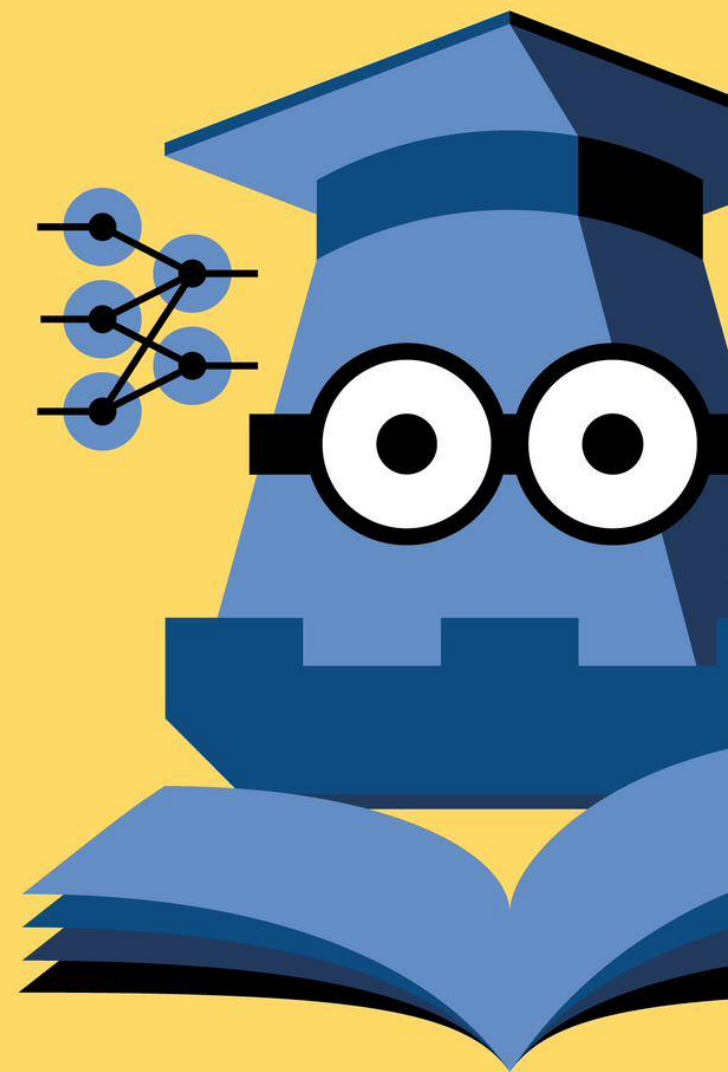
– an introduction –

Miloš Jovanović

[milos.jovanovic@fon.bg.ac.rs](mailto:milos.jovanovic@fon.bg.ac.rs)



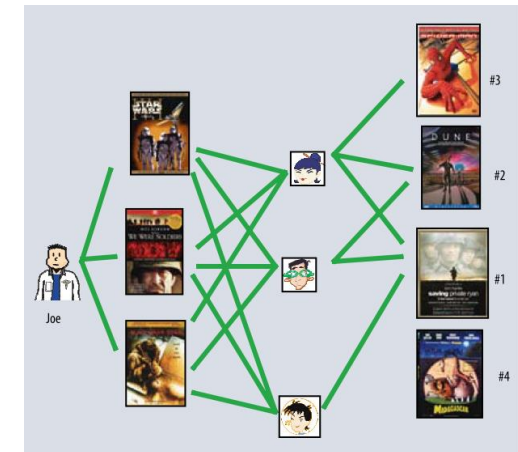
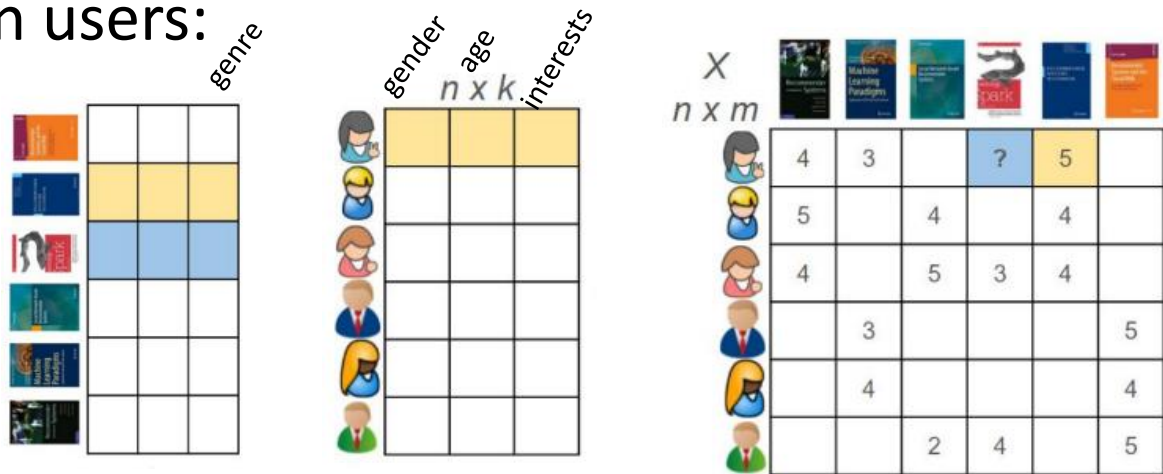
УНИВЕРЗИТЕТ У БЕОГРАДУ  
ФАКУЛТЕТ ОРГАНИЗАЦИОНИХ НАУКА





# Recommendation problem

- Recommend items to users that **we know** have **interest** in them.
- How do we know what people might like, when we recommend:
  - who they are
  - what they previously liked or showed some interest for (bipartite graph)
- Data on users:



- $P(x_4, x_5, x_6 | x_1, x_2, x_3)$  Discriminative or Generative?
- Content-based recommenders VS Collaborative filtering VS Hybrid
- Multi-label classification, Learning to Rank



# Baseline methods

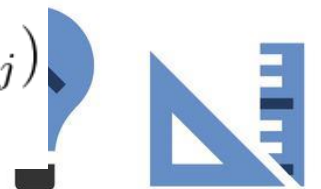
- Baseline rule
  - $p_{u,i} = \mu + b_u + b_i$
  - Predict high scores on popular movies for people who like movies

- Association rules

Rule No.	Frequent itemset
1	Apple $\Rightarrow$ Cereal
2	Beer $\Rightarrow$ Eggs
3	Eggs $\Rightarrow$ Beer
4	Beer, Cereal $\Rightarrow$ Eggs
5	Cereal, Eggs $\Rightarrow$ Beer

- SlopeOne

$$\hat{r}_{u,i} = \frac{1}{\text{card}(R_u)} \sum_{j \in R_u} (dev_{i,j} + r_{u,j}) \quad dev_{i,j} = \frac{1}{\text{card}(s(i,j))} \sum_{v \in s(i,j)} (r_{v,i} - r_{v,j})$$



# Neighbourhood methods

- “Similar people like similar things”
- Content-based or Collaborative similarity
  - tags, movie genres, director name, visited URLs, skills on a resume, description
- Database

Diagram illustrating a database structure for neighborhood methods. It shows two matrices,  $n \times k$  and  $n \times m$ , representing user-item interactions.

The  $n \times k$  matrix (left) has 6 rows (users) and 3 columns (items). The  $n \times m$  matrix (right) has 6 rows (users) and 6 columns (items). The items are represented by book covers: "Machine Learning: A Probabilistic Perspective", "Machine Learning: Foundations and Harmonic Analysis", "Machine Learning: Theory and Algorithms", "Machine Learning: A Probabilistic Perspective", "Machine Learning: Foundations and Harmonic Analysis", and "Machine Learning: Theory and Algorithms".

	Item 1	Item 2	Item 3	Item 4	Item 5	Item 6
User 1	4	3		?	5	
User 2	5		4		4	
User 3	4		5	3	4	
User 4		3				5
User 5		4				4
User 6			2	4		5

- Query user

Query user interaction matrix:

5		5			
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# Neighbourhood methods

- Similarity measures:

$$S_{u,v} = \frac{\sum_{i \in U(u,v)} r_{u,i} \cdot r_{v,i}}{\sqrt{\sum_{i \in U(u,v)} r_{u,i}^2} \cdot \sqrt{\sum_{i \in U(u,v)} r_{v,i}^2}}$$

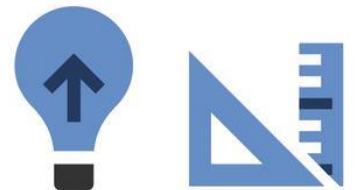
$$S_{u,v} = \frac{\sum_{i \in U(u,v)} (r_{u,i} - \bar{r}_u) \cdot (r_{v,i} - \bar{r}_v)}{\sqrt{\sum_{i \in U(u,v)} (r_{u,i} - \bar{r}_u)^2} \cdot \sqrt{\sum_{i \in U(u,v)} (r_{v,i} - \bar{r}_v)^2}}$$

- Predict rating:

$$\hat{r}_{u,i} = \bar{r}_u + \frac{\sum_{v \in N(u,i)} S_{u,v} (r_{v,i} - \bar{r}_v)}{\sum_{v \in N(u,i)} S_{u,v}}$$

- Lazy-learning, Memory-based

- Evaluation
- $$RMSE = \sqrt{\frac{1}{|T|} \sum_{(u,i) \in T} (r_{u,i} - \hat{r}_{u,i})^2}$$
- $$MAE = \frac{1}{|T|} \sum_{(u,i) \in T} |r_{u,i} - \hat{r}_{u,i}|$$

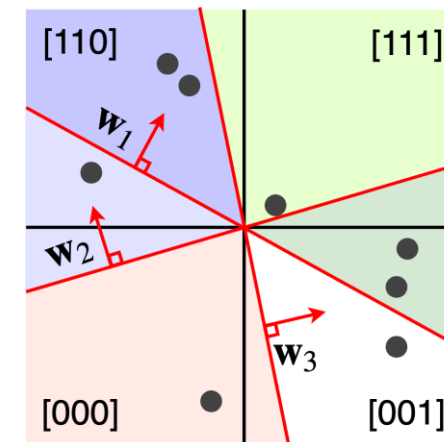
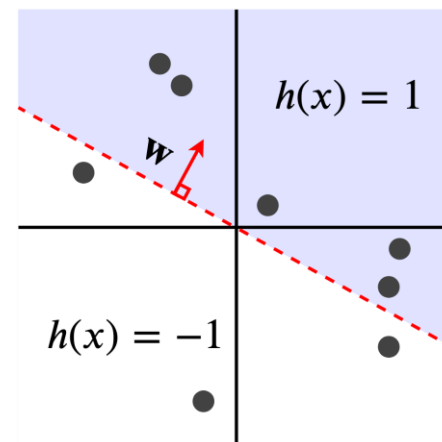
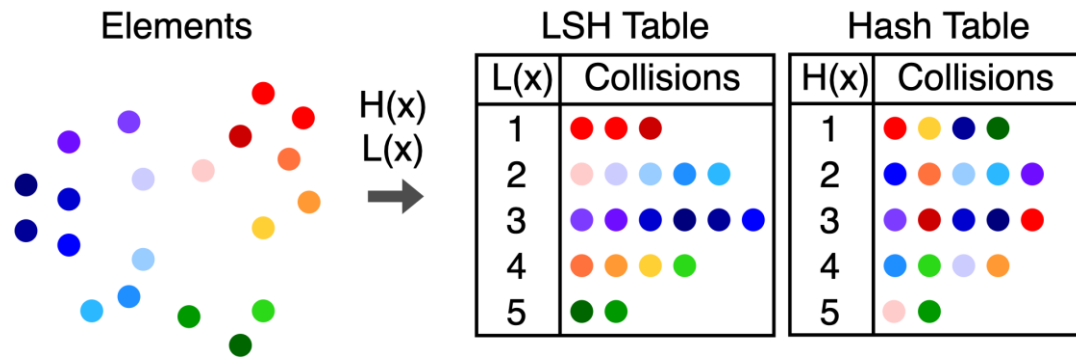




# Approximate kNN - LSH

- kNN - Poor time complexity at inference
- Search => Indices and Hashes
  - but not for retrieval by exact value
- Locality-Sensitive Hashing
  - Collision probability – based on how similar objects are:

$$p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = 1 - \frac{\theta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})}{\pi}$$



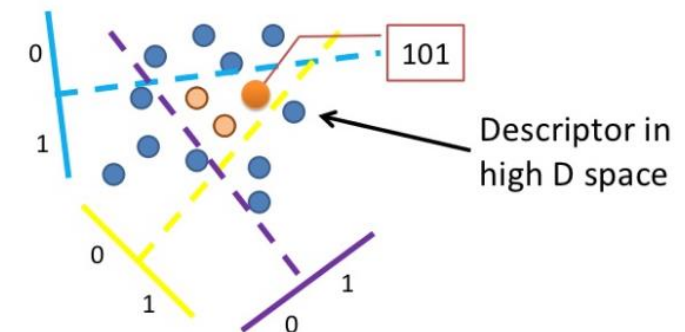
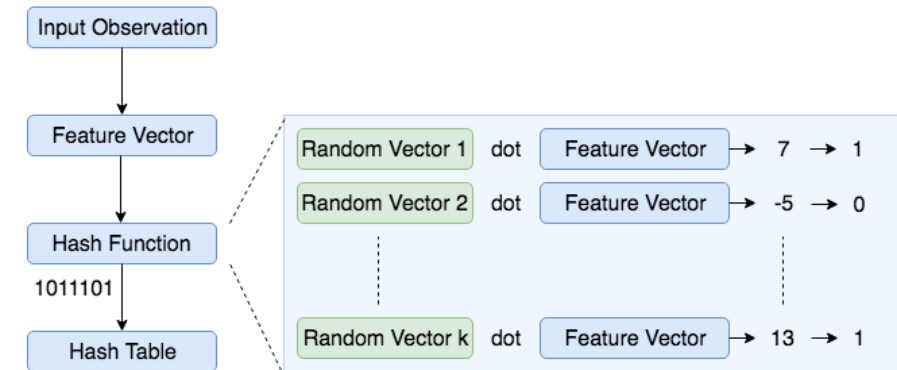
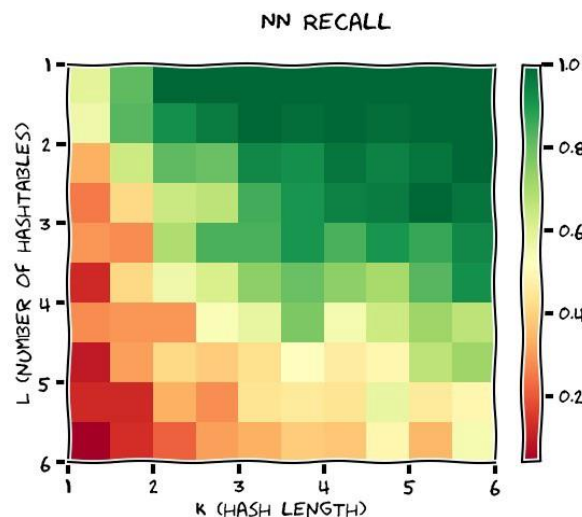
For cosine distance



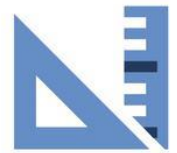


# Locality-Sensitive Hashing (LSH)

- Low dimension and binary code (embedding?)
- Hyper parameters:
  - Hash length and Number of hash tables



- Great for high dimensional problems and NLP (and DeepNN?)



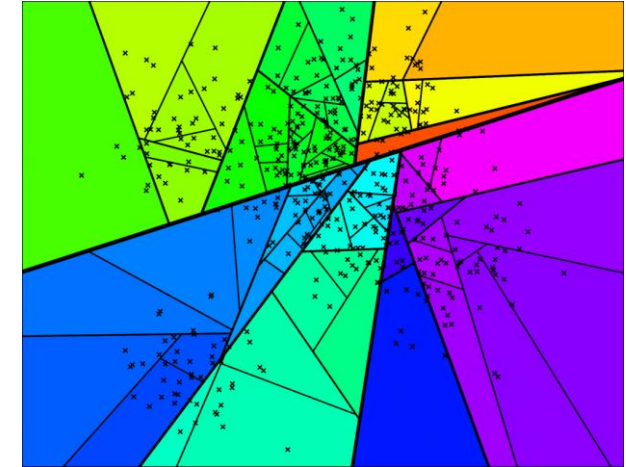
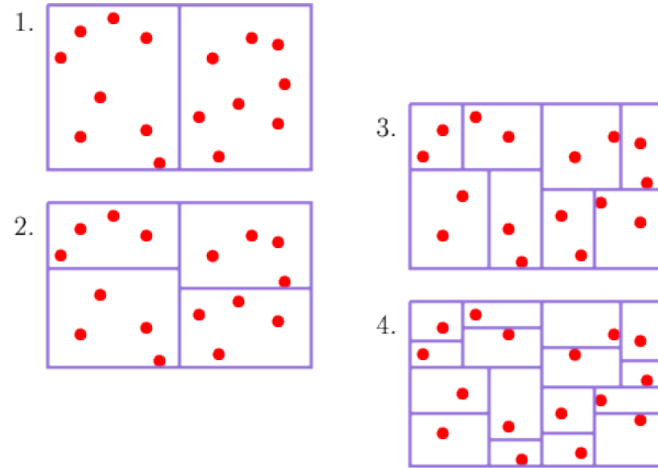




# Tree-index for similarity search

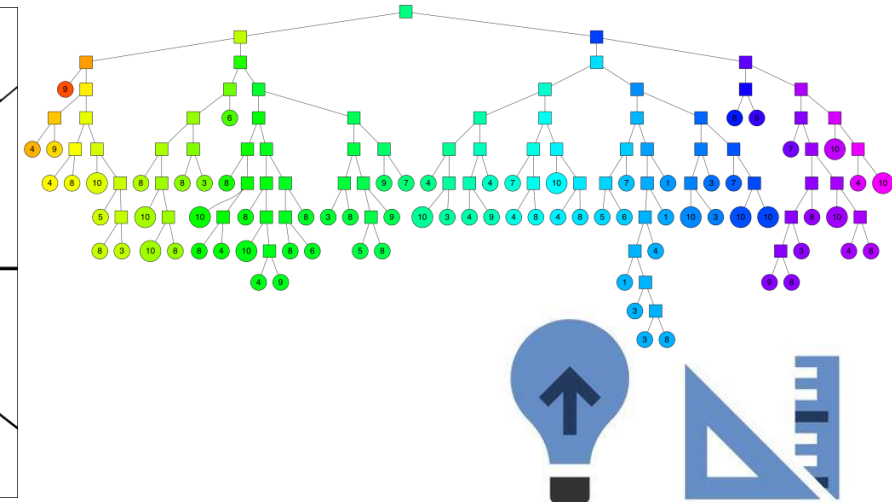
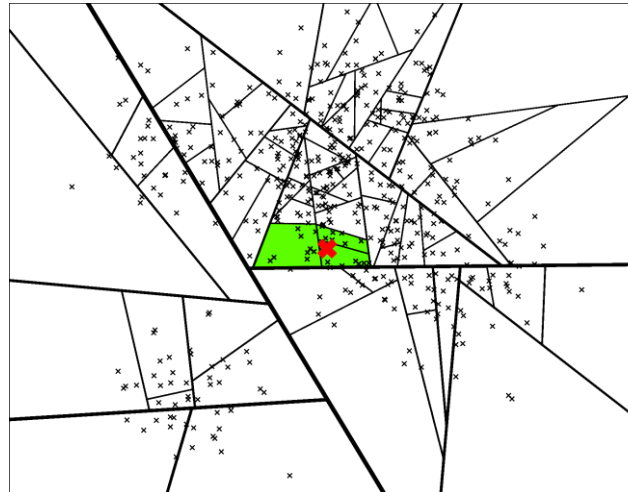
- KD-tree

- splits on median
- random dimension
- re-sort the data (as in quick-sort)



- Annoy (Spotify)

- Forest of decision trees
- Each split creates a hyperplane to separate two random points
- better recall





# Item2item approach

- Amazon 2003:
  - 29 million customers
  - several million items
  - 30% of page views from recommends
  - patented in 2001.
  - reported use from Youtube in 2010
  - Test of time in 2017
- Cosine similarity between items
- Scallable (offline computation)
- Good with limited user data
  - “cold start”
- Explainable

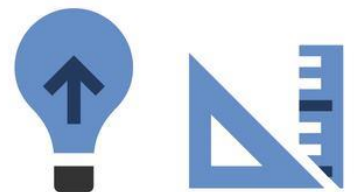


Figure 2. Amazon.com shopping cart recommendations. The recommendations are based on the items in the customer's cart: The Pragmatic Programmer and Physics for Game Developers.



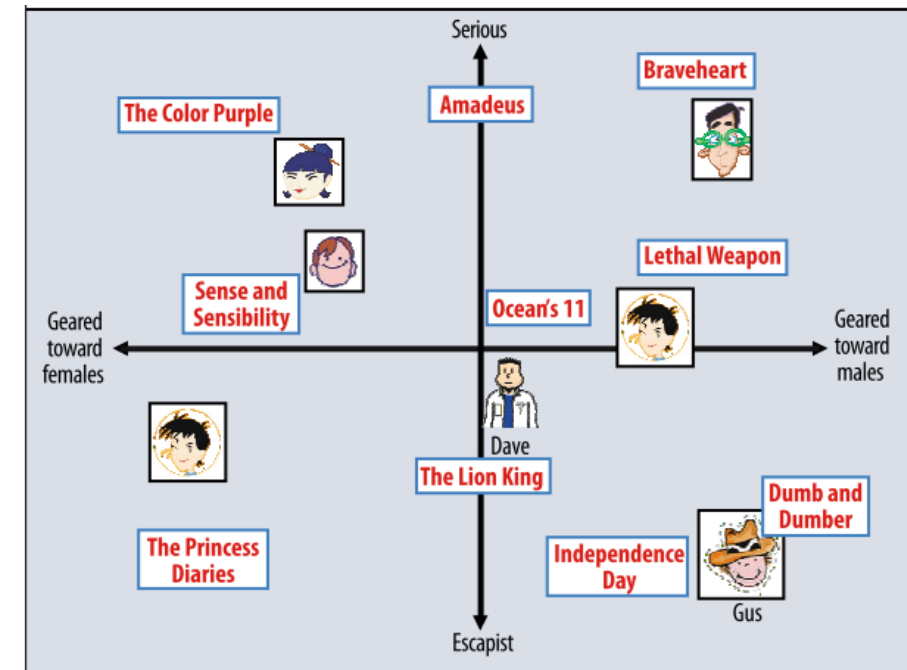
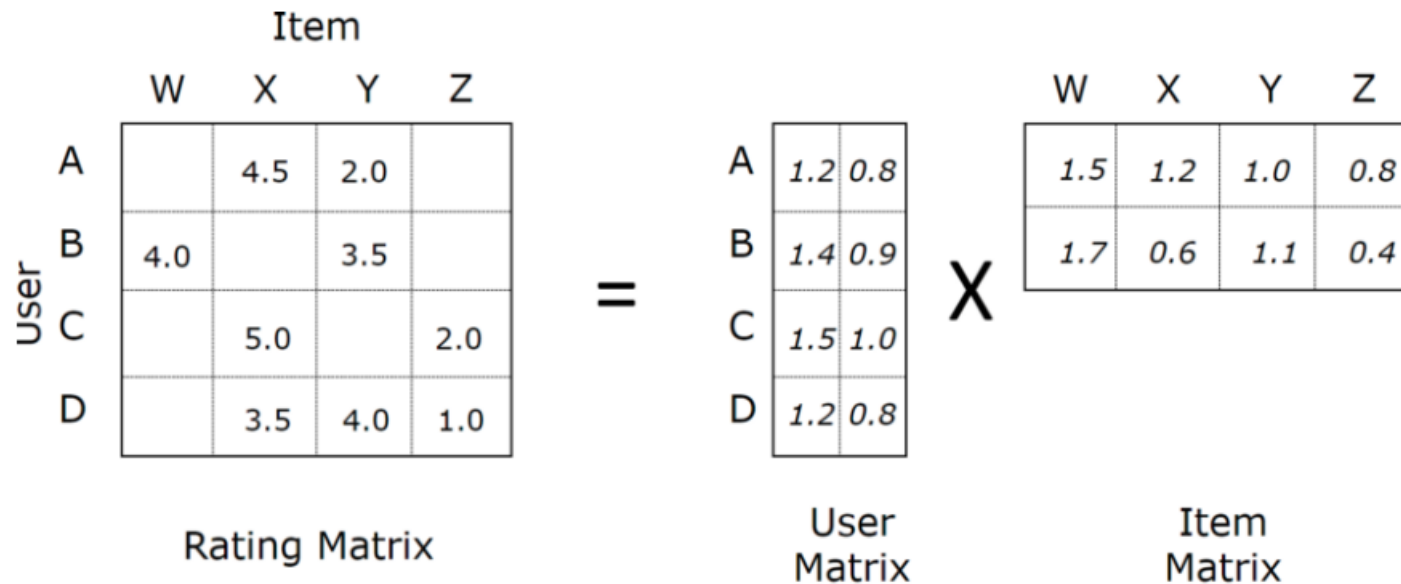
# Netflix prize competition

- Year 2006., data: 100M ratings (1-5 stars) on 17K movies from 500K customers
- \$1M for the decrease by 10% from Netflix recommendation engine (RMSE of 0.9514)
- 48K teams, 182 countries
- No team won, yearly progress prize \$50K
- The rise of Matrix Factorization for RecSys



# Matrix factorization (low rank)

- We recommend based on features, not exact items
  - we need to **match** item features to user preferences toward **those** features
  - similarity of user to item (both need to be in same space)



- similarity (match) = dot product

# Matrix factorization - Learning

- Loss:

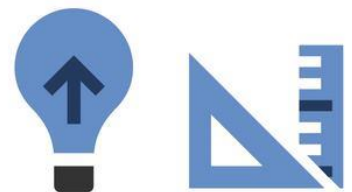
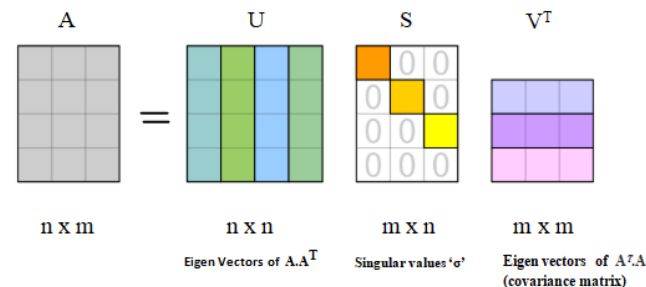
$$\min_{q^*, p^*} \sum_{(u,i) \in K} (r_{ui} - q_i^T p_u)^2 + \lambda (\|q_i\|^2 + \|p_u\|^2)$$

- SGD:

$$q_i \leftarrow q_i + \gamma \cdot (e_{ui} \cdot p_u - \lambda \cdot q_i)$$

$$p_u \leftarrow p_u + \gamma \cdot (e_{ui} \cdot q_i - \lambda \cdot p_u)$$

- Alternating Least Squares
- Alternatives: SVD, SVD++

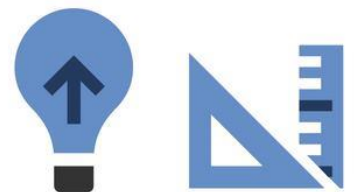


# Matrix factorization - Learning

- Add bias  $\hat{r}_{ui} = \mu + b_i + b_u + q_i^T p_u$

$$\min_{p^*, q^*, b^*} \sum_{(u,i) \in \mathcal{K}} (r_{ui} - \mu - b_u - b_i - p_u^T q_i)^2 + \lambda (\|p_u\|^2 + \|q_i\|^2 + b_u^2 + b_i^2)$$

- Non-negative matrix factorization (NMF)
  - optimize, subject to:  $p_u > 0, q_i > 0, \forall i, u$
  - interpretable factors





# Matrix factorization

- Item features and User attributes

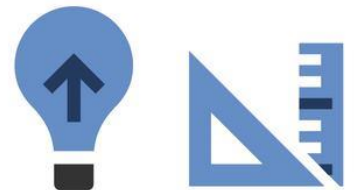
$$\hat{r}_{ui} = \mu + b_i + b_u + q_i^T [p_u + |N(u)|^{-0.5} \sum_{i \in N(u)} x_i + \sum_{a \in A(u)} y_a]$$

- Temporal dynamics (Y. Koren, “Collaborative Filtering with Temporal Dynamics,” 2009)

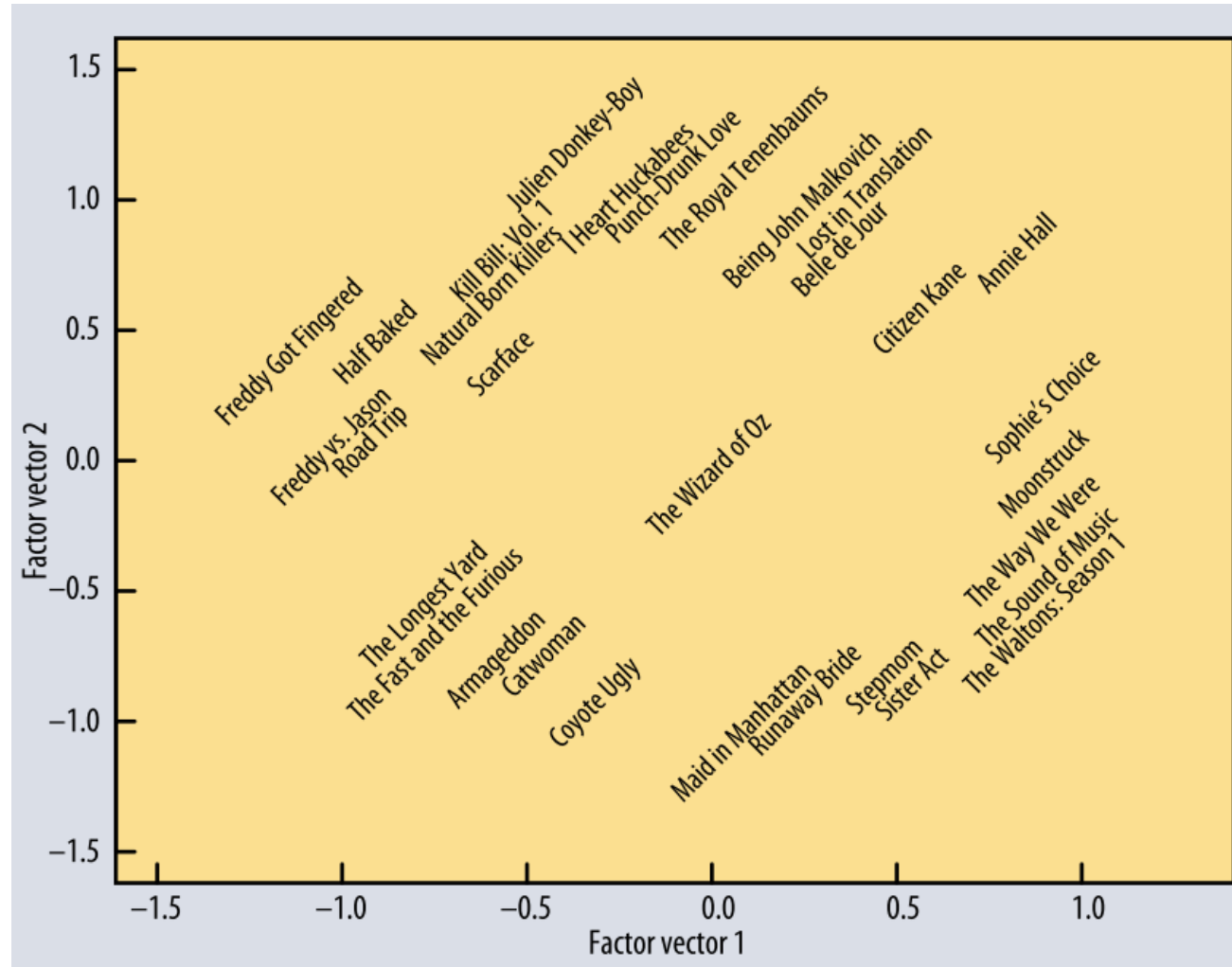
$$\hat{r}_{ui}(t) = \mu + b_i(t) + b_u(t) + q_i^T p_u(t)$$

- Varying confidence in data points

$$\min_{p^*, q^*, b^*} \sum_{(u,i) \in K} c_{ui} (r_{ui} - \mu - b_u - b_i - p_u^T q_i)^2 + \lambda (\|p_u\|^2 + \|q_i\|^2 + b_u^2 + b_i^2)$$

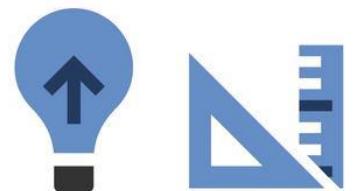


# Matrix Factors on Netflix



# Implicit feedback

- Preferences elicitation (revealed vs expressed)
- Implicit feedback:
  - user opened the product
  - user flagged the product as favorite
  - user bought the product
  - time the user took to read a book
  - time spent on watching a video
  - “long” clicks
  - **weighted sum**
- 1. Numerical value indicates confidence not preference/rating (Classification instead of regression)
- 2. No negative feedback
- 3. Inherently noisy
- 4. Different evaluation (for ranking, or top N)





# Evaluation metrics

- RMSE i MAE (explicit)
- Precision@k, Recall@k:
  - recommend top-k items

	Recommended	Not recommended
Preferred	True-Positive (tp)	False-Negative (fn)
Not preferred	False-Positive (fp)	True-Negative (tn)

$$\text{Precision} = \frac{\#tp}{\#tp + \#fp}$$

$$\text{Recall (True Positive Rate)} = \frac{\#tp}{\#tp + \#fn}$$

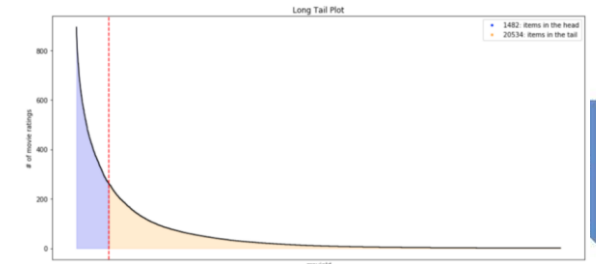
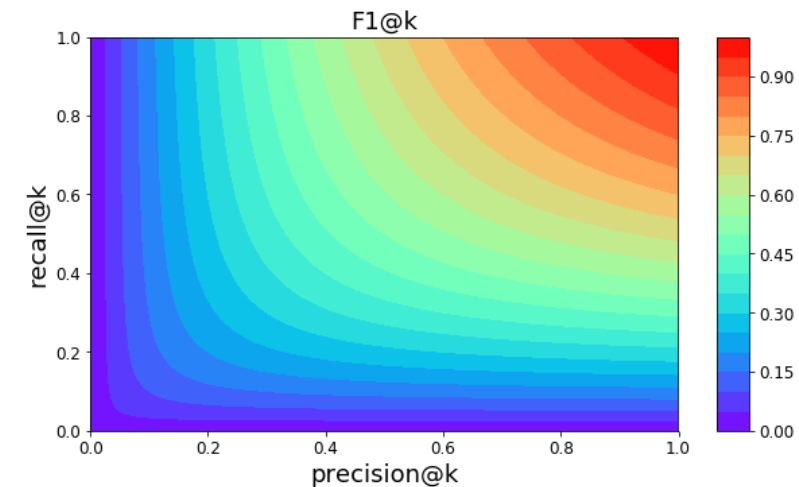
$$F1@k = \frac{2}{\frac{1}{\text{precision@k}} + \frac{1}{\text{recall@k}}}$$

- Normalized Discounted Cumulative Gain
  - ranking

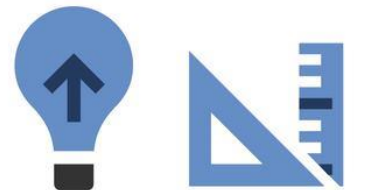
$$DCG_p = \sum_{i=1}^p \frac{rel_i}{\log_2(i+1)}$$

$$nDCG_p = \frac{DCG_p}{IDCG_p}$$

- Other: MeanAveragePrecision, Coverage, Novelty, ...
  - Recommendation bubble (exploration vs exploitation)
- Business: click-through, conversion rate, A/B test

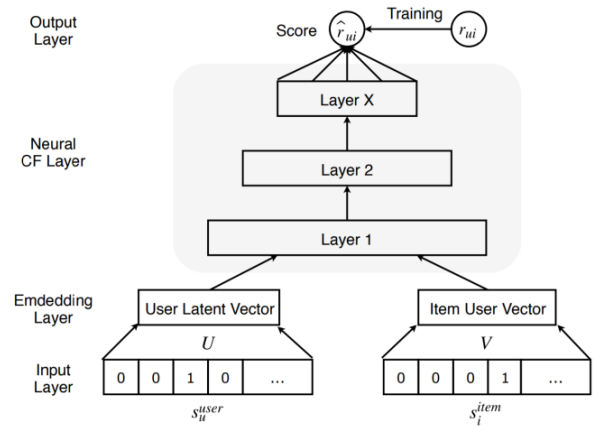


# Modern approaches to recommendation



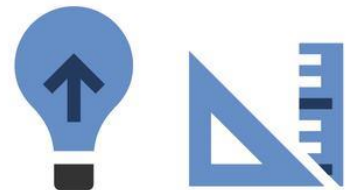
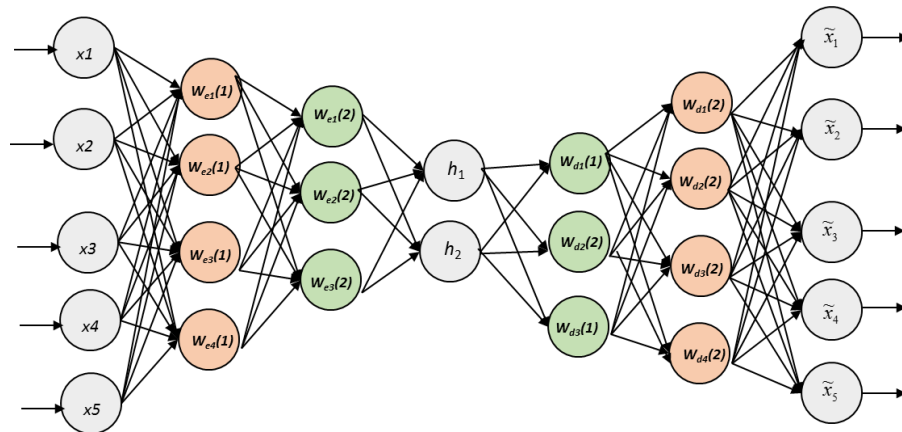
# Deep Learning approaches

- Neural embedding vs Linear embedding



He et al (2017). Neural collaborative Filtering. In WWW.

- Autoencoders - Matrix completion methods





# Embedding approaches

- word2vec approach
  - “E-commerce in Your Inbox: Product Recommendations at Scale” (Grbovic, Radosavljevic, Djuric et al, 2016)
  - product sequences from email receipts
  - improve ad targeting (+9% CTR)
  - prod2vec  $\Leftrightarrow$  word2vec, user2vec  $\Leftrightarrow$  paragraph2vec
- node2vec approach:
  - Stanford 2016 – “Recommending Related YouTube Videos”
    1. Use node2vec to embed videos from youtube graph
    2. Use LSH to obtain similar video candidates
    3. Use NN for link prediction

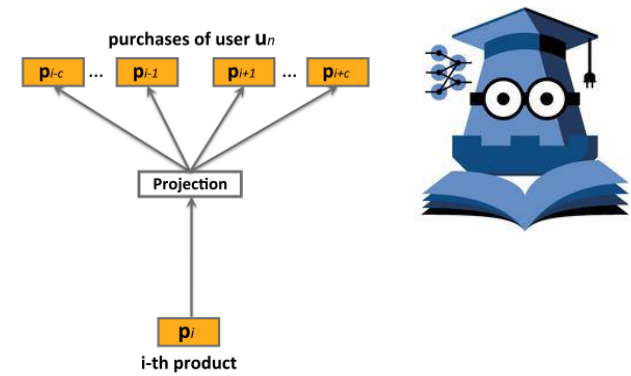


Figure 2: prod2vec skip-gram model

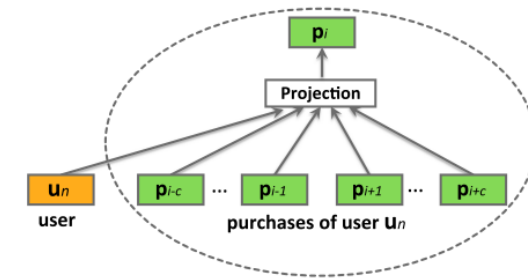
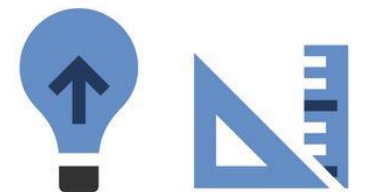


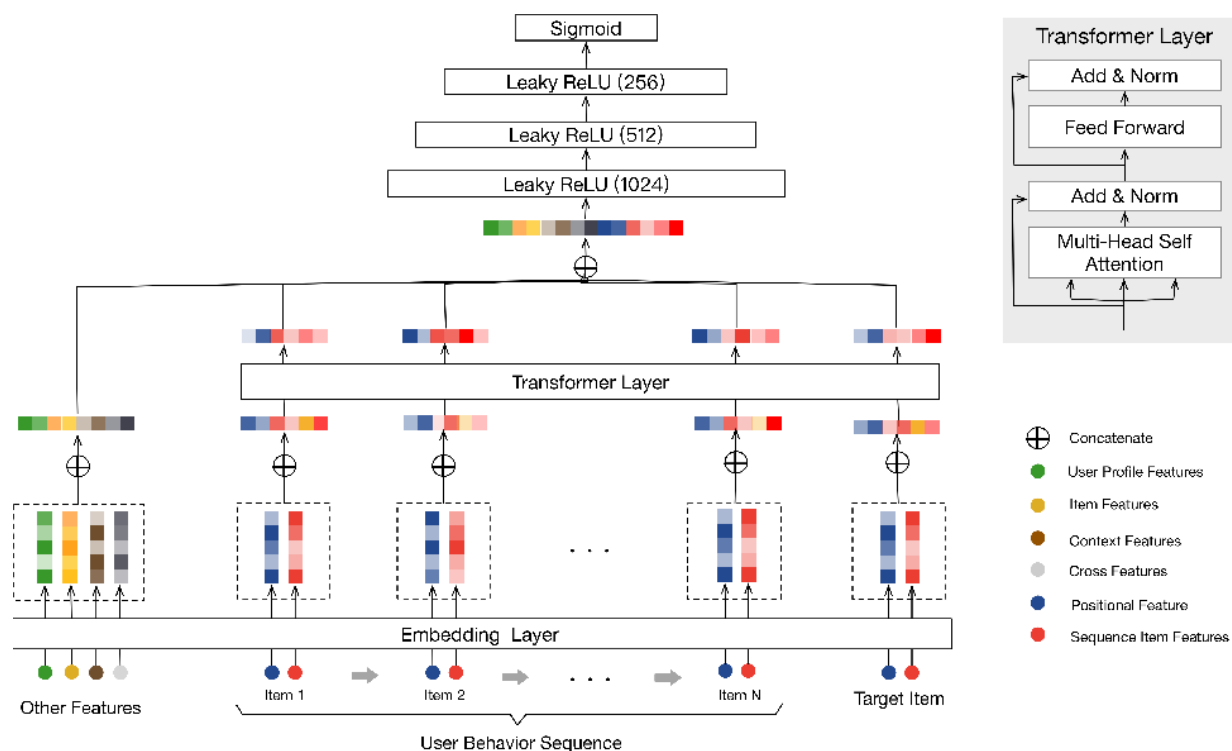
Figure 4: User embeddings for user to product predictions





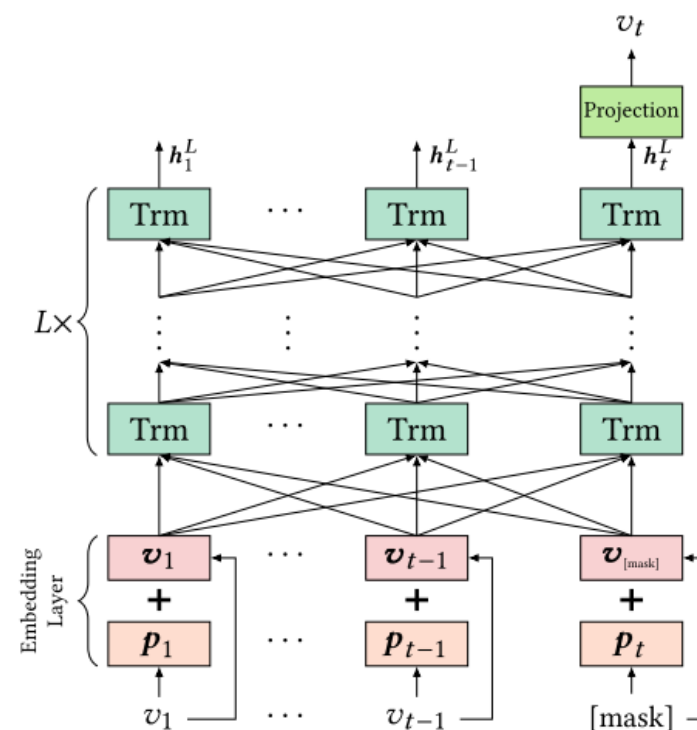
# Transformer networks for RecSys

## Behavior Sequence Transformer



Chen et al. (2019). Behavior Sequence Transformer for E-commerce Recommendation in Alibaba

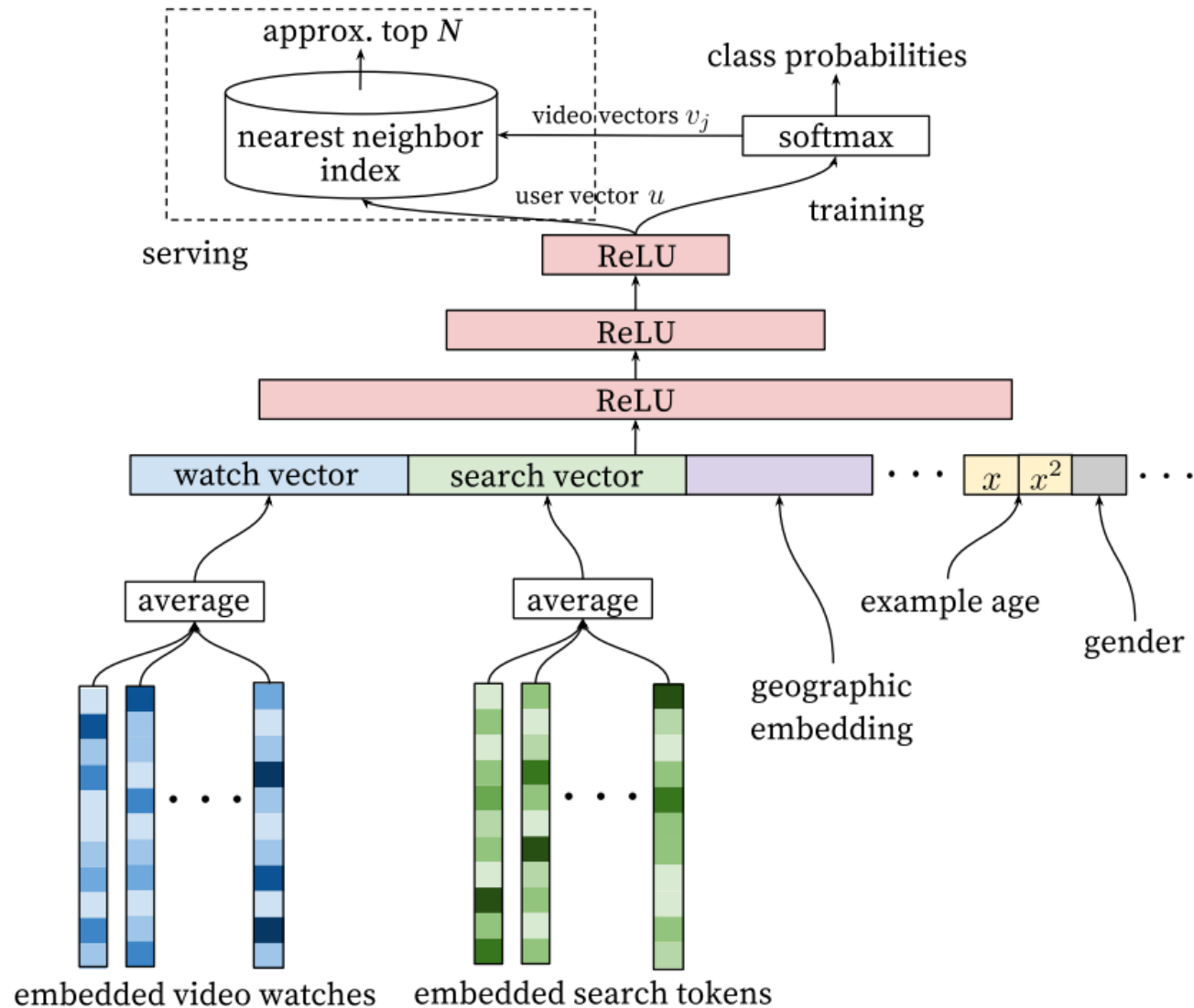
## Recommendation as sequence prediction - BERT4Rec



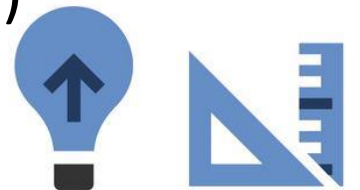
(b) BERT4Rec model architecture.

Sun et al. (2019). BERT4Rec: Sequential Recommendation with Bidirectional Encoder Representations from Transformer

# Deep NN for Youtube (2016)

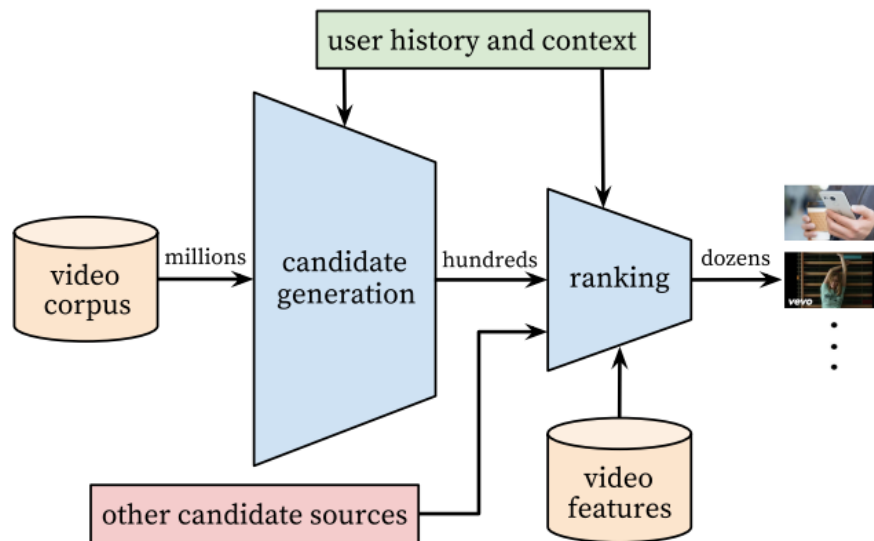


- Non-linear generalization of factorization techniques
- Training:
  - Negative sampling for softmax
- Inference
  - top N
  - calibrated likelihoods not needed for serving
  - approximate kNN search in the dot product space
- Embed videos from user histories (similar to word2vec)



# Deep NN for Youtube (2016)

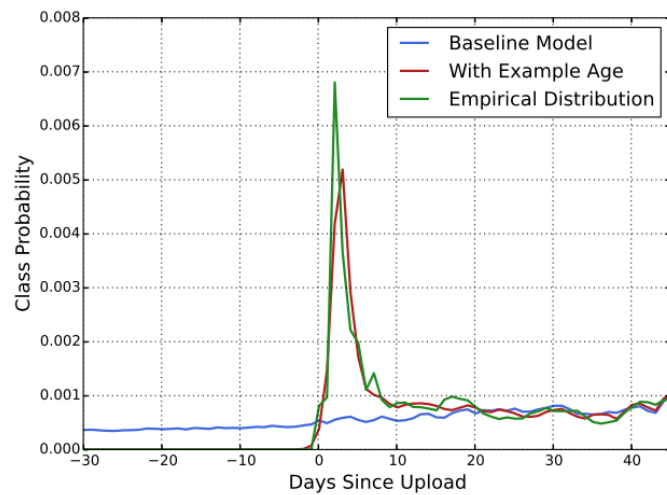
- During development, offline metrics (precision, recall, ranking loss, etc.)
- Final determination, rely on A/B testing
  - measure subtle changes in click-through rate, watch time, ...
- Ranking based on “watch time per impression”





# Deep NN for Youtube (2016)

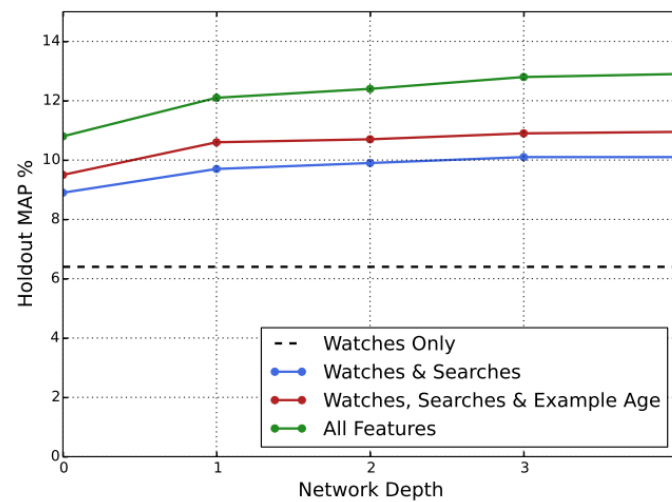
## Video Age:



## Hyper-parameters:

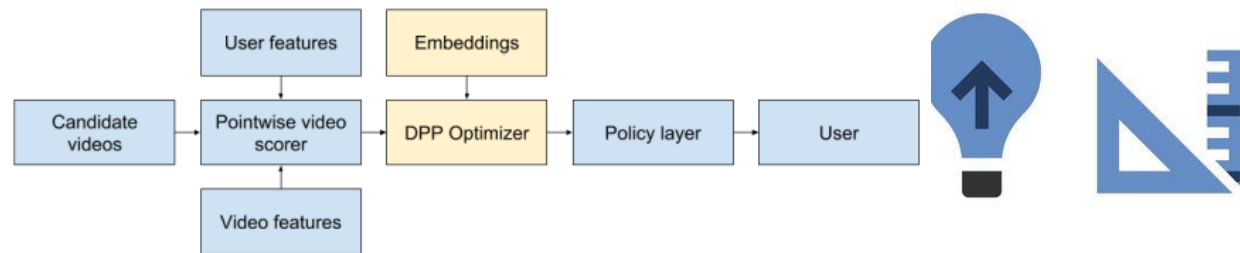
Hidden layers	weighted, per-user loss
None	41.6%
256 ReLU	36.9%
512 ReLU	36.7%
1024 ReLU	35.8%
512 ReLU → 256 ReLU	35.2%
1024 ReLU → 512 ReLU	34.7%
1024 ReLU → 512 ReLU → 256 ReLU	34.6%

## Effect of sources and depth:



## Diversity:

## Youtube, 2018 – “Practical Diversified Recommendations on YouTube with Determinantal Point Processes”





# Explainability of recommendations



## Recommended for You

Edit



### Guy Jumps Over a Bull

1 year ago  
2,985,104 views

Because you watched  
Extreme Ironing



### PROTOTYPE AIRCRAFT Flying

3 years ago  
62,614 views

Because you favorited  
X-Hawk concept pr...



### Cobra Sucuri Vomitando para

2 years ago  
2,665,748 views

Because you watched  
King Cobra Daycare



### Selena Gomez & The Scene - "I Won't Apologize"

9 months ago  
1,265,142 views

Because you watched  
Naturally Selena ...

## Do you know any of these people?

Add people you know as friends to make these results even better for you



Katie

You both know: Janna Grunt, Daniel Baker, Mike Gortz, Megar  
Add To Friends | View Friends | Message



Steven

You both know: Chris Reynolds, Kyle Dahlstrom, Ashley Hun  
Add To Friends | View Friends | Message



Mandy

You both know: Jeremy Pape, Jaclynn Staub, Brittany Richard  
Add To Friends | View Friends | Message

(a) "You both know"

## Recommended Pages

[View all](#)

**A Walk To Remember**  
and 56 other friends like this.  
[Like](#)

**The Prestige**  
and 35 other friends like this.  
[Like](#)

(b) "Others also liked"

## Customers who viewed this item also viewed

## Customers who bought this item also bought

## Made For You

Search

Radio

YOUR LIBRARY

Made For You

Recently Played

Songs

Albums

Artists

Stations

Local Files

Podcasts

PLAYLISTS

Post Rock Top Tracks

This Is Placebo

Music for Seasons: ...

Reading Soundtrack

Calm Before the Sto...

Ireland Top 50

Top Mojo

2018

Sling Sounds '18

Hodda's in Love

Your Top Songs 2017

New Playlist

Discover New Music

Discover Weekly

Release Radar

Friend Activity

Eve Kavanagh

Hannah Callaghan

Paul Hurley

Deve Corn

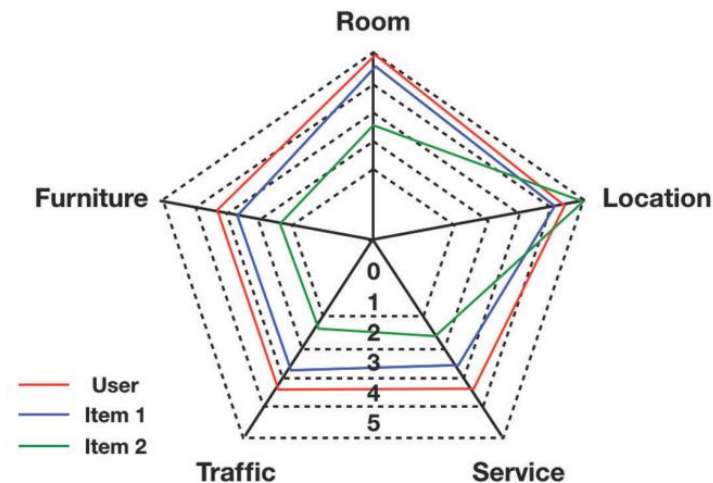
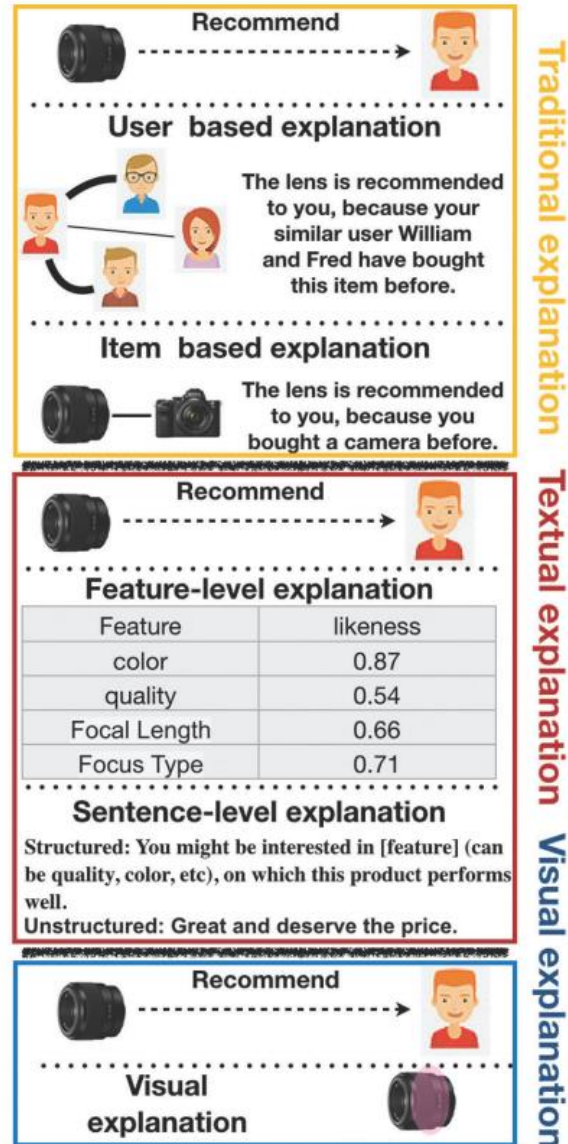
FIND FRIENDS

Listening on Kitchen





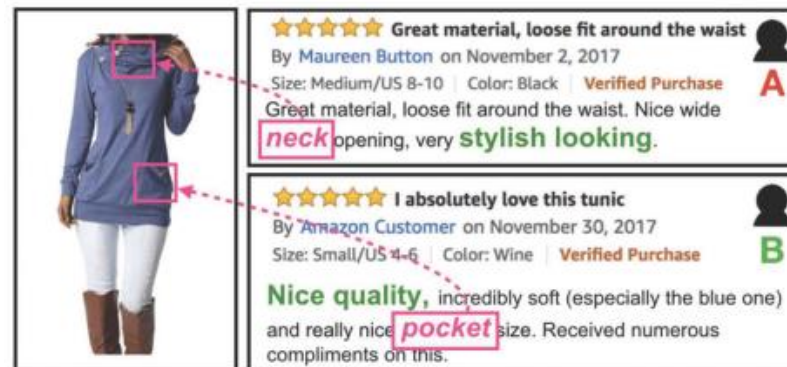
# Explainability of recommendations



From your Movielens profile it seems that you prefer movies tagged as **space**, this movie takes you in space and it feels claustrophobic to be there. It keeps you on the edge of your seat the whole time

From your Movielens profile it seems that you prefer movies tagged as **visual**, Gravity is unlike what we have seen on a cinema screen before and arguably it has one of the best users of 3D in a movie

From your Movielens profile it seems that you prefer movies tagged as **intense**, the movie s pretty intense ninety minutes, with Bullock's character constantly battling one catastrophe after another and all of it is amazing to use



Questions?

**THANK YOU**

