Food Recommender Through Collaborative Filtering

Jingshuai Qian

April 27, 2025

1 Load the model

```python
from collaborative_filtering import main

def apply_cf():
    main()   # Main function of collaborative filtering
    return

if __name__ == "__main__":
    apply_cf()
```

2 Algorithm demonstration

Algorithm 1 Collaborative filtering

Input: $R \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ (Score matrix where each row represents a user's scores on foods), k (Number of similar users considered in prediction)

Output: R^{pred} (Score matrix where originally 0 scores are predicted by the algorithm)

For each pair of users, measure their similarity using cosine similarity $S_{ij} = \frac{R_i^\top R_j}{\|R_i\|\|R_j\|}$, where $i, j \in \{1, \ldots, n\}$ and $i \neq j$.
$R^{\text{pred}} \leftarrow \mathbf{0}_{m \times n}$. ▷ Initialize the prediction matrix.
for $i \in \{1, \ldots, m\}$ **do**
  for $j \in \{1, \ldots, n\}$ **do**
    if $R_{ij} > 0$ **then**
      $R_{ij}^{\text{pred}} \leftarrow R_{ij}$. ▷ The score already exists so does not need prediction.
    else
      For each user $i \in \{1, \ldots, m\}$, find the most similar k users as $\mathcal{N}_i = \{u_1, \ldots, u_k\}$ where $S_{iu_1} \geq S_{iu_2} \geq \cdots \geq S_{iu_k}$.
      Among the the most similar k users of user i, select the similar users that has scores on food j, as $\hat{\mathcal{N}}_i = \{\hat{u}_1, \ldots, \hat{u}_{k'}\}$ where k' denotes the size of $\hat{\mathcal{N}}_i$.
      Predict the score of user i on food j: $R_{ij}^{\text{pred}} \leftarrow \frac{1}{k'} \sum_{u=1}^{k'} S_{iu} R_{uj}$. ▷ Mean of weighted sum of scores by users in $\hat{\mathcal{N}}_i$.
      $R_{ij}^{\text{pred}} \leftarrow \text{round}(\text{clamp}(R_{ij}^{\text{pred}}, 1, 5))$. ▷ Ensure that the predicted score is an integer in $[1, 5]$.
    end if
  end for
end for
return R^{pred}

3 Test results of the best model

RMSE = 1.1905, MAE = 0.9173.