

# Computation on Collaborative Filtering

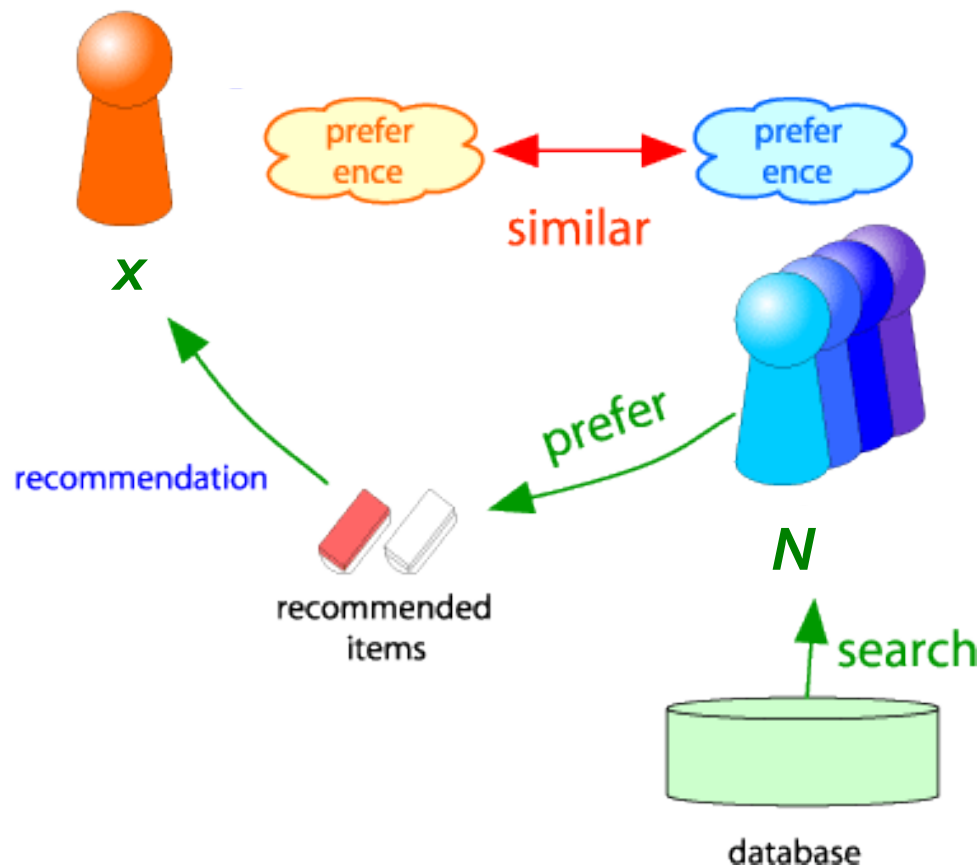
slides adapted from Stanford data mining course

# Outline

- User based Collaborative Filtering (CF) and item based Collaborative Filtering (CF)
- Latent factor approach—Matrix Factorization

# User based Collaborative Filtering

- Consider user  $x$
- Find set  $N$  of other users whose ratings are “**similar**” to  $x$ ’s ratings
- Estimate  $x$ ’s ratings based on ratings of users in  $N$



# Finding “Similar” Users

$$\begin{aligned} r_x &= \begin{bmatrix} * & \_ & \_ & * & *** \end{bmatrix} \\ r_y &= \begin{bmatrix} * & \_ & ** & ** & \_ \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

- Let  $r_x$  be the vector of user  $x$ 's ratings

- Jaccard similarity measure**

- Problem:** Ignores the value of the rating

$r_x, r_y$  as sets:

$$r_x = \{1, 4, 5\}$$

$$r_y = \{1, 3, 4\}$$

- Cosine similarity measure**

- $\text{sim}(x, y) = \cos(r_x, r_y) = \frac{r_x \cdot r_y}{\|r_x\| \cdot \|r_y\|}$

$r_x, r_y$  as points:

$$r_x = \{1, 0, 0, 1, 3\}$$

$$r_y = \{1, 0, 2, 2, 0\}$$

- Problem:** Treats missing ratings as “negative”

- Pearson correlation coefficient**

- $S_{xy}$  = items rated by both users  $x$  and  $y$

$$\text{sim}(x, y) = \frac{\sum_{s \in S_{xy}} (r_{xs} - \bar{r}_x)(r_{ys} - \bar{r}_y)}{\sqrt{\sum_{s \in S_{xy}} (r_{xs} - \bar{r}_x)^2} \sqrt{\sum_{s \in S_{xy}} (r_{ys} - \bar{r}_y)^2}}$$

$\bar{r}_x, \bar{r}_y \dots$  avg.  
rating of  $x, y$

# Similarity Metric

Cosine sim:

$$\text{sim}(x, y) = \frac{\sum_i r_{xi} \cdot r_{yi}}{\sqrt{\sum_i r_{xi}^2} \cdot \sqrt{\sum_i r_{yi}^2}}$$

	HP1	HP2	HP3	TW	SW1	SW2	SW3
<i>A</i>	4			5	1		
<i>B</i>	5	5	4				
<i>C</i>				2	4	5	
<i>D</i>		3					3

- **Intuitively we want:**  $\text{sim}(A, B) > \text{sim}(A, C)$
- **Jaccard similarity:**  $1/5 < 2/4$
- **Cosine similarity:**  $0.38 > 0.32$

# Rating Predictions

## From similarity metric to recommendations:

- Let  $r_x$  be the vector of user  $x$ 's ratings
- Let  $N$  be the set of  $k$  users most similar to  $x$  who have rated item  $i$
- Prediction for item  $i$  of user  $x$ :

$$r_{xi} = \frac{\sum_{y \in N} s_{xy} \cdot r_{yi}}{\sum_{y \in N} s_{xy}}$$

Shorthand:

$$s_{xy} = \text{sim}(x, y)$$

- Many other options/tricks possible...

# Item-based Collaborative Filtering

- So far: **User-based collaborative filtering**
- **Another view: Item-based**
  - For item  $i$ , find other similar items
  - Estimate rating for item  $i$  based on ratings for similar items
  - Can use same similarity metrics and prediction functions as in user-user model

$$r_{xi} = \frac{\sum_{j \in N(i; x)} s_{ij} \cdot r_{xj}}{\sum_{j \in N(i; x)} s_{ij}}$$

$s_{ij}$ ... similarity of items  $i$  and  $j$

$r_{xj}$ ... rating of user  $x$  on item  $j$

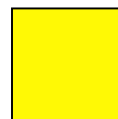
$N(i; x)$ ... set items rated by  $x$  similar to  $i$

# Item-based CF ( $|N|=2$ )

		users											
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
movies	1	1		3			5			5		4	
	2			5	4			4			2	1	3
	3	2	4		1	2		3		4	3	5	
	4		2	4		5			4			2	
	5			4	3	4	2					2	5
	6	1		3		3			2			4	



- unknown rating



- rating between 1 to 5



# Item-based CF ( $|N|=2$ )

		users											
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
movies	1	1		3		?	5			5		4	
	2			5	4			4			2	1	3
	3	2	4		1	2		3		4	3	5	
	4		2	4		5			4			2	
	5			4	3	4	2					2	5
	6	1		3		3			2			4	



- estimate rating of movie **1** by user **5**

# Item-based CF ( $|N|=2$ )

		users												
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	$\text{sim}(1,m)$
movies	1	1		3		?	5			5		4		1.00
	2			5	4			4			2	1	3	-0.96
	<u>3</u>	2	4		1	2		3		4	3	5		<u>0.66</u>
	4		2	4		5			4			2		-0.84
	5			4	3	4	2					2	5	-0.89
	<u>6</u>	1		3		3			2			4		<u>0.77</u>

**Neighbor selection:**  
Identify movies similar to  
movie 1, rated by user 5

Here we use Pearson correlation as similarity:

1) Subtract mean rating  $m_i$  from each movie  $i$   
 $m_i = (1+3+5+5+4)/5 = 3.6$

row 1:  $[-2.6, 0, -0.6, 0, 0, 1.4, 0, 0, 1.4, 0, 0.4, 0]$

2) Compute similarities between rows

# Item-based CF ( $|N|=2$ )

		users												sim(1,m)
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
movies	1	1		3		?	5			5		4		1.00
	2			5	4			4			2	1	3	-0.96
	<u>3</u>	2	4		1	2		3		4	3	5		<u>0.66</u>
	4		2	4		5			4			2		-0.84
	5			4	3	4	2					2	5	-0.89
	<u>6</u>	1		3		3			2			4		<u>0.77</u>

Compute similarity weights:

$$s_{1,3}=0.66, s_{1,6}=0.77$$

# Item-based CF ( $|N|=2$ )

		users											
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
movies	1	1		3		2.6	5			5		4	
	2			5	4			4			2	1	3
	<u>3</u>	2	4		1	2		3		4	3	5	
	4		2	4		5			4			2	
	5			4	3	4	2					2	5
	<u>6</u>	1		3		3			2			4	

Predict by taking weighted average:

$$r_{1.5} = (0.66 \cdot 2 + 0.77 \cdot 3) / (0.66 + 0.77) = 2.54$$

$$r_{ix} = \frac{\sum_{j \in N(i;x)} s_{ij} \cdot r_{jx}}{\sum s_{ij}}$$

# Item-based vs. User-based

- In practice, it has been observed that item-based often works better than user-based
- **Why?** Items are simpler, users have multiple tastes

# Pros/Cons of Collaborative Filtering

- **+ Works for any kind of item**
  - No feature selection needed
- **- Cold Start:**
  - Need enough users in the system to find a match
- **- Sparsity:**
  - The user/ratings matrix is sparse
  - Hard to find users that have rated the same items
- **- First rater:**
  - Cannot recommend an item that has not been previously rated
  - New items, Esoteric items
- **- Popularity bias:**
  - Cannot recommend items to someone with unique taste
  - Tends to recommend popular items

# Collaborative Filtering: Complexity

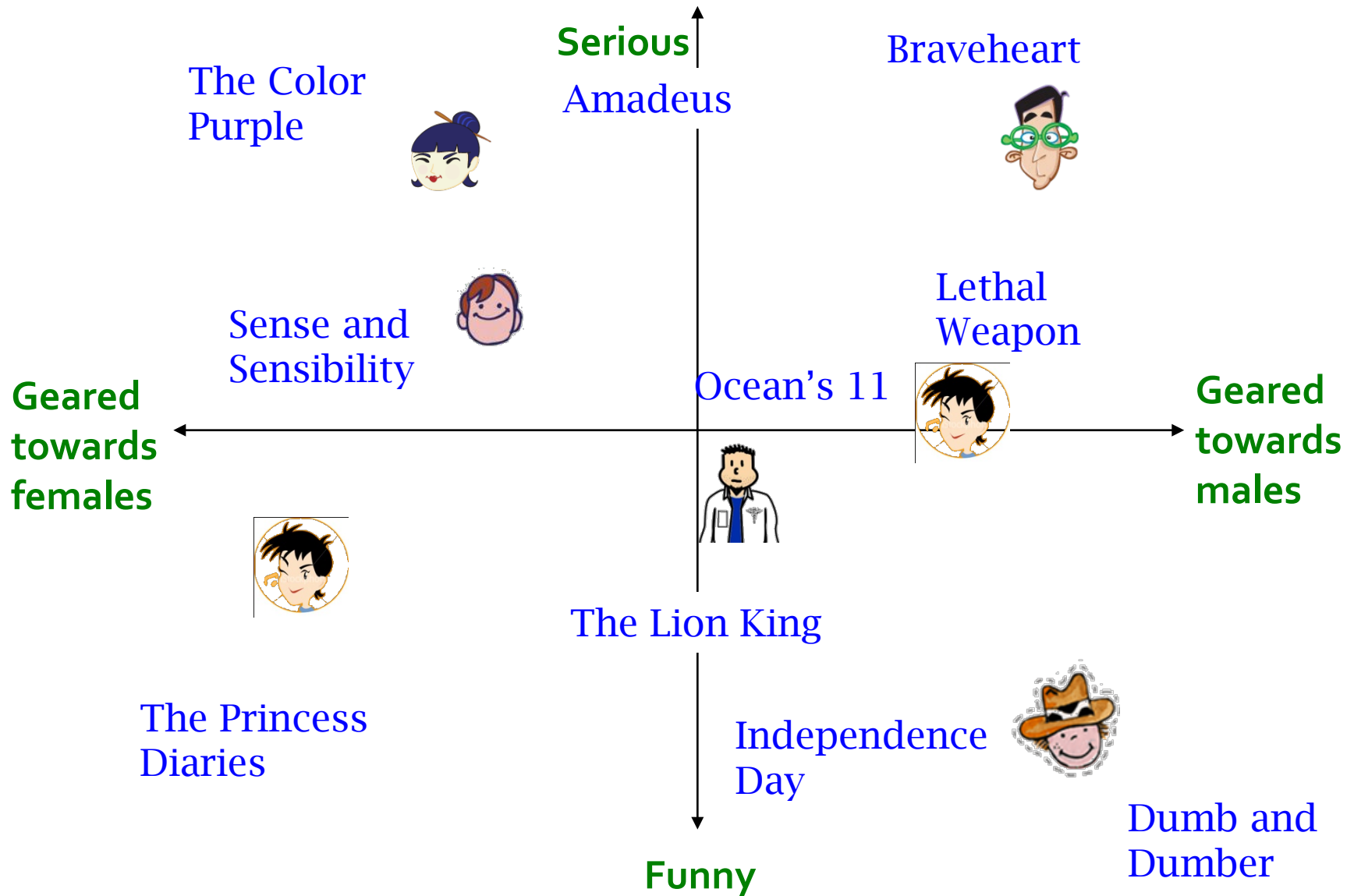
- Expensive step is finding  $k$  most similar customers:  $O(|X|)$
- **Too expensive to do at runtime**
  - Could pre-compute
- Naïve pre-computation takes time  $O(k \cdot |X|)$ 
  - $X$  ... set of customers
- **We already know how to do this!**
  - Near-neighbor search in high dimensions (**LSH**)
  - Clustering
  - Dimensionality reduction

# Outline

- User CF and item CF
- Latent factor approach—Matrix Factorization

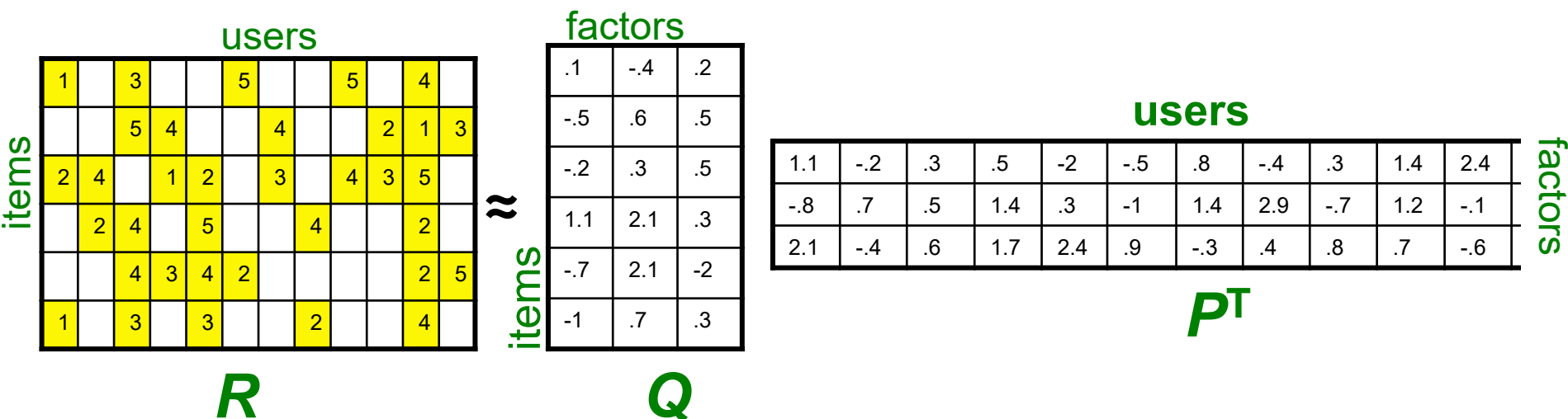


# Latent Factor Models



# Latent Factor Models

## ■ Matrix Factorization: $R \approx Q \cdot P^T$



- For now let's assume we can approximate the rating matrix  $R$  as a product of “thin”  $Q \cdot P^T$ 
  - $R$  has missing entries but let's ignore that for now!
    - Basically, we will want the reconstruction error to be small on known ratings and we don't care about the values on the missing ones

# Ratings as Products of Factors

- How to estimate the missing rating of user  $x$  for item  $i$ ?

users

items

1		3			5			5		4	
		5	4	?	4			2	1	3	
2	4		1	2		3		4	3	5	
	2	4		5			4			2	
		4	3	4	2					2	5
1		3		3			2			4	

≈

$$\hat{r}_{xi} = q_i \cdot p_x$$

$$= \sum_f q_{if} \cdot p_{xf}$$

$q_i$  = row  $i$  of  $Q$   
 $p_x$  = column  $x$  of  $P^T$

items

factors

$Q$

.1	-.4	.2
-.5	.6	.5
-.2	.3	.5
1.1	2.1	.3
-.7	2.1	-2
-1	.7	.3

factors

users

$P^T$

1.1	-.2	.3	.5	-2	-.5	.8	-.4	.3	1.4	2.4	-.9
-.8	.7	.5	1.4	.3	-1	1.4	2.9	-.7	1.2	-.1	1.3
2.1	-.4	.6	1.7	2.4	.9	-.3	.4	.8	.7	-.6	.1

# Ratings as Products of Factors

- How to estimate the missing rating of user  $x$  for item  $i$ ?

users

items

1		3			5			5		4	
		5	4	?	4			2	1	3	
2	4		1	2		3		4	3	5	
	2	4		5			4			2	
		4	3	4	2					2	5
1		3		3			2			4	

≈

$$\hat{r}_{xi} = q_i \cdot p_x$$

$$= \sum_f q_{if} \cdot p_{xf}$$

$q_i$  = row  $i$  of  $Q$   
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items

factors

$Q$

.1	-.4	.2
-.5	.6	.5
-.2	.3	.5
1.1	2.1	.3
-.7	2.1	-2
-1	.7	.3

factors

users

$P^T$

1.1	-.2	.3	.5	-2	-.5	.8	-.4	.3	1.4	2.4	-.9
-.8	.7	.5	1.4	.3	-1	1.4	2.9	-.7	1.2	-.1	1.3
2.1	-.4	.6	1.7	2.4	.9	-.3	.4	.8	.7	-.6	.1

# Ratings as Products of Factors

- How to estimate the missing rating of user  $x$  for item  $i$ ?

users

items

1		3			5			5		4	
		5	4	2.4	4			2	1	3	
2	4		1	2		3		4	3	5	
	2	4		5			4			2	
		4	3	4	2					2	5
1		3		3			2			4	

≈

$$\hat{r}_{xi} = q_i \cdot p_x$$

$$= \sum_f q_{if} \cdot p_{xf}$$

$q_i$  = row  $i$  of  $Q$   
 $p_x$  = column  $x$  of  $P^T$

items

$f$  factors

$Q$

.1	-.4	.2
-.5	.6	.5
-.2	.3	.5
1.1	2.1	.3
-.7	2.1	-2
-1	.7	.3

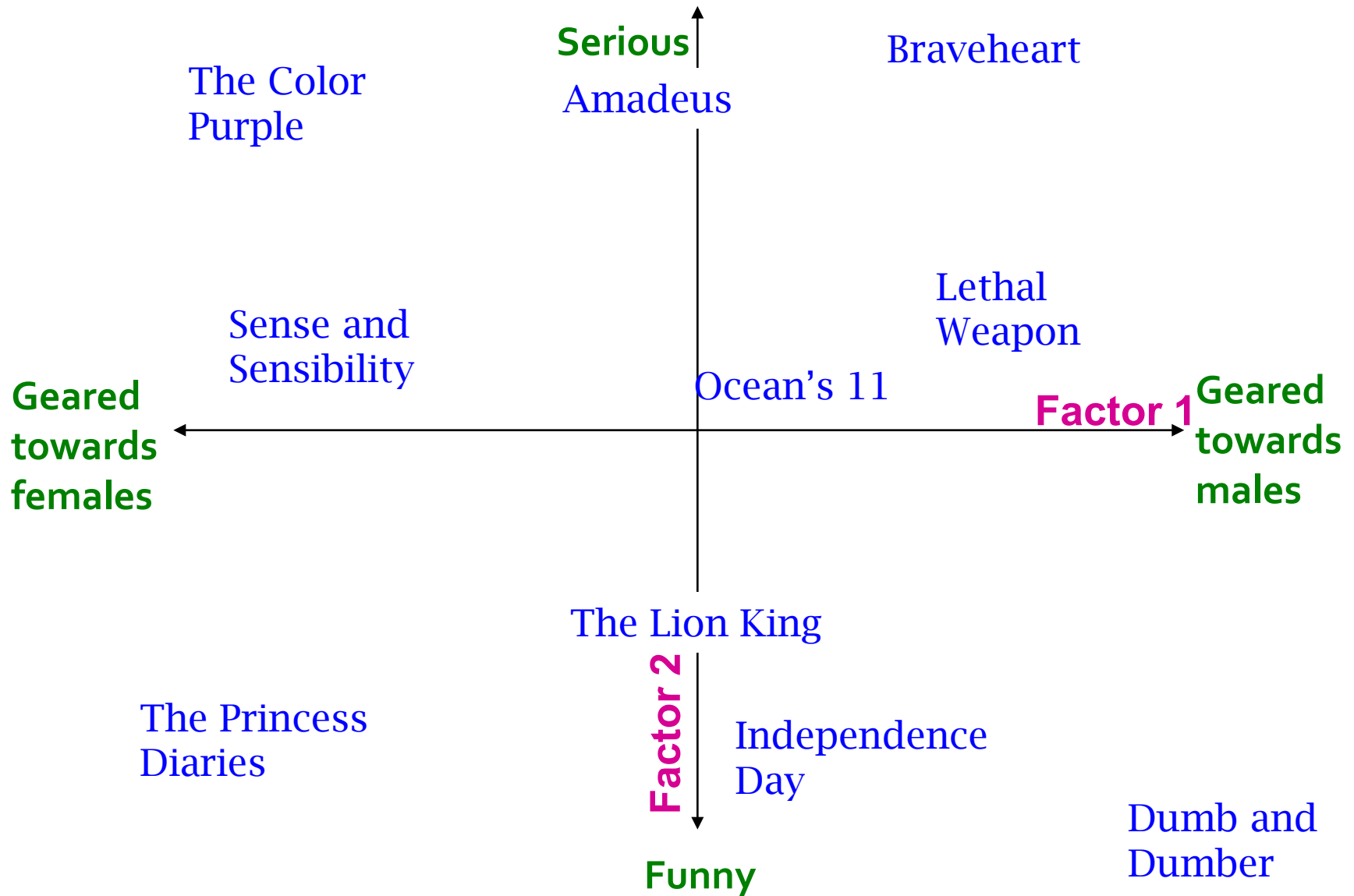
$f$  factors

users

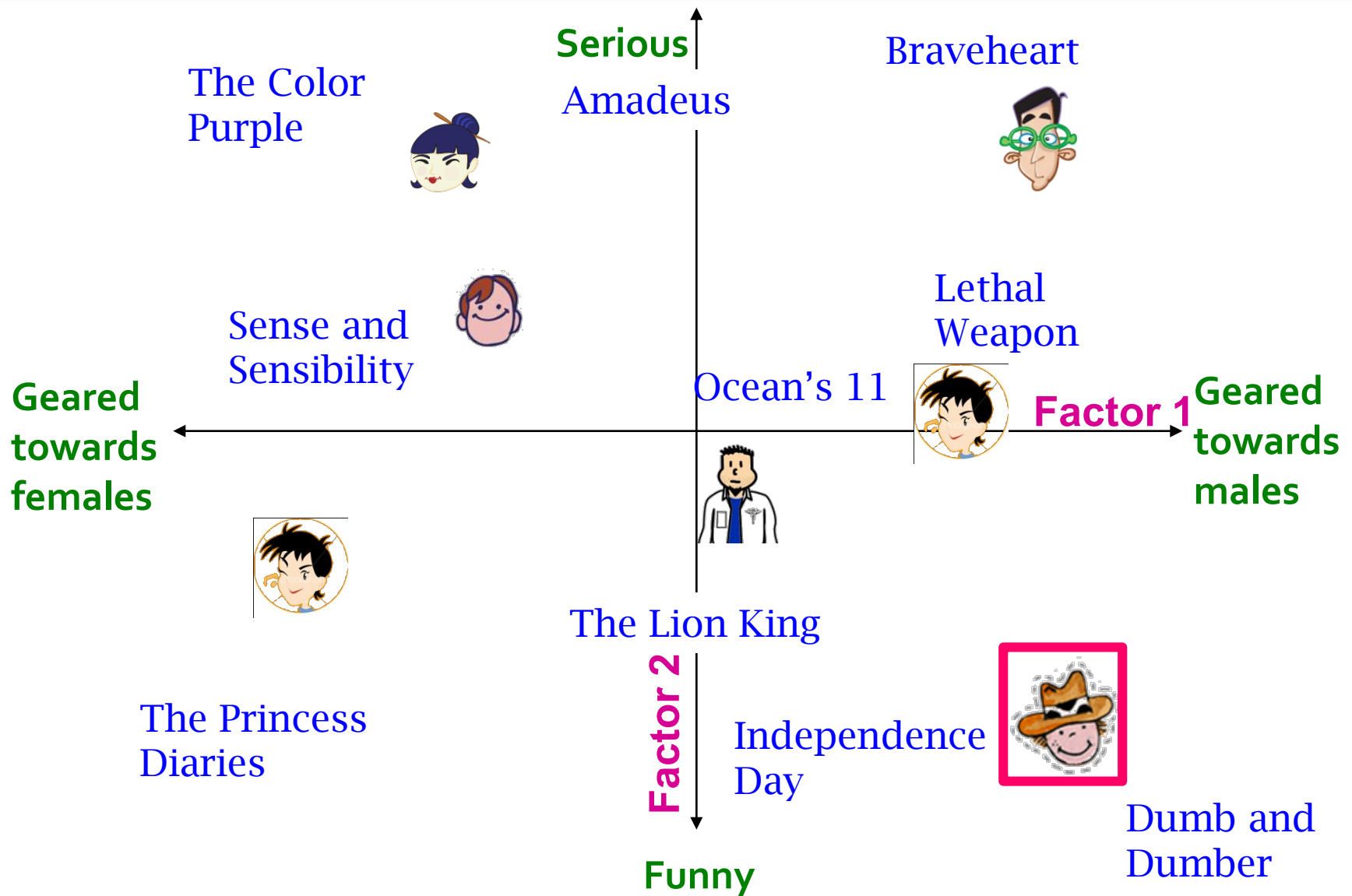
$P^T$

1.1	-.2	.3	.5	-2	-.5	.8	-.4	.3	1.4	2.4	-.9
-.8	.7	.5	1.4	.3	-1	1.4	2.9	-.7	1.2	-.1	1.3
2.1	-.4	.6	1.7	2.4	.9	-.3	.4	.8	.7	-.6	.1

# Latent Factor Models



# Latent Factor Models



# Latent Factor Models

- Our goal is to find  $P$  and  $Q$  such that:

$$\min_{P,Q} \sum_{(i,x) \in R} (r_{xi} - q_i \cdot p_x)^2$$

users

items

1

3

5

5

4

5

4

4

2

1

3

2

4

1

2

3

4

3

5

2

4

5

4

2

4

3

4

2

2

5

1

3

3

2

4

items

Q

.1

-.4

.2

-.5

.6

.5

-.2

.3

.5

1.1

2.1

.3

-.7

2.1

-2

-1

.7

.3

users

1.1

-.2

.3

.5

-.2

-.5

.8

-.4

.3

1.4

2.4

-.9

-.8

.7

.5

1.4

.3

-1

1.4

2.9

-.7

1.2

-.1

1.3

2.1

-.4

.6

1.7

2.4

.9

-.3

.4

.8

.7

-.6

.1

PT

factors

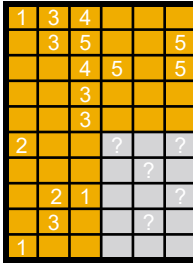
Stochastic Gradient Descent



# Back to Our Problem

- Want to minimize Sum of Squared Errors (SSE) for unseen test data
- Idea: Minimize SSE on training data
  - Want large  $k$  (# of factors) to capture all the signals
  - But, SSE on test data begins to rise for  $k > 2$
- This is a classical example of **overfitting**:
  - With too much freedom (too many free parameters) the model starts fitting noise
    - That is it fits too well the training data and thus **not generalizing** well to unseen test data

# Dealing with Missing Entries



1	3	4							
	3	5						5	
		4	5					5	
			3						
			3						
2				?				?	
							?		
	2								?
		2	1						
	3						?		
1									

- To solve overfitting we introduce **regularization:**

- Allow rich model where there are sufficient data
- Shrink aggressively where data are scarce

$$\min_{P,Q} \underbrace{\sum_{training} (r_{xi} - q_i p_x)^2}_{\text{"error"}} + \underbrace{\left[ \lambda_1 \sum_x \|p_x\|^2 + \lambda_2 \sum_i \|q_i\|^2 \right]}_{\text{"length"}}$$

$\lambda_1, \lambda_2 \dots$  user set regularization parameters

**Note:** We do not care about the “raw” value of the objective function, but we care in P,Q that achieve the minimum of the objective

# Summary

- User CF and item CF
  - Understand how to compute
- Latent factor approach—Matrix Factorization
  - Understand the high-level idea