# Week 13

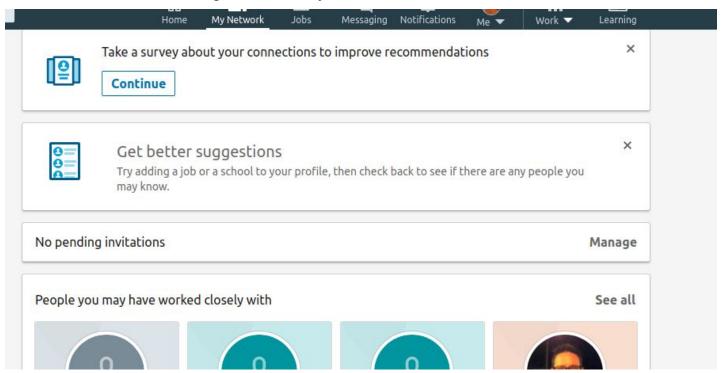
# Agenda

- Project 4
- Review networks
- What is a recommender system?
- Early recommender systems: Content vs Behavior
- Collaborative Filtering
- Cold start problem
- Discussions/case studies

# Intro: What are recommender systems?

And where does the data come from?

- Is LinkedIn's "do you know this person" a prediction or a recommender system?
- And does that make a difference?
- Or is it something else entirely?

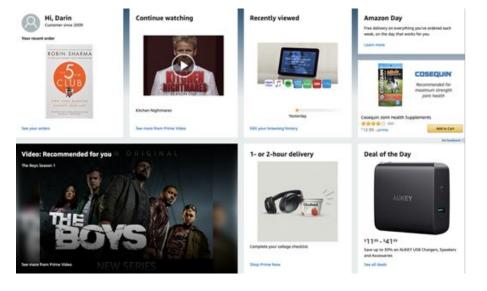


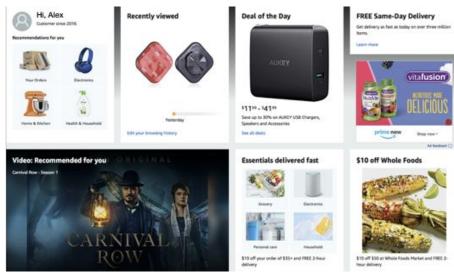
### **Netflix**





### Amazon





91%

Prefer Brands that Provide Personalized Offers/ Recommendations 83%

Willing to Passively Share Data in Exchange for Personalized Experiences **74**%

Willing to Actively Share Data in Exchange for Personalized Experiences

Mary Meeker, 2019





Data Management Platform (DMP): Personal data marketplaces Discuss:

- How do you feel about them?
- Which datasets about yourself do you assume are public?

# Cambridge Analytica

As the company's CEO, Alexander Nix, explains in a promotional video: "The more you know about someone, the more you can align a campaign with their requirements or their wants and needs." He did not respond to a request for comment.

### Source:

https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2015/dec/11/senator-ted-cruz-president-campaign-facebook-user-data



### TiVo: A Buyer's Guide

**DATA TYPES:** TV Viewership

#### TiVo Data 101

TiVo's expertise spans multi-screen functionality and back-end services that support linear television, video on demand (VDD), mobile apps, streaming, etc. Our experience in the market puts TiVo in a unique position to offer superior data for targeting television viewers and measuring sales impact. Our data segments power any planning, modeling, or reporting you can imagine. Our viewership data is ready to be manipulated by sophisticated data science teams familiar with processing large datasets.

### Description of Data Types:

Flat Files or TV Viewership data — Raw data processed by a buyer's internal data teams.

**Syndicated TV Segments** – Viewership segments that span across verticals and viewership attributes.

Campaign Segments – Ad-exposed segments used for an attribution ad matched to digital campaigns.

**Custom Segments** – Ability to create segments not readily available in data stores.

### Collection Methodology:

TVo's TV Viewership data is sourced from TiVo's retail set-top boxes and from MVPDs who use TiVo's software. For our segments, we deploy a 1:1 deterministic match to 1\*\* and 3\*\* party data with our owned and licensed set-top box data. Experian is our leading partner to execute the 3\*\* party match process based on name/address. For our raw data, matching occurs at household level via Experian with each device viewership mapped to each household. While we don't model our raw data, our segments can be modeled in-house via a 3\*d party partner or within the data stores.

#### Use Our Data For:

- Targeting cross-platform
- Optimizing frequency
- · Extending reach
- · Improving campaign KPIs
- · Appending TV data to digital campaigns





TECH

# Vizio nears \$17 million settlement for TV data-tracking lawsuit

The deal is still subject to final approval

By Chaim Gartenberg | @cgartenberg | Oct 4, 2018, 1:30pm EDT





Photo by James Bareham / The Verge

"One of the biggest challenges in protecting privacy is that many of the violations are invisible," Cook writes. "For example, you might have bought a product from an online retailer–something most of us have done. But what the retailer doesn't tell you is that it then turned around and sold or transferred information about your purchase to a 'data broker'—a company that exists purely to collect your information, package it, and sell it to yet another buyer.

"The trail disappears before you even know there is a trail. Right now, all of these secondary markets for your information exist in a shadow economy that's largely unchecked-out of sight of consumers, regulators, and lawmakers. Let's be clear: You never signed up for that. We think every user should have the chance to say, 'Wait a minute. That's my information that you're selling, and I didn't consent.'"



Tim Cook - Apple



# Apple Sold Its Customers' iTunes Data Without Consent, Lawsuit Says

Suit says that third-parties could buy music habits and user home addresses from tech giant for \$136 per 1,000 people

Sean Burch | May 28, 2019 @ 1:32 PM Last Updated: May 28, 2019 @ 3:34 PM

Tim Cook - Apple

### **Taste Domains**



### **Taste Domains**

- Early research focused on 'taste' domains, particularly movies, music, and books.
- In these domains, 'finding' often involved suggestions from friends or tastemakers
- Researchers created collaborative filtering and other approaches as means of emulating this process
- Usually cast as ratings prediction problem in part because its relatively easy to collect ratings data

### 1996 MovieLens (Minnesota)

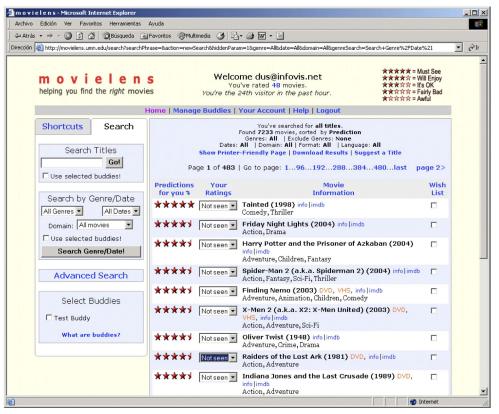
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MovieLens
- Research project collected ratings on movies, etc
- Very early Amazon and Netflix strongly influenced by this
- User-Based Collaborative Filtering (UB-CF): Find k-nearest users and use their ratings
- 2001 Item based CF: Find k nearest items to those items a user prefers. http://files.grouplens.org/papers/www10\_sarwar.pdf
- Still popular recommendation algorithm

# CF - Collaborative Filtering

- What's that?
- Two types:
  - Memory based similarity between users or items
  - Model based predict ratings of unrated items
  - hybrid/deep learning approaches
- Problems:
  - Cold start
  - Scalability
  - Sparsity

# Movielens (Late 90's)



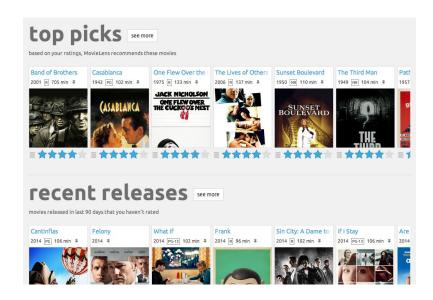


# Movielens (Today)

Stable benchmark dataset. 10 million ratings and 100,000 tag applications applied to 10,000 movies by 72,000 users. Released 1/2009.

- README.html
- ml-10m.zip (size: 63 MB, checksum)

Permalink: <a href="http://grouplens.org/datasets/movielens/10m/">http://grouplens.org/datasets/movielens/10m/</a>



### **Netflix DVD Recommendations**



### 2002 Netflix DVDs

- Mailed 1-3 DVDs to users
- Brand based in part on ratings and recommendations
- Users could rate any movie, not just those recently watched
- Users were told recommendations get better with more ratings

### Search and Discovery

- Amazon historically incorporated recommendations into search results, including to extend results
- Recommendations used at different stages of transaction (E.g. Product page, cart)

# Amazon Recommendations (2003)



Figure 1. The "Your Recommendations" feature on the Amazon.com homepage. Using this feature, customers can sort recommendations and add their own product ratings.



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.

### 2003 Amazon

- Item-Item CF (http://www.cs.umd.edu/~samir/498/Amazon-Recommendations.pdf)
- Compares to User-Item based CF (as in GroupLens)
- Pointed to scalability: compute similarities between items offline, usually nightly. This is preferred as item similarities change less frequently than user similarities
- Use item similarities to recommend similar items to those a user has shown preference towards
- Item preference a weighted combination of views, ratings, cart adds, and purchases
- Item similarities can also be used in non-personalized fashion ("users who considered this, also considered that...")
- Not fully real-time and suffers from cold-start problem
- Flawed problem setup: not directly optimizing sales



### **Cold Start Problem**

What cases of cold start exist?

Job Recommendation - How would you do it?

### LinkedIn



News Recommendation - How would you do it?

### **News Recommendation**

