

# Recommender System using Matrix Factorization



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January 26, 2023

# Outline

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## 2 Preliminaries

- Singular Value Decomposition (SVD)
- Matrix Norm

## 3 Approach

- Alternative Least Square (ALS)
- Soft Impute Alternative Least Square (SIALS)

## 4 Experience and Result

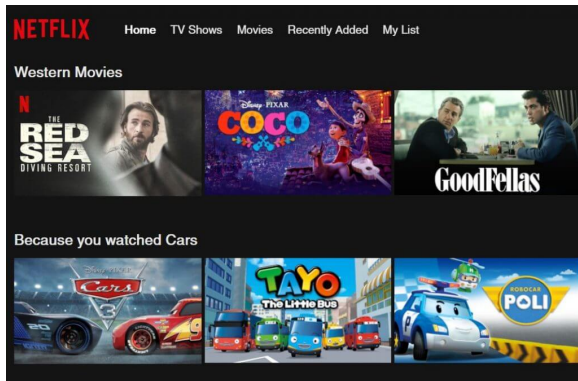
- ml-1m
- ml-10m

## 5 Summary

# Introduction to Recommender System

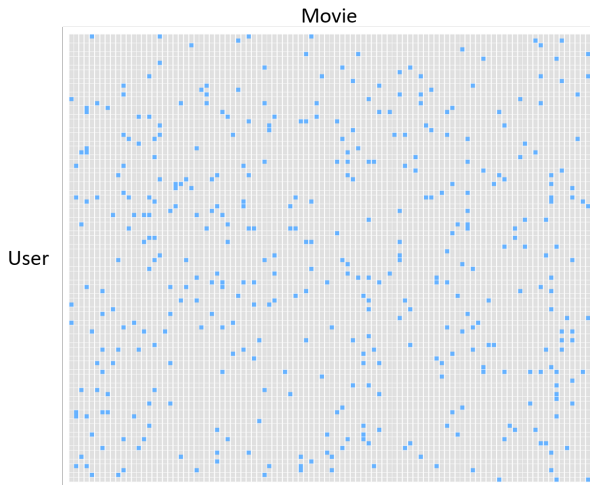
A competition held by Netflix in 2006.

- 100,480,570 ratings that 480,189 users gave to 17,770 movies.
- 10% improvement then gain 1 million dollar prize.



# Introduction to Recommender System

(user, movie)	rating
(1, 5)	4
(1, 18)	1
(1, 32)	3
(1, 44)	2
(2, 22)	5
(2, 90)	2
(3, 49)	3
(3, 56)	4
(3, 70)	5
(3, 94)	1
⋮	⋮



# Idea of Low-rank Approximation

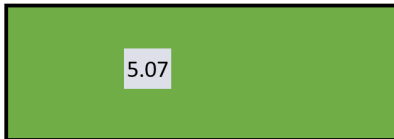


Action  
Romance  
Science Fiction  
Fantasy

0.2	1.2	1.8	1.8
1.68	0.5	0.1	0.3
0.2	1.8	0.6	1.6
0.48	0.8	0.4	0.4

Sam	0.8	1.6	1.8	1.2
Jack	1.1	0.3	1.2	1.6
Andy	1.3	0.5	1.6	0.8

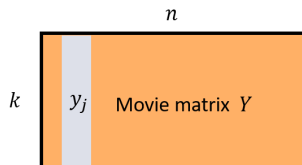
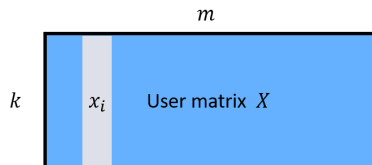
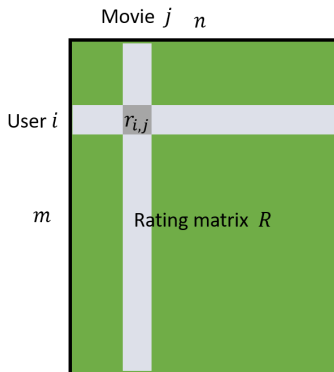
A. R. S. F.



# Idea of Low-rank Approximation

Given  $R \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  is rating matrix, where  $m$  is number of user, and  $n$  is number of movie. Our goal is going to find the feature vector of user  $x_i$  and feature vector of movie  $y_j$  such that

$$r_{i,j} \approx x_i^\top y_j, \text{ for all } i, j$$



# Problem

Given  $R \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  is rating matrix, Our goal is going to find the user matrix  $X \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times m}$  and feature matrix  $Y \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times n}$  such that

$$R \approx X^{\top} Y.$$

## Question

- 1 How to find  $X$  and  $Y$  ?
- 2 How to approximate  $R$  ?
- 3 How to compute with big data?

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# Singular Value Decomposition (SVD)

## SVD

Let  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ . Then there exist orthogonal matrices  $U \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$  and  $V \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  such that  $U^\top AV = \Sigma$  is a diagonal matrix, where

$$\Sigma_{ij} = \begin{cases} \sigma_i, & i = j \\ 0, & i \neq j \end{cases}, \text{ with } \sigma_1 \geq \sigma_2 \geq \cdots \geq \sigma_r > 0,$$

and  $r = \text{rank}(A)$ .

# Singular Value Decomposition (SVD)

Separates  $A$  into  $r$  pieces rank 1 by SVD

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} u_1 & \cdots & u_m \end{bmatrix} \left[ \begin{array}{c|c} \sigma_1 & \\ & \ddots \\ & \sigma_r \\ \hline & O_{(m-r) \times r} \end{array} \right] \begin{bmatrix} v_1^\top \\ \vdots \\ v_n^\top \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^r \sigma_i u_i v_i^\top.$$

Rank  $k$  approximate

Let  $A_k = \sum_{i=1}^k \sigma_i u_i v_i^\top$ . If  $B$  has rank  $k$ , then

$$\|A - A_k\|_* \leq \|A - B\|_*.$$

# Matrix Norm

## Matrix norm

### 1 Spectral norm:

$$\|A\|_2 = \max_{x \neq 0} \frac{\|Ax\|_2}{\|x\|_2} = \sigma_1,$$

### 2 Frobenius norm:

$$\|A\|_F = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^m |a_{ij}|^2} = \sqrt{\sigma_1^2 + \cdots + \sigma_r^2},$$

### 3 Nuclear norm:

$$\|A\|_N = \sigma_1 + \cdots + \sigma_r.$$

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# Idea

## Rank $k$ approximation

Given  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $1 \leq k < r$ .

$$R = U\Sigma V^\top \approx U_k D_k^2 V_k = (D_k U_k^\top)^\top (D_k V_k^\top) = X^\top Y$$

where  $\tilde{U} = [u_1, \dots, u_k]$ ,  $\tilde{V} = [v_1, \dots, v_k]$  and  $D = \text{diag}(\sqrt{\sigma_1}, \dots, \sqrt{\sigma_k})$ .

### Question

Does it work on the largest dataset?

# Matrix Factorization

First, We consider the minimization problem with regularization.

$$\min_{X,Y} \|R - X^T Y\|_F^2 + \lambda (\|X\|_F^2 + \|Y\|_F^2),$$

where

- $R \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  $X \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times m}$  and  $Y \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times n}$ ,
- $\lambda > 0$  is a parameter.

## Remark

$$\begin{aligned} & \min_{X \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times m}, Y \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times n}} \|R - X^T Y\|_F^2 + \lambda (\|X\|_F^2 + \|Y\|_F^2) \\ &= \min_{Z: \text{rank } Z \leq k} \|R - Z\|_F^2 + 2\lambda \|Z\|_* . \end{aligned}$$

# Alternative Least Square (ALS)

Given initials  $X_0, Y_0$ , for  $t = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ , we solve the following two sub-problem alternately:

$$X_{t+1} = \arg \min_X \|R - X^\top Y_t\|_F^2 + \lambda \|X\|_F^2,$$

$$Y_{t+1} = \arg \min_Y \|R - X_{t+1}^\top Y\|_F^2 + \lambda \|Y\|_F^2.$$

We iterate until convergence.

# Solving Alternative Least Square

Define

$$F(X) = \|R^\top - Y_t^\top X\|_F^2 + \lambda \|X\|_F^2.$$

Then

$$\nabla F(X) = -2Y_t(R^\top - Y_t^\top X) + 2\lambda X.$$

Let  $\nabla F(X) = 0$ , we have

$$(Y_t Y_t^\top + \lambda I)X = Y_t R^\top.$$

Therefore, we obtain the solution

$$X_{t+1} = (Y_t Y_t^\top + \lambda I)^{-1} Y_t R^\top.$$



# Solving Alternative Least Square

Similarly, we can get

$$Y_{t+1} = (X_{t+1}X_{t+1}^\top + \lambda I)^{-1}X_{t+1}R.$$

Therefore, the iterative scheme can be posed as follows:

- ①  $X_{t+1} = (Y_tY_t^\top + \lambda I)^{-1}Y_tR^\top,$
- ②  $Y_{t+1} = (X_{t+1}X_{t+1}^\top + \lambda I)^{-1}X_{t+1}R.$

# Matrix Factorization

Let  $\Omega = \{(i, j) \mid R_{i,j} > 0\}$  and

$$[\mathcal{P}_{\Omega}(A)]_{i,j} = \begin{cases} A_{i,j} & \text{if } (i, j) \in \Omega \\ 0 & \text{if } (i, j) \notin \Omega \end{cases}.$$

## Problem

$$\min_{X,Y} \|\mathcal{P}_{\Omega}(R - X^{\top}Y)\|_F^2 + \lambda (\|X\|_F^2 + \|Y\|_F^2),$$

where

- $R \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  $X \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times m}$ , and  $Y \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times n}$ ,
- $\lambda > 0$  is a parameter.

# Matrix Factorization

## Problem

$$\min_{X,Y} \|\mathcal{P}_{\Omega}(R - X^{\top}Y)\|_F^2 + \lambda (\|X\|_F^2 + \|Y\|_F^2).$$

Its equivalence to

$$\min_{x_i, y_j} \sum_{(i,j) \in \Omega} (r_{i,j} - x_i^{\top} y_j)^2 + \lambda \left( \sum_{i=1}^m \|x_i\|_2^2 + \sum_{j=1}^n \|y_j\|_2^2 \right),$$

where  $x_i, y_j \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times 1}$ .

# Solving Alternative Least Square

For fixed  $i$ , we define

$$F(x_i) = \sum_{(i,j) \in \Omega} (r_{i,j} - y_j^\top x_i)^2 + \sum_{i=1}^m \|x_i\|_2^2.$$

Then

$$\nabla F(x_i) = -2 \sum_{(i,j) \in \Omega} y_j (r_{i,j} - y_j^\top x_i) + 2\lambda x_i.$$

Letting  $\nabla F(x_i) = 0$ , we have

$$\left( \sum_{(i,j) \in \Omega} y_j y_j^\top + \lambda I \right) x_i = r_{i,j} y_j.$$

# Solving Alternative Least Square

## Algorithm (ALS)

① Initial  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n$ .

② For  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ :

$$\left( \sum_{(i,j) \in \Omega} y_j y_j^\top + \lambda I \right) x_i = r_{i,j} y_j.$$

③ For  $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ :

$$\left( \sum_{(i,j) \in \Omega} x_i x_i^\top + \lambda I \right) y_j = r_{i,j} x_i.$$

④ Repeat 2, 3 until convergence.

# Summary of ALS

- 1 The left-hand side of the linear system is sum of the rank 1 matrix.
- 2 There are  $(m + n)$  linear systems with  $k \times k$ .
- 3 The time complexity of the direct method is  $O(|\Omega|k^2 + (m + n)k^3)$ .

# Soft Impute Alternative Least Square (SIALS)

## Problem

$$\min_{X,Y} \|\mathcal{P}_{\Omega}(R - X^{\top}Y)\|_F^2 + \lambda (\|X\|_F^2 + \|Y\|_F^2).$$

Notice that

$$\mathcal{P}_{\Omega}(R - X^{\top}Y) = \mathcal{P}_{\Omega}(R) - \mathcal{P}_{\Omega}(X^{\top}Y) + X^{\top}Y - X^{\top}Y.$$

Let

$$\tilde{R} = \mathcal{P}_{\Omega}(R) - \mathcal{P}_{\Omega}(X^{\top}Y) + X^{\top}Y.$$

Then the problem becomes

$$\min_{X,Y} \|\tilde{R} - X^{\top}Y\|_F^2 + \lambda (\|X\|_F^2 + \|Y\|_F^2).$$

# Soft Impute Alternative Least Square (SIALS)

## SIALS method

Given an initial  $X_0, Y_0$ , for  $t = 0, 1, \dots$ , we solve the following two sub-problem alternatingly:

$$\tilde{R}_{t+\frac{1}{2}} = \mathcal{P}_\Omega(R) - \mathcal{P}_\Omega(X_t^\top Y_t) + X_t^\top Y_t,$$

$$X_{t+1} = \left( Y_t Y_t^\top + \lambda I \right)^{-1} Y_t \tilde{R}_{t+\frac{1}{2}}^\top,$$

$$\tilde{R}_{t+1} = \mathcal{P}_\Omega(R) - \mathcal{P}_\Omega(X_{t+1}^\top Y_t) + X_{t+1}^\top Y_t,$$

$$Y_{t+1} = \left( X_{t+1} X_{t+1}^\top + \lambda I \right)^{-1} X_{t+1} \tilde{R}_{t+1}.$$

We iterate until convergence is achieved.



# Solving SIALS by SVD

## Idea (rank $k$ approximation)<sup>1</sup>

$$R = U\Sigma V^\top \approx U_k D_k^2 V_k = (D_k U_k^\top)^\top (D_k V_k^\top) = X^\top Y.$$

## Goal

Given  $U_0 \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times k}$  with orthonormal columns,  $D_0 = I_{k \times k}$ , and  $V_0 = O_{n \times k}$ . We use the Iterative method to find the suitable  $X = D_t U_t^\top$ ,  $Y = D_t V_t^\top$  such that

$$\min_{X,Y} \|P_\Omega(R - X^\top Y)\|_F^2 + \lambda (\|X\|_F^2 + \|Y\|_F^2).$$

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<sup>1</sup>T. Hastie, R. Mazumder, J.-D. Lee and R. Zadeh, Matrix Completion and Low-Rank SVD via Fast Alternating Least Squares, Journal of Machine Learning Research (2015).

# Soft Impute ALS by SVD

Given  $U_0 \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times k}$  with orthonormal columns,  $D_0 = I_{k \times k}$ , and  $V_0 = O_{k \times k}$ . Let  $X_0 = D_0 U_0^\top$  and  $Y_0 = D_0 V_0^\top$ . For  $t = 0, 1, \dots$  do

- ①  $\tilde{R}_{t+\frac{1}{2}} = \mathcal{P}_\Omega(R) - \mathcal{P}_\Omega(X_t^\top Y_t) + X_t^\top Y_t$
- ②  $X_{t+\frac{1}{2}} = \left( Y_t Y_t^\top + \lambda I \right)^{-1} Y_t \tilde{R}_{t+\frac{1}{2}}^\top$
- ③ Find the SVD of  $D_t X_{t+\frac{1}{2}}$ , then get  $U_{t+1}, D_{t+\frac{1}{2}}$
- ④  $X_{t+1} = D_{t+\frac{1}{2}} U_{t+1}^\top$
- ⑤  $\tilde{R}_{t+1} = \mathcal{P}_\Omega(R) - \mathcal{P}_\Omega(X_{t+1}^\top Y_t) + X_{t+1}^\top Y_t$
- ⑥  $Y_{t+\frac{1}{2}} = \left( X_{t+1} X_{t+1}^\top + \lambda I \right)^{-1} X_{t+1} \tilde{R}_{t+1}$
- ⑦ Find the SVD of  $D_{t+\frac{1}{2}} Y_{t+\frac{1}{2}}$ , then get  $V_{t+1}, D_{t+1}$
- ⑧  $Y_{t+1} = D_{t+1} V_{t+1}^\top$

# Soft Impute ALS

Let  $S = \mathcal{P}_\Omega(R) - \mathcal{P}_\Omega(X_t^\top Y_t)$ . We have  $\tilde{R} = S + X_t^\top Y_t$ .

We use  $X_t = D_t U_t^\top$  and  $Y_t = D_t V_t^\top$  to plug in equation 2. Then

$$X_{t+\frac{1}{2}} = (D_t^2 + \lambda I)^{-1} D_t V_t^\top S^\top + (D_t^2 + \lambda I)^{-1} D_t^2 X_t.$$

Similarly, we also have

$$Y_{t+\frac{1}{2}} = \left(D_{t+\frac{1}{2}}^2 + \lambda I\right)^{-1} D_{t+\frac{1}{2}} U_{t+1}^\top S + \left(D_{t+\frac{1}{2}}^2 + \lambda I\right)^{-1} D_{t+\frac{1}{2}}^2 Y_t.$$

# Solving SIALS by SVD

## Algorithm (SIALS)

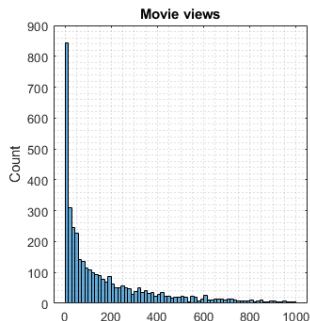
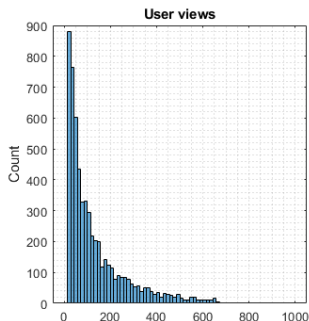
- ① Initial:  $R \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  $U \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times k}$  with orthonormal columns,  $D = I_{k \times k}$ ,  $V = O_{n \times k}$ ,  $X = DU^\top$  and  $Y = DV^\top$ .
- ②  $S \leftarrow \mathcal{P}_\Omega(R) - \mathcal{P}_\Omega(X^\top Y)$
- ③  $\tilde{X} \leftarrow (D^2 + \lambda I)^{-1} DV^\top S^\top + (D^2 + \lambda I)^{-1} D^2 X$
- ④  $U, \tilde{D} \leftarrow \text{SVD}(D\tilde{X})$ ,  $X \leftarrow \tilde{D}U^\top$
- ⑤  $S \leftarrow \mathcal{P}_\Omega(R) - \mathcal{P}_\Omega(X^\top Y)$
- ⑥  $\tilde{Y} \leftarrow (D^2 + \lambda I)^{-1} DU^\top S + (D^2 + \lambda I)^{-1} D^2 Y$
- ⑦  $D, V \leftarrow \text{SVD}(\tilde{D}\tilde{Y})$ ,  $Y \leftarrow \tilde{D}V^\top$
- ⑧ Repeat 2-7 until convergence.
- ⑨ Output:  $U, V, D$

# Outline

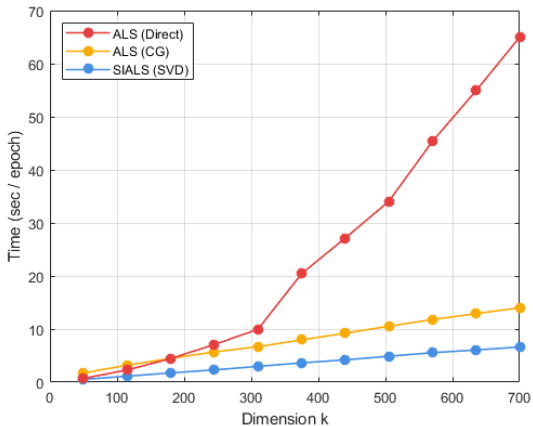
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# Information of Dataset: ml-1m

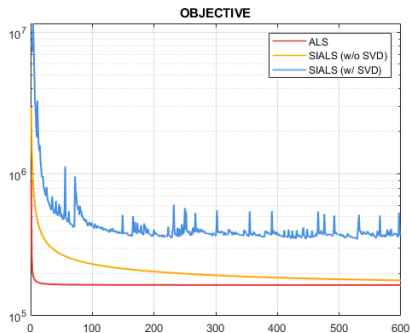
- number of data: 900,188
- number of user: 6,040
- number of movie: 3,952
- sparsity: 3.77%
- train-test split: 9 to 1



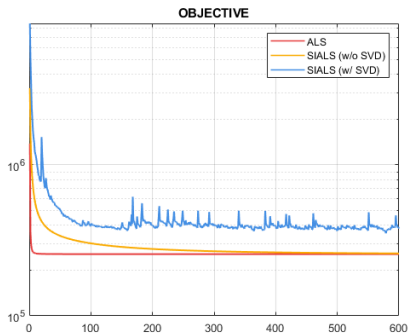
# Time Elapsed



# Objective



$\lambda = 5, d = 50$



$\lambda = 20, d = 50$



# Metrics

We use the following metrics to evaluate our methods:

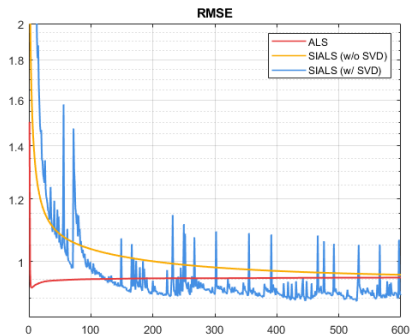
## ① Root Mean Square Error (RMSE):

$$\text{RMSE}_{\Omega}(X, Y) = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{(i,j) \in \Omega} |X_{i,j} - Y_{i,j}|^2}{|\Omega|}}$$

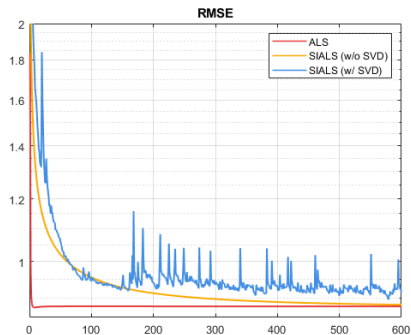
## ② Mean Absolute Error (MAE):

$$\text{MAE}_{\Omega}(X, Y) = \frac{\sum_{(i,j) \in \Omega} |X_{i,j} - Y_{i,j}|}{|\Omega|}$$

# Evaluation



$\lambda = 5, d = 50$



$\lambda = 20, d = 50$

# Evaluation

Metrics	RMSE		MAE	
Type	Training	Testing	Training	Testing
ALS	0.5542	0.9545	0.4363	0.7385
SIALS (w/o SVD)	0.5745	0.9624	0.4517	0.7441
SIALS (w/ SVD)	0.8928	<b>0.9099</b>	0.7017	0.7143

$\lambda = 5, d = 50$  with 600 epochs

Metrics	RMSE		MAE	
Type	Training	Testing	Training	Testing
ALS	0.7288	<b>0.8778</b>	0.5727	0.6889
SIALS (w/o SVD)	0.7330	0.8820	0.5749	0.6913
SIALS (w/ SVD)	0.8980	0.9147	0.7101	0.7229

$\lambda = 20, d = 50$  with 600 epochs

# ml-10m dataset

- number of data: 9,000,048
- number of user: 71,567
- number of movie: 65,133
- sparsity: 0.19%
- train-test split: 9 to 1

Metrics	RMSE		MAE	
Type	Training	Testing	Training	Testing
ALS	0.7287	<b>0.8453</b>	0.5453	0.6479
SIALS (w/ SVD)	0.9301	0.9454	0.7171	0.7286

$\lambda = 50, d = 100$  with 500 epochs

# Prediction of SIALS

We compute  $\hat{r}_{i,j} = x_i^\top y_j$ , and list the prediction as the following:

(user, movie)	prediction	rounding	rating
(308, 1707)	1.5211	2	2
(990, 89)	2.7883	3	3
(2247, 2291)	4.0016	4	3
(2454, 595)	3.8591	4	3
(2853, 3363)	3.7680	4	4
(3067, 703)	1.0212	2	1
(3317, 3793)	4.1885	4	4
(3727, 2259)	2.2826	2	2
(4796, 2761)	4.1454	4	4
(5451, 969)	4.4651	4	5

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In this project, we implement ALS, SIALS to do the matrix factorization. We use the direct method and CG to solve ALS and use SVD to solve SIALS and then apply it to the recommender system.

## Further Topics:

- Stochastic Gradient Descent (SGD)
- Nonnegative Matrix Factorization (NMF)

# Reference

- 1 Trevor Hastie, Rahul Mazumder, Jason D. Lee and Reza Zadeh, Matrix Completion and Low-Rank SVD via Fast Alternating Least Squares, *Journal of Machine Learning Research* 16 (2015), 3367-3402.
- 2 Yehuda Koren, Robert Bell and Chris Volinsky, Matrix Factorization Techniques for Recommender Systems, *IEEE Computer Society* 42 (2009), 30-37.



THE END

**Thanks for listening!**