Recommender Systems

Machine Learning (AIM 5002-41)

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Problem formulation

Example: Predicting movie ratings

User rates movies using zero to five stars

Movie	Alice (1)	Bob (2)	Carol (3)	Dave (4)
Love at last	5	5	0	0
Romance forever	5	?	?	0
Cute puppies of love	?	4	0	?
Nonstop car chases	0	0	5	4
Swords vs. karate	0	0	5	?

n_u = no. users

n_m = no. movies

$r(i,j)$ = 1 if user j has rated movie i

$y^{(i,j)}$ = rating given by user j to movie i (defined only if $r(i,j) = 1$)

0, …, 5

Content-based recommendations

Content-based recommender systems

	Movie	Alice (1) $\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(1)}$	Bob (2) $\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(2)}$	Carol (3) $\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(3)}$	Dave (4) $\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(4)}$
$\mathbf{x}^{(1)}$	Love at last	5	5	0	0
$\mathbf{x}^{(2)}$	Romance forever	5	?	?	0
$\mathbf{x}^{(3)}$	Cute puppies of love	?	4	0	?
$\mathbf{x}^{(4)}$	Nonstop car chases	0	0	5	4
$\mathbf{x}^{(5)}$	Swords vs. karate	0	0	5	?

For each user j, learn a parameter $\theta^{(j)} \in \mathbb{R}^3$. Predict user j as rating movie i with $(\theta^{(j)})^T x^{(i)}$ stars.

$$\mathbf{x}^{(3)} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0.99 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \leftrightarrow \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(1)} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 5 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \Rightarrow \left(\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(1)}\right)^T \mathbf{x}^{(3)} = 4.95$$

Problem formulation

$r(i,j) = 1$ if user j has rated movie i (0 otherwise)

$y^{(i,j)} =$ rating by user j on movie i (if defined)

$\theta^{(j)}$ = parameter vector for user j

$x^{(i)}$ = feature vector for movie i

For user j, movie i, predicted rating: $(\theta^{(j)})^T(x^{(i)})$

$m^{(j)}$ = no. of movies rated by user j

To learn $\theta^{(j)}$:

$$\min_{\theta^{(j)}} \frac{1}{2\cancel{m^{(j)}}} \sum_{i:r(i,j)=1} \left((\theta^{(j)})^T x^{(i)} - y^{(i,j)}\right)^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2\cancel{m^{(j)}}} \sum_{k=1}^{n} (\theta_k^{(j)})^2$$

Optimization objective:

To learn $\theta^{(j)}$ (parameter for user j):

$$\min_{\theta^{(j)}} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i:r(i,j)=1} \left((\theta^{(j)})^T x^{(i)} - y^{(i,j)} \right)^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} \sum_{k=1}^{n} (\theta_k^{(j)})^2$$

To learn $\theta^{(1)}, \theta^{(2)}, \ldots, \theta^{(n_u)}$:

$$\min_{\theta^{(1)},\ldots,\theta^{(n_u)}} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^{n_u} \sum_{i:r(i,j)=1} \left((\theta^{(j)})^T x^{(i)} - y^{(i,j)} \right)^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} \sum_{j=1}^{n_u} \sum_{k=1}^{n} (\theta_k^{(j)})^2$$

Optimization algorithm:

$$\min_{\theta^{(1)},\ldots,\theta^{(n_u)}} \underbrace{\frac{1}{2}\sum_{j=1}^{n_u}\sum_{i:r(i,j)=1}\left((\theta^{(j)})^T x^{(i)} - y^{(i,j)}\right)^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2}\sum_{j=1}^{n_u}\sum_{k=1}^{n}(\theta_k^{(j)})^2}_{J(\theta^{(1)},\ldots,\theta^{(n_u)})}$$

Gradient descent update:

$$\theta_k^{(j)} := \theta_k^{(j)} - \alpha \sum_{i:r(i,j)=1}((\theta^{(j)})^T x^{(i)} - y^{(i,j)})x_k^{(i)} \text{ (for } k = 0)$$

$$\theta_k^{(j)} := \theta_k^{(j)} - \alpha \underbrace{\left(\sum_{i:r(i,j)=1}((\theta^{(j)})^T x^{(i)} - y^{(i,j)})x_k^{(i)} + \lambda\theta_k^{(j)}\right)}_{\frac{\partial}{\partial\theta_k^{(j)}}J(\theta^{(1)},\ldots,\theta^{(n_u)})} \text{ (for } k \neq 0)$$

Andrew Ng

Collaborative filtering

Problem motivation

Movie	Alice (1)	Bob (2)	Carol (3)	Dave (4)	x_1 (romance)	x_2 (action)
Love at last	5	5	0	0	0.9	0
Romance forever	5	?	?	0	1.0	0.01
Cute puppies of love	?	4	0	?	0.99	0
Nonstop car chases	0	0	5	4	0.1	1.0
Swords vs. karate	0	0	5	?	0	0.9

Problem motivation

$x_0 = 1$

$\mathbf{x}^{(1)} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1.0 \\ 0.0 \end{bmatrix}$

	Movie	Alice (1) $\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(1)}$	Bob (2) $\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(2)}$	Carol (3) $\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(3)}$	Dave (4) $\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(4)}$	x_1 (romance)	x_2 (action)
$\mathbf{x}^{(1)}$	Love at last	5	5	0	0	? $\rightarrow 1.0$	? $\rightarrow 0.0$
$\mathbf{x}^{(2)}$	Romance forever	5	?	?	0	?	?
$\mathbf{x}^{(3)}$	Cute puppies of love	?	4	0	?	?	?
$\mathbf{x}^{(4)}$	Nonstop car chases	0	0	5	4	?	?
$\mathbf{x}^{(5)}$	Swords vs. karate	0	0	5	?	?	?

$$\theta^{(1)} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 5 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \theta^{(2)} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 5 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \theta^{(3)} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}, \theta^{(4)} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\left(\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(1)}\right)^T \mathbf{x}^{(1)} \approx 5$$
$$\left(\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(2)}\right)^T \mathbf{x}^{(1)} \approx 5$$
$$\left(\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(3)}\right)^T \mathbf{x}^{(1)} \approx 0$$
$$\left(\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(4)}\right)^T \mathbf{x}^{(1)} \approx 0$$

Optimization algorithm

Given $\theta^{(1)},\ldots,\theta^{(n_u)}$, to learn $x^{(i)}$:

$$\min_{x^{(i)}} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j:r(i,j)=1} ((\theta^{(j)})^T x^{(i)} - y^{(i,j)})^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} \sum_{k=1}^{n} (x_k^{(i)})^2$$

Given $\theta^{(1)},\ldots,\theta^{(n_u)}$, to learn $x^{(1)},\ldots,x^{(n_m)}$:

$$\min_{x^{(1)},\ldots,x^{(n_m)}} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n_m} \sum_{j:r(i,j)=1} ((\theta^{(j)})^T x^{(i)} - y^{(i,j)})^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n_m} \sum_{k=1}^{n} (x_k^{(i)})^2$$

Collaborative filtering

Given $x^{(1)}, \ldots, x^{(n_m)}$ (and movie ratings),
can estimate $\theta^{(1)}, \ldots, \theta^{(n_u)}$

Given $\theta^{(1)}, \ldots, \theta^{(n_u)}$,
can estimate $x^{(1)}, \ldots, x^{(n_m)}$

$$\boldsymbol{\theta} \rightarrow \mathbf{x} \rightarrow \boldsymbol{\theta} \rightarrow \mathbf{x} \rightarrow \boldsymbol{\theta} \rightarrow \mathbf{x} \rightarrow \cdots$$

Collaborative filtering algorithm

Collaborative filtering optimization objective

Given $x^{(1)},\ldots,x^{(n_m)}$, estimate $\theta^{(1)},\ldots,\theta^{(n_u)}$:

$$\min_{\theta^{(1)},\ldots,\theta^{(n_u)}} \frac{1}{2}\sum_{j=1}^{n_u}\sum_{i:r(i,j)=1}\left((\theta^{(j)})^T x^{(i)} - y^{(i,j)}\right)^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2}\sum_{j=1}^{n_u}\sum_{k=1}^{n}(\theta_k^{(j)})^2$$

Given $\theta^{(1)},\ldots,\theta^{(n_u)}$, estimate $x^{(1)},\ldots,x^{(n_m)}$:

$$\min_{x^{(1)},\ldots,x^{(n_m)}} \frac{1}{2}\sum_{i=1}^{n_m}\sum_{j:r(i,j)=1}\left((\theta^{(j)})^T x^{(i)} - y^{(i,j)}\right)^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2}\sum_{i=1}^{n_m}\sum_{k=1}^{n}(x_k^{(i)})^2$$

Minimizing $x^{(1)},\ldots,x^{(n_m)}$ and $\theta^{(1)},\ldots,\theta^{(n_u)}$ simultaneously:

$$J(x^{(1)},\ldots,x^{(n_m)},\theta^{(1)},\ldots,\theta^{(n_u)}) = \frac{1}{2}\sum_{(i,j):r(i,j)=1}\left((\theta^{(j)})^T x^{(i)} - y^{(i,j)}\right)^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2}\sum_{i=1}^{n_m}\sum_{k=1}^{n}(x_k^{(i)})^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2}\sum_{j=1}^{n_u}\sum_{k=1}^{n}(\theta_k^{(j)})^2$$

$$\min_{\substack{x^{(1)},\ldots,x^{(n_m)}\\ \theta^{(1)},\ldots,\theta^{(n_u)}}} J(x^{(1)},\ldots,x^{(n_m)},\theta^{(1)},\ldots,\theta^{(n_u)})$$

Collaborative filtering algorithm

1. Initialize $x^{(1)}, \ldots, x^{(n_m)}, \theta^{(1)}, \ldots, \theta^{(n_u)}$ to small random values.
2. Minimize $J(x^{(1)}, \ldots, x^{(n_m)}, \theta^{(1)}, \ldots, \theta^{(n_u)})$ using gradient descent (or an advanced optimization algorithm). E.g. for every $j = 1, \ldots, n_u, i = 1, \ldots, n_m$:

$$x_k^{(i)} := x_k^{(i)} - \alpha \left(\sum_{j:r(i,j)=1} ((\theta^{(j)})^T x^{(i)} - y^{(i,j)}) \theta_k^{(j)} + \lambda x_k^{(i)} \right)$$

$$\theta_k^{(j)} := \theta_k^{(j)} - \alpha \left(\sum_{i:r(i,j)=1} ((\theta^{(j)})^T x^{(i)} - y^{(i,j)}) x_k^{(i)} + \lambda \theta_k^{(j)} \right)$$

3. For a user with parameters θ and a movie with (learned) features x , predict a star rating of $\theta^T x$.

Vectorization:
Low rank matrix factorization

Collaborative filtering

Movie	Alice (1)	Bob (2)	Carol (3)	Dave (4)
Love at last	5	5	0	0
Romance forever	5	?	?	0
Cute puppies of love	?	4	0	?
Nonstop car chases	0	0	5	4
Swords vs. karate	0	0	5	?

$$Y = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 5 & 0 & 0 \\ 5 & ? & ? & 0 \\ ? & 4 & 0 & ? \\ 0 & 0 & 5 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$y^{(i,j)}$

Collaborative filtering

$X\Theta^T$

Predicted ratings:

$$Y = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 5 & 0 & 0 \\ 5 & ? & ? & 0 \\ ? & 4 & 0 & ? \\ 0 & 0 & 5 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} (\theta^{(1)})^T(x^{(1)}) & (\theta^{(2)})^T(x^{(1)}) & \dots & (\theta^{(n_u)})^T(x^{(1)}) \\ (\theta^{(1)})^T(x^{(2)}) & (\theta^{(2)})^T(x^{(2)}) & \dots & (\theta^{(n_u)})^T(x^{(2)}) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ (\theta^{(1)})^T(x^{(n_m)}) & (\theta^{(2)})^T(x^{(n_m)}) & \dots & (\theta^{(n_u)})^T(x^{(n_m)}) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} - & (x^{(1)})^T & - \\ & \vdots & \\ - & (x^{(n_m)})^T & - \end{bmatrix} \qquad \Theta = \begin{bmatrix} - & (\theta^{(1)})^T & - \\ & \vdots & \\ - & (\theta^{(n_u)})^T & - \end{bmatrix}$$

→Low rank matrix factorization

Finding related movies

For each product i, we learn a feature vector $x^{(i)} \in \mathbb{R}^n$.

→ x_1 = romance, x_2 = action, x_3 = comedy, x_4 = …

How to find movies j related to movie i?

Small $\|x^{(i)} - x^{(j)}\|$ → movies j and i are "similar"

5 most similar movies to movie i:
Find the 5 movies j with the smallest $\|x^{(i)} - x^{(j)}\|$.

Implementational detail:
Mean normalization

Users who have not rated any movies

Movie	Alice (1)	Bob (2)	Carol (3)	Dave (4)	Eve (5)
Love at last	5	5	0	0	?
Romance forever	5	?	?	0	?
Cute puppies of love	?	4	0	?	?
Nonstop car chases	0	0	5	4	?
Swords vs. karate	0	0	5	?	?

$$Y = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 5 & 0 & 0 & ? \\ 5 & ? & ? & 0 & ? \\ ? & 4 & 0 & ? & ? \\ 0 & 0 & 5 & 4 & ? \\ 0 & 0 & 5 & 0 & ? \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\min_{\substack{x^{(1)},\ldots,x^{(n_m)} \\ \theta^{(1)},\ldots,\theta^{(n_u)}}} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{(i,j):r(i,j)=1} ((\theta^{(j)})^T x^{(i)} - y^{(i,j)})^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n_m} \sum_{k=1}^{n} (x_k^{(i)})^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} \sum_{j=1}^{n_u} \sum_{k=1}^{n} (\theta_k^{(j)})^2$$

Mean Normalization:

$$Y = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 5 & 0 & 0 & ? \\ 5 & ? & ? & 0 & ? \\ ? & 4 & 0 & ? & ? \\ 0 & 0 & 5 & 4 & ? \\ 0 & 0 & 5 & 0 & ? \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mu = \begin{bmatrix} 2.5 \\ 2.5 \\ 2 \\ 2.25 \\ 1.25 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow Y = \begin{bmatrix} 2.5 & 2.5 & -2.5 & -2.5 & ? \\ 2.5 & ? & ? & -2.5 & ? \\ ? & 2 & -2 & ? & ? \\ -2.25 & -2.25 & 2.75 & 1.75 & ? \\ -1.25 & -1.25 & 3.75 & -1.25 & ? \end{bmatrix}$$

Learn $\theta^{(j)}, x^{(i)}$

For user j, on movie i predict:

$$\rightarrow (\theta^{(j)})^T (x^{(i)}) + \mu_i$$

User 5 (Eve):

$$\theta^{(5)} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\underbrace{(\theta^{(5)})^T (x^{(i)})}_{= 0} + \mu_i$$