

2) Write about strengths and weaknesses of neighbourhood methods.

Ans: ① User-based collaborative filtering

This approach finds users with similar behaviour and recommends items based on their preferences.

• Strengths :

① Highly Personalized :

Since recommendations are based on user similarity, they are tailored to individual tastes.

② Great for dynamic preferences :

Works well when user behaviour frequently changes.

③ Easier to understand and interpret :-

If a person enjoys the same TV show as you, their preferences can guide you new recommendations.

• Weakness :

① Scalability issues :

As the number of users increases, computing similarities among them becomes expensive.

② Cold-start problem (users) :-

A new user with no interaction history won't get good recommendations.

## Frequent Recalculation needed

Since user preferences change over time, similarity calculations must be updated regularly.

## (ii) Item-based collaborative filtering

This method finds similar items based on how users have interacted with them.

### • Strengths

#### (1) More scalable

Item similarities are relatively stable, so recommendation can be precomputed and stored.

#### (2) Handles sparse data better

Even if user interact with few items, strong item relationships can still generate useful recommendations.

#### (3) Cold start is less of an issue (for users)

Even new users can receive recommendations based on items they view or interact with.

### • Weakness:-

#### (1) Cold start problem (for item)

A brand new item with no interactions won't be recommended effectively.

## ② Less personalized

Since recommendations are based on item similarity based rather than user specific preferences, they might not feel highly tailored.

## ③ Fail with unique preferences

Users with niche preferences may not get useful recommendations.