

# Recommender System Design

LLM 2024, Course at UW, Seattle

Dr. Karthik Mohan 1/30/2024

# Design Considerations

**Relevance**

**Cold-Start**

**Freshness**

**Diversity**

**Latency**

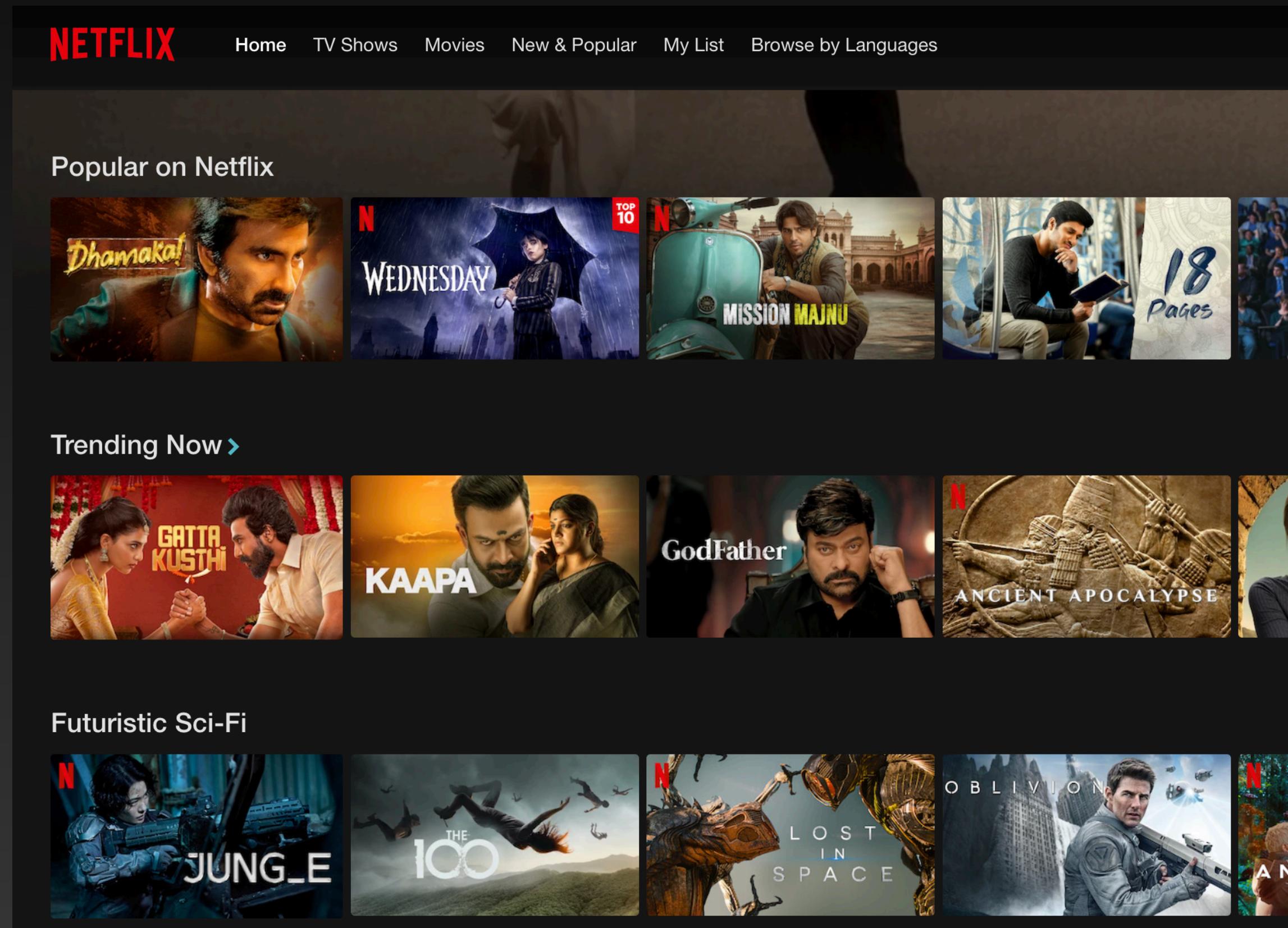
**Fairness**

**Scalability**

# Design Considerations | Relevance

# Design Considerations | Relevance

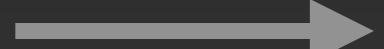
I LIKE SCI-FI Movies



# Design Considerations | Relevance

I LIKE SCI-FI Movies

I SEE  
SCI-FI RECS



NETFLIX

Home TV Shows Movies New & Popular My List Browse by Languages

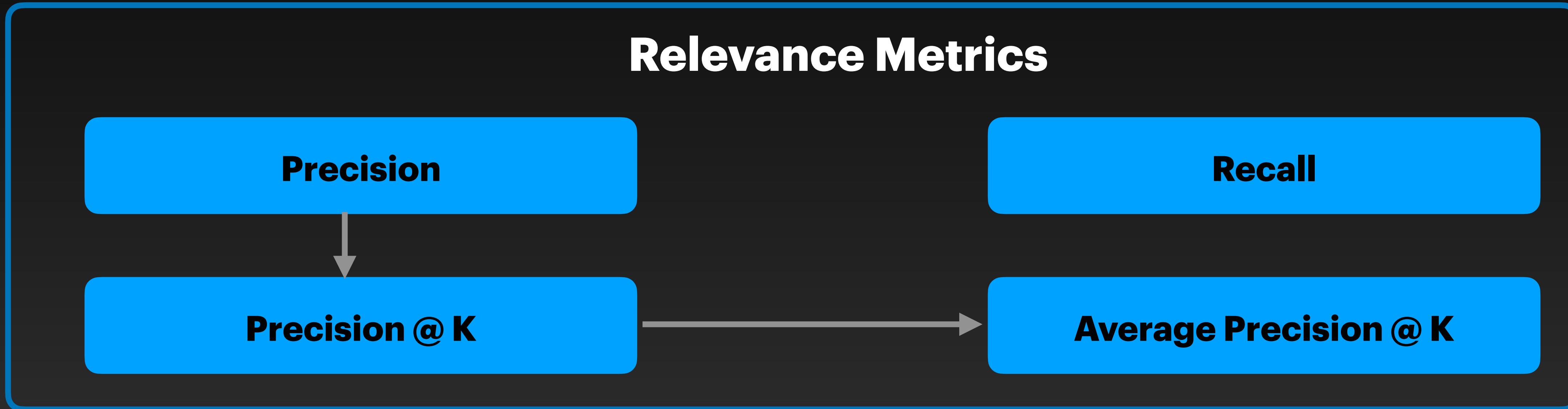
Popular on Netflix

Trending Now >

Futuristic Sci-Fi

The Netflix interface shows a dark-themed homepage with various sections: 'Popular on Netflix', 'Trending Now', and 'Futuristic Sci-Fi'. Each section contains a grid of movie and TV show thumbnails. The 'Popular on Netflix' section includes titles like 'Dhamaka!', 'Wednesday', 'Mission Majnu', and '18 Pages'. The 'Trending Now' section includes 'Gatta Kusthi', 'KAAPA', 'GodFather', and 'Ancient Apocalypse'. The 'Futuristic Sci-Fi' section includes 'JUNG\_E', 'The 100', 'Lost in Space', and 'Oblivion'. The top navigation bar includes links for Home, TV Shows, Movies, New & Popular, My List, and Browse by Languages.

# Design Considerations | Relevance



# Modeling Metrics

## Relevance

Purchases

1



2



3



4



5



# Modeling Metrics

## Relevance

Purchases

1



2



3



4



5



Recommendations

# Modeling Metrics

## Relevance

Purchases

1



2



3



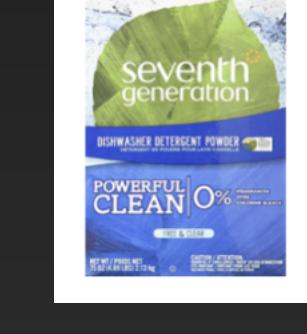
4



5



Recommendations



1

2

3

4

5

6

# Modeling Metrics

## Relevance

Purchases

1



2



3



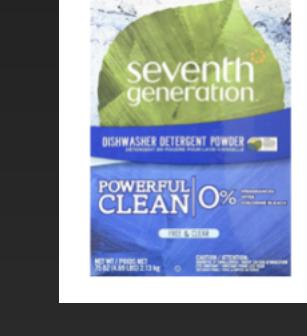
4



5



Recommendations



Precision

1

2

3

4

5

6

# Modeling Metrics

## Relevance

Purchases

1



2



3



4



5



Recommendations



Precision

1

2

3

4

5

6

# Modeling Metrics

## Relevance

Purchases

1



2



3



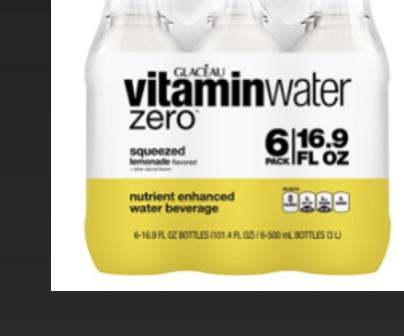
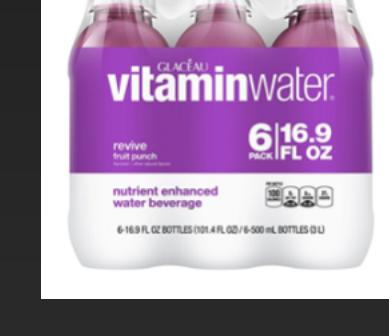
4



5



Recommendations



Precision

$4/6 = 0.67$

# Modeling Metrics

## Relevance

Purchases

1



2



3



4



5



Recommendations



Recall

# Modeling Metrics

## Relevance

Purchases

1



2



3



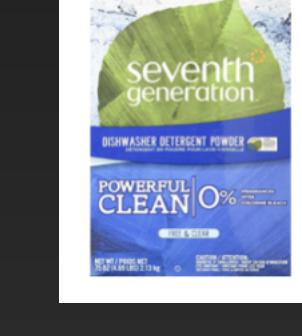
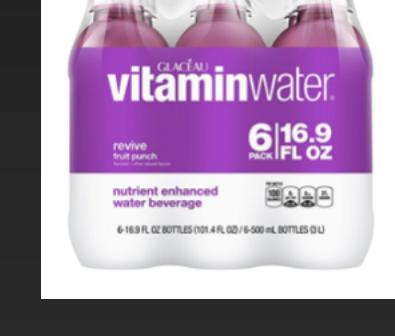
4



5



Recommendations



Recall

$4/5 = 0.8$

# Modeling Metrics

## Relevance

Purchases

1



2



3



4



5



Recommendations



Precision @ 4

# Modeling Metrics

## Relevance



# Modeling Metrics

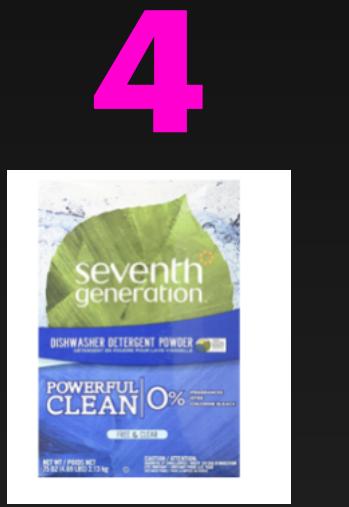
## Relevance



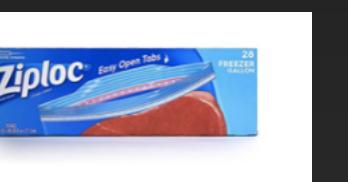
# Modeling Metrics

## Relevance

Purchases



Recommendations



Average  
Precision @ 4

1

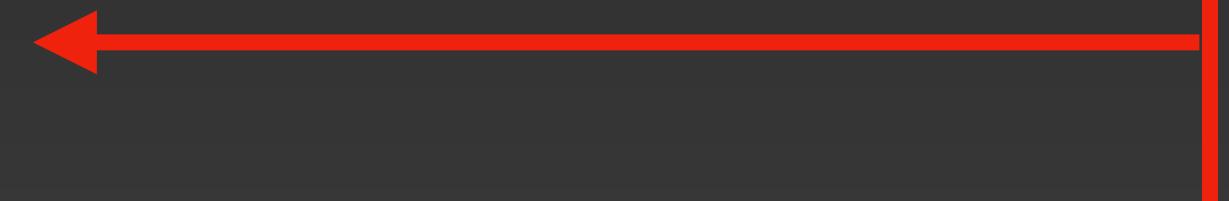
2

3

4

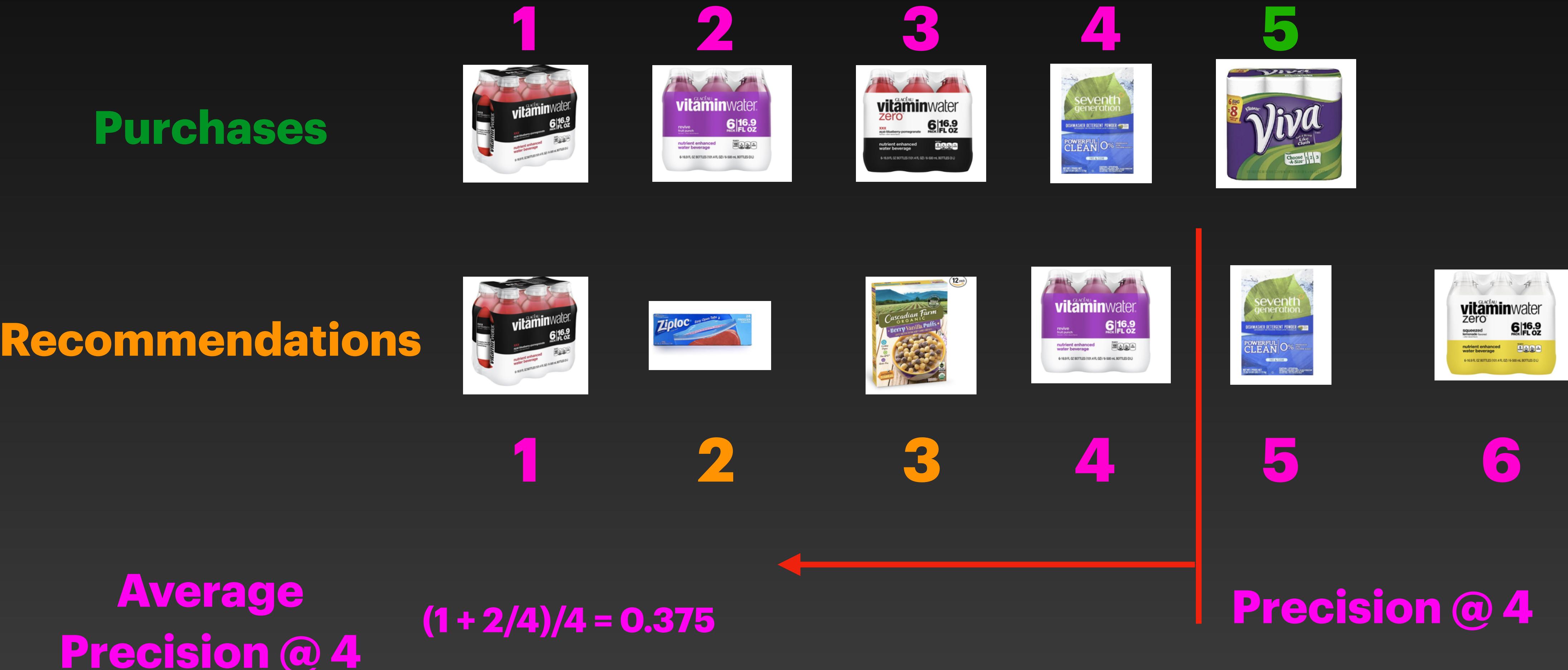
5

6



# Modeling Metrics

## Relevance



# Modeling Metrics

## Relevance



# ICE: Modeling Metrics

## Relevance

Purchases

1



2



3



4



5



Recommendations



Average  
Precision @ 4

1

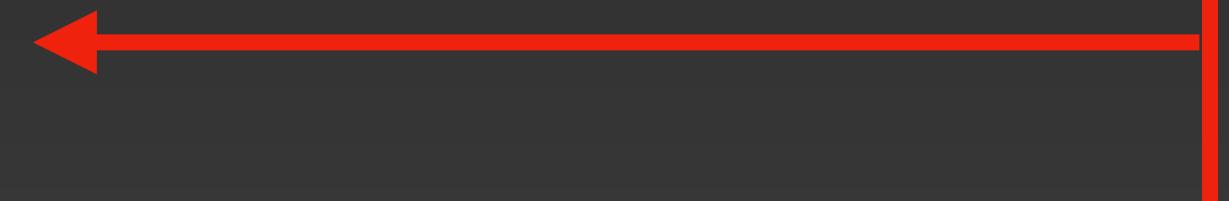
2

3

4

5

6



# Performance Metrics and Design

**Modeling Metrics**

**Design Considerations**

**Business Metrics**

# Design Considerations

**Relevance**

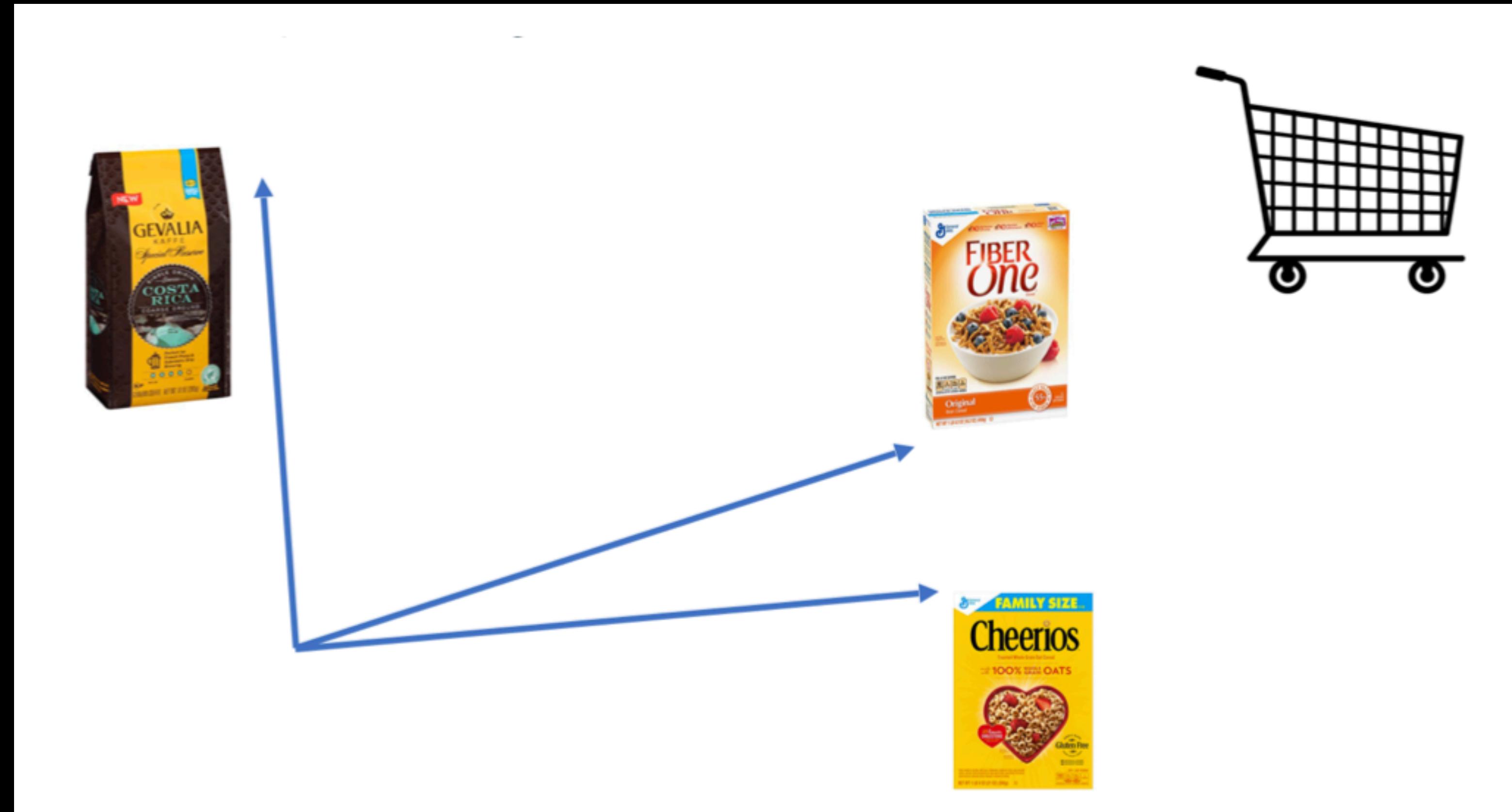
**Diversity**

**Freshness**

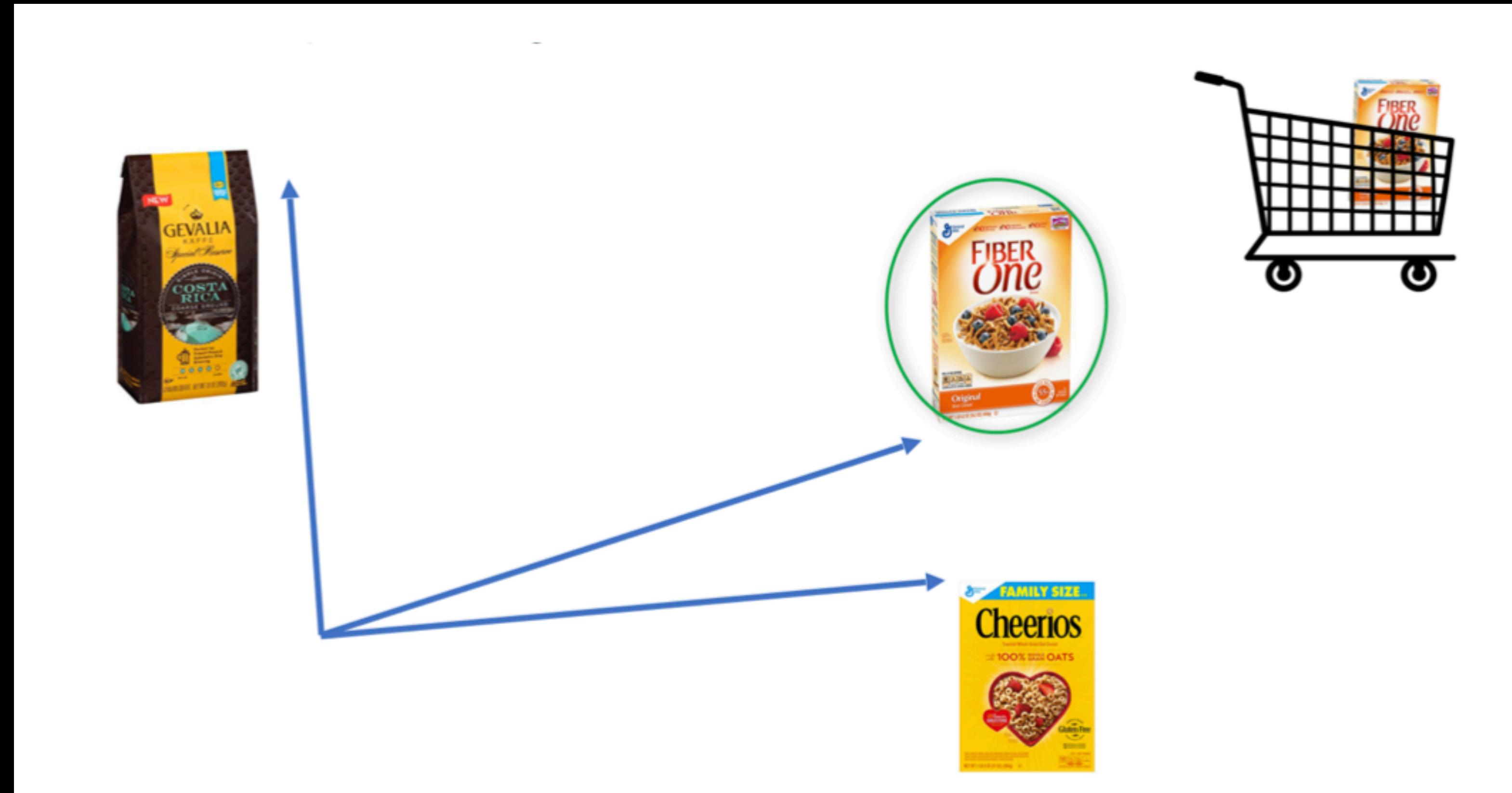
**Fairness**

**Latency**

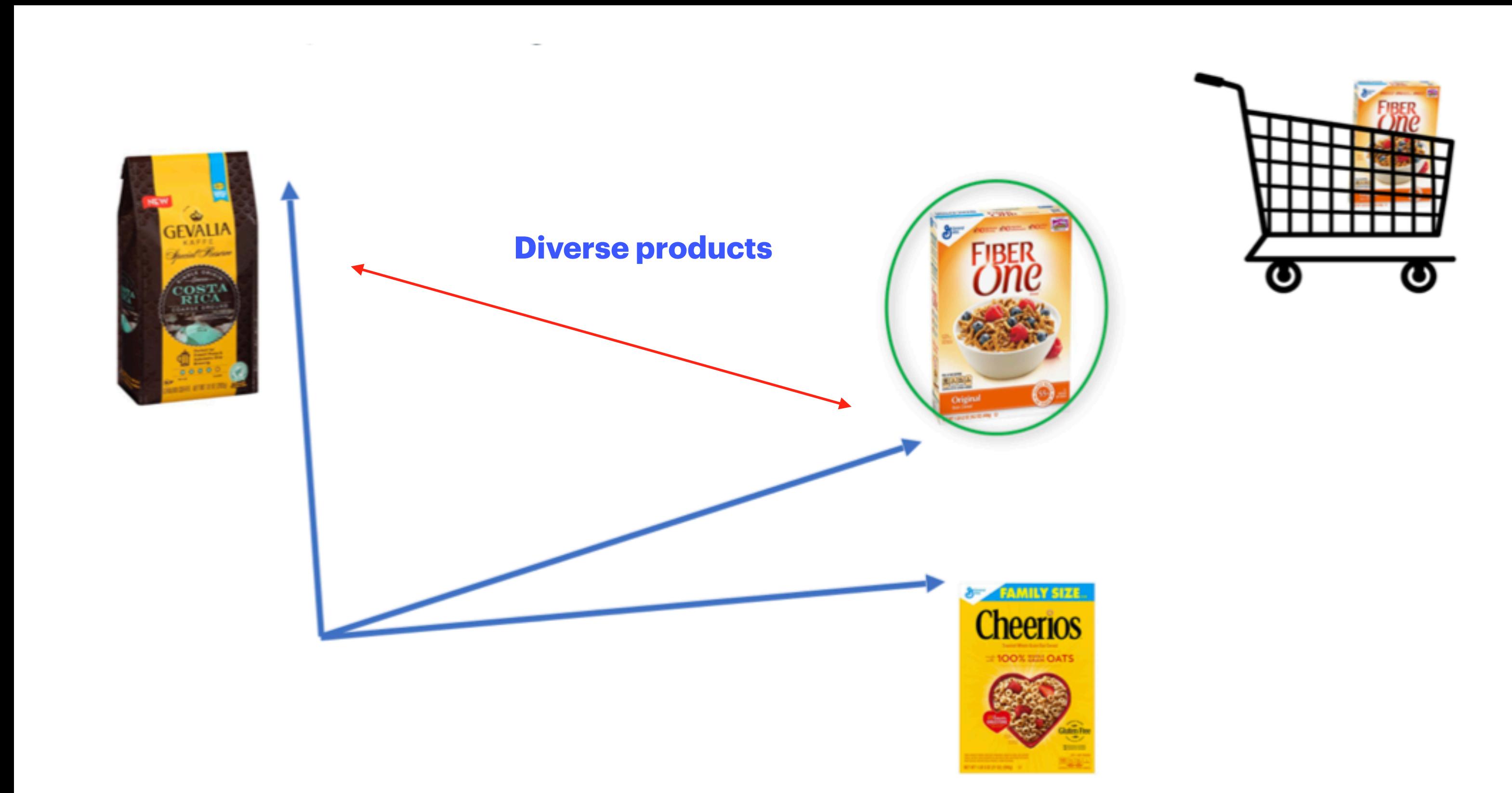
# Diversity In Online Shopping



# Diversity In Online Shopping



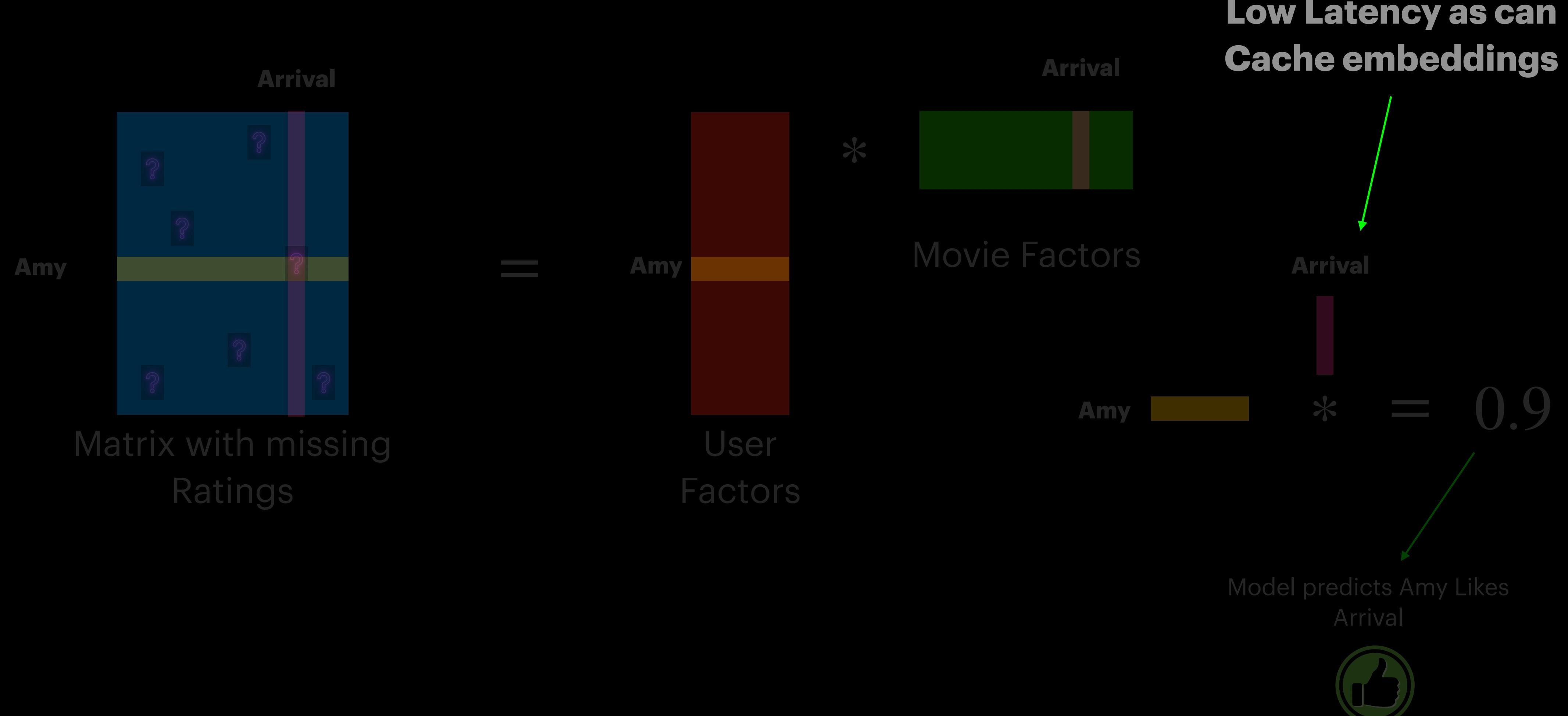
# Diversity In Online Shopping



# Design Considerations | Latency



# Design Considerations | Latency



# Design Considerations | Scalability

#Movies	Training	Prediction Time
100K	Easy	Low Latency
1M	Easy	Low Latency
10M	Complex	
1B	Complex	High Latency

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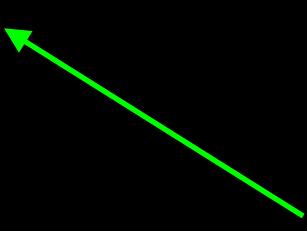
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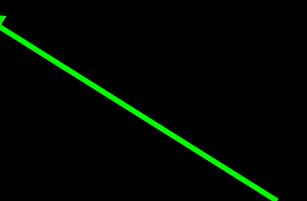
**Neural Networks don't scale due to memory and compute constraints**



# Design Considerations | Scalability

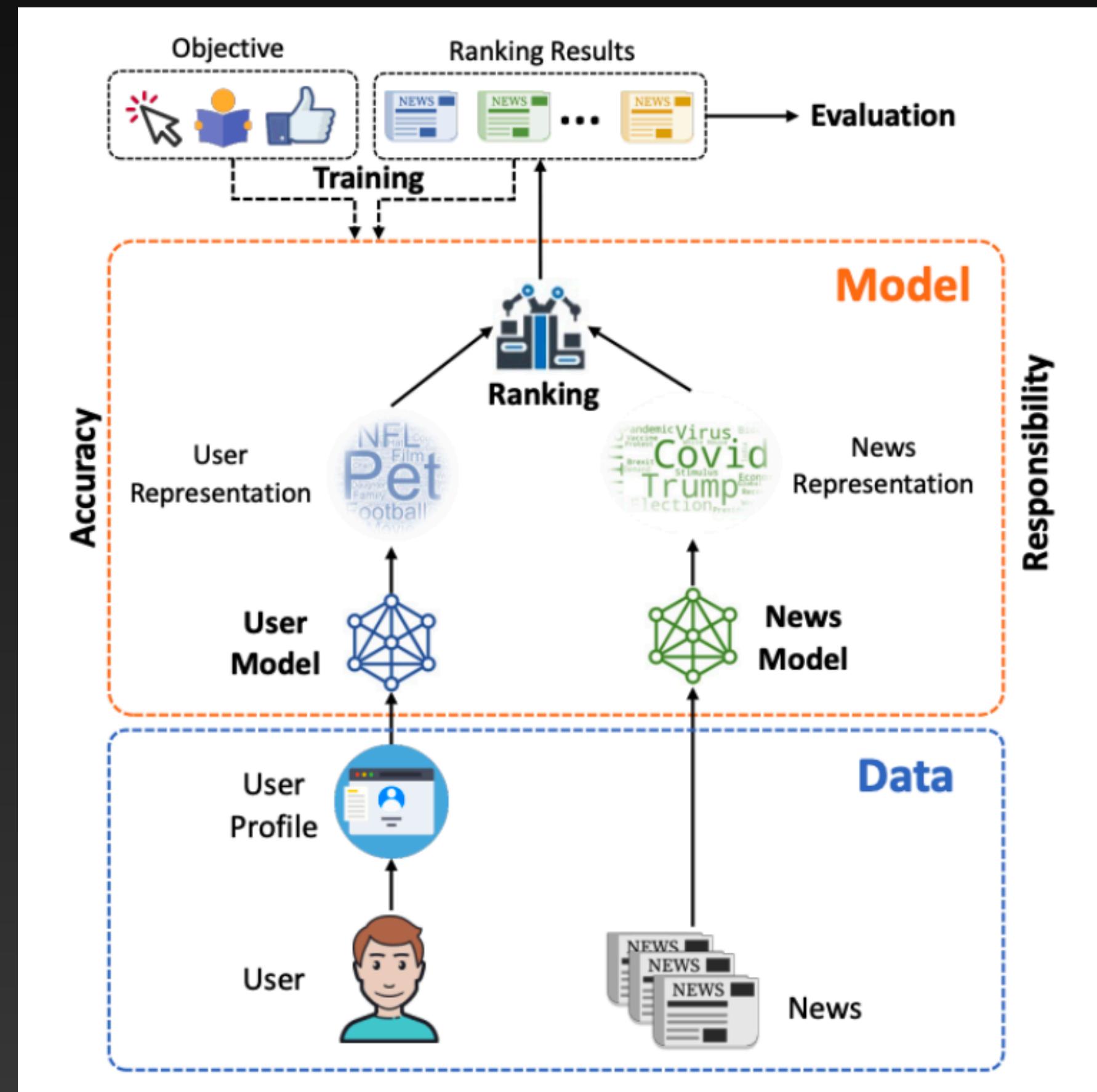
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**Need a multi-stage approach**



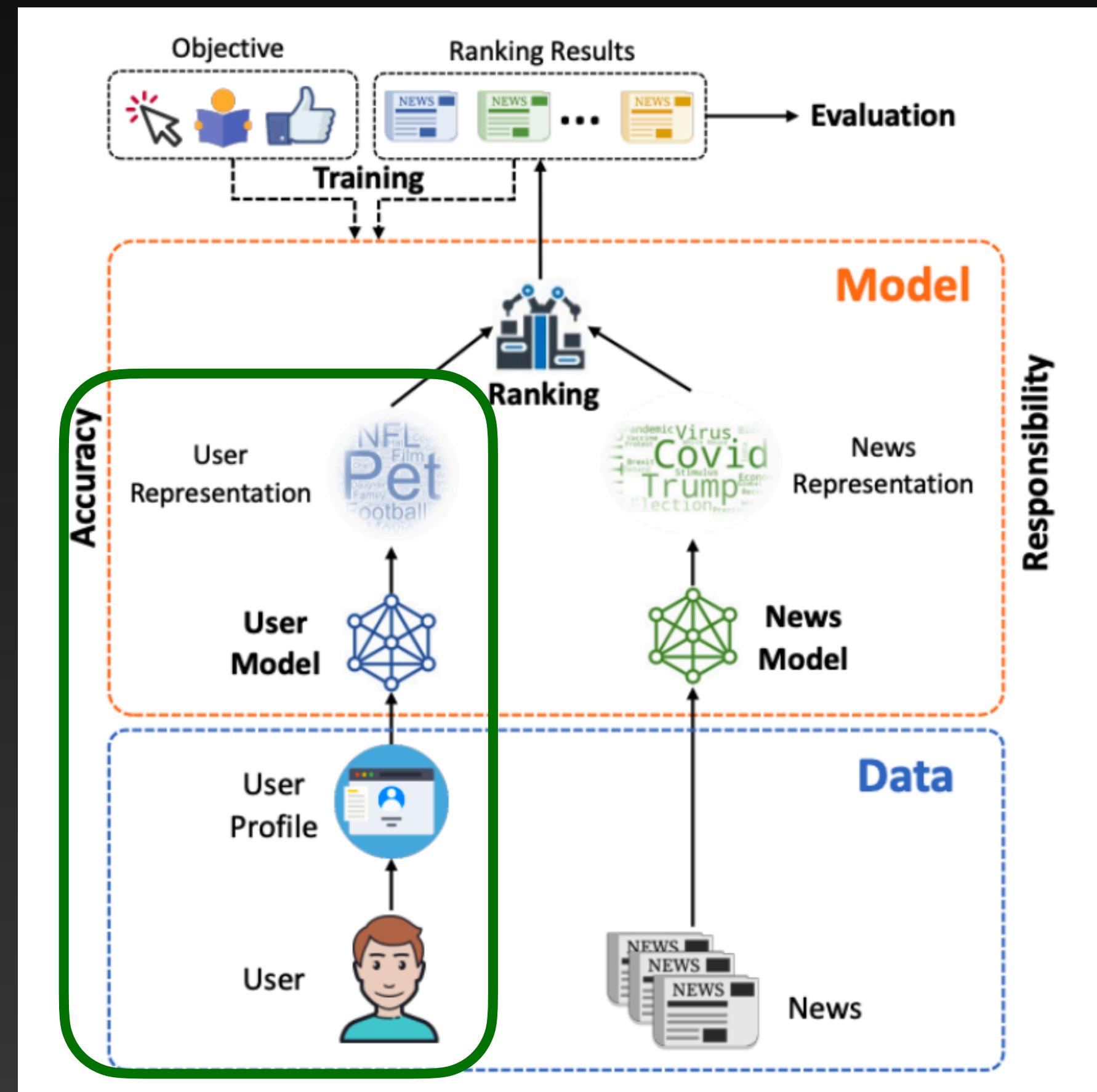
# Two Tower Architecture

## A popular RecSys Architecture



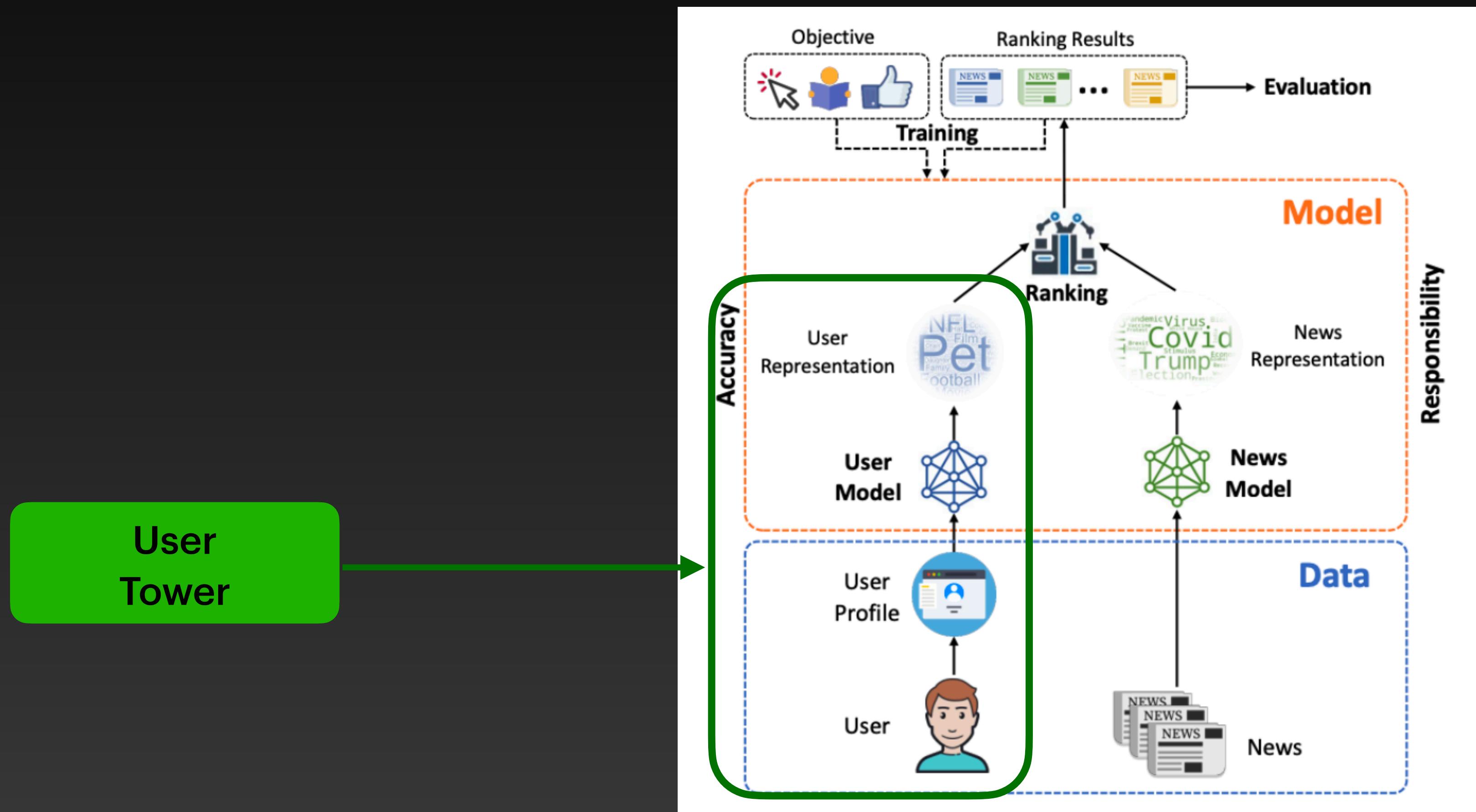
# Two Tower Architecture

## A popular RecSys Architecture



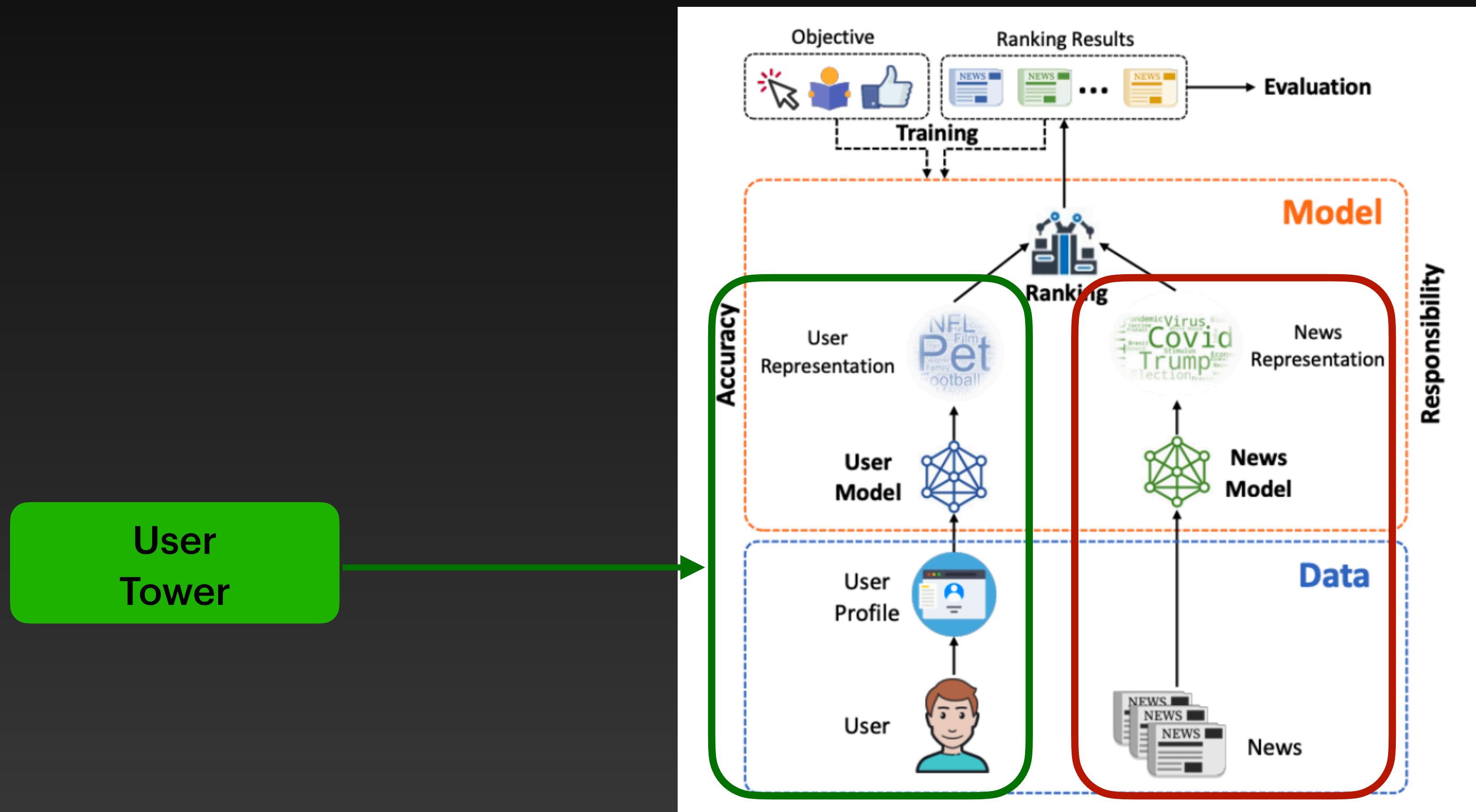
# Two Tower Architecture

## A popular RecSys Architecture



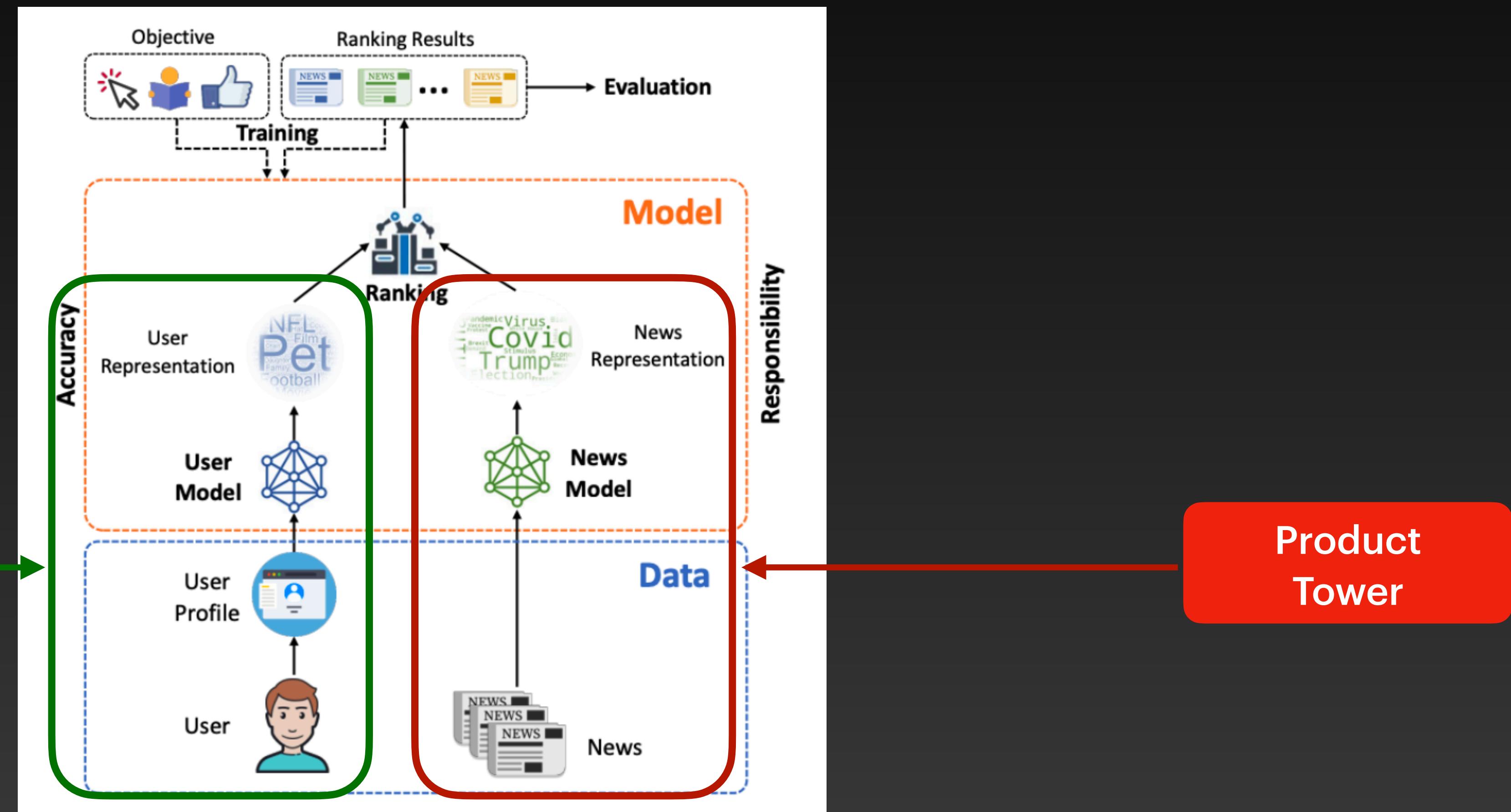
# Two Tower Architecture

## A popular RecSys Architecture



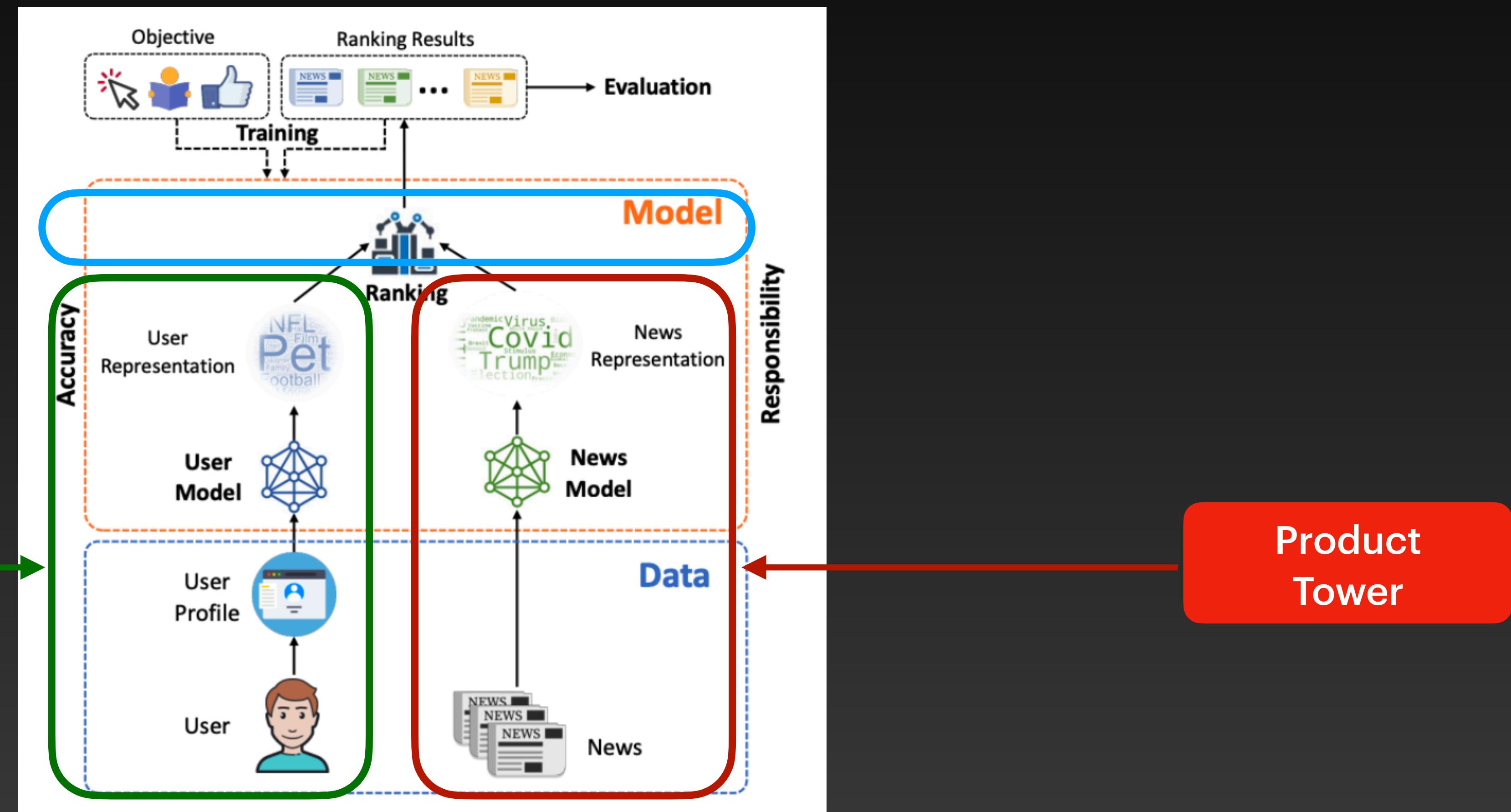
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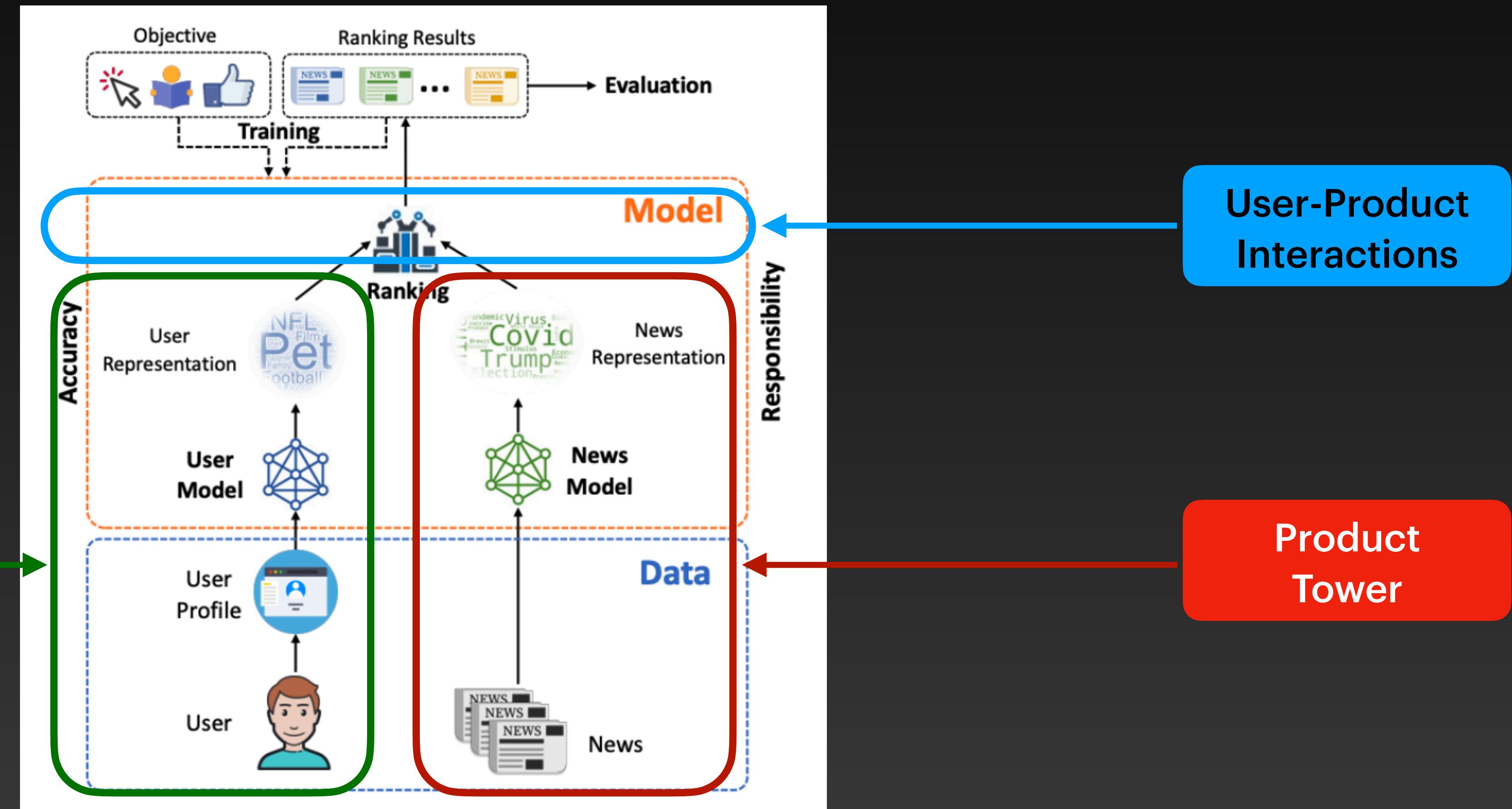
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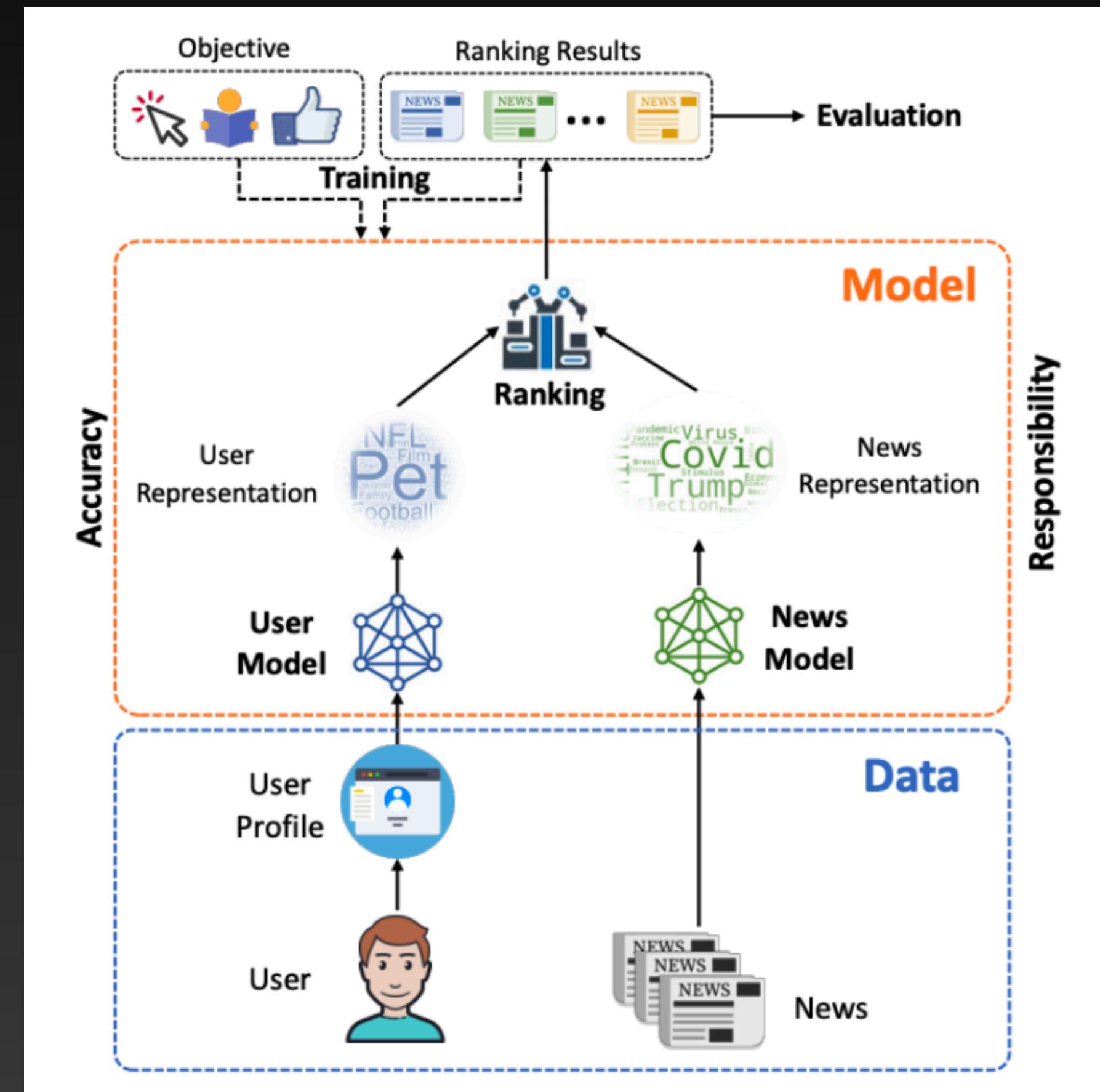
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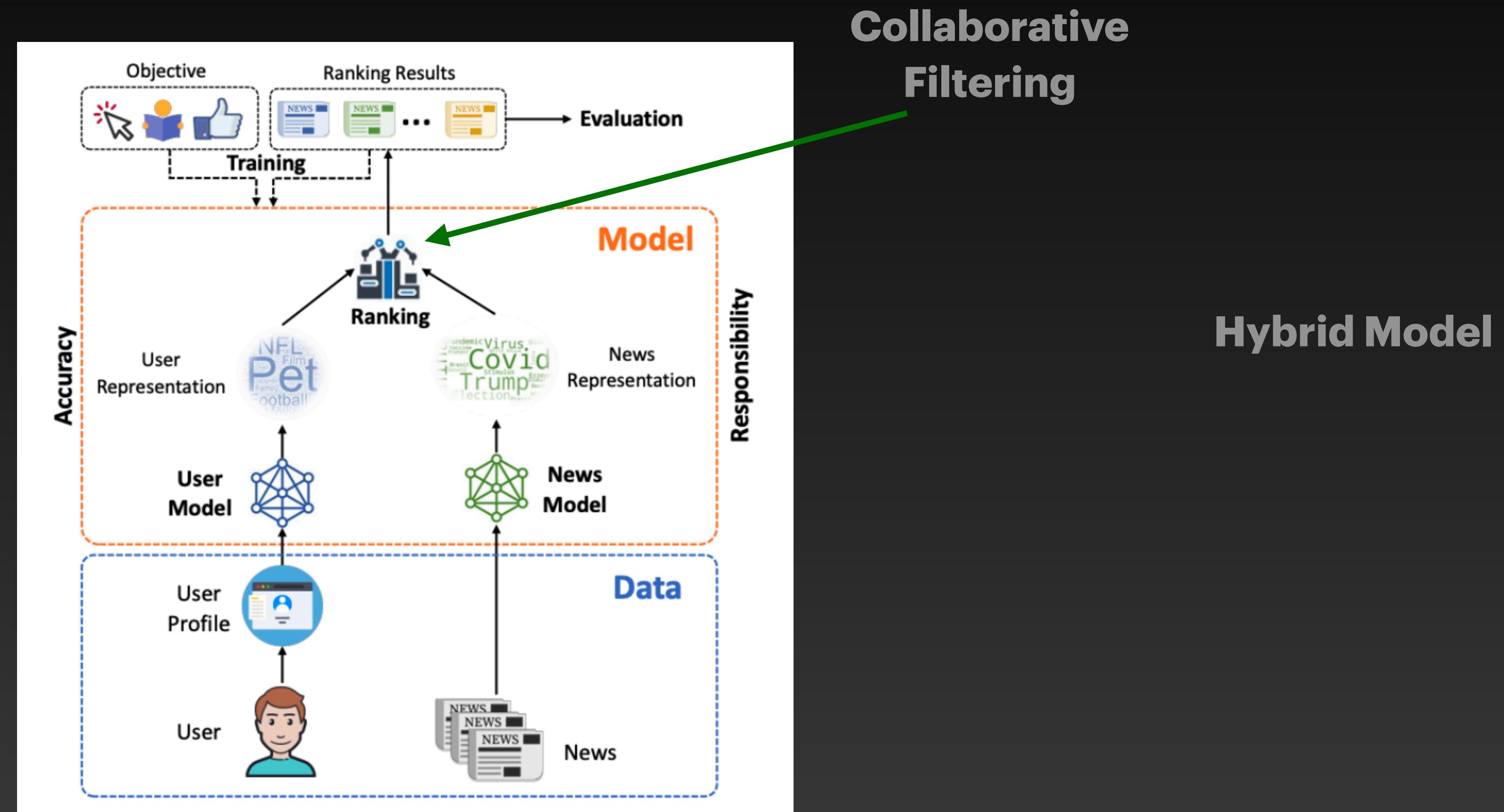
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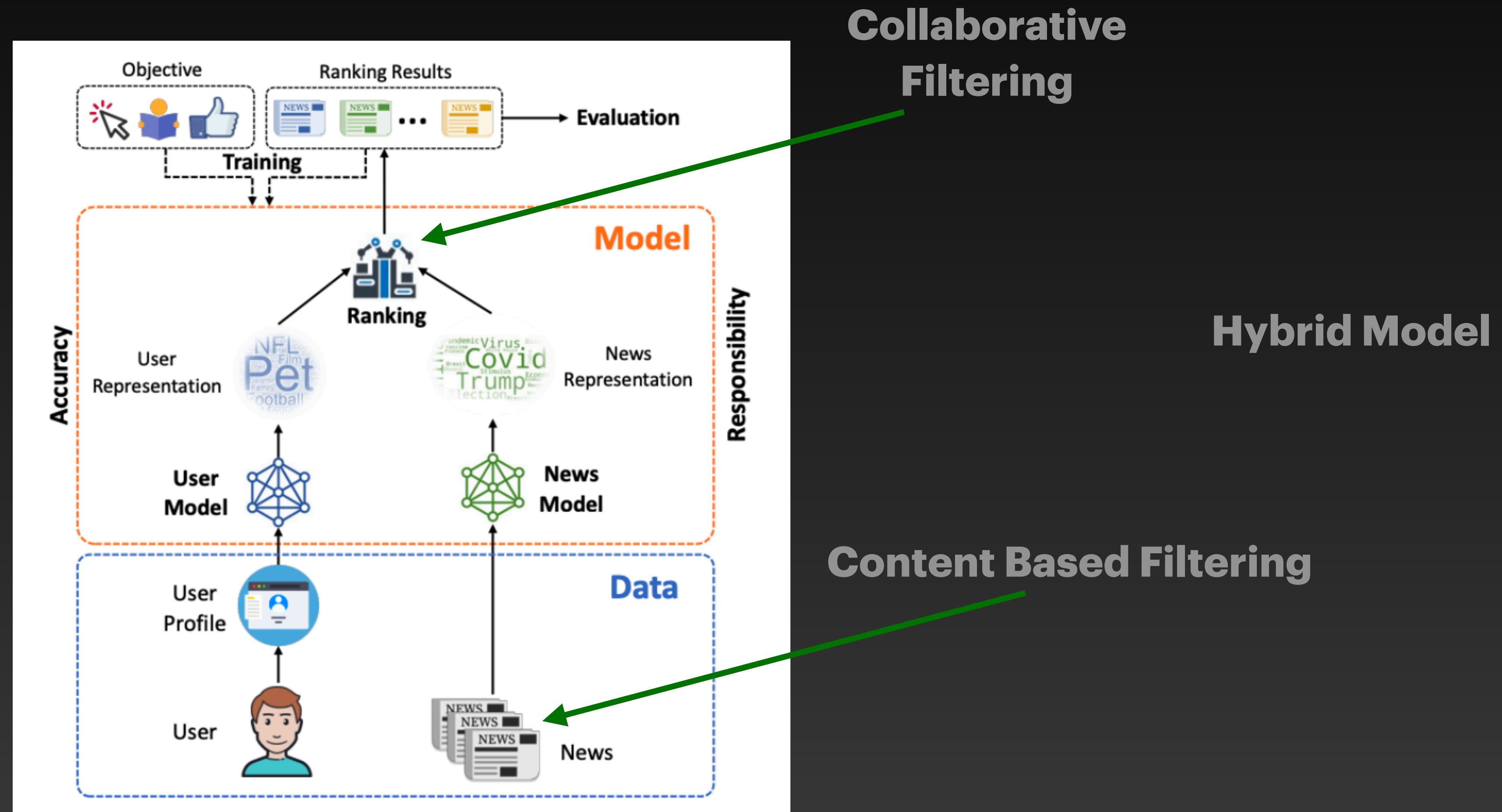
# Two Tower Architecture

## A popular RecSys Architecture



# Two Tower Architecture

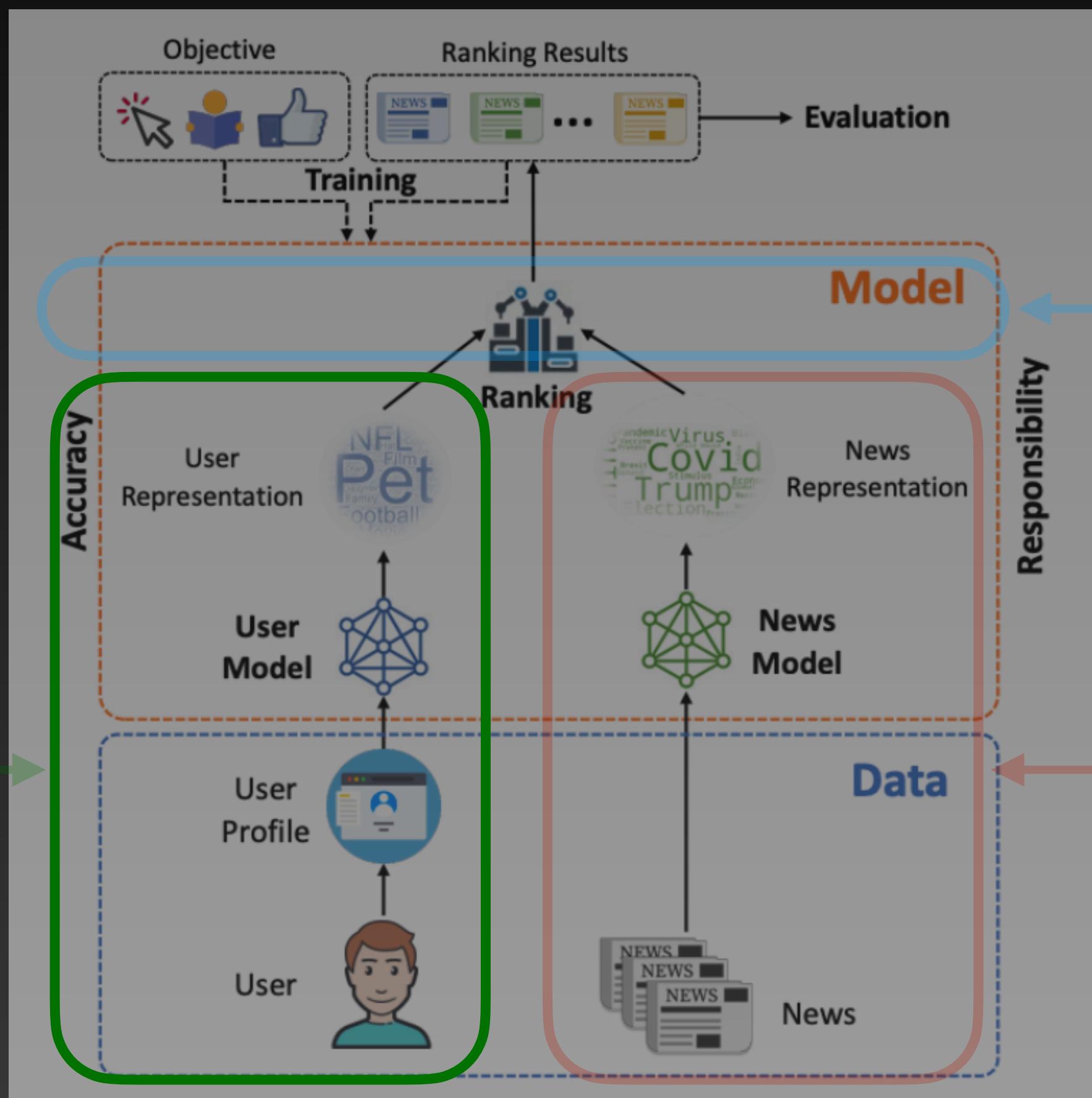
## A popular RecSys Architecture



# Two Tower Architecture

## A popular RecSys Architecture

Hybrid  
Relevance  
Diversity  
Cold-Start

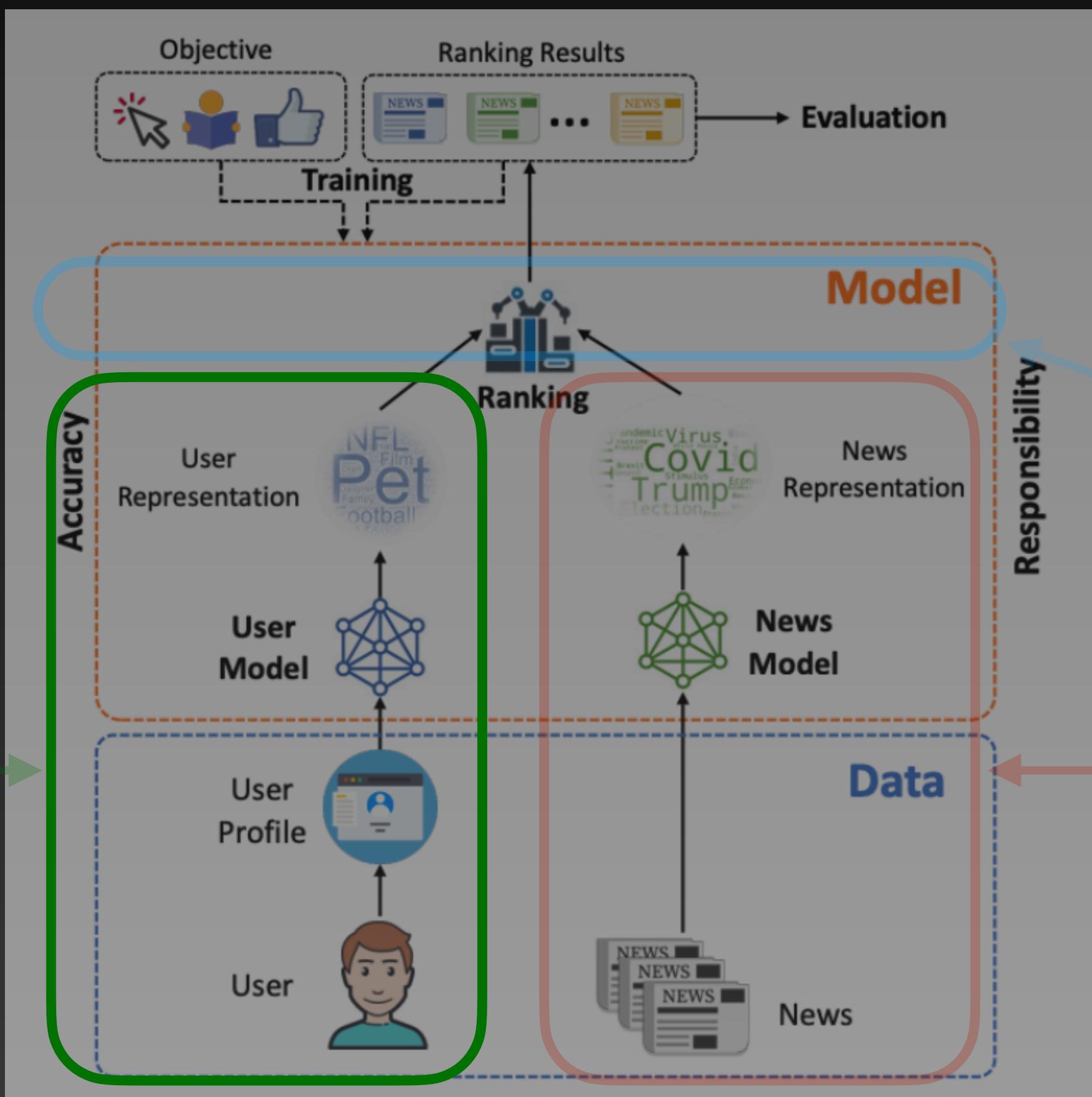


# Two Tower Architecture

## A popular RecSys Architecture

Hybrid  
Relevance  
Diversity  
Cold-Start

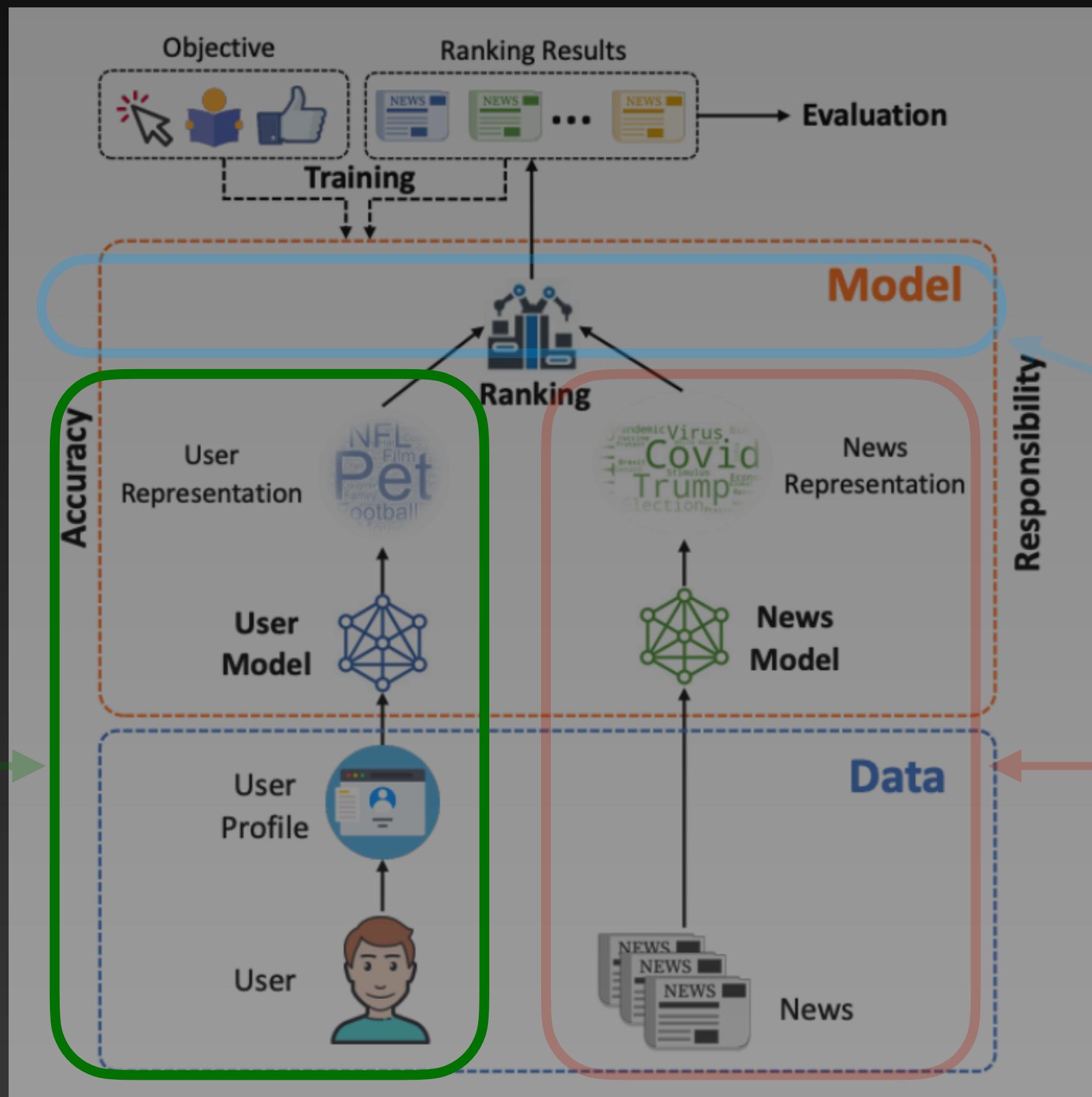
**Doesn't Scale even with  
Caching**



# Two Tower Architecture

## A popular RecSys Architecture

Need a  
multi-stage  
approach



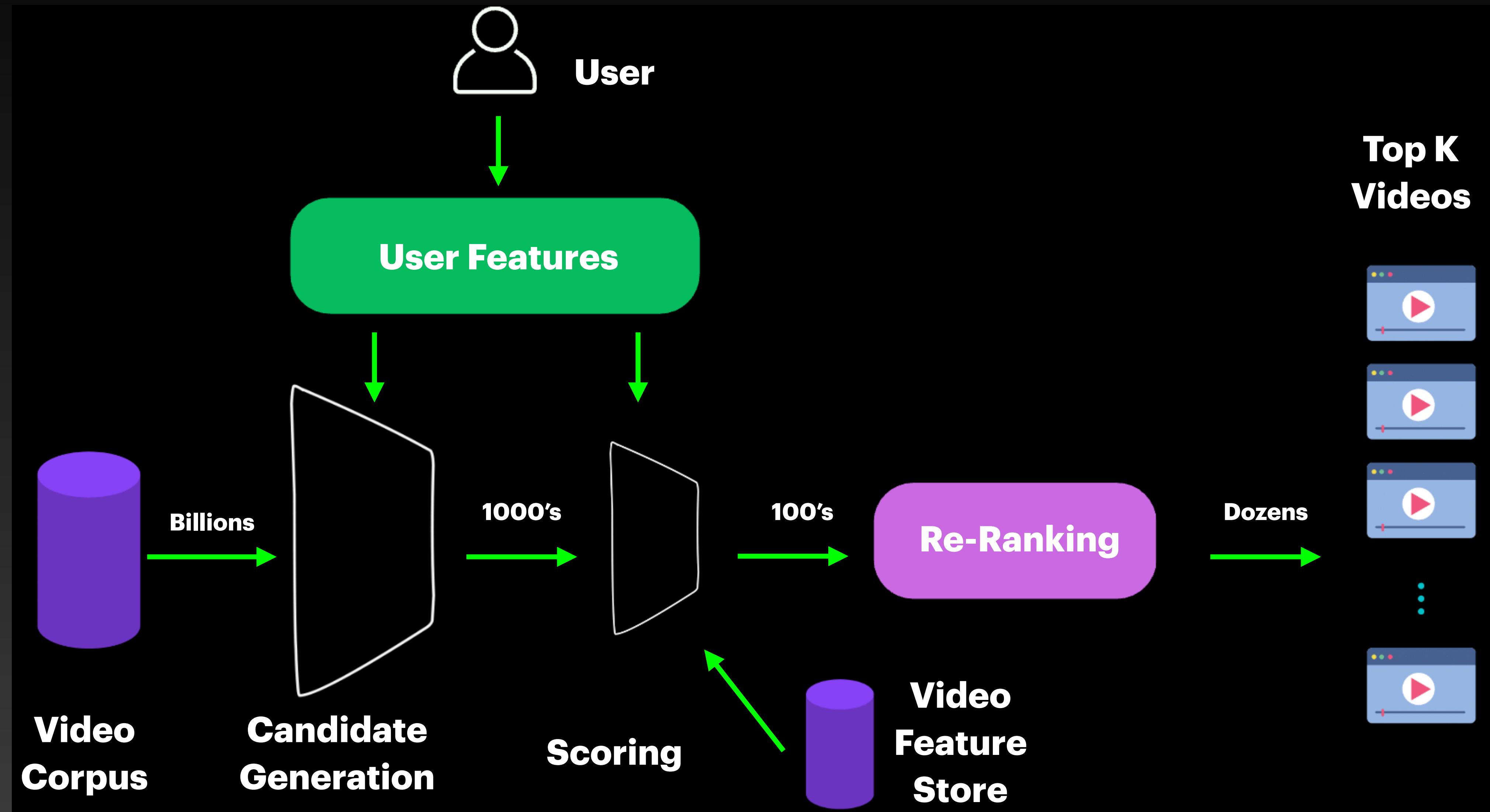
Hybrid  
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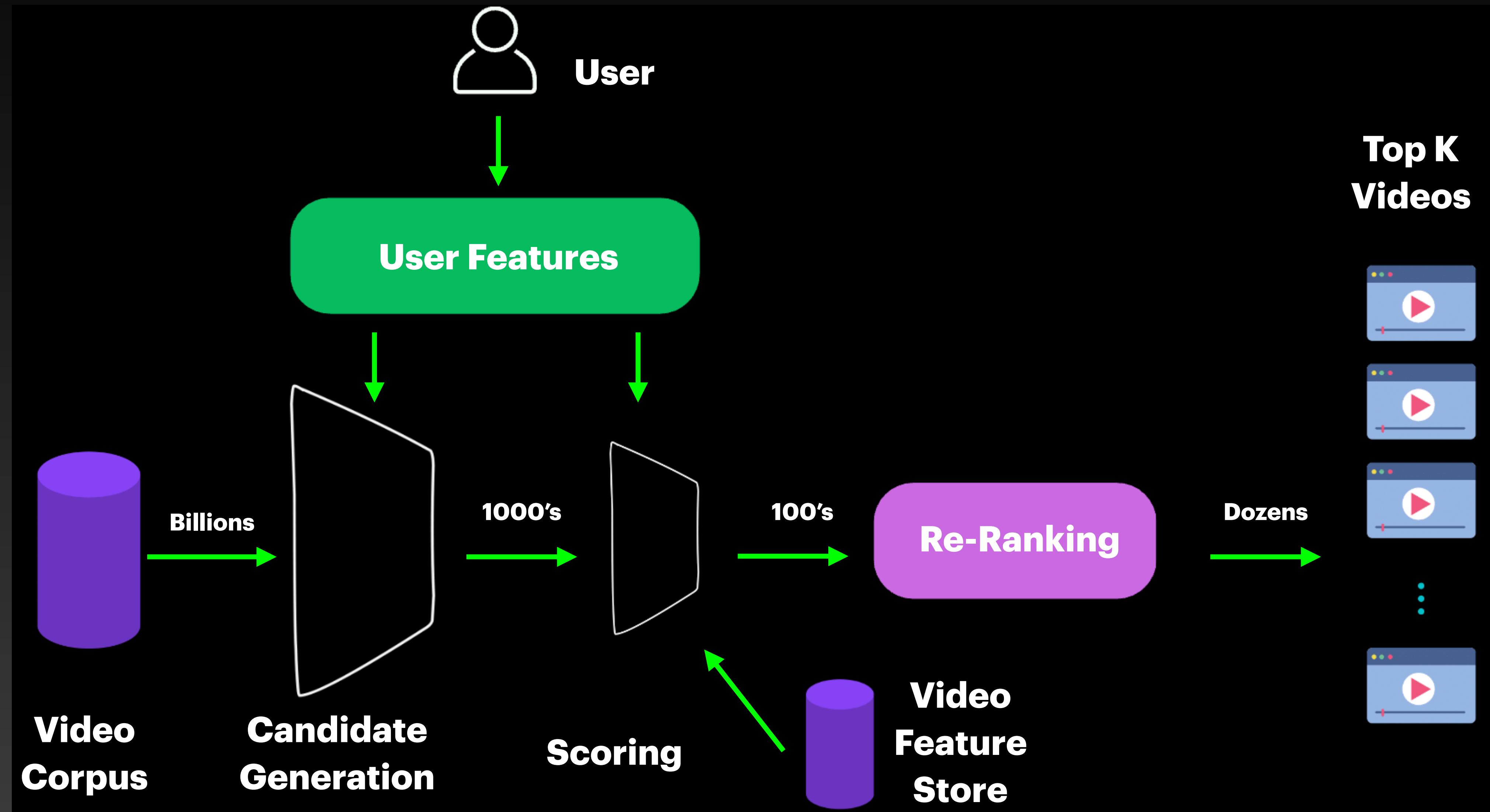
User-Product  
Interactions

Product  
Tower

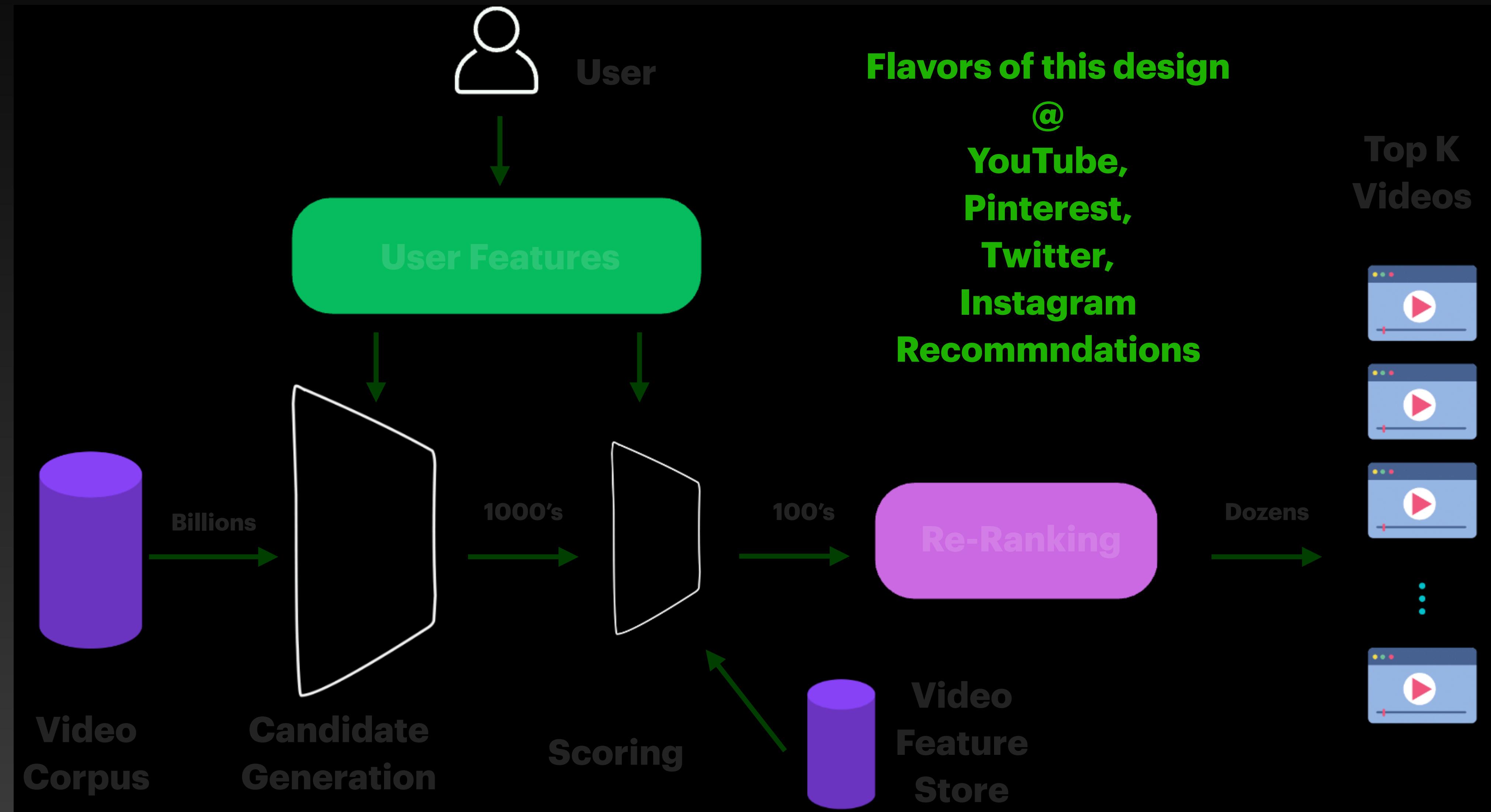
# Scalable RecSys Design



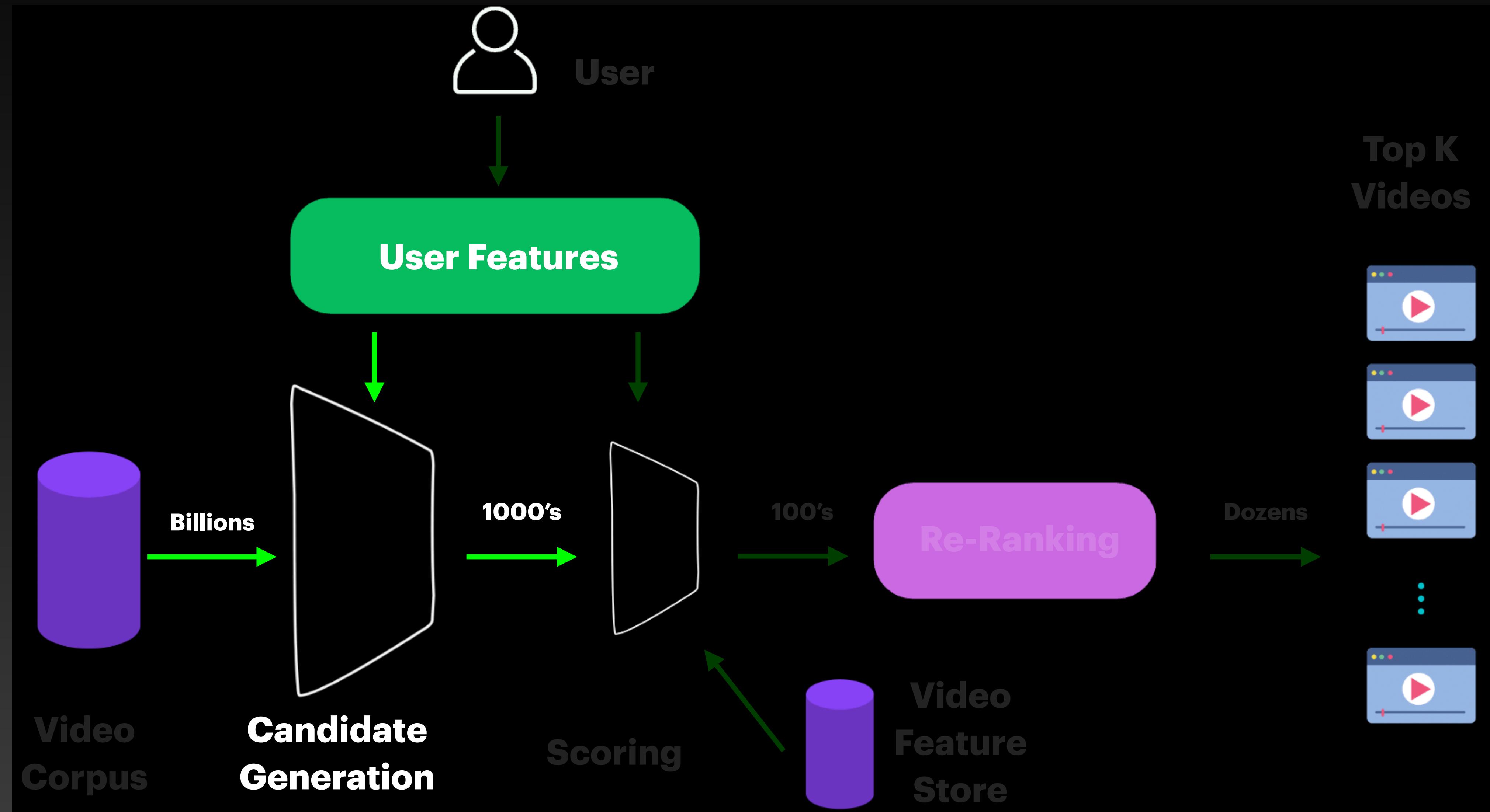
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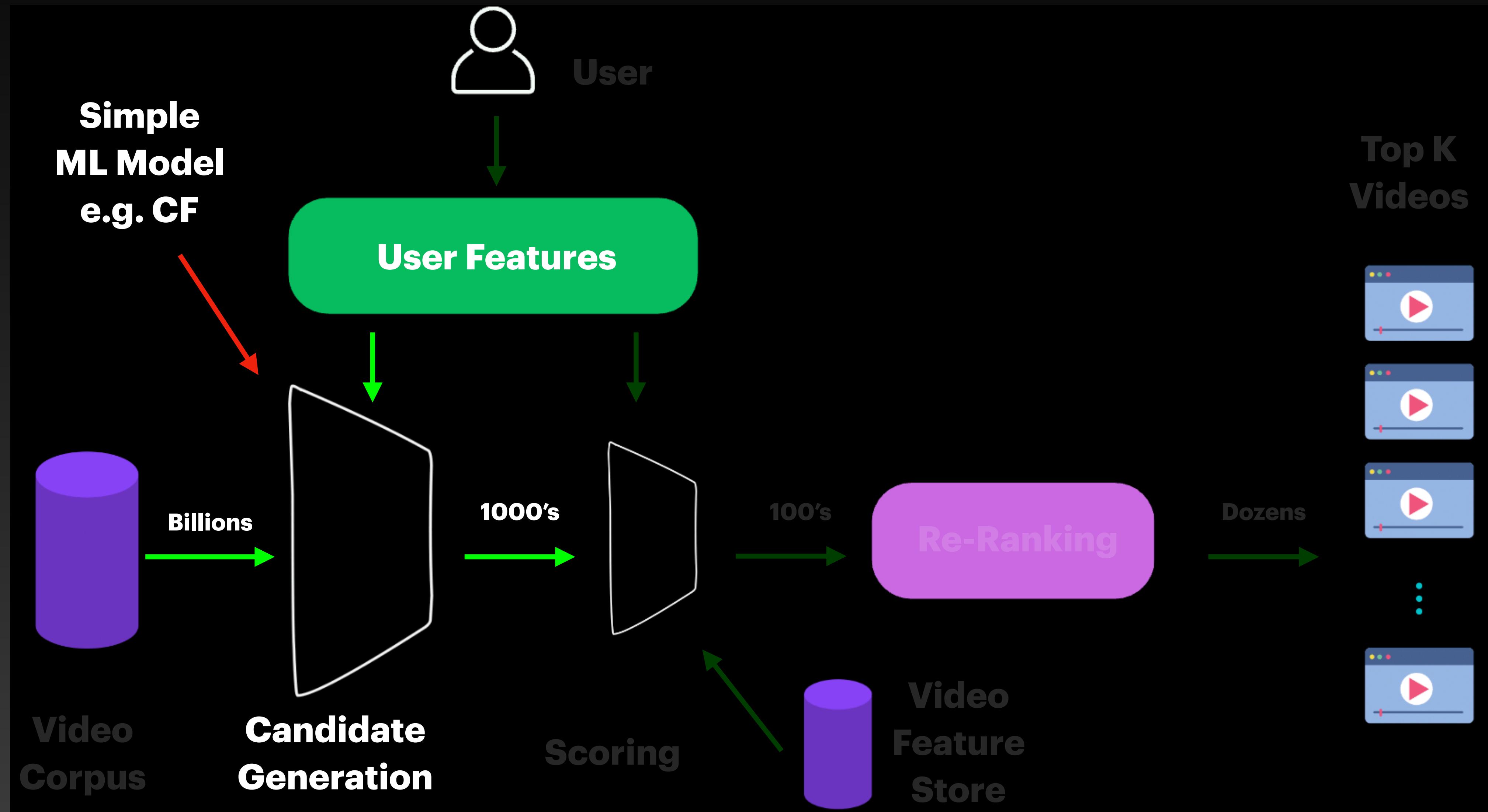
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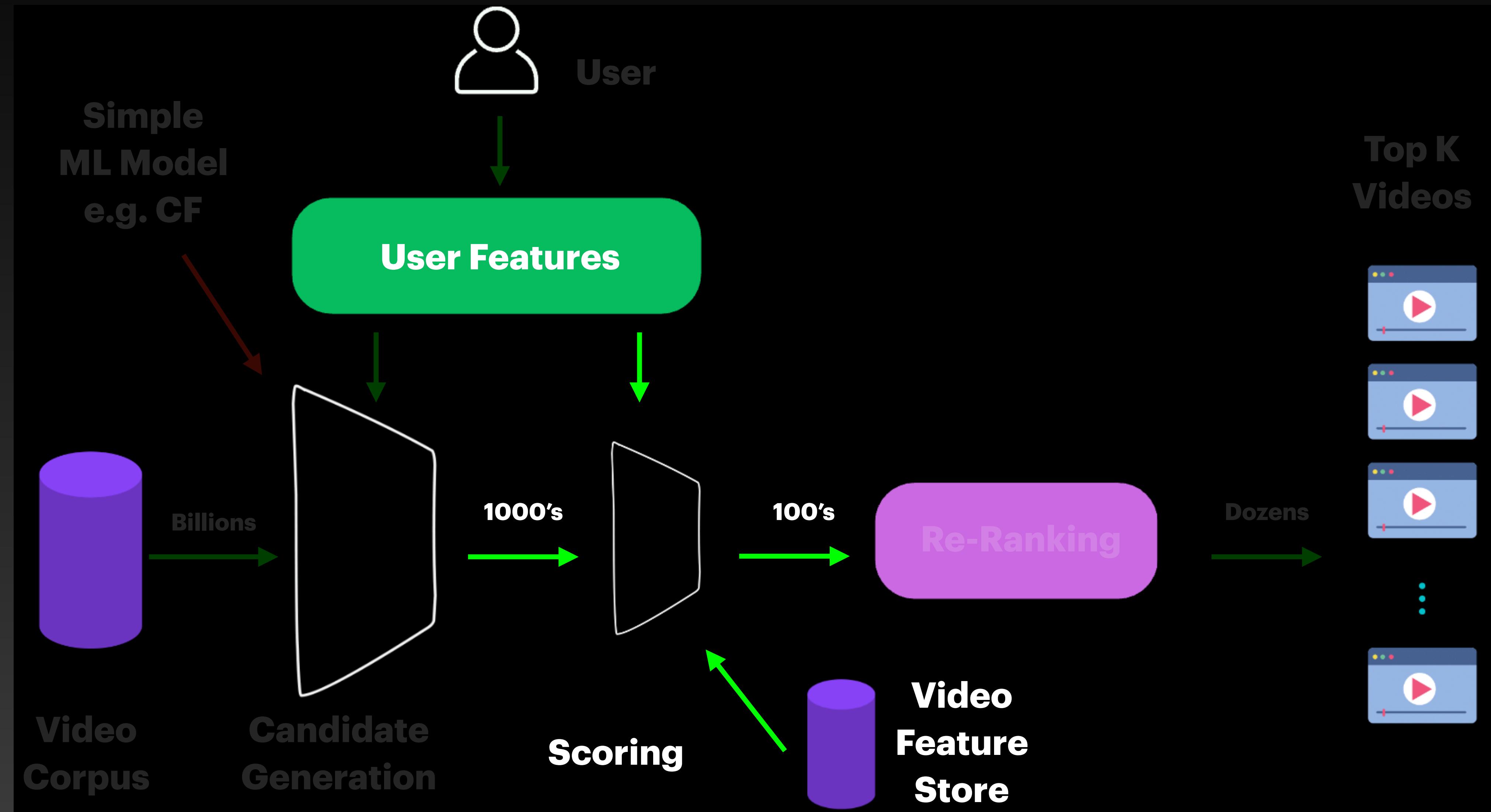
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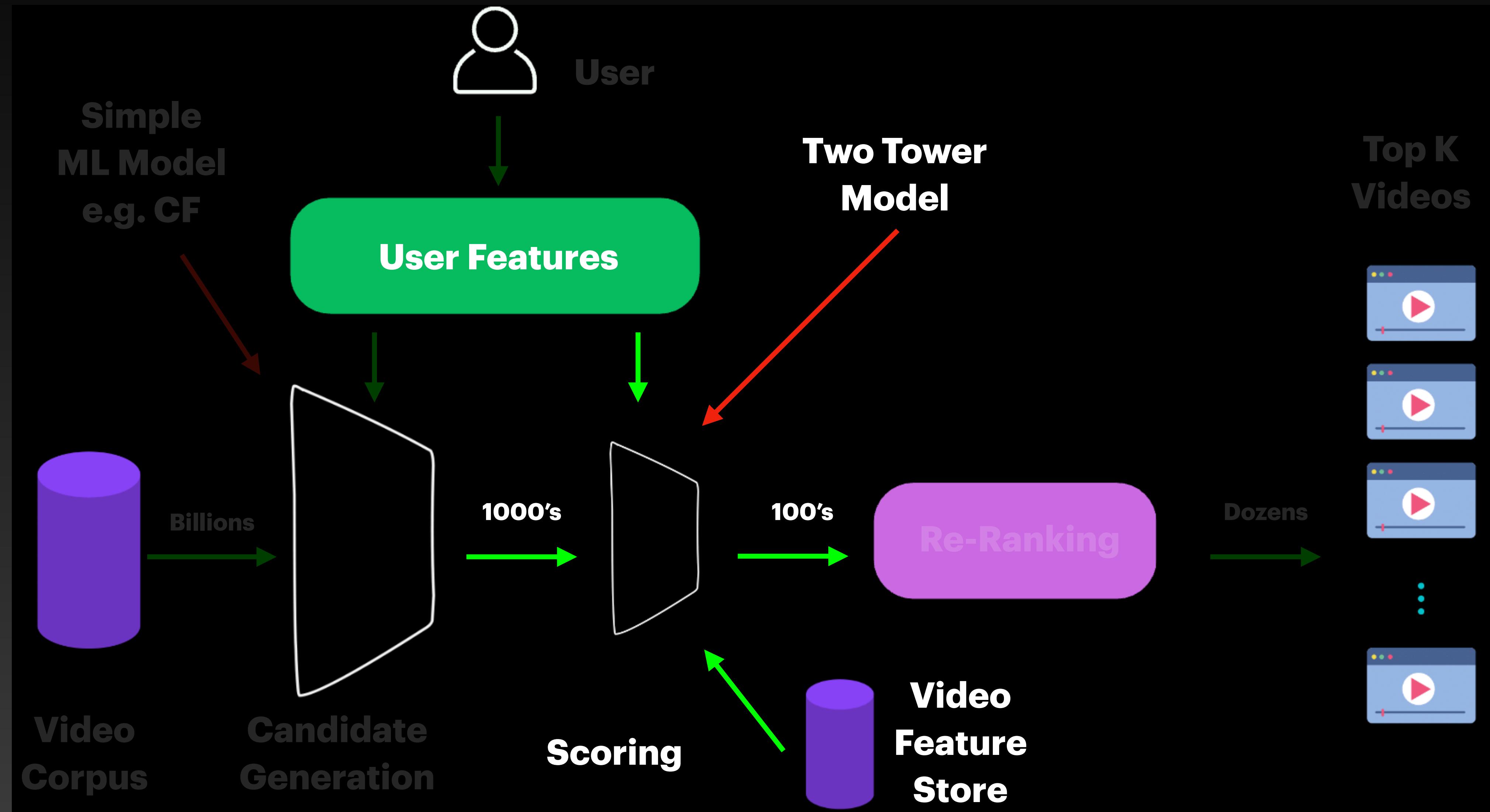
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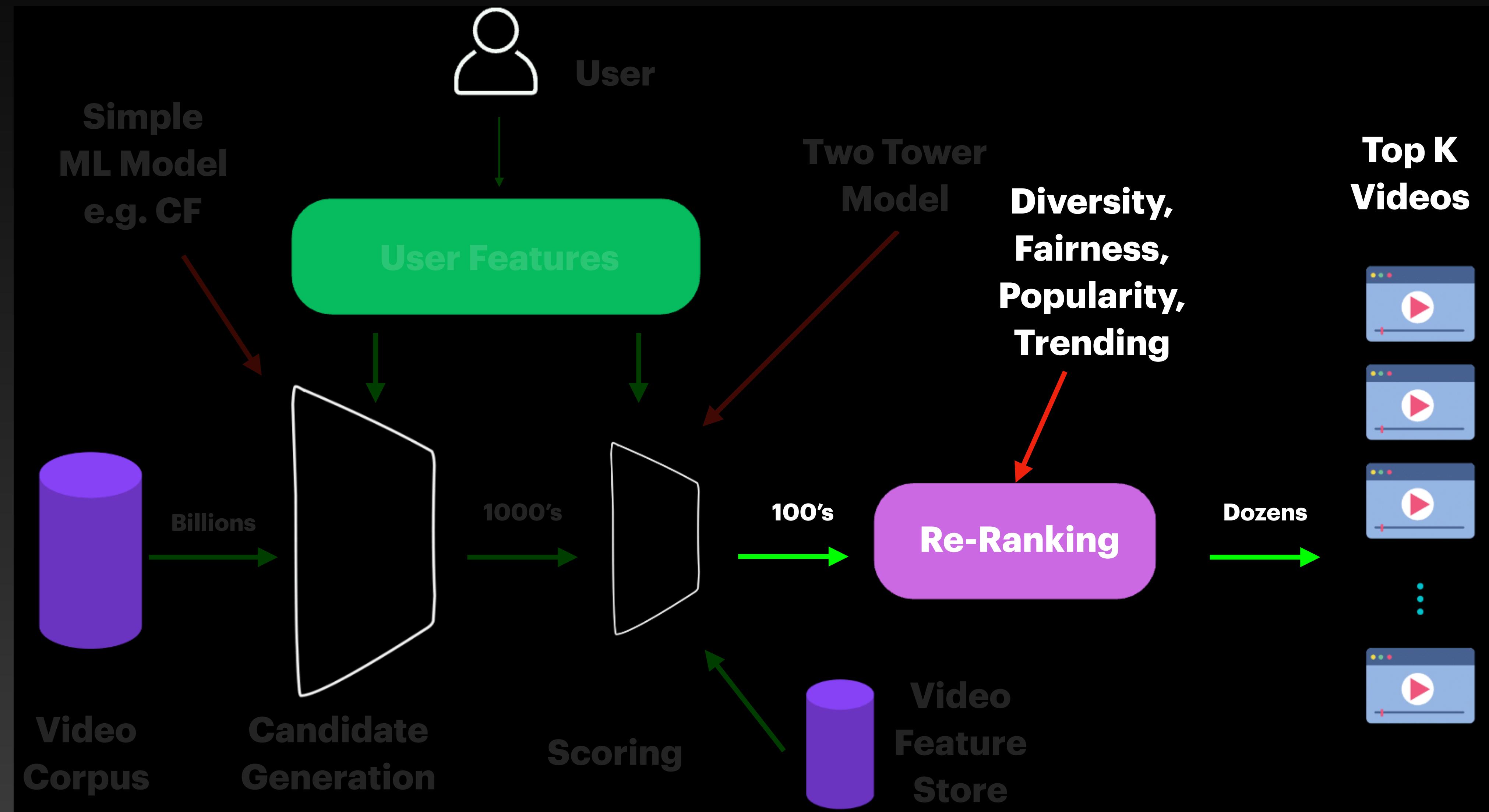
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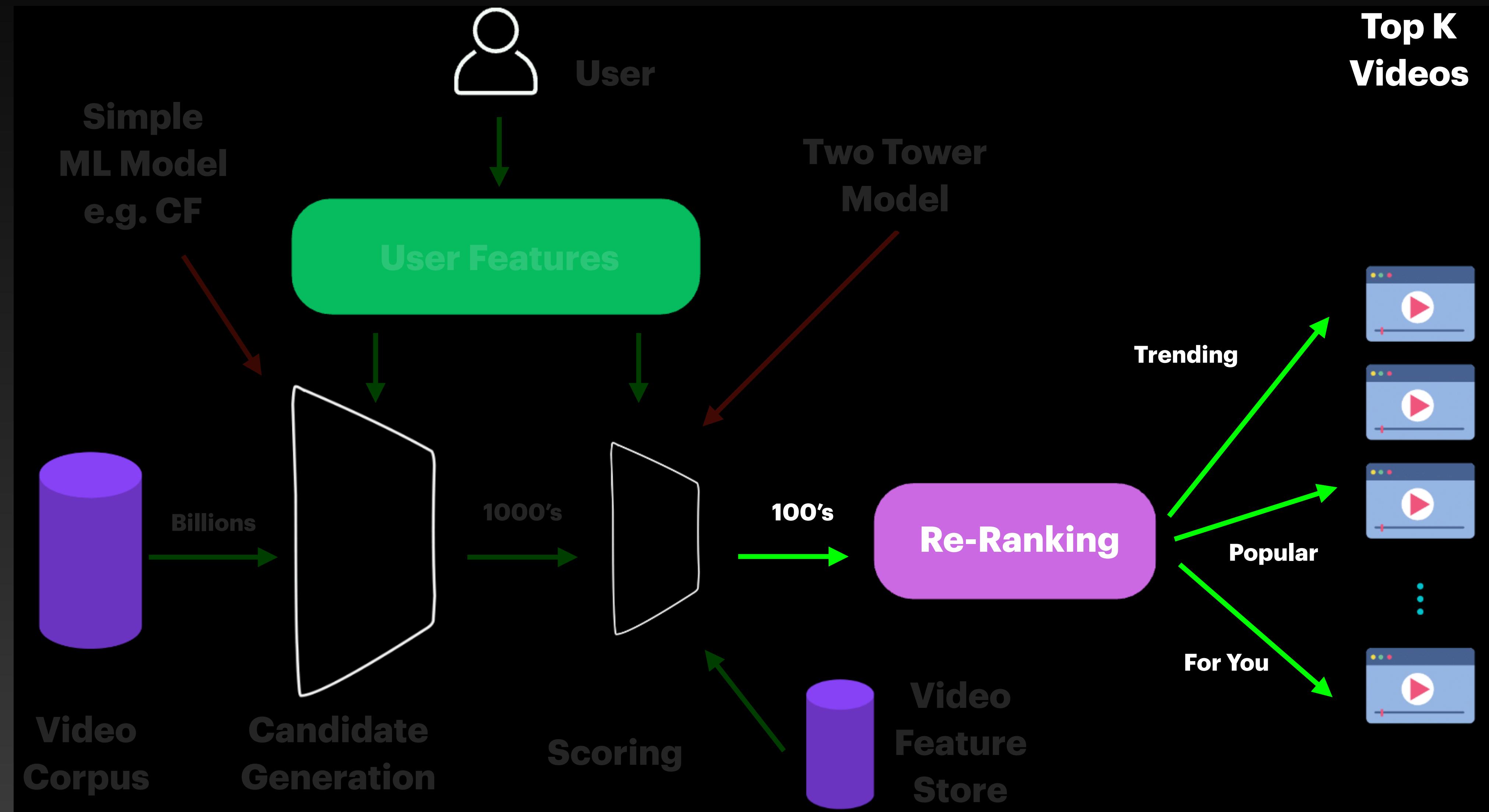
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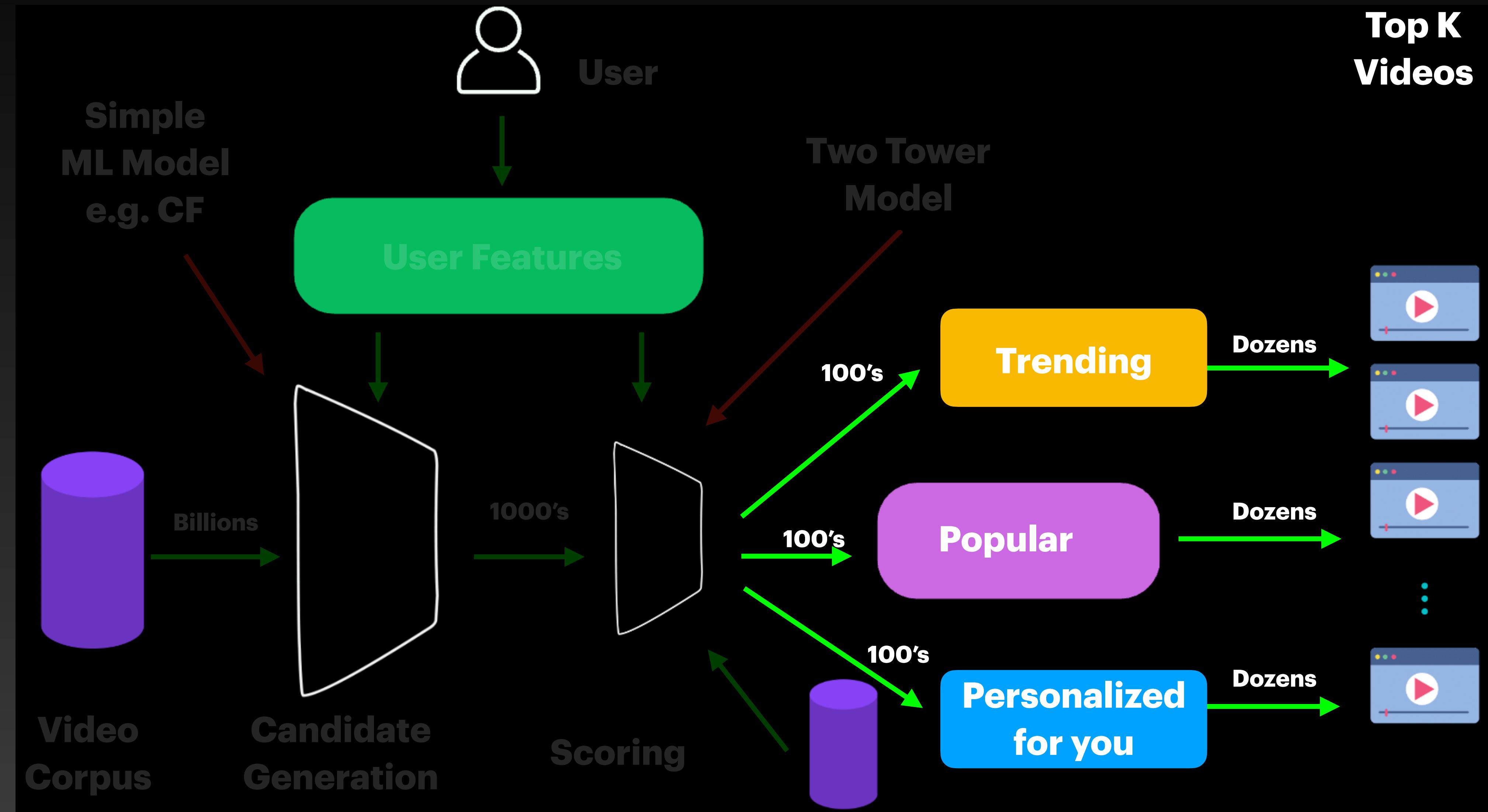
# Scalable RecSys Design



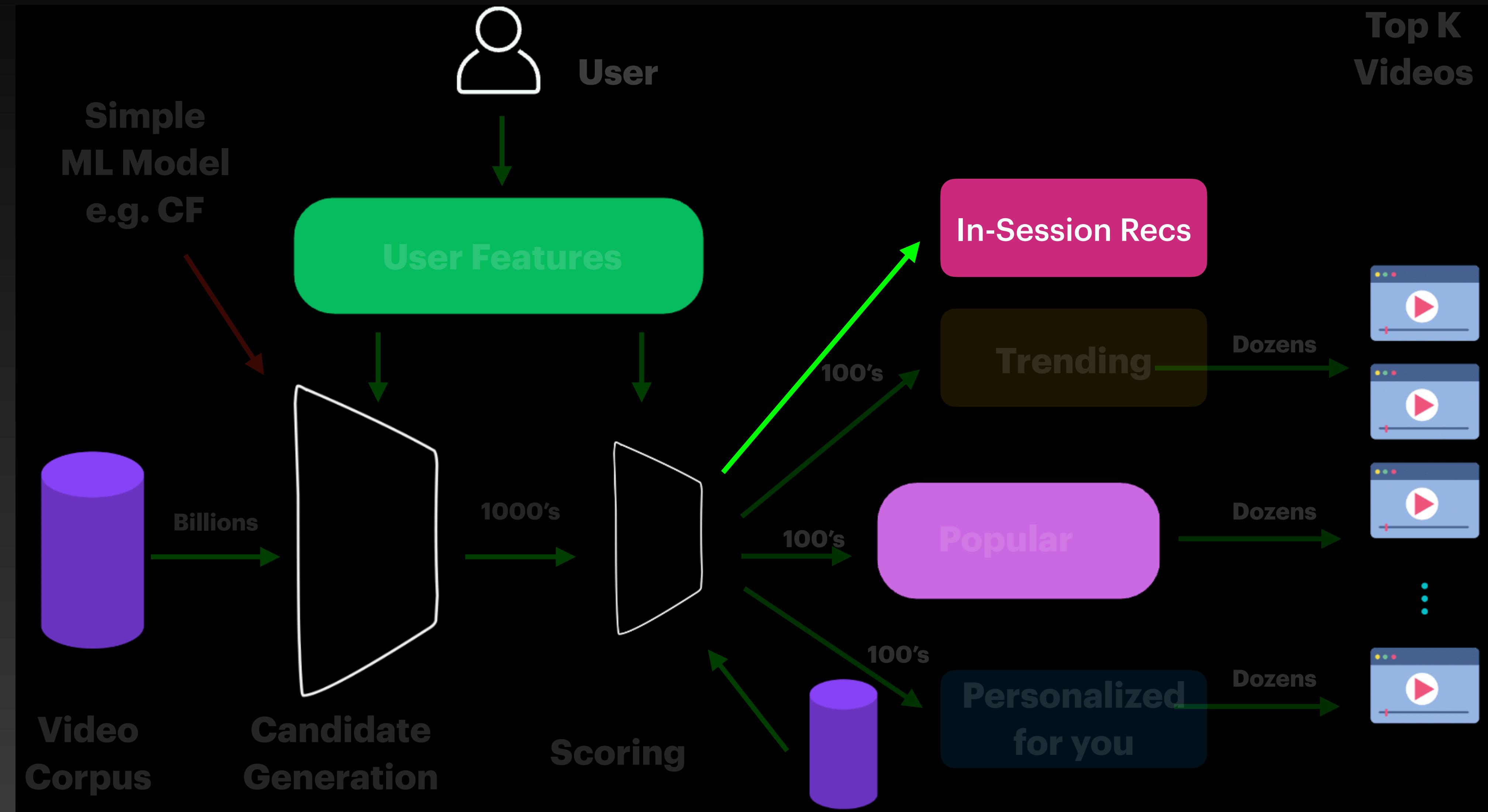
# Scalable RecSys Design



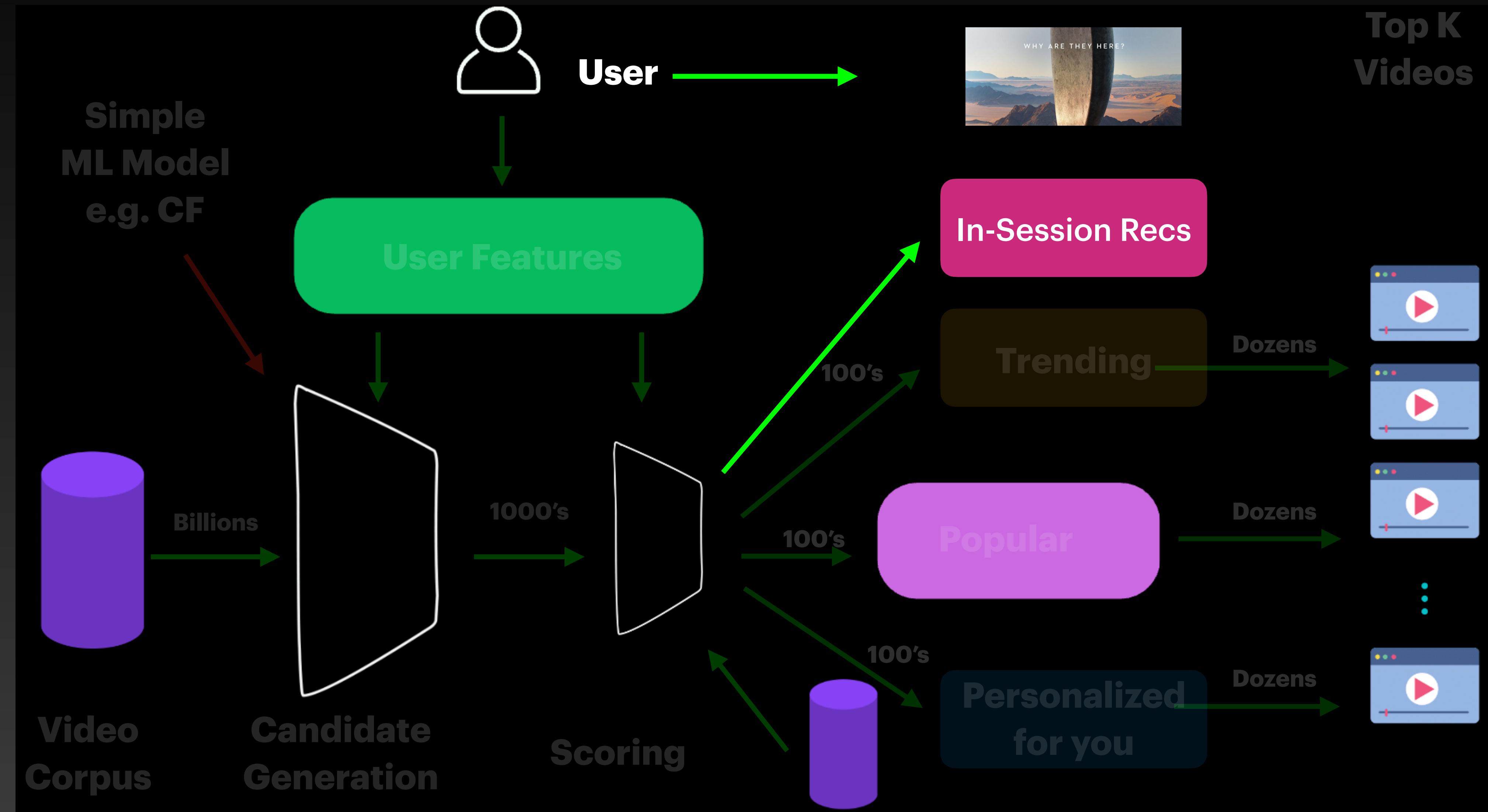
# Multi-channel Scalable RecSys Design



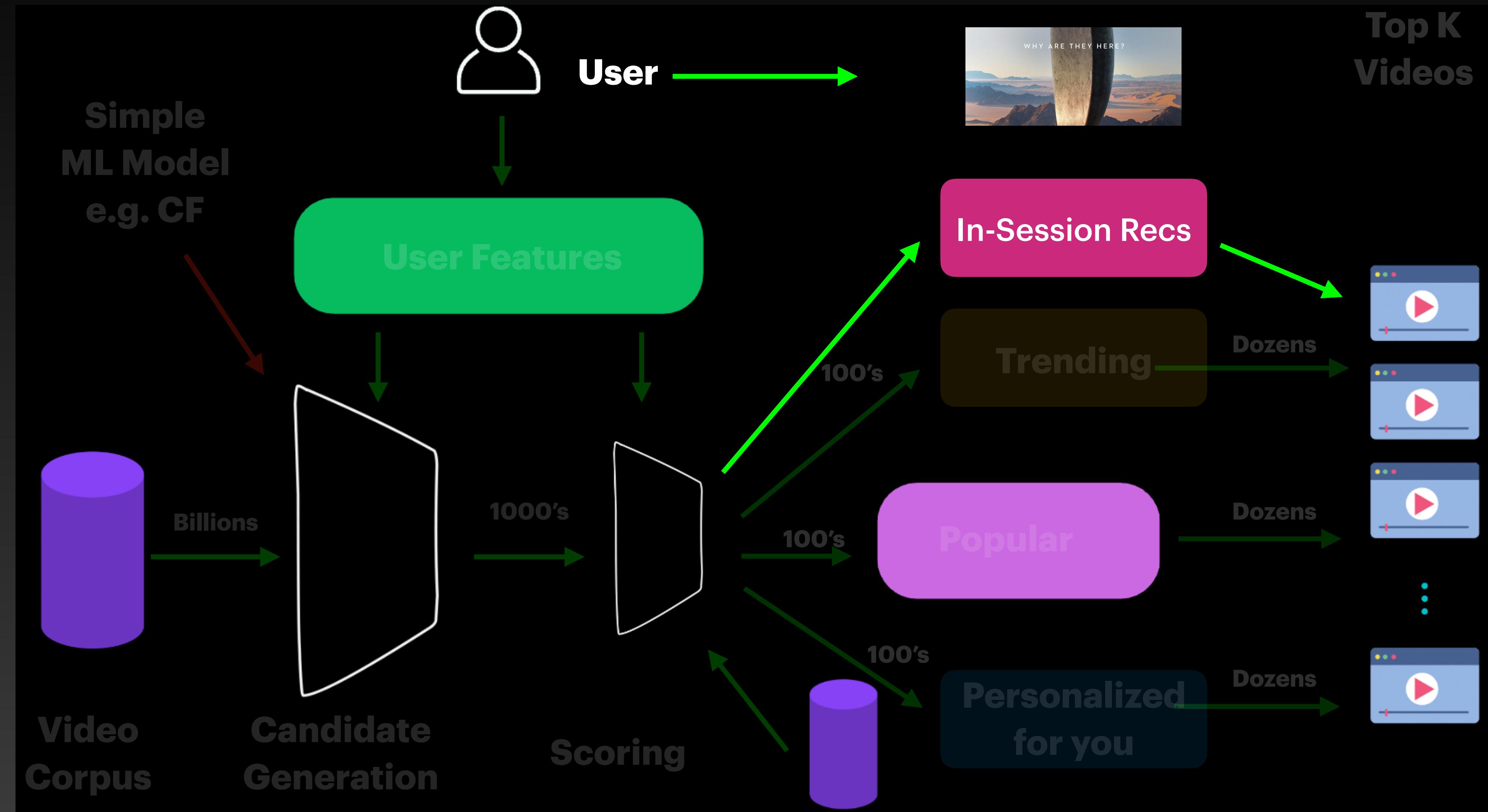
# Multi-channel Scalable RecSys Design



# Multi-channel Scalable RecSys Design



# Multi-channel Scalable RecSys Design



# Performance Metrics and Design

**Modeling Metrics**

**Design Considerations**

**Business Metrics**

# Evaluating the Design

## Offline Metrics

**Relevance Metrics**

**Cold-Start Performance Metrics**

**Diversity Metrics**

...

## Business Metrics

**Revenue**

**View Time**

**#Products Viewed/Purchased**

**CTR**

# Evaluating the Design

## Offline Metrics

Relevance Metrics

Cold-Start Performance  
Metrics

Diversity Metrics

...

## Business Metrics

Revenue

View Time

#Products Viewed/Purchased

CTR

# Evaluating the Design

## Offline Metrics

Relevance Metrics

Cold-Start Performance  
Metrics

Diversity Metrics

...

Diversity  
Optimization

!=

Increase in  
Revenue

## Business Metrics

Revenue

#Products Viewed/Purchased

View Time

CTR

# Evaluating the Design

## Offline Metrics

Relevance Metrics

Cold-Start Performance  
Metrics

Diversity Metrics

...

Offline/  
Online  
Gap

## Business Metrics

Revenue

#Products Viewed/Purchased

View Time

CTR

# Business Metrics and Launch

## Business Metrics

**Revenue**

**#Products Viewed/Purchased**

**View Time**

**CTR**

## Bridging offline-online Gap

**Held-out Offline Testing**

**Internal Testing/Dog Fooding**

**A/B Testing**

# Business Metrics and Launch

## Business Metrics

Revenue

#Products Viewed/Purchased

View Time

CTR

## Bridging offline-online Gap

Held-out Offline Testing

Internal Testing/Dog Fooding

Offline Evaluation on  
Production Data

A/B Testing

# Business Metrics and Launch

## Business Metrics

Revenue

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View Time

CTR

## Bridging offline-online Gap

Held-out Offline Testing

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# Business Metrics and Launch

## Business Metrics

Revenue

#Products Viewed/Purchased

View Time

CTR

## Bridging offline-online Gap

Held-out Offline Testing

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