

Project Title: Movie Review and Recommendation Engine

Author:

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Tools Used: PostgreSQL (SQL), pgAdmin / DBeaver (GUI)

Objective:

To build a relational database and recommendation system that analyzes user movie ratings and reviews to:

- Recommend highly-rated movies
- Understand genre-wise preferences
- Track user engagement
- Provide insightful data views

Database Design

The system follows a normalized structure with **4 relational tables**:

1. Users

Stores personal information of movie-watchers.

- user_id: Unique ID for each user
- username: User's name
- gender: M/F
- age: Age of the user

2. Movies

Holds metadata about the movies.

- movie_id: Unique movie ID
- title: Movie title
- genre: Genre (e.g., Sci-Fi, Drama)
- release_year: Year of release

3. Ratings

Records the ratings given by users.

- rating_id: Unique rating ID
- user_id: References Users
- movie_id: References Movies
- rating: Score from 0 to 10

- `rated_on`: Date of rating

4. Reviews

Stores textual feedback and comments.

- `review_id`: Unique review ID
- `user_id`, `movie_id`: References respective tables
- `review`: Free text comment
- `review_date`: Timestamp of submission

Key Features Implemented

- **Data Integrity via Foreign Keys**
Ensures referential integrity between Users, Movies, and their related data.
- **Rating Normalization & Constraint**
Ratings allowed only within 0–10 range via CHECK.
- **Recommendation View**
Created `Recommended_Movies` view for movies averaging ≥ 8 .
- **Dynamic Movie Ranking**
Used `DENSE_RANK()` window function for real-time movie ranking based on ratings.
- **Stored Procedure: `add_rating_review()`**
Automatically updates both Ratings and Reviews tables, based on optional review input.

Analytical Reports & Views

1. **Average Rating per Movie**
Displays mean rating and number of ratings each movie received.
2. **Top 3 Highest-Rated Movies**
Filters out movies with < 3 reviews to avoid skewed results.
3. **Recommended_Movies View**
A persistent SQL view suggesting movies with average rating ≥ 8 .
4. **Ranking with `DENSE_RANK()`**
Generates ranked list of movies by average rating (handles ties).
5. **Most Active Users**
Tracks user activity based on the number of ratings and reviews.
6. **Rating Distribution**
Shows frequency of specific ratings per movie.
7. **Collaborative Filtering Query**
Suggests movies liked by users with similar taste as a given user.
8. **Genre-wise Top Rated Movies**
Highlights highest-rated titles by genre, using aggregation.
9. **Recent Reviews**
Lists most recent reviews submitted by users, sorted by date.

Export Capabilities

- **GUI Export:** Easily export recommendation results from Recommended_Movies view using DBeaver or pgAdmin.
- **Terminal Export (psql):** Use \copy command to export query results to CSV.
- **Python Export (Optional):** Integrate psycopg2 + pandas for automation.

Observations

- **Top Genres:** Sci-Fi emerged as the most frequently and highly-rated genre.
- **User Activity:** Users like Alice and Bob were the most active contributors.
- **High Scorers:** Movies like *Inception*, *Ironman*, and *The Dark Knight* consistently scored above 8.5.

Deliverables

- Full SQL schema creation script
- Sample data for movies, users, ratings, reviews
- Views for recommendations and top-rated content
- Stored procedure for adding ratings + reviews
- Analytical queries and reporting
- Export-ready structure for integration with external tools

Future Enhancements

- Integrate content-based filtering (based on genre/tags)
- Add user authentication + front-end interface (Flask/React)
- Build scheduled job to refresh views
- Implement hybrid recommender with collaborative + content-based filtering
- Use Python for automated report generation

Conclusion

This project demonstrates how relational databases and SQL can be leveraged to simulate a real-world movie recommendation engine. It combines well-structured schema design with analytics and procedural logic to enable meaningful recommendations.