

Stéphane Canu

scanu@insa-rouen.fr, asi.insa-rouen.fr/~scanu

May 24, 2020

Practical session description

This practical session aims at showing how to build a simple recommender system on the Netflix data set¹, based on https://www.netflixprize.com/assets/ProgressPrize2008_BellKor.pdf and [https://datajobs.com/data-science-repo/Recommender-Systems-\[Netflix\].pdf](https://datajobs.com/data-science-repo/Recommender-Systems-[Netflix].pdf).



Figure 1: Result of the netflix competition.

Ex. 1 — SVD and weighted SVD on Netflix

1. The Netflix dataset
 - a) What was the Netflix competition?
 - b) What is the score used to compare the models?
 - c) download the Netflix training data and the probe set from moodle. Note that `netflix_data_app.mat` size is 232.1 Mo.
 - d) load them into you python environment

```
import numpy as np
from time import time
from scipy.sparse import csr_matrix
from scipy.linalg import svd
from scipy.sparse.linalg import svds

import scipy.io

D = scipy.io.loadmat('netflix_data_app.mat')
P = scipy.io.loadmat('netflix_data_probe.mat')
```

- e) What is the size and the type of these data

```
print(D)
D.values()
```

- f) Build the associated data matrices, and explain the following piece of code.

¹https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Netflix_Prize

```
M = D['netflix_data_app']
Mt = P['netflix_data_probe']
#help(M)
#print(M.__class__)
```

2. Pre process the data

- a) Compute RMSE the root mean squared error (RMSE) on the probe set by predicting missing values by the global mean μ of the training data, that is:

$$\text{RMSE} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n_t} \sum_{u,m; M_t(u,m) \neq 0} (M_t(u,m) - \mu)^2}.$$

How long does it takes to compute this error?

```
n = ???
moy = ???
nt = ???
pred = ???
Mt = Mt - pred
err0 = np.sqrt(np.sum(Mt.power(2)) / nt )
print(' erreur : {0:.3f}'.format(err0))
```

- b) Let M_c be the $n \times p$ centered sparse rating matrix (of general term $M_{u,m} - \mu$ when $M_{u,m} \neq 0$), n being the total number of user considered and p the number of movies. Let μ_m the mean score of for the movie m that is

$$\mu_m = \frac{1}{n_m} \sum_{u=1}^n M_{u,m},$$

where $n_m = \sum_{u=1}^n \mathbb{1}_{\{M_{u,m} \neq 0\}}$ denotes the number of users who have rated the movie m . What is the error made on the probe set by predicting the missing value by the global mean plus the mean of the movie?

- c) What is the error made on the probe set by predicting missing value of the rating $P(m,u)$ given to the movie m by the user u , by summing the global mean μ plus the mean of the movie μ_m and the mean of the user μ_u , that is

$$P(m,u) = \mu + \mu_m + \mu_u$$

3. Recommend using SVD

- a) Assuming the optimal number of factor to take into account is smaller than 100, as a first step of a SVD based recommender system, factorize the residual score matrix using the SVD. How long does it takes?
- b) Explain what does this piece of code do.

```
from numpy.random import default_rng
ni = 3
k = 8
rng = default_rng()
U = rng.standard_normal((ni,k))
Vt = rng.standard_normal((k,1))
P = U*Vt.T
prediction = np.cumsum(P,1)
target = np.array([[0],[0],[0]])
err=np.sum((prediction - target)**2,0)
```

- c) In one loop, predict the missing test values using the SVD with an increasing number of component and compute the associated RMSE, that is when the prediction is given by

$$P(m,u) = \sum_{k=1}^{n_k} U(u,k)V(m,k) + \mu + \mu_m + \mu_u$$

- d) What is, in this case, the optimal number of factors? Have you got a better result than Cinematch scores, that is 0.9514 on the probe set?
4. Recommend using weighted SVD
- a) Write a function to evaluate the performance of this approach on the test matrix.? How long does it takes to run?

```
def Netflix_probe_error(U,Vt,Maskt,Mt, Mmin,Mmax,nt):
    """
    Compute the root mean squared error (RMSE) between Mt and U Vt
    when Mt is a sparse matrix with sparsity mask given by Maskt.
    """
    p,n = Mt.shape

    err = 0.
    for j in range(0,n):
        ...
        ???
        ...
        err+=np.sum(( ??? )**2)

    return np.sqrt(err / nt)
```

- b) Improve the previous results by using the weighted SVD approach. Try with 50 factors and alternated least square
- c) Improve again by using the SGD approach to factorization minimizing on the training set

$$\sum_{u,m;M_a(u,m)\neq 0} (M_a(u,m) - \sum_{k=1}^{n_k} U(u,k)V(m,k) + \mu + \mu_m + \mu_u)^2$$