# CS109a Final Project - Spotify Recommendation System

Group #55: Nick Kochanek, Jack Connolly, Chris Jarrett, Andrew Soldini

#### **Project Goal:**

Our goal for this project was to develop a system that could recommend reasonable songs to continue a playlist give a certain number of "seed" tracks. We formalized this task as giving a model a list of K input songs (as Spotify uris) and having the model output 500 suggested uris (ideally ranked by relevance). This falls in line with the formal specifications for the Spotify RecSys challenge, and allows us to compare results and approaches with top teams there. As such, we decided to evaluate our models using the same metrics the contest was based on, which will be described further on.

```
In [2]: | import json, sys
        import numpy as np
        import pandas as pd
        import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
        import seaborn as sns
        from prettytable import PrettyTable
        import warnings
        import random
        warnings.filterwarnings("ignore")
        import spotipy
        from spotipy.oauth2 import SpotifyClientCredentials
        import pickle
        pd.options.mode.chained_assignment = None
        import sklearn
        from sklearn.cluster import KMeans
        from sklearn.model selection import train test split
        from sklearn.preprocessing import OneHotEncoder
        from sklearn.neighbors import NearestNeighbors
        from sklearn.preprocessing import MultiLabelBinarizer
        from sklearn.model_selection import train_test_split
        import keras
        from keras.models import Sequential
        from keras.layers import *
        from pandas.io.json import json normalize
        import json
        from collections import Counter
```

Using TensorFlow backend.

## **Loading in the data (Million Playlist Dataset)**

```
In [3]: # After running into issues trying to pickle large objects (ie our grap
        h),
        # It turns out that there's an issue in the pickle implementation. This
         stack overflow function
        # allows for easy saving of big objects
        # https://stackoverflow.com/questions/42653386/does-pickle-randomly-fail
        -with-oserror-on-large-files
        def save as pickled object(obj, filepath):
            This is a defensive way to write pickle.write,
            allowing for very large files on all platforms
            \max \text{ bytes} = 2**31 - 1
            bytes out = pickle.dumps(obj)
            n_bytes = sys.getsizeof(bytes_out)
            with open(filepath, 'wb') as f_out:
                 for idx in range(0, n bytes, max bytes):
                     f_out.write(bytes_out[idx:idx+max_bytes])
```

```
In [8]: # This is the code from 'build network.py'
        # 20 is a lot (the biggest we were able to run)
        # Use ~10 to finish in a reasonable time
        NUMBER OF FILES TO USE = 5
        11 11 11
        The code below builds the network
        It also builds relevant objects to use for the other models
        song_name_to_uri, uri_to_song_name = {}, {}
        track to artist album, network = {}, {}
        track counts, artist counts = {}, {}
        playlist_lens, artists_perplay = [], []
        track codes = set()
        playlists, uri_input, uri_expected = [], [], []
        K = 10
        f_start = 1000
        f end = 1999
        for i in range(NUMBER OF FILES TO USE):
            with open('./mpd.v1/data/mpd.slice.{}-{}.json'.format(f_start, f_end
        )) as f:
                data = json.load(f)
            input , expected = [], []
            for playlist in data['playlists']:
                playlist count = 0
                play artists = {}
                playlist dict = playlist.copy()
                playlist dict.pop('tracks', None)
                for k, song in enumerate(playlist['tracks']):
                     track_name = song['track_name']
                    track uri = song['track uri']
                    shared songs = np.array([s['track uri'] for s in
                                              playlist['tracks'] if s['track_uri'
        | != track uri|)
                    playlist count += 1
                    artist name = song['artist name']
                     if track uri not in track codes:
                         track codes.add(track uri)
                         track to artist album[track uri] = { 'artist': song['arti
        st_name'], 'album': song['album name']}
                         uri to song name[track uri] = track name
                     if track name not in song name to uri:
                         song name to uri[track name] = track uri
                     if track uri not in network:
                         network[track uri] = np.array(shared songs)
```

```
else:
                network[track_uri] = np.append(network[track_uri], np.ar
ray(shared songs))
            if k < K:
                input_.append(track_uri)
            else:
                expected.append(track uri)
            # EDA Stats Collecting
            if artist name not in artist counts:
                artist_counts[artist_name] = 1
            else:
                artist counts[artist name] += 1
            if track_name not in track_counts:
                track counts[track name] = 1
            else:
                track_counts[track_name] += 1
            if artist name not in play artists:
                play_artists[artist_name] = 1
            else:
                play_artists[artist_name] += 1
        playlists.append(playlist dict)
        uri input.append(input )
        uri expected.append(expected)
        # For EDA
        playlist lens.append(playlist count)
        artists perplay.append(len(play artists.keys()))
    print ("done loading file", i)
    f start += 1000
    f end += 1000
# Clean the network -> counts per song (normalized)
print("Cleaning up the Network a bit")
for uri in network :
    unique, counts = np.unique(network[uri], return counts=True)
    network[uri] = {'songs' : unique, 'counts': counts / np.sum(counts)}
# Save all of the objects as pickles
save as pickled object(network, 'pickled network.pickle')
with open('songs_to_uri.pickle', 'wb') as f:
    pickle.dump(song name to uri, f)
with open('uri to song.pickle', 'wb') as f:
    pickle.dump(uri to song name, f)
with open('track to artist album.pickle', 'wb') as f:
    pickle.dump(track to artist album, f)
```

```
done loading file 0 done loading file 1 done loading file 2 done loading file 3 done loading file 4
```

**Getting audio features from the Spotify API** This takes awhile - you can just load to saved pickles 'audio\_features.pickle' and 'uris\_10.pickle' below.

```
In [9]: # Load the pickles instead of rescraping
    with open('./cs109_final_backend/cs109_final_backend/cluster_files/uris_
    10.pickle', 'rb') as f:
        uris = pickle.load(f)
    with open('./cs109_final_backend/cs109_final_backend/cluster_files/audio_features.pickle', 'rb') as f:
        audio_features = pickle.load(f)

    audio_df = pd.DataFrame(audio_features)
    print(len(uris))
    print(len(audio_df))
```

170380 170380

```
In [ ]: from spotipy.oauth2 import SpotifyClientCredentials
        cid ="1b81d49177e5464781a4957e5e0c1ae6"
        secret = "c444a35689e247f8b5f9830662bae244"
        client credentials manager = SpotifyClientCredentials(client id=cid, cli
        ent secret=secret)
        sp = spotipy.Spotify(client credentials manager=client credentials manag
        er)
        sp.trace=False
        uris = list(uris)
        spotify = spotipy.Spotify(auth='BQDuG3_3-tAv09LQ1ZKwYc-oodCcDdau90-I-Ep_
        O6IK-Uqvc5S3FKwdr5qtVu5Kq1khJCwkeaR9PnQJjvL6fBRPWdjJ9H KRoGCrS1MP5DjdcLM
        lWJybPF1VvJDuSwBpoxiLS Qmr9R4z-RoDWDPNiZnlzCeJNxMMvLRg')
        keys_to_remove = ["duration_ms", "type", "id", "uri", "track_href", "ana
        lysis url"]
        start = 0
        audio features = []
        while start < len(uris):</pre>
            response = sp.audio_features(uris[start:(100+start)])
            small_response = []
            for track in response:
                if track is not None:
                    small_dict = {key:track[key] for key in track.keys() - keys_
        to remove}
                else:
                    print('here')
                    small dict = {key:0.0 for key in response[0].keys() - keys t
        o remove}
                small response.append(small dict)
            audio features.extend(small response)
            start += 100
            if start % 1000 == 0: print(start)
        audio df = pd.DataFrame(audio features)
        # Save the pickles
        with open('uris_10.pickle', 'wb') as handle:
            pickle.dump(uris, handle, protocol=pickle.HIGHEST PROTOCOL)
        with open('audio features.pickle', 'wb') as handle:
            pickle.dump(audio df, handle, protocol=pickle.HIGHEST PROTOCOL)
```

### **Train Test Split:**

As well as scaling so KNN and KMeans is meaningful

```
In [10]: # Scale the features in audio_df to mean=0 and variance=1
    from sklearn.preprocessing import StandardScaler

    ss = StandardScaler()
    audio_scaled = ss.fit_transform(audio_df)

    print(len(uris))
    print(len(audio_scaled))

audio_dict = {}

for i in range(len(uris)):
    audio_dict[uris[i]] = audio_scaled[i]

170380
```

### Data and EDA

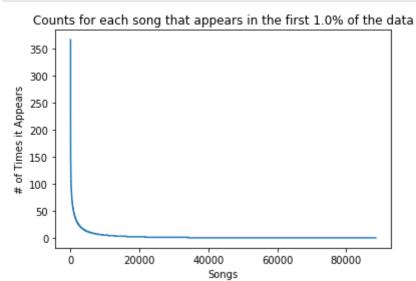
170380

The data sources we utilized in our explorations were the Million Playlist Dataset and the Spotify API. The MPD gave us the essential data to train models on subsets of playlists and evaluate the accuracy of our predictions. We used to Spotify API to get pre-computed audio features for songs, which allowed us to expore alternative model choices more in line with what we looked at in class.

```
In [11]: # MPD EDA
    track_names = list(track_counts.keys())
    counts = list(track_counts.values())

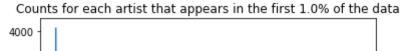
num_files = 10
    percent_data = (num_files / 1000) * 100

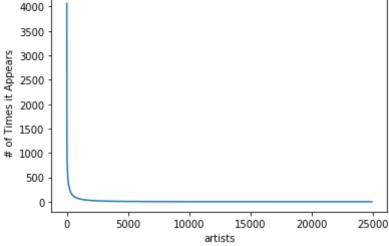
plt.plot(range(len(track_names)), sorted(counts, reverse=True))
    plt.xlabel('Songs')
    plt.ylabel('# of Times it Appears')
    plt.title(f'Counts for each song that appears in the first {percent_dat a} of the data')
    plt.show()
```



```
In [12]: artist_names = list(artist_counts.keys())
    counts = list(artist_counts.values())

    plt.plot(range(len(artist_names)), sorted(counts, reverse=True))
    plt.xlabel('artists')
    plt.ylabel('# of Times it Appears')
    plt.title(f'Counts for each artist that appears in the first {percent_da ta}% of the data')
    plt.show()
```

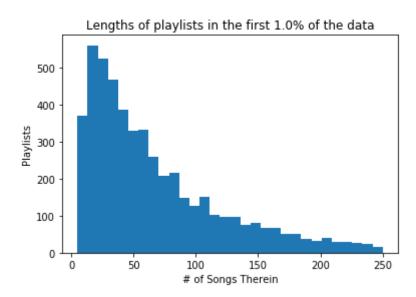




```
In [13]: print(len(artist_names))
    print(len(track_names))
    print(np.mean(playlist_lens))
    print(np.mean(artists_perplay))

plt.hist(playlist_lens, bins=30)
    plt.xlabel('# of Songs Therein')
    plt.ylabel('Playlists')
    plt.title(f'Lengths of playlists in the first {percent_data}% of the dat a')
    plt.show()
```

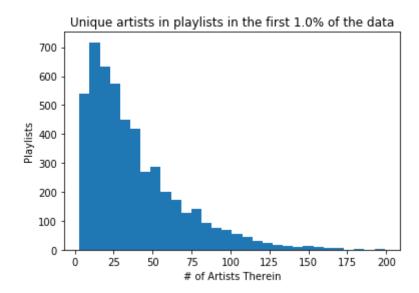
24917 88522 66.9026 38.2456



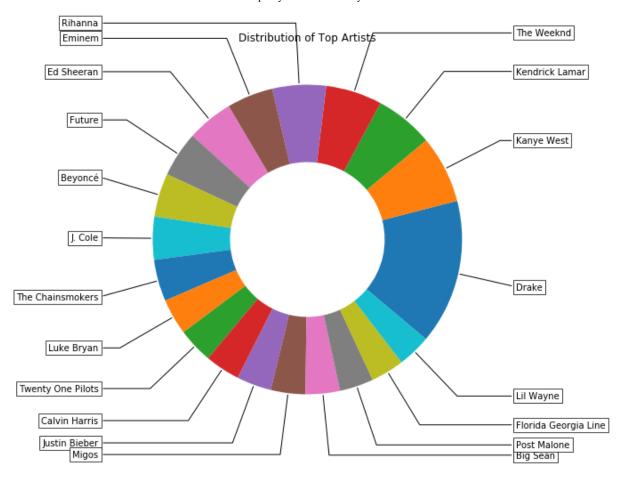
```
In [14]: # Median Playlist length and number of artists per playlist
    print(np.percentile(playlist_lens, q=50))
    print(np.percentile(artists_perplay, q=50))

    plt.hist(artists_perplay, bins=30)
    plt.xlabel('# of Artists Therein')
    plt.ylabel('Playlists')
    plt.title(f'Unique artists in playlists in the first {percent_data}% of the data')
    plt.show()
```

50.0 30.0

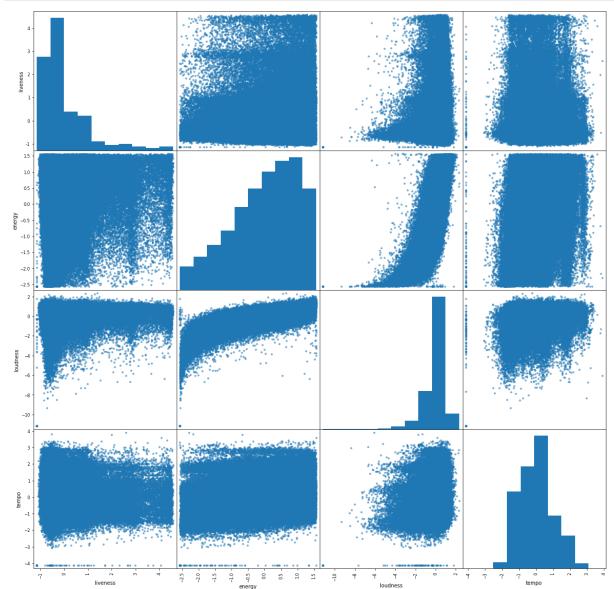


```
In [15]: # Display a donut plot of the top artists
         fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(12, 8), subplot kw=dict(aspect="equal"))
         sorted_counts = [(k, artist_counts[k]) for k in sorted(artist_counts, ke
         y=artist_counts.get, reverse=True)]
         num to show = 20
         artists = [el[0] for el in sorted counts[:num to show]]
         counts = [el[1] for el in sorted_counts[:num_to_show]]
         wedges, texts = ax.pie(counts, wedgeprops=dict(width=0.5), startangle=-4
         0)
         bbox props = dict(boxstyle="square,pad=0.3", fc="w", ec="k", lw=0.72)
         kw = dict(xycoords='data', textcoords='data', arrowprops=dict(arrowstyle
         ="-"),
                   bbox=bbox props, zorder=0, va="center")
         for i, p in enumerate(wedges):
             ang = (p.theta2 - p.theta1)/2. + p.theta1
             y = np.sin(np.deg2rad(ang))
             x = np.cos(np.deg2rad(ang))
             horizontalalignment = {-1: "right", 1: "left"}[int(np.sign(x))]
             connectionstyle = "angle, angleA=0, angleB={}".format(ang)
             kw["arrowprops"].update({"connectionstyle": connectionstyle})
             ax.annotate(artists[i], xy=(x, y), xytext=(1.35*np.sign(x), 1.4*y),
                          horizontalalignment=horizontalalignment, **kw)
         ax.set title("Distribution of Top Artists")
         plt.show()
```



These graphs and statistics explore the features of the million playlist dataset. The first two show the number of songs that are played in the The second two show the number of unique songs and artists within playlists.

```
In [17]: sub_df_audio = audio_df_scaled[['liveness', 'energy', 'loudness', 'temp
o']]
    pd.scatter_matrix(sub_df_audio, figsize=(20,20))
    plt.show()
```

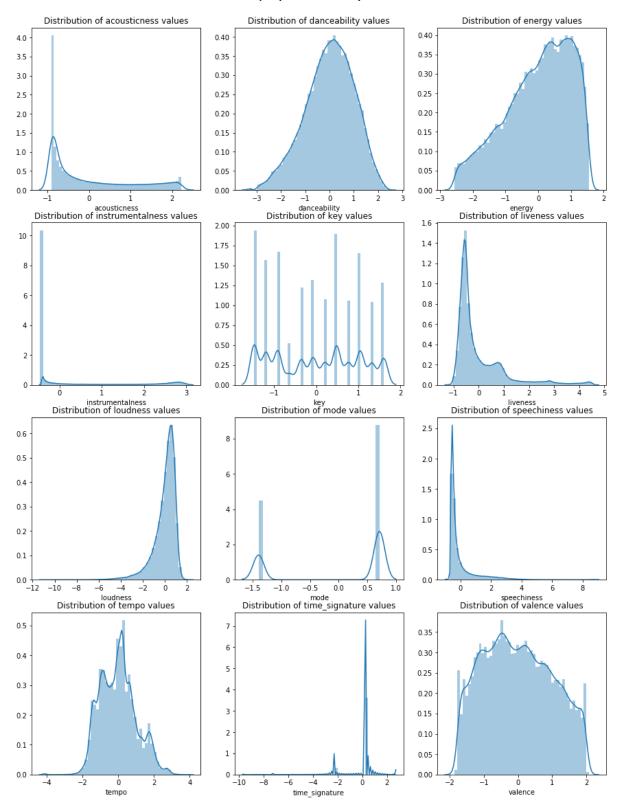


This scatter matrix is mainly of interest because of the relationship between energy and loudness. The two features seem to be relatively positively correlated, so we will need to be careful of colinearity when we fit models with these predictors. As for the other predictors, we can see that we have a relatively good distribution across the range, which is to be expected because we have scaled this data to have  $\mu=0$  and  $\sigma=1$ . This should make it work well when we apply distance based techniques like KMeans and KNN to the data.

```
In [18]: # General comparison of the scores
    fig, axes = plt.subplots(4,3, figsize=(15,20))
    axs = np.ravel(axes)

for i, col_name in enumerate(col_names):
    data = audio_df_scaled[col_name]
    sns.distplot(data, ax=axs[i], label=col_name)
    axs[i].set_title(f'Distribution of {col_name} values')

plt.show()
```



These plots are of great interest to us, as they display how our Spotify API features are distributed. This is super important when we apply these features to KMeans and KNN, as outliers or wide spreads could possibly sway the distance metrics inordinantly. However, since we have already scaled our data, most of these plots look relatively normal. There are some features (like valence and tempo) that look much more normal, while others (like loudness and liveness) that are skewed either left or right. Additionally, time signature, mode, and key appear to be discrete values, so we may have to handle those carefully.

## **Models**

We explored a variety of different models and model types, but because the style of problem was different than those we studied in class, we were forced to explore different techniques than those we had seen. Our baseline models use a combination of KMeans Clustering and/or KNN, while the top two performing models are a Markov Walk on a Network and Collaborative Filtering.

## **Baseline: Song Based KMeans Clustering and KNN**

```
In [ ]: # Cluster songs and build:
        # - dict with list of URIs for each cluster
        # - dict with each song mapped to its cluster
        n clusters = 75
        km songs = KMeans(n clusters=n clusters)
        song clusters = km songs.fit predict(audio scaled)
        cluster to songs, song to cluster = {}, {}
        for i, cluster num in enumerate(song clusters):
            if cluster_num not in cluster_to_songs:
                cluster to songs[cluster num] = []
            cluster_to_songs[cluster_num].append(uris[i])
            song to cluster[uris[i]] = cluster num
        # Save the pickles
        with open('cluster to songs.pickle', 'wb') as handle:
            pickle.dump(cluster to songs, handle, protocol=pickle.HIGHEST_PROTOC
        OL)
        with open('song to cluster.pickle', 'wb') as handle:
            pickle.dump(song to cluster, handle, protocol=pickle.HIGHEST PROTOCO
        L)
```

### **Explanation**:

This clustering model is very much a baseline for the other models. Intuitively, it clusters all songs then for each input of seed songs, finds an the 'closest' songs to those, in some way. They all use the Spotify API audio features to cluster and make predictions, relatively ignoring the MPD aside as input and output uris. The following class has three different predict methods, namely predict, predict2, and predict3. The first simply calculates the most populous cluster among the input data, then randomly samples 500 songs from that cluster. The second tries to match the distribution of input songs more closely, outputting the number of songs in the input per cluster scaled up for a total of 500. Finally, the last method uses the audio features even more, calculating the 'distance' of every song in the same cluster to the 'average' of the input songs, outputting the 500 songs closest to the average in order. Overall, these methods do fairly poorly at matching the held out songs, only retrieving relevant songs fairly rarely. The R-precision of these methods is in the range of 0.005-0.011.

```
In [20]: class ClusterModel:
             def __init__(self, cluster to song, song to cluster, audio dict=None
         , n clusters=20, K=25):
                 self.name = 'cluster_model'
                 self.n_clusters = n_clusters
                 self.cluster_to_song = cluster_to_song
                 self.song to_cluster = song to_cluster
                 self.K = K
                 self.audio_dict = audio_dict
             def fit(self, X, y):
                 pass
             def predict(self, X):
                 predictions = []
                 for playlist in X:
                      clusters = [self.song_to_cluster[song] for song in playlist
         if song in self.song to cluster]
                     unique, counts = np.unique(clusters, return counts=True)
                      if len(unique) == 0:
                         max_cluster_id = np.random.randint(0, len(cluster_to_son
         gs))
                      else:
                         max_cluster_id = unique[np.argmax(counts)]
                     max cluster = self.cluster_to_song[max_cluster_id]
                     max cluster = self.cluster to song[max cluster id]
                      try:
                         predicted = np.random.choice(max cluster, size=500, repl
         ace=False)
                      except ValueError:
                         predicted = max cluster
                      predictions.append(predicted)
                 return predictions
             def predict2(self, X):
                 predictions = []
                 for playlist in X:
                     clusters = [self.song to cluster[song] for song in playlist
         if song in self.song_to_cluster]
                     unique, counts = np.unique(clusters, return counts=True)
                      predicted = []
                      for cl, count in zip(unique, counts):
                          size = count * (500 // self.K)
                          cluster = self.cluster to song[cl]
                          preds = np.random.choice(cluster, size=size, replace=Fal
         se)
                          predicted.extend(preds)
                      predictions.append(predicted)
                 return predictions
             def predict3(self, X):
                 assert(self.audio dict is not None)
                 predictions = []
                  for playlist in X:
```

```
clusters = [self.song_to_cluster[song] for song in playlist
if song in self.song_to_cluster]
            unique, counts = np.unique(clusters, return_counts=True)
            if len(unique) == 0:
                max_cluster_id = np.random.randint(0, len(cluster_to_son
gs))
            else:
                max_cluster_id = unique[np.argmax(counts)]
            max cluster = self.cluster to song[max cluster id]
            avg_feat = self.get_average_features(playlist)
            distances = [(uri, self.distance(avg feat, self.audio dict[u
ri])) for uri in max cluster]
            distances.sort(key=lambda tup: tup[1])
            predictions.append([uri for uri, _ in distances[:500]])
        return predictions
    def get average features(self, playlist):
        average features = None
        for uri in playlist:
            features = self.audio_dict[uri]
            if average_features is None:
                average_features = features
            else:
                average features = average features + features
        average features = average features / len(playlist)
        return average_features
    def distance(self, audio1, audio2):
        distance = np.sqrt(np.sum((audio1 - audio2) ** 2.0))
        return distance
```

## **Another baseline: Playlist Based KNN**

```
In [21]: class KNNModel():
             def __init__(self, K=5):
                  self.K = K
             def fit(self, playlists):
                  self.playlists = playlists
                 self.songs = set([y for x in self.playlists for y in x])
                 self.mlb = MultiLabelBinarizer(classes=list(self.songs))
                 self.matrix = self.mlb.fit_transform(self.playlists)
             def recommendations(self, tracks, n_recs):
                 known_tracks = [track for track in tracks if track in self.songs
         1
                 vector = self.mlb.transform([known_tracks])[0]
                 neigh = NearestNeighbors(self.K, algorithm='brute', metric='cosi
         ne')
                 neigh.fit(self.matrix)
                 kneighbors = neigh.kneighbors([vector])
                 recs = []
                 for i in kneighbors[1][0]:
                      recs += self.playlists[i]
                  for uri in tracks:
                      if uri in recs:
                          recs.remove(uri)
                 return [uri for uri, in Counter(recs).most common(n recs)]
```

The K Nearest Neighbors algorithm gives another basic method for making recommendations. In laymans terms, the model simply finds the pre-existing playlists most similar to a set of given tracks and then gives the tracks on those playlists as recommendations. To do this, we create an N\*M binary matrix Q representing playlist membership where N is the number of playlists given to train the model and M is the total number of unique songs within those playlists. If playlist i contains song j,  $Q_{i,j}=1$ . Every other entry is 0. To generate predictions from a list of tracks, the model converts the list to this format and finds the most similar k playlists in terms cosine distance. All of the tracks from these playlists are counted and returned by rank.

# **Collaborative Filtering**

```
In [22]: from keras.models import Model
         from keras.layers import Embedding, Input, Dense, Concatenate, Flatten
         class MLPCFModel():
             def __init__(self, K=5, layers=[60,30]):
                 self.K = K
                 self.layers = layers
                 self.n layers = len(layers)
             def fit(self, playlists):
                 # Restructure data
                 self.playlists = playlists
                 self.songs = set([y for x in self.playlists for y in x])
                 self.n_playlists = len(self.playlists)
                 self.n songs = len(self.songs)
                 playlist = np.array([[i] * self.n_songs for i in range(self.n_pl
         aylists)).reshape(-1,1)
                 track uri = np.array(list(range(self.n songs)) * self.n playlist
         s).reshape(-1,1)
                 self.mlb = MultiLabelBinarizer(classes=list(self.songs))
                 matrix = self.mlb.fit transform(self.playlists)
                 interaction = matrix.flatten().reshape(-1,1)
                 # Build the model
                 playlist input = Input(shape=(1,), dtype='int32', name = 'playli
         st input')
                 song input = Input(shape=(1,), dtype='int32', name = 'song inpu
         t')
                 playlist embedding = Embedding(input dim = self.n playlists, out
         put dim = int(self.layers[0]/2), name='playlist embedding')
                 song embedding = Embedding(input dim = self.n songs, output dim
         = int(self.layers[0]/2), name='song embedding')
                 playlist latent = Flatten()(playlist embedding(playlist input))
                 song latent = Flatten()(song embedding(song input))
                 vector = Concatenate(axis=-1)([playlist latent, song latent])
                 for i in range(1,self.n layers):
                     layer = Dense(self.layers[i], activation='relu', name = 'lay
         er{}'.format(i))
                     vector = layer(vector)
                 predictions = Dense(1, activation='sigmoid')(vector)
                 self.model = Model([playlist_input, song_input], predictions)
                 self.model.compile(optimizer='adam',loss= 'mean absolute error')
                 # Train the model
                 self.model.fit([playlist, track uri], interaction, batch size=32
         , epochs=25, validation split=0.2)
```

```
def recommendations(self, tracks, n recs):
        known_tracks = [track for track in tracks if track in self.songs
1
        songs = [list(self.songs).index(uri) for uri in known tracks]
        vector = self.mlb.transform([known_tracks])
        x1 = np.array([[i] * len(songs) for i in range(self.n_playlists
)]).reshape(-1,1)
        x2 = np.array(songs * self.n playlists).reshape(-1,1)
        predictions = np.array([y for x in self.model.predict([x1,x2]) f
or y in x])
        indices = predictions.argsort()[-k:][::-1]
        recs = []
        for i in indices:
            recs += self.playlists[int(i/len(songs))]
        for uri in tracks:
            if uri in recs:
                recs.remove(uri)
        return [uri for uri, in Counter(recs).most_common(n_recs)]
```

### **Network Based Markov Model**

This model is a probabilistic one that builds up a network where each vertex represents a song and each edge represents two songs sharing a playlist (where more shared playlists leads to higher weighting). Then for prediction, for each of the input K songs, many one step random walks are taken, and the most popular songs that show up in these walks are then returned as a list of 500 song recommendations (after getting rid of duplicates that are already in the playlist). This model consistently performed the best of our models, although building up a large network takes a significant amount of time and space.

**Motivation:** The motivation for using a Network/Markov Chain approach was that people will want to put songs together into playlists in a similar manner that other people have put songs together into playlists. Thus, looking at what songs are normally put into playlists together, and how often, should be a good indication of what songs will be put into playlists together at a later date.

```
In [23]: # Network Building code
         NETWORK FILE PATH = './cs109 final backend/cs109 final backend/network f
         iles/pickled network.pickle'
         with open(NETWORK FILE PATH, 'rb') as f:
             NETWORK = pickle.load(f)
         def n top songs(playlist songs, network, num samples=4000, num top songs
         =500):
             # for if we need to fill in with random songs... (see keyerror)
             all songs = list(network)
             key errors = 0
             all_samples = np.array([])
             for song_uri in playlist_songs:
                 try:
                     sample = np.random.choice(network[song uri]['songs'], num sa
         mples, p=network[song uri]['counts'])
                     all samples = np.append(all samples, sample)
                 except KeyError:
                     # if we get a key error, just randomly choose 1000 songs and
          add them to the samples
                     # this could be fixed with a larger network / training set t
         hat has
                     # every song on at least one playlist... for now lets use ra
         ndomness
                     key errors += 1
                     all samples = np.append(all samples, random.sample(all songs
         , int(num samples/4)))
             unique, counts = np.unique(all samples, return counts=True)
             counts = counts.astype(float) / np.sum(counts)
             counted samples = zip(unique, counts)
             counted samples = [sample for sample in counted samples if sample[0]
          not in playlist songs]
             counted samples = sorted(counted samples, key=lambda x: x[1], revers
         e=True)
             num to return = min(num top songs, len(counted samples))
             return counted samples[:num to return]
```

```
In [24]: def evaluate_network_accuracy(train, test, network, num_predictions=500
):
    print ("starting with {} songs, and trying to find {} songs".format(
    len(train), len(test)))
    preds = n_top_songs(train, network, num_top_songs = num_predictions)
    preds = [p[0] for p in preds]
    correct_ratio = len([x for x in preds if x in test])/(1. * len(test
))
    print(correct_ratio)
    return correct_ratio
```

## **Evaluation**

We decided to evaluate our models based on the same metrics used in the Spotify RecSys <u>contest rules</u> (<a href="https://recsys-challenge.spotify.com/rules">https://recsys-challenge.spotify.com/rules</a>), namely R-Precision (RPrec), Normalized Discounted Cumulative Gain (NDCG), and Recommended Song Clicks (RSC). In the following definitions, G is the set of ground truth tracks representing the held out songs from each playlist and R is the ordered list of recommended songs returned by the recommendation system.

• R-Precision: The metric counts "number of retrieved relevant tracks divided by the number of known relevant tracks," rewarding the total number of retrieved relevant tracks, regardless of order.

$$R\text{-precision} = \frac{|G \cap R_{1:|G|}|}{|G|}$$

 Normalized Discounted Cumulative Gain (NDCG): This metric takes into account the order of the returned songs, rewarding relevant songs placed higher in the returned list. It is calculated as Discounted Cumulative Gain (DCG), divided by the Ideal Discounted Cumulative Gain (IDCG), where the returned songs are ordered perfectly. That calculation looks like:

$$DCG = rel_1 + \sum_{i=2}^{|R|} \frac{rel_i}{\log_2(i+1)}$$

$$IDCG = 1 + \sum_{i=2}^{|G|} \frac{1}{\log_2(i+1)}$$

$$NDCG = \frac{DCG}{IDCG}$$

• Recommended Songs Clicks (RSC): This measures how many "clicks" a Spotify user would need to find the first relevant song in the recommendations (the first song actually in the rest of the playlist *G*), where Spotify displays recommended songs in groups of 10. Therefore it's simply finding the first relevant song and returning its position in the list divided by 10 and truncated. Or more formally:

clicks = 
$$\left| \frac{\arg \min_{i} \{R_i : R_i \in G|\} - 1}{10} \right|$$

We have implemented these metrics in code below:

```
In [25]: from math import log2
         class Evaluator():
             """Superclass for evaluation functions"""
             def __init__(self, name):
                 self.name = name
             def evaluate(self, output, expected):
                 Output will be the output of the model for some list of playlist
         S
                 - Shape of (# playlists, 500)
                 Expected will be the held out songs from each playlist
                 - List of lists of various sizes
                 Note: Each "song" will be the unique spotify uri of a song
                 raise NotImplementedError
         class RPrecision(Evaluator):
             R-precision measures the number of held out songs correctly
                 retrieved by the model output
             def init (self):
                 Evaluator. init (self, 'R-Precision')
             def evaluate(self, output, expected, return all=False):
                 def rprec one(output , expected ):
                     expected size = len(expected )
                     common_set = set(output_).intersection(set(expected_))
                     common size = len(common set)
                     if expected size == 0 or common size == 0:
                         return 0.0
                     return 1. * common size / expected size
                 r precs = [rprec one(out, exp) for (out, exp) in zip(output, exp
         ected)]
                 if return all:
                     return np.mean(r precs), r precs
                 return np.mean(r precs)
         class NDCG(Evaluator):
             Normalized discounted cumulative gain also takes into
                 account how the system ordered the suggestions
             def __init__(self):
                 Evaluator. init (self, 'NDCG')
             def evaluate(self, output, expected, return all=False):
```

```
def ndcg_one(output_, expected_):
            dcg, idcg = 0.0, 0.0
            if len(output ) == 0 or len(expected ) == 0:
                return 0.0
            expected = set(expected )
            for i in range(len(output )):
                # Prediction DCG
                if output_[i] in expected_:
                    if i == 0:
                        dcg += 1.0
                    else:
                        dcg += 1.0 / log2(i + 2.0)
                if i < len(expected ):</pre>
                    if i == 0:
                        idcg += 1.0
                    else:
                        idcg += 1.0 / log2(i + 2.0)
            return dcg / idcg
        precs = [ndcg_one(out, exp) for (out, exp) in zip(output, expect
ed)1
        if return all :
            return np.mean(precs), precs
        else:
            return precs
class RSC(Evaluator):
    Recommended Song Clicks measures how many times a user
    would have to click through the suggestions to find a song that
    was a ground truth song
    def init (self):
        Evaluator. init (self, 'RSC')
    def evaluate(self, output, expected, return all=False):
        def rsc one(output , expected ):
            if len(output ) == 0 or len(expected ) == 0:
                return 51
            output len = len(output )
            expected = set(expected )
            for i in range(output len):
                if output_[i] in expected :
                    return i//10
            return 51
        scores = [rsc one(out, exp) for (out, exp) in zip(output, expect
ed)]
        if return all :
```

```
return np.mean(scores), scores
else :
    return np.mean(scores)
```

```
In [26]: def evaluate model(output, expected, title=''):
             r prec = RPrecision().evaluate(output, expected)
             ndcg = NDCG().evaluate(output, expected)
             rsc = RSC().evaluate(output, expected)
             print("{}: R-Precision: {}, NCDG: {}, RSC: {}".format(title, r prec,
          ndcg, rsc))
         def build evaluation dataset(start, blocks = 1, n predictors=10, min rem
         aining = 100, max remaining = 125):
              """ Build a list of first n song lists, and a list of last total - n
          song lists
             Args:
                 start: (int) the starting playlist slice
                 blocks : (int) The number of playlist slices to use
                 n predictor: (int) The number of songs to be in the list of pre
         dictor lists
                 min remaining: (int) The minimum number of songs remaining on t
         he playlist
                 max remaining: (int) The maximum number of songs remaining on t
         he playlist
             Returns:
                 predictor songs : ((str list) list) List of predictor song lists
                 remainder songs : ((str list) list) List of remaining songs (the
          ones we're trying to guess)
             .....
             f start = start * 1000
             f end = start * 1000 + 999
             predictor songs = []
             remainder songs = []
             for i in range(blocks):
                 with open('./mpd.v1/data/mpd.slice.{}-{}.json'.format(f start, f
         end)) as f:
                     data = json.load(f)
                     for playlist in data['playlists'] :
                         tracks = [t['track uri'] for t in playlist['tracks']]
                         if len(tracks) >= min remaining + n predictors and len(t
         racks) <= max remaining + n predictors:</pre>
                             predict = tracks[:n predictors]
                             remain = tracks[n predictors:]
                             predictor songs.append(predict)
                             remainder songs.append(remain)
             return predictor songs, remainder songs
```

# **Evaluation of each model:**

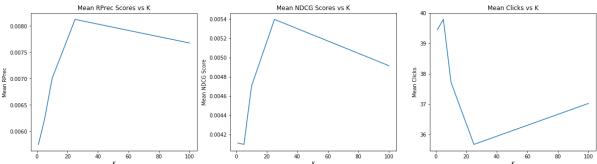
1. Baseline Clustering We follow similar evaluation to the Network Evaluation, on the same test set.

```
In [27]: def get accuracies from cluster(k, start block, cluster to songs,
                                         song to cluster, audio dict, blocks=10,
                                         min_remaining=50, max_remaining=200):
             """ Builds the prediction/remainder sets for a given k starting
                 at slice=start block and returns a list of the scores based on e
         ach metric for
                 each test playlist
             Args:
                 k : (int) Number of predictor songs
                 start block : (int) The slice number to start at
                 cluster to songs : (dict) Mapping each cluster to the songs in t
         hat cluster
                 song to cluster: (dict) Reverse mapping from songs -> cluster
                 audio dict : (dict) Mapping uri -> audio features
                 blocks : (int) The number of slices to read
                 min remaining: (int) The min number of remaining tracks to allo
                 max remaining : (int) The max number of remaining tracks to allo
             Returns:
                 r2 results : (float list) The Rprec results for each playlist
                 ndcq results : (float list) The NDCG results for each playlist
                 rsc results : (float list) The click scores for each playlist
             .....
             # build the prediction/remainder data
             predictors, remainders = build evaluation dataset(start block, block
         s=blocks,
                                                                n predictors=k, mi
         n remaining=min remaining,
                                                                max remaining=max
         remaining)
             # get the predictions from the network
             cm = ClusterModel(cluster_to_songs, song_to_cluster, audio_dict)
             predictions = cm.predict(predictors)
             # evaluate the model based on the 3 metrics
             r prec = RPrecision()
             r2 results = r prec.evaluate(predictions, remainders, return all=Tru
         e)[1]
             ndcg eval = NDCG()
             ndcg results = ndcg eval.evaluate(predictions, remainders, return al
         1=True)[1]
             rsc eval = RSC()
             rsc results = rsc eval.evaluate(predictions, remainders, return all=
         True)[1]
             return r2 results, ndcg results, rsc results
```

```
In [28]: r2_acc, nd_acc, rsc_res = get_accuracies_from_cluster(5, 10, cluster_to_
         songs,
                                          song_to_cluster, audio_dict, blocks=2)
         r2s = []
         nds = []
         rscs = []
         table = PrettyTable()
         table.field_names = ['K', 'Mean RPrec', 'Mean NCDG', 'Mean Clicks']
         for k in [1,5,10,25,100]:
             r2_acc, nd_acc, rsc_res = get_accuracies_from_cluster(k, 100, cluste
         r_to_songs,
                                          song to cluster, audio dict, blocks=1)
             r2s.append(r2_acc)
             nds.append(nd_acc)
             rscs.append(rsc_res)
             table.add_row([k, round(np.mean(r2_acc), 4), round(np.mean(nd_acc), 4
         ), round(np.mean(rsc res),4)])
         print(table)
```

+	+		<b></b> +
K	Mean RPrec	Mean NCDG	Mean Clicks
+	t		
1	0.0058	0.0041	39.4533
5	0.0062	0.0041	39.7927
10	0.007	0.0047	37.7231
25	0.0081	0.0054	35.679
100	0.0077	0.0049	37.027
+	+		<del>+</del>

```
In [29]:
         x = [1, 5, 10, 25, 100]
         fig, (ax1, ax2, ax3) = plt.subplots(1,3, figsize=(20,5))
         sns.lineplot(x, [np.mean([x]) for x in r2s], ax=ax1)
         ax1.set_title('Mean RPrec Scores vs K')
         ax1.set xlabel('K')
         ax1.set_ylabel('Mean RPrec')
         sns.lineplot(x, [np.mean([x]) for x in nds], ax=ax2)
         ax2.set_title('Mean NDCG Scores vs K')
         ax2.set xlabel('K')
         ax2.set ylabel('Mean NDCG Score')
         sns.lineplot(x, [np.mean([x]) for x in rscs], ax=ax3)
         ax3.set title('Mean Clicks vs K')
         ax3.set_xlabel('K')
         ax3.set_ylabel('Mean Clicks')
         plt.show()
```



Because this model is meant to be very much a baseline, these metrics confirm our assumption that it does only a little better than random chance. While it regularly finds some songs (generally no more than 1 or 2) from the held out songs, the random chance model we tested nearly never retrieved a relevant song. We thought this would be a good baseline as well as giving us a chance to apply some models we learned in class, whereas the two better models we implemented were extensions that we didn't cover at all this semester.

#### 2. Network:

Letting K be the number of seed songs, and S be the number of remaining songs that we are trying to predict, we will evaluate the network model as follows.

We will use k=[1,5,10,25,100] (spotify challenge requirements) while setting  $25 \le S \le 200$  in order to keep the number of tracts to predict slightly more consistant in order to ensure that the changing numer of tracks doesn't affect the accuracy as much as with an even larger range. The number of predicted songs will be a constant 500 as in the official RecSys Challenge.

```
In [30]: def get accuracies from network(k, network, start block, blocks=10,
                                         min remaining=25, max remaining=200,
                                          num_samples = 1000, num_top_songs=500):
              """ Builds the prediction/remainder sets for a given k starting
                 at slice=start block and returns a list of the scores based on e
         ach metric for
                 each test playlist
             Args:
                 k : (int) Number of predictor songs
                 start block : (int) The slice number to start at
                 blocks : (int) The number of slices to read
                 min remaining: (int) The min number of remaining tracks to allo
                 max remaining: (int) The max number of remaining tracks to allo
                 num samples : (int) The number of samples to take from each pre
         dictor track
                 num top songs : (int) The number of song predictions to return
             Returns:
                 r2 results : (float list) The Rprec results for each playlist
                 ndcg results : (float list) The NDCG results for each playlist
                 rsc results : (float list) The click scores for each playlist
              .....
             # build the prediction/remainder data
             predictors, remainders = build_evaluation_dataset(start_block, block
         s=blocks,
                                                                n predictors=k, mi
         n remaining=min remaining,
                                                                max remaining=max
         remaining)
             # get the predictions from the network
             predictions = []
             for i in range(len(predictors)):
                 p = [s[0] for s in n top songs(predictors[i], NETWORK,
                                                 num samples=num samples, num top
         songs=num top songs)]
                 predictions.append(p)
             # evaluate the model based on the 3 metrics
             r prec = RPrecision()
             r2 results = r prec.evaluate(predictions, remainders, return all=Tru
         e)[1]
             ndcg eval = NDCG()
             ndcg_results = ndcg_eval.evaluate(predictions, remainders, return_al
         1=True)[1]
             rsc eval = RSC()
             rsc results = rsc eval.evaluate(predictions, remainders, return all=
         True)[1]
```

return r2\_results, ndcg\_results, rsc\_results

```
In [ ]: # sns.distplot(get accuracies from network(5, NETWORK, 100))
        # Evaluate the network model for the given k values, using 2 1000 playli
        st
        # slices, starting at slice 100. (The model was build from slices 2-15)
        r2s = []
        nds = []
        rscs = []
        table = PrettyTable()
        table.field_names = ['K', 'Mean RPrec', 'Mean NCDG', 'Mean Clicks']
        for k in [1,5,10,25,100]:
            r2_acc, nd acc, rsc_res = get_accuracies_from_network(k, NETWORK, 10
        0, blocks=1)
            r2s.append(r2_acc)
            nds.append(nd acc)
            rscs.append(rsc_res)
            table.add_row([k, round(np.mean(r2_acc), 4), round(np.mean(nd_acc), 4
        ), round(np.mean(rsc_res),4)])
        print(table)
```

Above we can start to see trends in the various evaluation methods. It's important to note that because of constraints on local processing power, the network does not necessarily have nodes for all of the test songs which is hurting performance, but a natural drawback of the Markov-chain approach: namely the model itself is quite large. We counter this by randomly sampling songs from the network with equal weight whenever a seed song is not in the network.

Looking at the performance of the network approach based on the three scoring systems, we can see that the model seems to perform best for the RPrec score and NCDG score methods using K=25 seed songs, while the mean clicks required to find a relevant song is best with K=100 seed songs.

Furthermore, while we do not have access to the official test sets used by Spotify, we can start to see the benefits and drawbacks of the Markov-chain based model. The Markov-chain based model seems to perform best (relative to the other metrics) on the RPrec score. The best performing Spotify challenge contestant had a score of RPrec = .224 on the official test set, whereas, depending on the K value, our model had a mean  $RPrec \in \{0.17, 0.28, 0.32, 0.28\}$ . This should of course be taken with a grain of salt as our model most likely would not have had the best performance in the challenge, but does signal that it is a reasonably good approach.

Moving on to mean NCDG score, which takes into account the actual ranking of importance of the predictions into account, our model falls much closer to the middle of the pack in the RecSys leaderboards (again, this is a tough comparison given that we don't have the test set used in the challenge). With scores in the low 0.2 range, (roughly  $\sim$ 60th/110 in the actual challenge) we can start to see the drawbacks of the Markov model.

Lastly our mean Click Score again places the model in the relative middle of the pack for the RecSys leaderboards. Where exactly is unclear because there is no info on the test data and what the distribution of K was, however, it seems that the Markov-chain model can hold its own.

But why does the Markov-chain model apparently do so much better with the *RPrec* scoring method than the others? At its base, this makes sense because the whole idea of the model is that tracks that people put together on their own will likely be put together by people again. The one step random walk should do a fairly good job of getting the most likely songs as a set, but the ranking system of appearances in the sample set does not seem to perform as well as the other Spotify challenge methods for ensuring the most relevant songs are given first. This would suggest a need to work on the weighting system used by the algorithm. The mean Clicks Score also shows the issues as with the NCDG score, namely the member songs are not always ranked as the most relevant.

All and all, however, it seems like this model would do an ok job of keeping up with the pack in the actual RecSys challenge based on the limited information that we have.

```
In []: x = [1,5,10,25, 100]
    fig, (ax1, ax2, ax3) = plt.subplots(1,3, figsize=(20,5))

sns.lineplot(x, [np.mean([x]) for x in r2s], ax=ax1)
    ax1.set_title('Mean RPrec Scores vs K')
    ax1.set_xlabel('K')
    ax1.set_ylabel('Mean RPrec')

sns.lineplot(x, [np.mean([x]) for x in nds], ax=ax2)
    ax2.set_title('Mean NDCG Scores vs K')
    ax2.set_xlabel('K')
    ax2.set_ylabel('Mean NDCG Score')

sns.lineplot(x, [np.mean([x]) for x in rscs], ax=ax3)
    ax3.set_title('Mean Clicks vs K')
    ax3.set_xlabel('K')
    ax3.set_ylabel('Mean Clicks')

plt.show()
```

**Above:** Here we can see the same mean scores discussed above, but in a graphical form. The R2 and NDCG scores seem to improve as K (the number of seed tracks) increases, and then decreases. While the Mean Clicks score improves, then gets worse, and then improves again.

```
In [ ]: # General comparison of the scores
        fig, (ax1, ax2, ax3) = plt.subplots(1,3, figsize=(15,5))
        sns.kdeplot(r2s[0], label='K=1', ax=ax1)
        sns.kdeplot(r2s[1], label='K=5', ax=ax1)
        sns.kdeplot(r2s[2], label='K=10', ax=ax1)
        sns.kdeplot(r2s[3], label='K=25', ax=ax1)
        sns.kdeplot(r2s[4], label='K=100', ax=ax1)
        ax1.set title('Distribution of RPrec Scores by K')
        sns.kdeplot(nds[0], label='K=1', ax=ax2)
        sns.kdeplot(nds[1], label='K=5', ax=ax2)
        sns.kdeplot(nds[2], label='K=10', ax=ax2)
        sns.kdeplot(nds[3], label='K=25', ax=ax2)
        sns.kdeplot(nds[4], label='K=100', ax=ax2)
        ax2.set title('Distribution of NDCG Scores by K')
        sns.kdeplot(rscs[0], label='K=1', ax=ax3)
        sns.kdeplot(rscs[1], label='K=5', ax=ax3)
        sns.kdeplot(rscs[2], label='K=10', ax=ax3)
        sns.kdeplot(rscs[3], label='K=25', ax=ax3)
        sns.kdeplot(rscs[4], label='K=100', ax=ax3)
        ax3.set title('Distribution of Click Scores by K')
        ax3.set xlabel('')
        plt.show()
```

**Above:** Here we can see the distribution of each of the three metrics colored by K. Though hard ot pick out the indivual distributions, it shows how they move together in general. To look at something a little easier to interpret, lets look at the distributions for each scoring metric by K below.

**Above:** In this more in-depth view of the scoring methods by K value we can see the mean trends discussed earlier but in more detail. In terms of RPrec score we can watch the distribution shift right showing the improved RPrec score as K increase, but then shift left again once K=100. We see a similar result in the NDCG scores. Interestingly we can see in the click scores that there are two main 'bumps' in the distribution. The first is around 1, showing that most times there is relevant song on the first page or in the first couple pages for the most part. Then there is another bump around 51 (the max value allowed per the SysRec evaluation specs), which shows that sometimes the reccomendations contain none of the expected songs. As K increases, however, we can see that the bump at 1 grows higher and higher, while the bump at around 51 shrinks showing the overal improvement in the predictions (based on click score) as K increases.

### 3. Playlist based KNN

```
In [32]: def get accuracies from KNN(k, knn model, start block, blocks=10,
                                     min remaining=25, max remaining=200, num top
         _songs=500):
             """ Builds the prediction/remainder sets for a given k starting
                 at slice=start block and returns a list of the scores based on e
         ach metric for
                 each test playlist
             Args:
                 k : (int) Number of predictor songs
                 start block : (int) The slice number to start at
                 blocks : (int) The number of slices to read
                 min remaining: (int) The min number of remaining tracks to allo
                 max remaining: (int) The max number of remaining tracks to allo
                 num samples : (int) The number of samples to take from each pre
         dictor track
                 num top songs : (int) The number of song predictions to return
             Returns:
                 r2 results : (float list) The Rprec results for each playlist
                 ndcg results : (float list) The NDCG results for each playlist
                 rsc results : (float list) The click scores for each playlist
              .....
             predictors, remainders = build evaluation dataset(start block, block
         s=blocks,
                                                                n predictors=k, mi
         n remaining=min remaining,
                                                                max remaining=max
         remaining)
             predictions = []
             for predictor in predictors:
                 p = knn model.recommendations(predictor, num top songs)
                 predictions.append(p)
             r prec = RPrecision()
             r2_results = r_prec.evaluate(predictions, remainders, return_all=Tru
         e)[1]
             ndcg eval = NDCG()
             ndcg results = ndcg eval.evaluate(predictions, remainders, return al
         1=True)[1]
             rsc eval = RSC()
             rsc results = rsc eval.evaluate(predictions, remainders, return all=
         True)[1]
             return r2 results, ndcg results, rsc results
```

```
In [ ]: playlists = build evaluation dataset(2, blocks=2,
                                              n predictors=1, min remaining=25,
                                              max remaining=200)[0]
        knn_model = KNNModel(100)
        knn model.fit(playlists)
        r2s = []
        nds = []
        rscs = []
        table = PrettyTable()
        table.field_names = ['K', 'Mean RPrec', 'Mean NCDG', 'Mean Clicks']
        for k in [1,5,10,25,100]:
            r2_acc, nd_acc, rsc_res = get_accuracies_from_KNN(k, knn model, 100,
         blocks=1)
            r2s.append(r2 acc)
            nds.append(nd_acc)
            rscs.append(rsc res)
            table.add_row([k, round(np.mean(r2_acc), 4), round(np.mean(nd_acc), 4
        ), round(np.mean(rsc res),4)])
        print(table)
```

```
In []: x = [1,5,10,25, 100]
    fig, (ax1, ax2, ax3) = plt.subplots(1,3, figsize=(20,5))

sns.lineplot(x, [np.mean([x]) for x in r2s], ax=ax1)
    ax1.set_title('Mean RPrec Scores vs K')
    ax1.set_xlabel('K')
    ax1.set_ylabel('Mean RPrec')

sns.lineplot(x, [np.mean([x]) for x in nds], ax=ax2)
    ax2.set_title('Mean NDCG Scores vs K')
    ax2.set_xlabel('K')
    ax2.set_ylabel('Mean NDCG Score')

sns.lineplot(x, [np.mean([x]) for x in rscs], ax=ax3)
    ax3.set_title('Mean Clicks vs K')
    ax3.set_xlabel('K')
    ax3.set_ylabel('Mean Clicks')
    plt.show()
```

```
In [ ]: # General comparison of the scores
        fig, (ax1, ax2, ax3) = plt.subplots(1,3, figsize=(15,5))
        sns.kdeplot(r2s[0], label='K=1', ax=ax1)
        sns.kdeplot(r2s[1], label='K=5', ax=ax1)
        sns.kdeplot(r2s[2], label='K=10', ax=ax1)
        sns.kdeplot(r2s[3], label='K=25', ax=ax1)
        sns.kdeplot(r2s[4], label='K=100', ax=ax1)
        ax1.set_title('Distribution of RPrec Scores by K')
        sns.kdeplot(nds[0], label='K=1', ax=ax2)
        sns.kdeplot(nds[1], label='K=5', ax=ax2)
        sns.kdeplot(nds[2], label='K=10', ax=ax2)
        sns.kdeplot(nds[3], label='K=25', ax=ax2)
        sns.kdeplot(nds[4], label='K=100', ax=ax2)
        ax2.set_title('Distribution of NDCG Scores by K')
        sns.kdeplot(rscs[0], label='K=1', ax=ax3)
        sns.kdeplot(rscs[1], label='K=5', ax=ax3)
        sns.kdeplot(rscs[2], label='K=10', ax=ax3)
        sns.kdeplot(rscs[3], label='K=25', ax=ax3)
        sns.kdeplot(rscs[4], label='K=100', ax=ax3)
        ax3.set_title('Distribution of Click Scores by K')
        ax3.set xlabel('')
        plt.show()
In []: ks = [1,5,10,25,100]
        fig, axes = plt.subplots(5,3, figsize=(15,30))
        for i in range(5):
            ax1 = axes[i,0]
            ax2 = axes[i,1]
```

Because this model was more of a baseline for the better two, the scores are significantly worse, yet is on the same level of performance as KNN based on audio features. This is likely because it is able to take into account the structure of the playlist, and so it can better find direct relationships between certain songs without relying to finding those through the secondary audio features that may not be totally accurate. However, it even though it was trained on approximately the same amount of input data as the other models, it wasn't able to capture much information from that training data. Our best guess is that the cosine similarity metric wasn't very accurate, especially for small K, as the input vector is very sparse (only k ones out of hundreds of thousands of songs). Therefore, when searching for 'close' playlists, it isn't able to find relevant playlists very well.

#### 4. Neural CF

```
In [35]: def get accuracies from CF(k, cf model, start block, blocks=10,
                                    min remaining=25, max remaining=200, num top
         songs=500):
             """ Builds the prediction/remainder sets for a given k starting
                 at slice=start block and returns a list of the scores based on e
         ach metric for
                 each test playlist
             Args:
                 k : (int) Number of predictor songs
                 start block : (int) The slice number to start at
                 blocks : (int) The number of slices to read
                 min remaining: (int) The min number of remaining tracks to allo
                 max remaining: (int) The max number of remaining tracks to allo
                 num samples : (int) The number of samples to take from each pre
         dictor track
                 num top songs : (int) The number of song predictions to return
             Returns:
                 r2 results : (float list) The Rprec results for each playlist
                 ndcg results : (float list) The NDCG results for each playlist
                 rsc results : (float list) The click scores for each playlist
              .....
             predictors, remainders = build evaluation dataset(start block, block
         s=blocks,
                                                                n predictors=k, mi
         n remaining=min remaining,
                                                                max remaining=max
         remaining)
             predictions = []
             for predictor in predictors:
                 p = cf model.recommendations(predictor, num top songs)
                 predictions.append(p)
             r prec = RPrecision()
             r2_results = r_prec.evaluate(predictions, remainders, return_all=Tru
         e)[1]
             ndcg eval = NDCG()
             ndcg results = ndcg eval.evaluate(predictions, remainders, return al
         1=True)[1]
             rsc eval = RSC()
             rsc results = rsc eval.evaluate(predictions, remainders, return all=
         True)[1]
             return r2 results, ndcg results, rsc results
```

```
In [ ]: playlists = build_evaluation_dataset(80, blocks=1,n_predictors=1, min_re
        maining=25, max remaining=200)[0]
        cf model = MLPCFModel(100)
        cf_model.fit(playlists)
        r2s = []
        nds = []
        rscs = []
        table = PrettyTable()
        table.field_names = ['K', 'Mean RPrec', 'Mean NCDG', 'Mean Clicks']
        for k in [1,5,10,25, 100]:
            r2 acc, nd acc, rsc res = get accuracies from CF(k, cf model, 100, b
        locks=1)
            r2s.append(r2 acc)
            nds.append(nd acc)
            rscs.append(rsc_res)
            table.add_row([k, round(np.mean(r2_acc), 4), round(np.mean(nd_acc), 4
        ), round(np.mean(rsc_res),4)])
        print(table)
```

```
In [ ]: # General comparison of the scores
        fig, (ax1, ax2, ax3) = plt.subplots(1,3, figsize=(15,5))
        sns.kdeplot(r2s[0], label='K=1', ax=ax1)
        sns.kdeplot(r2s[1], label='K=5', ax=ax1)
        sns.kdeplot(r2s[2], label='K=10', ax=ax1)
        sns.kdeplot(r2s[3], label='K=25', ax=ax1)
        sns.kdeplot(r2s[4], label='K=100', ax=ax1)
        ax1.set_title('Distribution of RPrec Scores by K')
        sns.kdeplot(nds[0], label='K=1', ax=ax2)
        sns.kdeplot(nds[1], label='K=5', ax=ax2)
        sns.kdeplot(nds[2], label='K=10', ax=ax2)
        sns.kdeplot(nds[3], label='K=25', ax=ax2)
        sns.kdeplot(nds[4], label='K=100', ax=ax2)
        ax2.set_title('Distribution of NDCG Scores by K')
        sns.kdeplot(rscs[0], label='K=1', ax=ax3)
        sns.kdeplot(rscs[1], label='K=5', ax=ax3)
        sns.kdeplot(rscs[2], label='K=10', ax=ax3)
        sns.kdeplot(rscs[3], label='K=25', ax=ax3)
        sns.kdeplot(rscs[4], label='K=100', ax=ax3)
        ax3.set_title('Distribution of Click Scores by K')
        ax3.set xlabel('')
        plt.show()
In []: ks = [1,5,10,25,100]
        fig, axes = plt.subplots(5,3, figsize=(15,30))
        for i in range(5):
            ax1 = axes[i,0]
            ax2 = axes[i,1]
            ax3 = axes[i,2]
            sns.distplot(r2s[i], ax=ax1)
            ax1.set title('RPrec Scores | K = {}'.format(ks[i]))
            ax1.set xlabel('RPrec Score')
```

```
sns.distplot(r2s[i], ax=ax1)
ax1.set_title('RPrec Scores | K = {}'.format(ks[i]))
ax1.set_xlabel('RPrec Score')

sns.distplot(nds[i], ax=ax2)
ax2.set_title('NDCG Scores | K = {}'.format(ks[i]))
ax2.set_xlabel('NDCG Score')

sns.distplot(rscs[i], ax=ax3)
ax3.set_title('Click Scores | K = {}'.format(ks[i]))
ax3.set_xlabel('Required Number of Clicks')
```

The collaborative filtering model did decently well. It didn't achieve anywhere close to the scores seen above for the network model, but it improved upon the two baseline models. The main reasons we think it didn't perform as well is because it is only trained on a small number of training examples, as the size of the model required quickly blows up as it gets more training examples. If given more time and space, the model could do reasonably better. However, we would likely need to utilize other tricks or simplifications in order to get the model working better for more training data.

## **Conclusions and Interpretations**

Overall, we have seen that the filtering and network models perform the best, significantly improving over the baseline models using nearest neighbor techniques. Our final models were comparable with some of the top models in the RecSys challenge, so we are very satisfied with our results. If we had more time and computing power, we would have liked to scale both of those models up larger, as they were both limited in terms of their size (the network was trained on about 20000 playlists and ended up being about 7GB while filtering was only able to handle about **HOW MANY PLAYLISTS**). Ideally, we would be able to utilize sklearn's suppoer for sparse matrices to scale up filtering, but we weren't able to finalize that.

Music recommendation in general is a challenging problem, with millions of songs to choose from and a large variety of songs within. More complex techniques like deep RNNs and autoencoders seemed attractive at the beginning of the project, but ultimately weren't feasible for us to complete. This forced us to adapt and implement the fairly different models seen here. Overall, we feel confident in our model's ability to find relevant songs to continue and put together a great playlist.