lessons learned in the land of autocomplete



Jenna Zeigen (she/her) Carta Tech Talks 5/28/2021



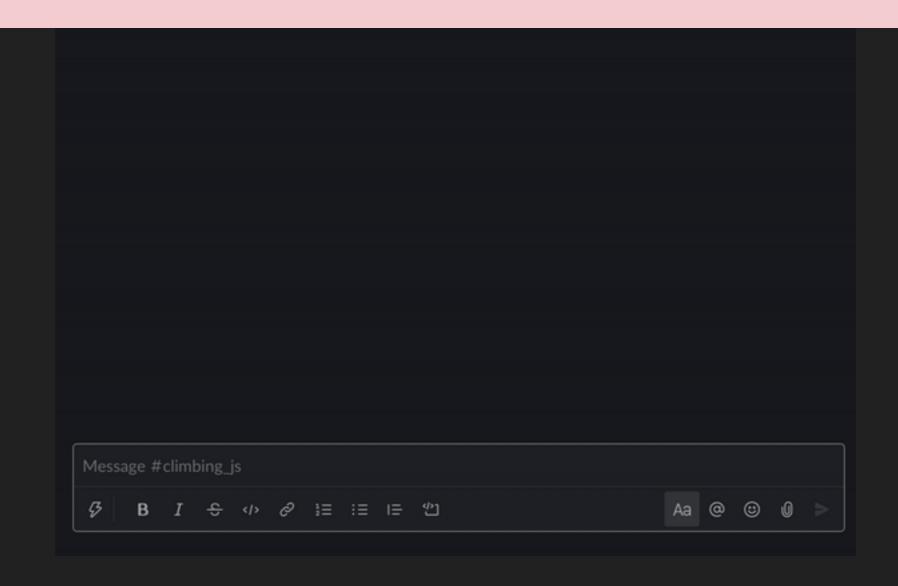


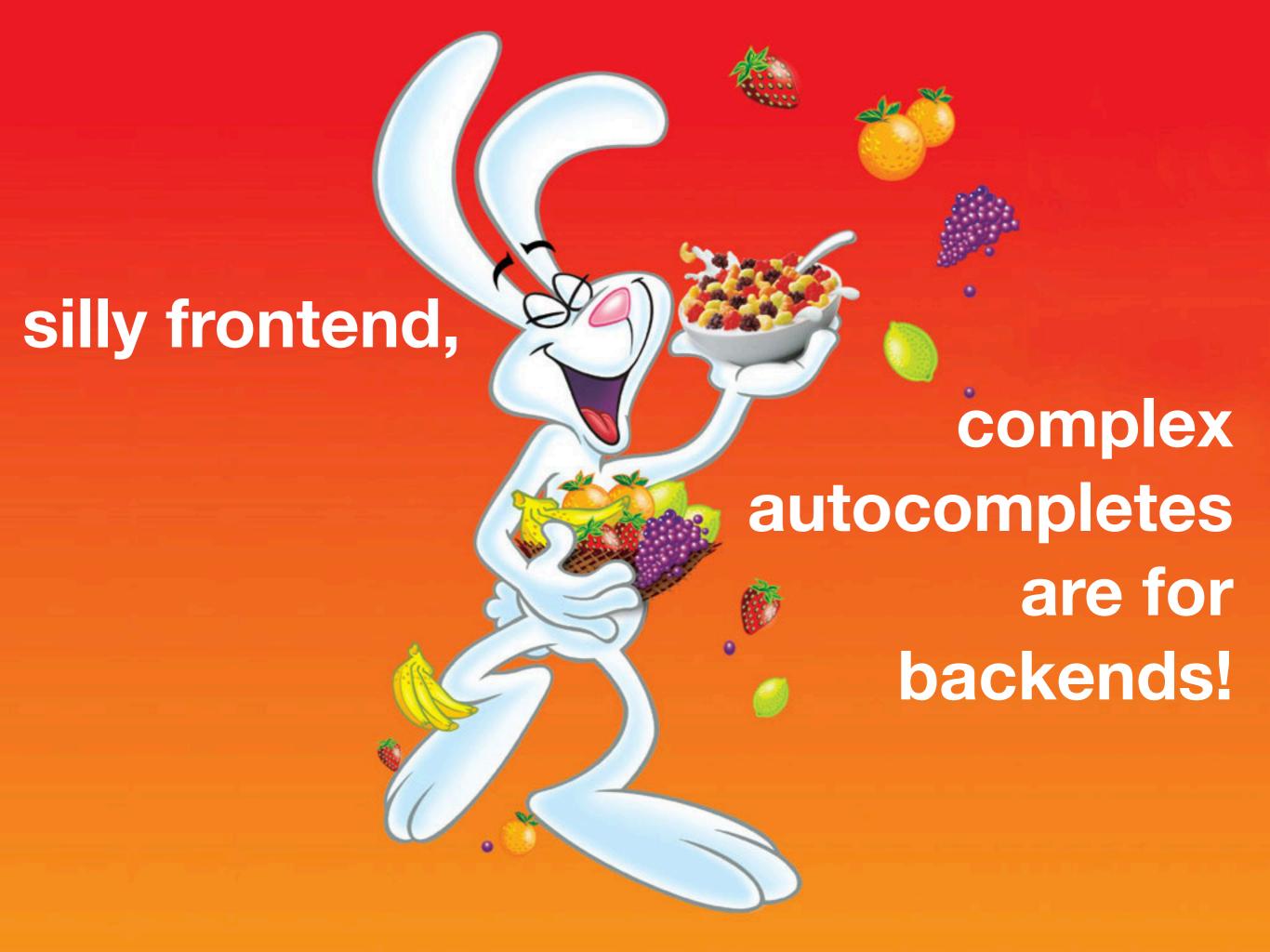
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Brooklyn, NY

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wait, what do you mean by autocomplete?





1. Request

2. Filter

3. Sort

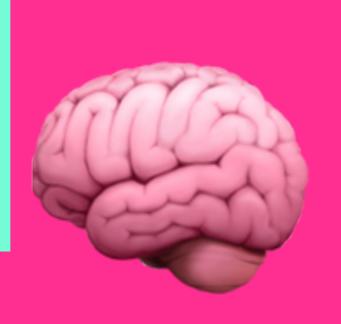
performance lessons!

career lessons!

autocompletes should be tailored to the user's behavior



algorithms
that improve
automatically
through experience
over time



building a mathematical model based on "training data", used to "make predictions"



tl;dr, turning
logs into decimals
using supervised
learning

1234

"features" are the attributes of the item that could be influencing the classification

feature extraction



"feature vector" for each item, a list of all the features and their values

feature extraction



feature vectors from the selected and not selected items are used as data to train the model

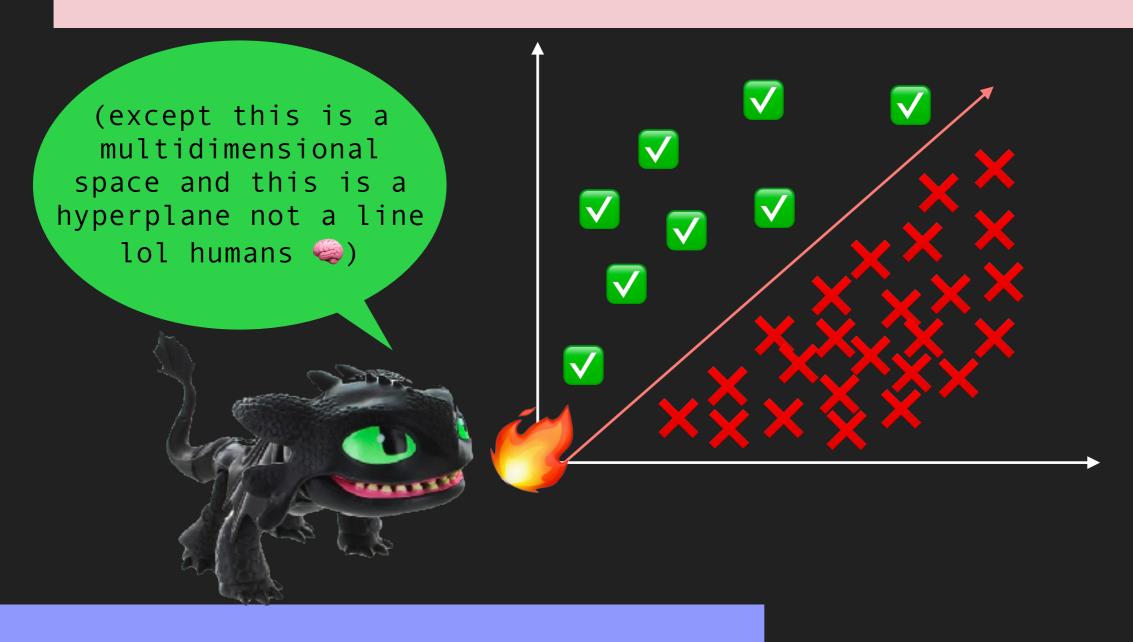
training

coming soon from DreamWorks, "How to Train Your Model"





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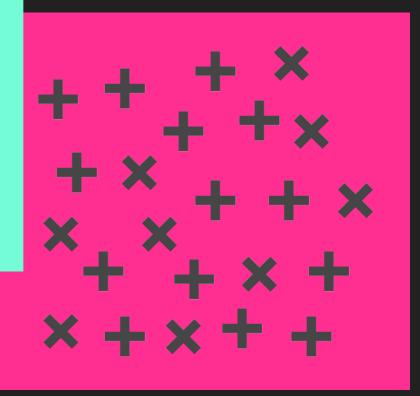


training



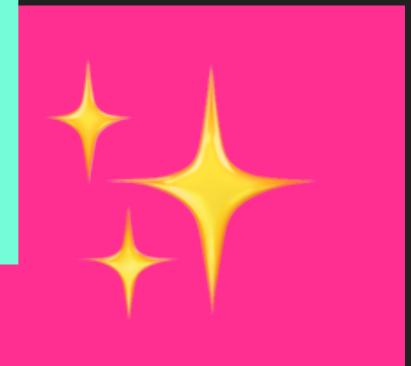
An item's score is the sum of the product of each feature's value and its weight

scoring



then sort all the things by score! personalization!

scoring



autocompletes do a lot of stuff in an unbelievably short amount of time!

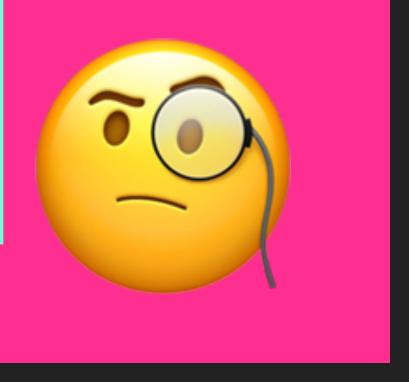


do less stuff!

#1 top performance rule!

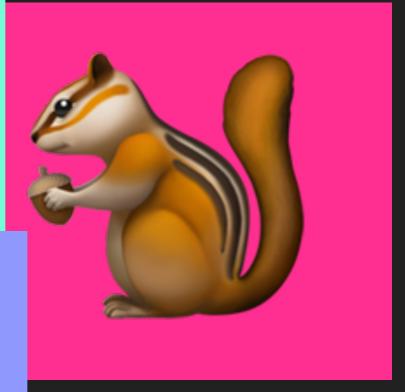


measure first, act second



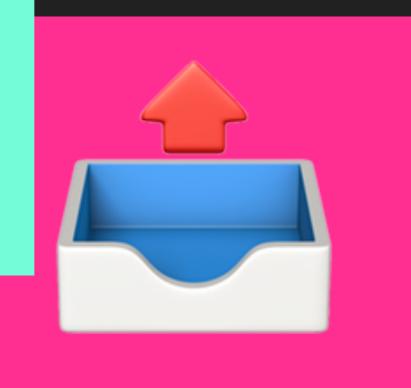
"stash" the answers to expensive and re-used things

Corollary: don't do expensive things in sort comparators!



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sometimes you need to get creative



memory usage is also an important aspect of performance



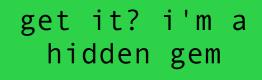
ultimately,
performance
is about
user experience



yes, sometimes you
get lucky with
 projects, but
luck != success



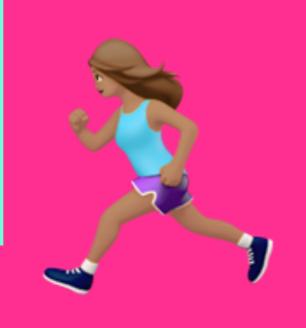
find something
 critical but
 underappreciated...



. . . and then becomeThe Person™



if you think a
 project is
worth it, keep
pushing for it



lessons! everywher!

Thanks!

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