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STATS5099: Data Mining

Recommender systems

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This week's content

- Content-based filtering systems
- Collaborative filtering systems
 - Neighbourhood-based collaborative filtering
 - Model-based collaborative filtering (UV-decomposition)
- Evaluation measures

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Recommender systems

- Aim: predict the rating or preference a user would give to an item.
- Data: **utility matrix**

	Items
	1 2 ... i ... R
1	5 3 4
2	2 3 4
...	...
u	2 5
...	...
n	2 3 4 1
a	1 ? 3

(to predict) active user
numerical ratings / unary ratings
1-10 purchased/not purchased inferred from user

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Content-based filtering

Idea: compare representations of content describing an item to representations of content that interests the user

- construct item profile
- construct user profile
- compute the similarity between item and user profiles

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Content-based filtering (example)

	Harry Potter	Star Wars	Titanic	Love Actually
Alice	3	2	4	
Bob		5		
Carol				3
David	3		1	

- construct item profile

	Fantasy	Romantic
Harry Potter	1	0
Star Wars	1	0
Titanic	0	1
Love Actually	0	1

feature to describe movie

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Content-based filtering (example)

	HP	SW	Titanic	LA	Fantasy	Romantic
Alice	3	2	4		-0.5	1

Alice's average rating: $\frac{3+2+4}{3} = 3$
 Alice's profile on Fantasy: $\frac{(3-3)+(2-3)}{2} = -0.5$
 Alice's profile on Romantic: $\frac{4-1}{1} = 3$

item feature

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Neighbourhood-based collaborative filtering

Idea: recommendation for an active user a is made by looking at the users that are most similar to a and recommending items that these users like.

- calculate the similarity from a to all other users u
- select k users most similar to a who have rated item i
- make predictions for user a on item i

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Neighbourhood-based collaborative filtering

- calculate the similarity from a to all other users u
- Pearson correlation coefficient

$$\text{sim}(a, u) = \frac{\sum_{i \in I} (r_{ai} - \bar{r}_a)(r_{ui} - \bar{r}_u)}{\sqrt{\sum_{i \in I} (r_{ai} - \bar{r}_a)^2} \sqrt{\sum_{i \in I} (r_{ui} - \bar{r}_u)^2}}$$
- Cosine similarity

$$\text{sim}(a, u) = \frac{\mathbf{r}_a \cdot \mathbf{r}_u}{\|\mathbf{r}_a\| \cdot \|\mathbf{r}_u\|}$$
- Jaccard similarity measure (only 0 or 1)

$$\text{sim}(a, u) = \frac{|I_a \cap I_u|}{|I_a \cup I_u|}$$

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Neighbourhood-based collaborative filtering

- select k users most similar to a who have rated item i
- make predictions for user a on item i
- Let N be the set of k users most similar to a who have rated item i
- Prediction for item i of user a :
 - $p_{ai} = \frac{1}{|N|} \sum_{u \in N} r_{ui}$ simple average
 - $p_{ai} = \frac{\sum_{u \in N} \text{sim}(a, u) \cdot r_{ui}}{\sum_{u \in N} \text{sim}(a, u)}$ weighted average, if a, u similar \Rightarrow higher influence
 - $p_{ai} = \bar{r}_a + \frac{\sum_{u \in N} (\text{sim}(a, u) - \text{sim}(a, u)) \cdot r_{ui}}{\sum_{u \in N} (\text{sim}(a, u) - \text{sim}(a, u))}$ delete bias

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Collaborative filtering (example)

	i1	i2	i3	i4	i5	i6	avg
u1	.	4	3	4	3	3	3.40
u2	2	4	.	4	2	3	3.00
u3	4	5	.	.	.	1	3.33
u4	3	5	.	4	5	1	3.60
u5	5	1	3	3	4	1	2.83
u6	5	2	2	3	3	1	2.67
u7	.	.	5	1	.	4	3.33
u8	3	2	1	3	.	3	2.40
u9	5	1	5	5	3	.	3.80
u10	5	3	2	3	2	3	3.00

Pearson correlation between users 1 and 2
 $\frac{(4-3.4) \cdot (4-3) + (4-3.4) \cdot (4-3) + (3-3.4) \cdot (2-3) + (3-3.4) \cdot (3-3)}{\sqrt{2 \times (4-3.4)^2 + 2 \times (3-3.4)^2} \sqrt{2 \times (4-3)^2 + (2-3)^2 + (3-3)^2}} = 0.906$

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Collaborative filtering (example)

	i1	i2	i3	i4	i5	i6	avg
u1	.	4	3	4	3	3	3.40
u2	2	4	.	4	2	3	3.00
u3	4	5	.	.	.	1	3.33
u4	3	5	.	4	5	1	3.60
u5	5	1	3	3	4	1	2.83
u6	5	2	2	3	3	1	2.67
u7	.	.	5	1	.	4	3.33
u8	3	2	1	3	.	3	2.40
u9	5	1	5	5	3	.	3.80
u10	5	3	2	3	2	3	3.00

Cosine similarity between users 1 and 2
 $\frac{0 \cdot 2 + 4 \cdot 4 + 3 \cdot 0 + 4 \cdot 4 + 3 \cdot 2 + 3 \cdot 3}{\sqrt{0^2 + 4^2 + 3^2 + 4^2 + 3^2} \sqrt{2^2 + 4^2 + 0^2 + 4^2 + 2^2 + 3^2}} = 0.874$

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Collaborative filtering (example)

	i1	i2	i3	i4	i5	i6	Pearson
u1	.	4	3	4	3	3	1
u2	2	4	.	4	2	3	0.905
u3	4	5	.	.	.	1	1
u4	3	5	.	4	5	1	0.457
u5	5	1	3	3	4	1	-0.272
u6	5	2	2	3	3	1	0.327
u7	.	.	5	1	.	4	-0.971
u8	3	2	1	3	.	3	0.302
u9	5	1	5	5	3	.	-0.302
u10	5	3	2	3	2	3	0.667

Using $k = 3$, i.e. users 3, 2 and 10
 simple average: $r_{11} = \frac{2+4+5}{3} = 3.67$

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Collaborative filtering (example)

	i1	i2	i3	i4	i5	i6	Pearson
u1	.	4	3	4	3	3	1
u2	2	4	.	4	2	3	0.905
u3	4	5	.	.	.	1	1
u4	3	5	.	4	5	1	0.457
u5	5	1	3	3	4	1	-0.272
u6	5	2	2	3	3	1	0.327
u7	.	.	5	1	.	4	-0.971
u8	3	2	1	3	.	3	0.302
u9	5	1	5	5	3	.	-0.302
u10	5	3	2	3	2	3	0.667

Using $k = 3$, i.e. users 3, 2 and 10
 weighted average: $r_{11} = \frac{2 \cdot 0.905 + 4 \cdot 1 + 5 \cdot 0.667}{1 + 0.905 + 0.667} = 3.56$

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Collaborative filtering (example)

	i1	i2	i3	i4	i5	i6	avg	Pearson
u1	.	4	3	4	3	3	3.40	1
u2	2	4	.	4	2	3	3.00	0.905
u3	4	5	.	.	.	1	3.33	1
u4	3	5	.	4	5	1	3.60	0.457
u5	5	1	3	3	4	1	2.83	-0.272
u6	5	2	2	3	3	1	2.67	0.327
u7	.	.	5	1	.	4	3.33	-0.971
u8	3	2	1	3	.	3	2.40	0.302
u9	5	1	5	5	3	.	3.80	-0.302
u10	5	3	2	3	2	3	3.00	0.667

Using $k = 3$, i.e. users 3, 2 and 10
 weighted average (normalised): $r_{11} = \frac{2 \cdot 0.905 + (4-3.33) \cdot 1 + (5-3) \cdot 0.667}{1 + 0.905 + 0.667} = 3.83$

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UV-decomposition

Idea: decompose the utility matrix M as UV , optimise U and V such that UV closely approximates M in the nonblank entries, and use the entry in UV to estimate the blank entries

$$\begin{bmatrix} 5 & 2 & 4 & 4 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 & 4 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 & 4 & 1 \\ 2 & 5 & 4 & 3 & 5 \\ 4 & 4 & 5 & 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} u_{11} & u_{12} \\ u_{21} & u_{22} \\ u_{31} & u_{32} \\ u_{41} & u_{42} \\ u_{51} & u_{52} \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} v_{11} & v_{12} & v_{13} & v_{14} & v_{15} \\ v_{21} & v_{22} & v_{23} & v_{24} & v_{25} \end{bmatrix}$$

- determine the number of latent dimensions (size of matrix UV)
- incrementally optimise the values in U and V by (one by one)
- minimising the sum of squared error

$$\text{SSE} = \sum_{(u,i) \in R} (r_{ui} - u_u \cdot v_i)^2$$
- predict the blank entries (given rating - predicted predicted)

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Content-based filtering vs collaborative filtering

Content-based filtering

Pros

- Able to recommend new & unpopular items (feature profile)
- Able to provide explanations

Cons

- Finding the appropriate features is hard
- Cannot make recommendations for new users (no user profile)
- Overspecialisation: never recommends items outside user's content profile

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Content-based filtering vs collaborative filtering

Collaborative filtering

Pros

- Works for any kind of item

Cons

- Hard to find a set of similar users when the utility matrix is very sparse (many 0's)
- Cannot make recommendations for new users
- Cannot recommend an item that has not been previously rated
- Popularity bias: tends to recommend popular items

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Evaluation

- Evaluate predictions with known ratings (regression setting)
 - root mean squared error: $\text{RMSE} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{(u,i) \in R} (r_{ui} - \hat{r}_{ui})^2}{|R|}}$
 - mean absolute error: $\text{MAE} = \frac{\sum_{(u,i) \in R} |r_{ui} - \hat{r}_{ui}|}{|R|}$
- Evaluate Top-N recommendations: 0/1 model
 - Accuracy, precision (positive prediction rate), ROC (for classification setting)
- Evaluate the ranking of Top-N recommendation
 - Spearman's rank correlation between system's and user's (complete) rankings

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Errata

- Example 2 (page 5)

$$p_{1,2} = 3.33 + \frac{(5 - 4.67) \times 1 + (2 - 3) \times 0}{1 + 0} = 3.66$$
- Page 7: definition of sum of squared error

$$\text{SSE} = \sum_{(u,i) \in R} (r_{ui} - u_u \cdot v_i)^2$$
- Example 4 (page 7)

$$(5 - (x+1))^2 + (2 - (x+1))^2 + (4 - (x+1))^2 + (4 - (x+1))^2 + (3 - (x+1))^2$$

We want the value of x that minimises the above sum, so we take the derivative and set it to 0, as:

$$-2 \times ((4-x) + (1-x) + (3-x) + (3-x) + (2-x)) = 0,$$

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Tutorial sheet Q5

Three computers, A, B and C, have the numerical features listed below:

Feature	A	B	C
Processor speed	3.06	2.68	2.92
Disk size	500	320	640
Main-memory size	6	4	6

A certain user has rated the three computers as follows: A: 4 stars, B: 2 stars, C: 5 stars.

(a) Normalise the ratings for this user. That is, compute the average rating and subtract it from individual ratings.

(b) Compute a user profile for the user, with components for processor speed, disk size, and main memory size.

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Tutorial sheet Q5

(content-based method)

A certain user has rated the three computers as follows: A: 4 stars, B: 2 stars, C: 5 stars.

(a) The average rating is $(4 + 2 + 5)/3 = 11/3$. Therefore, the mean-centred ratings for each item are:

A: $4 - 11/3 = 1/3$
 B: $2 - 11/3 = -5/3$
 C: $5 - 11/3 = 4/3$

(b) weighted average of the component's values

Processor speed: $3.06 \times 1/3 - 2.68 \times 5/3 + 2.92 \times 4/3 = 0.4467$

Disk size: $500 \times 1/3 - 320 \times 5/3 + 640 \times 4/3 = 486.6667$

Main memory size: $6 \times 1/3 - 4 \times 5/3 + 6 \times 4/3 = 3.3333$

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Tutorial sheet Q5

Feature	A	B	C
Processor speed	3.06	2.68	2.92
Disk size	500	320	640
Main-memory size	6	4	6

A: 1/3, B: -5/3, C: 5 - 11/3 = 4/3

(b) weighted average of the component's values

Processor speed: $3.06 \times \frac{1}{3} - 2.68 \times \frac{5}{3} + 2.92 \times \frac{4}{3} = 0.4467$

Disk size: $500 \times \frac{1}{3} - 320 \times \frac{5}{3} + 640 \times \frac{4}{3} = 486.6667$

Main memory size: $6 \times \frac{1}{3} - 4 \times \frac{5}{3} + 6 \times \frac{4}{3} = 3.3333$