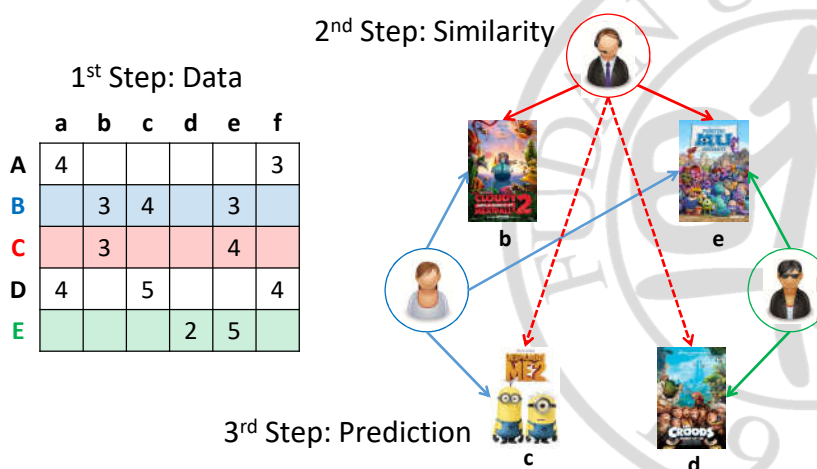




Memory-based CF

- 1st Step: Collect preference data
 - ❑ Represented as a **Preference Matrix** (bipartite graph)
 - ❑ An entry denotes a user's preference on an item
- 2nd Step: Find neighboring users/items
 - ❑ **Compute Similarity** between users/items
 - ❑ Determine neighboring users/items for the target user
- 3rd Step: Recommend unrated items
 - ❑ **Predict unrated ratings** based on neighbors' ratings
 - ❑ Recommend highly ranked items to the target user

User-based CF



User-based CF

- Given Preference Matrix \mathbf{X} and the target user
- Each user is represented as an M -dim vector \mathbf{x}_u
 - $\mathbf{x}_u = [x_{u,1}, x_{u,2}, \dots, x_{u,M}]$ corresponds to the u th row in \mathbf{X}
 - $x_{u,m}$ denotes the rating user u provides to item m
- User similarity
 - Only calculate on the overlapped items between two users
 - Pearson correlation coefficient and cosine

$$\text{sim}(u, v) = \frac{\sum_{m \in I_u \cap I_v} (x_{u,m} - \bar{x}_u)(x_{v,m} - \bar{x}_v)}{\sqrt{\sum_{m \in I_u \cap I_v} (x_{u,m} - \bar{x}_u)^2} \sqrt{\sum_{m \in I_u \cap I_v} (x_{v,m} - \bar{x}_v)^2}}$$

User-based CF

- User-User Similarity Computation

$$\text{sim}(u, v) = \frac{\sum_{m \in I_u \cap I_v} (x_{u,m} - \bar{x}_u)(x_{v,m} - \bar{x}_v)}{\sqrt{\sum_{m \in I_u \cap I_v} (x_{u,m} - \bar{x}_u)^2} \sqrt{\sum_{m \in I_u \cap I_v} (x_{v,m} - \bar{x}_v)^2}}$$

$$\text{sim}(C, A) = 0$$

$$\text{sim}(C, B) = \frac{(3-3.5)(2-3) + (4-3.5)(3-3)}{\sqrt{(3-3.5)^2 + (4-3.5)^2} \sqrt{(2-3)^2 + (3-3)^2}} = 0.7$$

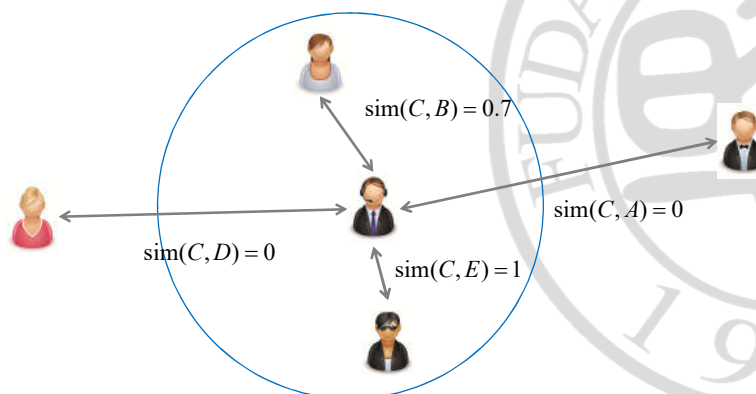
$$\text{sim}(C, D) = 0$$

$$\text{sim}(C, E) = \frac{(4-3.5)(5-3.5)}{\sqrt{(4-3.5)^2} \sqrt{(5-3.5)^2}} = 1$$

	a	b	c	d	e	f
A	4					3
B		2	4		3	
C		3			4	
D	4		5			4
E				2	5	

User-based CF

- K -Nearest Neighbors
 - Top- K similar users to the target user



User-based CF

- Rating Prediction

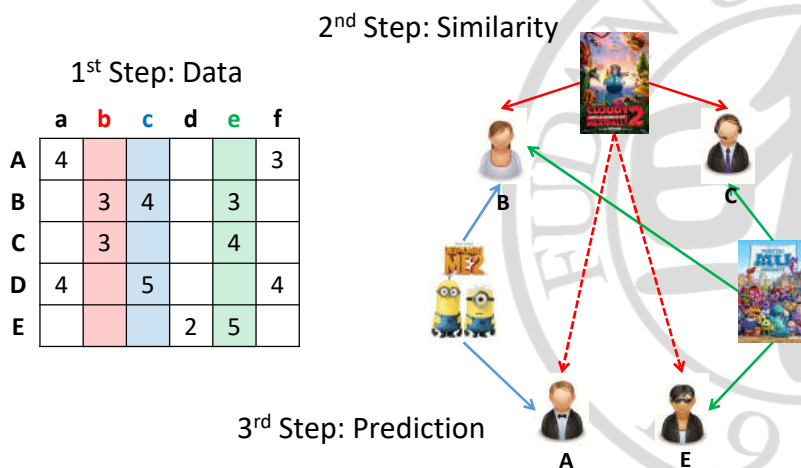
$$\hat{x}_{u,m} = \bar{x}_u + \frac{\sum_{v \in N_u} \text{sim}(u,v)(x_{v,m} - \bar{x}_v)}{\sum_{v \in N_u} |\text{sim}(u,v)|}$$

$$\hat{x}_{C,c} = 3.5 + \frac{0.7(4-3)}{|0.7|} = 4.5$$

$$\hat{x}_{C,d} = 3.5 + \frac{1(2-3.5)}{|1|} = 2$$

	a	b	c	d	e	f
A	4					3
B		2	4		3	
C		3	4.5	2	4	
D	4		5			4
E				2	5	

Item-based CF



Item-based CF

- Given Preference Matrix \mathbf{X} and the target item
- Each item is represented as an N -dim vector \mathbf{x}_m
 - $\mathbf{x}_m = [x_{m,1}, x_{m,2}, \dots, x_{m,N}]^T$ corresponds to the m th column in \mathbf{X}
 - $x_{m,u}$ denotes the rating user u provides to item m
- Item similarity
 - Only calculate on the overlapped users between two items
 - Cosine and Pearson correlation coefficient

$$\text{sim}(m, m') = \frac{\sum_{u \in U_m \cap U_{m'}} x_{m,u} x_{m',u}}{\sqrt{\sum_{u \in U_m \cap U_{m'}} x_{m,u}^2} \sqrt{\sum_{u \in U_m \cap U_{m'}} x_{m',u}^2}}$$

Item-based CF

■ Item-Item Similarity Computation

$$\text{sim}(m, m') = \frac{\sum_{u \in U_m \cap U_{m'}} x_{m,u} x_{m',u}}{\sqrt{\sum_{u \in U_m \cap U_{m'}} x_{m,u}^2} \sqrt{\sum_{u \in U_{m'} \cap U_m} x_{m',u}^2}}$$

$$\text{sim}(b, a) = 0$$

$$\text{sim}(b, c) = \frac{3 \times 4}{\sqrt{3^2} \sqrt{4^2}} = 1$$

$$\text{sim}(b, d) = 0$$

$$\text{sim}(b, e) = \frac{3 \times 3 + 3 \times 4}{\sqrt{3^2 + 3^2} \sqrt{3^2 + 4^2}} \approx 1$$

$$\text{sim}(b, f) = 0$$

	a	b	c	d	e	f
A	4					3
B		3	4		3	
C		3			4	
D	4		5			4
E				2	5	

Item-based CF

■ Rating Prediction

$$\hat{x}_{m,u} = \frac{\sum_{m' \in I_m} \text{sim}(m, m') x_{m',u}}{\sum_{m' \in I_m} |\text{sim}(m, m')|}$$

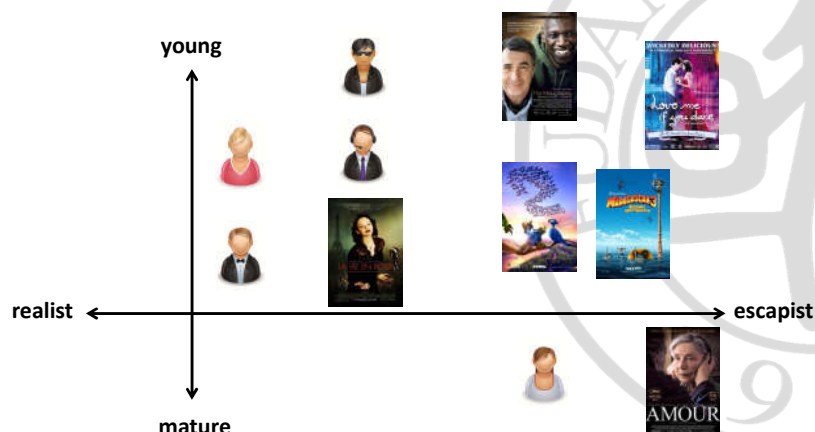
$$\hat{x}_{b,D} = \frac{1 \times 5}{|1|} = 5$$

$$\hat{x}_{b,E} = \frac{1 \times 5}{|1|} = 5$$

	a	b	c	d	e	f
A	4					3
B		3	4		3	
C		3			4	
D	4	5	5			4
E		5		2	5	

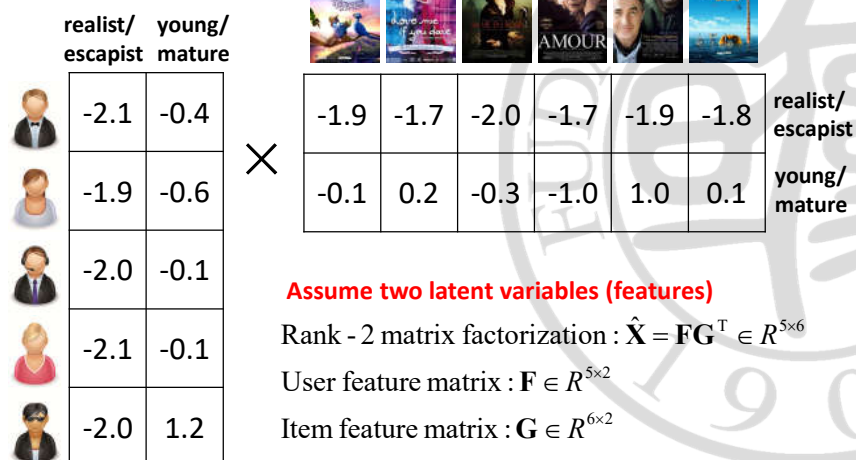
Model-based CF

- Latent variable view - matrix factorization approach



Model-based CF

- Matrix Factorization



Model-based CF

■ Preference (Rating) Matrix **Reconstruction**

- Predict missing ratings in the rating matrix

4		5			3		-2.1	-0.4		-1.9	-1.7	-2.0	-1.7	-1.9	-1.8
	3	4		3			-1.9	-0.6		-0.1	0.2	-0.3	-1.0	1.0	0.1
3.8	3			4			-2.0	-0.1							
4			3.7		4		-2.1	-0.1							
			2	5			-2.0	1.2							

■ Remaining problems

- Why we can assume rank- K matrices (K latent variables)?
- How to compute rank- K matrices (user/item feature matrices)?

Model-based CF

■ Why K latent variables?

- We don't know exact number of features in advance
- We can assume there are indeed L ($\gg K$) features, so

User feature matrix : $\mathbf{F}_0 \in R^{N \times L}$

Item feature matrix : $\mathbf{G}_0 \in R^{M \times L}$

- We do a linear projection to \mathbf{F}_0 and \mathbf{G}_0 (feature reduction)

Projection matrix : $\mathbf{A} \in R^{L \times K}$, $\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{I}$

User feature matrix : $\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{F}_0 \mathbf{A}_{:,K} \in R^{N \times K}$

Item feature matrix : $\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{G}_0 \mathbf{A}_{:,K} \in R^{M \times K}$

- Now we can directly compute \mathbf{F} and \mathbf{G} (without noisy features)

Model-based CF

- How to get rank- K feature matrices
 - Low-rank matrix factorization problem
 - Minimize the reconstruction and the observed preference matrix
- Regularized risk minimization
 - Many ML methods can be applied

Given the preference matrix $\mathbf{X} \in R^{N \times M}$ and rank K

$$\min_{\{\mathbf{F} \in R^{N \times K}, \mathbf{G} \in R^{M \times K}\}} \left\| (\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{F}\mathbf{G}^T) \circ \mathbf{W} \right\|_F^2 + \lambda (\|\mathbf{F}\|_F^2 + \|\mathbf{G}\|_F^2)$$

where $\mathbf{W} \in \{0,1\}^{N \times M}$ indicates observed entries in \mathbf{X}

Model-based CF

- Probabilistic Matrix Factorization (PMF)
 - Assume user/item features and ratings are generated from Gaussians

$$p(\mathbf{X} | \mathbf{F}, \mathbf{G}) = \prod_{u,m=1} p(x_{u,m} | \mathbf{f}_u^T \mathbf{g}_m, \sigma_R^2)$$

$$p(\mathbf{F} | \mathbf{0}) = \prod_{u=1}^N p(\mathbf{f}_u | \mathbf{0}, \sigma_F^2)$$

$$p(\mathbf{G} | \mathbf{0}) = \prod_{m=1}^M p(\mathbf{g}_m | \mathbf{0}, \sigma_G^2)$$

- Probabilistic interpretation of the optimization problem

$$\max_{\{\mathbf{F}, \mathbf{G}\}} \ln[p(\mathbf{X} | \mathbf{F}, \mathbf{G})p(\mathbf{F} | \mathbf{0})p(\mathbf{G} | \mathbf{0})]$$

$$\Rightarrow \min_{\{\mathbf{F}, \mathbf{G}\}} \sum_{u,m=1} (x_{u,m} - \mathbf{f}_u^T \mathbf{g}_m)^2 + c_1 \sum_{u=1}^N \|\mathbf{f}_u\|^2 + c_2 \sum_{m=1}^M \|\mathbf{g}_m\|^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \min_{\{\mathbf{F}, \mathbf{G}\}} \left\| (\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{F}\mathbf{G}^T) \circ \mathbf{W} \right\|_F^2 + c_1 \|\mathbf{F}\|_F^2 + c_2 \|\mathbf{G}\|_F^2$$

[1] Salakhutdinov & Mnih: Probabilistic Matrix Factorization, NIPS 2008.

Model-based CF

■ Singular Value Decomposition (SVD)

- ❑ Most straightforward way to matrix factorization
- ❑ But SVD is not defined for missing entries
- ❑ Use average rating to stuff missing entries
- ❑ Inaccurate for sparse matrices (tries to fit too many stuff entries)

4	3.7	5	3.7	3.7	3
3.7	3	4	3.7	3	3.7
3.7	3	3.7	3.7	4	3.7
4	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7	4
3.7	3.7	3.7	2	5	3.7

Filled matrix : $\tilde{\mathbf{X}} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times M}$

User feature matrix : $\mathbf{F} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times K}$

Item feature matrix : $\mathbf{G} \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times K}$

SVD : $\tilde{\mathbf{X}} = \mathbf{U}\mathbf{S}\mathbf{V}^T = (\mathbf{U}\sqrt{\mathbf{S}})(\sqrt{\mathbf{S}}\mathbf{V})^T = \mathbf{F}\mathbf{G}^T$

Model-based CF

■ Alternative Least Squares (ALS)

- ❑ Optimize \mathbf{F} assuming \mathbf{G} is known
- ❑ Optimize \mathbf{G} assuming \mathbf{F} is known
- ❑ Each step is a standard least square problem
- ❑ Converge to a local minimum over alternative iterations

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \min_{\{\mathbf{F} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times K}, \mathbf{G} \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times K}\}} \left(\left\| (\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{F}\mathbf{G}^T) \circ \mathbf{W} \right\|_F^2 + \lambda (\left\| \mathbf{F} \right\|_F^2 + \left\| \mathbf{G} \right\|_F^2) \right) \\
 & \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \min_{\mathbf{F} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times K}} \left\| (\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{F}\mathbf{G}^T) \circ \mathbf{W} \right\|_F^2 + \lambda \left\| \mathbf{F} \right\|_F^2 \\ \min_{\mathbf{G} \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times K}} \left\| (\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{F}\mathbf{G}^T) \circ \mathbf{W} \right\|_F^2 + \lambda \left\| \mathbf{G} \right\|_F^2 \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$

Model-based CF

■ Alternative Least Squares (ALS)

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \min_{\mathbf{F} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times K}} \left\| (\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{F} \hat{\mathbf{G}}^T) \circ \mathbf{W} \right\|_F^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{F}\|_F^2 \\
 & \Rightarrow \min_{\mathbf{f}_u \in \mathbb{R}^K} \sum_{w_{u,m}=1} (x_{u,m} - \mathbf{f}_u^T \hat{\mathbf{g}}_m)^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{f}_u\|^2, \text{ for } u \in U \\
 & \Rightarrow \mathbf{f}_u \leftarrow \left(\lambda + \sum_{w_{u,m}=1} \hat{\mathbf{g}}_m \hat{\mathbf{g}}_m^T \right)^{-1} \sum_{w_{u,m}=1} \hat{\mathbf{g}}_m x_{u,m} \\
 \\
 & \min_{\mathbf{G} \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times K}} \left\| (\mathbf{X} - \hat{\mathbf{F}} \mathbf{G}^T) \circ \mathbf{W} \right\|_F^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{G}\|_F^2 \\
 & \Rightarrow \min_{\mathbf{g}_m \in \mathbb{R}^K} \sum_{w_{u,m}=1} (x_{u,m} - \hat{\mathbf{f}}_u^T \mathbf{g}_m)^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{g}_m\|^2, \text{ for } m \in I \\
 & \Rightarrow \mathbf{g}_m \leftarrow \left(\lambda + \sum_{w_{u,m}=1} \hat{\mathbf{f}}_u \hat{\mathbf{f}}_u^T \right)^{-1} \sum_{w_{u,m}=1} \hat{\mathbf{f}}_u x_{u,m}
 \end{aligned}$$

Model-based CF

■ Stochastic Gradient Descent (SGD)

- ❑ Minimize an objective in the form of a sum of differentiable functions
- ❑ All ratings in the rating matrix are shuffled and fed in sequentially
- ❑ Each time a user/item feature vector is optimized on a single rating

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \min_{\{\mathbf{F} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times K}, \mathbf{G} \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times K}\}} \left\| (\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{F} \mathbf{G}^T) \circ \mathbf{W} \right\|_F^2 + \lambda (\|\mathbf{F}\|_F^2 + \|\mathbf{G}\|_F^2) \\
 & \Rightarrow \min_{\{\mathbf{F}, \mathbf{G}\}} \sum_{w_{u,m}=1} (x_{u,m} - \mathbf{f}_u^T \mathbf{g}_m)^2 + \lambda \left(\sum_{u=1}^N \|\mathbf{f}_u\|^2 + \sum_{m=1}^M \|\mathbf{g}_m\|^2 \right) \\
 & \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \mathbf{f}_u \leftarrow (1 - \alpha \lambda) \mathbf{f}_u - \alpha \mathbf{g}_m (x_{u,m} - \mathbf{f}_u^T \mathbf{g}_m) \\ \mathbf{g}_m \leftarrow (1 - \alpha \lambda) \mathbf{g}_m - \alpha \mathbf{f}_u (x_{u,m} - \mathbf{f}_u^T \mathbf{g}_m) \end{cases} \text{ for all } \{x_{u,m}\}
 \end{aligned}$$

Model-based CF

- SVD++^[1]: Netflix Winner' s Method
 - An improvement of SVD
 - Consider user bias b_u and item bias b_m

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\{\mathbf{F} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times K}, \mathbf{G} \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times K}\}} & \left\| (\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{F}\mathbf{G}^T) \circ \mathbf{W} \right\|_F^2 + \lambda \left(\|\mathbf{F}\|_F^2 + \|\mathbf{G}\|_F^2 \right) \\ \Rightarrow \min_{\{\mathbf{F}, \mathbf{G}\}} & \sum_{u,m=1}^N \left(x_{u,m} - (\mu + b_u + b_m + \mathbf{f}_u^T \mathbf{g}_m) \right)^2 \\ & + \lambda \left(\sum_{u=1}^N \|\mathbf{f}_u\|^2 + \sum_{m=1}^M \|\mathbf{g}_m\|^2 + \sum_{u=1}^N \|b_u\|^2 + \sum_{m=1}^M \|b_m\|^2 \right) \end{aligned}$$

[1] Koren: Factorization meets the neighborhood: a multifaceted collaborative filtering model, KDD 2008

Model-based CF


- SVD++: Netflix Winner' s Method
 - Stochastic Gradient Descent solution






$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\{\mathbf{F}, \mathbf{G}\}} & \sum_{u,m=1}^N \left(x_{u,m} - (\mu + b_u + b_m + \mathbf{f}_u^T \mathbf{g}_m) \right)^2 \\ & + \lambda \left(\sum_{u=1}^N \|\mathbf{f}_u\|^2 + \sum_{m=1}^M \|\mathbf{g}_m\|^2 + \sum_{u=1}^N \|b_u\|^2 + \sum_{m=1}^M \|b_m\|^2 \right) \\ \Rightarrow & \begin{cases} \mathbf{f}_u \leftarrow (1 - \alpha\lambda) \mathbf{f}_u - \alpha \mathbf{g}_m \delta_{u,m} \\ \mathbf{g}_m \leftarrow (1 - \alpha\lambda) \mathbf{g}_m - \alpha \mathbf{f}_u \delta_{u,m} \\ b_u \leftarrow (1 - \alpha\lambda) b_u - \alpha \delta_{u,m} \\ b_m \leftarrow (1 - \alpha\lambda) b_m - \alpha \delta_{u,m} \end{cases}, \text{ for all } \{x_{u,m}\} \\ \text{where } \delta_{u,m} &= x_{u,m} - (\mu + b_u + b_m + \mathbf{f}_u^T \mathbf{g}_m) \end{aligned}$$

Block Models for Network Data

■ Block-structure view

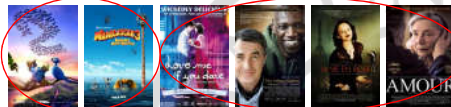
□ Co-clustering approach








	4	3			5
	4	4			
			3	3	4
			3	4	
				5	2

Block Models for Network Data

■ Co-clustering



	1	0	3.7	5	1	1	0	0	0	0
	1	0	3.7	3.4	0	0	1	1	1	1
	0	1								
	0	1								
	0	1								

Assume two user and two item groups

Matrix tri - factorization : $\hat{\mathbf{X}} = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{Q}^T \in R^{5 \times 6}$

User membership matrix : $\mathbf{F} \in [0,1]^{5 \times 2}$

Item membership matrix : $\mathbf{G} \in [0,1]^{6 \times 2}$

Group - level rating matrix : $\mathbf{B} \in R^{2 \times 2}$

Block Models for Network Data

■ Matrix Reconstruction

- Predict missing ratings in the preference matrix

4	3			5				1	0	3.7	5	1	1	0	0	0	0
4	4							1	0	3.7	3.4	0	0	1	1	1	1
3.7		3	3	4				0	1								
		3	4	3.4				0	1								
			5		2			0	1								

Block Models for Network Data

■ Clustering users and items separately

- Most straightforward way for co-clustering
- Clustering one side using the other side as features
- Any clustering algorithm can be applied (e.g., *K*-Means)

1	0
0	1
0	1
1	0
0	1

4		5			3
	3	4		3	
	3			4	
4					4
			2	5	

1	0	0	0	0	1
0	1	1	1	1	0

4		5			3
	3	4		3	
	3			4	
4					4
			2	5	

Block Models for Network Data

■ Group-level rating matrix

- Each entry is the average rating of a user-item joint group

4	3			5
4	4			
		3	3	4
		3	4	
			5	2



3.7	5
3.7	3.4

$$\mathbf{B}_{1,1} = (3 + 4 + 4 + 4) / 4 = 3.7$$

$$\mathbf{B}_{1,2} = 5 / 1 = 5$$

$$\mathbf{B}_{2,1} = (2 + 3 \times 4 + 4 \times 5 + 5 \times 2) / 12 = 3.7$$

$$\mathbf{B}_{2,2} = (2 + 3 + 3 + 3 + 4 + 4 + 5) / 7 = 3.4$$

Block Models for Network Data

■ Flexible Mixture Model^[1] (FMM)

- From hard-membership to soft-membership
- Each user/item has a distribution over K user / L item groups

$$\hat{\mathbf{X}} = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{Q}^T \text{ where } \mathbf{B}_{k,l} = \sum_r r p(r | k, l)$$

$$\text{User } u\text{'s membership in user group } k : \mathbf{P}_{u,k} = p(k | u)$$

$$p(k | u) \propto p(u | k) p(k)$$

$$\text{Item } m\text{'s membership in item group } l : \mathbf{Q}_{m,l} = p(l | m)$$

$$p(l | m) \propto p(m | l) p(l)$$

[1] Si & Jin: Flexible mixture model for collaborative filtering, ICML 2003

Block Models for Network Data

E – Step :

$$p(k, l | x_{u,m}) = \frac{p(x_{u,m} | k, l) p(u | k) p(k) p(m | l) p(l)}{\sum_{k, l} p(x_{u,m} | k, l) p(u | k) p(k) p(m | l) p(l)}$$

M – Step :

$$p(k) = \frac{\sum_l \sum_{w_{u,m}=1} p(k, l | x_{u,m})}{\sum_{(u,m)} w_{u,m}}, \quad p(l) = \frac{\sum_k \sum_{w_{u,m}=1} p(k, l | x_{u,m})}{\sum_{(u,m)} w_{u,m}}$$

$$p(u | k) = \frac{\sum_l \sum_{w_{v,m}=1 \cap v=u} p(k, l | x_{v,m})}{p(k) \sum_{(u,m)} w_{u,m}}, \quad p(m | l) = \frac{\sum_k \sum_{w_{u,m}=1 \cap m'=m} p(k, l | x_{u,m'})}{p(l) \sum_{(u,m)} w_{u,m}}$$

$$p(r | k, l) = \frac{\sum_{w_{u,m}=1 \cap x_{u,m}=r} p(k, l | x_{u,m})}{\sum_{w_{u,m}=1} p(k, l | x_{u,m})}$$

Cold-Start Problem

■ Cold-Start Problem in Collaborative Filtering

								
	4		5			3		
		3	4		3			
		3			4			
	4					4		
				2	5			
								

New item 

Cold-Start Problem

- A major limitation of CF
 - A reason that real-world RSs adopts hybrid strategies
- Solutions for user cold-start
 - Demography-based
 - Popularity-based (most popular items)
 - Social relationship based (friends' preference)
 - Implicit preference based (e.g., browsed items)
- Solutions for item cold-start
 - Content-based
 - Ratings borrowed from items of the same category

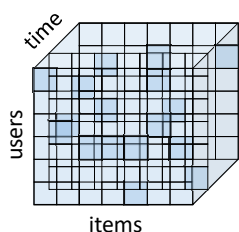
Temporal Changes

- A major challenge of CF
 - Real RSs usually take into account temporal factors
- Causes of temporal changes from users
 - Changing bias
 - Changing interest
 - Changing context
- Causes of temporal changes from items
 - Seasonal effects (Valentine's day, Mid-autumn day)
 - Trending (fashions, digital products)

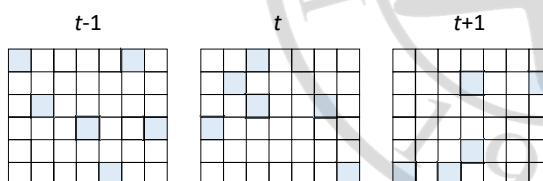
Temporal CF

Temporal CF Problem

- Each timestamp has a rating matrix
- Can be represented as a tensor



user	movie	date	rate
1	34	11-04-02	3
1	296	09-05-02	4
2	11	18-01-02	5
2	59	23-02-02	4
2	124	03-04-02	2

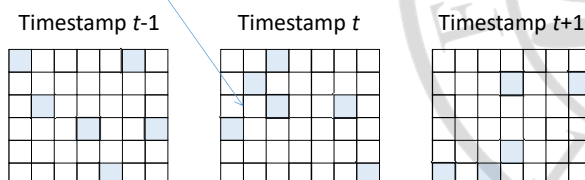


Temporal CF

TimeSVD++^[1]: Netflix Winner's Method

- An improvement of SVD++ for temporal CF
- TimeSVD++ considers time-dependent factors: user rating bias $b_u(t)$, item rating bias $b_m(t)$, and user feature vector $\mathbf{f}_u(t)$

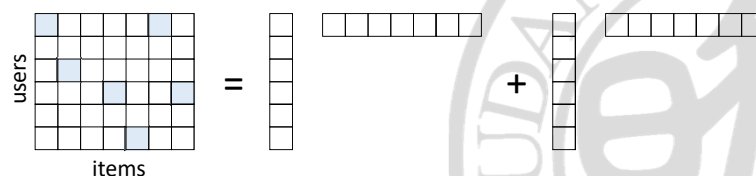
$$x_{u,m,t} = \mu + b_u(t) + b_m(t) + \mathbf{g}_m^T \mathbf{f}_u(t)$$



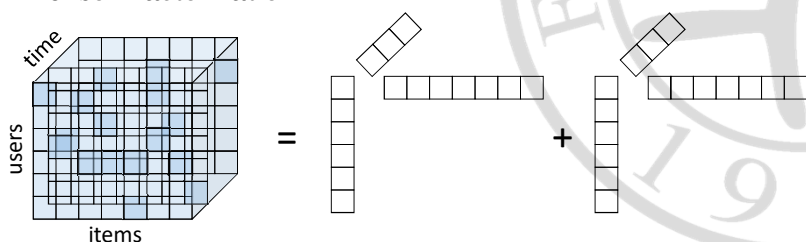
[1] Y. Koren: Collaborative Filtering with Temporal Dynamics, KDD 2009

Temporal CF

■ Matrix Factorization



■ Tensor Factorization



Noise Problem

■ Spammer Detection (malicious users)

- ❑ Promote certain items with misleading information
- ❑ Usually formulate as a classification problem to detect malicious users

■ Shilling Detection (malicious users)

- ❑ A group of colluded users inserting untruthful profiles to promote or degrade certain items
- ❑ Fake profiles are usually generated according to certain distributions
- ❑ Usually formulate as a clustering or principal component analysis problem to detect colluded users

Noise Problem

- Natural Noise Detection (nonmalicious users)
 - ❑ Difficult to detect because no patterns
 - ❑ Difficult to define natural noisy users
 - ❑ Difficult to quantify the noise
- Solutions: Consistency of Preference
 - ❑ The larger the difference, the more likely a user is to be noisy
 - ❑ E.g., consistency between observed and predicted ratings
 - ❑ E.g., consistency between multiple ratings on same items

Implicit Feedback

- Implicit Feedback Data
 - ❑ Click-through records, purchased records, etc.
 - ❑ Easy and cheap to obtain
 - ❑ Large amount
 - ❑ Noisy

						
	1		1			1
		1	1		1	
		1			1	
	1					1
				1	1	

Implicit Feedback

- Characteristics of Implicit Feedbacks
 - ❑ Simple (usually binary data)
 - ❑ Abundant
 - ❑ Noisy
 - ❑ Sequential
- A Better Approach - Online Learning
 - ❑ Binary data is simpler for online learning
 - ❑ Performance can be reinforced using noisy but abundant data
 - ❑ Sequential arrived data is natural for online learning



Thanks

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