



Artificial Intelligence

RECIPE RECOMMENDATION SYSTEM

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1.Introduction

1.1 Overview

A recommendation system is an information filter system when the information is overloaded by narrowing down the amount of information to only those interesting content. The recommender system is useful in filtering wide range of information of products, services, or media content. It would be helpful to have someone picking our favorite food or new dish to try out for all our meal in the future. This helper could be developed as a food recommendation system.

1.2 Purpose

The purpose of a recipe recommendation system is to enhance the cooking and dining experience for users by providing personalized and relevant recipe suggestions.

Some common use cases and benefits of a recipe recommendation system include:

- **Increased Recipe Discovery:** A recipe recommendation system helps users discover a wide range of recipes they may not have encountered otherwise. It suggests new dishes, cuisines, and flavors, allowing users to expand their culinary horizons and try new recipes.
- **Time and Convenience:** The system can offer recipes that fit the user's time constraints and cooking abilities. It suggests quick and easy recipes for busy days and more involved recipes for when users have more time to spare. This saves users the effort of searching for suitable recipes and streamlines their meal planning process.
- **Inspiration and Creativity:** By suggesting a diverse range of recipes, a recommendation system sparks inspiration and encourages users to explore new flavors, ingredients, and cooking techniques. This fosters culinary creativity and allows users to experiment with different dishes and cuisines.
- **Reduced Food Waste:** Recipe recommendation systems can assist in reducing food waste by suggesting recipes that utilize ingredients already available to the user. This promotes efficient use of ingredients and reduces the likelihood of unused items going to waste.

- **User Engagement and Satisfaction:** Accurate and relevant recipe recommendations enhance user engagement and satisfaction. When users find recipes they enjoy and have successful cooking experiences, it increases their overall satisfaction and encourages them to continue using the system.
- **Continuous Improvement:** User feedback and interactions with the recommendation system contribute to its continuous improvement. By collecting user ratings, reviews, and preferences, the system can refine its suggestions and enhance the accuracy and relevance of future recommendations.
- **Social Sharing and Community Building:** Some recipe recommendation systems include social features that allow users to share their favorite recipes, rate recipes, and engage with a community of fellow cooking enthusiasts. This fosters a sense of community and encourages users to discover and explore recipes recommended by others.

Overall, a recipe recommendation system provides users with personalized, diverse, and inspiring recipe suggestions, simplifies the recipe discovery process, and enhances the overall cooking and dining experience.

2.Literature Survey

2.1 Existing Problem

One existing approach to solving the problem of recipe recommendation system involves the use of Data sparsity and Dynamic and Evolving Preferences. Here's a high-level overview of the approach:

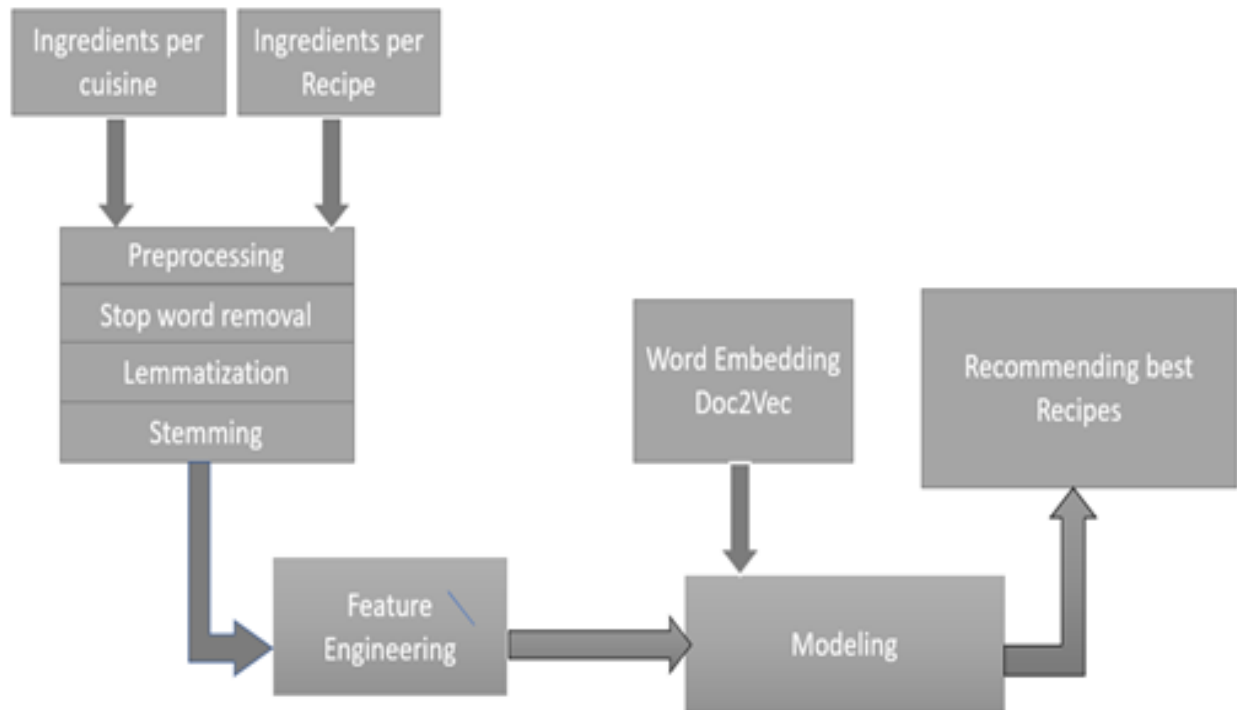
- **Data Sparsity**
- **Diversity and Serendipity**
- **Dynamic and Evolving Preferences**
- **Contextual Factors**

2.2 Proposed Solution

- **Data Sparsity:** Recipe recommendation systems often face the issue of data sparsity, meaning there is limited or incomplete information available for some recipes or users. This can make it challenging to accurately capture user preferences or find meaningful patterns in the data, especially for less popular recipes or users with limited interactions.
- **Diversity and Serendipity:** Recipe recommendation systems should not only focus on providing personalized recommendations but also aim to offer diverse and serendipitous suggestions. Ensuring that users are exposed to a variety of recipes and novel options can enhance their culinary experiences and encourage exploration.
- **Dynamic and Evolving Preferences:** User preferences and dietary restrictions can change over time, requiring recipe recommendation systems to adapt and update recommendations accordingly. Continuously learning and updating user profiles is essential to ensure the recommendations remain relevant and aligned with the user's evolving tastes.
- **Contextual Factors:** Recipe recommendations can be influenced by various contextual factors, such as dietary restrictions, cultural preferences, time constraints, and ingredient availability. Incorporating these contextual factors into the recommendation process accurately requires additional data and algorithms that can handle the complexity of contextual information.

3.Theoretical Analysis

3.1 Block Diagram



3.2 Hardware/Software Designing

The hardware and software requirements for a recipe recommendation system can vary depending on factors such as the scale of the system, the complexity of the algorithms used, and the expected user load.

Here are some general considerations for hardware and software requirements:

Hardware Design:

- **Servers or Cloud Infrastructure:** Recipe recommendation systems often require servers or cloud infrastructure to host the system and handle the computational load. The specific hardware requirements will depend on the scale of the system and the expected user traffic.
- **Processing Power:** The processing power of the hardware should be capable of handling the computational requirements of the recommendation algorithms, data preprocessing, and other tasks involved in the system. This can range from standard CPUs to more powerful processors or even GPU acceleration for certain machine learning algorithms.
- **Storage Capacity:** Recipe recommendation systems typically deal with large volumes of data, including recipe databases, user profiles, and historical interaction data. Sufficient storage capacity is needed to store and process this data efficiently.

Software Design:

- **Programming Languages:** The choice of programming languages may vary depending on the preferences and expertise of the development team. Common languages for building recipe recommendation systems include Python, Java, or Scala. Python, with its rich ecosystem of machine learning and data processing libraries, is often a popular choice.
- **Data Processing Frameworks:** Recipe recommendation systems may require data processing frameworks such as Apache Spark or Apache Hadoop for efficient handling and processing of large-scale recipe and user interaction data. These frameworks enable distributed computing and parallel processing, allowing for faster data analysis and model training.
- **Recommendation Algorithms and Libraries:** There are various recommendation algorithms and libraries available that can be integrated into the system. This includes collaborative filtering algorithms, matrix factorization techniques, deep learning models, and content-based filtering methods. Popular libraries for recommendation systems include TensorFlow, PyTorch, scikit-learn, and Apache Mahout.

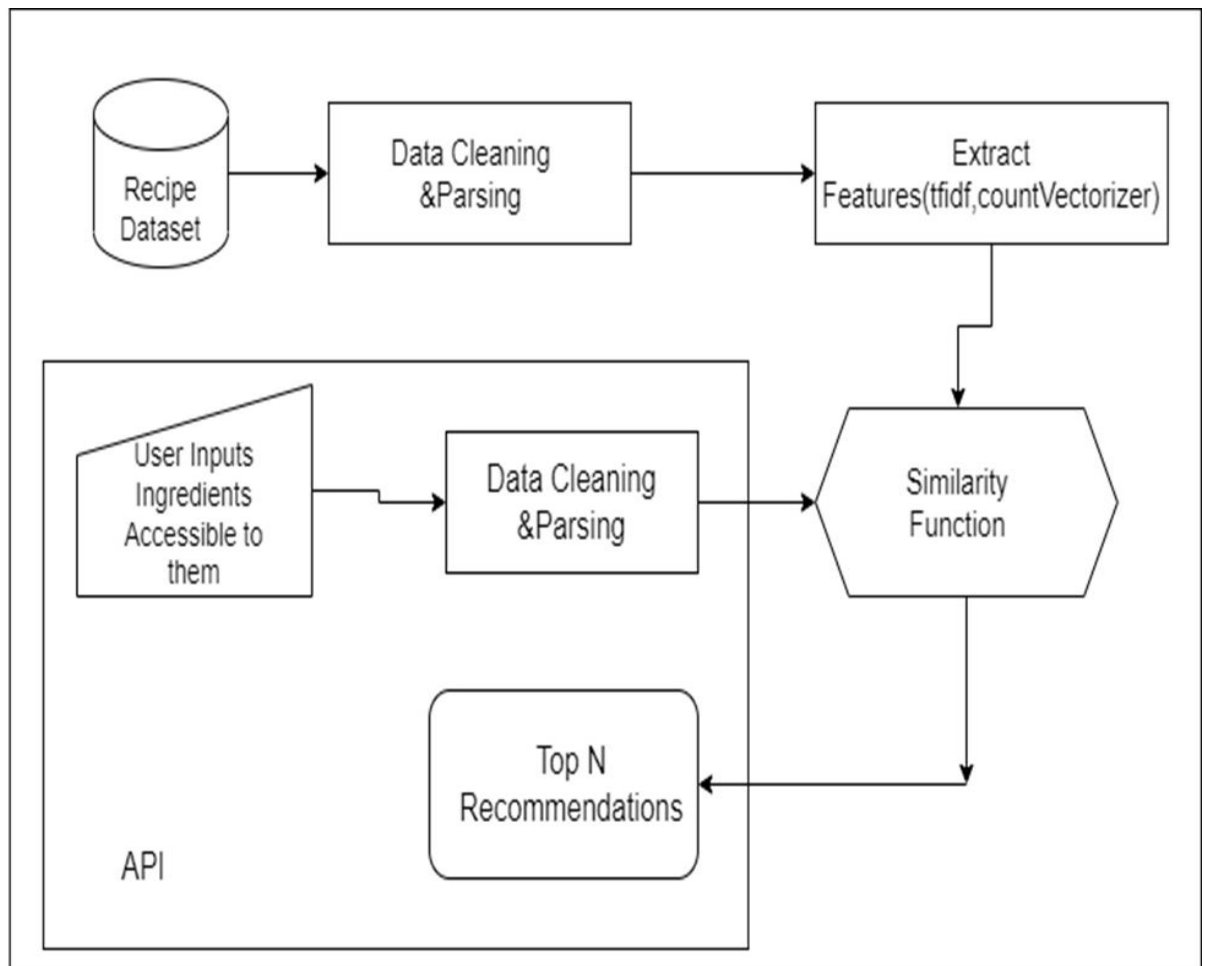
- **Database Systems:** Recipe recommendation systems often rely on database systems to store and retrieve recipe data, user profiles, and interaction data efficiently. Relational databases (e.g., MySQL, PostgreSQL) or NoSQL databases (e.g., MongoDB, Cassandra) can be used, depending on the specific requirements of the system.
- **Web Development Frameworks:** If the recipe recommendation system includes a user-facing interface such as a website or mobile app, web development frameworks like Django, Flask, or React can be used to build the front-end and back-end components of the application.
- **Integration with APIs and External Services:** Recipe recommendation systems may need to integrate with external services such as recipe databases, ingredient analysis APIs, or social media platforms for user interactions and sharing.

4. Experimental Investigations

While working on the solution for recipe recommendation system, several analyses and investigations may have been conducted. Here are some areas that could have been explored during the development process:

- **Evaluation Metrics:** Researchers define evaluation metrics to measure the performance of the recommendation system. Common metrics include precision, recall, accuracy, F1-score, mean average precision (MAP), normalized discounted cumulative gain (NDCG), and hit rate. These metrics quantify the system's ability to provide relevant and high-quality recommendations.
- **Offline Experiments:** Offline experiments involve using historical data to evaluate the performance of recommendation algorithms. Researchers split the data into training and test sets, apply the recommendation algorithms to generate recommendations, and measure the performance using the evaluation metrics. This allows for controlled experiments to assess the accuracy and quality of recommendations.
- **Online Experiments:** Online experiments involve deploying the recommendation system in a live environment and collecting real-time user interactions and feedback. This allows researchers to evaluate the system's performance in a realistic setting and assess user engagement, satisfaction, and the impact of recommendations on user behavior.
- **Comparative Studies:** Comparative studies involve comparing the performance of different recommendation algorithms or approaches. Researchers may evaluate collaborative filtering against content-based filtering, hybrid methods against individual approaches, or compare different variations of algorithms to identify the most effective technique for recipe recommendation.
- **Long-term User Studies:** Long-term user studies aim to understand how user preferences and behavior evolve over time and how the recommendation system can adapt and improve its recommendations accordingly. These studies involve collecting data and feedback from users over an extended period, analyzing trends, and continuously updating the recommendation algorithms.
- **Benchmark Datasets:** Researchers often utilize benchmark datasets specific to recipe recommendation to ensure comparability and reproducibility of their experiments. These datasets typically include recipe data, user interaction data, and associated metadata such as ratings, reviews, and ingredients.

5. Flowchart



6. Result

What's Cooking?

An ML powered app

Given a list of ingredients, what different recipes can I make?

For example, say I want to use up some food in my apartment, what can I cook? My ML based model will look through over 400 recipes to find matches for you...

Enter ingredients you would like to cook with (separate ingredients with a comma)

[Give me recommendations!](#)

Searching = onion, tomato, pasta
/recipe

What's Cooking?

An ML powered app

Recipe Recommendations

Creamy Tomato Orzo

Cooking Time: 20 min

Matching: 48.5%

Directions: ['Add the oil to a sauté pan on high heat. Add the tomatoes and cook for 3 minutes.', 'Then add the water, orzo, bouillon, Italian seasoning, and pepper.', 'Cook at a gentle simmer for 10 minutes, until the orzo is al dente. Stir occasionally, and mash the tomatoes with the back of the spatula to extract their flavour and juices.', 'Then add the peas and basil. Cook for 1 - 2 more minutes.', 'Garnish and enjoy!']

[View Recipe](#)

Creamy Hummus Pasta Bake

Cooking Time: 45 min

Matching: 36.4%

Directions: ['Cut the outer thick skin off the stem of the broccoli and discard. Cut the stem into little pieces. Cut the broccoli florets into bite-sized pieces.', 'Cook the pasta in salted boiling water for 4 - 5 minutes. Preheat the oven to 390°F (200°C).', 'Then add the chopped broccoli stem and florets to cook with the pasta. After 1 minute, drain. We want the pasta to be slightly under-cooked.', 'Transfer the drained pasta and broccoli to a large 11 x 8 inch (28 x 21 cm) baking dish, along with the tomatoes.', 'In a medium

Vegan Mac & 'Cheese'

Cooking Time: 55 min

Matching: 35.0%

Directions: ['Preheat the oven to 350°F (200°C). Add the cashews to a bowl and cover with boiling water. Let sit for 10 minutes.', 'Meanwhile, chop all the vegetables.', 'Add 1 inch (2 cm) of water to a large pot and bring it to a simmer. Add a steamer basket with the potatoes, carrots, onion and garlic'. Cover the pot and let the veggies steam for 10 - 15 minutes, or until tender.', 'When the vegetables are soft, drain and add to a blender, together with the drained cashews, and all of the remaining 'cheese' sauce ingredients. "

[View Recipe](#)

Protein-Packed Vegan Stuffed Bell Peppers

Cooking Time: 1 hr + 20 min

Matching: 33.800000000000004%

Directions: ['Cook the mung beans and rice according to the package instructions. For us, it took roughly 30 minutes'. When cooked, drain.', 'While the beans and rice are cooking, chop the onions, mince the garlic, and slice the olives.', 'Cut the bell peppers in half lengthwise and discard the seeds. Don't remove the stem, as it helps to hold the filling in place. Preheat the oven to 350°F (180°C).', 'Add the oil and onions to a large pan on medium-high heat. Cook until lightly golden.', 'Then add the garlic and spices. Cook for another 1 - 2 minutes, stirring throughout.', 'Then add the veggie ground, pasta

lightly golden.', 'Then add the garlic and spices. Cook for another 1 - 2 minutes, stirring throughout.', 'Then add the veggie ground, pasta sauce, olive, and cooked mung beans and rice. Stir to combine.', 'Divide the filling between the bell pepper halves. Bake uncovered on the middle rack of the oven for 35 - 40 minutes, or until the bell peppers are cooked to your liking.', 'Serve with avocado slices. Enjoy!']

[View Recipe](#)

Creamy Green Leek & Pea Pasta

Cooking Time: 25 min

Matching: 32.9%

Directions: ['Prepare the leek by cutting off the root and the overly fibrous green parts. Cut the leek in half, wash in between the layers thoroughly, and then thinly slice the leek. Thinly slice the garlic and green onions, and mince the jalapeño.', 'Cut the stem off the head of broccoli. Cutaway the fibrous outer layer. Chop the remaining stem and green tops of the broccoli into small bite-sized pieces, but keep them separated.', 'To a large pot on high heat, add the oil. When hot, add in the leek, broccoli stems, garlic, green onion, jalapeño, and salt. Cook for 5 minutes.', 'Then add the peas, spinach, basil, oregano, and mint, cooking for another 5 - 6

garlic, green onion, jalapeño, and salt. Cook for 5 minutes.', 'Then add the peas, spinach, basil, oregano, and mint, cooking for another 5 - 6 minutes.', 'Meanwhile, cook the pasta according to the package instructions, adding the broccoli florets in the last couple of minutes.', 'Just before draining the noodles and broccoli, scoop out ½ cup (120 mL) cooking water from pasta and add to the pan with the vegetables.', 'Add the cooking cream to the pan with the vegetables, and stir to combine.', 'You can leave this pasta sauce chunky, or make it smooth by blending it using an immersion blender or standing blender. We chose to blend about half of our sauce, making it part-chunky and part-smooth.', 'Add the drained pasta and broccoli to the sauce, and toss to coat.', 'Add the lemon juice, and serve while hot. Garnish as desired. Enjoy!']

[View Recipe](#)

© Try it out for yourself below!

7. Advantages & Disadvantages

Advantages of Recipe Recommendation System :

- **Personalized suggestions:** Recipe recommendation systems can provide personalized suggestions based on individual preferences, dietary restrictions, and cooking skills. By considering factors such as favorite ingredients, cuisine preferences, and previous recipe ratings, the system can offer tailored recommendations that align with the user's tastes and needs.
- **Discover new recipes:** These systems enable users to discover new recipes they may not have come across otherwise. By analyzing a vast database of recipes, considering similarities and patterns, and incorporating user feedback, the recommendation system can introduce users to a variety of dishes, helping them explore different cuisines and ingredients.
- **Health and nutrition guidance:** Many recipe recommendation systems offer options to filter recipes based on specific dietary requirements or nutritional goals. Users can select preferences such as vegetarian, gluten-free, low-sugar, or high-protein, and the system will provide recipes that align with their chosen criteria. This promotes healthier eating habits and allows individuals to manage their dietary needs effectively.
- **Continuous learning and improvement:** Recommendation systems can continually learn from user interactions, collecting data on recipe preferences, cooking techniques, and user feedback. This data enables the system to improve its accuracy and relevance over time, resulting in more refined recommendations that align with the evolving tastes and needs of the users.

Disadvantages of Recipe Recommendation System :

- **Limited culinary exploration:** While recipe recommendation systems can introduce users to new dishes, there is a risk of getting stuck in a culinary "filter bubble." The system may primarily suggest recipes similar to ones the user has already tried or liked, limiting their exposure to diverse cuisines, flavors, and cooking techniques. This could hinder users from exploring outside their comfort zone and discovering new culinary experiences.

- **Lack of human intuition and creativity:** Recipe recommendation systems are based on algorithms and data analysis, which may not fully capture the nuanced elements of cooking that human intuition and creativity bring. Cooking is often an art that involves improvisation, adjusting flavors, and adapting recipes based on personal preferences.
- **Dependency on technology:** Relying heavily on recipe recommendation systems may lead to a decreased ability to cook without guidance. Users might become overly reliant on the system for every cooking decision, from recipe selection to ingredient measurements, reducing their own culinary skills and confidence in the kitchen. Over time, this could limit their ability to cook independently and adapt to new situations or ingredients.

It's important to approach recipe recommendation systems as helpful tools rather than strict guides, allowing room for personal creativity, exploration, and adaptation in the kitchen.

8. Applications

- **Cooking and meal planning apps:** Recipe recommendation systems are extensively used in cooking and meal planning applications. These apps provide personalized recipe suggestions based on user preferences, dietary restrictions, available ingredients, and nutritional goals. Users can explore new recipes, plan meals for the week, and receive step-by-step instructions for cooking.
- **Online recipe platforms:** Recipe recommendation systems are employed in online recipe platforms and websites to help users discover new recipes. By analyzing user behavior, search patterns, and recipe ratings, these platforms suggest relevant recipes to users, enhancing their culinary exploration and engagement with the platform.
- **Smart kitchen appliances:** Recipe recommendation systems can be integrated into smart kitchen appliances, such as smart ovens or connected cooking devices. These appliances can suggest optimal cooking settings and techniques for a given recipe, ensuring precise and consistent cooking results.
- **Grocery shopping apps:** Recipe recommendation systems can be integrated into grocery shopping apps, allowing users to create shopping lists based on selected recipes. The system can analyze the ingredients required for the chosen recipes and generate a comprehensive shopping list, making the grocery shopping process more convenient and efficient.
- **Restaurant and food delivery apps:** Recipe recommendation systems can be utilized in restaurant and food delivery apps to provide personalized menu suggestions to users. Based on user preferences, previous orders, and dining history, the system can recommend suitable restaurants or dishes that align with the user's taste and preferences.
- **Health and nutrition platforms:** Recipe recommendation systems are employed in health and nutrition platforms to offer personalized meal plans and recipes that cater to specific dietary requirements and nutritional goals. Users can receive recommendations for balanced meals, calorie-conscious options, or recipes that align with specific diets (e.g., keto, vegan, gluten-free).

- **Culinary education and training:** Recipe recommendation systems can be utilized in culinary education platforms and cooking classes. These systems can provide students with personalized recipe suggestions and guidance based on their skill level, helping them progress and improve their culinary abilities.
- **Corporate or institutional food services:** Recipe recommendation systems can be used in corporate or institutional food service settings, such as cafeterias or catering services. The system can suggest diverse and nutritious recipes that meet the dietary preferences and restrictions of a large population, ensuring a varied and satisfying menu for employees or customers.

9. Conclusion

In conclusion, recipe recommendation systems play a valuable role in assisting users in discovering new recipes, exploring diverse culinary options, and enhancing their cooking experiences. These systems leverage various approaches such as collaborative filtering, content-based filtering, hybrid methods, and deep learning techniques to generate personalized and relevant recommendations.

By continuously refining and advancing recipe recommendation systems, researchers and developers can enhance the accuracy, diversity, and usability of these systems, thereby providing users with valuable and enjoyable cooking recommendations. Recipe recommendation systems have the potential to revolutionize the way people explore and engage with recipes, expand their culinary horizons, and create delightful dining experiences.

10. Future Scope

- **Integration of IoT and smart kitchen devices:** With the rise of Internet of Things (IoT) technology, recipe recommendation systems can integrate with smart kitchen devices. This integration can enable seamless communication between the system and appliances, allowing for automated adjustments of cooking settings, real-time monitoring of cooking progress, and synchronization of recipe instructions across multiple devices.
- **Multi-modal recommendations:** Future recipe recommendation systems can explore multi-modal recommendations, incorporating not only text-based recipes but also images, videos, and audio instructions. This multi-modal approach can provide users with a more immersive and intuitive cooking experience, allowing them to follow recipes through visual and auditory cues.
- **Integration with social platforms and user communities:** Recipe recommendation systems can integrate with social platforms and user communities to enhance the social aspect of cooking. Users can share their favorite recipes, cooking tips, and modifications, creating a vibrant community where they can connect, collaborate, and learn from each other's culinary experiences.
- **Seamless e-commerce integration:** Future recipe recommendation systems can integrate seamlessly with e-commerce platforms, enabling users to conveniently purchase ingredients directly from the system. By partnering with grocery delivery services or integrating with online marketplaces, these systems can simplify the process of ingredient procurement, making it easier for users to cook the recommended recipes

11.Bibilography

- <https://towardsdatascience.com/building-a-recipe-recommendation-system-297c229dda7b>
- <https://jackmleitch.medium.com/using-beautifulsoup-to-help-make-beautiful-soups-d2670a1d1d52>