## Collaborative Filtering

a NETFLIX

CS 189/289A Project T Final

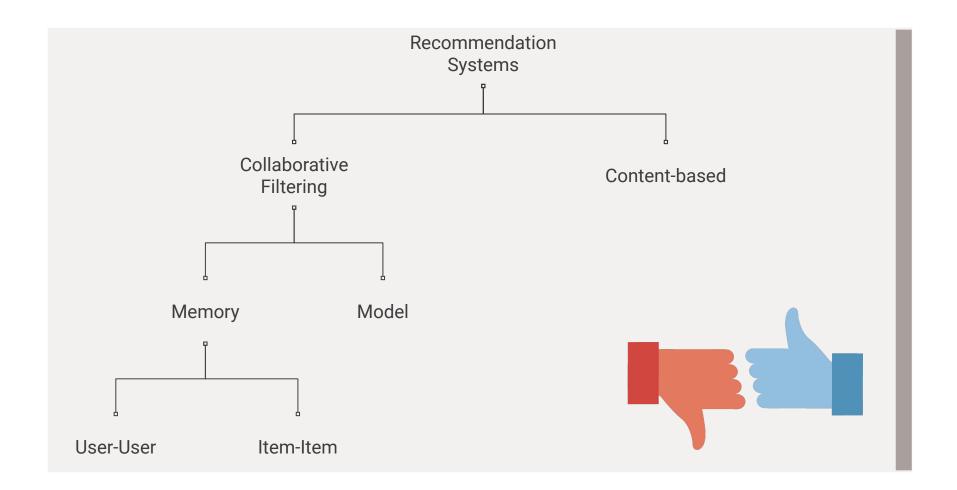


## Intro

Recommendation Systems & Their Classification

# Why Recommendation Systems?

- According to McKinsey, 35% of Amazon.com's revenue is generated by its recommendation engine
- Netflix estimates the recommendation system saves the company around \$1
   Billion annually
- Recommendations are responsible for 70% of the time people spend watching videos on YouTube



## **Paradigm**

#### Content-Based

Require featurization

- Conceptually simple (out of box classical models)
- Phrased as regression or classification
- Difficult to exploit user-user
   and item-item relations

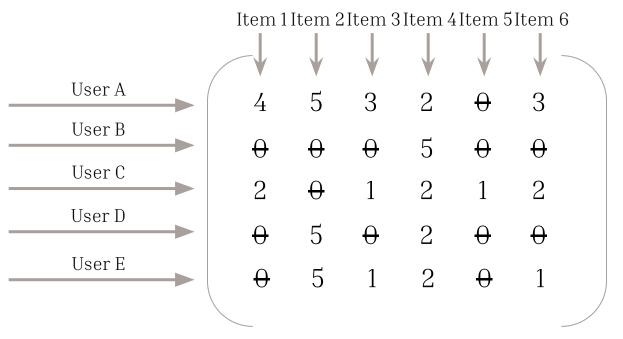
Collaborative Filtering

- Implicit featurization
- Novel concepts (specific to Rec. Sys.)
- Phrased as clustering or optimization problem
- Information-efficient
- \*Commercial deployments are overwhelmingly *hybrid* systems.

## Memory Approach

The data as it is

### **User-Interaction Matrix**



- User A rates Item 2 a 5
- User B has only rated Item 4
- User C has not rated Item 2
- User C gives low ratings
- Item 4 is very popular
- Item 2 is very highly rated

What would User D rate Item 3? User E rate Item 6?

- User-Interaction Matrix can be massive but always very sparse (mostly null entries)
- Sparsity not structured -- no expectation which items have been rated
  - In most use cases, the # of users
    >> # of items
  - Can decipher patterns based on similarities between users!
- Not necessary to abstract a model, only work with data, only use what's *in memory*

1. Identify similar users to User X

2. Find highly rated items from set of similar users

3. Recommend top items not yet rated by User X

1. Identify similar users to User X

How?

Use K-NN algorithm on row vectors!

1. Identify similar users to User X

2. Find highly rated items from set of similar users

Look at column sums of submatrix.

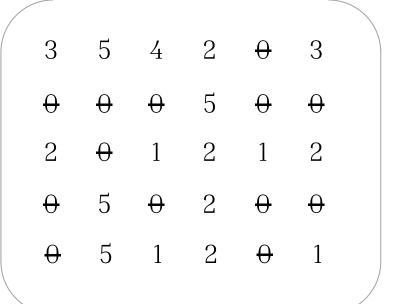
1. Identify similar users to User X

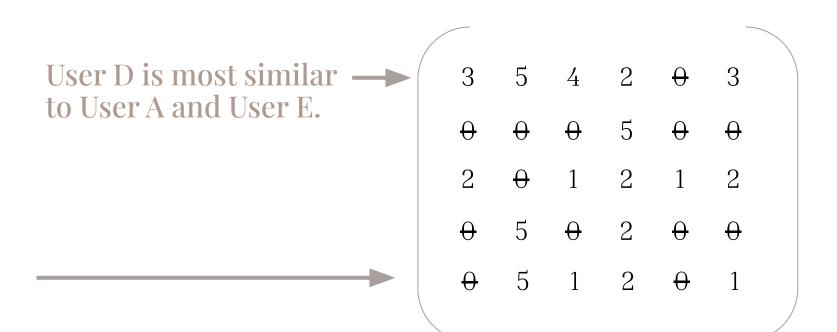
2. Find highly rated items from set of similar users

3. Recommend top items not yet rated by User X

Check against original U-I Matrix.

User D wants recommendations.





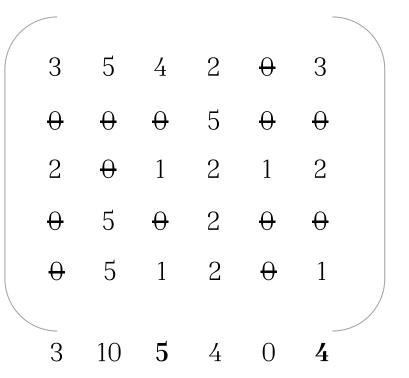
Calculate the column sums of the submatrix.



3 10 5 4 0 4

User D has already rated Item 2 and 4.

User D is recommended Item 3 and Item 6.



#### Advantages

- Simple and intuitive
- Well understood
- Very personalized
- Adaptive with different similarity measures

#### Disadvantages

- Scales poorly because of k-nn runtime
- Unstable (very few values determine result)
- Most similaritymeasures have bad edgecases

1. Find User X's top rated items

2. Find other similar items for each item

3. Recommend most frequently found items in search

1. Find User X's top rated items

How?

Sort by rating.

1. Find User X's top rated items

2. Find other similar items for each item

Run k-nearest neighbors on the columns on the UI Interaction Matrix.

1. Find User X's top rated items

2. Find other similar items for each item

3. Recommend most frequently found items in search

Search for repeats in list.

# Model Approach

Latent Space Assumption & Matrix Factorization

## SVD Algorithm

## A=UT

4	5	3	2	$\Theta$	3	\
$\Theta$	$\Theta$	$\Theta$	5	$\Theta$	$\Theta$	
2	0	1	2	1	2	
$\Theta$	5	$\Theta$	2	0	0	
$\Theta$	5	1	2	0	1	

## The End