

# LESSON 12: Recommender Systems → popularity I Netflix challenge in 2005 → 1M\$

Predict a user's interest in a product or service

USER

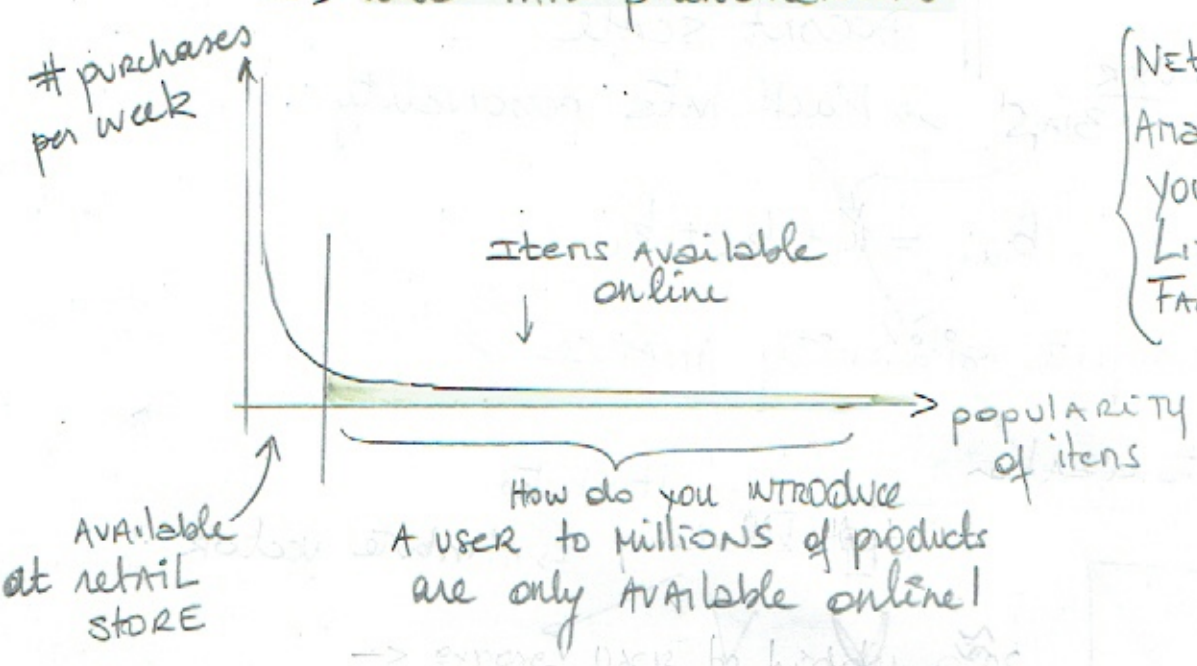
receive relevant recommendations where there are many choices  
ERA of scarcity to an era of abundance

VENDOR

- upselling opportunity
- loyalty ↑

internet provides shelf without cost!

→ LONG TAIL PHENOMENON



- Netflix
- Amazon
- Youtube
- LinkedIn
- Facebook

## Type of recommendation

① hand created → Youtube trending list

Focus → ② Tailored to individual users!

## Problem statement: Netflix

4 ↓  
pax

	1	2	3	4	5
P <sub>1</sub>	1	///	///	3	///
P <sub>2</sub>	///	5	///	///	///
P <sub>3</sub>	///	///	///	1	///
P <sub>4</sub>	2	///	///	///	4

← 5 MOVIES

← USER/ITEM MATRIX

→ SPARSE (as high as 95% sparsity)

→ Goal is to fill in the gaps!

→ RATINGS: 1 → 5

## How to gather Ratings?

- ① ASK! → Explicit  
② implicit info: profile info, click info, facebook purchase history, cursor movements, ...
- more companies use both.
- only relevant to high rating items

## How to find RATING MATRIX?

### ① CONTENT-BASED

recommend items based on

what the user has rated highly before! → user profile

→ item needs a profile (VECTOR)

ex: MOVIE (genre, OSCAR, DIRECTOR, ...)

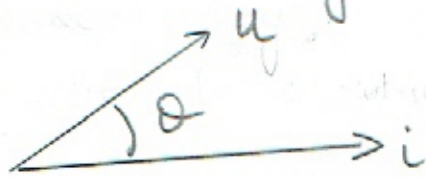
→ match item profile to profile user

How much item  $i$  satisfies property  $k$ .

calculate 'similarity'

↳ developed by explicit or implicit DATA

→ how much user values property  $k$



→ dot product

$$\bar{u} \cdot \bar{i} = |\bar{u}| \cdot |\bar{i}| \cos \theta$$

ASSUME: ANA likes Thrillers → 5

likes movies that won OSCAR → 4

person C likes Robert de Niro → 5

what is Rating

for JAWS (movie 3)

CAPE FEAR (movie 5)

$$\begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 4 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$$



Movie 3 : jaws

5 : Cape Fear

JAWS profile  $\begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

CAPE Fear profile  $\begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 0 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$

3

basis for Ranking

JAWS  $\rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 4 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{25}{15} = 1.3$

$\begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 4 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 0 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{50}{15} = 3.3$

Conclusion : \* you can start on day 1  $\rightarrow$  good for cold start!

- +
- \* item profile does not depend on other users  
no first rater problem
  - \* more logical to understand where the recommendation comes from

- 
- \* finding features is difficult AND sometimes subjective
  - \* overspecialization  $\rightarrow$  no risk
  - \* not able to exploit judgement from other users
  - \* cold start  $\rightarrow$  no user profile
    - $\hookrightarrow$  Ask user to complete a form  
with hints  
assign general profile



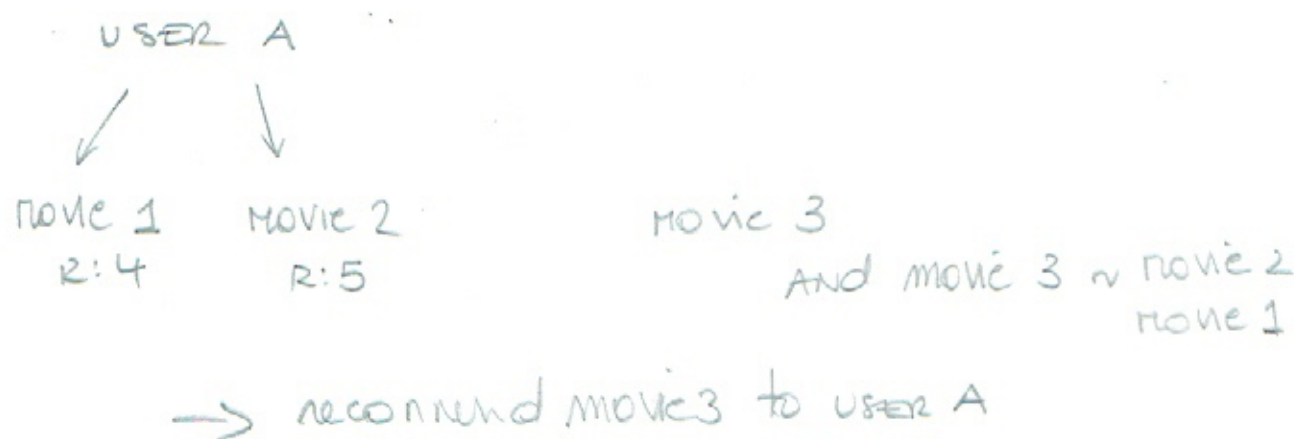
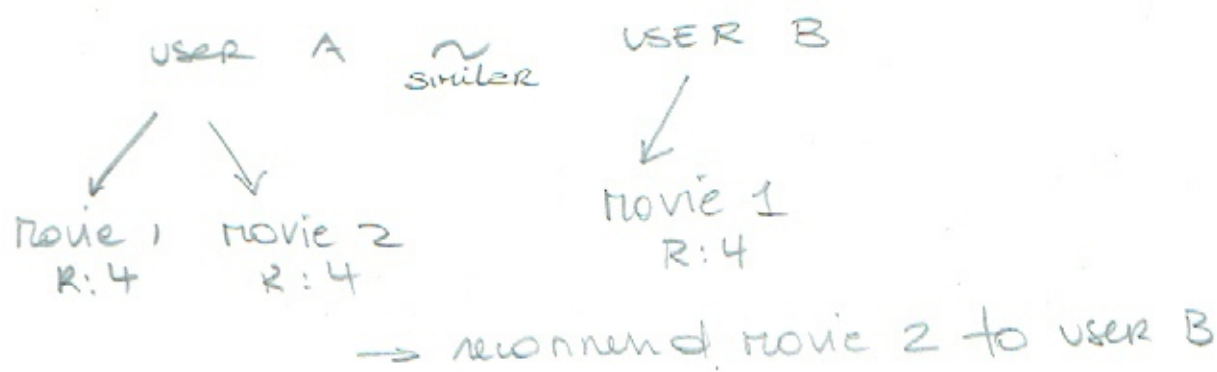
## ② Collaborative filtering

↳ relies on (user, item) interactions

↳ find 'similar' users

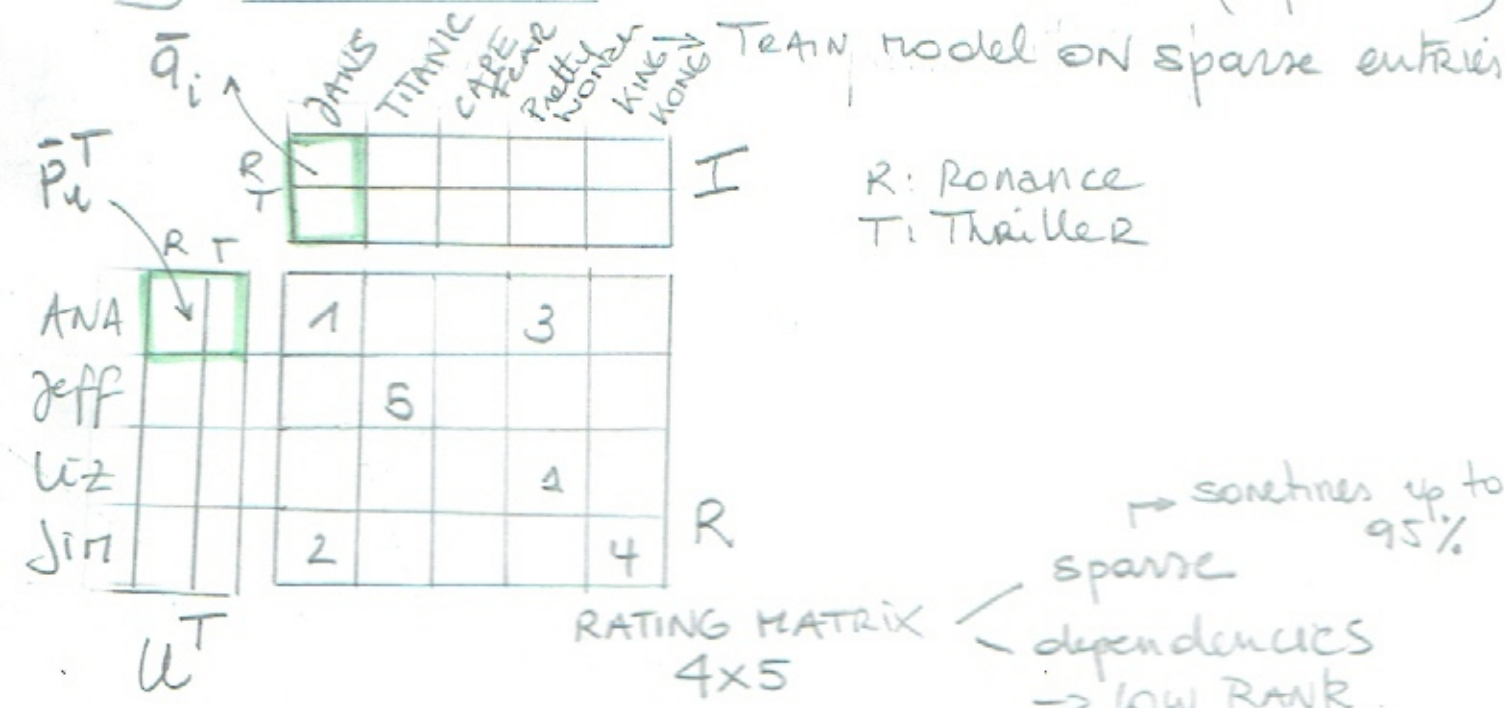
### 1) Memory-based → Neighbor-based

purchases  
likes



### 2) Model-Based → Machine Learning (supervised)

TRAIN model on sparse entries





next

## Factorization of Rating Matrix

(5)

↳ decompose complex matrix in (low rank) simpler matrices

ex SVD (Singular Value Decomposition)

$$A = U \Sigma V^T$$

ROT      ROT      STRETCH

SVD not applicable to sparse matrices

FIND latent structure in observed ratings

highly correlated terms can be summarized as latent factors | → choose features!

$$R = U^T I$$

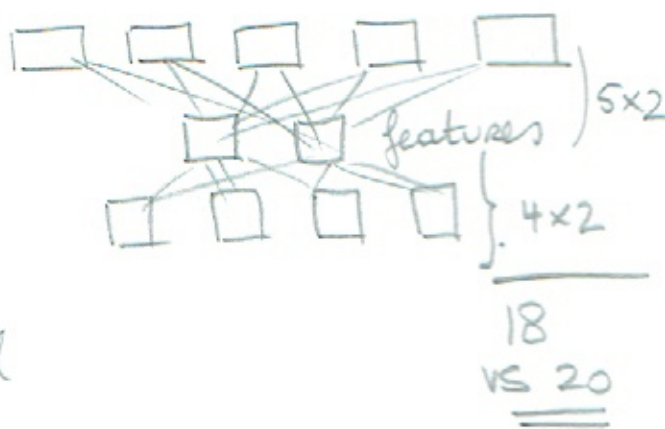
user matrix

↳ items matrix

Romance Thriller

# features is hyperparameter

features allow us to reduce need for memory  
→ lower dimensional problem



→ back to page 4 → Add features  $\begin{matrix} R \\ T \end{matrix}$

Goal: find  $U^T$  and  $I$  so that MSE is minimal.

↳ GRADIENT Descent  
Neural Networks



	R		T				
	T		1	2	3	4	5
	T		1	2	3	4	5
ANA	0.5	0.1	1			3	
Jeff				5			
Liz						1	1
Jim			2				4

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{p}_u^T &= \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 \\ 0.1 \end{pmatrix} \\ \bar{q}_i &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \\ \end{array} \right\} \text{initialize!}$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$\bar{p}_u^T \cdot \bar{q}_i = 0.5 + 0.4 = 0.9$$

ERROR = 0.1  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{compare with entry} \\ 1.0 \end{array} \right.$

$\downarrow$  update  $\bar{p}_u^T, \bar{q}_i \rightarrow$  find minimum using Gradient Descent

$\rightarrow$  Do same with other sparse entries!

$\rightarrow$  total 6 entries

$\rightarrow$  this will give you  $u^T, I$  that minimizes loss on sparse entries!

$\rightarrow$  once  $u^T, I$  are known  $\rightarrow$  use  $u^T, I$  to fill in blanks using dot product!

## Gradient Descent

$$R = U^T I$$

$$C = \frac{1}{2} \sum (r_{ui} - \underbrace{p_u^T q_i}_{e_{ui} = \text{error}})^2$$

$$\frac{\partial C}{\partial p_u} \rightarrow (r_{ui} - p_u^T q_i)(-1) q_i$$

$$\frac{\partial C}{\partial q_i} \rightarrow (r_{ui} - p_u^T q_i)(-1) p_u$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{\partial C}{\partial p_u} = \underbrace{(r_{ui} + p_u^T q_i)}_{-e_{ui}} q_i$$

$$\rightarrow \begin{cases} p_u \leftarrow \bar{p}_u + \alpha e_{ui} q_i \\ q_i \leftarrow \bar{q}_i + \alpha e_{ui} p_u \end{cases}$$

update rules for  $p, q$ .

$\rightarrow$  iterate till no significant changes  $\rightarrow$  minimum.

## REGULARIZATION

$$C = \frac{1}{2} \sum (r_{ui} - p_u^T q_i)^2 + \lambda \|p_u\|^2 + \lambda \|q_i\|^2$$

L2 regularization

2 unknown !!  
+ not convex !!

$\rightarrow$  ALS (alternate least squares)

for Large Scale SPARK

$\hookrightarrow$  keeps  $\bar{p}_u$  constant and updates  $\bar{q}_i$

$\bar{q}_i$   $\bar{p}_u$

alternation makes  $C$  a quadratic for every iteration

$\rightarrow$  convex  $\rightarrow$  Global minimum!

## Neural Nets

⑦

$\downarrow$

Several layers are craned going from INPUT to OUTPUT


$\rightarrow U^T, I$  are found via backpropagation!

Tensorflow  $\swarrow$  2015 google

multicore + distributed GPU TPU

Large datasets Python / Keras

# ISSUES WITH CF

- ① Cold start  
↳ solution  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{std profile} \\ \text{content-based} \end{array} \right.$  ⑧  
At start
- ② issue when users share account  
(Netflix)
- ③ USER bias  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{optimist} \\ \text{pessimist} \end{array} \right.$    
Average Rating