COMP3208 Social Computing Techniques Indicative Marking Scheme (worth 40%)

Indu Bodala, i.p.bodala@soton.ac.uk

Updated: 6 February 2024

Individual submissions are expected for this coursework (i.e. not group work).

Assessment 1 (15 marks)

up to 15 marks - predicted ratings submission (on 100k dataset) will be used to compute a MAE score against the gold ratings. To get a good mark your algorithms will need to do much better than the easiest baseline of a hardcoded recommender system which returns a fixed value (e.g. average ratings of corpus; average for a particular item; average for a particular user). As an indication, for the cohort of the last year, MAE 0.77 was awarded an average score (~70%) and an MAE 0.70 was awarded the best score (100%). However, these values may change as a different test set will be given this time.

Optional Assignment (0 marks)

This task is optional and does not contain any marks.

Assessment 2 (25 marks)

up to 10 marks - predicted ratings submission (on 20M dataset) will be used to compute a MAE score against the gold ratings. The MAE score will be compared against a low-scoring benchmark, which is a basic cosine similarity recommender system algorithm without any optimisation work. To get a good mark your algorithms will need to do better than a cosine similarity algorithm. As an indication, for the cohort of the last year, an MAE 0.66 was awarded an average score (~70%) and an MAE 0.61 was awarded the best score (100%). However, these values may change as a different test set will be given this time.

up to 15 marks - manual inspection of self-described code assessing the criteria of (a) clarity of self-described code (up to 5 marks) and (b) depth of understanding of algorithm and maths behind it (up to 10 marks). Note that marks are provided for a description of the algorithm and maths behind it in the self-described code comments, so even broken code (in the worst case) can score high marks for this if the understanding of what it should do if it worked correctly is clearly presented. Submission of an incorrect or impossible to read source code file (i.e. a file that is not a python or java source file serialised as a single plain text file) will result in a zero mark.