

TED Recommender

Tung Viet Pham

1. Motivation

In the rapid development society nowadays, new ideas are introduced every day. People spend more time to improve themselves by studying and adapting new skills. Learning is not restricted to schools and classrooms anymore, but people can pick up knowledge, or get inspired by an entrepreneur from another country by his stories online. With the mission to spread ideas, TED is a non-profit organization established in 1984 as a conference where Technology, Entertainment and Design converged. As the growth of the internet, TED became an online media platform with short, powerful talks, which covers almost all topics in more than 100 languages. With hundreds of different categories, TED has their speakers, who are professional and talented from all the fields from science to business to environment, share their lessons in an 18 minutes or less online talk. Therefore, there are around 93 thousand published TED videos. What if someone just watched a TED video and would like to find that video again, but he forgot the title, and the author's name? What if someone is interested in the videos he watched and would like to find more similar videos? TED Recommender gives them the opportunity to search for a TED video by its content, describe, or simply by title and author's name. The application also recommends similar videos base on user's videos list, so they can keep exploring their interests.

2. Overview

2.1 Data Sets

TED Recommender uses the datasets of TED Talks on the TED.com website until September 21st, 2017. (<https://www.kaggle.com/rounakbanik/ted-talks>)

2.2 Features

TED Recommender allows users to search for videos by entering free text into the search bar. With the database contains videos' transcript, the application can return the video base on the content, or the description of the talk. Another feature is to recommend users the list of videos base on their interested videos. The application let the users enter up to 3 videos, then compute the similarity between videos' rating to return the closet videos. TED Recommender later can be developed with more advance features such as return videos with classified categories, or range of time length.

2.3 Similar Applications

There are some applications on the internet have already implemented similar features:

TED Recommends on the TED website, that recommends videos to user base on the categories they chose(<https://www.ted.com/>)

YouTube Recommends, pick the videos based on user history watched list (<https://www.youtube.com/>)

Netflix implements a score systems to give match point to each movie, how is it similar to the user watched movies (<https://www.netflix.com/>)