

# Modularizing Deep Neural Network-Inspired Recommendation Algorithms



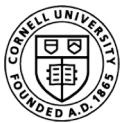
Longqi Yang



Eugene Bagdasaryan



Hongyi Wen



**CORNELL  
TECH**

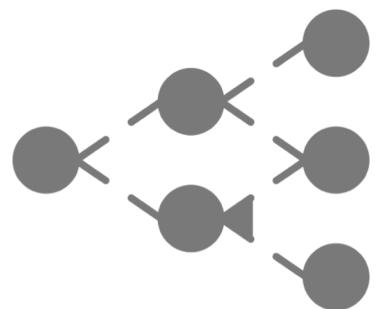
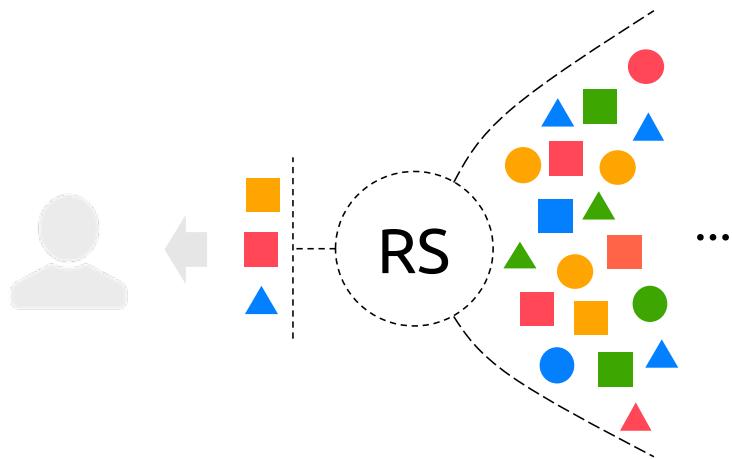


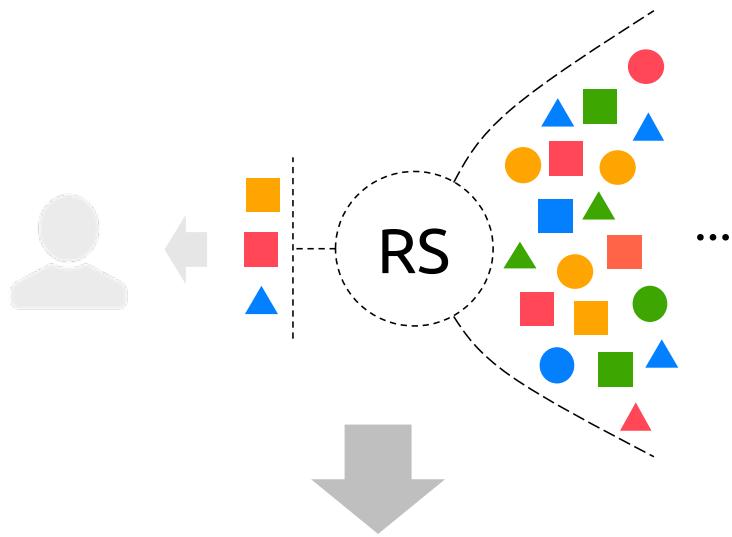
Cornell CIS  
**Computer Science**

Funders:



**Oath:**  
A Verizon company





# OpenRec

# Tutorial Agenda

Github link for slides and notebooks: <https://github.com/ylongqi/openrec/tree/master/tutorials>



Lecture (Longqi, 40 min).



Hands-on sessions (15 min each).

- OpenRec basics + diversity and fairness (Eugene)
- Customizing Deep YouTube Video Recommendation (Hongyi)
- Temporal-aware recommendation (Longqi)

# Lecture Agenda



How we do recommendations, traditionally.



How deep learning can help to do better recommendations.



Modularization and OpenRec.

# Recommendation Algorithm

items (ranked) | user + context

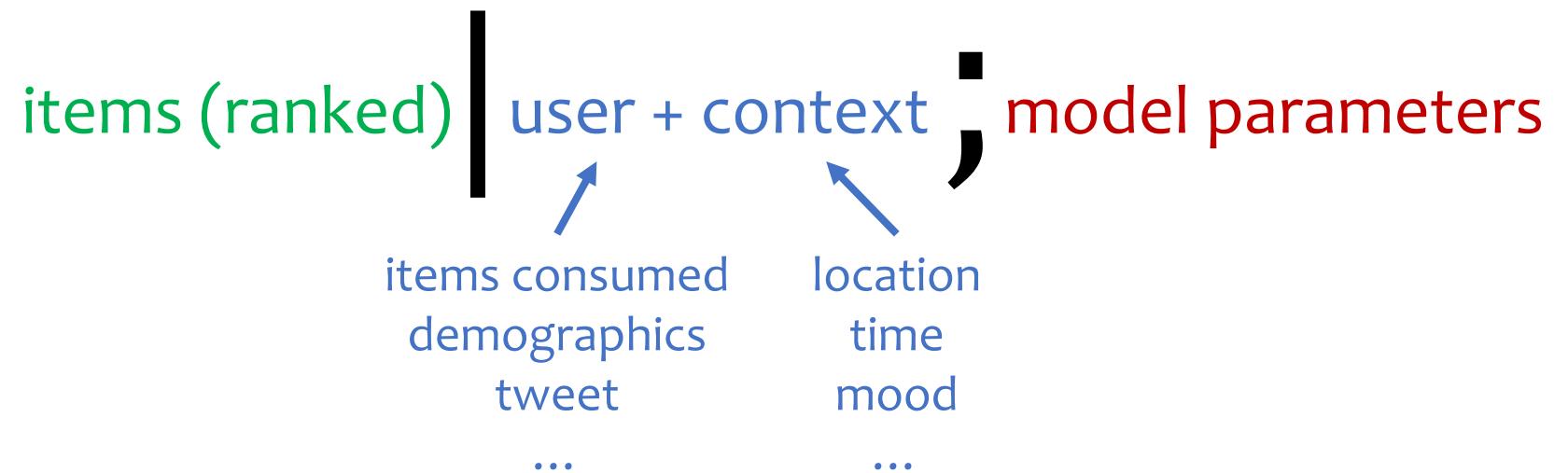
# Recommendation Algorithm (Policy $\pi$ )

$$\pi(y|x; \theta)$$

items (ranked) | user + context ; model parameters

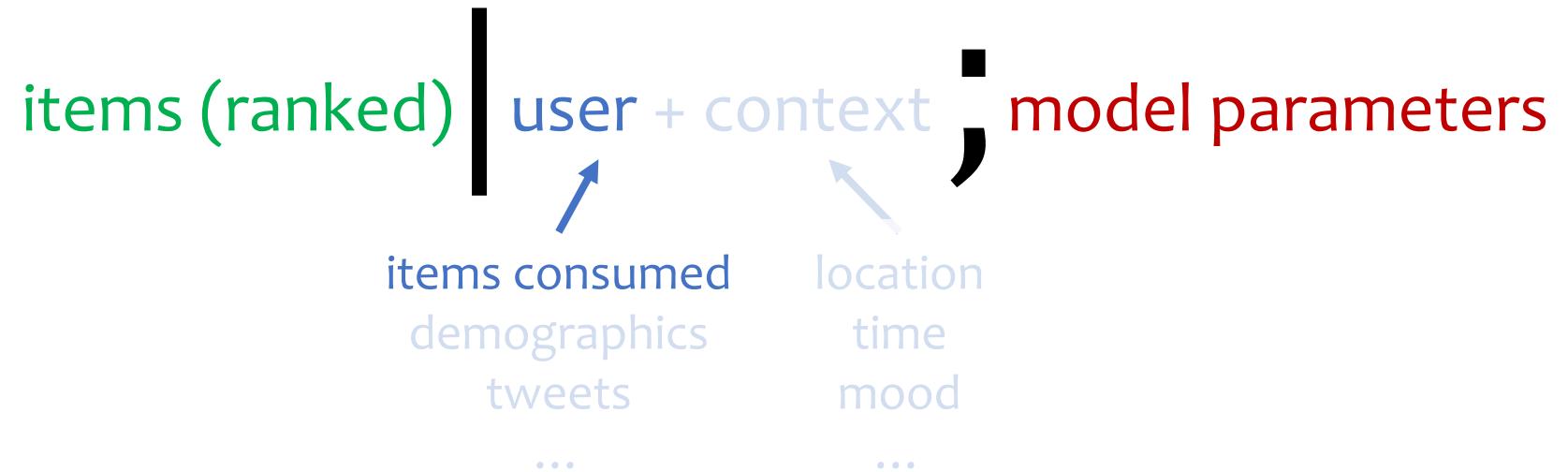
# Recommendation Algorithm (Policy $\pi$ )

$$\pi(y|x; \theta)$$



# How we do recommendations traditionally (with Collaborative Filtering)

$$\pi(y|x; \theta)$$

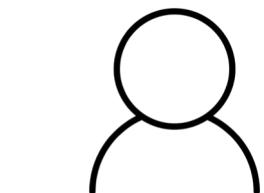


# A running example: articles recommendation

$y:$  Four dark gray rectangular icons, each containing five horizontal white lines of varying lengths, representing stylized text or articles.

# Latent Factor-based models (Model parameters)

$\theta:$



$i (i \in \{1, \dots, N\})$

[0.1, -0.2, 0.35, ... , 0.15]

user latent factor  $\mathcal{V}_\text{U}$



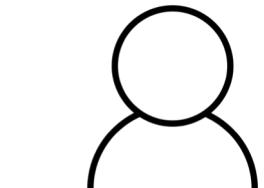
$j (j \in \{1, \dots, M\})$

[-0.05, 0.5, 0.1, ... , -0.3]

article latent factor  $\mathcal{V}_\text{A}$

# Latent Factor-based models (Model parameters)

$\theta:$



$i (i \in \{1, \dots, N\})$



$j (j \in \{1, \dots, M\})$

[0.1, -0.2, 0.35, ... , 0.15]

[-0.05, 0.5, 0.1, ... , -0.3]

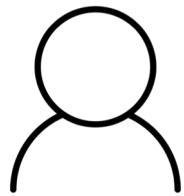
user latent factor  $\mathcal{V}_{\textcircled{U}}$

article latent factor  $\mathcal{V}_{\text{list}}$

$\mathcal{V}_{\textcircled{U}} \cdot \mathcal{V}_{\text{list}}$

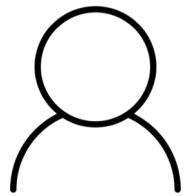
→ A user's preference towards an article

# Latent Factor-based models (Objective)



$$v_{\text{人}} \cdot v_{\text{文}} > v_{\text{人}} \cdot v_{\text{档}}$$

# Latent Factor-based models (Objective)



$$v_{\text{user}} \cdot v_{\text{document}} > v_{\text{user}} \cdot v_{\text{other document}}$$

Learning from user consumption history

# Bayesian Personalized Ranking (BPR)

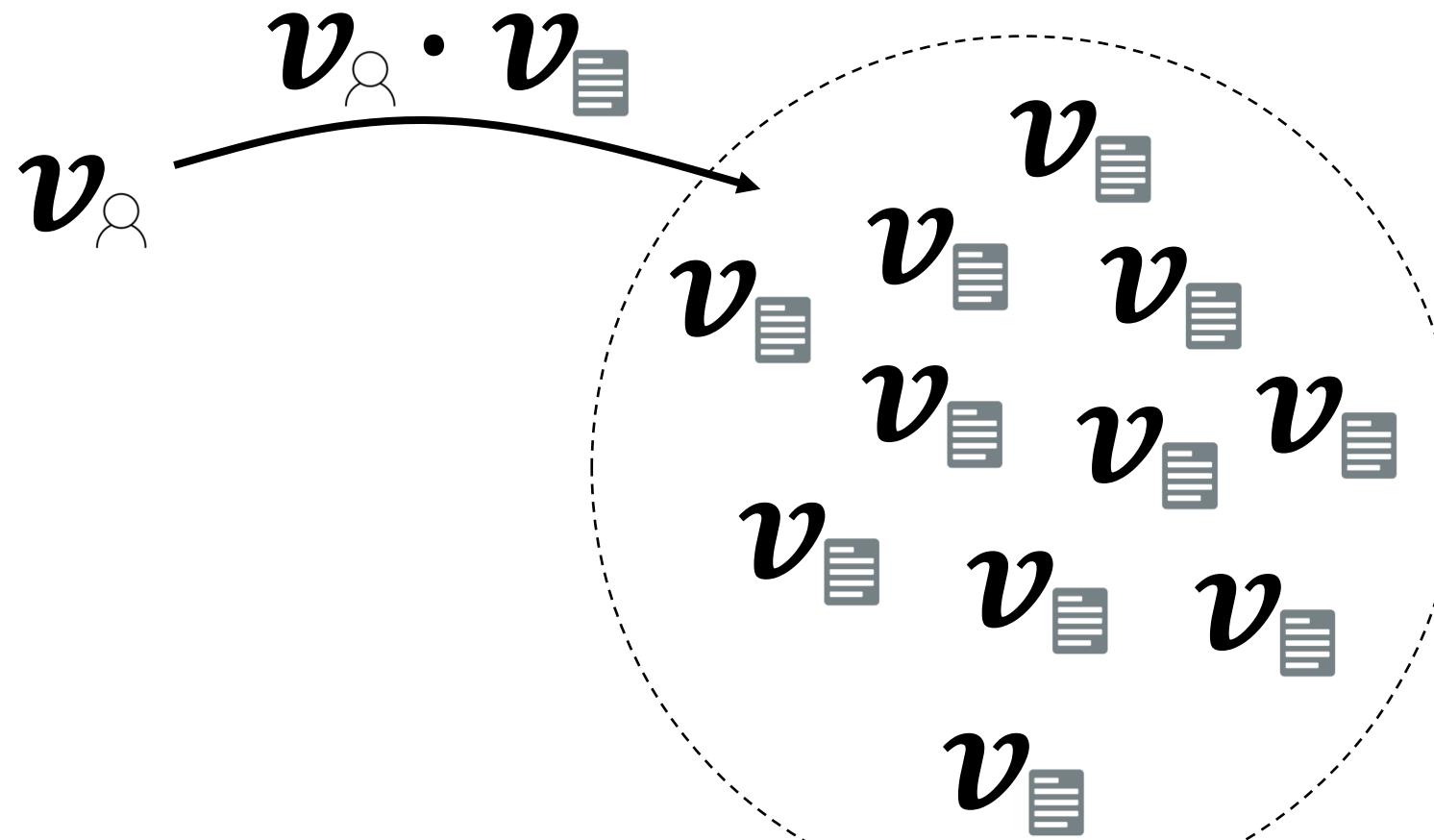
## (Pairwise learning)

$$\max \sum_{\text{user}} \sum_{(\text{item}, \text{item})} \log(\sigma(v_{\text{user}} \cdot v_{\text{item}} - v_{\text{user}} \cdot v_{\text{item}}))$$

# Probabilistic Matrix Factorization (PMF) (Pointwise learning)

$$\min_{\textcolor{teal}{v}_\textcolor{teal}{\text{user}}, \textcolor{teal}{v}_\textcolor{teal}{\text{item}}, \textcolor{gray}{v}_\textcolor{gray}{\text{global}}} \sum_{\textcolor{teal}{\text{user}}, \textcolor{teal}{\text{item}}} (1 - v_\textcolor{teal}{\text{user}} \cdot v_\textcolor{teal}{\text{item}})^2 + c(v_\textcolor{teal}{\text{user}} \cdot v_\textcolor{gray}{\text{global}})^2$$

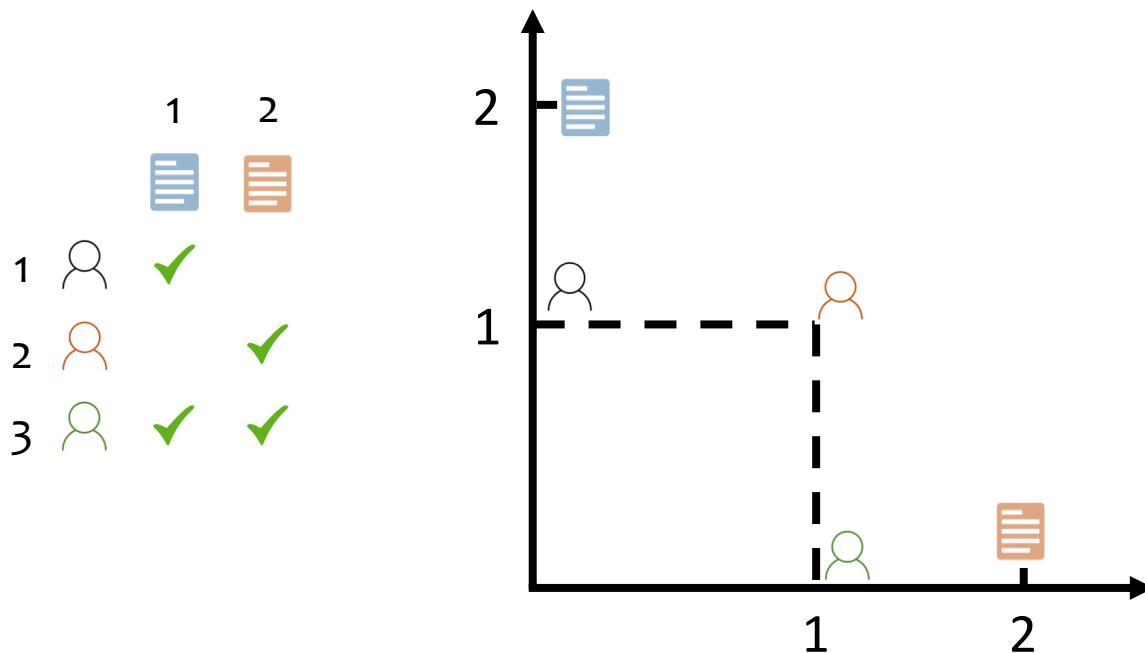
# Recommend based on BPR or PMF



# It doesn't have to be dot-product: dot-product does not generalize

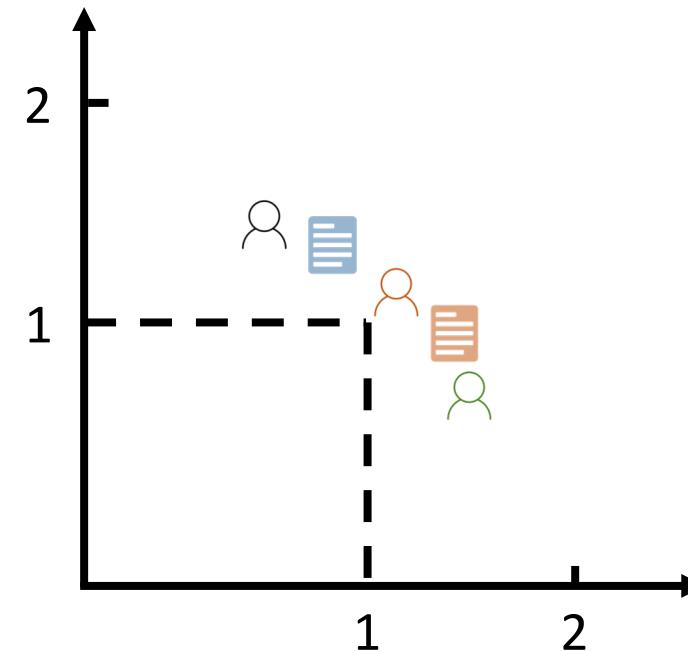
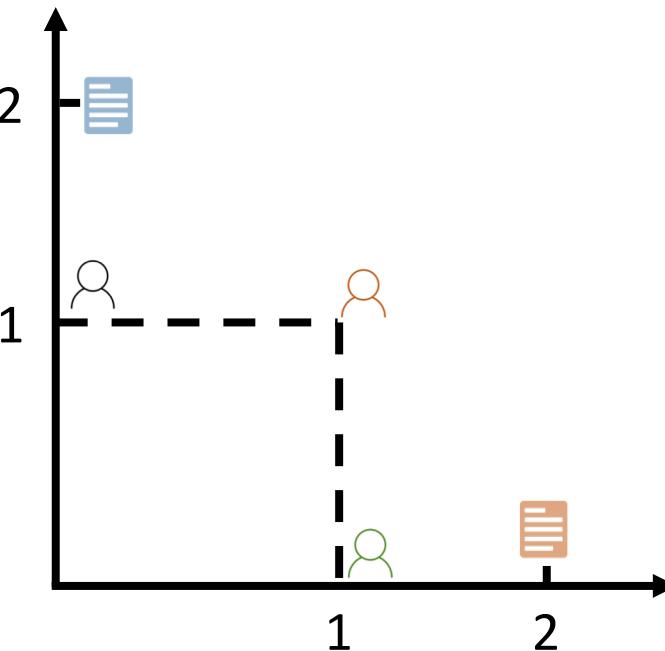
	1	2
1		
2		
3		

# It doesn't have to be dot-product: dot-product does not generalize



# It doesn't have to be dot-product: dot-product does not generalize

	1	2
1	User	✓
2	User	✓
3	User	✓ ✓

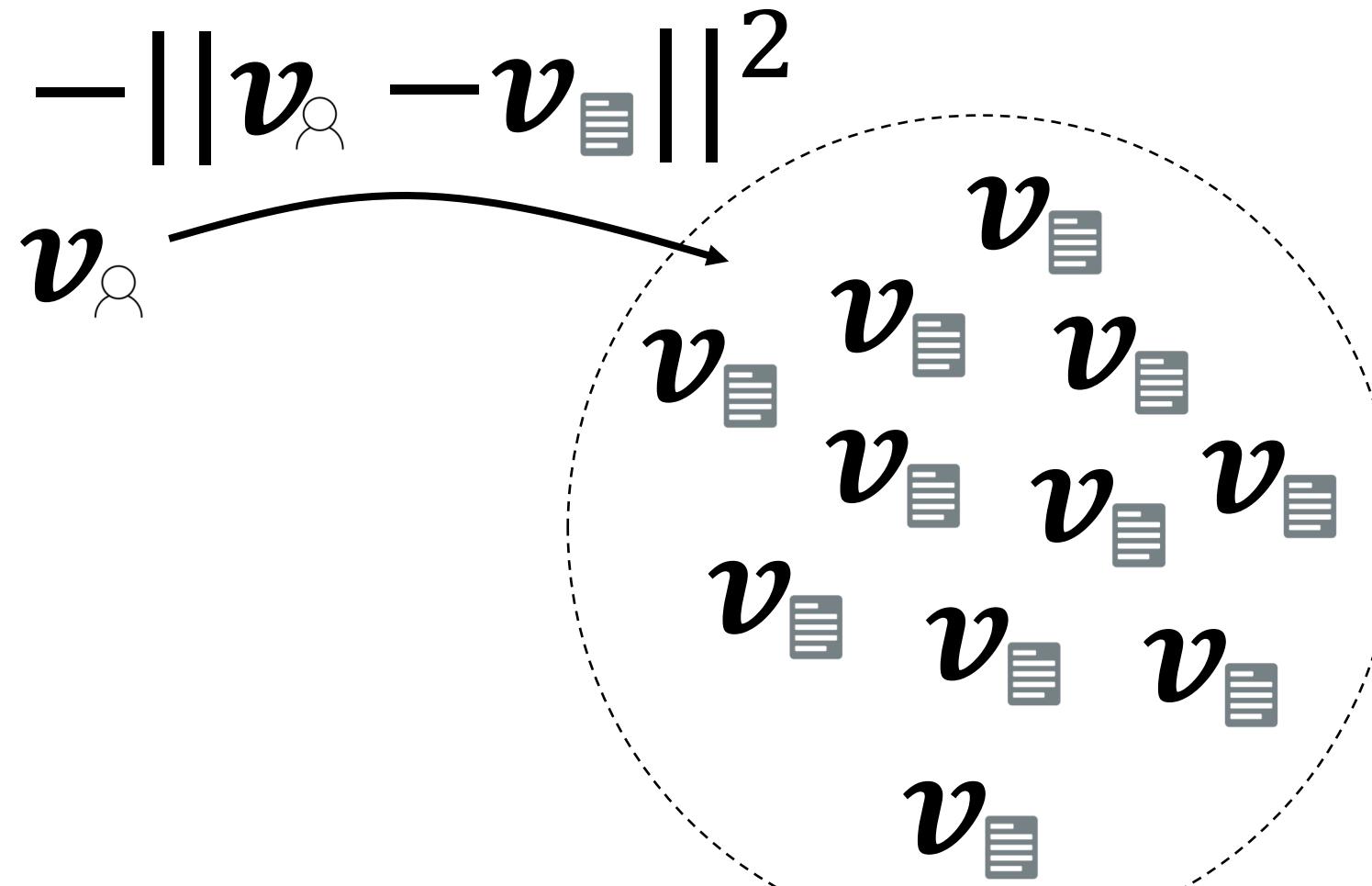


# Collaborative Metric Learning (**CML**)

$$v_{\text{人}} \cdot v_{\text{屏}} \rightarrow -||v_{\text{人}} - v_{\text{屏}}||^2$$

$$-\log(\sigma(*)) \rightarrow \omega[m-*]_+$$

# Recommend based on CML



# Lecture Agenda



How we do recommendations, traditionally.



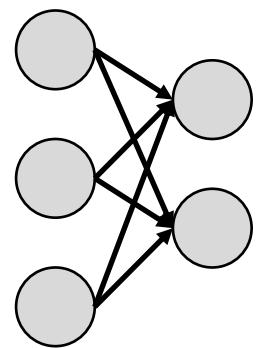
How deep learning helps to do better recommendations.



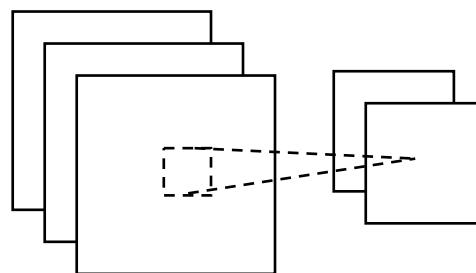
Modularization and OpenRec

# Building blocks

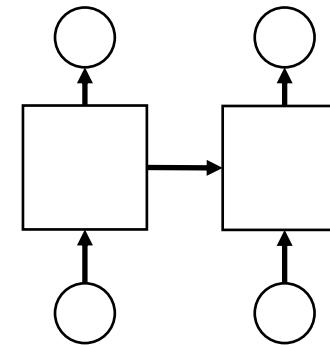
Multi-Layer Perceptron  
(MLP)



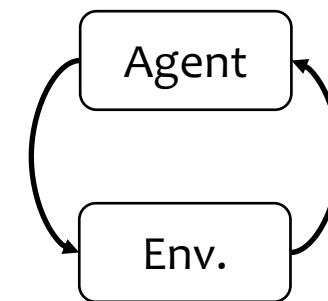
Convolutional Neural Network  
(CNN)



Recurrent Neural Network  
(RNN)



Reinforcement Learning  
(RL)



# How deep learning helps?

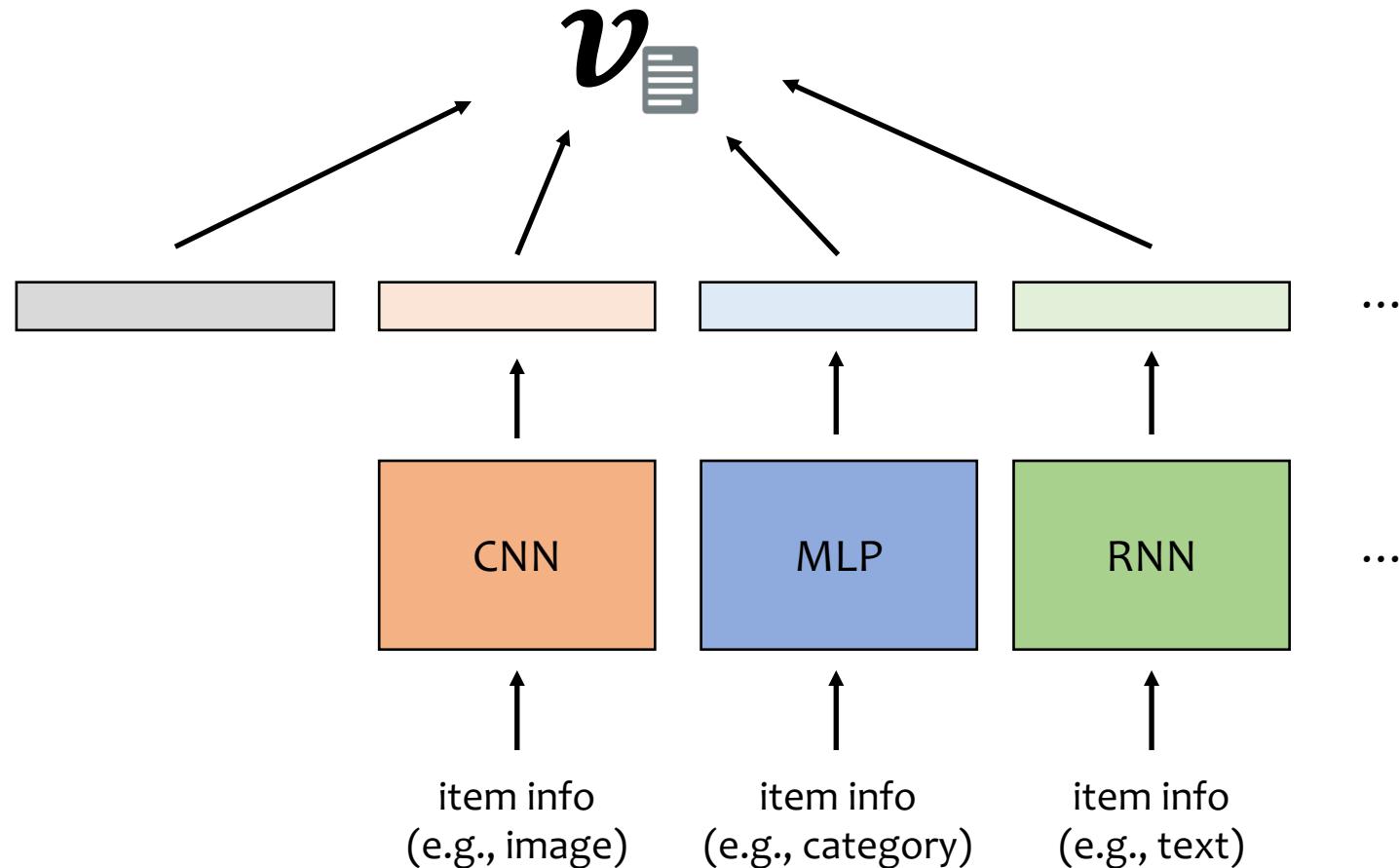


High-dimensional and multi-channel data streams.

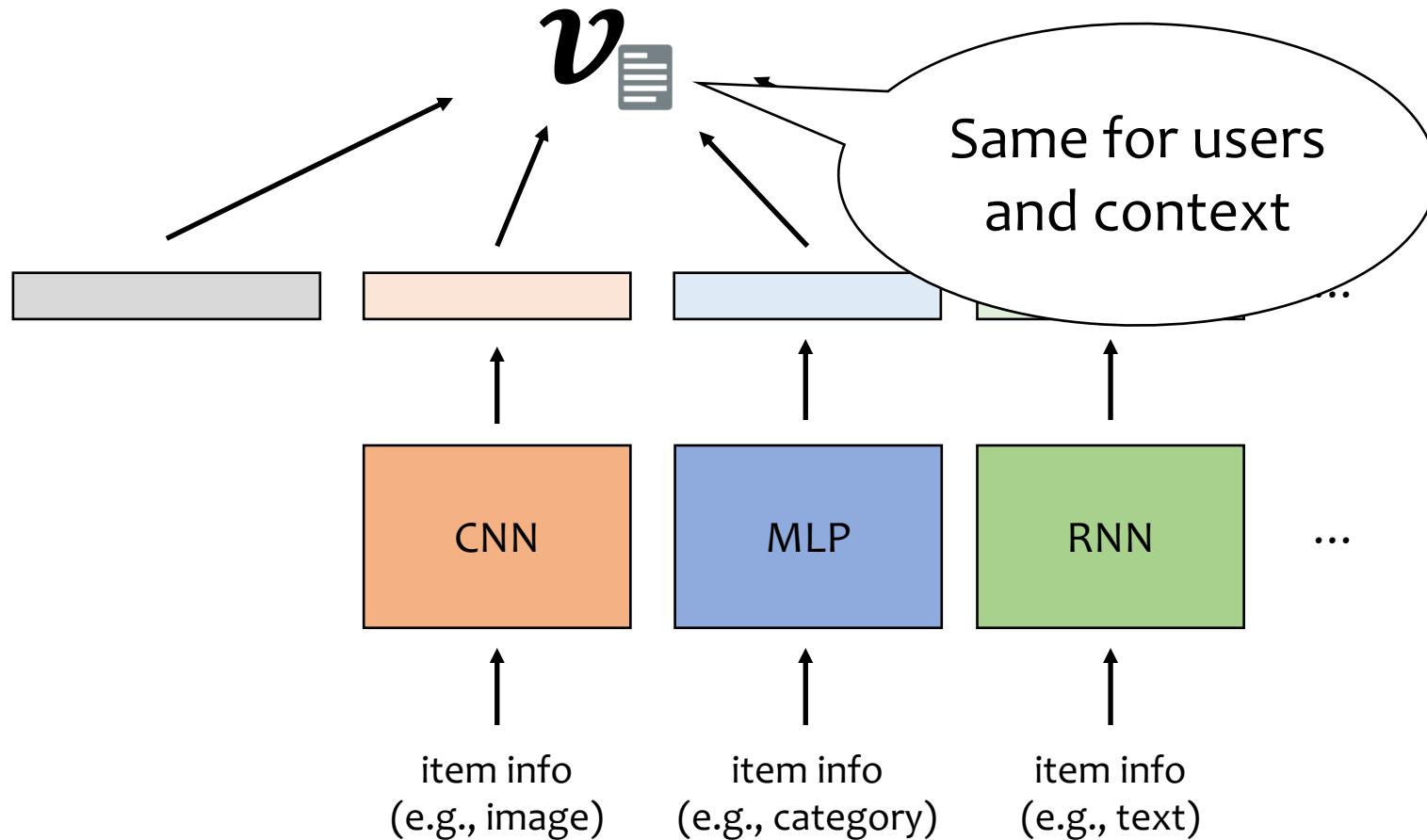


Nuanced user-item interaction patterns.

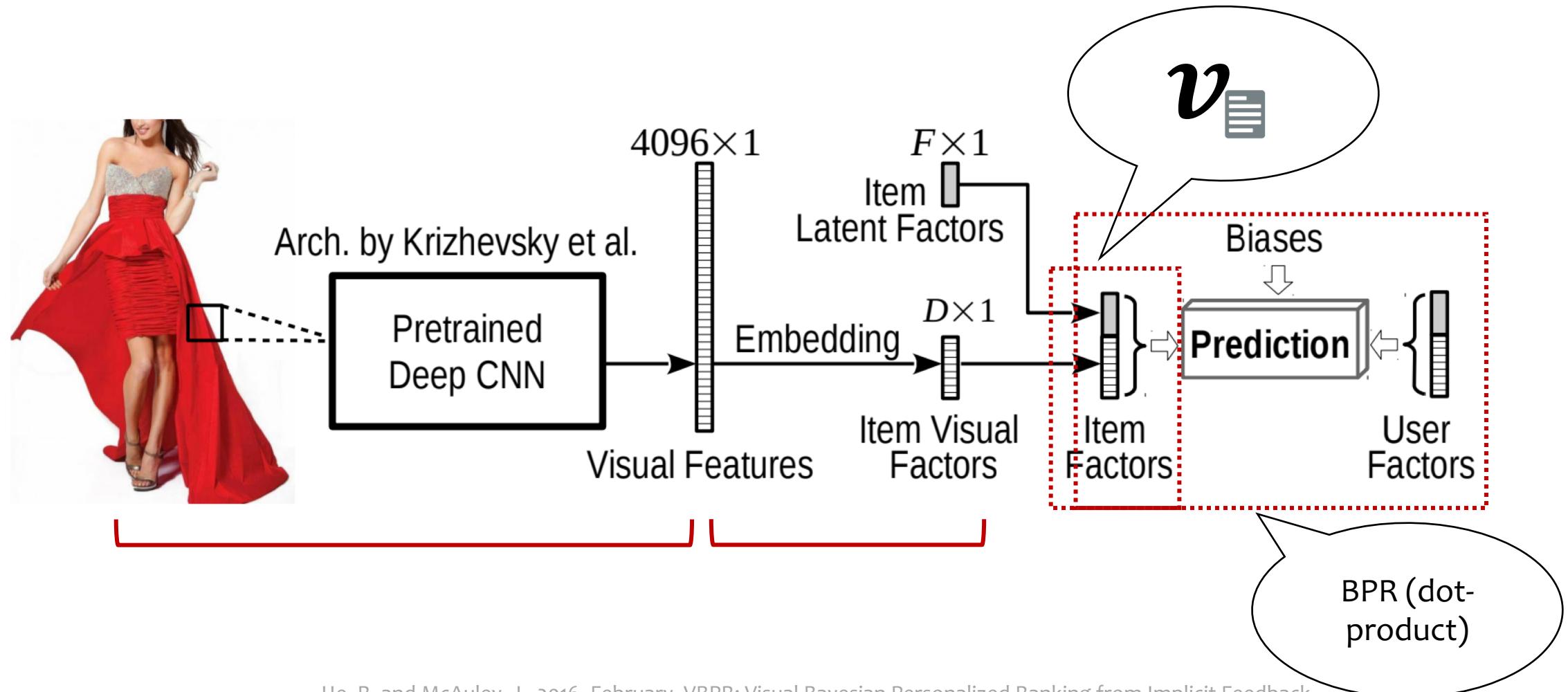
# High-dimensional and Multi-channel Data streams



# High-dimensional and Multi-channel Data streams

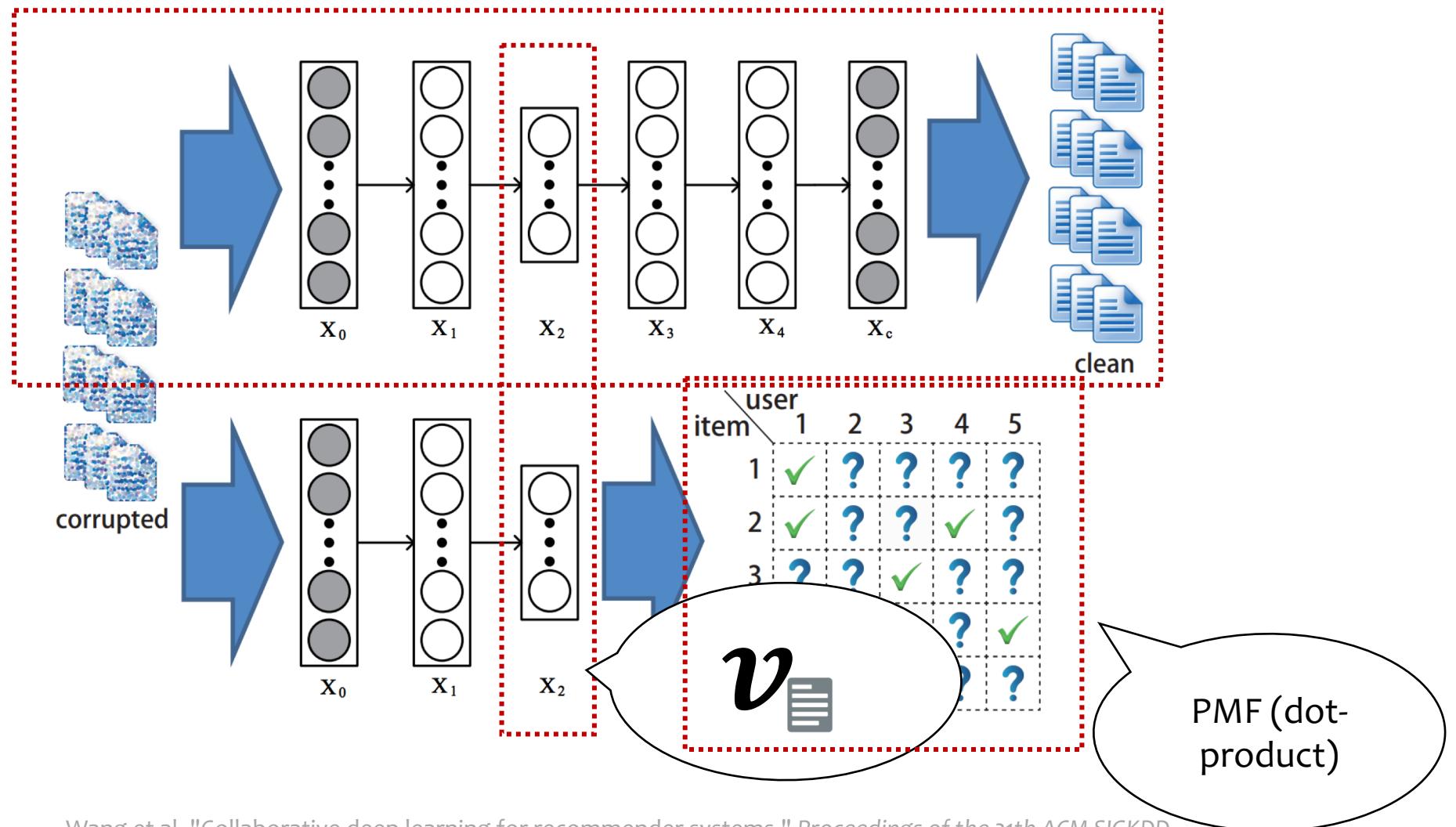


# Visual BPR (VBPR)



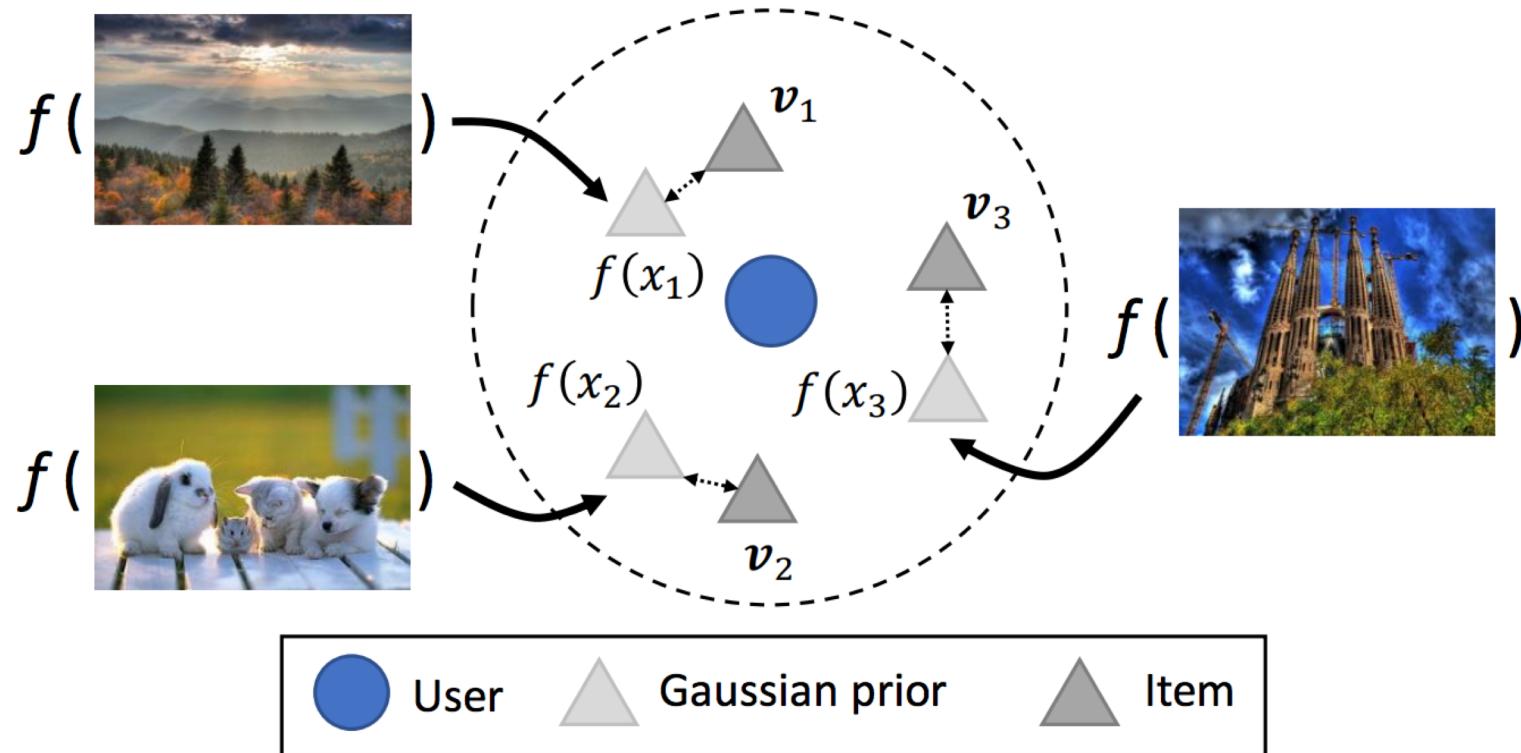
He, R. and McAuley, J., 2016, February. VBPR: Visual Bayesian Personalized Ranking from Implicit Feedback.  
In AAAI (pp. 144-150).

# Collaborative Deep Learning (CDL)

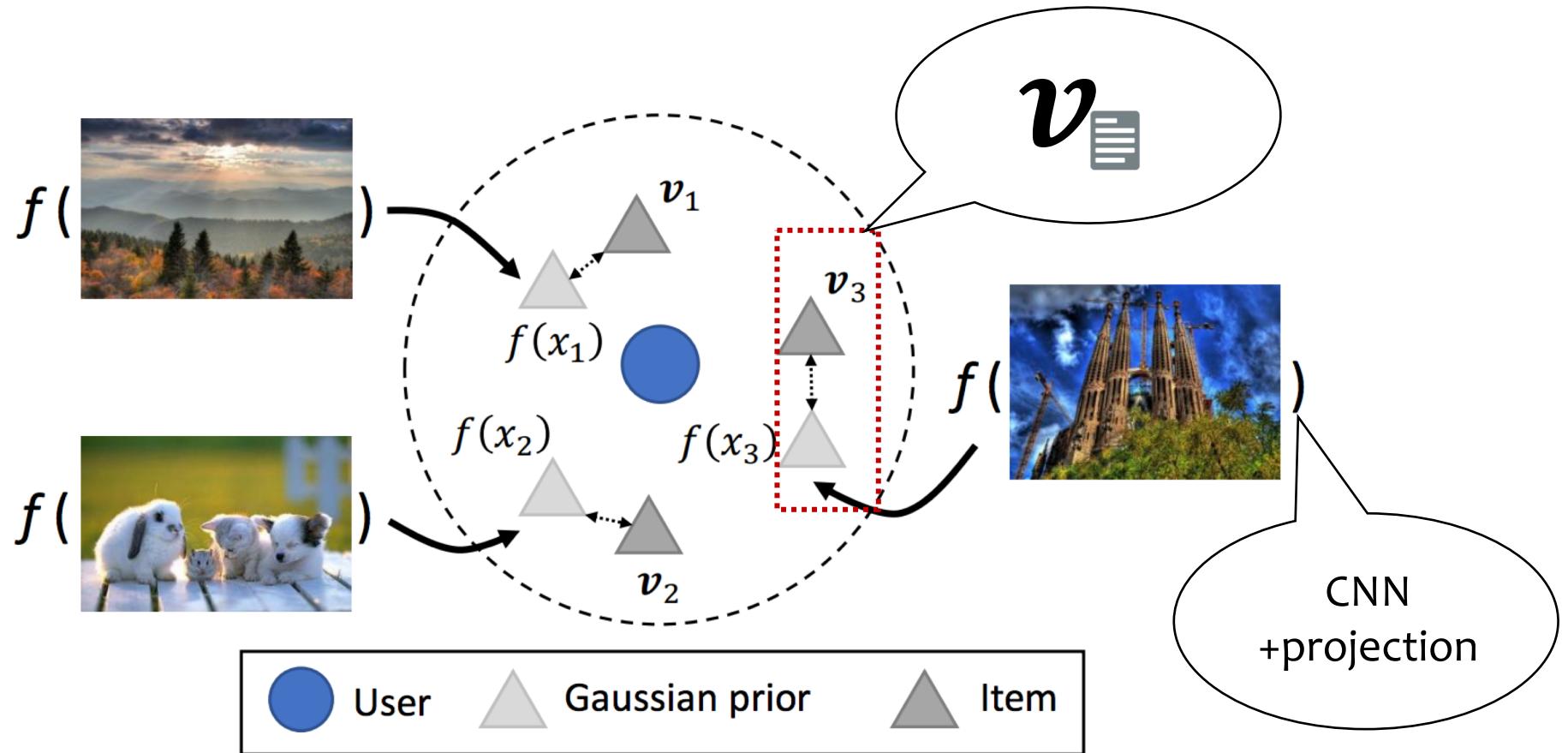


Wang et al. "Collaborative deep learning for recommender systems." Proceedings of the 21th ACM SIGKDD International Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining. ACM, 2015.

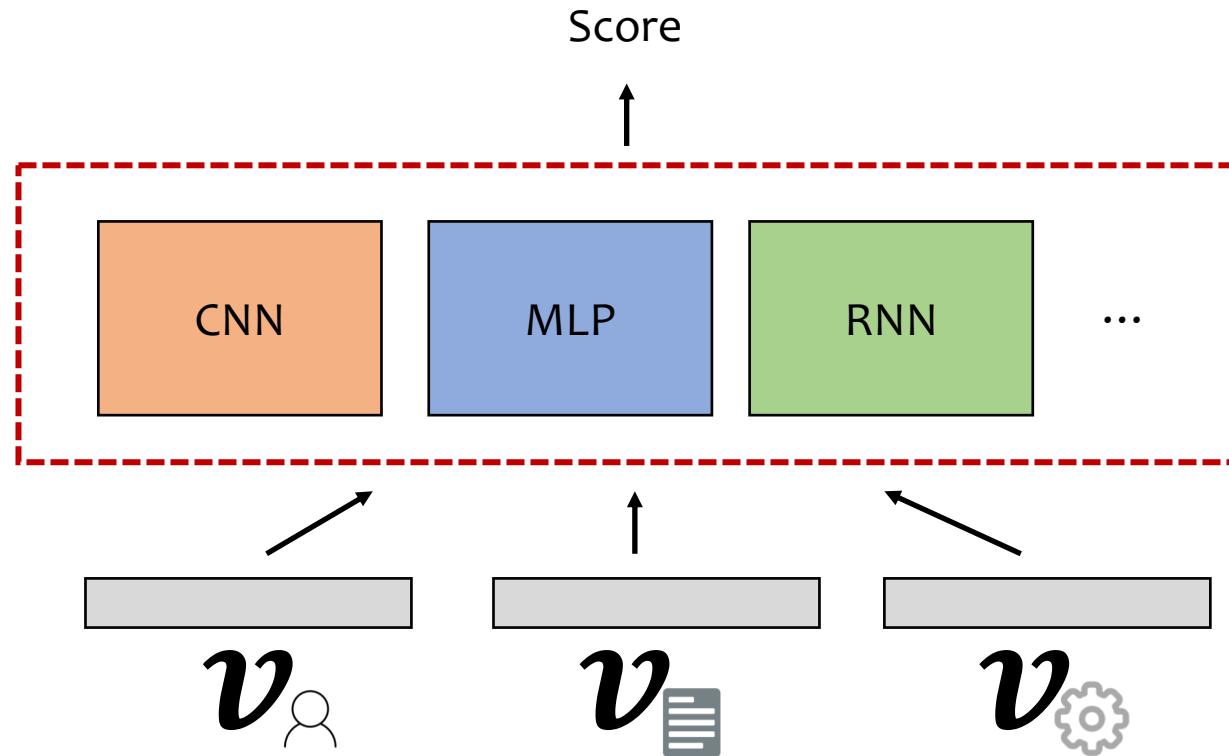
# Collaborative Metric Learning (CML)



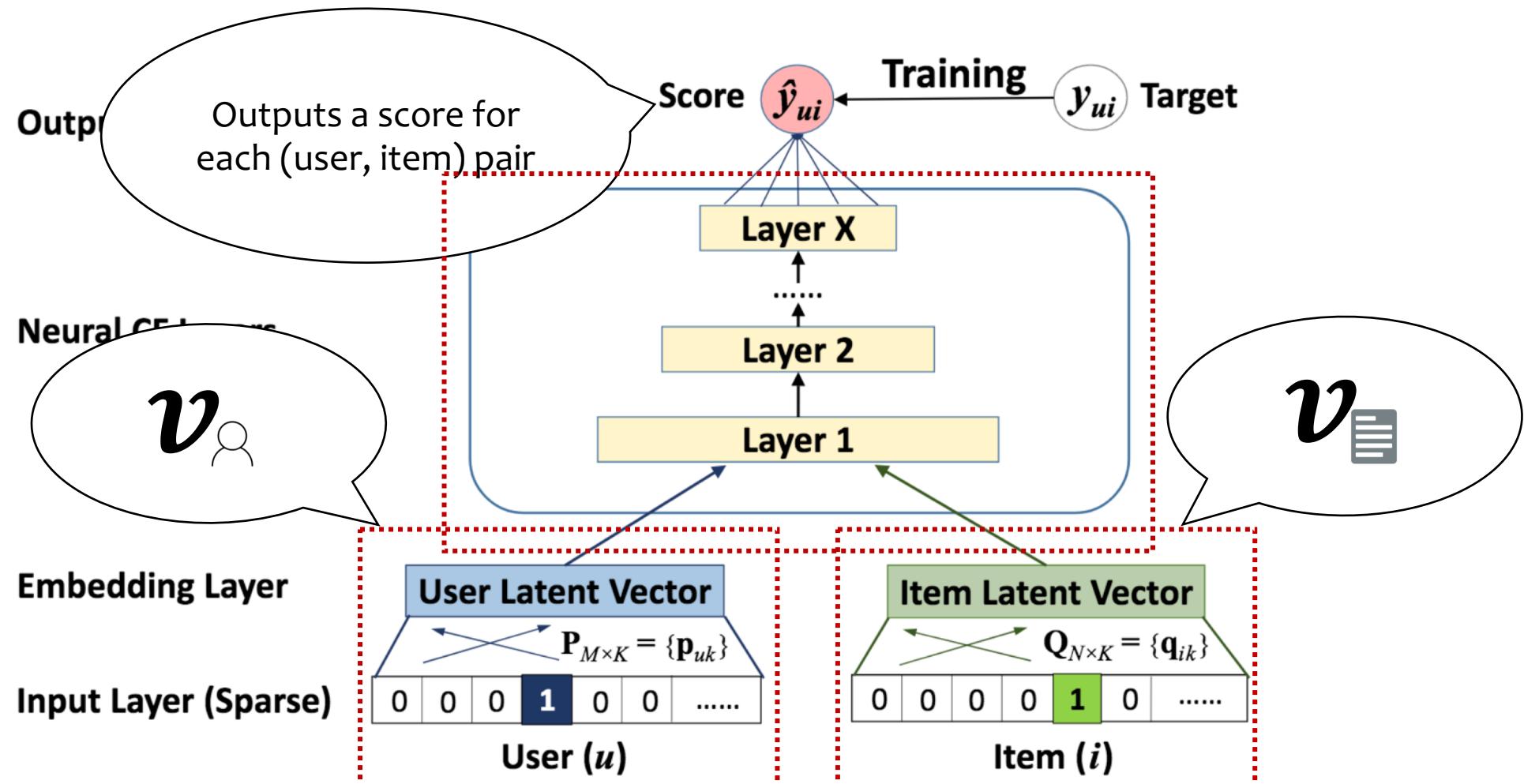
# Collaborative Metric Learning (CML)



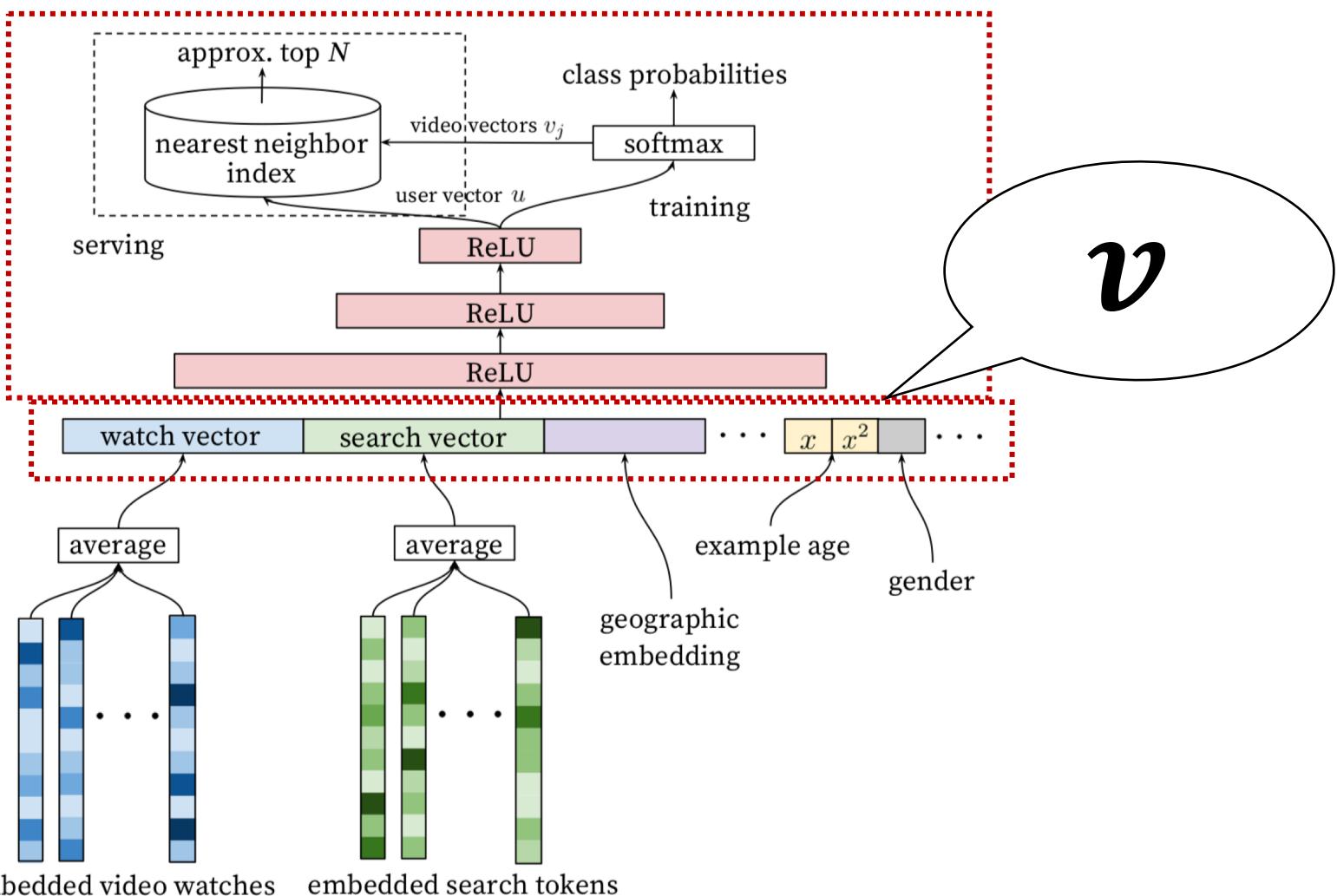
# Nuanced user-item interaction patterns



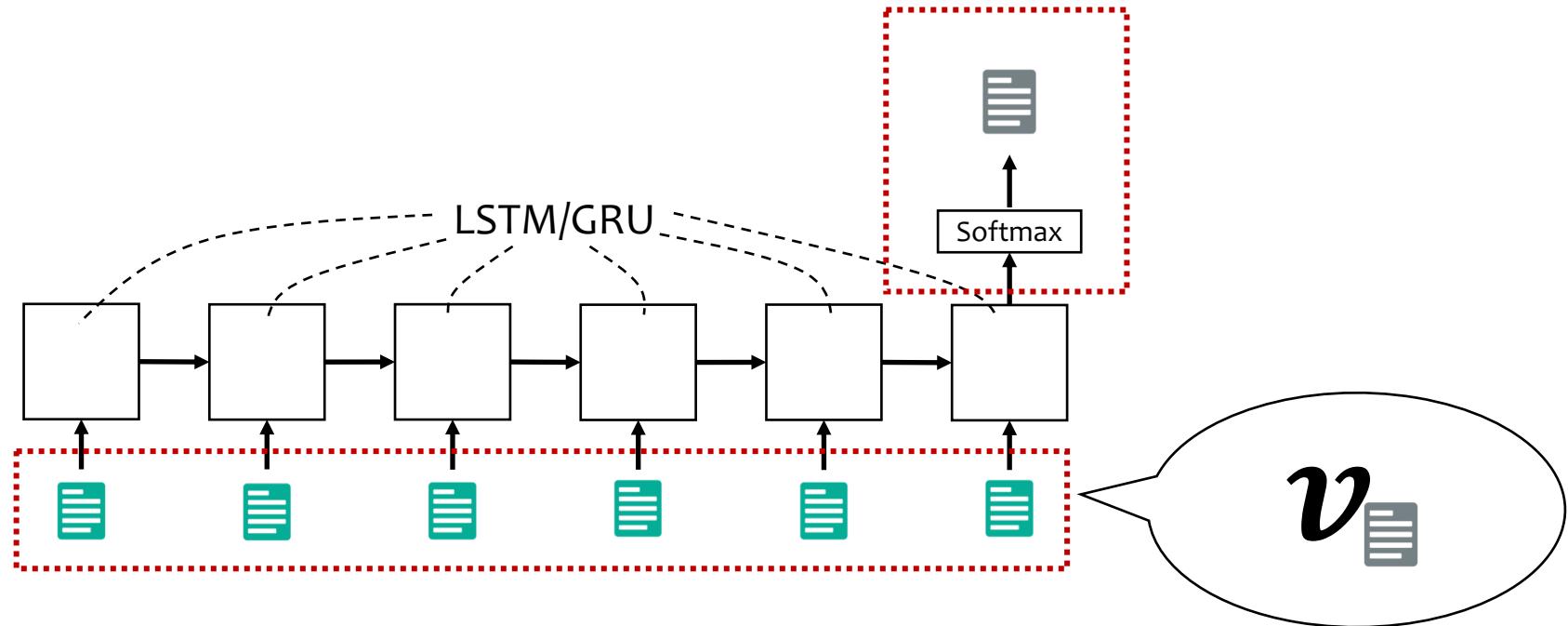
# Neural Collaborative Filtering (NCF)



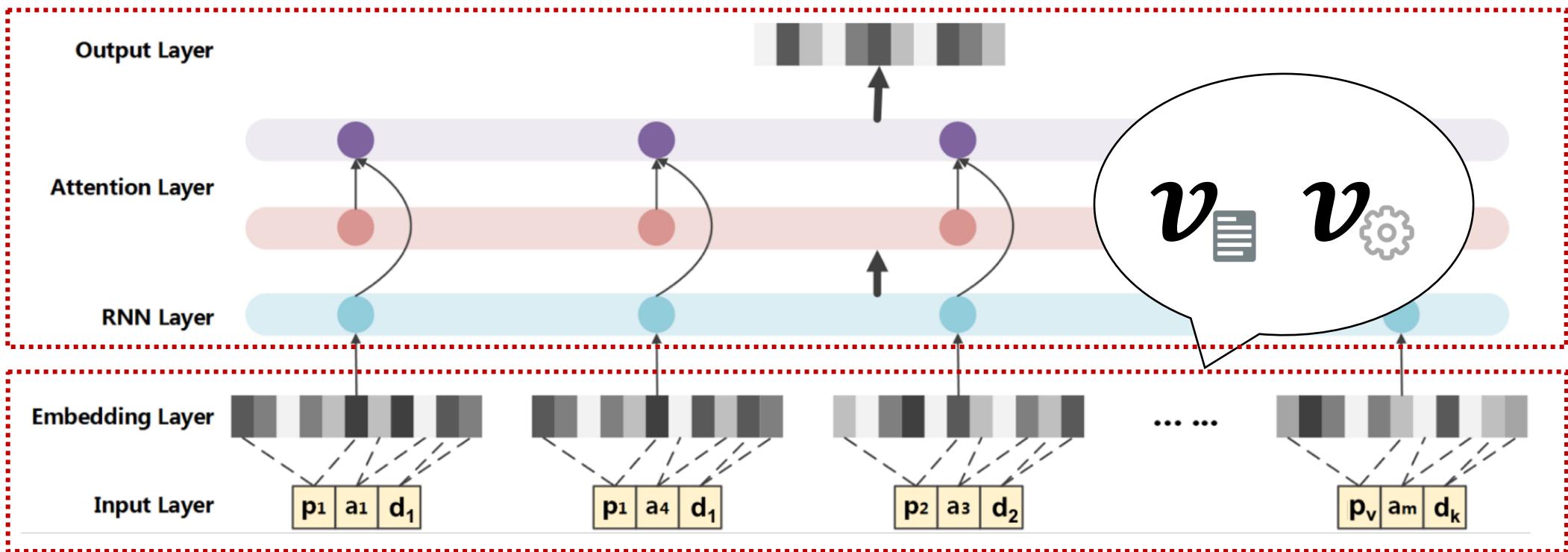
# Deep YouTube Video Recommendation



# Recurrent Recommender Networks

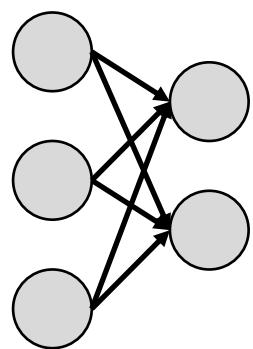


# Micro behavior

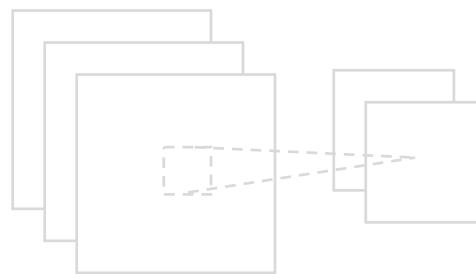


# Building blocks

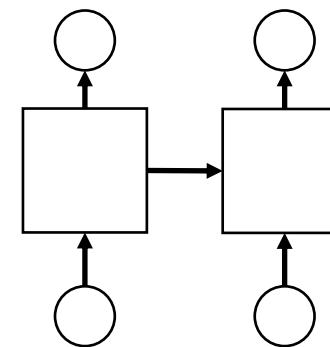
Multi-Layer Perceptron  
(MLP)



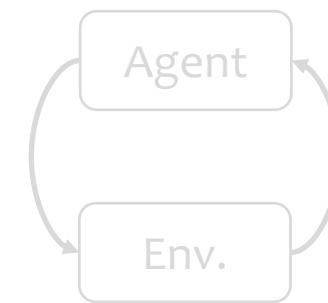
Convolutional Neural Network  
(CNN)



Recurrent Neural Network  
(RNN)



Reinforcement Learning  
(RL)



# Lecture Agenda



How we do recommendations, traditionally.



How deep learning helps to do better recommendations.



Modularization and OpenRec

# Structurally Rethink Today's Recommendation Algorithms

# Structurally Rethink Today's Recommendation Algorithms

Diverse user feedback signals

rating    like    skip    follow  
click    save    watch    listen

...

Heterogeneous data streams and context

user demographics    user social media posts  
Item descriptions    videos    images  
activities    location    mood    ...

Complex goals

accuracy    novelty    quality  
diversity    fairness    interpretability    ...

# Structurally Rethink Today's Recommendation Algorithms

Diverse user feedback signals

rating    like    skip    follow  
click    save    watch    listen

...

Heterogeneous data streams and context

user demographics    user social media posts  
Item descriptions    videos    images  
activities    location    mood    ...

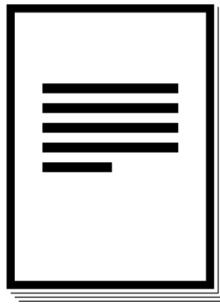
Complex goals

accuracy    novelty    quality  
diversity    fairness    interpretability    ...

... barriers on harnessing and experimenting with state-of-the-art models

# Current practice

current  
practice



Prior research

News recommender

Your research/application

Music recommender

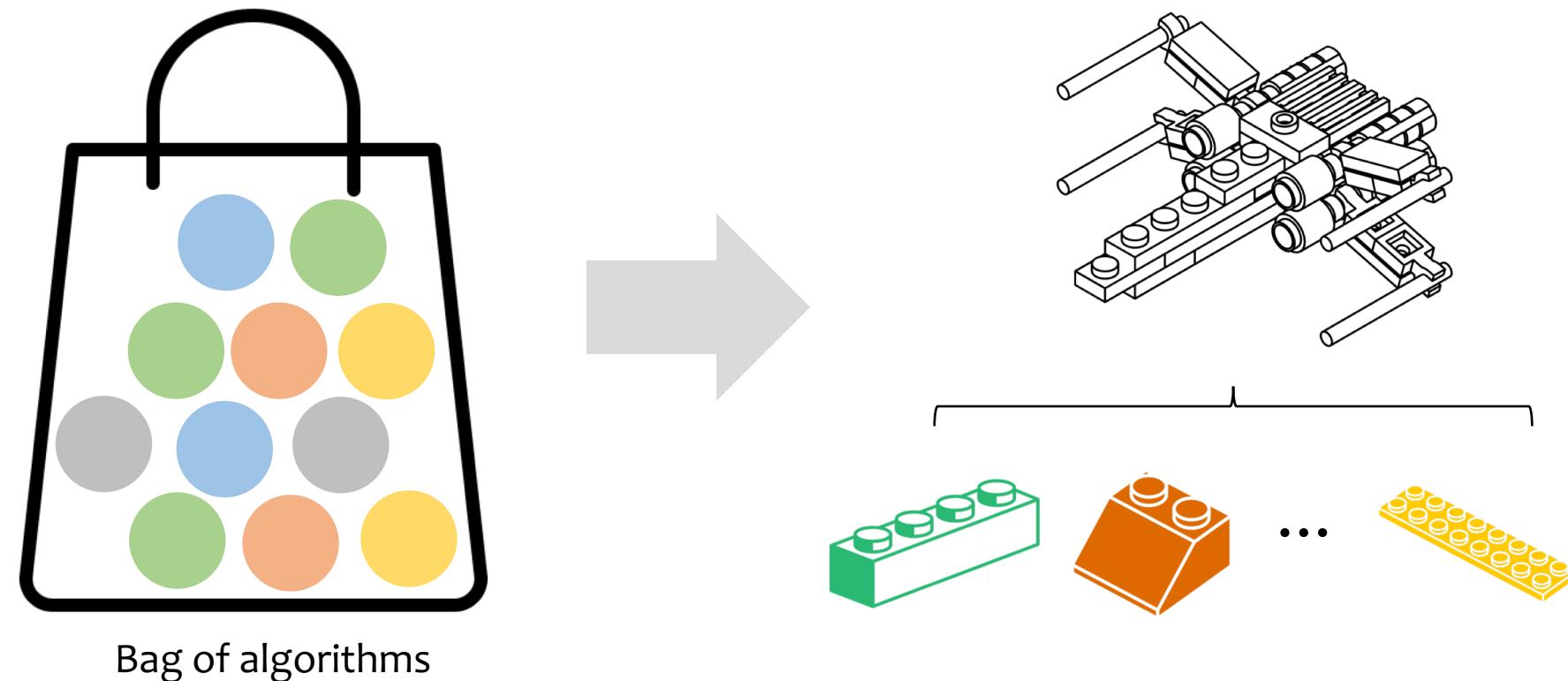


different user feedback signals  
different data sources  
tangled implementations



Bag of algorithms

Ideally, building a recommendation algorithm  
can maximally reuse existing modules





Apache License 2.0

(Built on Tensorflow)

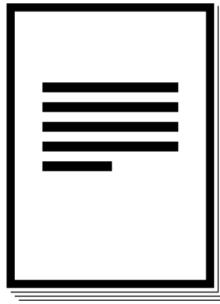


**Modularity**

- Easy to **extend** and **adapt** to various scenarios.
- Quick experimentation (e.g., model selection) and idea exploration.
- Comparable (sometimes even better) performance.

# Contribution of OpenRec

current  
practice



Prior research

News recommender

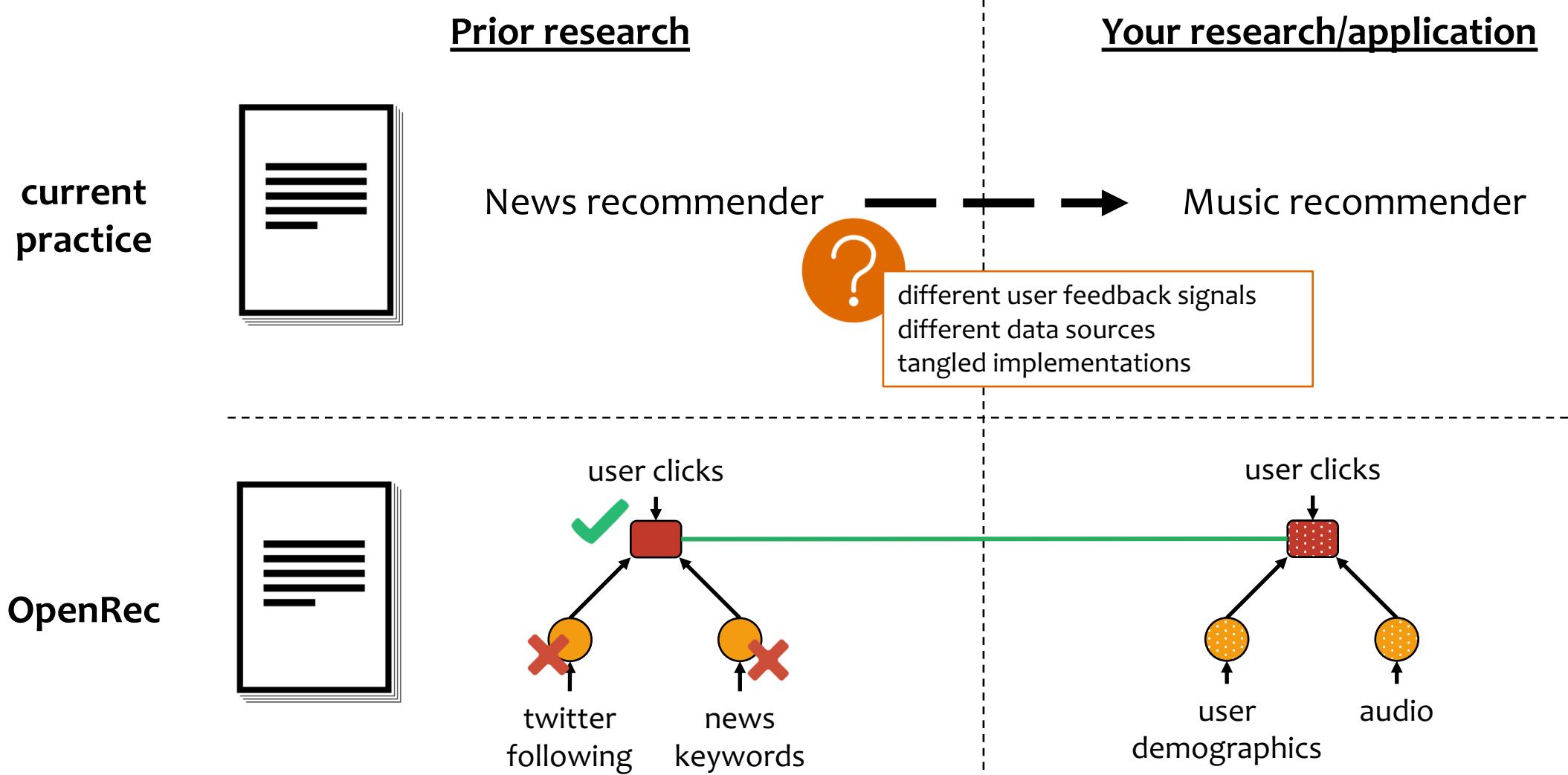
Your research/application

Music recommender



different user feedback signals  
different data sources  
tangled implementations

# Contribution of OpenRec



# Dataflow Graph (Computational Graph):

## Specify dependencies between operations

$$d = (a + b) * c$$

<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>
0.4	0.6	2.5
1.2	4.5	2.0
4.1	0.2	8.0
$\vdots$		

# Dataflow Graph (Computational Graph):

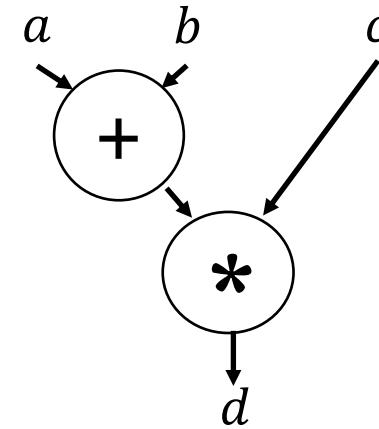
## Specify dependencies between operations

**Step 1. define inputs:**  $a, b, c$

**Step 2. define computational graph:**

$$\text{sum\_a\_b} = \text{add}(a + b)$$

$$d = \text{multiply}(\text{sum\_a\_b}, c)$$



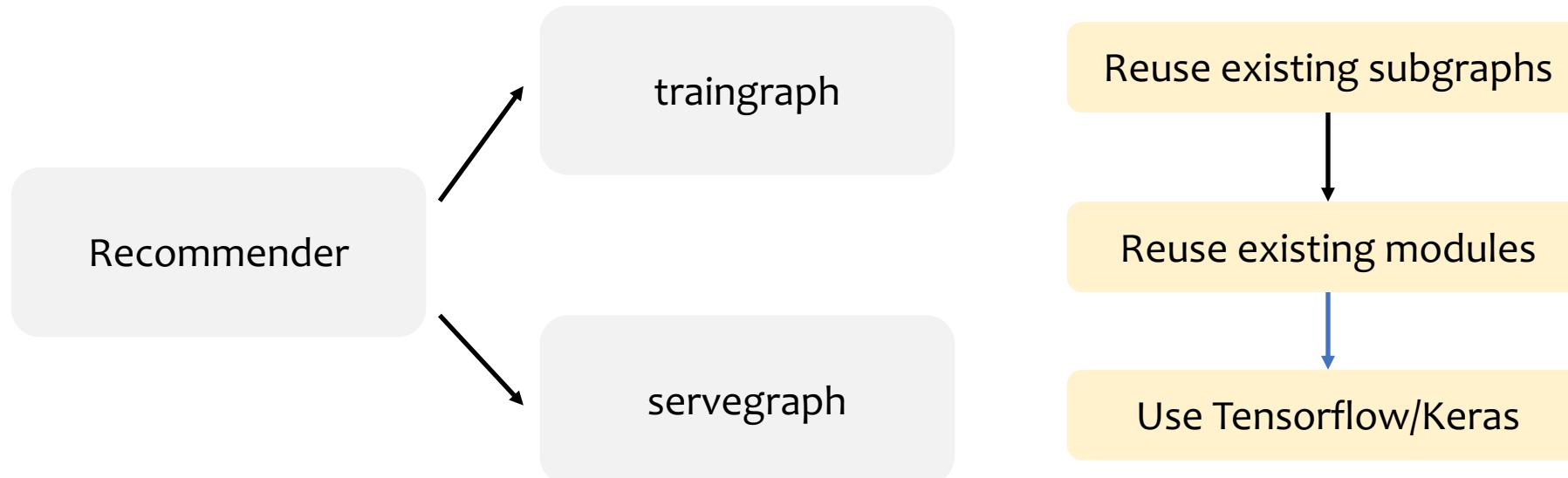
**Step 3. run computational graph with different inputs:**

```
result = run(d, {a = 0.4, b = 0.6, c = 2.5})
```

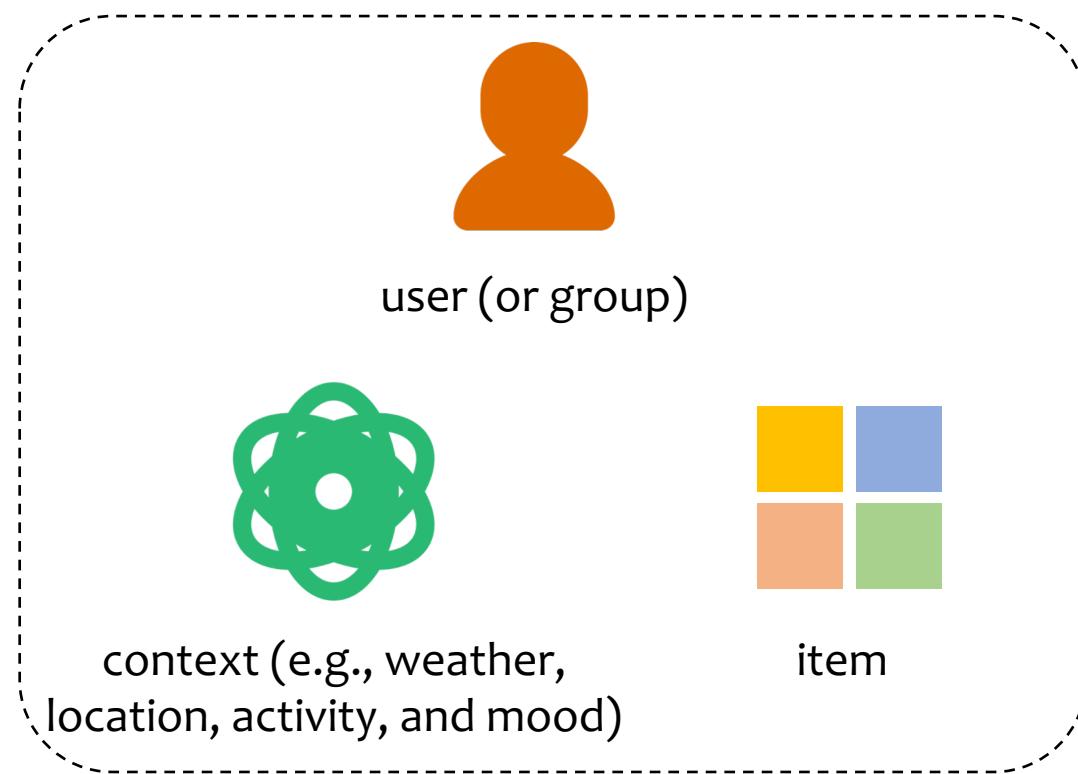
```
result = run(d, {a = 1.2, b = 4.5, c = 2.0})
```

```
result = run(d, {a = 4.1, b = 0.2, c = 8.0})
```

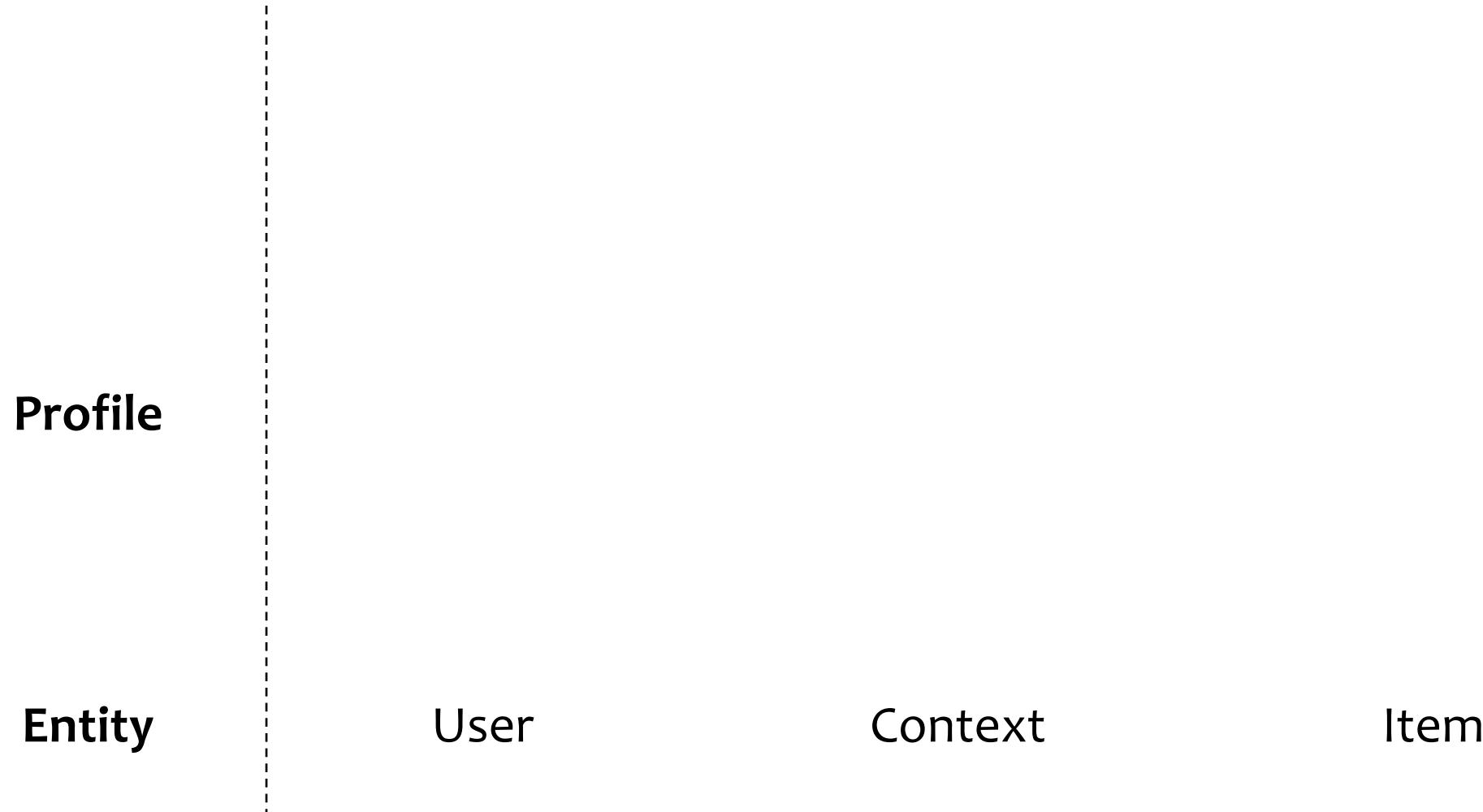
# Computational Graphs in OpenRec



# Build a (train/serve) graph: Entities



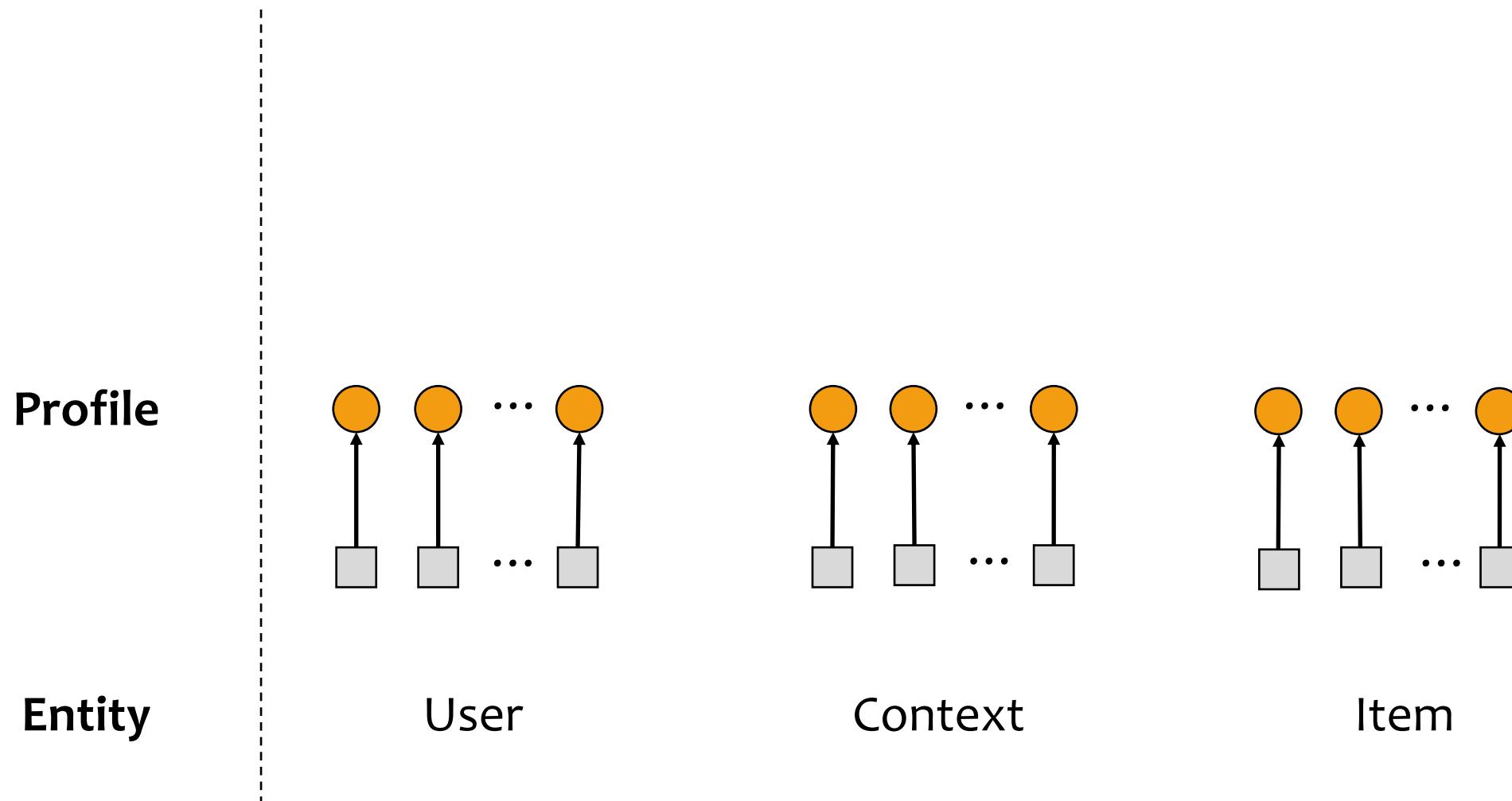
# Build a (train/serve) graph: Reusable modules



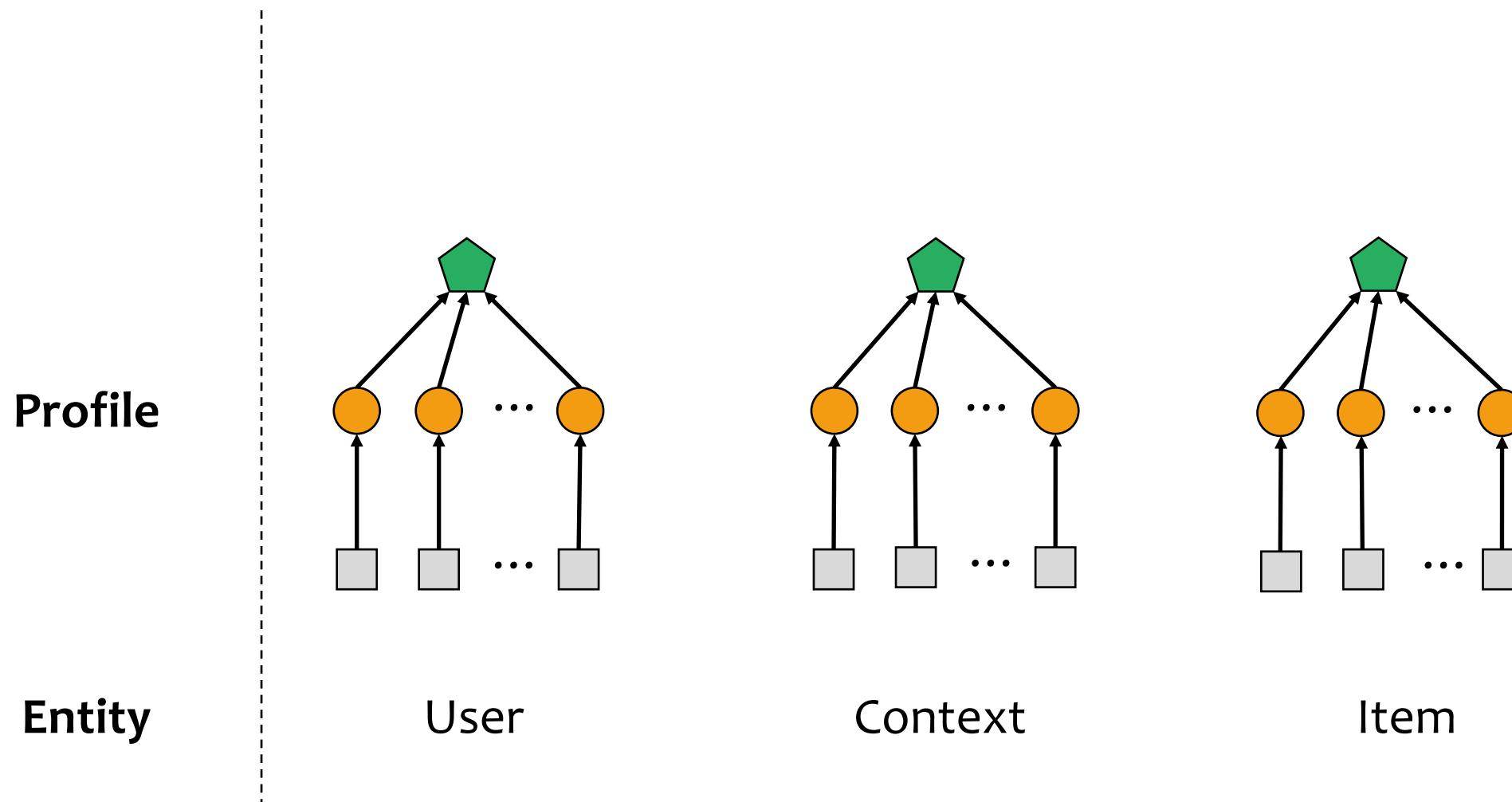
# Build a (train/serve) graph: Reusable modules



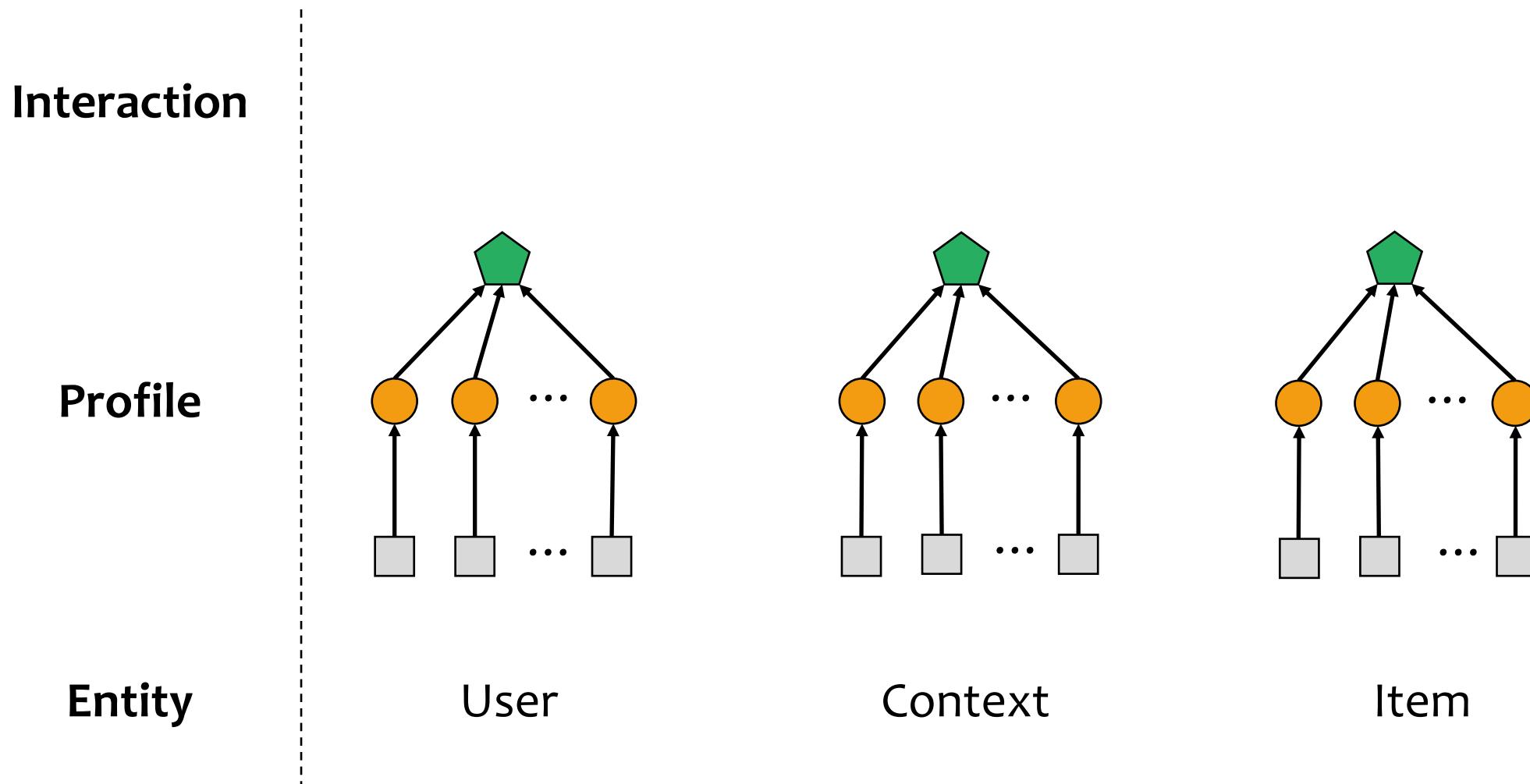
# Build a (train/serve) graph: Reusable modules



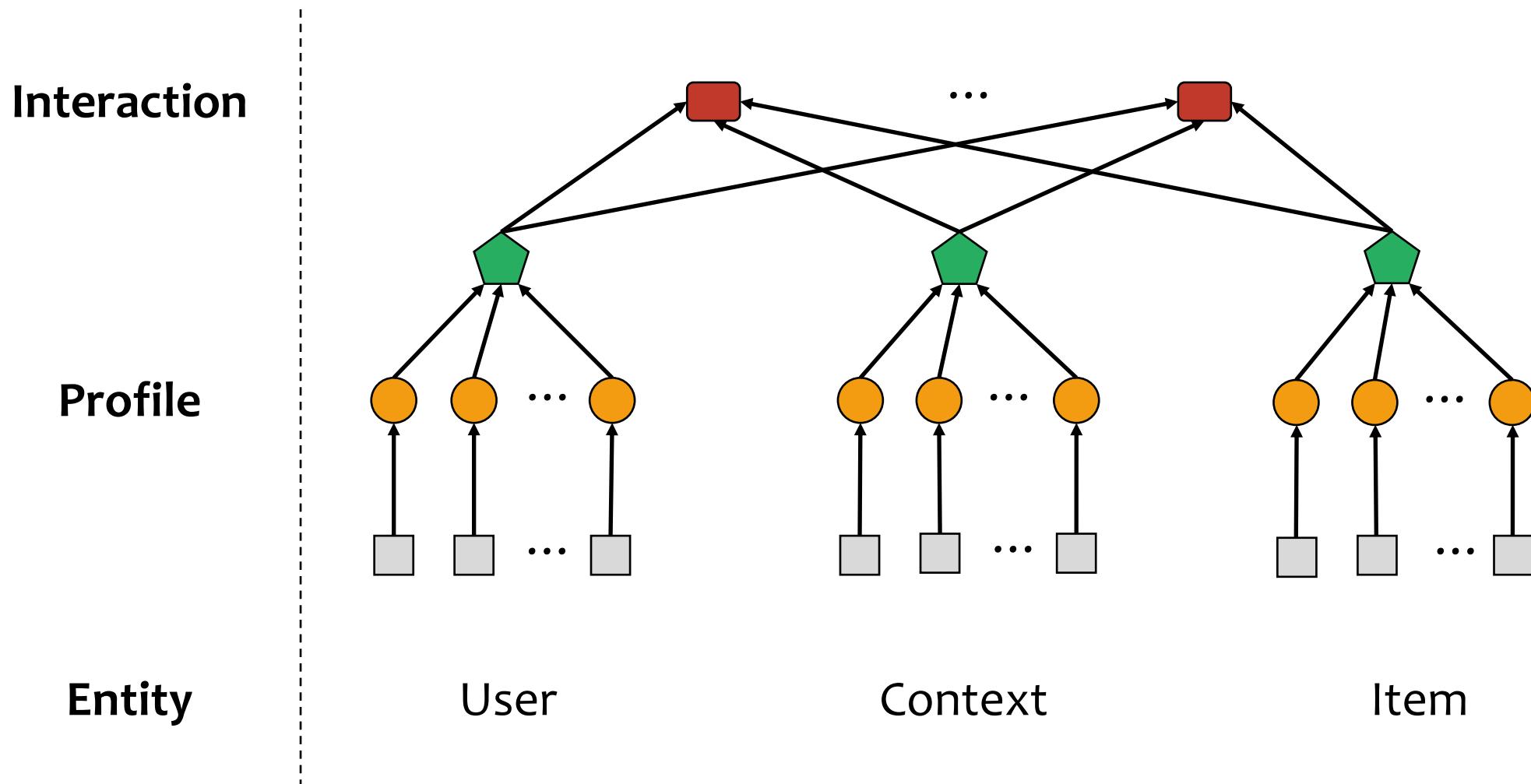
# Build a (train/serve) graph: Reusable modules



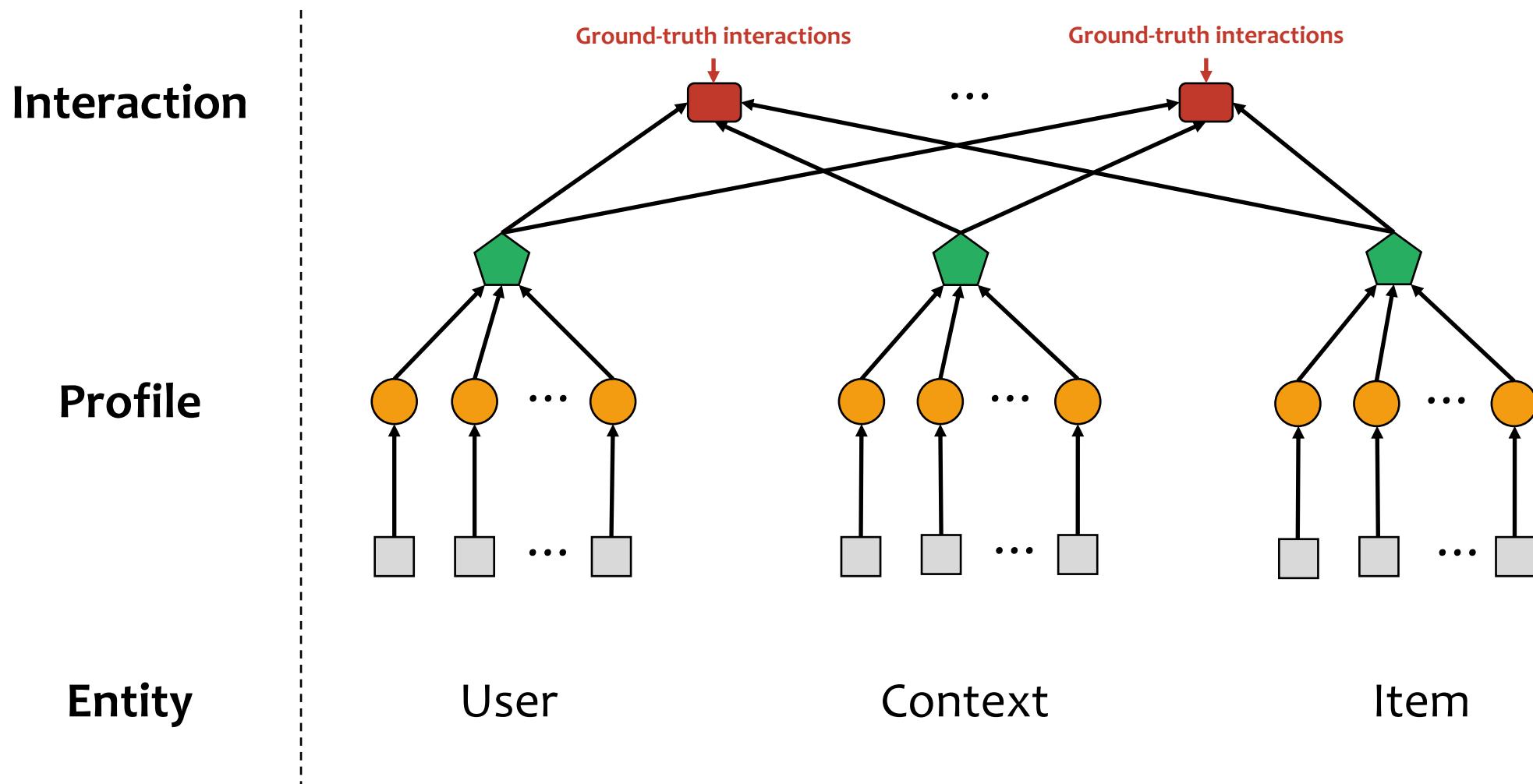
# Build a (train/serve) graph: Reusable modules



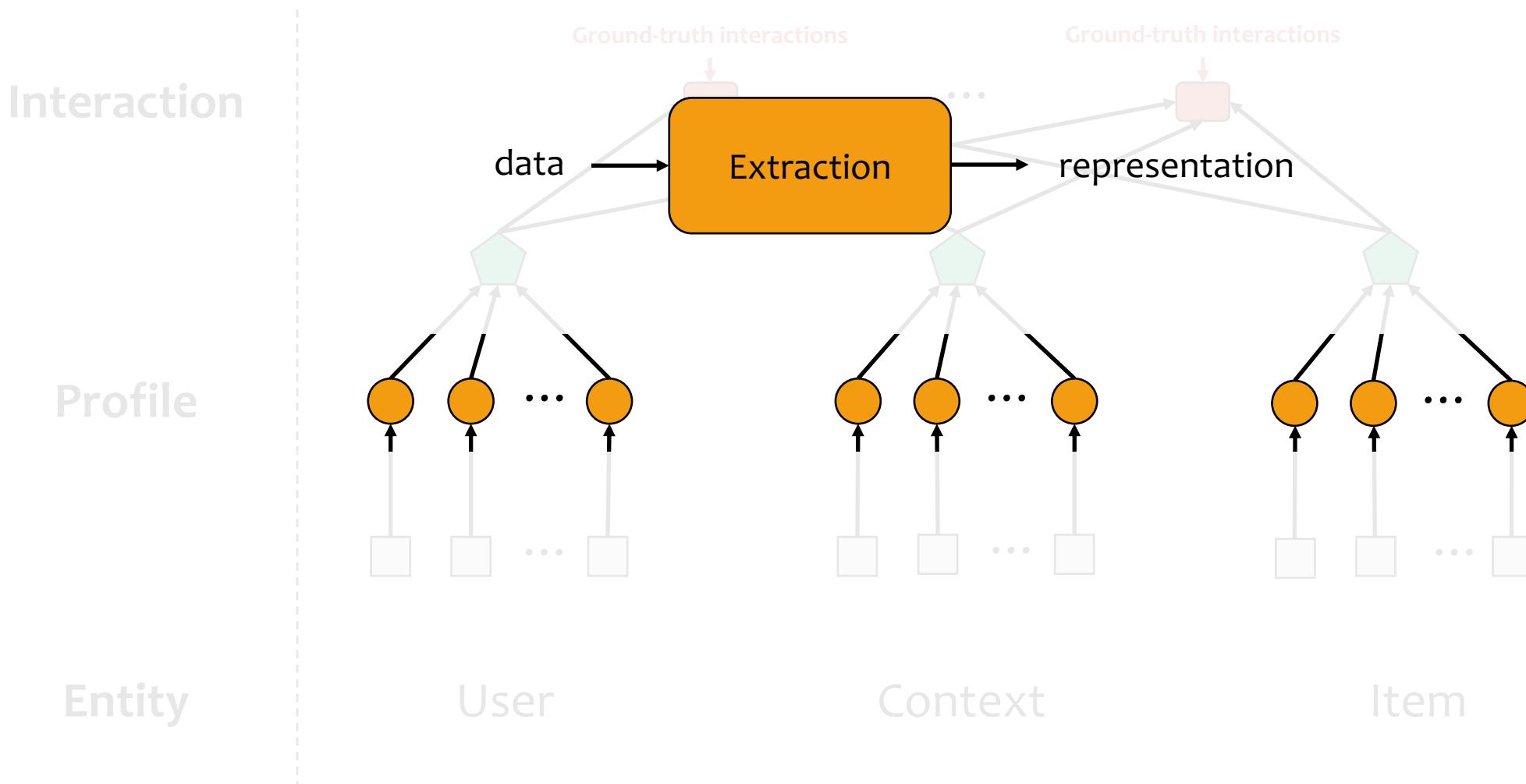
# Build a (train/serve) graph: Reusable modules



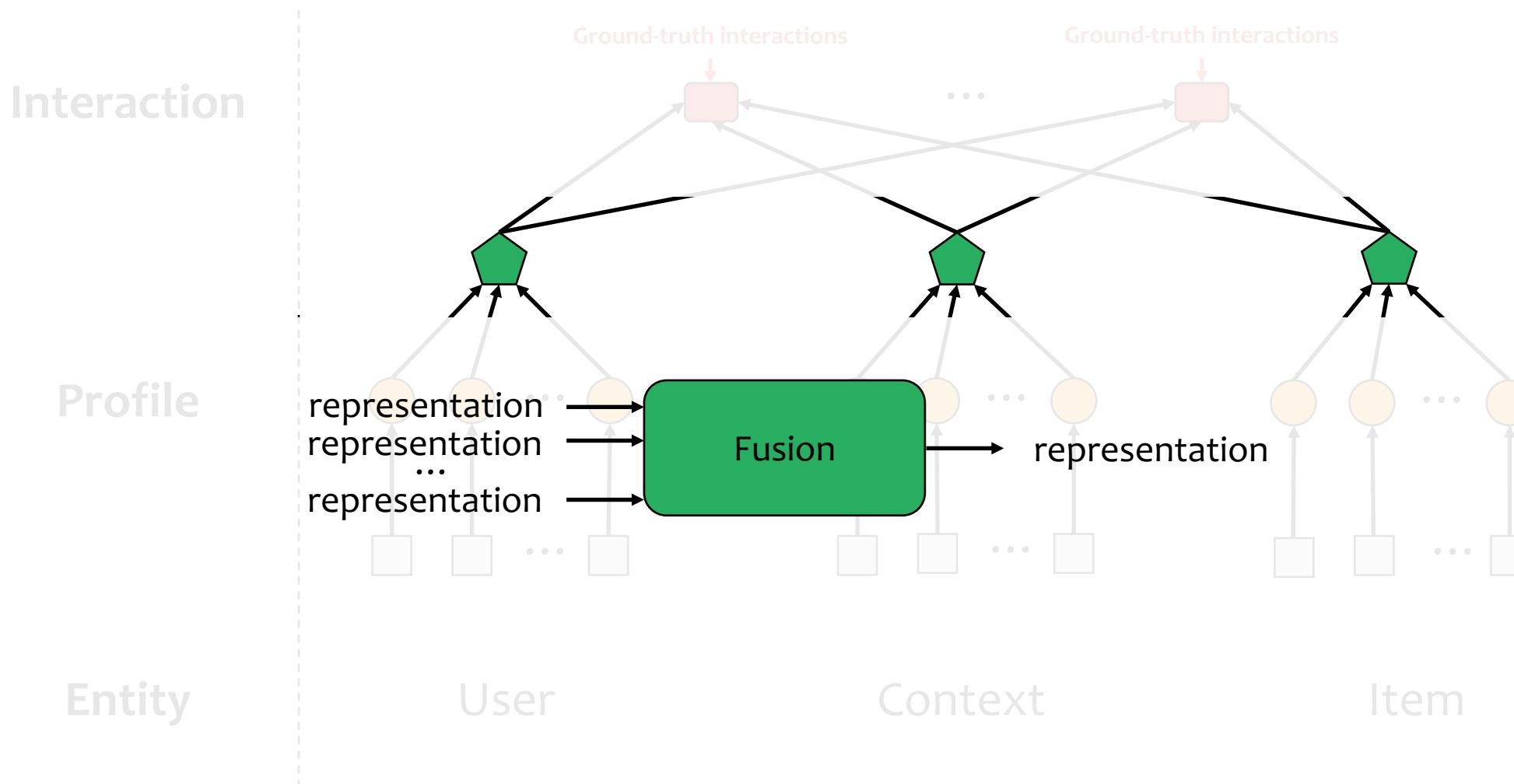
# Build a (train/serve) graph: Reusable modules



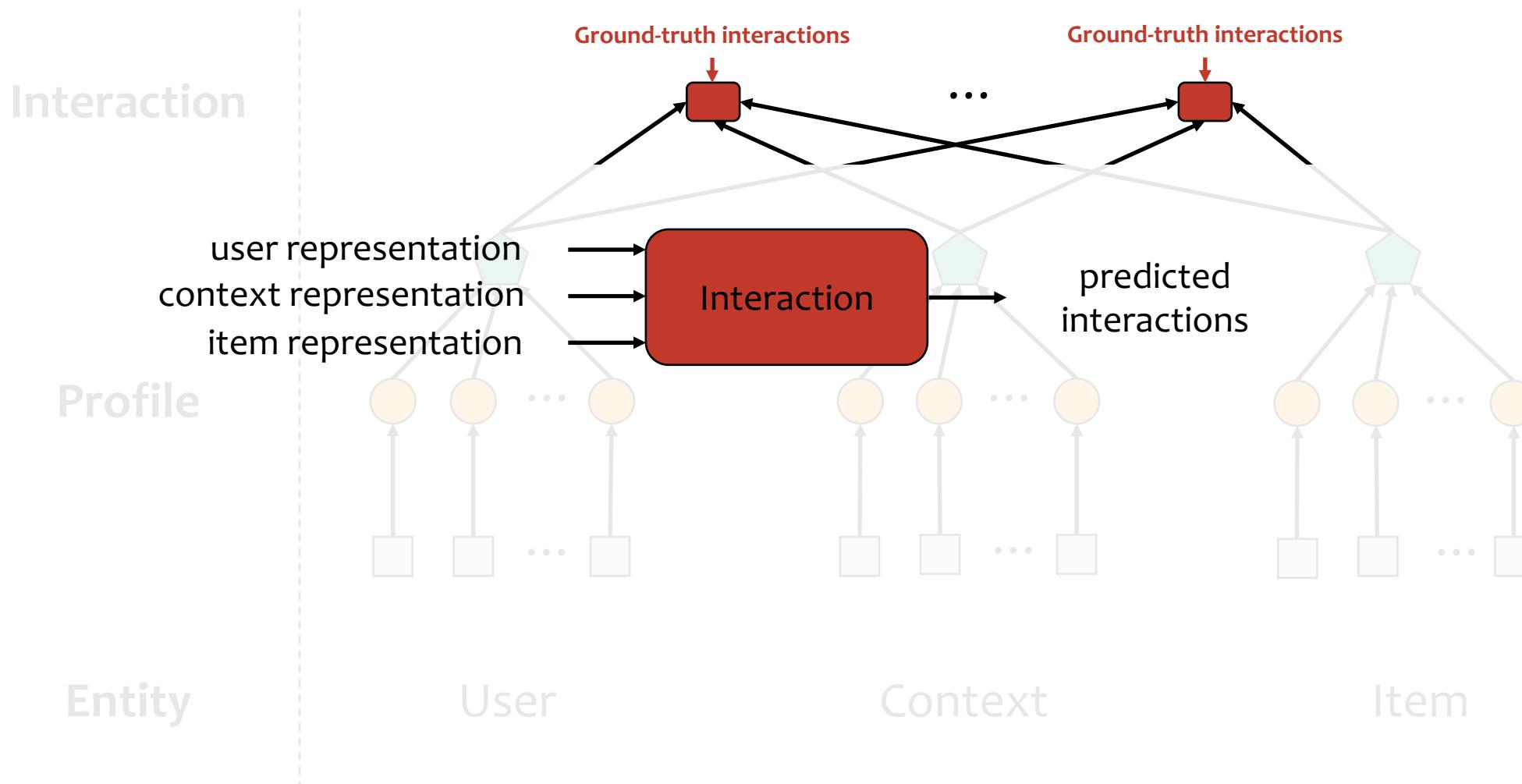
# Extraction: extract representations



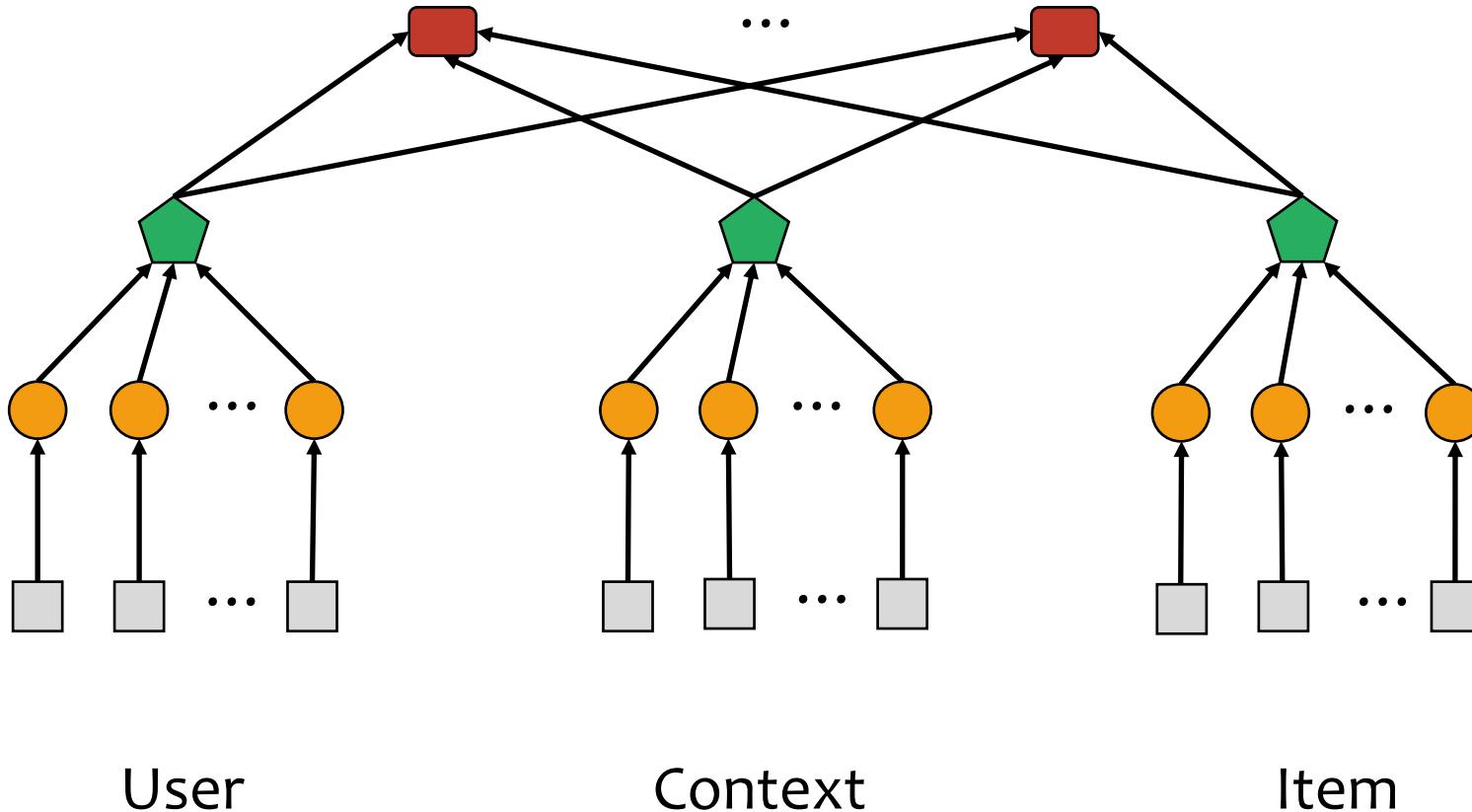
# Fusion: fuse representations



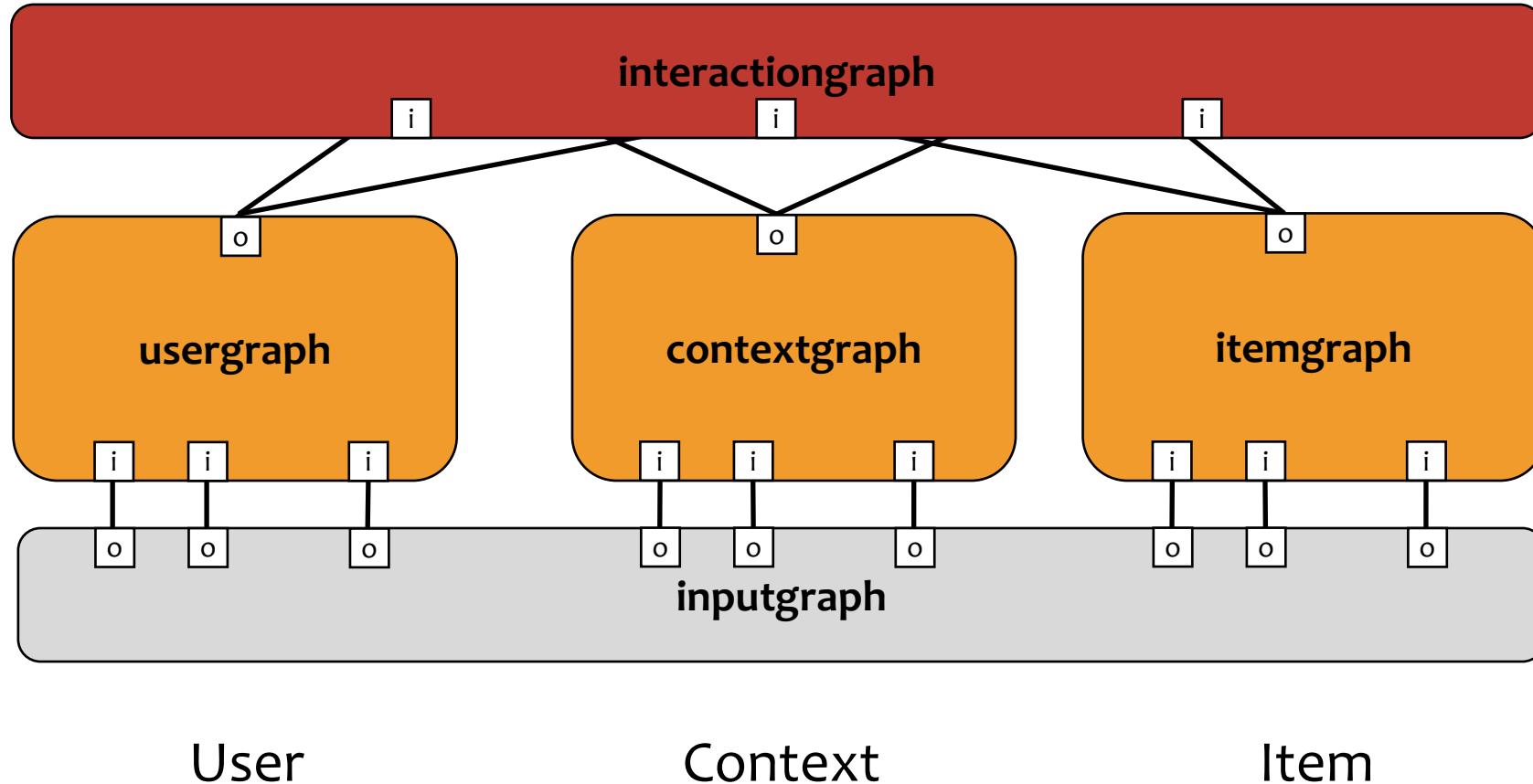
# Interactions, e.g., clicks/likes/ratings...



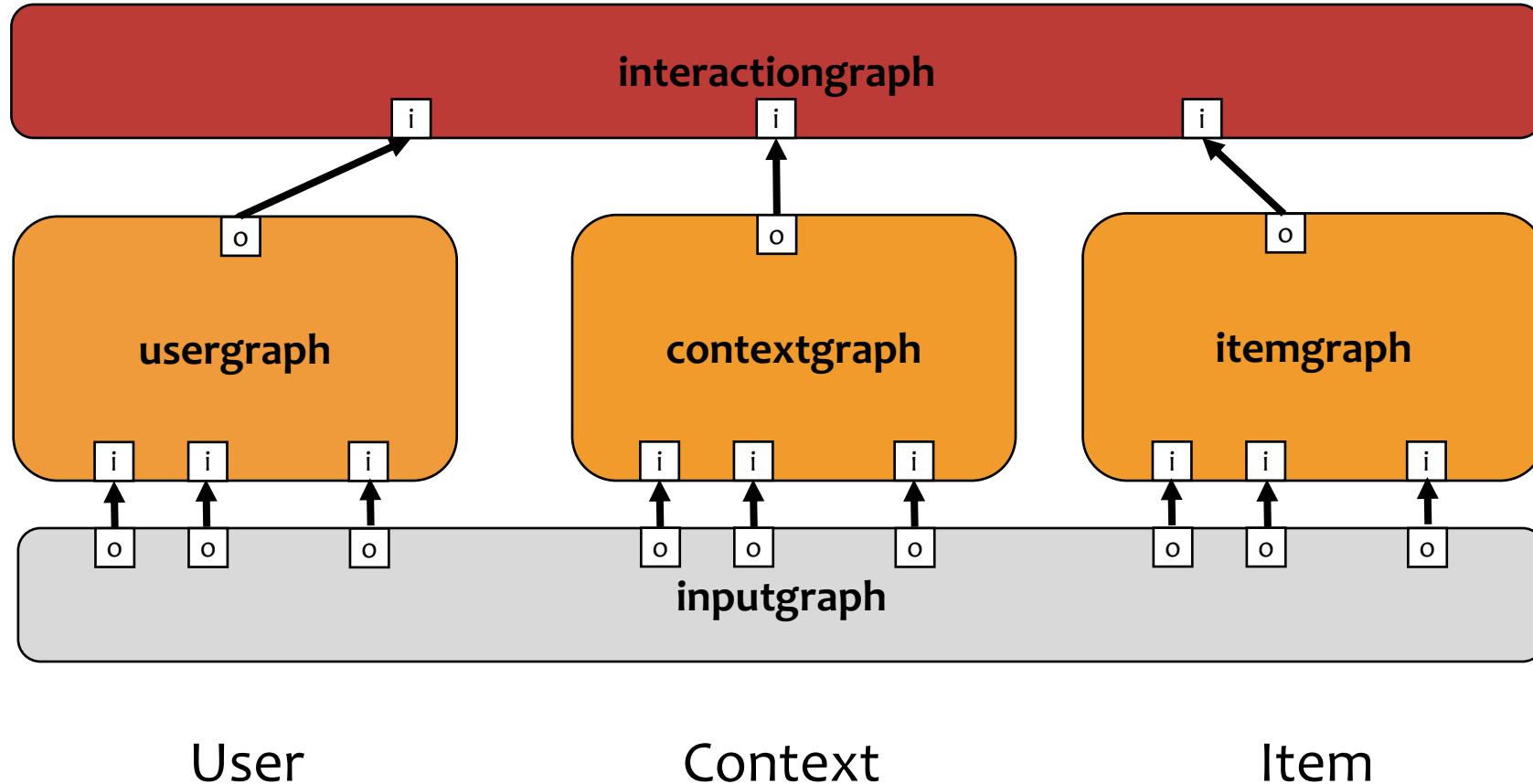
# Build a (train/serve) graph: Reusable subgraphs



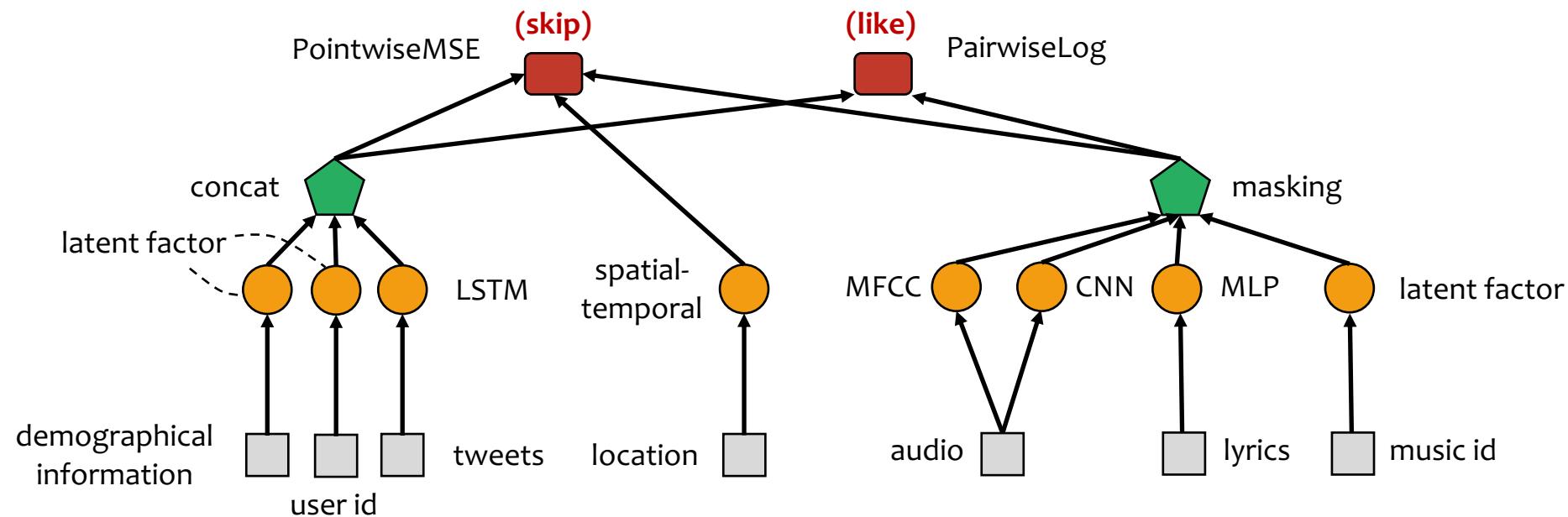
# Build a (train/serve) graph: Reusable subgraphs



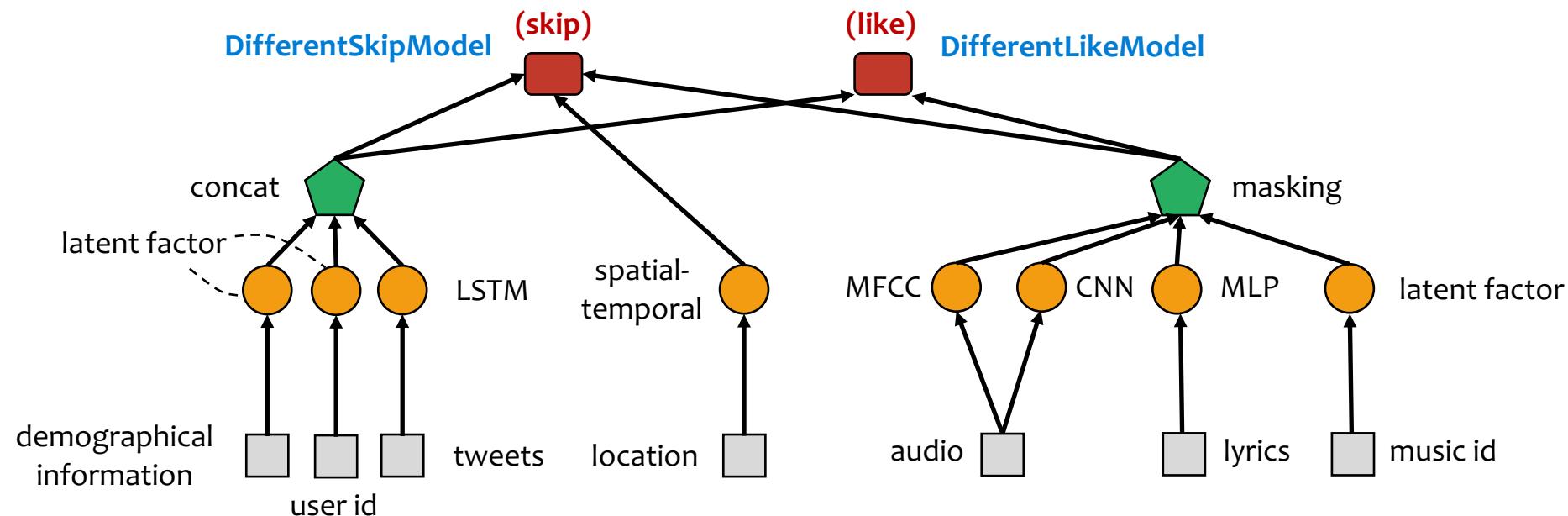
# Build a (train/serve) graph: Reusable subgraphs



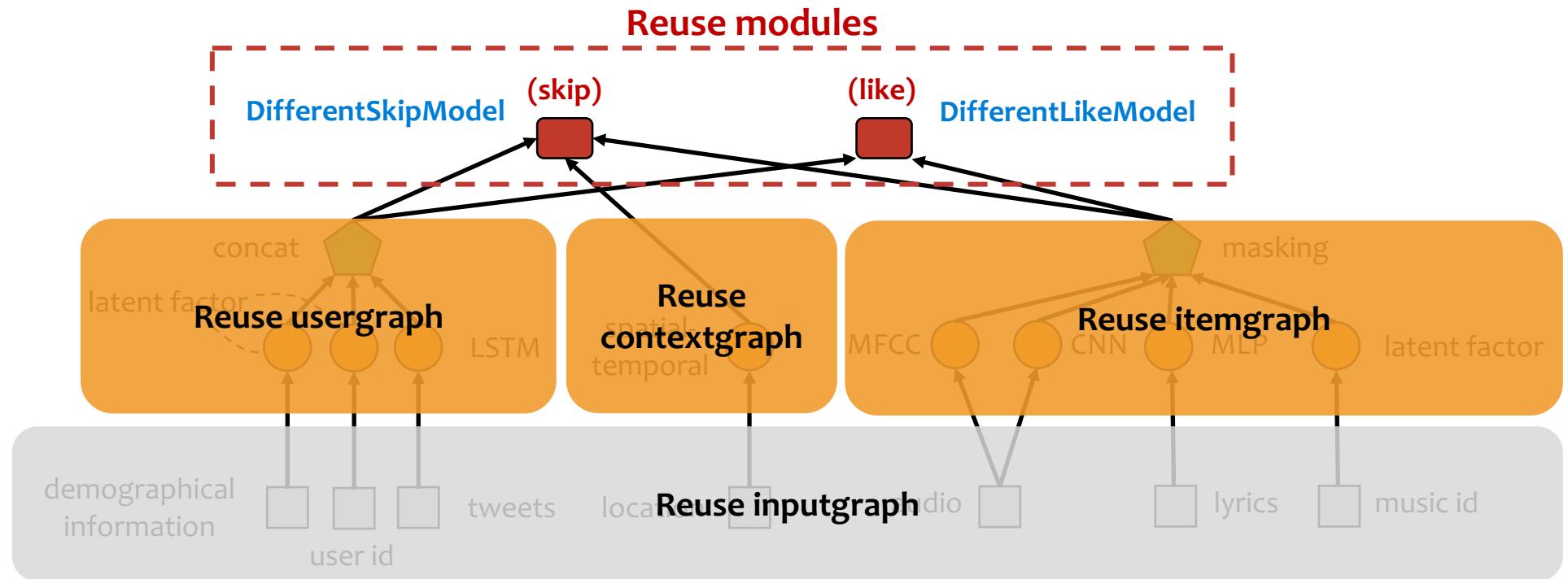
# A hypothetical servegraph of a music recommender



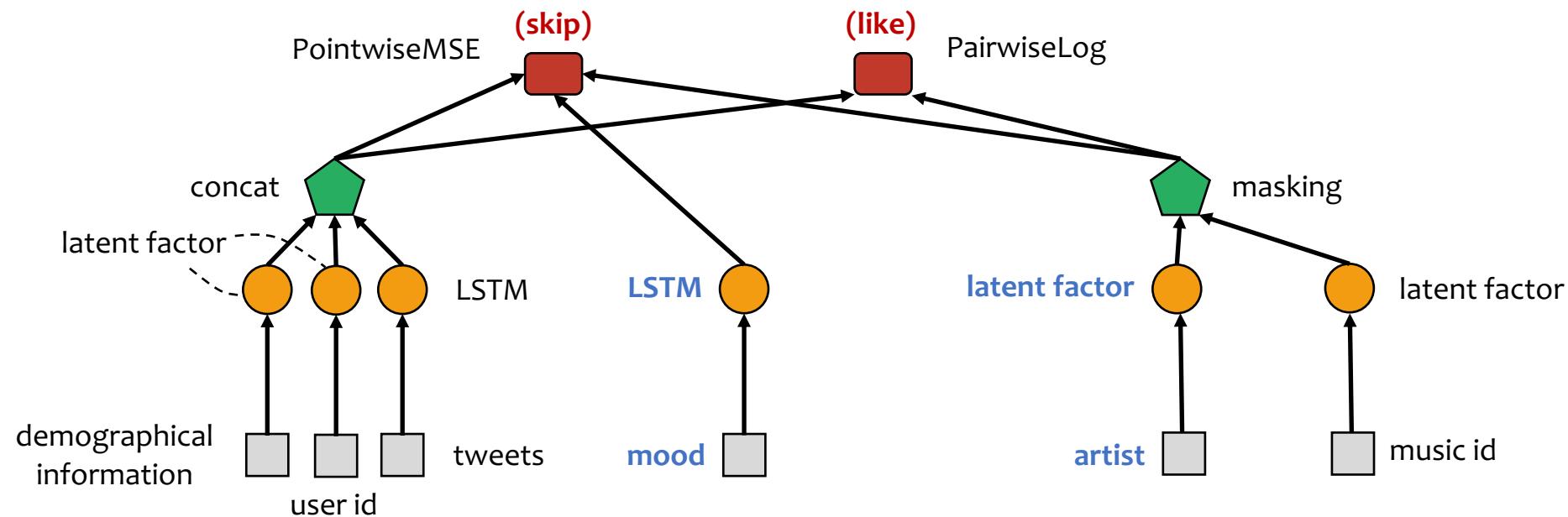
# A hypothetical servegraph of a music recommender



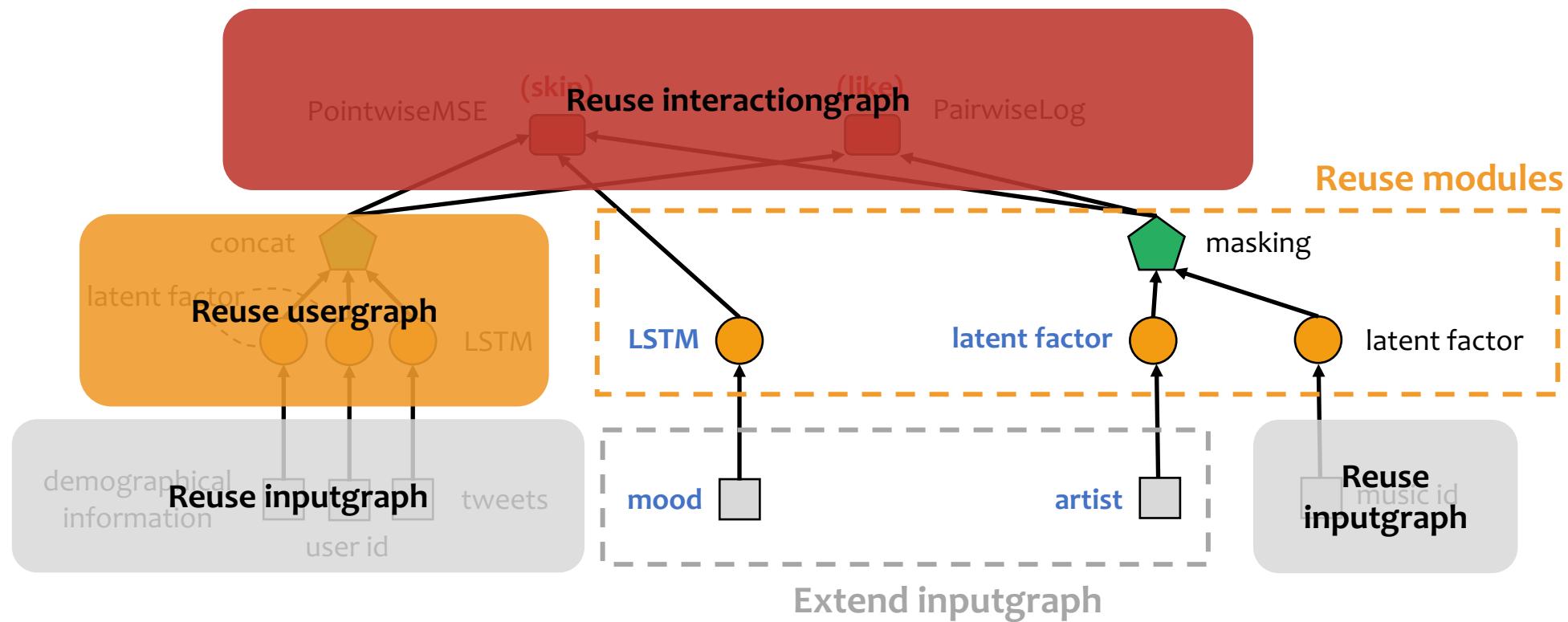
# A hypothetical servegraph of a music recommender



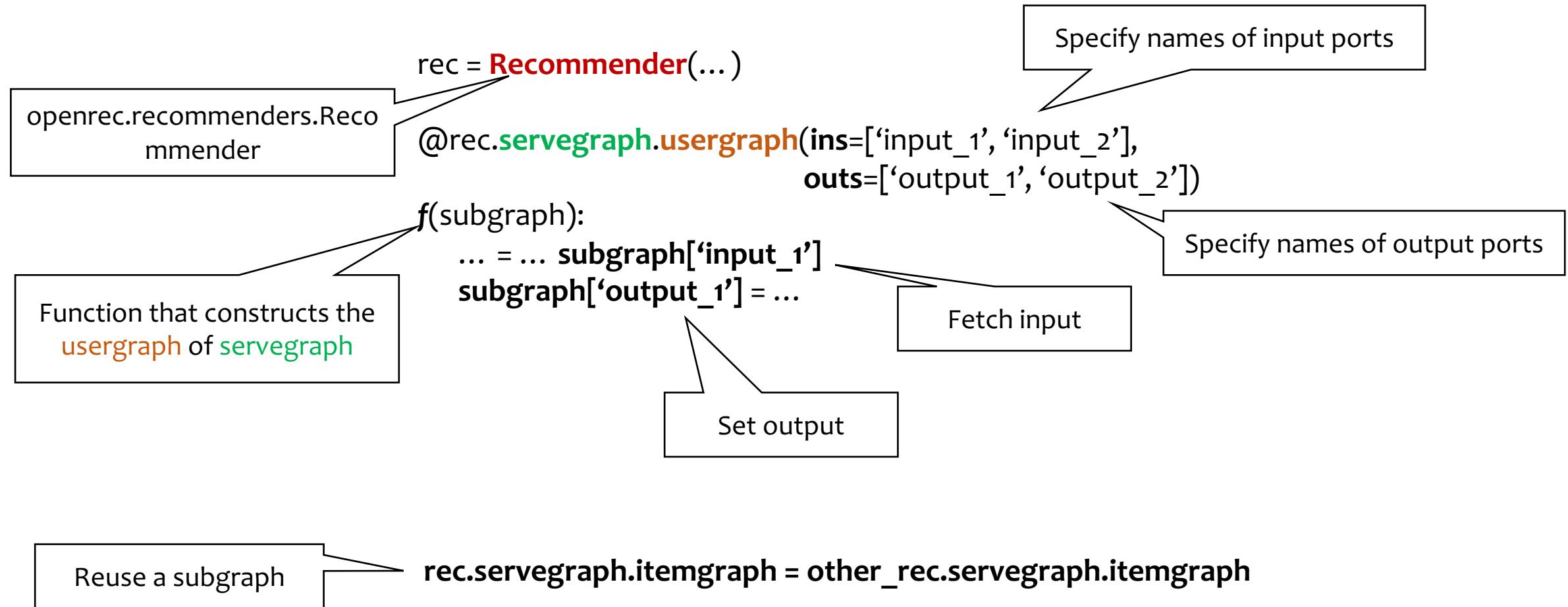
# A hypothetical servegraph of a music recommender



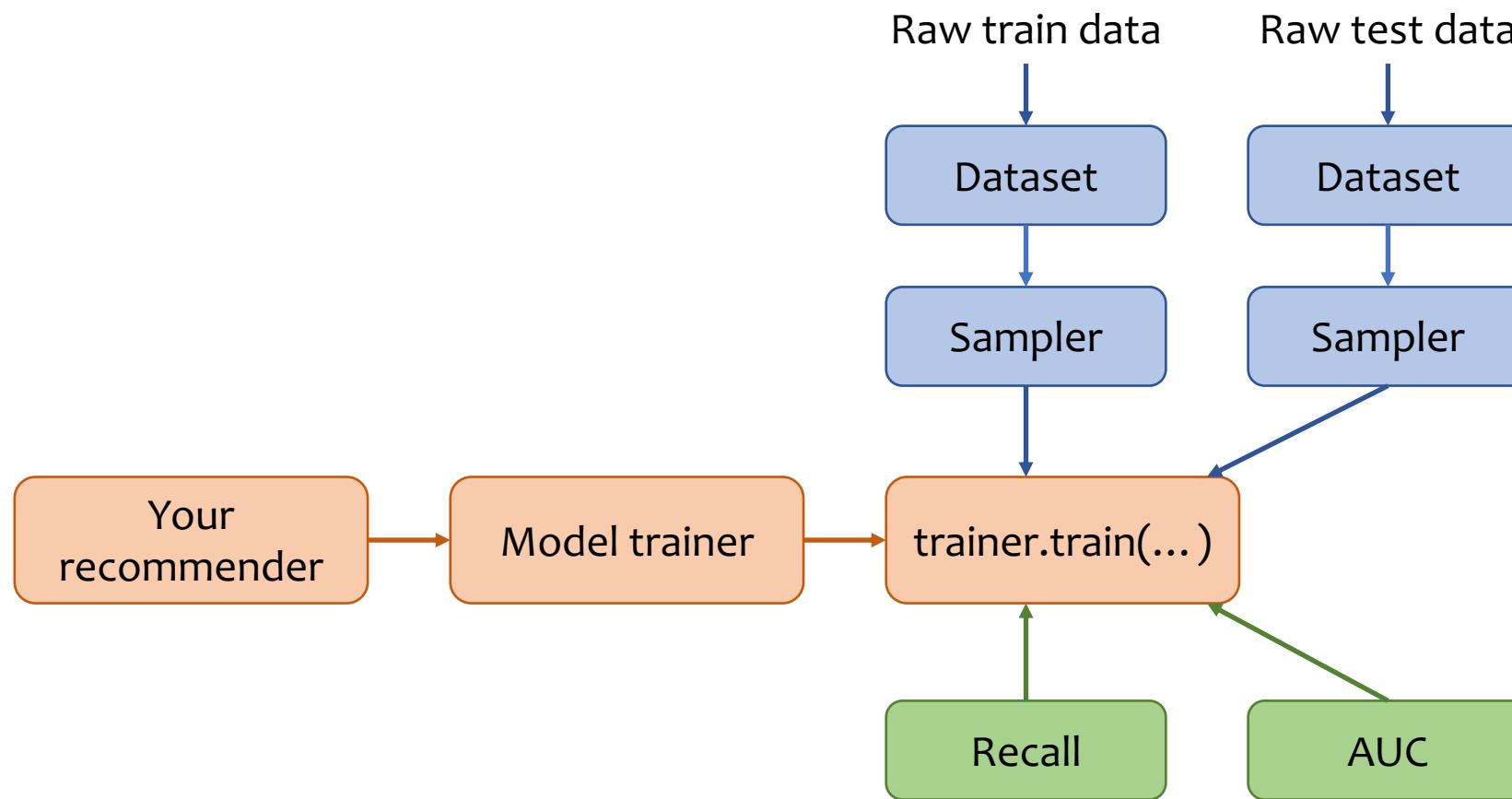
# A hypothetical servegraph of a music recommender



# Build a serve graph: Using Python Macros to define construction functions



# After a recommender is built, how should we train and evaluate it?





<http://www.openrec.ai>

### **OpenRec for researchers:**

- Demonstrate model generalizability.
- Facilitate comparisons.
- Encourage usage.

### **OpenRec for practitioners:**

- Select models/parameters.
- Adapt state-of-the-art solutions.

Share the same programming model and low-level APIs with Tensorflow/Keras.



Join our google group: [openrec-lib@googlegroups.com](mailto:openrec-lib@googlegroups.com)

Questions?

# Coming Next



Hands-on sessions (15 min each).

- OpenRec basics + diversity and fairness (Eugene)
- Customizing Deep YouTube Video Recommendation (Hongyi)
- Temporal-aware recommendation (Longqi)

# openRec

<http://www.openrec.ai>

Github link, documents, and tutorials

Join our google group  
[openrec-lib@googlegroups.com](mailto:openrec-lib@googlegroups.com)



Contact: [ylongqi@cs.cornell.edu](mailto:ylongqi@cs.cornell.edu)

Twitter: [@ylongqi](#)

Connected Experiences Lab

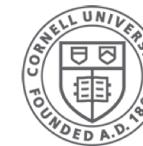
<http://cx.jacobs.cornell.edu/>

Small Data Lab

<http://smalldata.io/>



**CORNELL  
TECH**



Cornell CIS  
**Computer Science**

Funders:



**Oath:**  
A Verizon company