



Scalable Machine Learning

8. Recommender Systems

Alex Smola

Yahoo! Research and ANU

<http://alex.smola.org/teaching/berkeley2012>

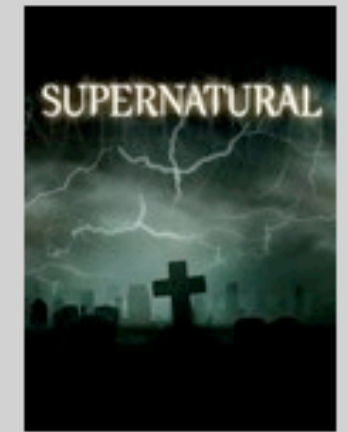
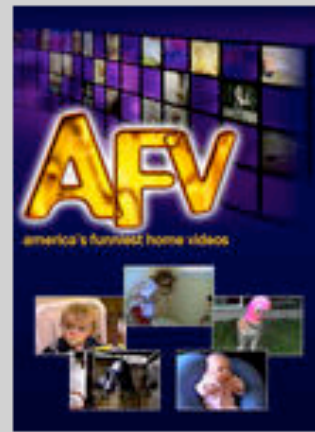
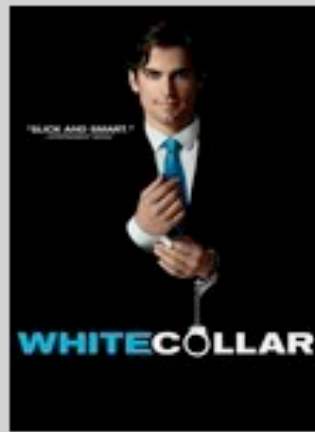
Stat 260 SP 12

Significant content courtesy of Yehuda Koren

8. Recommender Systems

Thousands of movies and TV episodes including these:

New Arrivals in TV



TV Drama



Much content courtesy of (Mr Netflix) Yehuda Koren

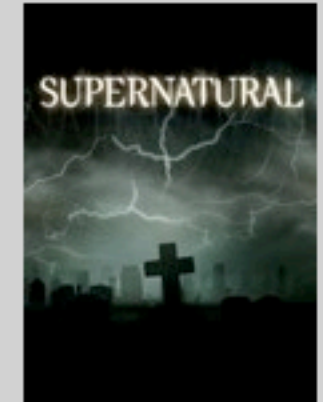
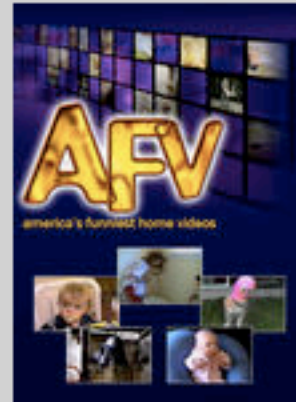
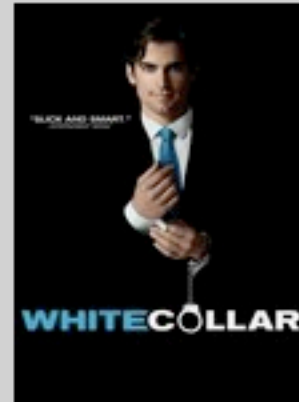
Outline

- Neighborhood methods
 - User / movie similarity
 - Iteration on graph
- Matrix Factorization
 - Singular value decomposition
 - Convex reformulation
- Ranking and Session Modeling
 - Ordinal regression
 - Session models
- Features
 - Latent dense (Bayesian Probabilistic Matrix Factorization)
 - Latent sparse (Dirichlet process factorization)
 - Coldstart problem (inferring features)
- Hashing

Why

Thousands of movies and TV episodes including these:

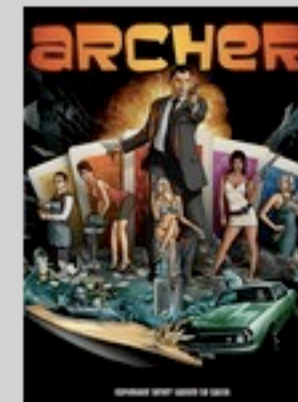
New Arrivals in TV



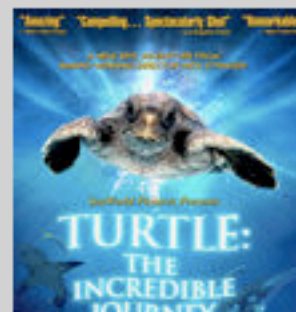
TV Drama



TV Comedy

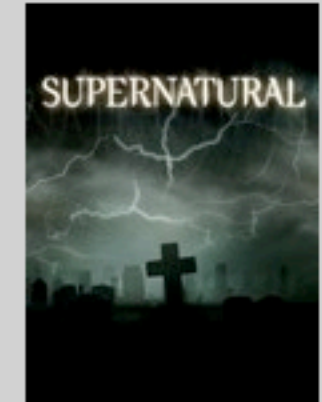
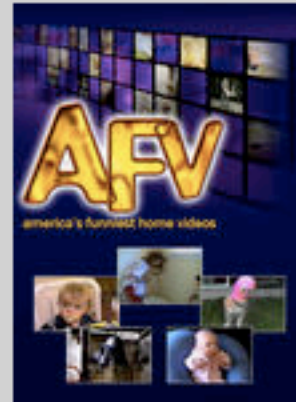
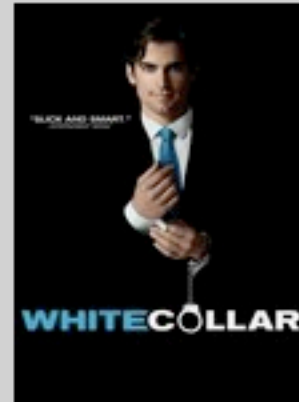


Children & Family



Thousands of movies and TV episodes including these:

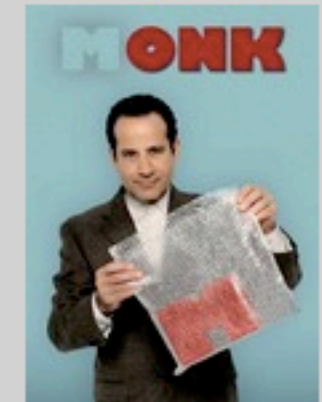
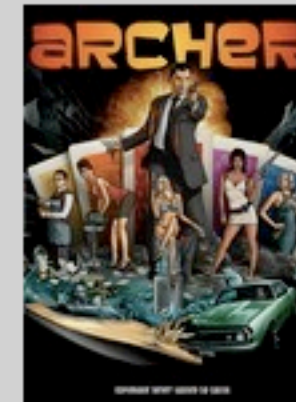
New Arrivals in TV



TV Drama



TV Comedy



Children & Family



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Three Kings

★★★★☆ (398 customer reviews)

George Clooney, Mark Wahlberg, Ice Cube conspire to steal a huge cache of gold hidden near their desert base.

Starring: George Clooney, Mark Wahlberg**Directed by:** David O. Russell**Runtime:** 1 hour 56 minutes**Release year:** 1999**Studio:** Warner Bros.Also available in **HD** with [Amazon Instant Video on Your TV](#)

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Tower Heist Amazon Instant Video ~ Eddie Murphy

★★★★☆ (42)

\$3.99



Syriana Amazon Instant Video ~ George Clooney

★★★★☆ (355)

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Five Minutes of Heaven Amazon Instant Video ~ Liam Neeson

★★★★☆ (70)

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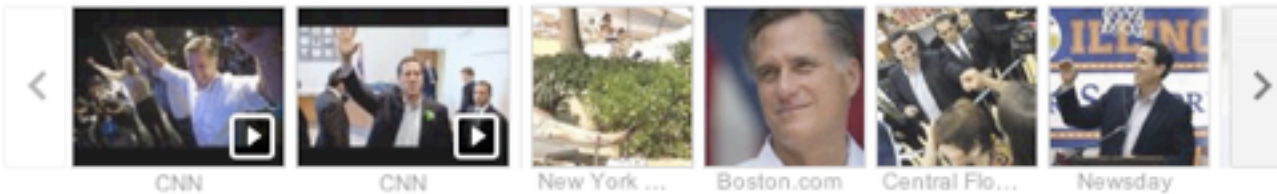
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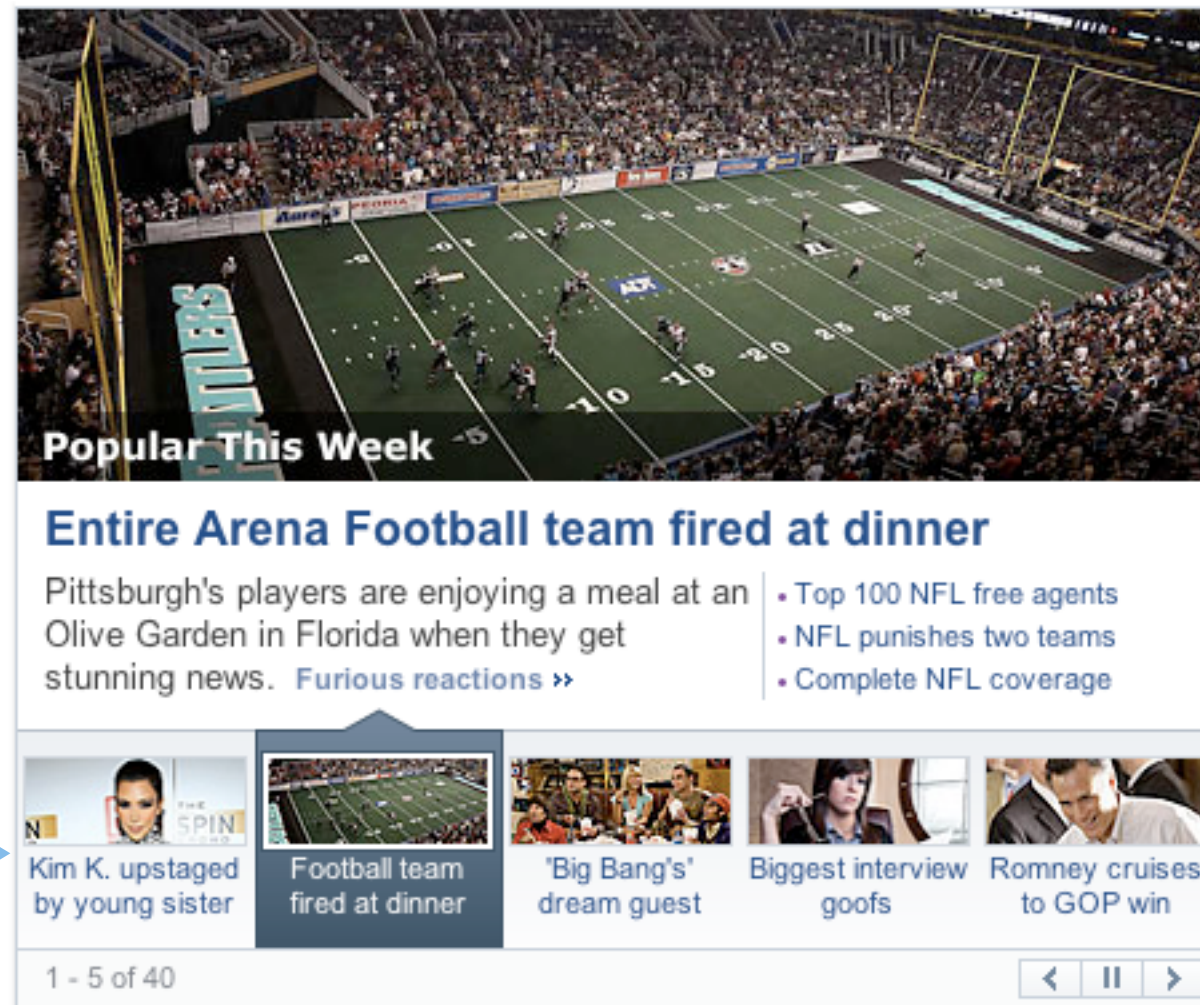
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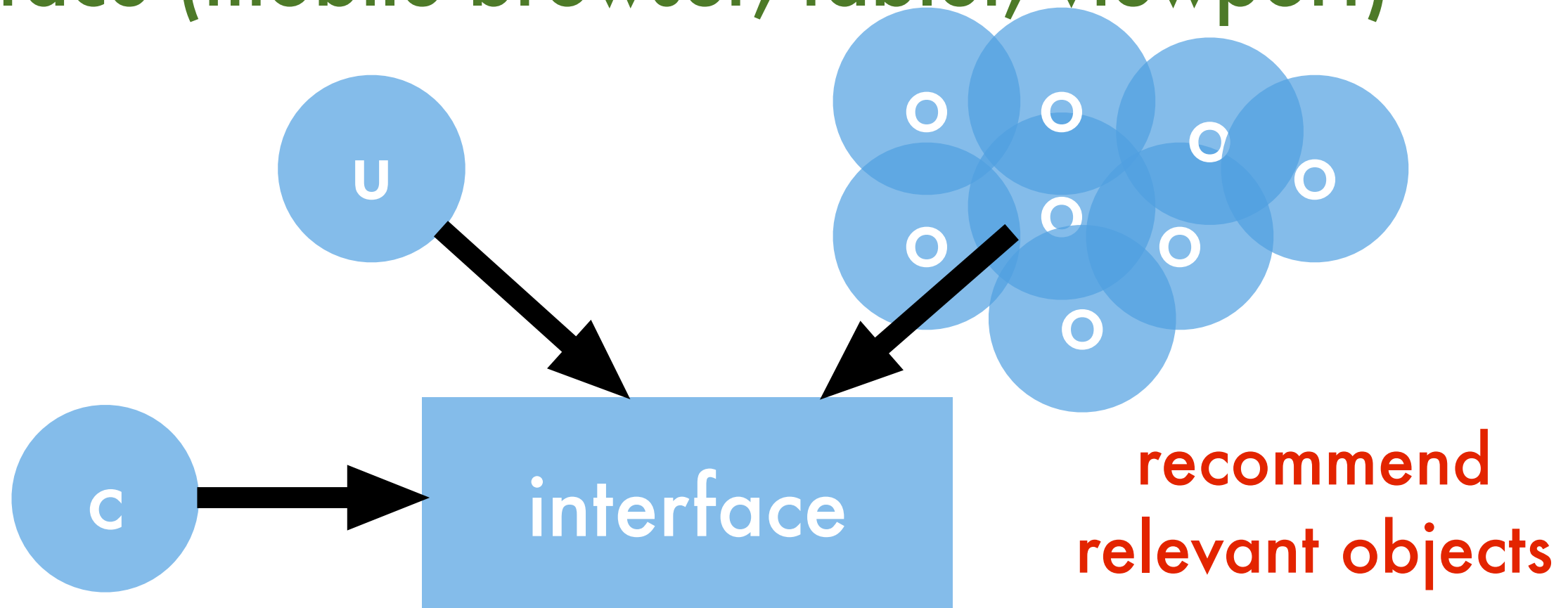
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<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="star"/>	<input checked="" type="trash"/>	ismeal zongo	(no subject) - Dear Friend, I am Mr. Ismeal Zongo, the Director in charge of Auditing and accounting depa	6:36 am
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<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="star"/>	<input type="trash"/>	leomasilqhfq	[moewwx] 可先看貨 再付款 經典新款 名牌包夾名錶鞋子 特價中)+=;971/-C\$#LNqpXZ[e - 名牌包包,皮夾,鞋	Mar 17
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<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="star"/>	<input type="trash"/>	UCB WarnMe	Your New WarnMe Account - You are receiving this email because a UC Berkeley WarnMe account has	Mar 16

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A more formal view

- User (requests content)
- Objects (that can be displayed)
- Context (device, location, time)
- Interface (mobile browser, tablet, viewport)



Examples

- **Movie recommendation (Netflix)**
- **Related product recommendation (Amazon)**
- **Web page ranking (Google)**
- **Social recommendation (Facebook)**
- **News content recommendation (Yahoo)**
- **Priority inbox & spam filtering (Google)**
- **Online dating (OK Cupid)**
- **Computational Advertising (Yahoo)**

Running Example

Netflix Movie Recommendation

Training data

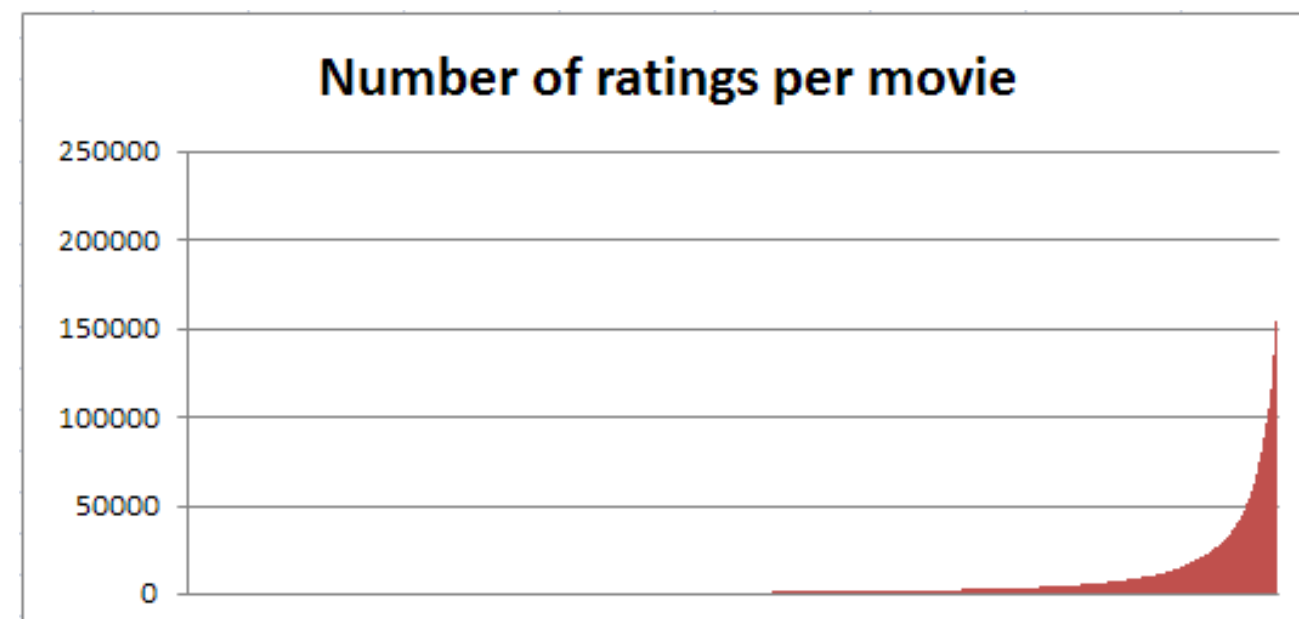
user	movie	date	score
1	21	5/7/02	1
1	213	8/2/04	5
2	345	3/6/01	4
2	123	5/1/05	4
2	768	7/15/02	3
3	76	1/22/01	5
4	45	8/3/00	4
5	568	9/10/05	1
5	342	3/5/03	2
5	234	12/28/00	2
6	76	8/11/02	5
6	56	6/15/03	4

Test data

user	movie	date	score
1	62	1/6/05	?
1	96	9/13/04	?
2	7	8/18/05	?
2	3	11/22/05	?
3	47	6/13/02	?
3	15	8/12/01	?
4	41	9/1/00	?
4	28	8/27/05	?
5	93	4/4/05	?
5	74	7/16/03	?
6	69	2/14/04	?
6	83	10/3/03	?

Challenges

- Scalability
 - Millions of objects
 - 100s of millions of users
- Cold start
 - Changing user base
 - Changing inventory (movies, stories, goods)
 - Attributes
- Imbalanced dataset
User activity / item reviews are power law distributed



Netflix competition yardstick

- Least mean squares prediction error
- Easy to define

$$\text{rmse}(S) = \sqrt{|S|^{-1} \sum_{(i,u) \in S} (\hat{r}_{ui} - r_{ui})^2}$$

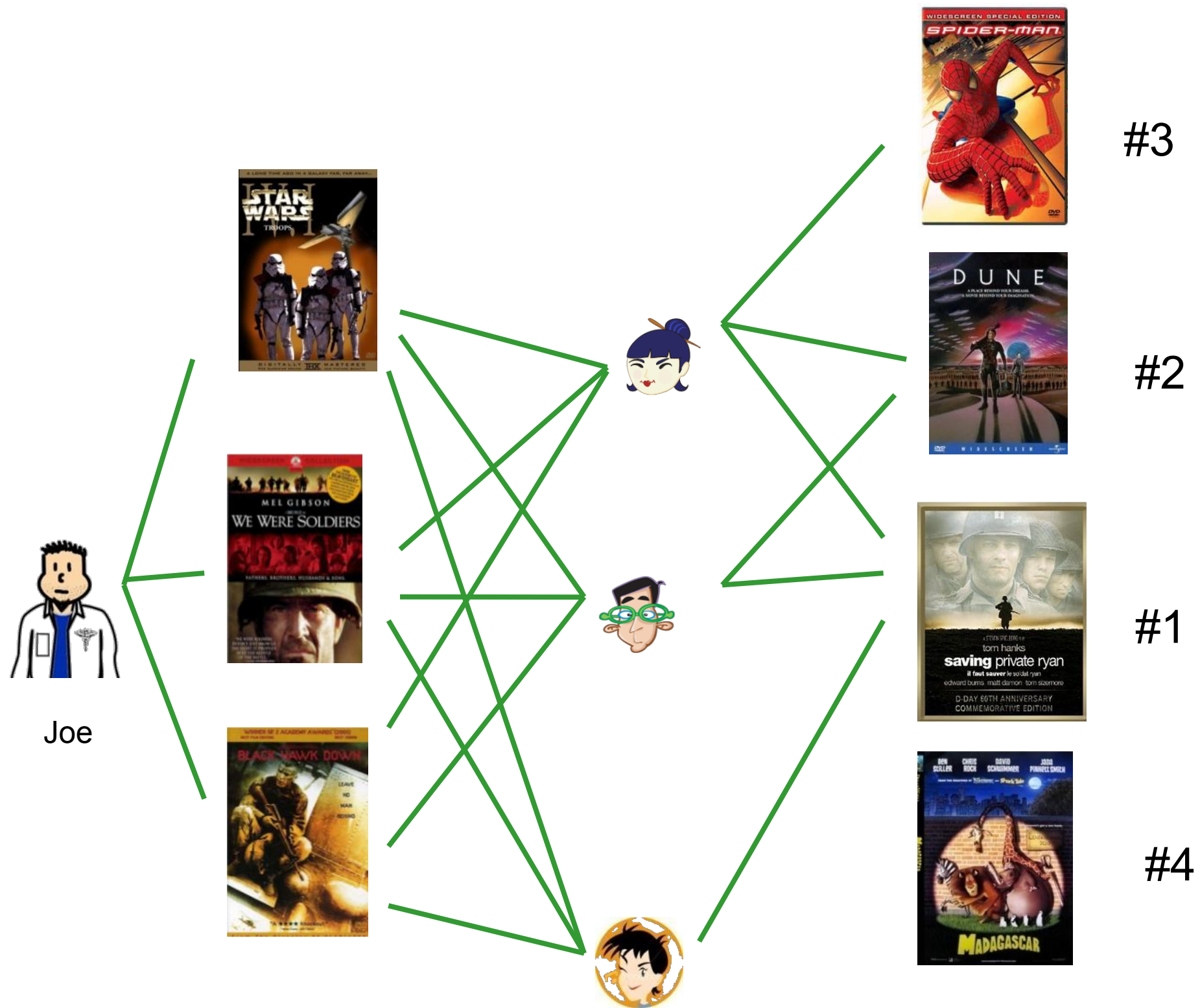
- Wrong measure for composing sessions!



- Consistent (in large sample size limit this will converge to minimizer)

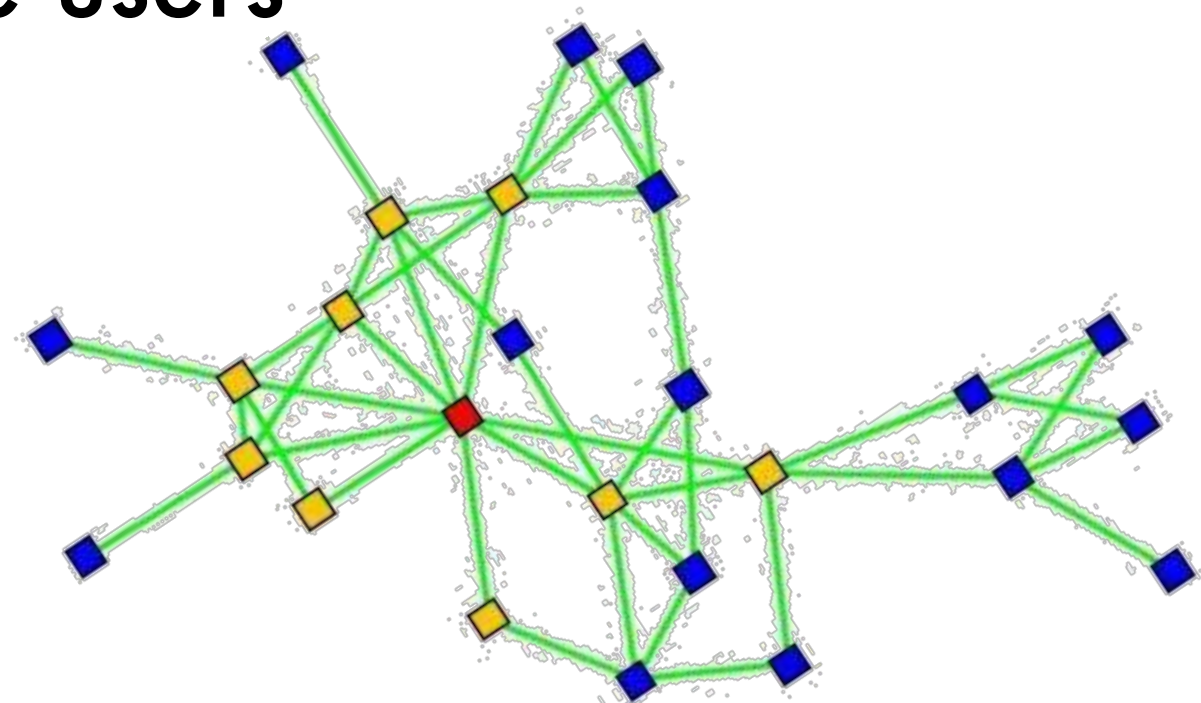
1 Neighborhood Methods

Basic Idea



Basic Idea

- (user,user) similarity to recommend items
 - good if item base is smaller than user base
 - good if item base changes rapidly
 - traverse bipartite similarity graph
- (item,item) similarity to recommend new items that were also liked by the same users
 - good if the user base is small is small
- Oldest known CF method



Neighborhood based CF

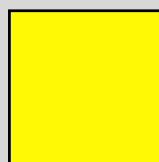
users

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	1		3			5			5		4	
2			5	4			4			2	1	3
3	2	4		1	2		3		4	3	5	
4		2	4		5			4			2	
5			4	3	4	2					2	5
6	1		3		3			2			4	

items



- unknown rating



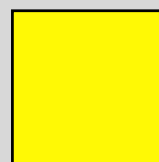
- rating between 1 to 5

Neighborhood based CF

		users											
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
items	1	1		3	→ ?	5			5		4		
	2			5	4			4			2	1	3
	3	2	4		1	2		3		4	3	5	
	4		2	4		5			4			2	
	5			4	3	4	2					2	5
	6	1		3		3			2			4	



- unknown rating



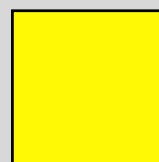
- rating between 1 to 5

Neighborhood based CF

		users											
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
items	1	1		3		?	5			5		4	
	2			5	4			4			2	1	3
	3	2	4		1	2		3		4	3	5	
	4		2	4		5			4			2	
	5			4	3	4	2					2	5
	6	1		3		3			2			4	



- unknown rating



- rating between 1 to 5

Neighborhood based CF

		users											
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
items	1	1		3		?	5			5		4	
	2			5	4			4			2	1	3
	3	2	4		1	2		3		4	3	5	
	4		2	4		5			4			2	
	5			4	3	4	2					2	5
	6	1		3		3			2			4	

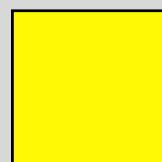
similarity

$$s_{13} = 0.2$$

$$s_{16} = 0.3$$



- unknown rating



- rating between 1 to 5

Neighborhood based CF

		users											
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
items	1	1		3			5			5		4	
	2			5	4			4			2	1	3
	3	2	4		1	2		3		4	3	5	
	4		2	4		5			4			2	
	5			4	3	4	2					2	5
	6	1		3		3			2			4	

similarity

$$s_{13} = 0.2$$

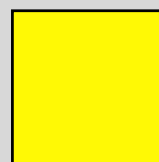
$$s_{16} = 0.3$$

**weighted
average**

$$\frac{0.2 \cdot 2 + 0.3 \cdot 3}{0.2 + 0.3} = 2.6$$



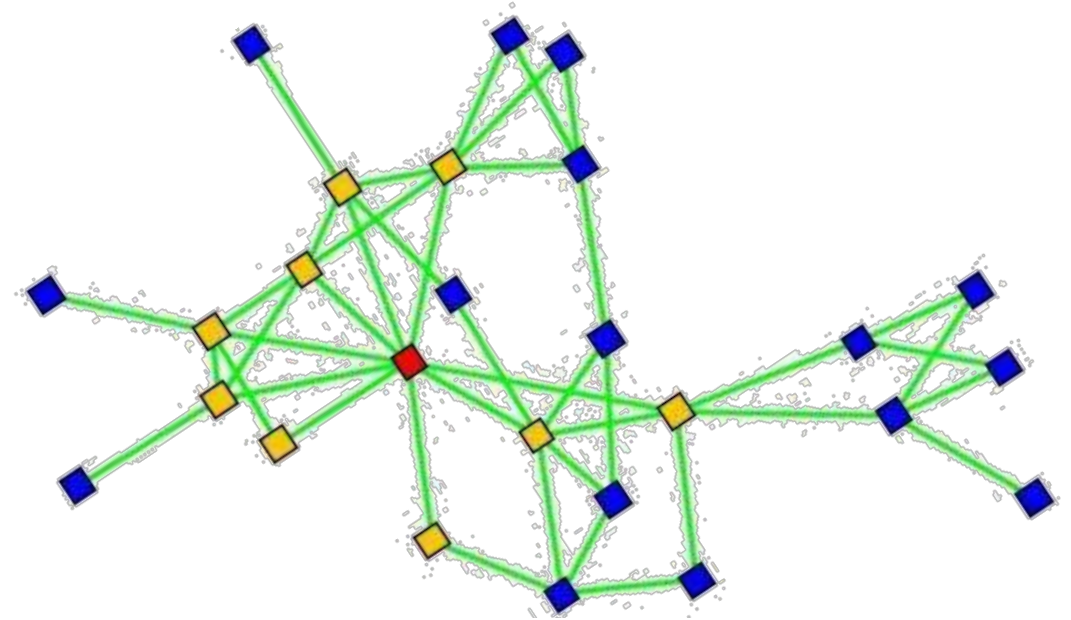
- unknown rating



- rating between 1 to 5

Properties

- Intuitive
- No (substantial) training
- Handles new users / items
- Easy to explain to user



Recommended for you + Add as Playlist More

Casually Introducing Walter Smith III Similar to Eric Harland	Companeros De Mi Vida Eliades Ochoa Similar to Cachao and Irakere	Tibiri Tabara Sierra Maestra You've scrobbled Sierra Maestra, but not this release	New York Ska-Jazz Ensemble New York Ska-Jazz Ensemble You've scrobbled New York Ska-Jazz Ensemble,	More Late Night Transmissions With... Jaya the Cat You've scrobbled Jaya the Cat, but not this release	Appetite For Destruction Guns N' Roses You've scrobbled Guns N' Roses, but not this release

- Accuracy & scalability questionable

Normalization / Bias

- Problem
 - Some items are significantly higher rated
 - Some users rate substantially lower
 - Ratings change over time
- Bias correction is crucial for nearest neighborhood recommender algorithm
 - Offset per user
 - Offset per movie
 - Time effects
 - Global bias

$$b_{ui} = \mu + b_u + b_i$$

The diagram illustrates the bias correction formula $b_{ui} = \mu + b_u + b_i$. It features three blue callout boxes with white text: 'global' points to the μ term, 'user' points to the b_u term, and 'item' points to the b_i term.

Bell & Koren ICDM 2007

<http://public.research.att.com/~volinsky/netflix/BellKorICDM07.pdf>

Baseline estimation

- Mean rating is 3.7
- Troll Hunter is 0.7 above mean
- User rates 0.2 below mean
- Baseline is 4.2 stars
- Least mean squares problem

$$\underset{b}{\text{minimize}} \sum_{(u,i)} (r_{ui} - \mu - b_u - b_i)^2 + \lambda \left[\sum_u b_u^2 + \sum_i b_i^2 \right]$$

- Jointly convex. Alternatively remove mean & iterate

$$b_i = \frac{\sum_{u \in R(i)} (r_{ui} - \mu - b_u)}{\lambda + |R(i)|} \quad \text{and} \quad b_u = \frac{\sum_{i \in R(u)} (r_{ui} - \mu - b_i)}{\lambda + |R(u)|}$$



Parzen Windows style CF

- Similarity measure s_{ij} between items
- Find set $s_k(i,u)$ of k -nearest neighbors to i that were rated by user u
- Weighted average over the set

$$\hat{r}_{ui} = b_{ui} + \frac{\sum_{j \in s_k(i,u)} s_{ij}(r_{uj} - b_{uj})}{\sum_{j \in s_k(i,u)} s_{ij}} \text{ where } b_{ui} = \mu + b_u + b_i$$

- How to compute s_{ij} ?

(item,item) similarity measures

User ratings for item **i**:

1	?	?	5	5	3	?	?	?	4	2	?	?	?	?	4	?	5	4	1	?
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

User ratings for item **j**:

?	?	4	2	5	?	?	1	2	5	?	?	2	?	?	3	?	?	?	5	4
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

- **Pearson correlation coefficient**
 - **nonuniform support**
 - **compute only over shared support**
 - **shrinkage towards 0 to address problem of small support (typically few items in common)**

$$s_{ij} = \frac{\text{Cov}[r_{ui}, r_{uj}]}{\text{Std}[r_{ui}] \text{Std}[r_{uj}]}$$

(item,item) similarity

- Empirical Pearson correlation coefficient

$$\hat{\rho}_{ij} = \frac{\sum_{u \in U(i,j)} (r_{ui} - b_{ui})(r_{uj} - b_{uj})}{\sqrt{\sum_{u \in U(i,j)} (r_{ui} - b_{ui})^2 \sum_{u \in U(i,j)} (r_{uj} - b_{uj})^2}}$$

- Smoothing towards 0 for small support

$$s_{ij} = \frac{|U(i,j)| - 1}{|U(i,j)| - 1 + \lambda} \hat{\rho}_{ij}$$

- Make neighborhood more peaked $s_{ij} \rightarrow s_{ij}^2$
- Shrink towards baseline for small neighborhood

$$\hat{r}_{ui} = b_{ui} + \frac{\sum_{j \in s_k(i,u)} s_{ij} (r_{uj} - b_{uj})}{\lambda + \sum_{j \in s_k(i,u)} s_{ij}}$$

Similarity for binary data

- Pearson correlation meaningless

- Views

- Purchase behavior

- Clicks

m_i users acting on i

m_{ij} users acting on both i and j

m total number of users

- Jaccard similarity
(intersection vs. joint)

$$s_{ij} = \frac{m_{ij}}{\alpha + m_i + m_j - m_{ij}}$$

- Observed/expected ratio
Improve by counting

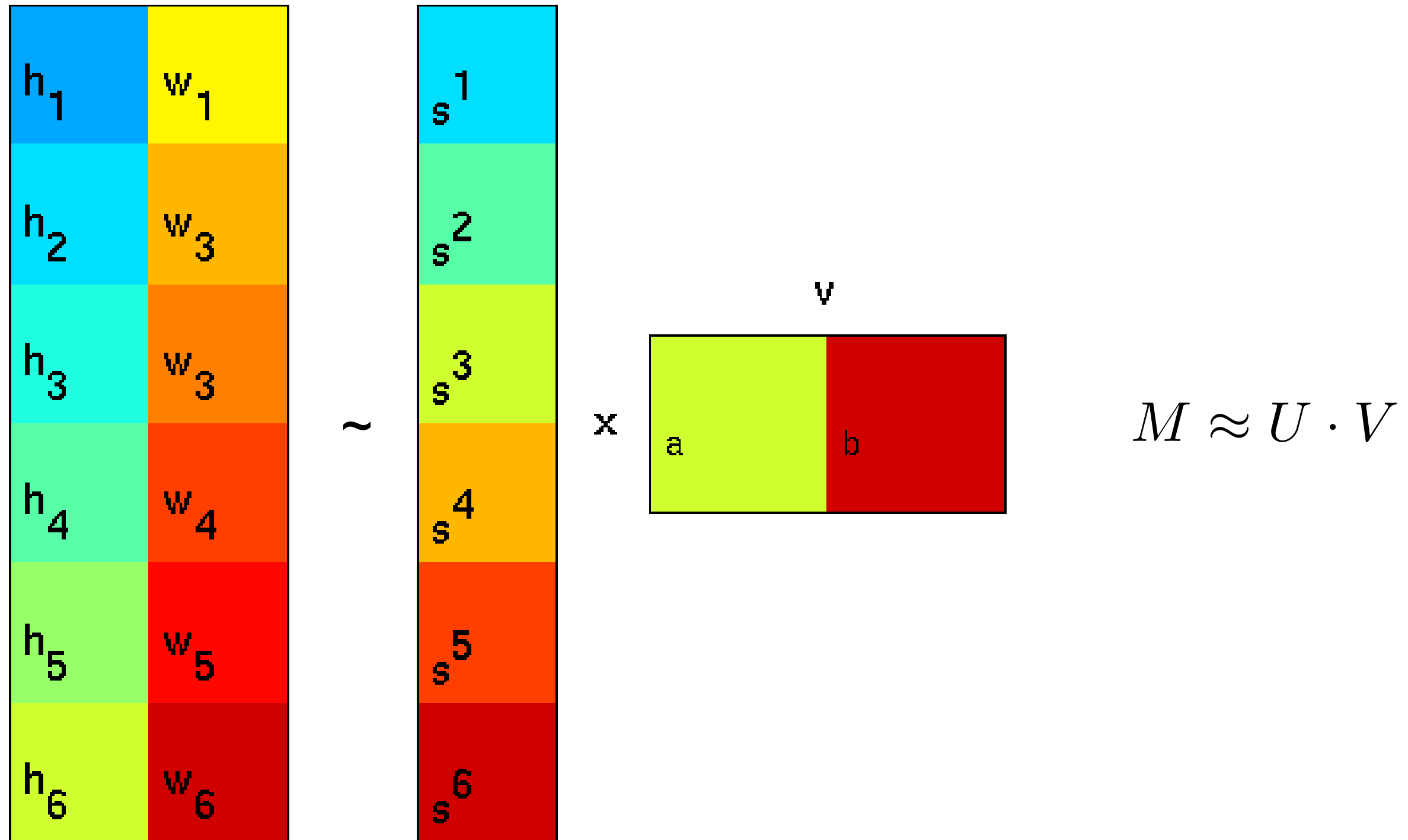
$$s_{ij} = \frac{\text{observed}}{\text{expected}} \approx \frac{m_{ij}}{\alpha + m_i m_j / m}$$

per user (many users better than heavy users)

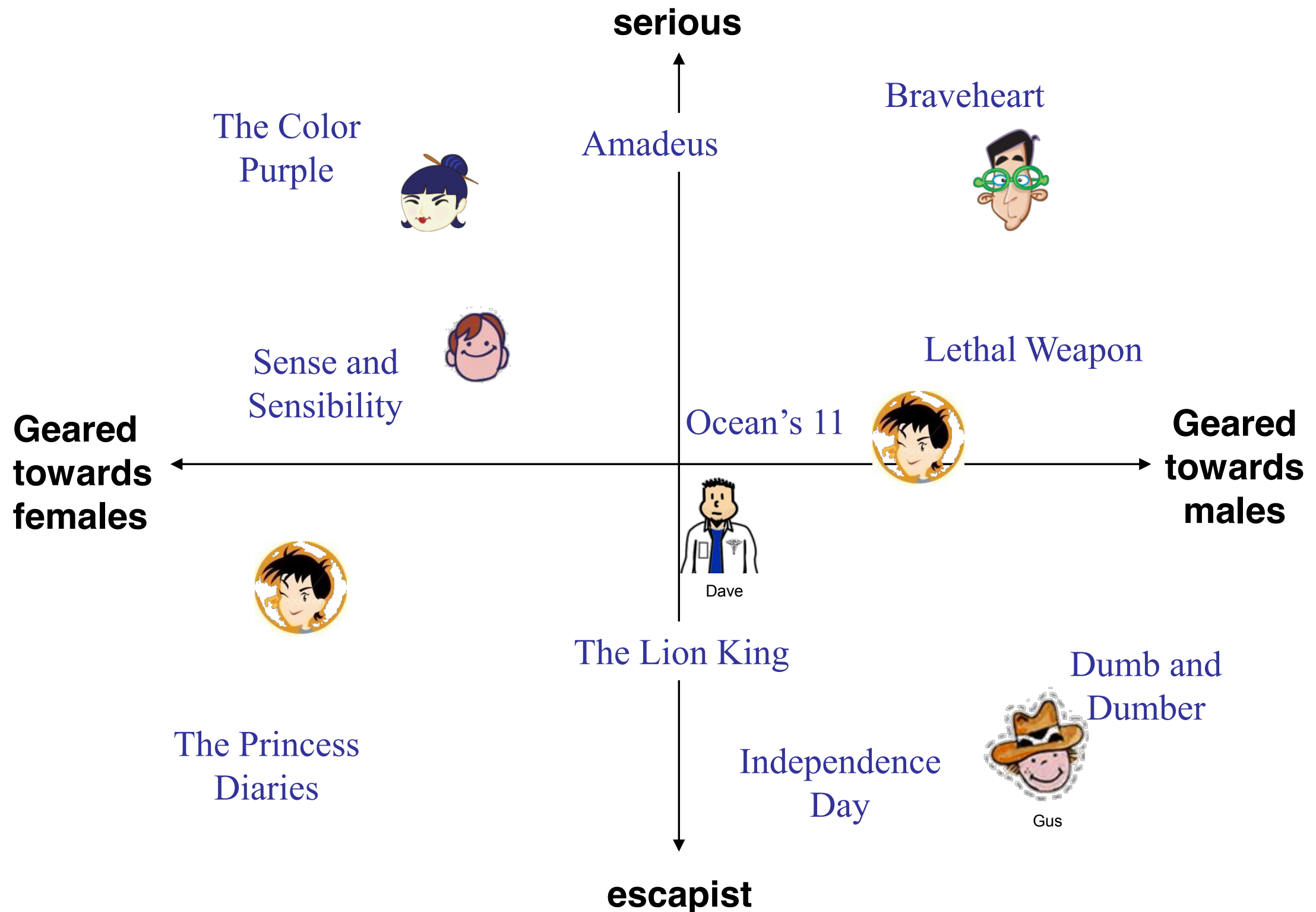
2 Matrix Factorization

Basics

Basic Idea



Latent variable view



Basic matrix factorization

users

items

1		3			5			5		4	
		5	4			4			2	1	3
2	4		1	2		3		4	3	5	
	2	4		5			4			2	
		4	3	4	2					2	5
1		3		3			2			4	

~

~

items

.1	-.4	.2
-.5	.6	.5
-.2	.3	.5
1.1	2.1	.3
-.7	2.1	-2
-1	.7	.3

•

users

1.1	-.2	.3	.5	-2	-.5	.8	-.4	.3	1.4	2.4	-.9
-.8	.7	.5	1.4	.3	-1	1.4	2.9	-.7	1.2	-.1	1.3
2.1	-.4	.6	1.7	2.4	.9	-.3	.4	.8	.7	-.6	.1

A rank-3 SVD approximation

Estimate unknown ratings as inner products of latent factors

	1		3			5			5		4	
			5				4			2	1	3
	2	4		1	2		3		4	3	5	
		2	4		5			4			2	
			4	3	4	2					2	5
	1		3		3			2			4	

The diagram illustrates the dot product of an item vector and a user vector. On the left, a vertical vector labeled "items" contains the values [.1, -.5, -.2, 1.1, -.7, -1]. In the center is a black dot representing the dot product operation. On the right, a horizontal vector labeled "users" contains the values [1.1, -.2, .3, .5, -2, -.5, .8, -.4, .3, 1.4, 2.4, -.9].

A rank-3 SVD approximation

Estimate unknown ratings as inner products of latent factors

users

items

1		3			5			5		4	
		5		?		4			2	1	3
2	4		1	2		3		4	3	5	
	2	4		5			4			2	
		4	3	4	2					2	5
1		3		3			2			4	

~

~

items

.1	-.4	.2
-.5	.6	.5
-.2	.3	.5
1.1	2.1	.3
-.7	2.1	-2
-1	.7	.3

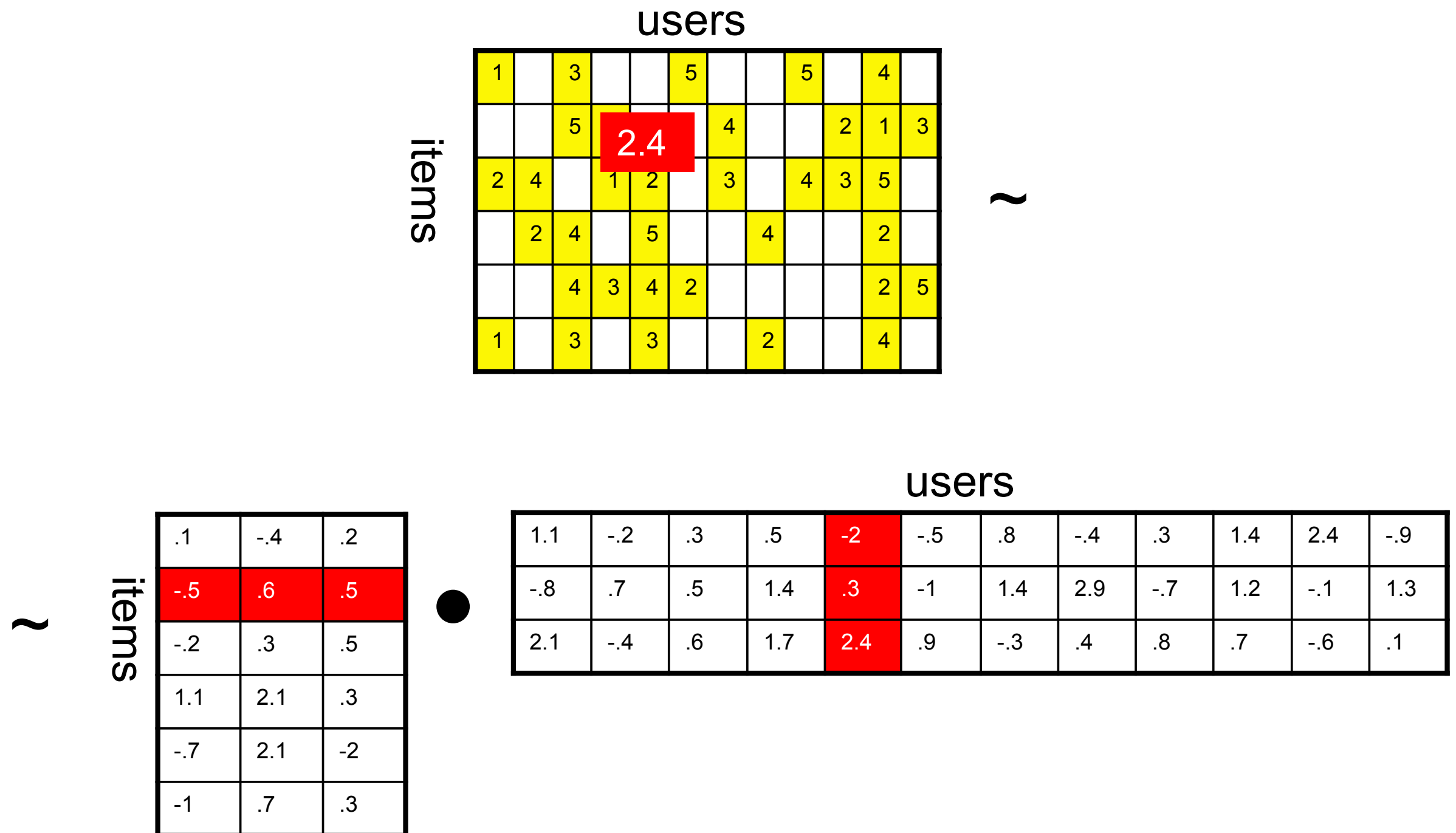
•

users

1.1	-.2	.3	.5	-2	-.5	.8	-.4	.3	1.4	2.4	-.9
-.8	.7	.5	1.4	.3	-1	1.4	2.9	-.7	1.2	-.1	1.3
2.1	-.4	.6	1.7	2.4	.9	-.3	.4	.8	.7	-.6	.1

A rank-3 SVD approximation

Estimate unknown ratings as inner products of latent factors



A rank-3 SVD approximation

Properties

1		3			5			5		4	
		5	4			4			2	1	3
2	4		1	2		3		4	3	5	
	2	4		5			4			2	
		4	3	4	2					2	5
1		3		3			2			4	

 \sim

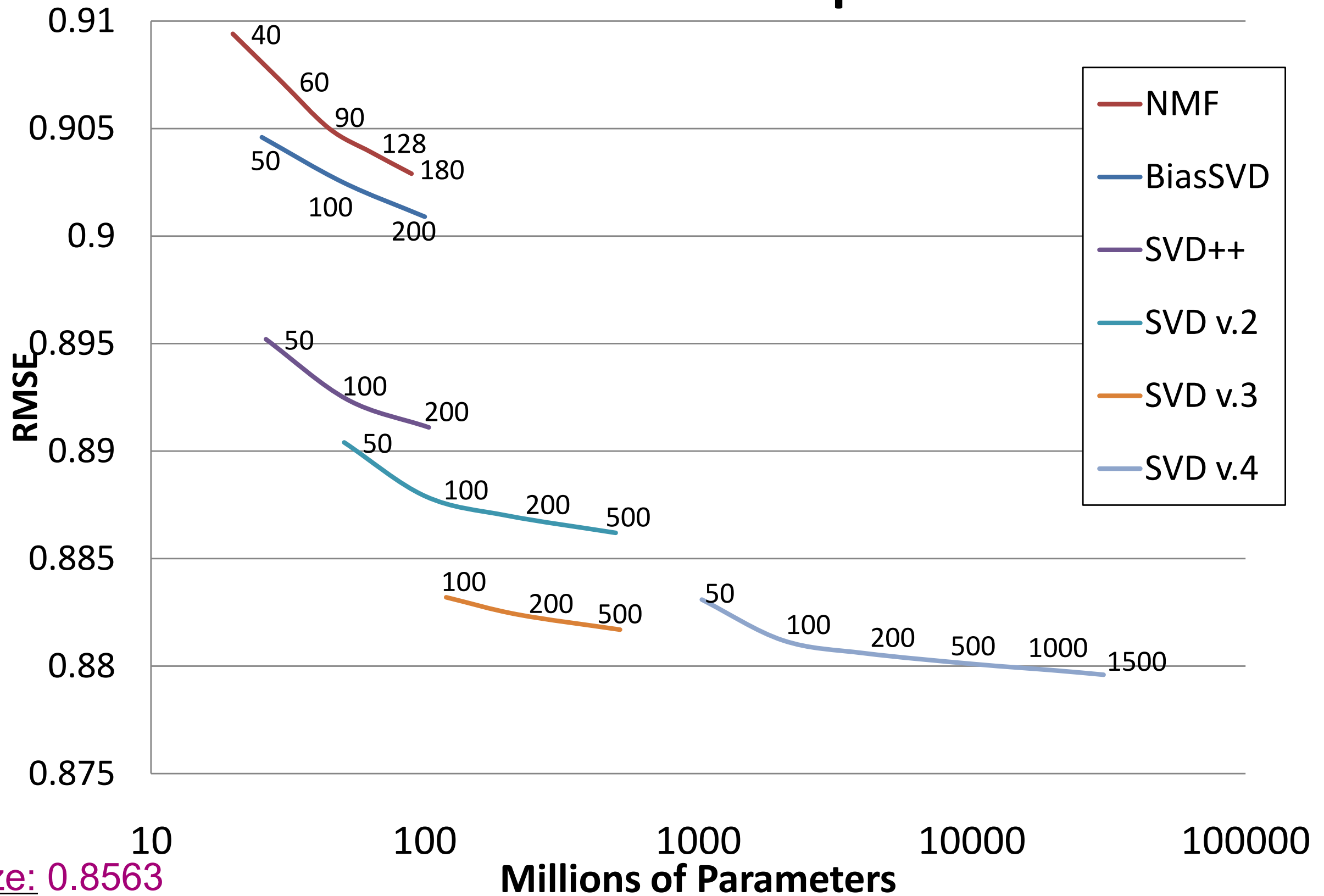
.1	-.4	.2
-.5	.6	.5
-.2	.3	.5
1.1	2.1	.3
-.7	2.1	-2
-1	.7	.3

1.1	-.2	.3	.5	-2	-.5	.8	-.4	.3	1.4	2.4	-.9
-.8	.7	.5	1.4	.3	-1	1.4	2.9	-.7	1.2	-.1	1.3
2.1	-.4	.6	1.7	2.4	.9	-.3	.4	.8	.7	-.6	.1

- SVD is undefined for missing entries
 - stochastic gradient descent (faster)
 - alternating optimization
- Overfitting without regularization particularly if fewer reviews than dimensions
- Very popular on Netflix

Netflix: 0.9514

Factor models: Error vs. #parameters



Prize: 0.8563

Risk Minimization View

- Objective Function

$$\underset{p,q}{\text{minimize}} \sum_{(u,i) \in S} (r_{ui} - \langle p_u, q_i \rangle)^2 + \lambda \left[\|p\|_{\text{Frob}}^2 + \|q\|_{\text{Frob}}^2 \right]$$

- Alternating least squares

$$p_u \leftarrow \left[\lambda \mathbf{1} + \sum_{i | (u,i) \in S} q_i q_i^\top \right]^{-1} \sum_i q_i r_{ui}$$
$$q_i \leftarrow \left[\lambda \mathbf{1} + \sum_{u | (u,i) \in S} p_u p_u^\top \right]^{-1} \sum_u p_u r_{ui}$$

good for
MapReduce

Risk Minimization View

- Objective Function

$$\underset{p,q}{\text{minimize}} \sum_{(u,i) \in S} (r_{ui} - \langle p_u, q_i \rangle)^2 + \lambda \left[\|p\|_{\text{Frob}}^2 + \|q\|_{\text{Frob}}^2 \right]$$

- Stochastic gradient descent

$$p_u \leftarrow (1 - \lambda \eta_t) p_u - \eta_t q_i (r_{ui} - \langle p_u, q_i \rangle)$$

$$q_i \leftarrow (1 - \lambda \eta_t) q_i - \eta_t p_u (r_{ui} - \langle p_u, q_i \rangle)$$

much
faster

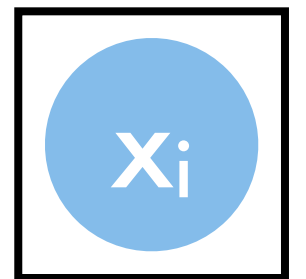
- No need for locking
- Multicore updates asynchronously
(Recht, Re, Wright, 2012 - Hogwild)

Theoretical Motivation

deFinetti Theorem

- Independent random variables

$$p(X) = \prod_{i=1}^m p(x_i)$$

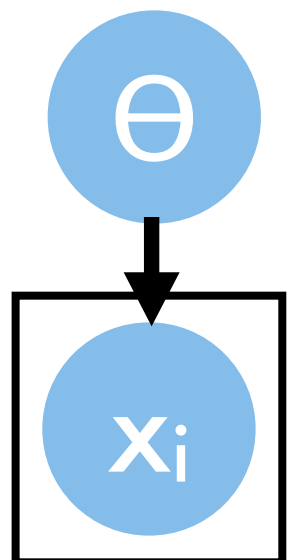


- Exchangeable random variables

$$p(X) = p(x_1, \dots, x_m) = p(x_{\pi(1)}, \dots, x_{\pi(m)})$$

- There exists a conditionally independent representation of exchangeable r.v.

$$p(X) = \int dp(\theta) \prod_{i=1}^m p(x_i | \theta)$$



This motivates latent variable models

Aldous Hoover Factorization

- **Matrix-valued set of random variable**
Example - Erdos Renyi graph model

$$p(E) = \prod_{i,j} p(V_{ij})$$

- **Independently exchangeable on matrix**

$$p(E) = p(E_{11}, E_{12}, \dots, E_{mn}) = p(E_{\pi(1)\rho(1)}, E_{\pi(1)\rho(2)}, \dots, E_{\pi(m)\rho(n)})$$

- **Aldous Hoover Theorem**

$$p(E) = \int dp(\theta) \int \prod_{i=1}^m dp(u_i) \prod_{j=1}^n dp(v_j) \prod_{i,j} p(E_{ij} | u_i, v_j, \theta)$$

Aldous Hoover Factorization

	u_1	u_2	u_3	u_4	u_5	u_6
v_1	e_{11}	e_{12}			e_{15}	e_{16}
v_2				e_{24}		
v_3		e_{32}				
v_4			e_{43}			e_{46}
v_5					e_{55}	

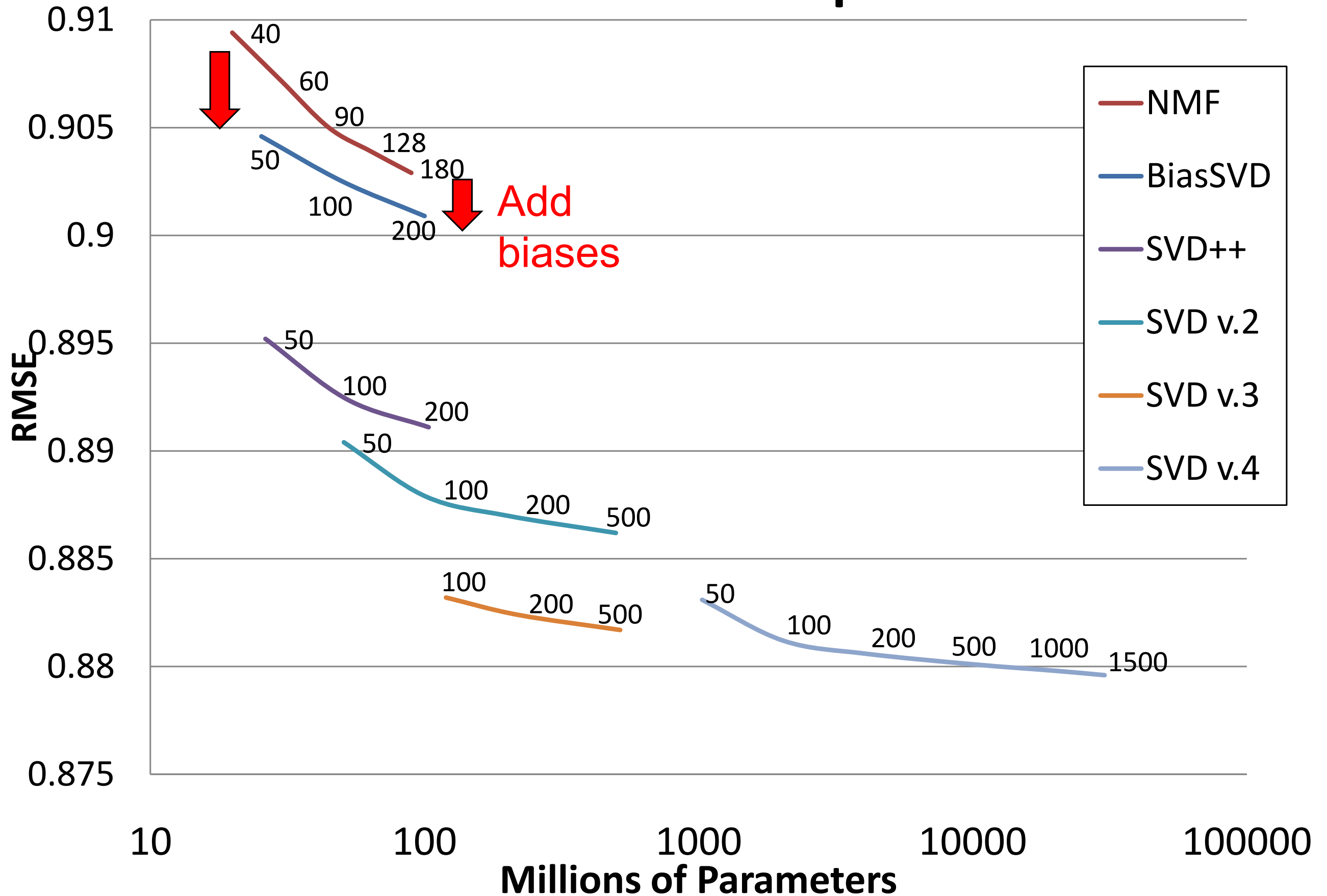
- Rating matrix is (row, column) exchangeable
- Draw latent variables per row and column
- Draw matrix entries independently given pairs
- Absence / presence of rating is a signal
- Can be extended to graphs with vertex attributes

Aldous Hoover variants

- Jointly exchangeable matrix
 - Social network graphs
 - Draw vertex attributes first, then edges
- Cold start problem
 - New user appears
 - Attributes (age, location, browser)
 - Can estimate latent variables from that
- User and item factors in matrix factorization problem can be viewed as AH-factors

Improvements

Factor models: Error vs. #parameters



Bias

- **Objective Function**

$$\begin{aligned} \text{minimize}_{p,q} \quad & \sum_{(u,i) \in S} (r_{ui} - (\mu + b_u + b_i + \langle p_u, q_i \rangle))^2 + \\ & \lambda \left[\|p\|_{\text{Frob}}^2 + \|q\|_{\text{Frob}}^2 + \|b_{\text{users}}\|^2 + \|b_{\text{items}}\|^2 \right] \end{aligned}$$

- **Stochastic gradient descent**

$$p_u \leftarrow (1 - \lambda\eta_t)p_u - \eta_t q_i \rho_{ui}$$

$$q_i \leftarrow (1 - \lambda\eta_t)q_i - \eta_t p_u \rho_{ui}$$

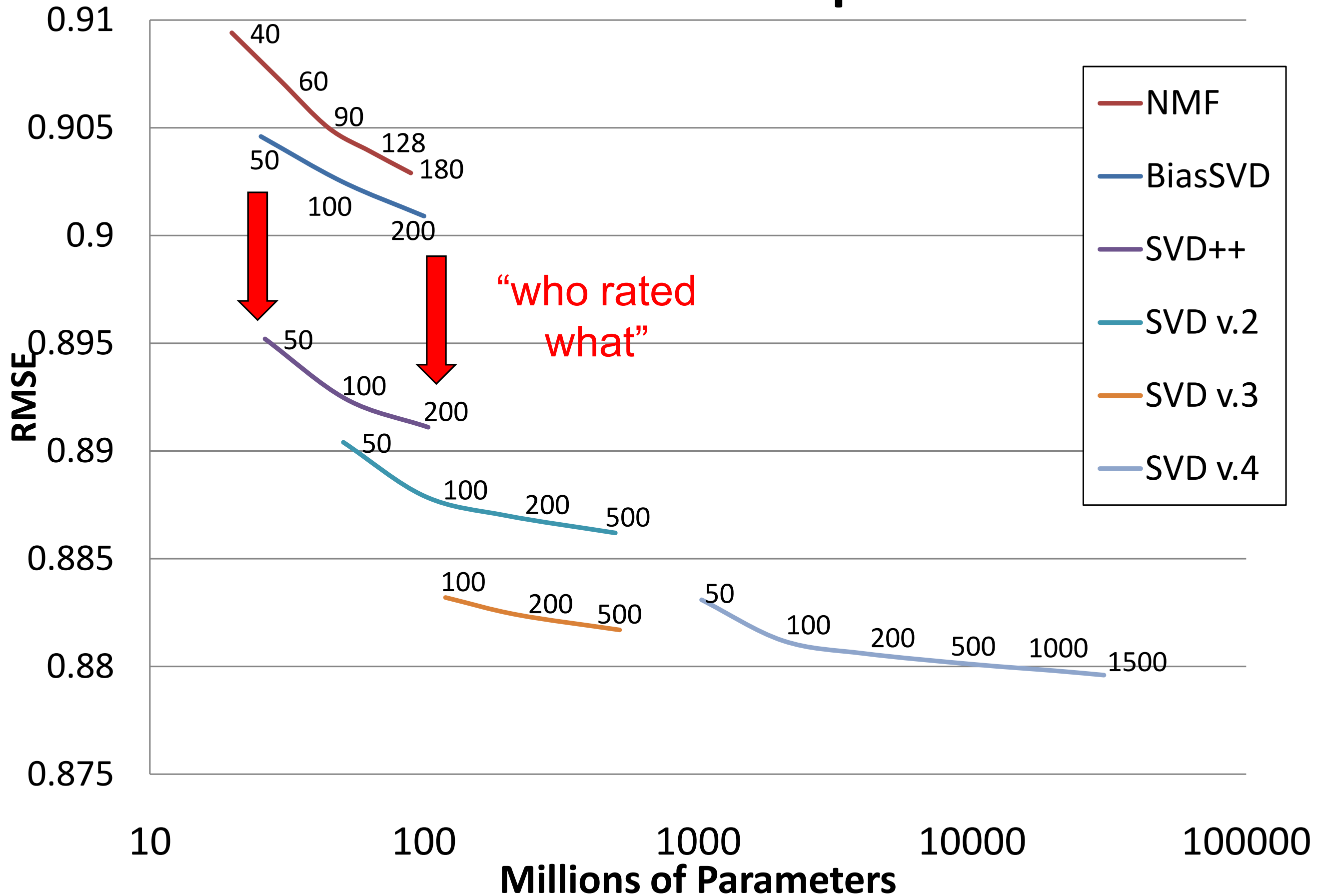
$$b_u \leftarrow (1 - \lambda\eta_t)b_u - \eta_t \rho_{ui}$$

$$b_i \leftarrow (1 - \lambda\eta_t)b_i - \eta_t \rho_{ui}$$

$$\mu \leftarrow (1 - \lambda\eta_t)\mu - \eta_t \rho_{ui}$$

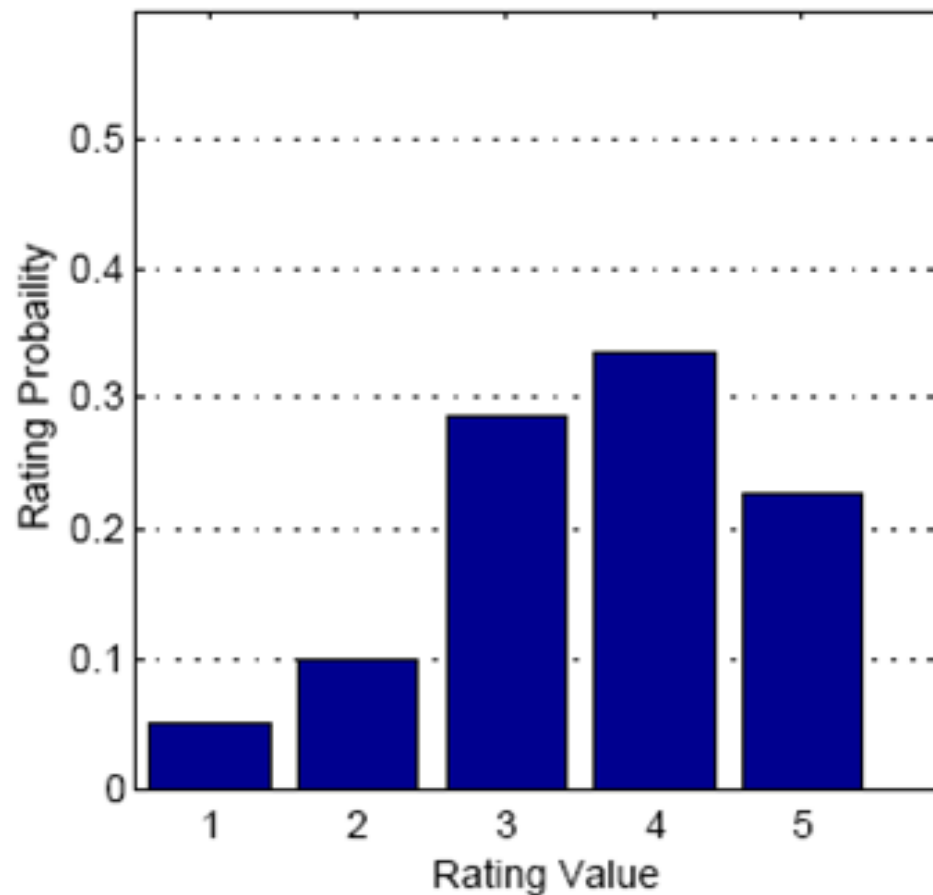
$$\text{where } \rho_{ui} = (r_{ui} - (\mu + b_i + b_u + \langle p_u, q_i \rangle))$$

Factor models: Error vs. #parameters

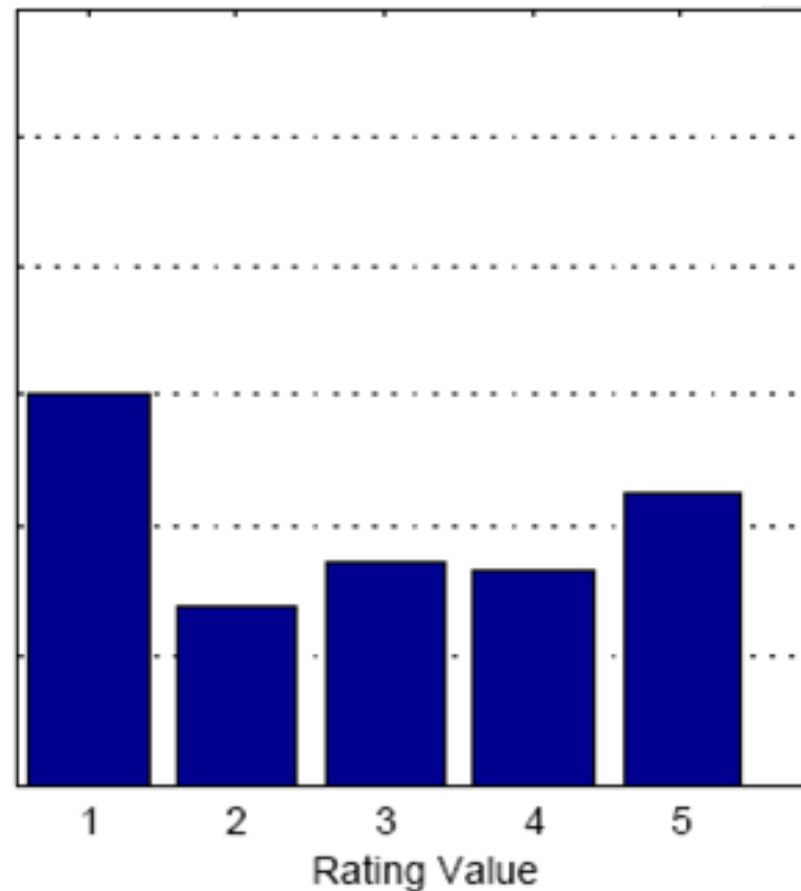


Ratings are not given at random

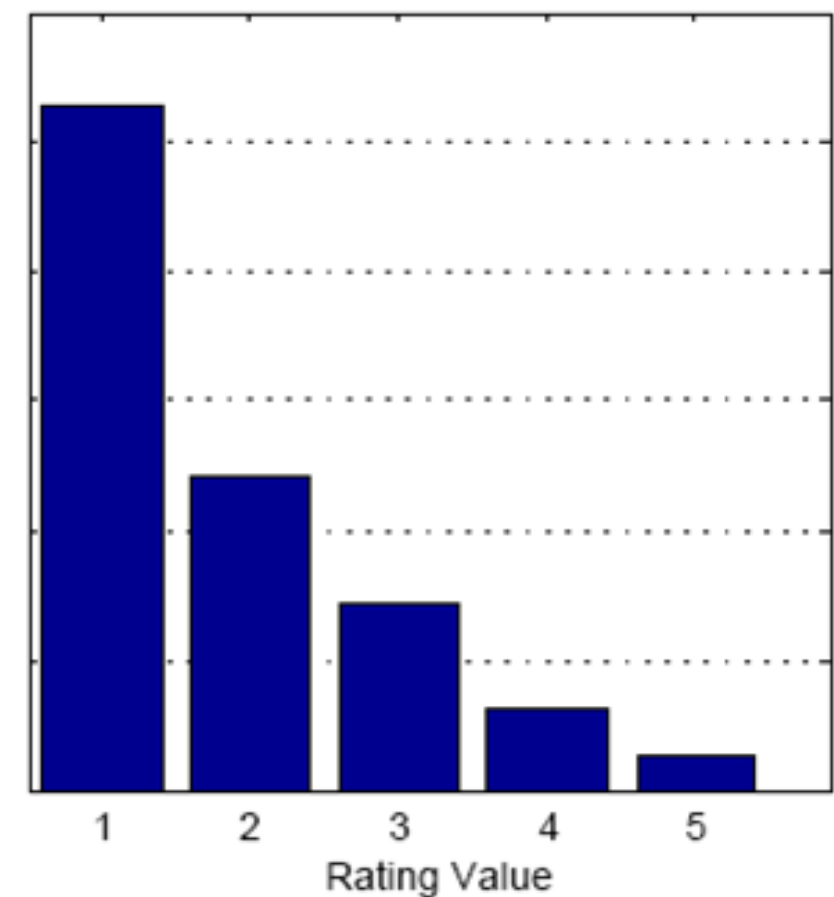
Netflix ratings



Yahoo! music ratings

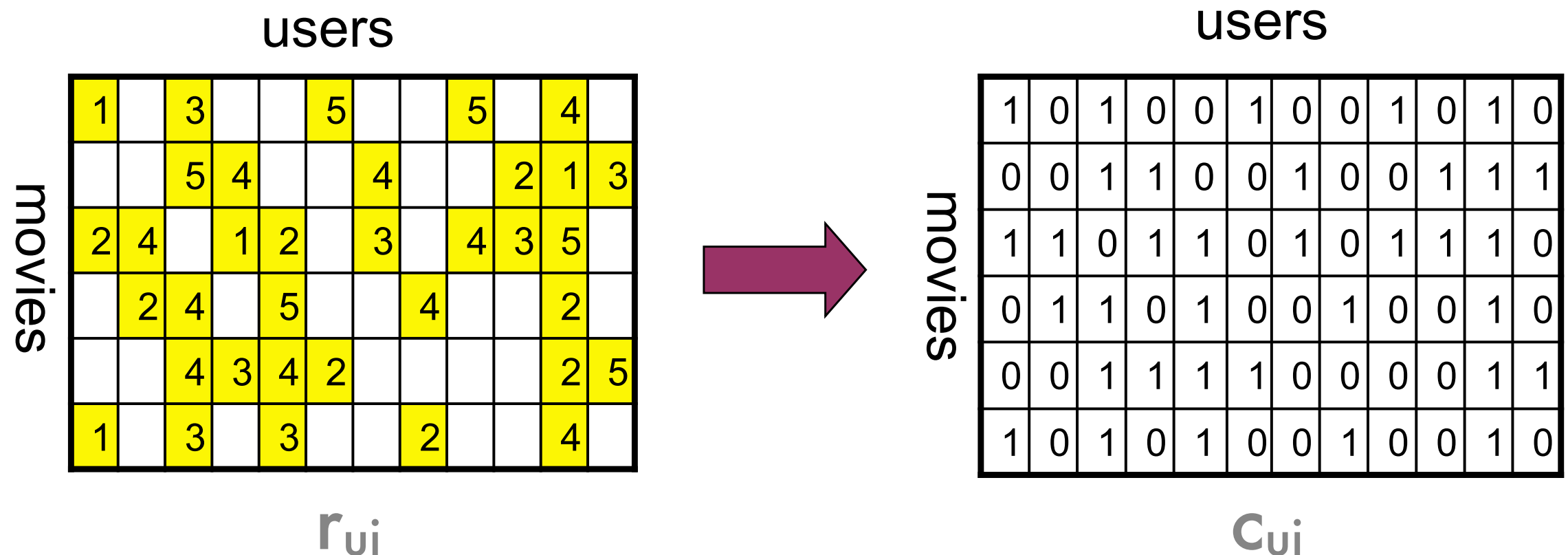


Yahoo! survey answers



- Marlin et al. "Collaborative Filtering and the Missing at Random Assumption" UAI 2007

Movie rating matrix



- Characterize users by **which** movies they rated
Edge attributes (observed, rating)
- Adding features to recommender system

$$r_{ui} = \mu + b_u + b_i + \langle p_u, q_i \rangle + \langle c_u, x_i \rangle$$

regression

Alternative integration

- Key idea - use related ratings to average
- Salakhutdinov & Mnih, 2007

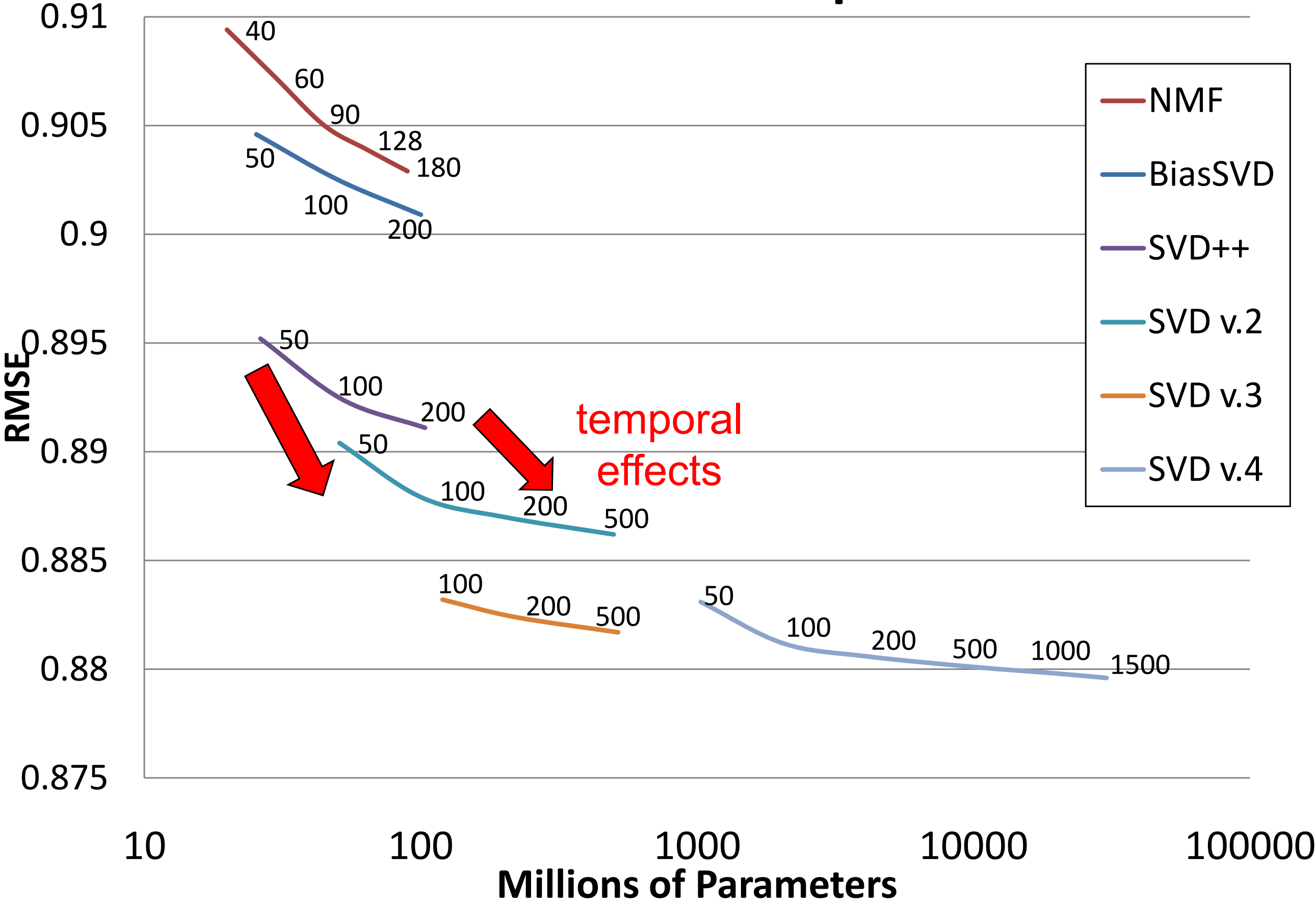
$$q_i \leftarrow q_i + \sum_u c_{ui} p_u$$

- Koren et al., 2008

$$q_i \leftarrow q_i + \sum_u c_{ui} x_j$$

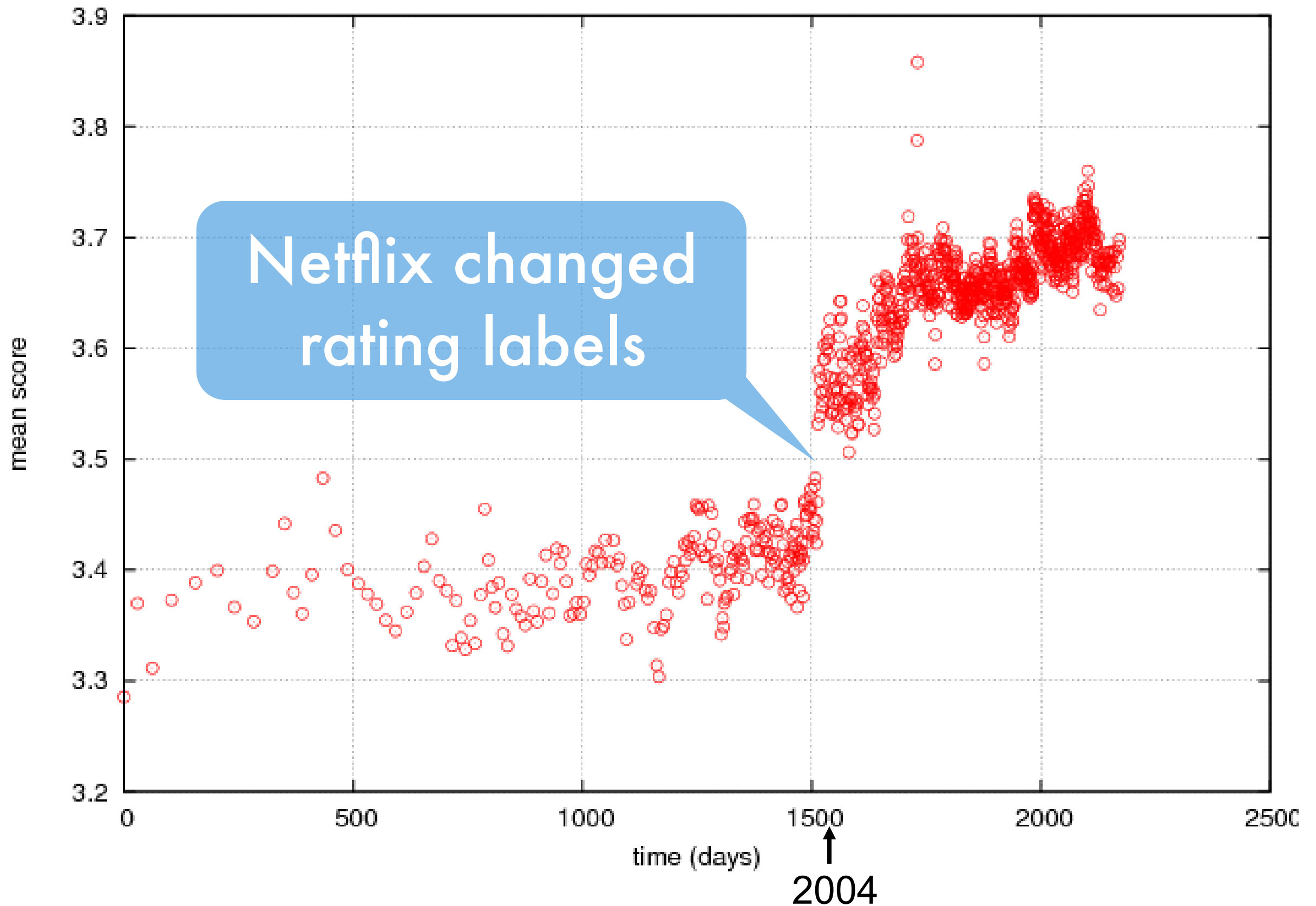
Overparametrize items by q and x

Factor models: Error vs. #parameters

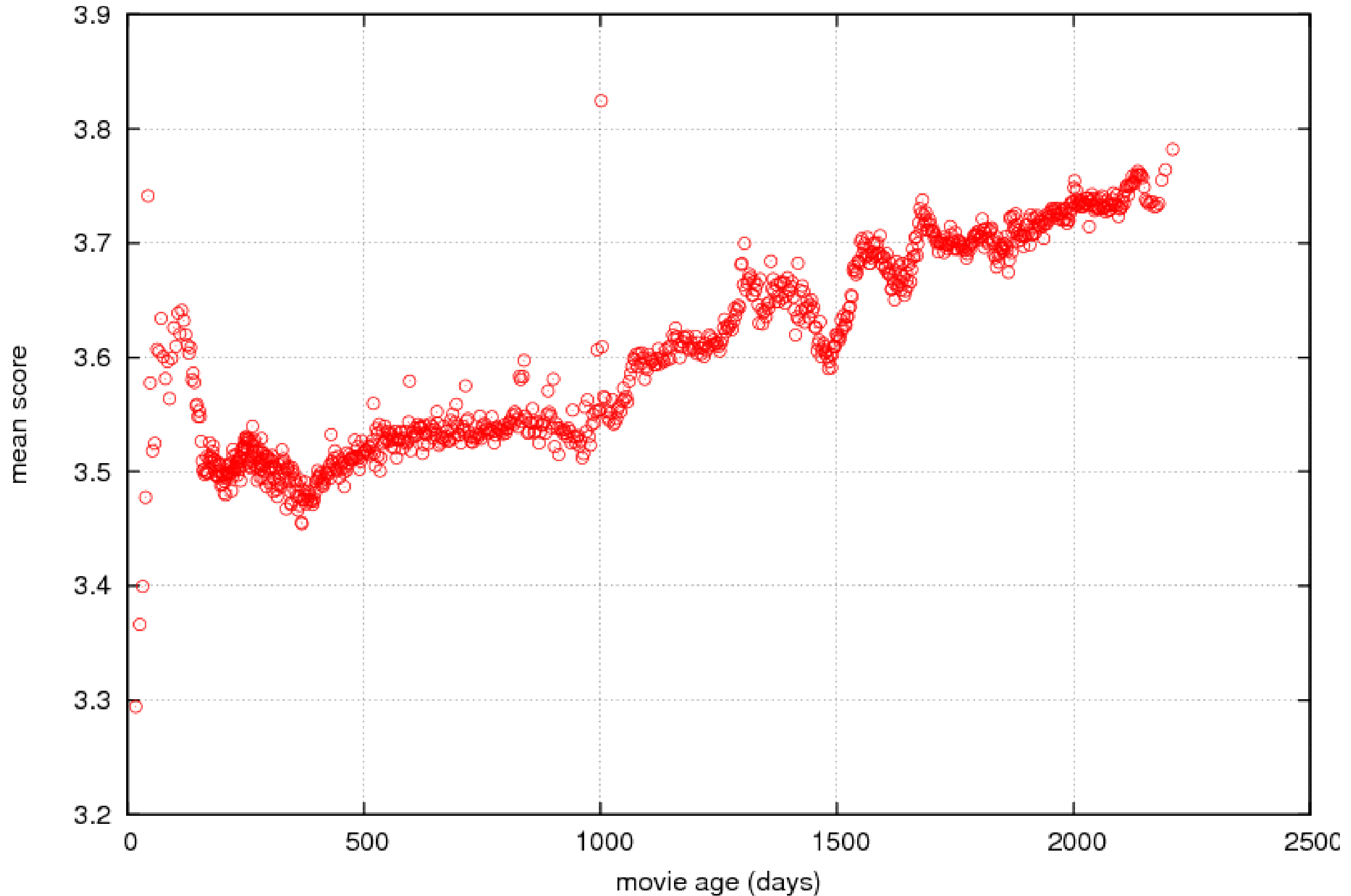


Something Happened in Early 2004...

Netflix ratings by date



Are movies getting better with time?



Sources of temporal change

- Items
 - Seasonal effects
(Christmas, Valentine's day, Holiday movies)
 - Public perception of movies (Oscar etc.)
- Users
 - Changed labeling of reviews
 - Anchoring (relative to previous movie)
 - Change of rater in household
 - Selection bias for time of viewing

Modeling temporal change

- Time-dependent bias
- Time-dependent user preferences

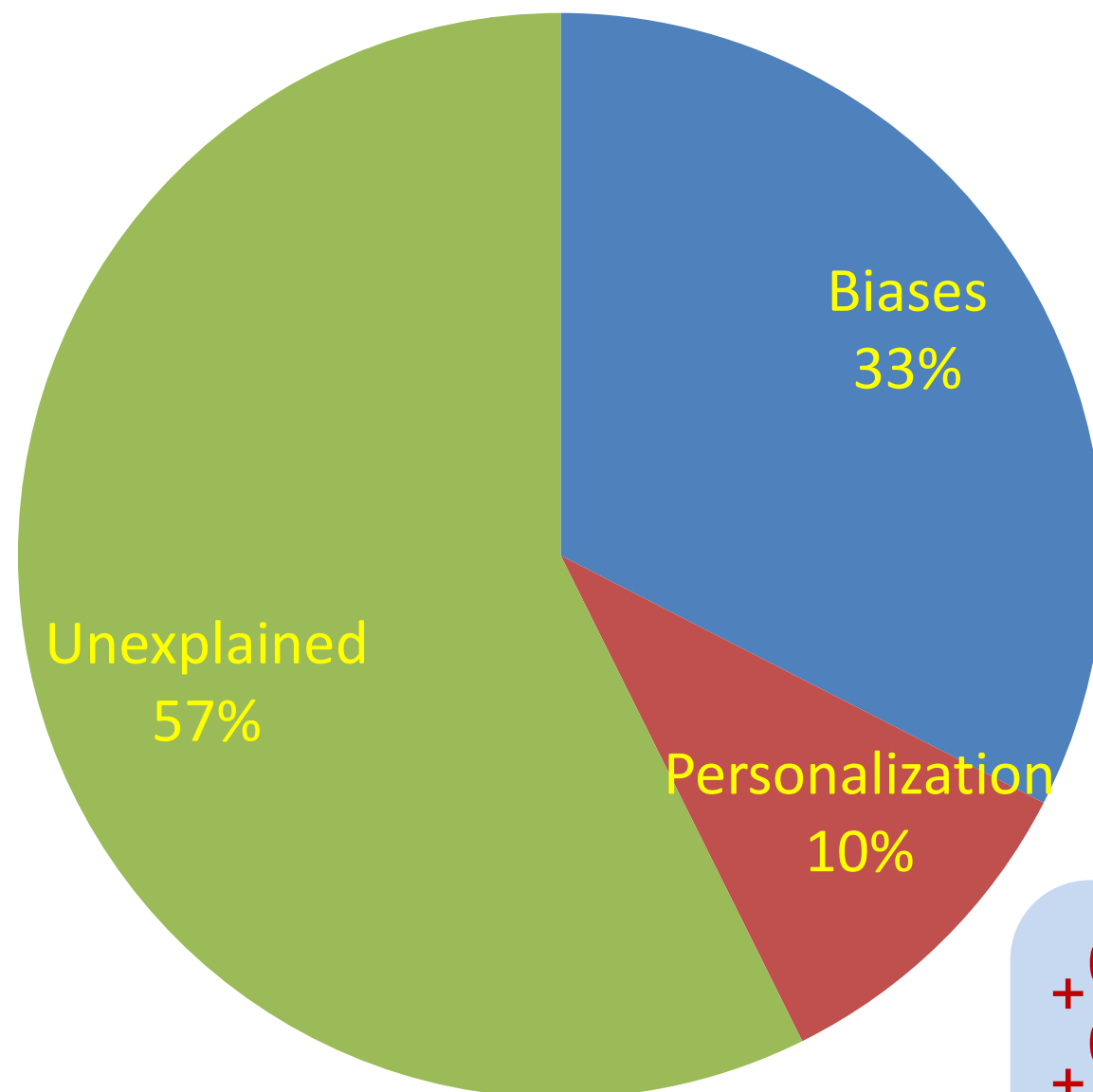
$$r_{ui}(t) = \mu + b_u(t) + b_i(t) + \langle q_i, p_u(t) \rangle$$

- Parameterize functions b and p
 - Slow changes for items
 - Fast sudden changes for users
 - Good parametrization is key

Koren et al., KDD 2009 (CF with temporal dynamics)

Bias matters

Sources of Variance in Netflix data

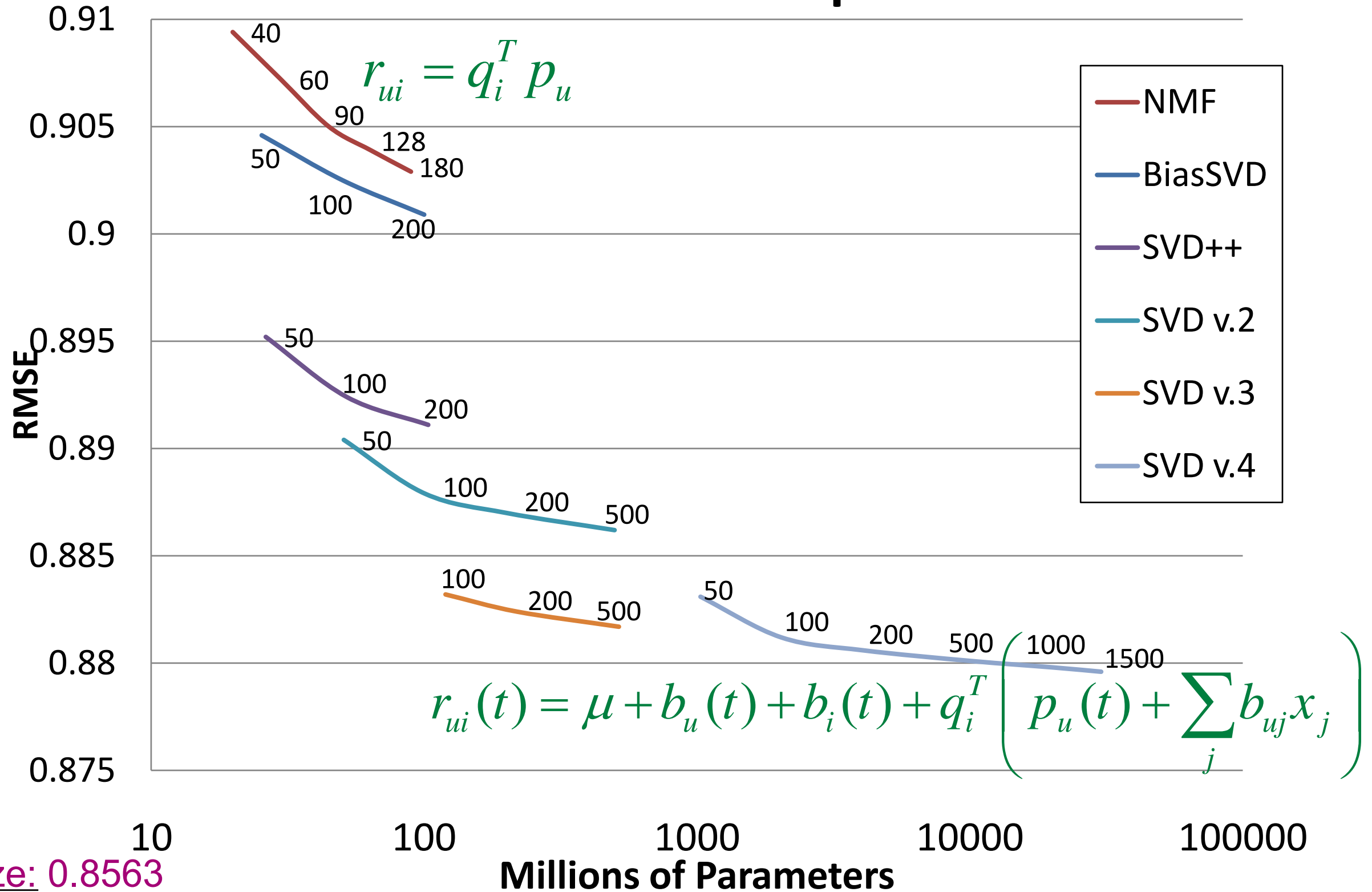


+0.732 (unexplained)
+0.415 (biases)
+0.129 (personalization)

1.276 (total variance)

Netflix: 0.9514

Factor models: Error vs. #parameters



More ideas

- Explain factorizations
- Cold start (new users)
- Different regularization for different parameter groups / different users
- Sharing of statistical strength between users
- Hierarchical matrix co-clustering / factorization
(write a paper on that)

3 Session Modeling

Motivation

User interaction

- Explicit search query
 - Search engine
 - Genre selection on movie site
- Implicit search query
 - News site
 - Priority inbox
 - Comments on article
 - Viewing specific movie (see also ...)
 - Sponsored search (advertising)

Space, users' time and attention are limited.



session modeling



Search



4 personal results. 40,000,000 other results (0.29 seconds)

Everything

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Mountain View, CA

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[Session W25: Focus Session: Modeling of Rare Events](#)

meetings.aps.org/Meeting/MAR12/SessionIndex2/?SessionEventID...

Mar 2, 2012 – Session W25: Focus **Session: Modeling** of Rare Events: Methods and Applications I. Show Abstracts. Sponsoring Units: DCOMP Chair: Weinan ...





session modeling



Search



4 personal results. 40,000,000 other results (0.29 seconds)

session? models?

Everything

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[\[PDF\] Sagan Workshop Hands-on Sessions \(Modeling\) At present ...](#)

nexsci.caltech.edu/workshop/2011/Tues_HandsOn.pdf

File Format: PDF/Adobe Acrobat - [Quick View](#)

Sagan Workshop Hands-on **Sessions (Modeling)**. At present, searching for planets with microlensing requires selecting a few targets out of hundreds discovered ...

[GIS and Agent-Based Modelling: AAG SPECIAL SESSION ...](#)

gisagents.blogspot.com/.../aag-special-session-modeling-geographic....

Sep 3, 2009 – AAG SPECIAL **SESSION: Modeling** Geographic Complexity. For those interested we are organizing a special session(s) at the forthcoming ...

[Technical Session 31: Modeling & Control for Renewable Energy](#)

www.apec-conf.org/2011/conference-at-a-glance/337?task=view

Title. Author(s). Fault Impacts on Solar Power Unit Reliability. Ali Bazzi, Katherine Kim, Brian Johnson, Philip Krein, Alejandro Do... Analysis of Boundary Control ...

[Plenary Session: Modeling Social Behavior with Aggregated ...](#)

video.mit.edu/.../plenary-session-modeling-social-behavior-with-aggr...

Ted Morgan, CEO, Skyhook Wireless; Kipp Jones, Chief Architect, Skyhook Wireless. 10/12/2009.

[\[PDF\] Case Based Session Modeling and Personalization in a Travel ...](#)

www.inf.unibz.it/~ricci/papers/07-arслан.pdf

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Knowledge intensive **session modeling** and mixed initiative recommendation are introduced in the CBR framework. The advantages of this approach, with ...

[Sessions modeling studio - YouTube](#)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=eD1KJHwLxVY

Mar 30, 2011 – Trainer Davey at Fitness America Weekend 2010 Las Vegasby TrainerDavey177 views; Studio **Modeling session** swimsuit **model** & ...

Did the user
SCROLL DOWN?



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Bad ideas ...

- Show items based on relevance



- Yes, this user likes Die Hard.
- But he likes other movies, too
- Show items only for majority of users
'apple' vs. 'Apple'



User response

Top Stories



USA TODAY

Feds to investigate death of Florida teen

USA TODAY - 59 minutes ago

ORLANDO, Florida (AP) - Following a day of protests calling for the arrest of a Florida neighborhood watch captain who fatally shot an unarmed black teen, the USJustice Department announced late Monday it will investigate the case.

[Feds to investigate fatal shooting of Fla. teen](#) Boston.com

[Black teen's slaying spur calls for man's arrest](#) San Francisco Chronicle

Your preferred source: [Federal agencies to open investigation into black teen's death](#) Washington Post

From Florida: [US Department of Justice, FBI and FDLE to probe Trayvon Martin killing](#) MiamiHerald.com

Opinion: [Trayvon Martin and a vigilante's deadly zeal](#) Pittsburgh Post Gazette

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user interest

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Justin **Bieber** plans on being very open about his love for girlfriend Selena Gomez - but he won't let her get in the way of his music. In an interview with...

[New York Daily News](#) · 11 hours ago[Justin Bieber gets bloody for 'Complex' magazine](#) [AZCentral.com](#)[Justin Bieber Takes A Few Punches For Complex](#) [MTV](#)[Bieber Tours - Home](#)

Fuel Surcharge - diesel fuel prices continue to climb, no increase for March ticket prices: Read More...

www.biebertourways.com[Bieber, California - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia](#)[History](#) · [Demographics](#) · [Politics](#)

Bieber (formerly, Chalk Ford) is a census-designated place (CDP) in Lassen County, California. It is located on the Pit River 55 miles (89 km) north-northwest of ...

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bieber,_California[Bieber by Adam - Bing Music](#)**Bieber** 3:05Album: [Bieber - Single](#)

hover on
link



PAGE SECTIONS

1. [History](#)

The settlement sprang up at the F 1877. [3] The first post office at

2. [Demographics](#)

The 2010 United States Census [More on this page] had a population of 31

3. [Politics](#)

In the state legislature Bieber is l 1st Senate District, represented b

4. [References](#)

Search within wikipedia.org

Search

[Cached page](#)

Response is conditioned on available options

- User search for 'chocolate'



user picks this

- What the user really would have wanted
- User can only pick from available items
- Preferences are often relative



Models

Independent click model



- Each object has click probability
- Object is viewed independently
 - Used in computational advertising (with some position correction)
 - Horribly wrong assumption
 - OK if probability is very small (OK in ads)

$$p(x|s) = \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{1 + e^{-x_i s_i}}$$

Logistic click model



no
click

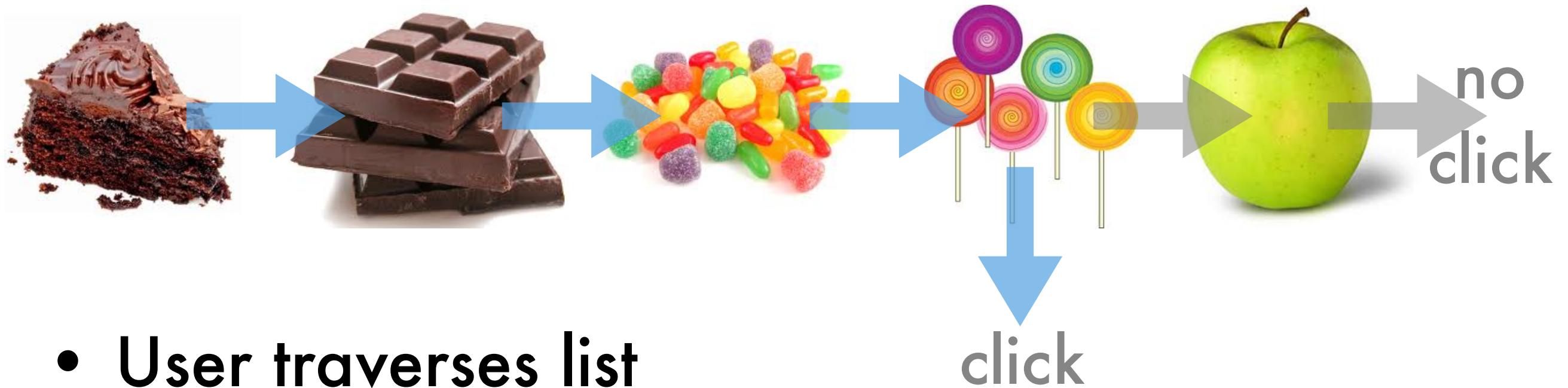
- User picks at most one object
- Exponential family model for click

$$p(x|s) = \frac{e^{s_x}}{e^{s_0} + \sum_{x'} e^{s_{x'}}} = \exp(s_x - g(s))$$

no click

- Ignores order of objects
- Assumes that the user looks at all before taking action

Sequential click model

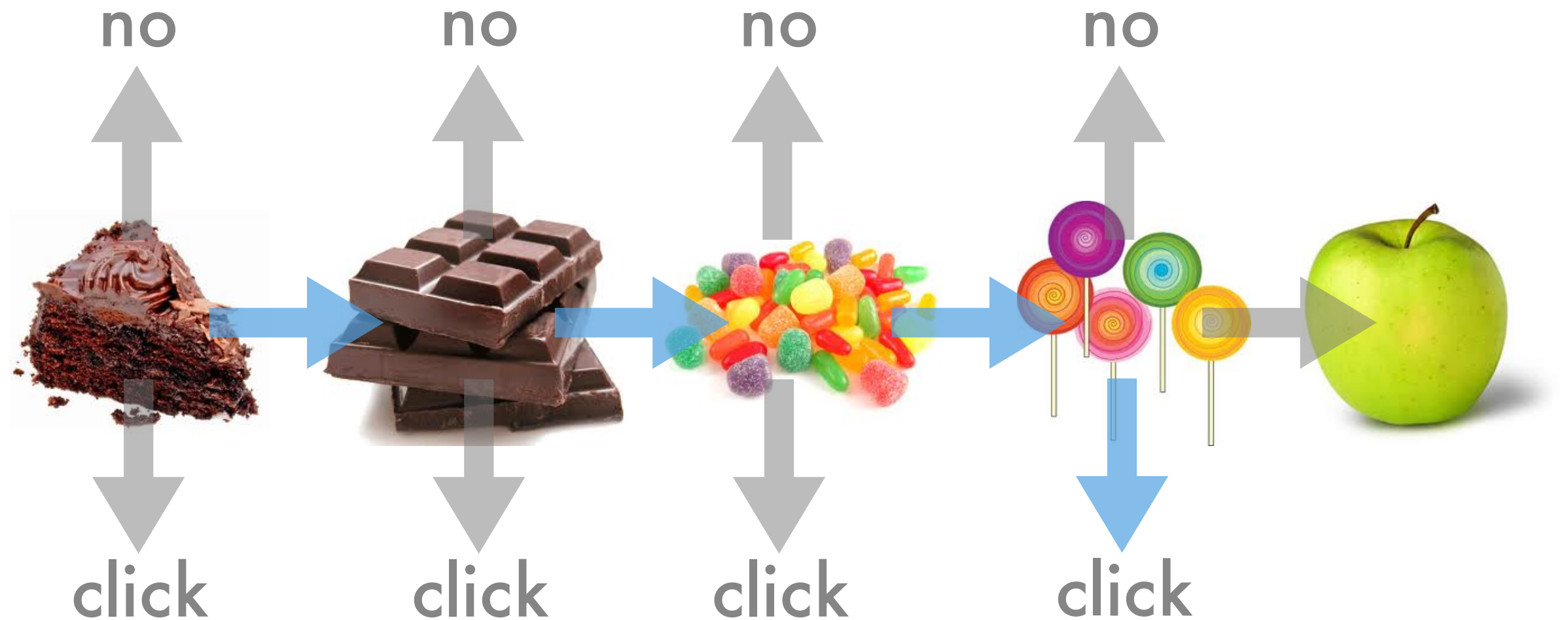


- User traverses list
- At each position some probability of clicking
- When user reaches end of the list he aborts

$$p(x = j | s) = \left[\prod_{i=1}^{j-1} \frac{1}{1 + e^{s_i}} \right] \frac{1}{1 + e^{-s_j}}$$

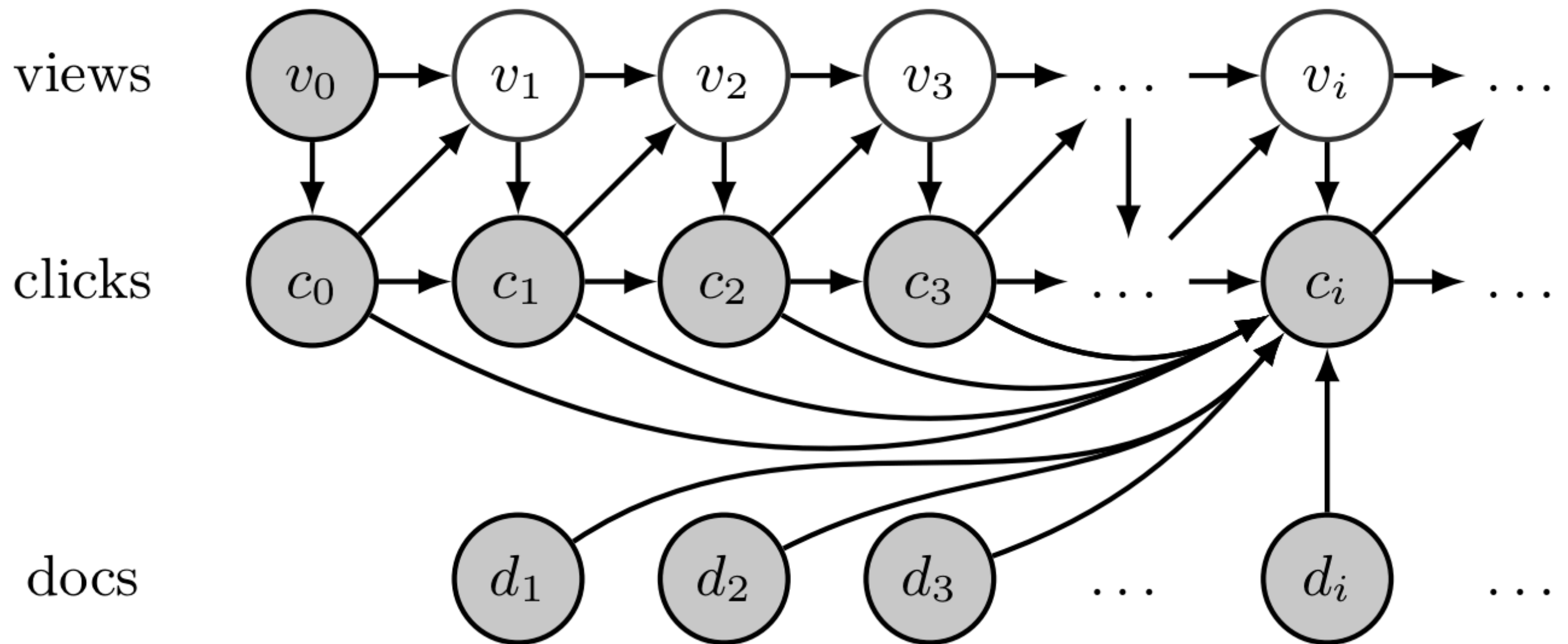
- This assumes that a patient user viewed all items

Skip click model



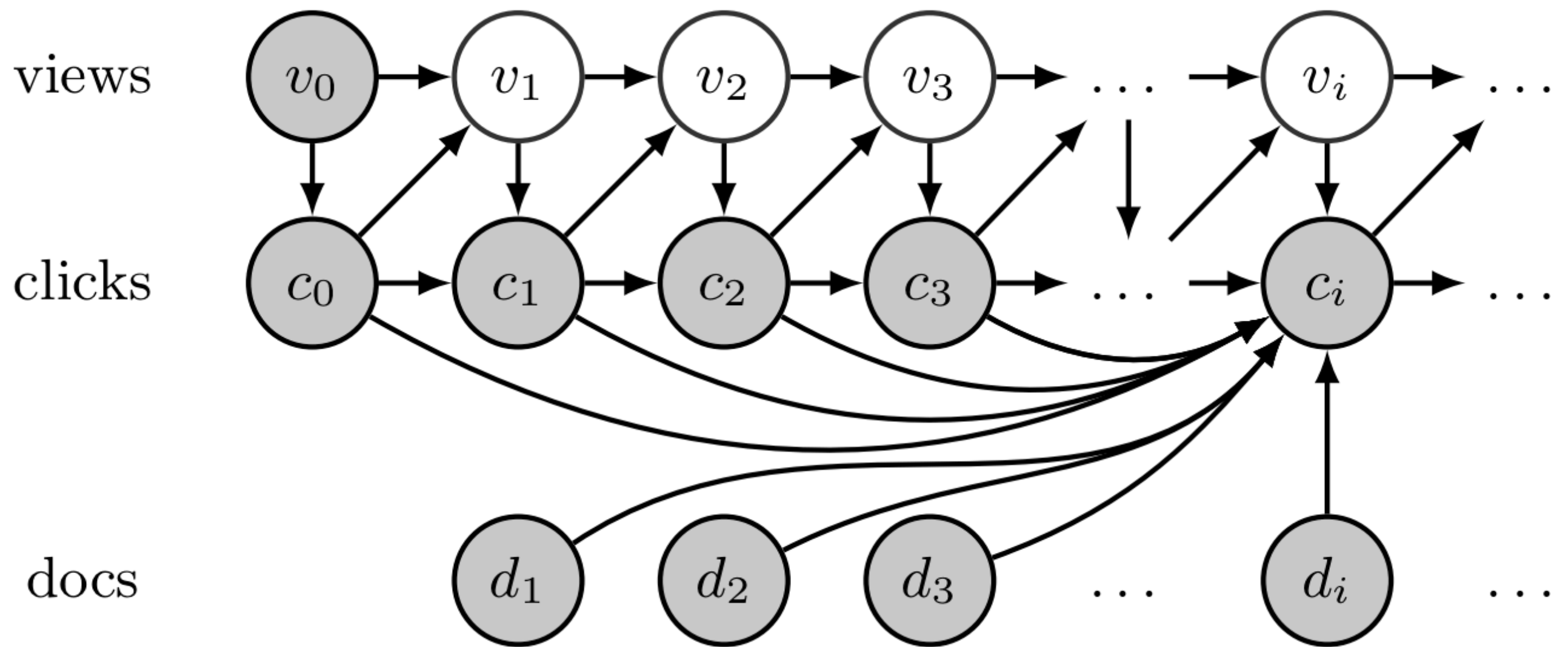
- User traverses list
- At each position some probability of clicking
- At each position the user may abandon the process
- This assumes that user traverses list sequentially

Context skip click model



- User traverses list
- At each position some probability of clicking which depends on previous content
- At each position the user may abandon the process
- User may click more than once

Context skip click model



$$p(v, c|d) = \prod_{i=1}^n \left[p(v_i | v_{i-1}, c_{i-1}) p(c_i | v_i, c^{i-1}, d^i) \right]$$

Context skip click model

- Viewing probability

$$p(v_i = 1 | v_{i-1} = 0) = 0$$

user is gone

$$p(v_i = 1 | v_{i-1} = 1, c_{i-1} = 0) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-\alpha_i}}$$

$$p(v_i = 1 | v_{i-1} = 1, c_{i-1} = 1) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-\beta_i}}$$

user returns

- Click probability (only if viewed)

$$p(c_i = 1 | v_i = 1, c^{i-1}, d^i) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-f(|c^{i-1}|, d_i, d^{i-1})}}$$

prior context

$$p(v, c | d) = \prod_{i=1}^n \left[p(v_i | v_{i-1}, c_{i-1}) p(c_i | v_i, c^{i-1}, d^i) \right]$$

Incremental gains score

$$\begin{aligned} & f(|c^{i-1}|, d_i, d^{i-1}) \\ & := \rho(S, d^i | a, b) - \rho(S, d^{i-1} | a, b) + \gamma_{|c^{i-1}|} + \delta_i \\ & := \sum_{s \in S} \sum_j [s]_j \left(a_j \sum_{d \in d^i} [d]_j + b_j \left(\rho_j(d^i) - \rho_j(d^{i-1}) \right) \right) \\ & \quad + \gamma_{|c^{i-1}|} + \delta_i \end{aligned}$$

- Submodular gain per additional document
- Relevance score per document
- Coverage over different aspects
- Position dependent score
- Score dependent on number of previous clicks

Optimization

- Latent variables

$$p(v, c|d) = \prod_{i=1}^n \left[p(v_i|v_{i-1}, c_{i-1}) p(c_i|v_i, c^{i-1}, d^i) \right]$$

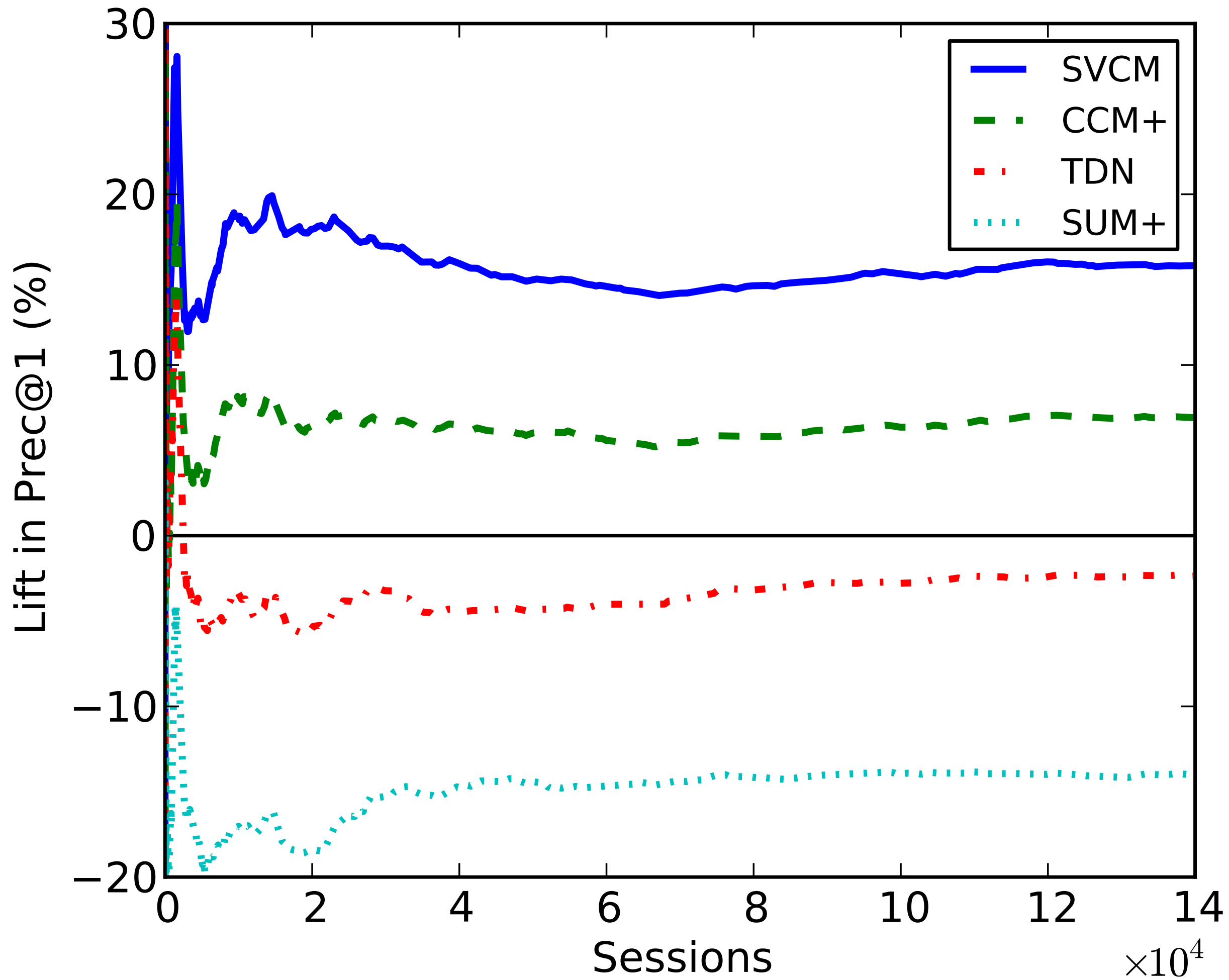
We don't know v whether user viewed result

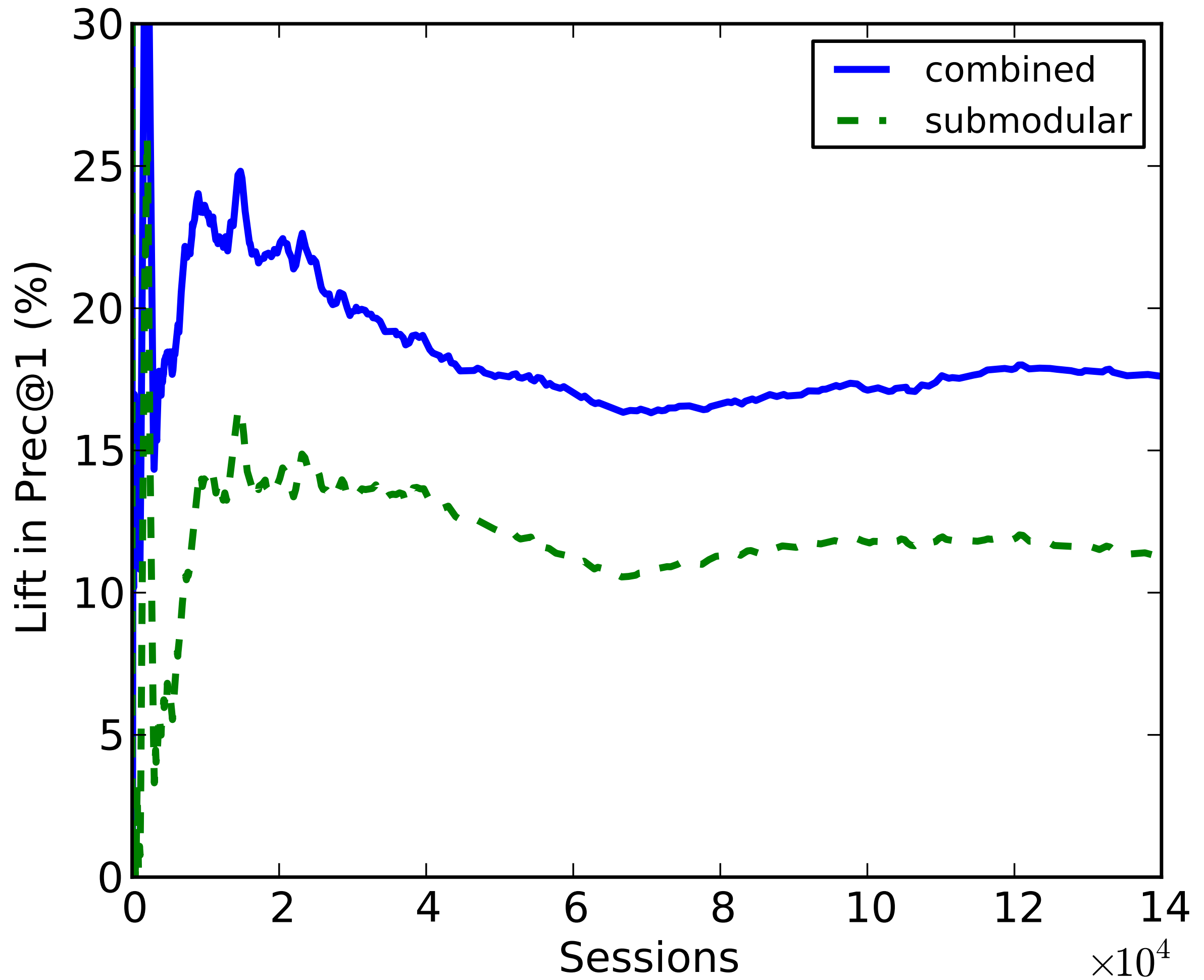
- Use variational inference to integrate out v
(more next week in graphical models)

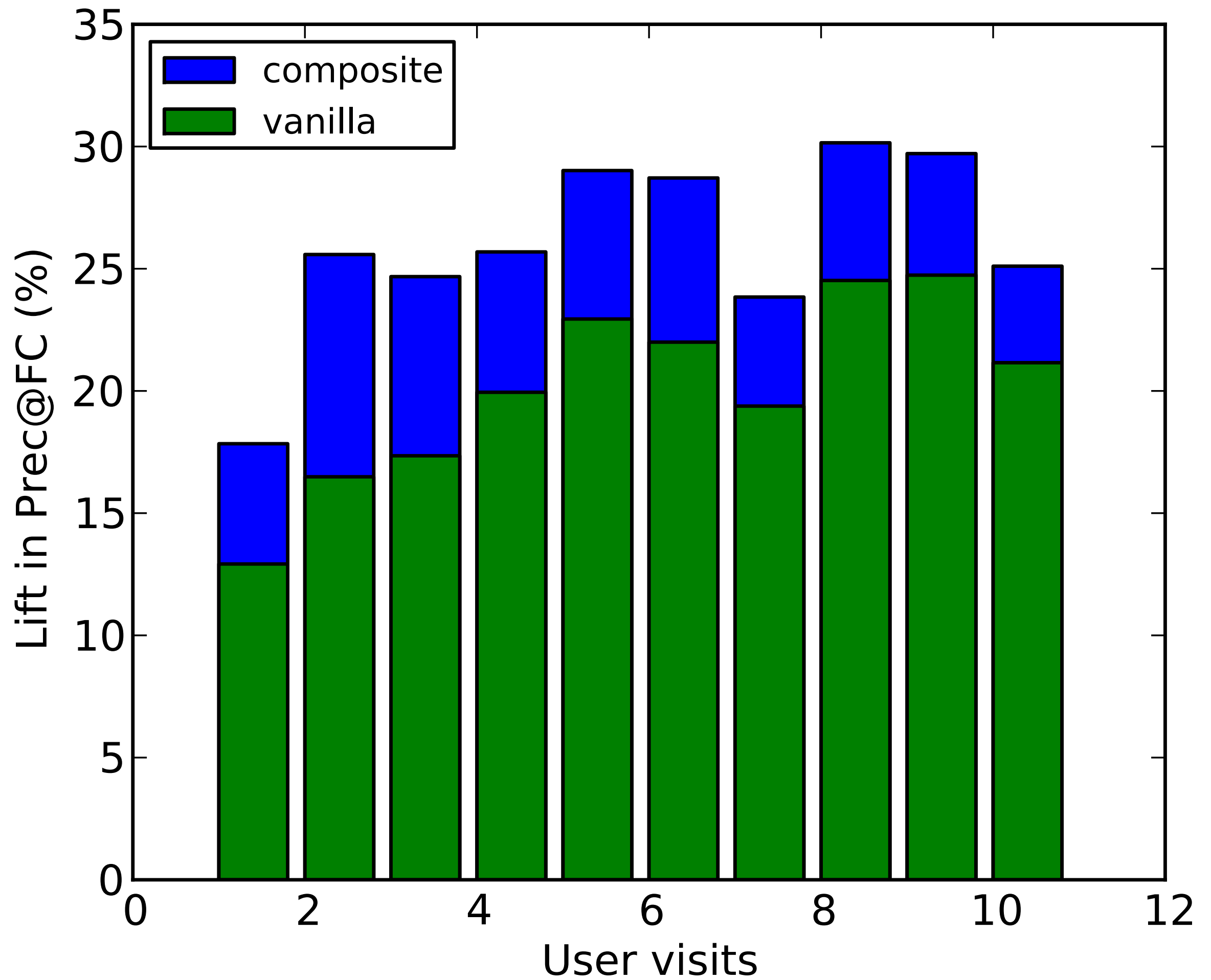
$$\begin{aligned} -\log p(c) &\leq -\log p(c) + D(q(v)||p(v|c)) \\ &= \mathbf{E}_{v \sim q(v)} [-\log p(c) + \log q(v) - \log p(v|c)] \\ &= \mathbf{E}_{v \sim q(v)} [-\log p(c, v)] - H(q(v)). \end{aligned}$$

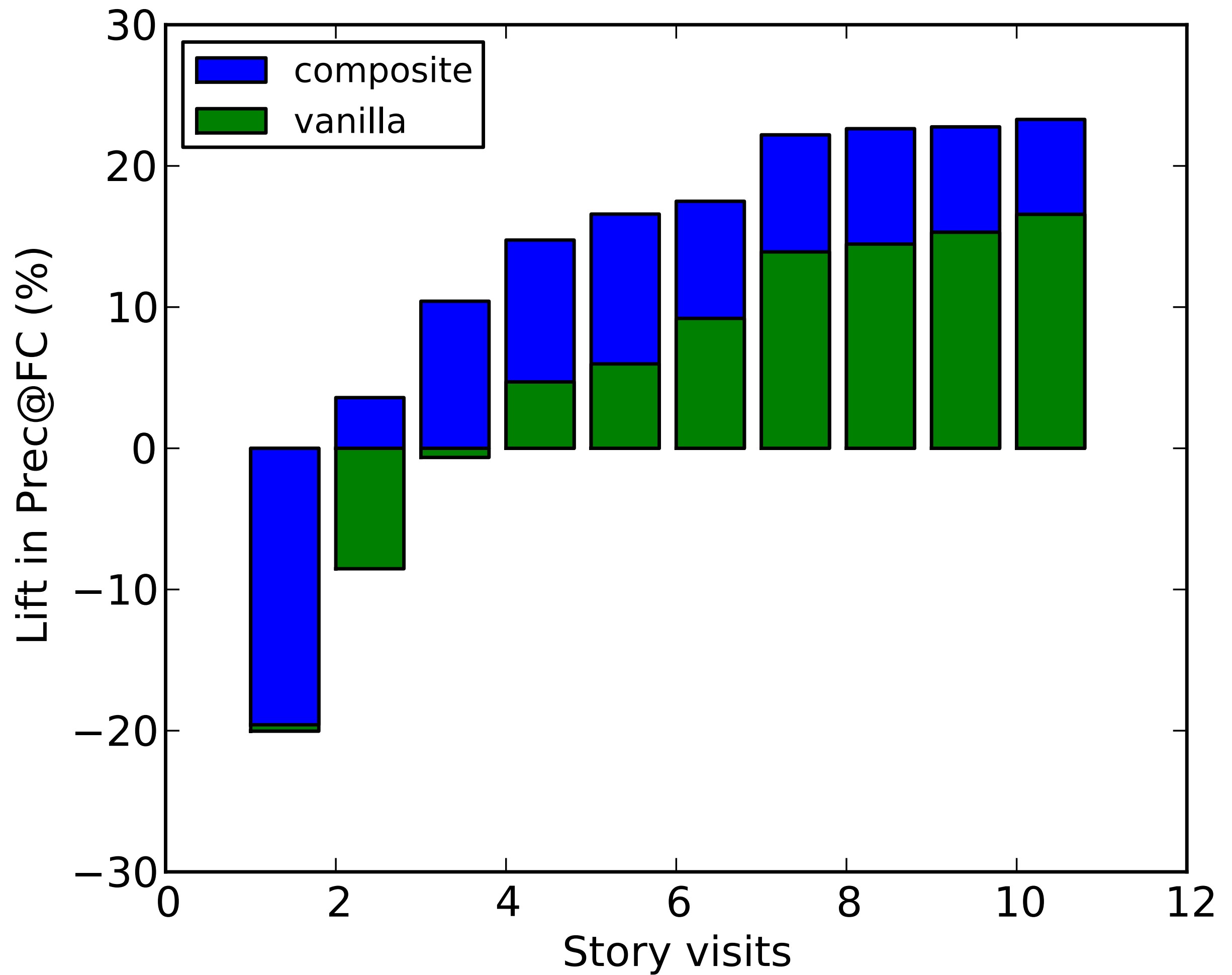
Optimization

- Compute latent viewing probability given clicks
 - Easy since we only have one transition from views to no views (no DP needed)
 - Expected log-likelihood under viewing model
 - Convex expected log-likelihood
- Stochastic gradient descent
- Parametrization uses personalization, too (user, position, viewport, browser)







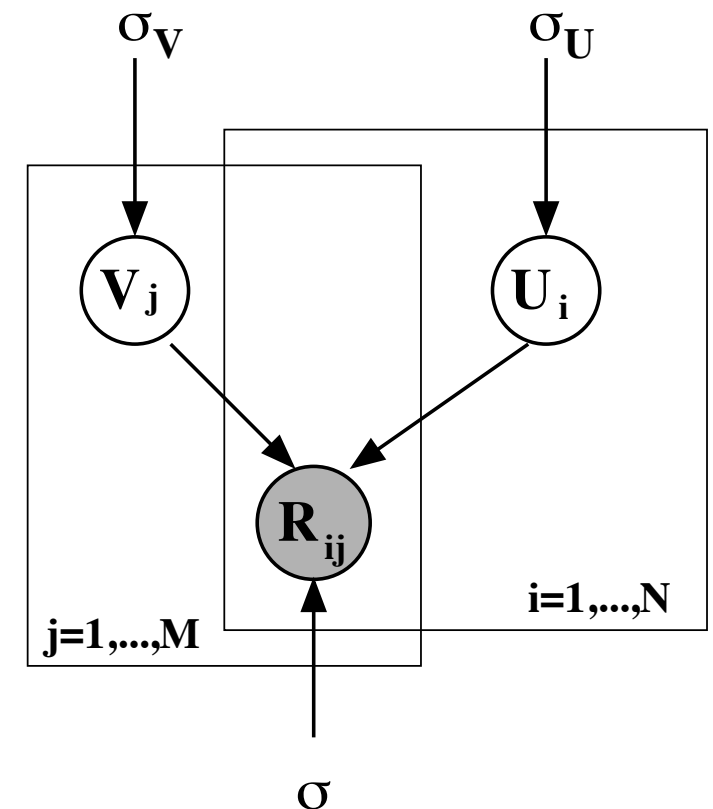


4 Feature Representation

Bayesian Probabilistic Matrix Factorization

Statistical Model

- Aldous-Hoover factorization
- normal distribution for user and item attributes
- rating given by inner product
- Ratings



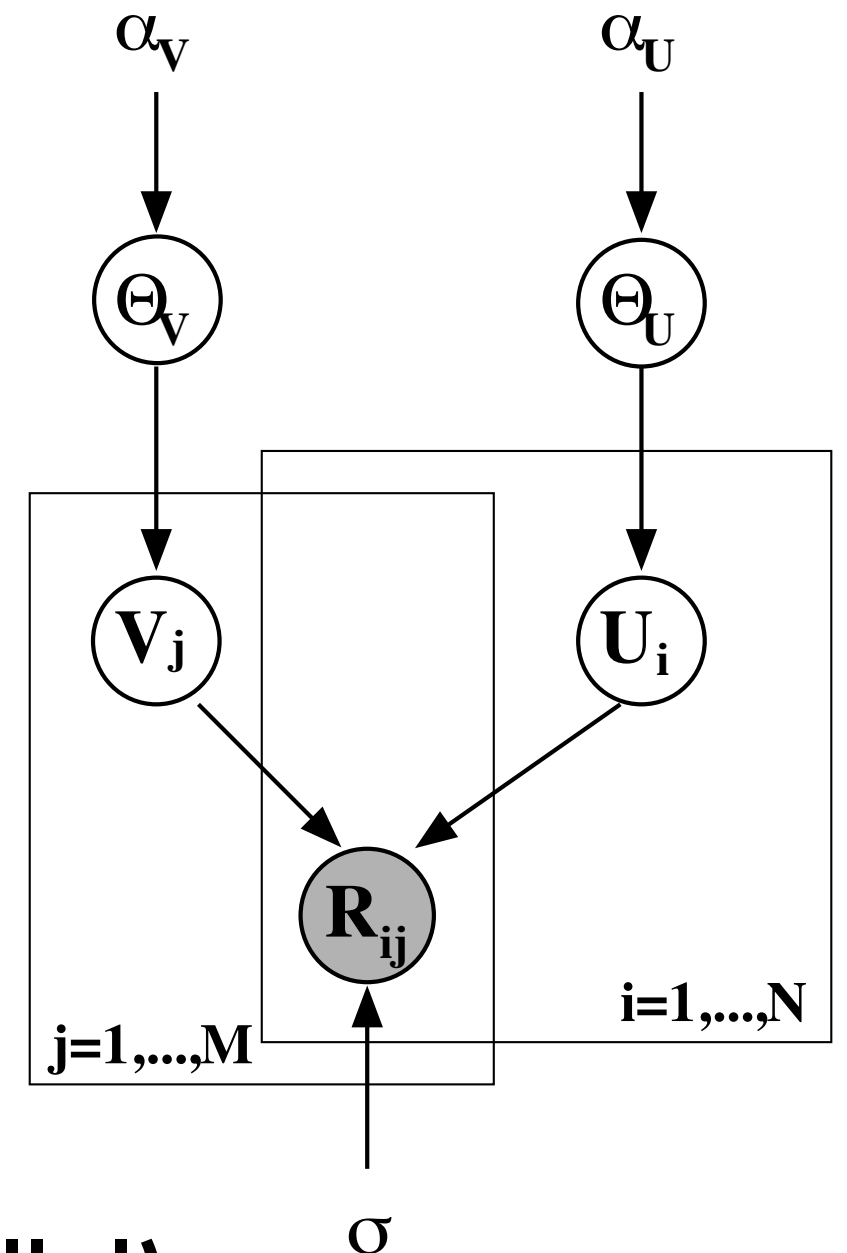
$$p(R_{ij}|U_i, V_j, \sigma^2) = \mathcal{N}(R_{ij}|U_i^T V_j, \sigma^2)$$

- Latent factors

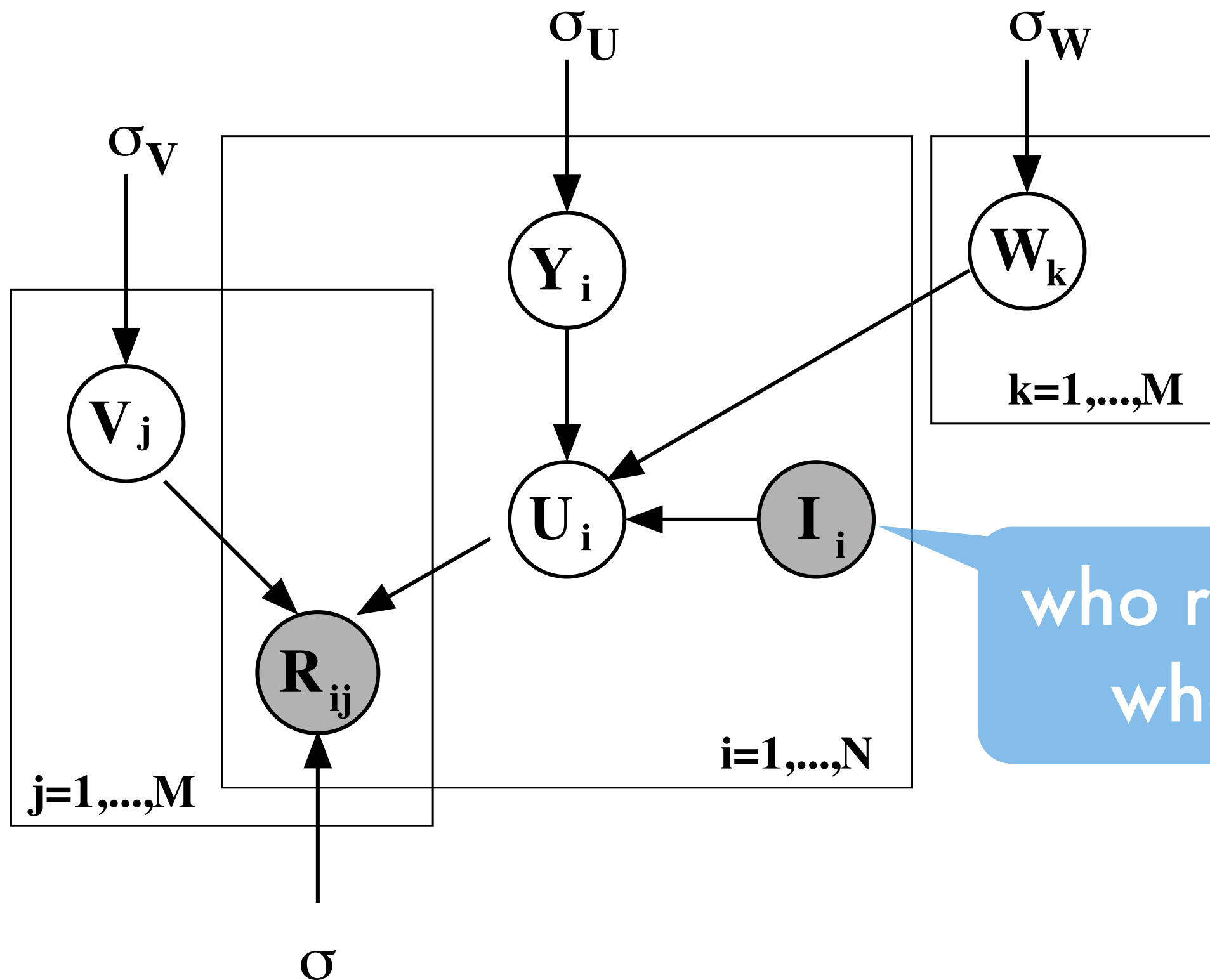
$$p(U|\sigma_U^2) = \prod_{i=1}^N \mathcal{N}(U_i|0, \sigma_U^2 \mathbf{I}), \quad p(V|\sigma_V^2) = \prod_{j=1}^M \mathcal{N}(V_j|0, \sigma_V^2 \mathbf{I})$$

Details

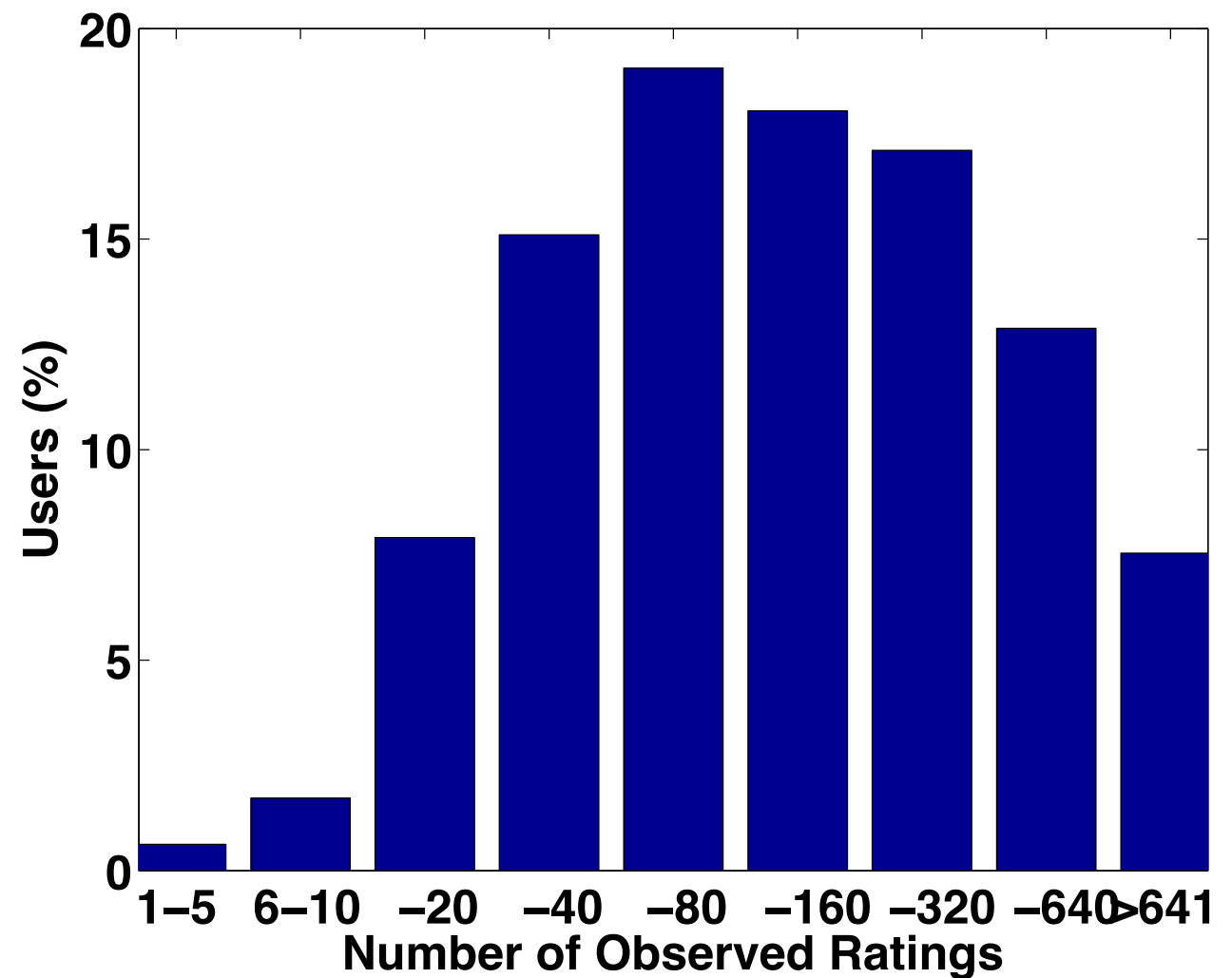
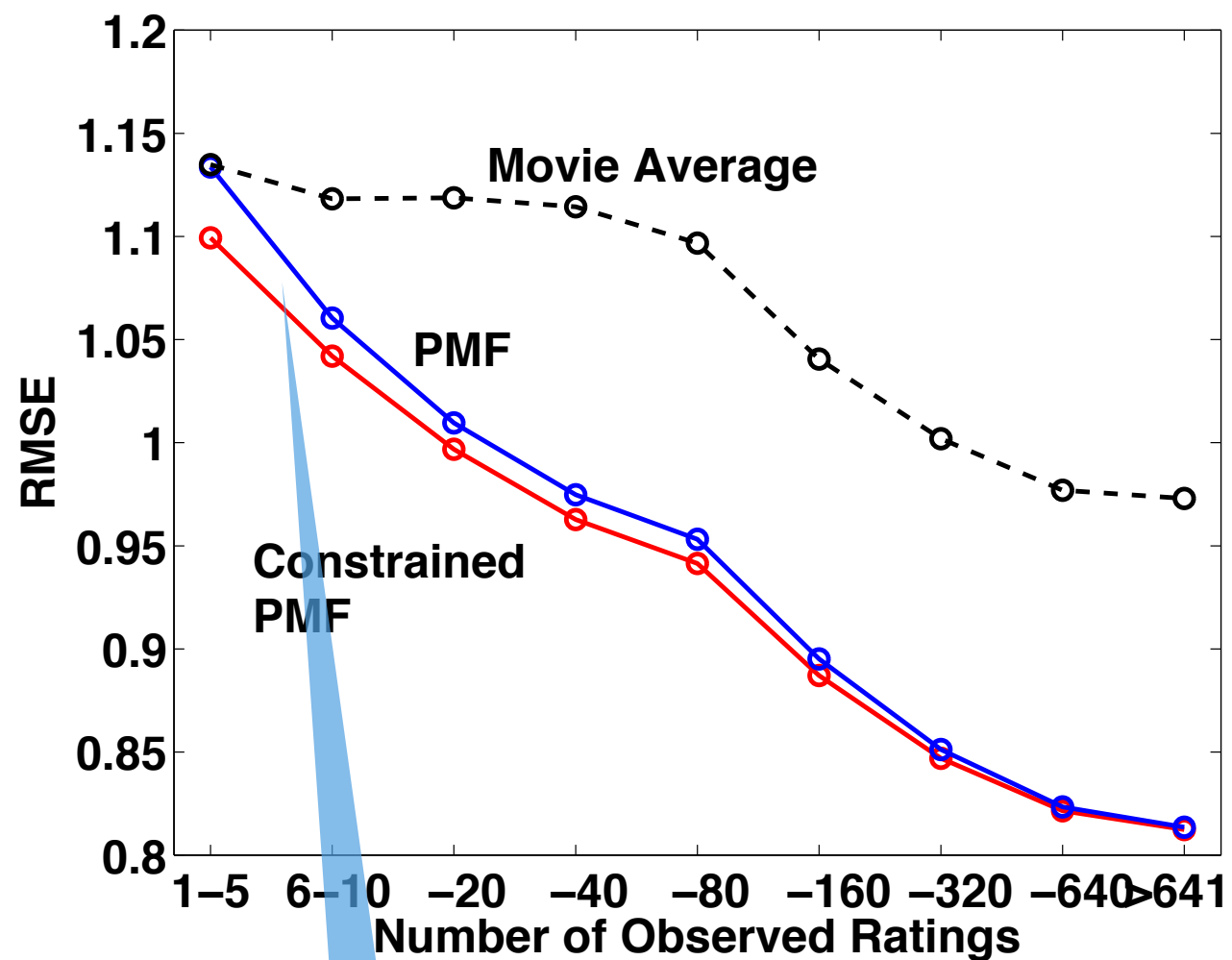
- Priors on all factors
- Wishart prior is conjugate to Gaussian, hence use it
- Allows us to adapt the variance automatically
- Inference (Gibbs sampler)
 - Sample user factors (parallel)
 - Sample movie factors (parallel)
 - Sample hyperparameters (parallel)



Making it fancier (constrained BPMF)



Results (Mnih & Salakthudtinov)



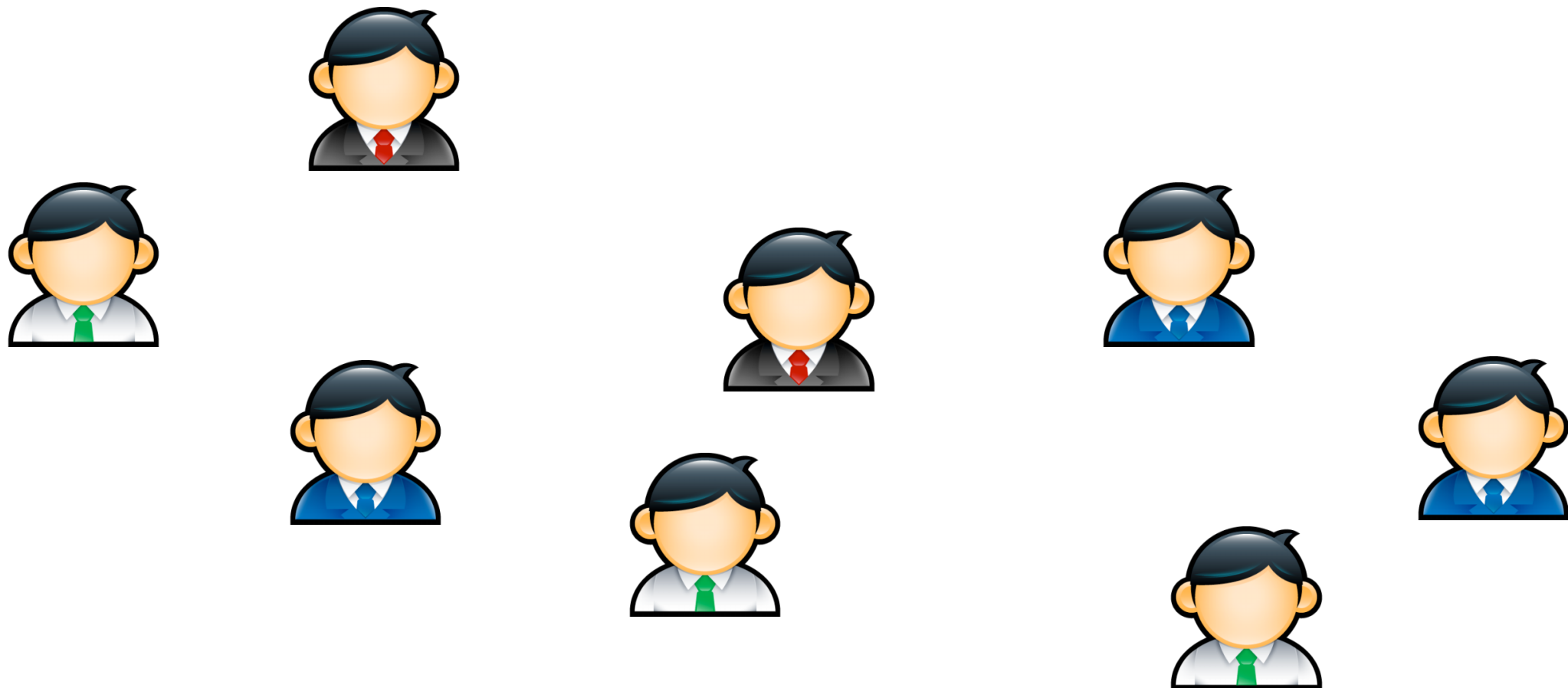
helps for
infrequent users

Multiple Sources

Social Network Data

Data: users, connections, features

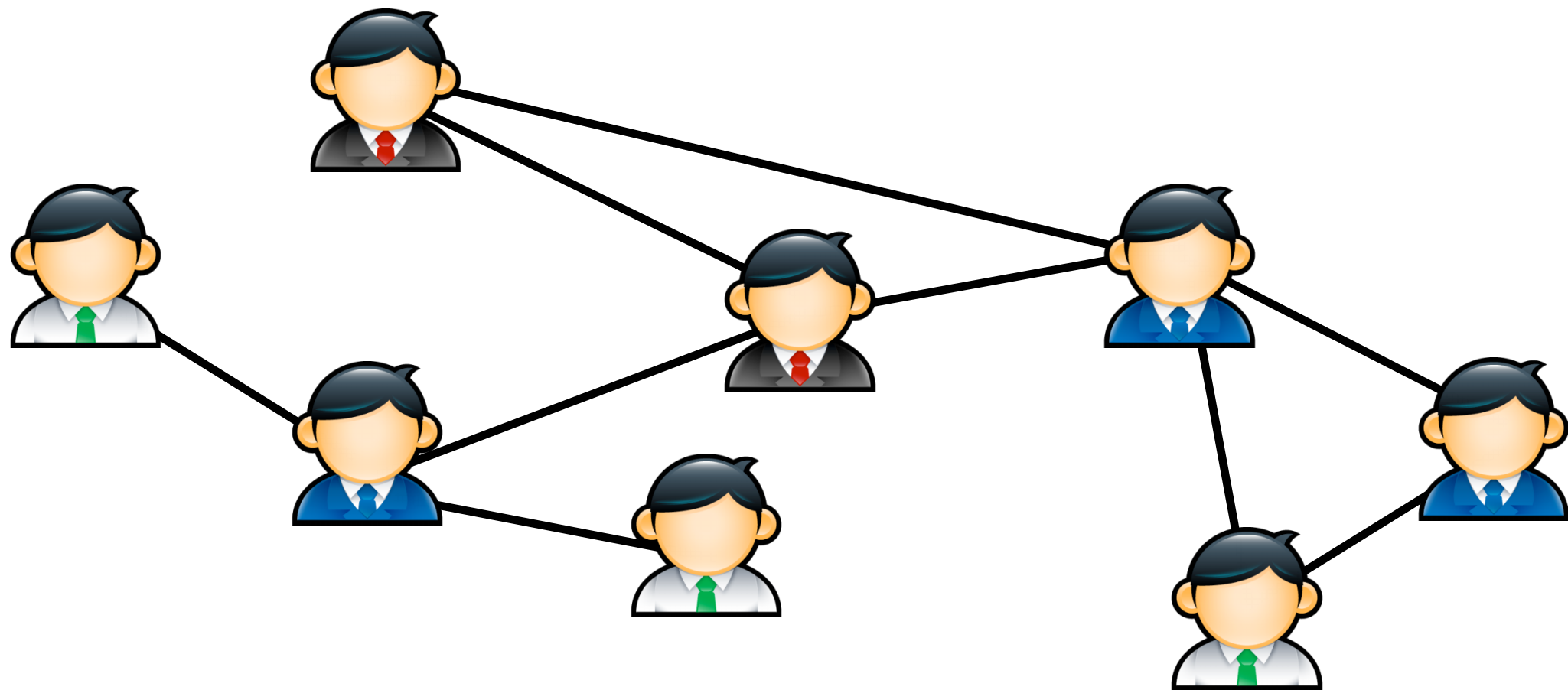
Goal: suggest connections



Social Network Data

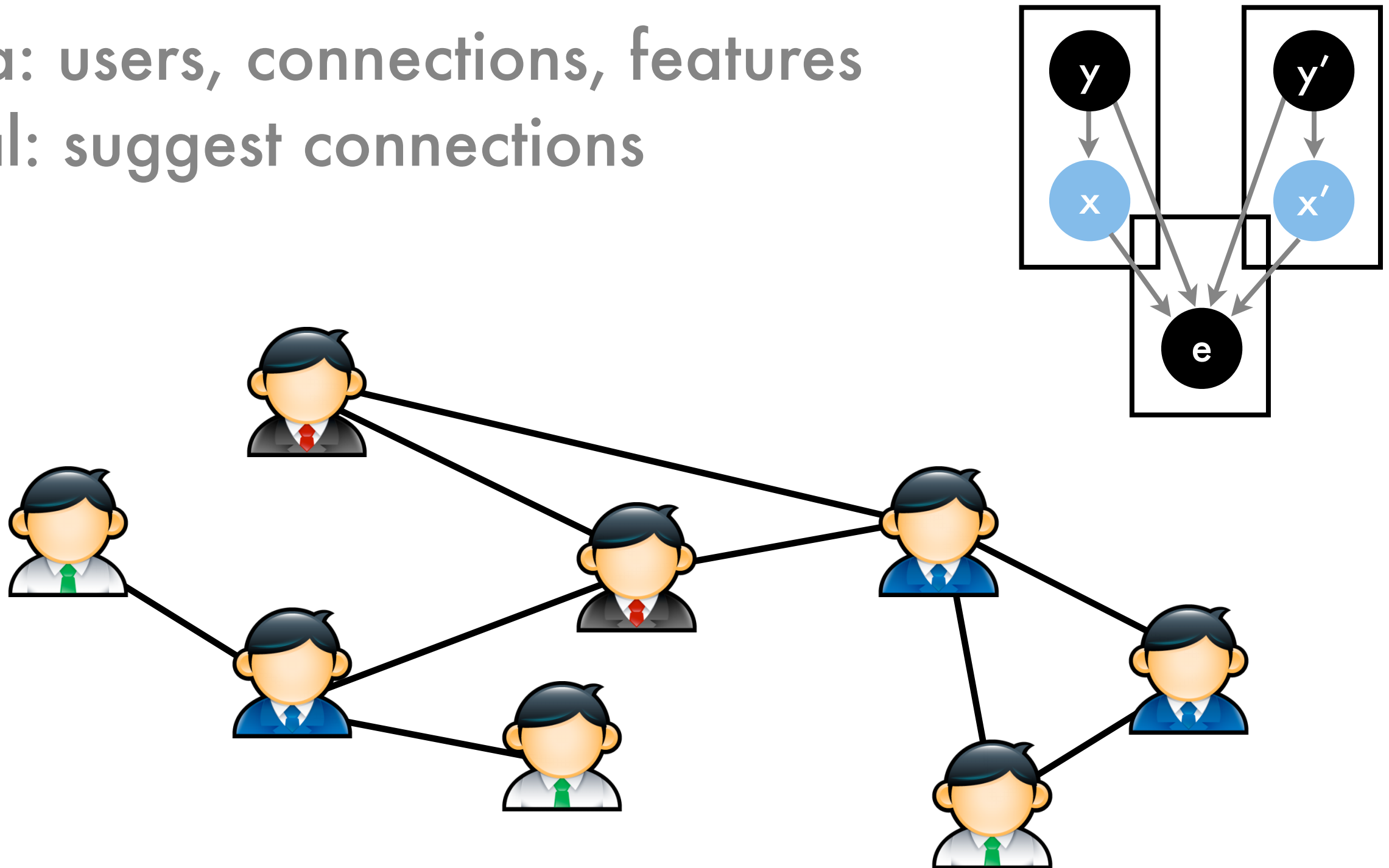
Data: users, connections, features

Goal: suggest connections



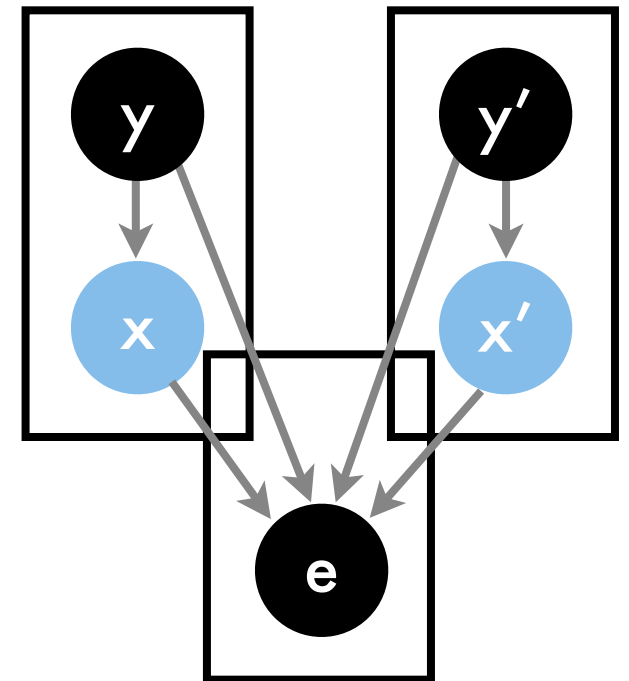
Social Network Data

Data: users, connections, features
Goal: suggest connections



Social Network Data

Data: users, connections, features
Goal: model/suggest connections



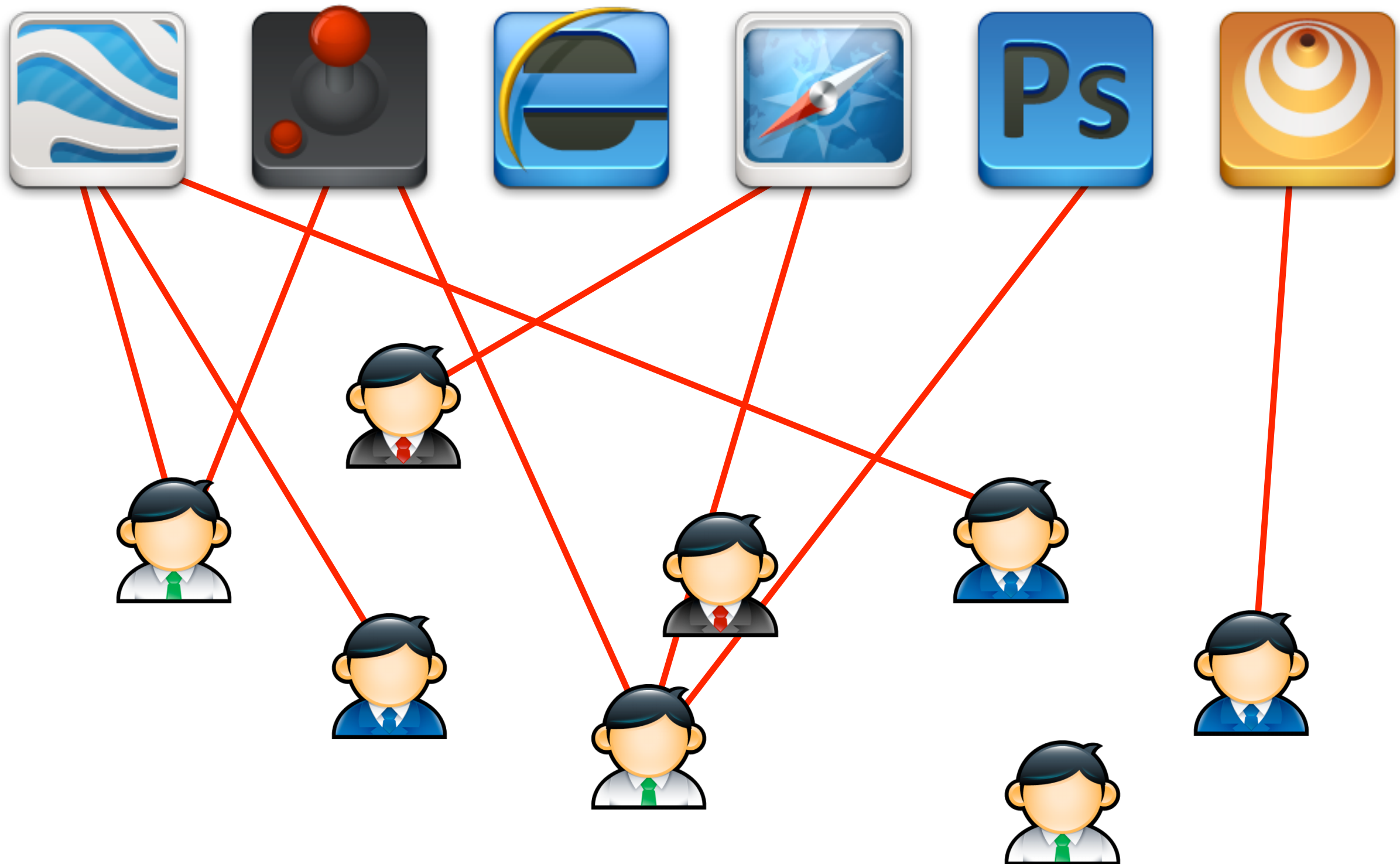
$$p(x, y, e) = \prod_{i \in \text{Users}} p(y_i) p(x_i | y_i) \prod_{i, j \in \text{Users}} p(e_{ij} | x_i, y_i, x_j, y_j)$$

Direct application of the Aldous-Hoover theorem.
Edges are conditionally independent.

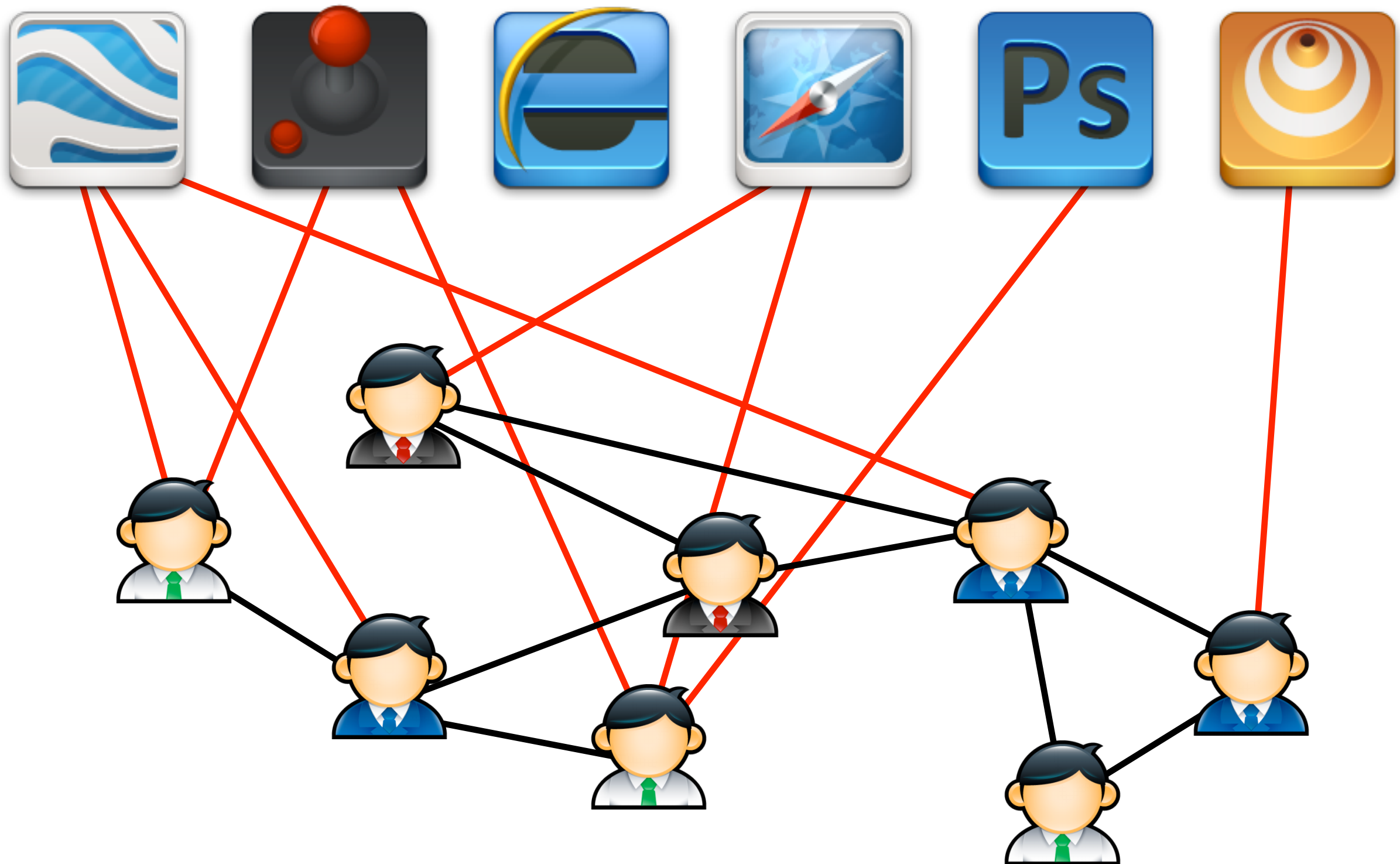
Applications



Applications

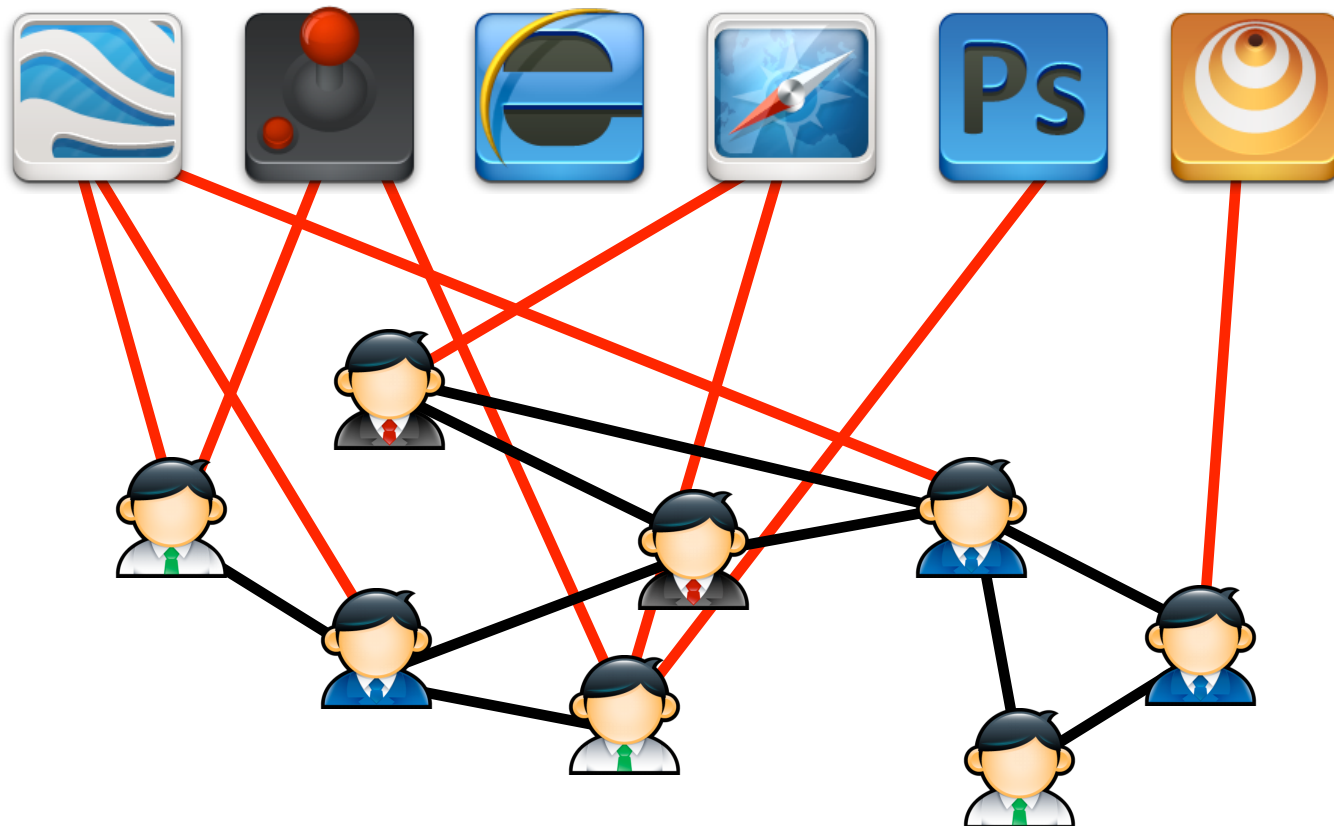


Applications



Applications

social network = friendship + interests

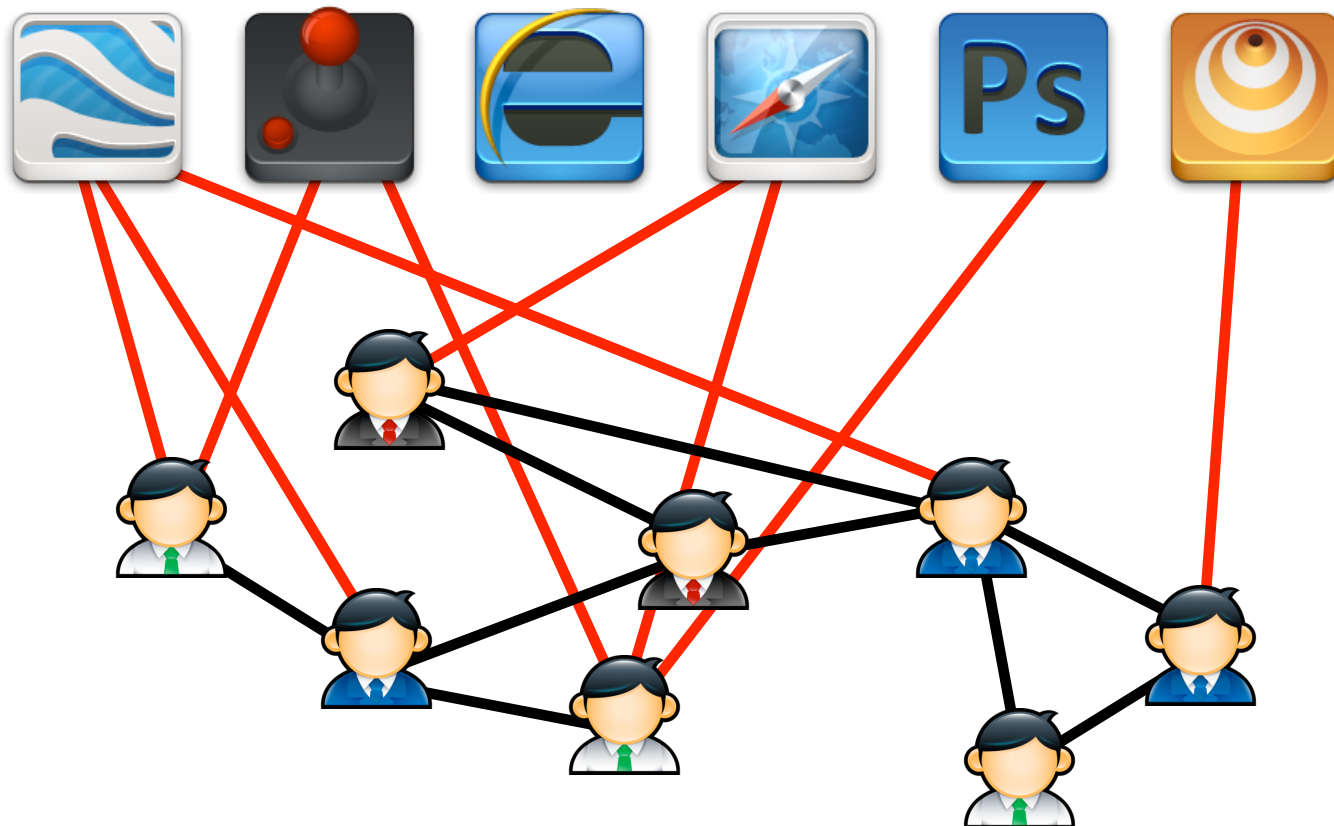


Applications

social network = friendship + interests

recommend users based
on friendship & interests

recommend apps based
on friendship & interests



Social Recommendation

recommend users based
on friendship & interests

- **boost traffic**
- **make the user graph more dense**
- **increase user population**
- **stickiness**

recommend apps based
on friendship & interests

- **boost traffic**
- **increased revenue**
- **increased user participation**
- **make app graph more dense**

... usually addressed by separate tools ...

Homophily

recommend users based
on friendship & interests

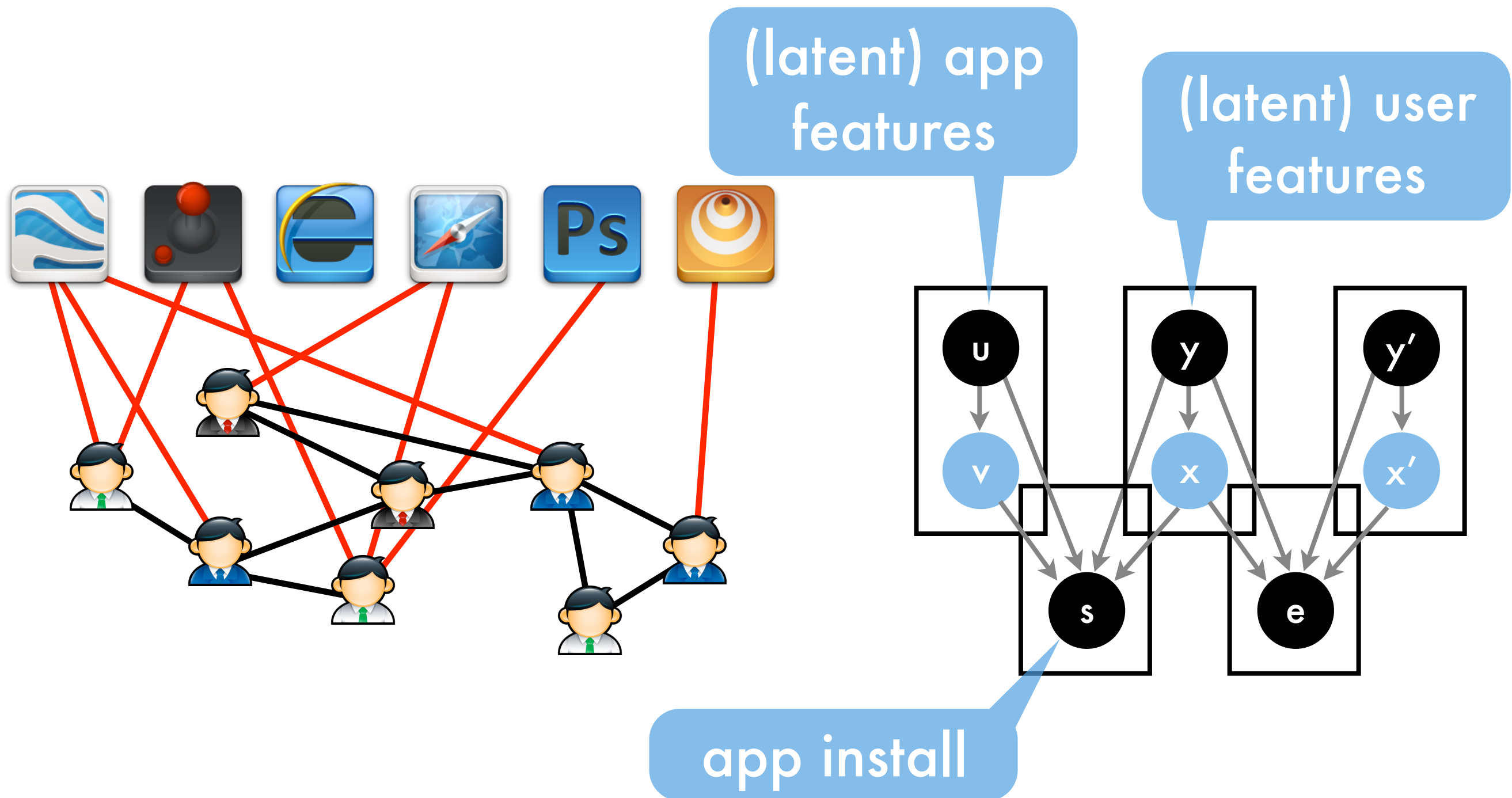
recommend apps based
on friendship & interests

- **users with similar interests are more likely to connect**

- **friends install similar applications**

Highly correlated. Estimate both jointly

Model



Model

- **Social interaction**

$$x_i \sim p(x|y_i)$$

$$x_j \sim p(x|y_j)$$

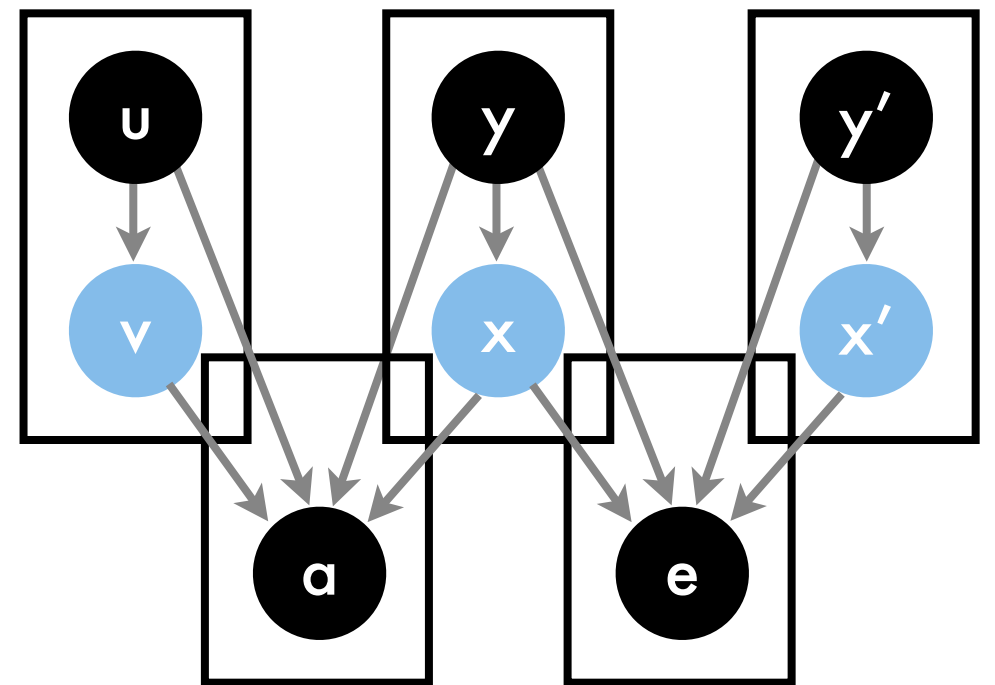
$$e_{ij} \sim p(e|x_i, y_i, x_j, y_j, \Phi)$$

- **App install**

$$x_i \sim p(x|y_i)$$

$$v_j \sim p(v|u_j)$$

$$a_{ij} \sim p(a|x_i, y_i, u_j, v_j, \Phi)$$



Model

- **Social interaction**

$$x_i \sim p(x|y_i)$$

$$x_j \sim p(x|y_j)$$

$$e_{ij} \sim p(e|x_i, y_i, x_j, y_j, \Phi)$$

cold start

latent features

$$x_i = Ay_i + \epsilon_i$$

$$v_j = Bu_j + \tilde{\epsilon}_j$$

- **App install**

$$x_i \sim p(x|y_i)$$

$$v_j \sim p(v|u_j)$$

$$a_{ij} \sim p(a|x_i, y_i, u_j, v_j, \Phi)$$

$$e_{ij} \sim p(e|x_i^\top x_j + y_i^\top W y_j)$$

$$a_{ij} \sim p(a|x_i^\top v_j + y_i^\top M u_j)$$

bilinear features

Optimization Problem


$$\text{minimize} \quad \lambda_e \sum_{(i,j)} l(e_{ij}, x_i^\top x_j + y_i^\top W y_j) +$$


Optimization Problem

minimize $\lambda_e \sum_{(i,j)} l(e_{ij}, x_i^\top x_j + y_i^\top W y_j) +$

social

Optimization Problem

minimize $\lambda_e \sum_{(i,j)} l(e_{ij}, x_i^\top x_j + y_i^\top W y_j) +$  **social**

$\lambda_a \sum_{(i,j)} l(a_{ij}, x_i^\top v_j + y_i^\top M u_j) +$  **app**

Optimization Problem

minimize $\lambda_e \sum_{(i,j)} l(e_{ij}, x_i^\top x_j + y_i^\top W y_j) +$ social

$\lambda_a \sum_{(i,j)} l(a_{ij}, x_i^\top v_j + y_i^\top M u_j) +$ app

reconstruction

$\lambda_x \sum \gamma(x_i | y_i) + \lambda_v \sum \gamma(v_i | u_i) +$

Optimization Problem

minimize

$$\lambda_e \sum_{(i,j)} l(e_{ij}, x_i^\top x_j + y_i^\top W y_j) +$$

social

$$\lambda_a \sum_{(i,j)} l(a_{ij}, x_i^\top v_j + y_i^\top M u_j) +$$

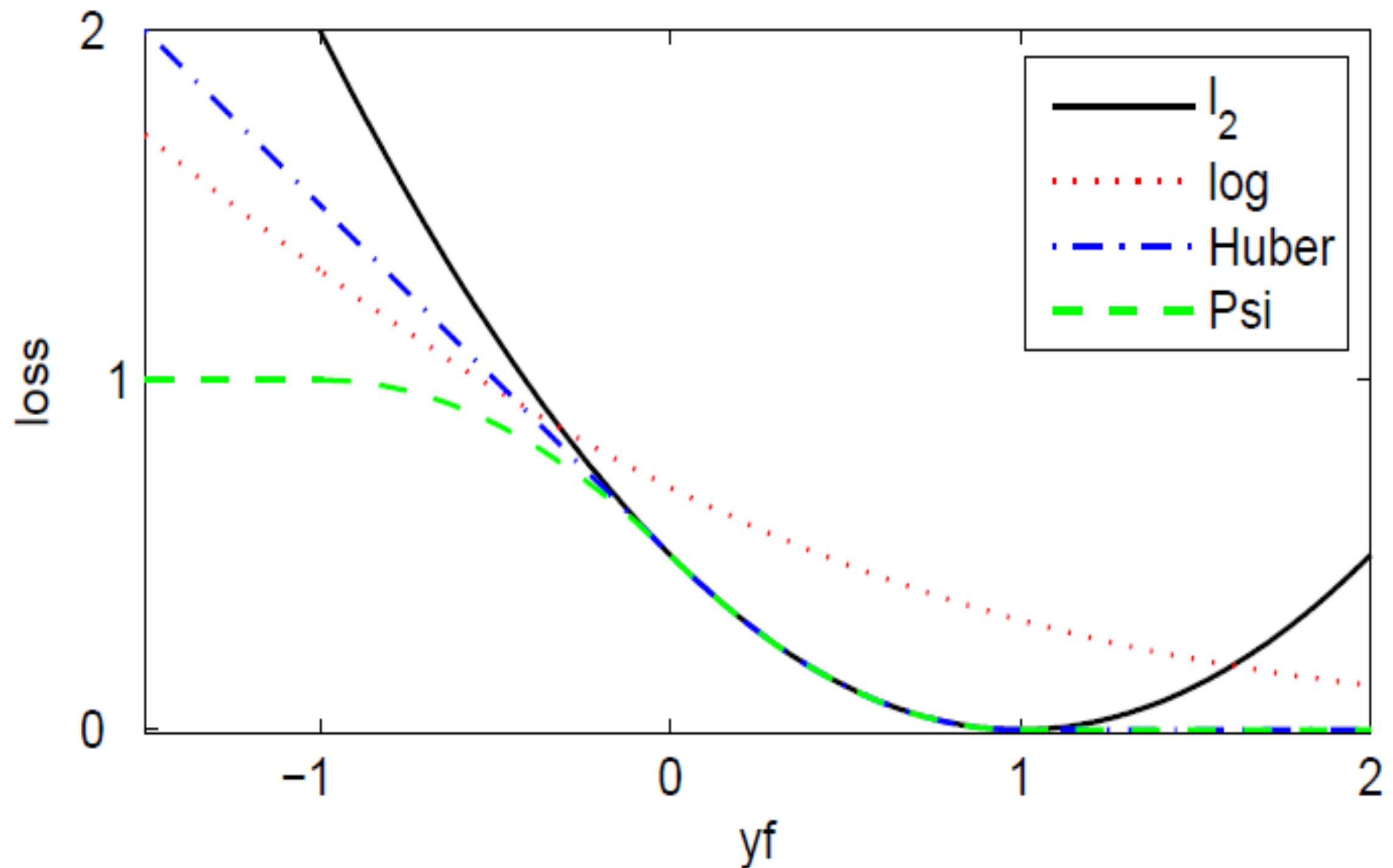
app

reconstruction

$$\lambda_x \sum_i \gamma(x_i | y_i) + \lambda_v \sum_i \gamma(v_i | u_i) +$$
$$\lambda_W \|W\|^2 + \lambda_M \|M\|^2 + \lambda_A \|A\|^2 + \lambda_B \|B\|^2$$

regularizer

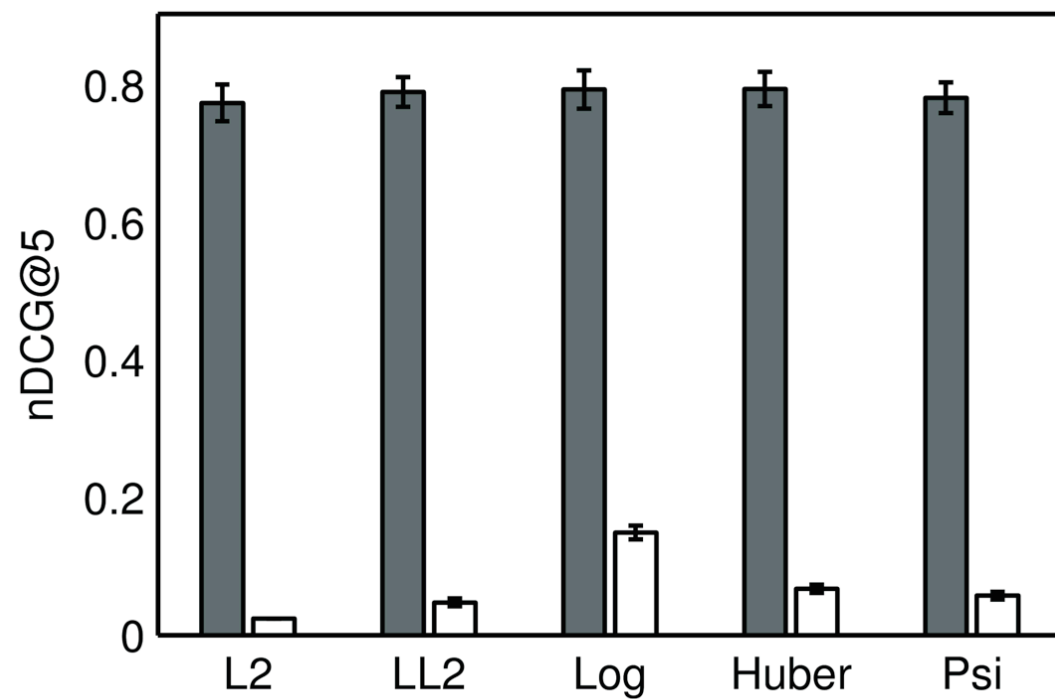
Loss Function



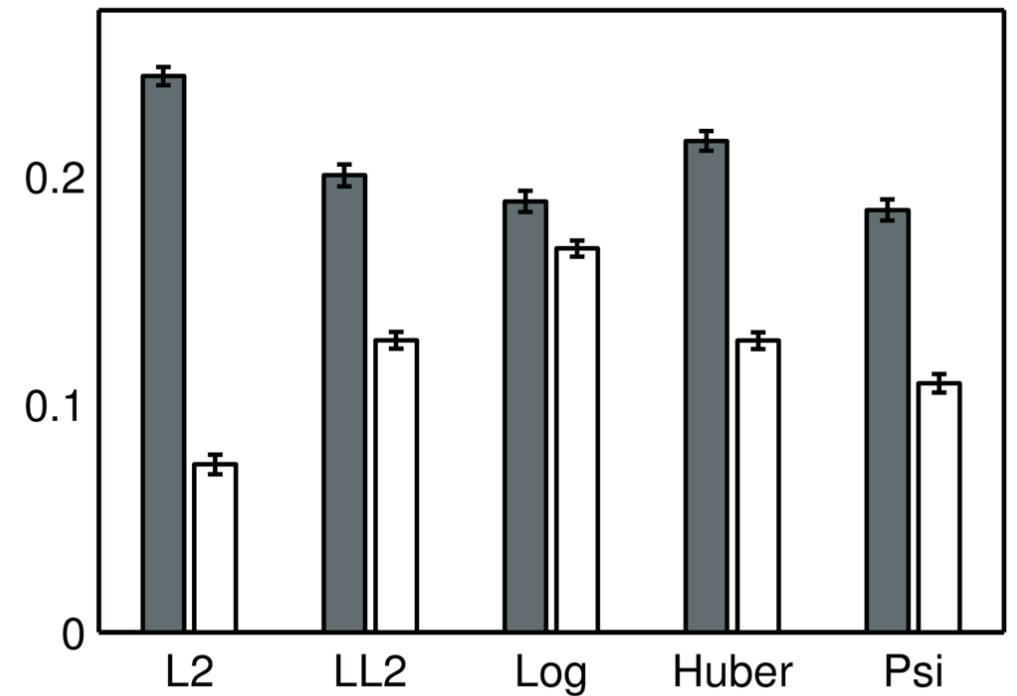
Loss

- Much more evidence of application non-install (i.e. many more negative examples)
- Few links between vertices in friendship network (even within short graph distance)
- Generate ranking problems (link, non-link) with non-links drawn from background set

Loss



application
recommendation



social
recommendation

Optimization

- Nonconvex optimization problem
- Large set of variables

$$x_i = Ay_i + \epsilon_i$$

$$v_j = Bu_j + \tilde{\epsilon}_j$$

- Stochastic gradient descent on x, v, ϵ for speed
- Use hashing to reduce memory load, i.e.

$$e_{ij} \sim p(e|x_i^\top x_j + y_i^\top W y_j)$$

$$a_{ij} \sim p(a|x_i^\top v_j + y_i^\top M u_j)$$

$$x_{ij} = \sigma(i, j)X[h(i, j)]$$

binary hash

hash

Y! Pulse

New User? [Register](#) | [Sign In](#) | [Help](#)

[Make Y! My Homepage](#)

YAHOO! PULSE

[Sign In](#) [Find People](#)

Share what's important to you



Conny Lee

Happy Friday!

... with the people you care about

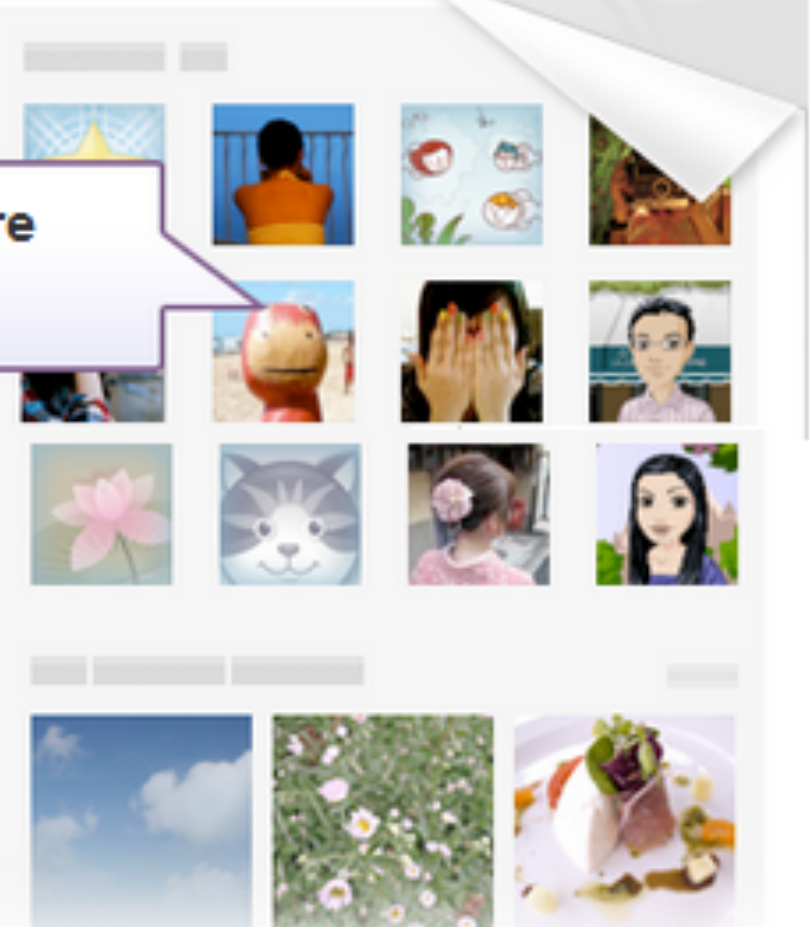
All



Connect to your favorite sites

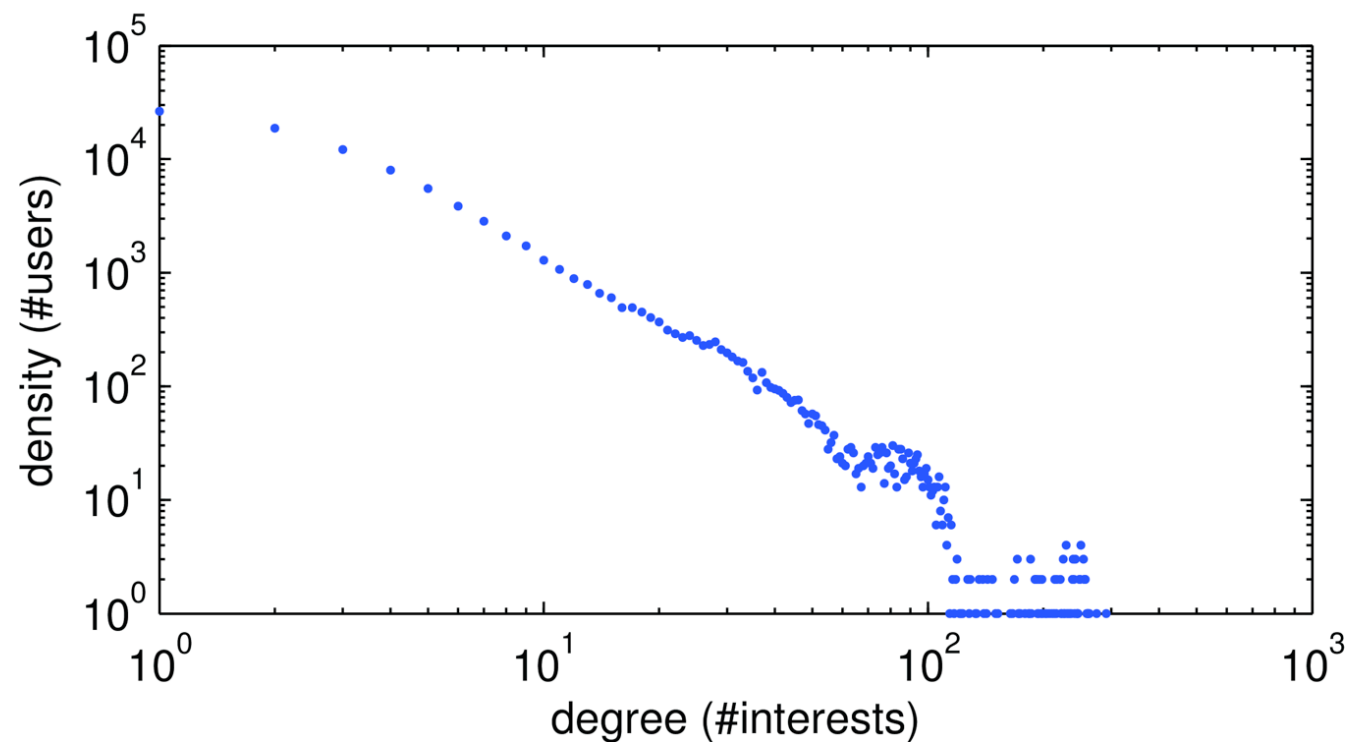
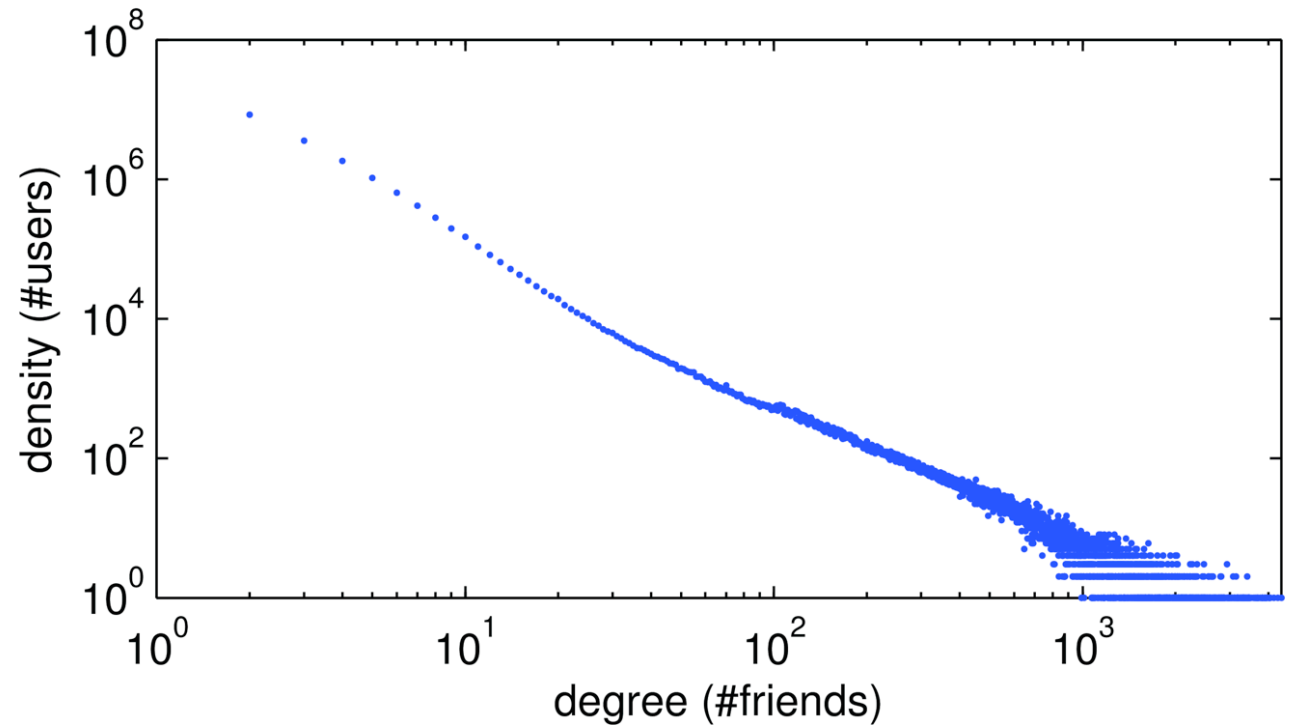


Conny Lee



Y! Pulse Data

1.2M users, 386 items
6.1M friend connections
29M interest indications



App Recommendation

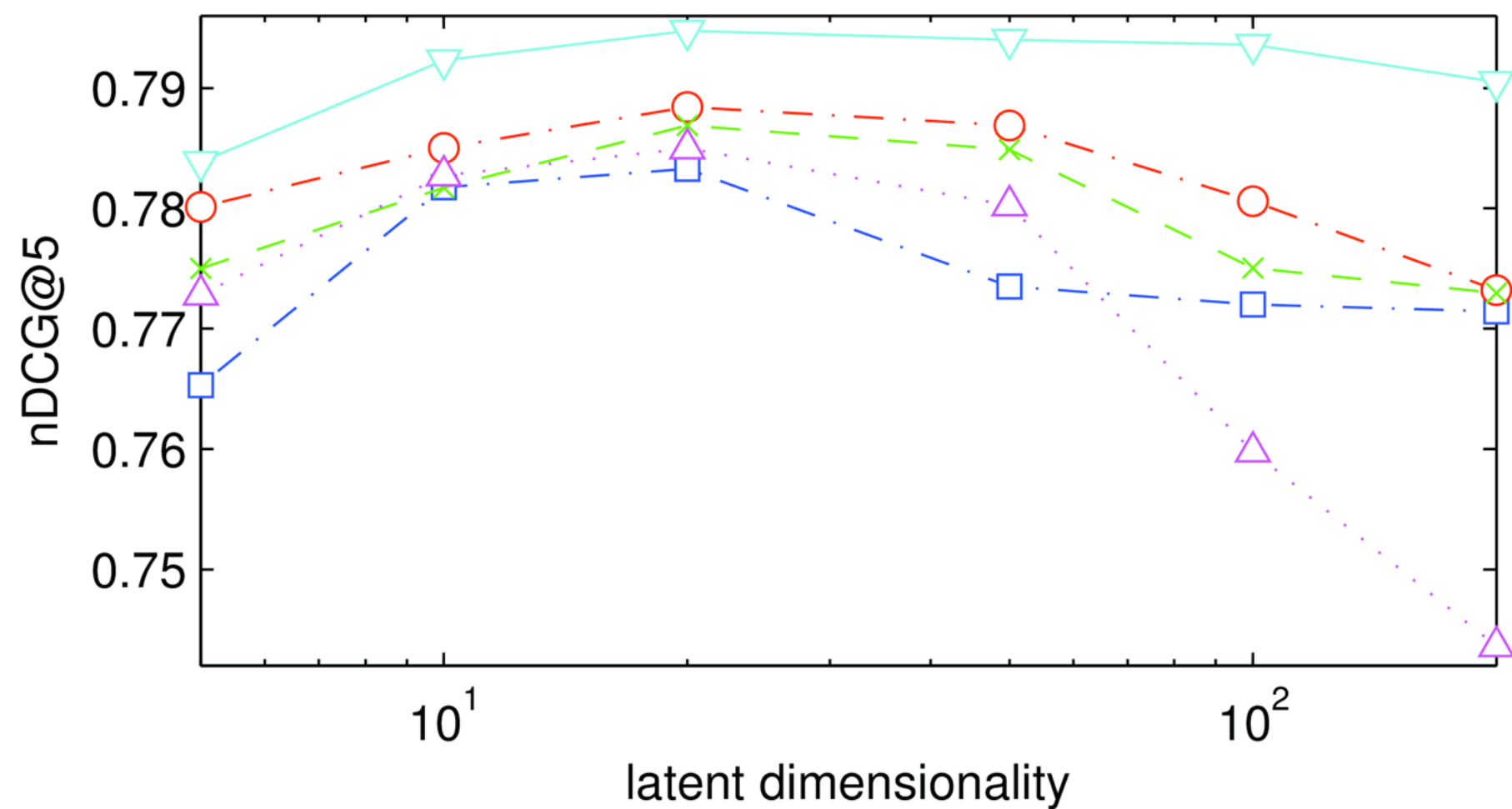
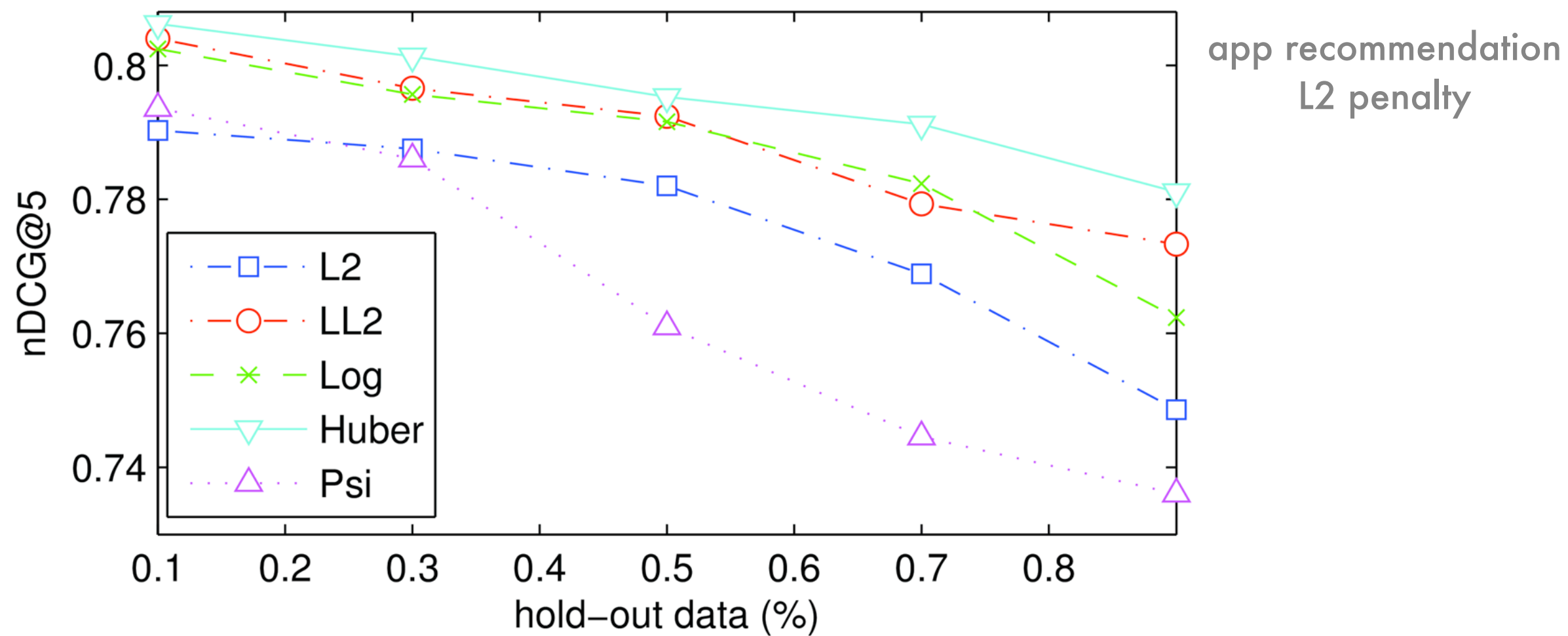
Models	loss	$\Omega[\cdot]$	MAP@5	MAR@5	nDCG@5
SIM			0.630	0.186	0.698
RLFM			0.729	0.211	0.737
NLFM			0.748	0.222	0.761
FIP	ℓ_2	ℓ_2	0.768	0.228	0.774
FIP	lazy ℓ_2	ℓ_2	0.781	0.232	0.790
FIP	logistic	ℓ_2	0.781	0.232	0.793
FIP	Huber	ℓ_2	0.781	0.232	0.794
FIP	Ψ	ℓ_2	0.777	0.231	0.771
FIP	ℓ_2	ℓ_1	0.778	0.231	0.787
FIP	lazy ℓ_2	ℓ_1	0.780	0.231	0.791
FIP	logistic	ℓ_1	0.779	0.231	0.792
FIP	Huber	ℓ_1	0.786	0.233	0.797
FIP	Ψ	ℓ_1	0.765	0.215	0.772

SIM: similarity based model;

RLFM: regression based latent factor model (Chen&Agarwal); NLFM: SIM&RLFM

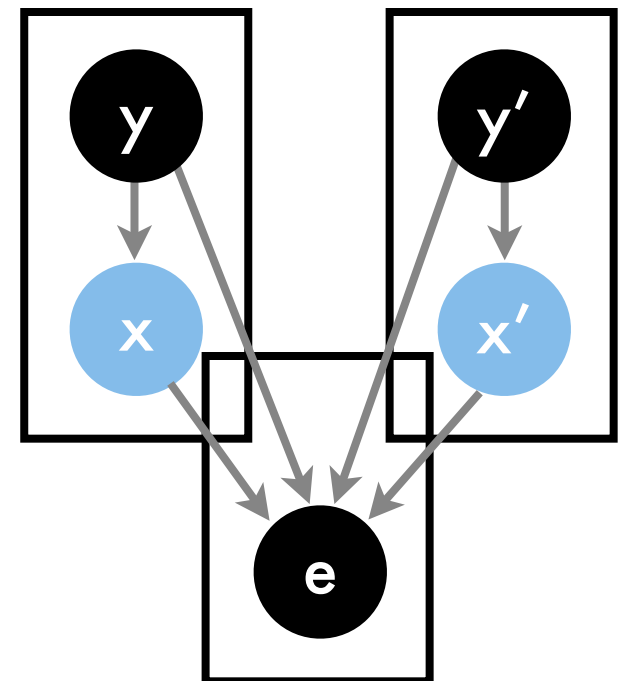
Social recommendation

Models	loss	$\Omega[\cdot]$	MAP@5	MAR@5	nDCG@5
RLFM			0.164	0.202	0.174
FIP	ℓ_2	ℓ_2	0.359	0.284	0.244
FIP	lazy ℓ_2	ℓ_2	0.193	0.269	0.200
FIP	logistic	ℓ_2	0.174	0.220	0.189
FIP	Huber	ℓ_2	0.210	0.234	0.215
FIP	Ψ	ℓ_2	0.187	0.255	0.185
FIP	ℓ_2	ℓ_1	0.186	0.230	0.214
FIP	lazy ℓ_2	ℓ_1	0.180	0.223	0.194
FIP	logistic	ℓ_1	0.183	0.217	0.189
FIP	Huber	ℓ_1	0.188	0.222	0.200
FIP	Ψ	ℓ_1	0.178	0.208	0.179



Extensions

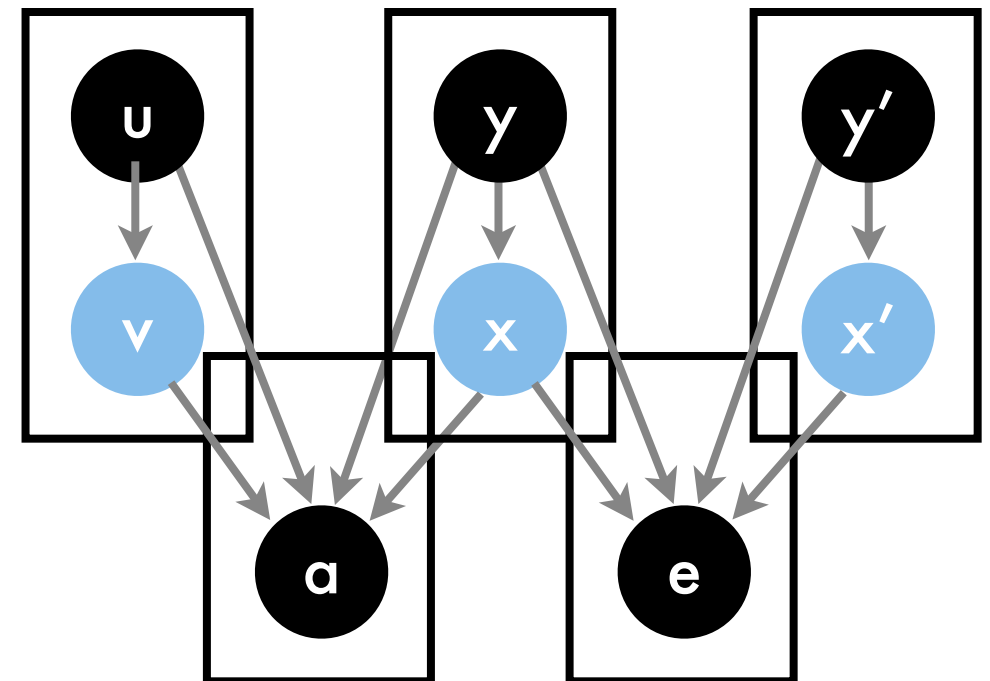
- Multiple relations
(user, user)
(user, app)
(app, advertisement)



Extensions

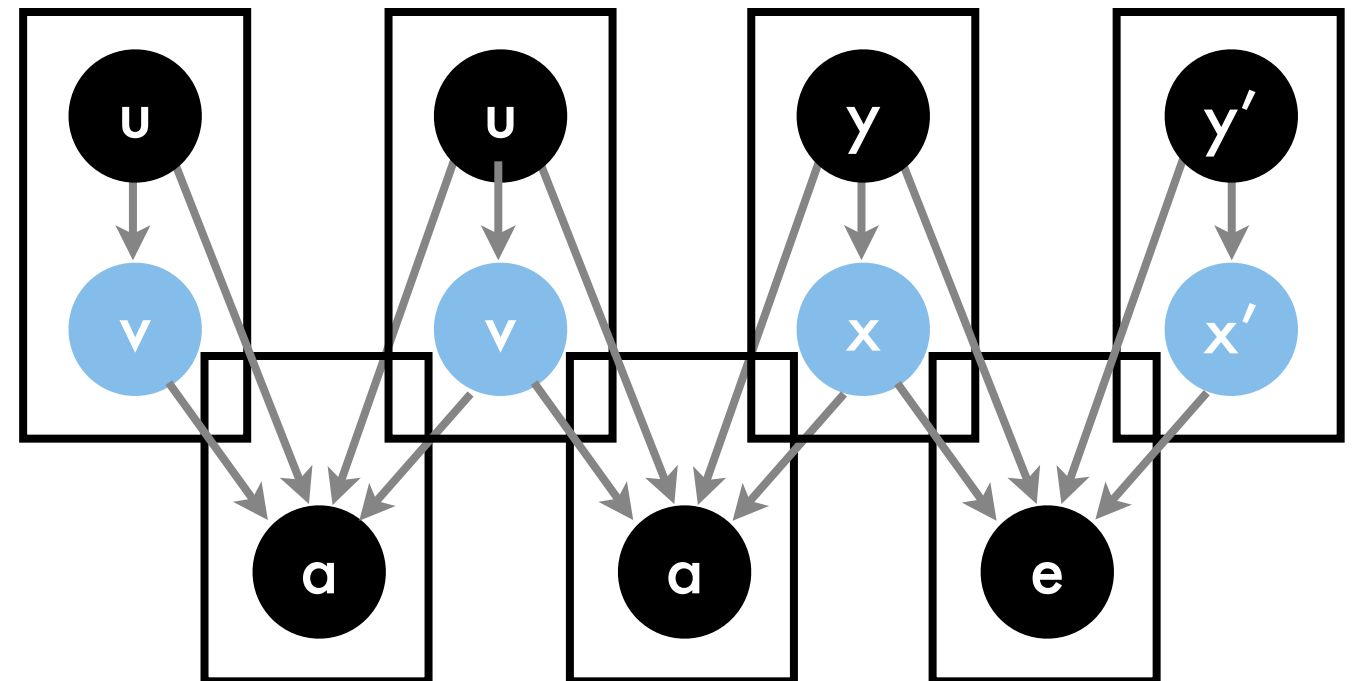
- Multiple relations

(user, user)
(user, app)
(app, advertisement)



Extensions

- Multiple relations
(user, user)
(user, app)
(app, advertisement)



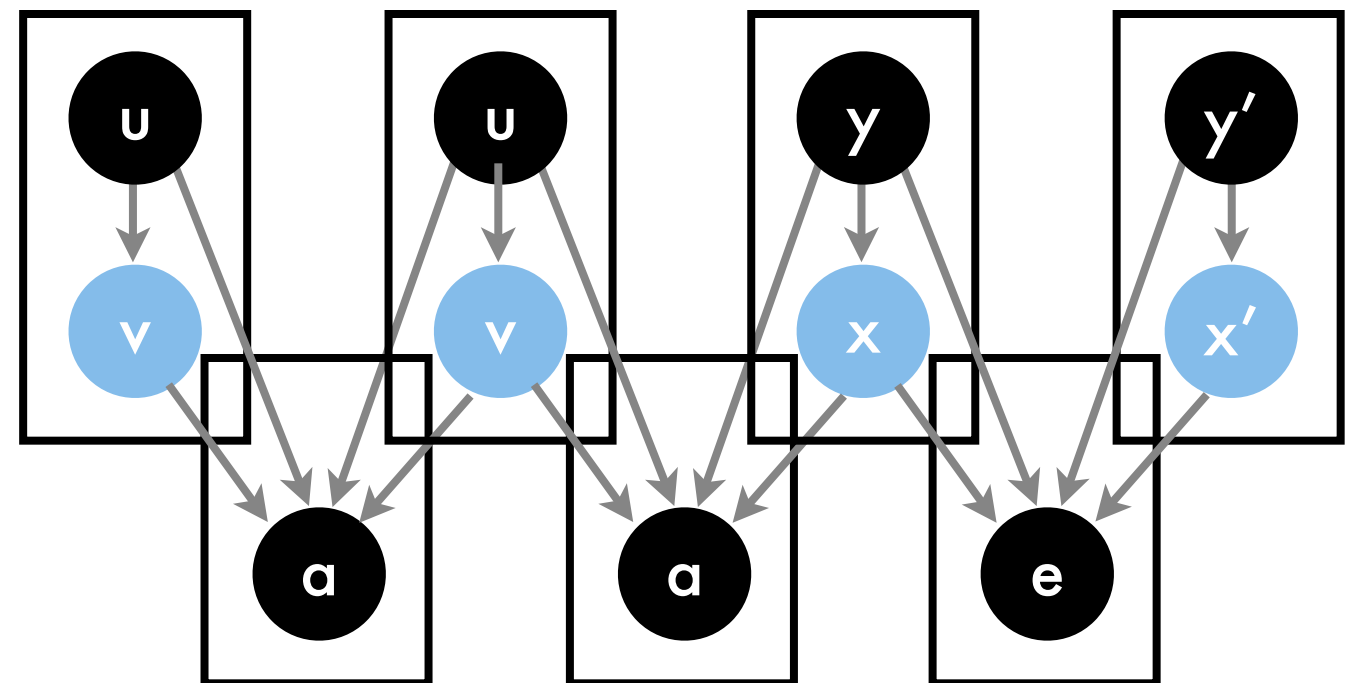
Extensions

- Multiple relations

(user, user)

(user, app)

(app, advertisement)



- Users visiting several properties
news, mail, frontpage, social network, etc.
- Different statistical models
 - Latent Dirichlet Allocation for latent factors
 - Indian Buffet Process

More strategies

Multiple factor LDA

- Discrete set of preferences
(Porteous, Bart, Welling, 2008)
- User picks one to assess movie
- Movie represented by a discrete attribute
- Inference by Gibbs sampler
- Works fairly well
- Extension by Lester Mackey and coworkers to combine with BPMPF model

More state representations

- Indian Buffet Process
(Griffiths & Ghahramani, 2005)
 - Attribute vector is binary string
 - Models preferences naturally & very compact
(Inference is costly)
- Hierarchical attribute representation and clustering over users ... **TO DO**

5 Hashing

Parameter Storage

- We have millions of users
- We have millions of products
- Storage - for 100 factors this requires
 $10^6 \times 10^6 \times 8 = 8\text{TB}$
- We want a model that can be kept in **RAM** (<16GB)
 - Instant response for each user
 - Disks have 20 IOP/s at best (SSDs much better)
- Privacy (what if parameter vector leaks)

Recall - Hash Kernels

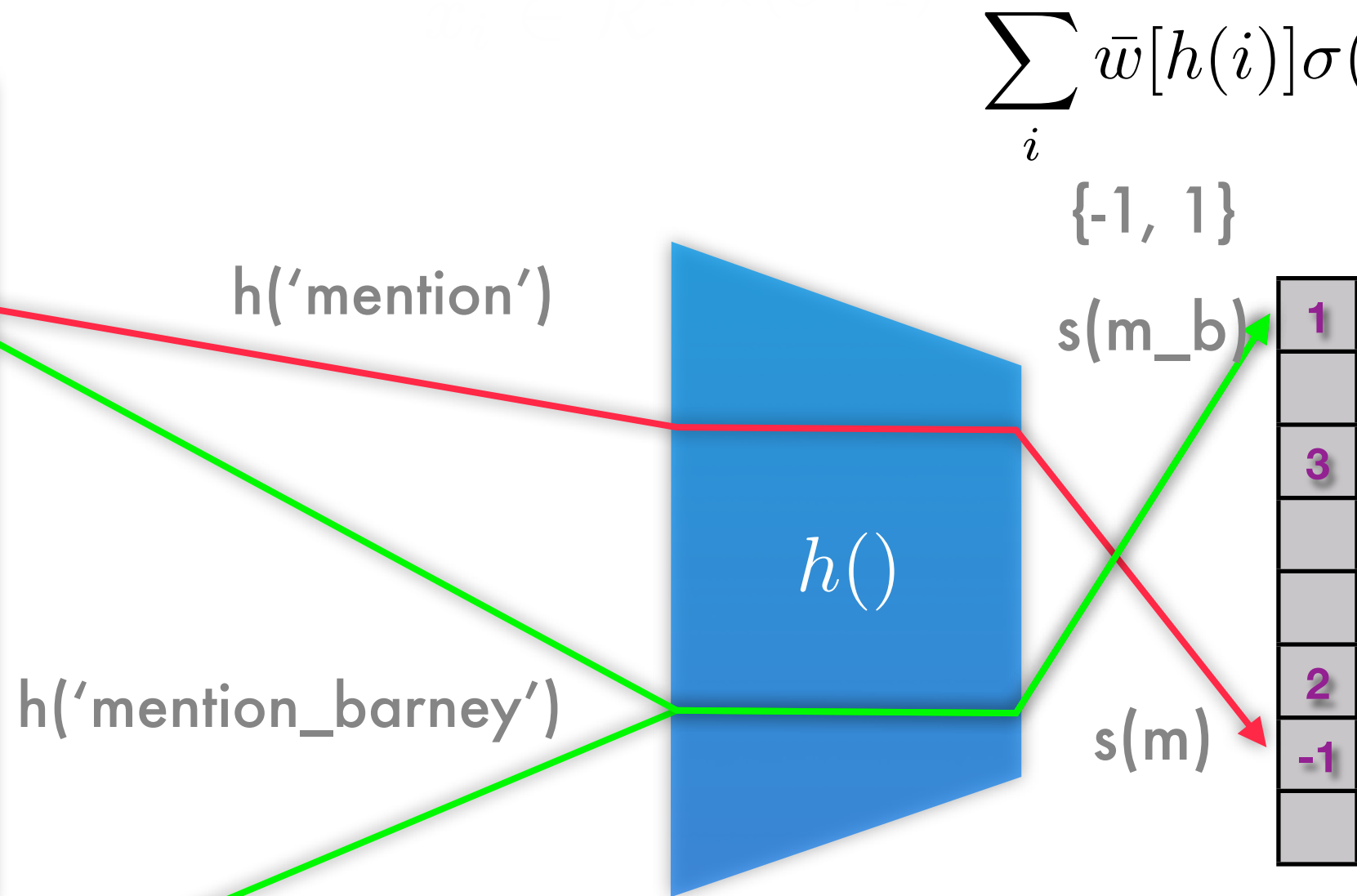
instance:

Hey,

please mention
subtly during
your talk that
people should
use Yahoo mail
more often.
Thanks,

Someone

task/user
(=barney):



$$\sum_i \bar{w}[h(i)] \sigma(i) x_i$$

$\{-1, 1\}$

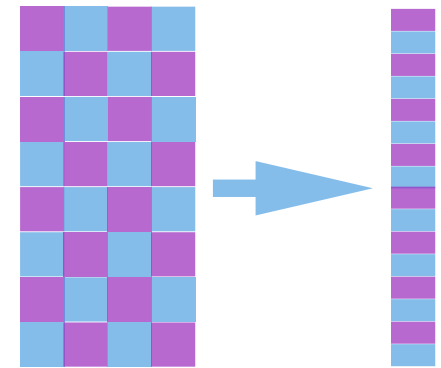
$s(m_b)$

$s(m)$

Similar to count hash
(Charikar, Chen, Farrach-Colton, 2003)

Collaborative Filtering

- **Hashing compression**



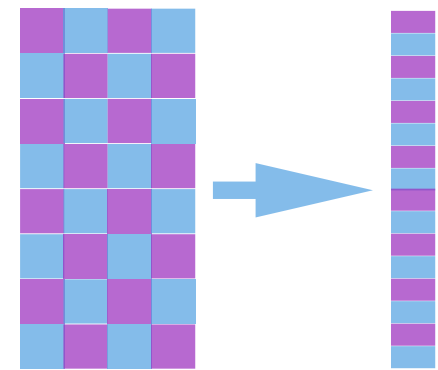
$$u_i = \sum_{j,k:h(j,k)=i} \xi(j,k) U_{jk} \text{ and } v_i = \sum_{j,k:h'(j,k)=i} \xi'(j,k) V_{jk}.$$

$$X_{ij} := \sum_k \xi(k,i) \xi'(k,j) u_{h(k,i)} v_{h'(k,j)}.$$

- **Approximation is $O(1/n)$**
 - To show that estimate is unbiased take expectation over Rademacher hash.

Collaborative Filtering

- **Hashing compression**



$$u_i = \sum_{j, k: h(k, j) = i} \xi(k, j) U_{kj} \text{ and } v_i = \sum_{j, k: h'(k, j) = i} \xi'(k, j) V_{kj}.$$

$$X_{ij} := \sum_k \xi(k, i) \xi'(k, j) u_{h(k, i)} v_{h'(k, j)}.$$

- **Expectation**

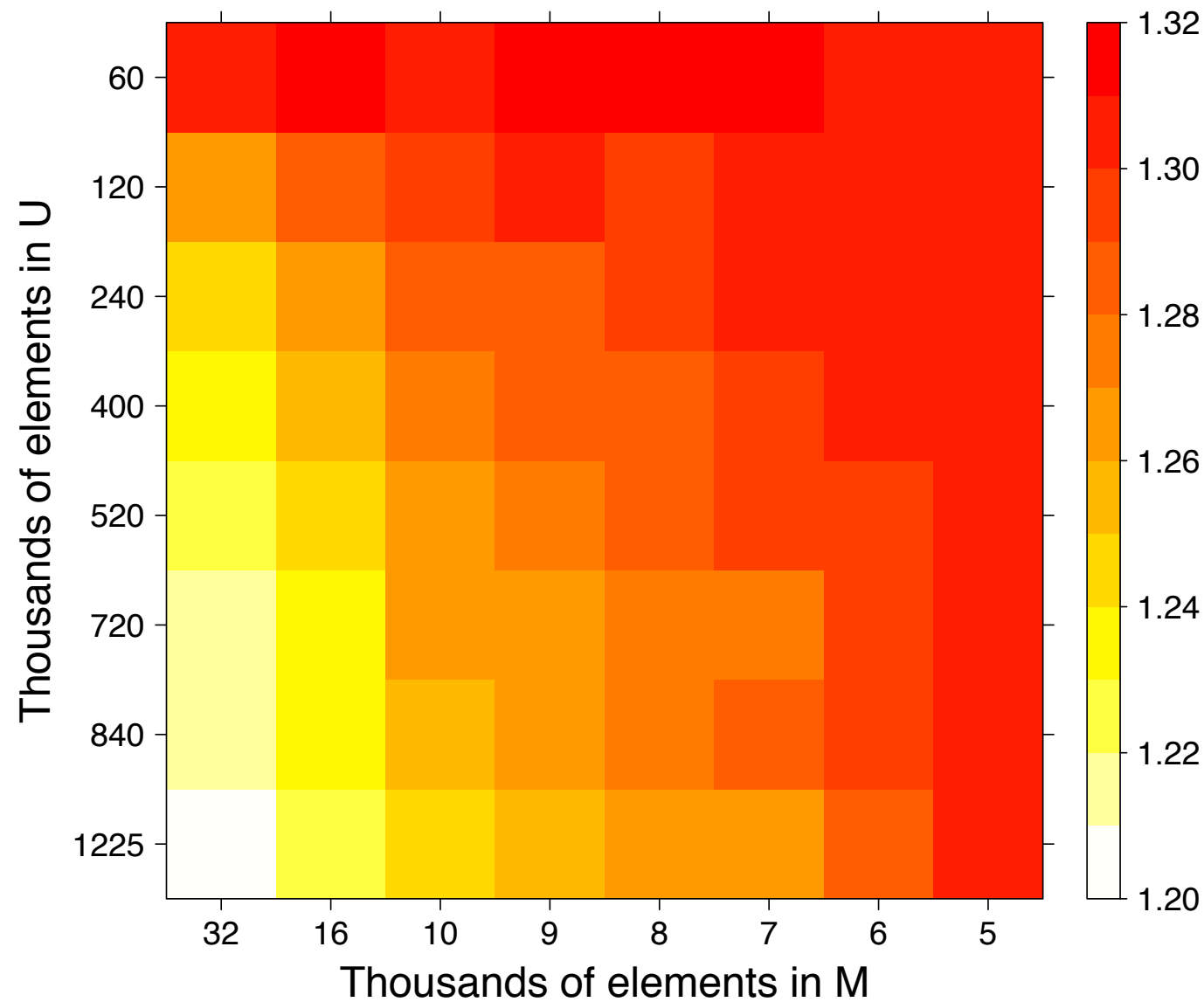
expectation vanishes

$$X_{ij} := \sum_k \xi(k, i) \xi'(k, j) \sum_{l, k: h(k, l) = h(k, i)} \sum_{o, k: h'(k, o) = h'(k, j)} \xi(k, l) \xi'(k, o) U_{kl} V_{ko}$$

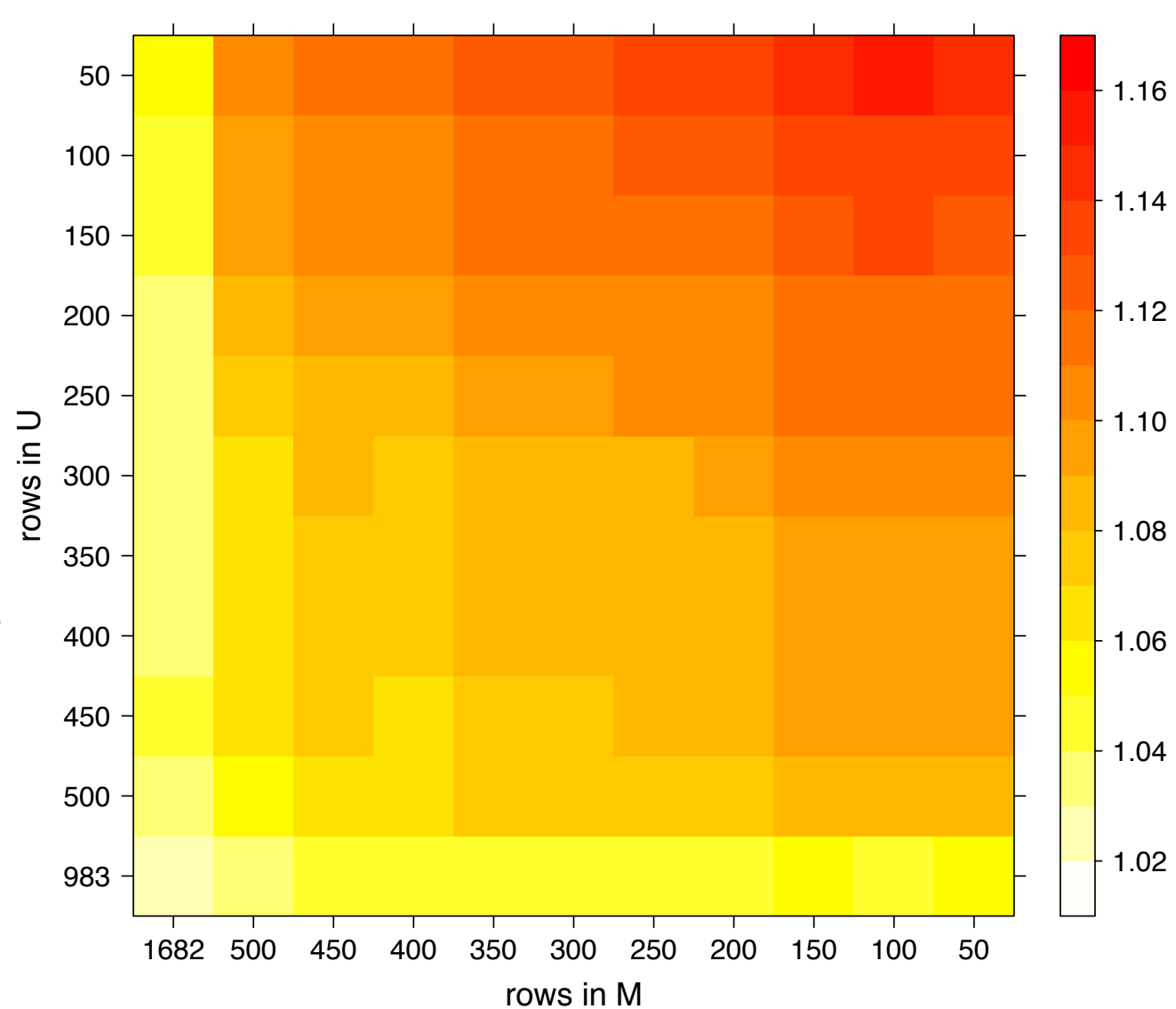
Collaborative Hashing

- Combine with stochastic gradient descent
- Random access in memory is expensive (we now have to do k lookups per pair)
- Feistel networks can accelerate this
- Distributed optimization without locking

Examples



Eachmovie



MovieLens

Summary

- Neighborhood methods
 - User / movie similarity
 - Iteration on graph
- Matrix Factorization
 - Singular value decomposition
 - Convex reformulation
- Ranking and Session Modeling
 - Ordinal regression
 - Session models
- Features
 - Latent dense (Bayesian Probabilistic Matrix Factorization)
 - Latent sparse (Dirichlet process factorization)
 - Coldstart problem (inferring features)
- Hashing

Further reading

- Collaborative Filtering with temporal dynamics
<http://research.yahoo.com/files/kdd-fp074-koren.pdf>
- Neighborhood factorization
<http://research.yahoo.com/files/paper.pdf>
- Matrix Factorization for recommender systems
<http://research.yahoo.com/files/ieeecomputer.pdf>
- CoFi Rank (collaborative filtering & ranking)
<http://www.cofirank.org/>
- Yehuda Koren's papers
http://research.yahoo.com/Yehuda_Koren