

# CMSC5733 Social Computing

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# Social Recommender Systems

- Introduction
- Collaborative Filtering
- Trust-aware Recommender Systems
- Social-based Recommender Systems
- Web Site Recommendation



# Social Recommendation Using Probabilistic Matrix Factorization

[Hao Ma, et al., CIKM2008]



# Challenges

- Data sparsity problem

**YAHOO!** MOVIES

My Movies: **gabe\_ma** [Edit Profile](#)

Recommendations For You



**My Blueberry Nights (2008)**

**The Critics:**  
**B-**  
[7 reviews](#)

**Yahoo! Users:**  
**B-**  
[667 ratings](#)

**My Grade:**

<b>A</b>
<b>B</b>
<b>C</b>
<b>D</b>
<b>F</b>

Oscar-worthy

[write a review](#)

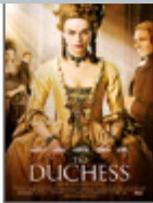
[Watch the Trailer](#)



**Vicky Cristina Barcelona (PG-13)**  
[Showtimes & Tickets](#) | [Add to My Lists](#)

Yahoo! Users: **B** 1923 ratings  
The Critics: **B+** 13 reviews

[Don't Recommend Again](#) [Seen It? Rate It!](#)



**The Duchess (PG-13)**  
[Showtimes & Tickets](#) | [Add to My Lists](#)

Yahoo! Users: **B+** 953 ratings  
The Critics: **B-** 10 reviews

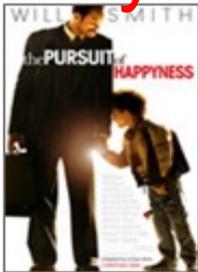
[Don't Recommend Again](#) [Seen It? Rate It!](#)

[See All Recommendations](#)



# Challenges

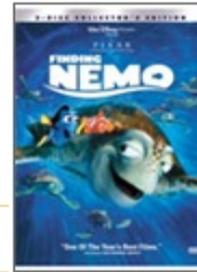
## My Movie Ratings



**The Pursuit of Happyness** (PG-13, 1 hr. 57 min.)  
Buy DVD | Add to My Lists

Yahoo! Users: **B+** 38992 ratings  
The Critics: **B-** 13 reviews

★ My Rating: A+



**Finding Nemo** (G, 1 hr. 40 min.)  
Buy DVD | Add to My Lists

Yahoo! Users: **B+** 137394 ratings  
The Critics: **A-** 14 reviews

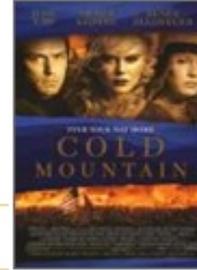
★ My Rating: A



**My Blueberry Nights** (PG-13, 1 hr. 30 min.)  
Buy DVD | Add to My Lists

Yahoo! Users: **B-** 756 ratings  
The Critics: **B-** 7 reviews

★ My Rating: A+



**Cold Mountain** (R, 2 hrs. 35 min.)  
Buy DVD | Add to My Lists

Yahoo! Users: **B** 38986 ratings  
The Critics: **B+** 10 reviews

★ My Rating: B+



**The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring**  
Buy DVD | Add to My Lists

Yahoo! Users: **A-** 110957 ratings  
The Critics: **A** 15 reviews

★ My Rating: A



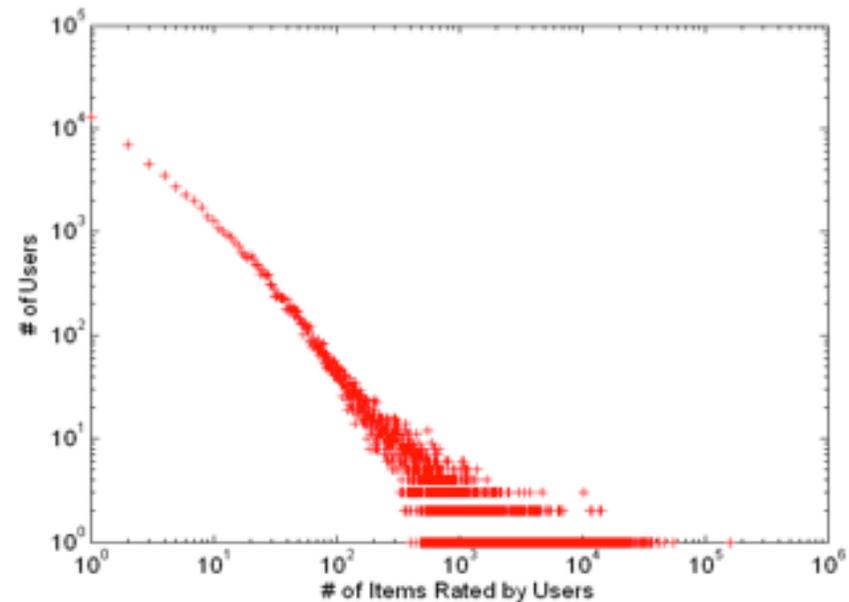
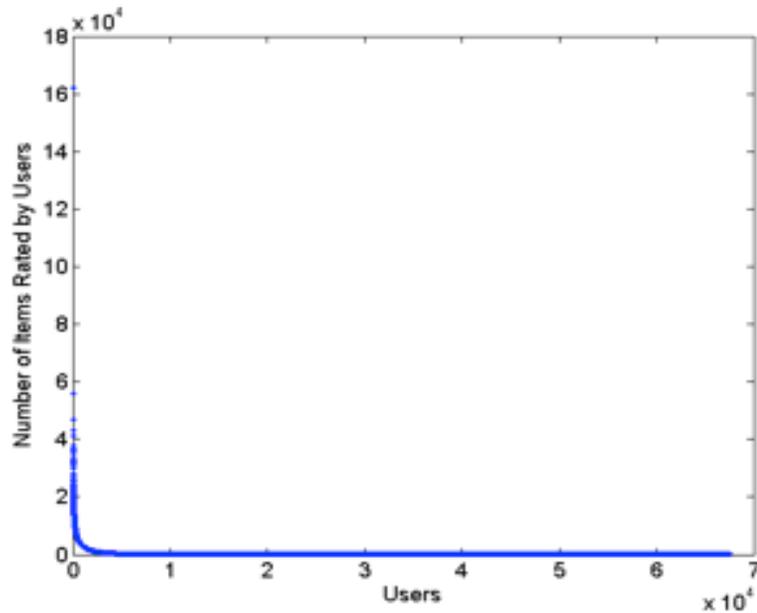
**Shrek 2** (PG, 1 hr. 32 min.)  
Buy DVD | Add to My Lists

Yahoo! Users: **B+** 150368 ratings  
The Critics: **B** 15 reviews

★ My Rating: B



# Number of Ratings per User



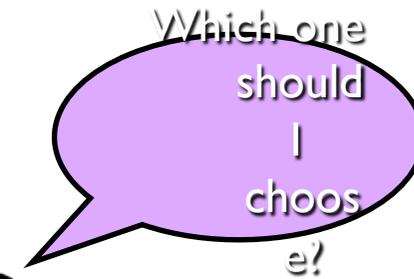
Extracted From Epinions.com

114,222 users, 754,987 items and 13,385,713 ratings



# Challenges

- Traditional recommender systems ignore the social connections between users



Recommendations  
from friends

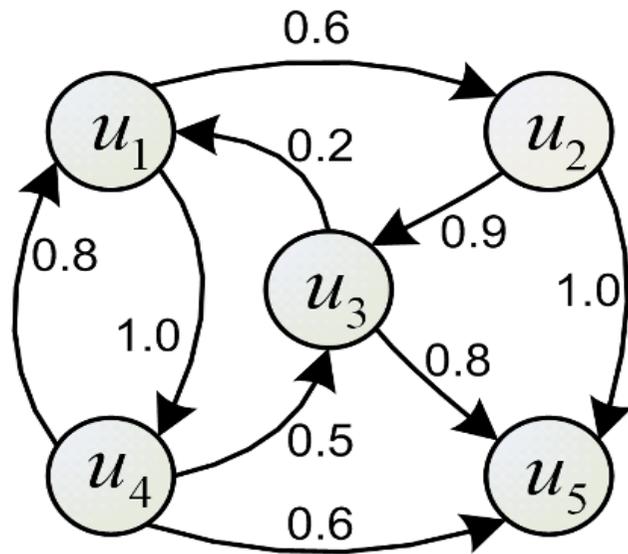


# Motivations

- “Yes, there is a correlation - from social networks to personal behavior on the web”
- Parag Singla and Matthew Richardson ([WWW'08](#))
  - Analyze the who talks to whom social network over 10 million people with their related search results
  - People who chat with each other are more likely to share the same or similar interests
- To improve the recommendation accuracy and solve the data sparsity problem, **users' social network** should be taken into consideration



# Problem Definition



Social Trust Graph

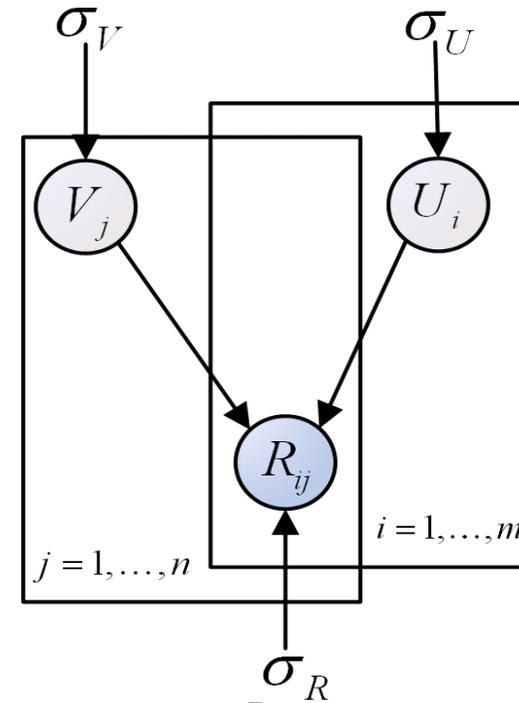
	$v_1$	$v_2$	$v_3$	$v_4$	$v_5$	$v_6$
$u_1$		5	2		3	
$u_2$	4			3		4
$u_3$			2			2
$u_4$	5			3		
$u_5$		5	5			3

User-Item Rating Matrix



# User-Item Matrix Factorization

	$v_1$	$v_2$	$v_3$	$v_4$	$v_5$	$v_6$
$u_1$		5	2		3	
$u_2$	4			3		4
$u_3$			2			2
$u_4$	5			3		
$u_5$		5	5			3



$$p(R|U, V, \sigma_R^2) = \prod_{i=1}^m \prod_{j=1}^n \left[ \mathcal{N} \left( R_{ij} | g(U_i^T V_j), \sigma_R^2 \right) \right]^{I_{ij}^R}$$

$$p(U|\sigma_U^2) = \prod_{i=1}^m \mathcal{N}(U_i | 0, \sigma_U^2 \mathbf{I})$$

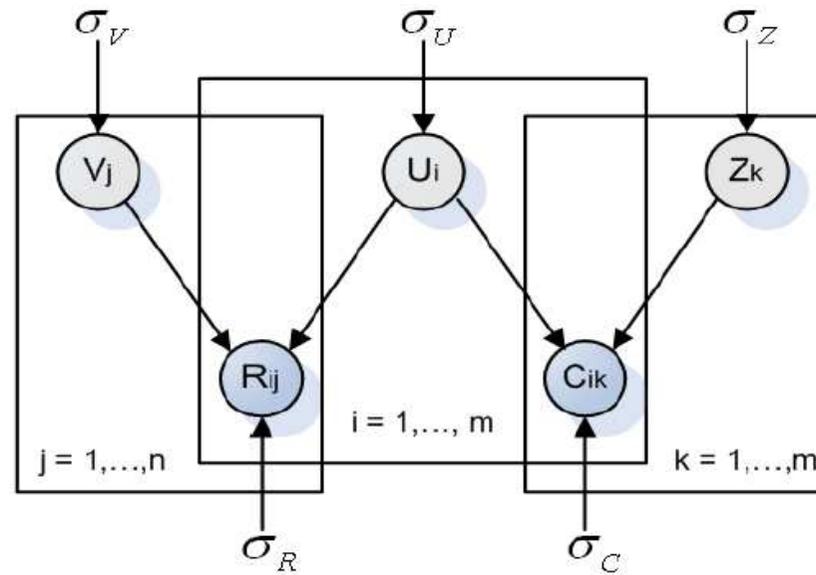
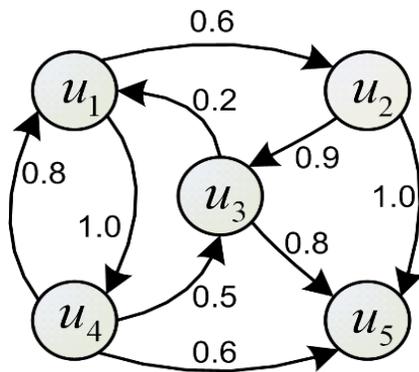
$$p(V|\sigma_V^2) = \prod_{j=1}^n \mathcal{N}(V_j | 0, \sigma_V^2 \mathbf{I})$$

R. Salakhutdinov and A. Mnih (NIPS'08)



# SoRec

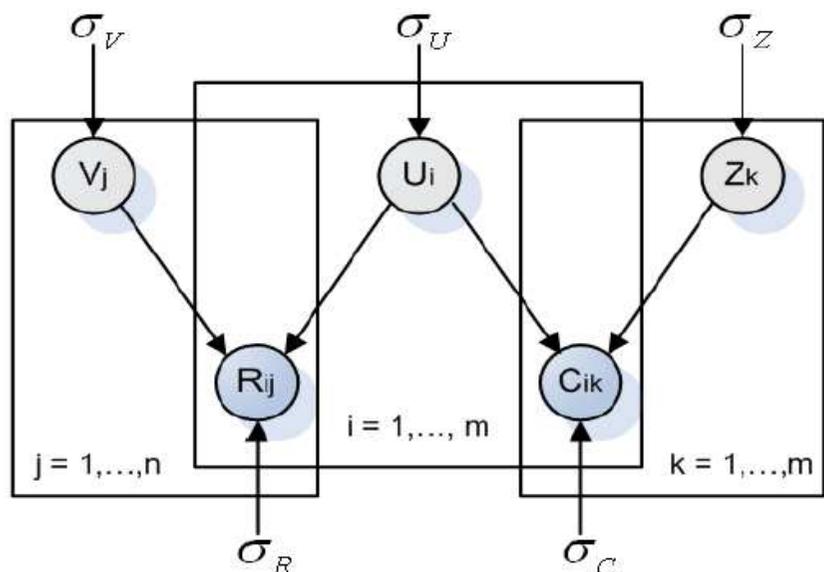
	$v_1$	$v_2$	$v_3$	$v_4$	$v_5$	$v_6$
$u_1$		5	2		3	
$u_2$	4			3		4
$u_3$			2			2
$u_4$	5			3		
$u_5$		5	5			3



SoRec



# SoRec



$$p(R|U, V, \sigma_R^2) = \prod_{i=1}^m \prod_{j=1}^n \mathcal{N} \left[ \left( r_{ij} | g(U_i^T V_j), \sigma_R^2 \right) \right]^{I_{ij}^R}$$

$$p(C|U, Z, \sigma_C^2) = \prod_{i=1}^m \prod_{k=1}^m \mathcal{N} \left[ \left( c_{ik} | g(U_i^T Z_k), \sigma_C^2 \right) \right]^{I_{ik}^C}$$

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

$$p(Z|\sigma_Z^2) = \prod_{k=1}^m \mathcal{N}(Z_k | 0, \sigma_Z^2 \mathbf{I})$$

$$\mathcal{L}(R, C, U, V, Z) =$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n I_{ij}^R (r_{ij} - g(U_i^T V_j))^2 + \frac{\lambda_C}{2} \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{k=1}^m I_{ik}^C (c_{ik} - g(U_i^T Z_k))^2$$

$$+ \frac{\lambda_U}{2} \|U\|_F^2 + \frac{\lambda_V}{2} \|V\|_F^2 + \frac{\lambda_Z}{2} \|Z\|_F^2,$$



# SoRec

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial U_i} &= \sum_{j=1}^n I_{ij}^R g'(U_i^T V_j) (g(U_i^T V_j) - r_{ij}) V_j \\ &+ \lambda_C \sum_{k=1}^m I_{ik}^C g'(U_i^T Z_k) (g(U_i^T Z_k) - c_{ik}^*) Z_k + \lambda_U U_i,\end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial V_j} = \sum_{i=1}^m I_{ij}^R g'(U_i^T V_j) (g(U_i^T V_j) - r_{ij}) U_i + \lambda_V V_j,$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial Z_k} = \lambda_C \sum_{i=1}^m I_{ik}^C g'(U_i^T Z_k) (g(U_i^T Z_k) - c_{ik}^*) U_i + \lambda_Z Z_k,$$



# Complexity Analysis

- For the Objective Function  $O(\rho_R l + \rho_C l)$
- For  $\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial U}$  the complexity is  $O(\rho_R l + \rho_C l)$
- For  $\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial V}$  the complexity is  $O(\rho_R l)$
- For  $\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial Z}$  the complexity is  $O(\rho_C l)$
- In general, the complexity of our method is linear with the observations in these two matrices



# Experimental Analysis

- Table: MAE comparison with other approaches (A smaller MAE value means a better performance)

Training Data	Dimensionality = 5				Dimensionality = 10			
	MMMMF	PMF	CPMF	SoRec	MMMMF	PMF	CPMF	SoRec
99%	1.0008	0.9971	0.9842	<b>0.9018</b>	0.9916	0.9885	0.9746	<b>0.8932</b>
80%	1.0371	1.0277	0.9998	<b>0.9321</b>	1.0275	1.0182	0.9923	<b>0.9240</b>
50%	1.1147	1.0972	1.0747	<b>0.9838</b>	1.1012	1.0857	1.0632	<b>0.9751</b>
20%	1.2532	1.2397	1.1981	<b>1.1069</b>	1.2413	1.2276	1.1864	<b>1.0944</b>

## MMMMF:

J.D.M Rennie and N. Srebro  
(ICML'05)

## PMF & CPMF:

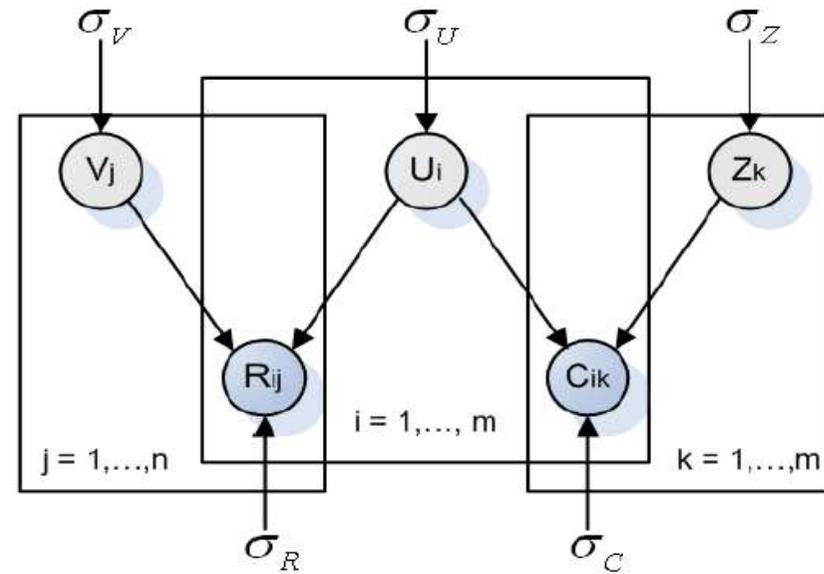
R. Salakhutdinov and A.  
Mnih  
(NIPS'08)

Epinions: **40,163** users who rated **139,529**  
items with totally **664,824** ratings



# Disadvantages of SoRec

- Lack of interpretability
- Does not reflect the real-world process



SoRec

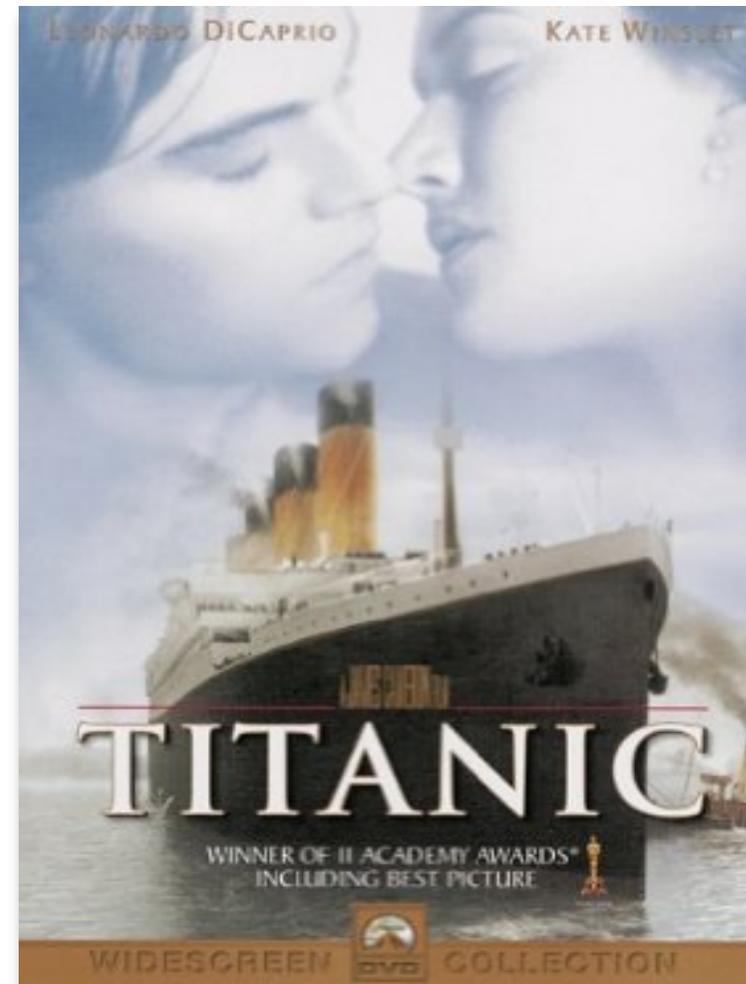
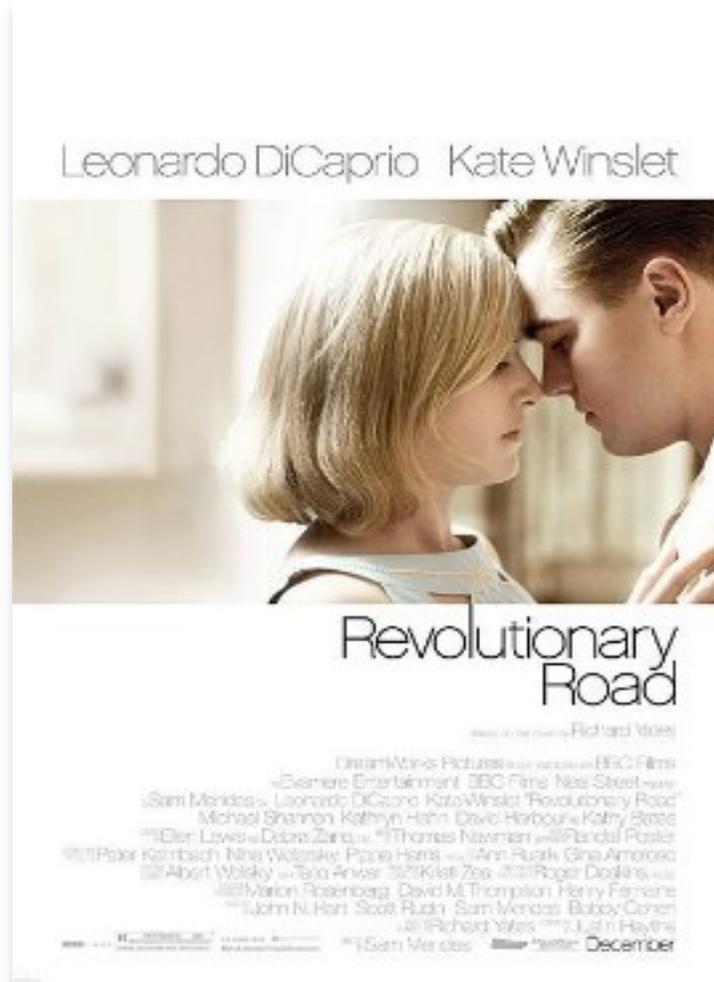


# Learning to Recommend with Social Trust Ensemble

[Hao Ma, et al., SIGIR2009]



# 1<sup>st</sup> Motivation

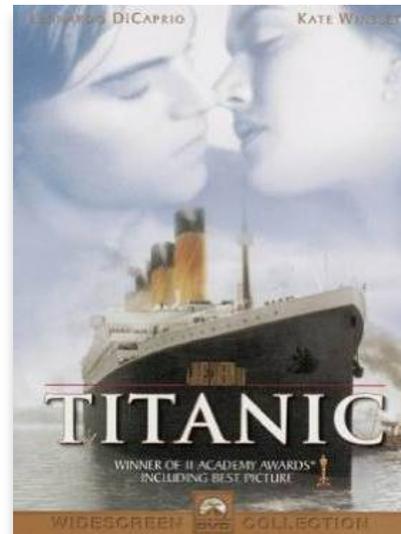
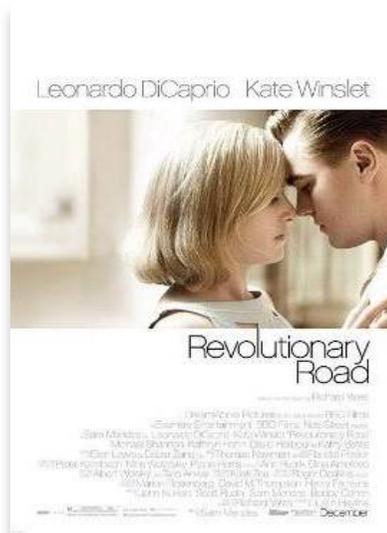


# 1<sup>st</sup> Motivation

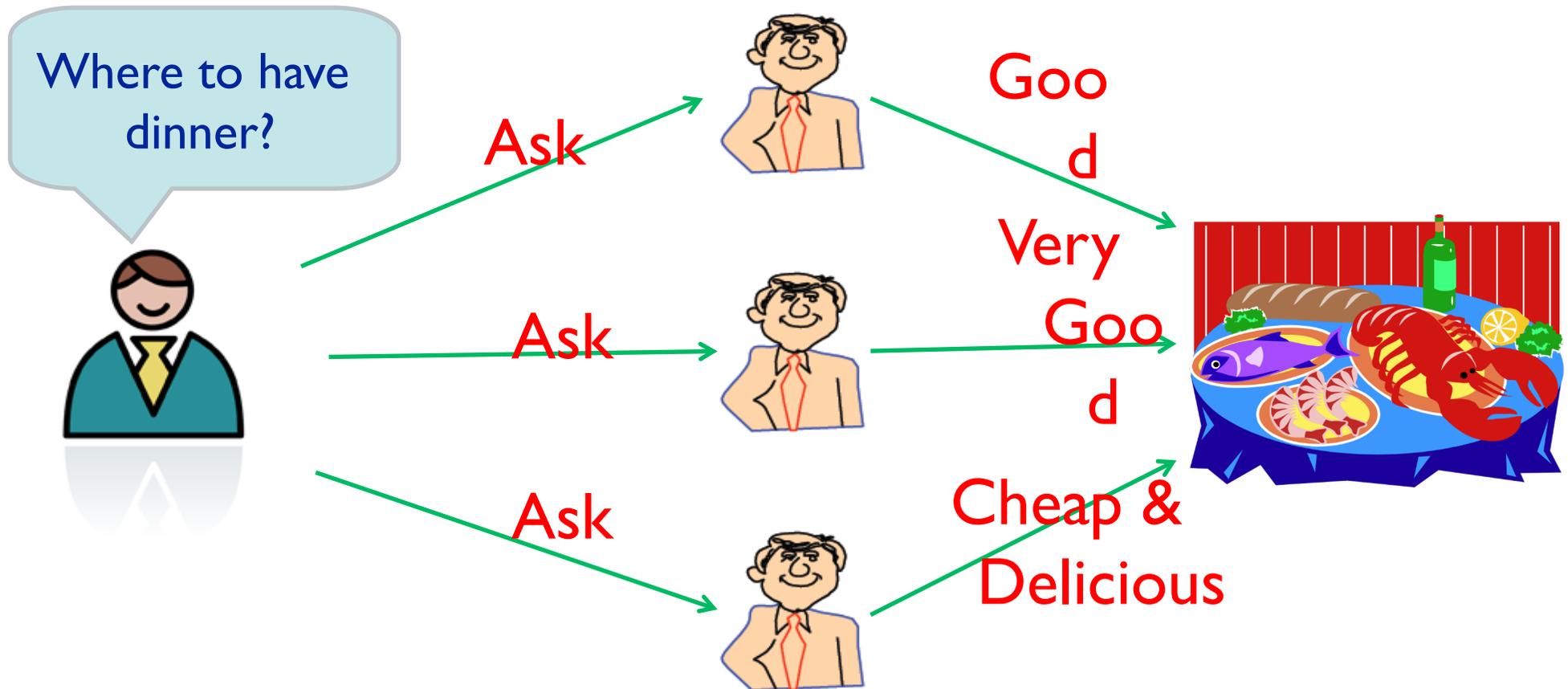


# 1<sup>st</sup> Motivation

- Users have their **own characteristics**, and they have different tastes on different items, such as movies, books, music, articles, food, etc.

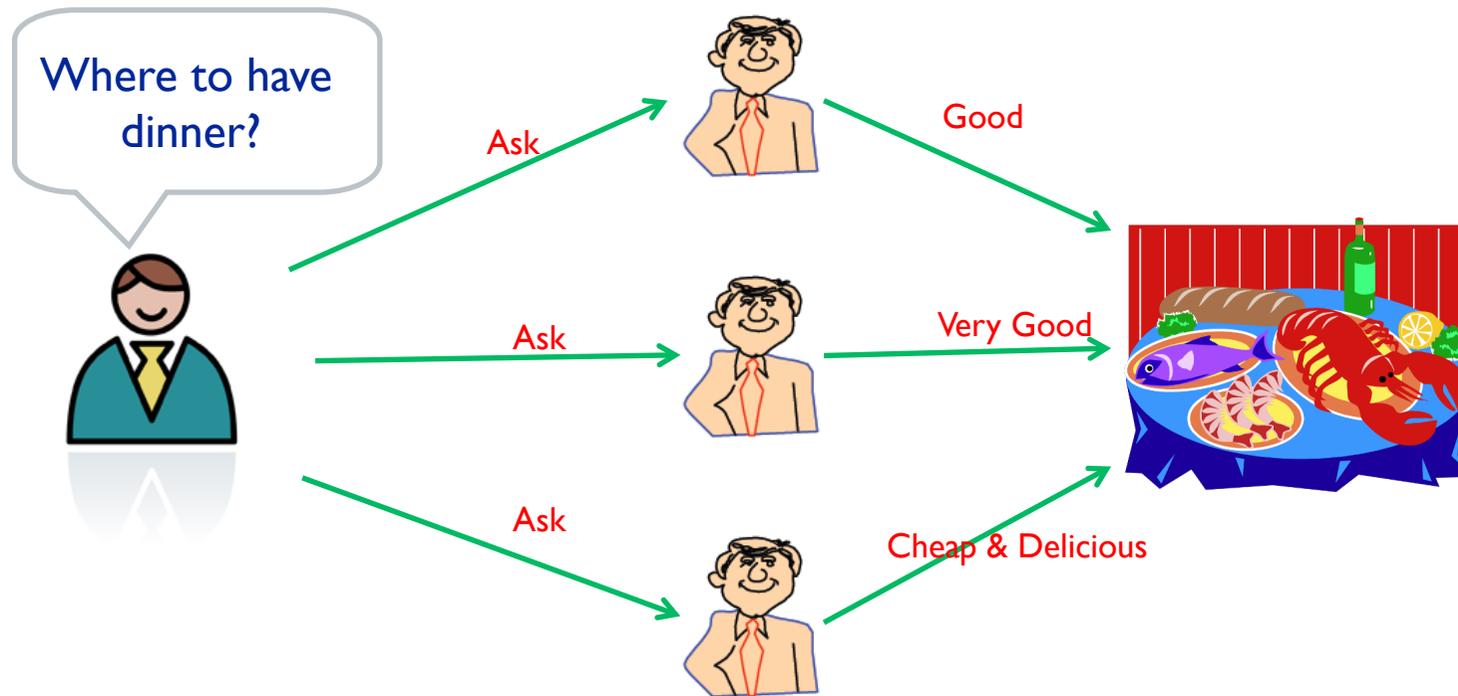


# 2<sup>nd</sup> Motivation



# 2<sup>nd</sup> Motivation

- Users can be easily **influenced by the friends they trust**, and prefer their friends' recommendations.



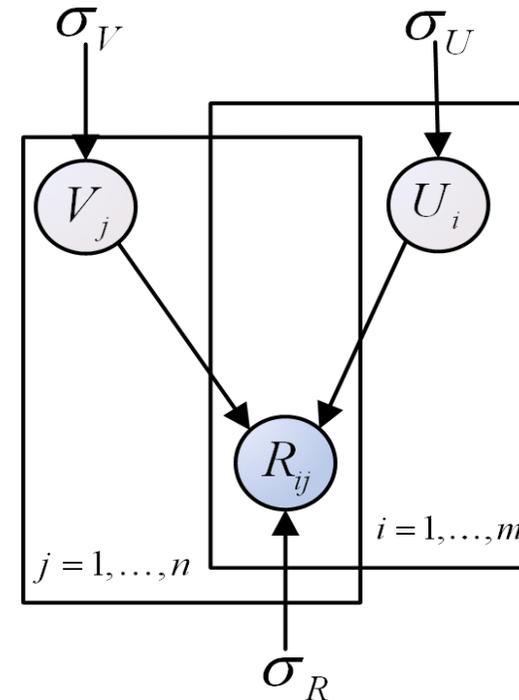
# Motivations

- Users have their own characteristics, and they have different tastes on different items, such as movies, books, music, articles, food, etc.
- Users can be easily influenced by the friends they trust, and prefer their friends' recommendations.
- One user's final decision is the balance between his/her own taste and his/her trusted friends' favors.



# User-Item Matrix Factorization

	$v_1$	$v_2$	$v_3$	$v_4$	$v_5$	$v_6$
$u_1$		5	2		3	
$u_2$	4			3		4
$u_3$			2			2
$u_4$	5			3		
$u_5$		5	5			3



$$p(R|U, V, \sigma_R^2) = \prod_{i=1}^m \prod_{j=1}^n \left[ \mathcal{N} \left( R_{ij} | g(U_i^T V_j), \sigma_R^2 \right) \right]^{I_{ij}^R}$$

$$p(U|\sigma_U^2) = \prod_{i=1}^m \mathcal{N}(U_i | 0, \sigma_U^2 \mathbf{I})$$

$$p(V|\sigma_V^2) = \prod_{j=1}^n \mathcal{N}(V_j | 0, \sigma_V^2 \mathbf{I})$$

[R. Salakhutdinov, et al., NIPS2008]



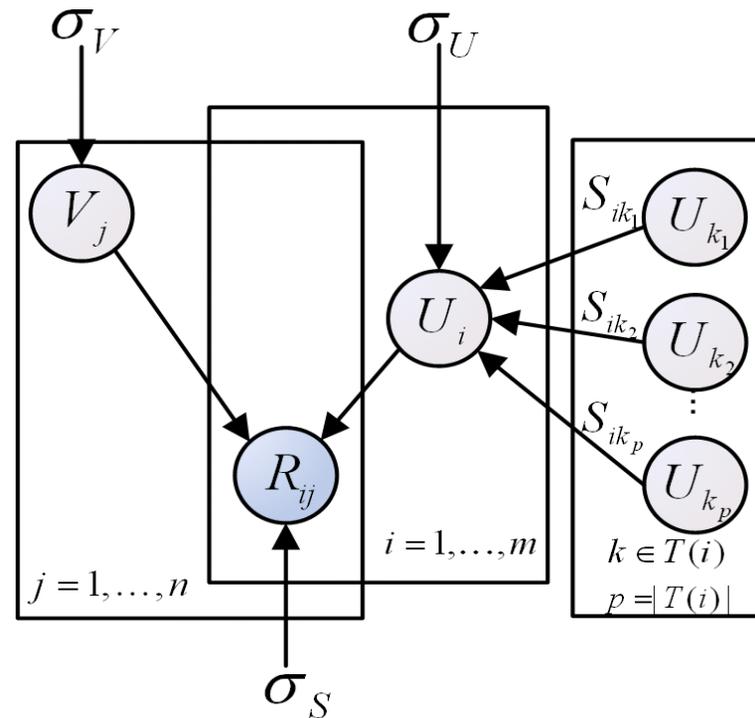
# Recommendations by Trusted Friends

$$\hat{R}_{ik} = \frac{\sum_{j \in \mathcal{T}(i)} R_{jk} S_{ij}}{|\mathcal{T}(i)|}$$

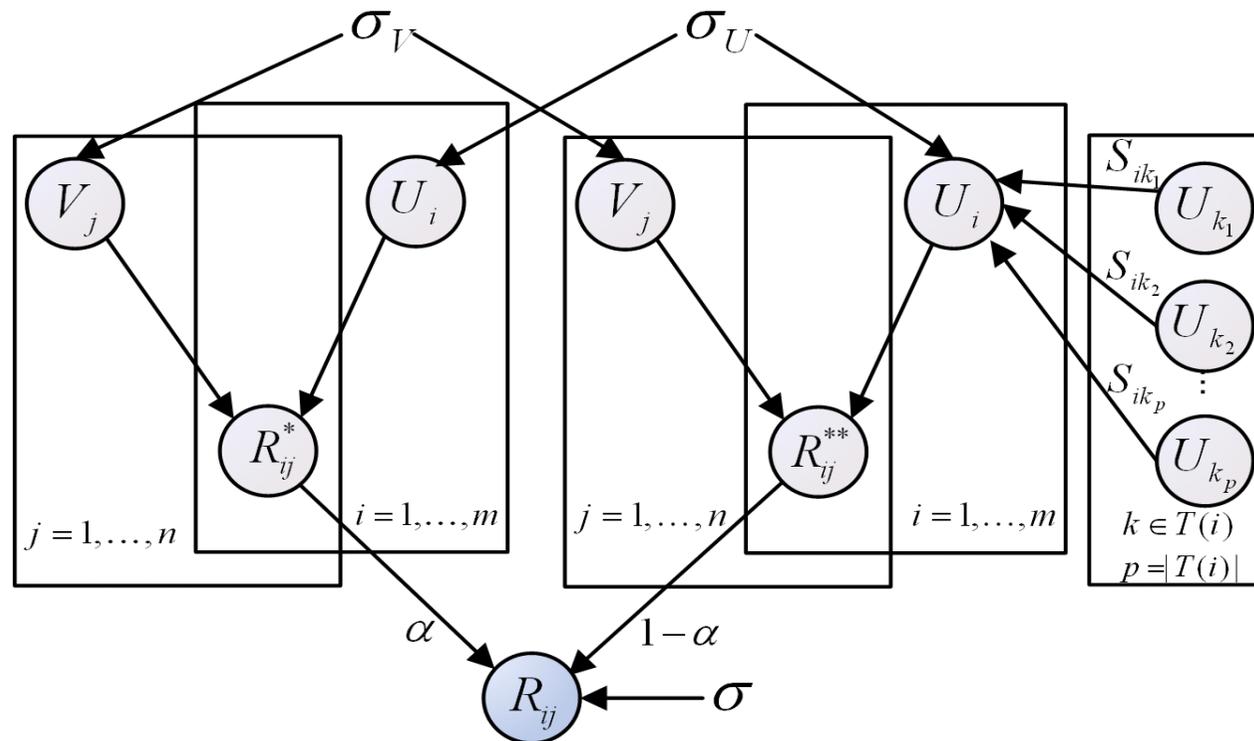
$$\hat{R}_{ik} = \sum_{j \in \mathcal{T}(i)} R_{jk} S_{ij}$$

$$p(R|S, U, V, \sigma_R^2) =$$

$$\prod_{i=1}^m \prod_{j=1}^n \left[ \mathcal{N} \left( R_{ij} \mid g \left( \sum_{k \in \mathcal{T}(i)} S_{ik} U_k^T V_j \right), \sigma_S^2 \right) \right]^{I_{ij}^R}$$



# Recommendation with Social Trust Ensemble



$$\prod_{i=1}^m \prod_{j=1}^n \left[ \mathcal{N} \left( R_{ij} \mid g \left( \alpha U_i^T V_j + (1 - \alpha) \sum_{k \in T(i)} S_{ik} U_k^T V_j \right), \sigma^2 \right) \right]^{I_{ij}^R}$$



# Recommendation with Social Trust Ensemble

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{L}(R, S, U, V) &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n I_{ij}^R (R_{ij} - g(\alpha U_i^T V_j + (1 - \alpha) \sum_{k \in \mathcal{T}(i)} S_{ik} U_k^T V_j))^2 \\
 &\quad + \frac{\lambda_U}{2} \|U\|_F^2 + \frac{\lambda_V}{2} \|V\|_F^2, \tag{15}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial U_i} &= \alpha \sum_{j=1}^n I_{ij}^R g'(\alpha U_i^T V_j + (1 - \alpha) \sum_{k \in \mathcal{T}(i)} S_{ik} U_k^T V_j) V_j \\
 &\quad \times (g(\alpha U_i^T V_j + (1 - \alpha) \sum_{k \in \mathcal{T}(i)} S_{ik} U_k^T V_j) - R_{ij}) \\
 &\quad + (1 - \alpha) \sum_{p \in \mathcal{B}(i)} \sum_{j=1}^n I_{pj}^R g'(\alpha U_p^T V_j + (1 - \alpha) \sum_{k \in \mathcal{T}(p)} S_{pk} U_k^T V_j) \\
 &\quad \times (g(\alpha U_p^T V_j + (1 - \alpha) \sum_{k \in \mathcal{T}(p)} S_{pk} U_k^T V_j) - R_{pj}) S_{pi} V_j \\
 &\quad + \lambda_U U_i,
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial V_j} &= \sum_{i=1}^m I_{ij}^R g'(\alpha U_i^T V_j + (1 - \alpha) \sum_{k \in \mathcal{T}(i)} S_{ik} U_k^T V_j) \\
 &\quad \times (g(\alpha U_i^T V_j + (1 - \alpha) \sum_{k \in \mathcal{T}(i)} S_{ik} U_k^T V_j) - R_{ij}) \\
 &\quad \times (\alpha U_i + (1 - \alpha) \sum_{k \in \mathcal{T}(i)} S_{ik} U_k^T) + \lambda_V V_j,
 \end{aligned}$$



# Complexity

- In general, the complexity of this method is linear with the observations the user-item matrix



# Epinions Dataset

- 51,670 users who rated 83,509 items with totally 631,064 ratings
- Rating Density 0.015%
- The total number of issued trust statements is 511,799



# Metrics

- Mean Absolute Error and Root Mean Square Error

$$MAE = \frac{\sum_{i,j} |r_{i,j} - \hat{r}_{i,j}|}{N}$$

$$RMSE = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i,j} (r_{i,j} - \hat{r}_{i,j})^2}{N}}$$



# Comparisons

**Table III: Performance Comparisons (A Smaller MAE or RMSE Value Means a Better Performance)**

Training Data	Metrics	Dimensionality = 5						
		UserMean	ItemMean	NMF	PMF	Trust	SoRec	RSTE
90%	MAE	0.9134	0.9768	0.8738	0.8676	0.9054	0.8442	<b>0.8377</b>
	RMSE	1.1688	1.2375	1.1649	1.1575	1.1959	1.1333	<b>1.1109</b>
80%	MAE	0.9285	0.9913	0.8975	0.8951	0.9221	0.8638	<b>0.8594</b>
	RMSE	1.1817	1.2584	1.1861	1.1826	1.2140	1.1530	<b>1.1346</b>

Training Data	Metrics	Dimensionality = 10						
		UserMean	ItemMean	NMF	PMF	Trust	SoRec	RSTE
90%	MAE	0.9134	0.9768	0.8712	0.8651	0.9039	0.8404	<b>0.8367</b>
	RMSE	1.1688	1.2375	1.1621	1.1544	1.1917	1.1293	<b>1.1094</b>
80%	MAE	0.9285	0.9913	0.8951	0.8886	0.9215	0.8580	<b>0.8537</b>
	RMSE	1.1817	1.2584	1.1832	1.1760	1.2132	1.1492	<b>1.1256</b>

**NMF** --- D. D. Lee and H. S. Seung (Nature 1999)

**PMF** --- R. Salakhutdinov and A. Mnih (NIPS 2008)

**SoRec** --- H. Ma, H. Yang, M. R. Lyu and I. King (CIKM 2008)

**Trust, RSTE** --- H. Ma, I. King and M. R. Lyu (SIGIR 2009)

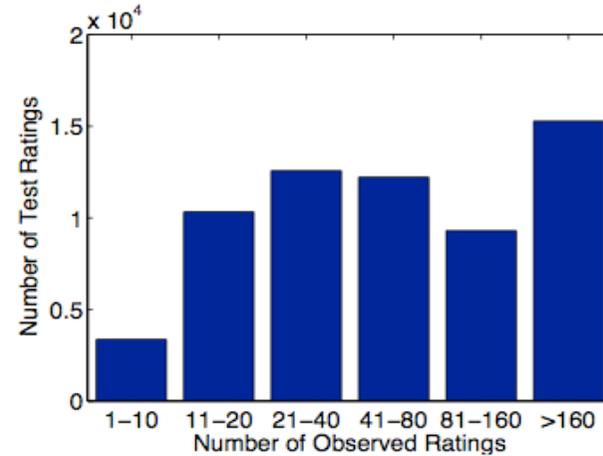


# Performance on Different Users

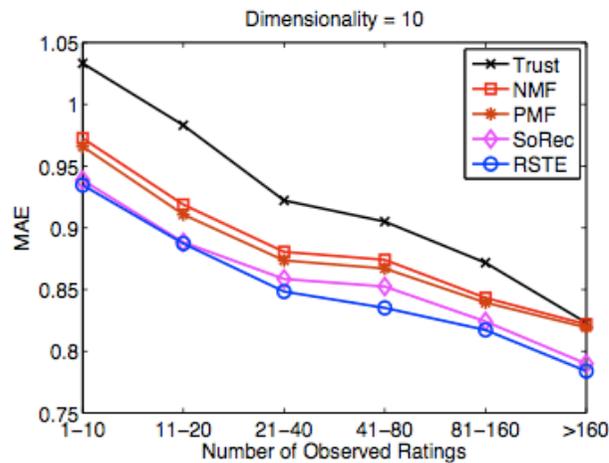
- Group all the users based on the number of observed ratings in the training data
- 6 classes: “1 – 10”, “11 – 20”, “21 – 40”, “41 – 80”, “81 – 160”, “> 160”,



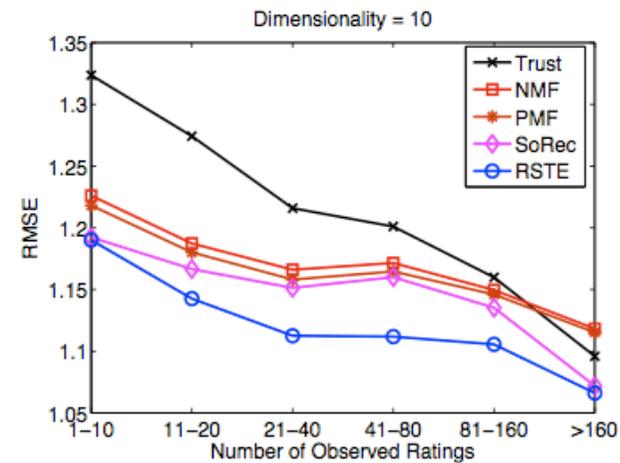
# Performance on Different Users



(a) Distribution of Testing Data (90% as Training Data)



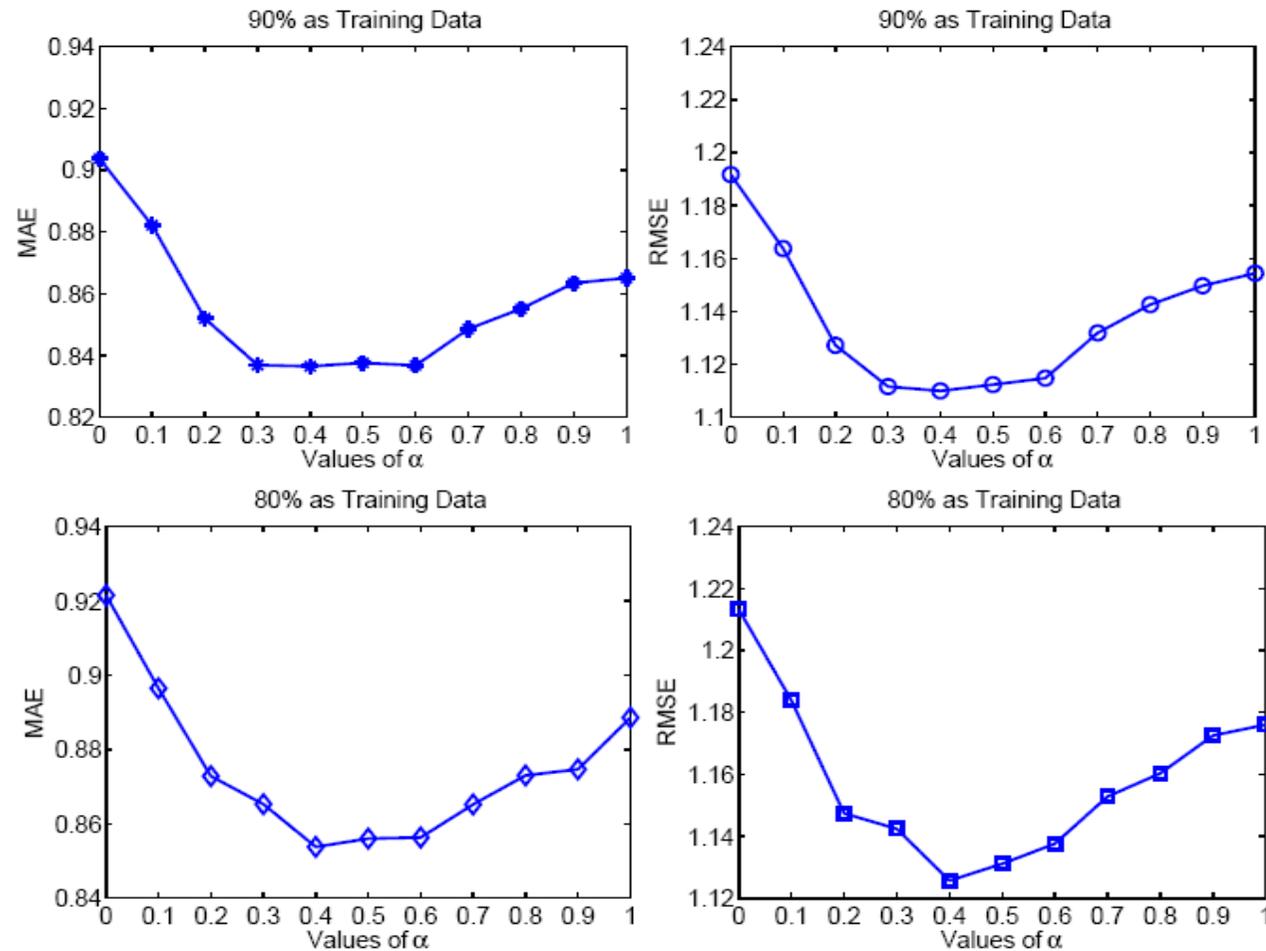
(b) MAE Comparison on Different User Rating Scales (90% as Training Data)



(c) RMSE Comparison on Different User Rating Scales (90% as Training Data)



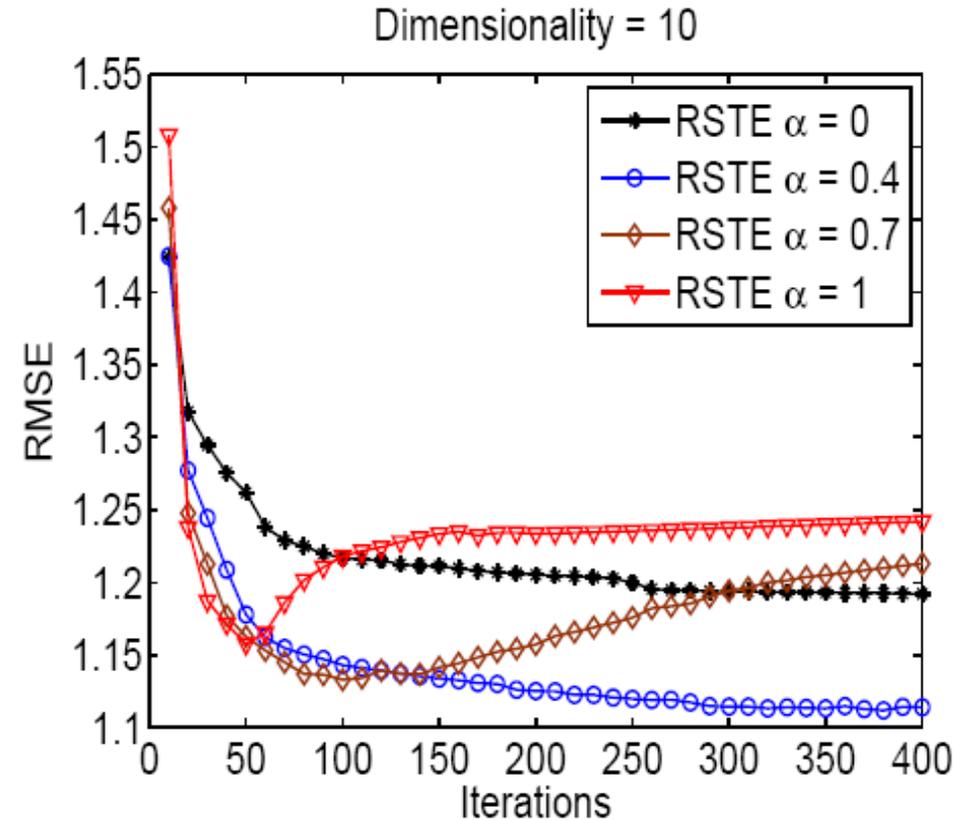
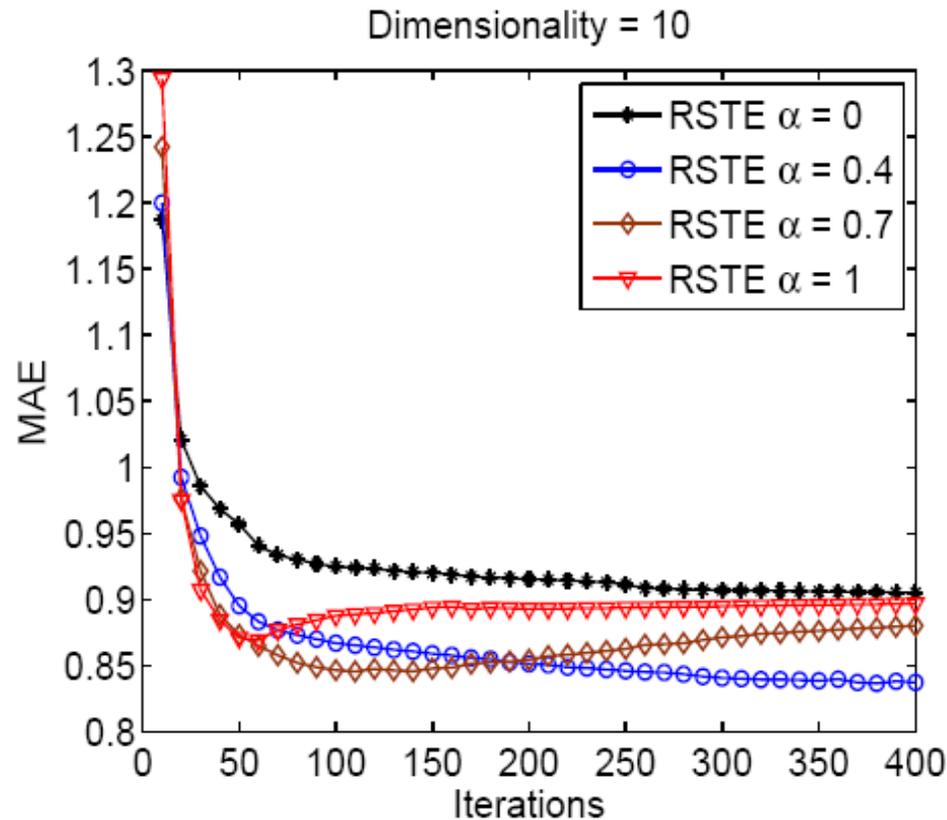
# Impact of Parameter Alpha



Impact of Parameter  $\alpha$  (Dimensionality = 10)



# MAE and RMSE Changes with Iterations

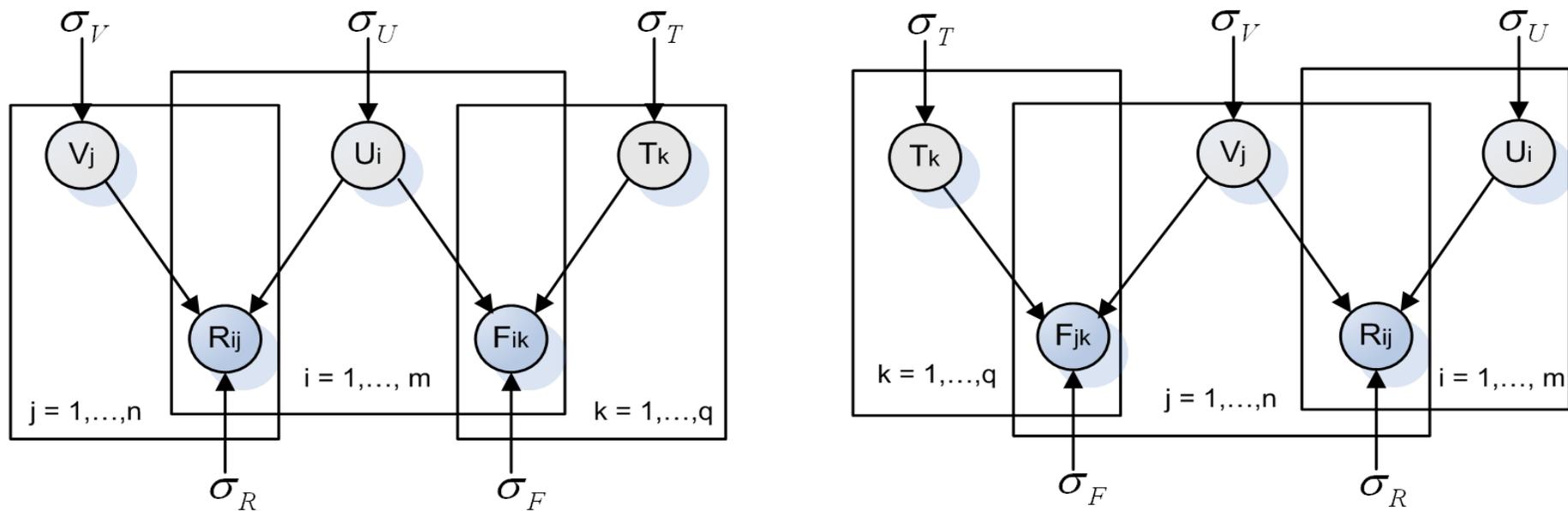


90% as Training Data



# Further Discussion of SoRec

- Improving Recommender Systems Using Social Tags



MovieLens Dataset

**71,567** users, **10,681** movies,  
**10,000,054** ratings, **95,580** tags



# Further Discussion of SoRec

- MAE

Table V: MAE comparison with other approaches on MovieLens dataset (A smaller MAE value means a better performance)

Methods		80% Training	50% Training	30% Training	10% Training
User Mean		0.7686	0.7710	0.7742	0.8234
Item Mean		0.7379	0.7389	0.7399	0.7484
5D	SVD	0.6390	0.6547	0.6707	0.7448
	PMF	0.6325	0.6542	0.6698	0.7430
	SoRecUser	0.6209	0.6419	0.6607	0.7040
	SoRecItem	<b>0.6199</b>	<b>0.6407</b>	<b>0.6395</b>	<b>0.7026</b>
10D	SVD	0.6386	0.6534	0.6693	0.7431
	PMF	0.6312	0.6530	0.6683	0.7417
	SoRecUser	0.6197	0.6408	0.6595	0.7028
	SoRecItem	<b>0.6187</b>	<b>0.6395</b>	<b>0.6584</b>	<b>0.7016</b>



# Further Discussion of SoRec

- RMSE

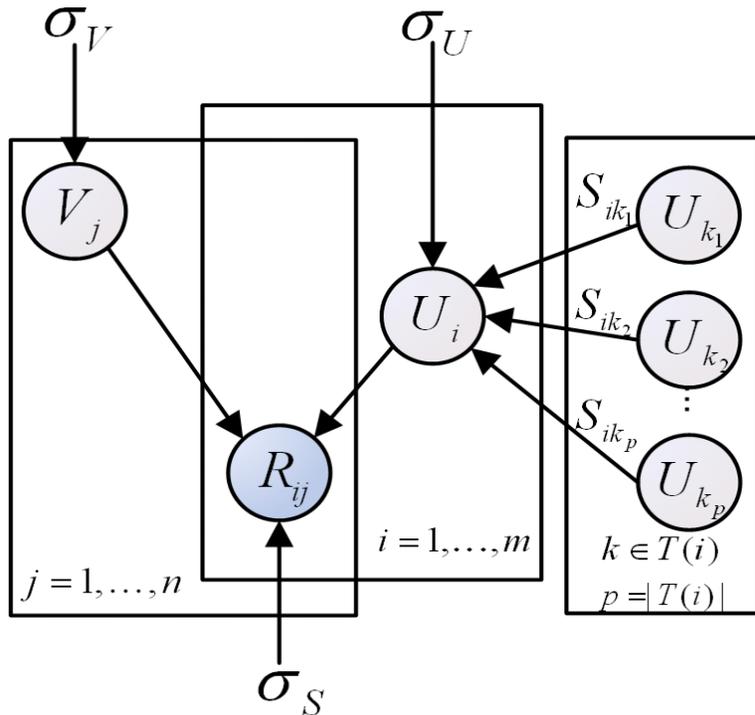
Table VI: RMSE comparison with other approaches on MovieLens dataset (A smaller RMSE value means a better performance)

Methods		80% Training	50% Training	30% Training	10% Training
User Mean		0.9779	0.9816	0.9869	1.1587
Item Mean		0.9440	0.9463	0.9505	0.9851
5D	SVD	0.8327	0.8524	0.8743	0.9892
	PMF	0.8310	0.8582	0.8758	0.9698
	SoRecUser	0.8121	0.8384	0.8604	0.9042
	SoRecItem	<b>0.8112</b>	<b>0.8370</b>	<b>0.8591</b>	<b>0.9033</b>
10D	SVD	0.8312	0.8509	0.8728	0.9878
	PMF	0.8295	0.8569	0.8743	0.9681
	SoRecUser	0.8110	0.8372	0.8593	0.9034
	SoRecItem	<b>0.8097</b>	<b>0.8359</b>	<b>0.8578</b>	<b>0.9019</b>



# Further Discussion of RSTE

- Relationship with Neighborhood-based methods



- The trusted friends are actually the explicit neighbors
- We can easily apply this method to include implicit neighbors
- Using PCC to calculate similar users for every user

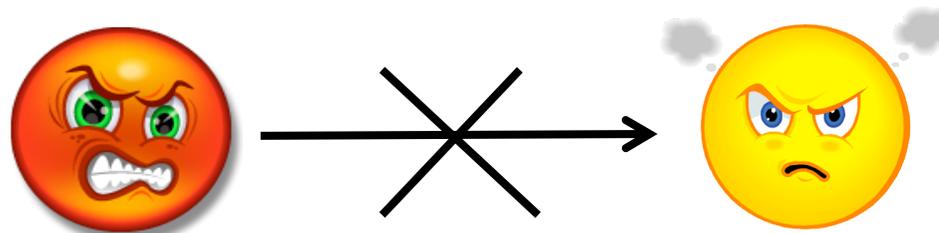


# What We Cannot Model Using SoRec and RSTE?

- Propagation of trust



- Distrust



# Social Recommender Systems

- Introduction
- Collaborative Filtering
- Trust-aware Recommender Systems
- **Social-based Recommender Systems**
- Web Site Recommendation



# Recommend with Social Distrust

[Hao Ma, et al., RecSys2009]



# Trust vs. Social

- Trust-aware
  - Trust network: **unilateral** relations
  - Trust relations can be treated as “**similar**” relations
  - **Few** datasets available on the Web
- Social-based
  - Social friend network: **mutual** relations
  - Friends are very diverse, and may have **different tastes**
  - **Lots** of Web sites have social network implementation



# Distrust

- Users' **distrust** relations can be interpreted as the “**dissimilar**” relations
  - On the web, user  $U_i$  distrusts user  $U_d$  indicates that user  $U_i$  **disagrees** with most of the opinions issued by user  $U_d$ .
  - What to do if a user distrusts many people?
  - What to do if many people distrust a user?



# Distrust

$$\max_U \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{d \in \mathcal{D}^+(i)} S_{id}^{\mathcal{D}} \|U_i - U_d\|_F^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{U, V} \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{D}}(R, S^{\mathcal{D}}, U, V) &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n I_{ij}^R (R_{ij} - g(U_i^T V_j))^2 \\ &+ \frac{\beta}{2} \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{d \in \mathcal{D}^+(i)} (-S_{id}^{\mathcal{D}} \|U_i - U_d\|_F^2) \\ &+ \frac{\lambda_U}{2} \|U\|_F^2 + \frac{\lambda_V}{2} \|V\|_F^2. \end{aligned}$$



# Trust

- Users' **trust** relations can be interpreted as the “**similar**” relations
  - On the web, user  $U_i$  trusts user  $U_t$  indicates that user  $U_i$  **agrees** with most of the opinions issued by user  $U_t$ .



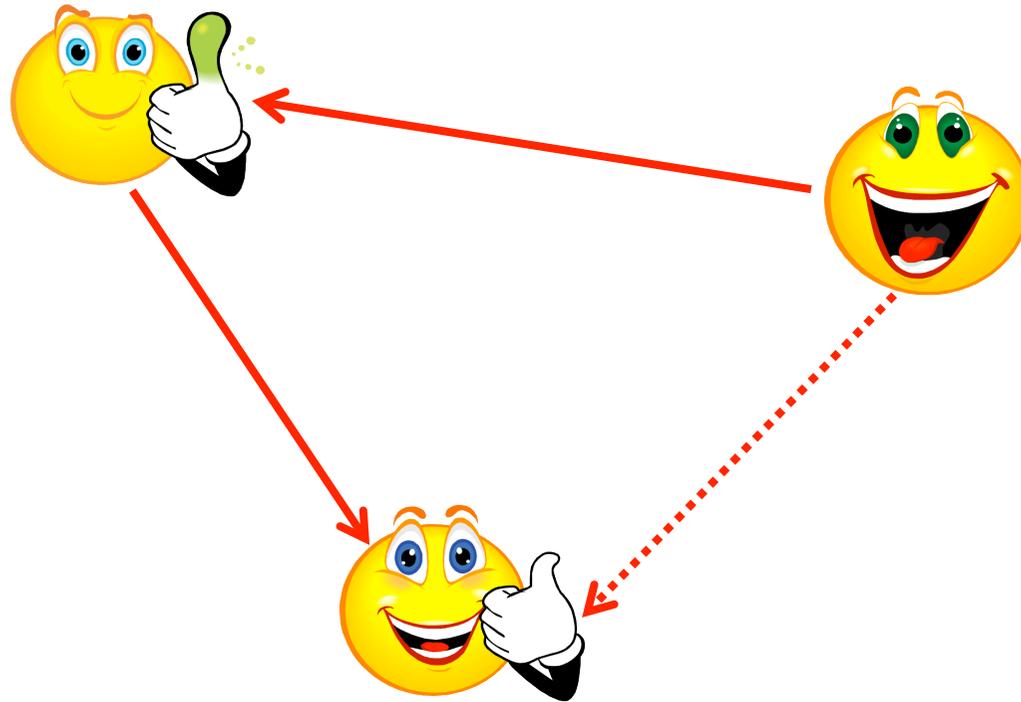
# Trust

$$\min_U \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{t \in \mathcal{T}^+(i)} S_{it}^T \|U_i - U_t\|_F^2$$

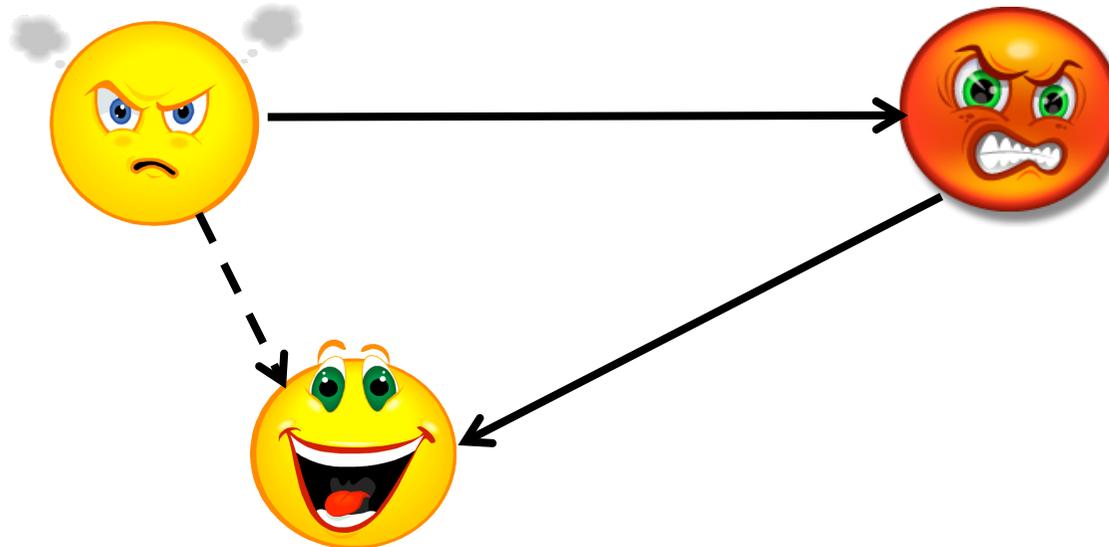
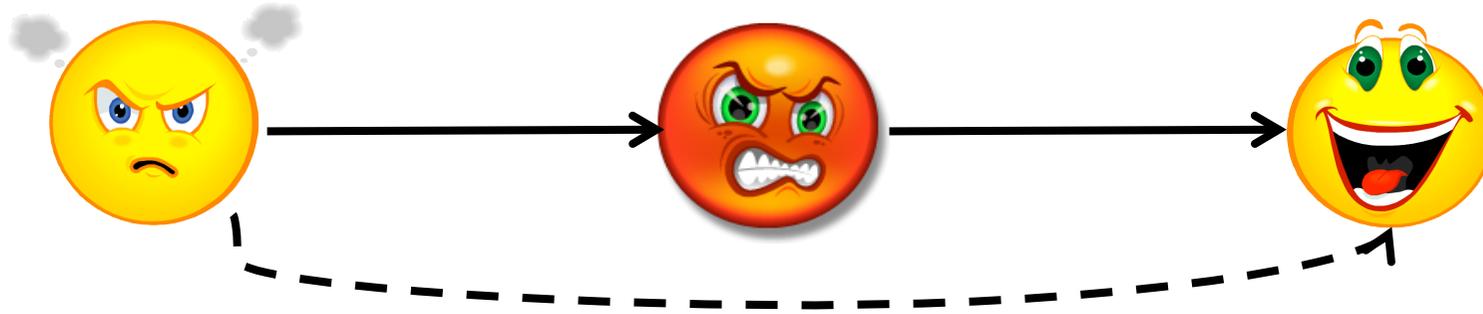
$$\begin{aligned} \min_{U, V} \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{T}}(R, S^T, U, V) &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n I_{ij}^R (R_{ij} - g(U_i^T V_j))^2 \\ &+ \frac{\alpha}{2} \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{t \in \mathcal{T}^+(i)} (S_{it}^T \|U_i - U_t\|_F^2) \\ &+ \frac{\lambda_U}{2} \|U\|_F^2 + \frac{\lambda_V}{2} \|V\|_F^2. \end{aligned}$$



# Trust Propagation



# Distrust Propagation?



# Experiments

- Dataset - Epinions
- **131,580** users, **755,137** items, **13,430,209** ratings
- **717,129** trust relations, **123,670** distrust relations



# Data Statistics

**Table 1: Statistics of User-Item Rating Matrix of Epinions**

Statistics	User	Item
Min. Num. of Ratings	1	1
Max. Num. of Ratings	162169	1179
Avg. Num. of Ratings	102.07	17.79

**Table 2: Statistics of Trust Network of Epinions**

Statistics	Trust per User	Be Trusted per User
Max. Num.	2070	3338
Avg. Num.	5.45	5.45

**Table 3: Statistics of Distrust Network of Epinions**

Statistics	Distrust per User	Be Distrusted per User
Max. Num.	1562	540
Avg. Num.	0.94	0.94



# Experiments

## RMSE

Dataset	Traning Data	Dimensionality	PMF	SoRec	RWD	RWT
Epinions	5%	5D	1.228	1.199	1.186	<b>1.177</b>
		10D	1.214	1.198	1.185	<b>1.176</b>
	10%	5D	0.990	0.944	0.932	<b>0.924</b>
		10D	0.977	0.941	0.931	<b>0.923</b>
	20%	5D	0.819	0.788	0.723	<b>0.721</b>
		10D	0.818	0.787	0.723	<b>0.720</b>



# Impact of Parameters

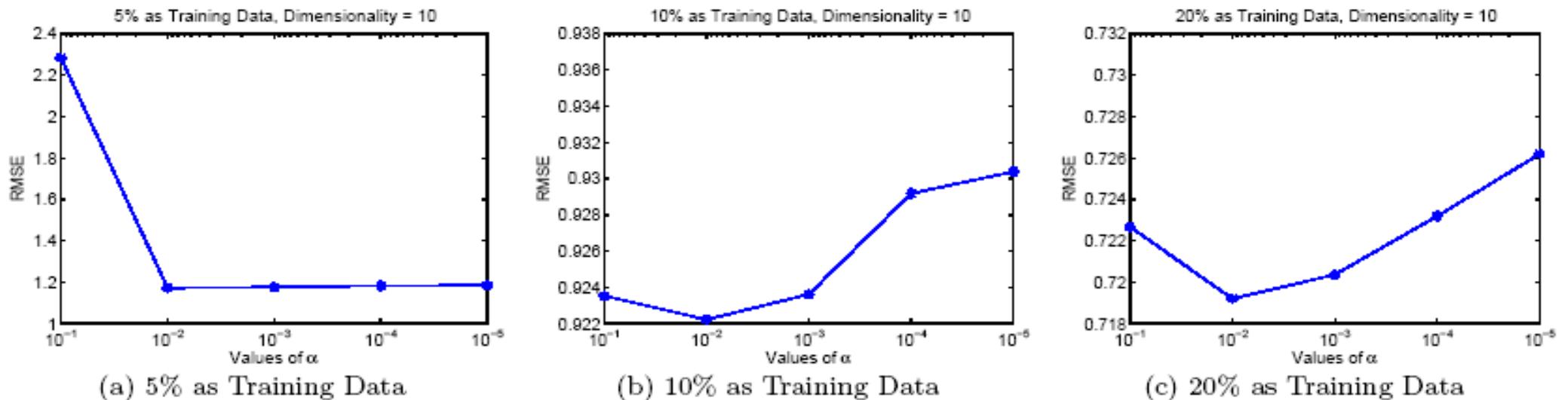


Figure 6: Impact of Parameter  $\alpha$

Alpha = 0.01 will get the best performance!  
Parameter beta basically shares the same trend!



# Social Recommender Systems

- Introduction
- Collaborative Filtering
- Trust-aware Recommender Systems
- **Social-based Recommender Systems**



# Comparison

- **Trust-aware Recommender systems**
  - Trust network
  - Trust relations can be treated as “similar” relations
  - Few dataset available on the web
- **Social-based Recommender Systems**
  - Social friend network, mutual relations
  - Friends are very divers, and may have different tastes
  - Lots of web sites have social network implementation



# Social Recommender Systems

- Introduction
- Collaborative Filtering
- Trust-aware Recommender Systems
- Social-based Recommender Systems
- **Web Site Recommendation**



# Web Site Recommendation

[Ma et al., SIGIR 2011]



# Traditional Search Paradigm

The image shows a screenshot of a Bing search results page for the query "sigir". The page layout includes a top navigation bar with links for Web, Images, Videos, Shopping, News, Maps, and More, along with user account information for Irwin King. The search bar contains the text "sigir" and a magnifying glass icon. Below the search bar, there are tabs for "Web", "News", "Images", and "More". The main content area displays search results for "ALL RESULTS", showing 1-10 of 255,000 results. The first result is titled "Welcome to SIGIR | Home" and describes an Iraqi fisherman's daily fishing trip. The second result is titled "ACM SIGIR Special Interest Group on Information Retrieval Home Page" and provides information about the ACM SIGIR website. The third result is titled "home [ACM SIGIR 2010]" and describes the ACM-SIGIR 2010 conference. The fourth result is titled "Welcome to The 34th Annual ACM SIGIR Conference" and lists important dates for the conference. The fifth result is titled "About SIGIR" and describes the Office of the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction. The sixth result is titled "SIGIR 2009 Archive | SIGIR'09" and describes the SIGIR 2009 conference. On the left side of the page, there are sections for "RELATED SEARCHES" (including "Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction", "SIGIR Reports", "SIGIR Poster", "SIGIR List", "SIGIR 2011", "SIGIR 10", "SIGIR 2010 Registration", "SIGIR 2009 Proceedings"), "SEARCH HISTORY", and "NARROW BY DATE" (including "All results", "Past 24 hours", "Past week", "Past month"). On the right side of the page, there is a "Bing Rewards" section with the text "Earn Rewards with Bing" and "Join Bing Rewards for free and earn 250 credits."



# “Search” to “Discovery”



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# Challenges

- Infeasible to ask Web users to explicitly rate Web site
- Not all the traditional methods can be directly applied to the Web site recommendation task
- Can only take advantages of implicit user behavior data



# Motivations

- A Web user's preference can be represented by how frequently a user visits each site
- Higher visiting frequency on a site means heavy information needs while lower frequency indicates less interests
- User-query issuing frequency data can be used to refine a user's preference



# Using Clicks as Ratings

ID	Query	URL
358	facebook	http://www.facebook.com
358	rww	http://www.readwriteweb.com
3968	iphone4	http://www.apple.com
3968	ipad	http://www.apple.com
...	...	...

		Web sites					
		$v_1$	$v_2$	$v_3$	$v_4$	$v_5$	$v_6$
Web users	$u_1$		68	1		15	
	$u_2$	42			13		24
	$u_3$		72	12		11	2
	$u_4$	15			33		
	$u_5$		85	45			63

		Queries				
		$z_1$	$z_2$	$z_3$	$z_4$	$z_5$
Web users	$u_1$	12		5	6	
	$u_2$		23		5	1
	$u_3$		14		35	18
	$u_4$	25		11	4	
	$u_5$		12	5		24



# Matrix Factorization

$$\min_{U, V} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n I_{ij} (R_{ij} - U_i V_j^T)^2 + \frac{\lambda_1}{2} \|U\|_F^2 + \frac{\lambda_2}{2} \|V\|_F^2$$

$$p(R|U, V, \sigma_R^2) = \prod_{i=1}^m \prod_{j=1}^n \left[ \mathcal{N}(R_{ij} | U_i V_j^T, \sigma_R^2) \right]^{I_{ij}}$$

$$p(U | \sigma_U^2) = \prod_{i=1}^m \mathcal{N}(U_i | 0, \sigma_U^2 \mathbf{I})$$

$$p(V | \sigma_V^2) = \prod_{j=1}^n \mathcal{N}(V_j | 0, \sigma_V^2 \mathbf{I})$$



# Probabilistic Factor Model

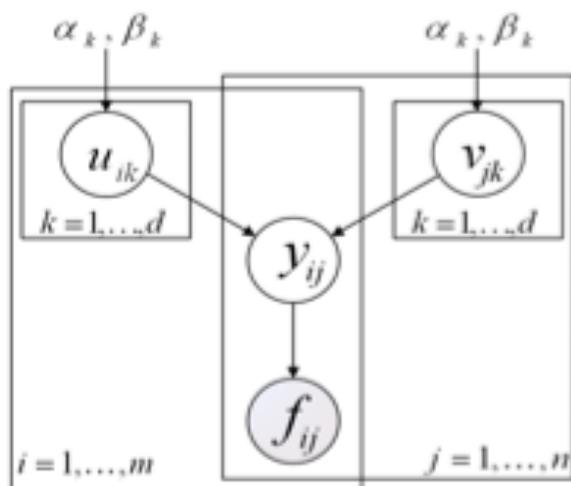
- GaP [Canny, SIGIR 2004]
  - Linear topic model



- NMF
  - No Gamma distribution on  $X$



# Probabilistic Factor Model



1. Generate  $u_{ik} \sim \text{Gamma}(\alpha_k, \beta_k), \forall k$ .
2. Generate  $v_{jk} \sim \text{Gamma}(\alpha_k, \beta_k), \forall k$ .
3. Generate  $y_{ij}$  occurrences of item or event  $j$  from user  $i$  with outcome  $y_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^d u_{ik}v_{jk}$ .
4. Generate  $f_{ij} \sim \text{Poisson}(y_{ij})$ .

$$p(U|\alpha, \beta) = \prod_{i=1}^m \prod_{k=1}^d \frac{u_{ik}^{\alpha_k - 1} \exp(-u_{ik}/\beta_k)}{\beta_k^{\alpha_k} \Gamma(\alpha_k)}$$

$$p(V|\alpha, \beta) = \prod_{j=1}^n \prod_{k=1}^d \frac{v_{jk}^{\alpha_k - 1} \exp(-v_{jk}/\beta_k)}{\beta_k^{\alpha_k} \Gamma(\alpha_k)}$$

$$p(F|Y) = \prod_{i=1}^m \prod_{j=1}^n \frac{y_{ij}^{f_{ij}} \exp(-y_{ij})}{f_{ij}!}$$

$$p(U, V|F, \alpha, \beta) \propto p(F|Y)p(U|\alpha, \beta)p(V|\alpha, \beta)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}(U, V; F) &= \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{k=1}^d ((\alpha_k - 1) \ln(u_{ik}/\beta_k) - u_{ik}/\beta_k) \\ &+ \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^d ((\alpha_k - 1) \ln(v_{jk}/\beta_k) - v_{jk}/\beta_k) \\ &+ \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n (f_{ij} \ln y_{ij} - y_{ij}) + \text{const.} \end{aligned}$$



# Probabilistic Factor Model

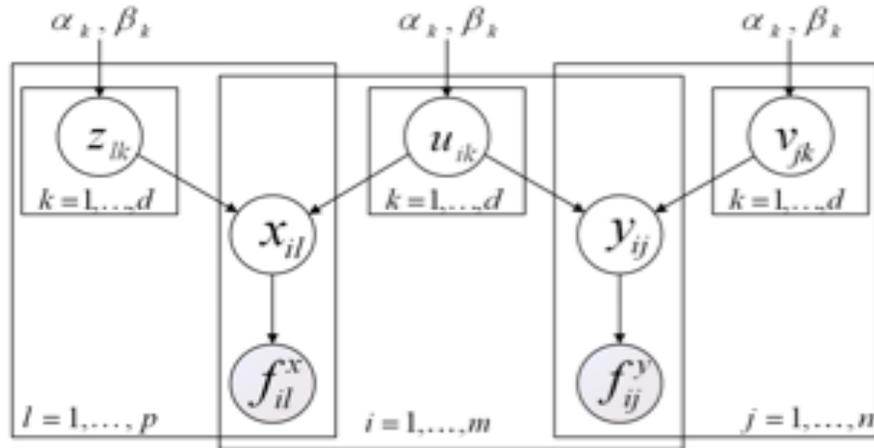
$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}(U, V; F) &= \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{k=1}^d ((\alpha_k - 1) \ln(u_{ik}/\beta_k) - u_{ik}/\beta_k) \\ &\quad + \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^d ((\alpha_k - 1) \ln(v_{jk}/\beta_k) - v_{jk}/\beta_k) \\ &\quad + \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n (f_{ij} \ln y_{ij} - y_{ij}) + \text{const.}\end{aligned}$$

$$u_{ik} \leftarrow u_{ik} \frac{\sum_{j=1}^n (f_{ij} v_{jk} / y_{ij}) + (\alpha_k - 1) / \beta_k}{\sum_{j=1}^n v_{jk} + 1 / \beta_k}$$

$$v_{jk} \leftarrow v_{jk} \frac{\sum_{i=1}^m (f_{ij} u_{ik} / y_{ij}) + (\alpha_k - 1) / \beta_k}{\sum_{i=1}^m u_{ik} + 1 / \beta_k}$$



# Collective Probabilistic Factor Model



$$\mathcal{L}(U, V, Z; F^x, F^y)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{l=1}^p (f_{il}^x \ln x_{il} - x_{il}) + \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n (f_{ij}^y \ln y_{ij} - y_{ij}) \\
 &+ \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{k=1}^d ((\alpha_k - 1) \ln(u_{ik}/\beta_k) - u_{ik}/\beta_k) \\
 &+ \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^d ((\alpha_k - 1) \ln(v_{jk}/\beta_k) - v_{jk}/\beta_k) \\
 &+ \sum_{l=1}^p \sum_{k=1}^d ((\alpha_k - 1) \ln(z_{lk}/\beta_k) - z_{lk}/\beta_k) + \text{const.}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$u_{ik} \leftarrow u_{ik} \frac{\sum_{j=1}^n (f_{ij}^y v_{jk} / y_{ij}) + \sum_{l=1}^p (f_{il}^x z_{lk} / x_{il}) + (\alpha_k - 1) / u_{ik}}{\sum_{j=1}^n v_{jk} + \sum_{l=1}^p z_{lk} + 1 / \beta_k}$$

$$v_{jk} \leftarrow v_{jk} \frac{\sum_{i=1}^m (f_{ij}^y u_{ik} / y_{ij}) + (\alpha_k - 1) / v_{jk}}{\sum_{i=1}^m u_{ik} + 1 / \beta_k}$$

$$z_{lk} \leftarrow z_{lk} \frac{\sum_{i=1}^m (f_{il}^x u_{ik} / x_{il}) + (\alpha_k - 1) / z_{lk}}{\sum_{i=1}^m u_{ik} + 1 / \beta_k}$$

$$u_{ik} \leftarrow u_{ik} \frac{\theta \sum_{j=1}^n (f_{ij}^y v_{jk} / y_{ij}) + (1 - \theta) \sum_{l=1}^p (f_{il}^x z_{lk} / x_{il}) + (\alpha_k - 1) / u_{ik}}{\theta \sum_{j=1}^n v_{jk} + (1 - \theta) \sum_{l=1}^p z_{lk} + 1 / \beta_k}$$



# Dataset

- Anonymous logs of Web sites visited by users who opted-in to provide data through browser toolbar
- URLs of all the Web sites are truncated to the site level
- After pruning one month data, we have 165,403 users, 265,367 URLs and 442,598 queries
- User-site frequency matrix has 2,612,016 entries, while in user-query frequency matrix has 922,591 entries

**Table 2: Statistics of User-Site and User-Query Frequency Matrices**

Statistics	User-Site Frequency	User-Query Frequency
Min. Num.	4	10
Max. Num.	9,969	4,693
Avg. Num.	20.33	23.05



# Performance Comparison

**Table 3: Performance Comparison (Dimensionality = 10)**

Training Data	Metrics	UserMean	SiteMean	SVD	PMF	NMF	GaP	PFM	CPFM
90%	NMAE	2.246	1.094	0.488	0.476	0.465	0.440	0.432	<b>0.427</b>
	Improve	80.98%	60.96%	12.50%	10.29%	8.17%	2.95%		
90%	NRMSE	3.522	2.171	0.581	0.570	0.554	0.532	0.529	<b>0.520</b>
	Improve	85.24%	76.05%	10.50%	8.77%	6.14%	2.26%		
80%	NMAE	2.252	1.096	0.490	0.478	0.468	0.441	0.434	<b>0.428</b>
	Improve	80.99%	60.95%	12.65%	10.46%	8.55%	2.95%		
80%	NRMSE	3.714	2.159	0.584	0.571	0.560	0.533	0.530	<b>0.520</b>
	Improve	86.00%	75.91%	10.96%	8.93%	7.14%	2.44%		

**Table 4: Performance Comparison (Dimensionality = 20)**

Training Data	Metrics	UserMean	SiteMean	SVD	PMF	NMF	GaP	PFM	CPFM
90%	NMAE	2.246	1.094	0.469	0.460	0.449	0.426	0.413	<b>0.409</b>
	Improve	81.79%	62.61%	12.79%	11.09%	8.91%	3.99%		
90%	NRMSE	3.522	2.171	0.568	0.556	0.542	0.521	0.503	<b>0.496</b>
	Improve	85.92%	77.15%	12.68%	10.79%	8.49%	4.80%		
80%	NMAE	2.252	1.096	0.470	0.462	0.451	0.427	0.415	<b>0.410</b>
	Improve	81.79%	62.59%	12.77%	11.26%	9.09%	3.98%		
80%	NRMSE	3.714	2.159	0.570	0.558	0.545	0.522	0.504	<b>0.498</b>
	Improve	86.59%	76.93%	12.63%	10.75%	8.62%	4.60%		



# Impact of Parameters

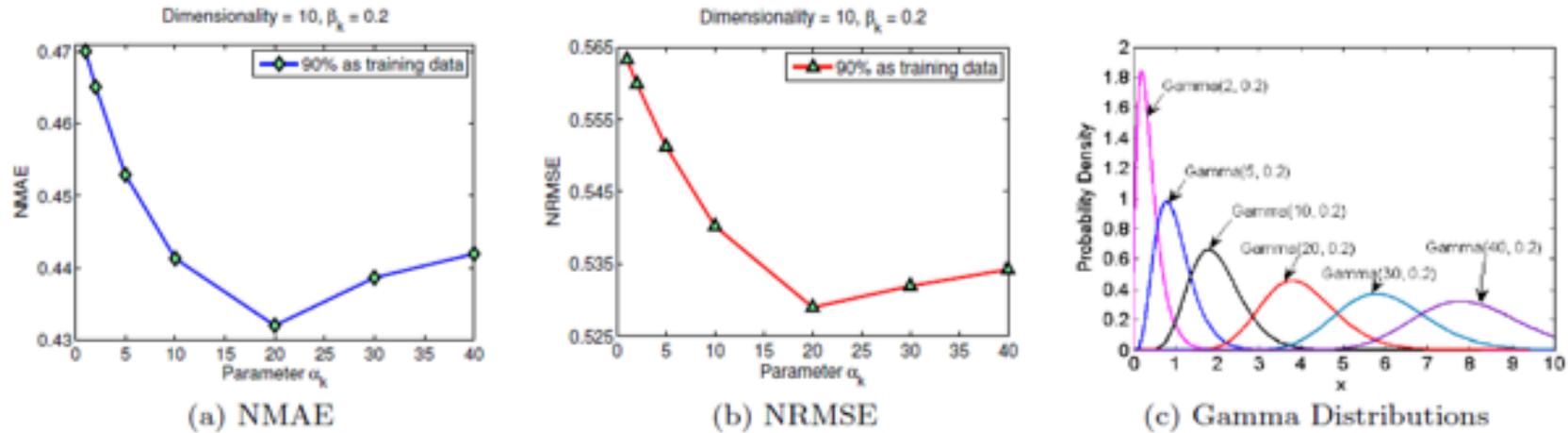


Figure 6: Impact of Parameter  $\alpha_k$  in PFM

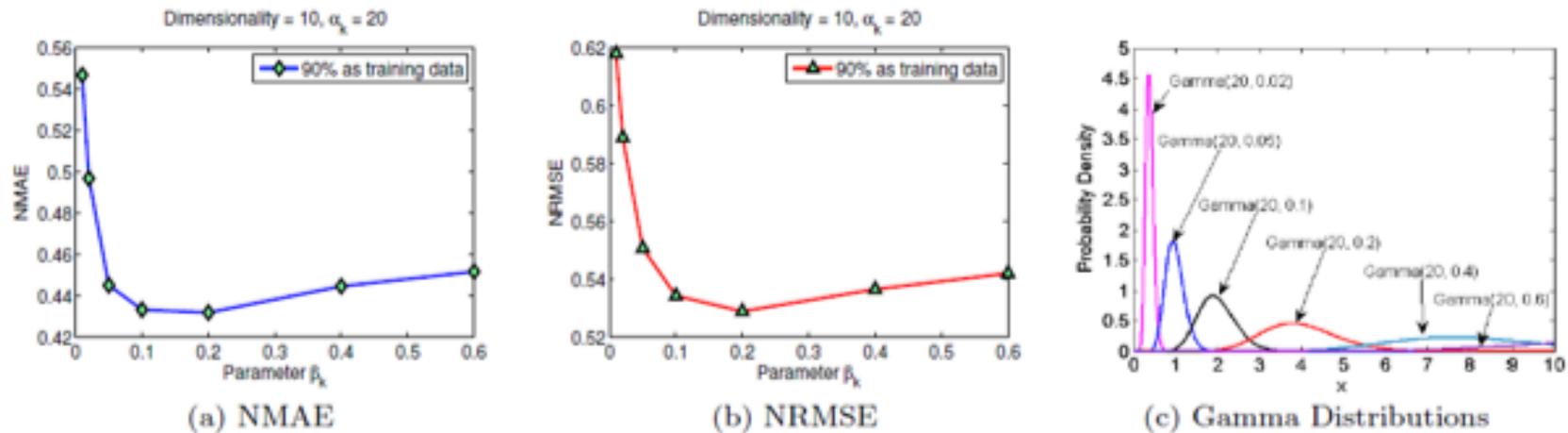
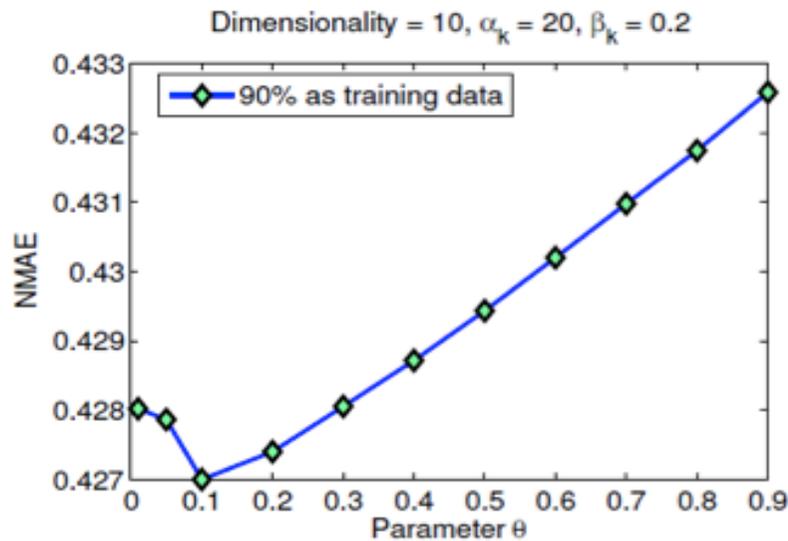


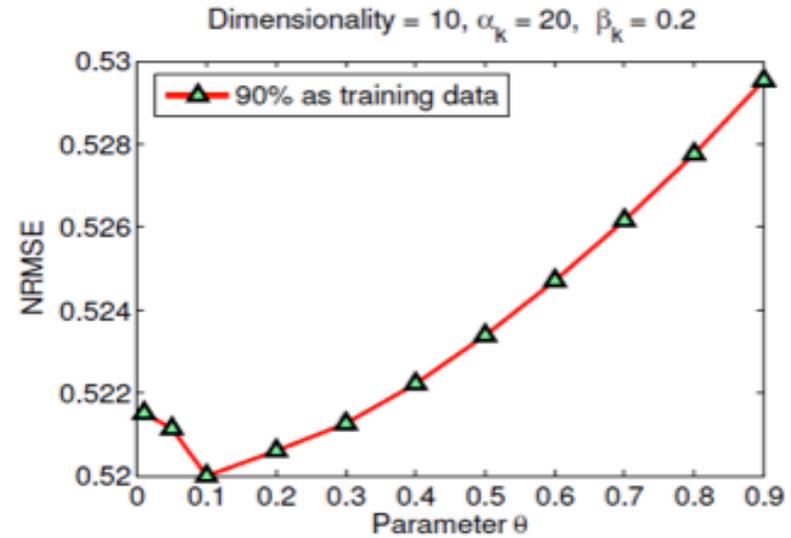
Figure 7: Impact of Parameter  $\beta_k$  in PFM



# Impact of Parameters



(a) NMAE



(b) NRMSE

Figure 8: Impact of Parameter  $\theta$  in CPFM



# Concluding Remarks

- **Social recommendation** extends traditional models and techniques by using **social graphs, ensembles, distrust relationships, clicks**, etc.
- Fusing of social behavior information, e.g., **social relationships, personal preferences, media consumption patterns, temporal dynamics, location information**, etc. provides better models for social recommendations



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