# Learning to Recommend with Location and Context

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#### Outline

- Introduction and Background
- POI Recommendation
- Successive POI Recommendation
- Gradient Boosting Factorization Machines
- Conclusion



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I own it Not interested XXXXXX Rate this item Recommended because you liked Live At The Troubadour (CD + DVD) (Fix this)



Blown Away

~ Carrie Underwood (May 1, 2012) Average Customer Review: In Stock Listen to samples

Price: \$9.99 38 used & new from \$8.78

I own it Not interested 🗵 🏠 🏠 🛱 Rate this item Recommended because you liked Speak Now (Fix this)





#### Congratulations! Movies we think You will 🤎

Add movies to your Queue, or Rate ones you've seen for even better suggestions.





Not Interested



Whore

















4









# Recommendation Approaches



- Collaborative filtering
  - Use user-item rating matrix to predict rating/ranking
  - Simple in data collection
- Content-based filtering
  - Users' preference expressed in intrinsic features
  - Difficult in feature representation





• Leverage similar users'/items' ratings

>
>



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- Pros
  - Simple to implement
  - Clear interpretation

		$v_1$	$v_2$	<i>v</i> <sub>3</sub>	$v_4$	$V_5$	$v_6$	
	$\mathcal{U}_1$		5	2		3		>
ı	<i>l</i> <sub>2</sub>	4			3		4	
ı	<i>u</i> <sub>3</sub>			2			2	
ı	1 <sub>4</sub>	5			3			
	15		5	5			3	>



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$u_1$		5	2		3		>
$u_2$	4			3		4	
<i>u</i> <sub>3</sub>			2			2	
$u_4$	5			3			
<u> </u>		5	5			3	>

- Cons
  - High computational cost
  - Prone to sparseness problem



# Model-based Collaborative Filtering

- Train a pre-defined model
- Efficient in prediction time
- Usually outperform memory-based methods
- Successful methods:
  - Probabilistic Matrix Factorization (PMF) [Salakhutdinov et al., 2007]
  - Bayesian Personalized Ranking (BPR) [Rendle et al, 2009]



#### PMF

• Use two low rank matrices U and V to approximate the rating matrix R:

 $R \approx U^T V, U \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times m}, V \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times n}$ 

• Conditional distribution over observed ratings:  $p(R|U, V, \sigma_R^2) = \prod_{i=1}^m \prod_{j=1}^n [\mathcal{N}(R_{ij}|U_iV_j^T, \sigma_R^2)]^{I_{ij}^R}$ 



 Zero-mean spherical Gaussian priors on user and item feature vectors:

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



#### PMF

• Maximize the posterior:

 $p(U, V|R, \sigma_R^2, \sigma_U^2, \sigma_V^2) \propto p(R|U, V, \sigma_R^2) p(U|\sigma_U^2) p(V|\sigma_V^2)$ 

• The objective function is:

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





#### BPR

- A ranking-oriented method
- Construct the pairwise training set  $D_S = \{(u, i, j) | u \in U \land i \in I_u^+ \land j \in I \setminus I_u^+\}$ 
  - a user u prefers i (observed) over j (unobserved)
- Maximize the posterior:

$$\prod_{(u,i,j)\in D_S} p(i>_u j|\Theta)p(\Theta)$$



#### BPR

• Define the prob. a user prefers i over j as:

$$p(i >_{u} j | \Theta) = \sigma(\hat{x}_{ui} - \hat{x}_{uj})$$
$$\hat{x}_{ui} = U_{u}^{T} V_{i}$$

• Finally we maximize:

$$\sum_{(u,i,j)\in D_S} \ln \sigma(\hat{x}_{ui} - \hat{x}_{uj}) - \lambda_{\Theta} \|\Theta\|_F^2$$



# Problems in Traditional Recommendation Methods



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- Data Sparsity
  - Extreme sparse in some applications such as POI recommendation
  - How to alleviate data sparsity problem



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- Data Sparsity
  - Extreme sparse in some applications such as POI recommendation
  - How to alleviate data sparsity problem
- Context information
  - Abundant context information available: age, category, special date, etc.
  - How to employ context information



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# Location-based Social Networks (LBSNs)









# Growth of Location-based Services (LBS)

- Almost one fifth of the world's six billion mobile users are already using LBS
- 26% users use the technology to find restaurants and entertainment venues
- 74% of smartphone owners use LBS.



Figure 2. Projected LBS services revenue by region (2011-2017)<sup>6</sup>



# Check-in Becomes a Lifestyle



# Check-in Becomes a Lifestyle

"Which of these apps do you use most frequently?" (n=169)

"What is the most important benefit of these apps to you, personally?" (n=253)





Gowalla

Whrrl



Connection to other people I know or could meet

Finding a place liked by people I trust

- Insight about my travel or movement patterns over time
- Savings in discounts and merchant rewards
- Practical knowledge of a new technology
- Achieving activity milestones in a game
- ■Other (please specify)



# Check-in Becomes a Lifestyle

#### Social Networks







• Help users explore their surroundings





• Help users explore their surroundings



- Help users explore their surroundings
- Help 3rd-party developers provide personalized services
  - Advertisements
  - Coupons
  - Traffic statistics





### Challenges

- Large dataset
  - 4,128,714 check-ins from 53,944 users on 367,149 locations for Gowalla
- Sparsity : density of our dataset is only 0.0208%
  - Matrix Factorization can be inaccurate

	$l_1$	$l_2$	$l_3$	$l_4$	$l_5$	$l_6$	• • • •	$l_{ \mathcal{L} -1}$	$l_{ \mathcal{L} }$
$u_1$	?	?	164	?	1	?	• • •	?	1
$u_2$	40	2	?	?	?	1	•••	?	?
:	:	:	÷	:	:	:		:	:
$u_{ \mathcal{U} -1}$	?	?	1	1	?	?	• • •	2	?
$u_{ \mathcal{U} }$	?	2	?	?	1	?	•••	?	10

Figure 1: User-location check-in frequency matrix.



# Geographical Influence





# Geographical Influence




#### Top-k Ranking



#### Top-k Ranking



users care more about top results



#### Our Proposal

- Multi-center Gaussian Model (MGM) to capture the geographical influence
- Fused matrix factorization framework with MGM
- Propose two methods based on BPR to address geographical influence and top-k ranking







- Notation
  - $C_u$ : multi-center set for user u
  - $f_{c_u}$ : total frequency at center  $c_u$  for user u
  - $\mathcal{N}(l|\mu_{c_u}, \Sigma_{c_u})$  is : the pdf of Gaussian distribution,  $\mu_{c_u}$  and  $\Sigma_{c_u}$  denote the mean and covariance matrices of regions around center  $C_u$





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$$P(l|C_u) = \sum_{c_u=1}^{|C_u|} P(l \in c_u) \frac{f_{c_u}^{\alpha}}{\sum_{i \in C_u} f_i^{\alpha}} \frac{\mathcal{N}(l|\mu_{c_u}, \Sigma_{c_u})}{\sum_{i \in C_u} \mathcal{N}(l|\mu_i, \Sigma_i)}$$





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  $\propto 1/dist(l, c_u)$ 





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Center2(15.6%

38

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Algorithm 1 Multi-center Discovering Algorithm

1: for all user i in the user set  $\mathcal{U}$  do Rank all check-in locations in  $|\mathcal{L}|$  according to visiting fre-2: quency  $\forall l_k \in L, \text{ set } l_k.center = -1;$ 3: Center\_list =  $\emptyset$ ; center\_no = 0; 4: for  $i = 1 \rightarrow |L|$  do 5: if  $l_i.center = -1$  then 6: center\_no++; Center =  $\emptyset$ ; Center.total\_freq = 0; 7: 8: Center.add( $l_i$ ); Center.total\_freq +=  $l_i$ .freq; for  $j = i + 1 \rightarrow |L|$  do 9: if  $l_i$  center == -1 and  $dist(l_i, l_i) \leq d$  then  $l_j.center = center_no; Center.add(l_j);$ Center.total\_freq  $\neq l_i$ .freq; end if end for if Center.total\_freq  $\geq |u_i|$ .total\_freq \*  $\theta$  then Center\_list.add(Center); end if end if end for **RETURN** Center\_list for user *i*; 21: end for



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 $P_{ul} = P(F_{ul}) \cdot P(l|C_u)$ 



 Traditional Matrix Factorization (MF) only model users' preference on locations



Location

 $P_{ul} = P(F_{ul}) \cdot P(l|C_u)$ encode user preference based on MF



- Traditional Matrix Factorization (MF) only model users' preference on locations
- MGM only models geographical influence





- Traditional Matrix Factorization (MF) only model users' preference on locations
- MGM only models geographical influence
- We can fuse both of them





• BPRLR1: same as the previous fusion method

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• BPRLR1: same as the previous fusion method

$$P_{ul} = \underbrace{P(F_{ul})}_{\text{encode user preference}} P(l|C_u)$$





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  - Maximize the difference between visited location and unvisited nearby location



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$$S' = \{(u, i, j) | u \in \mathcal{U}, i \in \mathcal{L}_u^+ \land j \in N_u \setminus \mathcal{L}_u^+\}$$
$$N_u = \{l | P(l | C_u) > 0\}$$



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calculated by MGM



#### Dataset

Two publicly available data sets: Foursquare and Gowalla

Table 3.1: Basic statistics of the Gowalla and Foursquare dataset for POI recommendation

#U	#L	<i>#E</i>
53,944	367, 149	306,958
$\#\widetilde{U}$	$\#\widetilde{L}$	$\#\widetilde{E}$
51.33	7.54	11.38
#max. U	#max. $L$	#max. <i>E</i>
2,145	3,581	2,366

#U	#L
6,084	37,976
$\#\widetilde{U}$	$\#\widetilde{L}$
35.98	5.76
#max. U	#max. <i>L</i>
182	985

(a) Gowalla

(b) Foursquare





Datio	Matrice		Dimension $= 30$									
Kauo	wiethes	MGM	PMF	PMFSR	PFM	FMFMGM	BPR	BPRLR1	BPRLR2			
	P@5	0.0317	0.0148	0.0158	0.0173	0.0672	0.0674	0.0803	0.0517			
	Improve	153.00%	441.89%	407.59%	363.58%	19.35%	18.99%	0.0002	55.13%			
	R@5	0.0113	0.0033	0.0035	0.0040	0.0212	0.0199	0.0270	0.0175			
70%	Improve	138.94%	718.18%	671.43%	575.00%	27.36%	35.68%	0.0270	54.29%			
10%	P@10	0.0273	0.0162	0.0174	0.0173	0.0656	0.0643	0.0700	0.0628			
	Improve	156.41%	332.10%	302.30%	304.62%	6.71%	8.86%	0.0700	11.46%			
	R@10	0.0194	0.0075	0.0080	0.0084	0.0408	0.0382	0.0465	0.0408			
	Improve	260.82%	833.33%	775.00%	733.33%	71.57%	83.25%	0.0403	71.57%			
	P@5	0.0263	0.0106	0.011	0.0114	0.0486	0.0488	0.0551	0.0348			
	Improve	109.51%	419.81%	400.91%	383.33%	13.37%	12.91%	0.0551	58.33%			
	R@5	0.0141	0.0035	0.0037	0.0039	0.0218	0.0210	0.0263	0.0172			
80%	Improve	86.52%	651.43%	610.81%	574.36%	20.64%	25.24%	0.0203	52.91%			
80%	P@10	0.0226	0.0115	0.0117	0.0117	0.0472	0.0450	0.0470	0.0432			
	Improve	111.95%	316.52%	309.40%	309.40%	1.48%	6.44%	0.0473	10.88%			
	R@10	0.0244	0.0079	0.0081	0.0085	0.0424	0.0386	0.0456	0.0407			
	Improve	86.89%	477.22%	462.96%	436.47%	7.55%	18.13%	0.0430	12.04%			

Table III. Performance Comparisons on the Gowalla dataset with K = 30

Table V. Performance Comparisons on the Foursquare dataset with K = 30

Patio	Metrics		Γ	Dimension = :	30			
Katio	withes	MGM	PMF	PFM	FMFMGM	BPR	BPRLR1	BPRLR2
	P@5	0.0409	0.0621	0.0718	0.1201	0.1086	0.1484	0 1793
	Improve	335.94%	187.12%	148.33%	48.46%	64.18%	20.15%	0.1705
	R@5	0.0306	0.0277	0.0312	0.0594	0.0528	0.0763	0.0001
70%	Improve	194.44%	225.27%	188.78%	51.68%	70.64%	18.09%	0.0901
1070	P@10	0.0373	0.0638	0.0663	0.1166	0.1107	0.1522	0 1608
	Improve	355.23%	166.14%	156.11%	45.63%	53.39%	11.56%	0.1070
	R@10	0.0531	0.0574	0.0622	0.1166	0.1070	0.1568	0 1728
	Improve	225.42%	201.05%	177.81%	48.20%	61.50%	10.20%	0.1720
	P@5	0.0288	0.0450	0.0482	0.0833	0.0820	0.1050	0 1287
	Improve	346.88%	186.00%	167.01%	54.50%	56.95%	22.57%	0.1207
	R@5	0.0332	0.0306	0.0364	0.0640	0.0606	0.0834	0 0008
80%	Improve	200.60%	226.14%	174.18%	55.94%	64.69%	19.66%	0.0990
00 //	P@10	0.0265	0.0478	0.0512	0.0811	0.0796	0.1053	0 1227
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	R@10	0.0586	0.0657	0.0677	0.1242	0.1176	0.1658	0 1898
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	Improve	153.00%	441.89%	407.59%	363.58%	19.35%	18.99%	0.0002	55.13%			
	R@5	0.0113	0.0033	0.0035	0.0040	0.0212	0.0199	0.0270	0.0175			
70%	Improve	138.94%	718.18%	671.43%	575.00%	27.36%	35.68%	0.0270	54.29%			
10%	P@10	0.0273	0.0162	0.0174	0.0173	0.0656	0.0643	0.0700	0.0628			
	Improve	156.41%	332.10%	302.30%	304.62%	6.71%	8.86%	0.0700	11.46%			
	R@10	0.0194	0.0075	0.0080	0.0084	0.0408	0.0382	0.0465	0.0408			
	Improve	260.82%	833.33%	775.00%	733.33%	71.57%	83.25%	0.0403	71.57%			
	P@5	0.0263	0.0106	0.011	0.0114	0.0486	0.0488	0.0551	0.0348			
	Improve	109.51%	419.81%	400.91%	383.33%	13.37%	12.91%	0.0551	58.33%			
	R@5	0.0141	0.0035	0.0037	0.0039	0.0218	0.0210	0.0263	0.0172			
80%	Improve	86.52%	651.43%	610.81%	574.36%	20.64%	25.24%	0.0203	52.91%			
80%	P@10	0.0226	0.0115	0.0117	0.0117	0.0472	0.0450	0.0470	0.0432			
	Improve	111.95%	316.52%	309.40%	309.40%	1.48%	6.44%	0.0473	10.88%			
	R@10	0.0244	0.0079	0.0081	0.0085	0.0424	0.0386	0.0456	0.0407			
	Improve	86.89%	477.22%	462.96%	436.47%	7.55%	18.13%	0.0430	12.04%			

Table III. Performance Comparisons on the Gowalla dataset with K = 30

Table V. Performance Comparisons on the Foursquare dataset with K = 30

Patio	Metrics		Γ	Dimension = :	30			
Katio	withes	MGM	PMF	PFM	FMFMGM	BPR	BPRLR1	BPRLR2
	P@5	0.0409	0.0621	0.0718	0.1201	0.1086	0.1484	0 1793
	Improve	335.94%	187.12%	148.33%	48.46%	64.18%	20.15%	0.1705
	R@5	0.0306	0.0277	0.0312	0.0594	0.0528	0.0763	0.0001
70%	Improve	194.44%	225.27%	188.78%	51.68%	70.64%	18.09%	0.0901
1070	P@10	0.0373	0.0638	0.0663	0.1166	0.1107	0.1522	0 1608
	Improve	355.23%	166.14%	156.11%	45.63%	53.39%	11.56%	0.1070
	R@10	0.0531	0.0574	0.0622	0.1166	0.1070	0.1568	0 1728
	Improve	225.42%	201.05%	177.81%	48.20%	61.50%	10.20%	0.1720
	P@5	0.0288	0.0450	0.0482	0.0833	0.0820	0.1050	0 1287
	Improve	346.88%	186.00%	167.01%	54.50%	56.95%	22.57%	0.1207
	R@5	0.0332	0.0306	0.0364	0.0640	0.0606	0.0834	0 0008
80%	Improve	200.60%	226.14%	174.18%	55.94%	64.69%	19.66%	0.0990
00 //	P@10	0.0265	0.0478	0.0512	0.0811	0.0796	0.1053	0 1227
	Improve	363.02%	156.69%	139.65%	51.29%	54.15%	16.52%	0.1227
	R@10	0.0586	0.0657	0.0677	0.1242	0.1176	0.1658	0 1898
	Improve	223.89%	188.89%	180.35%	52.82%	61.39%	14.48%	0.1070



Datio	Matrice		]	Dimension =	30			$\frown$	
Kauo	wiethes	MGM	PMF	PMFSR	PFM	FMFMGM	BPR	<b>BPRLR1</b>	BPRLR2
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	P@5	0.0263	0.0106	0.011	0.0114	0.0486	0.0488	0.0551	0.0348
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	Improve	225.42%	201.05%	177.81%	48.20%	61.50%	10.20%	0.1720	
	P@5	0.0288	0.0450	0.0482	0.0833	0.0820	0.1050	0 1297	
	Improve	346.88%	186.00%	167.01%	54.50%	56.95%	22.57%	0.1207	
	R@5	0.0332	0.0306	0.0364	0.0640	0.0606	0.0834	0.0008	
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	Improve	363.02%	156.69%	139.65%	51.29%	54.15%	16.52%	0.1227	
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	Improve	223.89%	188.89%	180.35%	52.82%	61.39%	14.48%	0.1090	



#### Outline

- Introduction and Background
- POI Recommendation
- Successive POI Recommendation
- Gradient Boosting Factorization Machines
- Conclusion



#### Successive POI Recommendation





#### Two Main Properties in LBSNs Dataset

- Personalized Markov chain
- Localized region constraint



# Localized Region Constraint

- Most inter check-ins occurs at nearby locations
  - 75% within 10km, less than 5% beyond 100 km.
- We can only consider the new POIs near a user's previous checkins when providing successive POI recommendation.





### Personalized Markov Chain

- Inter check-in time
  - Around 45% successive check-ins within 2h, 70% within 12h.
- Strong connections between inter check-ins
  - E.g. cinemas or bars after restaurant, hotels after airports.
- Motivated to use transition probability





#### Personalized Markov Chain

- Transition probability: locationwise level or topic level?
  - average user check-in around 50 POIs (Gowalla)
  - 60,000 POIs (Gowalla)
  - location-wise level may be too sparse
  - latent topic level can relieve this problem

#### Table 4.1: Top 20 topic transitions in Gowalla

<b>Topic</b> (from)	<b>Topic</b> (to)
Conference	Home
Tram	Library
Sports	Coffee Shop
Hotel	Mall
Outdoors	Food
Entertainment	Starbucks
Pub	Subway
Golf Shop	Coffee Shop
Hotel	Food
School	Apartment
Movie	Art & Culture
Apparel	Food
Four Seasons	Train Station
Museum	Food
Bears Sports	Mall
Aquatics	Bakery
Rental Car	Coffee Shop
Apparel	Gas & Automotive
Lab	Burgers
Cave	Breakfast



#### Example



User 1

Localized Region Constraint User 2




 Factoring Personalize Markov Chain with Localized Region model (FPMC-LR)



- Factoring Personalize Markov Chain with Localized Region model (FPMC-LR)
- Factoring Personalize Markov Chain with Latent Topic Transition (FPMC-LTT)



- Factoring Personalize Markov Chain with Localized Region model (FPMC-LR)
- Factoring Personalize Markov Chain with Latent Topic Transition (FPMC-LTT)
  - Combine the personalize Markov chain and localized region constraint



- Factoring Personalize Markov Chain with Localized Region model (FPMC-LR)
- Factoring Personalize Markov Chain with Latent Topic Transition (FPMC-LTT)
  - Combine the personalize Markov chain and localized region constraint
  - Although borrows the idea of FPMC [Rendle et al. '10], we emphasize on users' movement constraint and focus on a different problem



### Problem Definition



## Problem Definition

- Notation:
  - $\mathcal{U}$ : users,  $\mathcal{L}$ : locations,  $\mathcal{L}_u$ : the check-in history of user u
  - T: slice window to construct a set check-ins,  ${\mathcal T}$  : time window set
  - $\mathcal{L}_{u}^{t}$  : check-in time of user u at time t ,  $t \in \mathcal{T}$



# Problem Definition

- Notation:
  - $\mathcal{U}$ : users,  $\mathcal{L}$ : locations,  $\mathcal{L}_u$ : the check-in history of user u
  - T: slice window to construct a set check-ins,  ${\mathcal T}$  : time window set
  - $\mathcal{L}_{u}^{t}$  : check-in time of user u at time t ,  $t \in \mathcal{T}$
- Problem:
  - Given a sequence of check-ins,  $\mathcal{L}_u^1, \ldots, \mathcal{L}_u^t$ , the (lat, lng) pair of locations , recommend POIs to users at t+1





• FPMC-LR is to recommend a successive personalized POI by the prob. a user u will visit at time t:

 $x_{u,i,l} = p(l \in \mathcal{L}_u^t | i \in \mathcal{L}_u^{t-1})$ 



• FPMC-LR is to recommend a successive personalized POI by the prob. a user u will visit at time t:

$$x_{u,i,l} = p(l \in \mathcal{L}_u^t | i \in \mathcal{L}_u^{t-1})$$

• Based on first-order Markov chain property

$$p(l \in \mathcal{L}_u^t | \mathcal{L}_u^{t-1}) = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{L}_u^{t-1}|} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{L}_u^{t-1}} p(l \in \mathcal{L}_u^t | i \in \mathcal{L}_u^{t-1})$$

Prob. for user *u* from location *i* to *I* 



 FPMC-LR only consider the neighbourhood locations of previous check-ins

$$N_d(\mathcal{L}_u^t) = \{l \in \mathcal{L} \setminus \mathcal{L}_u^{t-1} : D(l, l_0) \le d, \forall l_0 \in \mathcal{L}_u^{t-1}\}$$

- Thus our FPMC-LR yields a transition tensor  $\mathcal{X} \in [0,1]^{|\mathcal{U}| \times |\mathcal{L}| \times |N_d(\mathcal{L})|}$ 
  - Note:  $|N_d(\mathcal{L})|$  is reduced largely compared to  $|\mathcal{L}|$ , around 100 when d = 40 km



• Use the same idea in [Rendle et al, '10], we approximate the tensor as:

$$\hat{x}_{u,i,l} = \boldsymbol{v}_{u}^{\mathcal{U},\mathcal{L}} \cdot \boldsymbol{v}_{l}^{\mathcal{L},\mathcal{U}} + \boldsymbol{v}_{l}^{\mathcal{L},\mathcal{I}} \cdot \boldsymbol{v}_{i}^{\mathcal{I},\mathcal{L}} + \boldsymbol{v}_{u}^{\mathcal{U},\mathcal{I}} \cdot \boldsymbol{v}_{i}^{\mathcal{I},\mathcal{U}}$$

• We have:

$$\hat{x}_{u,t,l} = \boldsymbol{v}_{u}^{\mathcal{U},\mathcal{L}} \cdot \boldsymbol{v}_{l}^{\mathcal{L},\mathcal{U}} + \frac{1}{|\mathcal{L}_{u}^{t-1}|} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{L}_{u}^{t-1}} \boldsymbol{v}_{l}^{\mathcal{L},\mathcal{I}} \cdot \boldsymbol{v}_{i}^{\mathcal{I},\mathcal{L}}$$



 Use the same idea in [Rendle et al, '10], we approximate the tensor as:

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• We have:



user preference



 Use the same idea in [Rendle et al, '10], we approximate the tensor as:

$$\hat{x}_{u,i,l} = \boldsymbol{v}_u^{\mathcal{U},\mathcal{L}} \cdot \boldsymbol{v}_l^{\mathcal{L},\mathcal{U}} + \boldsymbol{v}_l^{\mathcal{L},\mathcal{I}} \cdot \boldsymbol{v}_i^{\mathcal{I},\mathcal{L}} + \boldsymbol{v}_u^{\mathcal{U},\mathcal{I}} \cdot \boldsymbol{v}_i^{\mathcal{I},\mathcal{U}}$$

• We have:





 Model top-k recommendations as a ranking over locations:

$$i >_{u,t} j :\Leftrightarrow \hat{x}_{u,t,i} > \hat{x}_{u,t,j}$$

• The MAP estimator is

$$\arg\max_{\Theta} \sum_{u \in \mathcal{U}} \sum_{\mathcal{L}_{u}^{t} \in \mathcal{L}_{u}} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{L}_{u}^{t}} \sum_{j \in N(\mathcal{L}_{u}^{t-1}) \setminus \mathcal{L}_{u}^{t}} \ln \sigma(\hat{x}_{u,t,i} - \hat{x}_{u,t,j}) - \lambda_{\Theta} \|\Theta\|_{F}^{2}$$

• Learning algorithm: Stochastic gradient descent





 Maximize similarity between latent vector of location I and the expected average location latent vector after transition



- Maximize similarity between latent vector of location I and the expected average location latent vector after transition
- The probability is:



- Maximize similarity between latent vector of location I and the expected average location latent vector after transition
- The probability is:  $\hat{x}_{u,t,l} = (\eta U_u \cdot L_l) + (1 - \eta) Sim(L_l, \frac{1}{|\mathcal{L}_u^{t-1}|} A^T \sum_{i \in \mathcal{L}_u^{t-1}} L_i)$ user preference



#### Dataset

Two publicly available data sets: Foursquare and Gowalla

 Table 4.2: Basic statistics of the Foursquare and Gowalla dataset for successive

 POI recommendation

	#U	#L	# check-in	# avg. check-in
Foursquare	3571	28754	744055	208.36
Gowalla	4510	59355	873071	193.58



### Results

Metrics	PMF	PTF	FPMC	FPMC-LR	FPMC-LLT
<b>P@</b> 10	0.0185	0.0170	0.0275	0.0360	0.0270
Improve	100.00%	117.65%	34.55%	2.78%	0.0370
<b>R@</b> 10	0.1542	0.1417	0.2325	0.3033	0 2002
Improve	100.58%	118.28%	33.03%	1.98%	0.3093
<b>MAP@</b> 10	0.0784	0.0712	0.1265	0.1583	0 1619
Improve	105.61%	126.40%	27.43%	1.83%	0.1012

Table 4.3: Performance comparison on Foursquare

Table 4.4: Performance comparison on Gowalla

Metrics	PMF	PTF	FPMC	FPMC-LR	FPMC-LLT
P@10	0.0130	0.0110	0.0220	0.0310	0.0220
Improve	153.85%	200.00%	50.00%	6.45%	0.0550
<b>R@</b> 10	0.1040	0.0785	0.1575	0.2116	0 2226
Improve	114.04%	183.57%	41.33%	5.20%	0.2220
MAP@10	0.0575	0.0473	0.0853	0.1072	0 1196
Improve	95.83%	138.05%	32.00%	5.04%	0.1120



### Outline

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- Context features can be helpful
  - User or item meta data: age, genre, etc.
  - Context features attached to the whole event: user's mood, special date, location, etc.



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  - Context features attached to the whole event: user's mood, special date, location, etc.

Mother's Day Gifts by Category









## A Toy Example

$$\mathcal{U} = \{u_1, u_2, u_3\}$$
$$\mathcal{I} = \{i_1, i_2, i_3, i_4\}$$
$$\mathcal{M} = \{Happy, Normal, Sad\}$$

	User			Movie				Mood			•••	R
<b>x</b> <sup>(1)</sup>	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	•••	4
<b>x</b> <sup>(2)</sup>	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	•••	2
$x^{(3)}$	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	•••	5
$\mathbf{x}^{(4)}$	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	•••	1

User and item are regarded as context features



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$$\mathcal{U} = \{u_1, u_2, u_3\}$$

$$\mathcal{I} = \{i_1, i_2, i_3, i_4\}$$

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$$\mathbf{Moor}$$

User u<sub>1</sub> watched movie i<sub>1</sub> in *Happy* Mood gave rating 4

	User			Movie				Mood			•••	R
<b>x</b> <sup>(1)</sup>	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	•••	4
<b>x</b> <sup>(2)</sup>	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	•••	2
<b>x</b> <sup>(3)</sup>	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	•••	5
<b>x</b> <sup>(4)</sup>	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	•••	1

User and item are regarded as context features





A strong baseline proposed in [Rendle et al., 2011.]



- A strong baseline proposed in [Rendle et al., 2011.]
- Model all interactions between pairs of variables, the rating function is:  $\hat{y}(\mathbf{x}) := w_0 + \sum_{i=1}^d w_i x_i + \sum_{i=1}^d \sum_{j=i+1}^d \hat{w}_{i,j} x_i x_j$



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all pairwise feature interactions



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where 
$$\hat{w}_{i,j} := \langle \mathbf{v}_i, \mathbf{v}_j \rangle = \sum_{f=1}^{\kappa} v_{i,f} \cdot v_{j,f}$$



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• where  

$$\hat{w}_{i,j} := \langle \mathbf{v}_i, \mathbf{v}_j \rangle = \sum_{f=1}^k v_{i,f} \cdot v_{j,f}$$
.  
ow rank latent feature vector, shared among interacting features  
e.g. latent vector U is shared in  and 



#### Drawbacks of FM


• All interacting features are useful? Or part of them?



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  - <U,M>,<U,I>,<I,M> or just <I,M>,<U,I> is enough



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  - Not all feature interactions are useful, shared latent features may introduce noise



- All interacting features are useful? Or part of them?
  - <U,M>,<U,I>,<I,M> or just <I,M>, <U,I> is enough
  - Not all feature interactions are useful, shared latent features may introduce noise
  - Select useful interacting features from tens of features is important



#### Our Proposal



#### Our Proposal

 Propose a greedy interacting feature selection algorithm to select useful feature step by step using gradient boosting



#### Our Proposal

- Propose a greedy interacting feature selection algorithm to select useful feature step by step using gradient boosting
- Propose Gradient Boosting Factorization Machines to incorporate interacting feature selection algorithm and factorization machines into a unified framework





 We update the prediction function step by step after selecting interacting features C<sub>p</sub> and C<sub>q</sub> at step s:

$$\hat{y}_s(\mathbf{x}) := \hat{y}_{s-1}(\mathbf{x}) + \sum_{i \in \mathcal{C}_p} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{C}_q} \mathbb{I}[i, j \in \mathbf{x}] \langle \mathbf{V}_p^i, \mathbf{V}_q^j \rangle$$



 We update the prediction function step by step after selecting interacting features C<sub>p</sub> and C<sub>q</sub> at step s:

$$\begin{split} \hat{y}_s(\mathbf{x}) &:= \hat{y}_{s-1}(\mathbf{x}) + \sum_{i \in \mathcal{C}_p} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{C}_q} \mathbb{I}[i, j \in \mathbf{x}] \langle \mathbf{V}_p^i, \mathbf{V}_q^j \rangle \\ \end{split}$$
has feature value i in feature  $\mathsf{C}_p$   
and feature value j in feature  $\mathsf{C}_q$ 



 We update the prediction function step by step after selecting interacting features C<sub>p</sub> and C<sub>q</sub> at step s:

$$\hat{y}_{s}(\mathbf{x}) := \hat{y}_{s-1}(\mathbf{x}) + \sum_{i \in \mathcal{C}_{p}} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{C}_{q}} \mathbb{I}[i, j \in \mathbf{x}] \langle \mathbf{V}_{p}^{i}, \mathbf{V}_{q}^{j} \rangle$$
has feature value i in feature  $C_{p}$  latent feature matrices for  
and feature value j in feature  $C_{q}$  latent feature matrices for  
feature  $C_{p}$  and  $C_{q}$  to be estimated, usually by  
stochastic gradient descent (SGD)



**Algorithm 1** Gradient Boosting Factorization Machines Model

- 1: Input: Training Data  $S = {\mathbf{x}_i, y_i}_{i=1}^N$
- 2: **Output**:  $\hat{y}_{S}(x) = \hat{y}_{0}(x) + \sum_{s=1}^{S} \langle \mathbf{v}_{si}, \mathbf{v}_{sj} \rangle$
- 3: Initialize rating prediction function as  $\hat{y}_0(x)$
- 4: for  $s = 1 \rightarrow S$  do
- 5: Select interaction feature  $C_p$  and  $C_q$  from Greedy Feature Selection Algorithm
- 6: Estimate latent feature matrices  $\mathbf{V}_p$  and  $\mathbf{V}_q$
- 7: Update  $\hat{y}_s(\mathbf{x}) := \hat{y}_{s-1}(\mathbf{x}) + \sum_{i \in \mathcal{C}_p} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{C}_q} \mathbb{I}[i, j] \in \mathbf{x} ] \langle \mathbf{V}_p^i, \mathbf{V}_q^j \rangle$ 8: ond for







• Search a function f that minimizes the objective function:

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{i=1}^{N} l(\hat{y}_s(\mathbf{x}_i), y_i) + \Omega(f)$$

• where  $\hat{y}_s(\mathbf{x}) = \hat{y}_{s-1}(\mathbf{x}) + f_s(\mathbf{x})$ 



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Current layer, in our paper we only consider 2-way interaction, e.g. layer number is 2



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the corresponding non-zero feature weight suppose choosing feature C<sub>i(t)</sub> at layer t

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negative first derivative at sample i second derivative





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$$\arg\min_{i(t)\in\{1,\dots,m\}}\mathcal{L}(f)$$



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• The corresponding weight can be calculated:

$$w_{ij} = \arg \min_{w} \sum_{i=1}^{N} h_i (g_i/h_i - f_{t-1}(\mathbf{x}_i) \cdot \mathbb{I}(j \in \mathbf{x}_i) \cdot w)^2 + \lambda w^2$$



Algorithm 2 Greedy Feature Selection Algorithm

1: Input: Training Data 
$$S = \{\mathbf{x}_i, y_i\}_{i=1}^N$$
, context feature set  $C$ 

2: **Output**: *n*-way interaction feature  $C_{i(1)}, \ldots, C_{i(n)}$ .

3: for 
$$l = 1 \rightarrow n$$
 do

4:  $\mathcal{A} = \emptyset / / \mathcal{A}$  is the set of context features already selected

5: Maintain two vectors 
$$\mathbf{a}$$
 and  $\mathbf{b}$  for all categorical values in  $\mathcal{C}$ , both initialized to  $\mathbf{0}$ 

6: for 
$$(\mathbf{x}_i, y_i)$$
 in  $\mathcal{S}$  do

7: compute  $tempa = z_i h_i f_{t-1}(\mathbf{x}_i)$  and  $tempb = h_i (f_{t-1}(\mathbf{x}_i))^2$ 

8: for 
$$j = 1 \rightarrow d$$
 do

9: **if**  $\mathbf{x}_{ij}$  is non-zero and not in  $\mathcal{A}$  then

- 10: add tempa to  $\mathbf{a}_j$  and tempb to  $\mathbf{b}_j$
- 11: end if
- 12: end for
- 13: end for
- 14: Compute weight for all categorical features in C A according to Eq. 25.
- 15: Select the feature  $C_{i(l)}$  according to Eq. 24.
- 16: Add feature  $C_{i(l)}$  into A
- 17: end for



prepared for

computing

weight



• Complexity:



- Complexity:  $\mathcal{O}(SN + kSN)$ 
  - S: boosting steps, k: SGD iterations, N: training numbers



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  - after GBMF, we have S interacting features


# Discussion

- Complexity:  $\mathcal{O}(SN + kSN)$ 
  - S: boosting steps, k: SGD iterations, N: training numbers
  - linear to training size
- GBMF-Opt:
  - after GBMF, we have S interacting features
  - optimize S features globally with shared latent vectors



# Discussion

- Complexity:  $\mathcal{O}(SN + kSN)$ 
  - S: boosting steps, k: SGD iterations, N: training numbers
  - linear to training size
- GBMF-Opt:
  - after GBMF, we have S interacting features
  - optimize S features globally with shared latent vectors
  - fewer parameters, better generalization





• Synthetic data:



- Synthetic data:
  - 10 context features



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  - randomly select 5 interacting features to generate 1-5 ratings



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Dataset	# Users	#Items	#Observed Entries		
Synethic data	1000	1000	16270		
Tencent microblog	2.3 M	6095	73 M		

#### Table 5.1: Statistics of datasets





• Synthetic data: randomly remove 20% data as test data, the remaining as training



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- Synthetic data: randomly remove 20% data as test data, the remaining as training
- Tencent data: split by the time, last 4 weeks as test
- Metrics:
  - MAE and RMSE for synthetic data
  - MAP@k for Tecent data



## Results

Table 5.2: Results on the synthetic data in RMSE and MAE

Method	RMSE	MAE
PMF	1.9881	1.7650
FM	1.9216	1.6981
GBFM	1.8959	1.6354
GBFM-Opt	1.8611	1.5762

Table 5.3: Results on the Tencent microblog data in MAP

Method	MAP@1	MAP@3	MAP@5
PMF	22.88%	34.50%	37.95%
FM	24.36%	36.77%	40.32%
GBFM	24.62%	37.17%	40.90%
GBFM-	24 66%	37 93%	10.08%
Opt	24.0070	01.2070	40.3070



# Outline

- Introduction and Background
- POI Recommendation
- Successive POI Recommendation
- Gradient Boosting Factorization Machines
- Conclusion





• POI recommendation



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  - a framework considers user preference, geographical influence and personalized ranking together



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  - two matrix factorization methods based on personalized Markov chain and region localization
- Gradient Boosting Factorization Machines
  - incorporate feature selection algorithm with FM



Thanks Q&A



# Set up

- Split the dataset into two non-overlapping sets
  - Randomly select x% for each user as training data and the rest (1-x)% as the test data
  - Carried out 5 times independently, we report the average
- POI recommendation
  - Return top-N POIs for each user
  - Find out # of locations in test dataset are recovered

