Movie Recommendation System using Cosine Similarity and KNN

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Abstract—Over the past years, the internet has broadened the horizon of various domains to interact and share meaningful information. As it is said that everything has its pros and cons therefore, along with the expansion of domain comes information overload and difficulty in extraction of data. To overcome this problem the recommendation system plays a vital role. It is used to enhance the user experience by giving fast and coherent suggestions. This paper describes an approach which offers generalized recommendations to every user, based on movie popularity and/or genre. Content-Based Recommender System is implemented using various deep learning approaches. This paper also gives an insight into problems which are faced in content-based recommendation system and we have made an effort to rectify them.

Keywords: Recommendation System, Content-Based Recommender System, Deep learning

I. INTRODUCTION

Advancement in technology is reaching new heights every day and due to which we can see enormous growth in information. To deal with such large data we use machine learning that automates analytical model building [1]. The early classification of machine learning is divided into three broad categories: Supervised learning, Unsupervised learning and Reinforcement learning [2]. We use computers to make predictions to help us achieve better results using various computational statistics. Tasks can be performed without being explicitly programmed to do so [3]. It becomes a tedious task to extract the relevant information. Search engines solve the problem to some extent but it does not solve the personalization problem. Recommendation System framework plays a vital role in today’s internet surfing, be it buying a product from an e-commerce site or watching a movie on some video-on-demand service [4]. In our everyday life, we depend on recommendations given by other people either by word of mouth or reviews of general surveys. People often use recommender systems over the web to make decisions for the items related to their choice. Recommendation systems are software tools and techniques whose goal is to make useful and sensible recommendations to a collection of users for items or products that might interest them [5]. In other words, the recommender system or recommendation systems belongs to a class of information filtering system that aims at predicting the ‘preference’ or ‘rating’ given to an item.

Recommendation systems are primarily using three approaches [6]. In content-based filtering, we do profiling based on what type of content any user is interested in and using the collected information, it recommends items. Another one is collaborative filtering, where we make clusters of similar users and use that information to make recommendations. Hybrid systems are the one which takes into account both above stated approaches to deal with operational data more concisely [7]. Our goal is to provide accurate recommendations with less computational complexity.

II. RELATED WORK

Some of the common approaches of recommender system are:

1. Content-based filtering
2. Collaborative filtering
3. Hybrid filtering

A. Content Based Filtering

This approach filters the items based on the likings of the user. It gives result based on what the user has rated earlier. The method to model this approach is the Vector Space Model (VSM). It derives the similarity of the item from its description and introduces the concept of TF-IDF (Term Frequency-Inverse Document Frequency) [28].

\[
Tf(t)= \frac{\text{frequency occurrence of term } t \text{ in document}}{\text{total number of terms in document}}
\]

\[
If(t)= \log \frac{\text{total number of documents}}{\text{number of documents containing term } t}
\]

The similarity between item vectors can be computed by three methods:

1. Cosine similarity
2. Euclidian distance
3. Pearson’s correlation

COSINE SIMILARITY

Cosine similarity among two objects measures the angle of cosine between the two objects. It compares two documents on a normalized scale. It can be done by finding the dot product between the two identities.
As the above diagram shows, the angle between $v_1$ and $v_2$ is $\theta$. Lesser the angle between the two vectors more is the similarity. It means if the angle between two vectors is small, they are almost alike each other and if the angle between the two vectors is large then the vectors are very different from each other.

**B. Collaborative Filtering**

It depends upon the users who have similar interests and gives the result based on all the users.

**User-based:** In user-based collaborative filtering, it is considered that a user will like the items that are liked by users with whom have comparable taste.

**Item-based:** Item-based collaborative-filtering is different, it expects the users to like items that are related to items that he has liked earlier.

**C. Hybrid Filtering**

Hybrid filtering can be known as a combination of collaborative filtering and content-based filtering. It is the most common and popular technique today. It avoids the weakness of every single recommender technique.

There are some problems related to the recommendation system. They are:

**Cold-start problem:** When a user registers for the first time, he has not watched any movie. So, the recommendation system does not have any movie based on which it can give results [8]. This is called the cold-start problem [9]. Recommendation system goes through this problem as a result of no previous record. This happens with every new user once.

**Data sparsity problem:** This problem occurs when the user has rated very few items based on which it is difficult for the recommendation system to give accurate results. In this problem, the results given are not much similar to the expected result. Sometimes, the system fails to give successful results and generates weak recommendations [10]. Also, data sparsity always leads to coverage problems.

**Scalability:** Another problem associated with recommendation is scalability. In this, the encoding goes linearly on items. The system works efficiently when the data set is of limited size [11]. As the data set increases, it becomes difficult for the recommendation system to give accurate results based on varying genres of movies. The scalability problem can be solved by dimensionality reduction technique such as singular value decomposition (SVD). It also speeds up the generation of result and produces a reliable and efficient result.

**Synonym:** When many words have a similar meaning then they are known as synonyms. In this problem, the system sometimes fails to understand the difference between two similar words and cannot produce the desired output. E.g.: movie and film have the same meaning but the recommendation system considers them as different words and because of this it fails to give the accurate output. Singular Value Decomposition (SVD), especially Latent Semantic Indexing is capable of solving the synonymy problem [12].

In other recommendation systems, recommendations are based on the ratings and genres given by other users due to which it became difficult to give accurate results. This is called collaborative filtering. This is a common method for a recommendation system. To make things easier for people and come over this drawback, we have used another method for the recommendation which is content-based filtering. This method uses ratings and genres given by the user itself. It gives recommendations based on the movies watched by the user earlier. This helps us in giving accurate suggestions because the ratings and genres are given by the user only and depend entirely on the user’s choice, not on any other person’s choice. Previous researches lack the accuracy of true recommendations due to their dependency on other users. Here it is important to mention that recommendations can be based on a particular user and they assure to give recommendations on the mark as they depend on the likes and dislikes of a particular user.

The proposed system is capable of storing a large amount of data and give efficient results. Our recommendation system searches for the best movies that are similar to the movie that we have watched based on genre and gives the result.

**III. RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

In the deep learning framework recommendation system, we have used Cosine Similarity and Content-based filtering to predict our result and recommend a movie to the user by running the code in python using NumPy and panda libraries.

**A. Experiment Result**

The formula used to measure how similar the movies are based on their similarities of different properties. Mathematically, it shows the cosine of the angle of two vectors projected in a multidimensional space. The cosine similarity is very beneficial since it helps in finding similar objects.
CosSim(x, y) = \frac{\sum_i x_i y_i}{\sqrt{\sum_i x_i^2} \sqrt{\sum_i y_i^2}}

Fig: This is the Cosine similarity formula which is used for the recommendation of movies

Fig: Movies with different genres are taken and their similarity is taken with the help of cosine similarity

IV. CONCLUSION

We have illustrated the modelling of a movie recommendation system by making the use of content-based filtering in the movie recommendation system. The KNN algorithm is implemented in this model along with the principle of cosine similarity as it gives more accuracy than the other distance metrics and the complexity is comparatively low too. Recommendations systems have become the most essential fount of a relevant and reliable source of information in the world of internet. Simple ones consider one or a few parameters while the more complex ones make use of more parameters to filter the results and make it more user friendly. With the inclusion of advanced deep learning and other filtering techniques like collaborative filtering and hybrid filtering a strong movie recommendation system can be built. This can be a major step towards the further development of this model as it will not only become more efficient to use but also increase the business value even further.

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