

VLAD ILIESCU @NDR

MIND READING - UNDERSTANDING RECOMMENDER SYSTEMS

VLAD ILIESCU
PARTNER, STRONGBYTES

STRONGBYTES.RO
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**A VERY IMPORTANT
QUESTION™**

**WHAT SUPER-POWER
WOULD YOU LIKE?**

MIND READING IS NICE
THIS TIME OF YEAR

OFFLINE, IT'S PERSONAL

ONLINE, IT DOESN'T SCALE

**ONLINE, IT DOESN'T SCALE
UNLESS IT'S AUTOMATIC**

**EVERYBODY'S DOING IT SO
WHY CAN'T WE?**

REMEMBER NETFLIX'
3-YEAR COMPETITION

WHAT ARE

RECOMMENDER

SYSTEMS ANYWAY?

**THERE'S TWO TYPES OF
RECOMMENDER SYSTEMS**

1.

CONTENT-BASED FILTERING

2.

COLLABORATIVE FILTERING

OKAY, MAYBE THERE'S

THREE

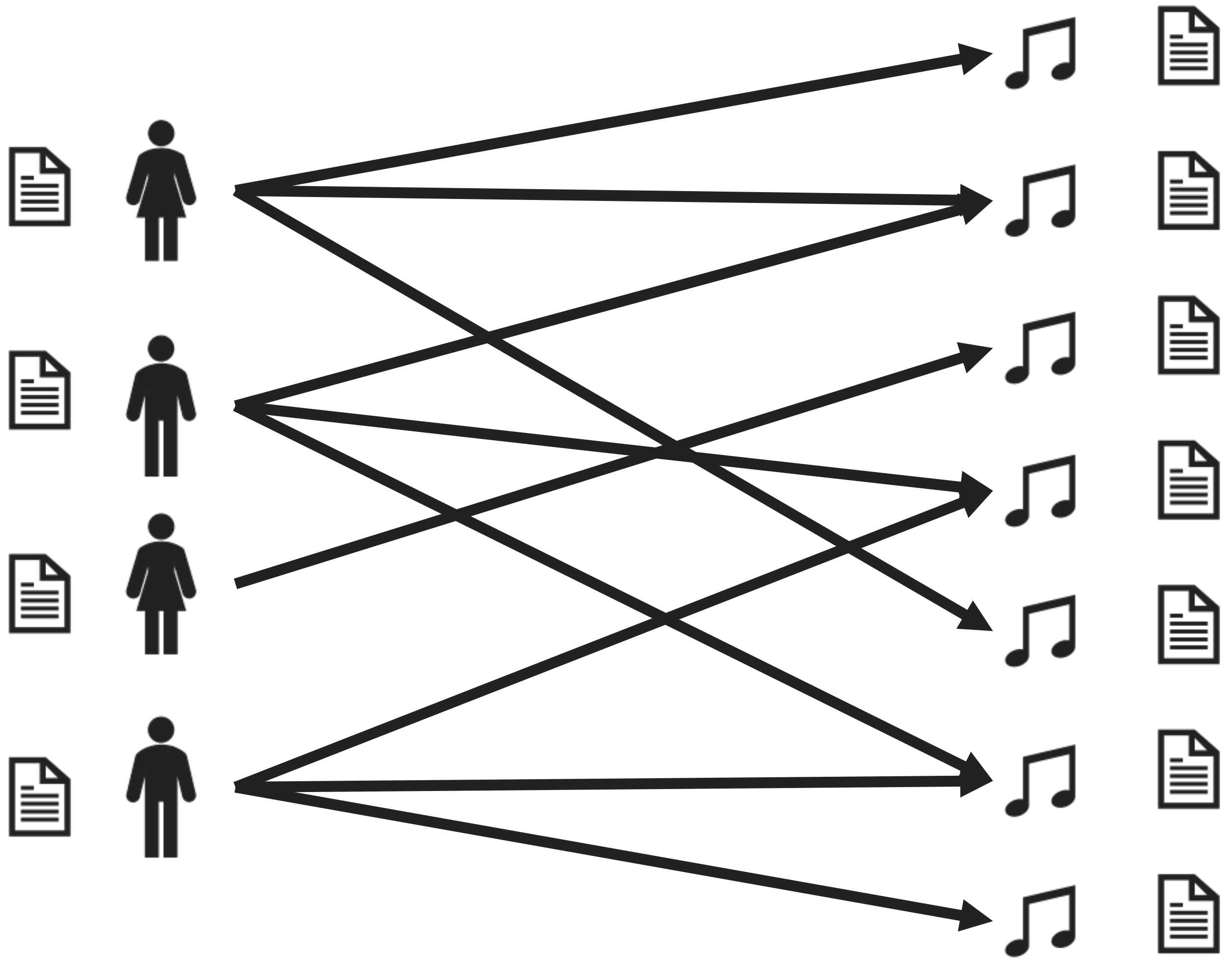
3.

HYBRID SYSTEMS

**LET'S GO INTO A BIT
MORE DETAIL**

CONTENT-BASED FILTERING

- GENDER
- AGE
- PREFERRED GENRES



- ARTIST
- YEAR
- GENRE
- SONG THEME (EXTRACTED)

Song	Alice	Bob	Carol	Dave	Genre	Year
The Weeknd - Starboy	3			5	Pop	2016
Luis Fonsi - Despacito	1		5		Dance	2017
Lorde - 400 Lux	1	2	4	5	Alternative, Pop	2013
Major Lazer - Light it Up	3	0	5	5	Dance	2016
The White Stripes - Seven Nation Army	4	1	2	1	Alternative	2003
Red Hot Chili Peppers - Scar Tissue	5	2	0		Alternative	2004
Taylor Swift - Shake it Off	3	5		2	Pop	2014

Song	Carol	Genre	Year
The Weeknd - Starboy		Pop	2016
Luis Fonsi - Despacito	5	Dance	2017
Lorde - 400 Lux	4	Alternative, Pop	2013
Major Lazer - Light it Up	5	Dance	2016
The White Stripes - Seven Nation Army	2	Alternative	2003
Red Hot Chili Peppers - Scar Tissue	0	Alternative	2004
Taylor Swift - Shake it Off		Pop	2014

Song	Carol	Alternative	Dance	Pop	Year
The Weeknd - Starboy		0	0	1	2016
Luis Fonsi - Despacito	5	0	1	0	2017
Lorde - 400 Lux	4	1	0	1	2013
Major Lazer - Light it Up	5	0	1	0	2016
The White Stripes - Seven Nation Army	2	1	0	0	2003
Red Hot Chili Peppers - Scar Tissue	0	1	0	0	2004
Taylor Swift - Shake it Off		0	0	1	2014

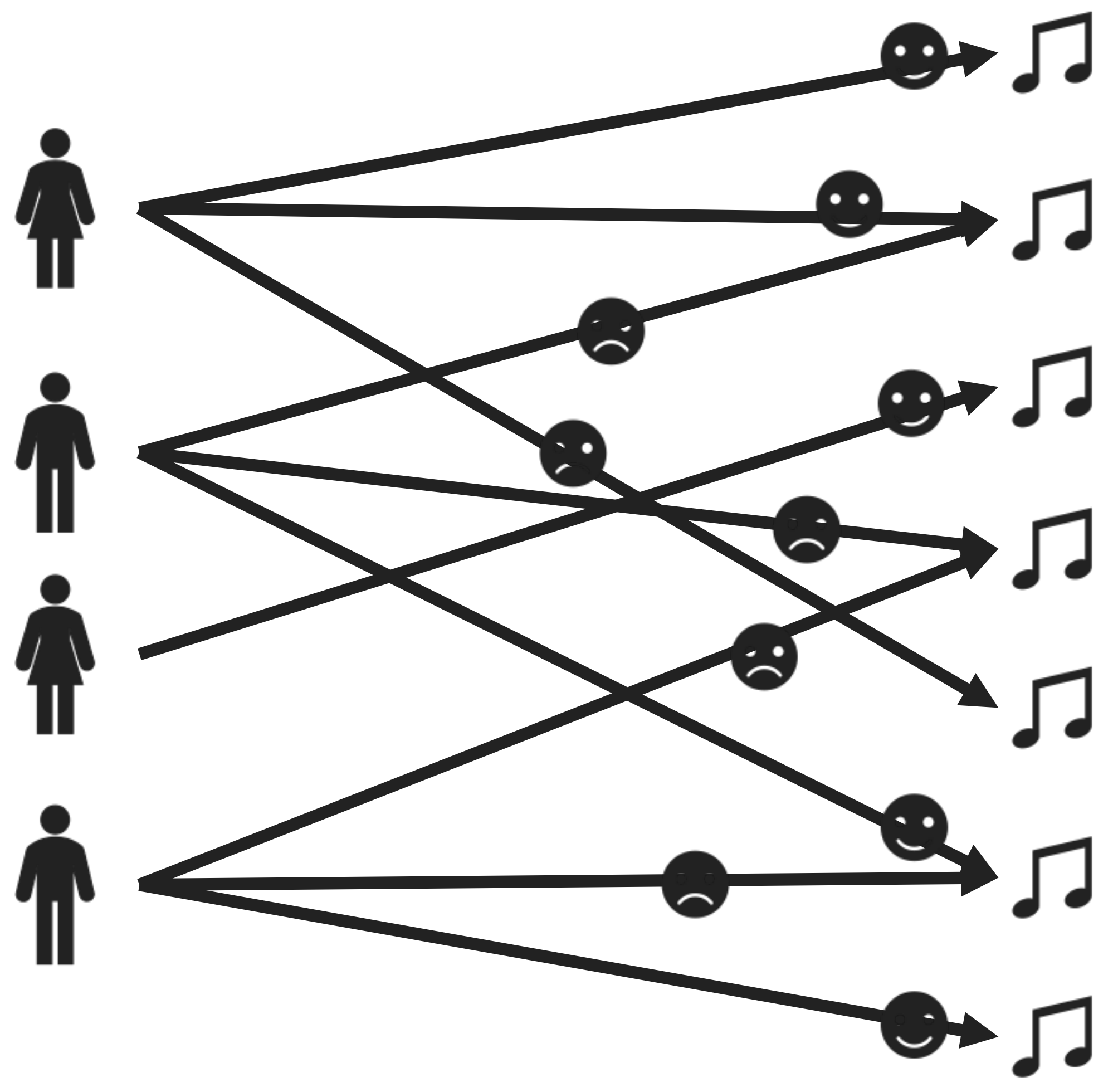
ADVANTAGES

- **DOESN'T DEPEND ON OTHER USERS**
- **RECOMMEND UNPOPULAR ITEMS**
- **COLD START ISSUES ARE LESS LIKELY**

DISADVANTAGES

- **OVERSPECIALIZATION**
- **DIFFICULTY EXTRACTING ATTRIBUTES FROM RICH MEDIA (IMAGES, AUDIO, MOVIES)**

COLLABORATIVE FILTERING



APPROACHES

- **USER-USER**
- **ITEM-ITEM**
- **MATRIX FACTORIZATION**

Song	Alice	Bob	Carol	Dave
The Weeknd - Starboy	3			5
Luis Fonsi - Despacito	1		5	
Lorde - 400 Lux	1	2	4	5
Major Lazer - Light it Up	3	0	5	5
The White Stripes - Seven Nation Army	4	1	2	1
Red Hot Chili Peppers - Scar Tissue	5	2	0	
Taylor Swift - Shake it Off	3	5		2

Song	Alice	Bob	Carol	Dave
The Weeknd - Starboy	3			5
Luis Fonsi - Despacito	1		5	
Lorde - 400 Lux	1	2	4	5
Major Lazer - Light it Up	3	0	5	5
The White Stripes - Seven Nation Army	4	1	2	1
Red Hot Chili Peppers - Scar Tissue	5	2	0	
Taylor Swift - Shake it Off	3	5		2

Song	Alice	Bob	Carol	Dave
The Weeknd - Starboy	3			5
Luis Fonsi - Despacito	1		5	
Lorde - 400 Lux	1	2	4	5
Major Lazer - Light it Up	3	0	5	5
The White Stripes - Seven Nation Army	4	1	2	1
Red Hot Chili Peppers - Scar Tissue	5	2	0	
Taylor Swift - Shake it Off	3	5		2

ADVANTAGES

- **DOESN'T NEED TO UNDERSTAND THE DATA**

DISADVANTAGES

- **CANNOT RECOMMEND NEW ITEMS
(THAT HAVEN'T BEEN RATED)**
- **TENDS TO RECOMMEND POPULAR ITEMS**

HYBRID SYSTEMS

THINGS TO LOOK OUT FOR

COLD START

CONTEXT MATTERS

RECENT ITEMS MATTER (MORE)

EXPLICIT/IMPLICIT FEEDBACK

QUESTIONS?

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THE END