# การแนะนำสินค้าด้วยวิธีการอิงเนื้อหาและการกรองข้อมูลแบบพึ่งพาผู้ใช้ร่วม

A Content-Based and Collaborative Filtering Approach for Product Recommendation

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# บทคัดย่อ

บริษัทยูในเต็ดฟูดส์ จำกัด เป็นบริษัทที่มี ชื่อเสียงทางธุรกิจในภาคอุตสาหกรรมผลิตอาหารว่าง ในประเทศไทย โดยมีผลิตภัณฑ์ที่หลากหลาย รวมถึง วาเฟอร์, เซียงไฮอัลมอนด์ช็อกโกแลต, โยโย เจลลี่, โตโรป็อปคอร์น และผลิตภัณฑ์อื่น ๆ บริษัทวาง ยุทธศาสตร์เพื่อเพิ่มยอดขายและปรับปรุงกลุ่ม ผลิตภัณฑ์ ให้เข้ากับความพอใจของผู้บริโภคใน ปัจจุบัน เพื่อผลกำไรทางธุรกิจและยกระดับความ พึ่งพอใจของลูกค้า วัตถุประสงค์ของการวิจัย คือการ พัฒนาผลิตภัณฑ์โดยใช้โมเดลแนะนำสินค้าการกรอง แบบอิงเนื้อหา โดยการนำความคล้ายคลึงของเนื้อหา เพื่อกรองข้อมูลเชิงลึกของผู้ใช้ การศึกษานี้เกี่ยวข้อง กับการใช้ไลบรารี Non-negative Matrix Factorization (NMF) ในการประยุกต์ใช้ข้อมูล

คำสำคัญ: ระบบแนะนำ, การกรองแบบอิงเนื้อหา, การกรองข้อมูลแบบพึ่งพาผู้ใช้ร่วม, เหมืองข้อมูล

# Abstract

United Food Public Co., Ltd. emerges as a prominent entity within the snack manufacturing sector in Thailand, presenting a diverse array of snack products, encompassing wafers, Sanghai, chocolate almonds, Yoyo jelly, Toropopcorn, and other offerings. The company strategically concentrates on augmenting sales and aligning its product portfolio with prevailing consumer preferences, thereby fostering business profitability and elevating customer satisfaction. The objective of this research is the formulation of a product recommendation model founded on content-based filtering methodologies grounded in principles such as content similarity and collaborative filtering, drawing insights from usergenerated data. The study entails the application of the Non-negative Matrix Factorization (NMF) library.

Keywords: Recommendation System, Content-Based, Collaborative Filtering, Data Mining

#### 1. Introduction

United Food Public Co., Ltd., a subsidiary company entrusted with product sales through cash vans or point-of-sale methods on behalf of United Food, is engaged in a customer outreach process. Within the organizational framework, a multitude of employees and customer data are in play. A collaborative effort with the IT department brought forth a prominent challenge: the boost sales for imperative to business proprietors, offer existing products tailored to customer preferences and facilitate customers' purchasing decisions. In this context, the implementation of a product recommendation system emerges as a viable solution, capable of enhancing revenue generation for business owners and aiding consumers in the selection and procurement of products aligning with their preferences and interests.

Consequently, the researchers have undertaken the development of а

Recommendation System aimed at suggesting to users, thereby streamlining product selection and acquisition, and ultimately, elevating company's sales performance. Recommendation systems are instrumental in propelling sales and enjoy widespread application across websites and applications. To address the aforementioned challenge, the researchers have seamlessly integrated a recommendation system with the company's existing customer and product data.

## 2. Related Literature

## 2.1 Recommendation System

A recommendation system is a system designed to suggest products or services to users, which helps users in choosing and purchasing various products and services. The system learns from the user's past behavior to provide product recommendations tailored to the user's preferences. [1]

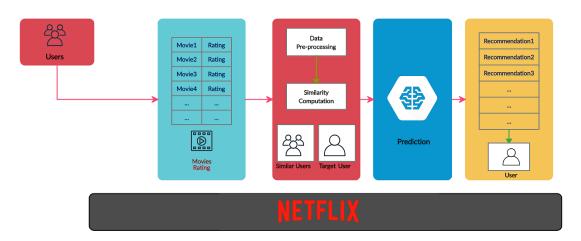


Figure 1 Netflix's recommendation system [2].

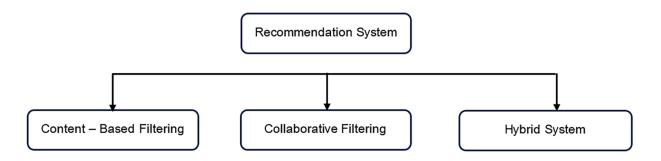


Figure 2 The methodology for a product recommendation system [3].

# 2.2 Content-Based Filtering

The technique of content-based filtering is a recommendation system that is derived from the consideration of the similarity in user behavior history. It assesses the characteristics of products to recommend and suggests products with features similar to those previously used or favored by the user. The system recommends content for movies that bear resemblance to the ones the user has previously watched, based on the illustrations below. One of the advantages of content-based filtering is that it does not require a large amount of data processing to make recommendations. It can also recommend new products without data because it considers similarities in product characteristics from the same type. On the downside, content-based filtering cannot recommend products that are substantially different from the ones users have purchased or used, which limits the diversity of recommendations for users, as shown in Figure 3 [3].

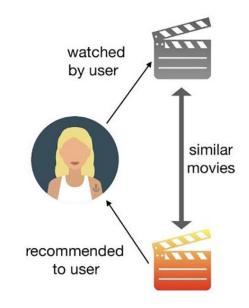


Figure 3 An example of content-based filtering technique [2].

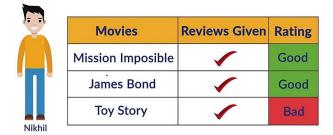


Figure 4 An example of movie recommendations for Netflix users [4].

Figure 4, is an example of movie recommendations for Netflix users using the profile name 'Nikhil.' In the case where Nikhil rates 'Mission Impossible' and 'James Bond,' both categorized as action movies, highly and rates 'Toy Story,' a children's movie, low, we can create a user vector for Nikhil based on the top 3 rated genres, as shown in Figure 5, using a rating scale from -10 to 10. Since Nikhil enjoys action movies, he assigns a value of 9 to the action genre. Nikhil has not watched any animation movies, so a value of 0 is assigned to the animation genre. Given that Nikhil has given poor ratings to children's movies, a value of -6 is assigned to the children's genre.

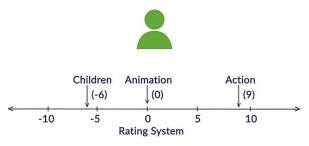


Figure 5 Creating a user vector [4].

# 2.3 Collaborative Filtering

collaborative filtering technique involves recommending products or services by considering similarities with other users and incorporating their data into the recommendation. This approach utilizes 'The Wisdom of the Clouds,' which relies on having user ratings for products or services in the database to make predictions. User ratings data can be used for two main approaches in making recommendations: 1. User-Based and 2. Item-Based. User-Based: This method groups users who have similar preferences into the same category. For example, User 1 and User 3 prefer products 3 and 4, when adds User 1 product 1 to cart, recommendation system will suggest the same product to User 3 based on their similar preferences. Item-Based: This approach, focuses on the similarity between (products) rather than users. If products 1 and 3 share certain similarities, when User 1 decides to purchase product 1, the system will recommend product 3 to them since they are related, as shown in Figure 6 and Figure 7 [5].

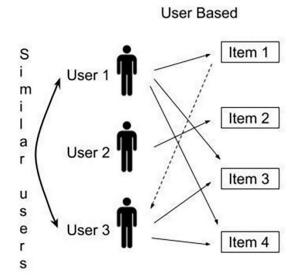


Figure 6 User-Based recommendation [5].

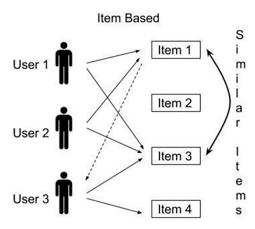


Figure 7 Item-Based recommendation [5].

#### 2.4 Matrix Factorization

A simple embedding model. Given the feedback matrix  $A \in R$  m × n, where is the number of users (or queries) and is the number of items, the model learns: A user embedding matrix  $U \in R$  m × d, where row i is the embedding for user I [4][6].

User 1 has given item 2 a rating of 3. Matrix factorization creates two smaller matrices, one for each user and object, which when multiplied together yield this approximate rating matrix, omitting the elements having a value of 0, as shown in Figure 8

	Item 1	Item 2	Item 3	Item 4	Item 5
User 1	0	3	0	3	0
User 2	4	0	0	2	0
User 3	0	0	3	0	0
User 4	3	0	4	0	3
User 5	4	3	0	4	0

Figure 8 A matrix of user/item ratings [6].

The number of users is represented by "m" in the matrix m x n, and the number of items by "n." The factors we need are an m x d matrix and a d x n matrix, where "d" is chosen to be large enough to represent the number of dimensions along which interactions between users and items are likely to vary significantly and small enough for the computation to be efficient. In the image above, the value of "d" is set to 2. This means that the dot product of the vectors representing the user and the item is the expected rating that a certain user will provide for a particular item, as shown in Figure 9.

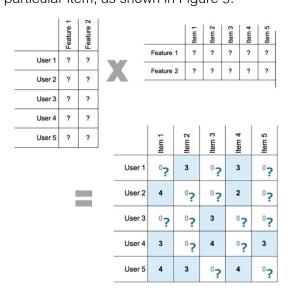


Figure 9 The matrix factorization separated into two parts [6].

Hameed et al. proposed an overview of collaborative filtering recommendation systems. It outlines the different aspects of collaborative filtering, including the categorization of recommendation systems, computation of similarity, and the evaluation of system

performance. They discuss various measures for evaluating collaborative filtering algorithms, such as predictive accuracy metrics, classification accuracy metrics, precision and recall, and ROC curves. user evaluation of recommendation systems [7]. Z. Shahbazi and Y.-C. Byun focus on the development and evaluation of а content-based filtering recommendation system using the XGBoost machine learning algorithm to suggest items to users based on their click information and user profile. The study specifically uses the Jeju online shopping mall dataset to recommend items based on user click information. They discuss the impact of technology on recommendation systems, emphasizing the growth of online shopping and the benefits for both users and content-based filtering sellers using collaborative filtering [8]. Fu et al. proposed a two-stage process for recommendation systems, involving the learning of low-dimensional embeddings for users and items, followed by the generation of predicted ratings using multiview feed-forward neural networks. The research included extensive experiments on benchmark datasets (MovieLens 1M and MovieLens 10M). Results demonstrated that their proposed approach consistently outperformed or achieved performance close to state-of-the-art when compared to existing collaborative filtering (CF)- based methods. The research involved detailed analyses and visualizations of learned representations, exploring different types of embeddings, transformation layers, and views in the recommendation system. Overall, the findings suggested that the deep learning-based CF framework. presented has the potential to significantly enhance recommendation systems [9]. B. Abdollahi and O. Nasraoui explore the ethical and transparency implications of machine learning models, focusing on the design of explainable intelligent systems in recommender systems. They propose an explainabilityconstrained Matrix Factorization (MF) technique generates accurate and explainable recommendations [10].

# 3. Methodology

# 3.1 Data Analysis

The researchers have studied the Python language and learned how to use various functions in Google Colab to increase sales volume and provide product recommendations to both new and existing customers based on data relationships. They examined the dataset, which consists of sales data imported from a database, consists of sales data imported from a database and converted it into a CSV file for modeling in Google Colab, as shown in Figure 10 and Figure 11.

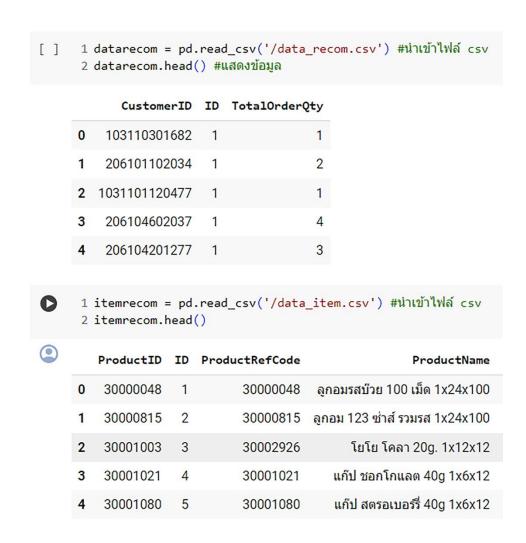


Figure 10 Customer data and product listings are filtered based on user preferences.

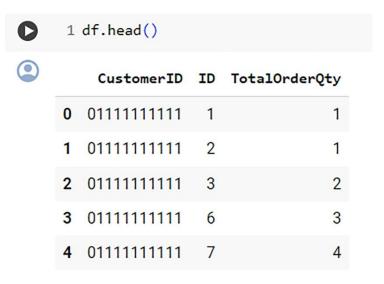


Figure 11 Customer data filtered by content-based filtering.

# 3.2 Collaborative Filtering Technique

For collaborative filtering data techniques, researchers use Pandas and Numpy libraries to assist in creating a product

recommendation model, which utilizes the NMF algorithm, considering similarity based on cosine similarity values, as shown in Figure 12 and Figure 13 [11].

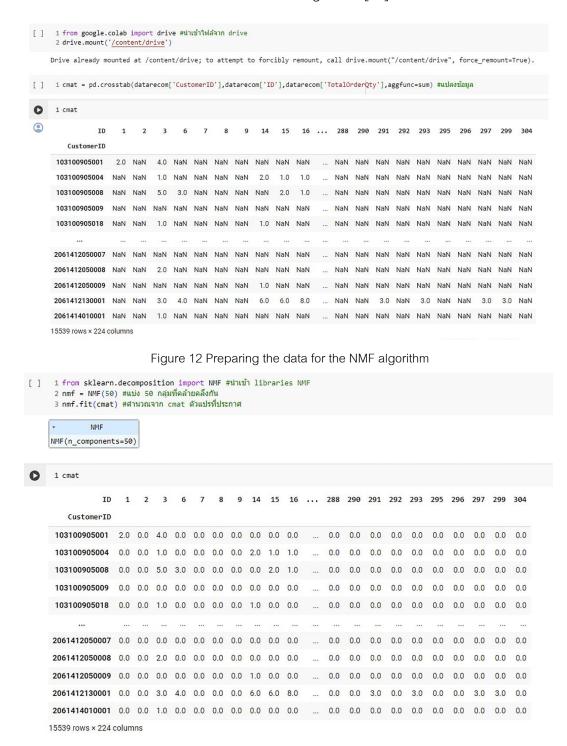


Figure 13 Dividing customers into 50 groups with similar purchasing patterns.



Figure 14 Calculate the matrix 1.

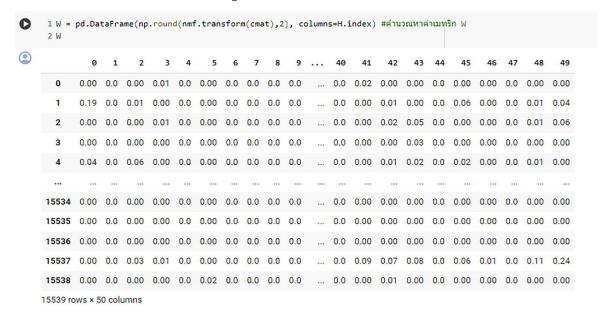


Figure 15 Calculate the matrix 2.

Following in Figure 14 and Figure 15, the discerning explicit objective of analogous procedural methodology encompasses the providing products in the context of computation of Matrix 1 and Matrix 2, with the recommendations to customers.

#### 4. Results

The system will select customer code 2061414010001 as a random sample for testing, recommending 10 items. This includes products

the customer has previously purchased and products the customer has not purchased before, as shown in Figure 16 and Figure 17.

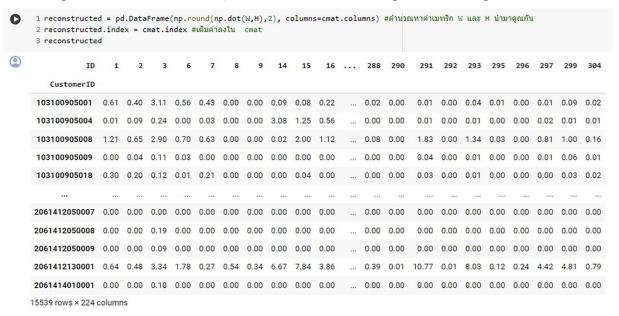


Figure 16 Results from Calculate the matrix 1 and matrix 2.

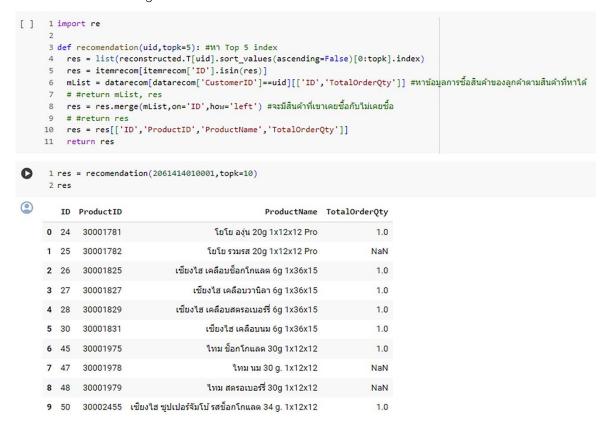


Figure 17 Results from collaborative filtering techniques.

For content-based filtering techniques, researchers use the Pandas and Numpy libraries to assist in creating a product recommendation model for new customers, which utilizes the

Cosine Math algorithm. Researchers simulate customer data and compare it with the purchase history of other customers, considering cosine similarity values, as shown in Figure 18.

```
[ ] 1 data = {'CustomerID': ['01111111111'],'ID': 1, 'TotalOrderQty': 1}# ข้อมูลในแถวที่จะเพิ่ม
             2 df = pd.DataFrame(data) # สร้าง DataFrame
             3 print(df)
             4 # เพิ่มแกวใน DataFrame
5 new_row = {'CustomerID': '01111111111','ID': 2, 'TotalOrderQty': 1}
             6 df = df.append(new_row, ignore_index=True)
7 new_row = {'CustomerID': '01111111111','ID': 3, 'TotalOrderQty': 2}
            7 new_row = {'CustomerID': '01111111111','ID
8 df = df.append(new_row, ignore_index=True)
         9 new_row = {'CustomerID': '01111111111','ID': 6, 'TotalOrderQty': 3}
10 df = df.append(new_row, ignore_index=True)
11 new_row = {'CustomerID': '0111111111','ID': 7, 'TotalOrderQty': 4}
12 df = df.append(new_row, ignore_index=True)
          13 print(df)
         1 0111111111
2 01111111111
         <ipython-input-118-51036aa85777>:6: FutureWarning: The frame.append method is deprecated and will be removed from pandas in a future version. Use pandas.concat instead. df = df.append(new_row, ignore_index=True)
         <ipython-input-118-51036aa857777-i6: FutureWarning: The frame.append method is deprecated and will be removed from pandas in a future version. Use pandas.concat instead.
df = df.append(new_row, ignore_index=True)
</pre>
ipython-input-118-51036aa857777-i8: FutureWarning: The frame.append method is deprecated and will be removed from pandas in a future version. Use pandas.concat instead.
df = df.append(new_row, ignore_index=True)

index=True
cipython-input-118-51036aa857777-i0: FutureWarning: The frame.append method is deprecated and will be removed from pandas in a future version. Use pandas.concat instead.
df = df.append(new_row, ignore_index=True)

cipython-input-118-51036aa85777-i0: FutureWarning: The frame.append method is deprecated and will be removed from pandas in a future version. Use pandas.concat instead.
df = df.append(new_row, ignore_index=True)
[ ] 1 df.head()
                   CustomerID ID TotalOrderQty
           0 01111111111 1 1
           1 01111111111 2
          2 01111111111 3
                                                                   2
          3 01111111111 6
          4 01111111111 7 4
```

Figure 18 Add customer data for testing.

Researchers will select customer code 01111111111 for testing and recommend 5 items. The recommendations will include products that the customer has previously purchased and products they have not purchased. To determine similarity, researchers will compare their purchase history with other customers. In this

specific instance, at position 6417, the customer code is 206130506002, so researchers will recommend products that customer code 011111111111 has not purchased but are similar to those purchased by customer code 206130506002, as shown in Figure 19.

#### Create Application

```
1 from scipy.spatial.distance import cosine #ดึง libraries cosinemath
      4 for idx in range(len(reconstructed)): #วนลูปดัวดาต้าที่สร้างขึ้นมาสำหรับลูกค้าใหม่ ออกมาเทียบกับข้อมูลลูกค้าที่ละคน
           similarity.append(cosine(test.values.reshape(224),reconstructed.iloc[idx].values))
      6 similarity = pd.Series(similarity).fillna(0).tolist()
      7 close_to = np.argsort(similarity)[-1]
      8 close_to #เทียบแล้วเลือกคนที่ 6417 ใน index
(a) /usr/local/lib/python3.10/dist-packages/scipy/spatial/distance.py:622: RuntimeWarning: invalid value encountered in double_scalars
      dist = 1.0 - uv / np.sqrt(uu * vv)
[ ] 1 test.values.reshape(224)
    (224,)
[ ] 1 reconstructed.iloc[idx].values.shape
[ ] 1 recomendation(reconstructed.index[close_to],5) # เทียบตำแหน่งใน index ท็อป 5
        ID ProductID
                                                   ProductName TotalOrderQty
     0 46 30001976
                                            ไทม ส้ม 30 g. 1x12x12
     1 47 30001978
                                            ใหม นม 30 g. 1x12x12
                                                                          NaN
     2 48 30001979 ใหม สตรอเบอร์รี่ 30g 1x12x12
                                                                          NaN
     3 50 30002455 เซียงไฮ ซูปเปอร์จัมโบ้ รสช็อกโกแลต 34 g. 1x12x12
                                                                           2.0
     4 63 30002519
                                         ใหมมะพร้าว 30 g 1x12x12
[ ] 1 reconstructed.index[close_to] #ตำแหน่ง 6417 คือรหัสลูกค้า 206130506002
    206130506002
```

Figure 19 The results obtained from content-based filtering techniques.

# 5. Conclusion and Recommendation

The company has undertaken the development of a product recommendation system, which can provide product recommendations to both new and existing customers with the overarching goal of enhancing sales performance and operational efficiency. For example, sales representatives can utilize the system to recommend products to new customers based on their historical order data, specifically suggesting items that have not been previously purchased.

The drawback of this method lies in the absence of content for specific items, as contentbased systems primarily function as document classifiers and frequently do not extend their applicability to various other product categories, such as movies or restaurants. Additionally, there exists the potential for an unwarranted degree of restrictiveness, as these systems are fundamentally tailored to suggest items akin to previously evaluated by the user. Consequently, users may be prone to overlooking items of potential interest that fall beyond the

purview of documents they have previously assessed.

Furthermore, for repeat customers with established purchase histories, the system employs a comparative analysis approach, aligning their purchasing patterns with those of similar customers to propose products they have not yet acquired. Additionally, the limitation intrinsic to this study is discerned in the acknowledgment that a substantial volume of data contributes to the refinement of precision in the recommendation process implemented by the system.

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