

## EMBEDDINGS

E.g. collaborative filtering:

Input: 1ml movies watched by 500k users

Task: Recommend movies to users

→ Need to determine movie similarity

ID of similarity is insufficient to  
properly capture this

2D also probably not (nice for visualization  
though)

→ Similarity = dist. between nodes in  
the D-dim. space you embed them into

But now you need to compute the embeddings,  
i.e. compute the D-dim. vectors.

How? Neural net, supervised by "user watched"

Representation?

- Per-user vec  $\langle 1, 0, \dots, 1 \rangle$  encoding  
whether user watched? slow + big input
- Sparse encoding: list of movie IDs  
(but see below this is just an  
optimization for your data)

Applications: ① Predict home sales price and  
use the home description text  
as an input to the regression  
model (e.g. a NN)

So we need to learn an embedding layer to produce  $D$ -dim. vectors, then use that as inputs to the regression model.

②

Handwriting recognition

→ Learn embedding for the raw bitmap

③

Movie recommendations

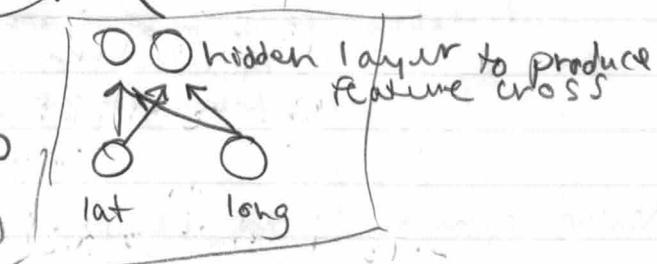
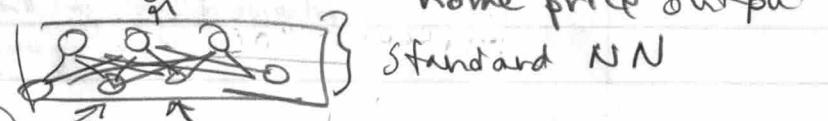
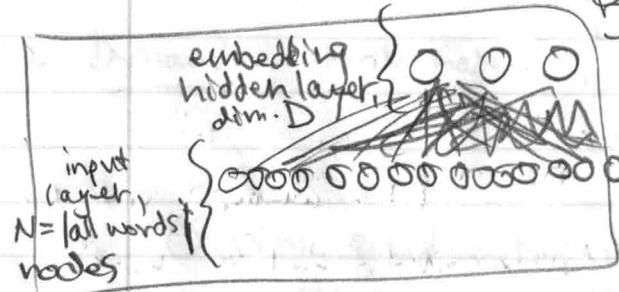
→ Learn embedding for user movies sparse encoding

How to learn it?

①

Just add a hidden layer in the NN between the input and the rest of the model! Back propagation will just "learn" it! i.e. in passing.

(What is  $D$ ? Hyperparameter. Tune it.)



→ Backpropagation just figures out everything.  
- Feature crosses  
- Embedding  
- Weights to combine them, etc.

② Standard dimensionality reduction methods  
(e.g. principal component analysis)

③ Word2vec: similarity = semantic based  
on word collocations. Train model.  
(Invented at Google)

(See tutorial at [tensorflow.org/tutorials/text/word2vec](https://www.tensorflow.org/tutorials/text/word2vec))