



## A hybrid quantum-classical recommender system



POWERED BY VOLKSWAGEN GROUP

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# A recommender system built on matrix factorization

- got inspired by nonnegative/binary matrix factorization at Qubits 2018 [1]
- Q: where can we apply NBMF on D-Wave in a Volkswagen context?
- A: recommendations for users of the VW configurator

The screenshot shows the Volkswagen configurator interface. The main heading is "Konfigurieren Sie Ihren Volkswagen." Below this, there is a grid of eight car models, each with a side-view image, a name, a price range, and a star icon labeled "Angebote".

Model Name	Price Range (€)	Offer Label
Der up!	ab 75,89 €/ Monat <sup>*2, *3</sup> oder 10.625,00 € <sup>*1</sup>	★ Angebote
Der Polo	ab 88,91 €/ Monat <sup>*4, *3</sup> oder 13.500,00 € <sup>*1</sup>	★ Angebote
Der neue T-Cross	ab 124,25 €/ Monat <sup>*5, *3</sup> oder 17.975,00 € <sup>*1</sup>	★ Angebote
Der Golf	ab 148,58 €/ Monat <sup>*6, *3</sup> oder 19.300,00 € <sup>*1</sup>	★ Angebote
Der T-Roc	ab 133,62 €/ Monat <sup>*7, *3</sup> oder 20.875,00 € <sup>*1</sup>	★ Angebote
Der Golf Sportsvan	ab 144,88 €/ Monat <sup>*8, *3</sup> oder 20.825,00 € <sup>*1</sup>	★ Angebote
Der Golf Variant	ab 162,67 €/ Monat <sup>*9, *3</sup> oder 22.200,00 € <sup>*1</sup>	★ Angebote
Der Touran	ab 187,64 €/ Monat <sup>*10, *3</sup> oder 24.975,00 € <sup>*1</sup>	★ Angebote

[1] O'Malley D, Vesselinov VV, Alexandrov BS, Alexandrov LB (2018) Nonnegative/Binary matrix factorization with a D-Wave quantum annealer. PLoS ONE 13(12): e0206653. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0206653>



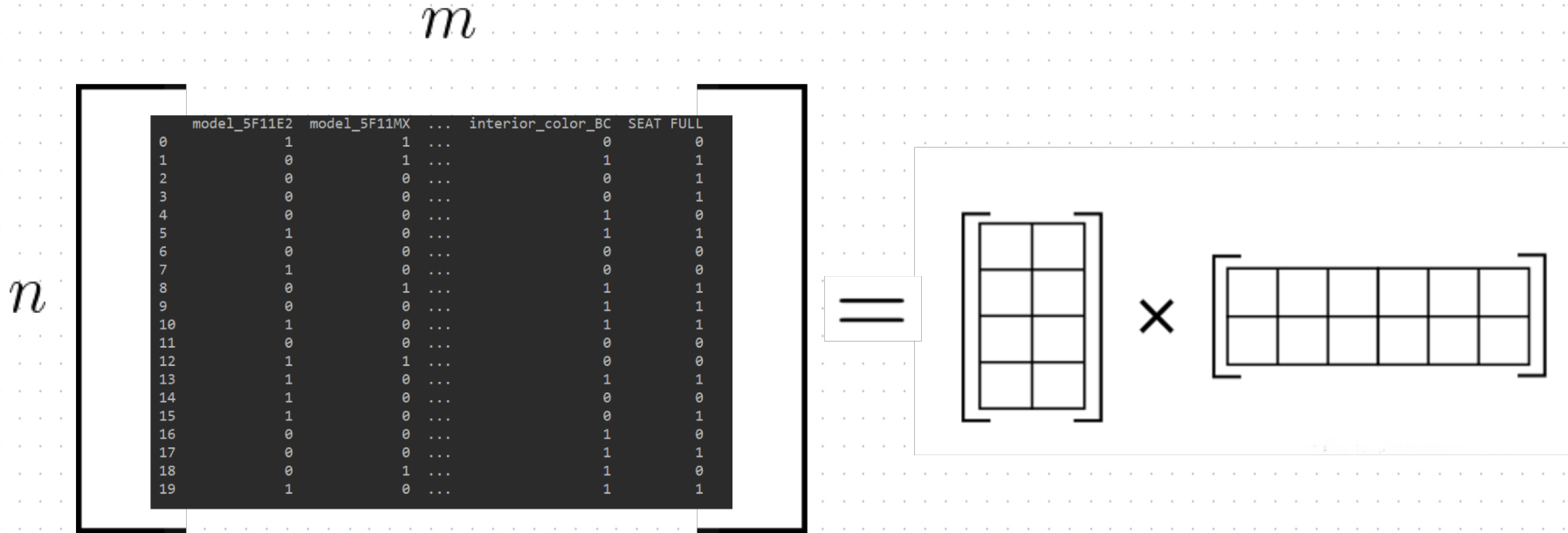
# SEAT configurator data

```
model_5F11E2 model_5F11MX ... interior_color_BC SEAT FULL
0 1 1 ... 0 0
1 0 1 ... 1 1
2 0 0 ... 0 1
3 0 0 ... 0 1
4 0 0 ... 1 0
5 1 0 ... 1 1
6 0 0 ... 0 0
7 1 0 ... 0 0
8 0 1 ... 1 1
9 0 0 ... 1 1
10 1 0 ... 1 1
11 0 0 ... 0 0
12 1 1 ... 0 0
13 1 0 ... 1 1
14 1 0 ... 0 0
15 1 0 ... 0 1
16 0 0 ... 1 0
17 0 0 ... 1 1
18 0 1 ... 1 0
19 1 0 ... 1 1
```

- data of 47819 car purchases
- data includes color packages, accessories, ...
- one-hot encoded categorical features
- turned them into “user ratings”
- 0: no purchase, 5: purchase



# Nonnegative matrix factorization



$$V = W \times H$$

minimise

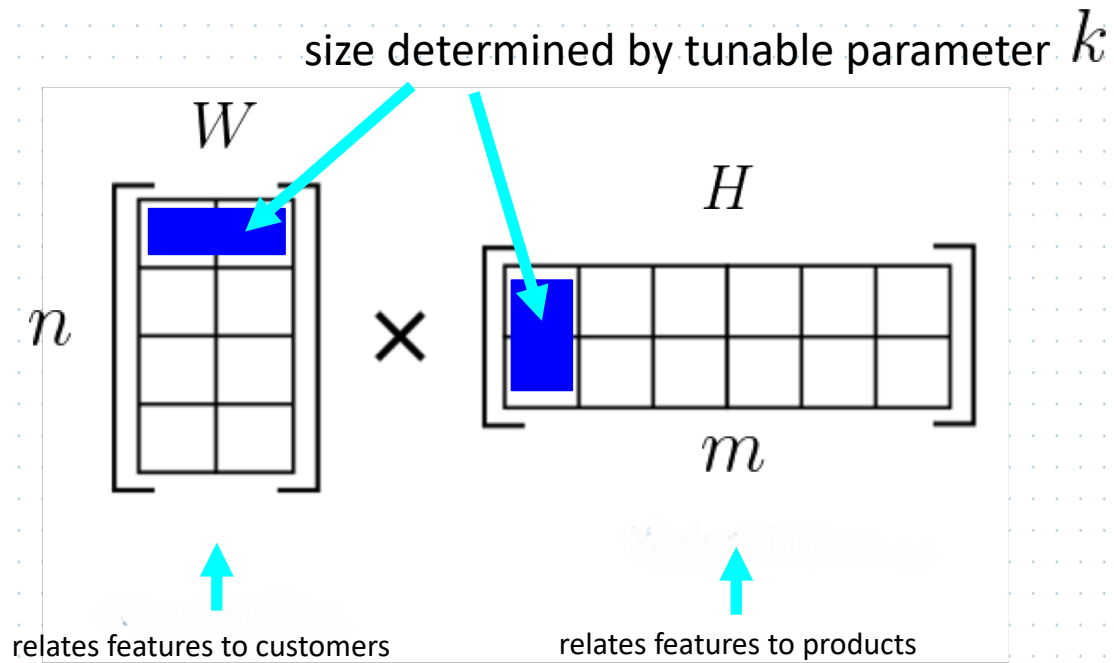


$$\text{error} = V - (W \times H)$$





# Nonnegative matrix factorization





# How are ratings inferred?

We don't only want to reconstruct, but also predict values.

## Regularisation

- don't want to learn exact representation of the training data
- regularisation terms "blur" the original data

## Biases

- some customers buy only the minimum in accessories, others like to configure every detail
- some features are especially popular, others bought only rarely
- incorporate these biases in the data into predictions

# Regularisation

Add a regularisation term to the update rule:

$$\arg \min_{W, H} \sum_{i, j \in \kappa} \|V_{ij} - W_j^T H_i\|_2$$



$$\arg \min_{W, H} \sum_{i, j \in \kappa} \|V_{ij} - W_j^T H_i\|_2 + \lambda (\|W_j\|^2 + \|H_i\|^2)$$

non-zero entries of  $V$

controls extent of regularisation

## Biases

Add aspects that are independent of any interaction between customers and products:

global bias, mean of all values in training data

$$V_{ij} = W_j^T H_i \quad \rightarrow \quad V_{ij} = b + b_i + b_j + W_j^T H_i$$

Learn additional value  $b_i$  for each customer and  $b_j$  for each product:

$$b_{i+1} = b_i + \alpha(\text{error} - \beta \cdot b_i)$$

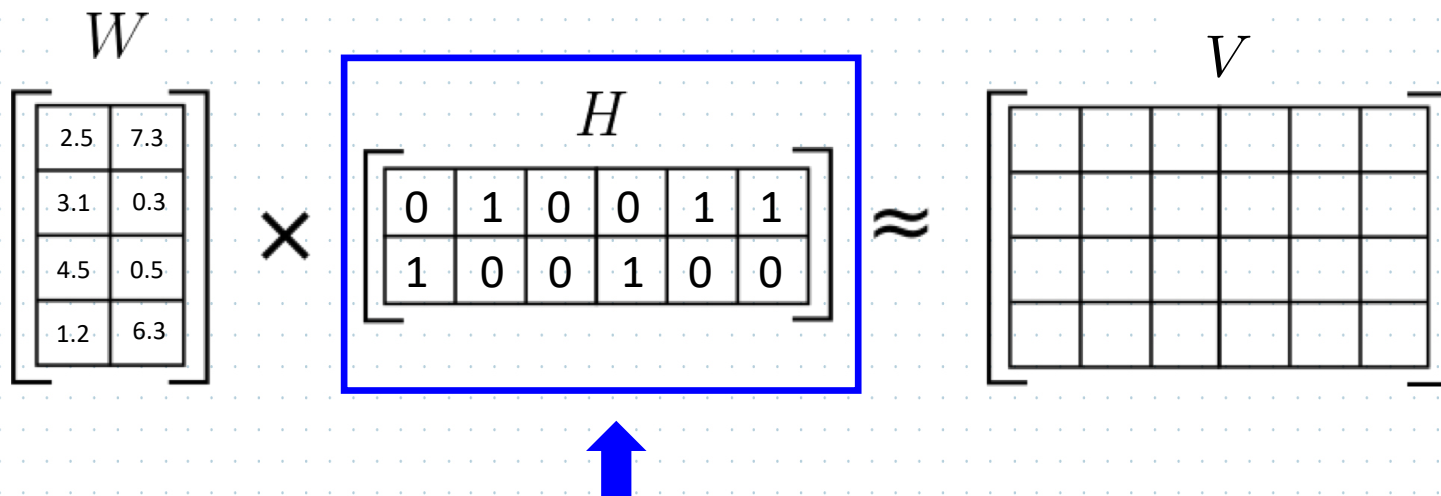
$$b_{j+1} = b_j + \alpha(\text{error} - \beta \cdot b_j)$$

approximation error of prediction





# NBMF on D-Wave



We can put  $H$  in QUBO form by constraining it to binary values only and constructing a QUBO for each column.

## Optimisation task on D-Wave

We want to optimise each column  $q$  of  $H$  such that

$$H_i = \arg \min_{q \in \{0,1\}^{k \times m}} \|V_i - Wq\|_2$$



turn into QUBO

$$f(q) = \sum_i a_i q_i + \sum_{i < j} b_{ij} q_i q_j$$

$$a_j = \sum_k W_{kj} (W_{kj} - 2V_{ij})$$

$$b_{jk} = 2 \sum_l W_{lj} W_{lk}$$



# Customer 994

Model: SEAT LEON CUPRA

Exterior colour: Urban Silver

Interior colour: Magic Black

Discount package

Rear view camera system

Dark tinted side windows

Power-adjustable heated and electric

SEAT FULL LINK

Convenience package rain light

Integrated maps SD card w/ Mapcare

Adaptive Cruise Control ACC

Navigation system

Driver assistance pack front camera


Interior LED light package

Family package curtains

DAB Digital Audio Broadcasting

Keyless locking and starting system

Safety package warning signal on front



**Recommendation of an  
alternative color scheme:**

**Exterior colour:** Desire Red  
**Interior colour:** Rodium Gray



# Customer 44

Model: SEAT LEON ST

Exterior colour: Desire Red

Interior colour: Deep Black

Discount package

Rear view camera system

Driver assistance pack front camera

SEAT FULL LINK

SEAT complete LED headlamps w/ sep LED


Adaptive Cruise Control ACC

Connectivity Box for navigation system

Digital instrument cluster

16-inch reduced spare wheel

Mapcare integrated maps update



**Recommendation of  
additional accessory:**

Air conditioning system





## Conclusion

- POC hybrid recommendation system works
- run on larger dataset
- iterative algorithms take a long time to execute!



Thanks for your attention!