

# Retro: Time-based Exploration of Product Reviews



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#### **Motivation**

#### Reviews are valuable

- for customers → purchase decision
- for manufacturers → collect opinions

# **Typical Exploration Functionality**

- total number of reviews
- average rating
- number of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 star ratings
- sort by helpful votes or recency
- → no analysis of all reviews collectively
- → no temporal analysis

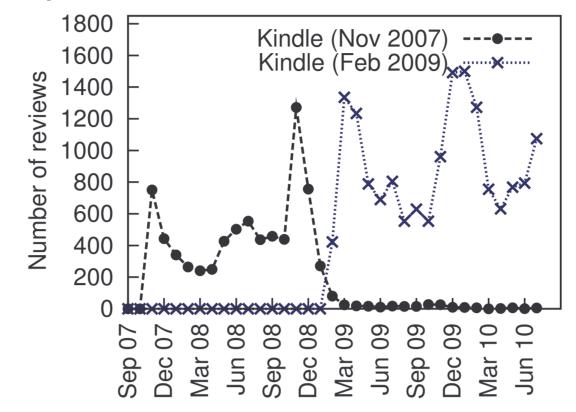
#### **Review sets of products**

- different in size
- different in rating

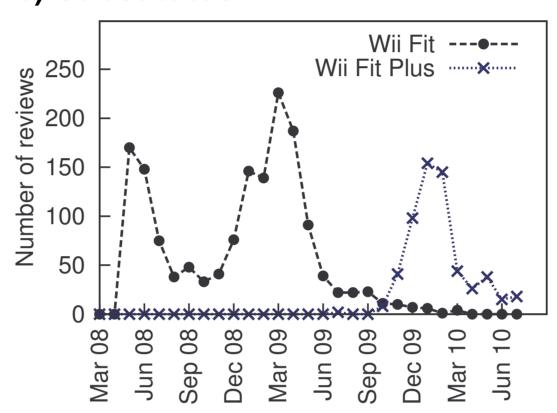
#### Review sets seem to be similar...

- $\rightarrow$  all products with avg rating > 4.0
- ... but are different
- → different temporal characteristics

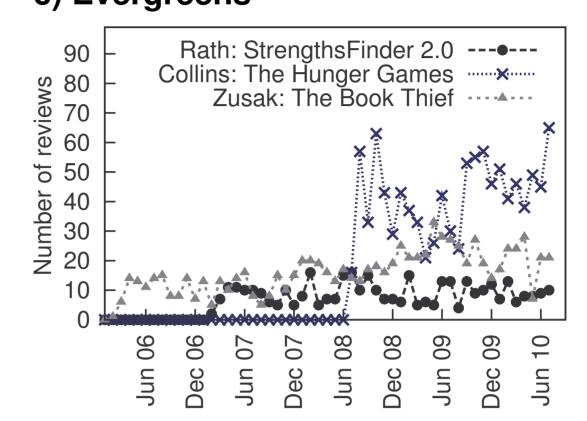
#### a) Substitutes I



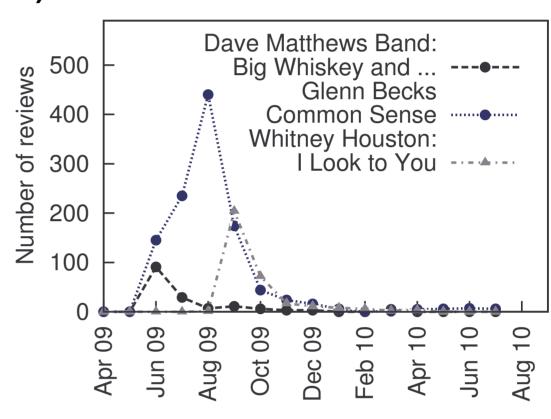
#### b) Substitutes II



# c) Evergreens



#### d) Bursts



#### **Retro: Key Features**

# **Temporal Cluster Constructor**

- timeline-based clustering
- buckets with decreasing granularity

# **Sparkline Constructor**

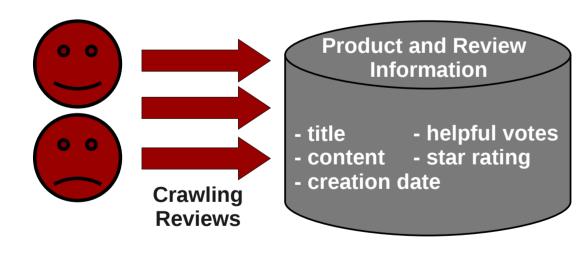
- temporal distribution of reviews
- star rating distribution in each cluster

#### **Balanced Review Selector**

• the high-rated and low-rated reviews with most helpful votes in each cluster

# **Retro: Architecture**

#### 1) Preprocessing Phase



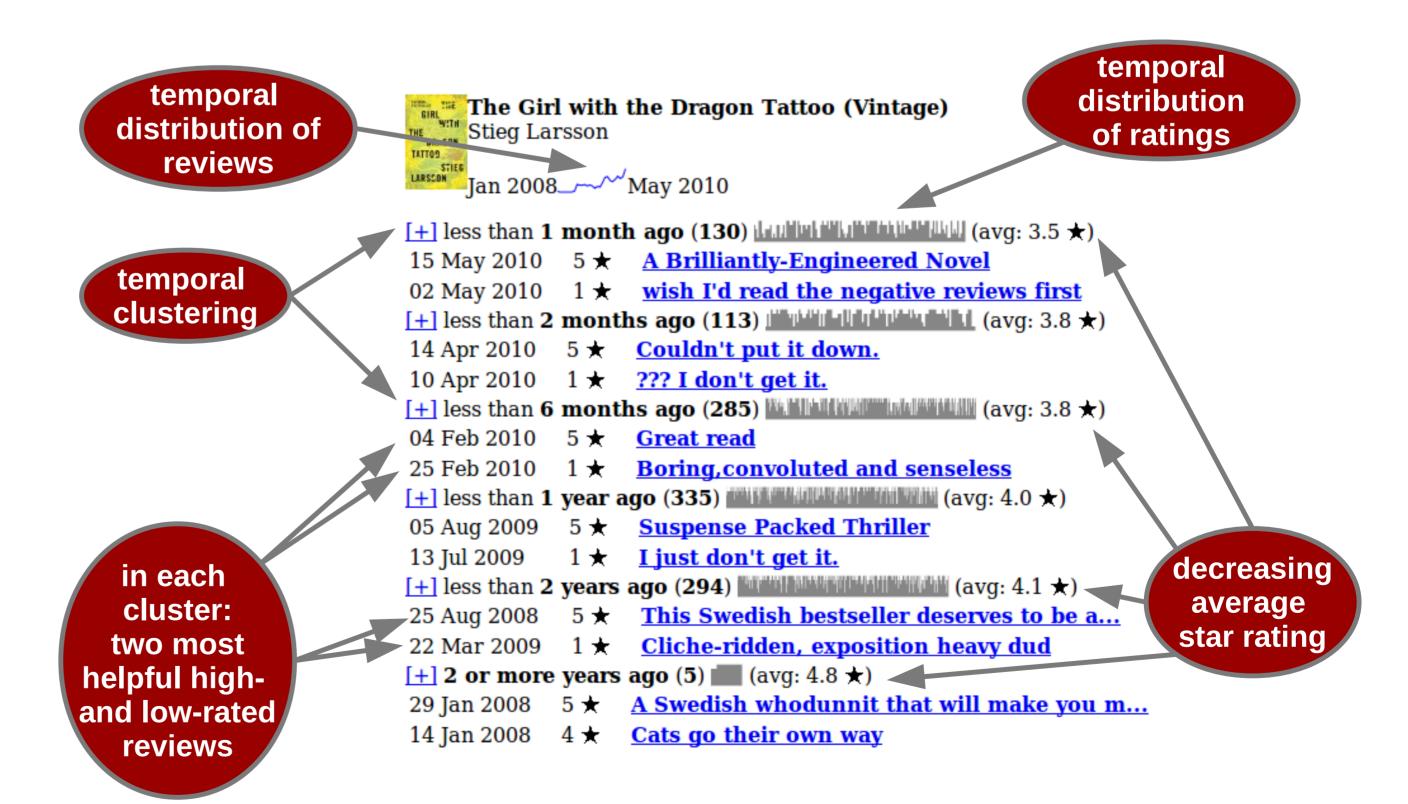
### 2) Search Phase

# **Retro - Temporal Exploration of Reviews**

**Product Search:** 



## **Retro: Temporal Exploration of Product Reviews**



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