**CS 3300 Project 2**

Chong Ran (cr448), Emily Lutz (eel52), Gabriel Kalejaiye (gbt22)
The World Map of Music on Spotify (2011

A. Data Selection:

We got our data from the world map topojson provided in class and also the Spotify API that provided us with images and playlists: https://developer.spotify.com/web-api/, which provides the possibility to pull data via Ajax calls. Therefore, we could develop on click events and nodes layout to display some information about the music scenario of the country according to Spotify.

B. Mapping from data to visual elements:

The green countries area on the map represents the countries that have and use Spotify, while the grey countries are just the opposite. Every time a country is clicked the green color scale for the specific country changes to show it was visited before. Every time we click in a country, an on-click function is called to append a image that represents the country music, a playlist and an area with the images related to artists and tracks from the place. There is an array of each country and its respective id and also a list an array of countries on Spotify. Some countries do not have a playlist provided from Spotify to represent them. However, we found a way to find a representative playlist for this specific case.
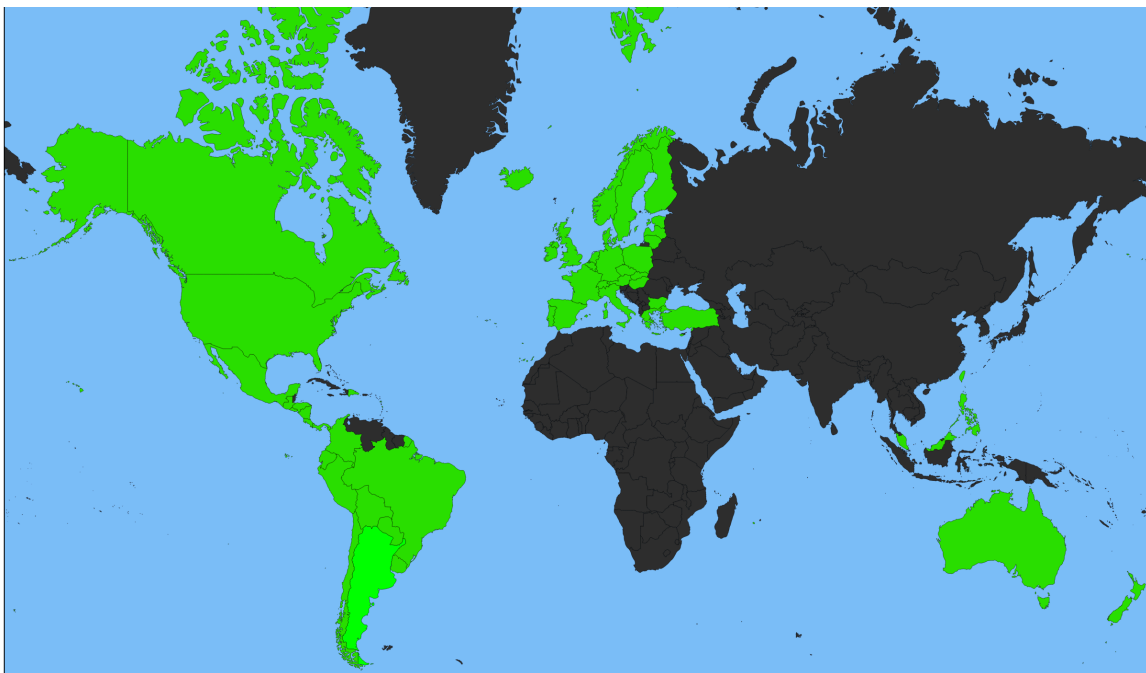
C. Story of visualization:

The first and primary thing that the data tells us is related to the fact that although there is a huge adoption of Spotify on the Western World, we can see that the majority of countries still do not use the App, especially on the Eastern World.

After that, we can have our analysis per country. Each country has a very personalized culture, but parts of the playlists from each country are very similar. Except from the cases where the Spotify user account doesn't provide a particular playlist and we have to opt for the most liked playlist for the country or in places like Brazil where the music scene is very particular, the data doesn't varies much for each country. Obviously, there are a lot of possible reasons for that. For instance, the pop scene is one of the strongest elements of globalization. The Western presence, especially related to UK and USA songs will always be present in the general pop culture internationally. Also, the App is a product from the Western world, which contributes to the fact that the database of users usually comes from a very western culture. However, we can see that the order of top artists still varies quite a lot, showing that even though the general culture is very similar, we can clearly see that there is still difference in a micro-scale analysis.

The image on the left is the cover photo of our visualization. The middle part represents the images when you query the name of the country for Spotify Tracks. And on the right there is a playlist that is the best available online to represent the country

NOTE 1 – SPOTIFY ACCESS:
 If the user doesn't have Spotify installed on the machine, it might have to login in the web to use our WebApp.

NOTE 2 – BETTER WAY TO VISUALIZE OUR IDEA:

Spotify has some issues related to getting data from tracks. It is possible to do so, by using a Token generated by the system. However, the token code just lasts for 2 hours. If you want to see this implementation, just go to this link: https://developer.spotify.com/web-api/console/get-playlist-tracks/ .Then, change the WorldMapSpotify.html file to direct to token/ajax.js instead of js/ajax.js. Finally, just put the token on the field "accessToken". Due to the amount of work just to get the data we did an alternative version for it, using our current js/ajax.js