Music Genre

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# ABSTRACT

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## Author Keywords

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# INTRODUCTION

Music is a passion for us, the authors of this paper and is also a world of choices: there are more than a thousand music genres that have been created until today. In this streaming era, genres are becoming more blended, and even Spotify has labeled over 3,000 genres to their available content. There is a lot to choose from. Each one of us has an interest in different musical genres. This difference, together with our passion for this art, helped us choose the domain of musical genres and to present popular artists within each one.

Music is not just listening to it: it is far beyond. It is also knowing the background, what is behind it. It is relevant for us to learn when a certain genre originated. It may be more recent, but it did not cause a major impact; it may be older and have recently return to the top of the lists, a resurgence. It is very interesting to watch the evolution of this art: this is our proposition.

Recently, it is increasingly common to use platforms to listen to music: these concentrate almost every single proof of each genre. We can say they have everybody’s cup of tea. Therefore, we found interesting using these platforms’ data to obtain information about the most recent decades. With our project, we intend to have an overview of the evolution of the biggest music genres, their origin, and their popularity; which are the most famous artists; what is the geographic distribution of artists compared to a genre: is it a genre popular in a certain country, but the artists who elevated them to the tops are from the other side of the globe? This also takes us into a journey around the world, to discover these crossings in this art history.

## Our First Questions

Finally, we wrote some initial questions, which we, as a group, were interested in answering. Based on these, we started developing our work: how has a genre popularity evolved over the decades? What are the most popular artists of this same genre? And where did they come from? What more artists, whether on the top or not, are related to these? How has a particular genre evolved in a particular country? And did an artist always kept the same genre, or did it try new paths, risking different or even opposite genres? There were our initial questions that motivated us to carry out this project

# Related work

Music is a common art in the daily basis of most people, thus is an art well studied and investigated, for business purposes or simply to admire how music works. For our study, we searched how visualizations of these studies are being created and what could we improve.

This art could turn into a general study of timelines or in a more deep way, how different characteristics like volume, mood, melody, instruments, tempo etc. that can be extracted from the audio file change depending its genres, existing multiple visualizations about it.

Due to technology, there are various authors that generate a visual studies of specific sound properties that enable users to interact and visualize the music in a way that is more understandable, meaningful, and entertaining. One of the interactive interface which is Visualizing Genres [1] is presented for how visualizing genre data could help us understand its music landscape with publicly available data. The interface consulted Spotify’s API to get their assigned genres, which is one of the objectives for our visualization, even lacking interactivity, since the only interaction available is selecting a square, which represents a genre.

In order to design and develop music visualization it is possible to have real-time animation where animation is generated based on the music data when it is played, like the Windows Media Player (1998) and preprocessed animation that is developed by the author according to specific ideas about the purpose of the animation. One related work that helped our visualization is Musicmap [2] that attempts to provide a genealogy of popular music genres, including their relations and history, making easy to understand despite its complexity. The authors choose a specific number of genres, determining forms of hierarchy and analogy and ordering everything in a logical way.

MusicPopcorn [3] displays in a network idiom how genres and sub genres are related with inserting the notion of genre hierarchy. This introduction of a network to understand the relations with genres gave us the idea to display how the genres and artists can also relate.

This visualizations had the genre in common but the artists and how they are connected even though the genre it is not the same are not displayed, we found that this type of relations were not being used as a form of data visualization. Therefore, we decided to use as an idea these sources and join them in a visualization that could also answer us to the initial questions.

# THE DATA

Since the source of our dataset was important to us, we planned to retrieve from platforms that we used, so we can also learn what these APIs provide us. This search has happened while we also look for questions to answer, since we did not know what we had information about before we retrieved the data.

First, we choose Spotify and LastFM, since these are the most popular platforms. The first one had multiple attributes that led to a complex dataset that could turn into an unhelpful one. We had to retrieve also from the second one to compare and decide how we would proceed.

We figured out the sources did not have the same fields so we could join data, so we moved to scrapping more sources and decide next. In the end, we had four sources: LastFM, Spotify API, MusicBrainz and AllMusic.

Our initial dataset was composed by several datasets. The first one (decade.csv) was the result of joining two different datasets ([1] and [2]), resulting in a 2-attribute table containing data regarding artists and the decade when each artist hit the Top 100. The other datasets were split in two categories: artist data (artist\*.csv) and album data (album\*.csv). For the first category, we needed a final dataset that had information regarding the artist, namely we needed their place of origin, their popularity, and associated genres and tags. Since we use multiple online services as data sources, and some services do not have the same fields, we gathered several datasets to obtain all data possible from various sources: LastFM, Spotify API, MusicBrainz, and AllMusic. For the second category, we proceed in the same way. We needed information regarding the artist’s albums, their release year, associated genres/tags/moods, and popularity, so we gathered several datasets to obtain all possible data from the same various sources: LastFM, Spotify API, MusicBrainz and AllMusic.

# para usar na conclusao Said balance is always the main subject of discussion in music genre genealogies and the capital reason why an absolute visual reference has been absent thus far (and probably always will be).

# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Sample text: We thank all the volunteers, and all

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