Billboard Hot 100 Analysis &

Machine Learning Project

Name:

Cesario Angel Ibarra

Details

Investigate and exploit the insights of the Billboard Hot 100 (1958 to 2020)

- Exploit how similar the majority of tracks are on the list; no matter the genre
- Understand why Hot 100 tracks all sound the same and are very similar in compositional structure
- Although musical genre is established by supposedly a myriad of determining factors e.g. culture, time
 and place etc. not to forget all of the rules that music theory has to offer.
- Nevertheless here in this Analysis we will only worry about the empirical data; the audio features of a
 given track. the only musical theory involved here is Key Signature(Key and Mode), Time Signature and
 Tempo. These features are simply semantic representions of Frequency, Beats per Measure, and Beats
 per minute. Nothing theoretical here will be considered.
- Fundamentally, music is time, energy, and motion.
- Music is math and we will explore these virtues of the music on the Billboard Hot 100 ## Explorative Analysis ### Part 2

I will use both barcharts and density plots to check the distribution of variables in the dataset.

```
import seaborn as sns
In [1]:
        import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
        import matplotlib as mpl
        from matplotlib import cm
        import numpy as np
        import pandas as pd
        import os
        %matplotlib inline
        mpl.rc('axes', labelsize=14)
        mpl.rc('xtick', labelsize=12)
        mpl.rc('ytick', labelsize=12)
        # Where to save the figures
        PROJECT ROOT DIR = "."
        FOLDER = "figures"
        IMAGES PATH = os.path.join(PROJECT ROOT DIR, FOLDER)
        os.makedirs(IMAGES PATH, exist ok=True)
        def save fig(fig id, tight layout=True, fig extension="png", resolution=300):
            path = os.path.join(IMAGES PATH, fig id + "." + fig extension)
           print("Saving figure", fig id)
           if tight layout:
                plt.tight layout()
            plt.savefig(path, format=fig extension, dpi=resolution)
```

```
# Set columns view to max
pd.set_option('display.max_columns', None)
```

```
In [2]: # read the df from the pickle file
viz_df = pd.read_pickle('hot100df_distinct.pkl')
viz_df
```

ut[2]:		performer	song_performer	song	track_duration_s	danceability	energy	key	loudness	mode	speech
	0	Andy Williams	And Roses And Roses Andy Williams	And Roses And Roses	166.106	0.154	0.185	F	-14.063	major	0
	1	Britney Spears	Baby One More Time Britney Spears	Baby One More Time	211.066	0.759	0.699	С	-5.745	minor	0
	2	Paul Davis	'65 Love Affair Paul Davis	'65 Love Affair	219.813	0.647	0.686	D	-4.247	minor	0
	3	Tammy Wynette	'til I Can Make It On My Own Tammy Wynette	'til I Can Make It On My Own	182.080	0.450	0.294	G	-12.022	major	0
	4	Luther Vandross	'Til My Baby Comes Home Luther Vandross	'Til My Baby Comes Home	332.226	0.804	0.714	В	-6.714	minor	0
	•••										
	13053	The Trammps	Zing Went The Strings Of My Heart The Trammps	Zing Went The Strings Of My Heart	202.693	0.667	0.851	E	-5.257	major	0
	13054	The Five Americans	Zip Code The Five Americans	Zip Code	175.040	0.393	0.594	Α	-5.986	major	0
	13055	Bad Wolves	Zombie Bad Wolves	Zombie	254.805	0.448	0.826	D	-3.244	minor	0
	13056	Herb Alpert & The Tijuana Brass	Zorba The Greek Herb Alpert & The Tijuana Brass	Zorba The Greek	264.853	0.531	0.642	F	-12.702	major	0
	13057	K7	Zunga Zeng K7	Zunga Zeng	273.000	0.846	0.657	C#	-9.642	major	0

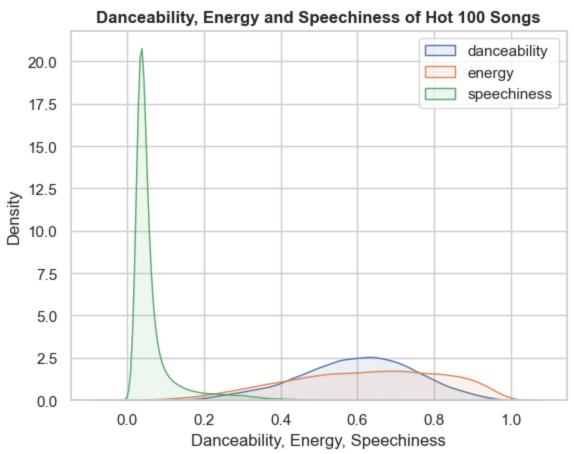
13058 rows × 23 columns

Density Plot, visualizing:

• Danceability: Based on a combo of tempo, rhytmic stability, beat; measuring how suitable a song is for dancing.

- Energy: Energy is a measure from 0.0 to 1.0 and represents a perceptual measure of intensity and activity.
- Speechiness: speechiness detects the presence of spoken words in a track. The more exclusively speechlike the recording (e.g. talk show, audio book, poetry), the closer to 1.0 the attribute value.

```
In [3]: # Viz w Density plot
    sns.set_palette('Accent')
    sns.set(style='whitegrid')
    sns.kdeplot(data=viz_df, x='danceability', fill=True, alpha=0.1, label='danceability')
    sns.kdeplot(data=viz_df, x='energy', fill=True, alpha=0.1, label='energy')
    sns.kdeplot(data=viz_df, x='speechiness', fill=True, alpha=0.1, label='speechiness')
    plt.xlabel('Danceability, Energy, Speechiness')
    plt.ylabel('Density')
    plt.title('Danceability, Energy and Speechiness of Hot 100 Songs', fontsize=12, fontweig
    plt.legend(title='')
    plt.show()
```

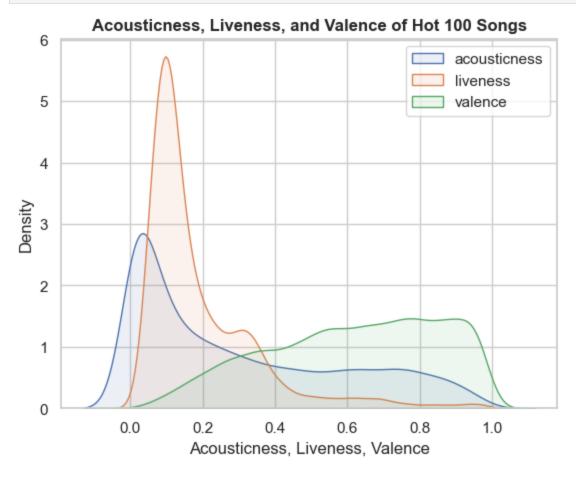


Visualizing:

- Acousticness: Confidence measure from 0.0 to 1.0 of whether the track is acoustic. 1.0 represents high confidence the track is acoustic.
- Valence: Measure from 0.0 to 1.0 describing the musical positiveness conveyed by a track. Tracks with high valence sound more positive (e.g., happy, cheerful, euphoric), while tracks with low valence sound more negative (e.g., sad, depressed, angry).
- Liveness: Detects the presence of an audience in the recording. Higher liveness values represent an increased probability that the track was performed live.

```
In [4]: # Viz w Density plot
    sns.set_palette('Accent')
    sns.set(style='whitegrid')
```

```
sns.kdeplot(data=viz_df, x='acousticness', fill=True, alpha=0.1, label='acousticness')
sns.kdeplot(data=viz_df, x='liveness', fill=True, alpha=0.1, label='liveness')
sns.kdeplot(data=viz_df, x='valence', fill=True, alpha=0.1, label='valence')
plt.xlabel('Acousticness, Liveness, Valence')
plt.ylabel('Density')
plt.title('Acousticness, Liveness, and Valence of Hot 100 Songs', fontsize=12, fontweigh
plt.legend(title='')
plt.show()
```



Based on these plots a few things about Billboard Hot 100 songs can be noted:

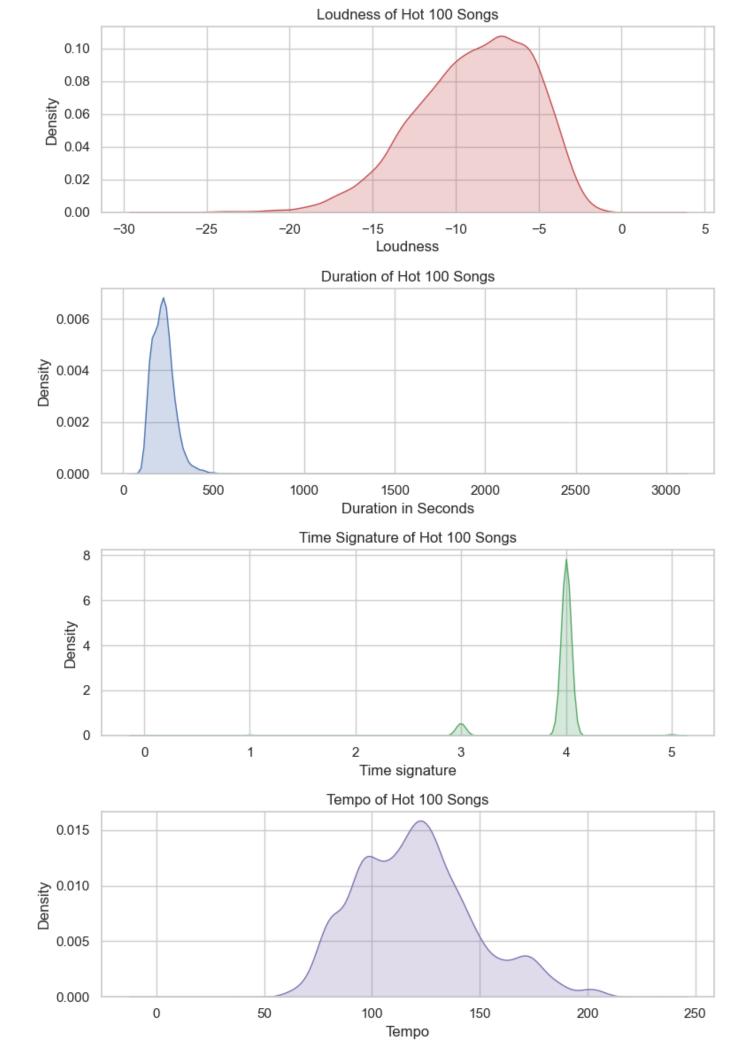
- most songs have quite a high danceability, between 0.5 and 0.75;
- the distribution of energy across songs is almost normal, meaning that songs range from up-beat to slow and calm options;
- a prevailing majority of tracks have speechiness between 0 and 0.1, meaning that a lot of tracks have very few lyrics;
- acousticness of songs is also quite left-skewed. Highly acoustic songs mainly contain orchestral instruments, an unaltered voice, acoustic guitars and natural drum kits, whereas less acoustic songs contain, for example, synthesizers, electric guitars and amplified instruments;
- liveness is very left-skewed, which makes sense as most of the tracks on Billboard are studio recordings, with a low probability of audience being present;
- valence of most of the songs is higher than 0.5, meaning that most Billboard tracks are indeed positive.

Now we can have a look at the distribution of

- loudness
- duration in seconds
- time signature

- tempo
- liveness
- acousticness
- energy
- valence
- danceability

```
sns.set palette('Accent')
In [5]:
        sns.set(style='whitegrid')
        # Create a figure with four subplots
        fig, axs = plt.subplots(4, 1, figsize=(8, 12))
        # Plot the loudness density
        sns.kdeplot(viz df['loudness'], fill=True, color="r", ax=axs[0])
        axs[0].set title("Loudness of Hot 100 Songs")
        axs[0].set xlabel("Loudness")
        axs[0].set ylabel("Density")
        # Plot the duration density
        sns.kdeplot(viz df['track duration s'], fill=True, color="b", ax=axs[1])
        axs[1].set title("Duration of Hot 100 Songs")
        axs[1].set xlabel("Duration in Seconds")
        axs[1].set ylabel("Density")
        # Plot the time signature density
        sns.kdeplot(viz df['time signature'], fill=True, color="g", ax=axs[2])
        axs[2].set title("Time Signature of Hot 100 Songs")
        axs[2].set xlabel("Time signature")
        axs[2].set ylabel("Density")
        # Plot the tempo density
        sns.kdeplot(viz df['tempo'], fill=True, color="m", ax=axs[3])
        axs[3].set title("Tempo of Hot 100 Songs")
        axs[3].set xlabel("Tempo")
        axs[3].set ylabel("Density")
        # Show the plot
        plt.tight layout()
        plt.show()
```



Based on these graphs the following insights can be derived:

- Most of the Billboard tracks indeed are moderately loud;
- Duration is on average 225 seconds (3 minutes and 45 seconds);
- Majority of tracks has a time signature of 4/4 or four quarter note beats, which is extremely common in the music industry;
- most of the tracks have the tempo of around 125 beats per minute (BPM), again extremely commmon

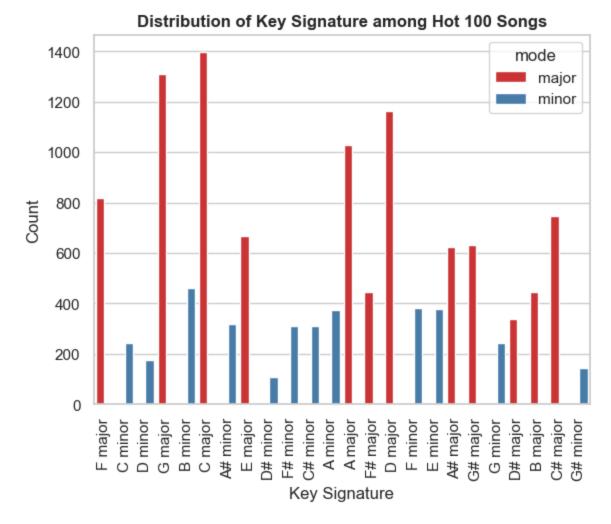
Now lets plot key signatures across all tracks

```
In [6]: # Plot the distribution of key signatures
    sns.countplot(x='key_signature', hue='mode', data=viz_df, palette='Set1')

# Set the title and axis labels
    plt.title("Distribution of Key Signature among Hot 100 Songs", fontweight='bold')
    plt.xlabel("Key Signature")
    plt.ylabel("Count")

# Rotate the x-axis labels
    plt.xticks(rotation=90)

# Show the plot
    plt.show()
```



The most popular keys among billboard tracks are C major, G major and D major:

It's logical that major keys dominate the distribution as they are perceived to be happy, while minor keys are perceived to be sad.

Personal Note

AS for us musicians and composers, we have all known this for a very long time. Although not displayed here, the four most chords in C major are C, G, Am, F, also Dm, E. As for this chord progression (I-IV-V-vi) can be heard and seen in all throughout the Hot 100

- Best example of this fact being exploited, is by the band Axis of Awesome https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5pidokakU4l&t=4s
- This is also why musicians in Pop cover bands can easily remember hundreds of songs;

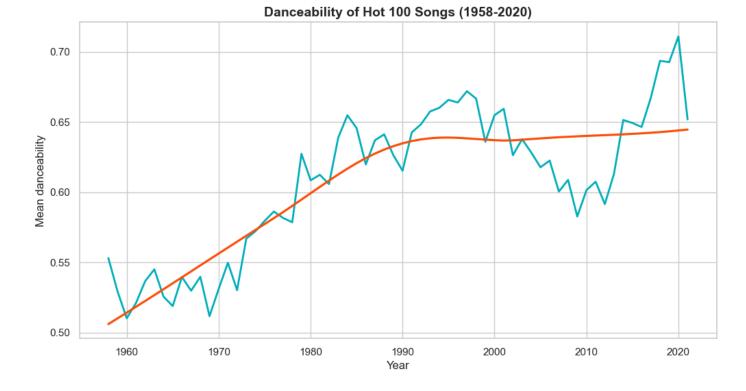
SPOILER ALERT because they're all the same

Variation of Grooves and Emotional State

Displaying the variation of each feature over time; from 1958 to 2020

- Danceability
- Energy
- Valence
- Loudness
- Acousticness
- Duration

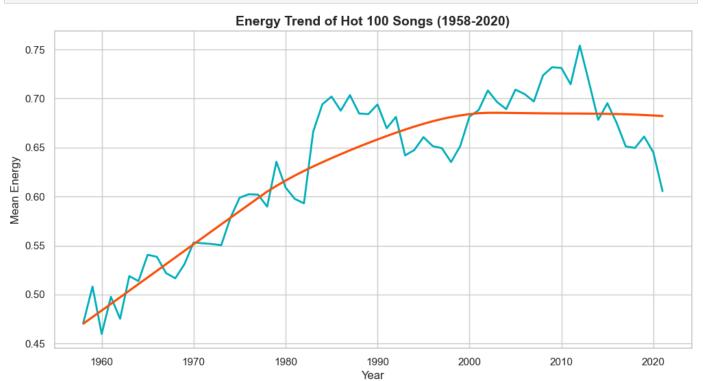
Let's check out Danceability



Energy over time

```
In [8]: energy_trend = viz_df[['energy', 'year']].groupby('year').mean().reset_index()
        energy_trend.columns = ['year', 'energy_mean']

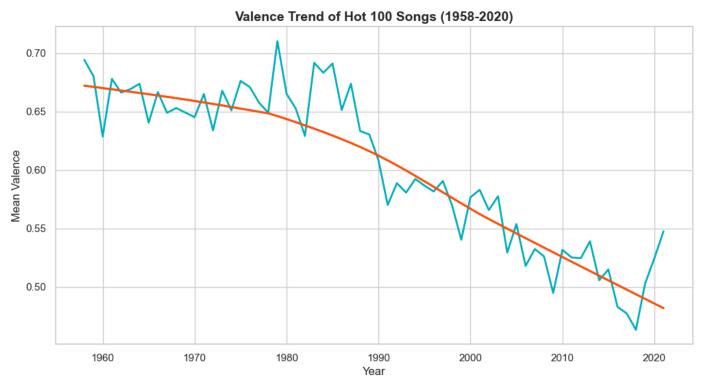
sns.set(style="whitegrid")
    plt.figure(figsize=(12, 6))
    sns.lineplot(x='year', y='energy_mean', data=energy_trend, color="#00AFBB", linewidth=2)
    sns.regplot(x='year', y='energy_mean', data=energy_trend, scatter=False, color="#FC4E07"
    plt.title("Energy Trend of Hot 100 Songs (1958-2020)", fontsize=14, fontweight='bold')
    plt.xlabel("Year")
    plt.ylabel("Mean Energy")
    plt.show()
```



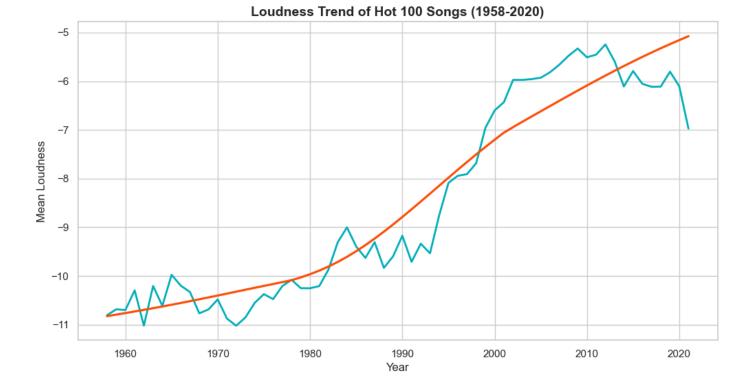
Valence or Emotioal State Trend Over Time

```
In [9]: valence_trend = viz_df[['valence', 'year']].groupby('year').mean().reset_index()
    valence_trend.columns = ['year', 'valence_mean']

sns.set(style="whitegrid")
    plt.figure(figsize=(12, 6))
    sns.lineplot(x='year', y='valence_mean', data=valence_trend, color="#00AFBB", linewidth=
    sns.regplot(x='year', y='valence_mean', data=valence_trend, scatter=False, color="#FC4E0
    plt.title("Valence Trend of Hot 100 Songs (1958-2020)", fontsize=14, fontweight='bold')
    plt.xlabel("Year")
    plt.ylabel("Mean Valence")
    plt.show()
```



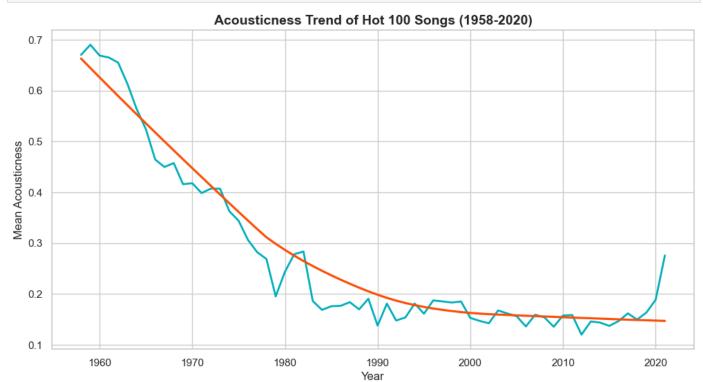
Loudness



Acousticness Trend

```
In [11]: acousticness_trend = viz_df[['acousticness', 'year']].groupby('year').mean().reset_index
acousticness_trend.columns = ['year', 'acousticness_mean']

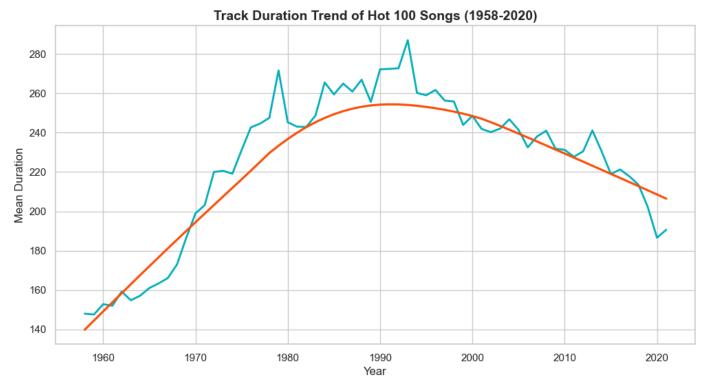
sns.set(style="whitegrid")
plt.figure(figsize=(12, 6))
sns.lineplot(x='year', y='acousticness_mean', data=acousticness_trend, color="#00AFBB",
sns.regplot(x='year', y='acousticness_mean', data=acousticness_trend, scatter=False, col
plt.title("Acousticness Trend of Hot 100 Songs (1958-2020)", fontsize=14, fontweight='bo
plt.xlabel("Year")
plt.ylabel("Mean Acousticness")
plt.show()
```



Duration of Tracks Over Time

```
In [12]: track_duration_trend = viz_df[['track_duration_s', 'year']].groupby('year').mean().reset
    track_duration_trend.columns = ['year', 'track_duration_s_mean']

sns.set(style="whitegrid")
    plt.figure(figsize=(12, 6))
    sns.lineplot(x='year', y='track_duration_s_mean', data=track_duration_trend, color="#00A
    sns.regplot(x='year', y='track_duration_s_mean', data=track_duration_trend, scatter=Fals
    plt.title("Track_Duration_Trend_of_Hot_100_Songs_(1958-2020)", fontsize=14, fontweight='
    plt.xlabel("Year")
    plt.ylabel("Mean_Duration")
    plt.show()
```



Valence-arousal model

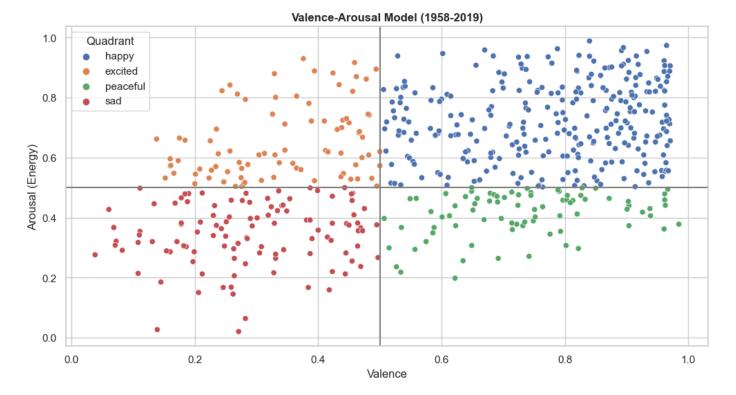
- Valence arousal is the combination of the emotional state of a track and the amount of emotion articulated. (Valence and Energy = Arousal)
- High valence = happy
- Low valence = sad
- Q1 "happy": valence > 0.5, arousal (energy) > 0.5;
- Q2 "excited": valence <= 0.5, arousal (energy) > 0.5;
- Q3 "sad": valence <= 0.5, arousal (energy) <= 0.5;
- Q4 "peaceful": valence > 0.5, arousal (energy) <= 0.5

13]:	viz_d:	f									
		performer	song_performer	song	track_duration_s	danceability	energy	key	loudness	mode	speech
	0	Andy Williams	And Roses And Roses Andy Williams	And Roses And Roses	166.106	0.154	0.185	F	-14.063	major	0
	1	Britney Spears	Baby One More Time Britney	Baby One	211.066	0.759	0.699	С	-5.745	minor	0

		Spears	More Time							
2	Paul Davis	'65 Love Affair Paul Davis	'65 Love Affair	219.813	0.647	0.686	D	-4.247	minor	0
3	Tammy Wynette	'til l Can Make lt On My Own Tammy Wynette	'til I Can Make It On My Own	182.080	0.450	0.294	G	-12.022	major	0
4	Luther Vandross	'Til My Baby Comes Home Luther Vandross	'Til My Baby Comes Home	332.226	0.804	0.714	В	-6.714	minor	0
•••										
13053	The Trammps	Zing Went The Strings Of My Heart The Trammps	Zing Went The Strings Of My Heart	202.693	0.667	0.851	E	-5.257	major	0
13054	The Five Americans	Zip Code The Five Americans	Zip Code	175.040	0.393	0.594	Α	-5.986	major	0
13055	Bad Wolves	Zombie Bad Wolves	Zombie	254.805	0.448	0.826	D	-3.244	minor	0
13056	Herb Alpert & The Tijuana Brass	Zorba The Greek Herb Alpert & The Tijuana Brass	Zorba The Greek	264.853	0.531	0.642	F	-12.702	major	0
13057	K7	Zunga Zeng K7	Zunga Zeng	273.000	0.846	0.657	C#	-9.642	major	0

13058 rows × 23 columns

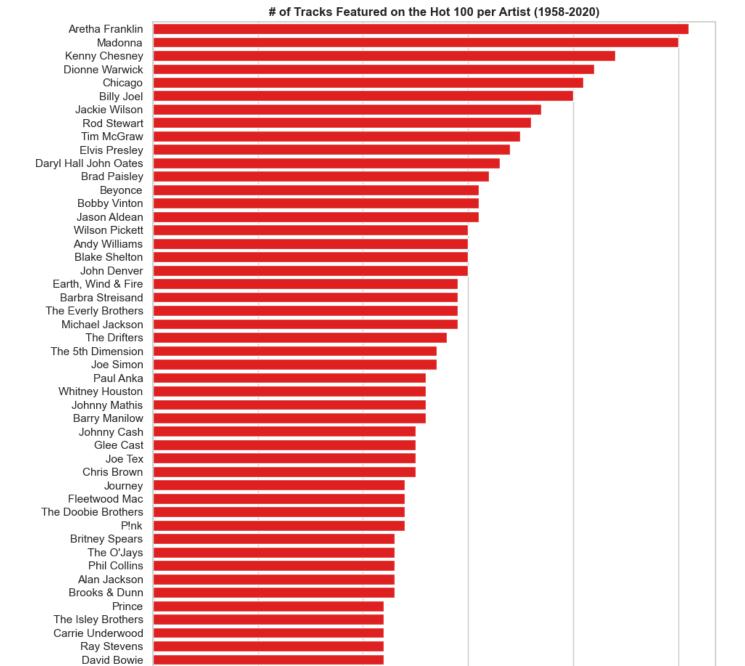
```
In [14]: # New object for all peak rank of 1
         billboard filtered = viz df[viz df['peak rank'] == 1].copy()
         # New object for Quads
        billboard filtered['quadrant'] = np.where(billboard filtered['energy'] > 0.5,
         np.where(billboard filtered['valence'] > 0.5, 'happy', 'excited'),
         np.where(billboard filtered['valence'] > 0.5, 'peaceful', 'sad'))
        sns.set(style="whitegrid")
        plt.figure(figsize=(12, 6))
         sns.scatterplot(x='valence', y='energy', hue='quadrant', data=billboard filtered)
        plt.axvline(x=0.5, color='gray')
        plt.axhline(y=0.5, color='gray')
        plt.title("Valence-Arousal Model (1958-2019)", fontsize=12, fontweight='bold')
        plt.suptitle("Based on Top Hits from Hot 100", fontsize=10, fontstyle='italic')
        plt.xlabel("Valence")
        plt.ylabel("Arousal (Energy)")
        plt.legend(title="Quadrant")
         plt.show()
```



Notice most of tracks on the Billboard Hot 100 hits are "happy", with a significant share of "sad" tracks.

Last obvservations into Top Artist and Track Frequency:

- Groupby Performer
- Agg number of song_performer entries
- Plot Most Tracks by one artist



First, there is a discrepancy;

0

this is due to dropping all the null values and a few top artists are obviously missing

10

- Import uncleaned dataset from hot100.csv
- visualize the difference

The Dave Clark Five Eddie Money

```
In [16]: file1 = 'Hot100.csv'
unclean_hot_df = pd.read_csv(file1)
unclean_hot_df
```

20

30

Count

40

50

Out[16]:		Song_Performer		Performer	Genre	Track_Duration_s	Track_Album	Danceability	Key	Мо
	0	'03 Bonnie & Clyde Jay-Z		,	['east coast hip hop',	205.560	The Blueprint 2 The Gift & The Curse	NaN	NaN	Ni

		Beyonce K		Knowles	'pop rap', '					
	1	'65 Love Affair Paul Davis	'65 Love Affair	Paul Davis	['album rock', 'bubblegum pop', 'country rock'	219.813	Radio Hits Of the '80s	0.647	D	min
	2	'98 Thug Paradise Tragedy, Capone, Infinite	'98 Thug Paradise	Tragedy, Capone, Infinite	['english indie rock']	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	Nŧ
	3	'Round We Go Big Sister	'Round We Go	Big Sister	[]	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	Na
	4	'til I Can Make It On My Own Tammy Wynette	'til I Can Make It On My Own	Tammy Wynette	['country', 'country dawn', 'nashville sound']	182.080	The Essential Tammy Wynette	0.450	G	maj
	•••									
2	24245	Zombie Bad Wolves	Zombie	Bad Wolves	['alternative metal', 'metal', 'post- grunge']	254.805	Zombie	0.448	D	min
	24246	Zoo York Lil Tjay Featuring Fivio Foreign &	Zoo York	Lil Tjay Featuring Fivio Foreign & Pop Smoke	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	Na
	24247	Zoom Future	Zoom	Future	['atl hip hop', 'hip hop', 'pop rap', 'rap', '	278.429	FUTURE	0.852	А	maj
	24248	Zorba The Greek Herb Alpert & The Tijuana Brass	Zorba The Greek	Herb Alpert & The Tijuana Brass	['adult standards', 'easy listening', 'lounge']	264.853	!!!Going Places!!!	0.531	F	maj
	24249	Zunga Zeng K7	Zunga Zeng	K7	['freestyle']	273.000	Swing Batta Swing!	0.846	C#	maj

24250 rows × 19 columns

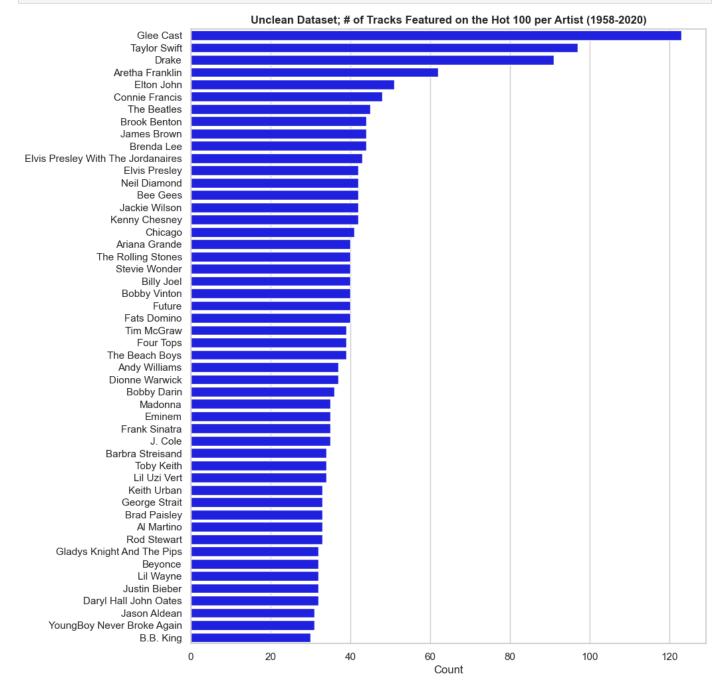
Now let's plot the difference

Featuring

Beyonce

'hip hop',

sns.set_style("whitegrid")
plt.figure(figsize=(10, 12))
ax = sns.barplot(x='n_entries', y='Performer', data=unclean_perform_entries, color="blue
ax.set_title("Unclean Dataset; # of Tracks Featured on the Hot 100 per Artist (1958-2020
ax.set(xlabel='Count', ylabel='')
plt.show()



Here we can see the missing Artist

- removing null values can sometimes hide the truth
- be cautious
- Important Artist like The Beatles, Ariana Grande, Drake, Taylor Swift and surprisingly, the Cast of Glee; all missing and also occupying spots in the top thirty.

Let's use another unclean dataset to explore a few more insights

Number of times a single track appears per artist

unclean total hotdf

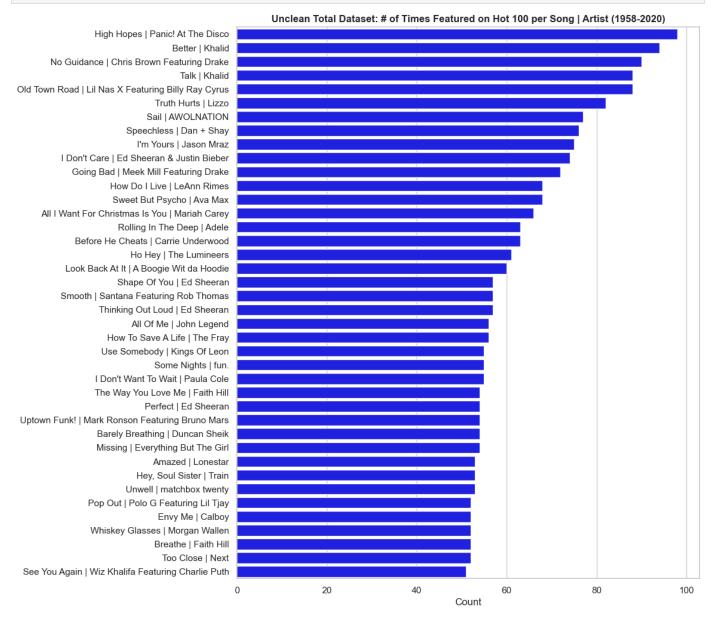
Out[18]:

٠	Performer	Song	spotify_track_duration_ms	danceability	energy	key	loudness	mode	speechiness a
6	Andy Williams	And Roses And Roses	166106.0	0.154	0.185	5.0	-14.063	1.0	0.0315
7	Andy Williams	And Roses And Roses	166106.0	0.154	0.185	5.0	-14.063	1.0	0.0315
8	Andy Williams	And Roses And Roses	166106.0	0.154	0.185	5.0	-14.063	1.0	0.0315
9	Andy Williams	And Roses And Roses	166106.0	0.154	0.185	5.0	-14.063	1.0	0.0315
10	Andy Williams	And Roses And Roses	166106.0	0.154	0.185	5.0	-14.063	1.0	0.0315
•••									
328980	K7	Zunga Zeng	273000.0	0.846	0.657	1.0	-9.642	1.0	0.1400
328981	K7	Zunga Zeng	273000.0	0.846	0.657	1.0	-9.642	1.0	0.1400
328982	K7	Zunga Zeng	273000.0	0.846	0.657	1.0	-9.642	1.0	0.1400
328983	K7	Zunga Zeng	273000.0	0.846	0.657	1.0	-9.642	1.0	0.1400
328984	K7	Zunga Zeng	273000.0	0.846	0.657	1.0	-9.642	1.0	0.1400

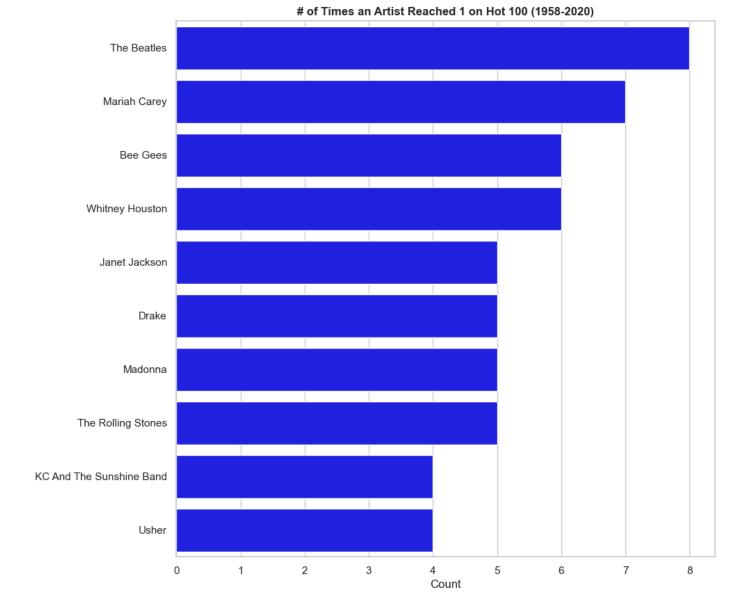
152077 rows × 20 columns

Create new column for number of times a single track (song) appears on the Hot 100

```
sns.set_style("whitegrid")
plt.figure(figsize=(10, 12))
ax = sns.barplot(x='n_entries', y='song_performer', data=unclean_songs_entries, color="b
ax.set_title("Unclean Total Dataset: # of Times Featured on Hot 100 per Song | Artist (1
ax.set(xlabel='Count', ylabel='')
plt.show()
```



Number of times an Artist reached the No. 1 Spot



In the end we can see The Beatles remain on top:

- After all this time and with two Beatles still rocking (Paul and Ringo) at the age of 81 and 82, The Beatles still reign supreme at capturing the Number 1 Spot.
- Cool

Pickle df's for future use

```
In [24]: viz_df.to_pickle('vizual_df.pkl')
    unclean_hot_df.to_pickle('semiclean_hot_df.pkl')
    unclean_total_hotdf.to_pickle('unclean_total_hot_df.pkl')
```