

Beethoven

Key Analysis with music21.

Hypothesis

Beethoven as a break-away from the classical period.

Limiting ourselves to basic tonal analysis, can we appreciate Beethoven as a break-away by analyzing how his works deviate from the standard norms at the time?



Approach

Data: 1518 midis (works) separated by composition category (sonatas, piano works, symphonies...)

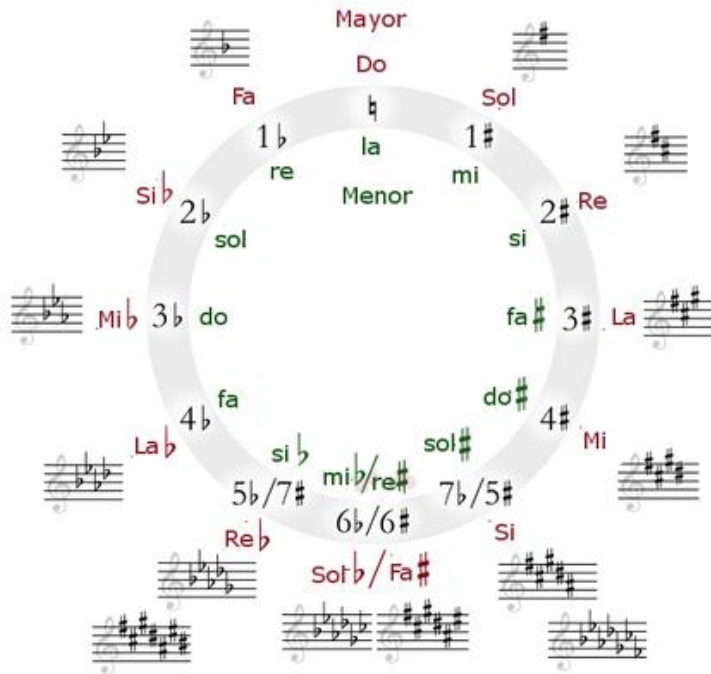
Tools: music21 python library for musical analysis.

Analysis:

- Key signature vs first and last chords (Deducible/Undeducible)
- Key density vs key deduced by key signature
- Rare Keys (6 or more sharps or flats)
- Major vs Minor works

Key and Key Signature

Circle of Fifths.



Sol mayor	Re mayor	La mayor	Mi mayor	Si mayor	Fa# mayor	Do# mayor
Mi menor	Si menor	Fa# menor	Do# menor	Sol# menor	Re# menor	La# menor

Fa mayor	Si# mayor	Mi# mayor	La# mayor	Re# mayor	Sol# mayor	Do# mayor
Re menor	Sol menor	Do menor	Fa menor	Si# menor	Mi# menor	La# menor

Sonate N° 8 en Do mineur
Opus 13 "Pathétique"

BEETHOVEN Ludwig van



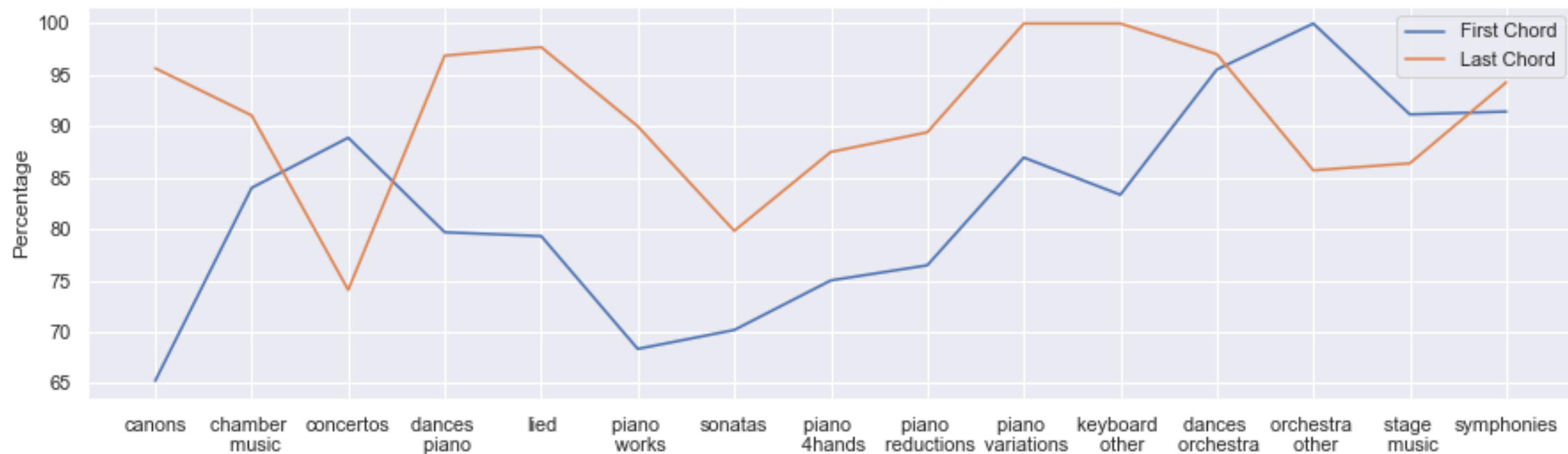
Key Signature: E- mayor/ C minor

Tonics: E- / C

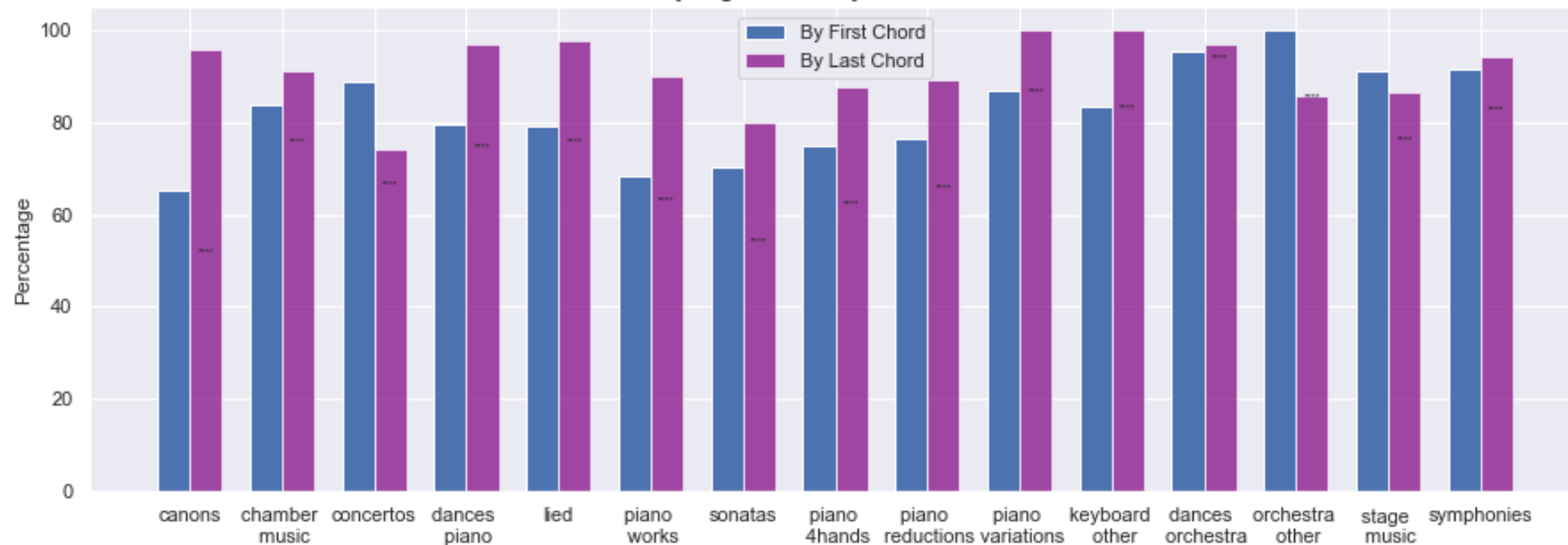
First Chord's Root: C

Key: C minor

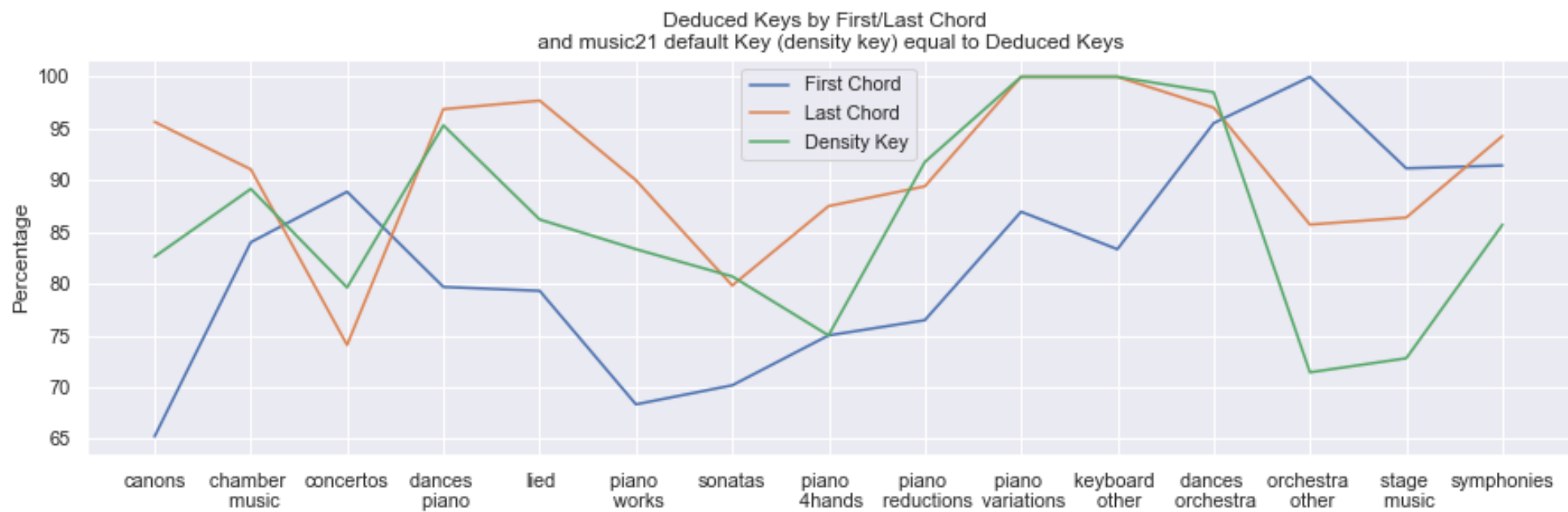
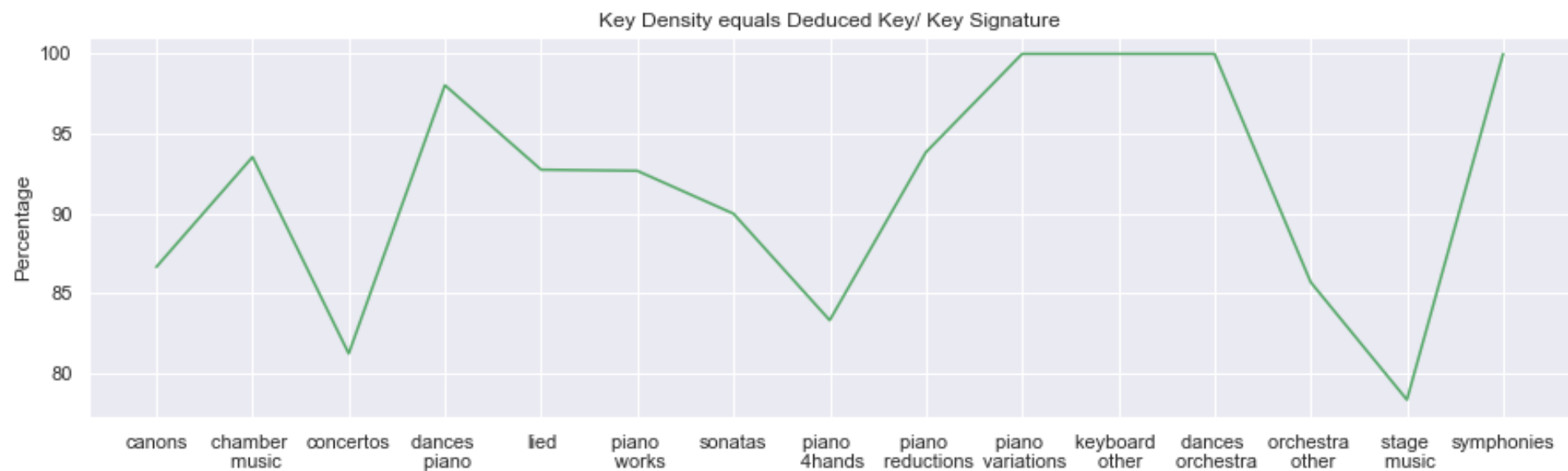
Key Signature's Tonic equal to First/Last Chord's Root
"Deducible Keys"



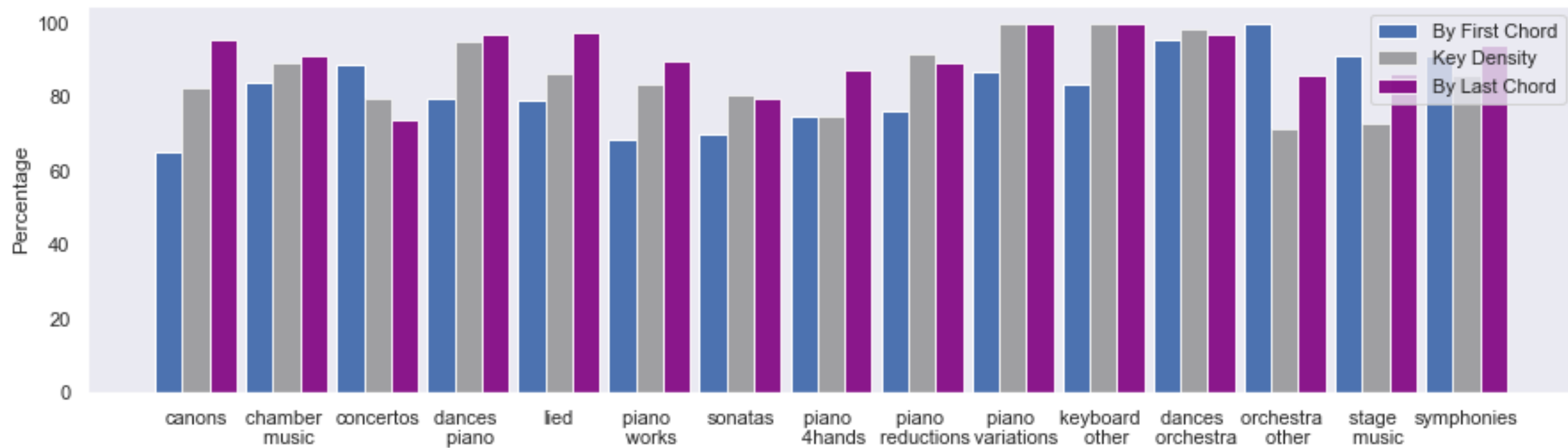
Deduced Key Signature's by First/Last Chord's Root



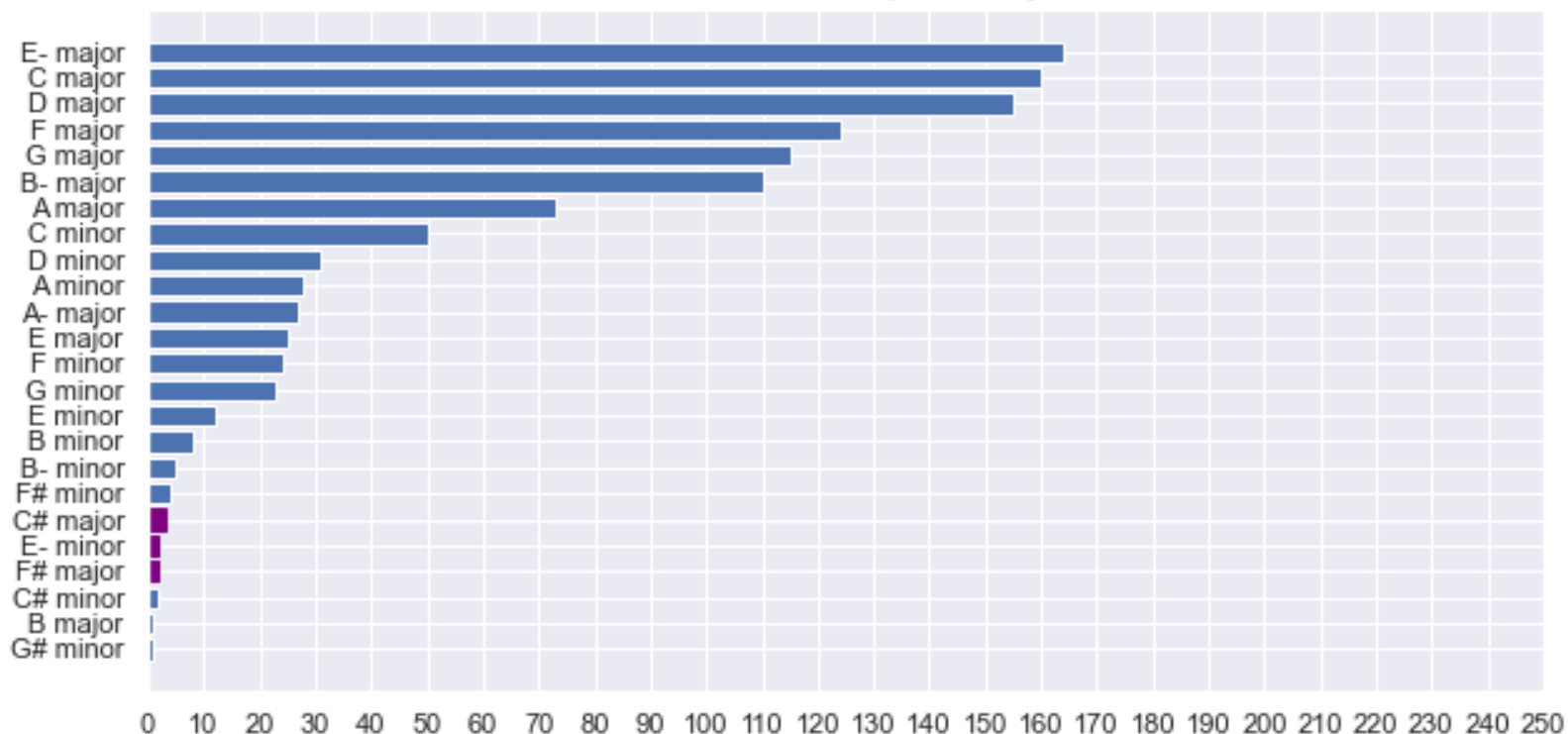
The mark on second bars indicate the percentage of keys deduced by first chord which are also deduced by the last chord.



Deduced Keys by First/Last Chord
and music21 default Key (density key) equal to Deduced Keys



Number of Works per Tonality



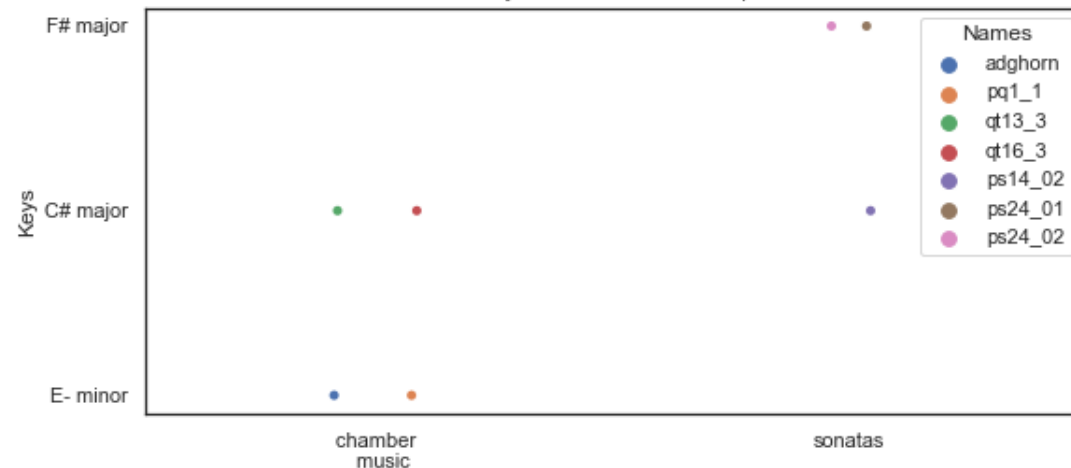
C# major : 7

E- minor: 6

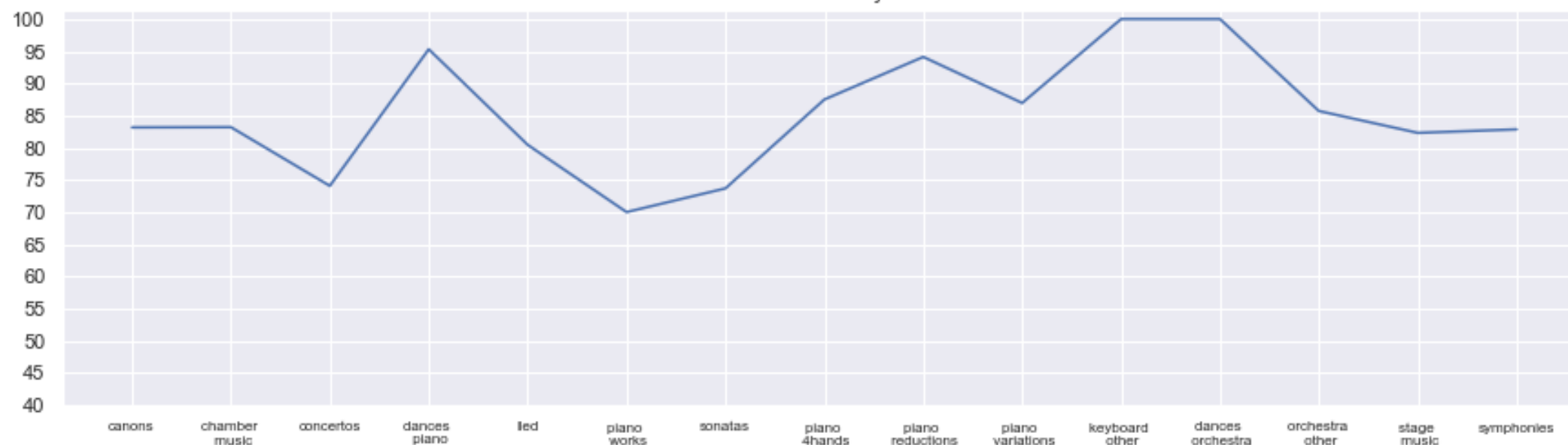
F# major: 6



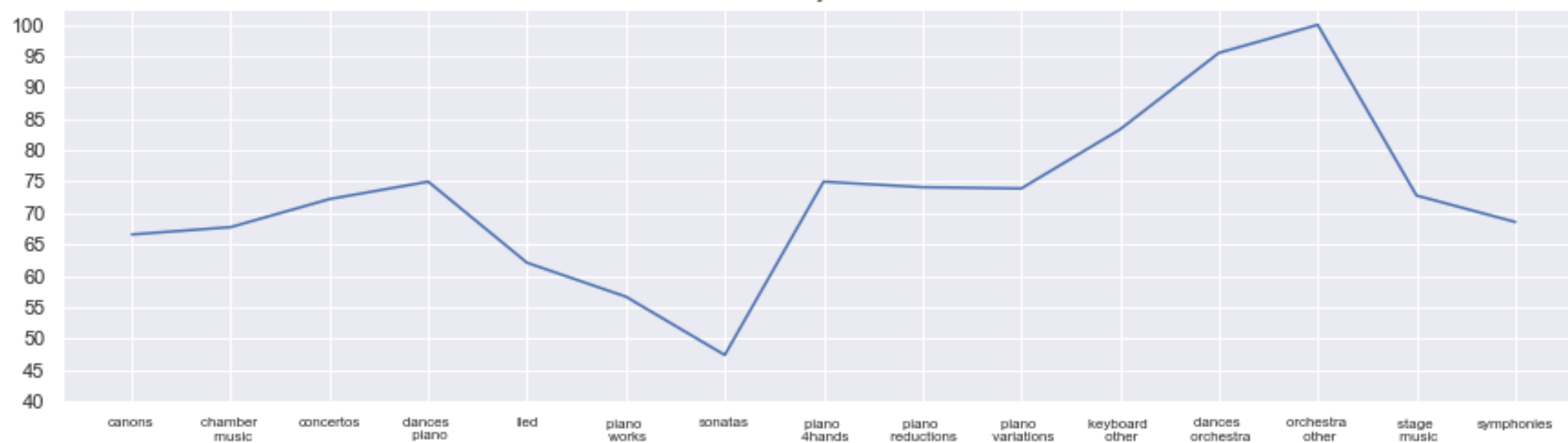
Works in Key with more than 5 Sharps or Flats



Percentage of Works in Major Key
Default Key



Percentage of Works in Major Key
Deduced Key if not Default



Conclusions

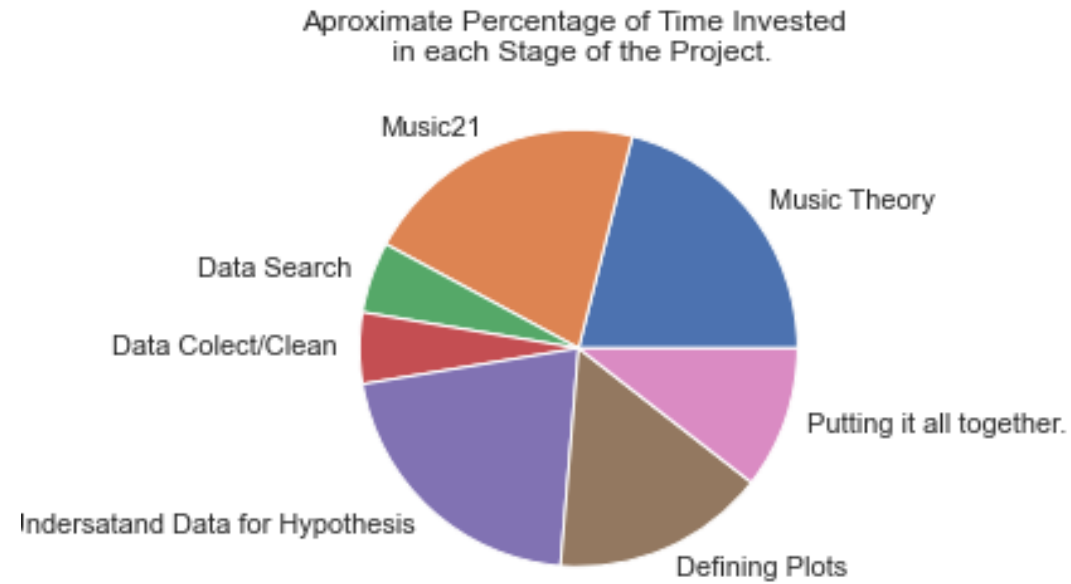
- Deviation from standard norms.
- Relative to contemporaries.

Assumptions:

- Key Signature (from midi files)
- Key density algorithm



AA



1)What would you change if you needed to do another EDA project?

2) What do you learn doing this project?