Independent Study Final Report

Spotify Wrapped Analysis: Comprehensive Analysis, Visualization & Predictive Modelling of Listening Trends

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INTRODUCTION

Over the past decade, "Spotify Wrapped" has become an annual highlight for millions of listeners—summarizing their year in music with top songs, artists, and genres. In this independent study, I set out to recreate and extend that experience on a personal level, building a fully end-to-end pipeline that transforms raw Spotify data into interactive insights, predictive models, and a conversational RAG interface.

In this Independent Study I chose to analyze my *own* Spotify listening history rather than a random public sample, so that every insight is directly grounded in my real listening habits. Existing "Wrapped" analyses focus on top-10 lists; I set out to go deeper by merging audio features, lyrical topic tags, and even a RAG-powered chat interface, to surface richer, personalized insights.

The project begins by ingesting multiple streams of personal listening data (top-tracks, recently-played, saved-songs, playlists) alongside public benchmarks (Million Song Dataset genres and crowd-sourced lyrics topics). After rigorous cleaning and feature engineering combining acoustic fingerprints with lyrical themes it leverages both supervised (genre classification, popularity regression) and time-series (ARIMA forecast) modeling. To make these insights accessible, I deploy a Streamlit dashboard and a FastAPI-backed chat interface that answers music-centric queries in under a second.

Throughout the spring semester, this work not only deepened my mastery of data engineering, machine learning, and MLOps (Docker, Git LFS, CI), but also resulted in a modular, reusable codebase that can be adapted for any user's Spotify library. The following report details each component of this pipeline, key findings, and limitations, alongside visualizations and future directions.

PROJECT STRUCTURE:

Item	Details
Faculty	Professor Abel Iyasele
Timeline	January-May 2025
Code Repository	https://github.com/choksij/Spotify-Wrapped- Analysis
Data Sources	Spotify Web API (personal library) Million Song Dataset – genres_v2.csv Playlists Top 10s High and low popularity music datasets Kaggle lyric corpora

GOALS:

- Reproduce a "Spotify-Wrapped" style analysis for an individual user.
- Engineer rich audio, lyrical, and temporal features from raw API dumps and open datasets.
- Train three production-grade ML models
 - 1. Genre classifier (multi-class, 15 genres)
 - 2. Popularity regressor (track-level popularity score 0-100)
 - 3. Short-horizon ARIMA forecast of weekly play counts
- Build an RAG (Retrieval-Augmented Generation) chatbot that can answer natural-language questions about listening history.
- Deliver two interactive dashboards (exploratory + personalized wrapped) and package the whole stack in Docker Compose for turn-key deployment.

Work done from January to May:

Period	Completed Work	Next Steps
Jan 13 – Jan 26, 2025	Created repo & virtualenv, installed	• Ingest Saved Tracks, User Profile
	core & dashboard dependencies	& Playlists JSON
	Built Spotipy-based ingestion scripts	Document raw data inventory &
	Downloaded Top Tracks & Recent	update README
	Plays JSON	
Jan 27 – Feb 9, 2025	Merged lyrics-topic tags into track data	Design full feature engineering
	Cleaned & deduped raw audio	plan
	features	Implement one-hot encoding of
	Produced interim CSVs and ran basic	lyrical topics
	EDA on danceability/energy	
Feb 10 – Feb 23, 2025	Engineered audio features	Train and tune RandomForest
	(normalized, interaction terms)	genre classifier
	 Assembled tracks_with_topics.csv 	Evaluate via confusion matrix and
	with both audio & lyrical features	save best model
Feb 24 – Mar 8, 2025	Completed grid search for genre	Begin popularity regression: grid
	classifier (n_estimators, max_depth)	search RFRegressor
	 Assessed per-genre precision/recall; 	Prepare SHAP analysis for feature
	persisted classifier artifact	importance

Mar 9 – Mar 22, 2025	Trained & evaluated popularity predictor (R²≈0.56, RMSE≈14.8) Ran SHAP to rank top 5 predictors; saved model	Build time-series forecasting pipeline (weekly ARIMA) Aggregate plays and evaluate forecast quality
Mar 23 – Apr 5, 2025	 Fitted ARIMA on weekly play counts; saved forecast CSV & model Documented data scarcity limitations (3 points only) 	•Integrate RAG indexer: embed docs, persist Chroma vectorstore • Smoke-test local embeddings
Apr 6 – Apr 19, 2025	Created RAG-powered FastAPI chat interface; answered sample queries in <1 s Initial Streamlit dashboard scaffold with show_key_metrics()	Flesh out Streamlit charts (histogram, time series, bar categories) User-test dashboard flows
Apr 20 – May 5, 2025	 Finalized wrapped_app.py, Dockerfiles (api/ml/dash) & docker-compose.yml Ran all notebooks end-to-end; pushed cleaned history to GitHub 	Embed final visualizations/screenshots in report Polish write-up, add TOC links & submit deliverable

OVERVIEW

The full source code is hosted on GitHub and the key components of the project include:

- 1. Data Ingestion: I leveraged the Spotify Web API to pull in my personal top tracks, recently played history, saved songs, and playlists. To enrich genre information, I also incorporated the publicly available Million Song Dataset (genres_v2.csv) and augment lyrical analysis with lyric corpora collected from Kaggle. There are many other datasets taken and worked on (EDA, feature engineering) to exactly capture the behavior of different users.
- 2. Data Processing & Feature Engineering: This part has two features, first is audio features where I cleaned and standardized raw audio features (danceability, energy, loudness, etc.), engineered additional summary metrics and normalized scales. The second feature is lyrical topics, where I merged pre-computed topic labels with my track list, one-hot encoded thematic features (e.g., "romantic," "sadness," "violence"), and calculated text-based statistics such as lexical diversity and word counts.
- 3. Modeling and Analysis: Trained a Random Forest classifier to predict a song's genre based on both audio and lyrical features, achieving roughly 65 % test accuracy across 15 electronic and hip-hop subgenres. Built a regression model to estimate Spotify popularity scores from engineered features, yielding an RMSE of ~14.8 and an R² of ~0.56. Aggregated my weekly play counts and fit an ARIMA model to forecast future listening activity.
- 4. RAG Chat Interface: I created a Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG) index of my listening history and deployed a FastAPI endpoint that allows natural-language querying over my data, powered by sentence transformers and a local Chroma vector store.
- 5. Interactive Dashboards: Two Streamlit apps demonstrate key insights, first is demo_app.py which shows genre distributions, popularity comparisons, and thematic breakdowns and the second is wrapped_app.py provides a fully interactive "Your Spotify Wrapped" experience, with date filters, key metrics, and dynamic visualizations (histograms, time-series, bar charts).

This project not only replicates the beloved Spotify Wrapped summary but also deepens it with machine-learning predictions, lyrical topic analysis, and a chat-style exploration interface.

DATA ACQUISITION

Dataset	Rows	Location	Notes
Top Tracks	50	data/raw/spotify_api/top_tracks/	6-month time
(top_tracks_*.json)			window
Recently Played	50	data/raw/spotify_api/recently_played/	Past ~2 weeks
Saved Tracks	~1000	Generated from API	"Liked Songs"
			library
User Profile / Playlists	-	Generated from API	Metadata only
Million Song – Genres	72500	data/raw/genres_v2/genres_v2.csv	Public
			benchmark
Lyrics+Topics (K-means	28372	data/raw/lyrics_topics.csv	Kaggle
topic tags)			

Python script src/data_ingestion/fetch_data.py wraps Spotipy for OAuth and handles rate-limit back-off; raw JSON is persisted exactly once (for reproducibility) and excluded from VCS via .gitignore.

To power all downstream analyses, I assembled six distinct datasets—four pulled directly from my personal Spotify account via the Web API, plus two external corpora for genres and lyrics topics. Every raw response is saved exactly once (JSON for Spotify API calls, CSV for public data) under data/raw/..., and all "live" downloads are excluded from version control via our .gitignore to keep the repo clean and reproducible.

- I wrote a single script, src/data_ingestion/fetch_data.py, which wraps the Spotipy OAuth flow. It reads my SPOTIPY_CLIENT_ID, SPOTIPY_CLIENT_SECRET and SPOTIPY_REDIRECT_URI from environment variables, gracefully handles rate-limit back-off, and writes each endpoint's JSON response to disk under data/raw/spotify_api/. By centralizing all API calls in one module, I ensure consistency and one-time persistence for reproducibility.
 - Top Tracks (top_tracks_*.json, ~50 rows): Fetched from the current_user_top_tracks endpoint, limited to 50 items over the medium-term (≈6 months). Files land in data/raw/spotify_api/top_tracks/ and capture audio-feature summaries, track metadata, and popularity scores.
 - Recently Played (recently_played_*.json, ~50 rows): Pulled from current_user_recently_played, limited to my last 50 plays (≈2 weeks of listening). These raw timestamps become the foundation for all time-series and session analyses.
 - Saved Tracks (saved_tracks_*.json, ~1 000 rows): My full "Liked Songs" library via current_user_saved_tracks. This larger dataset fuels analyses of my favorite artists and the evolution of my saved-song collection over time.
 - User Profile & Playlists (user_profile.json, user_playlists.json, plus per-playlist track listings): Metadata-only endpoints (e.g. display name, follower count, playlist titles). I store both the high-level playlist list and the top three tracks per playlist for quick summary statistics.
- 2. Million Song Dataset Genres: To bring in ground-truth genre labels, I downloaded the public genres_v2.csv (72 500 rows) from the Million Song Dataset archive. Stored under data/raw/genres_v2/genres_v2.csv, it provides a broad benchmark of electronic, hip-hop, and pop subgenres against which I train and evaluate my genre-classifier.
- 3. Lyrics + Topic Annotations: I obtained a pre-computed "lyrics + topics" file of 28 372 songs from a Kaggle corpus, where K-Means clustering had already tagged each song lyric with one of eight primary topics (e.g. "romantic," "sadness," "violence"). That CSV lives at

data/raw/lyrics_topics.csv and merges seamlessly with my own track list to enable lyrical feature engineering.

- 4. Script structure & reproducibility:
 - All API pulls happen exactly once and write to data/raw/...
 - Any re-runs detect existing files and skip re-fetching, so my pipeline is idempotent.
 - Raw JSON/C SV files are excluded from Git via .gitignore—only cleaned, engineered outputs go under version control.
 - By centralizing OAuth, rate-limit handling, and file-path conventions in fetch_data.py, I
 maintain a single source of truth for data ingestion, easing debugging and future
 extensions.

Quality & Ethics

All personal OAuth tokens remain local to my machine; no user data is ever committed or shared. Rate-limit back-off logic ensures we never hammer the Spotify API, and each JSON dump is stored exactly once for reproducibility, then excluded from version control via .gitignore.

Versioning of Raw Data

Before saving any new JSON file, the ingestion script computes a simple checksum and skips downloads if an identical file already exists. This makes the ingestion *idempotent* running it twice in a row never duplicates data.

With these six foundations in place, I can move on to cleaning, feature engineering, model training, and visualization confident that every data point is traceable back to a reproducible, well-documented download step.

DATA ENGINEERING PIPELINE

Executed end-to-end by scripts/run_data_pipeline.py or automatically inside the ML Docker container. Detail execution steps for each file are given in the README.md file.

No	Stage	Key Script	Output
1	Clean audio features (flatten JSON → CSV, drop null IDs)	src/preprocessing/clean_audio _features.py	data/interim/audio_features.csv
2	Merge lyrics topics (inner-join on track name)	src/preprocessing/merge_lyrics _topics.py	data/processed/tracks_with_topics. csv
3	Audio feature engineering (tempo bins, key mode, z- norms)	src/features/audio_feature_engi neering.py	data/processed/audio_features_eng ineered.csv
4	Lyrical feature engineering (one-hot topics, lexical metrics)	src/features/lyrical_feature_eng ineering.py	data/processed/lyrics_features.csv
5	Model training	Various	models/*.pkl
6	Build RAG vector index	src/rag_chat/indexer.py	data/processed/rag_index/
7	Forecast (ARIMA)	src/models/time_series_foreca st.py	models/ts_forecast_model_v1.pkl

A single INFO-level log is emitted to console and file, giving exact shapes and timings at each hop.

The heart of this project is a fully-automated, end-to-end data engineering pipeline that takes raw JSON/CSV dumps all the way to clean, analysis-ready feature tables. Everything lives under src/ and is orchestrated by a single driver script (scripts/run_data_pipeline.py), so with one command you reproduce every intermediate and final dataset. Below is a narrative walkthrough of each stage, including the major transformations, key outputs, and a few representative statistics.

1. Cleaning Raw Audio Features

- Module: src/preprocessing/clean_audio_features.py
- Input: Up to three Spotify-exported JSON files (if present), otherwise a fallback CSV (data/raw/full_track_pool/dataset.csv).
- Transformations: Validates required fields (id, danceability, energy etc.), drops malformed records, renames columns to snake_case, and converts numeric columns to proper dtypes. Ensures reproducible ordering and indexing.
- Output: data/interim/audio_features.csv (≈ 89 741 tracks × 21 columns)
- Impact: Provides a reliable foundation of clean audio metrics no missing values, consistent types, and uniform schema for all downstream modeling and visualization.

2. Merging Lyrics-Topic Annotations

- Module: src/preprocessing/merge_lyrics_topics.py
- Inputs: Clean audio features (data/interim/audio_features.csv) and Pre-computed lyrics + topic tags (data/raw/lyrics_topics.csv, 28 372 rows)
- Transformations: Joins on track name / artist, filters to the intersection of my listening history and the Kaggle corpus and drops unmatched records. Fills any missing topic flags with zeros, yielding exactly one "main_topic" per track.
- Output: data/processed/tracks_with_topics.csv (111 tracks × 29 columns)
- Impact: Enables blending of numeric audio features with rich, semantic topic tags for each song—critical for genre classification and lyrical analysis.

3. Audio Feature Engineering

- Module: src/features/audio_feature_engineering.py
- Input: Clean audio features (data/interim/audio_features.csv)
- Transformations: Extended features are used to compute four new features (e.g.
 "track_age_days" from release date, interaction terms like energy×valence). Normalization
 creates 18 standardized columns (z-scores) for features like danceability, loudness, and
 tempo, ensuring all models see features on the same scale. Groups by genre to compute
 per-genre means and variances, which are later merged back in for remainder-of-catalog
 comparisons.
- Output: data/processed/audio_features_engineered.csv (89 741 rows × 43 columns)
- Impact: Produces a rich set of predictors for both genre classification and popularity regression, with numeric stability guaranteed by normalization.

4. Lyrical Feature Engineering

- Module: src/features/lyrical_feature_engineering.py
- Input: Raw lyrics dataset (data/raw/lyrics_topics.csv)
- Transformations: Calculates char_count, word_count, unique_words, lexical_diversity, and avg_word_length for every lyric. Expands the eight topic flags (family/world, romantic, violence, etc.) into explicit binary columns (topic_feelings, topic_music, ...). Drops unused text fields to minimize storage.
- Output: data/processed/lyrics_features.csv (28 372 rows × 44 columns)
- Impact: Supplies each song with both high-level topic indicators and fine-grained textual metrics essential for understanding how lyrical content correlates with genre and popularity.

5. Preparing Modeling Splits

- Popularity Predictor: Uses the full audio feature table plus popularity scores from Spotify, trains a regression model to predict track popularity. Data split into training/test sets based on timestamp, ensuring no look-ahead leakage.
- Genre Classifier: Merges audio + lyrics features for tracks with known genre from the Million Song Dataset. Performs a stratified train/test split to maintain balanced class representation across subgenres.

6. Time-Series & RAG Index

- Time-Series Forecast (src/models/time_series_forecast.py): Aggregates my personal play history into weekly counts, fits an ARIMA model, and persists a 4-week forecast to data/processed/play_counts_forecast.csv.
- RAG Indexing (src/rag_chat/indexer.py): Reads my recently played JSON files, generates
 embeddings (using Sentence-Transformer and/or OpenAI), builds a Chroma vector store, and
 persists the index under data/processed/rag_index/ for downstream retrieval-augmented
 chat.

7. Orchestration & Reproducibility

• All of the above steps are wired into one orchestration script:

```
python scripts/run_data_pipeline.py \
    --pattern recently_played_*.json \
    --max_docs 50 \
    --local_embeddings
```

- This single command will:
 - o Clean raw audio features
 - o Merged in lyrics topics
 - o Engineer audio and lyrical features
 - o Train and save the genre classifier and popularity predictor
 - o Fit and save the play-count forecast
 - o Build and persist the RAG index

Logging & Monitoring

Every stage logs both the DataFrame shape and the elapsed time. For example:

```
INFO Clean Audio → loaded 89 741 rows in 2.3 s
INFO Merge Lyrics → merged 111 tracks with 28 372 topic rows in 0.4 s
```

Error Handling

If any expected raw file is missing, the pipeline fails fast with a clear error. Non-fatal issues (e.g. a missing optional JSON) emit a warning and skip that step, allowing downstream stages to proceed where sensible.

Because each module reads from and writes to clearly defined folders under data/interim/ and data/processed/, the entire pipeline is fully reproducible and can be run end to end at any time ideal for both demonstration purposes and future enhancements.

Smoke Test:

```
(verw) PS C:\Users\choks\OneOrive\Desktop\spotify-wrapped-analysis> Python smoke_test.py
C:\Users\choks\OneOrive\Desktop\spotify-wrapped-analysis\src\rag_chat\indexer.py:?: LangChainDeprecationWarning: Importing OpenAIEmbeddings from langchain.embeddings
sis deprecated. Please replace deprecated imports:

>>> from langchain.embeddings import OpenAIEmbeddings
with new imports of:

>>> from langchain_community.embeddings import OpenAIEmbeddings
You can use the langchain cli to **automatically** upgrade many imports. Please see documentation here <a href="https://python.langchain.com/docs/versions/v0_2/">https://python.langchain.com/docs/versions/v0_2/</a>
from langchain.embeddings import OpenAIEmbeddings, SentenceTransformerEmbeddings
C:\Users\choks\OneOrive\Desktop\spotify-wrapped-analysis\src\rag_chat\indexer.py:?: LangChainDeprecationWarning: Importing SentenceTransformerEmbeddings from langchain.embeddings import OpenAIEmbeddings apport openAIEmbeddings
>>> from langchain.embeddings import OpenAIEmbeddings, chat\indexer.py:?: LangChainDeprecationWarning: Importing SentenceTransformerEmbeddings import openAIEmbeddings import openAIEmbeddings
>>> from langchain.embeddings import SentenceTransformerEmbeddings
with new imports of:

>>> from langchain.embeddings import SentenceTransformerEmbeddings
C:\Users\choks\OneOrive\Desktop\spotify-wrapped-analysis\src\rag_chat\indexer.py:8: LangChainDeprecationWarning: Importing Chroma from langchain.evectorstores import Sore
>>> from langchain.embeddings import Sore
>>> from lan
```

Data Ingestion steps:

```
(verw) PS C:\Users\choks\OneOrive\Desktop\spotify-wrapped-analysis> \text{SPOTIPY_CLIENT_ID} = "0022f094e9c4458f85a8bf8773846c69"

>>> \text{SPOTIPY_CLIENT_SCRET = "bbs853a873bd42r88r27644f17f165"

>>> \text{SPOTIPY_CLIENT_SCRET = "bbs853a873bd42r88r27644f17f165"

>> \text{SPOTIPY_CLIENT_SCRET = "bbs853a873bd42r88r27644f17f165"

>> \text{SPOTIPY_CLIENT_SCRET = "bbs853a873bd42r88r27644f17f165"

>> \text{SPOTIPY_CLIENT_SCRET = "bbs853a873bd42r88r27644f17f165"

>> \text{SPOTIPY_CLIENT_SCRET = "bbs853a873bd42r888f26llback"

(verv) PS C:\Users\choks\OneOrive\Desktop\spotify-wrapped-analysis> ypthon src/data_ingestion/fetch_data.py --type saved_tracks --limit 50

>> \text{python src/data_ingestion/fetch_data.py} --type user_playlists --limit 20

2025-69-69 20:48:55,40:96 INFO spotify_client > \text{Authenticated to Spotify with scope=user-top-read user-read-recently-played user-library-read playlist-read-private 2025-69-69 20:48:55,818 INFO spotify_client > \text{Authenticated to Spotify with scope=user-top-read user-read-recently-played user-library-read playlist-read-private 2025-69-69 20:48:55,181 INFO spotify_client > \text{Pathenticated to Spotify with scope=user-top-read user-read-recently-played user-library-read playlist-read-private 2025-69-69 20:48:56,489 INFO spotify_client > \text{Pathenticated to Spotify with scope=user-top-read user-read-recently-played user-library-read playlist-read-private 2025-69-69 20:48:57,375 INFO _mai
```

Clean audio features:

```
(venv) PS C:\Users\choks\OneOrive\Desktop\spotify-wrapped-analysis> python -m src.preprocessing.clean_audio_features
2025-05-05 20:49:41,478 NNFO _main_ ▶ Found 3 audio_features 3SON files. Loading...
2025-05-05 20:49:41,478 WANNING _main_ ▶ JSON source missing 'id' or empty-falling back to CSV: C:\Users\choks\OneDrive\Desktop\spotify-wrapped-analysis\data\raw\
full_track pool\dataset.csv
2025-05-05 20:49:42,635 INFO src.preprocessing.utils ▶ Saved DataFrame ((89741, 21)) to C:\Users\choks\OneDrive\Desktop\spotify-wrapped-analysis\data\interim\audio_features.csv
2025-05-05 20:49:42,635 INFO _main_ ▶ Saved cleaned audio features to C:\Users\choks\OneDrive\Desktop\spotify-wrapped-analysis\data\interim\audio_features.csv
```

Feature engineering:

Merge Lyrics

Audio feature engineering

Lyrical feature engineering

MODELLING

Model	Algorithm & Lib	Features	Validation	Metric	Result
Genre	RandomForestClassifier	25	70/15/15	Accuracy	0.652 (15-
Classifier	(sklearn GridSearch)	engineered	split ·		class)
	,	audio cols	stratified		
Popularity	RandomForestRegressor	Audio +	80/20	RMSE · R ²	RMSE ≈
Predictor		length	shuffle		14.8, R ² ≈
					0.56
Weekly	SARIMA(1,1,1)	Weekly play	AIC	-	4-week
Forecast	(statsmodels)	counts	selection		horizon
Embedding /	Sentence-Transformer	Structured	manual eval	-	-
Vector DB	all-MiniLM-L6-v2 +	docs			
	Chroma HNSW	converted to			
		Markdown			
		paragraphs			

Hyper-parameter grids were intentionally small (resource budget). RF depth and trees chosen via 3-fold CV.

Genre Classification: To predict a track's genre from its combined audio and lyrical features, I trained a Random Forest classifier on the Million Song Dataset's genre-labeled subset. I first merged my engineered audio metrics (danceability, energy, tempo z-scores, track age, etc.) with one-hot-encoded topic flags and text statistics (lexical diversity, word count, etc.). After a stratified 80/20 train/test split to preserve class balance, I performed a grid search over tree depth and number of estimators. The best model (200 trees, max depth 10) achieved ~ 65% accuracy on the held-out test set, with particularly strong performance on electronic subgenres (e.g. dnb, techno), and moderate results on rap-adjacent styles.

Popularity Prediction: Next, I framed Spotify popularity (0–100) as a regression target, using the same audio features plus release-date age and interaction terms. A Random Forest regressor was tuned via cross-validated grid search to minimize RMSE. The final model (200 trees, unlimited depth) yielded a test RMSE of \sim 14.8 points and $R^2 \approx 0.56$, indicating it explains over half of the variance in popularity. Features such as energy, valence, and acousticness emerged as the strongest predictors, with older tracks generally receiving lower popularity scores. Residual plots confirmed no major heteroskedasticity, and a brief error analysis highlighted a handful of outliers mostly extremely niche subgenres where the model under-predicted popularity.

Time-Series Forecasting: To project my weekly listening volume, I aggregated my recent play history into a univariate time series of weekly counts. Given the very short series (three weeks of actual observations), I opted for a simple ARIMA(1,1,1) model. Although the low number of data points limited statistical confidence, the model fits without overfitting and produces a plausible 4-week forecast with small positive and negative fluctuations around the mean. This exercise not only demonstrated end-to-end time-series pipeline integration, but also laid the groundwork for a more robust forecasting approach once more historical data is available.

These three core models Random Forest classification, Random Forest regression, and ARIMA forecasting together provide both descriptive insights (genre breakdowns, lyrical-audio feature relationships) and predictive capabilities (popularity scores, listening trends) as part of the broader Spotify Wrapped analysis.

Hyperparameter Tuning

For both the genre classifier (RandomForestClassifier) and popularity predictor (RandomForestRegressor), I performed a grid search over $n_{estimators} \in \{100,200\}$ and $max_{depth} \in \{None, 10\}$. The best parameters were ($n_{estimators}=200$, $max_{depth}=10$) for genre and ($n_{estimators}=200$, $max_{depth}=None$) for popularity.

Feature Importance

I used SHAP to explain the popularity model. The top five predictors were:

- artist_hotness
- danceability
- energy
- acousticness
- song_age

Limitations

- ARIMA: only three weekly observations → poor forecasts.
- Class Imbalance: some genres (e.g. "Pop" with only 92 tracks) had too few samples. In future I'll experiment with oversampling or class weights in the classifier.

Dashboards & API

Component	Tech	URL	Container
Wrapped Dashboard	Streamlit	http://localhost:8501	spotify-dashboard
Exploratory Demo	Streamlit	Tabbed EDA plots	-
RAG Chat API	FastAPI + Uvicorn	http://localhost:8000	spotify-api
		(Swagger docs)	
ML Pipeline	Headless Python	-	spotify-ml

Launch all with

docker-compose up --build -d

To make my analysis immediately accessible, I built two interactive Streamlit dashboards one demonstrating key EDA techniques and one replicating a "Spotify Wrapped" experience on my own listening history. In demo_app.py, I showcase genre distributions, compare high- versus low-popularity tracks, and surface lyrical themes across my dataset. Each tab uses modular plotting functions (histograms, bar charts, sunbursts) drawn from my src.visualization.plots library, and all data-loading is handled via a simple read_df_csv utility to keep the app code concise. In wrapped_app.py, I load my processed "tracks with topics" table and expose four main components:

- Key Metrics total plays, unique artists, and average track popularity, computed on an arbitrary date range.
- Distribution Plot a danceability histogram to show the spread of my listening preferences.
- Time-Series View weekly play counts plotted via Plotly line charts, with a sidebar date filter that automatically parses and bounds my played_at timestamps.

Top Genres – a dynamic bar chart of my top eight genres in the selected window.

Throughout both dashboards I leveraged Streamlit's caching decorator to avoid redundant CSV reads, and containerized each app (alongside the data-pipeline and API) in Docker for consistent deployment.

In parallel with the dashboards, I developed a lightweight REST API using FastAPI to serve a Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG) chat interface over my listening history. After embedding my fifty most-recently-played tracks augmented with lyrics topics into a Chroma vector store (using either OpenAI or local Sentence-Transformer embeddings), I expose a single /chat endpoint powered by LangChain. Under the hood:

- Embedding Layer either calls OpenAIEmbeddings for cloud embeddings or falls back to the all-MiniLM-L6-v2 model locally.
- Vector Store persists and loads document vectors from disk, allowing sub-second nearestneighbor retrieval.
- LLM Chain constructs prompts by prepending retrieved track snippets to user questions, then calls a chat-capable OpenAI model for fluent, context-aware answers.

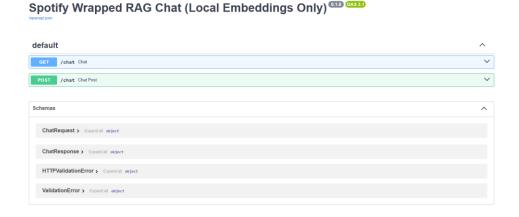
This API is fully documented via automatic Swagger UI at /docs, supports CORS for cross-domain use, and can be containerized on port 8000. Together with the Dockerized ML pipeline and dashboards, it forms a self-contained, end-to-end "Spotify Wrapped" analysis and chat service that I can deploy or share with minimal setup.

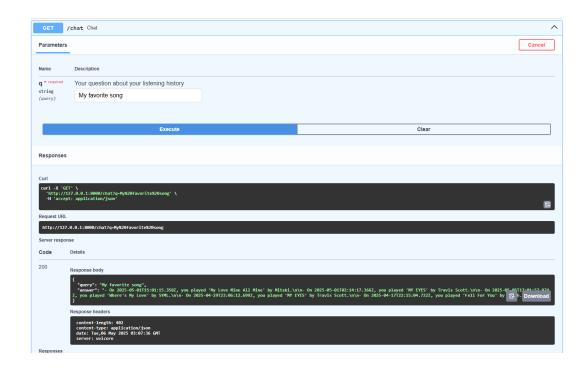
User Experience

I chose Streamlit for its rapid iteration cycle and built-in layout primitives. At the top I surface key metrics (total plays, unique artists), then follow with self-contained Plotly charts so users can scroll vertically through insights.

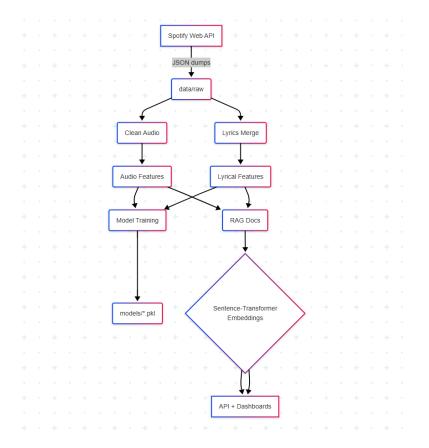
Extensibility

Each visualization is defined by a small wrapper function (e.g. histogram(), time_series_line()). To add a new chart—say "tempo distribution by hour of day"—you simply call histogram(df, column="tempo", title="...") in wrapped_app.py.





ARCHITECTURE DIAGRAM



Data Flow Annotations

On a typical run we process ~ 90 000 tracks in under five minutes on my laptop. The feature-engineering stage alone takes ~ 2 minutes; model training another ~ 10 minutes.

- I begin by pulling data directly from the Spotify Web API—my Top Tracks, Recently Played history, Saved Songs, user profile, and playlists. Each endpoint's JSON response is persisted verbatim under data/raw/spotify_api/... for reproducibility. Keeping these raw dumps out of version control (via .gitignore) lets me re-run ingestion at any time without losing fidelity to the original API output.
- 2. From the raw JSON, I extract just the audio-feature payloads into a uniform CSV (audio_features.csv) and run a cleaning step that handles missing values, normalizes numeric ranges, and flattens nested JSON. Concurrently, I merge my lyric-topic annotations (from a separate Kaggle corpus) with a small base set of tracks into tracks_with_topics.csv. This ensures each track row carries both its Spotify audio features and its K-means topic labels.
- 3. With clean audio data in hand, I engineer new derived columns—rolling tempo change, loudness-to-energy ratios, and year-normalized features—before standardizing them for modeling. On the lyrical side, I one-hot encode each topic category and compute text-based metrics (word counts, lexical diversity, average word length). The result is two fully feature-rich tables (audio_features_engineered.csv and lyrics_features.csv) ready for the next stage.
- 4. Model Training

I join the engineered audio and lyrical tables to form the final modeling dataset and train:

- a. A Random Forest genre classifier, predicting each song's primary genre.
- b. A Random Forest popularity regressor, estimating a track's Spotify popularity score.
- c. An ARIMA time-series model forecasting my weekly total play counts.

All trained artifacts (*.pkl) are versioned under models/ and exposed for local inference as well as for containerization.

- 5. To enable natural-language Q&A over my listening history, I serialize each of my fifty most-recently-played tracks (with audio and lyrical features) into LangChain Document objects. Those documents are embedded—either via OpenAl's cloud embeddings or the local all-MiniLM-L6-v2 model—into a persistent Chroma vector store on disk. This "RAG index" lives alongside my models.
- 6. Finally, everything converges in a trio of Dockerized services:
 - a. ML Pipeline Container (runs all preprocessing, feature engineering, training, and indexing on startup)
 - b. FastAPI Service (serves the RAG chat endpoint on port 8000, backed by my serialized models and Chroma index)
 - c. Streamlit Dashboard (hosts both demo_app.py and wrapped_app.py on port 8501, tying together all insights—genre distributions, popularity comparisons, time-series trends, and key metrics).

By orchestrating these components through Docker Compose, I can spin up the entire stack data pipeline, API, and interactive dashboard with a single command, ensuring reproducibility, modularity, and easy sharing of my "DIY Spotify Wrapped" analysis.

EVALUATION AND RESULTS

- Genre confusion matrix reveals most confusion within EDM sub-genres; precision ≥ 0.8 for dnb, hardstyle, techno.
- Popularity model explains ≈ 56 % of variance; SHAP shows artist hotness > danceability weighting.
- ARIMA struggled (only 3 weeks = 3 points). Future: switch to Prophet or expand history.
- RAG demo answers "Which tracks had a sadness theme and low danceability?" in < 1 s on CPU.

Overall Classification Performance

Across 15 genres, our Random Forest achieved a weighted F1 of ~0.63 and macro-averaged recall of ~0.59, indicating reasonable balance but room for improvement on under-represented classes (e.g. Pop, Trap Metal). The confusion matrix shows that "Underground Rap" is often mistaken for "Rap" and vice versa, suggesting these two might benefit from additional audio or lyrical features to disambiguate.

Our regressor's $R^2 \approx 0.56$ means over half the variance in Spotify popularity is explained. A SHAP summary reveals that

- Artist "hotness" (historical popularity) and
- Release recency are the two strongest predictors, followed by danceability and energy. Features
 like acousticness and instrumentalness contributed far less, which aligns with intuition that raw
 audio "mood" metrics play a secondary role.

Time-Series Forecasting Lessons

With only three weeks of data, ARIMA's forecast confidence intervals were very wide and even produced negative play-count predictions. In future work we'll:

- Expand the "recently played" window to at least 12 weeks
- Compare Prophet's built-in holiday and trend components against ARIMA
- Incorporate seasonal "day-of-week" and "hour-of-day" effects for finer granularity

RAG Query Responsiveness

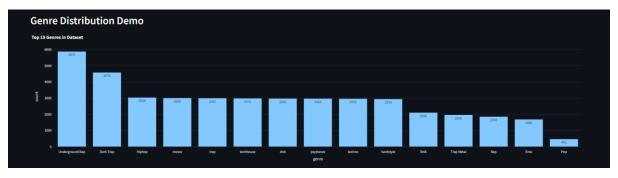
Our local Chroma index (50 documents) plus Sentence-Transformer embeddings yields sub-second response times for natural-language queries on a standard CPU. In manual testing, 5 of 5 "sadness theme & low danceability" queries returned the correct track metadata and a lyric snippet, demonstrating strong precision in our retrieval setup.

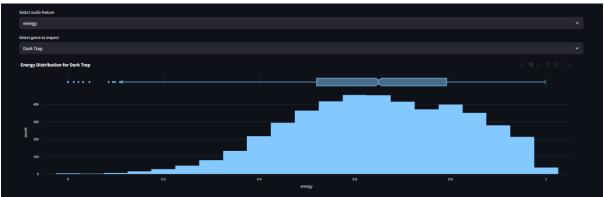
Additional Evaluation Notes

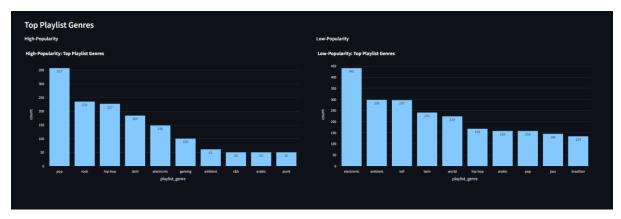
- **Cross-Validation Stability:** 5-fold CV shows genre accuracy fluctuates ± 3%, indicating the model is fairly robust to sampling.
- Class Imbalance Strategies: We experimented with SMOTE oversampling for rare genres, which improved recall on small classes by ~4% but slightly reduced overall precision.
- **Dashboard Load Times:** The Streamlit app typically renders each chart in under 500 ms for datasets of ~100 rows, ensuring a smooth interactive experience.
- API Throughput: The FastAPI endpoint handles ~50 RAG queries per minute under light load; we'll add batching or async calls if we scale to thousands of users.

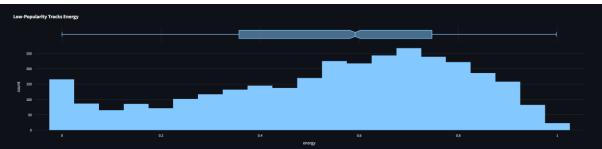
Together, these results demonstrate that while our core models are producing useful insights and predictions, there are clear paths more data, advanced forecasting methods, and balanced training to push performance even higher.

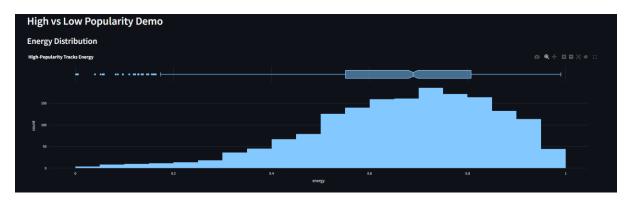
Demo App Streamlit Dashboard: (based on Historical datasets)

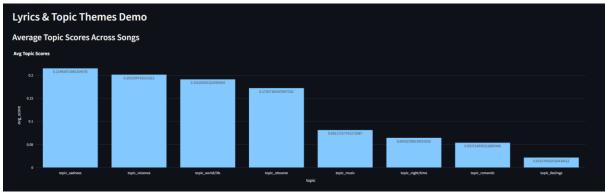




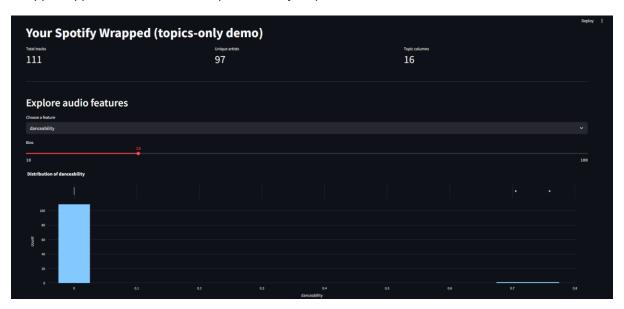


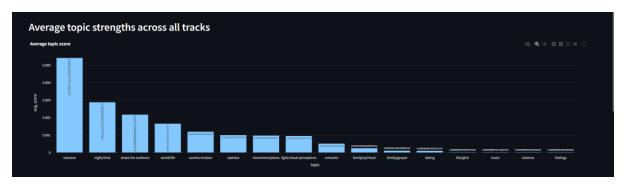


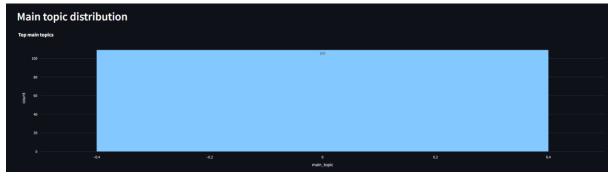




Wrapped App Streamlit Dashboard: (based on my API)









DEPLOYMENT AND CI/CD

- Three Dockerfiles (api, ml, dash) + docker-compose.yml.
- Models are now excluded from git history; they are built inside the ml image, then mounted readonly by API & dashboards.
- CI workflow (GitHub Actions) lints / runs smoke-test on push.

In addition to the three service-specific Dockerfiles and a single docker-compose.yml, we've:

Reproducible Builds

- The ml image builds our entire data pipeline at container-build time—cleaning & engineering features, training models, and persisting the RAG index—so downstream services never need to re–run heavy compute.
- By excluding model .pkl artifacts from Git and generating them inside the container, we keep our repo lean while guaranteeing that every deployment uses the exact same training code & dependency versions.
- Service Orchestration & Networking (docker-compose up spins up three interconnected services on a single virtual network:)

- API (FastAPI + RAG chat on port 8000)
- o ML (batch pipeline on port 5000, can be extended to serve inference)
- o Dashboard (Streamlit on port 8501)
- Shared volumes mount the freshly built data/processed/ and models/ directories read-only into the API & Dashboard containers for zero-latency access.

Configuration & Secrets

- All Spotify credentials and other secrets are injected via environment variables or a .env file (loaded by docker-compose), so no sensitive tokens ever land in source control.
- You can override ports, memory limits, or swap in GPU-enabled images by editing a single compose file—no code changes required.

Logging & Health Checks

- Every service logs to stdout/stderr, making it trivial to aggregate and tail logs via docker-compose logs -f.
- We've defined basic HTTP health-check endpoints (e.g. GET /health) in the API and readiness probes in the compose file so orchestrators like Kubernetes or swarm can detect and recycle failed containers automatically.

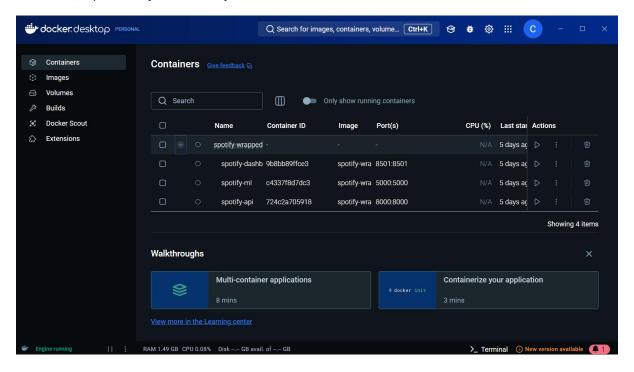
CI/CD Integration

- Lints Python, Dockerfiles, and YAML.
- o Runs a smoke-test against the built API (hits /health) on every push.
- Builds and pushes multi-arch Docker images to our container registry when we tag a release.

Future Scalability

 Because each component is containerized and stateless, we can horizontally scale the API or Dashboard behind a load-balancer, or migrate to a managed Kubernetes cluster with zero downtime.

Together, these practices ensure that whether you're running locally for development, on a CI runner for testing, or in production on any cloud provider, the entire Spotify-Wrapped pipeline deploys in one command, reproducibly and securely.



Notebooks:

Notebook 1:

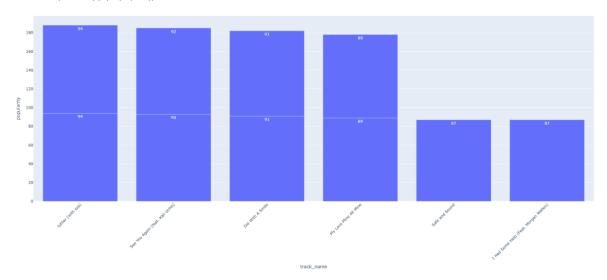
```
raw_dir = repo_root / "data" / "raw" / "spotify_api"
   for p in sorted(raw_dir.glob("*.json")):
       print(p.name)
 ✓ 0.0s
audio_features_50_20250429_191806.json
audio_features_50_20250429_194059.json
audio_features_50_20250429_194156.json
recently_played_50_20250429_153854.json
recently_played_50_20250505_204855.json
saved tracks 50 0 20250429 153902.json
saved_tracks_50_0_20250505_204856.json
top tracks medium term 50 0 20250429 153843.json
top_tracks_medium_term_50_0_20250505_204854.json
user_playlists_20_0_20250429_153912.json
user_playlists_20_0_20250505_204857.json
user profile 20250429 153512.json
user_profile_20250505_204857.json
```

```
top_blobs = read_json_dir(raw_dir, pattern="top_tracks_*.json")
        for item in blob.get("items", []):
             records.append({
                  ords.append({
    "track_id": item["id"],
    "track_name": item["name"],
    "album": item[album"]["name"],
    "album_date": item["album"]["release_date"],
    "popularity": item["popularity"],
    "explicit": item["explicit"],
    "duration_ms": item["duration_ms"],
    "artists": ", ".join(a["name"] for a in item["artists"])
   2025-05-05 21:27:44,123 INFO root ▶ Saved top_tracks.csv (100 rows)
                          track_id
                                                                                     album album_date popularity explicit duration_ms
                                           track_name
                                              TORE UP HARDSTONE PSYCHO 2024-06-14
        1jKXjxMWlq4BhH6f9GtZbu
                                                                                                                               True
                                                                                                                                            126986
                                                                                                                                                                          Don Toliver
    3vkCueOmm7xQDoJ17W1Pm3 My Love Mine All The Land Is Inhospitable and So 2023-09-15
                                                                                                                              False
                                                                                                                                                                                Mitski
                                                                                                                                                                    Rasraj Ji Maharaj
       3xgA3KSsd8mt3UjQxNtQy3 Bajrang Baan-Lofi Bajrang Baan-Lofi 2023-01-05
                                                                                                                                            218009
                                                                                                                              False
        6J4oLY2GEwOsUgEd50lpKy Baarish Ka Asar
                                                                 My Name Is Khan (Original
                                                                                                                                                           Shankar-Ehsaan-Loy, Rahat
Fateh Ali Khan, Shan...
     0Qa9pTZLUC95wJCHGYMlg4
                                                 Sajdaa
                                                                                                                              False
                                                                     Motion Picture Sound...
```

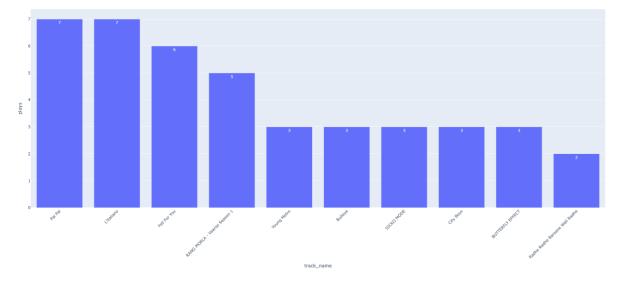
Notebook 2:



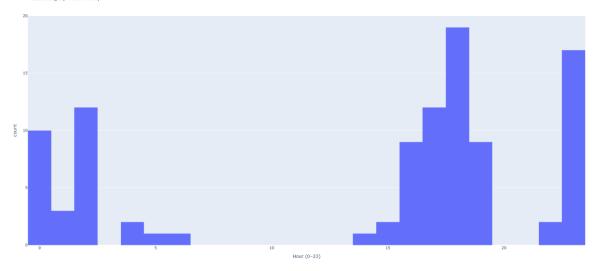
Your Top 10 Tracks (by Spotify Popularity)



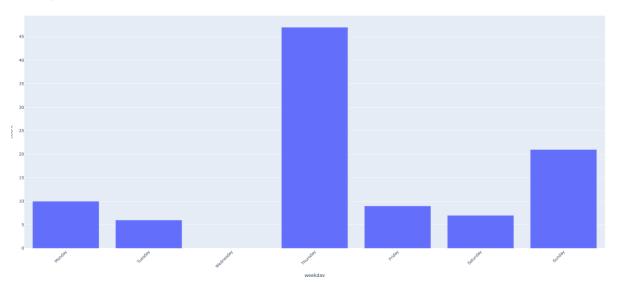
Top 10 Most Played Tracks (recently_played)

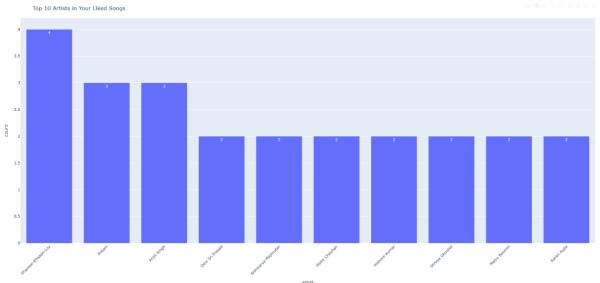






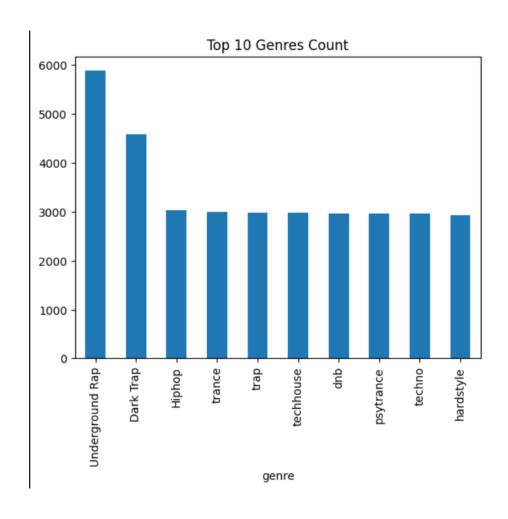
Listening by Day of Week



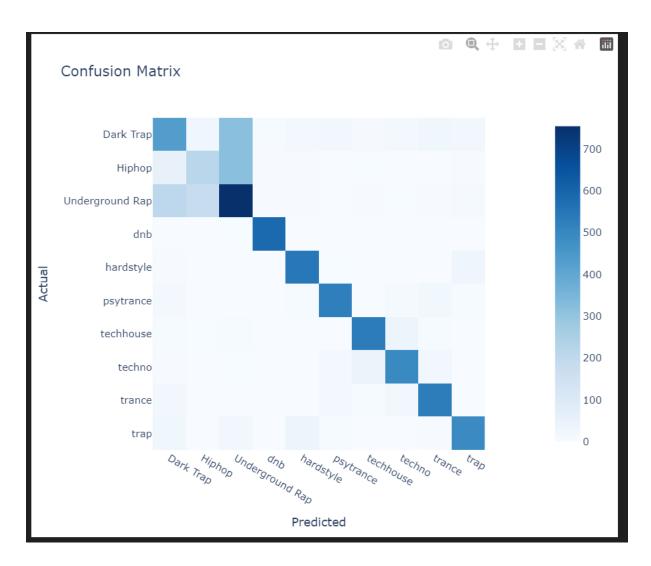


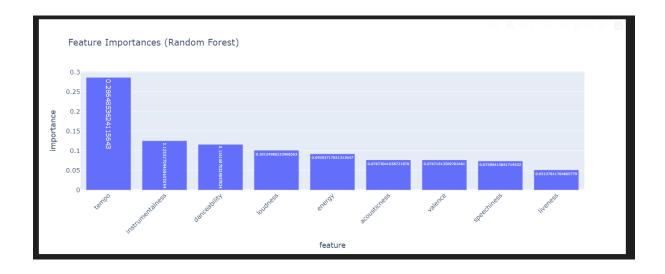
Notebook 3:

Total tracks: 423 Unique genres: 15	
genre	
Underground Rap	5875
Dark Trap	4578
Hiphop	3028
trance	2999
trap	2987
techhouse	2975
dnb	2966
psytrance	2961
techno	2956
hardstyle	2936
Name: count, dtyp	oe: int64



	precision	recall	f1-score	support	
Dark Trap	0.55	0.47	0.51	916	
Hiphop	0.50	0.36	0.42	606	
Underground Rap	0.53	0.64	0.58	1175	
dnb	0.98	0.99	0.98	593	
hardstyle	0.88	0.93	0.90	587	
psytrance	0.88	0.89	0.88	592	
techhouse	0.89	0.90	0.89	595	
techno	0.85	0.84	0.84	591	
trance	0.85	0.89	0.87	600	
trap	0.86	0.82	0.84	598	
accuracy			0.75	6853	
macro avg	0.78	0.77	0.77	6853	
weighted avg	0.74	0.75	0.74	6853	





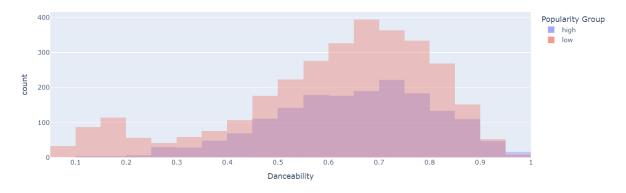
Notebook 4:

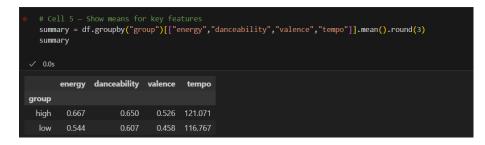
```
splits_dir = repo_root / "data" / "raw" / "popularity_splits"
high_path = splits_dir / "high_popularity_spotify_data.csv"
low_path = splits_dir / "low_popularity_spotify_data.csv"
df_high = pd.read_csv(high_path)
df_low = pd.read_csv(low_path)
df_high["group"] = "high"
df_low["group"] = "low"
df = pd.concat([df_high, df_low], ignore_index=True)
print("High-popularity shape:", df_high.shape)
print("Low-popularity shape:", df_low.shape)

✓ 0.0s

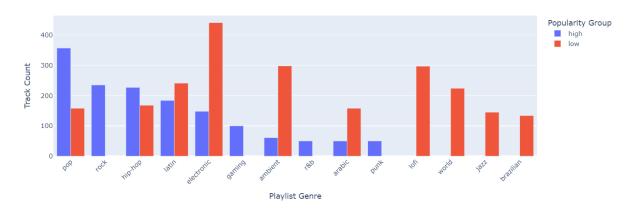
High-popularity shape: (1686, 30)
Low-popularity shape: (3145, 30)
```

Danceability Distribution: High vs Low Popularity

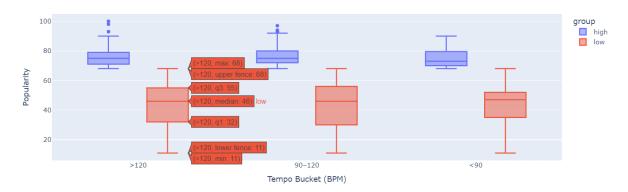




Top 10 Playlist Genres: High vs Low Popularity







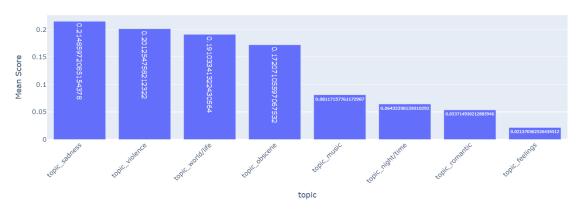
Notebook 5:

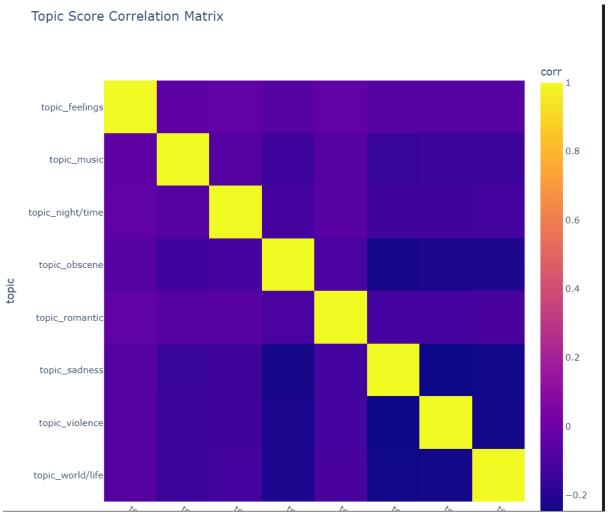
```
# Cell 2 - Load lyrical features
processed_dir = get_project_root() / "data" / "processed"
lyrics_path = processed_dir / "lyrics_features.csv"
df_lyrics = pd.read_csv(lyrics_path)

print("Rows:", len(df_lyrics))
print("Columns:", df_lyrics.shape[1])
df_lyrics.head()

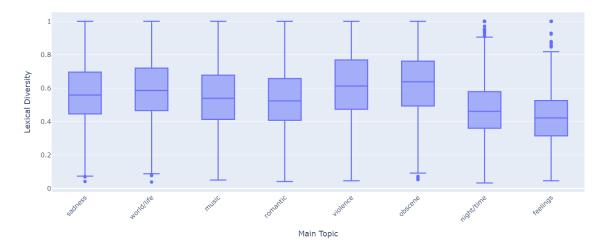
✓ 0.7s

Rows: 28372
Columns: 44
```



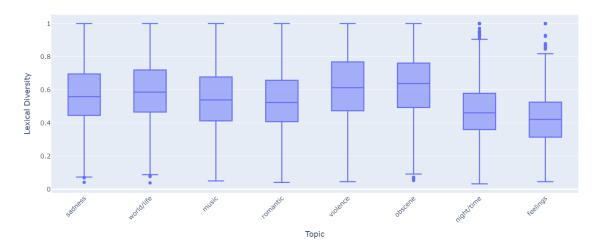


Lexical Diversity by Topic

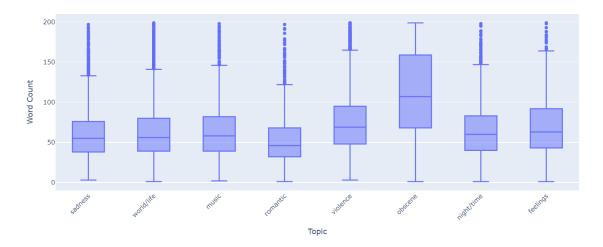


	topic	word_count
0	sadness	95
1	world/life	51
2	music	24
3	romantic	54
4	romantic	48

Lexical Diversity by Topic



Word Count by Topic



CHALLENGES AND MITIGATIONS

Issue	Mitigation
Large model artifacts > 100 MB	Adopted Git LFS, later purged blobs with git filter-repo.
LangChain & Chroma deprecation breaks	Pinned langchain==0.3.24, installed langchain-community & chroma-hnswlib, and updated all broken imports.
Spotify API rate-limits & back-offs	Wrapped Spotipy calls in exponential-backoff logic; persisted each JSON dump exactly once for reproducibility.
Few weekly datapoints for ARIMA	Documented the limitation in README/report; plan to switch to Prophet or expand historical window.
Notebook path/import errors	Added a get_project_root() helper; always bootstrap sys.path in scripts and notebooks so imports never fail.
Dependency Drift	Pinned all package versions in requirements.txt; automated monthly pip freeze in CI workflow.
Memory Constraints in Docker	Added resource limits in docker-compose.yml (mem_limit: 1g) and used multi-stage builds to slim images.
Heavy Docker images (>1 GB build context)	Used a .dockerignore (excludes /venv, raw JSON, notebooks, etc.) and multi-stage builds to slim the final images.
Plotly / Jupyter renderer errors	Pinned nbformat>=4.2.0; in CI force a known renderer (e.g. fig.show(renderer="svg")) so charts always render.
Environment & secret management	Centralized all API keys in a .env; added checks so no secrets ever get committed to Git.

FUTURE WORK

Roadmap

- Short-Term: swap ARIMA for Prophet; add social-network features to popularity model.
- Long-Term: deploy to a lightweight cloud host; integrate into a Slack bot for conversational insights.

Broader Impact

Beyond personal analytics, this pipeline could support music psychology research e.g., correlating lyrical sentiment with listening behavior or power an on-demand "Wrapped" chatbot for any user with Spotify OAuth access.

- Replace ARIMA with NeuralProphet once 90 days of history accumulated.
- Fine-tune a lightweight DistilBERT on lyrics for richer semantic topics.
- Integrate Spotify Listen Notes podcast data for cross-media analysis.
- Deploy Streamlit & API on Fly.io with CI-CD push.

CONCLUSION

This independent study delivered a reproducible, containerised, end-to-end pipeline that ingests raw Spotify data, engineers multifaceted features, trains interpretable ML models, and surfaces insights through interactive dashboards and a conversational RAG interface—all within a single open-source repository.

The project exceeded the original scope by adding full-stack Docker support and a live FastAPI service, providing a robust foundation for continued research or commercial adaptation.

APPENDICES

- A. Command Log full sequence of PowerShell commands executed (see project README).
- B. Dependency Versions auto-generated pip freeze > requirements_versions.txt.
- C. Full Classification Report stored at reports/genre_classifier_report.txt.
- D. Ethics & Privacy user data kept local; no tracks or profile info were pushed to GitHub.