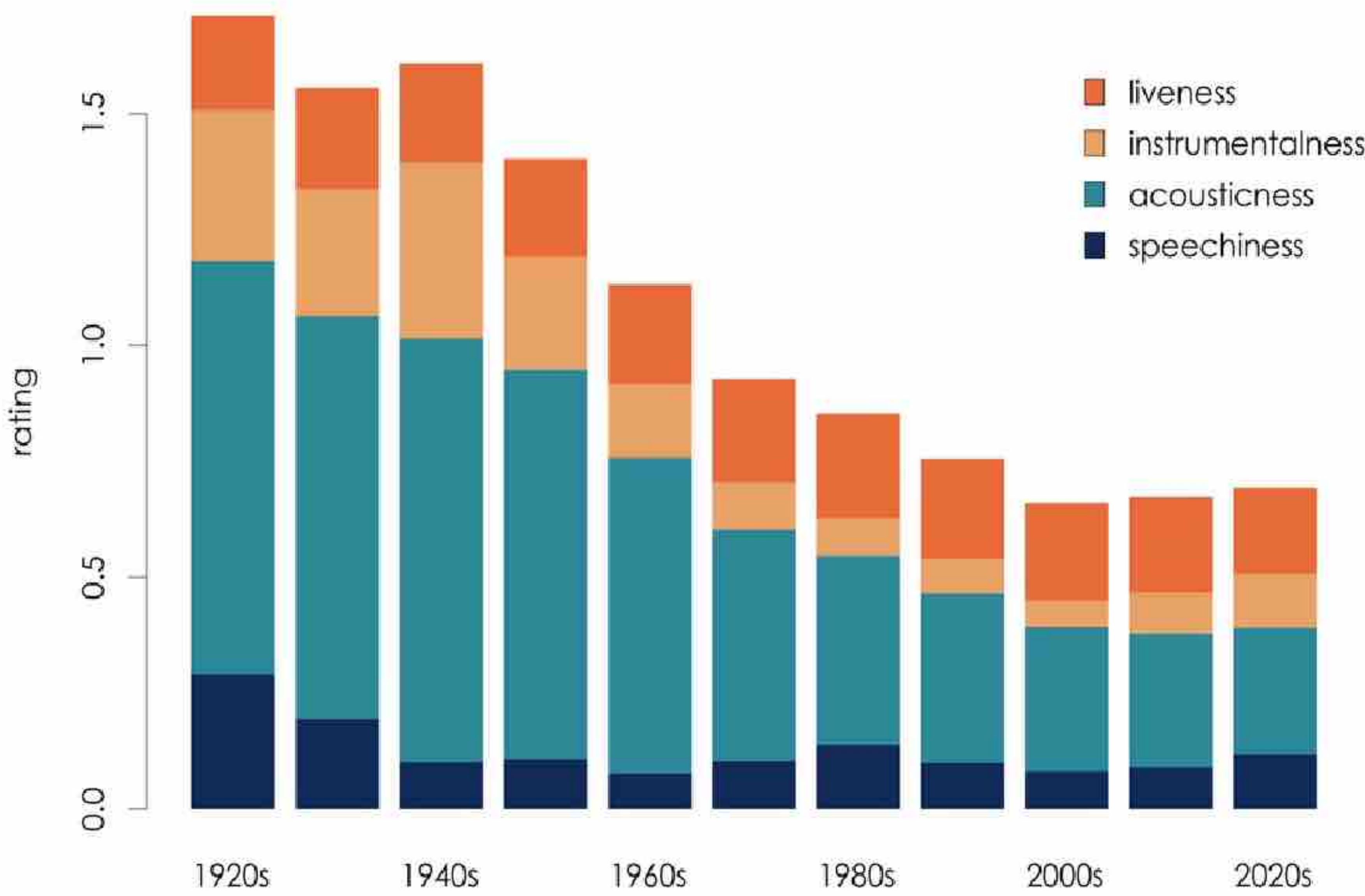


audio of the ages

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sounds of the decades



mean value of audio track characteristics for the last one-hundred years

What sounds define a decade?

How has the way we listen to music changed over time?

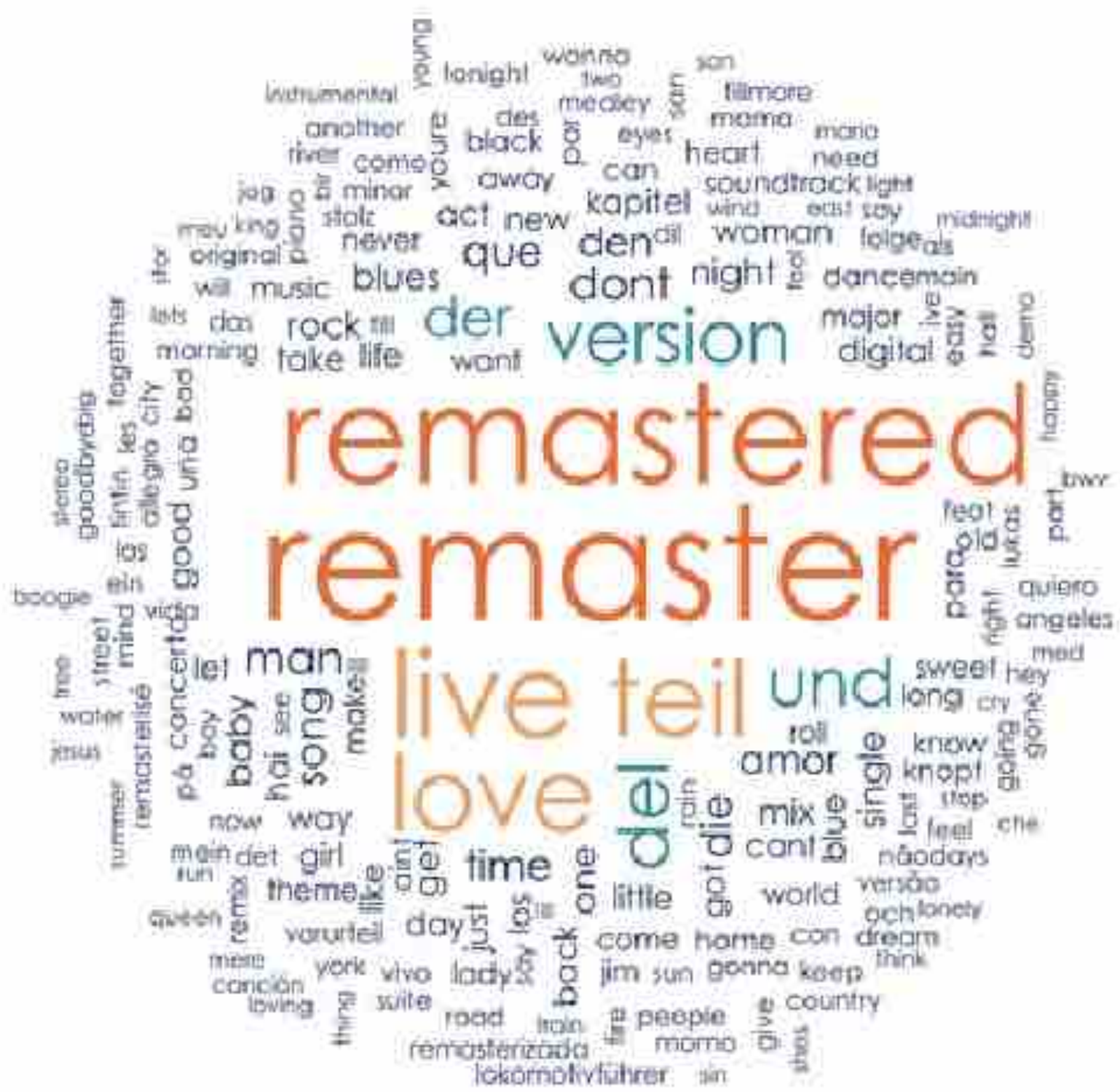
This poster explores the answers to those questions and more using a comprehensive dataset from the popular audio streaming service, Spotify.

The data consists of 586, 672 rows and 20 columns that detail audio tracks available on Spotify including their title, release date, and track characteristics such as liveness and acousticness.

In most cases, data was subset into one category, the decade of the track release date, and the data was then aggregated to show mean characteristics for each decade.

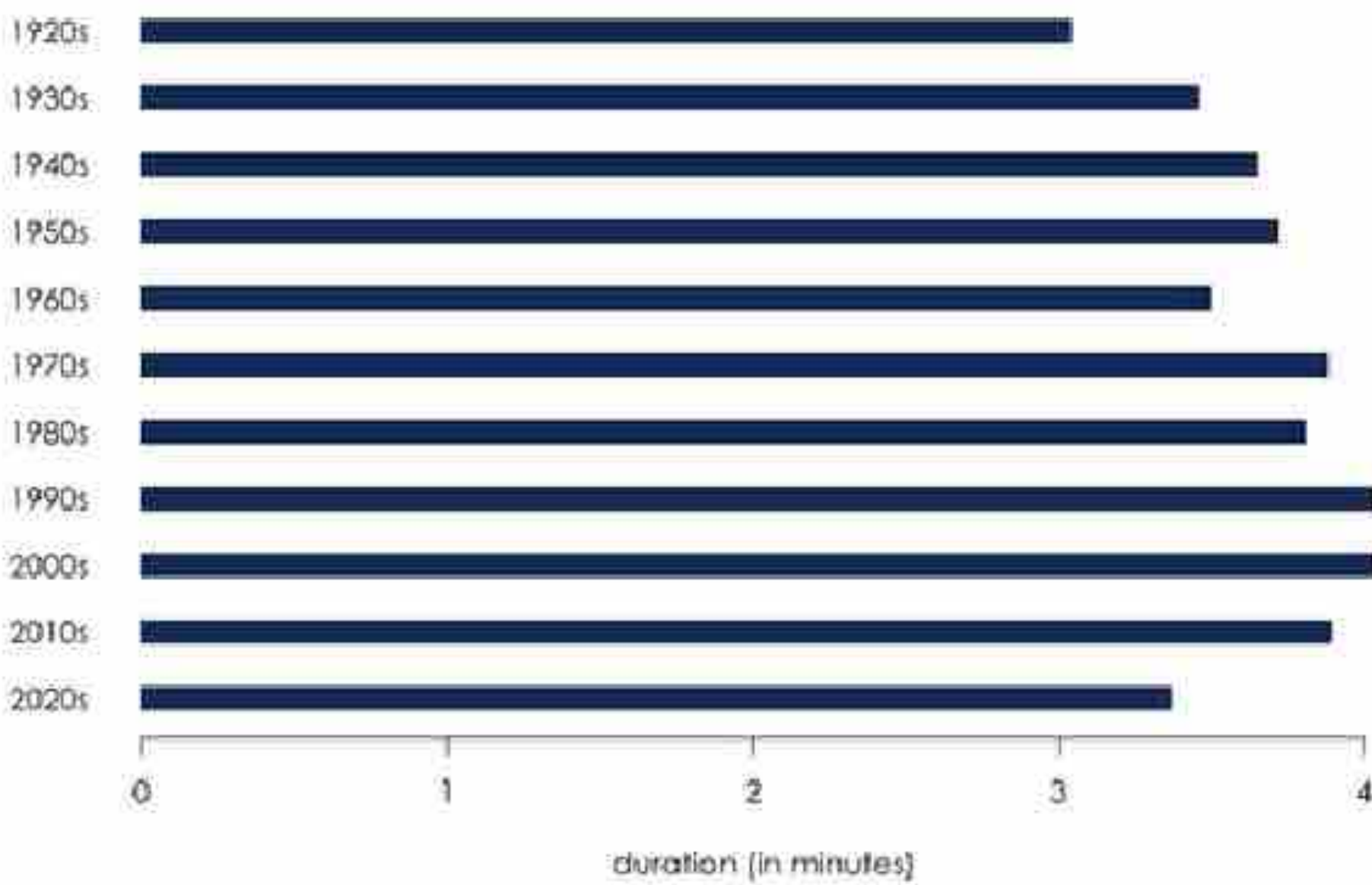
Below is a snapshot of track titles from the 1970's, with the most frequently occurring words being "remastered" and "remaster".

This provides insight into how audio was experienced in the 1970s - most likely on lower quality audio files than the ones we are used to today given that a majority of the titles were remastered.

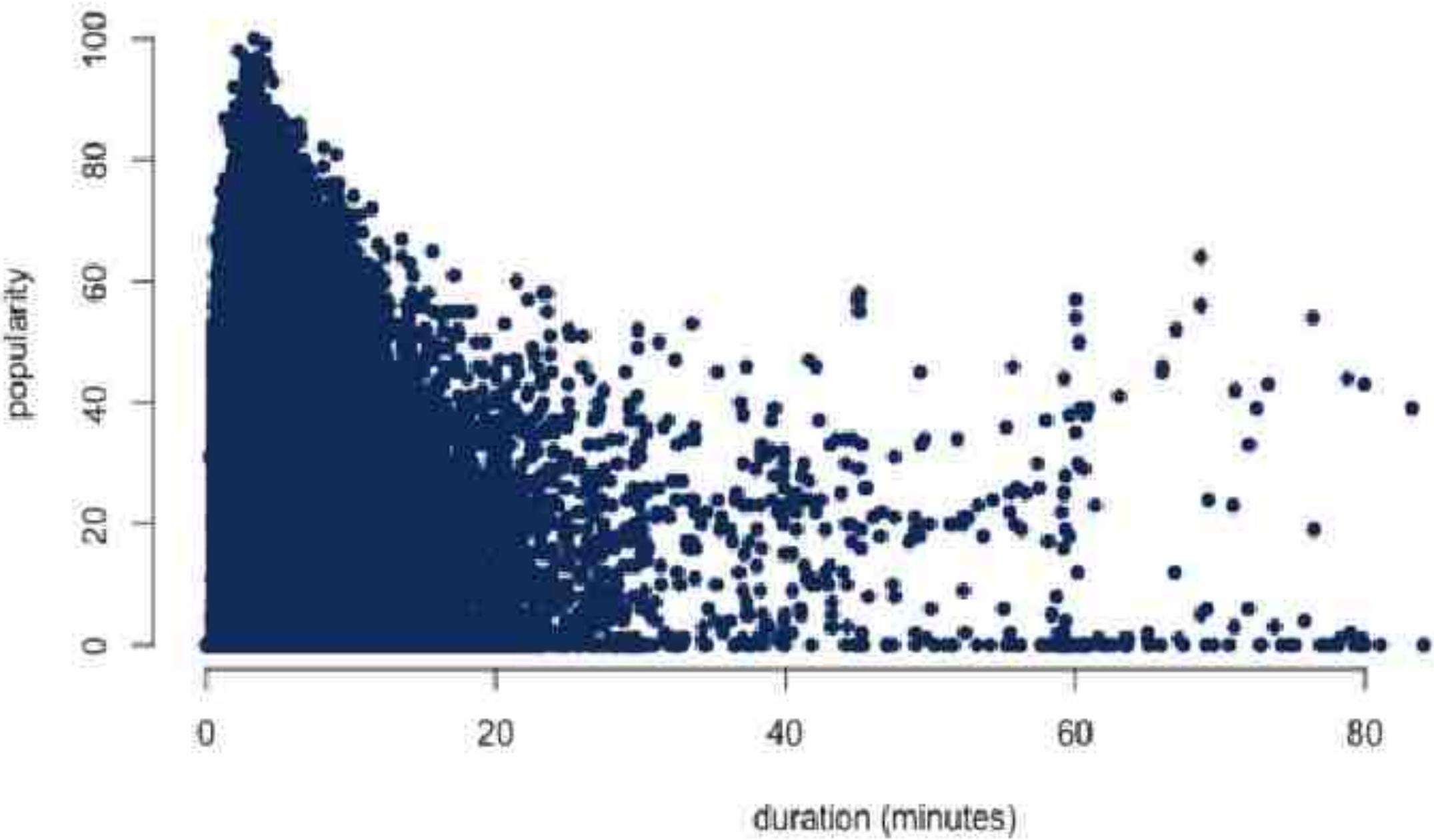


The plots below describe the average duration of audio tracks over the decades, the distribution of tempo, and the popularity of a track relative to its track duration. Shorter audio files seem to be more popular than lengthier ones.

average length of audio tracks, 1920-2020



track popularity by track duration



tempo distribution

