Spotify top 50 Tracks Analysis

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```
import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
import seaborn as sns
import datetime as dt
import regex as re
import matplotlib as plt

pd.set_option('display.max_columns', None)
pd.set_option('display.max_rows', None)
%matplotlib inline
```

Executive Summary

- We look into the Top 50 Spotify Tracks to get an understanding for what makes a song popular at least using the 2020 data.
- The artists that had the most amount tracks in the top 50 were: Dua Lipa, Travis Scott, Billie Eilish with Dua Lipa representing more pop-based songs on her album Future Nostalgia, Travis Scott producing highly-danceable Trap songs with hit albums ASTROWORLD, Birds In The Trap Sing McKnight & the single HIGHEST IN THE ROOM & Billie Eilish showing up with 2 singles & 1 album track in more unique, less-known genres like Chamber-Pop & Electro-Pop.
- There are 16 unique genres define, with 12 main genres & 10 secondary genres in the top 50 track list. The most popular genres are Pop, Hip-Hop & Rap, which all have more than 12 songs in the top 50, far exceeding the other genres in terms of number of songs in the top 50. However, R&B & Soul seem to be genres that have very high average positions in the top 50 compared to other genres. This may be an indication of a possible unmet demand for genres within the R&B style of music that could be (and maybe should be) pushed to more people than other types of music?
- In the top 50 track list, 15 songs are singles & the rest 35 are from albums. Although there are no significant differences between average positions of the two types of song releases.
- The most popular albums in the top 50 Spotify track list of 2020 are: Dua Lipa's Future Nostalgia, Justin Bieber's Changes, Post Malone's Hollywood's Bleeding & Harry Style's Fine Line. Most of these albums are Pop based and not surprising to end up in the top albums of 2020.
- Artists might find success not only on their own solo songs, but on featuring in others' songs too in 2020, artists found that type of success: Ariana Grande (on Rain On Me with Lady Gaga) & Juice WRLD (on Godzilla with Eminem).
 However, there are artists that are better off doing solo projects e.g. Justin Bieber

(on Stuck with U from Ariana Grande) & Drake (on Life Is Good from Future). There are also artists that only appeared as features on the top 50 tracks, e.g. Quavo on Intentions with Justin Bieber. And Roddy Ricch was successful as both a feature and a solo artist.

- We find there are 3 strong correlations of note:
 - loudness energy (0.79164)
 - energy acousticness (-0.682479)
 - instrumentalness loudness (-0.553735)
- We tap into per genre analysis for the entire list of features in the dataset here.
- We find that the Top 50 Spotify track list, has mostly songs that have a high danceability, valence & energy scores and are around 3-4 minutes long.

Let's get the data from here: https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/atillacolak/top-50-spotify-tracks-2020

ut[]:		artist	album	track_name	track_id	energy	danceabi
	Position						
	0	The Weeknd	After Hours	Blinding Lights	0VjljW4GlUZAMYd2vXMi3b	0.730	0.
	1	Tones And I	Dance Monkey	Dance Monkey	1rgnBhdG2JDFTbYkYRZAku	0.593	0.
	2	Roddy Ricch	Please Excuse Me For Being Antisocial	The Box	0nbXyq5TXYPCO7pr3N8S4I	0.586	0.
	3	SAINt JHN	Roses (Imanbek Remix)	Roses - Imanbek Remix	2Wo6QQD1KMDWeFkkjLqwx5	0.721	0.
	4	Dua Lipa	Future Nostalgia	Don't Start Now	3PflrDoz19wz7qK7tYeu62	0.793	0.
	4						•

Data Cleaning

Before we start analysing, let's do some data review/cleaning. Searching for Null values:

```
In [ ]: spotify_data.isnull().sum()
```

```
Out[]: artist
        album
                            0
        track name
                            0
        track_id
                            a
        energy
        danceability
                            0
        key
        loudness
                            0
        acousticness
        speechiness
                            0
        instrumentalness
                            0
        liveness
        valence
                            0
        tempo
                            0
        duration_ms
                            0
        genre
                            0
        dtype: int64
```

There are no null values in any of the columns, which means we don't need any missing data cleaning

Next, since this dataset is on a track-level basis, need to check if each track_id and track_name are unique

Number of tracks that do not have unique track_ids: 0
Number of tracks that do not have unique track_names: 0

All rows have unique track names and track_ids - no duplicate removal needed

Now let's look at the data types of the data columns and check if they make sense:

```
In [ ]: spotify_data.dtypes
Out[]: artist
                           object
        album
                           object
        track_name
                           object
        track_id
                           object
                          float64
        energy
        danceability
                         float64
                           int64
        key
        loudness
                          float64
        acousticness
                        float64
        speechiness
                         float64
        instrumentalness
                          float64
        liveness
                          float64
                          float64
        valence
                          float64
        tempo
                            int64
        duration ms
        genre
                           object
        dtype: object
```

All data types seem to make sense

And do we have all 50 spotify tracks? Additionally, how many features do we have in the table? What about categorical variables?

```
Number of tracks: 50
Number of numeric features: 10
Number of categorical features: 1
```

We have all 50 tracks - that's good, we have no missing rows. We also have 10 numeric features representing ordinal variables indicating features of each track. We additionally have 1 categorical feature - genre.

Let's also check out the genre unique values - see if they have no issues

As we can see, the Electro-pop value has some un-needed whitespace at the start of the string. Let's fix that

Great, It worked! With current data Validation & Preparation done, we can move to feature engineering from the current data we have.

Feature Engineering

Firstly, I will assume that the initial download of the Spotify tracks has the tracks listed in the position that they ended up at the end of the year in the charts

```
In [ ]: spotify_data['position'] = spotify_data.index + 1
```

Secondly, let's assume that the genres are listed in the order of the which genre describes the song the best. Let's split these out into separate columns

```
In [ ]: split_genres = spotify_data.genre.str.split('/')
        spotify_data['main_genre'] = [g[0] for g in split_genres]
        spotify_data['second_genre'] = [g[1] if len(g) > 1 else None for g in split_genre
        spotify_data['third_genre'] = [g[2] if len(g) == 3 else None for g in split_genr
        print('Most popular genres based on main_genre\n', spotify_data.groupby('main_ge
                                                              .agg({'position' : ['mean',
                                                              .sort_values(by = ('position')
                                                                           ascending = Fal
        print('\nMost popular genres based on secondary_genre\n', spotify_data.groupby('
                                                              .agg({'position' : ['mean',
                                                              .sort_values(by = ('position')
                                                                           ascending = Fal
        print('\nMost popular genres based on third_genre\n', spotify_data.groupby('thir
                                                              .agg({'position' : ['mean',
                                                              .sort_values(by = ('position')
                                                                           ascending = Fal
```

```
Most popular genres based on main_genre
           position
              mean count
main_genre
Pop 28.466667 15
Hip-Hop 23.500000 14
Alternative 21.400000 5
Dance 30.200000
R&B
          9.333333
                      3
Electro-pop 28.000000
                      2
Chamber pop 45.000000 1
Dance-pop 32.000000 1
Disco-pop 33.000000
                     1
Dreampop 38.000000 1
Nu-disco
          5.000000
                     1
Pop rap
         24.000000
                       1
```

Most popular genres based on secondary_genre position

	mean	count
second_genre		
Rap	23.153846	13
Electronic	30.200000	5
Indie	15.750000	4
Soul	9.500000	2
Disco	32.000000	1
Hip-Hop	38.000000	1
Hip-Hop alternative	9.000000	1
Soft Rock	13.000000	1
Trap	28.000000	1
reggaeton	44.000000	1

Most popular genres based on third_genre position

```
mean count third_genre R&B 38.0 1 experimental 44.0 1
```

The most popular main genres are Pop & Hip-Hop by far, although Hip-Hop songs have the higher average position, by almost 5 positions. Noteworthy is the fact that all 3 R&B tracks have a very high average position.

The most popular secondary genre is Rap with an average position of 22.154. Lastly, there are only 2 songs that have third genres, which are relatively low placed ending up at 38 & 44.

Lastly, it would be interesting to see which genres mesh well, and which - don't. Let's figure out which main & secondary genres are the most popular.

```
Out[]: genre
        Hip-Hop/Rap
                                                13
         Dance/Electronic
                                                 5
         Alternative/Indie
                                                 4
         R&B/Soul
                                                 2
                                                 1
         Alternative/reggaeton/experimental
         Dance-pop/Disco
         Dreampop/Hip-Hop/R&B
                                                 1
         Hip-Hop/Trap
         Pop/Soft Rock
                                                 1
         R&B/Hip-Hop alternative
         Name: track_id, dtype: int64
```

The Hip-Hop Rap combination seems to be the most popular genre merge in the Spotify top 50 track list

Additionally, if you notice, some songs have the same name as their albums - these songs are albums by themselves, so called singles.

mean count

album_type

Multi-Song Album	25.771429	35
Single	24.866667	15

Interestingly, singles have no apparent higher popularity compared to songs from Multi-Song albums, rejecting the hypothesis that songs that are released in an album should have lower popularity values due to their attention being split by multiple songs by the artist released at the same time

Also some songs have features in them, which is indicated in the title of the song - let's extract the feature artist as well.

Out[]:

	feature_count	solo_song_count
Roddy Ricch	1	1.0
Quavo	1	0.0
Drake	1	1.0
iann dior	1	0.0
Megan Thee Stallion	1	0.0
Juice WRLD	1	1.0
Gus Dapperton	1	0.0
Emilee	1	0.0
Ariana Grande	1	1.0
Khalid	1	0.0
Justin Bieber	1	2.0
Julia Michaels	1	0.0

Interesting, notice that these featuring artists also have songs that they made themselves in the top 50 Spotify tracklist

Let's check out whether these featuring artists performed better when they were collabing in others songs or releasing their own music.

Out[]:		feature/artist	position_collab	position_solo
	0	Roddy Ricch	6	3.0
	1	Quavo	15	NaN
	2	Drake	20	16.0
	3	iann dior	24	NaN
	4	Megan Thee Stallion	28	NaN
	5	Juice WRLD	30	46.0
	6	Gus Dapperton	34	NaN
	7	Emilee	35	NaN
	8	Ariana Grande	36	47.0
	9	Khalid	45	NaN
	10	Justin Bieber	47	15.0
	11	Justin Bieber	47	31.0
	12	Julia Michaels	48	NaN

From this analysis, only a handful of artists appeared in the top 50 Spotify list as solo artists & collab artists. Out of these artists, only Ariana Grande's, Juice WRLDs appearances performed better than their own solo songs in the year 2020.

There's also 2 artists that performed better on their solos, rather than their collabs - Roddy Ricch & Justin Bieber. Looking at Roddy's song positions, it is clear that 2020 was a very good year for him

The other artists most likely did not release their own music around 2020, or are more niche artists, that were invited to feature because of their unique and not as popular music style.

Let's also transform the duration_ms value to make it more understandable - format it into minutes

```
In [ ]: spotify_data['duration_minutes'] = round(spotify_data.duration_ms / 60000, 2)
    del spotify_data['duration_ms']
    spotify_data.head()
```

Out[]:		artist	album	track_name	track_id	energy	danceabi
	Position						
	0	The Weeknd	After Hours	Blinding Lights	0VjljW4GlUZAMYd2vXMi3b	0.730	0.
	1	Tones And I	Dance Monkey	Dance Monkey	1rgnBhdG2JDFTbYkYRZAku	0.593	0.
	2	Roddy Ricch	Please Excuse Me For Being Antisocial	The Box	0nbXyq5TXYPCO7pr3N8S4I	0.586	0.
	3	SAINt JHN	Roses (Imanbek Remix)	Roses - Imanbek Remix	2Wo6QQD1KMDWeFkkjLqwx5	0.721	0.
	4	Dua Lipa	Future Nostalgia	Don't Start Now	3PflrDoz19wz7qK7tYeu62	0.793	0.
	4						•

With all the features created, let's sort the columns for readability's sake

```
In []: columns = spotify_data.columns.tolist()

columns.remove('feature')
    columns.insert(3, 'feature')
    columns.remove('duration_minutes')
    columns.insert(15, 'duration_minutes')
    columns.remove('album_type')
    columns.insert(2, 'album_type')
    spotify_data = spotify_data[columns]
```

With Feature Engineering done, let's review the number of Null values in the spotify_data table

```
In [ ]: spotify_data.isnull().sum()
```

```
Out[]: artist
         album
         album_type
track_name
                              0
                               0
         feature
                              38
         track_id 0
energy 0
danceability 0
         key
         loudness
         loudness 0
acousticness 0
speechiness 0
instrumentalness 0
         liveness
         valence
         tempo
         duration_minutes 0
         genre
         position
         main_genre
         main_genre
second_genre
                             20
                              48
         dtype: int64
```

10/6/23, 1:21 AM

The fact that features, second genre, third genre have 38, 20, 48 Null values respectively is expected, since not all tracks have feature artists and don't represent multiple genres.

Let's recap all variables:

Variables:

Identifying information:

- artist artist of the song
- album album the song comes from written by the artist
- album_type distinguishes songs between if they were released as Singles or released in a Multi-song album.
- track_name song name
- features any features that appear on the track

Numeric variables:

- energy Higher value means that the songs is more energetic.
- danceability Higher value means that it is easier to dance to the song.
- key The primary identifier of songs.
- loudness Higher value means that the song is louder.
- acousticness This value describes how acoustic a song is.
- speechiness Speechiness detects the presence of spoken words in a track.
- instrumentalness Describes whether a track contains no vocals. If the instrumentalness is closer to '1', the song is more likely to have no vocals.
- liveness Describes the likelihood that the song was recorded with a live audience.

- valence A measure from 0.0 to 1.0 describing the musical positiveness conveyed by the track
- tempo beats per minute
- duration_minutes The length of the song in minutes.

Categorical Variables:

- genre genre(-s) of the song
- main_genre main genre of the song
- secondary_genre secondary genre of the song
- third_genre third genre of the song

Foundational Feature Analysis

Now, let's first define what is popularity of an artist within the context of this table. I will analyze two tiers of "popularity" - one is with the understanding that all songs in this list are popular and thus the entire dataset should be analyzed to get an understanding of what makes a song popular in general; the second tier of analysis is regarding within the dataset tracks - understanding that the songs are the most popular at the top and the least popular at the bottom - in that way allowing for what makes a song "the most popular among the popular songs". In the latter case, the position of the track & the amount of songs the artist has in the top 50 are going to be main variables indicating success of a track.

In []:	<pre>spotify_data.describe()</pre>										
Out[]:		energy	danceability	key	loudness	acousticness	speechiness	instruı			
	count	50.000000	50.000000	50.000000	50.000000	50.000000	50.000000				
	mean	0.609300	0.716720	5.720000	-6.225900	0.256206	0.124158				
	std	0.154348	0.124975	3.709007	2.349744	0.265250	0.116836				
	min	0.225000	0.351000	0.000000	-14.454000	0.001460	0.029000				
	25%	0.494000	0.672500	2.000000	-7.552500	0.052800	0.048325				
	50%	0.597000	0.746000	6.500000	-5.991500	0.188500	0.070050				
	75%	0.729750	0.794500	8.750000	-4.285500	0.298750	0.155500				
	max	0.855000	0.935000	11.000000	-3.280000	0.934000	0.487000				
	4							•			

Let's look into how many unique artists and albums do we have in the dataset?

```
In [ ]: print(f"Number of unique artists in the dataset: {spotify_data.artist.nunique()}
    print(f"Number of unique albums in the dataset: {spotify_data.album.nunique()}")
    Number of unique artists in the dataset: 40
```

Number of unique albums in the dataset: 45

Now, which artists out of these had the most amount of songs in the top 50 and what were their genres?

```
In []: multiple_track_artists = spotify_data.artist.value_counts()[spotify_data.artist.
    most_frequent_artists = multiple_track_artists.index
    most_frequent_artists_nr_songs = multiple_track_artists.values

identifying_columns = ['artist', 'album', 'track_name', 'feature', 'main_genre']

most_frequent_artists_songs = spotify_data[spotify_data.artist.isin([*most_frequent_artists_songs)])
```

album

track_name feature main_genre

artist

Out[]:

	artist	aibum	track_name	reature	main_genre
Position					
4	Dua Lipa	Future Nostalgia	Don't Start Now	NaN	Nu-disco
6	Harry Styles	Fine Line	Watermelon Sugar	NaN	Рор
9	Lewis Capaldi	Divinely Uninspired To A Hellish Extent	Someone You Loved	NaN	Alternative
12	Post Malone	Hollywood's Bleeding	Circles	NaN	Рор
14	Justin Bieber	Changes	Intentions (feat. Quavo)	Quavo	Рор
16	Lewis Capaldi	Divinely Uninspired To A Hellish Extent (Exten	Before You Go	NaN	Alternative
21	Harry Styles	Fine Line	Adore You	NaN	Рор
24	Billie Eilish	everything i wanted	everything i wanted	NaN	Рор
26	Billie Eilish	WHEN WE ALL FALL ASLEEP, WHERE DO WE GO?	bad guy	NaN	Electro-pop
30	Justin Bieber	Changes	Yummy	NaN	Рор
31	Dua Lipa	Future Nostalgia	Break My Heart	NaN	Dance-pop
36	Travis Scott	HIGHEST IN THE ROOM	HIGHEST IN THE ROOM	NaN	Нір-Нор
37	Post Malone	Hollywood's Bleeding	Sunflower - Spider- Man: Into the Spider- Verse	NaN	Dreampop
40	Travis Scott	Birds In The Trap Sing McKnight	goosebumps	NaN	Нір-Нор
44	Billie Eilish	lovely (with Khalid)	lovely (with Khalid)	Khalid	Chamber pop
48	Dua Lipa	Future Nostalgia	Physical	NaN	Dance
49	Travis Scott	ASTROWORLD	SICKO MODE	NaN	Нір-Нор

Most artists are in the Pop-genre, which makes sense as Pop songs are designed to be the most popular. This was a big year for Travis Scott, Dua Lipa & Billie Eilish

In a similar fashion, we should expect that the albums that are most frequent in the year, should be by these top artists of 2020.

Out[]:		artist	album	track_name	feature	main_genre
	Position					
	4	Dua Lipa	Future Nostalgia	Don't Start Now	NaN	Nu-disco
	6	Harry Styles	Fine Line	Watermelon Sugar	NaN	Рор
	12	Post Malone	Hollywood's Bleeding	Circles	NaN	Рор
	14	Justin Bieber	Changes	Intentions (feat. Quavo)	Quavo	Рор
	21	Harry Styles	Fine Line	Adore You	NaN	Рор
	30	Justin Bieber	Changes	Yummy	NaN	Рор
	31	Dua Lipa	Future Nostalgia	Break My Heart	NaN	Dance-pop
	37	Post Malone	Hollywood's Bleeding	Sunflower - Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse	NaN	Dreampop
	48	Dua Lipa	Future Nostalgia	Physical	NaN	Dance

^{*}The most popular albums are **Future Nostalgia** followed by **Fine Line, Holloywood's Bleeding & Changes***

Knowing the most popular artists & albums, let's look into what are the best artists/albums by average position?

Top 10 Artists by position of their track in 2020

Out[]: position

mean count

artist	genre		
The Weeknd	R&B/Soul	1.0	1
Tones And I	Alternative/Indie	2.0	1
Roddy Ricch	Hip-Hop/Rap	3.0	1
SAINt JHN	Dance/Electronic	4.0	1
Dua Lipa	Nu-disco	5.0	1
DaBaby	Hip-Hop/Rap	6.0	1
Powfu	Hip-Hop/Rap	8.0	1
Trevor Daniel	R&B/Hip-Hop alternative	9.0	1
KAROL G	Рор	11.0	1
Arizona Zervas	Hip-Hop/Rap	12.0	1

What about the genres that are most popular from these artists?

```
In [ ]: print(f"Number of unique genres in the dataset: {spotify_data.genre.nunique()}") print(f"Number of unique main genres in the dataset: {spotify_data.main_genre.nuprint(f"Number of unique secondary genres in the dataset: {spotify_data.second_genre.nuprint(f"Number of unique secondary genres in the dataset: {spotify_data.second_genre.nuprint(f"Number of unique secondary genres in the dataset: {spotify_data.second_genre.nuprint(f"Number of unique secondary genres in the dataset: {spotify_data.main_genre.nuprint(f"Number of unique main genres in the dataset: {spotify_data.second_genre}.
```

```
Number of unique genres in the dataset: 16
Number of unique main genres in the dataset: 12
Number of unique secondary genres in the dataset: 10
```

Since we already know what the most popular genres are, let's find out which genres have only one song in the top 50:

Out[]:		artist	album	album_type	track_name	genre
	Position					
	4	Dua Lipa	Future Nostalgia	Multi-Song Album	Don't Start Now	Nu-disco
	23	24kGoldn	Mood (feat. iann dior)	Single	Mood (feat. iann dior)	Pop rap
	31	Dua Lipa	Future Nostalgia	Multi-Song Album	Break My Heart	Dance-pop/Disco
	32	BTS	Dynamite (DayTime Version)	Multi-Song Album	Dynamite	Disco-pop
	37	Post Malone	Hollywood's Bleeding	Multi-Song Album	Sunflower - Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse	Dreampop/Hip- Hop/R&B
	44	Billie Eilish	lovely (with Khalid)	Single	lovely (with Khalid)	Chamber pop

These tracks are interesting, since they don't represent typically popular genres that made it big in 2020 - maybe something to look out for in the future years?

What about looking into the features of these tracks? Let's do a quick overview of the tracks we can expect to have high and low key metrics?

E.g.: Which tracks are the most & least danceable?

The most danceable track:

```
artist Cardi B
track_name WAP (feat. Megan Thee Stallion)
genre Hip-Hop/Trap
danceability 0.935
Name: 27, dtype: object
```

Other tracks that have a high danceability rating:

Out[]:		artist	album	album_type	track_name	genre	danceabilit
	Position						
	1	Tones And I	Dance Monkey	Single	Dance Monkey	Alternative/Indie	0.82
	2	Roddy Ricch	Please Excuse Me For Being Antisocial	Multi-Song Album	The Box	Hip-Hop/Rap	0.89
	3	SAINt JHN	Roses (Imanbek Remix)	Multi-Song Album	Roses - Imanbek Remix	Dance/Electronic	0.78
	4	Dua Lipa	Future Nostalgia	Multi-Song Album	Don't Start Now	Nu-disco	0.79
	5	DaBaby	BLAME IT ON BABY	Multi-Song Album	ROCKSTAR (feat. Roddy Ricch)	Hip-Hop/Rap	0.74
	7	Powfu	death bed (coffee for your head)	Single	death bed (coffee for your head)	Hip-Hop/Rap	0.72
	8	Trevor Daniel	Nicotine	Multi-Song Album	Falling	R&B/Hip-Hop alternative	0.78
	10	KAROL G	Tusa	Single	Tusa	Рор	0.80
	13	Lil Mosey	Certified Hitmaker	Multi-Song Album	Blueberry Faygo	Hip-Hop/Rap	0.77
	14	Justin Bieber	Changes	Multi-Song Album	Intentions (feat. Quavo)	Рор	0.80
	15	Drake	Dark Lane Demo Tapes	Multi-Song Album	Toosie Slide	Hip-Hop/Rap	0.83
	17	Doja Cat	Hot Pink	Multi-Song Album	Say So	R&B/Soul	0.78
	18	Maroon 5	Memories	Single	Memories	Рор	0.76
	19	Future	High Off Life	Multi-Song Album	Life Is Good (feat. Drake)	Hip-Hop/Rap	0.79
	20	Jawsh 685	Savage Love (Laxed - Siren Beat)	Single	Savage Love (Laxed - Siren Beat)	Hip-Hop/Rap	0.76
	22	Торіс	Breaking Me	Single	Breaking Me	Dance/Electronic	0.78
	24	Billie Eilish	everything i wanted	Single	everything i wanted	Рор	0.70
	25	Shawn Mendes	Shawn Mendes (Deluxe)	Multi-Song Album	Señorita	Рор	0.75

	artist	album	album_type	track_name	genre	danceabilit
Position						
26	Billie Eilish	WHEN WE ALL FALL ASLEEP, WHERE DO WE GO?	Multi-Song Album	bad guy	Electro-pop	0.70
27	Cardi B	WAP (feat. Megan Thee Stallion)	Single	WAP (feat. Megan Thee Stallion)	Hip-Hop/Trap	0.93
28	Surfaces	Where the Light Is	Multi-Song Album	Sunday Best	Electro-pop	0.87
29	Eminem	Music To Be Murdered By	Multi-Song Album	Godzilla (feat. Juice WRLD)	Hip-Hop/Rap	0.80
31	Dua Lipa	Future Nostalgia	Multi-Song Album	Break My Heart	Dance- pop/Disco	0.73
32	BTS	Dynamite (DayTime Version)	Multi-Song Album	Dynamite	Disco-pop	0.74
33	BENEE	Hey u x	Multi-Song Album	Supalonely (feat. Gus Dapperton)	Alternative/Indie	0.86
37	Post Malone	Hollywood's Bleeding	Multi-Song Album	Sunflower - Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse	Dreampop/Hip- Hop/R&B	0.75
38	Maluma	PAPI JUANCHO	Multi-Song Album	Hawái	Рор	0.78
39	Regard	Ride It	Single	Ride It	Dance/Electronic	0.88
40	Travis Scott	Birds In The Trap Sing McKnight	Multi-Song Album	goosebumps	Hip-Hop/Rap	0.84
41	Black Eyed Peas	Translation	Multi-Song Album	RITMO (Bad Boys For Life)	Рор	0.72
42	THE SCOTTS	THE SCOTTS	Single	THE SCOTTS	Hip-Hop/Rap	0.71
49	Travis Scott	ASTROWORLD	Multi-Song Album	SICKO MODE	Hip-Hop/Rap	0.83

Interestingly, there are 32 tracks that have a high danceability - a possible indication that for a song to be popular, it must be one that people could dance to. Additionally, the most danceable track is Cardi B's "WAP", which is a Hip-Hop/Trap track - both of these genres are well known for being dance-oriented. We will check later on if that hypothesis rings true. Again, the tracks are situated more in the top of the list, which may indicate that

danceable tracks dominate which tracks get to be the most popular out of the popular tracks in general. The fact that social media started using tracks for short form content can also be a factor in this case (think - TikToks & IG reals).

What about the least danceable tracks?

The least danceable track:

```
artist Billie Eilish
track_name lovely (with Khalid)
genre Chamber pop
danceability 0.351
```

Name: 44, dtype: object

Funnily, the least danceable track is also the only track that has a danceability rating of less than 0.4, this might indicate that for a song to be popular it has to be a song that people would want to dance to.

Let's look into the loudness now, as I presume that most popular songs have to be rather loud for it to catch peoples' attention.

(The same conclusion has been reached in this article analysing loudness metrics in Spotify: https://isaacyu1-96734.medium.com/loudness-wars-spotify-song-analysis-d3f48bfe3ebe#:~:text=Spotify%20measures%20loudness%20using%20LUFS,the%20level%20

The loudest track:

```
artist KAROL G
track_name Tusa
genre Pop
loudness -3.28
Name: 10, dtype: object
```

Other tracks that are loud:

Out[]:	artist	album	album_type	track_name
out[]:	artist	album	album_type	track_na

Position					
4	Dua Lipa	Future Nostalgia	Multi-Song Album	Don't Start Now	Nu
6	Harry Styles	Fine Line	Multi-Song Album	Watermelon Sugar	
10	KAROL G	Tusa	Single	Tusa	
12	Post Malone	Hollywood's Bleeding	Multi-Song Album	Circles	Pop/Sof
16	Lewis Capaldi	Divinely Uninspired To A Hellish Extent (Exten	Multi-Song Album	Before You Go	Alternative
17	Doja Cat	Hot Pink	Multi-Song Album	Say So	R&
21	Harry Styles	Fine Line	Multi-Song Album	Adore You	
23	24kGoldn	Mood (feat. iann dior)	Single	Mood (feat. iann dior)	Pi
31	Dua Lipa	Future Nostalgia	Multi-Song Album	Break My Heart	Dance-pop
32	BTS	Dynamite (DayTime Version)	Multi-Song Album	Dynamite	Disc
33	BENEE	Hey u x	Multi-Song Album	Supalonely (feat. Gus Dapperton)	Alternativ€
35	Lady Gaga	Chromatica	Multi-Song Album	Rain On Me (with Ariana Grande)	
37	Post Malone	Hollywood's Bleeding	Multi-Song Album	Sunflower - Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse	Dreampop/Hip-Ho _l
38	Maluma	PAPI JUANCHO	Multi-Song Album	Hawái	
39	Regard	Ride It	Single	Ride It	Dance/Elec
40	Travis Scott	Birds In The Trap Sing McKnight	Multi-Song Album	goosebumps	Нір-Но
43	Bad Bunny	YHLQMDLG	Multi-Song Album	Safaera	Alternative/reggaeton/experir
48	Dua Lipa	Future Nostalgia	Multi-Song Album	Physical	Dance/Elec

artist

Position					
49	Travis Scott	ASTROWORLD	Multi-Song Album	SICKO MODE	Нір-Нс

album album_type track_name

The loudest song on the list is Tusa by KAROL G and we have 19 tracks that are louder than -5 LU (the metric defined as loudness in Spotify). Interestingly, their positions also seem to cover the entire range of the top 50 tracks, so that may indicate that loudness itself does not state whether you will end up higher on the top 50 Spotify tracklist."

Let's look at the most quite songs, next:

The quietest track:

artist Billie Eilish
track_name everything i wanted
genre Pop
loudness -14.454

Name: 24, dtype: object

Other tracks that are quite:

Out[]:		artist	album	album_type	track_name	genre	loudness
	Position						
	7	Powfu	death bed (coffee for your head)	Single	death bed (coffee for your head)	Hip- Hop/Rap	-8.765
	8	Trevor Daniel	Nicotine	Multi-Song Album	Falling	R&B/Hip- Hop alternative	-8.756
	15	Drake	Dark Lane Demo Tapes	Multi-Song Album	Toosie Slide	Hip- Hop/Rap	-8.820
	20	Jawsh 685	Savage Love (Laxed - Siren Beat)	Single	Savage Love (Laxed - Siren Beat)	Hip- Hop/Rap	-8.520
	24	Billie Eilish	everything i wanted	Single	everything i wanted	Рор	-14.454
	26	Billie Eilish	WHEN WE ALL FALL ASLEEP, WHERE DO WE GO?	Multi-Song Album	bad guy	Electro-pop	-10.965
	36	Travis Scott	HIGHEST IN THE ROOM	Single	HIGHEST IN THE ROOM	Hip- Hop/Rap	-8.764
	44	Billie Eilish	lovely (with Khalid)	Single	lovely (with Khalid)	Chamber pop	-10.109
	47	JP Saxe	If the World Was Ending (feat. Julia Michaels)	Multi-Song Album	If the World Was Ending - feat. Julia Michaels	Рор	-10.086

This list is dominated by Billie Eilish, which might indicate her style of creating quite, slower songs, rather than upbeat fast, dancy songs (remember that the least danceable track was also from Billie Eilish). In the same sense as loud songs - these types of songs are distributed throughout the entire top 50 tracklist, which, again, indicates that loudness does not decide where your song will go in the top 50 track list.

Finally, let's look into the longest and the shortest tracks:

```
'genre',
'duration_minutes']]
```

The longest track:

artist Travis Scott
track_name SICKO MODE
genre Hip-Hop/Rap
duration_minutes 5.21

Name: 49, dtype: object

Other tracks that are longer than 3.70 minutes:

Out[]:		artist	album	album_type	track_name	ge
	Position					
	15	Drake	Dark Lane Demo Tapes	Multi-Song Album	Toosie Slide	Нір-Нор/
	17	Doja Cat	Hot Pink	Multi-Song Album	Say So	R&B/:
	19	Future	High Off Life	Multi-Song Album	Life Is Good (feat. Drake)	Нір-Нор/
	24	Billie Eilish	everything i wanted	Single	everything i wanted	
	33	BENEE	Hey u x	Multi-Song Album	Supalonely (feat. Gus Dapperton)	Alternative/Iı
	40	Travis Scott	Birds In The Trap Sing McKnight	Multi-Song Album	goosebumps	Нір-Нор/
	43	Bad Bunny	YHLQMDLG	Multi-Song Album	Safaera	Alternative/reggaeton/experime
	45	Juice WRLD	Goodbye & Good Riddance	Multi-Song Album	Lucid Dreams	
	46	Ariana Grande	Stuck with U	Multi-Song Album	Stuck with U (with Justin Bieber)	
	49	Travis Scott	ASTROWORLD	Multi-Song Album	SICKO MODE	Нір-Нор/
	4					•

The highest by position longest track is not placed in the top 15 of the Spotify top 50 tracks (The position variable is an index here, so it starts off counting from 0). This might be an indication that longer tracks are not preferred by the masses (in this case, longer tracks I mean based on the tracks that we have here, which are ~4 min or longer)

The shortest track:

artist 24kGoldn
track_name Mood (feat. iann dior)
genre Pop rap
duration_minutes 2.34

Name: 23, dtype: object

Other tracks that are shorter than 2.88 minutes:

ut[]:		artist	album	album_type	track_name	genre	duration_mir
	Position						
	8	Trevor Daniel	Nicotine	Multi-Song Album	Falling	R&B/Hip-Hop alternative	
	11	Arizona Zervas	ROXANNE	Single	ROXANNE	Hip-Hop/Rap	
	13	Lil Mosey	Certified Hitmaker	Multi-Song Album	Blueberry Faygo	Hip-Hop/Rap	
	20	Jawsh 685	Savage Love (Laxed - Siren Beat)	Single	Savage Love (Laxed - Siren Beat)	Hip-Hop/Rap	
	22	Topic	Breaking Me	Single	Breaking Me	Dance/Electronic	
	23	24kGoldn	Mood (feat. iann dior)	Single	Mood (feat. iann dior)	Pop rap	
	28	Surfaces	Where the Light Is	Multi-Song Album	Sunday Best	Electro-pop	
	37	Post Malone	Hollywood's Bleeding	Multi-Song Album	Sunflower - Spider- Man: Into the Spider- Verse	Dreampop/Hip- Hop/R&B	
	39	Regard	Ride It	Single	Ride It	Dance/Electronic	
	42	THE SCOTTS	THE SCOTTS	Single	THE SCOTTS	Hip-Hop/Rap	
	4)

Very short tracks are not preferred by the masses either as they only have 1 track in the top 10. This might mean that songs that are between \sim 3 to \sim 4 minutes are the most preferred.

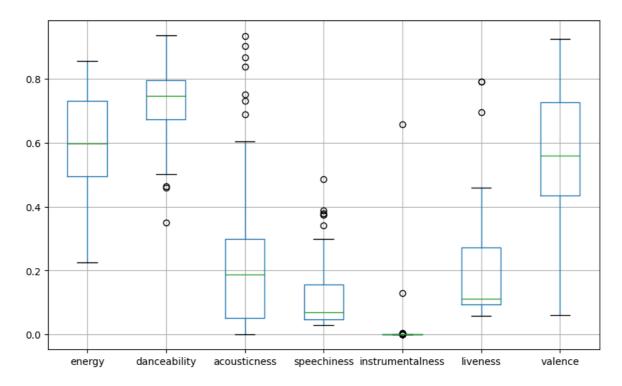
Let's just look at the songs that are in the medium quantiles (between 0.4 & 0.6)

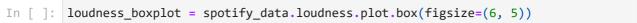
Tracks that are between 3.15 & 3.39 minutes:

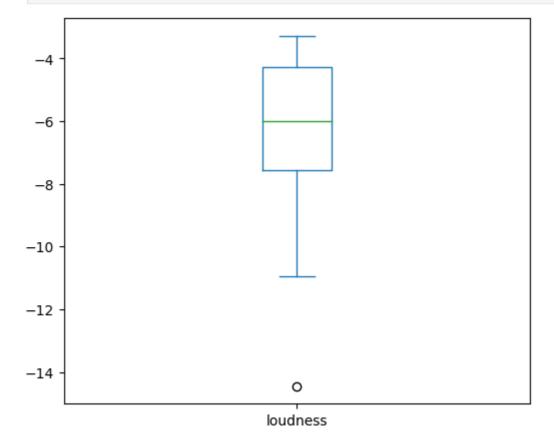
Out[]:		artist	album	album_type	track_name	genre	duration_minute
	Position						
	0	The Weeknd	After Hours	Multi-Song Album	Blinding Lights	R&B/Soul	3.3
	2	Roddy Ricch	Please Excuse Me For Being Antisocial	Multi-Song Album	The Box	Hip-Hop/Rap	3.2
	10	KAROL G	Tusa	Single	Tusa	Рор	3.3
	18	Maroon 5	Memories	Single	Memories	Рор	3.1
	25	Shawn Mendes	Shawn Mendes (Deluxe)	Multi-Song Album	Señorita	Рор	3.1
	26	Billie Eilish	WHEN WE ALL FALL ASLEEP, WHERE DO WE GO?	Multi-Song Album	bad guy	Electro-pop	3.2
	32	BTS	Dynamite (DayTime Version)	Multi-Song Album	Dynamite	Disco-pop	3.3
	38	Maluma	PAPI JUANCHO	Multi-Song Album	Hawái	Рор	3.3
	44	Billie Eilish	lovely (with Khalid)	Single	lovely (with Khalid)	Chamber pop	3.3
	48	Dua Lipa	Future Nostalgia	Multi-Song Album	Physical	Dance/Electronic	3.2
	1						•

Voilà! We even have the top song in this section.

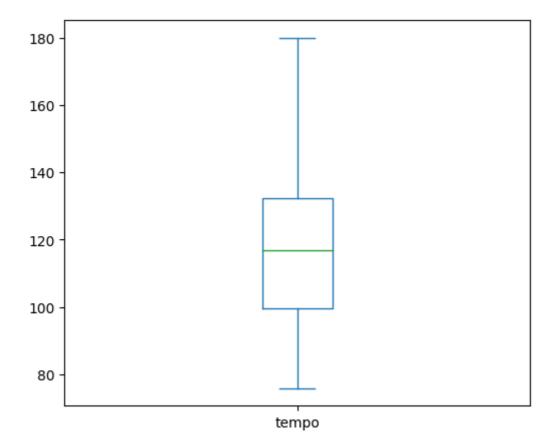
We can also see the distributions of these metrics with a Box and Whiskers plot







```
In [ ]: tempo_boxplot = spotify_data.tempo.plot.box(figsize=(6, 5))
```



There are some fascinating potential observations here:

- There are quite a lot of outliers in the acousticness section (points above the 3rd quartile), indicating this is not really a homogeneous variable between the tracks.
- Same can be said for the instrumentalness, but only for 2 tracks that pop up way above the others. All other tracks populate around 0.
- Most songs seem to high on the danceability, energy & valence metrics potential sign for good variables to identify popular songs.
- There is one very quiet song that is an outlier in the variable other tracks seem to be quite loud.
- We have a pretty wide spectrum of values for the tempo of the song.

More Technical Analysis

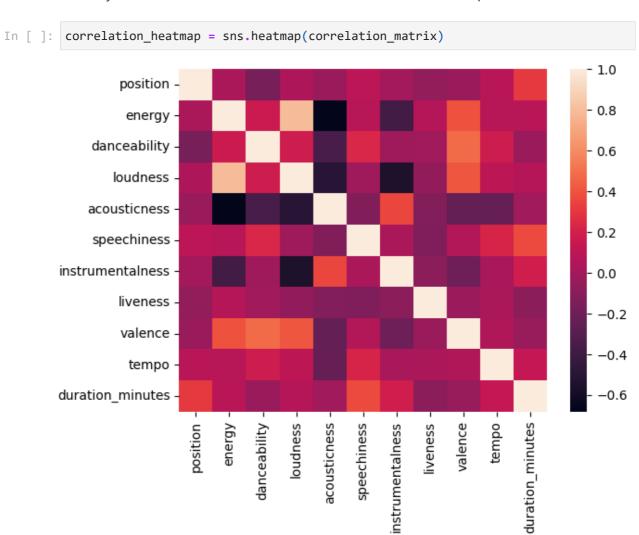
Let's delve into the Feature Analysis a bit deeper, shall we? First, let's look at which metrics correlate (positively and negatively) with each other

> correlation_matrix = spotify_data[numeric_variables].corr() correlation_matrix

Out[]: position energy danceability loudness acousticness speechines

	position	energy	danceability	iouulless	acoustichess	speecimie
position	1.000000	0.030381	-0.176321	0.034935	-0.036557	0.09579
energy	0.030381	1.000000	0.152552	0.791640	-0.682479	0.07426
danceability	-0.176321	0.152552	1.000000	0.167147	-0.359135	0.22614
loudness	0.034935	0.791640	0.167147	1.000000	-0.498695	-0.02169
acousticness	-0.036557	-0.682479	-0.359135	-0.498695	1.000000	-0.13539
speechiness	0.095790	0.074267	0.226148	-0.021693	-0.135392	1.00000
instrumentalness	-0.003126	-0.385515	-0.017706	-0.553735	0.352184	0.02894
liveness	-0.063216	0.069487	-0.006648	-0.069939	-0.128384	-0.14295
valence	-0.034159	0.393453	0.479953	0.406772	-0.243192	0.05386
tempo	0.081289	0.075191	0.168956	0.102097	-0.241119	0.21550
duration_minutes	0.309557	0.080290	-0.034681	0.063487	-0.009499	0.36716
4						•

Let's try and look at it with a more understandable view - a heatmap.



Mentionable Correlations

From this, it is quite clear that the correlations of note are:

```
    energy - acousticness (very negative)
```

- loudness acousticness (very negative)
- instrumentalness energy (negative)
- instrumentalness loudness (quite negative)
- loudness energy (very positive)
- valence danceability (positive)

Let's try to extract these high values (by filtering for abs values bigger than 0.5):

t[]:		position	energy	danceability	loudness	acousticness	speechiness
	position	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN
	energy	NaN	NaN	NaN	0.791640	-0.682479	NaN
	danceability	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN
	loudness	NaN	0.791640	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN
	acousticness	NaN	-0.682479	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN
	speechiness	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN
	instrumentalness	NaN	NaN	NaN	-0.553735	NaN	NaN
	liveness	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN
	valence	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN
	tempo	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN
	duration_minutes	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN
	4						•

There seems to be only one strong positive correlation between the feature variables, and that is between loudness and energy, with a Pearson correlation value of 0.791. As for strongly negatively correlated, there are only two note-worthy correlations: energy and acousticness are strongly negatively correlated - the more acoustic a song is, the less energy it has; the same thing can be said for instrumentalness and loudness - the more likely that the track was instrument-based, the less likely the song is loud. (This can also be interpreted as a positive correlation between instrumentalness and quiteness of the track)

However, which variables are not correlated?

Out[]:

	position	energy	danceability	loudness	acousticness	speechines
position	NaN	0.030381	NaN	0.034935	-0.036557	0.095790
energy	0.030381	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	0.07426
danceability	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN
loudness	0.034935	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	-0.021693
acousticness	-0.036557	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	-0.135392
speechiness	0.095790	0.074267	NaN	-0.021693	-0.135392	NaN
instrumentalness	-0.003126	NaN	-0.017706	NaN	NaN	0.02894
liveness	-0.063216	0.069487	-0.006648	-0.069939	-0.128384	-0.14295
valence	-0.034159	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	0.05386
tempo	0.081289	0.075191	NaN	0.102097	NaN	NaN
duration_minutes	NaN	0.080290	-0.034681	0.063487	-0.009499	Nal
4						•

Whilst going through each observation would be interesting, I want to highlight that the position variable is almost uncorrelated with any other variable, except for a small positive correlation with danceability. This means that there is at least a small relationship between the fact that songs higher up in the list are more danceable.

What about the danceability between main genres (along with other variables):

10/6/23, 1:21 AM

	position			energy	da	nceability	nceability loud		
	count	mean	count	mean	count	mean	count	mean	coı
Рор	15	28.466667	15	0.598933	15	0.678733	15	-6.262800	
Нір-Нор	14	23.500000	14	0.573429	14	0.777643	14	-6.960071	
Rap	13	23.153846	13	0.582615	13	0.765538	13	-6.917846	
Alternative	5	21.400000	5	0.606600	5	0.650800	5	-5.151600	
Dance	5	30.200000	5	0.762000	5	0.755000	5	-5.338000	
Electronic	5	30.200000	5	0.762000	5	0.755000	5	-5.338000	
Indie	4	15.750000	4	0.551000	4	0.661750	4	-5.421000	
R&B	3	9.333333	3	0.611000	3	0.695000	3	-6.422333	
Electro- pop	2	28.000000	2	0.475000	2	0.789500	2	-8.898500	
Soul	2	9.500000	2	0.701500	2	0.650500	2	-5.255500	
Nu-disco	1	5.000000	1	0.793000	1	0.793000	1	-4.521000	
Pop rap	1	24.000000	1	0.722000	1	0.700000	1	-3.558000	
Chamber pop	1	45.000000	1	0.296000	1	0.351000	1	-10.109000	
Disco	1	32.000000	1	0.729000	1	0.730000	1	-3.434000	
Dreampop	1	38.000000	1	0.522000	1	0.755000	1	-4.368000	
Нір-Нор	1	38.000000	1	0.522000	1	0.755000	1	-4.368000	
Hip-Hop alternative	1	9.000000	1	0.430000	1	0.784000	1	-8.756000	
Disco-pop	1	33.000000	1	0.765000	1	0.746000	1	-4.410000	
Dance-pop	1	32.000000	1	0.729000	1	0.730000	1	-3.434000	
Soft Rock	1	13.000000	1	0.762000	1	0.695000	1	-3.497000	
Trap	1	28.000000	1	0.454000	1	0.935000	1	-7.509000	
reggaeton	1	44.000000	1	0.829000	1	0.607000	1	-4.074000	
4									•

Observations

Some values to point out:

- There is not that much variance in the energy variable only chamber-pop seems to have significantly lower energy compared to other genres, that average around 0.5 0.7.
- Danceability has two standouts Trap (with a danceability of 0.935) & Chamber-pop (with a danceability of 0.351) on both sides of the spectrum.

Although, each of these genres have only 1 song in the top 50 list. So maybe should not be read into as much. It does seem that majority of genres peter out at ~0.7, which could be thought of as an indicator that songs, at least according to this list, have to be at least 0.6 in the danceability department.

- There is a lot of variability in loudness between all genres. However, the genres that have the highest amount of tracks in the top 50 (Rap, Pop & Hip-Hop) all average out at around 6.2-6.9. Although, we should take into account that stylistically, these three genres have a lot in common.
- The acousticness metric is dominated by the Indie, Alternative,

 Chamber-Pop & Dream-Pop genres, which stylistically have more acoustic instruments performances (e.g. Piano, Classical Guitar)
- Almost all genres have instrumentalness as 0, which indicates that all popular songs have to have vocals.
- The liveness value is quite low for all genres. This reflects reality since most songs that go wildly popular are studio-recorded albums or singles rather than in the presence of a live audience. This is done to provide the best possible audio quality for the song/artist to shine.
- Interestingly, the valence value for all genres is quite high 14 out of 21 unique genres have positive average valences. This indicates that for a song to be very popular, it *mostly* has to be positive, rather than negative, which means a value of more than 0.50. At least according to the 2020 Spotify Top 50 Track list.
- As for the tempo value, most genres, atleast a tempo of 100 beats/minute, barring some exceptions, e.g. Dreampop, Pop Rap, Reggaeton, which all have 1 song in each genre. Based on the fact that we have 37 songs that have a tempo of at least 100 out of the 50 and 11 out of the top 15 songs in the 100 beats/minute club, we could interpolate, that for a song to be popular it **mostly** has to be above 100 beats/minute. But not necessarily that faster songs perform better, in general (since there are exceptions to this as shown below).

P.s.: The top 10 songs' features are displayed above for further context

```
In [ ]: print("The top 10 songs features: ")
    spotify_data[numeric_variables].head(15)
```

The top 10 songs features:

Out[]:		position	energy	danceability	loudness	acousticness	speechiness	instrumer
	Position							
	0	1	0.730	0.514	-5.934	0.00146	0.0598	0
	1	2	0.593	0.825	-6.401	0.68800	0.0988	0
	2	3	0.586	0.896	-6.687	0.10400	0.0559	0
	3	4	0.721	0.785	-5.457	0.01490	0.0506	0
	4	5	0.793	0.793	-4.521	0.01230	0.0830	0
	5	6	0.690	0.746	-7.956	0.24700	0.1640	0
	6	7	0.816	0.548	-4.209	0.12200	0.0465	0
	7	8	0.431	0.726	-8.765	0.73100	0.1350	0
	8	9	0.430	0.784	-8.756	0.12300	0.0364	0
	9	10	0.405	0.501	-5.679	0.75100	0.0319	0
	10	11	0.715	0.803	-3.280	0.29500	0.2980	0
	11	12	0.601	0.621	-5.616	0.05220	0.1480	0
	12	13	0.762	0.695	-3.497	0.19200	0.0395	0
	13	14	0.554	0.774	-7.909	0.20700	0.0383	0
	14	15	0.546	0.806	-6.637	0.30000	0.0575	0
	4							•

Now, that we have identified that danceability, valence & tempo (+ energy & duration_minutes from the Mentionable Correlations) are somewhat good predictors on whether a song is going to be popular, let's look at which songs have these indicators and their positions in the final ranking.

There are 14 tracks that match this description:

Out[]: artist album track_name feature main_genre

Positio	n				
	Roddy Ricch	Please Excuse Me For Being Antisocial	The Box	NaN	Нір-Нор
	SAINt JHN	Roses (Imanbek Remix)	Roses - Imanbek Remix	NaN	Dance
	4 Dua Lipa	Future Nostalgia	Don't Start Now	NaN	Nu-disco
1	0 KAROL G	Tusa	Tusa	NaN	Рор
1	Post Malone	Hollywood's Bleeding	Circles	NaN	Рор
1	Justin Bieber	Changes	Intentions (feat. Quavo)	Quavo	Рор
2	Shawn Mendes	Shawn Mendes (Deluxe)	Señorita	NaN	Рор
2	6 Billie Eilish	WHEN WE ALL FALL ASLEEP, WHERE DO WE GO?	bad guy	NaN	Electro-pop
2	9 Eminem	Music To Be Murdered By	Godzilla (feat. Juice WRLD)	Juice WRLD	Нір-Нор
3	2 BTS	Dynamite (DayTime Version)	Dynamite	NaN	Disco-pop
3	Lady Gaga	Chromatica	Rain On Me (with Ariana Grande)	Ariana Grande	Рор
3	8 Maluma	PAPI JUANCHO	Hawái	NaN	Рор
4	Black Eyed Peas	Translation	RITMO (Bad Boys For Life)	NaN	Рор
4	8 Dua Lipa	Future Nostalgia	Physical	NaN	Dance

Whilst these filters are not the best at identifying the most popular songs (we only got 14 out of the 50 songs in the track list & 6 out of the top 15 tracks), I think it reflects two things: the generalization of these metrics and their inability to portray what certain features the track has (e.g. what if it's a new song - released in November 2020? - it might not have had enough time to reach the amount of streams needed to crack the top 50, but it would be wildly popular towards the end of the year (a momentum metric)) & the somewhat difficult nature of the study object. By the latter, I mean that we are studying art with numbers, which is not the easiest to do and since art is more about emotion, feel and relatability, it is difficult to quantify what songs may be hits and which are duds.

Further analysis - what can be improved?

• We need a bit more metrics per track:

- One of them I already presented the momentum metric.
- The composition of a song what is the ramp up to the song (was it a slow-burner or right in your face from the start?), how many drops did it have?
- The relatability/contemporarity of the song does it talk about current issues/topics people can relate to? (e.g. for the American audience Alright by Kendrick Lamar and it's relatedness with the BLM movement)
- The award boolean variable whether the song has won any awards (e.g. Grammy)
- In a similar sence, the featured_in_movie metric was the song coming from/was a collaboration for a movie. (e.g. the "Spiderman Across the Spiderverse" had a special album created for it)
- The average_critics_review metric, which would feature the average score that prominent critics gave the track.