

K-Means Clustering for Music Recommendations

Name: Kenneth Gutierrez King
Project Track: Machine Learning
Major: Data Analytics

Introduction

The growth of digital music makes discovering new songs increasingly difficult. Music streaming platforms use machine learning to group songs and generate personalized recommendations. This project leverages Spotify audio features, such as energy, valence, and danceability, to cluster songs with similar characteristics and provide content-based recommendations.

Objective

The project aims to build a recommendation system that suggests songs based on their musical attributes. Using K-Means clustering on Spotify audio features, the system identifies groups of similar tracks. Users can input a song and artist to receive recommendations, optionally filtered by popularity.

Streamlit App:

<https://spotifymlproject.streamlit.app/>



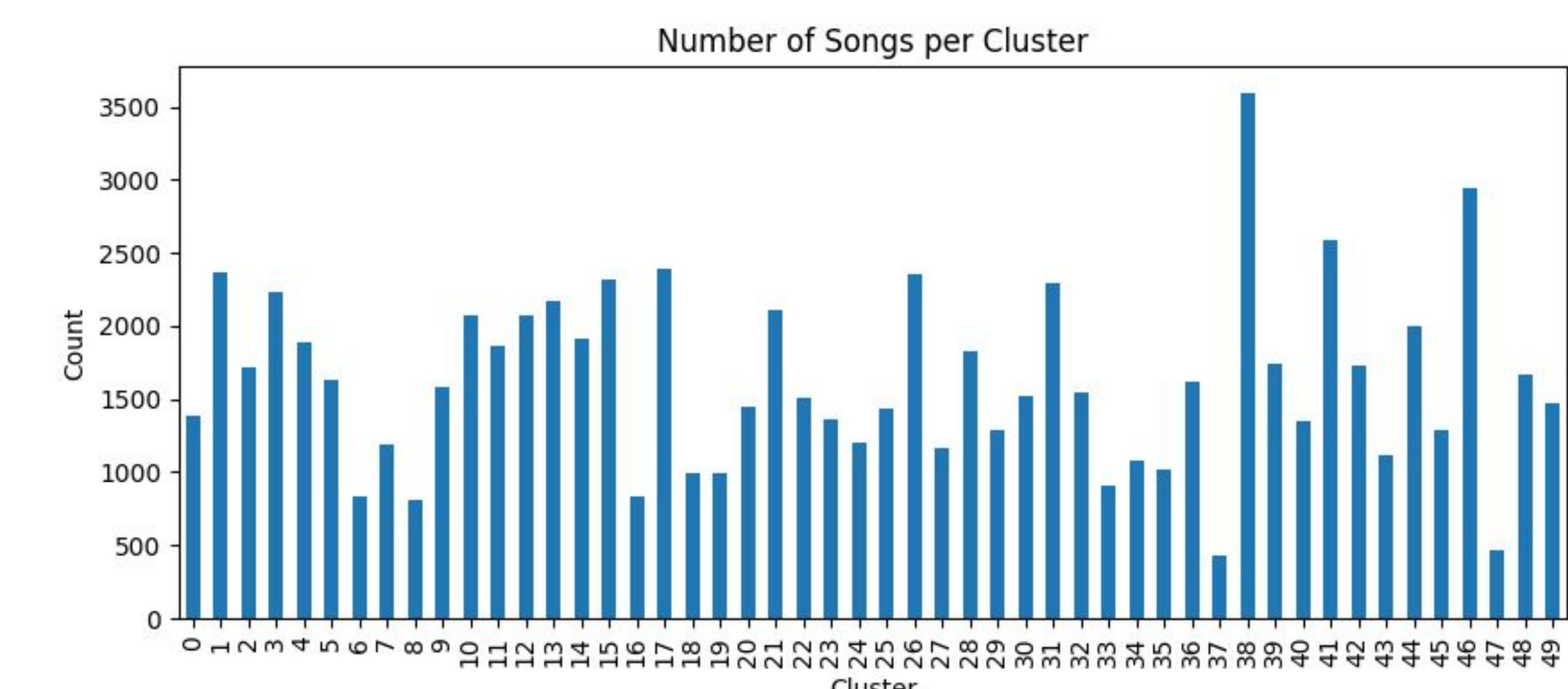
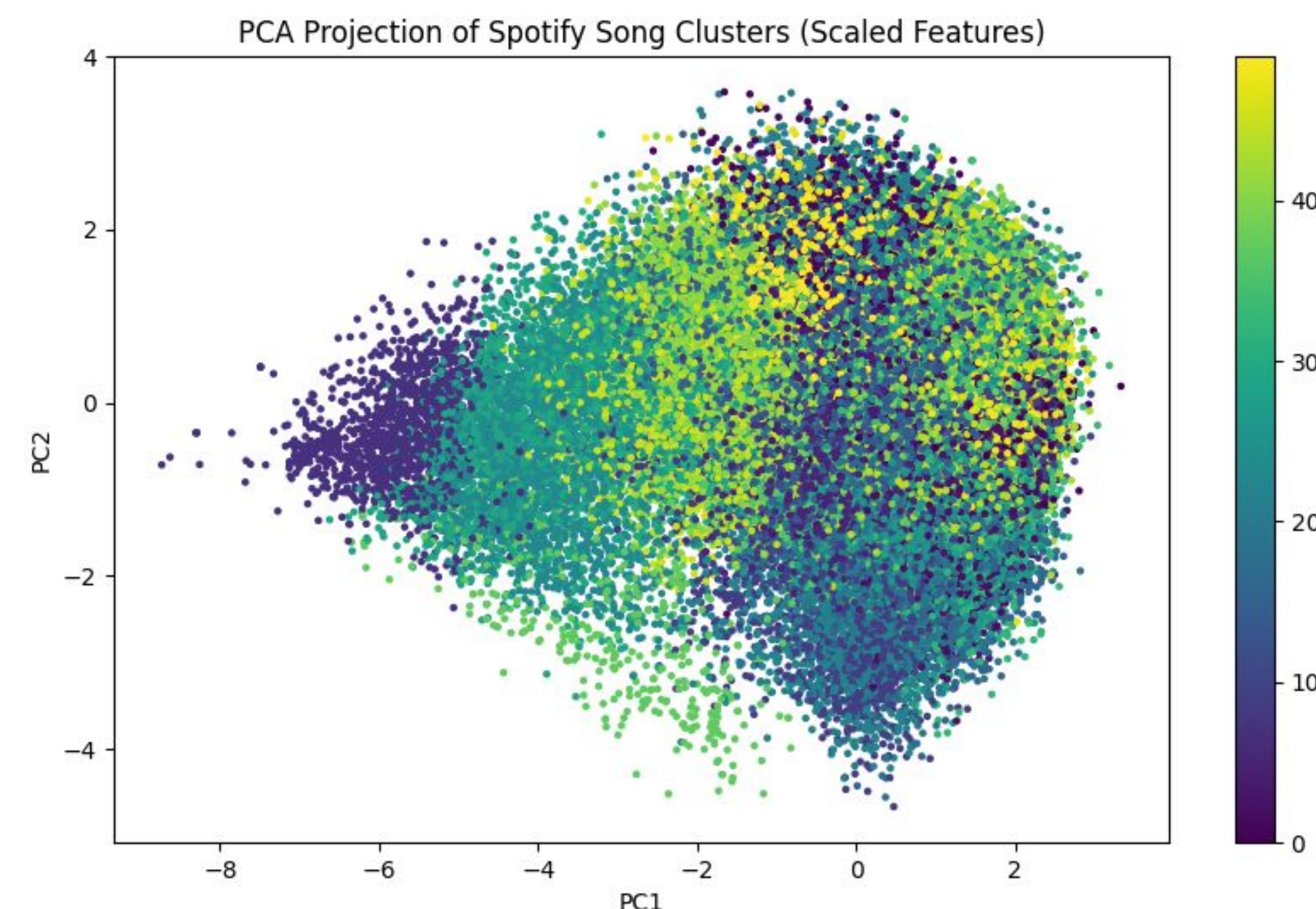
Methodology:

Dataset

Spotify API data from Kaggle containing song metadata (title, artist, album) and audio features (danceability, energy, valence, etc.) used for clustering and recommendations

Modeling

Songs were grouped using K-Means clustering based on audio features such as energy, valence, and danceability. To balance detail and interpretability, 50 clusters were selected. A PCA scatter plot was used to visualize songs in 2D space, while a heatmap of cluster centroids summarized the average characteristics of each cluster. Recommendations for a given song are generated by selecting songs within the same cluster that are closest in Euclidean distance in the feature space, ensuring more similar and relevant suggestions.



Tools used

- Python: programming language
- Pandas/NumPy: data handling
- Scikit-learn: clustering & PCA
- Joblib: save/load models
- Matplotlib/Seaborn: visualizations
- Streamlit: interactive dashboard

Results:

A content-based music recommendation system was built using K-Means clustering on Spotify audio features. The model groups songs with similar musical characteristics, allowing users to receive personalized recommendations by selecting a song and artist. The system demonstrates how unsupervised learning can organize music and suggest tracks that match user preferences.

Sources and Links:

Kaggle Dataset:

<https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/priyamchoksi spotify-dataset-114k-songs>

My LinkedIn:

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/kennethgutierrezking>