

Does the diversity of a country's music preferences say anything about its 'democraticness'?

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Data Sources

- ▶ Music diversity: Number of 'popular' genres in a country-year, extrapolated from *"Weekly Top 200 songs on Spotify by country from 2021 to 2022"*: Uploaded by "Yelexa" on "Kaggle"
- ▶ Democracy Index (Economist Intelligence Unit): Ranges from 0 (least democratic) to 10 (most)
- ▶ Youth dependency ratio (World Bank): People younger than 15, measured as a percentage of the working-age population (those ages 15-64).

Controls:

- ▶ GDP per capita (World Bank): Measured in current US\$

Clusters:

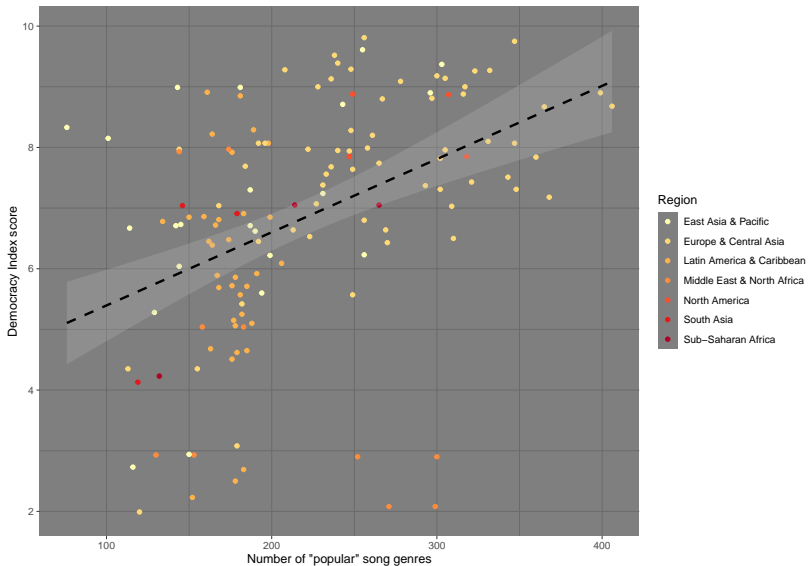
- ▶ Countries categorized into 7 Regions as defined in the World Bank Development Indicators

Hypothesis and Model

H: Countries with more diverse music preferences, on average, have higher democracy index scores, conditional on a youth dependency ratio above the global median.

$$DemIndex_{it} = \alpha + \beta_1 NumGenres_{it} + \beta_2 GDPPC_{it} + \beta_3 YouthDepRatio_{it} + \beta_4 (NumGenres_{it} * YouthDepRatio_{it}) + \delta \tilde{X} + \varepsilon_{it}$$

Summary stats



Results

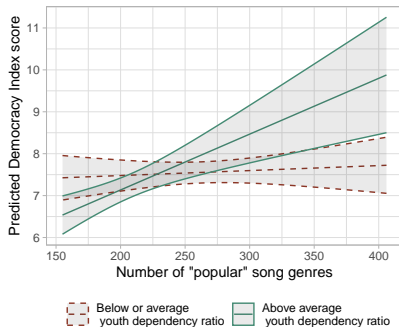
Table 1: Core results

		Democracy Index score			
		OLS	felm		
Number of song genres	0.012*** (0.002)	0.005** (0.002)	0.001 (0.002)	0.001 (0.002)	0.001 (0.002)
Youth dependency ratio		-4.449*** (0.971)	-2.769*** (0.875)	-2.620** (1.110)	-2.620** (0.922)
Genres * Youth dependency ratio		0.019*** (0.004)	0.012*** (0.004)	0.012*** (0.005)	0.012*** (0.002)
Constant	4.555*** (0.443)	6.572*** (0.650)	6.437*** (0.570)		
Controlled for confounders	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Region Fixed Effects	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Region-level clustered S.E.	No	No	No	No	Yes
N	110	110	109	109	109
Adj. R-squared	0.281	0.389	0.550	0.535	0.535

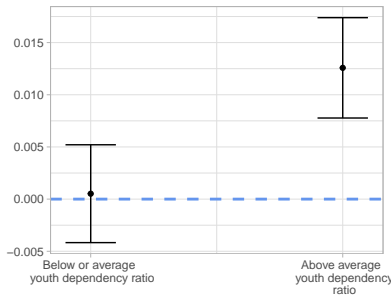
*** p < .01; ** p < .05; * p < .1

Plots

Prediction Plot
(lm model)



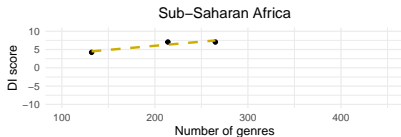
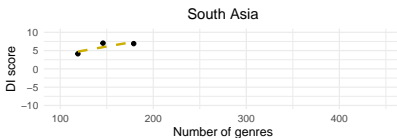
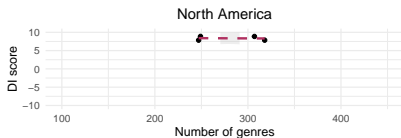
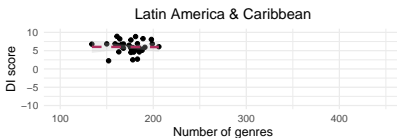
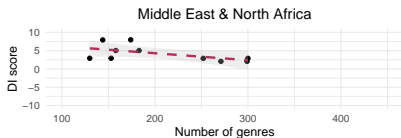
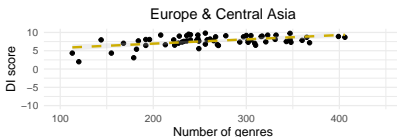
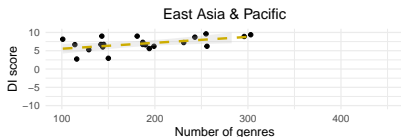
Marginal effect of music diversity on
democracy index
(felm+c.s.e. model)



References

- Yelexa. "Spotify Weekly Top 200 Songs Streaming Data." *Kaggle*, July 25, 2022. <https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/yelexa/spotify200>.
- "Democracy Index 2021: The China Challenge." *Economist Intelligence Unit*, September 28, 2023. <https://www.eiu.com/n/campaigns/democracy-index-2021/>.
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- "Individuals Using the Internet (Percentage of Population)." *World Bank Open Data*. Accessed December 12, 2023. <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/IT.NET.USER.ZS>.
- "GDP per Capita (Current US Dollars)." *World Bank Open Data*. Accessed December 12, 2023. <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.PCAP.CD>.

Extra: Summary Stats by region



Extra: Why median as cutoff for interaction term?

