New York Philharmonic Performance History Dashboard
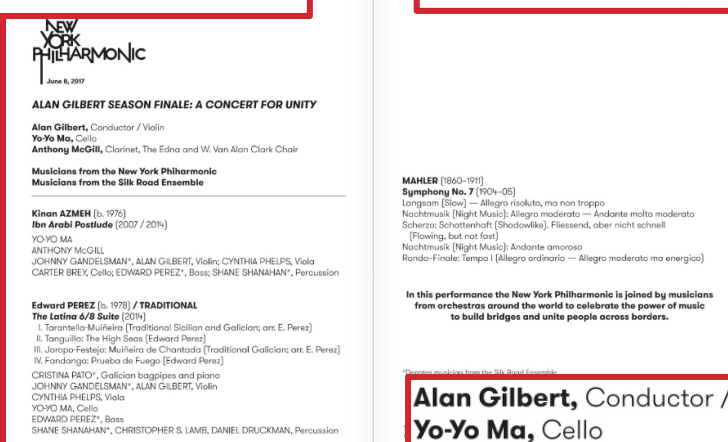
Interactive, web-based visualization of the history of each piece of music performed by the NY Phil

Time & Date

Thursday, June 8, 2017, 7:30 p.m.
16,259th Concert

Venue

David Geffen Hall at Lincoln Center
Home of the New York Philharmonic

MAHLER (1860–1911)
Symphony No. 7 (1904–05)

Works/composers

Alan Gilbert, Conductor / Violin
Yo-Yo Ma, Cello
Anthony McGill, Clarinet
The Edna and W. Van Alan Clark Chair

Musicians from the New York Philharmonic
Musicians from the Silk Road Ensemble

Conductor & Soloists

Significance & Audience

- Publicity
  - Encourages interaction from the public

- Business
  - Help the NY Phil plan diverse repertoire while maintining high concert attendance

- Culture
  - Helps musicologists and historians identify relationships between works over time
  - Reveals and quantifies representation of composers over time

https://github.com/nyphilarchive/PerformanceHistory
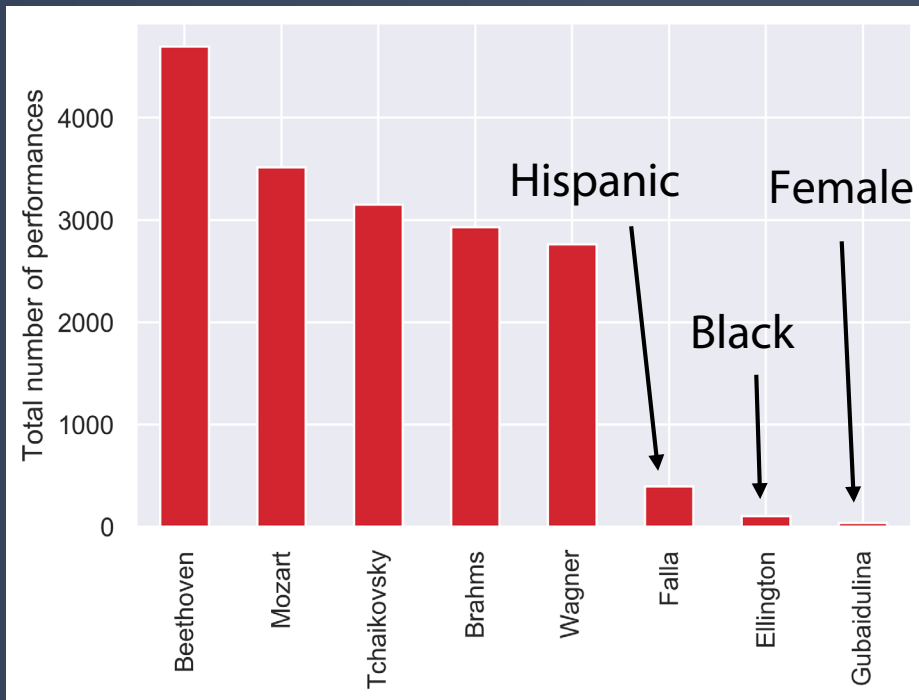https://archives.nyphil.org/performancehistory/
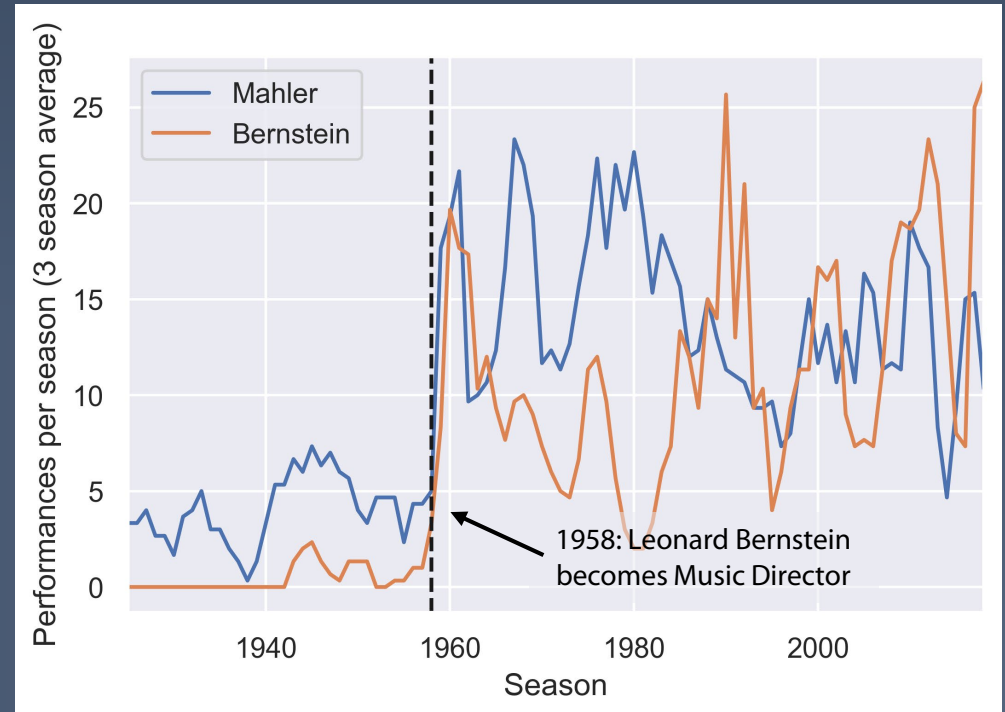(Season) attendance manually extracted from annual reports

What kind of information can we obtain?

Most performed composers

Most performed minority composers

As conductor, Leonard Bernstein popularized the works of Mahler… alongside his own

Does the orchestra need to program "safe" repertoire?

Define "traditionalism" metric:
- Average "popularity" of composers represented on a program
- "Popularity" = log(total number of performances)

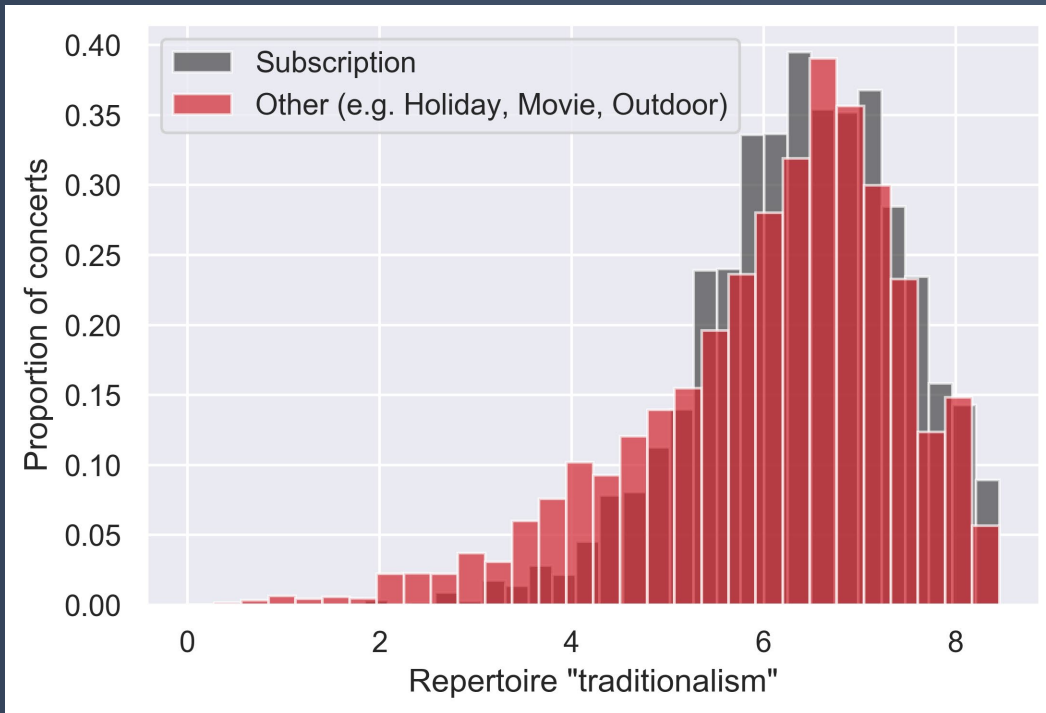<u>"Traditional" program</u>
- Beethoven – Piano Concerto No. 4
- Brahms – Symphony No. 1
- …

<u>"Non-traditional" program</u>
- Ellington – Black, Brown, & Beige Suite
- de Falla – El Amor Brujo
- …

Subscription concerts are more uniformly "traditional"

No correlation between "traditionalism" and attendance for each season

$r^2 = 4.2 \times 10^{-4}$
$p = 0.9$