



Spotify Skip Predictions

Data Analysis and Skip Predictor Model

Keep users on the app by limiting skips





About Me



Rachael McCue

Data Scientist

B.S. International Business
Customer Support
Non-Profits
F&B

Genres of choice:
Techno, D&B, Punk,
Psych/Indie Rock, Rap



Agenda

01

**Business
Understanding**

02

**Data Overview
& Analysis**

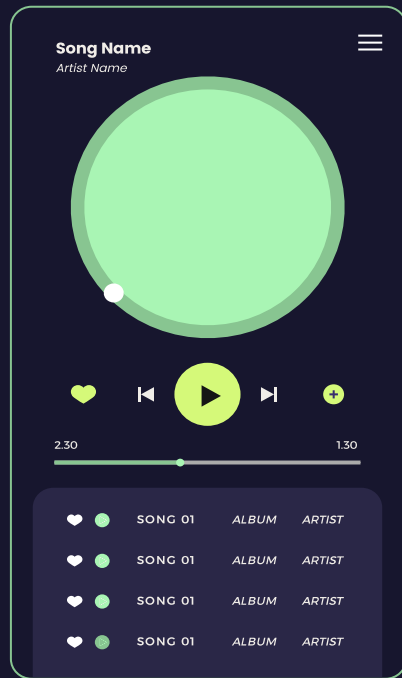
03

**Introduce
models**

04

**Recommendations
and future insights**

**More than half of
songs in a listening
session are skipped in
the first 30 seconds.**





PLAYLIST

01

*Business
Understanding*

02

***Data
Analysis***

03

Model

04

*Looking
Ahead*



Data Overview



PLAYLIST

01

*Business
Understanding*

02

**Data
Analysis**

03

Model

04

*Looking
Ahead*



Data Overview

WSDM, Spotify, AiCrowd – 2018

10k listening sessions, 10–20 songs each

User behavior and environment

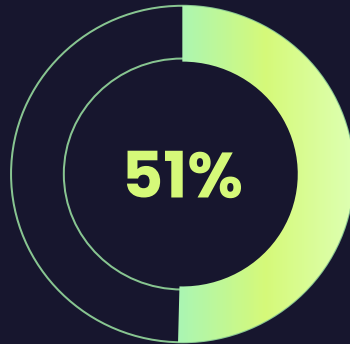
Track information

Limitations

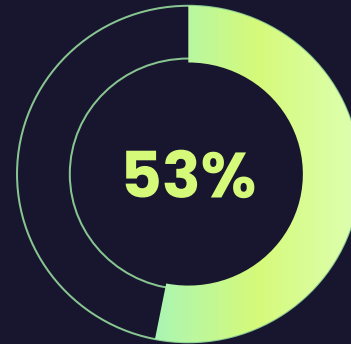
Premium and Free users skip close to the same amount



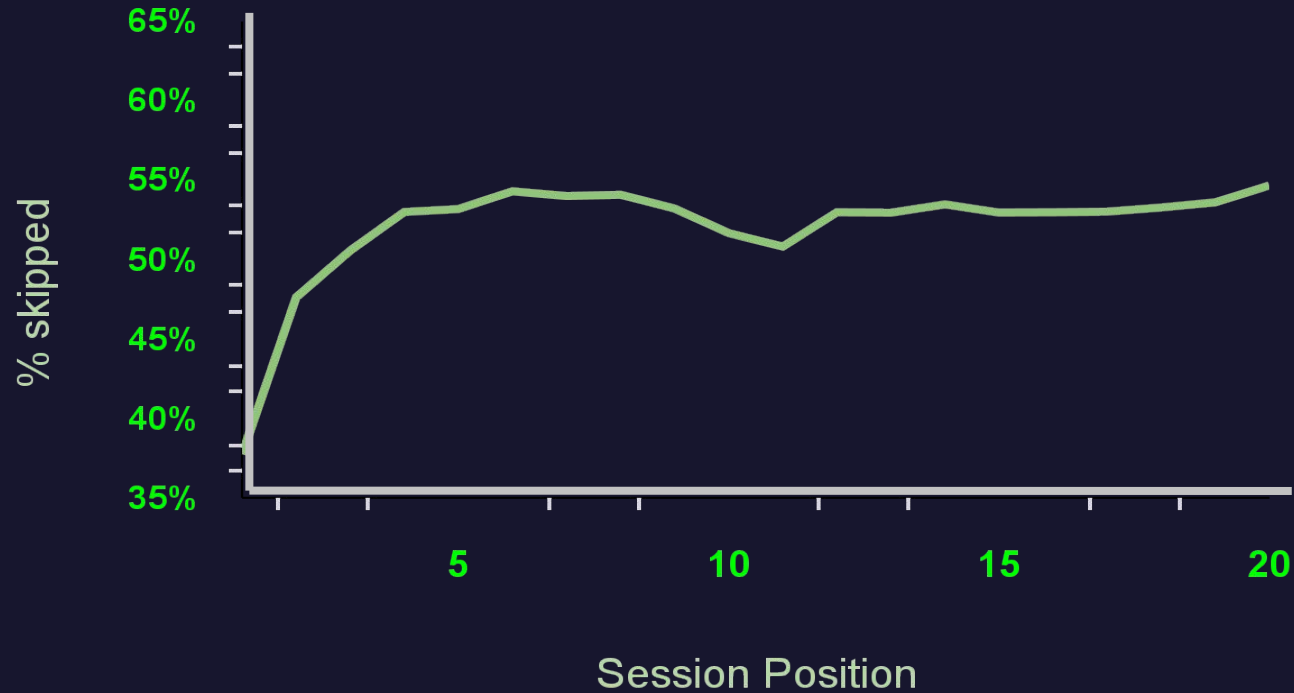
Premium



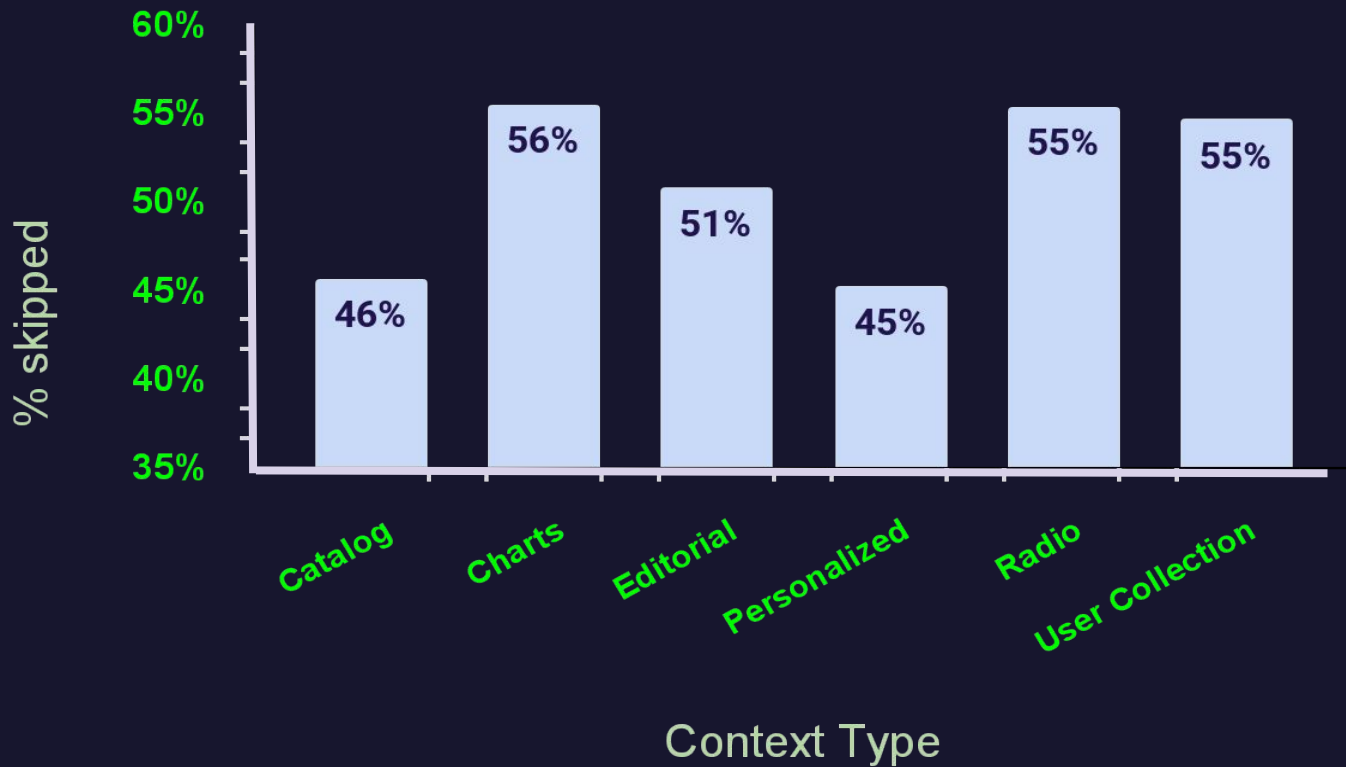
Free



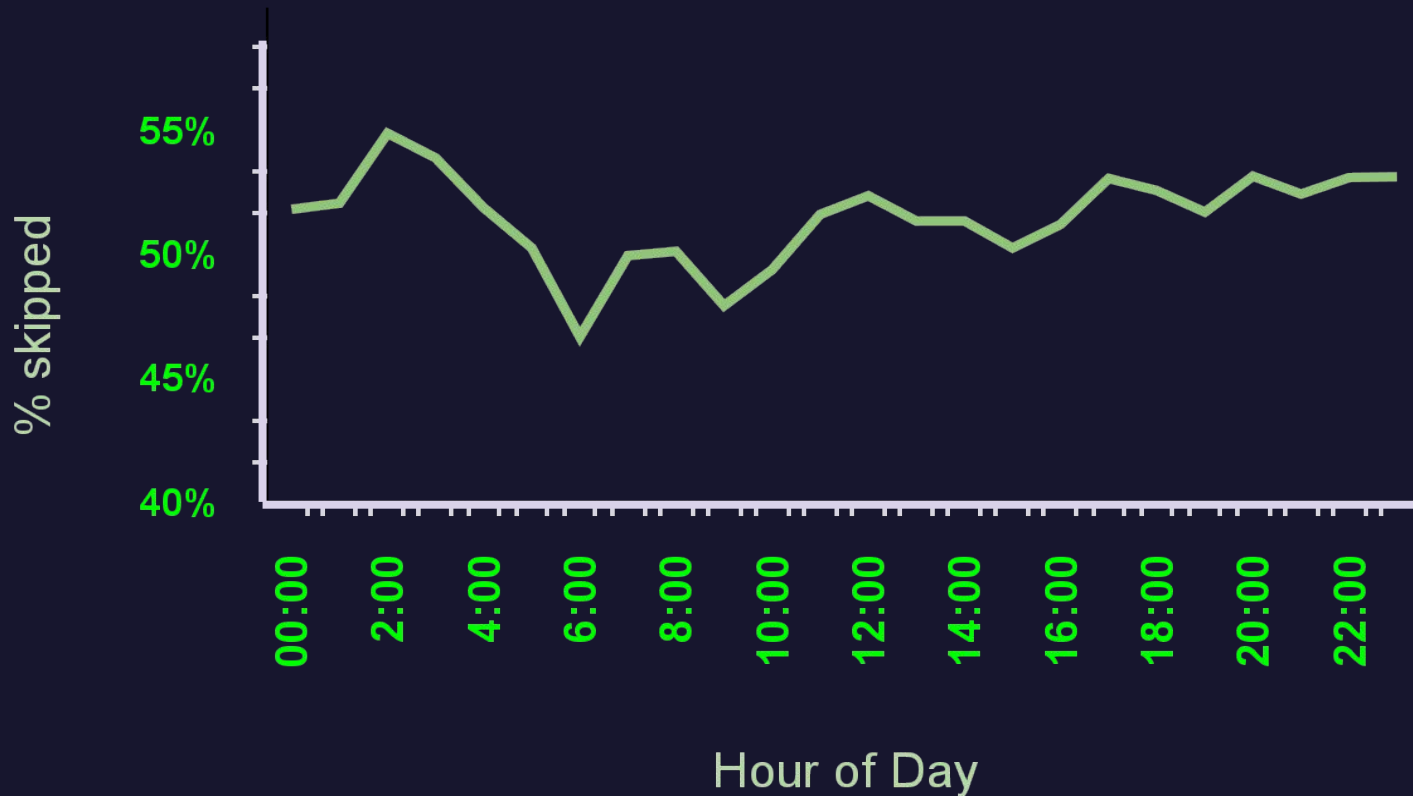
Skips increase as session lengthens



Radio and Chart playlists are skipped the most



Fewer skips in the morning





PLAYLIST

01

*Business
Understanding*

02

*Data
Analysis*

03

Model

04

*Looking
Ahead*



Skip Predictor Model



PLAYLIST

01

*Business
Understanding*

02

*Data
Analysis*

03

Model

04

*Looking
Ahead*



01

Binary Classifier



PLAYLIST

01

*Business
Understanding*

02

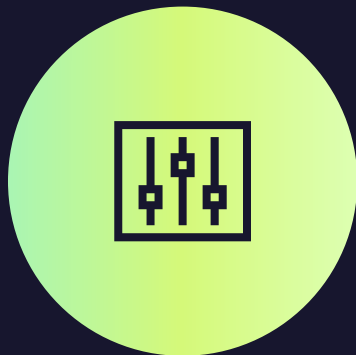
*Data
Analysis*

03

Model

04

*Looking
Ahead*



Binary Classifier

Accuracy Score – **56%**

F1 Score – **61%**

Did well on unseen data

General skipping behavior,
no musical features, ignores
sequencing



PLAYLIST

01

*Business
Understanding*

02

*Data
Analysis*

03

Model

04

*Looking
Ahead*



02

Neural Net



Neural net explained





PLAYLIST

01

*Business
Understanding*

02

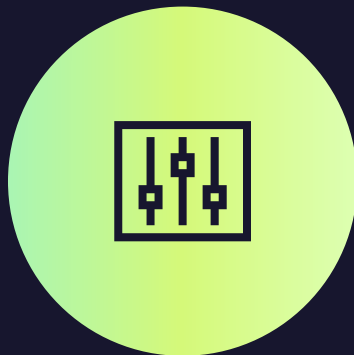
*Data
Analysis*

03

Model

04

*Looking
Ahead*



Neural Net

Accuracy Score - **70%**
F1 Score - **61%**

Less robust than Binary
Classifier on unseen data

Uses mostly all features

Model is designed for
sequential data



PLAYLIST

01

*Business
Understanding*

02

*Data
Analysis*

03

Model

04

***Looking
Ahead***



Breakdown



**AM sessions and Morning hours
have higher skips**



**Skip behavior is robust to type
of account**



**Deliver more appropriate content to the
user based on recent activity and their
mood**



PLAYLIST

01

*Business
Understanding*

02

*Data
Analysis*

03

Model

04

***Looking
Ahead***



Next Steps...



**Multiclass
Classifier**



**Genre &
Podcasts**



Thank you

Any questions?

<https://github.com/rachaelmmccue/Spotify-Sequential-Skip-Prediction>