Stat 231 PUG –

Hey guys – so over the past week or so, I’ve had the opportunity to work on my PUG project and blog which is dealing with global musical trends and characteristics over a variety of years and incorporating various continents and countries.

My goal behind creating this blog was to have an easily accessible page for your average person to gain some information behind music globally as it’s grown over the years, in addition to how different variables play a role in characterizing music from various locations.

The main inspiration and motivation in me choosing this topic came down to my love of music. I couldn’t really think of a time where I was doing anything and not listening. It really sparked my curiosity and I found this as a perfect opportunity to not only into find some insights into what genres are most popular around me, but what people globally have been listening throughout time and maybe generate some insights into what the next up and coming genre or music will take over the industry.

I utilized primarily two datasets which I gathered from Kaggle – the world’s largest data science community allowing users to find, publish, explore, and much more with data. I’ve included the links to both as you can see if anyone would like to look at where I gathered my information from. They both are from Spotify and Billboards records – having one dealing with top 50 songs by country and the other dealing with top songs from a select time frame globally. Both incorporate the same 13 variables which I will discuss later on.

So now that I’ve given some quick backing into the hope of this blog as well and my reasoning in perusing this topic – I’ll move on to give a quick overview of what I’ve included and some findings also. If anyone has any questions – feel free to chime in during the video and I’ll be glad to pause and provide an answer as best and I can, or any questions following the video is fine also

Hope you guys enjoy!

To start – I’ve provided three quick visualizations. A table and 2 bar graphs which you’ll be able to go into further detail, as I’ll show as we progress. I included them to spark some thought by readers and viewers who are glancing to hopefully jot some curiosity to sway them to continue through the blog and delve deeper with the available datasets and accompanied variables.

The table gives a quick summary of the top 10 genres globally by song count of included locations, where you can see adult standards leading, and a multitude of variations of pop genres as well. I think it’s pretty interesting how only 3 of the top 10 global genres don’t include some sort of pop variation which emphasizes the vast popularity of that genre globally.

I included below some simple definitions of the less commonly known genres in the table because I know many are new and unfamiliar to some readers and viewers.

Moving on to the next visuals – I plotted two graphs comparing the top 5 global genres prior and following the year of 2000 to quickly showcase some changes as time progress. As you can see – many from the prior graph still are present in the post graph but the variability and distribution have changed indicated some slight differences as time as moved on. Also – new genres have appeared as well like Canadian pop - showing that people globally are beginning to change what they are listening to. From this – it seems pop music variations have withstood the test of time and are here to stay for the foreseeable future.

Next – I included a interactive shiny app which allow users to either explore and showcase through 2 options, a histogram and scatterplot which explores the relationship between the 13 variables I’ve included and listed below in relation to popularity which can all be filter based on different country locations.

In terms of the histogram – I found a lot of interesting insights, but something I would like to highlight quickly is that the highest proportion of speechiness – as the variable is listed come from Chile which I would have never guessed given many of the songs in the that location incorporate heavy instrumenting that usually lacks spoken words

Pertaining to the scatterplot, although I wasn’t able to find a concrete relationship between the variables – I still think interesting information can be found as users play around and filter and select different options.

Lastly, I created a spatial map of the danceability of songs by country globally and as you can see – South America has the highest proportion which make sense given that a lot of the music there includes fast beats and lively feelings associated.

I’m not sure if time will allow – but I included 3 really cool links to some videos I found which give not only give an audio of different musical genres progression over time, but actually include the visual mashups of each musical video to see how we – globally have come with producing music and accompanying videos. If you have a chance – I would highly recommend you give at least one a watch. 40 years of Rap is my favorite if anyone is wondering.

To conclude – I just to state some interesting findings as well as limitations to my blog. As stated, – if you’re looking to dance, South America is the place to be and you can see which countries in particular with the map above. I would highly suggest bringing earbuds if you plan on listing to music in India, Australia or Argentina given they on average have some of the largest decibel’s values. And finally – good and positive music vibes can be found in some of the same locations as the top danceability countries which is of no surprise.

I quickly want to touch on some limitations of this project – as you clearly can see in the spatial map, many locations are grey in particular Africa and Asia which heavily limited generating conclusions and moving forth – find a more holistic data set which includes more data for all countries or adding to the current dataset will allow for better insights to be gathered.

That’s all I have on my end – I hope you guys enjoyed!