The Rise of K-Pop (Alpha Release)

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Github repo: https://github.com/sumxu96/rise-of-kpop
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Overview

Korean popular music, commonly known as “K-pop”, has taken the world by storm in recent years. Not only is K-pop popular in South Korea and the rest of Asia, it has also made waves in the Western world. As someone who enjoys listening to k-pop, I want to give a bit of history behind the rise of this global phenomenon through visualizations.

Features Completed So Far

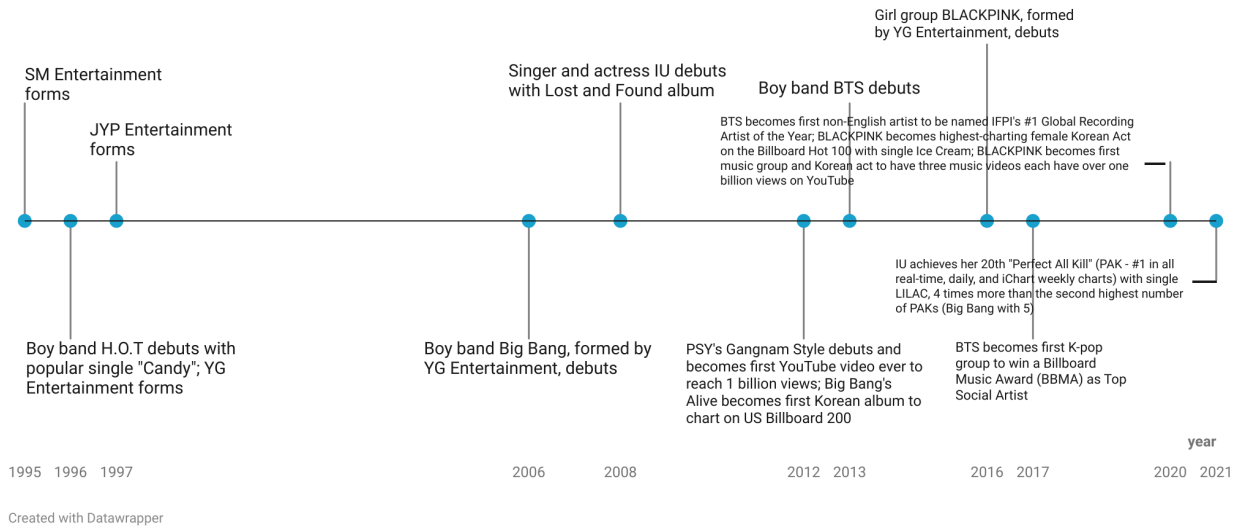
- Completed a basic timeline visualization of significant events
- Completed a bar chart of the boy band H.O.T.’s album sales
- Completed a treemap visualization of boy band BTS hashtags in 2020

Upcoming Milestones

- Create these visualizations in d3.js for more flexibility/customization
- Begin writing “story” and compiling images for scrollytelling purposes
- Finish basic implementations of charts on other pages

Visualizations

Timeline of Significant Events



Color:

Simple blue dots for this timeline seems sufficient. More colors could be used, but I have not thought of how I can incorporate further colors in this chart.

Data Density/Data to ink Ratio:

In terms of data points, there is a good number of events shown. However, there are some very large text blocks within a small space. To improve this without losing information, I can incorporate tooltips and “hide” these text blocks until they are hovered over.

Design/Aesthetics:

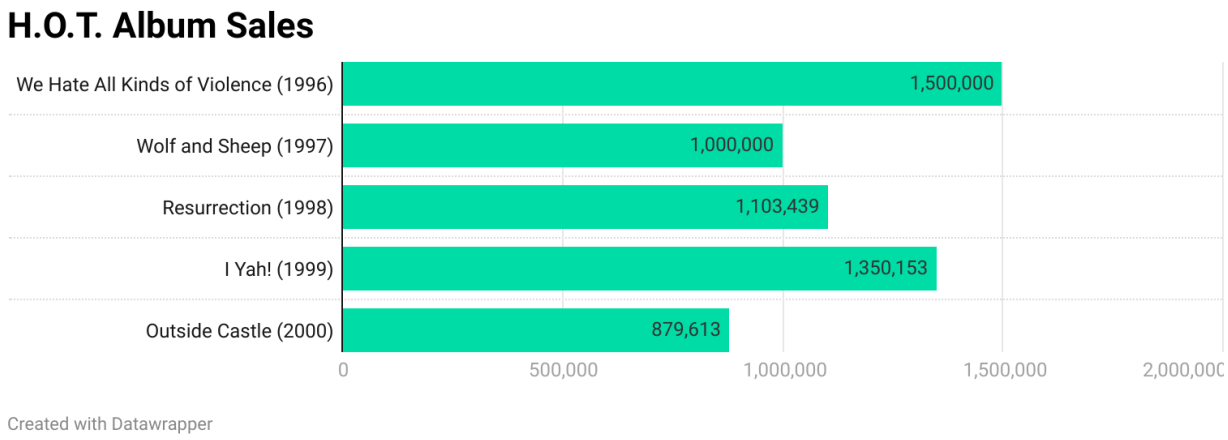
The timeline is a bit “bland” because of a white background and dark lines and text. Adding tooltips will enhance this visualization. Enlarging the dots through hovering would also add to the overall design of this timeline.

Lie Factor:

There is nothing too misleading about this visualization. However, because some of the text is cluttered, it could be confusing for some viewers.

Visual Encoding:

The line and dots, along with the axis on the bottom, are the features that tell the viewers that this is a timeline.



Color:

For this simple bar chart, a single color is sufficient for the bars.

Data Density/Data to ink Ratio:

There is a sufficient amount of data shown, along with minimal amount of text to only show the right amount of information.

Design/Aesthetics:

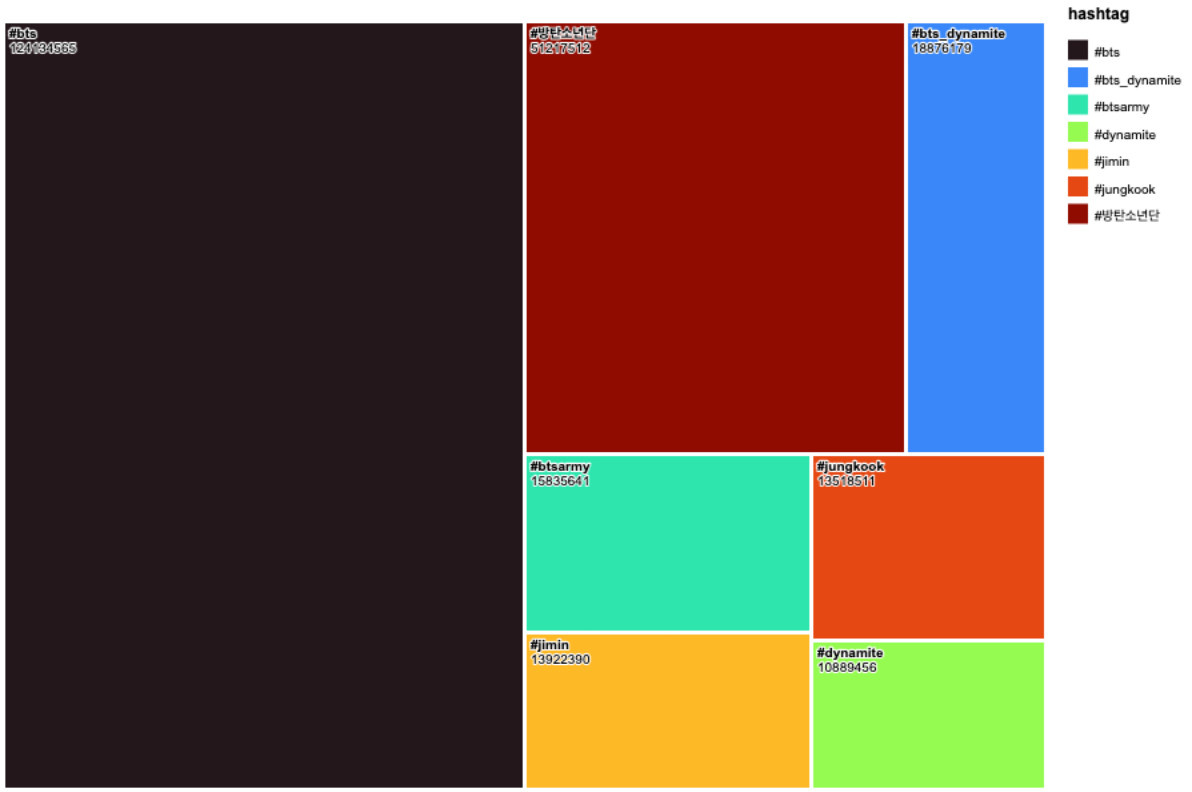
For a static bar chart, the design is sufficient. However, adding interactions such as sorting would enhance the visualization.

Lie Factor:

There is nothing misleading about the visualization. I even added the year of the album to give the names some ordering. I should also add axes labels as well to be more clear.

Visual Encoding:

The length of the bars quantifies and gives information about the number of sales for each album.



Color:

There could be too many colors in this visualization. However, because this is discrete data, having the same colors could be confusing to the viewer.

Data Density/Data to ink Ratio:

In terms of data points, there may be too many points for a treemap. Perhaps I could make this into a "top 5 hashtags" instead to use fewer colors. The labels seem sufficient, but could be larger and in the center of each rectangle.

Design/Aesthetics:

The treemap design is decent. There could potentially be too many colors. Furthermore, text labels should be larger. Interaction would enhance this treemap by enlarging certain boxes being hovered over and/or showing/hiding the exact number of hashtags.

Lie Factor:

There is nothing too misleading about this visualization. The sizing of the boxes is correct, and the actual number of hashtags is also given.

Visual Encoding:

The squares and their areas show the number of hashtags.