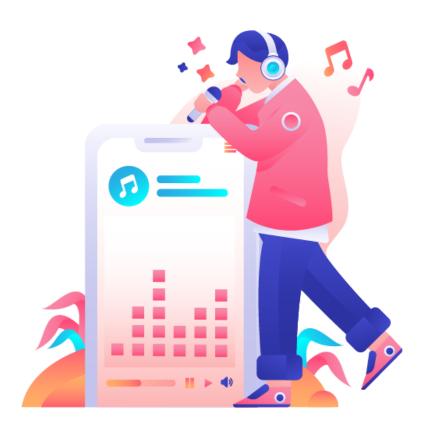
Final Project Report

Measuring the Valence & Danceability of Three Billboard Charts: Hot100, Pop, & Alternative



Using the following APIs: Spotify API and Billboard API

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Introduction

What determines the top charts from Billboard may be seen as an ambiguous affair. For our project, we decided to take it upon ourselves to find out if the general top Hot100 songs are the top hits for a reason. We also wanted to see if it would yield similar results for specific genres, such as Pop or Alternative. Is it because of the songs' valence? Their danceability? Using Billboard API and Spotify API, we were able to discover that the top hits may not be enigmatic as one may initially think.

Background

According to Spotify API, these are the definitions for Valence and Danceability:

• Valence (VA•LENCE)

A measure from 0.0 to 1.0 describing the musical positiveness conveyed by a track. Tracks with high valence sound more positive (e.g. happy, cheerful, euphoric), while tracks with low valence sound more negative (e.g. sad, depressed, angry).

• **Danceability** (DANCE•ABIL•I•TY)

Danceability describes how suitable a track is for dancing based on a combination of musical elements including tempo, rhythm stability, beat strength, and overall regularity. A value of 0.0 is least danceable and 1.0 is most danceable.

According to Billboard, these are the metrics used determine their music charts:

For the Hot100 Chart:

Billboard defines 2 types of streaming plays: on-demand (ex: Amazon Music, Spotify, Apple Music), and programmed (ex: Pandora, Slacker Radio). On-demand holds greater weight. The Hot100 also incorporates video streams.

For genre-based charts:

Billboard utilizes a single tier for on-demand audio streams from subscription services. Unlike the Hot 100 chart, video streams and programmed audio streams are not incorporated into the algorithm for defining these charts.

Goals

- 1. Gather the top charts from Billboard from 2019 in the following categories: Hot100, Pop, and Alternative.
- 2. Discover the Valence of every song gathered in our first objective.
- 3. Determine whether Valence produced a trend depending on the genre.

Goals Achieved

- 1. Gathered the songs from the following charts in 2019: Hot100, Pop, Alternative.
 - a. We gathered 100 songs from the Hot100, 50 from Pop, and 50 from Alternative using Billboard API.
- 2. Discovered 2 audio features, Valence and Danceability, of all songs using Spotify API.
- 3. Determined the effect of genre on the 2 audio features: Valence and Danceability.

Problems

- 1. The way songs and artists were listed on Billboard caused errors when we used them in the Spotify API search query.
 - a. For instance, songs or artists with punctuation such as apostrophes or periods in their names were not compatible with the search query syntax and needed to be manually troubleshot to search them in Spotify.
 - b. Additionally, Billboard listed collaborations between artists with "x" between names or said "feat." or "featuring" which also yielded zero results unless we coded them to be omitted from their artist name when entering into the search query.

c. Since we were only pulling songs from one specific year (2019), we determined that it was okay to hardcode past these errors since our project will only grab the same songs. If we were to alter the year, different (but similar) errors would arise depending on the song title or artist name.

Calculations

The code above is for the Hot100calc.txt file but is reused for Popcalc.txt and Altcalc.txt

For our calculations, we thought it would be interesting to discover if the ranking of songs in each music chart (Hot100, Pop, Alternative) would have a trend in the average between Valence and Danceability for each song by joining Hot100, Pop, Alt charts to Hot100Valence, PopValence, AltValence respectively on each charts rank. Using the song title and artist name from the first 3 charts, we combined it with the average calculated from the valence and danceability columns in the last 3 charts to create our text files.

Hot100's Valence and Danceability averages (found in hot100calc.txt):

Top Pop songs' Valence and Danceability averages (found in Popcalc.txt):

```
The average between valence and danceability for Mithout Me by Halsey is 8.642500000000000.

The average between valence and danceability for Sucker by Jonas Brothers is 0.897.
The average between valence and danceability for Eastide by benny Hangon, Halsey & Khalid is 0.480500000000004.
The average between valence and danceability for Dancing Mithout Me by Editor of Dancing Mithout Me Dance Halsey & Khalid is 0.4805000000000004.
The average between valence and danceability for Dancing Mithout Me Dance Management of Dancing Mithout Me Dance Management Me Dance Mithout Me Dance
```

• **Top Alternative songs'** Valence and Danceability averages (found in <u>Altcalc.txt</u>):

```
The average between valence and danceability for Trampoline by SHAED is 0.613.
The average between valence and danceability for High Hopes by Panic! At The Disco is 0.63.
The average between valence and danceability for Happier by Marshmello & Bastille is 0.679.
The average between valence and danceability for Cringe by Matt Maeson is 0.586. The average between valence and danceability for Gloria by The Lumineers is 0.591.
The average between valence and danceability for 3 Nights by Dominic Fike is 0.846.
The average between valence and danceability for Broken by lovelytheband is 0.5880000000000001.
The average between valence and danceability for Doin' Time by Lana Del Rey is 0.5725.
The average between valence and danceability for Ready To Let Go by Cage The Elephant is 0.732.

The average between valence and danceability for Bad Guy by Billie Filish is 0.6315.

The average between valence and danceability for Hey Look Ma, I Made It by Panic! At The Disco is 0.5785.
The average between valence and danceability for Alligator by Of Monsters And Men is 0.486.
The average between valence and danceability for Missed Connection by The Head And The Heart is 0.6055. The average between valence and danceability for You're Somebody Else by flora cash is 0.474. The average between valence and danceability for Superposition by Young The Giant is 0.5105.
The average between valence and danceability for Chlorine by twenty one pilots is 0.4619999999999997.
The average between valence and danceability for Lordnie by Catfish And The Bottlemen is 0.473.

The average between valence and danceability for Lo/Hi by The Black Keys is 0.6565.

The average between valence and danceability for 100 Bad Days by AJR is 0.632.

The average between valence and danceability for Good Things Fall Apart by ILLENIUM & Jon Bellion is 0.5425.

The average between valence and danceability for Social Cues by Cage The Elephant is 0.8005.
The average between valence and danceability for Bury A Friend by Billie Filish is 0.5505. The average between valence and danceability for Guiding Light by Mumford & Sons is 0.420000000000000000.
The average between valence and danceability for Hurt by Oliver Tree is 0.4934999999999994. The average between valence and danceability for The Hype by twenty one pilots is 0.4505.
The average between valence and danceability for My Blood by twenty one pilots is 0.7115.
The average between valence and danceability for Pressure by Muse is 0.673.

The average between valence and danceability for "99" by Barns Courtney is 0.633.

The average between valence and danceability for still feel. by half alive is 0.747.

The average between valence and danceability for Natural by Imagine Dragons is 0.461999999999997.

The average between valence and danceability for Love It If We Made It by The 1975 is 0.26755.
The average between valence and danceability for Bad Liar by Imagine Dragons is 0.23285. The average between valence and danceability for Beloved by Mumford & Sons is 0.381. The average between valence and danceability for Running Up That Hill by Meg Myers is 0.53.
The average between valence and danceability for Can't Knock The Hustle by Weezer is 0.7110000000000001.
The average between valence and danceability for Home by morgan Featuring WALK THE MOON is 0.753. The average between valence and danceability for Joy by Bastille is 0.459. The average between valence and danceability for Harmony Hall by Vampire Weekend is 0.6265000000000001.
The average between valence and danceability for Die Happy by DREAMERS is 0.7075.
The average between valence and danceability for Choke by I Dont Know How But They Found Me is 0.5495.

The average between valence and danceability for Why Did You Run? by Judah & The Lion is 0.4255.

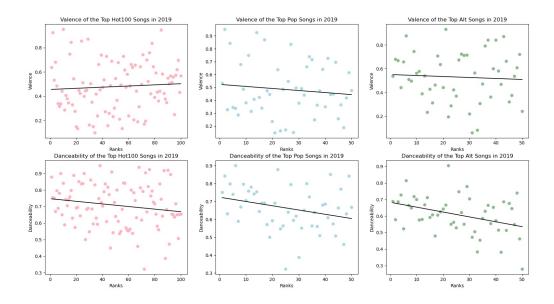
The average between valence and danceability for Dissolve by Absofacto is 0.78.

The average between valence and danceability for Northern Lights by Death Cab For Cutie is 0.5895.

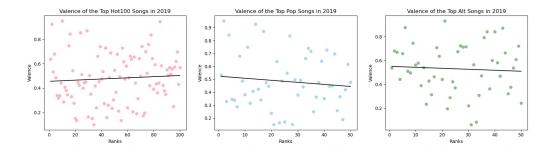
The average between valence and danceability for You Should See Me In A Crown by Billie Filish is 0.5005000000000001.
The average between valence and danceability for Fast Talk by Houses is 0.511.
The average between valence and danceability for It Doesn't Matter Why by Silversun Pickups is 0.5435000000000001. The average between valence and danceability for Worst Nites by Foster The People is 0.675. The average between valence and danceability for Father Of All... by Green Day is 0.592.
The average between valence and danceability for Maybe, I'm Afraid by lovelytheband is 0.2615.
```

Visualizations

We created 6 <u>visualizations</u> for the Valence and Danceability of Hot100 songs, Top Pop songs, and Top Alternative songs.



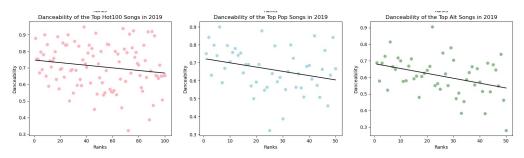
Valence



Looking more closely at the Valence of all the songs in our 3 top music charts (Hot100, Pop, Alternative), valence does not seem to have an impact on whether songs will make the top charts either generally, based on the Hot100 chart, or within genres, such as Pop or Alt.

As noted from our lines of best fit, there is a slight positive correlation only in the Hot100 chart, and slight negative correlations in Pop and Alt. So as the rank increases in Hot100, the positivity (valence) of a song increases, but the inverse occurs for Pop and Alt.

Danceability



From analyzing the Danceability trends among the songs in the Top Hot100, Top Pop, and Top Alternative songs, we concluded that there is a trend. As seen by the negative correlation in all charts, we deduced that as the ranking of songs becomes greater, no matter the genre or chart it is on Billboard, the danceability of the songs decreases.

Valence & Danceability

Since there does not seem to be a trend in valence in the top songs across our three chosen charts, it is inconclusive to say whether valence and danceability are related to each other.

Instructions for Running

- 1. **Install** Billboard API in one of the following 2 methods:
 - a. Install with pip: pip install billboard.py
 - b. Clone repo (in billboard-charts folder) and run: python setup.py install
- 2. **Open** billboard-data.py, spotify.py, calculations.py
- 3. **Run** billboard-data.py 4 times (Wait until each run is completed)
 - a. Each run will create tables Hot100, Pop, and Alt if they don't already exist and add 25 rows of data (rank, song title, artist name)
 - b. After 4 runs, there will be 100 rows in Hot100, 50 in Pop, and 50 in Alt.

- 4. **Run** spotify.py 4 times (Due to Spotify's Search feature structure in their API, this will take around 1 minute and 40 seconds to complete each run)
 - a. Each run uses the data from the charts, Hot100, Pop, and Alt, from "Music.db" and creates 3 more charts if they don't exist, Hot100Valence, PopValence, and AltValence. And adds 25 rows of data (song title, artist name, rank, valence, danceability)
 - b. After 4 runs, there will be 100 rows in Hot100Valence, 50 in PopValence, and 50 in AltValence.
- 5. **Run** calculations.py 1 time
 - a. 3 text files will be created: Hot100.txt, Popcalc.txt, and Altcalc.txt
 - b. With Matplotlib, 6 visualizations/scatter plots will be made

Documentation of Functions

billboard-data.py			
FUNCTION	INPUT	ОИТРИТ	
def Hot100	Title of chart ('hot-100-songs') from Billboard in a specified year (2019)	Returns a class with the rank, song title, and artist for the Hot100 songs in 2019	
def pop	Title of chart ('pop-songs')) from Billboard in a specified year (2019)	Returns a class with the rank, song title, and artist for the top Pop songs in 2019	
def alt	Title of chart ('alternative-songs')) from Billboard in a specified year (2019)	Returns a class with the rank, song title, and artist for the top Alt songs in 2019	
def setuphot100	From def hot100's outputted class, we insert the title , artist , and rank of each row	Insert the input into a row in our database, 'Music.db' as the chart 'Hot100' for every song	
def setupPop	From def pop's outputted class, we insert the title ,	Insert the input into a row in our database, 'Music.db'	

	artist, and rank of each row	as the chart 'Pop' for every song
def setupAlt	From def alt's outputted class, we insert the title , artist , and rank of each row	Insert the input into a row in our database, 'Music.db' as the chart 'Alt' for every song

spotify.py			
FUNCTION	INPUT	ОИТРИТ	
def read_from_db	Takes in the name of the table that is to be read from 'Music.db'	Returns all the data from the specified chart	
def track_id_lstPop	Takes the data from "read_from_db" on the "Pop" chart to get the track IDs from all songs	Returns a list of track IDs from all the songs in the Pop chart	
def track_id_lstHot100	Takes the data from "read_from_db" on the "Hot100" chart to get the track IDs from all songs	Returns a list of track IDs from all the songs in the Hot100 chart	
def track_id_lstAlt	Takes the data from "read_from_db" on the "Alt" chart to get the track IDs from all songs	Returns a list of track IDs from all the songs in the Alt chart	
def check_tracks	Takes in a list of track IDs (from past 3 functions)	Prints a list of the song titles given the track IDs (for testing purposes)	
def setuphot100valence	Takes in a list of track IDs (similar to check_tracks)	For each track ID, the song title, artist, rank, valence, and danceability were inserted into a table created called Hot100Valence	
def setupaltvalence	Takes in a list of track IDs (similar to check_tracks)	For each track ID, the song title, artist, rank, valence, and danceability were	

		inserted into a table created called PopValence
def setuppopvalence	Takes in a list of track IDs (similar to check_tracks)	For each track ID, the song title, artist, rank, valence, and danceability were inserted into a table created called AltValence

calculations.py			
FUNCTION	INPUT	ОИТРИТ	
def Hot100avg	Selects data from Hot100 and Hot100Valence to calculate the average between valence and danceability (from Hot100Valence) for each song and the artist (from Hot100)	Creates text file "Hot100calc.txt"	
def Popavg	Selects data from Pop and PopValence to calculate the average between valence and danceability (from PopValence) for each song and the artist (from Pop)	Creates text file "Popcalc.txt"	
def Altavg	Selects data from Alt and AltValence to calculate the average between valence and danceability (from AltValence) for each song and the artist (from Alt)	Creates text file "Altcalc.txt"	
def hot100xy	Selects rank and valence data from Hot100Valence chart	Returns a tuple of 2 lists: ranks and valences	
def popxy	Selects rank and valence data from PopValence chart	Returns a tuple of 2 lists: ranks and valences	
def altxy	Selects rank and valence data from AltValence chart	Returns a tuple of 2 lists: ranks and valences	

def dancehotxy	Selects rank and danceability data from Hot100Valence chart	Returns a tuple of 2 lists: ranks and danceability
def dancepopxy	Selects rank and danceability data from PopValence chart	Returns a tuple of 2 lists: ranks and danceability
def dancealtxy	Selects rank and danceability data from AltValence chart	Returns a tuple of 2 lists: ranks and danceability
def visualize	Separates the lists from the tuples returned in the last 6 functions to get the x/y values for each visualization	Creates a plot with 6 visualizations

Documentation of Resources

DATE	ISSUE DESCRIPTION	RESOURCE LOCATION	RESULT
3 December 2020	Original idea included using KKBOX API but upon signing up, we received an error that it was not available in the US. Found an unofficial Billboard API wrapper, but was not sure if it would be allowed on the project.	206 Instructors Email	AJ and Dr. Ericson approved of the Billboard API wrapper.
7 December 2020	We were unable to figure out how to limit the amount of data added to our database's charts to 25 rows in each run.	Office Hours	Tyler guided us on how to look through the database to see what has already been added before the new set of 25 rows were to be

			added in a single run.
10 December 2020	We needed assistance in figuring out the syntax for joining tables when we did our calculations to create text files	W3Schools & Runestone Join Assignment	Combining the information on both resources, we successfully joined all our tables
10 December 2020	When running calculations.py, our visualizations were blank/not responding. The subplot argument was also not correct.	LinePlot-MIGA-side2. py & Matplotlib powerpoint slides	Referring back to the matplotlib lecture and assignment, we figured out how to subplot and to ensure that all of our x/y values for the charts were correct
10 December 2020	We were not sure how to create lines of best fit for our visualizations (scatter plots)	StackOverflow	User suggested a single line code that would correctly intake our data and create a line of best fit for each visualization