Sailing the Tides of Oceanus Folk

Visual Analysis of Sailor Shift's Career and Collaboration Network

Wang Shensi | Wang Anqi | Yuan Yihao (Group 3)

Master of IT in Business, Singapore Management University

Motivation and Objectives

This project aims to help uncover how the Oceanus Folk genre has evolved and gained influence through the career of Sailor Shift, one of its most prominent stars. By mapping her collaborations and impact, we can better understand the connections and trends that have shaped the genre's rise.

The tool will focus on two main goals:

1. **Visualize Sailor Shift's career path, collaboration network, and influence within the Oceanus Folk community.**
2. **Show how Oceanus Folk has spread across the broader music scene and which artists and genres it has inspired.**

These insights will support journalists, researchers, and music fans in exploring artist relationships, cultural shifts, and the growing influence of Oceanus Folk.

Methodology

Data Analytics Methods

- **Network analysis and visualization**
- **Time Series Analysis and visualization**
- **Comparative Analysis**
- **Shiny App as an interactive tool to do data exploration based on changing parameters**

R Packages

tidyverse	ggplot2	tidygraph
jsonlite	SmartEDA	dplyr
shiny	shinywidgets	

Shiny Application

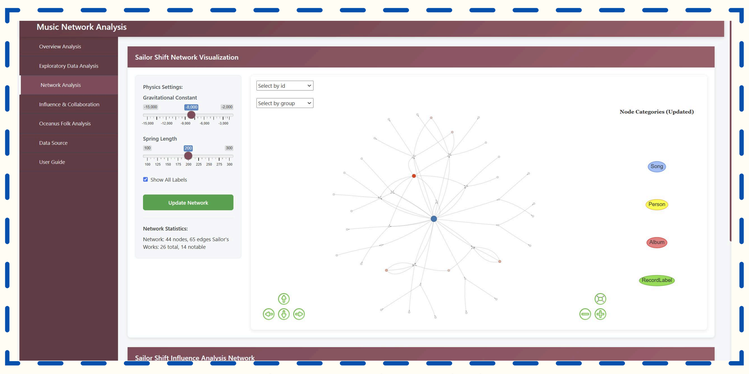


Fig: Network_Analysis

Visualizing Sailor Shift's relationship network and ego network helps illustrate her key connections, collaborations, and sources of influence, providing insights into her career trajectory and her impact on the Oceanus Folk genre.

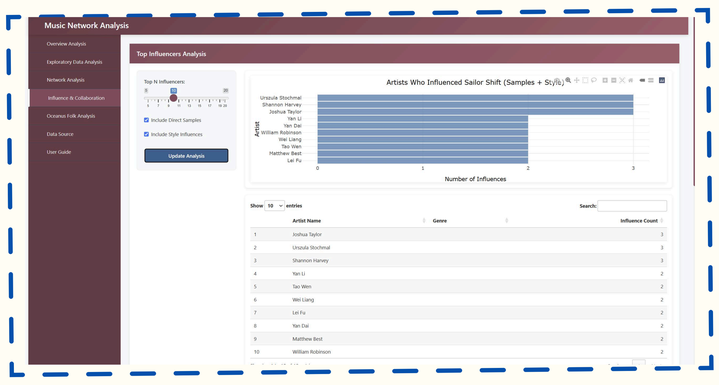


Fig:Influence_and_Collaboration

The "Influence & Collaboration" page highlights the artists who have influenced Sailor and those who have collaborated with her. It allows readers to see at a glance who has worked with her in different ways and who has shaped her music through style, sampling, or other creative aspects.

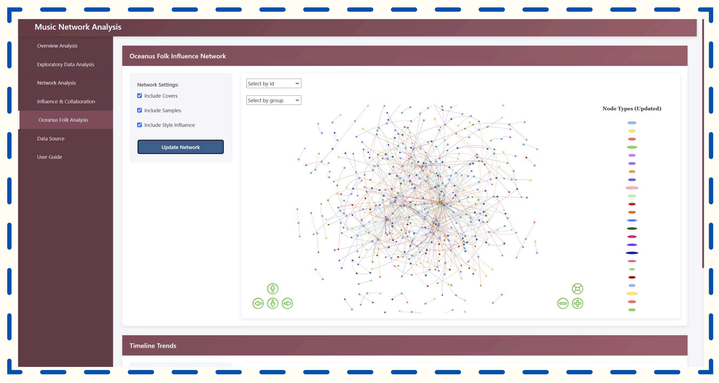
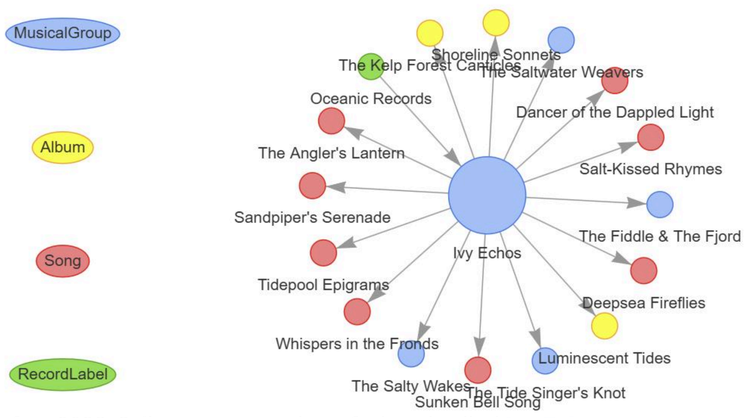


Fig: Oceanus_Folk_Analysis

The Oceanus Folk page shows this genre's connections with other musical styles and its trend over time. The network graph reveals how Oceanus Folk is influenced by and influences other genres, while the trend chart gives a clear view of its evolution through different stages.

Tracing Sailor Shift's Career and Collaboration Influence

To know who has most influence on sailor, we devide her career in two, which are before 2028 and after.



Before 2028, Sailor was a member of a band called **Ivy Echos**.

Therefore, to determine which artist had the greatest influence on her first Oceanus Folk single, we need to investigate who influenced her band the most.

For this, we selected edges with the following types: *DirectlySamples, CoverOf, InterpolatesFrom, LyricalReferenceTo, and InStyleOf*, and treated these edges as the band's out-degree, meaning they represent who the band was influenced by.

Other edges in the network also include types like *ComposerOf, LyricistOf, PerformerOf, ProducerOf, RecordedBy, and DistributedBy.*

From the ego network on the left, we can see that songs by her band interpolate from a musical group called The Fiddle & The Fjord, make lyrical references to The Saltwater Weavers, and draw stylistic inspiration from The Tide Singer's Knot and The Salty Wakes — all of which are musical groups. This suggests that Sailor's early songs were likely influenced by these specific musical groups.

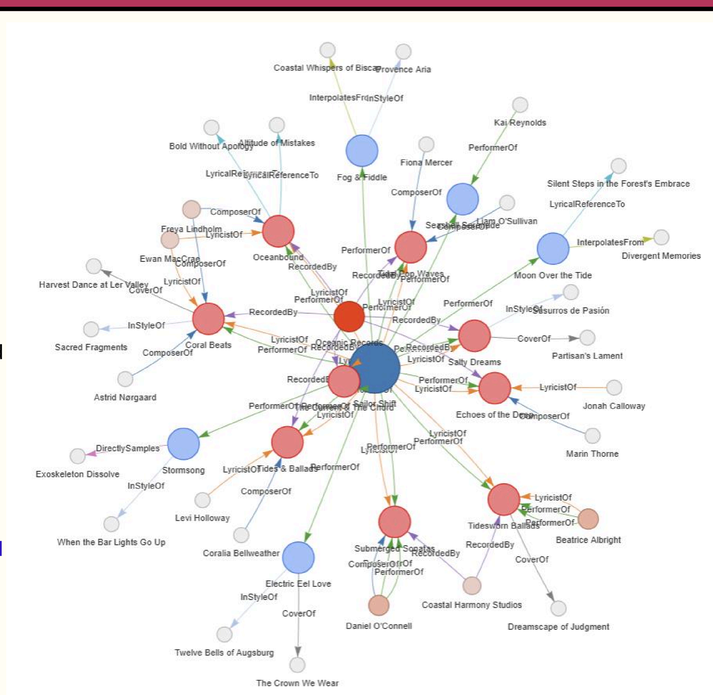
This graph on the right includes all of Sailor's songs released after 2028 that are marked as *notable = TRUE*. We intentionally focused only on her well-known songs to identify who might have influenced her in creating these popular hits.

We filtered for all of Sailor's notable songs from 2028 onwards and traced the connected nodes through edges such as *ProducerOf, RecordedBy, DistributedBy, DirectlySamples, CoverOf, InterpolatesFrom, LyricalReferenceTo, and InStyleOf.* This allowed us to see whether certain people have stronger ties with Sailor.

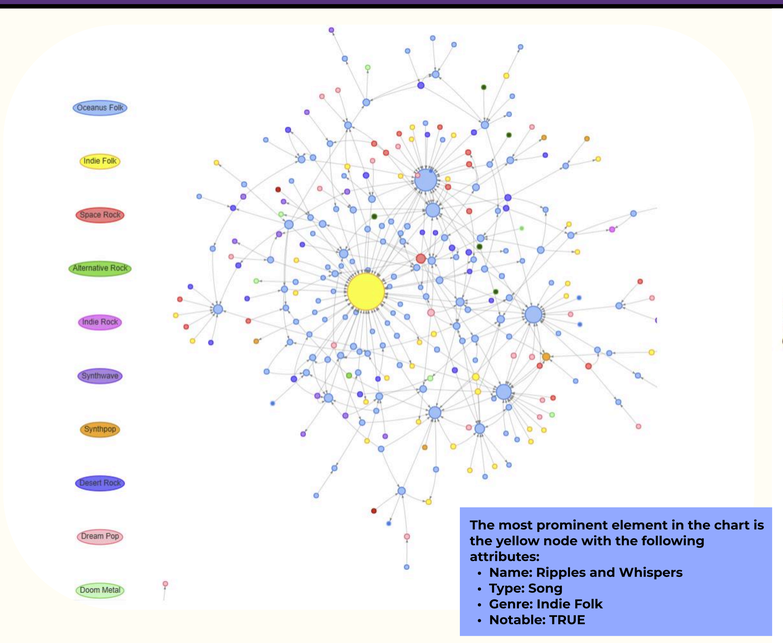
In this graph, nodes that are more frequently connected to Sailor and her songs are visualized with larger sizes and deeper colors. **Red nodes** represent songs, **blue nodes** represent albums, and other colors indicate people (Person).

The graph shows that apart from Sailor herself and her works, **Beatrice Albright, Daniel O'Connell, Freya Lindholm, and Ewan MacCrae stand out for their frequent collaborations, indicating they have had a strong influence on her.**

Overall, Sailor's popular songs draw from various genres and artists. Further analysis shows that the references and sources are widely spread, with no single person having an overwhelming impact, highlighting the broad and diverse nature of her creative style.

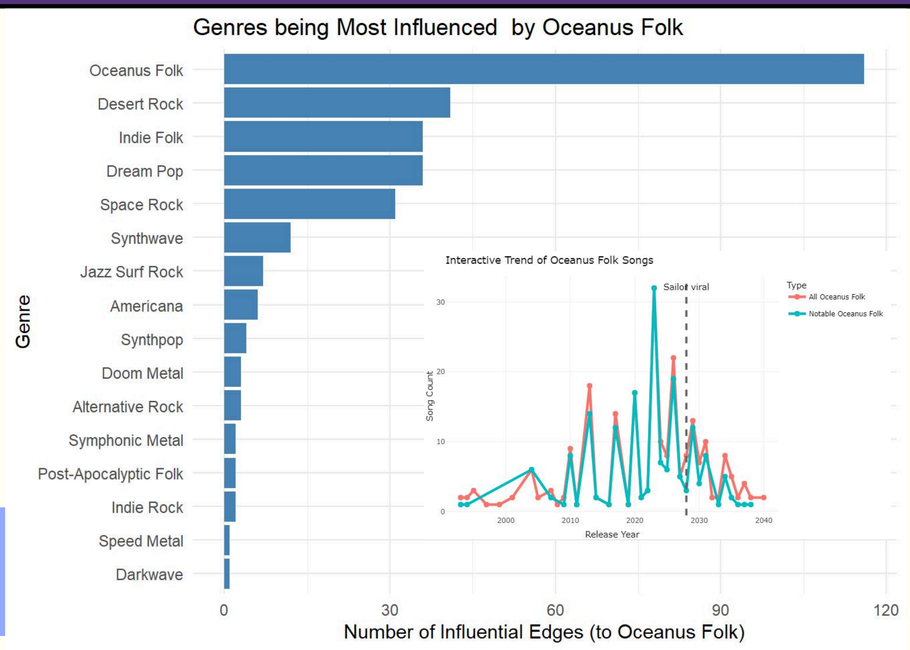


Mapping the Spread of Oceanus Folk



The most prominent element in the chart is the yellow node with the following attributes:

- **Name: Ripples and Whispers**
- **Type: Song**
- **Genre: Indie Folk**
- **Notable: TRUE**



This chart shows the connections between Oceanus Folk and other songs. The edges in this graph represent the types: *DirectlySamples, InterpolatesFrom, LyricalReferenceTo, and InStyleOf*. These types effectively illustrate how different music genres influence each other. In this graph, each genre is represented by a different color. Additionally, the larger a node's in-degree, the larger its size, which makes it easy to see which songs have had the greatest influence on the Oceanus Folk genre.

When we take a closer look at the most prominent yellow node, we can see that this song has influenced numerous Oceanus Folk tracks, including some of the most well-known ones such as Destiny's Call and Trembling Syringe. Destiny's Call, in turn, has influenced many other genres, which shows that Ripples and Whispers is truly a classic and arguably one of the songs with the deepest impact on Oceanus Folk.

In addition, the frequency histogram clearly shows how many times each genre has been influenced by Oceanus Folk. We counted the total number of out-degree edges pointing to Oceanus Folk for all songs — in other words, how often Oceanus Folk influenced others. As expected, **Oceanus Folk itself shows the highest count of self-influence. Among other genres, Desert Rock is the most influenced, followed by Indie Folk and Dream Pop, then Space Rock. The remaining genres are influenced to a lesser extent.**

Combining insights from both charts, we can conclude that Indie Rock and Oceanus Folk are closely intertwined, continuously borrowing from and influencing each other, with significant mutual impact. On the other hand, Desert Rock is the genre most influenced by Oceanus Folk, but this influence is largely one-directional.

Conclusion

The tool we developed enables us to visualize and analyze Sailor Shift's career path, her collaboration network, and the influence dynamics within the Oceanus Folk community. It effectively highlights key artists and genres that have shaped or been shaped by Oceanus Folk, revealing the diverse connections and references that contribute to the genre's evolution.

These insights can help journalists, researchers, and fans better understand how Oceanus Folk has expanded through Sailor Shift's career and how different collaborations and genres have contributed to its rise.

Future Work

While the current tool can identify major collaborators and clusters of influence, it does not yet proactively detect emerging influential artists or uncover hidden ties beyond explicit collaboration, sampling, or style references.

What's more, our current analysis results are not yet concise and intuitive enough to allow readers to quickly grasp the entire story and its key findings. We need to further refine our visualizations and incorporate more meaningful graphic elements to present the process and outcomes more clearly.

In the future, we plan to apply a wider range of network analysis and predictive methods to reveal deeper influence patterns within the Oceanus Folk community and better understand how different artists contribute to the genre's evolution.