

There must be 50 ways
to make a playlist 🎵

Dan Segal
@djsegal

As a music consumer, I'm always looking for new songs and artists



Spotify Premium

2018 Wrapped



Minutes Listened

123,030

Top Genre

Hip Hop

Top Artists

Philanthrope

Aso

Kupla

invention_

Leavv

Top Songs

night walk

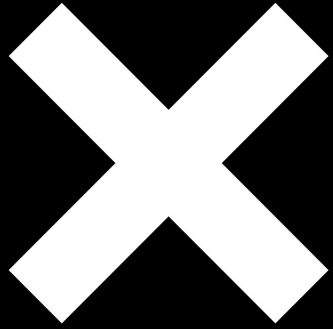
Don't Matter

Destination

perenne

Let's Dance Raw

While searching for
coding playlists this
summer, I noticed
trends in the music



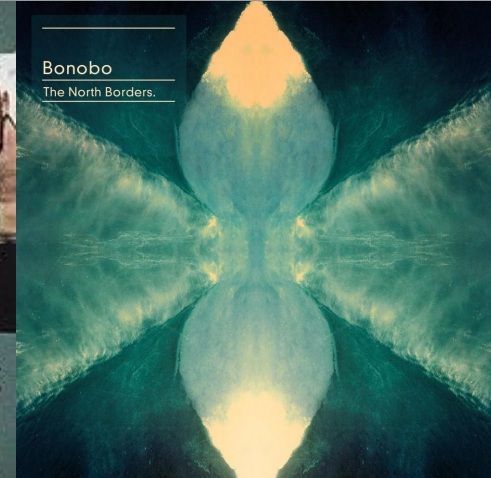
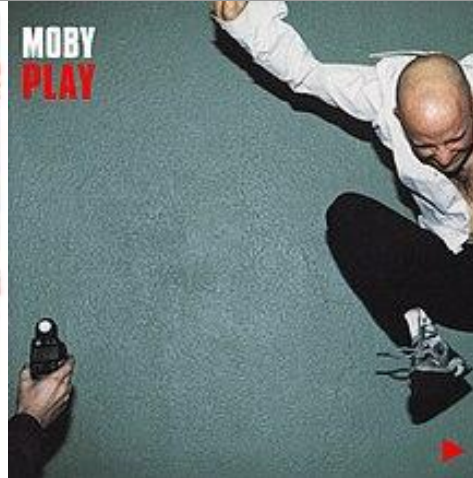
ORIGINAL MOTION PICTURE SOUNDTRACK

Disney
TRON
L E G A C Y

MUSIC BY DAFT PUNK



MOON SAFARI



Instead of
listening to 10k
code playlists,
I decided to
compile a
summary
one 🎵



v1.0 – Meta Playlists (Summer '19)

Process

1. Scrape Spotify playlists based on keywords (i.e. coding)
2. Sort songs based on frequency they appear in playlists
3. Remove songs from unwanted artists

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Cons

1. Favors popular music (e.g. Billie Eilish)
2. Requires hardcoding a skip-artist list
3. Lumps together different genres

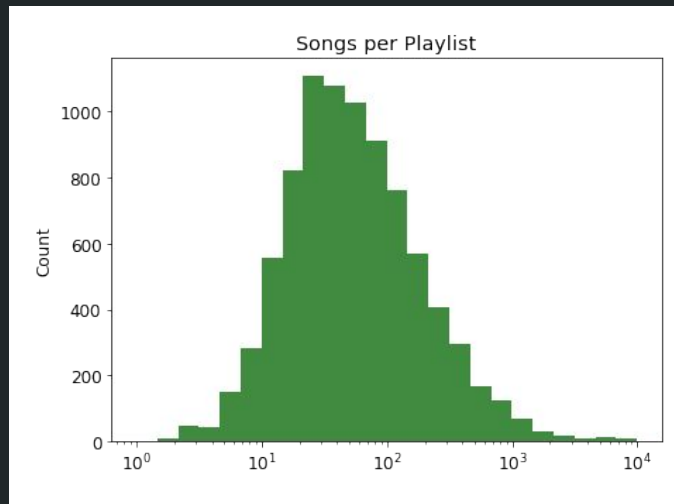
v2.0 – Code Clusters

Using NMF, we
discovered 30
music genres
from the 10k
playlists and
5k artists



TF-IDF 🎵

- Because playlist sizes are lognormal
- We need to scale song counts
- This is a hyperparameter



So how did we do?

Crème de la crème

Downtempo

- Air
- Thievery Corporation
- Gramatik
- RJD2
- Gorillaz
- DJ Shadow

Chillout

- Tycho
- Bonobo
- Little People
- Pretty Lights
- Boards of Canada
- Kodomo

Robot Music

House

- Daft Punk
- deadmau5
- The Glitch Mob
- Justice
- Kaskade
- Ratatat

Dubstep

- Flux Pavilion
- Datsik
- Rusko
- Bassnectar
- Pendulum
- Zeds Dead

Millennial Nonsense

Indie

- Foster The People
- Death Cab for Cutie
- Phoenix
- The Black Keys
- Tame Impala
- Arctic Monkeys

Pop Punk

- blink-182
- Sum 41
- Linkin Park
- Jimmy Eat World
- The Offspring
- New Found Glory

The final step is choosing songs:

- Artist relevance
- Playlist relevance
- Playlist popularity



