# ONLINE MUSIC LISTENING CULTURE OF KIDS AND ADOLESCENTS 

## Listening Analysis and Music Recommendation Tailored to the Young

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## TAKE AWAY...

age is substantially associated with music preferences

- particularly in terms of genre
approach
- listening events from Last.fm (LFM1b)
- focusing on users aged 6 to 18 years: $(6,12),(13,14),(15,16),(17,18)$
results on music recommendation performance
- improved performance for all fine-grained user groups up to 18 years
- decreased performance for adult users (19 years and older)

We conclude that tailoring a collaborative filtering system to users $\leq 18$ years is beneficial.

## BACKGROUND

Studies investigating the relationship between age and music preferences are rare.

- samples from population of university students
- mostly homogeneous with respect to age

The few studies show:
age is substantially associated with music preferences, particularly in terms of genre

## TWO CONTRIBUTIONS

## relationship between age and music preferences (genres)

recommendations to age groups

## MUSIC PREFERENCES OF THE YOUNG VS. ADULTS

$\square$ more preferred by the young
$\square$ rock (20.17\% vs. 19.49\%)
$\square$ alternative (19.03\% vs. 17.85\%)
$\square$ pop (12.99\% vs. 12.57\%)metal (5.96\% vs. 5.25\%)rap (3.66\% vs. 2.78\%)
$\square$ rnb (2.76\% vs. 2.34\%)
$\square$ more preferred by adults
$\square$ electronic (11.67\% vs. 11.07\%)
$\square$ folk (5.76\% vs. 4.73\%)
$\square$ jazz (3.67\% vs. 2.56\%)
$\square$ blues (2.89\% vs. 2.23\%)

- entire user population
$\square$ overall agreement score of $\alpha=0.493$,
$\square$ moderate homogeneity in genre preferences
- age groups
$\square$ young $\alpha=0.539$
$\square$ adults $\alpha=0.546$


## MUSIC PREFERENCES OF THE YOUNG IN DIFFERENT COUNTRIES

## consistent across countries

- general preference for rock
- similar for alternative and pop


## Country-specific differences (examples)

- metal: Poland (9.12\%) vs. USA (3.20\%)
- pop: Sweden (15.90\%) vs. Russia (10.96\%)
- electronic: Russia (14.26\%) vs. Brazil (8.31\%)
- alternative: Poland (19.83\%) vs. Finland (16.56\%)
- rnb: United Kingdom (3.51\%) vs. Russia (1.82\%)
- rap: Germany (5.60\%) vs. Brazil (2.16\%)


## MUSIC PREFERENCES OF AGE GROUPS

■ young listeners' high preference for rock and low preference for blues holds also for the fine-grained user groups
$\square$ folk: liking rises with increasing age $\square$ from $4.41 \%$ to $4.81 \%$

## peak in liking

age group $(13,14)$

- rnb (4.24\%)
- rap (4.47\%)
- pop (13.49\%)
age group $(15,16)$
- rock (20.44\%)
- punk (9.01\%)
- alternative (19.26\%)
- metal (6.11\%)


## low point in liking

age group $(15,16)$

- electronic (10.60\%)
- jazz (2.23\%)
age group $(13,14)$
- blues (2.02)

| groups | no. users | RMSE | MAE |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| All users | 120157 | 29.105 | 25.202 |
| All young users (0,18) | 6101 | 7.766 | 2.940 |
| All adult users $(19,60)$ | 39514 | 77.548 | 76.131 |
| $(6,12)$ | 80 | 5.178 | 1.555 |
| $(13,14)$ | 257 | 10.395 | 4.230 |
| $(15,16)$ | 1435 | 9.513 | 3.815 |
| $(17,18)$ | 4181 | 7.469 | 2.835 |

- improved performance for all user groups up to 18 years
decreases performance for adult users (19 years and older)


## FUTURE AVENUES OF RESEARCH

considering highly varying "music listening culture" in different countries

## integration of more data sources

deployment of additional research instruments (e.g., surveys)

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