Describing Music Resources

Filename-based descriptive information:

Etree:
- Standard for live-concert-recording collecting community
- Early SHN format: no meta tags

   gd83-10-31.horvath-sennheiser.ladner.19894.sbeok.d1t01.shn

- Relies on text files with richer information
- FLAC format introduced: embeddable meta tags

Describing Music Resources

ID3v1 (1996)

- First attempt to embed meta tags into MP3s

- Initial version fraught with limitations:
  - Only 9 fields to describe a song file (later 12)
  - Max 30 characters for artists, albums, songs
  - No disc number

Describing Music Resources

ID3v2 (1998)

- Enhanced standard created by group of professionals
- Objective: universal applicability
- Example tags introduced:
  - Rating (1-5 stars)
  - Images: cover, concert photo, "a bright colored fish"
  - Beats per minute, copyright info
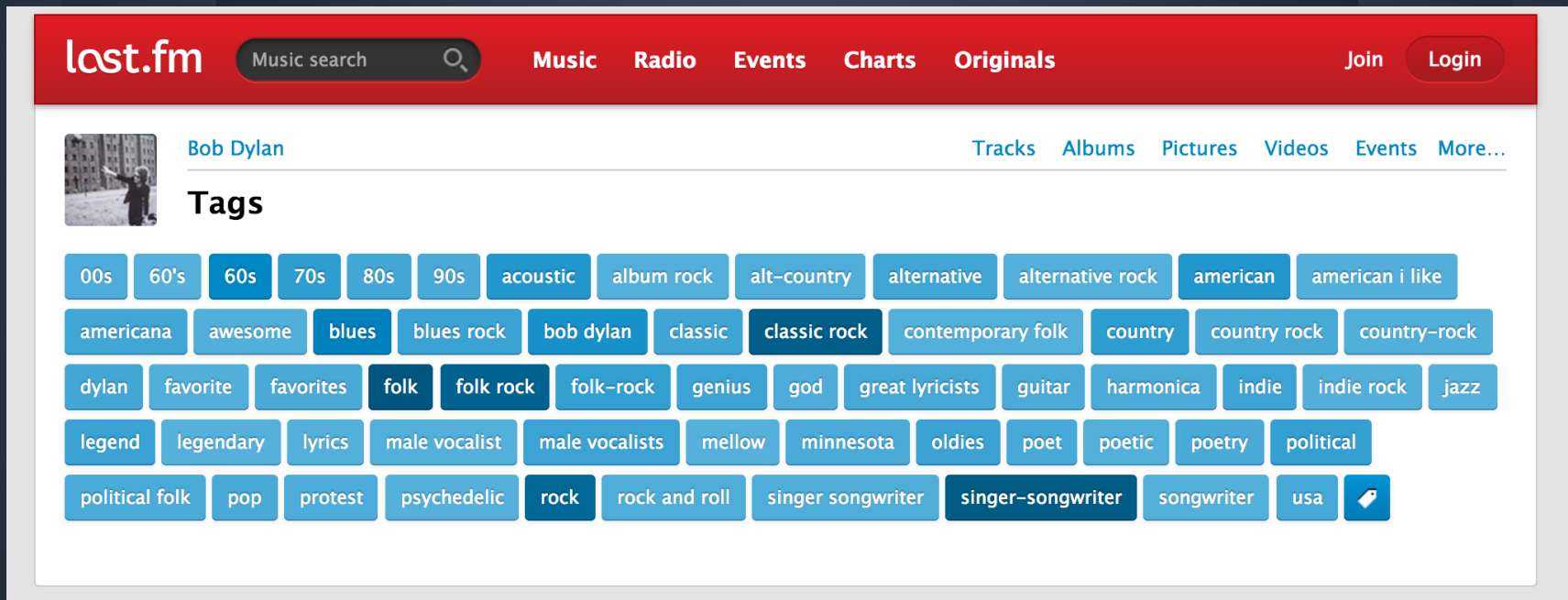- Used in MP3s, AIFF, Apple M4A

Describing Music Resources

Next generation: Creative, rich descriptions of music

- **AllMusic** - Mood - "Romantic", "Bittersweet", "Druggy"
- **Beatport** - BPM tagged in each song
- **Pandora** - staff-generated descriptors (Music Genome)
- **Last.FM** - crowd-sourced descriptors (tag soup?)
- **What.CD** - community-driven association engine, web of similar artists
- **Beats Music** - highly curated and human-centered (to be retrieved with "The Sentence")
  - "I'm ____ & feel like ____ with ____ at ____."

Describing Music Resources

Last.FM tags for Bob Dylan

Describing Music Resources

What.CD Similar Artist Map
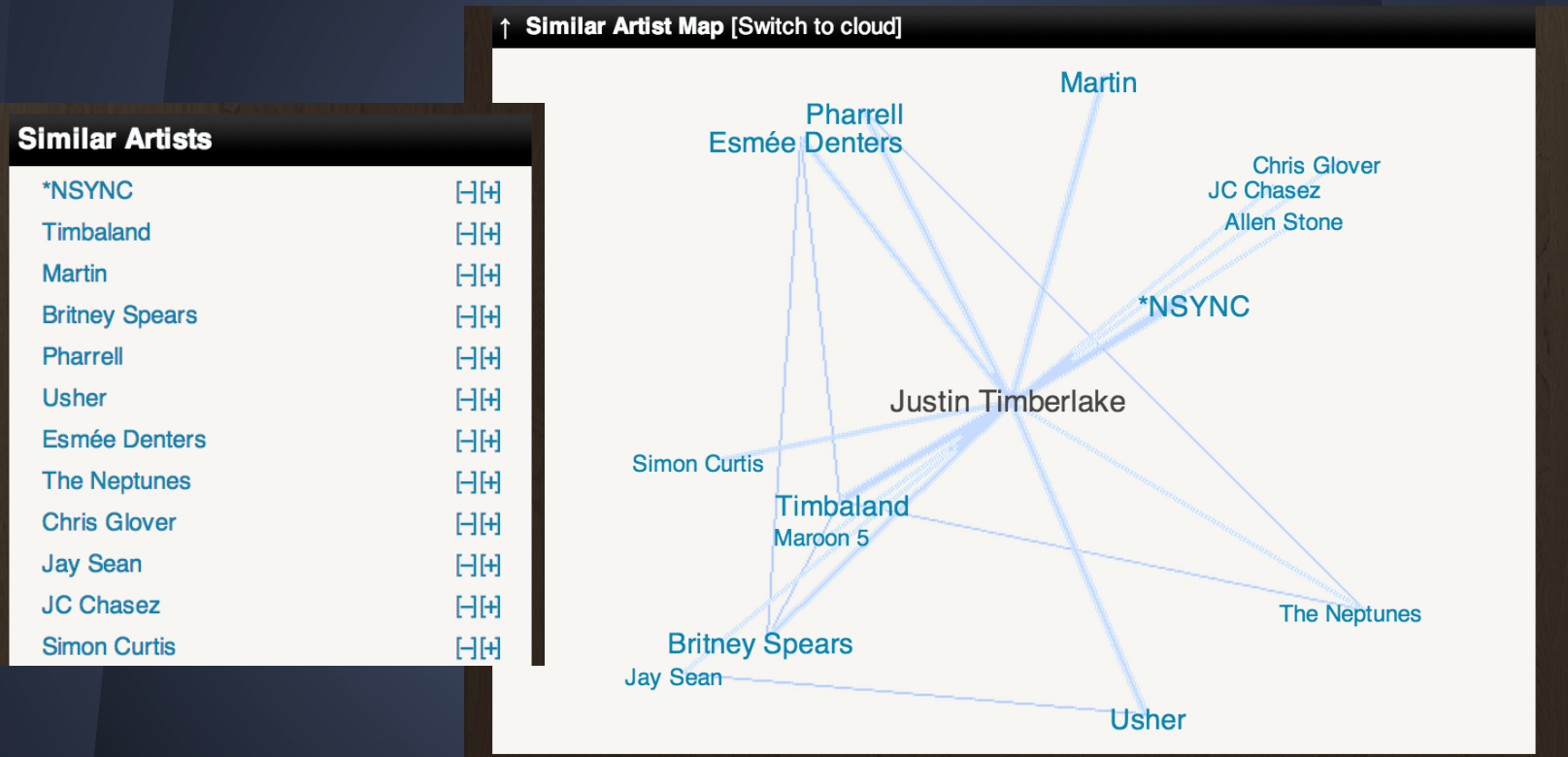
Describing Music Resources

Content-based description - audio fingerprints

- Shazam, Soundhound

Source: http://aubio.org/news/20091111-2339_shazam