

## **Abstract**

The topic of this thesis is musical compositions and the potential impact of the modern method of their distribution on their structural characteristics, overall form, and method of their release. The work compares two periods, from the years 2005-2010 and 2015-2020, i.e., before and after the rise in popularity of music streaming services such as Spotify. The author's goal is to find a correlation between the changes of parameters selected by him and the development of the music industry and music distribution. In the work, the author first presents the concept of distribution in this broader, general sense of the word and its role as part of the marketing mix. It follows the role of distribution in the context of the music industry and a more detailed description and overall shape of the music market in each of the defined time periods. For each researched year, 10 songs were chosen that ranked at the top of the American music chart Billboard Hot 100. Therefore, the author's research includes 120 recordings. The monitored parameters are the length of the song, its tempo, the location of the first chorus, the total number of choruses, and whether the song was released as a separate single. The author presents five hypotheses that are based on the authors' publications in the field of music. As expected from the songs that came out in the second period, they should be shorter, faster, with an earlier placement of the first chorus, with a higher average number of choruses, and should have more stand-alone singles. However, the results of the author's analysis can only accept the first and second hypotheses. The correlation of changes in the observed parameters with the development of the music industry cannot, therefore, be found in the examined recordings, as these changes are not sufficiently clear. The low representativeness of the sample chosen by the author appears to be a potential cause of this fact.