Assignment 10: Project

The idea of the project is to work on a topic you're interested in from the course. We covered many topics about Hip-Hop or derived from Hip-Hop in the lectures, and any of them could be a project idea for further research.

The format of the project doesn't have to be a paper. You can also work on some programming or a hands-on project on materials covered in the lecture, e.g. prototyping an autotune or vocoder. Please note that **using** autotune/vocoder to make music falls in the scope of assignment 9 creative lab, which doesn't apply here. If you have a related background and corresponding interests, you can build an autotune/vocoder from scratch, e.g. in Matlab. I can give you references.

Other advanced topics that I'm interested in include:

- LLM (Large Language Models) and rap. You can use their TextFX model and see what you can make out of it. You can build your own model for rhymes (which may be an implausible task to do here). In an easier way, you can use well-trained LLMs such as ChatGPT and do rap/rhyme prompt engineering. (See videos Google AI Studio x Rap Generation: English, Chinese, for example).
- Rhyme schemes in other languages, e.g., Chinese, Japanese, etc.
- Theoretical studies. In the lecture, we covered several theoretical topics such as Remix Theory, microtiming, etc. In Rose's paper, there is a well-presented comparative study of Western classical music and Afrodiasporic music in the first section. J Dilla's simple-complex technique could also be studied under some theoretical framework. If you are interested in any such topics covered in the lecture, please let me know, and I can give you guidance and references.

The project can also be derived from your major, e.g., if you major in economy/business, you can study the business of Hip-Hop; if you major in politics/race/gender studies, you can research corresponding topics in Hip-Hop. The choice of topic is largely free, as long as it's Hip-Hop related.

If you work on programming or hands-on stuff, please submit your result (maybe with a read-me file to explain what you did); if you work on research topics, please submit a research paper with 800 words at minimum.