Final Project - Yenkai Huang

1. **DESCRIPTION OF YOUR PROJECT PROCESS: MATERIALS, TECHNIQUES (MODELS, SOFTWARE), ITERATIONS**

Building upon the foundational materials and methodologies from Assignment 5 for my final project, I dedicated substantial time towards understanding the process of generating long-format songs that preserve an intact music structure. Specifically, I delved deeply into the Jukebox codebase. My efforts to attain this objective were primarily bifurcated into two broad categories: lyrics conditioning and song prompting.

When working with lyrics conditioning, I experimented with generating both long and short pieces. This encompassed lyrics produced by ChatGPT, original song lyrics, repetitive single-word lyrics, and lyrics randomly generated from the most frequently used words across all the artist's albums. After several trials, it became clear that Jukebox anticipates the output to adhere to a rudimentary musical structure of intro->verse->outro. In an attempt to distribute the complete lyrics across the designated length, the model appears to have an optimal generation length in the range of 1.5 to 1.8 minutes, based on my observations. When the desired length is too brief, such as 30 seconds, the model attempts to cram all the lyrics in, resulting in poor audio quality. Conversely, if the song exceeds 2 minutes, the model finds it challenging to incorporate complex structures like the chorus, as the structure of intro->verse->chorus->verse->outro necessitates a more advanced model and greater computational resources. To put it simply, Jukebox essentially tries to extend the samples it's given, with the model striving to populate the notes for the specified duration before concluding with an outro.

Consequently, addressing the structure problem emerged as my primary objective. I formulated a method that sliced the original song into ten segments and utilized these as prompts for Jukebox to generate numerous brief outputs. I then manually stitched the outputs of each part together using a Digital Audio Workstation (DAW), aiming to acquire the optimal combination while introducing some AI-induced variations. This approach maintains the "intentional structure" of the original song. Although this was successful, I was motivated to advance the experiment even further: to generate long-length song without editing.

```
feel there we from me
best m from by
someone surprises get look
of me with ve
could better won by
who on about nice

do light wanna out
oh enough better more
soul at up now
where of she or
oh an hurt might
no good up soul

d place i but
nothing way little lost
at because children stand
to walls though how
they to of moon
if wake got but

him should when free
nothing if all we
how you its where
the why gone used
...
everyone seen gonna a

wants go who i
its if waiting
```

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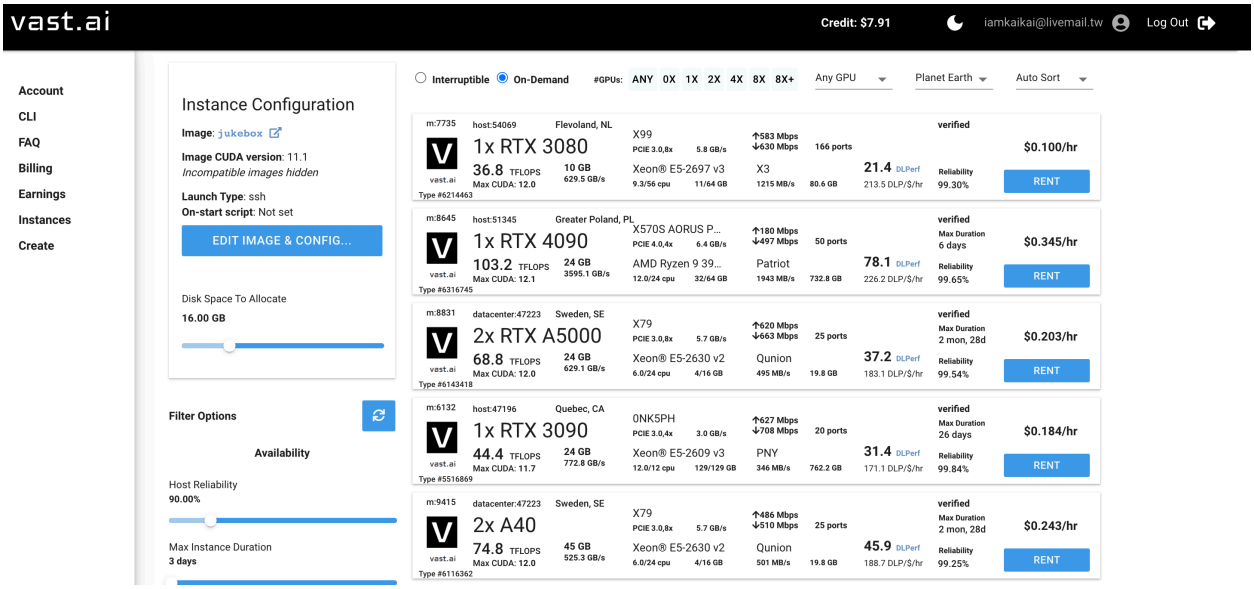
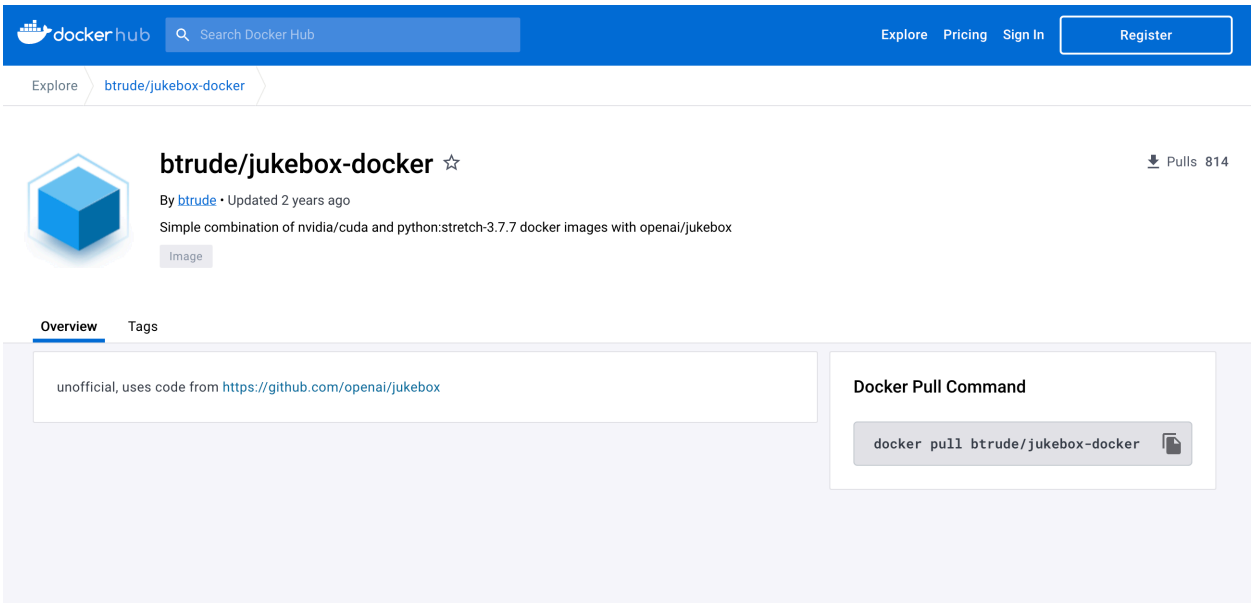
```

I devised a resource-intensive solution: to generate as many long, low-level (fast but noisy) samples as possible, with the hope of securing a "perfect" output that would eliminate the need for editing. To accomplish this, I discovered a Docker image that can mirror the development environment of Jukebox: https://hub.docker.com/r/btrude/jukebox-docker. This resource opened up the opportunity for me to manipulate even more hyperparameters and potentially fine-tune the model. Additionally, I found a cost-effective GPU-sharing platform Vast.ai , which granted me access to high-performance hardware.





Nonetheless, Jukebox is a considerably slow model. After dedicating 2-3 full days to training, I was only able to generate 30 pieces of 2.5-minute songs. Among these samples, a mere 3-5

outputs met my satisfaction. The rest either started promisingly but quickly veered off course, or struggled to formulate a reasonable structure. Interestingly, I observed that despite setting the generation length at 2.5 minutes, most songs began to fade out after the 2-minute mark and the quality noticeably declined after 1 minute. This highlighted the model's limitations, and I ultimately had to resort to editing the output samples in Ableton Live. I managed to use three generated outputs, discovering some clever tactics to weave different pieces together. While Jukebox excels at maintaining tempo and key, my final composition still exhibited some evident gaps between sections. Identifying these obstacles was an insightful part of the process.

Source

1. 15-steps - Radiohead: https://genius.com/Radiohead-15-step-lyrics
2. jukebox-docker: https://hub.docker.com/r/btrude/jukebox-docker/
3. btrude's github: https://github.com/btrude/jukebox-docker
4. Vast.ai: https://vast.ai/
5. Jukebox: https://github.com/openai/jukebox
6. Google colab: https://colab.research.google.com/drive/1YjOmczsWqPl3rIrBJ1I7PkzqUyRtOxVI
7. My Python lyrics analysis script (in the attachment)