



Techno storm as AI Stefanie Sun goes viral on Bilibili



Some of the AI-generated music videos using Sun's voice. One of the AI-generated videos content creator Ziyu uploaded.

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SINGAPOREAN singer Stefanie Sun would probably never have imagined that she would bask in the limelight again in this manner.

Her voice is the centerpiece of a series of music videos generating a buzz on Bilibili.com, a gen-z-dominated Chinese video platform, recently. But she hasn't sung these songs. They were generated entirely by artificial intelligence software.

Such videos are generated by so-vits-svc fork, an open source software developed on GitHub that enables anyone to train their own AI model to speak in any voice and language.

One of the uploader Ziyu has garnered millions of views on the few AI-generated videos he posted. Many left comments saying they were astonished by the fidelity of Sun's voice generated by AI.

Ziyu has previously made a series of AI-generated music videos of pop singer David Zee Tao and Jay Chou, but none of their video' views can quite match those of the AI Stefanie Sun series.

"It probably has something to do with Sun's distinctive voice and the way she articulates while singing. Her voice has a grainy quality and a unique breath. These qualities somehow matched the AI model, which is probably why videos using Sun's voice have

gained the most views," he speculated.

According to the introduction on Github, the current version of this project has iterated to version 4.0. Compared with previous projects such as VITS, soft-vc, and VISinger2, the use of Sovits is very simplified, and users can train the desired acoustic model with just a few audio segments.

However, the audio has to be a "dry sound". In a song, it is the "original sound" after removing the instruments, accompaniment, reverberation, and harmony.

In order to make the AI's singing more believable, the trainer must also collect the singer's "dry sound" performance at various pitches. "So generally speaking, the AI works of singers with a wide vocal range will be more similar," Ziyu explained.

Out of curiosity, he has replaced many songs with his own voice, and sung in other languages such as English and Japanese.

"When I first heard my own voice, I had goosebumps all over my body. It was fun, but I also felt a little scared," he said.

How singers and the music industry take it?

Many people, including the singers themselves, feel fearful. Taiwan singer Sandee Chan revealed on social media last month that her new song "Teach Me How to Be Your Lover,"