

Working with Hugging Face

Hugging Face Basics

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What is Hugging Face?

Hugging Face is an ecosystem for discovering, running, training, and sharing machine learning models and datasets, with a strong emphasis on open-source and reproducibility.

The “core four” libraries are: `transformers` (models + pipelines), `tokenizers` (fast tokenization), `datasets` (data loading/processing), and `huggingface_hub` (Hub interaction + versioning).

> The Hugging Face Hub

The Hub is a Git-backed platform for hosting **Models**, **Datasets**, and **Spaces** (interactive demos), plus Community features for sharing and discovery.

> Key definitions

- A **model** is a pretrained checkpoint; a **tokenizer** converts raw text into tokens; a **pipeline** bundles preprocessing, inference, and postprocessing for a task.
- A **dataset** is an Arrow-backed collection of data with **splits** (train/validation/test).
- A **checkpoint** is a saved snapshot of model weights/config; **inference** means running a trained model on new inputs; a **repo** is a Git-backed Hub unit storing models/datasets/Spaces.

> Model Cards and Dataset Cards

- A **Model Card** explains intended use, training data, evaluation, limitations/biases, and licensing.
- A **Dataset Card** describes data sources, schema/splits, known issues/biases, ethics, and licensing.

Use cards to assess fitness-for-purpose, risk, and reproducibility.

> Where to run inference?

- Run **locally** for control, lower latency, and offline use (you manage hardware/dependencies).
- Use an **inference provider** for fast setup and scalability (trade control for network latency and usage-based costs).

> Workflows - Inference (Transformers)

Quickstart: Run inference with a pipeline

```
from transformers import pipeline

# Create a pipeline by specifying a task and model ID
analyze_sentiment = pipeline(
    "sentiment-analysis",
    model="distilbert-base-uncased-finetuned-sst-2-english"
)

# Run inference on input text
analyze_sentiment("Hugging Face makes NLP workflows easy!")
```

Text summarization

```
from transformers import pipeline

# Create a summarization pipeline
summarize_text = pipeline(
    "summarization",
    model="facebook/bart-large-cnn"
)

# Summarize input text
summarize_text("Long document text goes here...")
```

Document question answering

```
from transformers import pipeline

# Create a document QA pipeline
answer_question = pipeline(
    "document-question-answering",
    model="impira/layoutlm-document-qa"
)
```

```
# Ask a question about a document image
answer_question(
    image="invoice.png",
    question="What is the invoice total?"
)
```

Run inference manually

```
import torch
from transformers import AutoTokenizer, AutoModelForSequenceClassification

model_id = "distilbert-base-uncased-finetuned-sst-2-english"

tokenizer = AutoTokenizer.from_pretrained(model_id)
model = AutoModelForSequenceClassification.from_pretrained(model_id)

inputs = tokenizer("Hugging Face is great", return_tensors="pt")

with torch.no_grad():
    outputs = model(**inputs)

outputs.logits.argmax(dim=-1).item()
```

> Data processing workflows (datasets)

Load and slice datasets

```
from datasets import load_dataset

movie_reviews = load_dataset("imdb")

train_reviews = movie_reviews["train"]
train_reviews[0]

small_sample = train_reviews.select(range(100))
```

Preprocess a dataset

```
from datasets import load_dataset
from transformers import AutoTokenizer

dataset = load_dataset("imdb")
tokenizer = AutoTokenizer.from_pretrained("distilbert-base-uncased")

def tokenize_batch(batch):
    return tokenizer(
        batch["text"],
        truncation=True,
        padding="max_length",
        max_length=256
    )

tokenized_dataset = dataset.map(
    tokenize_batch,
    batched=True,
    remove_columns=["text"]
)
```

> Working with the Hub (huggingface_hub)

Save locally and reload

```
from transformers import AutoTokenizer, AutoModelForSequenceClassification

model_id = "distilbert-base-uncased-finetuned-sst-2-english"

tokenizer = AutoTokenizer.from_pretrained(model_id)
model = AutoModelForSequenceClassification.from_pretrained(model_id)

tokenizer.save_pretrained("local_tokenizer")
model.save_pretrained("local_model")

AutoTokenizer.from_pretrained("local_tokenizer")
AutoModelForSequenceClassification.from_pretrained("local_model")
```

Log in to the Hub

```
from huggingface_hub import login

login()
```

Upload (push) a model to the Hub

```
from transformers import AutoTokenizer, AutoModelForSequenceClassification

repo_id = "your-username/my-model"

tokenizer = AutoTokenizer.from_pretrained("distilbert-base-uncased")
model = AutoModelForSequenceClassification.from_pretrained("distilbert-
base-uncased")

tokenizer.push_to_hub(repo_id)
model.push_to_hub(repo_id)
```

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