

I. IMPLEMENTATION

Following the idea of our approach, we have implemented STCD. The source code is available at <https://github.com/CSCC5704/SourceCodewithUI>.

After catching all the tokens and accumulating their frequencies, in the pretreatment of variable names, we introduced bigram similarity. After actual testing, the threshold is set to 0.7 in our project. If the similarity of two variable names is higher than 0.7, then they are considered the same and their frequency will be compared.

For each category of tokens, to calculate the similarity, we used an algorithm similar to Levenshtein Distance:

$$\text{Sim}(\text{List}_x, \text{List}_y) = 1 - \frac{\sum \text{Diff}(\text{Elem}_{x_i}, \text{Elem}_{y_i})}{\sum (\text{Freq}_{x_i} + \text{Freq}_{y_i})} \quad (1)$$

where the difference is defined by:

$$\text{Diff}(\text{Elem}_{x_a}, \text{Elem}_{y_a}) = \text{Abs}(\text{Freq}_{x_a} - \text{Freq}_{y_a}) \quad (2)$$

This is a well-defined calculation, because no difference in the lists gives a similarity of 1, while totally different lists give similarity of 0.

Here are two examples showing the reasonability of this algorithm:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{List}_x &= \langle a, 3 \rangle, \langle b, 3 \rangle, \langle c, 3 \rangle, \langle d, 2 \rangle \\ \text{List}_y &= \langle a, 3 \rangle, \langle b, 3 \rangle, \langle c, 3 \rangle, \langle d, 5 \rangle \\ \text{Sim}(\text{List}_x, \text{List}_y) &= 1 - \frac{3}{11 + 14} = 0.88 \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{List}_x &= \langle a, 3 \rangle, \langle b, 1 \rangle, \langle c, 3 \rangle, \langle d, 1 \rangle \\ \text{List}_y &= \langle a, 0 \rangle, \langle b, 5 \rangle, \langle c, 2 \rangle, \langle d, 5 \rangle \\ \text{Sim}(\text{List}_x, \text{List}_y) &= 1 - \frac{3 + 4 + 1 + 4}{8 + 12} = 0.4 \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

here $\langle a, 3 \rangle$ means the frequency for a is 3.

This result matches our intuition: the lists in the first example are more similar than in the second example, and we are likely to take the first example as clone, which has a similarity of 0.88.

Before using machine learning to set the weights, we set the weights arbitrarily, which may not provide the best result, but it works in finding clones. That being said, STCD can also run without training, however the training process will provide a better result.

To get training data, we use manual selection to find “ground truth”. However it is not so easy to manually find “ground truth”: if a Java file has 100 methods, then we need to compare $\frac{100 \times 99}{2} = 4950$ pairs. In these pairs, most of them are not clone, so we applied our tool to the Java file, with a low threshold of 0.65 to rule out most of the pairs, and manually checked the rest. This reduced our work from thousands of comparisons to less than a hundred. This process may introduce false negatives but we consider it to be small.

We selected training files from SWT—the tool to develop our UI. The advantage to use data from the same project is that machine learning can learn the developer’s behavior. We chose 10 Java files, namely: *Combo.java*, *DragSource.java*, *DropTarget.java*, *FormData.java*, *Label.java*, *Printer.java*, *Program.java*, *Shell.java*, *Text.java*, *WebKit.java*. The number of methods ranges from 12 to 125.

In the training process, MLP studies 50 clone pairs and 150 non-clone pairs to decide the best weights. There are many more non-clone pairs but studying more of them does not give a better result.

To make STCD more user friendly, we also developed a UI, as shown in Fig:1.

The instruction to use STCD:

- 1) From the training menu users are able to select training files. STCD can also run the testing without training, then starts from Step 4.
- 2) After the selection of training files, users can adjust Hidden Nodes and Training Times in the MLP training process, as well as the threshold.
- 3) Run the training until it’s ready, that takes less than seconds.
- 4) From the test menu users can choose the Java file to test. A second file can be selected, if not, the test will be within the same file.
- 5) Run the test until the result is shown.
- 6) From the Results window, click on the clone and the clone pairs will be shown in green and red color. The Method 1 and Method 2 windows show the token frequencies in each method.

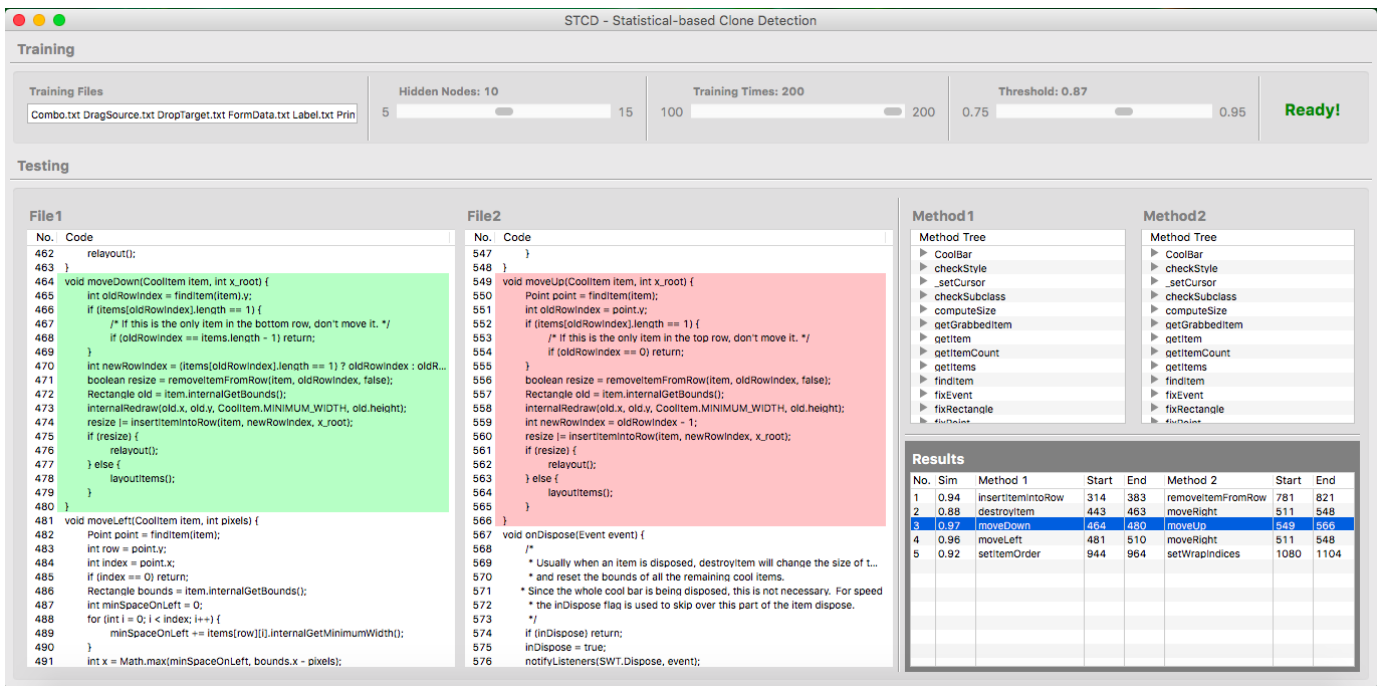


Fig. 1. User Interface