

# Assignment II: Machine Translation

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# Optional Assignment:

- **This assignment is optional** due to the coming final exams
- **The final assignment grades** will be the maximum between Assignment 1 and 2

# Objectives:

- **Use the Hugging Face Hub for datasets:** discover, download, and prepare translation datasets
- **Load pretrained models and tokenizers** from the community
- **Build training pipelines using** transformers, datasets, accelerate, and evaluate
- **Fine-tune a translation model** end-to-end for a chosen language pair (zh-sim->en)
- **Evaluate translation quality** using BLEU (via sacrebleu) and report results
- **Develop debugging skills** for identifying and fixing common deep learning issues in HF version

# HuggingFace 😊 :

The screenshot shows the Hugging Face website homepage. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for Models, Datasets, Spaces, Community, Docs, Enterprise, Pricing, Log In, and Sign Up. A search bar is also present. Below the navigation, there's a sidebar titled "Tasks" with categories like Multimodal, Computer Vision, Natural Language Processing, Audio, Tabular, and Reinforcement Learning, each with sub-options. To the right, there's a large list of models, each with a name, description, and metrics like text generation, updates, and likes. The main headline on the page reads "The AI community building the future." with a smiling emoji.

**The AI community building the future.**

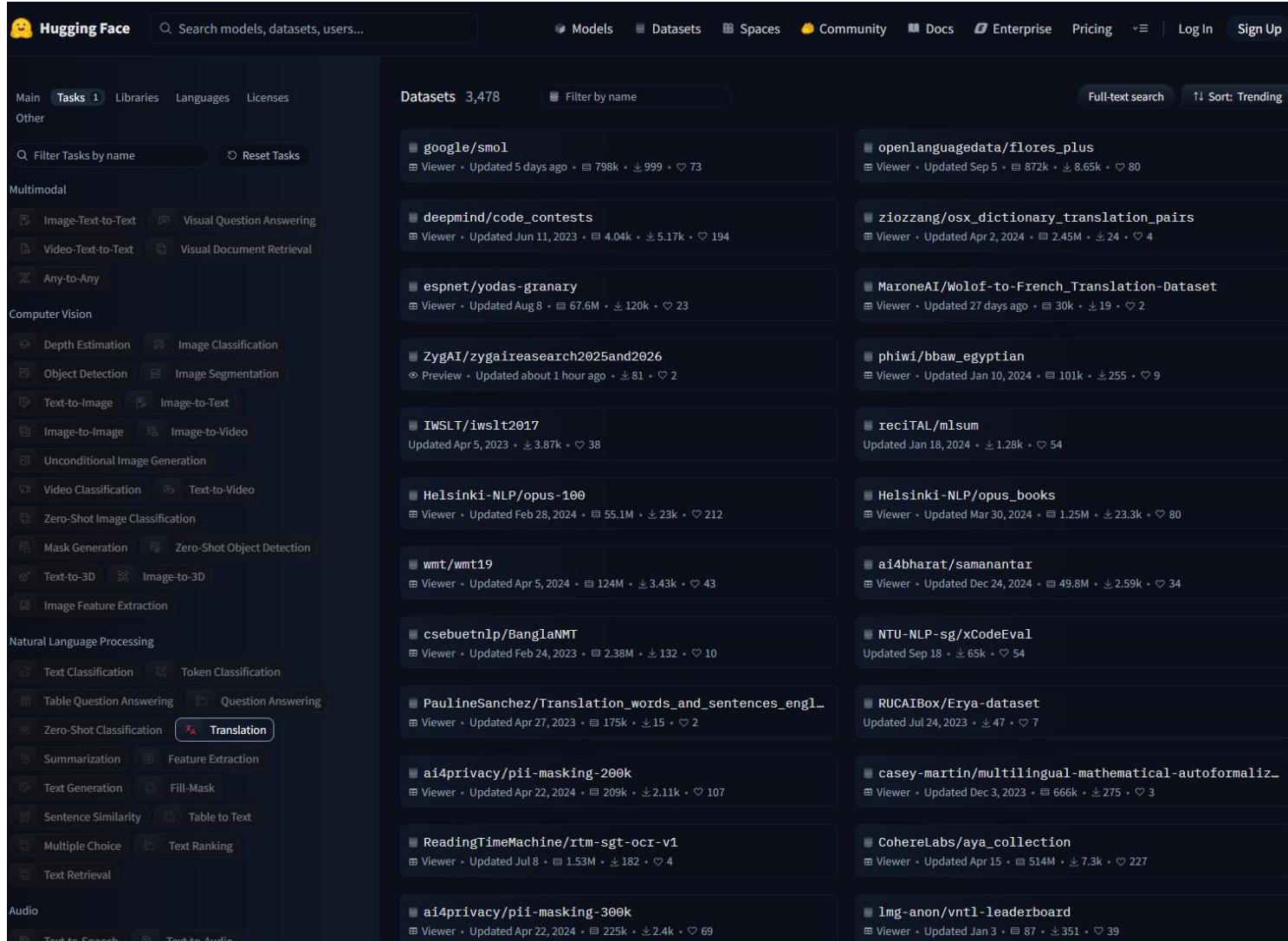
The platform where the machine learning community collaborates on models, datasets, and applications.

Explore AI Apps or Browse 1M+ models

Models 469,541 Filter by name

- meta-llama/Llama-2-70b
- stabilityai/stable-diffusion-xl-base-0.9
- openchat/openchat
- illyasviel/ControlNet-v1-1
- cerspense/zeroscope\_v2\_XL
- meta-llama/Llama-2-13b
- tiiuae/falcon-40b-instruct
- WizardLM/WizardCoder-15B-V1.0
- CompVis/stable-diffusion-v1-4
- stabilityai/stable-diffusion-2-1
- Salesforce/xgen-7b-8k-inst

# HuggingFace Datasets:



The screenshot shows the Hugging Face Datasets platform interface. On the left, there's a sidebar with categories like Main, Tasks, Libraries, Languages, Licenses, Multimodal, Computer Vision, Natural Language Processing, and Audio. The main area displays a grid of dataset cards. Each card contains the dataset name, a small icon, a 'Viewer' button, the last update date, the number of rows, and the number of columns. Some cards also show a preview image or a link to the dataset page.

- Main**: Tasks (1), Libraries, Languages, Licenses, Other
- Multimodal**: Image-Text-to-Text, Visual Question Answering, Video-Text-to-Text, Visual Document Retrieval, Any-to-Any
- Computer Vision**: Depth Estimation, Image Classification, Object Detection, Image Segmentation, Text-to-Image, Image-to-Text, Image-to-Image, Image-to-Video, Unconditional Image Generation, Video Classification, Text-to-Video, Zero-Shot Image Classification, Mask Generation, Zero-Shot Object Detection, Text-to-3D, Image-to-3D, Image Feature Extraction
- Natural Language Processing**: Text Classification, Token Classification, Table Question Answering, Question Answering, Zero-Shot Classification, Translation (selected), Summarization, Feature Extraction, Text Generation, Fill-Mask, Sentence Similarity, Table to Text, Multiple Choice, Text Ranking, Text Retrieval
- Audio**: Text-to-Speech, Text-to-Audio

**Datasets** 3,478

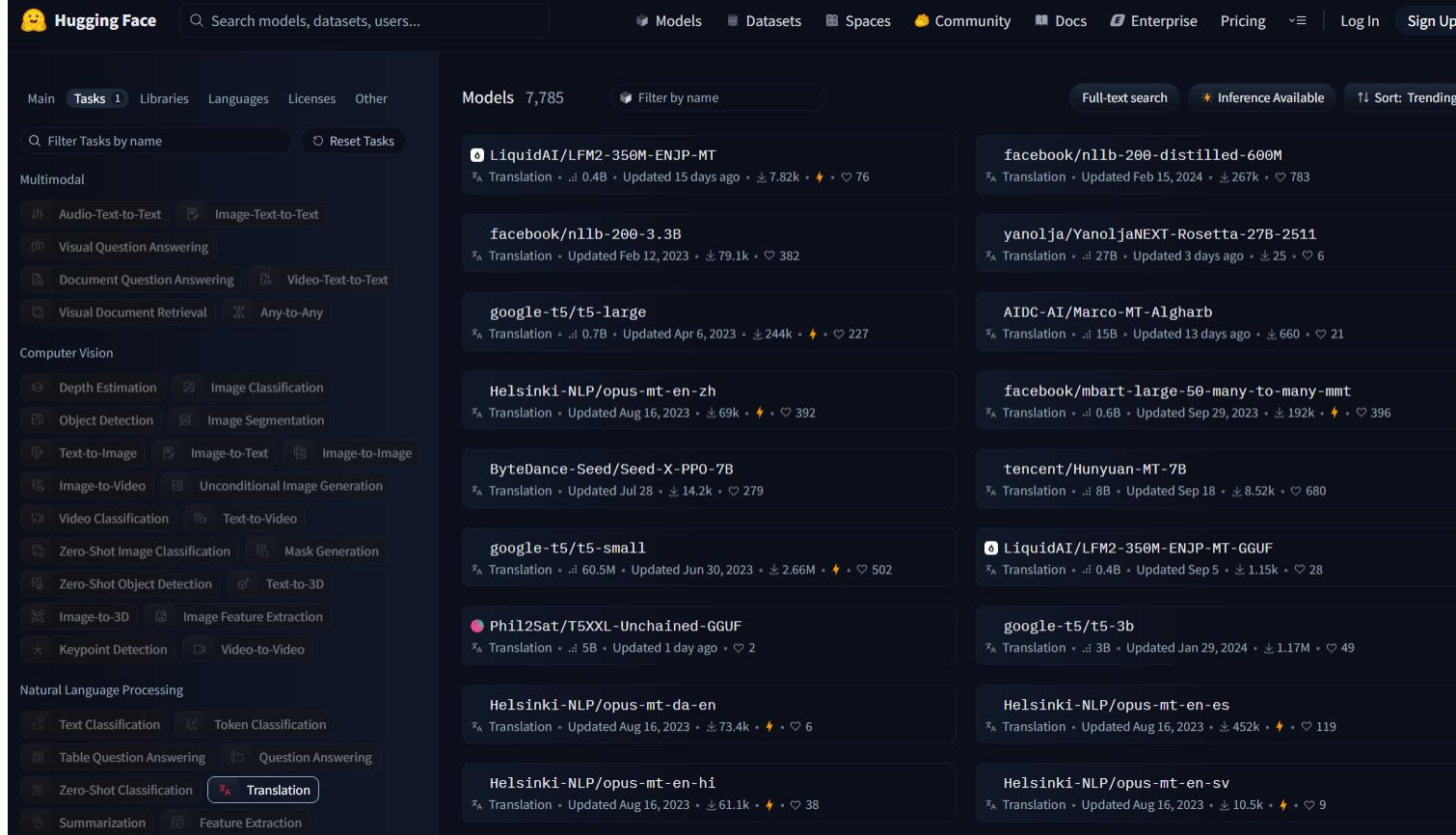
Filter by name Full-text search Sort: Trending

Dataset	Description	Last Updated	Rows	Columns
google/sm10		5 days ago	798k	999
openlanguagedata/flores_plus		Updated Sep 5	872k	8.65k
deepmind/code_contests		Updated Jun 11, 2023	4.04k	5.17k
ziozzang/osx_dictionary_translation_pairs		Updated Apr 2, 2024	2.45M	24
espnet/yoda-granary		Updated Aug 8	67.6M	120k
MaroneAI/Wolof-to-French_Translation-Dataset		Updated 27 days ago	30k	19
ZygAI/zgaiareasearch2025and2026		Updated about 1 hour ago	81	2
phiwi/bbaw_egyptian		Updated Jan 10, 2024	101k	255
IWSLT/iwslt2017	Updated Apr 5, 2023	3.87k	38	
recITAL/mlsum	Updated Jan 18, 2024	1.28k	54	
Helsinki-NLP/opus-100	Updated Feb 28, 2024	55.1M	23k	
Helsinki-NLP/opus_books	Updated Mar 30, 2024	1.25M	23.3k	
wmt/wmt19	Updated Apr 5, 2024	124M	3.43k	
ai4bharat/samanantar	Updated Dec 24, 2024	49.8M	2.59k	
csebuelpn/BanglaNMT	Updated Feb 24, 2023	2.38M	132	
NTU-NLP-sg/xCodeEval	Updated Sep 18	65k	54	
PaulineSanchez/Translation_words_and_sentences_engl...	Updated Apr 27, 2023	175k	15	
RUCAIBox/Erya-dataset	Updated Jul 24, 2023	47	2	
ai4privacy/pii-masking-200k	Updated Apr 22, 2024	209k	2.11k	
casey-martin/multilingual-mathematical-autoformaliz...	Updated Dec 3, 2023	666k	275	
ReadingTimeMachine/rtm-sgt-ocr-v1	Updated Jul 18	1.53M	182	
CohereLabs/ayu_collection	Updated Apr 15	514M	7.3k	
ai4privacy/pii-masking-300k	Updated Apr 22, 2024	225k	2.4k	
1mg-anon/vnt1-leaderboard	Updated Jan 3	87	351	

Use one line to load datasets from HugginFace platform:

```
>>> from datasets import load_dataset
>>> dataset = load_dataset("wmt19", "zh-en")
>>> dataset
DatasetDict({
    train: Dataset({
        features: ['translation'],
        num_rows: 25984574
    })
    validation: Dataset({
        features: ['translation'],
        num_rows: 3981
    })
})
```

# HuggingFace Transformers:



The screenshot shows the Hugging Face platform interface. On the left, there's a sidebar with categories like Main, Tasks, Libraries, Languages, Licenses, Other, Multimodal, Computer Vision, Natural Language Processing, and Summarization. The main area displays a grid of 20 model cards. Each card contains the model name, a small icon, a brief description, and some metrics. For example, the first card is "LiquidAI/LFM2-350M-ENJP-MT" with a rating of 7.82k and 76 stars. The last card shown is "Helsinki-NLP/opus-mt-en-hi" with a rating of 61.1k and 38 stars.

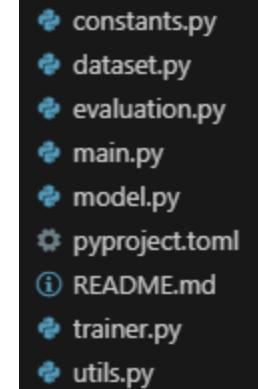
Use one line to load tokenizers and pretrained models from HugginFace platform:

```
>>> from transformers import AutoTokenizer, AutoModel
>>> tokenizer = AutoTokenizer.from_pretrained(pretrained_model_name_or_path = "Helsinki-NLP/opus-mt-en-zh")
/on_marian.py:175: UserWarning: Recommended: pip install sacremoses.
  warnings.warn("Recommended: pip install sacremoses.")
>>> tokenizer
 MarianTokenizer(name_or_path='Helsinki-NLP/opus-mt-en-zh', vocab_size=65001, model_max_length=512, is_fast=False,
 padding_side='right', truncation_side='right', special_tokens={'eos_token': '</s>', 'unk_token': '<unk>', 'pad_token': '<pad>'}, clean_up_tokenization_spaces=False, added_tokens_decoder={
    0: AddedToken("</s>", rstrip=False, lstrip=False, single_word=False, normalized=False, special=True),
    1: AddedToken("<unk>", rstrip=False, lstrip=False, single_word=False, normalized=False, special=True),
    65000: AddedToken("<pad>", rstrip=False, lstrip=False, single_word=False, normalized=False, special=True)
},
)
>>> model = AutoModel.from_pretrained(pretrained_model_name_or_path = "Helsinki-NLP/opus-mt-en-zh")
>>> model
 MarianModel(
    (shared): Embedding(65001, 512, padding_idx=65000)
    (encoder): MarianEncoder(
        (embed_tokens): Embedding(65001, 512, padding_idx=65000)
        (embed_positions): MarianSinusoidalPositionalEmbedding(512, 512)
        (layers): ModuleList(
            (0-5): 6 x MarianEncoderLayer(
                (self_attn): MarianAttention(
                    (k_proj): Linear(in_features=512, out_features=512, bias=True)
                    (v_proj): Linear(in_features=512, out_features=512, bias=True)
                    (q_proj): Linear(in_features=512, out_features=512, bias=True)
                    (out_proj): Linear(in_features=512, out_features=512, bias=True)
                )
                (self_attn_layer_norm): LayerNorm((512,), eps=1e-05, elementwise_affine=True)
                (activation_fn): SiLU()
                (fc1): Linear(in_features=512, out_features=2048, bias=True)
                (fc2): Linear(in_features=2048, out_features=512, bias=True)
                (final_layer_norm): LayerNorm((512,), eps=1e-05, elementwise_affine=True)
            )
        )
    )
    (decoder): MarianDecoder(
        (embed_tokens): Embedding(65001, 512, padding_idx=65000)
        (embed_positions): MarianSinusoidalPositionalEmbedding(512, 512)
        (layers): ModuleList(
            (0-5): 6 x MarianDecoderLayer(
                (self_attn): MarianAttention(
                    (k_proj): Linear(in_features=512, out_features=512, bias=True)
                    (v_proj): Linear(in_features=512, out_features=512, bias=True)
                    (q_proj): Linear(in_features=512, out_features=512, bias=True)
                    (out_proj): Linear(in_features=512, out_features=512, bias=True)
                )
                (activation_fn): SiLU()
                (self_attn_layer_norm): LayerNorm((512,), eps=1e-05, elementwise_affine=True)
            )
        )
    )
)
```

# What we will do:

The workflow is organized into 5 files:

- **Dataset Sourcing & Preparation (dataset.py)**  
Explore HF Datasets, load splits, perform filtering/mapping, and train/validation/test preparation
- **Model & Tokenizer Setup (model.py)**  
Select a suitable base model from the Hub and initialize tokenizer and config
- **Training Pipeline (trainer.py)**  
Configure TrainingArguments, data collators, metrics, logging, and checkpointing
- **Run & Monitor Training (main.py)**  
Orchestrate end-to-end training and validation, with periodic evaluation
- **Evaluation & Reporting (evaluation.py)**  
Compute BLEU on the held-out test set; save artifacts and summary



# What we will do:

- **Goal:** Fine-tune a suitable HF model on a translation dataset and achieve competitive BLEU.
- **What you can modify:** You may change any files in the repo **except** `main.py`, part of `evaluation.py` and `utils.py`. The test set must not be modified.
- **What to improve:**
  - **Enriching Datasets:** Use a more varied dataset (no leakage of the test set into training)
  - **Base model choice:** Select an appropriate pretrained model for your language pair
  - **Training pipeline:** Tune hyperparameters (batch size, LR, epochs, schedulers, label smoothing, gradient accumulation)
  - **Data processing:** Tokenization lengths, filtering, cleaning, language codes, special tokens
  - **Advanced HF features:** Mixed precision (`fp16/bf16`), gradient checkpointing, LoRA/PEFT, better data collators, scheduler choices, early stopping

## Example Accepted Datasets/Models

- Datasets: `wmt14`, `wmt16`, `wmt19`, `opus100`, `ted_talks_iwslt`, etc. (via HF Datasets)
- Models: MarianMT (Helsinki-NLP/opus-mt-xx-yy), mT5, MBART-50, M2M100, NLLB-200 (ensure your pair is supported), and even **LLMs**, etc.

- ⊕ constants.py
- ⊕ dataset.py
- ⊕ evaluation.py
- ⊕ main.py
- ⊕ model.py
- ⚙️ pyproject.toml
- ⓘ README.md
- ⊕ trainer.py
- ⊕ utils.py

# Grading:

We will re-run `main.py` and evaluate on the fixed test set. BLEU (SacreBLEU) is the primary metric.

## Important Considerations:

1. **Error-Free Execution:** Your code must run without errors (and avoid GPU OOM on the provided environment)
2. **Correct Data Usage:** Do not alter or leak the test set into training
3. **No Personal Pre-trained Model:** "Downloads last month" of loaded pre-trained model on HuggingFace should be **GREATER THAN 10**
4. **Reasonable Performance:** Achieve competitive BLEU given the chosen model and setup
5. **Runtime:** Complete in a reasonable time budget ( $\leq$  12 hours with **ONE GPU on HKU GPU Farm**)

## BLEU-based Grading (dummy thresholds, subject to adjustment):

- **BLEU  $\geq 25$ :** 100%
- **BLEU  $\geq 24$ :** 90%
- **BLEU  $\geq 23$ :** 80%
- **BLEU  $\geq 22$ :** 70%
- **BLEU  $\geq 21$ :** 60%
- **BLEU  $\geq 20$ :** 50%
- **BLEU  $< 20$  / Fail to reproduce / Overtime:** 0%

# Important dates:

- Assignment II Release: Nov. 06 (Thursday)
- Submission Deadline: Nov. 30 (Sunday) (23:59 GMT+8)

# Late submission policy:

- All submissions later than the deadline will NOT be accepted

# **Questions!**

If any more questions, please contact [kendwj@hku.hk](mailto:kendwj@hku.hk)  
or [schen59@hku.hk](mailto:schen59@hku.hk)