Unlocking AI Performance with NeMo Curator: Scalable Data Processing for LLMs

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https://github.com/ayushbits/llm-development

ayushbits.github.io





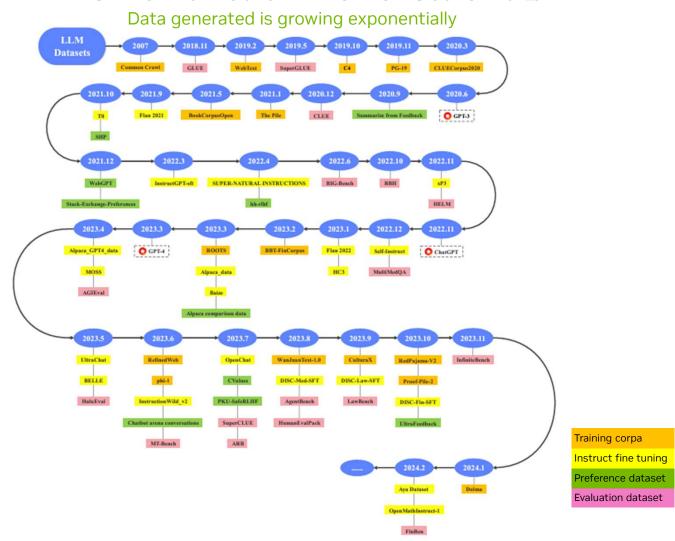
Sessions

(1 hour) - Completed Cluster health-check using NCCL, MLPerf, HPL Understand the hardware and its performance on multiple GPUs. Ensure that your training performance aligns with the h/w benchmarks Evaluate the cluster to ensure platform fits within your needs. 2. Large scale data curation for LLM training (1 hour) - Today Deep-dive into aspects of data curation Mixed-precision training (1.5 hour) 3. Distributed and stable LLM training on a large-scale cluster Parallelism techniques Frameworks and wrappers Recipes and best practices 4. Post-training and evaluation of pre-trained LLM (1 hour) Sync between training data and expected performance Algorithms and frameworks 5. Fine-tuning and deployment (1 hour) Dynamic and static batching, state management, inference server

Best practices for optimizing model



LLMs Are Trained on Internet Scale Data



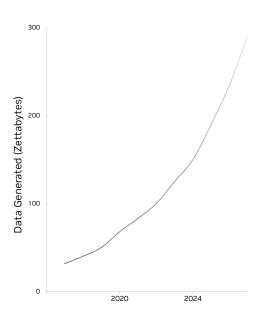
Slide 3

NJ1 this slide is a bit hard to follow. may be show a exponential graph with y as data size and x as year? don't need to cover all the years Nirmal Kumar Juluru,

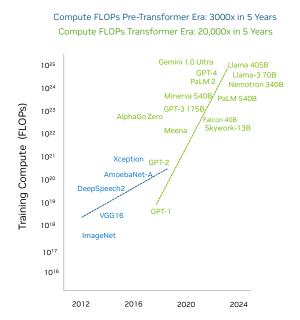
Nirmal Kumar Juluru, 2025-04-03T18:03:59.659

Data Processing for LLMs Needs Accelerated Computing

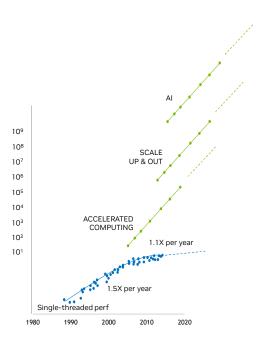
Petabytes of Data Generated Yearly



LLMs Trained on Internet Scale Data

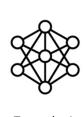


Moore's Law Has Ended





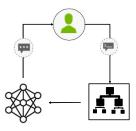
Data Processing for Different LLM Needs



Training Foundation Model



Fine-Tuning Foundation Model



Retrieval Augmented Generation (RAG)

Data Size	TB and PB	GBs	GBs
Compute Scale	Supercomputer	Single-node	Single GPU
Frequency	One-time	Iterative	Iterative & Continuous



Slide 5

NJ1 why is single node for fine-tuning but single gpu for rag?

Nirmal Kumar Juluru,

2025-04-03T18-14-36-178

AD1 0 the minimal requirement for

fine-tuning and RAG Allison Ding, 2025-04-03T18:30:49.271

Challenges with Existing Solutions for Training Foundation Models

Inefficiencies lead to higher TCO and slower time to market



Longer Processing Time



Un-optimized Models



Un-optimized Pipelines



Knowledge & Expertise



NeMo Curator - Overview

Scalable, configurable pipelines to curate text, image and video datasets lead to more accurate applications

Higher Accuracy



Improve accuracy with less data and less training compute

Faster Processing



GPU acceleration with RAPIDS for Dedupe (Exact, Fuzzy, Semantic) and Quality Classifier Models Scalability



Up to **100+ PB data** by scaling across multiple nodes

Classifier Models



State-of-the-Art quality classifier NIM microservice for safety, content, and diversity

Deploy anywhere



Python APIs in a customizable and modular OSS library, runnable across CSP and On-prem

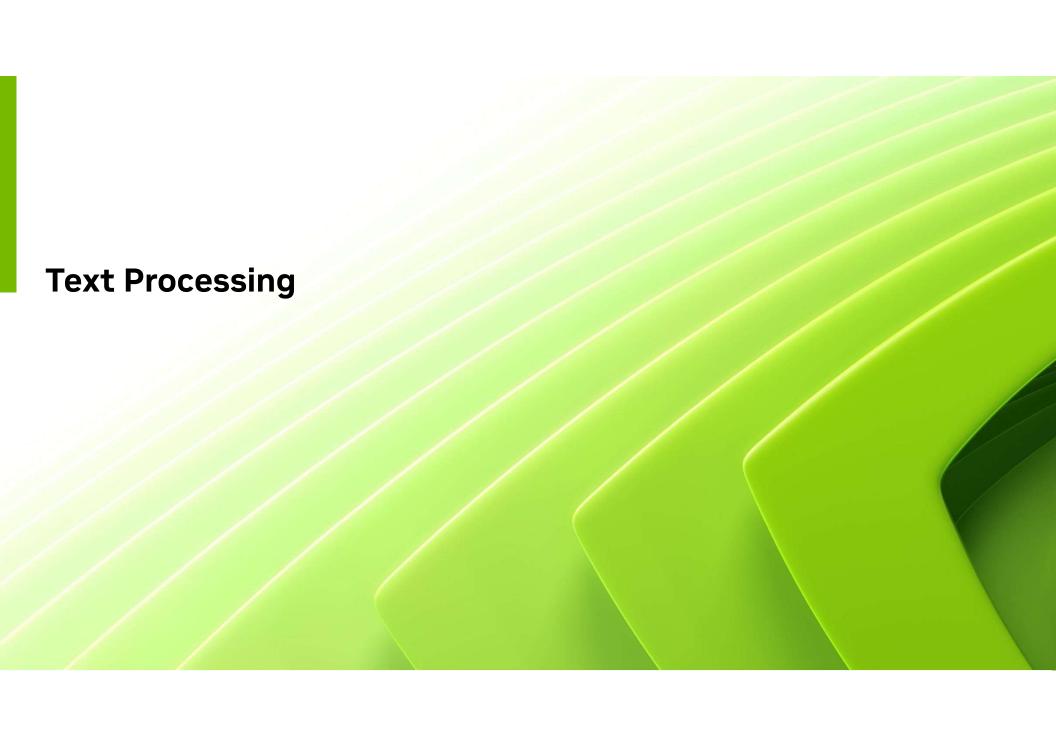
<u>GitHub</u>

NeMo framework container

PyPI

Microservice (coming soon)

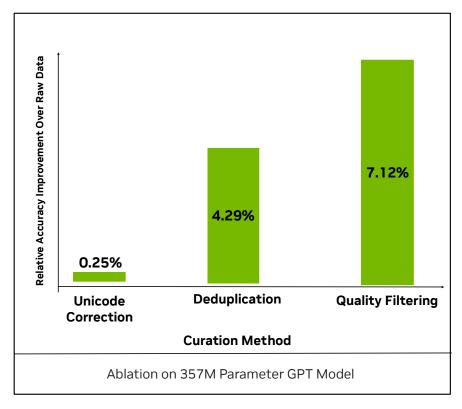




High Quality Data Processing Maximizes Model Performance

Data Curation helps build SOTA Models

LLM Accuracy Improvement on Curated Data





Slide 9

NJ1 use the latest version for this slide https://nvidia-my.sharepoint.com/:p:/

Nirmal Kumar Juluru,
2025_0A_03T18:06:41 879

AD1 0 The average accuracy graph is not found from GTC talk. Can you find it for me?

Allison Ding, 2025-04-05T05:15:46.735

Why is Data Curation Important?

State-of-the-art data curation is essential for developing state-of-the-art models across all modalities

Higher Accuracy

Faster Training

Task Specialization



Properly curated data leads to more improved accuracy across tasks \$

TCO Savings

Decreases both training and inference costs significantly



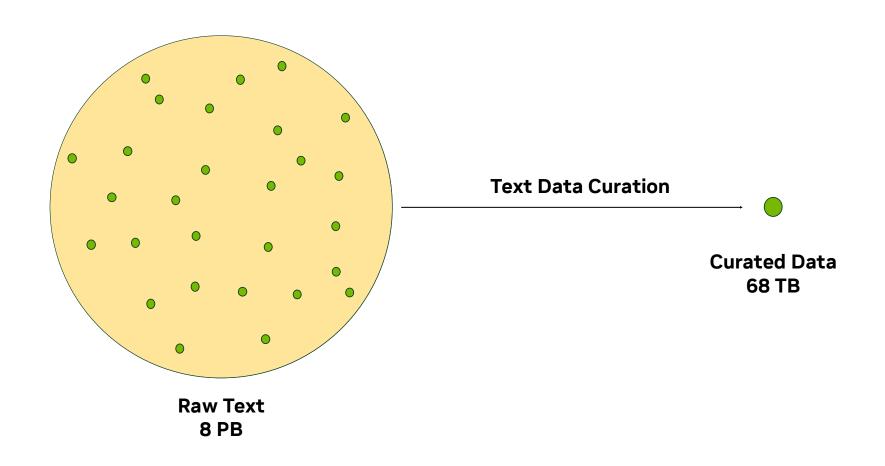
Reduces compute requirements by orders of magnitude, enabling faster iterations



Enables optimization for specific tasks such as reasoning rather than general-purpose solutions



Only 1% of Raw Text Data is Curated to Train Foundation Models

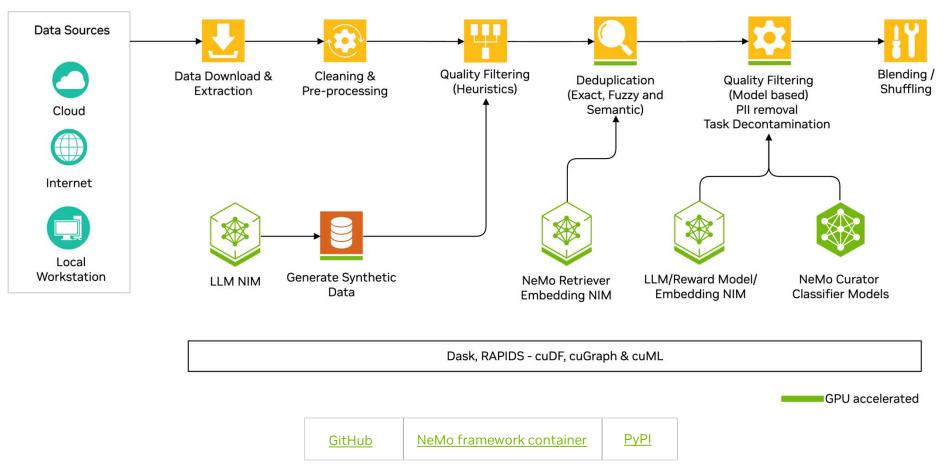




MA

Introducing: NeMo Curator for Text Processing

Easily integrate different features into your existing pipelines with Python APIs





Slide 12

NJ1 Remove custom filter.

Nirmal Kumar Juluru,

NJ1 0 Add dedupe methods

Nirmal Kumar Juluru,

NJ1 1 Task Decontamination

Nirmal Kumar Juluru, 2024-08-15T17:46:07.290

NJ1 2 PII

Nirmal Kumar Juluru, 2024-08-15T17:46:35.831

NJ1 3 Dask...

Nirmal Kumar Juluru, 2024_08_15T17-47-13-435

AM2 [@Nirmal Kumar Juluru] can you also add LLM/ RM/ Embedding Model NIMs in quality filtering (model based)

Arham Mehta, 2024-08-15T19:17:29.273

NJ2 0 Done

Nirmal Kumar Juluru,

NJ3 Mark Classifier NIM and Retriever embedding NIm as red

Nirmal Kumar Juluru,

AM4 [@Nirmal Kumar Juluru] placement of models -> let's keep the models down and not above the line;

Arham Mehta, 2024-08-20T20:53:01.159

NeMo Curator: Features to Train Foundation Models

Achieve higher accuracy with a variety of GPU-accelerated features



Synthetic Data Generation

- Pre-built pipelines for tasks like prompt generation, dialogue generation, and entity classification
- Modular Easily integrate NeMo Curator's features into your existing pipelines
- OpenAl API compatible Integrate custom Instruct and Reward models



Deduplication & Classification

- Lexical Deduplication Identical (Exact) or near identical (Fuzzy)
- Semantic Deduplication focuses on the meaning rather than the exact text
- Classifier Models State-of-theart open models to either enrich or filter your data.



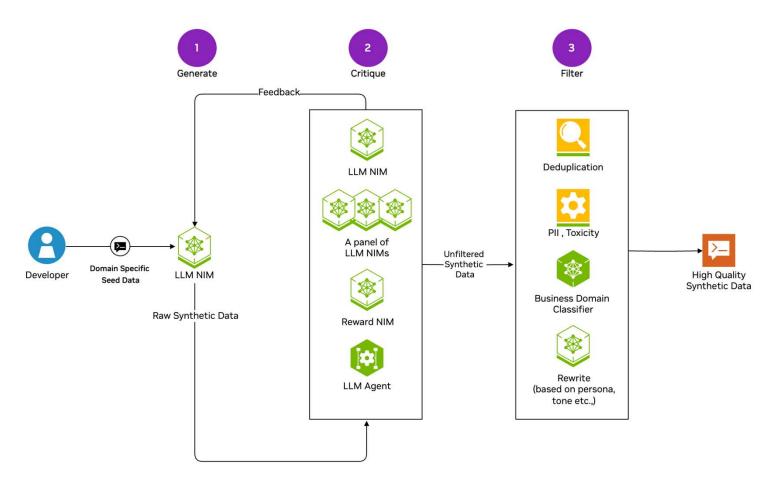
GPU Acceleration with RAPIDS

- > **cuDF** for deduplication & classifer models
- > **cuML** for K-means clustering in semantic deduplication
- cuGraph for fuzzy deduplication



Synthetic Data Generation

Easily get started with pre-built pipelines or integrate various features into your existing workflows





Synthetic Data Generation

Easily get started with pre-built pipelines or integrate various features into your existing workflows

Pre-built Pipelines

- Prompt generation (open q/a, closed q/a, writing, math/coding)
- Synthetic two-turn prompt generation
 - Dialogue generation
- Entity classification

Llama 3.1 Nemotron 70B/340B Reward Model

- Benchmark-Topping Performance
- Single scalar scoring for human preferences
- Permissive license for commercial use

Tooling Support

- Integrate into existing pipelines
- Bring your custom Instruct/Reward Model
- Supports different filtering techniques



Slide 15

NJ1 may be check what's the latest model for this is?

Nirmal Kumar Juluru, 2025-04-03T18:07:47 723 AD1 0 Is 340B retired?

Allison Ding, 2025-04-05T05:39:35.482

Synthetic Data Generation: Example

Use prompts to synthetically generate the QnAs and the reward score

```
model = "nvdev/nvidia/llama-3.1-nemotron-70b-instruct"
question_lst = []
for i in range(len(ragas)):
   closed_qa_responses = client.query_model(
       model=model,
       messages = [
                "role": "user".
                "content": f"Generate a single, concise question similar to '{ragas.question[i]}' based on the provided context.\n"
                          f"Do NOT include any explanations, rationale, or additional text in your response-just the question itself:\n"
                          f"{ragas.contexts[i]}"
       temperature = 0.2,
       top p = 0.7,
       max_tokens = 1024,
   question = closed_qa_responses[0]
   question_lst.append(question)
ragas['sdg_nemotron_q'] = question_lst
```

```
ragas['sdg_nemotron_q']

v 0.0s

0 What is the significance of including a module...

1 How does the task execution stage in HuggingGP...

2 What are the primary technical hurdles encount...

3 How does Algorithm Distillation (AD) leverage ...

4 What are the core architectural elements and o...

5 How do consistent naming conventions, intra-fi...

6 How does API—Bank assess LLMs' decision—making...

7 How does a package.json fit into defining a No...

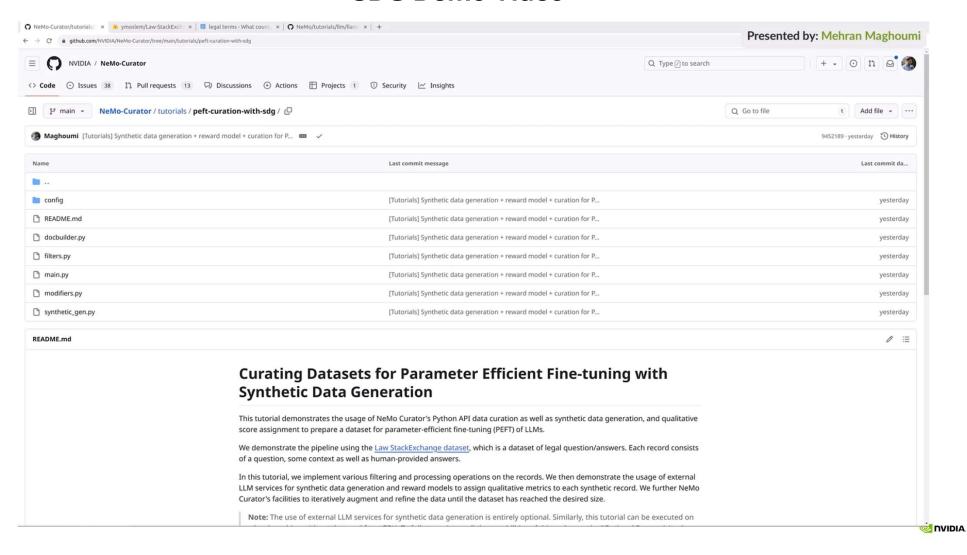
8 How does API—Bank assess LLMs' utilization of ...

9 How do finite context lengths and long-term pl...

Name: sdg_nemotron_q, dtype: object
```



SDG Demo Video



Synthetic Data Generation: Example

Build an SDG pipeline to generate the data



one example on SDG curated result

```
"id": "appliance-qa-B00074TB9U-synth-0",
   "asin": "B00074TB9U-synth-0",
   "question": "How effective is a ductless installation in eliminating cooking smells?",
   "answer": "The vent has two speeds; the lower one is suitable for regular air removal, while the higher speed is necessary for heavy-duty cooking. The higher speed functions well.",
   "questionType": "yes/no",
   "score": -1,
   "helpfulness": 0.6015625,
   "correctness": 0.388671875,
   "coherence": 3.078125,
   "complexity": 0.8671875,
   "verbosity": 0.60546875
```

Slide 18

NJ1 if you want to show a video - we have this https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Cdqk
Nirmal Kumar Juluru,
2025-04-03T18:09:43.942

Deduplication and Filtering

Scale across multi-node, multi-GPU setups, eliminating the need for iterative CPU processing

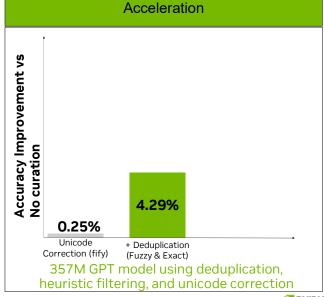
- · Supports lexical and semantic deduplication for document processing
- · Scales on multi node, multi-GPU by leveraging RAPIDS
- Scale to 100+ TB of data

Lexical Deduplication

- Utilizes text similarity to discover duplication
- Exact deduplication
- Hashing based matching for each document
- Fuzzy deduplication
- · Minhash, Bucketization and Clustering

Semantic Deduplication

- Utilizes meaning of text to discover duplication
- Leverages embedding models to identify semantic documents
- Modularity to use custom embedding model





NeMo Curator - Deduplication

Scale across multi-node, multi-GPU setups, eliminating the need for iterative CPU processing

Value Proposition

- Accelerate on multi-node multi-GPU setups by leverage RAPIDS
- > Scale up to 100+ TBs of data
- Get support for both
 - Lexical Deduplication: Uses text similarity, both Exact and Fuzzy
 - > Semantic Deduplication: Uses text meaning

Technical Details

Lexical Deduplication

- Exact deduplication
 - > Hashing for each document
- Fuzzy deduplication
 - > Minhash, Bucketization and Clustering

Semantic Deduplication

- Leverage embeddings to identify semantic documents
- Use SOTA NeMo Retriever Text Embedding NIM or customize with your embedding model



NeMo Curator - Classifier Models

Create high-quality data blends with RAPIDS accelerated inference

Value Proposition

- Accelerated inference with RAPIDS powered distributed data classification module and intelligent batching
- Seamless scalability for classifying TBs of data
- Faster processing with parallelization across multiple GPUs
- Lower memory and compute footprint with state-of-the-art open classifier models (Apache 2.0 license)
- 8 classifier models released

Classifier Models

Domain Classifier

- > Supports 26 domain classes
 - Top 10 classes: Finance, Health, Business and Industrial, Science, Law and Government, Internet and Telecom, Jobs and Education, News, Computers and Electronics, Shopping;
- > Trained on 1 million Common Crawl samples & 500k Wikipedia articles
- > Also available for multiple languages

Quality Classifier

- Classify quality of the document to 'High', 'Medium' or 'Low'
- Training data annotated by humans on quality factors such as: content accuracy, clarity, coherence, grammar, depth of information and overall usefulness of the document



NeMo Curator - Classifier Models

Create high-quality data blends with RAPIDS accelerated inference

Prompt Task and Complexity Classifier

- Classify tasks across 11 categories
 - OpenQA, Closed QA, Summarization, Text Generation, Code Generation, Chatbot, Classification, Rewrite, Brainstorming, Extraction, Other
- Compute complexity on 6 dimensions
 - Creativity, Domain Knowledge, Reasoning, Constraints, Contextual Knowledge, # of Few shots

FineWeb Nemotron-4 Edu Classifier

- > Determine the educational value of a piece of text (score 0-5 from low to high).
- Trained using annotations from Nemotron-4-340B-Instruct

Content Type Classifier

- Categorize documents into 11 content types
- Explanatory articles, News, Blogs, Boilerplate content, Analytical exposition, Online Comments, Reviews, Books & literature, Conversational, and Personal Websites.
- Useful for content management systems, digital publishers, recommendation systems

Instruction Data Guard

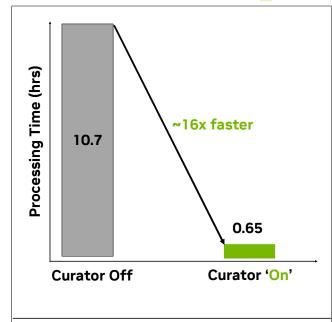
- Identify malicious prompts used for fine-tuning
- Optimal use for instruction:response datasets



M2

Performance – Fuzzy Deduplication

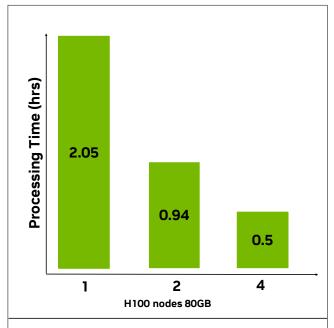
~16x Faster Processing



Processing time for fuzzy deduplication of RedPajama-v2 subset (8TB/1.78T tokens)

'On': Data processed with NeMo Curator on 3 H100 nodes

'Off': Data processed with a leading alternative library on CPUs



Processing time for fuzzy deduplication of RedPajama-v2 subset (8TB/1.78T tokens)

Scaling on 1, 2, 3, 4 H100 nodes 80GB



AM1 [@Nirmal Kumar Juluru] can we add the scaling chart here?

Arham Mehta, 2025-01-30T16:48:19.580

AM1 0 can we ensure the nvidia logo at bottom right, and box are not coinciding?

Arham Mehta, 2025-01-30T16:48:56.831

AM2 [@Nirmal Kumar Juluru] can we move these closer to the boxes?

Arham Mehta, 2025-01-30T16:49:41.832

RW3 Can we combine this somehow with the video processing chart? The slide does not make it immediately obvious that these benchmarks only apply to text.

Ryan Wolf, 2025-01-30T21:33:11.698

RW3 0 [@Nirmal Kumar Juluru] what do you think about this?

Ryan Wolf, 2025-01-31T18:04:27.835

RW3 1 oh nevermind I see you have added a label "for text". Do you think we should combine the charts and put video on this page too

Ryan Wolf, 2025-01-31T18:05:43.213

Identifying similar documents

Document: "We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice..."

Exact Duplicate: "We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice..."

Fuzzy Duplicate: "Here is the US Constitution.
We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, ensure Justice..."

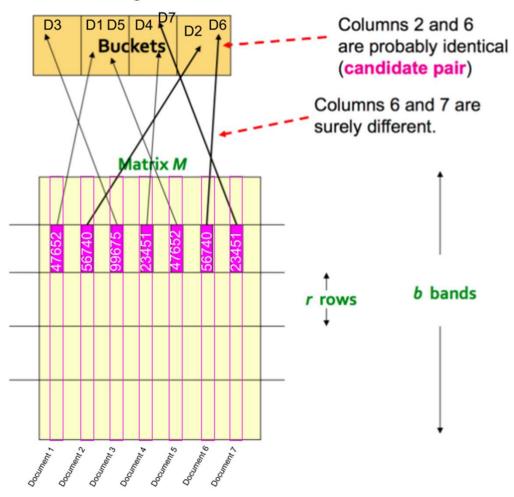
Fuzzy Duplicate: "We the People of the United States, in Order to ensure Justice and domestic tranquility..."



Min-hashing

		Doc -1			
K-shingle	{The quick brown}	{fox jumps over}	{the lazy dog}		
hashed-shingle	345L	3455L	934L		
Hash_1	23	49	50	23	
Hash_2	56	24	39	24	Signature-1
Hash_3	38	56	84	38	
Hash_4	48	29	93	29	
Hash_5	67	75	59	59	Sig
		Doc -2			
K-shingle			***		
hashed-shingle		***	***		
Hash_1		***		34	
Hash_2				56	6-2
Hash_3		***	***	78	Signature-2
Hash_4				23	Jua
Hash_5				14	Sig
		Doc -3			

Signatures over hash buckets



Min-Hashing and Bucketization

Bucket #4

Document 1: "We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, ensure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty..."

Document #1

Document #1

Bucket #3

Bucket #1

Bucket #2



Min-Hashing and Bucketization

Document 2: "Here is the US Constitution. We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure foreign Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty..."

Document #1
Document #2
Document #2
Document #2

Bucket #3

Bucket #2

Bucket #1



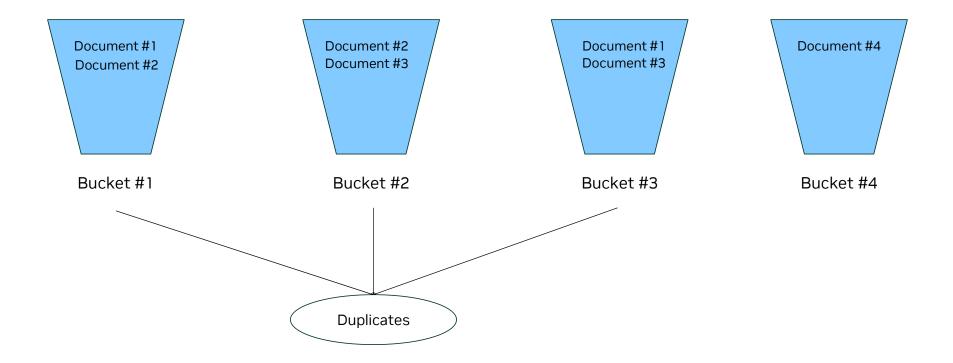
Bucket #4

Min-Hashing and Bucketization

Document 3: "We the People of Canada, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty..." Document #2 Document #1 Document #1 Document #3 Document #3 Document #2 Bucket #1 Bucket #2 Bucket #3 Bucket #4



Deep Dive: Fuzzy Deduplication Min-Hashing and Bucketization





J1

Semantic Deduplication: Example

Remove redundant data by identifying and eliminating semantically similar data points

sem_dedup_config.yaml

```
# Configuration file for semantic dedup
cache_dir: "semdedup_cache"
num_files: -1
# Embeddings configuration
embeddings_save_loc: "embeddings"
embedding_model_name_or_path: "sentence-transformers/all-MiniLM-L6-v2"
embedding_batch_size: 128
# Clustering configuration
clustering_save_loc: "clustering_results"
n_clusters: 1000
seed: 1234
max_iter: 100
kmeans_with_cos_dist: false
# Semdedup configuration
which_to_keep: "hard"
largest_cluster_size_to_process: 100000
sim_metric: "cosine"
# Extract dedup configuration
eps_thresholds:
  - 0.01
  - 0.001
# Which threshold to use for extracting deduped data
eps_to_extract: 0.01
```

Slide 31

NJ1 we have slides in the GTC talk to show the fuzzy deduplication.
https://nvidia-my.sharepoint.com/:p://
Nirmal Kumar Juluru,
2025_04_02T18-18-10 492
AD1 0 Is there any particular reason you

AD1 0 Is there any particular reason you care so much about fuzzy duplication?

Allison Ding, 2025-04-05T05:50:59.345

Classification and PII

Create high-quality data blends with RAPIDS accelerated inference

- Accelerated inference through distributed classification model and intelligent batching
- Redact/remove Personally Identifiable information (PII) using SOTA model

Classification

Domain Classifier

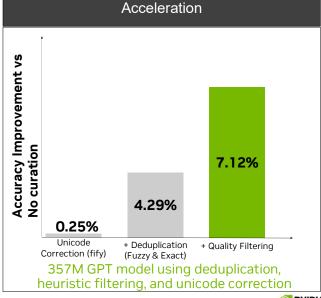
- Model trained on 1.5 million samples
- Classifies text in 26 domain classes

Document Quality Classifier

- Classifier quality of document in 'High',
 'Medium', 'Low' categories
- Enables document quality check

Mask/remove PII

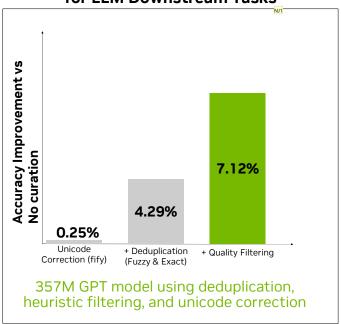
- Remove sensitive information from data
- Utilizes State-Of-The-Art spacy model to remove PII information



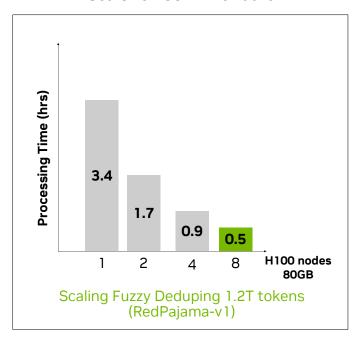


Accelerated Data Processing Maximizes LLM Performance & Scale

Nemo Curator: Up to 7% better Accuracy for LLM Downstream Tasks



Scale to 100+ TB of data





Slide 33

NJ1 this is same as slide 8?

Nirmal Kumar Juluru, 2025-04-02T18-10-45-052

AD1 0 Left hand side yes, just to go over the curation steps and accuracy improvement Allison Ding, 2025-04-05T06:09:27.261

NeMo Curator: Example

```
# Download your dataset
dataset = download_common_crawl("/datasets/common_crawl/", "2021-04", "2021-10", url_limit=10)
# Build your pipeline
curation_pipeline = Sequential([
    # Fix unicode
    Modify(UnicodeReformatter()),
    # Discard short records
    ScoreFilter(WordCountFilter(min_words=80)),
    # Discard low-quality records
    ScoreFilter(FastTextQualityFilter(model_path="model.bin")),
    # Discard records from the evaluation metrics to prevent test set leakage.
    TaskDecontamination([Winogrande(), Squad(), TriviaQA()])
])
# Execute the pipeline on your dataset
curated_dataset = curation_pipeline(dataset)
```

GitHub NeMo framework container PyPI



NJ1 we have tinystoreis example in video format if you want to show https://drive.google.com/file/d/1C2zp

Nirmal Kumar Juluru,
2025_0A_02T18-12-06 22A

AD1 0 This video is going to be helpful! do you have a public link for this video?

Allison Ding, 2025-04-06T04:02:14.287

NeMo Curator - Resources

Getting Started

- NeMo Framework Container
- > GitHub
- > PyPI
- Installation GuideDeveloper Page
- User Guide/ Docs
- API Docs
- Classifier Models
- Examples
- Best Practices
- » Bugs
- Discussions

Tutorials & Blogs

Pre-training / DAPT

- Curating data for LLMtraining (Blog)
- Curating non-English data(Blog)
- How-to run classifier models
- > All blogs

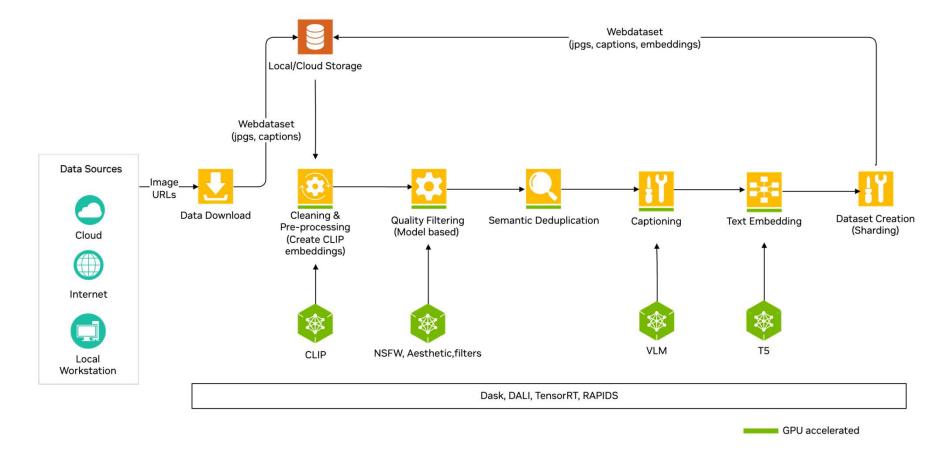
Fine-tuning

- Curating data for PEFT(Blog)
- Curating synthetic data for PEFT
- SDG using Llama 3.1 405B & Nemotron 4-340B
- SDG using Nemotron 4-340B



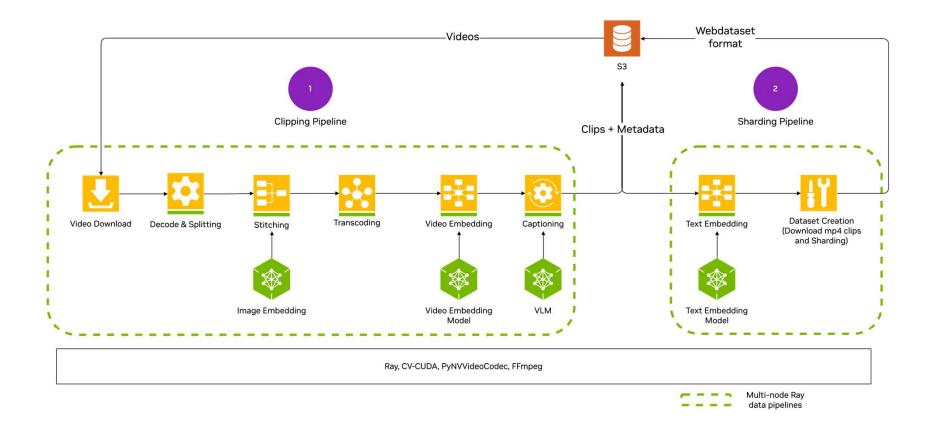


NeMo Curator Architecture: Image Processing



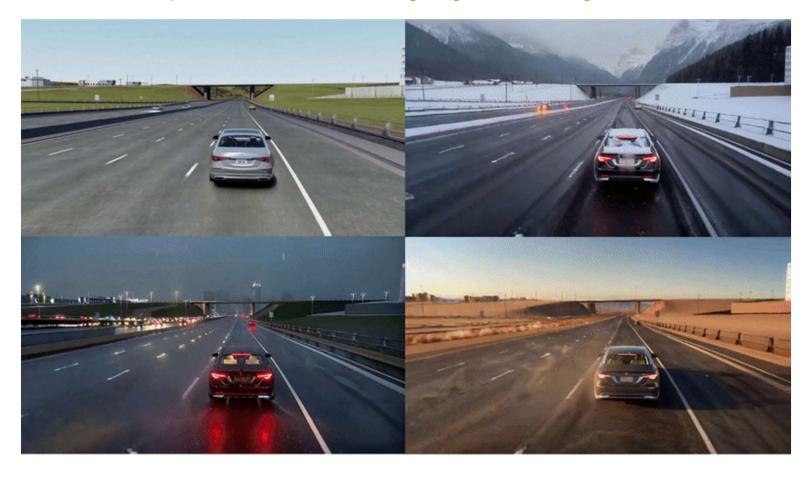


Video Curation: EA Features



State of the Art Models

Example Use case: Generate new lighting, weather, and geolocations



Best Practices

- Choosing the Right Quality Model Type
- Handling GPU Out-of-Memory (OOM) Errors
 - Controlling Partition Sizes
- Fuzzy Deduplication Guidelines
 - Reduce bucket counts
 - Reduce buckets per shuffle
 - Adjust files per partition
- GPU Memory and Utilization Dask Dashboard

Developer Tools and Resources

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100s of APIs, models, SDKs, microservices, and early access to NVIDIA tech

Learning

Tutorials, self-paced courses, blogs, documentation, code samples

Training

Hands-on self-paced courses, instructor-led workshops, and certifications

GPU Sandbox

Approval basis, multi-GPU and multi-node

Community

Dedicated developer forums, meetups, hackathons

Ecosystem

GTC, NVIDIA Partner Network

Organizations

Startups

Cloud credits, engineering resources, technology discounts, exposure to VCs

Venture Capital

Deal flow and portfolio support for Venture Capital firms

Higher Education

Teaching kits, training, curriculum co-development, grants

ISVs and SIs

Engineering guidance, discounts, marketing opportunities

Research

Grant programs, collaboration opportunities

Enterprises

Tailored developer training, skills certification, technical support



