



Tech Debt Transformer Pipeline

David Gao



Recap: Transformers!

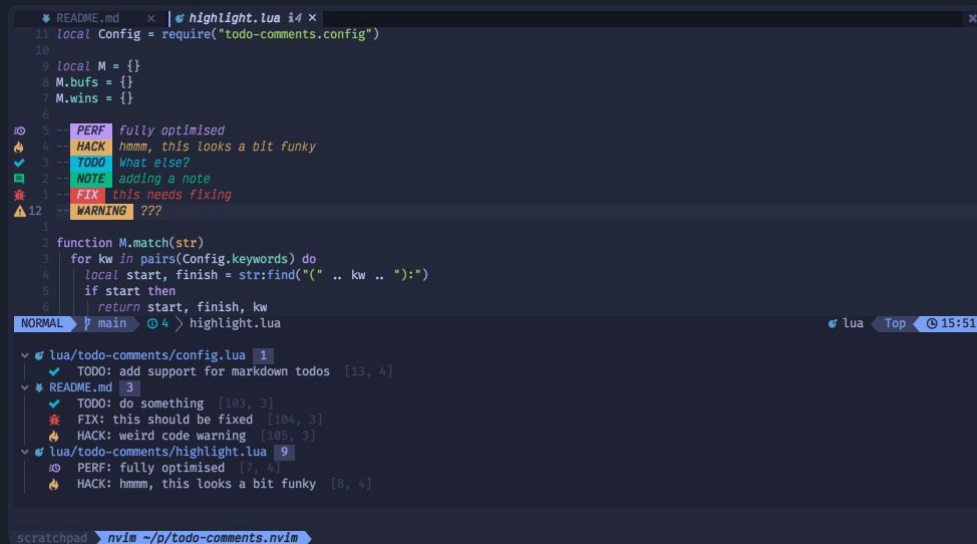
A good way to capture a lot of information!

Classification

Generation

Recap: Technical Debt

Definition: “Implied cost of future reworking required when choosing an easy but limited solution instead of a better approach that could take more time” Wikipedia.



The screenshot shows a code editor with a file named `highlight.lua`. The code is written in Lua and includes several comments indicating technical debt. The comments are: `PERF Fully optimised`, `HACK hmm, this looks a bit funky`, `TODO What else?`, `NOTE adding a note`, `FIX this needs fixing`, and `WARNING ???`. The code also defines a function `M.match(str)` that searches for keywords in a string. The editor's status bar shows the file is open in `nvim` at `~/.p/todo-comments.nvim`.

```
11 local Config = require("todo-comments.config")
12
13 local M = {}
14 M.bufs = {}
15 M.wins = {}
16
17 -- PERF Fully optimised
18 -- HACK hmm, this looks a bit funky
19 -- TODO What else?
20 -- NOTE adding a note
21 -- FIX this needs fixing
22 -- WARNING ???
23
24 function M.match(str)
25   for kw in pairs(Config.keywords) do
26     local start, finish = str:find("(" .. kw .. ")")
27     if start then
28       return start, finish, kw
29     end
30   end
31 end
32
33 -- main
34 -- highlight.lua
```



Existing Solutions, Their Limitations, and Novelty

- Existing solutions usually utilize rules to find technical debt (more have started to use machine learning recently)
- Only one transformer based approach: finding technical debt in issue trackers. (Skryseth, Daniel, et al.)
- This study will be focused on directly looking at code from git commits to get insights into technical debt!



Problem Statement

In open source projects, managing technical debt can be a challenging process. This study explores how fine-tuned transformer models can help improve the identification and classification of these issues.

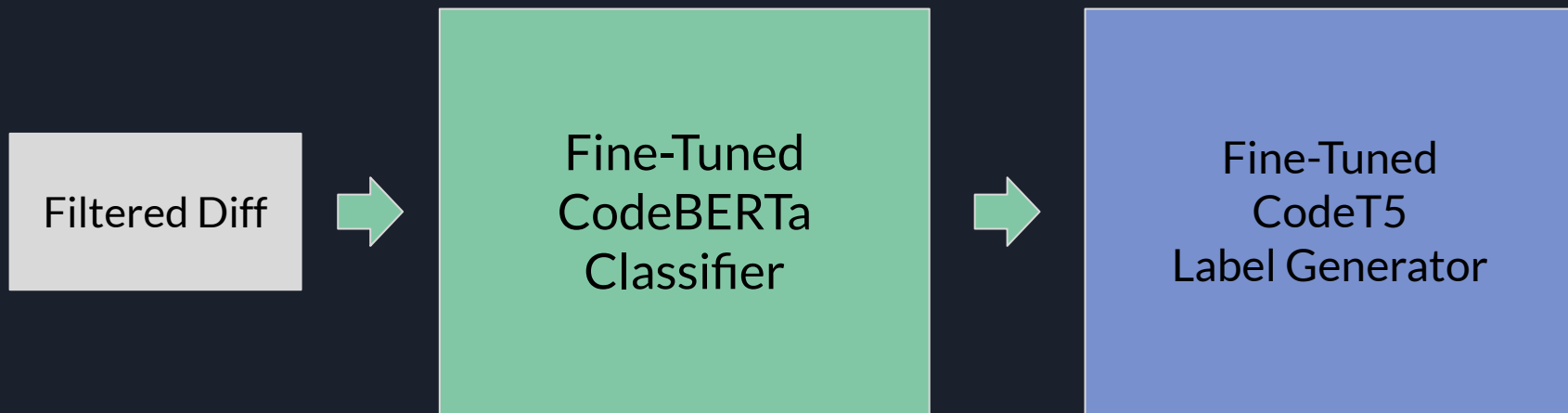


Research Questions

1. How well can a fine-tuned transformer model classify technical debt, given code from a commit?
2. How well can a fine-tuned transformer model generate labels for technical debt?



Proposed Architecture





The Technical Debt Dataset

- 78K commits from 33 Java Projects
- SZZ algorithm annotations
 - find the fix, trace backwards
- SonarQube
 - static code analysis, rule based




Classification Task

How well can a fine-tuned transformer model classify technical debt, given code from a commit?

Metrics: Accuracy, F1 Score

Preliminary Work

 **Hugging Face**

[Models](#) [Datasets](#) [Spaces](#) [Docs](#) [Solutions](#) [Pricing](#)




Datasets: [davidgaofc/techdebt](#) [like](#) [0](#)

License: [mit](#)

[Dataset card](#) [Files and versions](#) [Community](#) [Settings](#)

Dataset Viewer [Auto-converted to Parquet](#) [API](#) [Go to dataset viewer](#)

Split

CommitHash string · lengths	NewPath string · lengths	Diff string · lengths
		
a4c6cc7ee6b6d4d618f4c55f96181a2a21c18b5	src/main/java/org/apache/commons/digester3/plugins/strategies/LoaderFromStream.java	newLoader(ruleModule).setClassLoader(d.ge der()).decorate(d);
01d819a778add562c0169373db93c5f18c715155	src/blocks/portal/java/org/apache/cocoon/portal/im pl/PortalServiceImpl.java	import org.apache.cocoon.environment.Requ @version CVS \$Id: PortalServiceImpl.java,
4997cc0672cbb448fd9ee38e52956df538002ecb	src/java/org/apache/commons/dbcp/PoolableConnectio n.java	* Copyright 1999-2004 The Apache Software Foundation. * * Licensed under the Apache
b972445412d4c7c563e57a2260e99b9b5e3c7a32	sdk/java/core/src/test/java/org/apache/beam/sdk/t esting/SerializableMatchersTest.java	package org.apache.beam.sdk.testing; impo org.apache.beam.sdk.testing.SerializableM
4f14cb6a5a155d69733f5168f8862a93f0e17447	sdk/src/test/java/com/google/cloud/dataflow/sdk/co ders/VarLongCoderTest.java	* Copyright (C) 2015 Google Inc.
3d06c89ecb27f4408a6b7132a5845549468dfdcf	sdk/java/core/src/main/java/org/apache/beam/sdk/c oders/DelegateCoder.java	return new DelegateCoder<>(coder, toFn, f typeDescriptor);

[Previous](#) [1](#) [2](#) [3](#) ... [2,075](#) [Next](#)

Downloads last month **8**

[Use in dataset library](#) [Edit dataset card](#)

[Train in AutoTrain](#) [Evaluate models](#)

[HF Leaderboard](#) [i](#)

Size of downloaded dataset files:
81.6 MB

Size of the auto-converted Parquet files: **81.6 MB** Number of rows: **345,774**

Preliminary Work (continued)

The screenshot shows the Hugging Face model card for 'TechDebtClassifier' by user 'davidgaofc'. The card includes tabs for 'Text Classification', 'Transformers', 'TensorBoard', 'Safetensors', 'roberta', 'generated_from_trainer', and 'Inference Endpoints'. Below these are links for 'Model card', 'Files and versions', 'Training metrics', 'Community', and 'Settings'. The 'training' section describes the model as a fine-tuned version of 'huggingface/CodeBERTa-small-v1' on an unknown dataset. On the right, there is a 'Downloads last month' bar chart showing 0 downloads and a 'Safetensors' section with details like 'Model size: 83.5M params' and 'Tensor type: F32'.

Model card for **TechDebtClassifier** by davidgaofc

Text Classification Transformers TensorBoard Safetensors roberta generated_from_trainer Inference Endpoints

Model card Files and versions Training metrics Community Settings

training

This model is a fine-tuned version of [huggingface/CodeBERTa-small-v1](#) on an unknown dataset. It achieves the following results on the evaluation set:

Downloads last month: 0

Safetensors Model size: 83.5M params Tensor type: F32

```
trainer.evaluate()  
[8645/8645 17:35]  
{'eval_loss': 0.13908784091472626,  
 'eval_accuracy': 0.9541031017280023,  
 'eval_f1': 0.9492902966412665,  
 'eval_runtime': 1056.6171,  
 'eval_samples_per_second': 65.449,  
 'eval_steps_per_second': 8.182}
```

$$\begin{aligned} \text{F1 Score} &= \frac{2}{\frac{1}{\text{Precision}} + \frac{1}{\text{Recall}}} \\ &= \frac{2 \times \text{Precision} \times \text{Recall}}{\text{Precision} + \text{Recall}} \end{aligned}$$




Generation Task

How well can a fine-tuned transformer model generate labels for technical debt?


Metrics: BLEU, ROUGE



Preliminary Work

 **Hugging Face**



Search models, datasets, users...

Models Datasets Spaces Docs Solutions Pricing





Datasets:  davidgaofc/techdebt_label  like 0

Dataset card Files and versions Community Settings



Dataset Viewer  API  Go to dataset viewer



Split
train



Search this dataset

	Diff string · lengths  10-209 41.4%	Message string · lengths  70-84 29.3%
rg/apache/accumulo/serve/Task.java	import java.io.FileNotFoundException; delete(child.getPath()); private boolean...	Either log or rethrow this excepti
rg/apache/accumulo/serve	/* * Licensed to the Apache Software Foundation (ASF) under one or more * contributor license...	Replace all tab characters in this sequences of white-spaces.
/apache/accumulo/core/it erator.java	if (readValue) top_value = new Value(); if (readValue) valid = reader.next(top_key,...	Remove this call to "exit" or ensu required.
che/accumulo/core/conf/P	import org.apache.accumulo.core.util.format.DefaultForma...	Return empty string instead.
apache/accumulo/server/ma ava	log.debug("completing bulk import transaction " + tid);...	Either log or rethrow this excepti

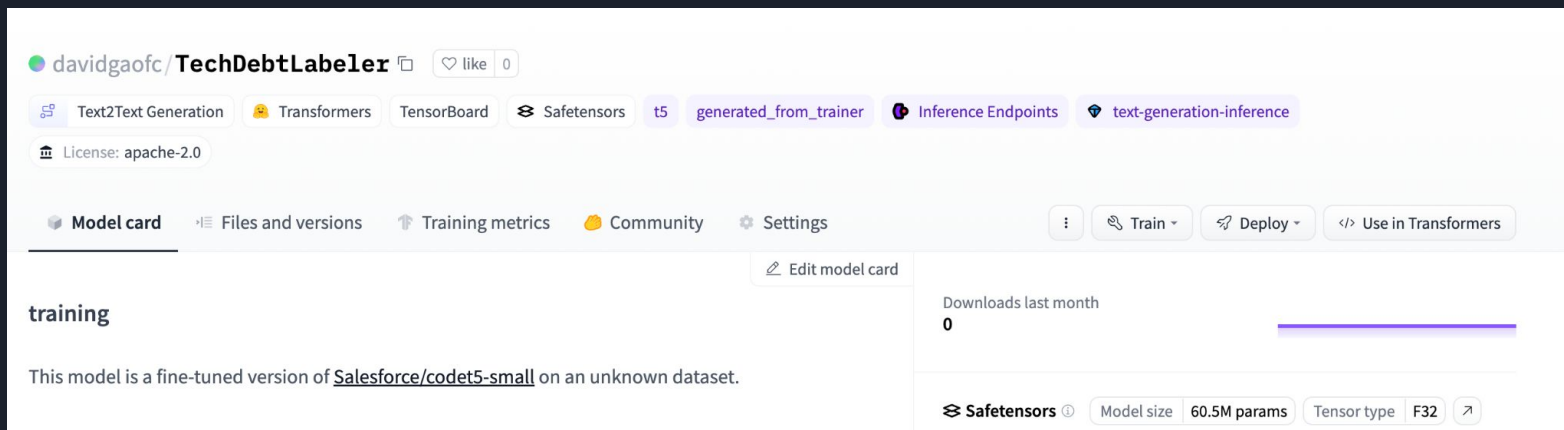
Downloads last month 0

 Use in dataset library  Edit dataset card



 Train in AutoTrain  Evaluate models









 HF Leaderboard 


Preliminary Work (continued)











The screenshot displays the Hugging Face model card for **TechDebtLabeler** by user **davidgaofc**. The interface includes a header with the model name, a 'like' button showing 0 likes, and a row of tags: Text2Text Generation, Transformers, TensorBoard, Safetensors, t5, generated_from_trainer, Inference Endpoints, and text-generation-inference. Below this is a 'License: apache-2.0' badge. A navigation bar contains links for Model card (selected), Files and versions, Training metrics, Community, and Settings. On the right of the navigation bar are buttons for Train, Deploy, and Use in Transformers. The main content area is titled 'training' and contains the text: 'This model is a fine-tuned version of [Salesforce/codet5-small](#) on an unknown dataset.' To the right of the text is a section for 'Downloads last month' showing 0 downloads with a corresponding bar chart. At the bottom right, there is a 'Safetensors' section with a table of model details: Model size (60.5M params), Tensor type (F32), and a link icon.


davidgaofc / **TechDebtLabeler**   like 0

 Text2Text Generation  Transformers  TensorBoard  Safetensors  t5  generated_from_trainer  Inference Endpoints  text-generation-inference

 License: apache-2.0

 **Model card**  Files and versions  Training metrics  Community  Settings



 Train  Deploy  Use in Transformers


 Edit model card

training

This model is a fine-tuned version of [Salesforce/codet5-small](#) on an unknown dataset.

Downloads last month
0

 **Safetensors** 

Model size	60.5M params	Tensor type	F32	
------------	--------------	-------------	-----	---

Pipeline

```
@ -0,0 +1,25 @@
+package org.apache.accumulo.server.test.randomwalk.shard;
+
+import java.util.Properties;
+import java.util.Random;
+import java.util.SortedSet;
+
+import org.apache.accumulo.server.test.randomwalk.State;
+import org.apache.accumulo.server.test.randomwalk.Test;
+import org.apache.hadoop.io.Text;
+
+
+public class Split extends Test {
+
+    @Override
+    public void visit(State state, Properties props) throws Exception {
+        String indexTableName = (String)state.get("indexTableName");
+        int numPartitions = (Integer)state.get("numPartitions");
+        Random rand = (Random) state.get("rand");
+
+        SortedSet<Text> splitSet = ShardFixture.genSplits(numPartitions,
+        log.debug("adding splits " + indexTableName);
+        state.getConnector().tableOperations().addSplits(indexTableName,
+    }
+
+}
```



output

```
[[{'label': 'LABEL_1', 'score': 0.9938503503799438}, {'label': 'LABEL_0', 'score': 0.00614961888641119}]]
```



output

```
[[{'generated_text': "Rename this local variable to match the regular expression '^[a-z][a-zA]"}
```

Questions/Comments?



References

Valentina Lenarduzzi, Nyyti Saarimäki, and Davide Taibi. 2019. The Technical Debt Dataset. In Proceedings of the Fifteenth International Conference on Predictive Models and Data Analytics in Software Engineering (PROMISE'19). Association for Computing Machinery, New York, NY, USA, 2–11. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3345629.3345630>