

December 17, 2015

Dear TSE Editor, associate editor and reviewers,

Please accept our submission to the IEEE Transactions on Software Engineering, titled “Using Natural Language Processing to Automatically Detect Self-Admitted Technical Debt”, by Everton da Silva Maldonado, Emad Shihab and Nikolaos Tsantalis.

The submission proposes and examines the effectiveness of using NLP to detect self-admitted technical debt. The paper performs a case study on 10 open source projects to show the feasibility of using NLP to detect self-admitted technical debt.

The work in the TSE submission leverages some of the data and findings of our paper published in the Managing Technical Debt 2015 paper, titled “Detecting and Quantifying Different Types of Self-admitted Technical Debt”. We would like to stress that the TSE paper is **not** an extension of the MTD’2015 paper, however, since we find the work to be relevant, we are attaching the MTD’15 paper with this submission.

If you have any questions or need more information, please let us know.

Regards,

Everton da Silva Maldonado, Emad Shihab and Nikolaos Tsantalis