

Classification Level: Top secret () Secret () Internal () Public (☒)

RKNN-Toolkit User Guide

(Technology Department, Graphic Computing Platform Center)

Mark: [<input type="checkbox"/>] Editing [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] Released	Version	V1.4.0
	Author	Rao Hong
	Completed Date	2020-08-13
	Reviewer	Randall
	Reviewed Date	2020-08-13

瑞芯微电子股份有限公司

Rockchip Electronics Co., Ltd

(Copyright Reserved)

Revision History

Version	Modifier	Date	Modify description	Reviewer
V0.1	Yang Huacong	2018-08-25	Initial version	Randall
V0.9.1	Rao Hong	2018-09-29	Added user guide for RKNN-Toolkit, including main features, system dependencies, installation steps, usage scenarios, and detailed descriptions of each API interface.	Randall
V0.9.2	Randall	2018-10-12	Optimize the way of performance evaluation	Randall
V0.9.3	Yang Huacong	2018-10-24	Add instructions of connection to development board hardware	Randall
V0.9.4	Yang Huacong	2018-11-03	Add instructions of docker image	Randall
V0.9.5	Rao Hong	2018-11-19	1. Add an npy file as a usage specification for the quantized rectified data 2. The instructions of pre-compile parameter in build interface 3. Improve the instructions of reorder_channel parameter in the config interface	Randall
V0.9.6	Rao Hong	2018-11-24	1. Add the instructions of get_perf_detail_on_hardware and get_run_duration interfaces 2. Update the instructions of RKNN initialization interface	Randall

Version	Modifier	Date	Modify description	Reviewer
V0.9.7	Rao Hong	2018-12-29	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Interface optimization: delete the instructions of get_run_duration, get_perf_detail_on_hardware 2. Rewrite the instructions of eval_perf interface 3. Rewrite the instructions of RKNN() interface 4. Add instructions of the init_runtime interface 	Randall
V0.9.7.1	Rao Hong	2019-01-11	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Solve the bug that the program may hang after multiple calls to inference 2. Interface adjustment: init_runtime does not need to specify host, the tool will automatically determine 	Randall
V0.9.8	Rao Hong	2019-01-30	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. New feature: if set verbose parameter to True when init RKNN object, users can fetch detailed log information. 	Randall
V0.9.9	Rao Hong	2019-03-06	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. New feature: add eval_memory interface to check memory usage when model running. 2. Optimize inference interface; Optimize error message. 3. Add description for API interface: get_sdk_version. 	Randall

Version	Modifier	Date	Modify description	Reviewer
V1.0.0	Rao Hong	2019-05-06	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Add async mode for init_runtime interface. 2. Add input passthrough mode for inference interface. 3. New feature: hybrid quantization. 4. Optimize initialize time of pre-compiled model. Pre-compiled model generated by RKNN-Toolkit-v1.0.0 can not run on device installed old driver (NPU driver version < 0.9.6), and pre-compiled model generated by old RKNN-Toolkit (version < 1.0.0) can not run on device installed new NPU driver (NPU driver version == 0.9.6). 5. Adjust the shape of the inference results: Before version 1.0.0, if the output of the original model is arranged in "NHWC" (such as TensorFlow models), the tool will convert the result to "NCHW"; starting from version 1.0.0, this conversion will not be done, but keep consistent with the original model. 	Randall
V1.1.0	Rao Hong	2019-06-28	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support TB-RK1808S0 AI Compute Stick. 2. New interface: list_devices, used to query devices connected to PC or RK3399Pro Linux development board. 3. Support run on ARM64 platform with python 3.5. 4. Support run on Windows / Mac OS X. 	Randall

Version	Modifier	Date	Modify description	Reviewer
V1.2.0	Rao Hong	2019-08-21	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Add support for model with multiple inputs. 2. New feature: batch inference. 3. New feature: model segmentation. 4. New feature: custom op. 	Randall
V1.2.1	Rao Hong	2019-09-26	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. New feature: load_rknn interface supports direct loading of RKNN in NPU. 2. Adjust the default value of batch_size and epochs in config interface. 3. Bug fix. 	Randall
V1.3.0	Rao Hong	2019-12-23	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Solve the problem of creating RKNN object for too long. 2. New feature: support loading pytorch model. 3. New feature: support loading mxnet model. 4. New feature: added support for 4-channel input. 5. New feature: error analysis caused by quantization. 6. New feature: visualization. 7. New feature: model optimization level. 8. Optimize hybrid quantization. 	Randall

Version	Modifier	Date	Modify description	Reviewer
V1.3.2	Rao Hong	2020-04-03	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support for new chips: RV1109 / RV1126 2. Improve eval_perf function, no longer need to fill in inputs. 3. TensorFlow: Add support for reducemax; improve support for dilated convolution. TFLite: Add support for dilated convolution. Caffe: Add support for CRNN. ONNX: Add support for Gather and Cast; improve support for avg_pool. Pytorch: Add support for upsample_nearest2d, contiguous, softmax, permute, leaky_relu, prelu, log, deconv and sub; improve support for Reshape, Constant. MXNet: Add support for Crop, UpSampling, SoftmaxActivation, _minus_scalar, log. RKNN: Add support for reshape, concat, split. 4. Fix some known bugs. 	Randall

Version	Modifier	Date	Modify description	Reviewer
V1.4.0	Rao Hong	2020-08-13	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. New features: add layer-by-layer quantitative analysis sub-function; Input preprocessing supports multiple std_values; support to export pre-compiled models from the development board. 2. Function optimization: optimize the channel_mean_value parameter and change it to mean_values/std_values; remove mean_values and std_values in the load_tensorflow interface; the visualizaion improves support for multiple inputs, add support for RK1806/RV1109/RV1126; the accuracy analysis function adds non-normalized cosine distance and Euclidean distance. 3. TensorFlow: add support for dense. TFLite: add support for split_v; imporove support for pad. ONNX: add support forprelu, deconvolution, avg_pool / clip. Pytorch: add support for pixel_shuffle, unsqueeze, sum,select, hardtanh, elu, slice, squeeze, exp,relu6, threshold_, matmul, exp, pad; improve support for adaptive_avg_pool2d, upsample_bilinear, relu6. MXNet: improve support for fc. Darknet: add support for mish; improve support for route. 4. Fix some known bugs. 	Randall

Table of Contents

1	Overview	1
1.1	Main function description.....	1
1.2	Applicable chip model.....	4
1.3	Applicable Operating System	4
2	Requirements/Dependencies	6
3	User Guide	8
3.1	Installation	8
3.1.1	Install by pip command	8
3.1.2	Install by the Docker Image.....	9
3.2	Usage of RKNN-Toolkit.....	10
3.2.1	Scenario 1: Inference for Simulation on PC.....	10
3.2.2	Scenario 2: Run on Rockchip NPU connected to the PC.	13
3.2.3	Scenario 3: Inference on RK3399Pro Linux development board	14
3.3	Hybrid Quantization	15
3.3.1	Instructions of hybrid quantization.....	15
3.3.2	Hybrid quantization profile	15
3.3.3	Usage flow of hybrid quantization.....	17
3.4	Model Segmentation.....	18
3.5	Example.....	19
3.6	RKNN-Toolkit API description	22
3.6.1	RKNN object initialization and release	22
3.6.2	RKNN model configuration	23
3.6.3	Loading non-RKNN model	26
3.6.4	Building RKNN model	30

3.6.5	Export RKNN model.....	32
3.6.6	Loading RKNN model.....	33
3.6.7	Initialize the runtime environment.....	33
3.6.8	Inference with RKNN model	35
3.6.9	Evaluate model performance.....	37
3.6.10	Evaluating memory usage	40
3.6.11	Get SDK version.....	42
3.6.12	Hybrid Quantization.....	42
3.6.13	Quantitative accuracy analysis	45
3.6.14	Export a segmentation model	46
3.6.15	List Devices	47
3.6.16	Register Custom OP	48
3.6.17	Query RKNN model runnable platform.....	48

1 Overview

1.1 Main function description

RKNN-Toolkit is a development kit that provides users with model conversion, inference and performance evaluation on PC and Rockchip NPU platforms. Users can easily complete the following functions through the Python interface provided by the tool:

- 1) Model conversion: support to convert Caffe、TensorFlow、TensorFlow Lite、ONNX、Darknet、Pytorch、MXNet model to RKNN model, support RKNN model import/export, which can be used on Rockchip NPU platform later. Support for multiple input models starting with version 1.2.0. Support for Pytorch and MXNet since version 1.3.0.
- 2) Quantization: support to convert float model to quantization model, currently support quantized methods including asymmetric quantization (asymmetric_quantized-u8) and dynamic fixed point quantization (dynamic_fixed_point-8 and dynamic_fixed_point-16). Starting with version 1.0.0, RKNN-Toolkit began to support hybrid quantization. For a detailed description of hybrid quantization, please refer to [Section 3.3](#).
- 3) Model inference: Able to simulate Rockchip NPU to run RKNN model on PC and get the inference result. This tool can also distribute the RKNN model to the specified NPU device to run, and get the inference results.
- 4) Performance evaluation: Able to simulate Rockchip NPU to run RKNN model on PC, and evaluate model performance (including total time and time-consuming information of each layer). This tool can also distribute the RKNN model to the specified NPU device to run, and evaluate the model performance in the actual device.
- 5) Memory evaluation: Evaluate system and NPU memory consumption at runtime of the model. When using this function, the RKNN model must be distributed to the NPU device to run, and then call the relevant interface to obtain memory information. This feature is supported starting with version 0.9.9.

-
- 6) Model pre-compilation: with pre-compilation techniques, model loading time can be reduced, and for some models, model size can also be reduced. However, the pre-compiled RKNN model can only be run on a hardware platform with an NPU, and this feature is currently only supported by the x86_64 Ubuntu platform. RKNN-Toolkit supports the model pre-compilation feature from version 0.9.5, and the pre-compilation method has been upgraded in 1.0.0. The upgraded precompiled model is not compatible with the old driver. Starting from version 1.4.0, ordinary RKNN models can also be converted into precompiled models through NPU device. For details, please refer to the instructions for `export_rknn_precompile_model`.
 - 7) Model segmentation: This function is used in a scenario where multiple models run simultaneously. A single model can be divided into multiple segments to be executed on the NPU, thereby adjusting the execution time of multiple models occupying the NPU, and avoiding other models because one model occupies too much execution time. RKNN-Toolkit supports this feature from version 1.2.0. This feature must be used on hardware with an NPU and the NPU driver version is greater than 0.9.8.
 - 8) Custom OP: If the model contains an OP that is not supported by RKNN-Toolkit, it will fail during the model conversion phase. At this time, you can use the custom layer feature to define an unsupported OP so that the model can be converted and run normally. RKNN-Toolkit supports this feature from version 1.2.0. Please refer to the <Rockchip_Developer_Guide_RKNN_Toolkit_Custom_OP_CN> document for the use and development of custom OP.
 - 9) Quantitative error analysis: This function will give the Euclidean or cosine distance of each layer of inference results before and after the model is quantized. This can be used to analyze how quantitative error occurs, and provide ideas for improving the accuracy of quantitative models. This feature is supported from version 1.3.0. Starting from version 1.4.0, new feature called individual quantization accuracy analysis provided. The tool assigns the input of each layer at runtime as the correct floating point value, and then calculates the quantized error of the layer. This can avoid misjudgments caused by the accumulation of errors layer by layer, and more

accurately reflect the influence of quantization on each layer itself.

- 10) Visualization: This function presents various functions of RKNN-Toolkit in the form of a graphical interface, simplifying the user's operation steps. Users can complete model conversion and inference by filling out forms and clicking function buttons, and no need to write scripts manually. Please refer to the < Rockchip_User_Guide_RKNN_Toolkit_Visualization_EN> document for the use of visualization. Version 1.4.0 improves the support for multi-inputs models and supports new NPU devices such as RK1806/RV1109/RV1126 as target.
- 11) Model optimization level: RKNN-Toolkit optimizes the model during model conversion. The default optimization selection may have some impact on model accuracy. By setting the optimization level, you can turn off some or all optimization options to analyze the impact of RKNN-Toolkit model optimization options on accuracy. For specific usage of optimization level, please refer to the description of optimization_level option in config interface. This feature is supported from version 1.3.0.

Note: Some features are limited by the operating system or chip platform and cannot be used on some operating systems or platforms. The feature support list of each operating system (platform) is as follows:

	Ubuntu 16.04/18.04	Windows 7/10	Debian 9.8 / 10 (ARM 64)	MacOS Mojave / Catalina
Model conversion	yes	yes	yes	yes
Quantization	yes	yes	yes	yes
Model inference	yes	yes	yes	yes
Performance evaluation	yes	yes	yes	yes
Memory evaluation	yes	yes	yes	yes
Model pre-compilation	yes	no	no	no

Model segmentation	yes	yes	yes	yes
Custom OP	yes	no	no	no
Multiple inputs	yes	yes	yes	yes
Batch inference	yes	yes	yes	yes
List devices	yes	yes	yes	yes
Query SDK version	yes	yes	yes	yes
Quantitative error analysis	yes	yes	yes	yes
Visualization	yes	yes	no	yes
Model optimization level	yes	yes	yes	yes

1.2 Applicable chip model

- RK1806
- RK1808
- TB-RK1808S0
- RK3399Pro(D)
- RV1109
- RV1126

1.3 Applicable Operating System

RKNN Toolkit is a cross-platform development kit. The supported operating systems are as follows:

- Ubuntu: 16.04 (x64) or later
- Windows: 7 (x64) or later
- MacOS: 10.13.5 (x64) or later

-
- Debian: 9.8 (aarch64) or later

Rockchip

2 Requirements/Dependencies

This software development kit supports running on the Ubuntu, Windows, Mac OS X or Debian operating system. It is recommended to meet the following requirements in the operating system environment:

Table 1 Operating system environment

Operating system version	Ubuntu16.04 (x64) or later Windows 7 (x64) or later Mac OS X 10.13.5 (x64) or later Debian 9.8 (x64) or later
Python version	3.5/3.6/3.7
Python library dependencies	'numpy == 1.16.3' 'scipy == 1.3.0' 'Pillow == 5.3.0' 'h5py == 2.8.0' 'lmbd == 0.93' 'networkx == 1.11' 'flatbuffers == 1.10', 'protobuf == 3.6.1' 'onnx == 1.4.1' 'onnx-tf == 1.2.1' 'flask == 1.0.2' 'tensorflow == 1.11.0' or 'tensorflow-gpu' 'dill==0.2.8.2' 'ruamel.yaml == 0.15.81' 'psutils == 5.6.2' 'ply == 3.11' 'requests == 2.22.0' 'pytorch == 1.2.0' 'mxnet == 1.5.0'

Note:

1. Windows only support Python 3.6 currently.
2. MacOS support python 3.6 and python 3.7.
3. Arm64 platform support python 3.5 and python 3.7.

-
4. Scipy version on MacOS should be 1.3.0, other platform is $\geq 1.1.0$.
 5. This document mainly uses Ubuntu 16.04 / Python3.5 as an example. For other operating systems, please refer to the corresponding quick start guide:
<Rockchip_Quick_Start_RKNN_Toolkit_V1.4.0_EN.pdf>.

Rockchip

3 User Guide

3.1 Installation

There are two ways to install RKNN-Toolkit: one is through the Python package installation and management tool pip, the other is running docker image with full RKNN-Toolkit environment. The specific steps of the two installation ways are described below.

Note: Please refer to the following link for the installation process of Toybrick devices:

<http://t.rock-chips.com/wiki.php?mod=view&id=36>

3.1.1 Install by pip command

1. Create virtualenv environment. If there are multiple versions of the Python environment in the system, it is recommended to use virtualenv to manage the Python environment.

```
sudo apt install virtualenv
sudo apt-get install libpython3.5-dev
sudo apt install python3-tk

virtualenv -p /usr/bin/python3 venv
source venv/bin/activate
```

2. Install dependent libraries: TensorFlow and opencv-python

```
# Install tensorflow gpu
pip install tensorflow-gpu==1.11.0
# Install tensorflow cpu. Only one version of tensorflow can be installed.
pip install tensorflow==1.11.0
# Install pytorch and torchvision
pip3 install torch==1.2.0 torchvision==0.4.0
# Install mxnet
pip3 install mxnet==1.5.0
# Install opencv-python
# Install opencv-python
pip install opencv-python
```

Note: RKNN-Toolkit itself does not rely on opencv-python, but the example will use this library

to load image, so the library is also installed here.

3. Install RKNN-Toolkit

```
pip install package/rknn_toolkit-1.4.0-cp35-cp35m-linux_x86_64.whl
```

Please select corresponding installation package (located at the *packages/* directory) according to different python versions and processor architectures:

- **Python3.5 for x86_64:** rknn_toolkit-1.4.0-cp35-cp35m-linux_x86_64.whl
- **Python3.5 for arm_x64:** rknn_toolkit-1.4.0-cp35-cp35m-linux_aarch64.whl
- **Python3.6 for x86_64:** rknn_toolkit-1.4.0-cp36-cp36m-linux_x86_64.whl
- **Python3.7 for arm_x64:** rknn_toolkit-1.4.0-cp37-cp37m-linux_aarch64.whl
- **Python3.6 for Windows x86_64:** rknn_toolkit-1.4.0-cp36-cp36m-win_amd64.whl
- **Python3.6 for Mac OS X:** rknn_toolkit-1.4.0-cp36-cp36m-macosx_10_15_x86_64.whl
- **Python3.7 for Mac OS X:** rknn_toolkit-1.4.0-cp37-cp37m-macosx_10_15_x86_64.whl
- **Python3.7 for arm_x64:** rknn_toolkit-1.4.0-cp37-cp37m-linux_aarch64.whl

3.1.2 Install by the Docker Image

In docker folder, there is a Docker image that has been packaged for all development requirements, Users only need to load the image and can directly use RKNN-toolkit, detailed steps are as follows:

1. Install Docker

Please install Docker according to the official manual:

<https://docs.docker.com/install/linux/docker-ce/ubuntu/>

2. Load Docker image

Execute the following command to load Docker image:

```
docker load --input rknn-toolkit-1.4.0-docker.tar.gz
```

After loading successfully, execute “docker images” command and the image of rknn-toolkit appears as follows:

REPOSITORY	TAG	IMAGE ID	CREATED	SIZE
rknn-toolkit	1.4.0	5397c8e365ac	1 hours ago	4.13GB

3. Run image

Execute the following command to run the docker image. After running, it will enter the bash environment.

```
docker run -t -i --privileged -v /dev/bus/usb:/dev/bus/usb rknn-toolkit:1.4.0 /bin/bash
```

If you want to map your own code, you can add the “-v <host src folder>:<image dst folder>” parameter, for example:

```
docker run -t -i --privileged -v /dev/bus/usb:/dev/bus/usb -v /home/rk/test:/test rknn-toolkit:1.4.0 /bin/bash
```

4. Run demo

```
cd /example/tflite/mobilenet_v1
python test.py
```

3.2 Usage of RKNN-Toolkit

Currently RKNN Toolkit can be run on PC (Linux/Windows/MacOS x64), or on RK3399Pro(D) development board (Debian9 or Debian10) or RK1808 computing stick(Debian10).

Next, the use process of RKNN Toolkit under each use scenario will be given in detail.

Note: for a detailed description of all the interfaces involved in the flow, refer to [Section 3.4](#).

3.2.1 Scenario 1: Inference for Simulation on PC

In this scenario, RKNN Toolkit runs on the PC, and runs the model through the simulated RK1808/RV1126 to realize inference/performance evaluation functions.

Depending on the type of model, this scenario can be divided into two sub-scenarios: one scenario is that the model is a non-RKNN model, i.e. Caffe, TensorFlow, TensorFlow Lite, ONNX, Darknet, Pytorch,

MXNet model, and the other scenario is that the model is an RKNN model which is a proprietary model of Rockchip with the file suffix “rknn”.

Note: Simulator only supported on x86_64 Linux.

3.2.1.1 Sub-scenario 1: run the non-RKNN model

When running a non-RKNN model, the RKNN-Toolkit usage flow is shown below:

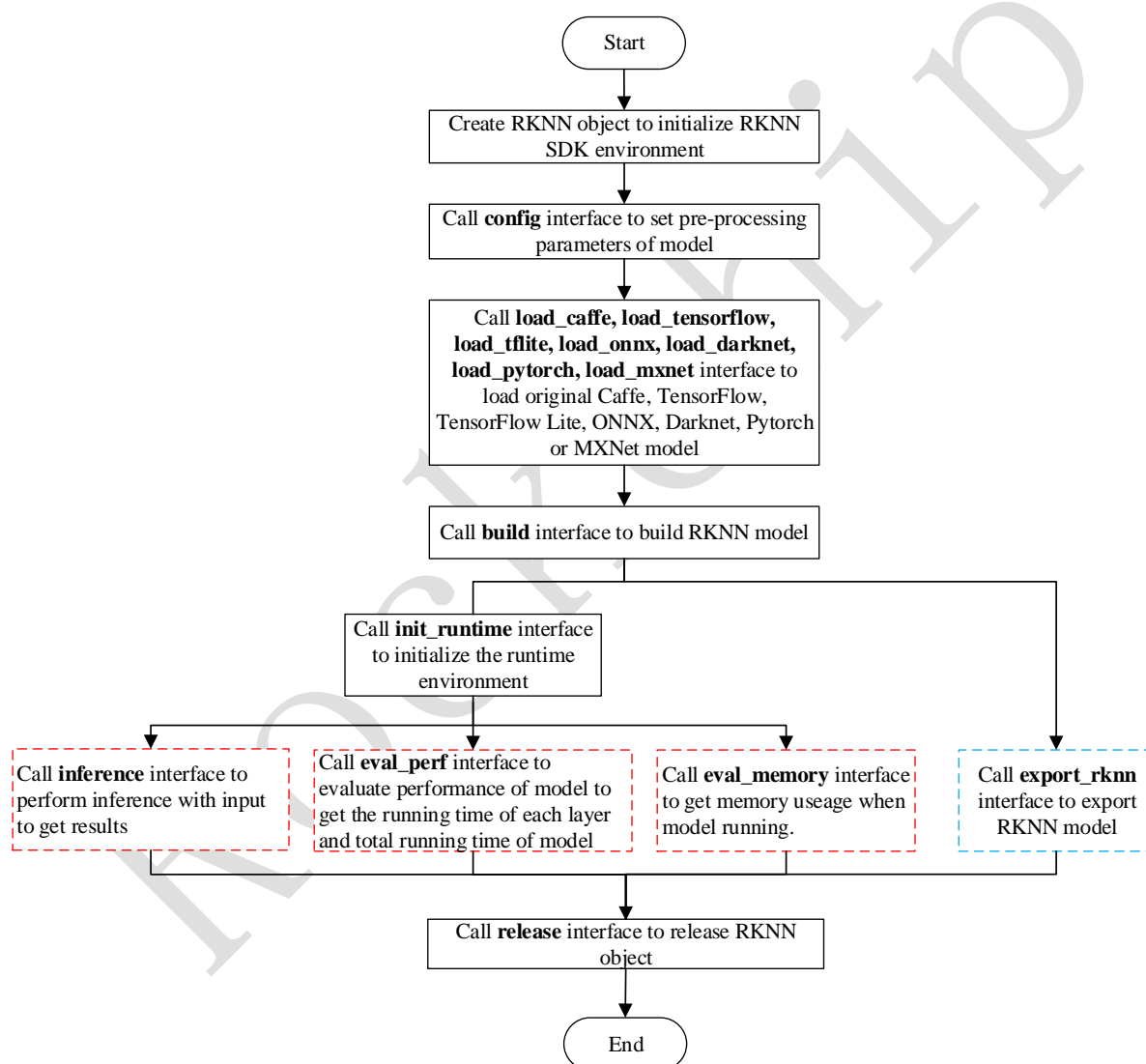


Figure 1 Usage flow of RKNN-Toolkit when running a non-RKNN model on PC

Note:

1. The above steps should be performed in order.
2. The model exporting step marked in the blue box is not necessary. If you exported, you can use

load_rknn to load it later on.

3. The order of model inference, performance evaluation and memory evaluation steps marked in red box is not fixed, it depends on the actual demand.

4. Only when the target hardware platform is Rockchip NPU, we can call eval_memory interface.

3.2.1.2 Sub-scenario 2: run the RKNN model

When running an RKNN model, users do not need to set model pre-processing parameters, nor do they need to build an RKNN model, the usage flow is shown in the following figure.

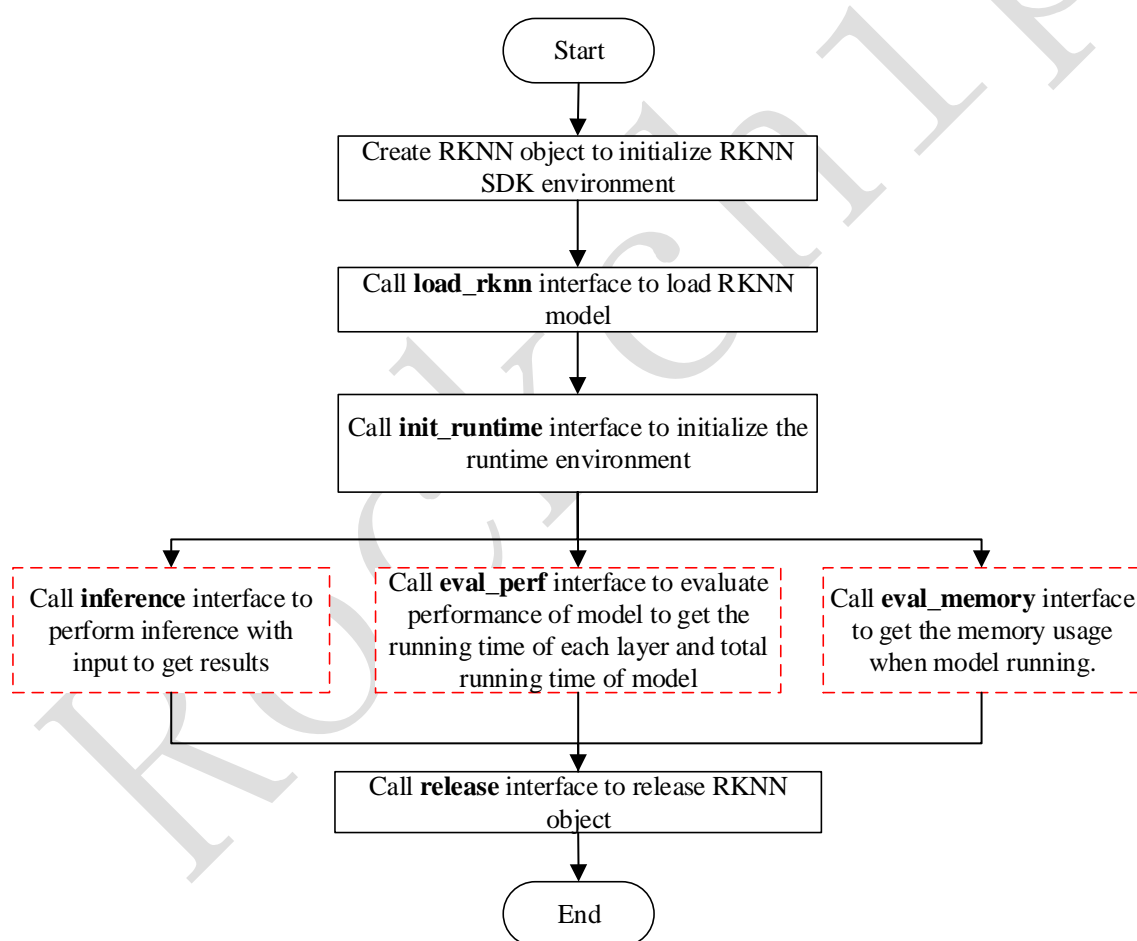


Figure 2 Usage flow of RKNN-Toolkit when running an RKNN model on PC

Note:

1. The above steps should be performed in order.
2. The order of model inference, performance evaluation and memory evaluation steps marked in red box is not fixed, it depends on the actual demand.

3. We can call `eval_memory` only when the target hardware platform is RK3399Pro, RK1808 or RK3399Pro Linux or TB-RK1808 AI Compute Stick, etc.

3.2.2 Scenario 2: Run on Rockchip NPU connected to the PC.

Rockchip NPU platforms currently supported by RKNN Toolkit include RK1806, RK1808 (or TB-RK1808), RK3399Pro(D), RV1109 and RV1126.

In this Scenario, In this scenario, RKNN Toolkit runs on the PC and connects to the NPU device through the PC's USB. RKNN Toolkit transfers the RKNN model to the NPU device to run, and then obtains the inference results, performance information, etc. from the NPU device

If the model is a non-RKNN model (Caffe, TensorFlow, TensorFlow Lite, ONNX, Darknet, Pytorch, MXNet), the usage flow and precautions of RKNN-Toolkit are the same as the sub-scenario 1 of the scenario 1(see [Section 3.2.1.1](#)).

If the model is an RKNN model (file suffix is “rknn”), the usage flow and precautions of RKNN-Toolkit are the same as the sub-scenario 2 of the scenario 1(see [Section 3.2.1.2](#)).

In addition, in this scenario, we also need to complete the following two steps:

1. Make sure the USB OTG of development board is connected to PC, and call `list_devices` interface will show the device. More information about “list_devices” interface can see Section 3.5.13.

2. “Target” parameter and “device_id” parameter need to be specified when calling “init_runtime” interface to initialize the runtime environment, where “target” indicates the type of hardware, optional values are “rk1808”, “rk3399pro”, “rv1109” and “rv1126”. When multiple devices are connected to PC, “device_id” parameter needs to be specified. It is a string which can be obtained by calling “list_devices” interface, for example:

```
all device(s) with adb mode:
[]
all device(s) with ntb mode:
['TB-RK1808S0', '515e9b401c060c0b']
```

Runtime initialization code is as follows:

```
# RK3399Pro
ret = init_runtime(target='rk3399pro', device_id='VGEJY9PW7T')

.....

# RK1808
ret = init_runtime(target='rk1808', device_id='515e9b401c060c0b')

# TB-RK1808 AI Compute Stick
ret = init_runtime(target='rk1808', device_id='TB-RK1808S0')

# RV1109
ret = init_runtime(target='rv1109', device_id='60a32d0000bb0709')

# RV1126
ret = init_runtime(target='rv1126', device_id='c3d9b8674f4b94f6')
```

Note:

1. Currently, RK1808, RV1109, RV1126 support ADB or NTB. When we use multiple devices on PC or RK3399Pro Linux Development Board, all devices should use same mode, both are ADB or both are NTB.
2. When using an NTB device for the first time on Linux, a non-root user needs to obtain the read and write permissions of the USB device. This can be done by executing the SDK/platform-tools/update_rk_usb_rule/linux/update_rk1808_usb_rule.sh script. For details, please refer to the README.txt in the directory

3.2.3 Scenario 3: Inference on RK3399Pro Linux development board

In this scenario, RKNN-Toolkit is installed in RK3399Pro Linux system directly. The built or imported RKNN model runs directly on RK3399Pro to obtain the actual inference results or performance information of the model.

For RK3399Pro Linux development board, the usage flow of RKNN-Toolkit depends on the type of model. If the model is a non-RKNN model, the usage flow is the same as that in the sub-scenario 1 of scenario 1 (see [Section 3.2.1.1](#)), otherwise, please refer to the usage flow in the sub-scenario 2 of scenario 1 (see [Section 3.2.1.2](#)).

3.3 Hybrid Quantization

RKNN-Toolkit supports hybrid quantization from version 1.0.0.

The quantization feature can minimize model accuracy based on improved model performance. But for some models, the accuracy has dropped a bit. In order to allow users to better balance performance and accuracy, we add new feature hybrid quantization from version 1.0.0. Users can decide which layers to quantize or not to quantize. Users can also modify the quantization parameters according to their own experience.

Note:

1. The examples/common_function_demos directory provides a hybrid quantization example named hybrid_quantization. Users can refer to this example for hybrid quantification practice.

3.3.1 Instructions of hybrid quantization

Currently, we have three kind of ways to use hybrid quantization:

1. Convert quantized layer to non-quantized layer. This way may improve accuracy, but performance will drop.
2. Convert non-quantized layer to quantized layer. This way may improve performance, but accuracy may drop.
3. Modify quantization parameters of pointed quantized layer. This way may improve accuracy or reduce accuracy, it has no effect on performance.

3.3.2 Hybrid quantization profile

When using the hybrid quantization feature, the first step is to generate a hybrid quantization profile, which is briefly described in this section.

When we call the hybrid quantization interface hybrid_quantization_step1, a yaml configuration file of {model_name}.quantization.cfg is generated in the current directory. The configuration file format is as follows:


```

%YAML 1.2
---
# add layer name and corresponding quantized_dtype to
customized_quantize_layers, e.g conv2_3: float32
customized_quantize_layers: {}
quantize_parameters:
  '@attach_concat_1/out0_0:out0':
    dtype: asymmetric_affine
    method: layer
    max_value:
      - 10.097497940063477
    min_value:
      - -52.340476989746094
    zero_point:
      - 214
    scale:
      - 0.24485479295253754
    qtype: u8

.....

  '@FeatureExtractor/MobilenetV2/Conv/Conv2D_230:bias':
    dtype: asymmetric_affine
    method: layer
    max_value:
    min_value:
    zero_point: 0
    scale:
      - 0.00026041566161438823
    qtype: i32

```

First line is the version of yaml. Second line is separator. Third line is comment. Followed by the main content of the configuration file.

The first line of the body of the configuration file is a dictionary of customized quantize layers, add the layer names and their corresponding quantized type(choose from **asymmetric_affine-u8**, **dynamic_fixed_point-i8**, **dynamic_fixed_point-i16**, **float32**) to be changed to customized quantize layers.

Next is a list of model layers, each layer is a dictionary. The key of each dictionary is composed of `@{layer_name}_{layer_id}:[weight/bias/out{port}]`, where `layer_name` is the name of this layer and `layer_id` is an identification of this layer. We usually quantize weight/bias/out when do quantization, and use multiple out0, out1, etc. for multiple outputs. The value of the dictionary is the quantization parameter.

If the layer is not be quantized, there is only “dtype” item, and the value of “dtype” is None.

3.3.3 Usage flow of hybrid quantization

When using the hybrid quantization function, it can be done in four steps.

Step1, load the original model and generate a quantize configuration file, a model structure file and a model weight bias file. The specific interface call process is as follows:

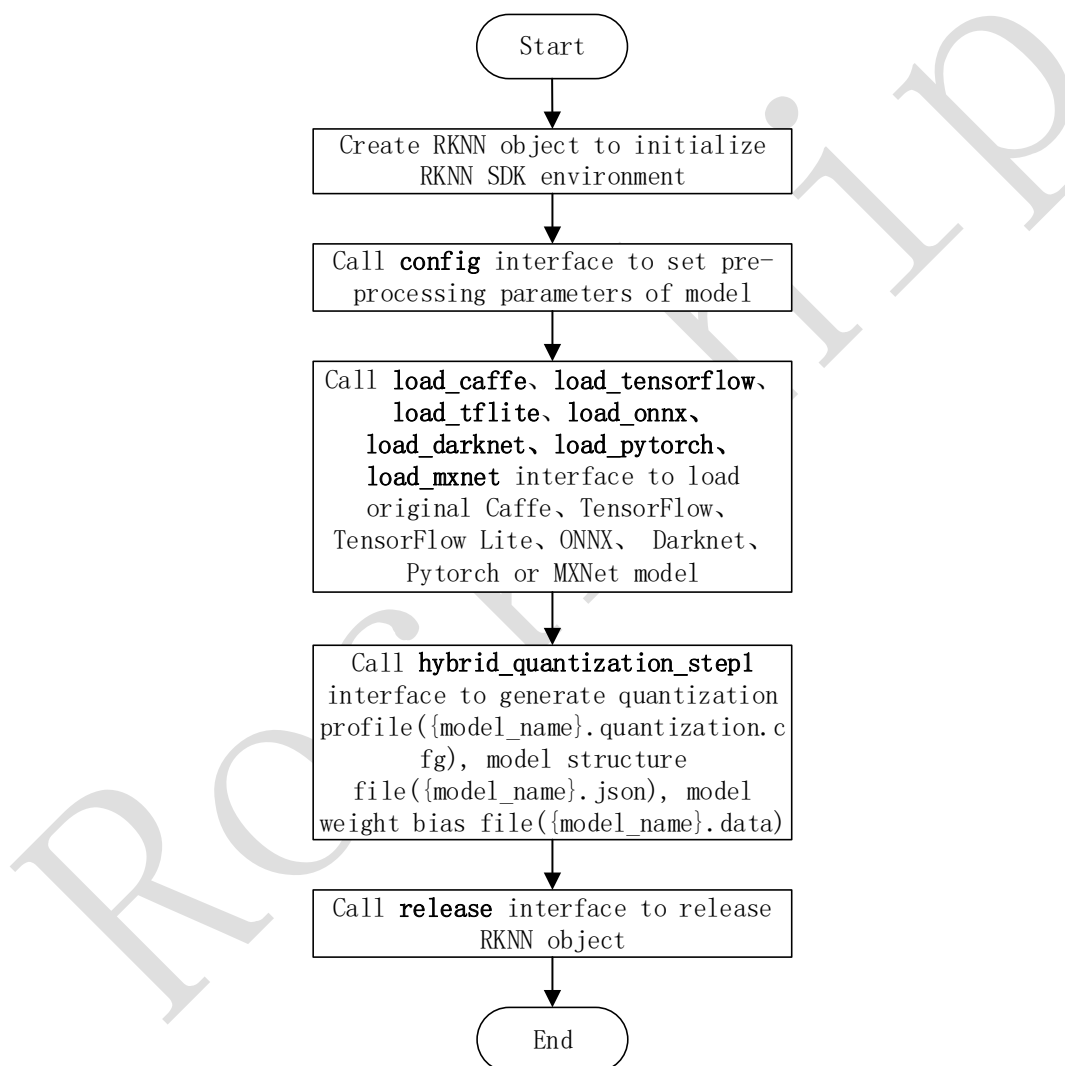


Figure 3 call process of hybrid quantization step 1

Step 2, Modify the quantization configuration file generated in the first step.

- If some quantization layers is changed to a non-quantization layer, find the layer that is not to be quantized, and add these layers name and float32 to customized_quantize_layers, such as “<layername>: float32”.

-
- If some layers are changed from non-quantization to quantization, add these layers named and corresponding quantize type to `customized_quantize_layers`, such as “<layername>: asymmetric_affine-u8”.
 - If the quantization parameter is to be modified, directly modify the quantization parameter of the specified layer.

Step 3, generate hybrid quantized RKNN model. The specific interface call flow is as follows:

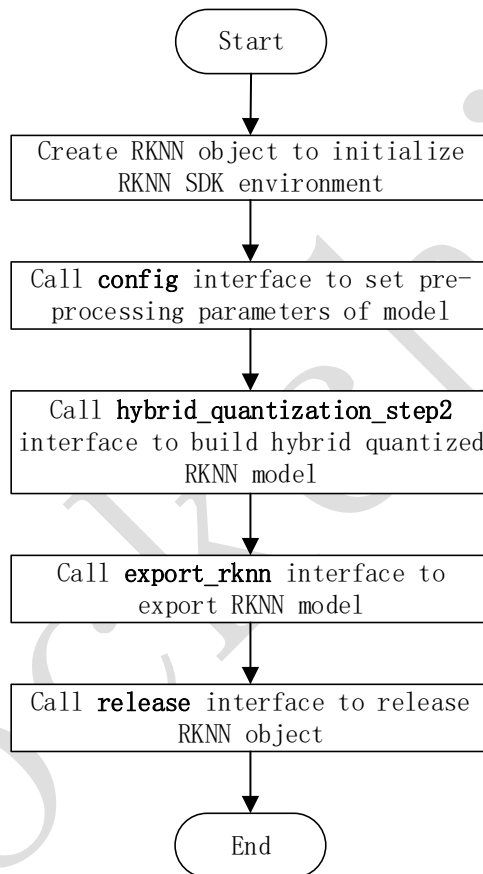


Figure 4 call process of hybrid quantization step 3

Step 4, use the RKNN model generated in the previous step to inference.

3.4 Model Segmentation

RKNN-Toolkit supports model segmentation from version 1.2.0. This feature is used in a scenario where multiple models run simultaneously. A single model can be divided into multiple segments to be executed on the NPU, thereby adjusting the execution time of multiple models occupying the NPU, avoiding that one model occupies too much execution time, while other model was not implemented in

time.

The chance of each segment preempting the NPU is equal. After a segment execution is completed, it will take the initiative to give up the NPU, if the model has the next segment, it will be added to the end of the command queue again. At this time, if there are segments of other models waiting to be executed, segmentation of other models will be performed in the order of the command queue. Note: The model that does not have model segmentation enabled is by default a segment.

The ordinary RKNN model can be divided into multiple segments by calling the `export_rknn_sync_model` interface. For the detailed usage of this interface, please refer to [section 3.7.13](#).

If you are in a single model running scenario, you need to turn it off, just do not use a segmentation RKNN model. Because turning on model segmentation reduces the efficiency of single model execution, however, the multi-model running scene does not reduce the efficiency of model execution. Therefore, it is only recommended to use this feature in scenarios where multiple models are running at the same time.

3.5 Example

The following is the sample code for loading TensorFlow Lite model (see the *example/tflite/mobilenet_v1* directory for details), if it is executed on PC, the RKNN model will run on the simulator.

```
import numpy as np
import cv2
from rknn.api import RKNN

def show_outputs(outputs):
    output = outputs[0][0]
    output_sorted = sorted(output, reverse=True)
    top5_str = 'mobilenet_v1\n-----TOP 5-----\n'
    for i in range(5):
        value = output_sorted[i]
        index = np.where(output == value)
        for j in range(len(index)):
            if (i + j) >= 5:
                break
            if value > 0:
                topi = '{}: {}'.format(index[j], value)
            else:
```

```
        topi = '-1: 0.0\n'
        top5_str += topi
    print(top5_str)

def show_perfs(perfs):
    perfs = 'perfs: {}'.format(perfs)
    print(perfs)

if __name__ == '__main__':

    # Create RKNN object
    rknn = RKNN()

    # pre-process config
    print('--> config model')
    rknn.config(channel_mean_value='103.94 116.78 123.68 58.82',
reorder_channel='0 1 2')
    print('done')

    # Load tensorflow model
    print('--> Loading model')
    ret = rknn.load_tflite(model='./mobilenet_v1.tflite')
    if ret != 0:
        print('Load mobilenet_v1 failed!')
        exit(ret)
    print('done')

    # Build model
    print('--> Building model')
    ret = rknn.build(do_quantization=True, dataset='./dataset.txt')
    if ret != 0:
        print('Build mobilenet_v1 failed!')
        exit(ret)
    print('done')

    # Export rknn model
    print('--> Export RKNN model')
    ret = rknn.export_rknn('./mobilenet_v1.rknn')
    if ret != 0:
        print('Export mobilenet_v1.rknn failed!')
        exit(ret)
    print('done')

    # Set inputs
    img = cv2.imread('./dog_224x224.jpg')
    img = cv2.cvtColor(img, cv2.COLOR_BGR2RGB)

    # init runtime environment
    print('--> Init runtime environment')
    ret = rknn.init_runtime()
```

```

if ret != 0:
    print('Init runtime environment failed')
    exit(ret)
print('done')

# Inference
print('--> Running model')
outputs = rknn.inference(inputs=[img])
show_outputs(outputs)
print('done')

# perf
print('--> Begin evaluate model performance')
perf_results = rknn.eval_perf(inputs=[img])
print('done')

rknn.release()

```

Where dataset.txt is a text file containing the path of the test image. For example, if we now have a picture of dog_224x224.jpg in the *example/tflite/mobilenet_v1* directory, then the corresponding content in dataset.txt is as follows:

```
dog_224x224.jpg
```

When performing model inference, the result of this demo is as follows:

```

-----TOP 5-----
[156]: 0.85107421875
[155]: 0.09173583984375
[205]: 0.01358795166015625
[284]: 0.006465911865234375
[194]: 0.002239227294921875

```

When evaluating model performance, the result of this demo is as follows (since it is executed on PC, the result is for reference only).

```

=====
                        Performance
=====
Layer ID   Name                                     Time(us)
0          tensor.transpose_3                    72
44         convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2    363
59         convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2    201
45         convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2    185
60         convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2    243
46         convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2     98

```

61	convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2	149
47	convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2	104
62	convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2	120
48	convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2	72
63	convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2	101
49	convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2	92
64	convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2	99
50	convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2	110
65	convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2	107
51	convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2	212
66	convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2	107
52	convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2	212
67	convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2	107
53	convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2	212
68	convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2	107
54	convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2	212
69	convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2	107
55	convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2	212
70	convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2	107
56	convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2	174
71	convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2	220
57	convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2	353
28	pooling.layer2_1	36
58	fullyconnected.relu.layer_3	110
30	softmaxlayer2.layer_1	90
Total Time(us): 4694		
FPS(800MHz): 213.04		
=====		

3.6 RKNN-Toolkit API description

3.6.1 RKNN object initialization and release

The initialization/release function group consists of API interfaces to initialize and release the RKNN object as needed. The **RKNN()** must be called before using all the API interfaces of RKNN-Toolkit, and call the **release()** method to release the object when task finished.

When we init RKNN object, we can set **verbose** and **verbose_file** parameters, used to show detailed log information of model loading, building and so on. The data type of verbose parameter is bool. If we set the value of this parameter to True, the RKNN Toolkit will show detailed log information on screen. The data type of verbose_file is string. If we set the value of this parameter to a file path, the detailed log information will be written to this file (**the verbose also need be set to True**).

The sample code is as follows:

```
# Show the detailed log information on screen, and saved to
```

```
# mobilenet_build.log
rknn = RKNN(verbose=True, verbose_file='./mobilenet_build.log')
# Only show the detailed log information on screen.
rknn = RKNN(verbose=True)
...
rknn.release()
```

3.6.2 RKNN model configuration

Before the RKNN model is built, the model needs to be configured first through the **config** interface.

API	config
Description	Set model parameters
Parameter	batch_size: The size of each batch of data sets. The default value is 100. When quantifying, the amount of data fed in each batch will be determined according to this parameter to correct the quantization results.
	mean_values: The mean values of the input. This parameter and the channel_mean_value parameter can not be set at the same time. The parameter format is a list. The list contains one or more mean sublists. The multi-input model corresponds to multiple sublists. The length of each sublist is consistent with the number of channels of the input. For example, if the parameter is <code>[[128,128,128]]</code> , it means an input subtract 128 from the values of the three channels. If reorder_channel is set to "2 1 0", the channel adjustment will be done first, and then the average value will be subtracted.
	std_values: The normalized value of the input. This parameter and the channel_mean_value parameter can not be set at the same time. The parameter format is a list. The list contains one or more normalized value sublists. The multi-input model corresponds to multiple sublists. The length of each sublist is consistent with the number of channels of the input. For example, if the parameter is <code>[[128,128,128]]</code> , it means the value of the three channels of an input minus the average value and then divide by 128. If reorder_channel is set to "2 1 0", the channel adjustment will be performed first, followed

	by subtracting the mean value and dividing by the normalized value.
	<p>channel_mean_value: It is a list contains four value (M0, M1, M2, S0), where the first three value are all mean parameters, the latter value is a scale parameter. If the input data is three-channel data with (Cin0, Cin1, Cin2), after preprocessing, the shape of output data is (Cout0, Count1, Count2), calculated as follows:</p> <div style="background-color: #f0f0f0; padding: 10px; margin: 10px 0;"> $\begin{aligned} \text{Cout0} &= (\text{Cin0} - \text{M0})/\text{S0} \\ \text{Cout1} &= (\text{Cin1} - \text{M1})/\text{S0} \\ \text{Cout2} &= (\text{Cin2} - \text{M2})/\text{S0} \end{aligned}$ </div> <p>Note: for three-channel input only, other channel formats can be ignored.</p> <p>For example, if input data needs to be normalized to [-1,1], this parameter should be set to (128 128 128 128). If input data needs to be normalized to [-1,1], this parameter should be set to (0 0 0 255). If there are multiple inputs, the corresponding parameters for each input is split with '#', such as '128 128 128 128#128 128 128 128'. <i>This parameter will be removed in the next version.</i></p>
	<p>epochs: Number of iterations in quantization. Quantization parameter calibration is performed with specified data at each iteration. Default value is -1, in this situation, the number of iteration is automatically calculated based on the amount of data in the dataset.</p>
	<p>reorder_channel: A permutation of the dimensions of input image (for three-channel input only, other channel formats can be ignored). The new tensor dimension i will correspond to the original input dimension reorder_channel[i]. For example, if the original image is RGB format, '2 1 0' indicates that it will be converted to BGR.</p> <p>If there are multiple inputs, the corresponding parameters for each input is split with '#', such as '0 1 2#0 1 2'.</p> <p>Note: each value of reorder_channel must not be set to the same value.</p>
	<p>need_horizontal_merge: Indicates whether to merge horizontal, the default value is False.</p> <p>If the model is inception v1/v3/v4, it is recommended to enable this option, it can improve the performance of inference.</p>

	<p>quantized_dtype: Quantization type, the quantization types currently supported are asymmetric_quantized-u8,dynamic_fixed_point-8,dynamic_fixed_point-16. The default value is asymmetric_quantized-u8.</p> <p>optimization_level: Model optimization level. By modifying the model optimization level, you can turn off some or all of the optimization rules used in the model conversion process. The default value of this parameter is 3, and all optimization options are turned on. When the value is 2 or 1, turn off some optimization options that may affect the accuracy of some models. Turn off all optimization options when the value is 0.</p> <p>target_platform: Specify which target chip platform the RKNN model is based on. RK1806, RK1808, RK3399Pro, RV1109 and RV1126 are currently supported. The RKNN model generated based on RK1806, RK1808 or RK3399pro can be used on both platforms, and the RKNN model generated based on RV1109 or RV1126 can be used on both platforms. If the model is to be run on RK1806, RK1808 or RK3399Pro, the value of this parameter can be ["rk1806"], ["rk1808"], ["rk3399pro"] or ["rk1806", "rk1808", "rk3399pro"], etc. If the model is to be run on RV1109 or RV1126, the value of this parameter can be ["rv1126"], ["rv1109"] or ["rv1109", "rv1126"], etc. But you cannot fill in ["rk1808", "rv1109"], because these two chips are incompatible, the RKNN model generated based on them cannot be run on another chip platform. If this parameter is not set, the default is ["rk1808"], and the generated RKNN model can be run on RK1806, RK1808 and RK3399Pro platforms.</p>
Return Value	None

The sample code is as follows:

```
# model config
rknn.config(channel_mean_value='103.94 116.78 123.68 58.82',
            reorder_channel='0 1 2',
            need_horizontal_merge=True,
            target_platform=['rk1808', 'rk3399pro'])
```

3.6.3 Loading non-RKNN model

RKNN-Toolkit currently supports Caffe, TensorFlow, TensorFlow Lite, ONNX, Darknet, Pytorch, MXNet seven kinds of non-RKNN models. There are different calling interfaces when loading models, the loading interfaces of these seven models are described in detail below.

3.6.3.1 Loading Caffe model

API	load_caffe
Description	Load Caffe model
Parameter	model: The path of Caffe model structure file (suffixed with “.prototxt”).
	proto: Caffe model format (valid value is ‘caffe’ or ‘lstm_caffe’). We use ‘lstm_caffe’ when the model is RNN model.
	blobs: The path of Caffe model binary data file (suffixed with “.caffemodel”). The value can be None, RKNN Toolkit will randomly generate parameters such as weights.
Return	0: Import successfully
Value	-1: Import failed

The sample code is as follows:

```
# Load the mobilenet_v2 Caffe model in the current path
ret = rknn.load_caffe(model='./mobilenet_v2.prototxt',
                      proto='caffe',
                      blobs='./mobilenet_v2.caffemodel')
```

3.6.3.2 Loading TensorFlow model

API	load_tensorflow
Description	Load TensorFlow model
Parameter	tf_pb: The path of TensorFlow model file (suffixed with “.pb”).
	inputs: The input node of model, input with multiple nodes is supported now. All the input

	node string are placed in a list.
	input_size_list: The size and number of channels of the image corresponding to the input node. As in the example of mobilenet_v1 model, the input_size_list parameter should be set to [224,224,3].
	outputs: The output node of model, output with multiple nodes is supported now. All the output nodes are placed in a list.
	predef_file: In order to support some controlling logic, a predefined file in npz format needs to be provided. This predefined file can be generated by the following function call: np.savez('prd.npz', [placeholder name]=prd_value)。 If there are / in placeholder name, use # to replace.
Return	0: Import successfully
value	-1: Import failed

The sample code is as follows:

```
# Load ssd_mobilenet_v1_coco_2017_11_17 TF model in the current path
ret = rknn.load_tensorflow(
    tf_pb='./ssd_mobilenet_v1_coco_2017_11_17.pb',
    inputs=['FeatureExtractor/MobilenetV1/MobilenetV1/Conv2d_0
           /BatchNorm/batchnorm/mul_1'],
    outputs=['concat', 'concat_1'],
    input_size_list=[[300, 300, 3]])
```

3.6.3.3 Loading TensorFlow Lite model

API	load_tflite
Description	<p>Load TensorFlow Lite model.</p> <p>Note:</p> <p>RKNN-Toolkit uses the tflite schema commits as in link:</p> <p>https://github.com/tensorflow/tensorflow/commits/master/tensorflow/lite/schema/schema.fbs</p>

	commit hash: 0c4f5dfea4ceb3d7c0b46fc04828420a344f7598 Because the tflite schema may not compatible with each other, tflite models in older or newer schema may not be imported successfully.
Parameter	model: The path of TensorFlow Lite model file (suffixed with “.tflite”).
Return	0: Import successfully
Value	-1: Import failed

The sample code is as follows:

```
# Load the mobilenet_v1 TF-Lite model in the current path
ret = rknn.load_tflite(model = './mobilenet_v1.tflite')
```

3.6.3.4 Loading ONNX model

API	load_onnx
Description	Load ONNX model
Parameter	model: The path of ONNX model file (suffixed with “.onnx”)
Return	0: Import successfully
Value	-1: Import failed

The sample code is as follows:

```
# Load the arcface onnx model in the current path
ret = rknn.load_onnx(model = './arcface.onnx')
```

3.6.3.5 Loading Darknet model

API	load_darknet
Description	Load Darknet model
Parameter	model: The path of Darknet model structure file (suffixed with “.cfg”).

	weight: The path of weight file (suffixed with “.weight”).
Return	0: Import successfully
Value	-1: Import failed

The sample code is as follows:

```
# Load the yolov3-tiny darknet model in the current path
ret = rknn.load_darknet(model = './yolov3-tiny.cfg',
                        weight= './yolov3.weights')
```

3.6.3.6 Loading Pytorch model

API	load_pytorch
Description	Load Pytorch model
Parameter	<p>model: The path of Pytorch model structure file (suffixed with “.pt”), and need a model in the torchscript format. Required.</p> <p>input_size_list: The size and number of channels of each input node. For example, [[1,224,224],[3,224,224]] means there are two inputs. One of the input shapes is [1, 224, 224], and the other input shape is [3, 224, 224]. Required.</p>
Return	0: Import successfully
Value	-1: Import failed

The sample code is as follows:

```
# Load the pytorch model resnet18 in the current path
ret = rknn.load_pytorch(model = './resnet18.pt',
                        input_size_list=[[3,224,224]])
```

3.6.3.7 Loading MXNet model

API	load_mxnet
Description	Load MXNet model

Parameter	symbol: Network structure file of MXNet model, suffixed with “json”. Required.
	params: Network parameters file of MXNet model, suffixed with “params”. Required.
	input_size_list: The size and number of channels of each input node. For example, [[1,224,224],[3,224,224]] means there are two inputs. One of the input shapes is [1, 224, 224], and the other input shape is [3, 224, 224]. Required.
Return	0: Import successfully
Value	-1: Import failed

The sample code is as follows:

```
# Load the mxnet model resnext50 in the current path
ret = rknn.load_mxnet(symbol='resnext50_32x4d-symbol.json',
                      params='resnext50_32x4d-4ecf62e2.params',
                      input_size_list=[[3,224,224]])
```

3.6.4 Building RKNN model

API	build
Description	Build corresponding RKNN model according to imported model (Caffe, TensorFlow, TensorFlow Lite, etc.).
Parameter	do_quantization: Whether to quantize the model, optional values are True and False.
	dataset: A input data set for rectifying quantization parameters. Currently supports text file format, the user can place the path of picture(jpg or png) or npy file which is used for rectification. A file path for each line. Such as: a.jpg b.jpg or a.npy b.npy

	<p>If there are multiple inputs, the corresponding files are divided by space. Such as:</p> <p>a.jpg a2.jpg</p> <p>b.jpg b2.jpg</p> <p>or</p> <p>a.npy a2.npy</p> <p>b.npy b2.npy</p>
	<p>pre_compile: If this option is set to True, it may reduce the size of the model file, increase the speed of the first startup of the model on the device. However, if this option is enabled, the built model can be only run on the hardware platform, and the inference or performance evaluation cannot be performed on simulator. If the hardware is updated, the corresponding model need to be rebuilt.</p> <p>Note:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. we can not use pre compile on RK3399Pro Linux development board or Windows PC or Mac OS X PC. 2. Pre-compiled model generated by RKNN-Toolkit-v1.0.0 or later can not run on device installed old driver (NPU driver version < 0.9.6), and pre-compiled model generated by old RKNN-Toolkit (version < 1.0.0) can not run on device installed new NPU driver (NPU drvier version >= 0.9.6). We can call get_sdk_version interface to fetch driver version. 3. If there are multiple inputs, this option needs to be set to False.
	<p>rknn_batch_size: batch size of input, default is 1. If greater than 1, NPU can inference multiple frames of input image or input data in one inference. For example, original input of MobileNet is [1, 224, 224, 3], output shape is [1, 1001]. When rknn_batch_size is set to 4, the input shape of MobileNet becomes [4, 224, 224, 3], output shape becomes [4, 1001].</p> <p>Note:</p>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The adjustment of <code>rknn_batch_size</code> does not improve the performance of the general model on the NPU, but it will significantly increase memory consumption and increase the delay of single frame. 2. The adjustment of <code>rknn_batch_size</code> can reduce the consumption of the ultra-small model on the CPU and improve the average frame rate of the ultra-small model. (Applicable to the model is too small, CPU overhead is greater than the NPU overhead) 3. The value of <code>rknn_batch_size</code> is recommended to be less than 32, to avoid the memory usage is too large and the reasoning fails. 4. After the <code>rknn_batch_size</code> is modified, the shape of input and output will be modified. So the inputs of inference should be set to correct size. We also need to process the returned outputs on post processing.
Return	0: Build successfully
value	-1: Build failed

The sample code is as follows:

```
# Build and quantize RKNN model
ret = rknn.build(do_quantization=True, dataset='./dataset.txt')
```

3.6.5 Export RKNN model

In order to make the RKNN model reusable, an interface to produce a persistent model is provided. After building RKNN model, `export_rknn()` is used to save an RKNN model to a file. If you have an RKNN model now, it is not necessary to call `export_rknn()` interface again.

API	export_rknn
Description	Save RKNN model in the specified file (suffixed with “.rknn”).
Parameter	export_path: The path of generated RKNN model file.

Return	0: Export successfully
Value	-1: Export failed

The sample code is as follows:

```
# save the built RKNN model as a mobilenet_v1.rknn file in the current
# path
ret = rknn.export_rknn(export_path = './mobilenet_v1.rknn')
```

3.6.6 Loading RKNN model

API	load_rknn
Description	Load RKNN model
Parameter	<p>path: The path of RKNN model file.</p> <p>load_model_in_npu: Whether to load RKNN model in NPU directly. The path parameter should fill in the path of the model in NPU. It can be set to True only when RKNN-Toolkit run on RK3399Pro Linux or NPU device(RK3399Pro, RK1808 or TB-RK1808 AI Compute Stick) is connected. Default value is False.</p>
Return	0: Load successfully
Value	-1: Load failed

The sample code is as follows:

```
# Load the mobilenet_v1 RKNN model in the current path
ret = rknn.load_rknn(path='./mobilenet_v1.rknn')
```

3.6.7 Initialize the runtime environment

Before inference or performance evaluation, the runtime environment must be initialized. This interface determines which type of runtime hardware is specified to run model.

API	init_runtime
Description	Initialize the runtime environment. Set the device information (hardware platform, device

	ID). Determine whether to enable debug mode to obtain more detailed performance information for performance evaluation.
Parameter	target: Target hardware platform, now supports “rk3399pro”, “rk1806”, “rk1808”, “rv1109”, “rv1126”. The default value is “None”, which indicates model runs on default hardware platform and system. Specifically, if RKNN-Toolkit is used in PC, the default device is simulator, and if RKNN-Toolkit is used in RK3399Pro Linux development board, the default device is RK3399Pro. The “rk1808” includes TB-RK1808 AI Compute Stick.
	device_id: Device identity number, if multiple devices are connected to PC, this parameter needs to be specified which can be obtained by calling “ <i>list_devices</i> ” interface. The default value is “None “. Note: Mac OS X platform does not support multiple devices.
	perf_debug: Debug mode option for performance evaluation. In debug mode, the running time of each layer can be obtained, otherwise, only the total running time of model can be given. The default value is False.
	eval_mem: Whether enter memory evaluation mode. If set True, we can call eval_memory interface later to fetch memory usage of model running. The default value is False.
	async_mode: Whether to use asynchronous mode. When calling the inference interface, it involves setting the input picture, model running, and fetching the inference result. If the asynchronous mode is enabled, setting the input of the current frame will be performed simultaneously with the inference of the previous frame, so in addition to the first frame, each subsequent frame can hide the setting input time, thereby improving performance. In asynchronous mode, the inference result returned each time is the previous frame. The default value for this parameter is False.
Return	0: Initialize the runtime environment successfully
Value	-1: Initialize the runtime environment failed

The sample code is as follows:

```
# Initialize the runtime environment
ret = rknn.init_runtime(target='rk1808', device_id='012345789AB')
if ret != 0:
    print('Init runtime environment failed')
    exit(ret)
```

3.6.8 Inference with RKNN model

This interface kicks off the RKNN model inference and get the result of inference.

API	inference
Description	<p>Use the model to perform inference with specified input and get the inference result.</p> <p>Detailed scenarios are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If RKNN Toolkit is running on PC and the target is set to Rockchip NPU when initializing the runtime environment, the inference of model is performed on the specified hardware platform. 2. If RKNN Toolkit is running on PC and the target is not set when initializing the runtime environment, the inference of model is performed on the simulator. The simulator can simulate RK1808 or RV1126. Which chip to simulate depends on the target_platform parameter value of the RKNN model 3. If RKNN Toolkit is running on RK3399Pro Linux development board, the inference of model is performed on the actual hardware.
Parameter	inputs: Inputs to be inferred, such as images processed by cv2. The object type is ndarray list.
	data_type: The numerical type of input data. Optional values are 'float32', 'float16', 'int8', 'uint8', 'int16'. The default value is 'uint8'.
	data_format: The shape format of input data. Optional values are "nchw", "nhwc". The default value is 'nhwc'.
	inputs_pass_through: Pass the input transparently to the NPU driver. In non-transparent

	mode, the tool will reduce the mean, divide the variance, etc. before the input is passed to the NPU driver; in transparent mode, these operations will not be performed. The value of this parameter is an array. For example, to pass input0 and not input1, the value of this parameter is [1, 0]. The default value is None, which means that all input is not transparent.
Return Value	results: The result of inference, the object type is ndarray list。

The sample code is as follows:

For classification model, such as mobilenet_v1, the code is as follows (refer to *example/tfite/mobilenet_v1* for the complete code):

```
# Preform inference for a picture with a model and get a top-5 result
.....
outputs = rknn.inference(inputs=[img])
show_outputs(outputs)
.....
```

The result of top-5 is as follows:

```
-----TOP 5-----
[156]: 0.85107421875
[155]: 0.09173583984375
[205]: 0.01358795166015625
[284]: 0.006465911865234375
[194]: 0.002239227294921875
```

For object detection model, such as ssd_mobilenet_v1, the code is as follows (refer to *example/tensorflow/ssd_mobilenet_v1* for the complete code):

```
# Perform inference for a picture with a model and get the result of object
# detection
.....
outputs = rknn.inference(inputs=[image])
.....
```

After the inference result is post-processed, the final output is shown in the following picture (the color of the object border is randomly generated, so the border color obtained will be different each time):

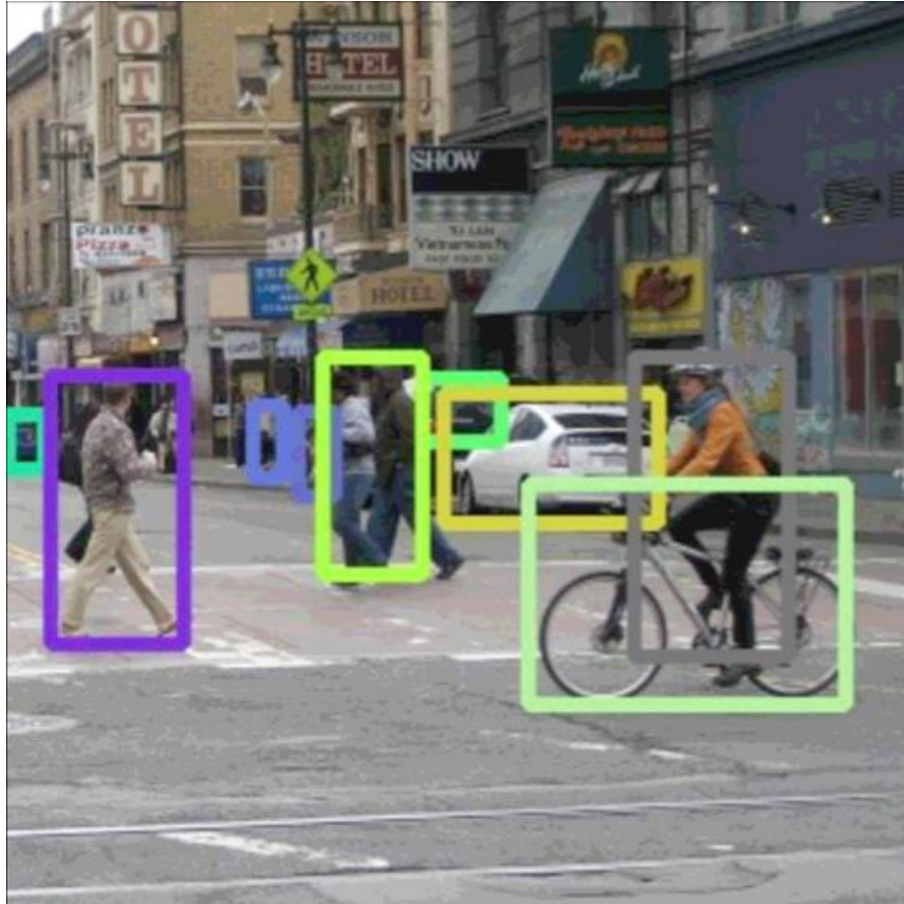


Figure 3 ssd_mobilenet_v1 inference result

3.6.9 Evaluate model performance

API	eval_perf
Description	<p>Evaluate model performance.</p> <p>Detailed scenarios are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. If running on PC and not setting the target when initializing the runtime environment, the performance information is obtained from simulator, which contains the running time of each layer and the total running time of model.2. If running on Rockchip NPU device which connected to PC and setting perf_debug to False when initializing runtime environment, the performance information is obtained from Rockchip NPU, which only contains the total running time of model. And if the perf_debug is set to True, the running time of each layer will also be captured in detail.

	<p>3. If running on RK3399Pro Linux development board and setting perf_debug to False when initializing runtime environment, the performance information is obtained from RK3399Pro, which only contains the total running time of model. And if the perf_debug is set to True, the running time of each layer will also be captured in detail.</p>
Return Value	<p>perf_result: Performance information. The object type is dictionary.</p> <p>If running on device (RK3399Pro or RK1808) and set perf_debug to False when initializing the runtime environment, the dictionary gives only one field 'total_time', example is as follows:</p> <pre>{ 'total_time': 1000 }</pre> <p>In other scenarios, the obtained dictionary has one more field called 'layers' which is also a dictionary type. The 'layers' takes the ID of each layer as the key, and its value is one dictionary which contains 'name' (name of layer), 'operation' (operator, which is only available when running on the hardware platform), 'time'(time-consuming of this layer). Example is as follows:</p> <pre>{ 'total_time', 4568, 'layers', { '0': { 'name': 'convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2', 'operation': 'CONVOLUTION', 'time', 362 } '1': { 'name': 'convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2', 'operation': 'CONVOLUTION', 'time', 158 } } }</pre>

The sample code is as follows:

```
# Evaluate model performance
.....
```

```
rknn.eval_perf(inputs=[image], is_print=True)
.....
```

For tensorflow/ssd_mobilenet_v1 in example directory, the performance evaluation results are printed as follows(The following is the result obtained on the PC simulator. The details obtained when connecting the hardware device are slightly different from the result.):

```
=====
                        Performance
=====
Layer ID   Name                                     Time(us)
0          tensor.transpose_3                  125
71          convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_3    324
105         convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2    331
72          convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2    438
106         convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2    436
73          convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2    223
107         convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2    374
74          convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2    327
108         convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_3    533
75          convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2    167
109         convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2    250
76          convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2    293
110         convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2    249
77          convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2    164
111         convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2    256
78          convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2    319
112         convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2    256
79          convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2    319
113         convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2    256
80          convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2    319
114         convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2    256
81          convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2    319
115         convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2    256
82          convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2    319
83          convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2    173
27          tensor.transpose_3                  48
84          convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2    45
28          tensor.transpose_3                   6
116         convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_3    299
85          convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2    233
117         convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2    314
86          convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2    479
87          convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2    249
35          tensor.transpose_3                   29
88          convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2    30
36          tensor.transpose_3                   5
89          convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2    122
```



```

90      convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_3      715
91      convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2      98
41      tensor.transpose_3                    10
92      convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2      11
42      tensor.transpose_3                    5
93      convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2      31
94      convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_3      205
95      convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2      51
47      tensor.transpose_3                    6
96      convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2      6
48      tensor.transpose_3                    4
97      convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2      17
98      convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_3      204
99      convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2      51
53      tensor.transpose_3                    5
100     convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2      6
54      tensor.transpose_3                    4
101     convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2      10
102     convolution.relu.pooling.layer2_2      21
103     fullyconnected.relu.layer_3           13
104     fullyconnected.relu.layer_3           8
Total Time(us): 10622
FPS(800MHz): 94.14
=====

```

3.6.10 Evaluating memory usage

API	eval_memory
Description	<p>Fetch memory usage when model is running on hardware platform.</p> <p>Model must run on Rockchip NPU devices.</p> <p>Note: When users use this API, the driver version must on 0.9.4 or later. Users can get driver version via get_sdk_version interface.</p>
Parameter	is_print: Whether to print performance evaluation results in the canonical format. The default value is True.
Return Value	<p>memory_detail: Detail information of memory usage. Data format is dictionary.</p> <p>Data shows as below:</p> <pre> { 'system_memory', { 'maximum_allocation': 128000000, 'total_allocation': 152000000 </pre>

	<pre> }, 'npu_memory', { 'maximum_allocation': 30000000, 'total_allocation': 40000000 }, 'total_memory', { 'maximum_allocation': 158000000, 'total_allocation': 192000000 } } </pre> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The 'system_memory' means memory usage of system. ● The 'npu_memory' means memory usage inside the NPU. ● The 'total_memory' means the sum of system and npu's memory usage. ● The 'maximum_allocation' filed means the maximum memory usage(unit: Byte) from start the model to dump the information. It is the peak memory usage. ● The 'total_allocation' means the accumulation memory usage(unit: Byte) of allocate memory from start the model to dump the information.
--	--

The sample code is as follows:

```

# eval memory usage
.....
memory_detail = rknn.eval_memory()
.....

```

For tflite/mobilenet_v1 in example directory, the memory usage when model running on RK1808 is printed as follows:

```

=====
Memory Profile Info Dump
=====
System memory:
    maximum allocation : 22.65 MiB
    total allocation   : 72.06 MiB
NPU memory:
    maximum allocation : 33.26 MiB
    total allocation   : 34.57 MiB

Total memory:
    maximum allocation : 55.92 MiB
    total allocation   : 106.63 MiB

```

INFO: When evaluating memory usage, we need consider
the size of model, current model size is: 4.10 MiB

=====

3.6.11 Get SDK version

API	get_sdk_version
Description	Get API version and driver version of referenced SDK. Note: Before use this interface, users must load model and initialize runtime first. And this interface can only be used when the target is Rockchip NPU or RKNN Toolkit running on RK3399Pro Linux development board.
Parameter	None
Return Value	sdk_version: API and driver version. Data type is string.

The sample code is as follows:

```
# Get SDK version
.....
sdk_version = rknn.get_sdk_version()
.....
```

The SDK version looks like below:

```
=====
RKNN VERSION:
  RKNNAPI:   API: 1.4.0 (b4a8096 build: 2020-08-12 10:15:19)
  RKNNAPI:   DRV: 1.4.0 (b4a8096 build: 2020-08-13 08:27:47)
=====
```

3.6.12 Hybrid Quantization

3.6.12.1 hybrid_quantization_step1

When using the hybrid quantization function, the main interface called in the first phase is

hybrid_quantization_step1, which is used to generate the model structure file ({model_name}.json), the weight file ({model_name}.data), and the quantization configuration file ({model_name}.quantization.

Cfg). Interface details are as follows:

API	hybrid_quantization_step1
Description	Corresponding model structure files, weight files, and quantization profiles are generated according to the loaded original model.
Parameter	dataset: A input data set for rectifying quantization parameters. Currently supports text file format, the user can place the path of picture(jpg or png) or npy file which is used for rectification. A file path for each line. Such as: a.jpg b.jpg or a.npy b.npy
Return	0: success
Value	-1: failure

The sample code is as follows:

```
# Call hybrid_quantization_step1 to generate quantization config
.....
ret = rknn.hybrid_quantization_step1(dataset='./dataset.txt')
.....
```

3.6.12.2 hybrid_quantization_step2

When using the hybrid quantization function, the primary interface for generating a hybrid quantized RKNN model phase call is hybrid_quantization_step2. The interface details are as follows:

API	hybrid_quantization_step2
Description	The model structure file, the weight file, the quantization profile, and the correction data

	set are received as inputs, and the hybrid quantized RKNN model is generated.
Parameter	<p>model_input: The model structure file generated in the first step, which is shaped like "{model_name}.json". The data type is a string. Required parameter.</p>
	<p>data_input: The model weight file generated in the first step, which is shaped like "{model_name}.data". The data type is a string. Required parameter.</p>
	<p>model_quantization_cfg: The modified model quantization profile, which is shaped like "{model_name}.quantization.cfg". The data type is a string. Required parameter.</p>
	<p>dataset: A input data set for rectifying quantization parameters. Currently supports text file format, the user can place the path of picture(jpg or png) or npy file which is used for rectification. A file path for each line. Such as:</p> <p>a.jpg</p> <p>b.jpg</p> <p>or</p> <p>a.npy</p> <p>b.npy</p>
	<p>pre_compile: If this option is set to True, it may reduce the size of the model file, increase the speed of the first startup of the model on the device. However, if this option is enabled, the built model can be only run on the hardware platform, and the inference or performance evaluation cannot be performed on simulator. If the hardware is updated, the corresponding model need to be rebuilt.</p> <p>Note:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> we can not use pre compile on RK3399Pro Linux development board or Windows PC or Mac OS X PC. Pre-compiled model generated by RKNN-Toolkit-v1.0.0 or later can not run on device installed old driver (NPU driver version < 0.9.6), and pre-compiled model generated by old RKNN-Toolkit (version < 1.0.0) can not run on device installed new NPU driver

	<p>(NPU drvier version \geq 0.9.6). We can call <code>get_sdk_version</code> interface to fetch driver version.</p> <p>3. If there are multiple inputs, this option needs to be set to False.</p>
Return	0: success
Value	-1: failure

The sample code is as follows:

```
# Call hybrid_quantization_step2 to generate hybrid quantized RKNN model
.....
ret = rknn.hybrid_quantization_step2(
    model_input='./ssd_mobilenet_v2.json',
    data_input='./ssd_mobilenet_v2.data',
    model_quantization_cfg='./ssd_mobilenet_v2.quantization.cfg',
    dataset='./dataset.txt')
.....
```

3.6.13 Quantitative accuracy analysis

The function of this interface is inference with quantized model and generate outputs of each layers for quantitative accuracy analysis.

API	accuracy_analysis
Description	Inference with quantized model and generate snapshot, that is dump tensor data of each layers. It will dump a snapshot of both data types include fp32 & qnt for calculate quantitative error.
Parameter	inputs: dataset file that include input image or data. (same as “dataset” parameter of build, see section “Building RKNN model”, but only can include one line in dataset file)
	output_dir: output directory, all snapshot data will stored here.
	calc_qnt_error: whether to calculate quantitative error. (default is True)
	target: specify target device. If target is set, in the individual quantization error analysis, the toolkit will connect to the NPU to obtain the real results of each layer. Then compared with the float result. It can more accurately reflect the actual runtime error.

	device_id: If the PC is connected to multiple NPU devices, you need to specify the ID of the specific device.
Return	0: success
Value	-1: failure

Note: this interface can only be called after build or hybrid_quantization_step2, and the original model should be a non-quantized model, otherwise the call will fail.

3.6.14 Export a segmentation model

The function of this interface is to convert the ordinary RKNN model into a segment model, and the position of the segment is specified by the user.

API	export_rknn_sync_model
Description	Insert a sync layer after the user-specified layer to segment the model and export the segmented model.
Parameter	<p>input_model: the model which need segment. Data type is string, required.</p> <p>sync_uids: uids of the layer which need insert sync layer. RKNN-Toolkit will insert a sync layer.</p> <p>Note:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Uid can be obtained through the eval_perf interface, and perf_debug should be set to True when call init_runtime interface. When we want to obtain uids, we need connect a RK3399Pro or RK1808 or TB-RK1808 AI Compute Stick or RV1109 or RV1126, we can also obtain uids on RK3399Pro Linux develop board. 2. The value of sync_uids cannot be filled in at will. It must be obtained by eval_perf interface, Otherwise unpredictable consequences may occur. <p>output_model:</p>
Return	0: success
Value	-1: failure

The sample code is as follows:

```
from rknn.api import RKNN

if __name__ == '__main__':
    rknn = RKNN()
    ret = rknn.export_rknn_sync_model(
        input_model='./ssd_inception_v2.rknn',
        sync_uids=[206, 186, 152, 101, 96, 67, 18, 17],
        output_model='./ssd_inception_v2_sync.rknn')
    if ret != 0:
        print('export sync model failed.')
        exit(ret)
    rknn.release()
```

3.6.15 List Devices

API	list_devices
Description	<p>List connected RK3399PRO/RK1808/TB-RK1808S0 AI Compute Stick/RV1109/RV1126.</p> <p>Note:</p> <p>There are currently two device connection modes: ADB and NTB. RK1808 and RV1109/RV1126 support both ADB and NTB, RK3399Pro only support ADB, TB-RK1808 AI Compute Stick only support NTB. Make sure their modes are the same when connecting multiple devices</p>
Parameter	None
Return Value	<p>Return adb_devices list and ntb_devices list. If there are no devices connected to PC, it will return two empty list.</p> <p>For example, there are two TB-RK1808 AI Compute Sticks connected to PC, it's return looks like below:</p> <pre>adb_devices = [] ntb_devices = ['TB-RK1808S0', '515e9b401c060c0b']</pre>

The sample code is as follows:


```

from rknn.api import RKNN

if __name__ == '__main__':
    rknn = RKNN()
    rknn.list_devices()
    rknn.release()

```

The devices list looks like below:

```

*****
all device(s) with adb mode:
['515e9b401c060c0b', 'XGOR2N4EZR']
*****

```

3.6.16 Register Custom OP

API	register_op
Description	Register custom op.
Parameter	op_path: rknnop file path of custom op build output
Return Value	Void

The sample code is as follows. Note that this interface need be called before model converted. Please refer to the "Rockchip_Developer_Guide_RKNN_Toolkit_Custom_OP_CN" document for the use and development of custom operators.

```

rknn.register_op('./resize_area/ResizeArea.rknnop')

rknn.load_tensorflow(...)

```

3.6.17 Query RKNN model runnable platform

API	list_support_target_platform
Description	Query the chip platform that a given RKNN model can run on.
Parameter	rknn_model: RKNN model path. If the model path is not specified, the chip platforms

	currently supported by the RKNN Toolkit are printed by category
Return	support_target_platform (dict):
Value	

The sample code is as follows:

```
rknn.list_support_target_platform(rknn_model='mobilenet_v1.rknn')
```

The runnable chip platforms look like below:

```
*****
Target platforms filled in RKNN model:      []
Target platforms supported by this RKNN model: ['RK1806', 'RK1808',
'RK3399PRO']
*****
```