

Appendix A. Example Data Sheet - Open-Source Sensor

OVERVIEW	17
Compliance and Certifications	17
Description	17
Features	17
Use Cases	17
MODEL CHARACTERISTICS	18
Software Flow Diagram	19
Dataset Nutrition Label	20
IoT Security and Privacy Label	23
Machine Learning Model Specification	25
Performance Analysis	27
Environmental Sensitivity	28
Demographic biases	28
HARDWARE CHARACTERISTICS	29
Hardware Details	30
Device Diagrams	31
Bill of Materials	32
Environmental Impact	33
Acronyms	34
Glossary	35
USER STUDY FORMS	36
Study Flyer	37
Interest Form	38
Consent Form	39

OVERVIEW

PA1 Person Detection Module

Compliance and Certifications

The person detection sensor complies with essential industry standards and regulations, including RoHS for environmental safety and GDPR for protecting individual privacy. As of the time of writing, the sensor does not have any certifications from third-party organizations.

Description

The PA1 Person Detection Module is a cost-effective device that uses a machine learning (ML) algorithm to detect the presence of a person within its range. The sensor is equipped with cameras and sensors that capture images and data from the surrounding environment. These images and data are then processed by the on-device ML algorithm to identify people. When a person is detected, the sensor sends an alert or trigger to connected devices or systems, allowing them to perform specific actions such as activating security cameras, turning on lights, or opening doors. The person detection sensor is ideal for use in security, home automation, and other applications that require quick and accurate detection of people.

The sensor has a small form factor and utilizes a monochrome camera with a field of view of 320 x 320 (QVGA). The sensor is equipped with an onboard 3.3V regulator, which enables it to operate with an input voltage range of 3.5V - 5.5V when enabled, or 3.0V - 3.6V when disabled. The typical operating current for the sensor is 40 mA. The sensor communicates via I2C/Qwiic mode, conforming to SparkFun Qwiic electrical/mechanical specifications, and has a maximum cable length of 1 m. The sensor has a maximum data rate of 100 kb/s and a wide sensitivity coverage of 0.1 - 10 klux.

Features

- Real-time person detection with on-device ML
- Indoor and outdoor use
- Low power consumption
- Onboard camera
- Small form factor: 10 x 10 x 2 mm
- I2C serial communication
- Wide sensitivity coverage: 0.1 - 10 klux

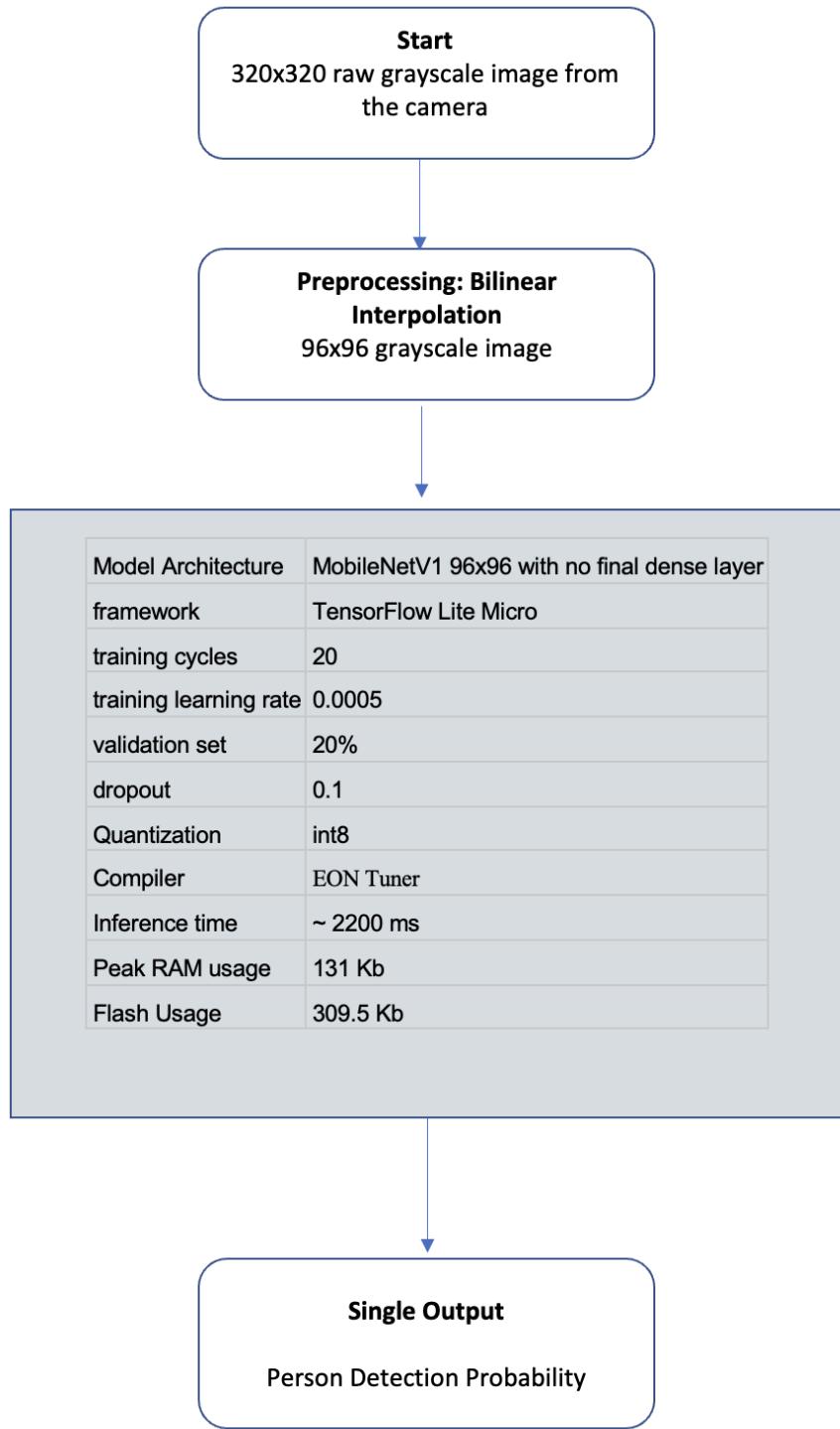
Use Cases

- Security
- Home automation
- Consumer appliances

MODEL CHARACTERISTICS

Software Flow Diagram

Grayscale images (320x320) are collected and resized to 96x96 via bilinear interpolation. Images are fed into a MobileNetV1 architecture trained and optimized through Edge Impulse. The output probability is communicated via Qwiic interface to the application processor.



Dataset Nutrition Label

The data nutrition label is publicly available [here](#), with some important features outlined below.

At a Glance				
About humans	Upstream sources	Technical review	Ethical review	Update frequency
Yes	Yes	Yes	Unsure	No
COCO Dataset		https://arxiv.org/pdf/1906.05721.pdf	Not Applicable	Not Applicable

ⓘ Do Not Use

- **Domain.** Military or weaponized applications
- **Image Detection for hi-res images.** The model is designed for lo-fi uses, and other models exist for hi-res images that are fine-tuned to that purpose
- **Object Identification more specific than person/not-person.** The data was cleaned and labeled specifically for person/not-person. Relabeling the dataset for other purposes does not ensure proper diversity of data for another purpose.

Collection process

The MS-COCO dataset was collected through sourcing diverse images from Flickr and using Amazon Mechanical Turk for human annotators to draw polygons around object instances and provide descriptive captions for each image, followed by quality control measures to ensure annotation consistency. The Visual Wake Words dataset was derived from this by selecting the subject of images containing "person" and "non-person" labels.

ⓘ Intended Use

- **Intended Domain.** Internet of Things
- **Intended Domain.** Image Recognition
- **Intended Domain.** On-Device Intelligence
- **Intended Domain.** Person Detection
- **Intended Use.** Train neural network models to detect the presence of a person in images when deployed on resource-constrained microcontrollers.
- **Other Responsible Uses.** Object Detection and Recognition
- **Other Responsible Uses.** Scene Understanding
- **Other Responsible Uses.** Image Captioning

General risks

Any additional risks?

Individual Information

yes

Consent

Consent was not given.

Generalized Inferences

The original source material, from COCO, is mainly made up of photographs from Flickr, and it's not clear to what extent the users of Flickr are representative of the population at large outside the U.S., for instance.

Generalized Inferences - Mitigation

Identifying a specific use case for models made using this dataset, creating a list of situations in which people would be found for that use case, and then reviewing the base dataset to ensure it has a diversity of images related to the situations you identify (this may be a somewhat manual process).

Sensitive Content

Not Applicable

Documented Known Issues

https://medium.com/@jamie_34747/how-i-found-nearly-300-000-errors-in-ms-coco-79d382edf22b

Other Known Issues

Some items in both the person and non-person categories are known to be mislabeled.

Number of issues



Feature selection

Which columns were chosen and why?

Cultural or Domain Assumptions

Proxy Characteristics

Planning Representation

Domain Knowledge

Some familiarity with the style of how images are labeled in the COCO datasets would be helpful

Number of issues



Representation

Which rows were included and why?

Subpopulation Information

Not Applicable

Number of issues

	1
Risky	1
Safe	0
Unknown	5

Representation

Unknown

Individual Inferences

Decisions or predictions based on the dataset may not accurately account for individual variations, such as clothing and accessories worn by an individual, and could result in overgeneralized outcomes that don't consider unique circumstances or factors. Additionally, the data may include bias due to its data collection practices which may lead to unfair or discriminatory decisions.

Individual Inferences - Mitigation

Collection Representation

Other Representation Issues

Data values

What values are in each column?

Collection and Labeling Protocols

The data was generalized from its original description to be that of a "person" or "not person", which required scraping of the original dataset based on search parameters entered by the authors of the dataset. The upstream dataset used Amazon Mechanical Turk workers to label pictures as well, on a custom interface created by the upstream dataset authors.

Number of issues

	1
Risky	1
Safe	0
Unknown	4

Data Imputation Protocols

Data Manipulation Protocols

Missing Data

The dataset is derived from MS-COCO and thus contains all items within that dataset that include person and non-person tags.

Raw Data

IoT Security and Privacy Label

This device contains a camera that takes pictures at 1 s intervals. No other sensory data is collected. Raw data is contained solely within the ML module, with only high-level features transmitted to the main processor (i.e., no image data is accessible by the main processor). This module has no internet connectivity or data storage capacity outside the model and software.

Security & Privacy Overview																																																																		
<h1>Harvard University</h1>																																																																		
Person Detection Module PA1																																																																		
Firmware version: 0.1 - updated on: 2023-02-20																																																																		
The device was manufactured in: United States																																																																		
Security Mechanisms	<table><tbody><tr><td></td><td>Security updates</td><td>No security updates <small>(i)</small></td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Access control</td><td>No user account is allowed <small>(i)</small></td></tr></tbody></table>		Security updates	No security updates <small>(i)</small>		Access control	No user account is allowed <small>(i)</small>																																																											
	Security updates	No security updates <small>(i)</small>																																																																
	Access control	No user account is allowed <small>(i)</small>																																																																
Data Practices	<table><tbody><tr><td>Sensor data collection</td><td></td><td>Visual</td><td></td><td>Audio</td><td></td><td>Physiological</td><td></td><td>Location</td></tr><tr><td>Sensor type</td><td>Camera</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Purpose</td><td>Providing and improving device functions</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Data stored on the device</td><td>No device storage</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Data stored in the cloud</td><td>No cloud storage</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Data shared with</td><td>Not shared</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Data sold to</td><td>Not sold</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Other collected data</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></tbody></table>	Sensor data collection		Visual		Audio		Physiological		Location	Sensor type	Camera							Purpose	Providing and improving device functions							Data stored on the device	No device storage							Data stored in the cloud	No cloud storage							Data shared with	Not shared							Data sold to	Not sold							Other collected data							
Sensor data collection		Visual		Audio		Physiological		Location																																																										
Sensor type	Camera																																																																	
Purpose	Providing and improving device functions																																																																	
Data stored on the device	No device storage																																																																	
Data stored in the cloud	No cloud storage																																																																	
Data shared with	Not shared																																																																	
Data sold to	Not sold																																																																	
Other collected data																																																																		
	<table><tbody><tr><td>Privacy policy</td><td>Not disclosed <small>(i)</small></td></tr></tbody></table>	Privacy policy	Not disclosed <small>(i)</small>																																																															
Privacy policy	Not disclosed <small>(i)</small>																																																																	
	Detailed Security & Privacy Label: Not disclosed																																																																	
More Information																																																																		
CMU IoT Security and Privacy Label CISPL 1.0 iotsecurityprivacy.org																																																																		
<small> PUBLIC DOMAIN</small>																																																																		

Security & Privacy Details

Harvard University

Person Detection Module PA1

Firmware version: 0.1 - updated on: 2023-02-20

The device was manufactured in: United States

 Security Mechanisms	Security updates	No security updates <small>(i)</small>				
	Access control	No user account is allowed. <small>(i)</small>				
	Security oversight	No security audits <small>(i)</small>				
	Ports and protocols	Not disclosed <small>(i)</small>				
	Hardware safety	Not disclosed <small>(i)</small>				
	Software safety	Not disclosed <small>(i)</small>				
	Personal safety	Not disclosed <small>(i)</small>				
	Vulnerability disclosure and management	Not disclosed <small>(i)</small>				
	Software and hardware composition list	Not disclosed <small>(i)</small>				
	Encryption and key management	Not disclosed <small>(i)</small>				
 Data Practices	Sensor data collection	<table border="1"><tr><td>Visual</td></tr><tr><td>Camera</td></tr><tr><td>Continuous</td></tr><tr><td>Providing and improving device functions</td></tr></table>	Visual	Camera	Continuous	Providing and improving device functions
Visual						
Camera						
Continuous						
Providing and improving device functions						
Sensor type	Camera					
Data collection frequency	Continuous					
Purpose	Providing and improving device functions					
Data stored on the device	No device storage					
Local data retention time	No retention					
Data stored in the cloud	No cloud storage					
Cloud data retention time	No retention					
Data shared with	Not shared					
Data sharing frequency	Not shared					
 More Information	Data sold to	Not sold				
	Other collected data	None				
	Data linkage	Data will not be linked with other data sources <small>(i)</small>				
	What will be Inferred from User's Data	Presence of a human <small>(i)</small>				
	Special data handling practices for children	No <small>(i)</small>				
	In Compliance with	GDPR <small>(i)</small>				
	Privacy policy	Not disclosed <small>(i)</small>				
	Call Harvard University with your questions at	Not disclosed <small>(i)</small>				
	Email Harvard University with your questions at	ml-sensors@googlegroups.com <small>(i)</small>				
	Functionality when offline	Full functionality on offline mode <small>(i)</small>				
Functionality with no data processing						
Physical actuations and triggers						
Compatible platforms						

Machine Learning Model Specification

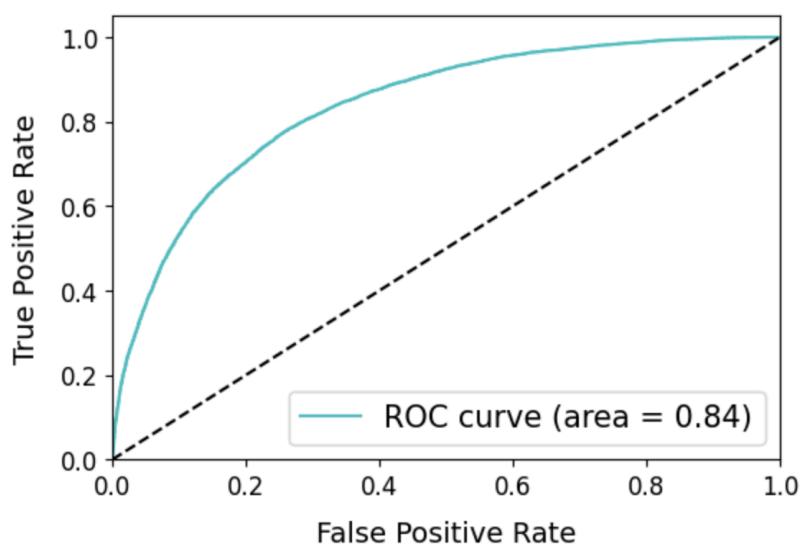
The person detection model was created using transfer learning with the [MobileNetV1](#) neural network (see architecture [here](#)) on Edge Impulse. The training and testing of the model were done using a subset of images from the [MS-COCO 2017 dataset](#), which is widely used for image recognition. Only images containing humans were selected from the dataset, totaling 109,604 images. The derived dataset is equivalent to the [Visual Wake Words dataset](#). A train/validation split ratio of 0.8 was used.

The input to the model is a 96x96 raw image in 8-bit grayscale format, equivalent to 9,216 features. The training process was carried out over 20 cycles with a learning rate of 0.0005 and a test set of 20% on MobileNetV1 with a dropout of 0.1 and no final dense layer. The output layer of the model produces a two-class vector of results, indicating the probability of a person being present in the image. The unoptimized (float32) model has an accuracy of 76.3%, with a false positive (FP) and false negative (FN) rate of 20.7% and 26.8%, respectively. The model was quantized to int8 and deployed on Edge Impulse using the integrated EON-Compiler to produce a C++ library. The quantized model has an accuracy of 75.5%, with an FP and FN rate of 23.9% and 25.1%.

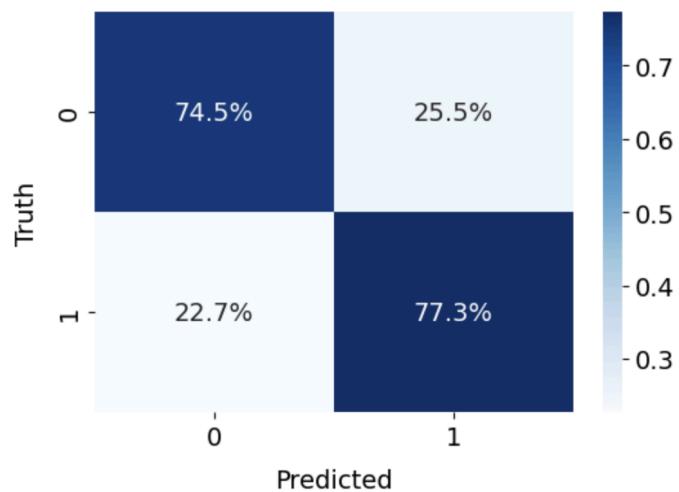
To enable live person detection, a set of image provision scripts was added to the software pipeline. The scripts continuously capture data from the onboard camera and pass it to the model in the appropriate scale and format. Using the Arm GNU Toolchain, the Pico-SDK, and the resulting C++ library, the model was built and compiled into a binary file that can be flashed to the ML board [See README/GitHub Repo]. The output of the model is an output vector consisting of a non-person score and a person score, which is communicated through a serial connection and can be viewed on a serial monitor.

Model workflow and characteristics can be viewed through the public Edge Impulse project version [here](#).

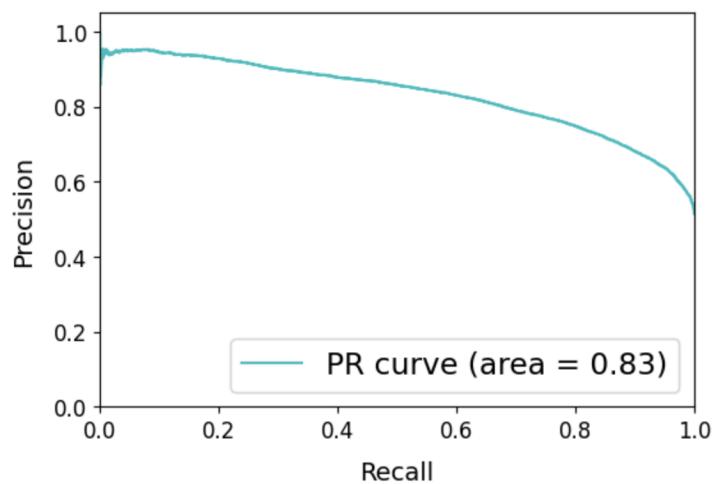
(a) Receiver Operating Characteristic Curve



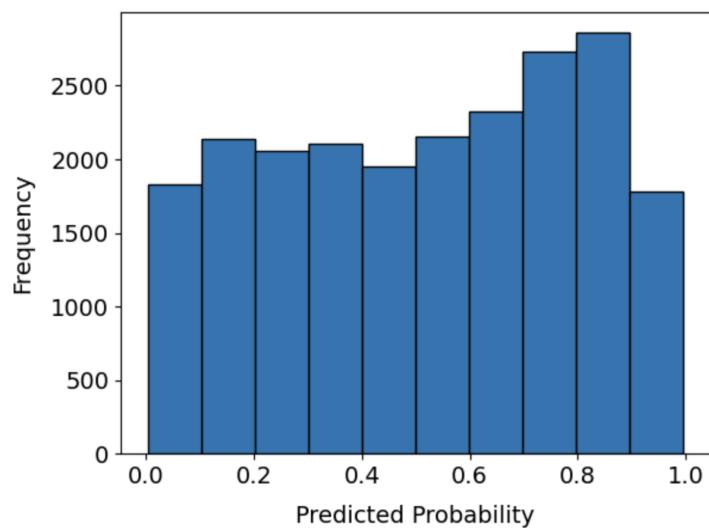
(b) Confusion Matrix



(c) Precision-Recall Curve



(d) Histogram of Predicted Probabilities



Performance Analysis

The end-to-end performance of the person detection sensor model was tested through an experimental study. The study involved 40 participants and evaluated the accuracy of the model under different lighting conditions using three identical sensors.

The study room measured 25 x 31 x 10 ft and contained 32 ceiling lights that were uniformly distributed in a 4 x 8 grid. The lighting conditions were captured quantitatively for each participant using a [Lux LCD Illuminance Meter](#) (Precision Vision, Inc.) and a [C-800-U Spectrometer](#) (Sekonic Corporation).

The sensors were mounted on a wooden board affixed to the wall at a height of 1.5 m above the ground. The participants were evaluated at three different distances (1.5 m, 4.5 m, and 7.5 m) from the sensors under each lighting condition. The ambient lighting in the room was provided by artificial lights, and blackout curtains were used to block the ambient lighting from outside.

The lighting levels were controlled using a dimmer switch that had three levels of operation, corresponding to 208 ± 31 , 584 ± 51 , and 1149 ± 59 lux, respectively. When the lights were turned off, the illuminance meter gave a reading of zero lux. When all the lights were turned on at full strength, the sensor gave an average reading of 1149 lux. The color temperature of the lighting was measured to be 5600 K, corresponding to white light. Colored tape was placed on the ground to demarcate the locations where participants should stand during the experiment (i.e., 1.5, 4.5, and 7.5 m from the sensor array).

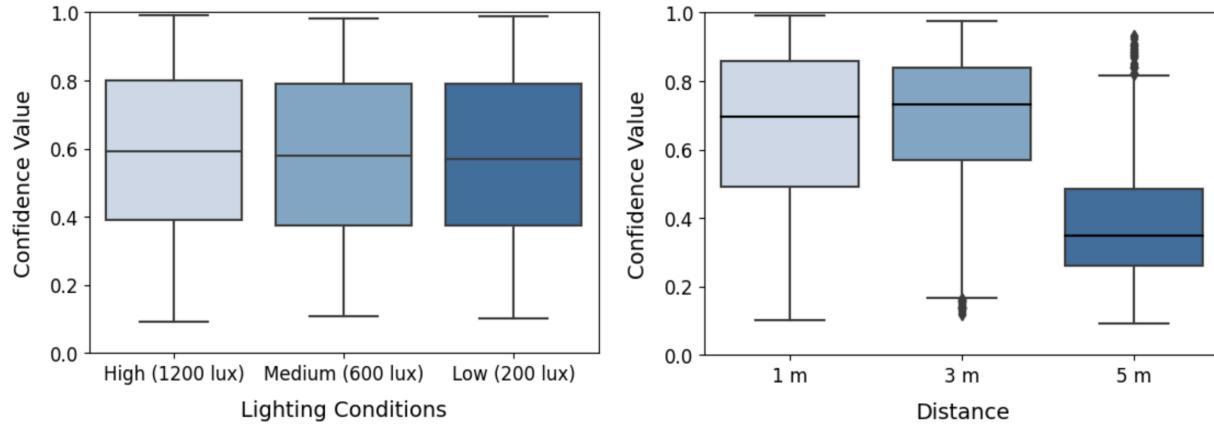
Before entering the study environment, the participants were asked to provide their gender identity and evaluate their skin tone according to the [Monk Skin Tone \(MST\) Scale](#) to evaluate algorithmic bias. The study evaluated algorithmic bias by bucketing skin tone into three categories: light (MST 0-4), medium (MST 5-7), and dark (MST 8-10). At each location and lighting condition, ten readings were taken from each sensor and averaged.

Participants were recruited using flyers, and those interested filled out a Study Interest Form. Upon arrival, participants signed a Consent Form indicating their willingness to participate in the study. The accuracy of the model is provided in the following graphs as a function of lighting condition, distance, gender identity, and skin tone. Overall, 63.2% of the participants were male, and 36.8% were female; the percentage of participants corresponding to each skin tone group was: 47.4% light, 39.4% medium, and 13.2% dark.

This anonymous study was approved by the Institutional Review Board of Harvard University on 6 April 2023 (Project Code: IRB23-0136).

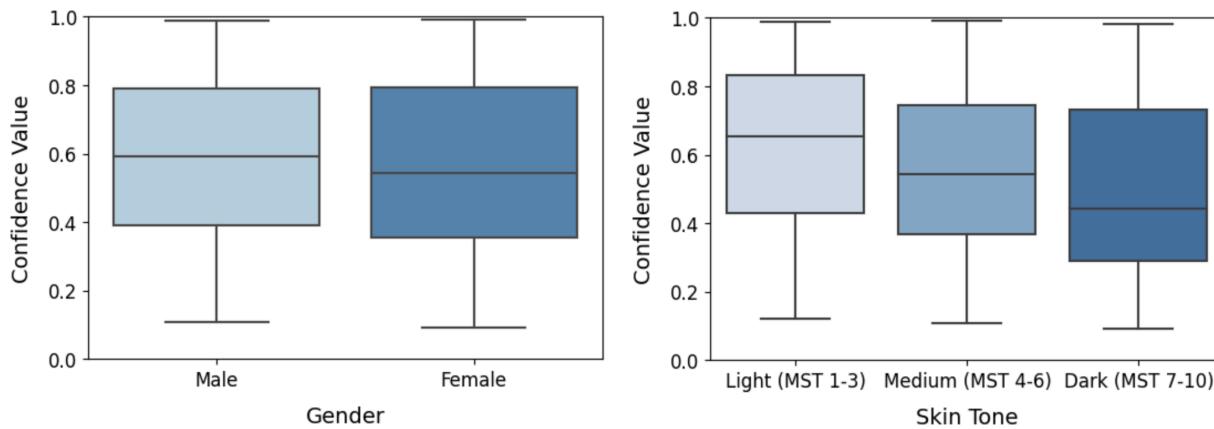
Environmental Sensitivity

The device shows a marginal decrease in performance under decreased lighting conditions. A marked drop off in performance is observed at distances 3-5 meters from the sensor.



Demographic biases

A small gender bias is observed in model performance. A large skin tone bias was observed, showing approximately a 20% decrease in the confidence value for individuals with a darker skin tone.



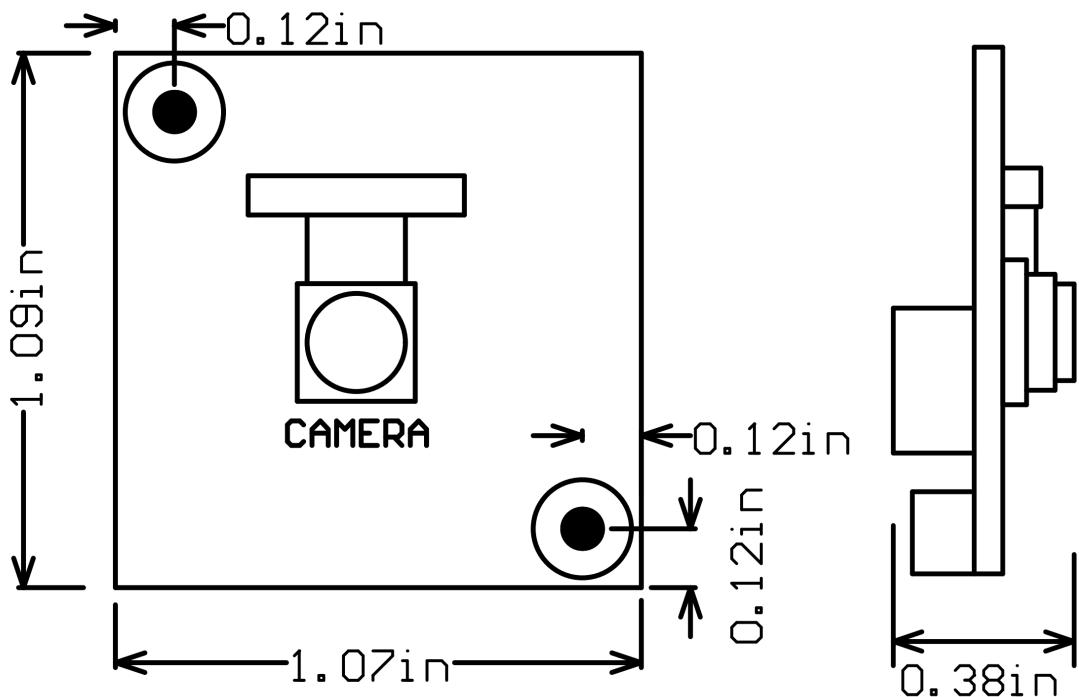
HARDWARE CHARACTERISTICS

Hardware Details

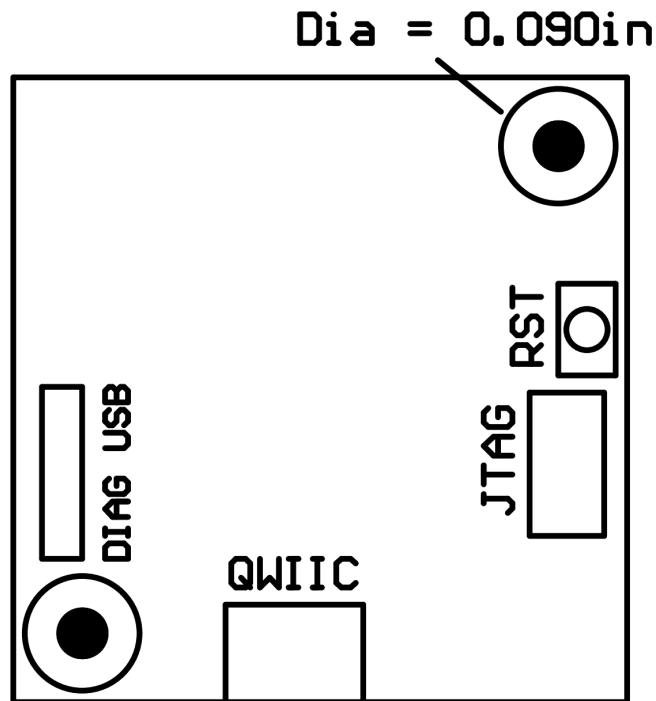
Camera Specifications (see here)	
Field of view (horizontal)	87°
Color Filter Array	Bayer, Monochrome
Frame Rate	45FPS @ 6MHz
Pixel Array (Active/ Effective)	324 x 324 / 320 x 320
Electrical Specifications	
Operating Voltage Range (regulator enabled)	3.5V to 5.5V
Operating Voltage Range (regulator disabled)	3.0V to 3.6V
Operating Current	40 mA
Operating Temperature	-20 °C to 85 °C
Communication Specifications	
I2C/Qwiic mode	Conforms with SparkFun Qwiic electrical/mechanical specifications. https://www.sparkfun.com/qwiic
Max cable length	1 m
Max data rate	100 kb/s
Module Orientation	Red arrow on sticker points up.
GPIO mode	SCL/SDA lines can be customized to make programmable flag lines (I_{out} max = 12 mA)
Diagnostic LED	Default behavior of green LED on board: illuminates for one second on power-up, then illuminates when person detected.
Data Transfer and Format	Single byte: number from 0-255 representing confidence score
I2C Address	0x22

Device Diagrams

Front and side view of sensor.



Back view of sensor.



Bill of Materials

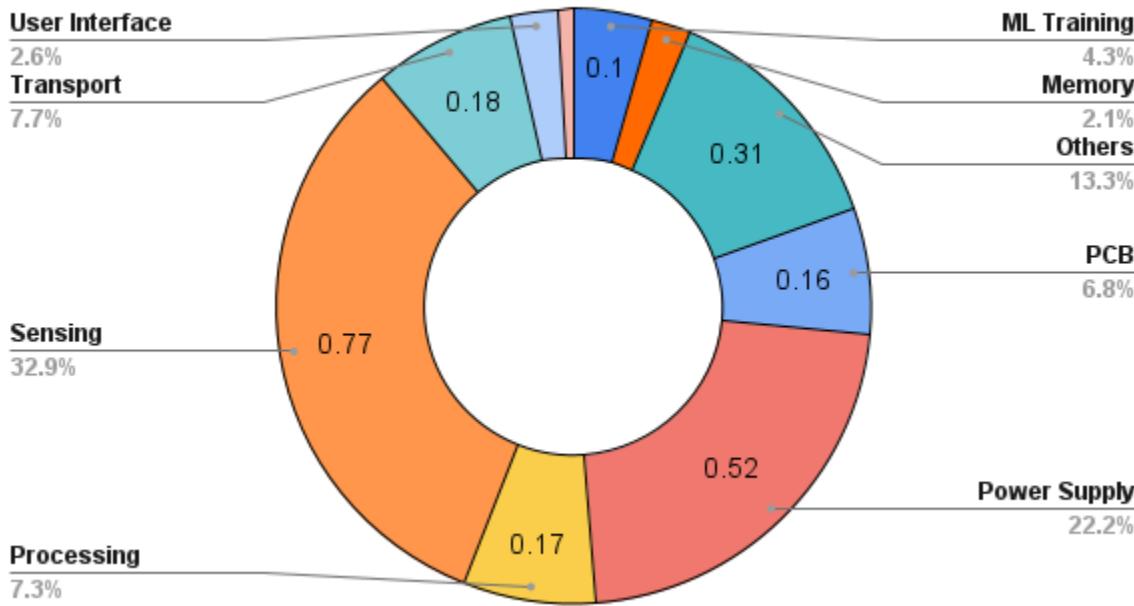
The following is a comprehensive list of materials required to assemble the PA1 person detection module, commonly referred to as the bill of materials. All unit cost values quoted in minimum order quantity of one.

Category In TinyML Calculator	Component	Unit Cost (\$)	Quantity	Manufacturer	Link to Datasheet (if available)
Functional Components					
✓	RP2040 Microcontroller	1.00	1	Raspberry Pi	https://datasheets.raspberrypi.com/rp2040/rp2040-datasheet.pdf
✓	QVGA Camera Module HM01B0	8.90	1	HiMax	https://cdn.sparkfun.com/assets/7/f/c/83/HM01B0-MNA-Datasheet.pdf
✓	Flash Memory W25Q16JVSNIQ	0.36	1	Winbond Electronics	https://www.winbond.com/resource-files/w25q16jv%20spi%20revg%200322_2018%20plus.pdf
✓	12 MHz Crystal Oscillator 445C25D12M00000	0.42	1	CTS-Frequency Controls	https://www.mouser.com/datasheet/2/96/008-0360-0-786290.pdf
Power Circuitry					
	Voltage Regulator TLV70228 2.8V	0.69	1	Texas Instruments	https://www.digchip.com/datasheets/download_datasheet.php?id=3747267&part-number=TLV70228
Indication					
✓	LTST-C190KGKT LED	0.05	1	Lite-On Inc.	https://www.digikey.com/htmldatasheets/production/37809/0/0/1/ltst-c190kgkt.pdf
Connectors					
	FFC connector FH26W-31S-0	1.28	1	Hirose Electric Co Ltd	https://www.hirose.com/product/download/?distributor=digikey&type=specSheet&lang=en&num=FH26W-31S-0.3SHW(60)
	Qwiic connector PRT-14417	0.57	1	SparkFun Electronics	https://www.mouser.com/datasheet/2/813/Qwiic_Connector_Datasheet-1223982.pdf
Passive Components					
✓	Resistors	0.01	10	-	N/A
✓	Capacitors (low value)	0.01	15	-	N/A
✓	Capacitors (high value)	0.05	7	-	N/A
✓	Ferrite bead 600Ω	0.07	2	-	N/A
✓	Printed circuit board	0.50	1	-	N/A
	Total	14.51			

Environmental Impact

With the widespread deployment of smart sensors, it is essential to consider and be conscious of the environmental impact such ubiquitous computing may have. Thus another component we advocate to be included in the datasheet is an “environmental impact” section that outlines the device footprint. Using the methodology of [9], we generated a sample of what this section might look like as part of the datasheet for our sensor specifically. We capture the carbon footprint (CO₂-eq.) of our ML sensor in the chart below. Due to the limited amount of data available on electronic device footprint we were not able to capture every single component. We were able to account for 10 out of 13 components from our bill of materials, though, which we feel captures the concept sufficiently for the sake of demonstration. We were unable to find data for the connectors and voltage regulator. However, in addition to the bill of materials, we capture the carbon footprint for the ML sensor’s model training, transport, and three-year use.

The total carbon footprint, including embodied and operational footprint, of our ML Sensor is approximately **2.34 kg CO₂-eq**. The chart below shows how the footprint is broken down. The majority of the footprint can be attributed to the power supply and camera sensor.



We note that we do not claim that this is 100% accurate but rather a representative approximation of the sensor’s environmental impact and what other future datasheet should aim to include.

Acronyms

Acronym	Description
SNR	Signal-to-noise ratio
COCO	Common Objects in Context
FFC	Flexible Flat Cable
GDPR	General Data Protection Regulation
ML	Machine Learning
I2C	Inter-Integrated Circuit
LED	Light-Emitting Diode
MCU	Microcontroller Unit
SCL	Serial Clock
SDA	Serial Data
GPIO	General Purpose Input Output
SDK	Software Development Kit
QVGA	Quarter Video Graphics Array

Glossary

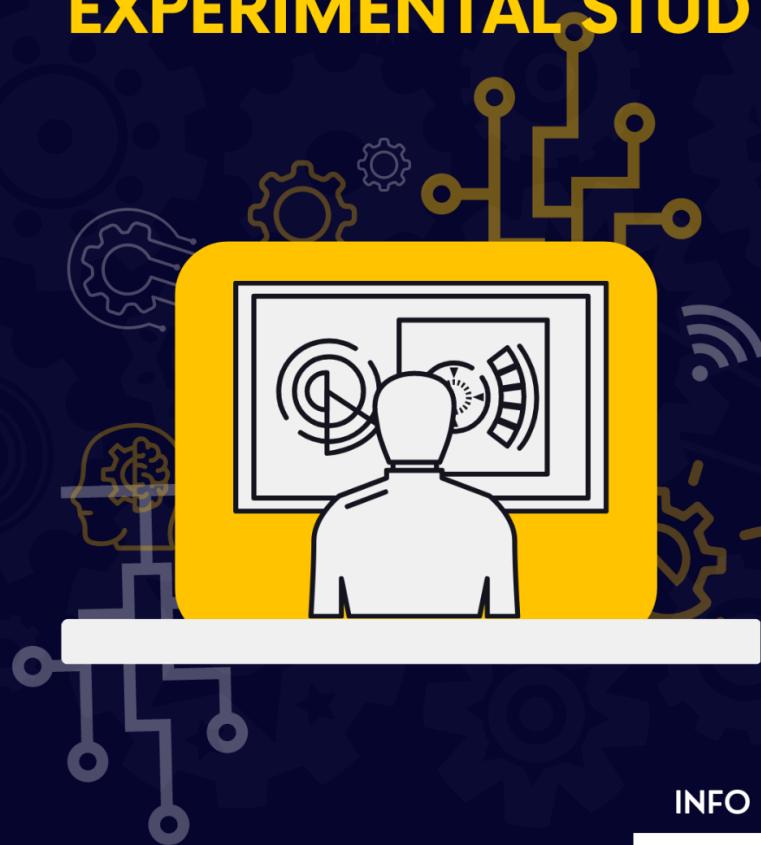
Lux	Photometric unit of luminance (at 550 nm, 1 lux = 1 lumen/m ² = 1/683 W/m ²)
Sensitivity	A measure of pixel performance that characterizes the rise of the photodiode or sense node signal in Volts upon illumination with light. Units are typically V/(W/m ²)/sec and are dependent on the incident light wavelength. Sensitivity measurements are often taken with 550 nm incident light. At this wavelength, 683 lux is equal to 1 W/m ² , the units of sensitivity are quoted in V/lux/sec. Note that responsivity and sensitivity are used interchangeably in image sensor characterization literature so it is best to check the units.
SNR	Signal-to-noise ratio. This number characterizes the ratio of the fundamental signal to the noise spectrum up to half the Nyquist frequency.
Inference	The process of applying a trained machine learning model to unseen data for making predictions or classifications. In the context of person detection, it involves analyzing images or video frames to determine if a person is present.
False Positive	A situation in person detection where the system incorrectly identifies an object or pattern as a person when it is not.
False Negative	A situation in person detection where the system fails to identify a person when one is present.
Accuracy	A performance metric that measures the overall correctness of a person detection system, indicating the percentage of correctly identified persons in the total number of instances.
Monk Skin Tone Scale	A 10-shade system, developed by Google, designed to provide a more inclusive representation of diverse skin tones in image-based technologies to address the challenges of representation in image-based technologies, especially for people of color.
Precision	A performance metric that measures the proportion of correctly identified persons among all the instances identified as persons by the system. It quantifies the system's ability to avoid false positives.
Recall (Sensitivity)	A performance metric that measures the proportion of correctly identified persons among all the actual persons present in the data. It quantifies the system's ability to avoid false negatives.
Threshold	A predefined value used to determine whether the output of a person detection system indicates the presence or absence of a person. Adjusting the threshold affects the balance between false positives and false negatives.
Training Set	Labeled examples or samples used to teach a machine learning model to recognize and classify objects accurately. In the case of person detection, it comprises images or videos with annotated information about the presence or absence of people.
Test Set	A subset of the dataset that is strictly used to evaluate the performance of a model after it has been trained. The test set provides an unbiased evaluation of a model's generalization to new, unseen data. It should never be used during training or hyperparameter tuning.
Validation Set	A subset of the dataset, separate from the training set, used to evaluate a model during training. It provides an intermittent check on the model's performance, allowing for hyperparameter tuning and model selection. By evaluating model performance on a validation set, one can detect issues like overfitting (where the model performs exceptionally well on the training set but poorly on new, unseen data). Once the model is optimized using the validation set, its final performance is then assessed on the test set.
Person Detection	The process of identifying the presence and location of a person within an image or video stream.
Sensor	A device that detects and measures physical or environmental properties, such as the presence of a person, and converts them into electrical signals.

USER STUDY FORMS



Harvard Edge Computing Group

MACHINE LEARNING SENSORS EXPERIMENTAL STUDY



PARTICIPANTS NEEDED!

Come help us test the first machine learning sensor!

CONTACT :

matthew_stewart@g.harvard.edu
yasmineomri@college.harvard.edu

INFO & SIGN-UP



tinyurl.com/mlsensors

Interest Form

Machine Learning Sensors Experimental Study Interest Form

The Edge Computing Group is seeking participants for an experimental study evaluating a new paradigm of machine learning sensors that we are designing.

We are looking into the next generation of sensors, ML sensors, which use on-device machine learning to extract useful information from the raw data before reporting it to the outer system. The ML sensor paradigm comes with significant benefits when it comes to modularity, composability, power efficiency, privacy and security, and more! Part of establishing the ML sensor paradigm is reimagining what the conventional sensor data sheet. More particularly, we want to test the end-to-end performance of the sensors through a representative study to see how it performs in the real world on a set of people that it was not trained on. In order to investigate potential algorithmic bias, we will be collecting data on participants' sex and skin tone throughout the study.

The study will take place in the SEC, where a room will be set up with a series of sensors that will output the probability of seeing a person. The study will involve varying distances and lighting settings and is estimated to take approximately 2 minutes per person. Participants will be provided with snacks and required to fill out a brief consent form prior to participation. The sensors will take instantaneous images for processing, but none of the information will be saved to ensure privacy preservation.

If you have any questions or are interested in helping out with this study, please contact matthew_stewart@g.harvard.edu or yasmineomri@college.harvard.edu. For more information about our project, please see our [high-level blog](#) or [this paper](#).

Name:

Email:

Which of these weeks would you be available to take part in this experiment? We will be reaching out by email closer to the date to organize concrete times.

- April 3-7
- April 10-14
- April 17-21
- April 24-28

Consent Form

Machine Learning Sensors Experimental Study Consent Form

The Edge Computing Group is looking for participants to take part in an experimental study we are devising to evaluate a new paradigm of intelligent sensor that we are developing.

We are looking into the next generation of sensors, ML sensors, which use on-device machine learning to extract useful information from the raw data before reporting it to the outer system. The ML sensor paradigm comes with significant benefits when it comes to modularity, composability, power efficiency, privacy and security, and more. Part of establishing the ML sensor paradigm is reimagining the conventional sensor data sheet. More particularly, we want to test the end-to-end performance of the sensors through a representative study to see how it performs in the real world on a set of people that it was not trained on.

Please review and confirm your agreement to the following:

What You Will Do in this Study: Participants will be requested to select their gender identity and skin tone (using the [Monk Skin Tone Scale](#)). You will be asked to input this information at the end of this consent form and prior to entering the study room. This information will remain anonymous, as no name or additional information about the participant will be recorded.

The participant will then enter the study room and stand in front of a group of six sensors at three varying distances. At each distance, three different light settings will be tested. One individual in the room will be altering the lighting conditions and another taking note of the sensor outputs. The sensor predictions (detection of a person) are recorded and coupled with the skin tone and gender identity to investigate potential algorithmic bias. We expect the experiment to take about 2-3 minutes per person.

Participation in this study is voluntary. You do not have to be in this study if you do not want to and you can quit the study at any time.

Risks and Benefits: There are no known risks to participants. Participants will be compensated with snacks for their time. The results of this study intend to be published and could lead to the development of more accurate and effective person detection technology, which could have a positive impact on various fields, such as security, healthcare, and transportation.

Confidentiality: No privacy-sensitive information will be recorded, such as images or personal details. Skin tone and gender identity will be deidentified prior to data analysis, ensuring participants remain entirely anonymous.

We will only report a summarized analysis of the variability of the sensors' prediction accuracies with skin tone and gender.

If you have questions about the survey or study, contact Matthew Stewart (matthew_stewart@g.harvard.edu), Yasmine Omri (yasmineomri@college.harvard.edu) or Professor Vijay Janapa Reddi (vj@eecs.harvard.edu).

I confirm that I am at least eighteen years of age, I understand and have read the points above, and consent to the collection, use, and sharing of your anonymous responses.

I consent

Please select your gender identity:

- Male
- Female
- Transgender Male
- Transgender Female
- Non-binary
- Other (Please Specify)

Which Monk Scale skin tone most closely matches your skin color?

Please refer to the Monk Scale skin tone chart below or on the table. Ask a team member if you are having trouble identifying the appropriate value.



- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10