

Estimator API Introduction to TensorFlow

Martin Gorner

Create production-ready machine learning models the easy way

Create production-ready machine learning models the easy way

Train on large datasets that do not fit in memory

Create production-ready machine learning models the easy way

Train on large datasets that do not fit in memory

Monitor your training metrics in Tensorboard



**Estimator API** 

Martin Gorner

# Estimators wrap up a large amount of boilerplate code, on top of the model itself

tf.estimator	High-level API for production-ready models	<b>35</b> -
tf.layers, tf.losses, tf.metrics	Components useful when building custom NN models	
Core TensorFlow (Python)	Python API gives you full control	Engine
Core TensorFlow (C++)	C++ API is quite low level	
CPU GPU TPU Android	TF runs on different hardware	

Quick model

Quick model

Checkpointing

Quick model

Checkpointing

Out-of-memory datasets

Quick model

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Out-of-memory datasets

Train / eval / monitor

Quick model

Checkpointing

Out-of-memory datasets

Train / eval / monitor

Distributed training

Quick model

Checkpointing

Out-of-memory datasets

Train / eval / monitor

Distributed training

Hyper-parameter tuning on ML-Engine

Production: serving predictions from a trained model

tf.estimator.Estimator.

tf.estimator.Estimator.

#### tf.estimator.Estimator.

LinearRegressor

DNNRegressor

DNNLinearCombinedRegressor

• • •

LinearClassifier

DNNClassifier

DNNLinearCombinedClassifier

your custom Estimator ...

Pre-made regressors

Pre-made classifiers

#### tf.estimator.Estimator.

LinearRegressor

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your custom Estimator ...

Pre-made regressors

Pre-made classifiers

## Predict property value from historical data



## Predict property value from historical data

```
"Features" ????
```

## Predict property value from historical data

"Features"

Square footage House / apartment



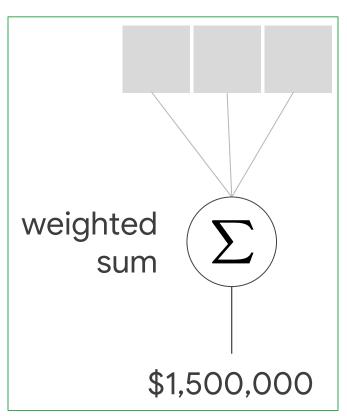
**ML Model** 



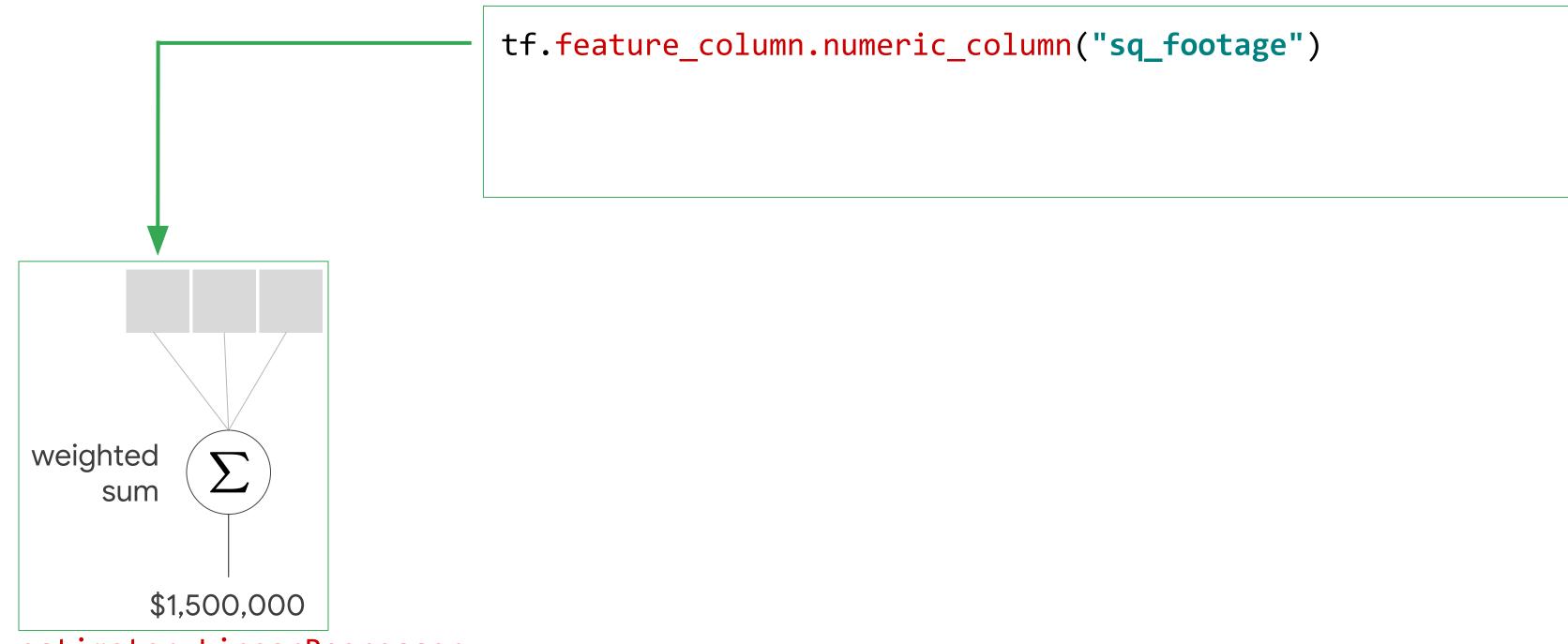
Output

**Price:** \$400,000

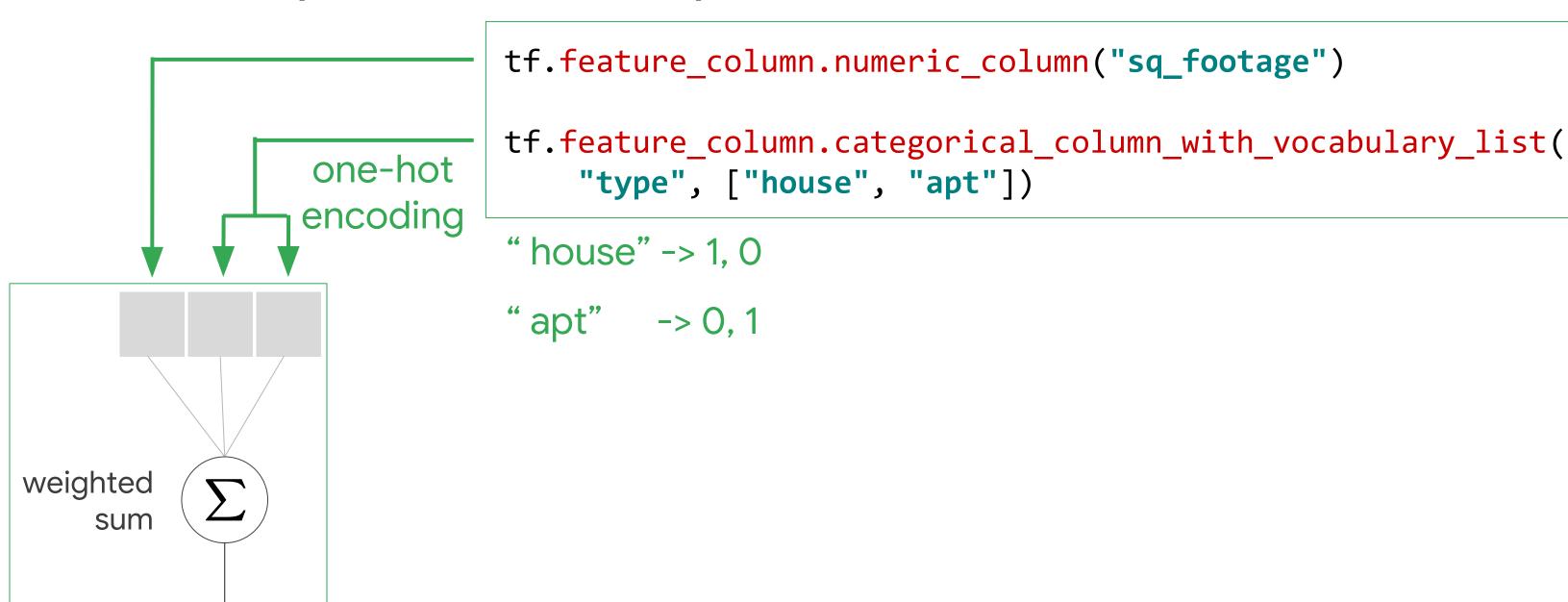
"Model": predicts PRICE



tf.estimator.LinearRegressor

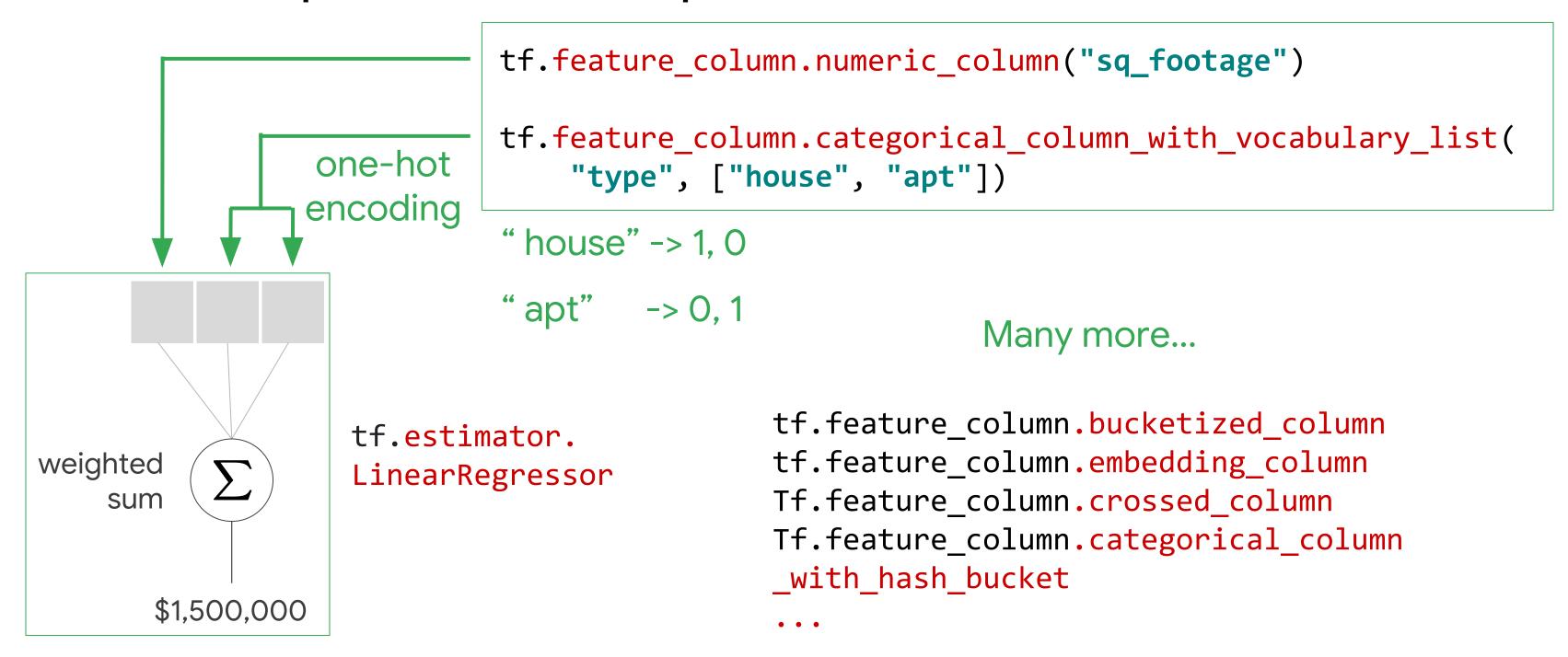


tf.estimator.LinearRegressor



tf.estimator.LinearRegressor

\$1,500,000



## Training: feed in training input data and train for 100 epochs

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# Predictions: once trained, the model can be used for prediction

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```
print(next(predictions))
print(next(predictions))
{'predictions': array([855.93], dtype=float32)}
{'predictions': array([859.07], dtype=float32)}
```

#### Pick an Estimator, train, predict

```
import tensorflow as tf
featcols = [
 tf.feature_column.numeric_column("sq_footage"),
 tf.feature_column.categorical_column_with_vocabulary_list("type", ["house", "apt"])
```

### Pick an Estimator, train, predict

```
import tensorflow as tf
featcols = [
 tf.feature_column.numeric_column("sq_footage"),
 tf.feature_column.categorical_column_with_vocabulary_list("type", ["house", "apt"])
model = tf.estimator.LinearRegressor(featcols)
```

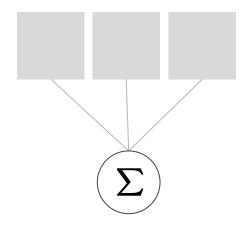
#### Pick an Estimator, train, predict

```
import tensorflow as tf
featcols = [
 tf.feature_column.numeric_column("sq_footage"),
 tf.feature_column.categorical_column_with_vocabulary_list("type", ["house", "apt"])
model = tf.estimator.LinearRegressor(featcols)
model.train(train_input_fn, steps=100)
```

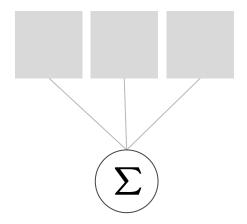
#### Pick an Estimator, train, predict

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featcols = [
 tf.feature_column.numeric_column("sq_footage"),
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model = tf.estimator.LinearRegressor(featcols)
model.train(train_input_fn, steps=100)
predictions = model.predict(predict_input_fn)
```

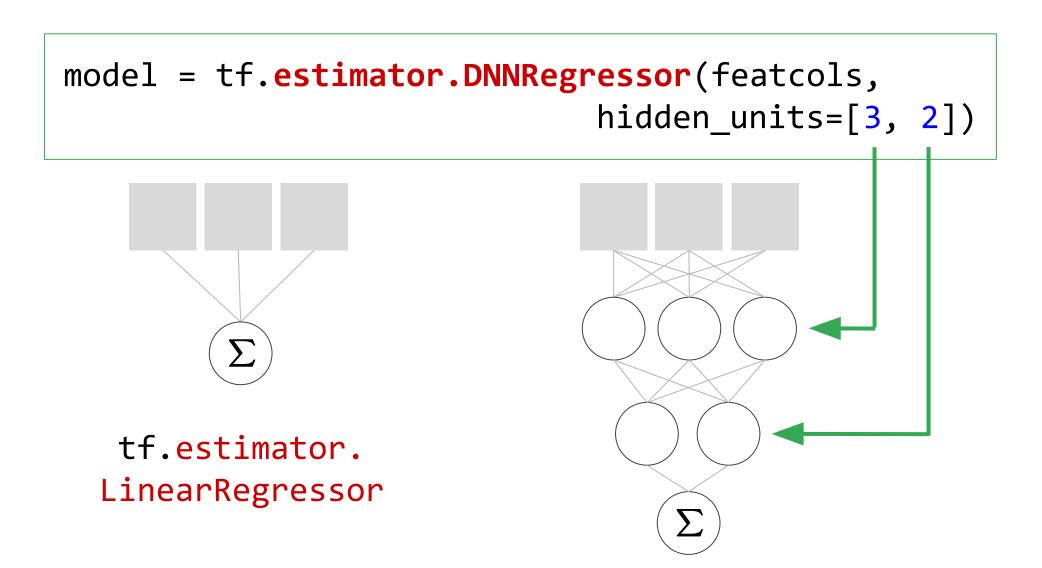
To use a different pre-made estimator, just change the class name and supply appropriate parameters



tf.estimator. LinearRegressor To use a different pre-made estimator, just change the class name and supply appropriate parameters



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# For example, here are some of the things you can change about the DNN Regressor

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### Model checkpoints

Continue training

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Continue training

2 Resume on failure

### Model checkpoints

Continue training

Pesume on failure

Predict from trained model

### Estimators automatically checkpoint training

Where to put the checkpoints

```
model = tf.estimator.LinearRegressor(featcols, './model_trained')
model.train(train_input_fn, steps=100)
```

#### We can now restore and predict with the model

```
trained_model = tf.estimator.LinearRegressor(featcols, './model_trained')
predictions = trained_model.predict(pred_input_fn)

INFO:tensorflow:Restoring parameters from
model_trained/model.ckpt-100

{'predictions': array([855.93], dtype=float32)}
{'predictions': array([859.07], dtype=float32)}
```

### Training also resumes from the last checkpoint

```
model = tf.estimator.LinearRegressor(featcols, './model_trained')
model.train(train_input_fn, steps=100)
```

Training continues

### Training also resumes from the last checkpoint

```
model = tf.estimator.LinearRegressor(featcols, './model_trained')
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Training continues

INFO:tensorflow:Restoring parameters from model_trained/model.ckpt-100
```

```
def numpy_train_input_fn(sqft, prop_type, price): #np arrays
    return tf.estimator.inputs.numpy_input_fn(
        x = {"sq_footage": sqft, "type": prop_type},
        y = price,
        batch_size=128,
        num_epochs=10,
        shuffle=True,
        queue_capacity=1000
    )
```

# Training happens until input is exhausted or number of steps is reached

```
def pandas_train_input_fn(df): # a Pandas dataframe
   return tf.estimator.inputs.pandas input fn(
       x = df
       y = df['price'],
                                       Trains until input exhausted (10 epochs)
       batch_size=128,
       num_epochs=10,
                                       starting from checkpoint
       shuffle=True
model.train(pandas_train_input_fn(df))
```

## Training happens until input is exhausted or number of steps is reached

```
def pandas_train_input_fn(df): # a Pandas dataframe
   return tf.estimator.inputs.pandas input fn(
       x = df
       y = df['price'],
                                       Trains until input exhausted (10 epochs)
       batch_size=128,
       num_epochs=10,
                                       starting from checkpoint
       shuffle=True
                                                  1000 additional steps
                                                  from checkpoint
model.train(pandas_train_input_fn(df))
model.train(pandas train input fn(df), steps=1000)
```

## Training happens until input is exhausted or number of steps is reached

```
def pandas_train_input_fn(df): # a Pandas dataframe
   return tf.estimator.inputs.pandas input fn(
       x = df
       y = df['price'],
                                       Trains until input exhausted (10 epochs)
       batch size=128,
       num epochs=10,
                                       starting from checkpoint
       shuffle=True
                                                  1000 additional steps
                                                  from checkpoint
model.train(pandas_train_input_fn(df))
                                                        1000 steps - might be
model.train(pandas_train_input_fn(df), steps=1000) _____
                                                        nothing if checkpoint
model.train(pandas train input fn(df), max steps=1000)
                                                        already there
```

## To add a new feature, add it to the list of feature columns and make sure it is present in data frame

```
featcols = [
   tf.feature_column.numeric_column("sq_footage"),
   tf.feature column.categorical column with vocabulary list("type",
                                                              ["house", "apt"])
model = tf.estimator.LinearRegressor(featcols)
def train_input_fn(df): # a Pandas dataframe
   return tf.estimator.inputs.pandas input fn(
       x = df
       y = df['price'],
       batch_size=128, num_epochs=10, shuffle=True
model.train(train_input_fn(df))
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## To add a new feature, add it to the list of feature columns and make sure it is present in data frame

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featcols = [
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                                                              ["house", "apt"])
   tf.feature_column.numeric_column("nbeds"),
model = tf.estimator.LinearRegressor(featcols)
def train_input_fn(df): # a Pandas dataframe
   return tf.estimator.inputs.pandas input fn(
       x = df
       y = df['price'],
       batch size=128, num epochs=10, shuffle=True
model.train(train input fn(df))
```

### Lab

Implementing a Machine Learning model in TensorFlow using Estimator API



Train on large datasets with Dataset API

Lak Lakshmanan

#### Real World ML Models

Problem	Solution
Out of memory data	?
Distribution	?
Need to evaluate during training	?
Deployments that scale	?

#### Real World ML Models

Problem	Solution
Out of memory data	Use the Dataset API
Distribution	?
Need to evaluate during training	?
Deployments that scale	?

# Out-of-memory datasets tend to be sharded into multiple files

☐ train.csv-00000-of-00011	9.23 MB
☐ train.csv-00001-of-00011	16.82 MB
☐ train.csv-00002-of-00011	44.18 MB
☐ train.csv-00003-of-00011	14.63 MB
☐ train.csv-00004-of-00011	45.58 MB
☐ train.csv-00005-of-00011	11.29 MB
☐ train.csv-00006-of-00011	10.24 MB
☐ train.csv-00007-of-00011	49.75 MB

□ valid.csv-00000-of-00001	2.31 MB
□ valid.csv-00000-of-00009	19.47 MB
□ valid.csv-00001-of-00009	11.6 MB
alid.csv-00002-of-00009	9.5 MB
□ valid.csv-00003-of-00009	18.29 MB

# Datasets can be created from different file formats. They generate input functions for Estimators.

```
tf.data.Dataset
     .TextLineDataset
     .TFRecordDataset
     .FixedLengthRecordDataset
input_fn for tf.estimator.Estimator
```

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```
tf.data.Dataset
     .TextLineDataset
     .TFRecordDataset
     .FixedLengthRecordDataset
input fn for tf.estimator.Estimator
```

### Read one CSV file using TextLineDataset

```
def decode line(row):
   cols = tf.decode_csv(row, record_defaults=[[0],['house'],[0]])
   features = {'sq_footage': cols[0], 'type': cols[1]}
   label = cols[2] # price
   return features, label
dataset = tf.data.TextLineDataset("train_1.csv") \
                                                                    property type
                 .map(decode line)
                                                            sq footage PRICE in K$
dataset = dataset.shuffle(1000) \
                                                                  1001, house, 501
                 .repeat(15) \
                                                                  2001, house, 1001
                 .batch(128)
                                                                  3001, house, 1501
                                                                  1001, apt,
                                                                               701
def input_fn():
                                                                  2001, apt,
                                                                              1301
   features, label = dataset.make_one_shot_iterator().get_next()
                                                                  3001, apt,
                                                                              1901
   return features, label
                                                                  1101, house, 526
                                                                  2101, house, 1026
model.train(input fn)
```

### Datasets handle shuffling, epochs, batching, ...

```
Shuffle buffer
                                                                    property type
                                   size
                                                                            PRICE in K$
                                                            sq_footage
dataset = dataset.shuffle(1000) \
                                                                  1001, house, 501
                 .repeat(15) ← \
                                                                  2001, house, 1001
                 .batch(128)
                                                                  3001, house, 1501
                                                                  1001, apt,
                                                                               701
                                                                  2001, apt,
                                                                              1301
                        Nb of epochs
                                                                  3001, apt,
                                                                              1901
                                                                  1101, house,
                                                                               526
                                                                  2101, house, 1026
```

### They support arbitrary transformations with map()

```
def decode_line(txt_line):
   cols = tf.decode_csv(txt_line, record_defaults=[[0],['house'],[0]])
   features = {'sq_footage': cols[0], 'type': cols[1]}
   label = cols[2] # price
   return features, label
dataset = tf.data.TextLineDataset("train_1.csv") \
                                                                    property type
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                                                            sq footage
                                                                            PRICE in K$
                                                                  1001, house, 501
                                                                  2001, house, 1001
                                                                  3001, house, 1501
                                                                  1001, apt,
                                                                                701
                                                                  2001, apt,
                                                                              1301
                                             Dataset of
                                                                  3001, apt,
                                                                               1901
                                                                  1101, house,
                                                                               526
                                             text lines
                                                                  2101, house, 1026
```

#### They support arbitrary transformations with map()

```
def decode_line(txt_line):
   cols = tf.decode_csv(txt_line, record_defaults=[[0],['house'],[0]])
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                                                                    property type
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                                                            sq_footage PRICE in K$
                                                                  1001, house, 501
                                                                  2001, house, 1001
                                                                  3001, house, 1501
                                                                  1001, apt,
                                                                               701
                                                                              1301
                                                                  2001, apt,
            Dataset of pairs
                                                                  3001, apt,
                                                                              1901
                                                                  1101, house,
                                                                               526
            (features, label)
                                                                  2101, house, 1026
```

#### Datasets help create input\_fn's for Estimators

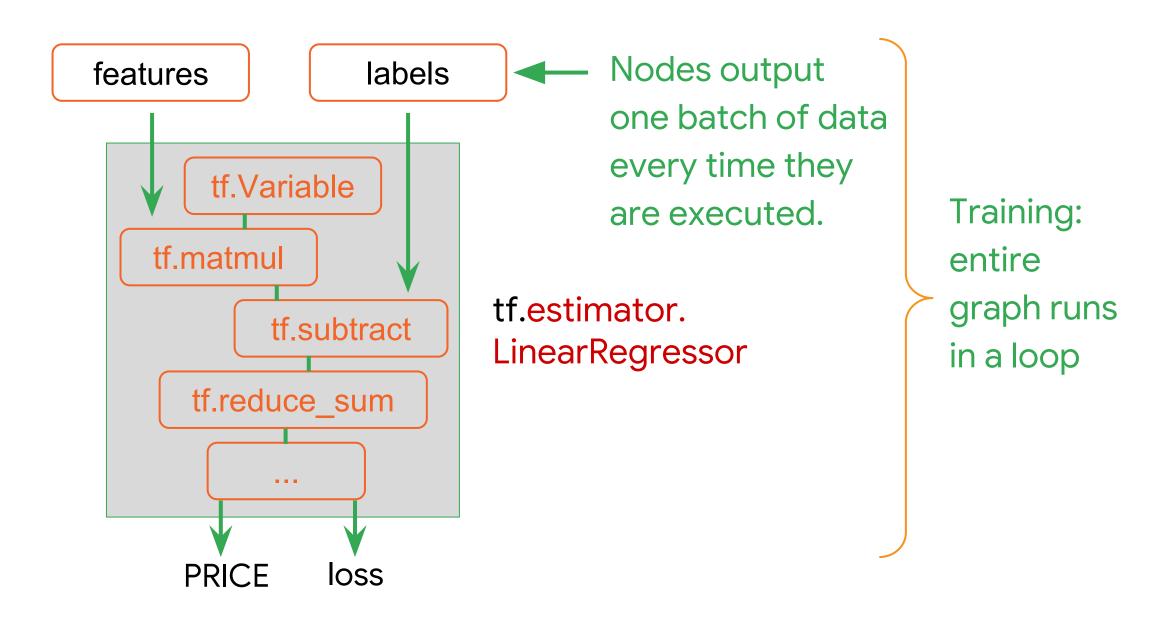
```
property type
                                                            sq_footage PRICE in K$
dataset = ...
                                                                  1001, house, 501
                                                                  2001, house, 1001
                                                                  3001, house, 1501
                                                                  1001, apt,
                                                                               701
def input_fn():
                                                                  2001, apt,
                                                                               1301
   features, label = dataset.make_one_shot_iterator().get_next()
                                                                  3001, apt,
                                                                               1901
   return features, label
                                                                  1101, house, 526
                                                                  2101, house, 1026
model.train(input_fn)
```

#### Datasets help create input\_fn's for Estimators

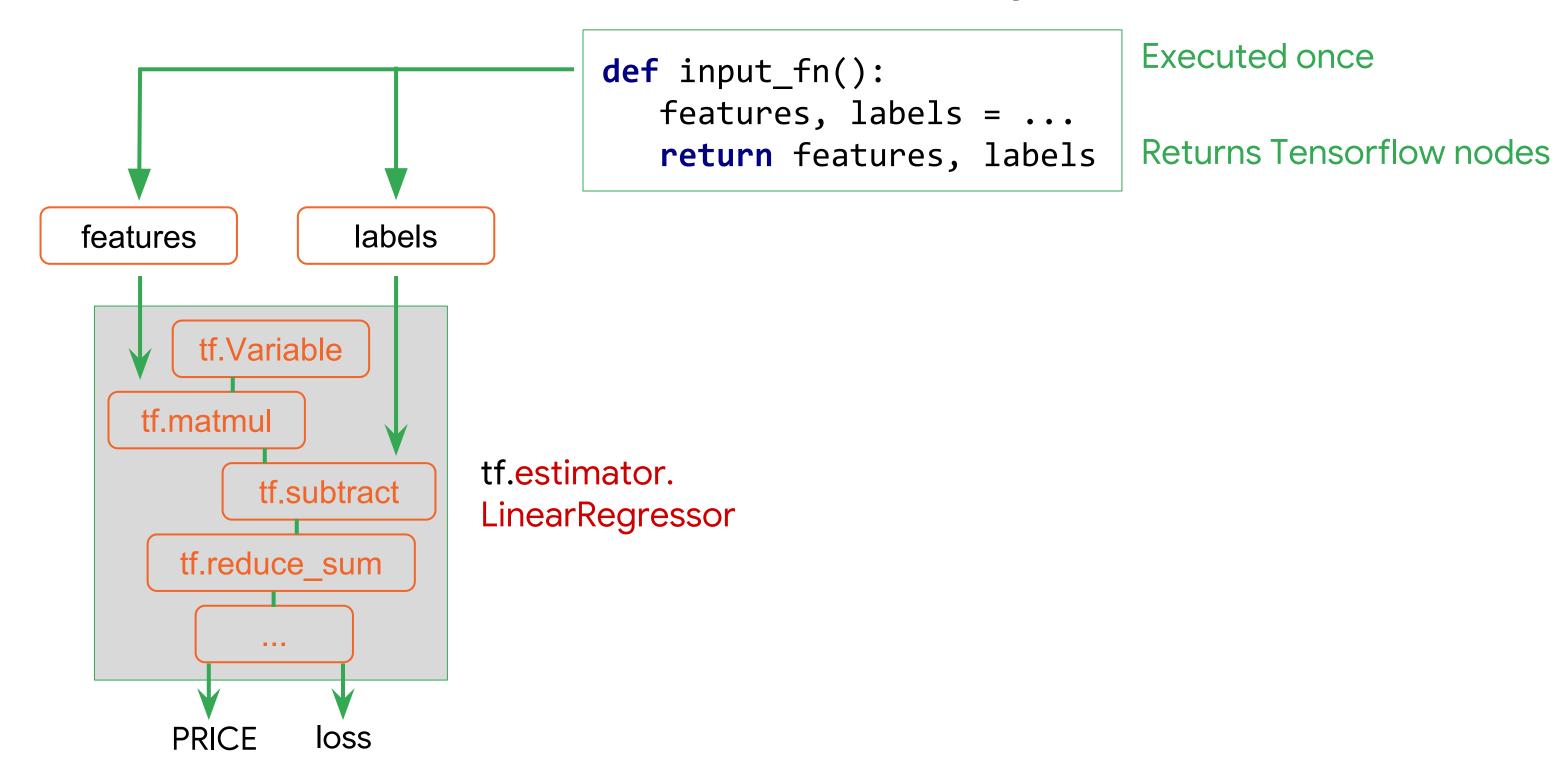
```
property type
                                                            sq_footage PRICE in K$
dataset = ...
                                                                  1001, house, 501
                                                                  2001, house, 1001
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                                                                  3001, apt,
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                                                                  1101, house, 526
                                                                  2101, house, 1026
model.train(input_fn)
```

All the tf. commands
that you write in Python
do not actually
process any data, they
just build graphs

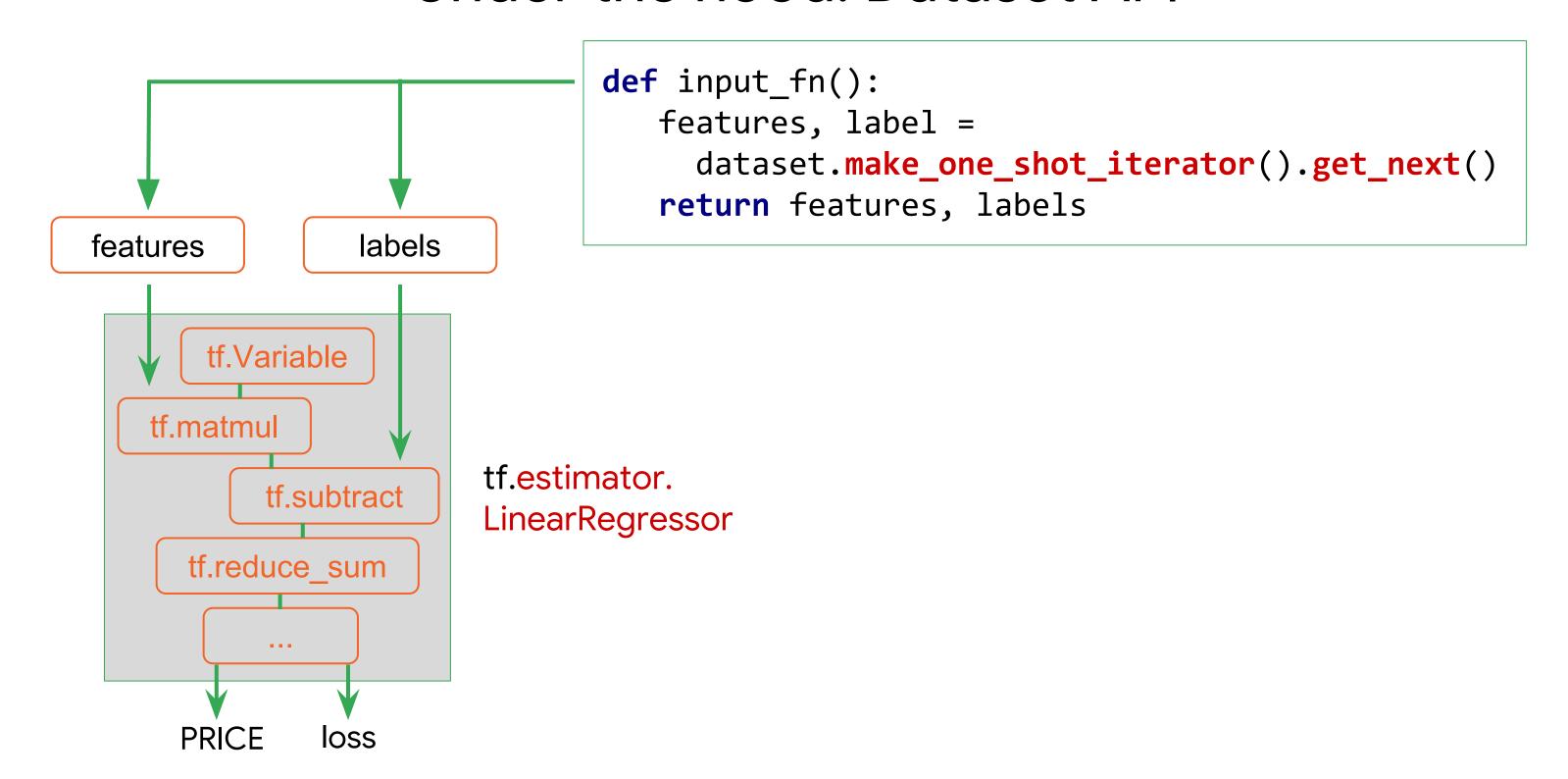
### Under the hood: what does an input function do?



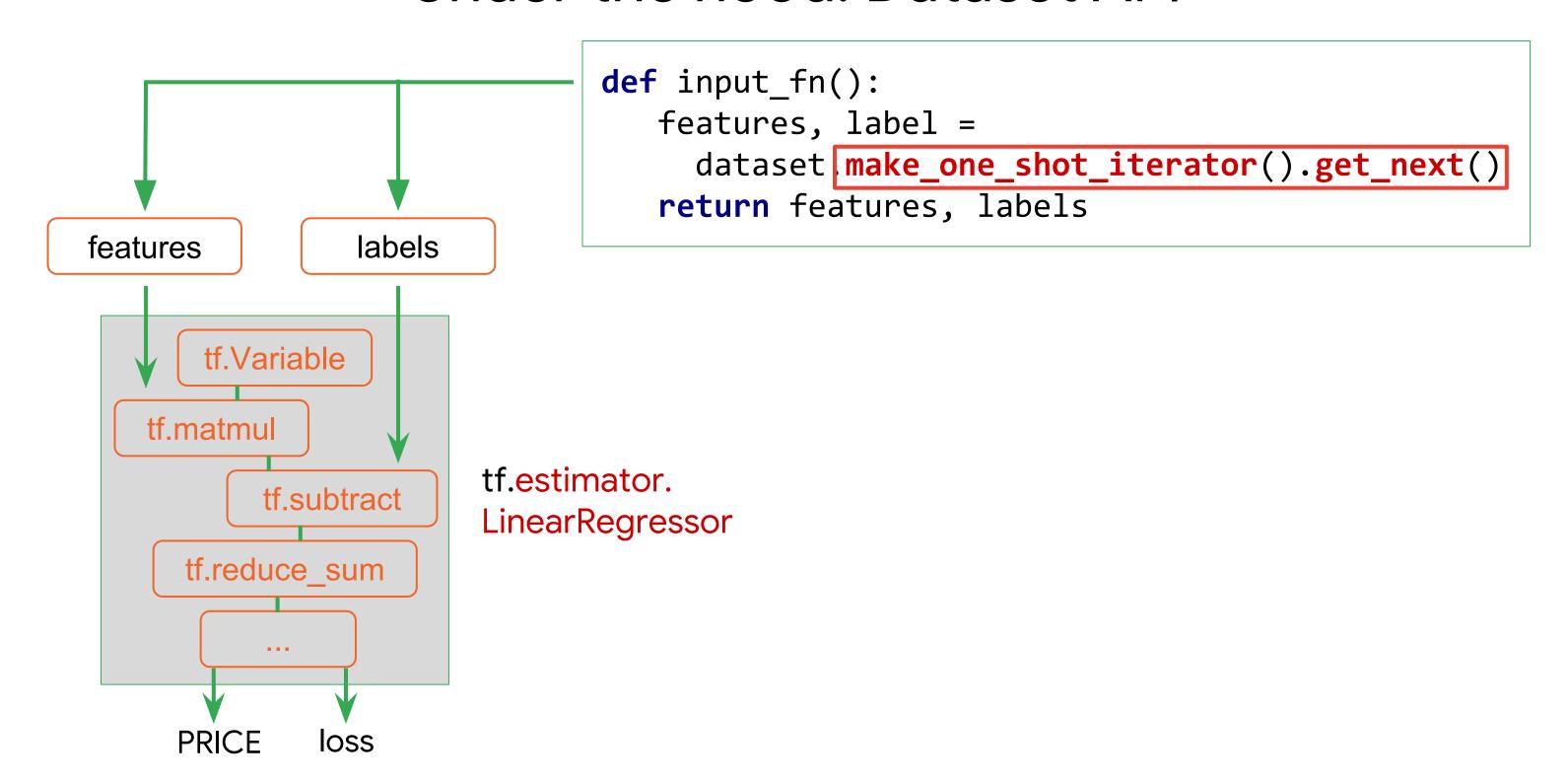
#### Under the hood: what does an input function do?



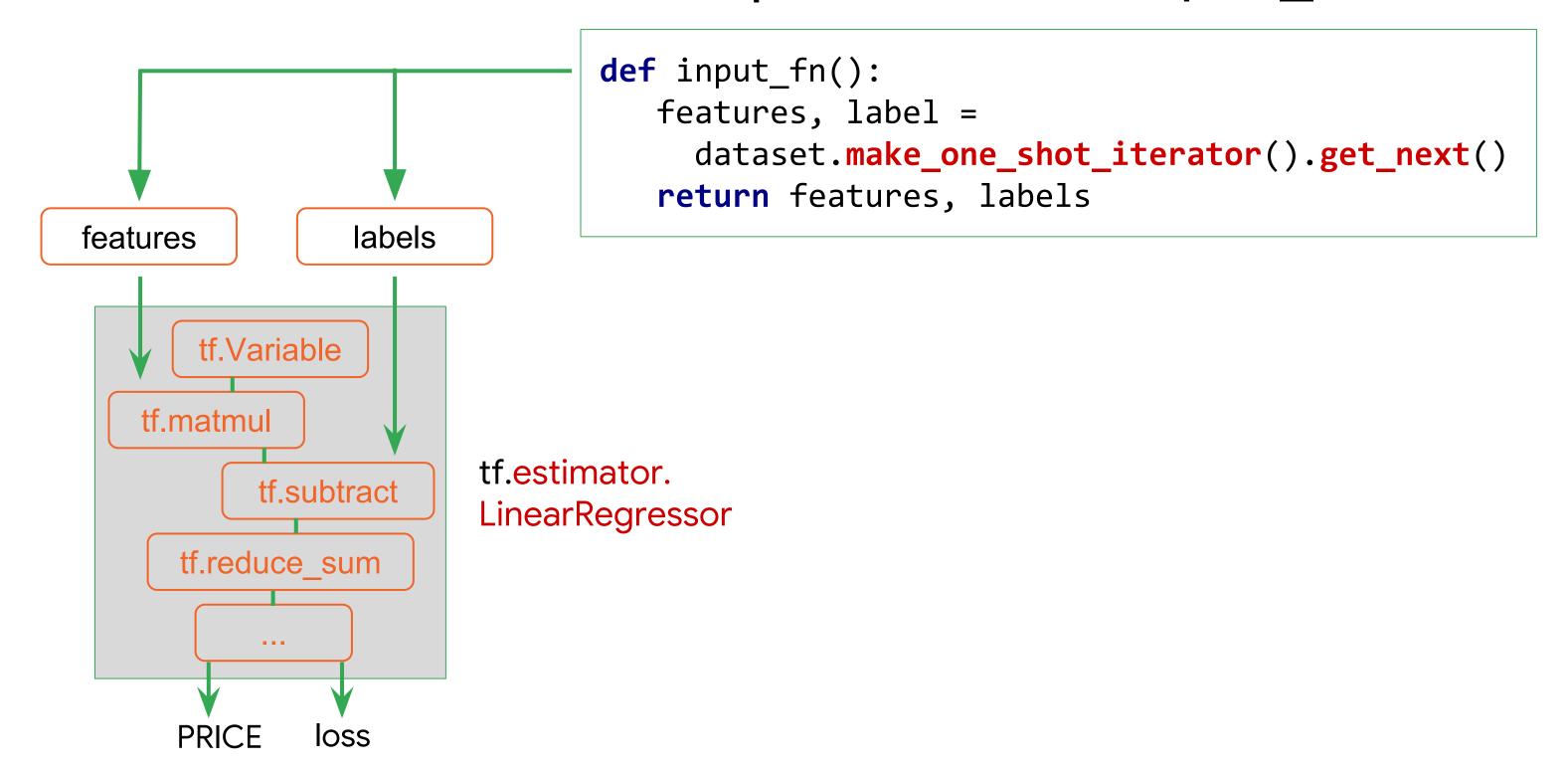
#### Under the hood: Dataset API



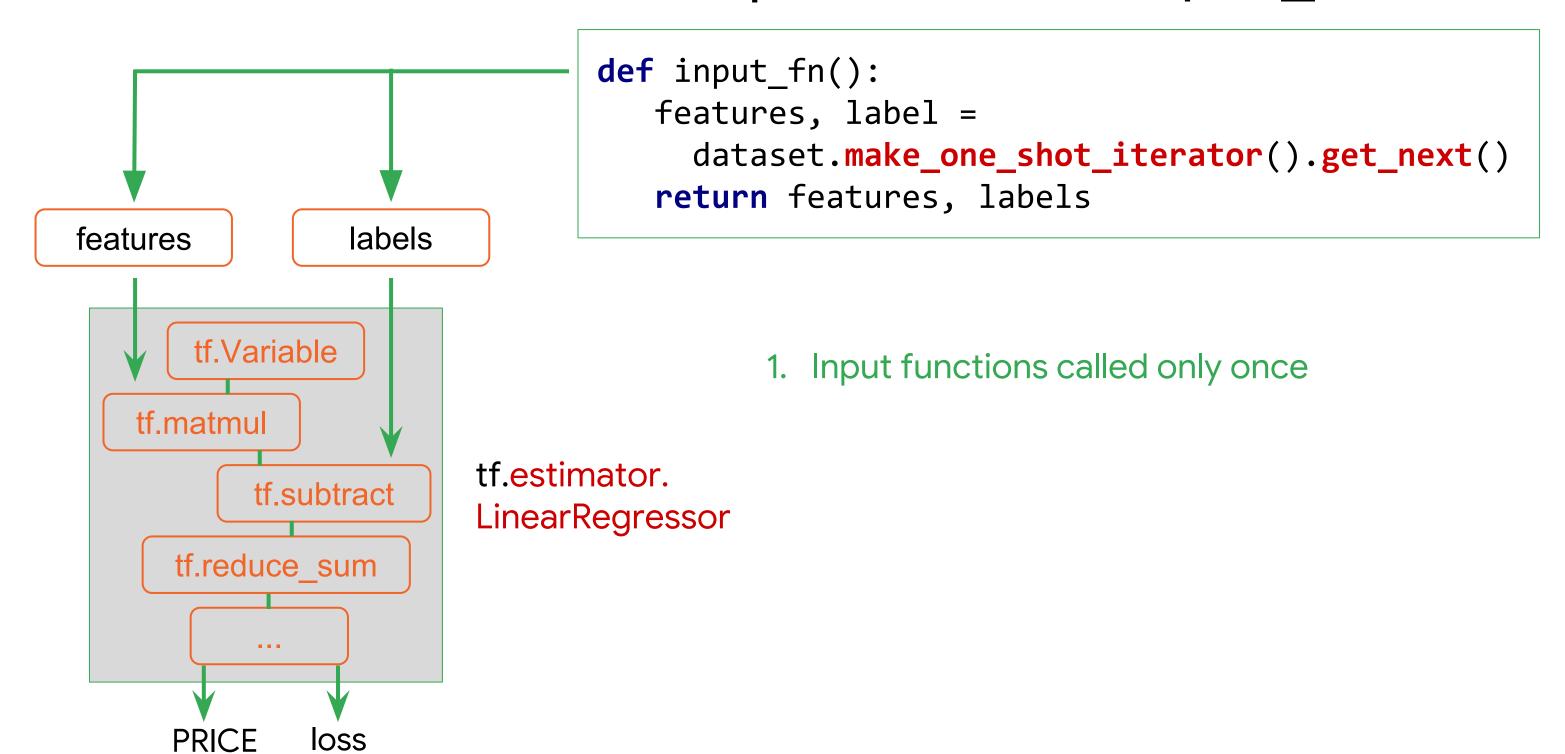
#### Under the hood: Dataset API



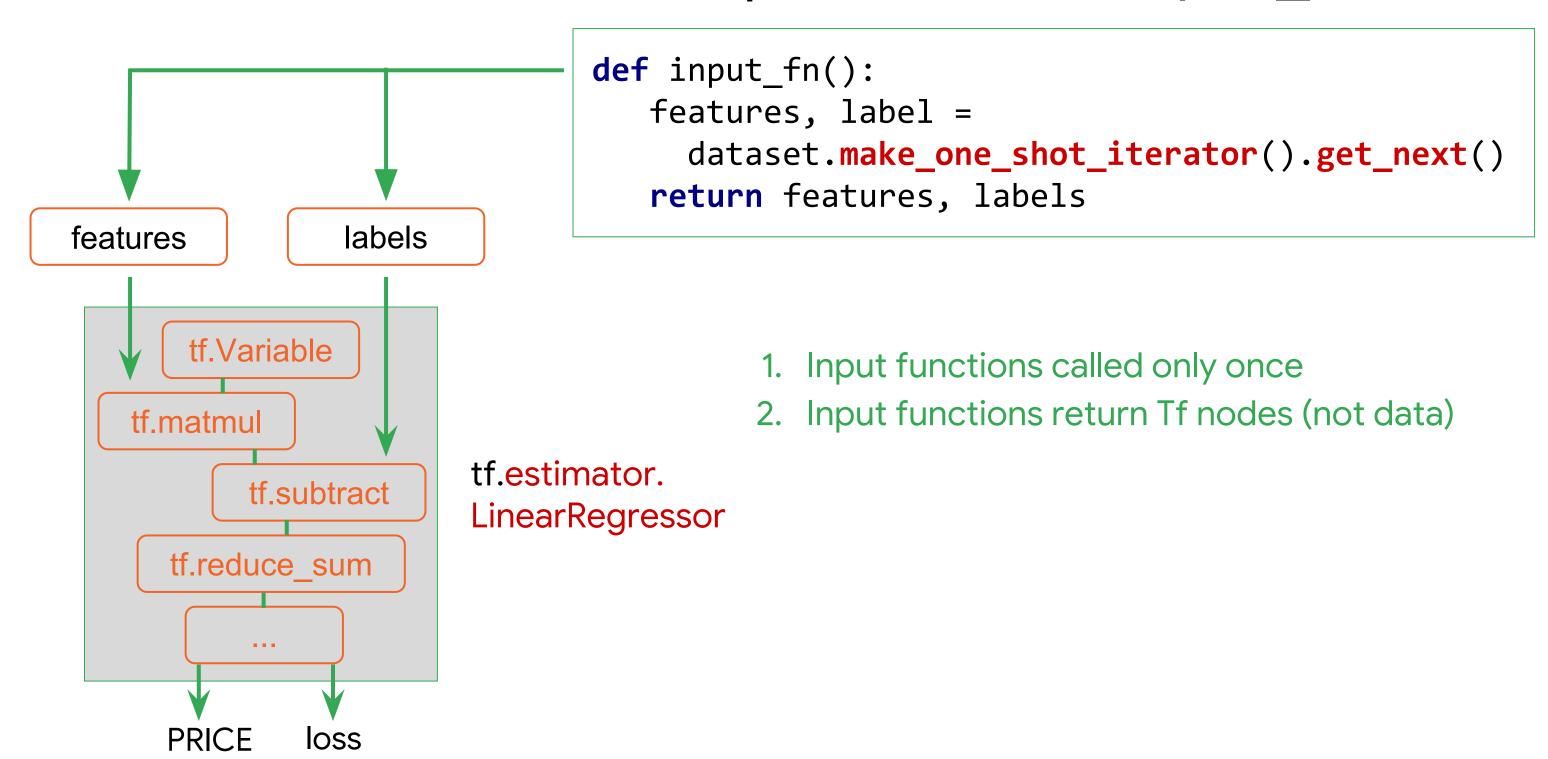
#### Common Misconceptions about input\_fn



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dataset = tf.data.TextLineDataset("train_1.csv") \
                 .map(decode line)
                                                                    property type
dataset = dataset.shuffle(1000) \
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                                                                   1001, house, 501
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                                                                   2101, house, 1026
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                                                                   1001, apt,
                                                                                701
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                                                                   2001, apt,
                                                                               1301
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                                                                               1901
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model.train(input_fn)
                                                                   2101, house, 1026
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                                                                   1001, house, 501
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                                                                   3001, house, 1501
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def decode_line(row):
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   features = {'sq_footage': cols[0], 'type': cols[1]}
   label = cols[2] # price
   return features, label
                                                                             train.csv-00000-of-00011
dataset = tf.data.Dataset.list_files("train.csv-*")
                                                                             train.csv-00001-of-00011
                            .flat_map(tf.data.TextLineDataset) \
                                                                             train.csv-00002-of-00011
                            .map(decode line)
                                                                             train.csv-00003-of-00011
dataset = dataset.shuffle(1000) \
                   .repeat(15)
                                                                             train.csv-00004-of-00011
                   .batch(128)
                                                                             train.csv-00005-of-00011
def input_fn():
   return dataset.make_one_shot_iterator().get_next()
model.train(input_fn)
```

```
def decode_line(row):
   cols = tf.decode_csv(row, record_defaults=[[0],['house'],[0]])
   features = {'sq_footage': cols[0], 'type': cols[1]}
   label = cols[2] # price
   return features, label
                                                                            train.csv-00000-of-00011
dataset = tf.data.Dataset list_files("train.csv-*")
                                                                            train.csv-00001-of-00011
                           .flat_map(tf.data.TextLineDataset) \
                                                                         train.csv-00002-of-00011
                           .map(decode line)
                                                                            train.csv-00003-of-00011
dataset = dataset.shuffle(1000) \
                   .repeat(15) \
                                                                            train.csv-00004-of-00011
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                                                                         train.csv-00005-of-00011
def input_fn():
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                                                                            train.csv-00000-of-00011
dataset = tf.data.Dataset.list_files("train.csv-*")
                                                                            train.csv-00001-of-00011
                           .flat_map(tf.data.TextLineDataset) \
                                                                          train.csv-00002-of-00011
                           .map(decode line)
                                                                            train.csv-00003-of-00011
dataset = dataset.shuffle(1000) \
                   .repeat(15) \
                                                                            train.csv-00004-of-00011
                   .batch(128)
                                                                          train.csv-00005-of-00011
def input_fn():
   return dataset.make_one_shot_iterator().get_next()
model.train(input_fn)
```

```
def decode_line(row):
   cols = tf.decode_csv(row, record_defaults=[[0],['house'],[0]])
   features = {'sq_footage': cols[0], 'type': cols[1]}
   label = cols[2] # price
   return features, label
                                                                            train.csv-00000-of-00011
dataset = tf.data.Dataset.list files("train.csv-*")
                                                                            train.csv-00001-of-00011
                           .flat_map(tf.data.TextLineDataset) \
                                                                          train.csv-00002-of-00011
                            .map(decode line)
                                                                            train.csv-00003-of-00011
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                                                                         train.csv-00002-of-00011
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def input_fn():
   return dataset.make_one_shot_iterator().get_next()
model.train(input_fn)
```

# The real benefit of Dataset is that you can do more than just ingest data

### LAB

Scaling up TensorFlow ingest using batching



Big Jobs, Distributed training

Martin Gorner

#### Real World ML Models

	Problem	Solution
	Out of memory data	Use the Dataset API
	Distribution	Use train_and_evaluate
٠	Need to evaluate during training	?
	Deployments that scale	?

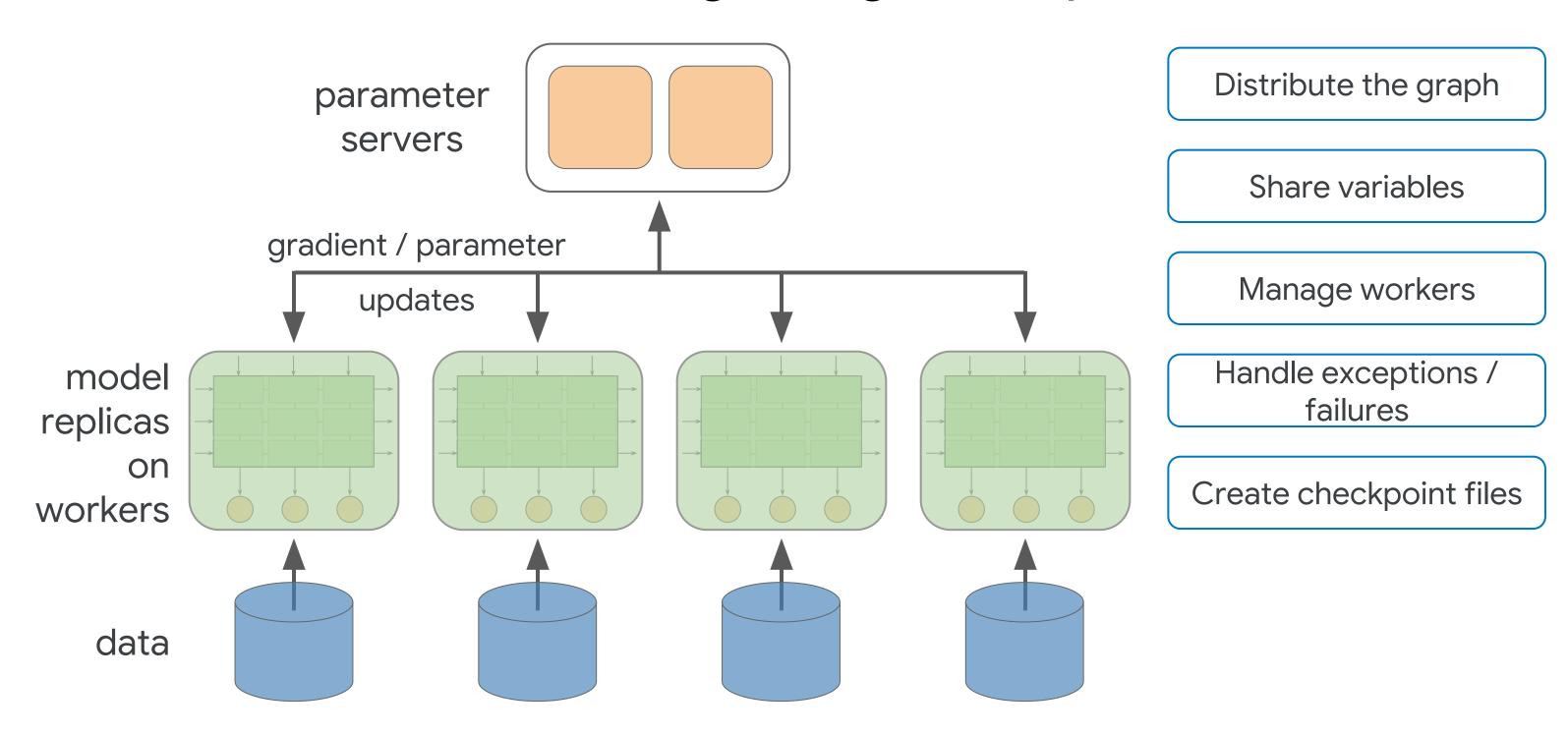
## estimator.train\_and\_evaluate is the preferred method for training real-world models

```
estimator = tf.estimator.LinearRegressor(...)

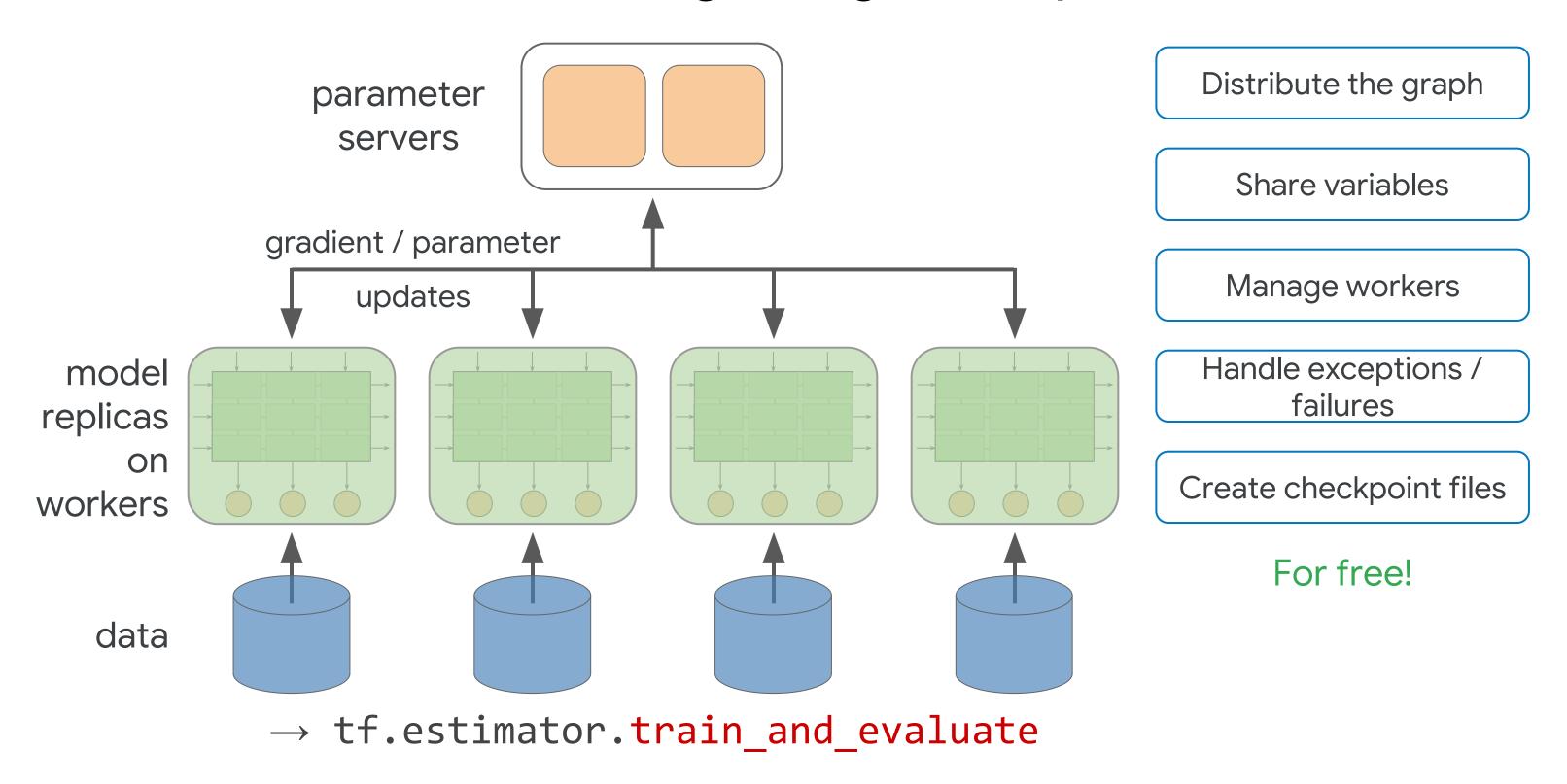
tf.estimator.train_and_evaluate(estimator, ...)
```

data parallelism =
replicate your model on
multiple workers

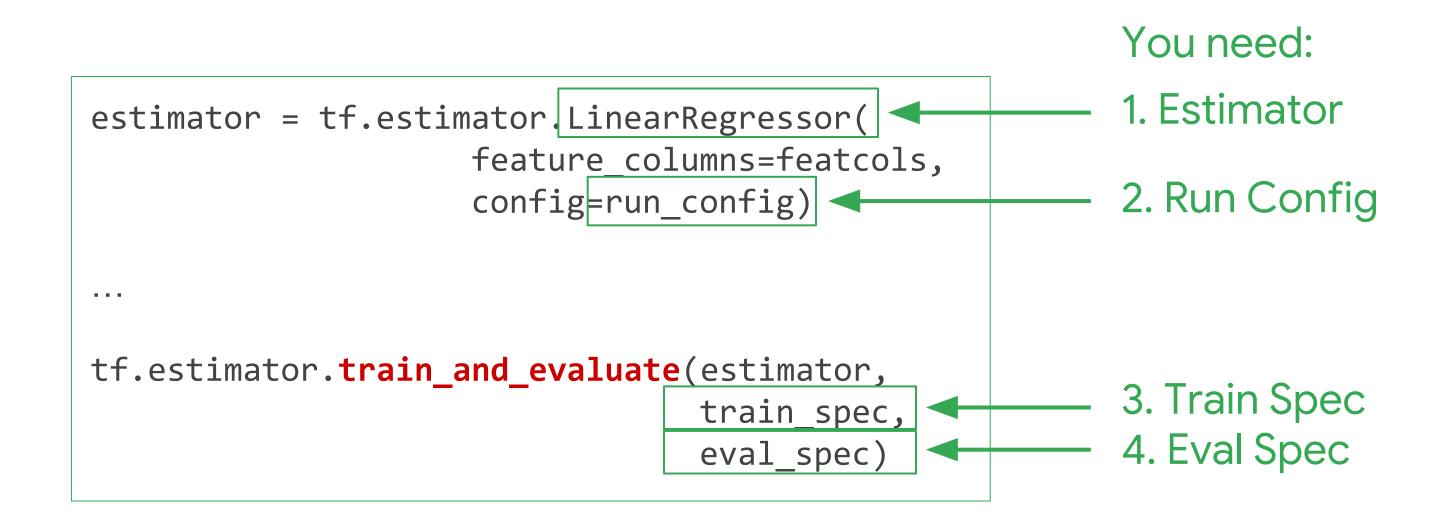
### Distributed training using "data parallelism"



#### Distributed training using "data parallelism"



### estimator.train\_and\_evaluate is the preferred method for training real-world models



### run\_config tells the estimator where and how often to write Checkpoints and Tensorboard logs ("summaries")

### The TrainSpec tells the estimator how to get training data

#### **Use Datasets**

```
train_spec =
    tf.estimator.TrainSpec(input_fn=train_input_fn, max_steps=50000)
    ...

tf.estimator.train_and_evaluate(estimator, train_spec, eval_spec)
```

# The EvalSpec controls the evaluation and the checkpointing of the model since they happen at the same time

```
eval_spec
tf.estimator.EvalSpec(
    input_fn=eval_input_fn,
    steps=100, # evals on 100 batches
    throttle_secs=600 # eval no more than every 10 min
    exporters=...)

tf.estimator.train_and_evaluate(estimator, train_spec, eval_spec)
```

# The EvalSpec controls the evaluation and the checkpointing of the model since they happen at the same time

#### **Use Datasets**

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tf.estimator.train_and_evaluate(estimator, train_spec, eval_spec)
```

#### Recap with all the code

```
run config =
tf.estimator.RunConfig(model dir=output dir, ...)
estimator =
tf.estimator.LinearRegressor(featcols, config=run config)
train spec =
tf.estimator.TrainSpec(input fn=train_input_fn, max steps=1000)
export latest =
tf.estimator.LatestExporter(serving_input_receiver_fn=serving_input_fn)
eval spec =
tf.estimator.EvalSpec(input fn=eval_input_fn, exporters=export latest)
tf.estimator.train_and_evaluate(estimator, train_spec, eval_spec)
```

#### Recap with all the code

```
run config =
tf.estimator.RunConfig(model dir=output dir, ...)
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tf.estimator.train_and_evaluate(estimator, train_spec, eval_spec)
```

### Shuffling is even more important in distributed training

### Shuffling is even more important in distributed training.

```
dataset =
tf.data.Dataset.list_files("train.csv-*")
         .shuffle(100)
         .flat_map(tf.data.TextLineDataset) \
         .map(decode csv)
dataset = dataset.shuffle(1000) \
                                                         parameter
                    .repeat(15)
                                                          servers
                    .batch(128)
                                                                          gradients
                                                model
                                                                                        Different
                                               replicas
                                                                                        batches of
                                                   on
                                                                                        training data
                                                worker
                                                                                     data
```

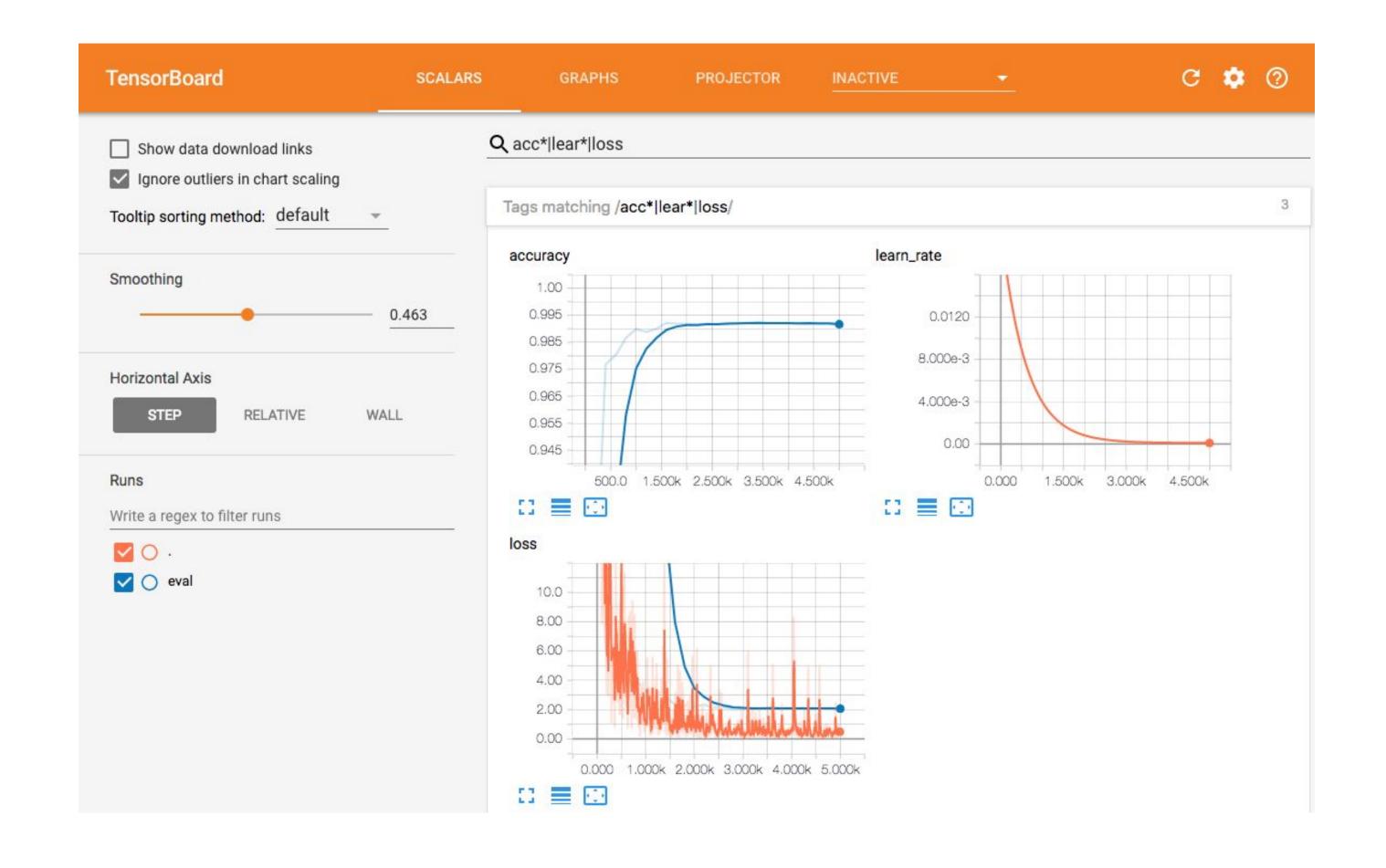


Monitoring with TensorBoard

Martin Gorner

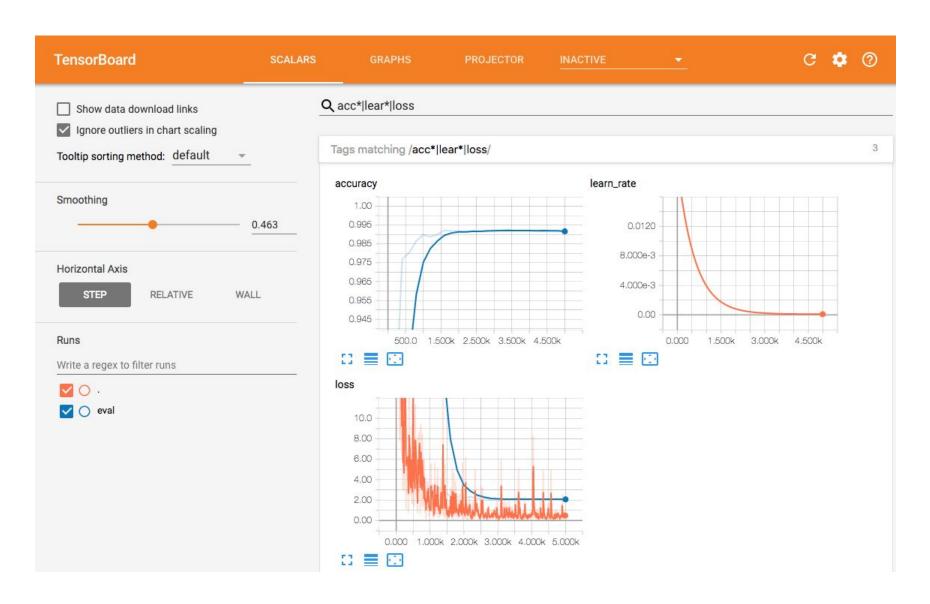
#### Real World ML Models

	Problem	Solution
~	Out of memory data	Use the Dataset API
	Distribution	Use train_and_evaluate
	Need to evaluate during training	Use train_and_evaluate + TensorBoard
	Deployments that scale	?

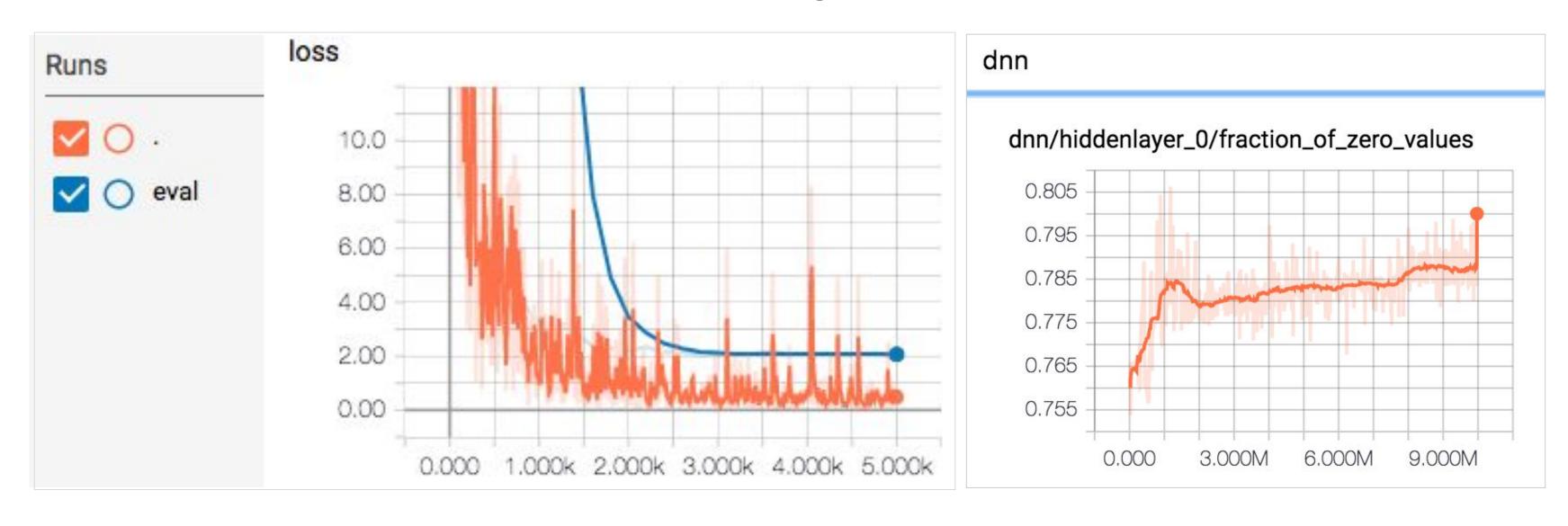


### Point Tensorboard to your output directory and the dashboards appear in your browser at localhost:6006

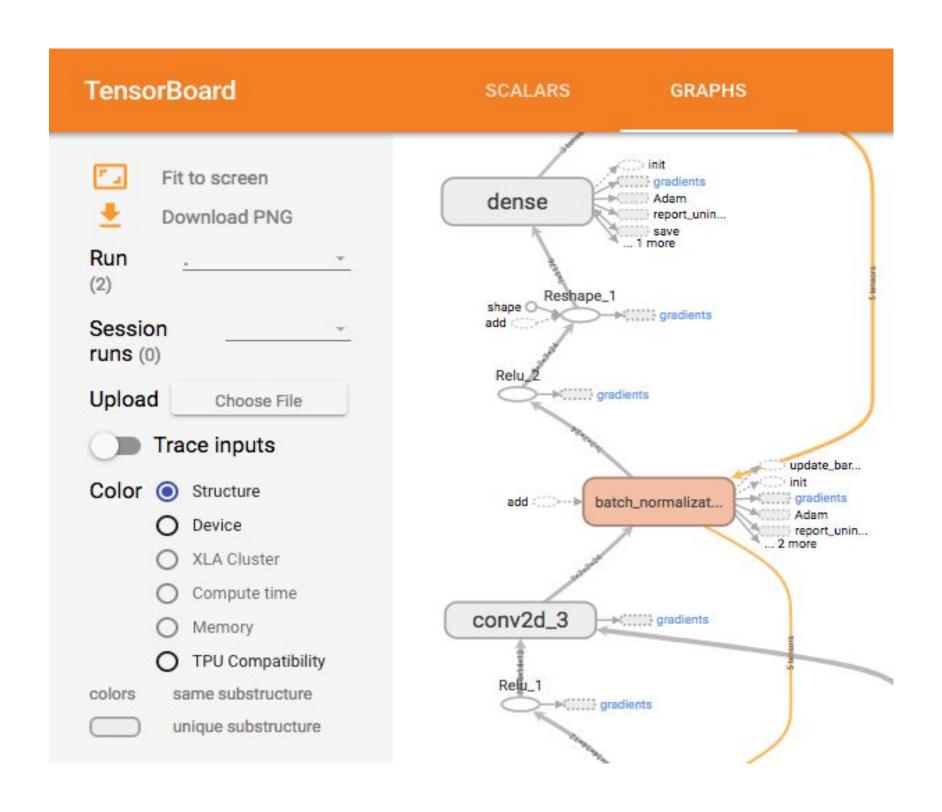
```
tf.estimator.RunConfig(model_dir='output_dir')
> tensorboard --logdir output_dir
```



### Pre-made Estimators export relevant metrics, embeddings, histograms, etc. for TensorBoard, so there is nothing more to do



### The dashboard for the graph



# If you are writing a custom Estimator model, you can add summaries for Tensorboard with a single line

```
tf.summary.scalar('meanVar1', tf.reduce_mean(var1))

...

tf.summary.text('outClass', stringvar))

these names will show
up in TensorBoard
```

Sprinkle appropriate summary ops throughout your code:

```
tf.summary.scalar

tf.summary.image

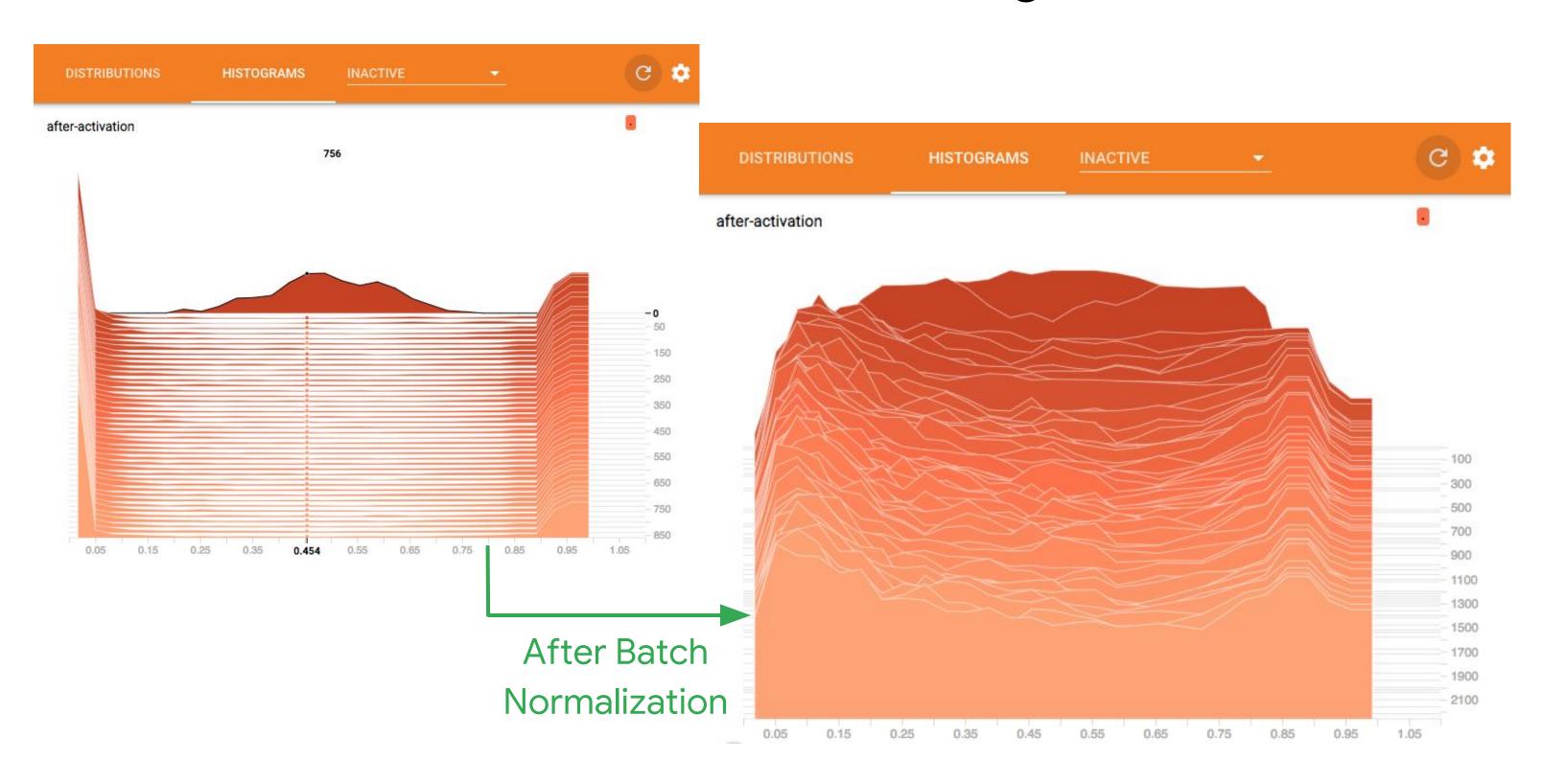
tf.summary.audio

tf.summary.text

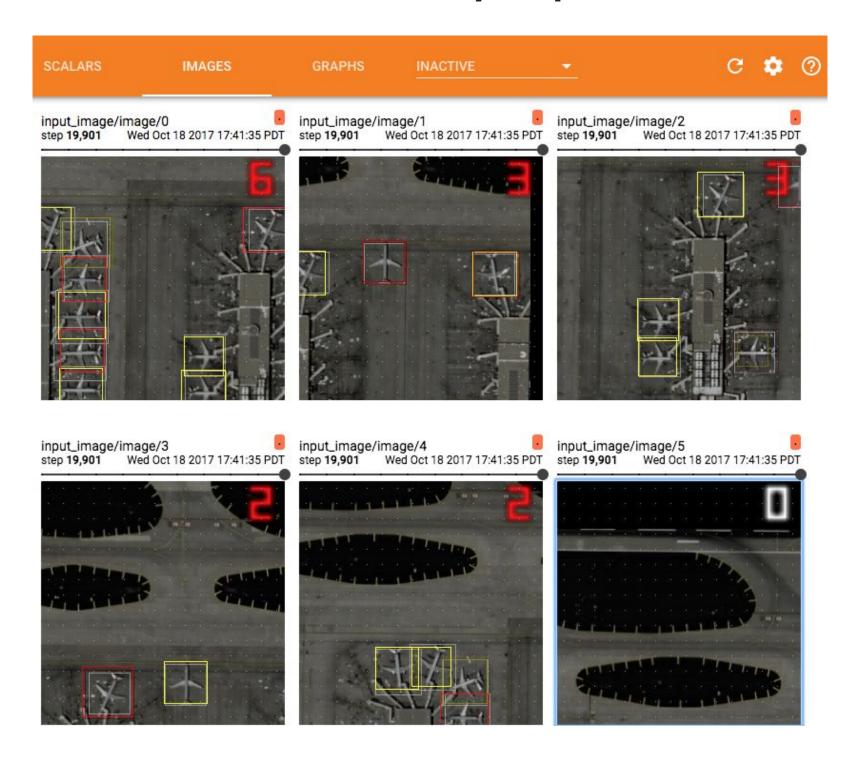
tf.summary.histogram
```

https://www.tensorflow.org/get\_started/summaries\_and\_tensorboard

### The dashboard for histograms



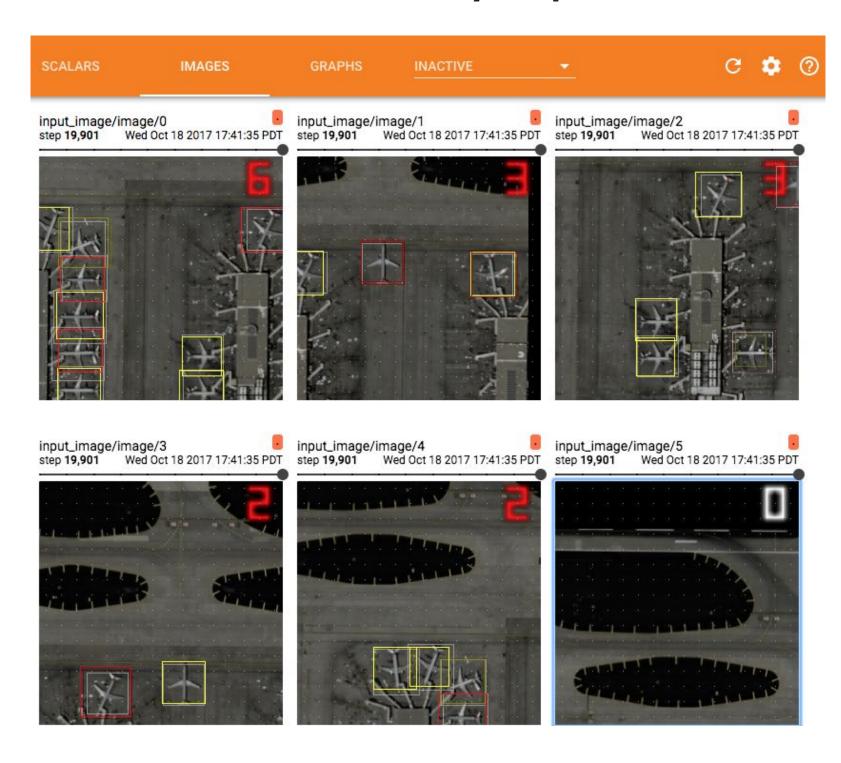
# Images and Audio have their own (non-scalar) summary ops



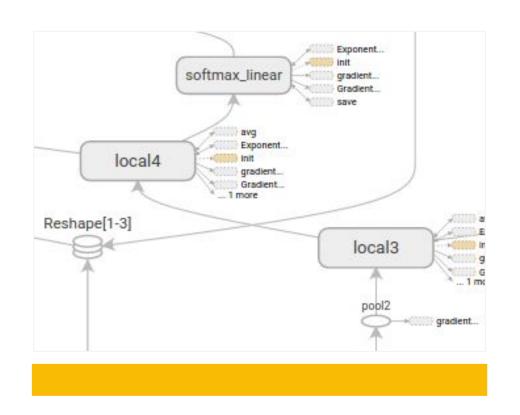
### Images and Audio have their own (non-scalar) summary ops

```
p = tf.placeholder("uint8", (None, ht, wd,num_channels))
s = tf.summary.image("im1", p)
```

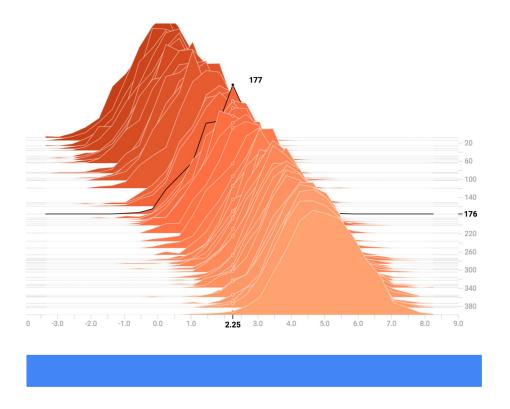
# Images and Audio have their own (non-scalar) summary ops



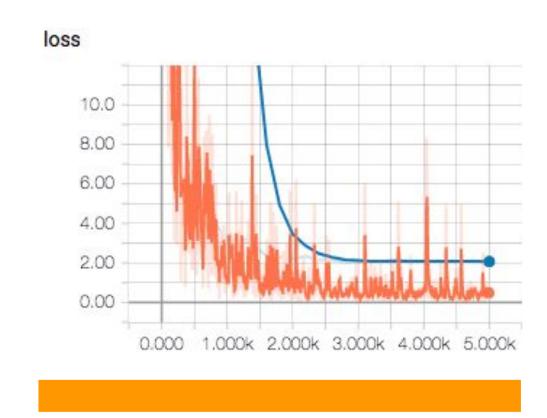
## TensorBoard has a suite of visualization tools to explore and explain your model and results



**Graph Explorer** 



Histogram Dashboard



Scalar Dashboard

Many more including Audio, Image and Text Dashboards ...

### Real World ML Models

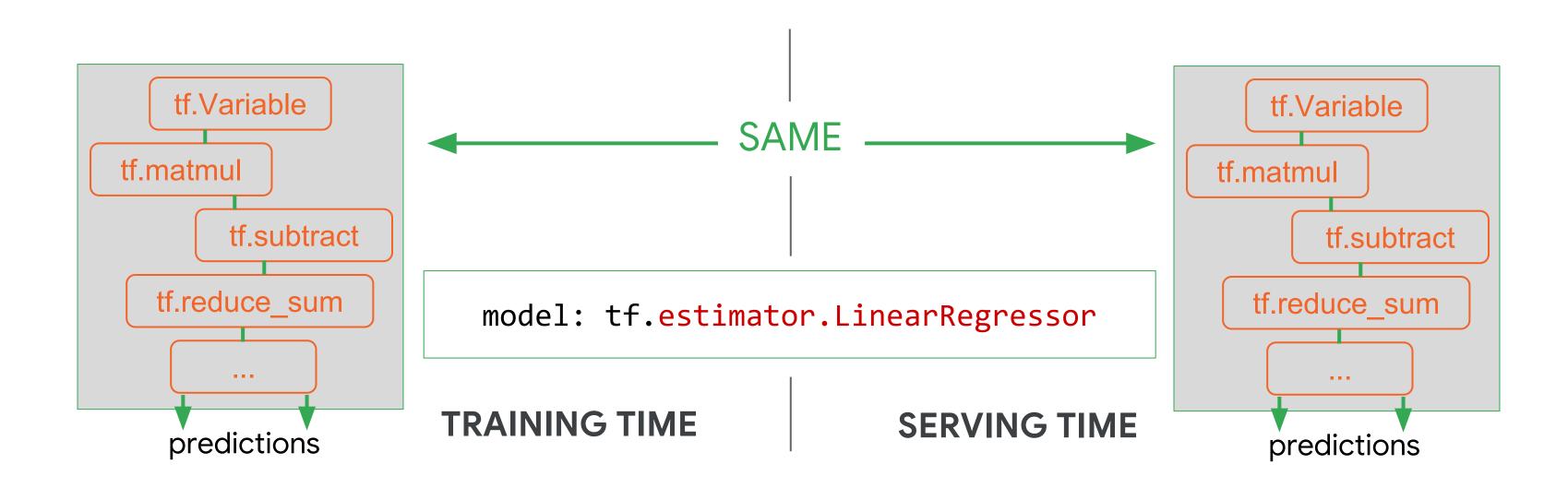
Problem	Solution
Out of memory data	Use the Dataset API
Distribution	Use train_and_evaluate
Need to evaluate during training	Use train_and_evaluate + TensorBoard
Deployments that scale	Use serving input function

#### Recap with all the code

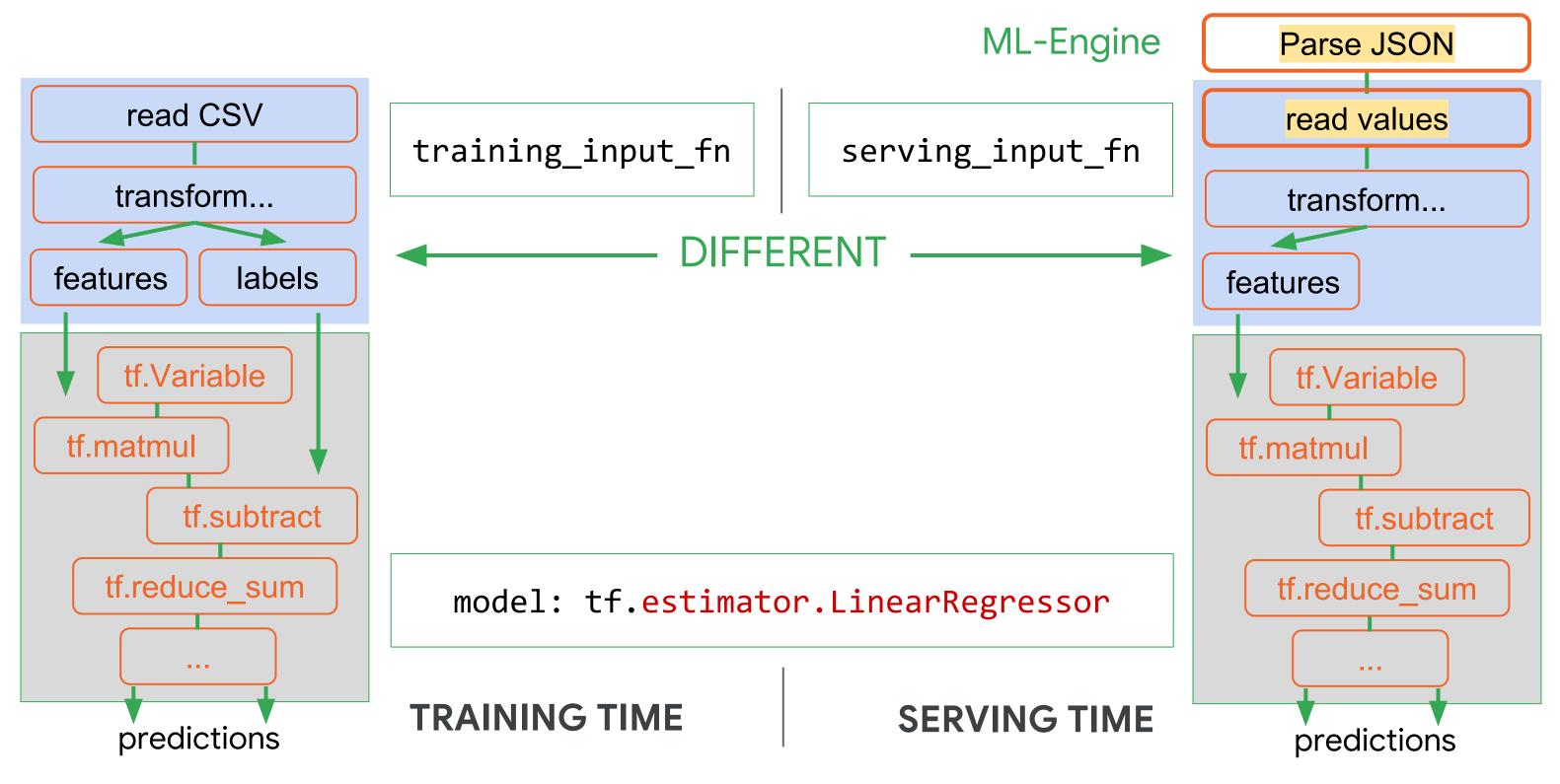
```
run config =
tf.estimator.RunConfig(model_dir=output_dir, ...)
estimator =
tf.estimator.LinearRegressor(featcols, config=run config)
train spec =
tf.estimator.TrainSpec(input_fn=train_input_fn, max_steps=1000)
export latest =
tf.estimator.LatestExporter(serving_input_receiver_fn=serving_input_fn)
eval spec =
tf.estimator.EvalSpec(input_fn=eval_input_fn, exporters=export_latest)
tf.estimator.train_and_evaluate(estimator, train spec, eval spec)
```

Serving and training-time inputs are often very different

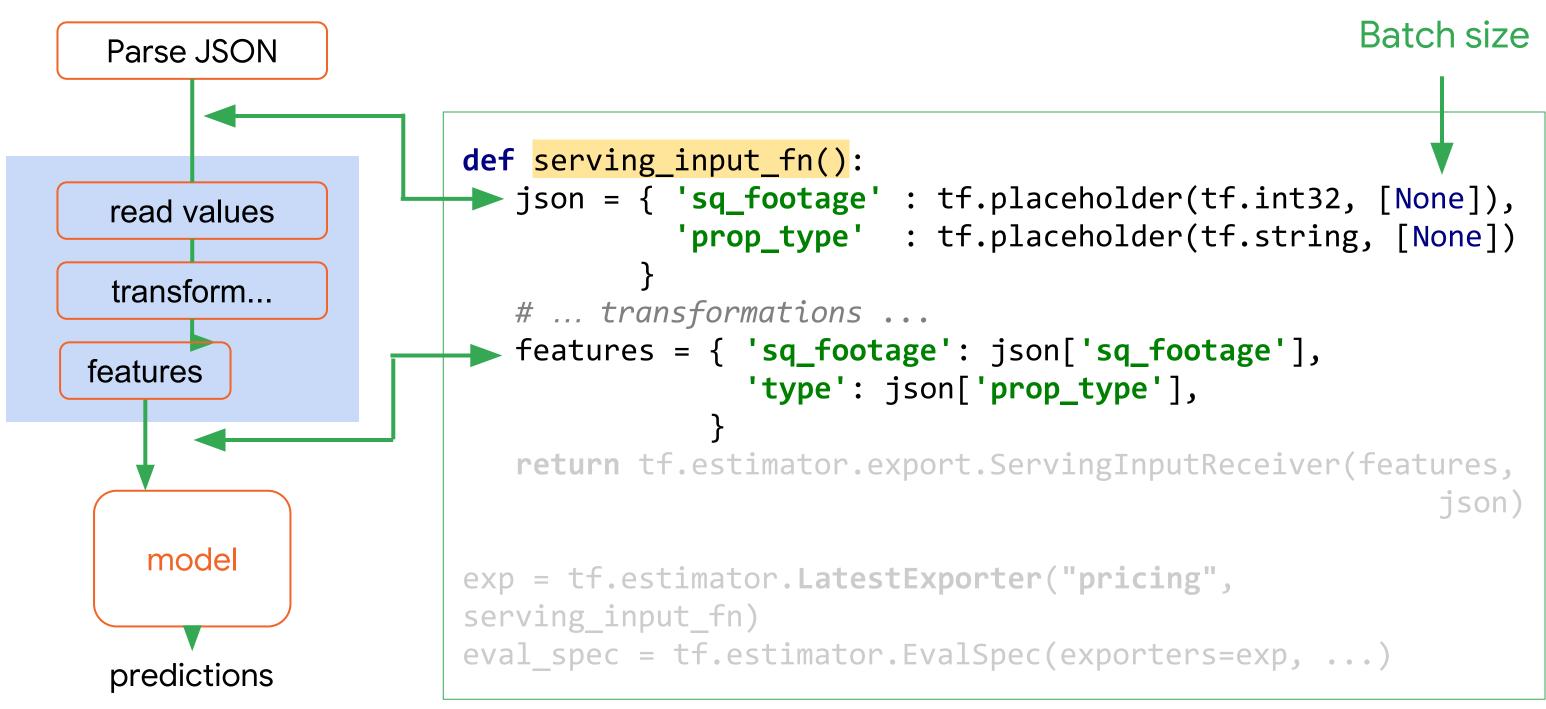
### Serving and training-time inputs are often very different



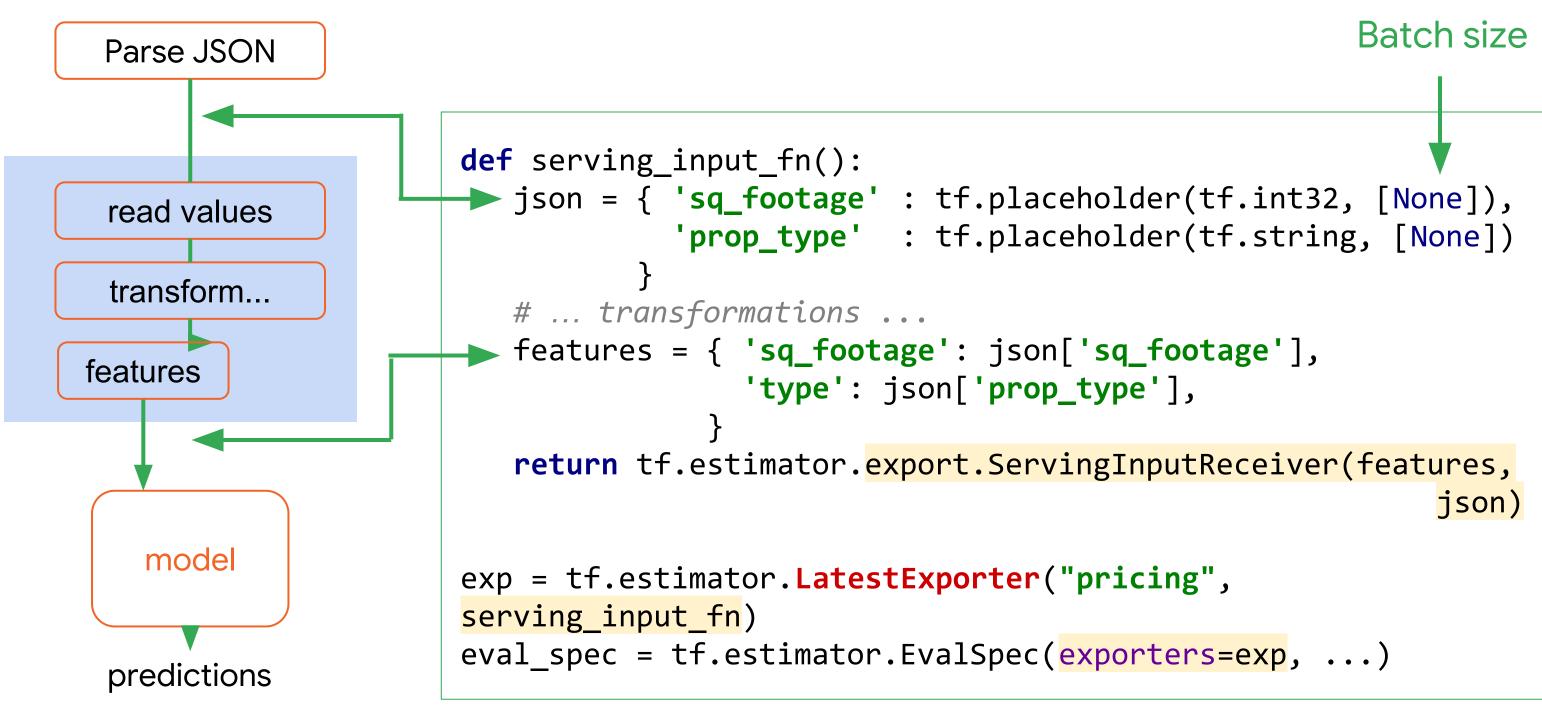
### Serving and training-time inputs are often very different



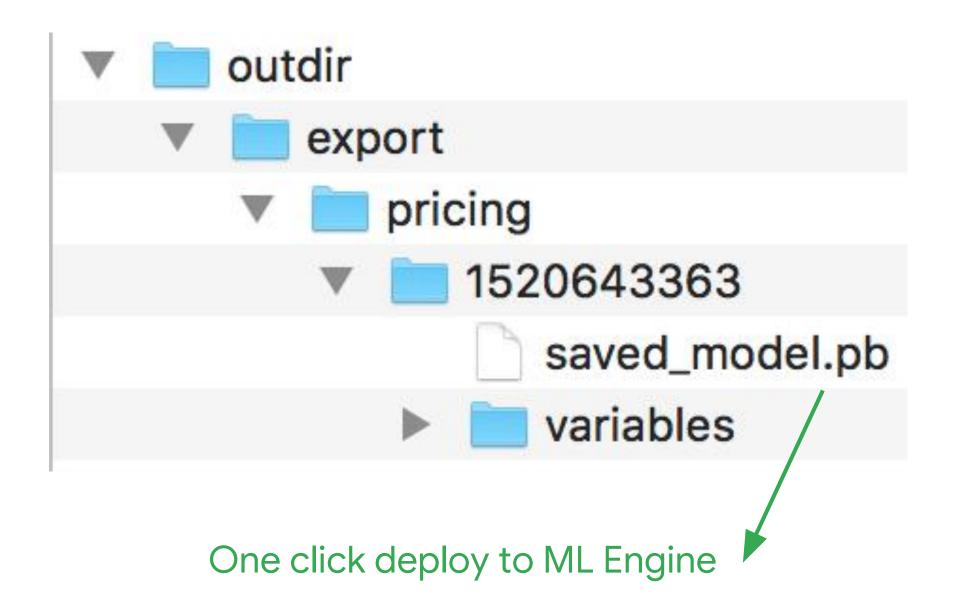
# Serving input function transforms from parsed JSON data to the data your model expects



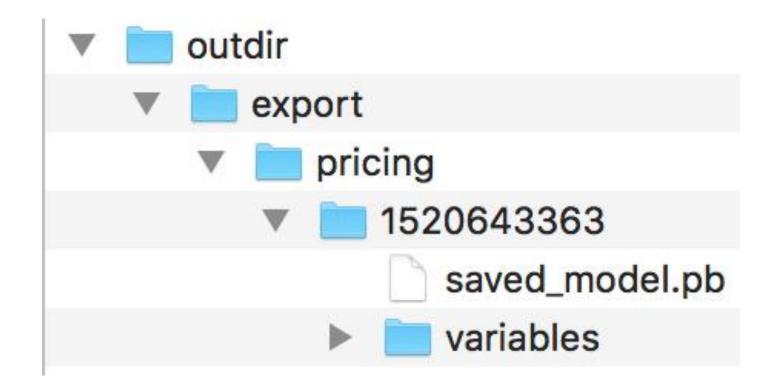
# Serving input function transforms from parsed JSON data to the data your model expects



# The exported model is ready to deploy

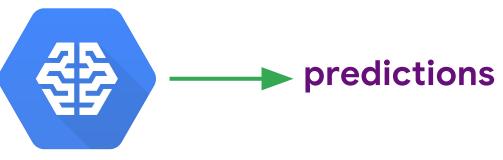


### The exported model is ready to deploy

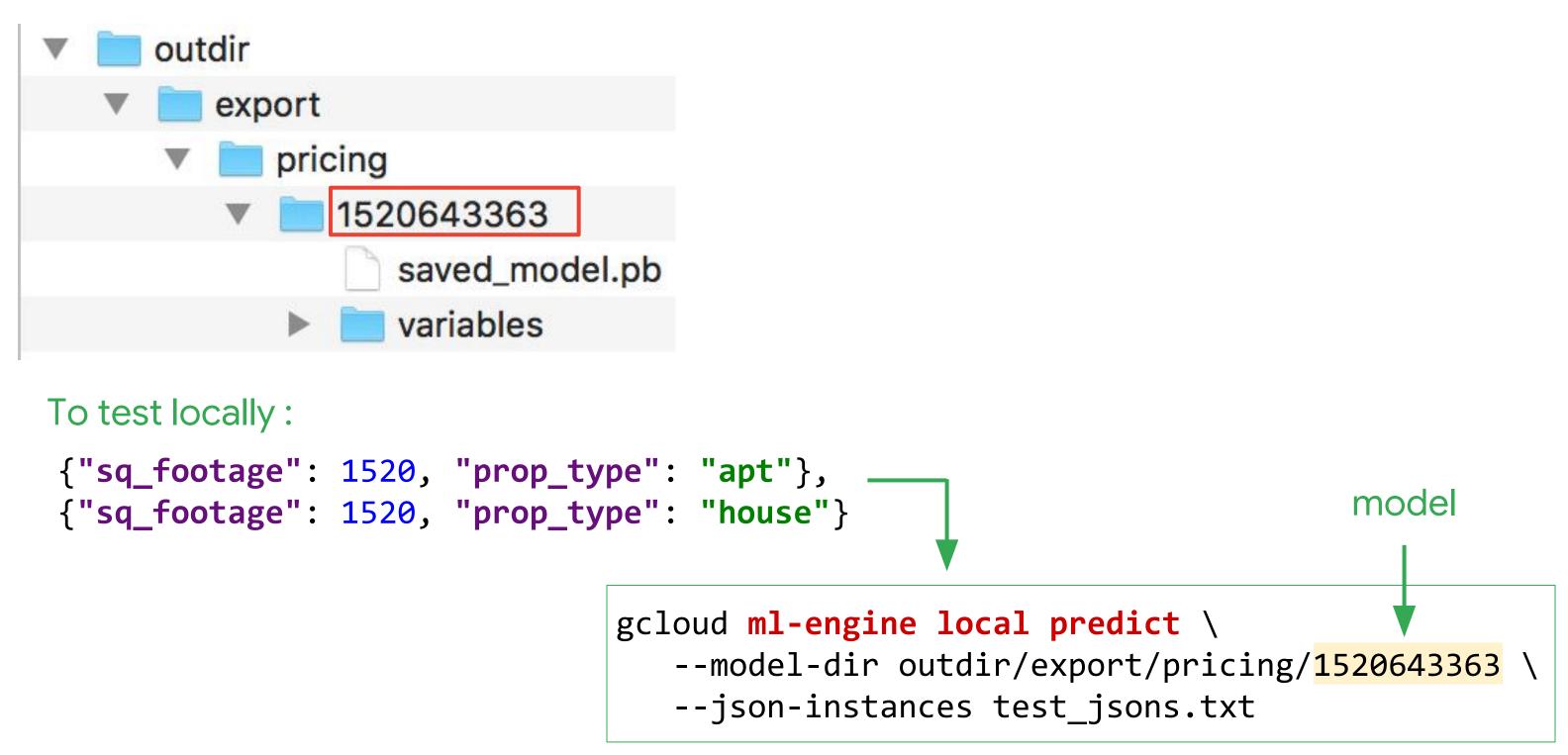


#### Online predictions:

```
gcloud ml-engine predict
--model <model_name>
--json-instances data.json
```



### The exported model is ready to deploy



#### Example serving input function that decodes JPEGs

```
def serving_input_fn():
   json = {'jpeg_bytes': tf.placeholder(tf.string, [None])}
  def decode(jpeg):
       pixels = tf.image.decode jpeg(jpeg, channels=3)
       return pixels
   pics = tf.map fn(decode, json['jpeg_bytes'], dtype=tf.uint8)
  features = {'pics': pics}
   return tf.estimator.export.ServingInputReceiver(features, json)
```

Output shape: [batch, width, height, 3]

#### Example serving input function that decodes JPEGs

```
def serving_input_fn():
    json = {'jpeg_bytes': tf.placeholder(tf.string, [None])}

def decode(jpeg):
    pixels = tf.image.decode_jpeg(jpeg, channels=3)
    return pixels

pics = tf.map_fn(decode, json['jpeg_bytes'], dtype=tf.uint8)

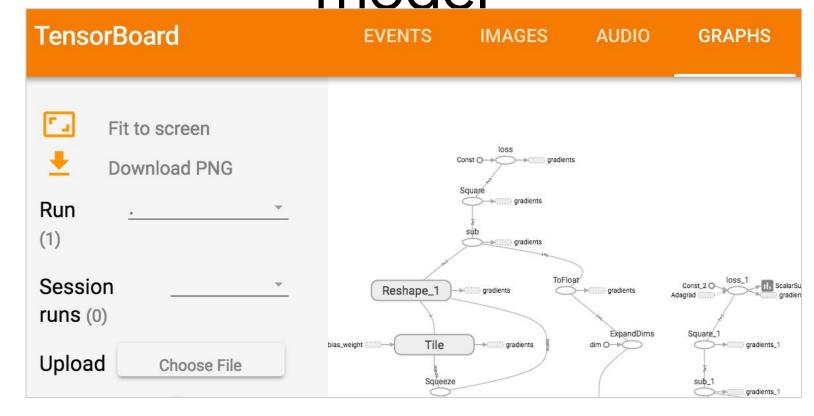
features = {'pics': pics}
    return tf.estimator.export.ServingInputReceiver(features, json)
```

Output shape: [batch, width, height, 3]

### Example serving input function that decodes JPEGs

```
JSON
{"jpeg_bytes":{"b64":"/9j/4DAwQDBAgEBAgQCwkLEBAQEBAQEQEB..."}}
Base 64: special syntax _bytes and b64
```

Lab: Implementing a distributed TensorFlow model



- Use train\_and\_evaluate
- Monitor training using TensorBoard

	Problem	Solution	
	Out of memory data	Use the Dataset API	
<b>/</b>	Distribution	Use train_and_evaluate	
	Need to evaluate during training	Use train_and_evaluate + TensorBoard	
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cloud.google.com