

**FOOD CALORIES DETECTOR & COUNTER ANDROID APPLICATION USING DEEP LEARNING**

PROJECT DOCUMENTATION

BY

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**BSc Computer Technology**

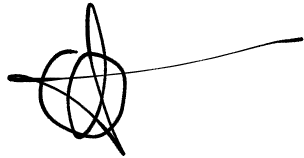
Dated 15th January 2022

**Project source code GitHub link**

<https://github.com/erickmoon/calorie-counter>

**CONFIRMATION OF DOCUMENTATION SUBMISSION**

**(Student)**

Signature

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**(Supervisor)**

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**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

I would like to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to my supervisor, Dr. Isaiah Onando Mulang' who has given me this bright opportunity to engage in this project. His willingness to spare her time in assisting and providing guidance to me are truly appreciated. It is my first attempt in the field of deep learning and my first step to establish my career in the field.

**ABSTRACT**

Poor dietary choices and lack of physical activity are two main contributing factors for the increasing prevalence of overweight and obesity. Overweight and obese individuals are at risk for developing major life-threatening diseases.

Weight loss is an effective means for reversing these adverse health effects, and smartphone applications (apps) may be an effective means for supporting weight loss outside of formal clinical settings.

This project uses a framework to compute calorie from classified dessert in an Android application based on deep learning. Transfer learning is being applied in order to train a convolutional neural network model that is able to identify desserts including both western and local. The main benefits of deep learning are that it eliminates the need of feature engineering and proven to excel in performance when compared to traditional image classification techniques. Nonetheless, Tensor Flow Inference API made it possible for trained model to be used in local mobile device that usually has restrictions in terms of memory, computing power and storage space.

There will be lots of future work, one of them could be implementation of object detection so that multiple dessert objects can be detected and sum of calories can be computed instead. Moreover, model performance can be further improved in terms of accuracy and dessert variety. This would help to extend the usability of the project. Nonetheless, the implementation of application can also be further optimized especially the frames per second during real-time mode in order to produce a smoother user experience.

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

[LIST OF FIGURES 7](#_Toc94092471)

[LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS 8](#_Toc94092472)

[CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION 9](#_Toc94092473)

[1.1. Problem statement 9](#_Toc94092474)

[1.2. Scope and limitations 9](#_Toc94092475)

[1.3. Background and motivation 9](#_Toc94092476)

[1.4. Project objective 11](#_Toc94092477)

[1.5. Proposed approach / study 11](#_Toc94092478)

[1.6. Report Organization 11](#_Toc94092479)

[1.7. Limitations 11](#_Toc94092480)

[CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW 12](#_Toc94092481)

[2.1. Crowdsourcing of experts in nutrition and non-experts in identifying calories of meals. 12](#_Toc94092482)

[2.2. Design and Implementation of Food Nutrition Information System using SURF and FatSecret API 13](#_Toc94092483)

[2.3. Calories Analysis of Food Intake Using Image Recognition 15](#_Toc94092484)

[2.4. Real-time Mobile Food Recognition System 17](#_Toc94092485)

[2.5. Fruits and Vegetables Calorie Counter Using Convolutional Neural Networks 19](#_Toc94092486)

[2.6. Image classification applied to the recognition of traffic signs 21](#_Toc94092487)

[2.7. Technology 22](#_Toc94092488)

[2.8. Image classifying techniques 23](#_Toc94092489)

[2.8.1. K-Nearest Neighbors (KNN) 23](#_Toc94092490)

[2.8.2. Multiclass Support Vector Machine (SVM) Linear Classifier 24](#_Toc94092491)

[2.8.3. Deep Learning 25](#_Toc94092492)

[CHAPTER 3: SYSTEM ANALYSIS 30](#_Toc94092493)

[3.1. Requirements specifications 30](#_Toc94092494)

[3.2. Feasibility study 31](#_Toc94092495)

[CHAPTER 4: SYSTEM DESIGN 33](#_Toc94092496)

[4.1. Project summary 33](#_Toc94092497)

[4.1.3. Project flow and summary 33](#_Toc94092498)

[4.1.2. Detailed flow of mobile application 34](#_Toc94092499)

[4.2. Technical diagrams & models 43](#_Toc94092500)

[4.2.1. Use case diagram 43](#_Toc94092501)

[4.2.2. State diagram 44](#_Toc94092502)

[4.2.3. Sequence diagram for calorie approximation action 45](#_Toc94092503)

[4.2.4. Class diagrams 46](#_Toc94092504)

[CHAPTER 5: METHODOLOGY, TOOLS, IMPLEMENTATION & TESTING 48](#_Toc94092505)

[5.1. Methodology 48](#_Toc94092506)

[5.2. Tools used 49](#_Toc94092507)

[5.3. User requirements 49](#_Toc94092508)

[5.4. Implementation and testing 49](#_Toc94092509)

[5.5. Key functions 51](#_Toc94092510)

[5.6. Code algorithms 54](#_Toc94092511)

[CHAPTER 6: CONCLUSION 55](#_Toc94092512)

[6.1. Project review, discussions & conclusions 55](#_Toc94092513)

[6.2. Novelties and contributions achieved 55](#_Toc94092514)

[6.3. Future work 56](#_Toc94092515)

[REFERENCES 57](#_Toc94092516)

# LIST OF FIGURES

[Figure 1: Body mass index categorized range (Categorized Body Mass Index, 2017) 9](file:///C:\Users\ERICK\Downloads\Documentation.docx#_Toc94092517)

[Figure 2: Framework of the SmartFood 12](#_Toc94092518)

[Figure 3: Framework of Food Nutrition Information System 13](file:///C:\Users\ERICK\Downloads\Documentation.docx#_Toc94092519)

[Figure 4: An image of lemon with its keypoints 14](file:///C:\Users\ERICK\Downloads\Documentation.docx#_Toc94092520)

[Figure 5: Calories Analysis of Food Intake Using Image Recognition 16](file:///C:\Users\ERICK\Downloads\Documentation.docx#_Toc94092521)

[Figure 6: Example of image segmentation based on texture. Flow of the process is from left to right. (Tammachat and Pantuwong 2014) 16](#_Toc94092522)

[Figure 7: Real-time Mobile Food Recognition System 17](file:///C:\Users\ERICK\Downloads\Documentation.docx#_Toc94092523)

[Figure 8: Framework for Fruits and Vegetables Calorie Counter 19](#_Toc94092524)

[Figure 9: KNN classification graph 25](#_Toc94092525)

[Figure 10: Biological and artificial neuron, also known as perceptron 26](file:///C:\Users\ERICK\Downloads\Documentation.docx#_Toc94092526)

[Figure 11: An example of convolution layer (Main actor the convolution layer, 2018) 27](file:///C:\Users\ERICK\Downloads\Documentation.docx#_Toc94092527)

[Figure 12: An example of fully connected layer (Pennlio, 2014) 27](file:///C:\Users\ERICK\Downloads\Documentation.docx#_Toc94092528)

[Figure 13: Neural network before and after dropout layer (Santos, 2018) 28](#_Toc94092529)

[Figure 14: Overview of system design for the mobile application 33](#_Toc94092530)

[Figure 15: Detailed flow of the mobile dessert calorie counter application 34](#_Toc94092531)

[Figure 16: Splash screen 36](#_Toc94092532)

[Figure 17: User details entry screen 37](#_Toc94092533)

[Figure 18: BMI Calculator page 38](#_Toc94092534)

[Figure 19: Profile/Account page 39](#_Toc94092535)

[Figure 20: Homepage screen 40](#_Toc94092536)

[Figure 21: Screen after capturing/selecting image 41](#_Toc94092537)

[Figure 22: Summary graph page 42](#_Toc94092538)

[Figure 23: Use case diagram 43](#_Toc94092539)

[Figure 24: state diagram 44](#_Toc94092540)

[Figure 25: Sequence diagram for calorie approximation action 45](#_Toc94092541)

[Figure 26: class diagram 1 46](#_Toc94092542)

[Figure 27: class diagram 2 46](#_Toc94092543)

[Figure 28: class diagram 3 47](#_Toc94092544)

[Figure 29class diagram 4 47](#_Toc94092545)

[Figure 30: Prototyping methodology 48](#_Toc94092546)

# LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *API* | Application Programming Interface |
| *BMI* | Body Mass Index |
| *CNN* | Convolutional Neural Network |
| *CPU* | Central Processing Unit |
| *GPU* | Graphics Processing Unit |
| *HTML5* | Hypertext Markup Language revision 5 |
| *KNN* | K-Nearest Neighbors |
| *RAM* | Random Access Memory |
| *RGB* | Red, Green and Blue |
| *RNN* | Recurrent Neural Network |
| *SURF* | Speeded Up Robust Feature |
| *SVM* | Support Vector Machine |
| *VRAM* | Video Random Access Memory |

# CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

## **Problem statement**

Problems of overweight and obesity in Kenya and across the world is worsening (Economist Intelligence Unit, 2017) and it is directly related to uncontrolled calorie intake. Desserts could be the one to be blamed. The psychological sugar-craving is the reason of desserts high popularity. While people are enjoying their desserts, they might not be aware of the high calorie content of it. Desserts could be calorie bombs and if they are being over-consumed, it will have a negative impact on our body such as obesity and high blood pressure due to the high saturation of sugar. Moreover, some local or traditional desserts information are not very well documented and therefore their details including calorie content are hard to be identified.

## **Scope and limitations**

The scope of this project is to cover only individual food items and the application also works on only android devices, that way, iOS mobile devices cannot use the service and also taking photos of a mixed food item may not produce desirable results.

## **Background and motivation**

Body mass index (BMI) can be calculated by the formula *BMI = (Weight in kg / Height in m2).* According to World Health Organization (2016), BMI >= 25kg/m2 is considered overweight and BMI >= 30kg/m2 is considered obese for adults aged above 18. An example of BMI range and their categories is shown in Figure 1. As stated by Haslam and James (2014), obesity could be linked to serious diseases such as cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and cancer. These are serious problems that need be paid attention as not only it has direct impact on life expectancy

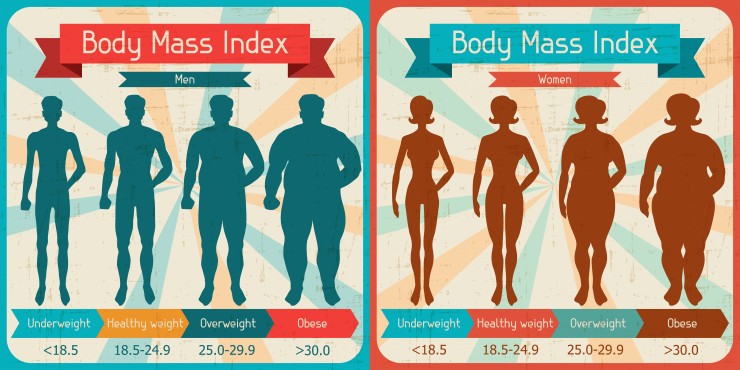
but also quality of life.

Figure 1: Body mass index categorized range (Categorized Body Mass Index, 2017)

One of the factors contributing to overweight and obesity problems is directly related to excessive calorie intake. Not to miss out that insufficient calorie intake could also lead to underweight problems which is also undesired. The daily calorie intake for average male is 2,500 calories while 2,000 for average female. However, these standards might not be suitable for anyone as there are several factors need to be considered aside from gender. These factors are age, height, weight and also activity level which indicates how often a person exercises in a week. Therefore, daily calorie intake for each person will be different and in order to maintain a good health, people must be aware of their daily calorie intake and manage it properly.

According to World Health Organization (2003), daily sugar intake should not exceed 10% of total energy which means it should be within 50 grams. Following by American Heart Association (2009) which states that daily added sugar intake should be within 100 calories for females and 150 calories for males. However, regardless to rising price of sugar, In Kenya and across the world sugar intake increased by 33% between early 1960 and 2005. In addition, certain western desserts are also calorie bombs. For example, according to (Johnson et al., 2009), one NLEA serving of a plain, commercially prepared cheesecake weights 125 grams and has 401 calories. Not just that, most of the western desserts are made up of ingredients such as butter, eggs etc. that contains heavy calorie.

Recent rapid progression in development of smartphone hardware had made performing heavy computation in the device locally possible. Besides, deep learning had been the state-of-the-art in the field of image classification as it excels in accuracy when compared to the others. At the same time, smartphones are getting more common and affordable for everyone. By applying deep learning, a mobile device could be a useful tool to solve the problems of overweight and obesity. It provides convenience for people of all age to maintain their daily calorie intake and also gain better understanding towards their favorite dessert. In a nut shell, deep learning can be implemented into a mobile application that is capable of identifying food and estimating calories based on inputs from phone camera itself.

This project uses a mobile application framework to estimate food calorie in two modes, based on a photograph. It will use apply deep learning instead of classical or traditional machine learning methods due to recent advancement of deep learning in terms of accuracy and reliability in the field of image classification.

## **Project objective**

The project’s main objective uses a framework to estimate food calorie for different kind of desserts by applying deep learning. The in depth objectives are further discussed in the functional requirements in the Analysis chapter.

## **Proposed approach / study**

The project applied deep learning as a backbone of the framework to classify frames and used the predicted results to compute dessert calories. Each frame captured from phone camera will be used as input to the model and the highest output scores will be used to compute calories.

* 1. **Report Organization**

The details of this project are shown in the following chapters. In Chapter 2, some literature reviews and experiments are done. Then, project overview and flows are shown in Chapter 4. Furthermore, more information such as methodologies, tools etc. are listed in Chapter 5. Finally, Chapter 6 concludes the project and suggested some possible future works that can be done.

* 1. **Limitations**

The system mostly relies on server to function properly. This prevents the system from being interactive due to absence of internet connection or communication delays. Likewise, the server used for image processing and food classification is a single point of failure. This renders the system to be non-functional in case the server fails. Then, there is no image segmentation performed in the server. This might reduce the overall accuracy of food classification as the background of the food image is not removed.

# CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW

There is a total of six papers being reviewed. Among them are existing systems and solutions to tackle the problem of difficulty in acquiring food calorie. Indeed, these papers focus on estimating food calorie based on a food photograph. The first paper discussed about applying the idea of crowdsourcing as a mobile application for user to upload food photograph in order for nutritionist experts to estimate its calorie content. The second paper proposed a system that uses API to acquire food nutritional value after successful food classification. The third paper proposed the calorie estimation system as a web service. The fourth paper introduces real-time food calorie estimation. Finally, the fifth and sixth paper applies Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) for food and traffic sign classification respectively.

## **Crowdsourcing of experts in nutrition and non-experts in identifying calories of meals.**

Moorhead et al. (2015) proposed a solution to solve the problem by developing a personalized messaging system for a mobile application that is based on crowdsourcing, where calorie content of meal is determined by a group of nutritionist experts based on a photograph given. The architecture of the proposed application is shown below as Figure 2.

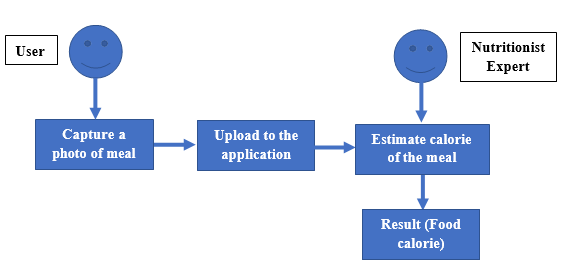


Figure 2: Framework of the SmartFood

This paper attempt to prove the benefit of crowdsourcing and how it could be used for an application that could help to prevent and manage obesity. To do that, an experiment is done on a group of 12 nutritionist experts and 12 non-experts by using online survey. Each group are required to estimate calories for 15 meals for twice, so there was a total of 720 estimates being made (15 meals \* 24 persons \* 2 instances).

In a nut shell, this paper proposed a solution that utilize crowdsourcing to achieve its goal to manage and prevent obesity. The solution stressed about estimating food calorie by human manually based on photograph taken. However, certain limitations exist in this solution as is over-reliance on human interaction with the system where it depends mostly on manual input. To overcome this problem, an automated calorie estimation system will be a better way for users as it is much simpler and convenient to use.

## **Design and Implementation of Food Nutrition Information System using SURF and FatSecret API**

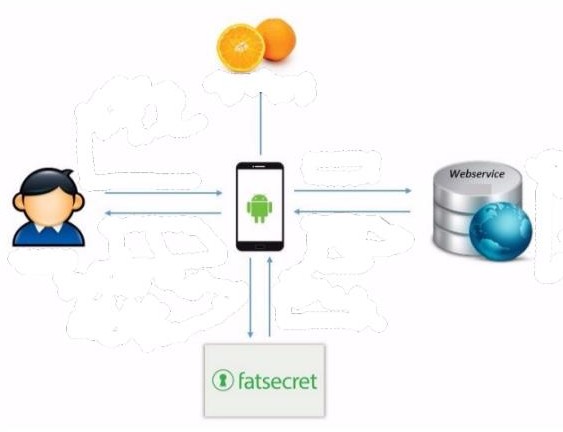
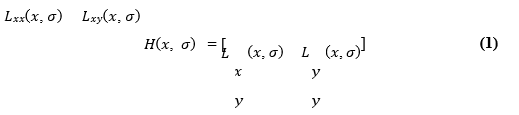
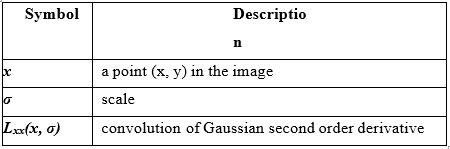
The proposed application will take a food photograph as input and output its nutrition information to user. Among the returned nutrition information includes calorie, fat, carbohydrate and protein per serving. For the architecture used, user first take a photograph of their food. Then, the photograph is being sent to a server that will try to recognize the food and identify its name. Firstly, Speeded Up Robust Features (SURF) is used in the process of image recognition. Next, the classified name is used to get nutrition information via FatSecret API (FatSecret Platform API, 2017) and the result is then displayed to user. The framework for the proposed application is shown below Figure 3.

Figure 3: Framework of Food Nutrition Information System

Using SURF, the keypoint features are extracted from image and compare with dataset by using Hessian matrix as shown in Equation 1 below. In addition, all of the symbol descriptions are shown in the table below.





Then, these keypoints will be used as the image descriptor. An example of an image of lemon with its keypoints is shown in Figure 2-3 below.

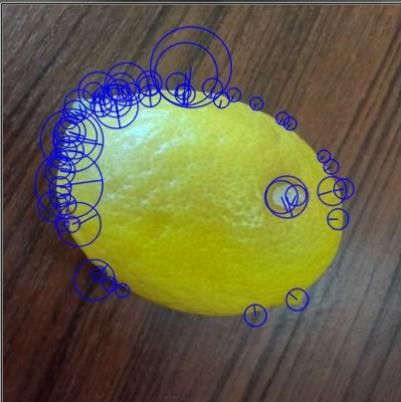


Figure 4: An image of lemon with its keypoints

Finally, the similarity of key points is used to classify the objects compared with the dataset by calculating the Euclidean distance between two vectors.

An experiment is conducted on correct recognition rate of 10 different objects such as orange, banana etc. 20 unique photographs of each object are captured and tested with the application. In the end, the experiment achieved an average accuracy of 92% which is satisfiable.

One of the strengths of the proposed system is the usage of FatSecret API (FatSecret Platform API, 2017) which provide access to their food and nutrition database. It provides complete access to their large database of food and its nutritional information. Also, the information retrieved are guaranteed to be accurate as all of the data are verified. Secondly, since that food classification are done in a server rather than the mobile device itself, this reduces the computational burden on the device. Thus, the phone specification requirements are significantly lowered as the application doesn’t need to perform any heavy computation. Moreover, SURF is simple to implement, fast and requires smaller training datasets compared to Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) which is used in the project.

Nonetheless, FatSecret API is not an entirely free of charge service. There are several versions available and the basic version offers only up to 5000 API calls per day as well as imposing throttling limit (FatSecret Platform API, 2017). That means that the application will not be able to retrieve any calorie information after maximum limit of API calls is reached.

To conclude that, the proposed system is tackled the problem of obesity by simplifying the process of acquiring food calorie that is to estimate food calorie from a photograph taken.

## **Calories Analysis of Food Intake Using Image Recognition**

Tammachat and Pantuwong (2014) proposed a system that estimate calorie based on a food photograph taken. As discussed previously, several approaches to tackle the problem of obesity regarding to calorie intake is being proposed. Instead of applying the idea of crowdsourcing which is proposed by Moorhead et al. (2015) or acquiring information via an API as proposed by Hariadi et al. (2015), Tammachat and Pantuwong (2014) takes a different approach by applying the concept of calorie estimating as a service on the web.

The framework of the system is shown in Figure 5 below.

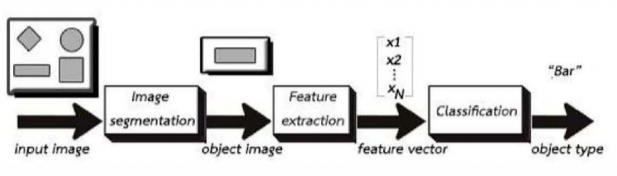


Figure 5: Calories Analysis of Food Intake Using Image Recognition

User will upload their food photograph onto the web server using browser. Then, the food portion is segmented

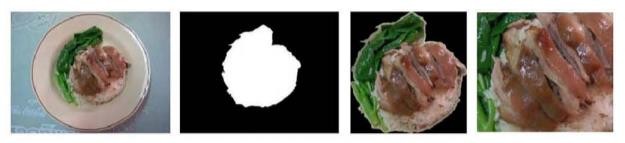


Figure 6: Example of image segmentation based on texture. Flow of the process is from left to right. (Tammachat and Pantuwong 2014)

out from the whole image based on texture segmentation. An assumption that table and dish have no texture is being made. Then, feature vectors are extracted by Bag-of-Features (BOF), Segmentation based Fractal Texture Analysis (SFTA), and Colour Histogram. Finally, the feature vectors are used for food classification by Support Vector Machine (SVM) model with pre-trained datasets. Feature vectors with dimensions of 1x500, 1x24 and 1x30 are constructed respectively. Finally, a feature vector of 1x554 dimension (500 (BOF) + 24(SFTA) + 30 (Colour Histogram)) is created for each input image.

An experiment is performed on two kinds of SVM model. First model where constructed by food images grouped by food type achieved an average accuracy of 70%. The second model where constructed by food images grouped by range of calories achieved a slightly unsatisfying result with average accuracy of 46.4%. The paper concludes that first model is indeed better in terms of performance against second model.

One of the strength of the proposed system is being device independent. This is because it implemented as a service on website using HTML5 instead of a mobile application. Be it a desktop or smartphone, almost any devices can access the service via a browser. Furthermore, device requirements will not a problem since that all image processing operations and calculations are performed in a server. Nevertheless, the system will also record down user’s calorie intake behavior and try to provide suggestions to use.

## **Real-time Mobile Food Recognition System**

Kawano and Yanai (2013) proposed a mobile food recognition system. The system is capable to estimating food calorie by simply pointing device camera towards it. Users are required to draw a bounding box around each food portion for the activate calorie estimation. Nonetheless, a slider is provided for user to indicate the size of the food portion. A screenshot of the proposed system is shown in Figure 7 below.

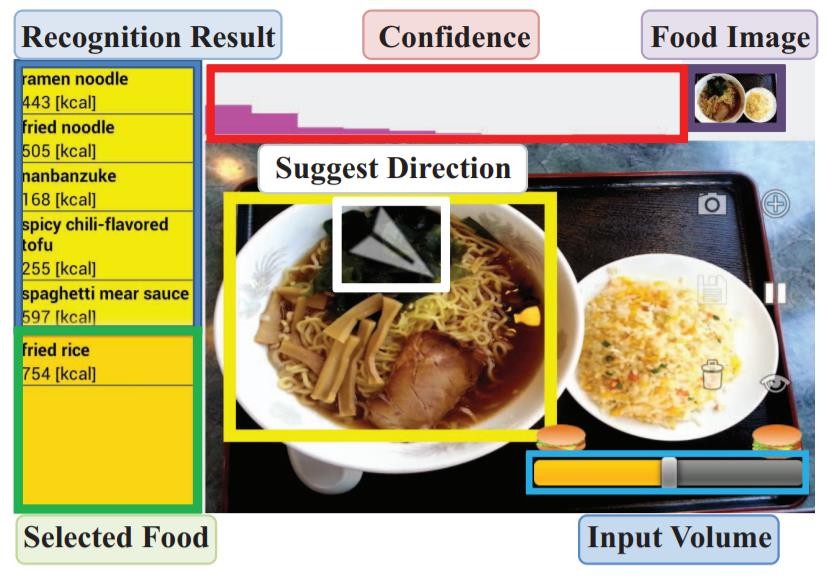


Figure 7: Real-time Mobile Food Recognition System

First of all, the proposed system harness use of GrabCut (Rother, Kolmogorov and Blake, 2004) to perform food portion segmentation. It segments out food portion from image background based on bounding boxed drawn by user. Then 50 categories of food are trained by Linear Support Vector Machine (SVM). Next, Colour Histogram (576 dimensions) and Bag-of-SURF (500 dimensions) are used to construct feature vectors from image. These feature vectors are then used to perform food classification using Linear SVM which is defined as inner product of two vectors. Equation 2 and Equation 3 are both equivalent Linear SVM formulas and the weighing factor w of input vector is calculated using Equation 4. All of the symbol descriptions are shown in the table below.

An experiment performed on the proposed system achieved a satisfying result of 81.55% correct classification rate with top five candidates of detected food

Table: Symbols with descriptions for Linear SVM formula

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Symbol | Description |
| *x* | Input vector |
| *xi* | Support vector |
| *f(x)* | Output SVM score |
| *yi* ∈ *{+1, −1}* | Class label |
| *αi* | Weight of support vector |
| *b* | Bias vector |
| *M* | Number of support vector |

One of the strengths of the proposed system is real time food classification, the system is capable of performing the action in real time, that is by simply point phone camera towards the food. Next, the system does not rely on any internet connection to function properly. This is because all image processing and recognition task are done in the device locally. As being said, users are able to acquire food calorie as quick as possible. To continue, the idea of using video instead of photograph allows user to locate correct food easily. Since the process of food recognition is repeated every second, user only need to continuously search for a new position to point their camera until the correct food is identified.

On the other hand, the system does impose a few weaknesses. For an instance, performance could be a problem when there are too many dishes present in a single frame. This is because GrabCut (Rother, Kolmogorov and Blake, 2004) is resource intensive, drawing too much bounding boxes at once will burdens the CPU of the device. Secondly, the system is not very autonomous. It displays top five candidates for the food detected and users are required to select the right food manually. Furthermore, users are required to draw bounding boxes around the food portion before the calculation of calorie activates. Of course, this is due to the system is not focus on only a single dish but more than one, so it requires assistance from user to locate the food. Likewise, the usage of GrabCut (Rother, Kolmogorov and Blake, 2004) is also another reason for it as the algorithm requires a bounding box to be drawn to determine background (table) and foreground (food portion).

Overall, the proposed system is creative and innovative in tackling the problem of obesity and calorie intake management. Not only it is able to detect more than one food at a time but also do it in real-time at the cost of performance. However, certain useful techniques proposed in the system such as GrabCut (Rother, Kolmogorov and Blake, 2004) could be applied to the proposed project and the performance can be improved by restricting detection to single food at a time.

## **Fruits and Vegetables Calorie Counter Using Convolutional Neural Networks**

Akbari Fard et al. (2016) proposed a fruit and vegetables calorie counter system as mobile application. Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) is used as food classifier. The goal of the system is to detect and classify type of food based on a photograph and retrieve its relevant calorie content. The framework of the proposed system is shown in Figure 8.

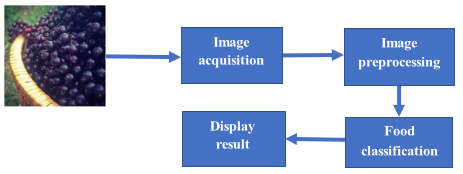


Figure 8: Framework for Fruits and Vegetables Calorie Counter

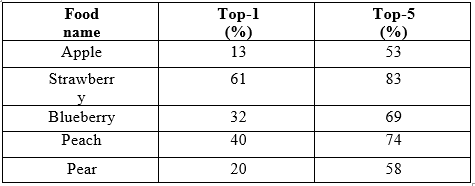
Firstly, test images were collected from ImageNet dataset where each of the images were pre-labeled. As a result, a dataset of 49,626 images spanning across 43 categories were handpicked. Among them, 80% of the images were used in training the CNN model while the rest were used for testing purposes. The features used for training are a combination of colour, texture, size and shape. The CNN consists of 3 convolution layers, 3 pooling layers and 2 fully connected layers. The distribution of filters can be seen in the table below

Table: Number of filters and Filter sizes for each convolution layer

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Convolution Layer | Number of filter | Filter size |
| First | 48 | 11 x 11 |
| Second | 128 | 5 x 5 |
| Third | 128 | 3 x 3 |

Nonetheless, several preprocessing steps were performed on every image before they were used for CNN model training. These includes resizing each of them to dimensions of 256 x 256. Then, the resized images were cropped to dimensions of 227 x 227 with random offsets. These steps were performed to increase the accuracy of the food classification.

An experiment is conducted to identify the accuracy of the CNN model on fruit and vegetable classification. Two tests were conducted to determine the percentage of correct food classification in first prediction and percentage of correct food classification among top five predictions. The results are shown in the table below. Overall, the experiment achieved an average accuracy of 75% for Top-5 test and 45% for Top-1 test.



The strength of the proposed system is the use of CNN as food classifier together with its huge image datasets which is 49,626 images used for training of the CNN model. This is because CNN requires more training images to improve its accuracy compared to Support Vector Machine (SVM). The second strength is its framework simplicity which benefits the environment of a mobile device. Moreover, the system does not perform any communications with server which implies that it will work regardless of internet connection. This is because all operations including image classification are done locally in the device itself.

However, the system achieved a poor accuracy with only 45% of correct classification in Top-1 prediction. This might be caused by lack of image segmentation as the background of food are not being removed may have an impact on the results of classification. Furthermore, cropping the image with random offset might also introduces inaccuracy during classification. It should be standardised on every image.

## **Image classification applied to the recognition of traffic signs**

Bruno and Osorio (2017) proposed an image classification system that is able to recognize traffic signals by applying deep learning. The main goal of the system is to increase road safety by usage of autonomous and semi-autonomous robotic vehicles. The paper adopted TensorFlow (Tensorflow, 2018), an open-source software library for machine intelligence to implement deep learning onto traffic signs classification.

Firstly, 21000 images which composed of 21 classes of German traffic sign was collected. Then, the image dataset was randomly split into 70% for as training set and remaining 30% for testing set for performance evaluation. The image dataset was converted from Portable Pixmap Format (PPM) to Joint Photographic Experts Group (JPEG). Image resolution were ranged between 15x15 and 256x256. Few examples of images are shown in figure below. The algorithm for detection is Slide Window where template is slide into input image to generate clippings. Then, the snippets are sent to Deep Convolutional Neural Network (DCCN) for classification. Figure 9 showcase some examples extracted from the image dataset.

Figure 9 Examples of traffic signs from image dataset (Bruno and Osorio, 2017)

An experiment is conducted by shuffling the dataset before splitting into training and testing set for 10 iterations. All training are performed only with CPU. The experiment achieved a minimum accuracy of 94% and averaged at 97.24% of correct classification for segmented and tagged images. On the other hand, the system achieved an average of 75% accuracy for untagged images.

Nonetheless, one of the main benefits of deep learning its ability to accept raw input images and perform feature extraction on its own to learn from it. Compared to classic machine learning, feature engineering needs to be done manually where learning is shallow. Besides, deep learning scales better with complex problems. As an example, a Support Vector Machine (SVM) usually require features in real-valued vectors while a Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) is end-to-end, which it has to ability to adapt to the problem it is solving. In general, CNN performed better with higher accuracy when compared to classic machine learning techniques.

On the other hand, deep learning techniques such as CNN do possess some disadvantages. Firstly, it requires a lot of training data in order to perform well. Then, it is associated with high computational costs where time taken to train a model is significantly long. Nonetheless, its benefits outweigh the cons.

In a nutshell, the rising popularity of deep learning had raised interest of people into it and once again raised other challenges in the field of image classification for others. Its usefulness can certainly be applied in many other ways.

## **2.7. Technology**

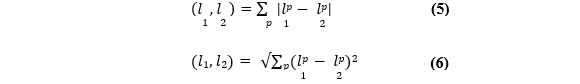
TensorFlow, the open-source machine learning libraries is available for Python, Java and C, it is a tool designed to build deep neural network models (TensorFlow, 2018). Using TensorFlow, a built model can be deployed for usage on another platform including mobile platform, Android. This opened up wide opportunity for many new ideas to be implemented as it is impossible to perform machine learning in mobile platform before this without connecting to cloud (Greene, 2018). Besides, TensorFlow also supports deployment of computation across multiple CPU or GPU easily. This helps to save a lot of training time. Moreover, as compared to other machine learning library such as Theano (Deeplearning.net, 2018), TensorFlow compile times is much better. Nonetheless, there is also a tool named TensorBoard that allow visualization of graph and performance easily.

One of the other popular deep learning libraries is Keras (Keras.io, 2018). It’s much simpler and user friendlier compared to Tensorflow. The other benefits of Keras is its modularity. A complex neural network can be built in just a few lines of codes with Keras. However, TensorFlow provides much more flexibility than Keras as it offers more advanced operation. This means that TensorFlow provides more control over the network. Furthermore, Tensorflow stands out as it supports for multi-platform provides more use case of neural network compared to others such as Theano and Keras.

## **2.8. Image classifying techniques**

### **2.8.1. K-Nearest Neighbors (KNN)**

KNN is a simple image classification technique that tries to find a predefined number of training samples, the k-nearest neighbours that have the closest distance to a new sample. (Scikit-learn.org, 2018). The first step of KNN is to memorize all the images data and their labels. Then, a distance function is used to measure distance between two images. The common distance function are L1 and L2 distance which are also known as Manhattan and Euclidean distance respectively as shown in Equation 5 and 6 below (K Nearest Neighbors, 2018).



The distance between each input samples are compared to every training sample and k number of training samples with closest distance to input samples is obtained and followed by their labels. A majority voting is performed on the predictions to get final predicted label for each input sample. In this case, the hyperparameter is value of k as it determines

how many predictions to be considered in the voting. An example of majority voting can be seen in the Table below. In this case, donut will be the final predicted label.

Table: Sample data to showcase majority voting

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Labels | No. of occurrence in predictions |
| Donut | 5 |
| Egg tart | 2 |
| Mooncake | 3 |

The strength of KNN is its simplicity to implement as the algorithm is pretty straightforward while the weakness of KNN is its high computational cost as the size of the dataset grows larger. This will cause fast training as its just saving all data and slow prediction as it needs to compute distances between every training sample against every input samples.

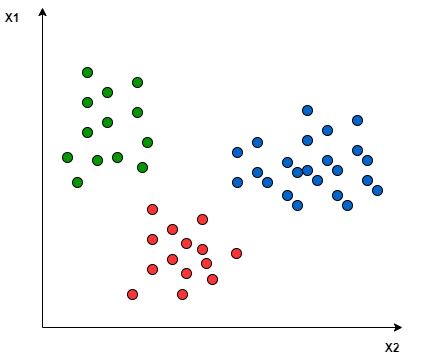
### **2.8.2. Multiclass Support Vector Machine (SVM) Linear Classifier**

In its most simple type, SVM doesn’t support multiclass classification natively. It supports binary classification and separating data points into two classes. For multiclass classification, the same principle is utilized after breaking down the multiclassification problem into multiple binary classification problems.

The idea is to map data points to high dimensional space to gain mutual linear separation between every two classes. This is called a One-to-One approach, which breaks down the multiclass problem into multiple binary classification problems. A binary classifier per each pair of classes.

Another approach one can use is One-to-Rest. In that approach, the breakdown is set to a binary classifier per each class.A single SVM does binary classification and can differentiate between two classes. So that, according to the two breakdown approaches, to classify data points from m classes data set:

* In the One-to-Rest approach, the classifier can use m SVMs. Each SVM would predict membership in one of the m classes.
* In the One-to-One approach, the classifier can use SVMs. Let’s take an example of 3 classes classification problem; green, red, and blue, as the following image:



Applying the two approaches to this data set results in the followings:

In the One-to-One approach, we need a hyperplane to separate between every two classes, neglecting the points of the third class. This means the separation takes into account only the points of the two classes in the current split. For example, the red-blue line tries to maximize the separation only between blue and red points. It has nothing to do with green points:

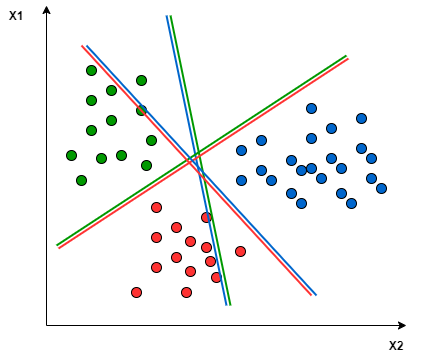


Figure 9: KNN classification graph

In the One-to-Rest approach, we need a hyperplane to separate between a class and all others at once. This means the separation takes all points into account, dividing them into two groups; a group for the class points and a group for all other points.

### **2.8.3. Deep Learning**

Deep learning had gain huge success and applicable to wide area of applications such as voice recognition, image classification and games. It takes advantage of increasing computational power and availability of data nowadays. Deep learning actually inspired the way human brain works. Figure shows an artificial neuron and biological neuron which are very similar. Both of them work similarly

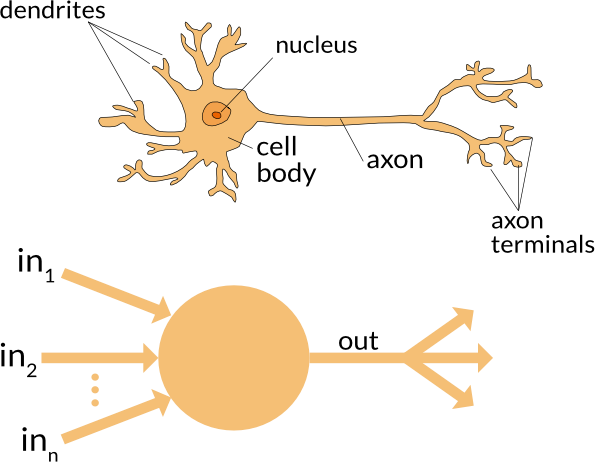


Figure 10: Biological and artificial neuron, also known as perceptron

by taking in inputs, process them and send out the output. According to Applied Go (2016), neuron receives multiple inputs and process it into one output. Each input is multiplied by a weight and add to a bias. During the training phase, the neural network adjust the weights and biases accordingly through a process called backward propagation using gradient descent (Brilliant.org, 2018) where calculations of gradient proceeds backwards from last layer to the first. This indicates that the neural network is learning from its data through minimizing the loss function.

There are many types of deep learning, Convolutional Neural Network is one of the most popular one. CNN is built up by a sequence of layers that transform an input to output

with some differentiable function (Cs231n, 2018). The common layers in CNN are convolution layer, pooling layer and fully connected layer. First of all, Convolution layer is essentially a set of filters where each filter detects a feature. Its theory are similar to pooling where a sliding window scan across the inputs while each capture

different features such as colour, contours, edges etc. Figure 11 shows an example of the convolution layer. Then, another common layer is Fully Connected layer. In this layer, every neurons from one layer connects to the other layer. An illustration of Fully Connected layer is shown in Figure 12 below.

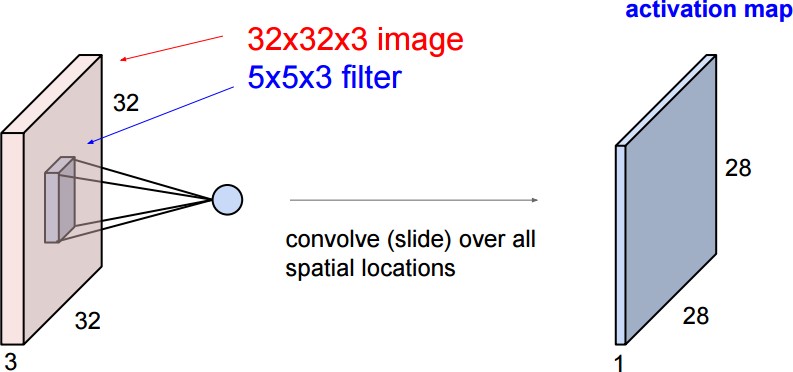


Figure 11: An example of convolution layer (Main actor the convolution layer, 2018)

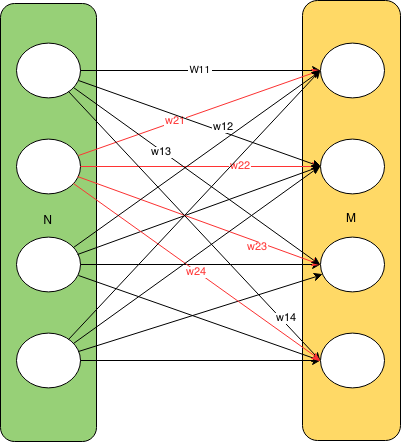
Besides that, sometimes overfitting can happen, this is the case where the network is too closely fit to the training set. It needs to be simpler and general in order to solve

Figure 12: An example of fully connected layer (Pennlio, 2014)

problems outside the training data. Therefore, dropout layer can help in this situation. This improves generalization as the model drops some of the neurons causing them to be deactivated (Santos, 2018). An example of illustrating the neural network with dropout layer is shown in Figure 13 below.

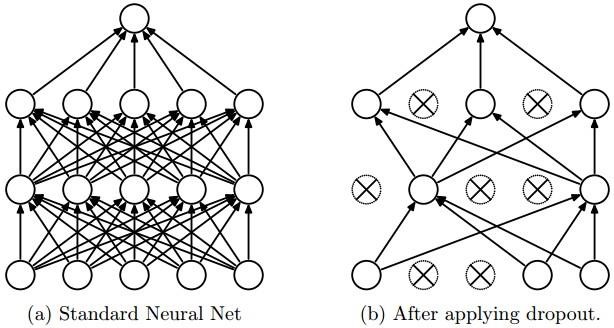


Figure 13: Neural network before and after dropout layer (Santos, 2018)

Aside from that, there is also another popular deep learning techniques known as Recurrent Neural Network (RNN). The idea behind RNN is the use sequential information while the term ‘recurrent’ means that it perform the same task for every element in the sequence (Britz, 2015). The formula for Vanilla RNN can be seen in Equation 13 and 14 below (Karpathy, 2015). The symbols and descriptions for it are shown in the table below.

ℎ𝑡 = 𝑓𝑤(ℎ𝑡−1, 𝑥𝑡) (13)

𝑦𝑡 = 𝑊ℎ𝑦 ℎ𝑡 (14)

Table: Symbols and descriptions for Vanilla RNN

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Symbol | Description |
| ht, ht-1 | New and old hidden state |
| fw | Some function with parameters W |
| xt | Input vector at some time step |
| yt | Output vector |

Since that RNN does not take in fixed size of input and produce fixed size of output like CNN did, it is ideal for sequential data such as text generation, speech recognition and machine translation. On the other hand, CNN is more ideal for classification task such as image classification.

One of the strengths of multiclass SVM lies on its ability of generalization that creates simpler model. However, there are more hyperparameters to be considered and it is crucial to the performance of the classifier.

# CHAPTER 3: SYSTEM ANALYSIS

## **3.1. Requirements specifications**

**3.1.1. Functional requirements**

1. An android mobile app that is able to calculate BMI given Weight and Height
2. Given a photo of a food item, the app should be able to detect nutritional information of the given food item.
3. The returned nutritional information should be stored in a local SQLite Database
4. User should be able to access the information above in (iii)
5. User should be able to set a daily calorie intake goal.
6. The system should be able to check the limit/goal set by the user in (v) above and notify user when the goal is reached or exceeded.

**3.1.2. Non-functional requirements**

1. **Speed**

Speed determines how fast the application responds to commands. The application is expected to perform and respond within the shortest time possible.

1. **Security**

To protect sensitive data, user’s information is stored locally within SQLite database and is not stored or transmitted to any server or third party.

1. **Portability**

For example, a user might purchase a new cell phone model and download a mobile application they had on their last device. The application runs as efficiently on the new phone as it did on the old phone.

1. **Compatibility**

The application is compatible with android devices from 5 to 10 which can be considered a huge range of compatibility

1. **Reliability**

Technology that is highly reliable functions with the same or similar efficiency after extensive use.

## **3.2. Feasibility study**

**3.2.1. Technical Feasibility Needs and Resources**

As for technical needs, it is critical to ensure that the proposed device would be accessible to a broad range of people. Therefore, it should be compatible with Android versions 5.0 and above with internet connection. In other words, technical feasibility should target motivation, social connectivity, and self-monitoring in order to assist customers in keeping an eye on their calorie intake.

**3.2.2. Legal feasibility**

The application's design, engineering and deployment process does not infringe the laws of any state, but irrespective, there was a great concern in how user's data is handles and thus for security and privacy purposes, user's data was stored locally in an SQLite database.

**3.2.3. Operational feasibility**

This is perhaps the most proven feasibility of my calorie counter mobile application. The application proposes a digital way of tracking calories from a food item by simply taking a picture using device camera or uploading an image from the end user's camera.

There is also high efficiency in the number of steps involved to obtain food nutrition information. The user simply logs in, or skips that process, and is immediately presented with the option of adding a food item from gallery or camera and under 10 seconds the nutritional value of the food item captured is displayed to the user.

**3.2.4. Economic Feasibility**

The app has no active monetization implementations because of the limited time of developing it but, should have Google Admob ads later to create passive income, that is, income which the user does not pay directly for.

Google Admob is an efficient and secure way of displaying controlled ads to users which pays for impressions and clicks and should generate enough revenue to sustain the app.

The app has hardly any running or setup expenditure and thus most of the income will be considered profit.

**3.2.5. Schedule feasibility**

The timelines provided for the development of this project are totally achievable and realistic and I came up with a well-structured breakdown of tasks against time.

# CHAPTER 4: SYSTEM DESIGN

## **4.1. Project summary**

### **4.1.3. Project flow and summary**

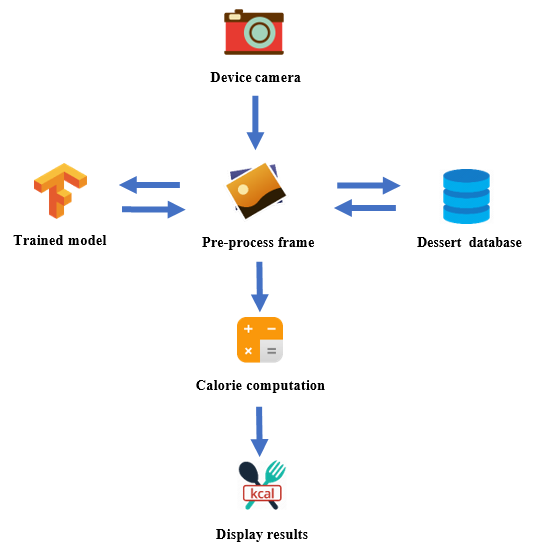


Figure 14: Overview of system design for the mobile application

### **4.1.2. Detailed flow of mobile application**

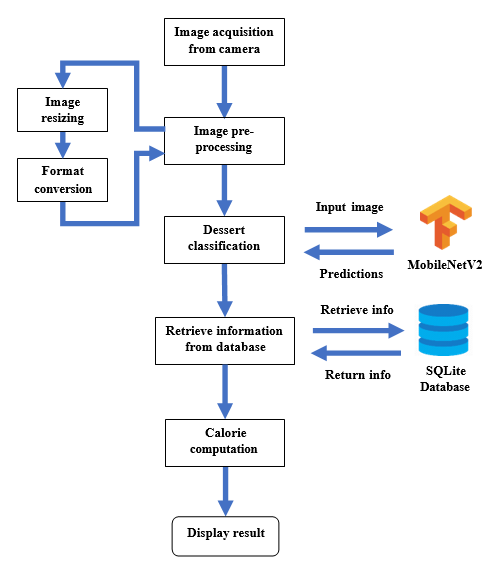


Figure 15: Detailed flow of the mobile dessert calorie counter application

**Step 1: Image acquisition**

* For the best result, user should try to locate and position the target food within the camera frame.
* The whole portion of the food should be present within the frame without any blockage.

**Step 2: Image pre-processing**

* Every time a new image frame is acquired, certain pre-process needs to be done before it is ready for inference.
* To start with that, each image frame is first resized into resolution of 224x224 according to the default set by MobileNetV2.
* Then, the array is arranged so that image channels are ordered last. The desired image format will be ordered by batch size, image width, image height and number of color channels.
* Finally, the array is flattened into a two-dimensional array.

**Step 3: Dessert classification**

* The trained TensorFlow model will be used to perform dessert classification.
* This is achieved through the use of TensorFlow Inference API which acts as a bridge between TensorFlow model and the Android application.
* The pre-processed bitmap image is fed into the model for inference and the output predictions will be an array of scores.
* The scores are sorted and the dessert class who scored the highest will be the final output

**Step 4: Retrieve information from database**

* Since the dessert classes in the SQLite database is ordered the same as the model output, the index of classes who scored highest will be used to query for its relevant information

**Step 5: Calorie computation**

* The base dessert calorie of the predicted dessert is obtained.
* For several serving sizes, the calorie is computed accordingly and the final results are displayed to user

#### **Splash screen**

This is the welcoming screen which simply gives an idea of what the app is about.



Figure 16: Splash screen

#### **User details entry screen**

This is the point where user enters their personal details.

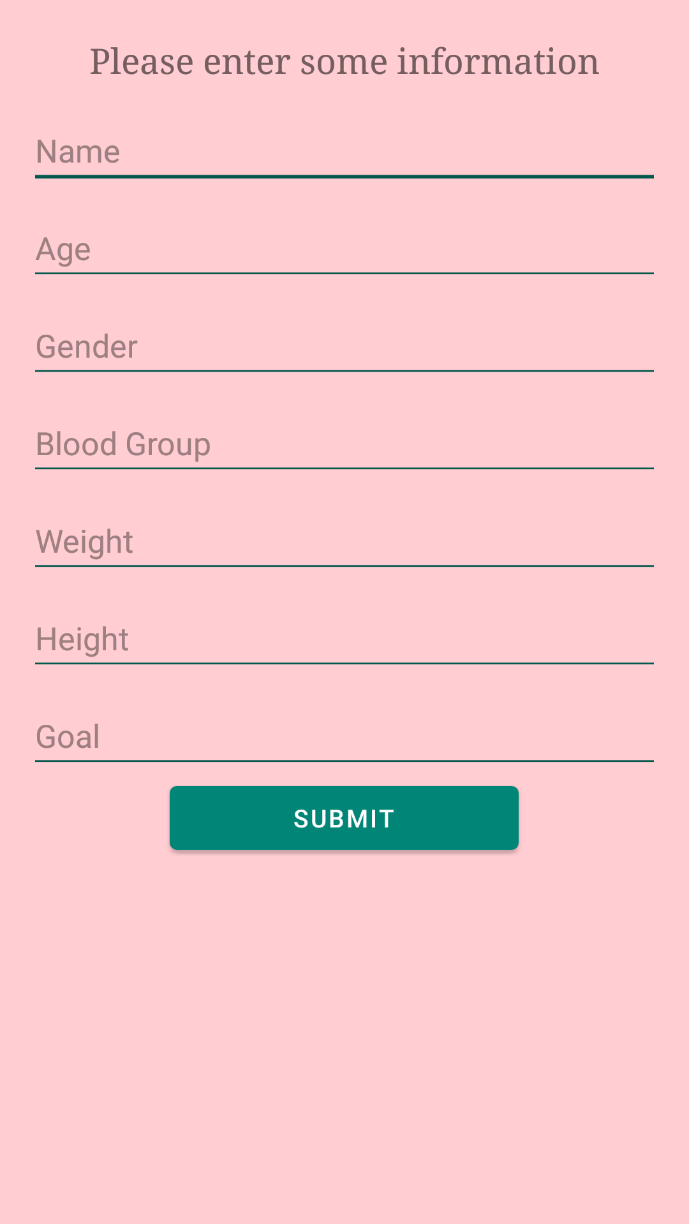


Figure 17: User details entry screen

#### **BMI Calculator page**

In this page, users can enter their height and weight and their BMI is calculated by the app.

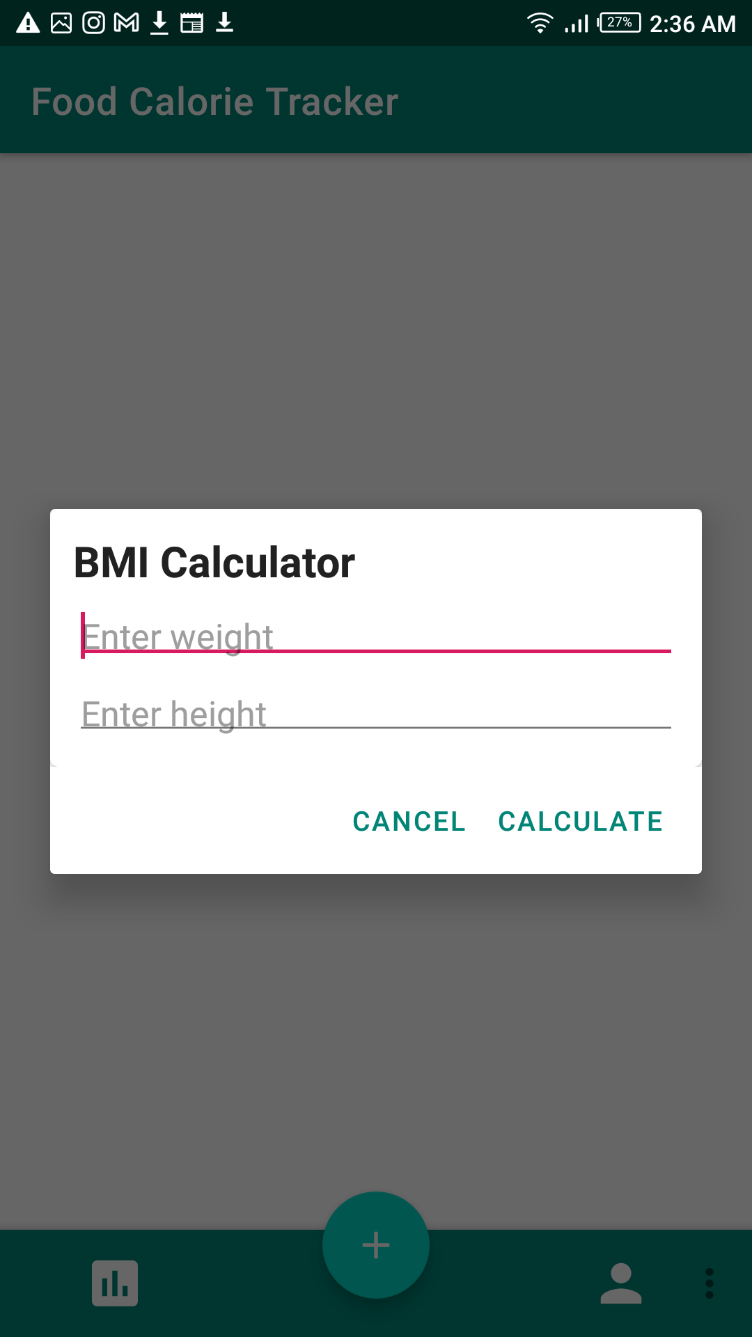


Figure 18: BMI Calculator page

#### **Profile/Account page**

This is the page that contains user’s personal information which is also editable

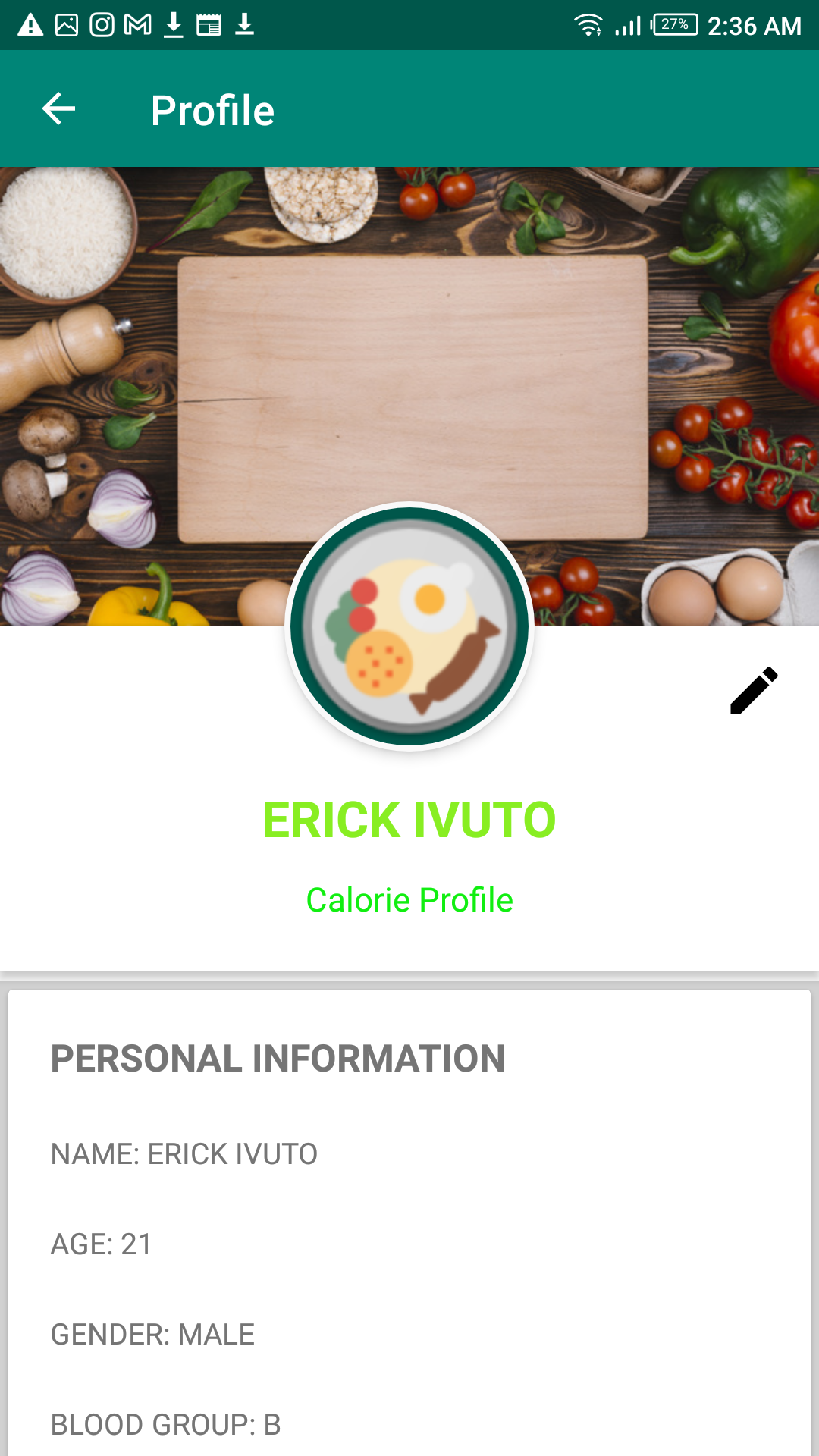


Figure 19: Profile/Account page

#### **Homepage screen**

This is the main screen that contains navigation buttons and most importantly the button to scan image and display calorie results.

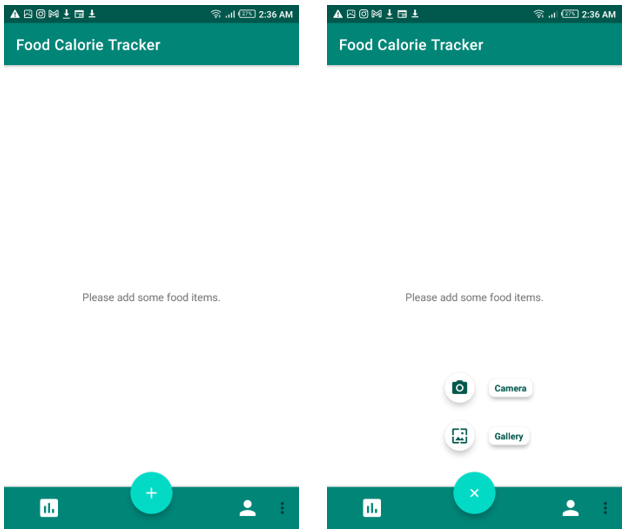


Figure 20: Homepage screen

#### **Screen after capturing/selecting image**

On pressing the gallery/camera button above an image is selected

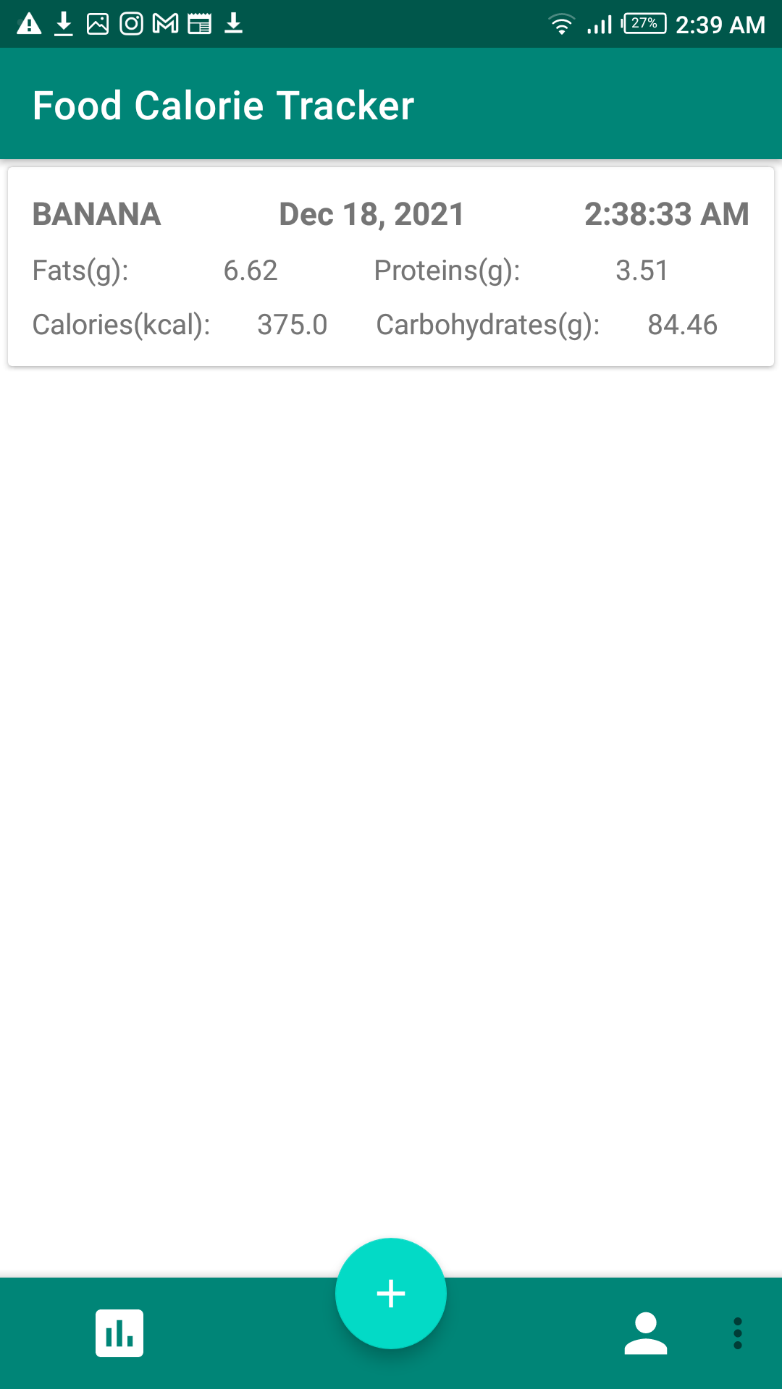


Figure 21: Screen after capturing/selecting image

#### **Summary graph page**

This page will contain a graph. The graph will be based on user’s daily calorie intake.

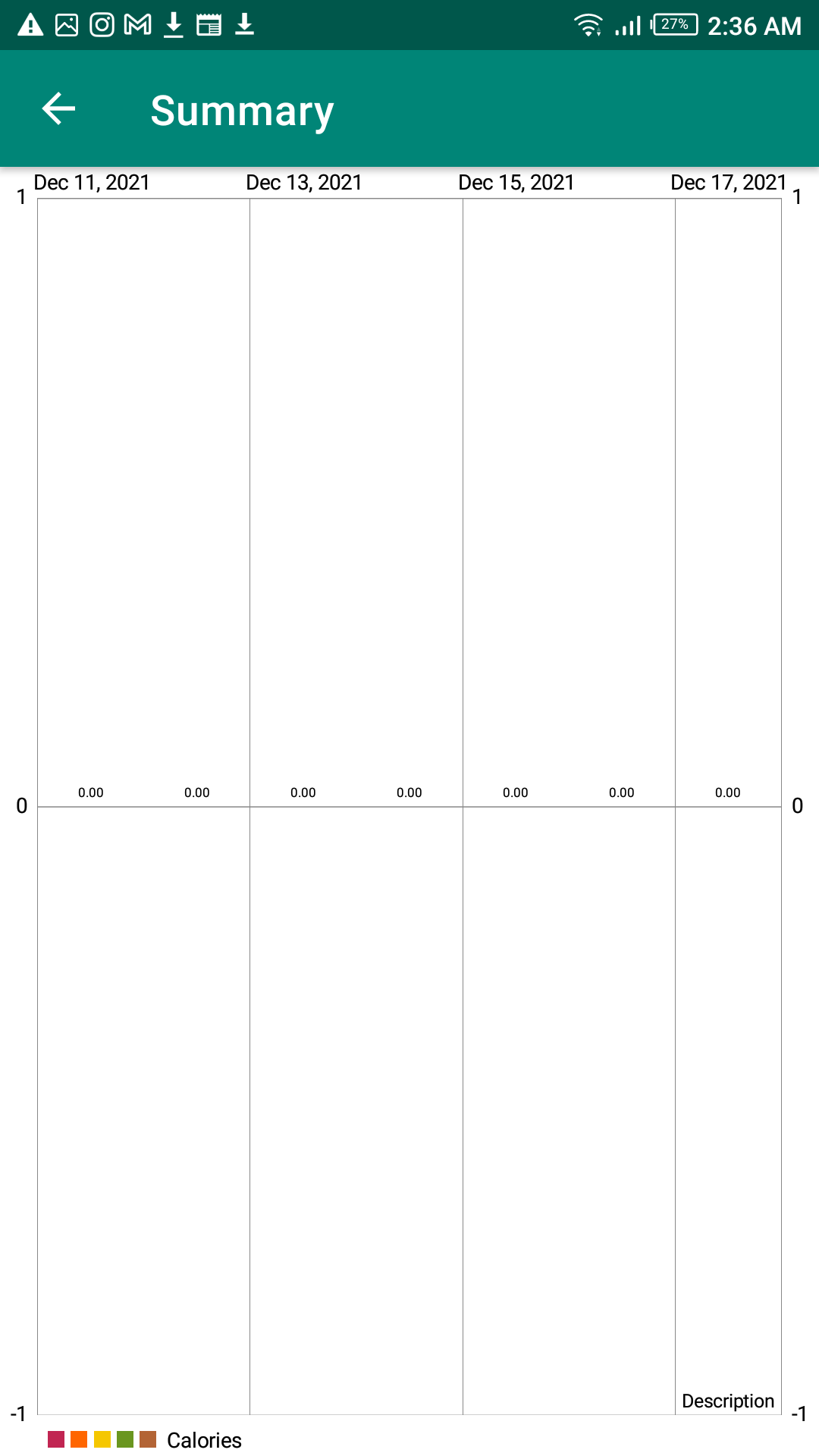


Figure 22: Summary graph page

## **4.2. Technical diagrams & models**

### **4.2.1. Use case diagram**

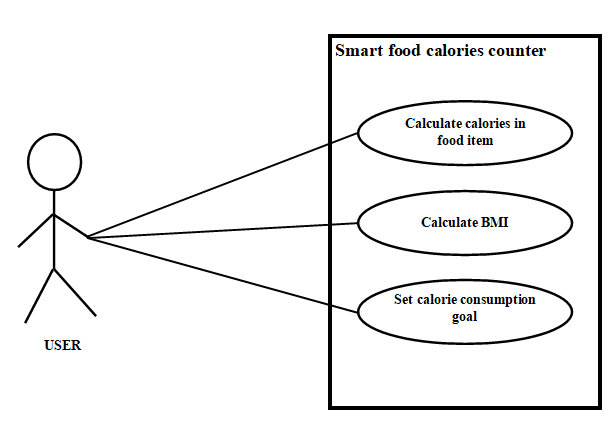


Figure 23: Use case diagram

From the use case diagram, the (3) major functionalities of the app are brought out:

1. Using artificial intelligence to calculate the calorie estimate of a food product
2. Calculating user BMI
3. Setting a calorie consumption goal

### **State diagram**

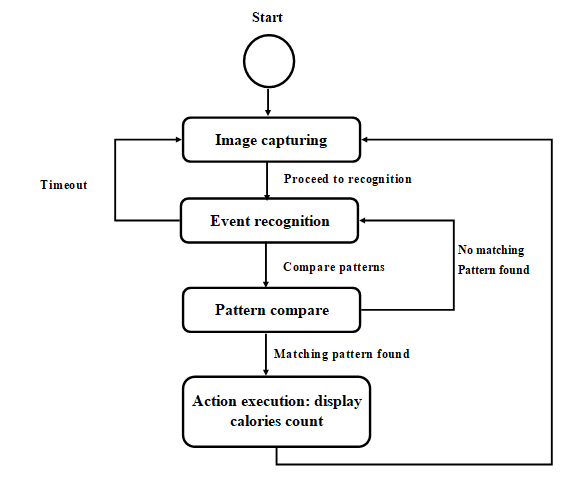


Figure 24: state diagram

The state diagram shows how the system works. The first step in the calorie detection process is of course capturing a photo of a food item where recognition is applied and pattern compared to give its calorie estimate.

### **Sequence diagram for calorie approximation action**

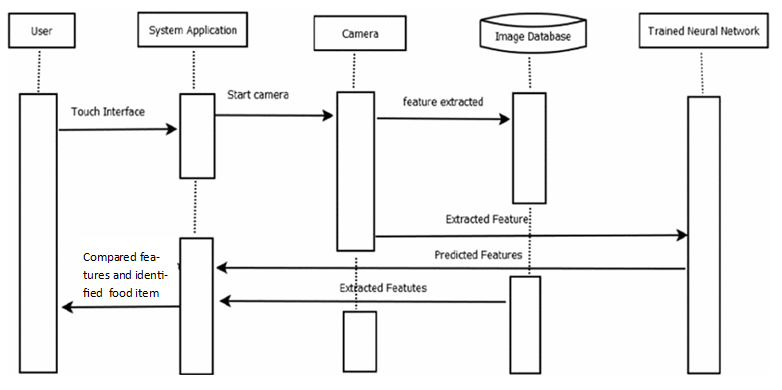


Figure 25: Sequence diagram for calorie approximation action

### **Class diagrams**

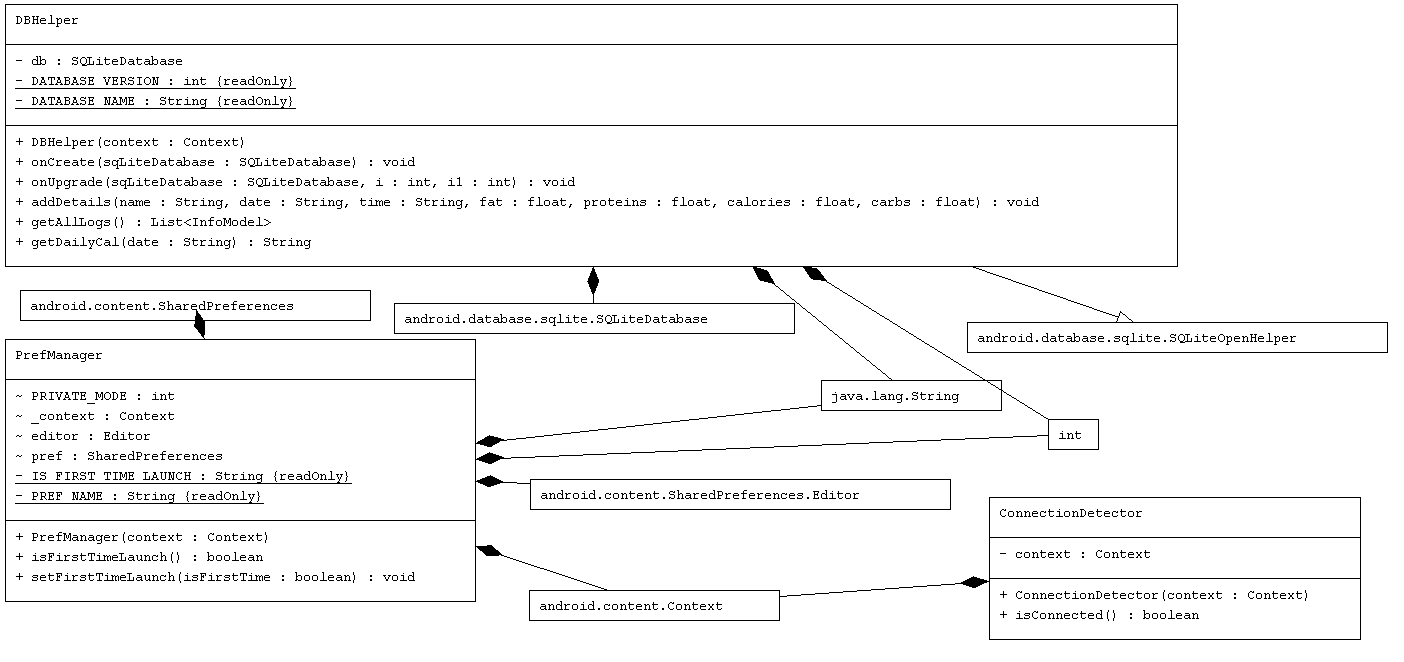


Figure 26: class diagram 1

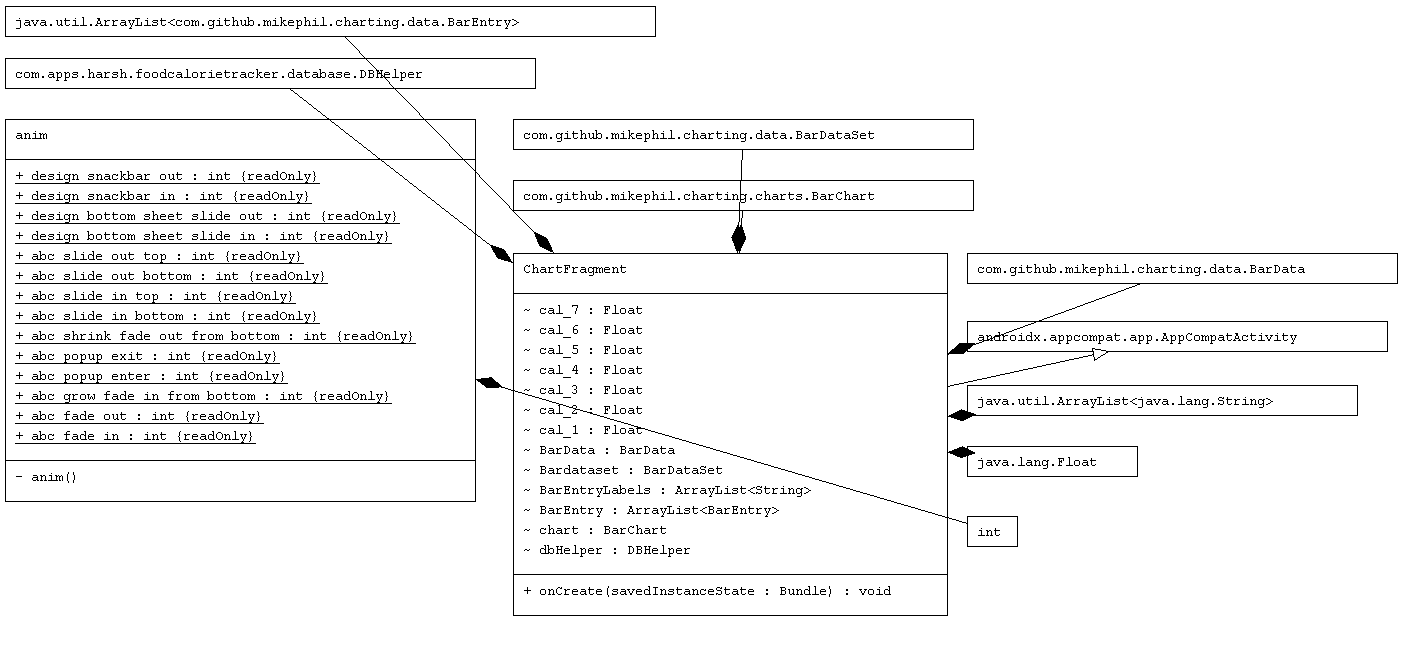


Figure 27: class diagram 2

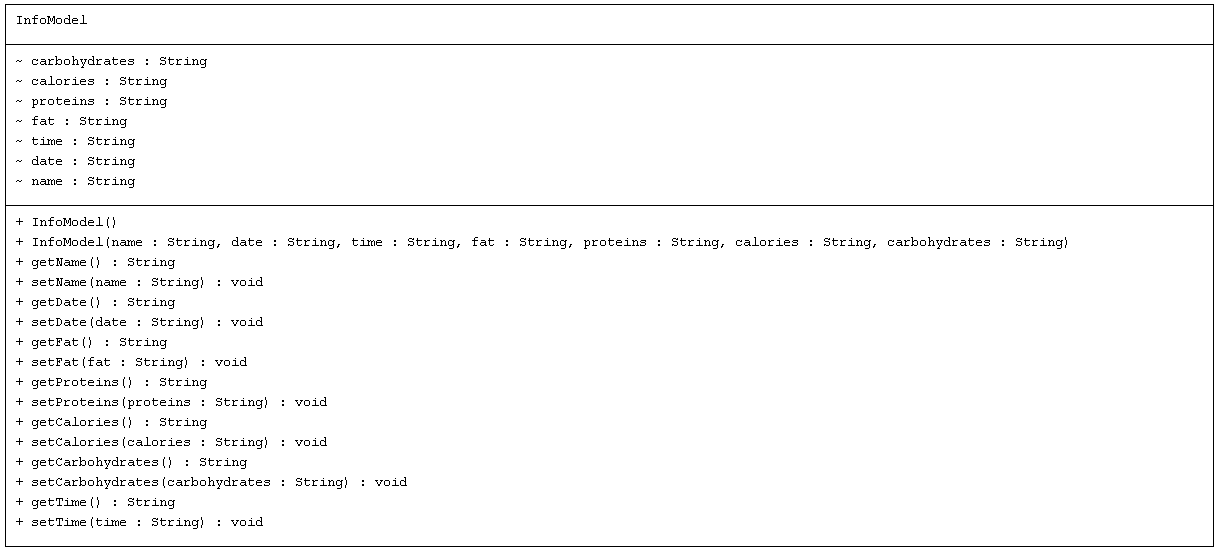


Figure 28: class diagram 3

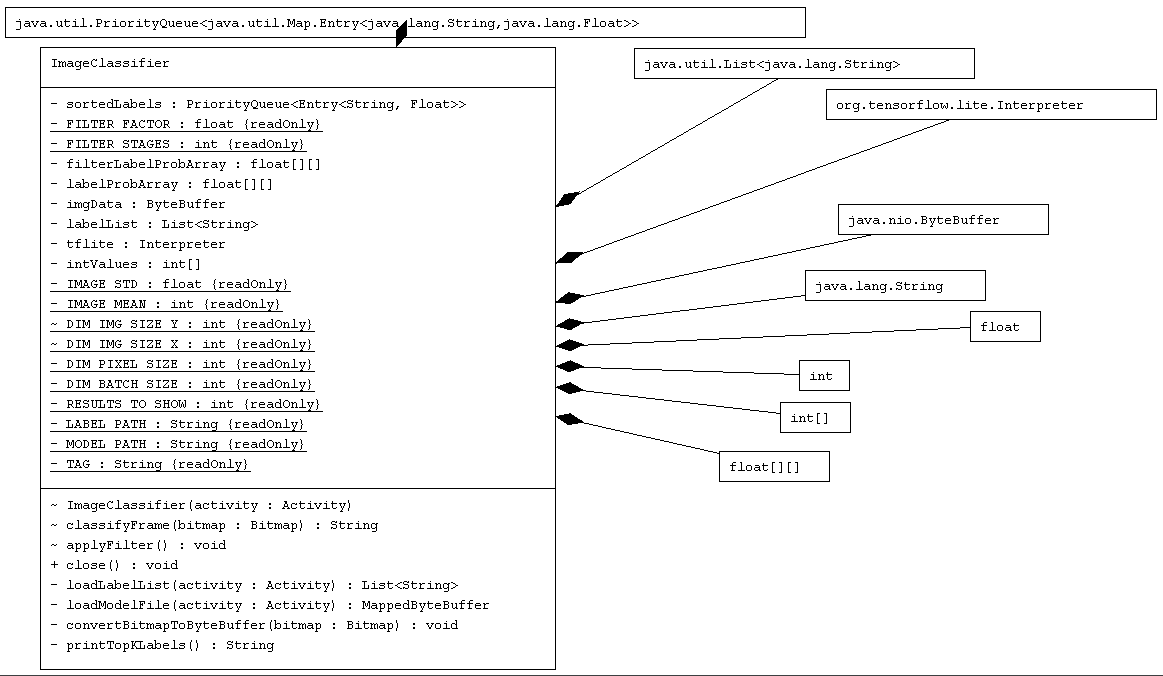


Figure 29class diagram 4

# CHAPTER 5: METHODOLOGY, TOOLS, IMPLEMENTATION & TESTING

## **5.1. Methodology**

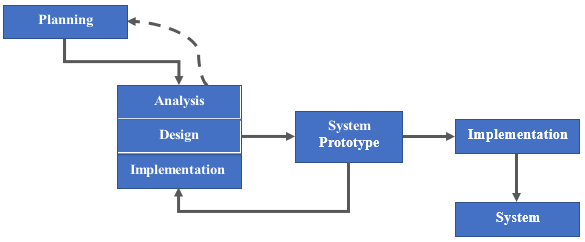


Figure 30: Prototyping methodology

**Planning** **Phase** - In the planning phase, the project is determined to take a duration of around 1 week to complete.

**Analysis** **Phase** -In analysis phase, the problem statement, project objectives and scopes are identified.

**Design** **Phase** - In design phase, the overall structure and flow of the system is determined.

**Implementation** **Phase** -In implementation phase, the actual coding is carried out according to the design chosen.

**System** **Prototype** - System prototypes are created to acquire feedback of its performance

## **5.2. Tools used**

* + 1. Java
    2. Android Studio - An office IDE designed by to build apps for every single Android device (Android Studio, 2020)
    3. TensorFlow - Open-source machine learning framework (TensorFlow, 2020)

## **5.3. User requirements**

• Android version higher than 5.0 or API level 21

According to minimum user requirement for use of camera2 API (Android 5.0 API, 2018)

• Minimum available storage of 150MB

According to compiled application package (.apk)

## **5.4. Implementation and testing**

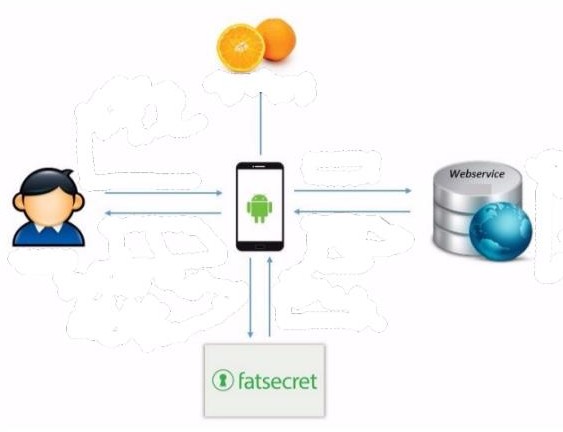
**5.4.1. Model Selection**

This project uses a pre-trained model on a RESTFul API provided by FatSecret as it is more accurate.

GitHub link [**https://github.com/fatsecret/fatsecret4j**](https://github.com/fatsecret/fatsecret4j)

**5.4.1. Model Usage**

Consider that the trained models are provided by the fat secret API. Thus, the app uses the models from Fat Secret API on TensorFlow for classification. Recall figure 3



To setup the API: I added the following configuration to my  **build.gradle** file

repositories {

mavenCentral()

}

android {

defaultConfig {

minSdkVersion 24

jackOptions {

enabled true

}

}

compileOptions {

sourceCompatibility JavaVersion.VERSION\_1\_8

targetCompatibility JavaVersion.VERSION\_1\_8

}

}

dependencies {

compile 'com.fatsecret4j:fatsecret-platform:2.0'

compile 'com.android.volley:volley:1.0.0'

}

Optionally, you may call the API from the URL "https://platform.fatsecret.com/rest/server.api

Supported methods are:

* food.get()
* foods.search()
* recipe.get()
* recipe.search()

Overall, the model performed well under situation between desserts that have similar appearance. However, there are circumstances where the model wrongly classified dessert when only partial portion of dessert was present.

## **5.5. Key functions**

**Image classifier function**

*/\*\* Classifies a frame from the preview stream. \*/*String classifyFrame(Bitmap bitmap) {  
 if (tflite == null) {  
 Log.*e*(*TAG*, "Image classifier has not been initialized; Skipped.");  
 return "Uninitialized Classifier.";  
 }  
 convertBitmapToByteBuffer(bitmap);  
 // Here's where the magic happens!!!  
 long startTime = SystemClock.*uptimeMillis*();  
 tflite.run(imgData, labelProbArray);  
 long endTime = SystemClock.*uptimeMillis*();  
 Log.*d*(*TAG*, "Timecost to run model inference: " + Long.*toString*(endTime - startTime));  
  
 // smooth the results  
 applyFilter();  
  
 // print the results  
 String textToShow = printTopKLabels();  
 //textToShow = Long.toString(endTime - startTime) + "ms" + textToShow;  
 return textToShow;  
}

**Fat secret get food() function**

public JSONObject getFood(Long ab) {  
 List<String> params = new ArrayList<>(Arrays.*asList*(*generateOauthParams*()));  
 String[] template = new String[1];  
 params.add("method=food.get");  
 params.add("food\_id=" + ab);  
 params.add("oauth\_signature=" + *sign*(*APP\_METHOD*, *APP\_URL*, params.toArray(template)));  
 JSONObject food = null;  
 try {  
 URL url = new URL(*APP\_URL* + "?" + *paramify*(params.toArray(template)));  
 URLConnection api = url.openConnection();  
 String line;  
 StringBuilder builder = new StringBuilder();  
 BufferedReader reader = new BufferedReader(new InputStreamReader(api.getInputStream()));  
 while ((line = reader.readLine()) != null)  
 builder.append(line);  
 JSONObject foodGet = new JSONObject(builder.toString());  
 food = foodGet.getJSONObject("food");  
 } catch (Exception e) {  
 Log.*w*("Fit", e.toString());  
 e.printStackTrace();  
 }  
 return food;  
}

**Search food function**

public JSONObject searchFood(String searchFood, int page) {  
 List<String> params = new ArrayList<>(Arrays.*asList*(*generateOauthParams*(page)));  
 String[] template = new String[1];  
 params.add("method=foods.search");  
 params.add("search\_expression=" + Uri.*encode*(searchFood));  
 params.add("oauth\_signature=" + *sign*(*APP\_METHOD*, *APP\_URL*, params.toArray(template)));  
  
 JSONObject foods = null;  
 try {  
 URL url = new URL(*APP\_URL* + "?" + *paramify*(params.toArray(template)));  
 URLConnection api = url.openConnection();  
 String line;  
 StringBuilder builder = new StringBuilder();  
 BufferedReader reader = new BufferedReader(new InputStreamReader(api.getInputStream()));  
 while ((line = reader.readLine()) != null) builder.append(line);  
 JSONObject food = new JSONObject(builder.toString()); // { first  
 foods = food.getJSONObject("foods"); // { second  
 } catch (Exception exception) {  
 Log.*e*("FatSecret Error", exception.toString());  
 exception.printStackTrace();  
 }  
 return foods;  
}

**Calculate BMI function**

private float calculateBMI (float weight, float height) {  
 return (float) (weight / (height \* height));  
}

**BMI Interpretation function**

private String interpretBMI(float bmiValue) {  
  
 if (bmiValue < 16) {  
 return "Severely underweight";  
 } else if (bmiValue < 18.5) {  
  
 return "Underweight";  
 } else if (bmiValue < 25) {  
  
 return "Normal";  
 } else if (bmiValue < 30) {  
  
 return "Overweight";  
 } else {  
 return "Obese";  
 }  
}

## **5.6. Code algorithms**

**BMI Calculator**

The body mass index (BMI), or Quetelet index, is a measure for human body shape based on an individual's mass and height. Devised between 1830 and 1850 by the Belgian polymath Adolphe Quetelet during the course of developing "social physics", it is defined as the individual's body mass divided by the square of their height - with the value universally being given in units of kg/m2 . Go-run is going to provide the function which could calculate your BMI which would show your body condition in an obvious way.



**Calorie Meter**

The calories are calculated on the formula



The distance is the factor which is computed from the accelerometer and used for calorie meter. The computation can be found in the earlier section of the report mathematical modeling.

# CHAPTER 6: CONCLUSION

## **6.1. Project review, discussions & conclusions**

Uncontrolled and imbalanced calorie intake are both main sources of problem that are causing overweight and obesity in Kenya and across the world. Desserts played an important part of the causes of this due to its high sugar content that leads to high calorie. However, these problems are not being taken seriously enough from the people. Aside from lack of awareness of the problem, one of the causes could be difficulty in acquiring food calorie values as some local or traditional desserts are not very well documented. Traditional ways of food logging are inefficient and discouraging as it requires a lot of effort to perform.

Recent rise in popularity of deep learning had raised interest among many people in the field of machine learning. Not only it outperforms traditional machine learning techniques, it has a wide area of application in different fields. At the same time, rapid progression of smartphone development had made them much more affordable and increased capability to perform heavy computation locally.

This project proposed a mobile application that applied deep learning to acquire dessert calorie. Not only it provides an easier way to access information of food but could also serves as an educational tool for people to learn more about desserts. In a nutshell, the project aims to promote a healthy lifestyle by raising awareness among people towards the importance of balanced calorie intake. Hence, it can reduce the problem that the country is currently facing. Overall, the project has a potential to grow into a more usable tool as the classes of dessert that it is able to identify increases.

## **Novelties and contributions achieved**

The project could be used in many cases. For instance, foreigners or tourist could use it to easily learn about local desserts without extensively digging up resources throughout the internet. While it could be served as an educational tool, it can also be used as a tool to manage calorie intake. As the country’s alarming problem of obesity and overweight are arising, normal people could use it as a guidance to manage their calorie intake. Besides, this project could raise public awareness towards the impact of dessert

towards our daily calorie intake. Moreover, this project could possibly eliminate traditional ways of food logging as there is no need to search for food information manually anymore. This project is unique as it also addressed local dessert where most of them are not very well documented and there is not any tool of its kind in the market yet.

## **Future work**

There are many improvements that could be added to enhance the project in many aspects. One of them could be implementation of object detection so that multiple dessert objects can be detected and sum of calories can be computed instead. Moreover, model performance can be further improved in terms of accuracy and dessert variety. This would help to extend the usability of the project. Nonetheless, the implementation of application can also be further optimized especially the frames per second during real-time mode in order to produce a smoother user experience.

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