

# Machine Learning on Microcontrollers

Arduino Days 2024 @ Bitraf, Oslo  
Jon Nordby

# Motivation

Why ML on microcontrollers?

Extracting useful **information**  
from sensor *data*

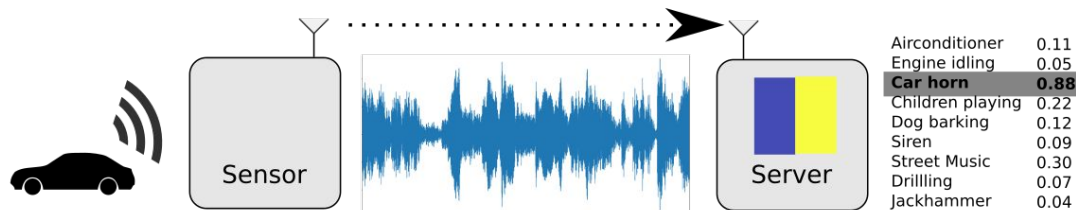
# Architecture

Privacy

Data  
Traffic

Compute  
constraints

## A) Cloud model

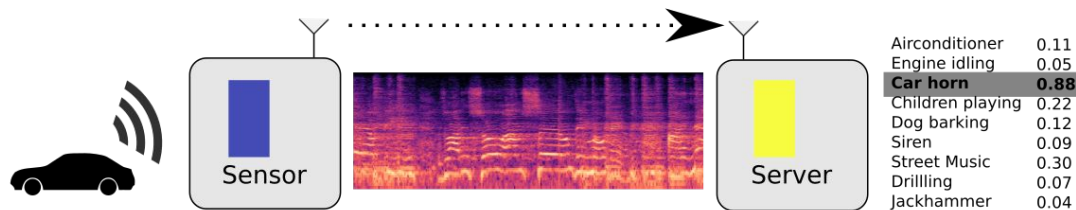


**Bad**

**Bad**

**None**

## B) Sensor preprocess, classify in cloud

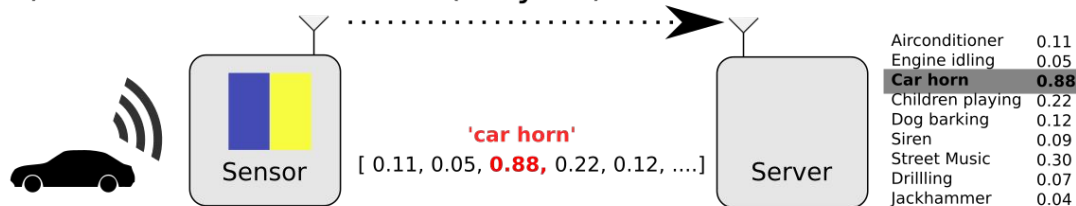


**Medium**

**Medium**

**Medium**

## C) Sensor classification (TinyML)

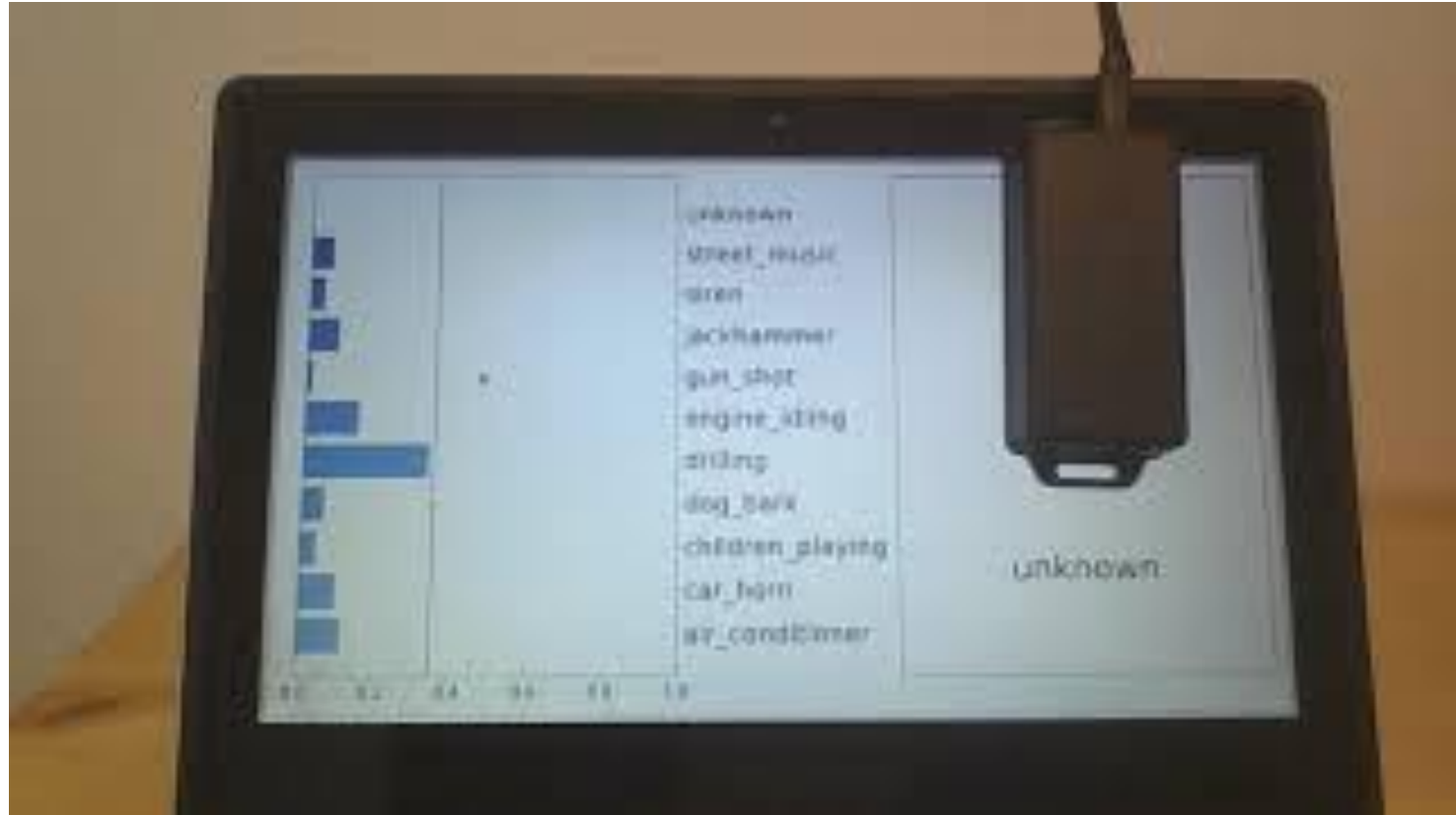


**Great**

**Great**

**Challenge!**

# Automatic classification of noise for Noise Monitoring



# Tracking coffee bean roasting



# Feasibility

What can be done & not  
(on generic microcontroller)

Machine Learning requires compute

Microcontrollers have limited  
RAM, FLASH, CPU

# Task feasibility versus microcontroller type

	RAM (kB)	FLASH (kB)	CPU (CoreMark)		IMU 100 hz 5 s	Sound 16 kHz 1 s	Image 64x64 px 1 fps
<b>Arduino Uno</b> ATMega 328 @ 16 Mhz	2	32	4.0		✓	✗	✗
<b>Arduino Nano BLE 33</b> NRF52840 ARM Cortex M4F @ 64 Mhz	256	1 000	215		✓	✓	✗
<b>Arduino Nano ESP32</b> ESP32-S3 @ 240 Mhz	8 000	16 000	613 (per core)		✓	✓	✓
<b>Teensy 4.0</b> ARM Cortex M7 @ 600 Mhz	1 000	2 000	2313 (per core)		✓	✓	✓

# Examples

For Getting Started



# “Magic Wand” using Accelerometer



# “Magic Wand” using Accelerometer

TensorFlow Lite Micro Arduino library

<https://github.com/tensorflow/tflite-micro-arduino-examples#how-to-install>

Create custom gestures. Online gesture recorder

[https://tinyml.seas.harvard.edu/magic\\_wand/](https://tinyml.seas.harvard.edu/magic_wand/)

tinyML Summit 2021 Tutorial: Building a Magic Wand (Pete Warden)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vKRdQHO7tIY>

# Speech Command Recognition using Microphone



# Speech Command Recognition using Microphone

Build Your Own Voice-Controlled Robot with ESP32 & TensorFlow Lite

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cp2qRrhaZRA>

Official example

[https://github.com/tensorflow/tflite-micro/tree/main/tensorflow/lite/micro/examples/micro\\_speech](https://github.com/tensorflow/tflite-micro/tree/main/tensorflow/lite/micro/examples/micro_speech)

Can train custom models

Can be adapted to detecting Sound Events that are not speech

# Object Detection / Object tracking using camera



# Object Detection / Object tracking using camera

OpenMV Tensorflow Lite micro

<https://docs.openmv.io/library/omv.tf.html>

Cup detection

OpenMV Convolutional Neural Network

<https://github.com/ARM-software/EndpointAI/tree/60b2a782194d74662eaf57051c71b799f5076f60/ProofOfConcepts/Vision/OpenMvCupDetect>

OpenMV Arduino tutorial face detection Haar

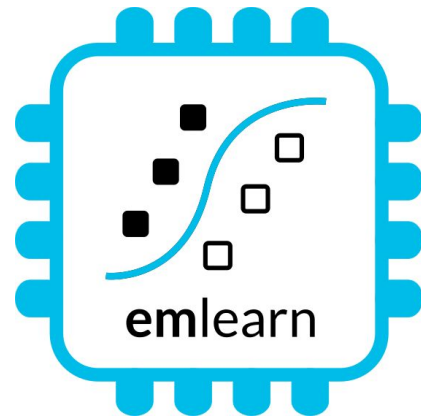
<https://docs.arduino.cc/tutorials/portenta-vision-shield/creating-basic-face-filter/>

# My Projects

# emlearn

Project for “classical” ML models (pre neural-networks)  
Running on the smallest microcontrollers < 16 kB RAM  
Used in 30+ RnD projects worldwide

<http://github.com/emlearn/emlearn>



## **Cow activity monitoring**

Power Efficient Wireless Sensor Node  
through Edge Intelligence

Abhishek Damle

VIRG

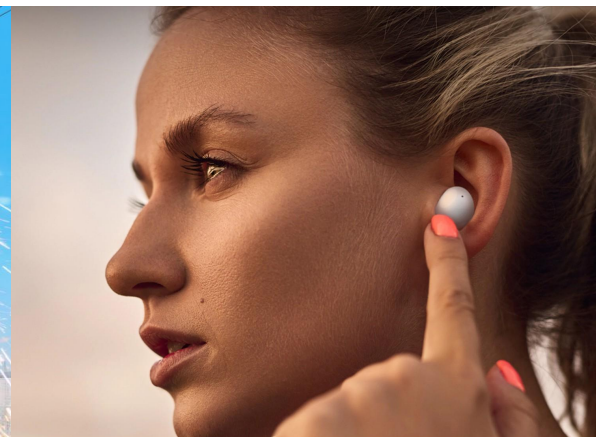


## **Micro Random Forest:**

A Local, High-Speed Implementation of a  
Machine-Learning Fault Location Method  
for Distribution Power Systems



Sandia  
National  
Laboratories



Remote **Breathing Rate Tracking** in Stationary Position  
Using the Motion and Acoustic Sensors of Earables

**SAMSUNG Research**

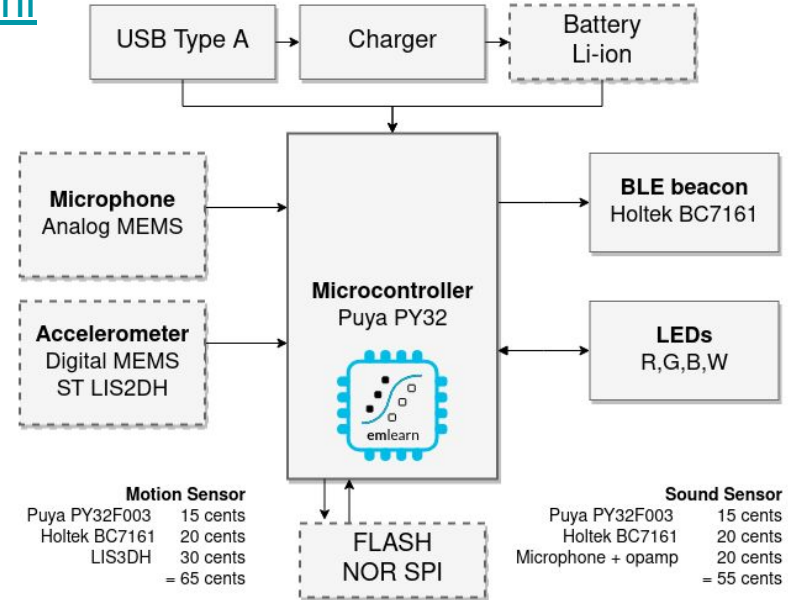
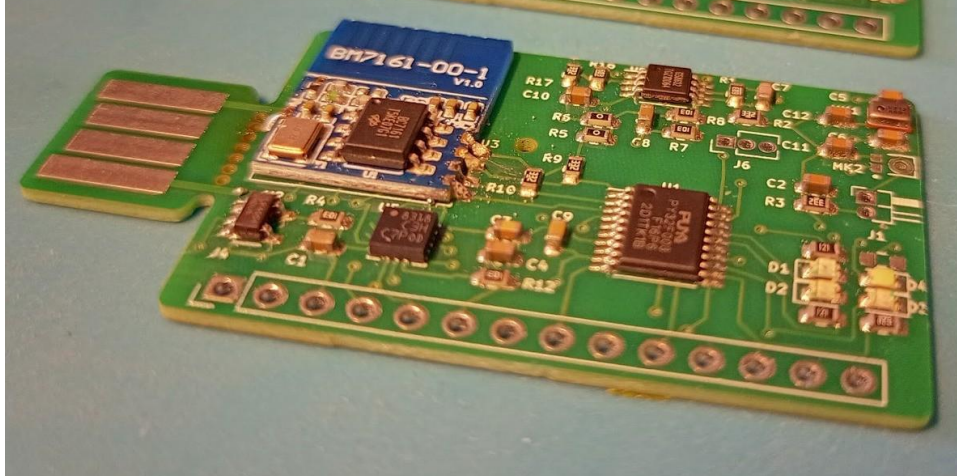


# 1 dollar TinyML system

Goal: Sound and accelerometer sensing using ML for under 1 USD in total component cost (BOM)

<https://hackaday.io/project/194511-1-dollar-tinyml>

Challenge: 3 kB RAM / 32 kB FLASH



# Summary

Machine Learning is used in sensor-systems to extract useful information

Current microcontrollers can handle many tasks: motion data, sound and image analysis

Open source software libraries available