

EdgeML Made Easy

Hands-On with the Raspberry Pi

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2024-08-20

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Preface

In the rapidly evolving landscape of technology, the convergence of artificial intelligence and edge computing stands as one of the most exciting frontiers. This intersection promises to revolutionize how we interact with the world around us, bringing intelligence and decision-making capabilities directly to the devices we use every day. At the heart of this revolution lies the Raspberry Pi, a powerful yet accessible single-board computer that has democratized computing and now stands poised to do the same for edge AI.

The journey to this book began with a simple question: How can we make advanced machine learning accessible to everyone, not just those with access to powerful cloud resources or specialized hardware? The answer we found was the Raspberry Pi, which is the size of a credit card.

“EdgeML Made Easy: Hands-On with the Raspberry Pi” is born out of a passion for technology and a belief in its power to solve real-world problems. It represents countless hours of experimentation, learning, and teaching, distilled into a format that we hope will inspire and empower you to explore the fascinating world of edge AI.

This book is not just about theory or abstract concepts. It’s about getting your hands dirty, writing code, training models, and seeing your creations come to life. We’ve designed each chapter to blend foundational knowledge and practical application, always with an eye toward what’s possible on the Raspberry Pi platform.

From the compact Raspberry Pi Zero to the more powerful Pi 5, we explore how these incredible devices can become the brains of intelligent systems—recognizing images, understanding speech, detecting objects, and even running small language models. Each project in this book is a stepping stone, building your skills and confidence as you progress.

But beyond the technical skills, we hope this book instills something more valuable – a sense of curiosity and possibility. The field of edge AI is still in its infancy, with new applications and techniques emerging daily. By mastering the fundamentals presented here, you’ll be well-equipped to explore these frontiers, perhaps even pushing the boundaries of what’s possible on edge devices.

Whether you’re a student looking to understand the practical applications of AI, a professional seeking to expand your skill set, or an enthusiast eager to bring intelligence to your projects, we hope this book serves as both a guide and an inspiration.

As you embark on this journey, remember that every expert was once a beginner. The learning path is filled with challenges and moments of joy and discovery. Embrace both, and let your creativity guide you.

Thank you for joining us on this exciting adventure into edge machine learning. Let's begin exploring what's possible when we bring AI to the edge, one Raspberry Pi at a time.

Happy coding, and may your models always converge!

Prof. Marcelo Rovai August, 2024

Acknowledgments

We extend our deepest gratitude to the entire TinyML4D Academic Network, comprised of distinguished professors, researchers, and professionals. Notable contributions from Marco Zennaro, Ermanno Petrosemoli, Brian Plancher, José Alberto Ferreira, Jesus Lopez, Diego Mendez, Shawn Hymel, Dan Situnayake, Pete Warden, and Laurence Moroney have been instrumental in advancing our understanding of Embedded Machine Learning (TinyML).

Special commendation is reserved for Professor Vijay Janapa Reddi of Harvard University. His steadfast belief in the transformative potential of open-source communities, coupled with his invaluable guidance and teachings, has served as a beacon for our efforts from the very beginning.

Acknowledging these individuals, we pay tribute to the collective wisdom and dedication that have enriched this field and our work.

Illustrative images on the e-book and chapter's covers generated by OpenAI's DALL-E via ChatGPT

Introduction

In the rapidly evolving landscape of technology, the convergence of artificial intelligence and edge computing is revolutionizing how we interact with and understand the world around us. At the forefront of this transformation is the Raspberry Pi, a powerful yet accessible single-board computer that has become a cornerstone for innovators, educators, and hobbyists alike.

“EdgeML Made Easy: Hands-On with the Raspberry Pi” is designed to bridge the gap between complex machine learning concepts and practical, real-world applications using the Raspberry Pi platform. This book is your guide to harnessing the power of edge AI, bringing sophisticated machine learning capabilities directly to where data is generated and actions are taken.

Why Raspberry Pi for Edge ML?

The Raspberry Pi, with its compact form factor, robust processing capabilities, and vibrant community support, offers an ideal platform for exploring and implementing edge machine learning solutions. Unlike more constrained microcontrollers, the Raspberry Pi provides:

1. Sufficient computational power to run complex ML models
2. A full-fledged operating system, enabling easier development and deployment
3. Extensive connectivity options, facilitating integration with various sensors and actuators
4. A rich ecosystem of libraries and tools optimized for machine learning tasks

This book will explore leveraging these advantages to implement cutting-edge ML applications, from image classification and object detection to pose estimation and natural language processing.

What You’ll Learn

This hands-on guide will take you through the entire process of developing ML applications on the Raspberry Pi:

1. Setting up your Raspberry Pi for ML development
2. Collecting and preparing data for various ML tasks
3. Training and optimizing models for edge deployment
4. Implementing real-time inference on the Raspberry Pi
5. Building practical projects that combine multiple ML techniques

Whether you're a student, an educator, a maker, or a professional looking to expand your skills, this book provides the knowledge and practical experience needed to bring your ML ideas to life on the Raspberry Pi platform.

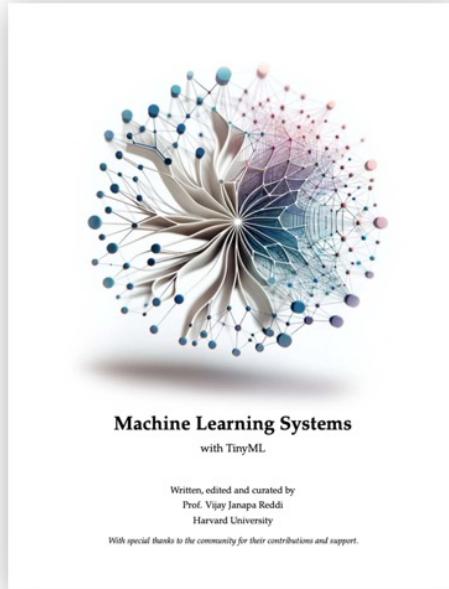
Empowering Innovation at the Edge

By the end of this journey, you'll be equipped with the skills to create intelligent, responsive systems that can see, understand, and interact with their environment. From smart cameras and voice assistants to industrial automation and IoT solutions, the possibilities are limited only by your imagination.

Join us as we explore the exciting intersection of machine learning and edge computing, and discover how the Raspberry Pi can become your gateway to innovating at the edge. Let's embark on this journey to make edge ML accessible, practical, and, above all, impactful in solving real-world challenges.

About this Book

This book is part of the open book [Machine Learning Systems](#), which we invite you to



read.

“EdgeML Made Easy: Hands-On with the Raspberry Pi” is an accessible, practical guide designed to empower readers with the knowledge and skills needed to implement machine learning at the edge using the Raspberry Pi platform. This book is part of the open-source [Machine Learning Systems](#) initiative, which aims to democratize AI education and application.

Key Features:

1. Practical Approach: Each chapter is built around hands-on projects demonstrating real-world applications of edge ML on Raspberry Pi.
2. Progressive Learning: The book starts with fundamental concepts and gradually progresses to more advanced topics, ensuring a smooth learning curve for readers of various skill levels.

3. Raspberry Pi Focus: All examples and projects are optimized for various Raspberry Pi models, including the Pi Zero 2W, Pi 4, and Pi 5, highlighting each model's unique capabilities.
4. Comprehensive Coverage: From image processing and computer vision to natural language processing and sensor data analysis, this book covers various ML applications relevant to edge computing.
5. Open-Source Tools: We emphasize using open-source frameworks and libraries, such as Edge Impulse Studio, TensorFlow Lite, OpenCV, and PyTorch, ensuring accessibility and continuity in your learning journey.
6. Resource Optimization: Learn techniques to optimize ML models for the constrained resources of edge devices, balancing performance with efficiency.
7. Deployment Ready: Gain insights into best practices for deploying and maintaining ML models on Raspberry Pi in production environments.

Who This Book Is For:

- Students and educators in computer science, engineering, and related fields
- Hobbyists and makers interested in adding AI capabilities to their projects
- Professionals looking to implement edge AI solutions in various industries.
- Researchers exploring the intersection of IoT, edge computing, and machine learning

Prerequisites:

While this book is designed to be accessible to a broad audience, readers will benefit from:

- Basic familiarity with Python programming
- Fundamental understanding of machine learning concepts
- Experience with Raspberry Pi or similar single-board computers (helpful but not required)

Structure of the Book:

The book is divided into chapters, each focusing on a specific aspect of edge ML on Raspberry Pi. Every chapter includes:

- Theoretical background to understand the concepts
- Step-by-step tutorials for implementing ML models
- Practical projects that apply the learned techniques
- Tips for troubleshooting and optimizing performance
- Suggestions for further exploration and experimentation

By the end of this book, you'll have a solid foundation in implementing various ML applications on Raspberry Pi, and the confidence to tackle your own edge AI projects. Whether you're looking to create smart home devices, develop intelligent monitoring systems, or explore the frontiers of edge computing, "EdgeML Made Easy" will be your trusted companion on this exciting journey.

Setup

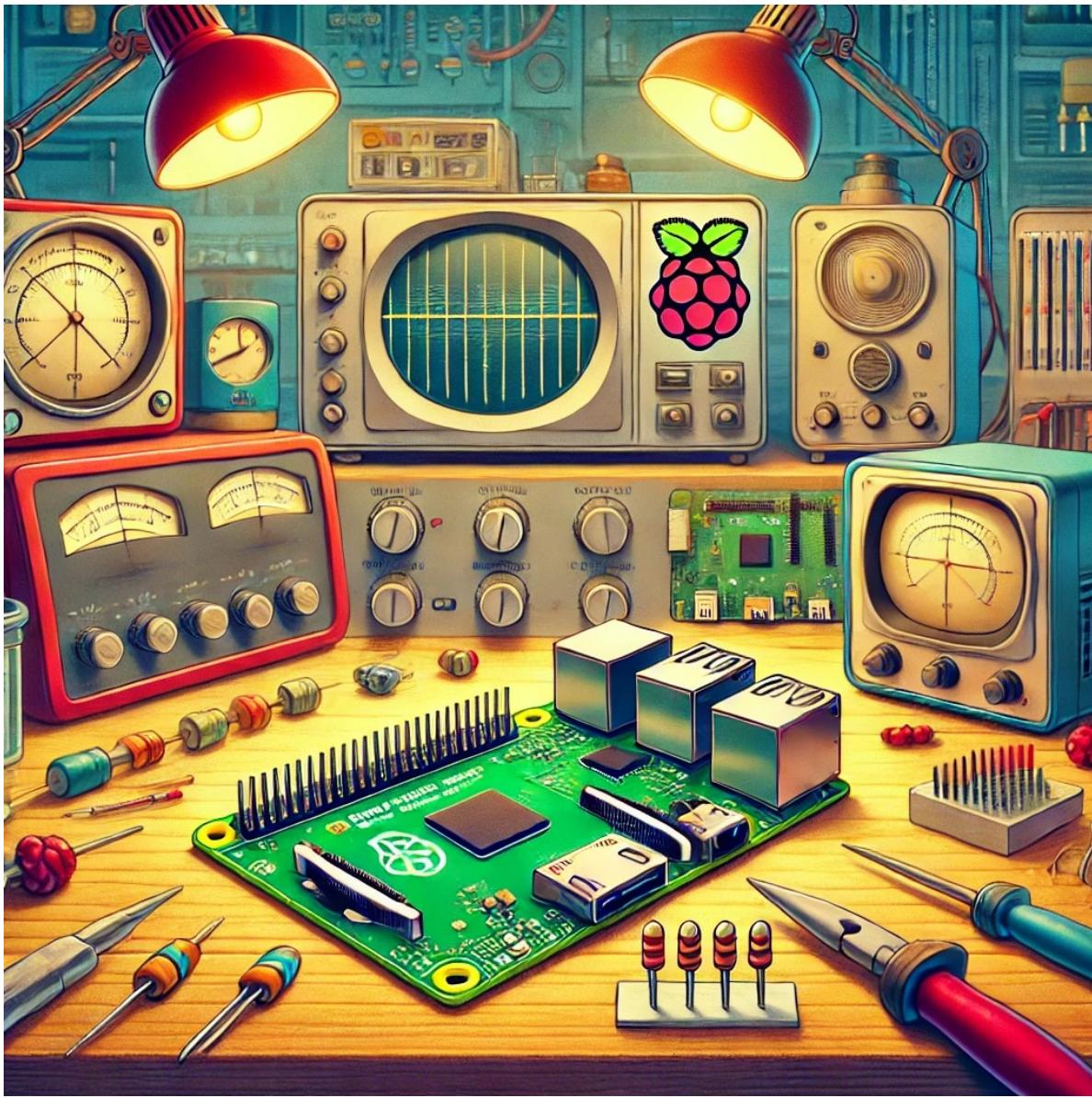


Figure 1: *DALL·E prompt - An electronics laboratory environment inspired by the 1950s, with a cartoon style. The lab should have vintage equipment, large oscilloscopes, old-fashioned tube radios, and large, boxy computers. The Raspberry Pi 5 board is prominently displayed, accurately shown in its real size, similar to a credit card, on a workbench. The Pi board is surrounded by classic lab tools like a soldering iron, resistors, and wires. The overall scene should be vibrant, with exaggerated colors and playful details characteristic of a cartoon. No logos or text should be included.*

This chapter will guide you through setting up Raspberry Pi Zero 2 W (*Raspi-Zero*) and Raspberry Pi 5 (*Raspi-5*) models. We'll cover hardware setup, operating system installation, initial configuration, and tests.

The general instructions for the *Rasp-5* also apply to the older Raspberry Pi versions, such as the Rasp-3 and Raspi-4.

Introduction

The Raspberry Pi is a powerful and versatile single-board computer that has become an essential tool for engineers across various disciplines. Developed by the [Raspberry Pi Foundation](#), these compact devices offer a unique combination of affordability, computational power, and extensive GPIO (General Purpose Input/Output) capabilities, making them ideal for prototyping, embedded systems development, and advanced engineering projects.

Key Features

1. **Computational Power:** Despite their small size, Raspberry Pis offer significant processing capabilities, with the latest models featuring multi-core ARM processors and up to 8GB of RAM.
2. **GPIO Interface:** The 40-pin GPIO header allows direct interaction with sensors, actuators, and other electronic components, facilitating hardware-software integration projects.
3. **Extensive Connectivity:** Built-in Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, Ethernet, and multiple USB ports enable diverse communication and networking projects.
4. **Low-Level Hardware Access:** Raspberry Pis provide access to interfaces like I2C, SPI, and UART, allowing for detailed control and communication with external devices.
5. **Real-Time Capabilities:** With proper configuration, Raspberry Pis can be used for soft real-time applications, making them suitable for control systems and signal processing tasks.
6. **Power Efficiency:** Low power consumption enables battery-powered and energy-efficient designs, especially in models like the Pi Zero.

Raspberry Pi Models (covered in this book)

1. **Raspberry Pi Zero 2 W** (*Raspi-Zero*):
 - Ideal for: Compact embedded systems
 - Key specs: 1GHz single-core CPU (ARM Cortex-A53), 512MB RAM, minimal power consumption
2. **Raspberry Pi 5** (*Raspi-5*):
 - Ideal for: More demanding applications such as edge computing, computer vision, and edgeAI applications, including LLMs.
 - Key specs: 2.4GHz quad-core CPU (ARM Cortex A-76), up to 8GB RAM, PCIe interface for expansions

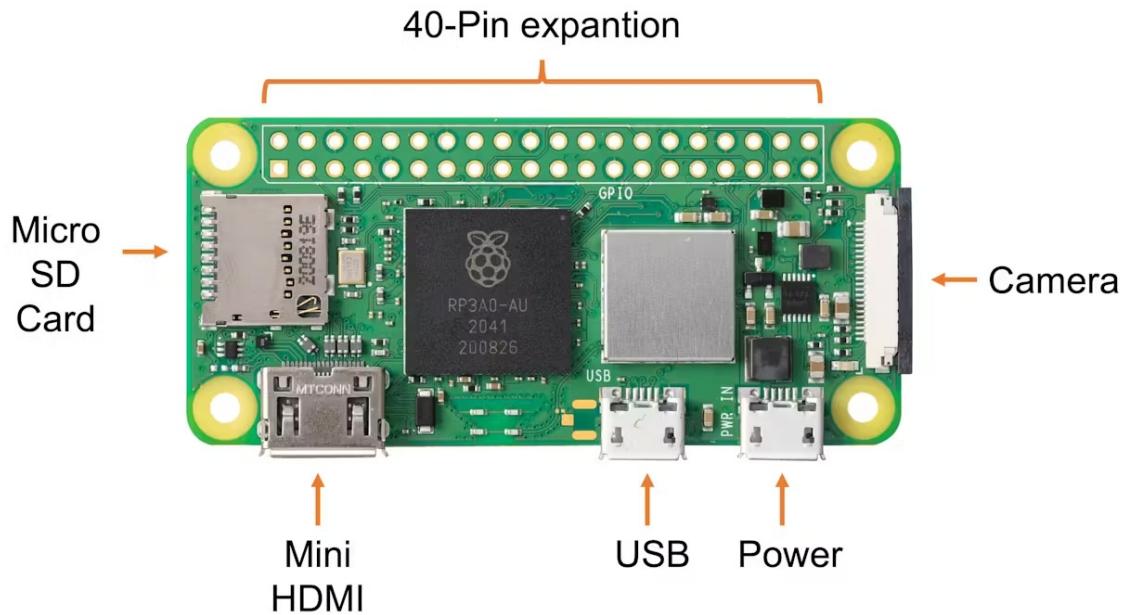
Engineering Applications

1. **Embedded Systems Design:** Develop and prototype embedded systems for real-world applications.
2. **IoT and Networked Devices:** Create interconnected devices and explore protocols like MQTT, CoAP, and HTTP/HTTPS.
3. **Control Systems:** Implement feedback control loops, PID controllers, and interface with actuators.
4. **Computer Vision and AI:** Utilize libraries like OpenCV and TensorFlow Lite for image processing and machine learning at the edge.
5. **Data Acquisition and Analysis:** Collect sensor data, perform real-time analysis, and create data logging systems.
6. **Robotics:** Build robot controllers, implement motion planning algorithms, and interface with motor drivers.
7. **Signal Processing:** Perform real-time signal analysis, filtering, and DSP applications.
8. **Network Security:** Set up VPNs, firewalls, and explore network penetration testing.

This tutorial will guide you through setting up the most common Raspberry Pi models, enabling you to start on your machine learning project quickly. We'll cover hardware setup, operating system installation, and initial configuration, focusing on preparing your Pi for Machine Learning applications.

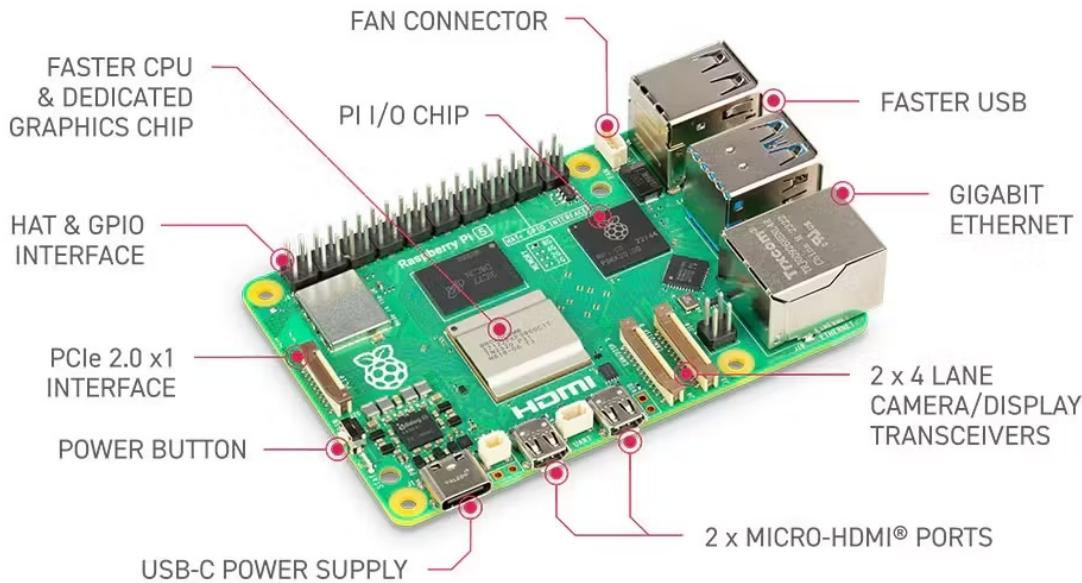
Hardware Overview

Raspberry Pi Zero 2W



- **Processor:** 1GHz quad-core 64-bit Arm Cortex-A53 CPU
- **RAM:** 512MB SDRAM
- **Wireless:** 2.4GHz 802.11 b/g/n wireless LAN, Bluetooth 4.2, BLE
- **Ports:** Mini HDMI, micro USB OTG, CSI-2 camera connector
- **Power:** 5V via micro USB port

Raspberry Pi 5



- **Processor:**
 - Pi 5: Quad-core 64-bit Arm Cortex-A76 CPU @ 2.4GHz
 - Pi 4: Quad-core Cortex-A72 (ARM v8) 64-bit SoC @ 1.5GHz
- **RAM:** 2GB, 4GB, or 8GB options (8GB recommended for AI tasks)
- **Wireless:** Dual-band 802.11ac wireless, Bluetooth 5.0
- **Ports:** 2 × micro HDMI ports, 2 × USB 3.0 ports, 2 × USB 2.0 ports, CSI camera port, DSI display port
- **Power:** 5V DC via USB-C connector (3A)

Installing the Operating System

The Operating System (OS)

An operating system (OS) is fundamental software that manages computer hardware and software resources, providing standard services for computer programs. It is the core software that runs on a computer, acting as an intermediary between hardware and application software. The OS manages the computer's memory, processes, device drivers, files, and security protocols.

1. Key functions:

- Process management: Allocating CPU time to different programs
- Memory management: Allocating and freeing up memory as needed
- File system management: Organizing and keeping track of files and directories
- Device management: Communicating with connected hardware devices
- User interface: Providing a way for users to interact with the computer

2. Components:

- Kernel: The core of the OS that manages hardware resources
- Shell: The user interface for interacting with the OS
- File system: Organizes and manages data storage
- Device drivers: Software that allows the OS to communicate with hardware

The Raspberry Pi runs a specialized version of Linux designed for embedded systems. This operating system, typically a variant of Debian called Raspberry Pi OS (formerly Raspbian), is optimized for the Pi's ARM-based architecture and limited resources.

The latest version of Raspberry Pi OS is based on [Debian Bookworm](#).

Key features:

1. Lightweight: Tailored to run efficiently on the Pi's hardware.
2. Versatile: Supports a wide range of applications and programming languages.
3. Open-source: Allows for customization and community-driven improvements.
4. GPIO support: Enables interaction with sensors and other hardware through the Pi's pins.
5. Regular updates: Continuously improved for performance and security.

Embedded Linux on the Raspberry Pi provides a full-featured operating system in a compact package, making it ideal for projects ranging from simple IoT devices to more complex edge machine-learning applications. Its compatibility with standard Linux tools and libraries makes it a powerful platform for development and experimentation.

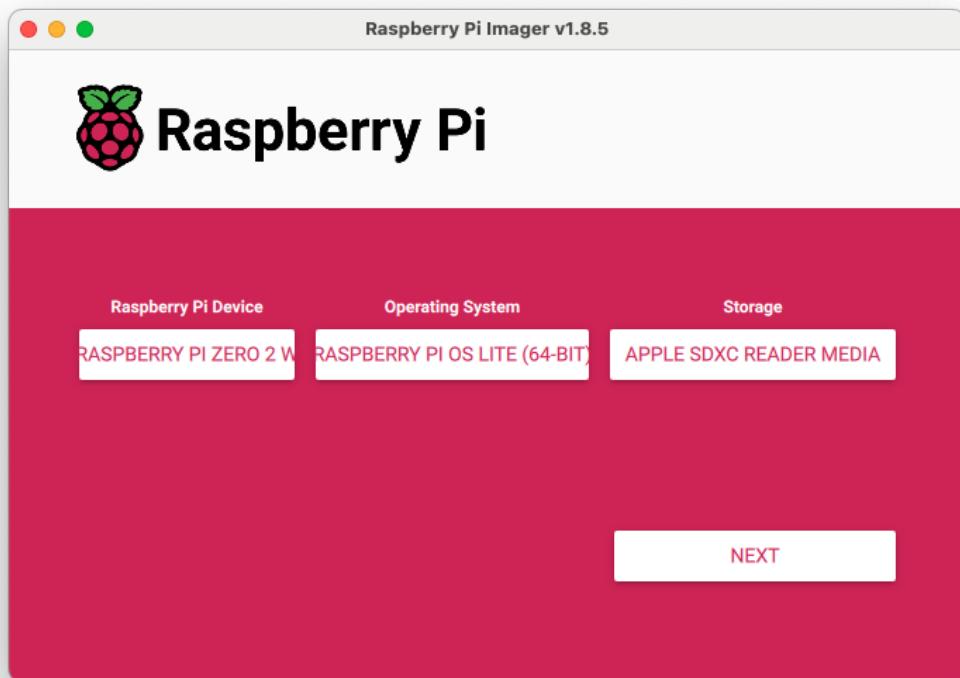
Installation

To use the Raspberry Pi, we will need an operating system. By default, Raspberry Pis checks for an operating system on any SD card inserted in the slot, so we should install an operating system using [Raspberry Pi Imager](#).

Raspberry Pi Imager is a tool for downloading and writing images on *macOS*, *Windows*, and *Linux*. It includes many popular operating system images for Raspberry Pi. We will also use the Imager to preconfigure credentials and remote access settings.

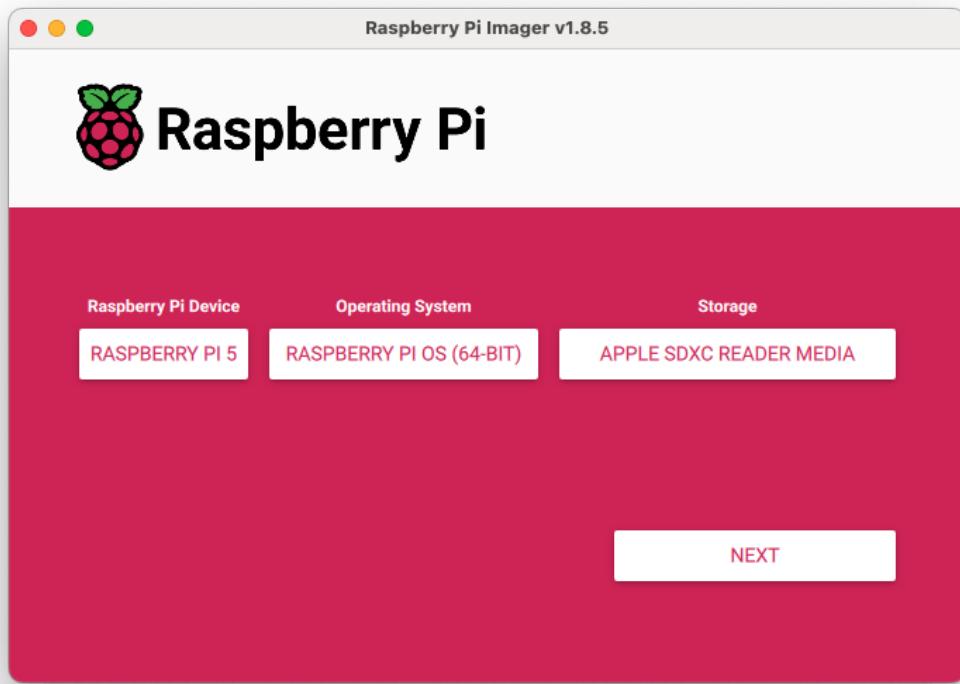
Follow the steps to install the OS in your Raspi.

1. [Download](#) and install the Raspberry Pi Imager on your computer.
2. Insert a microSD card into your computer (a 32GB SD card is recommended) .
3. Open Raspberry Pi Imager and select your Raspberry Pi model.
4. Choose the appropriate operating system:
 - **For Raspi-Zero:** For example, you can select: **Raspberry Pi OS Lite (64-bit)**.

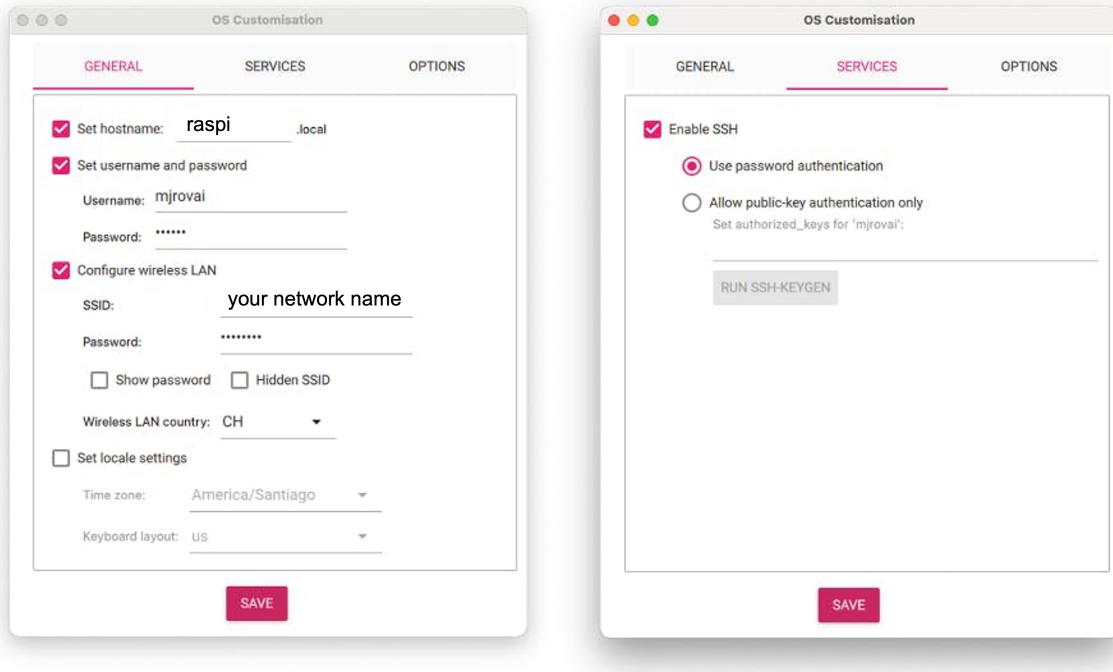


Due to its reduced SDRAM (512MB), the recommended OS for the Rasp Zero is the 32-bit version. However, to run some machine learning models, such as the YOLOv8 from Ultralitics, we should use the 64-bit version. Although Raspi-Zero can run a *desktop*, we will choose the LITE version (no Desktop) to reduce the RAM needed for regular operation.

- **For Raspi-5:** We can select the full 64-bit version, which includes a desktop: **Raspberry Pi OS (64-bit)**



5. Select your microSD card as the storage device.
6. Click on **Next** and then the **gear** icon to access advanced options.
7. Set the *hostname*, the Raspi *username and password*, configure *WiFi* and *enable SSH* (Very important!)



8. Write the image to the microSD card.

In the examples here, we will use different hostnames: raspi, raspi-5, raspi-Zero, etc. You should replace by the one that you are using.

Initial Configuration

1. Insert the microSD card into your Raspberry Pi.
2. Connect power to boot up the Raspberry Pi.
3. Please wait for the initial boot process to complete (it may take a few minutes).

You can find the most common Linux commands to be used with the Raspi [here](#) or [here](#).

Remote Access

SSH Access

The easiest way to interact with the Rasp-Zero is via SSH (“Headless”). You can use a Terminal (MAC/Linux), [PuTTY](#) (Windows), or any other.

1. Find your Raspberry Pi's IP address (for example, check your router).
2. On your computer, open a terminal and connect via SSH:

```
ssh username@[raspberry_pi_ip_address]
```

Alternatively, if you do not have the IP address, you can try the following: `shell ssh username@hostname.local` for example, `ssh mjrovai@rpi-5.local` , `ssh mjrovai@raspi.local` , etc.

```
marcelo_rovai — mjrovai@rpi-5: ~ — ssh mjrovai@rpi-5.local — 103x24
Last login: Thu May  9 14:54:09 on ttys000
(base) marcelo_rovai@Marcelos-MacBook-Pro ~ % ssh mjrovai@rpi-5.local
The authenticity of host 'rpi-5.local (fde3:6154:baa3:1:afld:2f29:d5a4:8fea)' can't be established.
ED25519 key fingerprint is SHA256:3qMwlEapFZSgHroNr5blw6dPTiBiH54mYtXwagn6WVU.
This key is not known by any other names.
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no/[fingerprint])? yes
Warning: Permanently added 'rpi-5.local' (ED25519) to the list of known hosts.
mjrovai@rpi-5.local's password:
Linux rpi-5 6.6.20+rpt-rpi-2712 #1 SMP PREEMPT Debian 1:6.6.20-1+rpt1 (2024-03-07) aarch64

The programs included with the Debian GNU/Linux system are free software;
the exact distribution terms for each program are described in the
individual files in /usr/share/doc/*copyright.

Debian GNU/Linux comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY, to the extent
permitted by applicable law.
Last login: Fri Mar 15 15:12:24 2024
mjrovai@rpi-5: ~ $
```

When you see the prompt:

```
mjrovai@rpi-5:~ $
```

It means that you are interacting remotely with your Raspi. It is a good practice to update/upgrade the system regularly. For that, you should run:

```
sudo apt-get update
sudo apt upgrade
```

You should confirm the Raspi IP address. On the terminal, you can use:

```
hostname -I
```



```
marcelo_rovai — mjrovai@rpi-5: ~ — ssh mjrovai@rpi-5.local — 57x5
[mjrovai@rpi-5:~] $ hostname -I
192.168.4.209 fde3:6154:baa3:1:af1d:2f29:d5a4:8fea
[mjrovai@rpi-5:~] $
```

To shut down the Raspi via terminal:

When you want to turn off your Raspberry Pi, there are better ideas than just pulling the power cord. This is because the Raspi may still be writing data to the SD card, in which case merely powering down may result in data loss or, even worse, a corrupted SD card.

For safety shut down, use the command line:

```
sudo shutdown -h now
```

To avoid possible data loss and SD card corruption, before removing the power, you should wait a few seconds after shutdown for the Raspberry Pi's LED to stop blinking and go dark. Once the LED goes out, it's safe to power down.

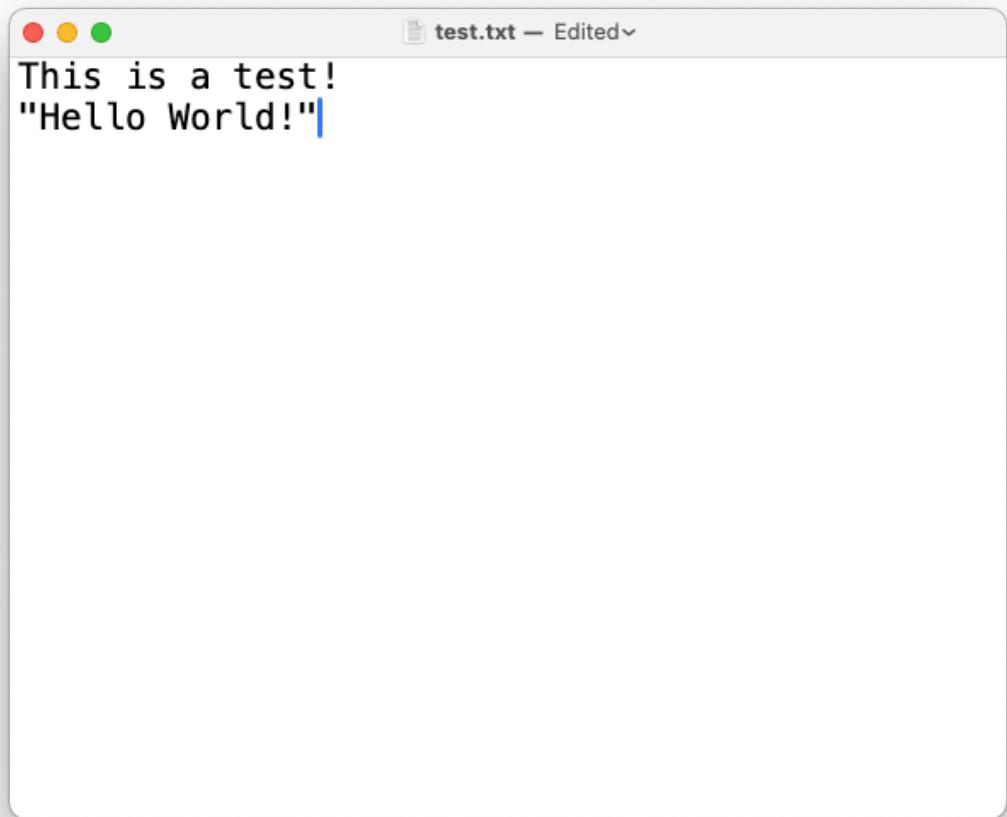
Transfer Files between the Raspi and a computer

Transferring files between the Raspi and our main computer can be done using a pen drive, directly on the terminal (with scp), or an FTP program over the network.

Using Secure Copy Protocol (scp):

0.0.0.0.1 * Copy files to your Raspberry Pi

Let's create a text file on our computer, for example, `test.txt`.



You can use any text editor. In the same terminal, an option is the `nano`.

To copy the file named `test.txt` from your personal computer to a user's home folder on your Raspberry Pi, run the following command from the directory containing `test.txt`, replacing the `<username>` placeholder with the username you use to log in to your Raspberry Pi and the `<pi_ip_address>` placeholder with your Raspberry Pi's IP address:

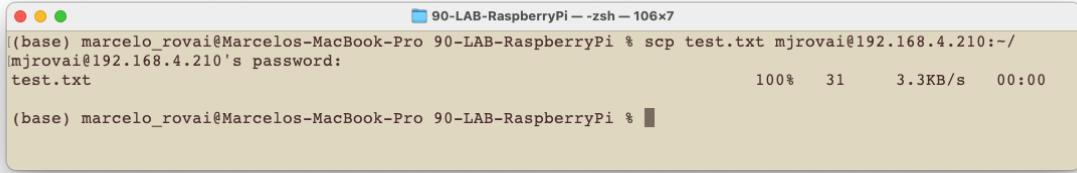
```
$ scp test.txt <username>@<pi_ip_address>:~/
```

Note that `~/` means that we will move the file to the ROOT of our Raspi. You can choose any folder in your Raspi. But you should create the folder before you run `scp`, since `scp` won't create folders automatically.

For example, let's transfer the file `test.txt` to the ROOT of my Raspi-zero, which has an IP

of 192.168.4.210:

```
scp test.txt mjrovai@192.168.4.210:~/
```



```
(base) marcelo_rovai@Marcelos-MacBook-Pro 90-LAB-RaspberryPi % scp test.txt mjrovai@192.168.4.210:~/  
mjrovai@192.168.4.210's password:  
test.txt  
      100%   31      3.3KB/s  00:00  
(base) marcelo_rovai@Marcelos-MacBook-Pro 90-LAB-RaspberryPi %
```

I use a different shell profile to differentiate the terminals. The above action happens **on your computer**. Now, let's go to our Raspi (using the SSH) and check if the file is there:



```
[marcelo_rovai — mjrovai@raspi-zero: ~ — ssh mjrovai@192.168.4.210 — 62x5]  
[mjrovai@raspi-zero:~ $ ls  
test.txt  
mjrovai@raspi-zero:~ $ ]
```

0.0.0.0.2 * Copy files from your Raspberry Pi

To copy a file named **test.txt** from a user's home directory on a Raspberry Pi to the current directory on another computer, run the following command **on your Host Computer**:

```
$ scp <username>@<pi_ip_address>:myfile.txt .
```

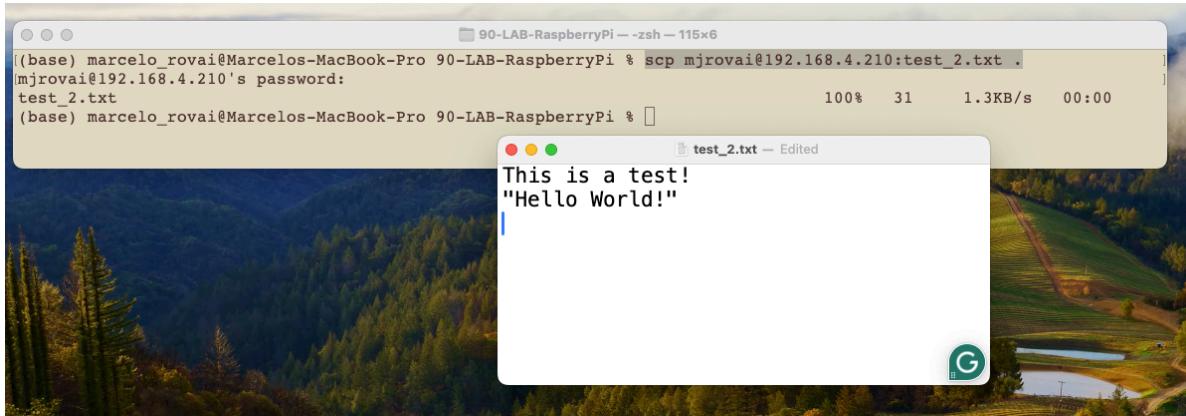
For example:

On the Raspi, let's create a copy of the file with another name:

```
cp test.txt test_2.txt
```

And on the Host Computer (in my case, a Mac)

```
scp mjrovai@192.168.4.210:test_2.txt .
```

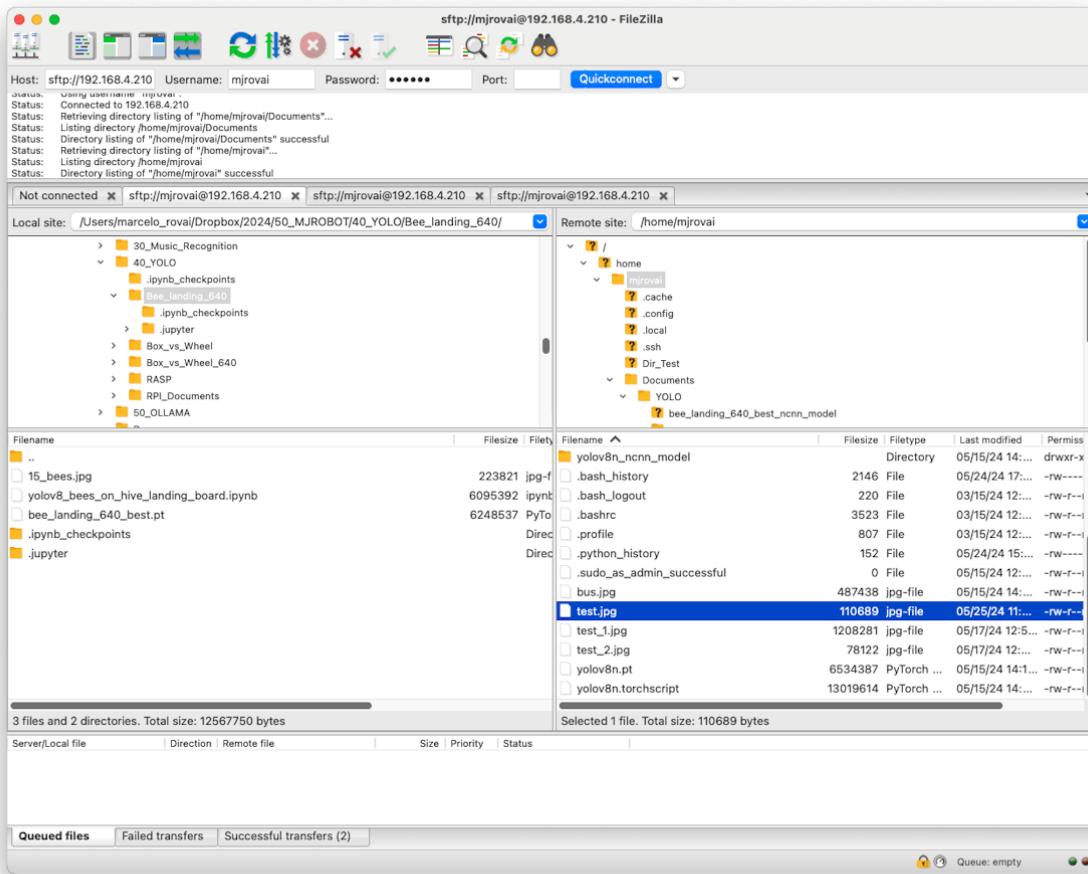


Transferring files using FTP

Transferring files using FTP, such as [FileZilla FTP Client](#), is also possible. Follow the instructions, install the program for your Desktop OS, and use the Raspi IP address as the Host. For example:

```
sftp://192.168.4.210
```

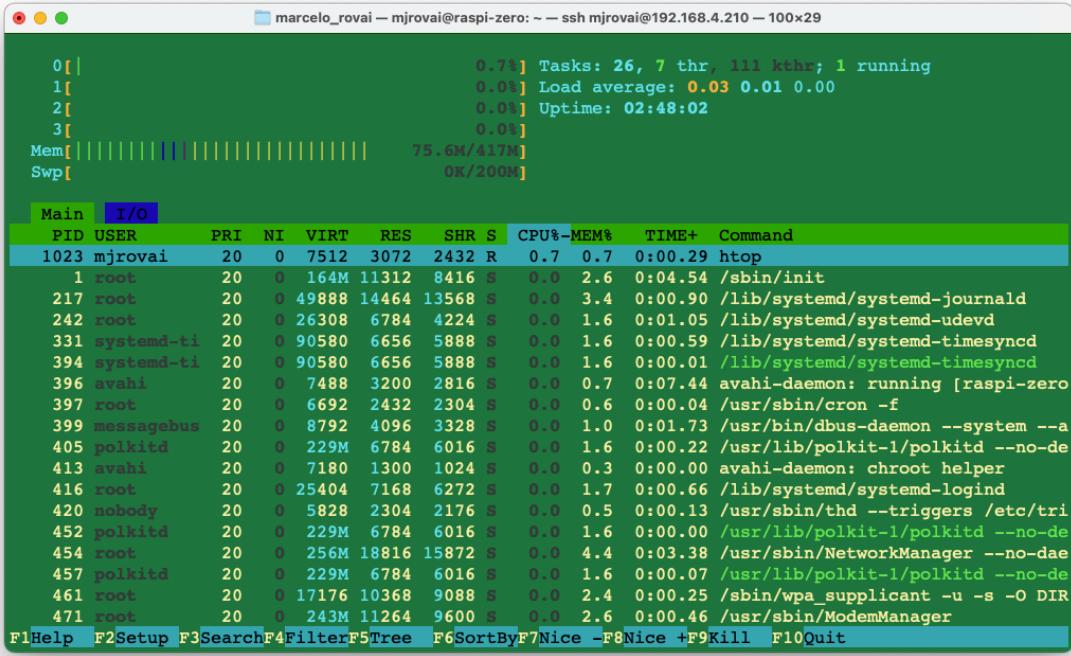
and enter your Raspi **username** and **password**. Pressing Quickconnect will open two windows, one for your host computer desktop (right) and another for the Raspi (left).



Increasing SWAP Memory

Using `htop`, a cross-platform interactive process viewer, you can easily monitor the resources running on your Raspi, such as the list of processes, the running CPUs, and the memory used in real-time. To launch `htop`, enter with the command on the terminal:

```
htop
```



Regarding memory, among the devices in the Raspberry Pi family, the Raspi-Zero has the smallest amount of SRAM (500MB), compared to a selection of 2GB to 8GB on the Raspis 4 or 5. For any Raspi, it is possible to increase the memory available to the system with “Swap.” Swap memory, also known as swap space, is a technique used in computer operating systems to temporarily store data from RAM (Random Access Memory) on the SD card when the physical RAM is fully utilized. This allows the operating system (OS) to continue running even when RAM is full, which can prevent system crashes or slowdowns.

Swap memory benefits devices with limited RAM, such as the Raspi-Zero. Increasing swap can help run more demanding applications or processes, but it’s essential to balance this with the potential performance impact of frequent disk access.

By default, the Rapi-Zero’s SWAP (Swp) memory is only 100MB, which is very small for running some more complex and demanding Machine Learning applications (for example, YOLO). Let’s increase it to 2MB:

First, turn off swap-file:

```
sudo dphys-swapfile swapoff
```

Next, you should open and change the file `/etc/dphys-swapfile`. For that, we will use the `nano`:

```
sudo nano /etc/dphys-swapfile
```

Search for the `CONF_SWAPSIZE` variable (default is 200) and update it to **2000**:

```
CONF_SWAPSIZE=2000
```

And save the file.

Next, turn on the swapfile again and reboot the Rasp-zero:

```
sudo dphys-swapfile setup
sudo dphys-swapfile swapon
sudo reboot
```

When your device is rebooted (you should enter with the SSH again), you will realize that the maximum swap memory value shown on top is now something near 2GB (in my case, 1.95GB).

To keep the `htop` running, you should open another terminal window to interact continuously with your Raspi.

Installing a Camera

The Raspi is an excellent device for computer vision applications; a camera is needed for it. We can install a standard USB webcam on the micro-USB port using a USB OTG adapter (Rasp-Zero and Rasp-5) or a camera module connected to the Raspi CSI (Camera Serial Interface) port.

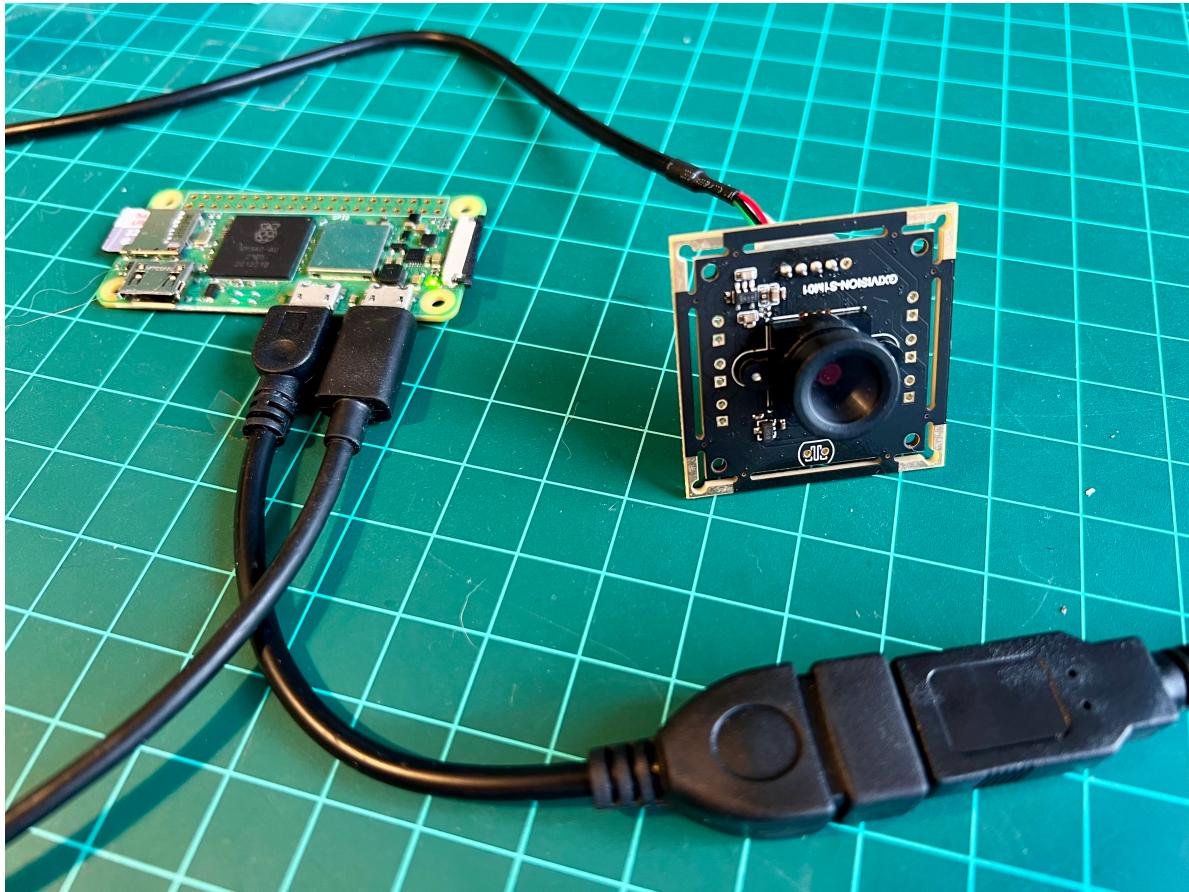
USB Webcams generally have inferior quality to the camera modules that connect to the CSI port. They can also not be controlled using the `raspistill` and `rasivid` commands in the terminal or the `picamera` recording package in Python. Nevertheless, there may be reasons why you want to connect a USB camera to your Raspberry Pi, such as because of the benefit that it is much easier to set up multiple cameras with a single Raspberry Pi, long cables, or simply because you have such a camera on hand.

Installing a USB WebCam

1. Power off the Raspi:

```
sudo shutdown -h no
```

2. Connect the USB Webcam (USB Camera Module 30fps,1280x720) to your Raspi (In this example, I am using the Raspi-Zero, but the instructions work for all Raspis).



3. Power on again and run the SSH
4. To check if your USB camera is recognized, run:

```
lsusb
```

You should see your camera listed in the output.

```
marcelo_rovai — mjrovai@raspi-zero: ~ — ssh mjrovai@192.168.4.210 — 66x5
mjrovai@raspi-zero:~ $ lsusb
Bus 001 Device 003: ID 0c45:1915 Microdia USB 2.0 Camera
Bus 001 Device 001: ID 1d6b:0002 Linux Foundation 2.0 root hub
mjrovai@raspi-zero:~ $
```

5. To take a test picture with your USB camera, use:

```
fswebcam test_image.jpg
```

This will save an image named “test_image.jpg” in your current directory.

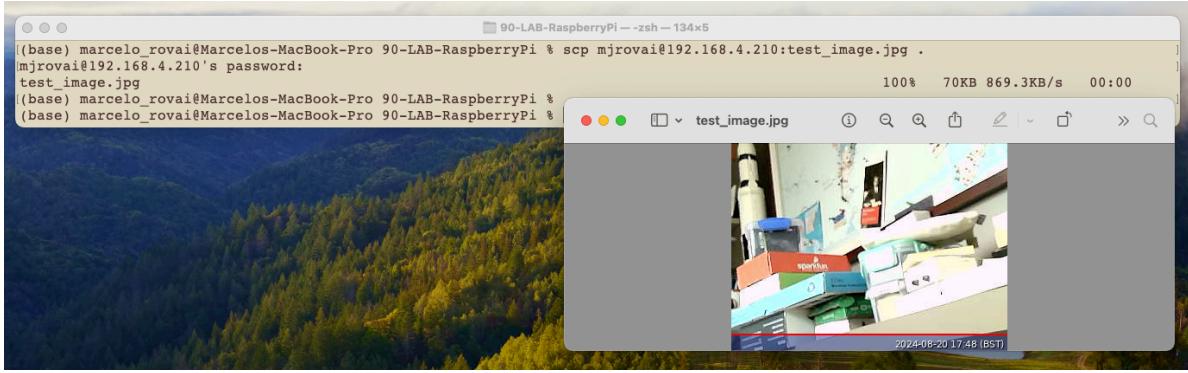
```
marcelo_rovai — mjrovai@raspi-zero: ~ — ssh mjrovai@192.168.4.210 — 85x14
mjrovai@raspi-zero:~ $ fswebcam test_image.jpg
--- Opening /dev/video0...
Trying source module v4l2...
/dev/video0 opened.
No input was specified, using the first.
Adjusting resolution from 384x288 to 320x240.
--- Capturing frame...
Captured frame in 0.00 seconds.
--- Processing captured image...
Fontconfig warning: ignoring UTF-8: not a valid region tag
Writing JPEG image to 'test_image.jpg'.
mjrovai@raspi-zero:~ $ ls
Documents test.txt test_2.txt test_image.jpg
mjrovai@raspi-zero:~ $
```

6. Since we are using SSH to connect to our Rapsi, we must transfer the image to our main computer so we can view it. We can use FileZilla or SCP for this:

Open a terminal **on your host computer** and run:

```
scp mjrovai@raspi-zero.local:~/test_image.jpg .
```

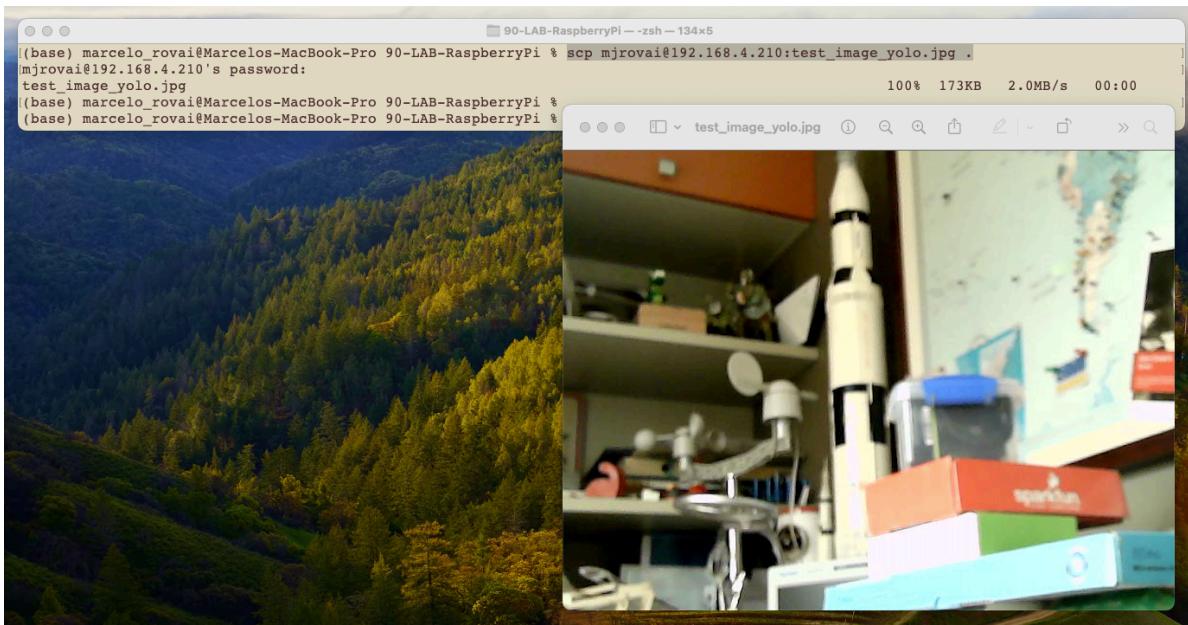
Replace “mjrovai” with your username and “raspi-zero” with Pi’s hostname.



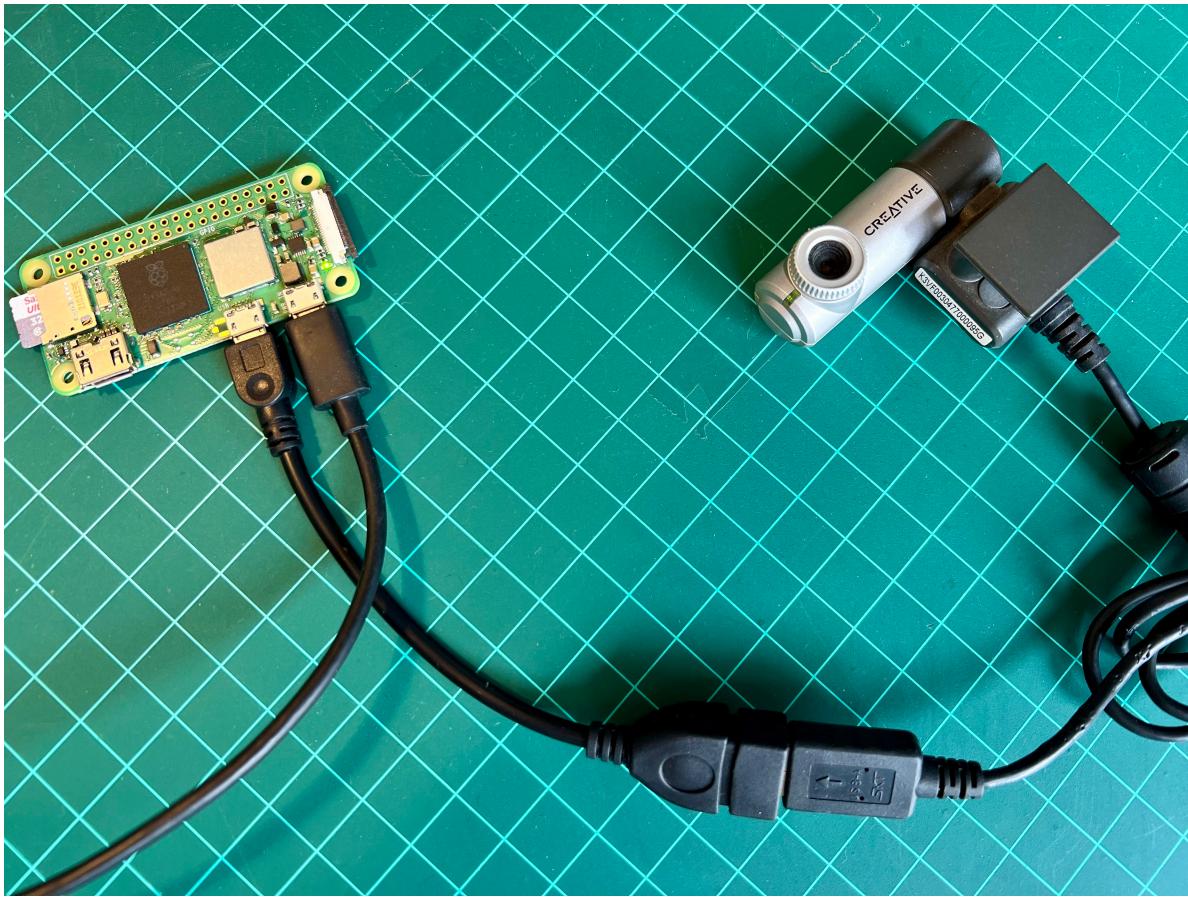
- If the image quality isn't satisfactory, you can adjust various settings; for example, define a resolution that is suitable for YOLO (640x640):

```
fswebcam -r 640x640 --no-banner test_image_yolo.jpg
```

This captures a higher-resolution image without the default banner.



An ordinary USB Webcam can also be used:



And verified using lsusb

```
marcelo_rovai — mjrovai@raspi-zero: ~ — ssh mjrovai@192.168.4.210 — 85x6
mjrovai@raspi-zero:~$ lsusb
Bus 001 Device 002: ID 041e:401f Creative Technology, Ltd Webcam Notebook [PD1171]
Bus 001 Device 001: ID 1d6b:0002 Linux Foundation 2.0 root hub
mjrovai@raspi-zero:~$
```

Video Streaming

For stream video (which is more resource-intensive), we can install and use mjpg-streamer:

First, install Git:

```
sudo apt install git
```

Now, we should install the necessary dependencies for mjpg-streamer, clone the repository, and proceed with the installation:

```
sudo apt install cmake libjpeg62-turbo-dev
git clone https://github.com/jacksonliam/mjpg-streamer.git
cd mjpg-streamer/mjpg-streamer-experimental
make
sudo make install
```

Then start the stream with:

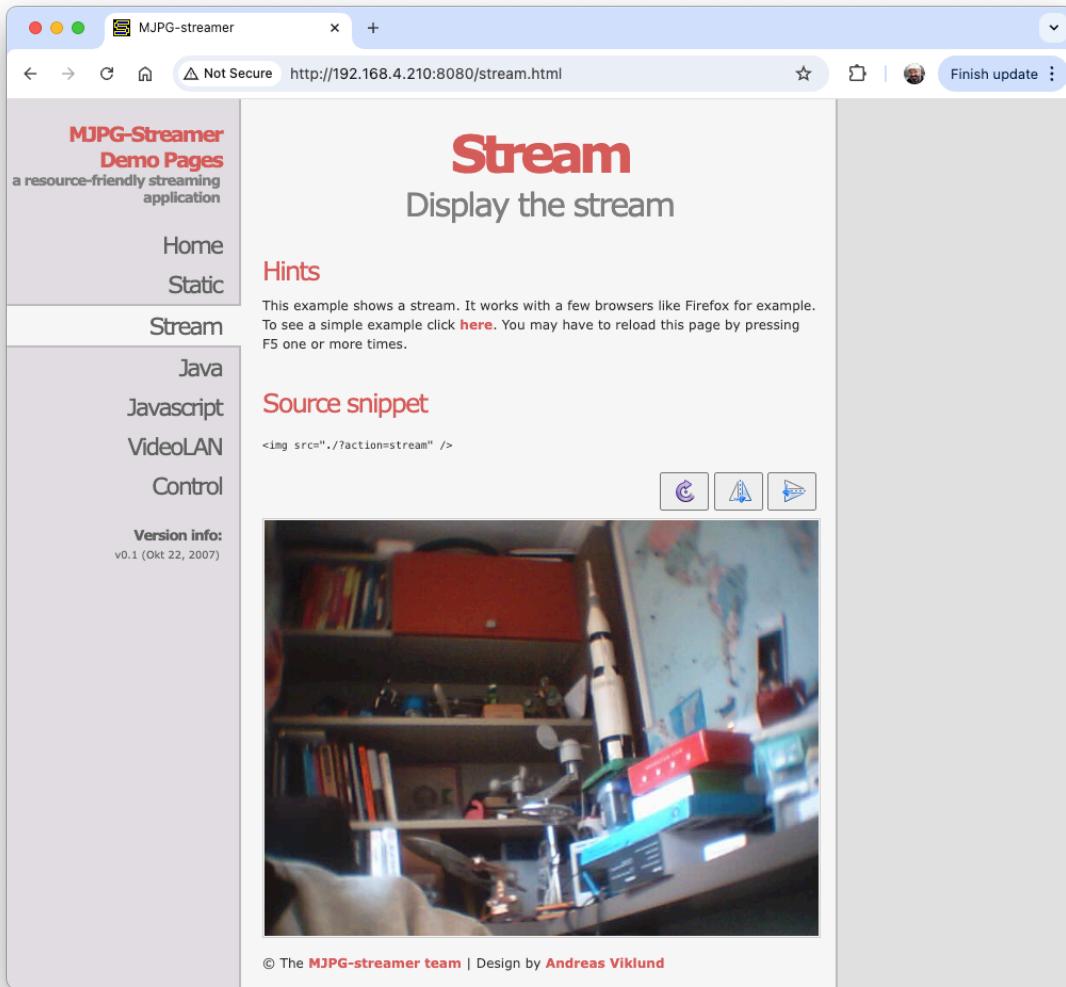
```
mjpg_streamer -i "input_uvc.so" -o "output_http.so -w ./www"
```

We can then access the stream by opening a web browser and navigating to:

http://<your_pi_ip_address>:8080. In my case: <http://192.168.4.210:8080>

We should see a webpage with options to view the stream. Click on the link that says “Stream” or try accessing:

```
http://<raspberry\_pi\_ip\_address>:8080/?action=stream
```



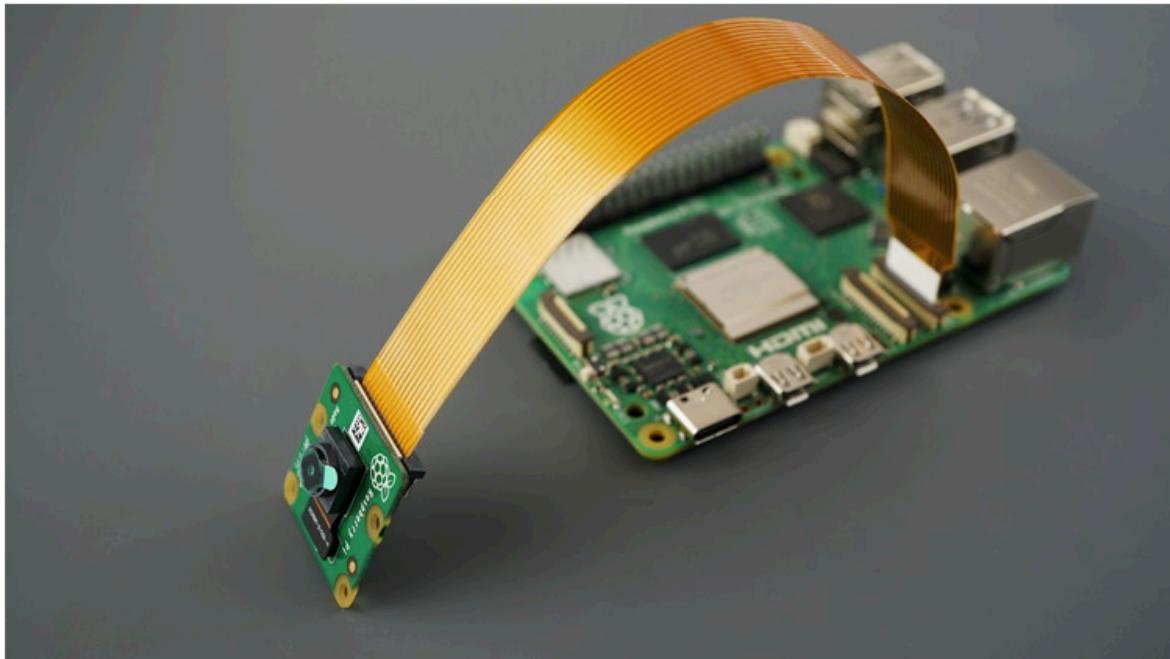
Installing a Camera Module on the CSI port

There are now several Raspberry Pi camera modules. The original 5-megapixel model was released in 2013, followed by an [8-megapixel Camera Module 2](#), released in 2016. The latest camera model is the [12-megapixel Camera Module 3](#), released in 2023.

The original 5MP camera (**Arducam OV5647**) is no longer available from Raspberry Pi but can be found from several alternative suppliers. Below is an example of such a camera on a Raspi-Zero.



Here is another example of a v2 Camera Module, which has a **Sony IMX219** 8-megapixel sensor:



Any camera module will work on the Raspis, but for that, the `configuration.txt` file must be updated:

```
sudo nano /boot/firmware/config.txt
```

At the bottom of the file, for example, to use the 5MP Arducam OV5647 camera, add the line:

```
dtoverlay=ov5647,cam0
```

Or for the v2 module, which has the 8MP Sony IMX219 camera:

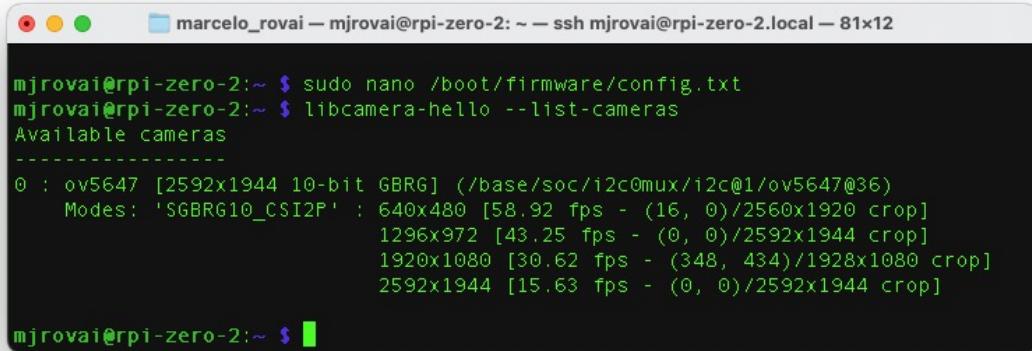
```
dtoverlay=imx219,cam0
```

Save the file (CTRL+O [ENTER] CRTL+X) and reboot the Raspi:

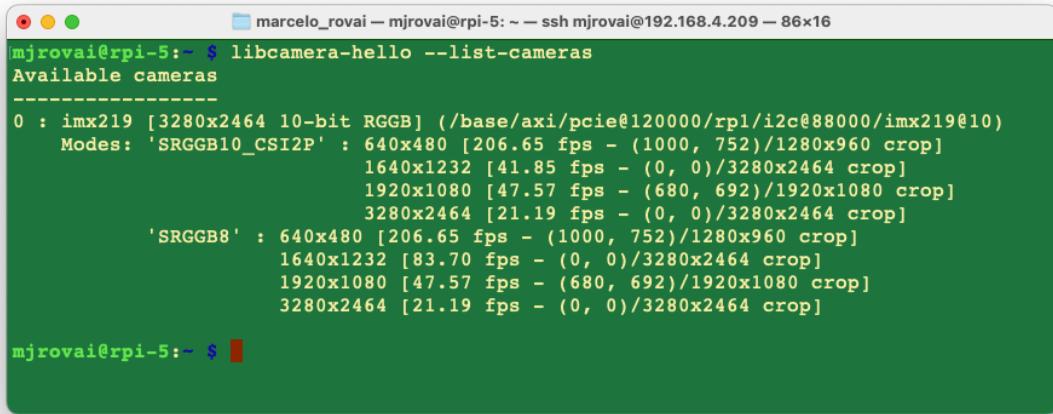
```
Sudo reboot
```

After the boot, you can see if the camera is listed:

```
libcamera-hello --list-cameras
```



```
mjrovai@rpi-zero-2:~ $ sudo nano /boot/firmware/config.txt
mjrovai@rpi-zero-2:~ $ libcamera-hello --list-cameras
Available cameras
-----
0 : ov5647 [2592x1944 10-bit GBRG] (/base/soc/i2c0mux/i2c@1/ov5647@36)
    Modes: 'SGBRG10_CSI2P' : 640x480 [58.92 fps - (16, 0)/2560x1920 crop]
            1296x972 [43.25 fps - (0, 0)/2592x1944 crop]
            1920x1080 [30.62 fps - (348, 434)/1928x1080 crop]
            2592x1944 [15.63 fps - (0, 0)/2592x1944 crop]
```



```
marcelo_rovai ~ mrovai@rpi-5: ~ ssh mrovai@192.168.4.209 ~ 86x16
mrovai@rpi-5: ~ libcamera-hello --list-cameras
Available cameras
-----
0 : imx219 [3280x2464 10-bit RGGB] (/base/axi/pcie@120000/rp1/i2c@88000/imx219@10)
    Modes: 'SRGGB10_CSI2P' : 640x480 [206.65 fps - (1000, 752)/1280x960 crop]
            1640x1232 [41.85 fps - (0, 0)/3280x2464 crop]
            1920x1080 [47.57 fps - (680, 692)/1920x1080 crop]
            3280x2464 [21.19 fps - (0, 0)/3280x2464 crop]
    'SRGGB8' : 640x480 [206.65 fps - (1000, 752)/1280x960 crop]
            1640x1232 [83.70 fps - (0, 0)/3280x2464 crop]
            1920x1080 [47.57 fps - (680, 692)/1920x1080 crop]
            3280x2464 [21.19 fps - (0, 0)/3280x2464 crop]

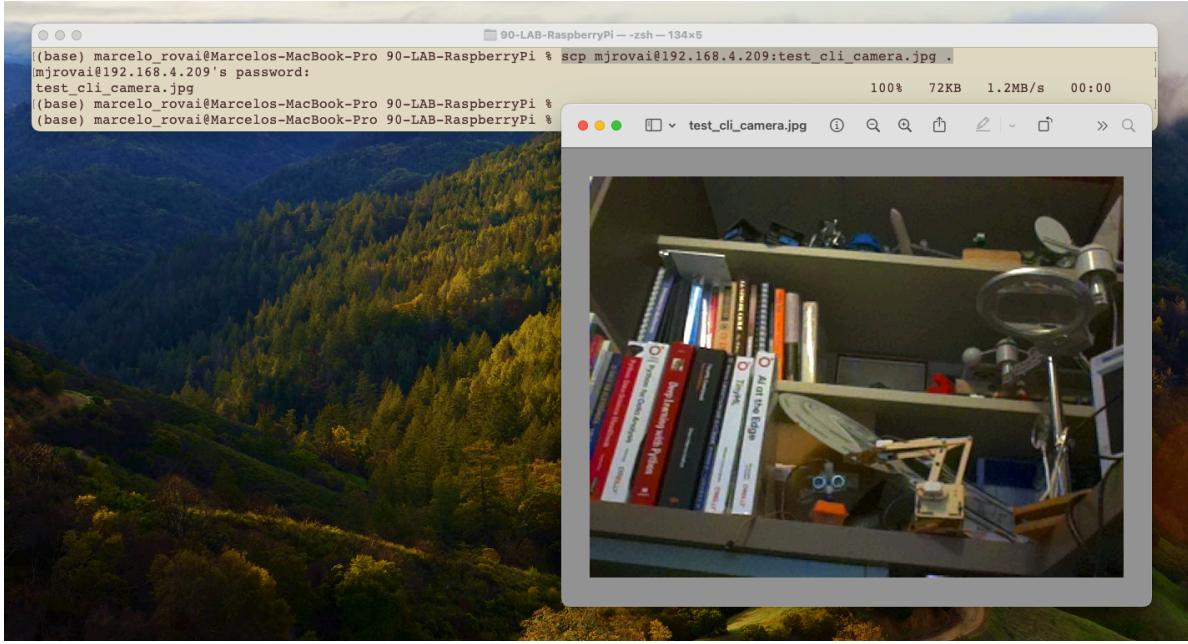
mrovai@rpi-5: ~
```

[libcamera](#) is an open-source software library that supports camera systems directly from the Linux operating system on Arm processors. It minimizes proprietary code running on the Broadcom GPU.

Let's capture a jpeg image with a resolution of 640 x 480 for testing and save it to a file named `test_cli_camera.jpg`

```
rpicam-jpeg --output test_cli_camera.jpg --width 640 --height 480
```

if we want to see the file saved, we should use `ls -f`, which lists all current directory content in long format. As before, we can use `scp` to view the image:



Running the Raspi Desktop remotely

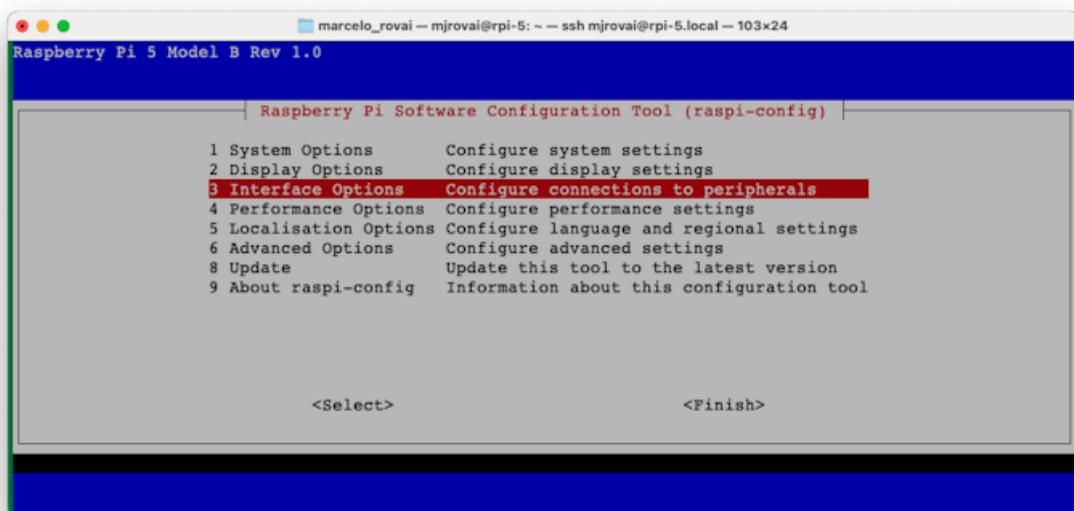
While we've primarily interacted with the Raspberry Pi using terminal commands via SSH, we can access the whole graphical desktop environment remotely if we have installed the complete Raspberry Pi OS (for example, [Raspberry Pi OS \(64-bit\)](#)). This can be particularly useful for tasks that benefit from a visual interface. To enable this functionality, we must set up a VNC (Virtual Network Computing) server on the Raspberry Pi. Here's how to do it:

1. Enable the VNC Server:

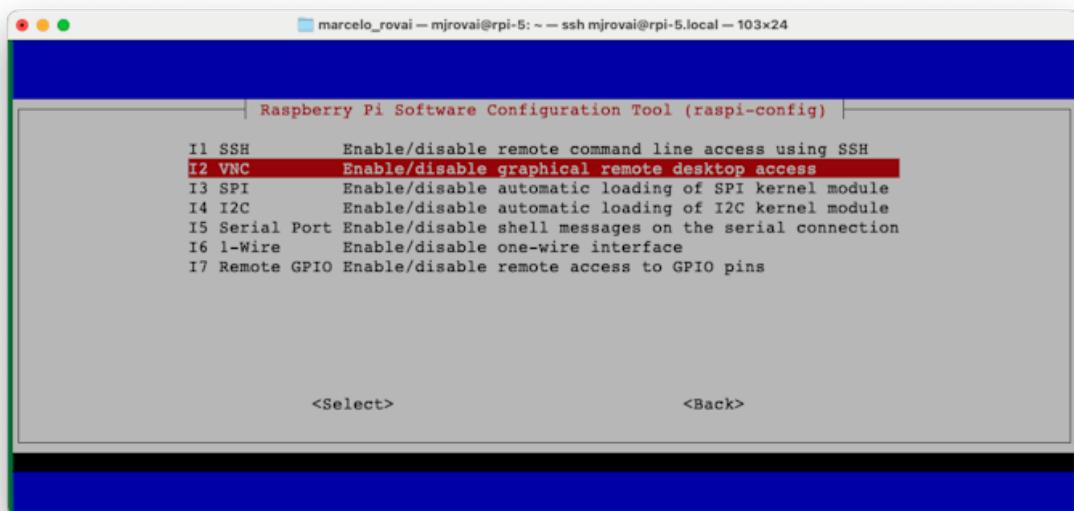
- Connect to your Raspberry Pi via SSH.
- Run the Raspberry Pi configuration tool by entering:

```
sudo raspi-config
```

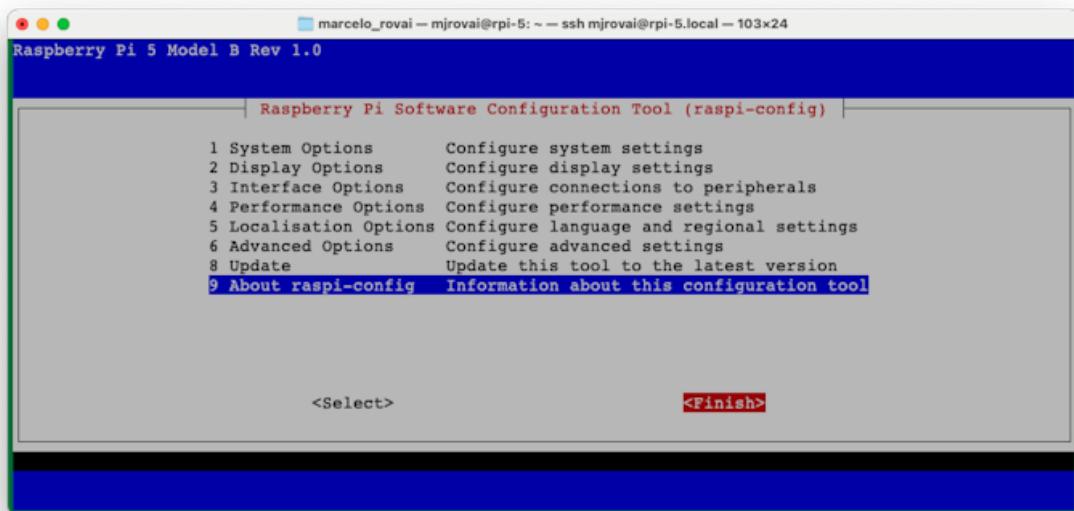
- Navigate to **Interface Options** using the arrow keys.



- Select VNC and Yes to enable the VNC server.



- Exit the configuration tool, saving changes when prompted.



2. Install a VNC Viewer on Your Computer:

- Download and install a VNC viewer application on your main computer. Popular options include RealVNC Viewer, TightVNC, or VNC Viewer by RealVNC. We will install [VNC Viewer](#) by RealVNC.

3. Once installed, you should confirm the Raspi IP address. For example, on the terminal, you can use:

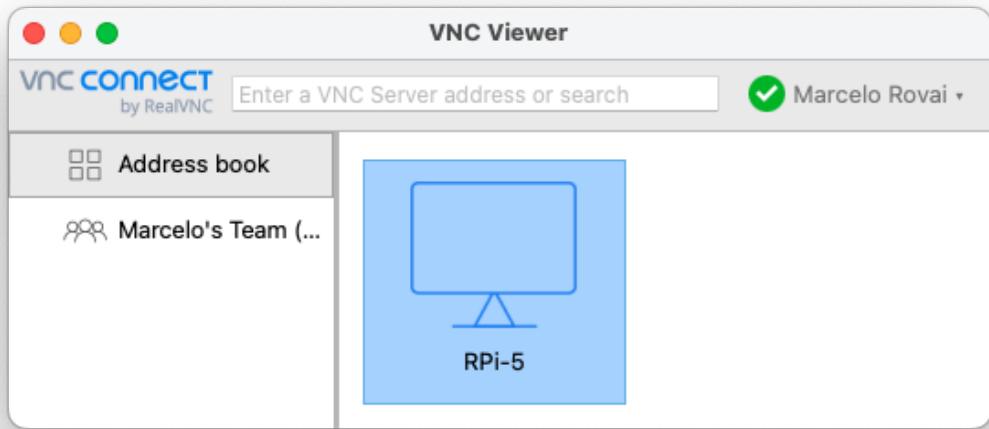
```
hostname -I
```

A screenshot of a terminal window titled "marcelo_rovai — mjrovai@rpi-5: ~ — ssh mjrovai@rpi-5.local — 57x5". The window displays the command "hostname -I" followed by its output:

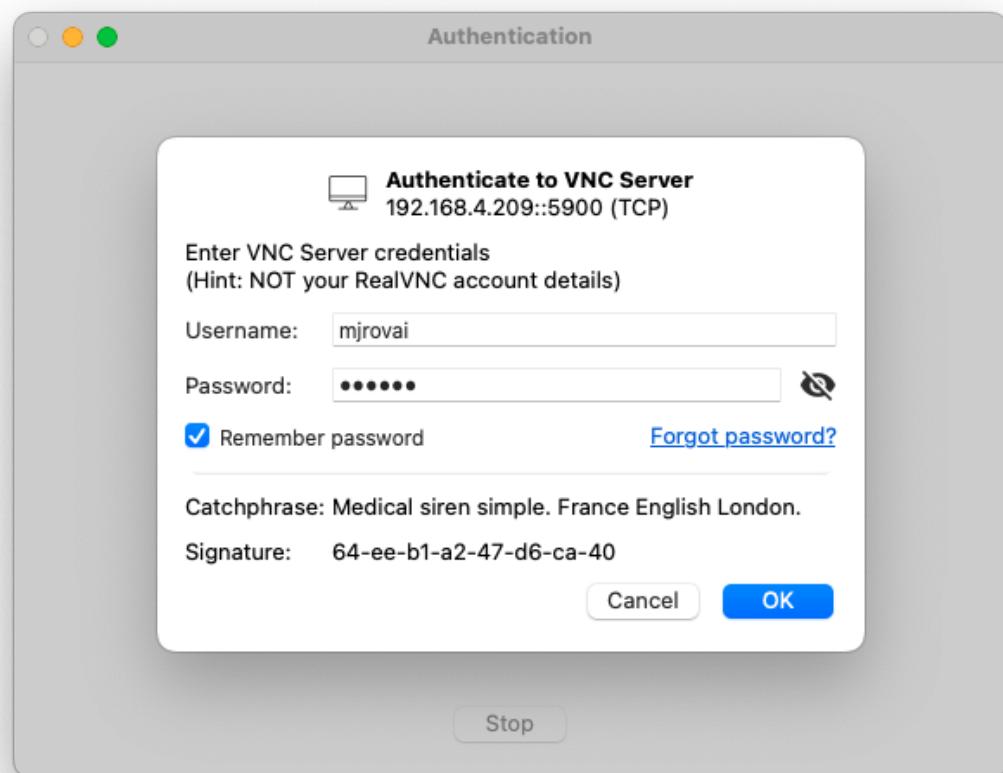
```
[mjrovai@rpi-5:~ $ hostname -I  
192.168.4.209 fde3:6154:baa3:1:af1d:2f29:d5a4:8fea  
mjrovai@rpi-5:~ $ ]
```

4. Connect to Your Raspberry Pi:

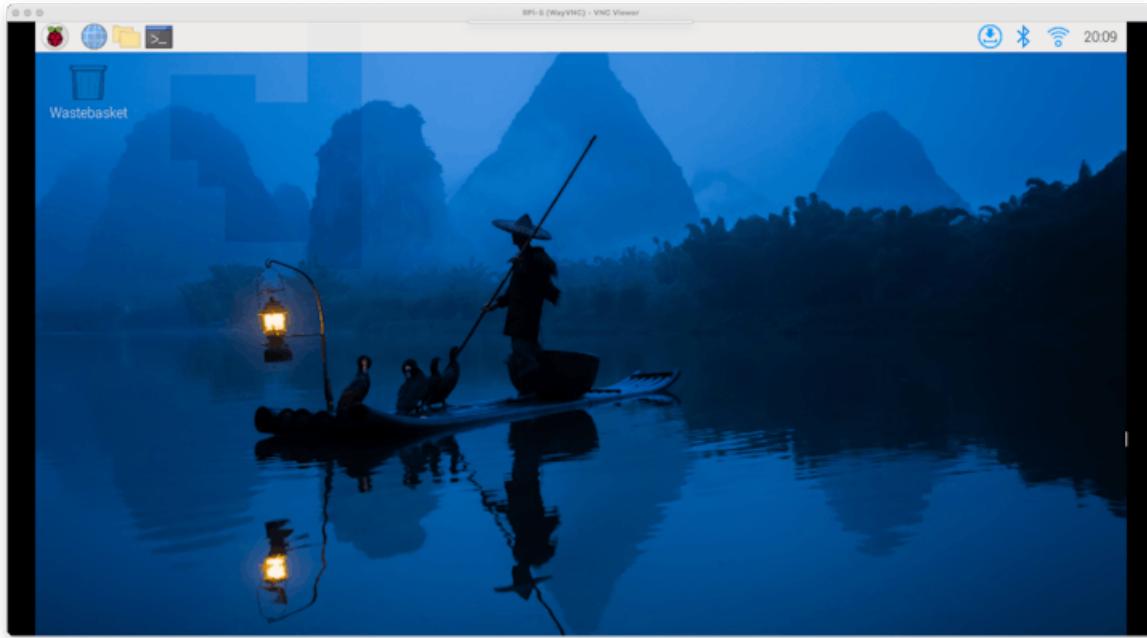
- Open your VNC viewer application.



- Enter your Raspberry Pi's IP address and hostname.
- When prompted, enter your Raspberry Pi's username and password.

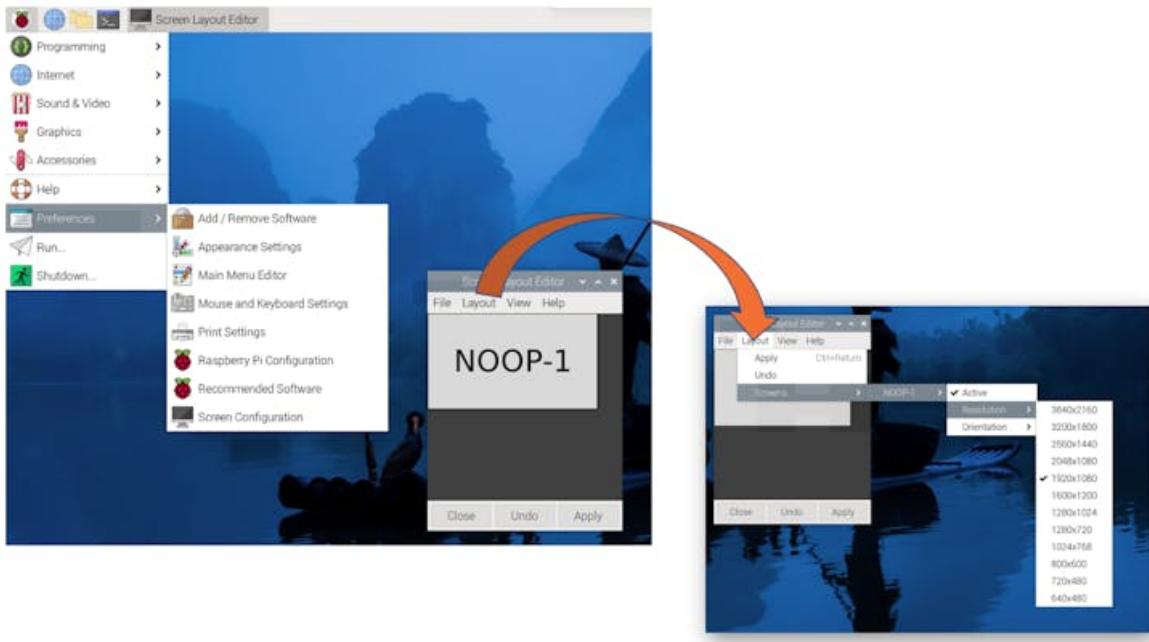


5. The Raspberry Pi 5 Desktop should appear on your computer monitor.



6. Adjust Display Settings (if needed):

- Once connected, adjust the display resolution for optimal viewing. This can be done through the Raspberry Pi's desktop settings or by modifying the config.txt file.
- Let's do it using the desktop settings. Reach the menu (the Raspberry Icon at the left upper corner) and select the best screen definition for your monitor:



Updating and Installing Software

1. Update your system:

```
sudo apt update && sudo apt upgrade -y
```

2. Install essential software:

```
sudo apt install python3-pip -y
```

3. Enable pip for Python projects:

```
sudo rm /usr/lib/python3.11/EXTERNALLY-MANAGED
```

Model-Specific Considerations

Raspberry Pi Zero

- Limited processing power, best for lightweight projects
- Use headless setup (SSH) to conserve resources.

- Consider increasing swap space for memory-intensive tasks.

Raspberry Pi 4 or 5

- Suitable for more demanding projects, including AI and machine learning.
- Can run full desktop environment smoothly.
- For Pi 5, consider using an active cooler for temperature management during intensive tasks.

Remember to adjust your project requirements based on the specific Raspberry Pi model you're using. The Pi Zero is great for low-power, space-constrained projects, while the Pi 4/5 models are better suited for more computationally intensive tasks.

Image Classification

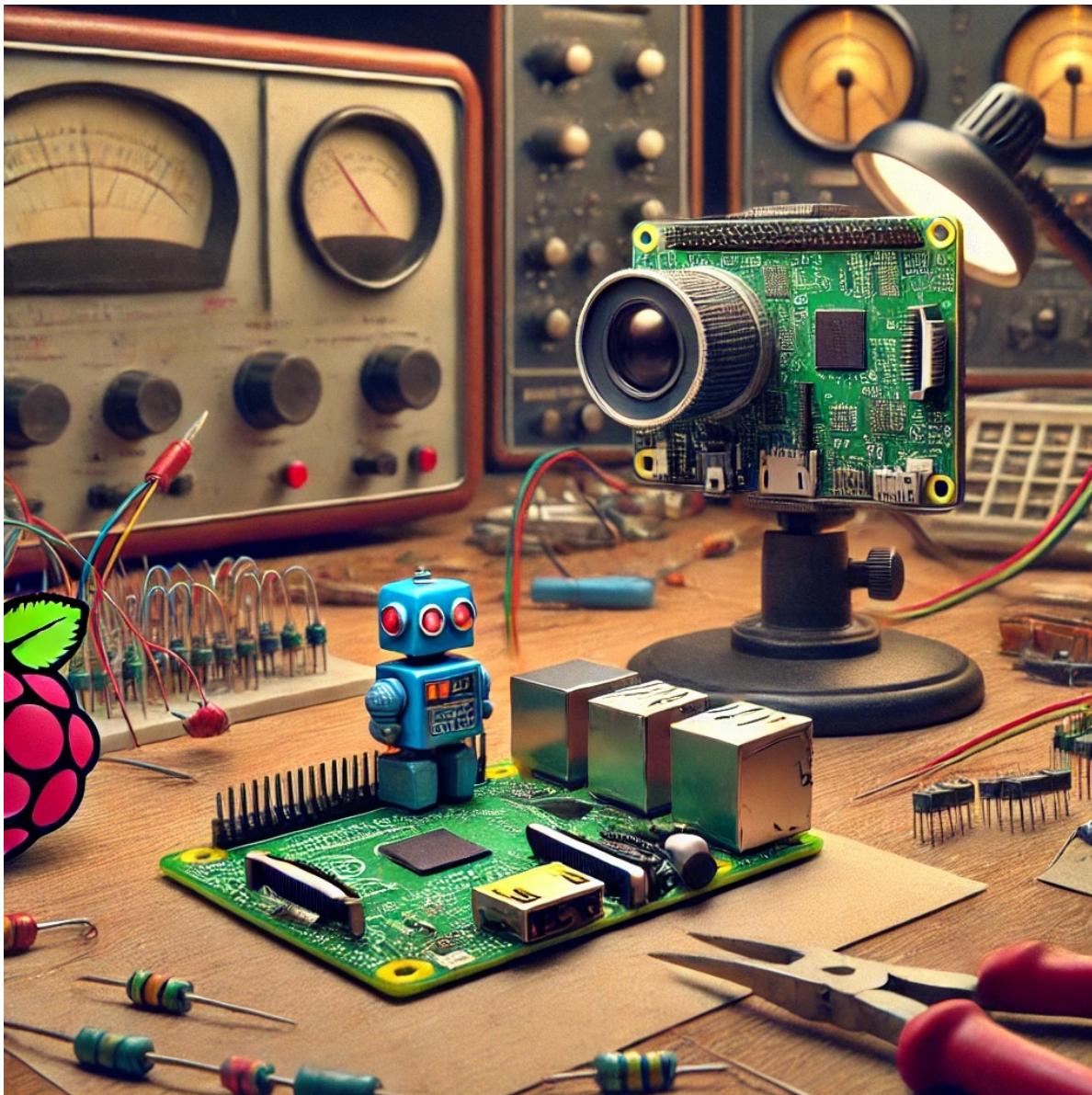


Figure 2: *DALL·E prompt - A cover image for an ‘Image Classification’ chapter in a Raspberry Pi tutorial, designed in the same vintage 1950s electronics lab style as previous covers. The scene should feature a Raspberry Pi connected to a camera module, with the camera capturing a photo of the small blue robot provided by the user. The robot should be placed on a workbench, surrounded by classic lab tools like soldering irons, resistors, and wires. The lab background should include vintage equipment like oscilloscopes and tube radios, maintaining the detailed and nostalgic feel of the era. No text or logos should be included.*

Introduction

Image classification is a fundamental task in computer vision that involves categorizing an image into one of several predefined classes. It's a cornerstone of artificial intelligence, enabling machines to interpret and understand visual information in a way that mimics human perception.

Image classification refers to assigning a label or category to an entire image based on its visual content. This task is crucial in computer vision and has numerous applications across various industries. Image classification's importance lies in its ability to automate visual understanding tasks that would otherwise require human intervention.

Applications in Real-World Scenarios

Image classification has found its way into numerous real-world applications, revolutionizing various sectors:

- Healthcare: Assisting in medical image analysis, such as identifying abnormalities in X-rays or MRIs.
- Agriculture: Monitoring crop health and detecting plant diseases through aerial imagery.
- Automotive: Enabling advanced driver assistance systems and autonomous vehicles to recognize road signs, pedestrians, and other vehicles.
- Retail: Powering visual search capabilities and automated inventory management systems.
- Security and Surveillance: Enhancing threat detection and facial recognition systems.
- Environmental Monitoring: Analyzing satellite imagery for deforestation, urban planning, and climate change studies.

Advantages of Running Classification on Edge Devices like Raspberry Pi

Implementing image classification on edge devices such as the Raspberry Pi offers several compelling advantages:

1. Low Latency: Processing images locally eliminates the need to send data to cloud servers, significantly reducing response times.
2. Offline Functionality: Classification can be performed without an internet connection, making it suitable for remote or connectivity-challenged environments.
3. Privacy and Security: Sensitive image data remains on the local device, addressing data privacy concerns and compliance requirements.
4. Cost-Effectiveness: Eliminates the need for expensive cloud computing resources, especially for continuous or high-volume classification tasks.

5. Scalability: Enables distributed computing architectures where multiple devices can work independently or in a network.
6. Energy Efficiency: Optimized models on dedicated hardware can be more energy-efficient than cloud-based solutions, which is crucial for battery-powered or remote applications.
7. Customization: Deploying specialized or frequently updated models tailored to specific use cases is more manageable.

We can create more responsive, secure, and efficient computer vision solutions by leveraging the power of edge devices like Raspberry Pi for image classification. This approach opens up new possibilities for integrating intelligent visual processing into various applications and environments.

In the following sections, we'll explore how to implement and optimize image classification on the Raspberry Pi, harnessing these advantages to create powerful and efficient computer vision systems.

Setting Up the Environment

Updating the Raspberry Pi

First, ensure your Raspberry Pi is up to date:

```
sudo apt update  
sudo apt upgrade -y
```

Installing Required Libraries

Install the necessary libraries for image processing and machine learning:

```
sudo apt install python3-pip  
sudo rm /usr/lib/python3.11/EXTERNALLY-MANAGED  
pip3 install --upgrade pip
```

Setting up a Virtual Environment (Optional but Recommended)

Create a virtual environment to manage dependencies:

```
python3 -m venv ~/tflite  
source ~/tflite/bin/activate
```

Installing TensorFlow Lite

We are interested in performing **inference**, which refers to executing a TensorFlow Lite model on a device to make predictions based on input data. To perform an inference with a TensorFlow Lite model, we must run it through an **interpreter**. The TensorFlow Lite interpreter is designed to be lean and fast. The interpreter uses a static graph ordering and a custom (less-dynamic) memory allocator to ensure minimal load, initialization, and execution latency.

We'll use the [TensorFlow Lite runtime](#) for Raspberry Pi, a simplified library for running machine learning models on mobile and embedded devices, without including all TensorFlow packages.

```
pip install tflite_runtime --no-deps
```

The wheel installed: `tflite_runtime-2.14.0-cp311-cp311-manylinux_2_34_aarch64.whl`

Installing Additional Python Libraries

Install required Python libraries for use with Image Classification:

If you have another version of Numpy installed, first uninstall it.

```
pip3 uninstall numpy
```

Install **version 1.23.2**, which is compatible with the `tflite_runtime`.

```
pip3 install numpy==1.23.2
```

```
pip3 install Pillow matplotlib
```

Creating a working directory:

If you are working on the Raspi-Zero with the minimum OS (No Desktop), you may not have a user-pre-defined directory tree (you can check it with `ls`). So, let's create one:

```
mkdir Documents
cd Documents/
mkdir TFLITE
cd TFLITE/
mkdir IMG_CLASS
cd IMG_CLASS
mkdir models
cd models
```

On the Raspi-5, the /Documents should be there.

Get a pre-trained Image Classification model:

An appropriate pre-trained model is crucial for successful image classification on resource-constrained devices like the Raspberry Pi. **MobileNet** is designed for mobile and embedded vision applications with a good balance between accuracy and speed. Versions: MobileNetV1, MobileNetV2, MobileNetV3. Let's download the V2:

```
wget https://storage.googleapis.com/download.tensorflow.org/models/
tflite_11_05_08/mobilenet_v2_1.0_224_quant.tgz

tar xzf mobilenet_v2_1.0_224_quant.tgz
```

Get its labels:

```
wget https://raw.githubusercontent.com/tensorflow/tensorflow/master/tensorflow/
lite/java/demo/app/src/main/assets/labels_mobilenet_quant_v1_224.txt -O labels.txt
```

In the end, you should have the models in its directory:

```
marcelo_rovai — mjrovai@raspi-zero: ~/Documents/TFLITE/IMG_CLASS/models — ssh mjrovai@192...
(tflite) mjrovai@raspi-zero:~/Documents/TFLITE/IMG_CLASS$ cd models
(tflite) mjrovai@raspi-zero:~/Documents/TFLITE/IMG_CLASS/models$ ls
labels.txt
mobilenet_v2_1.0_224_quant.ckpt.data-00000-of-00001
mobilenet_v2_1.0_224_quant.ckpt.index
mobilenet_v2_1.0_224_quant.ckpt.meta
mobilenet_v2_1.0_224_quant.tflite
mobilenet_v2_1.0_224_quant.tgz
mobilenet_v2_1.0_224_quant_eval.pbtxt
mobilenet_v2_1.0_224_quant_frozen.pb
mobilenet_v2_1.0_224_quant_info.txt
(tflite) mjrovai@raspi-zero:~/Documents/TFLITE/IMG_CLASS/models$
```

We will only need the `mobilenet_v2_1.0_224_quant.tflite` model and the `labels.txt`. You can delete the other files.

Setting up Jupyter Notebook (Optional)

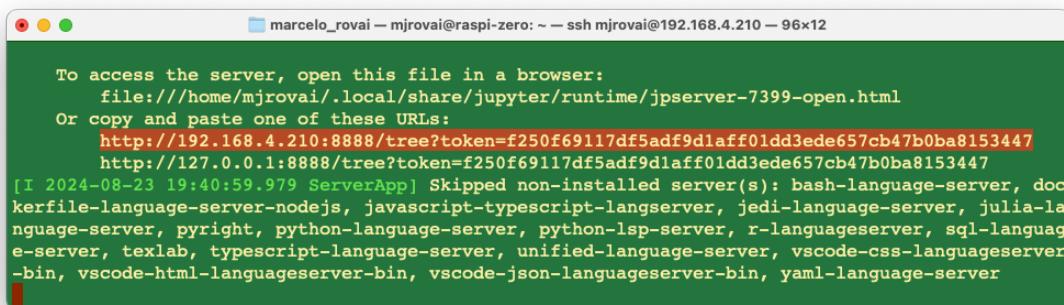
If you prefer using Jupyter Notebook for development:

```
pip3 install jupyter
jupyter notebook --generate-config
```

To run Jupyter Notebook, run the command (change the IP address for yours):

```
jupyter notebook --ip=192.168.4.210 --no-browser
```

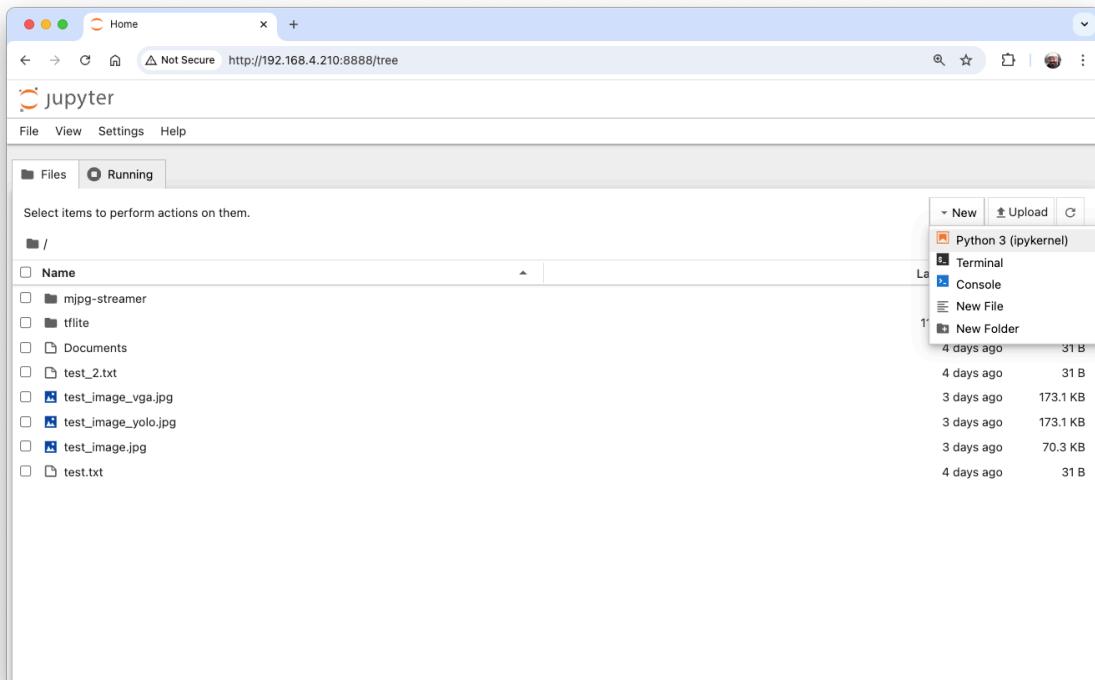
On the terminal, you can see the local URL address to open the notebook:



```
marcelo_rovai — mjrovai@raspi-zero: ~ — ssh mjrovai@192.168.4.210 — 96x12

To access the server, open this file in a browser:
  file:///home/mjrovai/.local/share/jupyter/runtime/jpserver-7399-open.html
Or copy and paste one of these URLs:
  http://192.168.4.210:8888/tree?token=f250f69117df5adf9d1aff01dd3ede657cb47b0ba8153447
  http://127.0.0.1:8888/tree?token=f250f69117df5adf9d1aff01dd3ede657cb47b0ba8153447
[I 2024-08-23 19:40:59.979 ServerApp] Skipped non-installed server(s): bash-language-server, dockerfile-language-server-nodejs, javascript-typescript-langserver, jedi-language-server, julia-language-server, pyright, python-language-server, python-lsp-server, r-languageserver, sql-languageserver, texlab, typescript-language-server, unified-language-server, vscode-css-languageserver-bin, vscode-html-languageserver-bin, vscode-json-languageserver-bin, yaml-language-server
```

You can access it from another device by entering the Raspberry Pi's IP address and the provided token in a web browser (you can copy the token from the terminal).



Define your working directory in the Raspi and create a new Python 3 notebook.

Verifying the Setup

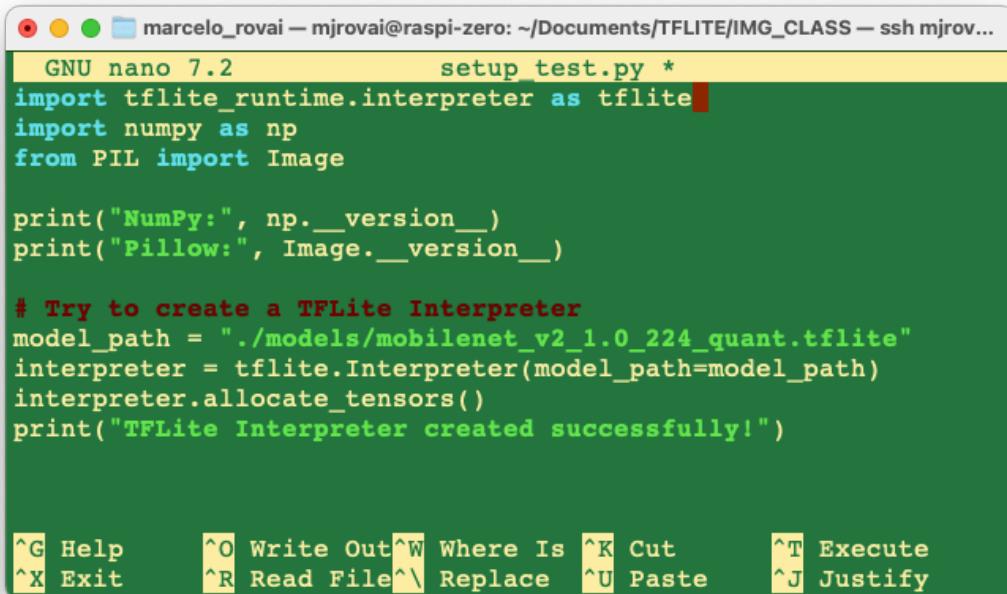
Test your setup by running a simple Python script:

```
import tensorflow_runtime.interpreter as tflite
import numpy as np
from PIL import Image

print("NumPy:", np.__version__)
print("Pillow:", Image.__version__)

# Try to create a TFLite Interpreter
model_path = "./models/mobilenet_v2_1.0_224_quant.tflite"
interpreter = tflite.Interpreter(model_path=model_path)
interpreter.allocate_tensors()
print("TFLite Interpreter created successfully!")
```

You can create the Python script using nano on the terminal, saving it with CTRL+O + ENTER + CTRL+X



The screenshot shows a terminal window titled "marcelo_rovai — mjrovai@raspi-zero: ~/Documents/TFLITE/IMG_CLASS — ssh mjrov...". The window contains the Python code from the previous block, which is being edited in the nano text editor. The code is intended to verify the setup by printing version information and creating a TFLite interpreter. The terminal also displays the nano editor's command-line interface at the bottom.

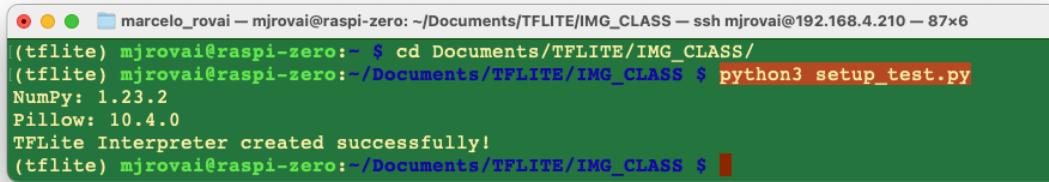
```
GNU nano 7.2           setup_test.py *
import tensorflow_runtime.interpreter as tflite
import numpy as np
from PIL import Image

print("NumPy:", np.__version__)
print("Pillow:", Image.__version__)

# Try to create a TFLite Interpreter
model_path = "./models/mobilenet_v2_1.0_224_quant.tflite"
interpreter = tensorflow_runtime.interpreter(model_path=model_path)
interpreter.allocate_tensors()
print("TFLite Interpreter created successfully!")

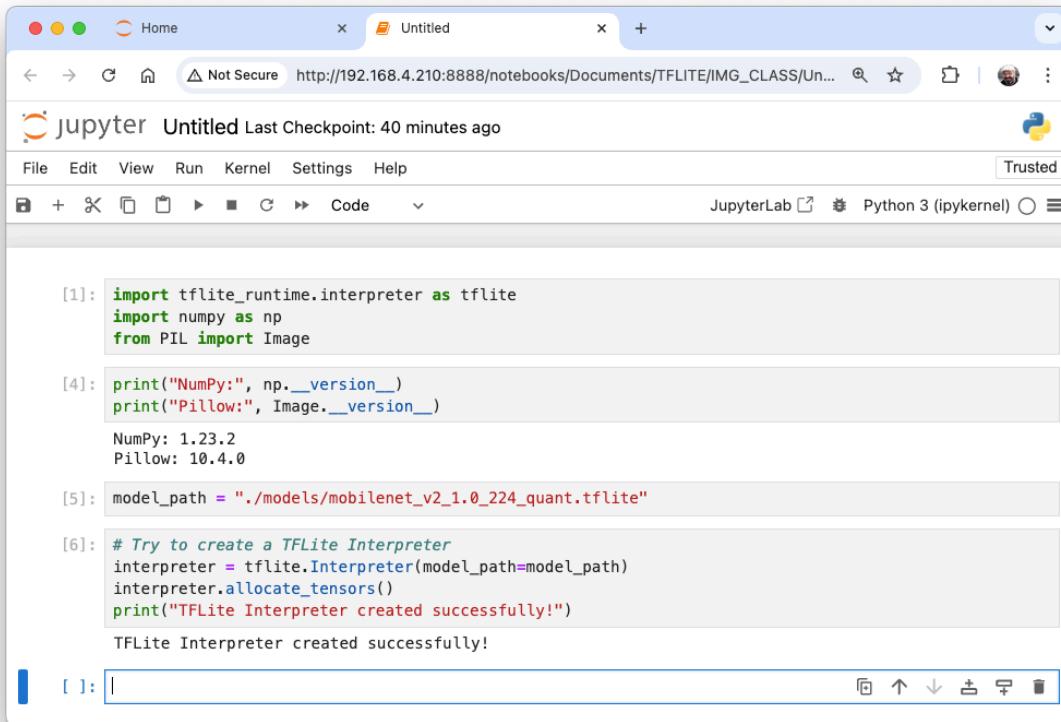
^G Help      ^O Write Out ^W Where Is ^K Cut      ^T Execute
^X Exit      ^R Read File ^\ Replace   ^U Paste    ^J Justify
```

And run it with the command:



```
(tflite) mjrovai@raspi-zero: ~/Documents/TFLITE/IMG_CLASS - ssh mjrovai@192.168.4.210 - 87x6
(tflite) mjrovai@raspi-zero:~ $ cd Documents/TFLITE/IMG_CLASS/
(tflite) mjrovai@raspi-zero:~/Documents/TFLITE/IMG_CLASS $ python3 setup_test.py
NumPy: 1.23.2
Pillow: 10.4.0
TFLite Interpreter created successfully!
(tflite) mjrovai@raspi-zero:~/Documents/TFLITE/IMG_CLASS $
```

Or you can run it directly on the [Notebook](#):



The screenshot shows a Jupyter Notebook interface running on a web browser. The title bar says "Untitled" and the URL is "http://192.168.4.210:8888/notebooks/Documents/TFLITE/IMG_CLASS/Untitled.ipynb". The notebook has a "Trusted" status. The code cell contains the following Python code:

```
[1]: import tensorflow as tf
import numpy as np
from PIL import Image

[4]: print("NumPy:", np.__version__)
print("Pillow:", Image.__version__)

NumPy: 1.23.2
Pillow: 10.4.0

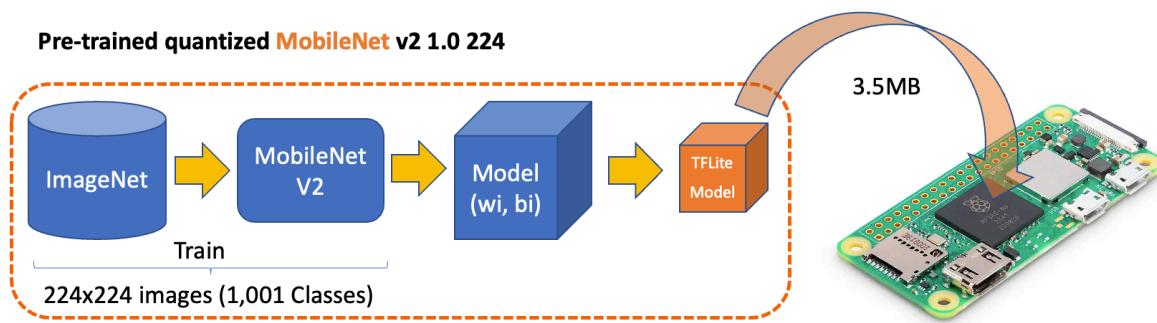
[5]: model_path = "./models/mobilenet_v2_1.0_224_quant.tflite"

[6]: # Try to create a TFLite Interpreter
interpreter = tf.lite.Interpreter(model_path=model_path)
interpreter.allocate_tensors()
print("TFLite Interpreter created successfully!")

TFLite Interpreter created successfully!
```

Making inferences with Mobilenet V2

In the last section, we set up the environment, including downloading a popular pre-trained model, Mobilenet V2, trained on ImageNet's 224x224 images (1.2 million) for 1,001 classes (1,000 object categories plus 1 background). The model was converted to a compact 3.5MB TensorFlow Lite format, making it suitable for the limited storage and memory of a Raspberry Pi.



Let's start a new [notebook](#) to follow all the steps to classify one image:

Import the needed libraries:

```
import time
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
from PIL import Image
import tensorflow as tf
```

Load the TFLite model and allocate tensors:

```
model_path = "./models/mobilenet_v2_1.0_224_quant.tflite"
interpreter = tf.lite.Interpreter(model_path=model_path)
interpreter.allocate_tensors()
```

Get input and output tensors.

```
input_details = interpreter.get_input_details()
output_details = interpreter.get_output_details()
```

Input details will give us information about how the model should be fed with an image. The shape of (1, 224, 224, 3) informs us that an image with dimensions (224x224x3) should be input one by one (Batch Dimension: 1).

input_details

```
[{'name': 'input',
 'index': 171,
 'shape': array([ 1, 224, 224,   3], dtype=int32), ← Input Image Shape
 'shape_signature': array([ 1, 224, 224,   3], dtype=int32),
 'dtype': numpy.uint8,
 'quantization': (0.0078125, 128),
 'quantization_parameters': {'scales': array([0.0078125], dtype=float32),
 'zero_points': array([128], dtype=int32),
 'quantized_dimension': 0},
 'sparsity_parameters': {}}]
```

The **output details** show that the inference will result in an array of 1,001 integer values. Those values result from the image classification, where each value is the probability of that specific label being related to the image.

output_details

```
[{'name': 'output',
 'index': 172,
 'shape': array([ 1, 1001], dtype=int32), ← Output model
 'shape_signature': array([ 1, 1001], dtype=int32),
 'dtype': numpy.uint8,
 'quantization': (0.09889253973960876, 58),
 'quantization_parameters': {'scales': array([0.09889254], dtype=float32),
 'zero_points': array([58], dtype=int32),
 'quantized_dimension': 0},
 'sparsity_parameters': {}}]
```

Let's also inspect the dtype of input details of the model

```
input_dtype = input_details[0]['dtype']
input_dtype
```

```
dtype('uint8')
```

This shows that the input image should be raw pixels (0 - 255).

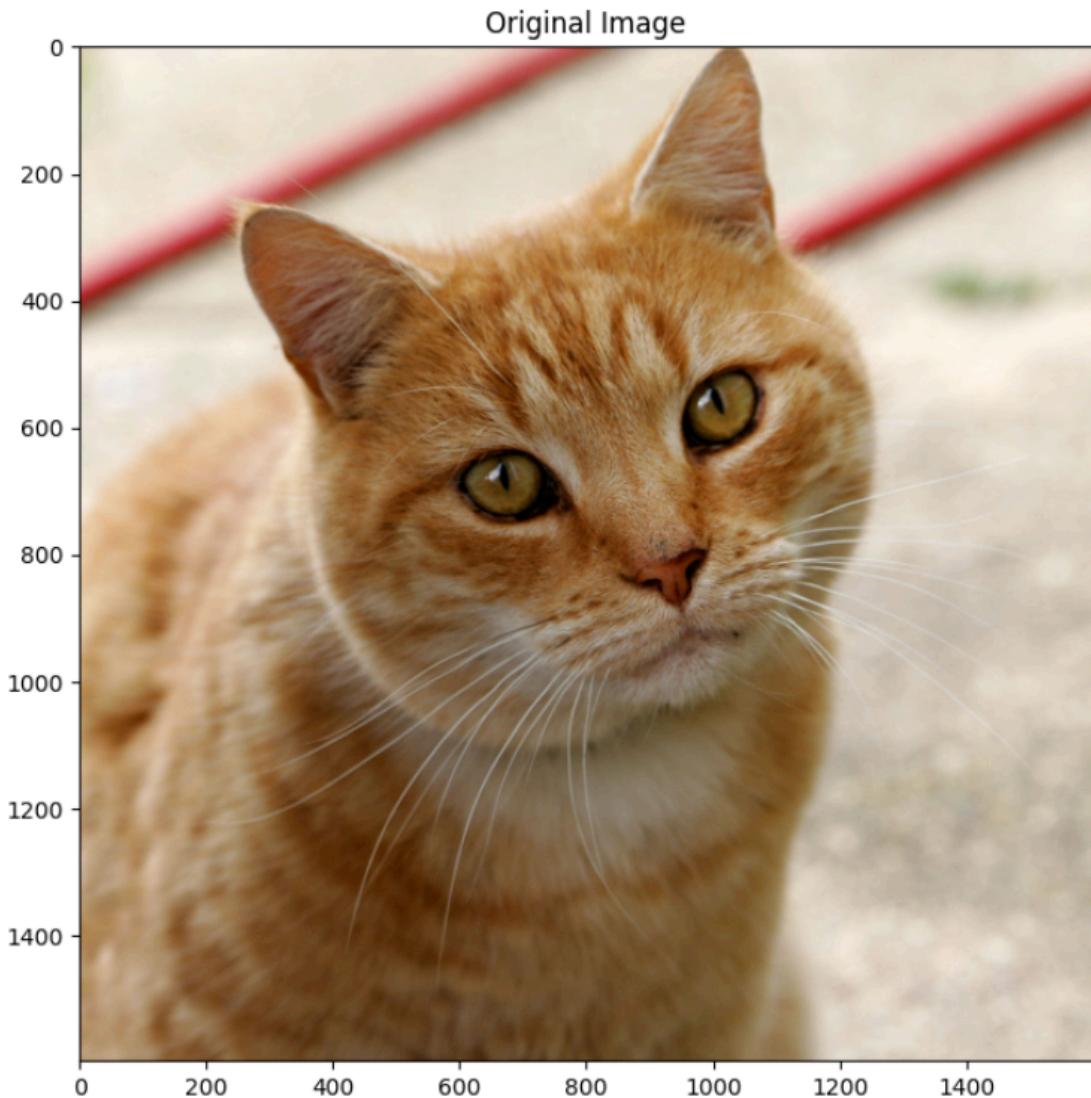
Let's get a test image. You can transfer it from your computer or download one for testing.
Let's first create a folder under our working directory:

```
mkdir images
cd images
wget https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/3/3a/Cat03.jpg
```

Let's load and display the image:

```
# Load the image
img_path = "./images/Cat03.jpg"
img = Image.open(img_path)

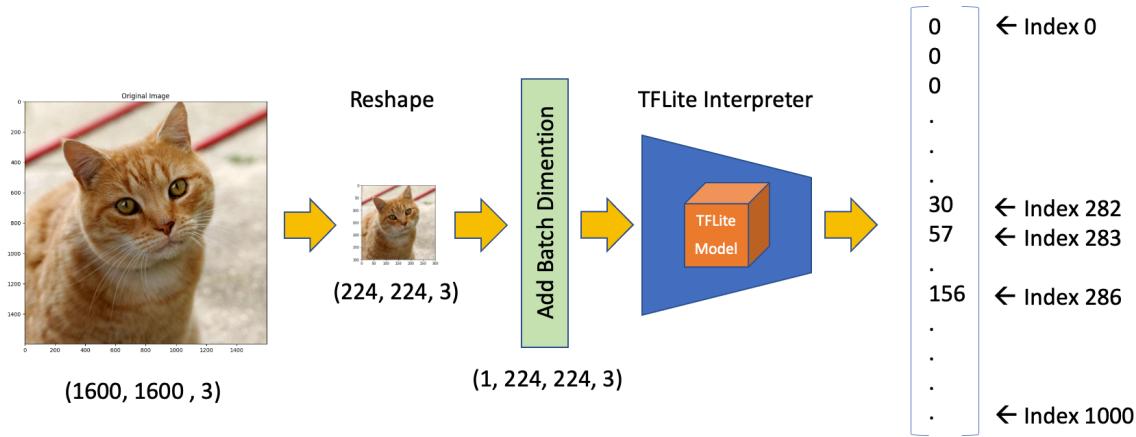
# Display the image
plt.figure(figsize=(8, 8))
plt.imshow(img)
plt.title("Original Image")
plt.show()
```



We can see the image size running the command:

```
width, height = img.size
```

That shows us that the image is an RGB image with a width of 1600 and a height of 1600 pixels. So, to use our model, we should reshape it to (224, 224, 3) and add a batch dimension of 1, as defined in input details: (1, 224, 224, 3). The inference result, as shown in output details, will be an array with a 1001 size, as shown below:



So, let's reshape the image, add the batch dimension, and see the result:

```
img = img.resize((input_details[0]['shape'][1], input_details[0]['shape'][2]))
input_data = np.expand_dims(img, axis=0)
input_data.shape
```

The input_data shape is as expected: (1, 224, 224, 3)

Let's confirm the dtype of the input data:

```
input_data.dtype
```

```
dtype('uint8')
```

The input data `dtype` is ‘`uint8`’, which is compatible with the `dtype` expected for the model.

Using the input_data, let's run the interpreter and get the predictions (output):

```
interpreter.set_tensor(input_details[0]['index'], input_data)
interpreter.invoke()
predictions = interpreter.get_tensor(output_details[0]['index'])[0]
```

The prediction is an array with 1001 elements. Let's get the Top-5 indices where their elements have high values:

```
top_k_results = 5
top_k_indices = np.argsort(predictions)[::-1][:top_k_results]
top_k_indices
```

The top_k_indices is an array with 5 elements: `array([283, 286, 282])`

So, 283, 286, 282, 288, and 479 are the image's most probable classes. Having the index, we must find to what class it appoints (such as car, cat, or dog). The text file downloaded with the model has a label associated with each index from 0 to 1,000. Let's use a function to load the .txt file as a list:

```
def load_labels(filename):
    with open(filename, 'r') as f:
        return [line.strip() for line in f.readlines()]
```

And get the list, printing the labels associated with the indexes:

```
labels_path = "./models/labels.txt"
labels = load_labels(labels_path)

print(labels[286])
print(labels[283])
print(labels[282])
print(labels[288])
print(labels[479])
```

As a result, we have:

```
Egyptian cat
tiger cat
tabby
lynx
carton
```

At least the four top indices are related to felines. The **prediction** content is the probability associated with each one of the labels. As we saw on output details, those values are quantized and should be dequantized and apply softmax.

```
scale, zero_point = output_details[0]['quantization']
dequantized_output = (predictions.astype(np.float32) - zero_point) * scale
exp_output = np.exp(dequantized_output - np.max(dequantized_output))
probabilities = exp_output / np.sum(exp_output)
```

Let's print the top-5 probabilities:

```
print (probabilities[286])
print (probabilities[283])
print (probabilities[282])
print (probabilities[288])
print (probabilities[479])
```

```
0.27741462
0.3732285
0.16919471
0.10319158
0.023410844
```

For clarity, let's create a function to relate the labels with the probabilities:

```
for i in range(top_k_results):
    print("\t{:20}: {}%".format(
        labels[top_k_indices[i]],
        (int(probabilities[top_k_indices[i]]*100))))
```



```
tiger cat      : 37%
Egyptian cat   : 27%
tabby          : 16%
lynx           : 10%
carton         : 2%
```

Define a general Image Classification function

Let's create a general function to give an image as input, and we get the Top-5 possible classes:

```
def image_classification(img_path, model_path, labels, top_k_results=5):
    # load the image
    img = Image.open(img_path)
    plt.figure(figsize=(4, 4))
    plt.imshow(img)
    plt.axis('off')

    # Load the TFLite model
    interpreter = tflite.Interpreter(model_path=model_path)
    interpreter.allocate_tensors()
```

```

# Get input and output tensors
input_details = interpreter.get_input_details()
output_details = interpreter.get_output_details()

# Preprocess
img = img.resize((input_details[0]['shape'][1],
                  input_details[0]['shape'][2]))
input_data = np.expand_dims(img, axis=0)

# Inference on Raspi-Zero
interpreter.set_tensor(input_details[0]['index'], input_data)
interpreter.invoke()

# Obtain results and map them to the classes
predictions = interpreter.get_tensor(output_details[0]['index'])[0]

# Get indices of the top k results
top_k_indices = np.argsort(predictions)[::-1][:top_k_results]

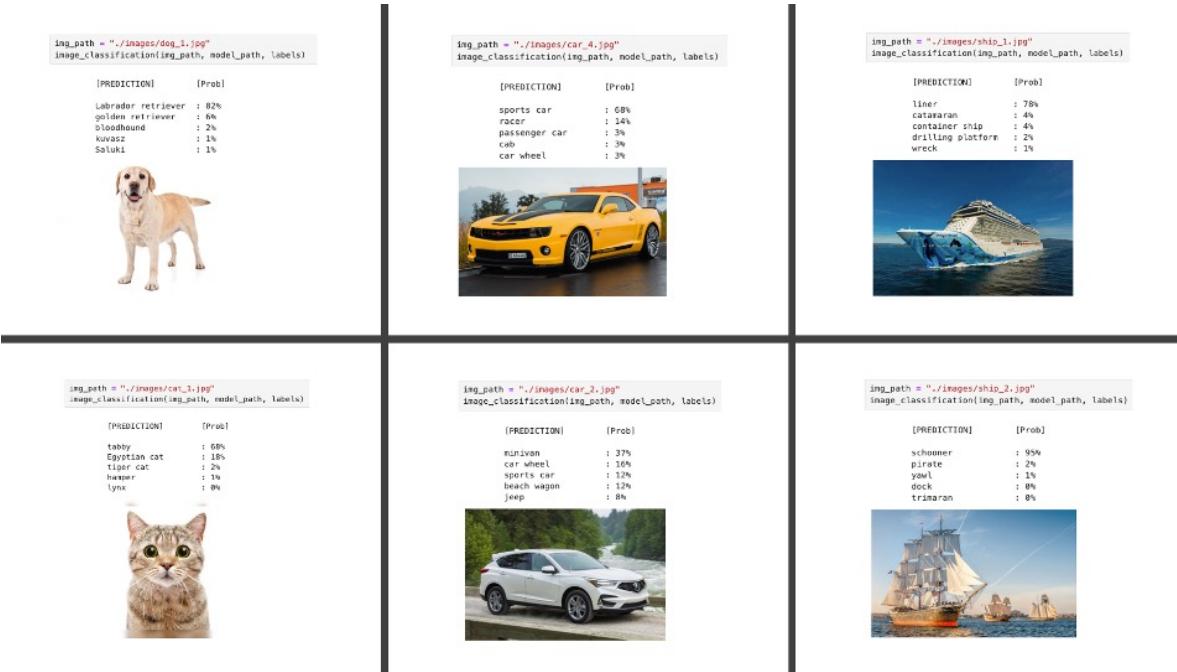
# Get quantization parameters
scale, zero_point = output_details[0]['quantization']

# Dequantize the output and apply softmax
dequantized_output = (predictions.astype(np.float32) - zero_point) * scale
exp_output = np.exp(dequantized_output - np.max(dequantized_output))
probabilities = exp_output / np.sum(exp_output)

print("\n\t[PREDICTION] [Prob]\n")
for i in range(top_k_results):
    print("\t{:20}: {}%".format(
        labels[top_k_indices[i]],
        (int(probabilities[top_k_indices[i]]*100))))

```

And loading some images for testing, we have:



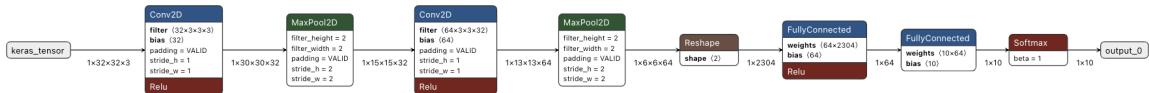
Testing with a model trained from scratch

Let's get a TFLite model trained from scratch. For that, you can follow the Notebook:

CNN to classify Cifar-10 dataset

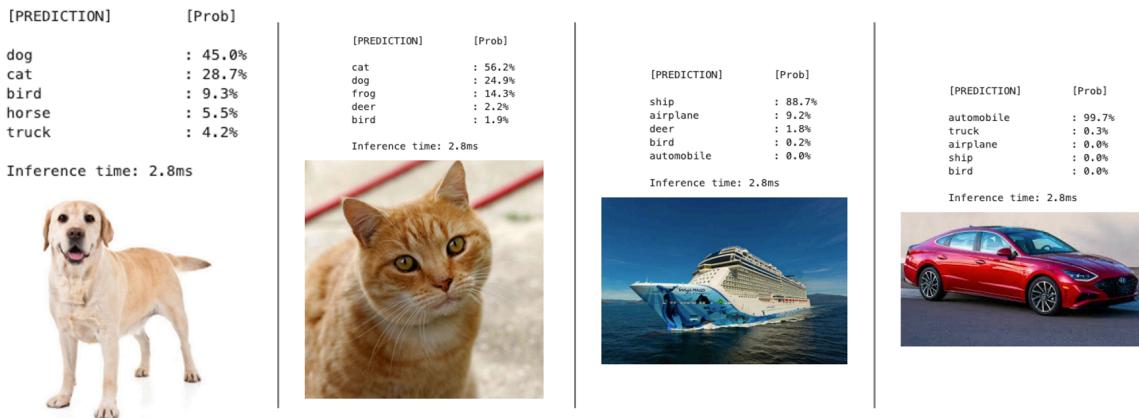
In the notebook, we trained a model using the CIFAR10 dataset, which contains 60,000 images from 10 classes of CIFAR (*airplane, automobile, bird, cat, deer, dog, frog, horse, ship, and truck*). CIFAR has 32x32 color images (3 color channels) where the objects are not centered and can have the object with a background, such as airplanes that might have a cloudy sky behind them! In short, small but real images.

The CNN trained model (*cifar10_model.keras*) had a size of 2.0MB. Using the *TFLite Converter*, the model *cifar10.tflite* became with 674MB (around 1/3 of the original size).



On the notebook [Cifar 10 - Image Classification on a Raspi with TFLite](#) (which can be run over the Raspi), we can follow the same steps we did with the `mobilenet_v2_1.0_224_quant.tflite`.

Below are examples of images using the *General Function for Image Classification* on a Raspi-Zero, as shown in the last section.



Installing Picamera2

[Picamera2](#), a Python library for interacting with Raspberry Pi's camera, is based on the *libcamera* camera stack, and the Raspberry Pi foundation maintains it. The Picamera2 library is supported on all Raspberry Pi models, from the Pi Zero to the RPi 5. It is already installed system-wide on the Raspi, but we should make it accessible within the virtual environment.

1. First, activate the virtual environment if it's not already activated:

```
source ~/tf-lite/bin/activate
```

2. Now, let's create a .pth file in your virtual environment to add the system site-packages path:

```
echo "/usr/lib/python3/dist-packages" > $VIRTUAL_ENV/lib/python3.11/
site-packages/system_site_packages.pth
```

Note: If your Python version differs, replace `python3.11` with the appropriate version.

3. After creating this file, try importing picamera2 in Python:

```
python3
>>> import picamera2
>>> print(picamera2.__file__)
```

The above code will show the file location of the `picamera2` module itself, proving that the library can be accessed from the environment.

```
/home/mjrovai/tflite/lib/python3.11/site-packages/picamera2/__init__.py
```

You can also list the available cameras in the system:

```
>>> print(Picamera2.global_camera_info())
```

In my case, with a USB installed, I got:



```
marcelo_rovai - mjrovai@raspi-zero: ~ - ssh mjrovai@192.168.4.210 - 116x7
>>> import picamera2
>>> print(picamera2.__file__)
/home/mjrovai/tflite/lib/python3.11/site-packages/picamera2/__init__.py
>>> print(Picamera2.global_camera_info())
[1:31:09.852601701] [6058] INFO Camera camera_manager.cpp:313 libcamera v0.3.0+65-6ddd79b5
[{'Model': 'USB 2.0 Camera: USB Camera', 'Location': 2, 'Id': '/base/soc/usb@7e980000-1:1.0-0c45:1915', 'Num': 0}]
>>>
```

Now that we've confirmed `picamera2` is working in the environment with an `index 0`, let's try a simple Python script to capture an image from your USB camera:

```
from picamera2 import Picamera2
import time

# Initialize the camera
picam2 = Picamera2() # default is index 0

# Configure the camera
config = picam2.create_still_configuration(main={"size": (640, 480)})
picam2.configure(config)

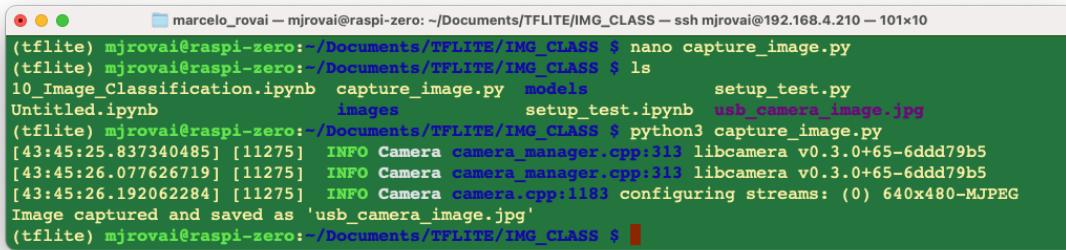
# Start the camera
picam2.start()

# Wait for the camera to warm up
time.sleep(2)

# Capture an image
picam2.capture_file("usb_camera_image.jpg")
print("Image captured and saved as 'usb_camera_image.jpg'")
```

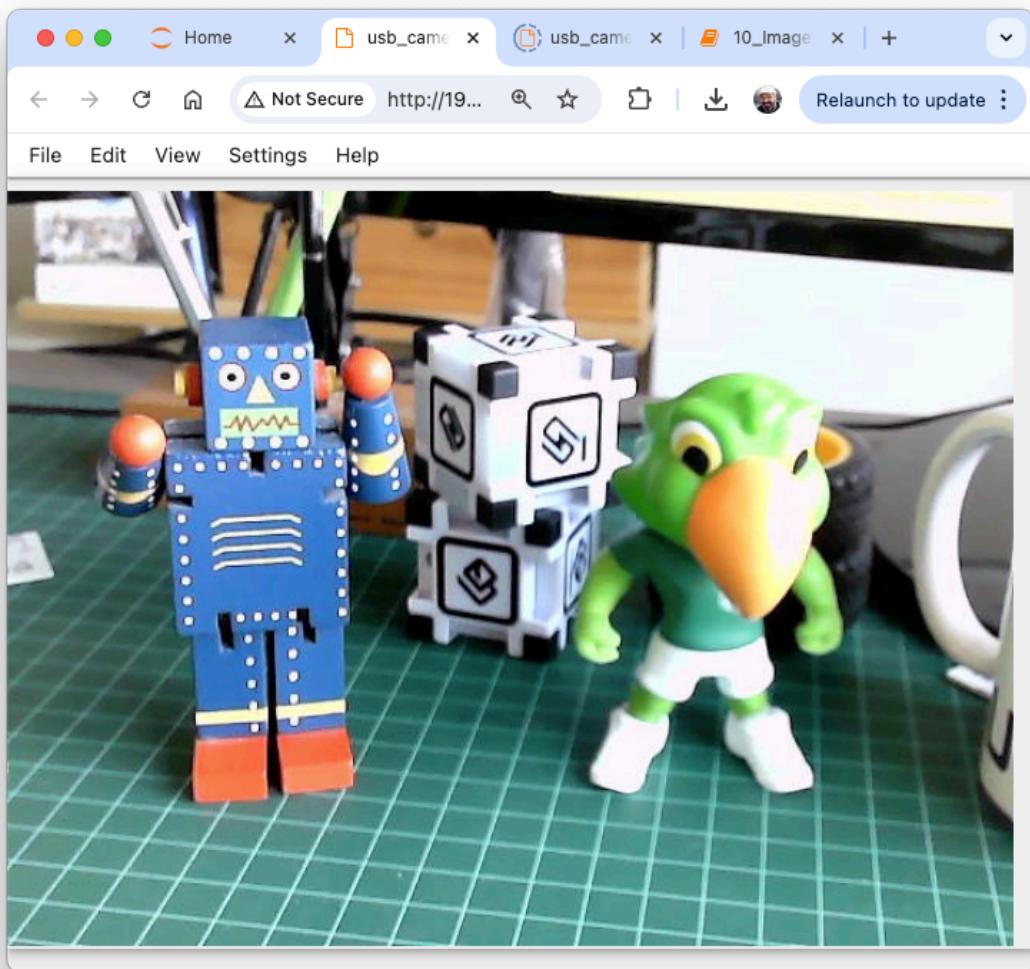
```
# Stop the camera
picam2.stop()
```

Use the Nano text editor, the Jupyter Notebook, or any other editor. Save this as a Python script (e.g., `capture_image.py`) and run it. This should capture an image from your camera and save it as “`usb_camera_image.jpg`” in the same directory as your script.



```
marcelo_rovai — mjrovai@raspi-zero: ~/Documents/TFLITE/IMG_CLASS — ssh mjrovai@192.168.4.210 — 101x10
(tflite) mjrovai@raspi-zero:~/Documents/TFLITE/IMG_CLASS $ nano capture_image.py
(tflite) mjrovai@raspi-zero:~/Documents/TFLITE/IMG_CLASS $ ls
10_Image_Classification.ipynb  capture_image.py  models      setup_test.py
Untitled.ipynb                 images          setup_test.ipynb  usb_camera_image.jpg
(tflite) mjrovai@raspi-zero:~/Documents/TFLITE/IMG_CLASS $ python3 capture_image.py
[43:45:25.837340485] [11275] INFO Camera camera_manager.cpp:313 libcamera v0.3.0+65-6ddd79b5
[43:45:26.077626719] [11275] INFO Camera camera_manager.cpp:313 libcamera v0.3.0+65-6ddd79b5
[43:45:26.192062284] [11275] INFO Camera camera.cpp:1183 configuring streams: (0) 640x480-MJPEG
Image captured and saved as 'usb_camera_image.jpg'
(tflite) mjrovai@raspi-zero:~/Documents/TFLITE/IMG_CLASS $
```

If the Jupyter is open, you can see the captured image on your computer. Otherwise, transfer the file from the Raspi to your computer.



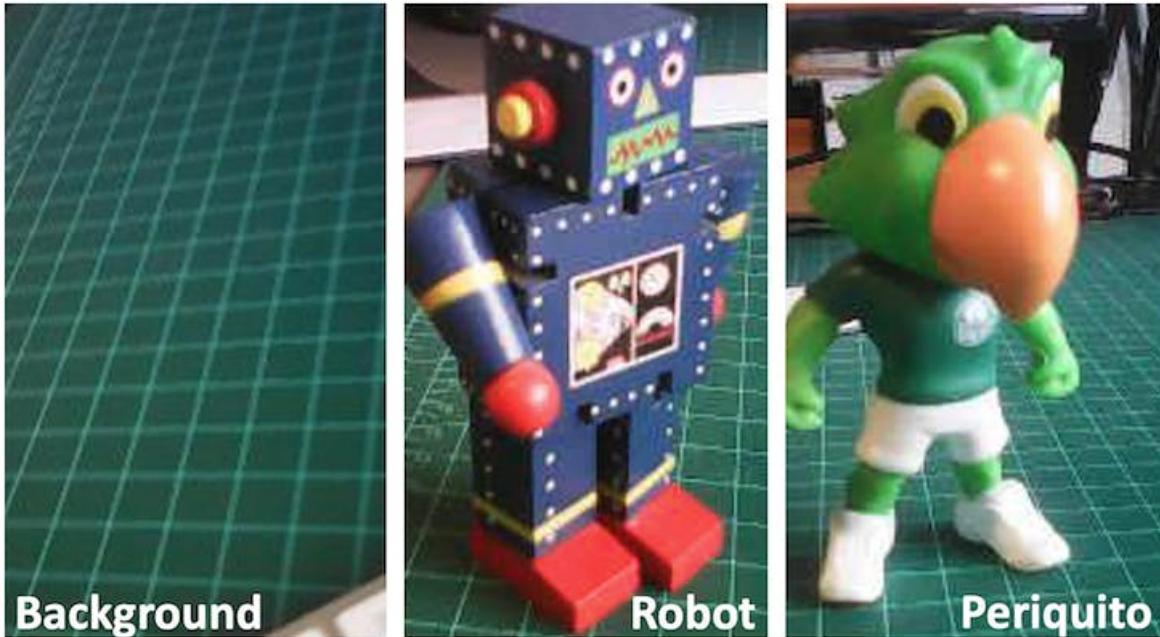
If you are working with a Raspi-5 with a whole desktop, you can open the file directly on the device.

Image Classification Project

Now, we will develop a complete Image Classification project using the Edge Impulse Studio. As we did with the Movilinet V2, the trained and converted TFLite model will be used for inference.

The Goal

The first step in any ML project is to define its goal. In this case, it is to detect and classify two specific objects present in one image. For this project, we will use two small toys: a robot and a small Brazilian parrot (named Periquito). We will also collect images of a *background* where those two objects are absent.



Data Collection

Once we have defined our Machine Learning project goal, the next and most crucial step is collecting the dataset. We can use a phone for the image capture, but we will use the Raspi here. Let's set up a simple web server on our Raspberry Pi to view the QVGA (320 x 240) captured images in a browser.

1. First, let's install Flask, a lightweight web framework for Python:

```
pip3 install flask
```

2. Let's create a new Python script combining image capture with a web server. We'll call it `get_img_data.py`:

```

from flask import Flask, Response, render_template_string, request, redirect, url_for
from picamera2 import Picamera2
import io
import threading
import time
import os
import signal

app = Flask(__name__)

# Global variables
base_dir = "dataset"
picam2 = None
frame = None
frame_lock = threading.Lock()
capture_counts = {}
current_label = None
shutdown_event = threading.Event()

def initialize_camera():
    global picam2
    picam2 = Picamera2()
    config = picam2.create_preview_configuration(main={"size": (320, 240)})
    picam2.configure(config)
    picam2.start()
    time.sleep(2) # Wait for camera to warm up

def get_frame():
    global frame
    while not shutdown_event.is_set():
        stream = io.BytesIO()
        picam2.capture_file(stream, format='jpeg')
        with frame_lock:
            frame = stream.getvalue()
        time.sleep(0.1) # Adjust as needed for smooth preview

def generate_frames():
    while not shutdown_event.is_set():
        with frame_lock:
            if frame is not None:
                yield (b'--frame\r\n'

```

```

        b'Content-Type: image/jpeg\r\n\r\n' + frame + b'\r\n')
time.sleep(0.1) # Adjust as needed for smooth streaming

def shutdown_server():
    shutdown_event.set()
    if picam2:
        picam2.stop()
    # Give some time for other threads to finish
    time.sleep(2)
    # Send SIGINT to the main process
    os.kill(os.getpid(), signal.SIGINT)

@app.route('/', methods=['GET', 'POST'])
def index():
    global current_label
    if request.method == 'POST':
        current_label = request.form['label']
        if current_label not in capture_counts:
            capture_counts[current_label] = 0
        os.makedirs(os.path.join(base_dir, current_label), exist_ok=True)
        return redirect(url_for('capture_page'))
    return render_template_string('''
        <!DOCTYPE html>
        <html>
        <head>
            <title>Dataset Capture - Label Entry</title>
        </head>
        <body>
            <h1>Enter Label for Dataset</h1>
            <form method="post">
                <input type="text" name="label" required>
                <input type="submit" value="Start Capture">
            </form>
        </body>
        </html>
    ''')

@app.route('/capture')
def capture_page():
    return render_template_string('''
        <!DOCTYPE html>

```

```

<html>
<head>
    <title>Dataset Capture</title>
    <script>
        var shutdownInitiated = false;
        function checkShutdown() {
            if (!shutdownInitiated) {
                fetch('/check_shutdown')
                    .then(response => response.json())
                    .then(data => {
                        if (data.shutdown) {
                            shutdownInitiated = true;
                            document.getElementById('video-feed').src = '';
                            document.getElementById('shutdown-message')
                                .style.display = 'block';
                        }
                    });
            }
            setInterval(checkShutdown, 1000); // Check every second
        }
    </script>
</head>
<body>
    <h1>Dataset Capture</h1>
    <p>Current Label: {{ label }}</p>
    <p>Images captured for this label: {{ capture_count }}</p>
    
    <div id="shutdown-message" style="display: none; color: red;">
        Capture process has been stopped. You can close this window.
    </div>
    <form action="/capture_image" method="post">
        <input type="submit" value="Capture Image">
    </form>
    <form action="/stop" method="post">
        <input type="submit" value="Stop Capture"
style="background-color: #ff6666;">
    </form>
    <form action="/" method="get">
        <input type="submit" value="Change Label"
style="background-color: #ffff66;">
    </form>
</body>

```

```

        </form>
    </body>
</html>
'', label=current_label, capture_count=capture_counts.get(current_label, 0))

@app.route('/video_feed')
def video_feed():
    return Response(generate_frames(),
                    mimetype='multipart/x-mixed-replace; boundary=frame')

@app.route('/capture_image', methods=['POST'])
def capture_image():
    global capture_counts
    if current_label and not shutdown_event.is_set():
        capture_counts[current_label] += 1
        timestamp = time.strftime("%Y%m%d-%H%M%S")
        filename = f"image_{timestamp}.jpg"
        full_path = os.path.join(base_dir, current_label, filename)

        picam2.capture_file(full_path)

    return redirect(url_for('capture_page'))

@app.route('/stop', methods=['POST'])
def stop():
    summary = render_template_string('''
        <!DOCTYPE html>
        <html>
        <head>
            <title>Dataset Capture - Stopped</title>
        </head>
        <body>
            <h1>Dataset Capture Stopped</h1>
            <p>The capture process has been stopped. You can close this window.</p>
            <p>Summary of captures:</p>
            <ul>
                {% for label, count in capture_counts.items() %}
                    <li>{{ label }}: {{ count }} images</li>
                {% endfor %}
            </ul>
        </body>
    ''')

```

```

        </html>
    '', capture_counts=capture_counts)

# Start a new thread to shutdown the server
threading.Thread(target=shutdown_server).start()

return summary

@app.route('/check_shutdown')
def check_shutdown():
    return {'shutdown': shutdown_event.is_set()}

if __name__ == '__main__':
    initialize_camera()
    threading.Thread(target=get_frame, daemon=True).start()
    app.run(host='0.0.0.0', port=5000, threaded=True)

```

4. Run this script:

```
python3 get_img_data.py
```

5. Access the web interface:

- On the Raspberry Pi itself (if you have a GUI): Open a web browser and go to <http://localhost:5000>
- From another device on the same network: Open a web browser and go to http://<raspberry_pi_ip>:5000 (Replace `<raspberry_pi_ip>` with your Raspberry Pi's IP address). For example: <http://192.168.4.210:5000>/

This Python script creates a web-based interface for capturing and organizing image datasets using a Raspberry Pi and its camera. It's handy for machine learning projects that require labeled image data.

Key Features:

1. **Web Interface:** Accessible from any device on the same network as the Raspberry Pi.
2. **Live Camera Preview:** This shows a real-time feed from the camera.
3. **Labeling System:** Allows users to input labels for different categories of images.
4. **Organized Storage:** Automatically saves images in label-specific subdirectories.
5. **Per-Label Counters:** Keeps track of how many images are captured for each label.
6. **Summary Statistics:** Provides a summary of captured images when stopping the capture process.

Main Components:

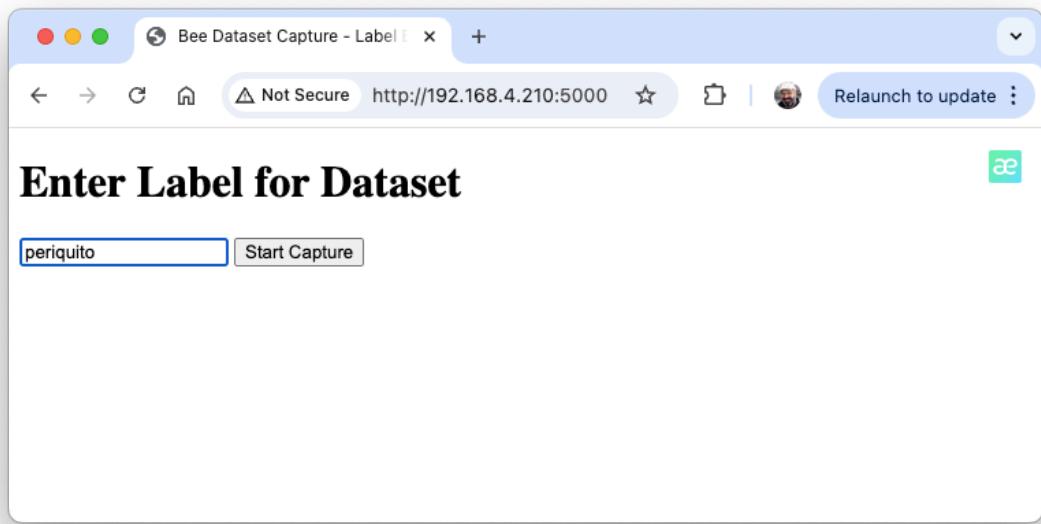
1. **Flask Web Application:** Handles routing and serves the web interface.
2. **Picamera2 Integration:** Controls the Raspberry Pi camera.
3. **Threaded Frame Capture:** Ensures smooth live preview.
4. **File Management:** Organizes captured images into labeled directories.

Key Functions:

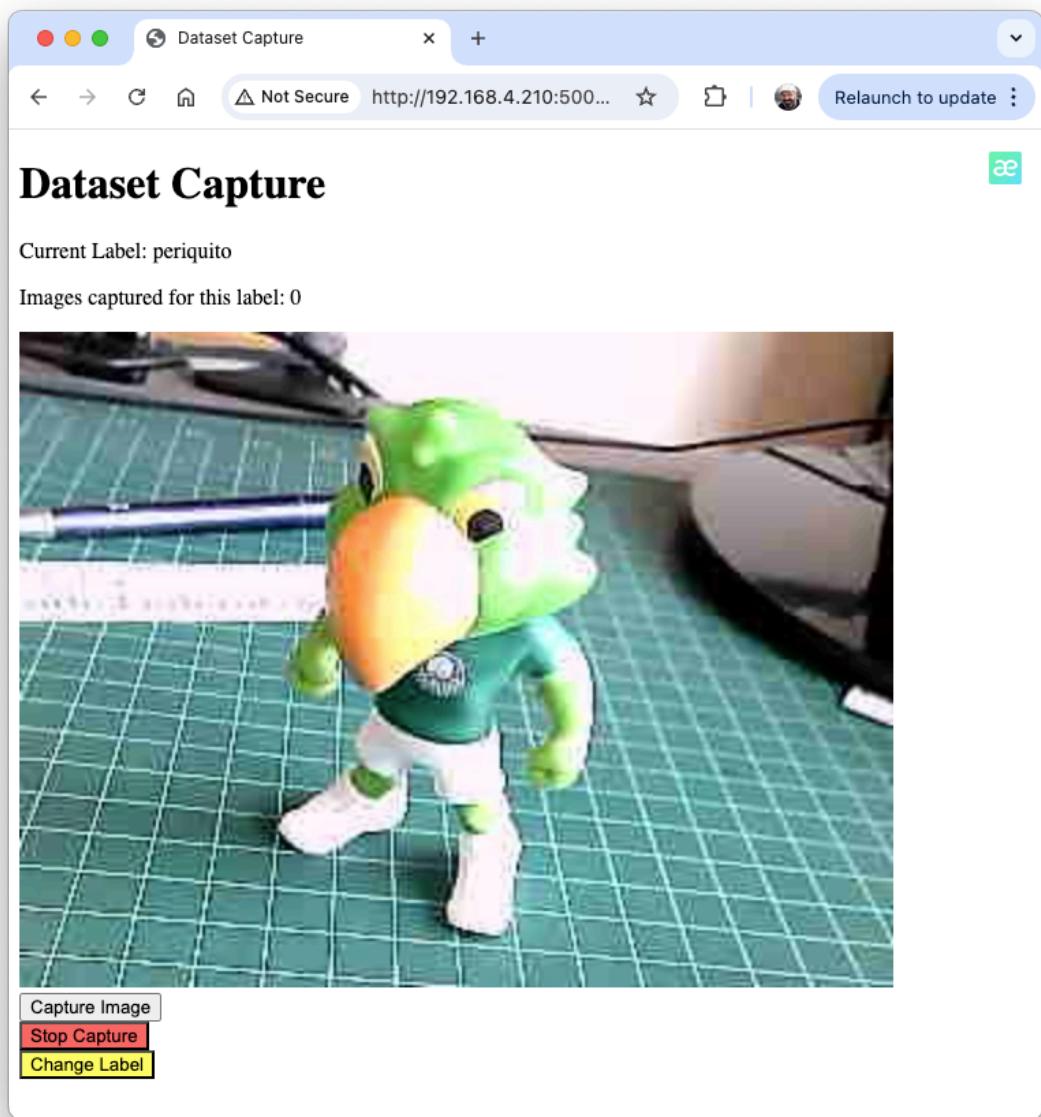
- `initialize_camera()`: Sets up the Picamera2 instance.
- `get_frame()`: Continuously captures frames for the live preview.
- `generate_frames()`: Yields frames for the live video feed.
- `shutdown_server()`: Sets the shutdown event, stops the camera, and shuts down the Flask server
- `index()`: Handles the label input page.
- `capture_page()`: Displays the main capture interface.
- `video_feed()`: Shows a live preview to position the camera
- `capture_image()`: Saves an image with the current label.
- `stop()`: Stops the capture process and displays a summary.

Usage Flow:

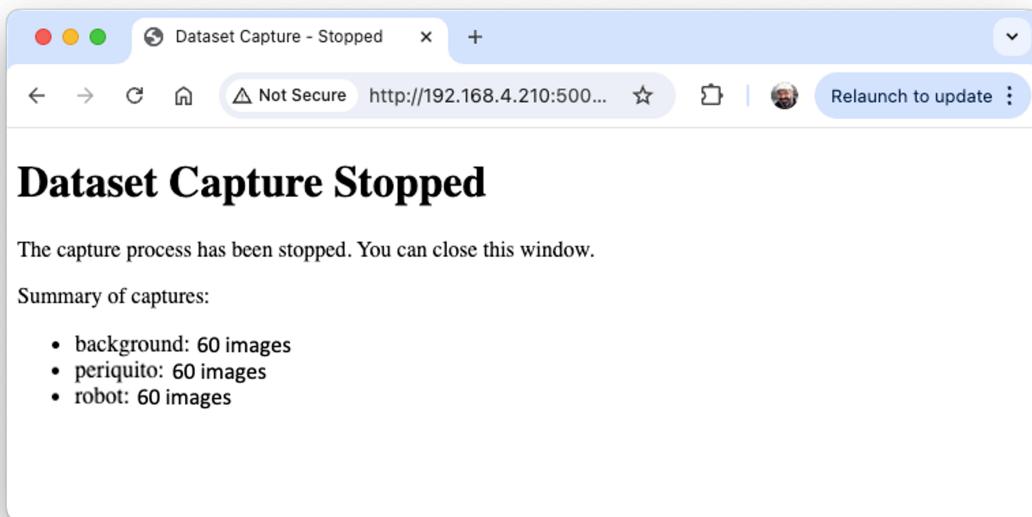
1. Start the script on your Raspberry Pi.
2. Access the web interface from a browser.
3. Enter a label for the images you want to capture and press **Start Capture**.



4. Use the live preview to position the camera.
5. Click **Capture Image** to save images under the current label.



6. Change labels as needed for different categories, selecting Change Label.
7. Click Stop Capture when finished to see a summary.



Technical Notes:

- The script uses threading to handle concurrent frame capture and web serving.
- Images are saved with timestamps in their filenames for uniqueness.
- The web interface is responsive and can be accessed from mobile devices.

Customization Possibilities:

- Adjust image resolution in the `initialize_camera()` function. Here we used QVGA (320X240).
- Modify the HTML templates for a different look and feel.
- Add additional image processing or analysis steps in the `capture_image()` function.

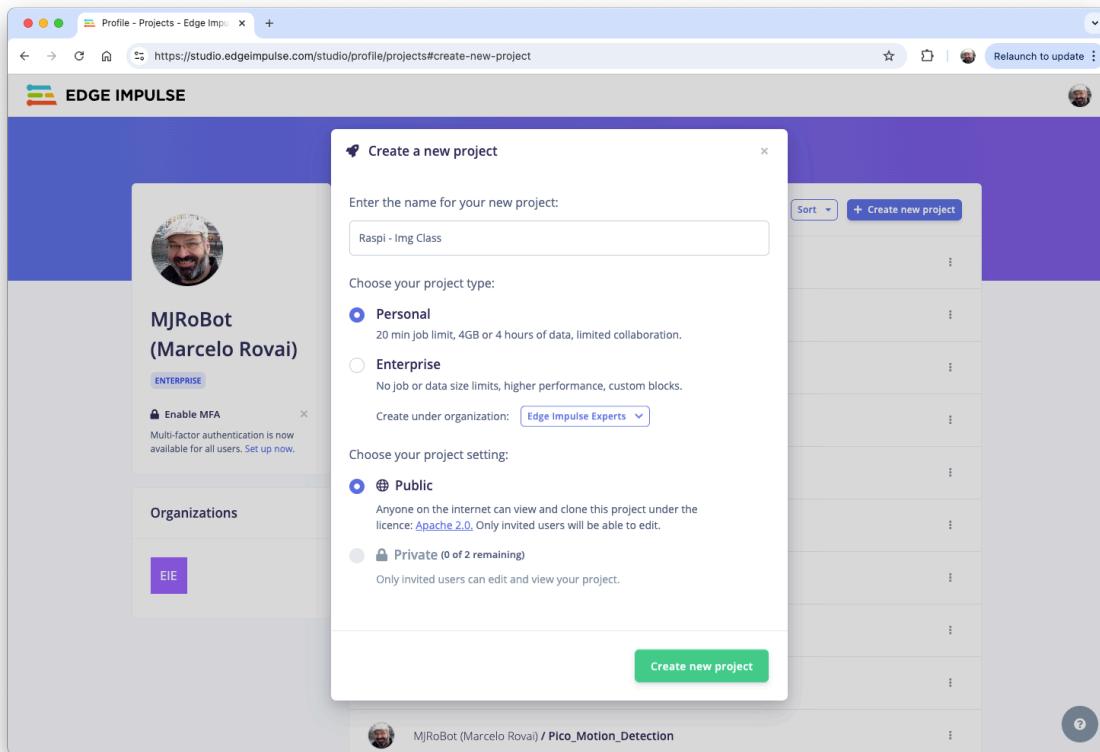
Number of samples on Dataset:

Get around 60 images from each category (`periquito`, `robot` and `background`). Try to capture different angles, backgrounds, and light conditions. On the Raspi, we will end with a folder named `dataset`, which contains 3 sub-folders `periquito`, `robot`, and `background`. one for each class of images.

You can use `Filezilla` to transfer the created dataset to your main computer.

Training the model with Edge Impulse Studio

We will use the Edge Impulse Studio to train our model. Go to the [Edge Impulse Page](#), enter your account credentials, and create a new project:



Here, you can clone a similar project: [Raspi - Img Class](#).

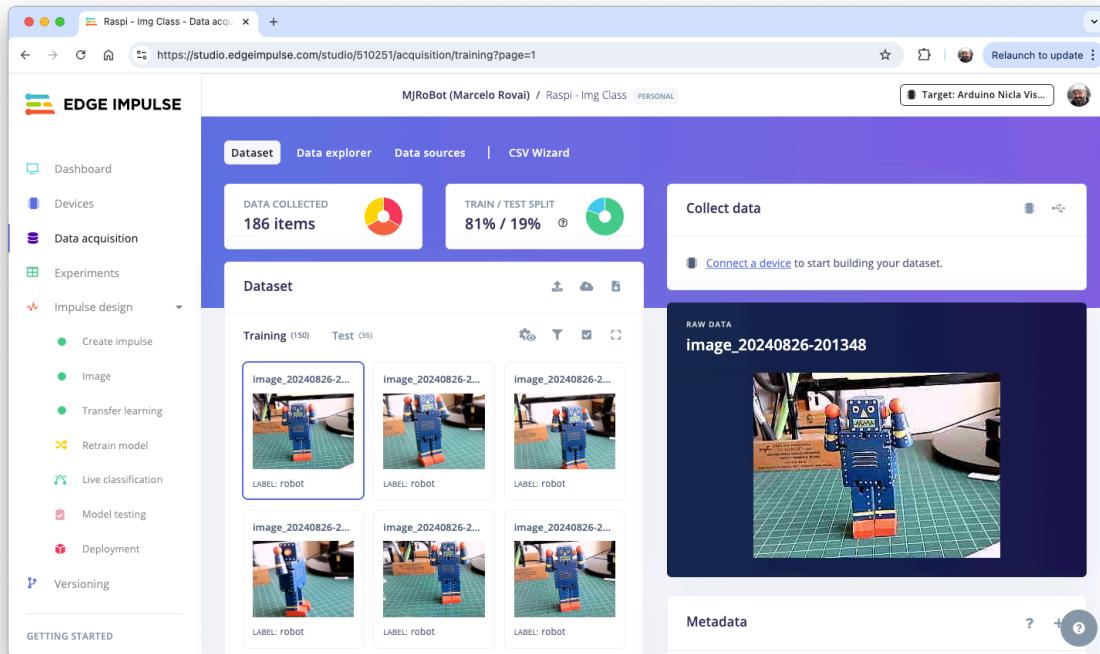
Dataset

We will walk through four main steps using the EI Studio (or Studio). These steps are crucial in preparing our model for use on the Raspi: Dataset, Impulse, Tests, and Deploy (on the Edge Device, in this case, the Raspi).

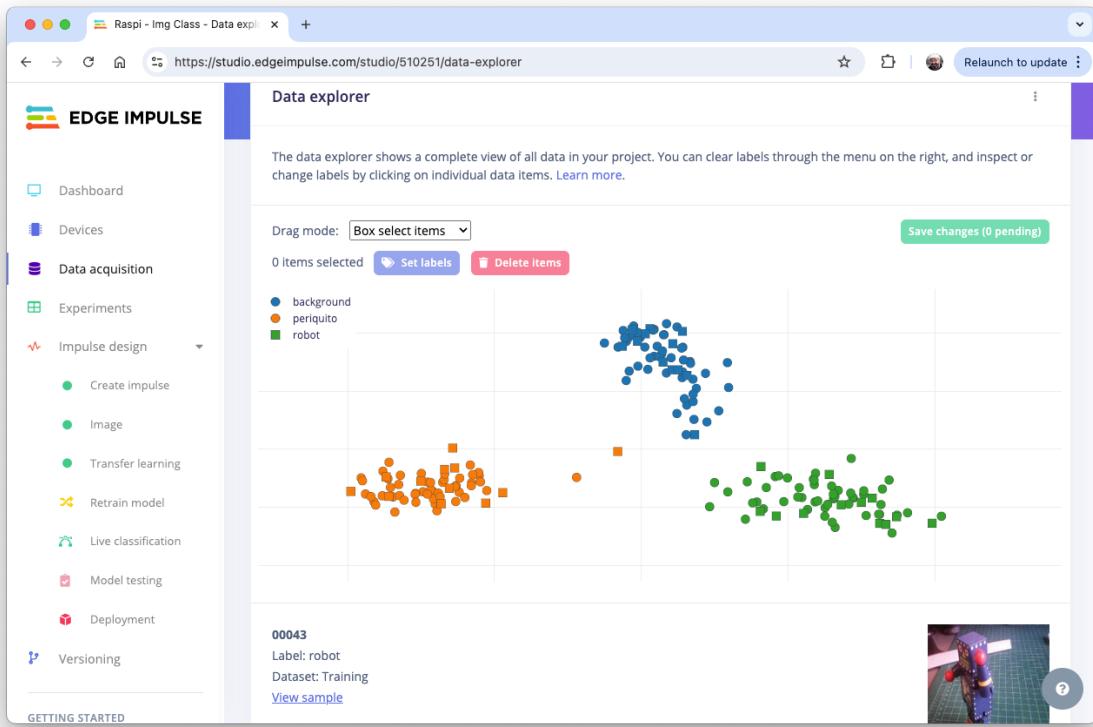
Regarding the Dataset, it is essential to point out that our Original Dataset, captured with the Raspi, will be split into *Training*, *Validation*, and *Test*. The Test Set will be separated from the beginning and reserved for use only in the Test phase after training. The Validation Set will be used during training.

On Studio, follow the steps to upload the captured data:

1. Go to the **Data acquisition** tab, and in the **UPLOAD DATA** section, upload the files from your computer in the chosen categories.
2. Leave to the Studio the splitting of the original dataset into *train* and *test* and choose the label about
3. Repeat the procedure for all three classes. At the end, you should see your “raw data” in the Studio:



The Studio allows you to explore your data, showing a complete view of all the data in your project. You can clear, inspect, or change labels by clicking on individual data items. In our case, a straightforward project, the data seems OK.

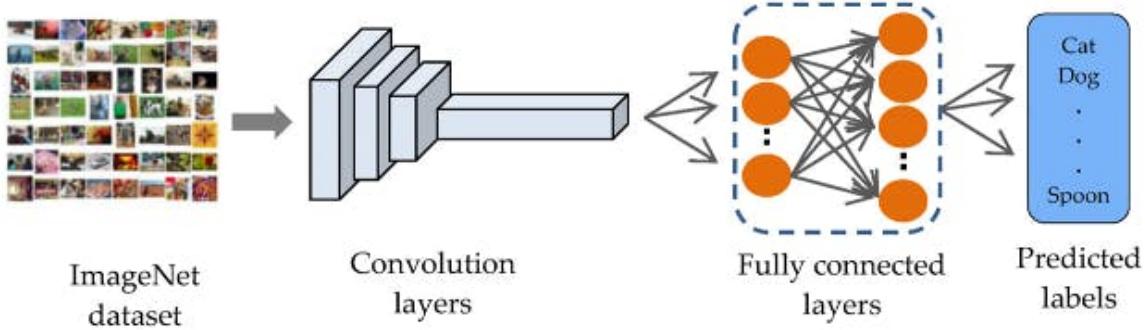


The Impulse Design

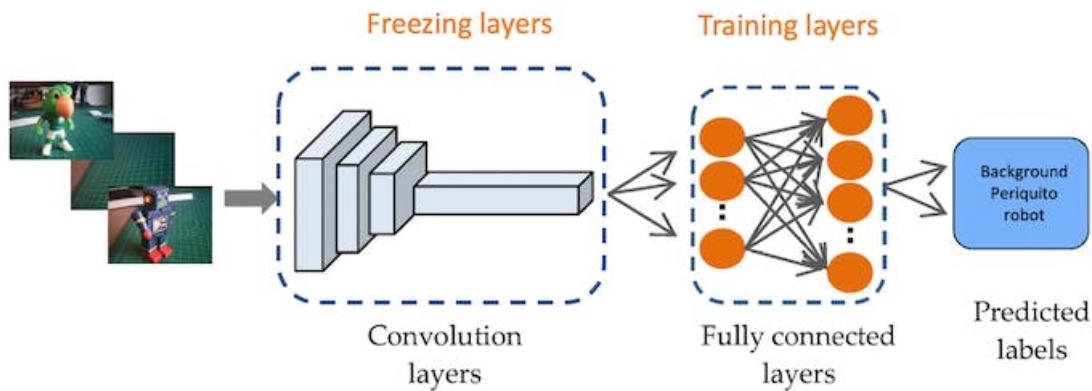
In this phase, we should define how to:

- Pre-process our data, which consists of resizing the individual images and determining the `color depth` to use (be it RGB or Grayscale) and
- Specify a Model. In this case, it will be the `Transfer Learning (Images)` to fine-tune a pre-trained MobileNet V2 image classification model on our data. This method performs well even with relatively small image datasets (around 180 images in our case).

Transfer Learning with MobileNet offers a streamlined approach to model training, which is especially beneficial for resource-constrained environments and projects with limited labeled data. MobileNet, known for its lightweight architecture, is a pre-trained model that has already learned valuable features from a large dataset (ImageNet).



By leveraging these learned features, we can train a new model for your specific task with fewer data and computational resources and achieve competitive accuracy.



This approach significantly reduces training time and computational cost, making it ideal for quick prototyping and deployment on embedded devices where efficiency is paramount.

Go to the Impulse Design Tab and create the *impulse*, defining an image size of 160x160 and squashing them (squared form, without cropping). Select Image and Transfer Learning blocks. Save the Impulse.

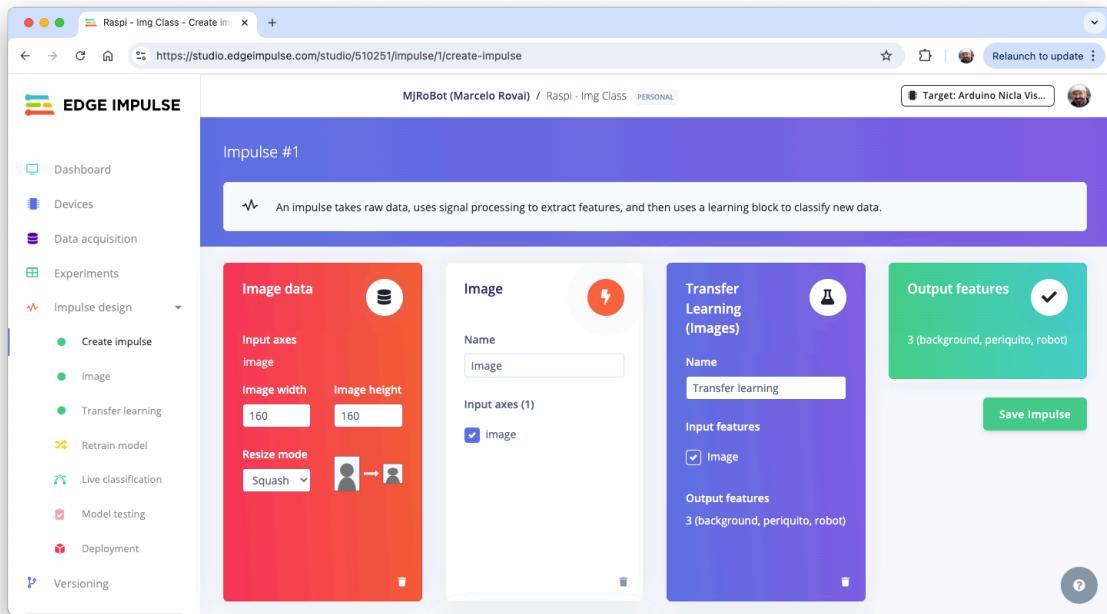


Image Pre-Processing

All the input QVGA/RGB565 images will be converted to 76,800 features (160x160x3).

DSP result

Image



Copy 76800 features to clipboard

Processed features

Copy to clipboard

0.1333, 0.1020, 0.1098, 0.1373, 0.0980, 0.1098, 0.1608, 0.1020, 0.125...

On-device performance



PROCESSING TIME

1 ms.



PEAK RAM USAGE

4 KB

?

Press Save parameters and select Generate features in the next tab.

Model Design

MobileNet is a family of efficient convolutional neural networks designed for mobile and embedded vision applications. The key features of MobileNet are:

1. Lightweight: Optimized for mobile devices and embedded systems with limited computational resources.
2. Speed: Fast inference times, suitable for real-time applications.
3. Accuracy: Maintains good accuracy despite its compact size.

MobileNetV2, introduced in 2018, improves the original MobileNet architecture. Key features include:

1. Inverted Residuals: Inverted residual structures are used where shortcut connections are made between thin bottleneck layers.
2. Linear Bottlenecks: Removes non-linearities in the narrow layers to prevent the destruction of information.
3. Depth-wise Separable Convolutions: Continues to use this efficient operation from MobileNetV1.

In our project, we will do a **Transfer Learning** with the MobileNetV2 160x160 1.0, which means that the images used for training (and future inference) should have an *input Size* of 160x160 pixels and a *Width Multiplier* of 1.0 (full width, not reduced). This configuration balances between model size, speed, and accuracy.

Model Training

Another valuable deep learning technique is **Data Augmentation**. Data augmentation improves the accuracy of machine learning models by creating additional artificial data. A data augmentation system makes small, random changes to the training data during the training process (such as flipping, cropping, or rotating the images).

Looking under the hood, here you can see how Edge Impulse implements a data Augmentation policy on your data:

```
# Implements the data augmentation policy
def augment_image(image, label):
    # Flips the image randomly
    image = tf.image.random_flip_left_right(image)

    # Increase the image size, then randomly crop it down to
    # the original dimensions
    resize_factor = random.uniform(1, 1.2)
```

```

new_height = math.floor(resize_factor * INPUT_SHAPE[0])
new_width = math.floor(resize_factor * INPUT_SHAPE[1])
image = tf.image.resize_with_crop_or_pad(image, new_height, new_width)
image = tf.image.random_crop(image, size=INPUT_SHAPE)

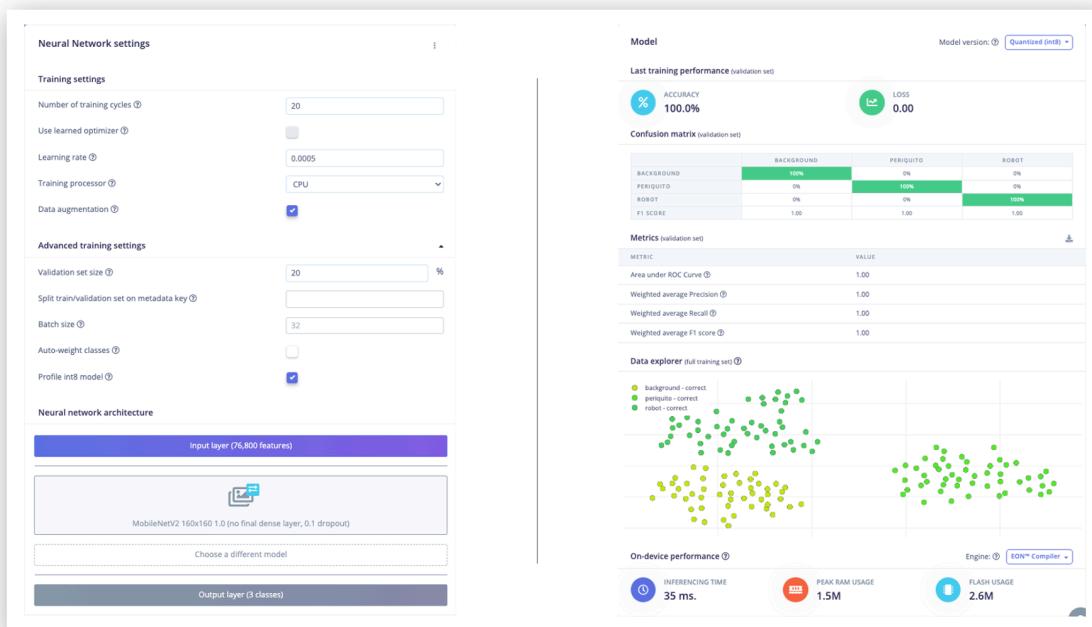
# Vary the brightness of the image
image = tf.image.random_brightness(image, max_delta=0.2)

return image, label

```

Exposure to these variations during training can help prevent your model from taking shortcuts by “memorizing” superficial clues in your training data, meaning it may better reflect the deep underlying patterns in your dataset.

The final dense layer of our model will have 0 neurons with a 10% dropout for overfitting prevention. Here is the Training result:



The result is excellent, with a reasonable 35ms of latency (for a Rasp-4), which should result in around 30 fps (frames per second) during inference. A Raspi-Zero should be slower, and the Rasp-5, faster.

Trading off: Accuracy versus speed

If faster inference is needed, we should train the model using smaller alphas (0.35, 0.5, and 0.75) or even reduce the image input size, trading with accuracy. However, reducing the input image size and decreasing the alpha (width multiplier) can speed up inference for MobileNet V2, but they have different trade-offs. Let's compare:

1. Reducing Image Input Size:

Pros:

- Significantly reduces the computational cost across all layers.
- Decreases memory usage.
- It often provides a substantial speed boost.

Cons:

- It may reduce the model's ability to detect small features or fine details.
- It can significantly impact accuracy, especially for tasks requiring fine-grained recognition.

2. Reducing Alpha (Width Multiplier):

Pros:

- Reduces the number of parameters and computations in the model.
- Maintains the original input resolution, potentially preserving more detail.
- It can provide a good balance between speed and accuracy.

Cons:

- It may not speed up inference as dramatically as reducing input size.
- It can reduce the model's capacity to learn complex features.

Comparison:

1. Speed Impact:

- Reducing input size often provides a more substantial speed boost because it reduces computations quadratically (halving both width and height reduces computations by about 75%).
- Reducing alpha provides a more linear reduction in computations.

2. Accuracy Impact:

- Reducing input size can severely impact accuracy, especially when detecting small objects or fine details.

- Reducing alpha tends to have a more gradual impact on accuracy.

3. Model Architecture:

- Changing input size doesn't alter the model's architecture.
- Changing alpha modifies the model's structure by reducing the number of channels in each layer.

Recommendation:

1. If our application doesn't require detecting tiny details and can tolerate some loss in accuracy, reducing the input size is often the most effective way to speed up inference.
2. Reducing alpha might be preferable if maintaining the ability to detect fine details is crucial or if you need a more balanced trade-off between speed and accuracy.
3. For best results, you might want to experiment with both:
 - Try MobileNet V2 with input sizes like 160x160 or 92x92
 - Experiment with alpha values like 1.0, 0.75, 0.5 or 0.35.
4. Always benchmark the different configurations on your specific hardware and with your particular dataset to find the optimal balance for your use case.

Remember, the best choice depends on your specific requirements for accuracy, speed, and the nature of the images you're working with. It's often worth experimenting with combinations to find the optimal configuration for your particular use case.

Model Testing

Now, you should take the data set aside at the start of the project and run the trained model using it as input. Again, the result is excellent (92.22%).

Deploying the model

As we did in the previous section, we can deploy the trained model as .tflite and use Raspi to run it using Python.

On the Dashboard tab, go to Transfer learning model (int8 quantized) and click on the download icon:

| Download block output | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------|---|
| TITLE | TYPE | SIZE | |
| Image training data | NPY file | 150 windows | |
| Image training labels | NPY file | 150 windows | |
| Image testing data | NPY file | 36 windows | |
| Image testing labels | NPY file | 36 windows | |
| Transfer learning model | TensorFlow Lite (float32) | 9 MB | |
| Transfer learning model | TensorFlow Lite (int8 quantized) | 3 MB |  |
| Transfer learning model | Model evaluation metrics (JSON file) | 5 KB | |
| Transfer learning model | TensorFlow SavedModel | 8 MB | |
| Transfer learning model | Keras h5 model | 8 MB | |

Let's also download the float32 version for comparasion

Transfer the model from your computer to the Raspi (./models), for example, using FileZilla.
Also, capture some images for inference (./images).

Import the needed libraries:

```
import time
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
from PIL import Image
import tensorflow_runtime.interpreter as tflite
```

Define the paths and labels:

```
img_path = "./images/robot.jpg"
model_path = "./models/ei-raspi-img-class-int8-quantized-model.tflite"
labels = ['background', 'periquito', 'robot']
```

Note that the models trained on the Edge Impulse Studio will output values with index 0, 1, 2, etc., where the actual labels will follow an alphabetic order.

Load the model, allocate the tensors, and get the input and output tensor details:

```
# Load the TFLite model
interpreter = tflite.Interpreter(model_path=model_path)
interpreter.allocate_tensors()

# Get input and output tensors
input_details = interpreter.get_input_details()
output_details = interpreter.get_output_details()
```

One important difference to note is that the `dtype` of the input details of the model is now `int8`, which means that the input values go from -128 to +127, while each pixel of our image goes from 0 to 256. This means that we should pre-process the image to match it. We can check here:

```
input_dtype = input_details[0]['dtype']
input_dtype

numpy.int8
```

So, let's open the image and show it:

```
img = Image.open(img_path)
plt.figure(figsize=(4, 4))
plt.imshow(img)
plt.axis('off')
plt.show()
```



And perform the pre-processing:

```
scale, zero_point = input_details[0]['quantization']
img = img.resize((input_details[0]['shape'][1],
                  input_details[0]['shape'][2]))
img_array = np.array(img, dtype=np.float32) / 255.0
img_array = (img_array / scale + zero_point).clip(-128, 127).astype(np.int8)
input_data = np.expand_dims(img_array, axis=0)
```

Checking the input data, we can verify that the input tensor is compatible with what is expected by the model:

```
input_data.shape, input_data.dtype
```

```
((1, 160, 160, 3), dtype('int8'))
```

Now, it is time to perform the inference. Let's also calculate the latency of the model:

```
# Inference on Raspi-Zero
start_time = time.time()
interpreter.set_tensor(input_details[0]['index'], input_data)
```

```

interpreter.invoke()
end_time = time.time()
inference_time = (end_time - start_time) * 1000 # Convert to milliseconds
print ("Inference time: {:.1f}ms".format(inference_time))

```

The model will take around 125ms to perform the inference in the Raspi-Zero, which is 3 to 4 times longer than a Raspi-5.

Now, we can get the output labels and probabilities. It is also important to note that the model trained on the Edge Impulse Studio has a softmax in its output (different from the original Movilenet V2), and we should use the model's raw output as the "probabilities."

```

# Obtain results and map them to the classes
predictions = interpreter.get_tensor(output_details[0]['index'])[0]

# Get indices of the top k results
top_k_results=3
top_k_indices = np.argsort(predictions)[::-1][:top_k_results]

# Get quantization parameters
scale, zero_point = output_details[0]['quantization']

# Dequantize the output
dequantized_output = (predictions.astype(np.float32) - zero_point) * scale
probabilities = dequantized_output

print("\n\t[PREDICTION] [Prob]\n")
for i in range(top_k_results):
    print("\t{:20}: {:.2f}%".format(
        labels[top_k_indices[i]],
        probabilities[top_k_indices[i]] * 100))

```

| [PREDICTION] | [Prob] |
|--------------|----------|
| robot | : 99.61% |
| periquito | : 0.00% |
| background | : 0.00% |

Let's modify the function created before so that we can handle different type of models:

```
def image_classification(img_path, model_path, labels, top_k_results=3,
                        apply_softmax=False):
    # Load the image
    img = Image.open(img_path)
    plt.figure(figsize=(4, 4))
    plt.imshow(img)
    plt.axis('off')

    # Load the TFLite model
    interpreter = tfLite.Interpreter(model_path=model_path)
    interpreter.allocate_tensors()

    # Get input and output tensors
    input_details = interpreter.get_input_details()
    output_details = interpreter.get_output_details()

    # Preprocess
    img = img.resize((input_details[0]['shape'][1],
                      input_details[0]['shape'][2]))

    input_dtype = input_details[0]['dtype']

    if input_dtype == np.uint8:
        input_data = np.expand_dims(np.array(img), axis=0)
    elif input_dtype == np.int8:
        scale, zero_point = input_details[0]['quantization']
        img_array = np.array(img, dtype=np.float32) / 255.0
        img_array = (img_array / scale + zero_point).clip(-128, 127).astype(np.int8)
        input_data = np.expand_dims(img_array, axis=0)
    else: # float32
        input_data = np.expand_dims(np.array(img, dtype=np.float32), axis=0) / 255.0

    # Inference on Raspi-Zero
    start_time = time.time()
    interpreter.set_tensor(input_details[0]['index'], input_data)
    interpreter.invoke()
    end_time = time.time()
    inference_time = (end_time - start_time) * 1000 # Convert to milliseconds

    # Obtain results
```

```

predictions = interpreter.get_tensor(output_details[0]['index']) [0]

# Get indices of the top k results
top_k_indices = np.argsort(predictions) [::-1] [:top_k_results]

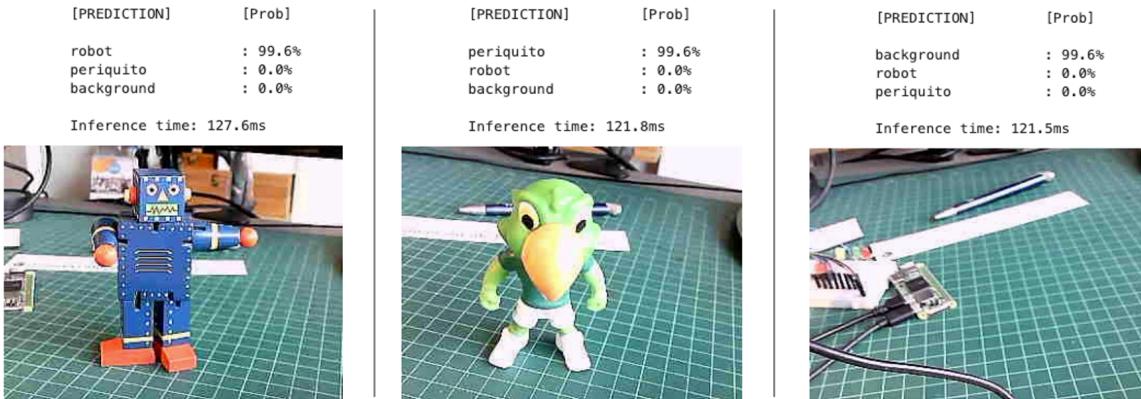
# Handle output based on type
output_dtype = output_details[0]['dtype']
if output_dtype in [np.int8, np.uint8]:
    # Dequantize the output
    scale, zero_point = output_details[0]['quantization']
    predictions = (predictions.astype(np.float32) - zero_point) * scale

if apply_softmax:
    # Apply softmax
    exp_preds = np.exp(predictions - np.max(predictions))
    probabilities = exp_preds / np.sum(exp_preds)
else:
    probabilities = predictions

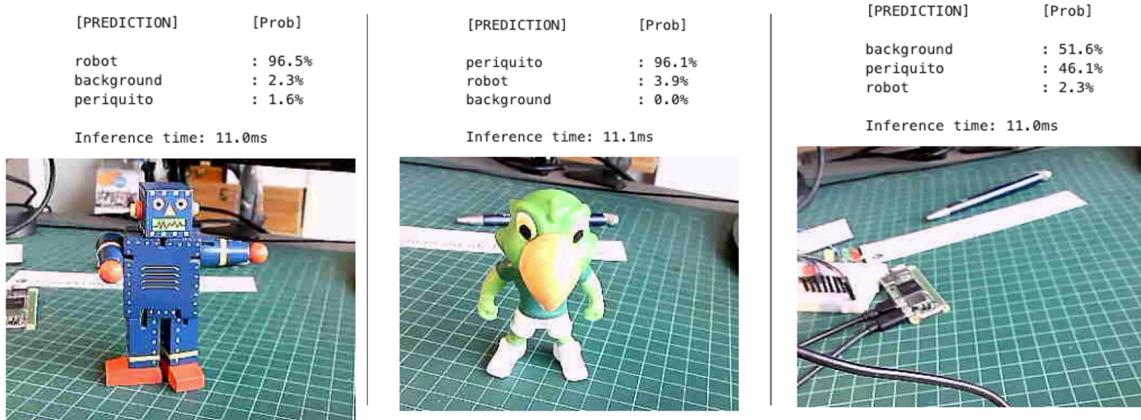
print("\n\t[PREDICTION] [Prob]\n")
for i in range(top_k_results):
    print("\t{:20}: {:.1f}%".format(
        labels[top_k_indices[i]],
        probabilities[top_k_indices[i]] * 100))
print ("\n\tInference time: {:.1f}ms".format(inference_time))

```

And test it with different images and the int8 quantized model (**160x160 alpha =1.0**).



Let's download a smaller model, such as the one trained for the [Nicla Vision Lab](#) (int8 quantized model (96x96 alpha = 0.1), as a test. We can use the same function:



The model lost some accuracy, but it is still OK once our model does not look for many details. Regarding latency, we are around **ten times faster** on the Rasp-Zero.

Live Image Classification

Let's develop an app to capture images with the USB camera in real time, showing its classification.

Using the nano on the terminal, save the code below, such as `img_class_live_infer.py`.

```
from flask import Flask, Response, render_template_string, request, jsonify
from picamera2 import Picamera2
import io
import threading
import time
import numpy as np
from PIL import Image
import tflite_runtime.interpreter as tflite
from queue import Queue

app = Flask(__name__)

# Global variables
picam2 = None
```

```

frame = None
frame_lock = threading.Lock()
is_classifying = False
confidence_threshold = 0.8
model_path = "./models/ei-raspi-img-class-int8-quantized-model.tflite"
labels = ['background', 'periquito', 'robot']
interpreter = None
classification_queue = Queue(maxsize=1)

def initialize_camera():
    global picam2
    picam2 = Picamera2()
    config = picam2.create_preview_configuration(main={"size": (320, 240)})
    picam2.configure(config)
    picam2.start()
    time.sleep(2) # Wait for camera to warm up

def get_frame():
    global frame
    while True:
        stream = io.BytesIO()
        picam2.capture_file(stream, format='jpeg')
        with frame_lock:
            frame = stream.getvalue()
        time.sleep(0.1) # Capture frames more frequently

def generate_frames():
    while True:
        with frame_lock:
            if frame is not None:
                yield (b"--frame\r\n"
                       b'Content-Type: image/jpeg\r\n\r\n' + frame + b'\r\n')
        time.sleep(0.1)

def load_model():
    global interpreter
    if interpreter is None:
        interpreter = tflite.Interpreter(model_path=model_path)
        interpreter.allocate_tensors()
    return interpreter

```

```

def classify_image(img, interpreter):
    input_details = interpreter.get_input_details()
    output_details = interpreter.get_output_details()

    img = img.resize((input_details[0]['shape'][1],
                      input_details[0]['shape'][2]))
    input_data = np.expand_dims(np.array(img), axis=0) \
        .astype(input_details[0]['dtype'])

    interpreter.set_tensor(input_details[0]['index'], input_data)
    interpreter.invoke()

    predictions = interpreter.get_tensor(output_details[0]['index'])[0]
    # Handle output based on type
    output_dtype = output_details[0]['dtype']
    if output_dtype in [np.int8, np.uint8]:
        # Dequantize the output
        scale, zero_point = output_details[0]['quantization']
        predictions = (predictions.astype(np.float32) - zero_point) * scale
    return predictions

def classification_worker():
    interpreter = load_model()
    while True:
        if is_classifying:
            with frame_lock:
                if frame is not None:
                    img = Image.open(io.BytesIO(frame))
                    predictions = classify_image(img, interpreter)
                    max_prob = np.max(predictions)
                    if max_prob >= confidence_threshold:
                        label = labels[np.argmax(predictions)]
                    else:
                        label = 'Uncertain'
                    classification_queue.put({'label': label,
                                              'probability': float(max_prob)})
                    time.sleep(0.1) # Adjust based on your needs

@app.route('/')
def index():
    return render_template_string('''

```

```

<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<head>
    <title>Image Classification</title>
    <script
        src="https://code.jquery.com/jquery-3.6.0.min.js">
    </script>
    <script>
        function startClassification() {
            $.post('/start');
            $('#startBtn').prop('disabled', true);
            $('#stopBtn').prop('disabled', false);
        }
        function stopClassification() {
            $.post('/stop');
            $('#startBtn').prop('disabled', false);
            $('#stopBtn').prop('disabled', true);
        }
        function updateConfidence() {
            var confidence = $('#confidence').val();
            $.post('/update_confidence', {confidence: confidence});
        }
        function updateClassification() {
            $.get('/get_classification', function(data) {
                $('#classification').text(data.label + ': '
                    + data.probability.toFixed(2));
            });
        }
        $(document).ready(function() {
            setInterval(updateClassification, 100);
            // Update every 100ms
        });
    </script>
</head>
<body>
    <h1>Image Classification</h1>
    
    <br>
    <button id="startBtn" onclick="startClassification()">
        Start Classification</button>
    <button id="stopBtn" onclick="stopClassification()" disabled>

```

```

        Stop Classification</button>
        <br>
        <label for="confidence">Confidence Threshold:</label>
        <input type="number" id="confidence" name="confidence" min="0"
        max="1" step="0.1" value="0.8" onchange="updateConfidence()">
        <br>
        <div id="classification">Waiting for classification...</div>
    </body>
</html>
''')

@app.route('/video_feed')
def video_feed():
    return Response(generate_frames(),
                    mimetype='multipart/x-mixed-replace; boundary=frame')

@app.route('/start', methods=['POST'])
def start_classification():
    global is_classifying
    is_classifying = True
    return '', 204

@app.route('/stop', methods=['POST'])
def stop_classification():
    global is_classifying
    is_classifying = False
    return '', 204

@app.route('/update_confidence', methods=['POST'])
def update_confidence():
    global confidence_threshold
    confidence_threshold = float(request.form['confidence'])
    return '', 204

@app.route('/get_classification')
def get_classification():
    if not is_classifying:
        return jsonify({'label': 'Not classifying', 'probability': 0})
    try:
        result = classification_queue.get_nowait()
    except Queue.Empty:

```

```

        result = {'label': 'Processing', 'probability': 0}
        return jsonify(result)

if __name__ == '__main__':
    initialize_camera()
    threading.Thread(target=get_frame, daemon=True).start()
    threading.Thread(target=classification_worker, daemon=True).start()
    app.run(host='0.0.0.0', port=5000, threaded=True)

```

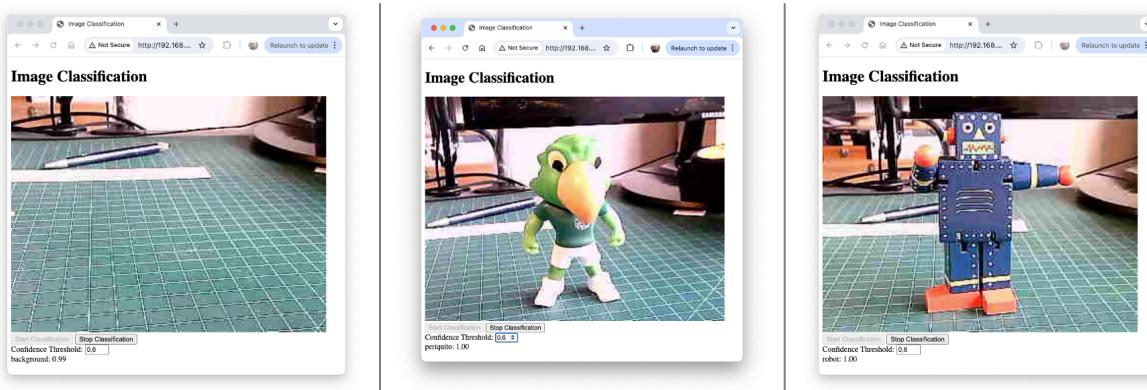
On the terminal, run:

```
python3 img_class_live_infer.py
```

And access the web interface:

- On the Raspberry Pi itself (if you have a GUI): Open a web browser and go to `http://localhost:5000`
- From another device on the same network: Open a web browser and go to `http://<raspberry_pi_ip>:5000` (Replace `<raspberry_pi_ip>` with your Raspberry Pi's IP address). For example: `http://192.168.4.210:5000/`

Here are some screenshots of the app running on an external desktop



Here, you can see the app running on the YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o1QsQrpCMw4>

The code creates a web application for real-time image classification using a Raspberry Pi, its camera module, and a TensorFlow Lite model. The application uses Flask to serve a web interface where it is possible to view the camera feed and see live classification results.

Key Components:

1. **Flask Web Application:** Serves the user interface and handles requests.
2. **PiCamera2:** Captures images from the Raspberry Pi camera module.
3. **TensorFlow Lite:** Runs the image classification model.
4. **Threading:** Manages concurrent operations for smooth performance.

Main Features:

- Live camera feed display
- Real-time image classification
- Adjustable confidence threshold
- Start/Stop classification on demand

Code Structure:

1. Imports and Setup:

- Flask for web application
- PiCamera2 for camera control
- TensorFlow Lite for inference
- Threading and Queue for concurrent operations

2. Global Variables:

- Camera and frame management
- Classification control
- Model and label information

3. Camera Functions:

- `initialize_camera()`: Sets up the PiCamera2
- `get_frame()`: Continuously captures frames
- `generate_frames()`: Yields frames for the web feed

4. Model Functions:

- `load_model()`: Loads the TFLite model
- `classify_image()`: Performs inference on a single image

5. Classification Worker:

- Runs in a separate thread
- Continuously classifies frames when active
- Updates a queue with the latest results

6. Flask Routes:

- `/`: Serves the main HTML page
- `/video_feed`: Streams the camera feed
- `/start` and `/stop`: Controls classification
- `/update_confidence`: Adjusts the confidence threshold
- `/get_classification`: Returns the latest classification result

7. HTML Template:

- Displays camera feed and classification results
- Provides controls for starting/stopping and adjusting settings

8. Main Execution:

- Initializes camera and starts necessary threads
- Runs the Flask application

Key Concepts:

1. **Concurrent Operations:** Using threads to handle camera capture and classification separately from the web server.
2. **Real-time Updates:** Frequent updates to the classification results without page reloads.
3. **Model Reuse:** Loading the TFLite model once and reusing it for efficiency.
4. **Flexible Configuration:** Allowing users to adjust the confidence threshold on the fly.

Usage:

1. Ensure all dependencies are installed.
2. Run the script on a Raspberry Pi with a camera module.
3. Access the web interface from a browser using the Raspberry Pi's IP address.
4. Start classification and adjust settings as needed.

Conclusion:

Image classification has emerged as a powerful and versatile application of machine learning, with significant implications for various fields, from healthcare to environmental monitoring. This chapter has demonstrated how to implement a robust image classification system on edge devices like the Raspi-Zero and Rasp-5, showcasing the potential for real-time, on-device intelligence.

We've explored the entire pipeline of an image classification project, from data collection and model training using Edge Impulse Studio to deploying and running inferences on a Raspi. The process highlighted several key points:

1. The importance of proper data collection and preprocessing for training effective models.
2. The power of transfer learning, allowing us to leverage pre-trained models like MobileNet V2 for efficient training with limited data.
3. The trade-offs between model accuracy and inference speed, especially crucial for edge devices.
4. The implementation of real-time classification using a web-based interface, demonstrating practical applications.

The ability to run these models on edge devices like the Raspi opens up numerous possibilities for IoT applications, autonomous systems, and real-time monitoring solutions. It allows for reduced latency, improved privacy, and operation in environments with limited connectivity.

As we've seen, even with the computational constraints of edge devices, it's possible to achieve impressive results in terms of both accuracy and speed. The flexibility to adjust model parameters, such as input size and alpha values, allows for fine-tuning to meet specific project requirements.

Looking forward, the field of edge AI and image classification continues to evolve rapidly. Advances in model compression techniques, hardware acceleration, and more efficient neural network architectures promise to further expand the capabilities of edge devices in computer vision tasks.

This project serves as a foundation for more complex computer vision applications and encourages further exploration into the exciting world of edge AI and IoT. Whether it's for industrial automation, smart home applications, or environmental monitoring, the skills and concepts covered here provide a solid starting point for a wide range of innovative projects.

Resources

- [Dataset Example](#)
- [Setup Test Notebook on a Raspi](#)
- [Image Classification Notebook on a Raspi](#)
- [CNN to classify Cifar-10 dataset at CoLab](#)
- [Cifar 10 - Image Classification on a Raspi](#)
- [Python Scripts](#)
- [Edge Impulse Project](#)

Object Detection

Coming soon.

Counting objects with YOLO

Deploying YOLov8 on Raspberry Pi Zero 2W for Real-Time Bee Counting at the Hive Entrance.”



Introduction

At the [Federal University of Itajuba in Brazil](#), with the master's student José Anderson Reis and Professor José Alberto Ferreira Filho, we are exploring a project that delves into the intersection of technology and nature. This tutorial will review our first steps and share our observations on deploying YOLOv8, a cutting-edge machine learning model, on the compact

and efficient Raspberry Pi Zero 2W (*Raspi-Zero*). We aim to estimate the number of bees entering and exiting their hive—a task crucial for beekeeping and ecological studies.

Why is this important? Bee populations are vital indicators of environmental health, and their monitoring can provide essential data for ecological research and conservation efforts. However, manual counting is labor-intensive and prone to errors. By leveraging the power of embedded machine learning, or tinyML, we automate this process, enhancing accuracy and efficiency.



Figure 3: img

This tutorial will cover setting up the Raspberry Pi, integrating a camera module, optimizing and deploying YOLOv8 for real-time image processing, and analyzing the data gathered.

Installing and using Ultralytics YOLOv8

[Ultralytics YOLOv8](#), is a version of the acclaimed real-time object detection and image segmentation model, YOLO. YOLOv8 is built on cutting-edge advancements in deep learning and computer vision, offering unparalleled performance in terms of speed and accuracy. Its streamlined design makes it suitable for various applications and easily adaptable to different hardware platforms, from edge devices to cloud APIs.

Let's start installing the Ultralytics packages for local inference on the Rasp-Zero:

1. Update the packages list, install pip, and upgrade to the latest:

```
sudo apt update
sudo apt install python3-pip -y
pip install -U pip
```

2. Install the ultralytics pip package with optional dependencies:

```
pip install ultralytics[export]
```

3. Reboot the device:

```
sudo reboot
```

Testing the YOLO

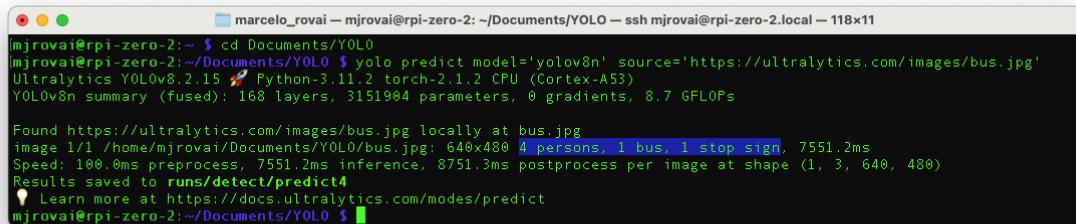
After the Rasp-Zero booting, let's create a directory for working with YOLO and change the current location to it::

```
mkdir Documents/YOLO
cd Documents/YOLO
```

Let's run inference on an image that will be downloaded from the Ultralytics website, using the YOLOV8n model (the smallest in the family) at the Terminal (CLI):

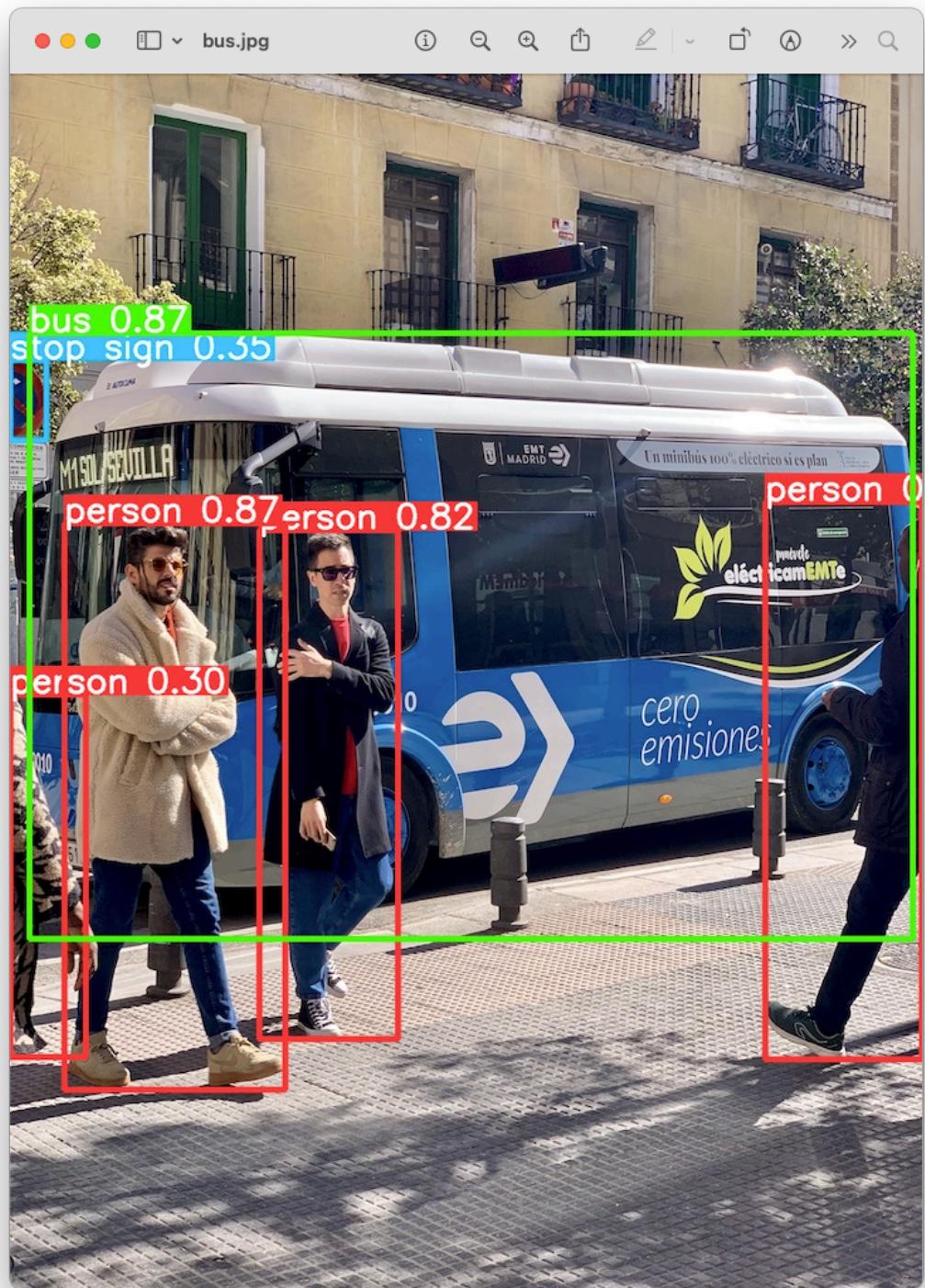
```
yolo predict model='yolov8n' source='https://ultralytics.com/images/bus.jpg'
```

The inference result will appear in the terminal. In the image (bus.jpg), 4 persons, 1 bus, and 1 stop signal were detected:



A screenshot of a terminal window titled "marcelo_rovai". The command entered is "yolo predict model='yolov8n' source='https://ultralytics.com/images/bus.jpg'". The output shows the model details (YOLOv8.2.15, Python-3.11.2, torch-2.1.2 CPU), the summary (168 layers, 3151904 parameters, 0 gradients, 8.7 GFLOPs), and the inference results: Found the image locally at bus.jpg, image 1/1, 640x480 pixels, containing 4 persons, 1 bus, and 1 stop sign, processed in 7551.2ms. It also mentions a preprocess time of 100.0ms and a postprocess time of 8751.3ms per image at shape (1, 3, 640, 480). A message indicates results were saved to "runs/detect/predict4". A link to the documentation is provided at the bottom.

Also, we got a message that `Results saved to runs/detect/predict4`. Inspecting that directory, we can see a new image saved (bus.jpg). Let's download it from the Rasp-Zero to our desktop for inspection:



So, the Ultralytics YOLO is correctly installed on our Rasp-Zero.

Export Model to NCNN format

An issue is the high latency for this inference, 7.6 s, even with the smaller model of the family (YOLOv8n). This is a reality of deploying computer vision models on edge devices with limited computational power, such as the Rasp-Zero. One alternative is to use a format optimized for optimal performance. This ensures that even devices with limited processing power can handle advanced computer vision tasks well.

Of all the model export formats supported by Ultralytics, the **NCNN** is a high-performance neural network inference computing framework optimized for mobile platforms. From the beginning of the design, NCNN was deeply considerate about deployment and use on mobile phones and did not have third-party dependencies. It is cross-platform and runs faster than all known open-source frameworks (such as TFLite).

NCNN delivers the best inference performance when working with Raspberry Pi devices. NCNN is highly optimized for mobile embedded platforms (such as ARM architecture).

So, let's convert our model and rerun the inference:

1. Export a YOLOv8n PyTorch model to NCNN format, creating: '/yolov8n_ncnn_model'

```
yolo export model=yolov8n.pt format=ncnn
```

2. Run inference with the exported model (now the source could be the bus.jpg image that was downloaded from the website to the current directory on the last inference):

```
yolo predict model='./yolov8n_ncnn_model' source='bus.jpg'
```

Now, we can see that the latency was reduced by half.

```
marcelo_rovai@mjrovai-rpi-zero-2: ~/Documents/YOLO -- ssh mjrovai@rpi-zero-2.local -- 118x11
[mjrovai@rpi-zero-2:~/Documents/YOLO $ yolo predict model='./yolov8n_ncnn_model' source='bus.jpg'
WARNING ▲Unable to automatically guess model task, assuming 'task=detect'. Explicitly define task for your model, i.e.
. 'task=detect', 'segment', 'classify', 'pose' or 'obb'.
Ultralytics YOLOv8.2.15 🚀 Python-3.11.2 torch-2.1.2 CPU (Cortex-A53)
Loading yolov8n_ncnn_model for NCNN inference...
image 1/1 /home/mjrovai/Documents/YOLO/bus.jpg: 640x640 4 persons, 1 bus, 3489.9ms
Speed: 561.6ms preprocess, 3489.9ms inference, 24678.1ms postprocess per image at shape (1, 3, 640, 640)
Results saved to runs/detect/predict
💡 Learn more at https://docs.ultralytics.com/modes/predict
mjrovai@rpi-zero-2:~/Documents/YOLO $ ]
```

Talking about the YOLO Model

The YOLO (You Only Look Once) model is a highly efficient and widely used object detection algorithm known for its real-time processing capabilities. Unlike traditional object detection systems that repurpose classifiers or localizers to perform detection, YOLO frames the detection problem as a single regression task. This innovative approach enables YOLO to simultaneously predict multiple bounding boxes and their class probabilities from full images in one evaluation, significantly boosting its speed.

Key Features:

1. Single Network Architecture:

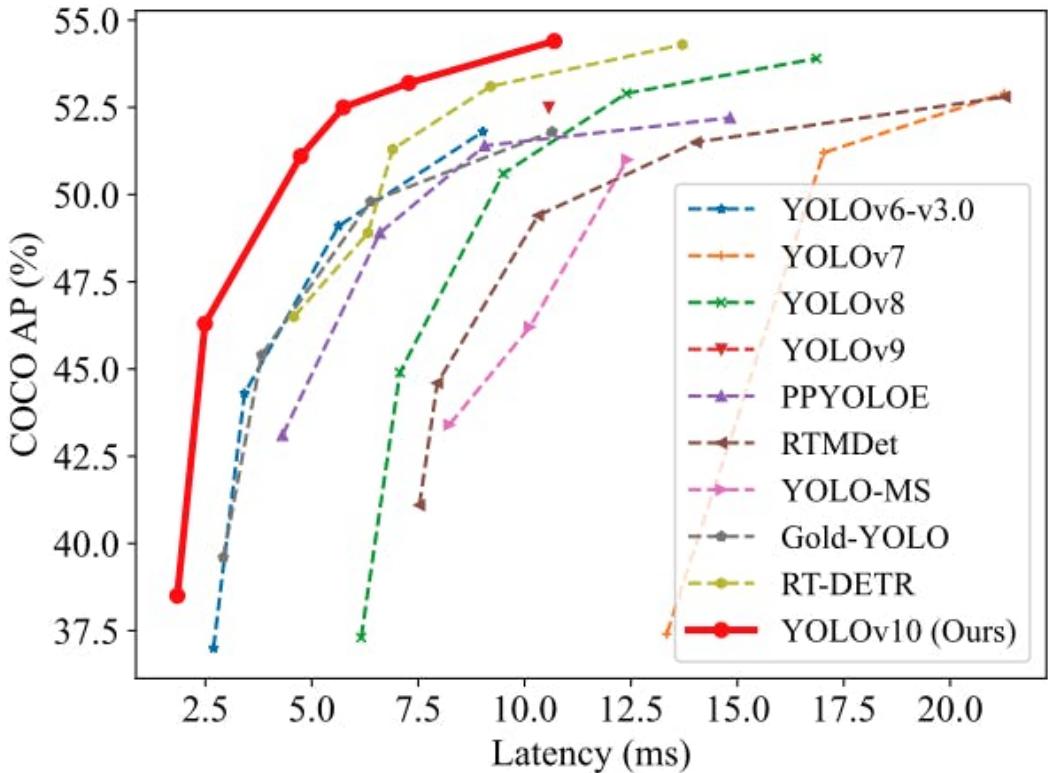
- YOLO employs a single neural network to process the entire image. This network divides the image into a grid and, for each grid cell, directly predicts bounding boxes and associated class probabilities. This end-to-end training improves speed and simplifies the model architecture.

2. Real-Time Processing:

- One of YOLO's standout features is its ability to perform object detection in real time. Depending on the version and hardware, YOLO can process images at high frames per second (FPS). This makes it ideal for applications requiring quick and accurate object detection, such as video surveillance, autonomous driving, and live sports analysis.

3. Evolution of Versions:

- Over the years, YOLO has undergone significant improvements, from YOLOv1 to the latest YOLOv10. Each iteration has introduced enhancements in accuracy, speed, and efficiency. YOLOv8, for instance, incorporates advancements in network architecture, improved training methodologies, and better support for various hardware, ensuring a more robust performance.
- Although YOLOv10 is the family's newest member with an encouraging performance based on its paper, it was just released (May 2024) and is not fully integrated with the Ultralitelycs library. Conversely, the precision-recall curve analysis suggests that YOLOv8 generally outperforms YOLOv9, capturing a higher proportion of true positives while minimizing false positives more effectively (for more details, see this [article](#)). So, this work is based on the YOLOv8n.



4. Accuracy and Efficiency:

- While early versions of YOLO traded off some accuracy for speed, recent versions have made substantial strides in balancing both. The newer models are faster and more accurate, detecting small objects (such as bees) and performing well on complex datasets.

5. Wide Range of Applications:

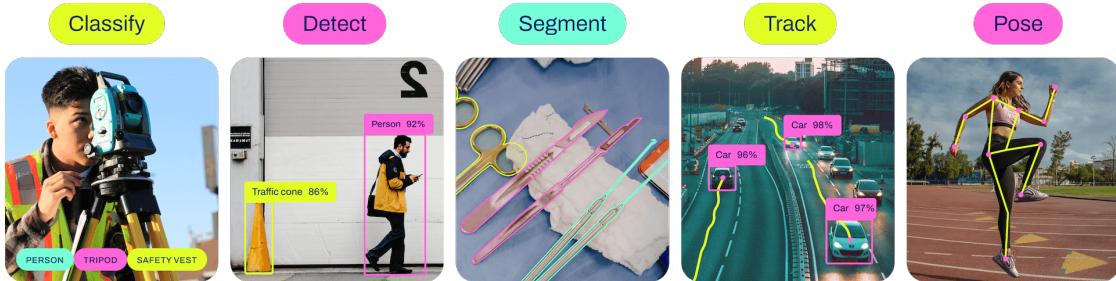
- YOLO's versatility has led to its adoption in numerous fields. It is used in traffic monitoring systems to detect and count vehicles, security applications to identify potential threats, and agricultural technology to monitor crops and livestock. Its application extends to any domain requiring efficient and accurate object detection.

6. Community and Development:

- YOLO continues to evolve and is supported by a strong community of developers and researchers (being the YOLOv8 very strong). Open-source implementations

and extensive documentation have made it accessible for customization and integration into various projects. Popular deep learning frameworks like Darknet, TensorFlow, and PyTorch support YOLO, further broadening its applicability.

- Ultralitics YOLOv8 can not only **Detect** (our case here) but also **Segment** and **Pose** models pre-trained on the [COCO](#) dataset and YOLOv8 **Classify** models pre-trained on the [ImageNet](#) dataset. **Track** mode is available for all Detect, Segment, and Pose models.



In this tutorial, we leverage the power of YOLOv8 exported to NCNN format to estimate the number of bees at a beehive entrance using a Raspberry Pi Zero 2W (Rasp-Zero) in real-time. This setup demonstrates the practicality and effectiveness of deploying advanced machine learning models on edge devices for real-time environmental monitoring.

Exploring YOLO with Python

To start, let's call the Python Interpreter so we can explore how the YOLO model works, line by line:

```
python
```

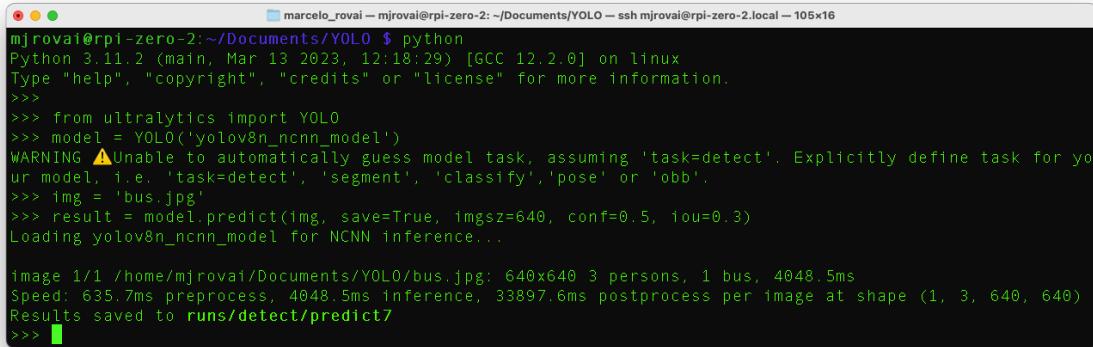
```
mjrovai@rpi-zero-2:~/Documents/YOLO$ python
Python 3.11.2 (main, Mar 13 2023, 12:18:29) [GCC 12.2.0] on linux
Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more information.
[>>>
>>>
```

Now, we should call the YOLO library from Ultralitics and load the model:

```
from ultralytics import YOLO
model = YOLO('yolov8n_ncnn_model')
```

Next, run inference over an image (let's use again `bus.jpg`):

```
img = 'bus.jpg'
result = model.predict(img, save=True, imgsz=640, conf=0.5, iou=0.3)
```



```
mjrovai@rpi-zero-2:~/Documents/YOLO $ python
Python 3.11.2 (main, Mar 13 2023, 12:18:29) [GCC 12.2.0] on linux
Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more information.
>>>
>>> from ultralytics import YOLO
>>> model = YOLO('yolov8n_ncnn_model')
WARNING ▲Unable to automatically guess model task, assuming 'task=detect'. Explicitly define task for your model, i.e. 'task=detect', 'segment', 'classify','pose' or 'obb'.
>>> img = 'bus.jpg'
>>> result = model.predict(img, save=True, imgsz=640, conf=0.5, iou=0.3)
Loading yolov8n_ncnn_model for NCNN inference...
image 1/1 /home/mjrovai/Documents/YOLO/bus.jpg: 640x640 3 persons, 1 bus, 4048.5ms
Speed: 635.7ms preprocess, 4048.5ms inference, 33897.6ms postprocess per image at shape (1, 3, 640, 640)
Results saved to runs/detect/predict7
>>> █
```

We can verify that the result is the same as the one we get running the inference at the terminal level (CLI).

```
image 1/1 /home/mjrovai/Documents/YOLO/bus.jpg: 640x640 3 persons, 1 bus, 4048.5ms
Speed: 635.7ms preprocess, 4048.5ms inference, 33897.6ms postprocess per image at shape (1, 3, 640, 640)
```

`Results saved to runs/detect/predict7`

But, we are interested in analyzing the “`result`” content.

For example, we can see `result[0].boxes.data`, showing us the main inference result, which is a tensor shape (4, 6). Each line is one of the objects detected, being the 4 first columns, the bounding boxes coordinates, the 5th, the confidence, and the 6th, the class (in this case, 0: person and 5: bus):

```

marcelo_rovai — mjrovai@rpi-zero-2: ~/Documents/YOLO — ssh mjrovai@rpi-zero-2.local — 83x6
>>> result[0].boxes.data
tensor([[6.7102e+02, 3.7803e+02, 8.1000e+02, 8.7980e+02, 9.0090e-01, 0.0000e+00],
       [2.2142e+02, 4.0759e+02, 3.4348e+02, 8.5584e+02, 8.8382e-01, 0.0000e+00],
       [5.0357e+01, 3.9810e+02, 2.4408e+02, 9.0484e+02, 8.7554e-01, 0.0000e+00],
       [3.4337e+01, 2.2932e+02, 7.9558e+02, 7.6855e+02, 8.4215e-01, 5.0000e+00]])
>>>

```

We can access several inference results separately, as the inference time, and have it printed in a better format:

```

inference_time = int(result[0].speed['inference'])
print(f"Inference Time: {inference_time} ms")

```

Or we can have the total number of objects detected:

```

print(f'Number of objects: {len(result[0].boxes.cls)}')

```

```

marcelo_rovai — mjrovai@rpi-zero-2: ~/Documents/YOLO — ssh mjrovai@rpi-zero-2.local — 62x6
>>> inference_time = int(result[0].speed['inference'])
>>> print(f"Inference Time: {inference_time} ms")
Inference Time: 4048 ms
>>> print(f'Number of objects: {len(result[0].boxes.cls)}')
Number of objects: 4
>>>

```

With Python, we can create a detailed output that meets our needs. In our final project, we will run a Python script at once rather than manually entering it line by line in the interpreter.

For that, let's use `nano` as our text editor. First, we should create an empty Python script named, for example, `yolov8_tests.py`:

```

nano yolov8_tests.py

```

Enter with the code lines:

```

from ultralytics import YOLO

# Load the YOLOv8 model
model = YOLO('yolov8n_ncnn_model')

# Run inference
img = 'bus.jpg'
result = model.predict(img, save=False, imgsz=640, conf=0.5, iou=0.3)

# print the results
inference_time = int(result[0].speed['inference'])
print(f"Inference Time: {inference_time} ms")
print(f'Number of objects: {len(result[0].boxes.cls)}')

```

The screenshot shows a terminal window titled "marcelo_rovai — mjrovai@rpi-zero-2: ~/Documents/YOLO — ssh mjrovai@rpi-zero-2.local — 7...". The window contains the Python script provided above. At the bottom, there is a menu bar with various keyboard shortcuts for file operations like Help, Exit, Write Out, Read File, Where Is, Replace, Cut, Paste, Execute, and Justify.

```

GNU nano 7.2                               yolov8_tests.py *
from ultralytics import YOLO

# Load the YOLOv8 model
model = YOLO('yolov8n_ncnn_model')

# Run inference
img = 'bus.jpg'
result = model.predict(img, save=False, imgsz=640, conf=0.5, iou=0.3)

#print the results
inference_time = int(result[0].speed['inference'])
print(f"Inference Time: {inference_time} ms")
print(f'Number of objects: {len(result[0].boxes.cls)}')

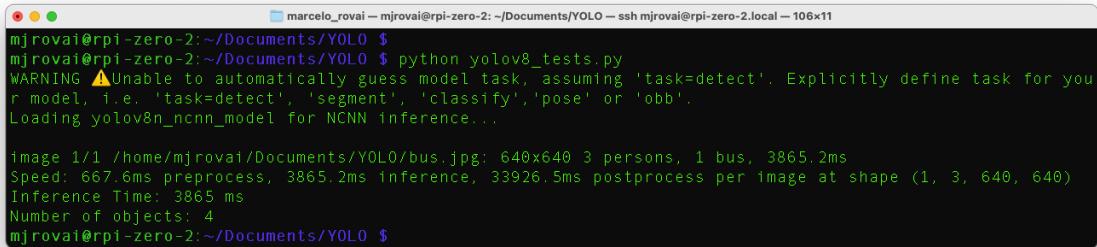
^G Help          ^O Write Out      ^W Where Is      ^K Cut           ^T Execute
^X Exit         ^R Read File     ^V Replace       ^U Paste         ^J Justify

```

And enter with the commands: [CTRL+O] + [ENTER] + [CTRL+X] to save the Python script.

Run the script:

```
python yolov8_tests.py
```



```

marcelo_rovai@rpi-zero-2:~/Documents/YOLO $ python yolov8_tests.py
WARNING ▲Unable to automatically guess model task, assuming 'task=detect'. Explicitly define task for your model, i.e. 'task=detect', 'segment', 'classify', 'pose' or 'obb'.
Loading yolov8n_ncnn_model for NCNN inference...

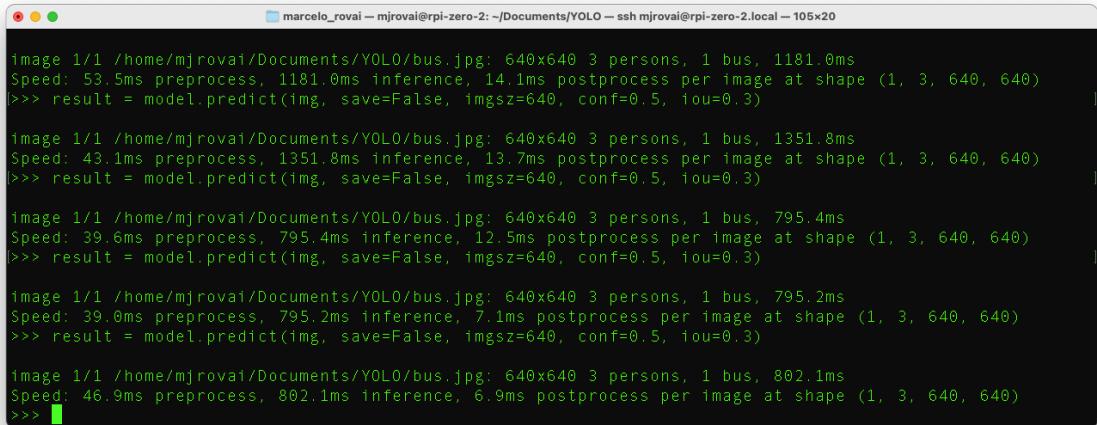
image 1/1 /home/mjrovai/Documents/YOLO/bus.jpg: 640x640 3 persons, 1 bus, 3865.2ms
Speed: 667.6ms preprocess, 3865.2ms inference, 33926.5ms postprocess per image at shape (1, 3, 640, 640)
Inference Time: 3865 ms
Number of objects: 4
mjrovai@rpi-zero-2:~/Documents/YOLO $

```

We can verify again that the result is precisely the same as when we run the inference at the terminal level (CLI) and with the built-in Python interpreter.

Note about the Latency:

The process of calling the YOLO library and loading the model for inference for the first time takes a long time, but the inferences after that will be much faster. For example, the first single inference took 3 to 4 seconds, but after that, the inference time is reduced to less than 1 second.



```

marcelo_rovai@rpi-zero-2:~/Documents/YOLO $ ssh mjrovai@rpi-zero-2.local -t 105x20
image 1/1 /home/mjrovai/Documents/YOLO/bus.jpg: 640x640 3 persons, 1 bus, 1181.0ms
Speed: 53.5ms preprocess, 1181.0ms inference, 14.1ms postprocess per image at shape (1, 3, 640, 640)
>>> result = model.predict(img, save=False, imgsz=640, conf=0.5, iou=0.3)

image 1/1 /home/mjrovai/Documents/YOLO/bus.jpg: 640x640 3 persons, 1 bus, 1351.8ms
Speed: 43.1ms preprocess, 1351.8ms inference, 13.7ms postprocess per image at shape (1, 3, 640, 640)
>>> result = model.predict(img, save=False, imgsz=640, conf=0.5, iou=0.3)

image 1/1 /home/mjrovai/Documents/YOLO/bus.jpg: 640x640 3 persons, 1 bus, 795.4ms
Speed: 39.6ms preprocess, 795.4ms inference, 12.5ms postprocess per image at shape (1, 3, 640, 640)
>>> result = model.predict(img, save=False, imgsz=640, conf=0.5, iou=0.3)

image 1/1 /home/mjrovai/Documents/YOLO/bus.jpg: 640x640 3 persons, 1 bus, 795.2ms
Speed: 39.0ms preprocess, 795.2ms inference, 7.1ms postprocess per image at shape (1, 3, 640, 640)
>>> result = model.predict(img, save=False, imgsz=640, conf=0.5, iou=0.3)

image 1/1 /home/mjrovai/Documents/YOLO/bus.jpg: 640x640 3 persons, 1 bus, 802.1ms
Speed: 46.9ms preprocess, 802.1ms inference, 6.9ms postprocess per image at shape (1, 3, 640, 640)
>>> █

```

Estimating the number of Bees

For our project at the university, we are preparing to collect a dataset of bees at the entrance of a beehive using the same camera connected to the Rasp-Zero. The images should be collected

every 10 seconds. With the Arducam OV5647, the horizontal Field of View (FoV) is 53.5° , which means that a camera positioned at the top of a standard Hive (46 cm) will capture all of its entrance (about 47 cm).

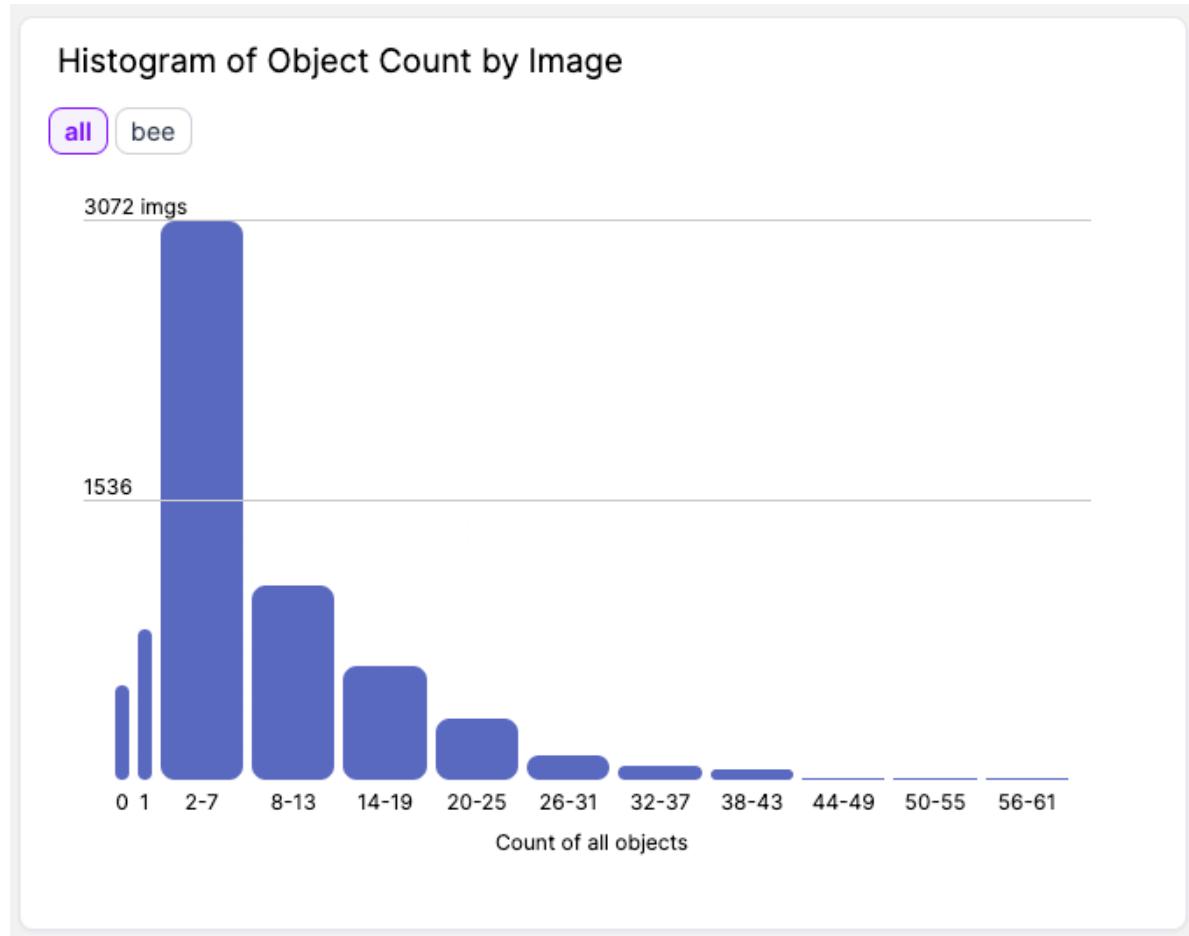


Dataset

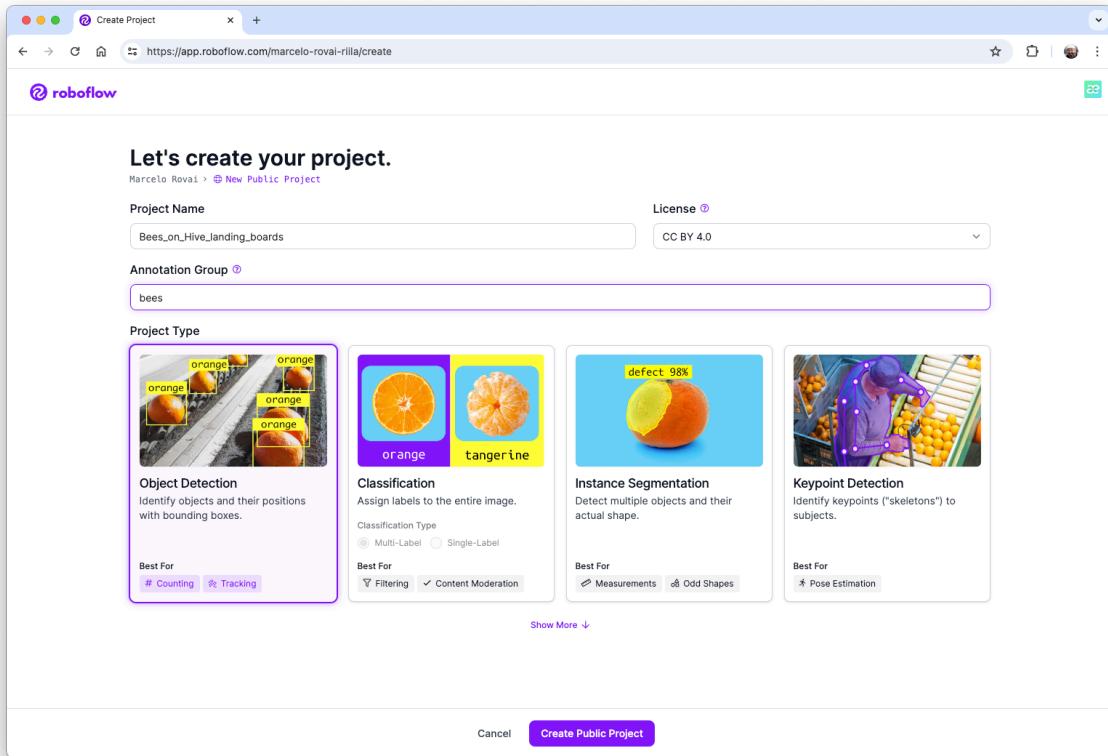
The dataset collection is the most critical phase of the project and should take several weeks or months. For this tutorial, we will use a public dataset: “Sledevic, Tomyslav (2023), “[Labeled dataset for bee detection and direction estimation on beehive landing boards,” Mendeley Data, V5, doi: 10.17632/8gb9r2yhfc.5”

The original dataset has 6,762 images (1920 x 1080), and around 8% of them (518) have no bees (only background). This is very important with Object Detection, where we should keep around 10% of the dataset with only background (without any objects to be detected).

The images contain from zero to up to 61 bees:

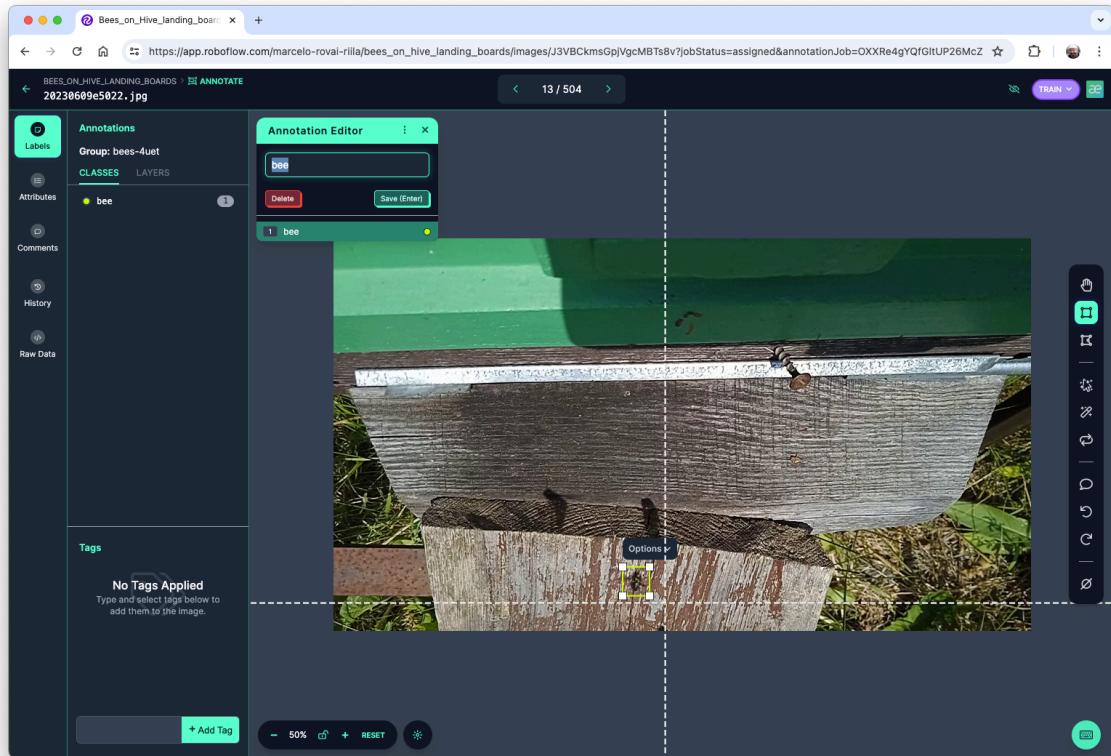


We downloaded the dataset (images and annotations) and uploaded it to [Roboflow](#). There, you should create a free account and start a new project, for example, (“Bees_on_Hive_landing_boards”):

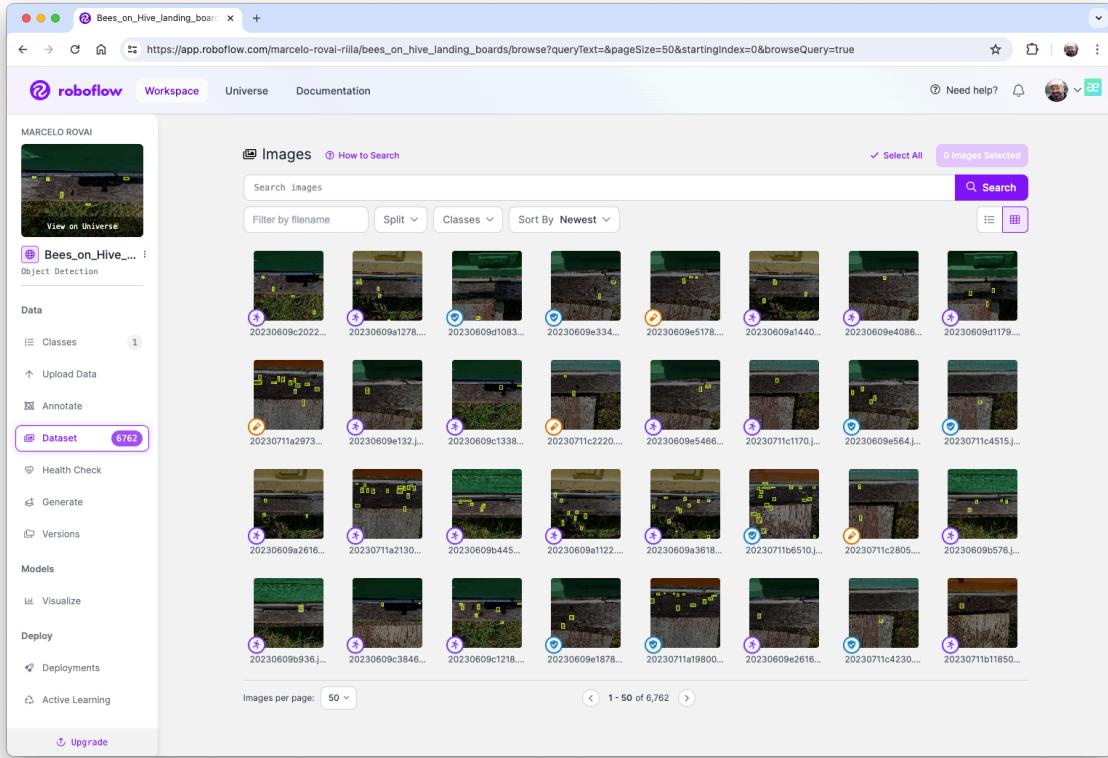


We will not enter details about the Roboflow process once many tutorials are available.

Once the project is created and the dataset is uploaded, you should review the annotations using the “Auto-Label” Tool. Note that all images with only a background should be saved w/o any annotations. At this step, you can also add additional images.



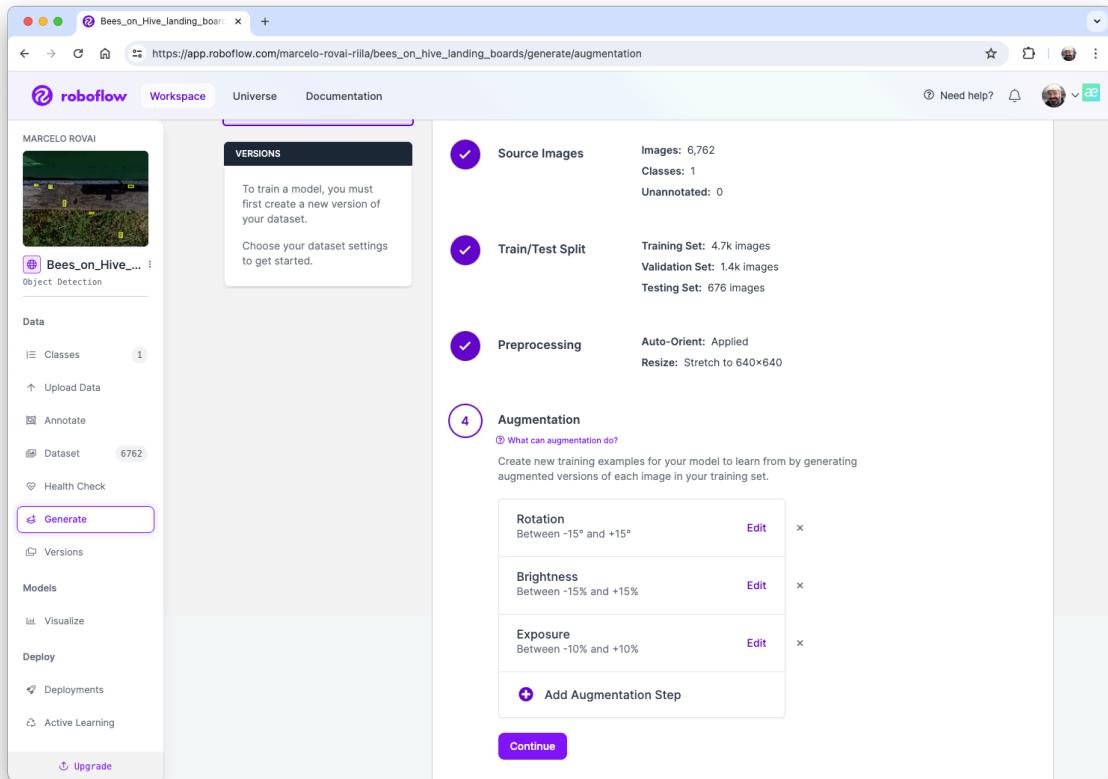
Once all images are annotated, you should split them into training, validation, and testing.



Pre-Processing

The last step with the dataset is preprocessing to generate a final version for training. The Yolov8 model can be trained with 640 x 640 pixels (RGB) images. Let's resize all images and generate augmented versions of each image (augmentation) to create new training examples from which our model can learn.

For augmentation, we will rotate the images (+/-15°) and vary the brightness and exposure.



This will create a final dataset of 16,228 images.

16228 Total Images

[View All Images →](#)



Dataset Split

TRAIN SET

87%

14199 Images

VALID SET

8%

1353 Images

TEST SET

4%

676 Images

Preprocessing

Auto-Orient: Applied

Resize: Stretch to 640x640

Augmentations

Outputs per training example: 3

Rotation: Between -15° and +15°

Brightness: Between -15% and +15%

Exposure: Between -10% and +10%

Now, you should export the model in a YOLOv8 format. You can download a zipped version of the dataset to your desktop or get a downloaded code to be used with a Jupyter Notebook:

Your Download Code



Jupyter

Terminal

Raw URL

Paste this snippet into [a notebook from our model library](#) to download and unzip [your dataset](#):

```
!pip install roboflow

from roboflow import Roboflow
rf = Roboflow(api_key="REDACTED")
project = rf.workspace("marcelo-rovali-riila").project("bees_on_hive_landing_boards")
version = project.version(1)
dataset = version.download("yolov8")
```



Warning: Do not share this snippet beyond your team, it contains a private key that is tied to your Roboflow account. Acceptable use policy applies.

Done

And that is it! We are prepared to start our training using Google Colab.

The pre-processed dataset can be found at the [Roboflow site](#).

Training YOLOv8 on a Customized Dataset

For training, let's adapt one of the public examples available from Ultralitytics and run it on Google Colab:

- yolov8_bees_on_hive_landing_board.ipynb [\[Open In Colab\]](#)

Critical points on the Notebook:

1. Run it with GPU (the NVidia T4 is free)
2. Install Ultralytics using PIP.

```

1 # Pip install method (recommended)
2
3 !pip install ultralytics
4
5 from IPython import display
6 display.clear_output()
7
8 import ultralytics
9 ultralytics.checks()

```

→ Ultralytics YOLOv8.2.23 🚀 Python-3.10.12 torch-2.3.0+cu121 CUDA:0 (Tesla T4, 15102MiB)
Setup complete ✓ (2 CPUs, 12.7 GB RAM, 29.9/78.2 GB disk)

3. Now, you can import the YOLO and upload your dataset to the CoLab, pasting the Download code that you get from Roboflow. Note that your dataset will be mounted under /content/datasets/:

```

[ ] 1 from ultralytics import YOLO
2
3 from IPython.display import display, Image

Dataset

[ ] 1 !mkdir {HOME}/datasets
2 %cd {HOME}/datasets
3
4 !pip install roboflow --quiet
5
6 from roboflow import Roboflow
7 rf = Roboflow(api_key="YOUR KEY HERE")
8 project = rf.workspace("marcelo-rovali-riila").project("beans_on_hive_landing")
9 version = project.version(1)
10 dataset = version.download("yolov8")
11

```

```

/content/datasets
loading Roboflow workspace...
loading Roboflow project...
Dependency ultralytics==8.0.196 is required but found version=8.2.23, to fix: 'pip install ultralytics==8.0.196'
Downloading Dataset Version Zip in Beans_on_Hive_landing-1 to yolov8:: 100%|██████████| 1597328/1597328 [00:00<00:00]
Extracting Dataset Version Zip to Beans_on_Hive_landing-1 in yolov8:: 100%|██████████| 32468/32468 [00:09<00:00]

```

4. It is important to verify and change, if needed, the file `data.yaml` with the correct path for the images:

```

names:
- bee
nc: 1
roboflow:
  license: CC BY 4.0
  project: bees_on_hive_landing_boards
  url: https://universe.roboflow.com/marcelo-rovai-riila/bees_on_hive_landing_boards/datas
  version: 1
  workspace: marcelo-rovai-riila
test: /content/datasets/Bees_on_Hive_landing_boards-1/test/images
train: /content/datasets/Bees_on_Hive_landing_boards-1/train/images
val: /content/datasets/Bees_on_Hive_landing_boards-1/valid/images

```

5. Define the main hyperparameters that you want to change from default, for example:

```

MODEL = 'yolov8n.pt'
IMG_SIZE = 640
EPOCHS = 25 # For a final project, you should consider at least 100 epochs

```

6. Run the training (using CLI):

```

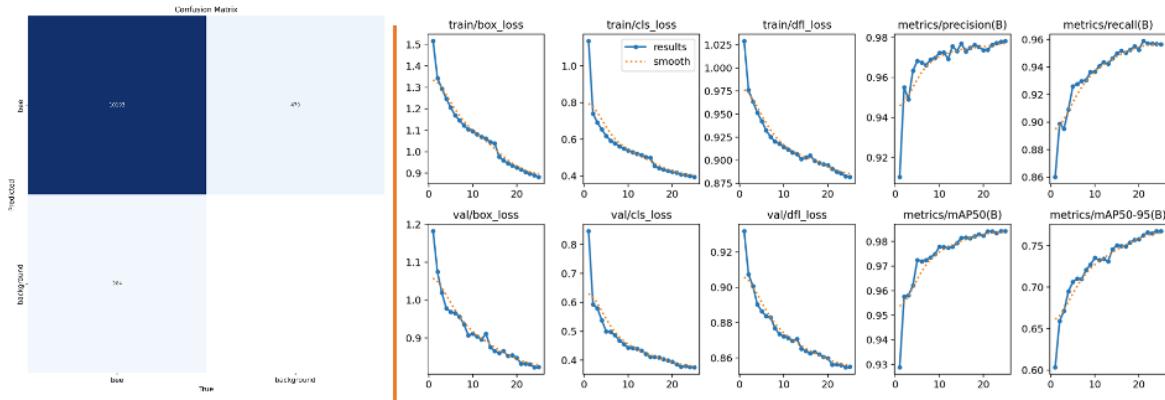
!yolo task=detect mode=train model={MODEL} data={dataset.location}/data.yaml epochs={EPOCHS}

25 epochs completed in 2.679 hours.
Optimizer stripped from runs/detect/train3/weights/last.pt, 6.2MB
Optimizer stripped from runs/detect/train3/weights/best.pt, 6.2MB

Validating runs/detect/train3/weights/best.pt...
Ultralytics YOLOv8.2.15 🚀 Python-3.10.12 torch-2.2.1+cu121 CUDA:0 (Tesla T4, 15102MiB)
Model summary (fused): 168 layers, 3005843 parameters, 0 gradients, 8.1 GFLOPs
    Class   Images   Instances      Box(P)      R      mAP50      mAP50-95: 100% 43/43 [00:33<00:00,  1.27it/s]
        all     1353     10477     0.978     0.957     0.984     0.768
Speed: 0.3ms preprocess, 2.5ms inference, 0.0ms loss, 5.6ms postprocess per image
Results saved to runs/detect/train3

```

The model took 2.7 hours to train and has an excellent result (mAP50 of 0.984). At the end of the training, all results are saved in the folder listed, for example: `/runs/detect/train3/`. There, you can find, for example, the confusion matrix and the metrics curves per epoch.



7. Note that the trained model (`best.pt`) is saved in the folder `/runs/detect/train3/weights/`. Now, you should validate the trained model with the `valid/images`.

```
!yolo task=detect mode=val model={HOME}/runs/detect/train3/weights/best.pt data={dataset.l
```

The results were similar to training.

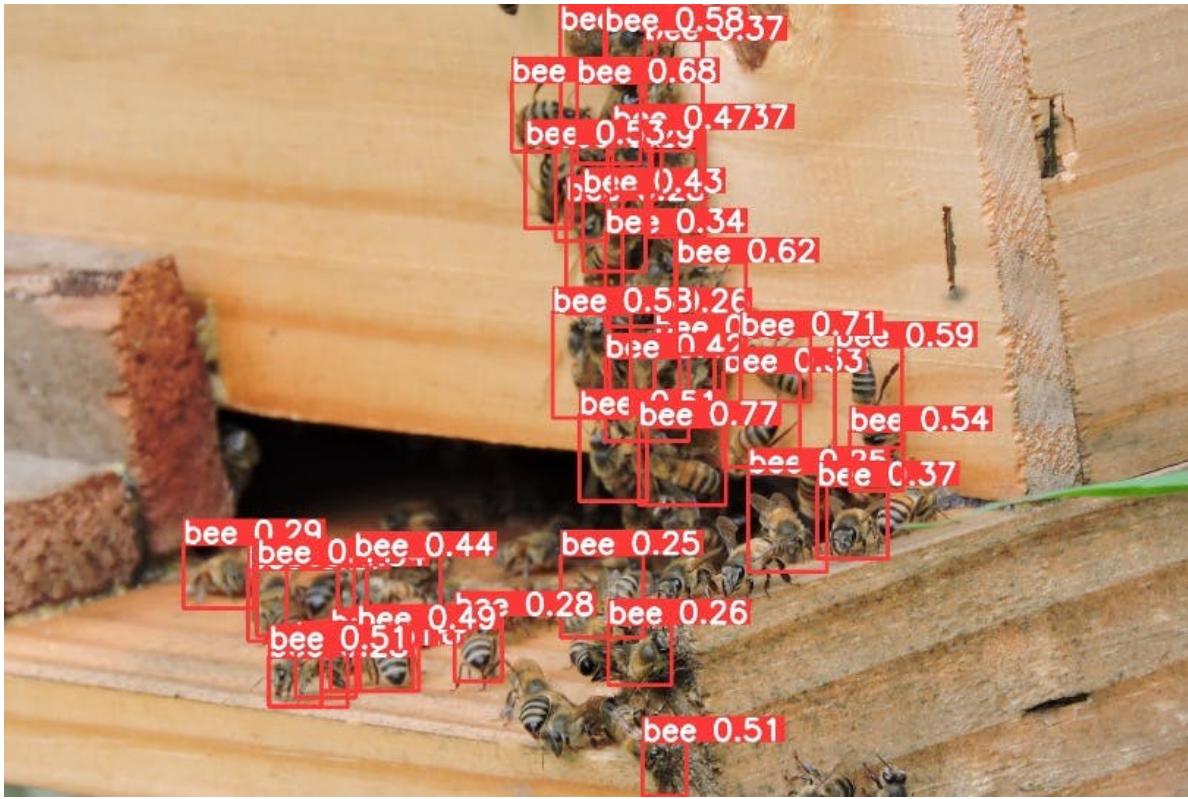
8. Now, we should perform inference on the images left aside for testing

```
!yolo task=detect mode=predict model={HOME}/runs/detect/train3/weights/best.pt conf=0.25 s
```

The inference results are saved in the folder `runs/detect/predict`. Let's see some of them:



We can also perform inference with a completely new and complex image from another beehive with a different background (the beehive of Professor Maurilio of our University). The results were great (but not perfect and with a lower confidence score). The model found 41 bees.



9. The last thing to do is export the train, validation, and test results for your Drive at Google. To do so, you should mount your drive.

```
from google.colab import drive  
drive.mount('/content/gdrive')
```

and copy the content of `/runs` folder to a folder that you should create in your Drive, for example:

```
!scp -r /content/runs '/content/gdrive/MyDrive/10_UNIFEI/Bee_Project/YOLO/bees_on_hive'
```

Inference with the trained model, using the Rasp-Zero

Using the FileZilla FTP, let's transfer the `best.pt` to our Rasp-Zero (before the transfer, you may change the model name, for example, `bee_landing_640_best.pt`).

The first thing to do is convert the model to an NCNN format:

```
yolo export model=bee_landing_640_best.pt format=ncnn
```

As a result, a new converted model, `bee_landing_640_best_ncnn_model` is created in the same directory.

Let's create a folder to receive some test images (under `Documents/YOLO/`):

```
mkdir test_images
```

Using the FileZilla FTP, let's transfer a few images from the test dataset to our Rasp-Zero:



Let's use the Python Interpreter:

```
python
```

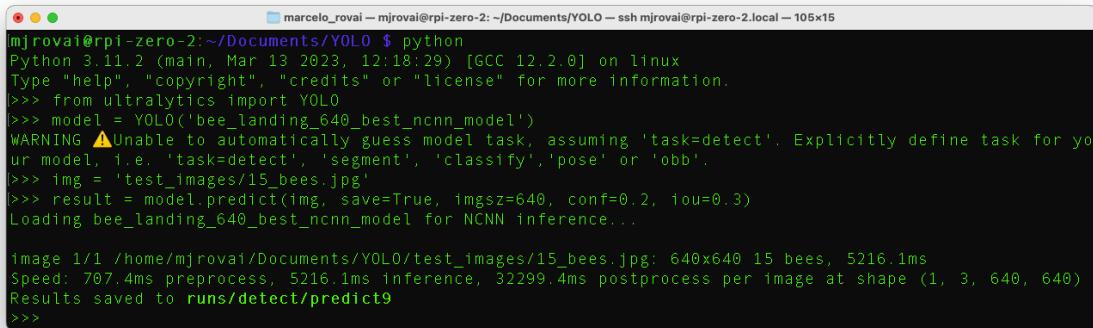
As before, we will import the YOLO library and define our converted model to detect bees:

```
from ultralytics import YOLO
model = YOLO('bee_landing_640_best_ncnn_model')
```

Now, let's define an image and call the inference (we will save the image result this time to external verification):

```
img = 'test_images/15_bees.jpg'  
result = model.predict(img, save=True, imgsz=640, conf=0.2, iou=0.3)
```

The inference result is saved on the variable `result`, and the processed image on `runs/detect/predict9`



A terminal window titled "marcelo_roversi@rpi-zero-2: ~/Documents/YOLO \$ python" displays the execution of a Python script. The script imports YOLO, loads a model, and performs inference on an image. It includes a warning about task detection and saves the results to a specified directory. The terminal shows the command line, the Python interpreter version, and the output of the script's execution.

```
marcelo_roversi@rpi-zero-2: ~/Documents/YOLO $ python  
Python 3.11.2 (main, Mar 13 2023, 12:18:29) [GCC 12.2.0] on linux  
Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more information.  
>>> from ultralytics import YOLO  
>>> model = YOLO('bee_landing_640_best_ncnn_model')  
WARNING ▲Unable to automatically guess model task, assuming 'task=detect'. Explicitly define task for your model, i.e. 'task=detect', 'segment', 'classify', 'pose' or 'obb'.  
>>> img = 'test_images/15_bees.jpg'  
>>> result = model.predict(img, save=True, imgsz=640, conf=0.2, iou=0.3)  
Loading bee_landing_640_best_ncnn_model for NCNN inference...  
  
image 1/1 /home/mjroval/Documents/YOLO/test_images/15_bees.jpg: 640x640 15 bees, 5216.1ms  
Speed: 707.4ms preprocess, 5216.1ms inference, 32299.4ms postprocess per image at shape (1, 3, 640, 640)  
Results saved to runs/detect/predict9  
>>>
```

Using FileZilla FTP, we can send the inference result to our Desktop for verification:



let's go over the other images, analyzing the number of objects (bees) found:

```

marcelo_rovai — mjrovai@rpi-zero-2: ~/Documents/YOLO — ssh mjrovai@rpi-zero-2.local — 103x21
>>>
>>>
>>> img = 'test_images/6_beans.jpg'
>>> result = model.predict(img, save=False, imgs=640, conf=0.3, iou=0.3)
|
image 1/1 /home/mjrovai/Documents/YOLO/test_images/6_beans.jpg: 640x640 9 beans, 732.5ms
Speed: 19.9ms preprocess, 732.5ms inference, 13.5ms postprocess per image at shape (1, 3, 640, 640)
>>> result = model.predict(img, save=False, imgs=640, conf=0.5, iou=0.3)
|
image 1/1 /home/mjrovai/Documents/YOLO/test_images/6_beans.jpg: 640x640 7 beans, 747.8ms
Speed: 16.5ms preprocess, 747.8ms inference, 32.9ms postprocess per image at shape (1, 3, 640, 640)
>>> img = 'test_images/8_beans.jpg'
>>> result = model.predict(img, save=False, imgs=640, conf=0.5, iou=0.3)
|
image 1/1 /home/mjrovai/Documents/YOLO/test_images/8_beans.jpg: 640x640 7 beans, 728.4ms
Speed: 15.5ms preprocess, 728.4ms inference, 7.8ms postprocess per image at shape (1, 3, 640, 640)
>>> img = 'test_images/14_beans.jpg'
>>> result = model.predict(img, save=False, imgs=640, conf=0.5, iou=0.3)
|
image 1/1 /home/mjrovai/Documents/YOLO/test_images/14_beans.jpg: 640x640 13 beans, 734.4ms
Speed: 19.8ms preprocess, 734.4ms inference, 9.3ms postprocess per image at shape (1, 3, 640, 640)

```

Depending on the confidence, we can have some false positives or negatives. But in general, with a model trained based on the smaller base model of the YOLOv8 family (YOLOv8n) and also converted to NCNN, the result is pretty good, running on an Edge device such as the Rasp-Zero. Also, note that the inference latency is around 730ms.

For example, by running the inference on `Maurilio-bee.jpeg`, we can find 40 bees. During the test phase on Colab, 41 bees were found (we only missed one here.)

```

marcelo_rovai — mjrovai@rpi-zero-2: ~/Documents/YOLO — ssh mjrovai@rpi-zero-2.local — 103x6
>>> img = 'test_images/maurilio-bee.jpeg'
>>> result = model.predict(img, save=False, imgs=640, conf=0.2, iou=0.3)
|
image 1/1 /home/mjrovai/Documents/YOLO/test_images/maurilio-bee.jpeg: 640x640 40 bees, 829.2ms
Speed: 77.9ms preprocess, 829.2ms inference, 15.0ms postprocess per image at shape (1, 3, 640, 640)
>>> █

```

Considerations about the Post-Processing

Our final project should be very simple in terms of code. We will use the camera to capture an image every 10 seconds. As we did in the previous section, the captured image should be the input for the trained and converted model. We should get the number of bees for each image and save it in a database (for example, timestamp: number of bees).

We can do it with a single Python script or use a Linux system timer, like `cron`, to periodically capture images every 10 seconds and have a separate Python script to process these images as

they are saved. This method can be particularly efficient in managing system resources and can be more robust against potential delays in image processing.

Setting Up the Image Capture with cron

First, we should set up a `cron` job to use the `rpicam-jpeg` command to capture an image every 10 seconds.

1. Edit the crontab:

- Open the terminal and type `crontab -e` to edit the cron jobs.
- `cron` normally doesn't support sub-minute intervals directly, so we should use a workaround like a loop or watch for file changes.

2. Create a Bash Script (`capture.sh`):

- **Image Capture:** This bash script captures images every 10 seconds using `rpicam-jpeg`, a command that is part of the `raspijpeg` tool. This command lets us control the camera and capture JPEG images directly from the command line. This is especially useful because we are looking for a lightweight and straightforward method to capture images without the need for additional libraries like `Picamera` or external software. The script also saves the captured image with a timestamp.

```
#!/bin/bash
# Script to capture an image every 10 seconds

while true
do
    DATE=$(date +"%Y-%m-%d_%H%M%S")
    rpicam-jpeg --output test_images/$DATE.jpg --width 640 --height 640
    sleep 10
done
```

- We should make the script executable with `chmod +x capture.sh`.
- The script must start at boot or use a `@reboot` entry in `cron` to start it automatically.

Setting Up the Python Script for Inference

Image Processing: The Python script continuously monitors the designated directory for new images, processes each new image using the YOLOv8 model, updates the database with the count of detected bees, and optionally deletes the image to conserve disk space.

Database Updates: The results, along with the timestamps, are saved in an SQLite database. For that, a simple option is to use [sqlite3](#).

In short, we need to write a script that continuously monitors the directory for new images, processes them using a YOLO model, and then saves the results to a SQLite database. Here's how we can create and make the script executable:

```
#!/usr/bin/env python3
import os
import time
import sqlite3
from datetime import datetime
from ultralytics import YOLO

# Constants and paths
IMAGES_DIR = 'test_images/'
MODEL_PATH = 'bee_landing_640_best_ncnn_model'
DB_PATH = 'bee_count.db'

def setup_database():
    """ Establishes a database connection and creates the table if it doesn't exist. """
    conn = sqlite3.connect(DB_PATH)
    cursor = conn.cursor()
    cursor.execute('''
        CREATE TABLE IF NOT EXISTS bee_counts
        (timestamp TEXT, count INTEGER)
    ''')
    conn.commit()
    return conn

def process_image(image_path, model, conn):
    """ Processes an image to detect objects and logs the count to the database. """
    result = model.predict(image_path, save=False, imgsz=640, conf=0.2, iou=0.3, verbose=False)
    num_beans = len(result[0].boxes.cls)
    timestamp = datetime.now().strftime('%Y-%m-%d %H:%M:%S')
    cursor = conn.cursor()
    cursor.execute("INSERT INTO bee_counts (timestamp, count) VALUES (?, ?)", (timestamp,
```

```

    conn.commit()
    print(f'Processed {image_path}: Number of bees detected = {num_bees}')

def monitor_directory(model, conn):
    """ Monitors the directory for new images and processes them as they appear. """
    processed_files = set()
    while True:
        try:
            files = set(os.listdir(IMAGES_DIR))
            new_files = files - processed_files
            for file in new_files:
                if file.endswith('.jpg'):
                    full_path = os.path.join(IMAGES_DIR, file)
                    process_image(full_path, model, conn)
                    processed_files.add(file)
            time.sleep(1) # Check every second
        except KeyboardInterrupt:
            print("Stopping...")
            break

def main():
    conn = setup_database()
    model = YOLO(MODEL_PATH)
    monitor_directory(model, conn)
    conn.close()

if __name__ == "__main__":
    main()

```

The python script must be executable, for that:

1. **Save the script:** For example, as `process_images.py`.
2. **Change file permissions** to make it executable:

```
chmod +x process_images.py
```

3. **Run the script** directly from the command line:

```
./process_images.py
```

We should consider keeping the script running even after closing the terminal; for that, we can use `nohup` or `screen`:

```
nohup ./process_images.py &
```

or

```
screen -S bee_monitor  
./process_images.py
```

Note that we are capturing images with their own timestamp and then log a separate timestamp for when the inference results are saved to the database. This approach can be beneficial for the following reasons:

1. Accuracy in Data Logging:

- **Capture Timestamp:** The timestamp associated with each image capture represents the exact moment the image was taken. This is crucial for applications where precise timing of events (like bee activity) is important for analysis.
- **Inference Timestamp:** This timestamp indicates when the image was processed and the results were recorded in the database. This can differ from the capture time due to processing delays or if the image processing is batched or queued.

2. Performance Monitoring:

- Having separate timestamps allows us to monitor the performance and efficiency of your image processing pipeline. We can measure the delay between image capture and result logging, which helps optimize the system for real-time processing needs.

3. Troubleshooting and Audit:

- Separate timestamps provide a better audit trail and troubleshooting data. If there are issues with the image processing or data recording, having distinct timestamps can help isolate whether delays or problems occurred during capture, processing, or logging.

Script For Reading the SQLite Database

Here is an example of a code to retrieve the data from the database:

```
#!/usr/bin/env python3  
import sqlite3  
  
def main():  
    db_path = 'bee_count.db'  
    conn = sqlite3.connect(db_path)  
    cursor = conn.cursor()
```

```

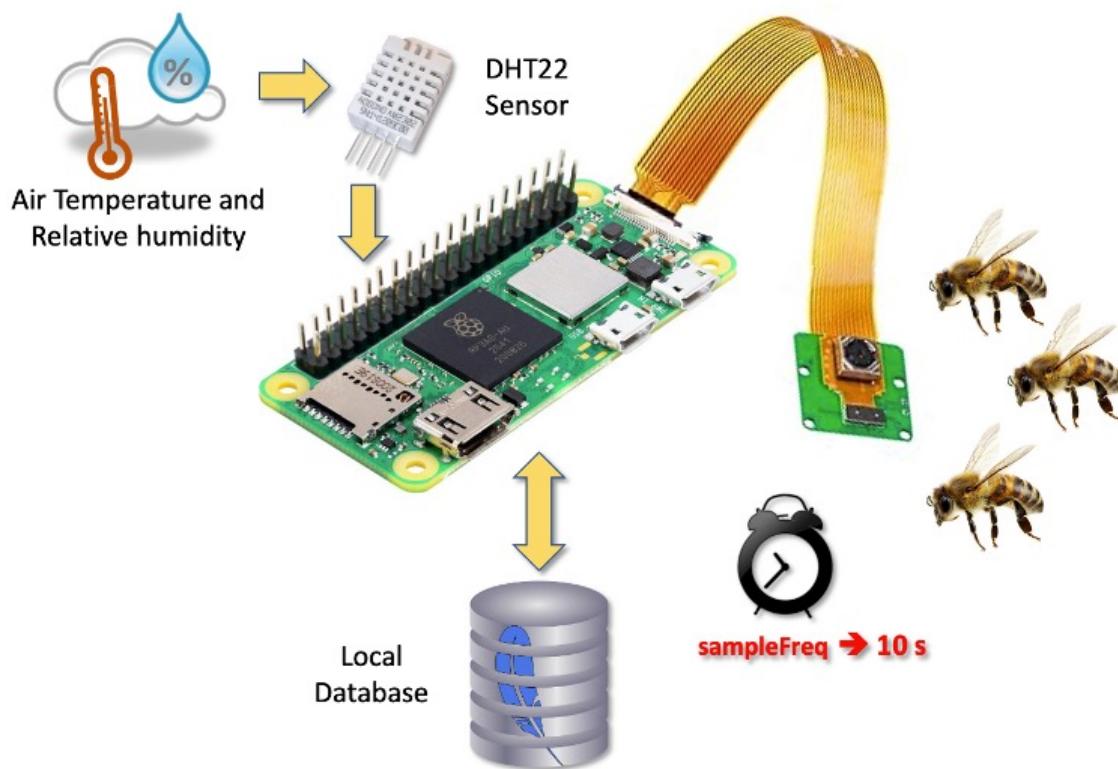
query = "SELECT * FROM bee_counts"
cursor.execute(query)
data = cursor.fetchall()
for row in data:
    print(f"Timestamp: {row[0]}, Number of bees: {row[1]}")
conn.close()

if __name__ == "__main__":
    main()

```

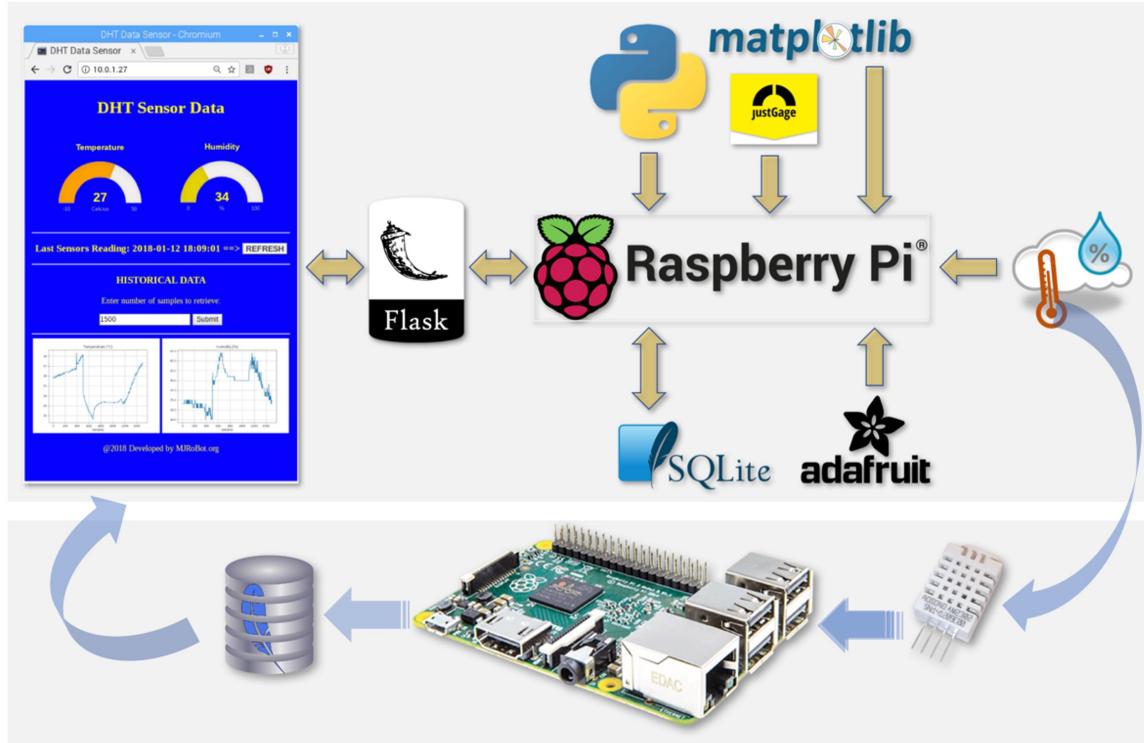
Adding Environment data

Besides bee counting, environmental data, such as temperature and humidity, are essential for monitoring the bee-hive health. Using a Rasp-Zero, it is straightforward to add a digital sensor such as the DHT-22 to get this data.



Environmental data will be part of our final project. If you want to know more about connecting sensors to a Raspberry Pi and, even more, how to save the data to a local database and

send it to the web, follow this tutorial: [From Data to Graph: A Web Journey With Flask and SQLite](#).



Conclusion

In this tutorial, we have thoroughly explored integrating the YOLOv8 model with a Raspberry Pi Zero 2W to address the practical and pressing task of counting (or better, “estimating”) bees at a beehive entrance. Our project underscores the robust capability of embedding advanced machine learning technologies within compact edge computing devices, highlighting their potential impact on environmental monitoring and ecological studies.

This tutorial provides a step-by-step guide to the practical deployment of the YOLOv8 model. We demonstrate a tangible example of a real-world application by optimizing it for edge computing in terms of efficiency and processing speed (using NCNN format). This not only serves as a functional solution but also as an instructional tool for similar projects.

The technical insights and methodologies shared in this tutorial are the basis for the complete work to be developed at our university in the future. We envision further development, such as integrating additional environmental sensing capabilities and refining the model's accuracy and processing efficiency. Implementing alternative energy solutions like the proposed solar power setup will expand the project's sustainability and applicability in remote or underserved locations.

Resources

The Dataset paper, Notebooks, and PDF version are in the [Project repository](#).

Small Language Models (SLM)

Coming soon.

References

To learn more:

Online Courses

- Harvard School of Engineering and Applied Sciences - CS249r: Tiny Machine Learning
- Professional Certificate in Tiny Machine Learning (TinyML) – edX/Harvard
- Introduction to Embedded Machine Learning - Coursera/Edge Impulse
- Computer Vision with Embedded Machine Learning - Coursera/Edge Impulse
- UNIFEI-IESTI01 TinyML: “Machine Learning for Embedding Devices”

Books

- “Python for Data Analysis” by Wes McKinney
- “Deep Learning with Python” by François Chollet - GitHub Notebooks
- “TinyML” by Pete Warden and Daniel Situnayake
- “TinyML Cookbook 2nd Edition” by Gian Marco Iodice
- “Technical Strategy for AI Engineers, In the Era of Deep Learning” by Andrew Ng
- “AI at the Edge” book by Daniel Situmayake and Jenny Plunkett
- “XIAO: Big Power, Small Board” by Lei Feng and Marcelo Rovai
- “MACHINE LEARNING SYSTEMS for TinyML” by a collaborative effort

Projects Repository

- Edge Impulse Expert Network

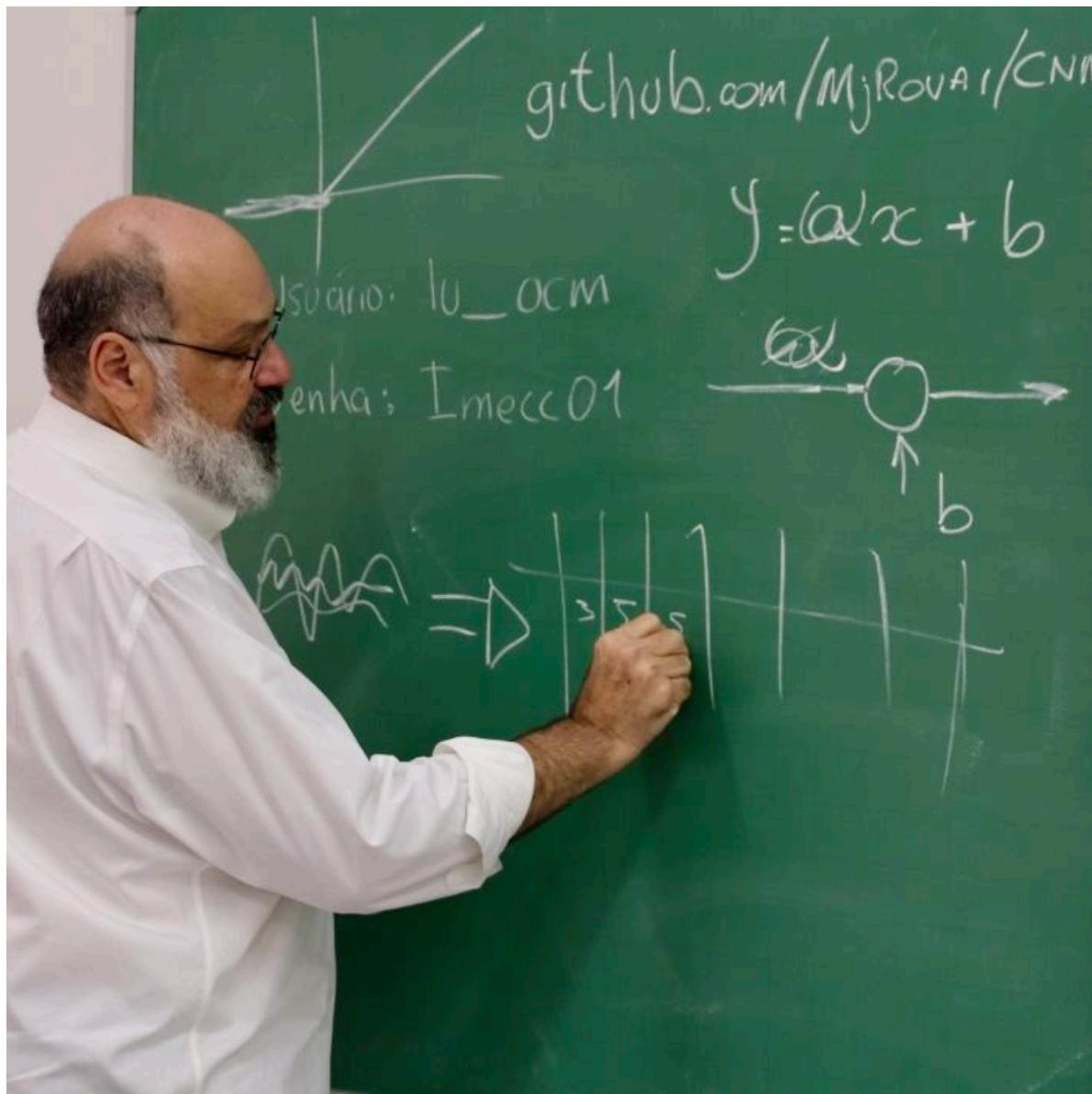
TinyML4D

TinyML Made Easy, an eBook collection of a series of Hands-On tutorials, is part of the [TinyML4D](#), an initiative to make Embedded Machine Learning (TinyML) education available to everyone, explicitly enabling innovative solutions for the unique challenges Developing Countries face.



TINYML4D

About the author



Marcelo Rovai, a Brazilian living in Chile, is a recognized figure in engineering and technology education. He holds the title of Professor Honoris Causa from the Federal University of Itajubá (UNIFEI), Brazil. His educational background includes an Engineering degree from UNIFEI and a specialization from the Polytechnic School of São Paulo University (USP). Further enhancing his expertise, he earned an MBA from IBMEC (INSPER) and a Master's in Data Science from the Universidad del Desarrollo (UDD) in Chile.

With a career spanning several high-profile technology companies such as AVIBRAS Airspace, ATT, NCR, and IGT, where he served as Vice President for Latin America, he brings a wealth of industry experience to his academic endeavors. He is a prolific writer on electronics-related topics and shares his knowledge through open platforms like Hackster.io.

In addition to his professional pursuits, he is dedicated to educational outreach, serving as a volunteer professor at UNIFEI and engaging with the TinyML4D group as a Co-Chair, promoting TinyML education in developing countries. His work underscores a commitment to leveraging technology for societal advancement.

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Lectures, books, papers, and tutorials: <https://github.com/Mjrovai/TinyML4D>