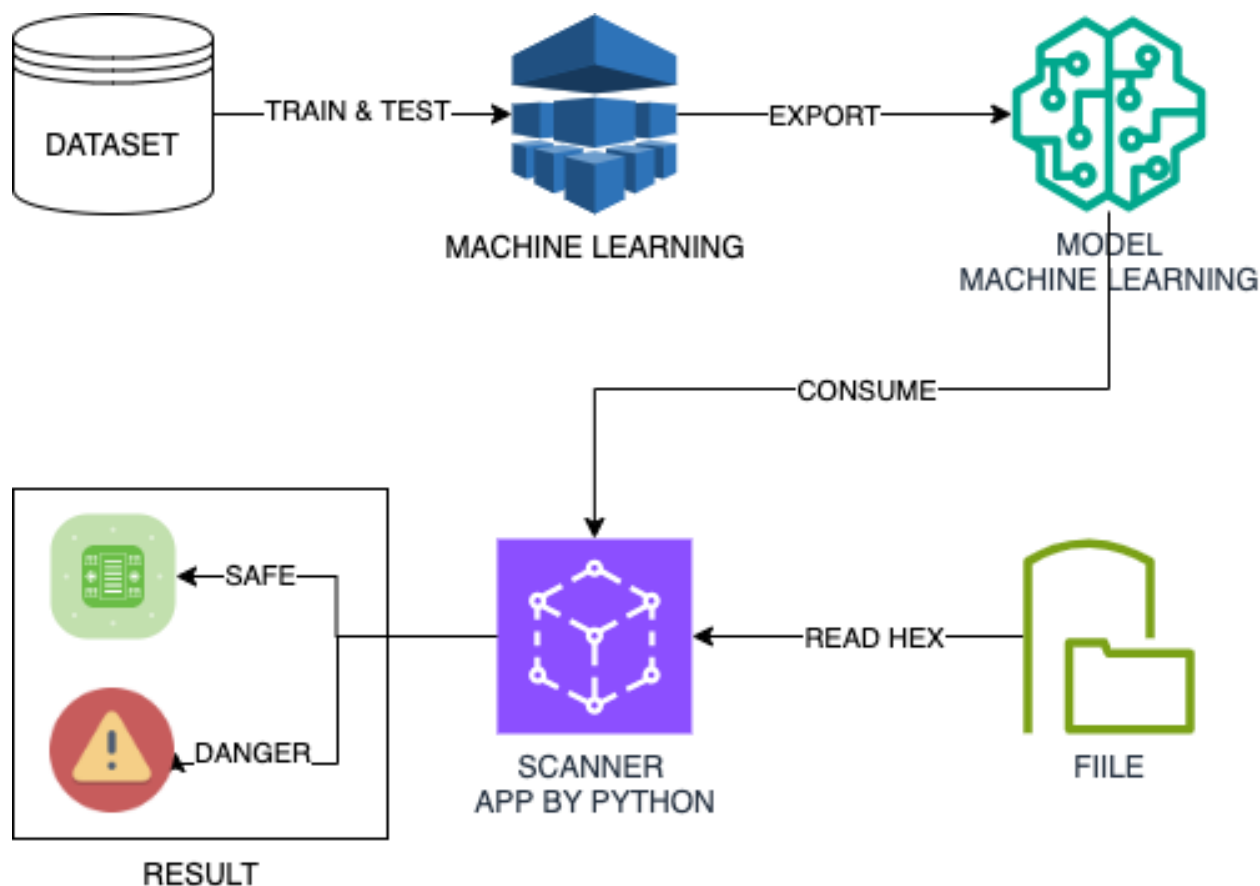


This table of file signatures (aka "magic numbers") is a continuing work-in-progress. I had found little information on this in a single place, with the exception of the table in *Forensic Computing: A Practitioner's Guide* by T. Sammes & B. Jenkinson (Springer, 2000); that was my inspiration to start this list in 2002. See also Wikipedia's [List of file signatures](#). Comments, additions, and queries can be sent to Gary Kessler at gck@garykessler.net.

This list is not exhaustive although I add new files as I find them or someone contributes signatures. Interpret the table as a one-way function: the magic number generally indicates the file type whereas the file type does not always have the given magic number. If you want to know to what a particular file extension refers, check out [File Extension Seeker: Metasearch engine for file extensions](#).



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Some other useful information:

- My [software utility](#) page contains a custom signature file based upon this list, for use with FTK, Scalpel, Simple Carver, Simple Carver Lite, and TrID. There is also a raw CSV file and JSON file of signatures.
- Tim Coakley's [Filesig.co.uk](#) site, with Filesig Manager and Simple Carver. Also, see Tim's [SQLite Database Catalog](#) page, "a repository of information used to identify specific SQLite databases and properties for research purposes."
- Marco Pontello's [TrID - File Identifier](#) utility designed to identify file types from their binary signatures.
- The National Archives' [PRONOM](#) site provides on-line information about data file formats and their supporting software products, as well as their multi-platform [DROID \(Digital Record Object Identification\)](#) software.
- Additional details on graphics file formats can be found at [The Graphics File Formats Page](#) and the [Sustainability of Digital Formats Planning for Library of Congress Collections](#) site.

- Additional details on audio and video file formats can be found at the [Sustainability of Digital Formats Planning for Library of Congress Collections](#) site