

Reinventing Speech-to-Text
Transcriptions with Go and
Whisper

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Conf42

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Content



Speech to Text transcription APIs are expensive



What is Whisper & Whisper.cpp?



What are Go bindings?!



Transcription Usecases



Demo



Speech to Text transcription APIs are expensive







Pricing table

The prices in the table below apply to minutes of audio processed per month.

Category	Models	Pricing	
		0-60 Minutes/Month	Over 60 Minutes/Month
Speech Recognition (without data logging - default)	Standard ¹	Free	\$0.024 / minute **
	Medical ²	Free	\$0.078 / minute **
Speech Recognition (with data logging opt-in)	Standard ¹	Free	\$0.016 / minute **



Google's Speech-to-Text API pricing



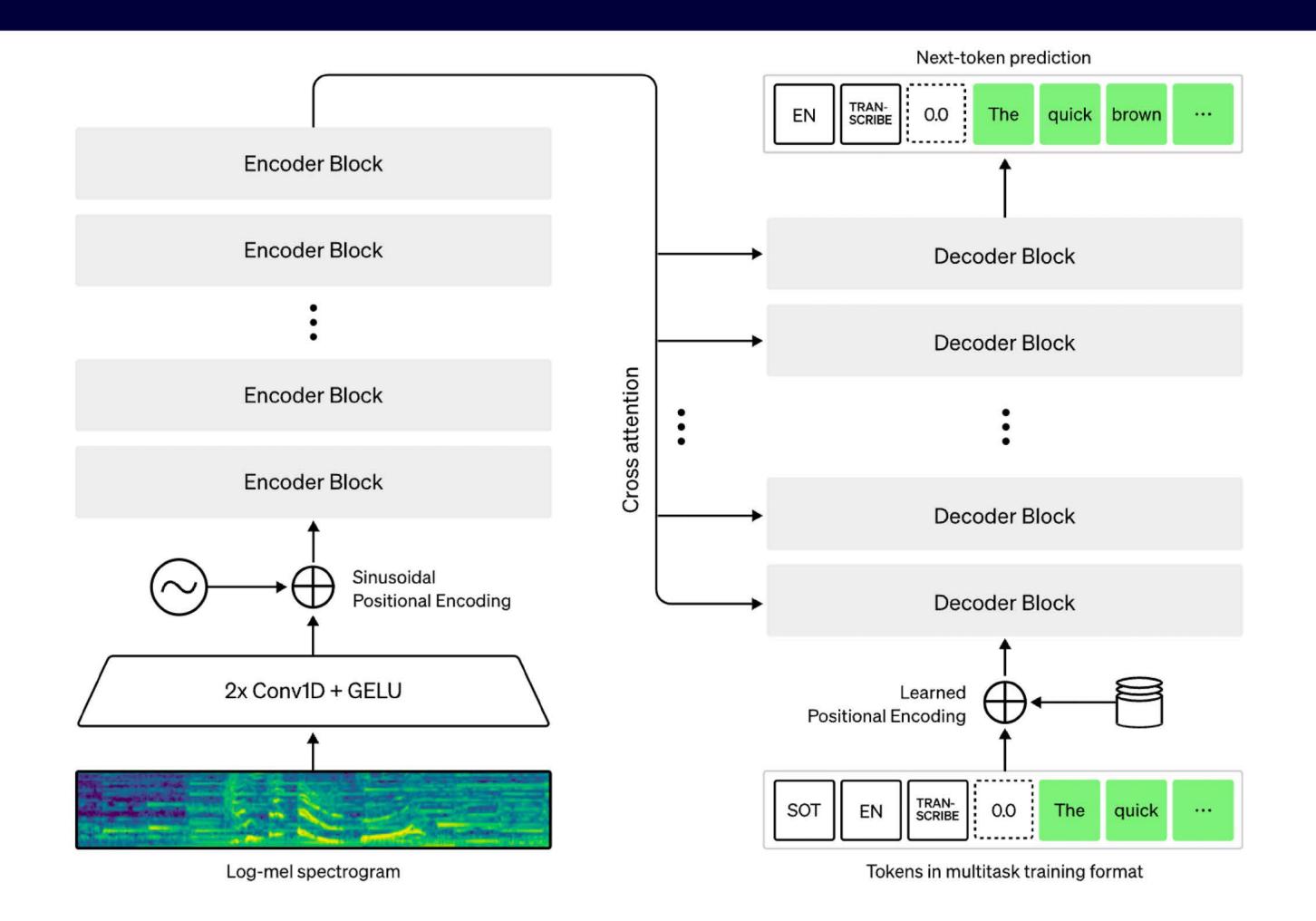
Tier	Volume (minutes/month)	Standard Batch Transcription (\$/minute)*
T1	First 250,000 minutes	\$0.02400
T2	Next 750,000 minutes	\$0.01500
Т3	Next 4,000,000 minutes	\$0.01020
T4	Over 5,000,000 minutes	\$0.00780

Amazon's speech to text api cost



What is Whisper and Whisper.cpp

Whisper is the most underrated OpenAl model



- A lightweight implementation of OpenAI's Whisper speech-to-text model
- Compatible with the Go stack, thanks to its Go bindings.
- It's a cost-effective alternative to Google, Amazon and IBM APIs.
- It's Open Source.
- Can be embedded.



What are Go bindings?

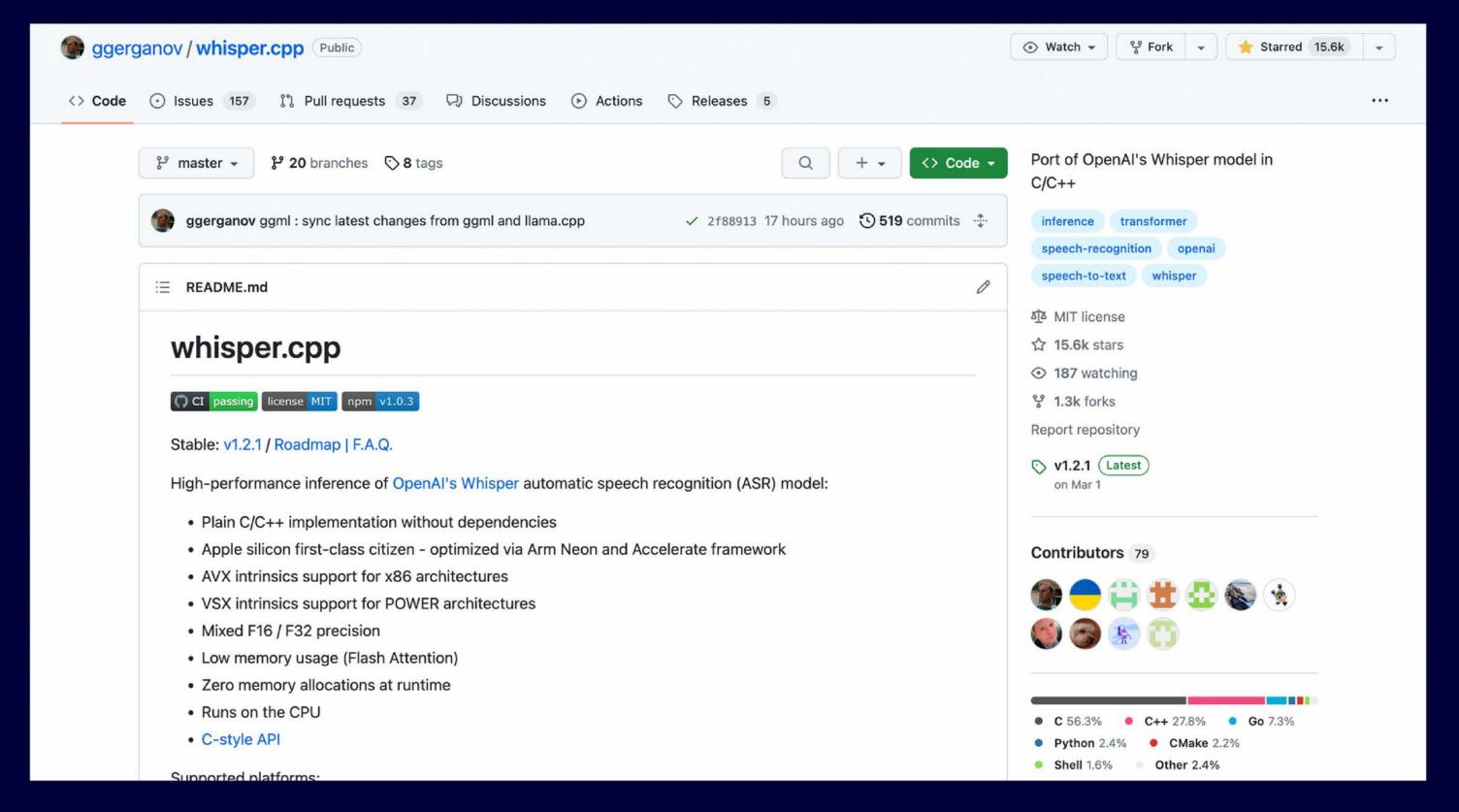


 Go bindings are a way to interface and interact with a library or a package is written in another programming language (such as C or C++) from within Go code.

- They serve as a bridge between the Go code and the foreign language code, allowing the two to communicate and share data with each other.
- The whisper.cpp library takes care of the Go bindings.



Getting started with Whisper.cpp





Initializing the transcription model using the whisper.New()

```
func transcribe(audioFilename string, modelPath string) error {
   // load whisper model
   model, err: = whisper.New(modelPath)
   if err ≠ nil {
       return fmt.Errorf("failed to load model: %w", err)
   defer model.Close()
   log.Println("Successfully loaded the model")
    // Create processing context
   context, err: = model.NewContext()
   if err ≠ nil {
       return fmt.Errorf("failed to create context: %w", err)
   fh, err: = os.Open(audioFilename)
   if err ≠ nil {
       return fmt.Errorf("failed to open audio file: %w", err)
   defer fh.Close()
   if err \neq nil {
       return fmt.Errorf("failed to open audio file: %w", err)
```

Decoding the WAV file and processing the context.

```
var data[] float32
        // Decode the WAV file - load the full buffer
   dec: = wav.NewDecoder(fh)
   if buf, err: = dec.FullPCMBuffer();
   err ≠ nil {
       return err
    } else if dec.SampleRate ≠ whisper.SampleRate {
       return fmt.Errorf("unsupported sample rate: %d", dec.SampleRate)
    } else if dec.NumChans \neq 1 {
           return fmt.Errorf("unsupported number of channels: %d", dec.NumChans)
       } else {
           data = buf.AsFloat32Buffer().Data
        // Process the data
    if err: = context.Process(data, nil);
   err ≠ nil {
        return err
   // Print out the results
   for {
       segment, err: = context.NextSegment()
       if err = io.EOF {
           return nil
       } else if err ≠ nil {
           return err
       fmt.Fprintf(w, "[%6s→%6s]", segment.Start.Truncate(time.Millisecond),
segment.End.Truncate(time.Millisecond))
       fmt.Fprintln(w, " ", segment.Text)
    return nil
```

Containerizing Whisper using Docker

```
# Install whisper
RUN git clone https://github.com/ggerganov/whisper.cpp.git &\
    cd whisper.cpp & make &\
    make libwhisper.so libwhisper.a &\
    cp whisper.h /usr/local/include &\
    cp ggml.h /usr/local/include &\
    cp libwhisper.a /usr/local/lib &\
    cp libwhisper.so /usr/local/lib &\
    cd ...
```

Usecases

- Transcribing meetings
- Audio Chatbots
- Automatic Translations
- Video Subtitles

Demo

Let's take a short video from youtube and convert it into text.

Thank you!