

# From Image Analysis in Space to Complex Pipelines at the Edge

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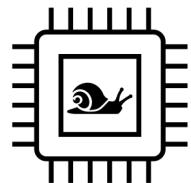
# Benefits



# Challenges

Limited resource

Compute

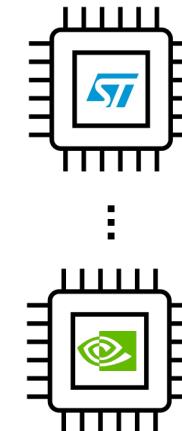


Power budget



Heterogeneity

Hardware



Tooling



# Small Satellites

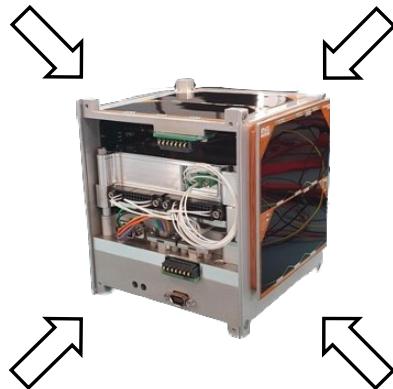
Benefits

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\$

Reduced cost



Compromises

Shrinking

+

Standardization



Reduced  
Power  
Generation

# Problem

Can transfer MAX  
49.1 images/day



Real-time imaging  
4.42 s latency

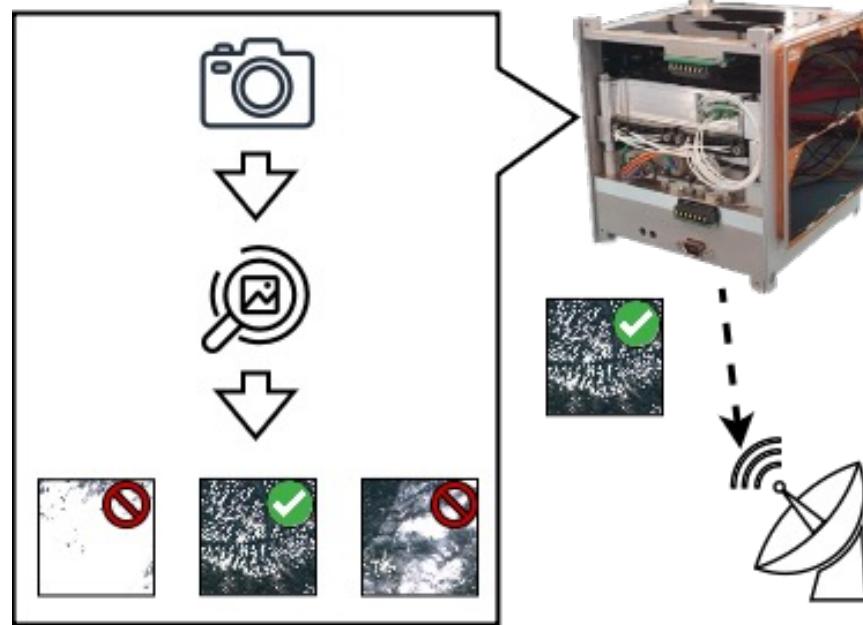
19,547 images  
captured / day

<5W  
MAX



<2W  
AVG

# Solution - Machine Learning



Our goal: Determine the right edge device  
to deploy on the satellite for this task.

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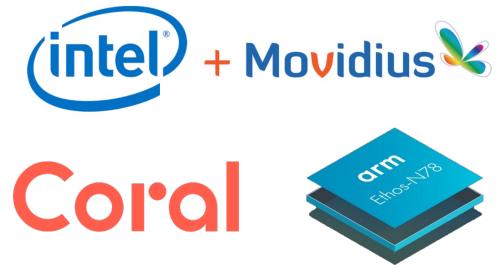
# Devices under Test



Microcontroller



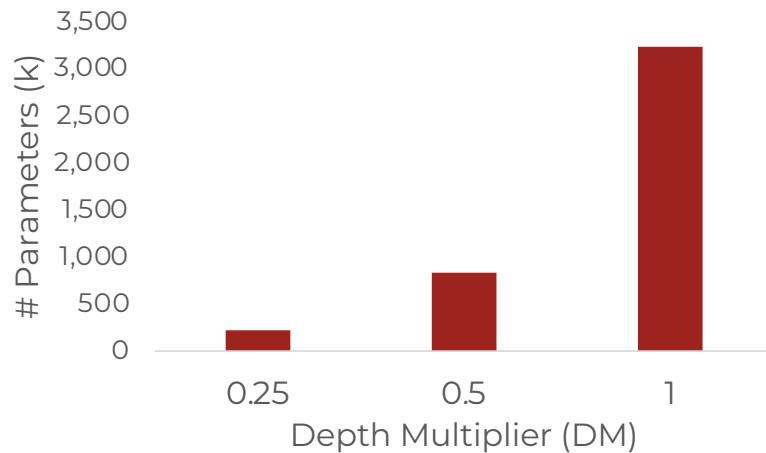
GPUs



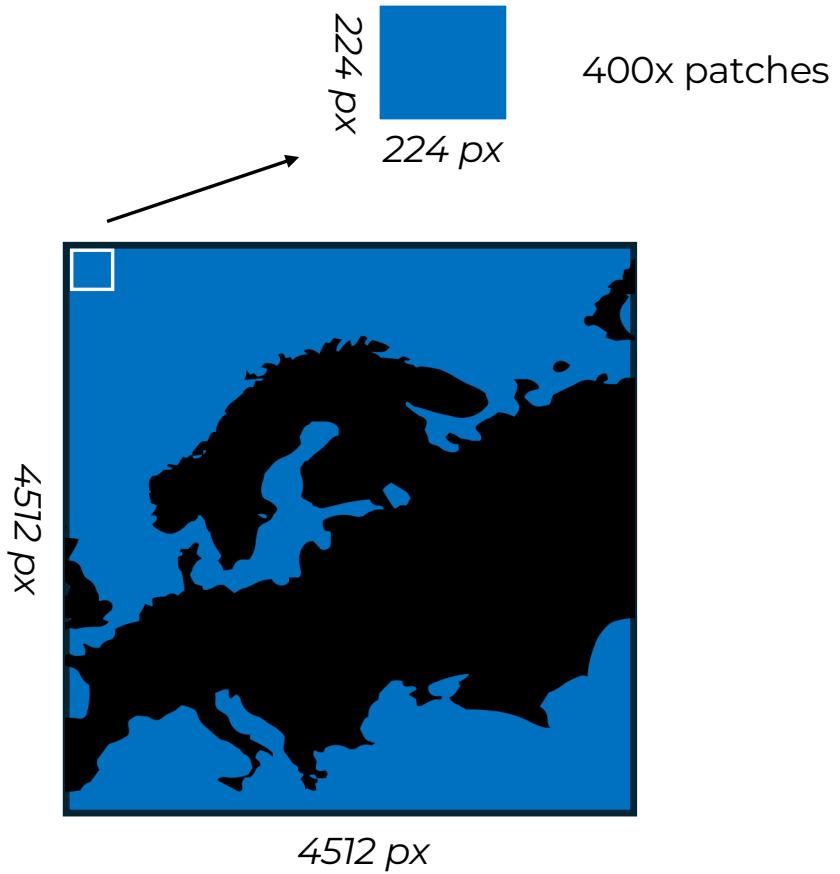
ASICs

# Model

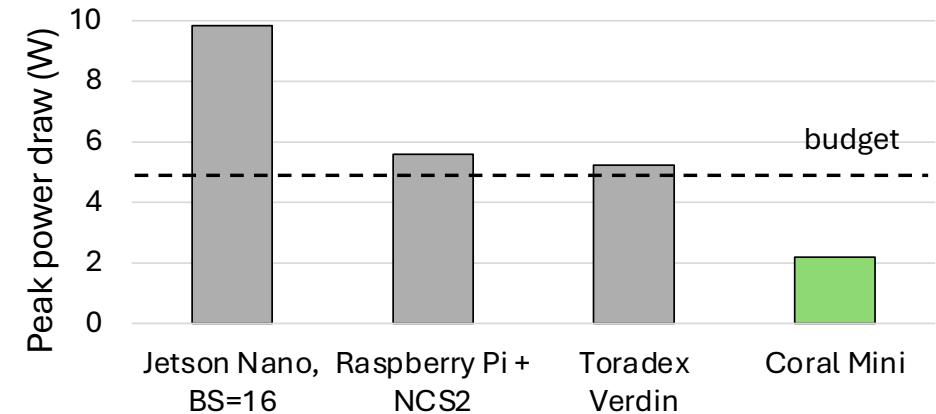
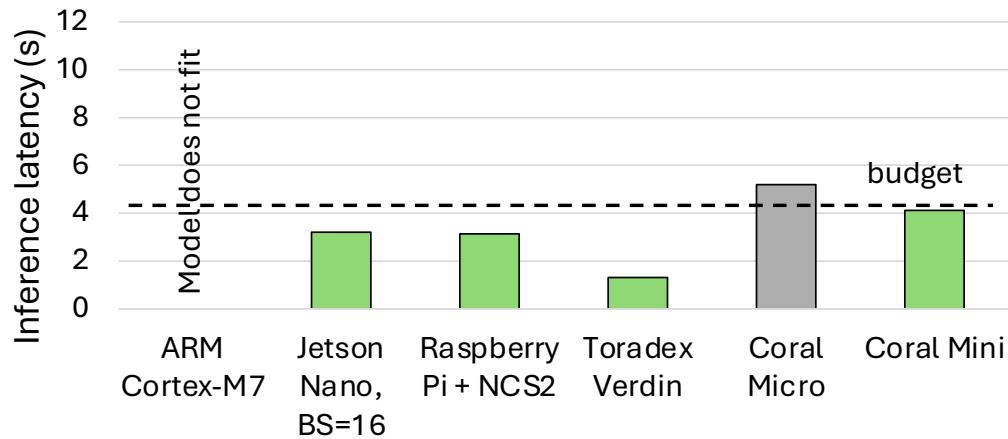
Pretrained MobileNetV1



# Data



# Results



Coral Mini best candidate!

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**Coral launched  
onboard DISCO1 in  
April 2023**

# DISCO 2

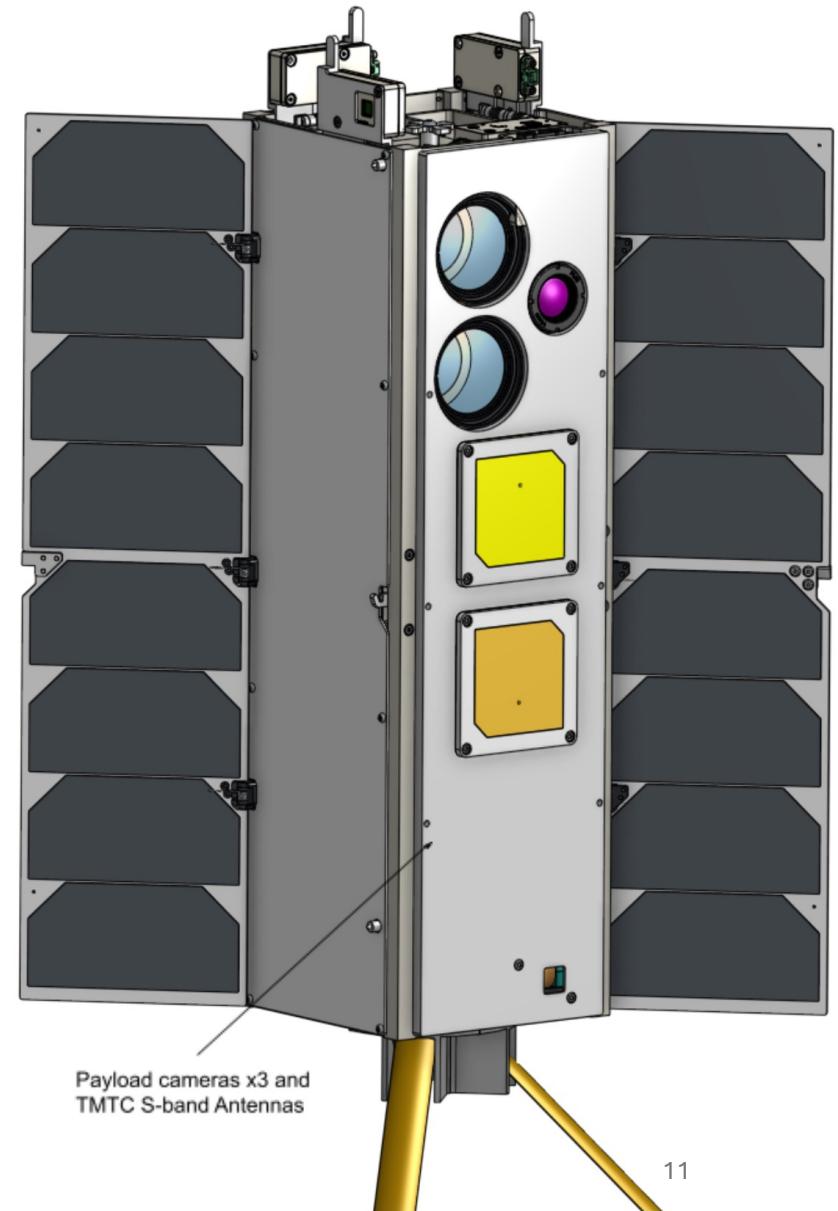
*Successor of DISCO 1 with 3 cameras*

*MLOps become problem on constrained network*

Saving bandwidth by discarding data

Mission objectives and models change frequently

Smaller models often required



# Robustness

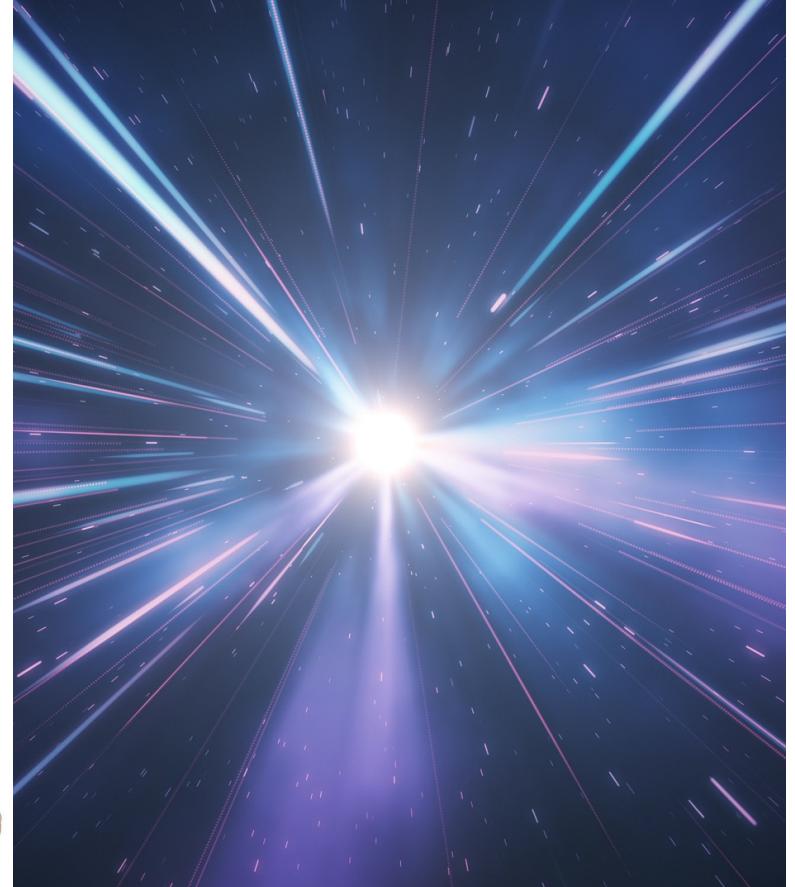
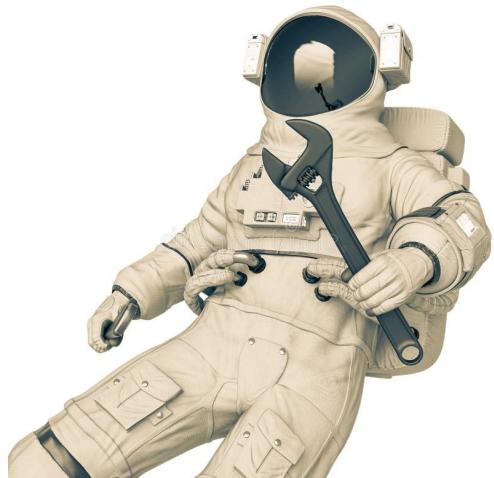
*Astronaut technicians are expensive*

*Particles flying around space with energy equivalent to baseball travelling 100 mph*

Bitflips

Corrupted file systems

Damaged subsystems



# Age of AI computers / phones

*What happens when we move ML to the Edge?*

*Latency and power - the two most important metrics*

Devices will be expected to run more tasks concurrently

- How do we analyze performance?
- How do we assign resources to the tasks and prioritize them?
- How do we collocate them?



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# Analyzing performance

*What benchmarks do we have at disposal?*



TPC<sup>®</sup>  
TPCx-AI

# Analyzing performance

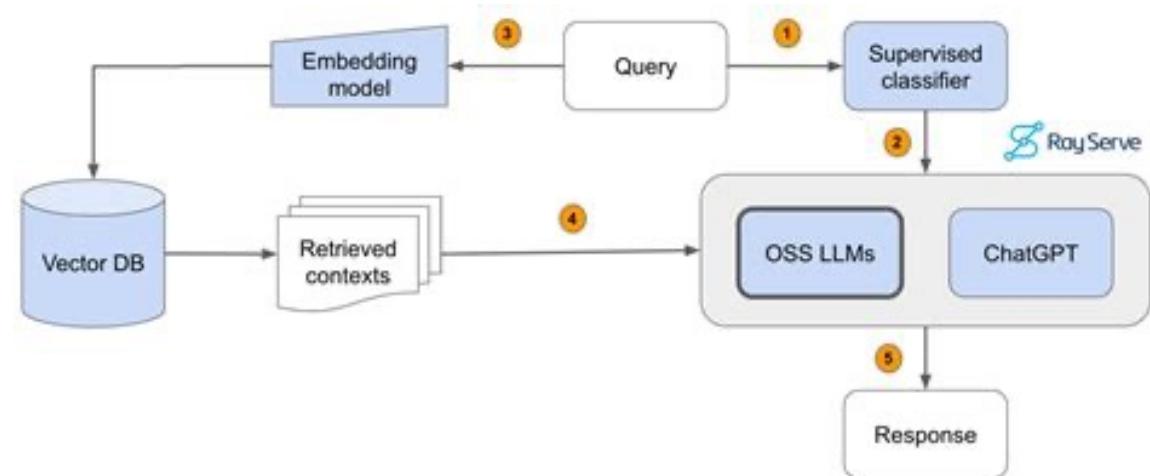
*What we would like to see*

Benchmark that covers different scales

Measurement of E2E performance

Possibility for collocation

Modularity, flexibility, reuse



<https://github.com/ray-project/llm-applications>

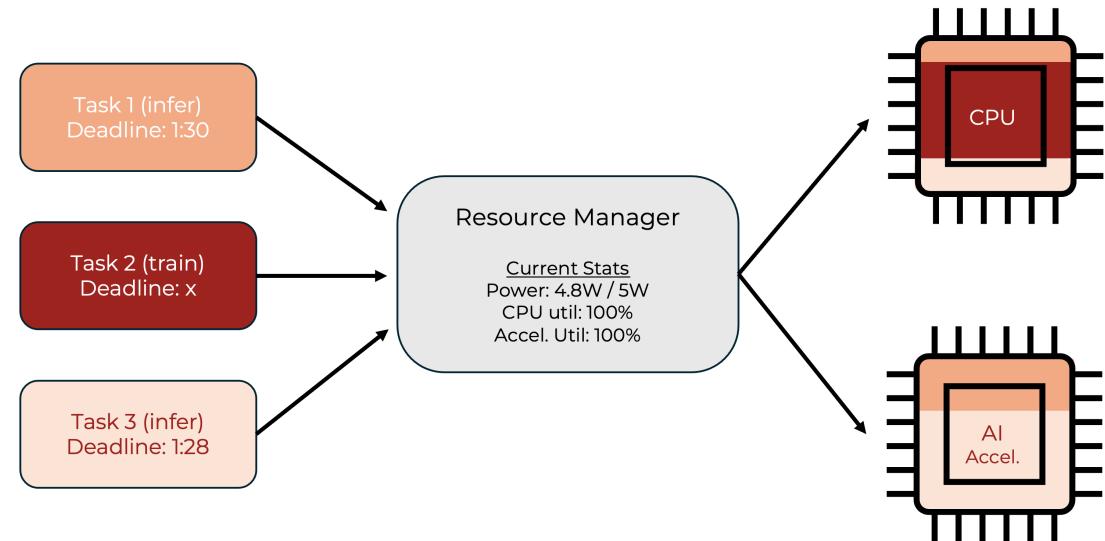
# Resource Management

*Especially on battery-powered devices*

*Dynamically assign, adjust and  
reallocate resources*

Inference is latency-critical

Training is resource-hungry



# Conclusion

- *EdgeML promises a lot, but challenging in practice*
- *ASICs at the edge necessary*
- *ML is moving to end-user devices FAST*
- *Current benchmarks do not cover complex pipelines, collocation or mixed-workloads*
- *Strict latency and power requirements will require careful resource management*

*Thank you!*

Do you have  
interesting use  
cases for our  
benchmark?

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