

Edge Computing Group
Unleashing Intelligence Everywhere

ML and On-device Processing with Apple Frameworks

Introduction to Mobile Development and Machine Learning Basics Using CoreML

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- WWDC23: *Use Core ML Tools for machine learning model compression*

Introduction

What is Mobile Development?

- Creating applications for mobile devices
- Key platforms: iOS and Android
- Languages: Swift (iOS) and Kotlin (Android)



Swift



Kotlin



Flutter

Why Mobile Development and AI?

AI-Powered Features We Widely Use Today



Virtual assistants



Chatbots



Image enhancement



Image recognition



Augmented reality



Real-time language translation



User behavior analytics



App security & user authentication



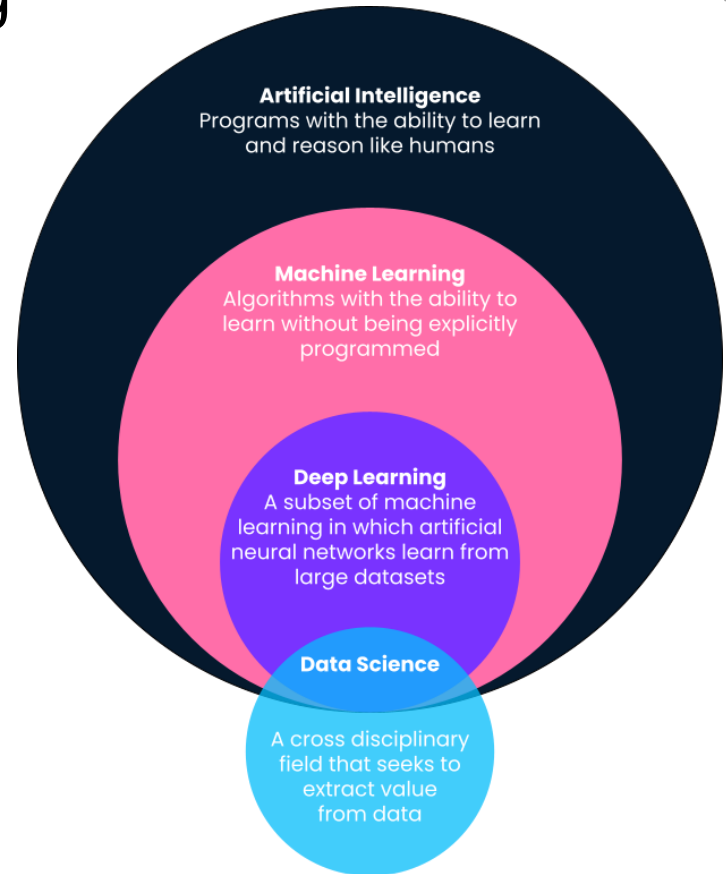
Real-time assistance



Personalized experience

Understanding Machine Learning

- **Machine Learning** is a subset of AI that enables systems to learn from data and improve over time without being explicitly programmed.
- Key concepts:
 - Training data and models.
 - Types of ML: Supervised, unsupervised, and reinforcement learning.



Understanding Machine Learning

- Example applications: Image Recognition, Natural Language Processing, and Recommendation Systems.



Spam detection



Activity analytics



Recommendations



Smart photo tagging



Predictive search



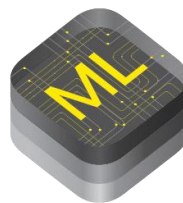
Smart tweet analysis

Apple's Machine Learning Ecosystem

Apple's Machine Learning Ecosystem

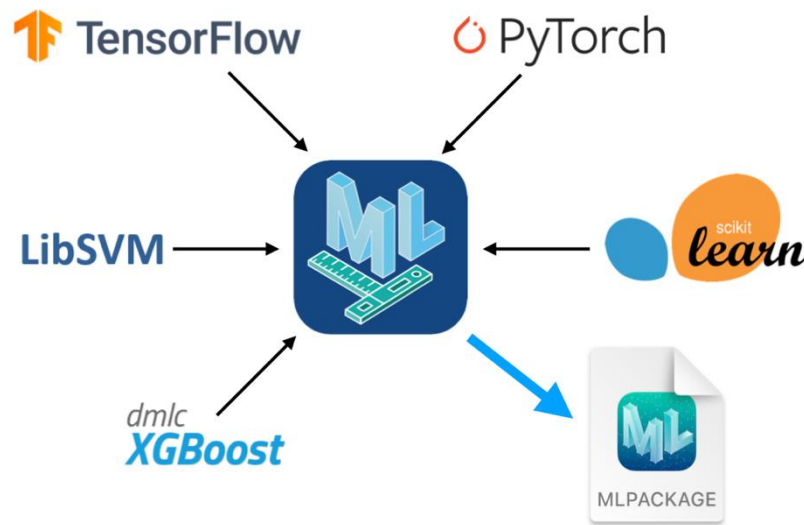
- **CoreML:** Apple's framework for integrating machine learning models into apps.
- **CreateML:** Tool for training and testing models without needing deep coding expertise.
- **Vision Framework:** For image analysis, including object detection and facial recognition.
- **SiriKit:** For adding voice interaction

capabilities to mobile apps like translation, transcription, etc.



What is CoreML?

- **CoreML** allows developers to use trained ML models directly on iOS, iPadOS, and macOS.
- Benefits:
 - Runs on-device (faster, more private).
 - Optimized for Apple's hardware (A-series, and M-series chips)
- Supports popular format (eg. ONNX, TensorFlow, PyTorch).



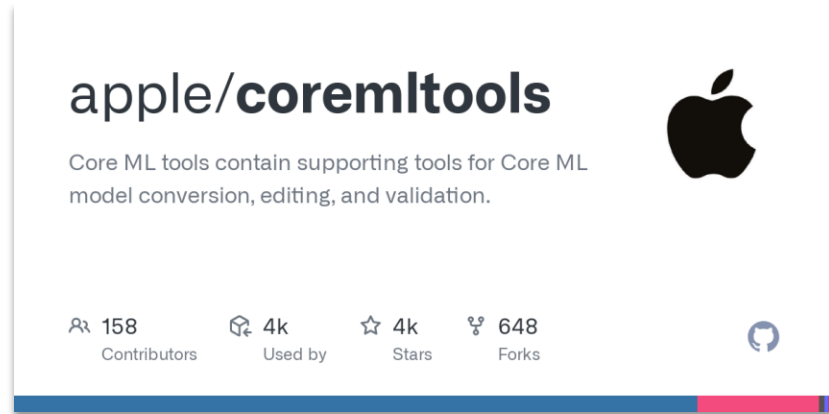
Key Steps for Using CoreML

- **Train a model:** Use frameworks like TensorFlow, PyTorch, or the Create ML platform.
- **Convert to CoreML:** Tools like CoreML Converter or ONNX to export model weights into `coremltools`.
- **Integrate into App:** import `.mlmodel` into Xcode and use CoreML APIs.
- **Optimize for On-Device**

Performance: Use quantization and pruning to reduce model size.

Getting Started with CoreML

- **Tools to Explore:**
 - Xcode: Apple's IDE for app development.
 - Swift Playgrounds: Learn Swift with hands-on examples.
 - CreateML: Simplified model training
- **Apple's Developer Documentation and Tutorials.**
- **Online Resources: GitHub repositories and open-source models.**



CoreML for Image Recognition

Crop and scale photos using the Vision framework and classify them with a CoreML model.

Tools used:

- [Vision](#), apply computer vision algorithms to perform a variety of tasks on input images and videos.
- [CoreML](#), integrate machine learning models into your app.

Overview

The app in this sample identifies the most prominent object in an image by using MobileNet, an open source image classifier model that recognizes around 1,000 different categories.



Tutorial: [Classifying Images with Vision and CoreML](#)

CoreML for Image Recognition

Crop and scale photos using the Vision framework and classify them with a Core ML model.

- Each time a user takes a picture, the app passes it to a Vision image classification request.
- Image is pre-processed for adequate input to MobileNet architecture.
- CoreML behind the scenes outputs class during runtime.

Overview

The app in this sample identifies the most prominent object in an image by using MobileNet, an open source image classifier model that recognizes around 1,000 different categories.



Tutorial: [Classifying Images with Vision and CoreML](#)

CoreML for Image Recognition

The method creates a Core ML model instance for Vision by:

1. Creating an instance of the model's wrapper class that Xcode auto-generates at compile time.
2. Retrieving the wrapper class instance's underlying [MLModel](#) property
3. Passing the model instance to a [VNCoreMLModel](#) initializer

The Image Predictor class minimizes runtime by only creating a single instance it shares across the app.

Create an Image Classifier Instance

At launch, the ImagePredictor class creates an image classifier singleton by calling its createImageClassifier() type method.

```
/// - Tag: name
static func createImageClassifier() -> VNCoreMLModel {
    // Use a default model configuration.
    let defaultConfig = MLModelConfiguration()

    // Create an instance of the image classifier's wrapper class.
    let imageClassifierWrapper = try? MobileNet(configuration: defaultConfig)

    guard let imageClassifier = imageClassifierWrapper else {
        fatalError("App failed to create an image classifier model instance.")
    }

    // Get the underlying model instance.
    let imageClassifierModel = imageClassifier.model

    // Create a Vision instance using the image classifier's model instance.
    guard let imageClassifierVisionModel = try? VNCoreMLModel(for: imageClassifierModel) else {
        fatalError("App failed to create a `VNCoreMLModel` instance.")
    }

    return imageClassifierVisionModel
}
```

CoreML for Image Recognition

The Image classification request pre-processes the image and handles I/O for the model.

Create an Image Classification Request

The Image Predictor class creates an image classification request — a [VNCoreMLRequest](#) instance — by passing the shared image classifier model instance and a request handler to its initializer.

```
// Create an image classification request with an image classifier model.  
  
let imageClassificationRequest = VNCoreMLRequest(model: ImagePredictor.imageClassifier,  
                                                completionHandler: visionRequestHandler)  
  
imageClassificationRequest.imageCropAndScaleOption = .centerCrop
```


CoreML for Image Recognition

Request handler can work with both images stored/taken by user or by initializing the URL of the image.

Create a Request Handler

The Image Predictor's `makePredictions(for photo, ...)` method creates a [VNImageRequestHandler](#) for each image by passing the image and its orientation to the initializer.

```
let handler = VNImageRequestHandler(cgImage: photoImage, orientation: orientation)
```

CoreML for Image Recognition

To perform multiple Vision requests on the same image we can add multiple requests to the array you pass to the [perform\(_:\)](#) method's requests parameter.

Start the Request

The `makePredictions(for photo, ...)` method starts the request by adding it into a [VNRequest](#) array and passes it to the handler's [perform\(_:\)](#) method.

```
let requests: [VNRequest] = [imageClassificationRequest]

// Start the image classification request.
try handler.perform(requests)
```

CoreML for Image Recognition

- We constantly update the label of our predictions based on how we format them in our View file.

Format and Present the Predictions

The main view controller's `imagePredictionHandler(_:)` method formats the individual predictions into a single string and updates a label in the app's UI using helper methods.

```
private func imagePredictionHandler(_ predictions: [ImagePredictor.Prediction]?) {  
    guard let predictions = predictions else {  
        updatePredictionLabel("No predictions. (Check console log.)")  
        return  
    }  
  
    let formattedPredictions = formatPredictions(predictions)  
  
    let predictionString = formattedPredictions.joined(separator: "\n")  
    updatePredictionLabel(predictionString)  
}
```

Benefits, Challenges, and Future of AI-Mobile Development

Benefits of On-Device Processing

- **Privacy:** Data stays on the device.
- **Performance:** No need for server round-trips.
- **Availability:** Works without internet connectivity.
- **Energy efficiency** with Apple Neural Engine (ANE).

Challenges in Mobile AI Development

- **Limited device resources** (memory, battery, and processing power).
- **Model optimization** (size vs. accuracy trade-off).
- **Compatibility** across devices and iOS versions.

Future of AI in Mobile Development

- More sophisticated models running on mobile devices.
- Seamless integration of AR and AI for enhanced user experiences.
- Real-time on-device AI for personalized and dynamic applications.
 - Education
 - Healthcare
 - and more.

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Q&A

Contact Information

Website



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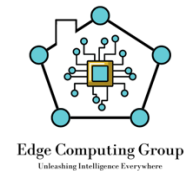
GitHub



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