

KeyWord Spotting (KWS)

Cris Ababei



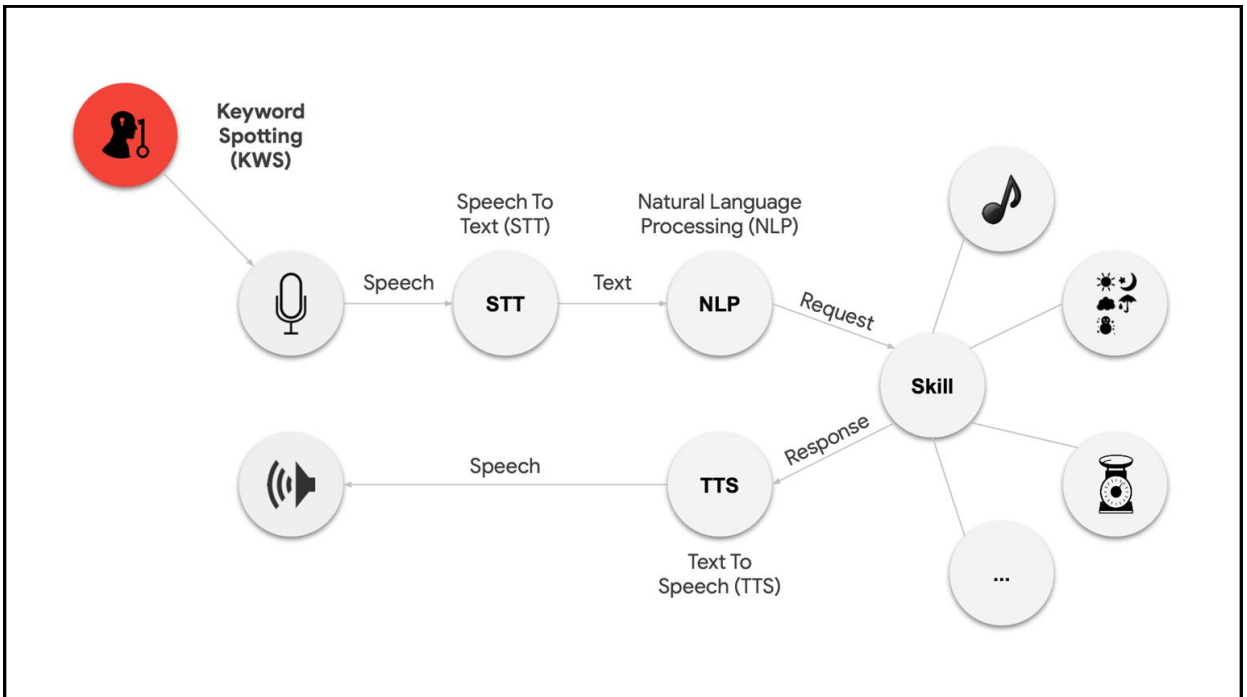
BE THE DIFFERENCE.

What is
KeyWord Spotting?

Keyword Spotting v. General Speech Recognition

- **Keyword spotting** is one of the most successful examples of **TinyML**
 - Low-power, continuous, on-device
 - Common Voice SWTS* expands keyword spotting to more languages
 - * Single Word Target Segment
- **General ASR*** still requires **larger, power-hungry models**
 - But it can run on mobile devices (offline dictation on smartphones)
 - * Automatic Speech Recognition

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More than just voice

- **Security** (Broken Glass)
- **Industry** (Anomaly Detection)
- **Medical** (Snore)
- **Nature** (Bee, insect sound)

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Challenges and Constraints

- **Latency**
 - Provide results quickly; respond in real-time to user
- **Bandwidth**
 - Minimize data sent over network (slow and expensive)
- **Accuracy**
 - Listen continuously, but only trigger at right time(s)
- **Personalization**
 - Trigger for user not background noise
- **Security & Privacy**
 - Safeguard data sent to cloud
- **Battery**
 - Limited energy, operate on coin-cell battery
- **Memory**
 - Run on resource constrained devices

Latency & Bandwidth

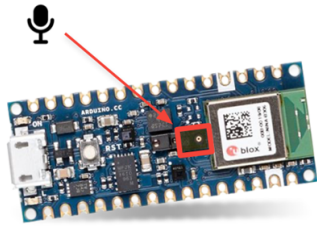
Accuracy & Personalization

Security & Privacy

Battery & Memory

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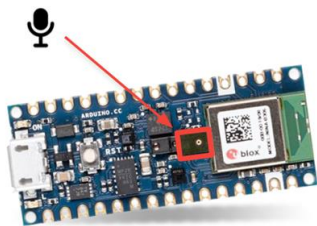
Anatomy of a Keyword Spotting Application



1 Continuously listen on the microcontroller

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Anatomy of a Keyword Spotting Application



1 Continuously listen on the microcontroller

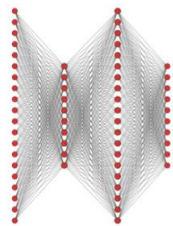
2 Process the data with **TinyML** at the edge



4 Process the full speech data with a large model in the cloud

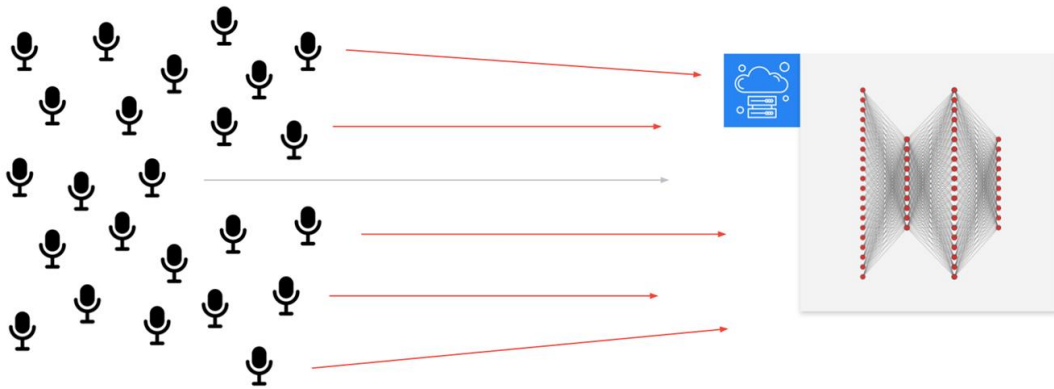


3 Send the data to the cloud when triggered



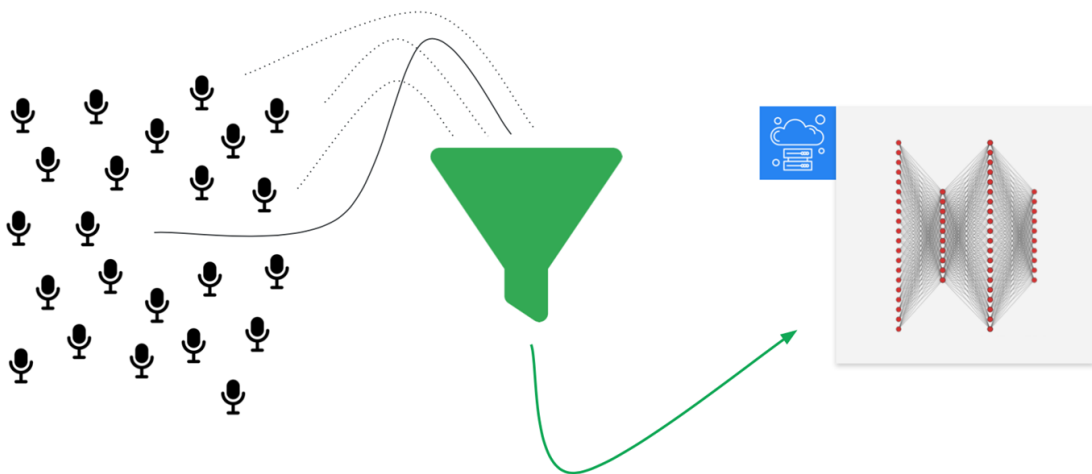
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Anatomy of a Keyword Spotting Application



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Anatomy of a Keyword Spotting Application



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Keyword Spotting Datasets

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How do we build a **good** dataset?

- Who are the **users**?
- What do they **need**?
- What **task** are they trying to solve?
- How do they **interact** with the system?
- How does the **real world** make this hard?

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Speech Commands: A Dataset for Limited-Vocabulary Speech Recognition

Pete Warden
Google Brain
Mountain View, California
petewarden@google.com

April 2018

<https://arxiv.org/pdf/1804.03209.pdf>

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Requirements

"yes" 
"no" 

Common Use

"left"
"right"
"go"
"stop" 

Robotics

"one"
"two"
"four"
"six" 

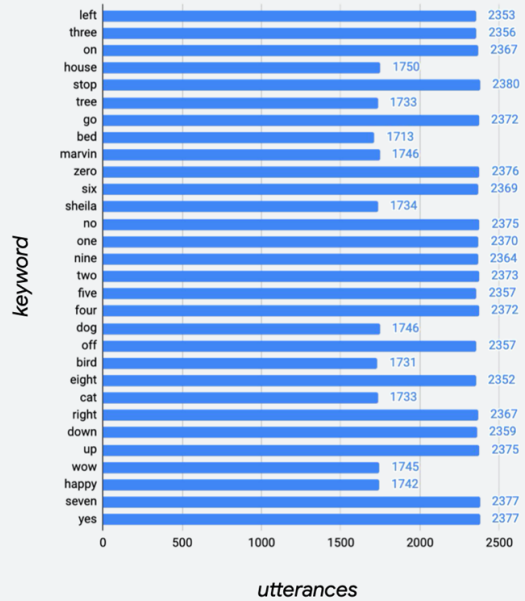
Numbers

V1: 10 words
V2: 35 words

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Data Collection

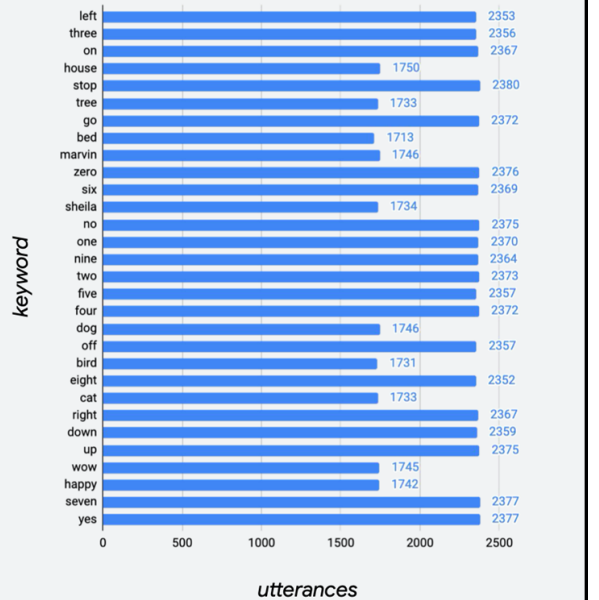
- **2,618** volunteers
 - consented to have their voices redistributed
 - Variety of accents
- > 1,000 examples for **each** keyword
- **Browser-based**
(no app to install)



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Data Validation

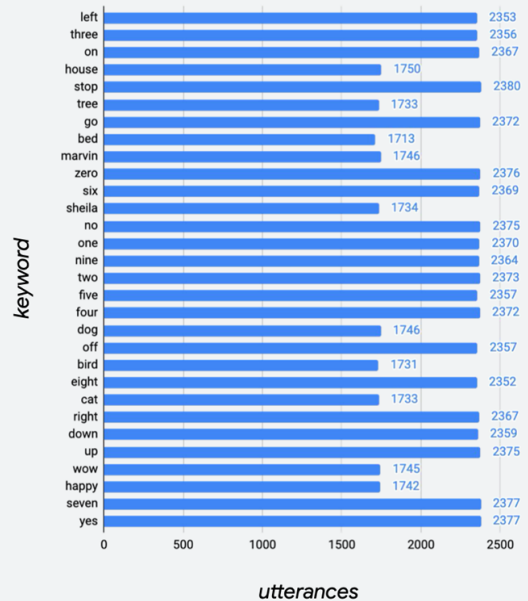
- Some data is **unusable**
 - Too quiet, wrong word, etc
- Started with **automated tools**
 - Remove low volume recordings
 - Extract loudest 1s (from 1.5sec examples)
- All 105,829 remaining utterances **manually reviewed** through crowdsourcing



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Sustaining KWS Research

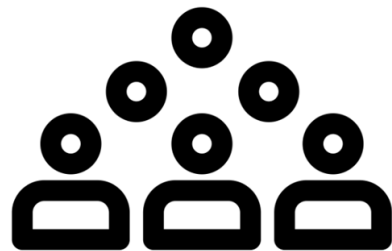
- Speech Commands is now in **v2**
 - **Expanded to 35** keywords from original 10
- Includes train/validation/test splits
- Expand to **new languages?**



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Common Voice

- **Crowdsourcing** platform



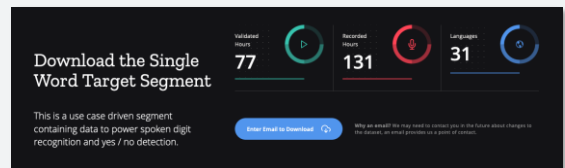
<https://commonvoice.mozilla.org/en>

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Single Word Target Segment

A *speech commands-style* dataset for **18 languages**

- “Yes” // “no”
- “hey” & “Firefox”
- **digits** 0-9



<https://commonvoice.mozilla.org/en/datasets>

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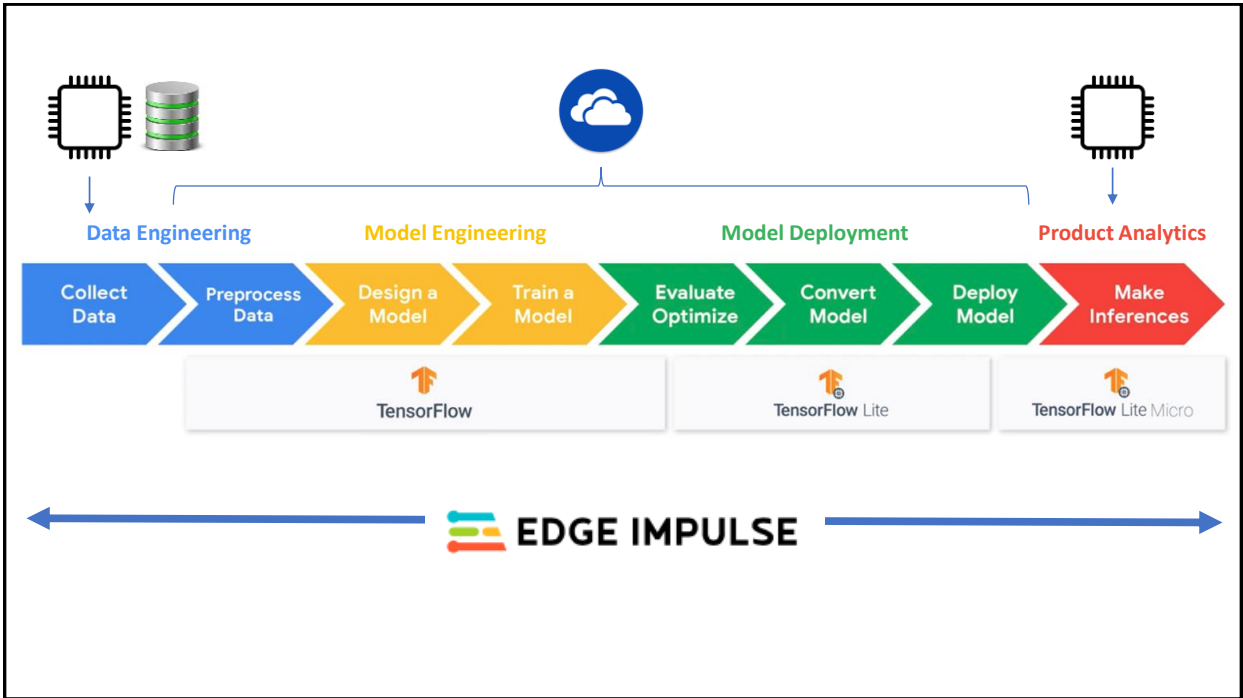
Food for Thought

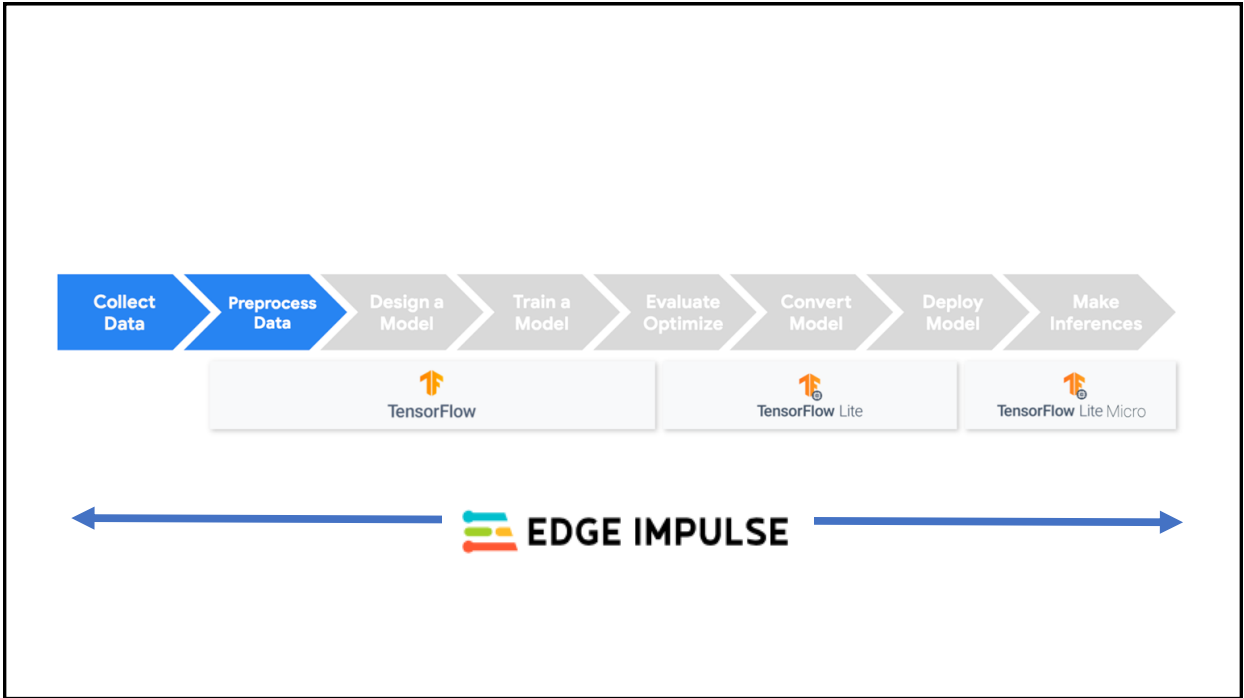
QC (Quality Control)

- Need to keep **only** what a human can hear
- Microphone issues
- **Noisy** backgrounds

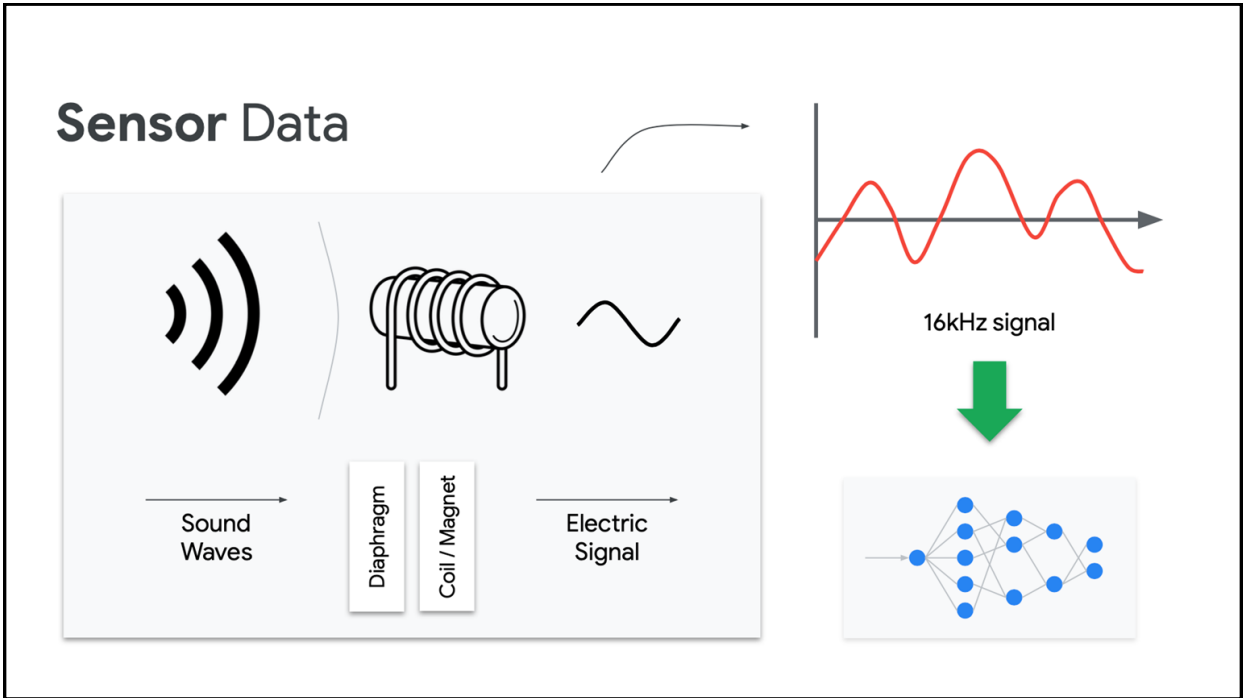
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KWS Data Collection & Pre-Processing





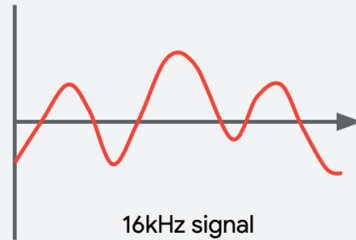
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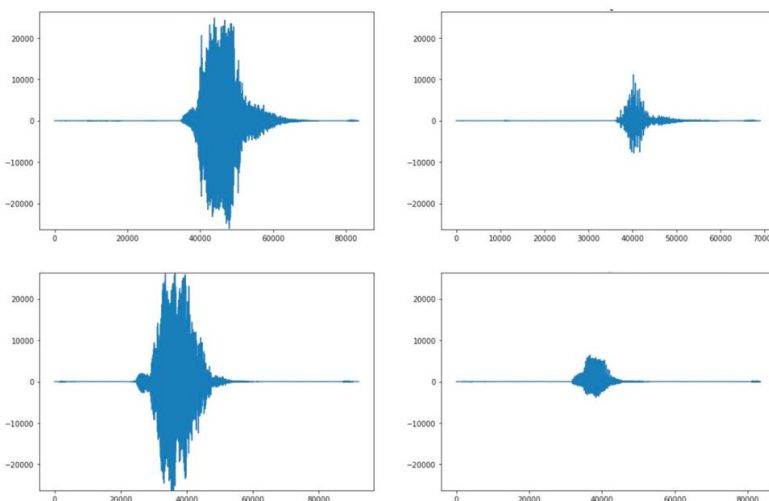
Sensor Data

- 16kHz signal, so that's **16000** samples (points / second)
- How do you feed **all** of that data into the network?
- Need to **think creatively** about the input signal!



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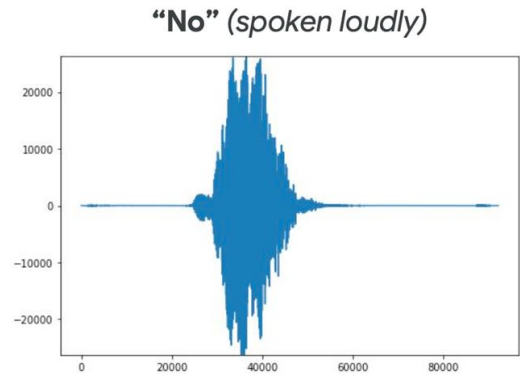
Guess!



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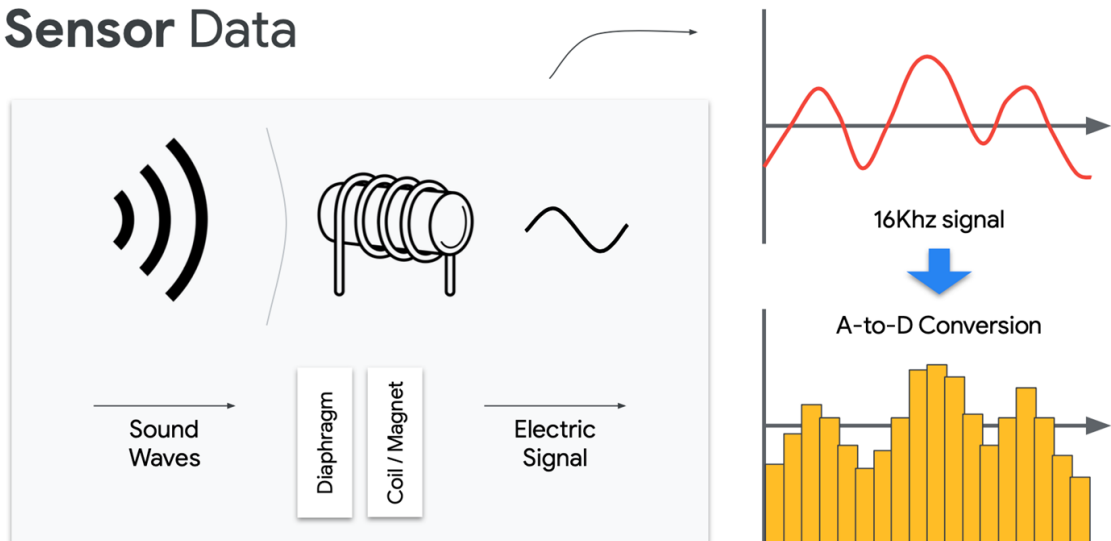
What are interesting challenges?

- It is a continuous signal, so **when does the word start?**
- How do you **“align”** on the starting point?
- How do we **extract the vital parts** of the signal that matter?



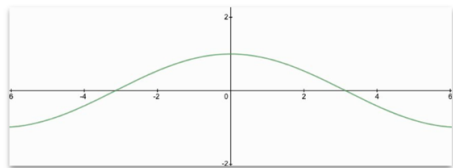
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Sensor Data



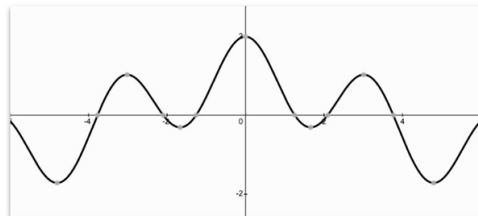
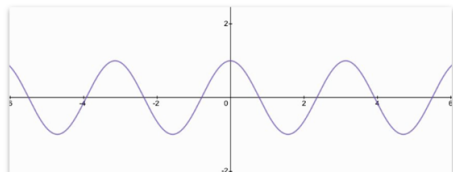
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Signal Components?



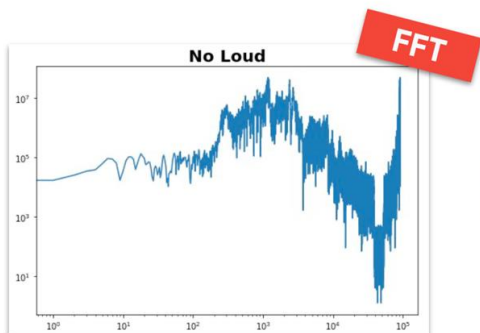
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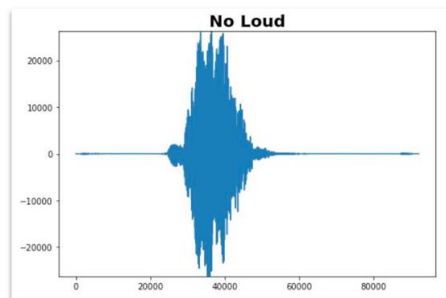


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Signal Components?



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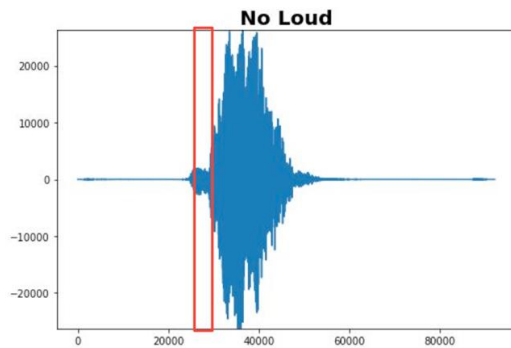


Frequency

Time

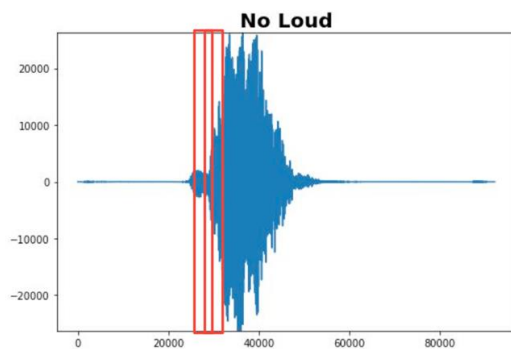
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Data Preprocessing



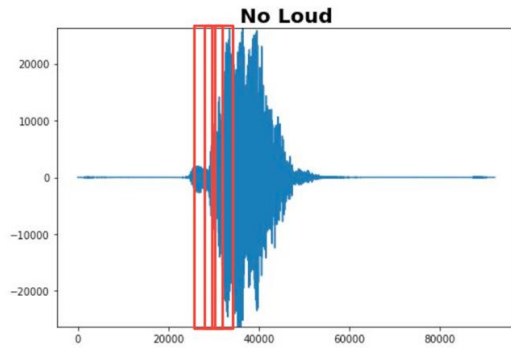
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Data Preprocessing



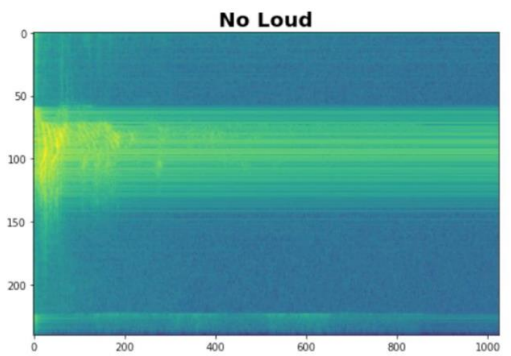
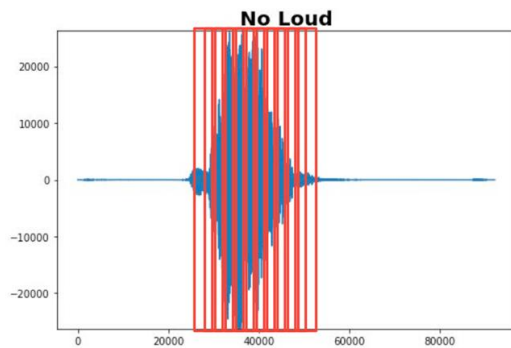
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Data Preprocessing



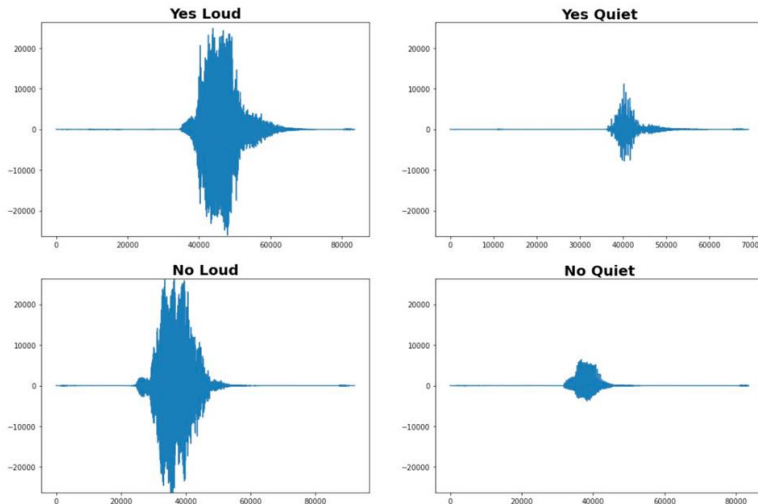
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Data Preprocessing: Spectrograms



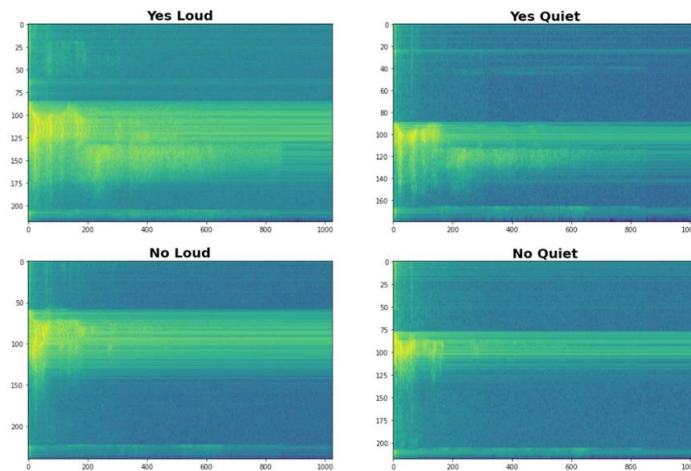
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Data Preprocessing: Spectrograms



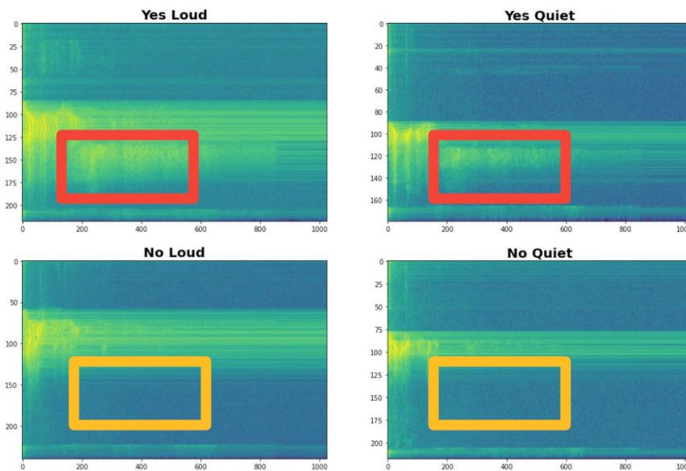
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Data Preprocessing: Spectrograms



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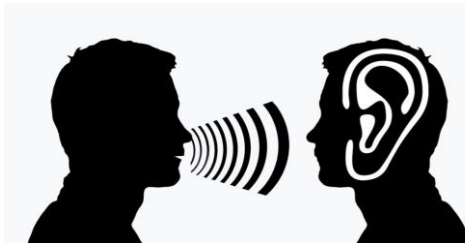
Data Preprocessing: Spectrograms



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Drawbacks of the Spectrogram

1. We hear/perceive pitch exponentially in frequency - because freq. is exponential of our perception $f = 440 * 2^{(p/12)}$. So, we do not want to include as many bins from high frequencies, because we would not be able to make much of a difference between bins at high freq.
2. We perceive intensity logarithmically in loudness.
3. Spectrograms have a lot of freq. bins; probably more than we need. So, we want to do a “dimension reduction” or “lossy compression” of the spectrogram that hopefully retains important aspects.

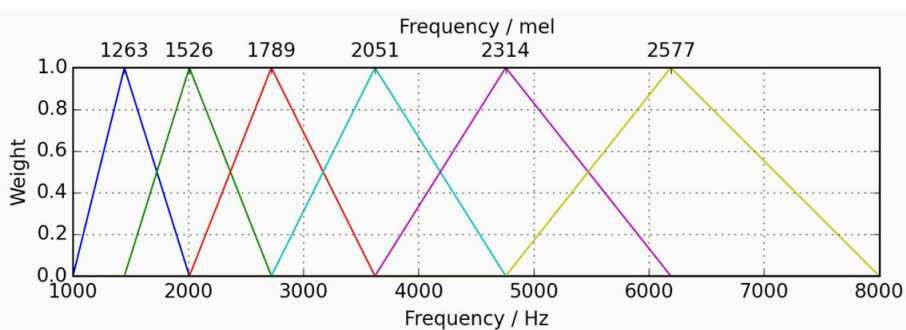


The lower band frequencies are much crisper to us

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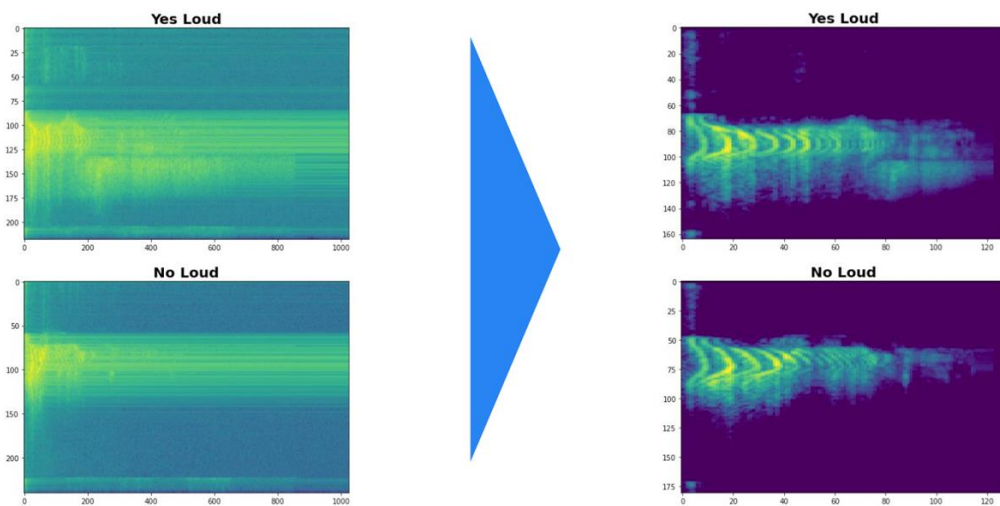
Mel (Triangle) Filterbanks

- Take freq. bins nonlinearly to match our perception
- Take say 40 bins (each bin is a triangle) of **Mel Filterbanks** and apply (multiply) with the Spectrogram to get: **Mel Spectrogram**



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Spectrograms vs. Mel Spectrograms

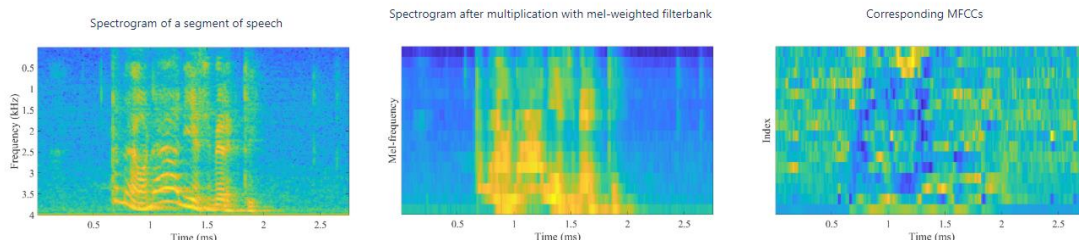


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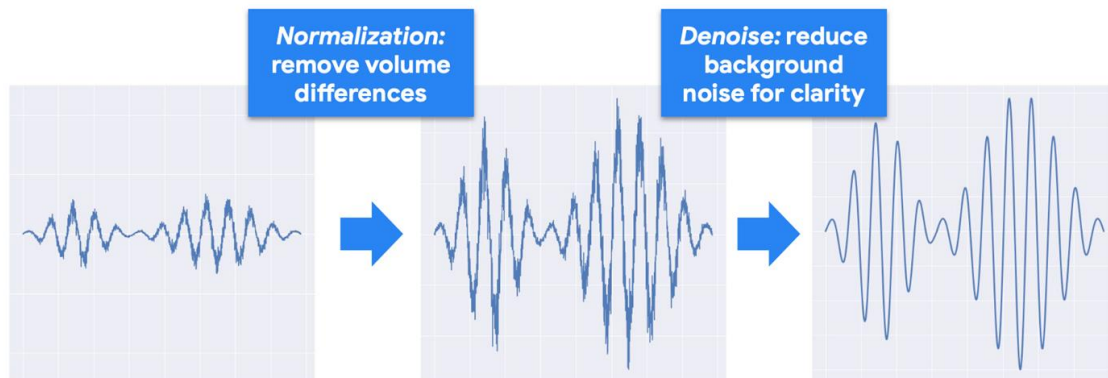
Mel-Frequency Cepstral Coefficients (MFCCs)

- Mel Frequency Cepstral Coefficients (MFCCs) are a feature widely used in automatic speech and speaker recognition; concisely describe the overall shape of a spectral envelope.
- How to calculate MFCCs
 1. Frame the signal into short frames.
 2. For each frame calculate the periodogram estimate of the power spectrum.
 3. Apply the Mel filterbank to the power spectra, sum the energy in each filter.
 4. Take the logarithm of all filterbank energies.
 5. Take the DCT of the log filterbank energies.
 6. Keep DCT coefficients 2-13, discard the rest.



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Additional Feature Engineering



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Spectrograms and MFCCs

Code Time!

SpectrogramsMFCCs.ipynb



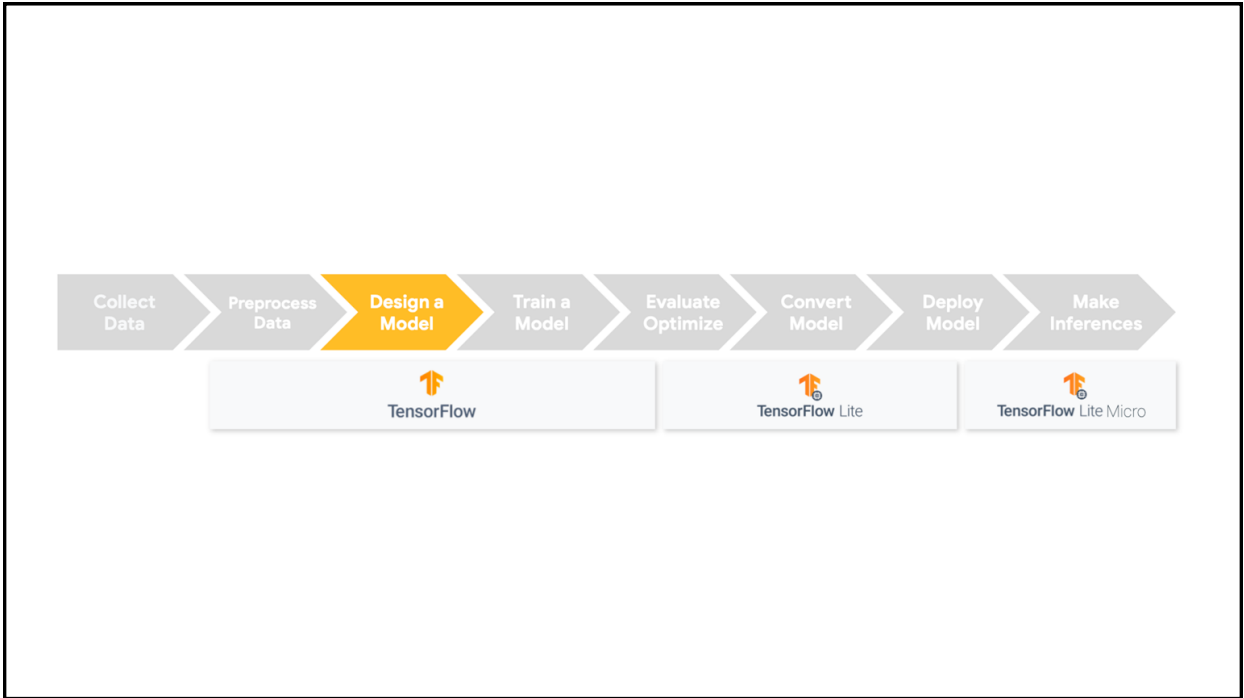
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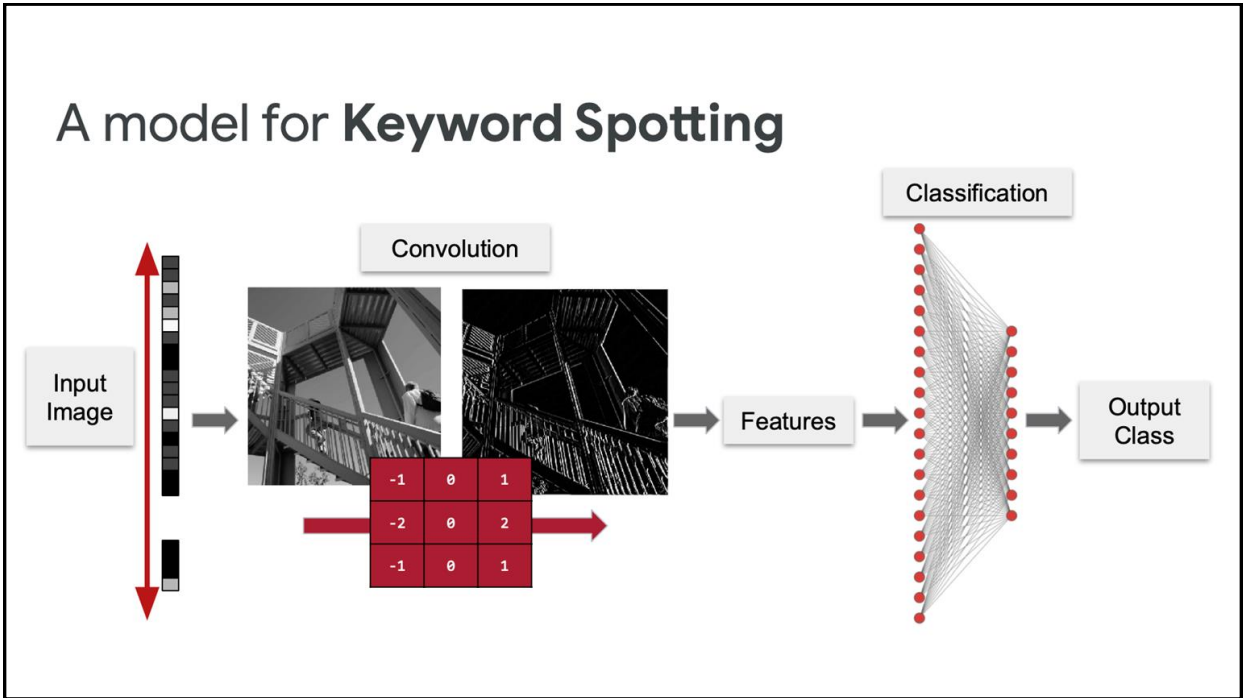
A Keyword Spotting Model

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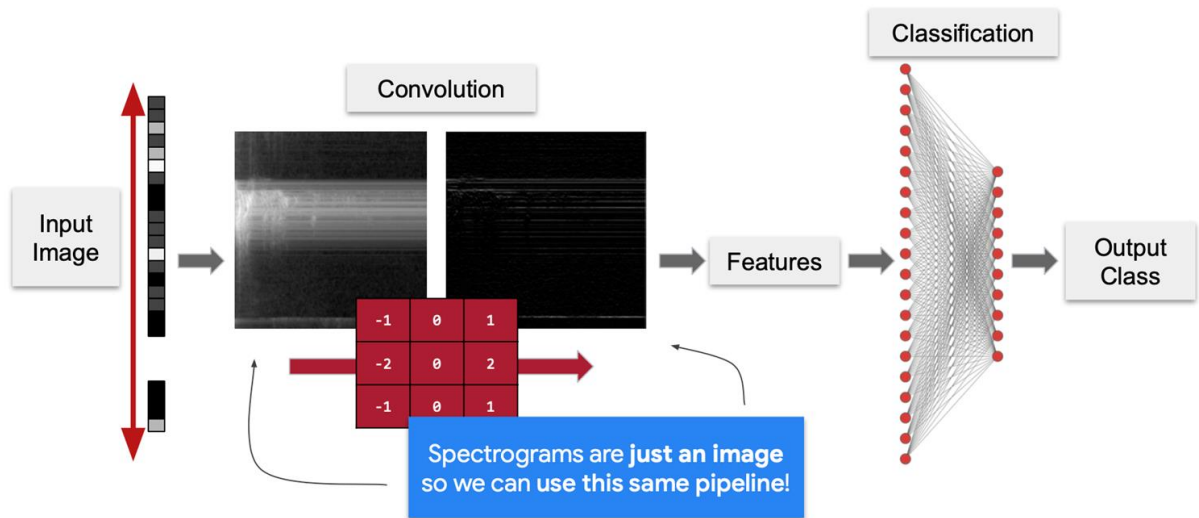


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A model for Keyword Spotting



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Credits

- A previous edition of this course was developed in collaboration with Dr. Susan C. Schneider of Marquette University.
- We are very grateful and thank all the following professors, researchers, and practitioners for jump-starting courses on TinyML and for sharing their teaching materials:
 - Prof. Marcelo Rovai - TinyML - Machine Learning for Embedding Devices, UNIFEI
 - <https://github.com/Mjrovai/UNIFEI-UESTIO1-TinyML-2022.1>
 - Prof. Vijay Janapa Reddi - CS249r: Tiny Machine Learning, Applied Machine Learning on Embedded IoT Devices, Harvard
 - <https://sites.google.com/g.harvard.edu/tinyml/home>
 - Prof. Rahul Mangharam – ESE3600: Tiny Machine Learning, Univ. of Pennsylvania
 - <https://tinyml.seas.upenn.edu/#>
 - Prof. Brian Plancher - Harvard CS249r: Tiny Machine Learning (TinyML), Barnard College, Columbia University
 - https://a2r-lab.org/courses/cs249r_tinyml/

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References

- Additional references from where information and other teaching materials were gathered include:

- Applications & Deploy textbook: “TinyML” by Pete Warden, Daniel Situnayake
 - <https://www.oreilly.com/library/view/tinyml/9781492052036/>
- Deploy textbook “TinyML Cookbook” by Gian Marco Iodice
 - <https://github.com/PacktPublishing/TinyML-Cookbook>
- Jason Brownlee
 - <https://machinelearningmastery.com/>
- TinyMLedu
 - <https://tinyml.seas.harvard.edu/>
- Professional Certificate in Tiny Machine Learning (TinyML) – edX/Harvard
 - <https://www.edx.org/professional-certificate/harvardx-tiny-machine-learning>
- Introduction to Embedded Machine Learning - Coursera/Edge Impulse
 - <https://www.coursera.org/learn/introduction-to-embedded-machine-learning>
- Computer Vision with Embedded Machine Learning - Coursera/Edge Impulse
 - <https://www.coursera.org/learn/computer-vision-with-embedded-machine-learning>

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