



"Should I have another piece of cake?"

# Multi-Task Learning for Calorie Prediction on a Novel Large-Scale Recipe Dataset Enriched with Nutritional Information

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## In a Nutshell

- Collecting nutritional information of recipes aggregating semi-structured ingredient data
- pic2kcal* benchmark: The largest publicly available dataset captured in the wild
- Multi-task prediction of nutritional values and ingredients from pictures



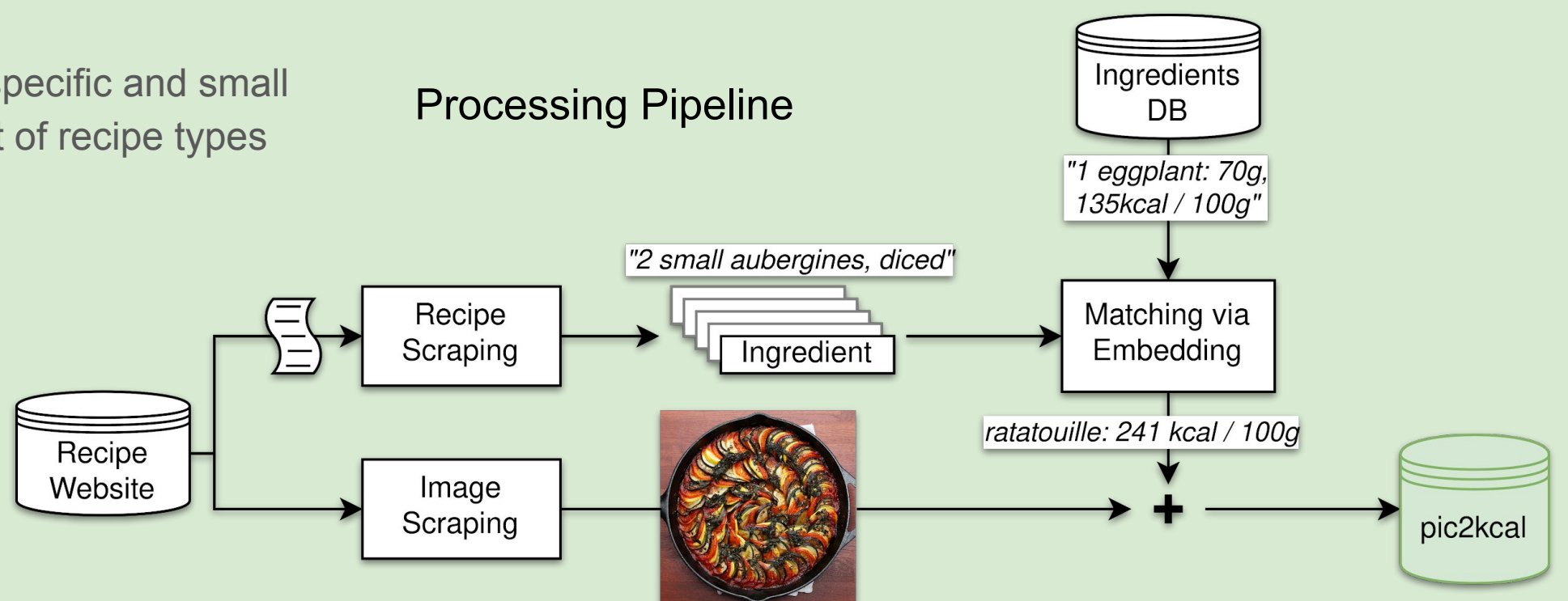
Nutrition Facts (per 100 g)		
	Pred	True
Calories	183 kcal	198 kcal
Fat	9 g	9 g
Carb	17 g	24 g
Protein	7 g	4 g
Ingredients (pred): Flour, Butter, Milk		
Ingredients (true): Eggs, Flour, Vanilla Sugar		

## *pic2kcal* Dataset

- Most existing datasets are domain specific and small
- Our dataset comprises a diverse set of recipe types and cuisines

### Recipe1M+ Comparison

Dataset	Property	Per portion	Per 100g	Per recipe
Recipe1M+	Mean [kcal]	N/A	219	1047
	Std. Dev. [kcal]	N/A	129	658
	Recipe count	N/A	17k	10k
	Sample count	N/A	<b>44k</b>	<b>24k</b>
<i>pic2kcal</i>	Mean [kcal]	425	179	1791
	Std. Dev. [kcal]	207	73	1007
	Recipe count	42k	70k	63k
	Sample count	<b>179k</b>	<b>308k</b>	<b>267k</b>



## Multi-Task Prediction

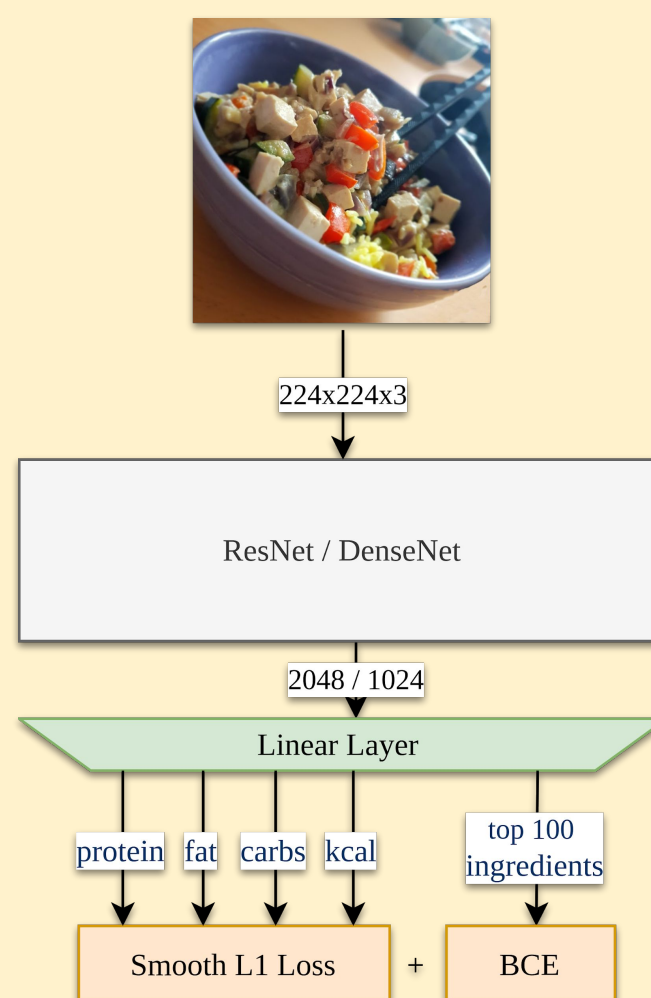
- End-to-end nutrition and ingredient estimation from food images
- Architecture:
  - backbone: DenseNet, ResNet, pre-trained on ImageNet
  - last layer adapted for
    - regression outputs on kcal and macronutrients
    - binary outputs on top 100 ingredients

### Training:

$$\text{multi-task loss} = \text{L1}_{\text{kcal}} + \sum_{m \in \{\text{fat}, \text{prot}, \text{carb}\}} \text{L1}_m + \gamma \cdot \text{BCE}$$

### Evaluation:

- Comparison against mean baseline
- relative error for calories
- absolute error for calories and macronutrients



## Examples



Nutrition Facts (per 100 g)		
	Pred	True
Calories	229 kcal	239 kcal
Fat	3 g	2 g
Carb	44 g	46 g
Protein	7 g	7 g
Ingredients (pred): Flour		
Ingredients (true): Oil, Flour		



Nutrition Facts (per 100 g)		
	Pred	True
Calories	99 kcal	59 kcal
Fat	8 g	4 g
Carb	7 g	5 g
Protein	3 g	1 g
Ingredients (pred):		
Ingredients (true): Garlic		



Nutrition Facts (per 100 g)		
	Pred	True
Calories	190 kcal	229 kcal
Fat	9 g	17 g
Carb	20 g	13 g
Protein	6 g	4 g
Ingredients (pred):		
Ingredients (true): Onions, Garlic, Parsley		

## Results

- Relative and absolute error depending on the amount of food

		amount	kcal (rel)	kcal	protein	fat	carbs
Mean BL	portion		0.736	170	11.2	11.4	22.2
<b>Ours</b>			<b>0.623</b>	154	9.21	10.7	19.1
Mean BL	recipe		1.23	858	41.9	54.4	125
<b>Ours</b>			<b>0.823</b>	711	34.8	46.9	94.4
Mean BL	100g		0.464	60.5	3.10	4.49	10.5
<b>Ours</b>			<b>0.326</b>	46.9	2.51	3.88	6.97

- Relative and absolute error by prediction task

	kcal (rel)	kcal	protein	fat	carbs
Random Baseline	0.595	83.3	4.36	6.32	15.0
Mean Baseline	0.464	60.5	3.10	4.49	10.5
Kcal-only	0.362	50.3	N/A	N/A	N/A
‡ macros	0.345	49.0	2.67	4.06	7.70
‡‡ <b>top-100 ingredients</b>	<b>0.326</b>	46.9	2.51	3.88	6.97

## Conclusion

- Large dataset of 308k images with structured metadata
  - Generation code public <https://github.com/phiresky/pic2kcal>
- Ingredient matching imperfect

- Ingredients, macronutrients, and calories are intertwined
  - Predicting them together improves performance
- Extension to other tasks possible
  - Predicting the dietary style