

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

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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		

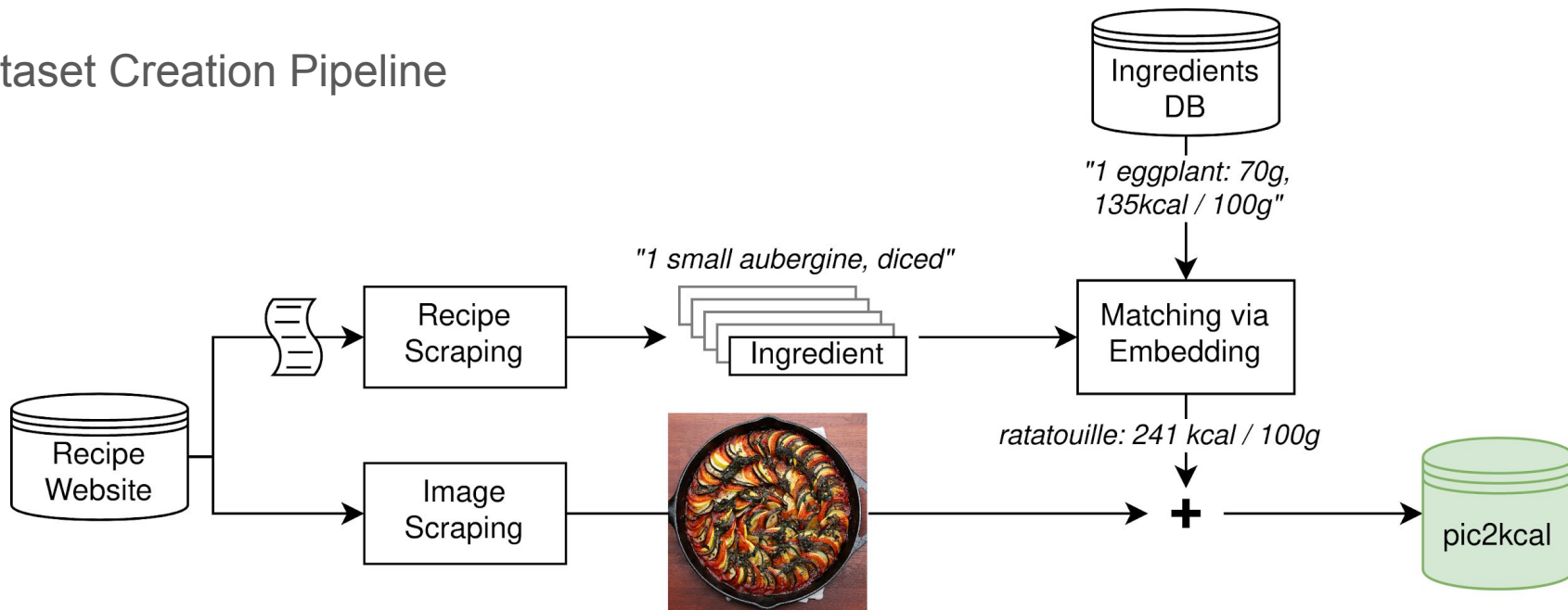
In a Nutshell

- A method for collecting nutritional information of recipes by aggregating semi-structured ingredient data
- *pic2kcal* benchmark: The largest dataset of images with calories captured in the wild
- Multi-task prediction of nutritional values and ingredients from pictures

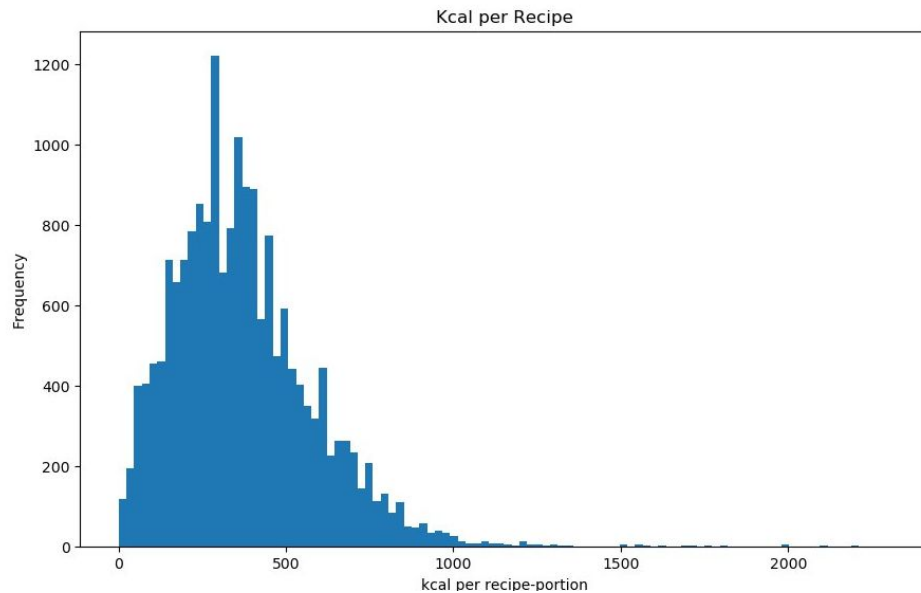
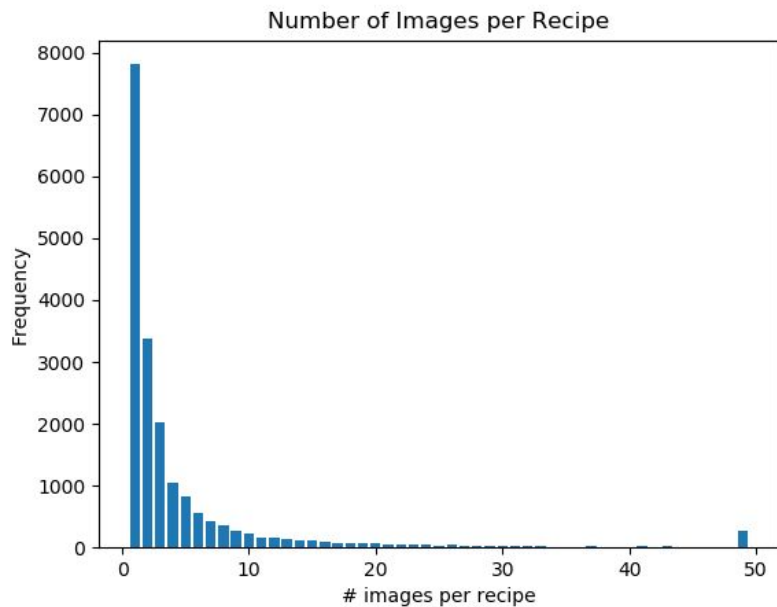
Dataset

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

Dataset Creation Pipeline



Dataset Statistics



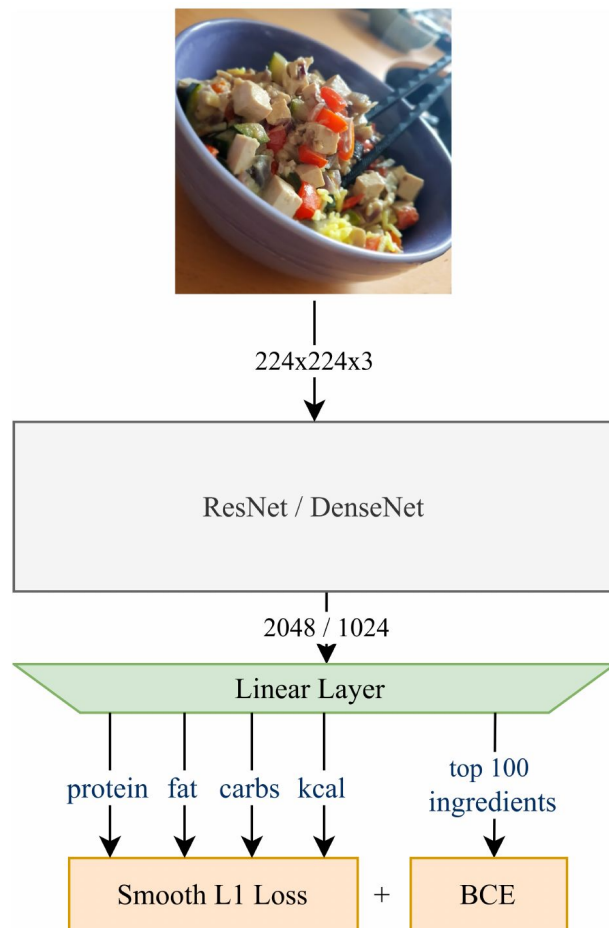
Dataset Comparison

By number of images with information calorie density per X

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	44k	24k
<i>pic2kcal</i>	Mean [kcal]	425	179	1791
	Std. Dev. [kcal]	207	73	1007
	Recipe count	42k	⁺ 70k	63k
	Sample count	179k	308k	267k

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



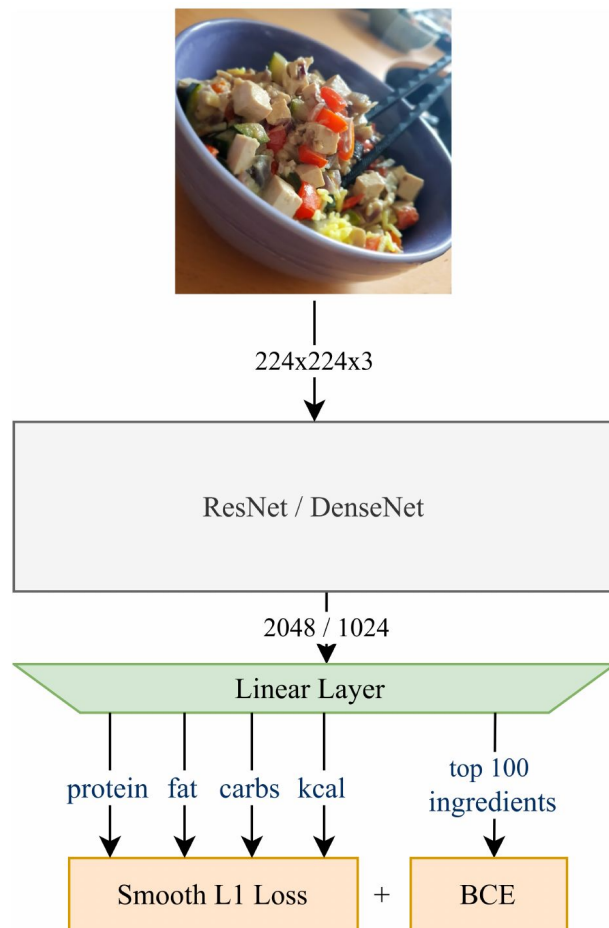
Multi-task Prediction

- Training:

$$\text{multi-task loss} = L1_{\text{kcal}} + \sum_{m \in \{\text{fat, prot, carb}\}} L1_m + \gamma \cdot \text{BCE}$$

- Evaluation:

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



Results

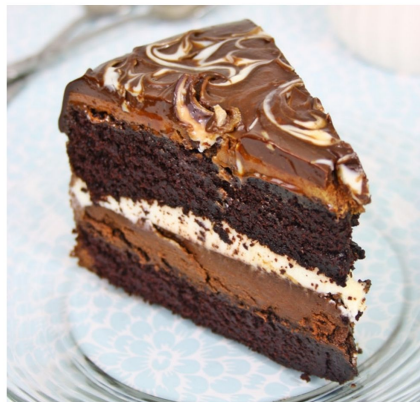
- Relative and absolute error depending on the amount of food

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

Examples



Nutrition Facts (per 100 g)

	Pred	True
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Protein	7 g	4 g

Ingredients (pred): Flour,
Butter, Milk

Ingredients (true): Eggs,
Flour, Vanilla Sugar



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

Conclusion and Future Work

- Large dataset of 308k images with structured metadata
 - Generation code public <https://github.com/phiresky/pic2kcal>
- Ingredients, macronutrients, and calories are intertwined
 - Predicting them together improves performance
- Ingredient matching imperfect
- Extension to other tasks possible
 - Predicting the dietary style (e.g. vegan), “healthiness”