

Building façade inspection in cities: Assessment using Computer-vision and LIDAR data



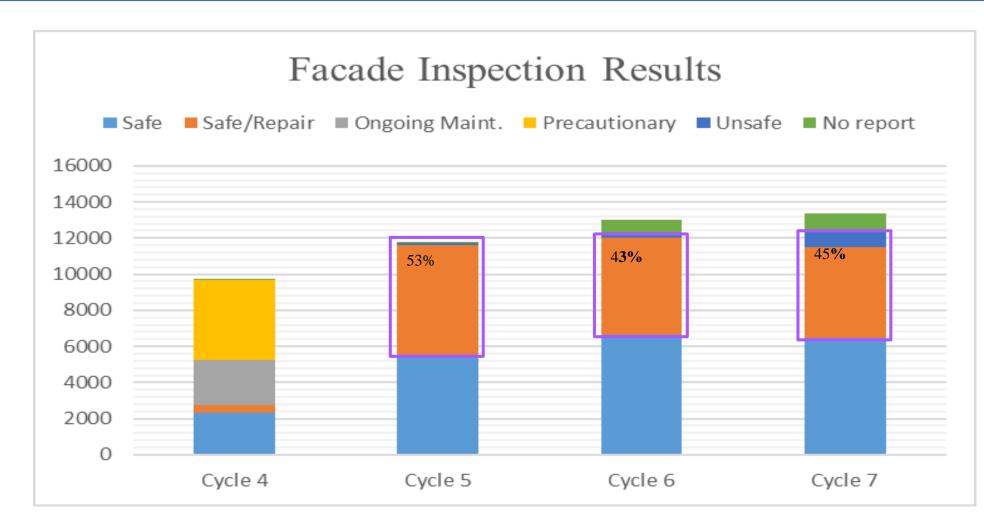
PhD Student: Zhuoya Shi

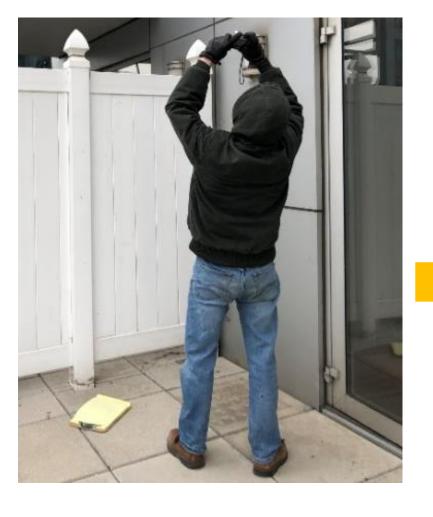
Research Advisor: Prof. Semiha Ergan, Faculty, CUE, NYU

Motivation & Problem Statement

Inspection is recurrent:

- Façade inspection is mandatory: Every 5 years, buildings more than 6 floors
- More than 10,000 buildings to be inspected in each cycle
- ~ 50% of the buildings in 5 boroughs in NYC are Unsafe or Safe with a repair requirement









Inspection practice is problematic:

- Without a standard set of requirements to check for façade categories
- Disagreement on risk assessment among stakeholders
- No objective dataset captured for risk assessment > only visual inspection, taking photos, and drawing sketches

Objective & Research Approach

Identify component types, parameters to be checked, and defect types for each façade type

- Natural language processing to analyze the existing 5200 online façade inspection reports
- Shadowing work with façade inspectors
- Focus groups with inspection companies and DOB

Determining required settings for laser scanners to capture the dataset that can supply the granularity needed for each parameter to check

- 3D laser scanning
- Point cloud data generated with 3D reconstruction technology





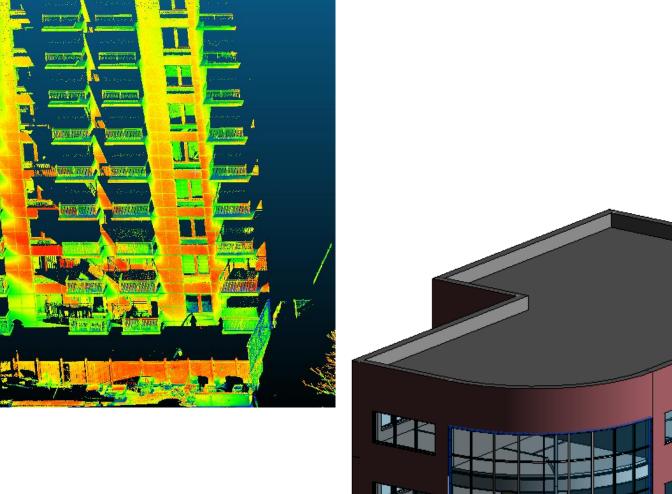
Develop algorithms to pull data from BIMs

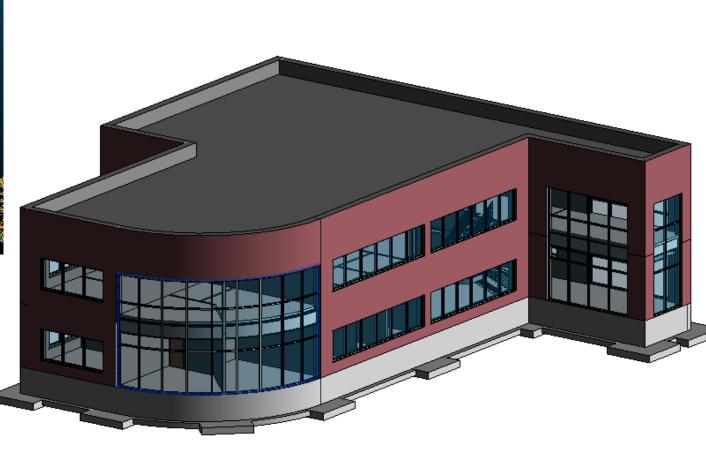
Develop computer vision based approach to label risk categories for components checked in façade (given a



type)

• BIM





Expected Contributions

- Provide a comprehensive list of required components, parameters, and defect types for façade inspection
- A guideline to capture digital dataset for enabling objective façade inspection and risk assessment
- An algorithm to pull data from BIMs to support an exhaustive façade inspection
- A computer-vision based approach to accurately detect risk categories for components being inspected

Publications

- 1. Shi, Z., and Ergan, S. (2019). "", 4th International Conference on Civil and Building Engineering Informatics, ICCBEI, Sendai, Japan, November 7-8, 2019. (abstract submitted).
- 2. Shi, Z., and Ergan, S. (2018). "Leveraging point cloud data for detecting building façade deteriorations caused by neighboring construction." 5th International Project and Construction Management Conference (IPCMC), Cyprus, November 16-18, 2018.