



**How can we (and data science) help the environment?**



**Remember:**  
we can all make personal choices too.  
E.g. buy packaging free where possible



Recent experience

Solar can be a renewal distributed power source

Many roofs without solar

Help automate the solar installation process

CANVA??

Installations can be complex

Satellite image data

ML and Deep Learning

101 other ways not explored here.

Many other factors

Use available technology to massively push solar installations

**Save:**  
Carbon  
Cost

**Drive:**  
Job creation  
Change by example

Rising electricity costs

Enough solar energy hits the Earth every hour to meet all of humanity's power needs for an entire year.



What is the real  
ask here?  
Outcomes?  
Data?

FOCUS:

Take care

How can we  
slip through  
complexities?

Greater  
roof size  
is more  
efficient

Break  
down  
analysis  
into  
stages

Outcomes:

Roof  
space  
suitability

Where is  
the best  
installation?  
ROI?

Potential  
carbon  
savings &  
cost  
savings

2a. Existing  
Solar panel  
installations

2b. Weather  
&  
% sun

2c. Orientation  
(pitch)?

1. Roof  
classification  
- per pixel

Satellite data  
is available,  
polygon data  
can help train

Looks  
complex,  
simplify?

Satellite data  
is available,  
polygon data  
can help train

Stage 1  
MAXAR Santiago:  
  
Datum matched  
polygons and 256  
colour layered 30cm  
satellite

OUTPUT @  
DEMO:  
1: imagery  
2: data  
download

Stage 2  
OSM etc London  
  
OSM Polygons  
&  
Freely available  
satellite data

2 stages

Found  
data:

**MAXAR:**  
Precision3D  
Telco suite

**OSM:** Huge  
free  
resource  
of map  
data

**Other  
free  
Satellite  
data: ??**







What data?

data size

train on OSM cut outs

Train: LONDON boroughs

Validate: Santiago MAXAR?

google earth engine - complex, but API  
[earthengine.google.com](http://earthengine.google.com)

data from a good paper?

test on Bristol

google scholar: image segmentation roof deep learning

Found data:

**MAXAR:**  
Precision3D  
Telco suite

**OSM:** Huge free resource of map data

**Other free data: ??**

need research paper level labelled data to secure effectiveness

**Stage 1:**  
Maxar or other specific well labelled data (tbc)

**Stage 2**  
**OSM etc London**

OSM Polygons & Freely available satellite data

Approach



How does the demo work?

**INPUT @ DEMO:**

A: postcode area (e.g. se23)  
OR  
B: London borough



Heatmap:  
denser colour  
= better  
[solar ROI or  
larger roofs  
or etc]

**OUTPUT @ DEMO:**

1: imagery  
&  
2: data  
download

1  
Roof  
space  
suitability

2a  
Potential  
carbon  
savings &  
cost saving

2b  
Where is  
the best  
installation?  
ROI?

Additional  
data on ROI  
or carbon  
saved etc if  
we have time

Cached  
pre-tested  
results if  
need be

Scaled live-  
processing  
if plausible

By  
postcode  
group  
(London)

London is  
an  
assumption  
for now!

By  
London  
Borough







And the  
model?

## U-Net model

[https://github.com/google/earthengine-api/blob/master/python/examples/ipynb/UNET\\_regression\\_demo.ipynb](https://github.com/google/earthengine-api/blob/master/python/examples/ipynb/UNET_regression_demo.ipynb)

Metric

Model for  
segment:  
U-Net

IoU loss  
function

## Intersection over Union loss

The accuracy metric can sometimes provide misleading results when the pixel class (PV) presence is small within the image, as the measure will be biased in mainly reporting how well the true negative cases (no-PV) are identified. A more suitable metric for image segmentation is the Intersection over Union (IoU), which consists of computing the common pixel area between the prediction and the ground-truth and dividing it by the area of union.

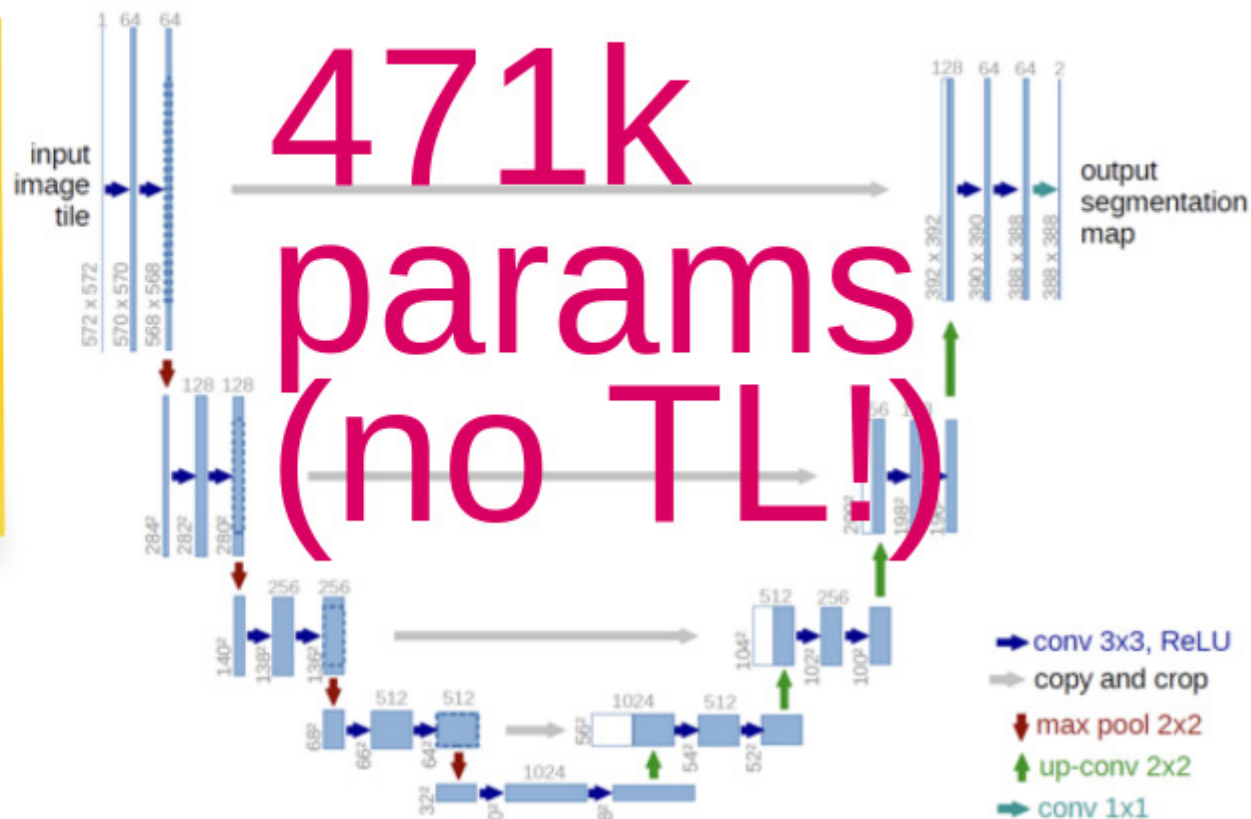
<https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1742-6596/1343/1/012034/meta>

## F1 on Precision-Recall curve

Figure 2 (right) also measures our final model skill in terms of Precision-Recall (PR) curve, more suitable than ROC curves for tasks exhibiting a large class imbalance, as in the case of our binary classification problem (PV vs no-PV pixels). Based on PR curve, we chose the probability threshold of the prediction array to be 95%, resulting in a F1 score (harmonic mean of precision and recall) of 0.8. This gives an IoU score of 0.64 and an accuracy of 0.94.

<https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1742-6596/1343/1/012034/meta>

471k  
params  
(no TL!)



VGG-16  
for  
Transfer  
Learning

