PD 1.3 - Phase I Project Demo (Team)

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Business Understanding

- The human trafficking crisis is a global issue affecting millions, often hidden in hotel rooms
- A common challenge for law enforcement is identifying victim locations from limited visual evidence is time-consuming and error-prone.
- Thousands of hotels with unique room designs make manual identification inefficient, which brings the need for automation
- Project Goal: Develop an Al model to match hotel room images to specific hotels.
- This will enhance law enforcement response time, improve victim rescue success, and demonstrate Al's role in tackling human rights issues





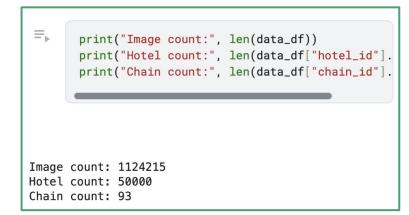
Baseline Model: Random Assignment

- Establish a performance benchmark
- Extract full list of hotel IDs from dataset
- For each test image, randomly assign 5 hotel IDs as predictions
- Submit random assignment predictions to Kaggle to be evaluated against the leaderboard.
- Random model will likely have an extremely low MAP@5 score



EDA and Metrics

- 1.4 million images across thousands of hotels.
- Hotel images labeled with hotel ids.
- Unlabeled images to test dataset.
- Significant variation in hotel room designs.
- Class imbalance as some hotels have more images than others.
- Need for data augmentation and better feature extraction.
- Expect MAP@5 score expected to be low
- This serves more as a lower-bound benchmark for model improvement.



Available Model Repositories for PyTorch & CNNs

- 1. TIMM (Torch Image Models) Best for diverse, state-of-the-art models
- 2. Torchvision Best for official, standard CNNs
- 3. MMClassification Best for research and customization

Feature	TIMM	Torchvision	MMClassification
CNNs Available	Wide Selection	Standard Models	Many CNNs
Vision Transformers	Yes	No	Yes

Why TIMM is the Best Option?

- Largest selection of pre-trained models (CNNs + Transformers)
- Supports modern architectures (EfficientNet, RegNet, ResNet)
- Optimized for fast training & inference
- Easy to use with flexible APIs
- Well-maintained and frequently updated

Optimizing the Current Baseline Model (ResNet-34) & Selecting the Best Alternative

Recommended CNN Architectures:

- ResNeXt-101 / Res2Net Best for fine-grained recognition, strong feature extraction, handles high variance in hotel interiors
- EfficientNet-B3 to B5 / RegNetY Best for scalability, maintains accuracy with efficiency, ideal for large-scale search systems
- MobileNetV3-Large / EfficientNet-Lite0-4 Best for real-time inference and mobile deployment, optimized for low-power devices

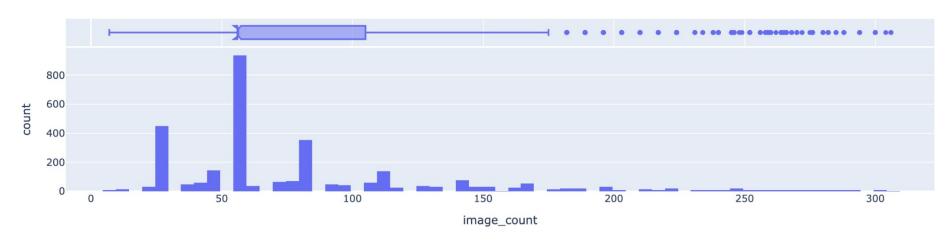
Optimizing the Current Image Processing Library (Albumentations)

Image Augmentation Libraries used with TIMM

- Albumentations Best for fast, high-performance augmentations, optimized for deep learning.
- Torchvision Transforms Best for PyTorch-native augmentations, well-integrated but lacks key augmentations.
- imgaug Best for handling complex image distortions, including adversarial transformations.

Data Visualization

Distribution of image count per hotel



Data Visualization



Data Visualization

Current Code Framework

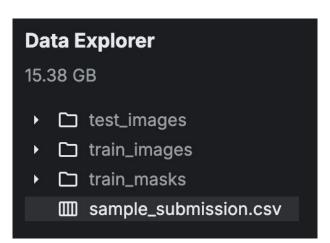
- Loads the dataset (train.csv) containing image IDs and hotel IDs.
- Checks for actual image files in the storage directory to ensure only valid images are used.
- Filters out missing or invalid data (removes rows where image_id or hotel_id is missing).
- Randomly selects hotels and displays a sample of room images for each.
- Visualizes images in a grid format to help verify data quality before training the Al model.

Why This Feature Matters

- Ensures clean and valid data by removing missing entries.
- **Speeds up Al training** by eliminating non-existent images.
- **Provides a visual check** to confirm images match their respective hotels.
- Improves model accuracy by ensuring only properly labeled images are used.

Model Development

- First issue was storage
 - The competition has 44.7k files for analysis that was about 15 GB of data, which was too much for our computers to handle
- Fixed issue by:
 - Investing in extra google drive storage for easy access with Google Colab
 - Getting external pen drives to store data
 - Used Kaggle interface
 - Creating a smaller dataset for local use and testing



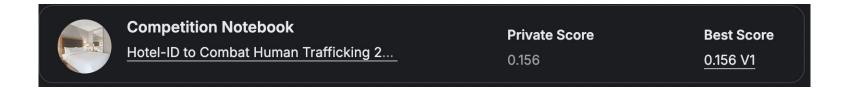
Model Development

- Once storage was resolved, there were problems with the initial EfficientNet model
 - Hugging face
 - "AttributeError: module 'torch' has no attribute 'frombuffer'"
- Needed to either upgrade torch to 2.0.1, or downgrade transformers to 4.29.2 and safetensors to 0.3.0
 - Kaggle interface does not allow upgrade to 2.0.1, so downgrade was tried but failed to remove error
 - Currently in process of moving from Kaggle interface to Google Colab in order to upgrade torch
 - Will continue to work on EfficinetNet model and tweak in order to be able to run model

Performance Evaluation of Current Model

- Baseline submission of random assignment model expected MAP@5 (~0.001-0.005).
- Position on the leaderboard near the bottom.

- With the ResNet-34 Model we saw improvement in MAP@5 (0.156).
- Position in leaderboard should move above other completely random models.



Future Plans

- Get EfficientNet model to run
 - Get model off of Kaggle interface and use one of the local storage methods to properly upgrade or downgrade packages in the model to get resolve current errors
- Add similarity model and training/testing set from EfficientNet model starter to ResNet model starter to see if we can improve current notebook score
- Run a few improvement strategies in parallel
 - Start pulling techniques from higher scoring models on Kaggle to further improve notebook
 - Change the base model repository to see if there is improvement
 - See if changes to image augmentation allow for improvement