

Urban Images and Computer Vision

Group 3: Malavika Murali, Sam Martinez, Yuxiang Zhao

What is computer vision and why does it matter?

“Computer vision is a field of **artificial intelligence** that trains computers to interpret and understand the visual world. Using digital images from cameras and videos and **deep learning** models, machines can accurately identify and classify objects — and then react to what they ‘see.’” - SAS Insights

Available SVI (Street View Imagery) Services

- Google Street View
 - Most common in research
 - Standardized imagery capture
 - Mounted cameras and lidar sensors
- Mapillary and KartaView
 - Crowdsourced imagery
 - A lot of overlap between both services
 - Contributors can upload images to both
 - has been used in OSM as a data source



Street View



Types of Computer Vision Tasks

Classification



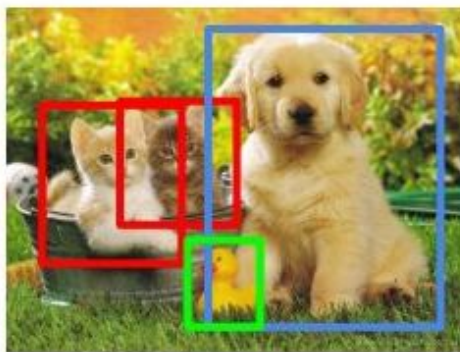
CAT

**Classification
+ Localization**



CAT

Object Detection



CAT, DOG, DUCK

**Instance
Segmentation**



CAT, DOG, DUCK

Single object

Multiple objects



High Walkability

Low Walkability



Case 1

- GSV streetscape images to measure characteristics of streetscape
 - ◆ Grouped into elements
 - Sky visibility
 - Tree canopy/ greenery
 - Building structures
 - Paved road space
 - Fences
 - Etc.
- Collected behavioural and health data to compare correlation
- SVI (Street View Imagery) is not the only method, can also use aerial imagery to capture and classify elements

Street View



Segmentation



Street view proportion of sky (Walkability)

Case 2

- SVI for valuation of real estate
 - ◆ Proximity to amenities
 - ◆ Curb appeal
 - ◆ Location
- Some attributes such as floor area or age of home cannot be determined using SVI



Is there a property improvement?



- Gentrification
 - ◆ Visible changes to building stock and concentration of development over time
- Removal of older buildings and construction of new

Thank you