

# Micro-module 1: Street view images (SVI) and urban analytics

Understanding the qualities of the built environment is crucial for a wide range of disciplines, including public health research, spatial social studies, real-estate and infrastructure development and urban planning. Street View Imagery (SVI) has gained a strong momentum in urban studies in the last few years, propelled by the proliferation of SVI data, advances in machine learning to extract a variety of information, and the growing computing power to facilitate processing large amounts of data.

This module will cover the whole process from street view data collecting, semantic segmentation processing, geographical visualization using google street view images as an example.

# 1. Street View Images and Application in Urban Analystics

# - Street view images

Compared with tradition field observation methods and aerial data collected by remote sensing, street view images have the following advantages:

(1) large coverage thanks to omnipresent map service providers; (2) relatively homogeneous quality, sampling, and resolution; (3) free and efficient access to the data; (4) reliable and rich metadata; and (5) capture of the urban scenery from a human perspective.



(a) Aerial perspective.

(b) Street-level point of view.

# - Platforms for collecting street view images

Google Street View Google Street View (GSV) is arguably the most well-known and widespread service providing SVI. Barring rare exceptions such as backpack-mounted cameras to survey narrow roads, the panoramic imagery is acquired in a standardised manner: from a car mounted with multiple cameras on its roof, accompanied with various sensors including lidar.



Mapillary and KartaVieware the remaining two services with a global focus. They both rely on crowdsourced imagery and are owned and operated by commercial entities. Anyone can contribute to Mapillary and KartaView.

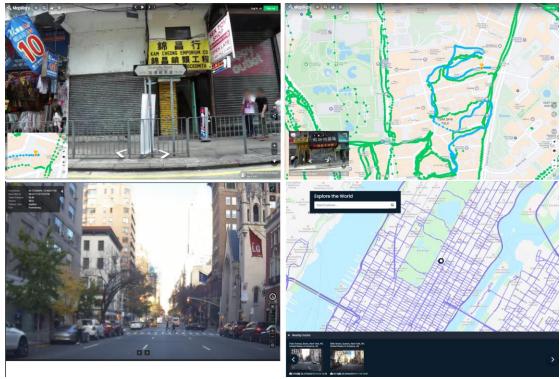
Pros: volunteered, high temporal resolution; views from pavements, cycle tracks and walkways;

Cons: not panoramic, not standard, quality of images (resolution of pixels).



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Tencent Street View and Baidu Total View (Mainland China)



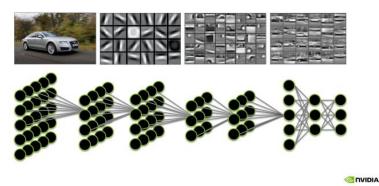
Baidu Maps is a web mapping service provided by Baidu, which can be considered as the counterpart of Google Maps for China. Since 2013 it offers a street view service — Baidu Total View. While the coverage of satellite imagery and maps in Baidu Maps spans beyond China, SVI is available only for China. Tencent Maps is a similar local service, provided by Tencent, and since 2011 it has been offering SVI under Tencent Street View.

# - Application of Street View Images in Urban Analytics

In general, street view images can be used in research about Spatial data infrastructure, Greenery, Health and well-being, Urban morphology, Transportation and mobility, Walkability, Real estate, and Urban perception.



#### 2. Computer Vision Techniques



# HOW A DEEP NEURAL NETWORK SEES

Computer vision analyzes images, and then creates numerical representations of what it 'sees' using a convolutional neural network (CNN). A CNN is a class of artificial neural network that uses convolutional layers to filter inputs for useful information. The convolution operation involves combining input data (feature map) with a convolution kernel (filter) to form a transformed feature map.



In this work, we present a densely annotated dataset ADE20K, which spans diverse annotations of scenes, objects, parts of objects, and in some cases even parts of parts. This dataset has both outdoor and indoor scenes, and it is typically used by CV communities as training and validation set to check their proposed DL models.

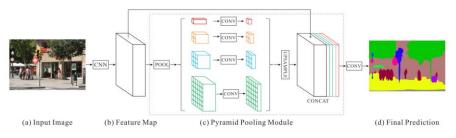


Figure 3. Overview of our proposed PSPNet. Given an input image (a), we first use CNN to get the feature map of the last convolutional layer (b), then a pyramid parsing module is applied to harvest different sub-region representations, followed by upsampling and concatenation layers to form the final feature representation, which carries both local and global context information in (c). Finally, the representation is fed into a convolution layer to get the final per-pixel prediction (d).

PSPNet, the Pyramid Scene Parsing Network makes great contribution to the improvement of CV. It adds a unique Pyramidal Pooling Module to the algorithm, and was able to improve the prediction accuracy compared to previous Fully Connected



Convolutional Models. And it is relatively fast, and considers the context of each pixels for better semantic segmentation. As you could see in this image above to the right, it is able to differentiate the pillows from the quilts, although it has a similar texture and color. Therefore, this algorithm has been used in many emerging studies.

#### 3. Data Preprocessing

download OSM data

 You
 can
 download
 OSM
 data
 via

 https://www.openstreetmap.org/#map=15/22.3311/114.1585&layers=T.
 Determine the second of the seco

# import OSM data

open QuickOSM plugin, choose import from file, choose the path of your osm file, select all features and click OK.

For this case, we only use the polyline layers. You can remove other layers.

Q QuickOSM			×
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#### - Clean the road network

Use filter (right click the layer to active the menu), and you can copy paster the following syntax:

"highway" = 'primary' OR "highway" = 'residential' OR "highway" = 'secondary' OR "highway" = 'tertiary' OR "highway" = 'tertiary\_link' OR "highway" = 'trunk' OR "highway" = 'trunk\_link' OR "highway" = 'unclassified'

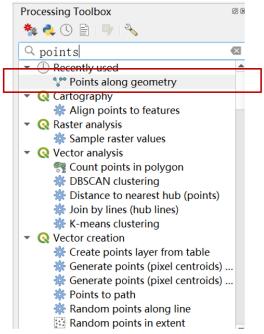


#### - Create Sampling Points

We need to make sure the unit of the layers is meter (not degree, instead). Here we save a duplicated layer and set the CRS as '3395'.

			Q Coordinate Reference System Selector	×
Q Save Vecto	or Layer as	×	Select the coordinate reference system for the will be transformed from the layer coordinate	and the second
Format	ESRI Shapefile	•		
File name			Filter Q 3395	<
Layer name			Recently Used Coordinate Reference Sys	tems
CRS	EPSG:4326 - WGS 84	▼ 🚳	Coordinate Reference System	Authority ID
	ly selected features fields to export and t	their export options	Predefined Coordinate Reference System:	
		<u></u>	Coordinate Reference System	Authority ID 🔺
✓ osm_i	d String		WGS 84 / World Mercator	EPSG:3395
✓ name	String		NAD_1983_CORS96_StatePlane	Mis ESRI:103395
✓ hiahw	vav String	-		•
4	Add saved file to map	OK Cancel Help	WGS 84 / World Mercator WKT PROJCRS ["unknown", BASEGEDGCRS ["unknown" 'DATUM["World Geod etic System 1984",	
				OK Cancel Help

Then we use the function 'Points along geometry'. You can set your own interval. We usually use 50, 100, 200 meters as the interval.



💘 Points along geometry	×
Parameters Log Input layer	Points along geometry
Distance 50.000000 Cunknown>	distributed along
Start offset       0.000000     Image: Constraint of the second se	the lines of an input vector layer. The distance between points (measured
0.000000	along the line) is defined as a parameter.
♥ Open output file after running algorithm	Start and end offset distances can be defined, so the first and last point will not fall exactly on
0%	Cancel
Run as Batch Process	Run Close Help

#### - Relocated the point layer

We may need to save the point layer, and relocated it with the CRS 4326.

Save Vector L	ayer as		×
Format	ESRI Shapefile		-
File name	points		∞
Layer name			
CRS	EPSG:4326 - WGS 84		-
	y serected reatures	their e	export opt
change:l	Name	Type string	
barrier		string	
✓ distance		double	
✓ angle		double	
S	elect All	Desel	.ect All
Add	saved file to map	K Ca	ncel Help

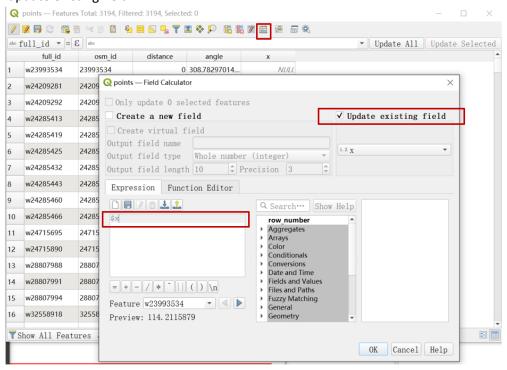
#### - Add coordinate information and ID for each point

As this layer is used to search the google street view images at each location. But for now, we can check the attribute table, no information of the specific longitude and latitude are included.

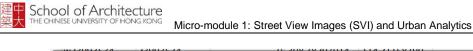
We can active the toggle editing, select 'add filed'. Do the same for x and y columns.

Q	points — Featur	es Total: 3194, F	iltered: 3194, Select	ed: 0					_		$\times$
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abc 1	full_id 💌 =	8 abc				-	Update	A11	Update	Sele	ected
	full_id	osm_id	distance	angle							-
1	w23993534	23993534	(	308.78297014							
2	w24209281	24209281		69.718399937							
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4	w24285413	24285413	Name	x							
5	w24285419	24285419	Comment								
6	w24285425	24285425	Type Provider type	Decimal number	r (real) 🔹						
7	w24285432	24285432	Length	20	@ \$						
8	w24285443	24285443	Precision	10							
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10	w24285466	24285466	(	) 14.574857773							
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12	w24715890	24715890	(	253.85544325							
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Then open the field calculator, we use 'x' and 'y' function, and you need to select 'update existing field'.



Using the same function, create a new column named 'ID', and this time, we use '@row\_number' function in field calculator.

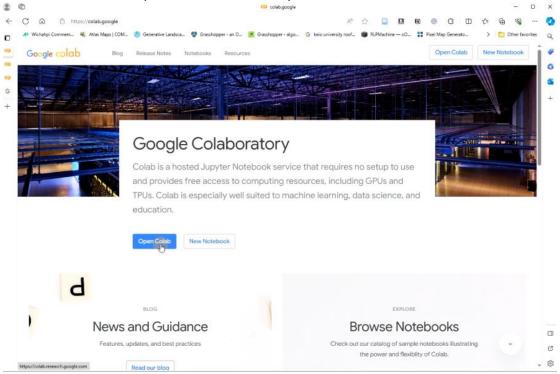


Q points — Field Calculator		×
□ Only update 0 selected features		
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Expression Function Editor		
@row_number         = + - / * ^    ( ) \n         Feature w23993534         Preview: 1	Q. Search····       Show         row_number       Aggregates         Arrays       Color         Conditionals       Conversions         Date and Time       Fields and Values         Files and Paths       Fuzzy Matching         General       Geometry	Help Variable row_number Stores the number of the current row. Current value 1
		OK Cancel Help

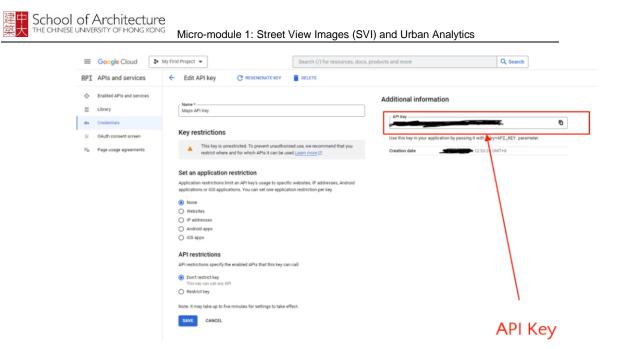
### 4. GSV Data Collecting

#### - Loading the code into Google Colab Notebook

Here, we use Google Colab to open our shared code, the platform is relatively simple and convenient to set up the environment for Python code.



Then, in order to request SVI from the Google Street View API, you need to register a Google API Key (which can be found in the Google Cloud).



And we should also be aware of the monthly free quota given to the Google Account to avoid overuse by accident that could incur additional charge to your credit card account.

Pricing for the Street View Static API

SKU: Static Street View

Street View panoramas and map loads are now charged separately. A static Street View panorama is charged for each request to the Street View Static API to embed a static (non-interactive) Street View panorama. Usage of the Street View Image Metadata endpoint is not charged.

	MONTHLY VOLUME RANGE (Price per PANORAMA)	
0-100,000	100,001-500,000	500,000+
0.007 USD per each (7.00 USD per 1000)	0.0056 USD per each (5.60 USD per 1000)	Contact Sales 🗹 for volume pricing

- Configuring the basic setup and specifying parameters

Here, we need to upload the csv file to the left panel area, and also create a folder 'ST\_GSV\_Image' to receive the requested street views.

Furthermore, add your API key to this line of code below.

Then run the cell.

Files 🖸 🗙	+ Code + Text		~	Disk	٠	^
	import urlib.request [2] import pandas as pd from multiprocessing import Pool					
Cili	import time import os import re					
	<ul> <li>Configuration</li> </ul>					
	<ul> <li># Plass Pasts your Google API Key here, pay attention to the charge rules         ## free for about 3,000 images per month         # coding: utf-8         length = 1000 # Size of your table (Namber of points you have)         # First upload the cur file, make sure the name is correctly specified in the line below         csv_dir = '5T_goints_1000.csv' # Spreadsheet path         image data = 35T_goint_specified your API Key         # your API Key' = your API Key         # YOUN_STONATURE = '645E64_STONATURE' # IF your API has signature, add this parameter; otherwise is not needed</li> </ul>					
	# In order to ensure that everyone downloads the photos with the same parameters, please do not change the following size = '8000x400' # Image Size (width)x(height) pitch= '0' # Gamera Pitch in degrees (90 indicating straight up, -90 indicating straight down) for = '90' # Field of View heading= '0' sources 'outdoor'	paramete	trs			

Here, we need to upload the csv file to the left panel area, and also create a folder 'ST\_GSV\_Image' to receive these images.

When requesting images, there are a few parameters that you could specify, for

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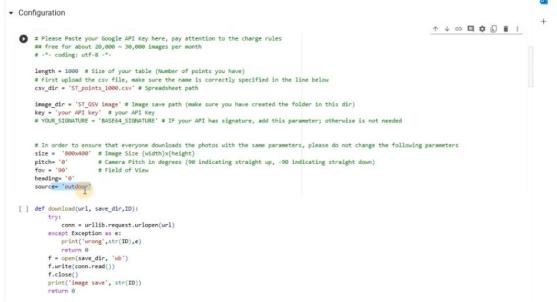
instance, the heading indicates the compass heading of the camera. Accepted values are from 0 to 360 (both values indicating North, with 90 indicating East, and 180 South).

Size: this indicates the exact image size you want to download, for instance, 600 pixels by 400 pixels

fov: (default is 90) determines the horizontal field of view of the image expressed in degrees, with a maximum allowed value of 120.

pitch: (default is 0) specifies the up or down angle of the camera relative to the Street View vehicle.

Source: it is either default or outdoor, if it is outdoor, it will search the scenes that were taken outdoors.



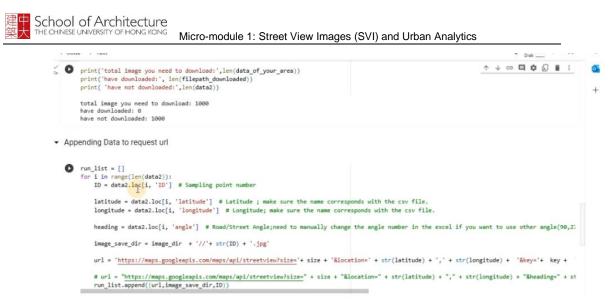
0

Then we present the csv data to confirm the data frame it is loading.

```
    Read SVI sampling points

                                                                                                                                                      +
                                                                                                                       ↑↓⊙□¢∎ :
# understand SVI sampling
       data = pd.read csv(csv dir)
       data_of_your_area = data
data_not_downloaded = data_of_your_area[~ data_of_your_area.ID.isin(filepath_downloaded)]
data2 = data_not_downloaded.reset_index(drop=True)
           w it is time to print a snapshot of the csv file to understand how it looks and all the column names.
       data.head(length)
  F
                                                                                       Name III
             ID turn surface oneway maxspeed
                                                  angle latitude longitude highway
              1 NaN asphalt yes
                                         70.0 174.686492 22.373663 114.214026 motorway Sha Tin\n 📊
        0
             2 NaN asphalt yes 70.0 209.859314 22.357963 114.173269 motorway Sha Tin\n
        1
             3 NaN asphalt yes 80.0 249.977709 22.348256 114.153362 motorway Sha Tin\n
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        3
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       995 996 NaN asphalt yes
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       996 997 NaN
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                         NaN
                                         80.0 56.776369 22.378425 114.204267 motorway Sha Tin\n
                                 yes
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            999 NaN asphalt
                                          NaN 280.058160 22.399924 114.198714 tertiary Sha Tin\n
       999 1000 NaN
                         NaN
                                 yes
                                         80.0 227.347201 22.405429 114.220528 motorway Sha Tin\n
       1000 rows 10 columns
```

We also need to make sure the names called in these following cells could perfectly match the respective column names (e.g., latitude) read from the csv file. After making them consistent, we could successfully run these cells.



If everything is correctly specified, then we could start downloading the images into the image folder. Patiently wait until all the images are downloaded.

```
    # In case of errors such as "403 Forbidden", most likely your Google API key is incorrect or problematic print('start')
    for k in range(len(run_list)):

            # for k in range(0,10):
                 url_run = run_list[k][0]
                 save_dir_run = run_list[k][1]
                 id_run = run_list[k][2]
                 download(url_run,save_dir_run, id_run)
                 print('finish')

    for start
            image save 1
            image save 4
            image save 5
            image save 6
            image save 7
            image save 1
            image
```

#### - Saving and downloading the collected Street View Images

Downloading Images

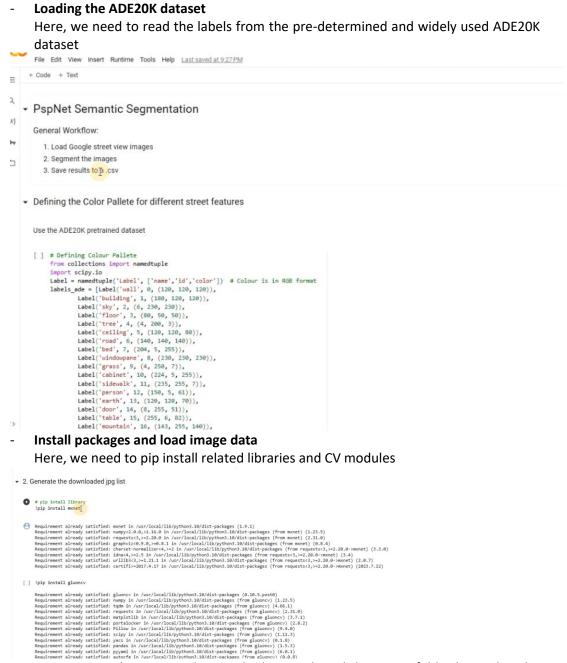
age save 18

Here, we need to run the last cell in this Python notebook to mount your own Google Drive to the left side, the reason is that when you have many downloaded images saved to the temporary storage folder shown to the left panel, it is not possible to download the entire folder, you could only save each image one by one.

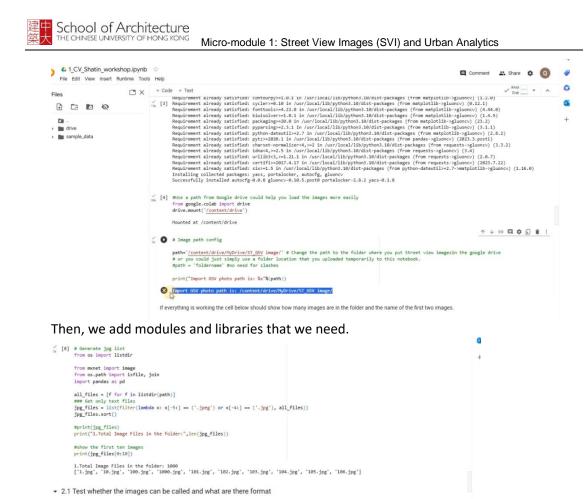
Therefore, after mounting your own Drive, you could drag the image folder to the Drive folder, and you could go back to your own Google Drive to download these images there.

Ø 🖬 51 🖬	<pre>v' [12] #this line of code has some issue, need to be fixed. print( 'have not downloaded:',len(data2))</pre>
ST_OGV image	total image you need to download: 1000 have downloaded: 107 have not downloaded: 1000 Mount to google drive and manually move into that main folder, and then download the entire image folder from google drive. remember to refresh
	from google.colab import drive     drive.mount('/content/drive')     Hounted at /content/drive
	Please also manually check how many photos have been downloaded to avoid duplicates

5. Semantic Segmentation Using ADE20K and PSPNet



Here, we need to mount the google drive and read the image folder located in the Drive or we could simply upload the image folder directly to this temporary storage area to the left panel.



Applying the PSPNet and defining the features we want to extract

Here, we define the street elements we want to extract based on the labels from

↑↓◎□¢.::

3.Apply PSPNet to images and generate a csv

If everything is working the cell below should show image shape: (400, 640, 3)

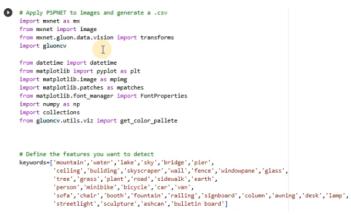
Tilesame in jpg\_Tiles[10:11; print((filename.split('.')[4])) ### 1.Read the jpg file img = image.imread(path+filename) print(filename,'image shape:',img.shape)

d ### 2.1 Get image for filename in jpg\_files[10:11]: print((filename.split('.')[4])) ### 1.Read the jpg file

☐ 107 107.jpg image shape: (400, 640, 3)

ADE20K.

\_



And we could then create two folders, one for the segmented images without labels, and the other containing labels. After getting the pre-trained model, we simply run this cell.

```
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• !PLEASE CHECK BEFORE RUNNING FOLLOWING CELL !

Make sure you have created a folder to save processed segmentation results without labels

Also, you have created a separate folder to save processed segmentation result WITH labels

Remember to set path_out and path_out_lgd to the respective folders

• # Process Using CPU, and Define Folders to save in

ctx = mx.cpu(8)

path_out=1 *** The Folder you put segment results without labels

# Define a dataframe to save analysis results

# Define a dataframe to save analysis results

# Define a dataframe to save analysis results

# Get pre-trained model | PSPNET ADE

model = glunov.model_pospetToole_test(psp_resnet101_ade*, pretrained=True)

# set up lagend font

fontP.set_size('x:small')

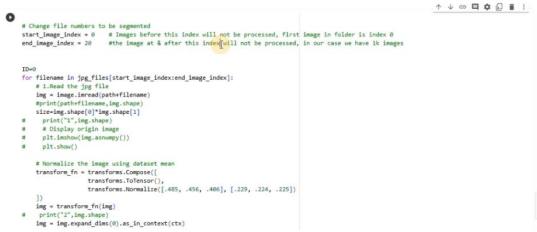
# print('jng_files)

# fontb = fontb = fontber; len(jgg_files))
```

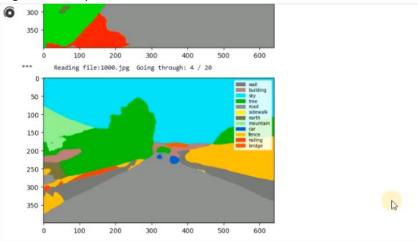
Downloading /root/.mxnet/models/resnet101\_vis-bd93a83c.zip from https://apache-mxnet.s3-accelerate.dualstack.amazonaws.com/gluon/models/resnet101\_v/ 100121KB [00:06, 15834.57K8/s] self.crop\_size 480 Downloading /root/.wxnet/models/psp\_resnet101\_ade-240a4758.zip from https://apache-mxnet.s3-accelerate.dualstack.amazonaws.com/gluon/models/psp\_resn 100K1] 10K1] 1.Image files in the folder: 1000

#### Next, define the start and end index of the images.

Change the number assigned to start\_image\_index, and end\_image\_index to segment smaller batches of images Please refer to the output from cells above for the numbers of available images in your folder



If all previous steps are run successfully, the segmented results can be obtained, and you will see the progress. Each image may need 10-20 seconds if you are using CPU, typically GPU is more powerful in terms of computing power and could accelerate this segmentation process.



Double-click (or enter) to edit

Remember to run the last piece of the code, as it saves the ratio of each street element

(also called visual index in urban studies literature) you chose previously for all the images into a combined csv file, that you could use to match back to the QGIS for future use.

Files 🖸 🕽	K + Cod	le + Te	ext													~	Disk - *	^
	Dou	ble-click	(or enter) to	edit											$\uparrow$	0	¢ :	1
t}	ž O	df_psp	Read the csv =pd.read_csv Replace the	(file_sav	-					ew csv fi	ile							
<ul> <li>drive</li> <li>sample_data</li> <li>1103.png</li> <li>1104.png</li> <li>1105.png</li> </ul>		# save df_psp	<pre>*df_psp.fill   the result .to_csv(file .head(20)</pre>	to a new		False, en	coding='u	tf-8')										
Folder_11.png Folder_110.png		F	ID wall	ceiling	road	building	sky	tree	earth	car	fence		grass	person	sidewalk	mountain	skyscraper	str
Folder_1100.png		0	1 0.317977	0.358020	0.025770	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000		0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	ê –
Folder_11000.png		1	10 0.000000	0.000000	0.225254	0.056930	0.164914	0.274371	0.006645	0.006137	0.026582		0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	6
- população tractar	·	2 1	00 0.001422	0.000000	0.312691	0.051090	0.031180	0.426648	0.002109	0.000992	0.001918	14.0	0.138371	0.000008	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	Č.
		3 10	00 0.061305	0.000000	0.297207	0.018035	0.325227	0.158785	0.007871	0.002270	0.088480		0.000000	0.000000	0.000160	0.031867	0.000000	Ē.
		4 1	01 0.045609	0.000000	0.277996	0.172785	0.195754	0.239047	0.000000	0.061289	0.007520		0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	6
		5 1	02 0.012375	0.000000	0.318422	0.013773	0.191938	0.241945	0.027383	0.005023	0.001387		0.015398	0.000215	0.000277	0.000051	0.024027	6
		6 1	03 0.065402	0.000000	0.321570	0.035504	0.394785	0.030316	0.005375	0.025461	0.053617		0.001133	0.000000	0.000000	0.045629	0.000000	1
		7 1	04 0.403711	0.263965	0.047145	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000		0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	E.
		8 1	05 0.001570	0.000000	0.240020	0.283035	0.126934	0.059133	0.000000	0.000000	0.000012		0.032621	0.000074	0.066738	0.000000	0.000000	ę.
		9 1	06 0.107441	0.000000	0.241797	0.146461	0.171715	0.033070	0.058367	0.022414	0.030086		0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.037906	0.000000	Ē.
		10 1	07 0.089316	0.000000	0.329891	0.001328	0.159641	0.305234	0.000000	0.001117	0.058758		0.032199	0.000000	0.006496	0.016020	0.000000	1
		11 1	08 0.017535	0.000000	0.405050	0.105700	0.239320	0.176852	0.000007	0.011027	0.017500		0.003672	0.000000	0.004934	0.015180	0.000000	

#### 6. Data Visualization

#### Add 'delimited text layer'

Here we use two sample files.

First, we import 'st\_points.csv'. You can notice that this layer has coordinate information. We import it as a point layer.

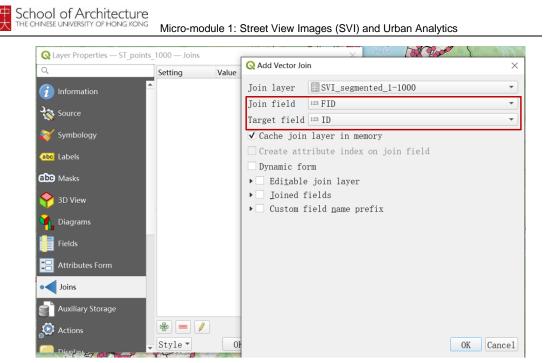
After that, we import 'st\_segmented\_1-1000.csv'. This time we choose 'no geometry'.

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#### Join tables

For this case, we want to add the values of different visual indices into the point layer. For this purpose, we can notice that there are columns have equal values. 'ID' in the point layer and 'FID' in the segmented result.

Right click the point layer, find 'properties', click 'Joins'. The join layer is the segmentation result. FID is the join field; ID is the target field. We can select joined fields, which depends on your tasks.



# Assign value to road sections

We use join attribute table by location function.

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#### - Visualization

To visualize the one parameter by heatmap. You can right click the newly join layer, find 'Properties', select 'Symbology'. You can either use categized or graduated. Select the parameter you take as the target, click 'classify'. You can change the classes and mode for classification. You may need to try multiple intervals to achieved a nicer visual :).