

# **Visual analysis methodologies based on Virtual Reality (V.R.) technology: Rio de Janeiro's Botanical Garden, Brazil and Mafra's Park, Portugal**

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This paper refers to a research study developed within the IN\_LEARNING project aiming at the morphological characterization of urban environments through visual analysis methodologies based on Virtual Reality (V.R.) technology. This research is based on two case studies - Rio de Janeiro's Botanical Garden, Brazil and Mafra's Park, Portugal. The morphological description is based on historical, geographical and formal dimensions supported on the existing bibliography and iconography as well as in field work. The papers discusses the contribution of Virtual Reality, building digital environments (360<sup>o</sup> panoramic) with Interactive Electronic Means to visual analysis and its capacity to support spatial descriptions. The paper is divided into four parts. The first one describes the methodological procedures applied. The second refers the main tasks carried out. The third part, presents the case studies. Finally the potential of the proposed method for the spatial description of urban environments is discussed.

**Keywords:** Electronic Interactive Means, Virtual Reality, Virtual walk, Botanical Garden, Mafra's Park