

1 We thank reviewers for their comments. Our responses to reviewers' (R1-R4) comments are itemized as follows.

2 **Q1. Key difference of (i) Adaptive Feature Bank (AFB) vs STM (R3), (ii) AFB vs other VOS work (R1, R4).**

3 (i) 1) Our AFB is the first module that does not uniformly sample frames but dynamically manage object's key features
4 in VOS literature. 2) STM uniformly stores every one of $K = 5$ frames in feature bank, which will fill up 1080Ti
5 MEM (11GB) when a single-object video has 350+ frames. Practical videos are often longer (e.g., avg. YouTube
6 video has ≈ 12 minutes or 22K frames). To process a 10-min video, STM needs to set $K = 300$ and misses many
7 important frames (see Q4). In contrast, AFB performs dynamic feature merging and removal, and can handle videos
8 with any length effectively. (ii) Most recent methods (other than STM) only store features from the first and/or last
9 frames. Specifically, R4 mentioned four papers: DMM-Net [a] stores the 1st frame, FEELVOS [4] and RANet [6] store
10 the first and latest frame. Motion-guided [b] is not a matching-based, but is in another category, mask-propagation
11 based methods. Mask propagation methods are unstable when objects undergo significant occlusions. [4] and [6] were
12 compared in Table 1. [a] has a $J\&F$ score of 70.7 on DAVIS17 (lower than STM 71.6, and ours 74.5). [b] reports J
13 76.4 and F 75.7 in its Table 4 on DAVIS16, while our scores are J 85.5 and F 83.4.

14 **Q2. Key difference of Uncertainty Region Refinement (URR) vs existing work (R2, R4).**

15 (R2) Thank you. We will discuss fine-grained segmentation work in **image segmentation** (e.g. *PointRend* [1] and
16 *ShapeMask* [2]) in the revision. But our URR is the first module addresses boundary refinement in VOS literature.
17 Meanwhile, the refinements in [1] and [2] are different from ours. *ShapeMask* [1] revised the decoder from FCN, and
18 such global decoders can fail to recover accurate masks on boundaries. Our URR has a strong local regularization on
19 uncertain regions to predict precise mask on boundary. *PointRend* [2] was published in CVPR2020, after this paper's
20 submission. Its differences from ours are: (i) *PointRend* defines uncertainty on a binary mask, while ours is defined
21 on more general multi-object classification (score ratio of the top-1 class to top-2 class). (ii) Furthermore, *PointRend*
22 does a one-pass detection and refinement on uncertain regions. While we design an uncertainty loss to generate cleaner
23 object masks (see Fig. 3). As R1 pointed out, this works like a binarization step, forcing the solution to be closer to
24 the final/wanted 0/1 map. (iii) For refinement, *PointRend* refines uncertain points by their own features. While we use
25 features from reliable points to refine the uncertain ones, through a non-local mechanism.

26 URR vs refinement module in [15, 22] (R4): Actually, the refinement module [15, 22] is used in our decoder to generate
27 initial masks (see Line 97), which are inaccurate on boundary. Then, URR effectively refines these boundary regions.

28 **Q3. Runtime performance analysis (R1, R3, R4):** Our model has better runtime performance than the baseline STM.
29 On DAVIS17, with an NV. 1080Ti, STM achieves 3.4fps ($J\&F$ 71.6), and ours achieves 3.9fps ($J\&F$ 74.5). Our
30 runtime is a trade-off between latency and accuracy depends on requirement: if we limit the memory usage under 20%,
31 it achieves 5.7fps ($J\&F$ 71.7). We will add detailed runtime comparison with other SOTA to the manuscript.

32 **Q4. Why is AFB important? Is AFB w/o URR worse than baseline STM? (R2).**

33 (i) AFB optimizes features management, leading to less memory usage (see Q1) and less runtime latency (see Q3)
34 compared with STM. (ii) As Table 3 shows, compared with STM, AFB w/o URR has slightly downgraded $J\&F$ (from
35 72.2 to 70.2), but greatly reduces ($\sim 75\%$) memory usage. Current benchmarks YouTube-VOS (132 frames avg.) and
36 DAVIS17 (67 frames avg.) only contain short clips, which cannot show the advantages of AFB in dealing with long
37 videos in real-world (see Q1). (iii) A new dataset of long videos (2K+ frames each) is added to show the performance
38 in real-world, on which AFB w/o URR vs STM are 82.9 vs 66.5 in $J\&F$ score. This dataset will be released with paper.

39 **Q5. Effectiveness of two sub-components of URR: uncertainty loss (R2), and local refinement mechanism (R1).**

40 We performed these two new experiments (b, c) on DAVIS17. The $J\&F$ scores are: (a) AFB only: 70.2; (b) AFB +
41 uncertainty loss: 72.7; (c) AFB + fine-grained module: 72.1; (d) AFB + URR (full model): 74.5.

42 **Q6. On DAVIS17: Qualitative comparison with STM (R2)? STM has better scores in Leaderboard (R3)?**

43 (R2) We followed most SOTA settings that train models only using DAVIS17. The released STM checkpoint was
44 trained on DAVIS17+YouTubeVOS. Also, STM authors didn't release training codes or corresponding results for
45 qualitative comparison. (R3) The STM scores in leaderboard was also trained on DAVIS17+YouTubeVOS, we used the
46 right score that only uses DAVIS17 from its paper.

47 **Q7. Red Sign: On YouTubeVOS unseen, lack comparison by running SOTA (STM) in same environment (R2).**

48 We can only compare numbers, not re-run STM codes because (a) STM didn't release training codes (see STM GitHub
49 *Reproducibility* Issue #6); (b) STM didn't plan to release model for YouTubeVOS comparison (GitHub Issue #3).

50 **Q8. Performance for only pretraining on image sets in ablation study (R1):** On DAVIS17, only pretrained by
51 image datasets: $J\&F = 60.9$; after training on DAVIS17, $J\&F = 74.5$.