

1 **To Reviewer #5 Q1:** Explain the poor results of MoCo in Tab. 4. **A1:** MoCo alone underperforms because it treats
2 each **instance** as a single class, while the core of re-ID tasks is to encode and model **intra-/inter-class** variations.
3 MoCo is good at unsupervised pre-training but its resulting networks need finetuning with (pseudo) class labels.
4 **Q2:** “Src. class+tgt. cluster (w/ self-paced)” v.s. “Ours (full)” in Tab. 5. **A2:** The difference is whether using
5 un-clustered outliers. Reasons for the drop: 1) There are many un-clustered outliers ($>$ half of all samples), especially
6 in early epochs. 2) Outliers serve as difficult samples and excluding them over-simplifies the training task. 3) The
7 baseline doesn’t update outliers in the memory, making them unsuitable to be used in pseudo classes in the later epochs.
8 **To Reviewer #6 Q3:** Hard to scale up? **A3:** Caching a 2048d instance needs ~ 0.05 M. Our method can cache
9 10,000,000+ instances in 500G CPU memory. If caching in 11G GPU memory, 200,000+ instances can be easily stored.
10 **Q4:** Explain the cluster reliability criterion better. **A4:** The intuition is to measure the stability of clusters by hierarchical
11 structures, *i.e.*, a reliable cluster should be consistent in clusters at multiple levels. It leads to evident performance gains,
12 *i.e.*, $>2\%$ mAP gains on two tasks in Tab. 5 (“Ours w/o self-paced $\mathcal{R}_{\text{comp}} \& \mathcal{R}_{\text{indep}}$ ” v.s. “Ours (full)”).
13 **Q5:** Relations to [13, 45]. **A5:** We discussed the differences from [13, 45] on L3-9 of supplementary material and we
14 will further discuss their relations to our work following your advice.
15 **To Reviewer #8 Q6:** DukeMTMC is not available. **A6:** We added experiments on MSMT17 as suggested. For the
16 source-domain performance on Market (Tab. 3), our method can boost the mAP by $+6.3\%$ by training with unsupervised
17 MSMT. For the unsupervised performance (Tab. 4), we reached 19.1% mAP, outperforming 11.2% mAP of SOTA [42].
18 **Q7:** Lack of theoretical grounding. **A7:** Indeed, the effectiveness is mainly demonstrated via ablation studies in both
19 main text and supplementary, which show significant improvements. We will look into more theories in future studies.
20 **Q8:** Difference to memory usage in MoCo [13]. **A8:** Other than centroids, we for the first time treat clusters and
21 instances as equal classes. Our self-paced strategy dynamically determines confident clusters and un-clustered instances.
22 **Q9:** Relation to [A, B]. **A9:** We tested HDBSCAN [A] to replace our reliability criterion and observed 0.9%/4.3%
23 mAP drops on unsupervised Market/MSMT tasks. We will further discuss earlier works and improve our method.
24 **Q10:** Hyper-parameter sensitivity and choice of clustering algorithms. **A10:** We discussed hyper-parameters in Sec. E
25 of Appendix. We adopted DBSCAN to fairly compare with [9, 50, 47, 51] in Tab. 2. We also tested Agglomerative
26 Clustering algorithm on unsupervised Market: 74.9% mAP by “Ours (full)” v.s. 70.4% mAP by “Ours w/o self-paced”.
27 **To Reviewer #9 Q11:** Joint learning is not new [57, 58]. The gain is natural. **A11:** We use unified training of source
28 classes, target clusters and target outliers, which is totally different from [57, 58]. They use multi-task learning and treat
29 source and target class *separately* (Appendix L10-20). Naive cross-domain training would hurt the performance [10].
30 **Q12:** The form of contrastive learning is not new. **A12:** We **never** claimed that the form of contrastive learning is our
31 novelty. We focused on exploiting all available information by jointly distinguishing different kinds of prototypes with
32 a novel hybrid memory. We discussed the differences from previous contrastive learning methods on L92-98 (main
33 paper) and L3-9 (Appendix). Previous methods (*e.g.*, MoCo) fail in Tab. 4. See **A1** for reasons.
34 **Q13:** The assumption of disjoint label sets is unrealistic. **A13:** Actually quite common in real-world cases. One collect
35 annotations from city A and generalize the models to other cities. Face recognition datasets have similar phenomenon.
36 **Q14:** Why simultaneous class- and instance-level loss work? **A14:** MoCo *alone* not working on re-ID tasks doesn’t
37 imply that the proposed joint class+cluster+instance training would fail. Cluster outliers are crucial to the training (see
38 **A2**), and treating them as single-instance classes boosts the performance significantly, given the ablation study in Tab.
39 5: using source class-level + only target instance-level losses (“Src. class+tgt. instance”) totally fails, similar to MoCo;
40 using source class-level + only target cluster-level losses (“Src. class+tgt. cluster (w/ self-paced)”) shows inferior result.
41 **Q15:** Lack of ablation studies. **A15:** 1) “Src. class + tgt. cluster (w/o self-paced)” discards both self-paced strategy
42 (cluster reliable criterion) and un-clustered instances from training. “Ours w/o self-paced $\mathcal{R}_{\text{comp}} \& \mathcal{R}_{\text{indep}}$ ” only removes
43 self-paced strategy. 2) All the combinations of losses have been investigated in Tab. 5, *i.e.*, “Src. class”, “Src. class +
44 tgt. instance” and “Src. class + tgt. cluster”. “tgt. cluster + tgt. instance” is the same as “Ours w/o source-domain data”
45 in Tab. 4. 3) Same, as described on L79-80 of Appendix. 4) The learnable classifiers in the source domain don’t match
46 the semantic meaning of target-domain centroids and thus cause inferior performance (L142-144).
47 **Q16:** Reliability criterion is tricky and incremental. **A16:** It is meaningless to evaluate $\mathcal{R}_{\text{comp}}, \mathcal{R}_{\text{indep}}$ independently, as
48 they complement each other and leads to over 2% mAP gain. Please see also **A4** for intuition.
49 **Q17:** Positive sample for un-clustered outlier f_k . **A17:** It is v_k (L139-140) cached in the hybrid memory (Eq. (4)).
50 **Q18:** Compare to softmax/triplet loss. **A18:** Duke \rightarrow Market (mAP): 25.0% by cross-entropy loss, 30.1% by cross-
51 entropy+triplet loss, 74.2% by unified contrastive+triplet loss, which are all lower than those reported (76.7%). As both
52 cross-entropy and unified contrastive loss are variants of softmax loss, the key to success is our well-designed hybrid
53 memory, which provides **continuous** learning targets for **dynamically** changing clusters and un-clustered instances.
54 **Q19:** The Temperature τ is sensitive. **A19:** All methods using temperature softmax function (*e.g.* [57, 58]) have similar
55 effects on τ . See also Tab. 1 of [57, 58]. We set $\tau = 0.05$ following [57, 58] and achieve the best performance using
56 the same $\tau = 0.05$ for 8 UDA tasks (Tab. 2) and 2 unsupervised tasks (Tab. 4), showing the robustness of τ =fixed 0.05.
57 **Q20:** Evaluate the clusters. **A20:** At the last epoch of Duke \rightarrow Market, F1 & NMI scores are: 0.82 & 0.94 (Ours full),
58 0.79 & 0.92 (Ours w/o self-paced), 0.73 & 0.90 (Src. class + tgt. cluster (w/ self-paced)). We will show the curves.