

# Bridging Non Co-occurrence with Unlabeled In-the-wild Data for Incremental Object Detection

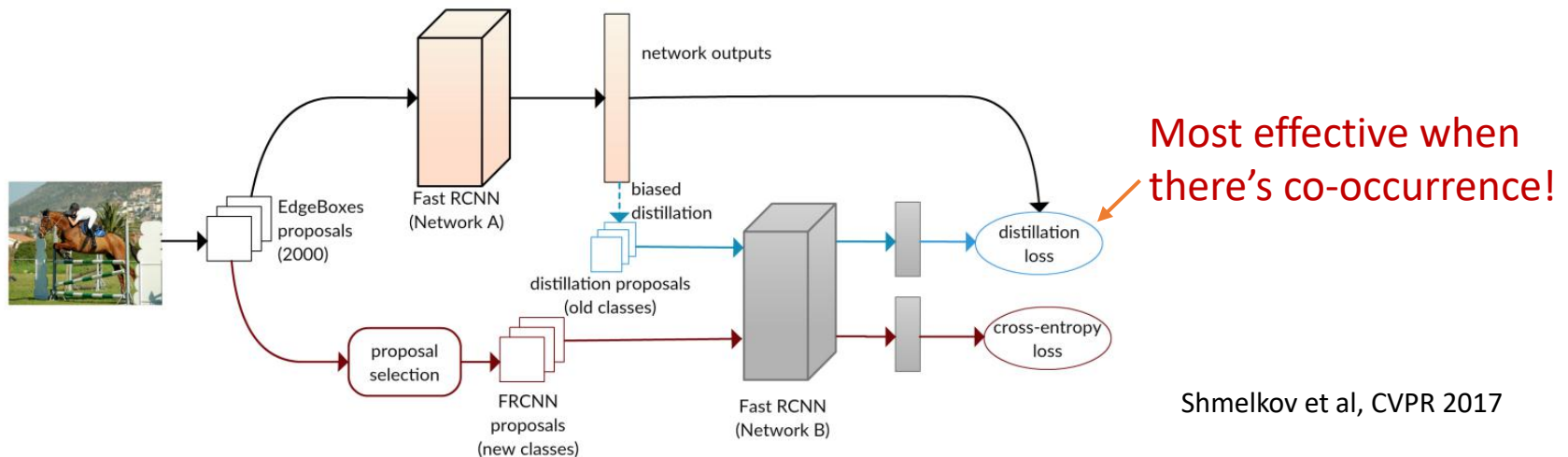
Na Dong, Yongqiang Zhang, Mingli Ding, Gim Hee Lee  
National University of Singapore, Harbin Institute of Technology  
NeurIPS 2021

# Catastrophic Forgetting

- Deep networks have shown remarkable results in the task of object detection.
- However, their performance **suffers critical drops** when they are subsequently trained on novel classes **without any** sample from the base classes originally used to train the model.
- This phenomenon is known as **catastrophic forgetting**.

# Existing Works Requires Co-occurrence

- Existing methods **performs well when there is co-occurrence** of the unlabeled base classes in the training data of the novel classes.
- This requirement **is impractical in many real-world settings** since the base classes do not necessarily co-occur with the novel classes.

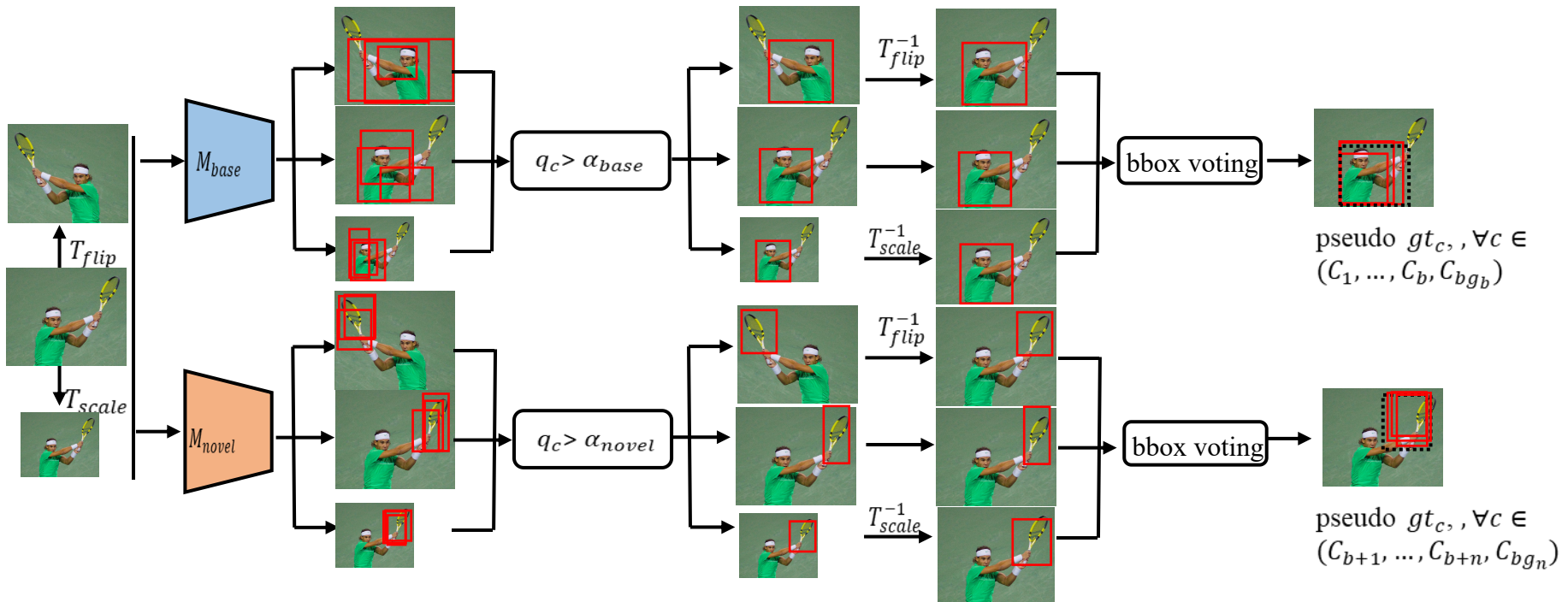


# Using In-the-wild Data to Bridge Non Co-occurrence

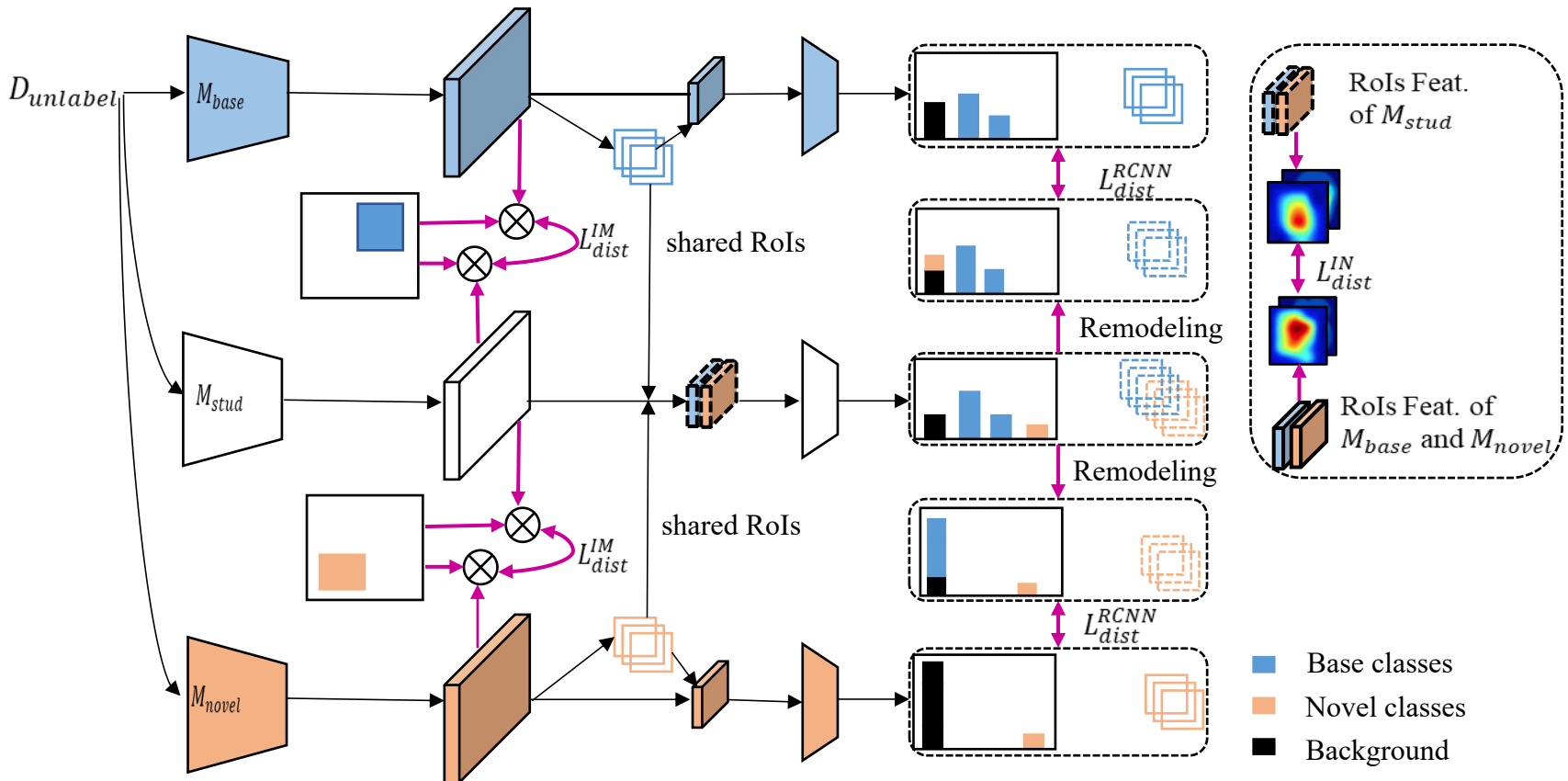
- We consider a more practical setting of **complete absence of co-occurrence** of the base and novel classes in the training data.
- We propose the use of **unlabeled in-the-wild data** to bridge the non co-occurrence caused by the missing base classes during the training of additional novel classes.

# Our Approach: Blind Sampling Strategy

$q_c$ : Object class probability  
 $\alpha$ : Threshold

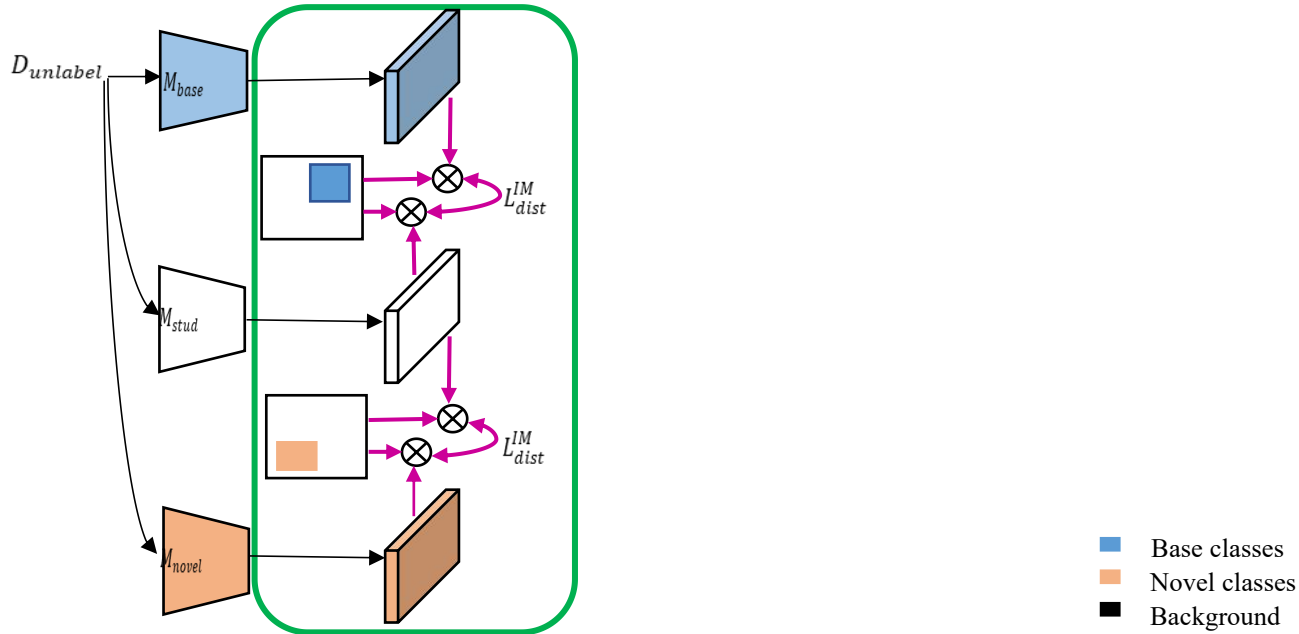


# Our Approach: Dual Teacher Distillation



# Our Approach: Dual Teacher Distillation

## Image-level distillation with ROI Masks

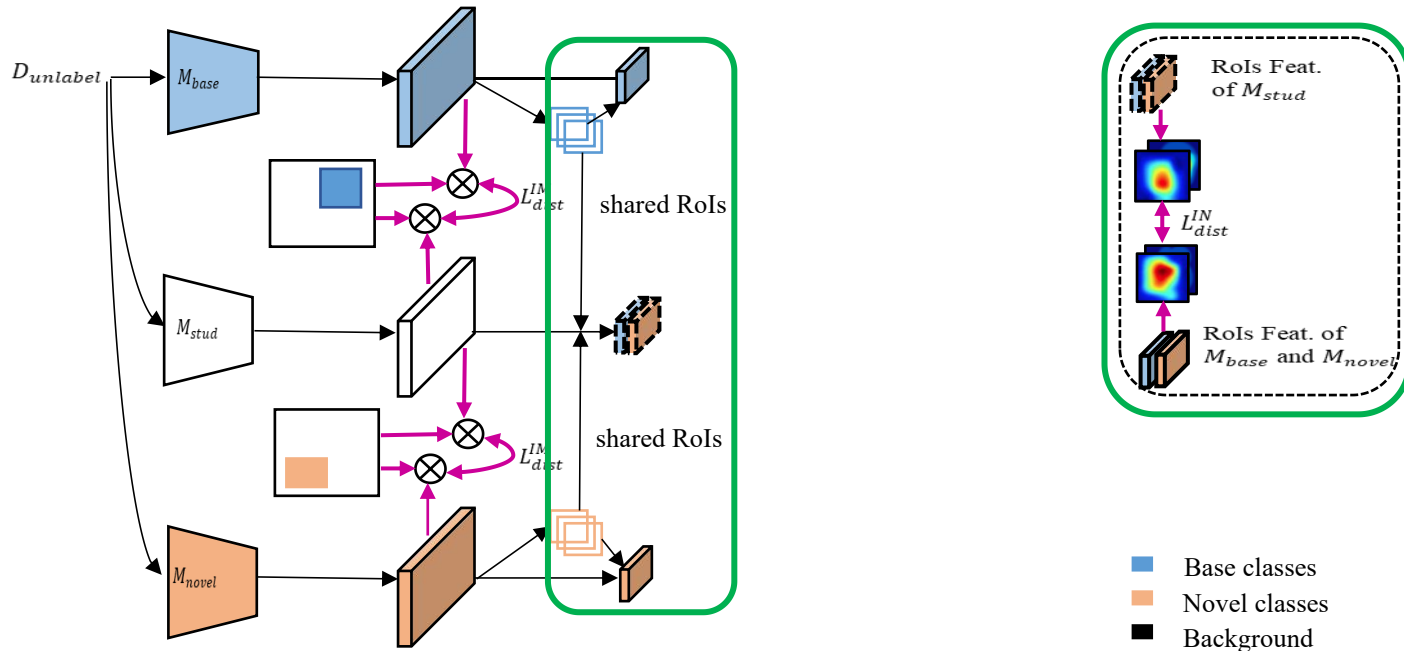


$$\mathcal{L}_{dist}^{IM} = \frac{1}{2N^{base}} \sum_{i=1}^W \sum_{j=1}^H \sum_{k=1}^C Mask_{ij}^{base} \left\| F_{ijk}^{stud} - F_{ijk}^{base} \right\|^2 + \frac{1}{2N^{novel}} \sum_{i=1}^W \sum_{j=1}^H \sum_{k=1}^C Mask_{ij}^{novel} \left\| F_{ijk}^{stud} - F_{ijk}^{novel} \right\|^2,$$

where  $N^{base} = \sum_{i=1}^W \sum_{j=1}^H Mask_{ij}^{base}$ ,  $N^{novel} = \sum_{i=1}^W \sum_{j=1}^H Mask_{ij}^{novel}$ .

# Our Approach: Dual Teacher Distillation

## Instance-level distillation with heatmaps



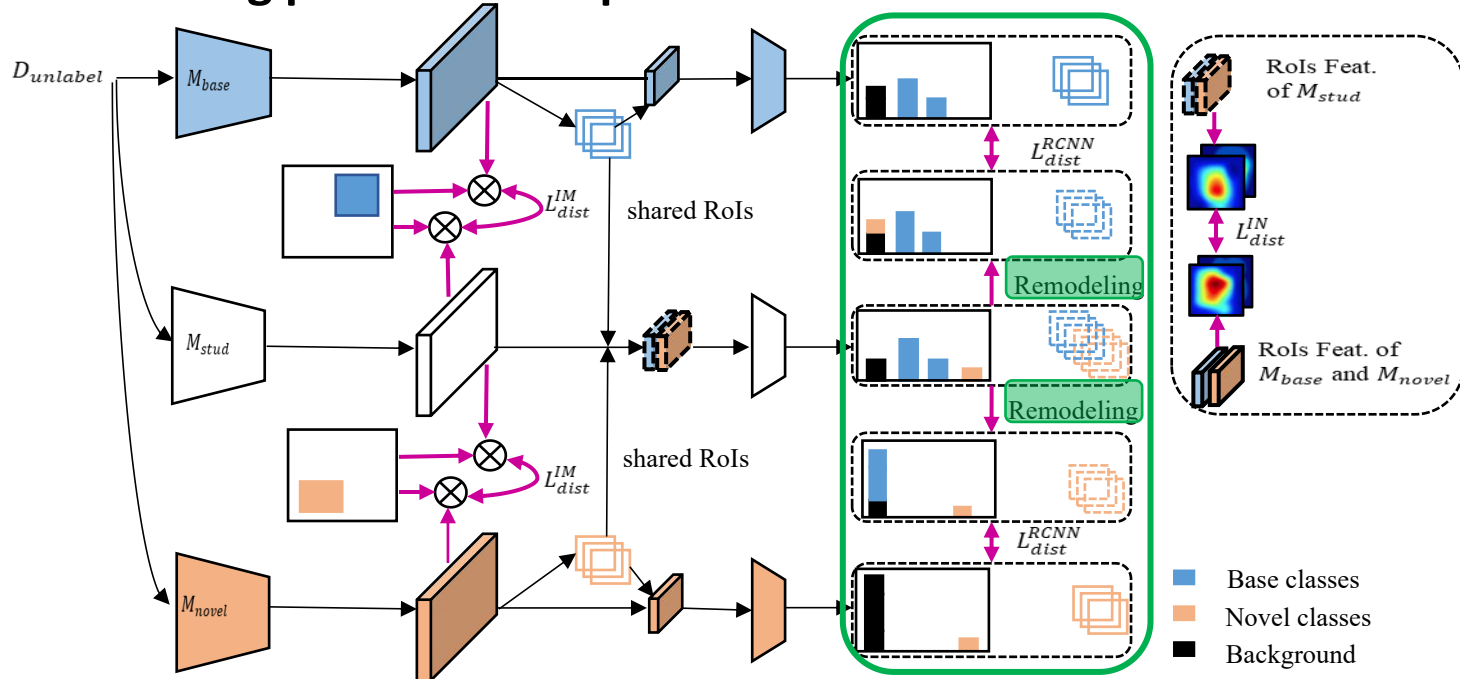
$$\mathcal{L}_{dist}^{IN} = \mathcal{L}_{mse}(\mathcal{H}^{base} \cup \mathcal{H}^{novel}, \mathcal{H}^{stud}),$$

where  $\mathcal{H}_{ij}^{base} = S(\frac{1}{C} \sum_{k=1}^C f_{ijk}^{base})$ ,  $\mathcal{H}_{ij}^{novel} = S(\frac{1}{C} \sum_{k=1}^C f_{ijk}^{novel})$ ,  $\mathcal{H}_{ij}^{stud} = S(\frac{1}{C} \sum_{k=1}^C f_{ijk}^{stud})$



# Our Approach: Dual Teacher Distillation

## Remodeling prediction outputs



$$\tilde{q}_c^{stud, base} = \{(q_{bg}^{stud} + q_{c_{b+1}}^{stud} + \dots + q_{c_{b+n}}^{stud}), q_{c_1}^{stud}, q_{c_2}^{stud}, \dots, q_{c_b}^{stud}\}.$$

$$\tilde{q}_c^{stud, novel} = \{(q_{bg}^{stud} + q_{c_1}^{stud} + q_{c_2}^{stud} + \dots + q_{c_b}^{stud}), q_{c_{b+1}}^{stud}, \dots, q_{c_{b+n}}^{stud}\}.$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{dist}^{RCNN} = \mathcal{L}_{kl\_div}(\log(\tilde{q}_c^{stud, base}), q_c^{base}) + \lambda \mathcal{L}_{smooth_{L_1}}(\tilde{r}_c^{stud, base}, r_c^{base}) + \mathcal{L}_{kl\_div}(\log(\tilde{q}_c^{stud, novel}), q_c^{novel}) + \lambda \mathcal{L}_{smooth_{L_1}}(\tilde{r}_c^{stud, novel}, r_c^{novel})$$

Class probabilities

Bbox parameters

# Results

- **Left Table:** Results of "19+1" on VOC test set. "1-19" and "20" ("tv") are base and novel classes.
- **Right Table:** Results of "15+5" on VOC test set. "1-15" and "16-20" are the base and novel classes.

Class	Method	mAP(%)		
		<i>base</i>	<i>novel</i>	<i>all</i>
1-20 (w/o co-occur)	Ren [24]	73.1	55.4	72.3
1-19 (w/o co-occur)	Ren [24]	73.4	–	–
20 (w/o co-occur)	Ren [24]	–	47.4	–
(1-19) + (20) (w/o co-occur)	Shmelkov [27]	62.6	39.2	61.4
	Ours (w category)	<b>73.3</b>	<b>50.7</b>	<b>72.2</b>
	Ours (w/o category)	<b>71.5</b>	<b>46.1</b>	<b>70.2</b>
(1-19) + (20) (w co-occur)	Shmelkov [27]	68.5	62.7	68.3
	Zhou [40]	70.5	53.0	69.6
	Ours (w category)	<b>73.5</b>	<b>65.8</b>	<b>73.1</b>

Class	Method	mAP(%)		
		<i>base</i>	<i>novel</i>	<i>all</i>
1-20 (w/o co-occur)	Ren [24]	74.4	62.7	71.7
1-15 (w/o co-occur)	Ren [24]	72.0	–	–
16-20 (w/o co-occur)	Ren [24]	–	48.6	–
(1-15) + (16-20) (w/o co-occur)	Shmelkov [27]	67.2	46.1	62.0
	Ours (w category)	<b>70.5</b>	<b>49.4</b>	<b>65.3</b>
	Ours (w/o category)	<b>70.7</b>	<b>48.5</b>	<b>65.1</b>
Class (1-15) + (16-20) (w co-occur)	Shmelkov [27]	68.4	58.4	65.9
	Ours (w category)	<b>72.7</b>	<b>58.4</b>	<b>69.1</b>

w(/o) category: with(out) class overlap in the in-the-wild

# Results

- Results of "19+1" on VOC test set. "1-19" and "20" ("tv") are base and novel classes.

Class	Method	mAP(%)		
		<i>base</i>	<i>novel</i>	<i>all</i>
1-20 (w/o co-occur)	Ren [24]	73.1	55.4	72.3
1-19 (w/o co-occur)	Ren [24]	73.4	—	—
16-20 (w/o co-occur)	Ren [24]	—	47.4	—
(1-19) + (20)	Shmelkov [27]	62.6	39.2	61.4
(w/o co-occur)	Ours	<b>71.3</b>	<b>48.6</b>	<b>70.1</b>
(1-19) + (20)	Shmelkov [27]	68.5	62.7	68.3
(w co-occur)	Zhou [40]	70.5	53.0	69.6

# Results

- Results of "10+5+5" on VOC tests et. "1-10" are the base classes, and "11-15" and "16-20" are the two groups of **sequentially added** novel classes.

Class	Method	mAP(%)		
		<i>base</i>	<i>novel</i>	<i>all</i>
1-20 (w/o co-occur)	Ren [24]	66.6	67.3	66.7
1-10 (w/o co-occur)	Ren [24]	57.8	—	—
11-15 (w/o co-occur)	Ren [24]	—	62.4	—
16-20 (w/o co-occur)	Ren [24]	—	48.6	—
(1-10)+ (11-15) (w/o co-occur)	Shmelkov [27]	<b>59.8</b>	52.4	57.3
	Ours (w category)	57.0	<b>62.7</b>	<b>58.9</b>
	Ours (w/o category)	57.3	<b>61.7</b>	<b>58.8</b>
(1-10)+ (11-15)+ (16-20) (w/o co-occur)	Shmelkov [27]	<b>59.0</b>	47.3	53.1
	Ours (w category)	56.7	<b>55.1</b>	<b>55.8</b>
	Ours (w/o category)	56.9	<b>53.9</b>	<b>55.4</b>
(1-10)+ (11-15)+ (16-20) (w co-occur)	Zhou [40]	60.3	53.1	56.7
	Ours (w category)	<b>68.1</b>	<b>64.8</b>	<b>66.5</b>

# Results

- Results of “40+40” on COCO minival set. First 40 classes are the old classes, and the next 40 are the added classes.

Class	Method	AP	AP50	AP75	APS	APM	APL
1-80 (w/o co-occur)	Ren [24]	27.7	45.8	29.4	10.8	30.9	42.5
(1-40) + (40-80) (w/o co-occur)	Ours	<b>22.5</b>	<b>40.9</b>	<b>23.0</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>25.9</b>	<b>34.6</b>
(1-40) + (40-80) (w co-occur)	Shmelkov [27]	21.3	37.4	-	-	-	-
	Zhou [40]	22.7	36.8	-	-	-	-
	Ours	<b>23.7</b>	<b>42.5</b>	<b>24.3</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>26.6</b>	<b>37.5</b>

# Results

- Ablation studies for the setting of "19+1" on VOC 2007 test set.

Blind sampling strategy	$\mathcal{L}^{\text{RCNN}} + \mathcal{L}^{\text{RPN}}$	$\mathcal{L}_{\text{dist}}^{\text{RCNN}}$	$\mathcal{L}_{\text{dist}}^{\text{IM}}$	$\mathcal{L}_{\text{dist}}^{\text{IN}}$	mAP(%)		
					<i>base</i>	<i>novel</i>	<i>all</i>
✓	✓				64.4	35.3	62.9
✓	✓	✓			68.0	44.9	66.9
✓	✓		✓		68.5	39.6	67.1
✓	✓			✓	67.6	39.2	66.2
	✓	✓	✓	✓	70.0	44.3	68.7
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	<b>71.5</b>	<b>46.1</b>	<b>70.2</b>