

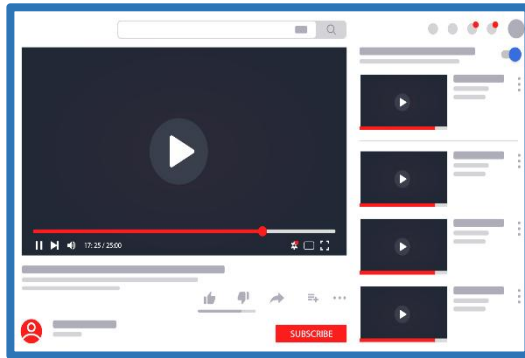
# Not All Pairs are Equal: Hierarchical Learning for Average-Precision-Oriented Video Retrieval

Yang Liu, Qianqian Xu, Peisong Wen,  
Siran Dai, Qingming Huang

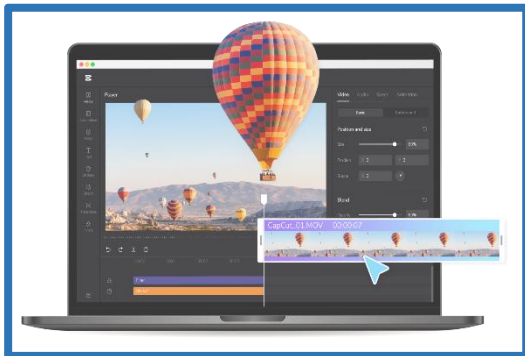


# Background

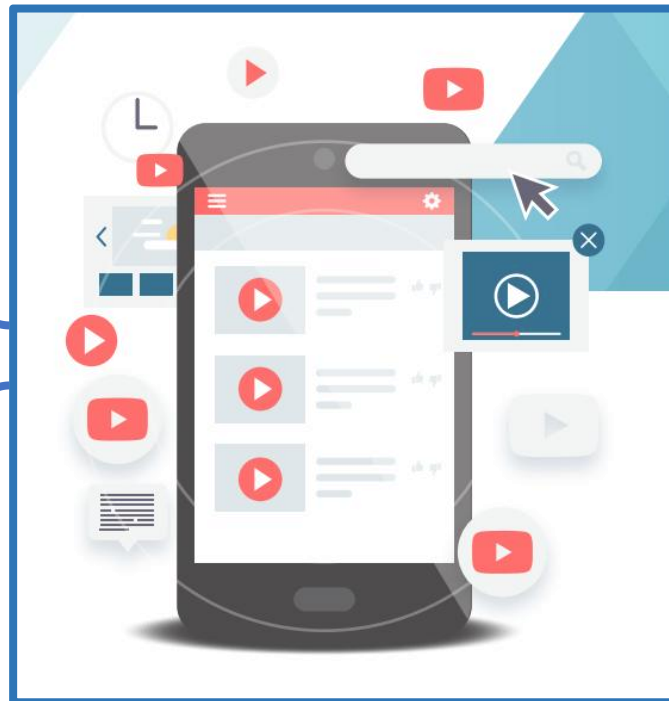
- ❑ **Video retrieval is a fundamental task for multimedia applications**



**Recommendation**



**Video Editing**



**Video Retrieval**

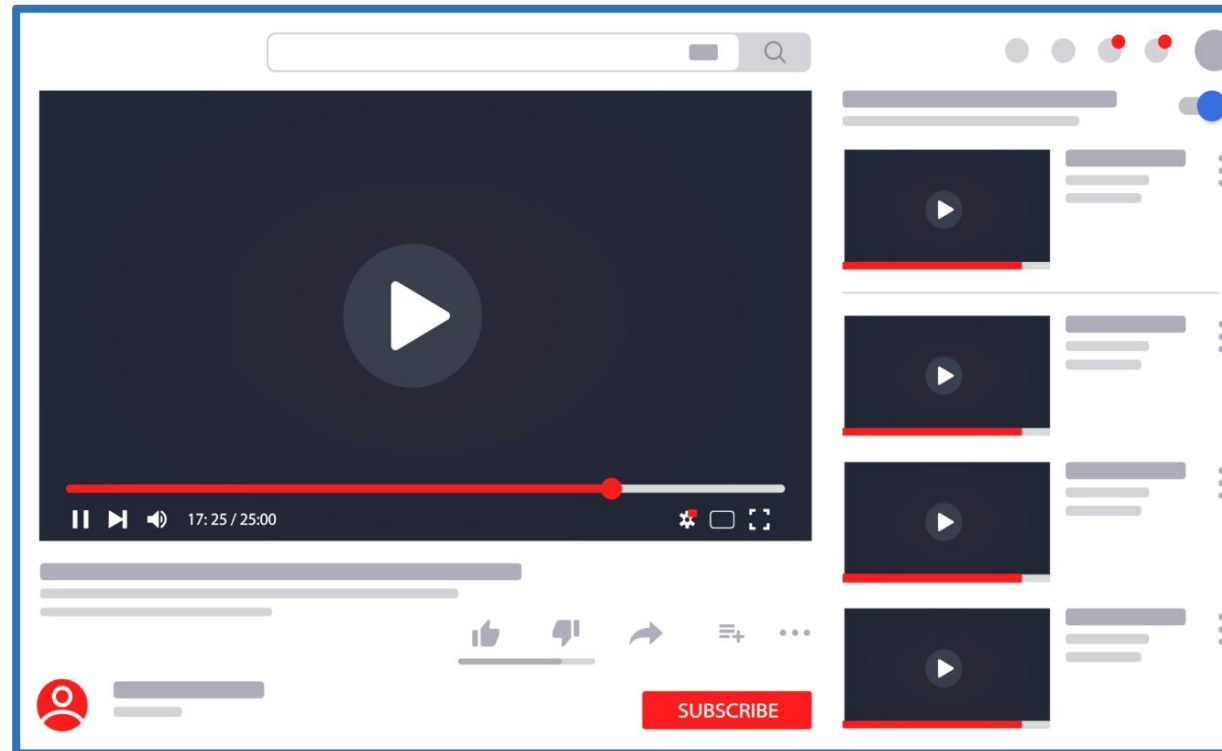


**Online Education**



**Sports Analysis**

# Background

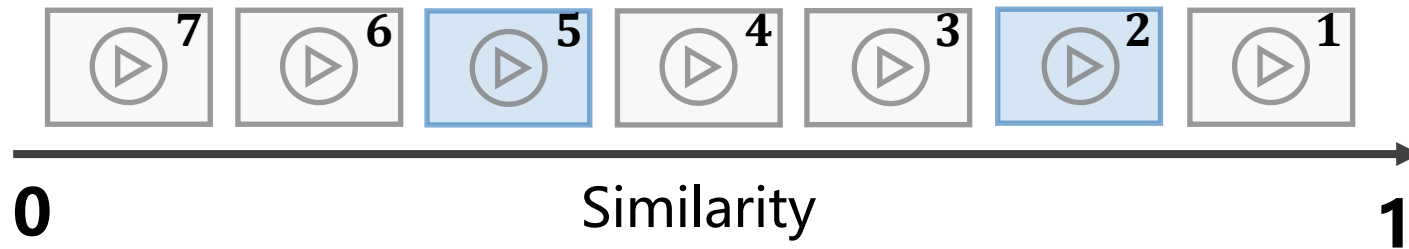


# Background

## □ Evaluation metric: **Average Precision (AP)**

- AP assigns greater weights on higher-ranked videos

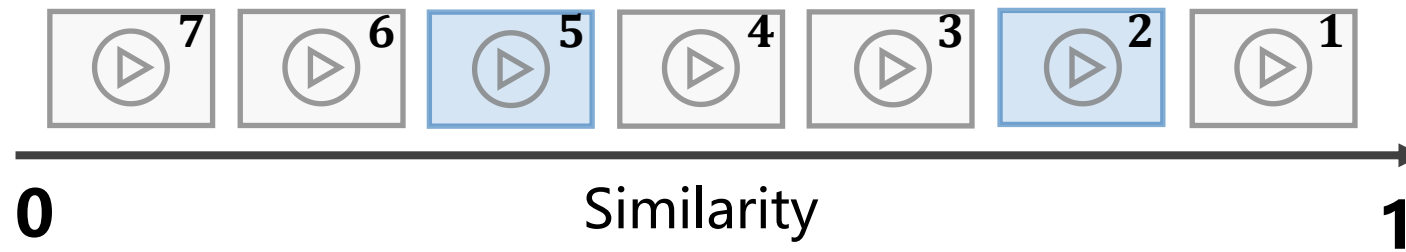
- $AP = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{i}{r_i}$



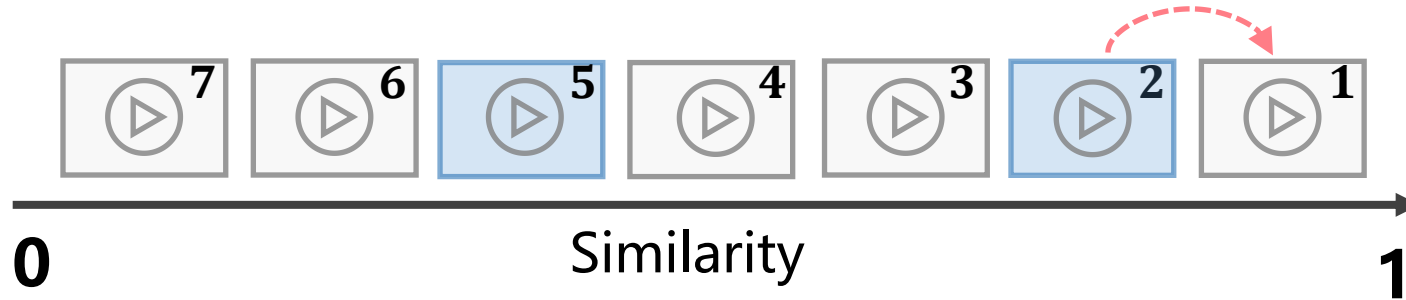
$$AP = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{2} + \frac{2}{5} \right) = 0.45$$

## □ Evaluation metric: Average Precision (AP)

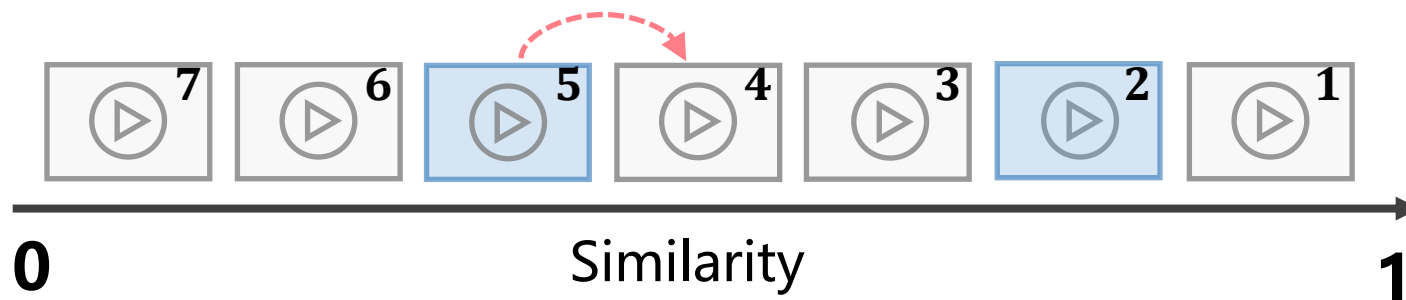
- AP focuses on the top-ranked pairs



$$AP = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{2} + \frac{2}{5} \right) = 0.45$$



$$AP = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{\textcolor{red}{1}} + \frac{2}{5} \right) = 0.70 \text{ (}\textcolor{red}{0.25} \uparrow\text{)}$$



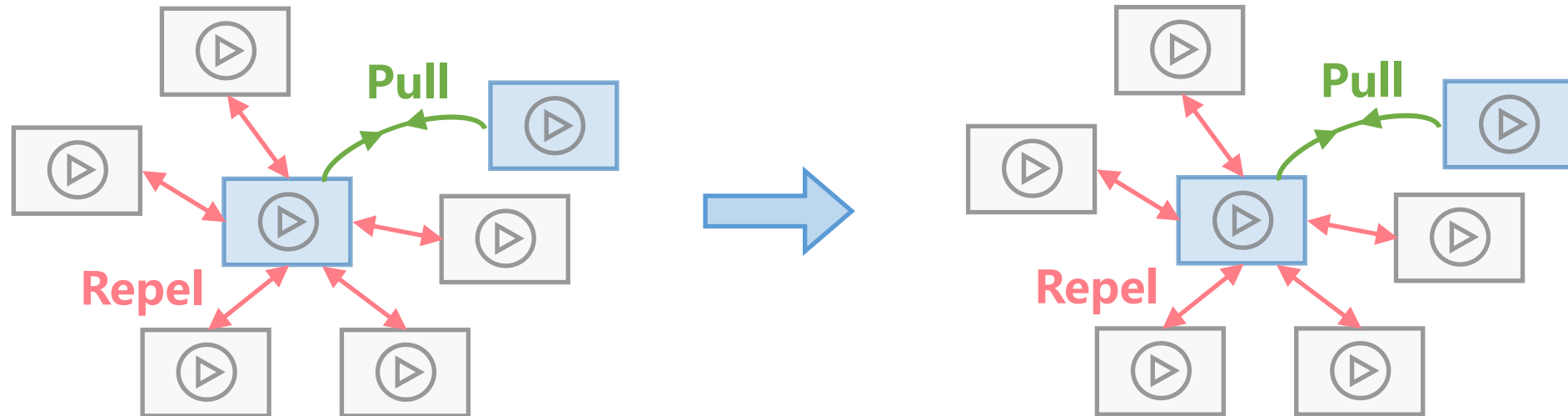
$$AP = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{2} + \frac{2}{\textcolor{red}{4}} \right) = 0.50 \text{ (}\textcolor{red}{0.05} \uparrow\text{)}$$

# Background

## □ Training objective of previous video retrieval methods

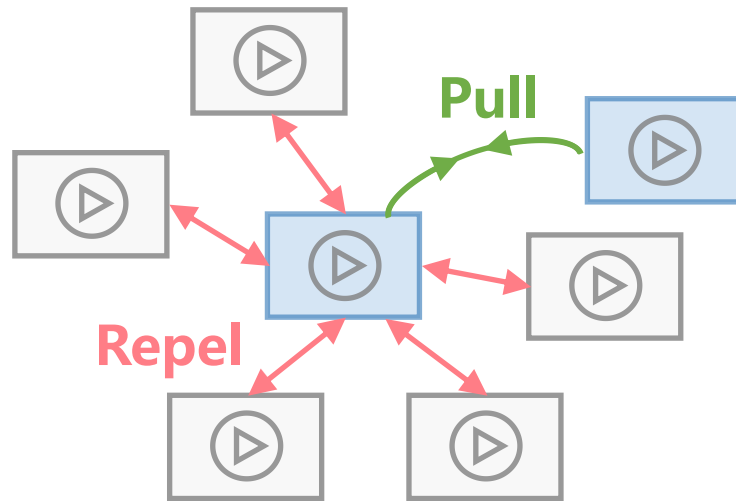
### □ Pair-wise objective:

- Assigns equal weight to all video pairs





## Are Pairs All Equal?

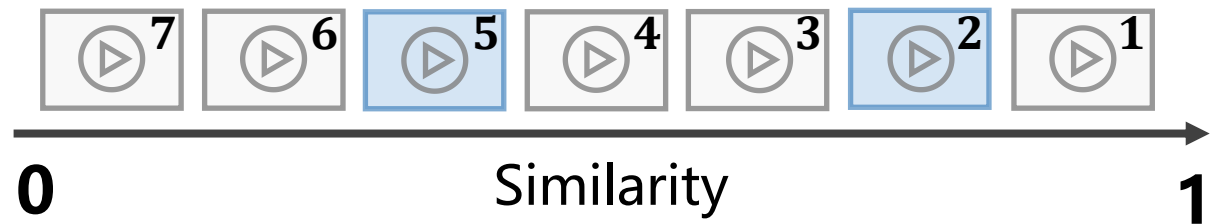


**Pair-wise  
Training Objective**

**Mismatch!**



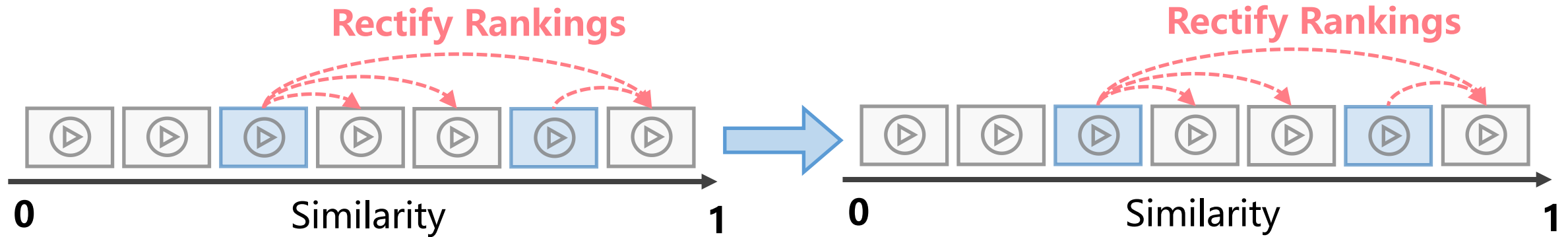
$$AP = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{i}{r_i}$$



**Ranking-based  
Evaluation Metric**

# Background

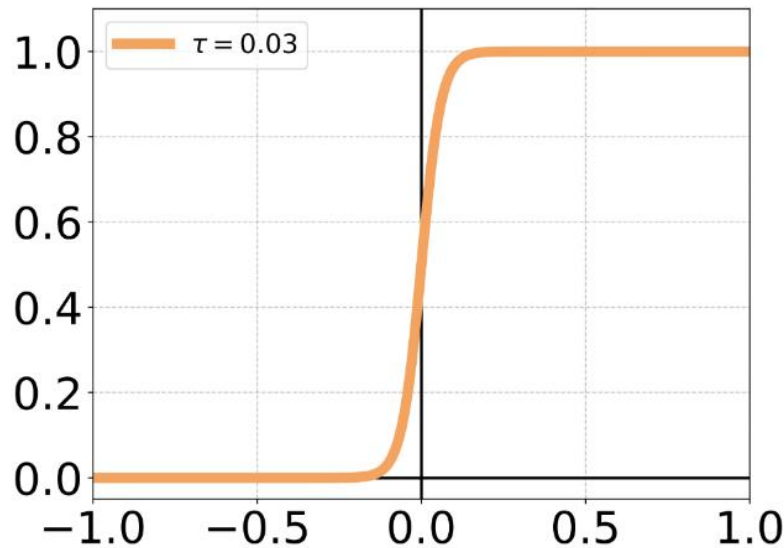
- ❑ **New** training objective for video retrieval
  - ❑ **AP-based objective**
    - Rectify the wrongly ranked positive-negative pairs in the list



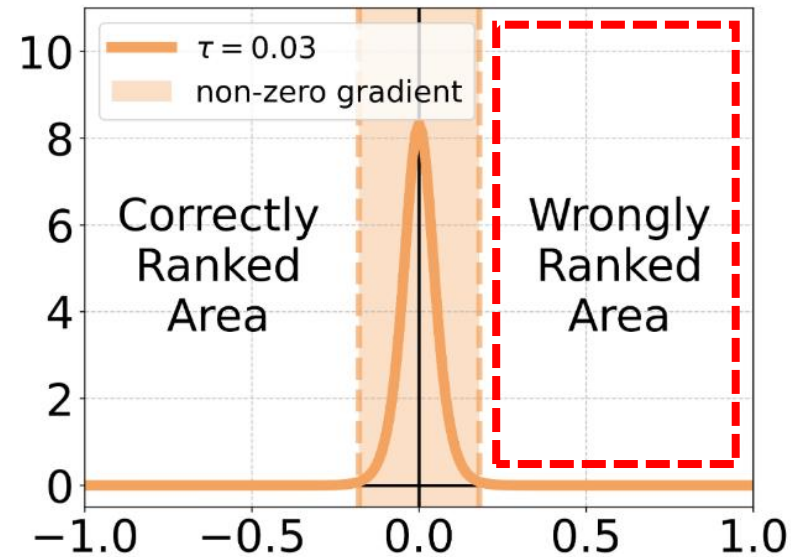
# Background

## ❑ Challenge 1: **Gradient vanishing issue** in AP loss

- Seriously mis-ranked pairs fall into gradient vanishing area
- Additional matching complexity of videos intensified this issue



(a)  $\mathcal{G}(x; \tau)$  in Smooth-AP.

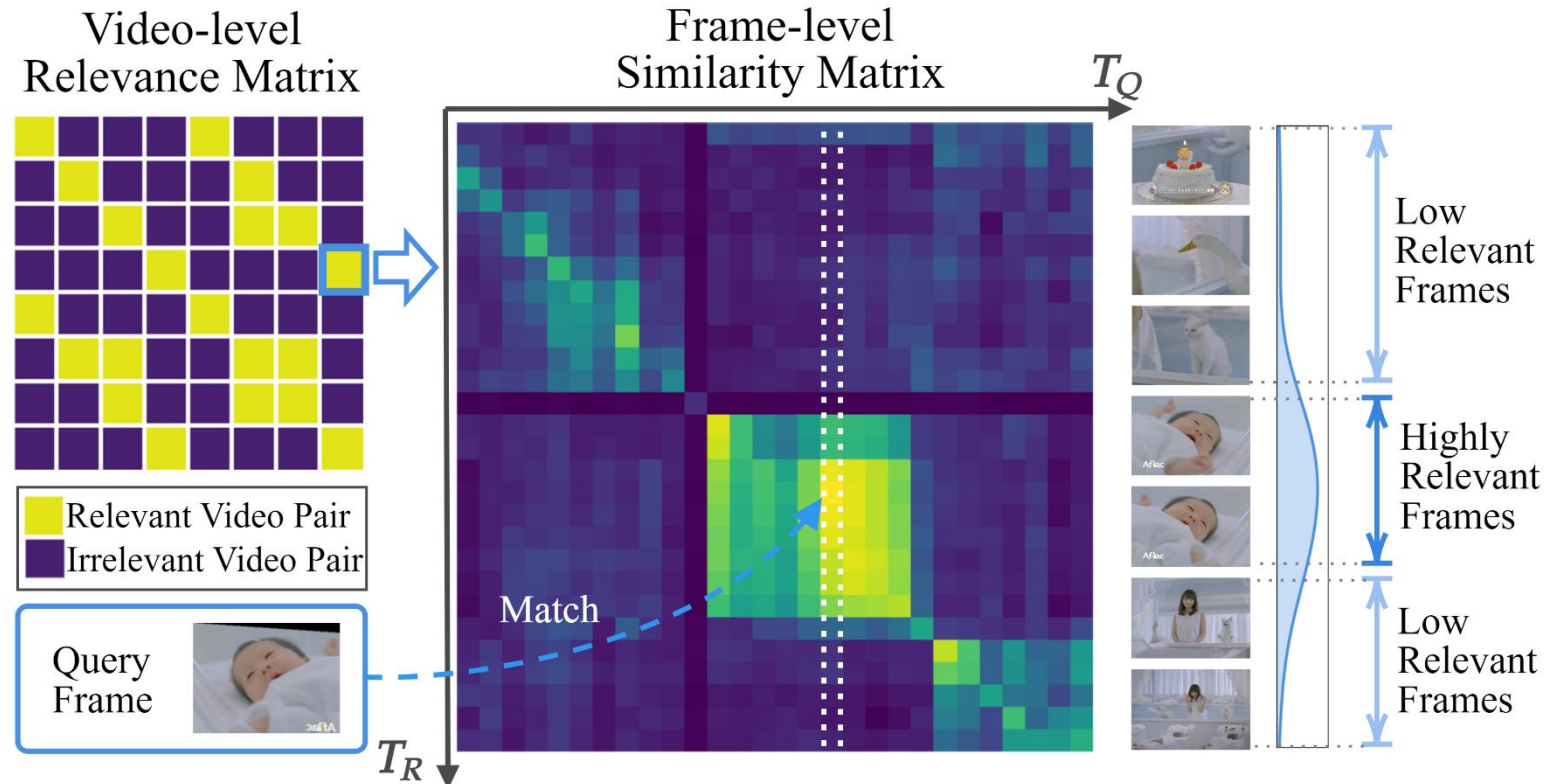


(b) Derivative of  $\mathcal{G}(x; \tau)$ .

# Background

## ❑ Challenge 2: **Noisy frame-level matching** leads to a biased AP estimation

- Two relevant videos might not share consistent relevance across all frame pairs
- This ambiguity harms the rankings of relevant videos when optimizing AP



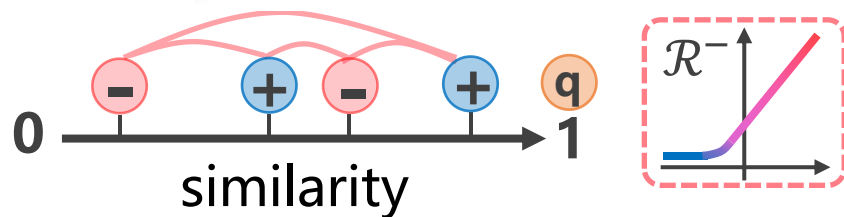
□ For challenge 1: Reformulate AP to design our **gradient-enhanced** loss

$$\widehat{AP}_k^\downarrow(f) = \frac{1}{|S^{k+}|} \sum_{s_{ki} \in S^{k+}} h \left( \frac{\sum_{s_{kj} \in S^{k-}} \mathcal{R}^-(d_{ji}^k; \delta)}{1 + \rho \sum_{s_{kj} \in S^{k+}} \mathcal{R}^+(d_{ji}^k)} \right)$$

## Positive-negative Pairs

- Rankings should be **corrected**
- Require proper gradients for optimization

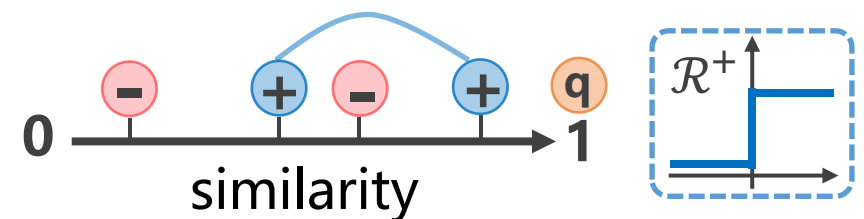
$$\mathcal{R}^-(x; \delta) = \begin{cases} \frac{2}{\delta}x + 1, & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ \frac{1}{\delta^2}x^2 + \frac{2}{\delta}x + 1, & \text{if } -\delta \leq x < 0 \\ 0, & \text{if } x < -\delta \end{cases}$$



## Positive-positive Pairs

- Serve as **weights**
- Not needed for optimization

$$\mathcal{R}^+(x) = \mathcal{H}(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } x > 0 \\ 0, & \text{if } x \leq 0 \end{cases}$$



□ For challenge 1: Decompose AP to design our **gradient-enhanced AP loss**

## Previous AP

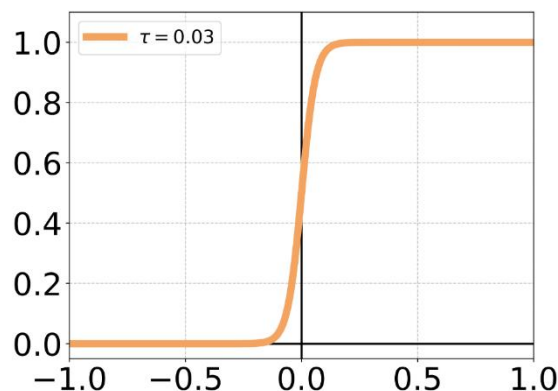
$$\frac{\sum_{s_{kj} \in S^k} \mathcal{G}(d_{ji}^k; \tau)}{1 + \sum_{s_{kj} \in S^{k+}} \mathcal{G}(d_{ji}^k; \tau)}$$

Gradient Vanishing

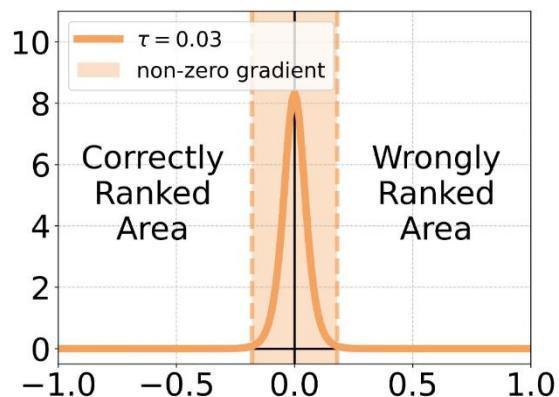
## QuadLinear-AP

$$\frac{\sum_{s_{kj} \in S^k} \mathcal{R}^-(d_{ji}^k; \delta)}{1 + \rho \sum_{s_{kj} \in S^{k+}} \mathcal{R}^+(d_{ji}^k; \delta)}$$

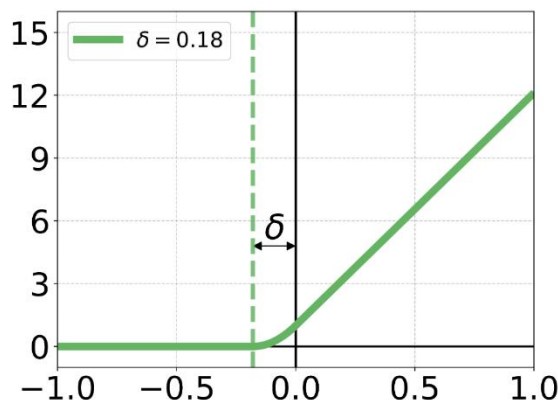
Favorable properties



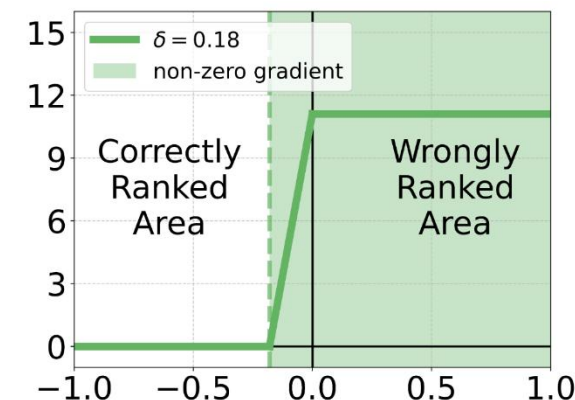
(a)  $\mathcal{G}(x; \tau)$  in Smooth-AP.



(b) Derivative of  $\mathcal{G}(x; \tau)$ .



(c)  $\mathcal{R}^-(x; \delta)$  in QuadLinear-AP.



(d) Derivative of  $\mathcal{R}^-(x; \delta)$ .

□ For challenge 1: Decompose AP to design our **gradient-enhanced AP loss**

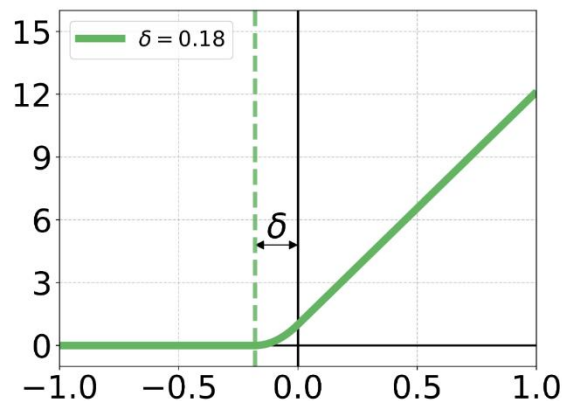
## QuadLinear-AP

$$\frac{\sum_{s_{kj} \in S^{k-}} (Ours) (d_{ji}^k; \delta)}{1 + \rho \sum_{s_{kj} \in S^{k+}} \mathcal{R}^+(d_{ji}^k)}$$

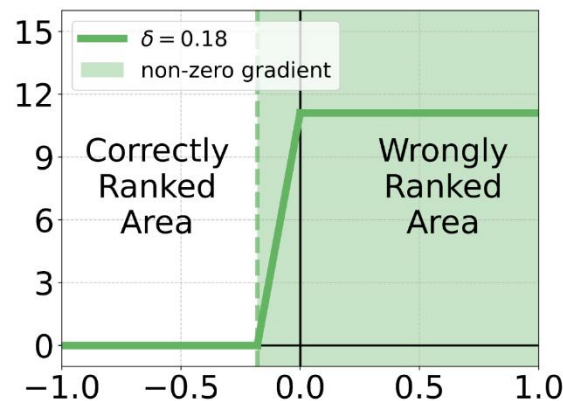
Favorable properties

## Favorable properties for optimization

- Suitable gradients for low AP area
- Differentiable AP optimization
- Convex, smooth and continuous
- Upper bound of Heaviside function
- Monotonically increasing (non-strictly)



(c)  $\mathcal{R}^-(x; \delta)$  in QuadLinear-AP.

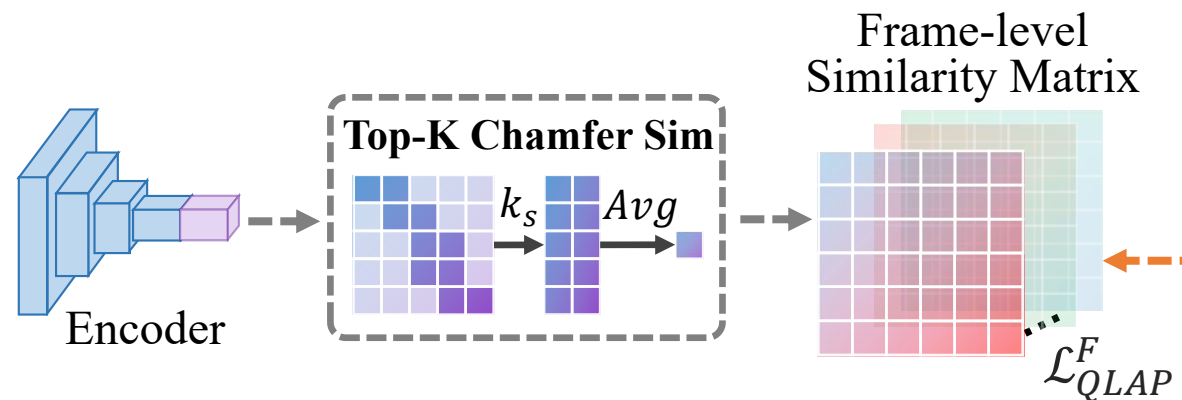


(d) Derivative of  $\mathcal{R}^-(x; \delta)$ .

## □ For challenge 2: Label purification to form **noise-robust** frame matching

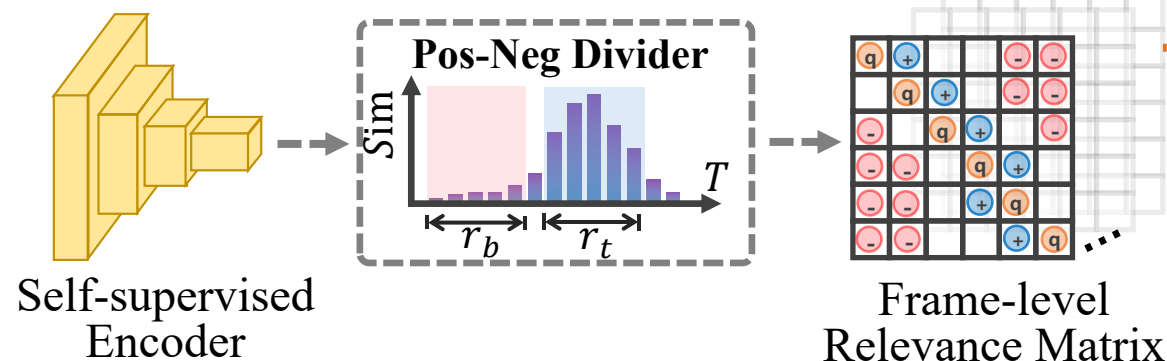
### ① Similarity aggregation

- Top-K Chamfer Similarity measure
- Fine-grained similarity aggregation



### ② Pseudo label generation

- Self-supervised encoder
- Positive-negative divider



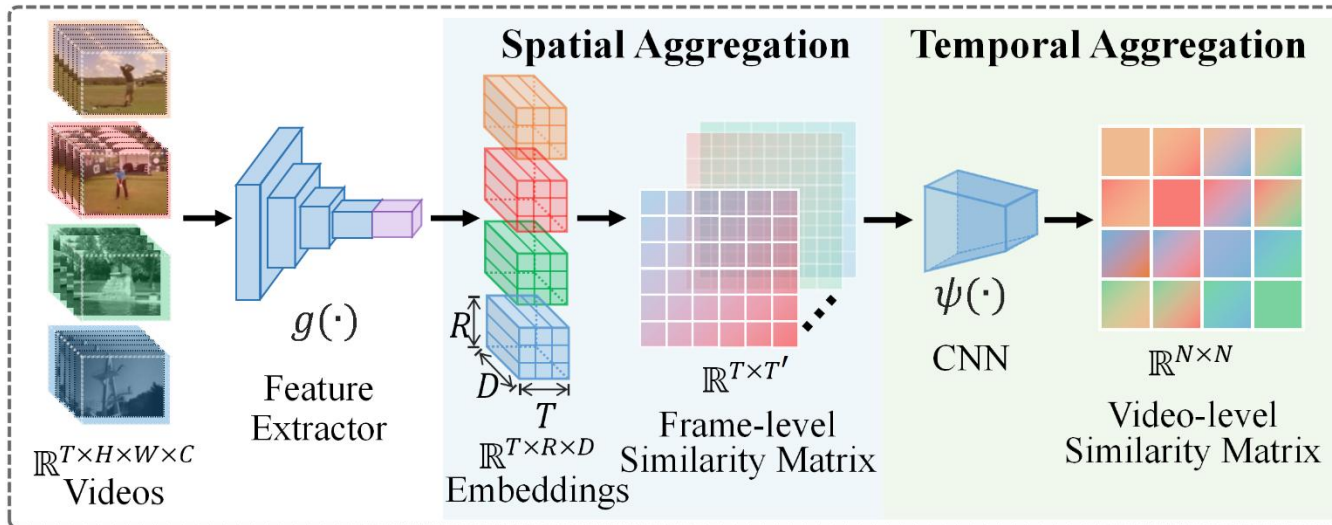
### ③ Noise-robust AP loss

- QuadLinear-AP Adaption
- Reduce weights of noisy pairs

# Framework

## □ Bottom-up video similarity measure

- Patch:  $S(V, V') = \text{cosine}(g(V), g(V'))$
- Frame:  $m_s(V, V')_{x,y} = \frac{1}{RK} \sum_{i=1}^R \sum_{j=1}^K S(V, V')_{x,i,[j],y}$
- Video:  $f(V, V') = \frac{1}{TK} \sum_{i=1}^T \sum_{j=1}^K \psi(m_s(V, V'))_{i,[j]}$



## Algorithm 1 Hierarchical AP Optimization

**Input:** Iteration  $L$ , learning rate  $\{\eta_l\}_{l=1}^L$ .

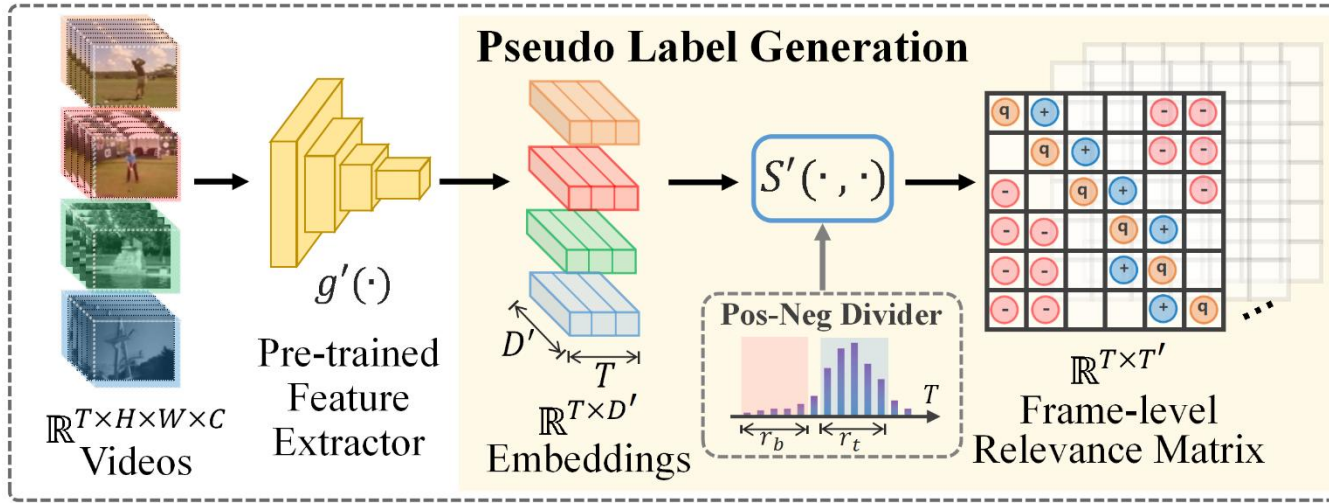
**Output:** Model parameters  $\Theta_{L+1}$ .

- 1: Initialize model parameters  $\Theta_1$ .
- 2: **for**  $l = 1$  to  $L$  **do**
- 3:   Sample a batch of videos  $\{V_i\}_{i=1}^N$ .
- 4:   Extract video embeddings  $g(V_i)$ .
- 5:   Calculate similarity matrix by  $f$ .
- 6:   Extract video embeddings  $g'(V_i)$ .
- 7:   Generate pseudo label matrix  $\hat{Y}$ .
- 8:   Compute  $\mathcal{L}_{QLAP}^V$  and  $\mathcal{L}_{QLAP}^F$ .
- 9:   Calculate the total loss  $\mathcal{L}$ .
- 10:   Update:  $\Theta_{l+1} = \Theta_l - \eta_l \nabla \mathcal{L}$ .
- 11: **end for**

# Framework

## □ Pseudo-label generation

- Patch:  $S'(V, V') = \text{cosine}(g'(V), g'(V')) \in \mathbb{R}^{T \times T'}$
- Frame:  $\hat{Y}_{x,y} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } S'(V, V')_{x,y} \geq S'(V, V')_{x,[r_t \times T']} \\ 0, & \text{if } S'(V, V')_{x,y} \leq S'(V, V')_{x,[(1-r_b) \times T']} \end{cases}$



## Algorithm 1 Hierarchical AP Optimization

**Input:** Iteration  $L$ , learning rate  $\{\eta_l\}_{l=1}^L$ .

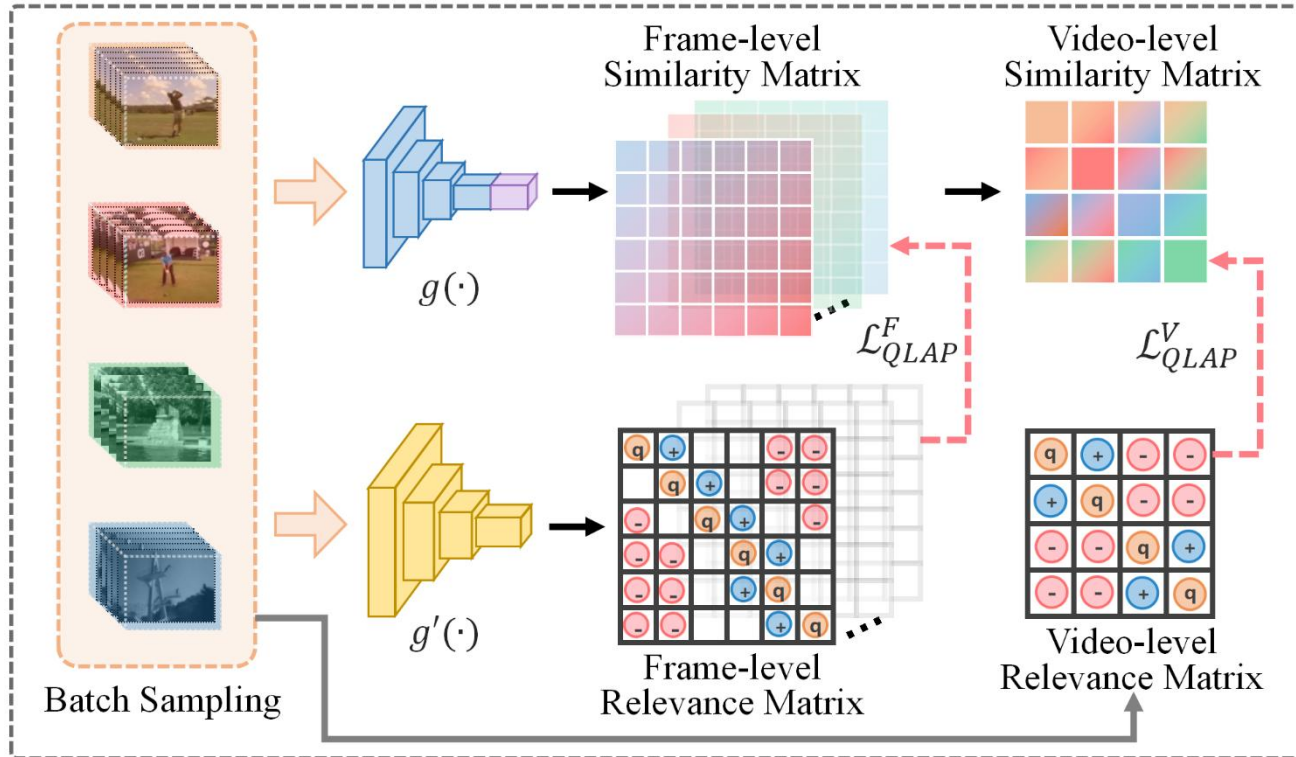
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# Framework

## □ Hierarchical AP optimization

➤ Total loss:  $\mathcal{L} = \underbrace{\lambda_f \mathcal{L}_{QLAP}^F}_{\text{frame-level}} + \underbrace{\lambda_v \mathcal{L}_{QLAP}^V}_{\text{video-level}} + \mathcal{L}_{base}$



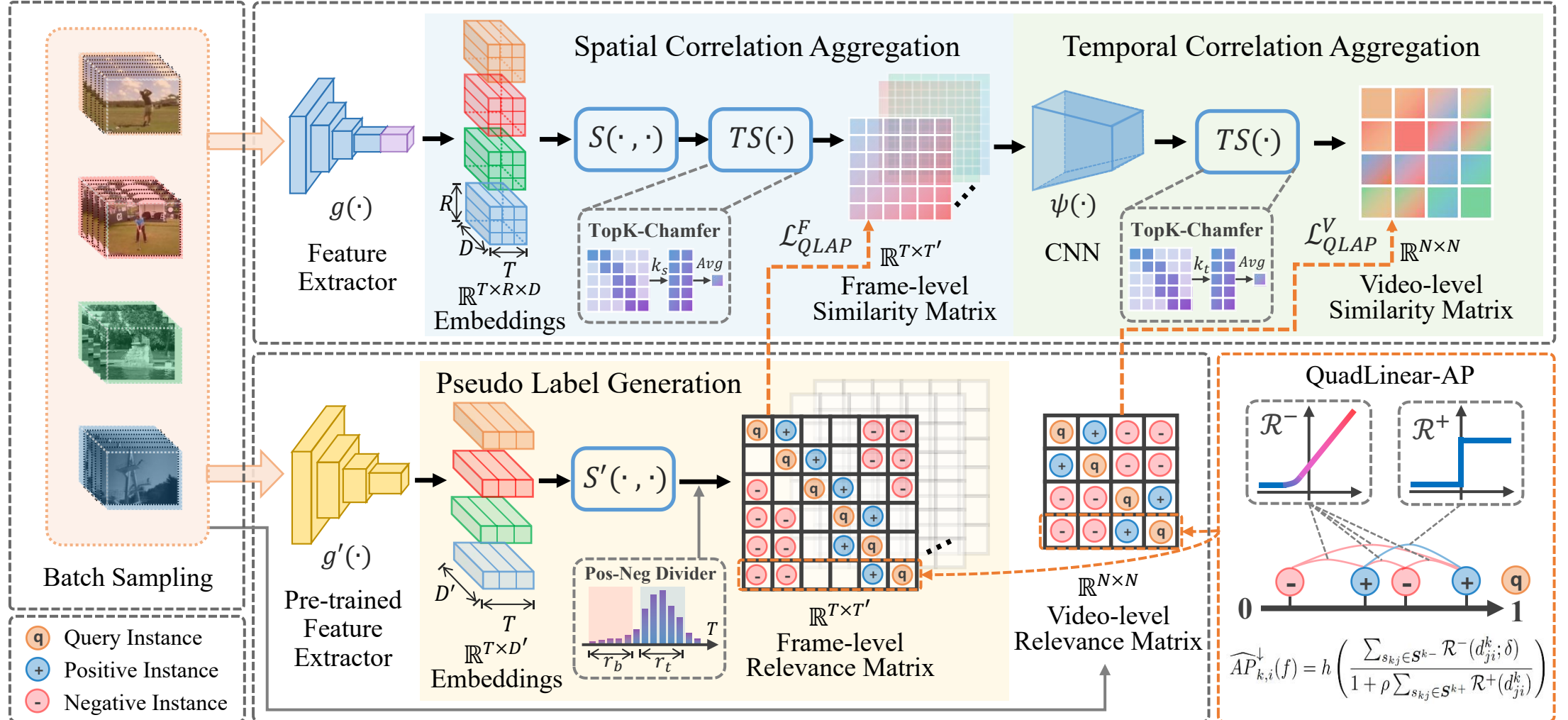
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- 11: **end for**

## Hierarchical learning for Average-Precision-oriented Video Retrieval (**HAP-VR**)



# Experiments

□ Our HAP-VR improves mAP and  $\mu$  AP effectively on multiple benchmarks

| Method                               | Label | Trainset                    | Retrieval (mAP) |       |           |       |       | Detection ( $\mu$ AP) |       |           |       |       |
|--------------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------|-----------------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|-----------------------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|
|                                      |       |                             | EVVE            | SVD   | FIVR-200K |       |       | EVVE                  | SVD   | FIVR-200K |       |       |
|                                      |       |                             |                 |       | DSVR      | CSVR  | ISVR  |                       |       | DSVD      | CSVD  | ISVD  |
| DML <sup>†</sup> [32]                | ✓     | VCDB ( $C \& \mathcal{D}$ ) | 61.10           | 85.00 | 52.80     | 51.40 | 44.00 | 75.50                 | /     | 39.00     | 36.50 | 30.00 |
| TMK <sup>†</sup> [46]                | ✓     | internal                    | 61.80           | 86.30 | 52.40     | 50.70 | 42.50 | /                     | /     | /         | /     | /     |
| TCA [53]                             | ✓     | VCDB ( $C \& \mathcal{D}$ ) | 63.08           | 89.82 | 86.81     | 82.31 | 69.61 | 76.90                 | 56.93 | 69.09     | 62.28 | 49.24 |
| ViSiL <sup>†</sup> [30]              | ✓     | VCDB ( $C \& \mathcal{D}$ ) | 65.80           | 88.10 | 89.90     | 85.40 | 72.30 | 79.10                 | /     | 75.80     | 69.00 | 53.00 |
| DnS ( $S_a$ ) [34]                   | ✓     | DnS-100K                    | 65.33           | 90.20 | 92.09     | 87.54 | 74.08 | 74.56                 | 72.24 | 79.66     | 69.51 | 54.20 |
| DnS ( $S_b$ ) [34]                   | ✓     | DnS-100K                    | 64.41           | 89.12 | 90.89     | 86.28 | 72.87 | 75.80                 | 66.53 | 78.05     | 68.52 | 53.48 |
| LAMV <sup>†</sup> [2]                | ✗     | YFCC100M                    | 62.00           | 88.00 | 61.90     | 58.70 | 47.90 | 80.60                 | /     | 55.40     | 50.00 | 38.80 |
| VRL <sup>†</sup> [24]                | ✗     | internal                    | /               | /     | 90.00     | 85.80 | 70.90 | /                     | /     | /         | /     | /     |
| ViSiL <sub>f</sub> <sup>†</sup> [30] | ✗     | ImageNet                    | 62.70           | /     | 89.00     | 84.80 | 72.10 | 74.60                 | /     | 66.90     | 59.50 | 45.90 |
| S <sup>2</sup> VS [33]               | ✗     | VCDB ( $\mathcal{D}$ )      | 67.17           | 88.40 | 92.53     | 87.73 | 74.51 | 80.72                 | 65.04 | 86.12     | 77.41 | 63.26 |
| HAP-VR (Ours)                        | ✗     | VCDB ( $\mathcal{D}$ )      | 69.15           | 89.00 | 92.83     | 88.21 | 74.72 | 82.88                 | 67.87 | 88.41     | 79.85 | 64.79 |

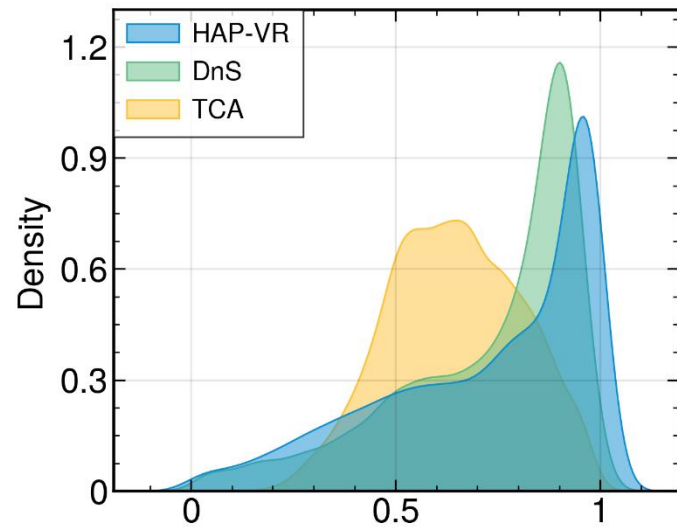
## □ Our QuadLinear-AP outperforms previous pair-wise and AP-based losses

| Losses               | Retrieval (mAP) |       |       | Detection ( $\mu$ AP) |       |       |
|----------------------|-----------------|-------|-------|-----------------------|-------|-------|
|                      | DSVR            | CSVR  | ISVR  | DSVD                  | CSVD  | ISVD  |
| MAE                  | 89.07           | 88.03 | 80.86 | 78.08                 | 75.69 | 65.26 |
| MSE                  | 89.22           | 88.26 | 80.80 | 78.66                 | 76.07 | 65.44 |
| Contrastive [18]     | 88.67           | 88.09 | 80.97 | 75.12                 | 74.23 | 67.41 |
| Triplet [50]         | 88.11           | 87.77 | 81.21 | 72.94                 | 73.18 | 69.23 |
| Circle [55]          | 87.53           | 86.11 | 78.77 | 73.26                 | 71.15 | 59.33 |
| FastAP [6]           | 89.30           | 88.42 | 81.16 | 78.83                 | 77.51 | 69.95 |
| DIR [47]             | 89.65           | 88.57 | 80.64 | 78.50                 | 76.22 | 65.42 |
| BlackBox [45]        | 89.70           | 88.55 | 80.53 | 80.07                 | 77.37 | 66.00 |
| Smooth-AP [4]        | 89.36           | 88.33 | 80.73 | 79.85                 | 77.75 | 68.42 |
| QuadLinear-AP (Ours) | 90.80           | 89.68 | 81.31 | 82.92                 | 80.03 | 71.45 |

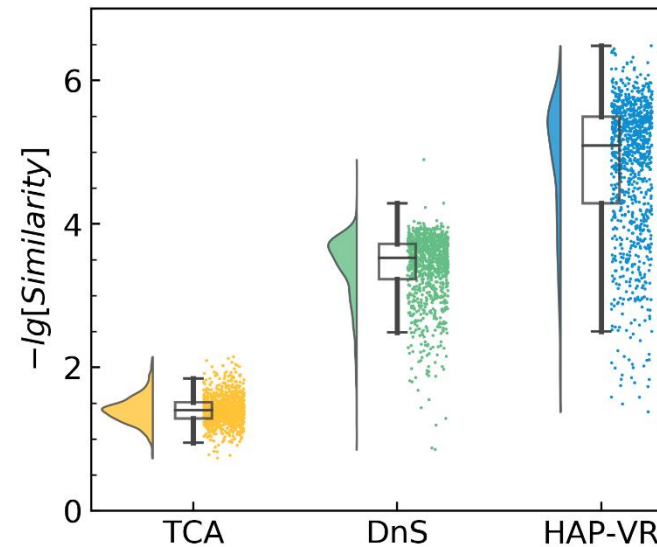
# Experiments

## □ Visualization for comparison and ablation study of our HAP-VR

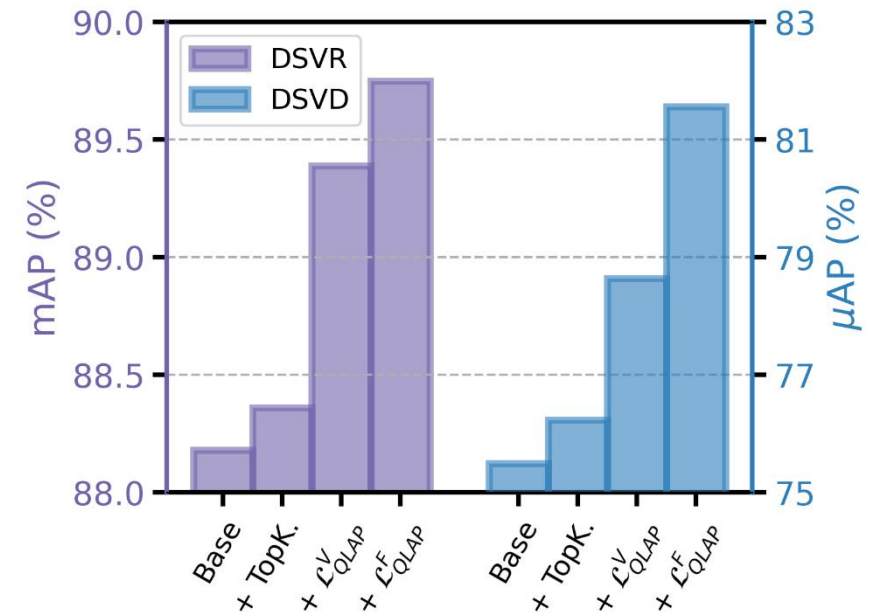
- A clearer margin between scores of relevant and irrelevant pairs
- Each component makes progress on the AP-based metrics



(a) Relative pair distribution



(b) Irrelative pair distribution



(c) Effect of components

# Thanks for your listening!

**E-mail:** liuyang232@mailsucas.ac.cn

Session 2, Poster P107, 30 Oct.



**Paper**



**Code**