## From **Unsupervised Object Localization** to **Open-Vocabulary Semantic Segmentation**

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*All works presented were done at valeo.ai*

encoder

decode

### Self-Supervised Learning



Learn image features **with no human-made annotation** using a **proxy task**

### Self-supervised learning is great for **pre-training**



Efficiency in terms of number of epochs for ImageNet pretraining (SimCLR and DetCon do no use human annotated labels)

Data-efficiency of SSL and supervised learning methods

 $14$ 

3

### But not only





Figure 1: Self-attention from a Vision Transformer with  $8 \times 8$  patches trained with no supervision. We look at the self-attention of the [CLS] token on the heads of the last layer. This token is not attached to any label nor supervision. These maps show that the model automatically learns class-specific features leading to unsupervised object segmentations.

**DINO** [Caron et al. ICCV'21]

#### Supervised



**DINO** 



- They have good localization properties
- Suffer fewer shortcuts than their fully-supervised counterparts

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### Self-attention maps

- The **6 heads** attend to **different parts** of an image
- Without supervision hard to distinguish **what is important** and is an object

#### **[CLS] self-attention** maps





#### Object localization in SSL similarity graph



**SSL** backbone



(here the keys of the last layer of DINO) **patch** features

Patch **correlations** to seed

#### **Observations**

- Features correlate semantically

#### Object localization in SSL similarity graph



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(here the keys of the last layer of DINO)

#### **Observations**

- Features correlate semantically
- When compute a binary similarity graph (nodes connected if cosine similarity >0)
	- **object patches are less connected than background**



#### **patch** features **Patch correlations** to seed



Patch **degree** low (yellow) to high (blue)

#### That's basically **LOST** [Siméoni et al., BMVC'21]



**SSL** backbone



(here the keys of the last layer of DINO)

#### **LOST** [Siméoni et al., BMVC'21]

- Compute a binary similarity graph (nodes connected if cosine similarity >0)
- **Object =** patch with the lowest degree & connected correlated patches
- Additional expansion step



#### **patch** features **patch correlations** to seed



Patch **degree** low (yellow) to high (blue)

Initial **seed**

Siméoni et al*.,* Localizing Objects with Self-Supervised Transformers and no Labels, BMVC'21

### **LOST** qualitative results



Siméoni et al*.,* Localizing Objects with Self-Supervised Transformers and no Labels, BMVC'21

### **LOST** quantitative results



**Corloc metric** = % of correct boxes  $\rightarrow$  a predicted box is correct if has IoU>0.5 with one of gt boxes

Previous **SoTA** were:

- **Region proposals** method (high recall, low precision)
- Methods based on **inter-image similarity**: dataset exploration often with quadratic costs

### Then came more powerful algorithms

**TokenCut** [Wang et al. CVPR'22], **Deep Spectral Methods** [Melas-Kyriazi et al. CVPR'22], **SelfMask** [Shi et al. CVPRW'22]

- Same features, similar graph
- Solve a normalized graph-cut problem with **spectral clustering** → improved localization



#### **CutLer** [Wang et al. CVPR'23]

- Detect several objects
- Remove already discovered nodes from the graph and **repeat the operation**

More details/discussion in our recent **survey**:

Unsupervised Object Localization in the Era of Self-Supervised ViTs: A Survey, Siméoni et al., IJCV'24

### **Foreground / background** unsupervised segmentation

**FOUND** [Siméoni et al., CVPR'23]

- **Look for the background instead of objects**
- No hypotheses about objects

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#### **Background** mask:

- Seed = patch receiving least attention





Siméoni et al*.,* Unsupervised Object Localization: Observing the Background to Discover Objects, CVPR'23

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- $Mask = correlated$  patches to seed



Generate **Background mask**

**conv1x1**

### **Foreground / background** unsupervised segmentation

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#### **Background** mask:

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#### **FOUND** = a single conv 1x1

- Trained using background masks as pseudo-labels
- **Bilateral Solver** (BS) used to refine masks along pixel edges





**SSL** backbone



K features **Predicted** mask

Siméoni et al., Unsupervised Object Localization: Observing the Background to Discover Objects, CVPR'23

### Out-of-domain predictions (*no post-processing)*

#### **FOUND** [Siméoni et al., CVPR'23]

- **Single conv 1x1 layer trained with pseudo-labels**
- Trained for 500 it. on DUTS-TR [Wang et al, CVPR17] (10k images) ~ **2h with a single GPU**
- Inference at **80 FPS** on a V100



### Quantitative results



- **Inference at 80 FPS** on a V100
- **<1000** learned **parameters**



Inference FPS

Siméoni et al*.,* Unsupervised Object Localization: Observing the Background to Discover Objects, CVPR'23

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# From **Unsupervised Object Localization** to

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### Limits in the object localization task

#### Classic benchmarks **Closed vocabulary** setup

Limitation in the **definition** of the problem

**●** Requires the definition of a **finite** set of **classes** 

#### **Fully-supervised** training

**High costs**

- **Expensive in money/time to get annotation**
- **For each new class: need new annotation +** re-training



**Object detection**

**COCO** [Lin et al. ECCV'14]



**Instance segmentation**



### Global text/image alignment

- Powerful VLMs which **align text and images**
- **CLIP** [Ilharco et al. 21] trained with a **global**  objective to **align** *text to images*
	- $\rightarrow$  great zero-shot classification



However, going **from global to dense pixel**  classification is **not obvious**

- very noisy (**MaskCLIP** [Zhou et al. ECCV'22]),
- require training (**TCL** [Cha et al. CVPR'23], **CLIPpy** [Ranasinghe et al. ICCV'23]), extra annotation, etc..

### MaskCLIP: pixel-level CLIP-like features

**MaskCLIP** [Zhou et al. ECCV'22]

- No training
- Drops the global pooling layer of CLIP
- Matches the projected features directly to text via a 1×1 convolution layer.



Any way to **leverage SSL** ?

### MaskCLIP: pixel-level CLIP-like features

#### - **- CLIP-DINOiser** [Wysoczanska et al., ECCV'24]

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- **- Guided pooling =** weighted average of pixel features
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## Teaching CLIP a **first DINO trick**

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#### - Teach **CLIP a first trick**

- Single **conv3x3** trained to produce features w/ correlations *alike DINO's*
- Trained with a **BCE**
- ~40 mins on 1 NVIDIA A5000 and **1.5k images** (PASCAL VOC train)



#### **CLIP** already contains **good localization properties**

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**CLIP**<sub>Img</sub> **FOUND conv1x1**

- Teach **CLIP a second trick**
	- Foreground segmentation w/ **conv1x1** trained to mimic FOUND

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#### **CLIP-DINOiser's** qualitative results





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#### **CLIP-DINOiser's** qualitative results



green trees clouds mountains wooden table strange turtle plate city water

white horse dark horse

leather bag vintage bike

### Going further

#### A Study of Test-time Contrastive Concepts for **Open-world, Open-vocabulary Semantic Segmentation**

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Tomasz Trzejński $^{1,5,6}$ **Renaud Marlet**<sup>2,7</sup> Andrei Bursuc<sup>2</sup> Oriane Siméoni<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Warsaw University of Technology  $\degree$  <sup>2</sup>valeo.ai <sup>3</sup>CIIRC CTU Prague  $\degree$  <sup>4</sup>FEE CTU Prague  $5$ Tooploox  $6$ IDEAS NCBR  $7$ LIGM, Ecole des Ponts, Univ Gustave Eiffel <sup>8</sup>Université Grenoble Alpes

Rethink the **evaluation paradigm** of the open-vocabulary semantic segmentation: new metric and removing access to an exhaustive set of classes

Oriane Siméoni @Self Supervised Learning: What is Next Workshop - ECCV'24

## **Where do we go** from here?

## Why do **we like self-supervision?**

- It requires **no annotation**
- Learns **strong representation**
	- For **pre-training**
	- Good **localization** properties
- No need to know the end task (often ill-defined)
- Not impacted by annotation biases
- Can be exploited at little cost eg. with **cheap convolutional layers**
- Localization of objects is possible and **classes can come later**

### **Remaining challenges**

- How to handle the ill-definition of an object?
- Multi-instance?
- Handling granularity?
- Different representation for **end usage/tasks**?

