

# Masked Supervised Learning for Semantic Segmentation

Hasib Zunair and A. Ben Hamza

## Motivation

- Existing semantic segmentation methods overly focus on attention-based methods to model long-range context.
- Does not explicitly leverage context (self-supervised masked autoencoders, two stage training)
- We ask:
  - Is short range useful?
  - Does it work well with attention-based methods?

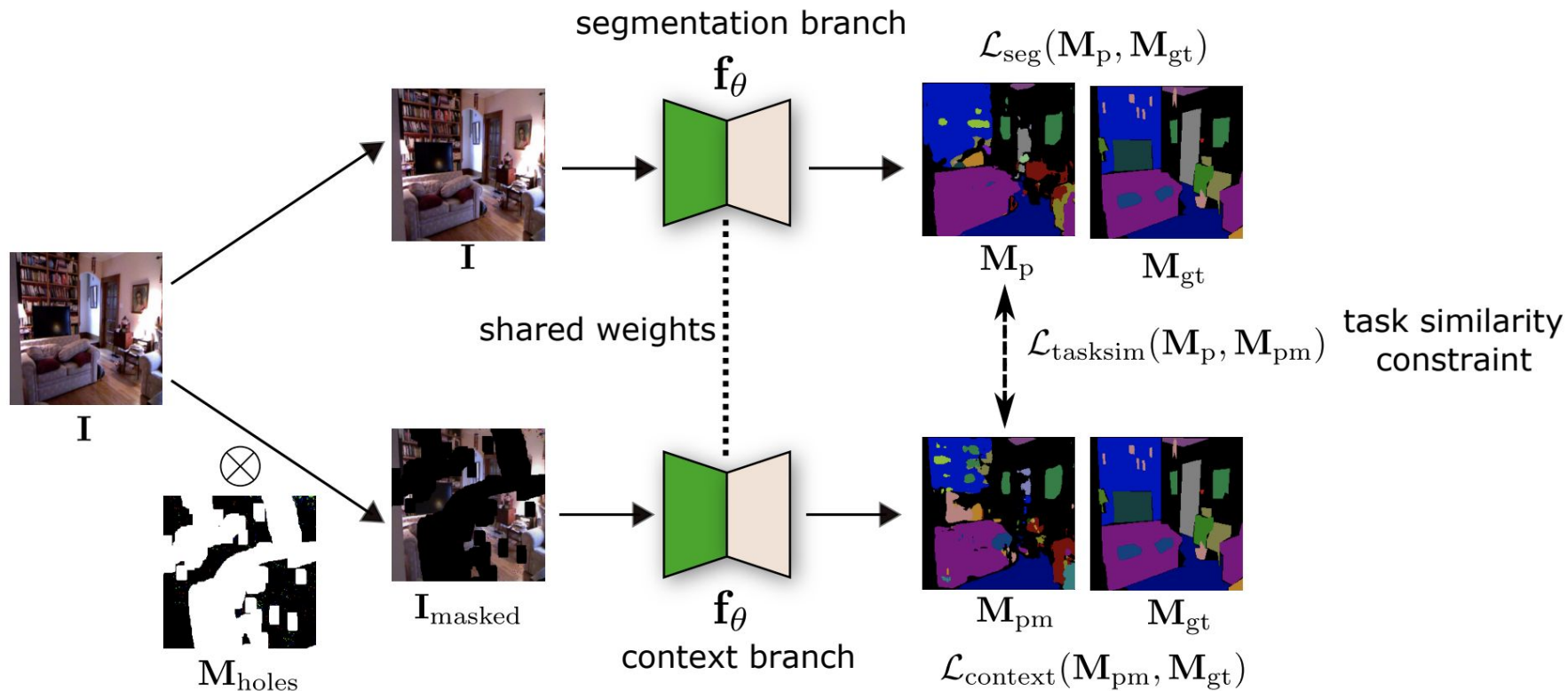
## Failure Cases

- Over-segment regions of interest (ROIs)
- Noisy and discontinuous predictions
- Fail to predict boundary regions
- Poorly segment minority classes & misclassify in multi-class semantic segmentation

These failure cases lead to poor segmentation performance.

# Masked Supervised Learning for Semantic Segmentation

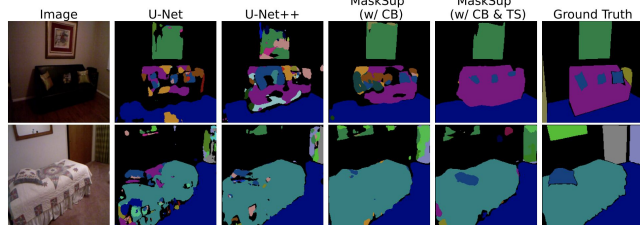
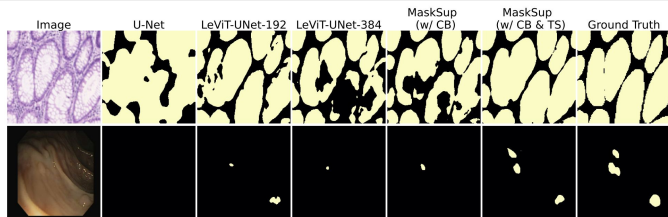
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$$\mathcal{L}_{total} = \alpha_1 \mathcal{L}_{seg}(M_p, M_{gt}) + \alpha_2 \mathcal{L}_{context}(M_{pm}, M_{gt}) + \alpha_3 \mathcal{L}_{tasksim}(M_p, M_{pm})$$

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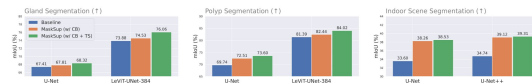
MaskSup can better i) segment both natural and medical images, ii) model shape of small ROI iii) segment minority classes

Method	GLaS, mIoU (↑)	CVC-Clinic-DB, mIoU (↑)	NYUDv2 (↑)
U-Net [13]	67.41	69.74	33.60
FCN [14]	50.84	-	29.20
U-Net++ [15]	69.10	72.90	34.74
HRNet-18 [16]	-	-	33.18
ResU-Net [17]	65.95	-	-
ResU-Net++ [18]	-	79.60	-
SFA [19]	-	60.70	-
Attention U-Net [20]	-	82.70	-
Axial Attention U-Net [21]	63.03	-	-
MedT [22]	69.61	-	-
KiU-Net [23]	72.78	-	-
LeViT-UNet-128 [24]	70.45	-	-
LeViT-UNet-192 [24]	71.83	79.16	-
LeViT-UNet-384 [24]	<u>73.88</u>	<u>81.38</u>	-
PAD-Net [25] △	-	-	33.10
HybridNet A2 [26] △	-	-	34.30
MTI-Net [27] △	-	-	37.49
MaskSup (Ours)	<b>76.06</b>	<b>84.02</b>	<b>39.31</b>

MaskSup outperforms baselines on three datasets

Method	GLaS, mIoU (↑)	CVC-Clinic-DB, mIoU (↑)	NYUDv2 (↑)
MAE [8]	75.04	82.50	37.42
MaskSup (Ours)	<b>76.06</b>	<b>84.02</b>	<b>39.31</b>

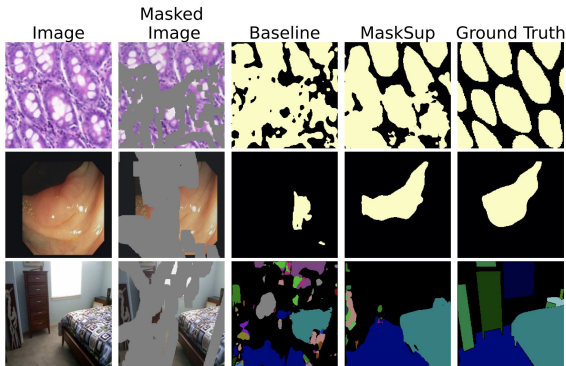
MaskSup outperforms MAE in mIoU and is more efficient



CB and TS both improve performance of different architectures

Masking	GLaS, mIoU (↑)	CVC-Clinic-DB, mIoU (↑)	NYUDv2 (↑)
Low	75.65	81.80	35.33
High	<b>76.06</b>	<b>84.02</b>	<b>39.31</b>

Heavy masking works better in MaskSup!



MaskSup can segment regions even when input is heavily masked (shape aware) 🦋

Segments **small** ROIs (short-range context)

Segments **large** ROIs (long-range context)

Method	Params (M) (↓)	GLaS, mIoU (↑)	CVC-Clinic-DB, mIoU (↑)	NYUDv2 (↑)
LeViT-384 [24]	51	73.88	81.38	-
MaskSup (LeViT-192)	<b>19(2.6x)</b>	<b>74.44(+0.75)</b>	<b>82.17(+0.97)</b>	-
U-Net++ [15]	9	-	-	34.74
MaskSup (U-Net)	<b>3(3x)</b>	-	-	<b>38.54(+10.91)</b>

MaskSup is computationally efficient and achieves superior performance with fewer parameters.