

# Prototypical Cross-Attention Networks for Multiple Object Tracking and Segmentation

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NEURAL INFORMATION  
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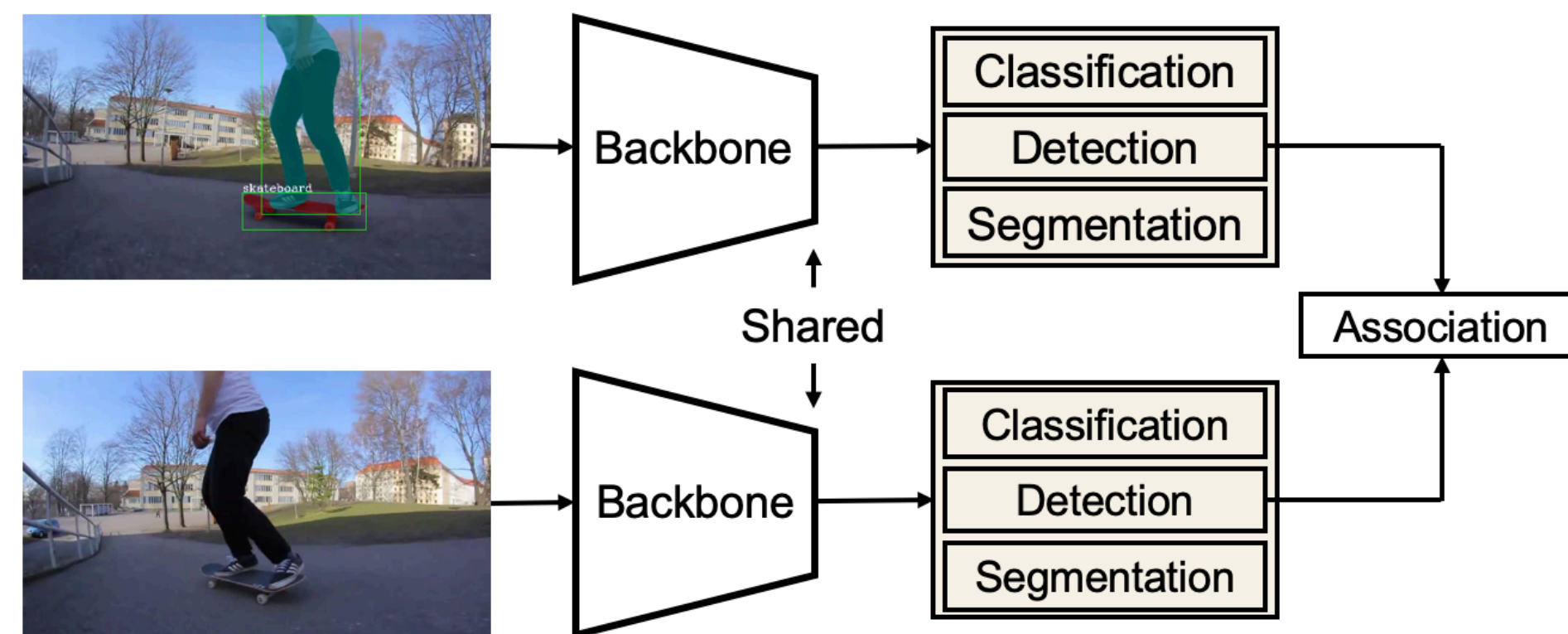
## Introduction

### ➤ Problem Setup

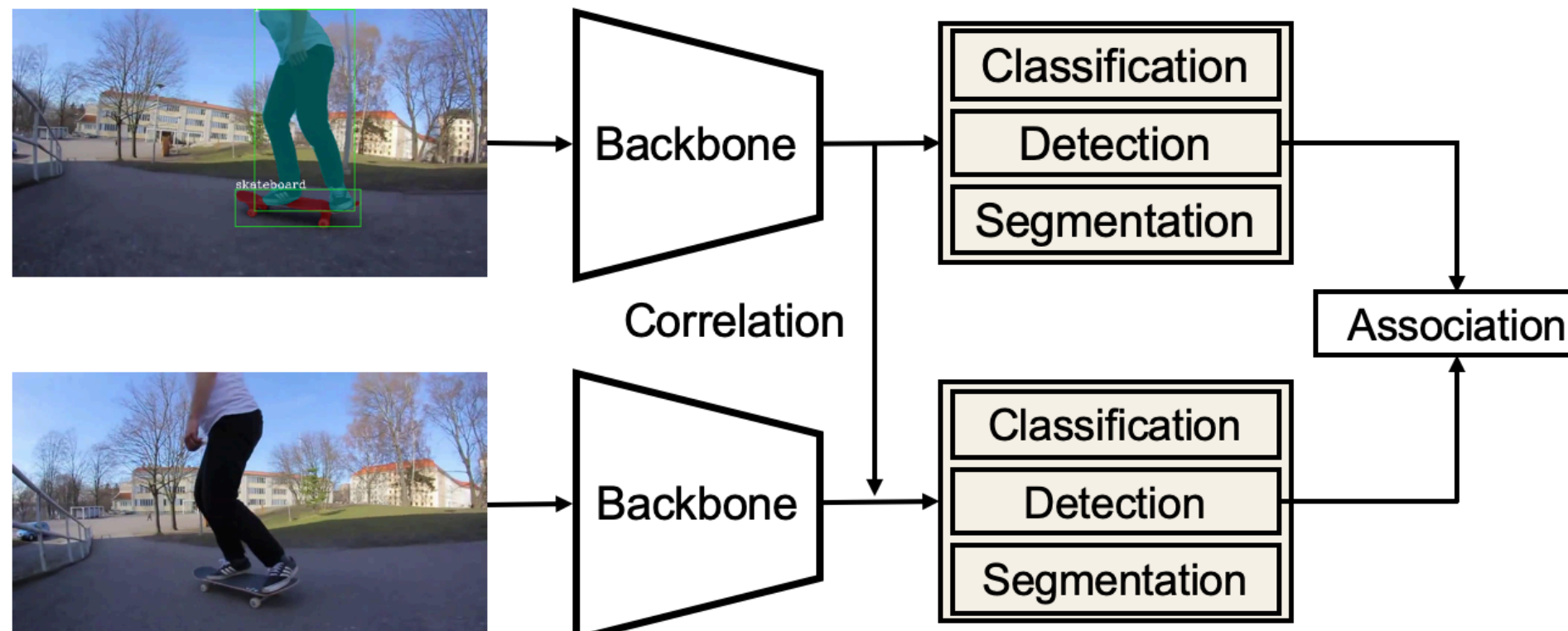
- Multiple object tracking and segmentation.
- Requires detecting, tracking and segmenting all interested objects in a video.

### ➤ Motivation

- The temporal dimension carries rich scene information while most previous methods are tracking by detection, which only exploit the temporal information to address the object association problem.



Previous MOTS paradigm (a): Temporal information is limited to the object association phase.



Previous MOTS paradigm (b): temporal modeling is only between two adjacent frames.

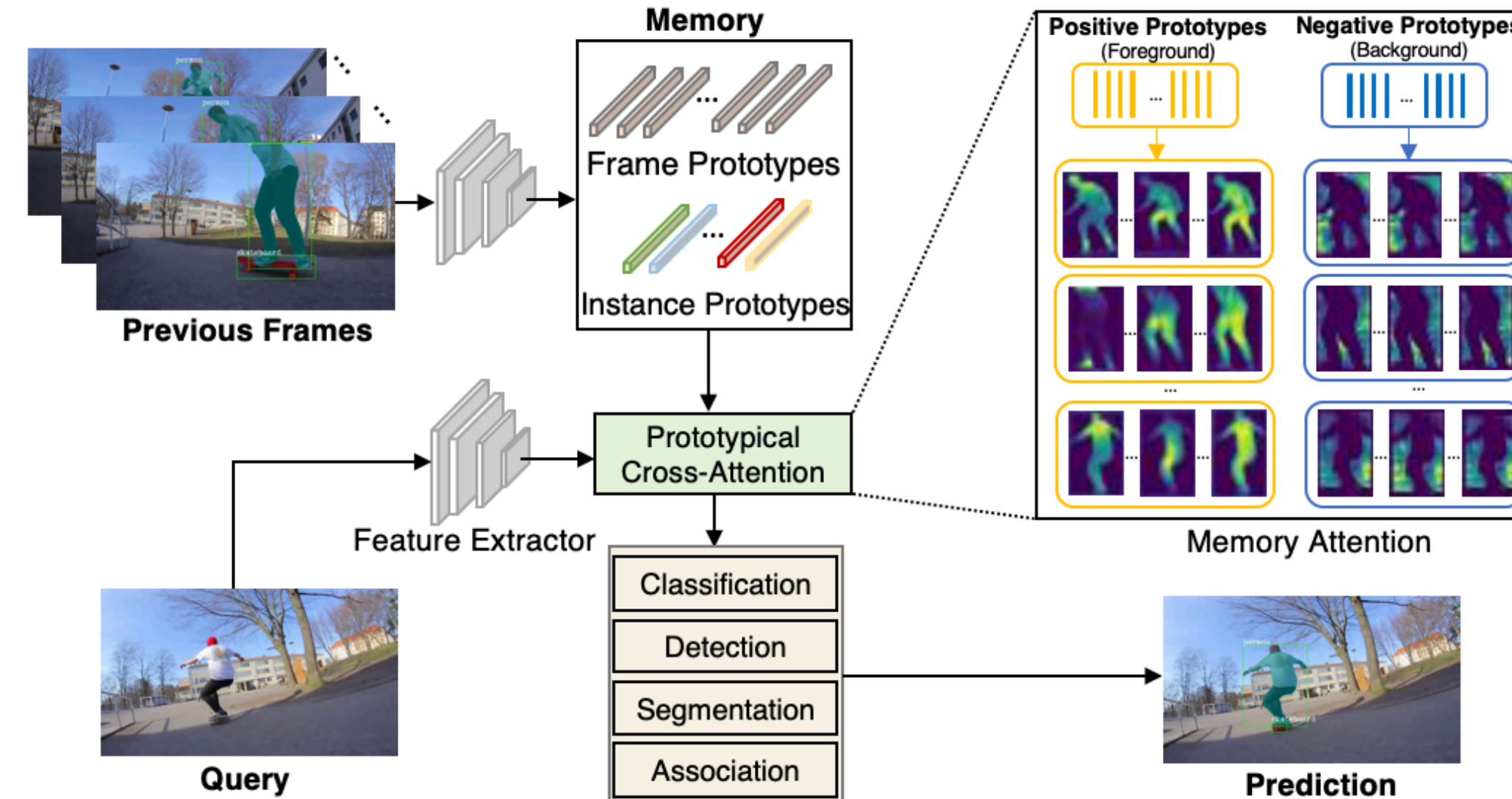
- Design an effective and efficient modeling for temporal information, which can be also used to improve temporal segmentation result.

## Contribution

- Prototypical Cross-Attention Module (**PCAM**) for efficiently utilizing long-term spatio-temporal video information.
- An **online** MOTS approach Prototypical Cross-Attention Network (**PCAN**) that employs PCAM on **frame** and **instance-level**.
- The appearance of each video tracklet is encoded with contrastive foreground and background prototypes, which are propagated over time and updated recurrently.
- We extensively analyze our method on BDD100K and Youtube-VIS.

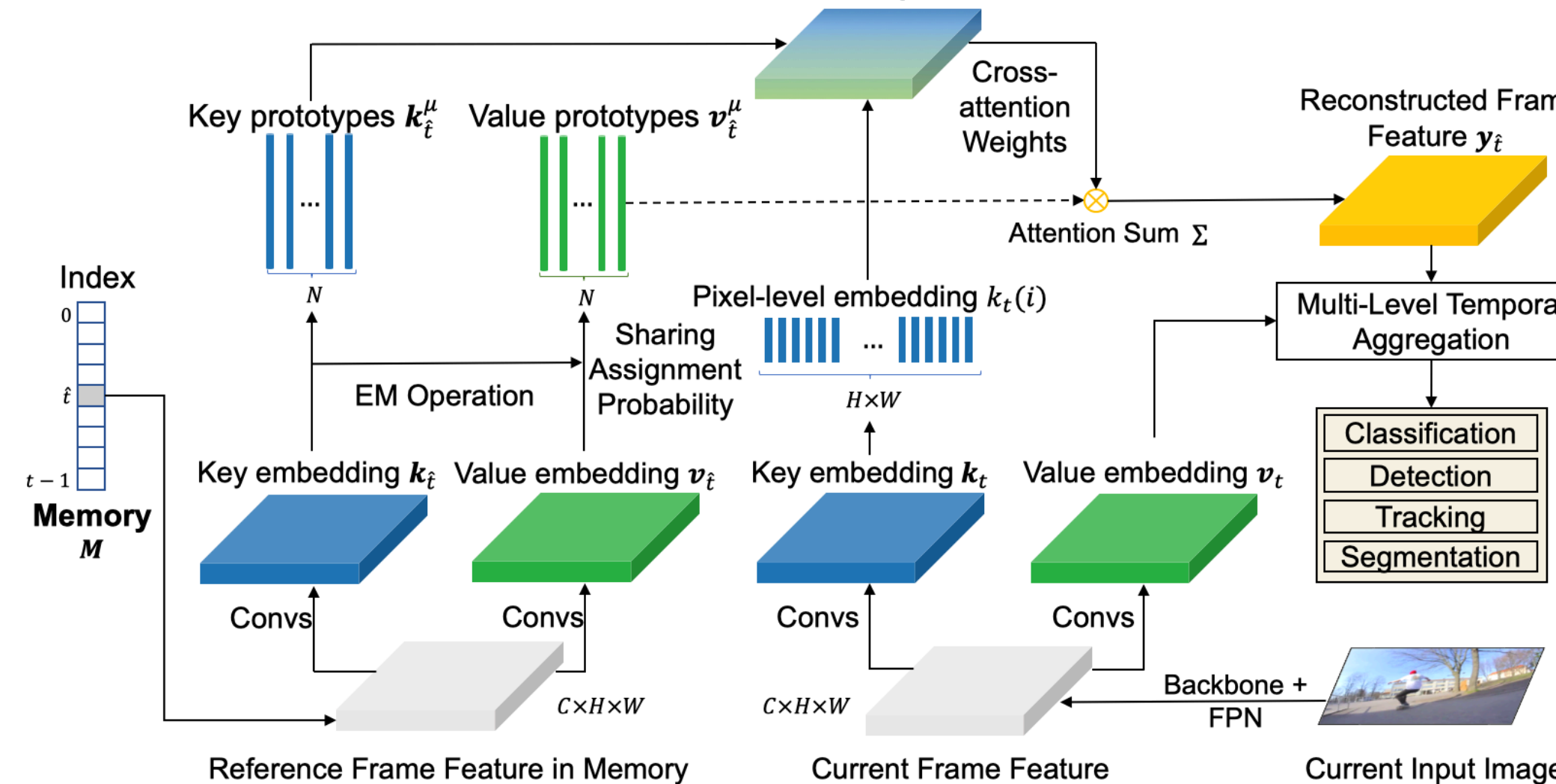
## Prototypical Cross-Attention Network (PCAN)

- PCAN first condenses the space-time memory and high-resolution frame embedding into **frame-level and instance-level prototypes**.
- Prototypical cross-attention is employed to retrieve rich temporal information.



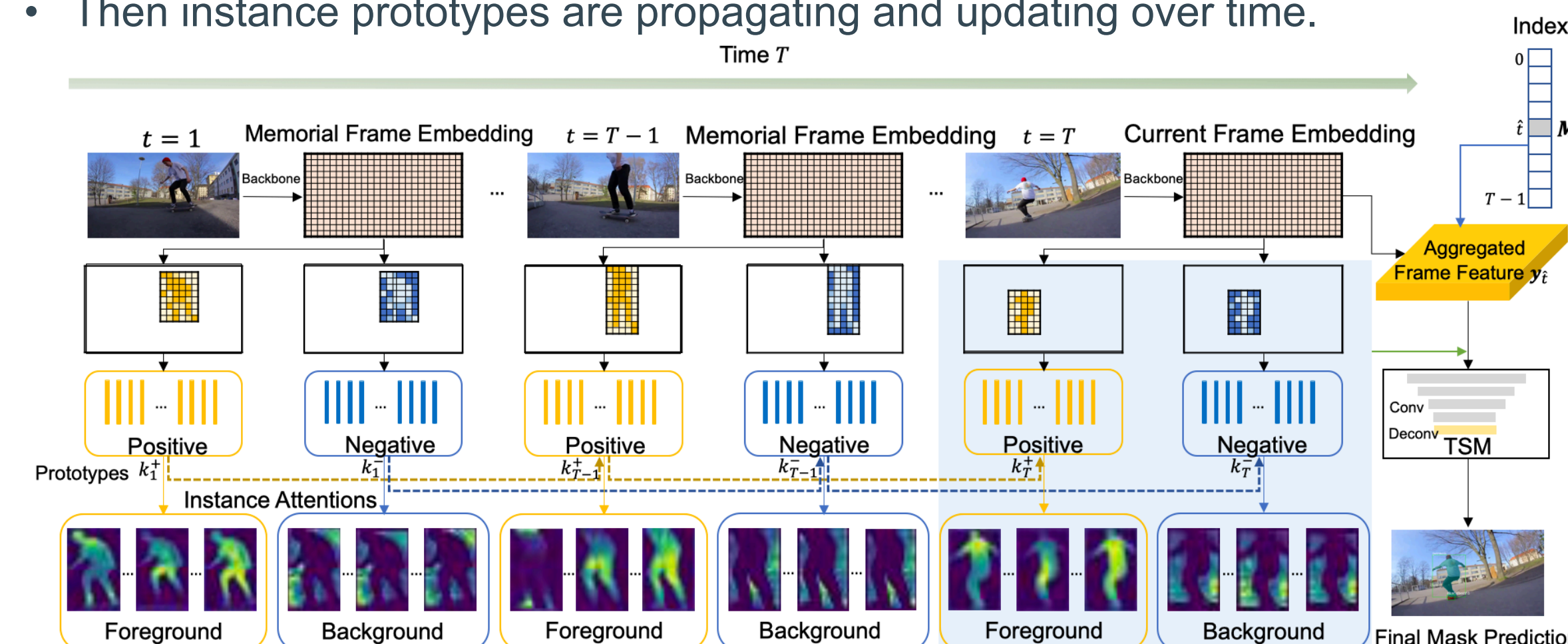
### PCAN at Frame-Level

- Past frames are first reduced to sets of prototypes by GMM-based clustering.
- Then the current frame reconstructs and aligns temporal past frame features.



### PCAN at Instance-Level

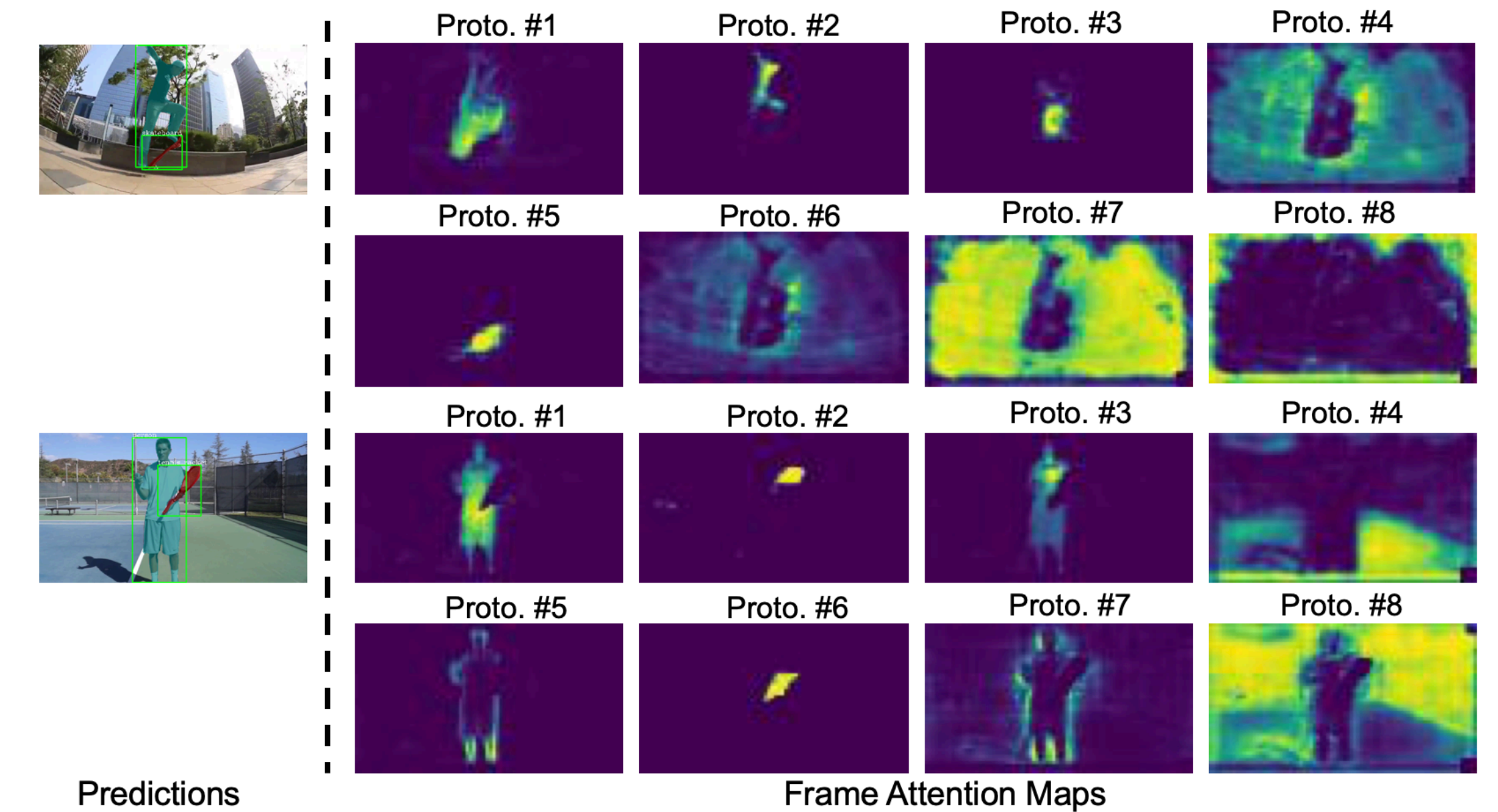
- Video tracklets are encoded by contrastive foreground and background prototypes.
- Then instance prototypes are propagating and updating over time.



## Visualization of Sampled Prototypes

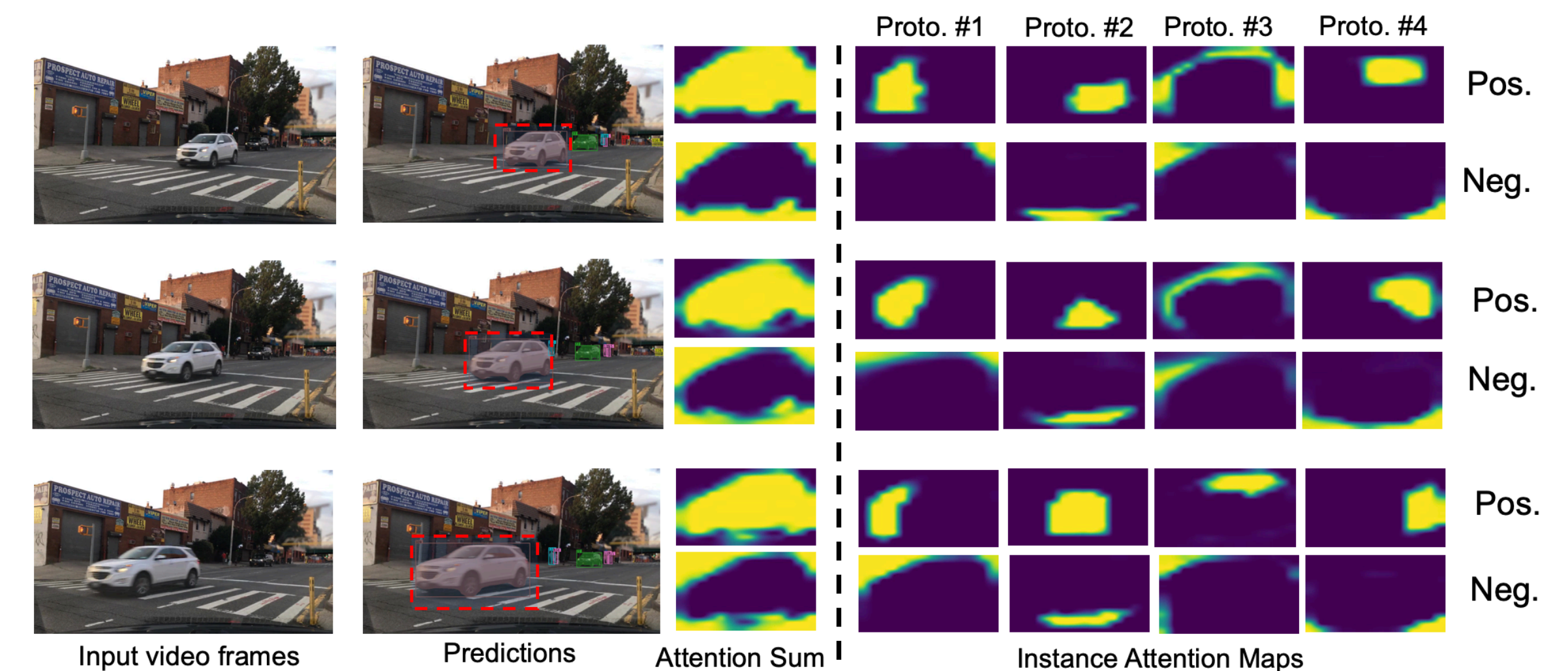
### ➤ Frame-level Attention

- Frame prototypes learn to correspond to semantic concepts of the whole image.



### ➤ Instance-level Attention

- Each instance prototype focuses on specific car sub-regions (foreground and background) with implicit unsupervised temporal consistency over time.



## Experiment Results

PCAN achieves consistent large performance gain on BDD100K and Youtube-VIS.

