

Figure 3: Overview of iBOT framework, performing masked image modeling with an *online* tokenizer. Given two views u and v of an image x, each view is passed through a teacher network $h_t \circ f_t$ and a student network $h_s \circ f_s$. iBOT minimizes two losses. The first loss $\mathcal{L}_{[CLS]}$ is self-distillation between cross-view [CLS] tokens. The second loss \mathcal{L}_{MIM} is self-distillation between in-view patch tokens, with some tokens masked and replaced by $e_{[MASK]}$ for the student network. The objective is to reconstruct the masked tokens with the teacher networks' outputs as supervision.