

# Conditional Prototype Learning for Few-Shot Object Detection

Xin Feng<sup>™</sup> Xinye Liao Zhenwei He



重慶程工大學

School of Computer Science and Engineering, Chongqing University of Technology, Chongqing, China

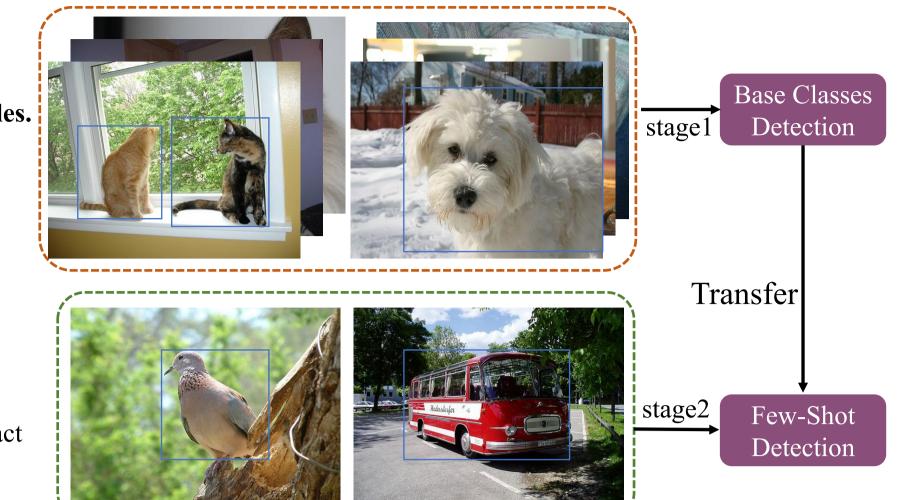
### 1.Background

#### What is Few-Shot Object Detection?

> Detect with Few Examples Few-Shot Object Detection aims to detect objects from novel classes using only a handful of annotated samples.

#### **➤** Handle Data Scarcity In real-world scenarios, collecting and labeling data is expensive. FSOD tackles this by enabling detection for rare or underrepresented categories with limited supervision.

#### > Learn to Generalize FSOD uses meta-learning or transfer learning to extract knowledge from base classes and generalize to novel classes quickly with minimal data.

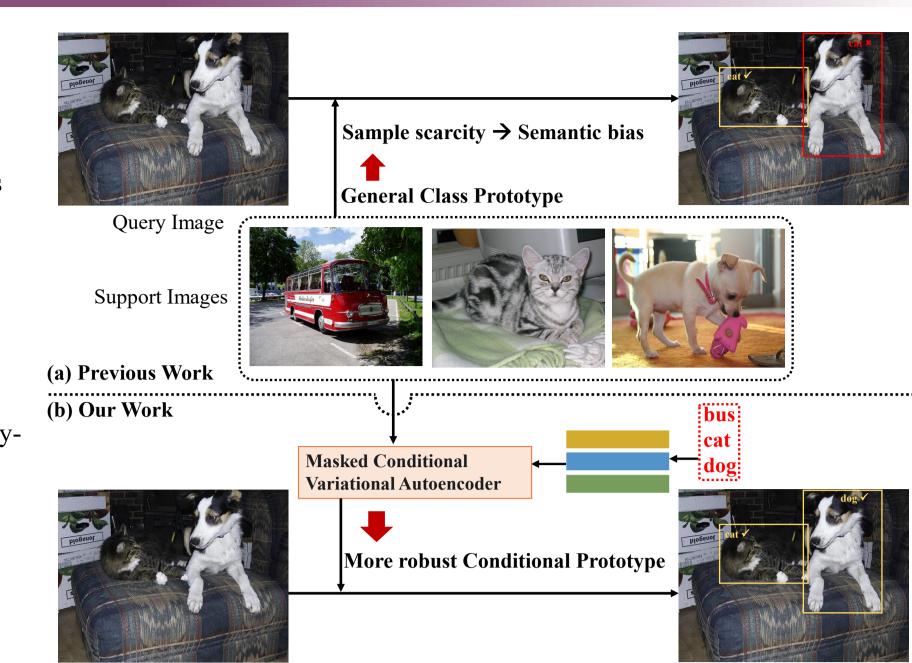


#### 2. Motivation

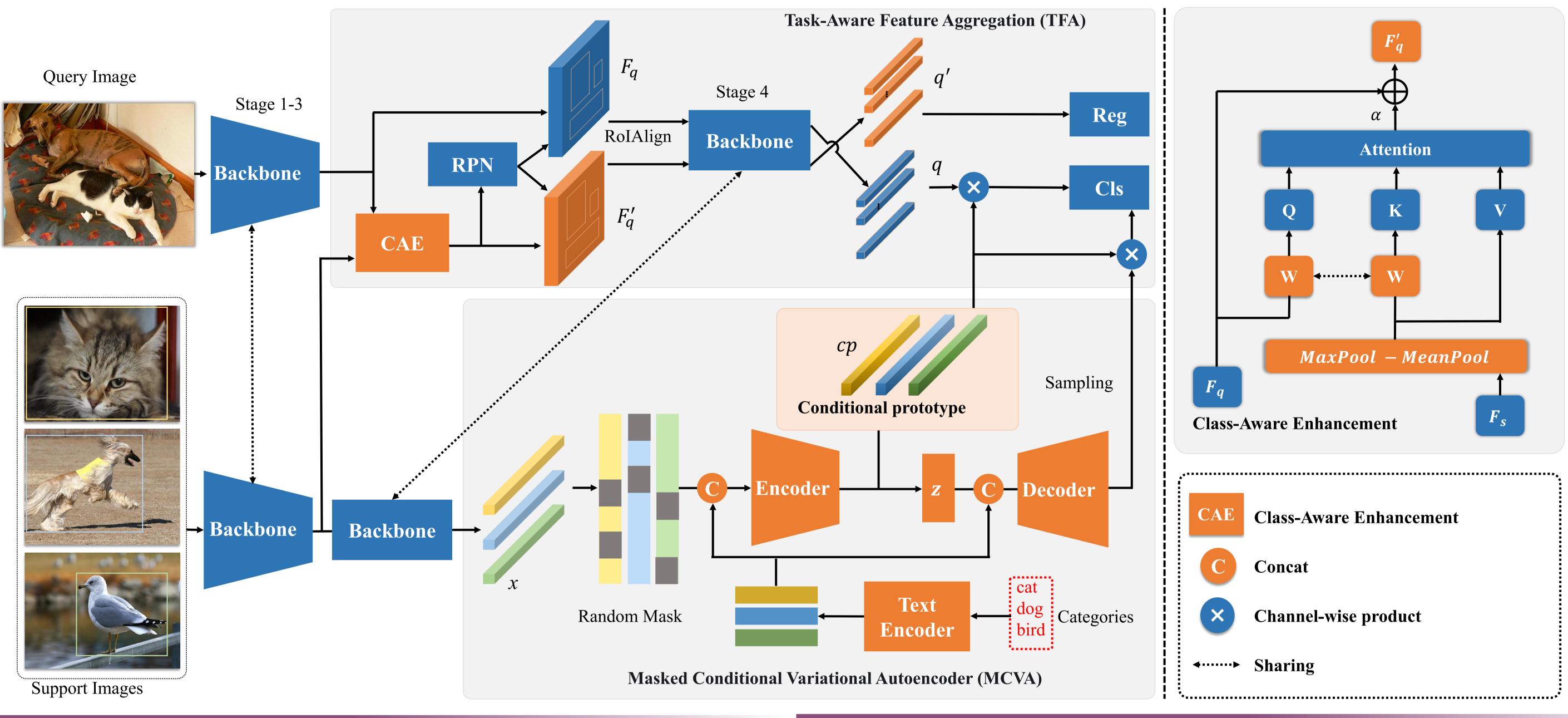
In few-shot object detection (FSOD), prototypes guide learning. But with few samples, prototypes often overfit to sample-specific details rather than true class semantics → semantic bias.



To reduce semantic bias, we guide learning using categoryspecific semantics, enabling the model to generate more robust prototypes that better adapt to novel classes.



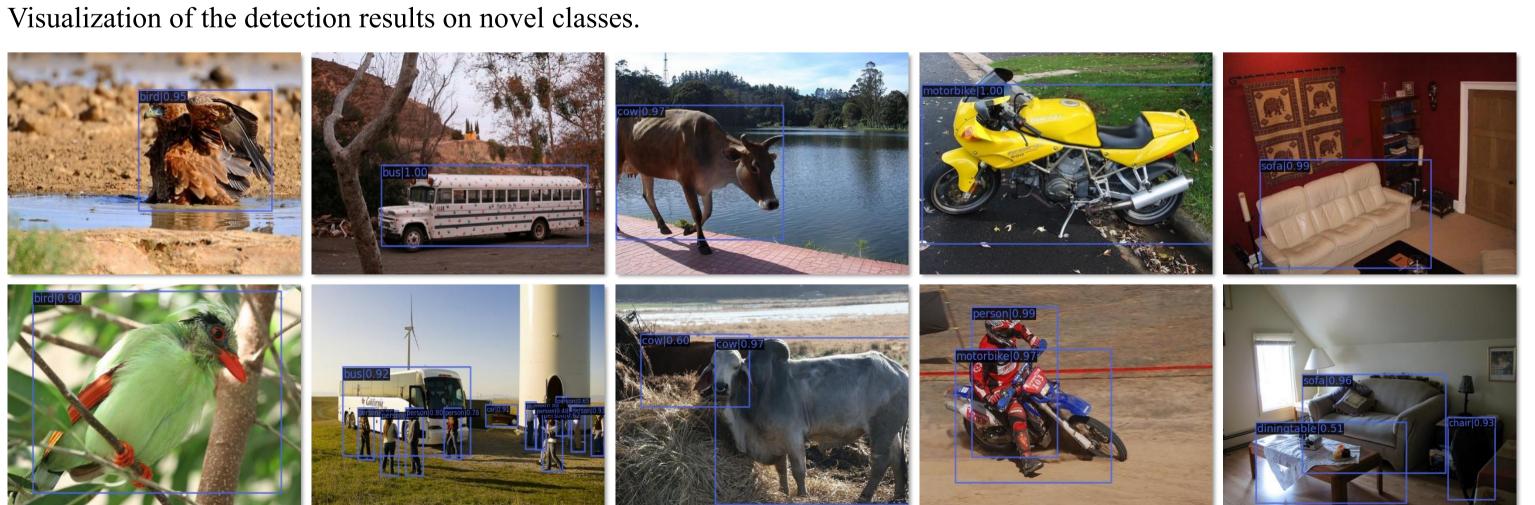
#### 3.Overall Framework



## 4.Experimental Results

Few-shot object detection performance (nAP50) on PASCAL VOC dataset. We evaluate the performance on three different splits.

Methods		split 1				split 2				split 3						
		1	2	3	5	10	1	2	3	5	10	1	2	3	5	10
FSRW [19]	ICCV19	14.8	15.5	26.7	33.9	47.2	15.7	15.3	22.7	30.1	40.5	21.3	25.6	28.4	42.8	45.9
Meta RCNN [42]	ICCV19	19.9	25.5	35.0	45.7	51.5	10.4	19.4	29.6	34.8	45.4	14.3	18.2	27.5	41.2	48.1
TFA w/ cos [35]	ICML20	39.8	36.1	44.7	55.7	56.0	23.5	26.9	34.1	35.1	39.1	30.8	34.8	42.8	49.5	49.8
MPSR [38]	ECCV20	41.7	-	51.4	55.2	61.8	24.4	-	39.2	39.9	47.8	35.6	-	42.3	48.0	49.7
DCNet [18]	CVPR21	33.9	37.4	43.7	51.1	59.6	23.2	24.8	30.6	36.7	46.6	32.3	34.9	39.7	42.6	50.7
QA-FewDet [12]	ICCV21	42.4	51.9	55.7	62.6	63.4	25.9	37.8	46.6	48.9	51.1	35.2	42.9	47.8	54.8	53.5
FSCE [34]	CVPR21	44.2	43.8	51.4	61.9	63.4	27.3	29.5	43.5	44.2	50.2	37.2	41.9	47.5	54.6	58.5
DeFRCN [27]	ICCV21	53.6	57.5	61.5	64.1	60.8	30.1	38.1	47.0	53.3	47.9	48.4	50.9	52.3	54.9	57.4
KFSOD [47]	CVPR22	44.6	45.2	54.4	60.9	65.8	37.8	38.4	43.1	48.1	50.4	34.8	42.7	44.1	52.7	53.9
MRSN [25]	ECCV22	47.6	48.6	57.8	61.9	62.6	31.2	38.3	46.7	47.1	50.6	35.5	30.9	45.6	54.4	57.4
Meta FR-CNN [13]	AAAI22	43.0	54.6	60.6	66.1	65.4	27.7	35.5	46.1	47.8	51.4	40.6	46.4	53.4	59.9	58.6
σ-ADP [ <mark>6</mark> ]	ICCV23	52.3	55.5	63.1	65.9	66.7	42.7	45.8	48.7	54.8	56.3	47.8	51.8	56.8	60.3	62.4
ICPE [24]	AAAI23	54.3	59.5	62.4	65.7	66.2	33.5	40.1	48.7	51.7	52.5	50.9	53.1	55.3	60.6	60.1
VFA [ <mark>14</mark> ]	AAAI23	57.7	<b>64.6</b>	<b>64.7</b>	67.2	67.4	41.4	46.2	<b>51.1</b>	51.8	51.6	48.9	<b>54.8</b>	56.6	59.0	58.9
FPD [37]	AAAI24	48.1	62.2	64.0	67.6	68.4	29.8	43.2	47.7	52.0	53.9	44.9	53.8	<b>58.1</b>	61.6	62.9
FM-FSOD [11]	CVPR24	40.1	53.5	57.0	<b>68.6</b>	<b>72.0</b>	33.1	36.3	48.8	<b>54.8</b>	<b>64.7</b>	39.2	50.2	55.7	<b>63.4</b>	<b>68.1</b>
CPL	Ours work	60.6	<b>68.2</b>	<b>69.5</b>	<b>70.9</b>	<b>70.2</b>	43.0	<b>51.5</b>	<b>55.5</b>	<b>55.9</b>	<b>56.9</b>	54.0	<b>58.5</b>	60.9	<b>64.1</b>	<b>63.0</b>



#### 5. Ablation Study

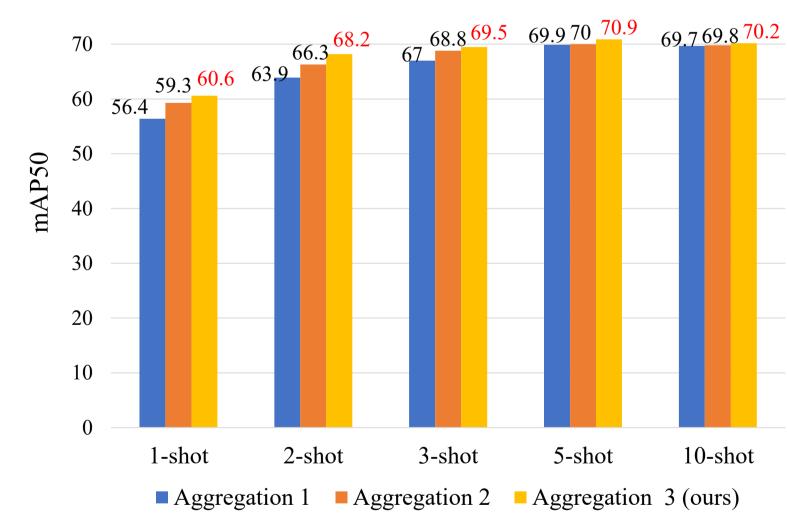
Ablation study of different components.

Method	MCVA	TFA	1	shot 3	5
Baseline			40.2	54.0	55.0
	<b>√</b>		53.0	67.5	69.9
Ours		$\checkmark$	53.2	67.5 65.2	68.3
	✓	✓	60.6	69.5	70.9

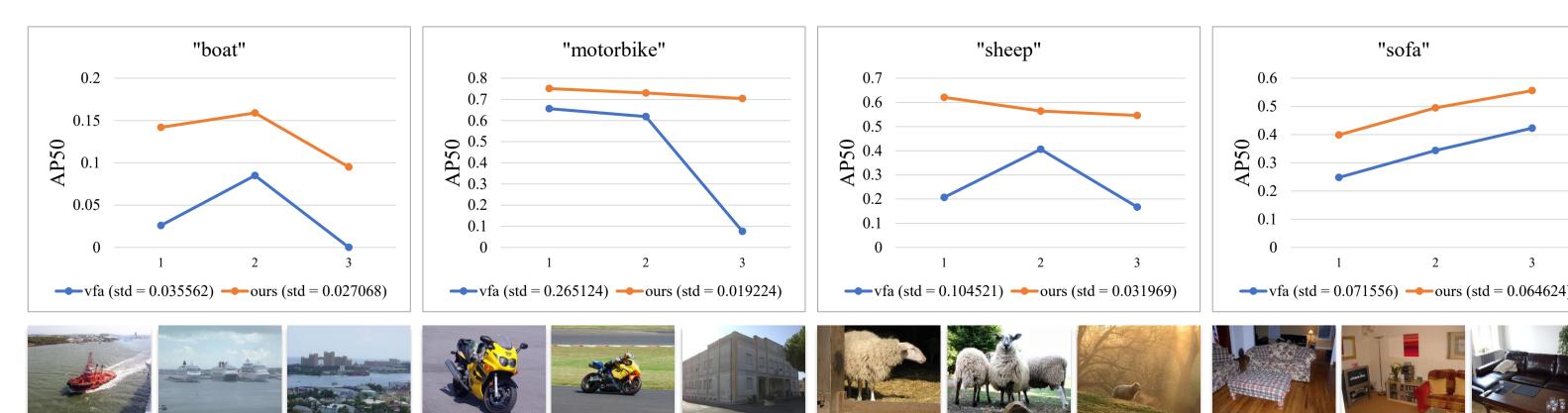
Analysis of different text encoders. Both the word embedding methods help the model achieve better performance, while CILP performs better.

Method	Text	shot								
	Encoder	1	2	3	5	10				
Ours	w/o reference	54.9	64.3	67.4	69.1	68.9				
	CLIP [28]	60.6	68.2	69.5	70.9	70.2				
	Word2Vec [26]	56.4	66.2	67.5	69.6	69.0				

Analysis of different aggregation methods.



Detection performance varies with different training samples. We selected three different samples for "boat", "motorbike", "sheep", and "sofa". And conducted training under the 1-shot setting, using the Standard Deviation (std) to measure stability.



# 6. Conclusion

- > We explore the issue of semantic bias in class prototypes for few-shot object detection (FSOD) under the meta-learning paradigm
- > We introduce the Masked Conditional Variational Autoencoder (MCVA) to refine the semantic bias in class prototypes, generating more robust conditional prototypes.
- > Considering that the classification and regression tasks need different kinds of features, we propose the Task-Aware Feature Aggregation (TFA) module, which separately enhances features for the two tasks.
- Extensive experiments on PASCAL VOC and MS COCO demonstrate that our approach achieves state-of-the-art performance.

## 7. Acknowledgement

- The key project of Humanities and Social Sciences under the Chongqing Ministry of Education(Grant No. 24sKD134),
- > The National Natural Science Foundation of China Youth Program (Grant No. 62306053).