

# Supplementary Materials:

## MutualNet: Adaptive ConvNet via Mutual Learning from Network Width and Resolution

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**Abstract.** This supplementary material includes the following items.

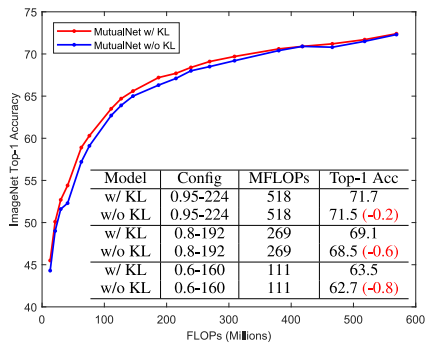
1. Contribution of KL divergence.
2. More object detection and instance segmentation examples.

### 1 Contribution of KL Divergence

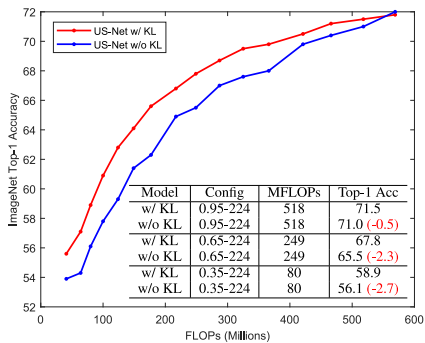
In the experiments, we follow US-Net to train sub-networks using KL divergence (i.e., in-place distillation) to have a fair comparison. In US-Net, the authors claim that in-place distillation is an essential component for training US-Net. In this section, we study the contribution of in-place distillation to the overall performance of MutualNet. The training setting is the same as training on ImageNet, except that sub-networks are trained with the ground truth labels rather than the soft labels from the full-network. As shown in Fig. 1, training with KL divergence (i.e., in-place distillation) only achieves marginal improvement on MutualNet, while it is significant on US-Net. Without in-place distillation, the performance of US-Net drops around 2%. The stable performance of our MutualNet (w/ or w/o in-place distillation) is a clear advantage, which attributes to our proposed mutual learning scheme. As stated in the paper, each sub-network can leverage the knowledge learned by other sub-networks from different resolutions. *The mixed-resolution gradients in MutualNet can effectively transfer knowledge across every sub-network without resorting to knowledge distillation.* While US-Net has to rely on in-place distillation to transfer the knowledge from the full-network to sub-networks. This attribute of our (width and resolution) mutual learning scheme makes it possible to further simplify MutualNet training by removing in-place distillation. In this case, our MutualNet is easily applicable to the tasks where knowledge distillation is hard to apply (e.g., detection).

### 2 More Detection and Segmentation Examples

In this section, we provide more visual examples of object detection and instance segmentation in Fig. 2. We can clearly see that MutualNet can robustly detect



(a) MutualNet



(b) US-Net

Fig. 1: Contribution of KL divergence on the overall performance.

small scale and large scale objects while US-Net fails in some cases. This further demonstrates that MutualNet is able to capture robust multi-scale representations from network width and resolution.

