A. Data Processing and Evaluation

We make publicly available our codebase¹, which includes instructions and config files needed to replicate all main experiments of the paper. For comparative purposes, we implicitly refer in the following subsections to the public codebases of OIM² [8], NAE³ [3], SeqNet⁴ [4], COAT⁵ [10], AlignPS⁶ [9], and PSTR⁷ [2].

A.1. Standardized Data Format

We produce an intermediate COCO-style [6] format for all partitions of the CUHK-SYSU and PRW datasets. In addition to standard COCO object metadata, we include person_id and is_known fields for persons, and a cam_id image field for performing cross-camera evaluation.

This standardization process made it straightforward to prepare new partitions of the data. In particular, we split the standard training sets into separate training and validation sets, and created some additional smaller debugging sets. This allowed us to pick hyperparameters without fitting to the test data.

We also standardize the format of retrieval partitions into three categories: 1) fully-specified format which encodes the exact gallery scenes to be used for each query 2) format which specifies queries only, and uses all scenes in the partition as the gallery and 3) format which uses all possible queries, and all possible scenes as the gallery. We create the second and third formats because it is otherwise inefficient to fully-specify the “all” cases.

A.2. Training and Validation Sets

For both datasets, known identity sets between the train and test partitions are disjoint, making the standard evaluation an open-set retrieval problem. To construct the training and validation sets to mirror the open-set retrieval problem of the standard train-test divide, we build a graph based on which scenes share common person identities. Two nodes (scenes) have an edge between them if they share at least one person identity in common. In this way, we can easily split the CUHK-SYSU dataset into a set of connected components, and divide those components into two groups for train (~80%) and val (~20%).

Since the PRW dataset comprises video surveillance footage, this graph has the property that nearly every scene is connected to another scene via some common person identity. Therefore, we ignore the top 100 most common person identities when constructing the graph for PRW, resulting in a partition which is not quite open-set, but should exhibit similar generalization properties for the purpose of model development. For PRW, we also divide components into two groups for train (~80%) and val (~20%).

We rename the original train set to “trainval”, and all of our final experimental results in this paper are from models trained on the full trainval set, and tested on the full test set using the standard retrieval scenarios.

A.3. Partition Information

Metadata for the exact breakdown of known and unknown identities and boxes for each partition is given in Table 1.

| Metadata | CUHK-SYSU | PRW |
|----------|-----------|-----|
| Scenes   | 11,206    | 5,704 |
| Boxes    | 55,272    | 18,048 |
| Known IDs| 5,532     | 483  |
| Known Boxes | 15,085  | 14,907 |
| Unknown Boxes | 40,187 | 3,141 |

Table 1: Dataset metadata showing how many scenes, boxes, and person IDs are in each partition.
A.4. Evaluation Functions

Using these standardized partitions, we are able to use just one function for detection evaluation and one for retrieval evaluation, as opposed to separate functions for each dataset. This also makes it easier to add in method-specific metrics that can be immediately tested for all partitions.

We note that the current dataset releases for PRW and CUHK-SYSU have a small number (5 or less) of the following errors: duplicate bounding boxes in a single scene, repeated person ids in a single scene, and repeated gallery scenes in a retrieval partition. Although these issues are not handled correctly by the standard evaluation function, we exactly replicate the previous erroneous behavior in our new evaluation function to be certain the comparison against other methods is fair. We leave correction of the underlying data and evaluation function to future work.

A.5. Augmentation Code Structure

To make use of augmentation strategies in the albumenations library [1], we refactor evaluation to occur on the augmented data instead of the original data. This allows for easy inclusion of different resizing and cropping strategies which we make use of, in addition to a wealth of other augmentations, experimenting with which we leave to future work.

A.6. Config Format and Ray Tune

For running experiments with our code, we provide a YAML config format which is compatible with the Ray Tune library [5]. We specifically support the tune.grid_search functionality by parsing lists in the YAML file as inputs to this function. This makes it easy to run ablations with many variations using a single config file.

B. Additional Implementation Details

Model Details. We set the OIM scalar (inverse temperature) parameter to 30.0 as in [4], with an OIM circular queue size of 5,000 for CUHK-SYSU and 500 for PRW. The OIM momentum parameter is also left at 0.5. For the GFN, the training temperature parameter is 0.1, and the GFN excitation function temperature parameter is 0.2. During training, we use a batch size of 12 for ResNet50 backbone models, and a batch size of 8 for ConvNeXt backbone models.

For the ResNet50 backbone, we freeze all batch norm layers, and all weights through the conv1 layer of the model. For ConvNeXt backbones, we freeze only the conv1 layer of the model. All backbones are initialized using weights from pre-training on ImageNet1k [7].

We use automatic-mixed precision (AMP), which significantly reduces all training and inference times. To avoid float16 overflow, we refactor all loss functions to divide before summation when computing mean reduction. This increases likelihood of underflow, but results in more stable training overall.

GFN Sampling Strategies. Since we are unable to use the entire GFN LUT to form loss pairs in any given batch due to memory limitations, we have a choice about which LUT embeddings to select for the GFN optimization. By default, for each query person present in the current batch, we sample one matching scene embedding and the person embeddings for all persons in that scene. In addition, we consider sampling a “hard negative” scene, defined as a scene which shares at least one person identity in common with the query scene, but that does not contain the query person identity. An ablation for related choices is considered in Section D.

C. Qualitative Analysis

Qualitative examples are shown for both CUHK-SYSU and PRW in Figure 1. All examples show cases where the baseline model top-1 match is incorrect, but the GFN-modified match for the same example is correct. We highlight examples where global scene context has an obvious vs. a more subtle impact, and where the query and scene camera ID are the same or different.

D. Additional Ablations

Model Modifications. We consider how changes to the SeqNet architecture impact performance, including usage of a second Faster R-CNN head instead of the NAE head, and usage of the second detector stage score instead of the first stage score during inference. Results are shown in Table 2.

Using the ConvNeXt Base backbone instead of ResNet50 does not improve detection performance, but it significantly improves re-id performance, especially mAP, by 7-8%. Using the first stage score significantly helps detection performance, but it reduces re-id performance.

Image Augmentation. Shown in Table 3, we compare the Window Resize augmentation to the two cropping methods used, and a strategy combining the two. We find that the Window Resize method achieves comparable re-id performance with other methods, but much lower detection performance. This may be attributed to the regularizing effect

| Model          | Detection | Re-id | GFN   |
|----------------|-----------|-------|-------|
|                | Recall    | AP    | mAP   | top-1 | ∆ mAP | ∆ top-1 | mAP   | top-1 |
| RN50 NAE-FCS   | 97.6      | 93.5  | 50.3  | 89.4  | 0.0   | +3.5   | 16.7  | 78.5 |
| RN50 RCNN-SCS  | 96.0      | 93.1  | 51.1  | 90.6  | +0.1  | +3.8   | 16.3  | 78.0 |
| CNB NAE-FCS    | 97.9      | 94.9  | 58.7  | 91.4  | +1.3  | +3.4   | 21.0  | 78.9 |
| CNB RCNN-SCS   | 96.0      | 93.4  | 58.8  | 92.3  | +1.1  | +3.5   | 20.4  | 78.5 |

Table 2: Comparison of model backbone (RN50=ResNet50, CNB=ConvNeXt Base), NAE vs. R-CNN head for the second detector stage, and first (stage) classifier score (SCS) or second (stage) classifier score (SCS) used at inference time. Baseline model is marked with †, final model is highlighted gray.
Figure 1: Retrieval examples (CUHK-SYSU left, PRW right) from the baseline model where application of the GFN score corrected the top-1 result. The query box is shown in yellow, a false positive gallery match in red, and a true positive gallery match in blue. In each scene, the white box in the lower right duplicates the person of interest for easier comparison between scenes. In the top-left and middle-left, subtle contextual clues (formal wear) help correct the predicted box. In the bottom-left, an obvious contextual clue (interior of same building) corrects the prediction, despite a $180^\circ$ change in viewpoint of the person. In the top-right, the false positive and correct match look nearly identical, and the correct box is from the same camera view. In the middle-right, the false positive and correct match have the same shirt and hairstyle, and the correct box is from a different camera view. In the lower-right, the false positive appears to be a mistake in the ground truth (should be true positive), but the GFN “helped” by up-weighting a more contextually similar scene.

Table 3: Comparison of image augmentation methods (top), and image crop sizes (bottom). Augmentation methods include WRS (Window Resize to 900×1500), RSC (Random Safe Crop to square crop size), RFC (Random Focused Crop to square crop size), RFC2 (variant of RFC), and RSC+RFC(2) which performs either cropping method randomly with equal probability. Baseline model is marked with †, final model is highlighted gray.

| Method   | Detection | Re-id | GFN |
|----------|-----------|-------|-----|
|          | Recall    | AP    | mAP | top-1 | ∆ mAP | ∆ top-1 | mAP | top-1 |
| WRS      | 89.3      | 87.7  | 57.3| 91.1  | +0.9  | +4.7    | 19.6| 78.3  |
| RSC      | 95.9      | 93.1  | 55.8| 91.0  | +0.7  | +3.7    | 18.5| 77.6  |
| RFC      | 95.0      | 92.7  | 58.4| 91.2  | +1.4  | +3.4    | 20.8| 77.8  |
| RFC2     | 95.4      | 93.1  | 58.2| 91.1  | +1.4  | +3.8    | 21.1| 78.4  |
| RSC+RFC1 | 96.0      | 93.4  | 58.8| 92.3  | +1.1  | +3.5    | 20.4| 78.5  |
| RSC+RFC2 | 96.1      | 93.8  | 58.7| 92.3  | +1.3  | +3.3    | 20.8| 78.9  |

| Crop Size | Recall | AP    | mAP | top-1 | ∆ mAP | ∆ top-1 | mAP | top-1 |
|------------|--------|-------|-----|-------|-------|---------|-----|-------|
| 256×256    | 95.3   | 91.9  | 51.4| 90.1  | 0.1   | 3.3     | 16.7| 78.0  |
| 384×384    | 96.3   | 93.6  | 56.7| 92.0  | 0.6   | 3.0     | 19.6| 79.2  |
| 512×512    | 96.0   | 93.4  | 58.8| 92.3  | 1.1   | 3.5     | 20.4| 78.5  |
| 640×640    | 95.3   | 92.9  | 59.6| 92.3  | 1.4   | 3.4     | 21.8| 79.6  |

Table 3: Comparison of image augmentation methods (top), and image crop sizes (bottom). Augmentation methods include WRS (Window Resize to 900×1500), RSC (Random Safe Crop to square crop size), RFC (Random Focused Crop to square crop size), RFC2 (variant of RFC), and RSC+RFC(2) which performs either cropping method randomly with equal probability. Baseline model is marked with †, final model is highlighted gray.

In addition, we find that Random Safe Cropping alone results in better detection performance than Random Focused Cropping alone, but worse re-id performance. This shows that the regularizing effect of random crops that may be in the wrong scale is more important for detection, and having features in the target scene scale is more important for re-id. Combining the two results in better performance than either alone for both detection and re-id.

**Scene Pooling Size and Embedding Dimension.** We analyze choices for the RoI Align pooling size for the scene embedding head, and choices for the embedding dimension for both the query and scene embedding heads. Comparisons are shown in Table 4.

GFN performance increases nearly-monotonically with scene pooling size, with diminishing returns for GFN score-weighted re-id performance. We also note that larger scene pooling size results in a significant increase in memory consumption, so we use 56×56 by default, which captures most of the performance gain, with some memory savings.

It is clear that the scene pooling size should be larger than the query pooling size to ensure that all person information in a scene is adequately captured. The relationship between person box size distribution vs. scene size, with the ratio of respective pooling sizes could be further investigated.

For the embedding dimension, performance also increases nearly-monotonically with size, for both re-id and the GFN-only stats. Although there are diminishing returns in performance, like with the scene pooling size, we choose the relatively large value of 2,048 because it results in little additional memory consumption or compute time.

**GFN Sampling.** We analyze choices for the GFN sampling procedure, with comparisons shown in Table 5. Critically, we find that all sampling options with the LUT are better than not using the LUT at all, as shown by both the large increase in GFN stats, and the contribution of GFN score-weighting to re-id stats. This is expected but important, because it shows that batch-only query-scene comparisons are insufficient (usually just comparing a query to the scene it is present in), and that LUT comparisons are needed despite no gradients flowing through the LUT.

Among sampling mechanisms that use the LUT, results for GFN score-weighted re-id stats were relatively similar,
Table 4: Comparison of pooling sizes for the RoI Align block used to compute scene embeddings (top) and comparison of the embedding dimension used for both query and scene embeddings (bottom). Baseline model is marked with †, final model is highlighted gray.

| Pool Size | Detection | Re-id | GFN |
|-----------|-----------|-------|-----|
|           | Recall AP | mAP top-1 | Δ mAP | Δ top-1 | mAP top-1 |
| 14×14     | 96.1      | 93.5   | 58.1 | 91.6 | +0.1 | +3.3 | 18.2 | 77.9 |
| 28×28     | 95.9      | 93.4   | 58.5 | 92.3 | +0.7 | +3.6 | 19.7 | 79.2 |
| 56×56†    | 96.0      | 93.4   | 58.8 | 92.3 | +1.1 | +3.5 | 20.4 | 78.5 |
| 112×112   | 96.1      | 93.6   | 58.8 | 92.4 | +1.2 | +3.6 | 22.1 | 79.8 |

| Emb Dim | Recall | AP | mAP top-1 | Δ mAP | Δ top-1 | mAP top-1 |
|---------|-------|----|-----------|-------|---------|-----------|
|         | Detection | Re-id | GFN |
| 128     | 96.1      | 93.9   | 58.0 | 91.6 | 0.7 | 3.8 | 19.4 | 57.7 |
| 256     | 95.9      | 93.7   | 58.2 | 92.0 | 1.0 | 4.3 | 20.1 | 78.3 |
| 512     | 96.1      | 93.3   | 58.7 | 91.8 | 1.0 | 4.0 | 20.0 | 77.6 |
| 1024    | 96.3      | 93.6   | 59.3 | 92.2 | 1.1 | 3.5 | 20.0 | 78.0 |
| 2048†   | 96.0      | 93.4   | 58.8 | 92.3 | 1.1 | 3.5 | 20.4 | 78.5 |

Table 5: Comparison of different sampling options for optimization of the GFN. Pz/Ny indicates that z positive scenes and y hard negative scenes are sampled for each person in the batch. No LUT means we use only batch query and scene embeddings, and no LUT is used. Baseline model is marked with †, final model is highlighted gray.

Table 6: Comparison of pooling sizes for the RoI Align block used to compute scene embeddings (top) and comparison of the embedding dimension used for both query and scene embeddings (bottom). Baseline model is marked with †, final model is highlighted gray.

and more trials with more samples per trial are likely needed to distinguish a standout method.

**E. Comparison with CBGM**

The GFN module is similar to the Context Bipartite Graph Matching (CBGM) method from [4] in that both methods use context from the query and gallery scenes to improve prediction ranking, although the GFN is used at inference-time only, and does not need to be trained. CBGM is more explicit, in that it directly attempts to match detected person boxes in the query and gallery scenes, at the expense of requiring sensitive hyperparameters: the number of boxes to use from each scene for the matching. The authors found that very different values for these parameters were optimal for the CUHK-SYSU vs. PRW datasets, and did not provide a clear methodology for their selection besides test set performance. In contrast, we use the exact same GFN configuration for both datasets during training and inference, selected separately based on validation data, and found it to robustly improve performance for both.

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