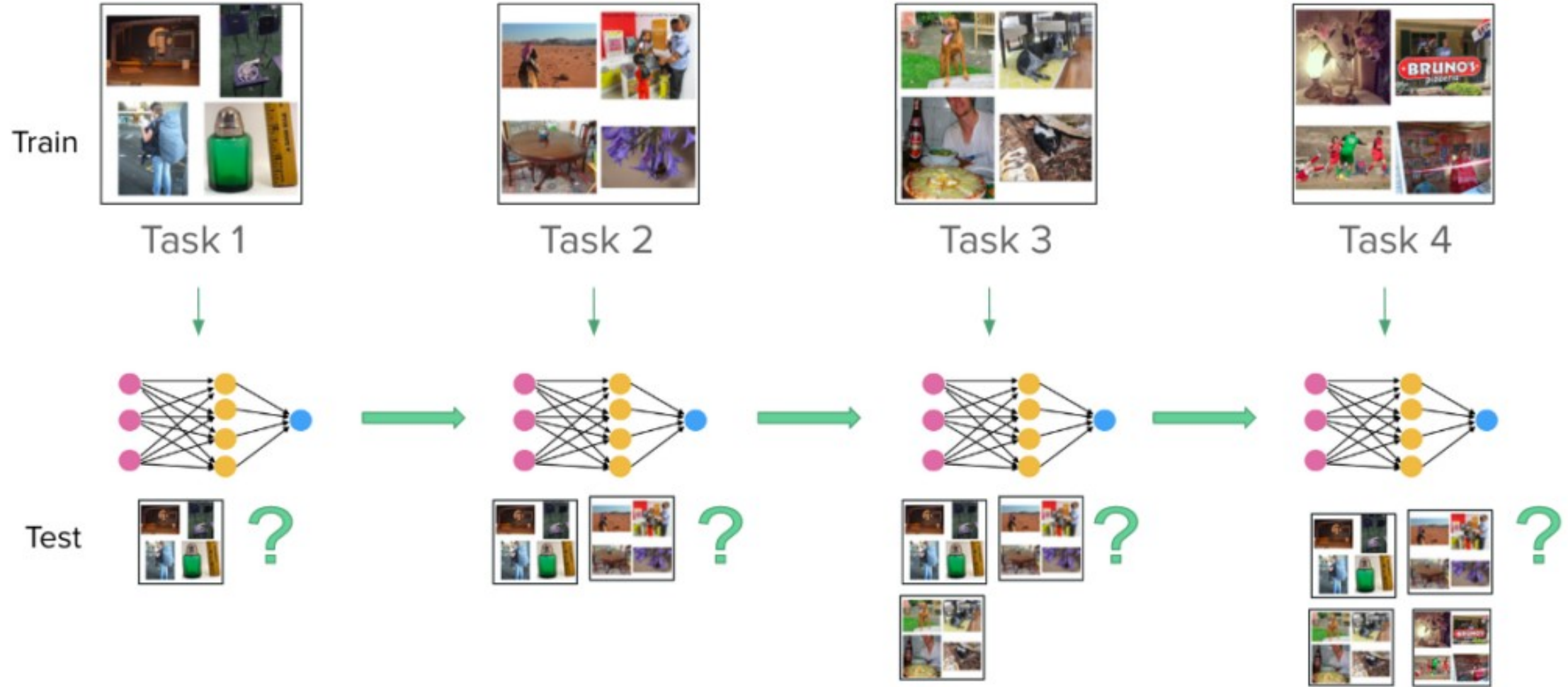


# Task-recency bias strikes back: Adapting covariances in Exemplar- Free Class Incremental Learning

Grzegorz Rypeś<sup>1,2</sup>, Sebastian  
Cygert<sup>1,3</sup>, Tomasz Trzcinski<sup>1,2,4</sup>,  
Bartłomiej Twardowski<sup>1,5,7</sup>

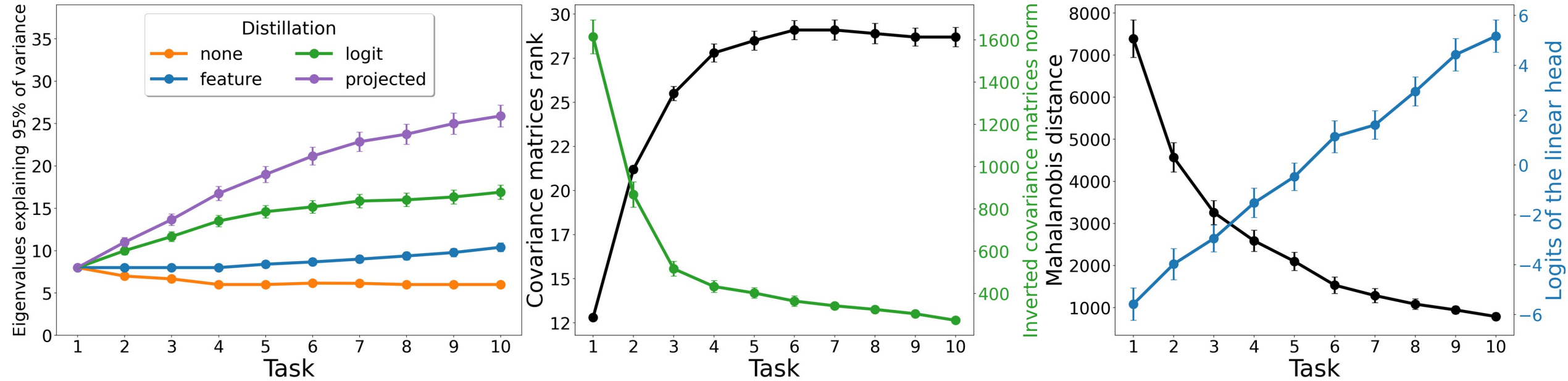
<sup>1</sup>IDEAS-NCBR, <sup>2</sup>Warsaw University of  
Technology, <sup>3</sup>Gdańsk University of  
Technology, <sup>4</sup>Tooploox, <sup>5</sup>Computer  
Vision Center, Barcelona

# Exemplar-Free Class Incremental Learning



van de Ven, Gido M., and Andreas S. Tolias. "Three scenarios for continual learning." arXiv e-prints (2019): arXiv-1904.

# Task recency bias in the latent space



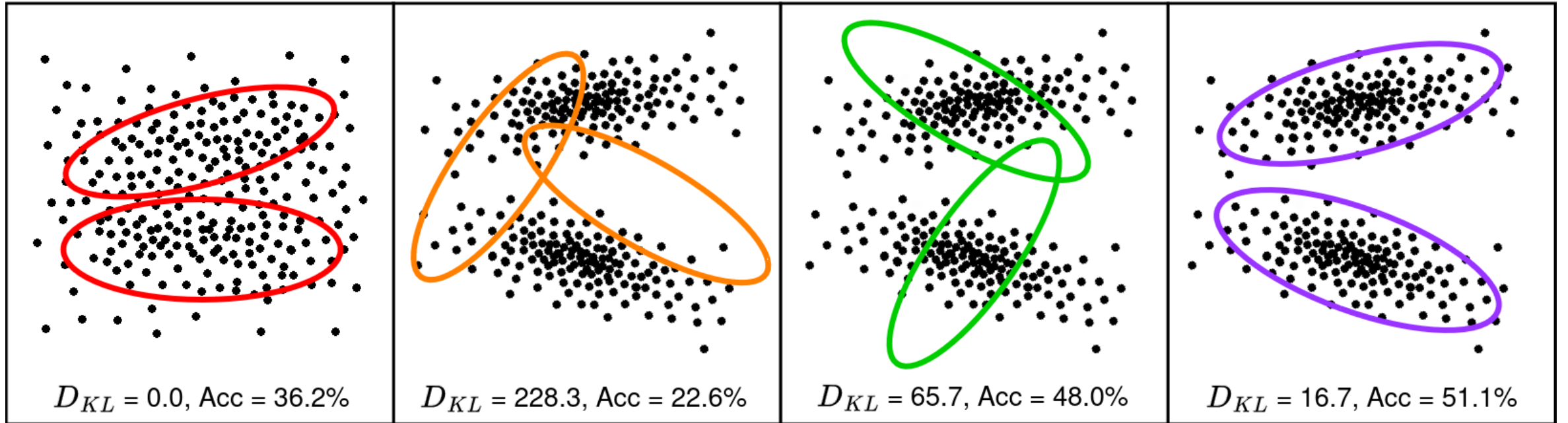
The representation strength of the feature extractor grows with each task, which makes the rank of covariance of new classes higher than that of old classes. That causes the norm of the inverse of covariance matrices to be lower for later tasks. It causes task recency bias because the inverse is utilized to sample from memorized distributions or to calculate Mahalanobis distance when classifying.

# Distributions of old classes must be adapted!

• • Real data points of past classes



Memorized distribution of the past class



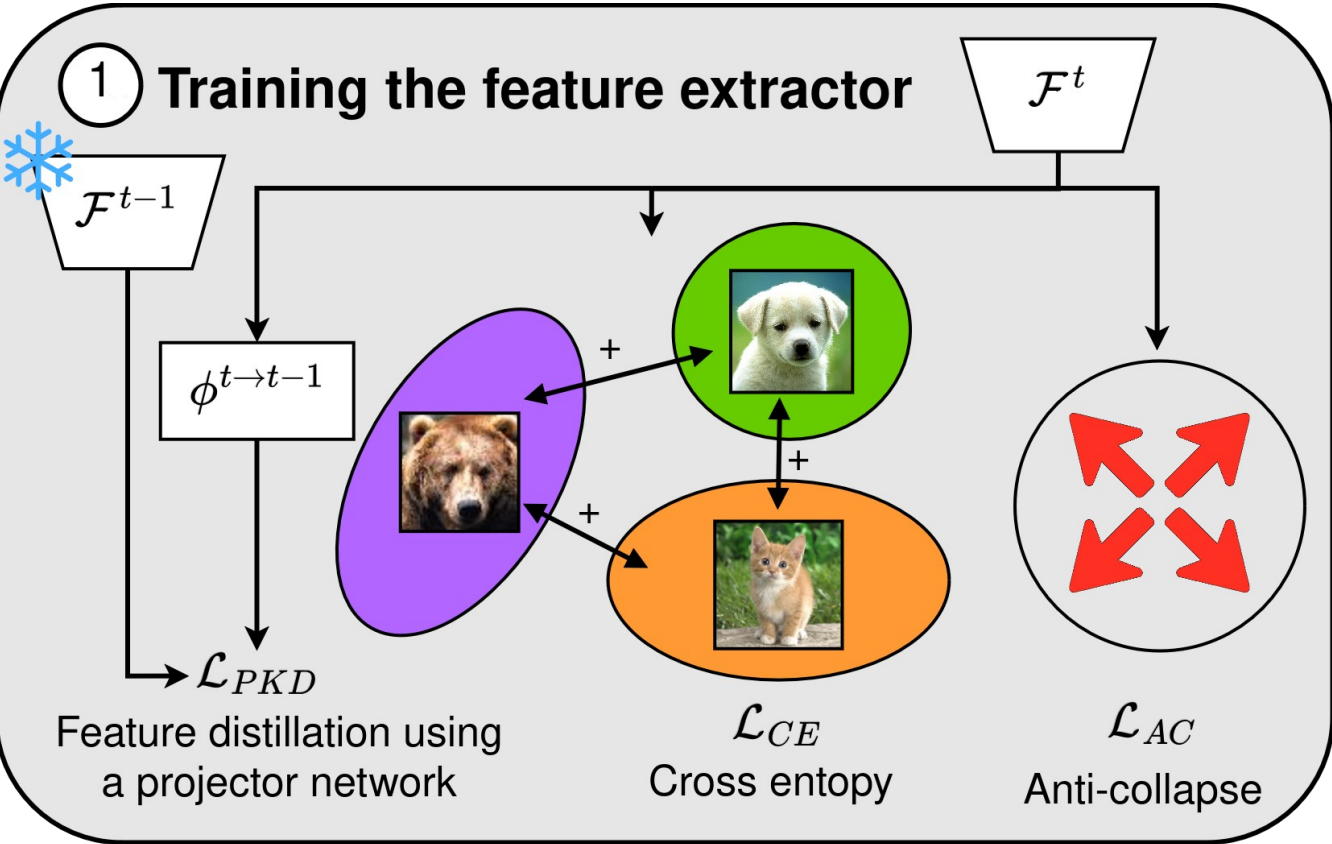
Frozen feature extractor

Unfrozen, no adaptation

Unfrozen, mean adaptation

Mean and covariance adaptation

## 1 Training the feature extractor



## 2 Adaptation of gaussian distributions

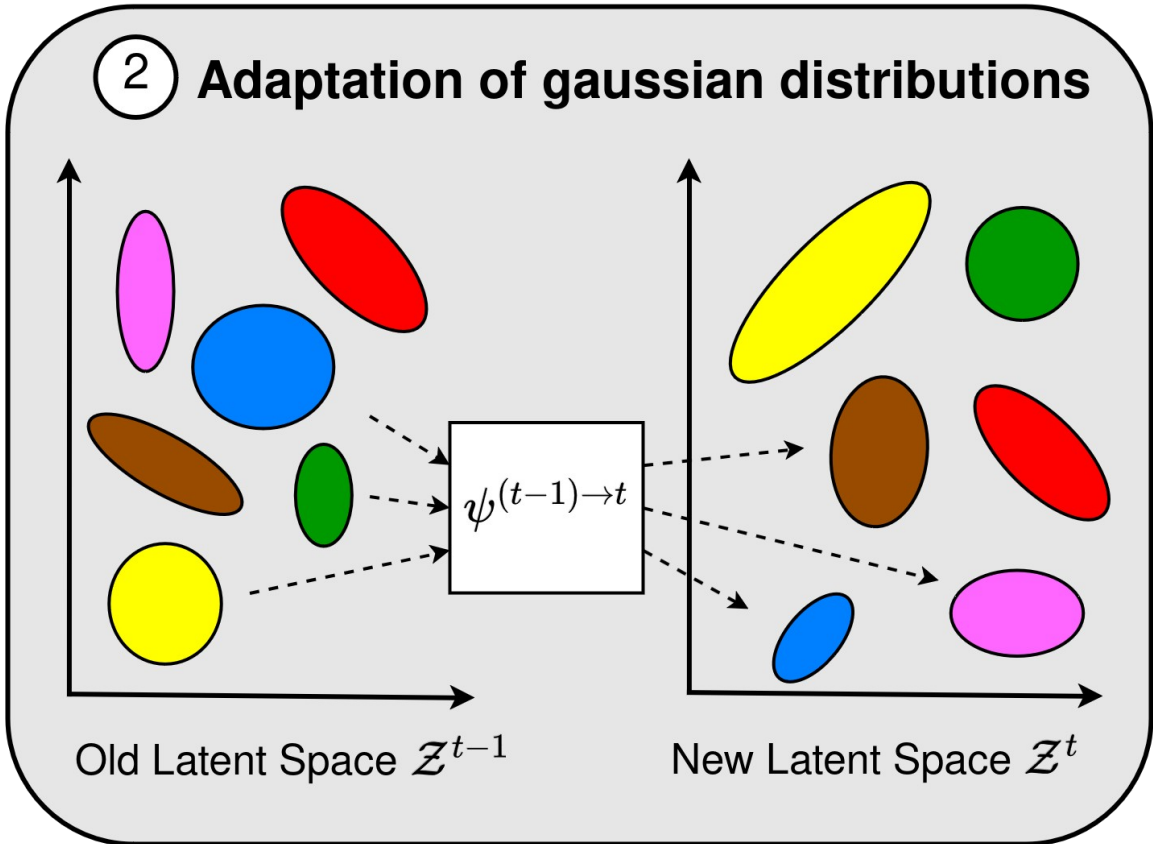


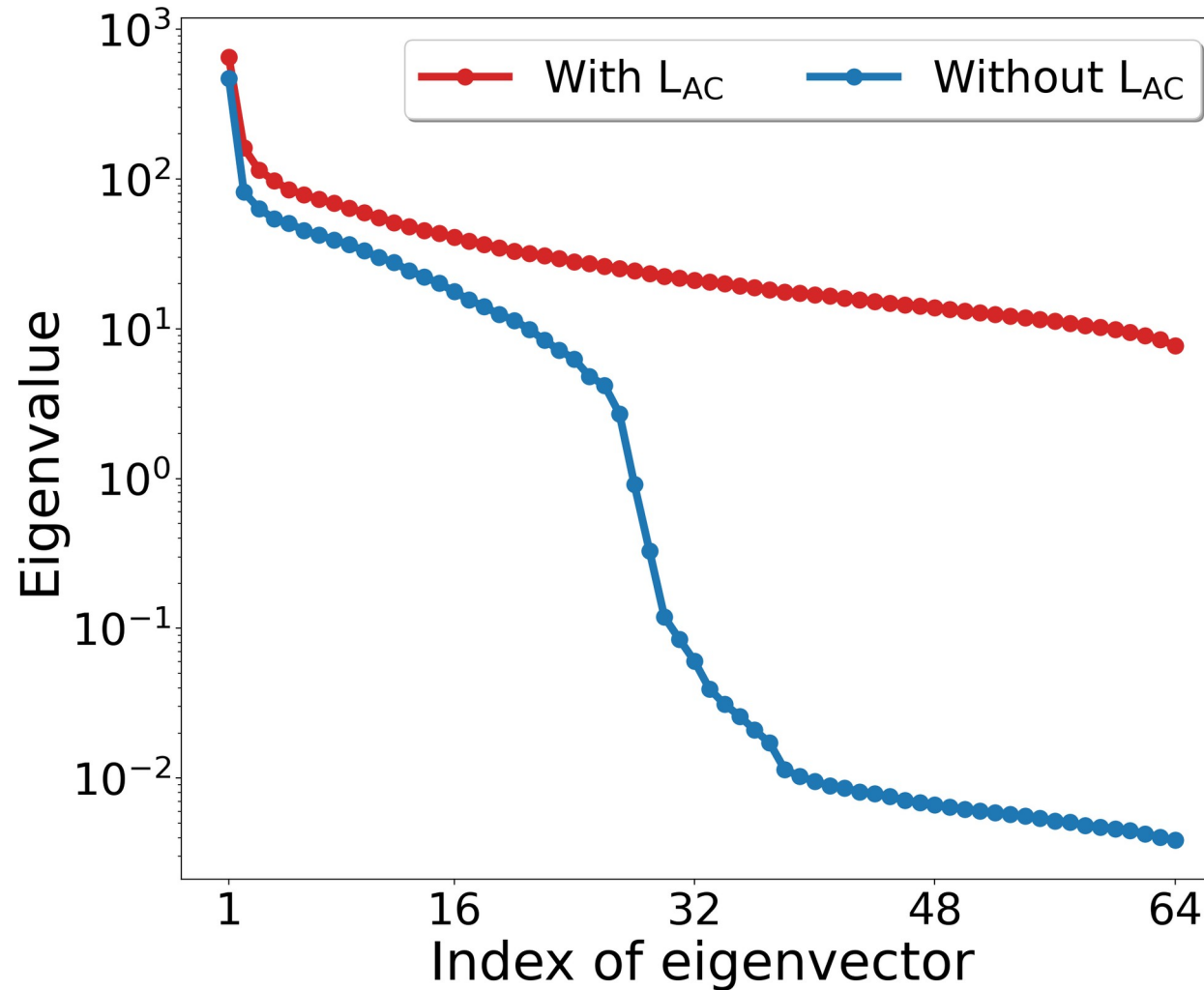
Table 1: Average incremental and last accuracy in EFCIL when training the feature extractor from scratch. The mean of 5 runs is reported. Full results are in Tab. 5. We denote the best results **in bold**.

Method	CIFAR-100				TinyImageNet				ImagenetSubset			
	$T=10$		$T=20$		$T=10$		$T=20$		$T=10$		$T=20$	
	$A_{last}$	$A_{inc}$	$A_{last}$	$A_{inc}$	$A_{last}$	$A_{inc}$	$A_{last}$	$A_{inc}$	$A_{last}$	$A_{inc}$	$A_{last}$	$A_{inc}$
EWC [17]	31.2	49.1	17.4	31.0	17.6	32.6	11.3	26.8	24.6	39.4	12.8	27.0
LwF [21]	32.8	53.9	17.4	38.4	26.1	45.1	15.0	32.9	37.7	56.4	18.6	40.2
PASS [52]	30.5	47.9	17.4	32.9	24.1	39.3	18.7	32.0	26.4	45.7	14.4	31.7
IL2A [51]	31.7	48.4	23.0	40.2	25.3	42.0	19.8	35.5	27.7	48.4	17.5	34.9
SSRE [53]	30.4	47.3	17.5	32.5	22.9	38.8	17.3	30.6	25.4	43.8	16.3	31.2
FeTrIL [31]	34.9	51.2	23.3	38.5	31.0	45.6	25.7	39.5	36.2	52.6	26.6	42.4
FeCAM [10]	32.4	48.3	20.6	34.1	30.8	44.5	25.2	38.3	38.7	54.8	29.0	44.6
DS-AL [54]	40.8	54.9	31.7	43.2	33.6	47.2	26.5	41.6	46.8	58.6	36.7	48.5
EFC [24]	43.6	58.6	32.2	47.3	34.1	48.0	28.7	42.1	47.4	59.9	35.8	49.9
AdaGauss	<b>46.1</b>	<b>60.2</b>	<b>37.8</b>	<b>52.4</b>	<b>36.5</b>	<b>50.6</b>	<b>31.3</b>	<b>45.1</b>	<b>51.1</b>	<b>65.0</b>	<b>42.6</b>	<b>57.4</b>

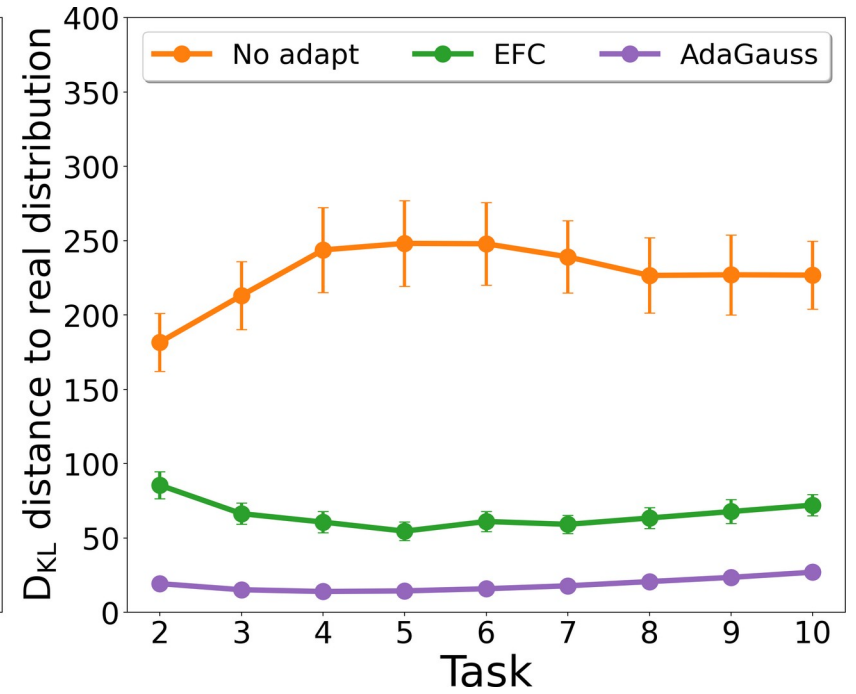
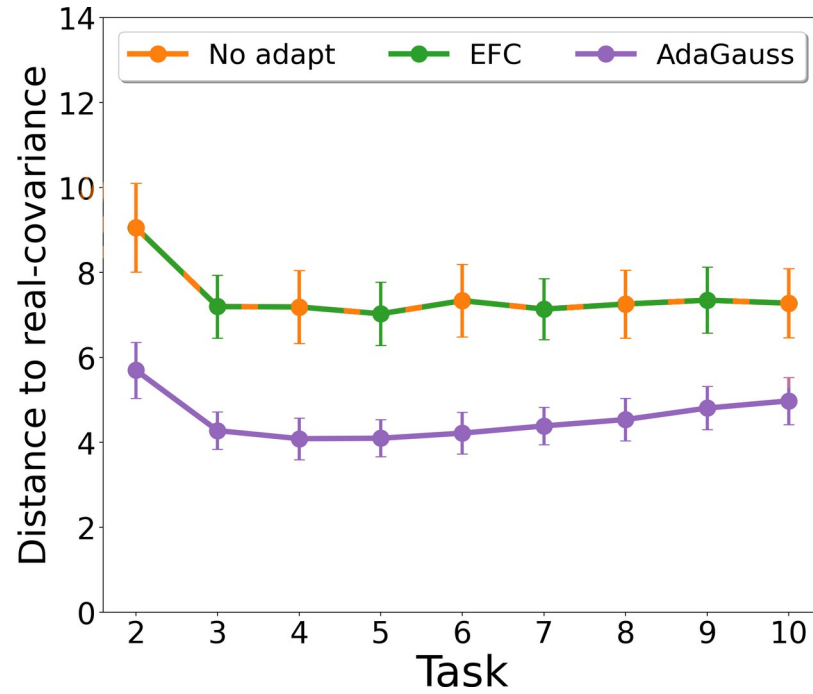
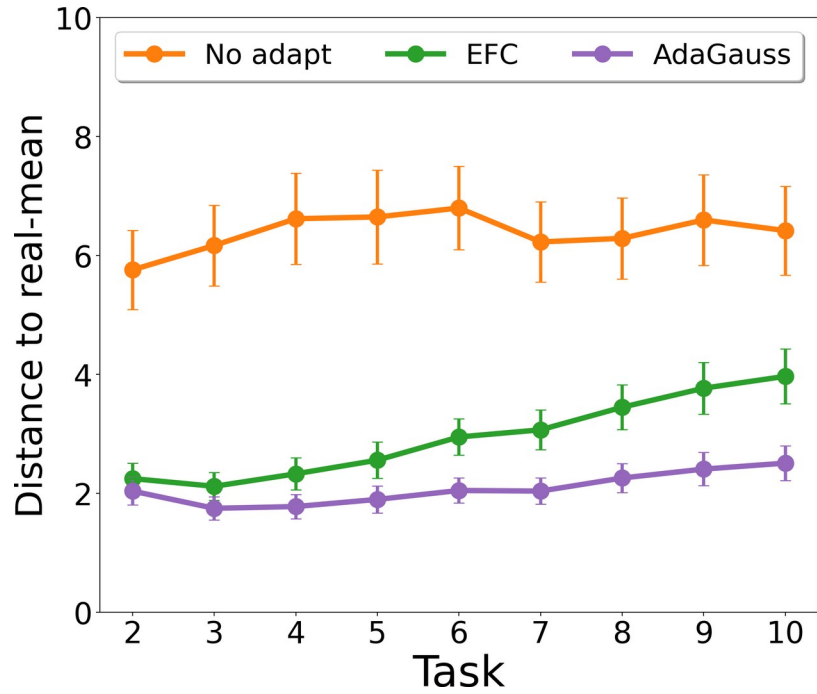
Table 2: Average incremental and last accuracy in EFCIL fine-grained scenarios when utilizing a pre-trained feature extractor. We report the mean of 5 runs, while variances are reported in Tab. 6.

Method	CUB200						FGVCAircraft					
	T=5		T=10		T=20		T=5		T=10		T=20	
	$A_{last}$	$A_{inc}$	$A_{last}$	$A_{inc}$	$A_{last}$	$A_{inc}$	$A_{last}$	$A_{inc}$	$A_{last}$	$A_{inc}$	$A_{last}$	$A_{inc}$
EWC [17]	21.6	38.2	15.8	32.6	12.3	27.2	24.3	44.0	14.3	34.5	10.9	27.9
LwF [21]	44.3	57.7	30.4	46.1	19.4	34.7	39.0	55.2	28.0	46.5	14.7	30.5
PASS [52]	34.5	48.6	27.0	42.3	18.1	36.9	33.3	48.9	26.4	41.0	13.9	28.1
IL2A [51]	36.9	51.3	29.4	45.5	20.8	35.1	39.4	49.1	27.3	45.1	14.2	28.7
FeTrIL [31]	41.9	53.2	36.9	48.2	34.6	45.3	46.0	58.5	40.5	53.4	32.5	43.3
FeCAM [10]	43.5	56.0	40.2	54.9	36.2	48.9	45.3	58.0	41.4	55.2	34.0	46.0
DS-AL [54]	49.4	61.9	45.8	59.1	41.4	53.8	50.6	62.7	42.6	56.4	34.2	46.7
EFC [24]	58.3	68.9	51.0	63.3	46.1	59.3	50.1	63.2	43.1	57.6	28.1	48.2
AdaGauss	<b>60.4</b>	<b>69.2</b>	<b>55.8</b>	<b>66.2</b>	<b>47.4</b>	<b>60.6</b>	<b>53.3</b>	<b>64.0</b>	<b>47.5</b>	<b>58.5</b>	<b>34.8</b>	<b>48.6</b>

# Anti-collapse helps to increase strength of representations







**Find out more!**



**Code**



**Arxiv**

**Grzegorz Rypeść**  
**LinkedIn**



**grzegorz.rypecs@ideas-ncbr.pl**