

# $\lambda$ -ORTHOGONALITY REGULARIZATION FOR COMPATIBLE REPRESENTATION LEARNING



Simone Ricci, Niccolò Biondi, Federico Pernici, Ioannis Patras, Alberto Del Bimbo

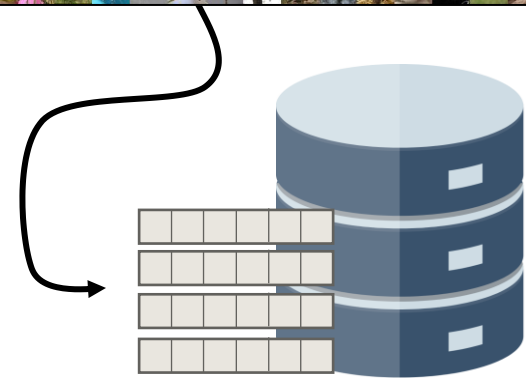
*Presented by **Simone Ricci***

*Corresponding author email: [simone.ricci@unifi.it](mailto:simone.ricci@unifi.it)*

# CONTEXT

Modern retrieval systems have **millions of images** indexed into embeddings to form a **Gallery Set**.

As time goes by, datasets grow and the quality of the embeddings improves with **newly trained models**.



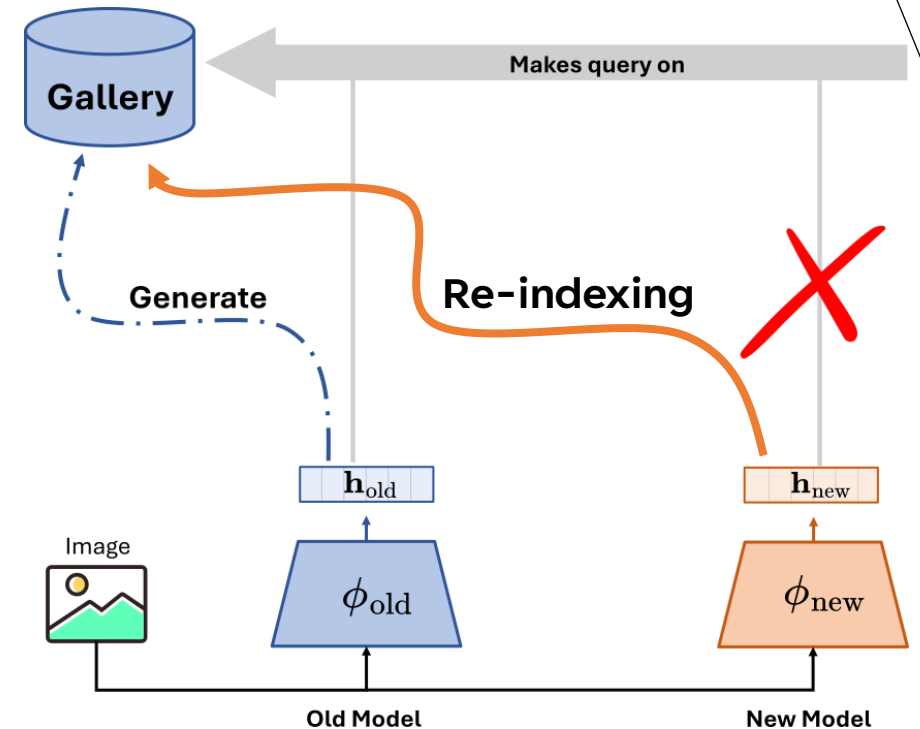
# CONTEXT

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As time goes by, datasets grow and the quality of the embeddings improves with **newly trained models**.

Due to internal representation change, the updated model **can not directly make queries** on the Gallery Set.

To harvest the benefits of updating the model, a costly **re-indexing (backfilling)** process must be done to update old embeddings to new ones.

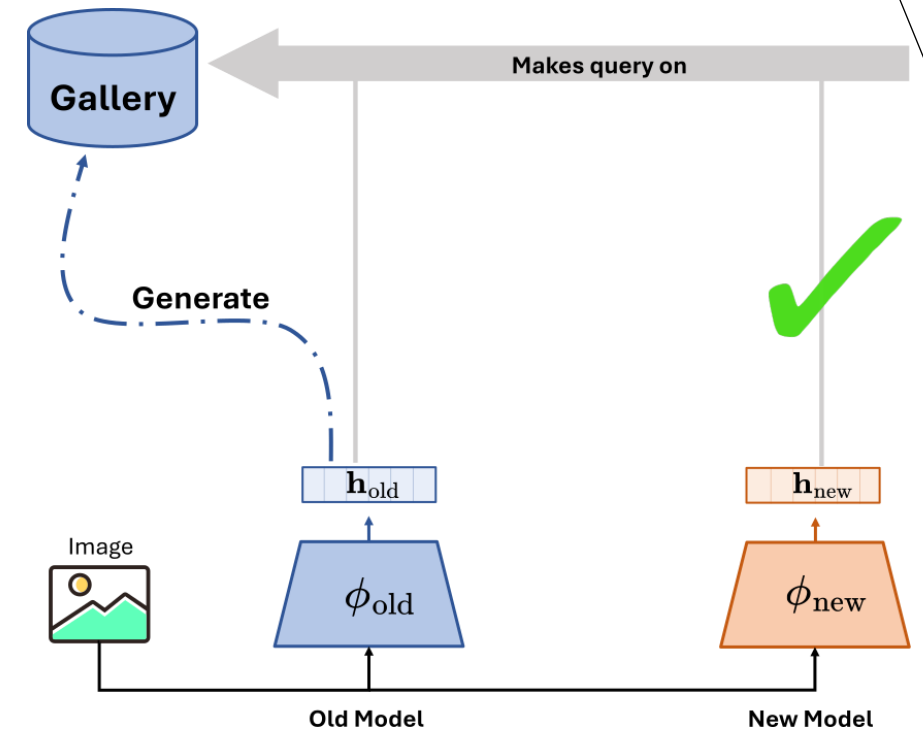


# COMPATIBLE REPRESENTATION LEARNING

Visual search systems can **bypass** re-indexing of the Gallery Set when updating to improved models.

The aim is to learn a **new compatible model**, where new embeddings can be compared directly to old embeddings.

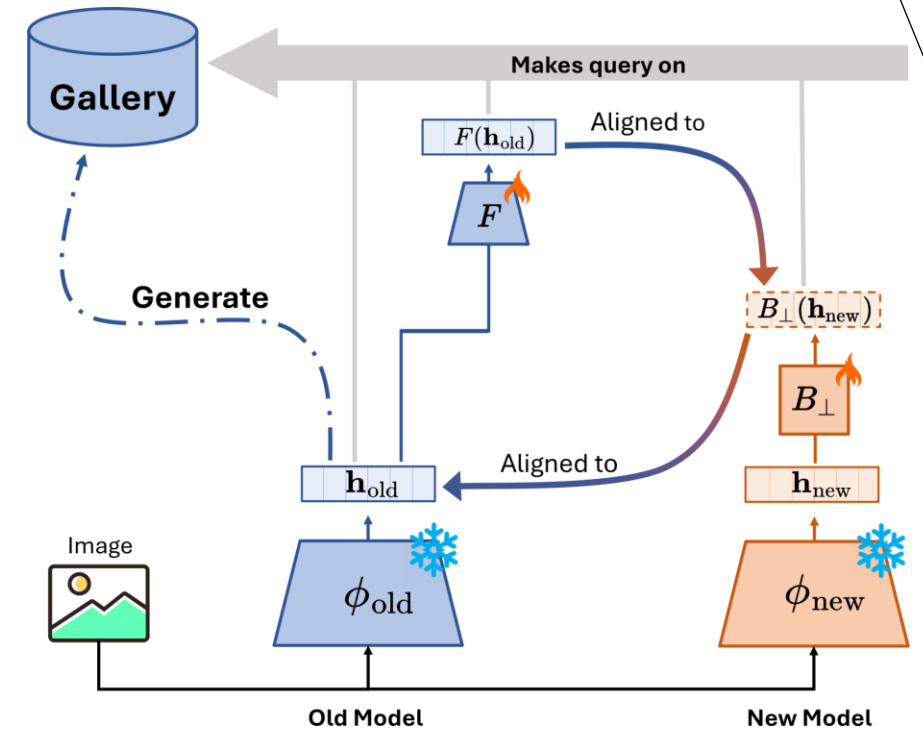
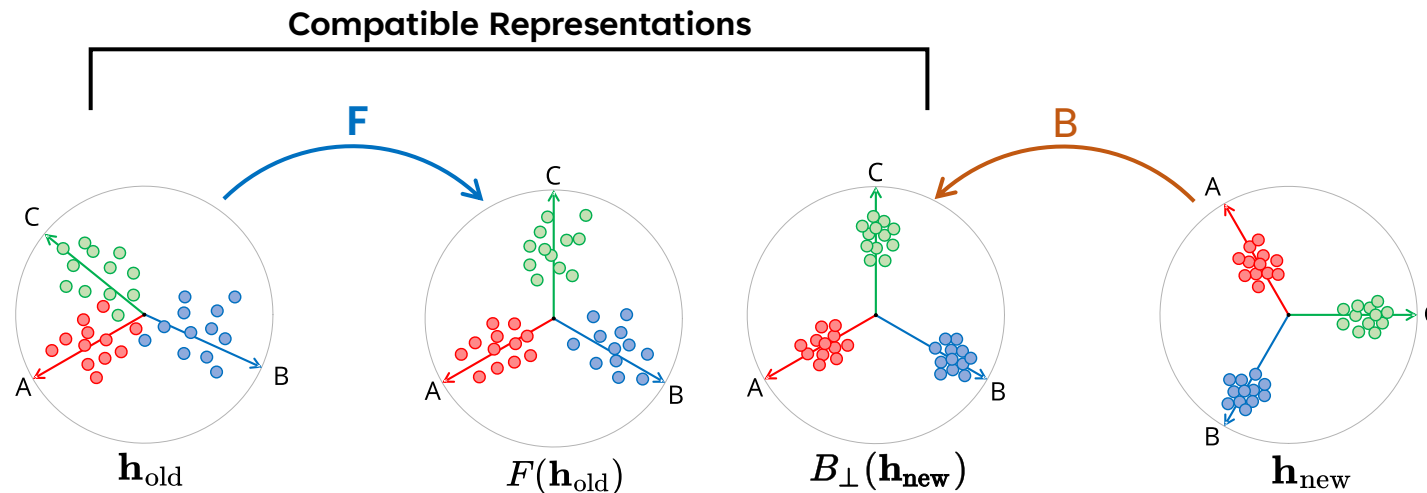
In compatible training strategies, the new model is typically trained with the **old model as reference** → the new compatible model performance is **lower** than independently trained one.



# OVERVIEW OF THE PROPOSED APPROACH

A new independently trained model is aligned to the old representation space via an **orthogonal transformation B** (geometry space preservation).

A **forward transformation F** (high adaptability) maps the old embeddings to the backward-aligned representation of the new model  $\rightarrow$  improving old embeddings.



# $\lambda$ -ORTHOGONALITY

A highly stable (**strict orthogonal**) constraint for **transformation B** is suboptimal when representations are adapted from models trained on different datasets (**downstream task**).

We aim for **slight adaptability** to different distributions, while preserving the geometrical structure.

**Soft-Orthogonality:** constraining the Gram matrix of the weight matrix to be close to the identity matrix.

$$\min_W ||W^T W - I||_F$$

# $\lambda$ -ORTHOGONALITY

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We constrain a transformation to **remain within a specified proximity** to the orthogonality condition.

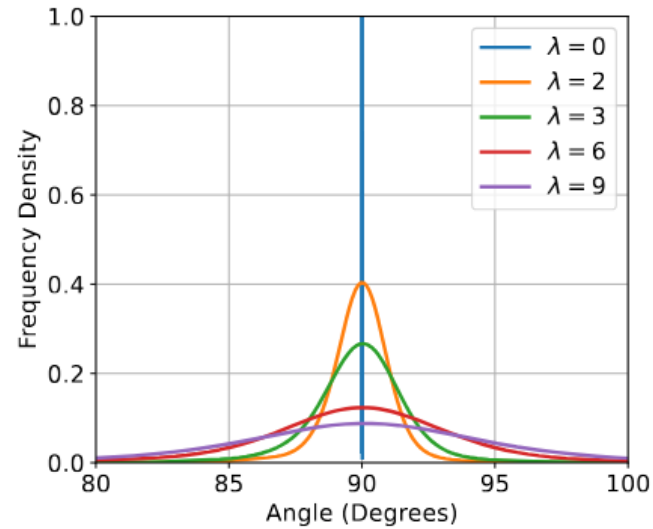
$$\min_W \|W^T W - I\|_F \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \|W^T W - I\|_F \geq \lambda$$

To avoid the discontinuity in  $\lambda$ , we formulate the smooth  **$\lambda$ -Orthogonality Regularization**:

$$\mathcal{L}_\lambda = \sigma(\alpha(\|WW^T - I\|_F - \lambda)) \cdot \|WW^T - I\|_F$$

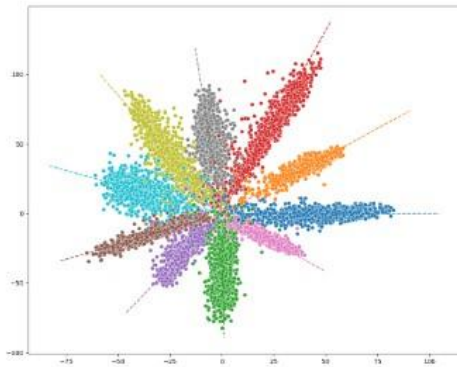


# RELAXATION EFFECT

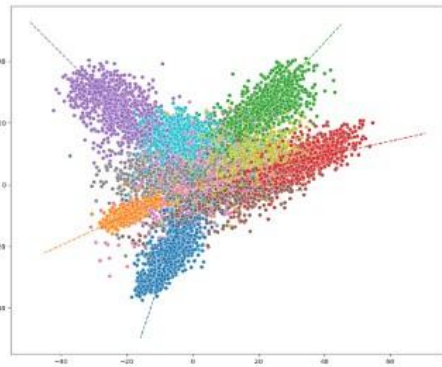


Higher  $\lambda$  values reduces the proximity to the orthogonal condition for the transformation.

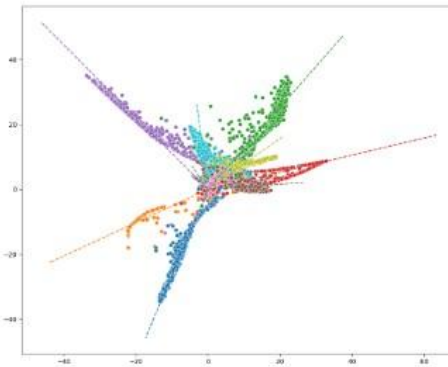
Differing from strict orthogonality,  $\lambda$ -Orthogonality Regularization allows for small modifications within the representation space, which improves the overall alignment.



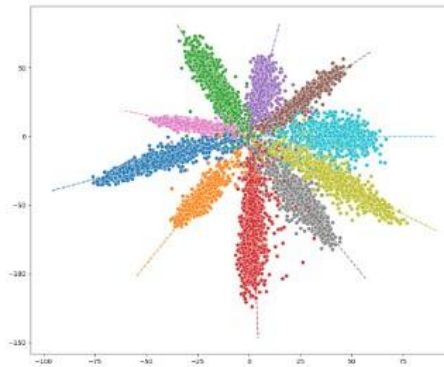
(a) Source space



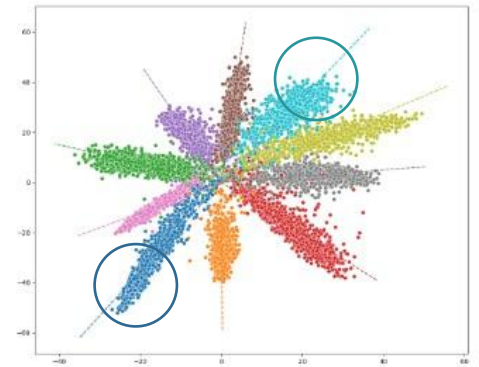
(b) Target space



(c) Affine



(d) Orthogonal



(e)  $\lambda$ -orthogonality



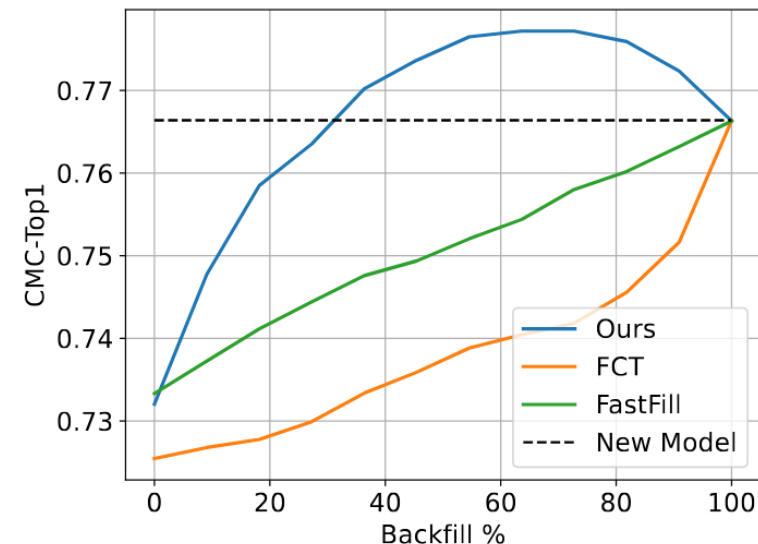
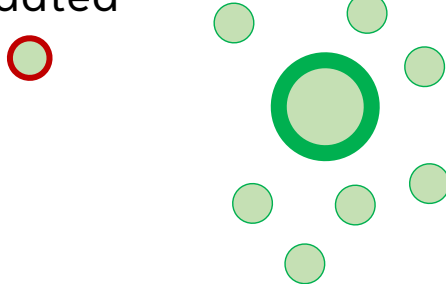
# PARTIAL BACKFILLING

Determining an **effective ordering for backfilling** samples is critical for achieving the performance of the new independently trained model as efficiently as possible.

In retrieval systems, the most representative instances of a category are the embeddings **closest to their respective class mean**.

We propose a novel method for estimating a backfill ordering: the embeddings in the gallery that are **furthest from their respective class means** are prioritized for backfilling, as less informative.

Updated



# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION