

---

# RankMe: Assessing the Downstream Performance of Pretrained Self-Supervised Representations by Their Rank

---

Quentin Garrido<sup>1 2</sup> Randall Balestriero<sup>1</sup> Laurent Najman<sup>2</sup> Yann LeCun<sup>1 3 4</sup>

## Abstract

Joint-Embedding Self Supervised Learning (JE-SSL) has seen a rapid development, with the emergence of many method variations but only few principled guidelines that would help practitioners to successfully deploy them. The main reason for that pitfall comes from JE-SSL’s core principle of not employing any input reconstruction therefore lacking visual cues of unsuccessful training. Adding non informative loss values to that, it becomes difficult to deploy SSL on a new dataset for which no labels can help to judge the quality of the learned representation. In this study, we develop a simple unsupervised criterion that is indicative of the quality of the learned JE-SSL representations: their effective rank. Albeit simple and computationally friendly, this method —coined *RankMe*— allows one to assess the performance of JE-SSL representations, even on different downstream datasets, without requiring any labels. A further benefit of RankMe is that it does not have any training or hyper-parameters to tune. Through thorough empirical experiments involving hundreds of training episodes, we demonstrate how RankMe can be used for hyperparameter selection with nearly no reduction in final performance compared to the current selection method that involve a dataset’s labels. We hope that RankMe will facilitate the deployment of JE-SSL towards domains that do not have the opportunity to rely on labels for representations’ quality assessment.

## 1. Introduction

Self-supervised learning (SSL) has shown great progress to learn informative data representations in recent years (Chen et al., 2020a; He et al., 2020; Chen et al., 2020b; Grill et al., 2020; Lee et al., 2021; Caron et al., 2020; Zbontar et al., 2021; Bardes et al., 2021; Tomasev et al., 2022; Caron et al., 2021; Chen et al., 2021; Li et al., 2022b; Zhou et al., 2022a;b; HaoChen et al., 2021; He et al., 2022), catching up to supervised baselines and even surpassing them in few-shot learning, i.e., when evaluating the SSL model from only a few labeled examples. Although various SSL families of losses have emerged, most are variants of the joint-embedding (JE) framework with a siamese network architecture (Bromley et al., 1994), denoted as JE-SSL for short. The only technicality we ought to introduce to make our study precise is the fact that JE-SSL has introduced some different notations to denote an input’s representation. In short, JE-SSL often composes a *backbone* or *encoder* network e.g., a ResNet50 and a *projector* network e.g., a multilayer perceptron. This projector is only employed during training, and we refer to its outputs as *embeddings*, while the actual inputs’ *representation* employed for downstream tasks are obtained at the encoder’s output.

Although downstream tasks performance of JE-SSL representations might seem impressive, one pondering fact should be noted: *all existing methods, hyperparameters, models — and thus performances — are obtained by manual search involving the labels of the considered datasets.* In words, JE-SSL is tuned by monitoring the supervised performance of the model at hand. Therefore, successfully deploying a SSL model on a new dataset relies on the *strong assumption* of having labels on that dataset to tune the SSL method e.g. through a linear classifier feeding on the JE-SSL representations (Misra & Maaten, 2020). This quality assessment strategy was also extended to the use of nonlinear classifiers, e.g., a  $k$ -nn classifier (Wu et al., 2018; Zhuang et al., 2019). Hence, although labels are not directly employed to compute the weight updates, they are used as a proxy. This limitation prevents the deployment of JE-SSL in challenging domains where the number of available labelled examples is limited. Adding to the challenge, one milestone of JE-SSL is to move away from reconstruction based learning; hence with-

---

<sup>1</sup>Meta AI - FAIR <sup>2</sup>Univ Gustave Eiffel, CNRS, LIGM, F-77454 Marne-la-Vallée, France <sup>3</sup>Courant Institute, New York University <sup>4</sup>Center for Data Science, New York University. Correspondence to: Quentin Garrido <garridoq@meta.com>.

out labels and without visual cues, tuning JE-SSL methods on unlabeled datasets remains challenging. This led to the application of feature inversion methods e.g. Deep Image Prior (Ulyanov et al., 2018) or conditional diffusion models (Bordes et al., 2021) to be deployed onto learned JE-SSL representation to try to visualize the learned features. Those alternative visualization solutions however suffer from their own limitations e.g. bias of the used method, or computational cost. More importantly, those feature inversion strategies have been designed for natural images i.e. it is not clear how such methods would perform on different data modalities.

In this study we propose RankMe to assess a model’s performance without having access to any labels; a simple method that does not require any training or tuning. RankMe accurately predicts a model’s performance both on In-Distribution (ID), i.e., same data distribution as used during the JE-SSL training, and on Out-Of-Distribution (OOD), i.e., different data distribution onto which the learned model is deployed onto. We highlight this crucial property at the top of Figure 1. The strength of RankMe lies in the fact that it is solely based on the singular values distribution of the learned embeddings which is not only simple to obtain but also easy to interpret. In fact, RankMe’s motivation hinges on Cover’s theorem (Cover, 1965) that states how increasing the rank of a linear classifier’s input increases its training performance, and three simple hypotheses that thoroughly validate empirically at the end of our study. Since RankMe provides a step towards (unlabeled) JE-SSL by allowing practitioners to cross-validate hyperparameters and select models without resorting to labels or feature inversion methods, we hope that it will allow JE-SSL to move away from using labels as part of their design search strategy. We summarize our contributions below:

1. We introduce RankMe (Equation (1)) and motivate its construction from first principles (Section 5) e.g. Cover’s theorem
2. We demonstrate that RankMe’s ability to inform about JE-SSL downstream performances is consistent across methods, e.g. VICReg, SimCLR, DINO, and their variants, and across architectures, e.g. using a projector network and/or a nonlinear evaluation method (see Figure 2 and Section 3.3)
3. We demonstrate that RankMe enables hyperparameter cross-validation for JE-SSL methods; RankMe is able to retrieve and sometimes surpass most of the performance previously found by manual –and label-guided– search while not employing any labels, on both in domain and out of domain datasets (Figure 1 and Tables 1 and 2)

We provide a hyperparameter free numerically stable implementation of RankMe in Section 3.1 and pseudo-code for cross-validation in Figure 4. Through extensive experiments

involving 11 datasets and 110 models over 5 methods, we demonstrate that in the linear and nonlinear probing regime, RankMe is able to tell apart successful and sub-optimal JE-SSL training, even on different downstream tasks without having access to labels or downstream task data samples.

## 2. Background

**Joint embedding self-supervised learning (JE-SSL).** In JE-SSL, two main families of method can be distinguished: contrastive and non-contrastive. Contrastive methods (Chen et al., 2020a; He et al., 2020; Chen et al., 2020b; 2021; Yeh et al., 2021) mostly rely on the InfoNCE criterion (Oord et al., 2018) except for (HaoChen et al., 2021) which uses squared similarities between the embedding. A clustering variant of contrastive learning has also emerged (Caron et al., 2018; 2020; 2021) and can be thought of as contrastive methods, but between cluster centroids instead of samples. Non-contrastive methods (Grill et al., 2020; Chen & He, 2020; Caron et al., 2021; Bardes et al., 2021; Zbontar et al., 2021; Ermolov et al., 2021; Li et al., 2022c) aim at bringing together embeddings of positive samples, similar to contrastive learning. However, a key difference with contrastive learning lies in how those methods prevent a representational collapse. In the former, the criterion explicitly pushes away negative samples, i.e., all samples that are not positive, from each other. In the latter, the criterion does not prevent collapse by distinguishing positive and negative samples, but instead considers the embeddings as a whole and encourages information content maximization e.g., by regularizing the empirical covariance matrix of the embeddings. Such a categorization is not needed for our development, and we thus refer to any of the above method as JE-SSL.

**Known Observations About Representations’ Spectrum in JE-SSL.** The phenomenon of learning rank-deficient or dimensional collapsed, embeddings in JE-SSL has recently been studied from both a theoretical and empirical point of view. The empirical emergence of dimensional collapse was studied in (Hua et al., 2021) where they proposed the use of a whitening batch normalization layer to help alleviate it. In (Jing et al., 2022), a focus on contrastive approaches in a linear setting enabled a better understanding of dimensional collapse and the role of augmentations in its emergence. Performance in a low label regime of a partially collapsed encoder can also be improved by forcing the whitening of its output, as shown in (He & Ozay, 2022). Furthermore, it was shown in (Balestriero & LeCun, 2022) how dimensional collapse is a phenomenon that should not necessarily happen in theory and how its emergence is mostly due to practical concerns. Interestingly, we will see through the lens of RankMe that dimensional collapse is tightly linked with the quality of the representation. In supervised learning, the collapse of the embeddings was also studied and found to

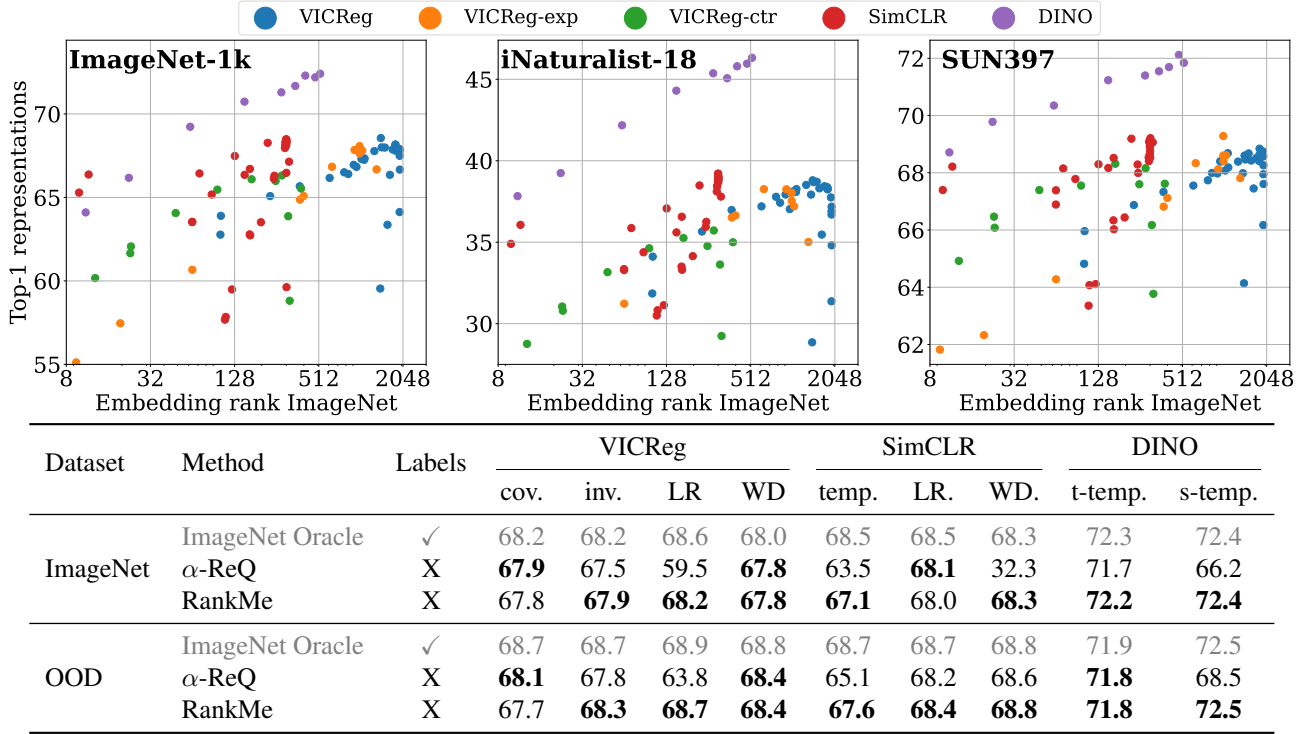


Figure 1. **Top:** Performance of JE-SSL representations (encoder output) in **y-axis** against the embeddings (projector output) RankMe values in **x-axis** on ImageNet-1k. Except for some degenerate solutions at full-rank, RankMe values correlate well with in-distribution (**left column**) and out-of-distribution (**right columns**) classification performance. **Bottom:** Hyperparameter selection using the common supervised linear probe strategy,  $\alpha$ -ReQ the proposed unsupervised RankMe strategy. Values in bold represent the best performance between RankMe and  $\alpha$ -ReQ. OOD indicates the average performance over all the considered datasets other than ImageNet. Without any label, optimization or parameters, RankMe is able to recover most of the performance obtained by using ImageNet validation set, highlighting its strength as a hyperparameter selection tool. RankMe also outperforms  $\alpha$ -ReQ on average and does not suffer from as big performance drops in worst cases.

be detrimental to performances (Ganea et al., 2019).

As such, existing studies have started to prescribe informally the choice of representations that have a lesser collapse; yet no formal study on the ability of this recipe to actually identify successfully trained models, nor how to quantify the amount of collapse to improve representations as been proposed; this is the goal of our study.

### 3. RankMe Consistently Predicts Downstream performances From Representations

The goal of this section is to introduce and motivate RankMe while providing a numerically stable implementation. We defer a theoretical justification to Section 5. To ease notations, we refer to the (train) dataset used to obtain the JE-SSL model as *source dataset*, and the test set on the same dataset or a different OOD dataset as *target dataset*.

#### 3.1. RankMe: A Simple Method and Its Implementation

The most crucial step of RankMe is the estimation of the embeddings’ rank. A trivial solution could be to check at the number of nonzero singular values. Denoting by  $\sigma_k$  the  $k^{\text{th}}$

singular value of the  $(N \times K)$  embedding matrix  $\mathbf{Z}$ , this would lead to  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{Z}) = \sum_{k=1}^{\min(N,K)} 1_{\{\sigma_k > 0\}}$ . However, such a definition is too rigid for practical scenarios. For example, round-off error alone could have a dramatic impact on the rank estimate. Instead, alternative and robust rank definitions have emerged (Press et al., 2007) such as  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{Z}) = \sum_{k=1}^{\min(N,K)} 1_{\{\sigma_k > \max_i \sigma_i \times \max(M,N) \times \epsilon\}}$ , where  $\epsilon$  is a small constant dependent on the data type, typically  $10^{-7}$  for `float32`. An alternative measure of rank comes from a probabilistic viewpoint where the singular values are normalized to sum to 1 and the Shannon Entropy (Shannon, 1948) is used, which corresponds to our definition of RankMe from Equation (1). We thus introduce RankMe formally as the following smooth rank measure, originally introduced in (Roy & Vetterli, 2007),

$$\text{RankMe}(\mathbf{Z}) = \exp \left( - \sum_{k=1}^{\min(N,K)} p_k \log p_k \right), \quad (1)$$

$$\text{with } p_k = \frac{\sigma_k(\mathbf{Z})}{\|\sigma(\mathbf{Z})\|_1} + \epsilon, \quad (2)$$

where  $\mathbf{Z}$  is the source dataset’s embeddings. As opposed to the classical rank, the chosen Equation (1) does not rely on specifying the exact threshold at which the singular value is treated as nonzero. Throughout our study, we employ Equation (1), and provide the matching analysis with the classical rank in the appendix. Another benefit of RankMe’s Equation (1) is in its quantification of the whitening of the embeddings in addition to their rank, which is known to simplify optimization of (non)linear probes put on top of them (Santurkar et al., 2018). Lastly, although Equation (1) is defined with the full embedding matrix  $\mathbf{Z}$ , we observe that not all of the samples need to be used to have an accurate estimate of RankMe. In practice, we use 25600 samples as ablation studies provided in Appendix G and Figure S11 indicate that this provides a highly accurate estimate. RankMe should however only be used to compare different runs of a given method, since the embeddings’ rank is not the only factor that affects performance.

**Relation of RankMe To Existing Solutions.** Performance evaluation without labels can also be done using a pretext-task, such as rotation prediction. This technique helped in selecting data augmentation policies in (Reed et al., 2021). One limitation lies in the need to select and train the classifier of the pretext-task, and on the strong assumption that rotation were not part of the transformations one aimed to be invariant to. Since (supervised) linear evaluation is the most widely used evaluation method, we will focus on showing how RankMe compares with it. In (Li et al., 2022a), it is shown that the eigenspectrum of representations can be used to assess performance when used in conjunction with the loss value. This requires training an additional classifier to predict the performance and as such is not usable as is in a completely unsupervised fashion. Most related to us is (Ghosh et al., 2022) where representations are evaluated by their eigenspectrum decay, giving a baseline for unsupervised hyperparameter selection.  $\alpha$ -ReQ relies on strong assumptions, and if they hold, then RankMe and  $\alpha$ -ReQ can match, but we show that we outperform it on average. In fact the assumptions made by  $\alpha$ -ReQ are known to not hold in light of collapse (He & Ozay, 2022). We investigate  $\alpha$ -ReQ’s behavior in detail in Appendix E.

### 3.2. RankMe Predicts Linear Probing performance Even on Unseen Datasets

In order to empirically validate RankMe, we compare it to linear evaluation, which is the default evaluation method of JE-SSL methods. Finetuning has gained in popularity with Masked Image Modeling methods (He et al., 2021), but this can have a significant impact on the properties of the embeddings and alters what was learned during the pretraining. As such, we do not focus on this evaluation.

**Experimental Methods and Datasets Considered.** In order to provide a meaningful assessment of the embeddings rank’s impact on performance, we focus on 5 JE-SSL methods. We use SimCLR as a representative contrastive method, VICReg as a representative covariance based method, and VICReg-exp and VICReg-ctr which were introduced in (Garrido et al., 2022). We also include DINO (Caron et al., 2021) as a clustering approach. Applying RankMe to DINO is not as straightforward due to the clustering layer in the projector, so embeddings have to be taken right before the last projector layer. Confer Appendix C for more details. To make our work self-contained, we present the methods in Appendix A. We chose to use VICReg-exp and VICReg-ctr as they provide small modifications to VICReg and SimCLR while producing embeddings with different rank properties. For each method we vary parameters that directly influence the rank of the embeddings, whether it is the temperature used in softmax based methods, which directly impacts the hardness of the softmax, or the loss weights to give more or less importance to the regularizing aspect of loss functions. We also vary optimization parameters such as the learning rate and weight decay to provide a more complete analysis. We provide the hyperparameters used for all experiments in Appendix K. All approaches were trained in the same experimental setting with a ResNet-50 (He et al., 2016) backbone with a MLP projector having intermediate layers of size 8192, 8192, 2048, which avoids any architectural rank constraints. The models were trained for 100 epochs on ImageNet with the LARS (You et al., 2017; Goyal et al., 2017) optimizer. DINO was also trained using multi-crop.

In order to evaluate the methods, we use ImageNet (our source dataset), as well as iNaturalist18 (Horn et al., 2018), Places205 (Zhou et al., 2014), EuroSat (Helber et al., 2019), SUN397 (Xiao et al., 2010), and StanfordCars (Krause et al., 2013) to evaluate the trained models on unseen datasets. While we focus on these datasets for our visualizations, we also include CIFAR10, CIFAR100 (Krizhevsky et al., 2009), Food101 (Bossard et al., 2014), VOC07 (Everingham et al.) and CLVR-count (Johnson et al., 2017) for our hyperparameter selection results, and provide matching visualizations in Appendix D. These commonly used datasets provide a wide range of scenarios that differ from ImageNet and provide meaningful ways to test the robustness of RankMe. For example, iNaturalist18 consists of 8142 classes focused on fauna and flora which requires more granularity than similar classes on ImageNet, SUN397 focuses on scene understanding, deviating from the single object and object-centric images of ImageNet, and EuroSat consists of satellite images which again differ from ImageNet. Datasets such as iNaturalist can also allow theoretical limitations to manifest themselves more clearly due to the number of classes being significantly higher than the rank of learned representations.

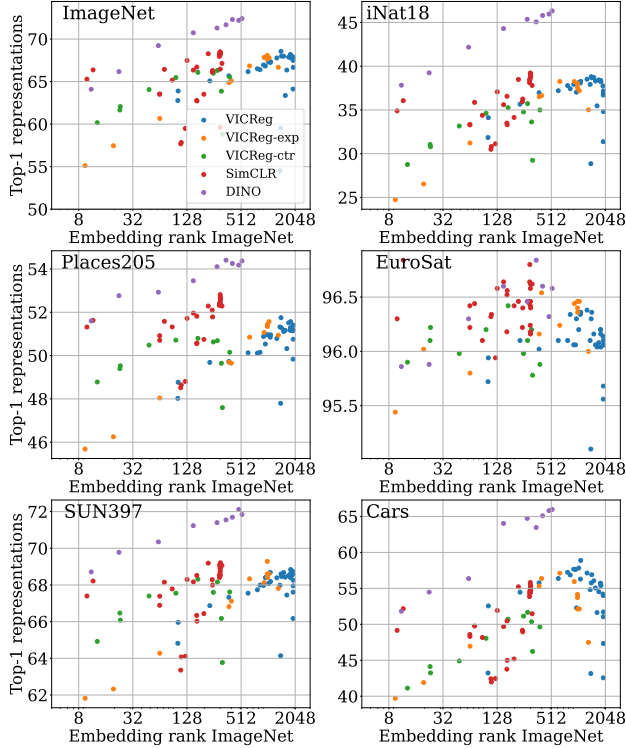


Figure 2. Validation of RankMe when evaluating performance on representations. We see that having a high rank is a necessary condition for good downstream performance.

In order to evaluate on those datasets, we rely on the VISSL library (Goyal et al., 2021). We provide complete details on the pretraining and evaluation setup in Appendix I.

### RankMe as a prediction of linear classification accuracy.

As we can see in Figures 1 and 2, for a given method the performance on the representations is improved by a higher embedding rank, whether we look on ImageNet on which the models were pretrained or on downstream datasets. This is best seen when looking at DINO, where we notice a clear trend across all datasets. On EuroSat, the relationship is not clear since the performances are so close between all models. When looking at VICReg on on StanfordCars, we can clearly see that a high rank is only a necessary condition. Here the best performance is not achieved with the highest rank, even if full rank embeddings still achieve good performance. We discuss the link between rank, number of classes, and performance in Section 5 to give some insights into RankMe’s behavior in settings with few classes such as StanfordCars. It is also very tempting to draw conclusions when comparing different approaches, especially when looking at the ImageNet performance, however since dimensional collapse is not the only performance deciding factor one should refrain from doing so.

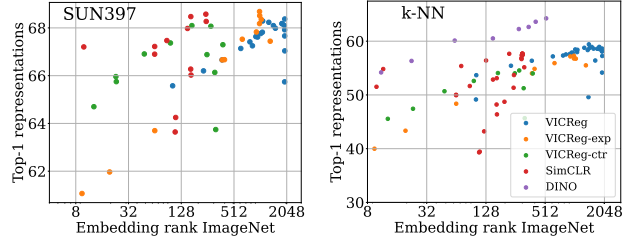


Figure 3. Impact of rank on performance on other architectures and evaluation protocols. (Left) Using a 3 layer MLP as classification head does not alter the performance before or after the projector, showing that RankMe can go beyond linear evaluation. (Right) The same conclusion holds for  $k$ -NN evaluation on ImageNet, where RankMe remains a good indicator of performance.

### 3.3. RankMe Also Holds for Non-linear Probing

While we have been focusing on linear evaluation, one can wonder if the behaviors change when using a more complex task-related head. We thus give some evidence that the previously observed behaviors are similar with a non-linear classification head. We use a simple 3 layer MLP with intermediate dimensions 2048, where each layer is followed by a ReLU activation. This choice of dimensions ensures that there are no architectural rank constraints on the embeddings. We focus on SUN397 for its conceptual difference to ImageNet. The low rank of embeddings produced by SimCLR would suggest that a non-linear classifier might help improve performance, since it is not as theoretically limited by the embeddings’ rank as it is in the linear setting. However we can see in Figure 3 that the behaviors for all methods are the same as in the linear regime. This would suggest that RankMe is also a suitable metric to evaluate downstream performance in a non-linear setting. We perform the same analysis using a  $k$ -NN classifier, following the protocol of (Zhuang et al., 2019; Caron et al., 2020), where we use 36 combinations of  $k$  and temperature and report the best performance. We see in Figure 3 that RankMe remains a good predictor of downstream performance, with curves that are similar to what was observed with a linear classifier. Since a  $k$ -NN classifier evaluates the preservation of the euclidean distance instead of the linear separability, the results suggest that RankMe can extend to more evaluation protocols.

## 4. RankMe for Label-Free Cross-Validation

We previously focused on validating RankMe by comparing overall performance compared to linear evaluation. In this section we focus on the evolution of rank and performance when varying one hyperparameter at a time in order to demonstrate how RankMe can be used for hyperparameter selection. We focus on loss specific hyperparameters such as the loss weights or temperature as well as hyperparameters related to optimization, such as the learning rate and weight decay.

**Algorithm 1** Hyperparameter selection with RankMe

**Require:** Models  $f_1, \dots, f_N$  to compare, in increasing value of the hyperparameter

**Require:** Corresponding ranks  $r_1, \dots, r_N$

```

1:  $f_{best} \leftarrow f_1, r_{best} \leftarrow r_1$ 
2: for  $i = 2$  to  $N$  do
3:   if  $r_i > r_{best}$  then
4:      $f_{best} \leftarrow f_i, r_{best} \leftarrow r_i$ 
5:   else if  $r_i = r_{best}$  and  $(r_i > r_{i-1}$  or  $r_i > r_{i+1})$  then
6:      $f_{best} \leftarrow f_i, r_{best} \leftarrow r_i$ 
7: return  $f_{best}$ 

```

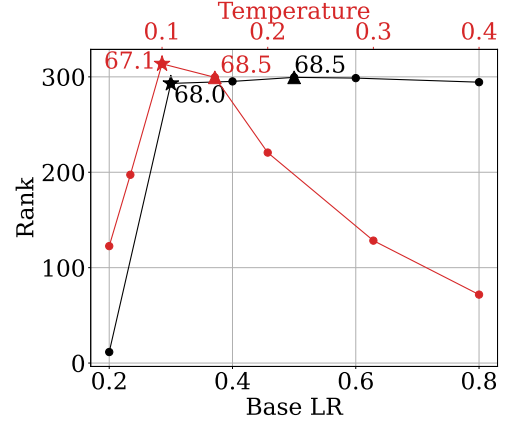


Figure 4. (Left) Algorithm describing how to use RankMe for hyperparameter selection. We select either the highest rank model, or if there are multiple ones, the one with the minimal/maximal value achieving it. (Right) Visual example of the hyperparameter selection applied to SimCLR’s temperature and learning rate. The star indicates the value that is selected using RankMe, and the triangle the one with the ImageNet oracle. Notice the high rank of oracle selected models.

#### 4.1. Using RankMe to select hyperparameters

As we have shown before, having a higher rank is necessary for better performance, and using RankMe to find the best value of an hyperparameter is as simple as choosing the value that leads to the highest rank, as illustrated in Figure 4. Certain hyperparameters will lead to plateaus of equal rank, and for those the value that first achieves the maximal value of RankMe should be selected. This second part is however only applicable when hyperparameter values can be ordered.

Even in cases where the values cannot be compared, and equal ranks are found in a different setting, this still makes it possible to discard some runs and only focus on the one that achieve the maximal rank. This further highlights how maximal rank is only a necessary condition for good performance. Nonetheless, when the hyperparameters are ordered we can go one step further and use the rank alone to find a good hyperparameter value.

#### 4.2. Experiments

In order to demonstrate the effectiveness of RankMe for hyperparameter selection, we apply the algorithm presented in Figure 4 to find the best values for a given set of hyperparameters for VICReg, SimCLR and DINO. Our focus is on the covariance and invariance weights in VICReg, the temperature in SimCLR, on learning rate and weight decay for both, and on the student and teacher temperatures in DINO. We compare the performance on ImageNet as well as the average performance on the previously discussed OOD datasets to models selected by their ImageNet top-1 accuracy on its validation set. For per dataset performance, confer Appendix J.

**On the embeddings.** As we can see in Table 1, using RankMe we are able to retrieve most of the performance

on ImageNet, with gaps being lower than half a point on average. It is not possible to beat the selection using ImageNet’s validation, since this is the metric we are evaluating on. However, on OOD datasets we are able to improve the performance in certain settings, while having similar performance on average. Thus, when comparing performance to unseen datasets. When comparing to  $\alpha$ -ReQ, RankMe achieves better in domain performance, but on OOD datasets  $\alpha$ -ReQ performs slightly better, though with bigger worst case performance gaps. We provide an in-depth analysis of  $\alpha$ -ReQ in Appendix E, where we find that the power law prior of  $\alpha$ -ReQ fails on the embeddings and as such those results must be interpreted with care. As pointed out in (Girish et al., 2022), using ImageNet performance to select models can lead to suboptimal performance in downstream tasks, which our results further confirm and reinforces the need for a new way of selecting hyperparameters.

**On the representations.** When looking at performance before the projector in Figure 1, we can see that RankMe does not beat the models selected with ImageNet’s validation set, even on OOD datasets. However, RankMe performs better than  $\alpha$ -ReQ in most settings, while not suffering from as severe drops in the worst cases. Nevertheless, the gaps between RankMe and the ImageNet oracle are on average of less than half a point, which shows how competitive RankMe can be for hyperparameter selection, despite using no labeled data, having no parameters to tune, and being able to be computed in a couple of minutes.

**iNat-18 pretraining.** To show how our results extend beyond ImageNet pretraining, we applied the same protocol but pretrained our models on iNat-18. For these experiments



Table 1. Top-1 accuracies obtained on the embeddings by doing hyperparameter selection using ImageNet validation performance,  $\alpha$ -ReQ or RankMe. OOD indicates the average performance over all the considered datasets other than ImageNet.

Dataset	Method	VICReg				SimCLR			DINO	
		cov.	inv.	LR	WD	temp.	LR.	WD.	t-temp.	s-temp.
ImageNet	ImageNet Oracle	59.7	59.7	59.7	59.7	56.9	56.9	57.1	54.6	64.8
	$\alpha$ -ReQ	<b>59.6</b>	59.2	36.2	59.3	51.5	<b>56.4</b>	49.0	<b>53.3</b>	53.3
	RankMe	<b>59.6</b>	<b>59.7</b>	<b>59.7</b>	<b>59.5</b>	<b>56.5</b>	56.0	<b>57.1</b>	<b>53.3</b>	<b>64.8</b>
OOD	ImageNet Oracle	55.3	55.6	55.3	55.5	54.7	54.7	54.7	55.6	60.6
	$\alpha$ -ReQ	<b>55.5</b>	<b>55.7</b>	48.0	<b>55.1</b>	<b>56.9</b>	<b>54.6</b>	<b>54.8</b>	<b>52.6</b>	52.6
	RankMe	<b>55.5</b>	55.6	<b>55.3</b>	55.0	56.4	54.4	54.7	<b>52.6</b>	<b>60.6</b>

Table 2. Using RankMe on networks pretrained on iNat-18. We see that RankMe can improve OOD performance for VICReg, but leads to a small drop for SimCLR.

Dataset	Method	Cov.	temp.
iNat-18	iNat-18 Oracle	36.96	28.60
	ImageNet Oracle	35.63	<b>28.60</b>
	$\alpha$ -ReQ	25.43	22.94
	RankMe	<b>36.89</b>	27.14
OOD	iNat-18 Oracle	60.70	58.23
	ImageNet Oracle	60.65	<b>58.23</b>
	$\alpha$ -ReQ	56.51	56.30
	RankMe	<b>60.91</b>	57.34

we only compare for SimCLR’s temperature and VICReg’s covariance weight. Due to the high number of classes of iNat-18, we chose a projector with output dimension 8192. Since the rank cannot be higher than 2048, we apply a threshold to not choose the highest rank but the highest realistically possible. See Appendix B for more details. We also compare RankMe to the performance on ImageNet, to imitate a practical setting where we do not have labels for our source dataset, but have access to labels for another related one. As we can see in Table 2, for VICReg’s covariance weight, RankMe leads to performance similar to the iNat-18 oracle on iNat-18, but slightly outperforms it on OOD datasets. It also beats the ImageNet oracle and  $\alpha$ -ReQ by a significant margin. On SimCLR’s temperature, we notice a small drop in performance for RankMe compared to the oracles, but it still outperforms  $\alpha$ -ReQ by a significant margin in all settings. These results further reinforce the use of RankMe in general settings, even beyond ImageNet.

**Finetuning based benchmarks.** While we have studied how RankMe is able to perform hyperparameter selection when targeting linear evaluation, finetuning based evaluations are also popular for tasks such as semi-supervised classification or object detection. Even though this setup alters the pretrained weight and thus can change the rank of the representations, our goal is to see whether RankMe can still be used when targeting these evaluations. We com-

Table 3. Using RankMe on finetuning based benchmarks. The ImageNet oracle is the linear evaluation oracle. In the semi-supervised setting we report the top-1 accuracy and report the AP50 for object detection. We see that in the semi-supervised setting on ImageNet RankMe only leads to small drops in performance compared to the task or full ImageNet Oracle. For object detection we even see matching or increased performance over the ImageNet oracle.

Dataset	Method	Cov.	temp.
ImageNet-1%	Task Oracle	39.7	34.6
	ImageNet Oracle	<b>39.7</b>	<b>31.3</b>
	$\alpha$ -ReQ	39.2	27.3
	RankMe	38.7	30.9
ImageNet-10%	Task Oracle	62.7	62.6
	ImageNet Oracle	62.6	<b>62.6</b>
	$\alpha$ -ReQ	<b>62.7</b>	59.1
	RankMe	<b>62.7</b>	61.8
VOC07+12 (AP50)	Task Oracle	79.7	81.8
	ImageNet Oracle	78.2	<b>81.0</b>
	$\alpha$ -ReQ	79.0	80.3
	RankMe	<b>79.7</b>	<b>81.0</b>

pare against the task oracle,  $\alpha$ -ReQ and to the ImageNet linear evaluation oracle, which allows us to see if linear accuracy on ImageNet is correlated for these benchmarks. We evaluate all methods on ImageNet 1% and 10% for semi-supervised classification, as well as on PascalVOC07+12 for object detection, following the protocol of (Bardes et al., 2021). As we can see in Table 3, RankMe is able to retrieve most of the performance of the task oracle, except in the case of SimCLR’s temperature on ImageNet-1% where all methods lag behind the task oracle. This also shows that the linear performance on the full ImageNet dataset is not perfectly correlated with the performance in a few shot setting. There is no clear winner between  $\alpha$ -ReQ and RankMe in these finetuning-based evaluations, but we can see smaller drops in performance for RankMe, similarly as in previous experiments. Nevertheless, these results suggest that even in a setting where the applicability of RankMe is not guaranteed due to the finetuning, it can still be a good method to

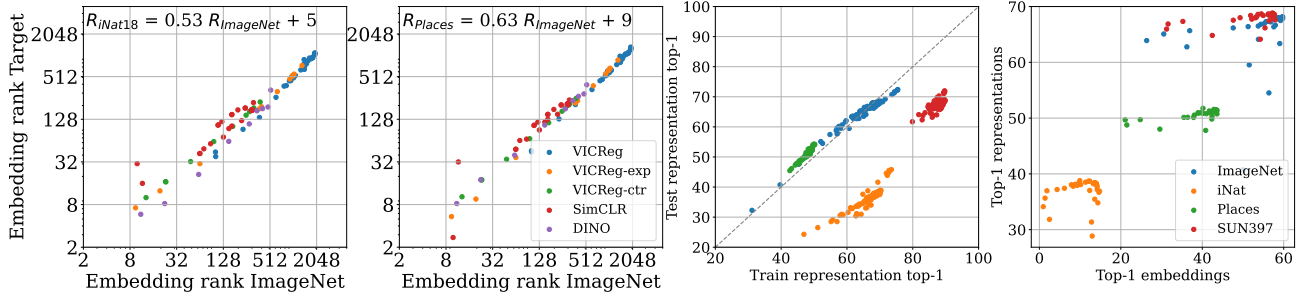


Figure 5. Validation of the hypotheses motivating RankMe. **(Left, Middle Left)** Embeddings’ rank transfers from source to target datasets. The estimates use 25600 images from the respective datasets. **(Middle Right)** Train and test accuracy are highly correlated across datasets. **(Right)** An increase in performance on embeddings leads to an increase in performance on representations.

select hyperparameters in an unsupervised fashion.

## 5. RankMe: From Theory to Implementation

Our goal is to build a theoretically grounded intuition into the construction of RankMe. To that hand, we first quantify approximation and classification errors of learned embeddings as a function of their rank, and then motivate how embeddings’ rank can be sufficient to compare test performance of JE-SSL models’s representations.

**From Source Embeddings’s Rank to Target Representations performance.** We first build some intuition in the regression settings. In this case, the Eckart-Young-Mirsky theorem (Eckart & Young, 1936) ties the best-case and worst-case approximation error of any target matrix  $\mathbf{Y} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times C}$  from a rank- $R$  matrix  $\mathbf{P} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times C}$  to the singular values of  $\mathbf{Y}$  that run from  $R$  to the rank of  $\mathbf{Y}$  when ordered in decreasing order. Without loss of generality, we only consider the case  $C > N$  in this study, i.e., we have more samples than dimensions. Formally, this provides a lower bound on

$$\|\mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{P}\|_F^2 \geq \sum_{r=R+1}^C \sigma_r^2(\mathbf{Y}),$$

which is tight for  $\mathbf{P}$  of rank  $R$ , and with  $\sigma_k$  the operator returning the  $k^{\text{th}}$  singular value of its argument, ordered in decreasing order. This result, on which RankMe relies on, demonstrates that a necessary (but not sufficient) condition for an approximation  $\mathbf{P}$  to well approximate  $\mathbf{Y}$  is to have at least the same rank as  $\mathbf{Y}$ . A similar result can be obtained in classification by considering multiple one-vs-all classifiers. In practice, however, we commonly employ a linear probe network on top of given embeddings  $\mathbf{Z}$  to best adapt them to the target  $\mathbf{Y}$ , i.e.,  $\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{Z}\mathbf{W} + \mathbf{1}\mathbf{b}^T$ . However, a linear transformation is not able to increase the rank of the input matrix since

$$\text{rank}(\mathbf{P}) \leq \min(\text{rank}(\mathbf{Z}), \text{rank}(\mathbf{W})) + 1.$$

We directly obtain that  $\min_{\mathbf{W}, \mathbf{b}} \|\mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{Z}\mathbf{W} - \mathbf{1}\mathbf{b}^T\|_F^2 \geq \sum_{r=R+1}^C \sigma_r^2(\mathbf{Y})$ . In short, the approximation lower bound is not improved by allowing linear transformation of the embeddings. Further supporting the above, we ought to recall Cover’s theorem (Cover, 1965) stating that the probability of a randomly labeled set of points being linearly separable only increases if  $N$  is reduced or  $R$  is increased. We combine those results below.

**Proposition 5.1.** *The maximum training accuracy of given embeddings in linear regression or classification increases with their rank. For classification, it plateaus when the rank surpasses the number of classes.*

By noticing that RankMe provides a smooth measure of the embeddings’ rank we can lean on Proposition 5.1 to see that given two models, the one with greater RankMe value will have greater training performance. This is only guaranteed for different models of the same method, since embedding rank is not necessarily the only factor that affects performance.

The above result is however not too practical yet since what we are truly interested in are (i) performance on unseen samples, i.e., on the test set and out-of-distribution tasks, and (ii) performance on the representations and not the embeddings since it is common to ablate the projector network of JE-SSL models. Below, we validate three key hypotheses which, when verified, imply that we can extend the impact of RankMe such that *(OOD) test performance of JE-SSL representations are increased when RankMe’s value on their train set embeddings is increased.*

**Validating RankMe’s Hypotheses.** The development of RankMe is theoretically grounded when it comes to guaranteeing improved source dataset embeddings performance. To empirically extend it to target dataset representations performance we need to verify three hypotheses: (i) linear probes do not overfit, (ii) embeddings and representations performance are monotonically linked, and (iii) source and (OOD) target embeddings ranks are monotonically linked. Due to the different nature of datasets used for downstream



tasks, there is no inherent reason for the rank of embeddings to transfer in a monotonic way to them. However, if the source dataset is diverse enough and target datasets have some semantic overlap with the source dataset, then we have

$$\text{rank}(\mathbf{Z}_{\text{target}}) \propto \text{rank}(\mathbf{Z}_{\text{source}}). \quad (3)$$

We observe in Section 3.2 and Figure 5 that the rank of JE-SSL representations scales linearly between different input distributions e.g. going from a *source* task such as Imagenet (Deng et al., 2009) to a *target* task such as iNaturalist. This is further confirmed by Pearson correlation coefficients greater than 0.99. Interestingly, we observe that the StanfordCars dataset suffers from a less distinctive linear scaling due to the dataset distribution having a small overlap with ImageNet. This indicates that as long as the source dataset is relatively diverse, then using RankMe to select a model with greater embeddings’ rank will also correspond to selecting a model with greater embeddings’ rank on the target dataset.

Furthermore, as the train performance increases, so does the test performance. We validate this in the middle right of Figure 5. As a result, using RankMe to select a model with greater train performance is enough to also select a model with greater test performance.

Finally, we report on the right of Figure 5 that the performance on embeddings and representations scales almost monotonically. These results are supported by visualizations of embeddings and representations from feature inversion models (Bordes et al., 2021). Hence, using RankMe to select the model maximizing the performance on the former also selects a model maximizing performance on the latter. With these hypotheses validated empirically, we can confidently say that RankMe computed on the embeddings of the source dataset is a predictor of representations’ performance on target datasets, reinforcing our experimental insights.

## 6. Conclusion

We have shown how the phenomenon of dimensional collapse in self-supervised learning can be used as a powerful metric to evaluate models. By using a theoretically motivated analogue of the rank of embeddings, we show that the performance on downstream datasets can easily be assessed by only looking at the training dataset, without any labels, training, or parameters. While our work focuses on linear classification, we show promising results in non-linear classification that raise the question of how general this simple metric can be. Furthermore, its competitiveness with traditional oracle based hyperparameter selection methods makes it a promising tool in settings where labels are scarce, such as in the case of large uncurated datasets. As such, this work makes a step towards completely label-less self-supervised learning, as most existing approaches’ hyperparameters are tuned with the help of ImageNet’s validation set. Further work will explore the use of RankMe

in more varied scenarios, to further legitimize its use in designing better self-supervised approaches.

## 7. Acknowledgments

The authors wish to thank Li Jing, Grégoire Mialon, Adrien Bardes, and Yubei Chen in no particular order, for insightful discussions. We also thank Florian Bordes for the efficient implementations that were used for our experiments.

## References

- Balestrieri, R. and LeCun, Y. Contrastive and non-contrastive self-supervised learning recover global and local spectral embedding methods. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2205.11508*, 2022.
- Bardes, A., Ponce, J., and LeCun, Y. Vicreg: Variance-invariance-covariance regularization for self-supervised learning. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2105.04906*, 2021.
- Bordes, F., Balestrieri, R., and Vincent, P. High fidelity visualization of what your self-supervised representation knows about. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2112.09164*, 2021.
- Bossard, L., Guillaumin, M., and Van Gool, L. Food-101 – mining discriminative components with random forests. In *European Conference on Computer Vision*, 2014.
- Bromley, J., Guyon, I., LeCun, Y., Sackinger, E., and Shah, R. Signature verification using a “siamese” time delay neural network. In *NeurIPS*, 1994.
- Caron, M., Bojanowski, P., Joulin, A., and Douze, M. Deep clustering for unsupervised learning. In *ECCV*, 2018.
- Caron, M., Misra, I., Mairal, J., Goyal, P., Bojanowski, P., and Joulin, A. Unsupervised learning of visual features by contrasting cluster assignments. In *NeurIPS*, 2020.
- Caron, M., Touvron, H., Misra, I., Jegou, H., and Joulin, J. M. P. B. A. Emerging properties in self-supervised vision transformers. In *ICCV*, 2021.
- Chen, T., Kornblith, S., Norouzi, M., and Hinton, G. A simple framework for contrastive learning of visual representations. In *ICML*, pp. 1597–1607. PMLR, 2020a.
- Chen, X. and He, K. Exploring simple siamese representation learning. In *CVPR*, 2020.
- Chen, X., Fan, H., Girshick, R., and He, K. Improved baselines with momentum contrastive learning. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2003.04297*, 2020b.
- Chen, X., Xie, S., and He, K. An empirical study of training self-supervised vision transformers. In *ICCV*, 2021.

- Cover, T. M. Geometrical and statistical properties of systems of linear inequalities with applications in pattern recognition. *IEEE transactions on electronic computers*, (3):326–334, 1965.
- Deng, J., Dong, W., Socher, R., Li, L.-J., Li, K., and Fei-Fei, L. Imagenet: A large-scale hierarchical image database. In *CVPR*, 2009.
- Eckart, C. and Young, G. The approximation of one matrix by another of lower rank. *Psychometrika*, 1(3):211–218, 1936.
- Ermolov, A., Siarohin, A., Sangineto, E., and Sebe, N. Whitening for self-supervised representation learning, 2021.
- Everingham, M., Van Gool, L., Williams, C. K. I., Winn, J., and Zisserman, A. The PASCAL Visual Object Classes Challenge 2007 (VOC2007) Results. <http://www.pascal-network.org/challenges/VOC/voc2007/workshop/index.html>.
- Ganea, O., Gelly, S., Bécigneul, G., and Severyn, A. Breaking the softmax bottleneck via learnable monotonic pointwise non-linearities. In *International Conference on Machine Learning*, pp. 2073–2082. PMLR, 2019.
- Garrido, Q., Chen, Y., Bardes, A., Najman, L., and Lecun, Y. On the duality between contrastive and non-contrastive self-supervised learning. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2206.02574*, 2022.
- Ghosh, A., Mondal, A. K., Agrawal, K. K., and Richards, B. Investigating power laws in deep representation learning. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2202.05808*, 2022.
- Girish, S., Dey, D., Joshi, N., Vineet, V., Shah, S., Mendes, C. C. T., Shrivastava, A., and Song, Y. One network doesn’t rule them all: Moving beyond handcrafted architectures in self-supervised learning. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2203.08130*, 2022.
- Goyal, P., Dollár, P., Girshick, R., Noordhuis, P., Wesolowski, L., Kyrola, A., Tulloch, A., Jia, Y., and He, K. Accurate, large minibatch sgd: Training imagenet in 1 hour. *arXiv preprint arXiv:1706.02677*, 2017.
- Goyal, P., Duval, Q., Reizenstein, J., Leavitt, M., Xu, M., Lefaudeaux, B., Singh, M., Reis, V., Caron, M., Bojanowski, P., Joulin, A., and Misra, I. Vissl. <https://github.com/facebookresearch/vissl>, 2021.
- Grill, J.-B., Strub, F., Altché, F., Tallec, C., Richemond, P. H., Buchatskaya, E., Doersch, C., Pires, B. A., Guo, Z. D., Azar, M. G., Piot, B., Kavukcuoglu, K., Munos, R., and Valko, M. Bootstrap your own latent: A new approach to self-supervised learning. In *NeurIPS*, 2020.
- HaoChen, J. Z., Wei, C., Gaidon, A., and Ma, T. Provable guarantees for self-supervised deep learning with spectral contrastive loss. *NeurIPS*, 34, 2021.
- He, B. and Ozay, M. Exploring the gap between collapsed & whitened features in self-supervised learning. In *International Conference on Machine Learning*, pp. 8613–8634. PMLR, 2022.
- He, K., Zhang, X., Ren, S., and Sun, J. Deep residual learning for image recognition. In *CVPR*, 2016.
- He, K., Fan, H., Wu, Y., Xie, S., and Girshick, R. Momentum contrast for unsupervised visual representation learning. In *CVPR*, 2020.
- He, K., Chen, X., Xie, S., Li, Y., Dollár, P., and Girshick, R. Masked autoencoders are scalable vision learners. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2111.06377*, 2021.
- He, K., Chen, X., Xie, S., Li, Y., Dollár, P., and Girshick, R. Masked autoencoders are scalable vision learners. In *Proceedings of the IEEE/CVF Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition*, pp. 16000–16009, 2022.
- Helber, P., Bischke, B., Dengel, A., and Borth, D. Eurosat: A novel dataset and deep learning benchmark for land use and land cover classification. *IEEE Journal of Selected Topics in Applied Earth Observations and Remote Sensing*, 12(7):2217–2226, 2019.
- Horn, G. V., Aodha, O. M., Song, Y., Cui, Y., Sun, C., Shepard, A., Adam, H., Perona, P., and Belongie, S. The inaturalist species classification and detection dataset. In *CVPR*, 2018.
- Hua, T., Wang, W., Xue, Z., Ren, S., Wang, Y., and Zhao, H. On feature decorrelation in self-supervised learning. In *Proceedings of the IEEE/CVF International Conference on Computer Vision*, pp. 9598–9608, 2021.
- Jing, L., Vincent, P., LeCun, Y., and Tian, Y. Understanding dimensional collapse in contrastive self-supervised learning. In *International Conference on Learning Representations*, 2022. URL <https://openreview.net/forum?id=YevsQ05DEN7>.
- Johnson, J., Hariharan, B., Van Der Maaten, L., Fei-Fei, L., Lawrence Zitnick, C., and Girshick, R. Clevr: A diagnostic dataset for compositional language and elementary visual reasoning. In *Proceedings of the IEEE conference on computer vision and pattern recognition*, pp. 2901–2910, 2017.
- Krause, J., Stark, M., Deng, J., and Fei-Fei, L. 3d object representations for fine-grained categorization. In *Proceedings of the IEEE international conference on computer vision workshops*, pp. 554–561, 2013.

- Krizhevsky, A., Hinton, G., et al. Learning multiple layers of features from tiny images. 2009.
- Lee, K.-H., Arnab, A., Guadarrama, S., Canny, J., and Fischer, I. Compressive visual representations. In *NeurIPS*, 2021.
- Li, A. C., Efros, A. A., and Pathak, D. Understanding collapse in non-contrastive siamese representation learning. In *European Conference on Computer Vision*, pp. 490–505. Springer, 2022a.
- Li, C., Yang, J., Zhang, P., Gao, M., Xiao, B., Dai, X., Yuan, L., and Gao, J. Efficient self-supervised vision transformers for representation learning. In *ICLR*, 2022b.
- Li, Z., Chen, Y., LeCun, Y., and Sommer, F. T. Neural manifold clustering and embedding. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2201.10000*, 2022c.
- Loshchilov, I. and Hutter, F. Decoupled weight decay regularization. *arXiv preprint arXiv:1711.05101*, 2017.
- Misra, I. and Maaten, L. v. d. Self-supervised learning of pretext-invariant representations. In *CVPR*, 2020.
- Oord, A. v. d., Li, Y., and Vinyals, O. Representation learning with contrastive predictive coding. *arXiv preprint arXiv:1807.03748*, 2018.
- Press, W. H., Teukolsky, S. A., Vetterling, W. T., and Flannery, B. P. *Numerical recipes 3rd edition: The art of scientific computing*. Cambridge university press, 2007.
- Reed, C. J., Metzger, S., Srinivas, A., Darrell, T., and Keutzer, K. Selfaugment: Automatic augmentation policies for self-supervised learning. In *Proceedings of the IEEE/CVF Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition*, pp. 2674–2683, 2021.
- Roy, O. and Vetterli, M. The effective rank: A measure of effective dimensionality. In *2007 15th European signal processing conference*, pp. 606–610. IEEE, 2007.
- Santurkar, S., Tsipras, D., Ilyas, A., and Madry, A. How does batch normalization help optimization? *Advances in neural information processing systems*, 31, 2018.
- Shannon, C. E. A mathematical theory of communication. *The Bell system technical journal*, 27(3):379–423, 1948.
- Tomasev, N., Bica, I., McWilliams, B., Buesing, L., Pascanu, R., Blundell, C., and Mitrovic, J. Pushing the limits of self-supervised resnets: Can we outperform supervised learning without labels on imagenet? *arXiv preprint arXiv:2201.05119*, 2022.
- Ulyanov, D., Vedaldi, A., and Lempitsky, V. Deep image prior. In *Proceedings of the IEEE conference on computer vision and pattern recognition*, pp. 9446–9454, 2018.
- Wu, Z., Xiong, Y., Yu, S., , and Lin, D. Unsupervised feature learning via non-parametric instance discrimination. In *CVPR*, 2018.
- Xiao, J., Hays, J., Ehinger, K. A., Oliva, A., and Torralba, A. Sun database: Large-scale scene recognition from abbey to zoo. In *2010 IEEE computer society conference on computer vision and pattern recognition*, pp. 3485–3492. IEEE, 2010.
- Yeh, C.-H., Hong, C.-Y., Hsu, Y.-C., Liu, T.-L., Chen, Y., and LeCun, Y. Decoupled contrastive learning. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2110.06848*, 2021.
- You, Y., Gitman, I., and Ginsburg, B. Large batch training of convolutional networks. *arXiv preprint arXiv:1708.03888*, 2017.
- Zbontar, J., Jing, L., Misra, I., LeCun, Y., and Deny, S. Barlow twins: Self-supervised learning via redundancy reduction. In *ICML*, pp. 12310–12320. PMLR, 2021.
- Zhou, B., Lapedriza, A., Xiao, J., Torralba, A., and Oliva, A. Learning deep features for scene recognition using places database. In *NeurIPS*, 2014.
- Zhou, J., Wei, C., Wang, H., Shen, W., Xie, C., Yuille, A., and Kong, T. ibot: Image bert pre-training with online tokenizer. In *ICLR*, 2022a.
- Zhou, P., Zhou, Y., Si, C., Yu, W., Ng, T. K., and Yan, S. Mugs: A multi-granular self-supervised learning framework. 2022b.
- Zhuang, C., Zhai, A. L., and Yamins, D. Local aggregation for unsupervised learning of visual embeddings. In *ICCV*, 2019.

## A. Background

In order to make our work as self-contained as possible, we recall the loss functions of the methods we study. For conciseness, we refer to the outputs of the encoder as *representations* and the outputs of the projection head as *embeddings*, which we denote by  $z_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$ . We first briefly recall that the SimCLR loss is given by

$$\mathcal{L} = - \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathbb{P}} \frac{e^{CoSim(z_i, z_j)}}{\sum_{k=1}^N \mathbf{1}_{\{k \neq i\}} e^{CoSim(z_i, z_k)}},$$

with  $\mathbb{P}$  the set of all positive pairs in the current mini-batch or dataset that comprise  $N$  exemplars.

VICReg’s loss is defined with three components. The variances loss  $v$  acts as a norm regularizer for the dimensions, and the covariance loss aims at decorrelating dimensions in the embeddings. They are respectively defined as

$$v(\mathbf{Z}) = \frac{1}{d} \sum_{i=1}^d \max\left(0, 1 - \sqrt{\text{Var}(Z_{:,i})}\right) \text{ and } c(\mathbf{Z}) = \frac{1}{d} \sum_{i \neq j} \text{Cov}(\mathbf{Z})^2.$$

Both of these loss are combined with an invariance loss that matches positives pairs, giving a final loss of

$$\mathcal{L} = \lambda \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathbb{P}} \|z_i - z_j\|_2^2 + \mu c(\mathbf{Z}) + \nu v(\mathbf{Z}).$$

VICReg-exp is defined similarly, but with the exponential covariance loss defined as

$$c_{exp}(\mathbf{Z}) = \frac{1}{d} \sum_i \log \left( \sum_{j \neq i} e^{\text{Cov}(\mathbf{Z})_{i,j}/\tau} \right). \quad (4)$$

VICReg-ctr is then VICReg-exp but applied to  $\mathbf{Z}^T$ , making it a contrastive approach and conceptually similar to SimCLR. These methods give us different scenarios of collapse and allow us to make a more general study of the rank of representations as a powerful metric.

## B. Visualizations on iNaturalist-18

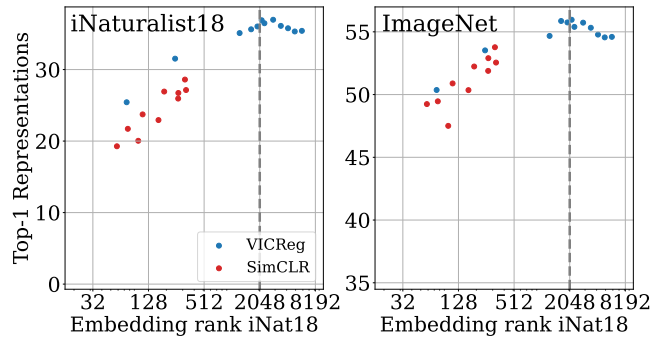


Figure S1. RankMe applied to iNaturalist18 pretrainings. The vertical line indicates the rank constraint placed by the representation size, and so any rank above should be counted as 2048.

As we can see in Figure S1, RankMe produces curves with the same trend as on ImageNet, for both SimCLR and VICReg. We can see that VICReg leads to ranks that go beyond 2048, but the dimension of the manifold formed by the embeddings cannot be higher than 2048 due to the dimension of the representations. As such, for any practical purpose we clip the value of RankMe at 2048.

### C. Applicability to cluster based methods

While we have studied the applicability of RankMe on contrastive methods, cluster based methods such as DINO have become extremely popular, and since the definition of embeddings is not as clear cut in them, a thorough analysis is required. We will proceed in two steps:

- Show that dimensional collapse happens right before the clustering layer, and on the prototypes
- Show that RankMe is a good measure of performance on DINO

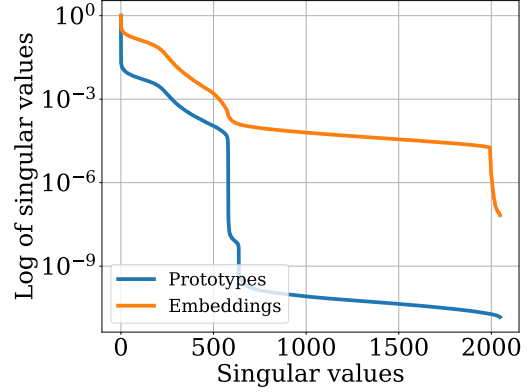
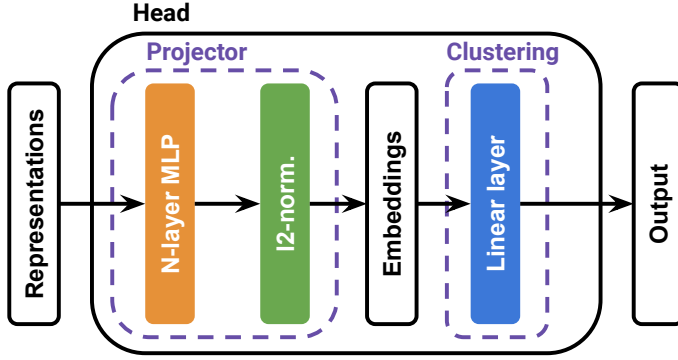
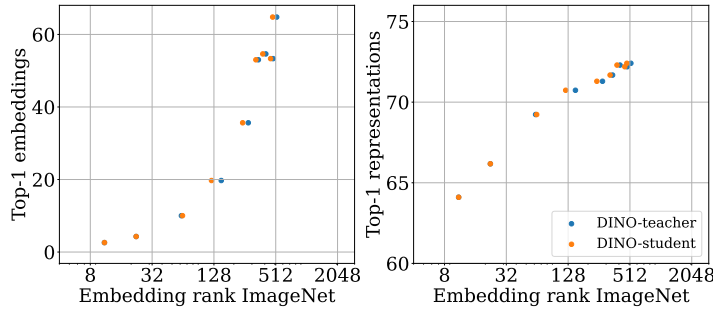


Figure S2. DINO’s projection head can be split in two parts, a classical projector and a clustering layer (**Left**). Collapse happens before the clustering layer and not on the clustering prototypes (**Right**).

As we can see in figure S2, DINO’s projector can be interpreted as both a classical projector and a clustering layer, whose weights are clustering prototypes. This interpretation comes from the softmax that is applied on the output of the projection head which can be interpreted as an InfoNCE between the embeddings and the clustering prototypes that make up the clustering layer. We see that both the embeddings and the clustering prototypes are collapsed, though at different levels.



Dataset	Method	DINO	
		t-temp.	s-temp.
ImageNet	ImageNet Oracle	72.3	72.4
	$\alpha$ -ReQ	71.7	66.2
	RankMe-embs	72.2	72.4
	RankMe-prots	72.3	72.4
OOD	ImageNet Oracle	71.9	72.5
	$\alpha$ -ReQ	71.8	68.5
	RankMe-embs	71.8	72.5
	RankMe-prots	71.9	72.5

Figure S3. RankMe is able to measure DINO’s performance on its source dataset (**Left**). DINO’s hyperparameters can be selected by using RankMe, even by doing so directly on the prototypes (**Right**).

As we can see in Figure S3, the phenomenon of dimensional collapse is highly visible in DINO, which enables the use RankMe to find optimal hyperparameter values. While in Figure 1 we applied RankMe to the embeddings to be consistent with other methods, we see that it can be applied directly to the prototypes, yielding very similar results and matching the ImageNet oracle here. The main advantage coming from using prototypes is that they are already computed during training, and as such the application of RankMe does not require computing any embeddings. This makes RankMe even more appealing for clustering based methods where such technique can be applied.

## D. Complete visualizations on all datasets

While we previously focused on certain datasets for their interesting natures, we provide additional visualizations for the remaining datasets, as well as for performance on the embeddings.

As we can see in Figures S4 and S5, we find similar behaviors as before, apart from Food101 where performance are almost identical for all methods. This reinforces the previous validation of RankMe. The relative simplicity of the datasets targeted here makes the theoretical limitations of rank-deficient embeddings harder to see, even though we still see that a high rank helps generalization.



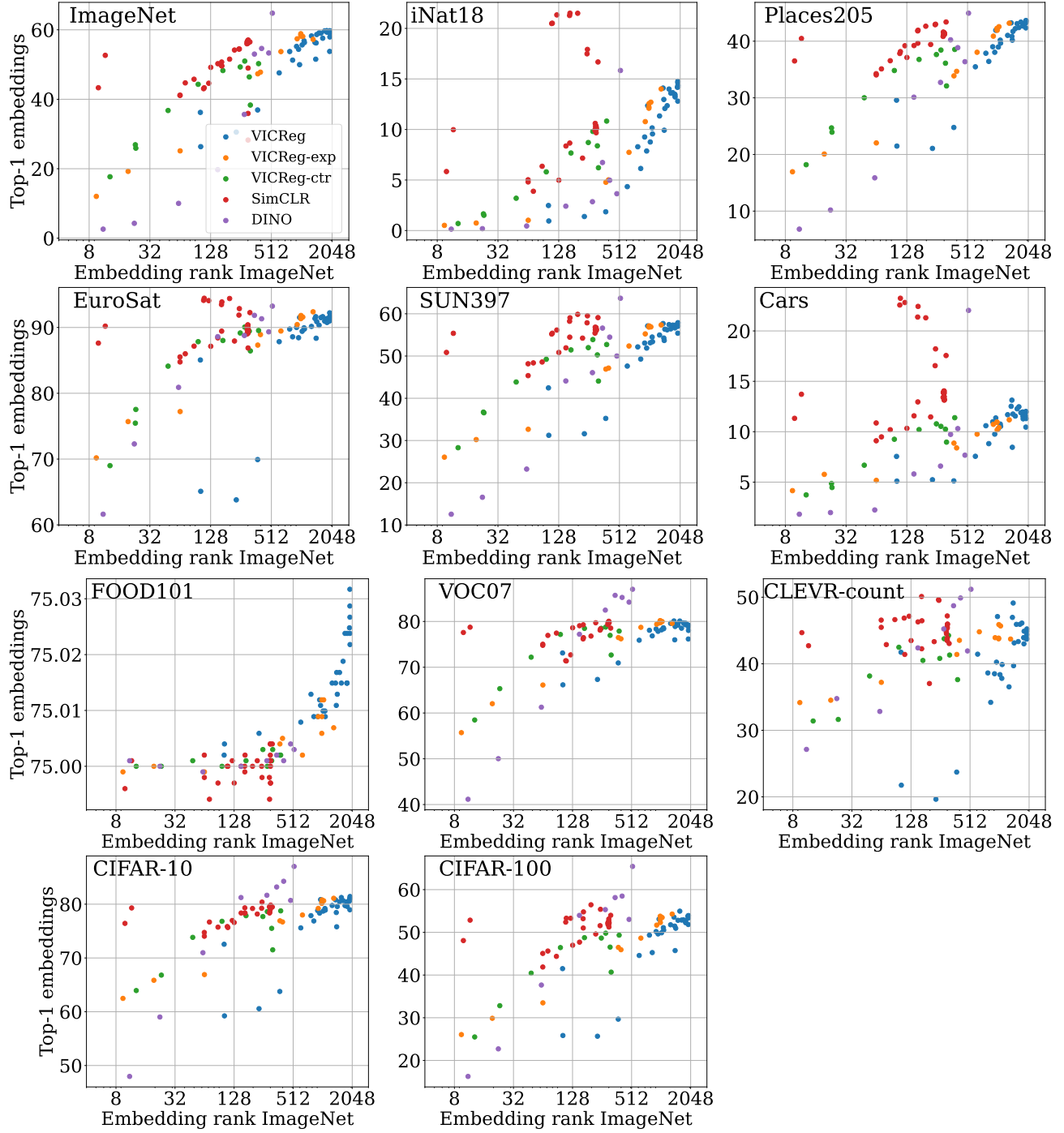


Figure S4. Link between embedding rank and downstream performance on the embeddings.

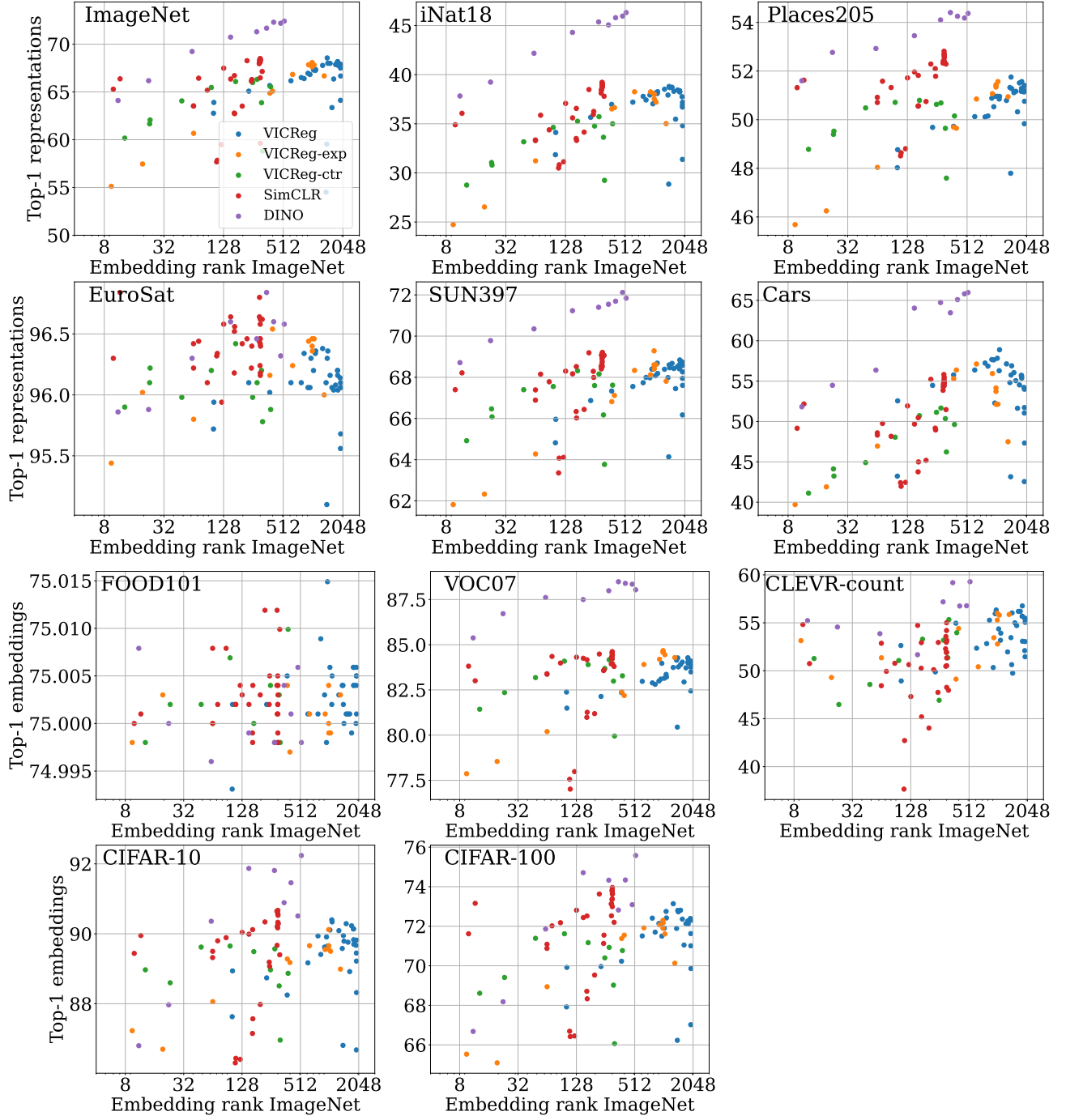


Figure S5. Link between embedding rank and downstream performance on the representations.

## E. Detailed results for $\alpha$ -ReQ

In order to further study the performance of  $\alpha$ -ReQ, we reproduce our plots for RankMe using  $\alpha$ -ReQ instead of the rank of embeddings. We compare both the intended use of  $\alpha$ -ReQ in Figure S6, as well as applying it on the embeddings to measure performance on the representations, which we found was necessary for RankMe in Figure S7. We do not include DINO in those plots for readability, as it would force us to change the x-axis scale, making the results harder to interpret.

As we can see in Figure S6, there are no clear link visible between the value of  $\alpha$ -ReQ and downstream performance. Especially, we are unable to see the tendency of performance to increase as  $\alpha$  tends to one. Nonetheless  $\alpha$ -ReQ was still able to lead to good performance when used for hyperparameter selection.

When applying  $\alpha$ -ReQ as we would RankMe, we can see in Figure S7 that there is again no trend of performance increase when  $\alpha$  tends to one. On the contrary we even find that performance tends to get better with a lower  $\alpha$ , as is most visible on StanfordCars, iNaturalist18 or ImageNet for example.  $\alpha$  going towards zero means that the singular values of the embeddings tends to a uniform distribution, in line with the goal of RankMe.

As we can see in Figures S8 and S9, the power-law prior of  $\alpha$ -ReQ holds well in the case of non-collapsed embeddings, but when we apply it on collapsed ones, this assumptions fails. It even provides a poor approximation of the main rank "plateau" with the highest singular values as can be seen on the right of Figure S9. This further confirms the findings of (He & Ozay, 2022), and shows that when applying  $\alpha$ -ReQ directly on the embeddings one must be careful since the core assumptions of the method is violated.

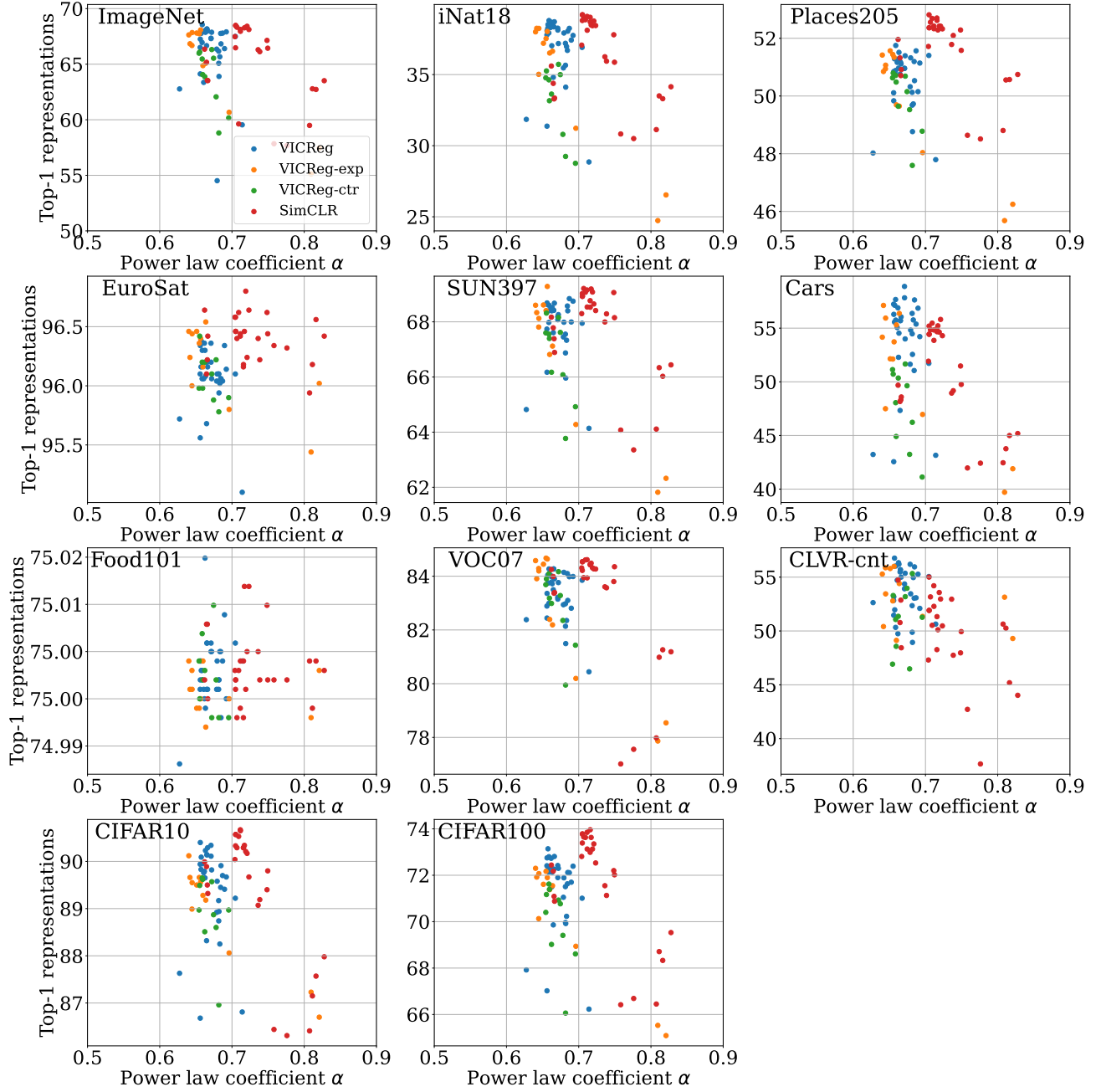


Figure S6. Link between  $\alpha$ -ReQ measured on the representations and performance on the representations.

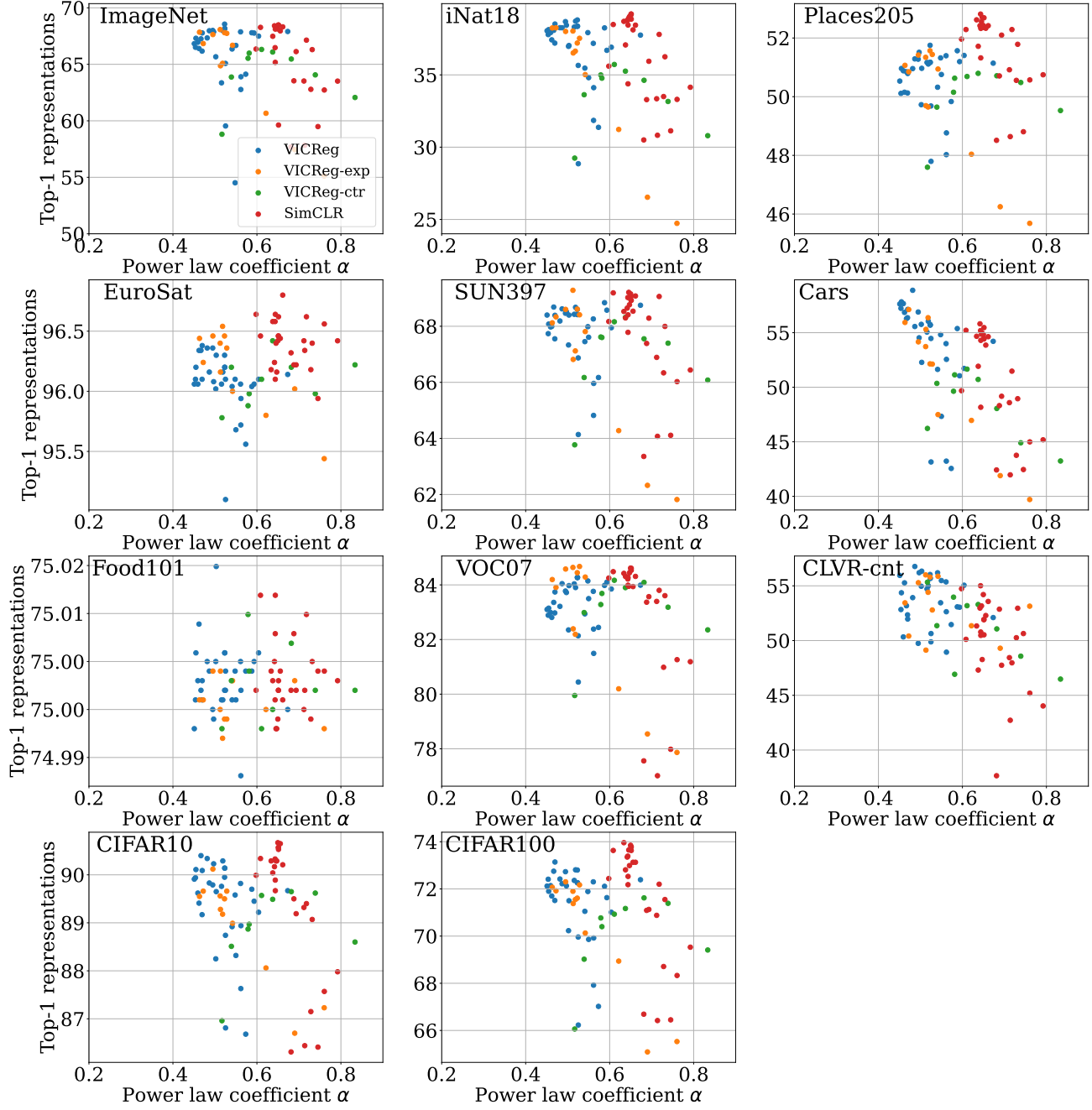


Figure S7. Link between  $\alpha$ -ReQ measured on the embeddings and performance on the representations.

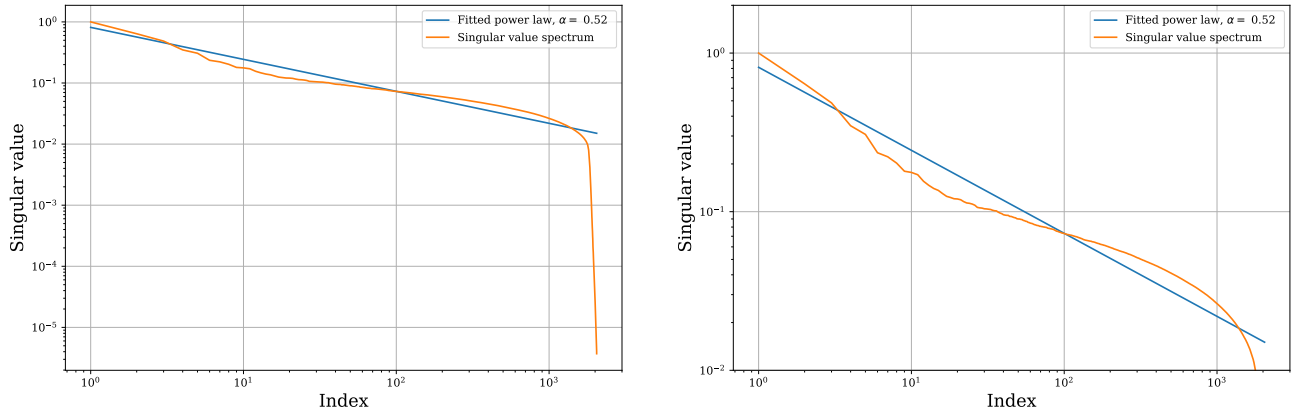


Figure S8. Validation of the power-law prior on un-collapsed representations. **(Left)** Overall visualization. **(Right)** Zoom on the high singular values.

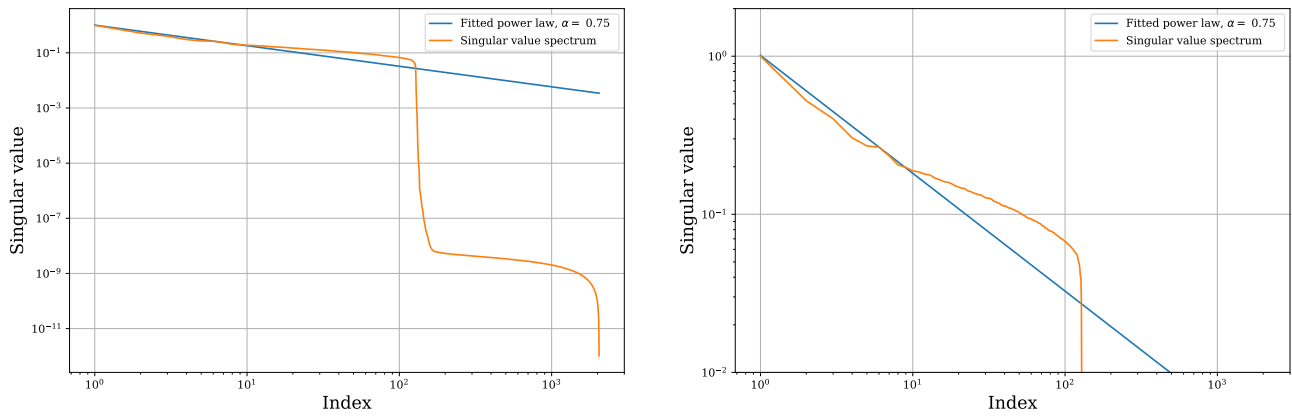


Figure S9. The power-law prior does not hold on collapsed representations. **(Left)** Overall visualization. **(Right)** Zoom on the high singular values.



## F. Comparison of the rank estimators

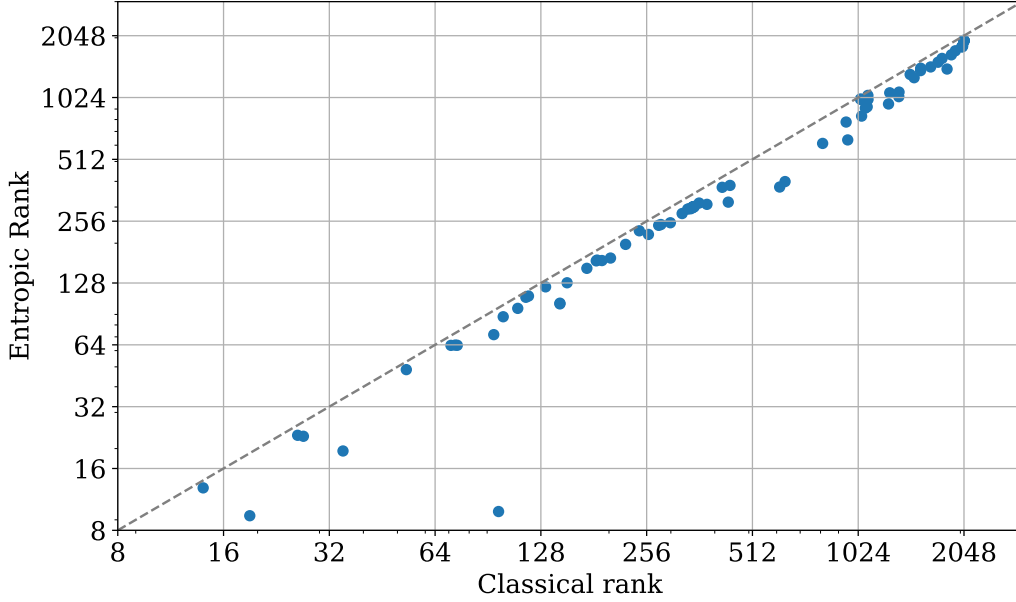


Figure S10. Relationship between the two rank estimators, Pearson correlation coefficient of 0.99. Outliers indicate embeddings with singular values to the threshold, showing how the entropic rank takes into account this information.

Since we do not rely on the classical threshold-based rank estimator, it is important to verify how well our entropy based one correlates with it. As we can see in Figure S10, both estimates discussed previously correlate extremely well, showing that using one or the other should not lead to significant differences, as validated in Appendix H. Nonetheless, the entropic estimator takes into account the degree of whitening of the embeddings, which links better to theoretical results.

## G. Convergence of the rank estimators

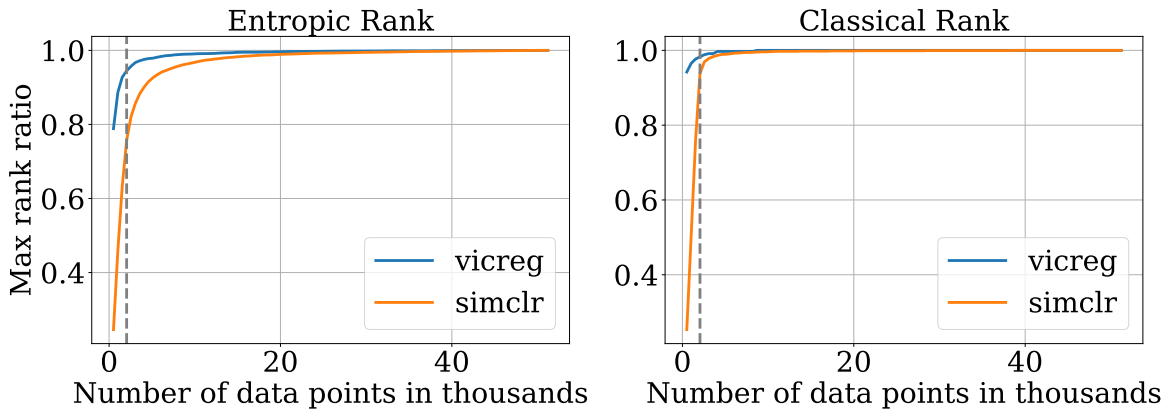


Figure S11. Convergence of the rank estimators on ImageNet as a function of the number of samples for 2048 dimensional outputs, as indicated by the vertical line.

As we can see in Figure S11, the rank estimates converge extremely quickly, especially for VICReg. For both VICReg and SimCLR, 10000 samples are enough to obtain more than 95% of the final rank. It is worth noting that the entropic rank estimator converges more slowly than the classical rank estimator, as it is more sensitive to the singular values. The fact that the rank can be approximated with few samples is encouraging for its use during training and not only as a measure of performance after pretraining.

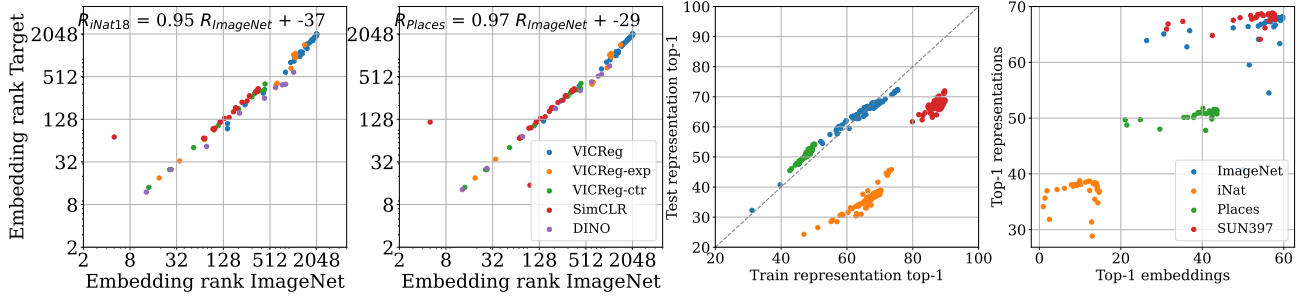


Figure S12. Reproduction of Figure 5 with the classical rank estimator. Embeddings’ rank transfers from source to target datasets. The estimates used 25600 images from the respective datasets.

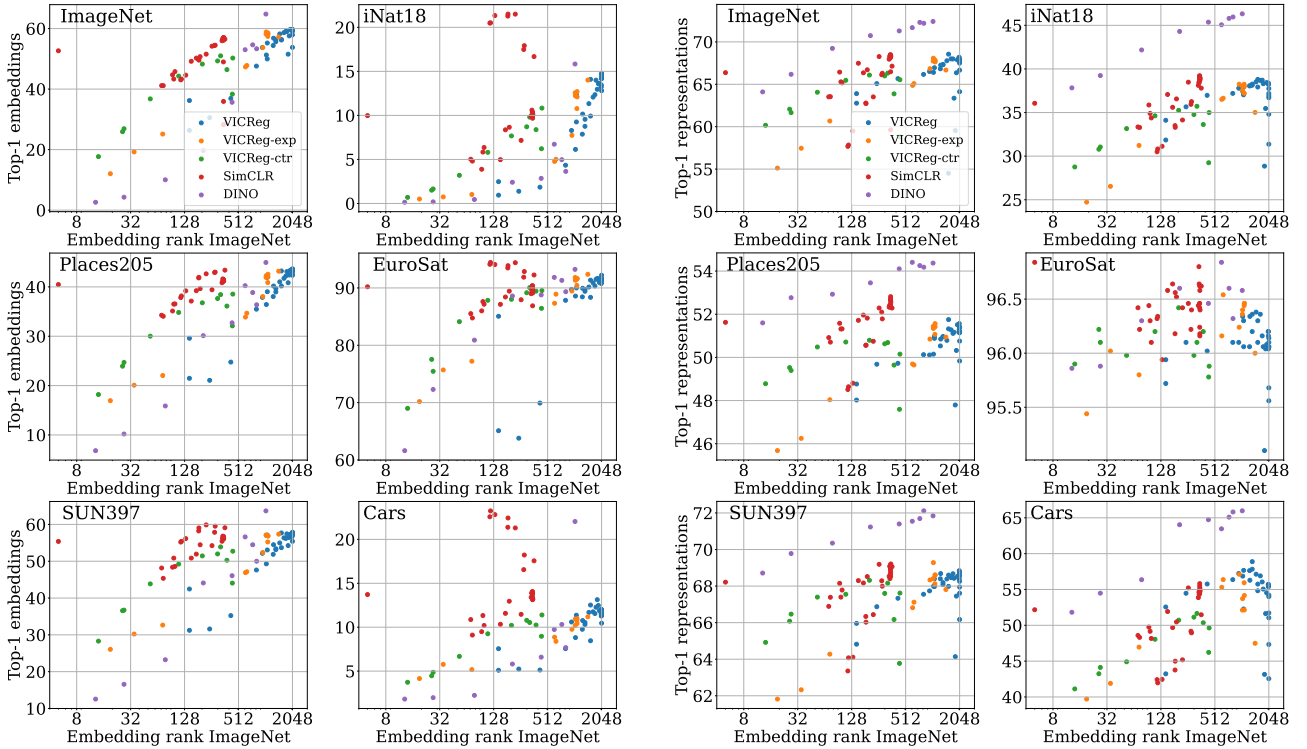


Figure S13. Reproduction of Figure 2 with the classical rank estimator. **(Left)** Validation of RankMe on embeddings, a higher ImageNet rank leads to improved performance across methods and datasets. **(Right)** Validation of RankMe on representations, where the link is even clearer, reinforcing RankMe’s practical use.

## H. Reproduction of figures with the classical rank estimator

As can be seen in Figures S12 and S13, the results that we obtain using the classical threshold-based rank estimator are extremely similar to the ones with the entropic estimator. The exact values do differ, but the behaviors stay the same. One of the main differences is illustrated in Figure S13, where we can see that the target rank is almost identical to the source one when we previously saw a drop of around 50%. This can be explained by the fact that some features may be less present in the target dataset, reducing the associated singular values, and thus the entropic rank.

All of this shows that using one or the other will lead to similar results in practical scenarios.

## I. Detailed training and evaluation procedures

## I.1. Pretraining

Table S1. Image augmentation parameters, taken from (Grill et al., 2020).

Parameter	View 1	View 2
Random crop probability	1.0	1.0
Horizontal flip probability	0.5	0.5
Color jittering probability	0.8	0.8
Brightness adjustment max intensity	0.4	0.4
Contrast adjustment max intensity	0.4	0.4
Saturation adjustment max intensity	0.2	0.2
Hue adjustment max intensity	0.1	0.1
Grayscale probability	0.2	0.2
Gaussian blurring probability	1.0	0.1
Solarization probability.	0.0	0.2

All pretrainings were done with ResNet-50 backbones. The projector used is a MLP with intermediate dimensions 8192, 8192, 2048 (8192, 8192, 2048, 32768 for DINO). VICReg, VICReg-ctr, VICReg-exp and SimCLR were trained with the LARS optimizer using a momentum of 0.9, weight decay  $10^{-6}$  and varying learning rates depending on the method. VICReg used 0.3 base learning rate, SimCLR 0.5 or 0.6 depending on the experiment, VICReg-exp 0.6 and VICReg-ctr 0.6. DINO was trained with AdamW (Loshchilov & Hutter, 2017) using a learning rate of 0.00025, using multi-crop 6 additional crops of size  $96 \times 96$ . The learning rate is then computed as  $lr = base\_lr * batch\_size / 256$ . We do a 10-epochs linear warmup and then use cosine annealing. we use batch sizes of 2048 for SimCLR and 1024 for other methods. SimCLR and VICReg-ctr also use a default temperature of 0.15, and 0.1 for VICReg-exp.

we use the image augmentation strategy from (Grill et al., 2020) illustrated in Table S1. For the pretrainings on iNaturalist-18, we use the same protocol but with a 300 epoch pretraining to account for its smaller size compared to ImageNet.

## I.2. Evaluation

Table S2. Optimization parameters used to evaluate on downstream datasets

Dataset	Optimizer	Weight decay	Momentum	Learning rate	Epochs
ImageNet	SGD (w/ Nesterov)	0.00004	0.9	0.3	30
iNaturalist18	SGD (w/ Nesterov)	0.0005	0.9	0.01	84
Places205	SGD (w/ Nesterov)	0.0005	0.9	0.01	14
EuroSat	SGD (w/ Nesterov)	0.0005	0.9	0.01	28
Sun397	SGD (w/ Nesterov)	0.0005	0.9	0.01	28
StanfordCars	SGD (w/ Nesterov)	0.0005	0.9	0.1	28
CIFAR10	SGD (w/ Nesterov)	0.0005	0.9	0.01	28
CIFAR100	SGD (w/ Nesterov)	0.0005	0.9	0.01	28
CLEVR-count	SGD (w/ Nesterov)	0.0005	0.9	0.01	50
Food101	SGD (w/ Nesterov)	0.0005	0.9	0.01	28
VOC07	N/A, see in text				

For all datasets except StanfordCars, we use the standard protocol in VISSL. On StanfordCars we mostly tuned the learning rate. The parameters that we use are described in Table S2. For data augmentation, we use random resized crops and random horizontal flips during training, and center crop for evaluation. For VOC07, we follow the common protocol using SVMs, as used in (Bardes et al., 2021). We use the default VISSL settings for this evaluation.

## J. Detailed tables for hyperparameter selection

Table S3. Top-1 accuracies computed on representations when tuning hyperparameters with ImageNet validation performance, RankMe or with  $\alpha$ -ReQ.

Dataset	Method	VICReg				SimCLR			DINO	
		cov.	inv.	LR	WD	temp.	LR.	WD.	t-temp.	s-temp.
ImageNet	ImageNet Oracle	68.2	68.2	68.6	68.0	68.5	68.5	68.3	72.3	72.4
	RankMe	67.8	67.9	68.2	67.8	67.1	68.0	68.3	72.2	72.4
	$\alpha$ -ReQ	67.9	67.5	59.5	67.8	63.5	68.1	32.3	71.7	66.2
iNat18	ImageNet Oracle	38.4	38.4	38.8	38.3	39.2	39.2	38.9	45.8	46.3
	RankMe	36.7	37.2	38.4	38.3	37.8	38.1	38.9	46.0	46.3
	$\alpha$ -ReQ	37.8	36.9	28.9	38.3	34.1	38.4	38.7	45.1	39.2
Places205	ImageNet Oracle	51.2	51.2	51.8	51.3	52.4	52.4	52.6	54.3	54.4
	RankMe	51.2	51.4	51.2	51.6	52.3	52.3	52.6	54.2	54.4
	$\alpha$ -ReQ	51.1	51.4	47.8	51.6	50.7	52.3	52.6	54.4	52.8
EuroSat	ImageNet Oracle	96.2	96.2	96.3	96.2	96.5	96.5	96.4	96.6	96.6
	RankMe	96.1	96.1	96.2	96.0	96.6	96.4	96.4	96.3	96.6
	$\alpha$ -ReQ	96.1	96.1	95.1	96.0	96.4	96.6	96.2	96.8	95.9
SUN397	ImageNet Oracle	68.4	68.4	68.6	68.6	68.9	68.9	69.2	71.7	71.8
	RankMe	68.6	68.3	68.4	68.8	69.1	68.5	69.2	72.1	71.8
	$\alpha$ -ReQ	68.7	67.9	64.1	68.8	66.4	68.4	68.5	71.5	69.8
Cars	ImageNet Oracle	55.7	55.7	55.8	55.6	54.4	54.4	54.9	65.1	66.0
	RankMe	51.1	54.0	55.7	55.4	51.5	53.9	54.9	65.8	66.0
	$\alpha$ -ReQ	54.2	51.7	43.2	55.4	45.2	54.3	54.7	63.5	54.5
FOOD101	ImageNet Oracle	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0
	RankMe	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0
	$\alpha$ -ReQ	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0
VOC07	ImageNet Oracle	84.3	84.3	84.3	84.0	84.5	84.5	83.9	88.4	88.0
	RankMe	84.1	83.8	84.3	84.0	83.8	83.9	83.9	88.3	88.0
	$\alpha$ -ReQ	84.0	83.9	80.4	84.0	81.2	84.3	84.4	88.5	86.7
CLEVR-Count	ImageNet Oracle	55.7	55.7	56.0	56.8	51.9	51.9	53.2	56.8	59.3
	RankMe	53.0	55.4	55.7	53.1	48.0	52.3	53.2	56.8	59.3
	$\alpha$ -ReQ	52.1	55.1	50.6	53.1	44.0	50.5	51.3	59.2	54.6
CIFAR10	ImageNet Oracle	90.1	90.1	90.0	89.8	90.6	90.6	90.3	91.5	92.2
	RankMe	89.5	89.8	90.1	89.7	89.4	90.6	90.3	90.5	92.2
	$\alpha$ -ReQ	89.7	89.2	86.8	89.7	88.0	89.7	90.3	90.9	88.0
CIFAR100	ImageNet Oracle	72.3	72.3	72.8	72.2	73.8	73.8	73.7	74.3	75.6
	RankMe	71.6	72.3	72.3	72.1	72.2	73.1	73.7	73.1	75.6
	$\alpha$ -ReQ	72.4	71.0	66.2	72.1	69.5	72.5	74.0	72.8	68.2
Average	ImageNet Oracle	68.7	68.7	68.9	68.7	68.7	68.7	68.8	72.0	72.5
	RankMe	67.7	68.3	68.7	68.3	67.5	68.4	68.8	71.8	72.5
	$\alpha$ -ReQ	68.1	67.8	63.4	68.3	64.9	68.2	65.3	71.8	68.3

Table S4. Top-1 accuracies computed on embeddings when tuning hyperparameters with ImageNet validation performance, RankMe or with  $\alpha$ -ReQ.

Dataset	Method	VICReg				SimCLR			DINO	
		cov.	inv.	LR	WD	temp.	LR.	WD.	t-temp.	s-temp.
ImageNet	ImageNet Oracle	59.7	59.7	59.7	59.7	56.9	56.9	57.1	54.6	64.8
	RankMe	59.6	59.7	59.7	59.5	56.5	56.0	57.1	53.3	64.8
	$\alpha$ -ReQ	59.6	59.2	36.2	59.3	51.5	56.4	49.0	53.3	53.3
iNat18	ImageNet Oracle	13.5	14.2	13.5	13.6	10.3	10.3	10.1	5.0	15.8
	RankMe	14.2	14.2	13.5	13.4	16.7	9.9	10.1	3.6	15.8
	$\alpha$ -ReQ	14.2	14.8	2.5	13.2	21.5	10.0	10.0	3.6	3.6
Places205	ImageNet Oracle	42.7	43.3	42.7	43.4	41.2	41.2	41.2	38.9	44.9
	RankMe	43.2	43.3	42.7	42.7	43.4	40.8	41.2	36.4	44.9
	$\alpha$ -ReQ	43.2	43.6	29.6	42.9	42.6	41.0	41.5	36.4	36.4
EuroSat	ImageNet Oracle	91.3	91.7	91.3	91.0	90.4	90.4	89.5	91.3	93.2
	RankMe	91.0	91.7	91.3	91.3	92.3	89.0	89.5	89.3	93.2
	$\alpha$ -ReQ	91.0	91.4	85.1	90.8	94.4	89.6	89.8	89.3	89.3
SUN397	ImageNet Oracle	57.3	57.0	57.3	57.3	56.4	56.4	56.2	54.5	63.7
	RankMe	57.4	57.0	57.3	56.7	59.1	55.4	56.2	50.0	63.7
	$\alpha$ -ReQ	57.4	57.4	42.5	57.2	59.9	56.2	56.2	50.0	50.0
Cars	ImageNet Oracle	12.0	12.0	12.0	11.9	14.0	14.0	13.2	10.3	22.0
	RankMe	11.6	12.0	12.0	11.5	17.6	13.4	13.2	7.7	22.0
	$\alpha$ -ReQ	11.6	12.0	7.5	11.3	21.3	13.9	13.5	7.7	7.7
FOOD101	ImageNet Oracle	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0
	RankMe	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0
	$\alpha$ -ReQ	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0
VOC07	ImageNet Oracle	79.5	79.2	79.5	79.7	79.7	79.7	79.7	85.3	87.0
	RankMe	79.2	79.2	79.5	79.3	78.5	79.3	79.7	84.2	87.0
	$\alpha$ -ReQ	79.2	79.2	73.1	79.6	76.8	79.5	79.9	84.2	84.2
CLEVR-Count	ImageNet Oracle	43.9	44.4	43.9	46.1	43.5	43.5	46.0	49.9	51.2
	RankMe	43.9	44.4	43.9	43.0	43.0	44.8	46.0	41.9	51.2
	$\alpha$ -ReQ	43.9	43.8	41.7	44.9	37.0	45.2	45.9	41.9	41.9
CIFAR10	ImageNet Oracle	80.4	81.2	80.4	79.7	79.3	79.3	79.8	84.3	87.0
	RankMe	80.6	81.2	80.4	80.3	79.5	79.5	79.8	80.7	87.0
	$\alpha$ -ReQ	80.6	81.0	72.5	79.6	79.2	78.5	79.4	80.7	80.7
CIFAR100	ImageNet Oracle	52.8	53.3	52.8	52.9	52.6	52.6	52.2	58.5	65.4
	RankMe	53.8	53.3	52.8	52.5	54.0	52.2	52.2	53.0	65.4
	$\alpha$ -ReQ	53.8	53.9	41.5	52.2	56.5	52.0	52.3	53.0	53.0
Average	ImageNet Oracle	55.3	55.5	55.3	55.5	54.5	54.5	54.5	55.2	60.9
	RankMe	55.4	55.5	55.3	55.0	56.0	54.1	54.5	52.3	60.9
	$\alpha$ -ReQ	55.4	55.6	46.1	55.1	56.0	54.3	53.9	52.3	52.3

## K. Complete performance tables

Table S5. Hyperparameters for all runs.

Method	Run	Batch size	Learning rate	Weight decay	Loss hyperparameters
VICReg	0	1024	0.3	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 25, \mu : 25, \nu : 0.3$
	1	1024	0.3	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 25, \mu : 25, \nu : 0.4$
	2	1024	0.3	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 25, \mu : 25, \nu : 0.5$
	3	1024	0.3	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 25, \mu : 25, \nu : 0.6$
	4	1024	0.3	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 25, \mu : 25, \nu : 0.7$
	5	1024	0.3	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 25, \mu : 25, \nu : 0.8$
	6	1024	0.3	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 25, \mu : 25, \nu : 0.9$
	7	1024	0.3	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 25, \mu : 25, \nu : 1$
	8	1024	0.3	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 25, \mu : 25, \nu : 2$
	9	1024	0.3	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 25, \mu : 25, \nu : 4$
	10	1024	0.3	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 25, \mu : 25, \nu : 8$
	11	1024	0.3	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 25, \mu : 25, \nu : 16$
	12	1024	0.3	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 5, \mu : 25, \nu : 4$
	13	1024	0.3	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 10, \mu : 25, \nu : 4$
	14	1024	0.3	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 15, \mu : 25, \nu : 4$
	15	1024	0.3	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 20, \mu : 25, \nu : 4$
	16	1024	0.3	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 30, \mu : 25, \nu : 4$
	17	1024	0.3	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 35, \mu : 25, \nu : 4$
	18	1024	0.3	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 40, \mu : 25, \nu : 4$
	19	1024	0.3	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 45, \mu : 25, \nu : 4$
	20	1024	0.3	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 50, \mu : 25, \nu : 4$
	21	1024	0.1	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 25, \mu : 25, \nu : 4$
	22	1024	0.2	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 25, \mu : 25, \nu : 4$
	23	1024	0.3	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 25, \mu : 25, \nu : 4$
	24	1024	0.4	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 25, \mu : 25, \nu : 4$
	25	1024	0.5	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 25, \mu : 25, \nu : 4$
	26	1024	0.3	$10^{-7}$	$\lambda : 25, \mu : 25, \nu : 4$
	27	1024	0.3	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 25, \mu : 25, \nu : 4$
	28	1024	0.3	$10^{-5}$	$\lambda : 25, \mu : 25, \nu : 4$
	29	1024	0.3	$10^{-4}$	$\lambda : 25, \mu : 25, \nu : 4$
	30	1024	0.3	$10^{-3}$	$\lambda : 25, \mu : 25, \nu : 4$
	31	1024	0.3	$10^{-2}$	$\lambda : 25, \mu : 25, \nu : 4$
VICReg-exp	0	1024	0.5	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 1, \mu : 1, \nu : 2, \tau : 0.05$
	1	1024	0.5	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 1, \mu : 1, \nu : 2, \tau : 0.07$
	2	1024	0.5	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 1, \mu : 1, \nu : 2, \tau : 0.1$
	3	1024	0.5	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 1, \mu : 1, \nu : 2, \tau : 0.2$
	4	1024	0.5	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 1, \mu : 1, \nu : 2, \tau : 0.3$
	5	1024	0.5	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 1, \mu : 1, \nu : 2, \tau : 0.4$
	6	1024	0.5	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 1, \mu : 1, \nu : 0.1, \tau : 0.1$
	7	1024	0.5	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 1, \mu : 1, \nu : 0.5, \tau : 0.1$
	8	1024	0.5	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 1, \mu : 1, \nu : 1, \tau : 0.1$
	9	1024	0.5	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 1, \mu : 1, \nu : 4, \tau : 0.1$
	10	1024	0.5	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 1, \mu : 1, \nu : 8, \tau : 0.1$
	11	1024	0.5	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 1, \mu : 1, \nu : 16, \tau : 0.1$



Table S6. Hyperparameters for all runs, continued.

Method	Run	Batch size	Learning rate	Weight decay	Loss hyperparameters
VICReg-ctr	0	1024	0.5	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 1, \mu : 1, \nu : 1, \tau : 0.05$
	1	1024	0.5	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 1, \mu : 1, \nu : 1, \tau : 0.07$
	2	1024	0.5	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 1, \mu : 1, \nu : 1, \tau : 0.1$
	3	1024	0.5	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 1, \mu : 1, \nu : 1, \tau : 0.2$
	4	1024	0.5	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 1, \mu : 1, \nu : 1, \tau : 0.3$
	5	1024	0.5	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 1, \mu : 1, \nu : 1, \tau : 0.4$
	6	1024	0.5	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 1, \mu : 1, \nu : 0.1, \tau : 0.1$
	7	1024	0.5	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 1, \mu : 1, \nu : 0.5, \tau : 0.1$
	8	1024	0.5	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 1, \mu : 1, \nu : 2, \tau : 0.1$
	9	1024	0.5	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 1, \mu : 1, \nu : 4, \tau : 0.1$
	10	1024	0.5	$10^{-6}$	$\lambda : 1, \mu : 1, \nu : 8, \tau : 0.1$
SimCLR	0	2048	0.6	$10^{-6}$	$d : 512, \tau : 0.05$
	1	2048	0.6	$10^{-6}$	$d : 512, \tau : 0.07$
	2	2048	0.6	$10^{-6}$	$d : 512, \tau : 0.1$
	3	2048	0.6	$10^{-6}$	$d : 512, \tau : 0.2$
	4	2048	0.6	$10^{-6}$	$d : 512, \tau : 0.3$
	5	2048	0.6	$10^{-6}$	$d : 512, \tau : 0.4$
	6	2048	0.6	$10^{-6}$	$d : 2048, \tau : 0.05$
	7	2048	0.6	$10^{-6}$	$d : 2048, \tau : 0.07$
	8	2048	0.6	$10^{-6}$	$d : 2048, \tau : 0.1$
	9	2048	0.6	$10^{-6}$	$d : 2048, \tau : 0.2$
	10	2048	0.6	$10^{-6}$	$d : 2048, \tau : 0.3$
	11	2048	0.6	$10^{-6}$	$d : 2048, \tau : 0.4$
	12	2048	0.5	$10^{-6}$	$d : 2048, \tau : 0.05$
	13	2048	0.5	$10^{-6}$	$d : 2048, \tau : 0.07$
	14	2048	0.5	$10^{-6}$	$d : 2048, \tau : 0.1$
	15	2048	0.5	$10^{-6}$	$d : 2048, \tau : 0.15$
	16	2048	0.5	$10^{-6}$	$d : 2048, \tau : 0.2$
	17	2048	0.5	$10^{-6}$	$d : 2048, \tau : 0.3$
	18	2048	0.5	$10^{-6}$	$d : 2048, \tau : 0.4$
	19	2048	0.5	$10^{-7}$	$d : 2048, \tau : 0.15$
	20	2048	0.5	$10^{-6}$	$d : 2048, \tau : 0.15$
	21	2048	0.5	$10^{-5}$	$d : 2048, \tau : 0.15$
	22	2048	0.5	$10^{-4}$	$d : 2048, \tau : 0.15$
	23	2048	0.5	$10^{-3}$	$d : 2048, \tau : 0.15$
	24	2048	0.5	$10^{-2}$	$d : 2048, \tau : 0.15$
	25	2048	0.2	$10^{-6}$	$d : 2048, \tau : 0.15$
	26	2048	0.3	$10^{-6}$	$d : 2048, \tau : 0.15$
	27	2048	0.4	$10^{-6}$	$d : 2048, \tau : 0.15$
	28	2048	0.5	$10^{-6}$	$d : 2048, \tau : 0.15$
	29	2048	0.6	$10^{-6}$	$d : 2048, \tau : 0.15$
	30	2048	0.8	$10^{-6}$	$d : 2048, \tau : 0.15$

Table S7. Hyperparameters for all runs, continued.

Method	Run	Batch size	Learning rate	Weight decay	Loss hyperparameters
DINO	0	1024	$2.5 \times 10^{-4}$	$10^{-6}$	$\tau_t : 0.01,$
	1	1024	$2.5 \times 10^{-4}$	$10^{-6}$	$\tau_t : 0.02,$
	2	1024	$2.5 \times 10^{-4}$	$10^{-6}$	$\tau_t : 0.04,$
	3	1024	$2.5 \times 10^{-4}$	$10^{-6}$	$\tau_t : 0.06,$
	4	1024	$2.5 \times 10^{-4}$	$10^{-6}$	$\tau_t : 0.07,$
	5	1024	$2.5 \times 10^{-4}$	$10^{-6}$	$\tau_t : 0.04, \tau_s : 0.07,$
	6	1024	$2.5 \times 10^{-4}$	$10^{-6}$	$\tau_t : 0.04, \tau_s : 0.2,$
	7	1024	$2.5 \times 10^{-4}$	$10^{-6}$	$\tau_t : 0.04, \tau_s : 0.3,$
	8	1024	$2.5 \times 10^{-4}$	$10^{-6}$	$\tau_t : 0.04, \tau_s : 0.4,$

Table S8. Top-1 on representations in all settings.

Method	Run	ImageNet	iNat18	Places205	EuroSat	SUN397	Cars
VICReg	0	63.90	34.12	48.77	95.94	65.96	52.56
	1	65.08	35.65	49.68	96.10	66.87	54.47
	2	65.67	36.97	49.73	96.02	67.33	55.76
	3	66.17	37.20	50.13	96.10	67.55	56.37
	4	66.40	37.42	50.15	96.34	67.99	56.86
	5	66.83	38.05	50.53	96.06	68.40	57.63
	6	67.30	38.13	50.96	96.20	68.08	57.83
	7	67.34	38.26	50.96	96.36	68.19	58.89
	8	68.00	38.68	51.28	96.36	68.46	56.90
	9	68.16	38.36	51.17	96.20	68.42	55.70
	10	67.91	37.75	51.14	96.14	68.75	54.21
	11	67.77	36.70	51.20	96.06	68.57	51.05
	12	64.12	31.37	49.83	95.56	66.17	42.56
	13	66.67	34.81	50.76	95.68	67.61	47.33
	14	67.49	36.91	51.40	96.10	67.95	51.72
	15	67.87	37.18	51.40	96.06	68.26	54.00
	16	67.99	38.71	51.11	96.16	68.68	56.05
	17	67.78	38.52	50.79	96.38	68.39	57.13
	18	67.25	38.08	50.85	96.34	68.69	56.29
	19	66.95	37.93	50.88	96.06	67.98	57.67
	20	66.51	37.79	50.11	96.10	67.74	57.23
	21	59.54	28.85	47.80	95.10	64.14	43.15
	22	66.36	35.47	50.32	96.04	67.45	51.64
	23	68.16	38.36	51.17	96.20	68.42	55.70
	24	68.56	38.80	51.75	96.30	68.60	55.75
	25	62.77	31.85	48.02	95.72	64.82	43.23
	26	67.79	38.25	51.57	96.04	68.84	55.38
	27	67.97	38.26	51.29	96.16	68.62	55.57
	28	67.87	38.43	51.51	96.08	68.52	54.53
	29	63.36	38.31	51.17	96.06	68.43	55.06
	30	54.52	37.92	51.32	96.10	67.99	54.82
	31	40.73	37.03	50.97	96.30	68.40	52.28
VICReg-exp	0	67.74	37.53	51.44	96.36	68.41	52.12
	1	67.64	38.00	51.42	96.46	68.60	54.16
	2	67.84	38.25	51.07	96.44	68.12	55.94
	3	65.09	36.64	49.65	96.54	67.12	56.37
	4	60.67	31.22	48.04	95.80	64.28	46.96
	5	57.46	26.54	46.25	96.02	62.33	41.90
	6	55.12	24.73	45.68	95.44	61.82	39.71
	7	64.87	36.51	49.69	96.16	66.82	55.30
	8	66.84	38.25	50.85	96.24	68.34	57.12
	9	68.08	38.03	51.34	96.40	69.28	53.72
	10	67.80	37.20	51.57	96.46	68.61	52.15
	11	66.68	35.02	50.94	96.00	67.81	47.49

Table S9. Top-1 on representations in all settings, continued.

Method	Run	ImageNet	iNat18	Places205	EuroSat	SUN397	Cars
VICReg-ctr	0	65.54	35.00	50.15	95.88	67.62	49.63
	1	66.32	35.72	50.69	96.10	68.16	51.66
	2	66.09	35.26	50.80	96.42	68.32	50.72
	3	64.06	33.16	50.48	95.98	67.40	44.91
	4	62.06	30.80	49.53	96.22	66.08	43.24
	5	60.17	28.76	48.78	95.90	64.92	41.13
	6	61.66	31.05	49.40	96.10	66.47	44.12
	7	65.47	34.63	50.71	96.20	67.55	48.05
	8	65.99	34.77	50.63	95.98	67.60	51.14
	9	63.87	33.63	49.64	96.20	66.17	50.35
	10	58.81	29.24	47.60	95.78	63.77	46.23
SimCLR	0	57.68	30.50	48.51	96.32	63.36	42.42
	1	62.79	33.50	50.56	96.18	66.34	43.76
	2	66.13	35.94	52.10	96.22	68.29	49.17
	3	66.35	35.60	51.96	96.64	68.17	49.68
	4	65.17	34.38	51.32	96.10	67.78	48.17
	5	63.54	33.29	50.71	96.22	67.39	48.31
	6	57.84	30.82	48.64	96.34	64.07	41.97
	7	62.73	33.30	50.57	96.56	66.03	44.99
	8	66.30	36.25	51.79	96.40	67.99	48.95
	9	66.71	36.56	51.82	96.52	68.52	50.47
	10	65.29	34.90	51.32	96.30	67.40	49.16
	11	63.52	33.35	50.92	96.42	66.89	48.59
	12	59.49	31.13	48.80	95.94	64.11	42.46
	13	63.51	34.14	50.75	96.42	66.44	45.18
	14	67.14	37.80	52.29	96.62	69.06	51.47
	15	68.48	39.20	52.37	96.46	68.92	54.43
	16	68.27	38.48	52.29	96.46	69.19	55.22
	17	67.48	37.07	51.72	96.58	68.30	51.92
	18	66.44	35.87	51.58	96.44	68.15	49.76
	19	68.33	38.93	52.56	96.40	69.21	54.86
	20	68.13	39.09	52.42	96.42	69.15	54.83
	21	66.47	38.80	52.81	96.58	69.03	55.19
	22	59.62	38.86	52.69	96.62	69.07	55.47
	23	47.58	39.03	52.70	96.16	68.77	54.96
	24	32.27	38.70	52.62	96.18	68.53	54.67
	25	66.37	36.06	51.62	96.84	68.22	52.17
	26	67.96	38.12	52.33	96.44	68.54	53.86
	27	68.32	38.44	52.42	96.80	69.08	54.63
	28	68.48	39.20	52.37	96.46	68.92	54.43
	29	68.41	38.77	52.42	96.24	68.65	55.81
	30	68.12	38.45	52.33	96.64	68.41	54.30

Table S10. Top-1 on representations in all settings, continued.

Method	Run	ImageNet	iNat18	Places205	EuroSat	SUN397	Cars
DINO	0	70.74	44.30	53.45	96.60	71.23	64.03
	1	71.29	45.37	54.10	96.46	71.40	64.73
	2	72.19	45.96	54.18	96.32	72.12	65.81
	3	72.30	45.80	54.25	96.60	71.69	65.09
	4	71.68	45.06	54.40	96.84	71.55	63.46
	5	72.41	46.32	54.37	96.58	71.84	65.97
	6	69.23	42.18	52.93	96.30	70.35	56.36
	7	66.18	39.24	52.77	95.88	69.78	54.48
	8	64.10	37.83	51.60	95.86	68.71	51.82

Table S11. Top-1 on representations in all settings, continued.

Method	Run	ImageNet	CIFAR10	CIFAR100	FOOD101	VOC07	CLEVR-count
VICReg	0	63.90	88.94	69.92	75.00	81.49	48.94
	1	65.08	88.74	69.96	75.00	82.14	49.88
	2	65.67	88.25	70.23	75.00	82.35	54.96
	3	66.17	89.17	71.51	75.00	82.97	52.35
	4	66.40	89.41	71.70	75.01	82.81	55.27
	5	66.83	89.91	72.12	75.00	83.10	55.95
	6	67.30	90.11	71.90	75.01	83.15	54.37
	7	67.34	90.34	72.42	75.00	83.21	53.92
	8	68.00	89.79	72.73	75.00	83.77	49.75
	9	68.16	90.14	72.26	75.01	84.27	55.69
	10	67.91	89.67	72.39	75.00	83.99	52.10
	11	67.77	89.45	71.63	75.00	84.10	53.05
	12	64.12	86.68	67.02	75.00	82.44	51.46
	13	66.67	88.32	69.86	75.00	83.50	55.48
	14	67.49	89.22	71.01	75.01	83.85	55.05
	15	67.87	89.82	72.30	75.00	83.76	55.36
	16	67.99	90.29	72.81	75.00	83.90	55.00
	17	67.78	90.09	73.14	75.00	83.74	51.97
	18	67.25	90.40	72.75	75.00	83.36	53.18
	19	66.95	89.62	72.14	75.00	82.99	50.33
	20	66.51	89.94	72.41	75.00	82.89	52.83
	21	59.54	86.81	66.23	75.00	80.44	50.64
	22	66.36	88.92	71.05	75.00	82.94	56.19
	23	68.16	90.14	72.26	75.01	84.27	55.69
	24	68.56	89.95	72.80	75.00	84.27	56.03
	25	62.77	87.63	67.92	74.99	82.38	52.63
	26	67.79	89.70	72.11	75.00	83.98	53.08
	27	67.97	89.83	72.22	75.00	84.05	56.77
	28	67.87	90.23	72.13	75.00	83.72	56.20
	29	63.36	89.76	72.36	75.00	84.04	54.71
	30	54.52	89.58	71.89	75.00	84.14	53.45
	31	40.73	89.65	71.50	75.01	83.97	56.34
VICReg-exp	0	67.74	89.66	72.17	75.00	84.67	52.79
	1	67.64	90.12	72.30	75.00	84.58	55.29
	2	67.84	89.55	72.07	75.00	84.20	53.45
	3	65.09	89.18	71.55	75.00	82.19	54.41
	4	60.67	88.06	68.94	75.00	80.20	51.35
	5	57.46	86.70	65.09	75.00	78.54	49.30
	6	55.12	87.23	65.53	75.00	77.87	53.14
	7	64.87	89.28	71.38	75.00	82.39	49.13
	8	66.84	89.66	71.92	75.00	83.91	50.41
	9	68.08	89.56	71.90	75.00	84.64	56.00
	10	67.80	89.50	71.61	75.00	84.45	55.80
	11	66.68	88.99	70.13	75.00	84.29	55.87



Table S12. Top-1 on representations in all settings, continued.

Method	Run	ImageNet	CIFAR10	CIFAR100	FOOD101	VOC07	CLEVR-count
VICReg-ctr	0	65.54	88.87	70.77	75.01	83.28	53.97
	1	66.32	89.57	70.93	75.00	84.17	53.19
	2	66.09	89.49	71.17	75.00	83.90	53.29
	3	64.06	89.62	71.39	75.00	83.18	48.57
	4	62.06	88.60	69.41	75.00	82.35	46.48
	5	60.17	88.97	68.61	75.00	81.43	51.27
	6	65.47	89.65	71.62	75.01	84.09	51.07
	7	65.99	88.97	70.40	75.00	83.69	46.92
	8	63.87	88.51	69.02	75.00	82.99	51.36
	9	58.81	86.96	66.06	75.00	79.95	55.33
SimCLR	0	57.68	86.31	66.69	75.00	77.56	37.65
	1	62.79	87.15	68.71	75.00	80.98	50.26
	2	66.13	89.19	71.13	75.00	83.57	47.75
	3	66.35	89.99	72.44	75.00	84.25	54.73
	4	65.17	89.89	72.18	75.01	83.99	50.78
	5	63.54	89.50	71.09	75.01	83.37	52.87
	6	57.84	86.44	66.42	75.00	77.01	42.72
	7	62.73	87.57	68.33	75.00	81.26	45.19
	8	66.30	89.07	71.55	75.00	83.61	52.95
	9	66.71	90.12	72.52	75.00	84.17	52.93
	10	65.29	89.44	71.62	75.00	83.81	54.83
	11	63.52	89.32	70.88	75.00	83.39	48.44
	12	59.49	86.41	66.45	75.00	77.98	50.64
	13	63.51	87.98	69.53	75.00	81.19	44.03
	14	67.14	89.40	72.20	75.01	83.80	47.97
	15	68.48	90.57	73.78	75.00	84.54	51.91
	16	68.27	90.34	73.63	75.01	84.48	50.11
	17	67.48	90.04	72.81	75.00	84.31	47.31
	18	66.44	89.80	72.02	75.00	84.35	49.94
	19	68.33	90.29	73.65	75.00	83.95	53.17
	20	68.13	90.67	73.85	75.00	84.61	54.20
	21	66.47	90.33	73.39	75.00	84.22	55.01
	22	59.62	90.53	73.63	75.00	84.61	50.53
	23	47.58	90.29	72.99	75.00	84.44	48.27
	24	32.27	90.29	73.96	75.00	84.42	51.33
	25	66.37	89.95	73.16	75.00	83.01	50.75
	26	67.96	90.65	73.13	75.00	83.94	52.29
	27	68.32	90.21	73.13	75.00	84.31	53.57
	28	68.48	90.57	73.78	75.00	84.54	51.91
	29	68.41	90.17	73.35	75.00	84.27	52.97
	30	68.12	89.67	72.53	75.01	84.27	50.47

Table S13. Top-1 on representations in all settings, continued.

Method	Run	ImageNet	CIFAR10	CIFAR100	FOOD101	VOC07	CLEVR-count
DINO	0	70.74	91.87	74.71	75.00	87.50	51.67
	1	71.29	91.81	74.33	75.00	87.99	57.19
	2	72.19	90.51	73.09	75.01	88.35	56.78
	3	72.30	91.46	74.34	75.00	88.39	56.75
	4	71.68	90.89	72.82	75.00	88.48	59.19
	5	72.41	92.24	75.58	75.00	88.04	59.29
	6	69.23	90.36	71.86	75.00	87.61	53.87
	7	66.18	87.97	68.18	75.00	86.72	54.56
	8	64.10	86.80	66.68	75.01	85.38	55.23

Table S14. Top-1 on embeddings in all settings.

Method	Run	ImageNet	iNat18	Places205	EuroSat	SUN397	Cars
VICReg	0	26.35	0.95	21.48	65.10	31.23	5.10
	1	30.54	1.39	21.07	63.80	31.60	5.24
	2	36.92	1.85	24.77	69.92	35.24	5.12
	3	47.60	4.34	35.48	87.84	47.62	7.56
	4	51.26	6.14	36.43	88.58	49.29	8.82
	5	54.39	7.87	38.04	88.44	51.88	9.76
	6	55.66	8.76	38.97	89.42	53.14	10.31
	7	56.33	9.56	39.65	89.76	53.39	10.53
	8	58.65	12.08	41.73	90.88	56.35	11.75
	9	59.71	13.47	42.72	91.28	57.26	11.95
	10	59.58	14.18	43.22	90.96	57.43	11.58
	11	59.22	14.63	43.48	91.34	57.75	11.99
	12	53.78	12.80	42.35	92.22	55.41	10.46
	13	57.94	14.36	43.61	91.60	57.89	11.30
	14	59.20	14.77	43.63	91.40	57.36	12.00
	15	59.73	14.20	43.31	91.66	57.04	11.95
	16	59.09	12.35	42.21	90.34	56.21	11.55
	17	58.23	11.34	41.02	90.16	54.97	11.69
	18	56.82	10.15	40.19	89.94	54.50	10.76
	19	55.22	9.26	39.02	90.00	53.07	10.98
	20	53.75	8.29	37.87	89.76	52.16	10.60
	21	51.53	12.97	40.84	91.64	54.26	13.13
	22	57.57	13.60	42.40	91.64	56.43	12.47
	23	59.71	13.47	42.72	91.28	57.26	11.95
	24	56.22	9.92	40.18	88.36	53.69	8.46
	25	36.22	2.48	29.59	85.06	42.46	7.55
	26	59.33	13.22	42.86	90.76	57.21	11.28
	27	59.51	13.37	42.69	91.34	56.66	11.53
	28	59.70	13.64	43.37	90.96	57.32	11.89
	29	59.03	14.00	43.10	91.50	57.44	12.27
	30	56.37	14.10	43.23	91.36	57.69	12.52
	31	49.96	12.36	41.93	91.52	57.13	11.37
VICReg-exp	0	58.19	12.56	41.93	91.82	57.13	10.19
	1	58.53	12.10	42.03	91.64	56.85	10.96
	2	57.41	10.78	40.89	90.44	55.24	10.73
	3	47.80	5.02	34.67	88.92	47.14	8.39
	4	25.14	1.02	22.04	77.22	32.66	5.17
	5	19.24	0.75	20.08	75.70	30.22	5.77
	6	12.03	0.51	16.95	70.18	26.06	4.15
	7	47.33	4.78	33.88	87.32	46.90	8.87
	8	53.72	7.74	38.04	89.46	52.37	9.76
	9	58.87	12.22	42.27	91.34	56.97	10.93
	10	58.09	12.70	42.56	91.58	56.90	10.42
	11	57.24	14.01	43.18	92.38	57.36	11.18

Table S15. Top-1 on embeddings in all settings, continued.

Method	Run	ImageNet	iNat18	Places205	EuroSat	SUN397	Cars
VICReg-ctr	0	50.26	10.83	38.54	89.54	52.73	11.39
	1	50.99	9.81	38.43	90.06	53.90	10.53
	2	48.27	7.67	36.78	88.02	51.45	10.21
	3	36.77	3.20	30.01	84.12	43.85	6.68
	4	25.92	1.51	23.93	77.54	36.57	4.46
	5	17.69	0.70	18.19	69.00	28.30	3.73
	6	26.90	1.65	24.69	75.46	36.72	4.86
	7	44.31	5.81	34.82	87.84	49.23	9.25
	8	49.31	8.71	37.64	89.16	51.98	10.78
	9	46.43	8.38	36.11	89.44	50.27	10.25
	10	38.33	6.21	32.10	86.44	44.07	8.97
SimCLR	0	43.05	20.48	37.83	94.12	55.20	22.57
	1	49.69	21.28	41.82	93.48	58.23	21.38
	2	54.45	17.49	42.92	91.88	57.86	16.55
	3	50.24	8.36	39.22	88.42	51.94	11.58
	4	45.77	6.36	36.55	87.16	48.59	10.20
	5	41.14	4.81	34.04	84.76	45.36	9.10
	6	43.31	20.51	38.16	94.44	55.40	23.24
	7	49.60	21.51	41.93	93.88	59.05	22.43
	8	54.48	17.92	43.00	92.86	59.53	18.22
	9	50.72	8.65	39.64	89.44	54.47	12.96
	10	43.32	5.84	36.51	87.62	50.85	11.33
	11	41.15	5.02	34.26	85.52	48.16	10.87
	12	44.61	21.33	39.20	94.08	56.15	22.82
	13	51.54	21.50	42.64	94.40	59.87	21.30
	14	56.51	16.68	43.39	92.26	59.10	17.56
	15	56.89	10.35	41.21	90.38	56.37	14.04
	16	54.18	7.16	39.42	87.94	54.24	11.47
	17	49.19	4.98	37.12	87.14	50.85	10.33
	18	44.72	3.89	35.11	86.00	48.38	9.49
	19	57.06	10.12	41.18	89.52	56.20	13.19
	20	56.72	10.17	41.38	90.08	56.40	13.23
	21	56.14	10.26	41.47	89.12	56.74	13.18
	22	48.98	10.03	41.48	89.84	56.15	13.47
	23	35.92	10.03	41.33	89.74	56.38	13.87
	24	28.26	9.68	41.22	86.88	56.02	13.13
	25	52.65	9.98	40.47	90.20	55.38	13.72
	26	55.98	9.88	40.84	89.00	55.43	13.41
	27	56.43	10.03	41.04	89.60	56.23	13.89
	28	56.89	10.35	41.21	90.38	56.37	14.04
	29	56.65	10.30	41.40	89.22	56.42	13.79
	30	56.56	10.60	41.61	90.14	56.82	13.90

Table S16. Top-1 on embeddings in all settings, continued.

Method	Run	ImageNet	iNat18	Places205	EuroSat	SUN397	Cars
DINO	0	19.72	2.41	30.12	88.60	44.10	5.81
	1	35.64	2.85	32.72	88.78	46.07	6.59
	2	53.33	3.64	36.38	89.34	50.00	7.67
	3	54.63	4.97	38.86	91.32	54.48	10.31
	4	53.01	6.73	40.24	91.84	56.61	9.74
	5	64.79	15.84	44.95	93.24	63.68	22.04
	6	10.02	0.45	15.87	80.90	23.24	2.24
	7	4.28	0.18	10.19	72.30	16.56	1.98
	8	2.60	0.14	6.81	61.62	12.55	1.82

Table S17. Top-1 on embeddings in all settings, continued.

Method	Run	ImageNet	CIFAR10	CIFAR100	FOOD101	VOC07	CLEVR-count
VICReg	0	26.35	59.23	25.84	75.00	66.15	21.75
	1	30.54	60.57	25.67	75.01	67.33	19.64
	2	36.92	63.77	29.67	75.00	70.94	23.72
	3	47.60	75.59	44.58	75.01	75.90	41.44
	4	51.26	76.88	45.26	75.01	76.85	34.20
	5	54.39	78.34	49.63	75.01	77.85	40.24
	6	55.66	78.71	49.89	75.01	78.17	38.37
	7	56.33	78.89	50.52	75.01	78.41	39.88
	8	58.65	79.57	50.95	75.01	79.46	43.13
	9	59.71	80.43	52.75	75.01	79.50	43.93
	10	59.58	80.59	53.80	75.02	79.19	43.87
	11	59.22	80.94	53.66	75.03	78.90	44.90
	12	53.78	78.96	51.83	75.03	76.17	43.71
	13	57.94	81.43	53.92	75.02	78.04	45.23
	14	59.20	81.04	53.88	75.03	79.18	43.75
	15	59.73	81.16	53.35	75.02	79.18	44.39
	16	59.09	80.46	52.82	75.02	79.20	45.92
	17	58.23	79.76	51.77	75.01	79.58	36.53
	18	56.82	79.20	51.10	75.01	78.62	37.81
	19	55.22	78.82	50.19	75.01	78.36	38.50
	20	53.75	77.87	49.34	75.01	78.07	38.62
	21	51.53	78.45	51.46	75.01	75.99	49.13
	22	57.57	80.67	52.87	75.02	78.53	45.93
	23	59.71	80.43	52.75	75.01	79.50	43.93
	24	56.22	75.80	45.73	75.02	78.90	39.71
	25	36.22	72.55	41.50	75.00	73.12	41.73
	26	59.33	79.58	52.25	75.02	79.61	44.89
	27	59.51	80.26	52.55	75.01	79.29	42.99
	28	59.70	79.74	52.92	75.02	79.67	46.11
	29	59.03	81.25	54.96	75.01	80.10	43.33
	30	56.37	80.81	53.55	75.01	80.11	46.97
	31	49.96	80.86	53.10	75.01	79.68	47.09
VICReg-exp	0	58.19	80.80	52.30	75.01	79.73	45.89
	1	58.53	80.15	53.08	75.01	80.18	43.75
	2	57.41	79.22	51.69	75.01	79.39	43.92
	3	47.80	76.70	45.93	75.00	76.21	43.52
	4	25.14	66.91	33.49	75.00	66.12	37.21
	5	19.24	65.85	29.87	75.00	62.04	34.52
	6	12.03	62.48	26.06	75.00	55.71	34.17
	7	47.33	76.91	46.47	75.00	76.48	41.40
	8	53.72	77.99	48.65	75.00	78.72	44.80
	9	58.87	80.36	53.78	75.01	80.15	43.85
	10	58.09	80.64	53.47	75.01	79.98	45.68
	11	57.24	81.10	54.28	75.01	79.58	43.71

Table S18. Top-1 on embeddings in all settings, continued.

Method	Run	ImageNet	CIFAR10	CIFAR100	FOOD101	VOC07	CLEVR-count
VICReg-ctr	0	50.26	78.76	49.34	75.00	77.89	37.61
	1	50.99	78.63	49.80	75.00	78.77	43.76
	2	48.27	77.86	48.75	75.00	78.48	40.49
	3	36.77	73.83	40.44	75.00	72.19	38.16
	4	25.92	66.81	32.82	75.00	65.32	31.63
	5	17.69	63.94	25.50	75.00	58.48	31.40
	6	44.31	76.82	46.43	75.00	77.16	42.48
	7	49.31	77.70	48.66	75.00	78.50	40.81
	8	46.43	75.51	46.54	75.00	76.97	44.25
	9	38.33	71.51	40.68	75.00	72.67	41.31
SimCLR	0	43.05	75.84	52.39	75.00	71.43	46.86
	1	49.69	78.32	53.20	75.00	76.19	50.11
	2	54.45	79.24	51.56	75.00	78.10	49.63
	3	50.24	78.36	47.70	75.00	79.07	46.29
	4	45.77	75.73	44.37	75.00	77.46	46.63
	5	41.14	74.04	41.88	75.00	75.03	45.47
	6	43.31	75.66	53.31	75.00	71.37	41.40
	7	49.60	78.36	54.79	75.00	76.47	46.46
	8	54.48	80.39	55.39	75.00	78.38	49.53
	9	50.72	79.32	51.01	75.00	79.27	42.25
	10	43.32	76.43	48.07	75.00	77.59	44.67
	11	41.15	74.75	45.06	75.00	74.79	46.56
	12	44.61	76.97	53.29	75.00	72.71	47.15
	13	51.54	79.20	56.45	75.00	76.80	37.03
	14	56.51	79.48	53.99	75.00	78.55	43.05
	15	56.89	79.35	52.58	75.00	79.73	43.51
	16	54.18	78.17	49.62	75.00	79.71	43.32
	17	49.19	76.59	46.98	75.00	78.61	43.48
	18	44.72	76.68	45.62	74.99	76.95	42.88
	19	57.06	79.83	52.19	75.00	79.73	45.97
	20	56.72	79.41	53.12	75.00	80.05	45.65
	21	56.14	79.46	52.25	75.00	79.64	47.19
	22	48.98	79.39	52.28	75.00	79.89	45.92
	23	35.92	79.52	52.15	75.00	79.74	43.86
	24	28.26	79.28	51.25	75.00	79.90	45.39
	25	52.65	79.30	52.85	75.00	78.74	42.71
	26	55.98	79.51	52.21	75.00	79.34	44.75
	27	56.43	78.52	52.04	75.00	79.55	45.19
	28	56.89	79.35	52.58	75.00	79.73	43.51
	29	56.65	78.98	51.80	75.00	79.82	43.69
	30	56.56	78.36	51.81	74.99	79.78	44.50

Table S19. Top-1 on embeddings in all settings, continued.

Method	Run	ImageNet	CIFAR10	CIFAR100	FOOD101	VOC07	CLEVR-count
DINO	0	19.72	81.24	53.97	75.00	77.21	42.39
	1	35.64	81.66	55.32	75.00	82.48	45.23
	2	53.33	80.70	53.03	75.00	84.22	41.93
	3	54.63	84.26	58.49	75.00	85.25	49.89
	4	53.01	83.20	58.14	75.00	85.71	48.72
	5	64.79	87.02	65.43	75.00	87.03	51.19
	6	10.02	70.98	37.66	75.00	61.27	32.83
	7	4.28	59.02	22.71	75.00	50.02	34.77
	8	2.60	47.97	16.26	75.00	41.16	27.13



Table S20. Rank after projector in all settings.

Method	Run	ImageNet	iNat18	Places205	EuroSat	SUN397	Cars
VICReg	0	102.07	38.10	44.39	14.61	32.40	7.03
	1	229.81	92.53	129.47	88.78	98.44	12.58
	2	374.25	135.79	206.29	120.31	163.31	19.77
	3	612.12	261.34	336.16	228.60	265.64	38.90
	4	831.49	382.55	467.68	366.78	374.50	59.15
	5	952.55	449.44	539.24	428.87	435.94	77.36
	6	1033.93	493.50	587.19	477.69	478.34	88.28
	7	1088.13	531.16	630.80	514.70	517.47	99.97
	8	1442.63	726.28	849.29	693.16	723.53	161.76
	9	1809.06	947.81	1110.80	855.76	954.83	210.06
	10	1920.81	1054.70	1247.93	870.56	1075.89	258.33
	11	1938.44	1087.45	1275.60	924.66	1119.33	306.90
	12	1937.78	1100.54	1337.88	963.14	1172.38	382.18
	13	1944.95	1095.95	1307.62	968.96	1155.65	352.50
	14	1940.04	1095.91	1280.85	910.16	1126.89	324.51
	15	1942.12	1049.72	1240.87	893.25	1070.12	269.96
	16	1521.07	782.39	919.54	725.49	771.86	169.75
	17	1278.67	637.18	757.19	606.98	627.48	128.96
	18	1079.67	532.00	634.88	527.59	524.80	111.28
	19	909.71	446.52	525.65	454.22	431.44	88.55
	20	777.82	376.39	447.53	378.06	360.41	73.57
	21	1409.29	890.97	996.12	814.00	889.66	352.57
	22	1652.41	936.47	1070.40	837.76	932.17	275.04
	23	1809.06	947.81	1110.80	855.76	954.83	210.06
	24	1422.16	648.60	813.33	532.92	650.33	91.44
	25	101.29	44.12	46.00	20.77	36.60	10.68
	26	1821.80	959.98	1130.27	840.12	962.04	221.58
	27	1814.64	948.47	1107.25	856.12	946.73	218.36
	28	1728.89	913.31	1065.74	814.04	911.39	216.25
	29	1587.36	859.56	1008.93	807.57	864.18	244.56
	30	1384.68	757.81	881.53	716.36	767.14	229.93
	31	974.91	508.81	613.44	508.01	526.43	143.61
VICReg-exp	0	1006.58	530.95	637.48	501.16	551.60	142.88
	1	1002.17	521.34	626.39	515.00	534.56	132.72
	2	922.59	473.26	564.18	475.88	472.06	119.75
	3	399.09	192.27	233.31	202.71	189.78	36.95
	4	63.82	30.25	36.98	21.39	30.63	7.90
	5	19.47	12.49	9.57	6.33	7.96	3.58
	6	9.42	7.19	5.41	3.80	4.73	2.55
	7	375.38	180.63	216.71	191.99	176.94	31.86
	8	636.60	314.20	380.13	341.21	312.04	66.31
	9	1002.29	528.76	629.07	517.84	536.91	139.28
	10	1048.58	556.24	673.46	547.15	581.30	158.24
	11	1326.31	733.86	875.62	707.34	771.39	208.83

Table S21. Rank after projector in all settings, continued.

Method	Run	ImageNet	iNat18	Places205	EuroSat	SUN397	Cars
VICReg-ctr	0	382.33	224.68	252.33	207.81	220.68	69.48
	1	278.88	163.91	183.32	154.70	160.71	50.29
	2	169.33	101.44	114.49	97.89	99.84	34.97
	3	48.47	32.38	34.93	32.77	31.76	12.53
	4	23.22	16.72	17.90	17.70	16.63	7.38
	5	12.88	10.03	10.31	10.66	9.71	5.01
	6	22.96	16.87	17.77	17.30	16.55	7.61
	7	96.33	62.08	68.05	60.68	60.39	22.59
	8	251.52	146.09	166.32	138.75	143.81	45.73
	9	309.22	177.32	204.38	170.65	175.81	53.83
	10	316.89	184.83	213.74	175.10	185.91	59.07
SimCLR	0	109.07	105.65	104.65	76.13	105.64	92.59
	1	164.07	148.71	149.89	100.17	148.00	113.61
	2	244.34	184.32	203.04	129.53	188.30	105.89
	3	150.90	94.61	116.94	83.98	102.17	40.64
	4	87.69	57.78	67.23	54.62	59.79	25.36
	5	63.68	42.23	48.22	40.83	43.22	18.41
	6	110.59	106.83	105.83	76.97	106.82	93.98
	7	165.49	149.55	150.27	103.19	148.65	113.60
	8	246.56	184.69	204.24	128.96	189.86	107.43
	9	164.66	102.61	128.12	95.47	112.20	43.29
	10	9.88	30.27	2.74	55.46	65.08	25.57
	11	63.61	42.00	48.40	40.86	43.20	18.62
	12	122.60	118.57	116.93	85.13	118.16	103.25
	13	197.36	173.50	176.32	116.61	173.24	128.89
	14	313.67	220.05	239.53	160.52	222.80	111.73
	15	299.47	172.75	209.43	140.66	183.51	61.44
	16	220.63	122.46	150.73	106.96	130.16	40.02
	17	128.33	71.75	90.40	65.77	78.64	26.24
	18	71.75	48.95	64.25	48.65	54.84	18.93
	19	301.92	173.11	211.03	147.45	185.04	60.83
	20	299.75	173.05	208.52	141.84	182.21	61.56
	21	299.96	173.61	209.18	144.25	181.99	61.11
	22	300.90	173.89	209.47	147.78	184.45	61.40
	23	300.58	174.18	207.19	142.58	184.29	60.94
	24	300.83	174.63	207.18	146.11	182.27	60.50
	25	11.56	15.95	31.99	144.87	13.55	3.92
	26	293.13	172.80	211.66	139.57	184.94	65.02
	27	295.23	173.07	208.46	139.91	181.05	62.32
	28	299.47	172.75	209.43	140.66	183.51	61.44
	29	298.69	172.12	206.63	142.92	181.39	60.88
	30	294.42	170.26	201.98	141.29	177.39	58.94

Table S22. Rank after projector in all settings, continued.

Method	Run	ImageNet	iNat18	Places205	EuroSat	SUN397	Cars
DINO	0	150.51	62.45	106.14	100.08	90.46	23.52
	1	276.35	110.16	179.46	163.25	147.50	36.81
	2	482.51	190.78	291.91	213.05	236.76	52.59
	3	409.79	180.78	269.96	196.90	225.47	70.37
	4	347.69	168.61	235.11	168.90	202.51	55.07
	5	523.67	330.31	392.16	271.77	356.99	155.13
	6	61.59	21.32	39.89	34.88	32.55	2.52
	7	22.43	8.26	17.91	9.86	15.62	1.93
	8	11.01	5.84	8.27	8.08	7.83	1.39

Table S23. Rank after projector in all settings, continued.

Method	Run	ImageNet	CIFAR10	CIFAR100	FOOD101	VOC07	CLEVR-count
VICReg	0	102.07	38.10	44.39	14.61	32.40	7.03
	1	229.81	92.53	129.47	88.78	98.44	12.58
	2	374.25	135.79	206.29	120.31	163.31	19.77
	3	612.12	261.34	336.16	228.60	265.64	38.90
	4	831.49	382.55	467.68	366.78	374.50	59.15
	5	952.55	449.44	539.24	428.87	435.94	77.36
	6	1033.93	493.50	587.19	477.69	478.34	88.28
	7	1088.13	531.16	630.80	514.70	517.47	99.97
	8	1442.63	726.28	849.29	693.16	723.53	161.76
	9	1809.06	947.81	1110.80	855.76	954.83	210.06
	10	1920.81	1054.70	1247.93	870.56	1075.89	258.33
	11	1938.44	1087.45	1275.60	924.66	1119.33	306.90
	12	1937.78	1100.54	1337.88	963.14	1172.38	382.18
	13	1944.95	1095.95	1307.62	968.96	1155.65	352.50
	14	1940.04	1095.91	1280.85	910.16	1126.89	324.51
	15	1942.12	1049.72	1240.87	893.25	1070.12	269.96
	16	1521.07	782.39	919.54	725.49	771.86	169.75
	17	1278.67	637.18	757.19	606.98	627.48	128.96
	18	1079.67	532.00	634.88	527.59	524.80	111.28
	19	909.71	446.52	525.65	454.22	431.44	88.55
	20	777.82	376.39	447.53	378.06	360.41	73.57
	21	1409.29	890.97	996.12	814.00	889.66	352.57
	22	1652.41	936.47	1070.40	837.76	932.17	275.04
	23	1809.06	947.81	1110.80	855.76	954.83	210.06
	24	1422.16	648.60	813.33	532.92	650.33	91.44
	25	101.29	44.12	46.00	20.77	36.60	10.68
	26	1821.80	959.98	1130.27	840.12	962.04	221.58
	27	1814.64	948.47	1107.25	856.12	946.73	218.36
	28	1728.89	913.31	1065.74	814.04	911.39	216.25
	29	1587.36	859.56	1008.93	807.57	864.18	244.56
	30	1384.68	757.81	881.53	716.36	767.14	229.93
	31	974.91	508.81	613.44	508.01	526.43	143.61
VICReg-exp	0	1006.58	530.95	637.48	501.16	551.60	142.88
	1	1002.17	521.34	626.39	515.00	534.56	132.72
	2	922.59	473.26	564.18	475.88	472.06	119.75
	3	399.09	192.27	233.31	202.71	189.78	36.95
	4	63.82	30.25	36.98	21.39	30.63	7.90
	5	19.47	12.49	9.57	6.33	7.96	3.58
	6	9.42	7.19	5.41	3.80	4.73	2.55
	7	375.38	180.63	216.71	191.99	176.94	31.86
	8	636.60	314.20	380.13	341.21	312.04	66.31
	9	1002.29	528.76	629.07	517.84	536.91	139.28
	10	1048.58	556.24	673.46	547.15	581.30	158.24
	11	1326.31	733.86	875.62	707.34	771.39	208.83

Table S24. Rank after projector in all settings, continued.

Method	Run	ImageNet	CIFAR10	CIFAR100	FOOD101	VOC07	CLEVR-count
VICReg-ctr	0	382.33	224.68	252.33	207.81	220.68	69.48
	1	278.88	163.91	183.32	154.70	160.71	50.29
	2	169.33	101.44	114.49	97.89	99.84	34.97
	3	48.47	32.38	34.93	32.77	31.76	12.53
	4	23.22	16.72	17.90	17.70	16.63	7.38
	5	12.88	10.03	10.31	10.66	9.71	5.01
	6	96.33	62.08	68.05	60.68	60.39	22.59
	7	251.52	146.09	166.32	138.75	143.81	45.73
	8	309.22	177.32	204.38	170.65	175.81	53.83
	9	316.89	184.83	213.74	175.10	185.91	59.07
SimCLR	0	109.07	105.65	104.65	76.13	105.64	92.59
	1	164.07	148.71	149.89	100.17	148.00	113.61
	2	244.34	184.32	203.04	129.53	188.30	105.89
	3	150.90	94.61	116.94	83.98	102.17	40.64
	4	87.69	57.78	67.23	54.62	59.79	25.36
	5	63.68	42.23	48.22	40.83	43.22	18.41
	6	110.59	106.83	105.83	76.97	106.82	93.98
	7	165.49	149.55	150.27	103.19	148.65	113.60
	8	246.56	184.69	204.24	128.96	189.86	107.43
	9	164.66	102.61	128.12	95.47	112.20	43.29
	10	9.88	30.27	2.74	55.46	65.08	25.57
	11	63.61	42.00	48.40	40.86	43.20	18.62
	12	122.60	118.57	116.93	85.13	118.16	103.25
	13	197.36	173.50	176.32	116.61	173.24	128.89
	14	313.67	220.05	239.53	160.52	222.80	111.73
	15	299.47	172.75	209.43	140.66	183.51	61.44
	16	220.63	122.46	150.73	106.96	130.16	40.02
	17	128.33	71.75	90.40	65.77	78.64	26.24
	18	71.75	48.95	64.25	48.65	54.84	18.93
	19	301.92	173.11	211.03	147.45	185.04	60.83
	20	299.75	173.05	208.52	141.84	182.21	61.56
	21	299.96	173.61	209.18	144.25	181.99	61.11
	22	300.90	173.89	209.47	147.78	184.45	61.40
	23	300.58	174.18	207.19	142.58	184.29	60.94
	24	300.83	174.63	207.18	146.11	182.27	60.50
	25	11.56	15.95	31.99	144.87	13.55	3.92
	26	293.13	172.80	211.66	139.57	184.94	65.02
	27	295.23	173.07	208.46	139.91	181.05	62.32
	28	299.47	172.75	209.43	140.66	183.51	61.44
	29	298.69	172.12	206.63	142.92	181.39	60.88
	30	294.42	170.26	201.98	141.29	177.39	58.94

Table S25. Rank after projector in all settings, continued.

Method	Run	ImageNet	CIFAR10	CIFAR100	FOOD101	VOC07	CLEVR-count
DINO	0	150.51	62.45	106.14	100.08	90.46	23.52
	1	276.35	110.16	179.46	163.25	147.50	36.81
	2	482.51	190.78	291.91	213.05	236.76	52.59
	3	409.79	180.78	269.96	196.90	225.47	70.37
	4	347.69	168.61	235.11	168.90	202.51	55.07
	5	523.67	330.31	392.16	271.77	356.99	155.13
	6	61.59	21.32	39.89	34.88	32.55	2.52
	7	22.43	8.26	17.91	9.86	15.62	1.93
	8	11.01	5.84	8.27	8.08	7.83	1.39