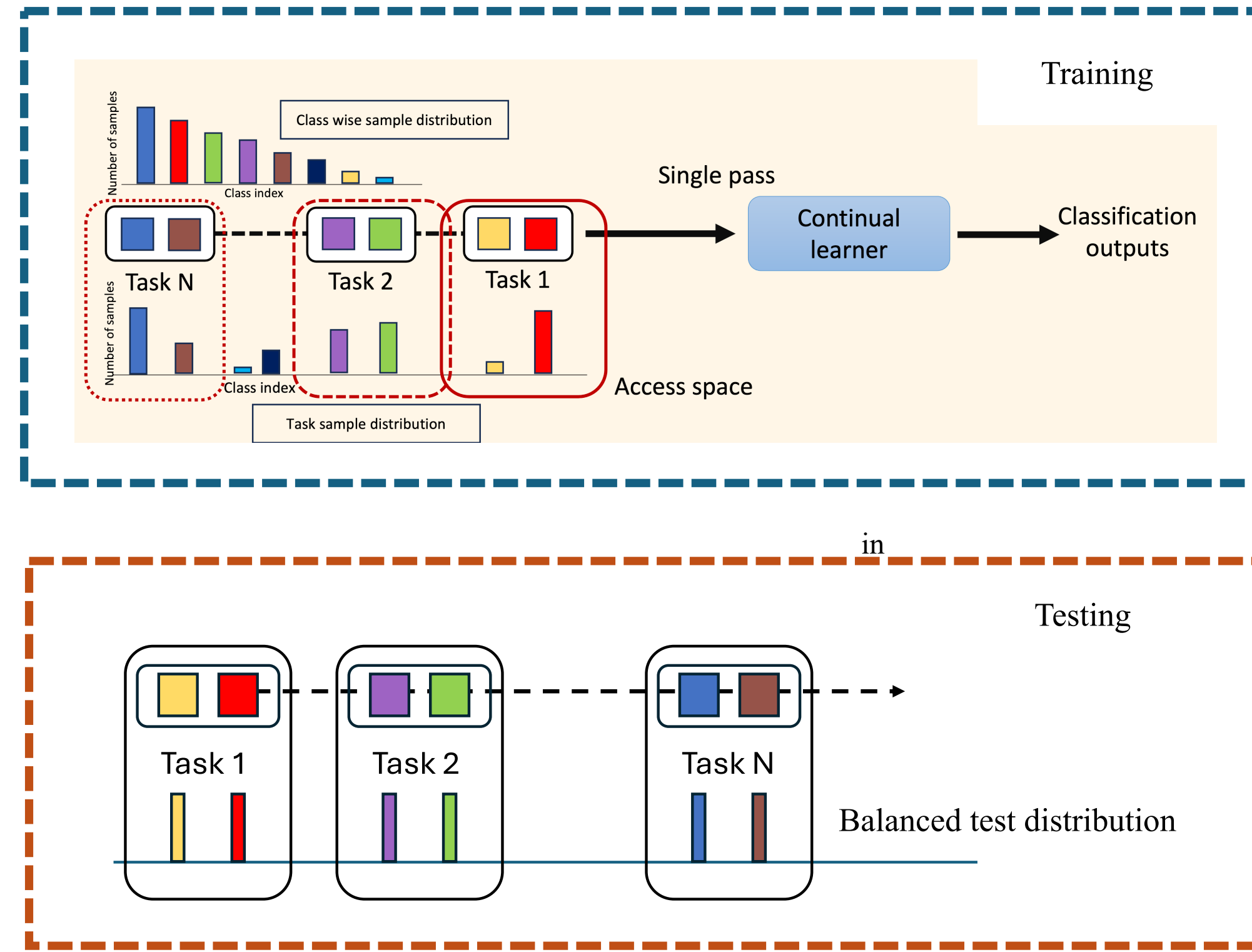


DELTA: Decoupling Long-Tailed Online Continual Learning

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Long-Tailed Online Continual Learning



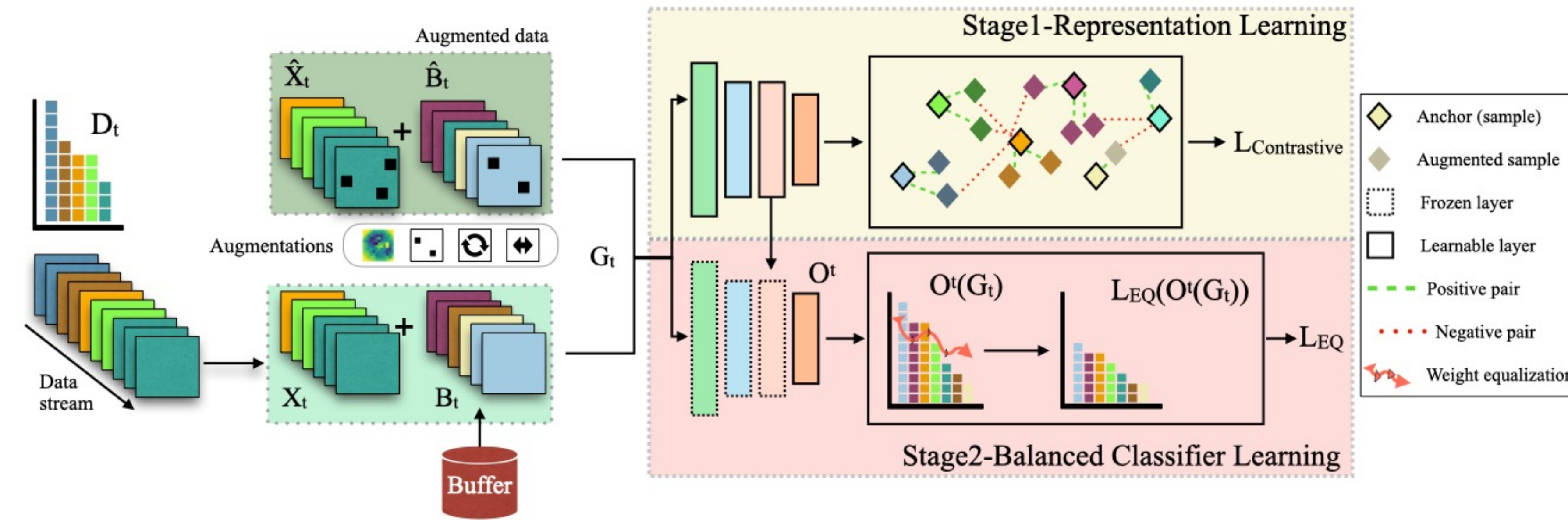
Challenge

- **Imbalanced class representation** - Dealing with real-world scenarios where the data follows long-tailed distributions where each class may not be equally represented.
- **Catastrophic forgetting and model bias** - Limited set of exemplars can be biased towards the frequently appearing classes.
- **Exemplar Management and Data Efficiency**: Utilizing existing continual learning models can introduce distribution challenges and biases, making it difficult to adapt to evolving data distributions while maintaining balanced performance across all classes.

Outcome

- Develop a **two-stage decoupling strategy** that effectively handles real-world distribution scenarios, ensuring freedom from biases and enhancing performance outcomes.
- We propose a **multi-exemplar pairing strategy** to demonstrate the potential performance enhancement in Long-Tail Online Continual Learning

Methodology



Decoupling learning through two stage training.

Stage 1

$$\mathcal{L}_{stage1}(O^t(G_t)) = \mathcal{L}_{contrastive}(O^t(G_t))$$

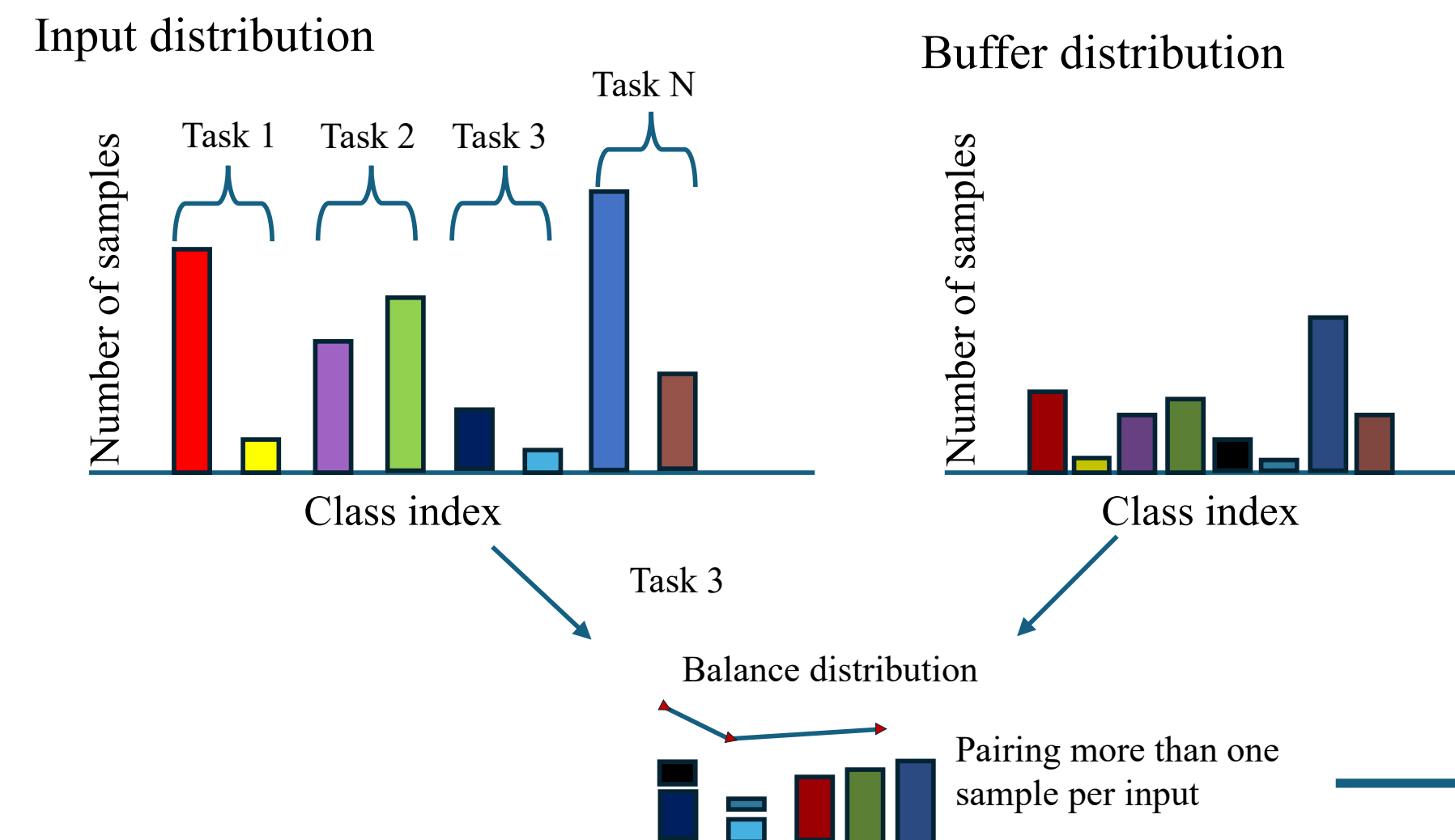
$$\mathcal{L}_{contrastive}(Z_T) = \sum_{j \in T} \frac{-1}{|P(j)|} \sum_{p \in P(j)} \frac{\exp(v_j \cdot v_p / \tau)}{\sum_{k \in A(j)} \exp(v_j \cdot v_p / \tau)}$$

Stage 2

$$\mathcal{L}_{stage2}(O^t(G_t)) = \mathcal{L}_{EQ}(O^t(G_t))$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{EQ}(O^t(I_x)) = \sum_{i=1}^{k^{1:t}} -I_{y(i)} \sigma([\log(P(k^t)) + O^t(I_x)])$$

Multi-exemplar pairing



Motivation

- **Mitigating Class Imbalance** and balance the input training batch
- Selecting a **diverse exemplar** set ensures better learning, improving generalization and performance.
- **Dynamic Adaptation** to varying data distribution.

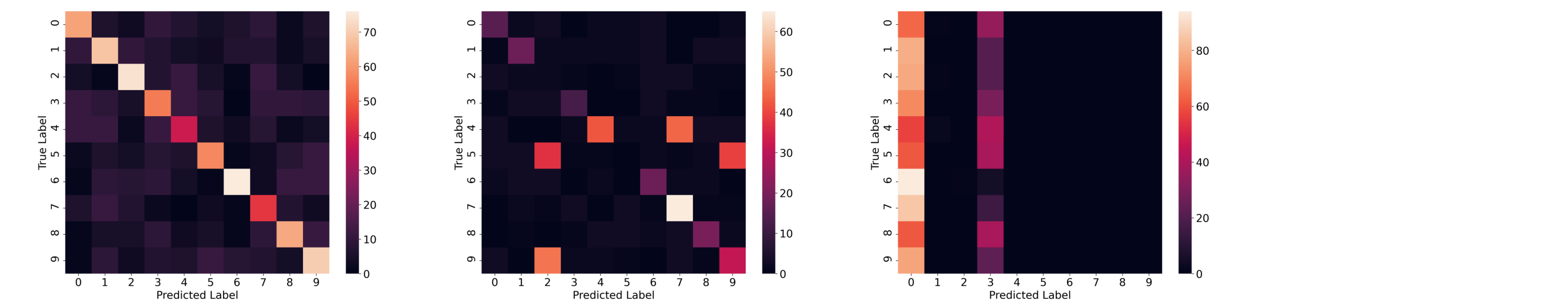
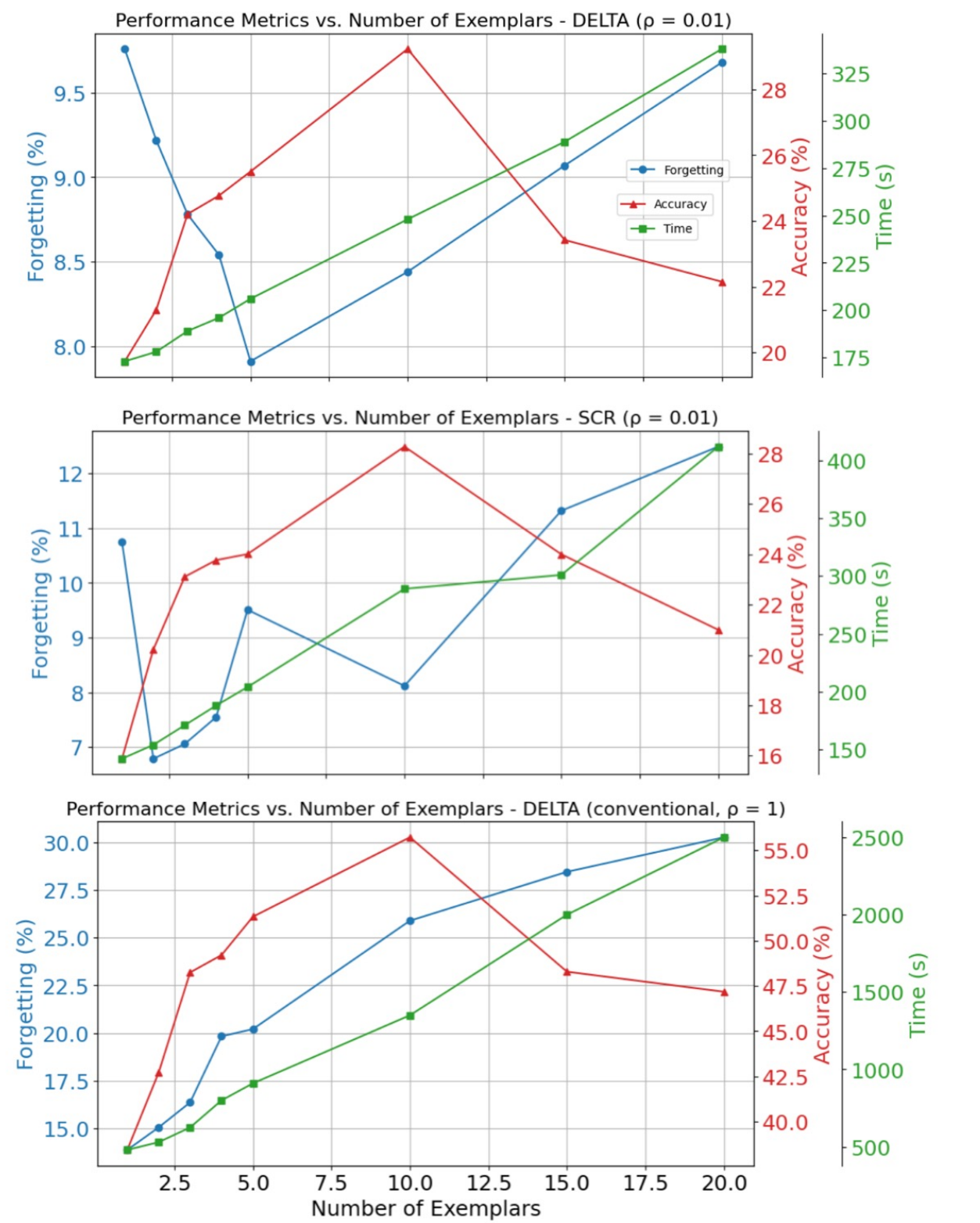
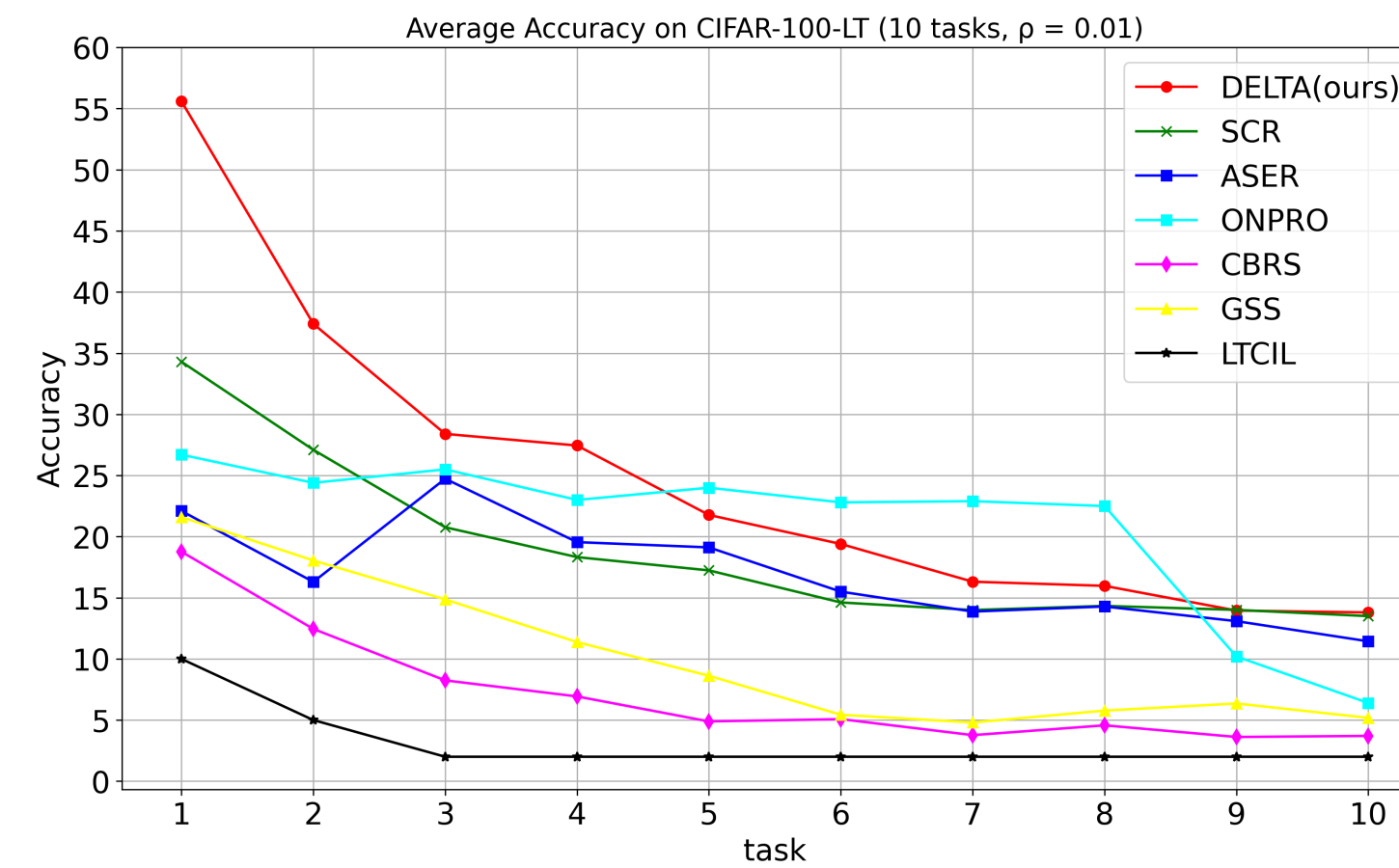
Experiments

| Methods | CIFAR100-LT | | | | | | VFN-LT | | | | | |
|------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | 20 tasks M=0.5K | 20 tasks M=1K | 20 tasks M=2K | 10 tasks M=0.5K | 10 tasks M=1K | 10 tasks M=2K | 15 tasks M=0.5K | 15 tasks M=1K | 15 tasks M=2K | 7 tasks M=0.5K | 7 tasks M=1K | 7 tasks M=2K |
| OnPRO[ICCV '23] | 14.02 ± 0.44 | 16.28 ± 0.81 | 18.01 ± 0.22 | 16.53 ± 0.55 | 16.92 ± 0.08 | 18.85 ± 0.32 | 11.93 ± 0.04 | 12.77 ± 0.07 | 13.50 ± 0.05 | 8.02 ± 0.60 | 9.38 ± 0.21 | 11.84 ± 0.49 |
| SCR[CVPRW '21] | 12.22 ± 0.72 | 13.48 ± 0.90 | 15.88 ± 0.79 | 16.65 ± 0.90 | 17.02 ± 0.77 | 17.58 ± 0.66 | 11.55 ± 0.17 | 11.82 ± 0.10 | 12.39 ± 0.73 | 7.71 ± 0.49 | 9.19 ± 0.46 | 9.48 ± 0.47 |
| ASER[AAAI '21] | 8.86 ± 0.30 | 7.86 ± 0.61 | 8.18 ± 0.31 | 12.68 ± 0.70 | 13.76 ± 0.01 | 15.90 ± 0.91 | 6.85 ± 0.34 | 7.61 ± 0.38 | 7.22 ± 0.36 | 7.46 ± 1.18 | 7.52 ± 1.09 | 6.35 ± 0.19 |
| PRSECCV '20] | 7.61 ± 0.09 | 7.54 ± 0.21 | 7.03 ± 0.13 | 7.34 ± 0.92 | 8.95 ± 0.33 | 9.01 ± 0.39 | 7.17 ± 0.83 | 8.72 ± 0.15 | 8.39 ± 0.19 | 7.85 ± 0.50 | 8.66 ± 0.22 | 9.21 ± 0.30 |
| CBRS[ICML '20] | 8.51 ± 0.19 | 8.66 ± 0.61 | 8.91 ± 0.33 | 9.50 ± 0.48 | 7.22 ± 0.43 | 7.31 ± 0.08 | 8.12 ± 0.94 | 8.35 ± 0.33 | 8.18 ± 0.44 | 7.52 ± 0.11 | 7.64 ± 0.08 | 7.92 ± 0.34 |
| GSS[NeurIPS '19] | 5.16 ± 0.10 | 5.22 ± 0.22 | 5.09 ± 0.21 | 8.97 ± 0.65 | 10.12 ± 0.02 | 9.96 ± 0.47 | 5.86 ± 0.30 | 6.01 ± 0.91 | 5.86 ± 0.06 | 5.92 ± 0.54 | 4.30 ± 0.22 | 4.66 ± 0.60 |
| LT-CIL[offline] | 3.01 ± 0.77 | 2.67 ± 0.04 | 2.43 ± 0.02 | 1.76 ± 0.11 | 2.36 ± 0.25 | 3.76 ± 0.22 | 1.82 ± 0.45 | 2.02 ± 0.44 | 2.38 ± 0.08 | 3.08 ± 0.71 | 2.92 ± 0.04 | 1.99 ± 0.31 |
| DELTA (ours) | 16.53 ± 0.01 | 17.71 ± 0.11 | 19.93 ± 0.07 | 20.25 ± 0.71 | 21.06 ± 0.23 | 22.47 ± 0.51 | 12.5 ± 0.01 | 13.45 ± 0.02 | 13.84 ± 0.01 | 8.00 ± 0.39 | 10.41 ± 0.52 | 12.84 ± 0.54 |

Average Accuracy ± standard deviation (↑) in the long-tailed scenario on Split CIFAR-100-LT, VFN-LT with single exemplar pairing. The **highest** accuracy is highlighted in **red**, while the **second** highest is in **blue**.

| Imbalance ratio (ρ) | SCR | CBRS | DELTA (ours) |
|----------------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|
| 0.005 | 3.59 ± 0.64 | 7.60 ± 0.06 | 18.02 ± 0.79 |
| 0.03 | 4.11 ± 0.42 | 8.88 ± 0.47 | 20.21 ± 0.22 |
| 0.07 | 8.34 ± 0.04 | 9.47 ± 0.61 | 23.60 ± 0.09 |
| 0.1 | 6.12 ± 0.35 | 10.26 ± 0.38 | 24.28 ± 0.60 |
| 1.0 (Conventional) | 20.74 ± 0.40 | 15.79 ± 0.33 | 33.23 ± 0.97 |

Average Accuracy ± standard deviation (↑) the long-tailed scenario on Split CIFAR-100-LT with varying imbalance factors. Best results in **bold**



Paper



Code

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