

# Remote Sensing Time Series as Covariance Matrices for Crop Classification

Master Thesis Defense

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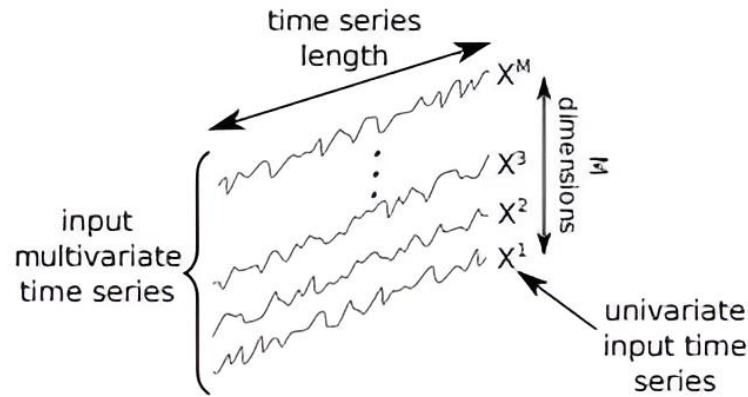
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# Introduction



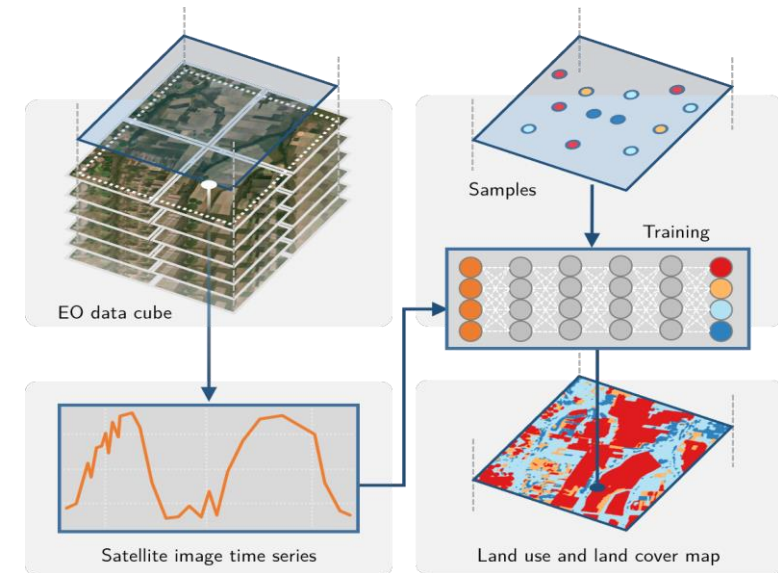
Representation of multi-variate TS. Source: [Akodad, S., 2021](#)

$$\{(X_1, y_1), (X_2, y_2), \dots, (X_n, y_n)\}$$

$$X_k = (x_i^1, x_i^2, \dots, x_i^T)_{i=1}^q$$

- Large timeseries (TS) of **multi-spectral** images.
- Captures **spectral** information across multiple wavelengths across a finite **temporal** sequence.

**Supervised learning task** for crop classification using remote sensing TS data through second-order statistics, specifically **covariance matrices**.



Example of SITS. Source: [Intro to SITS](#)

# Motivations

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In remote sensing TS, we have **high-dimensional data**.



With long sequences, we get **large data sizes**.



**Limited labeled sample**, and **irregular temporal sampling**, leading to **missing data**, particularly due to **cloud cover**.



Reliance on **first-order statistics**, which address the **global structure** but fail to capture **local intricacies**.

# Objectives

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Following the classical manifold learning theory, **learning** or **preserving** the original data structure can enhance classification performance (Huang, Z. and Gool, L. V., 2016). We focus on the following research objectives:

1. Explore the unique **covariance representation** of remote sensing timeseries data to capture the **spectral-temporal** intricacies and dependencies.
2. Leveraging the underlying **Riemannian structure** of the data and engineer a state-of-the-art supervised learning algorithm.
3. Explore possible **variants** of the model with combinations of data representation.
4. Utilize **benchmark** datasets to evaluate the performance of the proposed models.

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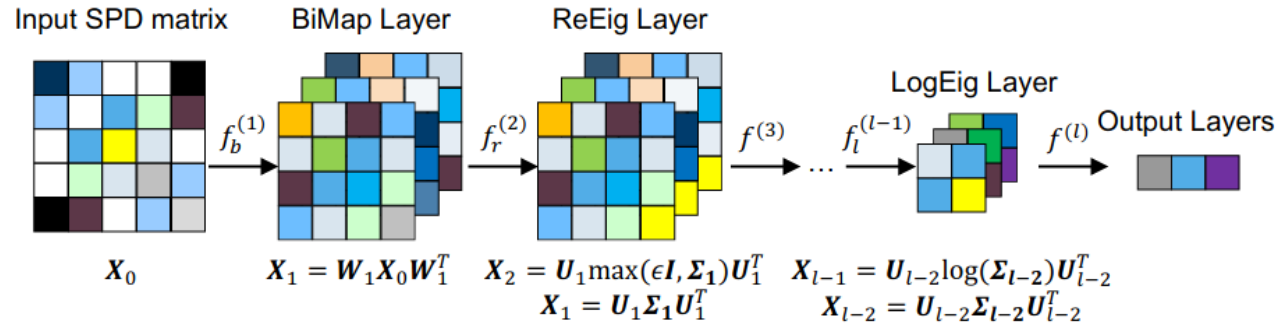
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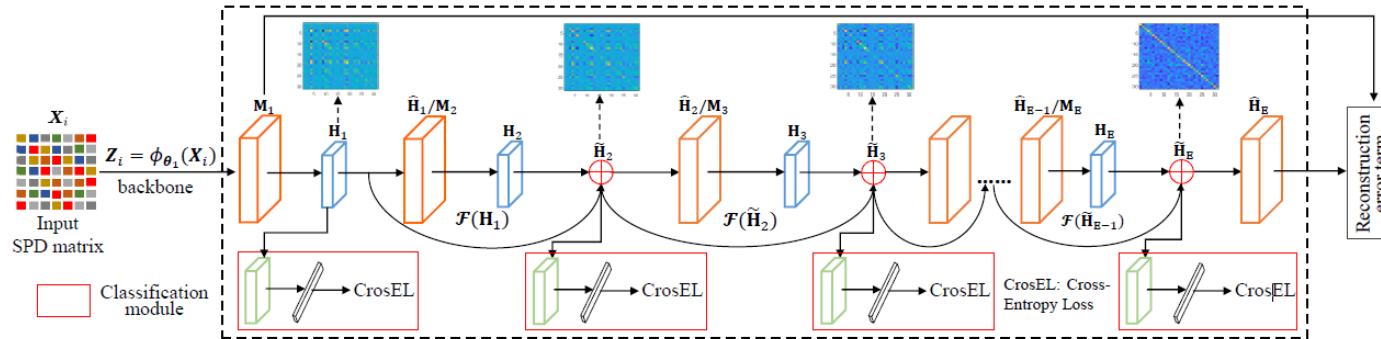
# Riemannian Networks



Source: (Zhiwu Huang and Luc Van Gool, 2017)

## SPDNet: A Riemannian Network

- SPDNet works on SPD matrices directly and exploits multiple layers tailored for SPD matrix deep learning.
- Our implementation is based on the foundational concept of this model.



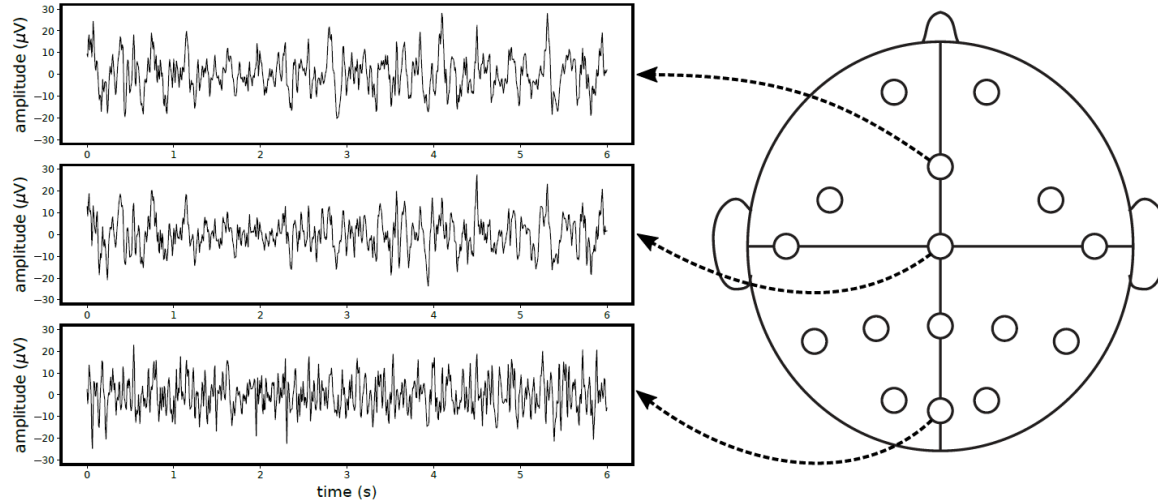
Source: (Wang et.al, 2022)

## DreamNet: A Stacked Riemannian Autoencoder (SRAE) Network

- DreamNet implants several residual-like blocks using shortcut connections to augment the representational capacity of SRAE.

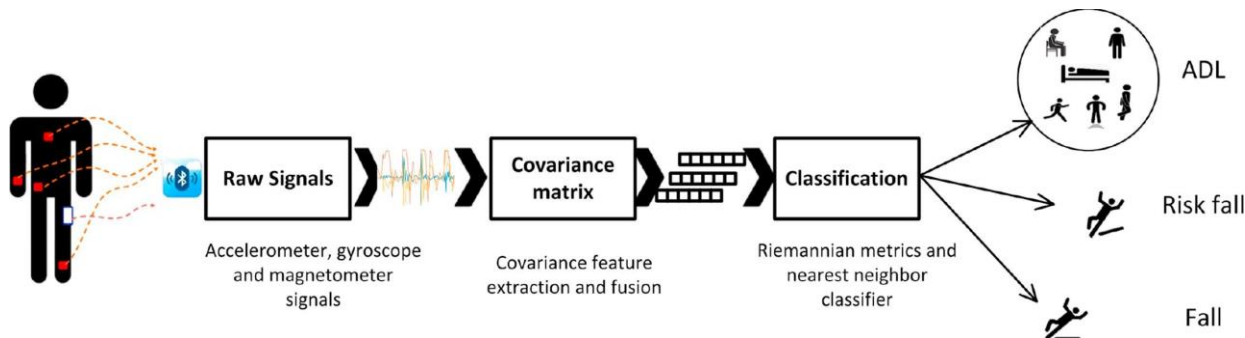


# Applications of Riemannian Approach



EEG classification. Source: [\(Pedro L. C. Rodrigues, 2019\)](#)

- Brain Computer Interface (BCI) classification [\[1\]](#)
- Radar signals classification [\[2\]](#)
- Text, audio, and video classification [\[3\]](#)
- Stock market-state classification [\[4\]](#)



Fall detection from multiple wearable sensors. Source: [\(Bouetella, 2019\)](#)

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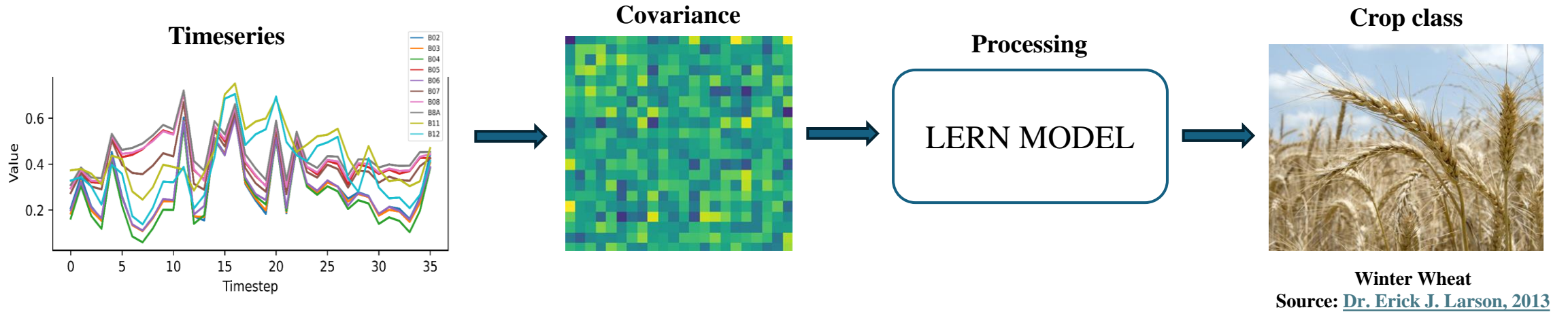
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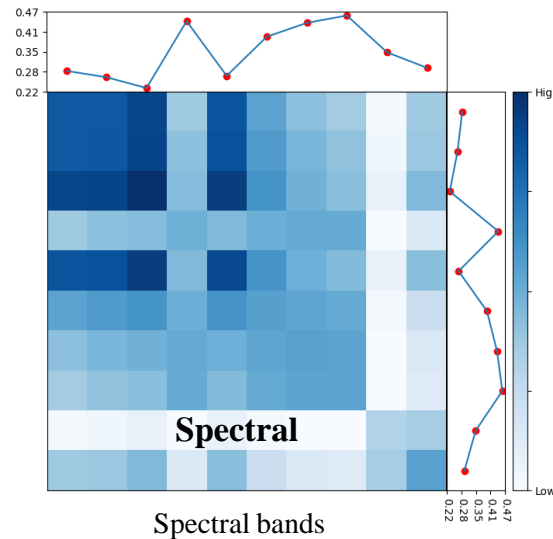
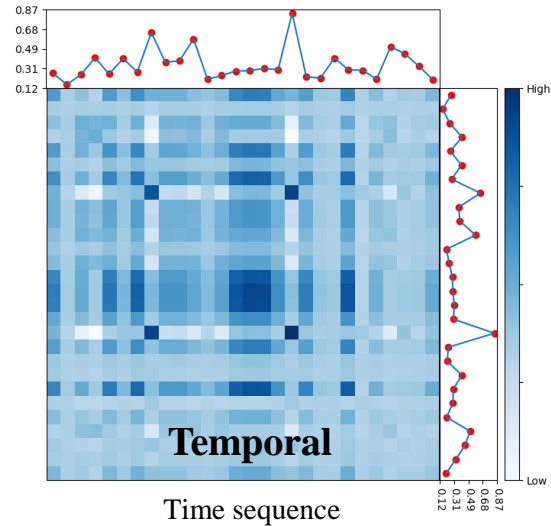
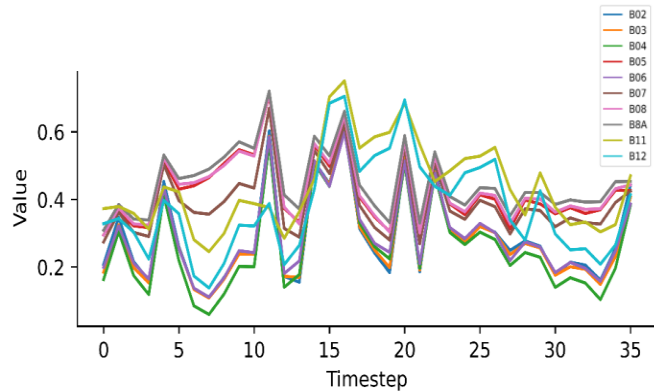
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# Methodology



# Covariance Estimation



## Sample Covariance Matrix

$$P = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X})(X_i - \bar{X})^T$$

$$P = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i)(X_i)^T$$

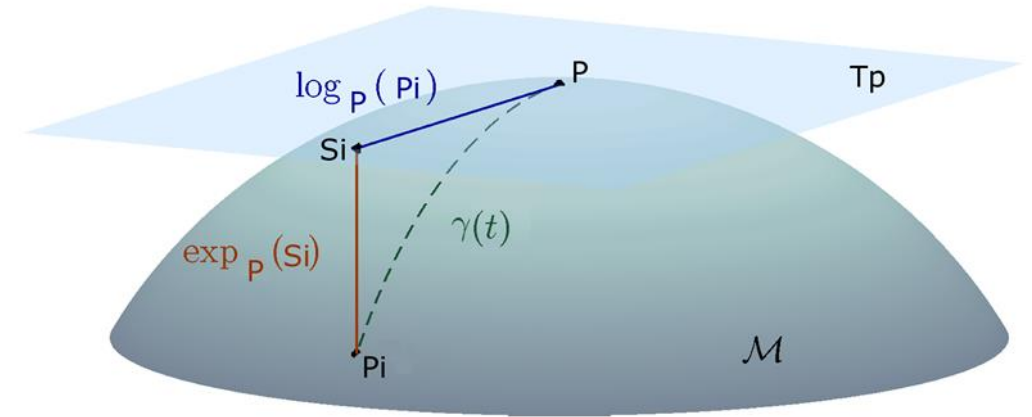
## Regularization

$$P_{reg} = P + \epsilon I$$

$$P_{shrink} = (1 - \alpha)P + \alpha I$$

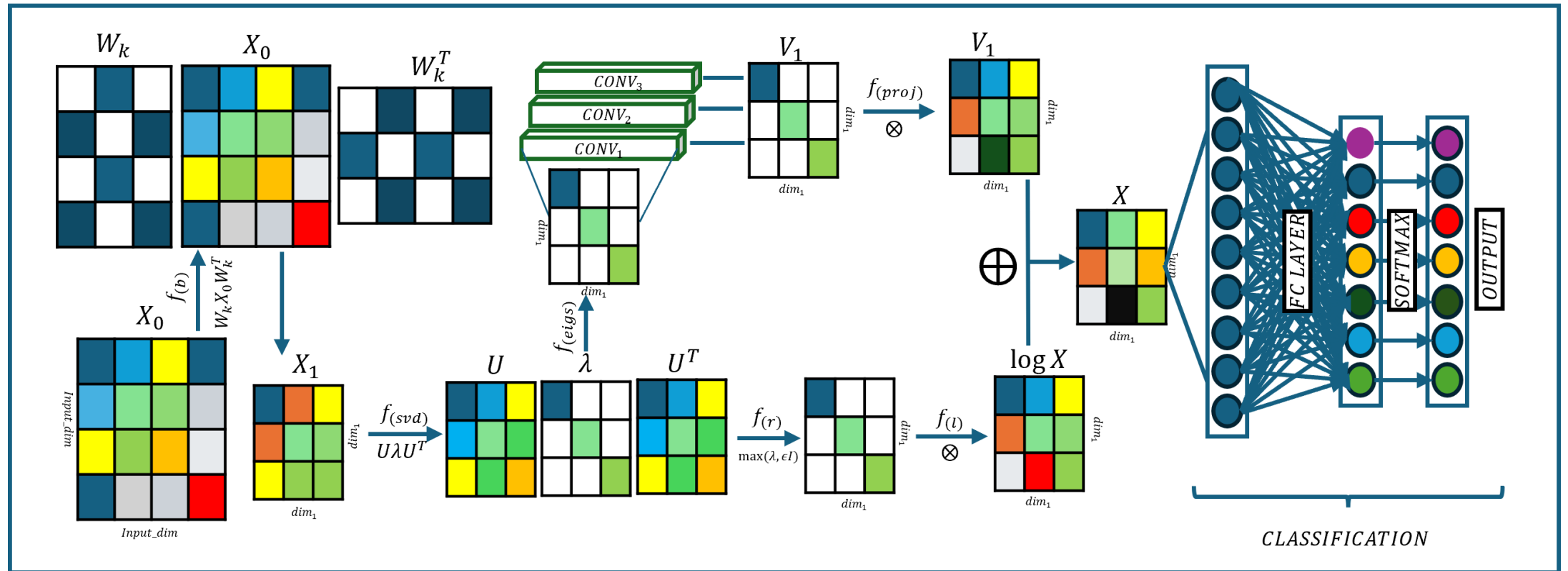
# Covariance Matrix $\rightarrow$ SPD Matrix

- **Symmetric Positive Definite (SPD)**
  - $P = P^T$
  - Each  $P$  satisfies  $x^T P x > 0$  for all non-zero vectors  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$
- A **Riemannian manifold**  $\mathcal{M}$  is a differentiable manifold, where the **tangent space**  $\Rightarrow T_P \mathcal{M}$  at each point  $P$  is a finite-dimensional Euclidean space.
- **SPD manifold**  $S_+^d \in \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \text{tangent space} \Rightarrow T_P S_+^d$
- **Riemannian metric**  $\Rightarrow$  inner product:  $g_p: T_P S_+^d \times T_P S_+^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$



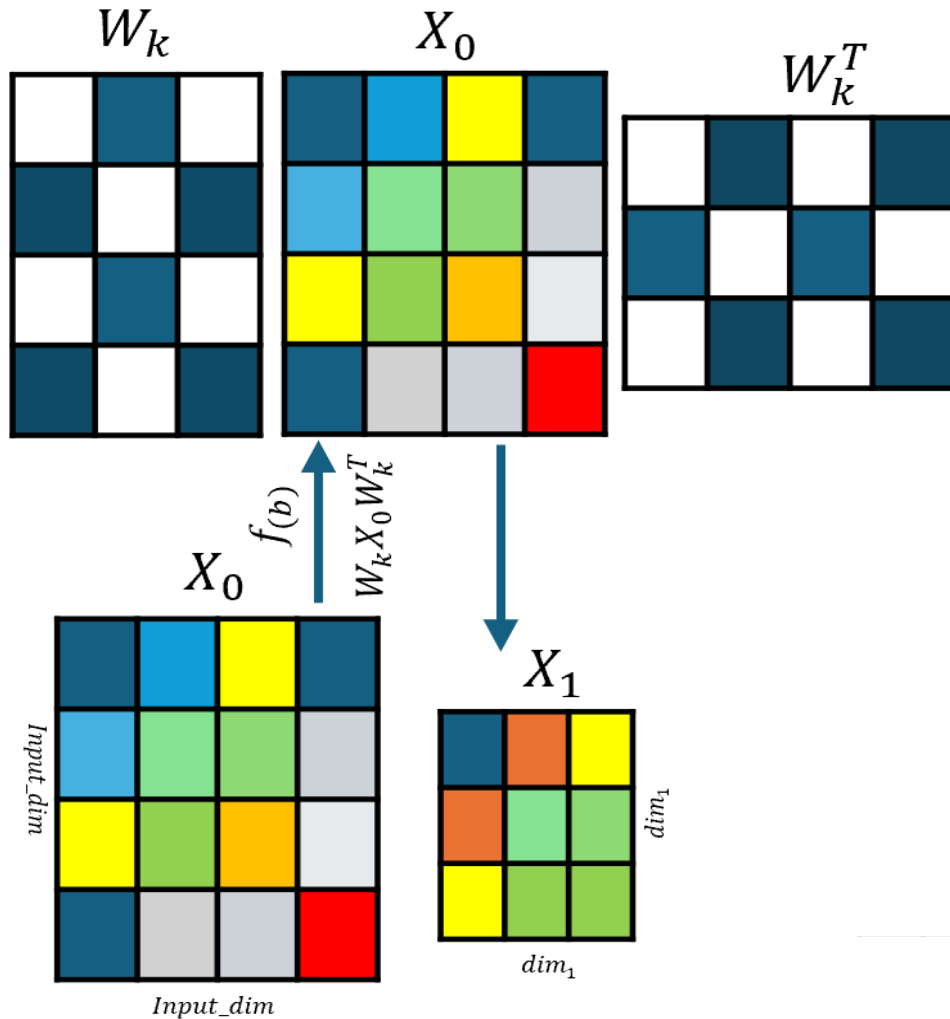
This represents the tangent space of the SPD manifold  $S_+^d$  at point  $P$ , where  $S_i$  the tangent vector of  $P_i$  and  $\gamma(t)$  is the geodesic between  $P$  and  $P_i$ . Source: [Barachant, A. et.al.](#)

# LogEucResNet (LERN) Model



## Conceptual Diagram for LERN

# First Block



## BiMap Layer

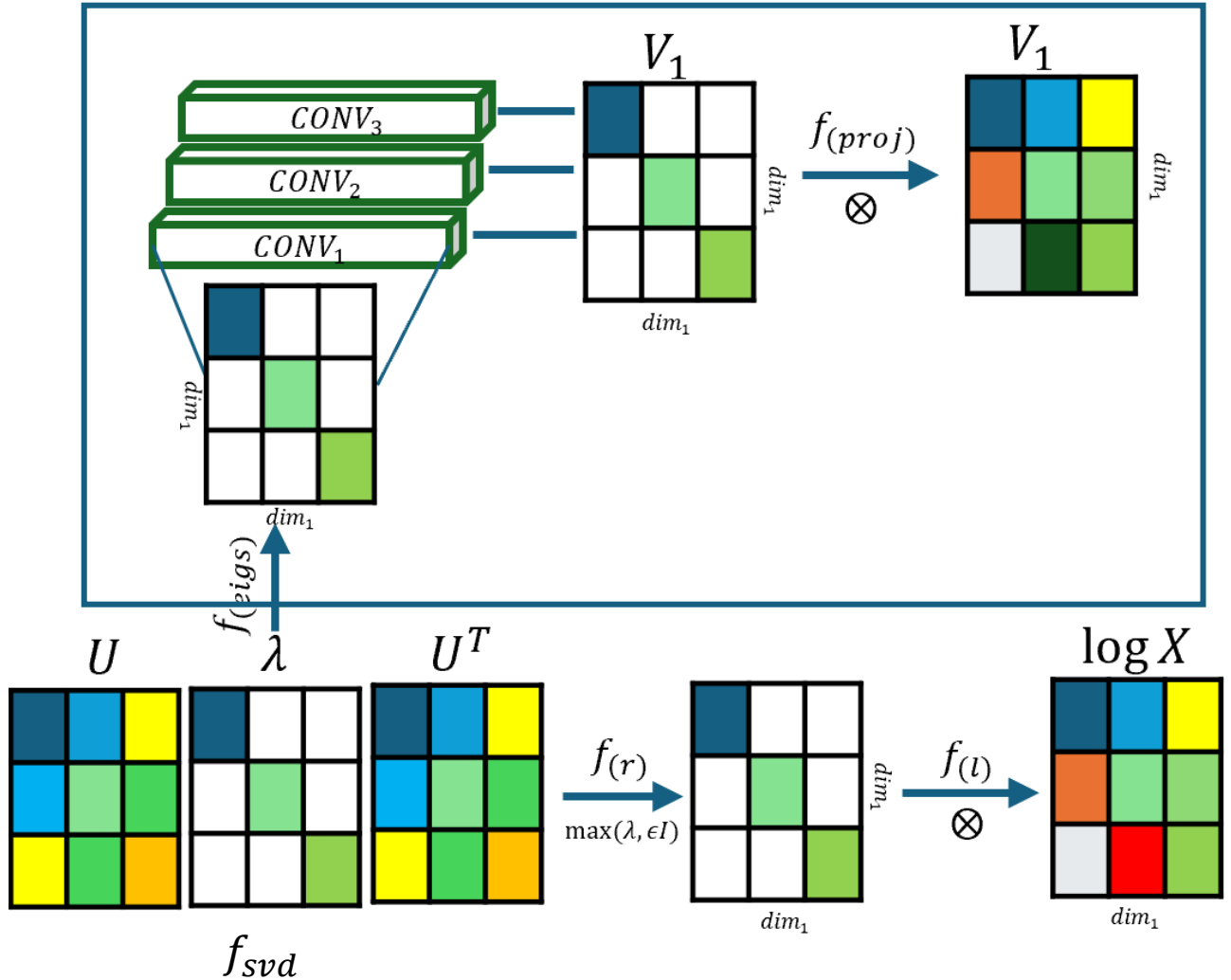
$$X_k = f_{(b)}^k(X_{k-1}, W_k) = W_k X_{k-1} W_k^T$$

- Input SPD matrices to new SPD matrices in a **sub-space**.
- **Reduce** dimension while preserving the **geometric structure** of the data.

Model Hyperparameter 

$\text{dim}_1 = \text{Bimap dimension}$

# Second Block (a)



## Single-Value Decomposition (SVD)

$$X_k = f_{(svd)}^k (X_{k-1}) = U_{k-1} \lambda_{k-1} U_{k-1}^T$$

## Spectrum Map

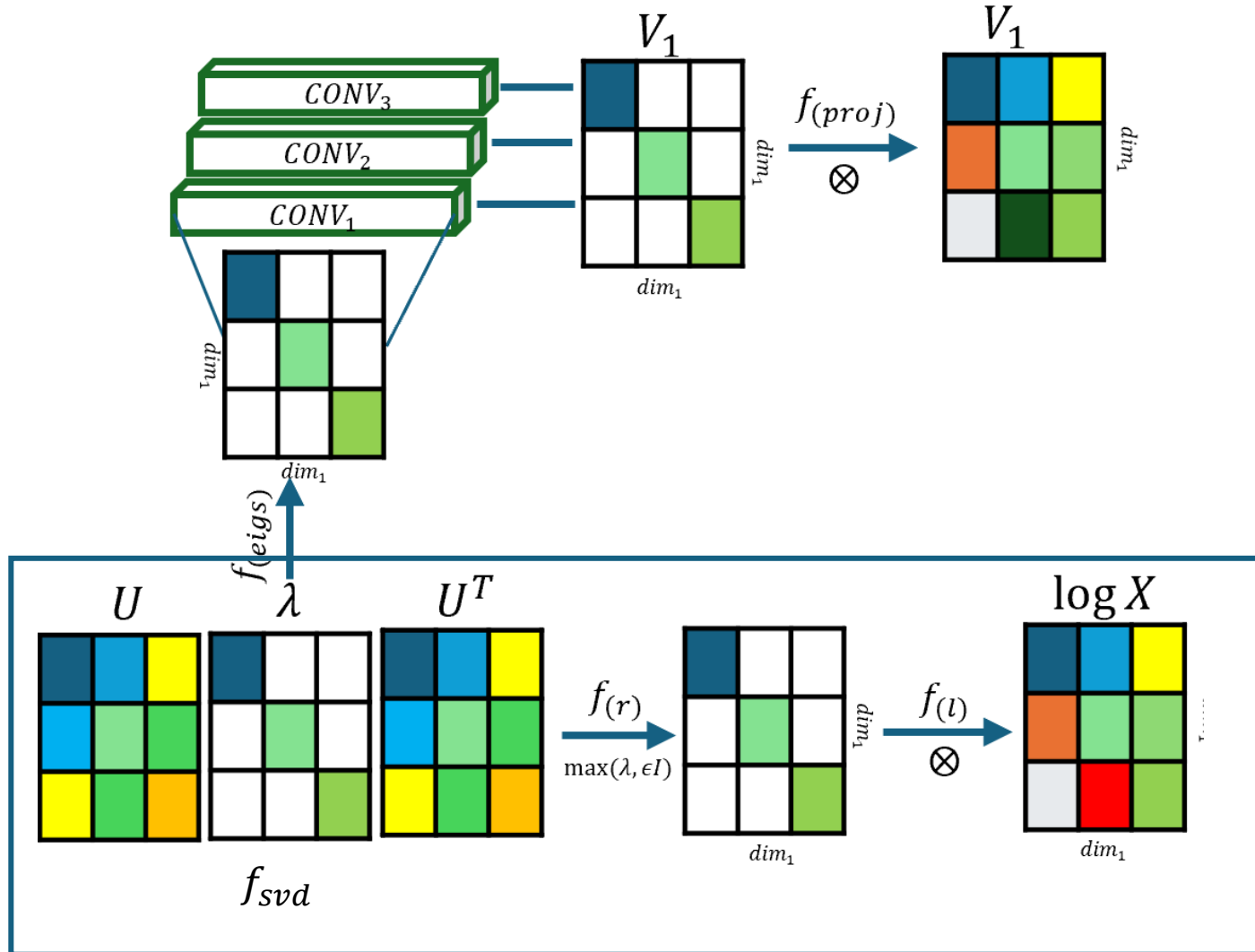
$$\hat{v} = f_{(eigs)}^k (\lambda_{k-1})$$

## Projection

$$v = f_{(proj)}^k (\hat{v}) = P \hat{v} P^T$$



# Second Block (b)



## Single-Value Decomposition (SVD)

$$X_k = f_{(svd)}^k (X_{k-1}) = U_{k-1} \lambda_{k-1} U_{k-1}^T$$

## ReEig Layer

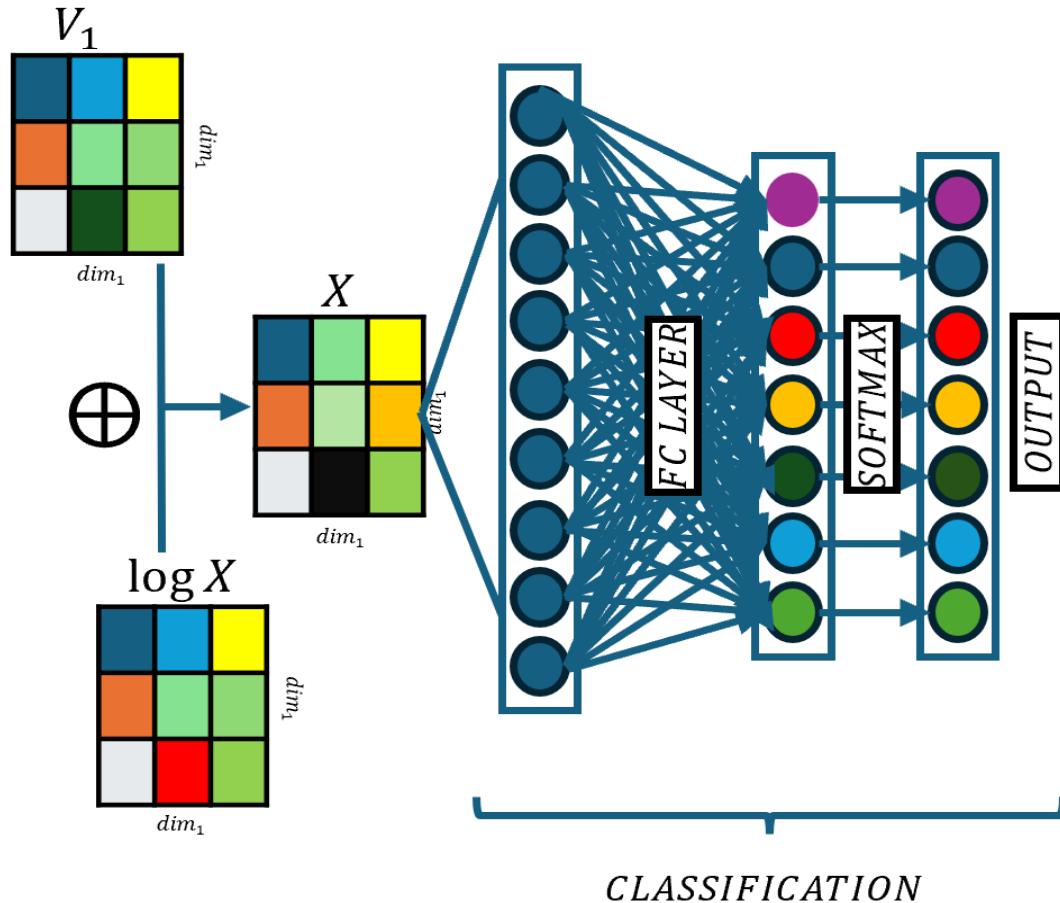
$$X_k = f_{(r)}^k (X_{k-1}) = U_{k-1} \max(\lambda_{k-1}, \epsilon I) U_{k-1}^T$$

$$\max(\lambda_{k-1}, \epsilon I) = \begin{cases} \lambda_{k-1}(i, i) & \text{if } \lambda_{k-1}(i, i) > \epsilon \\ \epsilon & \text{if } \lambda_{k-1}(i, i) \leq \epsilon \end{cases}$$

## LogEig

$$X_k = f_{(l)}^k (X_{k-1}) = U_{k-1} \log(\lambda_{k-1}) U_{k-1}^T$$

# Third Block



## Residual Block

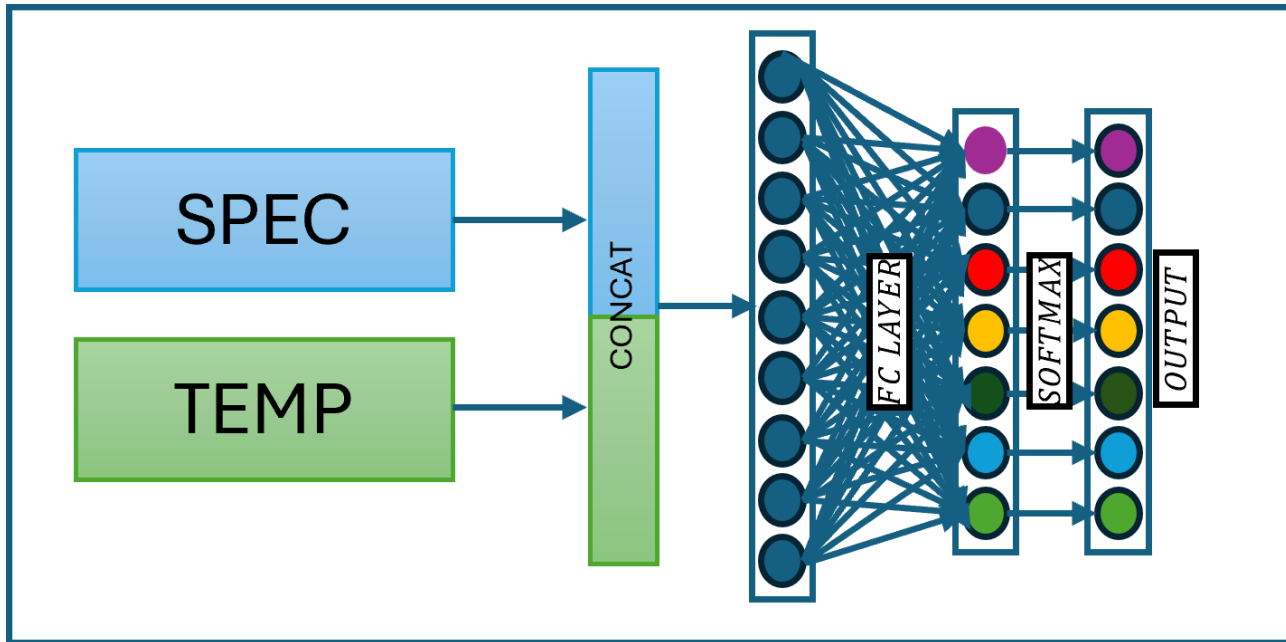
$$X = X_k \oplus v$$

## Classification Block

$$S_i = \log \mathbf{X} \cdot \text{proto}_i^T$$

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} S_1 \\ S_2 \\ \vdots \\ S_{n_{\text{proto}}} \end{bmatrix}$$

# LERN - Combo



Conceptual Diagram for LERN-Combo

- This framework draws inspiration from the **Duplo** network by Interdonato, R., et.al (2019).
- **Fusing** two chains of networks OR sub-models
- Handle spectral and temporal covariance representations and captures distinct **patterns** and **features**

# Loss Function

- **Focal Loss**

It was introduced by Lin et al. (2018), primarily designed for object detection to address class imbalance

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{focal}} = -\alpha(1 - p_t)^\gamma \log(p_t)$$

$\alpha$  is **class weights**

$\gamma$  is the **focusing parameter**

$p_t$  is the model's **predicted probability**

# Performance Metric

- **Weighted F-1 Score**

$$\text{F1-weighted} = \frac{1}{\sum_{i=1}^n N_i} \sum_{i=1}^n N_i \cdot \frac{2 \cdot \text{Precision}_i \cdot \text{Recall}_i}{\text{Precision}_i + \text{Recall}_i}$$

- **Macro F-1 Score**

$$\text{F1-macro} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{2 \cdot \text{Precision}_i \cdot \text{Recall}_i}{\text{Precision}_i + \text{Recall}_i}$$

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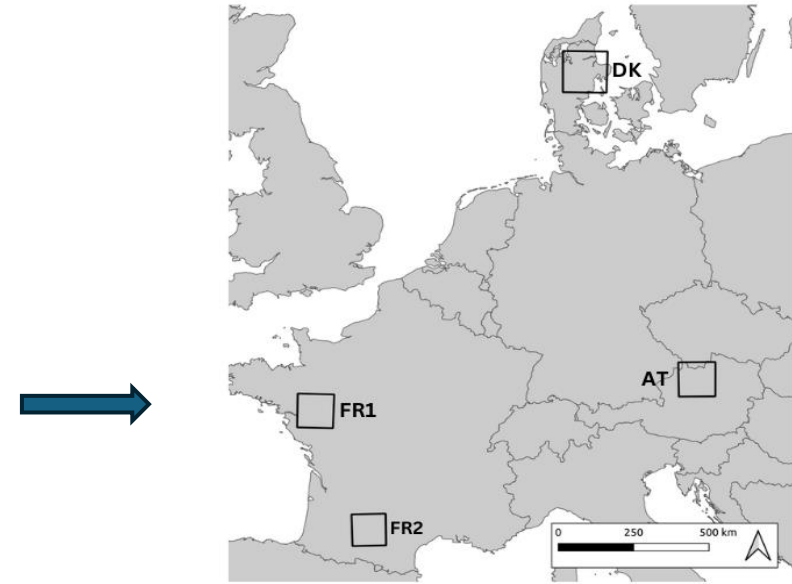
# Datasets

**MiniTimeMatch** → SITS for 4 regions across Europe

**BreizhCrops** → SITS for *Breizh* = *Bretagne* region

**Table 1.** Characteristics of the datasets

Region	# Observations	Bands	Sequence Length	# Classes
<b>MiniTimeMatch</b>				
FR1	106,028	10	36	11
FR2	74,156	10	38	12
DK	53,823	10	28	12
AT	43,809	10	28	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>277,816</b>			
<b>BreizhCrops</b>				
frh01	178,602	10	71	7
frh02	140,621	10	71	7
frh03	166,371	10	71	7
frh04	122,601	10	71	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>608,195</b>			



MiniTimeMatch. Source: [link](#)



BreizhCrops. Source: [link](#)

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# Experiments

- **Default settings** with spectral-temporal covariance representations
- Manual **empirical hyperparameter tuning**
  - Bimap Layer Dimension
  - Gamma ( $\gamma$ ) value
- Model evaluation with **optimal hyperparameters**
- Testing on **other regions**
- **Larger dataset** experimentation

**Table 3.** Initial configurations for the LERN models

Hyperparameter	Value
BiMap dim	$0.7 \times input_{dim}$
Number of Classes	11 (FR1 dataset)
Learning Rate ( $\eta$ )	$10^{-2}$
Batch Size	64
Epochs	200
Optimizer	RiemannianAdam
Scheduler	StepLr with step-size = 30
Loss function ( $\mathcal{L}$ )	Focal loss
Focusing parameter ( $\gamma$ )	2
Spectrum Map Parameters	Conv filter 10, 5, 1



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# Results: MiniTimeMatch

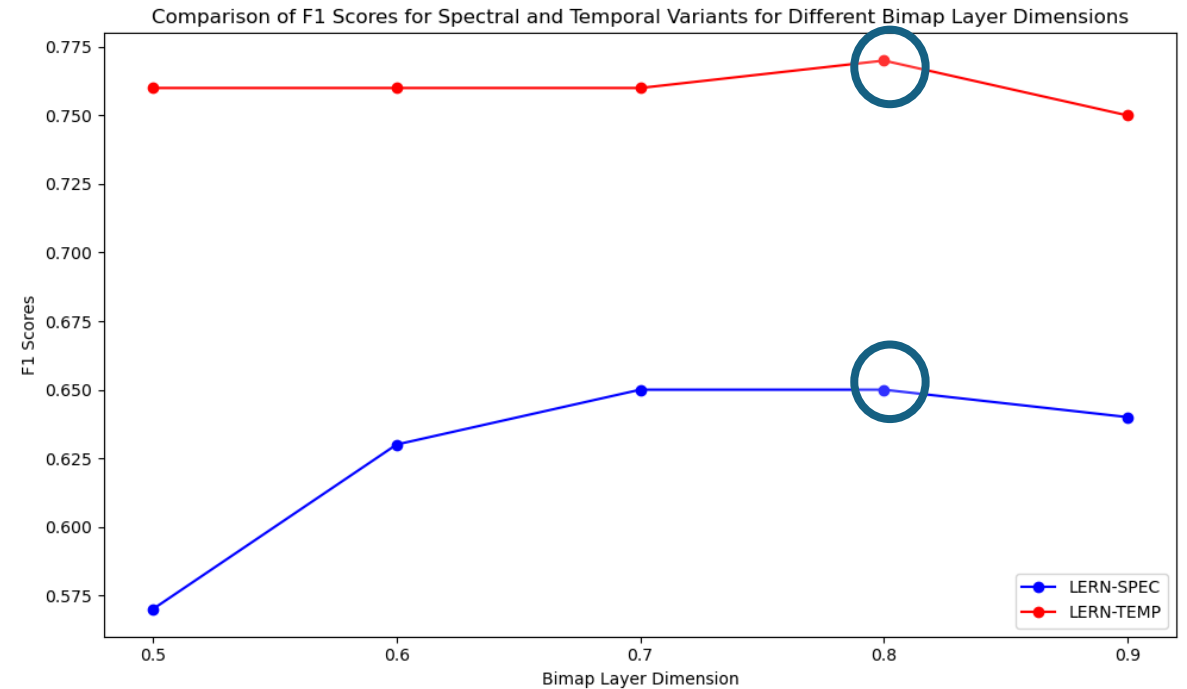
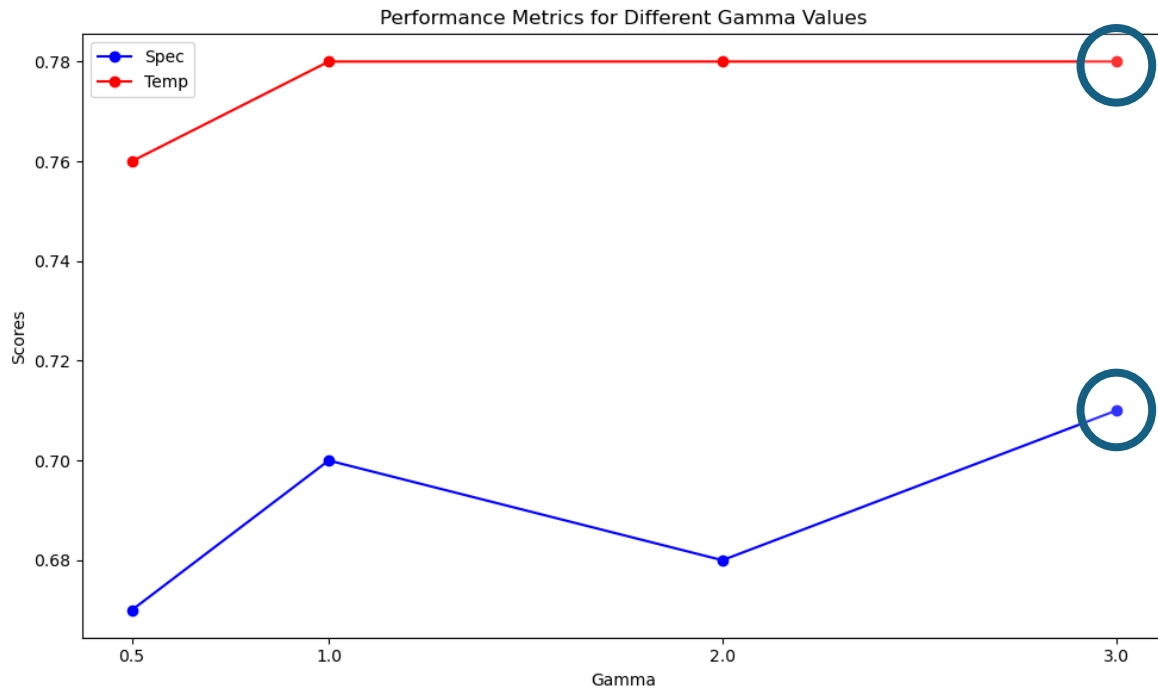
## MACRO F1-SCORE

Region	1-nn Log-Euc	1-nn Riem	CNN	LERN-Spec	LERN-Temp	LERN-Combo
AT	0.66	0.68	0.70	0.68	0.80	<b>0.81</b>
DK	0.56	0.64	0.51	0.54	0.61	<b>0.69</b>
FR1	0.63	0.65	0.78	0.71	0.78	<b>0.84</b>
FR2	0.59	0.64	0.61	0.63	0.67	<b>0.73</b>

## WEIGHTED F1-SCORE

AT	0.90	0.91	<b>0.95</b>	0.93	0.94	<b>0.95</b>
DK	0.75	0.79	0.86	0.80	0.85	<b>0.89</b>
FR1	0.89	0.90	0.96	0.93	0.95	<b>0.97</b>
FR2	0.89	0.90	<b>0.95</b>	0.94	0.94	0.94

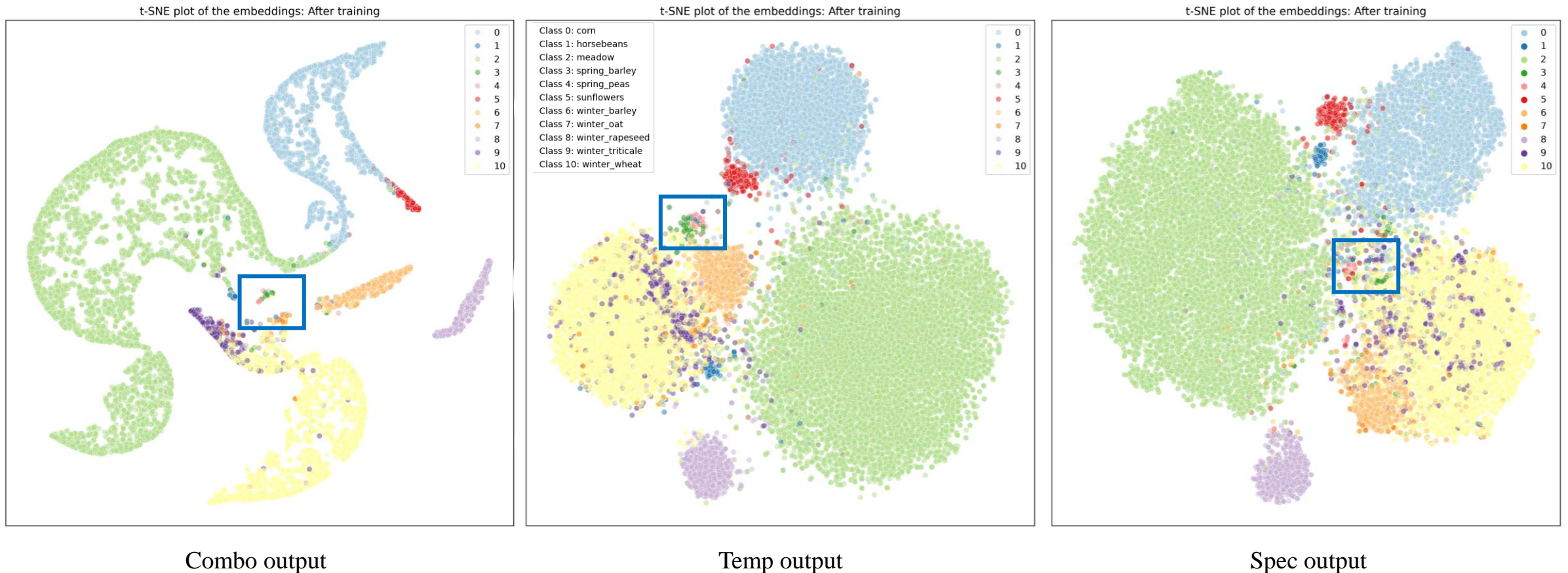
# Optimal hyperparameters



Sensitivity of the model to its main hyperparameters

○ → Optimal value

# t-SNE plots for FR1



# Results: BreizhCrops

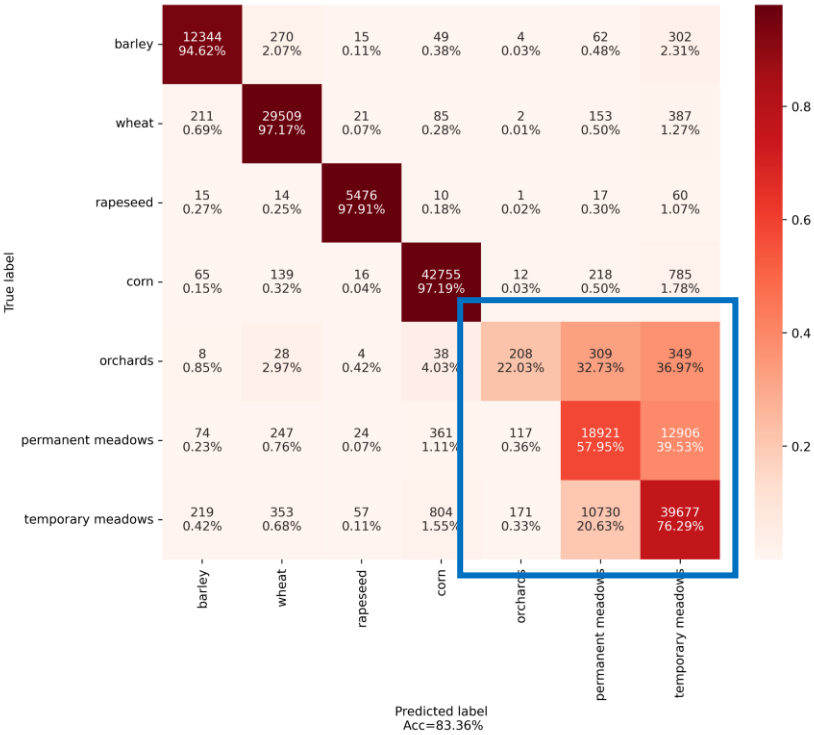
## MACRO F1-SCORE

Region	1-nn Log-Euc	1-nn Riem	CNN	LERN-Spec	LERN-Temp	LERN-Combo
frh01	-	-	-	0.70	<b>0.76</b>	0.75
frh02	-	-	-	0.72	<b>0.77</b>	0.76
frh03	-	-	-	0.68	0.73	<b>0.74</b>
frh04	-	-	-	0.69	<b>0.74</b>	0.73

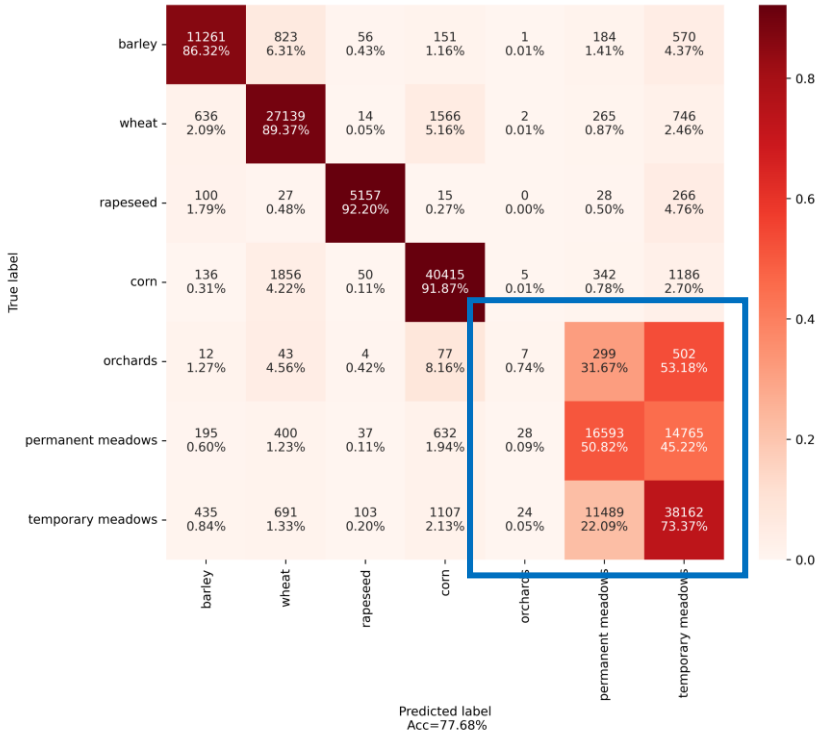
## WEIGHTED F1-SCORE

frh01	-	-	-	0.79	<b>0.82</b>	<b>0.82</b>
frh02	-	-	-	0.77	0.80	<b>0.81</b>
frh03	-	-	-	0.76	0.78	<b>0.79</b>
frh04	-	-	-	0.75	0.78	<b>0.79</b>

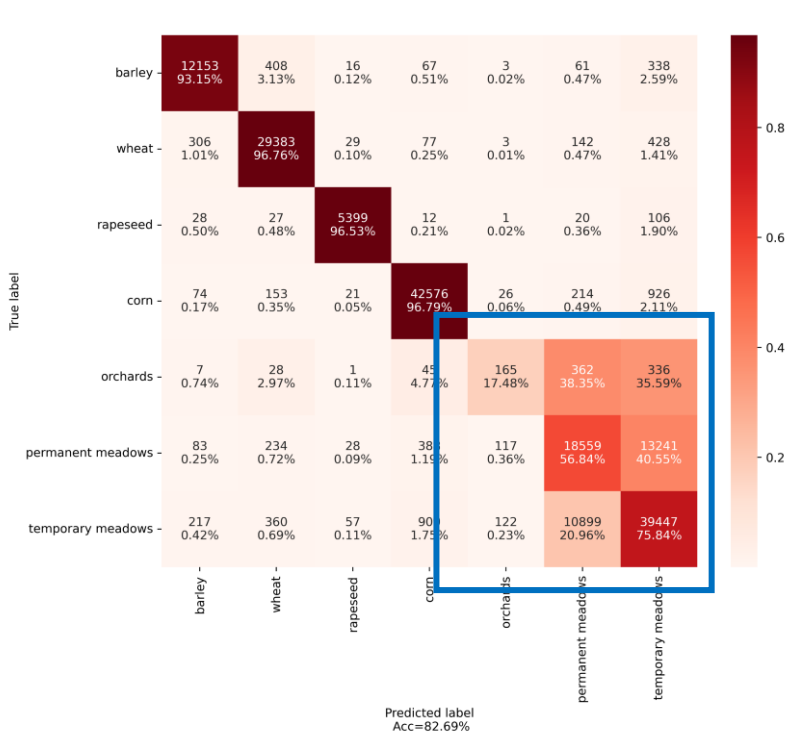
# Breizhcrops



Combo output



Spec output



Temp output

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# Conclusion

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**LERN-Combo > LERN-Temp > LERN-Spec**



Introduced LERN & LERN-Combo:  
second-order geometry-aware neural  
network.



Utilized covariance representation for remote  
sensing timeseries data.



Embedded covariance matrices onto a  
Riemannian manifold using the LERN  
network.



Enhanced understanding and classification of complex  
timeseries patterns for crop classification.



# Challenges

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Sampling inhomogeneity



SVD on high-dimensional matrices often computed on CPU only, making parallelization difficult.



Dataset imbalances



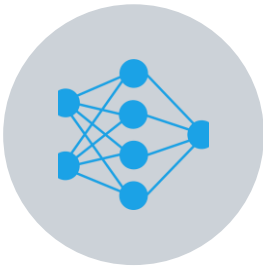
Spectral similarities



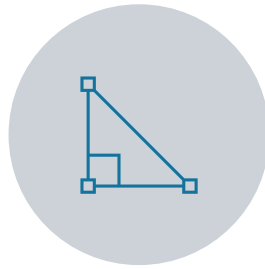
High computational demands, particularly for matrix operations

# Future Perspectives

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EXPLORE  
ARCHITECTURAL  
HYPERPARAMETERS



RIEMANNIAN BATCH  
NORMALIZATION  
(RBN)



STATISTICAL  
SIGNIFICANCE  
TESTS

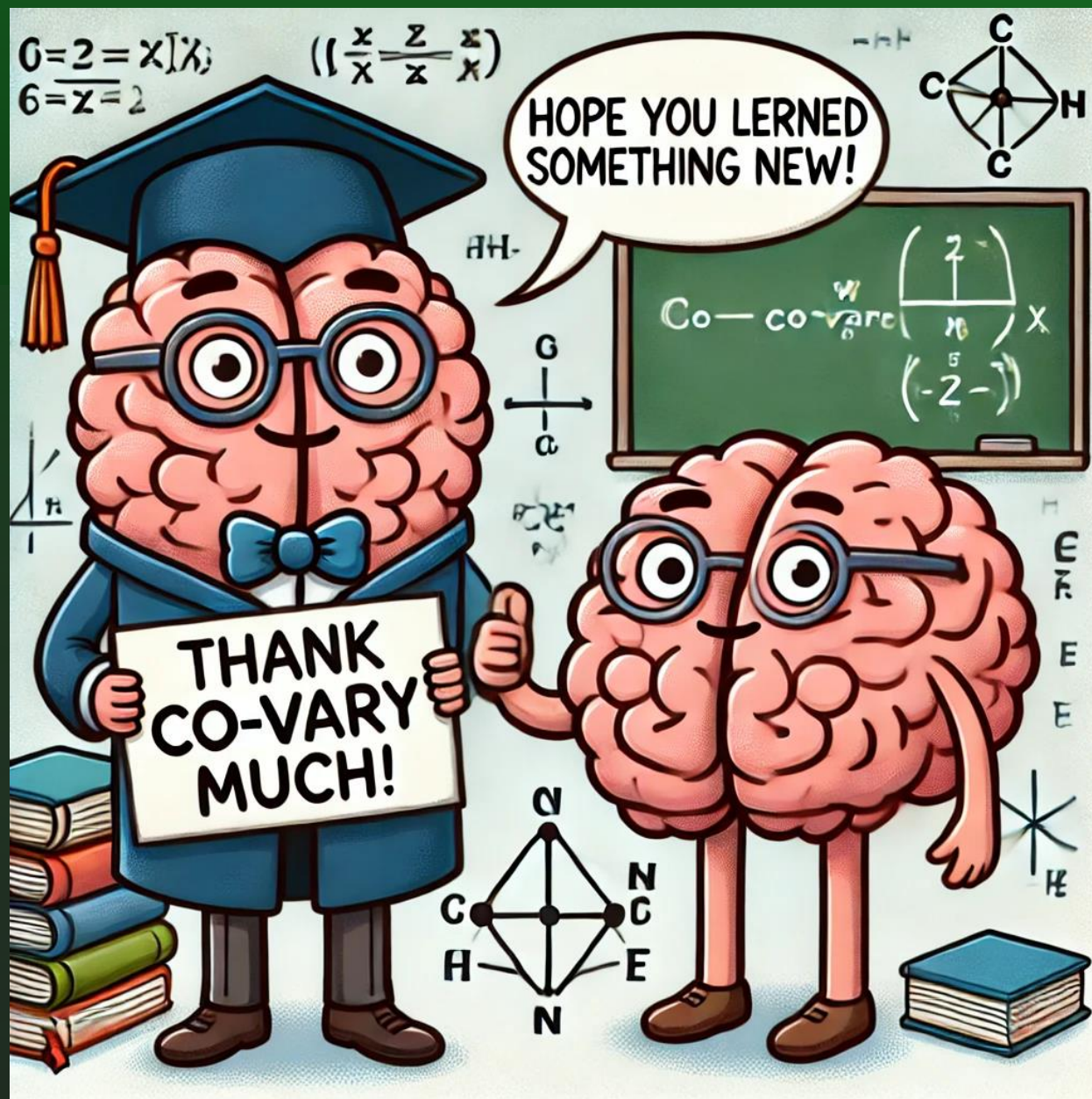


CLASS-SPECIFIC  
ANALYSIS

# References

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<https://github.com/rtavenar/MatchAndDeform.git>.
- Ruswurm, M., Pelletier, C., Zollner, M., Lefevre, S., and Korner, M. (2020). Breizhcrops: A time series dataset for crop type mapping. *International Archives of the Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing and Spatial Information Sciences ISPRS* (2020).
- Wang, R., Wu, X.-J., Chen, Z., Xu, T., and Kittler, J. (2022). Dreamnet: A deep Riemannian network based on spd manifold learning for visual classification.



Made with ChatGPT

# Appendix

# Experiments

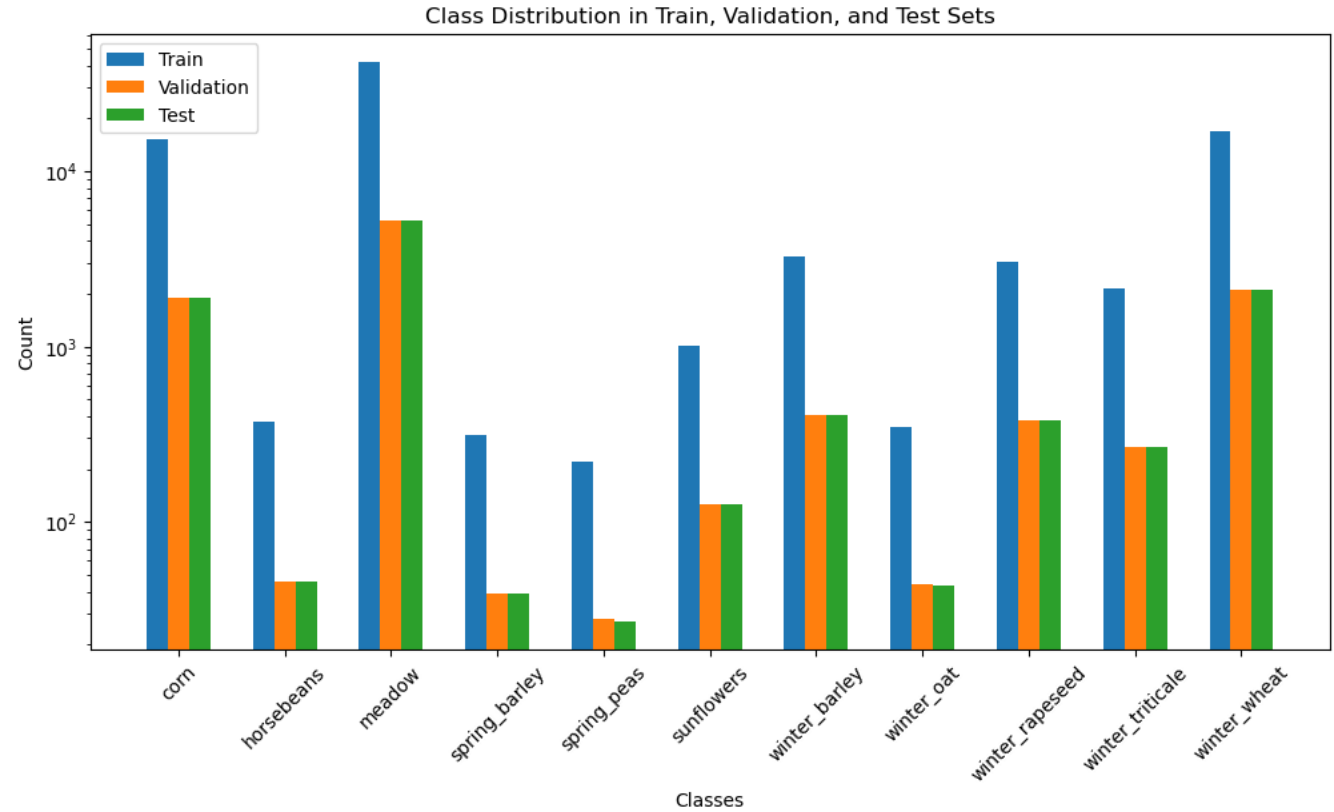
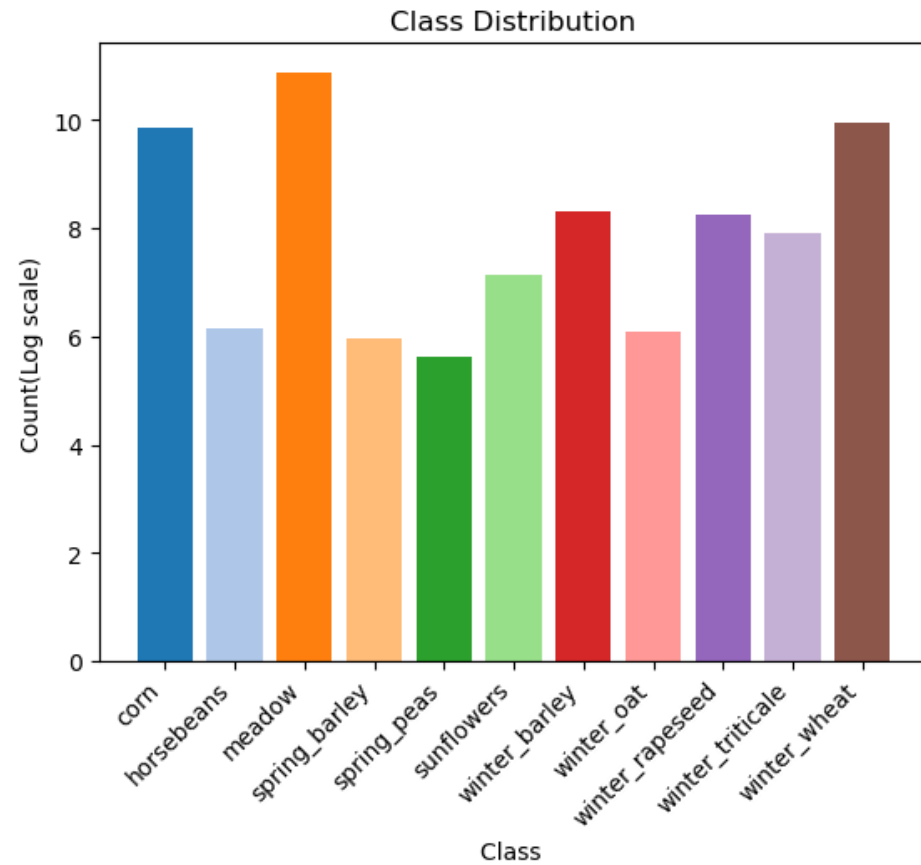
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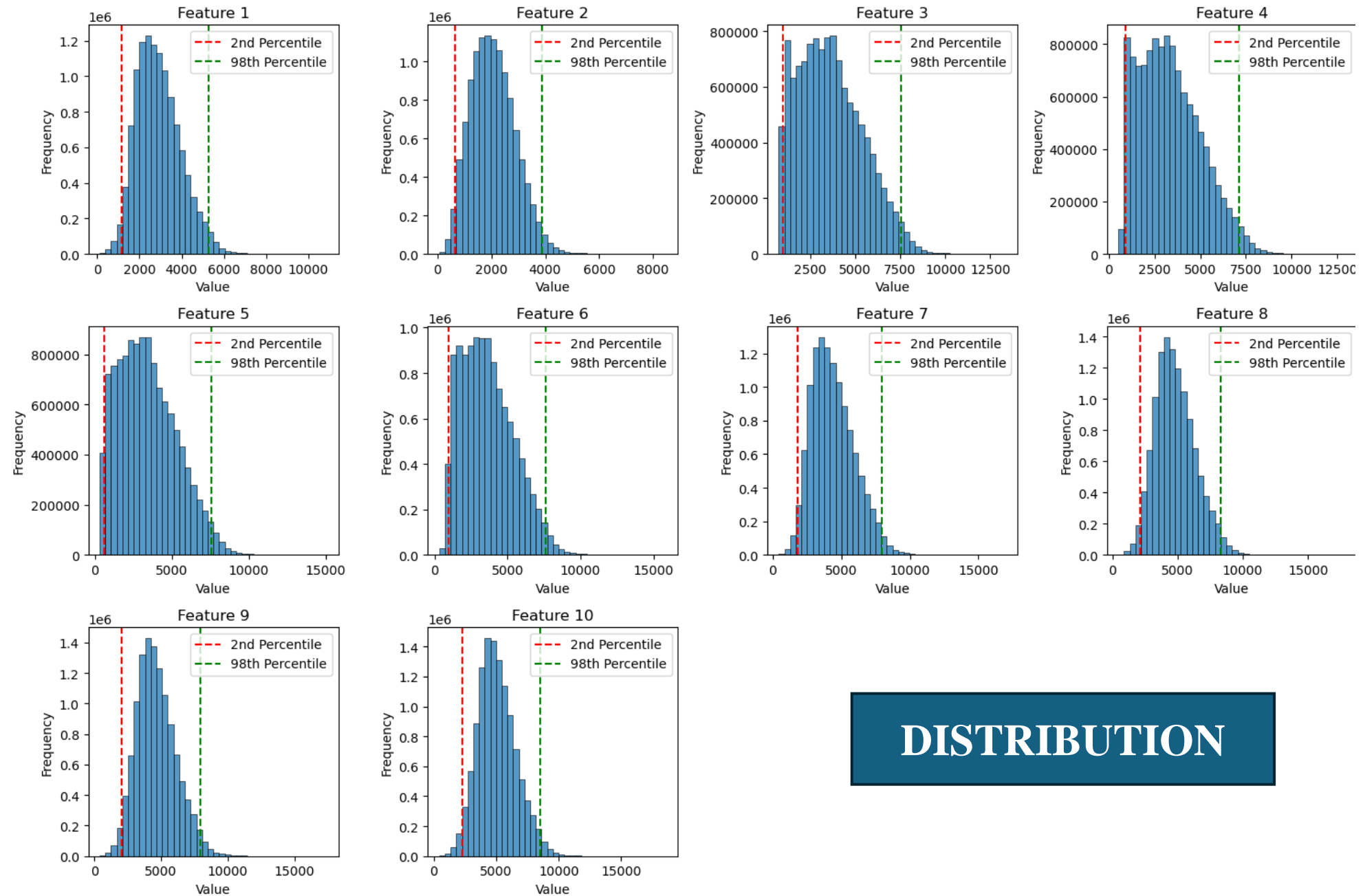
- Primary baseline model – 1-nn
- Secondary baseline model – 1D-CNN
- Sampling inhomogeneity - linear interpolation

**Table 2.** Trainable Parameters and Time per Epoch

Metric	Model			
	1D- CNN	LERN-Spec	LERN-Temp	LERN-Combo
Trainable Parameters	41,323	1,412	15,391	31,965
Time per Epoch (secs)	9.21	12.6	17.78	32.3

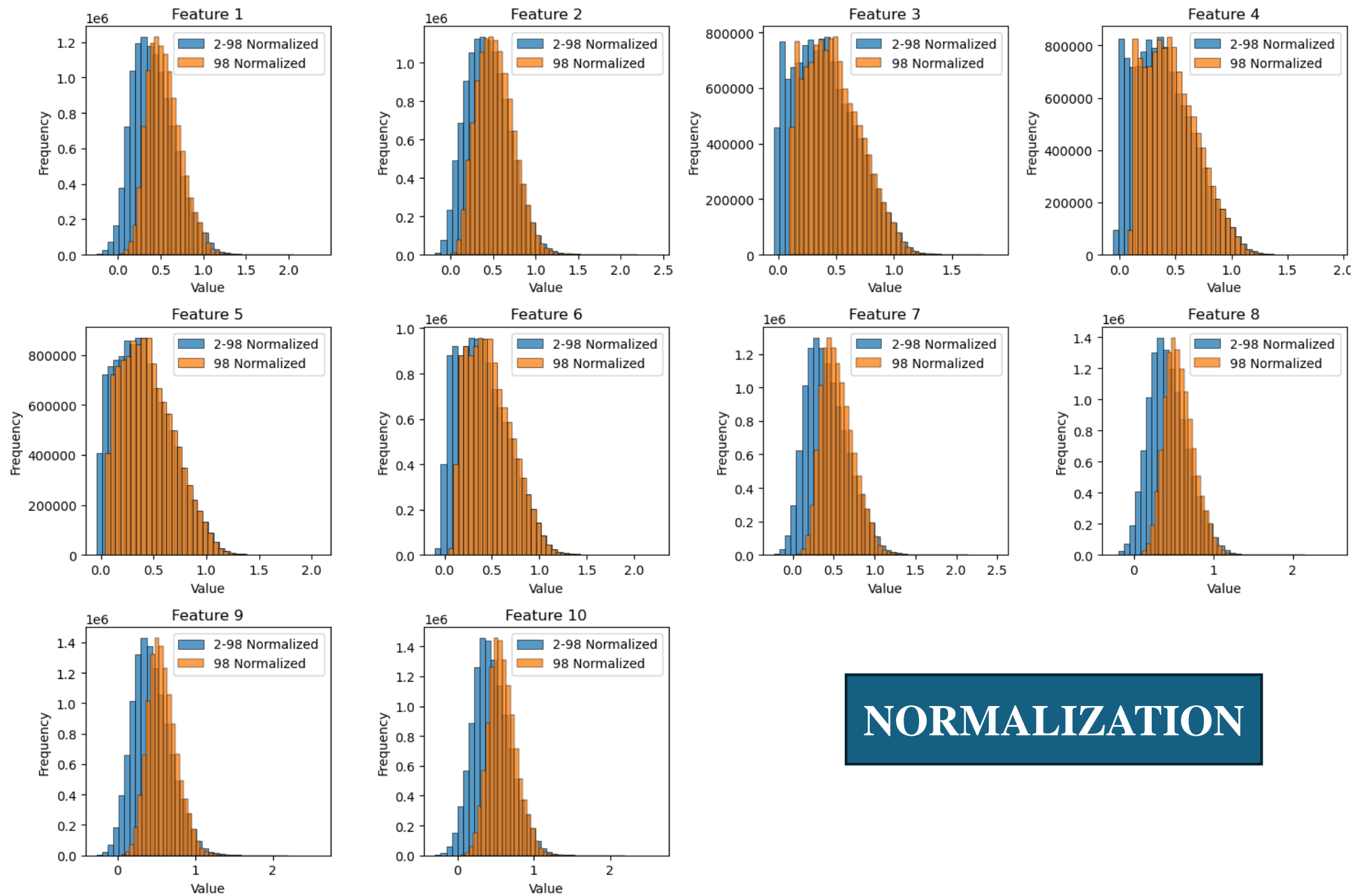
# Class Distribution - Split





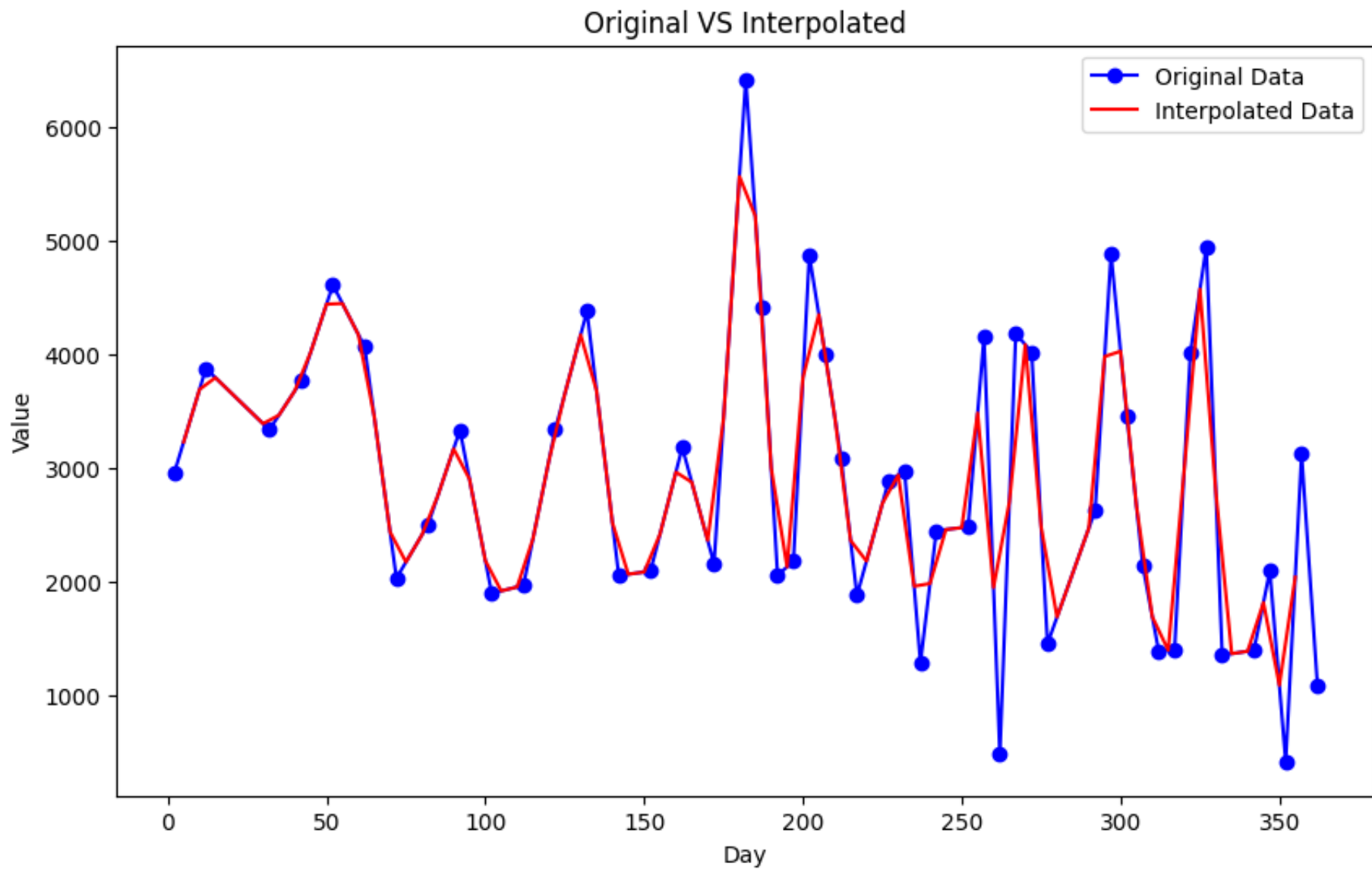
**DISTRIBUTION**



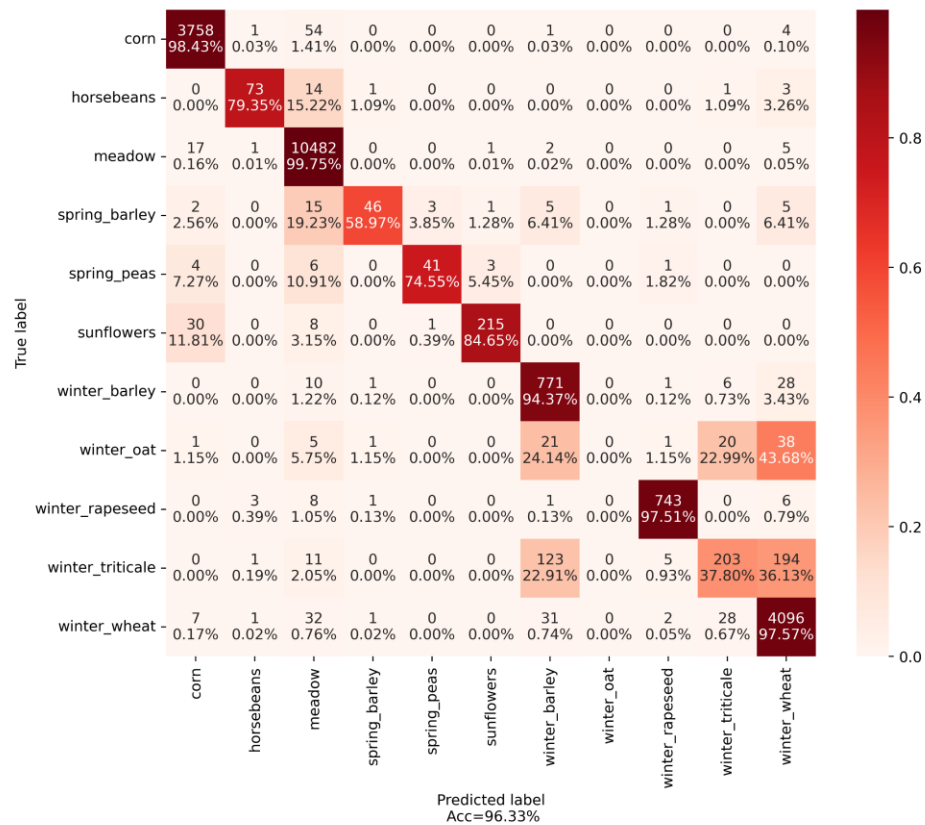


**Table 4.** Outputs from combined datasets - BreizhCrops

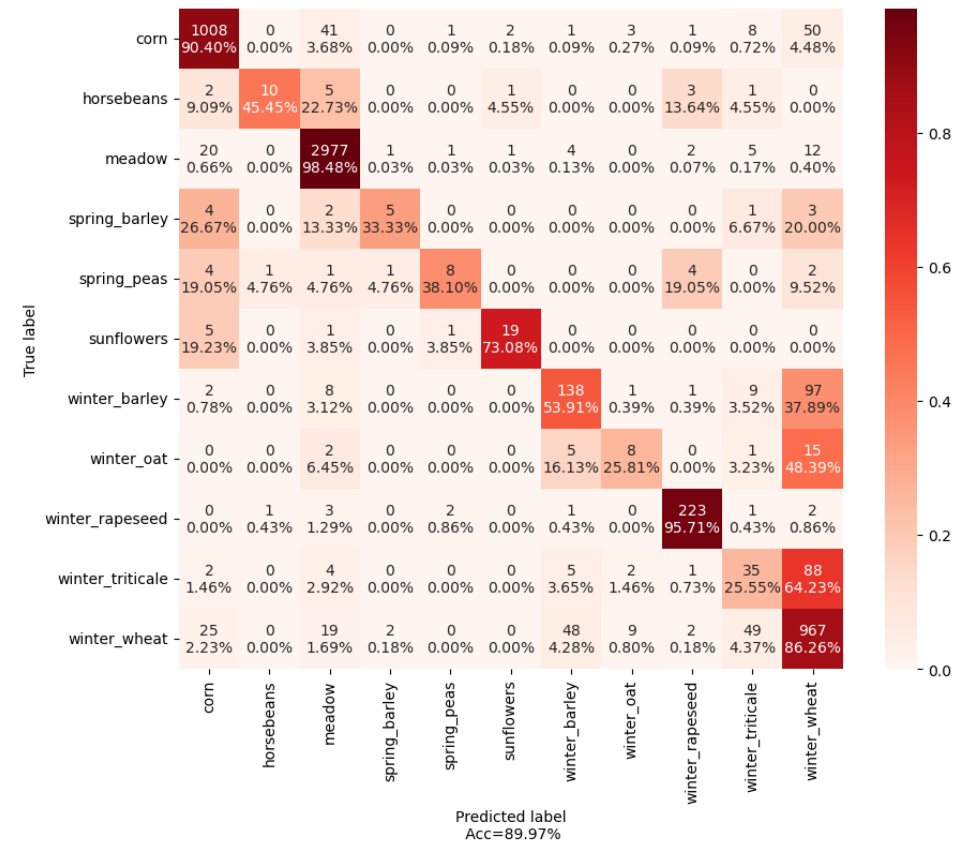
Region	Model		
	LERN-Spec	LERN-Temp	LERN-Combo
Macro F1 Score			
<b>frh01</b>	0.68	-	-
<b>frh02</b>	0.70	-	-
<b>frh03</b>	0.65	-	-
<b>frh04</b>	0.70	0.77	<b>0.79</b>
Weighted F1 Score			
<b>frh01</b>	0.76	-	-
<b>frh02</b>	0.77	-	-
<b>frh03</b>	0.74	-	-
<b>frh04</b>	0.78	<b>0.83</b>	<b>0.83</b>



# Baseline

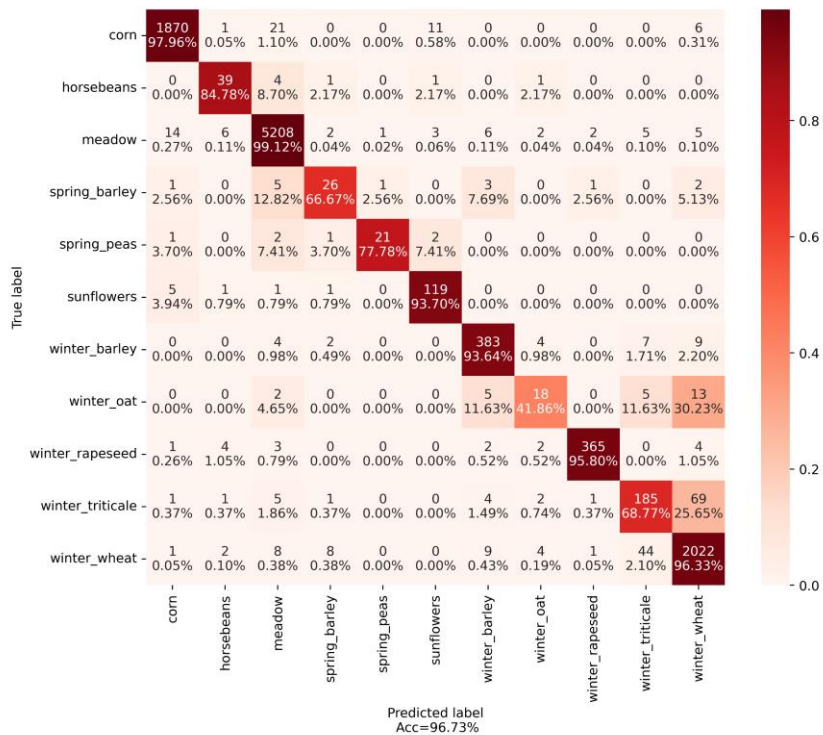


Output from CNN

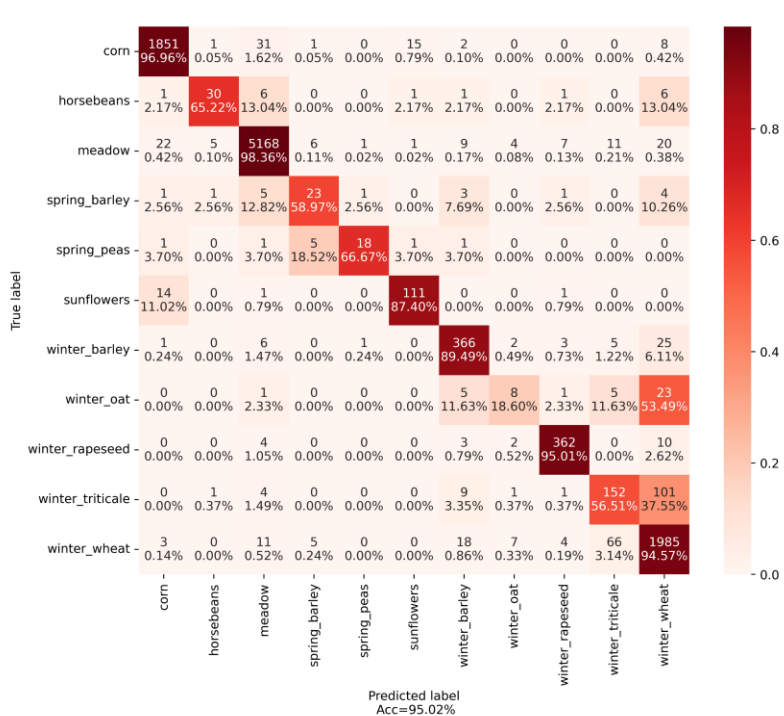


Output from 1-nn

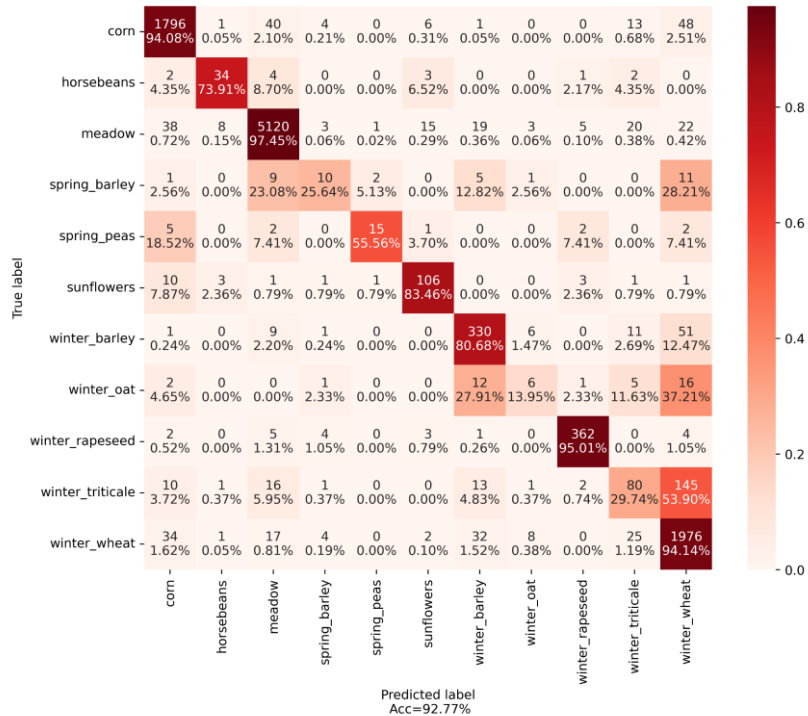
# FR1-MiniTimeMatch



Combo output

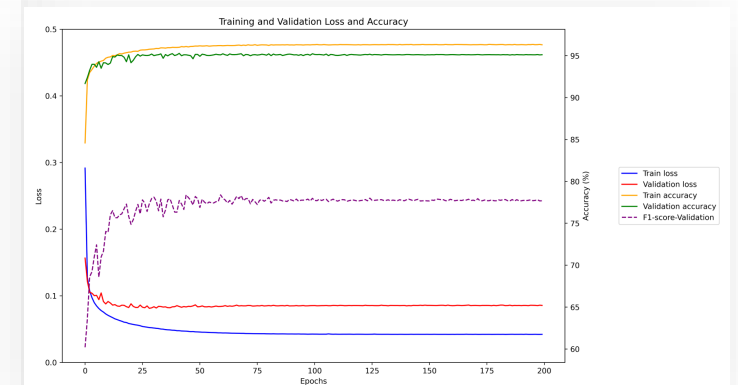
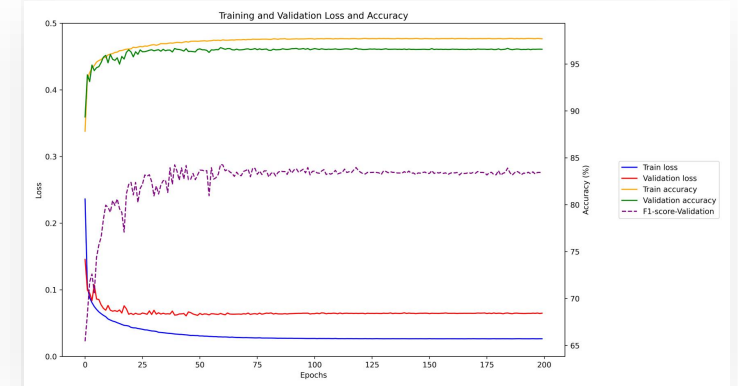
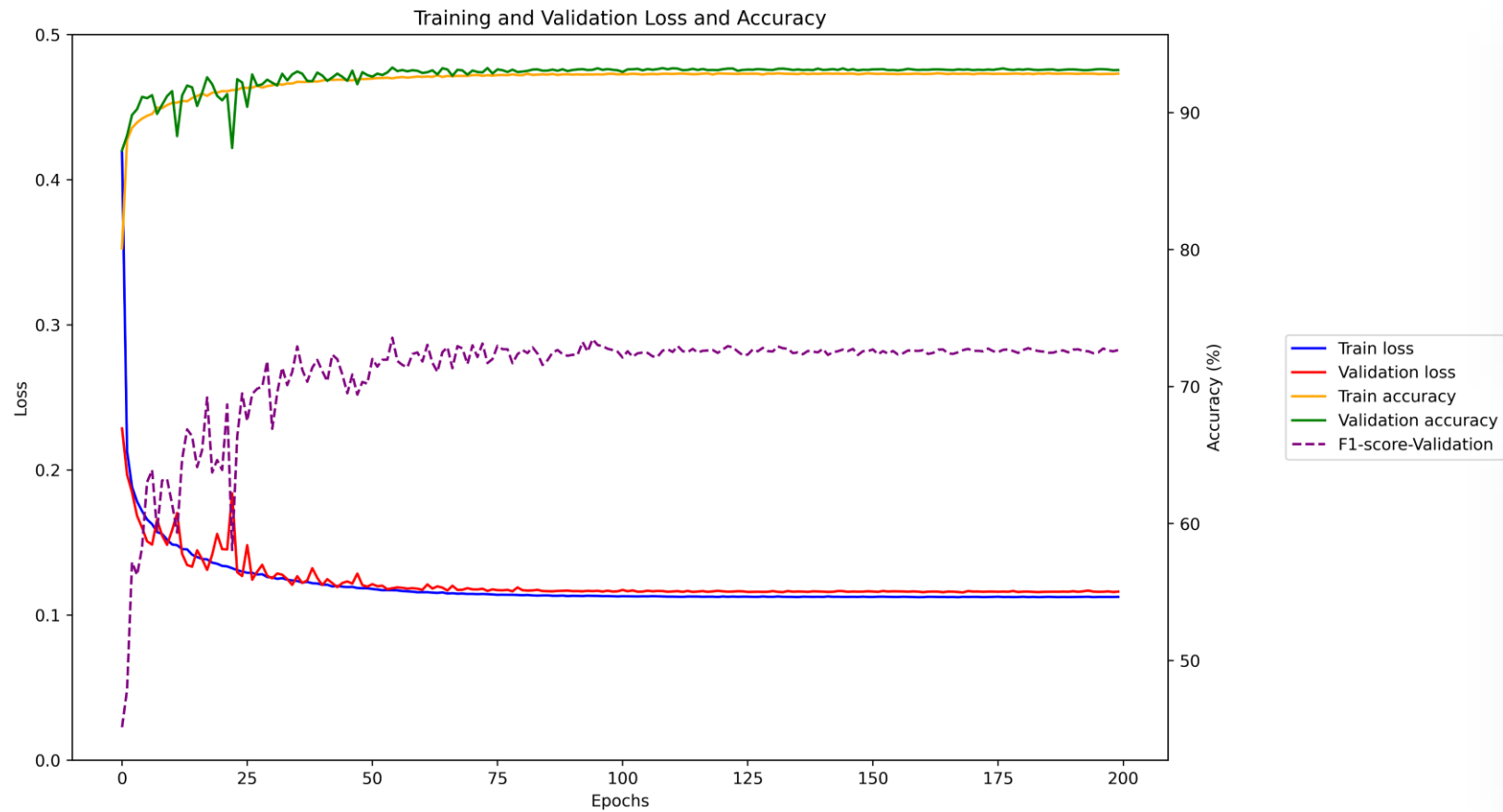


Temp output

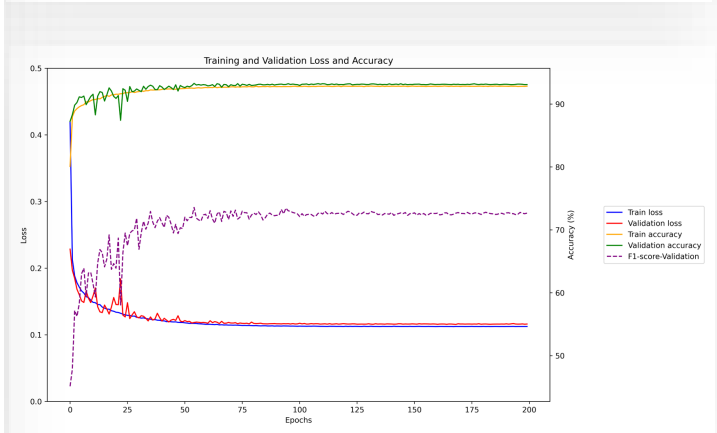
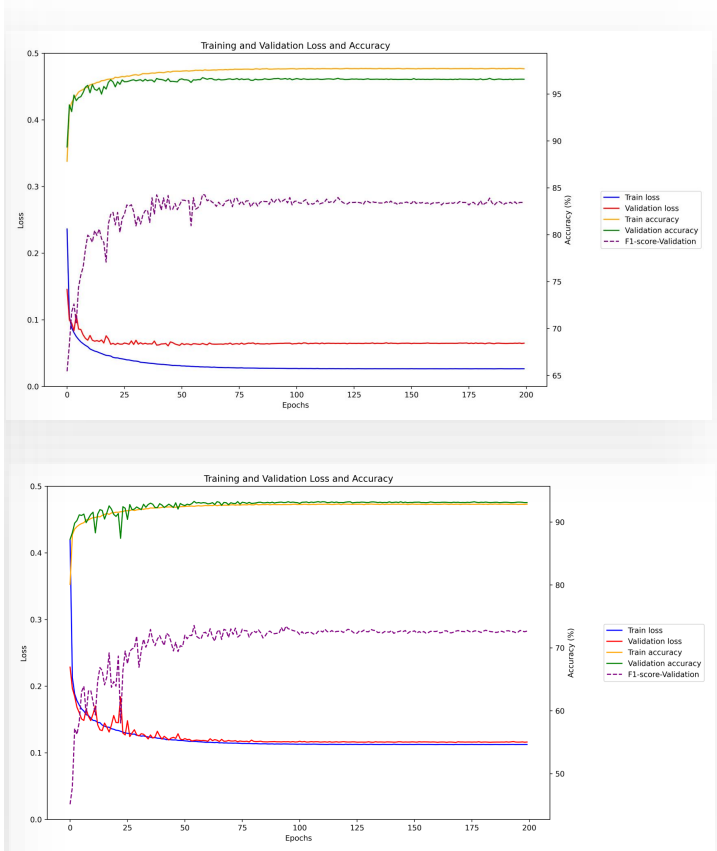
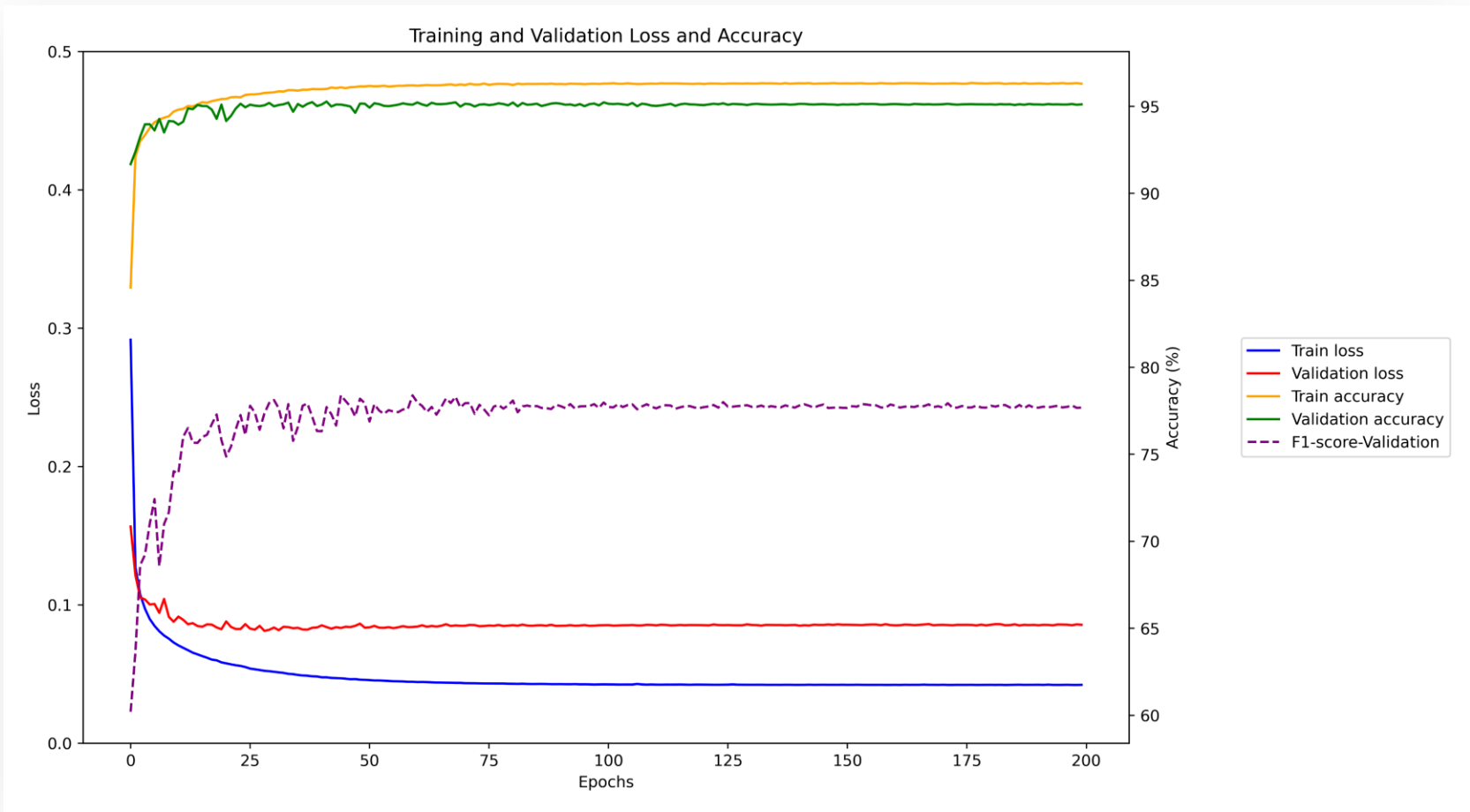


Spec output

# Curves for FR1



# Cont...



# Cont...

