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LEARNING CONTINUOUSLY WITHOUT FORGETTING FOR CONTINUAL SEMANTIC SEGMENTATION

CVPR 2021

Arthur Douillard
Yifu Chen
Arnaud Dapogny
Matthieu Cord



Machine Learning &
Deep Learning for
Information Access

What is Continual Learning?

What

Data **independent and identically distributed** (iid) assumption



What

Data **independent** and **identically distributed** (iid) assumption



Retrain from
scratch



Evaluate on a
fixed test set



...



What

Retraining everytime is not always possible:

- **Slow** → companies with ever-growing datasets
- **Privacy** → data is only available for a short time
- **Memory limitation** → poor robot in the wild doesn't have peta of disk storage

What

Real world data is **rarely independent and identically distributed (i.i.d.)**

New classes [1] may appear:



...

Protocol

Protocol

1. Initialize model f^0
2. Train f^0 on $t = 0$

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3. For $t = 1; t < T; t++$
 1. Initialize model: $f^t \leftarrow f^{t-1}$

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1. Initialize model f^0
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3. For $t = 1; t < T; t++$
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 2. Add classifier weights to f^t

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Protocol

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3. For $t = 1; t < T; t++$
 1. Initialize model: $f^t \leftarrow f^{t-1}$
 2. Add classifier weights to f^t
 3. Train f^t on t
 4. Evaluate f^t on $\{1, \dots, t\}$

Evaluation

Single-head vs Multi-heads during evaluation [14]?

Task 1



Task 2



Evaluation

Single-head vs Multi-heads during evaluation [14]?

Task 1



Task 2



Final Evaluation:



Evaluation

Single-head vs Multi-heads during evaluation [14]?

Task 1



Task 2



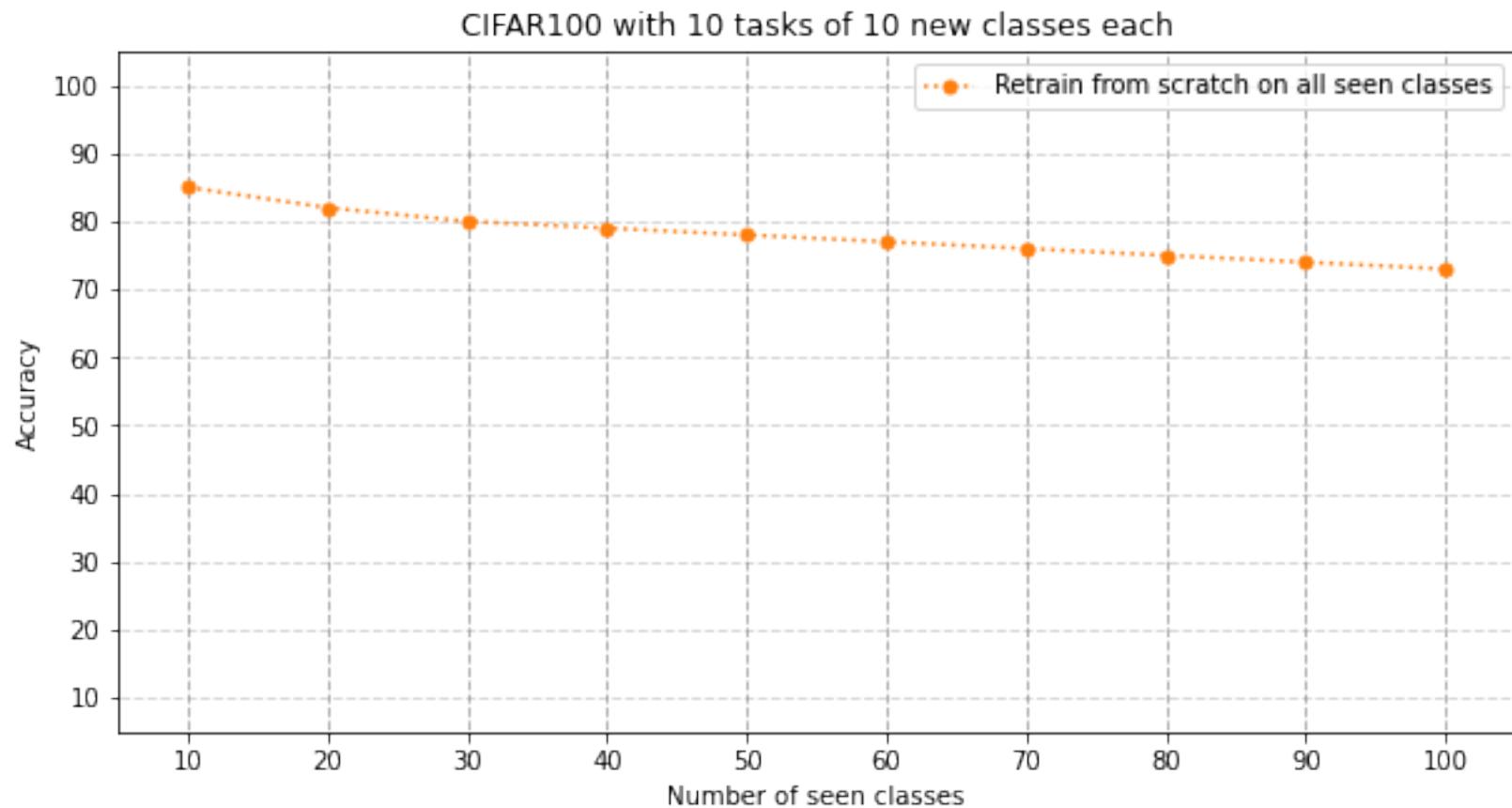
Final Evaluation:



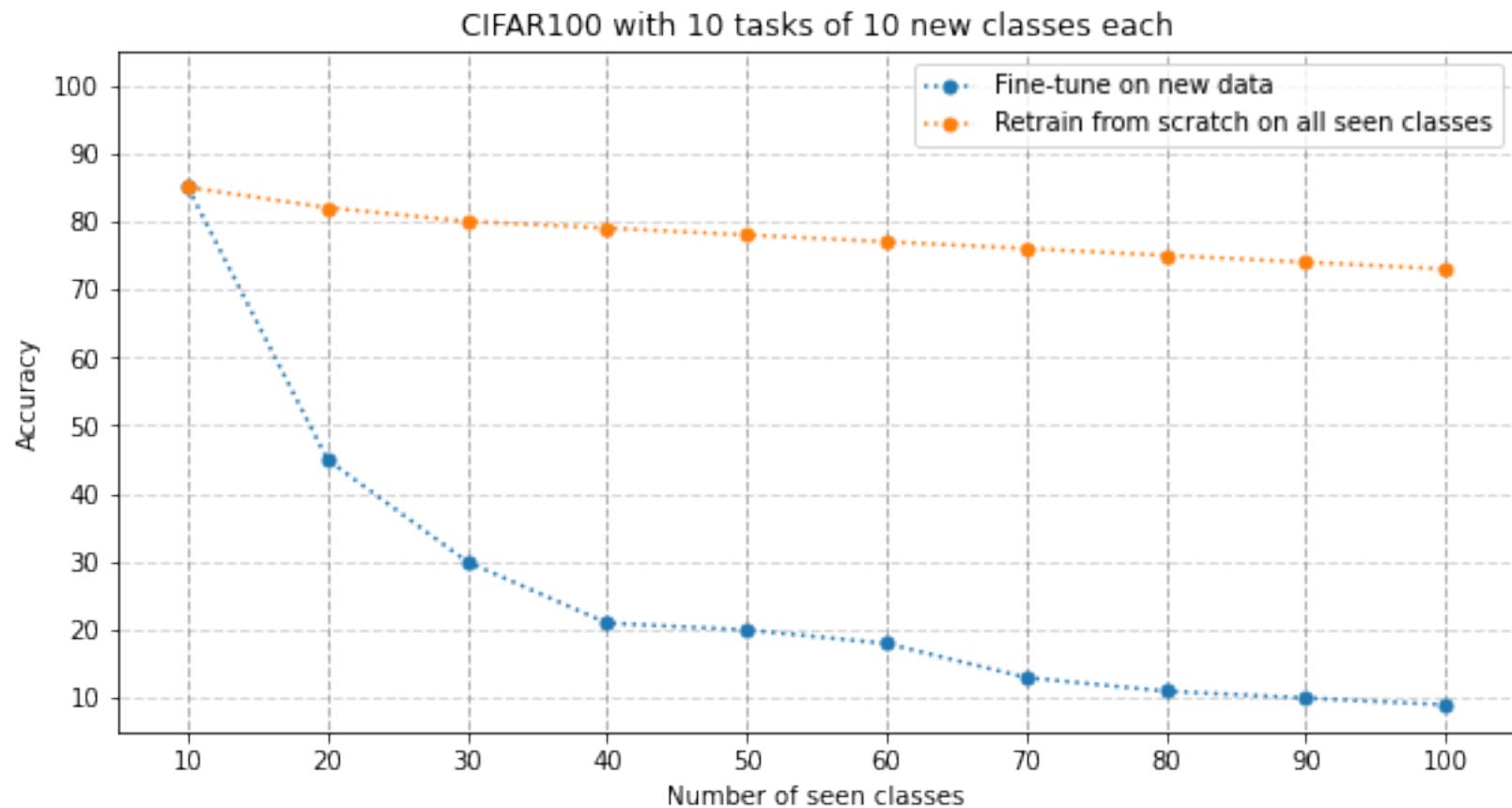
Single → {dog, cat, boat, plane} ?

Multi → {dog, cat} ?

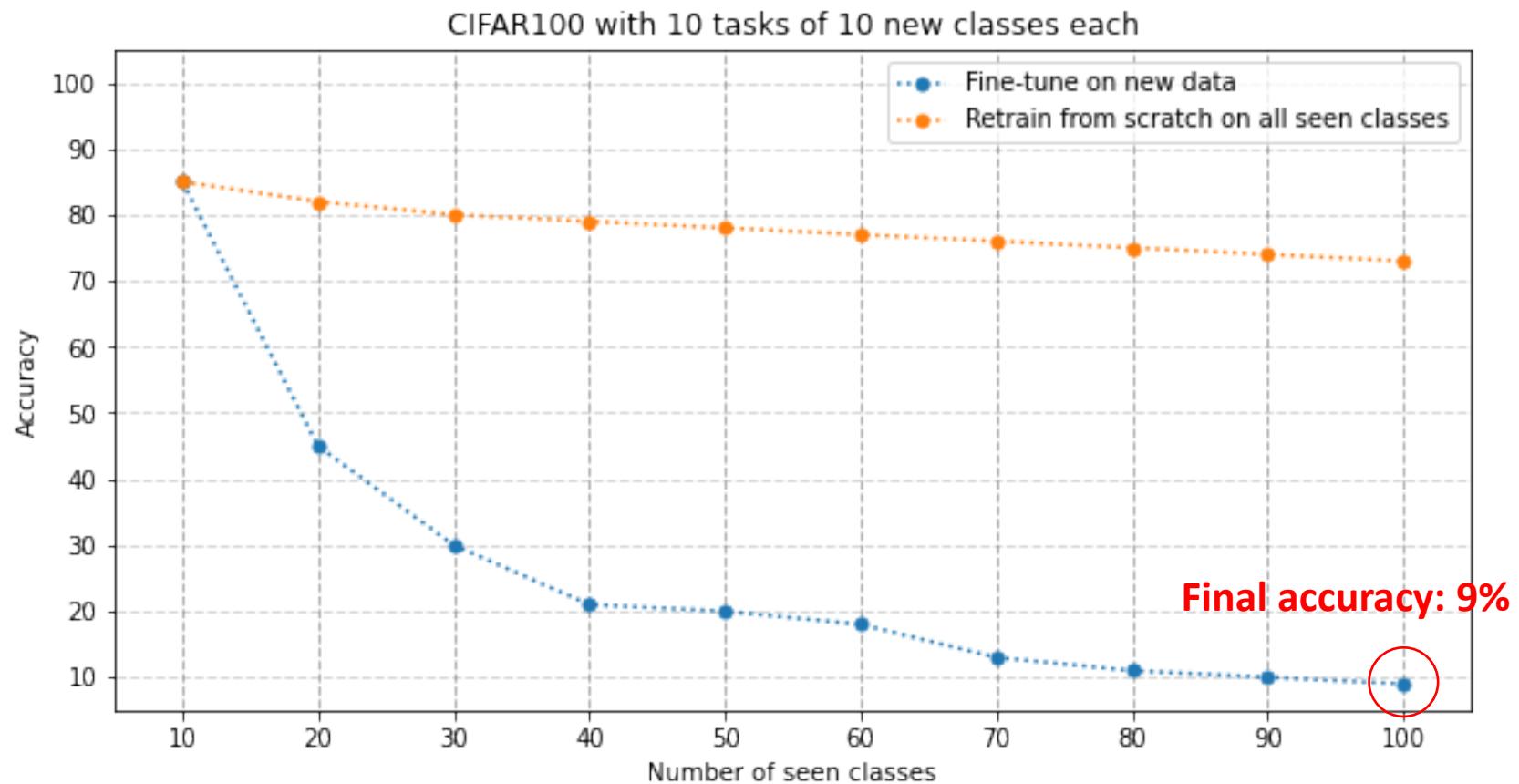
Example



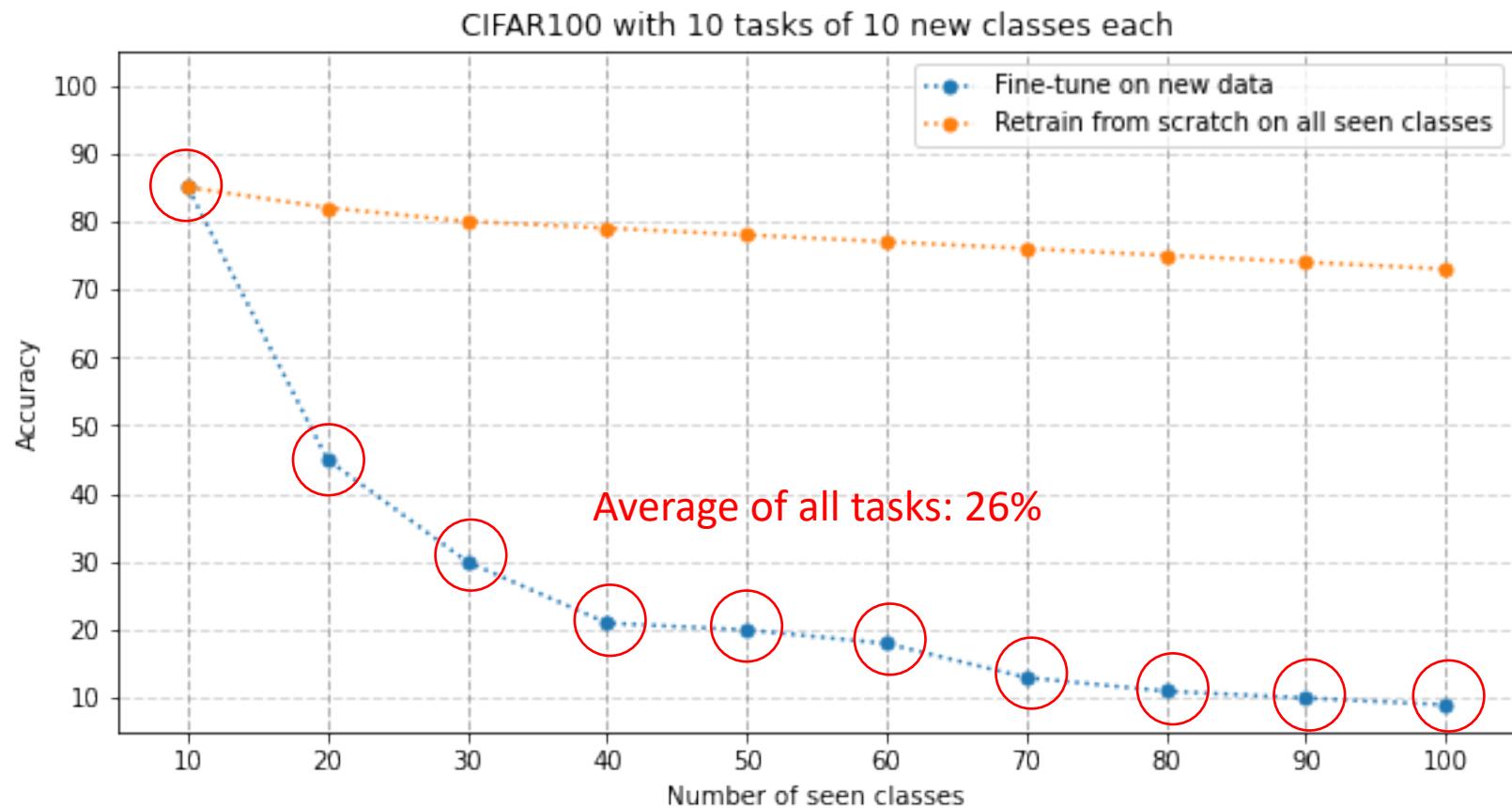
Example



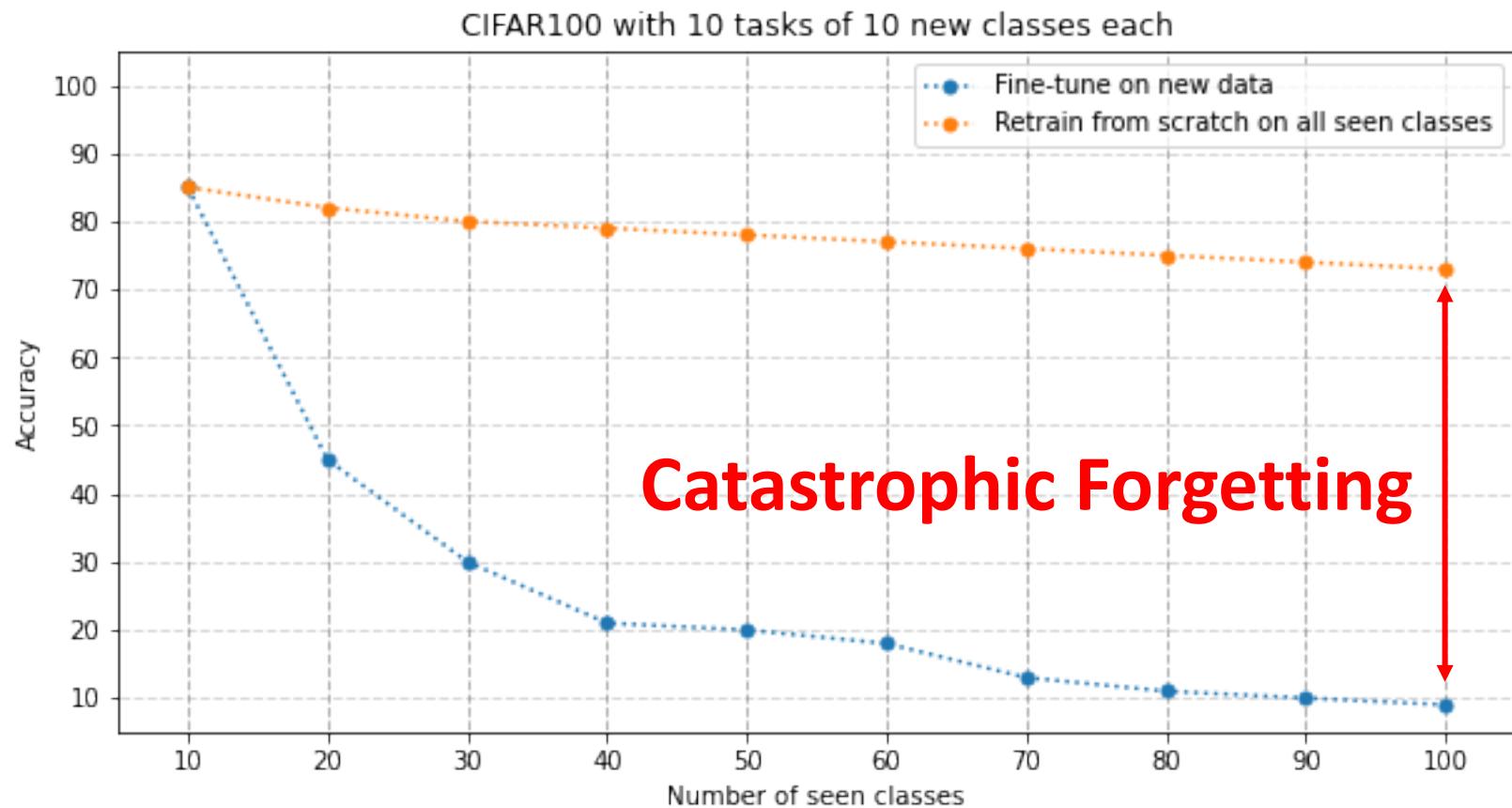
Example



Example



Example



How to Solve it?

Broad Strategies

1. Rehearsal
2. Constraints
3. Architecture
4. Classifier Correction

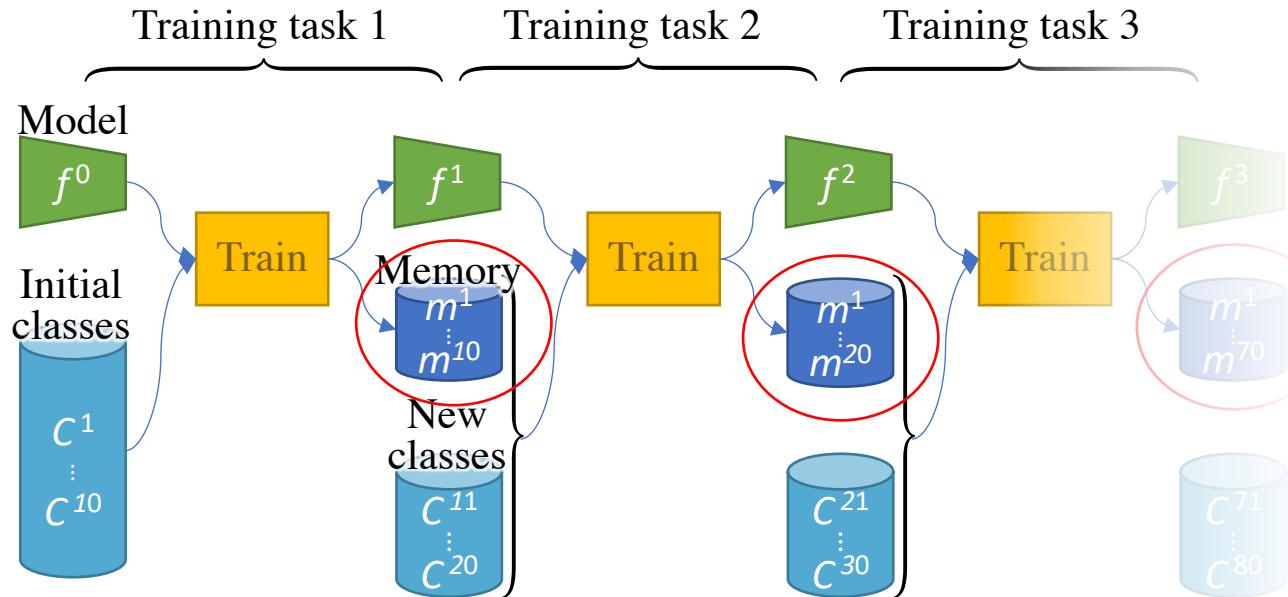
Broad Strategies

- 1. Rehearsal**
2. Constraints
3. Architecture
4. Classifier Correction

1. Rehearsal

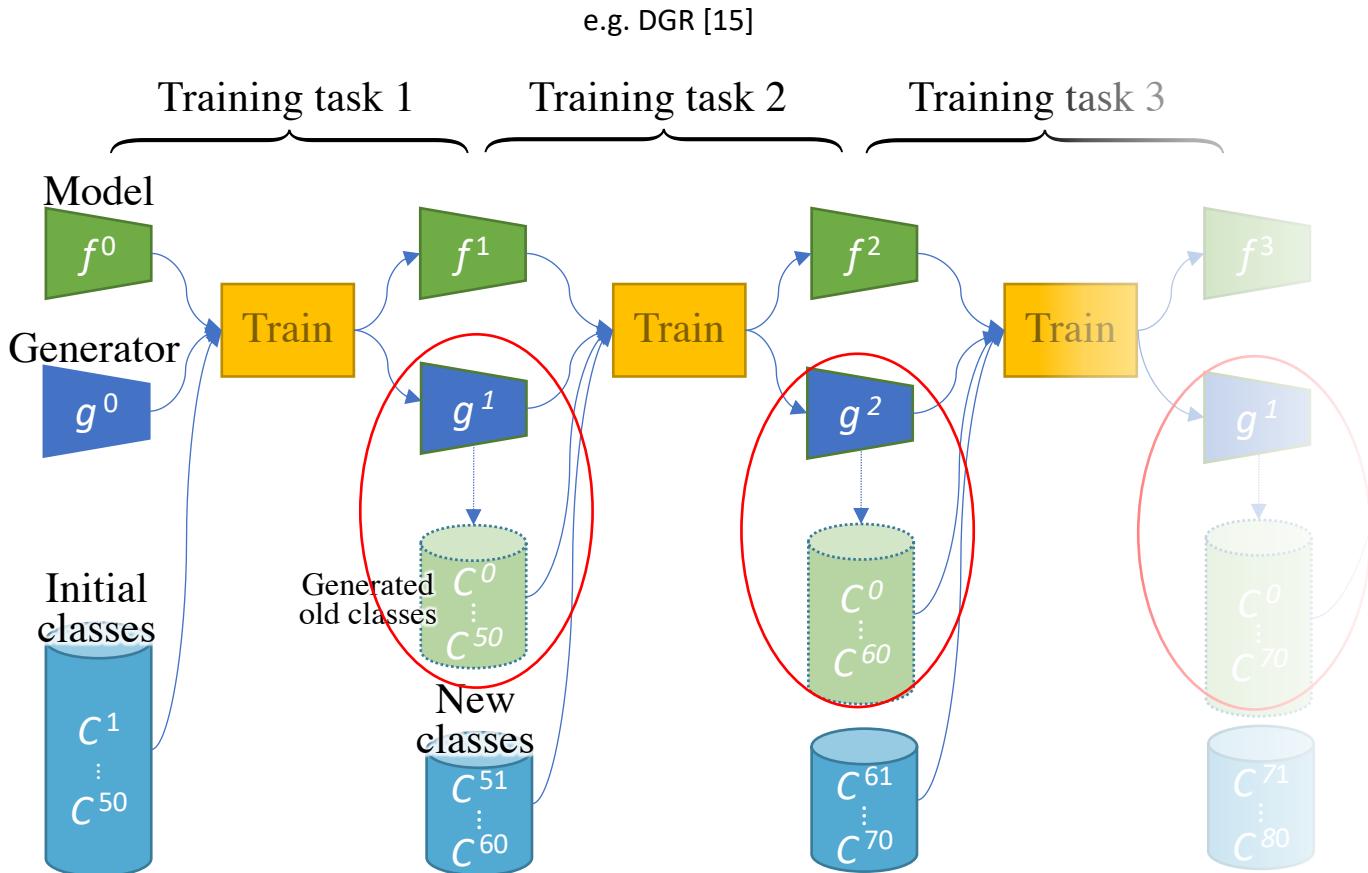
Replay a limited amount of previous data

e.g. iCaRL [3]



1. Rehearsal

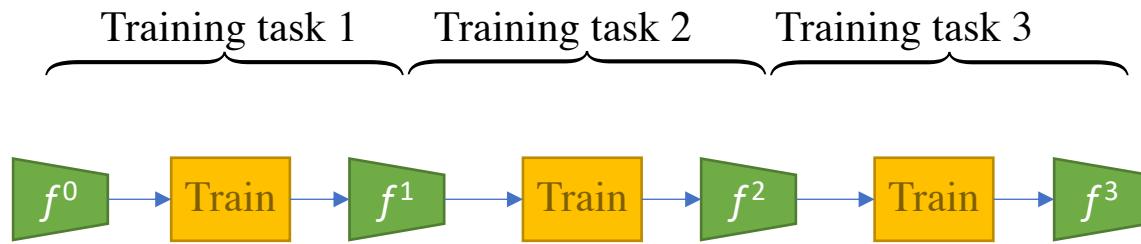
Generate a limited amount of previous data



1. Rehearsal
2. **Constraints**
3. Architecture
4. Classifier Correction

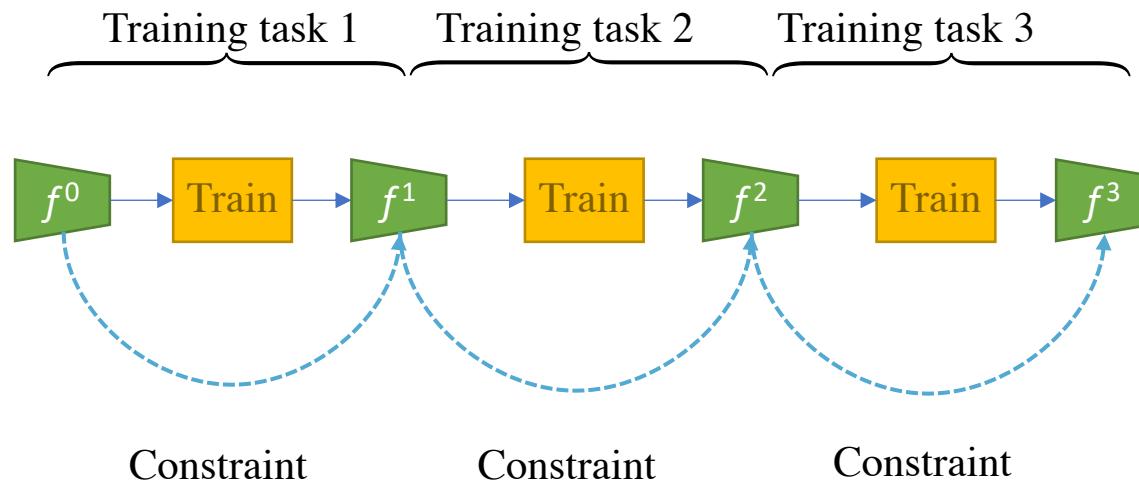
2. Constraints

Constraints between f^{t-1} and f^t :



2. Constraints

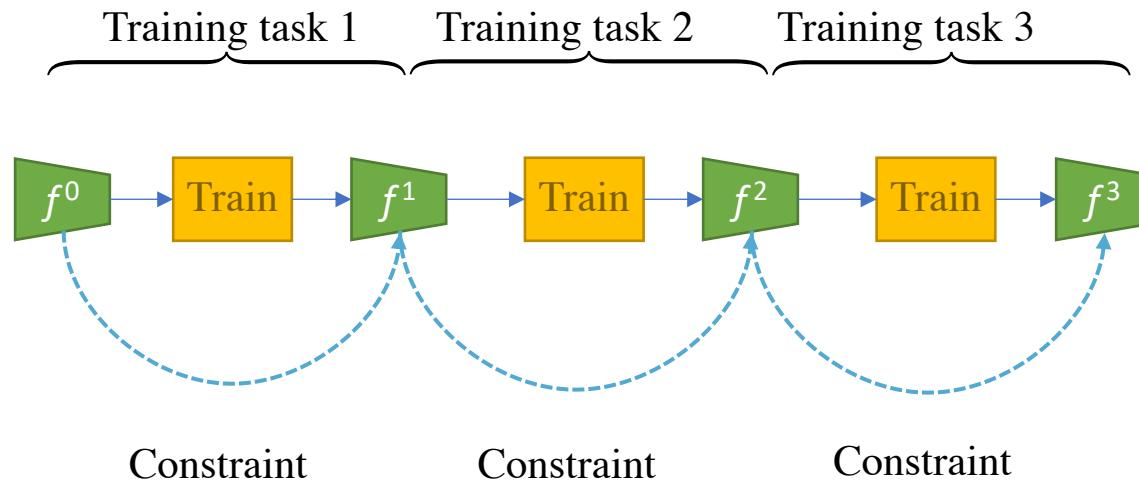
Constraints between f^{t-1} and f^t :



2. Constraints

Constraints between f^{t-1} and f^t :

- On the weights (_{EWC [4]})
- On the probabilities (_{LwF [5]})
- On the gradients (_{GEM [6]})
- On the features (_{PODNet [7]})



[4]: Kirkpatrick et al., Overcoming catastrophic forgetting in neural networks, 2017

[5]: Li and Hoiem, Learning without forgetting, 2016

[6]: Lopez-Paz and Ranzato, Gradient episodic memory for continual learning, 2017

[7]: Douillard et al., PODNet: Pooled Outputs Distillation for small-tasks incremental learning, 2020

Broad Strategies

1. Rehearsal
2. Constraints
- 3. Architecture**
4. Classifier Correction

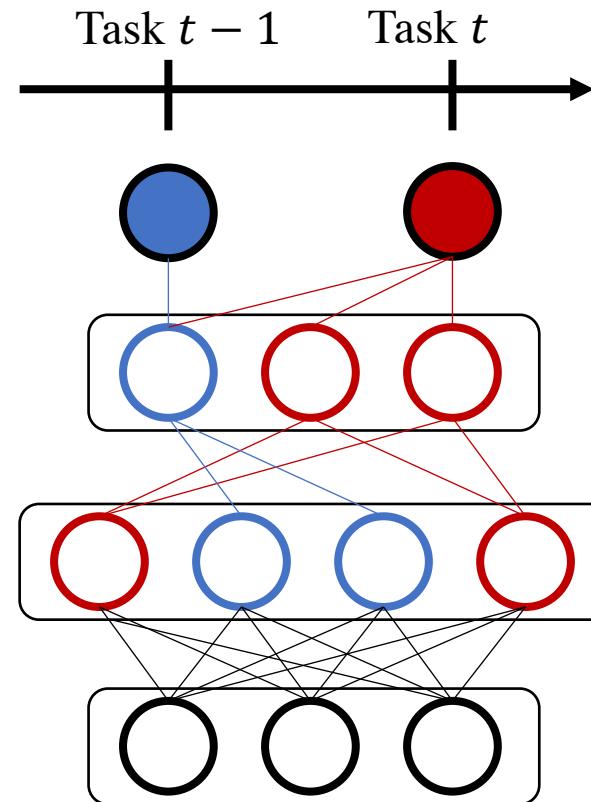
3. Architecture

One sub-network per task

Often requires in inference the **task id** to select the task-specific sub-network.

Sub-network can be uncovered via evolutionary algorithms (PathNet [8]), sparsity (Neural Pruning [9]), or learned masks (CPG [10]).

Neurons can also be added (MNTDP-D [16])



Two sub-networks  &  can co-exist in the same network

[8]: Fernando et al., PathNet: Evolution Channels Gradient Descent in Super Neural Networks , 2017

[9]: Golkar et al., Continual learning via neural pruning, 2019

[10]: Hung et al., Compacting, picking and growing for unforgetting continual learning, 2019

[16] Veniat et al., Efficient Continual Learning with Modular Networks and Task-Drive Priors, 2021

1. Rehearsal
2. Constraints
3. Architecture
- 4. Classifier Correction**

4. Classifier Correction

Classifier is **biased** towards new classes

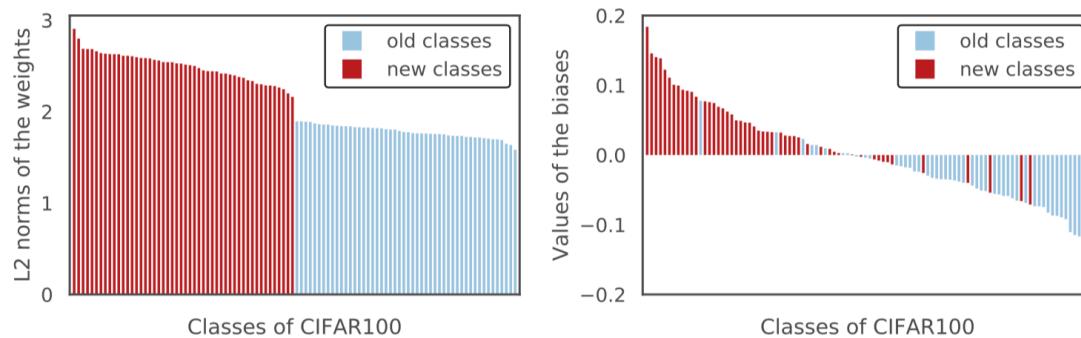
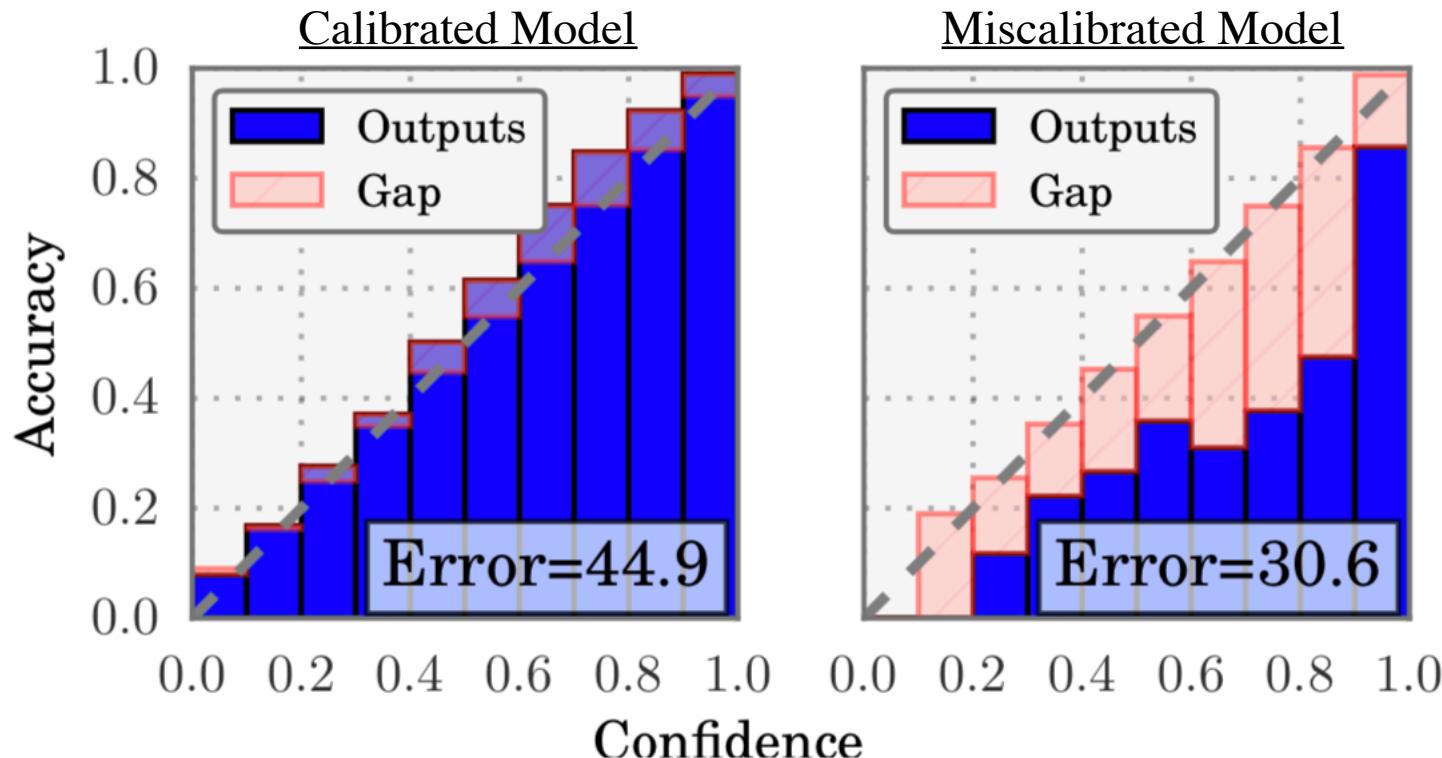


Figure 3. Visualization of the weights and biases in the last layer for old and new classes. The results come from the incremental setting of CIFAR100 (1 phase) by iCaRL [29].

4. Classifier Correction

Classifier is **biased** towards new classes

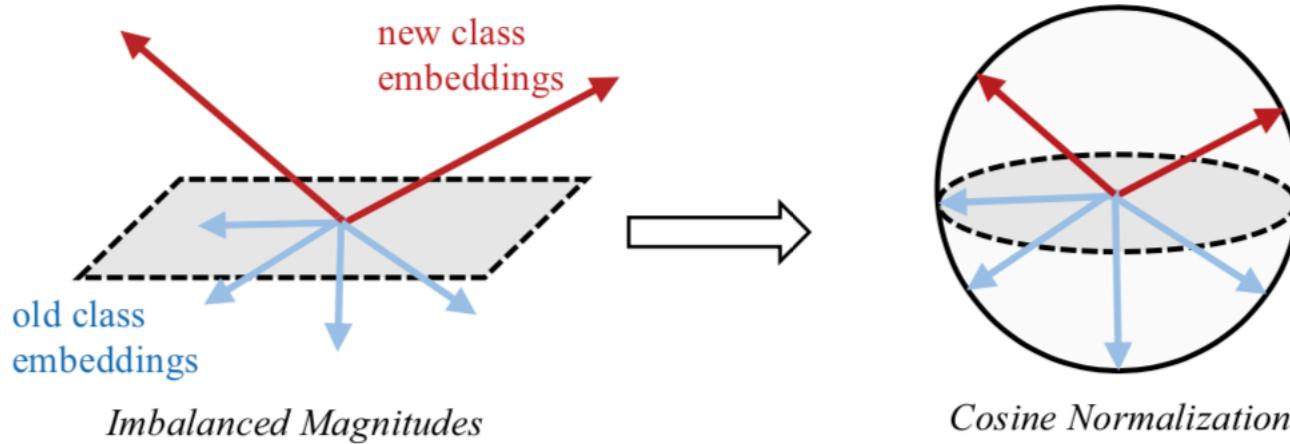
Can be recalibrated (_{BIC [11]})



4. Classifier Correction

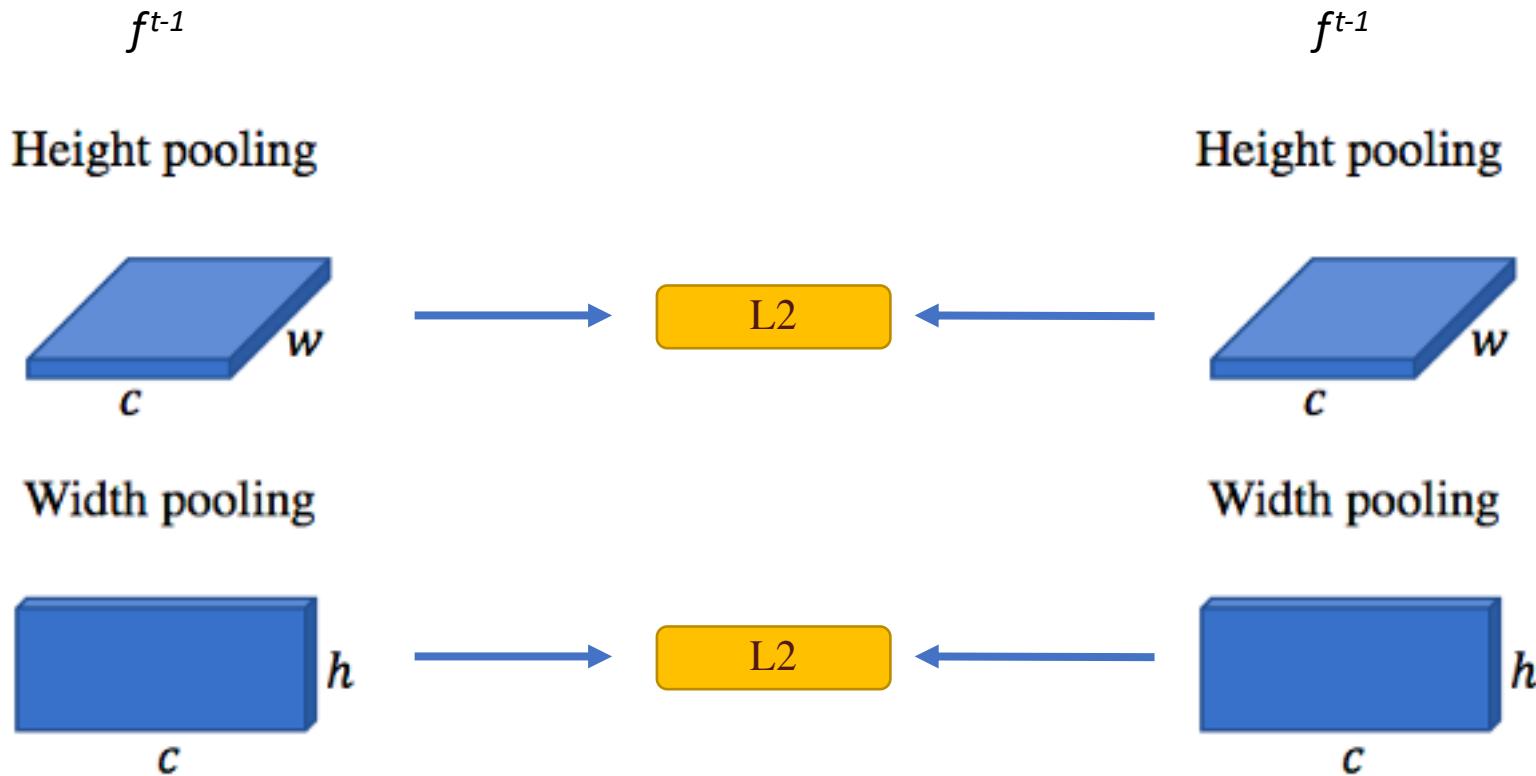
Classifier is **biased** towards new classes

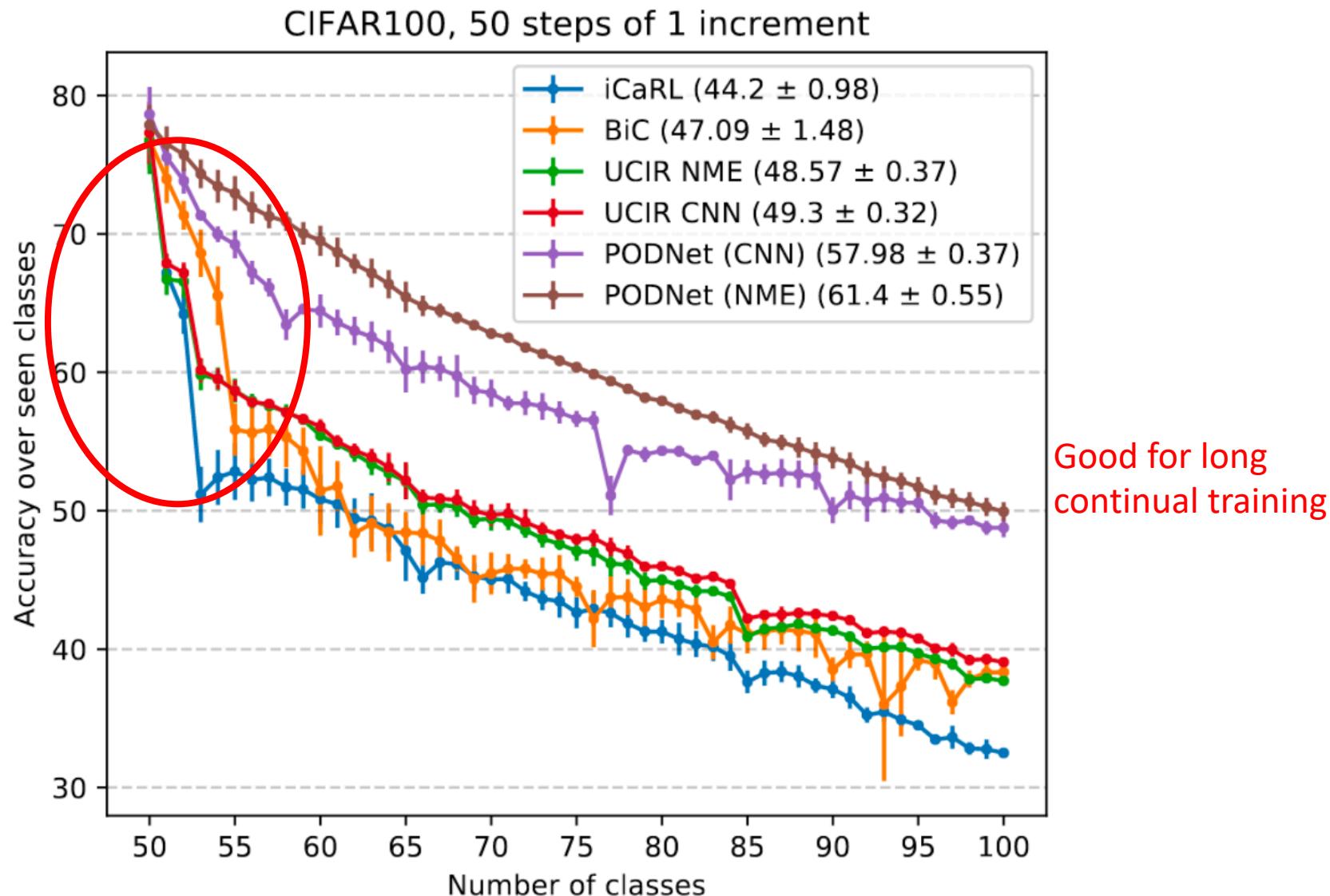
Or normalized (LUCIR [12])



Previous work:

- Multi-modal metric-based classifier
- **Multi-stage features-based distillation loss (POD)**





Learning without Forgetting for Continual Semantic Segmentation

PLOP: Learning without Forgetting for Continual Semantic Segmentation

Arthur Douillard

Yifu Chen

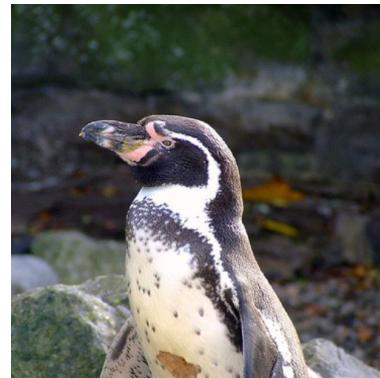
Arnaud Dapogny

Matthieu Cord

Constraints + Pseudo-labeling

Segmentation

Semantic Segmentation → each pixel is labeled



Continual?

Semantic Segmentation → each pixel is labeled

Continual Semantic Segmentation?

Background shift

GT segmentation mask

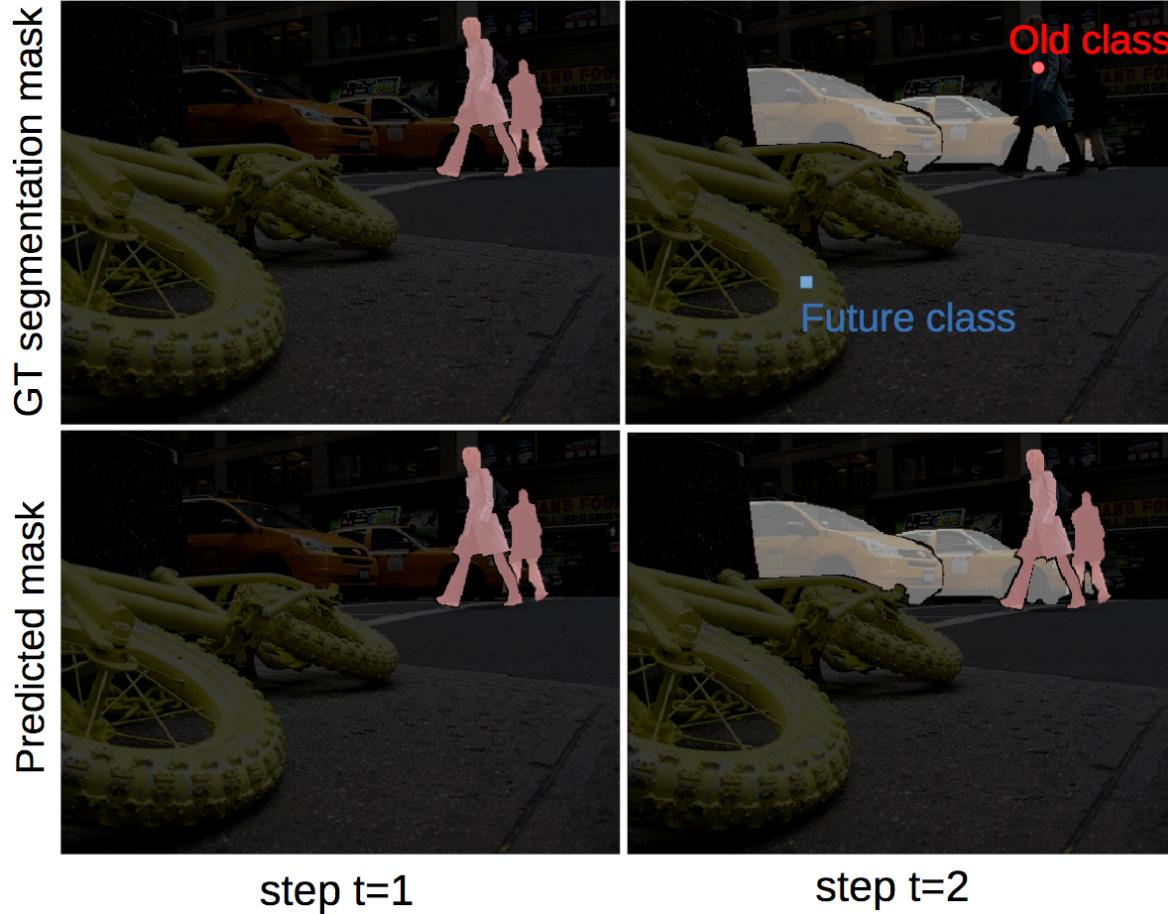


Predicted mask



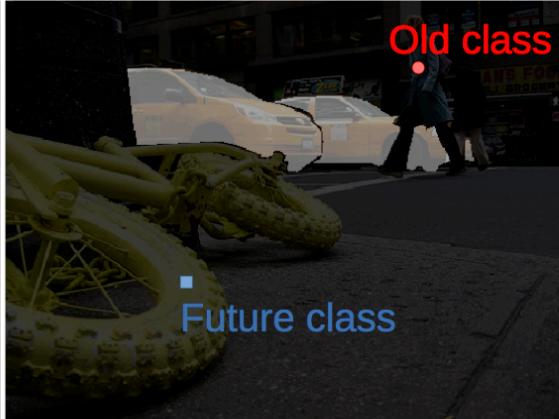
step t=1

Background shift

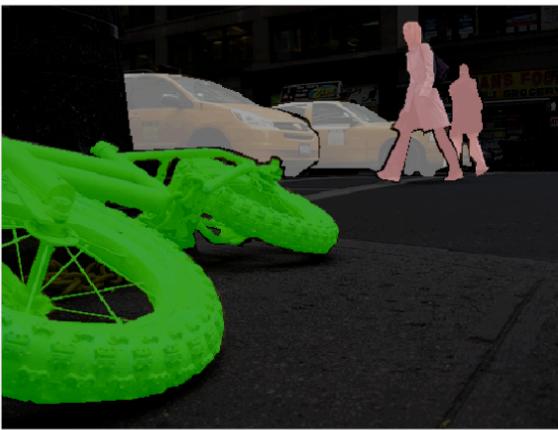
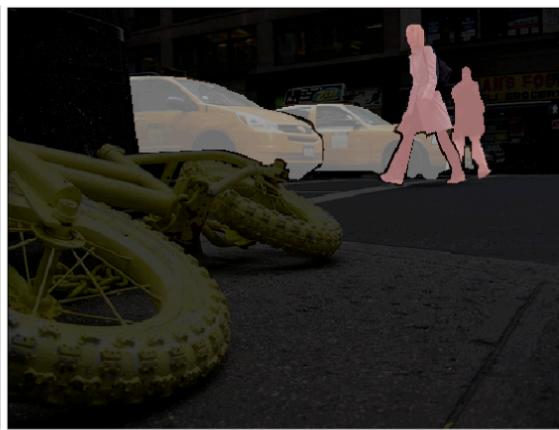


Background shift

GT segmentation mask



Predicted mask



step t=1

step t=2

step t=3

Problems and weakness

Problems:

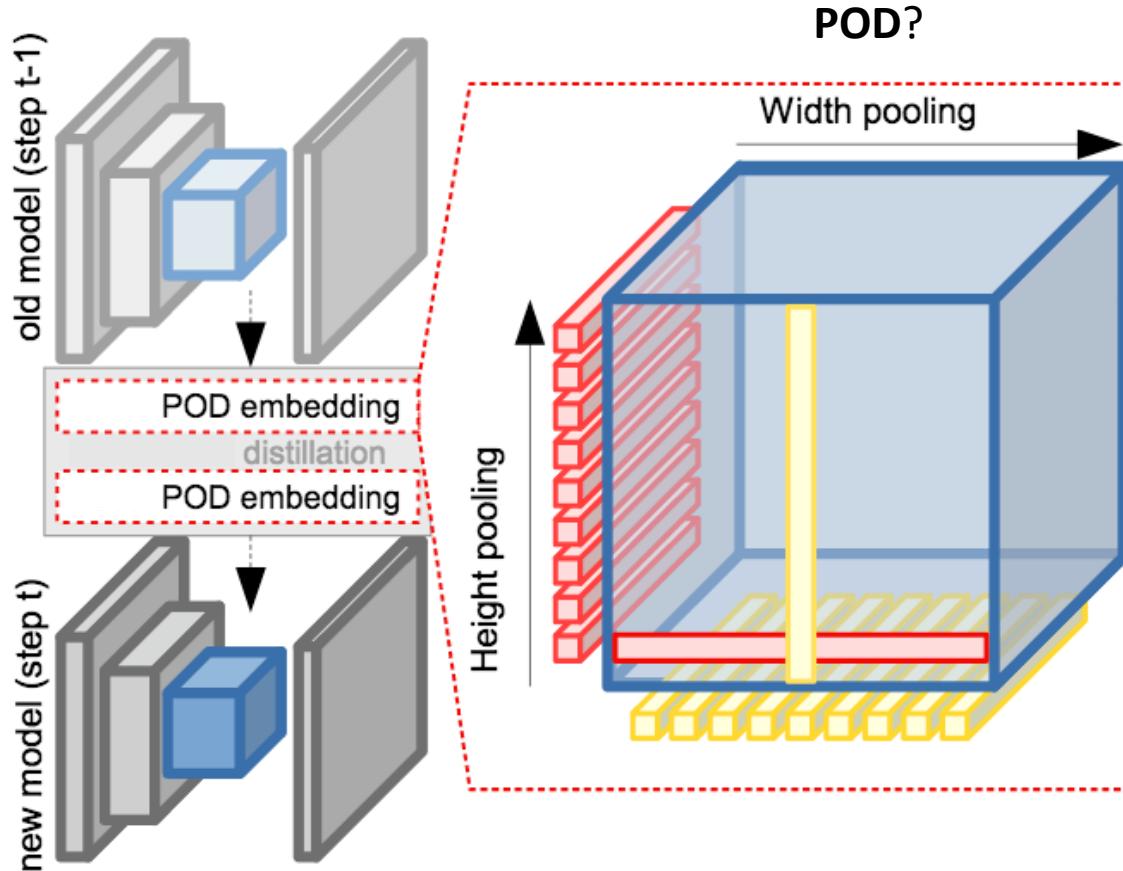
- **Forgetting is particularly strong**
 - Previous SotA only constrained final probabilities
- **Images at task t are partially labeled**
 - Previous SotA maximized the sum of the probabilities of background + old

Problem 1: Forgetting

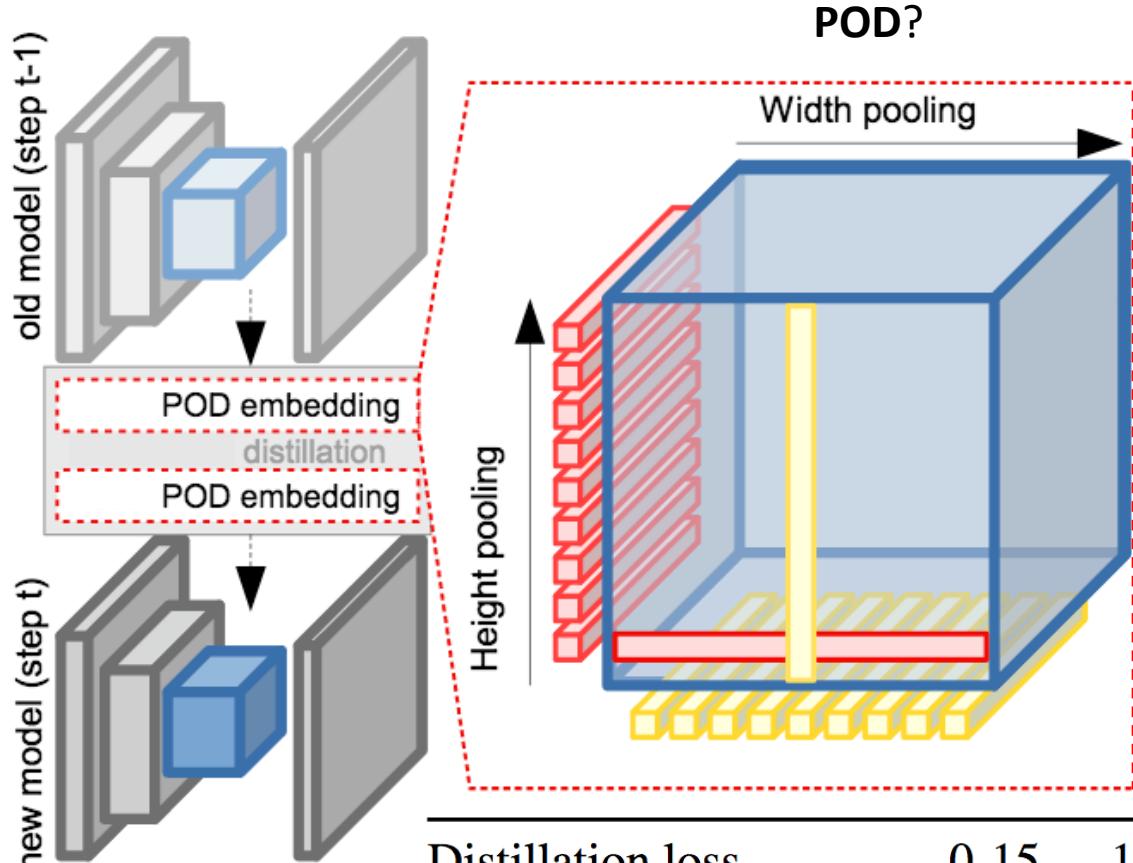
Problems:

- **Forgetting is particularly strong**
- Images at task t are partially labeled

Problem 1: Forgetting

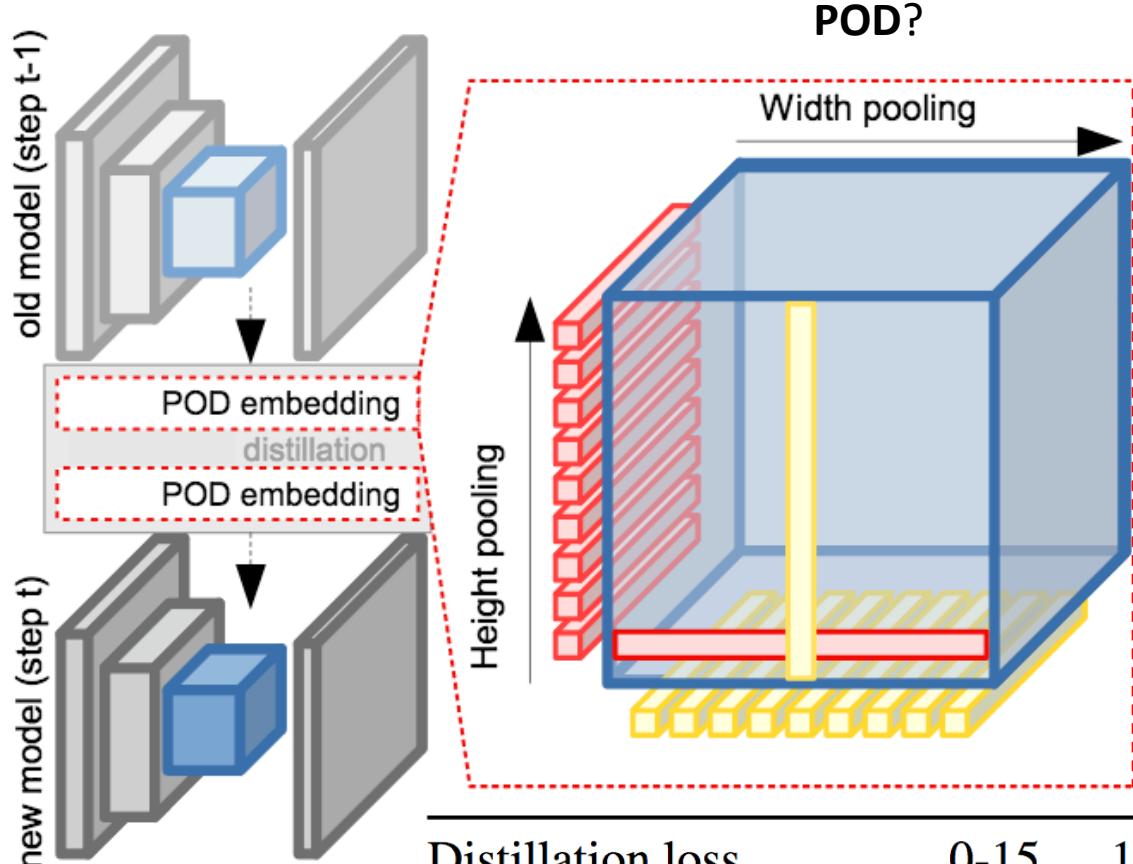


Problem 1: Forgetting



Distillation loss	0-15	16-20	<i>all</i>	<i>avg</i>
Knowledge Distillation	29.72	4.42	23.69	49.18
UNKD	34.85	5.26	27.80	46.39
POD	43.94	4.82	34.62	53.35

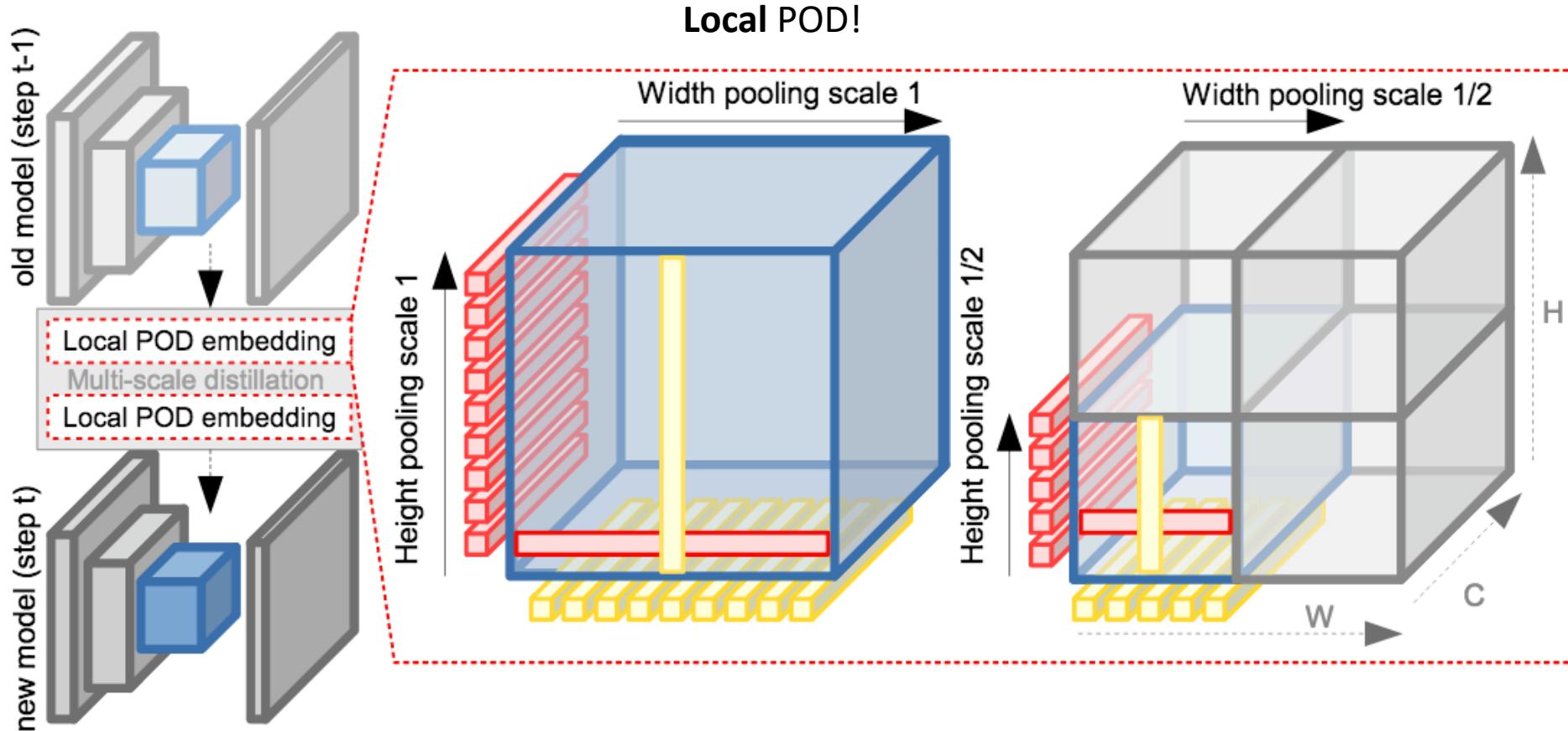
Problem 1: Forgetting



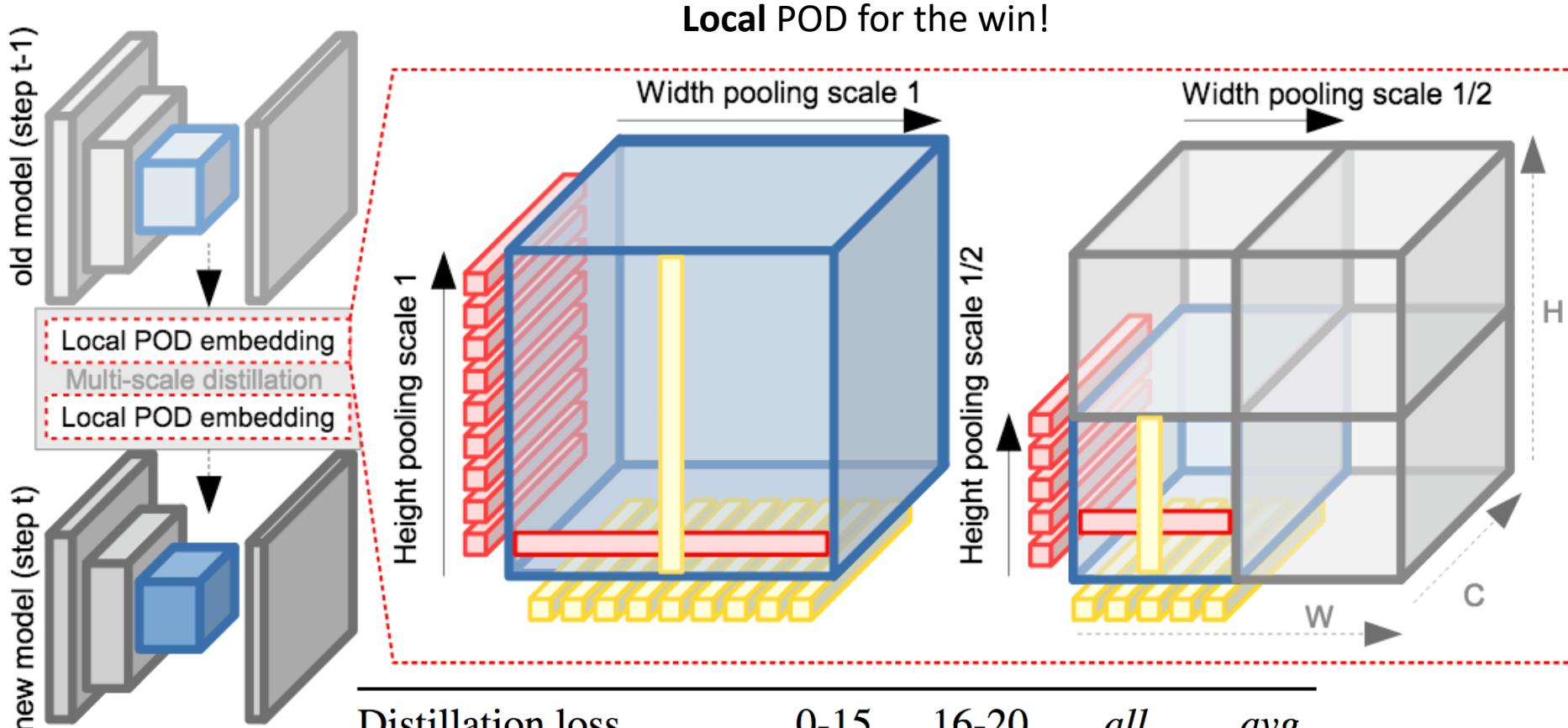
Segmentation
 \neq
 Classification

Distillation loss	0-15	16-20	all	avg
Knowledge Distillation	29.72	4.42	23.69	49.18
UNKD	34.85	5.26	27.80	46.39
POD	43.94	4.82	34.62	53.35

Problem 1: Forgetting



Problem 1: Forgetting



Distillation loss	0-15	16-20	<i>all</i>	<i>avg</i>
Knowledge Distillation	29.72	4.42	23.69	49.18
UNKD	34.85	5.26	27.80	46.39
POD	43.94	4.82	34.62	53.35
Local POD (Eq. 5)	63.06	17.92	52.31	65.71

Problem 1: Background shift

Problems:

- Forgetting is particularly strong
- Images at task t are partially labeled

Problem 1: Background shift

GT



Current Predictions



Problem 1: Background shift

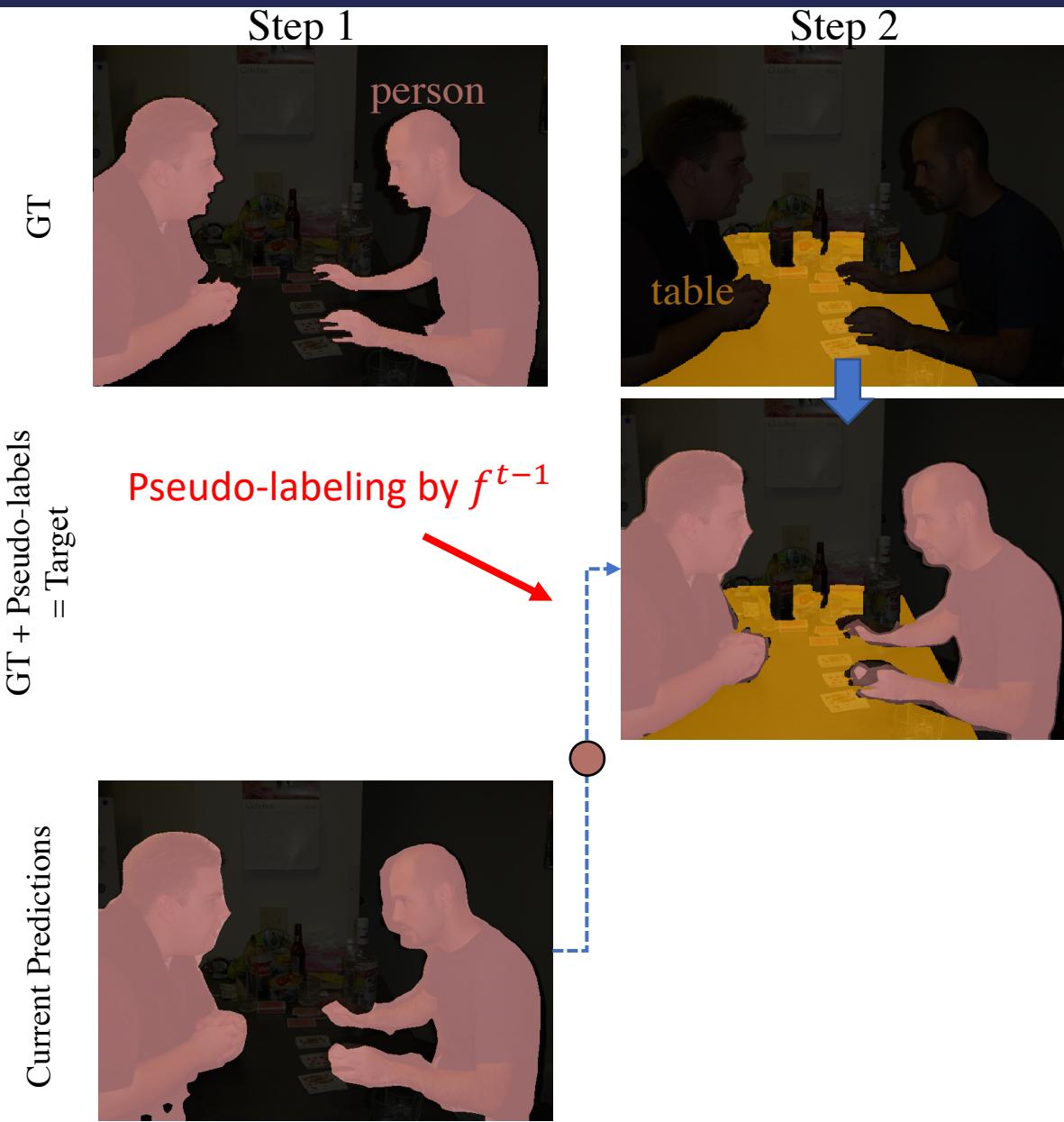
GT



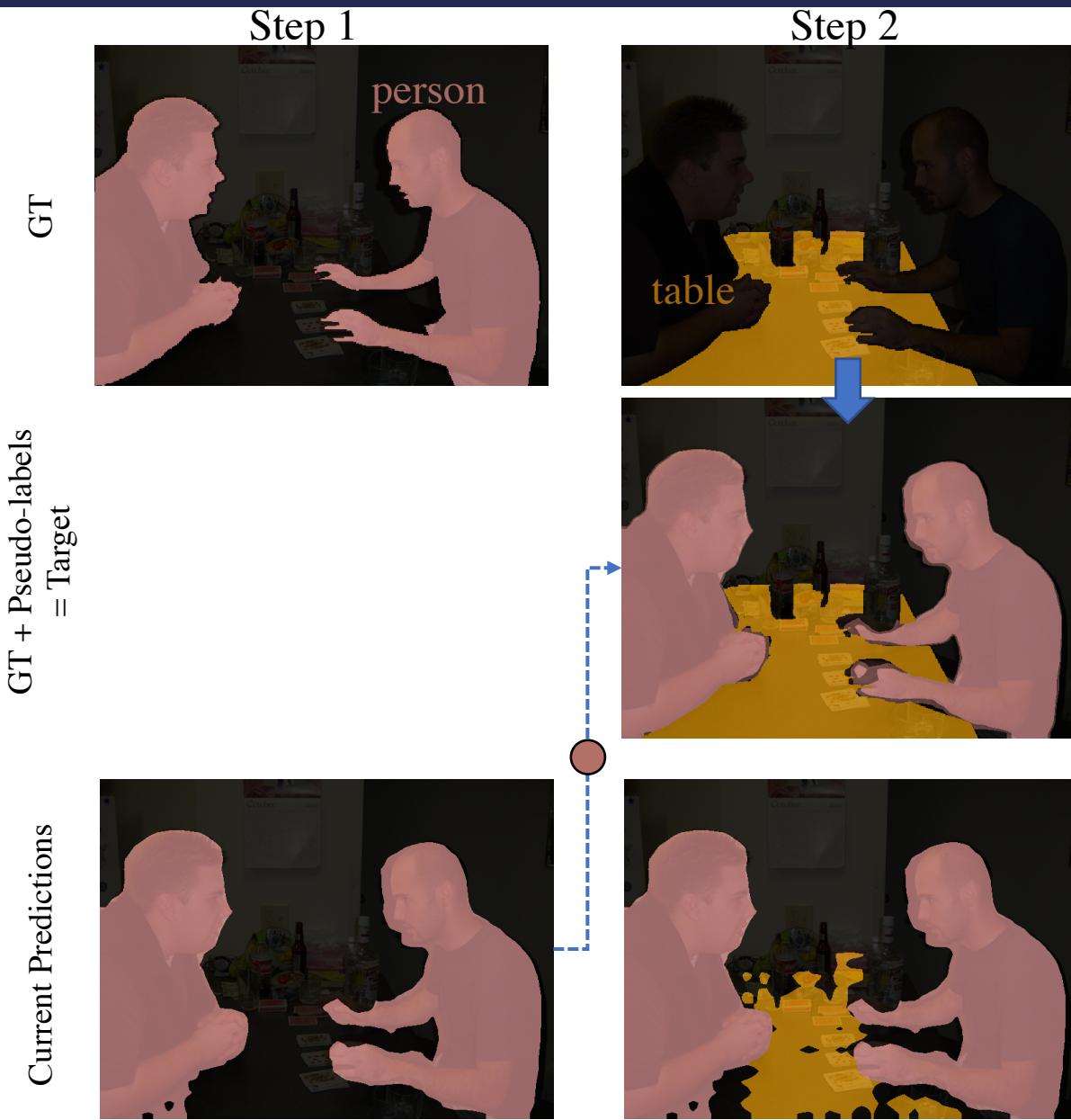
Current Predictions



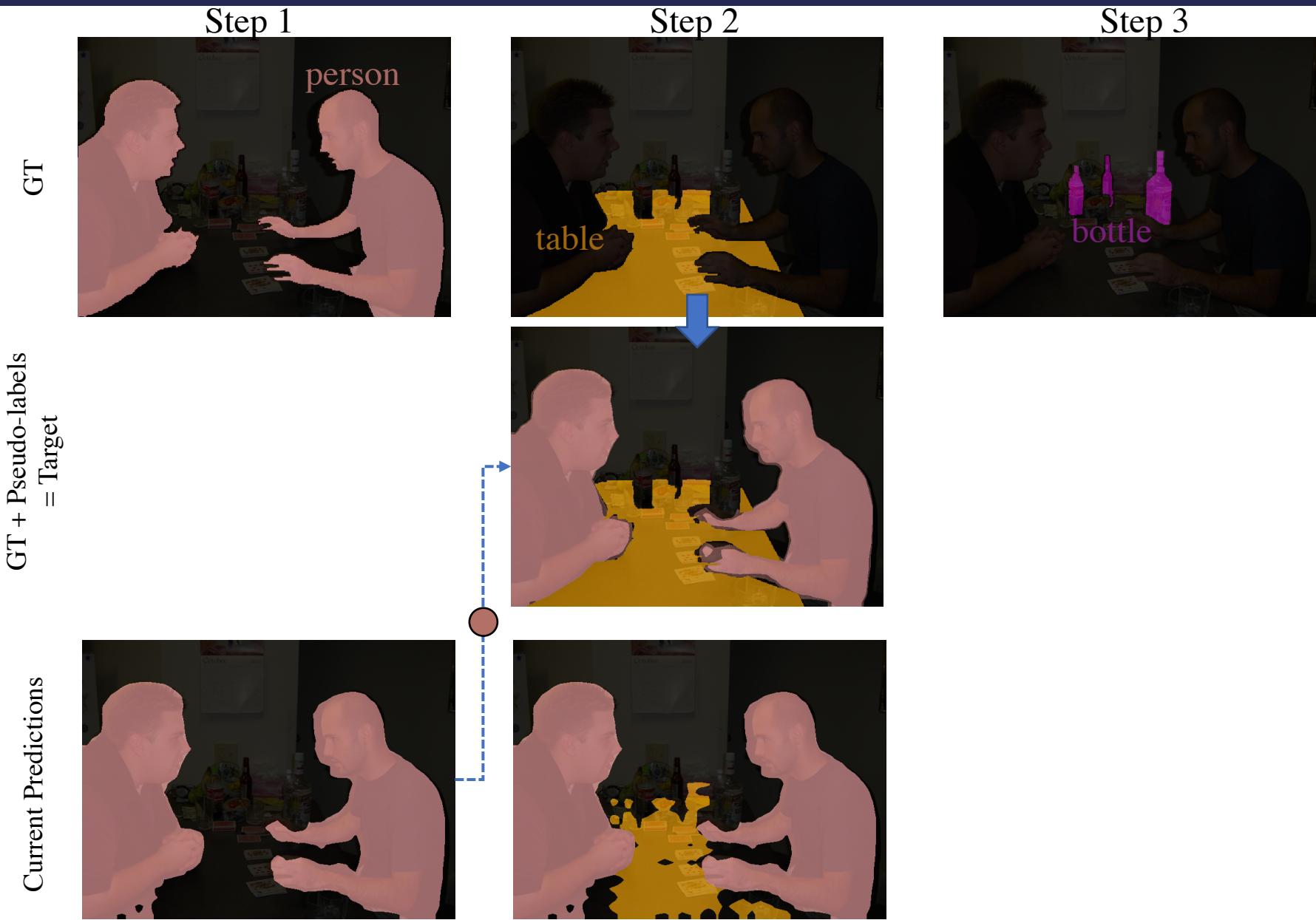
Problem 1: Background shift



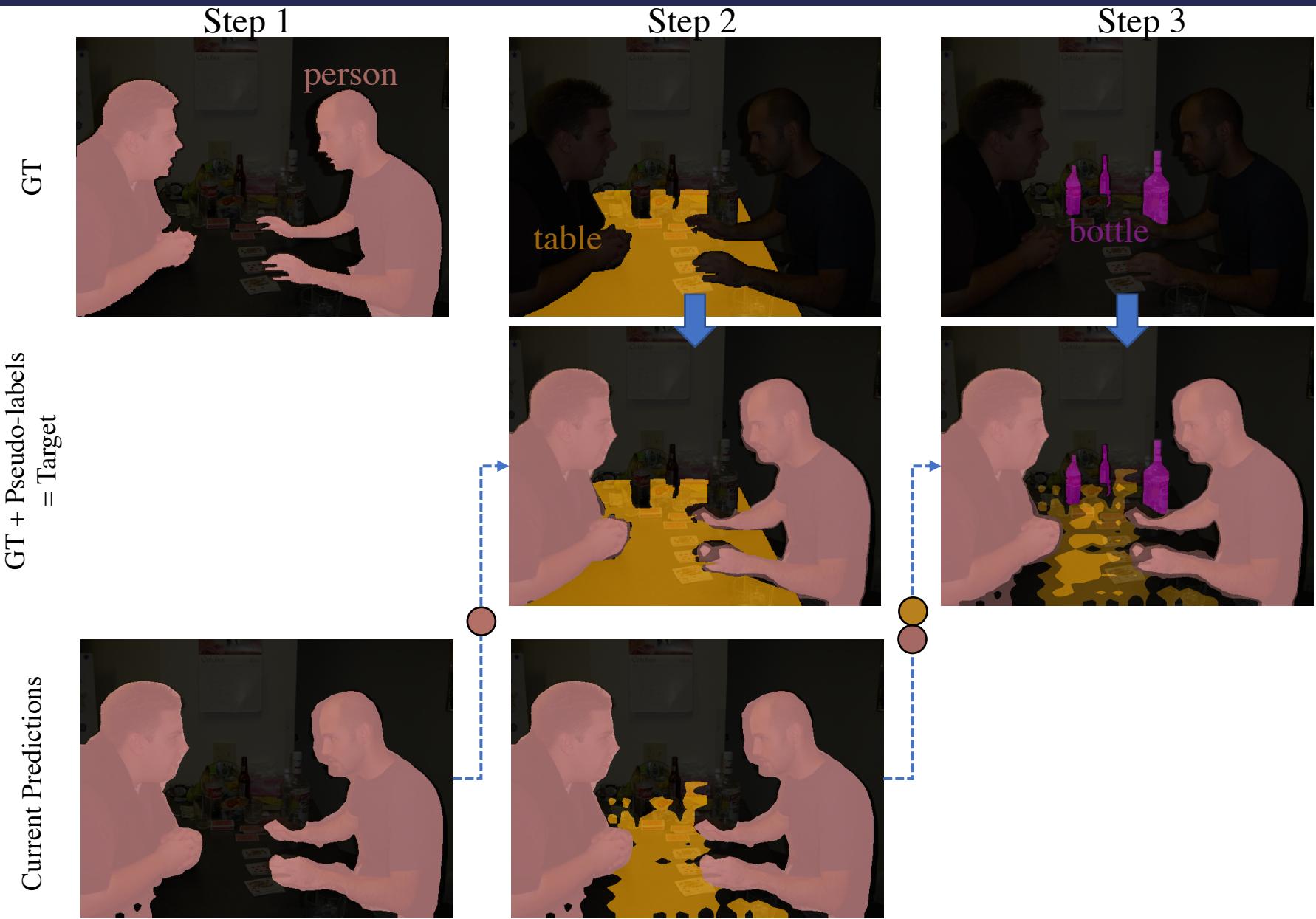
Problem 1: Background shift



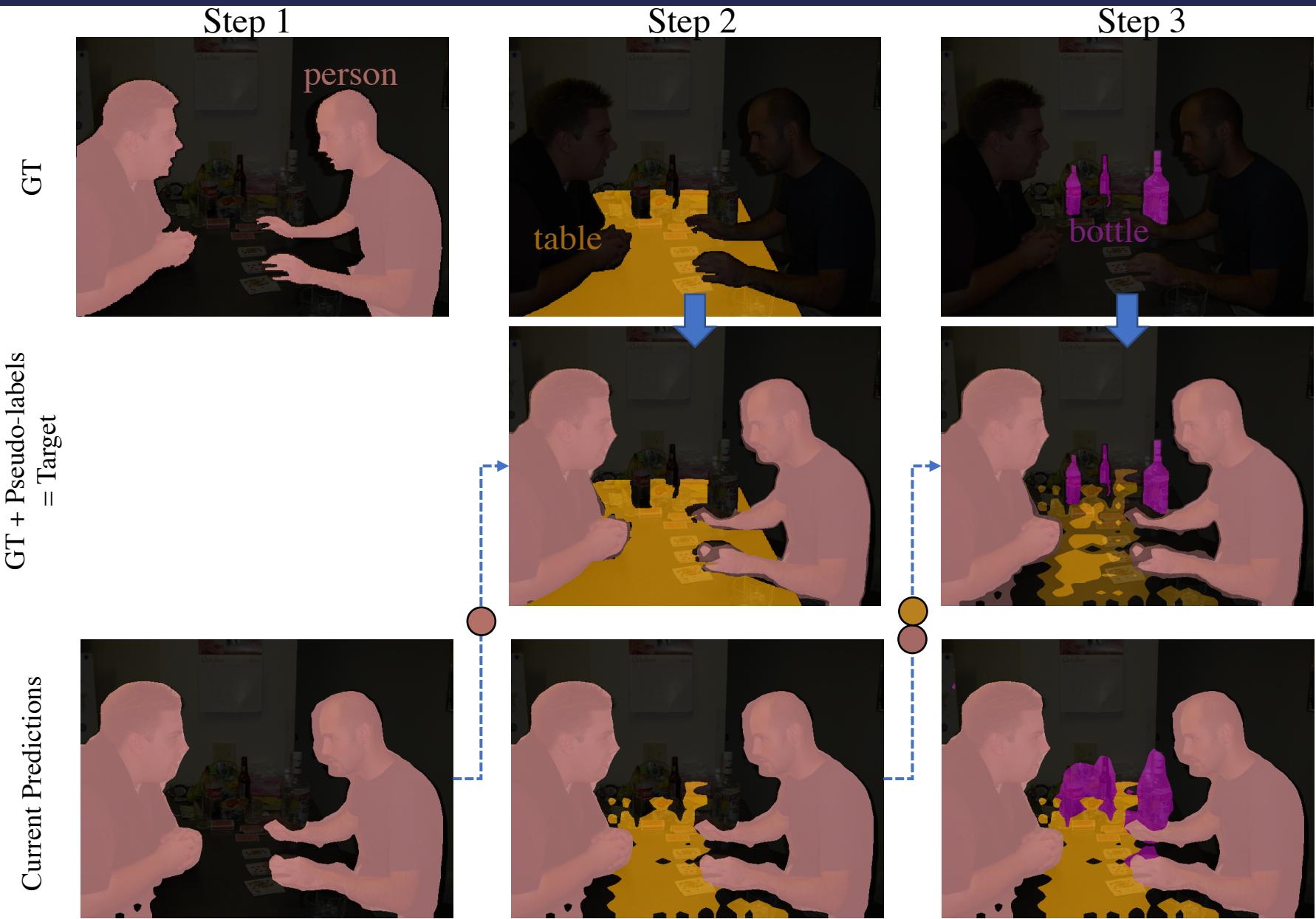
Problem 1: Background shift



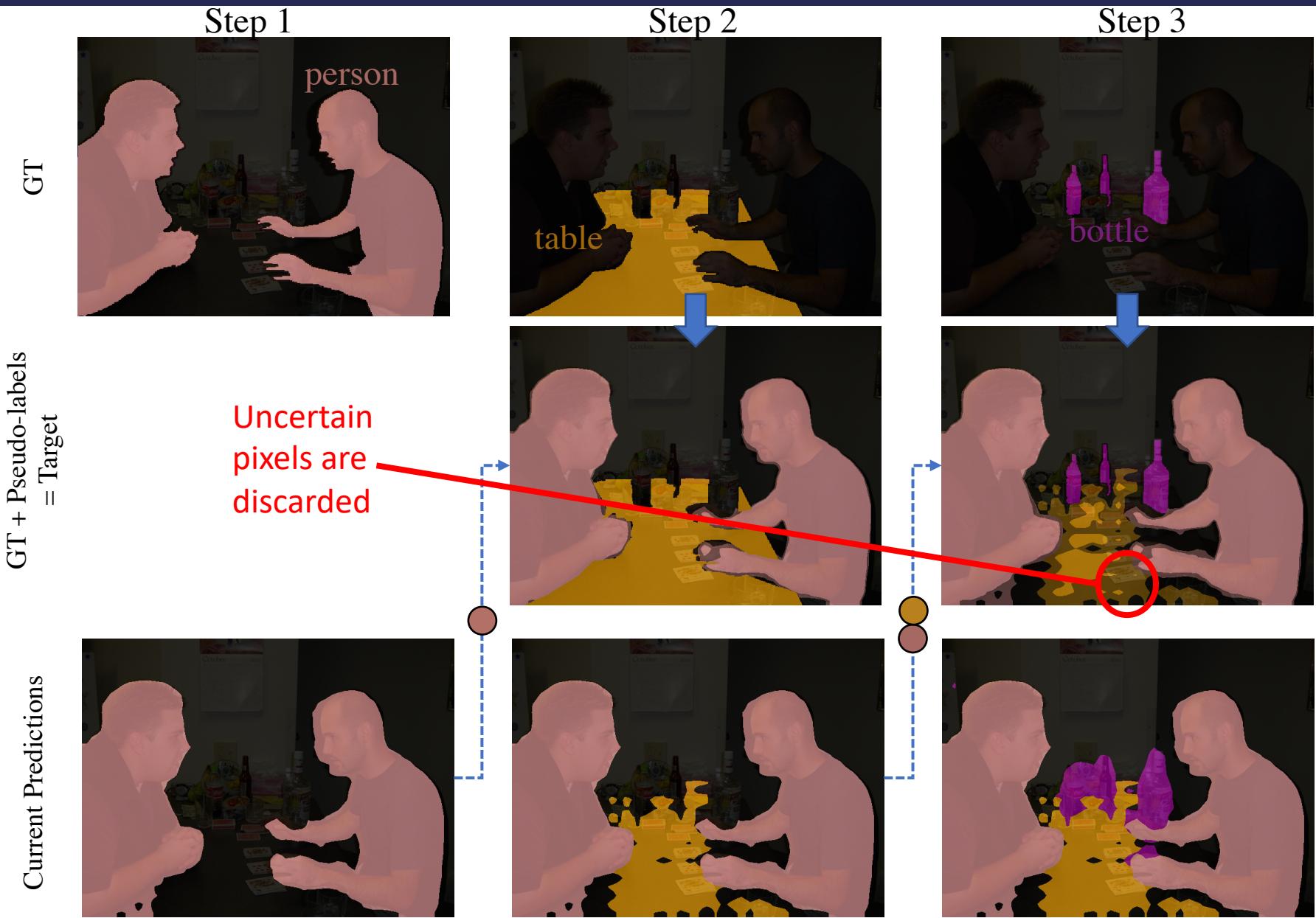
Problem 1: Background shift



Problem 1: Background shift



Problem 1: Background shift



Problem 1: Background shift

UNCE (CVPR 2020) merges predictions of old classes with background

Classification loss	1-15	16-20	<i>all</i>	avg
CE only on new	12.95	2.54	10.47	47.02
CE	33.80	4.67	26.87	50.79
UNCE	48.46	4.82	38.62	53.19
Pseudo (Eq. 8)	63.06	17.92	52.31	65.71
<i>Pseudo-Oracle</i>	<i>63.69</i>	<i>23.35</i>	<i>54.09</i>	<i>66.05</i>

Different pseudo-labeling

Pseudo-labeling	<i>1-15</i>	<i>16-20</i>	<i>all</i>	<i>avg</i>
Naive	68.28	10.79	54.59	66.77

Pseudo-labelize all pixels that are “**background**”

Different pseudo-labeling

Pseudo-labeling	<i>I-15</i>	<i>16-20</i>	<i>all</i>	<i>avg</i>
Naive	68.28	10.79	54.59	66.77
Threshold 0.90	56.63	10.65	54.06	66.43
Median	66.28	11.25	53.18	65.91

Pseudo-labelize all pixels that are “**background**”

And **confident** enough

Different pseudo-labeling

Pseudo-labeling	<i>I-15</i>	<i>16-20</i>	<i>all</i>	<i>avg</i>
Naive	68.28	10.79	54.59	66.77
Threshold 0.90	56.63	10.65	54.06	66.43
Median	66.28	11.25	53.18	65.91
Entropy [65]	63.06	17.92	52.31	65.71

Pseudo-labelize all pixels that are “**background**”

And **entropy** low enough

And **adaptive sample weight**

Experiments

Pascal-VOC (20 classes) experiments

Method	19-1 (2 tasks)				15-5 (2 tasks)			
	1-19	20	<i>all</i>	<i>avg</i>	1-15	16-20	<i>all</i>	<i>avg</i>
EWC [†] [36]	26.90	14.00	26.30		24.30	35.50	27.10	
LwF-MC [†] [54]	64.40	13.30	61.90		58.10	35.00	52.30	
ILT [†] [49]	67.10	12.30	64.40		66.30	40.60	59.90	
ILT [49]	67.75	10.88	65.05	71.23	67.08	39.23	60.45	70.37
MiB [†] [7]	70.20	22.10	67.80		75.50	49.40	69.00	
MiB [7]	71.43	23.59	69.15	73.28	76.37	49.97	70.08	75.12
PLOP	75.35	37.35	73.54	75.47	75.73	51.71	70.09	75.19

Experiments

Pascal-VOC (20 classes) experiments

Method	19-1 (2 tasks)				15-5 (2 tasks)				15-1 (6 tasks)			
	1-19	20	all	avg	1-15	16-20	all	avg	1-15	16-20	all	avg
EWC [†] [36]	26.90	14.00	26.30		24.30	35.50	27.10		0.30	4.30	1.30	
LwF-MC [†] [54]	64.40	13.30	61.90		58.10	35.00	52.30		6.40	8.40	6.90	
ILT [†] [49]	67.10	12.30	64.40		66.30	40.60	59.90		4.90	7.80	5.70	
ILT [49]	67.75	10.88	65.05	71.23	67.08	39.23	60.45	70.37	8.75	7.99	8.56	40.16
MiB [†] [7]	70.20	22.10	67.80		75.50	49.40	69.00		35.10	13.50	29.70	
MiB [7]	71.43	23.59	69.15	73.28	76.37	49.97	70.08	75.12	34.22	13.50	29.29	54.19
PLOP	75.35	37.35	73.54	75.47	75.73	51.71	70.09	75.19	65.12	21.11	54.64	67.21

Experiments

Pascal-VOC (20 classes) experiments

Method	19-1 (2 tasks)				15-5 (2 tasks)				15-1 (6 tasks)			
	1-19	20	all	avg	1-15	16-20	all	avg	1-15	16-20	all	avg
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LwF-MC [†] [54]	64.40	13.30	61.90		58.10	35.00	52.30		6.40	8.40	6.90	
ILT [†] [49]	67.10	12.30	64.40		66.30	40.60	59.90		4.90	7.80	5.70	
ILT [49]	67.75	10.88	65.05	71.23	67.08	39.23	60.45	70.37	8.75	7.99	8.56	40.16
MiB [†] [7]	70.20	22.10	67.80		75.50	49.40	69.00		35.10	13.50	29.70	
MiB [7]	71.43	23.59	69.15	73.28	76.37	49.97	70.08	75.12	34.22	13.50	29.29	54.19
PLOP	75.35	37.35	73.54	75.47	75.73	51.71	70.09	75.19	65.12	21.11	54.64	67.21

VOC 10-1 (11 tasks)				
Method	1-10	11-20	all	avg
ILT [55]	7.15	3.67	5.50	25.71
MiB [8]	12.25	13.09	12.65	42.67
PLOP	44.03	15.51	30.45	52.32

Visuals

Step 1

1-15



MiB



PLOP



MiB



PLOP

First, learn 15 classes

Image



GT



Image



GT



Visuals

Step 1

1-15



Step 2

16 (plant)



MiB



PLOP



MiB



PLOP

Learn the “plant” class

Image



GT



Image



GT



Visuals

Step 1

1-15



Step 2

16 (plant)
17 (sheep)

Step 3

17 (sheep)



MiB



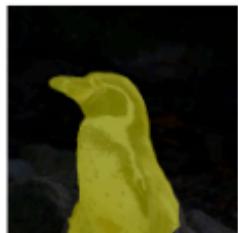
PLOP



MiB



PLOP



So far, it's still OK

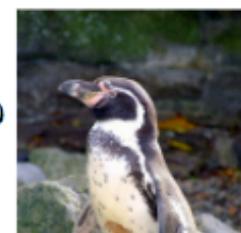
Image



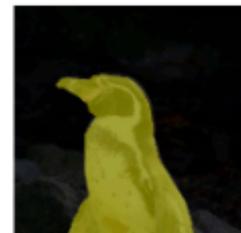
GT



Image



GT



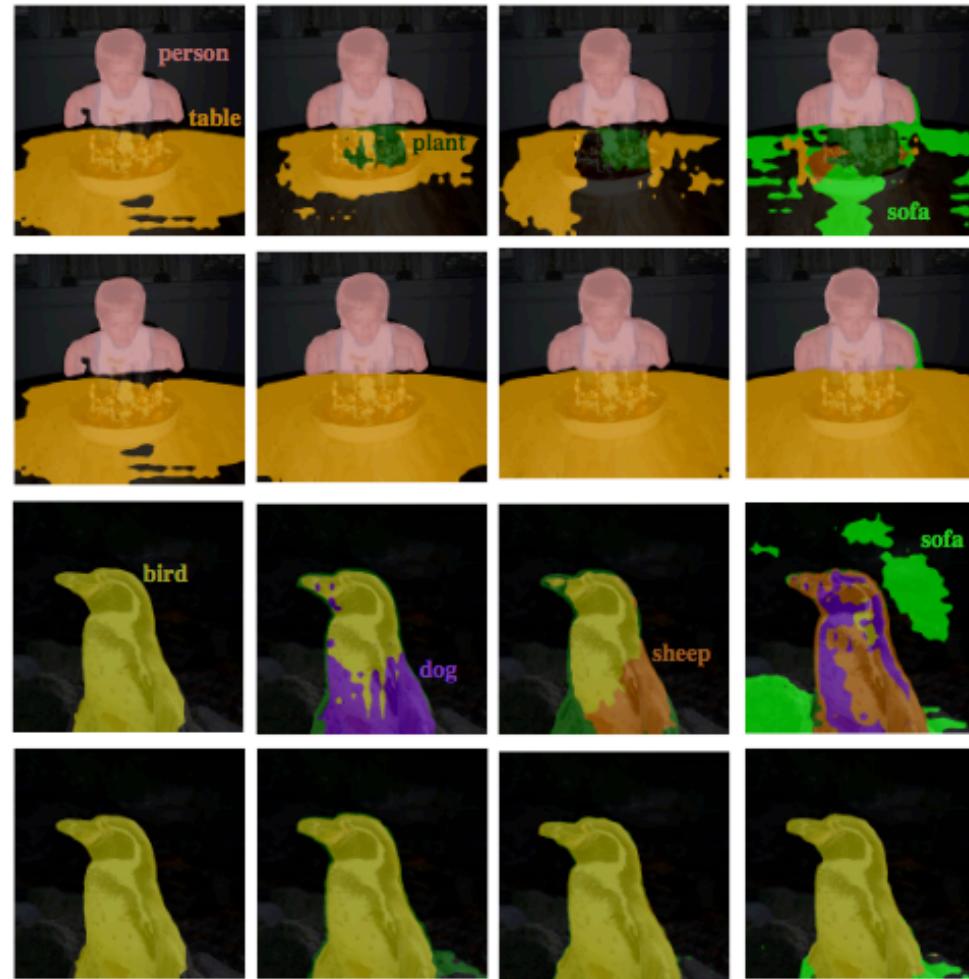
Visuals

Step 1
1-15

Step 2
16 (plant)

Step 3
17 (sheep)

Step 4
18 (sofa)



Catastrophic
forgetting



Visuals

Step 1

1-15



Step 2

16 (plant)



Step 3

17 (sheep)



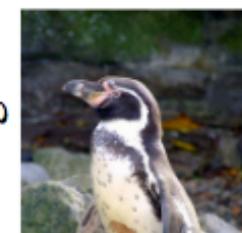
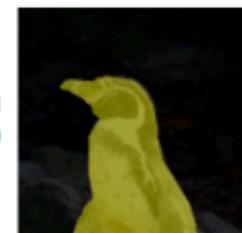
Step 4

18 (sofa)



Step 5

19 (train)

MiB
ImagePLOP
GTMiB
ImagePLOP
GT

Visuals

Step 1

1-15



Step 2

16 (plant)



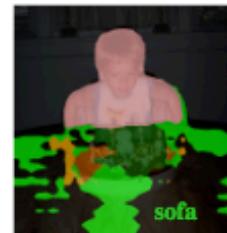
Step 3

17 (sheep)



Step 4

18 (sofa)



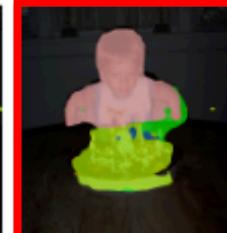
Step 5

19 (train)



Step 6

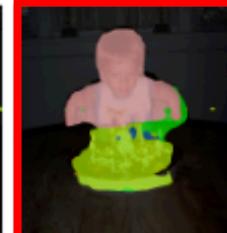
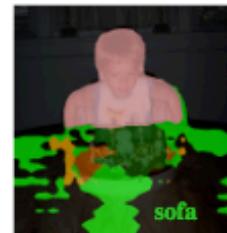
20 (TV)



Image



MiB



GT

PLOP

GT

MiB

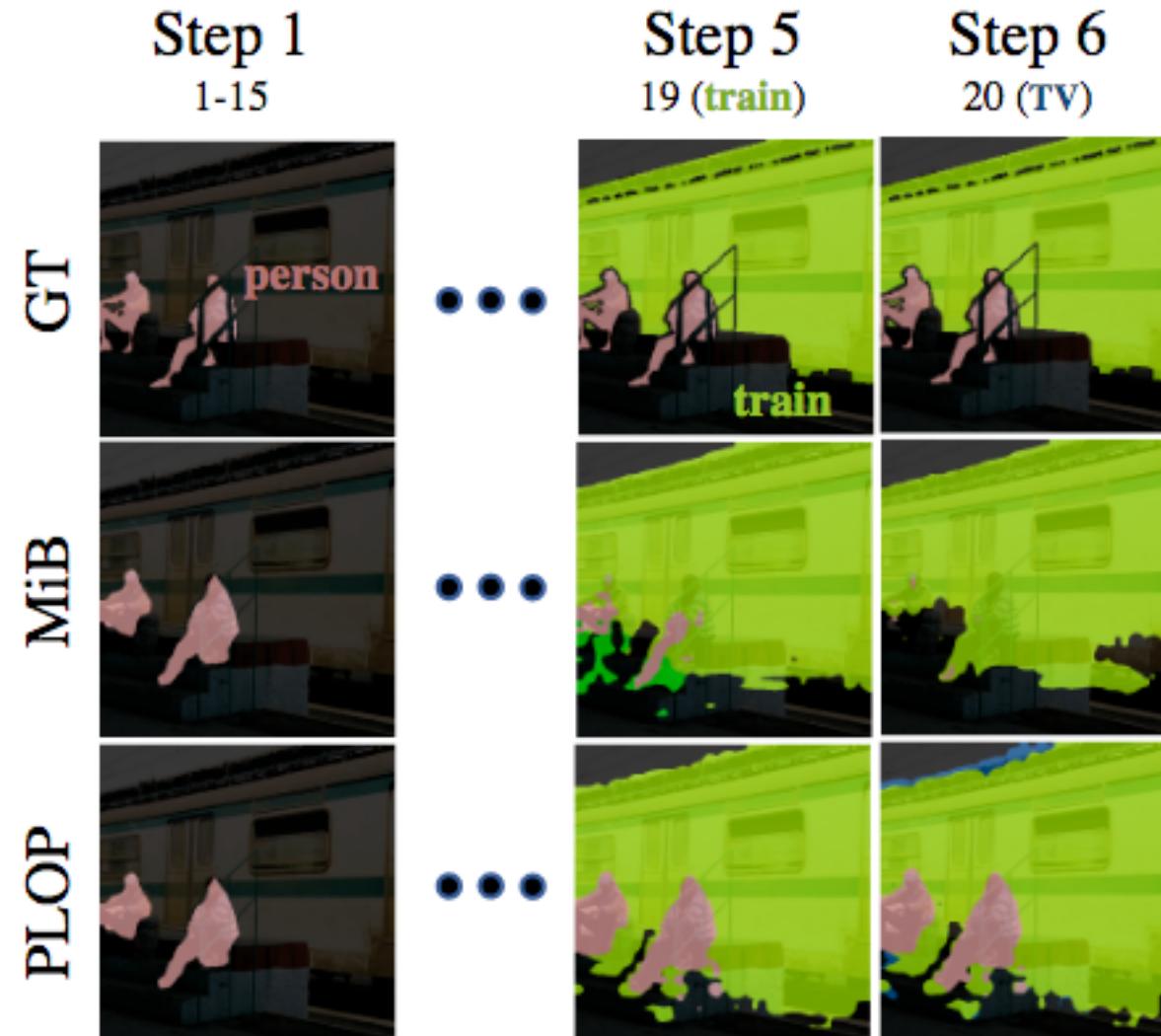
Image

PLOP

GT

Visuals

When a class appear only latter in the image



What are your questions?

References

References

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