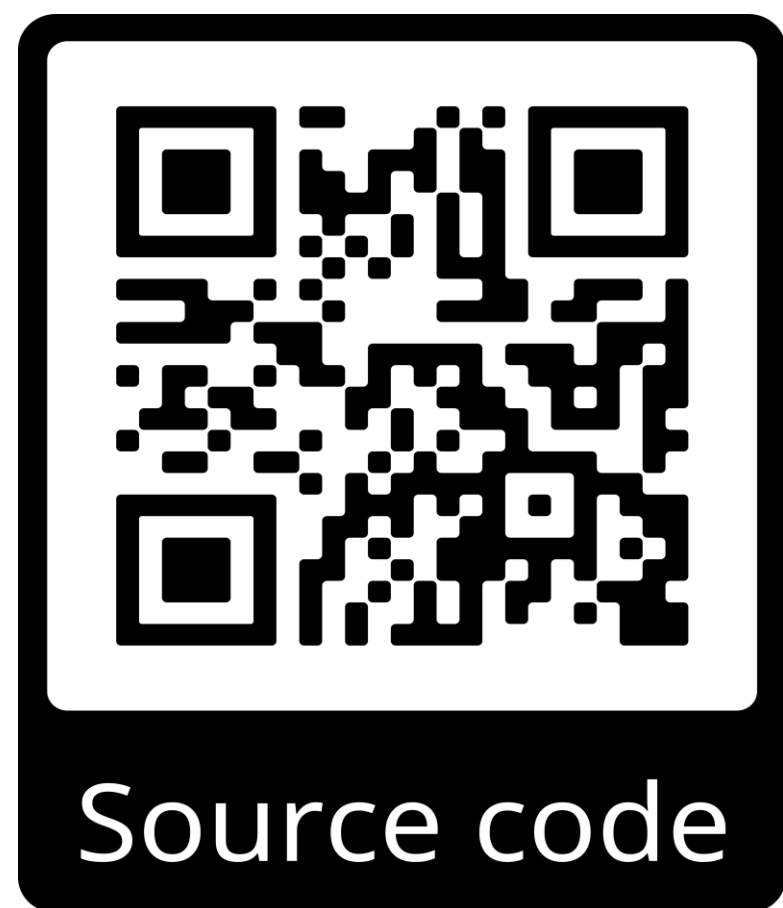


# ScatSimCLR: self-supervised contrastive learning with pretext task regularization for small-scale datasets

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## Introduction

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- Self-supervised learning (SSL) - learning of the data representations that are not based on labeled data, these methods demonstrate a classification performance close to their supervised counterparts.
- SSL methods are based on powerful neural networks with the number of parameters ranging from **5M to 500M**.
- '**Small dataset**' problem – SSL faces some problems with limited data, which lead to the **overfitting** of the big models.

## Contributions

- Model with the **reduced number** of parameter at encoder while preserving the same classification performance. This is achieved by **ScatNet** – geometrically invariant network.
- **Pretext task regularization** based on the estimation of parameters of applied augmentation transform such as **rotation** and **jigsaw** permutation.
- Investigation of the role of augmentations.
- Achieved SOTA performance on STL10 and CIFAR-100-20 datasets.

## Related work

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- **Contrastive learning** is considered among SOTA technique for self-supervised learning. It is based on minimization of a distance between similar (positive) pairs and maximization of dissimilar (negative) ones.
- Hand-crafted geometrically invariant transform **ScatNet** is a class of CNNs designed with fixed weights with properties: (1) deformation stability; (2) sparse representations; (3) interpretable representations.

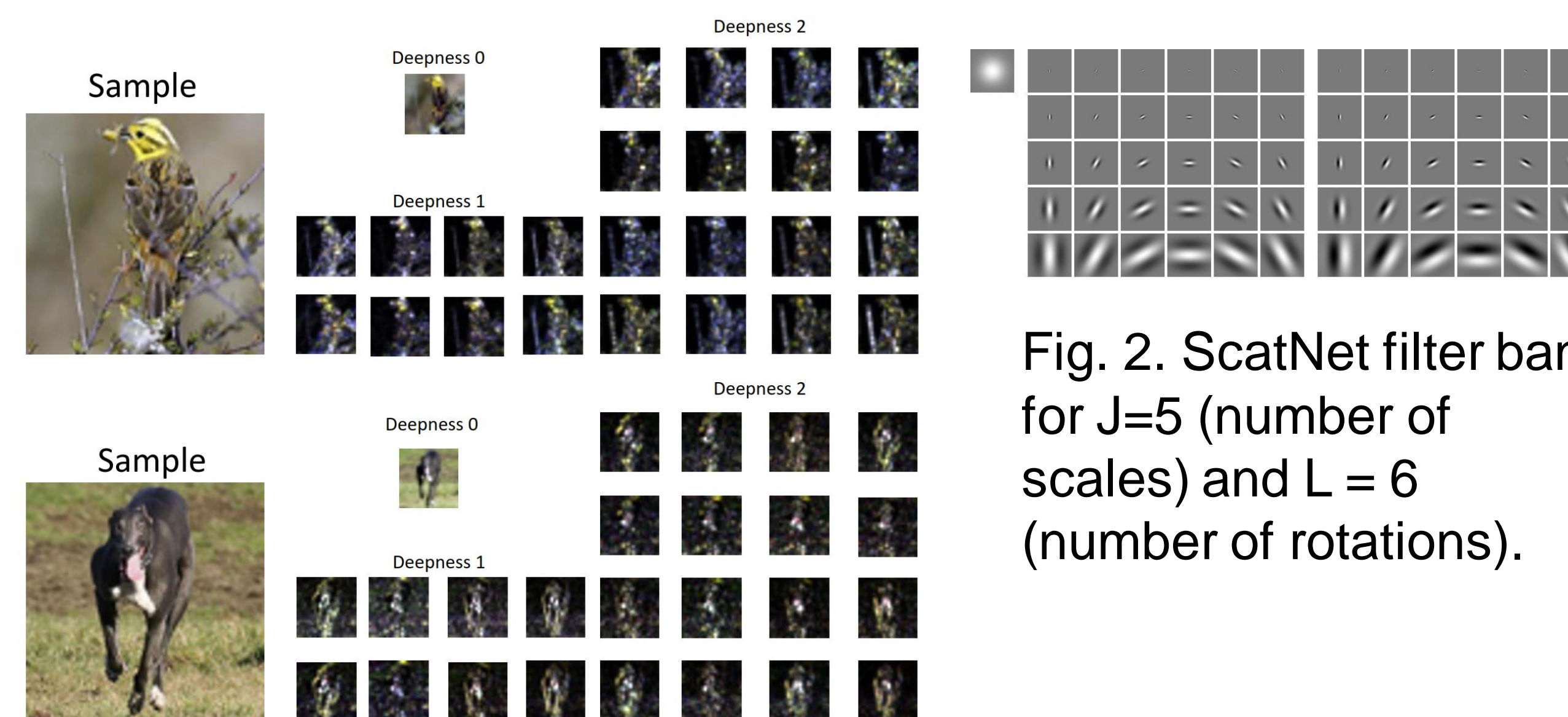


Fig. 1. Example of ScatNet feature vectors.

## ScatSimCLR

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**ScatSimCLR** is based on SimCLR SSL method, where the base ResNet encoder is replaced by the hand-crafted ScatNet  $f_{\phi_{Scat}}$  and a small capacity adapter network  $f_{\phi_h}$  with a pretext task regularization.  $\mathbf{t}$  – parameters of the transformation under the pretext task estimation: either rotation or jigsaw permutation,  $\varphi_t$  - transformation,  $\tilde{\mathbf{x}} = \varphi_t(\mathbf{x})$  - transformed view,  $\mathbf{h} = f_{\phi_{Scat}}(f_{\phi_h}(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}))$  - embeddings.

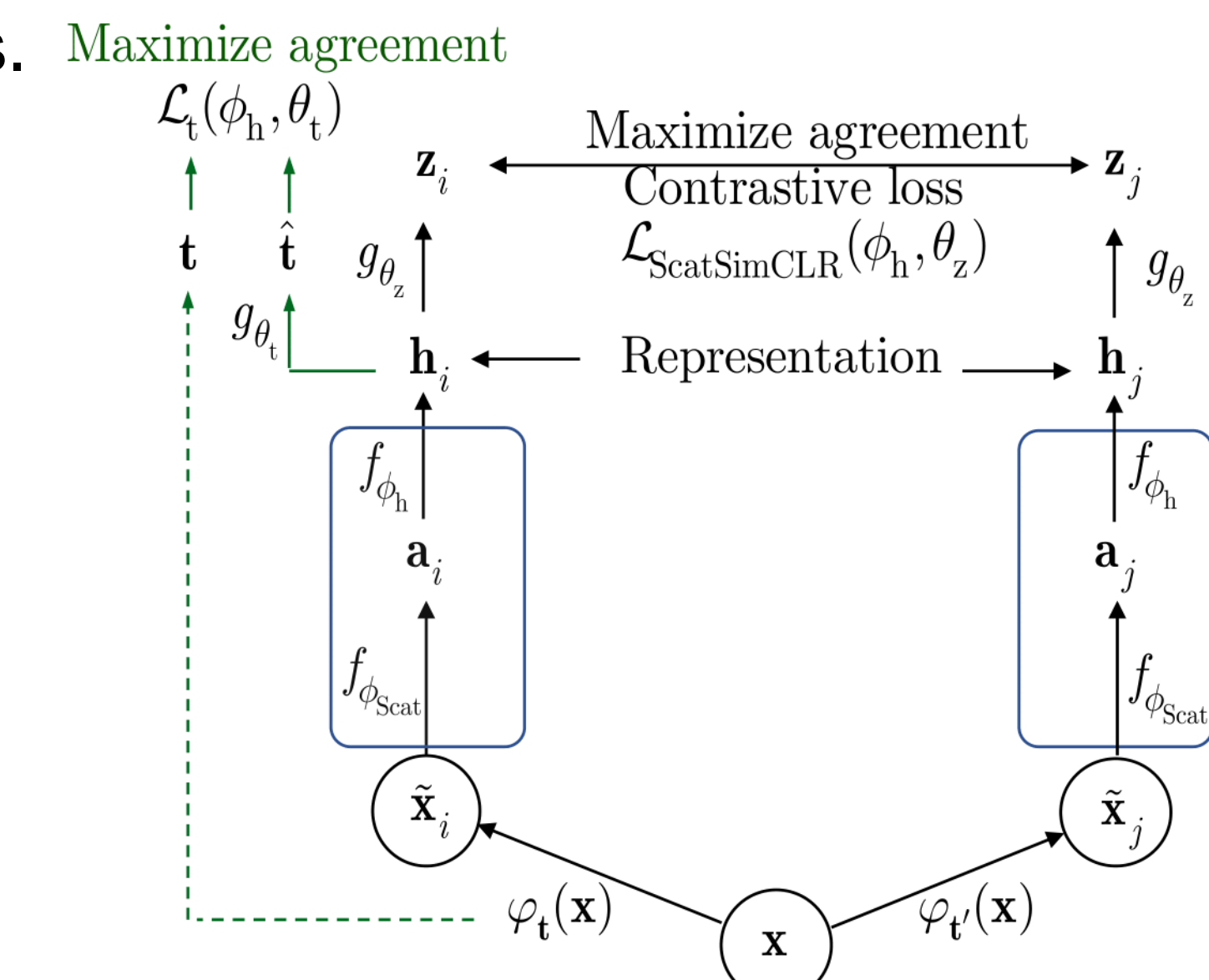


Fig. 3. Proposed ScatSimCLR system with contrastive loss and additional regularization based on the estimation of augmentation transform.

## The impact of augmentations

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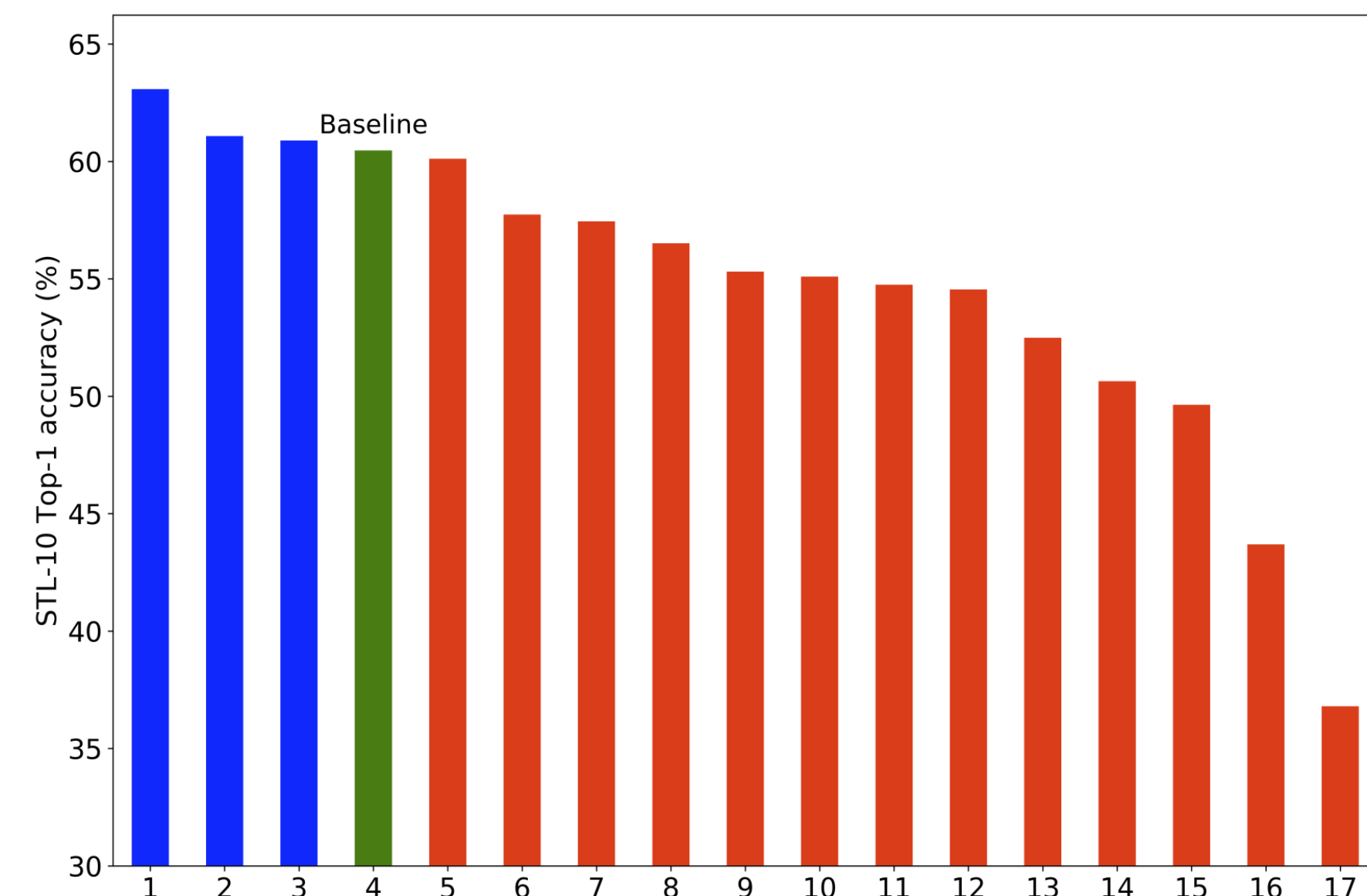


Fig. 4. Impact of removing the augmentations on the performance of ScatSimCLR for STL-10: "Baseline" denotes ScatSimCLR trained with all augmentations (cropping, flipping, color, grayscale, Gaussian blur and affine augmentations). The following labels denote: 1 - the baseline without the affine augmentations; 2 - only cropping and color augmentations; 3 - the baseline without the horizontal flipping; 5 - the baseline without Gaussian blur augmentations; 6 - the baseline without cropping and Gaussian blur augmentations; 7 - the baseline without color and Gaussian blur augmentations; 8 - the baseline without grayscale and Gaussian blur augmentations; 9 - the baseline without cropping and grayscale augmentations; 10 - the baseline without color augmentations; 11 - the baseline without cropping augmentations; 12 - the baseline without grayscale augmentations; 13 - only cropping augmentations; 14 - the baseline without color and grayscale augmentations; 15 - only color augmentations; 16 - the baseline without crop and color augmentations; 17 - no augmentations.

## Pretext task regularization

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- The introduction of the pretext task improves the classification accuracy for both considered models ScatSimCLR and SimCLR. For all models **rotation** augmentation pretext task provides higher increase in classification performance in comparison to jigsaw.

Table 1. Impact of the pretext task regularization on the classification accuracy on STL-10 dataset.

Baseline model	Accuracy on STL-10		Num. of paramers
	Without pretext	With pretext	
ScatSimCLR 8	74.78%	<b>77.86%</b> / 76.36%	6.1 M
ScatSimCLR 12	76.57%	<b>78.43%</b> / 77.78%	7.8 M
ScatSimCLR 16	77.03%	<b>78.5%</b> / 77.91%	10.5 M
ScatSimCLR 30	77.86%	<b>79.11%</b> / 78.4%	14.1 M
SimCLR (ResNet18)	71.90%	<b>76.36%</b> / 75.22%	11.5 M

## Results

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ScatSimCLR achieves SOTA in unsupervised image classification on STL-10 – **85.11%** and on CIFAR-100-20 – **63.86%**.

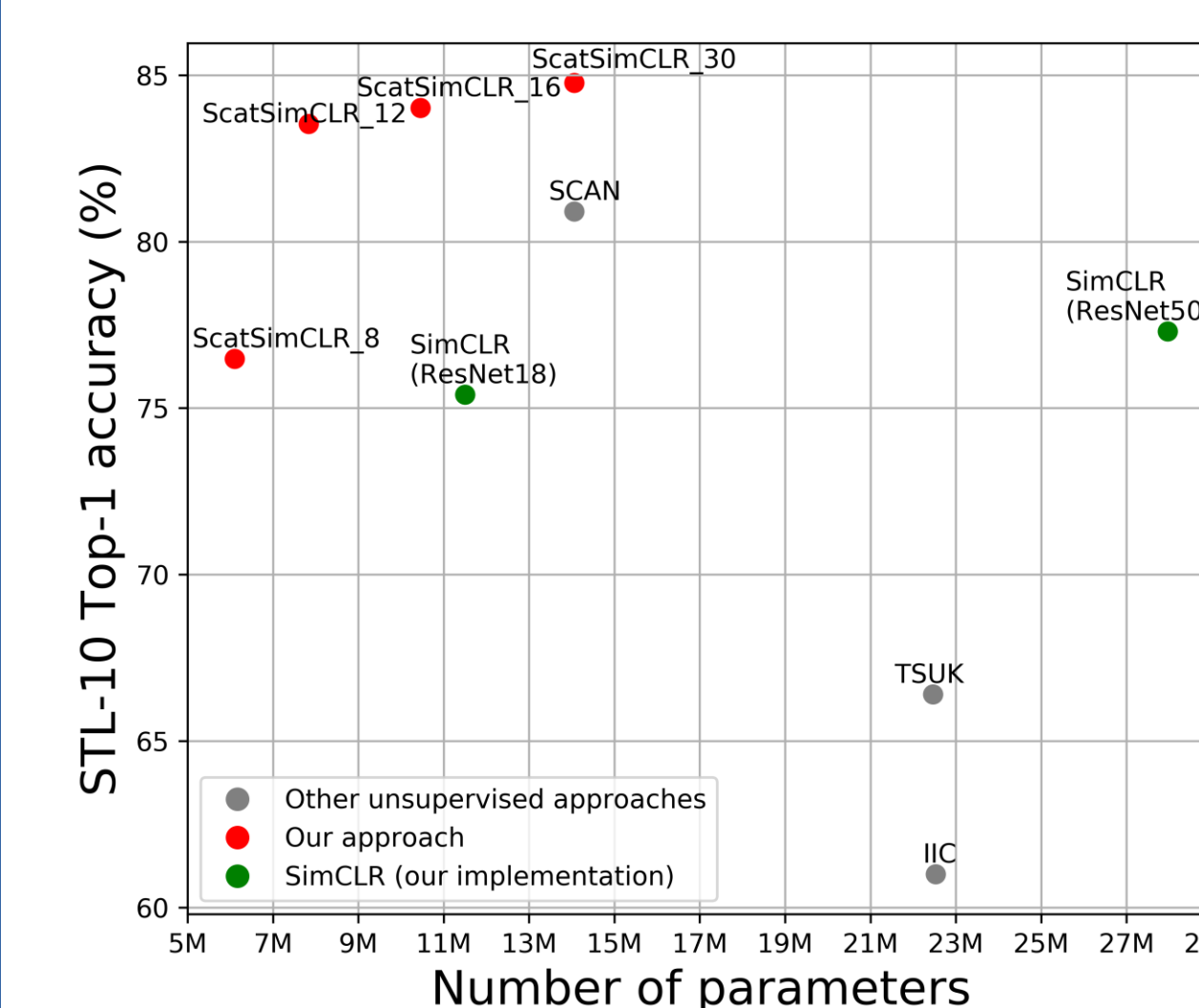


Fig. 5. STL-10 Top-1 accuracy of self-supervised methods. Gray dots indicate other self-supervised methods. Our method, ScatSimCLR, is shown in red. The results are obtained with models trained for 1000 epochs.

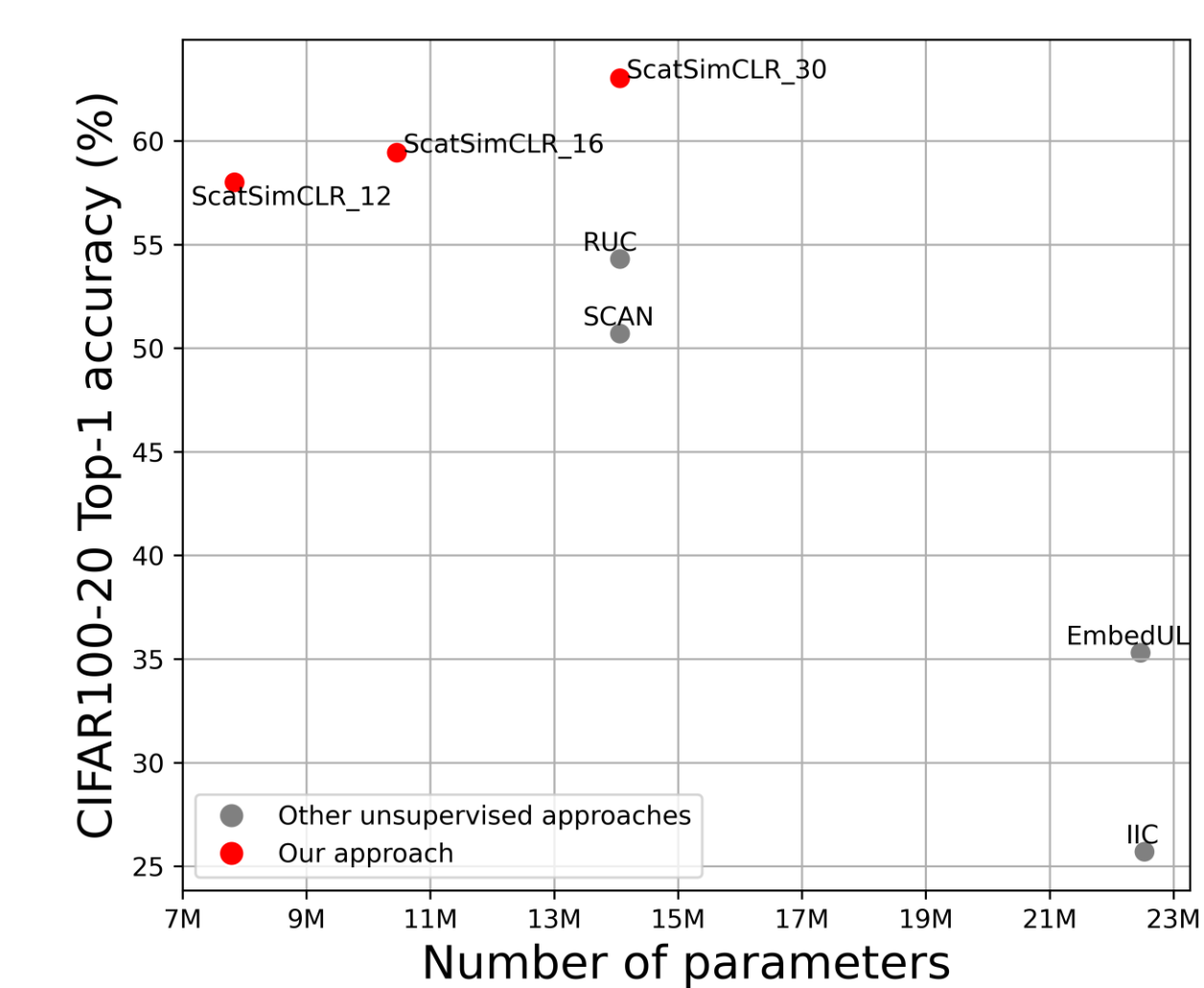


Fig. 6. CIFAR-100-20 Top-1 accuracy of self-supervised methods. Gray dots indicate other self-supervised methods. ScatSimCLR is shown in red.