000 001 002 003 004 REPLAY CONCURRENTLY OR SEQUENTIALLY? A THE-ORETICAL PERSPECTIVE ON REPLAY IN CONTINUAL LEARNING

Anonymous authors

Paper under double-blind review

ABSTRACT

Replay-based methods have shown superior performance to address catastrophic forgetting in continual learning (CL), where a subset of past data is stored and generally replayed together with new data in current task learning. While seemingly natural, it is questionable, though rarely questioned, if such a concurrent replay strategy is always the right way for replay in CL. Inspired by the fact in human learning that revisiting very different courses sequentially before final exams is more effective for students, an interesting open question to ask is whether a sequential replay can benefit CL more compared to a standard concurrent replay. However, answering this question is highly nontrivial considering a major lack of theoretical understanding in replay-based CL methods. To this end, we investigate CL in overparameterized linear models and provide a comprehensive theoretical analysis to compare two replay schemes: 1) *Concurrent Replay*, where the model is trained on replay data and new data concurrently; 2) *Sequential Replay*, where the model is trained first on new data and then sequentially on replay data for each old task. By characterizing the explicit form of forgetting and generalization error, we show in theory that sequential replay tends to outperform concurrent replay when tasks are less similar, which is corroborated by our simulations in linear models. More importantly, our results inspire a novel design of a hybrid replay method, where only replay data of similar tasks are used concurrently with the current data and dissimilar tasks are sequentially revisited using their replay data. As depicted in our experiments on real datasets using deep neural networks, such a hybrid replay method improves the performance of standard concurrent replay by leveraging sequential replay for dissimilar tasks. By providing the first comprehensive theoretical analysis on replay, our work has great potentials to open up more principled designs for replay-based CL.

035 036 037

038

1 INTRODUCTION

039 040 041 042 043 044 045 046 047 Continual learning (CL) [\(Parisi et al., 2019\)](#page-11-0) seeks to build an agent that can learn a sequence of tasks continuously without access to old task data, resembling human's capability of lifelong learning. One of the major challenges therein is the so-called *catastrophic forgetting* [\(Kirkpatrick et al.,](#page-10-0) [2017\)](#page-10-0), i.e., the agent can easily forget the knowledge of old tasks when learning new tasks. A large amount of studies have been proposed to address this issue, among which *replay-based* approaches [\(Rolnick et al., 2019\)](#page-11-1) have demonstrated the state-of-the-art performance. The main idea behind is to store a subset of old task data in the memory and replay them when learning new tasks, where a widely adopted strategy for training is **concurrent replay** [\(Evron et al., 2024\)](#page-10-1), i.e., train the model *concurrently* on new task data and the replay data.

048 049 050 051 052 053 While the concurrent replay strategy seems very natural and has shown successful performance to address catastrophic forgetting, it is indeed questionable whether this strategy is always the right way for replay in CL as we consider the following aspects. 1) *From the perspective of human learning.* In daily life, a common strategy to prevent forgetting is to review old knowledge. For example, suppose a student needs to learn a series of topics over a semester before taking an exam, and each topic corresponds to one task in CL. Intuitively, if these topics are highly related to each other, incorporating the knowledge of old topics into learning a new topic can be an effective strategy

054 055 056 057 058 059 060 061 to strengthen the new learning and simultaneously reduce the forgetting of old knowledge, which is analogous to *concurrent replay*. However, if the topics are very different from each other, a common practice that a student often takes is to learn new topics first and then go over old topics to mitigate the forgetting. Here, such a *sequential* replay may lead to better outcome in the exam. 2) *From the perspective of multi-task learning.* Learning multiple tasks all at once may lead to poor learning performance due to the potential interference among gradients of different tasks [Yu et al.](#page-11-2) [\(2020\)](#page-11-2), whereas standard CL without regularization and replay may even achieve less forgetting for more dissimilar tasks [Lin et al.](#page-11-3) [\(2023\)](#page-11-3). Thus motivated, an interesting and open question to ask is:

062 063 *Question: Whether sequential replay will serve as an appealing replay strategy to complement the standard concurrent replay, and when will it be advantageous over concurrent replay for CL?*

064 065 066 067 068 069 070 To answer this question from a theoretical perspective, we study replay-based CL through the lens of overparameterized linear models to gain useful insights, by following a recent series of theoretical studies in CL [\(Lin et al., 2023;](#page-11-3) [Evron et al., 2022;](#page-10-2) [Ding et al., 2024;](#page-10-3) [Li et al., 2024\)](#page-11-4). However, none of those previous studies analyzed the replay-based methods. The only theoretical work that studied the replay-based methods is the recent concurrent work [\(Banayeeanzade et al., 2024\)](#page-10-4). But this work considered only the standard *concurrent* replay method, not from the new perspective of *sequential* replay.

071 072 073 074 In this work, to capture the idea and advantage of sequential replay, we propose a novel replay strategy, in which the agent *sequentially* revisits each old task and trains the model with the corresponding replay data after the current task is well learned.

Main Contributions. We summarize our main contributions as follows.

- **076 077 078 079 080 081 082 083** • First of all, we provide the *first* explicit closed-form expressions for the expected value of forgetting and generalization error for both concurrent replay strategy and sequential replay strategy under an overparameterized linear regression setting. Note that the blending of samples from old tasks in concurrent replay introduces significant intricacies related to task correlation in theoretical analysis. To address this challenge, we partition training data into blocks based on different tasks, which enables us to further calculate the task interference using the properties of block matrix. In particular, our theoretical results demonstrate how the performance of replaybased CL is affected by various factors, including task similarity and memory size.
- **084 085 086 087 088 089 090 091 092** • Secondly, we propose a novel replay strategy, i.e., *sequential replay*, to sequentially revisit old tasks after the current task is fully learned. By characterizing the explicit closed-form expressions for the expected forgetting and generalization error for sequential replay and comparing with the concurrent replay, we give an affirmative answer to the open question above. More importantly, we rigorously characterize the conditions when sequential replay can benefit CL more than concurrent replay, in terms of both forgetting and generalization error, which is also consistent with our motivations above: Sequential replay outperforms concurrent replay if tasks in CL are dissimilar, and the performance improvement is larger when the tasks are more dissimilar. Numerical simulations on linear models further corroborate our theoretical results.
	- Last but not least, our theoretical insights can indeed go beyond the linear models and guide the practical algorithm design for replay-based CL with deep neural networks (DNNs). More specifically, we merge the idea of sequential replay into standard replay-based CL with concurrent replay, leading to a hybrid replay approach where 1) old tasks dissimilar to the current task will be revisited by using sequential replay (guided by our theory that suggests more benefit if dissimilar tasks are revisited sequentially) and 2) the replay data for the remaining old tasks (that are sufficiently similar to the current task) will still be used concurrently with current task data. Our experiments on real datasets with DNNs verify that our hybrid approach can perform better than concurrent replay and the advantage is more apparent when tasks are less similar.
- **100 101 102**

103

075

2 RELATED WORK

104 105 106 107 Empirical studies in CL. CL has drawn significant attention in recent years, with numerous empirical approaches developed to mitigate the issue of catastrophic forgetting. Architecture-based approaches combat catastrophic forgetting by dynamically adjusting network parameters [\(Rusu et al.,](#page-11-5) 2016) or introducing architectural adaptations such as an ensemble of experts (Rypes $\acute{\rm{e}}$ et al., 2024).

108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119 120 121 122 Regularization-based methods constrain model parameter updates to preserve the knowledge of previous tasks [\(Kirkpatrick et al., 2017;](#page-10-0) [Magistri et al., 2024\)](#page-11-7). Memory-based methods address forgetting by storing some information of old tasks in the memory and leveraging the information during current task learning, which can be further divided into orthogonal projection based methods and replay-based methods. The former stores gradient information of old tasks and uses this to modify the optimization space for the current task [\(Saha et al., 2021;](#page-11-8) [Lin et al., 2022\)](#page-11-9), while the latter stores and reuses a tiny subset of representative data, known as exemplars. Critical design considerations in empirical replay-based methods mainly include varying exemplar sampling and utilization schemes. Exemplar sampling methods involve reservoir sampling [\(Chrysakis & Moens, 2020\)](#page-10-5) and an information-theoretic evaluation of exemplar candidates [\(Sun et al., 2022\)](#page-11-10). Some other work such as [Shin et al.](#page-11-11) [\(2017\)](#page-11-11) retains past knowledge by replaying "pseudo-data" constructed from input data instead of storing raw input. Replay methods mostly assume a concurrent training scheme that trains the model using a mix of input data and sampled exemplars [\(Dokania et al., 2019;](#page-10-6) [Rebuffi](#page-11-12) [et al., 2017;](#page-11-12) [Garg et al., 2024\)](#page-10-7). Other exemplar utilization methods include [Lopez-Paz & Ranzato](#page-11-13) [\(2017\)](#page-11-13) and [Chaudhry et al.](#page-10-8) [\(2018\)](#page-10-8), which use exemplar to impose constraints in the gradient space.

123 124 125 126 127 128 129 130 131 132 133 134 135 136 Theoretical studies in CL. Compared to the vast amount of empirical studies in CL, the theoretical understanding of CL is very limited but has started to attract much attention very recently. [Bennani](#page-10-9) [et al.](#page-10-9) [\(2020\)](#page-10-9); [Doan et al.](#page-10-10) [\(2021\)](#page-10-10) investigated CL performance for the orthogonal gradient descent approach in NTK models theoretically. [Yin et al.](#page-11-14) [\(2020\)](#page-11-14) focused on regularization-based methods and proposed a framework, which requires second-order information to approximate loss function. [Cao et al.](#page-10-11) [\(2022\)](#page-10-11); [Li et al.](#page-11-15) [\(2022\)](#page-11-15) characterized the benefits of continual representation learning from a theoretical perspective. [Evron et al.](#page-10-12) [\(2023\)](#page-10-12) connected regularization-based methods with Projection Onto Convex Sets. Recently, a series of theoretical studies proposed to leverage the tools of overparameterized linear models to facilitate better understanding of CL. [Evron et al.](#page-10-2) [\(2022\)](#page-10-2) studied the performance of forgetting under such a setup. After that, [Lin et al.](#page-11-3) [\(2023\)](#page-11-3) characterized the performance of CL in a more comprehensive way, where they discuss the impact of task similarities and the task order. [Goldfarb & Hand](#page-10-13) [\(2023\)](#page-10-13) illustrated the joint effect of task similarity and overparameterization. [Zhao et al.](#page-11-16) [\(2024\)](#page-11-16) provided a statistical analysis of regularization-based methods. More recently, [Li et al.](#page-11-4) [\(2024\)](#page-11-4) further theoretically investigated the impact of mixture-of-experts on the performance of CL in linear models.

137 138 139 140 141 142 Different from all the previous studies, we seek to fill up the theoretical understanding for replaybased CL. Note that one concurrent study [Banayeeanzade et al.](#page-10-4) [\(2024\)](#page-10-4) also investigates replay-based CL in overparameterized linear models with concurrent replay. However, one key difference here is that we propose a novel replay strategy, i.e., the sequential replay, and theoretically show its benefit over concurrent replay for dissimilar tasks. Our theoretical results further motivate a new algorithm design for CL in practice, which demonstrates promising performance on DNNs.

143 144

145

3 PROBLEM SETTING

146 147 148 We consider a common CL setup consisting of T tasks where each task arrives sequentially in time $t \in [T]$ and is learned sequentially by one model. Here $[T] := \{1, 2, ..., T\}$ for any positive integer T. Let I_p denote the $p \times p$ identity matrix and let $\|\cdot\|$ denote the ℓ_2 -norm.

149 150 151 Data Model. We adopt the setting of linear ground truth which is commonly used in the theoretical analysis of various machine learning methods including CL (e.g., [Lin et al.](#page-11-3) [\(2023\)](#page-11-3)). Specifically, For each task $t \in [T]$, a sample (\hat{x}_t, y_t) is generated by a linear ground truth model:

152

$$
y_t = \hat{\boldsymbol{x}}_t^\top \hat{\boldsymbol{w}}_t^* + z_t,\tag{1}
$$

153 154 155 156 157 158 159 160 161 where $\hat{x}_t \in \mathbb{R}^{s_t}$ denotes s_t true features, $y_t \in \mathbb{R}$ denotes the output, $\hat{w}^* \in \mathbb{R}^{s_t}$ denotes the ground truth parameters, and $z_t \in \mathbb{R}$ denotes the noise. Notice that in practice, true features are unknown, and typically more features are selected to ensure that all relevant features are included. Mathematically, letting S_t denote the set of true features of task t and letting W denote the set of chosen features in our model. We assume $\bigcup_{t\in[T]} \mathcal{S}_t \subseteq \mathcal{W}$. We use p to denote the number of chosen features, i.e., $|W| = p$. (Of course, $\bigcup_{t \in [T]} S_t \subseteq W$ implies that $p \ge \max_{t \in [T]} s_t$.) With this assumption, we expand $\hat{w}_t^* \in \mathbb{R}^{s_t}$ to a sparse *p*-dimensional vector $w_t^* \in \mathbb{R}^p$ by filling zeros in the positions corresponding to $W \ S_t$. Thus, eq. [\(1\)](#page-2-0) can be written as:

$$
y_t = \boldsymbol{x}_t^\top \boldsymbol{w}_t^* + z_t,\tag{2}
$$

162 163 where $x_t, w_t^* \in \mathbb{R}^p$. In other words, (x_t, y_t) is the sample used in the training process.

164 165 166 Dataset. For each task $t \in [T]$, there are n_t training samples $(x_{t,i}, y_{t,i})_{i \in [n_t]}$. We stack those samples into matrices/vectors to obtain the dataset $\mathcal{D}_t = \{(\boldsymbol{X}_t, \boldsymbol{Y}_t) \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times n_t} \times \mathbb{R}^{n_t}\}$, By eq. [\(2\)](#page-2-1), we have

$$
Y_t = X_t^\top w_t^* + z_t,\tag{3}
$$

168 169 170 171 where $\mathbf{X}_t \coloneqq [\mathbf{x}_{t,1} \ \mathbf{x}_{t,2} \ \cdots \ \mathbf{x}_{t,n_t}], \mathbf{Y}_t \coloneqq [y_{t,1} \ y_{t,2} \ \cdots \ y_{t,n_t}]^\top$, and $\mathbf{z}_t \coloneqq [z_{t,1} \ z_{t,2} \ \cdots \ z_{t,n_t}]^\top$. To simplify our theoretical analysis, we consider *i.i.d.* Gaussian features and noise, i.e., each element of \overline{X}_t follows *i.i.d.* standard Gaussian distribution, and $z_t \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_t^2 \overline{I}_{n_t})$ where $\sigma_t \geq 0$ denotes the noise level. To make our result easier to interpret, we let $\sigma_t = \sigma$ and $n_t = n$ for all $t \in [T]$.

172 173 174 175 176 177 178 179 180 Memory. For any task $t \geq 2$, besides \mathcal{D}_t , the agent has an overall memory dataset \mathcal{M}_t that contains separate memory datasets $\mathcal{M}_{t,i}$ for each of the previous tasks $i \in [t-1]$, i.e., $\mathcal{M}_t = \bigcup_{i=1}^{t-1} \mathcal{M}_{t,i}$ where $\mathcal{M}_{t,i} = (\widetilde{X}_{t,i}, \widetilde{Y}_{t,i}) \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times M_{t,i}} \times \mathbb{R}^{M_{t,i}}$ denotes the samples from previous task i and we define $M_{t,i}$ as the number of samples in $\mathcal{M}_{t,i}$. In most CL applications, the memory space is fully utilized and the memory size does not change over time. We denote this memory size by M that does not change with t. In this case, we have $\sum_{i=1}^{t-1} M_{t,i} = M$ for any $t \ge 2$. In this work, we focus on the situation in which the memory data are all fresh and have not been used in previous training. We equally allocate the memory to all previous tasks at each time t, i.e., $M_{t,i} = \frac{M}{t-1}$ for $i \in [t-1]$. For simplicity, we assume $\frac{M}{t-1}$ $\frac{M}{t-1}$ $\frac{M}{t-1}$ is an integer¹ for any $t \in \{2, 3, \cdots, T\}$.

181 182 183 Performance metrics. We first introduce the model error of parameter w over task i 's ground truth as:

$$
\mathcal{L}_i(\boldsymbol{w}) = \left\| \boldsymbol{w} - \boldsymbol{w}_i^* \right\|^2. \tag{4}
$$

184 185 186 The performance of CL is measured by two key metrics, which are forgetting and generalization error. To define these metrics, we let w_t be the parameters of the training result at task t.

1. *Forgetting:* It measures the average forgetting of old tasks after learning the new task. In our setup, forgetting at task T w.r.t. previous tasks $[T - 1]$ is defined as follows.

$$
F_T = \frac{1}{T-1} \sum_{i=1}^{T-1} (\mathcal{L}_i(\boldsymbol{w}_t) - \mathcal{L}_i(\boldsymbol{w}_i)).
$$
\n
$$
\tag{5}
$$

2. *Generalization error:* It measures the overall model generalization after the final task is learned. In our setup, generalization error is defined as follow.

$$
G_T = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{i=1}^T \mathcal{L}_i(\boldsymbol{w}_T). \tag{6}
$$

The definitions are consistent with the standard CL performance measures in experimental studies, e.g., [\(Saha et al., 2021\)](#page-11-8).

4 A NOVEL SEQUENTIAL REPLAY VS. POPULAR CONCURRENT REPLAY

203 204 205 In this section, we first introduce the popular concurrent replay strategy that is widely used in current CL applications to mitigate catastrophic forgetting. We will then propose a novel sequential replay strategy, which may have appealing advantage compared to concurrent replay.

206 207 208 209 210 211 To describe these replay strategies, recall we denote w_t as the parameters of the training result at task t, which will be used as the initial point for the next task $t + 1$ at each time $t + 1$. The initial model parameter of task 1 is set to be 0, i.e., $w_0 = 0$. The training loss for task t is defined by meansquared-error (MSE). We focus on the over-parameterized case, i.e., $p > n_t + M_t$. It is known that the convergence point of stochastic gradient descent (SGD) for MSE is the feasible point closest to the initial point with respect to the ℓ_2 -norm, i.e., the minimum-norm solution.

212 213 Concurrent replay. We first introduce the popular concurrent replay strategy as follows. At each task $t \geq 2$, we apply SGD on the current data set and the memory dataset jointly to update the

214

167

²¹⁵ ¹We note that without the assumption of $\frac{M}{t-1} \in \mathbb{Z}$, memory can still be allocated as equally as possible, resulting in only a minor error. Our theoretical results remain of referential significance.

Figure 1: An illustration of concurrent replay and sequential replay.

model parameter. Specifically, as illustrated in Figure [1,](#page-4-0) at time t , we minimize the MSE loss via SGD on the combined dataset $D_t \bigcup \mathcal{M}_t$ with the initial point w_{t-1} and obtain the convergent point w_t , which can be written as

$$
\boldsymbol{w}_t = \arg\min_{\boldsymbol{w}} \|\boldsymbol{w} - \boldsymbol{w}_{t-1}\|^2 \quad s.t. \ \ \boldsymbol{X}_t^\top \boldsymbol{w} = \boldsymbol{Y}_t, \ \ \widetilde{\boldsymbol{X}}_{t,i}^\top \boldsymbol{w} = \widetilde{\boldsymbol{Y}}_{t,i}, \ \ \text{for all} \ \ i \in [t-1]. \tag{7}
$$

234 235 236 237 238 239 Novel sequential replay. In scenarios where previous tasks are very different from the current task, concurrent replay may result in contradicting gradient update directions, and can hurt the knowledge transfer among tasks. Consequently, concurrent replay may not always perform well. This motivate us to propose a replay strategy that sequentially replay history tasks one by one after training the current task, analogously to the way how a student reviews previously learned topics to avoid forgetting before exams.

240 241 242 243 244 245 246 To formally describe the training (see Figure [1](#page-4-0) for an illustration), at each task $t \geq 2$, we first train on the current dataset \mathcal{D}_t to learn the new task and converge to the initial stopping point $\bm{w}_t^{(0)}$. Then, for $i = 1, 2, ..., t - 1$, we start from the previous stopping point $\boldsymbol{w}_t^{(i-1)}$ and train on the memory dataset $\mathcal{M}_{t,i}$ to converge to the next stopping point. Eventually, w_t is obtained after revisiting all memory sets, i.e., $w_t = w_t^{(t-1)}$. We define $\widetilde{X}_{t,0} := X_t$, $\widetilde{Y}_{t,0} := Y_t$ and $w_t^{(-1)} := w_{t-1}$. Then, the training process is equivalent to solve the following optimization problems recursively for $k = 0, 1, ..., t-1$:

$$
\boldsymbol{w}_t^{(k)} = \arg\min_{\boldsymbol{w}} \left\| \boldsymbol{w} - \boldsymbol{w}_t^{(k-1)} \right\|^2 \quad s.t. \ \widetilde{\boldsymbol{X}}_{t,i}^{\top} \boldsymbol{w} = \widetilde{\boldsymbol{Y}}_{t,i}.
$$
 (8)

248 249 250

251 252 253

255

247

5 MAIN RESULTS

254 256 The main theoretical results in this work consist of two parts. First, we derive closed forms of the expected value of forgetting and generalization error for both concurrent and sequential replay methods. Second, based on those closed forms, we compare the performance of these two replaybased schemes, concluding that sequential replay outperforms concurrent replay when tasks are more dissimilar.

5.1 CHARACTERIZATION OF FORGETTING AND GENERALIZATION ERROR

In replay-based CL methods, the interference among tasks throughout the entire training process is highly intricate, primarily due to the presence of the memory dataset. This introduces an unavoidable challenge in understanding the impact of memory on the performance of replay-based methods. In the following theorem, we first present a common performance structure shared by both concurrent replay and sequential replay methods. The specific forms of the coefficients in the performance expressions will be provided later.

Theorem 1. *Under the problem setups considered in this work, the expected value of the forgetting and the generalization error at time* $T \geq 2$ *in both replay-based methods take the following forms.*

$$
F_T = \frac{1}{T-1} \left[\sum_{i=1}^{T-1} c_i ||\mathbf{w}_i^*||^2 + \sum_{i=1}^{T-1} \sum_{j,k \leq T-1} c_{ijk} ||\mathbf{w}_j^* - \mathbf{w}_k^*||^2 + \sum_{i=1}^{T-1} (noise_T(\sigma) - noise_i(\sigma)) \right],
$$

$$
{}^{270}_{272} \t G_T = \frac{1}{T} \left[d_{0T} \sum_{i=1}^T \left\| \boldsymbol{w}_i^* \right\|^2 + \sum_{i=1}^T \sum_{j,k \le T} d_{ijkT} \left\| \boldsymbol{w}_j^* - \boldsymbol{w}_k^* \right\|^2 \right] + noise_T(\sigma), \tag{9}
$$

274 275 *where the coefficients are provided in Propositions [1](#page-5-0) and [2,](#page-5-1) respectively, for concurrent and sequential replay methods.*

276 277 278 279 280 281 282 283 284 Theorem [1](#page-4-1) indicates that since both concurrent and sequential methods are replay-based, they share the same high-level performance dependence on the system parameters. It can be seen that both of their forgetting and generalization error consist of the following three components. The first component exhibits the form of $C||w_i^*||^2$ for some constant C. This component arises from the error associated with linear regression and is independent of the influence of other tasks. The second component captures the impact of task dissimilarities, representing the interference among different tasks during the training process. Extracting central information from this component is particularly useful for understanding how task dissimilarity affects the comparison between the two replay-based methods, which is the focus of Section [5.2.](#page-6-0) The third part captures the impact of the noise level.

285 286 287 288 In order to facilitate the comparison between the two replay-based methods, in the following two propositions, we provide the exact expressions for the coefficients in Theorem [1.](#page-4-1) We first provide the coefficients determining the generalization error as follows. To clarify, we note that the following proposition holds for all $t \in [T]$.

289 290 Proposition 1. *Under the problem setups considered in this work, the coefficients that express the expected value of generalization error* G_t *take the following forms.*

291 292 293 300 d *(concurrent)* ⁰^t = r0r t−1 ^M , d*(sequential)* ⁰^t = r0∆(t − 1) d *(concurrent)* ijkt = (1 − r0)r t−j−1 ^M + Pt−j−¹ ^l=0 r l ^MB^l + Pt−² l=0 pr^l MB² l ^p−n−M−¹ + r t−k ^M nB^l p−n−M−1 *if* j ∈ [t − 1], k = i (1 − r0) + ^r t−k ^M nB^l p−n−M−1 *if* j = t, k = i Pt−² l=0 pr^l MB² l p−n−M−1 *if* j < k *and* j, k ̸= i, t r t−k ^M nB^l p−n−M−1 *if* j < k *and* j, k ̸= i d *(sequential)* ijkt = (1 − r0)∆(t − 1) + Pt−² ^l=0 ∆(l)(1 − Bl) ^t−l−2B^l *if* j = 1, k = i (1 − r0)(1 − Bt−^j) ^j−1∆(t − j) *if* j = 2, 3, ..., t − 1, + Pt−j−¹ ^l=0 ∆(l)(1 − Bl) ^t−l−2B^l *and* k = i (1 − r0)(1 − B0) t−1 *if* j = t, k = i

$$
noise_t^{(concurrent)}(\sigma) = r_0 r_M^{t-1} \Lambda(n, \sigma) + \sum_{l=0}^{t-2} r_M^l \Lambda(n + M, \sigma),
$$

$$
noise_t^{(sequential)}(\sigma) = \sum_{l=0}^{t-2} \Delta(l) \left[\sum_{l=1}^{t-1} (1 - B_0)^{t-l-1} \Lambda(\frac{M}{t-1}, \sigma) + (1 - B_0)^{t-1} \Lambda(n, \sigma) \right].
$$

310 where
$$
r_a := \left(1 - \frac{n+a}{p}\right), B_l := \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p}, \Delta(a) = \prod_{l=0}^{a-1} \left[(1-B_l)^{t-l-1} r_0 \right], \Lambda(a, \sigma) = \frac{a\sigma^2}{p-a-1}.
$$

313 314 By substituting $t = T$, we obtain the expressions of coefficients in Theorem [1.](#page-4-1) We provide the coefficients determining the forgetting in the following proposition.

315 316 Proposition 2. *Under the problem setups considered in this work, the coefficients that express the expected value of forgetting in Theorem [1](#page-4-1) take the following forms:*

$$
c_i = d_{0T} - d_{0i} \quad \text{and} \quad c_{ijk} = d_{ijkT} - d_{ijki},
$$

319 320 *where* d_{0t} *and* $d_{i jkt}$ *are defined in Proposition [1.](#page-5-0)*

311

317 318

321 322 323 The above two propositions will be useful in Section [5.2](#page-6-0) to compare between concurrent and sequential replay methods. Here, we first draw some basic insights from these expressions. (i) It is straightforward to verify that by letting $M = 0$, both training methods yield the same result, which is consistent with the memoryless case shown by [Lin et al.](#page-11-3) [\(2023\)](#page-11-3). (ii) We can also observe that low

 $G_2 = \frac{1}{2}$

324 325 326 327 task similarity negatively impacts model generalization, as d_{ijkT} are non-negative. (iii) We observe that the expected value of both forgetting and generalization error approach to 0 when $p \to \infty$. This implies that a model with substantial capacity (i.e., when p is sufficiently large) will facilitate effective learning for each task, which can also alleviate the negative impact of task dissimilarity.

328 329

330

5.2 COMPARISON BETWEEN CONCURRENT REPLAY AND SEQUENTIAL REPLAY

331 332 333 334 335 336 The main challenge to compare the performance between the two replay-based methods lies in the complexity of the second term, which captures how the task similarity as well as memory data affect the performance. Here the task similarity is characterized by the distance between the true parameters for two tasks. In this section, we will first study a simple case with two tasks, i.e., when $T = 2$, to build our intuition, and then extend to the case with general T based on the central insight obtained in the simple case.

337 338 Two-task Case $(T = 2)$: Following Theorem [1,](#page-4-1) the performance of both replay methods shares the following common form:

$$
F_2=\hat{c}_1\left\|\boldsymbol{w}_1^*\right\|^2+\hat{c}_2\left\|\boldsymbol{w}_1^*-\boldsymbol{w}_2^*\right\|^2+\mathrm{noise}_2(\sigma)-\mathrm{noise}_1(\sigma),
$$

339 340

341

346

348

$$
G_2 = \frac{1}{2} \hat{d}_1 (\|\boldsymbol{w}_1^*\|^2 + \|\boldsymbol{w}_2^*\|^2) + \frac{1}{2} \hat{d}_2 \|\boldsymbol{w}_1^* - \boldsymbol{w}_2^*\|^2 + \text{noise}_2(\sigma),
$$
\nwhere $\hat{c}_1, \hat{c}_2, \hat{d}_1, \hat{d}_2$ are some constants. The specific forms of the coefficients in the above equation are provided in Appendix C. We take the forgetting as an example to analyze the comparison between the two methods. Based on the expressions, it can be observed that $\hat{c}_1^{\text{(concurrent)}} < \hat{c}_1^{\text{(sequential)}}$ and $\hat{c}_2^{\text{(concurrent)}} > \hat{c}_2^{\text{(sequential)}}$. Thus, at the high level, the task dissimilarity is sufficiently large (i.e., tasks are very different), then c_2 will dominant the forgetting performance, and hence sequential replay will have less forgetting than concurrent replay (because $\hat{c}_2^{\text{(concurrent)}} > \hat{c}_2^{\text{(sequential)}}$). Alternatively, if the tasks are very similar and the noise is small, then c_1 will dominate the performance, and concurrent replay will yield less forgetting. Similar observations can be made for the generalization error by noting that $\hat{d}_1^{\text{(concurrent)}} < \hat{d}_1^{\text{(sequence(intra))}}$ and $\hat{d}_2^{\text{(concurrent)}} > \hat{d}_2^{\text{(sequential)}}$. The following theorem formally establishes our high-level observations.

353 354 Theorem 2. *Under the problems setups considered in the work, under the positive constants* ξ1, ξ2, µ1, µ² *with detailed forms given in Appendix [C,](#page-28-0) we have*

$$
F_2^{(concurrent)} > F_2^{(sequential)} \quad \text{if and only if} \quad \xi_1 \|w_1^* - w_2^*\|^2 + \xi_2 \sigma^2 > \|w_1^*\|^2,
$$

$$
G_2^{(concurrent)} > G_2^{(sequential)} \quad \text{if and only if} \quad \mu_1 \|w_1^* - w_2^*\|^2 + \mu_2 \sigma^2 > \|w_1^*\|^2.
$$

360 361

363

355

362 Theorem [2](#page-6-1) provably establishes an intriguing fact that the widely used concurrent replay may not always perform better, and sequential replay can perform better when tasks are more different from each other. We further elaborate our comparison between the two methods for the case with $T = 2$ in Appendix [C](#page-28-0) (where the impact of noise is also considered) and with $T = 3$ in Appendix [D\)](#page-30-0). The insights obtained from Theorem [2](#page-6-1) can also be extended to the general case as follows.

364 365 366 367 368 369 370 371 372 373 374 375 376 377 General Case ($T \geq 2$): Comparing the performance in two replay methods provided in Theorem [1](#page-4-1) under general T is significantly more challenging, because the mathematical expression of the coefficients become highly complex. However, our insights obtained from the two-task case can still be useful, i.e., sequential replay tends to performance better when tasks are very different. To see this, we consider the expected value of the forgetting and the generalization error on an individual prior task i, which is $\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{L}_i(\boldsymbol{w}_t)] - \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{L}_i(\boldsymbol{w}_i)]$ and $\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{L}_i(\boldsymbol{w}_t)]$ respectively. We observe the facts similar to the case with $T = 2$. Specifically, it can be shown that the coefficients presented in The-orem [1](#page-4-1) satisfy $c_{ijk}^{(concurrent)} > c_{ijk}^{(sequential)}$ and $d_{ijkT}^{(concurrent)} > d_{ijkT}^{(sequential)}$, whereas $c_i^{(concurrent)} < c_i^{(sequential)}$ and $d_{0T}^{(concurrent)} < d_{0T}^{(sequential)}$ for general T under certain conditions. These observations suggest that if the tasks are all very different from each other, then sequential replay will have smaller forgetting and generalization error than concurrent replay because $c_{ijk}^{(concurrent)} > c_{ijk}^{(sequential)}$ and $d_{ijkT}^{(concurrent)} > d_{ijkT}^{(sequential)}$ will dominate the comparison. While it is challenging to provide an exact closed-form characterization of the conditions under which sequential replay outperforms concurrent replay, the following theorem presents an example setting where sequential replay outperforms concurrent replay, based on the understanding outlined above.

378 379 380 Theorem 3. Under the problem setups in this work, suppose the ground truth w_i^* is orthonormal to *each other for* $i \in [T]$, $\tilde{M} \geq 2$, and $\tilde{p} = \mathcal{O}(T^4 n^2 M^2)$. Then we have:

 $F_T^{(concurrent)} > F_T^{(sequential)}$ and $G_T^{(concurrent)} > G_T^{(sequential)}$.

383 384 385 386 387 388 389 390 391 392 393 In Theorem [3,](#page-6-2) orthonormal w_i^* is an extreme case to have very different tasks. Typically, since the forgetting and generalization error are continuous functions of the task dissimilarity, we expect that in the regime that the tasks are highly different, sequential replay will still be advantageous to enjoy less forgetting and smaller generalization error, and such an advantage should be more apparent as tasks become more dissimilar. To explain this, we consider the generalization error as an example. Assuming that the norm of ground truth is fixed, a higher level of task dissimilarities exacerbates the generalization error since each coefficient d_{ijkT} is positive for both training methods. However, a weaker dependence on task similarities indicates that the generalization error of sequential replay grows slower than concurrent replay as tasks become more dissimilar, resulting advantage for sequential replay to enjoy smaller generalization error. A similar reason is applicable to the forgetting performance, although it is important to note that c_{ijk} is not always positive. These facts are further verified by our numerical simulation in Section [6.1.](#page-7-0)

394 395 396 397 398 399 Remark. It is clear that the order in which old tasks are replayed after current task learning is very important under the framework of sequential replay, which affects both forgetting and generalization errors. Needless to say, the sequential order considered in this work, where tasks are reviewed from the oldest to the newest, is not necessarily the optimal strategy for sequential replay, where however has already demonstrated exciting advantages over concurrent replay. How to design an effective replay order to achieve better performance is a very interesting yet challenging future direction.

400

381 382

401 402

6 EXPERIMENTAL STUDIES AND IMPLICATIONS ON PRACTICAL CL

In this section, we first conduct experiments on linear models to verify our theoretical results. Next, and also more interestingly, we show that our theoretical results can guide the algorithm design of CL in practice, where a novel replay-based CL algorithm is proposed and evaluated with DNNs.

6.1 SIMULATION ON LINEAR REGRESSION MODELS

409 410 411 412 413 414 415 416 Following our theoretical investigation, we consider the CL setup where each task is a linear regression problem, and set $T = 5$, $p = 500$, $n = 24$, $\sigma = 0$, $M = 24$. We construct several sets of ground truth on the unit sphere defined by $||\mathbf{w}_j^*||^2 = 1$, with consistent task similarity, i.e., $||\mathbf{w}_j^* - \mathbf{w}_i^*||^2$ is constant and same for any two tasks with $j \neq i$. The comparisons between theoretical results and simulation results are shown in Figure [2](#page-8-0) in terms of both forgetting and generalization error. Here the theoretical results are calculated using eqs. [\(33\)](#page-25-0) to [\(36\)](#page-28-1). For the simulation results, we evaluate the forgetting and generalization error based on the solutions after solving each task, and calculate the empirical expectation over 10^3 iterations.

417 418 419 420 421 422 423 Several important insights can be immediately obtained from Figure [2:](#page-8-0) 1) Our theoretical results exactly match with our simulation results, which can clearly corroborate the correctness of our theory. 2) When tasks are similar, i.e., the task gap $||w_j^* - w_i^*||^2$ is small than some threshold, concurrent replay is better than sequential replay. However, when tasks become dissimilar, sequential replay starts to outperform concurrent replay in terms of both forgetting and generalization error. And the advantage of sequential replay becomes more significant as the task gap increases, which also aligns with our theoretical results.

424 425

6.2 A NEW ALGORITHM DESIGN FOR CL IN PRACTICE

426 427 428 429 430 431 Our theoretical results not only rigorously characterize replay-based CL in overparameterized linear models, but also shed light on the algorithm design for practical CL with real datasets and DNNs. As our theory suggests that sequential replay can benefit CL more than concurrent replay when tasks are dissimilar, an interesting idea and a potential way to improve the performance is to merge sequential replay into replayed-based CL with concurrent replay. Thus inspired, we propose a novel hybrid replay framework, which adapts between concurrent replay and sequential replay for each task based on its similarity with old tasks in the memory. More specifically, before learning a new

474 475 476 477 478 479 480 481 482 483 484 485 CL setup using the real-world dataset CIFAR-100 [\(Krizhevsky et al., 2009\)](#page-10-14). where each task a multi-class classification problem. Following recent work [\(Van de Ven et al., 2022\)](#page-11-17), we randomly split the CIFAR-100 dataset into ten tasks $\{\mathcal{T}_0, \ldots, \mathcal{T}_9\}$, each containing ten distinct classes, later referred as Split-CIFAR-100. The objective for each task \mathcal{T}_t is to classify between its ten classes $\{Y_{t,0}, \ldots, Y_{t,9}\}$ with the task label t explicitly provided during training and testing. We use ResNet18 as our base model to learn each task sequentially, where each task has a unique classification layer. It is clear that how to determine the task similarity is critical for implementing the hybrid replay. Since the similarity pattern is not clear and complex among the real-life images in Split-CIFAR-100, we manually control the task similarity in a heuristic manner by introducing image corruption into the tasks. In particular, to understand the benefit of the hybrid replay in a clean manner, we consider the following specific training comparison between two schemes: 1) Concurrent replay is applied on all ten tasks; 2) Hybrid replay is applied on task \mathcal{T}_5 , while concurrent replay is applied on the remaining tasks. In this way, concurrent replay on tasks $\mathcal{T}_t, t \in \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4\}$ can

486 487 488 489 490 491 Table 1: Accuracy (ACC , the larger the better) and Backward Transfer (BWT , the larger the better) of different training methods (concurrent replay vs. hybrid replay) on CIFAR-100 with varying number of corrupted tasks. "1 Corruption", for example, indicates that data corruption was applied to 1 out of 10 tasks, making it more dissimilar than others. "Improvement" shows the ACC overhead that Hybrid Replay achieves over Concurrent Replay under the same setup. All results are averaged over 10 independent runs.

498 499 500

501 502 503

504

be thought as a warm-up training strategy for both schemes. For tasks $\mathcal{T}_t, t \in \{6, 7, 8, 9\}$, concurrent replay is applied to isolate the effect of hybrid replay on Task \mathcal{T}_5 and for simplicity. More training details and specifications for image corruption are listed in Appendix [G.](#page-44-0)

505 506 507 508 509 510 To evaluate the performance, following the standard in practical CL and also being consistent with our theoretical investigation, we consider both average accuracy and forgetting. More specifically, the model's average *Accuracy* across all seen tasks is denoted ACC, which captures the generalization error. The forgetting, or backward transfer, is defined as $BWT = \frac{2}{T(T-1)} \sum_{k=2}^{T} \sum_{t=1}^{k-1} (a_{k,t} - a_{k,t})$ $a_{t,t}$) [\(Lesort et al., 2020\)](#page-10-15) where $a_{k,t}$ represents the testing accuracy on task t after training task k.

511 512 513 514 515 516 517 518 519 520 521 As shown in Table [1,](#page-9-0) hybrid replay outperforms concurrent replay on Split-CIFAR-100 (i.e., Original Dataset), in terms of both average accuracy and forgetting. Moreover, we control the similarity by using the number of corrupted tasks (i.e., task with corrupted images) in the task sequence. In particular, we consider three different scenarios, '1 Corruption' with 1 corrupted task, '2 Corruption' with 2 corrupted tasks, and '3 Corruption' with 3 corrupted tasks. Intuitively, the tasks are more dissimilar when more tasks are corrupted. It can be seen from Table [1](#page-9-0) that hybrid replay consistently outperforms concurrent replay, and more importantly, the performance improvement becomes more significant as tasks are more dissimilar. These results further justify the correctness and usefulness of our theoretical results. It is worth to note that the performance of hybrid replay has not been optimized in terms of the replay order and selection of similar tasks, which may further improve the effectiveness of sequential replay. This encouraging result highlights the great potentials of exploiting sequential replay in improving the performance of replay-based CL.

522 523

7 CONCLUSION

525 526

524

527 528 529 530 531 532 533 534 535 536 537 538 539 In this work, we took a closer look at the replay strategy in replay-based CL and questioned the effectiveness of the widely used training technique, i.e., concurrent replay, as inspired by human learning. In particular, we proposed a novel replay strategy, namely sequential replay, which replays old tasks in the memory sequentially after current task learning. By leveraging overparameterized linear models with equal memory allocation, we provided the first explicit expressions of the expected value of both forgetting and generalization errors under two replay methods, concurrent replay and sequential replay. Comparisons between their theoretical performance led to the insight that sequential replay outperforms concurrent replay in terms of forgetting and generalization error when the tasks are less similar, which is consistent with our motivations from human learning and multitask learning. Our simulation results on linear models further corroborated the correctness of our theoretical results. More importantly, based on our theory, we proposed a novel hybrid replay framework for practical CL and experiments on CIFAR100 with DNNs verified the superior performance of this framework over concurrent replay. To the best of our knowledge, our work provides the first comprehensive theoretical study on replay for replay-based CL, which will hopefully motivate more principled designs for better replay-based CL.

540 541 REFERENCES

547

552

561 562 563

569

576

589

591

542 543 544 Mohammadamin Banayeeanzade, Mahdi Soltanolkotabi, and Mohammad Rostami. Theoretical insights into overparameterized models in multi-task and replay-based continual learning. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2408.16939*, 2024.

- **545 546** Mehdi Abbana Bennani, Thang Doan, and Masashi Sugiyama. Generalisation guarantees for continual learning with orthogonal gradient descent. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2006.11942*, 2020.
- **548 549** Xinyuan Cao, Weiyang Liu, and Santosh S Vempala. Provable lifelong learning of representations. In *AISTATS*, 2022.
- **550 551** Arslan Chaudhry, Marc'Aurelio Ranzato, Marcus Rohrbach, and Mohamed Elhoseiny. Efficient lifelong learning with a-gem. In *International Conference on Learning Representations*, 2018.
- **553 554** Aristotelis Chrysakis and Marie-Francine Moens. Online continual learning from imbalanced data. In *International Conference on Machine Learning*, pp. 1952–1961. PMLR, 2020.
- **555 556 557** Meng Ding, Kaiyi Ji, Di Wang, and Jinhui Xu. Understanding forgetting in continual learning with linear regression. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2405.17583*, 2024.
- **558 559 560** Thang Doan, Mehdi Abbana Bennani, Bogdan Mazoure, Guillaume Rabusseau, and Pierre Alquier. A theoretical analysis of catastrophic forgetting through the ntk overlap matrix. In *International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics*, pp. 1072–1080. PMLR, 2021.
	- P Dokania, P Torr, and M Ranzato. Continual learning with tiny episodic memories. In *Workshop on Multi-Task and Lifelong Reinforcement Learning*, 2019.
- **564 565 566** Itay Evron, Edward Moroshko, Rachel Ward, Nathan Srebro, and Daniel Soudry. How catastrophic can catastrophic forgetting be in linear regression? In *Conference on Learning Theory*, pp. 4028– 4079. PMLR, 2022.
- **567 568** Itay Evron, Edward Moroshko, Gon Buzaglo, Maroun Khriesh, Badea Marjieh, Nathan Srebro, and Daniel Soudry. Continual learning in linear classification on separable data, 2023.
- **570 571 572** Itay Evron, Daniel Goldfarb, Nir Weinberger, Daniel Soudry, and Paul Hand. The joint effect of task similarity and overparameterization on catastrophic forgetting–an analytical model. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2401.12617*, 2024.
- **573 574 575** Saurabh Garg, Mehrdad Farajtabar, Hadi Pouransari, Raviteja Vemulapalli, Sachin Mehta, Oncel Tuzel, Vaishaal Shankar, and Fartash Faghri. Tic-clip: Continual training of clip models. In *The Twelfth International Conference on Learning Representations*, 2024.
- **577 578 579** Daniel Goldfarb and Paul Hand. Analysis of catastrophic forgetting for random orthogonal transformation tasks in the overparameterized regime. In *International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics*, pp. 2975–2993. PMLR, 2023.
	- Yiduo Guo, Bing Liu, and Dongyan Zhao. Online continual learning through mutual information maximization. In *International conference on machine learning*, pp. 8109–8126. PMLR, 2022.
	- Peizhong Ju, Yingbin Liang, and Ness B Shroff. Theoretical characterization of the generalization performance of overfitted meta-learning. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2304.04312*, 2023.
- **585 586 587 588** James Kirkpatrick, Razvan Pascanu, Neil Rabinowitz, Joel Veness, Guillaume Desjardins, Andrei A Rusu, Kieran Milan, John Quan, Tiago Ramalho, Agnieszka Grabska-Barwinska, et al. Overcoming catastrophic forgetting in neural networks. *Proceedings of the national academy of sciences*, 114(13):3521–3526, 2017.
- **590** Alex Krizhevsky, Geoffrey Hinton, et al. Learning multiple layers of features from tiny images. Technical report, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, Canada, 2009.
- **592 593** Timothee Lesort, Vincenzo Lomonaco, Andrei Stoian, Davide Maltoni, David Filliat, and Natalia ´ Díaz-Rodríguez. Continual learning for robotics: Definition, framework, learning strategies, opportunities and challenges. *Information fusion*, 58:52–68, 2020.
- **594 595 596** Hongbo Li, Sen Lin, Lingjie Duan, Yingbin Liang, and Ness B Shroff. Theory on mixture-of-experts in continual learning. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2406.16437*, 2024.
- **597 598** Yingcong Li, Mingchen Li, M Salman Asif, and Samet Oymak. Provable and efficient continual representation learning. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2203.02026*, 2022.
- **599 600 601** Sen Lin, Li Yang, Deliang Fan, and Junshan Zhang. Trgp: Trust region gradient projection for continual learning. *Tenth International Conference on Learning Representations, ICLR 2022*, 2022.
- **603 604 605** Sen Lin, Peizhong Ju, Yingbin Liang, and Ness Shroff. Theory on forgetting and generalization of continual learning. In *International Conference on Machine Learning*, pp. 21078–21100. PMLR, 2023.
- **606 607** David Lopez-Paz and Marc'Aurelio Ranzato. Gradient episodic memory for continual learning. *Advances in neural information processing systems*, 30, 2017.
- **609 610 611** Simone Magistri, Tomaso Trinci, Albin Soutif, Joost van de Weijer, and Andrew D Bagdanov. Elastic feature consolidation for cold start exemplar-free incremental learning. In *The Twelfth International Conference on Learning Representations*, 2024.
- **612 613** German I Parisi, Ronald Kemker, Jose L Part, Christopher Kanan, and Stefan Wermter. Continual lifelong learning with neural networks: A review. *Neural networks*, 113:54–71, 2019.
- **615 616 617** Sylvestre-Alvise Rebuffi, Alexander Kolesnikov, Georg Sperl, and Christoph H Lampert. icarl: Incremental classifier and representation learning. In *Proceedings of the IEEE conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition*, pp. 2001–2010, 2017.
- **618 619** David Rolnick, Arun Ahuja, Jonathan Schwarz, Timothy Lillicrap, and Gregory Wayne. Experience replay for continual learning. *Advances in neural information processing systems*, 32, 2019.
- **620 621 622 623** Andrei A Rusu, Neil C Rabinowitz, Guillaume Desjardins, Hubert Soyer, James Kirkpatrick, Koray Kavukcuoglu, Razvan Pascanu, and Raia Hadsell. Progressive neural networks. *arXiv preprint arXiv:1606.04671*, 2016.
- **624 625 626** Grzegorz Rypeść, Sebastian Cygert, Valeriya Khan, Tomasz Trzcinski, Bartosz Michał Zieliński, and Bartłomiej Twardowski. Divide and not forget: Ensemble of selectively trained experts in continual learning. In *The Twelfth International Conference on Learning Representations*, 2024.
- **627 628 629** Gobinda Saha, Isha Garg, and Kaushik Roy. Gradient projection memory for continual learning. In *International Conference on Learning Representations*, 2021.
	- Hanul Shin, Jung Kwon Lee, Jaehong Kim, and Jiwon Kim. Continual learning with deep generative replay. *Advances in neural information processing systems*, 30, 2017.
- **632 633 634** Shengyang Sun, Daniele Calandriello, Huiyi Hu, Ang Li, and Michalis Titsias. Informationtheoretic online memory selection for continual learning. In *International Conference on Learning Representations*, 2022.
- **636 637** Gido M Van de Ven, Tinne Tuytelaars, and Andreas S Tolias. Three types of incremental learning. *Nature Machine Intelligence*, 4(12):1185–1197, 2022.
- **638 639 640** Dong Yin, Mehrdad Farajtabar, Ang Li, Nir Levine, and Alex Mott. Optimization and generalization of regularization-based continual learning: a loss approximation viewpoint. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2006.10974*, 2020.
- **642 643 644** Tianhe Yu, Saurabh Kumar, Abhishek Gupta, Sergey Levine, Karol Hausman, and Chelsea Finn. Gradient surgery for multi-task learning. *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*, 33:5824–5836, 2020.
- **645 646** Xuyang Zhao, Huiyuan Wang, Weiran Huang, and Wei Lin. A statistical theory of regularizationbased continual learning. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2406.06213*, 2024.

602

608

614

630 631

635

641

Supplementary Materials

A SUPPORTING LEMMAS

Recall that $P_X = X(X^{\top}X)^{-1}X^{\top}$ and $X^{\dagger} = X(X^{\top}X)^{-1}$. We first provide some useful lemmas for the derivation of forgetting and generalization error. In the following lemma, we provide the expression of the SGD convergence point when training on a single task.

Lemma 1. Suppose $X \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times n}$ and $Y \in \mathbb{R}^n$, where $Y = X^\top w^* + z$. Consider the optimization *problem:*

$$
\boldsymbol{w}_{out} = \arg\min_{\boldsymbol{w}} \|\boldsymbol{w} - \boldsymbol{w}_{in}\|_2^2
$$

s.t. $\boldsymbol{X}^\top \boldsymbol{w} = \boldsymbol{Y}$.

The solution of the above problem can be written as:

$$
\boldsymbol{w}_{out} = \boldsymbol{w}_{in} + \boldsymbol{X}^{\dagger}(\boldsymbol{Y} - \boldsymbol{X}^{\top}\boldsymbol{w}_{in}),
$$

or equivalently,

$$
\boldsymbol{w}_{out} = (\boldsymbol{I} - P_{\boldsymbol{X}})\boldsymbol{w}_{in} + P_{\boldsymbol{X}}\boldsymbol{w}^* + \boldsymbol{X}^\dagger \boldsymbol{z}.
$$

Proof. The proof follows from Lemma B.1 in [Lin et al.](#page-11-3) [\(2023\)](#page-11-3).

Lemma 2. Suppose each element of the random matrix $X \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times n}$ follows from the standard distribution $\mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ independently and $v \in \mathbb{R}^p$ is a vector, then we have:

$$
\mathbb{E} \|P_{\mathbf{X}}v\|^2 = \frac{n}{p} \|v\|^2.
$$

675 *Proof.* The detailed proof refers to Proposition 3 in [Ju et al.](#page-10-16) [\(2023\)](#page-10-16).

676 679 Lemma 3. Suppose each element of the random matrix $X \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times n}$ follows from the standard distribution $\mathcal{N}(0,1)$ independently. Also, $z\in\mathbb{R}^n$ is a vector and it follows from $\mathcal{N}(0,\sigma^2\bm{I}_n)$ inde*pendently. Then, we have:*

$$
\mathbb{E} \left\| \boldsymbol{X}^{\dagger} \boldsymbol{z} \right\|^{2} = \frac{n \sigma^{2}}{p-n-1}.
$$

Proof. The proof follows Lemma B.2 in [Lin et al.](#page-11-3) [\(2023\)](#page-11-3). We apply the "trace trick" to have:

where (i) follows from the independence between X and z , (ii) follows from the fact that $\mathbb{E}\left[zz^{\top}\right] = \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}_n$ and (iii) follows from the fact that $\left(\boldsymbol{X}^{\top} \boldsymbol{X}\right)^{-1} \sim \mathcal{W}^{-1}(\mathbf{I}_n, p)$. \Box

Lemma 4. For any vector $v_1, v_2 \in \mathbb{R}^p$, we have:

698
\n699
\n700
\n
$$
\langle (\mathbf{I} - P_{\mathbf{X}}) \mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{X}^\dagger \mathbf{v}_2 \rangle = 0,
$$
\n
$$
\langle (\mathbf{I} - P_{\mathbf{X}}) \mathbf{v}_1, P_{\mathbf{X}} \mathbf{v}_2 \rangle = 0.
$$

Proof. The proof follows from the definition of P_X and X^{\dagger} straightforward.

 \Box

 \Box

 \Box

671 672 673

674

677 678

680 681 682

701

702 703 704 Now, we provide useful lemmas in proving the expected model value of model errors in the concurrent replay method.

705 706 707 708 Lemma 5. Suppose $P \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times p}$ is a projection matrix and $v \in \mathbb{R}^p$ is a random vector with i.i.d. standard Gaussian elements, then \overline{Pv} and $(I - P)v$ are independent. Moreover, if $V \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times m}$ *is a random matrix with i.i.d. standard Gaussian elements, then we have PV and* $(I - P)V$ *are independent*

709 710 711 712 713 714 715 *Proof.* We prove the vector case in two steps. First, we prove that Pv and $(I - P)v$ are jointly Gaussian. Next, we prove that they are uncorrelated. By combining these two facts, we can conclude that Pv and $(I - P)v$ are independent. To prove Pv and $(I - P)v$ are jointly Gaussian, we concatenate them to form a random vector $z = \begin{bmatrix} Pv \\ (I - I) \end{bmatrix}$ $(\boldsymbol{I}-P)\boldsymbol{v}$. For any $w = \begin{bmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \end{bmatrix}$ \boldsymbol{w}_2 $\Big]$, where $w_1, w_2 \in$ \mathbb{R}^p , we can see that the linear combination of its elements $w^\top z = (w_1^\top P + w_2^\top (I - P))v$ is still Gaussian. To prove they are uncorrelated, we have:

$$
Cov(Pv, (\boldsymbol{I} - P)v) = \mathbb{E}\left[Pv((\boldsymbol{I} - P)v)\right]^{\top}
$$

$$
= P\mathbb{E}(vv^{\top})(\boldsymbol{I} - P)
$$

$$
\stackrel{(i)}{=} P(\boldsymbol{I} - P)
$$

where (i) follows from the fact that v has i.i.d. standard Gaussian elements. Now, for the matrix **722** case, we can equivalently consider the vector $\hat{v} \in \mathbb{R}^{pm}$ which is formed by concatenating all the **723** columns of V and the projection matrix $\hat{P} = \text{diag}([P, P, ..., P]) \in \mathbb{R}^{pm \times pm}$. **724** \Box

 $= 0,$

Lemma 6. Suppose $X \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times n}$ is a random matrix with i.i.d. standard Gaussian elements and $v \in \mathbb{R}^p$ is a fixed vector, then we have:

$$
\mathbb{E}\left[\boldsymbol{X}^{\top}vv^{\top}\boldsymbol{X}\right]=\left\Vert v\right\Vert ^{2}\cdot\boldsymbol{I}.
$$

Proof. To clarify, we denote $X = [x_1, ..., x_n]$, where x_i is the *i*th column of X. We also denote $[\cdot]_{i,j}$ as the element of i^{th} row and j^{th} column of a matrix. Then we have:

$$
\left[\mathbb{E}\left[\boldsymbol{X}^{\top}\boldsymbol{v}\boldsymbol{v}^{\top}\boldsymbol{X}\right]\right]_{i,j} = \text{cov}(\boldsymbol{v}^{\top}\boldsymbol{x}_{i}, \boldsymbol{v}^{\top}\boldsymbol{x}_{j}) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i \neq j, \\ \|\boldsymbol{v}\|^{2} & \text{if } i = j. \end{cases}
$$

1

 \Box

Lemma 7. Suppose $X \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times n}$ is a random matrix with i.i.d. standard Gaussian elements and $P \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times p}$ is any projection matrix from p-dimension to d-dimension, then we have:

$$
\operatorname{tr}\left(\mathbb{E}\left[\left(\boldsymbol{X}^{\top}(\boldsymbol{I}-P)\boldsymbol{X}\right)^{-1}\right]\right)=\frac{n}{p-d-n-1}.
$$

Proof. We first note that $(I - P)$ is a projection matrix with $p - d$ many eigenvalues 1 and d many eigenvalues 0. With loss of generalization, we write $(I - P) = U^{\dagger} \Sigma U$ where $\Sigma =$ $diag([1, 1, ..., 1, 0, ..., 0])$ is a diagonal matrix, whose first $p - d$ elements are 1 while others are 0, and U is an orthogonal matrix. Also, we denote $\hat{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{(p-d)\times n}$ as the first $p-d$ rows of X .

$$
\operatorname{tr}\left(\mathbb{E}\left[\left(\boldsymbol{X}^{\top}(\boldsymbol{I}-P)\boldsymbol{X}\right)^{-1}\right]\right) = \operatorname{tr}\left(\mathbb{E}\left[\left(\boldsymbol{X}^{\top}\boldsymbol{U}^{\top}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}\boldsymbol{U}\boldsymbol{X}\right)^{-1}\right]\right) \stackrel{\text{(i)}}{=} \operatorname{tr}\left(\mathbb{E}\left[\left(\boldsymbol{X}^{\top}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}\boldsymbol{X}\right)^{-1}\right]\right) \n= \operatorname{tr}\left(\mathbb{E}\left[\left(\hat{\boldsymbol{X}}^{\top}\hat{\boldsymbol{X}}\right)^{-1}\right]\right) \n\stackrel{\text{(ii)}}{=} \frac{n}{p-d-n-1}
$$

754 where (i) follows from the rotational symmetry of standard Gaussian distribution, (ii) follows from **755** the fact that $\left(\hat{\bm{X}}^\top \hat{\bm{X}}\right)^{-1} \sim \mathcal{W}^{-1}(\bm{I}_n, p-d).$ \Box **756 757 758 Lemma 8.** Suppose $V = [X_1, X_2]$ where $X_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times n_1}$, $X_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times n_2}$ are two random matrices with i.i.d. standard Gaussian elements and $v \in \mathbb{R}^p$ is a fixed vector. Then we have:

$$
\mathbb{E}\left\|\boldsymbol{V}^{\dagger}\begin{bmatrix}\boldsymbol{X}_1^{\top}\\ \boldsymbol{0}\end{bmatrix}\boldsymbol{v}\right\|^2=\frac{n_1}{p}\cdot\left(1+\frac{n_2}{p-n_1-n_2-1}\right)\left\|\boldsymbol{v}\right\|^2
$$

Proof. we consider the block expression of matrix $(V_2^{\top} V_2)^{-1}$. First, we have:

$$
\boldsymbol{V}^\top \boldsymbol{V} = \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{X}_1^\top \\ \boldsymbol{X}_2^\top \end{bmatrix} [\boldsymbol{X}_1 \quad \boldsymbol{X}_2] = \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{X}_1^\top \boldsymbol{X}_1 & \boldsymbol{X}_1^\top \boldsymbol{X}_2 \\ \boldsymbol{X}_2^\top \boldsymbol{X}_1 & \boldsymbol{X}_2^\top \boldsymbol{X}_2 \end{bmatrix}.
$$

766 Now, we partition the matrix $(\boldsymbol{V}^\top \boldsymbol{V})^{-1}$ into four blocks:

$$
(\mathbf{V}_2^{\top} \mathbf{V}_2)^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} A_{1,1} & A_{1,2} \\ A_{2,1} & A_{2,2} \end{bmatrix}
$$

,

 \Box

where

$$
771 \t A_{1,1} = (\mathbf{X}_1^\top \mathbf{X}_1)^{-1} - (\mathbf{X}_1^\top \mathbf{X}_1)^{-1} \mathbf{X}_1^\top \mathbf{X}_2 (\mathbf{X}_2^\top \mathbf{X}_2 - \mathbf{X}_2^\top \mathbf{X}_1 (\mathbf{X}_1^\top \mathbf{X}_1)^{-1} \mathbf{X}_1^\top \mathbf{X}_2)^{-1} \mathbf{X}_2^\top \mathbf{X}_1 (\mathbf{X}_1^\top \mathbf{X}_1)^{-1}
$$

\n
$$
772 \t= P_{\mathbf{X}_1} + P_{\mathbf{X}_1} \mathbf{X}_2 (\mathbf{X}_2^\top (\mathbf{I} - P_{\mathbf{X}_1}) \mathbf{X}_2)^{-1} \mathbf{X}_2^\top P_{\mathbf{X}_1}.
$$

\nTherefore, we have

Therefore, we have

$$
\mathbb{E}\left\|\boldsymbol{V}^{\dagger}\left[\begin{matrix}\boldsymbol{X}_{1}^{\top}\\ \mathbf{0}\end{matrix}\right]\boldsymbol{v}\right\|^{2} = \mathbb{E}\left[\boldsymbol{v}^{\top}\left[P_{\boldsymbol{X}_{1}}+P_{\boldsymbol{X}_{1}}\boldsymbol{X}_{2}\left(\boldsymbol{X}_{2}^{\top}(\boldsymbol{I}-P_{\boldsymbol{X}_{1}})\boldsymbol{X}_{2}\right)^{-1}\boldsymbol{X}_{2}^{\top}P_{\boldsymbol{X}_{1}}\right]\boldsymbol{v}\right] \n\overset{\text{(i)}}{=} \frac{n_{1}}{p}\|\boldsymbol{v}\|^{2} + \mathbb{E}\left[\boldsymbol{v}^{\top}\left[P_{\boldsymbol{X}_{1}}\boldsymbol{X}_{2}\left(\boldsymbol{X}_{2}^{\top}(\boldsymbol{I}-P_{\boldsymbol{X}_{1}})\boldsymbol{X}_{2}\right)^{-1}\boldsymbol{X}_{2}^{\top}P_{\boldsymbol{X}_{1}}\right]\boldsymbol{v}\right], \quad (10)
$$

where (i) follows from Lemma [2.](#page-12-0) Now, we consider

$$
\mathbb{E}\left[\boldsymbol{v}^{\top}\left[P_{\mathbf{X}_{1}}\mathbf{X}_{2}\left(\mathbf{X}_{2}^{\top}(\boldsymbol{I}-P_{\mathbf{X}_{1}})\mathbf{X}_{2}\right)^{-1}\mathbf{X}_{2}^{\top}P_{\mathbf{X}_{1}}\right]\boldsymbol{v}\right] \n= \mathbb{E}\left[\text{tr}\left(\mathbf{X}_{2}^{\top}P_{\mathbf{X}_{1}}\boldsymbol{v}\boldsymbol{v}^{\top}P_{\mathbf{X}_{1}}\mathbf{X}_{2}\left(\mathbf{X}_{2}^{\top}(\boldsymbol{I}-P_{\mathbf{X}_{1}})\mathbf{X}_{2}\right)^{-1}\right)\right] \n\stackrel{\text{(i)}}{=} \mathbb{E}_{X_{1}}\left[\text{tr}\left(\mathbb{E}_{X_{2}}\left[\mathbf{X}_{2}^{\top}P_{\mathbf{X}_{1}}\boldsymbol{v}\boldsymbol{v}^{\top}P_{\mathbf{X}_{1}}\mathbf{X}_{2}\right]\cdot\mathbb{E}_{X_{2}}\left[\left(\mathbf{X}_{2}^{\top}(\boldsymbol{I}-P_{\mathbf{X}_{1}})\mathbf{X}_{2}\right)^{-1}\right]\right)\right] \n\stackrel{\text{(ii)}}{=} \mathbb{E}_{X_{1}}\left[\text{tr}\left(\|P_{\mathbf{X}_{1}}\boldsymbol{v}\|^{2}\cdot\boldsymbol{I}\cdot\mathbb{E}_{X_{2}}\left[\left(\widetilde{\mathbf{X}}_{2}^{\top}(\boldsymbol{I}-P_{\mathbf{X}_{1}})\widetilde{\mathbf{X}}_{2}\right)^{-1}\right]\right)\right] \n= \mathbb{E}_{X_{1}}\left[\|P_{\mathbf{X}_{1}}\boldsymbol{v}\|^{2}\cdot\text{tr}\left(\mathbb{E}_{X_{2}}\left[\left(\mathbf{X}_{2}^{\top}(\boldsymbol{I}-P_{\mathbf{X}_{1}})\mathbf{X}_{2}\right)^{-1}\right]\right)\right] \n\stackrel{\text{(iii)}}{=} \mathbb{E}_{X_{1}}\left[\|P_{\mathbf{X}_{1}}\boldsymbol{v}\|^{2}\cdot\frac{n_{2}}{p-n_{1}-n_{2}-1}\right] \n\stackrel{\text{(iv)}}{=} \frac{n_{2}}{p-n_{1}-n_{2}-1}\cdot\frac{n_{1}}{p}\|\boldsymbol{v}\|^{2},\n\end{aligned}
$$

795 796 797 798 where (i) follows from Lemma [5,](#page-13-0) (ii) follows from Lemma [6,](#page-13-1) (iii) follows from the fact that Lemma [7](#page-13-2) actually holds for any X_2 and (iv) follows from Lemma [2.](#page-12-0) By combining eqs. [\(10\)](#page-14-0) and [\(11\)](#page-14-1), we complete the proof.

799 800 801 Lemma 9. Suppose $V = [X_1, X_2, X_3]$ where $X_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times n_1}$, $X_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times n_2}$, $X_3 \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times n_3}$ are *random matrices with i.i.d. standard Gaussian elements and* $v \in \mathbb{R}^p$ is a fixed vector. Then we *have:*

$$
\mathbb{E}\left[\boldsymbol{v}^{\top}\begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{X}_1 & \boldsymbol{0} & \boldsymbol{0} \end{bmatrix} (\boldsymbol{V}^{\top}\boldsymbol{V})^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{0} \\ \boldsymbol{X}_2^{\top} \\ \boldsymbol{0} \end{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{v} \right] = -\frac{n_1 n_2}{p(p - n_1 - n_2 - n_3 - 1)} \|\boldsymbol{v}\|^2
$$

Proof. First of all, we observe that:

$$
\begin{array}{cc}\n\text{808} \\
\text{809} \\
\text{809}\n\end{array}\n\quad\n2v^\top \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{X}_1 & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} (\mathbf{V}^\top \mathbf{V})^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{X}_2^\top \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} v = \left\| \mathbf{V}^\dagger \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{X}_1^\top \\ \mathbf{X}_2^\top \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} v \right\|^2 - \left\| \mathbf{V}^\dagger \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{X}_1^\top \\ \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} v_1 \right\|^2 - \left\| \mathbf{V}^\dagger \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0}^\top \\ \mathbf{X}_2 \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} v \right\|^2.
$$

810 811 By taking expectation over both sides of the equation, we have:

> − E V^{\dagger} \lceil $\overline{1}$ $\begin{bmatrix} X_1^\top \ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ 0

 \lceil $\overline{1}$

0 $\begin{bmatrix} X_2^\top \ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ 1 $\vert v \vert$ 1 $\overline{1}$

1 $\vert v$ 2

 $2\mathbb{E}$ \lceil

> $=$ E V^{\dagger} \lceil $\overline{}$ $\begin{bmatrix} X_1^\top \ X_2^\top \ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ 1 $\vert v \vert$ 2

 $\stackrel{(i)}{=} \frac{n_1 + n_2}{}$

 $\frac{+~n_2}{p}\cdot\left(1+\frac{n_3}{p-n_1-n_2}\right)$ $p - n_1 - n_2 - n_3 - 1$ $-\frac{n_2}{n_1}$ $\frac{n_2}{p} \cdot \left(1 + \frac{n_1 + n_3}{p - n_1 - n_2 - \cdots}\right)$ $p - n_1 - n_2 - n_3 - 1$ $= - \frac{2 n_1 n_2}{p (p - n_1 - n_2 - n_3 - 1)} \left\| \boldsymbol{v} \right\|^2,$

 $\boxed{ \bm{v}^\top \left[\bm{X}_1 \quad \bm{0} \quad \bm{0} \right] (\bm{V}^\top \bm{V})^{-1} }$

where (i) follows from Lemma [8.](#page-13-3) By dividing both sides by 2, we complete the proof.

 \Box

 $\Bigr)$ $\|v\|^2$

Corollary 1. Suppose $V = [X_1, X_2, X_3]$ where $X_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times n_1}$, $X_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times n_2}$, $X_3 \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times n_3}$ are *random matrices with i.i.d. standard Gaussian elements and* $v_1, v_2 \in \mathbb{R}^p$ *are fixed vectors. Then we have:*

− E V^{\dagger} \lceil $\overline{1}$ $\mathbf{0}^\top$ $\boldsymbol{X_2}$ 0

 $\Big\}\, \|\bm{v}\|^2 - \frac{n_1}{\varepsilon}$

 $\big)\,\|\bm{v}\|^2$

1 $\vert v$ 2

 $\frac{n_1}{p} \cdot \left(1 + \frac{n_2 + n_3}{p - n_1 - n_2 - \cdots}\right)$

 $p - n_1 - n_2 - n_3 - 1$

.

 \Box

$$
\mathbb{E}\left[\boldsymbol{v}_1^\top\begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{X}_1 & \boldsymbol{0} & \boldsymbol{0} \end{bmatrix} (\boldsymbol{V}^\top\boldsymbol{V})^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{0} \\ \boldsymbol{X}_2^\top \\ \boldsymbol{0} \end{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{v}_2\right] = \frac{n_1 n_2 \left(\left\|\boldsymbol{v}_1 - \boldsymbol{v}_2\right\|^2 - \left\|\boldsymbol{v}_1\right\|^2 - \left\|\boldsymbol{v}_2\right\|^2\right)}{2p(p - n_1 - n_2 - n_3 - 1)}
$$

Proof. To simplify the notation, we denote $V_1 = \begin{bmatrix} X_1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ and $V_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & X_2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$. Then according to Lemma [9,](#page-14-2) we first have:

$$
\mathbb{E}\left[(\boldsymbol{v}_1-\boldsymbol{v}_2)^\top \boldsymbol{V}_1 (\boldsymbol{V}^\top \boldsymbol{V})^{-1} \boldsymbol{V}_2^\top (\boldsymbol{v}_1-\boldsymbol{v}_2)\right] = -\frac{n_1n_2}{p(p-n_1-n_2-n_3-1)}\left\|\boldsymbol{v}_1-\boldsymbol{v}_2\right\|^2.
$$

On the other hand, we have:

$$
\mathbb{E}\left[(\boldsymbol{v}_{1}-\boldsymbol{v}_{2})^{\top}\boldsymbol{V}_{1}(\boldsymbol{V}^{\top}\boldsymbol{V})^{-1}\boldsymbol{V}_{2}^{\top}(\boldsymbol{v}_{1}-\boldsymbol{v}_{2})\right] \n= \mathbb{E}\left[\boldsymbol{v}_{1}^{\top}\boldsymbol{V}_{1}(\boldsymbol{V}^{\top}\boldsymbol{V})^{-1}\boldsymbol{V}_{2}^{\top}\boldsymbol{v}_{1}\right] + \mathbb{E}\left[\boldsymbol{v}_{2}^{\top}\boldsymbol{V}_{1}(\boldsymbol{V}^{\top}\boldsymbol{V})^{-1}\boldsymbol{V}_{2}^{\top}\boldsymbol{v}_{2}\right] - 2\mathbb{E}\left[\boldsymbol{v}_{1}^{\top}\boldsymbol{V}_{1}(\boldsymbol{V}^{\top}\boldsymbol{V})^{-1}\boldsymbol{V}_{2}^{\top}\boldsymbol{v}_{2}\right] \n= \frac{(\dot{v})}{p(p-n_{1}-n_{2}-n_{3}-1)} - \frac{n_{1}n_{2}||\boldsymbol{v}_{2}||^{2}}{p(p-n_{1}-n_{2}-n_{3}-1)} - 2\mathbb{E}\left[\boldsymbol{v}_{1}^{\top}\boldsymbol{V}_{1}(\boldsymbol{V}^{\top}\boldsymbol{V})^{-1}\boldsymbol{V}_{2}^{\top}\boldsymbol{v}_{2}\right],
$$

where (i) follows from Lemma [9.](#page-14-2) By combining the above two equations, we complete the proof. \Box

Next, we provide our supporting lemmas that help to prove the advantage of sequential replay as follows.

Lemma 10. *Given* n, p, t, M, T *are fixed positive integers where* $t \leq T$ *and* $n + M < p$ *, then we have:*

$$
\left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p}\right)^{t-l-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p}\right) > 1 - \frac{n+M}{p},
$$

854 *for any non-negative integer* $l < t$

Proof. We first notice the fact that for $k = 0, 1, 2, ..., t - l - 2$, we have

$$
\left(1 - \frac{M}{(t - l - 1)p}\right)\left(1 - \frac{n + \frac{kM}{t - l - 1}}{p}\right) > 1 - \frac{n + \frac{(k+1)M}{t - l - 1}}{p}
$$

By applying this argument recursively, we will have

$$
\begin{aligned}\n\frac{861}{862} & \left(1 - \frac{M}{(t - l - 1)p}\right)^{t - l - 1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p}\right) > 1 - \frac{n + (t - l - 1)\frac{M}{t - l - 1}}{p} = 1 - \frac{n + M}{p}.\n\end{aligned}
$$

Lemma 11. *Given* n, p, t, M, T *are fixed positive integers where* $t \leq T$ *and* $n + M \leq p$ *, then for any non-negative integer* $l < t - 1$ *, we have:*

$$
\left(1 - \frac{M}{(t - l - 1)p}\right)^{t - l - 1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p}\right) < 1 - \frac{n + M}{p} + \frac{(n + M)M}{p^2},
$$

if $p > TM$.

Proof. According to the binomial theorem, we have:

$$
\left(1 - \frac{M}{(t - l - 1)p}\right)^{t - l - 1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p}\right)
$$
\n
$$
= \left(1 - \frac{M}{p} + \sum_{k=2}^{t - l - 1} {t - l - 1 \choose k} \left(-\frac{M}{(t - l - 1)p}\right)^k\right) \left(1 - \frac{n}{p}\right) \tag{12}
$$

If $t - l - 1 = 1$ or $t - l - 1 = 2$, the proof is trivial. If $t - l - 1 \ge 3$, we have

$$
\sum_{k=2}^{t-l-1} {t-l-1 \choose k} \left(-\frac{M}{(t-l-1)p} \right)^k = {t-l-1 \choose 2} \left(\frac{M}{(t-l-1)p} \right)^2 + \sum_{k=3}^{t-l-1} {t-l-1 \choose k} \left(-\frac{M}{(t-l-1)p} \right)^k.
$$
 (13)

To simplify the notation, we denote $m = \frac{M}{t-l-1}$. We first discuss if $t-l-1$ is even. Then, we have:

$$
\sum_{k=3}^{t-l-1} {t-l-1 \choose k} \left(-\frac{M}{(t-l-1)p} \right)^k
$$
\n
$$
= \sum_{k=3}^{(t-l+1)/2} \left[{t-l-1 \choose 2k-3} \left(-\frac{m}{p} \right)^{2k-3} + {t-l-1 \choose 2k-2} \left(-\frac{m}{p} \right)^{2k-2} \right]
$$
\n
$$
= \sum_{k=3}^{(t-l+1)/2} \left[\frac{(t-l-1)!}{(2k-3)!(t-l-2k+2)!} \left(-\frac{m}{p} \right)^{2k-3} + \frac{(t-l-1)!}{(2k-2)!(t-l-2k+1)!} \left(-\frac{m}{p} \right)^{2k-2} \right]
$$
\n
$$
= - \sum_{k=3}^{(t-l+1)/2} \frac{(t-l-1)!}{(2k-3)!(t-l-2k+1)!} \left(\frac{m}{p} \right)^{2k-3} \left[\frac{1}{t-l-2k+2} - \frac{1}{2k-2} \cdot \frac{m}{p} \right]
$$
\n
$$
\stackrel{(i)}{\leq} 0
$$
\n(14)

where (i) follows from the fact that $p > TM$. We then discuss if $t - l - 1$ is odd, we have:

$$
\sum_{k=3}^{t-l-1} {t-l-1 \choose k} \left(-\frac{M}{(t-l-1)p} \right)^k
$$
\n
$$
= \sum_{k=3}^{(t-l)/2} \left[{t-l-1 \choose 2k-3} \left(-\frac{m}{p} \right)^{2k-3} + {t-l-1 \choose 2k-2} \left(-\frac{m}{p} \right)^{2k-2} \right] + \left(-\frac{m}{p} \right)^{t-l-1}
$$
\n
$$
\stackrel{(i)}{\leq} \sum_{k=3}^{(t-l)/2} \left[\frac{(t-l-1)!}{(2k-3)!(t-l-2k+2)!} \left(-\frac{m}{p} \right)^{2k-3} + \frac{(t-l-1)!}{(2k-2)!(t-l-2k+1)!} \left(-\frac{m}{p} \right)^{2k-2} \right]
$$
\n
$$
= -\sum_{k=3}^{(t-l)/2} \frac{(t-l-1)!}{(2k-3)!(t-l-2k+1)!} \left(\frac{m}{p} \right)^{2k-3} \left[\frac{1}{t-l-2k+2} - \frac{1}{2k-2} \cdot \frac{m}{p} \right]
$$
\n
$$
\stackrel{(ii)}{\leq} 0
$$
\n(15)

918 919 920 where (i) follows from the fact that $t - l - 1$ is odd and (ii) follows from the fact that $p > TM$. By combing eqs. (12) to (15) , we conclude:

921 922

$$
\left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p}\right)^{t-l-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p}\right)
$$
\n
$$
< \left(1 - \frac{M}{p} + \binom{t-l-1}{2} \frac{M^2}{(t-l-1)^2 p^2} \right) \left(1 - \frac{n}{p}\right)
$$
\n
$$
= 1 - \frac{n+M}{p} + \frac{nM + \frac{(t-l-1)(t-l-2)}{2} \frac{M^2}{(t-l-1)^2}}{p^2} - \binom{t-l-1}{2} \frac{nM^2}{(t-l-1)^2 p^3}
$$
\n
$$
< 1 - \frac{n+M}{p} + \frac{(n+M)M}{p^2}.
$$

which completes the proof.

 \Box

.

 \Box

Lemma 12. *Given* n, p, t, M, T *are fixed positive integers where* $t \leq T$ *and* $n + M < p$ *, then we have:*

$$
\left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} + \frac{(n+M)M}{p^2}\right)^t < \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^t + \frac{T^2(n+M)M}{p^2}.
$$

Proof. We first have:

$$
\left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} + \frac{(n+M)M}{p^2}\right)^t = \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^t + \sum_{k=0}^{t-1} \left(\frac{t}{k}\right) \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^k \left(\frac{(n+M)M}{p^2}\right)^{t-k}
$$
(16)

We further notice that for $k = 0, 1, \ldots, t - 2$:

$$
\binom{t}{k} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^k \left(\frac{(n+M)M}{p^2}\right)^{t-k} - \binom{t}{k+1} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{k+1} \left(\frac{(n+M)M}{p^2}\right)^{t-k-1}
$$
\n
$$
= \frac{t!}{k!(t-k-1)!} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^k \left(\frac{(n+M)M}{p^2}\right)^{t-k-1} \left[\frac{(n+M)M}{(t-k)p^2} - \frac{1}{k+1} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)\right]
$$
\n
$$
< \frac{t!}{k!(t-k-1)!} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^k \left(\frac{(n+M)M}{p^2}\right)^{t-k-1} \left[\frac{(n+M)M}{p^2} - \frac{1}{T} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)\right]
$$
\n(i) 0, (17)

where (i) follows from the fact that $p > (n + M)(T + 1)$. We note that eq. [\(17\)](#page-17-0) shows that the term α_k achieves the maximum at $k = t - 1$. Therefore, we can upper bound eq. [\(16\)](#page-17-1) by

$$
\left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} + \frac{(n+M)M}{p^2}\right)^t < \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^t + t\binom{t}{t-1}\left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{t-1}\left(\frac{(n+M)M}{p^2}\right) \\ < \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^t + \frac{T^2(n+M)M}{p^2}
$$

which completes the proof.

Here, we present a tighter version of Lemma [12,](#page-17-2) which helps us to prove Theorem [3](#page-6-2) in Section [5.2.](#page-6-0) **Lemma 13.** Given n, p, t, M, T are fixed positive integers where $t \leq T$ and $n + M < p$, then we *have:*

$$
\left(1-\frac{n+M}{p}+\frac{(n+M)M}{p^2}\right)^t < \left(1-\frac{n+M}{p}\right)^t + \frac{t(n+M)M}{p^2} + \frac{T^3(n+M)^2M^2}{2p^4}
$$

972 973 *Proof.* We first have:

$$
\left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} + \frac{(n+M)M}{p^2}\right)^t = \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^t + \binom{t}{t-1} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{t-1} \left(\frac{(n+M)M}{p^2}\right)^{t}
$$

$$
+ \sum_{k=0}^{t-2} \binom{t}{k} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^k \left(\frac{(n+M)M}{p^2}\right)^{t-k}
$$

$$
< \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^t + \frac{T(n+M)M}{p^2}
$$

$$
+ \sum_{k=0}^{t-2} \left(\frac{t}{k}\right) \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^k \left(\frac{(n+M)M}{p^2}\right)^{t-k}
$$
(18)

By the same argument as eq. [\(17\)](#page-17-0), we know that the term α_k achieves the maximum at $k = t - 2$. Therefore, we can upper bound eq. [\(18\)](#page-18-0) by

$$
\left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} + \frac{(n+M)M}{p^2}\right)^t
$$

$$
< \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^t + \frac{t(n+M)M}{p^2} + (t-1)\left(\frac{t}{t-2}\right)\left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{t-2}\left(\frac{(n+M)M}{p^2}\right)^2
$$

$$
< \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^t + \frac{t(n+M)M}{p^2} + \frac{T^3(n+M)^2M^2}{2p^4}.
$$

Lemma 14. *Given* n, p, t, M, T *are fixed positive integers where* $M \geq 2$, $t \leq T$ *and* $n + M < p$ *, then for any non-negative integer* $l < t - 1$ *, we have:*

$$
\left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} + \frac{(n+M)M}{p^2}\right)^l \left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p}\right)^{t-l-1} < \left(1 - \frac{1}{Tp}\right) \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^l,
$$
\nif $p > \frac{T(n+M)M}{M-1} + n + M$.

1004 1005 1006

Proof. By dividing $\left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^l$ on both sides, it is equivalent to prove

$$
\left(1 + \frac{(n+M)M}{p^2 - p(n+M)}\right)^l \left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p}\right)^{t-l-1} < 1 - \frac{1}{Tp}.
$$

1011 According to AM-GM inequality, we have:

1012
\n1013
\n1014
\n1015
\n1016
\n1017
\n1018
\n1019
\n
$$
\left(1 + \frac{(n+M)M}{p^2 - p(n+M)}\right)^l \left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p}\right)^{t-l-1}
$$
\n
$$
\leq \left[\frac{l\left(1 + \frac{(n+M)M}{p^2 - p(n+M)}\right) + (t-l-1)\left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p}\right)}{t-1}\right]^{t-1}
$$

$$
1019\n= \left[1 + \frac{\frac{l(n+M)M}{p^2 - p(n+M)} - \frac{M}{p}}{t - 1}\right]^{t - 1}.
$$
\n(19)\n
\n1022\n
\n $T(\frac{1}{N})$ \n(19)

1023 1024 1025 When $p > \frac{T(n+M)M}{M-1} + n + M$, we have: $l(n+M)M$ $\frac{l(n+M)M}{p^2-p(n+M)}-\frac{M}{p}$ $\frac{M}{p}<\frac{T(n+M)M}{p^2-p(n+M)}$ $\frac{T(n+M)M}{p^2-p(n+M)}-\frac{M}{p}$ $\frac{M}{p} < -\frac{1}{p}$ p . (20) **1026 1027** Therefore, by combining eqs. [\(19\)](#page-18-1) and [\(20\)](#page-18-2), we have:

$$
\left(1 + \frac{(n+M)M}{p^2 - p(n+M)}\right)^l \left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p}\right)^{t-l} < \left(1 - \frac{1}{(t-1)p}\right)^{t-1} \\
 < 1 - \frac{1}{(t-1)p} < 1 - \frac{1}{Tp},
$$

 \Box

1033 1034 which completes the proof.

Lemma 15. *Given* n, p, t, M, T *are fixed positive integers where* $M \geq 2$, $t \leq T$ *and* $n + M < p$ *, then we have:*

$$
\prod_{l=0}^{t-2} \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p} \right)^{t-l-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \right] - \prod_{l=0}^{i-2} \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{(i-l-1)p} \right)^{i-l-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \right] \\
&{} > \left[\left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} \right)^{t-1} - \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} \right)^{i-1} \right],
$$

1043 1044 $if p > 2T^3(n+M)^2.$

1045 1046

Proof. We first have:

1047 1048 1049 1050 1051 1052 1053 1054 1055 1056 1057 1058 1059 1060 1061 1062 1063 1064 1065 1066 1067 1068 1069 1070 1071 1072 1073 1074 1075 1076 1077 1078 1079 tY−2 l=0 " 1 − M (t − l − 1)p t−l−¹ 1 − n p # − i Y−2 l=0 " 1 − M (i − l − 1)p i−l−¹ 1 − n p # = t−Y i−1 ^l=0 " 1 − M (t − l − 1)p t−l−¹ 1 − n p # tY−2 l=t−i " 1 − M (t − l − 1)p t−l−¹ 1 − n p # − i Y−2 l=0 " 1 − M (i − l − 1)p i−l−¹ 1 − n p # = t−Y i−1 ^l=0 " 1 − M (t − l − 1)p t−l−¹ 1 − n p # i Y−2 l=0 " 1 − M (i − l − 1)p i−l−¹ 1 − n p # − i Y−2 l=0 " 1 − M (i − l − 1)p i−l−¹ 1 − n p # = i Y−2 l=0 " 1 − M (i − l − 1)p i−l−¹ 1 − n p # (t[−]^Y i−1 ^l=0 " 1 − M (t − l − 1)p t−l−¹ 1 − n p # − 1) | {z } γ¹ (i) > 1 − n + M p + (n + M)M p 2 ⁱ−¹ (¹ [−] M p ¹ [−] n p ^t−ⁱ − 1) = 1 − n + M p + (n + M)M p 2 ⁱ−¹ " 1 − n + M p + nM p 2 ^t−ⁱ − 1 # = " 1 − n + M p ⁱ−¹ + X i−1 k=1 i − 1 k (n + M)M p 2 ^k 1 − n + M p ⁱ−k−¹ # " 1 − n + M p ^t−ⁱ [−] 1 +X^t−ⁱ k=1 t − i k nM p 2 ^k 1 − n + M p ^t−i−^k # > 1 − n + M p ⁱ−¹ " 1 − n + M p ^t−ⁱ − 1 #

1080 1082 1084 1085 1086 1087 1088 1089 + 1 − n + M p ⁱ−¹ Xt−i k=1 t − i k nM p 2 ^k 1 − n + M p ^t−i−^k | {z } γ² + " 1 − n + M p ^t−ⁱ − 1 #X i−1 k=1 i − 1 k (n + M)M p 2 ^k 1 − n + M p ⁱ−k−¹ | {z } γ3,k | {z } γ³ (21)

where (i) follows from Lemma [11](#page-15-0) together with the fact that term $\gamma_1 < 0$ and from the fact that $\left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p}\right)^{t-l-1} > 1 - \frac{M}{p}$ for $l = 0, 1, ..., t - i - 1$. Now. we prove $\gamma_2 + \gamma_3 < 0$. We first focus on γ_2 . We have:

1093 1094

1100 1101

1090 1091 1092

1081

1083

1094
\n1095
\n1096
\n1097
\n
$$
\gamma_2 > \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{i-1} \left(\frac{t-i}{1}\right) \left(\frac{nM}{p^2}\right) \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)
$$
\n
$$
\gamma_2 > \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^T \frac{nM}{p}
$$

$$
\begin{array}{c|c}\n & & & \\
\hline\n1098 & & & \\
\hline\n1099 & & & \\
\hline\n1099 & & & \\
\hline\n & & & \\
\hline\n\end{array}
$$

$$
> \left(1-\frac{T(n+M)}{p}\right)\frac{nM}{p^2}
$$

p

 \setminus^{t-i-1}

1

(22)

1102 We then focus on term γ_3 . Consider:

$$
\begin{split}\n&\stackrel{1103}{1104} & \binom{i-1}{k} \left(\frac{(n+M)M}{p^2}\right)^k \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{i-k-1} - \binom{i-1}{k+1} \left(\frac{(n+M)M}{p^2}\right)^{k+1} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{i-k-2} \\
&= \frac{(i-1)!}{k!(i-k-2)!} \left(\frac{(n+M)M}{p^2}\right)^k \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{i-k-2} \\
&\quad \cdot \left[\frac{1}{i-k-1} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right) - \frac{1}{k+1} \frac{(n+M)M}{p^2}\right] \\
&\quad \cdot \left[\frac{1}{i-k-1} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right) - \frac{1}{k+1} \frac{(n+M)M}{p^2}\right] \\
&\quad \cdot \left[\frac{(i-1)!}{k!(i-k-2)!} \left(\frac{(n+M)M}{p^2}\right)^k \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{i-k-2} \left[\frac{1}{T} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right) - \frac{(n+M)M}{2p^2}\right] \\
&\quad \cdot \left[\frac{(i-1)!}{n^2}\right] \\
&\quad \cdot \left[\frac{(n+M)M}{n^2}\right)^k \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{i-k-2} \\
&\quad \cdot \left[\frac{1}{T} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right) - \frac{(n+M)M}{2p^2}\right] \\
&\quad \cdot \left[\frac{(n+M)M}{n^2}\right] \\
&\quad \cdot \left[\frac
$$

1115 1116 1117 1118 where (i) follows from $k \in [i-1]$ and (ii) follows from the fact that $p > 2(n + M)$. This indicates that $\gamma_{3,k}$ achieves maximum at $k = 1$. We recall that $\left[\left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{t-i} - 1 \right] < 0$. Therefore, we have:

1119

$$
\gamma_3 > \left[\left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} \right)^{t-i} - 1 \right] (i-1) \left(\frac{i-1}{1} \right) \left(\frac{(n+M)M}{p^2} \right) \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} \right)^{i-2} \\
&> \left[\left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} \right)^{t-i} - 1 \right] \frac{T^2(n+M)M}{p^2} \\
= \left[\sum_{k=1}^{t-i} \left(\frac{t-i}{k} \right) \left(-\frac{n+M}{p} \right)^k \right] \frac{T^2(n+M)M}{p^2} .\n\tag{24}
$$

1128 1129 For k is even and less than or equal to $t - i$ (i.e., $k = 2, 4, 6, \dots$, and $k \ge t - i$), we have:

1130
\n1131
\n1132
\n1133\n
$$
\begin{pmatrix}\nt-i \\
k\n\end{pmatrix}\n\begin{pmatrix}\n\frac{n+M}{p}\n\end{pmatrix}^{k} + \begin{pmatrix}\nt-i \\
k+1\n\end{pmatrix}\n\begin{pmatrix}\n\frac{n+M}{p}\n\end{pmatrix}^{k+1}
$$
\n1133\n
$$
= \frac{(t-i)!}{k!(t-i-k-1)!} \left(\frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{k} \left[\frac{1}{t-i-k} - \frac{n+M}{(k+1)p}\right]
$$

$$
\frac{(t-i)!}{k!(t-i-k-1)!} \left(\frac{n+M}{p}\right)^k \left[\frac{1}{T} - \frac{n+M}{3p}\right]
$$
\n
$$
\stackrel{(i)}{>0},
$$
\n
$$
\stackrel{(i)}{=} 0, \tag{25}
$$

1139 1140 where (*i*) follows from $p > \frac{(n+M)T}{3}$. By combining eqs. [\(24\)](#page-20-0) and [\(25\)](#page-21-0) and simply discussing when $t - i$ is odd or even, we can conclude

$$
\sum_{\substack{11442\\1143\\1144}}^{t-i} \binom{t-i}{k} \left(-\frac{n+M}{p}\right)^k > \binom{t-i}{1} \left(-\frac{n+M}{p}\right) > -\frac{T(n+M)}{p},
$$

which implies:

$$
\begin{array}{c} 1145 \\ 1146 \end{array}
$$

$$
\gamma_3 > -\frac{T^3(n+M)^2M}{p^3}.\tag{26}
$$

1147 1148 Now, by combining eqs. [\(21\)](#page-20-1), [\(22\)](#page-20-2) and [\(26\)](#page-21-1), we have:

$$
\prod_{\substack{1150\\1151}}^{1149} \prod_{l=0}^{t-2} \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p} \right)^{t-l-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \right] - \prod_{l=0}^{i-2} \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{(i-l-1)p} \right)^{i-l-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \right]
$$
\n
$$
\prod_{\substack{1152\\1153}}^{1152} > \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} \right)^{i-1} \left[\left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} \right)^{t-i} - 1 \right] + \left(1 - \frac{T(n+M)}{p} \right) \frac{nM}{p^2} - \frac{T^3(n+M)^2M}{p^3}
$$
\n
$$
\prod_{\substack{1155\\1156}}^{1155} \quad \left(\frac{i}{p} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} \right)^{i-1} \right] \left[\left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} \right)^{t-i} - 1 \right],
$$
\n
$$
\prod_{\substack{1157\\1157 \text{ where } (i) \text{ follows from the fact that } p > 2T^3(n+M)^2.} \square
$$

$$
^{115}
$$

1158

where (*i*) follows from the fact that $p > 2T^3(n + M)^2$.

1159 1160 Lemma 16. *Given* n, p, t, M, T *are fixed positive integers where* $M \geq 2$, $t \leq T$ *and* $n + M < p$, *then for any non-negative integer* $i < t$ *, we have:*

$$
\prod_{\substack{1163 \ 1163}}^{1161} \prod_{l=0}^{t-2} \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p} \right)^{t-l-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \right] - \prod_{l=0}^{i-2} \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{(i-l-1)p} \right)^{i-l-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \right]
$$

$$
< \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} \right)^{i-1} \left[\left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} \right)^{t-i} - 1 \right] + \frac{T^2(n+M)M}{p^2}.
$$

1166 1167

1168 *if* $p > (n + M)T$.

1169 *Proof.* We first consider:

1170
\n1171
\n1172
\n1173
\n1174
\n1175
\n1176
\n1177
\n1178
\n1179
\n1170
\n1171
\n1173
\n1174
\n1175
\n1176
\n1177
\n1178
\n1179
\n1180
\n1181
\n1182
\n1183
\n1184
\n1185
\n1186
\n1187
\n1186
\n1187
\n1187
\n1188
\n1187
\n1188
\n1189
\n1180
\n1181
\n1187
\n1180
\n1
\n1181
\n1187
\n1188
\n
$$
\frac{i-2}{l=0} \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{(i-l-1)p} \right)^{t-l-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \right] \prod_{l=b}^{i-2} \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{(i-l-1)p} \right)^{i-l-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \right]
$$

\n1185
\n1186
\n
$$
= \prod_{l=0}^{i-2} \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{(i-l-1)p} \right)^{i-l-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \right] \prod_{l=0}^{i-2} \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{(i-l-1)p} \right)^{i-l-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \right]
$$

\n1181
\n1182
\n1183
\n1184
\n1185
\n
$$
= \prod_{l=0}^{i-2} \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{(i-l-1)p} \right)^{i-l-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \right] \left\{ \prod_{l=0}^{i-i-1} \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{(i-l-1)p} \right)^{i-l-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \right] - 1 \right\}
$$

 ${\gamma_1}$ γ_1

$$
\begin{array}{ll}\n^{1188} & \stackrel{(i)}{<} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{i-1} \left[\left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} + \frac{(n+M)M}{p^2}\right)^{t-i} - 1\right], \\
^{1190} & \stackrel{(ii)}{<} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{i-1} \left[\left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{t-i} - 1 + \frac{T^2(n+M)M}{p^2}\right] \\
^{1193} & \quad < \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{i-1} \left[\left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{t-i} - 1\right] + \frac{T^2(n+M)M}{p^2}\n\end{array} \tag{28}
$$

where (i) follows from Lemmas [10](#page-15-1) and [11](#page-15-0) and the fact that $\gamma_1 < 0$; (ii) follows from Lemma [12.](#page-17-2) **1197** П **1198**

1200 1201 1202 Here, we present a tighter version of Lemma [16,](#page-21-2) which helps to prove Theorem [3](#page-6-2) in Section [5.2.](#page-6-0) **Lemma 17.** *Given* n, p, t, M, T *are fixed positive integers where* $M \geq 2$, $t \leq T$ *and* $n + M < p$ *, then for any non-negative integer* $i < t$ *, we have:*

$$
\prod_{l=0}^{t-2} \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p} \right)^{t-l-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \right] - \prod_{l=0}^{i-2} \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{(i-l-1)p} \right)^{i-l-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \right]
$$

$$
< \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} \right)^{i-1} \left[\left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} \right)^{t-i} - 1 \right] + \frac{(t-i)(n+M)M}{p^2} + \frac{T^3(n+M)^2 M^2}{p^4}.
$$

if $p > (n+M)T$.

1209 1210

1199

1221

1225

Proof. The proof follows from the same as Lemma [16](#page-21-2) but we use Lemma [13](#page-17-3) instead of Lemma [12.](#page-17-2) \Box

B PROOF OF PROPOSITIONS [1](#page-4-1) AND [2](#page-5-1) AND THEOREM 1

1217 1218 1219 1220 In this section, we will prove Propositions [1](#page-5-0) and [2](#page-5-1) by deriving the expected value of model error $\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{L}_i(\boldsymbol{w}_t)]$ for a generic pair t, i with $t \geq i$. We omit the tilde notation of the memory data to simplify notations: $X_{t,i} := \widetilde{X}_{t,i}, Y_{t,i} := \widetilde{Y}_{t,i}$ and $z_{t,i} := \widetilde{z}_{t,i}$ for $i \in [t-1]$. Similar to eq. [\(3\)](#page-3-1), for the memory data, we have

$$
\boldsymbol{Y}_{t,i} = \boldsymbol{X}_{t,i}^{\top} \boldsymbol{w}_i^* + \boldsymbol{z}_{t,i}.
$$
\n
$$
(29)
$$

1222 1223 1224 where $z_{t,i} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_i^2 \mathcal{I}_p)$ is i.i.d. noise. Since there is no memory data involved in both training methods when $t = 1$ $t = 1$, by combining Lemma 1 and the fact that $w_0 = 0$, we can easily derive the first parameter as

$$
\boldsymbol{w}_1 = P_{\boldsymbol{X}_1}\boldsymbol{w}_1^* + \boldsymbol{X}_1^\dagger \boldsymbol{z}_1,
$$

1226 1227 Then, we calculate the expected value of the model error $\mathcal{L}_i(\boldsymbol{w}_1)$ as follows.

$$
\mathbb{E} \| \boldsymbol{w}_1 - \boldsymbol{w}_i^* \|^2 \stackrel{(i)}{=} \mathbb{E} \| P_{\boldsymbol{X}_1} (\boldsymbol{w}_1^* - \boldsymbol{w}_i^*) \|^2 + \mathbb{E} \| (\boldsymbol{I} - P_{\boldsymbol{X}_1}) \boldsymbol{w}_i^* \|^2 + \mathbb{E} \left\| \boldsymbol{X}_1^\dagger \boldsymbol{z}_1 \right\|^2
$$

\n
$$
\stackrel{(ii)}{=} \frac{n}{p} \mathbb{E} \| \boldsymbol{w}_1^* - \boldsymbol{w}_i^* \|^2 + \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \| \boldsymbol{w}_i^* \|^2 + \frac{n \sigma^2}{p - n - 1},
$$
\n(30)

1232 1233 1234 1235 where (i) follows from Lemma [4](#page-12-2) and the fact that z_1 are independent Gaussian with zero mean and (ii) follows from Lemma [2](#page-12-0) and Lemma [3.](#page-12-3) For $t \geq 2$, the two training methods use memory in different ways. We present them in the following two subsections.

1236 1237 B.[1](#page-5-0) PROOF OF CONCURRENT REPLAY IN PROPOSITIONS 1 AND [2](#page-5-1)

1238 1239 1240 1241 To simplify, we apply the following notations to denote the current data in this subsection: X_t := $X_{t,t}$, $Y_t := Y_{t,t}$ and $z_t := z_{t,t}$. Then, for each task t, the SGD convergent point w_t of training loss $\mathcal{L}_t^{\text{tr}}(\boldsymbol{w}, \mathcal{D}_t \bigcup \mathcal{M}_t)$ is equivalent to the optimization problem:

$$
\mathbf{w}_t = \min_{\mathbf{w}} \|\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{w}_{t-1}\|^2 \quad s.t. \ \ \mathbf{X}_{t,i}^{\top} \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{Y}_{t,i}, \ \ i \in [t].
$$

1277

Then we have:

1282

1285 1286 1287

1290 1291

1293 1294

1242 1243 1244 1245 1246 1247 1248 1249 1250 1251 1252 1253 1254 1255 1256 1257 1258 1259 1260 1261 1262 1263 1264 1265 1266 1267 Define $V_t = [\boldsymbol{X}_{t,1}, \boldsymbol{X}_{t,2}, ..., \boldsymbol{X}_{t,t}]$ and $\vec{z}_t = [\boldsymbol{z}_{t,1}, \boldsymbol{z}_{t,2}, ..., \boldsymbol{z}_{t,t}]^\top$. According to Lemma [1,](#page-12-1) we have $\boldsymbol{w}_t = \boldsymbol{w}_{t-1} + \boldsymbol{V}_t^\dagger$ $\sqrt{ }$ $\left\lfloor \right\rfloor$ \lceil $\Big\}$ $\boldsymbol{Y_{t,1}}$ $\boldsymbol{Y_{t,2}}$... $\boldsymbol{Y_{t,t}}$ 1 $\Big|- \boldsymbol{V_t^\top w_{t-1}}$ \setminus $\Big\}$ $=(\boldsymbol{I}-P_{\boldsymbol{V}_t})\boldsymbol{w}_{t-1}+\boldsymbol{V}_t^\dagger$ \lceil $\Big\}$ $\begin{array}{c} \boldsymbol{X}_{t,1}^{\top} \boldsymbol{w}_1^* \ \boldsymbol{X}_{t,2}^{\top} \boldsymbol{w}_2^* \ \ldots \end{array}$ $\boldsymbol{X}_{t,t}^{\top} \boldsymbol{w}_t^*$ 1 $\begin{matrix} \end{matrix}$ $+ \, V_t^{\dagger} \vec{z_t} .$ Now, we fix i. The Coefficients $d_{0T}^{(concurrent)}$ and $d_{ijkT}^{(concurrent)}$ are extracted from expected value of model error $\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{L}_i(\boldsymbol{w}_t)]$ as follows. $\mathbb{E}\left\Vert \boldsymbol{w}_{t}-\boldsymbol{w}_{i}^{*}\right\Vert ^{2}=\mathbb{E}% _{z}\left\Vert \boldsymbol{w}_{t}-\boldsymbol{w}_{i}^{*}\right\Vert ^{2}$ $\mathbf{A}_{t,t}(\mathbf{w}_t - \mathbf{w}_i)$ || $(\boldsymbol{I}-P_{\boldsymbol{V_t}})(\boldsymbol{w}_{t-1}-\boldsymbol{w}_i^*)+\boldsymbol{V_t}^\dagger$ \lceil $\Big\}$ $\boldsymbol{X}_{t,1}^{\top}(\boldsymbol{w}_{1}^{*}-\boldsymbol{w}_{i}^{*})$ $\boldsymbol{X}_{t,2}^{\top}(\boldsymbol{w}_2^{*}-\boldsymbol{w}_i^{*})$... $\boldsymbol{X}_{t,t}^{\top}(\boldsymbol{w}_t^{*}-\boldsymbol{w}_i^{*})$ 1 $\overline{}$ $+ \, V_t^{\dagger} \vec{z_t}$ 2 $\stackrel{(i)}{=} \mathbb{E}\left\|(\boldsymbol{I}-P_{\boldsymbol{V_t}})(\boldsymbol{w}_{t-1}-\boldsymbol{w}_i^*)\right\|^2 + \mathbb{E}$ V_t^\dagger \lceil $\Big\}$ $\boldsymbol{X}_{t,1}^\top(\boldsymbol{w}_1^*-\boldsymbol{w}_i^*)$ $\boldsymbol{X}_{t,2}^{\top}(\boldsymbol{w}_{2}^{*}-\boldsymbol{w}_{i}^{*})$... $\boldsymbol{X}_{t,t}^\top(\boldsymbol{w}_t^*-\boldsymbol{w}_i^*)$ 1 $\Bigg\}$ 2 $+ \mathbb{E} \left\|\boldsymbol{V_t^{\dagger}} \vec{z_t}\right\|$ 2 $\stackrel{(ii)}{=} \left(1 - \frac{n_t + M_t}{\cdots}\right)$ p $\Big\| \mathbb{E}\left\| \boldsymbol{w}_{t-1} - \boldsymbol{w}_i^* \right\|^2 + \mathbb{E}$ V_t^\dagger \lceil $\Big\}$ $\boldsymbol{X}_{t,1}^\top(\boldsymbol{w}_1^*-\boldsymbol{w}_i^*)$ $\boldsymbol{X}_{t,2}^{\top}(\boldsymbol{w}_{2}^{*}-\boldsymbol{w}_{i}^{*})$... $\boldsymbol{X}_{t,t}^{\top}(\boldsymbol{w}_t^{*}-\boldsymbol{w}_i^{*})$ 1 $\Big\}$ 2

$$
\|\begin{array}{cc} \|\Delta_{t,t}(w_t - w_i) \|\| \\ + \frac{(n+M)\sigma^2}{p-n-M-1}, \end{array}
$$
 (31)
where (i) follows from Lemma 4 and the fact that \vec{z}_t are independent Gaussian with zero mean and

 (ii) follows from Lemma [2](#page-12-0) and Lemma [3.](#page-12-3) Before we calculate the second term in eq. [\(31\)](#page-23-0), we make the following notation simplification. We denote $V_{t,j}$ as V_t with all zero elements except $X_{t,j}$, i.e.,

$$
\bm{V}_{t,j} = [\bm{0}, ..., \bm{X}_{t,j}, ..., \bm{0}] \,.
$$

1276 Then we have:
\n1277
\n1278
\n1279
\n1280
\n1281
\n1281
\n1282
\n1283
\n1284
\n1285
\n1286
\n1287
\n1288
\n1289
\n1290
\n1291
\n1291
\n1292
\n1293
\n1294
\n1294
\n1294
\n1295
\n
$$
+\sum_{j=1}^{t-1} \sum_{k=j+1}^{t-1} \frac{M_{t,j}(u_j^* - u_i^*)}{p(p-n_t - M_t - 1)} (\|w_j^* - w_k^*\|^2 - \|w_j^* - w_i^*\|^2 - \|w_j^* - w_i^*\|^2 - \|w_j^* - w_i^*\|^2)
$$
\n1291
\n1292
\n1293
\n1294
\n
$$
+\sum_{j=1}^{t-1} \sum_{k=j+1}^{t-1} \frac{M_{t,j}M_{t,k}}{p(p-n_t - M_t - 1)} (\|w_j^* - w_k^*\|^2 - \|w_j^* - w_i^*\|^2 - \|w_k^* - w_i^*\|^2)
$$
\n1294
\n
$$
+\sum_{j=1}^{t-1} \sum_{p=1}^{n_t} \frac{m_t M_{t,j}}{p(p-n_t - M_t - 1)} (\|w_j^* - w_k^*\|^2 - \|w_j^* - w_i^*\|^2 - \|w_k^* - w_i^*\|^2)
$$
\n1294
\n
$$
+\sum_{j=1}^{t-1} \frac{n_t M_{t,j}}{p(p-n_t - M_t - 1)} (\|w_j^* - w_k^*\|^2 - \|w_j^* - w_i^*\|^2 - \|w_k^* - w_i^*\|^2)
$$
\n(32)

24

1296 1297 1298 where (*i*) follows from Lemma [8](#page-13-3) and corollary [1.](#page-15-2) Recall that $n_t = n$, $M_{t,j} = \frac{M}{t-1}$ and the fact that $M_t = M$. By combining eqs. [\(31\)](#page-23-0) and [\(32\)](#page-23-1), we have:

1299

1300 1301 1302 1303 1304 1305 1306 1307 1308 1309 1310 1311 E ∥w^t − w[∗] i ∥ ² = 1 − n + M p E ∥wt−¹ − w[∗] i ∥ 2 + Xt−1 j=1 M (t − 1)p 1 + n + M − M t−1 p − n − M − 1 ! ^w[∗] ^j − w[∗] i 2 + n p 1 + M p − n − M − 1 ∥w[∗] ^t − w[∗] i ∥ 2 + Xt−2 j=1 Xt−1 k=j+1 (M t−1) 2 p(p − n − M − 1) ^w[∗] ^j − w[∗] k 2 − ^w[∗] ^j − w[∗] i 2 − ∥w[∗] ^k − w[∗] i ∥ 2 + Xt−1 j=1 nM t−1 p(p − n − M − 1) ^w[∗] ^j − w[∗] t 2 − ^w[∗] ^j − w[∗] i 2 − ∥w[∗] ^t − w[∗] i ∥ 2 + (n + M)σ 2

$$
\begin{array}{c} 1312 \\ 1313 \end{array}
$$

1315 1316

1314

for $t \geq 2$. By iterating the above equation and combining it with eq. [\(30\)](#page-22-0), we can have:

 $\frac{(n+M)\sigma}{p-n-M-1},$

1317 1318 1319 1320 1321 1322 1323 1324 1325 1326 1327 1328 1329 1330 1331 1332 1333 1334 1335 1336 1337 1338 1339 1340 1341 1342 1343 1344 1345 1346 1347 1348 1349 E ∥w^t − w[∗] i ∥ 2 = 1 − n + M p t−¹ E ∥w¹ − w[∗] i ∥ 2 + Xt−2 l=0 1 − n + M p ^l ^t[−]^X l−1 j=1 M (t − l − 1)p 1 + n + M − M t−l−1 p − n − M − 1 ! ^w[∗] ^j − w[∗] i 2 + Xt−2 l=0 1 − n + M p l n p 1 + M p − n − M − 1 ^w[∗] ^t−^l − w[∗] i 2 + Xt−2 l=0 1 − n + M p ^l ^t[−]^X l−2 j=1 t−X l−1 k=j+1 (M t−l−1) 2 p(p − n − M − 1) ^w[∗] ^j − w[∗] k 2 − ^w[∗] ^j − w[∗] i 2 − ∥w[∗] ^k − w[∗] i ∥ 2 + Xt−2 l=0 1 − n + M p ^l ^t[−]^X l−1 j=1 nM t−l−1 p(p − n − M − 1) ^w[∗] ^j − w[∗] t−l 2 − ^w[∗] ^j − w[∗] i 2 − ^w[∗] ^t−^l − w[∗] i 2 + Xt−2 l=0 1 − n + M p l (n + M)σ 2 p − n − M − 1 = 1 − n p ¹ [−] n + M p ^t−¹ ∥w[∗] i ∥ ² + 1 − n + M p ^t−¹ n p E ∥w[∗] ¹ − w[∗] i ∥ 2 + Xt−2 l=0 1 − n + M p ^l ^t[−]^X l−1 j=1 M (t − l − 1)p 1 + n + M − M t−l−1 p − n − M − 1 ! ^w[∗] ^j − w[∗] i 2 + Xt−2 l=0 1 − n + M p l n p 1 + M p − n − M − 1 ^w[∗] ^t−^l − w[∗] i 2 + Xt−2 l=0 1 − n + M p ^l ^t[−]^X l−2 j=1 t−X l−1 k=j+1 (M t−l−1) 2 p(p − n − M − 1) ^w[∗] ^j − w[∗] k 2 − ^w[∗] ^j − w[∗] i 2 − ∥w[∗] ^k − w[∗] i ∥ 2 + Xt−2 l=0 1 − n + M p ^l ^t[−]^X l−1 j=1 nM t−l−1 p(p − n − M − 1) ^w[∗] ^j − w[∗] t−l 2 − ^w[∗] ^j − w[∗] i 2 − ^w[∗] ^t−^l − w[∗] i 2

1350 1351 1352 1353 1354 1355 1356 1357 1358 1359 1360 1361 1362 1363 1364 1365 1366 1367 1368 1369 1370 1371 1372 1373 1374 1375 1376 1377 1378 1379 1380 1381 1382 1383 1384 1385 1386 1387 1388 1389 1390 1391 1392 1393 1394 1395 1396 1397 1398 + 1 − n p ¹ [−] n + M p ^t−¹ nσ² p − n − 1 + Xt−2 l=0 1 − n + M p l (n + M)σ 2 p − n − M − 1 = 1 − n p ¹ [−] n + M p ^t−¹ ∥w[∗] i ∥ 2 + (1 − n + M p ^t−¹ n p + Xt−2 l=0 1 − n + M p l " M (t − l − 1)p 1 + n + M − M t−l−1 p − n − M − 1 ! − nM (t−l−1) + (^t [−] ^l [−] 2)(^M t−l−1) 2 ^p(^p [−] ⁿ [−] ^M [−] 1) #) [∥]w[∗] ¹ − w[∗] i ∥ 2 + Xt−2 l=0 1 − n + M p ^l ^t[−]^X l−1 j=2 " M (t − l − 1)p 1 + n + M − M t−l−1 p − n − M − 1 ! − nM ^t−l−¹ + (^t [−] ^l [−] 2)(^M t−l−1) 2 ^p(^p [−] ⁿ [−] ^M [−] 1) # ^w[∗] ^j − w[∗] i 2 + Xt−2 l=0 1 − n + M p l " n p 1 + M p − n − M − 1 − (t − l − 1) nM t−l−1 ^p(^p [−] ⁿ [−] ^M [−] 1)# ^w[∗] ^t−^l − w[∗] i 2 + Xt−2 l=0 1 − n + M p ^l ^t[−]^X l−2 j=1 t−X l−1 k=j+1 (M t−l−1) 2 p(p − n − M − 1) ^w[∗] ^j − w[∗] k 2 + Xt−2 l=0 1 − n + M p ^l ^t[−]^X l−1 j=1 nM t−l−1 p(p − n − M − 1) ^w[∗] ^j − w[∗] t−l 2 + noise(concurrent) t (σ) = 1 − n p ¹ [−] n + M p t−¹ ∥w[∗] i ∥ 2 + (1 − n + M p t−¹ n p + Xt−2 l=0 1 − n + M p ^l M (t − l − 1)p) ∥w[∗] ¹ − w[∗] i ∥ 2 + Xt−1 ^j=2 (t[−]^X j−1 l=0 1 − n + M p ^l M (t − l − 1)p + 1 − n + M p t−^j n p) ^w[∗] ^j − w[∗] i 2 + n p ∥w[∗] ^t − w[∗] i ∥ 2 + Xt−2 l=0 1 − n + M p ^l ^t[−]^X l−2 j=1 t−X l−1 k=j+1 (M t−l−1) 2 p(p − n − M − 1) ^w[∗] ^j − w[∗] k 2 + Xt−2 l=0 1 − n + M p ^l ^t[−]^X l−1 j=1 nM t−l−1 p(p − n − M − 1) ^w[∗] ^j − w[∗] t−l 2 + noise(concurrent) t (σ), (33) where noise(concurrent) t (σ) = 1 − n p ¹ [−] n + M p ^t−¹ nσ² p − n − 1 + Xt−2 l=0 1 − n + M p l (n + M)σ 2 p − n − M − 1 . By rearranging the terms and substituting t = T, we complete the poof for d (concurrent) 0T and d (concurrent) ijkT . Furthermore, the expressions of c i E[Li(wt)] − E[Li(w)] as follows. (concurrent) and c (concurrent) ijk in Proposition [2](#page-5-1) can be extracted from

$$
^{\text{1400}}_{\text{1401}} \qquad \left[\mathbb{E}\left\|\bm{w}_{t}-\bm{w}_{i}^{*}\right\|^{2}-\mathbb{E}\left\|\bm{w}_{i}-\bm{w}_{i}^{*}\right\|^{2}\right]^{\text{(concurrent)}}
$$

1402

1403
$$
= \left(1 - \frac{n}{p}\right) \left[\left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{t-1} - \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{i-1} \right] \|w_i^*\|^2
$$

$$
1404\n\n1405\n\n1406\n\n1407\n\n1408\n\n
$$
+\left\{\left[\left(1-\frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{t-1}-\left(1-\frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{i-1}\right]\frac{n}{p}+\sum_{l=0}^{t-2}\left(1-\frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{l}\frac{M}{(t-l-1)p}\right.\right.
$$
$$

1406

$$
+\sum_{j=i}^{t-1}\left\{\sum_{l=0}^{t-j-1}\left(1-\frac{n+M}{p}\right)^l\frac{M}{(t-l-1)p}+\left(1-\frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{t-j}\frac{n}{p}\right\}\left\|\bm{w}_j^*-\bm{w}_i^*\right\|^2\\+\sum_{j=2}^{i-1}\left\{\sum_{l=0}^{t-j-1}\left(1-\frac{n+M}{p}\right)^l\frac{M}{(t-l-1)p}+\left(1-\frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{t-j}\frac{n}{p}\right\}
$$

$$
-\sum_{l=0}^{i-j-1} \left(1-\frac{n+M}{p}\right)^l \frac{M}{(i-l-1)p} - \left(1-\frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{i-j} \frac{n}{p} \bigg\} \left\|{\bm{w}}^*_j-{\bm{w}}^*_i\right\|^2 \\ +\frac{n}{\left\|{\bm{w}}^*_t-{\bm{w}}^*_i\right\|^2}
$$

p

 $(i - l - 1)p$

1419 1420

1445 1446

$$
+\frac{n}{p} ||\mathbf{w}_{t}^{*} - \mathbf{w}_{i}^{*}||^{2} + \sum_{l=0}^{t-2} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{l} \sum_{j=1}^{t-l-2} \sum_{k=j+1}^{t-l-1} \frac{\left(\frac{M}{t-l-1}\right)^{2}}{p(p-n-M-1)} ||\mathbf{w}_{j}^{*} - \mathbf{w}_{k}^{*}||^{2} - \sum_{l=0}^{i-2} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{l} \sum_{j=1}^{i-l-2} \sum_{k=j+1}^{i-l-1} \frac{\left(\frac{M}{i-l-1}\right)^{2}}{p(p-n-M-1)} ||\mathbf{w}_{j}^{*} - \mathbf{w}_{k}^{*}||^{2} + \sum_{l=0}^{t-2} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{l} \sum_{j=1}^{t-l-1} \frac{\frac{nM}{t-l-1}}{p(p-n-M-1)} ||\mathbf{w}_{j}^{*} - \mathbf{w}_{t-l}^{*}||^{2} - \sum_{l=0}^{i-2} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{l} \sum_{j=1}^{i-l-1} \frac{\frac{nM}{t-l-1}}{p(p-n-M-1)} ||\mathbf{w}_{j}^{*} - \mathbf{w}_{t-l}^{*}||^{2} + \text{noise}_{t}^{(\text{concurrent})}(\sigma) - \text{noise}_{i}^{(\text{concurrent})}(\sigma)
$$
\n(34)

1434 1435 1436 1437 Here, we will show that β_1 consists of terms $\delta_{j,k} ||\boldsymbol{w}_j^* - \boldsymbol{w}_k^*||$ ² with $\delta_{j,k} \geq -\frac{T^2(n+M)M^2}{p^3}$ and $j, k \neq t$ and β_2 consists of terms $\eta_{j,k} ||\boldsymbol{w}_j^* - \boldsymbol{w}_k^*||$ ² with $\eta_{j,k} \geq -\frac{T^2(n+M)nM}{p^3}$ in Appendix [E.1.](#page-36-0)

1438 1439 B.2 PROOF OF SEQUENTIAL REPLAY IN PROPOSITIONS [1](#page-5-0) AND [2](#page-5-1)

1440 1441 To simplify, we apply the following notations to denote the current data in this subsection: X_t := $\mathbf{X}_{t,0}, \mathbf{Y}_t \coloneqq \mathbf{Y}_{t,0}$ and $\mathbf{z}_t \coloneqq \mathbf{z}_{t,0}$.

1442 1443 1444 When $t \geq 2$, the sequence of SGD convergent points $w_t^{(j)}$ is equivalent the sequential optimization problems:

$$
\hat{\bm{w}}_t^{(j)} = \min_{\bm{w}} \left\| \bm{w} - \hat{\bm{w}}_t^{(j-1)} \right\|_2^2 \quad s.t. \ \ \bm{X}_{t,j}^\top \bm{w} = \bm{Y}_{t,j}, \ \ j=0,1,...,t-1,
$$

1447 1448 1449 1450 1451 1452 1453 where $\hat{\bm{w}}_t^{(-1)} = \bm{w}_{t-1}$ and $\bm{w}_t = \hat{\bm{w}}_t^{(t-1)}$. Therefore, according to Lemmas [1](#page-12-1) to [4,](#page-12-2) we have: $\mathbb{E}\left\Vert \hat{\boldsymbol{w}}_{t}^{\left(j\right)}-\boldsymbol{w}_{i}^{*}\right\Vert$ $\mathcal{L}^2 = \mathbb{E}\left\|(\boldsymbol{I}-P_{\boldsymbol{X}_{t,j}})(\hat{\boldsymbol{w}}_t^{(j-1)}-\boldsymbol{w}_i^*)+P_{\boldsymbol{X}_{t,j}}(\boldsymbol{w}_j^*-\boldsymbol{w}_i^*)+\boldsymbol{X}_{t,j}^\dagger \boldsymbol{z}_{t,j}\right\|_2$ 2 $=\left(1-\frac{M}{\sqrt{1-\frac{M}{\lambda^2}}} \right)$ $(t-1)p$ $\bigg) \, \mathbb{E} \left\| \hat{\bm{w}}_t^{(j-1)} - \bm{w}_i^* \right\|$ $+\frac{M}{(1+M)}$ $(t-1)p$ $\left\Vert \boldsymbol{w}_{j}^{*}-\boldsymbol{w}_{i}^{*}\right\Vert$ 2 + $\frac{M}{(t-1)p}\sigma^2$ $\frac{1}{p - \frac{M}{(t-1)p} - 1},$

1454 for $j = 1, 2, ..., t - 1$. Also, we have:

1455
\n1456
\n1457
\n
$$
\mathbb{E} \left\| \hat{\boldsymbol{w}}_t^{(0)} - \boldsymbol{w}_i^* \right\|^2 = \mathbb{E} \left\| (\boldsymbol{I} - P_{\boldsymbol{X}_t}) (\boldsymbol{w}_{t-1} - \boldsymbol{w}_i^*) + P_{\boldsymbol{X}_t} (\boldsymbol{w}_t^* - \boldsymbol{w}_i^*) \right\|^2
$$
\n
$$
= \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \mathbb{E} \left\| \boldsymbol{w}_{t-1} - \boldsymbol{w}_i^* \right\|^2 + \frac{n}{p} \left\| \boldsymbol{w}_t^* - \boldsymbol{w}_i^* \right\|^2 + \frac{n\sigma^2}{p - n - 1}.
$$

1458 1459 By combining the above two equations, we can derive:

 $\bigg\}^{t-1}$ $\bigg(1-\frac{n}{t}\bigg)$

p

 $\bigwedge^{t-j-1} M$

 \int_0^{t-j-1} $\frac{M}{t-1}\sigma^2$

1460 1461 1462 $\mathbb{E}\left\Vert \boldsymbol{w}_{t}-\boldsymbol{w}_{i}^{*}\right\Vert ^{2}$

 $+\sum_{ }^{t-1}$ $j=1$

 $+\sum_{ }^{t-1}$ $j=1$

 $=\left(1-\frac{M}{\sqrt{1-\frac{M}{\lambda}}}\right)$

 $(t-1)p$

 $\left(1-\frac{M}{\mu}\right)$

 $\left(1-\frac{M}{\mu}\right)$

 $(t-1)p$

 $(t-1)p$

1463 1464 1465

1466 1467

1468 1469 1470

1471 1472

1476

1483

1487

1491

1502

By applying this process recursively, we obtain the expression of the expected value of the model error $\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{L}_i(\boldsymbol{w}_t)]$ as follows, in we can extract the expressions of $d_{0T}^{(sequential)}$ and $d_{ijkT}^{(sequential)}$:

 $\frac{\frac{M}{t-1}\sigma^2}{p-\frac{M}{t-1}-1}+\bigg(1-\frac{M}{(t-1)}\bigg)$

 $\mathbb{E}\left\Vert \boldsymbol{w}_{j}^{*}-\boldsymbol{w}_{i}^{*}\right\Vert$

 $^{2} + \left(1 - \frac{M}{(1 - M)^{2}} \right)$

 $(t-1)p$

 $(t-1)p$

 $\int_0^{t-1} n\sigma^2$

 $\frac{100}{p-n-1}$

 $\setminus^{t-1} n$

 $\frac{n}{p}\left\Vert \boldsymbol{w}_{t}^{*}-\boldsymbol{w}_{i}^{*}\right\Vert ^{2}$

.

 $\Big) \mathop{\mathbb{E}} \| \bm{w}_{t-1} - \bm{w}_i^* \|^2$

 $(t-1)p$

1473
\n
$$
\mathbb{E} ||\mathbf{w}_t - \mathbf{w}_t^*||^2
$$
\n
$$
= \prod_{i=0}^{t-2} \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p} \right)^{t-l-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \right] \mathbb{E} ||\mathbf{w}_1 - \mathbf{w}_t^*||^2
$$
\n
$$
+ \sum_{j=1}^{t-1} \left\{ \sum_{l=0}^{t-j-1} \prod_{k=0}^{l-1} \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-k-1)p} \right)^{t-k-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \right] \right.
$$
\n1481
\n1482
\n
$$
+ \sum_{l=0}^{t-2} \prod_{k=0}^{l-1} \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-k-1)p} \right)^{t-k-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \right] \left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p} \right)^{t-j-l-1} \frac{M}{p} ||\mathbf{w}_j^* - \mathbf{w}_i^*||^2
$$
\n
$$
+ \left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-1)p} \right)^{t-1} \prod_{l=0}^{n} \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-k-1)p} \right)^{t-k-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \right] \left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p} \right)^{t-j-1} \frac{n}{p} ||\mathbf{w}_{t-l}^* - \mathbf{w}_i^*||^2
$$
\n
$$
+ \left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-1)p} \right)^{t-1} \frac{n}{p} ||\mathbf{w}_t^* - \mathbf{w}_t^*||^2 + \text{noise}_{t}^{(\text{sequential})}(\sigma)
$$
\n
$$
= \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \prod_{l=0}^{t-2} \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p} \right)^{t-l-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \right] ||\mathbf{w}_i^*||^2
$$
\n
$$
+ \left\{ \frac{n}{p} \prod_{l=0}^{t+2} \left[\left
$$

where noise_t^(sequential) (
$$
\sigma
$$
) = $\sum_{l=0}^{t-2} \prod_{k=0}^{l-1} \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-k-1)p} \right)^{t-k-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \right]$

$$
\cdot \left[\sum_{j=1}^{t-1} \left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-1)p} \right)^{t-j-1} \frac{\frac{M}{t-1}\sigma^2}{p - \frac{M}{t-1} - 1} + \left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-1)p} \right)^{t-1} \frac{n\sigma^2}{p - n - 1} \right]
$$

1512 1513 1514 1515 1516 1517 1518 1519 1520 1521 1522 1523 1524 1525 1526 1527 1528 1529 1530 1531 1532 1533 1534 1535 1536 1537 1538 1539 1540 1541 1542 1543 1544 Furthermore, the expressions of $c_i^{(sequential)}$ and $c_{ijk}^{(sequential)}$ in Proposition [2](#page-5-1) can be extracted from the derivation of $\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{L}_i(\boldsymbol{w}_t)] - \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{L}_i(\boldsymbol{w})]$ as follows. $\left[\mathbb{E}\left\Vert \boldsymbol{w}_{t}-\boldsymbol{w}_{i}^{*}\right\Vert _{2}^{2}-\mathbb{E}\left\Vert \boldsymbol{w}_{i}-\boldsymbol{w}_{i}^{*}\right\Vert _{2}^{2}\right]^{(\text{sequential})}$ $=\left(1-\frac{n}{p}\right)\left\{\prod_{l=0}^{t-2}\left[\left(1-\frac{M}{(t-l-1)p}\right)^{t-l-1}\left(1-\frac{n}{p}\right)\right]\right\}$ $-\prod_{l=0}^{i-2}\left[\left(1-\frac{M}{(i-l-1)p}\right)^{i-l-1}\left(1-\frac{n}{p}\right)\right]\Big\}\left\Vert \boldsymbol{w}_{i}^{\ast}\right\Vert ^{2}$ $+\left\{ \frac{n}{p} \left\{ \prod_{l=0}^{t-2} \left[\left(1-\frac{M}{(t-l-1)p}\right)^{t-l-1} \left(1-\frac{n}{p}\right) \right] - \prod_{l=0}^{i-2} \left[\left(1-\frac{M}{(i-l-1)p}\right)^{i-l-1} \left(1-\frac{n}{p}\right) \right] \right\} \right\}$ $+\sum_{l=0}^{t-2} \prod_{k=0}^{l-1} \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-k-1)p}\right)^{t-k-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p}\right) \right] \left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p}\right)^{t-l-2} \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p}$ $-\sum_{l=0}^{i-2} \prod_{k=0}^{l-1} \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{(i-k-1)p}\right)^{i-k-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p}\right) \right] \left(1 - \frac{M}{(i-l-1)p}\right)^{i-l-2} \frac{M}{(i-l-1)p}$ $\Big\}\left\|\boldsymbol{w}_{1}^{*}-\boldsymbol{w}_{i}^{*}\right\|^{2}$ $+\sum_{j=i}^{t-1}\left\{\sum_{l=0}^{t-j-1}\prod_{k=0}^{l-1}\left[\left(1-\frac{M}{(t-k-1)p}\right)^{t-k-1}\left(1-\frac{n}{p}\right)\right]\left(1-\frac{M}{(t-l-1)p}\right)^{t-j-l-1}\frac{M}{(t-l-1)p}$ $+\left. \Pi_{k=0}^{t-j-1} \left[\left(1-\frac{M}{(t-k-1)p}\right)^{t-k-1}\left(1-\frac{n}{p}\right)\right] \left(1-\frac{M}{(j-1)p}\right)^{j-1} \frac{n}{p}\right\} \left\| \boldsymbol{w}_{j}^{*}-\boldsymbol{w}_{i}^{*} \right\|$ 2 $+\sum_{j=2}^{i-1} \left\{ \sum_{l=0}^{t-j-1} \prod_{k=0}^{l-1} \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-k-1)p}\right)^{t-k-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p}\right) \right] \left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p}\right)^{t-j-l-1} \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p}$ $-\sum_{l=0}^{i-j-1} \prod_{k=0}^{l-1} \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{(i-k-1)p}\right)^{i-k-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p}\right) \right] \left(1 - \frac{M}{(i-l-1)p}\right)^{i-j-l-1} \frac{M}{(i-l-1)p}$ $+\prod_{k=0}^{t-j-1}\left[\left(1-\frac{M}{(t-k-1)p}\right)^{t-k-1}\left(1-\frac{n}{p}\right)\right]\left(1-\frac{M}{(j-1)p}\right)^{j-1}\frac{n}{p}$ $-\prod_{k=0}^{i-j-1}\left[\left(1-\frac{M}{(i-k-1)p}\right)^{i-k-1}\left(1-\frac{n}{p}\right)\right]\left(1-\frac{M}{(j-1)p}\right)^{j-1}\frac{n}{p}\right\}\left\Vert \boldsymbol{w}_{j}^{*}-\boldsymbol{w}_{i}^{*}\right\Vert$ 2 $+\left(1-\frac{M}{(t-1)p}\right)^{t-1}\frac{n}{p}\left\Vert \boldsymbol{w}_{t}^{*}-\boldsymbol{w}_{i}^{*}\right\Vert ^{2}+\text{noise}_{t}^{(\text{sequential})}(\sigma)-\text{noise}_{i}^{(\text{sequential})}$ (36)

1545 1546 B.3 PROOF OF THEOREM [1](#page-4-1)

Theorem [1](#page-5-0) follows directly from Propositions 1 and [2](#page-5-1) and the definitions of F_T and G_T .

C PROOF OF THEOREM [2](#page-6-1)

In this section, we prove Theorem [2](#page-6-1) and provide details about constants $\xi_1, \xi_2, \mu_1, \mu_2$. According to eqs. [\(33\)](#page-25-0) to [\(36\)](#page-28-1), we can write forgetting and generalization error when $T = 2$ as follows. For concurrent replay method, we have:

$$
F_2^{\text{(concurrent)}} = \mathbb{E} \| \boldsymbol{w}_2 - \boldsymbol{w}_1^* \|^2 - \mathbb{E} \| \boldsymbol{w}_1 - \boldsymbol{w}_1^* \|^2
$$

= $\left(-\frac{n+M}{p} \right) \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \| \boldsymbol{w}_1^* \|^2 + \frac{n}{p} \left(1 + \frac{M}{p-n-M-1} \right) \| \boldsymbol{w}_1^* - \boldsymbol{w}_2^* \|^2$
+ $\frac{(n+M)\sigma^2}{p-(n+M)-1} - \frac{n+M}{p} \cdot \frac{n\sigma^2}{p-n-1}.$ (37)

And also, we have

1563
\n1564
\n1565
\n
$$
G_2^{(\text{concurrent})} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\mathbb{E} \left\| \boldsymbol{w}_2 - \boldsymbol{w}_1^* \right\|^2 + \mathbb{E} \left\| \boldsymbol{w}_2 - \boldsymbol{w}_2^* \right\|^2 \right)
$$
\n
$$
= \frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \frac{n + M}{p} \right) \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \left(\left\| \boldsymbol{w}_1^* \right\|^2 + \left\| \boldsymbol{w}_2^* \right\|^2 \right)
$$

$$
+ \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{2n+M}{p} + \frac{2nM}{p(p-n-M-1)} - \frac{n(n+M)}{p^2} \right) \left\| \mathbf{w}_1^* - \mathbf{w}_2^* \right\|^2
$$

\n1568
\n1569
\n1570
\n20.11
\n
$$
+ \frac{(n+M)\sigma^2}{p-(n+M)-1} + \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} \right) \frac{n\sigma^2}{p-n-1}.
$$
\n(38)

On the other hand, the performance of sequential replay method is:

$$
F_2^{\text{sequential}} = \mathbb{E} \| \boldsymbol{w}_2 - \boldsymbol{w}_1^* \|^2 - \mathbb{E} \| \boldsymbol{w}_1 - \boldsymbol{w}_1^* \|^2
$$

= $\left(-\frac{n+M}{p} + \frac{nM}{p^2} \right) \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \| \boldsymbol{w}_1^* \|^2 + \left(1 - \frac{M}{p} \right) \frac{n}{p} \| \boldsymbol{w}_1^* - \boldsymbol{w}_2^* \|^2$
+ $\left(1 - \frac{n+2M}{p} + \frac{nM}{p^2} \right) \frac{n\sigma^2}{p-n-1} + \frac{M\sigma^2}{p-M-1}.$ (39)

1578 And also, we have

1597

1599

1601 1602

$$
G_2^{\text{sequential}} = \frac{1}{2} (\mathbb{E} \left\| \boldsymbol{w}_2 - \boldsymbol{w}_1^* \right\|^2 + \mathbb{E} \left\| \boldsymbol{w}_2 - \boldsymbol{w}_2^* \right\|^2)
$$

=
$$
\frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \frac{M}{p} \right) \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right)^2 (\left\| \boldsymbol{w}_1^* \right\|^2 + \left\| \boldsymbol{w}_2^* \right\|^2)
$$

+
$$
\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{2n + M}{p} - \frac{n(n + 2M)}{p^2} + \frac{n^2 M}{p^3} \right) \left\| \boldsymbol{w}_1^* - \boldsymbol{w}_2^* \right\|^2
$$

+
$$
\left(1 - \frac{M}{p} \right) \left(2 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \frac{n \sigma^2}{p - n - 1} + \frac{M \sigma^2}{p - M - 1}.
$$
 (40)

1589 C.1 PROOF OF FORGETTING IN THEOREM [2](#page-6-1)

By observing eq. [\(37\)](#page-28-2) and eq. [\(39\)](#page-29-0), we see that the forgetting can be expressed as:

$$
F_2 = \hat{c}_1 \| \mathbf{w}_1^*\|^2 + \hat{c}_2 \| \mathbf{w}_1^* - \mathbf{w}_2^*\|^2 + \text{noise}(\sigma).
$$

Before we investigate forgetting, we compare the coefficients \hat{c}_1, \hat{c}_2 and term noise(σ) as follows, with concurrent replay on the left and sequential replay on the right.

1596
\n1597
\n1598
\n1599
\n1599
\n1599
\n1600
\n1601
\n1602
\n1603
\nThe comparison implies that
$$
\hat{C}_1^{\text{(concurrent)}} < \hat{C}_1^{\text{(concurrent)}}
$$

1603 1604 1605 1606 The comparison implies that $\hat{c}_1^{\text{(concurrent)}} < \hat{c}_1^{\text{(sequential)}}, \hat{c}_2^{\text{(concurrent)}} > \hat{c}_2^{\text{(sequential)}}$ and noise $(\sigma) > \text{noise}^{(\text{sequential})}$ (σ). Based on the calculation, we obtain the following con-, c_2 and clusion:

$$
F_2^{(\text{concurrent})} > F_2^{(\text{sequential})} \quad \text{if and only if} \quad \xi_1 \left\| \boldsymbol{w}_1^* - \boldsymbol{w}_2^* \right\|^2 + \xi_2 \sigma^2 > \left\| \boldsymbol{w}_1^* \right\|^2,
$$

where
$$
\xi_1 = \frac{\frac{nM}{p} \left(\frac{1}{p-n-M-1} + \frac{1}{p} \right)}{\frac{nM}{p^2} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right)}
$$
 and $\xi_2 = \frac{\left(\frac{n+M}{p-n-M-1} - \left(1 - \frac{M}{p} + \frac{nM}{p^2} \right) \frac{n}{p-n-1} - \frac{M}{p-M-1} \right)}{\frac{nM}{p^2} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right)}$. To make a
clearer illustration, we provide the following two special cases.

• If the noise σ is 0, and the task similarity is low enough (i.e., $||\boldsymbol{w}_1^* - \boldsymbol{w}_2^*||^2$ is large enough), sequential replay achieves a lower forgetting. More specifically, $F_2^{\text{(concurrent)}} \ge F_2^{\text{(sequential)}}$ if and only if $\|{\bm{w}}_1^*-{\bm{w}}_2^*\|^2\geq \frac{(p-n)(p-n-M-1)}{p^2+p(p-n-M-1)}\, \|{\bm{w}}_1^*\|^2,$

• If task difference $\|\boldsymbol{w}_1^* - \boldsymbol{w}_2^*\|^2 = 0$ and the noise σ is large enough, sequential replay achieves a lower forgetting. More specifically, $F_2^{\text{(concurrent)}} \ge F_2^{\text{(sequential)}}$ if and only if

1617
\n1618
\n
$$
\sigma \ge \frac{\frac{nM}{p^2} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p}\right)}{\frac{n + M}{p - n - M - 1} - \left(1 - \frac{M}{p} + \frac{nM}{p^2}\right) \frac{n}{p - n - 1} - \frac{M}{p - M - 1}} \|w_1^*\|^2.
$$

1620 1621 C.2 PROOF OF GENERALIZATION ERROR IN THEOREM [2](#page-6-1)

1622 By observing eq. [\(38\)](#page-29-1) and eq. [\(40\)](#page-29-2), we see that the generalization error can be expressed as:

$$
G_2 = \hat{d}_1(\|\mathbf{w}_1^*\|^2 + \|\mathbf{w}_2^*\|^2) + \hat{d}_2\|\mathbf{w}_1^* - \mathbf{w}_2^*\|^2 + \text{noise}(\sigma).
$$

Before we compare generalization error, we first observe the coefficients \hat{d}_1, \hat{d}_2 and term noise (σ) as follows, with concurrent replay on the left and sequential replay on the right.

1628
\n1629
\n1630
\n1631
\n1631
\n
$$
\frac{2n+M}{p} + \frac{2nM}{p(p-n-M-1)} - \frac{n(n+M)}{p^2} > \frac{2n+M}{p} - \frac{n(n+2M)}{p^2} + \frac{n^2M}{p^3},
$$
\n1633
\n1634
\n1635
\n1636
\n1637
\n1638
\n1639
\n1639
\n1635
\n1639
\n1638
\n1639
\n1639
\n1639
\n1630
\n1630
\n1631
\n1634
\n1635
\n1639
\n1639
\n1630
\n1631
\n1634
\n1635
\n1639
\n1639
\n1639
\n1630
\n1631
\n1632
\n1633
\n1634
\n1635
\n1639
\n1630
\n1630
\n1631
\n1634
\n1635
\n1639
\n1630
\n1631
\n1634
\n1635
\n1639
\n1630
\n1631
\n16

which implies that $\hat{d}_1^{\text{(concurrent)}} < \hat{d}_1^{\text{(sequential)}}$ and $\hat{d}_2^{\text{(concurrent)}} > \hat{d}_2^{\text{(sequential)}}, \text{ noise}^{\text{(concurrent)}}(\sigma) >$ noise $\hat{\text{cos}}(\sigma)$. Based on our calculation, we obtain the following conclusion. Furthermore, we can obtain the following conclusion:

$$
G_2^{\text{(concurrent)}} \geq G_2^{\text{(sequential)}} \quad \text{if and only if} \quad \mu_1 \left\| \boldsymbol{w}_1^* - \boldsymbol{w}_2^* \right\|^2 + \mu_2 \sigma^2 > \left\| \boldsymbol{w}_1^* \right\|^2,
$$

where
$$
\mu_1 = \frac{\frac{nM}{p} \left(\frac{2}{p-n-M-1} + \frac{1}{p} - \frac{n}{p^2} \right)}{\frac{nM}{p^2} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right)}
$$
 and $\mu_2 = \frac{\frac{n+M}{p-n-M-1} - \left(1 - \frac{M}{p} + \frac{nM}{p^2} \right) \frac{n}{p-n-1} - \frac{M}{p-M-1}}{\frac{nM}{p^2} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right)}$. To provide a clearer illustration, we provide the following two special cases.

• If the noise σ is 0, and the task similarity is small enough (i.e., $||w_1^* - w_2^*||^2$ is big enough), sequential replay has a smaller generalization error. More specifically, $G_2^{\text{(concurrent)}} \ge G_2^{\text{(sequential)}}$ if and only if $\left\| \bm{w}_1^* - \bm{w}_2^* \right\|^2 \geq \frac{(p-n)(p-n-M-1)}{2p^2 + (p-n)(p-n-M-1)} \left(\left\| \bm{w}_1^* \right\|^2 + \left\| \bm{w}_2^* \right\|^2 \right)$

• If the task difference $\|\boldsymbol{w}_1^* - \boldsymbol{w}_2^*\|^2 = 0$ and the noise σ is big, sequential replay has a smaller generalization error. More specifically, $G_2^{\text{(concurrent)}} \geq G_2^{\text{(sequential)}}$ if and only if

$$
\sigma^2 \geq \frac{\frac{nM}{p^2}\left(1-\frac{n}{p}\right)}{\frac{n+M}{p-n-M-1}-\left(1-\frac{M}{p}+\frac{nM}{p^2}\right)\frac{n}{p-n-1}-\frac{M}{p-M-1}}\left(\left\|\boldsymbol{w}_1^*\right\|^2+\left\|\boldsymbol{w}_2^*\right\|^2\right)
$$

1658 1659

D COMPARISON BETWEEN CONCURRENT AND SEQUENTIAL REPLAY METHODS WHEN $T=3$

1660 1661 1662 1663 We recall that $M_{2,1} = M$ and $M_{3,1} = M_{3,2} = \frac{M}{2}$ under our equal memory allocation assumption. We assume that $\sigma = 0$. According to eqs. [\(33\)](#page-25-0) and [\(34\)](#page-26-0), we write performance of the concurrent replay method when $T = 3$ as follows.

1664 1670 1671 1672 1673 F (concurrent) ³ = 1 2 (E ∥w³ − w[∗] 1∥ ² − E ∥w¹ − w[∗] 1∥ ² + E ∥w³ − w[∗] 2∥ ² − E ∥w² − w[∗] 2∥ 2) = 1 2 − 2(n + M) p + (n + M) 2 p 2 ¹ [−] n p ∥w[∗] 1∥ 2 + 1 2 − n + M p ¹ [−] n + M p ¹ [−] n p ∥w[∗] 2∥ 2 + 1 2 ¹ [−] 2(n + M) p nM ^p(^p [−] ⁿ [−] ^M [−] 1) ⁺ M² 2p(p − n − M − 1) + n + M p 1 − n p ¹ [−] n + M p [∥]w[∗] ¹ − w[∗] 2∥ 2

$$
+ \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{n}{p} + \frac{nM}{p(p-n-M-1)} \right] \left\| \boldsymbol{w}_1^* - \boldsymbol{w}_3^* \right\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{n}{p} + \frac{nM}{p(p-n-M-1)} \right] \left\| \boldsymbol{w}_2^* - \boldsymbol{w}_3^* \right\|^2. \tag{41}
$$

And also, we have

$$
G_3^{\text{(concurrent)}} = \frac{1}{3} (\mathbb{E} || \mathbf{w}_3 - \mathbf{w}_1^* ||^2 + \mathbb{E} || \mathbf{w}_3 - \mathbf{w}_2^* ||^2 + \mathbb{E} || \mathbf{w}_3 - \mathbf{w}_3^* ||^2)
$$

\n
$$
= \frac{1}{3} \left(1 - \frac{n + M}{p} \right)^2 \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) (|| \mathbf{w}_1^* ||^2 + || \mathbf{w}_2^* ||^2 + || \mathbf{w}_3^* ||^2)
$$

\n
$$
+ \frac{1}{3} \left[\left(3 - \frac{3(n + M)}{p} \right) \frac{nM}{p(p - n - M - 1)} + \frac{3M^2}{4p(p - n - M - 1)} + \frac{n + M}{p} \left(2 - \frac{3n}{p} - \frac{M}{p} + \frac{n(n + M)}{p^2} \right) \right] || \mathbf{w}_1^* - \mathbf{w}_2^* ||^2
$$

\n
$$
+ \frac{1}{3} \left[\frac{n}{p} \left(2 - \frac{2(n + M)}{p} + \frac{(n + M)^2}{p^2} \right) + \frac{M}{p} \left(1 - \frac{n + M}{p} \right) + \frac{M}{2p} + \frac{3nM}{2p(p - n - M - 1)} \right] || \mathbf{w}_1^* - \mathbf{w}_3^* ||^2
$$

\n
$$
+ \frac{1}{3} \left[\frac{n}{p} \left(2 - \frac{n + M}{p} \right) + \frac{M}{2p} + \frac{3nM}{2p(p - n - M - 1)} \right] || \mathbf{w}_2^* - \mathbf{w}_3^* ||^2.
$$
 (42)

1695 1696 According to eqs. [\(35\)](#page-27-0) and [\(36\)](#page-28-1), the performance of sequential replay when $T = 3$ is provided as follows.

$$
F_3^{\text{(sequential)}} = \frac{1}{2} (\mathbb{E} || \mathbf{w}_3 - \mathbf{w}_1^* ||^2 - \mathbb{E} || \mathbf{w}_1 - \mathbf{w}_1^* ||^2 + \mathbb{E} || \mathbf{w}_3 - \mathbf{w}_2^* ||^2 - \mathbb{E} || \mathbf{w}_2 - \mathbf{w}_2^* ||^2)
$$

\n
$$
= \frac{1}{2} \left[\left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right)^3 \left(1 - \frac{M}{p} \right) \left(1 - \frac{M}{2p} \right)^2 - \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \right] || \mathbf{w}_1^* ||^2
$$

\n
$$
+ \frac{1}{2} \left[\left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right)^3 \left(1 - \frac{M}{p} \right) \left(1 - \frac{M}{2p} \right)^2 - \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right)^2 \left(1 - \frac{M}{p} \right) \right] || \mathbf{w}_2^* ||^2
$$

\n
$$
+ \frac{1}{2} \left[\left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \left(1 - \frac{M}{p} \right) \frac{n}{p} \left(\left(1 - \frac{M}{2p} \right)^2 \left(2 - \frac{n}{p} \right) - 1 \right) + \left(1 - \frac{M}{2p} \right)^2 \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \frac{M}{p} - \frac{M^2}{4p^2} \right] || \mathbf{w}_1^* - \mathbf{w}_2^* ||^2
$$

\n
$$
+ \frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \frac{M}{2p} \right)^2 \frac{n}{p} || \mathbf{w}_1^* - \mathbf{w}_3^* ||^2 + \left(1 - \frac{M}{2p} \right)^2 \frac{n}{p} || \mathbf{w}_2^* - \mathbf{w}_3^* ||^2. \tag{43}
$$

And also, we have

$$
G_3^{\text{(concurrent)}} = \frac{1}{3} (\mathbb{E} || \mathbf{w}_3 - \mathbf{w}_1^* ||^2 + \mathbb{E} || \mathbf{w}_3 - \mathbf{w}_2^* ||^2 + \mathbb{E} || \mathbf{w}_3 - \mathbf{w}_3^* ||^2)
$$

\n
$$
= \frac{1}{3} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right)^3 \left(1 - \frac{M}{p} \right) \left(1 - \frac{M}{2p} \right)^2 (|| \mathbf{w}_1^* ||^2 + || \mathbf{w}_2^* ||^2 + || \mathbf{w}_3^* ||^2)
$$

\n
$$
+ \frac{1}{3} \left\{ \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \left(1 - \frac{M}{2p} \right)^2 \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{p} \right) \left(2 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \frac{n}{p} + \frac{M}{p} \right] + \frac{M}{p} - \frac{M^2}{4p^2} \right\} || \mathbf{w}_1^* - \mathbf{w}_2^* ||^2
$$

\n
$$
+ \frac{1}{3} \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{2p} \right)^2 \frac{n}{p} + \left(1 - \frac{M}{2p} \right)^2 \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \frac{M}{p} + \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right)^2 \left(1 - \frac{M}{p} \right) \left(1 - \frac{M}{2p} \right)^2 \frac{n}{p} + \left(1 - \frac{M}{2p} \right) \frac{M}{2p} \right] || \mathbf{w}_1^* - \mathbf{w}_3^* ||^2
$$

\n
$$
+ \frac{1}{3} \left\{ \left(1 - \frac{M}{2p} \right)^2 \frac{n}{p} \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{p} \right) \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) + 1 \right] + \frac{M}{2p} \right\} || \mathbf{w}_2^* - \mathbf{w}_3^* ||^2.
$$

\n
$$
(44)
$$

1728 1729 D.1 COMPARISON OF FORGETTING WHEN $T = 3$

1730 1731 By observing eq. [\(41\)](#page-31-0) and eq. [\(43\)](#page-31-1), we can write forgetting in the same structure for both training methods:

$$
F_3 = \frac{1}{2} \hat{c}_1 \left\| \boldsymbol{w}_1^* \right\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \hat{c}_2 \left\| \boldsymbol{w}_2^* \right\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \hat{c}_3 \left\| \boldsymbol{w}_1^* - \boldsymbol{w}_2^* \right\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \hat{c}_4 \left\| \boldsymbol{w}_1^* - \boldsymbol{w}_3^* \right\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \hat{c}_5 \left\| \boldsymbol{w}_2^* - \boldsymbol{w}_3^* \right\|^2
$$

.

1734 1735 1736 1737 By comparing eq. [\(41\)](#page-31-0) and eq. [\(43\)](#page-31-1), we have the following conclusions: $1.\hat{c}_1^{\text{(concurrent)}} < \hat{c}_1^{\text{(sequential)}}$; $2.\hat{c}_2^{\text{(sequential)}} < \hat{c}_2^{\text{(sequential)}}; 3.\hat{c}_3^{\text{(concurrent)}} > \hat{c}_3^{\text{(sequential)}}, \text{ when } p > \frac{5n+4M}{2}; 4.\hat{c}_4^{\text{(concurrent)}} > \hat{c}_4^{\text{(sequential)}};$ $5.\hat{c}_5^{\text{(concurrent)}} > \hat{c}_5^{\text{(sequential)}}$. The proof of these conclusions is provided as follows.

1739 *Proof.* 1. To prove
$$
\hat{c}_1^{\text{(concurrent)}} < \hat{c}_1^{\text{(sequential)}}
$$
:

1740 1741 1742 1743 1744 1745 1746 1747 1748 1749 1750 cˆ (sequential) ¹ = " 1 − n p ³ 1 − M p ¹ [−] M 2p 2 − 1 − n p # = " 1 − n p ² 1 − M p ¹ [−] M 2p 2 − 1 # 1 − n p > " 1 − n p ² 1 − M p 2 − 1 # 1 − n p > " 1 − n + M p 2 − 1 # 1 − n p

 $= \hat{c}_1^{\text{(concurrent)}}.$

$$
\frac{1751}{1752}
$$

1732 1733

1738

$$
\begin{array}{c}\n1753 \\
1754\n\end{array}
$$
\n2. To prove $\hat{c}_2^{\text{(concurrent)}} < \hat{c}_2^{\text{(sequential)}}:$

1755 1756 1757 1758 1759 1760 1761 1762 1763 1764 1765 1766 1767 1768 1769 1770 1771 1772 1773 1774 cˆ (sequential) ² = " 1 − n p ³ 1 − M p ¹ [−] M 2p 2 − 1 − n p ² 1 − M p # > " 1 − n p ³ 1 − M p 2 − 1 − n p ² 1 − M p # = 1 − n p ¹ [−] n p ¹ [−] M p − 1 ¹ [−] n p ¹ [−] M p = 1 − n p nM p 2 − n + M p ¹ [−] n + M p + nM p 2 = 1 − n p nM p 2 − n + M p ¹ [−] n + M p + nM p 2 = 1 − n p [−] n + M p ¹ [−] n + M p + 1 − n p nM p 2 1 − 2(n + M) p + nM p 2 > 1 − n p [−] n + M p ¹ [−] n + M p

$$
1775 = \hat{c}_2^{\text{(concurrent)}}.
$$

1777 1778 1779 1780 1781 3. To prove $\hat{c}_3^{\text{(concurrent)}} > \hat{c}_3^{\text{(sequential)}}$ when $p > \frac{5n+4M}{2}$, we first notice that $\hat{c}_3^{\text{(concurrent)}} = \left(1 - \frac{2(n+M)}{n}\right)$ p $\bigg)\,\frac{nM}{p(p-n-M-1)}\,+\,$ $M²$ $2p(p - n - M - 1)$ $+\frac{n+M}{m}$ $\left(1-\frac{n}{2}\right)$ $\left(\frac{n}{p}\right)\left(1-\frac{n+M}{p}\right)$

p

p

 \setminus

$$
1782\n\n1783\n\end{math}\n> \left(1 - \frac{2(n+M)}{p}\right)\frac{nM}{p^2} + \frac{M^2}{2p^2} + \frac{n+M}{p}\left(1 - \frac{n}{p}\right)\left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)
$$

$$
1784\n\n1785\n\n1786\n\
$$

1787 On the other hand, we have:

$$
\hat{c}_3^{\text{(sequential)}} = \left(1 - \frac{n}{p}\right) \left(1 - \frac{M}{p}\right) \frac{n}{p} \left(\left(1 - \frac{M}{2p}\right)^2 \left(2 - \frac{n}{p}\right) - 1\right) \n+ \left(1 - \frac{M}{2p}\right)^2 \left(1 - \frac{n}{p}\right) \frac{M}{p} - \frac{M^2}{4p^2} \n= \left(1 - \frac{n}{p}\right) \left(1 - \frac{M}{p}\right) \frac{n}{p} \left(\left(1 - \frac{M}{p}\right) \left(2 - \frac{n}{p}\right) - 1\right) + \left(1 - \frac{M}{p}\right) \left(1 - \frac{n}{p}\right) \frac{M}{p} \n+ \frac{M^2}{4p^2} \left[\left(2 - \frac{n}{p}\right) \left(1 - \frac{M}{p}\right) \left(1 - \frac{n}{p}\right) \frac{n}{p} + \left(1 - \frac{n}{p}\right) \frac{M}{p} - 1\right] \n< \left(1 - \frac{n}{p}\right) \left(1 - \frac{M}{p}\right) \frac{n}{p} \left(\left(1 - \frac{M}{p}\right) \left(2 - \frac{n}{p}\right) - 1\right)
$$

$$
\begin{array}{c} 1800 \\ 1801 \end{array}
$$

1786

1802

1807

1809

1811

+ 1 − M ¹ [−] n M + M² 2n + M − 1 p p p 4p 2 p p **1803** n ¹ [−] M n ¹ [−] M ² [−] n M ¹ [−] n (i) < 1 − − 1 + 1 − **1804** p p p p p p p **1805** n ¹ [−] M n 2M n nM M ¹ [−] n M **1806** = 1 − 1 − − + + 1 − 2 p p p p p p p p p n ¹ [−] M n + M n ¹ [−] M n n + 2M nM **1808** = 1 − + 1 − − + p p p p p p p p 2 **1810** n ¹ [−] M n + M n + M n n + 2M nM (ii) < 1 − + 1 − − + p p p p p p p 2 **1812** ² + 2nM ³ + 4n ²M + 2nM² n ¹ [−] M n + M n n **1813** < 1 − − + , 2 P³ p p p p

1814 1815

where (*i*) follows from the face that $p > \frac{5n+4M}{2}$ and (*ii*) follows from the fact that $-\frac{n+2M}{p} + \frac{nM}{p^2}$ < 0. Furthermore, under the condition $p > \frac{5n+4M}{2}$, we have:

 \underline{M} p

$$
-\frac{n^2+2nM}{p^2}+\frac{n^3+4n^2M+2nM^2}{P^3}<-\frac{n^2}{p^2}+\frac{n^3-n^2M-2nM^2}{p^3},
$$

1820 1821 which completes the proof. 4. To prove $\hat{c}_4^{\text{(concurrent)}} > \hat{c}_4^{\text{(sequential)}}$:

$$
\hat{c}_4^{(\text{concurrent})} = \frac{n}{p} + \frac{nM}{p(p-n-M-1)} > \frac{n}{p} > \left(1-\frac{M}{2p}\right)^2\frac{n}{p} = \hat{c}_4^{(\text{sequential})}.
$$

5. The proof of $\hat{c}_5^{\text{(concurrent)}} > \hat{c}_5^{\text{(sequential)}}$ is the same as $\hat{c}_4^{\text{(concurrent)}} > \hat{c}_4^{\text{(sequential)}}$.

1827 1828 D.2 COMPARISON OF GENERALIZATION ERROR WHEN $T = 3$

1829 1830 By observing eq. [\(42\)](#page-31-2) and eq. [\(44\)](#page-31-3), we can write generalization error in the same structure for both training methods:

$$
G_3 = \frac{1}{3}\hat{d}_1(\|\mathbf{w}_1^*\|^2 + \|\mathbf{w}_2^*\|^2 + \|\mathbf{w}_3^*\|^2) + \frac{1}{3}\hat{d}_2\|\mathbf{w}_1^* - \mathbf{w}_2^*\|^2 + \frac{1}{3}\hat{d}_3\|\mathbf{w}_1^* - \mathbf{w}_3^*\|^2 + \frac{1}{3}\hat{d}_4\|\mathbf{w}_2^* - \mathbf{w}_3^*\|^2.
$$

1833 1834 1835 By comparing eq. [\(42\)](#page-31-2) and eq. [\(44\)](#page-31-3), we have the following conclusions: $1.\hat{d}_1^{\text{(concurrent)}} < \hat{d}_1^{\text{(sequential)}}$; $2 \cdot \hat{d}_2^{(concurrent)} > \hat{d}_2^{(sequential)}$ when $p > \frac{4n+3M}{2}$; $3 \cdot \hat{d}_3^{(concurrent)} > \hat{d}_3^{(sequential)}$; $4 \cdot \hat{d}_4^{(concurrent)} > \hat{d}_4^{(sequential)}$. The proof of these relationships is provided as follows.

1836 1837 1838 1839 1840 1841 1842 1843 1844 1845 1846 1847 1848 1849 1850 1851 1852 1853 1854 1855 1856 1857 1858 1859 1860 1861 1862 1863 1864 1865 1866 1867 1868 1869 1870 1871 1872 1873 1874 1875 1876 1877 1878 1879 1880 1881 1882 1883 1884 1885 1886 1887 1888 1889 1. To prove $\hat{d}_1^{\text{(concurrent)}} < \hat{d}_1^{\text{(sequential)}}$: $\hat{d}_1^{\text{(sequential)}} = \left(1 - \frac{n}{n}\right)$ p $\bigg\}^3 \bigg(1 - \frac{M}{2}\bigg)$ $\left(\frac{M}{p}\right)\left(1-\frac{M}{2p}\right)$ $_{2p}$ \setminus^2 $>\left(1-\frac{n}{2}\right)$ p $\bigg)^3 \bigg(1 - \frac{M}{2}\bigg)$ p \setminus^2 $> \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{\cdot}\right)$ p $\bigg\}^2 \bigg(1 - \frac{M}{2}\bigg)$ p \setminus $=$ $\hat{d}_1^{\text{(concurrent)}}$. 2. To prove $\hat{d}_2^{(concurrent)} > \hat{d}_2^{(sequential)}$ when $p > \frac{4n+3M}{2}$, we first consider: $\hat{d}_2^{\text{(concurrent)}} = \left(3 - \frac{3(n+M)}{n}\right)$ p $\bigg)\,\frac{nM}{p(p-n-M-1)}\,+\,$ $3M^2$ $4p(p - n - M - 1)$ $+\frac{n+M}{m}$ p $\left(2-\frac{3n}{2}\right)$ $\frac{3n}{p}-\frac{M}{p}$ $\frac{M}{p}+\frac{n(n+M)}{p^2}$ p^2 \setminus $> \left(3 - \frac{3(n+M)}{2}\right)$ p $\setminus nM$ $\frac{1}{p^2}+\frac{3M^2}{4p^2}$ $\frac{3M^2}{4p^2}+\frac{n+M}{p}$ p $\left(2-\frac{3n}{2}\right)$ $\frac{3n}{p} - \frac{M}{p}$ $\frac{M}{p} + \frac{n(n+M)}{p^2}$ p^2 \setminus $> 3\left(1-\frac{n+M}{m}\right)$ p $\setminus nM$ $\frac{1}{p^2}+\frac{2(n+M)}{p}$ $\frac{+M)}{p}+\frac{n+M}{p}$ p $\left(-\frac{3n}{2}\right)$ $\frac{3n}{p} - \frac{n}{p}$ $\frac{n}{p} + \frac{n(n+M)}{p^2}$ p^2 \setminus $=\frac{2(n+M)}{2}$ $\frac{+M}{p} - \frac{3n^2 + nM + M^2}{p^2}$ $\frac{hM+M^2}{p^2} + \frac{n^3-n^2M-2nM^2}{p^3}$ p^3 . On the other hand, we have: $\hat{d}_{2}^{(\text{sequential})} = \left(1 - \frac{n}{n}\right)$ $\left(\frac{n}{p}\right)\left(1-\frac{M}{2p}\right)$ $\left(\frac{M}{2p}\right)^2\bigg[\bigg(1-\frac{M}{p}\bigg)$ $\left(\frac{M}{p}\right)\left(2-\frac{n}{p}\right)$ p $\setminus n$ $\frac{m}{p}+\frac{M}{p}$ p $+ \frac{M}{4}$ $\frac{M}{p}-\frac{M^2}{4p^2}$ $4p^2$ $=\left(1-\frac{n}{n}\right)$ $\left(\frac{n}{p}\right)\left(1-\frac{M}{p}\right)$ $\frac{M}{p}+\frac{M^2}{4p^2}$ $\left(1 - \frac{M^2}{p} \right) \Biggl[\biggl(1 - \frac{M}{p} \biggr)$ $\left(\frac{M}{p}\right)\left(2-\frac{n}{p}\right)$ p $\setminus n$ $\frac{n}{p} + \frac{M}{p}$ p $+ \frac{M}{4}$ $\frac{M}{p}-\frac{M^2}{4p^2}$ $4p^2$ $=\left(1-\frac{n}{2}\right)$ $\left(\frac{n}{p}\right)\left(1-\frac{M}{p}\right)$ $\left(\frac{M}{p}\right)\Bigl[\Bigl(1-\frac{M}{p}\Bigr)$ $\left(\frac{M}{p}\right)\left(2-\frac{n}{p}\right)$ p $\setminus n$ $\frac{n}{p}+\frac{M}{p}$ p $+ \frac{M}{4}$ p $+\frac{M^2}{4}$ $\frac{M^2}{4p^2}\left[\left(1-\frac{M}{p}\right.\right.$ $\left(\frac{M}{p}\right)\left(2-\frac{n}{p}\right)$ p $\setminus n$ $\frac{n}{p} + \frac{M}{p}$ p $\Big] - \frac{M^2}{4\pi^2}$ $4p^2$ $\lt \left(1-\frac{n}{n}\right)$ $\left(\frac{n}{p}\right)\left(1-\frac{M}{p}\right)$ $\left(\frac{M}{p}\right)\Bigl[\Bigl(1-\frac{M}{p}\Bigr)$ $\left(\frac{M}{p}\right)\left(2-\frac{n}{p}\right)$ p $\setminus n$ $\frac{n}{p} + \frac{M}{p}$ p $+ \frac{M}{4}$ p $+\frac{M^2}{1^2}$ $4p^2$ $\lceil 2n \rceil$ $\frac{2n}{p}+\frac{M}{p}$ $\frac{M}{p} - 1$ $\lt \left(1-\frac{n}{2}\right)$ $\left(\frac{n}{p}\right)\left(1-\frac{M}{p}\right)$ $\left(\frac{M}{p}\right)\Bigl[\left(2-\frac{n}{p}\right)$ p $\setminus n$ $\frac{n}{p} + \frac{M}{p}$ p $+ \frac{M}{4}$ p $=\left(1-\frac{n}{2}\right)$ $\binom{n}{p}\left(1-\frac{M}{p}\right)$ p $\setminus 2n$ $\frac{2n}{p} - \left(1 - \frac{n}{p}\right)$ $\left(\frac{n}{p}\right)\left(1-\frac{M}{p}\right)$ p $\setminus n^2$ $\frac{n^2}{p^2}+\frac{2M}{p}$ p $+\left(-\frac{n+M}{\cdots}\right)$ $\frac{+M}{p} + \frac{nM}{p^2}$ p^2 $\setminus M$ p $=\frac{2(n+M)}{2}$ $\frac{+M}{p} - \frac{3n^2 + 3nM + M^2}{p^2}$ $\frac{mM+M^2}{p^2} + \frac{n^3+3n^2M+nM^2}{p^3}$ $\frac{p^3M+nM^2}{p^3}-\frac{n^3M}{p^4}$ p^4 $\frac{2(n+M)}{2}$ $\frac{+M}{p} - \frac{3n^2 + 3nM + M^2}{p^2}$ $\frac{mM+M^2}{p^2} + \frac{n^3+3n^2M+nM^2}{p^3}$ $\frac{m + n m}{p^3}$. Under the condition $p > \frac{4n+3M}{2}$, we have: $-\frac{3n^2+3nM+M^2}{2}$ $\frac{mM + M^2}{p^2} + \frac{n^3 + 3n^2M + nM^2}{p^3}$ $\frac{p^3M + nM^2}{p^3} < -\frac{3n^2 + nM + M^2}{p^2}$ $\frac{hM+M^2}{p^2} + \frac{n^3-n^2M-2nM^2}{p^3}$ $\frac{n}{p^3},$ **1890 1891 1892 1893 1894 1895 1896 1897 1898 1899 1900 1901 1902 1903 1904 1905 1906 1907 1908 1909 1910 1911 1912 1913 1914 1915 1916 1917 1918 1919 1920 1921 1922 1923 1924 1925 1926 1927 1928 1929 1930 1931 1932 1933 1934 1935 1936 1937 1938 1939 1940 1941** which completes the proof. 3. To prove $\hat{d}_{3}^{(\text{concurrent})} > \hat{d}_{3}^{(\text{sequential})}$, we first have: $\hat{d}_3^{\text{(concurrent)}} = \frac{n}{n}$ p $\left(2 - \frac{2(n+M)}{2} \right)$ $\frac{(n+M)^2}{p} + \frac{(n+M)^2}{p^2}$ p^2 $+ \frac{M}{4}$ p $\left(1-\frac{n+M}{\cdots}\right)$ p $+\frac{M}{2}$ 2p $+\frac{3nM}{2}$ $2p(p - n - M - 1)$ $\frac{n}{2}$ p $\left(2 - \frac{2(n+M)}{2} \right)$ $\frac{(n+M)^2}{p} + \frac{(n+M)^2}{p^2}$ p^2 $+ \frac{M}{4}$ p $\left(1-\frac{n+M}{\cdots}\right)$ p $+\frac{M}{2}$ $\frac{M}{2p}+\frac{3nM}{2p^2}$ $2p^2$ On the other hand, we ha $\hat{d}_3^{\text{(sequential)}} = \left(1 - \frac{M}{2m}\right)$ $_{2p}$ $\setminus^2 n$ $\frac{n}{p} + \left(1 - \frac{M}{2p}\right)$ $_{2p}$ $\bigg\}^2 \bigg(1 - \frac{n}{2}\bigg)$ p $\setminus M$ p $+\left(1-\frac{n}{2}\right)$ p $\bigg\}^2 \bigg(1 - \frac{M}{2}\bigg)$ $\left(\frac{M}{p}\right)\left(1-\frac{M}{2p}\right)$ 2p $\setminus^2 n$ $\frac{n}{p} + \left(1 - \frac{M}{2p}\right)$ 2p $\setminus M$ 2p $\lt \left(1-\frac{M}{2}\right)$ $_{2p}$ $\setminus^2 n$ p $\left[1+\left(1-\frac{n}{2}\right)\right]$ p $\bigg\}^2 \bigg(1 - \frac{M}{2}\bigg)$ p \setminus $+\left(1-\frac{n}{2}\right)$ $\left(\frac{n}{p}\right)\left(1-\frac{M}{p}\right)$ p $\setminus M$ $\frac{M}{p}+\frac{M^3}{4p^3}$ $\frac{M^3}{4p^3}+\frac{M}{2p}$ 2p $\langle \frac{n}{2} \rangle$ p $\left(2-\frac{2n+M}{2}\right)$ $\frac{+M}{p} + \frac{n^2 + 2nM}{p^2}$ p^2 $+$ $\frac{n}{2}$ p $\left(-\frac{M}{\epsilon}\right)$ $\frac{M}{p}+\frac{M^2}{4p^2}$ $4p^2$ \setminus $+\frac{M}{A}$ p $\left(1-\frac{n+M}{\cdot}\right)$ p $+ \frac{nM^2}{2}$ $\frac{M^2}{p}+\frac{M^3}{4p^3}$ $\frac{M^3}{4p^3}+\frac{M}{2p}$ $=\frac{n}{n}$ p $\left(2-\frac{2n+2M}{2}\right)$ $\frac{p+2M}{p} + \frac{n^2 + 2nM + M^2}{p^2}$ p^2 $+ \stackrel{M}{-}$ p $\left(1-\frac{n+M}{\cdots}\right)$ p \setminus $+\frac{nM^2+M^3}{4a^3}$ $\frac{2+M^3}{4p^3}+\frac{M}{2p}$ $_{2p}$ $\langle \frac{n}{2} \rangle$ p $\left(2 - \frac{2(n+M)}{2} \right)$ $\frac{(n+M)^2}{p} + \frac{(n+M)^2}{p^2}$ p^2 $+ \stackrel{M}{-}$ p $\left(1-\frac{n+M}{\cdots}\right)$ p $+\frac{M}{2}$ $\frac{M}{2p}+\frac{3nM}{2p^2}$ $2p^2$ By combining the above equations, we complete the proof. 4. To prove $\hat{d}_4^{\text{(concurrent)}} > \hat{d}_4^{\text{(sequential)}},$ we first have: $\hat{d}_4^{(\text{sequential})} = \left(1 - \frac{M}{2\pi}\right)$ $_{2p}$ $\setminus^2 n$ $\frac{n}{p}\left[\left(1-\frac{M}{p}\right)\right]$ $\left(\frac{M}{p}\right)\left(1-\frac{n}{p}\right)$ p $\Big\} + 1 \Big\} + \frac{M}{2}$ $_{2p}$ $\langle \frac{n}{2} \rangle$ $\frac{m}{p}\left[\left(1-\frac{M}{p}\right)\right]$ $\left(\frac{M}{p}\right)\left(1-\frac{n}{p}\right)$ p $\Big\} + 1 \Big\} + \frac{M}{2}$ 2p $=\frac{n}{n}$ p $\bigg[2-\frac{n+M}{m}\bigg]$ p $+\frac{M}{2}$ $\frac{M}{2p}+\frac{n^2M}{p^3}$ p^3 $\langle \frac{n}{2} \rangle$ p $\bigg[2-\frac{n+M}{m}\bigg]$ p $+\frac{M}{2}$ $\frac{M}{2p} + \frac{3nM}{2p(p-n-1)}$ $2p(p - n - M - 1)$ $< \hat{d}_4^{\text{(concurrent)}}.$ E COMPARISON BETWEEN CONCURRENT AND SEQUENTIAL REPLAY FOR GENERAL T

.

 $_{2p}$

.

1942 1943 In order to develop the comparison between concurrent and sequential replay methods for general T, we need to compare the coefficients in Theorem [1](#page-4-1) between concurrent and sequential replay methods. In this section, we assume that $M \geq 2$.

1944 1945 E.1 COMPARISON OF COEFFICIENTS OF FORGETTING IN THEOREM [1](#page-4-1)

1946 1947 We first observe the terms β_1 and β_2 in eq. [\(34\)](#page-26-0) before we start to compare the forgetting under different training methods. We separate the term β_1 into two following parts.

$$
\beta_1 = \sum_{l=0}^{t-i-1} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^l \sum_{j=1}^{t-l-2} \sum_{k=j+1}^{t-l-1} \frac{(\frac{M}{t-l-1})^2}{p(p-n-M-1)} \left\|\boldsymbol{w}_j^* - \boldsymbol{w}_k^*\right\|^2 \right) \beta_1^+
$$

1951 1952

1948 1949 1950

$$
\begin{array}{c} 1953 \\ 1954 \\ 1955 \end{array}
$$

1961 1962

1969

1971 1972

1976 1977

1994 1995

$$
+\sum_{l=t-i}^{t-2} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^l \sum_{j=1}^{t-l-2} \sum_{k=j+1}^{t-l-1} \frac{\left(\frac{M}{t-l-1}\right)^2}{p(p-n-M-1)} \left\|\boldsymbol{w}_j^* - \boldsymbol{w}_k^*\right\|^2 -\sum_{l=0}^{i-2} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^l \sum_{j=1}^{i-l-2} \sum_{k=j+1}^{i-l-1} \frac{\left(\frac{M}{t-l-1}\right)^2}{p(p-n-M-1)} \left\|\boldsymbol{w}_j^* - \boldsymbol{w}_k^*\right\|^2
$$
 (45)

where β_1^+ consists of terms $\delta_{j,k}^+ \left\| \boldsymbol{w}_j^* - \boldsymbol{w}_k^* \right\|$ ² with $δ_{j,k}⁺ ≥ 0$ for $j = [k-1]; k = i, i + 1, ..., t - 1$. Then, we take a closer look at β_1^- .

1960
\n1961
\n1962
\n1963
\n1964
\n1965
\n1966
\n1967
\n1968
\n1969
\n1960
\n1961
\n1962
\n1963
\n1964
\n1965
\n1966
\n1967
\n1968
\n1969
\n1960
\n1961
\n1962
\n
$$
\left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{l} \sum_{j=1}^{i-l-2} \sum_{k=j+1}^{i-l-1} \frac{\left(\frac{M}{i-l-1}\right)^2}{p(p-n-M-1)} \left\|w_j^* - w_k^*\right\|^2
$$
\n1966
\n1967
\n1968
\n1969
\n1969
\n1960
\n1961
\n1962
\n
$$
T(n+M) \sum_{i=2}^{i-2} \sum_{j=1}^{l} \left[\left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{t-i} - 1 \right] \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{l} \sum_{j=1}^{i-l-2} \sum_{k=j+1}^{i-l-1} \frac{\left(\frac{M}{i-l-1}\right)^2}{p(p-n-M-1)} \left\|w_j^* - w_k^*\right\|^2
$$
\n1970

$$
\geq -\frac{T(n+M)}{p} \sum_{l=0}^{i-2} \sum_{j=1}^{i-l-2} \sum_{k=j+1}^{i-l-1} \frac{\left(\frac{M}{i-l-1}\right)^2}{p(p-n-M-1)} \left\| \boldsymbol{w}_j^* - \boldsymbol{w}_k^* \right\|^2.
$$
 (46)

1973 1974 1975 This shows that β_1^- consists of terms $\delta_{j,k}^- \|\boldsymbol{w}_j^* - \boldsymbol{w}_k^*\|$ 2 with $\delta^{-}_{j,k}$ ≥ $-\frac{T^2(n+M)M^2}{p^3}$ for $j \in [k-1]$ 1], $k \in [i-1]$. Therefore, β_1 consists of terms $\delta_{j,k} ||\boldsymbol{w}_j^* - \boldsymbol{w}_k^*||$ 2 where

$$
\delta_{j,k} = \delta_{j,k}^+ + \delta_{j,k}^- \ge -\frac{T^2(n+M)M^2}{p^3},\tag{47}
$$

1978 1979 for $j, k \neq t$. By the same argument, we have:

 $_{l=0}$

$$
\beta_2 = \sum\limits_{l = 0}^{t - i - 1} {\left({1 - \frac{{n + M}}{p}} \right)^l}\sum\limits_{j = 1}^{t - l - 1} {\frac{{\frac{{nM}}}{t - l - 1}}{{p(p - n - M - 1)}}\left\| {{\boldsymbol{w}}_j^* - {\boldsymbol{w}}_{t - l}^*} \right\|^2} } \right\}\beta_2^ +
$$

$$
+\sum_{l=t-i}^{t-2} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{l} \sum_{j=1}^{t-l-1} \frac{\frac{nM}{t-l-1}}{p(p-n-M-1)} \left\|\boldsymbol{w}_{j}^{*} - \boldsymbol{w}_{t-l}^{*}\right\|^{2} - \sum_{l=0}^{i-2} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{l} \sum_{j=1}^{i-l-1} \frac{\frac{nM}{i-l-1}}{p(p-n-M-1)} \left\|\boldsymbol{w}_{j}^{*} - \boldsymbol{w}_{i-l}^{*}\right\|^{2} \left\{\beta_{2}^{-},\qquad(48)
$$

1989 1990 1991 1992 1993 where β_2^+ consists of terms $\eta_{j,k}^+\left\|\boldsymbol{w}_j^*-\boldsymbol{w}_k^*\right\|$ ² with $\eta_{j,k}^+ \ge 0$ for $j \in [k-1], k = i+1, i+2, ..., t$ and β_2^- consists of terms $\eta_{j,k}^- \|\mathbf{w}_j^* - \mathbf{w}_k^*\|$ ² with $\eta_{j,k}^- \geq -\frac{T^2(n+M)nM}{p^3}$ for. Therefore, β_2 consists of terms $\eta_{j,k}\left\Vert \boldsymbol{w}_{j}^{*}-\boldsymbol{w}_{k}^{*}\right\Vert$ ² for $j \in [k-1], k = 2, 3, ..., i$ where

$$
\eta_{j,k} = \eta_{j,k}^+ + \eta_{j,k}^- \ge -\frac{T^2(n+M)nM}{p^3}.
$$
\n(49)

1996 1997 Now, we compare the coefficients in forgetting in Theorem [1.](#page-4-1) We first fix the index i , meaning that we consider the generalization error on the task *i*.. The proof of $c_i^{(concurrent)} < c_i^{(sequential)}$ follows from Lemma [15](#page-19-0) if $p > 2T^3(n + M)^2$.

1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 2026 2027 2028 2029 2030 2031 2032 2033 2034 2035 2036 2037 2038 2039 2040 2041 2042 2043 2044 2045 2046 2047 2048 2049 2050 2051 The proof of $c_{ijk}^{(concurrent)} > c_{ijk}^{(sequential)}$ are as follows. 1. we prove $c_{i1i}^{(concurrent)} > c_{i1i}^{(sequential)}$ if $p > 5T^4(n+M)nM$. We start from $c_{i1i}^{(sequential)}$. We first upper bound part of the coefficient $c_{i1i}^{(\text{sequential})}$: n p $\left\{\prod_{l=0}^{t-2}\Bigg[\right.$ $1-\frac{M}{(1-\frac{1}{\sqrt{M}})}$ $(t-l-1)p$ $\bigg\}^{t-l-1}$ $\bigg(1-\frac{n}{2}\bigg)$ p $\Big)$ $\Big]$ $\prod_{l=0}^{i-2} \Biggl[\Biggl($ $1-\frac{M}{\sqrt{1-\frac{1}{\cdots}}}$ $(i-l-1)p$ $\bigg\}^{i-l-1}$ $\bigg(1-\frac{n}{2}\bigg)$ p \setminus]) $\overset{(i)}<$ $\overset{n}{-}$ p $\left[\left(1 - \frac{n+M}{\cdot}\right)$ p $\bigg)^{t-1} - \bigg(1 - \frac{n+M}{h}\bigg)$ p \setminus ⁱ⁻¹ $+\frac{T^2(n+M)nM}{3}$ p^3 (50) where (*i*) follows from Lemma [16.](#page-21-2) We then rewrite the rest part of $c_1^{\text{(sequential)}}$ as follows. \sum^{t-2} $l=0$ $\prod_{k=0}^{l-1} \Bigg[\Bigg($ $1-\frac{M}{(1-\frac{1}{\sqrt{M}})}$ $(t - k - 1)p$ $\bigg\}^{t-k-1}$ $\bigg(1-\frac{n}{2}\bigg)$ p $\left[\frac{1}{1-\frac{M}{(1-\frac{M}{\lambda})}}\right]$ $(t - l - 1)p$ $\bigwedge^{t-l-2} M$ $(t-l-1)p$ $-\sum_{i=2}^{i-2}$ $l=0$ $\prod_{k=0}^{l-1} \Bigg[\Bigg($ $1-\frac{M}{\sqrt{1-\frac{1}{\cdots}}}$ $(i - k - 1)p$ $\bigg\}^{i-k-1}$ $\bigg(1-\frac{n}{2}\bigg)$ p $\left[\frac{1}{1-\frac{M}{(1-\frac{M}{\lambda})}}\right]$ $(i - l - 1)p$ $\bigwedge^{i-l-2} M$ $(i - l - 1)p$ = \sum^{t-i-1} $_{l=0}$ $\prod_{k=0}^{l-1} \Bigg[\Bigg($ $1-\frac{M}{(1-\frac{1}{\sqrt{M}})}$ $(t - k - 1)p$ $\bigg\}^{t-k-1}\bigg(1-\frac{n}{2}\bigg)$ p $\left[\frac{1}{1-\frac{M}{(1-\frac{M}{\lambda})}}\right]$ $(t-l-1)p$ $\bigwedge^{t-l-2} M$ $(t-l-1)p$ $+\sum_{l=t-i}^{t-2}\prod_{k=0}^{l-1}\Bigg[\Bigg($ $l = t - i$ $1-\frac{M}{(1-\frac{1}{\sqrt{M}})}$ $(t - k - 1)p$ $\int^{t-k-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{2}\right)$ p $\left[\frac{1}{1-\frac{M}{(1-\frac{M}{\lambda})}}\right]$ $(t-l-1)p$ $\bigwedge^{t-l-2} M$ $(t-l-1)p$ $-\sum_{i=2}^{i-2}$ $_{l=0}$ $\prod_{k=0}^{l-1}$ $1-\frac{M}{\sqrt{1-\frac{1}{\cdots}}}$ $(i - k - 1)p$ $\bigg\}^{i-k-1}$ $\bigg(1-\frac{n}{2}\bigg)$ p $\left[\frac{1}{1-\frac{M}{(1-\frac{M}{\sqrt{M}})}}\right]$ $(i - l - 1)p$ $\bigwedge^{i-l-2} M$ $(i - l - 1)p$ = \sum_{i-1}^{t-i-1} $_{l=0}$ $\prod_{k=0}^{l-1}$ $1-\frac{M}{(1-\frac{1}{\sqrt{M}})}$ $(t - k - 1)p$ $\bigg\}^{t-k-1}$ $\bigg(1-\frac{n}{2}\bigg)$ p $\left[\frac{1}{1-\frac{M}{(1-\frac{M}{\lambda})}}\right]$ $(t-l-1)p$ $\bigwedge^{t-l-2} M$ $(t-l-1)p$ $+\sum_{l=0}^{i-2}\prod_{k=0}^{l-i+t-1}\Bigg[\bigg($ $_{l=0}$ $1-\frac{M}{(1-\frac{1}{\sqrt{M}})}$ $(t-k-1)p$ $\bigg\}^{t-k-1}\bigg(1-\frac{n}{2}\bigg)$ p $\left[\frac{1}{1-\frac{M}{(1-\frac{M}{\lambda})}}\right]$ $(i - l - 1)p$ $\bigwedge^{i-l-2} M$ $(i - l - 1)p$ $-\sum_{l=0}^{i-2}\prod_{k=0}^{l-1}\Bigg[\Bigg($ $_{l=0}$ $1-\frac{M}{\sqrt{1-\frac{1}{\cdots}}}$ $(i - k - 1)p$ $\bigg\}^{i-k-1}$ $\bigg(1-\frac{n}{2}\bigg)$ p $\left[\frac{1}{1-\frac{M}{(1-\frac{M}{\sqrt{M}})}}\right]$ $(i-l-1)p$ $\bigwedge^{i-l-2} M$ $(i-l-1)p$ $\overset{(i)}<$ $\sum_{n=1}^{t-i-1} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{\cdot}\right)$ $_{l=0}$ p λ^l *M* $\frac{M}{(t-l-1)p}-\frac{M}{T^2p}$ $\frac{M}{T^2p^2} + \frac{T^2(n+M)M^2}{p^3}$ p^3 $+\sum_{l=0}^{i-2}\Bigg[\Bigg($ $1-\frac{n+M}{m}$ $\frac{p+M}{p} + \frac{(n+M)M}{p^2}$ p^2 $\bigg)^{l-i+t} - \bigg(1 - \frac{n+M}{n} \bigg)$ p \setminus^l $\cdot \left(1 - \frac{M}{\sqrt{M}}\right)$ $(i - l - 1)p$ $\bigwedge^{i-l-2} M$ $(i - l - 1)p$ $\overset{(ii)}<$ \sum^{t-i-1} $_{l=0}$ $\left(1-\frac{n+M}{\cdot}\right)$ p λ^l *M* $\frac{M}{(t-l-1)p} - \frac{M}{T^2p}$ $\frac{M}{T^2p^2} + \frac{T^2(n+M)M^2}{p^3}$ p^3 $+\sum_{l=0}^{i-2}\Bigg[\Bigg($ $1-\frac{n+M}{m}$ p $\bigg\}^{l-i+t}+\frac{T^2(n+M)M}{2}$ $\frac{+M)M}{p^2} - \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)$ p λ^l M $(i-l-1)p$ $\lt \sum_{i=1}^{t-1}$ $_{l=0}$ $\left(1-\frac{n+M}{\cdot}\right)$ p λ^l *M* $\frac{M}{(t - l - 1)p} - \sum_{l=0}^{i-1}$ $_{l=0}$ $\left(1-\frac{n+M}{\cdot}\right)$ p λ^l *M* $(i - l - 1)p$ $-\frac{M}{\sqrt{2}}$ $\frac{M}{T^2p^2} + \frac{2T^2(n+M)M^2}{p^3}$ p^3 (51) **2052 2053 2054** where (i) follows from eq. [\(58\)](#page-40-0) and lemmas [10](#page-15-1) and [11,](#page-15-0) (ii) follows from Lemma [12](#page-17-2) By combining eqs. [\(50\)](#page-37-0) and [\(51\)](#page-37-1),

2055 2056

$$
c_{i1i}^{(\text{sequential})} < \frac{n}{p} \left[\left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} \right)^{t-1} - \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} \right)^{i-1} \right] + \sum_{l=0}^{t-1} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} \right)^l \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p}
$$

$$
- \sum_{l=0}^{i-1} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} \right)^l \frac{M}{(i-l-1)p} + \frac{T^2(n+M)nM}{p^3} - \frac{M}{T^2p^2} + \frac{2T^2(n+M)M^2}{p^3}
$$

$$
\leq \frac{n}{p} \left[\left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} \right)^{t-1} - \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} \right)^{i-1} \right] + \sum_{l=0}^{t-1} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} \right)^l \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p}
$$

$$
- \sum_{l=0}^{i-1} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} \right)^l \frac{M}{(i-l-1)p} - \frac{T^2(n+M)M^2}{p^3} - \frac{T^2(n+M)nM}{p^3}
$$

where (i) follows from the fact that $p > 5T^4(n + M)nM$, (ii) follows from our observation in eqs. [\(47\)](#page-36-1) and [\(49\)](#page-36-2).

(52)

2071 2072 2073 2074 2. Next, we prove $c_{iji}^{(concurrent)} > c_{iji}^{(sequential)}$ if $p > 5T^4(n + M)nM$, for $j = 2, 3, ..., i - 1$. We first notice that $c_{i j i}^{(sequential)}$ consists of two parts. We bound the first part by

$$
\sum_{l=0}^{t-j-1} \prod_{k=0}^{l-1} \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-k-1)p} \right)^{t-k-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \right] \left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p} \right)^{t-j-l-1} \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p}
$$

-
$$
\sum_{l=0}^{i-j-1} \prod_{k=0}^{l-1} \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{(i-k-1)p} \right)^{i-k-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \right] \left(1 - \frac{M}{(i-l-1)p} \right)^{i-j-l-1} \frac{M}{(i-l-1)p}
$$

$$
\stackrel{(i)}{\leq} \sum_{l=0}^{t-j-1} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} \right)^l \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p} - \sum_{l=0}^{i-j-1} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} \right)^l \frac{M}{(i-l-1)p}
$$

-
$$
\frac{M}{T^2 p^2} + \frac{2T^2 (n+M) M^2}{p^3}, \quad (53)
$$

For the rest part of $c_{iji}^{(sequential)}$, we have

 $\stackrel{(ii)}{\leq} c_{i1i}^{\text{(concurrent)}}$

$$
\prod_{k=0}^{t-j-1} \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-k-1)p} \right)^{t-k-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \right] \left(1 - \frac{M}{(j-1)p} \right)^{j-1} \frac{n}{p}
$$

-
$$
\prod_{k=0}^{i-j-1} \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{(i-k-1)p} \right)^{i-k-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \right] \left(1 - \frac{M}{(j-1)p} \right)^{j-1} \frac{n}{p}
$$

$$
\stackrel{(i)}{\leq} \left\{ \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} \right)^{i-j-1} \left[\left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} \right)^{t-i} - 1 \right] + \frac{T^2(n+M)M}{p^2} \right\} \left(1 - \frac{M}{(j-1)p} \right)^{j-1} \frac{n}{p}
$$

$$
< \left\{ \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} \right)^{i-j-1} \left[\left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} \right)^{t-i} - 1 \right] \right\} + \frac{T^2(n+M)nM}{p^3}, \tag{54}
$$

where (i) follows from Lemma [16.](#page-21-2) By combining eqs. [\(53\)](#page-38-0) and [\(54\)](#page-38-1), we have

$$
c_j^{\text{(sequential)}} < \sum_{l=0}^{t-j-1} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^l \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p} - \sum_{l=0}^{i-j-1} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^l \frac{M}{(i-l-1)p}
$$

$$
2104\n\n2105\n\left.\n\left.\n\left.\n\left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{i-1}\n\left[\n\left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{t-i} - 1\right]\n\right.\n\right\}
$$

$$
2106\n+ \frac{T^2(n+M)nM}{3} - \frac{M}{T^2n^2} + \frac{2T^2(n+M)M^2}{3}
$$

$$
p^3 \qquad \qquad + \qquad p^3 \qquad \qquad - \frac{1}{T^2 p^2} + \qquad \qquad p^3
$$

$$
\begin{array}{c}\n\text{2109} \\
\text{2110}\n\end{array}\n\qquad\n\begin{array}{c}\n\text{(i)} \ \frac{t-j-1}{2} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{n}\right)^l \frac{M}{(t-l-1)n} - \sum_{n=0}^{i-j-1} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{n}\right)^l \frac{M}{(i-l-1)n}\n\end{array}
$$

2111 2112 l=0 p (t − l − 1)p l=0 p (i − l − 1)p

$$
\frac{2}{3} + \left\{ \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} \right)^{i-j-1} \left[\left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} \right)^{t-i} - 1 \right] \right\}
$$

$$
2113
$$

$$
\begin{array}{cc}\n\sqrt{14} & \sqrt{14} \\
\sqrt{14} & \sqrt{
$$

$$
\frac{2115}{2116}
$$

$$
-\frac{T^2(n+M)M^2}{p^3} - \frac{T^2(n+M)nM}{p^3}
$$

\n
$$
\stackrel{(ii)}{\leq} c_{iji}^{\text{(concurrent)}},
$$
\n(55)

2119 2120 where (i) follows from the fact that $p > 5T^4(n + M)nM$, (ii) follows from our observation in eqs. [\(47\)](#page-36-1) and [\(49\)](#page-36-2).

2121 2122 2123 3. We prove $c_{ijj}^{(\text{concurrent})} > c_{iji}^{(\text{sequential})}$ for $j = i, i + 1, ..., t - 1$ if $p > T^4(n + M)M$. According to the same derivation as eqs. (60) and (62) , we have

$$
c_{iji}^{\text{(sequential)}} < \sum_{l=0}^{t-j-1} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^l \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{t-j} \frac{n}{p}
$$

$$
- \frac{M}{T^2 p^2} + \frac{T^2(n+M)M^2}{p^3}
$$

$$
< \sum_{l=0}^{t-j-1} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^l \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{t-j} \frac{n}{p}
$$

$$
- \frac{T^2(n+M)M^2}{p^3} - \frac{T^2(n+M)nM}{p^3}
$$

2132 2133 2134

2135 2136

$$
f_{\rm{max}}
$$

where (i) follows from our observation in eqs. [\(47\)](#page-36-1) and [\(49\)](#page-36-2).

 $\stackrel{(i)}{\leq} c_{iji}^{\text{(concurrent)}},$

2137 2138 4. Last, we prove $c_{iTi}^{(\text{concurrent})} > c_{iTi}^{(\text{sequential})}$ if $p > T^2(n+M)M$. We have:

$$
c_{iT}^{(sequential)} = \left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-1)p}\right)^{t-1} \frac{n}{p} < \left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-1)p}\right) \frac{n}{p} < \frac{n}{p} - \frac{nM}{p^2}
$$
\n
$$
c_{iT}^{(i)} = \frac{T^2(n+M)M^2}{p^3} - \frac{T^2(n+M)nM}{p^3}
$$
\n
$$
c_{iT}^{(i)} = \frac{C_{iT}^{(i)}(n+M)}{p^3} - \frac{T^2(n+M)nM}{p^3}
$$
\n
$$
c_{iT}^{(i)} = c_{iT}^{(concurrent)},
$$
\n(56)

2146 2147 where (*i*) follows from the fact that $p > T^2(n+M)M$, (*ii*) follows from our observation in eqs. [\(47\)](#page-36-1) and [\(49\)](#page-36-2).

2148 2149 2150 2151 2152 2153 2154 2155 5. As illustrated in eqs. [\(45\)](#page-36-3) and [\(48\)](#page-36-4), we obtain the following conclusions. For $j = [k-1]$; $k = i$, $i+$ 1, .., t − 1, we have $c_{ijk}^{(concurrent)} > c_{ijk}^{(sequential)}$, following the fact that $c_{ijk}^{(concurrent)} > 0$ and $c_{ijk}^{(sequential)} = 0$. However, for $j = [k-1]$; $k \in [i-1]$, we have $c_{ijk}^{(concurrent)} < c_{ijk}^{(sequential)}$, following the fact that $c_{ijk}^{(concurrent)} < 0$ and $c_{ijk}^{(sequential)} = 0$. We note that the impact of these components on forgetting is significantly small under a large p , following the fact that the disadvantage terms in sequential replay β_1^2 and β_2^2 in eqs. [\(45\)](#page-36-3) and [\(48\)](#page-36-4) are of order $\mathcal{O}(\frac{1}{p^3})$, while the advantage of other coefficients is of order $\mathcal{O}(\frac{1}{p^2})$.

2156

2158

2157 E.2 COMPARISON OF COEFFICIENTS OF GENERALIZATION ERROR IN THEOREM [1](#page-4-1)

2159 We comparison of coefficients of Generalization error in Theorem [1](#page-4-1) as follows. We first fix the index i , meaning that we consider the generalization error on the task i .

2160 2161 1. We first prove $d_0^{\text{(concurrent)}} < d_0^{\text{(sequential)}}$. According to Lemma [10,](#page-15-1) we have:

2162 2163 2164 2165 2166 2167 d (concurrent) ⁰^T = 1 − n p ¹ [−] n + M p ^t−¹ < 1 − n p ^tY[−]² l=0 " 1 − M (t − l − 1)p ^t−l−¹ 1 − = d 0T (sequential)

2169 2170 2. Now, we prove $d_{i1iT}^{(concurrent)} > d_{i1iT}^{(sequential)}$ if $p > 2T^4(n+M)nM$. We first consider:

$$
\frac{n}{p} \prod_{l=0}^{t-2} \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p} \right)^{t-l-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \right]
$$
\n
$$
\leq \frac{n}{p} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} + \frac{(n+M)M}{p^2} \right)^{t-1}
$$
\n
$$
\leq \frac{n}{p} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} \right)^{t-1} + \frac{T^2(n+M)nM}{p^3},\tag{57}
$$

n p \setminus

 p^3

2179 where (i) follows from Lemma [11](#page-15-0) and (ii) follows from Lemma [12.](#page-17-2)

We also notice that:

$$
\sum_{l=0}^{t-2} \prod_{k=0}^{l-1} \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-k-1)p} \right)^{t-k-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \right] \left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p} \right)^{t-l-2} \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p}
$$
\n
$$
= \sum_{l=0}^{t-3} \prod_{k=0}^{l-1} \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-k-1)p} \right)^{t-k-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \right] \left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p} \right)^{t-l-2} \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p}
$$
\n
$$
+ \prod_{k=0}^{t-3} \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-k-1)p} \right)^{t-k-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \right] \left(1 - \frac{M}{p} \right) \frac{M}{p}
$$
\n
$$
\leq \left(1 - \frac{1}{Tp} \right) \sum_{l=0}^{t-3} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} \right)^{l} \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p}
$$
\n
$$
+ \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} + \frac{(n+M)M}{p^2} \right)^{t-2} \left(1 - \frac{M}{p} \right) \frac{M}{p}
$$
\n
$$
\stackrel{(ii)}{\leq} \left(1 - \frac{1}{Tp} \right) \sum_{l=0}^{t-3} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} \right)^{l} \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p}
$$
\n
$$
+ \left[\left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} \right)^{t-2} + \frac{T^2(n+M)M}{p^2} \right] \left(1 - \frac{M}{p} \right) \frac{M}{p}
$$
\n
$$
< \sum_{l=0}^{t-2} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} \right)^{l} \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p} - \frac{M}{T^2p^2} + \frac{T^2(n+M)M^2}{p^3}, \tag{58}
$$

2168

l=0 p p 3 where (i) follows from Lemmas [11](#page-15-0) and [14](#page-18-3) and (ii) follows from Lemma [12.](#page-17-2) By combining eqs. [\(57\)](#page-40-1) and [\(58\)](#page-40-0), we can conclude:

$$
\begin{aligned} d_{i1iT}^{(\text{sequential})} < \frac{n}{p}\left(1-\frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{t-1} + \sum_{l=0}^{t-2}\left(1-\frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{l}\frac{M}{(t-l-1)p} \\ +\frac{T^2(n+M)nM}{p^3} - \frac{M}{T^2p^2} + \frac{T^2(n+M)M^2}{p^3} \end{aligned}
$$

$$
\begin{array}{c} 2210 \\ 2211 \end{array}
$$

2212 2213

$$
\overset{(i)}{<}\frac{n+M}{p}\left(1-\frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{t-1}+\sum_{l=0}^{t-2}\left(1-\frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{l}\frac{M}{(t-l-1)p}
$$

$$
=d_{i1i}^{\text{(concurrent)}}\tag{59}
$$

2217

2216 where (*i*) follows from the fact that $p > 2T^4(n + M)nM$.

2218 3. Next, we prove $d_{ijiT}^{(concurrent)} > d_{ijiT}^{(sequential)}$ if $p > T^4(n+M)M$, for $j = 2,3,...,t-1$. We first have:

$$
\sum_{l=0}^{t-j-1} \prod_{k=0}^{l-1} \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-k-1)p} \right)^{t-k-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \right] \left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p} \right)^{t-j-l-1} \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p}
$$

=
$$
\sum_{l=0}^{t-j-2} \prod_{k=0}^{l-1} \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-k-1)p} \right)^{t-k-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \right] \left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p} \right)^{t-j-l-1} \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p}
$$

+
$$
\prod_{k=0}^{t-j-2} \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-k-1)p} \right)^{t-k-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \right] \frac{M}{jp}
$$

$$
\begin{split}\n&\stackrel{(i)}{\leq} \left(1 - \frac{1}{Tp}\right)^t \sum_{l=0}^{t-j-2} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^l \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p} + \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} + \frac{(n+M)M}{p^2}\right)^{t-j-1} \frac{M}{jp} \\
&\stackrel{(ii)}{\leq} \left(1 - \frac{1}{Tp}\right)^t \sum_{l=0}^{t-j-2} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^l \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p} + \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{t-j-1} \frac{M}{jp} + \frac{T^2(n+M)M^2}{jp^3} \\
&< \sum_{l=0}^{t-j-1} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^l \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p} - \frac{M}{T^2p^2} + \frac{T^2(n+M)M^2}{p^3}\n\end{split} \tag{60}
$$

where (*i*) follows from Lemmas [11](#page-15-0) and [14,](#page-18-3) (*ii*) follows Lemma [12.](#page-17-2) Therefore, if $p > T^4(n+M)M$, we have:

$$
\sum_{l=0}^{t-j-1} \prod_{k=0}^{l-1} \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-k-1)p} \right)^{t-k-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \right] \left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p} \right)^{t-j-l-1} \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p}
$$
\n
$$
< \sum_{l=0}^{t-j-1} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} \right)^l \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p}.\tag{61}
$$

Furthermore, we have:

$$
\prod_{k=0}^{t-j-1} \left[\left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p} \right)^{t-k-1} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p} \right) \right] \left(1 - \frac{M}{(j-1)p} \right)^{j-1} \frac{n}{p}
$$
\n
$$
\stackrel{(i)}{\leq} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} \right)^{t-j} \frac{n}{p} \tag{62}
$$

where (i) follows from Lemmas [11](#page-15-0) and [14.](#page-18-3) Therefore, by combining eqs. [\(61\)](#page-41-2) and [\(62\)](#page-41-1), we have:

$$
d_{ijiT}^{\text{(sequential)}} < \sum_{l=0}^{t-j-1} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^l \frac{M}{(t-l-1)p} + \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{t-j} \frac{n}{p} \le d_{ijiT}^{\text{(concurrent)}}.\tag{63}
$$

4. Last, we prove $d_{iTiT}^{(concurrent)} > d_{iTiT}^{(sequential)}$. The proof is straightforward:

$$
d_{iTiT}^{(\text{sequential})} = \left(1 - \frac{M}{(t-1)p}\right)^{t-1} \frac{n}{p} < \frac{n}{p} \le d_{iTiT}^{(\text{concurrent})}.
$$

2262 5. Moreover, for the other choices of j, k we have $d_{iTTiT}^{(concurrent)} \ge 0$ and $d_{iTTiT}^{(sequential)} = 0$.

F PROOF OF THEOREM [3](#page-6-2)

2263 2264

2265 2266 2267 Now, we provide a particular example in which sequential replay has less forgetting than concurrent replay. Since $F_T = \frac{1}{T-1} \sum_{i=1}^{T-1} (\mathcal{L}_i(\boldsymbol{w}_T) - \mathcal{L}_i(\boldsymbol{w}_i))$, we focus on proving $[\mathcal{L}_i(\boldsymbol{w}_T) - \mathcal{L}_i(\boldsymbol{w}_i)]^{\text{(concurrent)}} > [\mathcal{L}_i(\boldsymbol{w}_T) - \mathcal{L}_i(\boldsymbol{w}_i)]^{\text{(sequential)}}$

2268 2269 2270 2271 if $p > 2T^2(n+M)nM$ for each $i \in [T-1]$, which leads to the final conclusion. Since w_i^* are orthonormal, we have $||\boldsymbol{w}_i^*||^2 = 1$ and $||\boldsymbol{w}_i^* - \boldsymbol{w}_j^*||$ $2^2 = 2$ for $i \neq j$. Now we consider when $t = T$. Recall the discussion about β_2 in eq. [\(48\)](#page-36-4). Then, we consider

$$
2\beta_2^+ = \sum_{l=0}^{T-i-1} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^l \frac{2nM}{p(p-n-M-1)}
$$

=
$$
\frac{2nM}{p(p-n-M-1)} \cdot \frac{\left[1 - \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{T-i}\right]}{1 - \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)}
$$

>
$$
\frac{2nM}{p^2} \cdot \frac{-\sum_{k=1}^{T-i} {T-i \choose k} \left(-\frac{n+M}{p}\right)^k}{\frac{n+M}{p}}
$$
 (64)

2281 We note that for any $k \in [3, T - i - 1]$ and k is odd, we have

$$
\begin{aligned}\n\binom{T-i}{k} \left(-\frac{n+M}{p}\right)^k &+ \binom{T-i}{k+1} \left(-\frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{k+1} \\
&= \frac{(T-i)!}{k!(T-i-k-1)!} \left(-\frac{n+M}{p}\right)^k \left[\frac{1}{T-i-k} + \frac{1}{k+1} \left(-\frac{n+M}{p}\right)\right] \\
&< \frac{(T-i)!}{k!(T-i-k-1)!} \left(-\frac{n+M}{p}\right)^k \left[\frac{1}{T} - \frac{n+M}{p}\right] \\
&< 0,\n\end{aligned}
$$

where (i) follows from the fact that $p > T(n + M)$. By simply discussing when $T - i$ is odd or even, we can have

$$
-\sum_{k=1}^{T-i} \binom{T-i}{k} \left(-\frac{n+M}{p}\right)^k > -\binom{T-i}{1} \left(-\frac{n+M}{p}\right) - \binom{T-i}{2} \left(-\frac{n+M}{p}\right)^2 \\
 = \frac{(T-i)(n+M)}{p} - \frac{(T-i)(T-i-1)(n+M)^2}{2p^2}.
$$

By substituting the above equation into eq. [\(64\)](#page-42-0), we can have

$$
2\beta_2^+ > \frac{2nM}{p(n+M)} \cdot \left[\frac{(T-i)(n+M)}{p} - \frac{(T-i)(T-i-1)(n+M)^2}{2p^2} \right]
$$

=
$$
\frac{2(T-i)nM}{p^2} - \frac{(T-i)(T-i-1)(n+M)nM}{p^3}
$$

$$
\stackrel{(i)}{\geq} \frac{(T-i)(n+M)M}{p^2} + \frac{M}{p^2} - \frac{T^2(n+M)nM}{p^3}
$$
 (65)

where (i) follows from the fact that $n \geq M + 1$. Now, we can conclude:

2309 2310 2311 2312 2313 2314 2315 2316 [Li(w^T) − Li(wi)](concurrent) = c (concurrent) ⁰ + 2^X T j=1 c (concurrent) j (i) > 1 − n p " 1 − n + M p ^T [−]¹ − 1 − n + M p ⁱ−¹ # + 2X T j=1 c (sequential) ^j + 2β + ¹ + 2β + 2 ≥ 1 − n " 1 − n + M ^T [−]¹ − 1 − n + M ⁱ−¹ # + 2X T c (sequential) ^j + 2β + 2 (66)

2321 where (i) follows from eqs. [\(52\)](#page-38-2), [\(55\)](#page-39-0) and [\(56\)](#page-39-1). On the other hand, we have:

 $[\mathcal{L}_i(\boldsymbol{w}_T) - \mathcal{L}_i(\boldsymbol{w}_i)]^\text{(sequential)}$

p

p

p

 $j=1$

$$
\begin{array}{lll}\n\text{2322} & \text{(i)} & \left(1 - \frac{n}{p}\right) \left[\left(1 - \frac{n + M}{p}\right)^{T - 1} - \left(1 - \frac{n + M}{p}\right)^{i - 1}\right] + 2 \sum_{j=1}^{T} c_j^{\text{(sequential)}} \n\end{array}
$$

2326 2327

2328 2329 2330

$$
\left(\begin{array}{c|c} p & p & p \\ p & q & p \end{array}\right) \left(\begin{array}{c|c} p & p & p \\ p & q & p \end{array}\right) = \frac{1}{j=1} \left(\begin{array}{c|c} p & p & p \\ p^2 & p^4 & p^4 \end{array}\right) \tag{67}
$$

where (*i*) follows from Lemma [17.](#page-22-1) By combining eqs. [\(65\)](#page-42-1) to [\(67\)](#page-43-0) and the fact that $p > 2T^2(n +$ M) nM , we have

$$
[\mathcal{L}_i(\boldsymbol{w}_T) - \mathcal{L}_i(\boldsymbol{w}_i)]^{\text{(concurrent)}} > [\mathcal{L}_i(\boldsymbol{w}_T) - \mathcal{L}_i(\boldsymbol{w}_i)]^{\text{(sequential)}},
$$

2331 2332 which completes the proof.

2333 2334 2335 2336 2337 2338 Now, we provide a particular example in which sequential replay achieves a lower generaliza-tion error, as presented in Theorem [3.](#page-6-2) Since $G_T = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{i=1}^T \mathcal{L}_i(w_T)$, we focus on proving $\mathcal{L}_i^{(\text{concurrent})}(\boldsymbol{w}_T) > \mathcal{L}_i^{(\text{sequential})}(\boldsymbol{w}_T)$ if $p > 2T^4(n + M + 1)^2M$ for each $i \in [T]$, which leads to the final conclusion. Since w_i^* are orthonormal, we have $||w_i^*||^2 = 1$ and $||w_i^* - w_j^*||$ $2^2 = 2$ for $i \neq j$. We first consider

2339 2340 2341 2342 2343 2344 2345 2346 2347 2348 2349 2350 2351 Xt−2 l=0 1 − n + M p ^l ^t−^X l−1 j=1 nM t−l−1 p(p − n − M − 1) ^w[∗] ^j − w[∗] t−l 2 = T X−2 l=0 1 − n + M p ^l ^T X[−]l−¹ j=1 2nM T −l−1 p 2 > (^T [−] 1) 1 − n + M p T 2nM p 2 > 1 − T(n + M) p 2(T − 1)nM p 2 (i) ≥ 1 − T(n + M) p (T − 1)(n + M + 1)M p 2 , (68)

2352 2353 where (i) follows from the fact that $n \geq M + 1$. Therefore, by combining eqs. [\(33\)](#page-25-0) and [\(68\)](#page-43-1), we have:

$$
2354\n2355\n\qquad\n\mathcal{L}_{i}^{(\text{concurrent})}(w_{T}) > \left(1 - \frac{n}{p}\right) \left(1 - \frac{n + M}{p}\right)^{T-1}\n+ 2 \left\{ \left(1 - \frac{n + M}{p}\right)^{T-1} \frac{n}{p} + \sum_{l=0}^{T-2} \left(1 - \frac{n + M}{p}\right)^{l} \frac{M}{(T-l-1)p} \right\}\n+ 2 \sum_{j=2}^{T-1} \left\{ \sum_{l=0}^{T-j-1} \left(1 - \frac{n + M}{p}\right)^{l} \frac{M}{(T-l-1)p} + \left(1 - \frac{n + M}{p}\right)^{T-j} \frac{n}{p} \right\} + \frac{2n}{p}\n+ \left(1 - \frac{T(n+M)}{p}\right) \frac{(T-1)(n + M + 1)M}{p}.\n\qquad\n(69)
$$

On the other hand, we have:

2365

2366 2367 2368 2369 2370 2371 L (sequential) i (w^T) (i) < 1 − n p ¹ [−] n + M p + (n + M)M p 2 ^T [−]¹ + 2 (1 − n + M p ^T [−]¹ n p + T X−2 l=0 1 − n + M p ^l M (T − l − 1)p) T n + M ^l M n + M ^T [−]^j n)

$$
+ 2\sum_{j=2}^{T-1} \left\{ \sum_{l=0}^{T-j-1} \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} \right)^l \frac{M}{(T-l-1)p} + \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p} \right)^{T-j} \frac{n}{p} \right\} + \frac{2n}{p}
$$

2374
2375

$$
\stackrel{(ii)}{<} \left(1 - \frac{n}{p}\right) \left(1 - \frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{T-1}
$$

$$
+2\left\{\left(1-\frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{T-1}\frac{n}{p}+\sum_{l=0}^{T-2}\left(1-\frac{n+M}{p}\right)^l\frac{M}{(T-l-1)p}\right\}
$$

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}\n\text{2378} & \text{I} \\
\text{2379} & \text{I} \\
\text{2379} & \text{I} \\
\text{2379} & \text{I} \\
\text{2379} & \text{I} \\
\text{2379} & \text{I} \\
\text{2379} & \text{I} \\
\text{2379} & \text{I} \\
\text{2379} & \text{I} \\
\text{2379} & \text{I
$$

2380

2399

$$
+2\sum_{j=2}^{T-1}\left\{\sum_{l=0}^{T-j-1}\left(1-\frac{n+M}{p}\right)^l\frac{M}{(T-l-1)p}+\left(1-\frac{n+M}{p}\right)^{T-j}\frac{n}{p}\right\}+\frac{2n}{p}
$$

$$
+\left(\frac{(T-1)(n+M)M}{p^2} + \frac{T^3(n+M)^2M^2}{2p^4}\right) \tag{70}
$$

where (i) follows from Lemma [11](#page-15-0) and eqs. [\(59\)](#page-41-3) and [\(63\)](#page-41-4), (ii) follows from Lemma [13](#page-17-3) and the fact that $1 - \frac{n}{p} < 1$. To build the relationship between eqs. [\(69\)](#page-43-2) and [\(70\)](#page-44-1), we have:

$$
\left(1 - \frac{T(n+M)}{p}\right) \frac{(T-1)(n+M+1)M}{p^2} - \left(\frac{(T-1)(n+M)M}{p^2} + \frac{T^3(n+M)^2M^2}{2p^4}\right)
$$

=
$$
\frac{(T-1)M}{p^2} - \frac{T(T-1)(n+M)(n+M+1)M}{p^3} - \frac{T^3(n+M)^2M^2}{2p^4}
$$

(i) 0 (71)

where (*i*) follows from the fact that $p > 2T^2(n + M + 1)^2M$. By combining eqs. [\(69\)](#page-43-2) to [\(71\)](#page-44-2), we can conclude: $\mathcal{L}_i^{(\text{concurrent})}(\boldsymbol{w}_T) > \mathcal{L}_i^{(\text{sequential})}(\boldsymbol{w}_T)$.

2398 G EXPERIMENT DETAILS

2400 2401 2402 2403 2404 Dataset. We evaluate our Hybrid Replay on CIFAR-100 [\(Krizhevsky et al.](#page-10-14) [\(2009\)](#page-10-14)), a real-world dataset for image classification. It's composed of a total of 100 different classes, each containing 500 non-overlapping training images and 100 testing images. In line with prior works [Guo et al.](#page-10-17) [\(2022\)](#page-10-17) and [Sun et al.](#page-11-10) [\(2022\)](#page-11-10), we randomly split the original dataset into 10 tasks under a task-incremental setup, each containing 10 non-overlapping classes.

2405 2406 2407 2408 2409 2410 2411 Implementation Details. For training on CIFAR-100, we employ a non-pretrained ResNet-18 as our DNN backbone. Following [Van de Ven et al.](#page-11-17) [\(2022\)](#page-11-17), we adopt a multi-headed output layer such that each task is assigned its own output layer, consistent with the typical Task Incremental CL setup. During supervised training, we explicitly provide the task identifier (ranging from 0 to 9) alongside the image-label pairs as additional input to the model. For simplicity, we use a reservoir sampling strategy to construct the replay buffer. Our replay buffer size is 50 per class. Other than the image corruption, we didn't apply any data augmentation prior to training.

2412 2413 2414 For all experiments on *Concurrent Replay*, we use the SGD (Stochastic Gradient Descent) optimizer for 30 epochs per task, with a minibatch size of 128, momentum of 0.9, weight decay of $1e^{-4}$, and an initial learning rate of 0.05 that is reduced by a factor of 0.1 after 20 epochs.

2415 2416 2417 2418 2419 For all experiments on *Sequential Replay*, we use the SGD optimizer for 30 epochs per task, with a minibatch size of 64, momentum of 0.9, weight decay of $1e^{-3}$, and an initial learning rate of 0.001 that is reduced by a factor of 0.1 after each 12 epochs. We slightly adjust these training parameters for hybrid training due to the relatively smaller number of trained images which increases the risk of overfitting.

2420 2421 2422 2423 2424 2425 2426 Task Corruption. For experiments described in Section [6.2,](#page-7-1) we control the similarity level of the dataset by applying data corruption to different number of tasks. We provide a list of sample images under different image corruption schemes in fig. [3.](#page-45-0) For the scenario "Original Dataset", we don't apply any image corruption. For the scenario "1 Corruption", we apply the Glass corruption on \mathcal{T}_1 . For the scenario "2 Corruption", we apply Glass corruption on T_1 , and rotational color swaping on \mathcal{T}_2 . For the scenario "3 Corruption", we apply Glass corruption on \mathcal{T}_1 , rotational color swaping on \mathcal{T}_3 , and elastic pixelation on \mathcal{T}_5 .

- **2427**
- **2428**
- **2429**

