



Few-shot Image Generation via Adaptation-Aware Kernel Modulation

Yunqing Zhao* Keshigeyan Chandrasegaran*
Milad Abdollahzadeh* Ngai-Man Cheung

Singapore University of Technology and Design (SUTD)

Background

Training GANs requires large datasets

Flickr-Faces-HQ Dataset (FFHQ)

python 3.6 license CC format PNG resolution 1024x1024 images 70,000



FFHQ dataset ([credit](#))



ImageNet Dataset ([credit](#))

1. Training GANs requires abundant training data (e.g., **FFHQ-70k** (left), **ImageNet** (right))
2. In real world, collecting images could be expensive and difficult (e.g., rare birds species)

Background

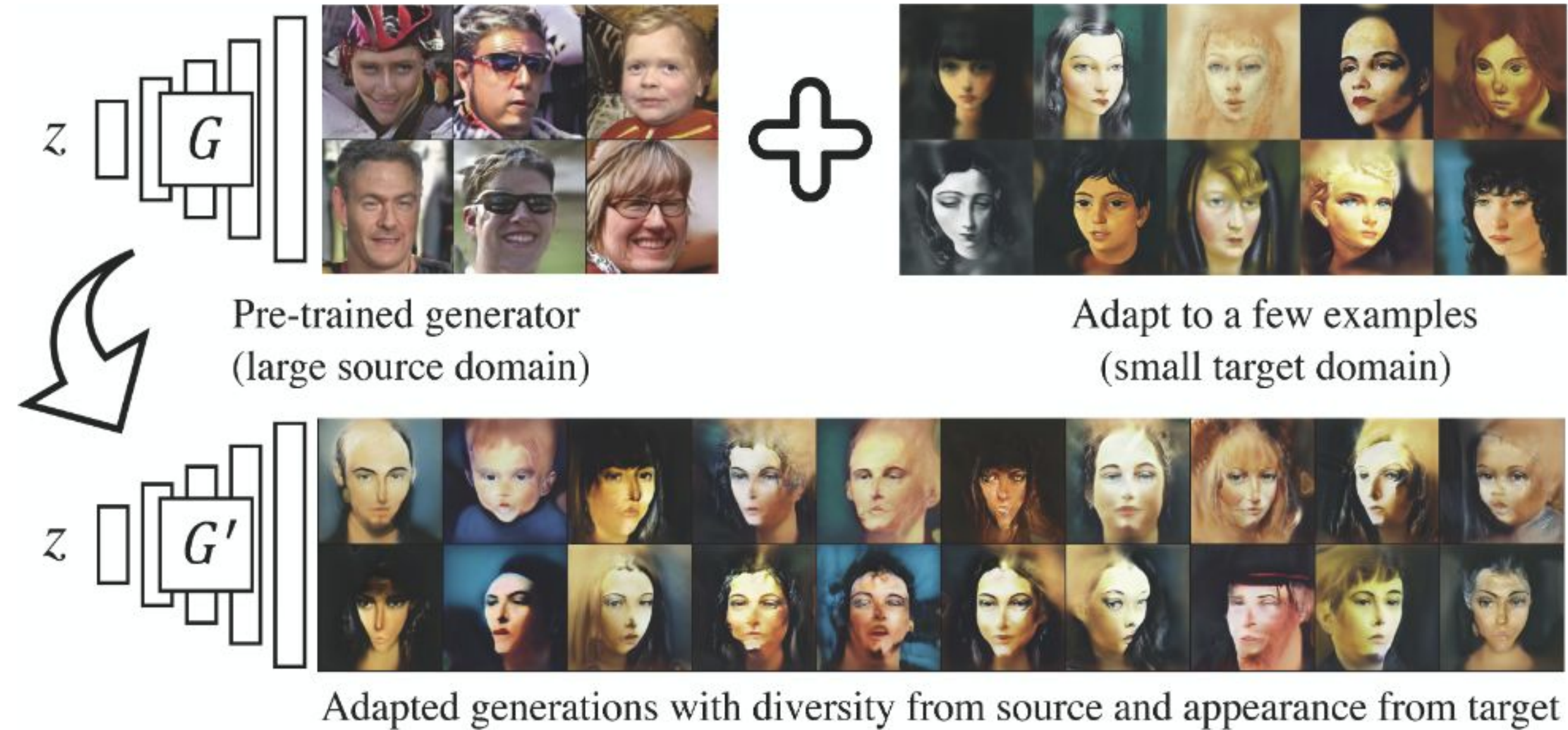
Training GANs with limited Data



Small datasets used in ADA (Karras et al., [credit](#))

1. Different works propose to training GAN with limited data (e.g., **1K ~ 5K images**)
2. **Approach:**
 - a. Training from scratch (e.g., Karras et al., 2020)
 - b. Transfer learning (e.g., Wang et al., 2018)

Few-Shot Image Generation (FSIG)



FSIG setup: transfer learning (Li et al., 2020 [credit](#))

Popular Approach for FSIG: Transfer Learning

1. Given a source GAN pretrained on a large dataset (e.g., **FFHQ**);
2. Adapt the source GAN to a small target domain (e.g., **10-shot**);
3. No access to source data during few-shot adaptation;

Related Works of FSIG

Ideas in state-of-the-art (SOTA) FSIG Methods:

- **EWC (Li et al., 2020):**
 - Penalize the changes of parameters important for source domain;
- **CDC (Ojha et al., 2021):**
 - Preserve the distance between generated images, before and after adaptation;
- **DCL (Zhao et al., 2022):**
 - Preserve multi-level source knowledge when adapting the source models to the target domain;

Observation:

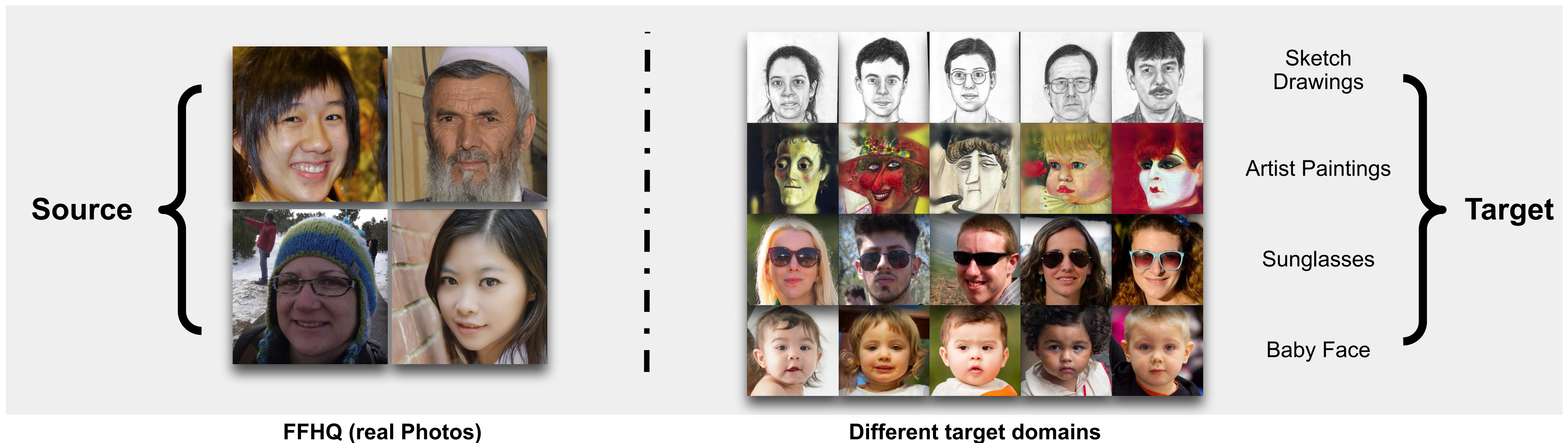
- Central to SOTA methods is to preserve the source domain knowledge, or “source-aware”
- None of these work is “Target/Adaptation - aware”
 - i.e., their methods are target-domain agnostic

Related Works of FSIG

Dataset / Domains in SOTA methods

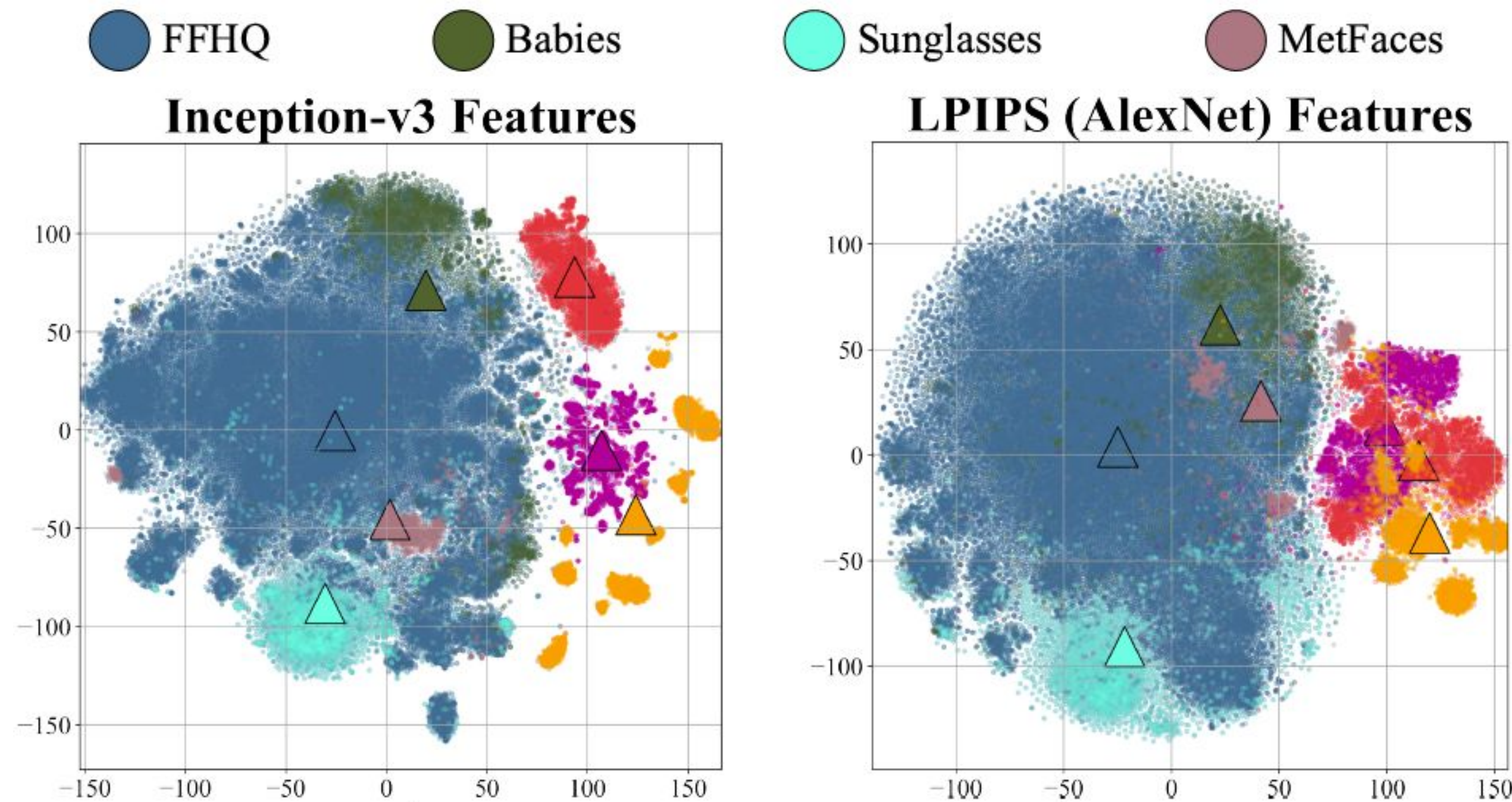
Existing works focus on target domains with **close proximity** to the source:

- E.g., **Source**: FFHQ (human face, **left**), **Target**: different Face paintings (**right**)



Source/Target Domain Proximity Analysis

Dataset / Domains in SOTA methods



Target Domain	Size	FID ↓	LPIPS ↓
FFHQ [32]	70.0K	-	-
Babies [32]	2.49K	147	0.274
Sunglasses [32]	2.68K	108	0.347
MetFaces [33]	1.33K	107	0.358
Cat [10]	5.15K	227	0.479
Dog [10]	4.74K	210	0.442
Wild [10]	4.74K	272	0.484

Close domains

Distant domains

(Left) Visualization of Inception-V3 and AlexNet Features of different domains. (Right) We also provide FID/LPIPS values for numerical analysis.

Analysis of Related Works

Problem?

1. Observation: strong assumption of existing FSIG

- A. The source/target domains are of close proximity;
- B. Therefore, SOTA methods aims to preserve **all information** of pretrained models.

2. Issue:

- C. In real world, the target samples are **not necessarily** similar to the source;
- D. If this close proximity assumption is relaxed, SOTA methods may fail.

Analysis of Related Works

Problem?

④



Target:
10-shot real cat

①

				
EWC				
CDC				
DCL				
Ours				

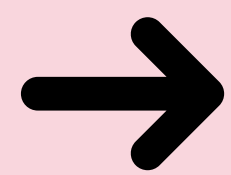
②

These SOTA methods are not target-aware, introducing source domain information that is **improper to target dataset.**

E.g., hair, specs from human face domains, these features are no-good for cat domain.

③

A glimpse of ours compared to SOTA on **<FFHQ → AFHQ-Cat>**



Each column is a fixed noise input (z) to the generator.

Our Ideas

1. In CNN, each filter is responsible for a specific part of knowledge (texture/pattern);
2. For different target domains, not all knowledge should be preserved;
3. We selectively preserve part of the source knowledge
 - A. If the knowledge is important for adaptation, **preserve** it;
 - B. If the knowledge is unimportant for adaptation, **update** it (via GAN loss).

In short: Casting the **knowledge preservation problem** to a **decision problem** of whether a kernel is important when adapting from source to target

Our Ideas

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Question (We answer them in the next):

1. **How to determine the important filters?**
2. **How to preserve the knowledge?**

Proposed Method (**Overview**)

Adaptation-Aware Kernel Modulation (AdAM) for FSIG

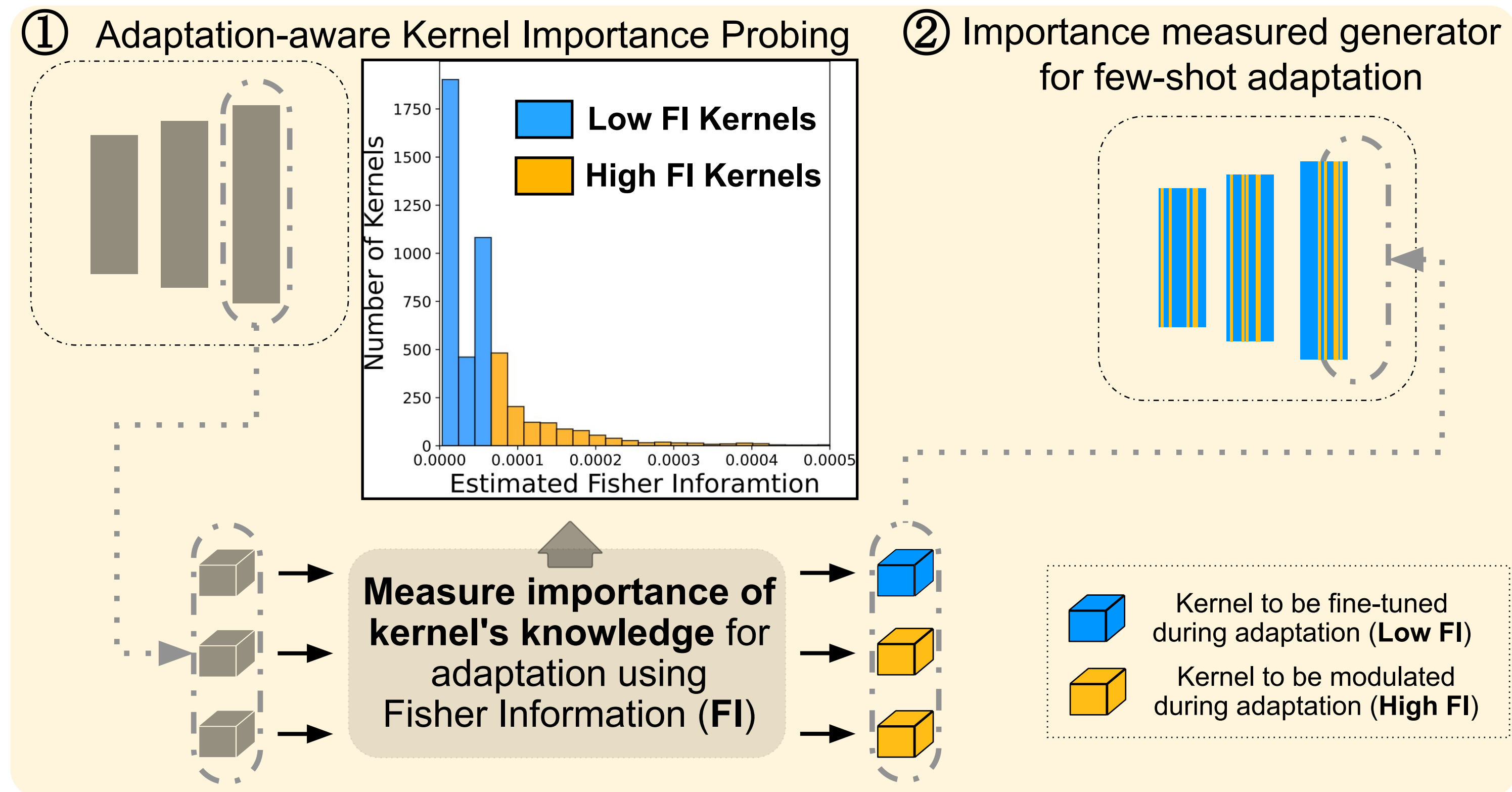
Stage-① : Importance Probing:

- **Goal:** identify filters important for few-shot adaptation process.

Stage-②: Hybrid Training

- **Important filters:** Preserve knowledge;

- **Unimportant filters:** Fine-tuning



Proposed Method

Adaptation-Aware Kernel Modulation (AdAM) for FSIG

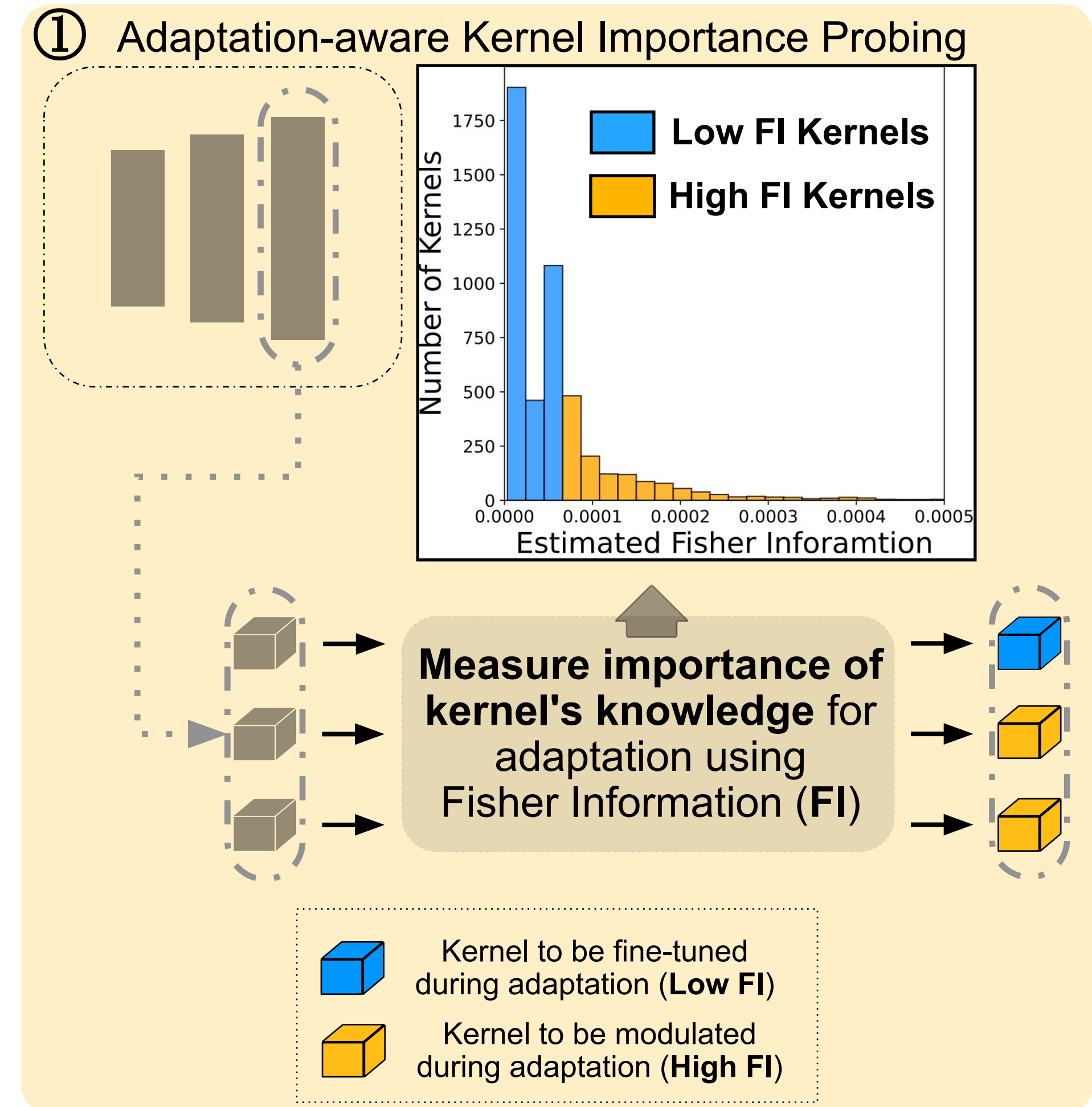
Stage-① : Importance Probing:

Steps:

1. A parameter-efficient adaptation on target domain for a few iterations;
2. Measure the importance for all filters for the target.

Output:

1. Decisions of Importance/unimportance to each individual filters.



Proposed Method

Adaptation-Aware Kernel Modulation (AdAM) for FSIG

Stage-① : Importance Probing:

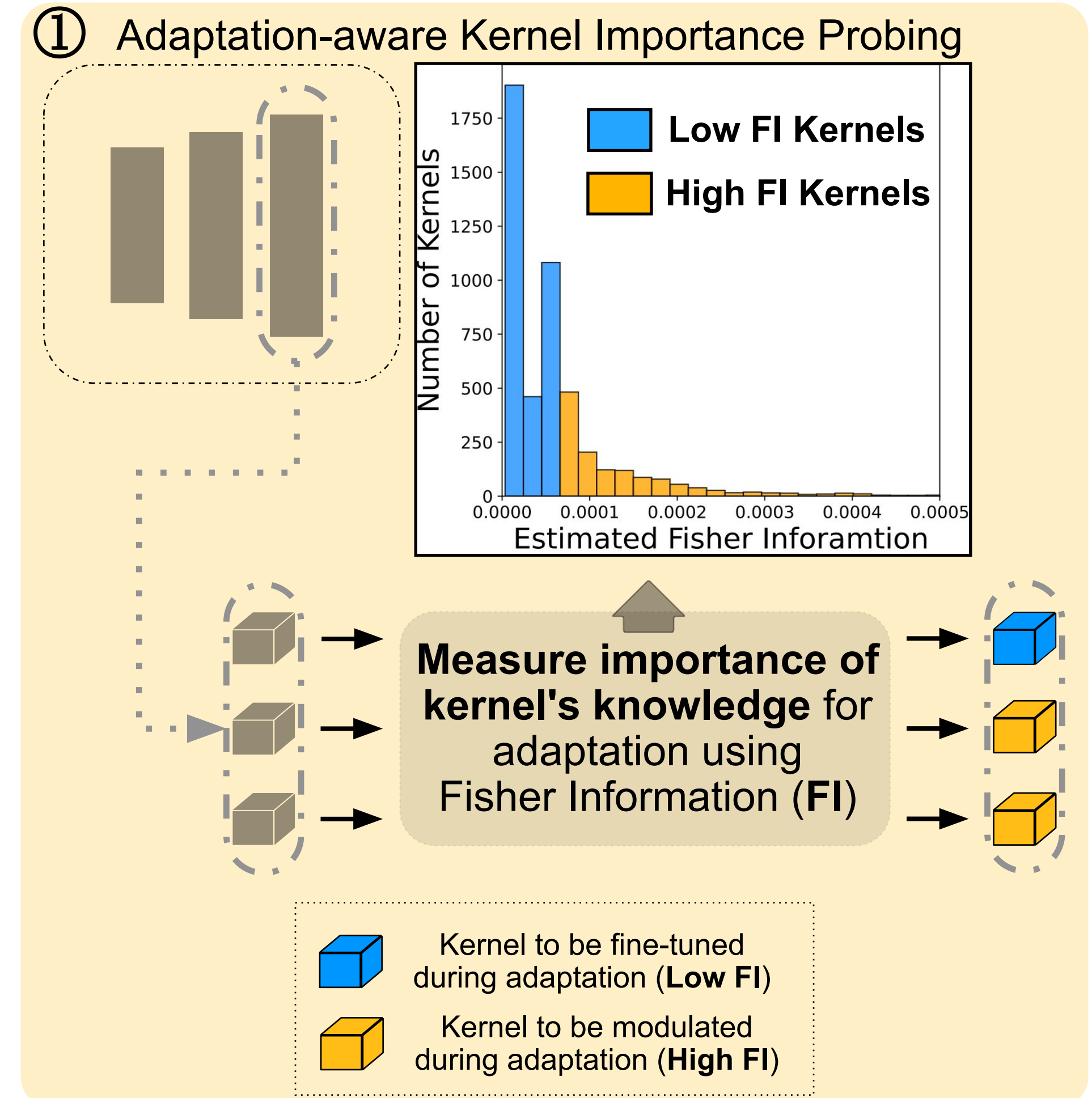
Importance measurement:

To measure the importance of the modulated kernels, we apply **Fisher Information (FI)** to modulation parameters.

$$FI(\Theta) = \mathbb{E} \left[- \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \Theta^2} \mathcal{L}(x | \Theta) \right]$$

$$\begin{cases} \Theta : \text{parameters of G/D} \\ \mathcal{L} : \text{loss of G/D} \end{cases}$$

In practice, use the first-order approximation to estimate FI.



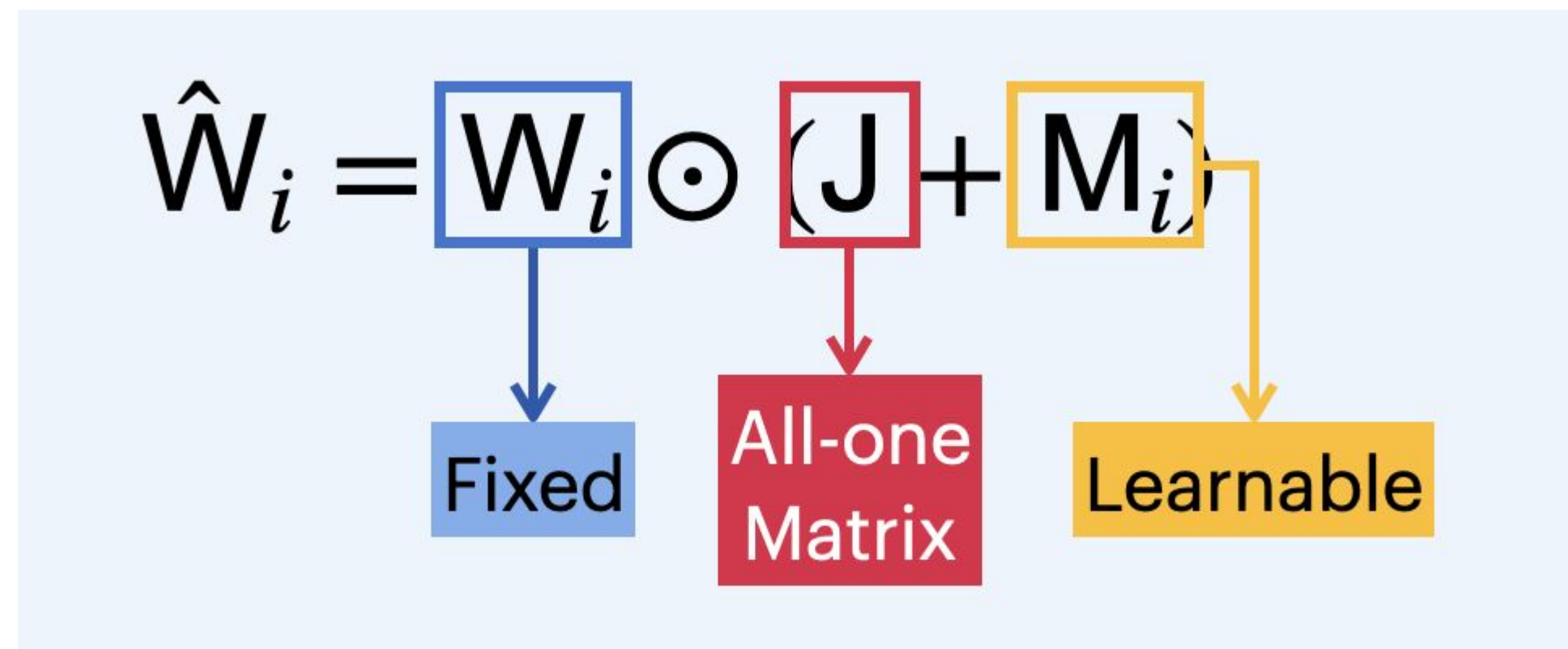
Proposed Method

Adaptation-Aware Kernel Modulation (AdAM) for FSIG

Stage-②: Hybrid Training

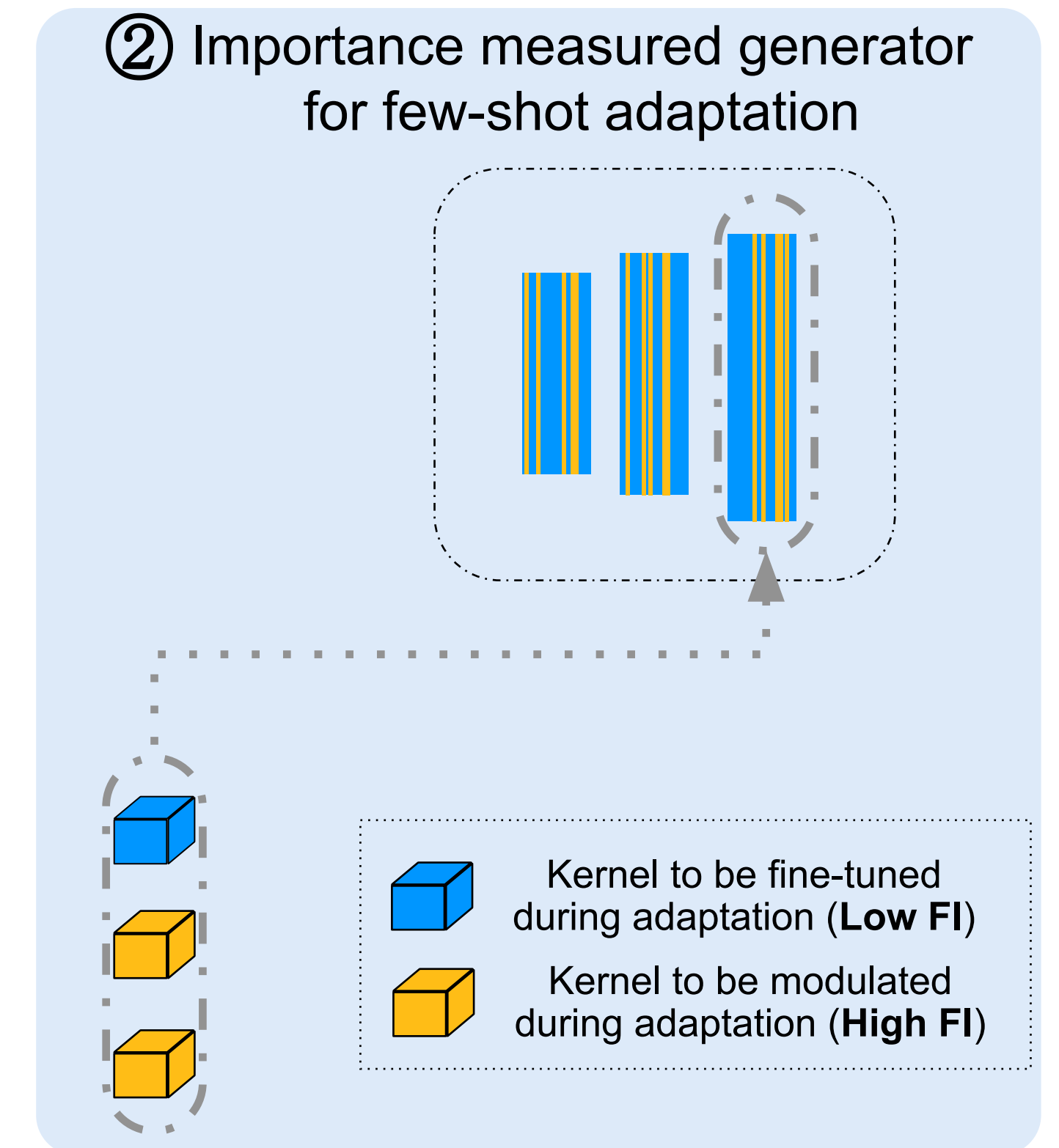
- For Important filters:

We use KML to protect the pretrained knowledge from distorted [1].
 E.g., if i -th kernel is identified as important for adaptation:

$$\hat{W}_i = W_i \odot (J + M_i)$$


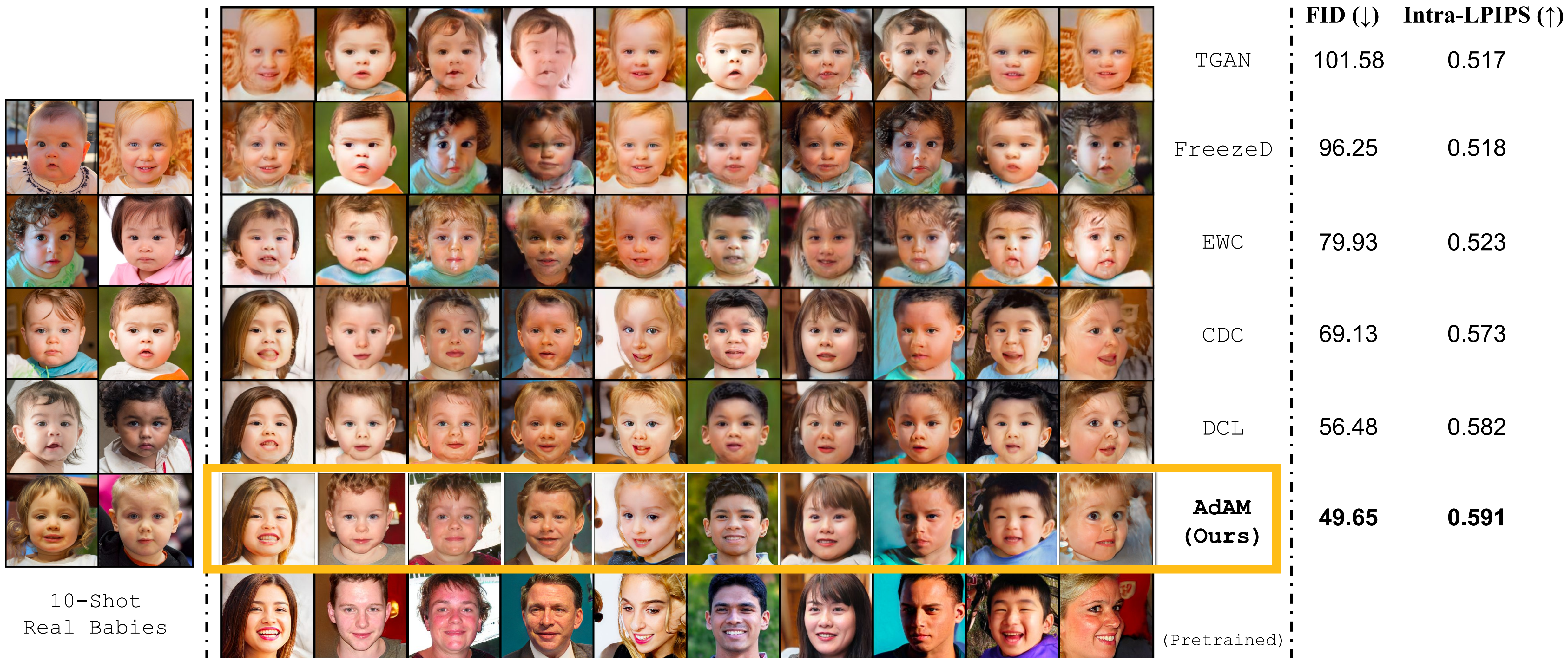
- For Unimportant filters: Simply Fine-tuning

[1] Kumar, Ananya, et al. "Fine-Tuning can Distort Pretrained Features and Underperform Out-of-Distribution." *ICLR*. 2022.



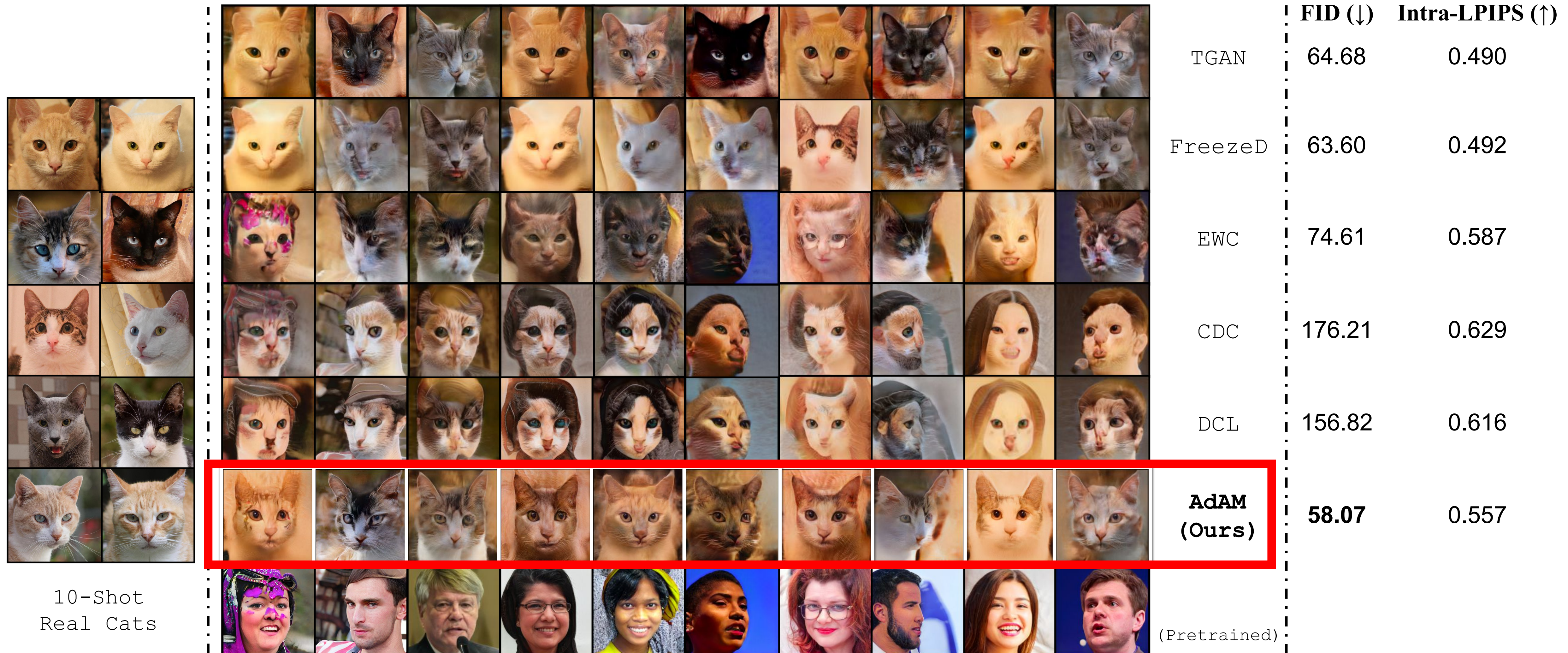
Experiment Results

1: Source/target domains are closely related



Experiment Results

2: Source/target domains are distant



Application to another GAN architecture (ProGAN)



10-Shot Palace



Progressive-GAN: Church → Palace

	FID (↓)	Intra-LPIPS (↑)
TGAN		0.593
TGAN + ADA		0.579
EWC		0.645
AdAM (Ours)		0.679
(Pretrained)		

Insufficient real samples in the target domain for reliable FID computation.

Application to another GAN architecture (ProGAN)



10-Shot
Real Babies



Progressive-GAN: FFHQ → Babies

	FID (↓)	Intra-LPIPS (↑)
TGAN	86.91	0.507
TGAN + ADA	83.09	0.555
EWC	80.77	0.559
AdAM (Ours)	78.33	0.575
(Pretrained)		

Conclusion

Our analysis & main findings

- **C**urrent SOTA FSIG methods focus on similar source/target domains;
- **T**herefore, they aim to preserve all source knowledge
 1. If source/target are **related**, the performance is good
 2. If source/target are **distant**, SOTA is no better than the baseline

Our contributions

- **W**e propose to identify the filters important for target adaptation;
 - Stage-1**: Adaptation-Aware **importance probing**;
 - Stage-2**: Hybrid training (**Low-rank Kernel Modulation** and Fine-tuning)
- **W**e achieve new SOTA when source/target **are either related or distant**

Few-shot Image Generation via Adaptation-Aware Kernel Modulation

Code, dataset and checkpoints:



Project Page

Thank you for watching