



EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON COMPUTER VISION

M I L A N O  
2 0 2 4

# Model Stock: All we need is just a few fine-tuned models

**Dong-Hwan Jang<sup>1,2</sup>, Sangdoon Yun<sup>1†</sup>, Dongyoon Han<sup>1†</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>NAVER AI Lab, <sup>2</sup>Samsung Advanced Institute of Technology (SAIT)

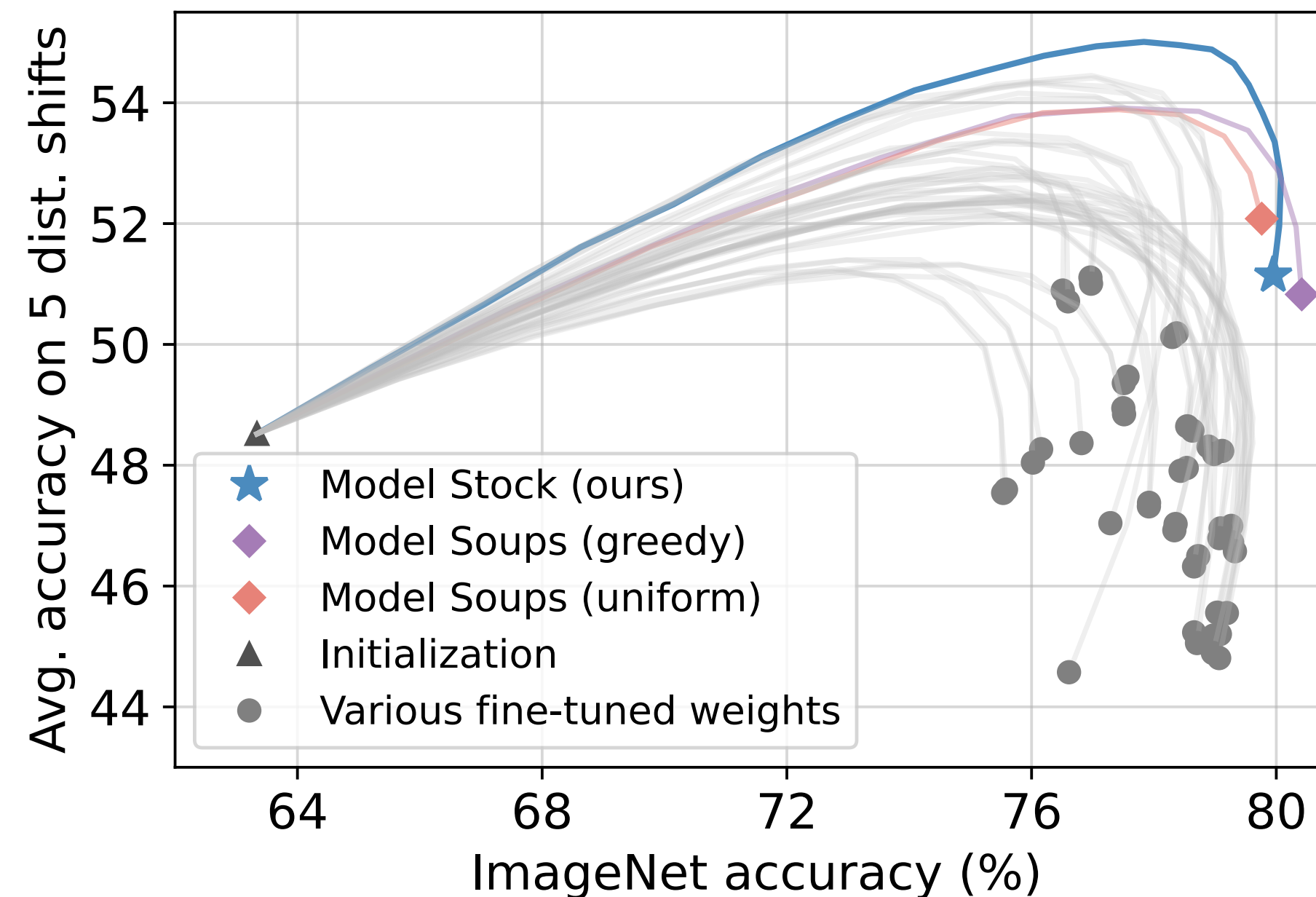
† corresponding authors

\* Work done during an internship at NAVER AI Lab

# Introduction

## Robust Fine-tuning

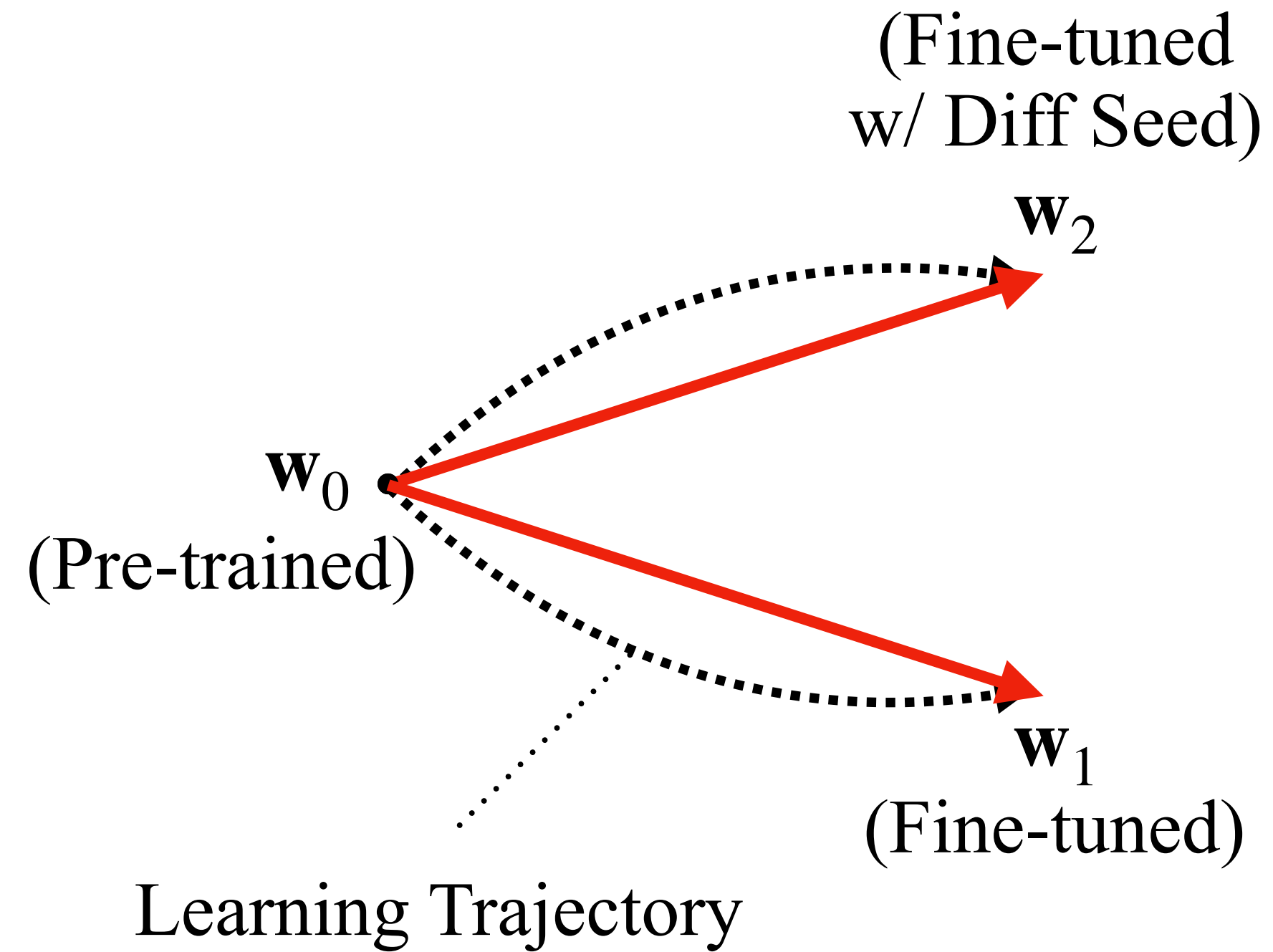
- Traditional **robust fine-tuning methods** like Model Soup require dozens of fine-tuned weights
- We introduce **Model Stock**, a novel fine-tuning method that enhances both in-distribution and out-of-distribution performance while drastically reducing computational costs.



*Observation 1: Angle and Norm Consistency among Fine-tuned Weights*

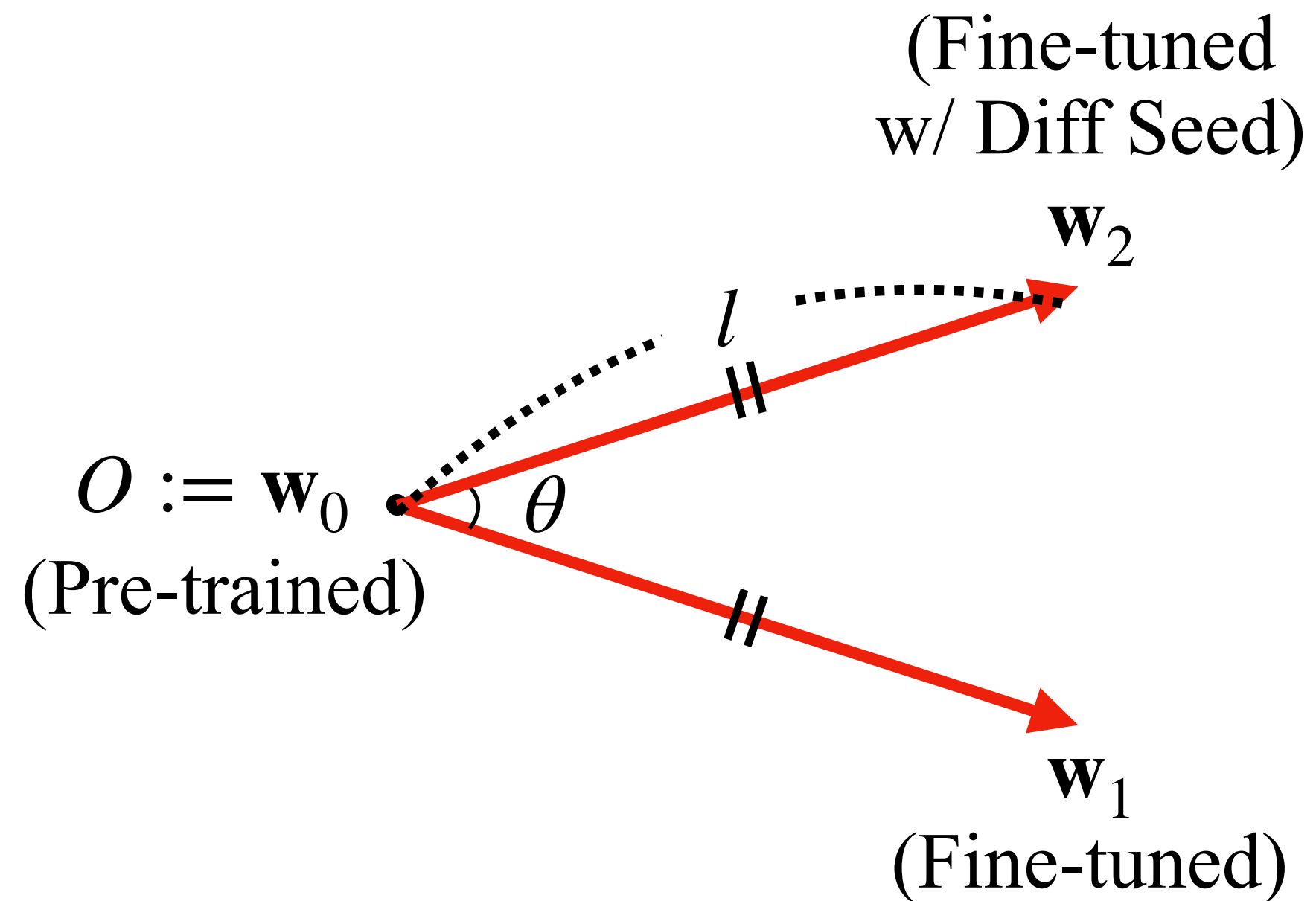
# Observation 1: Angle and Norm Consistency

## Pretrain-Finetune Paradigm in Weight Space



# Observation 1: Angle and Norm Consistency

## Geometric Relations between Fine-tuned Weights

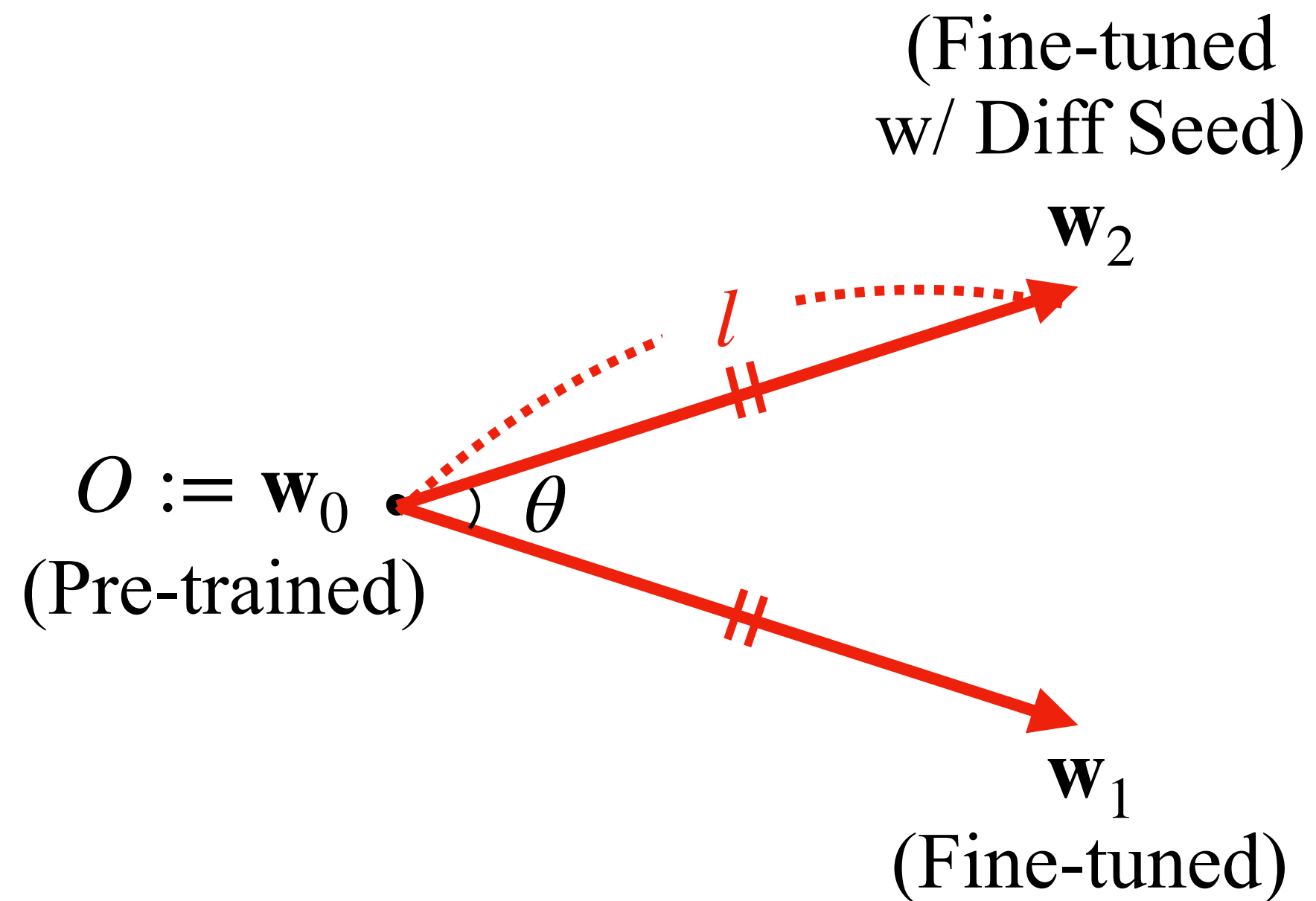


$\forall$  random seeds  $i$  and  $j$ ,

$$\mathbf{w}_i \cdot \mathbf{w}_j = \begin{cases} l^2 & \text{if } i = j, \\ l^2 \cos \theta & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

# Observation 1: Angle and Norm Consistency

## Geometric Relations between Fine-tuned Weights



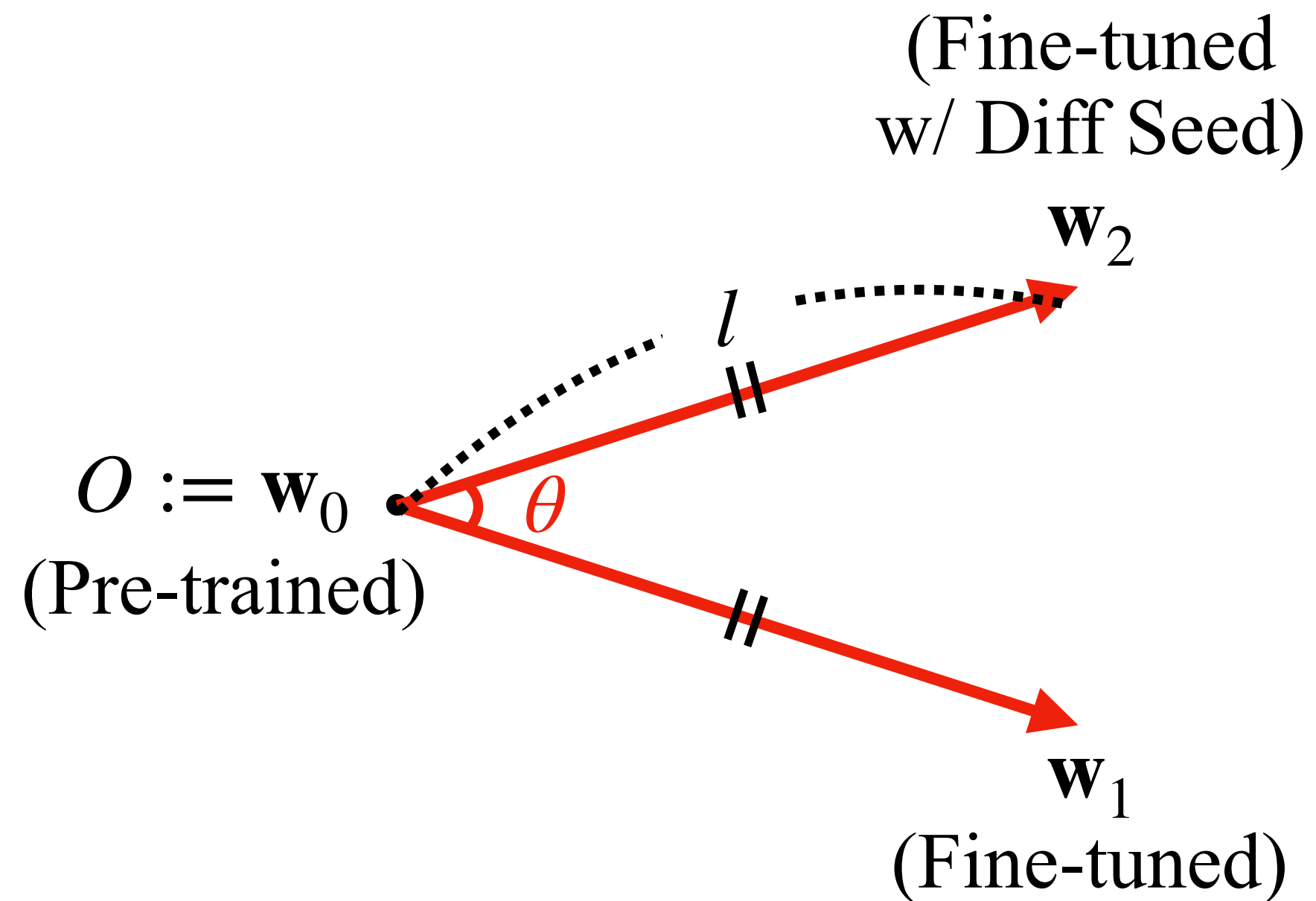
$\forall$  random seeds  $i$  and  $j$ ,

$$\mathbf{w}_i \cdot \mathbf{w}_j = \begin{cases} l^2 & \text{if } i = j, \\ l^2 \cos \theta & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

Norm Consistency

# Observation 1: Angle and Norm Consistency

## Geometric Relations between Fine-tuned Weights



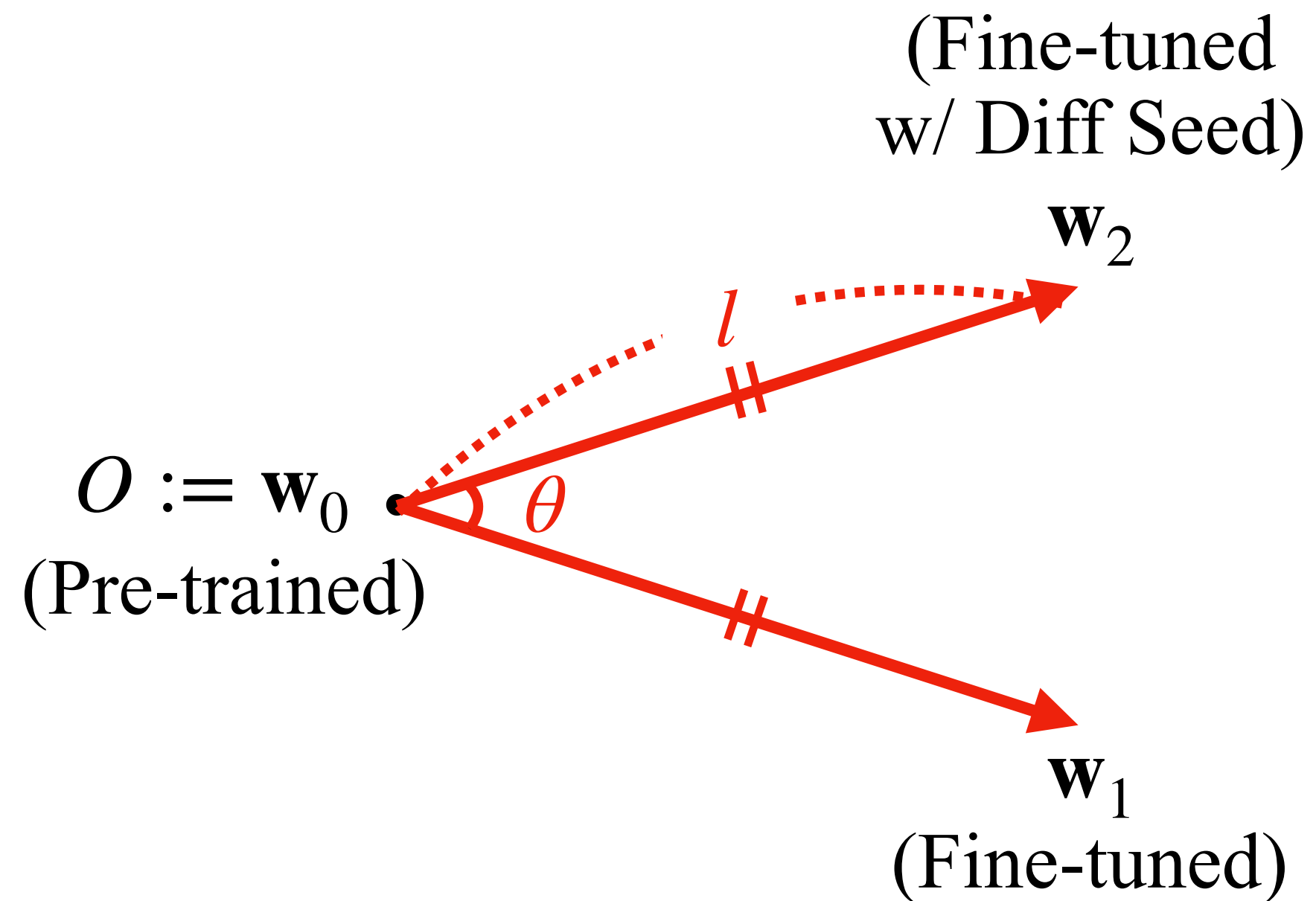
$\forall$  random seeds  $i$  and  $j$ ,

$$\mathbf{w}_i \cdot \mathbf{w}_j = \begin{cases} l^2 & \text{if } i = j, \\ l^2 \cos \theta & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

Angle Consistency

# Observation 1: Angle and Norm Consistency

## Geometric Relations between Fine-tuned Weights



$\forall$  random seeds  $i$  and  $j$ ,

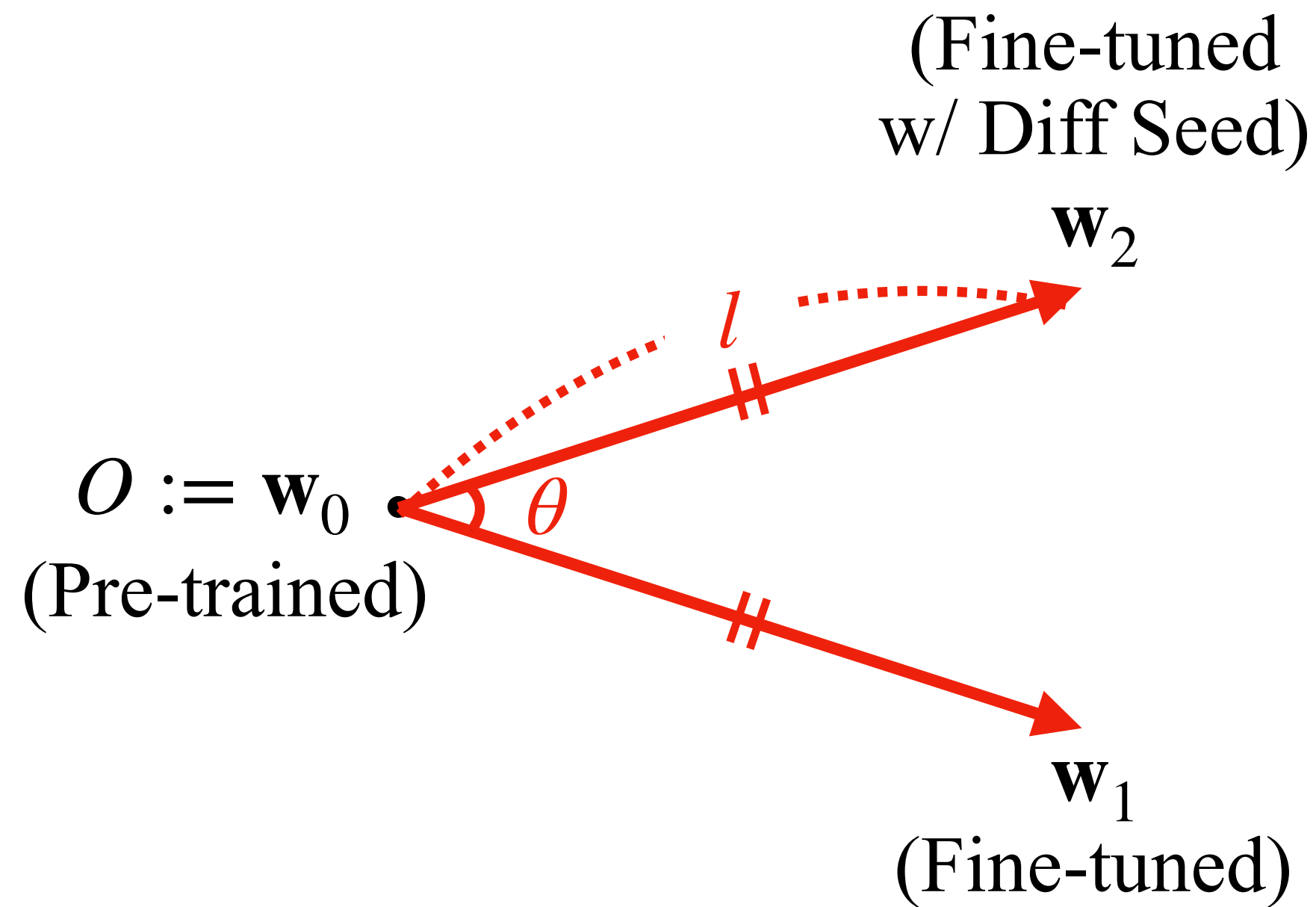
$$\mathbf{w}_i \cdot \mathbf{w}_j = \begin{cases} l^2 & \text{if } i = j, \\ l^2 \cos \theta & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

- (i) **Various Setups**  
(arch., optim., h-params)
- (ii) **Layer-wise**
- (iii) **During Training**



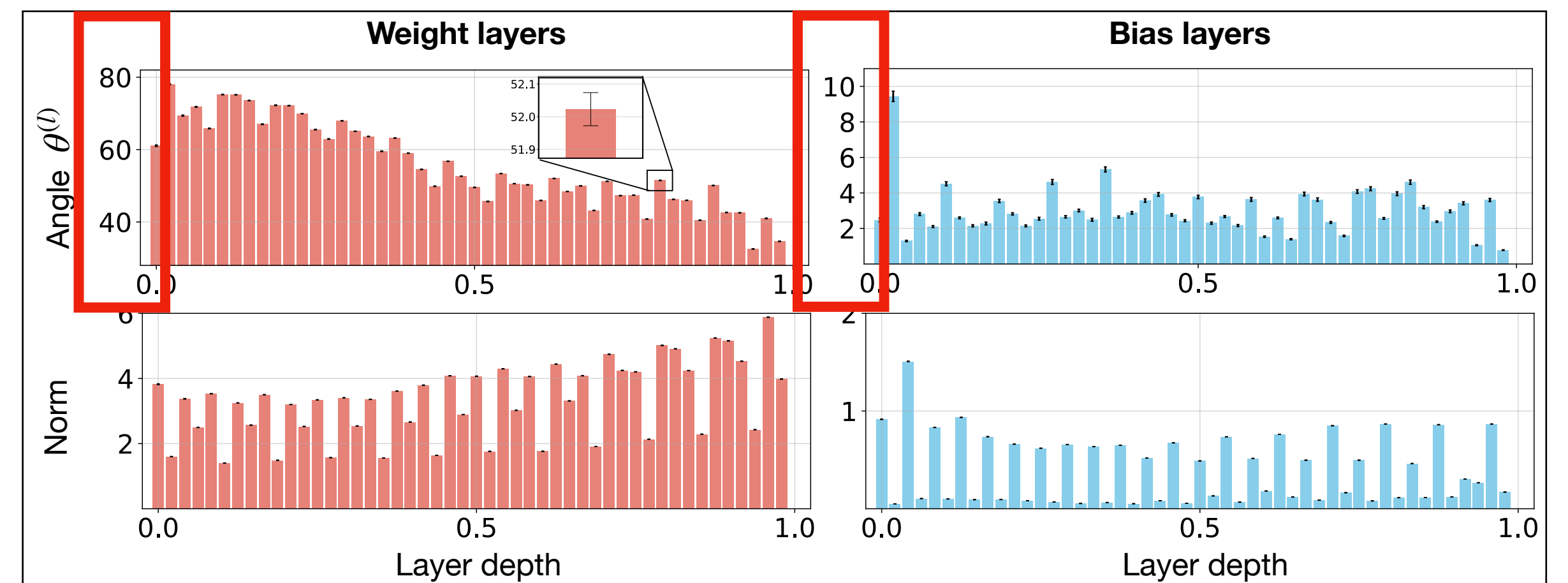
# Observation 1: Angle and Norm Consistency

## Geometric Relations between Fine-tuned Weights



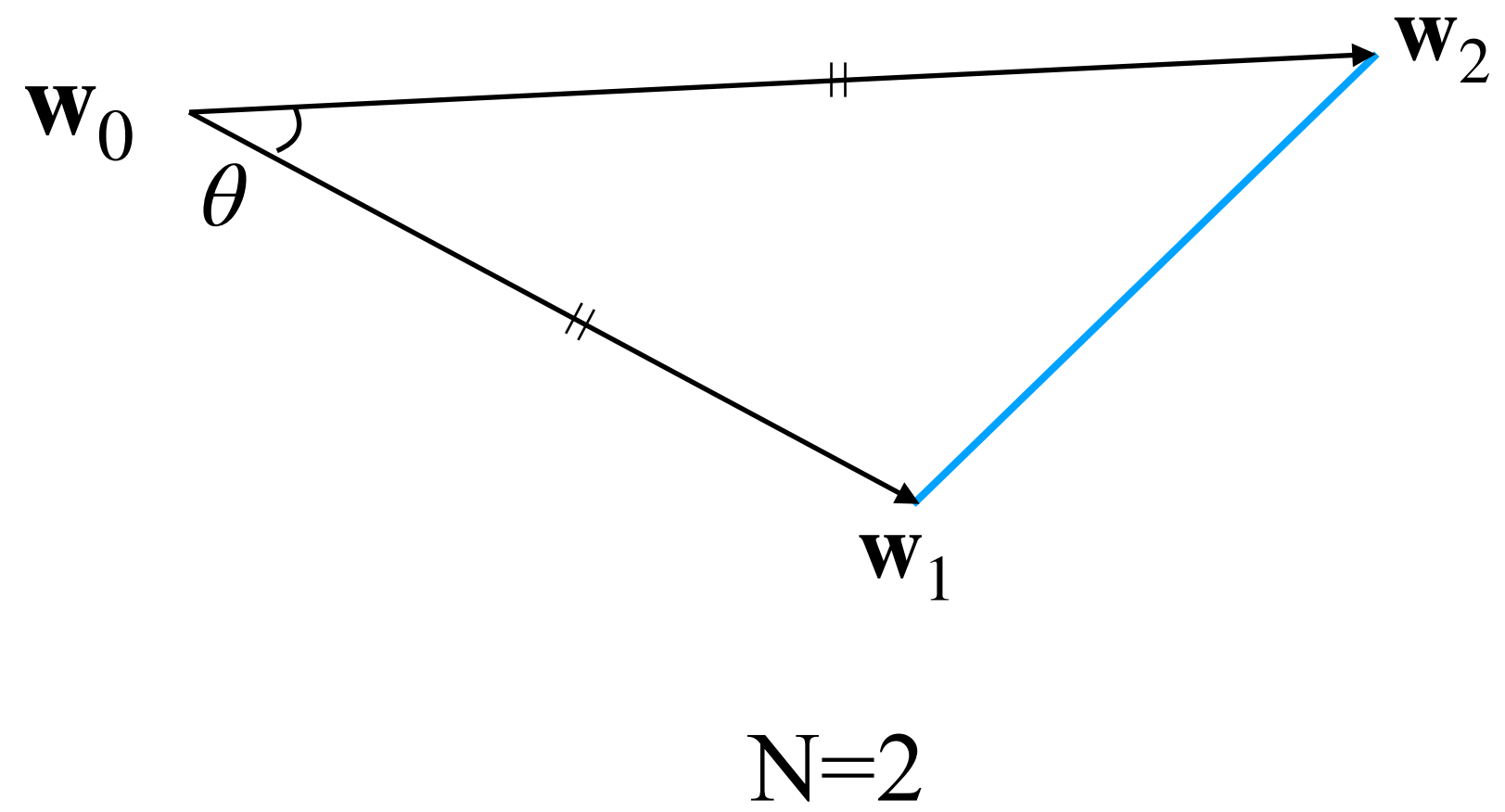
$\forall$  random seeds  $i$  and  $j$ ,

$$\mathbf{w}_i \cdot \mathbf{w}_j = \begin{cases} l^2 & \text{if } i = j, \\ l^2 \cos \theta & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$



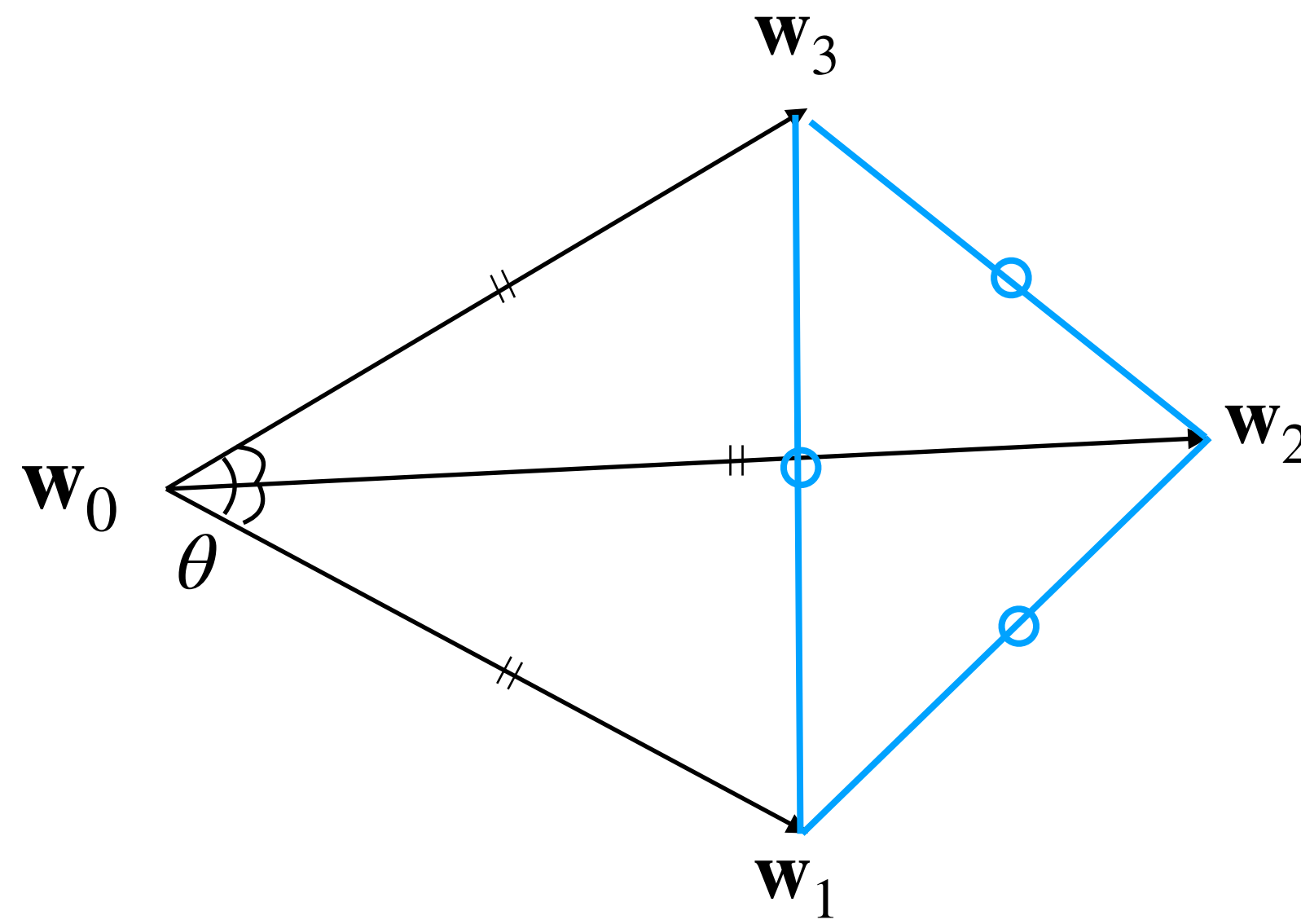
# Observation 1: Angle and Norm Consistency

## Geometric Relations between Fine-tuned Weights



# Observation 1: Angle and Norm Consistency

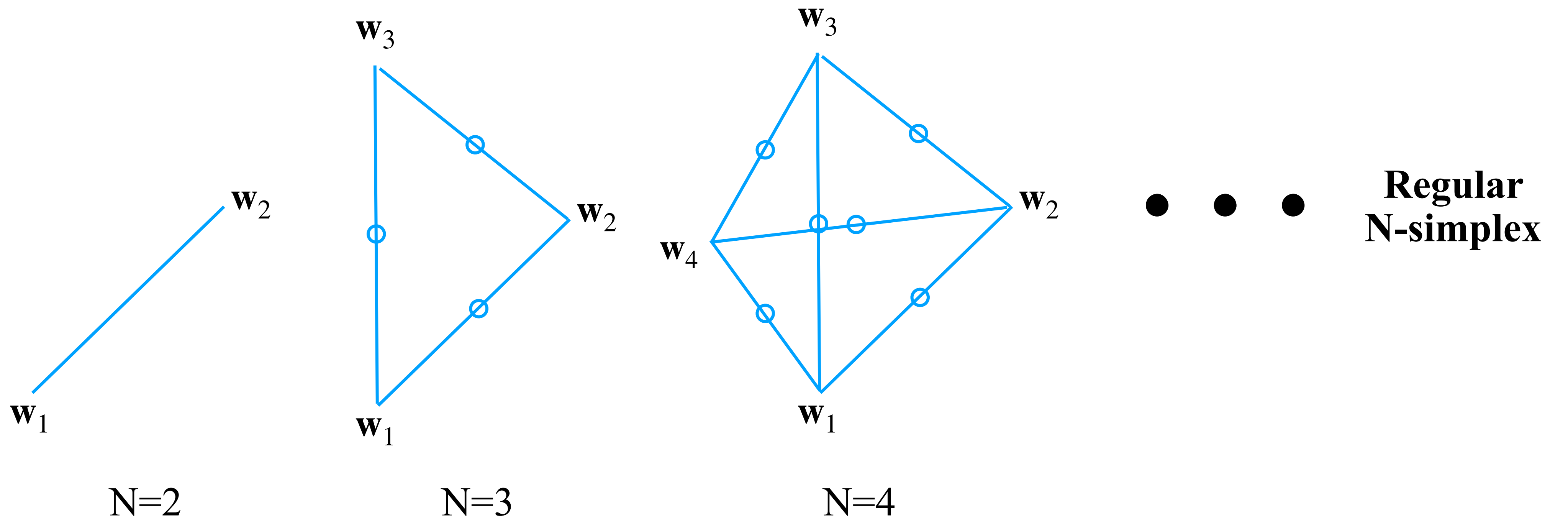
## Geometric Relations between Fine-tuned Weights



$N=3$

# Observation 1: Angle and Norm Consistency

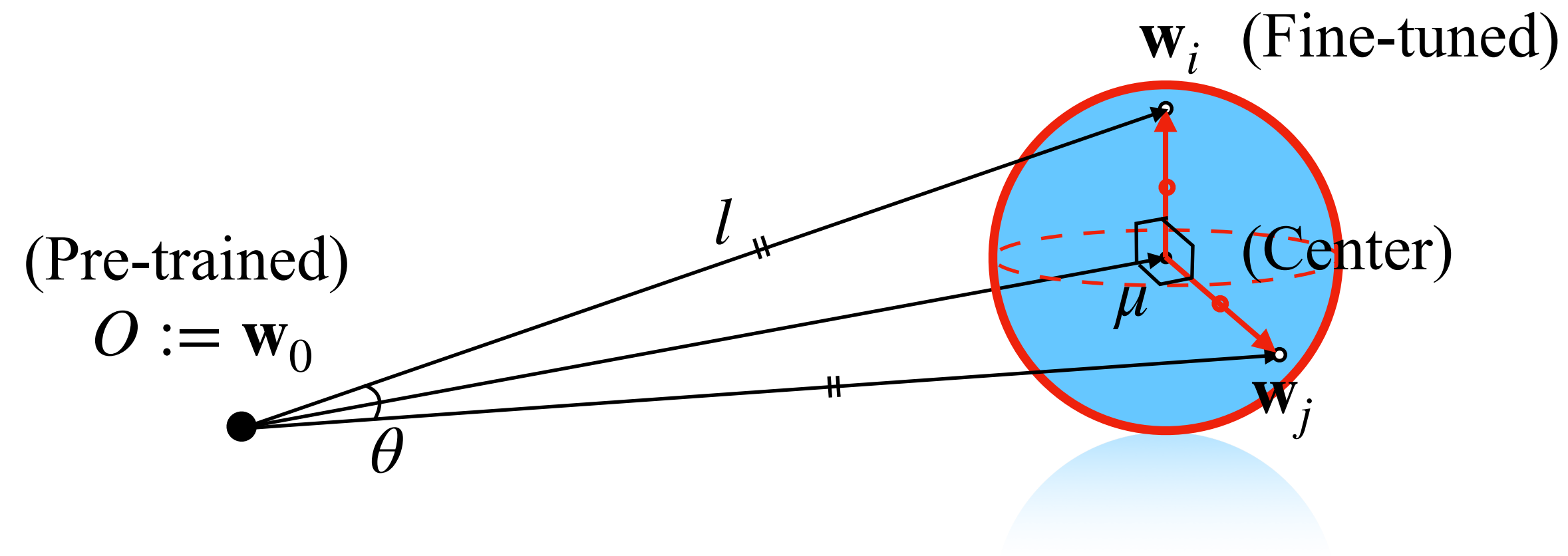
## Geometric Relations between Fine-tuned Weights



# Observation 1: Angle and Norm Consistency

## Geometric Relations between Fine-tuned Weights

Let us define the **center** of fine-tuned weights as  $\mu = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{w}_i$ ,



(i)  $\|\mathbf{w}_i - \mu\| = \text{constant}$   
(*thin shell*)

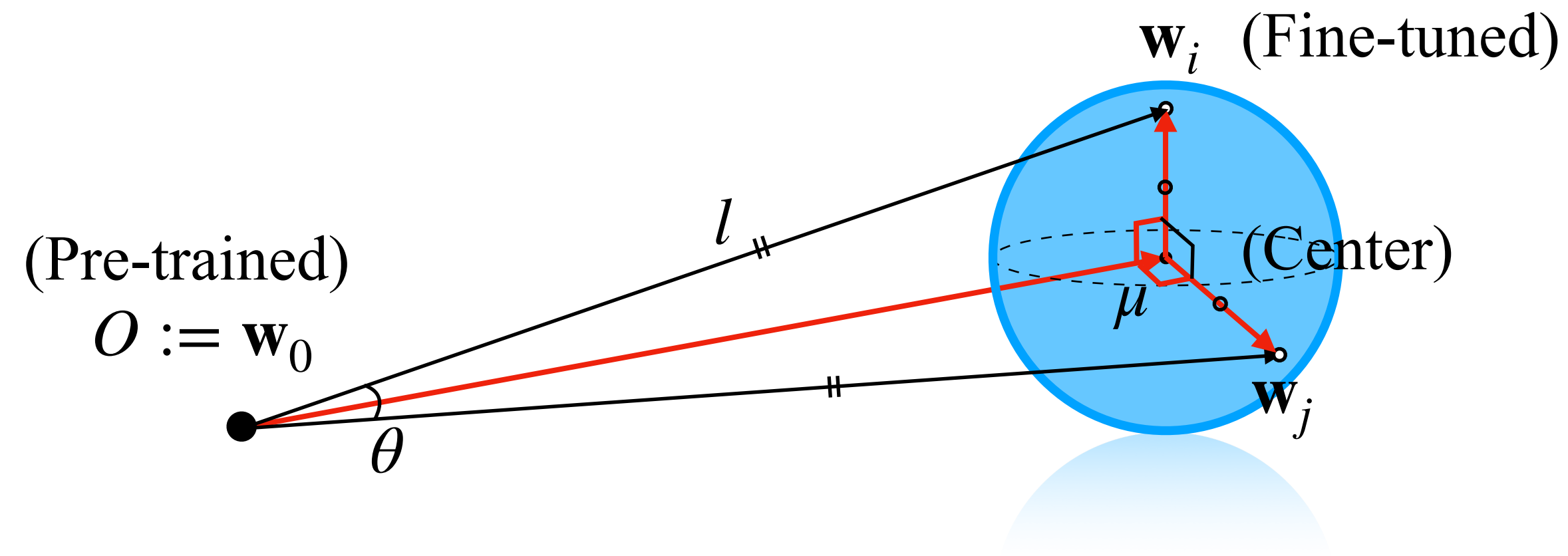
(ii)  $(\mathbf{w}_0 - \mu) \perp (\mathbf{w}_i - \mu)$

(iii)  $(\mathbf{w}_i - \mu) \perp (\mathbf{w}_j - \mu)$

# Observation 1: Angle and Norm Consistency

## Geometric Relations between Fine-tuned Weights

Let us define the **center** of fine-tuned weights as  $\mu = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{w}_i$ ,



(i)  $\|\mathbf{w}_i - \mu\| = \text{constant}$   
(*thin shell*)

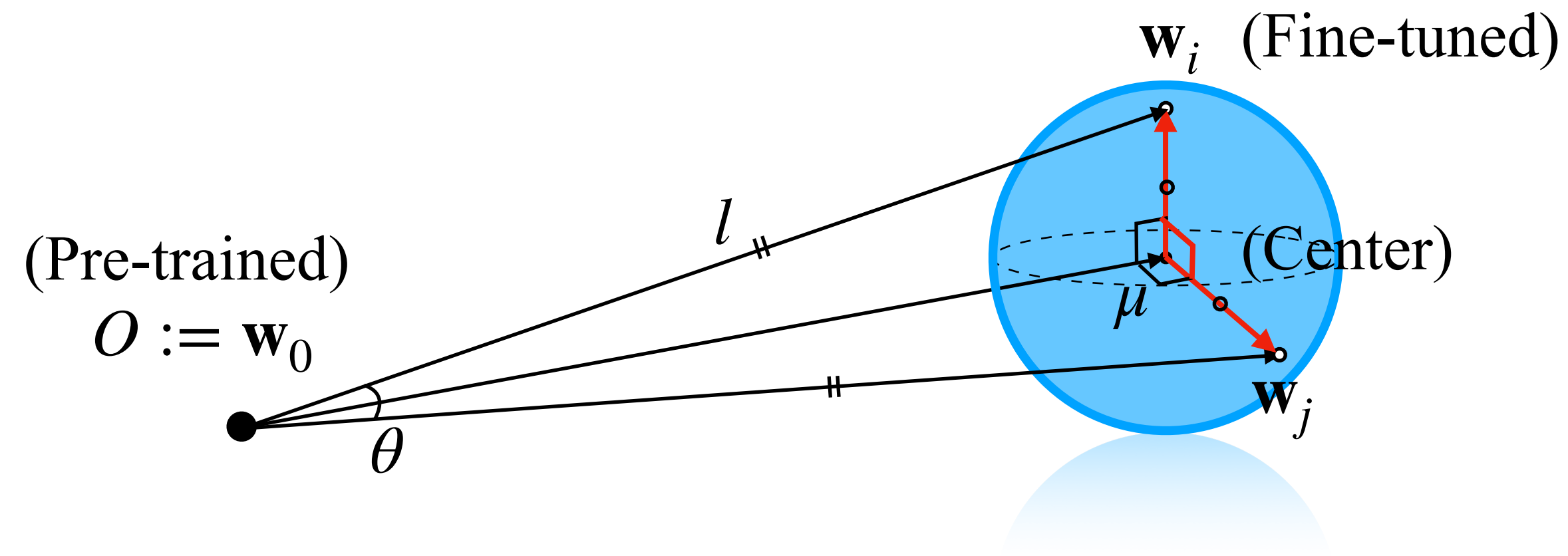
(ii)  $(\mathbf{w}_0 - \mu) \perp (\mathbf{w}_i - \mu)$

(iii)  $(\mathbf{w}_i - \mu) \perp (\mathbf{w}_j - \mu)$

# Observation 1: Angle and Norm Consistency

## Geometric Relations between Fine-tuned Weights

Let us define the **center** of fine-tuned weights as  $\mu = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{w}_i$ ,



(i)  $\|\mathbf{w}_i - \mu\| = \text{constant}$   
(*thin shell*)

(ii)  $(\mathbf{w}_0 - \mu) \perp (\mathbf{w}_i - \mu)$

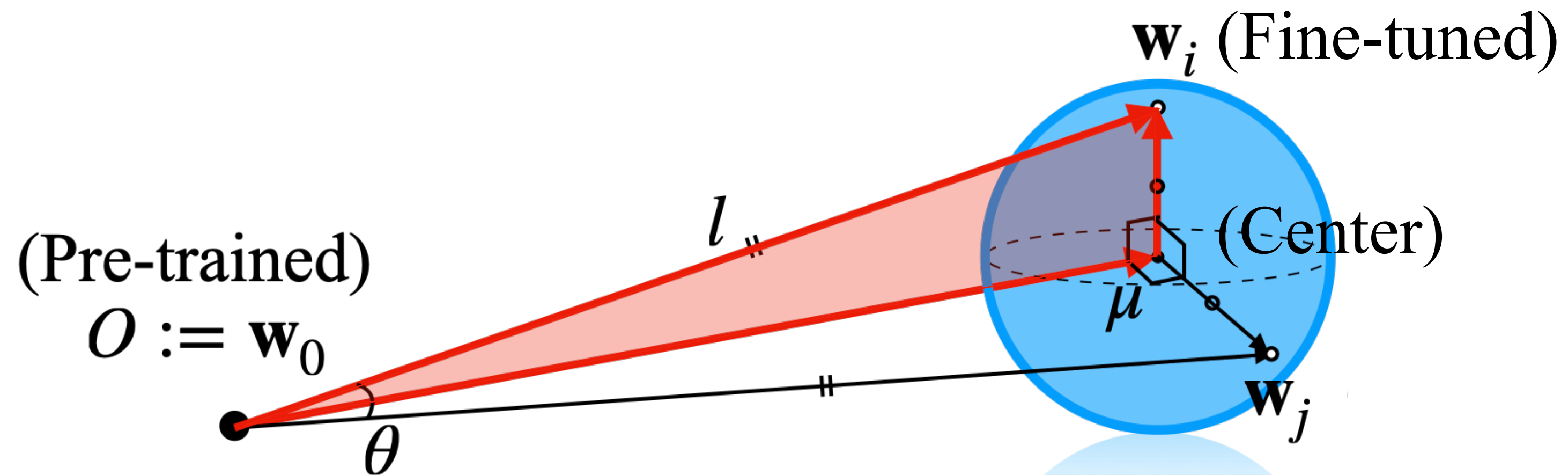
(iii)  $(\mathbf{w}_i - \mu) \perp (\mathbf{w}_j - \mu)$

*Observation 2: Distance from the Center of Weights and Performance*



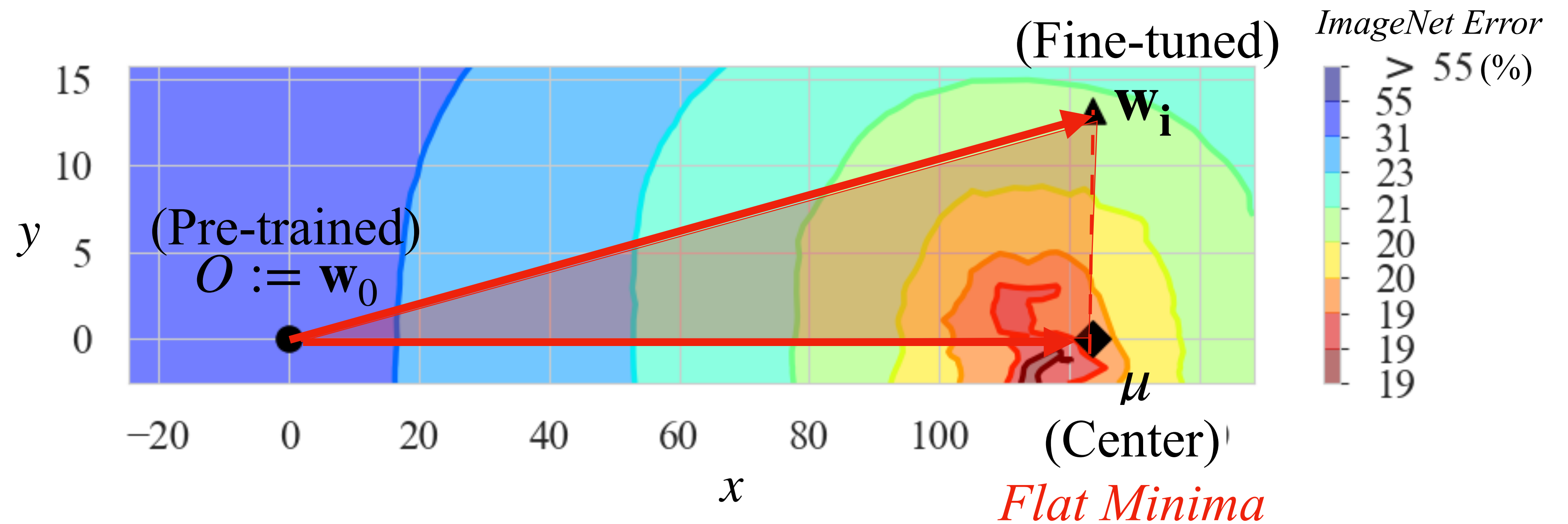
# Observation 2: Distance and Performance

## Test Error Landscape (ImageNet)



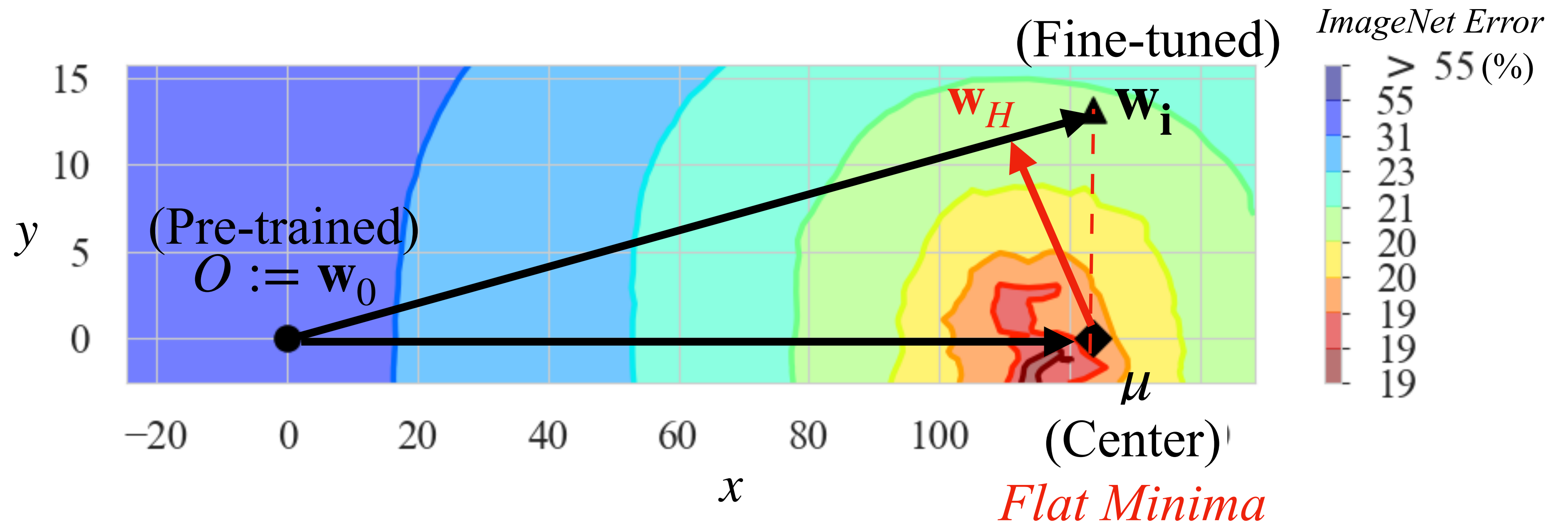
# Observation 2: Distance and Performance

## Test Error Landscape (ImageNet)



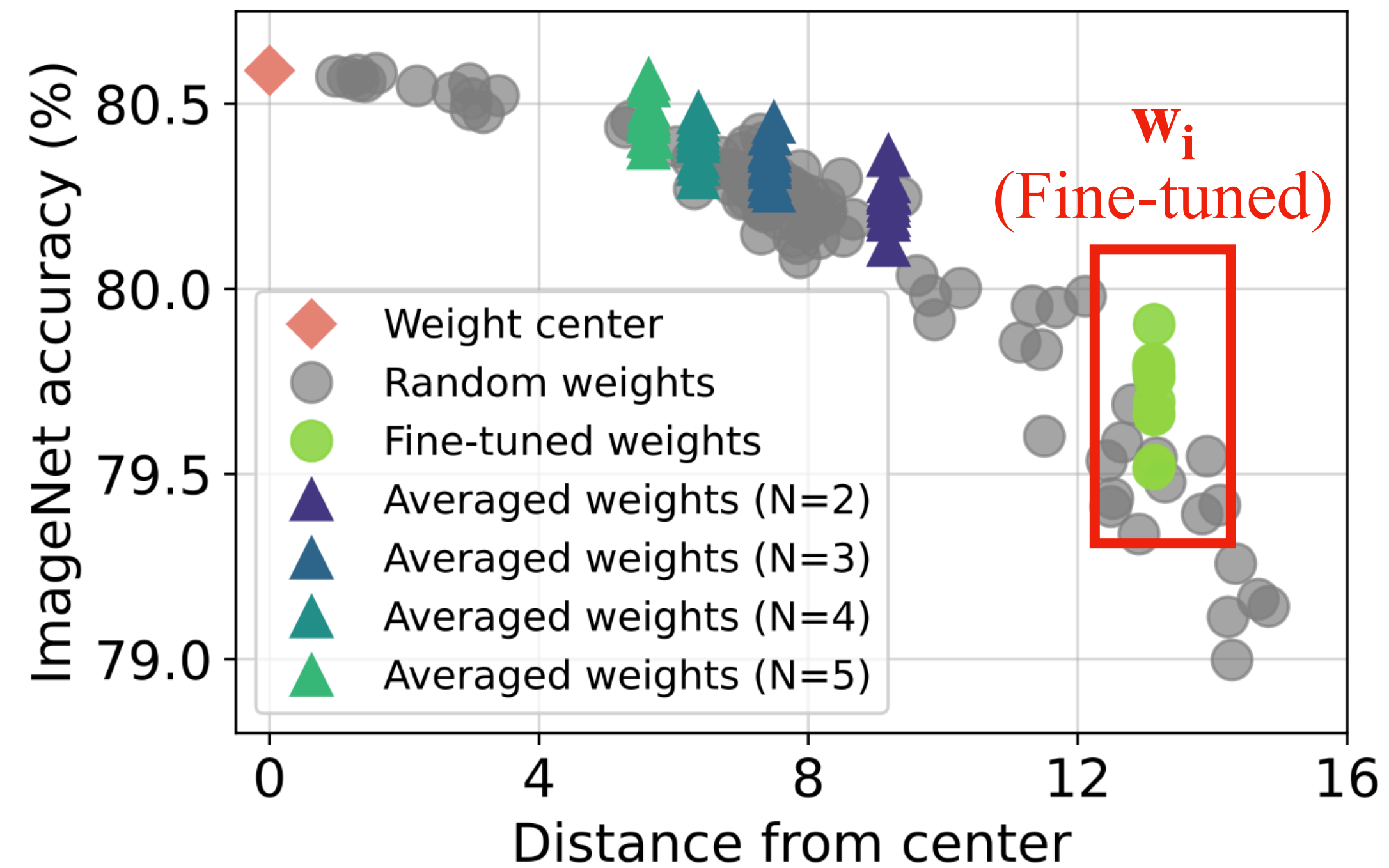
# Observation 2: Distance and Performance

## Test Error Landscape (ImageNet)



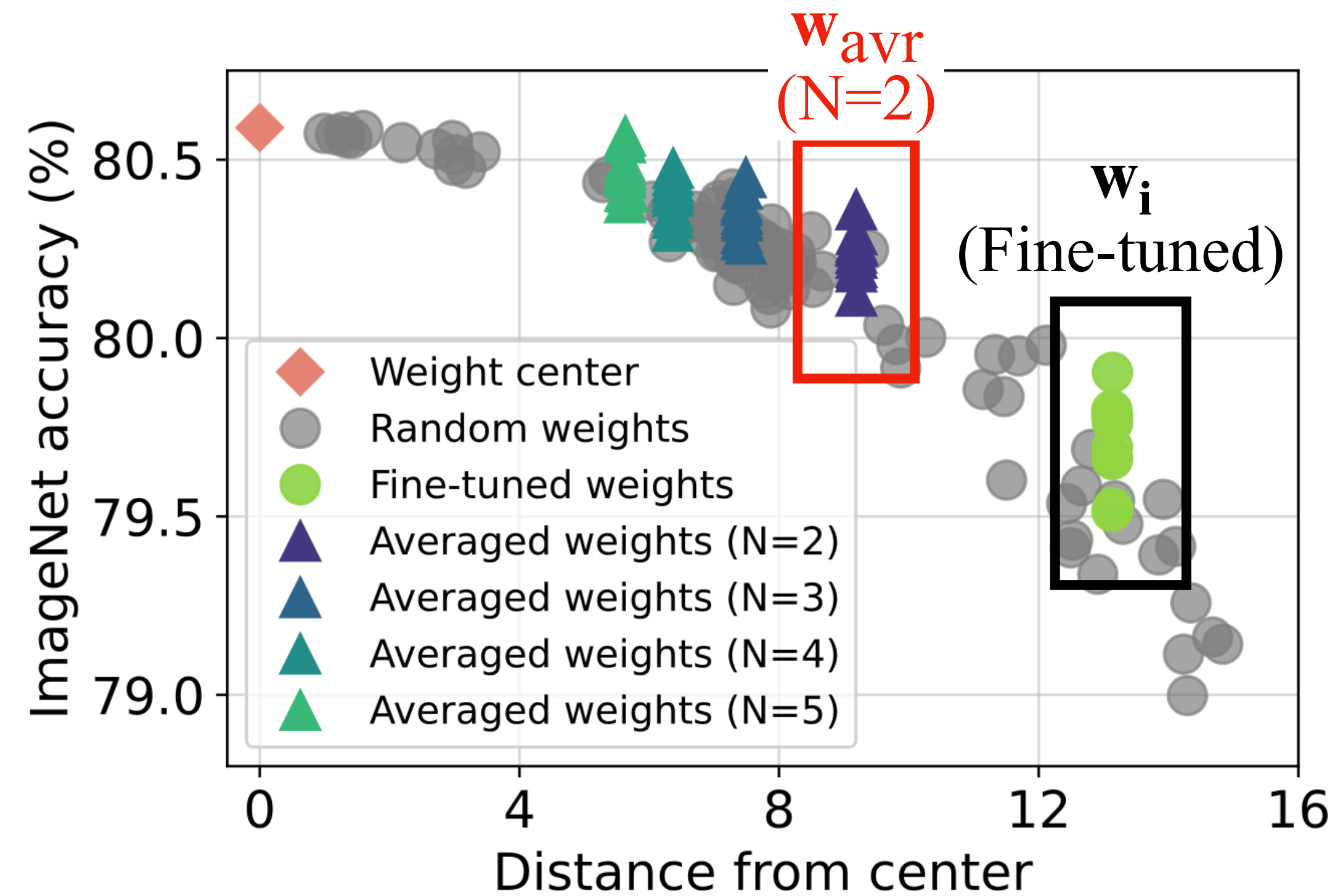
# Observation 2: Distance and Performance

## Distance vs. Random Weights' Performance



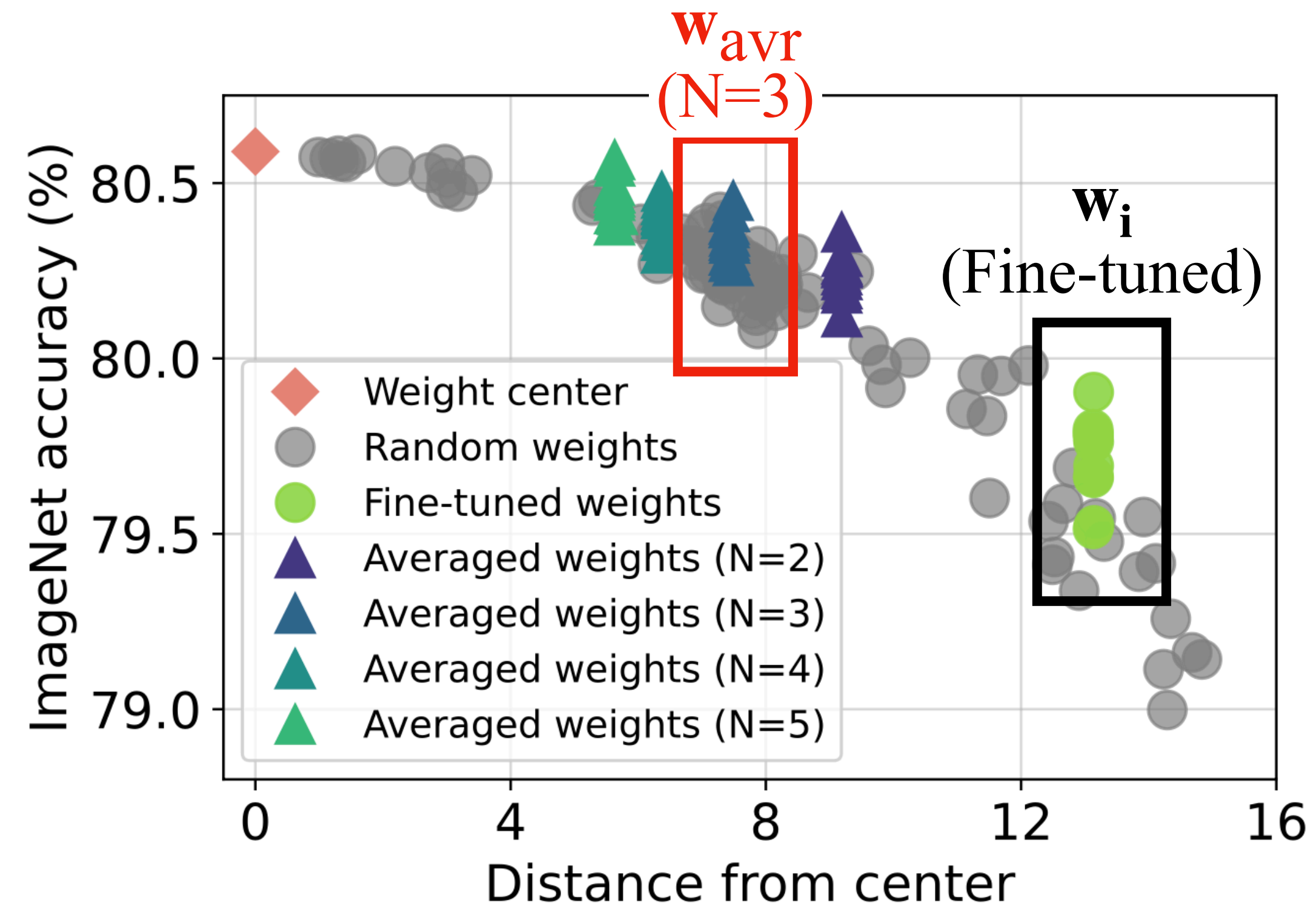
# Observation 2: Distance and Performance

## Distance vs. Random Weights' Performance



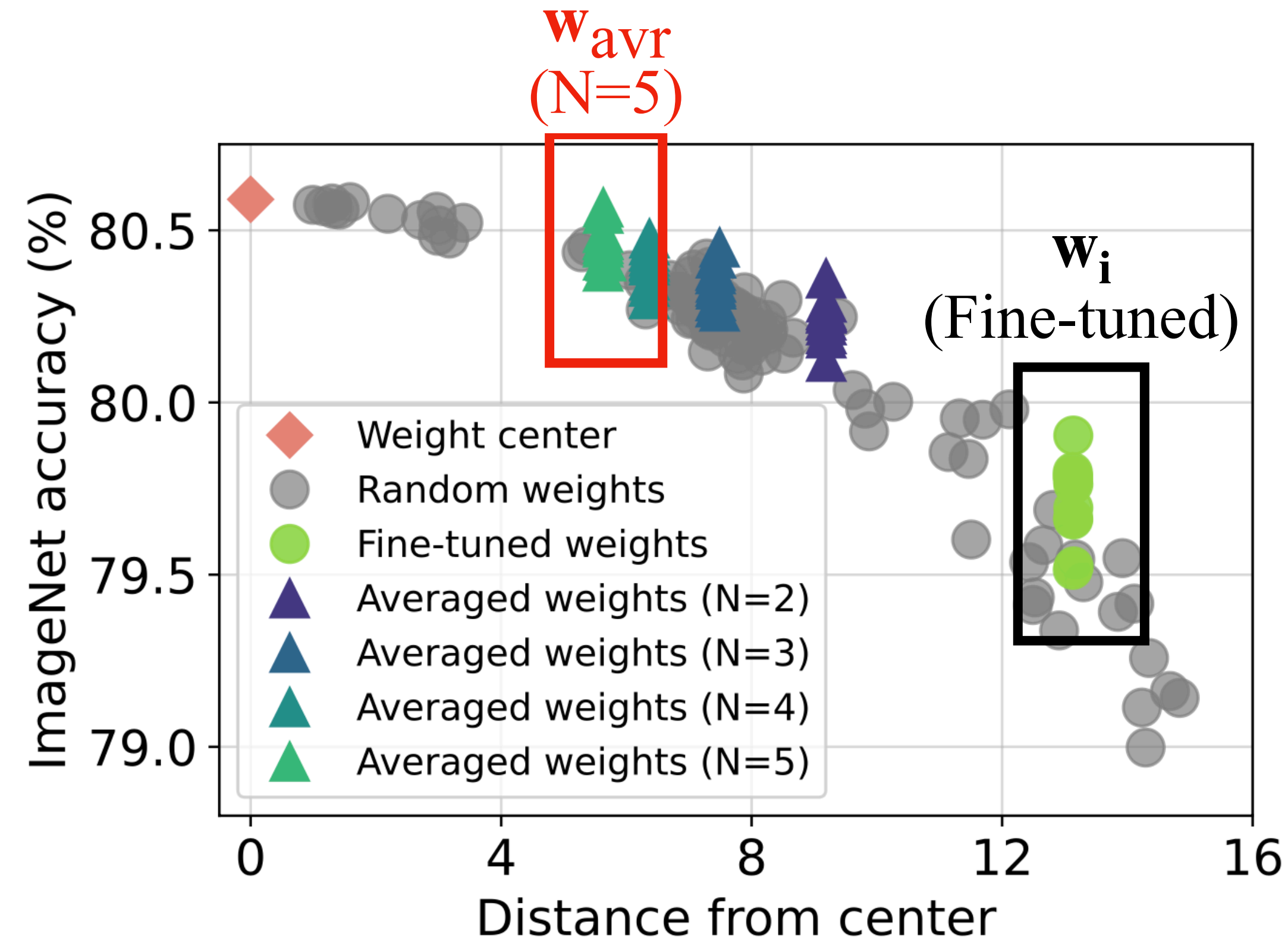
# Observation 2: Distance and Performance

## Distance vs. Random Weights' Performance



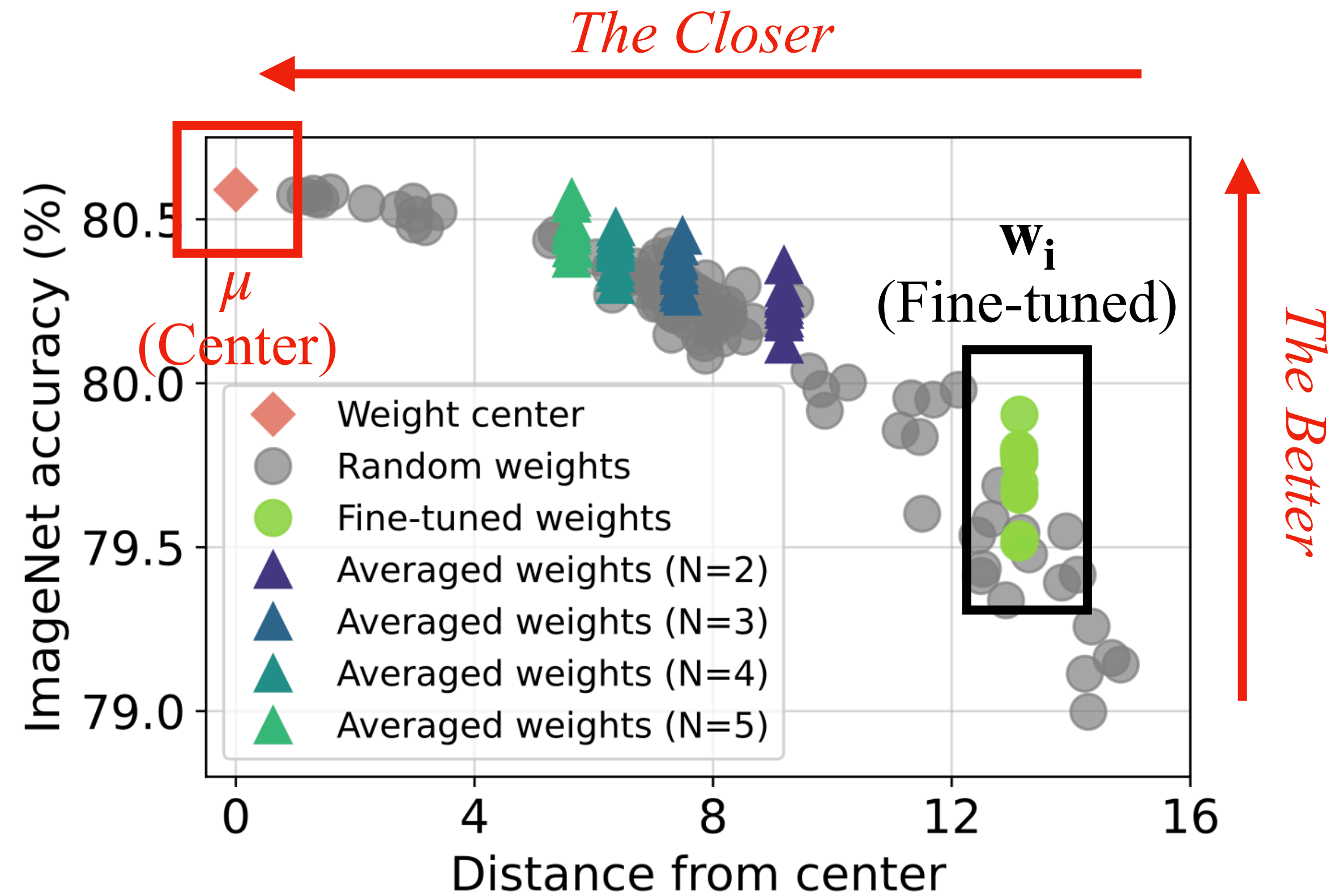
# Observation 2: Distance and Performance

## Distance vs. Random Weights' Performance



# Observation 2: Distance and Performance

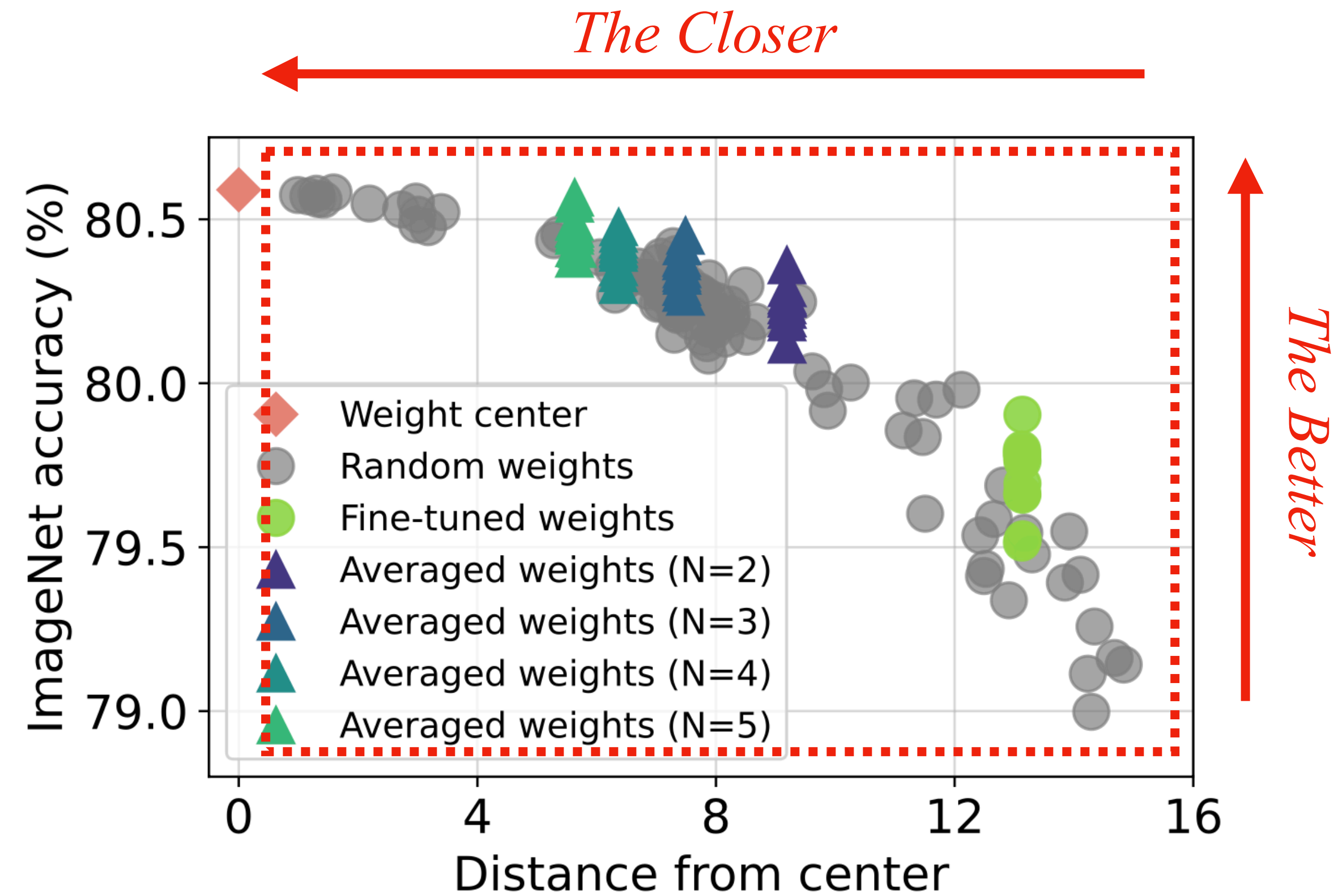
## Distance vs. Random Weights' Performance





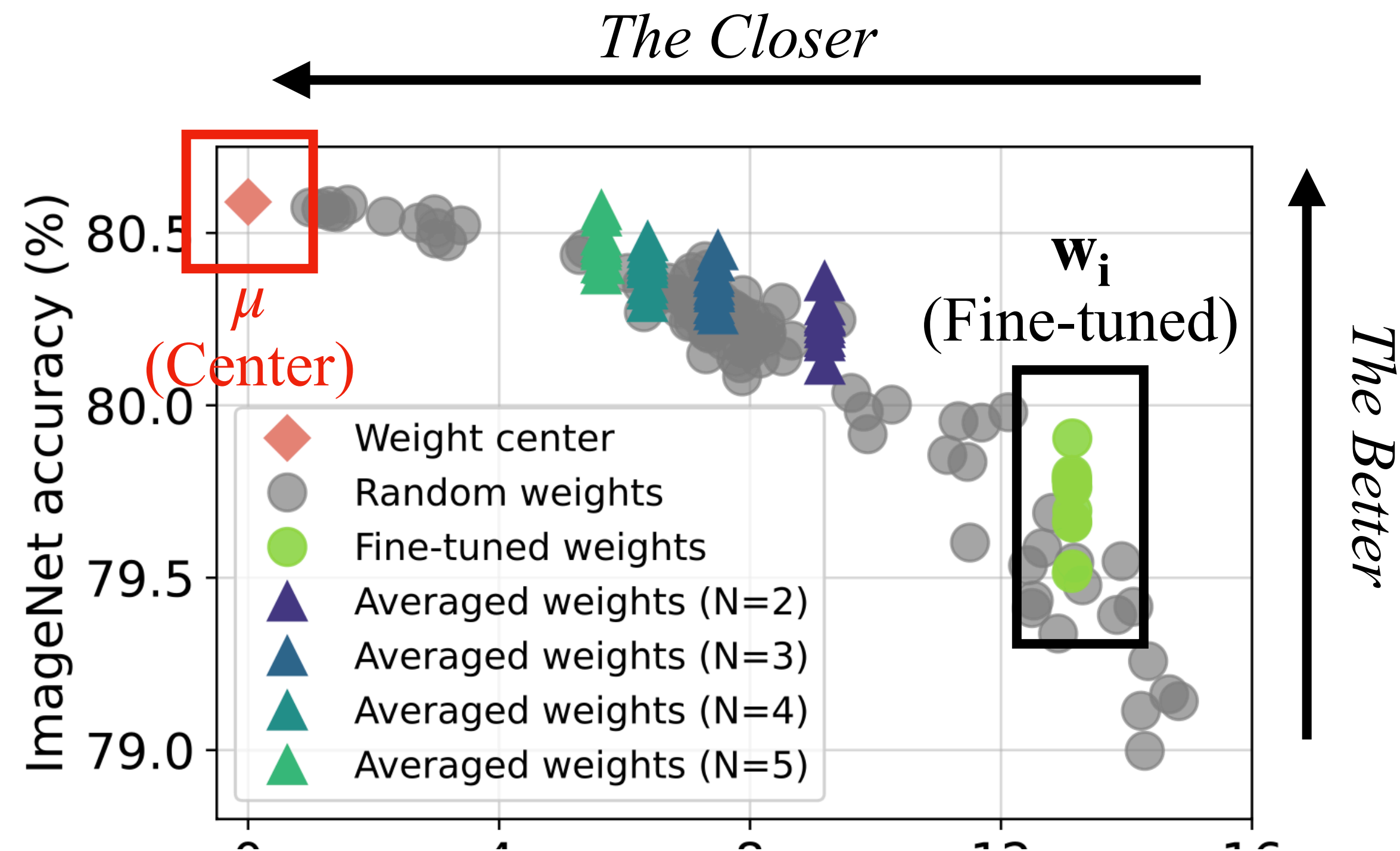
# Observation 2: Distance and Performance

## Distance vs. Random Weights' Performance



# Observation 2: Distance and Performance

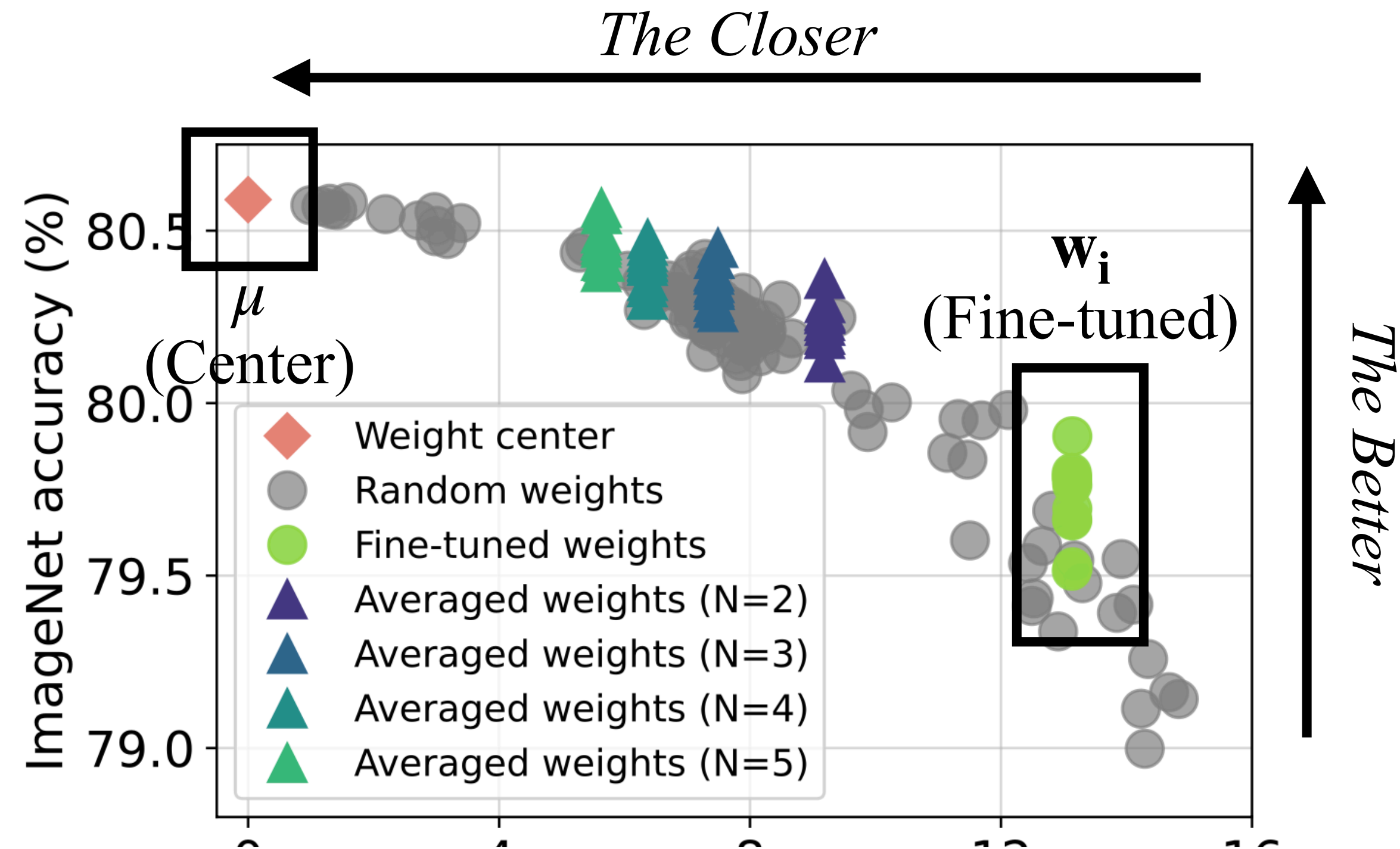
## Distance vs. Random Weights' Performance



- Naive averaging is NOT scalable
  - Distance  $\propto 1/\sqrt{N}$
- Gradient-based method is NOT reachable

# Observation 2: Distance and Performance

## Distance vs. Random Weights' Performance



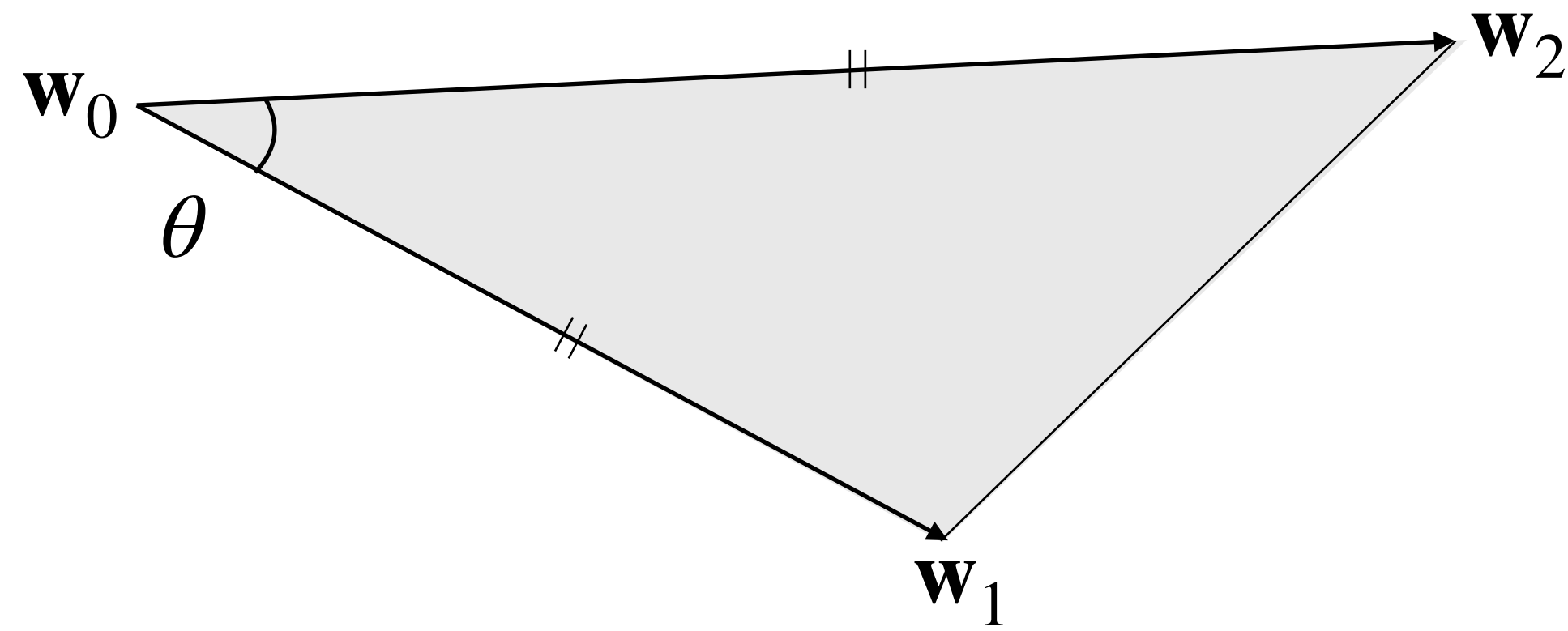
- Naive averaging is NOT scalable
  - Distance  $\propto 1/\sqrt{N}$
- Gradient-based method is NOT reachable

*Any Better Idea?*

*Method: Find the Closest Weight to the Center using Pre-trained Weight*

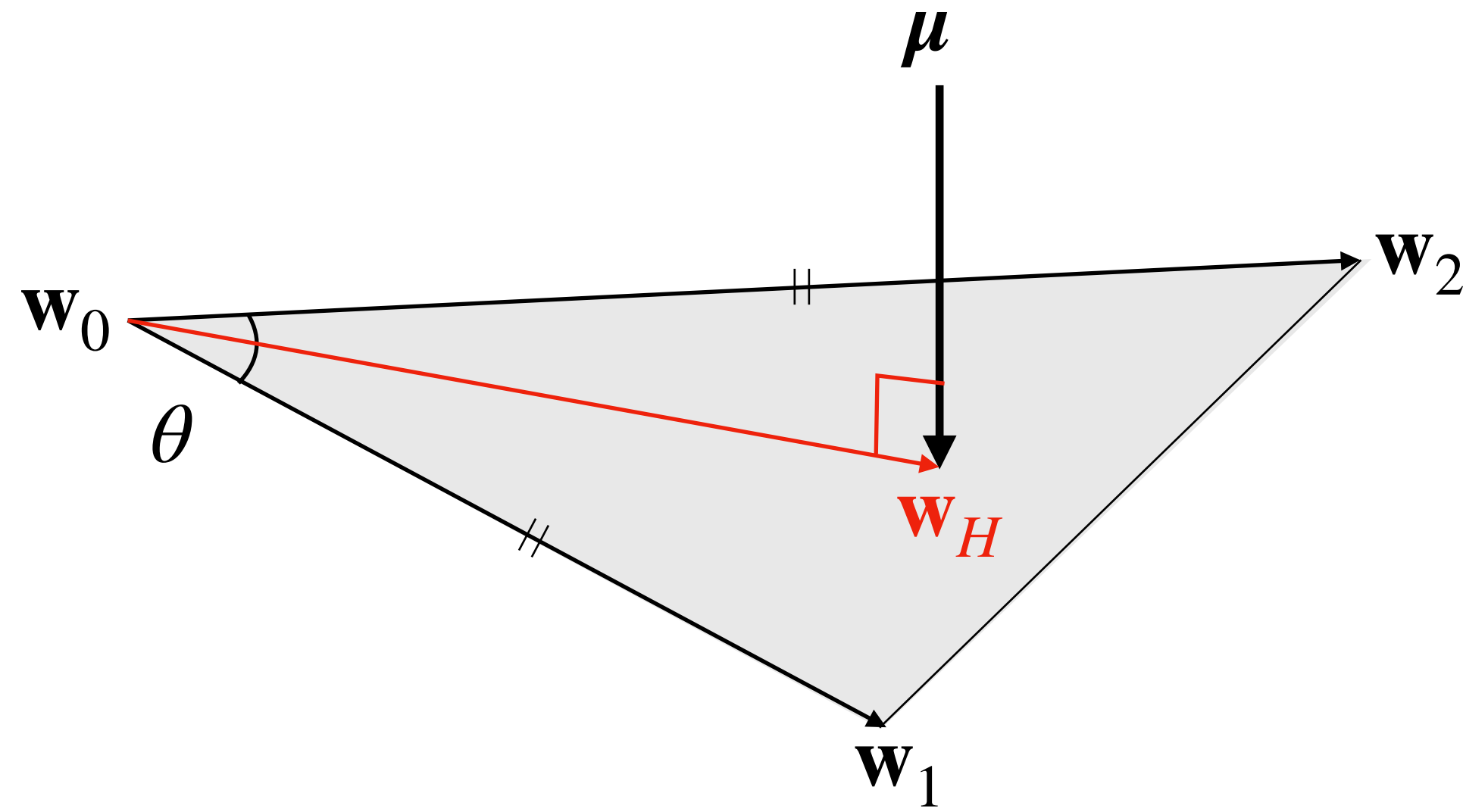
# Method: Model Stock

N=2 fine-tuned weights



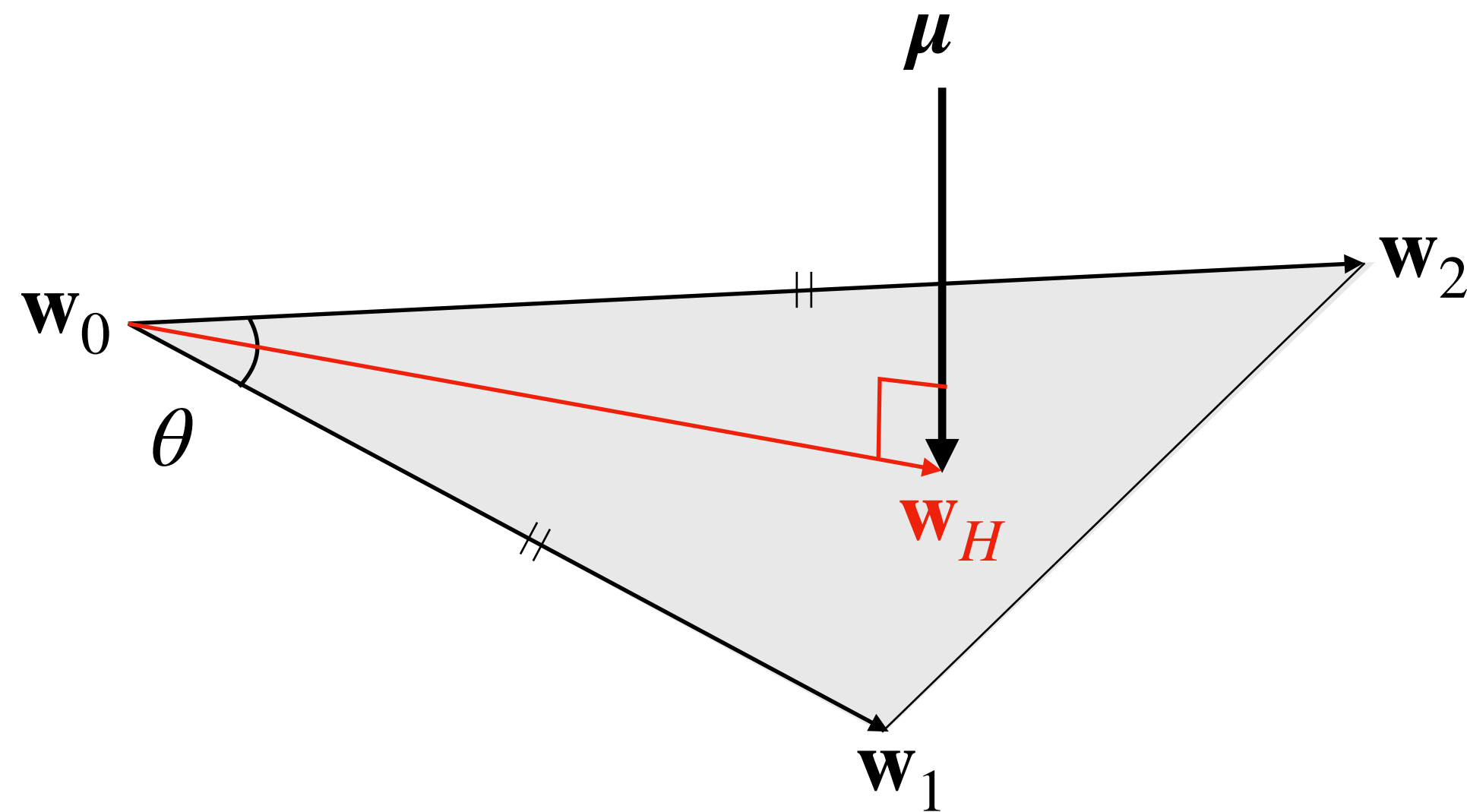
# Method: Model Stock

N=2 fine-tuned weights



# Method: Model Stock

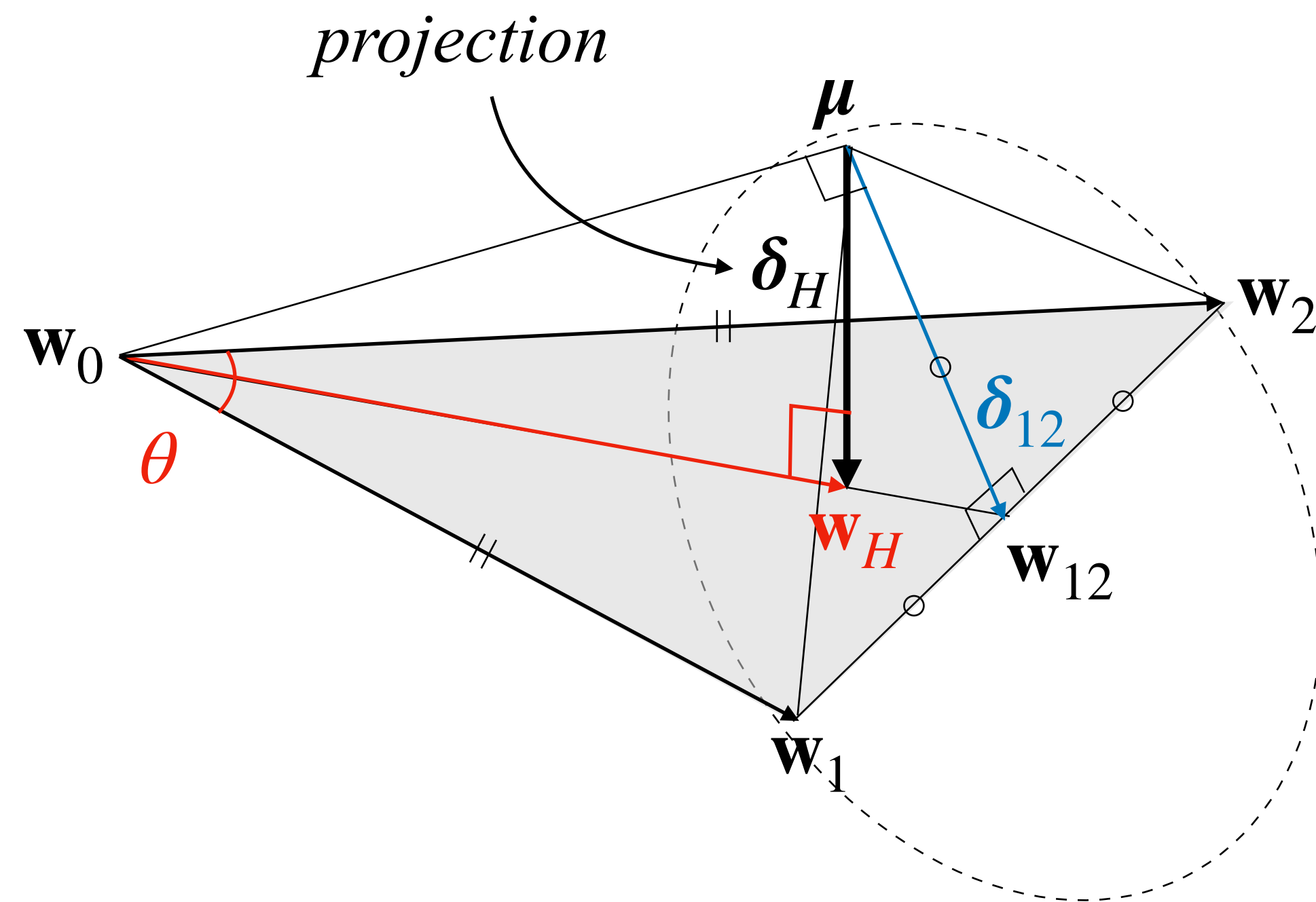
N=2 fine-tuned weights



- Do NOT need exact position of  $\mu$
- $\mathbf{w}_H$  is derived from:
  - (i)  $\|\mathbf{w}_i - \boldsymbol{\mu}\| = \text{constant}$   
(*thin shell*)
  - (iii)  $(\mathbf{w}_i - \boldsymbol{\mu}) \perp (\mathbf{w}_j - \boldsymbol{\mu})$
  - (ii)  $(\mathbf{w}_0 - \boldsymbol{\mu}) \perp (\mathbf{w}_i - \boldsymbol{\mu})$

# Method: Model Stock

N=2 fine-tuned weights



- Do NOT need exact position of  $\mu$

- $w_H$  is derived from:

(i)  $\|w_i - \mu\| = \text{constant}$   
(*thin shell*)

(iii)  $(w_i - \mu) \perp (w_j - \mu)$

(ii)  $(w_0 - \mu) \perp (w_i - \mu)$

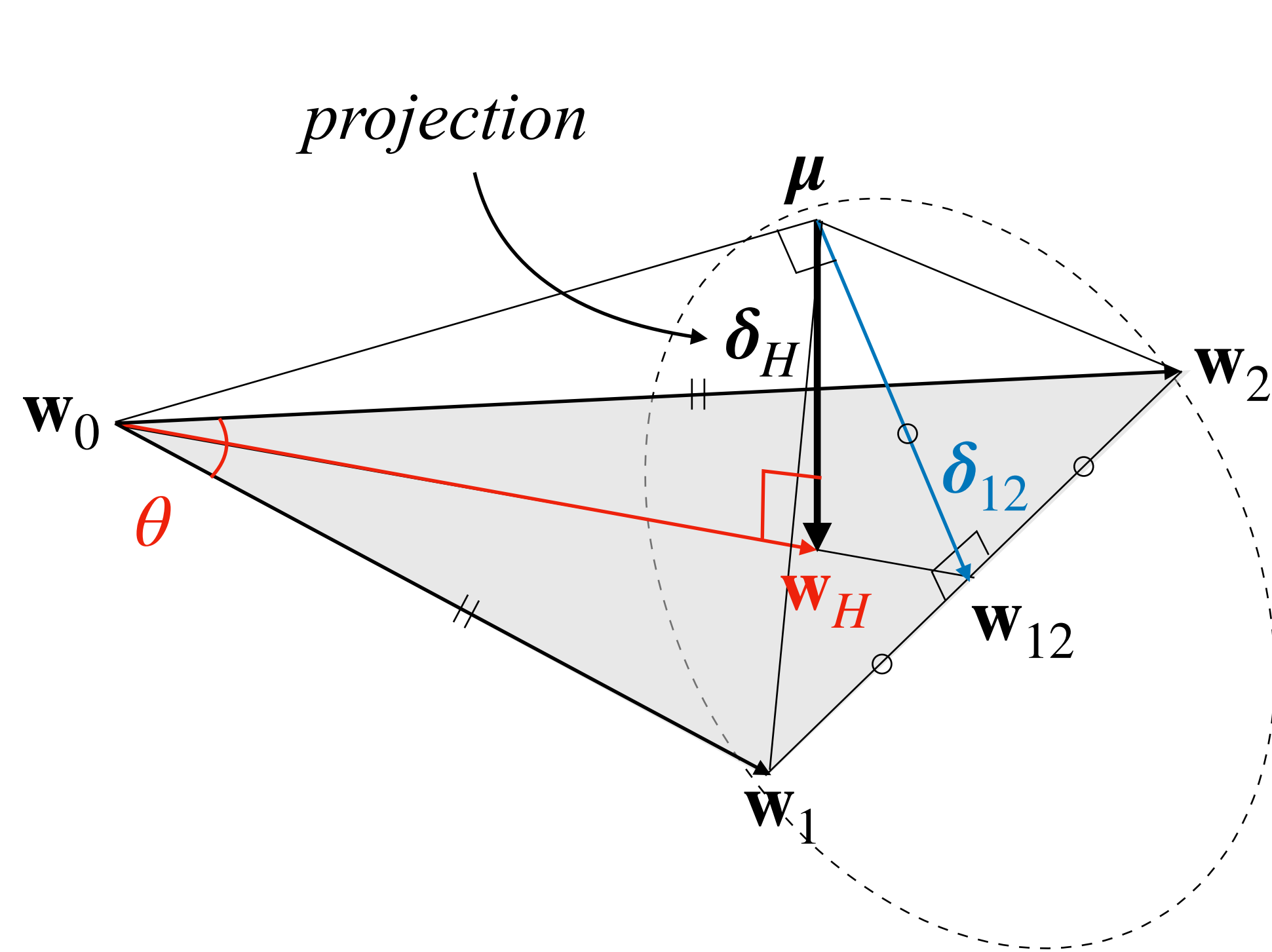
$$w_H = \frac{2 \cos \theta}{1 + \cos \theta} \cdot w_{12} + \left( 1 - \frac{2 \cos \theta}{1 + \cos \theta} \right) \cdot w_0 \quad [\text{layer-wise}]$$

*Only depends on  $\theta$*

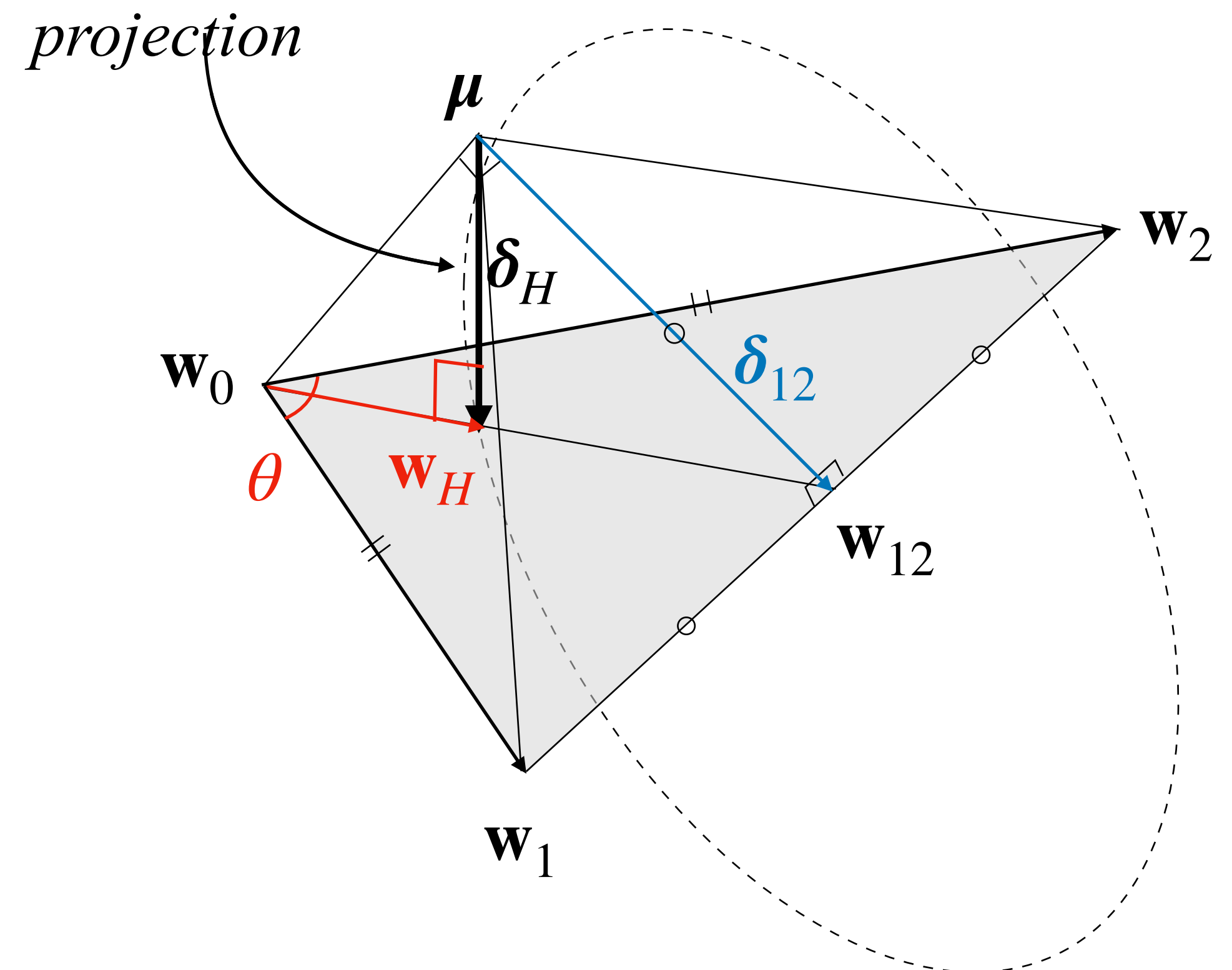


# Method: Model Stock

N=2 fine-tuned weights



Small  $\theta \rightarrow w_1, w_2 \uparrow$   
(e.g., bias layers)



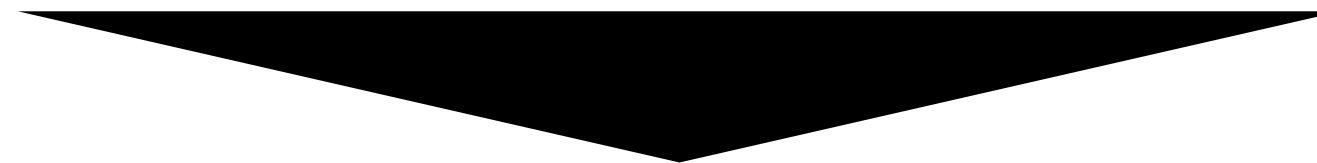
Large  $\theta \rightarrow w_1, w_2 \downarrow$   
(e.g., attention layers)

# Method: Model Stock

**N fine-tuned weights**

$$\mathbf{w}_H = \frac{2 \cos \theta}{1 + \cos \theta} \cdot \mathbf{w}_{12} + \left( 1 - \frac{2 \cos \theta}{1 + \cos \theta} \right) \cdot \mathbf{w}_0$$

*Generalize (merging N models)*

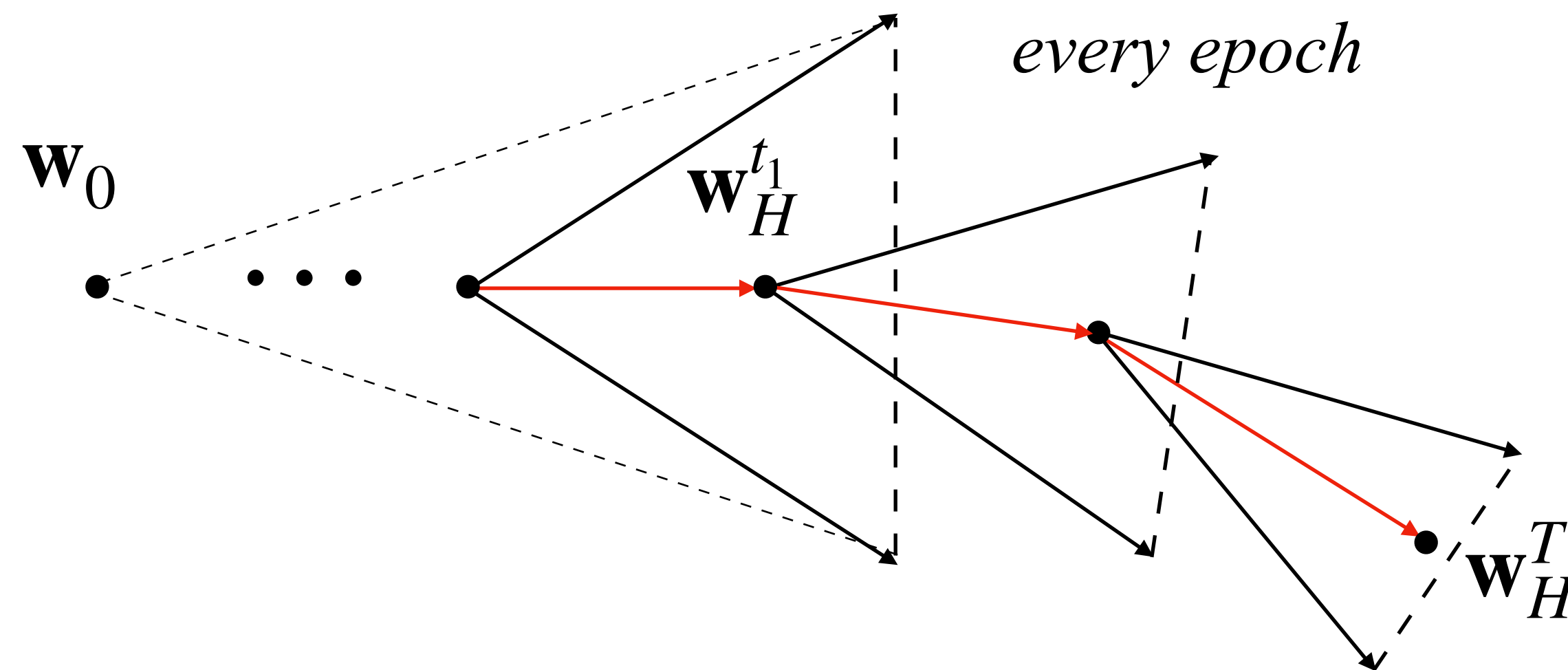


$$\mathbf{w}_H^{(N)} = t \cdot \mathbf{w}_{\text{avr}}^{(N)} + (1 - t) \cdot \mathbf{w}_0, \quad \text{s.t.} \quad t = \frac{N \cos \theta}{1 + (N - 1) \cos \theta}.$$

# Method: Model Stock

## Periodic Merging

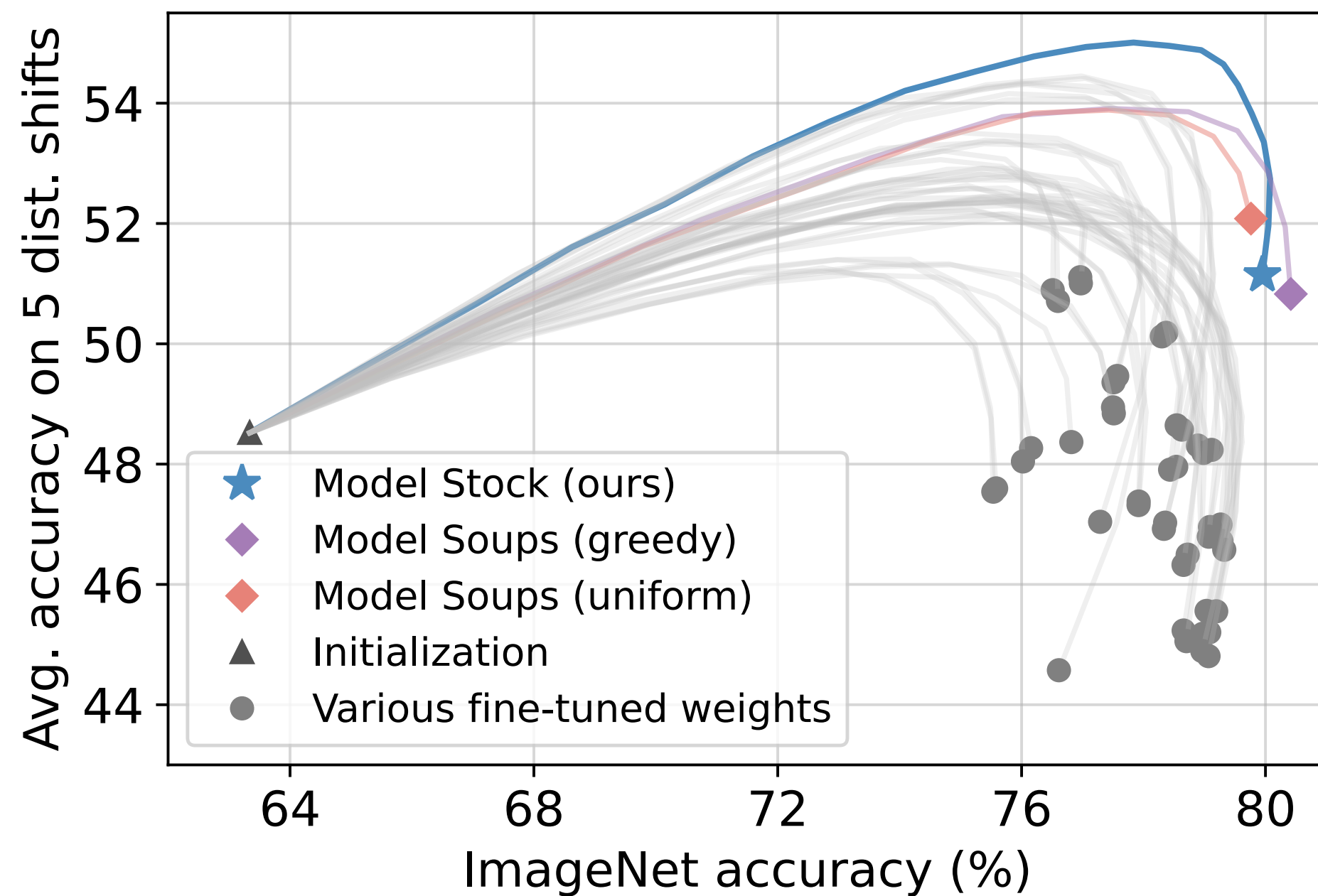
- Leveraging the fact that norm and angle **consistencies hold even during training**, we adopt **periodic merging** to gradually approach the weight center at each epoch.



## *Experimental Results*

# Experiments

## CLIP ViT-B/32 fine-tuned on ImageNet



Method	ImageNet	Avg. shifts	Cost
<i>Comparing with Model Soups from zero-shot init.</i>			
CLIP zero-shot Initialization	63.34	48.51	0
Vanilla FT	78.35	47.03	1
Uniform Model Soup (from zero-shot)	79.76	<b>52.08</b>	48
Greedy Model Soup (from zero-shot)	<b>80.42</b>	50.83	48
Model Stock	<u>79.89</u>	<u>50.99</u>	2 ↓
<i>Comparing with Model Soups from LP init.</i>			
CLIP LP initialization	75.57	47.21	$\alpha$
Vanilla FT*	79.72	46.37	1
Uniform Model Soup (from LP init)	79.97	<b>51.45</b>	$71+\alpha$
Greedy Model Soup (from LP init)	<u>81.03</u>	<u>50.75</u>	$71+\alpha$
Model Stock*	<b>81.19</b>	48.69	2 ↓

# Experiments

## CLIP ViT-B/16 and ViT-L/14 Results

### CLIP ViT-B/16

Method	Distribution shifts					
	ImageNet	Avg. shifts	IN-V2	IN-R	IN-A	IN-Sketch
Zero-shot	68.3	59.5	62.0	<b>77.7</b>	<u>49.9</u>	48.3
Vanilla FT	82.8	57.7	72.9	66.4	43.7	48.0
Vanilla FT*	83.7	57.4	73.5	67.6	40.0	48.6
LP [18]	79.7	48.1	71.5	52.4	27.8	40.5
LP-FT [18]	81.7	<u>60.5</u>	71.6	<u>72.9</u>	49.1	48.4
CAR-FT [27]	83.2	59.4	73.0	71.3	43.7	49.5
FTP [37]	<u>84.2</u>	49.7	74.6	47.2	26.5	50.2
FLYP [7]	82.6	<u>60.5</u>	73.0	71.4	48.1	49.6
Model Stock	84.1	<b>62.4</b>	<u>74.8</u>	71.8	<b>51.2</b>	<b>51.8</b>
Model Stock*	<b>85.2</b>	60.1	<b>75.3</b>	68.7	45.0	<u>51.3</u>

### CLIP ViT-L/14

	IN	Avg. shifts
Zero-shot	75.0	63.0
Vanilla FT	85.8	66.8
Vanilla FT*	87.1	68.0
TPGM [36]	87.0	69.4
CAR-FT [27]	87.1	67.8
Model Stock	87.0	71.6
Model Stock*	<b>87.7</b>	<b>73.5</b>

# Experiments

## Post-training Merging

	Uniform averaging ( $\mathbf{w}_{\text{avg}}^N$ )			Model Stock (post-training)		
	ImageNet	Avg. Shifts	$\ \mathbf{w} - \boldsymbol{\mu}\ $	ImageNet	Avg. Shifts	$\ \mathbf{w} - \boldsymbol{\mu}\ $
$N=2$	80.2	47.8	9.19	80.3(+0.1)	<b>50.4(+2.6)</b>	<b>7.62(-1.57)</b>
$N=3$	80.4	48.2	7.44	80.4(+0.0)	<b>50.2(+2.0)</b>	<b>6.49(-0.95)</b>
$N=4$	80.5	48.5	5.63	80.5(+0.0)	<b>49.8(+1.4)</b>	<b>5.16(-0.47)</b>

# Oral 7C / Poster #110

Fri October 4, 08:30 - 10:30 / 10:30 - 12:30 (respectively)

See you at the poster  
[donghwanjang.github.io](https://donghwanjang.github.io)



Poster



Project Page