



# Concept-based Explanations for Out-Of-Distribution Detectors

Jihye Choi, Jayaram Raghuram, Ryan Feng, Jiefeng Chen,  
Somesh Jha, Atul Prakash

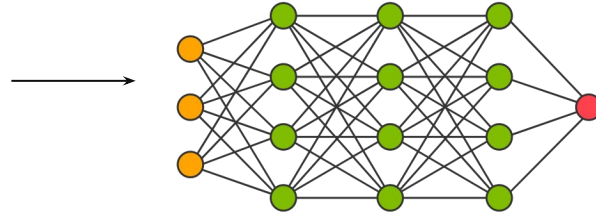


# Standard Machine Learning (ML) Models

Training



ML model in self-driving car



“Car”

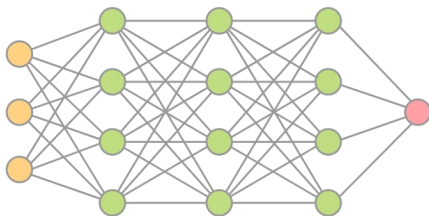


# Standard Machine Learning (ML) Models

Training



ML model in self-driving car

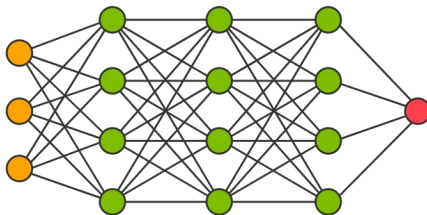


“Car”

Testing



In-distribution  
(ID)



“Car”

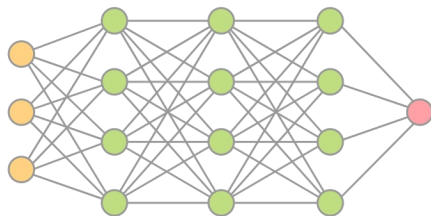


# Standard Machine Learning (ML) Models

Training



ML model in self-driving car

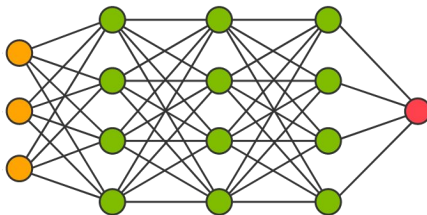


“Car”

Testing



Out-of-distribution  
(OOD)



“Car”

Overconfident prediction  
for unseen object “Buffalo”

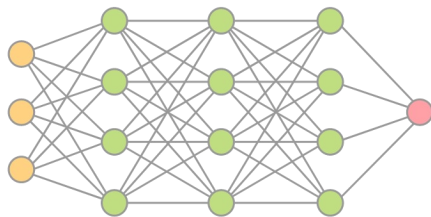


# Out-Of-Distribution (OOD) Detection

Training



ML model in self-driving car

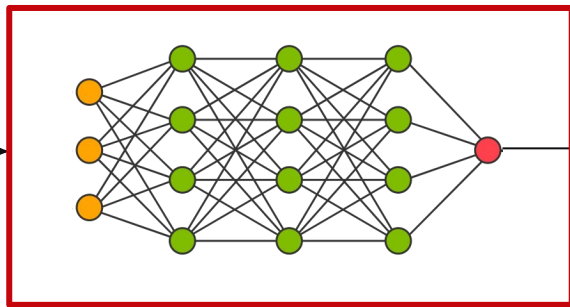


“Car”

Testing



OOD Detector



“OOD”

X

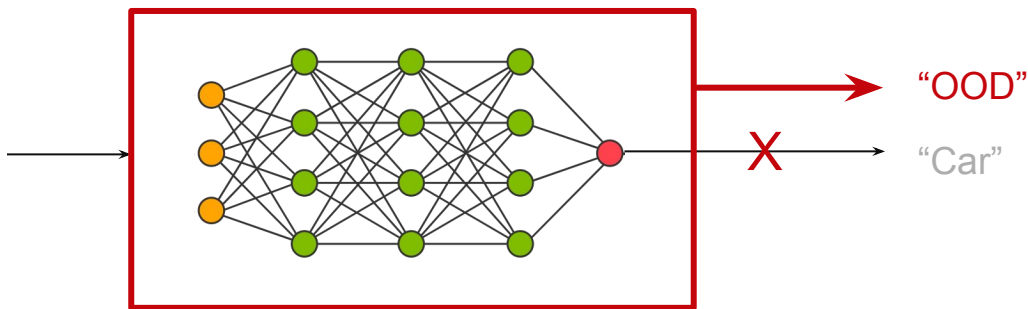
“Car”

# Understanding OOD Detection

Why a given OOD detector decides an input to be OOD?

Can we use existing ML explanation methods for classification to interpret OOD detection results?

Testing

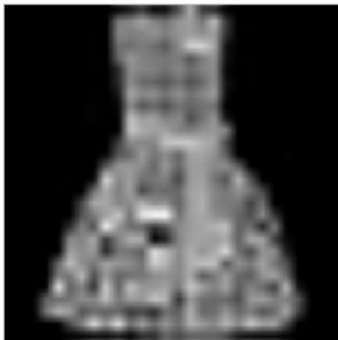




# ML Explanations for Classification

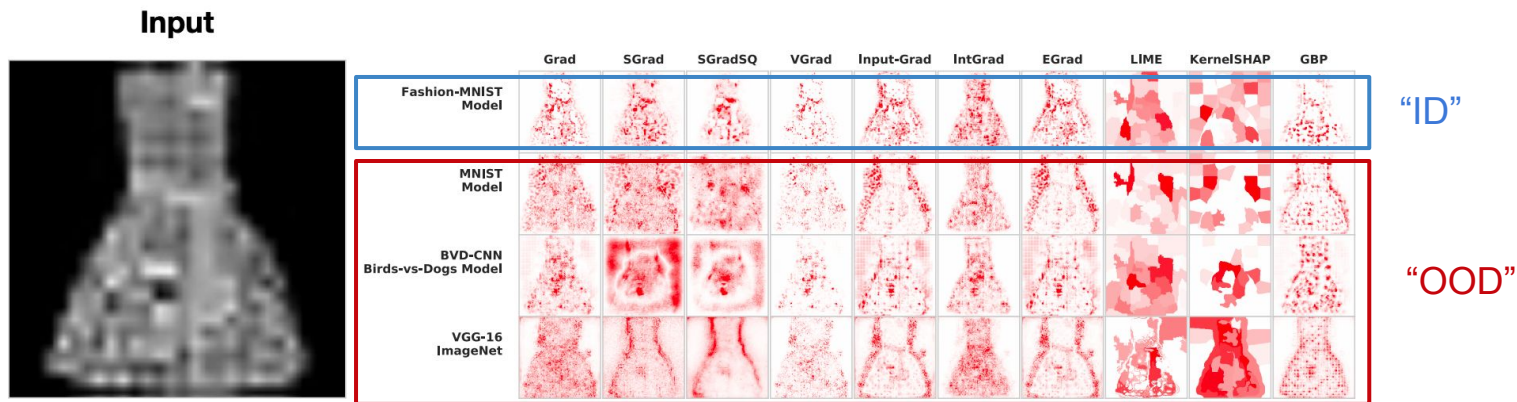
[Type 1] Feature Attributions

**Input**



# ML Explanations for Classification

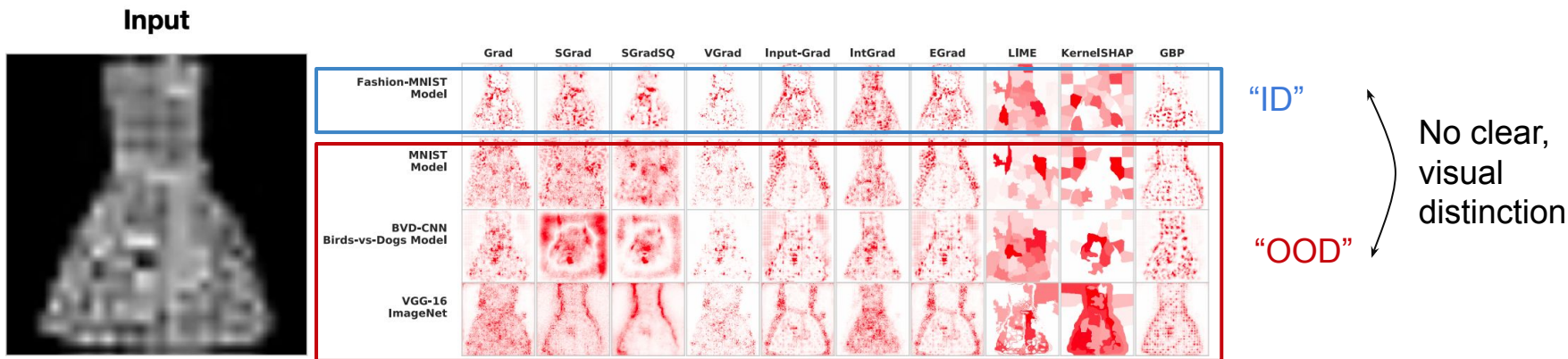
[Type 1] Feature Attributions





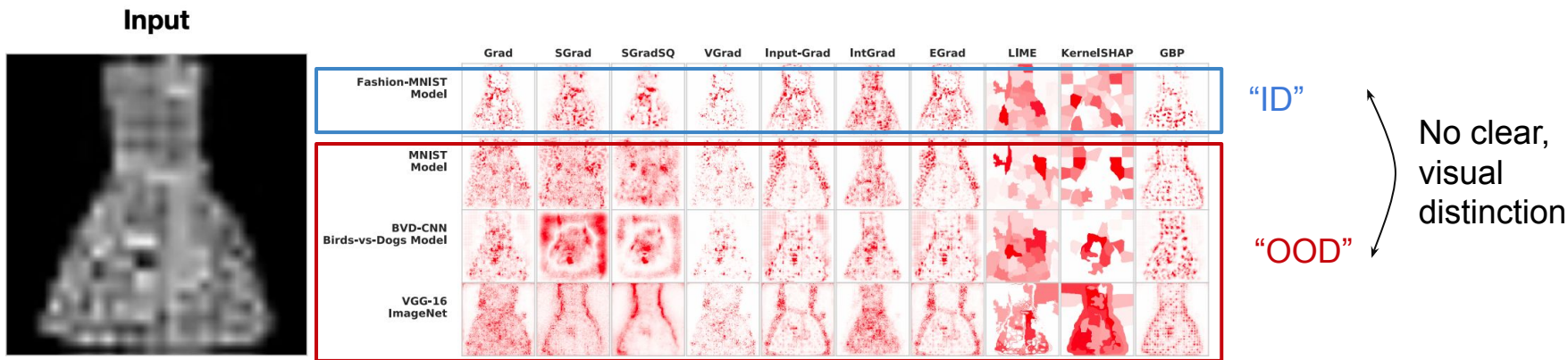
# ML Explanations for Classification

[Type 1] Feature Attributions



# ML Explanations for Classification

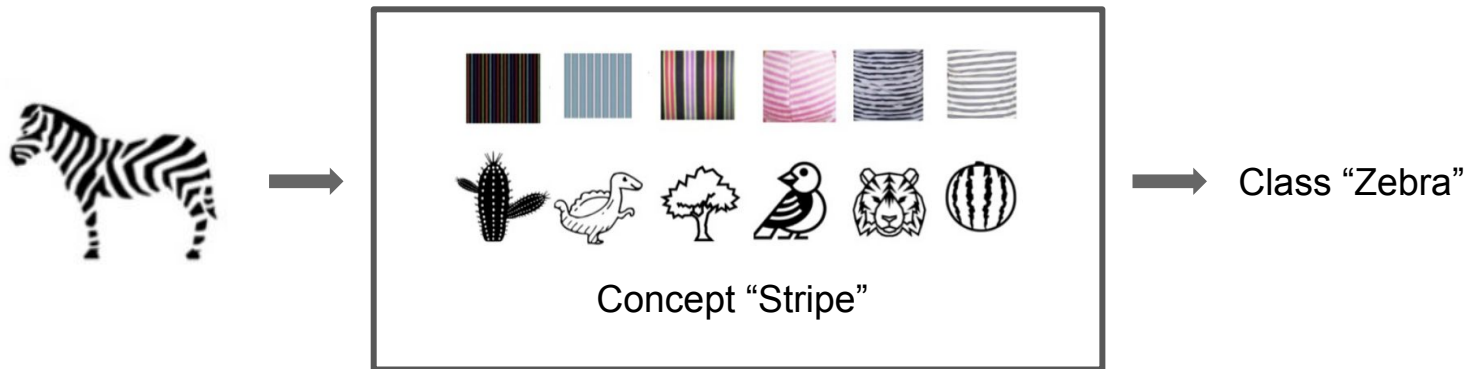
[Type 1] Feature Attributions



Pixel-level activations might not be the most intuitive form of explanations for humans

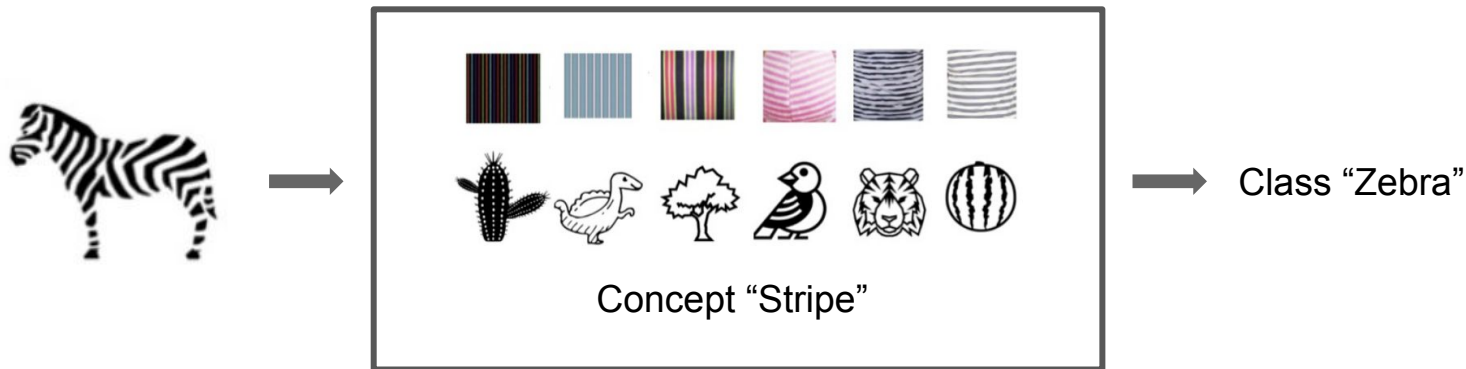
# ML Explanations for Classification

[Type 2] Concept-based Explanations



# ML Explanations for Classification

[Type 2] Concept-based Explanations



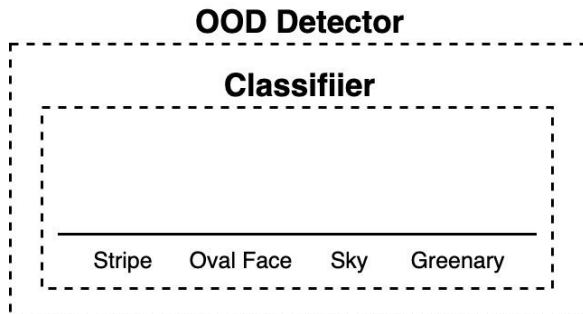
The use of concept-based explanations for OOD detectors remains unexplored



# Concept-based Explanation for OOD Detection

Our work: the first method to understand the decisions of an OOD detector in terms of *high-level concepts*

Given DNN classifier and OOD detector, find a set of concepts that sufficiently explain their behaviors.

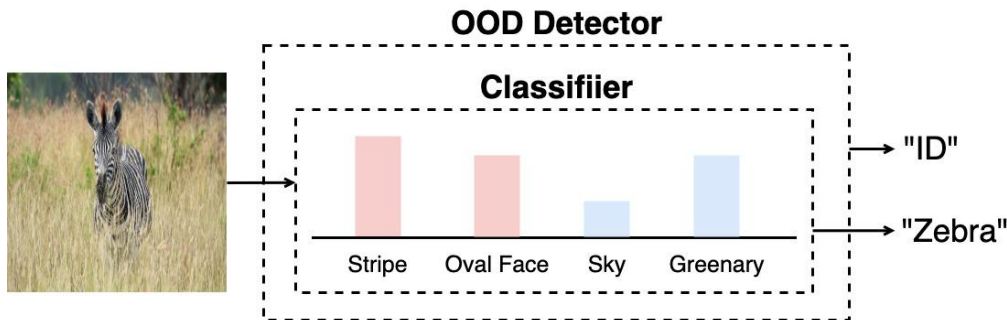




# Concept-based Explanation for OOD Detection

Our work: the first method to understand the decisions of an OOD detector in terms of *high-level concepts*

Observe normal concept activations patterns given ID inputs.

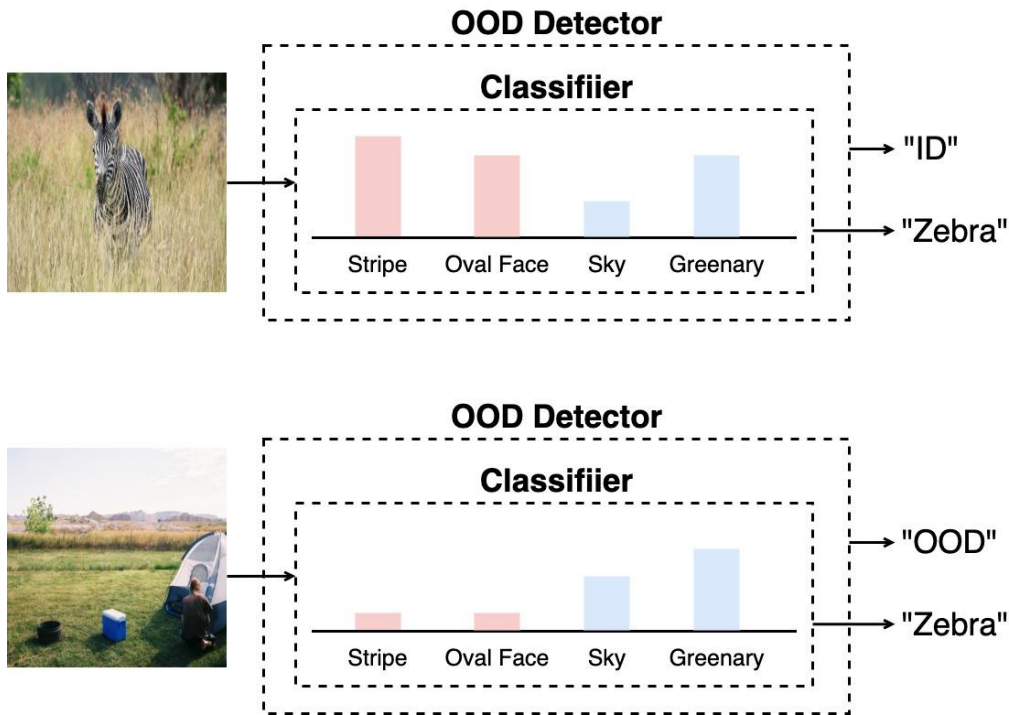




# Concept-based Explanation for OOD Detection

Our work: the first method to understand the decisions of an OOD detector in terms of *high-level concepts*

Given OOD inputs, we observe different concept activation patterns compared to that of ID inputs.





# Our Contributions

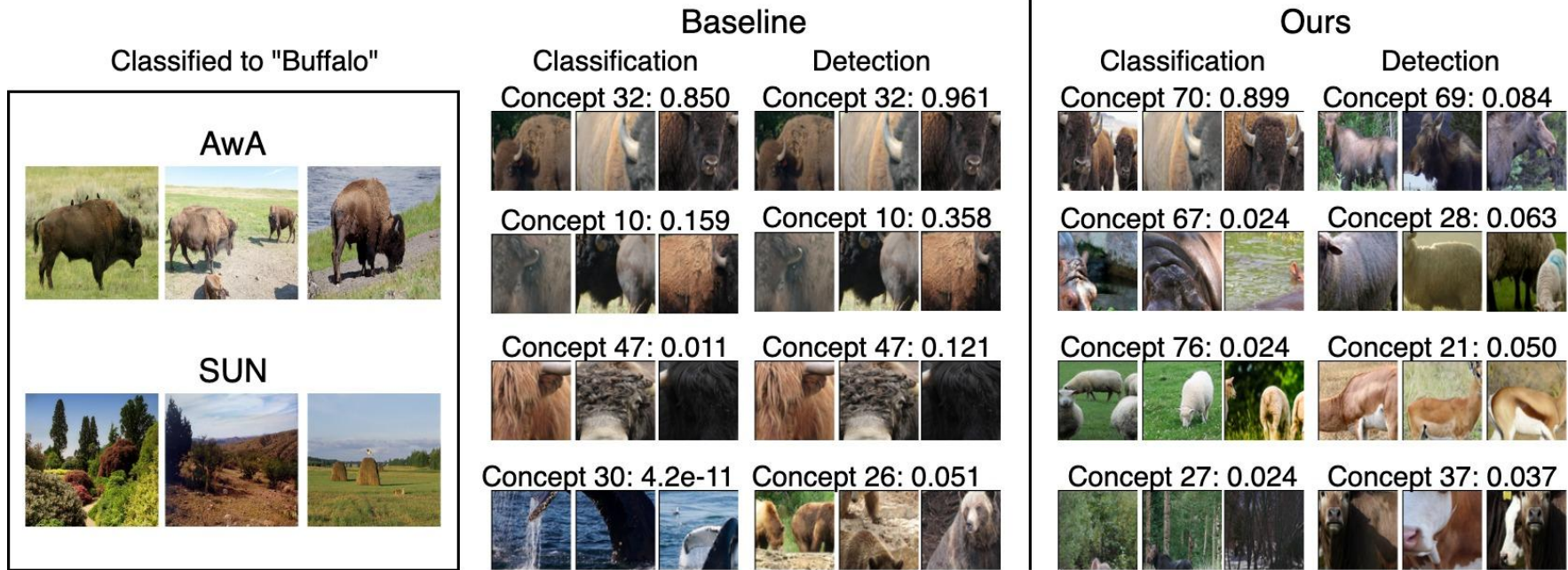
Given DNN classifier and OOD detector, we

1. propose metrics to quantify the effectiveness of concept-based explanation for OOD detection:
  - a. *Detection Completeness*: are the concept scores sufficient statistics for class predictions and OOD detection?
  - b. *Concept Separability*: are ID and OOD inputs clearly distinctive in terms of concepts?
2. introduce general concept learning framework that discovers a set of concepts that have good detection completeness and concept separability.
3. by using the concepts learned by our framework, show how to identify prominent concepts that contribute to an OOD detector's decisions, and provide insights for popular OOD detectors.



# Results

Concept-based explanations for Energy detector



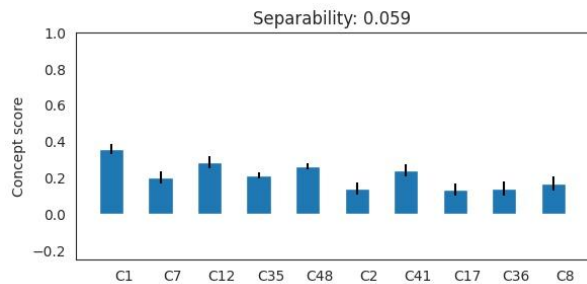
Energy detector: [Liu et al., NeurIPS'20]

Baseline: [Yeh et al., NeurIPS'20]

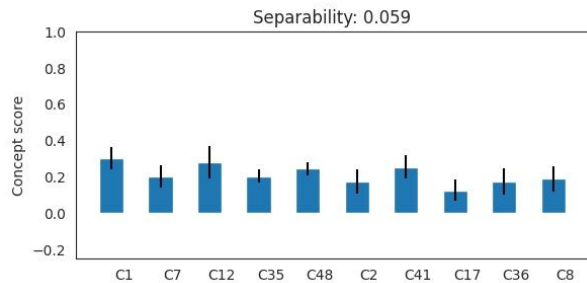


# Results

Concept score patterns between inputs detected as ID vs OOD



low separability, inputs detected as ID

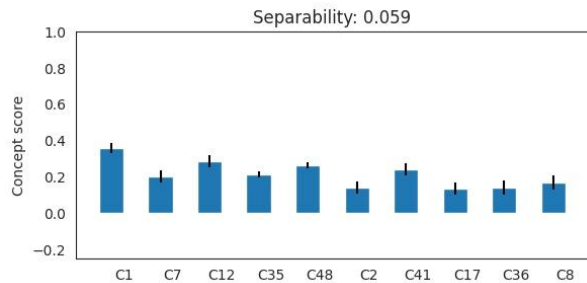


low separability, inputs detected as ID

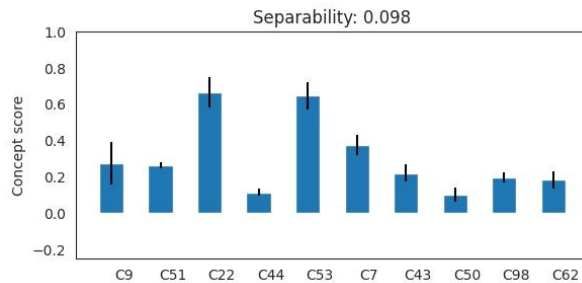


# Results

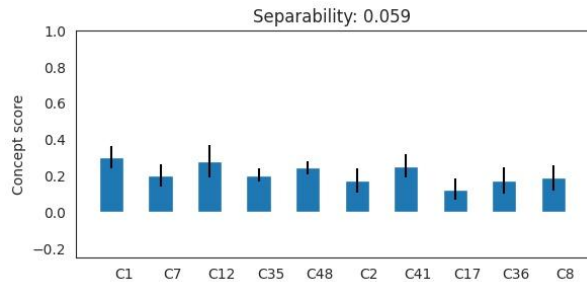
Concept score patterns between inputs detected as ID vs OOD



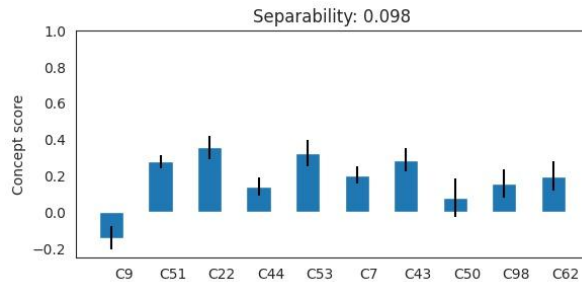
low separability, inputs detected as ID



high separability, inputs detected as ID



low separability, inputs detected as ID



high separability, inputs detected as ID



# Thank you

For complete description of our method and full results, please check out our paper!

arXiv > cs > arXiv:2203.02586

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[Submitted on 4 Mar 2022]

## Concept-based Explanations for Out-Of-Distribution Detectors

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Out-of-distribution (OOD) detection plays a crucial role in ensuring the safe deployment of deep neural network (DNN) classifiers. While a myriad of methods have focused on improving the performance of OOD detectors, a critical gap remains in interpreting their decisions. We help bridge this gap by providing explanations for OOD detectors based on learned high-level concepts. We first propose two new metrics for assessing the effectiveness of a particular set of concepts for explaining OOD detectors: 1) detection completeness, which quantifies the sufficiency of concepts for explaining an OOD-detector's decisions, and 2) concept separability, which captures the distributional separation between in-distribution and OOD data in the concept space. Based on these metrics, we propose a framework for learning a set of concepts that satisfy the desired properties of detection completeness and concept separability and demonstrate the framework's effectiveness in providing concept-based explanations for diverse OOD techniques. We also show how to identify prominent concepts that contribute to the detection results via a modified Shapley value-based importance score.

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Subjects: **Machine Learning** (cs.LG); Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (cs.CV)

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