

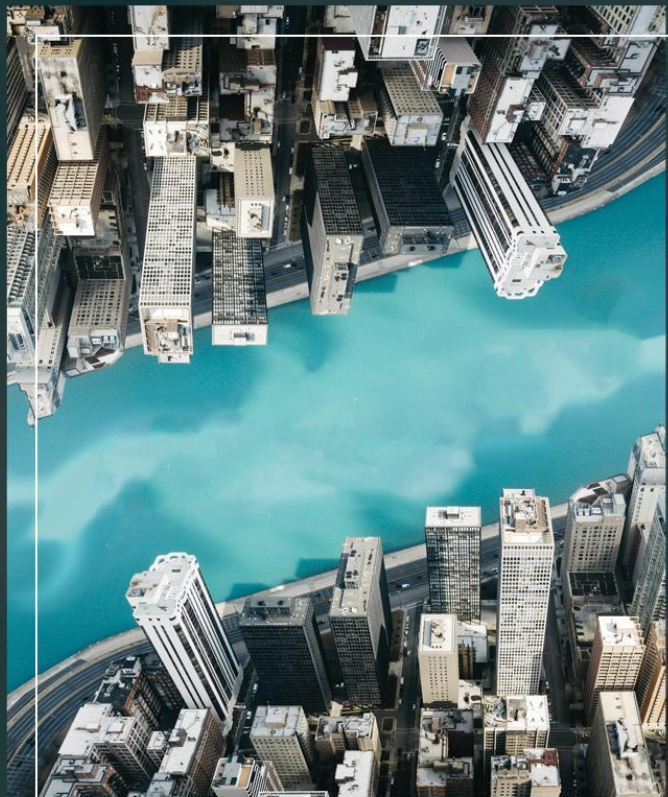


UNIVERSIDADE  
**NOVA**  
DE LISBOA

# Concept-based Explainability: Challenges & Applications to Fraud Detection

Vladimir Balayan, Catarina Belém, Pedro Saleiro, Ludwig Krippahl,  
Pedro Bizarro

Deep Learning Sessions Lisbon - Meetup  
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# Problem & Motivation

- The field of eXplainable AI (XAI) aims to tackle the lack of interpretability in ML.

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- The field of eXplainable AI (XAI) aims to tackle the lack of interpretability in ML.
- State-of-the-art methods in explainable AI (XAI) either:
  1. produce low-level feature attributions explanations that are not suited for non-ML experts (e.g. fraud analyst).

Or

2. produce concept-based explanations that do not work for tabular data.





The **ideal** human-interpretable explanation for domain experts provide the **high-level** insights about the models' predictions.



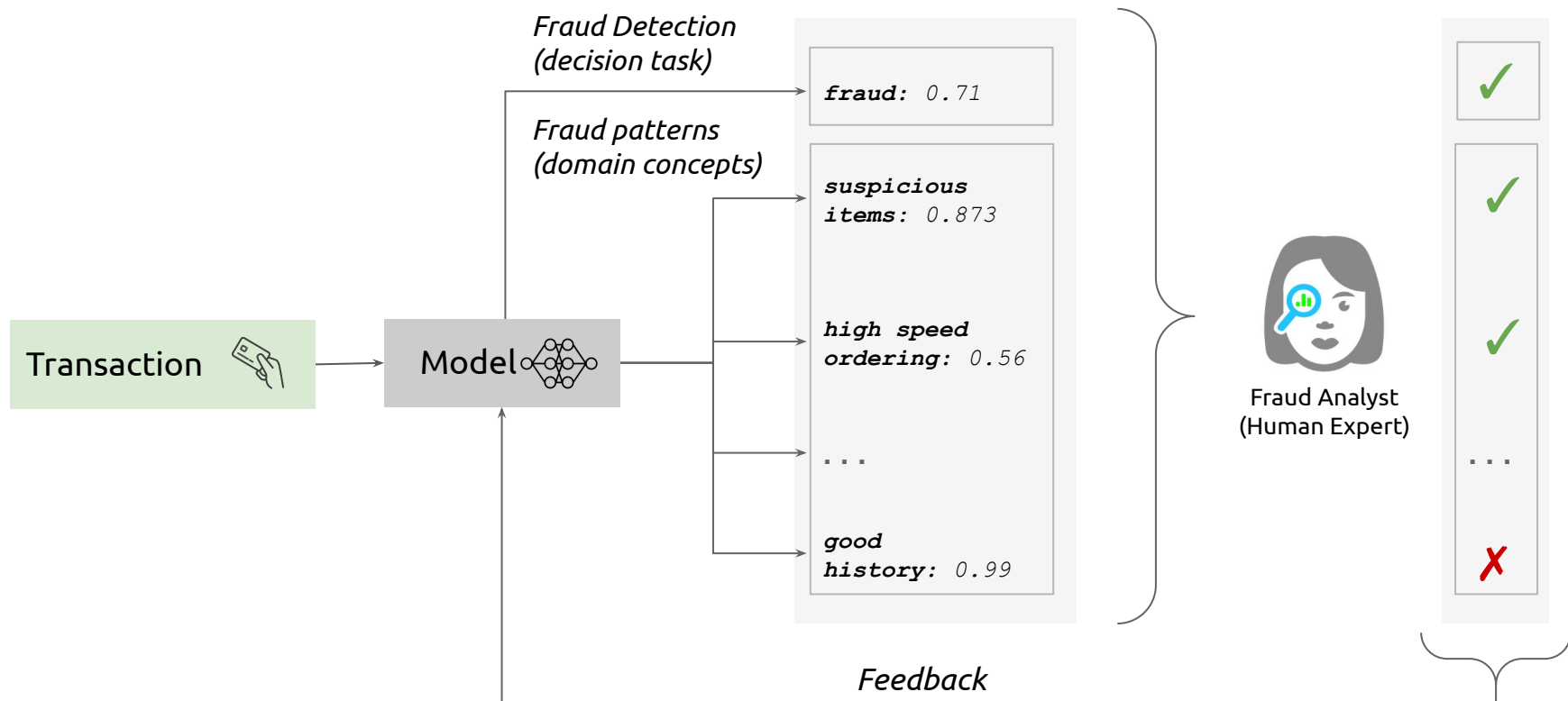
- Develop a self-explainable neural network that jointly learn a predictive task and also associated domain knowledge explanations.

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- Develop a self-explainable neural network that jointly learn a predictive task and also associated domain knowledge explanations.
- Develop a taxonomy of fraud concepts to be used as explanations.
- Leverage the human-in-the-loop feedback to continuously improving both predictive accuracy and explainability.
- Create a semantic mapping bootstrapping strategy for automatically labeling concept-based explanations dataset.

# Proposed solution in a real world fraud detection setting



# Background & Related Work

## Fields of expertise:

- Domain knowledge
- No ML knowledge



Human-in-the-loop

- Data Science + ML



Data Scientist

- Know what they want
- No domain nor ML knowledge



Decision Subject

- Regulations/law
- Limited domain & ML knowledge



Regulator

## Goals:

- Efficiency
- Better & faster decisions

- Efficiency
- Iterate and debug models

- Improve outcomes
- Reduce friction while feeling safe

- Audit and Assess if the system is compliant.

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Human-in-the-loop



Data Scientist

## Goals:

- Efficiency
- Better & faster decisions
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*The transaction is **suspicious** because  
MCC = 7801.*

- Know what they want
- No domain nor ML knowledge
- Regulations/law
- Limited domain & ML knowledge



Decision Subject



Regulator

- Improve outcomes
- Reduce friction while feeling safe
- Audit and Assess
- if the system is compliant.

*The transaction is **suspicious** because it  
contains **Suspicious Items**.*



## Fields of expertise:

- Domain knowledge
- No ML knowledge



Human-in-the-loop

- Data Science + ML



Data Scientist

- Know what they want
- No domain nor ML knowledge



Decision Subject

- Regulations/law
- Limited domain & ML knowledge



Regulator

## Goals:

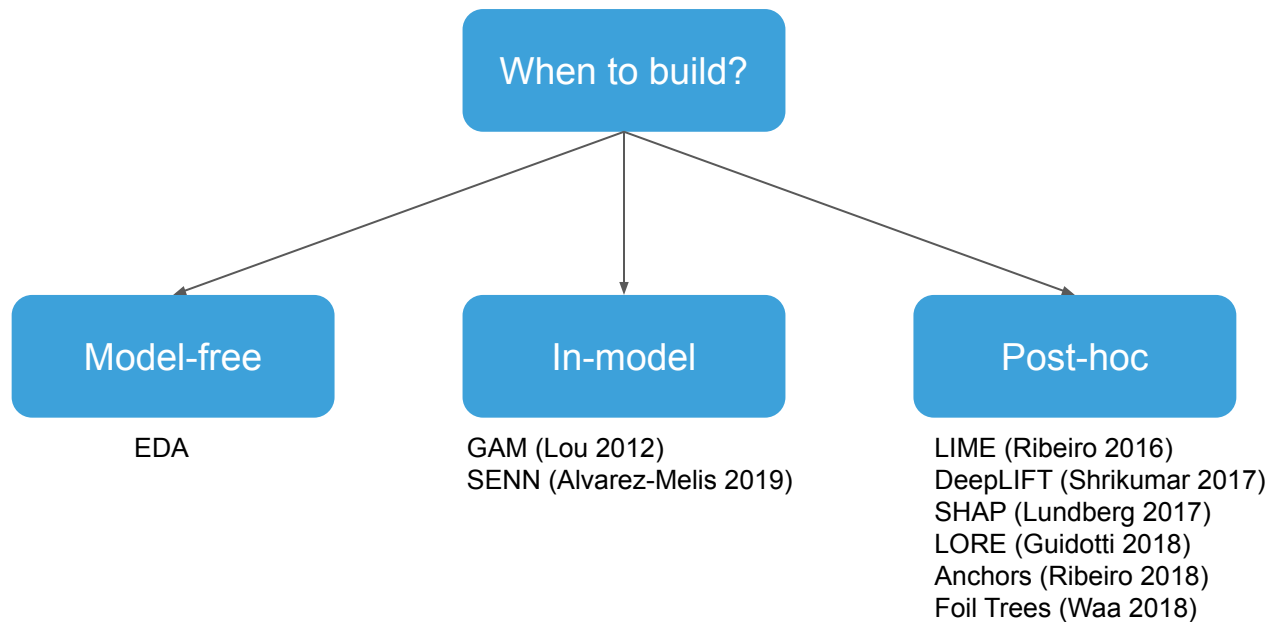
- Efficiency
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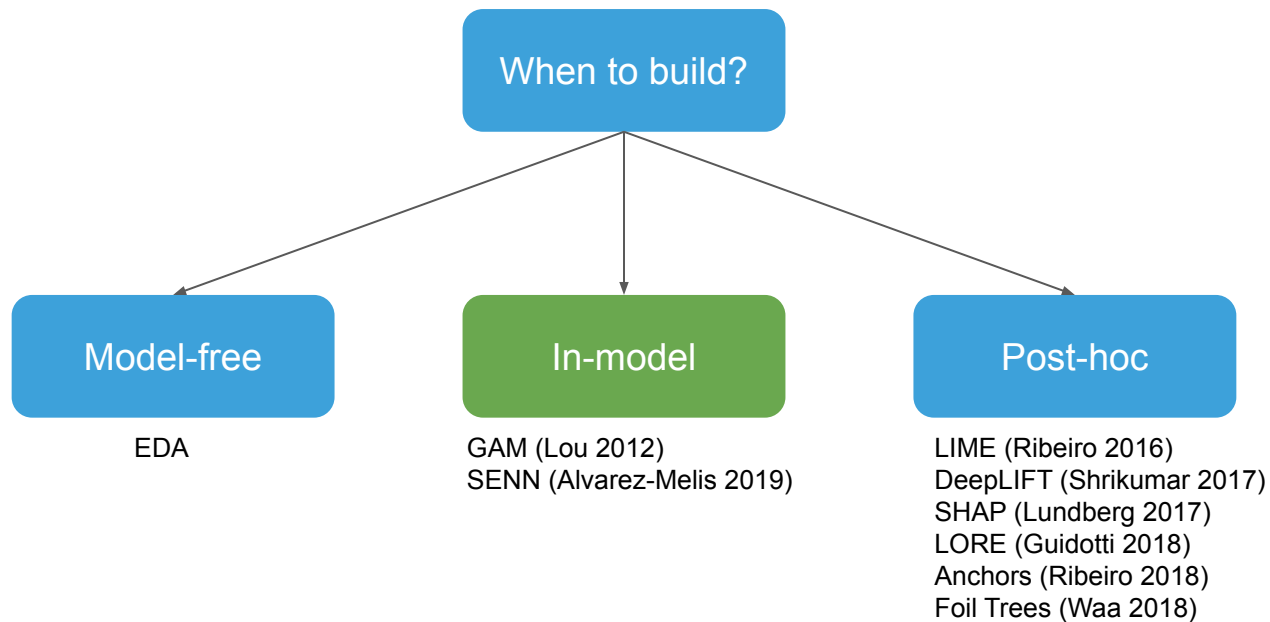
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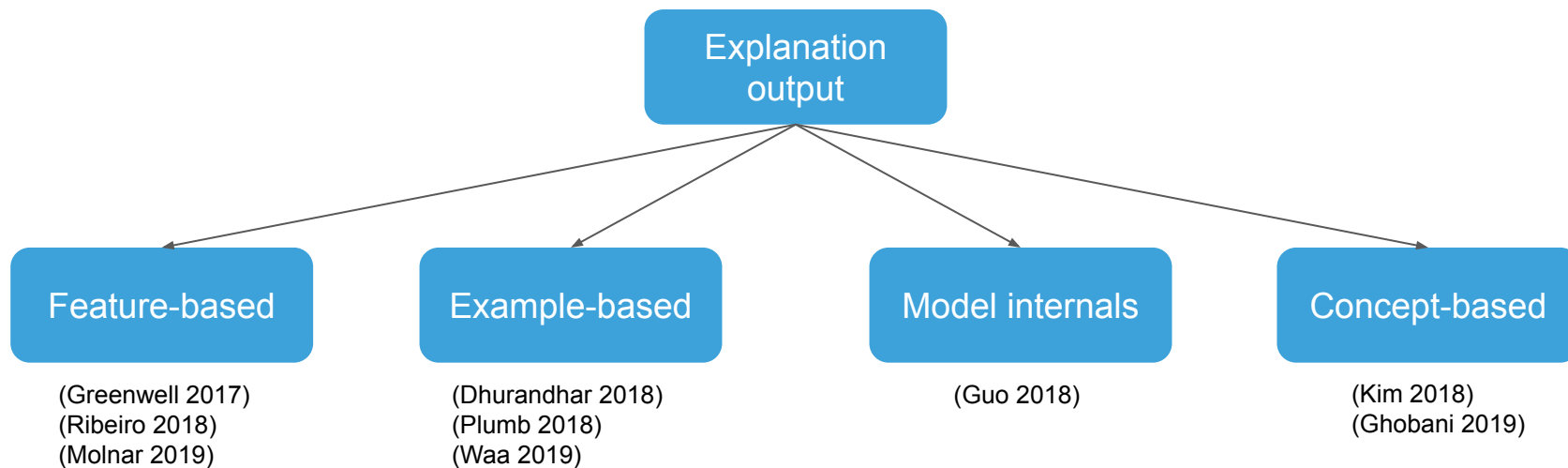
- Improve outcomes
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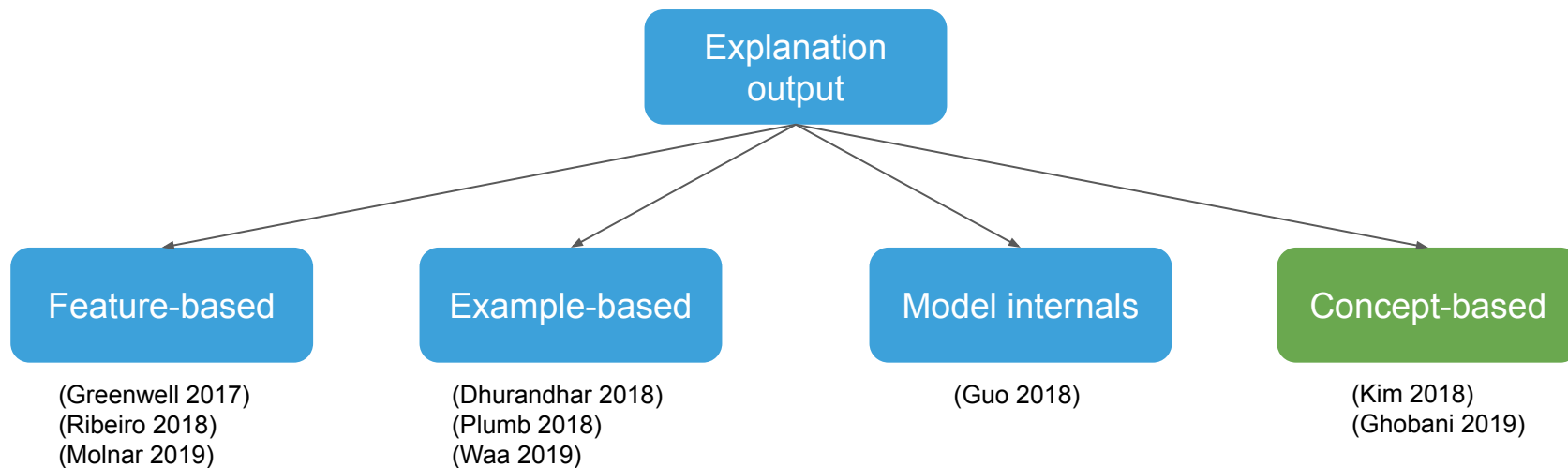
- Audit and Assess if the system is compliant.

## The optimal choice of explanation depends on the end persona!









Alibi

TreeInterpreter

DeepLift

LORE

TCAV

SHAP

DiCE

LIME

SENN

Attention

ACE

Anchors

Saliency

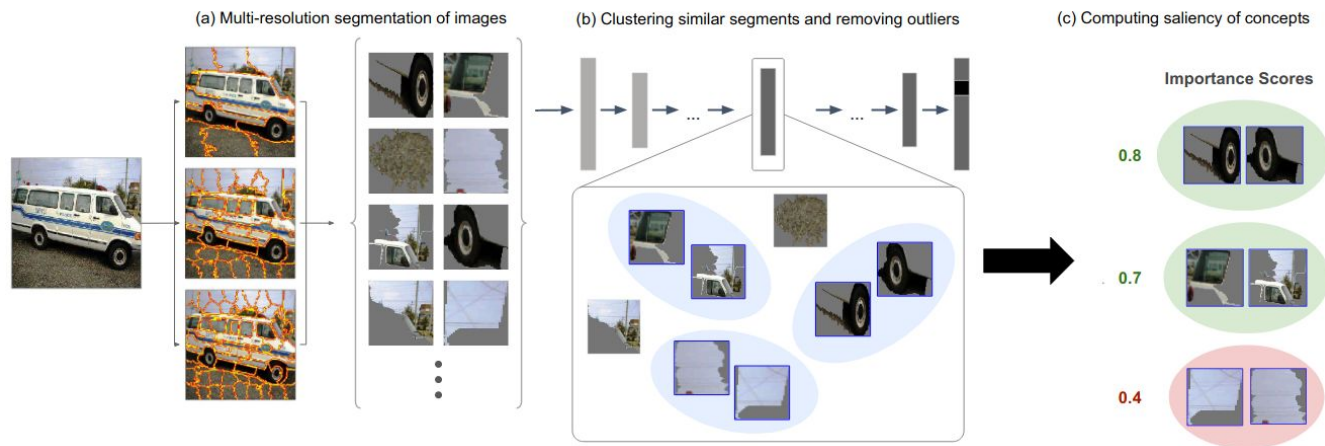
GradCAM

GuidedBackprop

Integrated Gradients

And others...

- ACE is a global (and local), model-specific and concept-based explanation method that automatically groups input features into high-level concepts.
- The concepts are represented by groups of pixels (segments).



To best to our knowledge, there is state-of-the-art XAI method that satisfies our explainability requirements.

In-Model

Local

Concept-based

Tabular data



# Proposed Solution

Motivation

Related Work

**Solution**

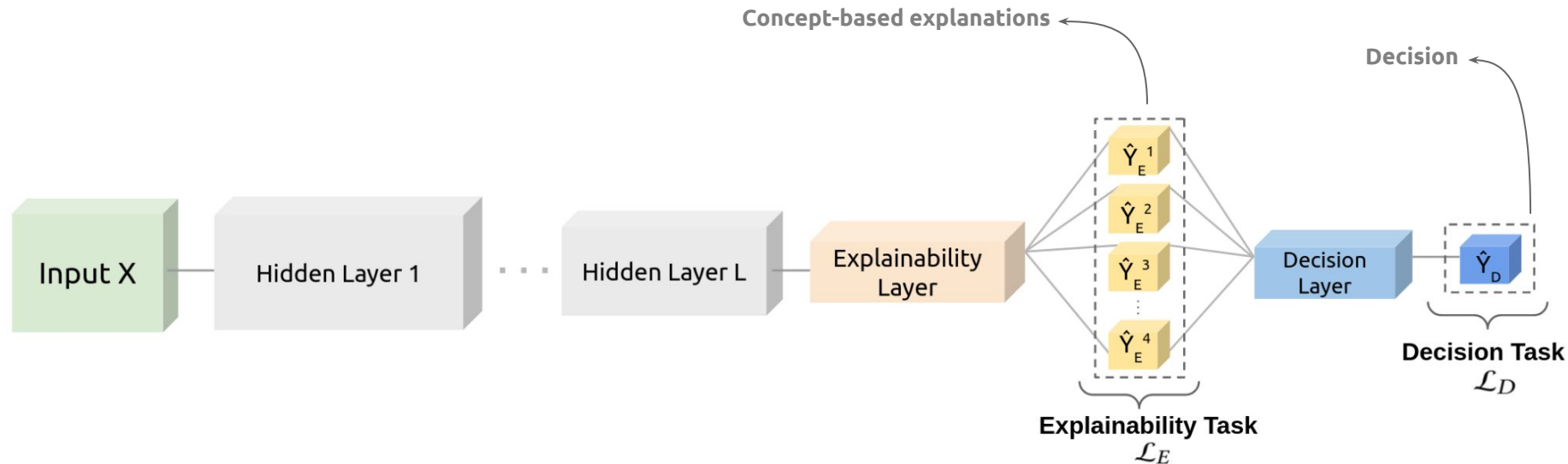
Experiment

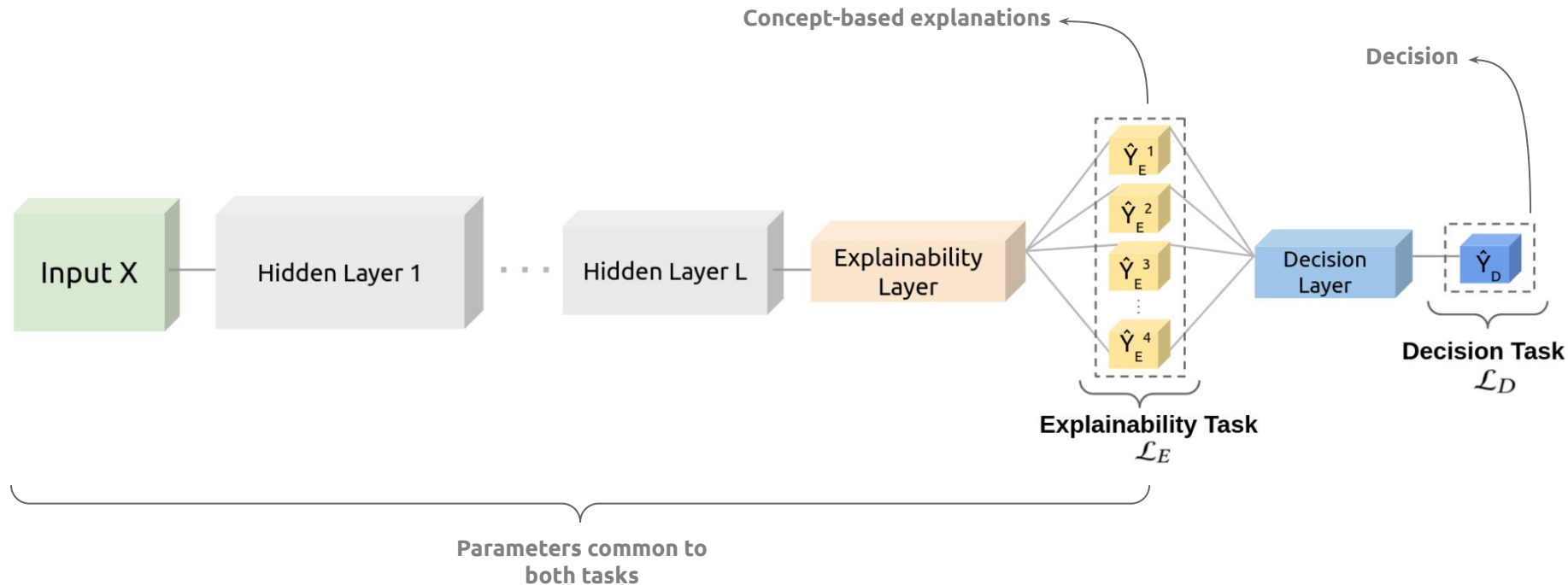
Conclusion

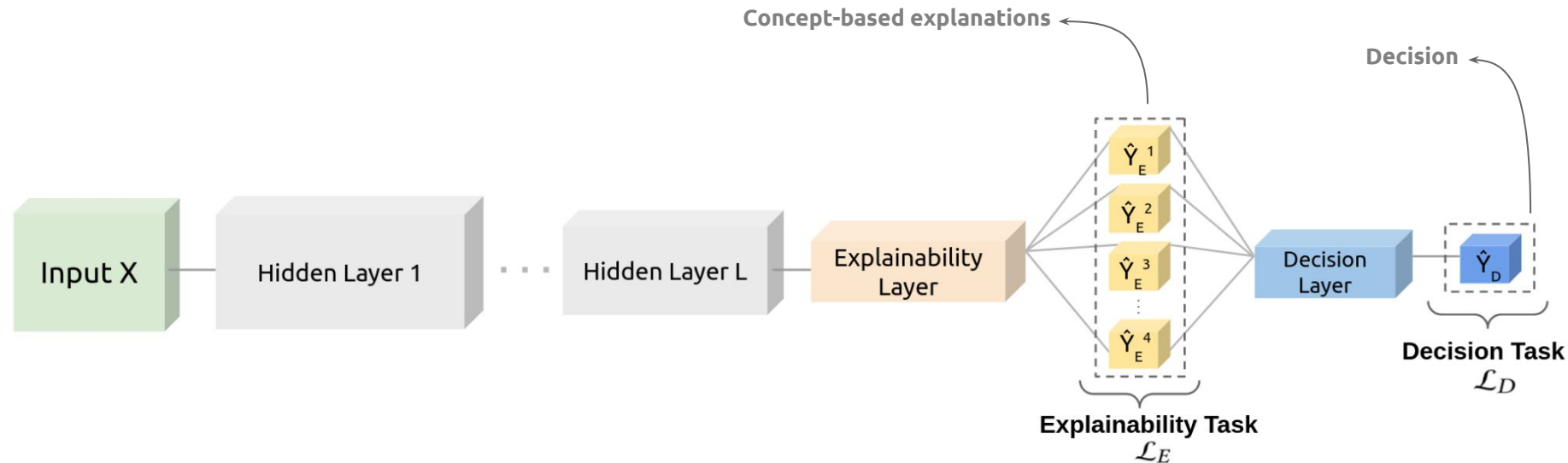
- JOEL, a NN-based framework to jointly learn a decision-making task and associated domain knowledge explanations.

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- JOEL is a self-explainable model, i.e., it incorporates the interpretability architecturally, allowing to produce the decision and also the explanations related to its decision.
- JOEL provides high-level insights about the model's predictions that very much resemble the domain experts' own reasoning.







$$\mathcal{L}(x, y_E, y_D) = \mathcal{L}_D(\hat{y}_D, y_D) + \mathcal{L}_E(\hat{y}_E, y_E)$$

Our problem is characterized by having:

- High-resources for the decision task **but** low-resources for the explainability task;
- Out-of-the-shelf domain knowledge (with no added cost).

Research Question:

*Can we do better than the fully supervised and low-resources baseline?*



## Label Scarcity

(insufficient concept labels)

- Good DL generalization requires massive datasets;
- Labeling campaigns are arduous and expensive to carry;

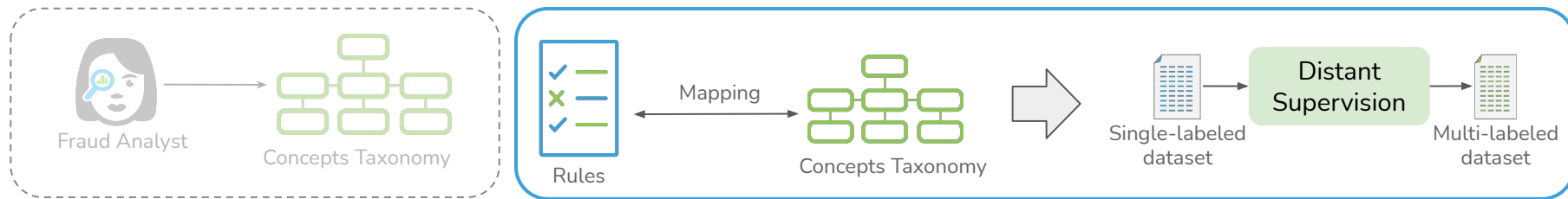
## Multi-task Learning

(how to explain the model's predictions?)

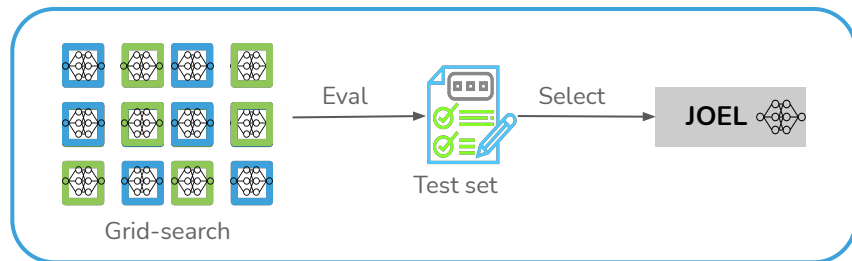
- Explainability task should explain the decision task;
- Explanations must reflect the human-in-the-loop's reasoning.

1. Explore **Weak Supervision** techniques;
  - Can we leverage domain expertise and already existing components in Human-AI system?

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  - Can we leverage domain expertise and already existing components in Human-AI system?
  
2. Explore different **Learning Strategies**;
  - Use noisy labels only?
  - Use noisy labels and then fine-tune using golden labels?
  - Mix both labels?



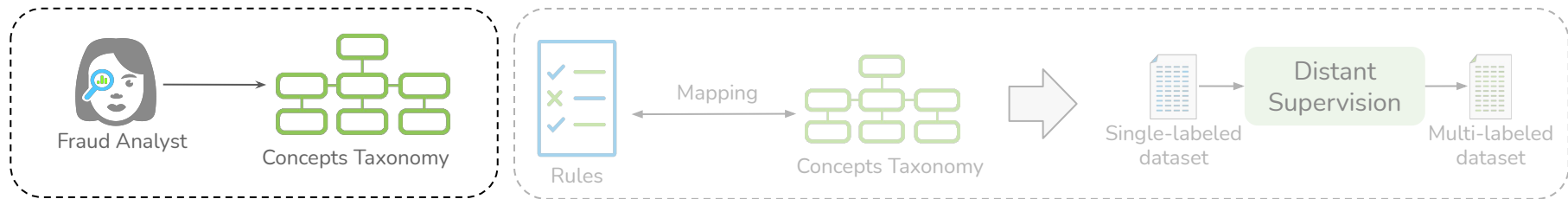
## Label Scarcity



## Multi-task learning

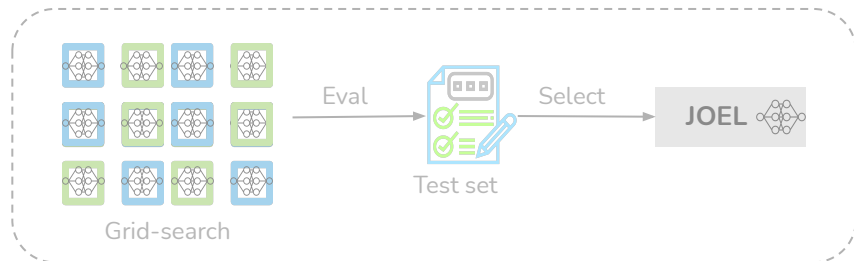


# Implementation Workflow



① Domain Expert defines concepts that will be used as explanations.

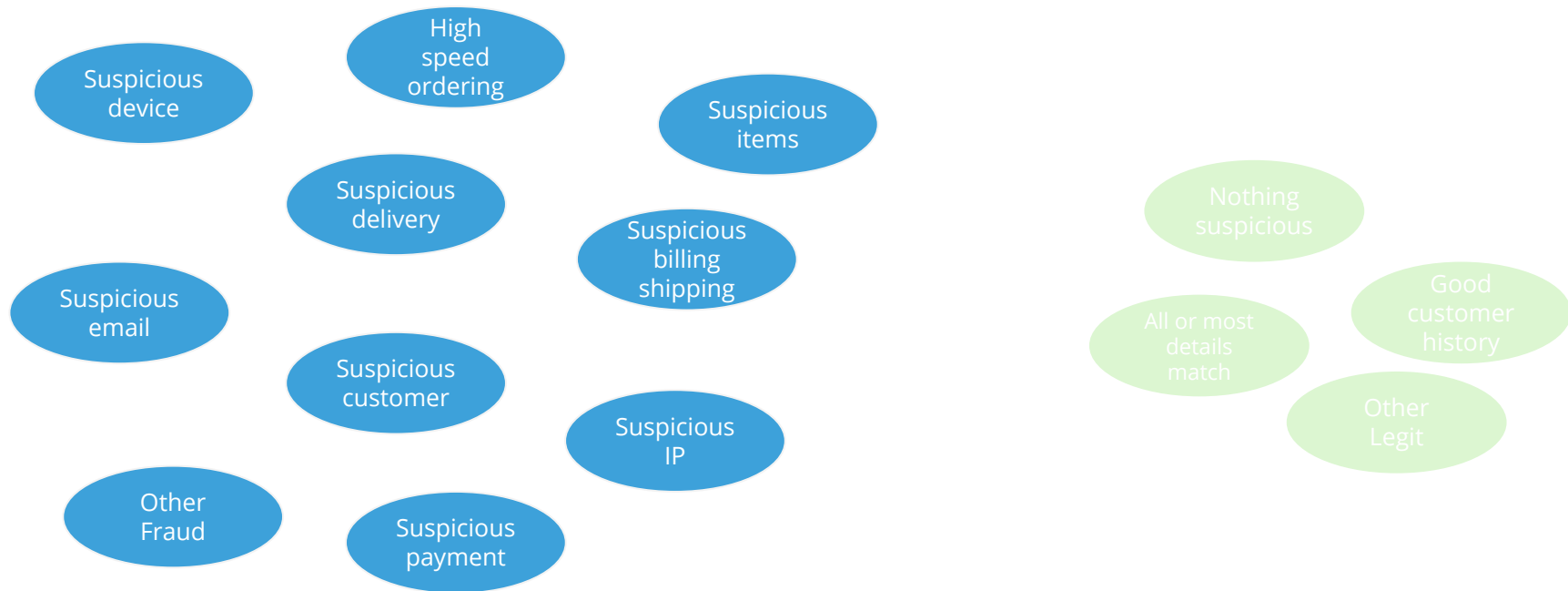
② Apply Distant Supervision.



③ Run a grid search to find the best hyperparameters for Distant Supervision and Supervised Learning.

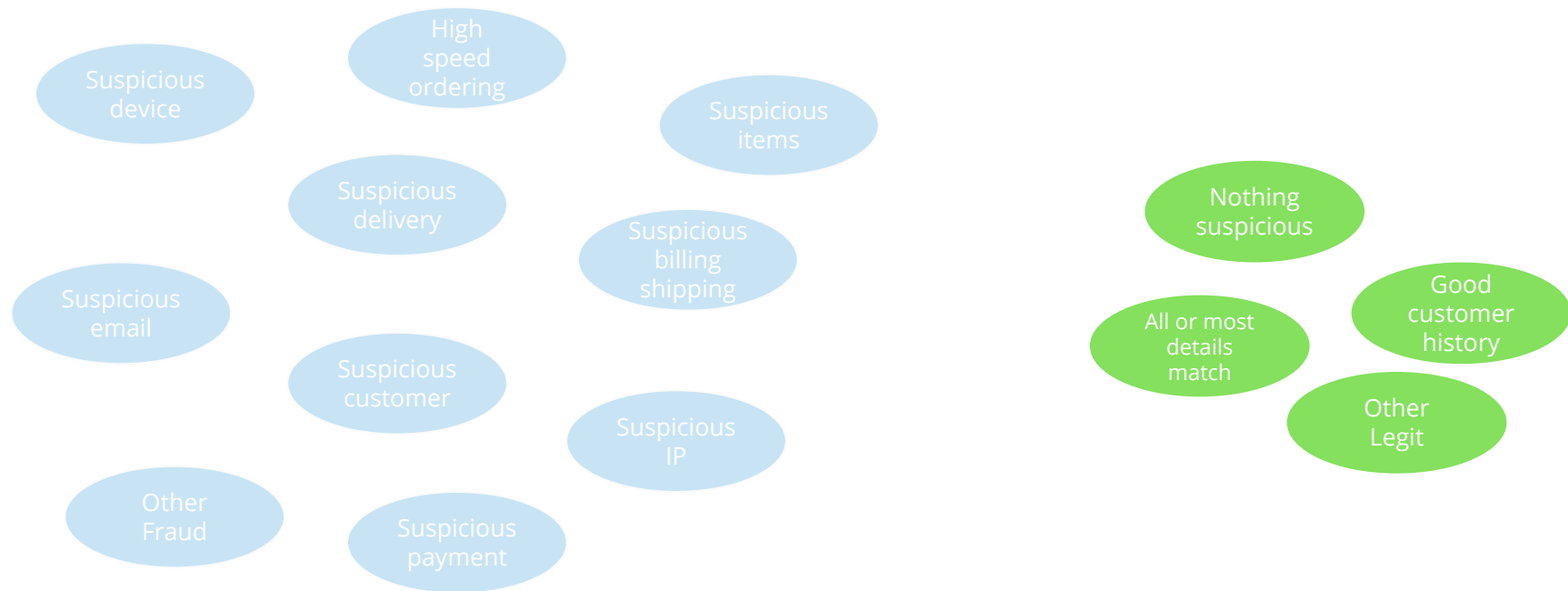


④ JOEL's online loop generates concept-based explanations and collects human feedback in a fraud detection setting.



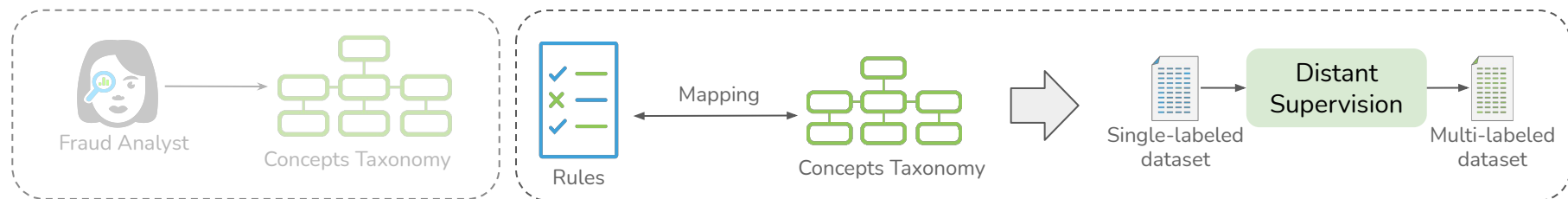
9 Fraudulent concepts (+ 1 Other)

# Fraud Taxonomy: Legitimate Concepts



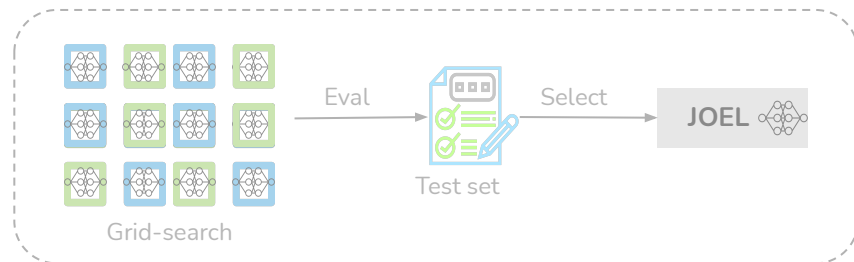
**3** Legitimate concepts (+ **1** Other)

# Implementation Workflow



① Domain Expert defines concepts that will be used as explanations.

② Apply Distant Supervision.



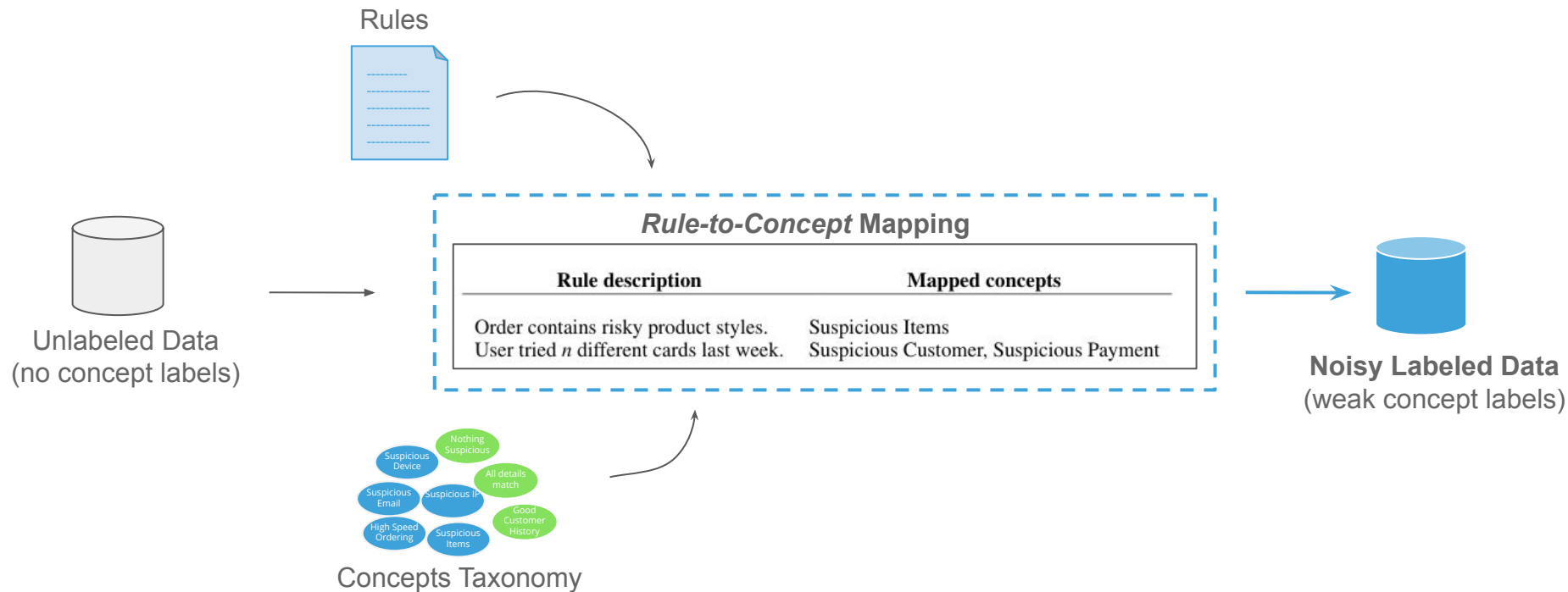
③ Run a grid search to find the best hyperparameters for Distant Supervision and Supervised Learning.



④ JOEL's online loop generates concept-based explanations and collects human feedback in a fraud detection setting.



1. Apply a **Distant Supervision** technique using available domain knowledge.



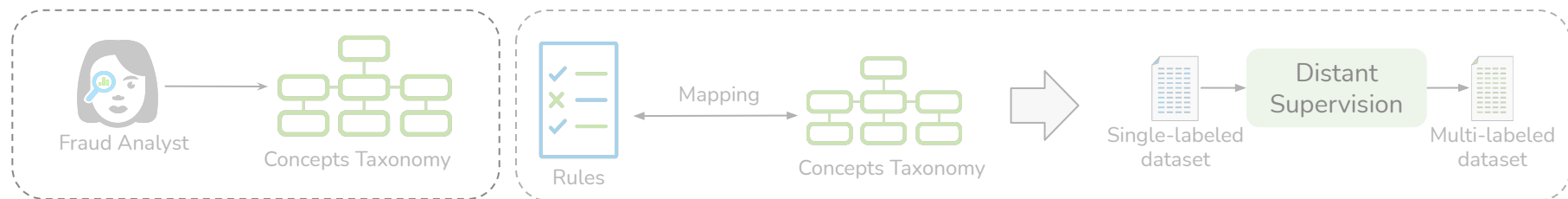
- One rule can be associated with one or more fraud concepts.

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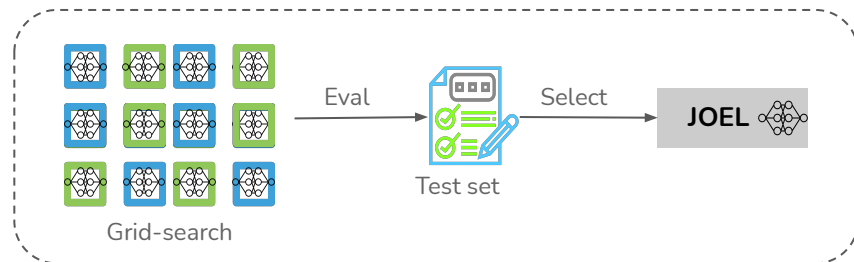
Canonical rule name	Description	Associated concepts
<i>amount_rule</i>	Transaction amount larger than \$N	Suspicious Items
<i>expl_shippingip_mismatch</i>	Shipping and IP mismatch	Suspicious IP, Suspicious billing shipping
<i>jp_card_id_count_N_K_m</i>	The payment card id was detected more than N times in less than K minutes.	Suspicious Payment, High speed ordering

# Implementation Workflow



1 Domain Expert defines concepts that will be used as explanations.

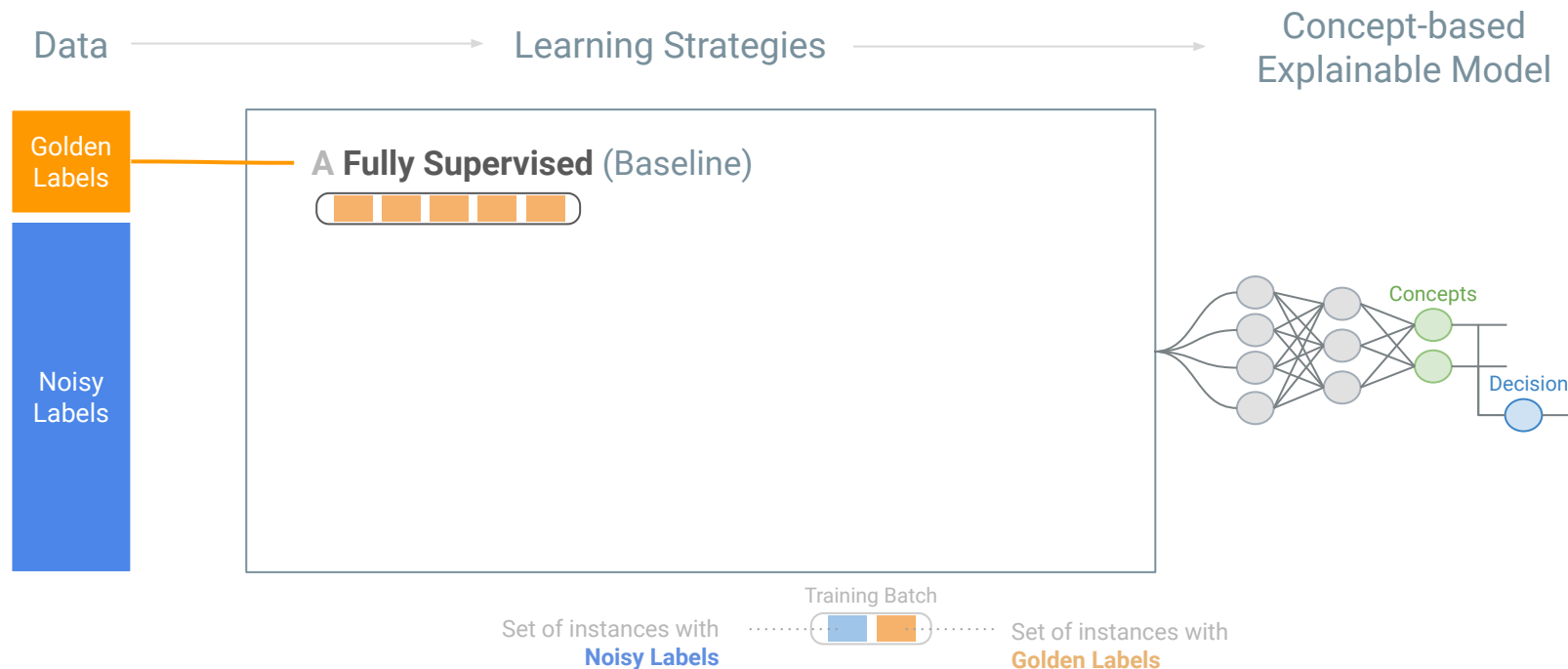
2 Apply Distant Supervision.

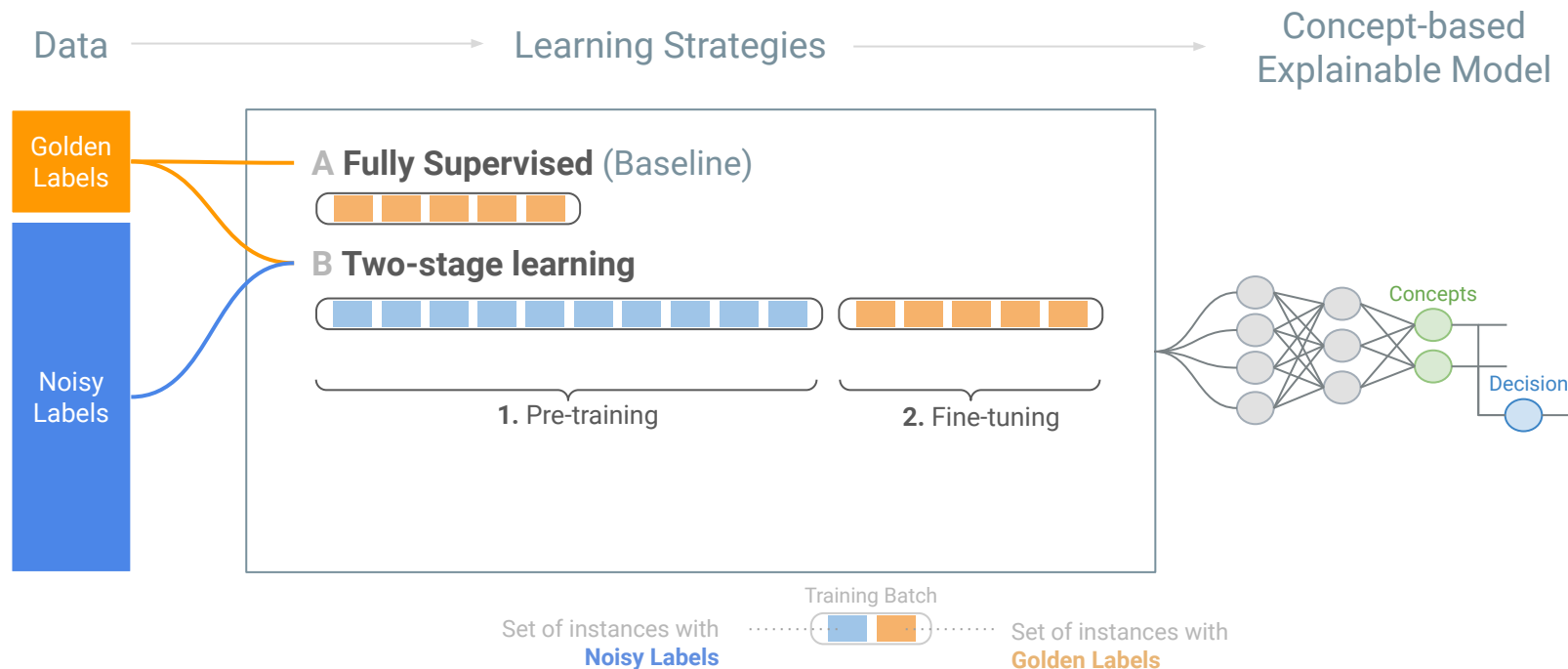


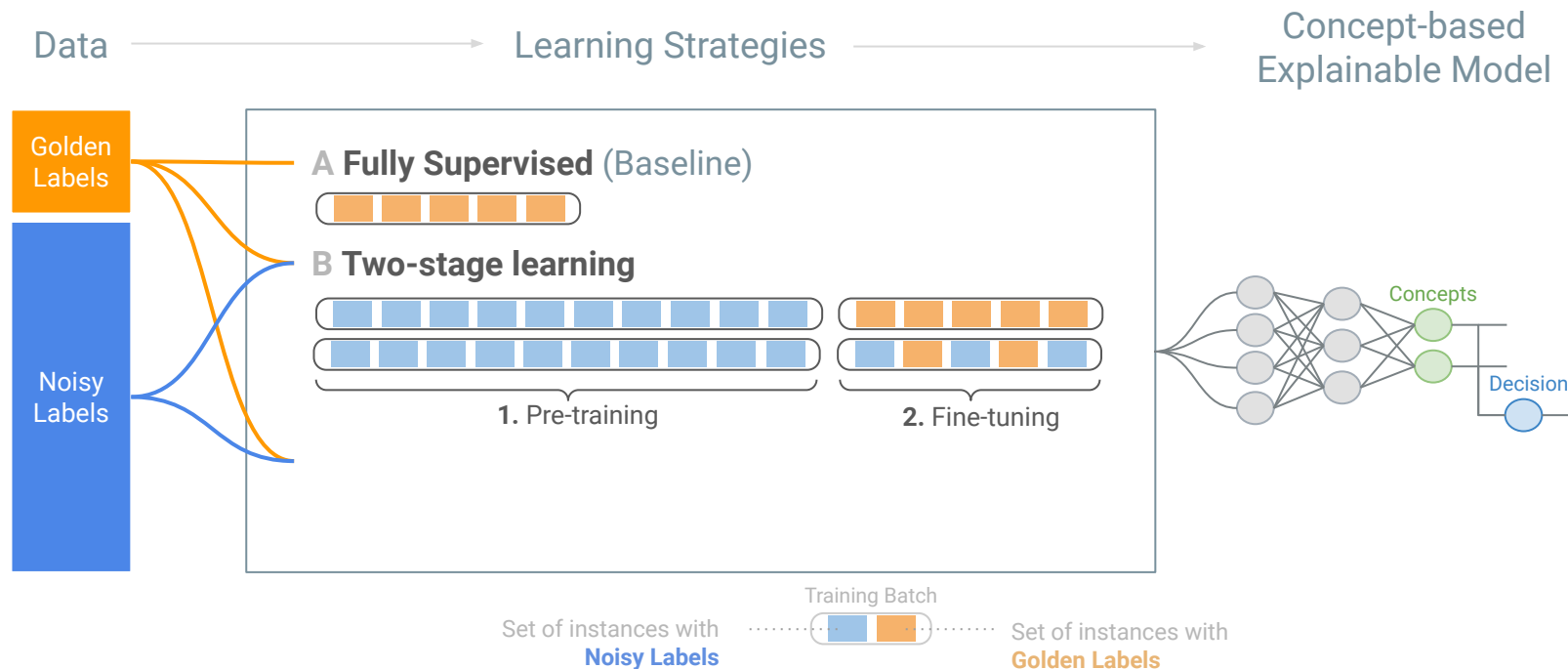
3 Run a grid search to find the best hyperparameters for Distant Supervision and Supervised Learning.



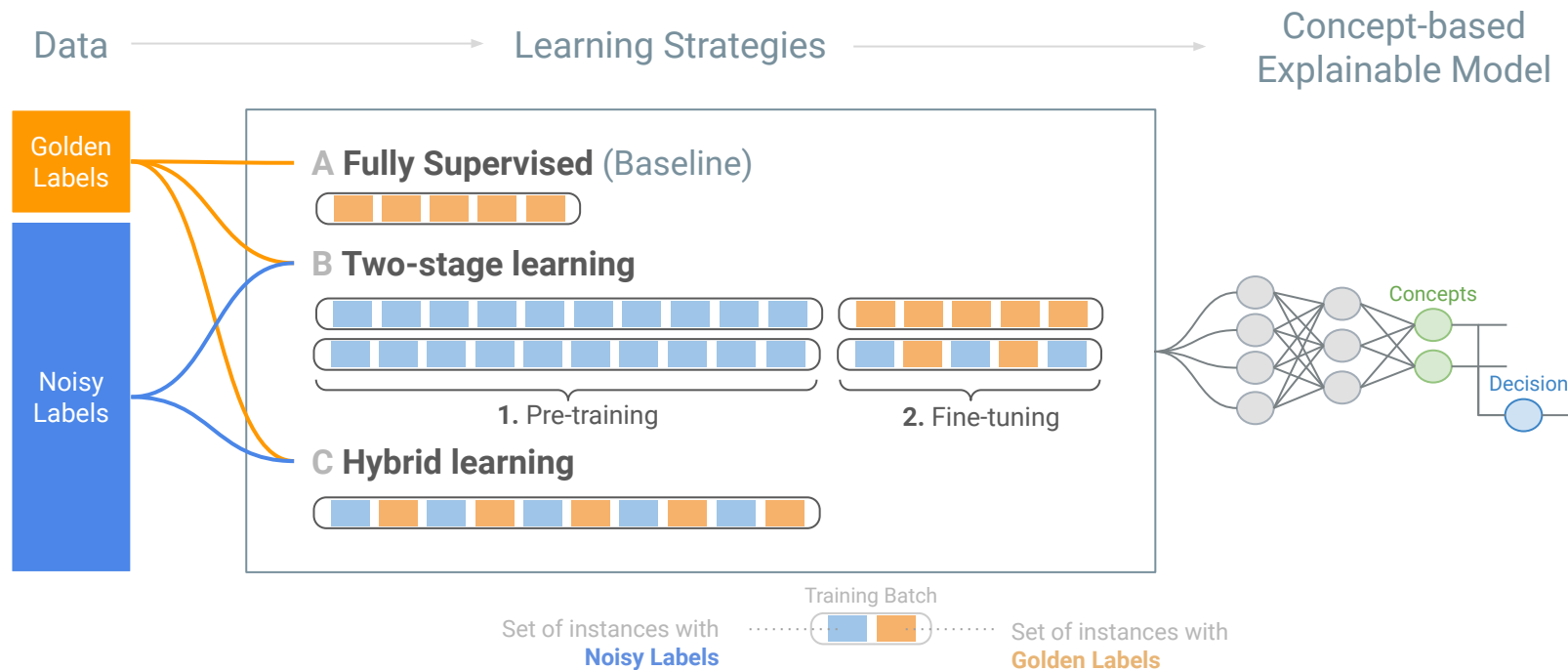
4 JOEL's online loop generates concept-based explanations and collects human feedback in a fraud detection setting.



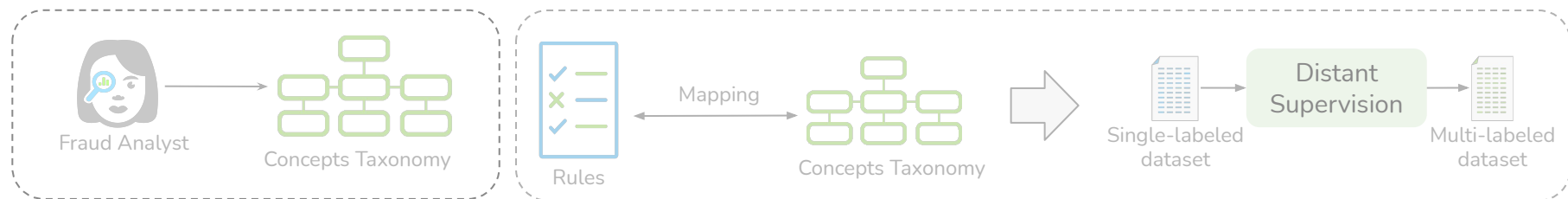






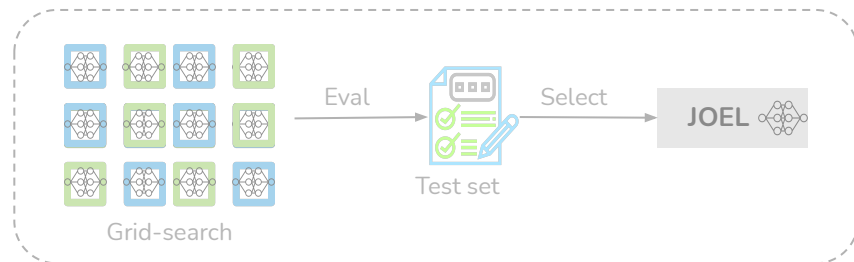


# Implementation Workflow

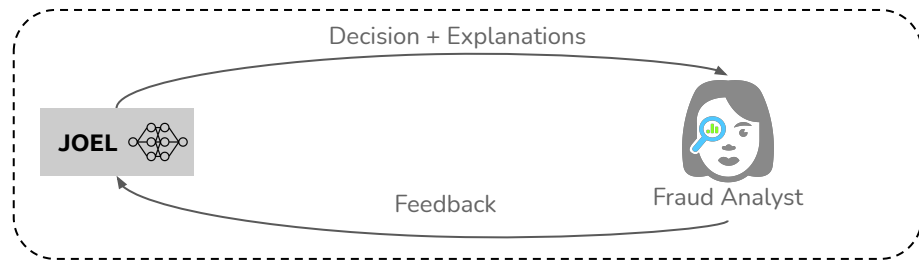


1 Domain Expert defines concepts that will be used as explanations.

2 Apply Distant Supervision.



3 Run a grid search to find the best hyperparameters for Distant Supervision and Supervised Learning.



4 JOEL's online loop generates concept-based explanations and collects human feedback in a fraud detection setting.

- JOEL's explanations and prediction are shown to analyst through Web UI;
- A human-in-the-loop (*e.g.*, fraud analyst) makes a decision based on this information;
- When submitting its review, it also gives feedback about the concepts that led to his decision (and also about the decision task);
- This feedback can be used to continuously improve predictive accuracy, and also explainability of the model.

# Experiments

Motivation

Related Work

Solution

Experiment

Conclusion

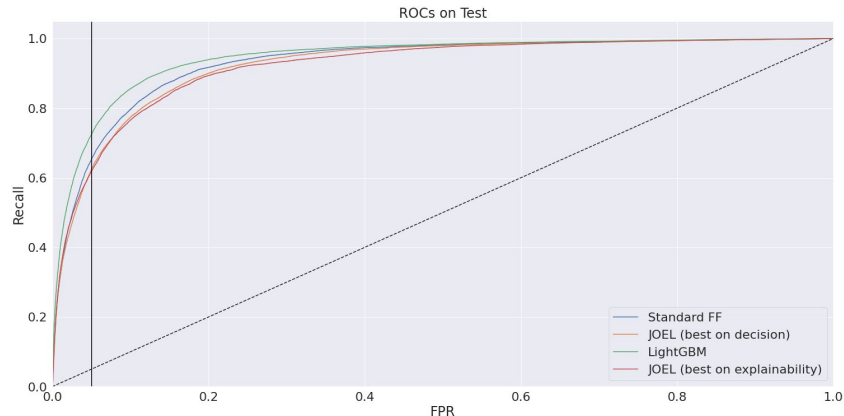
Payment retailer aims to deploy multi-task approach for concept-based explanations.

- **Binary decision task:** detect fraudulent transactions;
- **Multi-Label explainability task** (with 14 concepts): output high-level explanation about the model's prediction.

Labels	Availability
Golden decision	High (~6M, ~2% fraud rate)
Noisy Explainability	High (~6M, ~2% fraud rate)
Golden* explainability	Low (~1.3k, ~37% fraud rate)

## Decision Task

Fraud recall @ 5% FPR



## Explainability Task

Mean Average Precision (mAP)

$$AP = \frac{\sum_{k=1}^n (P(k) * rel(k))}{\text{number of relevant items}}$$

$$MAP = \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{q=1}^Q AP(q)$$

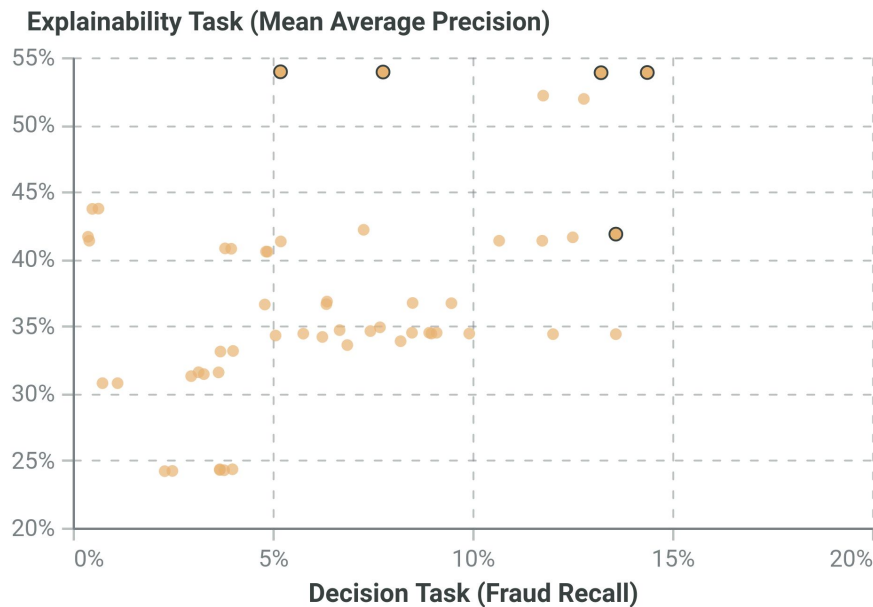
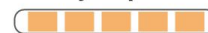
*Can we do better than the fully supervised and low-resources baseline?*

Model development:

- Run the same hyperparameter grid for each variant;  
(i.e., number and dimension of hidden layers, learning rate, explainability task importance)
- Run 2 random seeds.

# Fully Supervised (baseline) - Test set

A Fully Supervised (Baseline)



Full supervised learning on a small dataset yields **poor results** in the decision task.

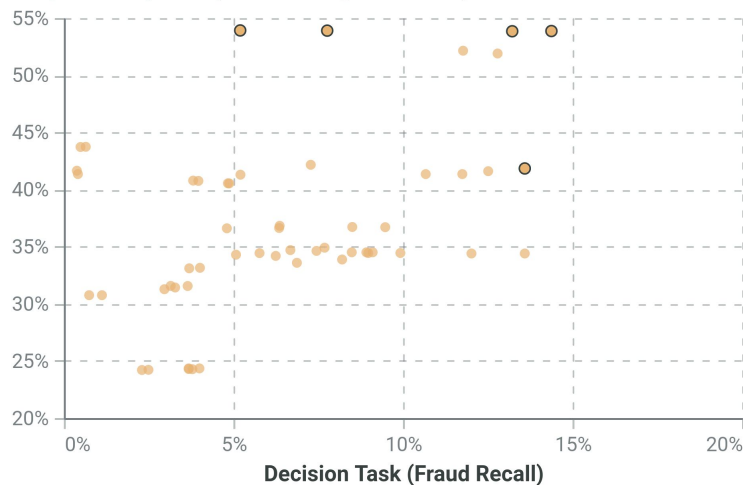


# Fully Supervised (baseline) - Test set

A Fully Supervised (Baseline)



Explainability Task (Mean Average Precision)

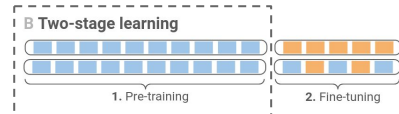


Full  
Supervision

Recall [0.04; 0.15]

mAP [0.52; 0.54]

# Two-stage learning - Test set



## First stage:

Train base models using  
Distant Supervision (**Noisy Labels**).

## Second stage:

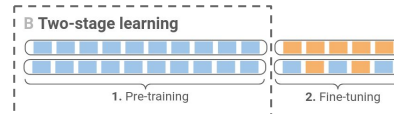
Fine-tune base models with  
**Golden Labels**.

### Main goal:

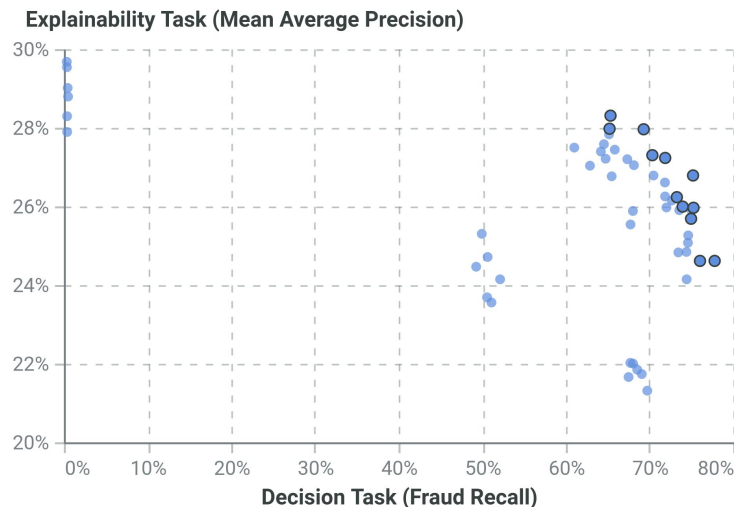
improve **explainability** task  
without hurting the **decision** task.

	Full Supervision	Two-stage (base models)	Two-stage (w/ fine tuning)
Recall	[0.04; 0.15]		
mAP	[0.52; 0.54]		

# Two-stage learning - Test set



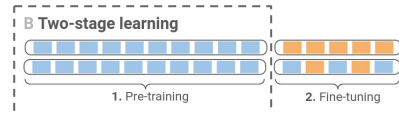
Base models (random seeds 10 and 42)



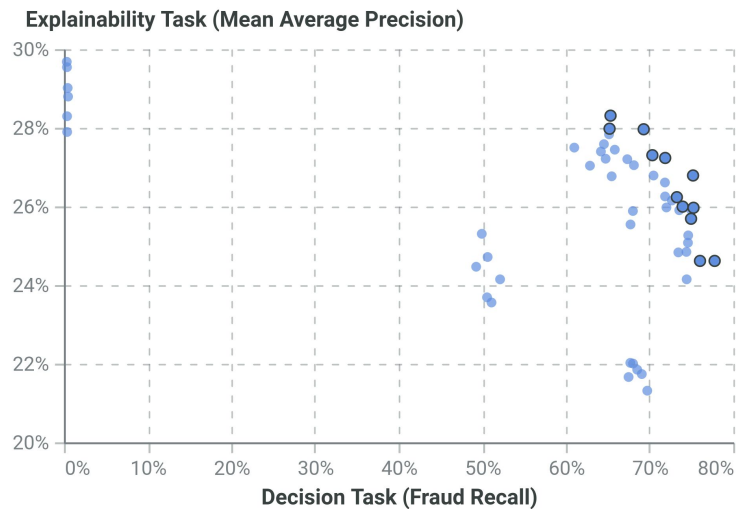
	Full Supervision
Recall	[0.04; 0.15]
mAP	[0.52; 0.54]

- Explainability performance **degrades** when using the larger but noisy explainability dataset.
- Training with larger dataset **improves** decision task;

# Two-stage learning - Test set



Base models (random seeds 10 and 42)



	Full Supervision	Two-stage (base models)
Recall	[0.04; 0.15]	[0.6; 0.78]
mAP	[0.52; 0.54]	[0.24; 0.29]

# Two-stage learning - Test set

## B Two-stage learning



## Second stage:

Fine-tune base models with **Golden Labels**.

### Main goal:

improve **explainability** task without hurting the **decision** task.

	Full Supervision	Two-stage (base models)	Two-stage (w/ fine tuning)
Recall	[0.04; 0.15]	[0.6; 0.78]	
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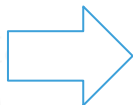
# Two-stage learning - Test set

B Two-stage learning



feedzai

First stage:  
Train base models using Dist  
Supervision (Noisy Labels).  
**SELECT  
PARETO MODELS**



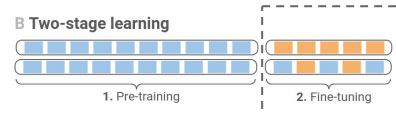
## Second stage:

Fine-tune base models with **Golden Labels**.

### Main goal:

improve **explainability** task without hurting the **decision** task.

# Two-stage learning - Test set



Pick **Pareto Optimal** models from Stage 1.

Fine-tune them with:

- Hyperparameters;  
(e.g., learning rate, epochs, batch size)
- Loss scalers;  
(e.g., 0.75, 0.5, 0.25)
- Freeze and unfreeze of layers;
- Different batch techniques.  
(e.g., hybrid batching - add % of [noisy labels](#) in each batch)

## Second stage:

Fine-tune base models with **Golden Labels**.

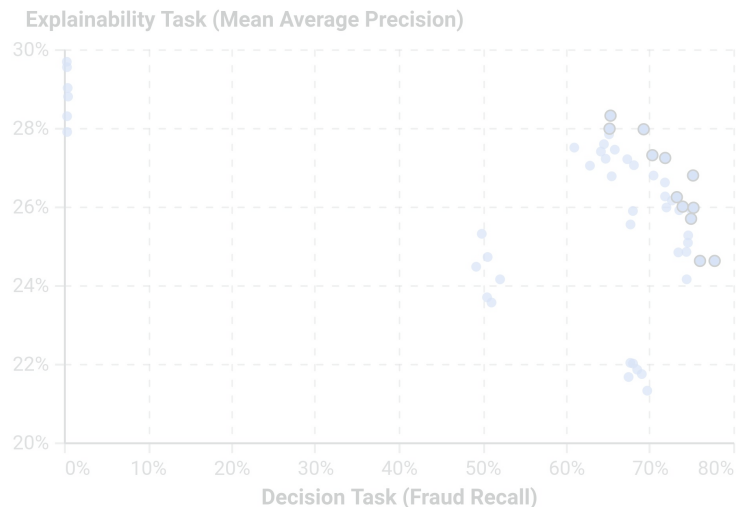
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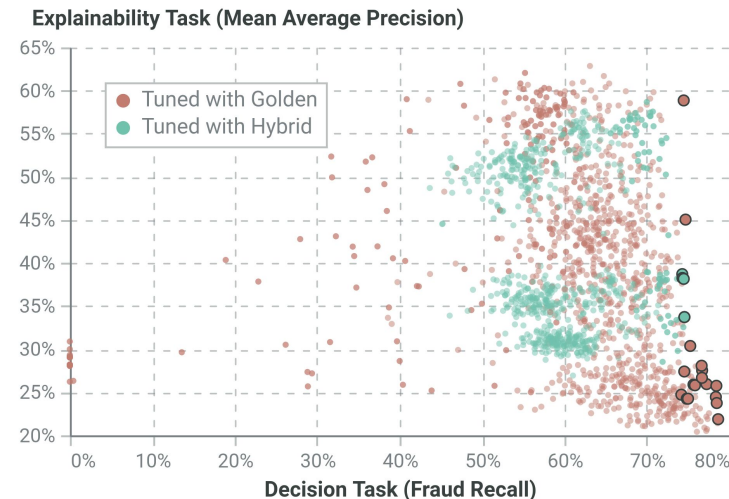
# Two-stage learning - Test set



Base models (random seeds 10 and 42)



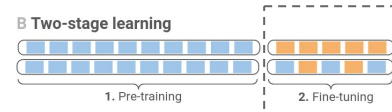
Fine-tuned models



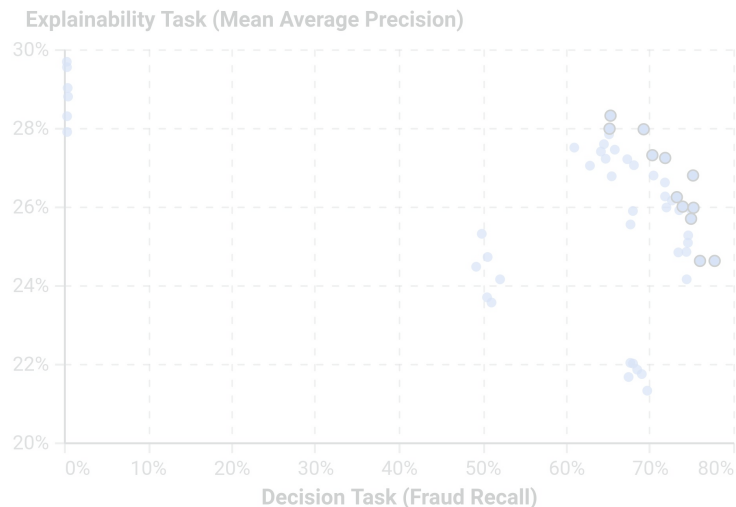
For same decision task performance, we can **improve** explainability task.



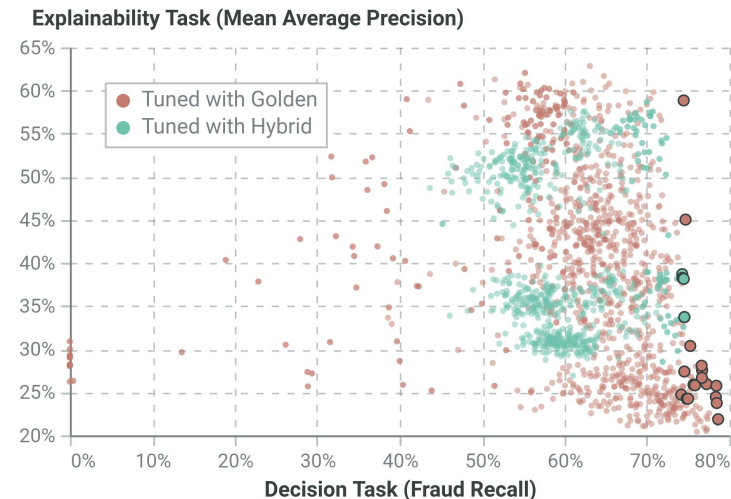
# Two-stage learning - Test set



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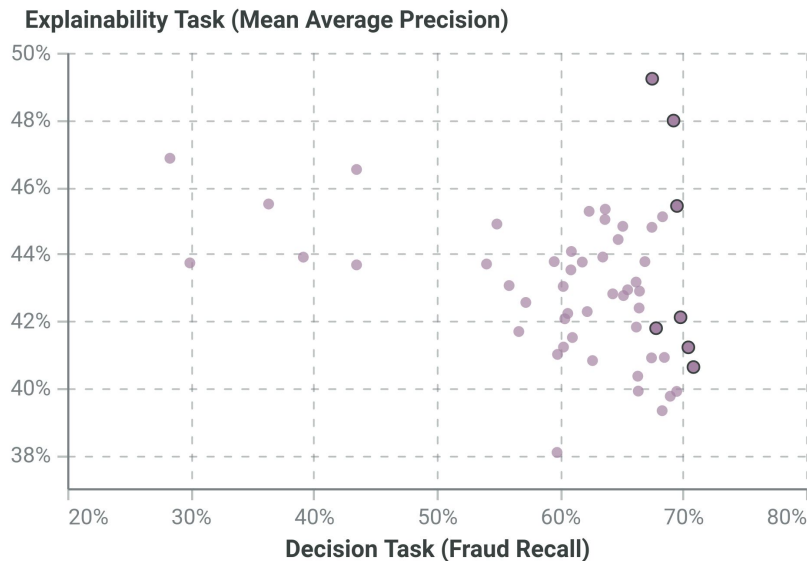


Fine-tuned models



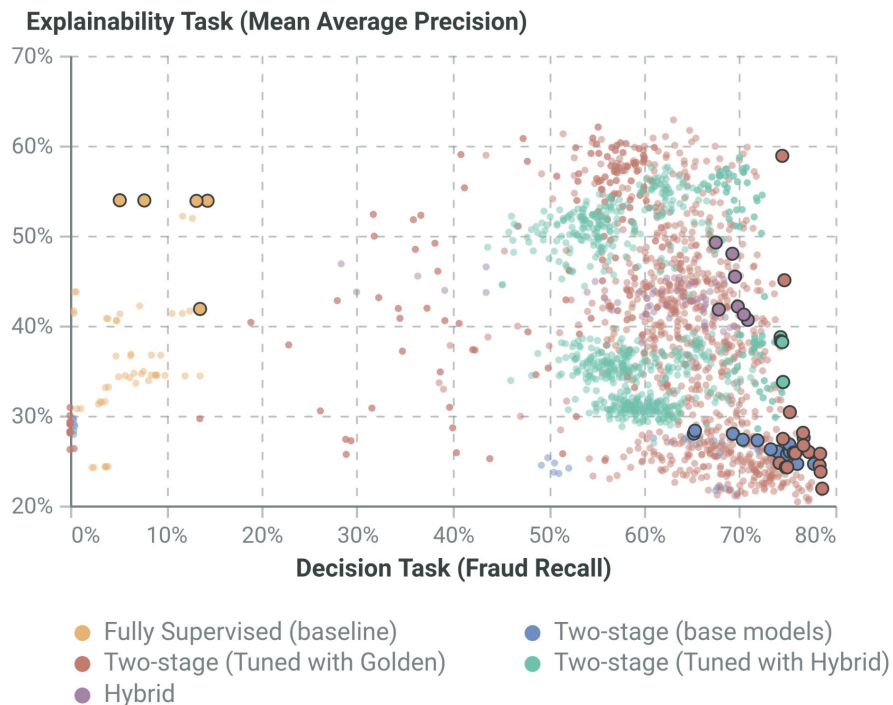
	Full Supervision	Two-stage (base models)	Two-stage (w/ fine tuning)
Recall	[0.04; 0.15]	[0.6; 0.78]	[0.74; 0.78]
mAP	[0.52; 0.54]	[0.24; 0.29]	[0.24; <b>0.63</b> ]

Each training batch contains a fraction of **Explainability Golden Labels**  
(Our experiments use 10%).



	Full Supervision	Two-stage (base models)	Two-stage (w/ fine tuning)	Hybrid
Recall	[0.04; 0.15]	[0.6; 0.78]	[0.74; 0.78]	<b>[0.65; 0.71]</b>
mAP	[0.52; 0.54]	[0.24; 0.29]	[0.24; 0.63]	<b>[0.4; 0.49]</b>

Better than **fully supervised** in decision and **two-stage base** models in explainability, but seems to be worse than **two-stage fine-tuned**.



**Preliminary results** seem to be **promising** but further experiments (more seeds and more runs) to gain statistical confidence.

# Conclusions

- Concept-based explainability through multi-task learning poses challenges:
  - Label scarcity;
  - Joint learning of decision and associated explanations.
- This work proposes to:
  - Use Distant Supervision and exploit the available off-the-shelf domain knowledge;
  - Use different Learning Strategies and combine label qualities to improve performance at both tasks.

- The explanations should be tailored to the persona's knowledge and task performed;
  - Concept-based explanations are suitable to domain experts that make ML-informed decisions but lack ML knowledge!
- Experiment in a real-world e-commerce fraud detection dataset show:
  1. JOEL is able to learn both domain concept explanations and fraud decisions;
  2. Distant supervision allows us to overcome the label scarcity problem;
  3. There is no clear winner learning strategy.  
(it might depend on business requirements)

# Questions?

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