FEVER-OOD: Free Energy Vulnerability Elimination for Robust Out-of-Distribution Detection

Brian K.S. Isaac-Medina¹ Mauricio Che² Yona Faline A. Gaus¹ Samet Akcay³ Toby P. Breckon¹ Durham University, Durham, UK ²University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria ³Intel

{brian.k.isaac-medina, yona.f.binti-abd-gaus, toby.breckon}@durham.ac.uk mauricio.adrian.che.moguel@univie.ac.at samet.akcay@intel.com

Abstract

Modern machine learning models, that excel on computer vision tasks such as classification and object detection, are often overconfident in their predictions for Out-of-Distribution (OOD) examples, resulting in unpredictable behaviour for open-set environments. Recent works have demonstrated that the free energy score is an effective measure of uncertainty for OOD detection given its close relationship to the data distribution. However, despite that free energy-based methods representing a significant empirical advance in OOD detection, our theoretical analysis reveals previously unexplored and inherent vulnerabilities within the free energy score formulation such that in-distribution and OOD instances can have distinct feature representations yet identical free energy scores. This phenomenon occurs when the vector representing the feature space difference between the in-distribution and OOD sample belongs to the null space of the last layer of a neural-based classifier. To mitigate these issues, we explore lower-dimensional feature spaces to reduce the null space footprint and introduce novel regularisation to maximize the least singular value of the final linear layer, hence enhancing intersample free energy separation. We refer to these techniques as Free Energy Vulnerability Elimination for Robust Outof-Distribution Detection (FEVER-OOD). Extensive experimentation shows that FEVER-OOD improves OOD detection in CIFAR-10 with 28.22% FPR95 and 94.78 AU-ROC vs 33.66% FPR95 and 92.15 AUROC of the baseline model, CIFAR-100 with 42.77% FPR95 and 89.98 AUROC vs 50.96% FPR95 and 88.06 AUROC of the baseline model, and achieves state of the art OOD detection in Imagenet-100, with average OOD FPR95 of 36.50% and an AUROC of 92.74 when used with the Dream-OOD model, compared with a 39.33% and 91.84 AUROC without FEVER-OOD.

1. Introduction

Out-of-distribution (OOD) detection (c.f. anomaly/outlier detection), aims to identify abnormal samples that deviate significantly from a given data distribution. Whilst

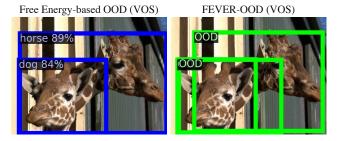


Figure 1. FEVER-OOD improves baseline Free Energy-based OOD detection methods, where baseline methods predict OOD classes as in-distribution (left, blue), while FEVER-OOD classifies them as OOD (right, green).

OOD is essential in developing deployable machine learning systems, to ensure valid inference only on data drawn from same distribution used in training [24, 36, 44], real-world deployments often involve scenarios where models encounter unseen OOD classes that could otherwise undermine decision stability and hence wider system robustness.

Methods such as deep ensembles [23], ODIN [27], Mahalanobis distance-based detection [25], and generalized ODIN [16] all utilize *softmax()* to differentiate indistribution from OOD. Whilst intuitive, such approaches often struggle as deep neural networks commonly yield overly high *softmax()* scores, even for inputs far from the training data distribution [31]. Given OOD and indistribution samples should have significant spatial separation in any given feature space, Liu *et al.* [29] developed an alternative scoring function to effectively measure the alignment of a given sample to an *a priori* learned distribution. Denoted as the free energy scoring function, this formulation demonstrates superior OOD performance across both classification [7–9] and detection tasks [6, 7, 18, 21].

Despite free energy-based methods representing a significant empirical advance in OOD detection, our theoretical analysis reveals previously unexplored and inherent vulnerabilities within the free energy score formulation that could impact their practical reliability. These vulnerabilities reveal that in-distribution and OOD instances can have distinct feature representations yet produce identical free en-

ergy scores. This phenomenon occurs in the feature space when the vector direction representing the difference between an in-distribution and an OOD sample lies within the null space of the last layer of neural-based classifier. Such regions, effectively "blind spots" in terms of OOD, lead to OOD and in-distribution generating identical or near-identical free energy score values.

To mitigate these issues, we explore lower-dimensional feature spaces to effectively reduce the size of the null space. In addition, we also introduce a novel regulariser to maximize the least singular value of the final linear layer, hence enhancing inter-sample free energy separation to improve OOD robustness. We refer to these techniques as Free energy Vulnerability Elimination for Robust Out-of-Distribution Detection (FEVER-OOD).

In summary, our key contributions in this paper are:

- The identification of inherent free energy score vulnerabilities, where under null-space conditions, indistribution and OOD instances will yield similar free energy scores despite differing feature representations. Denoted as Null Space Vulnerabilities (NSV) such conditions readily occur when the feature dimension exceeds the number of classes. Additionally, such free energy similarity can be influenced by the least singular vector (LSV) of the last linear layer of a neural-based classifier, leading to what we denote as Least Singular Value Vulnerabilities (LSVV). Both vulnerabilities negatively impact in-distribution to OOD discrimination.
- Novel formulations that mitigate the NSV and LSVV impact (Fig. 1). To address NSV, we introduce an additional layer to reduce the null space whilst for LSVV, we develop an LSV Regulariser that maximizes the least singular value, guaranteeing detectable energy variations from small feature-space differences and hence enhancing inter-sample energy scores discrimination. Furthermore, we explore a Condition Number Regulariser to promote balanced energy changes for displacements in all feature-space direction hence ensuring improved uniformity in energy score variations.
- Comprehensive experiments and ablation studies using established benchmark datasets over both object classification and detection tasks, that demonstrate the effectiveness of FEVER-OOD in improving OOD detection performance. Specifically, Dream-OOD [8] with FEVER-OOD trained on Imagenet-100 [35] as in-distribution decreases the FPR95 from 39.33% to 36.50% and increases the average AUROC from 91.84 to 92.74, achieving state-of-the-art performance for OOD detection.

2. Related Work

Identifying OOD samples is a crucial yet inherently challenging problem, as models are not exposed to, and hence cannot reliably differentiate, OOD samples.

OOD Detection: to overcome this challenge, researchers have begun incorporating additional data during training to establish a more conservative and safe decision boundary against OOD inputs. Some methods [1, 19] have used unlabeled data to regularise model training while still focusing on classifying labeled in-distribution data, while others [2] leverage human assistance to strategically label examples within a novel maximum disambiguation region. Despite its potential, leveraging unlabeled data is non-trivial due to the heterogeneous mix of in-distribution and OOD instances. The absence of a clean OOD set presents significant challenges in designing effective OOD learning algorithms. A different branch of works incorporate post-hoc methods, focusing on designing OOD scoring mechanisms at test time. Hendrycks and Gimpel [15] introduced the maximum predicted softmax() probability as an in-distribution score function, establishing an initial baseline for scoring OOD detection. Similarly, ODIN [27] aims to widen the gap between values in the *softmax()* score vectors by temperature scaling and gradient-based input perturbation, enhancing the separation between in-distribution and OOD instances. Lee et al. [25] use the Mahalanobis distance between the average softmax() vectors of images and incorporate intermediate features to improve detection performance and robustness. Nonetheless, the misalignment between the *softmax()* score and the true data density [29, 32] ultimately makes these techniques a suboptimal solution to OOD detection. Closer to our work, Cook et al. [4] identify null space adversarial attacks, proposing that instances with large magnitude of their projection onto the span of the null space of a neural network classifier would likely be an outlier. Similarly, Wang et al. [41] propose that since the features lie in lowdimensional manifolds, outliers are likely to deviate from the principal subspace, i.e. the span of the eigenvectors or the largest eigenvalues, of the in-distribution data. Therefore, OOD instances are detected with respect to the magnitude of the component of the perpendicular subspace to the principal subspace.

Energy-based OOD Detection: to address these limitations, Liu *et al.* [29] propose to use a free energy-based in-distribution score function instead of the *softmax()* score to identify OOD instances. This approach regularises the model to produce lower energy values for in-distribution and higher energy values for auxiliary outliers, creating a significant energy gap that enhances the model ability to detect OOD samples. Energy-based OOD modeling has enabled novel outlier synthesis paradigms. For instance, Du *et al.* [7] propose virtual outlier synthesis (VOS) by sampling outliers from low-likelihood in-distribution regions. VOS has shown to be effective for classification and object-level OOD detection. Further outlier synthesis techniques based on VOS have been proposed, including using normalizing flows [21], sampling based on the in-distribution boundary

instances [39] or extending VOS when class labels are unavailable [18]. In addition, VOS techniques arensuitable for object detection [7, 21]. Whilst VOS and subsequent works synthesize outliers in the feature space, Dream-OOD [8] uses Stable Diffusion [34] to generate outliers in the pixelspace, learning better discriminative free-score values for OOD instances and providing visual examples of outliers. Energy-based methods have shown great performance, becoming state-of-the-art in several benchmarks (e.g., Dream-OOD [8] for ImageNet-100 in-distribution), hence we focus in the properties of these methods. Notwithstanding that the core idea of the energy score is that OOD samples must have a significantly different free energy than in-distribution sample, we examine some inherent vulnerabilities in the energy formulation based on the null space and least singular value of the last linear layer of neural-based classifiers.

3. Preliminaries: Free Energy Score

The goal of OOD detection is to detect outliers, \mathbf{v} , that have a low probability in the true (unknown) in-distribution density $p(\mathbf{x})$. However, the computation of $p(\mathbf{x})$ is usually unfeasible or computationally untractable, so we instead resort to additional information. Now consider that we also have a set of in-distribution categories $\{1,\ldots,K\}$ such that if we know the joint probability distribution, $p(\mathbf{x},k)$, for $k \in \{1,\ldots,K\}$, we could marginalize $p(\mathbf{x})$. Nonetheless, since the actual joint probabilities $p(\mathbf{x},k)$ might be also untractable, we could instead use non-negative arbitrary potential functions $\phi(\mathbf{x},k)$ that measure the affinity of the states of \mathbf{x} and k [12]. In this sense, we can construct the unnormalized probability:

$$\tilde{p}(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{k=1}^{K} \phi(\mathbf{x}, k) \tag{1}$$

that gives an idea of the likelihood x. Furthermore, energy-based models enforce the non-negative constraint of ϕ by:

$$\phi(\mathbf{x}, k) = \exp\left(-E(\mathbf{x}, k)\right), \tag{2}$$

where E is an unbounded arbitrary function called the *energy*. By substituting Eq. (2) into Eq. (1) and taking the negative \log^1 , we get a value known as the free energy:

$$\mathcal{F}(\mathbf{x}) = -\log \tilde{p}(\mathbf{x}) = -\log \sum_{k=1}^{K} \exp(-E(\mathbf{x}, k)), \quad (3)$$

and more recently used as a concept in OOD detection [7, 8, 18, 21, 29]. To get the actual density $p(\mathbf{x})$, we must compute the normalizing partition function of Eq. (1); since we are interested in distinguishing between in-distribution and OOD, $\mathcal{F}(\mathbf{x})$ thus serves well for this purpose.

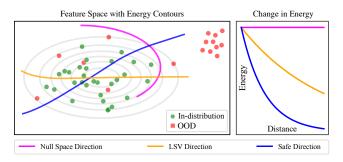


Figure 2. Vulnerabilities of Free Energy-based OOD detection. Directions in the Null Space do not change the energy, while the LSV direction has minimal change, compared to other directions.

In a general machine learning context, a classifier $f(\mathbf{x}; \theta) : \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}^K$ with learned parameters θ assigns categorical unnormalized probabilities $f_k(\mathbf{x}; \theta)$, called *logits*, for a given $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d$. While the logits are usually normalized using the *softmax()* function in order to obtain a probability distribution, they can also be used as the energy E in Eq. (2). This realization enables the use of the free energy (Eq. (3)) as a measure of uncertainty for a classifier:

$$\mathcal{F}(\mathbf{x}) = -\log \sum_{k=1}^{K} \exp(f_k(\mathbf{x}; \theta)). \tag{4}$$

Liu *et al.* [29] demonstrate that Eq. (4) is superior for effective OOD detection when compared to use of *soft-max()* whilst Du *et al.* [7] explicitly use the free energy score (Eq. (4)) to perform binary classification between indistribution and OOD by training with synthetic outliers.

4. Vulnerabilities of the Free Energy Score

Although the free energy (Eq. (4)) is an effective uncertainty measure for OOD detection [7, 29], here we examine some inherent vulnerabilities when used in conjunction with a neural network based classifier. Firstly, Sec. 4.1 investigates OOD instances that have similar energies as in-distribution samples, whilst Sec. 4.2 discusses minimal changes in free energy, and finally Sec. 4.3 outlines our proposed approach to minimize the impact of these vulnerabilities.

4.1. Null Space Vulnerability

Consider a neural network-based classifier $f=(g\circ h)(\mathbf{x}),$ where $h(\mathbf{x}):\mathbb{R}^d\to\mathbb{R}^{d'}$ encodes the input into a d'-dimensional feature vector and $g:\mathbb{R}^{d'}\to\mathbb{R}^K$ is the last layer of the neural network that transforms the features into unnormalized class probabilities (*i.e.*, the logits). If g is a linear layer (as for most classifiers [5, 14, 43]), then:

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{W}_{cls}^{\top} h(\mathbf{x}),$$
 (5)

where $W_{cls} \in \mathbb{R}^{d' \times K}$ are learnable weights. Hence, the logits $f_k(\mathbf{x}; \theta)$ correspond to the k-th index of $f(\mathbf{x})$.

 $^{^{1}}$ N.B. the signs of the free energy and the argument of the exponent of ϕ are arbitrarily negative for historical reasons.

The core idea of energy-based OOD is that outliers \mathbf{v} have a significantly different free energy, $\mathcal{F}(\mathbf{v})$, from indistribution samples, $\mathcal{F}(\mathbf{x})$. Since OOD instances should be far from in-distribution samples in the feature space [7, 39], the expected distance from the inlier features $h(\mathbf{x})$ and outlier features $h(\mathbf{v})$ should be greater than a given boundary distance, d_b , as follows:

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\|h(\mathbf{x}) - h(\mathbf{v})\|\right] \ge d_b, \tag{6}$$

for a norm $\|\cdot\|$. In other words, the inliers remain bounded to a region in the feature space while outliers are unbounded. Therefore, the expected distance between inliers and outliers is greater than a bounding distance d_b . Subsequently, we can rewrite Eq. (6) as:

$$h(\mathbf{v}) = h(\mathbf{x}) + \boldsymbol{\delta} \,, \tag{7}$$

where δ is a vector with $\mathbb{E}[\|\delta\|] \ge d_b$. By substituting Eq. (7) into Eq. (5) we obtain the following:

$$f(\mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{W}_{cls}^{\mathsf{T}} (h(\mathbf{x}) + \boldsymbol{\delta}) = f(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{W}_{cls}^{\mathsf{T}} \boldsymbol{\delta}.$$
 (8)

However within this formulation, if W_{cls} has more rows than columns, which occurs when the feature dimension is larger than the number of classes, the size of the null space of W_{cls}^{\top} , called the *nullity*, is $\operatorname{nullity}(W_{cls}^{\top}) = d' - \operatorname{rank}(W_{cls})$ due to the rank-nullity theorem. Mathematically, this means that there exists a linear subspace $\operatorname{Null}(W_{cls}^{\top}) \subset \mathbb{R}^{d'}$ such that if $\delta \in \operatorname{Null}(W_{cls}^{\top})$ then $W_{cls}^{\top}\delta = 0$. Within our OOD context, if an outlier instance, \mathbf{v} , has a feature representation, $h(\mathbf{v})$, such that its difference with respect to the inlier feature representation, $h(\mathbf{x})$, of *any* inlier instance, \mathbf{x} , is in the null space of the last layer of the classifier, then their free energy scores are the same:

$$h(\mathbf{v}) - h(\mathbf{x}) \in \text{Null}(\mathbf{W}_{cls}^{\top}) \Rightarrow \mathcal{F}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathcal{F}(\mathbf{v}).$$
 (9)

Practically, Eq. (9) is telling us that it is possible for indistribution and OOD instances to have different feature representations (satisfying the condition of Eq. (6)) and yet have the same free energy score, as depicted in Fig. 2. This fundamentally challenges the notion that free energy is an effective mechanism for OOD detection as any approaches reliant on Eq. (3), such as [7, 8, 18, 21, 29], contain inherent "detection blind-spots" as per Eq. (9). We denote Eq. (9) as the **Null Space Vulnerabilities** (NSV) of classifier f with size nullity(W_{cls}^{T}) = d' - rank(W_{cls}). An approach to minimize this vulnerability is outlined in Sec. 4.3.

As an additional remark, NSV are inherent in energy-based methods; while some *post hoc* methods use the projection of features onto the null space as a discriminator between in-distribution and OOD [4, 41], energy-based methods use the classification logits for detecting outliers, hence the null space projection does not change the OOD score.

4.2. Minimal Change of Free Energy

We now turn our attention to the case where δ is not in the null space of W_{cls}^{\top} . Furthermore, we can focus on δ orthogonal to $\text{Null}(W_{cls}^{\top})$, since every vector in the domain of W_{cls}^{\top} can be decomposed into one component in $\text{Null}(W_{cls}^{\top})$ and one component in $\text{Null}(W_{cls}^{\top})^{\perp}$, and the effect of the component in $\text{Null}(W_{cls}^{\top})$ will be dealt with using the null space reduction method (Sec. 4.3).

In order to create more discriminative OOD detectors based on the free energy score, we investigate cases where the difference in OOD and in-distribution free energy is minimal. We can state our problem formulation to find the case that minimizes the free energy difference:

$$\min_{\substack{\boldsymbol{\delta}: \|\boldsymbol{\delta}\| \ge d_b, \\ \boldsymbol{\delta} \in \text{Null}(\mathbf{W}_{cls}^{\top})^{\perp}}} |\mathcal{F}(\mathbf{v}) - \mathcal{F}(\mathbf{x})|$$

$$= \min_{\substack{\boldsymbol{\delta}: \|\boldsymbol{\delta}\| \ge d_b, \\ \boldsymbol{\delta} \in \text{Null}(\mathbf{W}_{cls}^{\top})^{\perp}}} \left| \log \frac{\sum_{k}^{K} \exp(f_k(h(\mathbf{x})))}{\sum_{k}^{K} \exp(f_k(h(\mathbf{x}) + \boldsymbol{\delta}))} \right|. \tag{10}$$

Whilst in Eq. (10) we set $\|\boldsymbol{\delta}\| \geq d_b$ instead of $\mathbb{E}\left[\|\boldsymbol{\delta}\|\right] \geq d_b$, in reality we are just interested in the case of non-zero $\boldsymbol{\delta}$ since otherwise the solution would be trivial. Whilst the solution to Eq. (10) may be challenging to obtain, we note the difference in free-energies tends to 0 if the value inside the $\log()$ function tends to 1. This is equivalent to making $f_k(h(\mathbf{x}))$ and $f_k(h(\mathbf{x}) + \boldsymbol{\delta})$ similar for all k. Therefore, considering that f_k is in the form of Eq. (5), our problem consists on finding the following proxy minimum:

$$\min_{\substack{\boldsymbol{\delta}: \|\boldsymbol{\delta}\| \geq d_{b}, \\ \boldsymbol{\delta} \in \text{Null}(\mathbf{W}_{cls}^{\top})^{\perp}}} \|\mathbf{W}_{cls}^{\top}(h(\mathbf{x}) + \boldsymbol{\delta}) - \mathbf{W}_{cls}^{\top}h(\mathbf{x})\| \\
= \min_{\substack{\boldsymbol{\delta}: \|\boldsymbol{\delta}\| \geq d_{b}, \\ \boldsymbol{\delta} \in \text{Null}(\mathbf{W}_{cls}^{\top})^{\perp}}} \|\mathbf{W}_{cls}^{\top} \boldsymbol{\delta}\|. \tag{11}$$

For the L^2 -norm in Eq. (11), we thus obtain:

$$\min_{\substack{\boldsymbol{\delta}: \|\boldsymbol{\delta}\|_2 \ge d_b, \\ \boldsymbol{\delta} \in \text{Null}(\mathbf{W}_{cls}^\top)^{\perp}}} \|\mathbf{W}_{cls}^\top \boldsymbol{\delta}\|_2 = d_b \sigma_{min}(\mathbf{W}_{cls}), \quad (12)$$

where $\sigma_{min}(W_{cls})$ is the least singular value of W_{cls} (see further mathematical formulation details in Supp. Mat.).

Subsequently, Eq. (12) holds for the case where δ is in the direction corresponding to the least singular value, such that the change in the free energy will be smaller than any other direction for δ (and considering $\delta \in \text{Null}(W_{cls}^{\top})^{\perp}$). We name this result (from Eq. (12)) the **Least Singular Value Vulnerabilities** (LSVV) of f. In our OOD context, it means that there could exist some outliers far from the inlier distribution, in terms of Eq. (6), with similar free energy scores because they may fall in the direction of the least singular value of W_{cls} . Again, this fundamentally challenges

the notion that free energy is an effective mechanism for OOD as free energy has been shown to be non-linear with respect to a given feature representation, h().

This analysis is itself inspired by the seminal adversarial attacks analysis of Simon-Gabriel *et al.* [37], where they instead maximize the change in the classifier response for small input perturbations. Whilst here we are modelling the opposite problem, (*i.e.*, the minimum change in the classifier for perturbations larger than a non-zero value), we could consider this analysis as an effective adversarial attack mechanism for the OOD domain.

In this section, we introduce our Free Energy Vulnerabil-

4.3. Null Space Reduction & Regularisation

ity Elimination for Robust OOD Detection (FEVER-OOD) framework, where we explore readily available methods to minimize the NSV (Sec. 4.1) and LSVV (Sec. 4.2) impact potential within free energy score based OOD approaches. **Null Space Reduction (NSR)**. For NSV, we propose to reduce the null space by adding an extra linear layer $g': \mathbb{R}^{d'} \to \mathbb{R}^r$, where we choose r < d' to reduce the size of the NSV (Fig. 3). We denote this method as r-null space reduction (r-NSR). Therefore, the new classifier becomes $f' = g \circ g' \circ h$ such that the feature representation of a sample is in \mathbb{R}^r and is given instead by $(g' \circ h)(\mathbf{x})$. Effectively, within an OOD context, we are promoting better discrimination between OOD and in-distribution instances.

Least Singular Value Regulariser (LSVR). To minimize the impact of LSVV, we maximise $\sigma_{min}(W_{cls})$ by adding an LSVR to the loss function \mathcal{L} of a baseline method:

$$\mathcal{L}_{LSV} := \mathcal{L} + \lambda_{LSV} \sigma_{min}^{-1}(\mathbf{W}_{cls}), \qquad (13)$$

where λ_{LSV} is a scalar hyperparameter that controls the contribution of the LSV regulariser. It is additionally noted that alternatively maximizing the LSV might also increase the rest of the singular values, resulting in more significant changes of energy in all directions. In the context of OOD detection, LSVR increases the discriminative capacity for OOD detection of baseline methods.

Condition Number (CN) Regulariser. Whilst the LSV regulariser will increase the change in energy for δ in the LSV direction, there is no constraint with regard to the distribution over all other directions. For this reason, we explore a Condition Number Regulariser (CNR):

$$\mathcal{L}_{CN} := \mathcal{L} + \lambda_{CN} \kappa(\mathbf{W}_{cls}), \qquad (14)$$

where $\kappa(W_{cls})$ is the condition number of the W_{cls} matrix, *i.e.*, the ratio of the greatest and least singular values. Intuitively, this will encourage equalized energy changes for displacements in all directions where we note that Eq. (14) similarly assumes use of the L^2 -norm as per Eq. (12). A different approach to the CNR is the orthogonal constraint

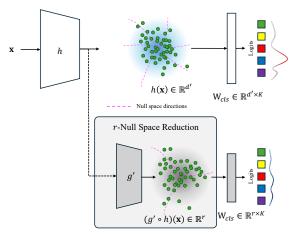


Figure 3. Null space reduction. We add an extra layer g' to create r-dimensional features, reducing the size of the null space.

 $\|W_{cls}W_{cls}^{\top}-I\|$. However, this method adds the additional constraint that the singular values must be close to one, which might be a stronger prior than the CNR, hence we opt for the latter. The gradients for the singular values in Eqs. (13) and (14) are detailed by Lewis and Sendov [26] (Proposition 6.2) and further discussed in the Supp. Mat.

5. Experimental Details

We study the impact of FEVER-OOD on free energy baseline methods (Sec. 5.1) across different standard datasets (Sec. 5.2). Implementation details are given in Sec. 5.3.

5.1. Baseline Methods and Evaluation Metrics

Three free energy baseline methods for image OOD detection that use the free energy score are tested: VOS [7], FFS [21] and Dream-OOD [8]. These baseline methods learn a small MLP $\psi: \mathbb{R} \to (0,1)$ that uses the free energy in Eq. (4) to predict an uncertainty score. Since OOD data is unavailable during training, these methods use synthetic outliers to train ψ . While VOS and FFS synthesize outliers in the feature space $h(\mathbf{x})$, Dream-OOD generates outliers in the pixel space using Stable Diffusion [34]. Additionally, VOS and FFS are also implemented as object detectors for object-level OOD detection, synthesizing outliers before the last layer of the classification head of a Faster RCNN [33].

We follow standard evaluation metrics, reporting the false positive rate for OOD detection at 95% true positive rate of in-distribution detection (FPR95) and the area under the receiver operating characteristic curve (AUROC). We also assess the effect of our proposed techniques into the main in-distribution task (accuracy for classification and MS-COCO [28] mean average precision (mAP) for object detection). FPR95 and AUROC metrics are reported using a single intersection-over-union threshold for object detection, corresponding to the one that maximises the F-1 score, as described by Harakeh and Waslander [13].

Table 1. CIFAR-10 Results (ID Acc. = in-distribution accuracy; Null Space Reduction (NSR) methods = our approach).

	EE	VER-OOD						OOD	Datasets						
Method	FE	VER-OOD	Text	tures	SH	VN	Place	es365	LS	UN	iSU	JN	A	vg	ID Acc
	r-NSR	Regularizer	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	•
VOS	-	-	50.05±5.70	86.79±1.28	39.15±10.52	91.73±2.88	40.88±1.75	89.54±0.69	8.22±1.02	98.36±0.20	30.01±4.44	94.31±0.84	33.66±2.21	92.15±0.59	94.83±0.16
	-	$\lambda_{LSV} = 1.0$	55.58±6.35	86.71±2.35	43.00±3.16	92.09±0.94	38.78±2.51	91.14±0.56	7.36±1.59	98.46±0.32	21.23±6.95	96.23±1.17	33.19±3.20	92.92±0.85	94.66±0.18
	-	$\lambda_{CN} = 0.1$	50.80±3.06	85.39±0.79	30.78±2.95	94.04±0.58	41.60±1.40	88.77±0.74	8.50±0.82	98.30±0.10	30.91±4.54	93.41±1.68	32.52±1.25	91.98±0.46	94.69±0.16
	96	$\lambda_{LSV} = 1.0$	40.86±4.83	92.12±1.05	41.92±16.11	93.20±2.61	35.69±2.29	92.61±0.57	4.95±1.49	98.93±0.24	17.68±5.26	97.04±0.85	28.22±4.18	94.78±0.85	94.74±0.17
	64	$\lambda_{LSV} = 1.0$	44.41±5.39	91.26±1.29	34.68±10.93	94.39±1.72	35.85±2.56	92.42±0.53	5.68±0.57	98.75±0.13	24.03±5.91	96.02±0.95	28.93±3.86	94.57±0.66	94.75±0.13
	32	$\lambda_{LSV} = 0.001$	46.53±3.77	89.67±1.09	27.84±9.47	95.29±1.08	37.33±1.63	91.77±0.39	5.65±0.77	98.82±0.11	24.09±6.77	95.68±1.35	28.29±3.33	94.25±0.55	94.68±0.07
	10	-	53.20±3.90	88.97±0.73	35.62±9.66	94.41±1.28	45.73±6.29	89.73±1.69	11.72±3.39	97.93±0.46	41.80±14.35	92.51±3.03	37.61±4.00	92.71±0.97	91.95±2.32
FFS	-	-	52.86±4.49	83.47±1.67	38.67±11.21	89.74±5.19	44.65±1.29	87.47±0.77	6.59±0.92	98.67±0.17	31.34±1.88	93.24±0.97	34.82±2.03	90.52±0.98	94.69±0.15
	-	$\lambda_{LSV} = 0.001$	50.74±3.98	84.93±0.75	32.25±12.16	92.97±3.60	42.99±2.30	88.30±1.10	5.76±1.23	98.82±0.27	28.16±6.45	94.18±1.98	31.98±3.10	91.84±1.28	94.73±0.12
	-	$\lambda_{CN} = 1.0$	50.08±3.86	84.92±1.85	30.91±6.19	92.77±2.33	45.69±2.59	87.16±0.75	6.22±0.65	98.73±0.11	26.60±3.64	94.80±0.64	31.90±2.51	91.67±0.94	94.85±0.20
	96	$\lambda_{LSV} = 1.0$	48.11±5.15	89.84±1.51	40.65±15.47	93.32±3.16	36.37±2.28	92.29 ± 0.60	5.22±1.35	98.89±0.18	24.84±10.08	95.82±1.68	31.04±5.05	94.03±1.06	94.71±0.08
	64	$\lambda_{LSV} = 1.0$	51.70±5.67	88.81±1.09	33.02±14.09	94.60±2.30	39.05±3.73	91.53±1.23	5.56±1.95	98.84±0.30	26.63±7.51	95.65±1.12	31.19±4.32	93.89±0.69	94.68±0.08
	32	-	46.75±3.49	89.61±1.40	31.77±8.73	94.44±1.35	41.51±3.38	90.72±1.02	4.93±1.11	99.04±0.16	28.92±11.23	94.49±2.94	30.78±3.70	93.66±0.95	94.79±0.18
	10	-	54.72±5.89	84.77±3.23	45.70±12.95	91.49±2.27	41.52±3.27	89.51±1.31	8.21±3.59	98.33±0.67	28.58±7.75	94.30±1.82	35.75±5.26	91.68±1.38	94.54±0.17

5.2. Datasets

We assess FEVER-OOD with standard datasets for both classification and object detection. For image-level OOD detection (i.e., image classification), we train VOS and FFS using the CIFAR-10 and CIFAR-100 [20] datasets as in-distribution while testing OOD detection in five nonoverlapping datasets: Textures [3], SVHN [30], Places365 [47], LSUN [45] and iSUN [11]. We also test Dream-OOD with the CIFAR-100 dataset as in-distribution data with the same OOD datasets. Additionally, we also train Dream-OOD with the Imagenet-100 dataset, a 100 classes partition of Imagenet [35], as in-distribution while testing OOD detection in four datasets: Textures [3], Places365 [47], iNaturalist [40] and SUN [42]. We use the PASCAL VOC [10] dataset as in-distribution for object-level OOD detection using VOS and FFS and test for OOD detection on the MS-COCO dataset [28] removing images containing objects with overlapping in-distribution categories [7].

5.3. Implementation details

We follow the established architectural choices of prior works. For image-level OOD detection with VOS and FFS, we use a WideResNet-40 [46] with a 128-dimensional feature space. We choose different NSR values ranging from the feature dim to the number of classes, gradually decreasing the nullity. For CIFAR-10, we evaluate the $\{96, 64, 32, 10\}$ -NSR, while for CIFAR-100 we assess {114, 100}-NSR. With respect to Dream-OOD models, we use a ResNet-34 [14] with 512-dimensional feature space, evaluating {256, 128, 100}-NSR for both CIFAR-100 and Imagenet-100. Similarly, we reduce the feature space of the classification head to 768, 512 and 265 dimensions for VOS and FFS object detection experiments, having an original 1,024-dimensional object-wise feature space (as per Faster RCNN [33]). With regards to the LSVR and CNR, we test with various loss weight values in all the architectures (1, 0.1, 0.01, and 0.001), to evaluate their impact on model performance (except for Imagenet-100, where we use $\lambda_{LSV} = 0.001$ and $\lambda_{CN} = 0.01$ based on CIFAR-100 experiments). We train all the models using the original

corresponding baseline settings. Details on the hyperparameters and the training regime for each model are given in the Supp. Mat. To obtain reliable comparisons we use deterministic learning via a fixed random seed for all experiments. We run all experiments 5 times and report mean and standard deviation for all metrics.

6. Results

We discuss the performance of FEVER-OOD against different free energy based OOD detection models in classification and detection. Tabs. 1 to 3 compare the use of FEVER-OOD with the corresponding baseline methods. We report different NSR as well as the best results obtained using λ_{LSV} (Eq. (13)) or λ_{CN} (Eq. (14)), and their corresponding value (we show both cases when no NSR is applied). Extensive ablations are available in the Supp. Mat.

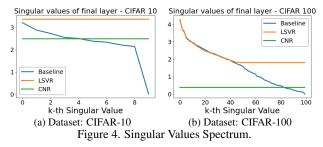
CIFAR-10. Tab. 1 shows the results of the VOS and FFS architectures with CIFAR-10 as in-distribution. In general, NSR and LSVR improve OOD detection for both VOS and FFS models. The best performance using the VOS method is achieved using a 96-NSR with LSVR, using a $\lambda_{LSV} =$ 1.0, where the average AUROC increases to 94.78 and the average FPR95 reduces to 28.22%, compared to an AUROC of 92.15 and 33.66% of the baseline VOS model without affecting the in-distribution accuracy. Similarly, the best FFS setting is achieved with a 96-NSR and $\lambda_{LSV} = 1.0$, resulting in 94.03 AUROC and 31.04% FPR95, compared to the baseline FFS model, with an AUROC of 90.52 and FPR95 of 34.82%, although the best FPR95 is achieved with 32-NSR and no singular value regularization, with an FPR95 of 30.78. In general, it is seen that a large NSR (i.e., 10-NSR) may decrease the AUROC and increase the FPR95. Since VOS and FFS are techniques that synthesize outliers in the feature space, a large reduction of the feature dimension might not allow for proper in-distribution understanding, impacting in the OOD training of these techniques. Additionally, it is also observed that LSVR yields better results than CNR, and a value for $\lambda_{LSV} = 1.0$ is adequate for none to moderate NSR, while smaller values for LSVR (or none) are better for large NSR. While LSVR increases the differ-

Table 2. CIFAR-100 Results (ID Acc. = in-distribution accuracy; Null Space Reduction (NSR) methods = our approach).

	EE	VER-OOD						OOD D	atasets						
Method	FE	VEK-OOD	Text	ures	SH	VN	Place	es365	LS	UN	iS	UN	A	vg	ID Acc
	r-NSR	Regularizer	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	-
VOS	-	-	81.24±2.11	76.01±0.80	76.09±6.51	83.18±3.59	80.53±1.46	76.25±0.78	37.86±4.06	93.21±0.68	79.34±1.60	76.43±1.44	71.01±1.23	81.02±0.40	76.04±0.22
	-	$\lambda_{LSV} = 0.1$	82.87±1.11	76.49±0.94	73.35±2.96	84.57±1.53	80.36±1.16	76.89±0.79	40.05±3.74	92.83±0.46	74.28±4.03	80.25±3.34	70.18±0.87	82.21±0.56	76.01±0.16
	-	$\lambda_{CN} = 0.01$	82.51±2.64	76.04±1.91	73.67±3.10	85.31±1.24	80.18±1.08	76.59±0.23	41.08±3.27	92.75±0.63	80.83±4.37	73.79±5.51	71.65±0.96	80.90±1.11	76.20±0.11
	114	$\lambda_{LSV} = 0.01$	80.02±2.75	78.73±1.83	83.45±2.59	82.07±1.36	78.41±0.96	77.71±0.93	28.90±3.61	95.11±0.58	72.07±9.07	80.55±4.70	68.57±2.28	82.83±0.91	75.72±0.16
	100	-	80.47±2.32	78.21±1.14	79.10±7.42	83.39±3.91	79.19±1.04	77.23±0.50	28.99±2.59	95.15±0.39	75.51±6.68	79.63±3.70	68.65±1.29	82.72±0.57	75.54±0.19
FFS	-	-	82.87±1.39	75.54±0.93	76.32±6.17	84.83±2.36	81.14±1.09	76.27±0.74	36.27±4.91	93.54±1.03	82.83±2.98	74.29±3.08	71.89±1.64	80.89±1.11	76.04±0.11
	-	$\lambda_{LSV} = 0.01$	80.95±1.34	76.53±0.70	83.12±5.59	81.61±2.92	80.19±0.84	76.58±0.49	32.93±4.05	94.20±0.51	79.05±5.16	77.28±3.23	71.25±2.11	81.24±0.72	76.27±0.28
	-	$\lambda_{CN} = 0.001$	80.27±2.76	76.78±1.53	78.57±7.32	82.57±2.95	80.40±1.09	76.40±0.53	32.91±4.90	94.06±1.02	80.71±7.90	74.49±5.57	70.57±2.41	80.86±0.88	76.05±0.16
	114	$\lambda_{LSV} = 0.001$	79.26±2.67	78.16±1.50	74.28±7.13	85.37±3.20	79.45±0.85	77.25±0.61	24.10±1.42	95.94±0.17	73.61±5.82	80.61±2.49	66.14±1.91	83.47±0.98	75.45±0.37
	100	-	77.69±2.97	78.62±1.02	77.84±9.62	83.40±3.52	80.41±0.72	76.58±0.35	21.91±0.95	96.25±0.11	79.60±6.06	75.79±5.17	67.49±2.03	82.13±0.85	75.48±0.28
Dream-OOD	-	-	62.20±1.02	83.84±0.38	73.05±1.92	84.56±0.21	77.95±1.97	79.43±0.17	39.90±2.01	92.87±0.44	1.70±0.11	99.58±0.04	50.96±1.44	88.06±0.60	75.61±0.19
	-	$\lambda_{LSV} = 0.01$	58.45±2.27	86.04±0.41	68.75 ±1.84	87.65±0.30	77.45±2.11	78.59±0.22	15.45±2.57	97.24±0.09	1.55±0.03	99.63±0.45	44.33±3.48	89.83±0.12	75.87±0.23
	-	$\lambda_{CN} = 0.001$	57.40±1.88	86.28±0.32	77.75±1.11	85.13±0.41	78.60±1.23	78.73±0.15	27.2±1.77	95.01±0.42	1.55±0.08	99.57±0.07	48.5±1.54	88.94±0.43	76.32±0.14
	256	-	60.00±3.21	85.42±0.79	67.50±2.47	85.84±0.66	75.90±1.10	79.57±0.43	19.85±1.05	96.74±0.67	1.00 ± 0.02	99.78±0.06	44.85±2.72	89.47±0.242	77.01±0.12
	128	$\lambda_{LSV} = 0.1$	56.45±2.39	87.73±1.01	67.45±1.12	87.53±0.44	78.45±2.46	77.24±0.61	29.60±1.73	94.81±0.40	1.95±0.10	99.5±0.10	46.78±2.72	89.36±0.83	76.21±0.35
	100	-	57.55±2.48	86.8±0.44	54.45±3.02	88.69±0.59	75.80±1.21	78.88±0.69	24.45±1.57	95.86±0.52	1.60±0.07	99.65±0.21	42.77±2.10	89.98±0.15	76.41±0.32

Table 3. ImageNet-100 Results (ID Acc. = in-distribution accuracy; Null Space Reduction (NSR) methods = our approach).

	FEVER-OOD -						OOD I	Datasets					
Method	1.17	VER-OOD	iNatu	ıralist	Place	es365	SU	JN	Text	tures	A	vg	ID Acc
	r-NSR	Regularizer	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	=
Dream-OOD	-	-	23.98±2.08	95.94±0.26	41.75±1.72	92.48±0.12	40.85±1.13	92.76±0.09	50.73±0.85	86.21±0.29	39.33±1.08	91.84±0.12	87.76±0.19
	LIDV		59.91±3.09	90.89±0.48	66.26±2.17	88.12±0.47	74.26±1.52	84.53±0.33	60.56±1.21	83.91±0.42	65.25±1.50	86.87±0.25	87.85±0.11
	LDV		59.71±3.53	90.97±0.70	65.01±1.90	88.39±0.45	73.93±1.58	84.69±0.49	60.51±1.46	84.01±0.51	64.79±1.69	87.01±0.45	87.77±0.13
	256	-	23.84±1.73	95.80±0.30	44.35±1.71	92.14±0.30	42.92±1.98	92.46±0.33	44.38±1.81	88.60±0.54	38.87±1.29	92.25±0.23	87.57±0.24
	128	$\lambda_{LSV} = 0.01$	23.46±2.54	95.93±0.36	43.37±1.47	92.19±0.22	42.42±1.60	92.44±0.29	41.86±1.09	89.48±0.27	37.78±1.45	92.51±0.22	87.60±0.11
	100	$\lambda_{LSV} = 0.01$	22.24±0.81	96.16 ±0.14	41.08±3.03	$92.59_{\pm 0.44}$	40.39±2.84	92.91±0.40	42.31±0.97	89.30±0.37	36.50 ± 1.67	92.74±0.21	87.42±0.15



ence in energy of outliers in or near the least singular vector direction, the CN regulariser makes equalized free energy changes for all directions. Since the latter effect might disable directions with smaller energy changes than others, it might also reduce the free energy change in the direction of the largest singular value. Fig. 4(a) shows the singular value spectrum of the baseline VOS model against the LSVR and CNR versions for the CIFAR-10 dataset. It is seen that the while both regularizers homogenize the singular values, the CNR also reduces the most significant singular value. Finally, our experiments show that VOS achieves better results than FFS in CIFAR-10 OOD detection.

CIFAR-100. Tab. 2 shows the results for VOS, FFS and Dream-OOD trained on the CIFAR-100 dataset as indistribution. The best models for VOS and FFS are achieved with 114-NSR and LSVR, with a 68.57% FPR95 (-2.44% VOS) and 82.83 (+1.81 VOS) AUROC for VOS-114-NSR and 66.14% FPR95 (-5.75% FFS) and 83.47 (+2.58 FFS) AUROC for FFS-114-NSR. However, despite these improvements, the performance of virtual outlier synthesis methods is usually poor for several in-distribution classes [44], hence the enhancement of these architectures is still challenging. Regarding Dream-OOD, it is noted that the best results are obtained by Dream-OOD-100-NSR, having an FPR95 of 42.77% (-8.19% Dream-OOD) and 89.98

AUROC (+1.9 Dream-OOD). Finally, for the three energy techniques (VOS, FFS and Dream-OOD), we observed that the model does not converge when using 100-NSR and the CNR (see Supp. Mat.), suggesting that the conditioning number penalization does not allow the model to learn the in-distribution task. Fig. 4(b) shows the singular value spectrum for the LSVR and CNR versions of the VOS model. Differently from the CIFAR-10 experiments, it is seen that LSVR keeps the most significant singular values similar to the baseline but homogenizes the least significant singular values, while the CNR keep all singular values at a low level, hence explaining why it fails for this dataset.

Imagenet-100. We show the results of Dream-OOD with Imagenet-100 as in-distribution in Tab. 3. Similar as with CIFAR-100, the best results are obtained with NSR100, effectively eliminating the null space of the last layer (since it becomes square and is not singular). Contrary to CIFAR-100, LSVR has a negative impact when used alone. Considering that we use the same pre-training scheme as Du et al. [8], adding LSVR and CNR on an already pretrained last linear layer might affect the already formed feature space. Hence, these regularisers benefit untrained NSR modules. The best model, Dream-OOD-100-NSR with LSVR, achieves an average 36.50% FPR95 and 92.74 AU-ROC, compared to the baseline 39.33% FPR95 and 91.84 AUROC, becoming the state-of-the-art for Imagenet-100. PASCAL VOC. We test FEVER-OOD techniques in object detection task, where the goal is to detect object-level OOD instances. Tab. 4 show the result for the baseline VOS and FFS, taking PASCAL VOC [10] as in-distribution dataset. For both tasks, we evaluate on two OOD datasets that contain subset of images from: MS-COCO [28] and OpenImages [22], following the original works [7, 21]. The bestperforming model for VOS is VOS-768-NSR with CNR,

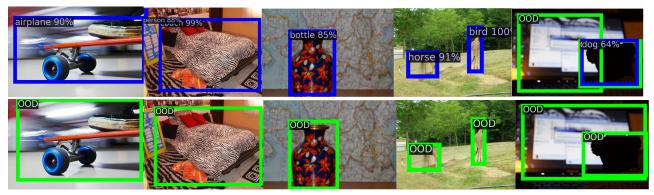


Figure 5. MS-COCO objects detected on OOD images by VOS baseline [7] (first row) and Fever-OOD (second row). **Blue**: OOD objects detected and mis-classified as being in-distribution. **Green**: the same OOD objects correctly detected as OOD by FEVER-OOD (ours).

Table 4. VOS results with PASCAL VOC as in-distribution (Null Space Reduction (NSR) methods = our approach).

	EE	VER-OC)D		OOD I	Datasets		
Method	FE	VEK-OC	ענ	MS-CO	CO	OpenIm	ages	mAP
	r-NSR	λ_{LSV}	λ_{CN}	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	
VOS	-	-	-	50.29	87.77	53.09	86.58	0.489
	-	0.001	-	49.96	88.10	52.26	85.80	0.489
	-	-	1	53.42	86.66	52.73	85.77	0.490
	768	-	-	48.94	87.94	52.34	86.33	0.489
	768	0.01	-	50.08	87.78	51.71	86.04	0.493
	768	-	0.01	47.47	88.15	49.36	86.32	0.491
	512	-	-	49.84	88.42	55.33	85.33	0.486
	512	0.001	-	49.26	88.39	54.32	85.82	0.489
	512	-	0.01	49.59	87.48	54.81	85.48	0.490
	256	-	-	47.88	88.49	52.41	86.39	0.486
	256	0.01	-	48.51	88.36	50.52	86.12	0.491
	256	-	0.001	49.1	88.27	51.47	86.08	0.489
FFS	-	-	-	50.77	87.18	53.78	85.34	0.487
	-	0.01	-	53.09	86.75	53.47	85.86	0.490
	-	-	0.01	50.36	87.65	51.19	85.98	0.485
	768	-	-	51.50	87.59	53.33	85.84	0.488
	768	0.01	-	47.42	88.36	52.46	86.40	0.489
	768	-	0.01	51.12	86.82	55.44	84.84	0.490
	512	-	-	46.93	88.82	53.89	86.28	0.491
	512	0.01	-	47.42	88.36	52.46	86.40	0.488
	512	-	0.01	51.42	87.05	54.98	84.55	0.490
	256	-	-	51.18	88.74	53.67	86.56	0.487
	256	0.01	-	47.93	88.04	47.93	84.95	0.489
	256	-	0.01	52.94	86.62	52.88	84.45	0.489

achieving average FPR95 scores of 47.47% and 49.36% on MS-COCO and OpenImages, respectively, an improvement of nearly 4% over the VOS baseline. For FFS, we achieve a minimum FPR95 of 46.93% with FFS-512-NSR model and 47.93% for the FFS-256-NSR model with the LSVR for both OOD datasets. Additionally, our approach generally delivers higher AUROC scores compared to the FFS baseline across both OOD datasets. Qualitative results are illustrated in Fig. 5, where we visualize the prediction on MS-COCO OOD images, using the baseline VOS (top) and the best Fever-OOD model, *i.e.*, VOS-768-NSR, with the PASCAL-VOC as the in-distribution dataset, showing that out framework outperforms baseline VOS in in detecting outlier objects with a significantly lower false positive rate.

Computational overhead. The computational overhead introduced by our method is minimal since we only add an extra linear layer. For instance, the ResNet-34 used in Dream-OOD takes 4.42 ± 1.15 ms/img and has 21.5M

params. Adding 256, 128, 100-NSR layers change the inference time to 3.91 ± 0.62 , 4.44 ± 1.17 , 4.13 ± 1.02 ms/img, with an extra 105k, 27k, 10k params, which is negligible compared with the total size of ResNet-34.

7. Conclusion

In this work, we present FEVER-OOD, a robust approach for addressing critical vulnerabilities found in existing energy-based OOD detection. Our method targets the Null Space Vulnerabilities (NSV), where in-distribution and OOD instances can produce similar free energy scores despite differing feature representations, and Least Singular Value Vulnerabilities (LSVV), where energy score similarities are influenced by the least singular vector of the classifier last linear layer. These vulnerabilities are especially problematic in high-dimensional feature spaces where the feature dimension exceeds the number of classes, impacting the effectiveness of OOD detection. To mitigate these issues, FEVER-OOD incorporates strategies such as reducing the null space through lower-dimensional feature spaces and introducing a Least Singular Value Regularizer to maximize the least singular value, enhancing the distinction between energy scores of different samples. Additionally, we propose a Condition Number Regularizer to promote uniform energy changes for feature-space displacements, fostering consistent energy variation and improving detection robustness. Our comprehensive evaluation on benchmark datasets, including applications to the Dream-OOD framework with ImageNet-100 as the ID dataset, demonstrates the significant effectiveness of FEVER-OOD. Specifically, our approach achieves a 10.13% reduction in the average false positive rate and a 1.6% increase in AUROC, setting a new state-of-the-art in OOD detection. Furthermore, our results highlight the generalization capability of FEVER-OOD across different detection architectures, showcasing its potential beyond conventional classification settings. Future extensions of FEVER-OOD could include applications to varied domains and integration with other OOD detection frameworks to further validate its versatility and performance in diverse machine learning contexts. This work provides valuable insights into enhancing OOD robustness and sets a foundation for more resilient free energy-based detection methods.

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FEVER-OOD: Free Energy Vulnerability Elimination for Robust Out-of-Distribution Detection

Supplementary Material

8. Mathematical Background

In this section we provide a detailed analysis of the mathematical formulation of our methods, as described in Sec. 4. Specifically, we analyze the constraints in Eqs. (10) and (11) and the solution to the minimization problem in Eq. (12).

8.1. Null Space Conditions

The singular values of a matrix $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ are defined as the square roots of the eigenvalues of the symmetric matrix $A^{\top}A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$. Alternatively, the singular vectors of A can be defined as follows:

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \underset{\|\mathbf{v}\|_2 = 1}{\operatorname{argmax}} \|A\mathbf{v}\|_2, \tag{15}$$

$$\mathbf{v}_{i} = \underset{\substack{\|\mathbf{v}\|_{2}=1\\\mathbf{v} \perp \operatorname{span}\{\mathbf{v}_{1}, \dots, \mathbf{v}_{i-1}\}}}{\operatorname{argmax}} \|A\mathbf{v}\|_{2}, \quad i \geq 2.$$
 (16)

The singular values of A are then given by:

$$\sigma_i(A) = ||A\mathbf{v}_i||_2. \tag{17}$$

The null space of A, denoted as $\operatorname{Null}(A)$, is defined as the span of unit vectors whose corresponding singular values are zero. From Eq. (16), there are n singular vectors (as there are n orthogonal vectors in \mathbb{R}^n). If $r = \operatorname{rank}(A)$, the rank-nullity theorem implies that the nullity, *i.e.*, the dimension of $\operatorname{Null}(A)$, is n-r. Therefore, from Eq. (16), the null space of A is given by:

$$Null(A) = span\{\mathbf{v}_{r+1}, ..., \mathbf{v}_n\}. \tag{18}$$

Moreover, if $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_r$ are the singular vectors corresponding to the non-zero singular values of A, $\sigma_1(A) \ge \dots \ge \sigma_r(A) > 0$ (assuming that $A \ne 0$), then the span of these vectors is orthogonal to the null space of A. Formally:

$$Null(A)^{\perp} = span\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_r\}. \tag{19}$$

Since $\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n$ are an orthonormal basis of \mathbb{R}^n , and the subspaces in Eqs. (18) and (19) are complementary, every feature vector $\boldsymbol{\nu} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ can be written as:

$$\boldsymbol{\nu} = \boldsymbol{\nu}_n + \boldsymbol{\nu}_a, \ \boldsymbol{\nu}_n \in \text{Null}(A), \ \boldsymbol{\nu}_a \in \text{Null}(A)^{\perp}.$$
 (20)

This decomposition indicates that every vector $\boldsymbol{\nu} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ consists of a component $\boldsymbol{\nu}_n$ in the null space of A and a component $\boldsymbol{\nu}_a$ orthogonal to $\operatorname{Null}(A)$. This makes the condition $\boldsymbol{\delta} \in \operatorname{Null}(\mathbf{W}_{cls}^{\top})^{\perp}$ in Eqs. (10) to (12) necessary to avoid a trivial solution to the minimization problem. For instance,

if this condition were not enforced, then the solution would be zero, corresponding to any $\delta \in \operatorname{Null}(W_{cls}^{\top})$. If we only enforced $\delta \notin \operatorname{Null}(W_{cls}^{\top})$, then the minimum would not exist but the infimum would be zero:

$$\inf_{\substack{\boldsymbol{\delta}: \|\boldsymbol{\delta}\| \geq d_b, \\ \boldsymbol{\delta} \notin \text{Null}(\mathbf{W}_{cls}^\top)}} \|\mathbf{W}_{cls}^\top \boldsymbol{\delta}\| = 0.$$
 (21)

Eq. (21) holds because δ can be decomposed into components $\delta_n \in \operatorname{Null}(A)$ and $\delta_a \in \operatorname{Null}(A)^{\perp}$, where δ_n can be arbitrarily larger than δ_a , making $\|\mathbf{W}_{cls}^{\top} \delta\|$ arbitrarily small (but not zero).

8.2. Least Singular Value Solution

From Eqs. (16) and (19), it follows that:

$$\min_{\substack{\|\mathbf{v}\|_2 = 1\\ \mathbf{v} \in \text{Null}(A)^{\perp}}} \|A\mathbf{v}\|_2 = \sigma_r(A) =: \sigma_{min}(A).$$
 (22)

This equation highlights that the smallest non-zero singular value of A corresponds to the minimum norm of $A\mathbf{v}$ over all unit vectors orthogonal to $\mathrm{Null}(A)$.

The singular value decomposition (SVD) encodes information about the singular values and singular vectors of a given matrix in a structured way. Namely, any matrix $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ can be factorized as follows:

$$A = U\Sigma V^{\top}, \tag{23}$$

where:

- $\Sigma \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ is a diagonal rectangular matrix whose entries are the singular values of A in descending order;
- $U \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ and $V \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ are orthogonal matrices, whose columns correspond to the left and right singular vectors of A, respectively.

In particular, the SVD of A^{\top} is given by:

$$A^{\top} = V \Sigma^{\top} U^{\top} \,, \tag{24}$$

which implies that A and A^{\top} have the same non-zero singular values. Combining this with Equation (22), we get

$$\min_{\substack{\|\mathbf{v}\|_2 = 1\\ \mathbf{v} \in \text{Null}(A^\top)^{\perp}}} \|A^\top \mathbf{v}\|_2 = \sigma_{min}(A), \qquad (25)$$

which justifies Equation (12).

8.3. Singular Value Gradients

Lewis and Sendov [26] demonstrate that for a convex and absolutely symmetric function $f: \mathbb{R} \to (-\infty, +\infty]$, the gradient of the corresponding function $f \circ \sigma$ is differentiable at the matrix X if and only if f is differentiable at $\sigma(X)$, where $\sigma(X)$ are the singular values of X. The gradient is given by:

$$\nabla (f \circ \sigma)(X) = U \operatorname{Diag} \left(\nabla f \left(\sigma \left(X \right) \right) \right) V^{\top}, \tag{26}$$

where $X = U \mathrm{Diag}(X) V^{\top}$. If $(f_i \circ \sigma)(C) = \mathbf{s}_i^{\top} \sigma(X)$ is a function that selects the *i*-th singular value, such that $(\mathbf{s}_i)_k = \delta_{ik}$, where δ_{ik} is the Kronecker delta, then $\nabla f(\sigma(X)) = \mathbf{s}_i$. Therefore, the gradient of the *i*-th singular value is:

$$\nabla \sigma_i(X) = \mathbf{u}_i \mathbf{v}_i^{\top}, \tag{27}$$

where \mathbf{u}_i and \mathbf{v}_i are the left and right singular vectors corresponding to the *i*-th singular value $\sigma_i(X)$. Furthermore, if the singular values are ordered, then $\sigma_{max} = \sigma(X)_1$ and $\sigma_{min} = \sigma(X)_r$, where r is the rank of X, hence:

$$\nabla \sigma_{min}(X) = \mathbf{u}_{min} \mathbf{v}_{min}^{\top} \tag{28}$$

$$\nabla \sigma_{max}(X) = \mathbf{u}_{max} \mathbf{v}_{max}^{\top}. \tag{29}$$

Combining Eq. (28) into the LSV and CN regularizers (Eqs. (13) and (14)), we obtain the gradients:

$$\nabla_{W_{cls}}(\sigma_{min}^{-1}) = -\sigma_{min}^{-2} \mathbf{u}_{min} \mathbf{v}_{min}^{\top}, \qquad (30)$$

$$\nabla_{W_{cls}}(\kappa) = (\sigma_{min} \mathbf{u}_{max} \mathbf{v}_{max}^{\top} - \sigma_{max} \mathbf{u}_{min} \mathbf{v}_{min}^{\top}) / \sigma_{min}^{2}. \qquad (31)$$

9. Training Regime

We follow the original training regime for each baseline method and their corresponding FEVER-OOD variants.

VOS [7]: we train all our VOS for classification models for 100 epochs with a batch size of 128 32×32 images (CIFAR-10 and CIFAR-100 [20] datasets). Outlier synthesis started in epoch 40 in all experiments. Following Du et al. [7], we sample 10,000 instances per category in the feature space and choose the instance with the least log probability as the outlier. We use an initial learning rate of 0.1 with cosine annealing and stochastic gradient descent (SGD) with 5×10^{-4} weight decay and 0.9 momentum for all experiments. A loss weight of 0.1 is used for the uncertainty loss. With regards to VOS for detection models, we follow the same outlier synthesis scheme as in classification. We use a batch size of 16 images with varying minimum width from 480 to 800 pixels, and train for 18,000 iterations, corresponding to around 17.4 epochs for the PAS-CAL VOC [10] dataset. An initial learning rate of 0.02 is used for all VOS detection models, decaying by a factor of 10 after 12,000 epochs and again after 16,000 epochs. Similarly to classification, loss weight of 0.1 us used for the uncertainty loss. All VOS training was carried out using a single GPU per experiment. VOS classification models were trained on NVIDIA GeForce RTX 2080 Ti GPUs, while VOS detection models were trained on NVIDIA RTX A6000 GPUs.

FFS [21]: FFS models follow a similar training regime as VOS models. The only difference for FFS models is that the outliers are obtained as the least likely out of 200 samples from the normalizing flow feature space, following Kumar *et al.* [21]. We use the same 0.1 loss weight for the uncertainty loss as in VOS, and 1×10^{-4} loss weight for the normalizing flow loss, for both classification and detection models. Additionally, we implement FFS for classification since the original implementation is only for object classification.

Dream-OOD [8]: we train Dream-OOD in CIFAR-100 for 100 epochs with a batch size of 160 in-distribution images and 160 OOD images (for a combined 320 epochs per batch). We use SGD with an initial learning rate of 0.1, cosine annealing, 5×10^{-4} weight decay and 0.9 momentum. Regarding Imagenet-100, we use a ResNet-34 [14] that is pretrained solely on image classification only for 100 epochs. We train for OOD detection for 20 further epochs, using a batch size of 20 in-distribution and 20 OOD images, initial learning rate of 0.001, 5×10^{-4} weight decay and 0.9 momentum. Following Du et al. [8], we use an energy loss weight of 2.5 for CIFAR-100 experiments and 1.0 for Imagenet-100 experiments. Dream-OOD for CIFAR-10 models were trained with single NVIDIA GeForce RTX 2080 Ti GPU while the Imagenet-100 models were trained with single NVIDIA TESLA v100 GPUs. We use the ResNet-34 pretrained model for Imagenet-100 and the generated outliers in the pixel space for both CIfAR-100 and Imagenet-100 provided by Du et al. [8] at https:// github.com/deeplearning-wisc/dream-ood.

10. Null Space Projection

Figs. 6 and 7 show the feature projections of VOS and FEVER-OOD VOS models using UMAP and t-SNE projections, respectively. Both models are for CIFAR-10 as indistribution data, with the best model of FEVER-OOD VOS being shown, corresponding to an 96-NSR and $\lambda_{LSV}=1.0$ (Tab. 1). Specifically, Figs. 6a and 7a show the projection of in-distribution vs. OOD examples. The projections of the feature space of both methods show that the OOD samples are pushed to different regions outside, with defined clusters for in-distribution classes (colored according to their ground-truth class). Nonetheless, the free energy

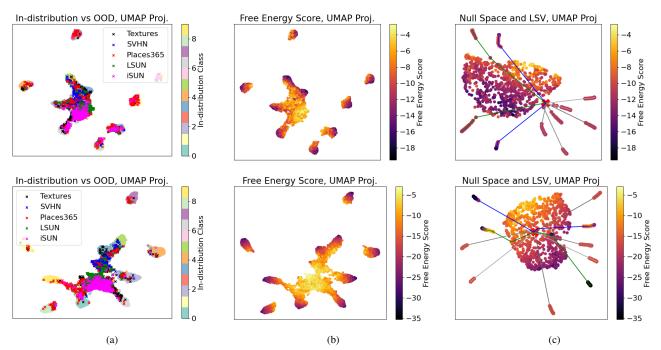


Figure 6. Feature Space UMAP Projection for models trained on CIFAR-10. Top row corresponds to the VOS [7] model while the bottom shows the FEVER-OOD VOS (Ours) projections. (a) In-distribution vs OOD feature space projection, where × markers represent data from OOD datasets, (b) Free Energy visualization of the feature space, and (c) different important directions, including Null Space directions, the LSV direction and a random direction.

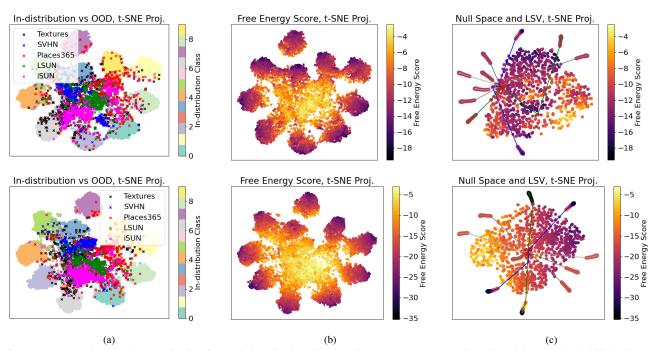
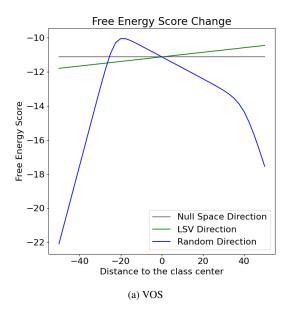


Figure 7. Feature Space t-SNE Projection for models trained on CIFAR-10. Top row corresponds to the VOS [7] model while the bottom shows the FEVER-OOD VOS (Ours) projections. (a) In-distribution vs OOD feature space projection, where × markers represent data from OOD datasets, (b) Free Energy visualization of the feature space, and (c) different important directions, including Null Space directions, the LSV direction and a random direction.



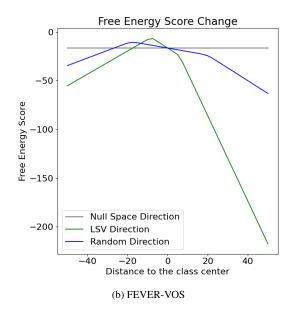
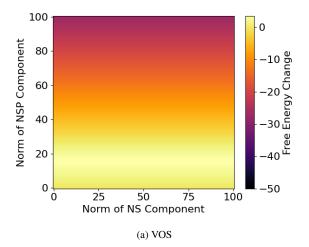


Figure 8. Free energy change by its distance to the centroid of the feature vectors of an in-distribution category along different directions. (a) VOS vs. (b) FEVER-OOD VOS.



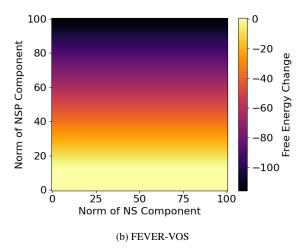


Figure 9. Free energy change for varying the contribution of the Null Space (NS) component and the Null Space Perpendicular (NSP) component. (a) VOS vs. (b) FEVER-OOD VOS.

score for these samples shown in Figs. 6b and 7b exhibits a more uniform distribution of the free energy for OOD samples when using FEVER-OOD, providing a visualization of why our technique works better. Additionally, the different scales of the energy values between both models indicates a higher separability between in-distribution and OOD. Finally, Figs. 6c and 7c show the feature distribution of the class 0 and some virtually generated features along some directions. Specifically, we generate features away from the centroid of the in-distribution feature vectors along three null space directions (gray), the LSV direction (green) and a random direction (blue). As described in Sec. 4.1,

the energy of the features in the null space direction does not change, which is reflected in Figs. 6c and 7c, where all the null space features have the same energy. Additionally, Sec. 4.2 shows that the direction with least change in energy corresponds to the LSV direction. In this sense, because our FEVER-OOD VOS (Figs. 6c and 7c) uses the LSVR, the energy plots show greater energy variation in the LSV direction (green line) compared to the baseline VOS.

Fig. 8 shows the change in energy across these directions with respect to the distance to the in-distribution centre, where it is seen that the change in energy in the LSV direction is significantly larger with FEVER-OOD. Finally, with

Table 5. CIFAR-10 Results (ID Acc. = in-distribution accuracy; Null Space Reduction (NSR) methods = our approach).

FEVER-OOD GOD Datasets Method Textures SHVN Places365 LSUN iSUN Avg																
Method	112	V LIK-OC	<i>,</i> D	Text	tures	SH	VN	Place	es365	LS	UN	iS	UN	A	vg	ID Acc
	r-NSR	λ_{LSV}	λ_{CN}	FPR95	AUROC	-										
VOS	-	-	-	50.05±5.70	86.79±1.28	39.15±10.52	91.73±2.88	40.88±1.75	89.54±0.69	8.22±1.02	98.36±0.20	30.01±4.44	94.31±0.84	33.66±2.21	92.15±0.59	94.83±0.16
	-	1.0	-	55.58±6.35	86.71±2.35	43.00±3.16	92.09±0.94	38.78±2.51	91.14±0.56	7.36±1.59	98.46±0.32	21.23±6.95	96.23±1.17	33.19±3.20	92.92±0.85	94.66±0.18
	-	-	0.1	50.80±3.06	85.39±0.79	30.78±2.95	94.04±0.58	41.60±1.40	88.77±0.74	8.50±0.82	98.30±0.10	30.91±4.54	93.41±1.68	32.52±1.25	91.98±0.46	94.69±0.16
	96	-	-	50.27±2.32	89.42±0.49	36.25±14.04	93.93±2.00	39.51±1.68	91.42±0.52	6.98±0.91	98.63±0.18	22.95±7.32	96.02±1.32	31.19±3.21	93.89±0.47	94.69±0.16
	96	1.0	-	40.86±4.83	92.12±1.05	41.92±16.11	93.20±2.61	35.69±2.29	92.61±0.57	4.95±1.49	98.93±0.24	17.68±5.26	97.04±0.85	28.22±4.18	94.78±0.85	94.74±0.17
	96	-	0.1	43.60±3.32	90.86±0.71	48.71±11.23	91.99±1.95	38.47±1.36	91.34±0.54	5.90±1.66	98.76±0.26	18.27±5.40	96.81±0.83	30.99±3.47	93.95±0.56	94.65±0.12
	64	-	-	46.97±1.35	89.57±0.64	37.79±6.83	93.45±1.00	36.70±1.51	91.84±0.50	6.60±0.91	98.66±0.14	22.29±3.18	96.00±0.68	30.07±1.71	93.91±0.38	94.76±0.07
	64	1.0	-	44.41±5.39	91.26±1.29	34.68±10.93	94.39±1.72	35.85±2.56	92.42±0.53	5.68±0.57	98.75±0.13	24.03±5.91	96.02±0.95	28.93±3.86	94.57±0.66	94.75±0.13
	64	-	0.001	48.54±4.50	89.40±1.38	45.51±9.64	91.41±2.42	38.34±1.74	91.39±0.49	6.99±0.87	98.64±0.13	21.29±4.28	96.28±0.72	32.13±3.01	93.42±0.74	94.78±0.10
	32	-	-	43.89±3.14	90.66±0.81	50.86±10.43	91.48±1.74	37.95±0.95	91.73±0.43	5.60±0.74	98.84±0.12	24.57±6.02	95.55±1.33	32.57±2.09	93.65±0.60	94.75±0.14
	32	0.001	-	46.53±3.77	89.67±1.09	27.84±9.47	95.29±1.08	37.33±1.63	91.77±0.39	5.65±0.77	98.82±0.11	24.09±6.77	95.68±1.35	28.29±3.33	94.25±0.55	94.68±0.07
	32	-	0.1	48.25±5.47	89.32±1.39	25.31±2.15	95.71±0.41	39.49±2.75	91.23±0.83	7.09±1.37	98.63±0.24	26.50±7.71	95.00±2.19	29.33±1.29	93.98±0.44	94.84±0.17
	10	-	-	53.20±3.90	88.97±0.73	35.62±9.66	94.41±1.28	45.73±6.29	89.73±1.69	11.72±3.39	97.93±0.46	41.80±14.35	92.51±3.03	37.61±4.00	92.71±0.97	91.95±2.32
	10	0.01	-	72.61±22.80	72.98±18.81	76.83±24.26	73.13±19.16	72.09±24.70	70.86±17.48	49.57±41.32	78.19±23.02	59.87±32.88	76.66±21.76	66.19±28.10	74.37±19.94	58.10±39.34
	10	-	0.001	67.02±17.39	80.09±15.10	58.11±24.43	83.56±16.90	58.03±21.22	81.80±15.94	34.06±33.25	87.46±18.75	56.56±24.29	83.65±17.01	54.76±22.82	83.31±16.67	74.13±32.08
FFS	-	-	-	52.86±4.49	83.47±1.67	38.67±11.21	89.74±5.19	44.65±1.29	87.47±0.77	6.59±0.92	98.67±0.17	31.34±1.88	93.24±0.97	34.82±2.03	90.52±0.98	94.69±0.15
	-	0.001		50.74±3.98	84.93±0.75	32.25±12.16	92.97±3.60	42.99±2.30	88.30±1.10	5.76±1.23	98.82±0.27	28.16±6.45	94.18±1.98	31.98±3.10	91.84±1.28	94.73±0.12
	-	-	1.0	50.08±3.86	84.92±1.85	30.91±6.19	92.77±2.33	45.69±2.59	87.16±0.75	6.22±0.65	98.73±0.11	26.60±3.64	94.80±0.64	31.90±2.51	91.67±0.94	94.85±0.20
	96	-	-	48.67±2.88	88.70±0.48	40.64±19.36	89.89±9.15	41.38±1.20	90.22±0.88	4.84±0.81	99.02±0.13	27.30±6.08	94.99±1.18	32.57±4.52	92.56±2.03	94.71±0.13
	96	1.0	-	48.11±5.15	89.84±1.51	40.65±15.47	93.32±3.16	36.37±2.28	92.29±0.60	5.22±1.35	98.89±0.18	24.84±10.08	95.82±1.68	31.04±5.05	94.03±1.06	94.71±0.08
	96	-	0.001	47.24±2.61	89.51±0.88	39.25±10.20	93.84±1.33	40.44±3.32	90.83±0.97	4.44±0.81	99.08±0.12	25.27±6.08	95.71±0.98	31.33±3.13	93.80±0.60	94.84±0.14
	64	-	-	45.03±2.88	89.96±1.01	37.96±2.68	93.18±1.53	41.70±1.51	90.49±0.57	4.64±0.30	99.03±0.04	22.78±5.67	96.02±0.97	30.42±2.09	93.73±0.69	94.82±0.07
	64	1.0	-	51.70±5.67	88.81±1.09	33.02±14.09	94.60±2.30	39.05±3.73	91.53±1.23	5.56±1.95	98.84±0.30	26.63±7.51	95.65±1.12	31.19±4.32	93.89±0.69	94.68±0.08
	64	-	0.001	47.16±6.00	88.88±2.08	25.18±9.52	95.65±1.62	43.52±2.75	89.96±0.67	5.01±0.84	99.03±0.13	28.45±8.77	94.79±1.71	29.86±3.34	93.66±0.79	94.79±0.19
	32	-	-	46.75±3.49	89.61±1.40	31.77±8.73	94.44±1.35	41.51±3.38	90.72±1.02	4.93±1.11	99.04±0.16	28.92±11.23	94.49±2.94	30.78±3.70	93.66±0.95	94.79±0.18
	32	0.001	-	49.79±3.05	88.29±0.93	31.60±16.07	94.14±3.53	41.25±1.84	90.58±0.70	5.00±1.28	98.99±0.19	28.24±6.75	95.06±1.22	31.18±5.21	93.41±1.03	94.74±0.17
	32	-	0.01	51.83±5.63	87.07±1.91	33.13±6.68	94.35±1.40	46.81±2.95	88.85±1.02	5.37±1.64	98.95±0.28	31.78±8.93	94.56±1.52	33.78±3.89	92.75±1.01	94.70±0.19
	10	-	-	54.72±5.89	84.77±3.23	45.70±12.95	91.49±2.27	41.52±3.27	89.51±1.31	8.21±3.59	98.33±0.67	28.58±7.75	94.30±1.82	35.75±5.26	91.68±1.38	94.54±0.17
	10	0.001	-	62.04±19.73	79.12±14.68	55.11±27.80	81.97±16.88	54.23±23.47	81.49±15.84	26.86±36.64	88.65±19.33	49.99±28.02	84.06±17.28	49.65±25.60	83.06±16.58	77.76±33.88
	10	-	0.001	66.08±18.34	75.24±13.01	62.20±29.49	80.75±16.21	56.53±22.11	79.83±15.02	31.00±34.71	87.73±18.88	51.68±24.86	83.40±16.74	53.50±24.12	81.39±15.82	77.62±33.81

regards to the component decomposition in Eq. (20), Fig. 9 shows the energy change with respect to an in-distribution feature vector when moving in directions with varying contribution of the components of the null space and perpendicular to the null space. Since the null space component does not change the free energy score, all the changes are in the vertical direction, showing a greater change when using FEVER-OOD vs. the baseline methods.

11. Ablation Studies

Tabs. 5 to 7 show more extensive results of different combinations of NSR, LSVR and CNR in the FEVER-OOD framework. The best values for λ_{LSV} and λ_{CN} are reported. In general, it is observed that using LSVR improves the detection of the baseline and NSR versions, while CNR usually decreases the AUROC. It is also seen that NSR also increases AUROC and decreases FPR95. Nonetheless, excessive NSR in feature-outlier synthesis methods(e.g., VOS using 10-NSR for CIFAR-10) can negatively impact OOD detection performance. On the other hand, Dream-OOD models achieve better results with significant NSR, although LSVR and CNR seem to only be beneficial for Imagenet-100.

Figs. 10 to 14 show the ablation studies of varying λ_{LSV} and λ_{CN} in Eqs. (13) and (14) for different classification methods and in-distribution datasets. Fig. 10 shows the results for FEVER-OOD VOS using CIFAR-10 as indistribution, where values corresponding to a $\lambda_{\{LSV,CN\}}=0$ refer to no LSV or CN regularisation. In general, LSV regularisation gives better results than CN regularisation. It

is observed that larger values of λ_{LSV} leads to better performance for none or few NSR (VOS, VOS-96-NSR and VOS-64-NSR). The same trend is observed for FEVER-OOD FFS in Fig. 11. It is also observed that the models become unstable when using a large NSR, where the extreme case of {VOS,FFS}-10-NSR fails for both regularizer at relative small loss weights. This effect could be caused because regualrizing the least singular value (either for LSVR or CNR) affects all the directions of the feature space since there is no null space. This causes makes the model not able to learn the in-distribution task, failing also for OOD detection. Additionally, all NSR models fail for $\lambda_{CN}=1.0$.

FEVER-OOD VOS and FFS ablations for the CIFAR-100 as in-distribution are shown in Figs. 12 and 13. Similar as with CIFAR-10, LSV regularisation is more stable and leads to better results than CN regularisation. In both OOD models (VOS and FFS), it is observed that the best results are achieved with 114-NSR and an intermediate value for λ_{LSV} . These results indicate that for OOD models based in outlier generation in the feature space, some reduction of the null space and a moderate regularizer is benefical. However, the complete elimination of the null space and LSV (or CN) regularization might impose a huge prior in the last layer, making it difficult to learn the in-distribution task. Finally, Fig. 14 shows the ablations for FEVER-OOD Dream-OOD with CIFAR-100 as in-distribution. Here it is observed that NSR by itself leads to better results, suggesting that there might be a significant portion of generated outliers in with large components in the null space

Table 6. CIFAR-100 Results (ID Acc. = in-distribution accuracy; Null Space Reduction (NSR) methods = our approach).

	EE	VER-OC)D						OOD	Datasets						
Method	PE	VEK-OC	עני	Tex	tures	SH	VN	Plac	es365	LS	UN	iS	UN	A	vg	ID Acc
	r-NSR	λ_{LSV}	λ_{CN}	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	-
VOS	-	-	-	81.24±2.11	76.01±0.80	76.09±6.51	83.18±3.59	80.53±1.46	76.25±0.78	37.86±4.06	93.21±0.68	79.34±1.60	76.43±1.44	71.01±1.23	81.02±0.40	76.04±0.22
	-	0.1	-	82.87±1.11	76.49±0.94	73.35±2.96	84.57±1.53	80.36±1.16	76.89±0.79	40.05±3.74	92.83±0.46	74.28±4.03	80.25±3.34	70.18±0.87	82.21±0.56	76.01±0.16
	-	-	0.01	82.51±2.64	76.04±1.91	73.67±3.10	85.31±1.24	80.18±1.08	76.59±0.23	41.08±3.27	92.75±0.63	80.83±4.37	73.79±5.51	71.65±0.96	80.90±1.11	76.20±0.11
	114	-	-	80.63±0.96	79.06±1.06	81.92±7.49	83.25±4.14	80.23±0.69	77.02±0.34	28.61±1.69	95.20±0.31	76.87±6.24	79.18±3.79	69.65±2.94	82.74±1.65	75.40±0.31
	114	0.01	-	80.02±2.75	78.73±1.83	83.45±2.59	82.07±1.36	78.41±0.96	77.71±0.93	28.90±3.61	95.11±0.58	72.07±9.07	80.55±4.70	68.57±2.28	82.83 ± 0.91	75.72±0.16
	114	-	0.001	79.37±1.87	79.19±1.03	86.96±1.93	79.25±2.15	78.20±0.48	77.91±0.40	26.05±2.38	95.70±0.34	72.95±4.35	81.12±2.45	68.71±1.18	82.63±0.83	75.44 ± 0.20
	100	-	-	80.47±2.32	78.21±1.14	79.10±7.42	83.39±3.91	79.19±1.04	77.23±0.50	28.99±2.59	95.15±0.39	75.51±6.68	79.63±3.70	68.65±1.29	82.72±0.57	75.54±0.19
	100	0.001	-	82.60±8.93	72.91±11.54	88.71±7.23	72.19±11.75	82.94±8.56	71.84±10.94	43.40±28.32	86.02±18.01	81.55±9.90	72.74±11.58	75.84±12.12	75.14±12.58	60.57±29.78
	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
FFS	-	-	-	82.87±1.39	75.54±0.93	76.32±6.17	84.83±2.36	81.14±1.09	76.27±0.74	36.27±4.91	93.54±1.03	82.83±2.98	74.29±3.08	71.89±1.64	80.89±1.11	76.04±0.11
	-	0.01	-	80.95±1.34	76.53±0.70	83.12±5.59	81.61±2.92	80.19±0.84	76.58±0.49	32.93±4.05	94.20±0.51	79.05±5.16	77.28±3.23	71.25±2.11	81.24±0.72	76.27±0.28
	-	-	0.001	80.27±2.76	76.78±1.53	78.57±7.32	82.57±2.95	80.40±1.09	76.40±0.53	32.91±4.90	94.06±1.02	80.71±7.90	74.49±5.57	70.57±2.41	80.86±0.88	76.05±0.16
	114	-	-	80.99±1.36	78.17±0.83	83.70±7.11	80.78±5.09	80.24±0.79	77.02±0.45	25.36±2.40	95.73±0.40	76.10±6.85	79.87±3.14	69.28±1.95	82.31±1.27	75.60±0.23
	114	0.001	-	79.26±2.67	78.16±1.50	74.28 ±7.13	85.37±3.20	79.45±0.85	77.25±0.61	24.10±1.42	95.94±0.17	73.61±5.82	80.61±2.49	66.14±1.91	83.47±0.98	75.45±0.37
	114	-	0.001	81.77±1.81	76.87±1.76	82.61±7.99	78.78±6.21	80.14±1.05	77.08±0.82	26.15±1.91	95.52±0.27	75.69±7.73	78.84±3.69	69.27±1.69	81.42±0.96	75.14±0.25
	100	-	-	77.69±2.97	78.62±1.02	77.84±9.62	83.40±3.52	80.41±0.72	76.58±0.35	21.91±0.95	96.25±0.11	79.60±6.06	75.79±5.17	67.49±2.03	82.13±0.85	75.48±0.28
	100	0.001	-	84.73±7.80	70.68 ± 10.41	86.40±7.94	74.77±12.47	83.15±8.50	71.57±10.79	39.78±30.19	86.59±18.30	82.75±8.98	72.08±11.35	75.36±12.36	75.14±12.57	60.52±29.76
	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dream-OOD	-	-	-	62.20±1.02	83.84±0.38	73.05±1.92	84.56±0.21	77.95±1.97	79.43±0.17	39.90±2.01	92.87±0.44	1.70±0.11	99.58±0.04	50.96±1.44	88.06±0.60	75.61±0.19
	-	0.01	-	58.45±2.27	86.04±0.41	68.75 ±1.84	87.65±0.30	77.45±2.11	78.59±0.22	15.45±2.57	97.24±0.09	1.55±0.03	99.63±0.45	44.33±3.48	89.83±0.12	75.87±0.23
	-	-	0.001	57.4±1.88	86.28±0.32	77.75±1.11	85.13±0.41	78.6±1.23	78.73±0.15	27.2±1.77	95.01±0.42	1.55±0.08	99.57±0.07	48.5±1.54	88.94±0.43	76.32±0.14
	256	-	-	60.00±3.21	85.42±0.79	67.50±2.47	85.84±0.66	75.90±1.10	79.57±0.43	19.85±1.05	96.74±0.67	1.00 ± 0.02	99.78±0.06	44.85±2.72	89.47±0.242	77.01±0.12
	256	0.001	-	54.25±2.13	86.18±0.86	82.60±2.24	81.70±0.91	71.20±1.33	81.23±0.61	23.45±1.31	95.87±0.41	1.05±0.02	99.69±0.05	46.51±0.99	88.93±0.14	76.40±0.30
	256	-	1	60.05±2.56	84.52±0.11	61.75±2.03	88.30±0.40	78.15±2.72	76.60±0.82	34.80±1.09	93.18±0.39	1.50±0.14	99.69±0.10	47.25±1.65	88.46±0.68	77.49±0.15
	128	-	-	52.55 ±1.95	87.44±0.24	73.95±1.46	80.05±0.53	71.9±2.48	81.17±0.23	17.7±0.91	97.07±0.13	1.3±0.05	99.73±0.16	43.48±2.22	89.09±0.67	76.72±1.21
	128	0.1	-	56.45±2.39	87.73±1.01	67.45±1.12	87.53±0.44	78.45±2.46	77.24±0.61	29.6±1.73	94.81±0.40	1.95±0.10	99.5±0.10	46.78±2.72	89.36±0.83	76.21±0.35
	128	-	0.01	56.05±2.38	86.35±0.79	83.1±1.95	80.75±0.64	75.95±2.53	79.81±0.37	23.5±0.98	95.66±0.30	1.45±0.12	99.65±0.02	48.01±1.54	88.44±0.55	76.35±0.27
	100	-	-	57.55±2.48	86.8±0.44	54.45±3.02	88.69±0.59	75.8±1.21	78.88±0.69	24.45±1.57	95.86±0.52	1.6±0.07	99.65±0.21	42.77±2.10	89.98±0.15	76.41±0.32
	100	0.001	-	82.6±4.73	62.38±2.23	90.9±3.33	60.9±1.52	84.4±3.72	69.39±2.27	67.05±1.30	72.8±1.90	5.8±0.85	97.81±0.49	66.15±1.79	72.66±1.17	31.76±4.15
	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table 7. ImageNet-100 Results (ID Acc. = in-distribution accuracy; Null Space Reduction (NSR) methods = our approach).

	_	-						-	-					
	EE	VER-OC)D					OOD I	Datasets					
Method	FE	VEK-OC	ענ	iNatı	ıralist	Place	es365	SU	JN	Text	tures	A	vg	ID Acc
	r-NSR	λ_{LSV}	λ_{CN}	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	
Dream-OOD	-	-	-	23.98±2.08	95.94±0.26	41.75±1.72	92.48±0.12	40.85±1.13	92.76±0.09	50.73±0.85	86.21±0.29	39.33±1.08	91.84±0.12	87.76±0.19
	-	0.01	-	59.91±3.09	90.89±0.48	66.26±2.17	88.12±0.47	74.26±1.52	84.53±0.33	60.56±1.21	83.91±0.42	65.25±1.50	86.87±0.25	87.85±0.11
	-	-	0.001	59.71±3.53	90.97±0.70	65.01±1.90	88.39±0.45	73.93±1.58	84.69±0.49	60.51±1.46	84.01±0.51	64.79±1.69	87.01±0.45	87.77±0.13
	256	-	-	23.84±1.73	95.80±0.30	44.35±1.71	92.14±0.30	42.92±1.98	92.46±0.33	44.38±1.81	88.60±0.54	38.87±1.29	92.25±0.23	87.57±0.24
	256	0.01	-	24.02±1.48	95.75±0.26	44.09±1.87	92.02±0.27	43.36±1.53	92.30±0.30	44.55±1.38	88.67±0.39	39.00±1.05	92.18±0.24	87.54±0.24
	256	-	0.001	24.42±1.43	95.73±0.30	44.98±2.24	91.98±0.36	43.88±1.63	92.21±0.27	44.76±1.16	88.62±0.57	39.51±0.72	92.13±0.18	87.63±0.18
	128	-	-	23.96±2.93	95.91±0.38	43.73±2.50	92.25±0.33	43.44±2.69	92.39±0.41	42.38±1.64	89.40±0.33	38.38±2.21	92.49±0.24	87.53±0.12
	128	0.01	-	23.46±2.54	95.93±0.36	43.37±1.47	92.19±0.22	42.42±1.60	92.44±0.29	41.86±1.09	89.48±0.27	37.78±1.45	92.51±0.22	87.60±0.11
	128	-	0.001	24.55±2.47	95.87±0.30	44.12±2.03	92.20±0.26	43.89±2.21	92.40±0.33	42.53±1.38	89.48±0.40	38.77±1.76	92.49±0.23	87.49±0.11
	100	-	-	23.13±1.35	96.00±0.21	42.49±2.30	92.37±0.37	41.62±2.37	92.69±0.31	41.88±1.11	89.34±0.23	37.28±1.40	92.60±0.18	87.44±0.07
	100	0.01	-	22.24±0.81	96.16 ±0.14	41.08±3.03	92.59±0.44	40.39±2.84	92.91±0.40	42.31±0.97	89.30±0.37	36.50 ± 1.67	92.74±0.21	87.42±0.15
	100	-	0.001	23.26±1.71	96.03±0.26	43.09±2.48	92.40±0.29	41.91±3.05	92.71±0.40	43.49±0.58	89.13±0.42	37.94±1.51	92.57±0.17	87.58±0.11

of the feature space. Dream-OOD follows a similar patter as the other models for CIFAR-100, suggesting that the analysis holds for different OOD approaches. As shown in Tabs. 8 to 10, our energy-based method consistently outperforms non-energy-based approaches on most OOD datasets, achieving a lower FPR and a higher AUROC.

12. Qualitative Results

Additional qualitative examples for object-level OOD detection using VOS [7] and FFS [21] models trained with and without FEVER-OOD with PASCAL VOC as indistribution are shown in Fig. 15 for OpenImages [22] as OOD, and in Fig. 16 fos MS-COCO [28] as OOD.

13. Limitations and Potential Negative Impact

This section discusses some limitations and potential negative impact of FEVER-OOD, identifying the following:

• FEVER-OOD does not entirely avoid the null space vul-

nerabilities. While we reduce the size of it, there might be some anomalies with large components in the feature space.

- Careful fine tuning is needed in some instances, specially
 when reducing the null space significantly. We did not
 identify any condition to estimate the regularizer weight
 a priori.
- While our analysis show a large change in Energy for far anomalies (OOD samples), we did not test the performance of FEVER-OOD in this cases.

Finally, our work might have some potential negative impact. For instance, the exploration of these vulnerabilities might allow for tailored generated outliers that fool (in an adversarial sense) models based on free energy OOD detection. Additionally, we trained several models with different in-distribution datasets to perform the ablation studies, having a negative environmental effect due to the large power consumption for GPU training for such extensive studies.

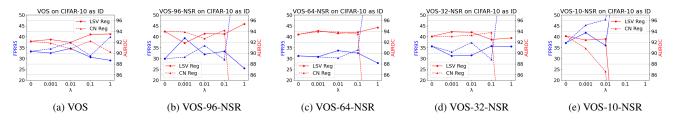


Figure 10. Ablations of the loss weight for the LSVR and CNR in FEVER-OOD for VOS, using CIFAR-10 as in-distribution (ID).

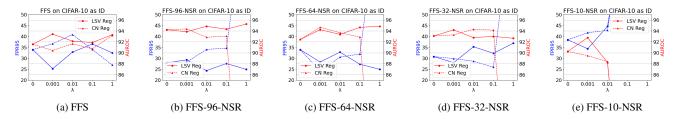


Figure 11. Ablations of the loss weight for the LSVR and CNR in FEVER-OOD for FFS, using CIFAR-10 as in-distribution (ID).

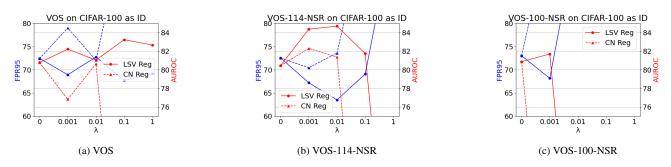


Figure 12. Ablations of the loss weight for the LSVR and CNR in FEVER-OOD for VOS, using CIFAR-100 as in-distribution (ID).

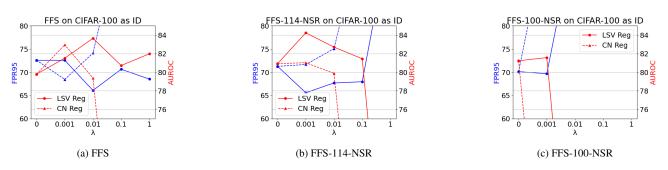


Figure 13. Ablations of the loss weight for the LSVR and CNR in FEVER-OOD for FFS, using CIFAR-100 as in-distribution (ID).

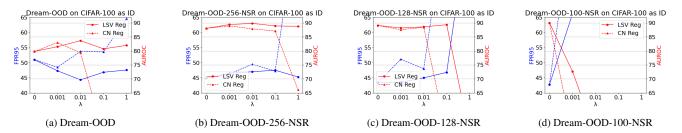


Figure 14. Ablations of the loss weight for the LSVR and CNR in FEVER-OOD for Dream-OOD, using CIFAR-100 as in-distribution (ID).

Table 8. CIFAR-10 Results (ID Acc. = in-distribution accuracy; Non-energy based methods).

Non-energy	OOD Datasets												
based method	Te	xture	SV	/HN	Plac	ce365	LS	SUN	iS	UN	A	Avg	ID Acc
	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	по лес
ViM [41]	24.35	95.20	24.95	95.36	44.70	90.71	18.80	96.63	29.25	95.10	28.41	94.60	94.21
ODIN [27]	56.40	86.21	20.93	95.55	63.04	86.57	7.26	98.53	33.17	94.65	36.16	92.30	94.21
Softmax [15]	66.45	88.50	59.66	91.25	62.46	88.64	45.21	93.80	54.57	92.12	57.67	90.86	94.21
GradNorm[17]	71.66	80.79	80.86	81.41	80.71	72.57	53.87	88.39	60.32	88.00	69.49	82.23	94.21
KNN [38]	27.57	94.71	24.53	95.96	50.90	89.14	25.29	95.69	25.55	95.26	30.77	94.15	94.21
NPOS [39]	8.39	94.67	5.61	97.64	18.57	91.35	4.08	97.52	14.13	94.92	10.16	95.22	93.86

Table 9. CIFAR-100 Results (ID Acc. = in-distribution accuracy; Non-energy based methods).

Non-energy	OOD Datasets												
based method	Tex	xture	SV	/HN	Plac	ce365	LS	SUN	iS	UN	A	Avg	ID Acc
	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	15 1100
ViM [41]	86.00	71.95	54.30	88.85	84.70	74.64	57.15	88.17	56.65	87.13	67.76	82.15	73.12
ODIN [27]	85.75	73.17	89.50	76.13	41.50	91.60	74.70	83.93	90.20	68.27	76.33	78.62	73.12
Softmax [15]	86.45	71.32	85.30	72.41	73.40	81.09	85.55	74.00	88.55	68.59	83.85	73.48	73.12
GradNorm[17]	96.20	52.17	91.05	67.13	55.72	86.09	97.80	44.21	89.71	58.23	86.10	61.57	73.12
KNN [38]	88.00	67.19	66.38	83.76	79.17	71.91	70.96	83.71	77.83	78.85	76.47	77.08	73.12
NPOS [39]	33.07	92.86	17.98	96.43	80.41	73.74	28.90	92.99	43.50	89.56	40.77	89.12	73.78

Table 10. ImageNet-100 Results (ID Acc. = in-distribution accuracy; Non-energy based methods).

Non-energy		OOD Datasets											
based method	iNat	uralist	Plac	ce365	S	UN	Tex	tures	A	wg	ID Acc		
	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	12 1100		
ViM [41]	72.40	84.88	76.20	81.54	73.80	83.99	22.20	95.63	61.15	86.51	84.16		
ODIN [27]	53.00	89.52	70.40	82.77	66.90	85.01	48.40	89.19	59.67	86.62	84.16		
Softmax [15]	76.30	82.20	81.90	77.54	82.70	78.35	75.30	80.01	79.05	79.52	84.16		
GradNorm[17]	50.82	84.86	68.27	74.46	65.77	77.11	40.48	88.17	56.33	81.15	84.16		
KNN [38]	56.96	86.98	64.54	83.68	63.04	85.37	15.83	96.24	50.09	88.07	84.16		
NPOS [39]	53.84	86.52	59.66	83.50	53.54	87.99	8.98	98.13	44.00	89.04	85.37		

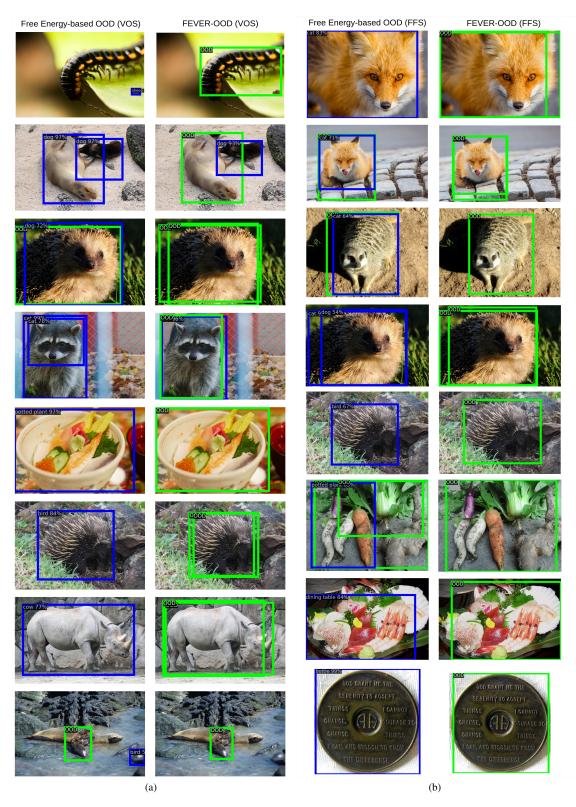


Figure 15. Additional visualization of detected objects on the OOD images (from OpenImages [22]) by free energy-based OOD (VOS) [7], free energy-based OOD (FFS) [21] and FEVER-OOD (our approach). The in-distribution is PASCAL VOC [10] dataset. Blue: OOD objects detected and mis-classified as being in-distribution. Green: the same OOD objects correctly detected as OOD by FEVER-OOD (ours).

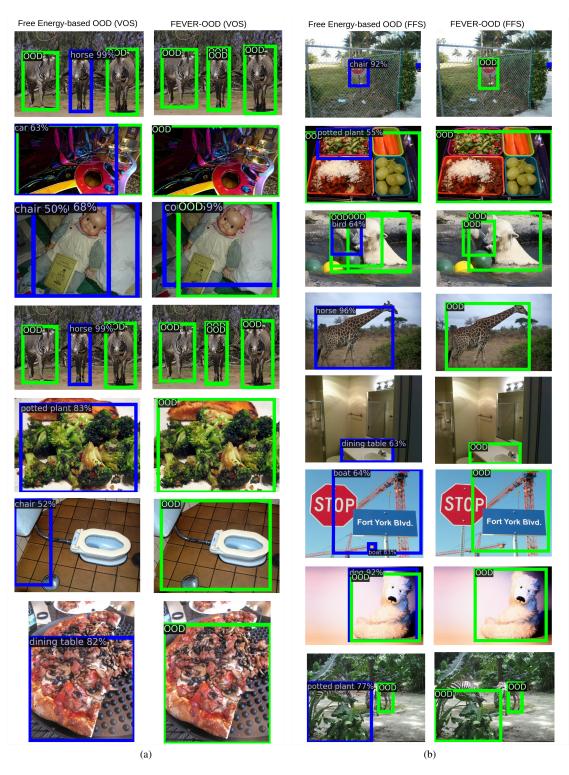


Figure 16. Additional visualization of detected objects on the OOD images (from MS-COCO [28]) by free energy-based OOD (VOS) [7], free energy-based OOD (FFS) [21] and FEVER-OOD (our approach). The in-distribution is PASCAL VOC [10] dataset. Blue: OOD objects detected and mis-classified as being in-distribution. Green: the same OOD objects correctly detected as OOD by FEVER-OOD (ours).