

Revisiting Logit Distributions for Reliable Out-of-Distribution Detection

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Background

■ Out-of-Distribution Detection (OOD Detection)

□ Problem Setting

- Let $\mathcal{Y}_{in}$ denotes the set of **known classes** (in-distribution, ID) for a given classification task
- Given a test sample x , if its **label** $y \notin \mathcal{Y}_{in}$, then x is considered as an **OOD sample**
- Formally, for sample x , a **decision function** $D: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \{ID, OOD\}$ is constructed with a **score function** S as

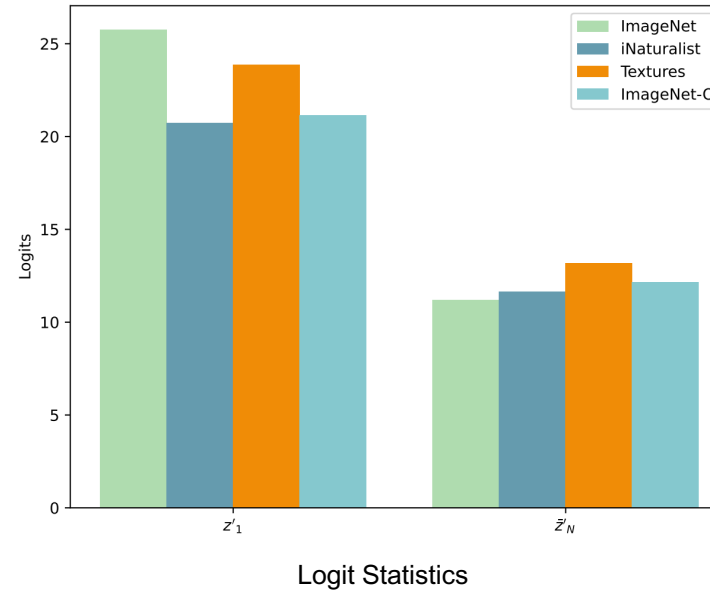
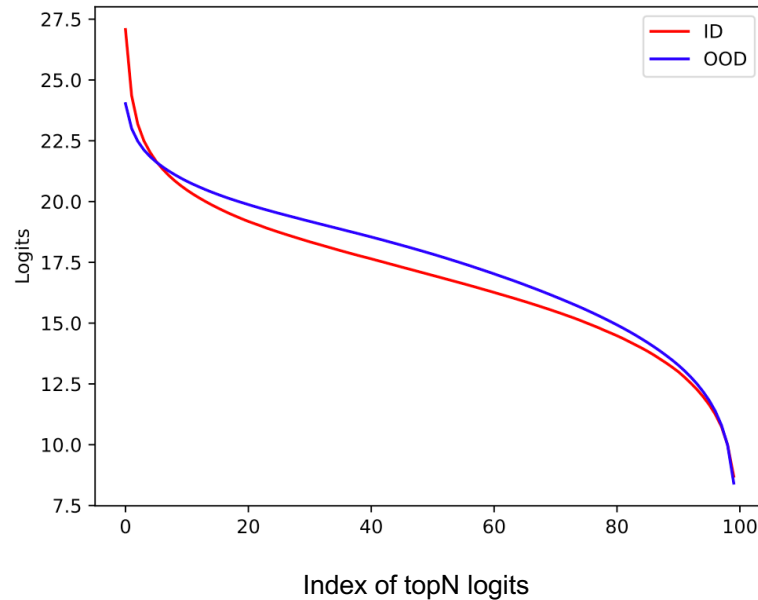
$$D(x) = \begin{cases} ID, & \text{if } S(x; f) \geq \lambda \\ OOD, & \text{if } S(x; f) < \lambda \end{cases}$$

How can we more effectively *leverage the discriminative information* to maximize the separability between ID and OOD samples?

Motivation

■ Observations: different logits patterns for ID/OOD samples

- ID samples tend to produce **sharper, more peaked** logit distributions
- OOD samples often yield **flatter, more uniform** logit distributions



Our Idea: Exploit the distributional differences between ID and OOD logits

Method

■ LogitGap

- Measure the average difference between the maximum logit and other logits

$$S_{\text{LogitGap}}(x; f) = \frac{1}{K-1} \sum_{j=2}^K (z'_1 - z'_j)$$

■ LogitGap-topN

- Focus on a more compact and informative subset of logit

$$S_{\text{LogitGap-topN}}(x; f) = \frac{1}{K-1} \sum_{j=2}^N (z'_1 - z'_j)$$

- Logits Selection

$$\begin{aligned} & \arg \max_N \left(\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim P_{\text{ID}}} [S_{\text{LogitGap-topN}}(\mathbf{x})] - \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim P_{\text{OOD}}} [S_{\text{LogitGap-topN}}(\mathbf{x})] \right) \\ &= \arg \max_N \left(\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim P_{\text{OOD}}} [\bar{z}'_N] - \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim P_{\text{ID}}} [\bar{z}'_N] \right), \end{aligned}$$

Method

■ Theoretical Support

□ From the perspective of FPR

- $FPR_{MCM}(\tau, \lambda_{MCM}) = Q_x\left(\frac{e^{z'_1/\tau}}{\sum_{j=1}^K e^{z'_j/\tau}} > \lambda_{MCM}\right)$
- $FPR_{LogitGap}(\tau, \lambda_L) = Q_x\left(\frac{\sum_{j=1}^K (z'_1 - z'_j)}{\tau K} > \frac{\lambda_L}{\tau}\right)$

In Short: When the temperature $\tau > 2(K - 1)$, FPR of LogitGap is guaranteed to be smaller than that of MCM.

Theorem 4.1. Given a K -way classification task, let the predicted logit vector for a sample $\mathbf{x}$ be $\mathbf{z} = [z_1, z_2, \dots, z_K]$. Let $\mathbf{z}' = [z'_1, z'_2, \dots, z'_K]$ denote the sorted logits in descending order, such that $z'_1 = \max_k z_k$. Then, for the temperature scaling parameter τ used in the softmax function, if $\tau > 2(K - 1)$, we have

$$FPR_{LogitGap}(\lambda_L) \leq FPR_{MCM}(\tau, \lambda_{MCM}),$$

where $FPR_{LogitGap}(\lambda_L)$ is the false positive rate based on LogitGap with threshold λ_L . Similarly, $FPR_{MCM}(\tau, \lambda_{MCM})$ is the false positive rate based on MCM with temperature τ and threshold λ_{MCM} .

Experiments

□ Setting

■ Datasets

ID Dataset	Detection Senario	OOD Dataset		
ImageNet / ImageNet100	Semantic Shift	NINCO	ImageNet-O	ImageNetOOD
	Covariate Shift	ImageNet-A	ImageNet-R	ImageNet-Sketch

■ Evaluation Paradigms

- OOD Detection based on Vision-Language Model
 - Zero-shot Setting
 - Few-shot Setting
- Traditional OOD Detection

Experiments

Results

Semantic Shift OOD Detection based on VLM

Method	NINCO			OOD Dataset ImageNet-O			ImageNetOOD			AVG		
	FPR95 ↓	AUROC ↑	AUPR ↑	FPR95 ↓	AUROC ↑	AUPR ↑	FPR95 ↓	AUROC ↑	AUPR ↑	FPR95 ↓	AUROC ↑	AUPR ↑
Zero-shot												
Energy [30]	84.11	72.04	95.65	81.60	75.58	98.66	79.12	76.77	83.96	81.61	74.8	92.76
+TAG [31]	83.11	71.15	95.46	79.65	77.10	98.79	78.34	78.03	85.81	80.37	75.43	93.35
MCM [33]	79.67	73.59	95.87	75.85	79.52	98.93	80.98	78.33	85.42	78.83	77.15	93.41
+TAG [31]	81.63	71.33	95.41	77.60	79.95	98.97	82.99	78.79	86.42	80.74	76.69	93.6
MaxLogit [14]	79.41	74.35	96.03	77.15	77.85	98.79	75.85	78.67	85.16	77.47	76.96	93.33
+TAG [31]	77.70	73.92	95.95	74.50	79.48	98.92	75.17	80.07	87.01	75.79	77.82	93.96
GL-MCM	74.38	76.03	96.26	72.35	79.50	98.88	79.16	77.31	83.67	75.30	74.74	86.23
LogitGap	76.83	76.43	96.37	72.35	81.32	99.03	76.37	79.95	86.06	75.18	79.23	93.82
LogitGap*	77.42	76.51	96.38	71.95	81.45	99.03	75.40	80.27	86.21	74.92	79.41	93.87
One-shot												
CoOp [62]	84.01	68.83	94.91	75.55	78.63	98.84	82.25	76.88	84.20	80.60	74.78	92.65
+LogitGap*	82.85	73.57	95.91	74.85	79.40	98.88	78.31	78.09	84.55	78.67	77.02	93.11
ID-Like [1]	73.02	75.83	95.86	80.95	69.81	98.09	83.23	68.57	75.22	79.07	71.40	89.72
+LogitGap*	68.78	80.90	97.07	71.20	78.21	98.76	75.06	76.33	82.40	71.68	78.48	92.74
Four-shot												
CoOp [62]	81.46	70.16	95.14	75.40	79.80	98.93	80.40	78.56	85.56	79.09	76.17	93.21
+LogitGap*	80.69	73.97	95.95	72.70	81.10	99.01	76.07	80.16	86.42	76.49	78.41	93.79
ID-Like [1]	81.15	71.79	95.01	82.50	68.41	97.92	88.54	62.40	70.25	84.06	67.53	87.73
+LogitGap*	77.51	75.39	95.91	78.10	75.29	98.57	82.65	72.88	79.85	79.42	74.52	91.44

Zero-shot

Few-shot

Experiments

□ Results

■ Covariate Shift OOD Detection based on VLM

Method	ImageNet-R			OOD Dataset ImageNet-A			ImageNet-Sketch			AVG		
	FPR95 ↓	AUROC ↑	AUPR ↑	FPR95 ↓	AUROC ↑	AUPR ↑	FPR95 ↓	AUROC ↑	AUPR ↑	FPR95 ↓	AUROC ↑	AUPR ↑
One-shot												
CoOp [62]	80.18	72.44	91.54	77.75	77.40	95.65	85.53	67.21	67.06	81.15	72.35	84.75
+LogitGap*	79.97	71.14	90.81	75.72	79.77	96.25	82.81	68.37	67.00	79.50	73.09	84.69
ID-Like [1]	79.68	75.51	92.61	45.67	88.65	97.77	78.14	75.31	75.32	67.83	79.82	88.57
+LogitGap*	76.11	77.28	93.20	43.36	89.99	98.14	77.43	76.06	76.42	65.63	81.11	89.25
Four-shot												
CoOp [62]	78.38	73.53	92.02	74.87	79.20	96.06	84.68	68.54	69.06	79.31	73.76	85.71
+LogitGap*	79.59	71.94	91.29	74.20	80.62	96.45	82.68	69.23	68.91	78.82	73.93	85.55
ID-Like [1]	85.69	71.93	91.39	61.27	84.80	97.06	87.07	67.45	67.47	78.01	74.73	85.31
+LogitGap*	84.45	71.16	91.03	59.13	86.31	97.44	86.95	66.80	67.47	76.84	74.76	85.31

Experiments

□ Results

■ Traditional OOD Detection

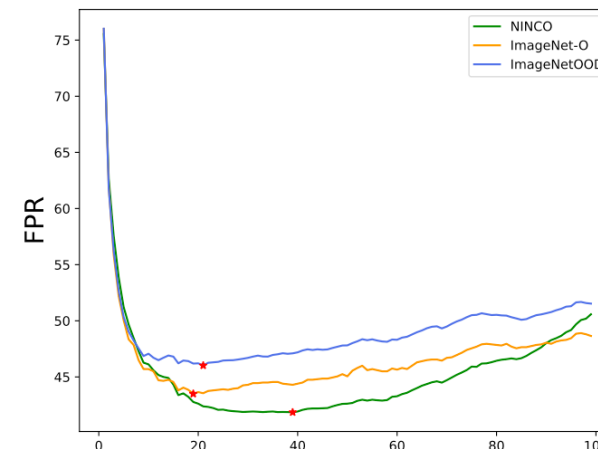
Method	Near OOD				Far OOD								AVG	
	CIFAR100		TIN		MNIST		SVHN		TEXTURE		PLACES365		FPR95 ↓ AUROC ↑	
	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC	FPR95	AUROC		
MSP [17]	53.10	87.19	43.25	88.87	23.63	92.63	25.80	91.46	34.96	89.89	42.26	88.92	37.17	89.83
MaxLogit [14]	66.60	86.31	56.06	88.72	25.06	94.15	35.09	91.69	51.71	89.41	54.84	89.14	48.23	89.90
Energy [30]	66.59	86.36	56.08	88.8	24.99	94.32	35.15	91.78	51.84	89.47	54.86	89.25	48.25	90.00
ODIN [27]	77.04	82.18	75.32	83.55	23.81	95.24	68.61	84.58	67.74	86.94	70.35	85.07	63.81	86.26
GEN [32]	58.76	87.21	48.58	89.20	23.00	93.83	28.14	91.97	40.72	90.14	47.04	89.46	41.04	90.30
Mahalanobis [25]	52.81	83.59	47.01	84.81	27.30	90.10	25.95	91.19	27.92	92.69	47.66	84.90	38.11	87.88
ReAct [44]	67.40	85.93	59.71	88.29	33.76	92.81	50.23	89.12	51.40	89.38	44.21	90.35	51.12	89.31
SHE [58]	80.99	80.31	78.27	82.76	42.23	90.43	62.75	86.37	84.59	81.57	76.35	82.89	70.86	84.06
NCI [29]	52.46	87.84	42.92	89.50	28.94	92.08	31.70	90.67	27.59	91.97	35.65	90.36	36.54	90.40
LogitGap	49.17	88.01	39.91	89.70	22.56	93.44	25.41	92.10	33.00	90.73	39.38	89.74	34.91	90.62
OE [18]	35.84	90.81	2.50	99.25	25.89	90.63	1.10	99.69	10.61	98.01	13.48	97.14	14.90	95.92
+LogitGap	35.18	91.18	2.81	99.21	24.96	91.52	1.18	99.65	9.76	98.10	13.20	97.18	14.52	96.14
MixOE [57]	65.58	87.01	46.79	90.13	36.89	91.79	15.56	94.48	33.40	92.00	38.87	91.18	39.52	91.10
+LogitGap	52.30	88.22	35.34	90.81	28.04	92.26	15.54	94.46	25.80	92.45	30.38	91.53	31.23	91.62

LogitGap consistently outperforms all post-hoc methods and further improves auxiliary-data methods

Experiments

□ Ablation Studies

- Influence of the Hyperparameter N
- Different Variants of LogitGap



Method	NINCO			OOD Dataset ImageNet-O			ImageNetOOD			AVG		
	FPR95 ↓	AUROC ↑	AUPR ↑	FPR95 ↓	AUROC ↑	AUPR ↑	FPR95 ↓	AUROC ↑	AUPR ↑	FPR95 ↓	AUROC ↑	AUPR ↑
LogitGap	77.42	76.51	96.38	71.95	81.45	99.03	75.40	80.27	86.21	74.92	79.41	93.87
LogitGap_exp	77.15	76.67	96.42	71.40	81.54	99.04	74.33	80.55	86.51	74.48	79.59	93.99
LogitGap_square	76.81	76.80	96.45	71.25	81.53	99.04	74.17	80.97	86.95	74.08	79.77	94.15
LogitGap_sqrt	77.15	76.43	96.36	71.50	81.58	99.04	75.44	80.36	86.33	74.70	79.46	93.91

Thanks!