

# Question: How to generate potential outlier labels for OOD detection without auxiliary data? 🤔



## Envisioning Outlier Exposure by Large Language Models for Out-of-Distribution Detection

Chentao Cao, Zhun Zhong, Zhanke Zhou, Yang Liu, Tongliang Liu, Bo Han



Paper

Code

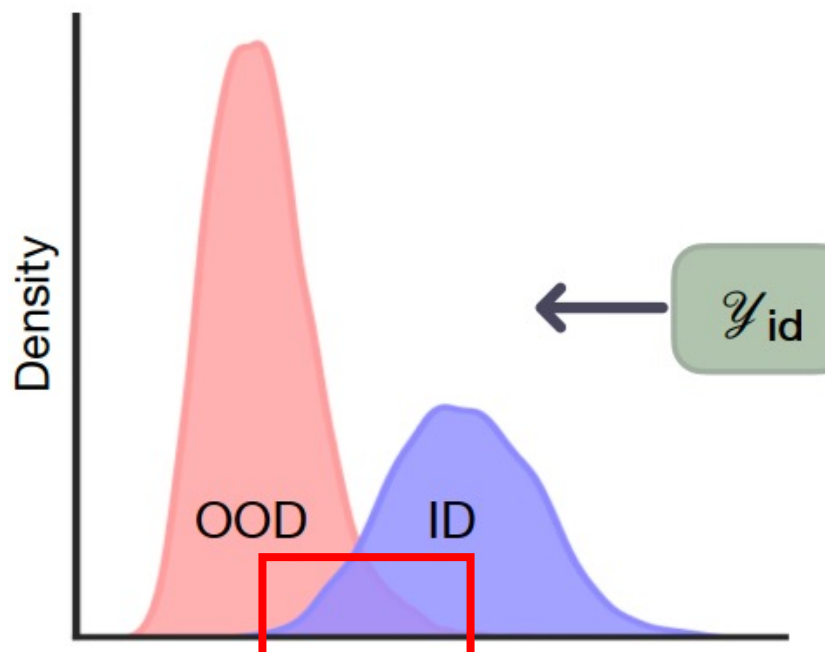


### Background: Zero-shot OOD Detection

Given a pre-trained model, ID classes  $\mathcal{Y}_{id}$  are defined by the classification task of interest, instead of the classes used in pre-training.

$$\text{OOD detector: } G_\lambda(x; \mathcal{Y}_{id}, \mathcal{I}, \mathcal{T}) = \begin{cases} \text{ID} & S(x) \geq \lambda \\ \text{OOD} & S(x) < \lambda \end{cases}$$

Existing method: Using only closed-set ID classes



FPR95: 6.66%, AUROC: 98.57%

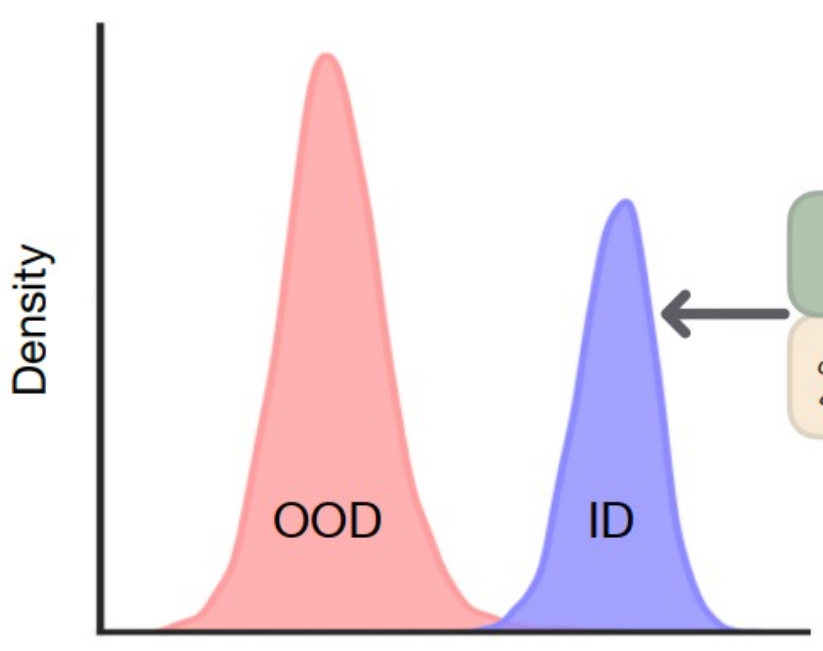
ID dataset: CUB-200-2011, OOD dataset: Places

We wonder 🤔

- 1) if this issue arises because the pre-trained VLMs are **not strong enough**
- or
- 2) if it is attributable to the usages of these pretrained models, e.g., an **exclusive reliance on closed-set ID classes**

### Motivation

Ground truth: Incorporating with actual OOD class labels (**unavailable**)

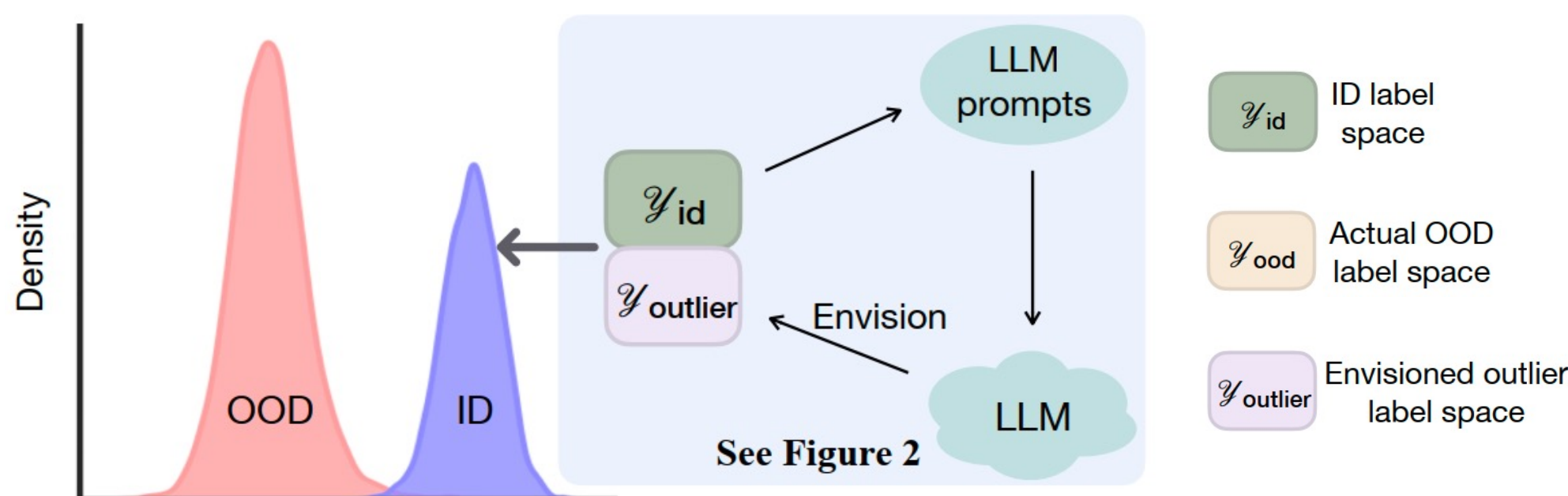


FPR95: 0.29%, AUROC: 99.93%

Building a text-based classifier with **only closed-set labels** largely **restricts** the inherent capability of VLMs

We can employ **LLMs** to **envision** potential outlier class labels for OOD detection since LLMs know the **visual features** of lots of categories

EOE (Ours): Incorporating with envisioned outlier classes



FPR95: **0.37%**, AUROC: **99.88%**

- $\mathcal{Y}_{id}$  ID label space
- $\mathcal{Y}_{ood}$  Actual OOD label space
- $\mathcal{Y}_{outlier}$  Envisioned outlier label space

See Figure 2

### Method: Envisioning Outlier Exposure

Design principle: Guide LLM to generate the desired outlier class label based on the **visual similarity rule**

**Q:** I have gathered images of  $K$  distinct categories:  $\mathcal{Y}_{id}$ . Summarize what broad categories these categories might fall into based on visual features. Now, I am looking to identify  $L$  classes that visually resemble these broad categories but have no direct relation to these broad categories. Please list these  $L$  categories for me.

Far OOD prompt

**A:** These  $L$  categories are:

Figure 3: LLM prompt for far OOD detection, consisting of both the contents of Q and A.

**Q:** Given the image category  $y_i$ , please suggest visually similar categories that are not directly related or belong to the same primary group as  $y_i$ . Provide suggestions that share visual characteristics but are from broader and different domains than  $y_i$ .

Near OOD prompt

**A:** There are  $l$  classes similar to  $y_i$ , and they are from broader and different domains than  $y_i$ :

Figure 4: LLM prompt for near OOD detection.

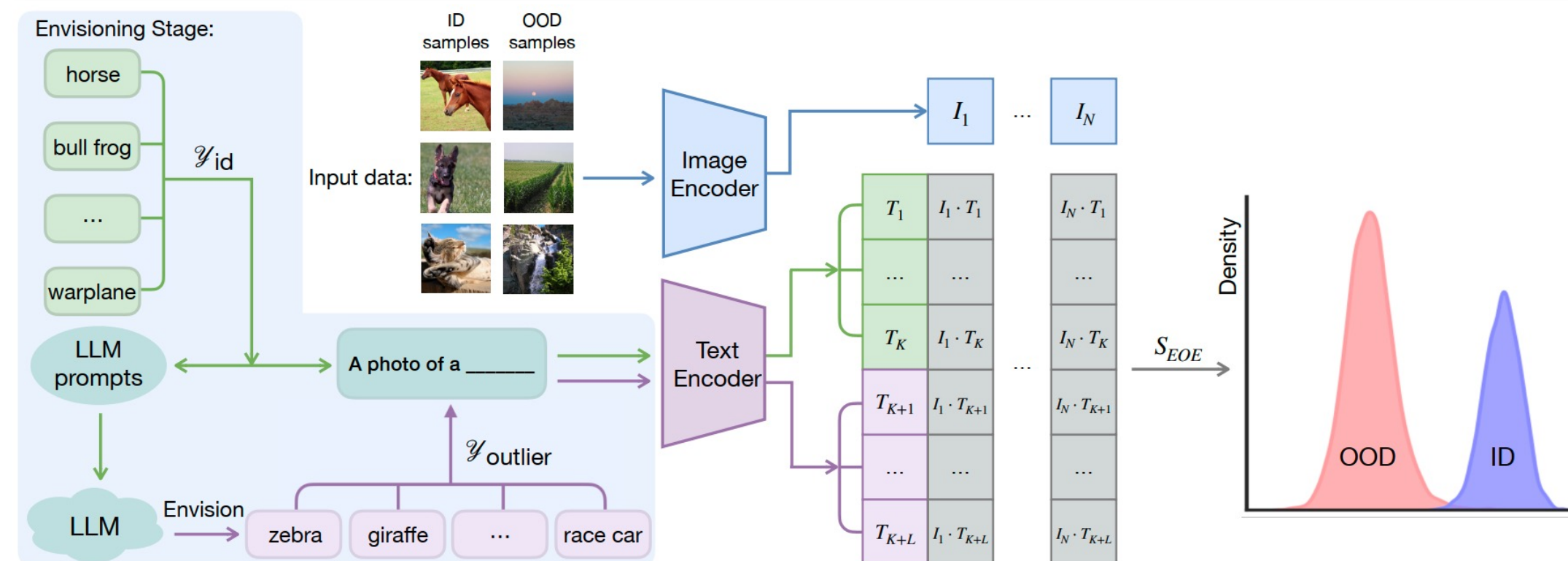
**Q:** I have a dataset containing  $K$  different species of *class-type*. I need a list of  $L$  distinct *class-type* species that are NOT present in my dataset, and ensure there are no repetitions in the list you provide. For context, the species in my dataset are:  $\mathcal{Y}_{id}$ .

Fine-grained OOD prompt

**A:** The other  $L$  *class-type* species not in the dataset are:

Figure 5: LLM prompt for fine-grained OOD Detection.

### Implementation



We design a new score function to better distinguish between ID and OOD score distributions. First, the label-wise matching score is

$$s_i(x) = \frac{\mathcal{I}(x) \cdot \mathcal{T}(t_i)}{\|\mathcal{I}(x)\| \cdot \|\mathcal{T}(t_i)\|}; \quad t_i \in \mathcal{Y}_{id} \cup \mathcal{Y}_{outlier}$$

The proposed OOD detection score function

$$S_{EOE}(x; \mathcal{Y}_{id}, \mathcal{Y}_{ood}, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{I}) = \max_{i \in [1, K]} \frac{e^{s_i(x)/\tau}}{\sum_{j=1}^{K+L} e^{s_j(x)/\tau}} - \max_{k \in [K+1, K+L]} \frac{\beta e^{s_k(x)/\tau}}{\sum_{j=1}^{K+L} e^{s_j(x)/\tau}}$$

### Experiments

EOE can be effectively scaled to the ImageNet-1K dataset and is comparable to fine-tuning methods

Table 2: Zero-shot **far** OOD detection results for ImageNet-1K as ID dataset. The **black bold** indicates the best performance. The **gray** indicates that the comparative methods require training or an additional massive auxiliary dataset. Energy (FT) requires fine-tuning, while Energy is post-hoc.

Method	OOD Dataset									
	iNaturalist		SUN		Places		Texture		Average	
	FPR95↓	AUROC↑	FPR95↓	AUROC↑	FPR95↓	AUROC↑	FPR95↓	AUROC↑	FPR95↓	AUROC↑
MOS (BT)	9.28	98.15	40.63	92.01	49.54	89.06	60.43	81.23	39.97	90.11
Fort et al.	15.07	96.64	54.12	86.37	57.99	85.24	53.32	84.77	45.12	88.25
Energy (FT)	21.59	95.99	34.28	93.15	36.64	91.82	51.18	88.09	35.92	92.26
MSP	40.89	88.63	65.81	81.24	67.90	80.14	64.96	78.16	59.89	82.04
CLIPN	19.13	96.20	25.69	94.18	32.14	92.26	44.60	88.93	30.39	92.89
Energy	81.08	85.09	79.02	84.24	75.08	83.38	93.65	65.56	82.21	79.57
MaxLogit	61.66	89.31	64.39	87.43	63.67	85.95	86.61	71.68	69.08	83.59
MCM	30.92	94.61	37.59	92.57	44.71	89.77	57.85	86.11	42.77	90.77
EOE (Ours)	12.29	97.52	20.40	95.73	30.16	92.95	57.53	85.64	<b>30.09</b>	<b>92.96</b>
Ground Truth	-	-	-	-	13.24	96.96	24.29	95.04	-	-

For near OOD detection, EOE increases the average OOD performance by 2.13% in FPR95

Table 3: Zero-shot **near** OOD detection results. The **bold** indicates the best performance on each dataset, and the **gray** indicates methods requiring an additional massive auxiliary dataset.

Method	ID OOD	ImageNet-10 ImageNet-20		ImageNet-20 ImageNet-10		Average	
		FPR95↓	AUROC↑	FPR95↓	AUROC↑	FPR95↓	AUROC↑
CLIPN		7.80	98.07	13.67	97.47	10.74	97.77
Energy		10.30	97.94	16.40	97.37	13.35	97.66
MaxLogit		9.70	98.09	14.00	97.81	11.85	97.95
MCM		5.00	98.71	17.40	97.87	11.20	98.29
EOE (Ours)		4.20	99.09	13.93	98.10	<b>9.07</b>	<b>98.59</b>
Ground Truth		0.20	99.80	0.20	99.93	0.20	99.87

For fine-grained OOD detection, EOE increases the average OOD performance by 3.59% in FPR95

Table 4: Zero-shot **fine-grained** OOD detection results. The **bold** indicates the best performance on each dataset, and the **gray** indicates methods requiring an additional massive auxiliary dataset.

Method	ID OOD	CUB-100 CUB-100		Stanford-Cars-98 Stanford-Cars-98		Food-50 Food-51		Oxford-Pet-18 Oxford-Pet-19		Average	
		FPR95↓	AUROC↑	FPR95↓	AUROC↑	FPR95↓	AUROC↑	FPR95↓	AUROC↑	FPR95↓	AUROC↑
CLIPN		73.54	74.65	53.33	82.25	43.33	88.89	53.90	86.92	56.05	83.18
Energy		76.13	72.11	73.78	73.82	44.95	89.97	68.51	88.34	65.84	81.06
MaxLogit		76.89	73.00	72.18	74.80	41.73	90.79	65.66	88.49	64.11	81.77
MCM		83.58	67.51	83.99	68.71	43.38	91.75	63.92	84.88	68.72	78.21
EOE (Ours)		74.74	73.41	76.83	71.60	37.95	91.96	52.55	90.33	<b>60.52</b>	<b>81.82</b>
Ground Truth		61.23	81.42	58.31	83.71	11.34	97.79	29.17	95.58	40.01	89.63

Without hitting the GT OOD, these potential outlier classes can still enhance performance in OOD detection

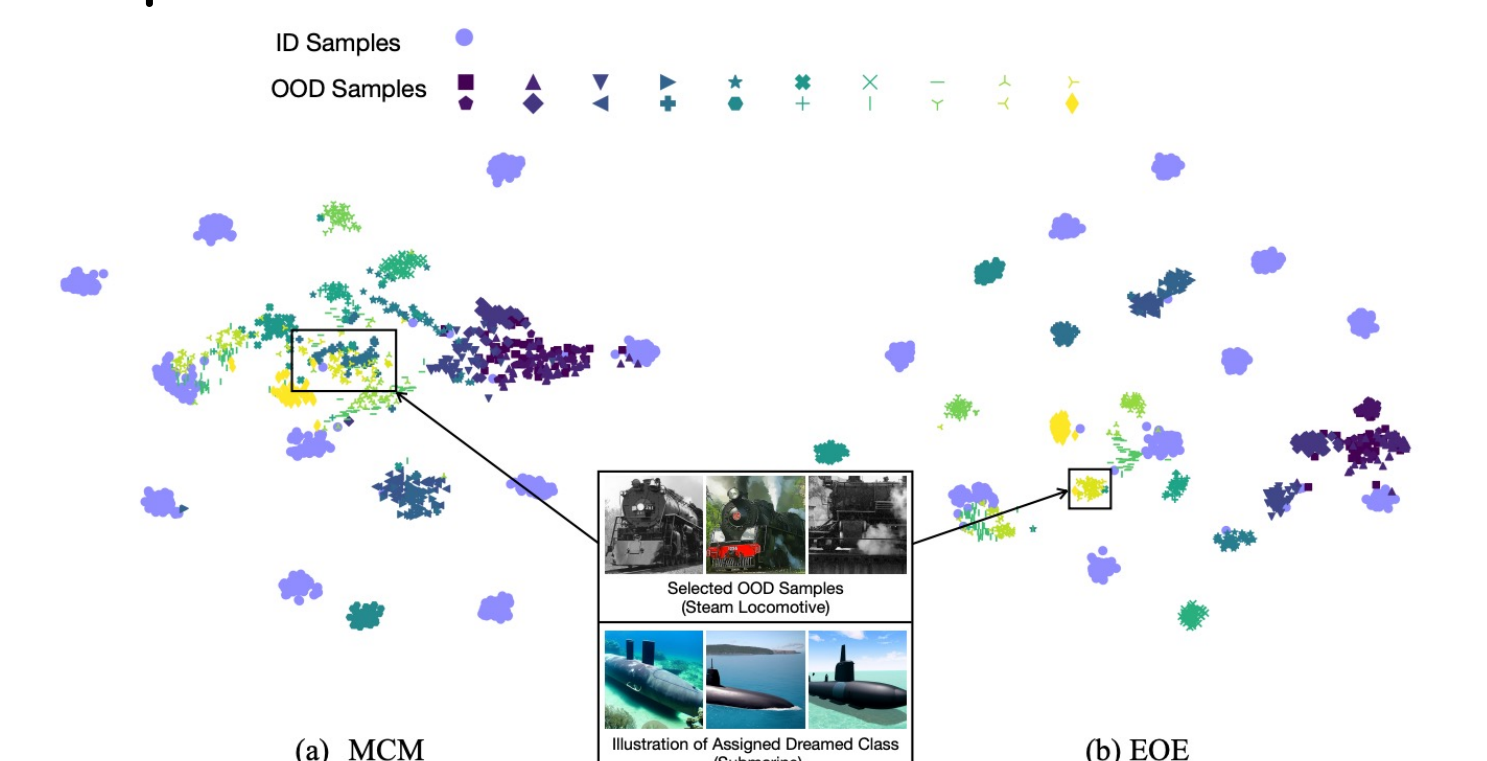


Figure 8: T-SNE visualizations obtained by the classifier output. ID set: ImageNet-10; OOD set: ImageNet-20. We use distinct colors to represent different OOD classes. The illustrated envisioned OOD name is the class assigned with the corresponding cluster, and its examples are generated by Stable Diffusion (Rombach et al., 2022).