

# Rademacher Complexity for Adversarially Robust Generalization

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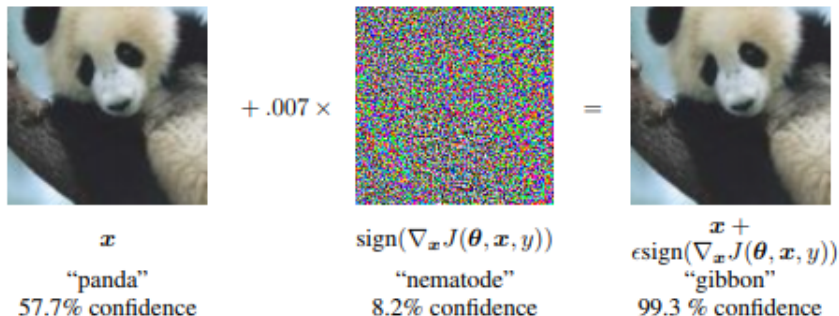
*joint work with*

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# Introduction

Machine learning models are vulnerable to adversarial perturbations.



**Figure:** Adding invisible perturbations to the images can lead the model to wrong predictions with high confidence (Goodfellow et al. 2015)

- Adversarial training: currently the most effective approach to training models robust to adversarial perturbations (Madry et al, 2017).
- Natural training:

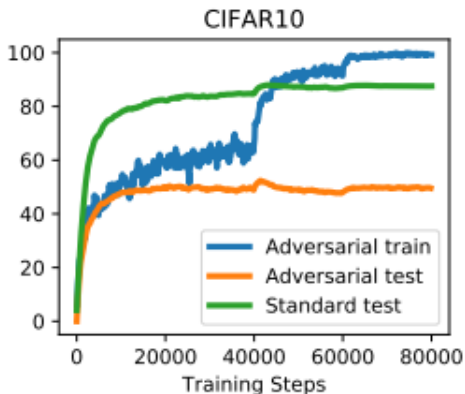
$$\min_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \mathbb{E} \ell(f(\mathbf{x}), y)$$

- Adversarial training:

$$\min_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \mathbb{E} \max_{\mathbf{x}' \in \mathbb{B}_{\mathbf{x}}^{\infty}(\epsilon)} \ell(f(\mathbf{x}'), y)$$

# Introduction

Adversarially robust generalization can be hard.



**Figure:** Model can achieve 96% adversarial training accuracy whereas the adversarial test accuracy is only 47% (Madry et al. 2017, Schmidt et al. 2018)

- How can we better understand adversarially robust generalization?
- This paper: Rademacher complexity analysis.

- Feature-label space  $\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}$ .
- Hypothesis class  $\mathcal{F}$ .
- Loss function  $\ell(f(\mathbf{x}), y)$ ,  $f \in \mathcal{F}$ ,  $\ell_{\mathcal{F}} := \{\ell(f(\cdot), \cdot) : f \in \mathcal{F}\}$ .
- Empirical risk:  $R_n(f) := \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \ell(f(\mathbf{x}_i), y_i)$
- Population risk  $R(f) := \mathbb{E}[\ell(f(\mathbf{x}), y)]$
- Rademacher complexity

$$\mathfrak{R}_{\mathcal{S}}(\mathcal{F}) := \frac{1}{n} \mathbb{E}_{\sigma} \left[ \sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_i f(\mathbf{x}_i) \right],$$

## Theorem

(Bartlett and Mendelson, 2002, Mohri et al. 2012) Suppose that  $\ell(f(\mathbf{x}), y) \in [0, 1]$ . Then, for any  $\delta \in (0, 1)$ , with probability at least  $1 - \delta$ , the following holds for all  $f \in \mathcal{F}$ ,

$$R(f) \leq R_n(f) + 2\mathfrak{R}_S(\ell_{\mathcal{F}}) + 3\sqrt{\frac{\log \frac{2}{\delta}}{2n}}.$$

- Adversarial loss function  $\tilde{\ell}(f(\mathbf{x}), y) := \max_{\mathbf{x}' \in \mathbb{B}_{\mathbf{x}}^{\infty}(\epsilon)} \ell(f(\mathbf{x}'), y)$ ,  $f \in \mathcal{F}$
- Adversarial empirical risk:

$$\tilde{R}_n(f) := \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \tilde{\ell}(f(\mathbf{x}_i), y_i).$$

- Adversarial population risk

$$\tilde{R}(f) := \mathbb{E}[\tilde{\ell}(f(\mathbf{x}), y)],$$

- Adversarial Rademacher complexity

$$\mathfrak{R}_S(\tilde{\ell}_{\mathcal{F}}), \text{ where } \tilde{\ell}_{\mathcal{F}} := \{\tilde{\ell}(f(\cdot), \cdot) : f \in \mathcal{F}\}$$



## Corollary

For any  $\delta \in (0, 1)$ , with probability at least  $1 - \delta$ , the following holds for all  $f \in \mathcal{F}$ ,

$$\tilde{R}(f) \leq \tilde{R}_n(f) + 2\mathfrak{R}_S(\tilde{\ell}_{\mathcal{F}}) + 3\sqrt{\frac{\log \frac{2}{\delta}}{2n}}.$$

How do we compare  $\mathfrak{R}_S(\ell_{\mathcal{F}})$  and  $\mathfrak{R}_S(\tilde{\ell}_{\mathcal{F}})$ ?

## Binary linear classifier

### Theorem

Let  $\mathcal{F} := \{\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{w} \rangle : \|\mathbf{w}\|_p \leq W\}$  and  $\tilde{\mathcal{F}} := \{\min_{\mathbf{x}' \in \mathbb{B}_x^\infty(\epsilon)} y \langle \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{x}' \rangle : \|\mathbf{w}\|_p \leq W\}$ . Suppose that  $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$ . Then, there exists a universal constant  $c \in (0, 1)$  such that

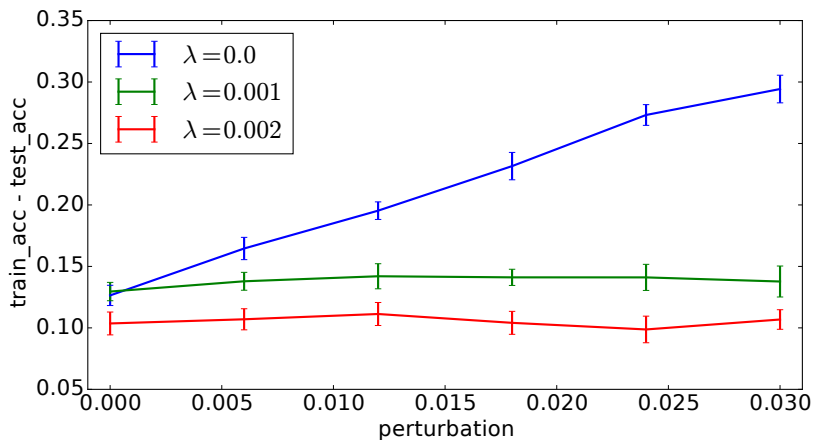
$$\max\{\mathfrak{R}_S(\mathcal{F}), c\epsilon W \frac{d^{\frac{1}{q}}}{\sqrt{n}}\} \leq \mathfrak{R}_S(\tilde{\mathcal{F}}) \leq \mathfrak{R}_S(\mathcal{F}) + \epsilon W \frac{d^{\frac{1}{q}}}{\sqrt{n}}.$$

- **Tight** upper and lower bounds.
- Adversarial Rademacher complexity is **never smaller** than its natural counterpart.
- **Unavoidable dimension dependence** in adversarial Rademacher complexity (unless  $p = 1$ ).

- Multi-class linear classifiers: similar dimension dependence also exists in the margin-based risk bound.
- Lower bound of adversarial Rademacher complexity for neural networks: existence of dimension dependence.
- Risk bound on the adversarial loss for one-hidden layer ReLU network via SDP surrogate loss (Raghunathan et al. 2018).

# Experiments

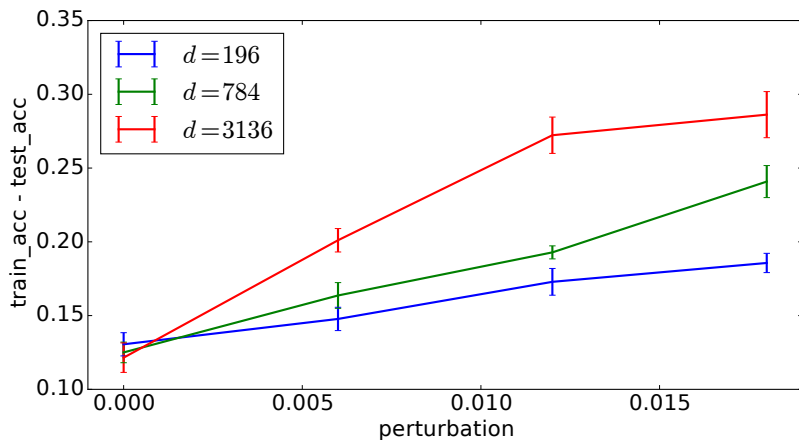
## MNIST, Linear classifier



**Figure:**  $\ell_1$  regularization reduces adversarial generalization gap.

# Experiments

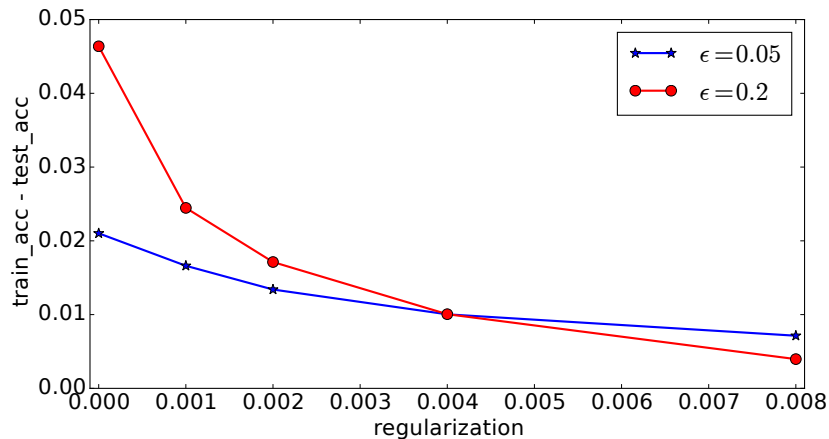
## MNIST, Linear classifier



**Figure:** Adversarial generalization gap becomes larger in higher dimensions.

# Experiments

## MNIST, four layer CNN



**Figure:**  $l_1$  regularization reduces adversarial generalization gap.

Thank you

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