# Intriguing Properties of Input-Dependent Randomized Smoothing (IPIDRS)

Peter Súkeník <sup>12</sup>, Aleksei Kuvshinov <sup>2</sup>, Stephan Günnemann <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Institute of Science and Technology Austria (ISTA) <sup>2</sup>Technical University of Munich (TUM)

July 13, 2022





 Problems of standard Randomized Smoothing (RS):



- Problems of standard
  Randomized Smoothing (RS):
- > Certified accuracy "waterfalls".

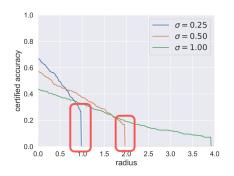


Figure: Source: [Cohen et al., 2019], modified.

- Problems of standard Randomized Smoothing (RS):
- > Certified accuracy "waterfalls".
- Robustness vs. accuracy tradeoff [Gao et al., 2020]

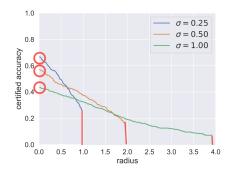
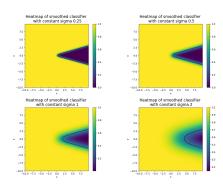


Figure: Source: [Cohen et al., 2019], modified.

- Problems of standard Randomized Smoothing (RS):
- > Certified accuracy "waterfalls".
- Robustness vs. accuracy tradeoff [Gao et al., 2020]
- Shrinking phenomenon (and subsequent class-wise unfairness) [Mohapatra et al., 2020]





- Problems of standard Randomized Smoothing (RS):
- Certified accuracy "waterfalls".
- Robustness vs. accuracy tradeoff [Gao et al., 2020]
- Shrinking phenomenon (and subsequent class-wise unfairness) [Mohapatra et al., 2020]
- Use input-dependent  $\sigma(x)$  instead of  $\sigma!$





Peter Súkeník IPIDRS July 13, 2022 3 / 15

#### Theorem 2.4

Let  $x_0$  be certified point,  $x_1$  potential adversary,  $p_B$  probability of runner-up class at point  $x_0$ ,  $\sigma_i^2$  the smoothing variance at  $x_i$  and N the dimension. The following two implications hold:

• If  $\sigma_0 > \sigma_1$  and

$$\log\left(\frac{\sigma_1^2}{\sigma_0^2}\right) + 1 - \frac{\sigma_1^2}{\sigma_0^2} < \frac{2\log(p_B)}{N},$$

then  $x_1$  cannot be certified w.r.t.  $x_0$ .

• If  $\sigma_0 < \sigma_1$  and

$$\log\left(\frac{\sigma_1^2}{\sigma_0^2} \frac{N-1}{N}\right) + 1 - \frac{\sigma_1^2}{\sigma_0^2} \frac{N-1}{N} < \frac{2\log(p_B)}{N},$$

then  $x_1$  cannot be certified w.r.t.  $x_0$ .

Peter Súkeník IPIDRS July 13, 2022 3 / 15

Table: Theoretical lower-thresholds for  $\sigma_1/\sigma_0$  for different data dimensions and runner-up class probabilities  $p_B$ .

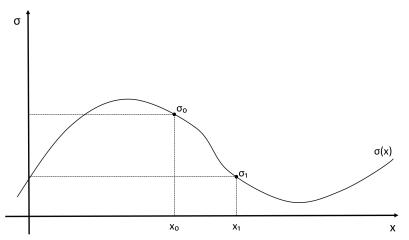
$p_A$	0.1	0.01	0.001	0.00007	N
MNIST	0.946	0.924	0.908	0.892	784
CIFAR10	0.973	0.961	0.953	0.945	3072
ImageNet	0.997	0.995	0.994	0.993	196608



Table: Theoretical lower-thresholds for  $\sigma_1/\sigma_0$  for different data dimensions and runner-up class probabilities  $p_B$ .

$p_A$	0.1	0.01	0.001	0.00007	N
MNIST	0.946	0.924	0.908	0.892	784
CIFAR10	0.973	0.961	0.953	0.945	3072
ImageNet	0.997	0.995	0.994	0.993	196608





 $\label{eq:Figure:Problems} \mbox{Figure: Problems with the curse of dimensionality.}$ 



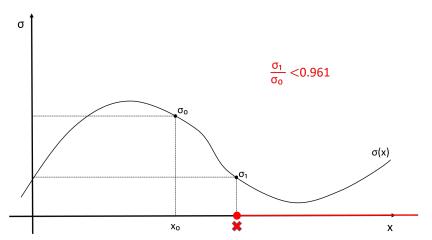


Figure: Problems with the curse of dimensionality.



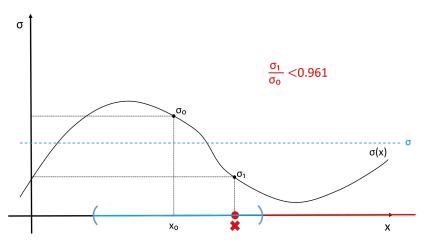


Figure: Problems with the curse of dimensionality.



#### IDRS can still work!

• If we are careful, IDRS can still be useful!



#### IDRS can still work!

- If we are careful, IDRS can still be useful!
- We just need that  $\sigma(x)$  is r-semi-elastic.



#### IDRS can still work!

- If we are careful, IDRS can still be useful!
- We just need that  $\sigma(x)$  is r-semi-elastic.

#### Certified radius

Let  $\sigma(x)$  be an r-semi-elastic function and  $x_0$ ,  $p_B$ , N,  $\sigma_0$  as usual. Then, the certified radius at  $x_0$  guaranteed by our method is

$$CR(x_0) = \sup \{ R \ge 0 : \xi(R) < 0.5 \}$$



Peter Súkeník IPIDRS July 13, 2022 9 / 15

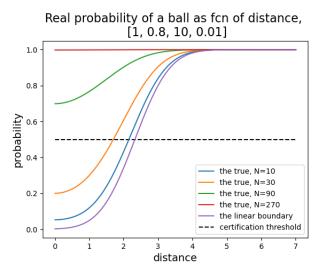
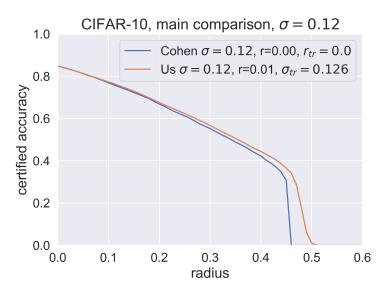


Figure: Numerical evaluation of the certified radii. The function  $\xi_{>}$  and the threshold for different values of N.



#### **IPIDRS** - Contributions

- Generalize framework of [Cohen et al., 2019].
- Point out the curse of dimensionality for IDRS.
- Build abstract framework which enables justified use of IDRS.
- Demonstrate correctly used IDRS for newly proposed  $\sigma(x)$  and compare it to RS.
- Provide additional insights in many aspects of RS and IDRS.



#### References I

- Cohen, J., Rosenfeld, E., and Kolter, Z. (2019).

  Certified adversarial robustness via randomized smoothing.

  In International Conference on Machine Learning, pages 1310–1320.

  PMI R.
- Gao, Y., Rosenberg, H., Fawaz, K., Jha, S., and Hsu, J. (2020). Analyzing accuracy loss in randomized smoothing defenses. arXiv preprint arXiv:2003.01595.
- Mohapatra, J., Ko, C.-Y., Liu, S., Chen, P.-Y., Daniel, L., et al. (2020).
  - Rethinking randomized smoothing for adversarial robustness. arXiv preprint arXiv:2003.01249.



Peter Súkeník IPIDRS July 13, 2022 13 / 15

### APPENDIX: The $\sigma(x)$ design

Let  $\sigma_b$  be a base standard deviation, r the required semi-elasticity,  $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^d$  the training set,  $\mathcal{N}_k(x)$  the k nearest neighbors of x and m the normalization constant. Then:

$$\sigma(x) = \sigma_b \exp \left( r \left( \frac{1}{k} \sum_{x_i \in \mathcal{N}_k(x)} ||x - x_i|| - m \right) \right).$$



Peter Súkeník IPIDRS July 13, 2022 14 / 15

# APPENDIX: Randomized Smoothing (RS)

- Classifier f susceptible against adversarial attacks ⇒ robust smoothed classifier q
- $g(x) = \mathop{\arg\max}_{C \in \mathsf{CLASSES}} \mathbb{P}(f(\tilde{x}) = C),$   $\tilde{x} \sim \mathcal{N}(x, \sigma^2 I).$
- $\sigma$  does *not* depend on x.
- g has provably large certified l<sub>2</sub> robustness.

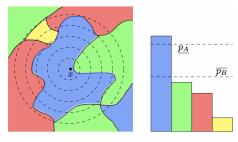


Figure: [Cohen et al., 2019]

