

Towards Better Understanding of Training Certifiably Robust Models against Adversarial Examples

Sungyoon Lee¹ **Woojin Lee**² **Jinseong Park**³ **Jaewook Lee**³

¹Korea Institute for Advanced Study (KIAS)

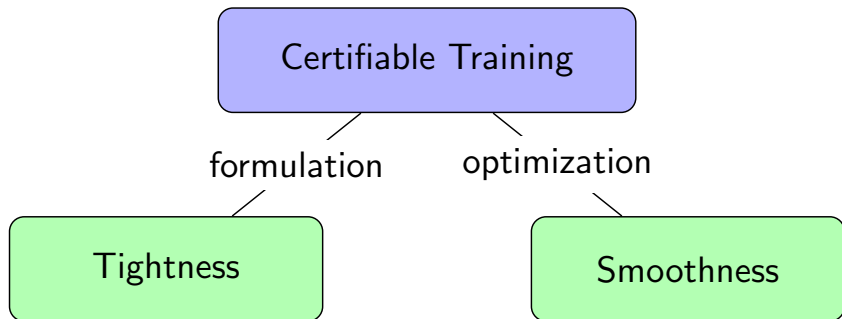
²Dongguk University-Seoul ³Seoul National University

sungyoonlee@kias.re.kr

November 15, 2021

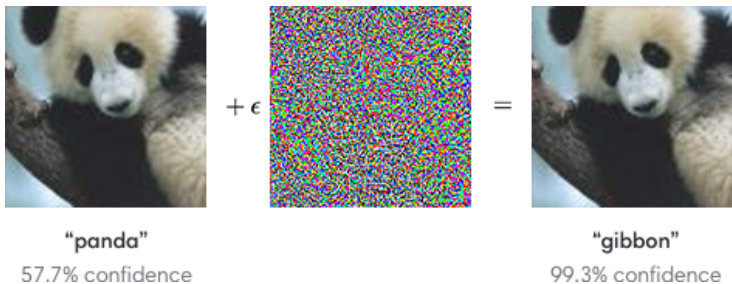


- 1 Introduction - Certifiable Training
- 2 Q. What is a key factor in certifiable training?
- 3 A. Smoothness
- 4 Experimental Results



Introduction - Certifiable Training

Adversarial Examples



Adversarial Example

An input perturbed with a small adversarially designed perturbation that can change the network's prediction [Sze+13].

Heuristic Defenses → Adaptive Attacks

To build a model that is robust to adversarial attacks, many heuristic defenses are proposed, but broken by adaptive attacks.

- $d \rightarrow a$ (d is broken by a)
- Defensive distillation [Pap+16] → z/T [CW16], CW attack [CW17]
- ICLR 18 (preprocessing-based) → BPDA attack [ACW18]
- ICLR 18 (randomization-based) → EOT attack [Ath+18; ACW18]
- Many more → Adaptive attacks [Tra+20; CH20; Cro+20]
- ...

Heuristic Defenses → Adaptive Attacks

To build a model that is robust to adversarial attacks, many heuristic defenses are proposed, but broken by adaptive attacks.

- $d \rightarrow a$ (d is broken by a)
- Defensive distillation [Pap+16] → z/T [CW16], CW attack [CW17]
- ICLR 18 (preprocessing-based) → BPDA attack [ACW18]
- ICLR 18 (randomization-based) → EOT attack [Ath+18; ACW18]
- Many more → Adaptive attacks [Tra+20; CH20; Cro+20]
- ...

To end this arms race of adversarial attack-defense, **certifiable training (certified defense)** is proposed [HA17; RSL18; WK18; Won+18; Dvi+18; MGV18; Gow+18; Zha+19; BV19; LLP20].

Empirical Risk Minimization

$$\min_{\theta \in \Theta} \mathbb{E}_{(x,y) \sim \mathcal{D}} [\ell(f_{\theta}(x), y)] \quad (\text{ERM})$$

Adversarial Risk Minimization

$$\min_{\theta \in \Theta} \mathbb{E}_{(x,y) \sim \mathcal{D}} \left[\max_{x' \in \mathbb{B}(x, \epsilon)} \ell(f_{\theta}(x'), y) \right] \quad (\text{ARM})$$

Worst-case loss: $\max_{x' \in \mathbb{B}(x, \epsilon)} \ell(f_{\theta}(x'), y)$

Certifiable Training

Adversarial Risk Minimization

$$\min_{\theta \in \Theta} \mathbb{E}_{(x,y) \sim \mathcal{D}} \left[\max_{x' \in \mathbb{B}(x, \epsilon)} \ell(f_{\theta}(x'), y) \right] \quad (\text{ARM})$$

Upper Bound Approximation

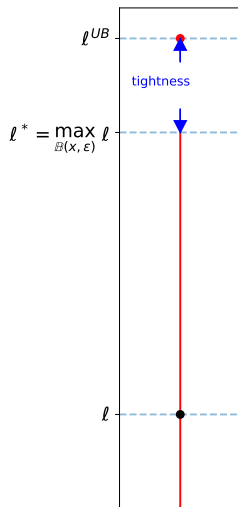
$$\max_{x' \in \mathbb{B}(x, \epsilon)} \ell(f_{\theta}(x'), y) \leq \ell^{UB}(x, y; \theta) \quad (\text{UB})$$

Certifiable training minimizes **the upper bound** to build a "certifiably" robust model.

Certified Training

$$\min_{\theta \in \Theta} \mathbb{E}_{(x,y) \sim \mathcal{D}} \left[\ell^{UB}(x, y; \theta) \right] \quad (\text{CT})$$

Tightness



Interesting Observation

However, IBP [Gow+18] outperforms linear relaxation-based methods, especially when the perturbation is large, despite using much looser bounds.

	IBP		CROWN-IBP ($\beta = 1$)	CAP	OURS
train loss at the beginning	1.64	>	1.20	0.85	1.20
test error at the best checkpoint	73.19	<	75.82	73.91	70.92

Q. What is a key factor in certifiable training?

However, IBP outperforms linear relaxation-based methods, especially when the perturbation is large, despite using much looser bounds.

	IBP		CROWN-IBP ($\beta = 1$)	CAP	OURS
train loss at the beginning	1.64	>	1.20	0.85	1.20
test error at the best checkpoint	73.19	<	75.82	73.91	70.92

- **Q1.** Why does tighter bounds not result in a better performance?
- **Q2.** What other factors may influence the performance?

A. Smoothness

Total training loss: $\mathcal{L} = \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{D}}[\ell]$

Certifiable Training

$$\min_{\theta \in \Theta} \mathcal{L}^*(\theta) \leq \min_{\theta \in \Theta} \mathcal{L}^{UB}(\theta) \quad (\text{CD})$$

- **Formulation**
: **tightness** of the upper bound $\mathcal{L}^{UB}(\theta)$
- **Optimization**
: **smoothness** of the landscape of the objective function $\mathcal{L}^{UB}(\theta)$

Theorem (convergence rate of standard training)

Under some conditions,

$$\mathcal{L}(\theta_{t+1}) \leq \mathcal{L}(\theta_t)(1 - \alpha\gamma_t^{-1}) \quad (1)$$

for some $\alpha > 0$ where $\gamma_t = \frac{\|g_{t+1} - g_t\|}{\|g_t\|}$ with $g_t = \nabla_{\theta} \mathcal{L}(\theta_t)$.

Lower γ_t is favorable for the optimization.

Theorem (convergence rate of certifiable training)

With gradient descent using a step size within an interval I_t during the ramp-up period ($0 \leq \epsilon_t \leq \epsilon$), the loss \mathcal{L}^ϵ for the target perturbation ϵ is reduced with

$$\mathcal{L}^\epsilon(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+1}) \leq \mathcal{L}^\epsilon(\boldsymbol{\theta}_t) \left(1 - \frac{\mu}{2} \cos^2(\phi_t) \|\mathbf{H}_t^\epsilon \mathbf{u}_t\|^{-1}\right) \quad (2)$$

for $\mathbf{u}_t = \frac{\nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \mathcal{L}^{\epsilon_t}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_t)}{\|\nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \mathcal{L}^{\epsilon_t}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_t)\|}$ where $0 < \mu \leq \frac{\|\nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \mathcal{L}^\epsilon\|^2}{2\mathcal{L}^\epsilon}$, $\cos(\phi_t) = \frac{\nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \mathcal{L}^\epsilon \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \mathcal{L}^{\epsilon_t}}{\|\nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \mathcal{L}^\epsilon\| \|\nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \mathcal{L}^{\epsilon_t}\|}$ and \mathbf{H}_t^ϵ satisfies $\mathcal{L}^\epsilon(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+1}) = \mathcal{L}^\epsilon(\boldsymbol{\theta}_t) + \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \mathcal{L}^\epsilon(\boldsymbol{\theta}_t)^T \Delta_t + \frac{1}{2} \Delta_t^T \mathbf{H}_t^\epsilon \Delta_t$ and $\Delta_t^T \mathbf{H}_t^\epsilon \Delta_t > 0$ with $\Delta_t = \boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+1} - \boldsymbol{\theta}_t$.

Lower $\|\mathbf{H}_t^\epsilon \mathbf{u}_t\|$ is favorable for the optimization.

cf. $\|\mathbf{H}_t^\epsilon \mathbf{u}_t\| = \|\mathbf{H}_t^\epsilon \mathbf{g}_t^{\epsilon_t}\| / \|\mathbf{g}_t^{\epsilon_t}\| = \|\mathbf{H}_t^\epsilon \Delta_t\| / \|\Delta_t\| \approx \|\mathbf{g}_{t+1}^\epsilon - \mathbf{g}_t^\epsilon\| / \|\Delta_t\|$

We used the following **non-smoothness measures**:

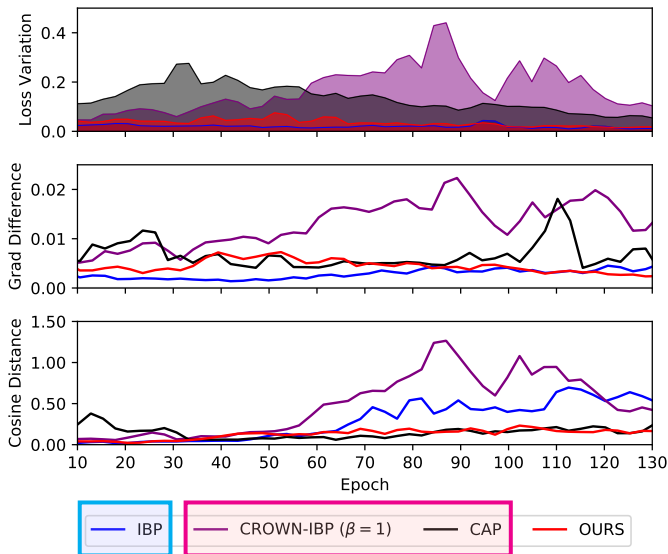
- Loss variation: $|\mathcal{L}^{\epsilon_t}(\boldsymbol{\theta}(\lambda)) - \mathcal{L}^{\epsilon_t}(\boldsymbol{\theta}(0))|$ for $\lambda \in [0, 5]$ where $\boldsymbol{\theta}(\lambda) \equiv \boldsymbol{\theta}_t - \lambda\eta\nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}\mathcal{L}^{\epsilon_t}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_t)$
- Grad Difference: $\|\nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}\mathcal{L}^{\epsilon_t}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_t) - \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}\mathcal{L}^{\epsilon_t}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+1})\|$
- Cosine Distance: $1 - \cos(\nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}\mathcal{L}^{\epsilon_t}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_t), \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}\mathcal{L}^{\epsilon_t}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t+1}))$

Higher non-smoothness measures indicate less smooth loss landscape

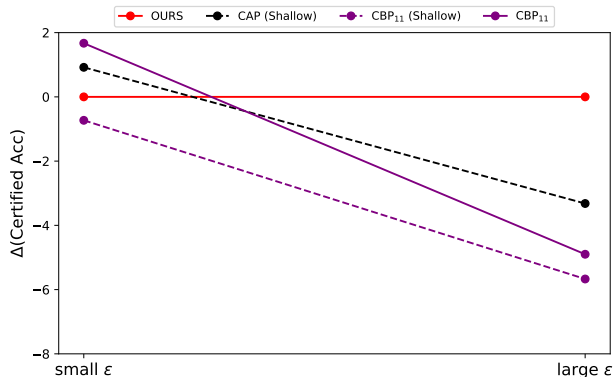
Experimental Results

Non-smoothness measures

Higher (non-smoothness) measures indicate less smooth loss landscape.



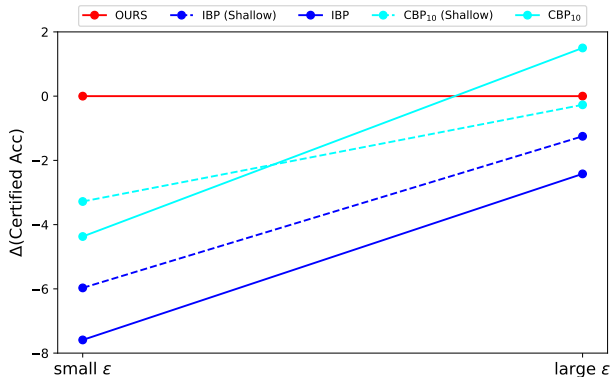
Tightness (small ϵ)



cf. $\text{CBP}_{11} = \text{CROWN-IBP} (\beta = 1)$

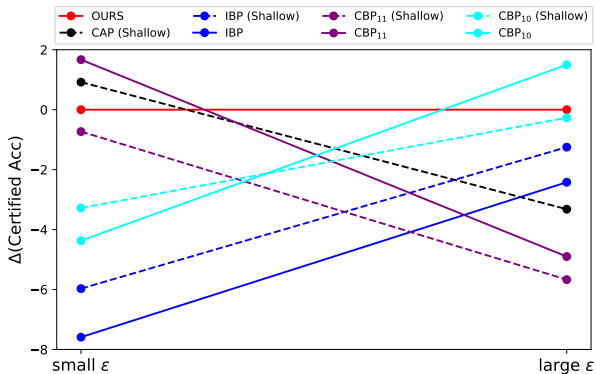
$\Delta(\text{Certified Acc})$ indicates the difference of the certified accuracy with the proposed method when the same architecture is used.

Smoothness (large ϵ)



cf. $\text{CBP}_{10} = \text{CROWN-IBP} (\beta = 1 \rightarrow \beta = 0)$

Tightness (small ϵ) & Smoothness (large ϵ)



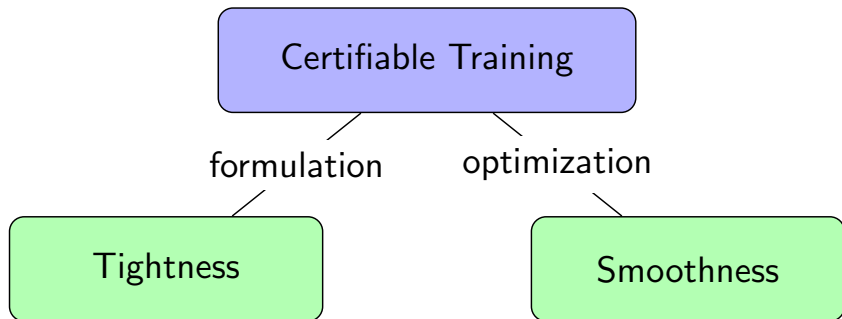
Performance

Table: Test errors (Standard / PGD / Verified error).

Bold and underline numbers are the **1st** and 2nd lowest verified error.

Data	$\epsilon_{\text{test}}(l_{\infty})$	IBP	CROWN-IBP ($\beta = 1$)	CAP	OURS
MNIST	0.1	1.18 / 2.16 / 3.52	1.07 / 1.69 / 2.10	0.80 / 1.73 / 3.19	1.09 / 1.77 / <u>2.36</u>
	0.2	2.00 / 3.29 / <u>6.31</u>	2.99 / 5.50 / 7.97	3.22 / 6.72 / 11.06	1.70 / 3.44 / 4.34
	0.3	3.50 / 5.85 / <u>10.45</u>	5.73 / 10.76 / 16.28	19.19 / 35.84 / 47.85	3.49 / 5.59 / 9.79
	0.4	3.50 / 7.30 / <u>17.96</u>	5.73 / 14.63 / 23.80	-	3.49 / 6.77 / 15.42
CIFAR-10 (Shallow)	2/255	37.98 / 49.40 / 55.39	32.48 / 42.77 / 50.15	28.80 / 38.95 / 48.50	31.49 / 42.73 / <u>49.42</u>
	4/255	46.42 / 57.42 / 62.80	45.56 / 58.24 / 64.47	40.78 / 52.62 / <u>61.88</u>	42.53 / 55.55 / 61.52
	6/255	52.84 / 63.92 / <u>68.79</u>	54.72 / 65.28 / 71.04	49.20 / 60.85 / 69.03	50.19 / 61.88 / 66.90
	8/255	55.71 / 66.79 / <u>70.95</u>	61.37 / 70.66 / 75.37	56.77 / 66.78 / 73.02	56.01 / 66.17 / 69.70
	16/255	67.10 / 75.12 / <u>78.26</u>	76.65 / 81.90 / 84.42	75.11 / 80.67 / 82.07	65.93 / 75.39 / 77.87
CIFAR-10 (Deep)	2/255	39.17 / 48.80 / 55.48	29.02 / 40.17 / 46.22	-	31.48 / 42.52 / <u>47.89</u>
	8/255	59.53 / 65.98 / <u>70.86</u>	59.43 / 65.79 / 73.34	-	50.78 / 62.58 / 68.44
SVHN	0.01	19.91 / 34.12 / 43.83	17.25 / 30.84 / 39.88	16.88 / 30.16 / 37.09	16.41 / 30.43 / <u>39.44</u>

cf. There are more comparison results (RS [Xia+18], DiffAI [MGV18], COLT [BV19], and CBP₁₀ [Zha+19]) in the paper.



Thank You

<https://github.com/sungyoon-lee/LossLandscapeMatters>

References

- Anish Athalye, Nicholas Carlini, and David Wagner. "Obfuscated Gradients Give a False Sense of Security: Circumventing Defenses to Adversarial Examples". In: *International Conference on Machine Learning*. 2018, pp. 274–283.
- Anish Athalye et al. "Synthesizing robust adversarial examples". In: *International conference on machine learning*. PMLR. 2018, pp. 284–293.
- Mislav Balunovic and Martin Vechev. "Adversarial training and provable defenses: Bridging the gap". In: *International Conference on Learning Representations*. 2019.
- Francesco Croce and Matthias Hein. "Reliable evaluation of adversarial robustness with an ensemble of diverse parameter-free attacks". In: *arXiv preprint arXiv:2003.01690* (2020).
- Francesco Croce et al. "RobustBench: a standardized adversarial robustness benchmark". In: *arXiv preprint arXiv:2010.09670* (2020).
- Nicholas Carlini and David Wagner. "Defensive distillation is not robust to adversarial examples". In: *arXiv preprint arXiv:1607.04311* (2016).
- Nicholas Carlini and David Wagner. "Towards evaluating the robustness of neural networks". In: *2017 IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy (SP)*. IEEE. 2017, pp. 39–57.
- Krishnamurthy Dvijotham et al. "Training verified learners with learned verifiers". In: *arXiv preprint arXiv:1805.10265* (2018).
- Sven Gowal et al. "On the effectiveness of interval bound propagation for training verifiably robust models". In: *arXiv preprint arXiv:1810.12715* (2018).
- Matthias Hein and Maksym Andriushchenko. "Formal guarantees on the robustness of a classifier against adversarial manipulation". In: *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*. 2017, pp. 2266–2276.
- Sungyoon Lee, Jaewook Lee, and Saerom Park. "Lipschitz-Certifiable Training with a Tight Outer Bound". In: *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems* 33 (2020).
- Matthew Mirman, Timon Gehr, and Martin Vechev. "Differentiable abstract interpretation for provably robust neural networks". In: *International Conference on Machine Learning*. 2018, pp. 3575–3583.
- Nicolas Papernot et al. "Distillation as a defense to adversarial perturbations against deep neural networks". In: *2016 IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy (SP)*. IEEE. 2016, pp. 582–597.
- Aditi Raghunathan, Jacob Steinhardt, and Percy S Liang. "Semidefinite relaxations for certifying robustness to adversarial examples". In: *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*. 2018, pp. 10877–10887.
- Christian Szegedy et al. "Intriguing properties of neural networks". In: *arXiv preprint arXiv:1312.6199* (2013).
- Florian Tramèr et al. "On adaptive attacks to adversarial example defenses". In: *arXiv preprint arXiv:2002.08347* (2020).
- Eric Wong and Zico Kolter. "Provable defenses against adversarial examples via the convex outer adversarial polytope". In: *International Conference on Machine Learning*. PMLR. 2018, pp. 5286–5295.
- Eric Wong et al. "Scaling provable adversarial defenses". In: *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*. 2018, pp. 8400–8409.
- Kai Y Xiao et al. "Training for faster adversarial robustness verification via inducing relu stability". In: *arXiv preprint arXiv:1809.03008* (2018).
- Huan Zhang et al. "Towards Stable and Efficient Training of Verifiably Robust Neural Networks". In: *International Conference on Learning Representations*. 2019.