

Adversarial Examples Might be Avoidable: The Role of Data Concentration in Adversarial Robustness



Ambar Pal



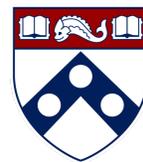
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Adversarial Examples

- Small, targeted *adversarial* perturbations mislead modern classifiers



Dog

+



=



Cat

Impossibility Results

- Small, targeted *adversarial* perturbations mislead modern classifiers



Dog

+



=



Cat



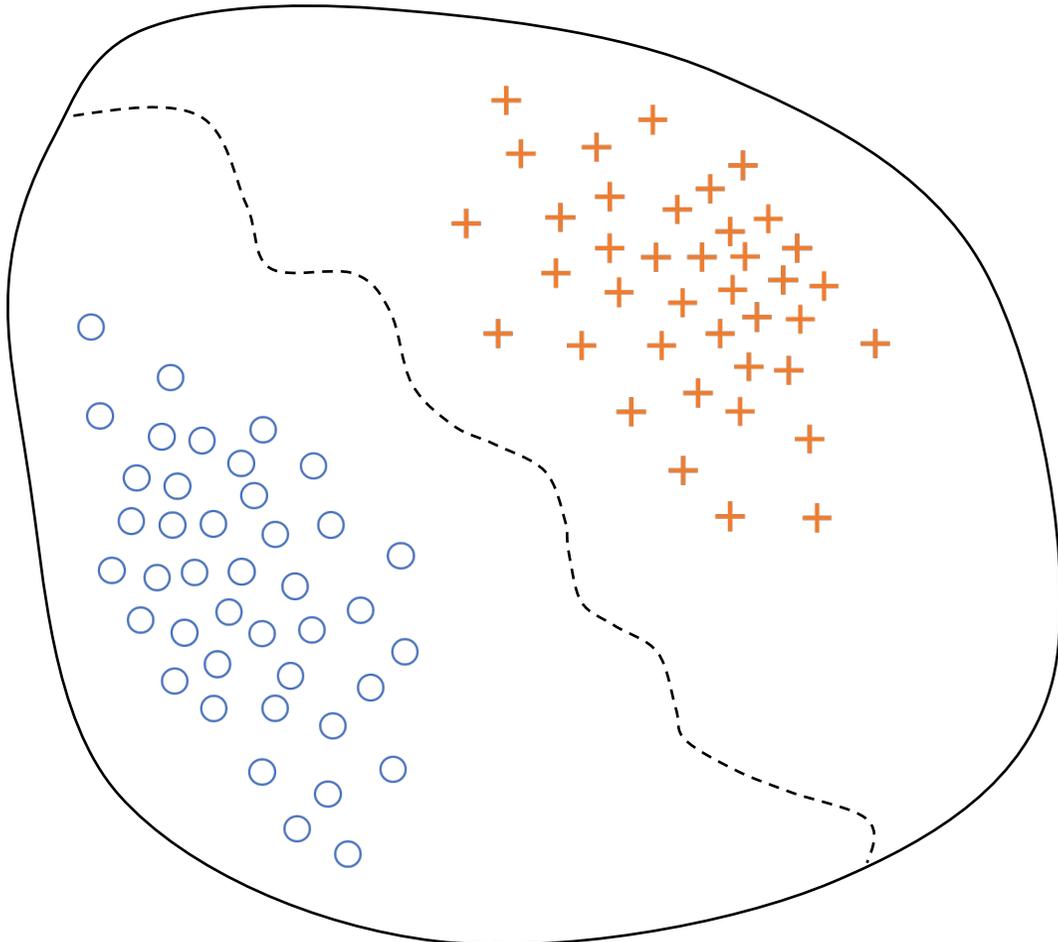
- Adversarial examples exist for *any* classifier

“any classifier admits ϵ -adversarial examples for the minority class with probability $1 - C_p \exp(-n\epsilon^2)$ ”

- What is going on?

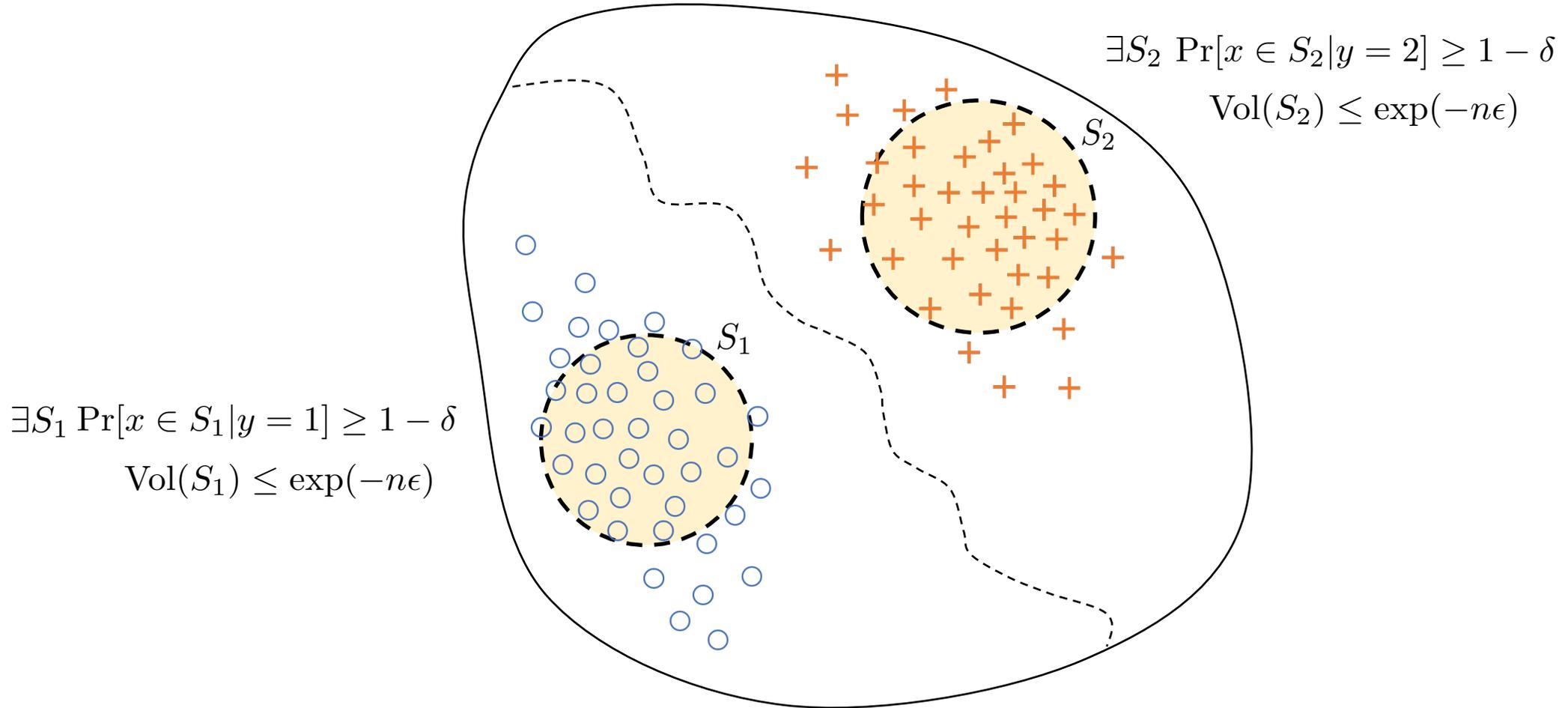
Adversarial vulnerability for any classifier, Fawzi+18. Are adversarial examples inevitable? Shafahi+18. Generalized no free lunch theorem for adversarial robustness, Dohmatob19.

Data Concentration



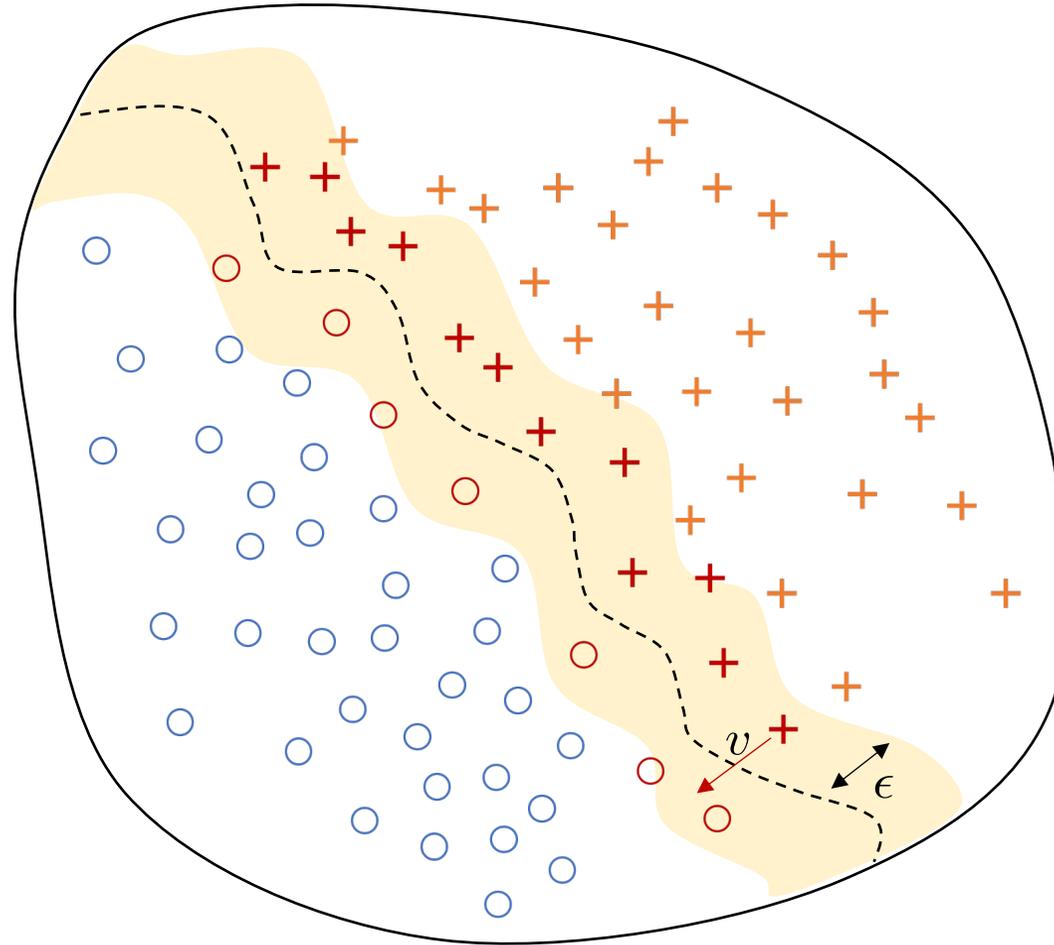
Concentrated

(ϵ, δ) - concentration



(ϵ, δ) - robust classifier

$$\mathbb{P}(\exists v \text{ such that } \|v\| \leq \epsilon, f(x + v) \neq y) \leq \delta$$



Geometric Characterization of Robustness

Theorem 1

$\exists f$ such that f is (ϵ, δ) -robust for p



p is (ϵ, δ) -concentrated

necessary

Theorem 2

p is strongly- $(\epsilon, \delta, \gamma)$ -concentrated



$\exists f$ such that f is $(\epsilon, \delta + \gamma)$ -robust for p

sufficient

Application I

Wide class of distributions where adversarial examples do *not* exist with high probability

“Adversarial Impossibility results are vacuous for natural data-distributions” $1 - C_p \exp(-n\epsilon^2)$

Application II

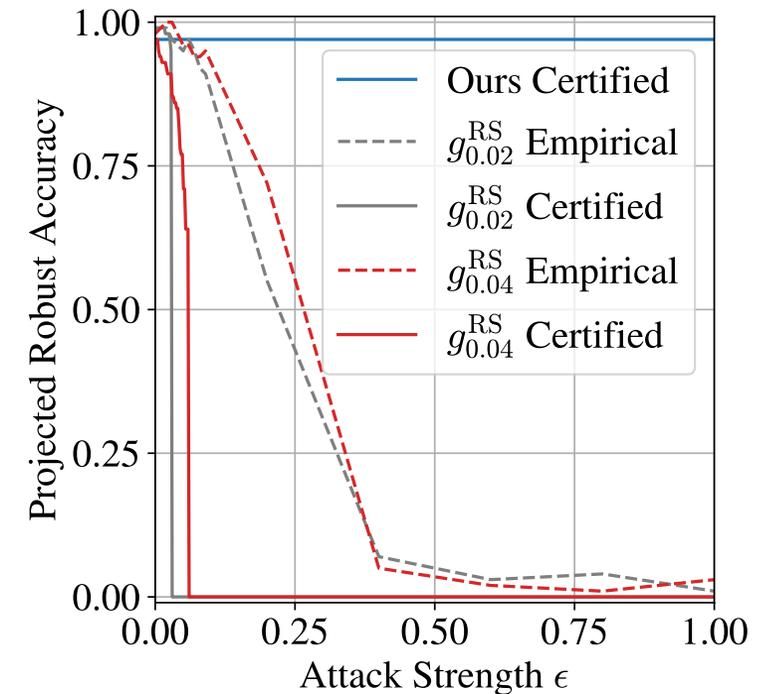
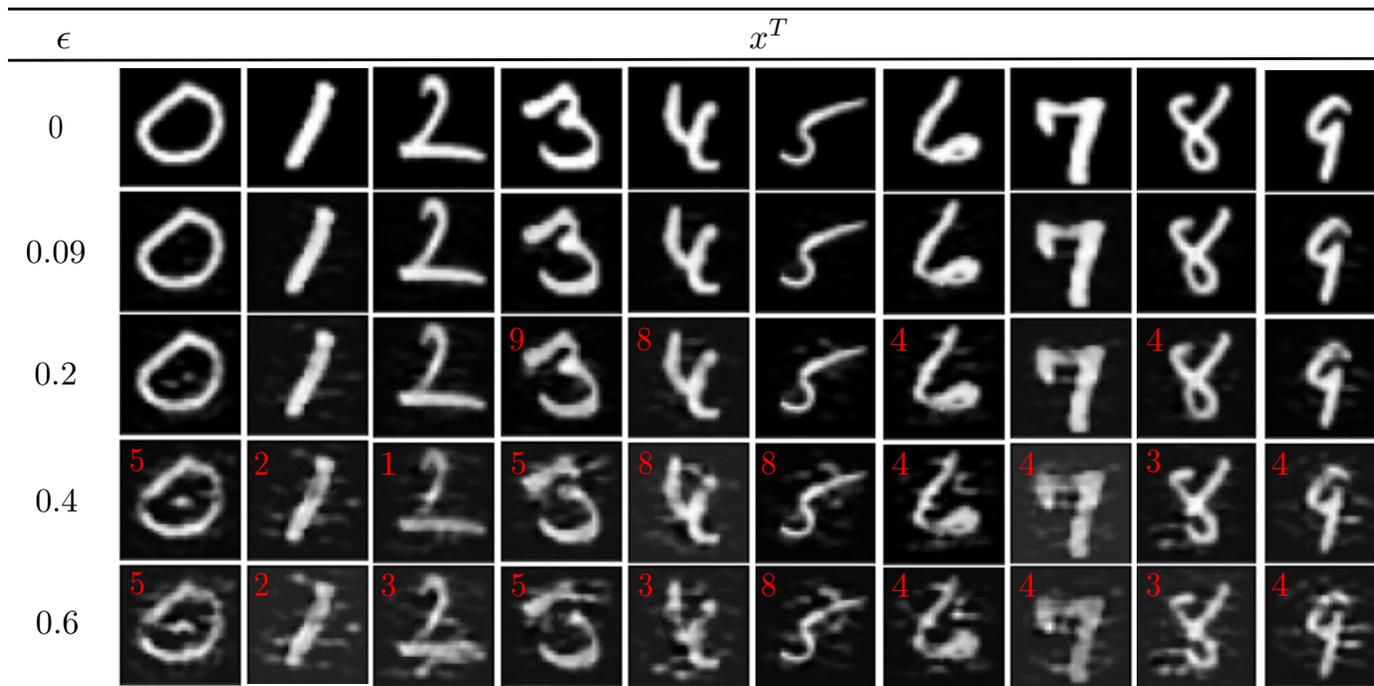
Construction of a robust classifier for distributions lying near linear subspaces (e.g., MNIST)

Certifying large- ℓ_p perturbations

Application II

Construction of a robust classifier for distributions lying near linear subspaces (e.g., MNIST)

- The certificate is not limited to spherical balls



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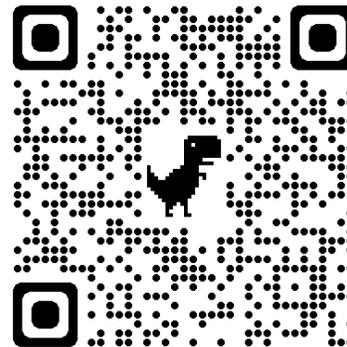
Application I

Wide class of distributions where adversarial examples do *not* exist with high probability

Application II

Construction of a robust classifier for distributions lying near linear subspaces (e.g., MNIST)

Thank You



Location: Great
Hall & Hall B1+B2
Poster #724

Time: Wed 13 Dec
0845 - 1045 PT