# Cooperation or Competition: Avoiding Player Domination for Multi-target Robustness by Adaptive Budgets

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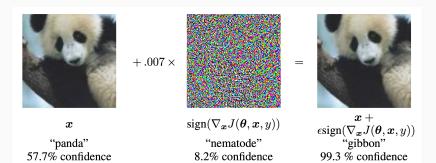


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# Background

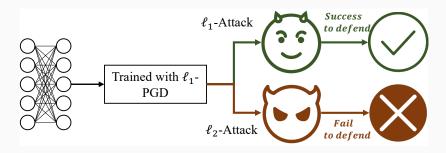
Machine learning models are susceptible to adversarial examples

#### Figure 1: Example of adversarial examples. Image credit [2].



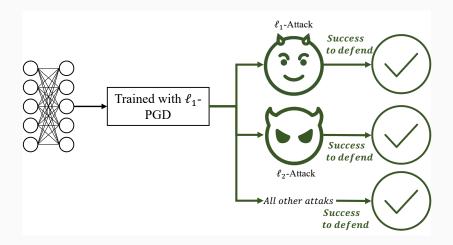
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**Figure 2:** Most of the existing defenses are not universally robust and fail to defend against other adversaries [3, 4].

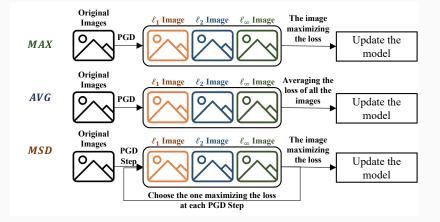


## Ultimate goal of robustness

Figure 3: Targeting robustness against multiple adversaries simultaneously [1].



## **Previous Methods**



# **Our Analysis**

## **Theoretical Analysis on SVM**

We first introduce the data distribution and the SVM model.

#### **Data Distribution**

Data  $\mathbf{x}$  and label y are sampled as

$$y \overset{\text{u.a.r}}{\sim} \{+1, -1\}, \quad x_1 = \begin{cases} +y, & \text{w.p. } p; \\ -y, & \text{w.p. } 1-p, \end{cases} \quad x_2, \dots, x_{d+1} \overset{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(\mu y, 1).$$

#### SVM Model

We train a linear SVM model  $f_{w}(\cdot)$  with soft-SVM loss on the data sampled as above:

$$egin{aligned} \min_{\mathbf{w}} \mathbb{E}_{(\mathbf{x},y)\sim\mathcal{D}} & \sum_{eta\in\{1,2,\infty\}} \gamma_{eta} \max\left(0,1-y f_{\mathbf{w}}(\mathbf{x}+\delta(\mathbf{x})_{eta})
ight), \ & \text{s.t.} \ \|\mathbf{w}\|_2 = 1\,, \end{aligned}$$

where  $f_{\mathbf{w}}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{w}^{\top} \mathbf{x}$ ,  $\delta_{\rho}(\mathbf{x})$  is the *p*-adversarial example for  $\mathbf{x}$ , and  $\gamma = [\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_{\infty}]$  satisfies  $\sum_{i \in \{1, 2, \infty\}} \gamma_i = 1$ .

## **Theoretical Analysis on SVM**

We first found that under the following case, there will be player domination.

#### Definition (Player dominates the cooperative game)

If  $\exists i \in [k]$  such that  $\gamma_i^t = 1$  and  $\gamma_j^t = 0, \forall j \in [K]/\{i\}, \forall t$ , then we call that player dominates the bargaining game.

#### $\ell_{infty}$ domination, Informal

Let 
$$\mu \ge 4/\sqrt{d}$$
,  $\epsilon_{\infty} \ge 2\mu$ ,  $p \le 0.977$ ,  $\epsilon_{\infty} \ge \frac{2}{d}\epsilon_1$  and  $\epsilon_{\infty} \ge \sqrt{\frac{2}{d}}\epsilon_2$ . With MAX and MSD,  $\infty$ -player ( $\infty$ -adversary) dominates the training procedure as shown below.



After analyzing the training dynamics of SVM, we notice that when the  $\infty$ -player dominates the bargaining game, and given  $\epsilon_{\infty} > \mu$ , the SVM model may not converge.

Theorem [Player domination makes the training procedure not converge, Informal]

With MAX and MSD, if  $\infty$ -player dominates and  $\epsilon_{\infty} > \mu$ , the weights for the non-robust features flips over time, *i.e.*,

 $\operatorname{sign}(\mathbf{w}_i^t) = -\operatorname{sign}(\mathbf{w}_i^{t-1}), \forall i \geq 2.$ 

## Theoretical Analysis on Linear Model

Assuming the loss function of each player is denoted as  $\ell_k, k \in [K]$ , which is *L*-smooth and  $\mu$ -strongly convex, we have the following theorems.

Theorem [MAX and MSD might not converge, Informal]

If the training is dominated by one player during the whole game, then the loss of all players and the overall loss would **increase** as time t **grows**.

#### Theorem [AVG's loss decreases, Informal]

Using AVG to train the linear model, the overall loss **decreases** as time *t* **grows**.

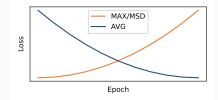


Figure 4: An example under the linear case.

# **Our Method**

## AdaptiveBudget

AdaptiveBudget is designed to avoid the phenomenon of the same player dominating the whole training procedure as this phenomenon leads to non-convergence under SVM and Linear cases.

**Algorithm 1** Framework of Multi-target Adversarial Training with Adaptive Budget

**Require:** Training Epochs E, Training samples  $(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y})$ , adversarial budgets  $(\epsilon_{\infty}, \epsilon_1, \epsilon_2)$ , model  $f(\cdot)$ , loss function  $\ell$ 1: for  $e \in [E]$  do 2: for  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in (\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y})$  do  $g_p \leftarrow \ell'(\mathbf{x} + \boldsymbol{\delta}_p(\mathbf{x})), \ \boldsymbol{\delta}_p(\mathbf{x}) \leftarrow \mathsf{PGD}(\mathbf{x}, k, \eta, \ell, \epsilon_p, \ell), \forall p \in \{1, 2, \infty\}$ 3: 4: Get adaptive budgets  $\hat{\epsilon}_1, \hat{\epsilon}_2, \hat{\epsilon}_\infty \leftarrow AdaptiveBudget([g_1, g_2, g_\infty], [\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2, \epsilon_\infty]);$ 5 Adversarial training using MAX, MSD or AVG with budgets  $(\hat{\epsilon}_1, \hat{\epsilon}_2, \hat{\epsilon}_\infty)$ ; 6. end for 7: end for 8: Return the classifier f. g٠ 10: AdaptiveBudget(Gradients[ $g_1, g_2, g_\infty$ ], Epsilon[ $\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2, \epsilon_\infty$ ]): 11:  $p_{\max} \leftarrow \operatorname{argmax}_{p \in \{\infty, 1, 2\}} \|g_p\|, p_{\min} \leftarrow \operatorname{argmin}_{p \in \{\infty, 1, 2\}} \|g_p\|;$ 12:  $p_{\text{mid}} \leftarrow \{1, 2, \infty\}/\{p_{\text{max}}, p_{\text{min}}\};$  $\epsilon_{p_{\max}} \leftarrow \epsilon_{p_{\max}} \cdot \frac{\|g_{p_{\max}}\|}{\|g_{p_{\max}}\|}, \quad \epsilon_{p_{\min}} \leftarrow \epsilon_{p_{\min}} \cdot \frac{\|g_{p_{\min}}\|}{\|g_{p_{\max}}\|};$ 13: 14: Return  $\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2, \epsilon_\infty$ .

# **Experimental Results**

$ \begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $	$\begin{array}{c} MAX \\ \ell_1 \text{ (ours)} \end{array}$	$\ell_2$ (ours)	$\underset{\ell_1 \text{ (ours)}}{\text{MSD}}$	$\ell_2$ (ours)	$\begin{array}{c} \text{AVG} \\ \ell_1 \text{ (ours)} \end{array}$	$\ell_2$ (ours)
Clean Accuracy (%) 97.2 99.1 99.2	98.6 98.9	98.9 98.2	98.3	98.9 99.1	99.1	99.1
$\ell_1 \; PGD \; Robust \; Acc \; (\%) \; \left  \; 47.3^* \; \right  \; 67.8^* \; \left  \; 54.6^* \; \right  \;$	67.1* <b>71.4</b> ↑	<b>69.7</b> ↑ 67.3*	66.8↓	65.9↓   70.6*	68.2↓	68.9↓
$\ell_2 \; PGD \; Robust \; Acc \; (\%) \; \left  \; 24.1^* \; \right  \; 66.8^* \; \left  \; 61.8^* \; \right  \;$	67.2* <b>69.4</b> ↑	<b>69.5</b> ↑ 68.0*	67.9↓	65.3↓ 69.4*	68.3↓	68.3↓
$\ell_\infty$ PGD Robust Acc (%) $\left  \begin{array}{c c} 0^* & 0.1^* \\ \end{array} \right $ 88.9* $\left  \begin{array}{c c} \end{array} \right $	21.2* <b>67.2</b> ↑	<b>67.6</b> ↑ 62.4*	<b>69.7</b> ↑	<b>69.7</b> ↑ 59.5*	<b>67.7</b> ↑	<b>65.6</b> ↑
All PGD Robust Acc (%) 0* 0.1* 52.1*	21.2* <b>61.3</b> ↑	<b>61.4</b> ↑ 59.7*	<b>62.1</b> ↑	<b>61.0</b> ↑   55.4*	<b>59.2</b> ↑	<b>58.2</b> ↑

Models w. adaptive budget	<i>ℓ</i> <sub>1</sub>	<i>l</i> <sub>2</sub>	$\ell_{\infty}$		$\underset{\ell_1 \text{ (ours)}}{\text{MAX}}$	$\ell_2$ (ours)		$\underset{\ell_1 \text{ (ours)}}{\text{MSD}}$	$\ell_2$ (ours)		$\begin{array}{c} \text{AVG} \\ \ell_1 \text{ (ours)} \end{array}$	$\ell_2$ (ours)
Clean Accuracy	92.4	87.5	84.2	79.6	76.9	78.7	79.2	77.6	79.0	83.8	81.6	81.5
$\ell_1$ PGD Robust Acc (%)	90.8	31.7	17.3	44.0*	<b>50.7</b> ↑	<b>51.7</b> ↑	50.8*	<b>51.2</b> ↑	<b>52.6</b> ↑	55.7*	<b>57.3</b> ↑	<b>56.3</b> ↑
$\ell_2$ PGD Robust Acc (%)	0.1	64.0	60.6	55.6*	<b>63.4</b> ↑	<b>65.1</b> ↑	64.3*	63.6↓	<b>65.5</b> ↑	67.0*	66.6↓	67.0
$\ell_\infty$ PGD Robust Acc (%)	0	27.8	51.2	41.3*	<b>47.5</b> ↑	<b>47.6</b> ↑	45.7*	<b>48.4</b> ↑	<b>47.2</b> ↑	39.4*	<b>45.5</b> ↑	<b>44.2</b> ↑
All PGD Robust Acc (%)	0	23.8	17.3	40.4*	<b>46.0</b> ↑	<b>46.8</b> ↑	44.1*	<b>47.2</b> ↑	<b>46.4</b> ↑	39.2*	<b>45.2</b> ↑	<b>43.6</b> ↑
$\ell_1$ AA Robust Acc (%)	0	23.8	6.2	41.4*	<b>45.7</b> ↑	<b>45.5</b> ↑	45.5*	<b>46.4</b> ↑	<b>46.7</b> ↑	49.7*	<b>52.7</b> ↑	<b>50.8</b> ↑
$\ell_2$ AA Robust Acc (%)	0	63.0	57.4	53.7*	<b>60.4</b> ↑	<b>63.2</b> ↑	61.9*	<b>62.3</b> ↑	<b>62.1</b> ↑	65.4*	64.6↓	<b>65.5</b> ↑
$\ell_\infty$ AA Robust Acc (%)	0	26.1	48.0	38.4*	<b>44.7</b> ↑	<b>44.1</b> ↑	43.1*	<b>45.2</b> ↑	<b>44.4</b> ↑	37.0*	<b>43.1</b> ↑	<b>42.1</b> ↑
All AA Robust Acc (%)	0	19.5	6.2	37.6*	<b>42.9</b> ↑	<b>42.3</b> ↑	41.6*	<b>43.4</b> ↑	<b>43.0</b> ↑	36.6*	<b>42.5</b> ↑	<b>41.2</b> ↑

Models w. <b>AdaptiveBudget</b>		$\begin{array}{c} MAX \\ \ell_1 \text{ (ours)} \end{array}$	$\ell_2$ (ours)		$\underset{\ell_1 \text{ (ours)}}{\text{MSD}}$	$\ell_2$ (ours)		AVG $\ell_1$ (ours)	$\ell_2$ (ours)
Clean Accuracy	55.49*	56.48	55.53	56.09*	55.52	54.94	59.94*	57.78	58.16
$\ell_1$ PGD Robust Acc (%)	25.45*	<b>29.27</b> ↑	29.78↑	35.50*	30.31↓	28.87↓	30.35*	<b>33.16</b> ↑	<b>32.62</b> ↑
$\ell_2$ PGD Robust Acc (%)	39.55*	<b>40.00</b> ↑	39.85↑	40.14*	<b>40.28</b> ↑	39.28↓	40.26*	<b>41.03</b> ↑	<b>40.27</b> ↑
$\ell_\infty$ PGD Robust Acc (%)	25.03*	<b>25.34</b> ↑	25.87↑	24.83*	<b>26.19</b> ↑	<b>25.59</b> ↑	18.92*	<b>21.81</b> ↑	<b>21.57</b> ↑
All PGD Robust Acc $(\%)$	21.11*	<b>24.14</b> ↑	24.76↑	25.10*	25.03↓	24.43↓	18.61*	<b>21.55</b> ↑	<b>21.16</b> ↑
$\ell_1$ AA Robust Acc (%)	13.00*	<b>23.00</b> ↑	20.90↑	25.10*	24.00↓	24.20↓	25.20*	<b>28.60</b> ↑	<b>28.00</b> ↑
$\ell_2$ AA Robust Acc (%)	36.30*	35.60↓	36.40↑	37.60*	35.80↓	36.40↓	37.00*	<b>37.90</b> ↑	<b>37.10</b> ↑
$\ell_\infty$ AA Robust Acc (%)	22.00*	21.50↓	22.30↑	21.80*	<b>22.80</b> ↑	<b>22.70</b> ↑	16.30*	<b>19.00</b> ↑	<b>19.70</b> ↑
All AA Robust Acc (%)	12.20*	<b>20.60</b> ↑	18.60↑	21.00*	<b>21.30</b> ↑	<b>21.50</b> ↑	16.10*	<b>18.90</b> ↑	<b>19.50</b> ↑

# Conclusion

 We show the first theoretical results on the convergence of MAX, MSD, and AVG on the multi-target robustness.

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- We design a novel algorithm namely AdaptiveBudget which is able to alleviate the player domination phenomenon and thus might avoid the non-convergence of MAX and MSD under SVM and Linear cases.

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- We design a novel algorithm namely AdaptiveBudget which is able to alleviate the player domination phenomenon and thus might avoid the non-convergence of MAX and MSD under SVM and Linear cases.
- Experimental results show that AdaptiveBudget improves the performance of MSD, MAX, and AVG.

# **Thanks for listening!**

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