



# Robustness and Accuracy Could Be Reconcilable by (Proper) Definition

Tianyu Pang<sup>1 2</sup>, Min Lin<sup>1</sup>, Xiao Yang<sup>2</sup>, Jun Zhu<sup>2</sup>, Shuicheng Yan<sup>1</sup>

ICML | 2022



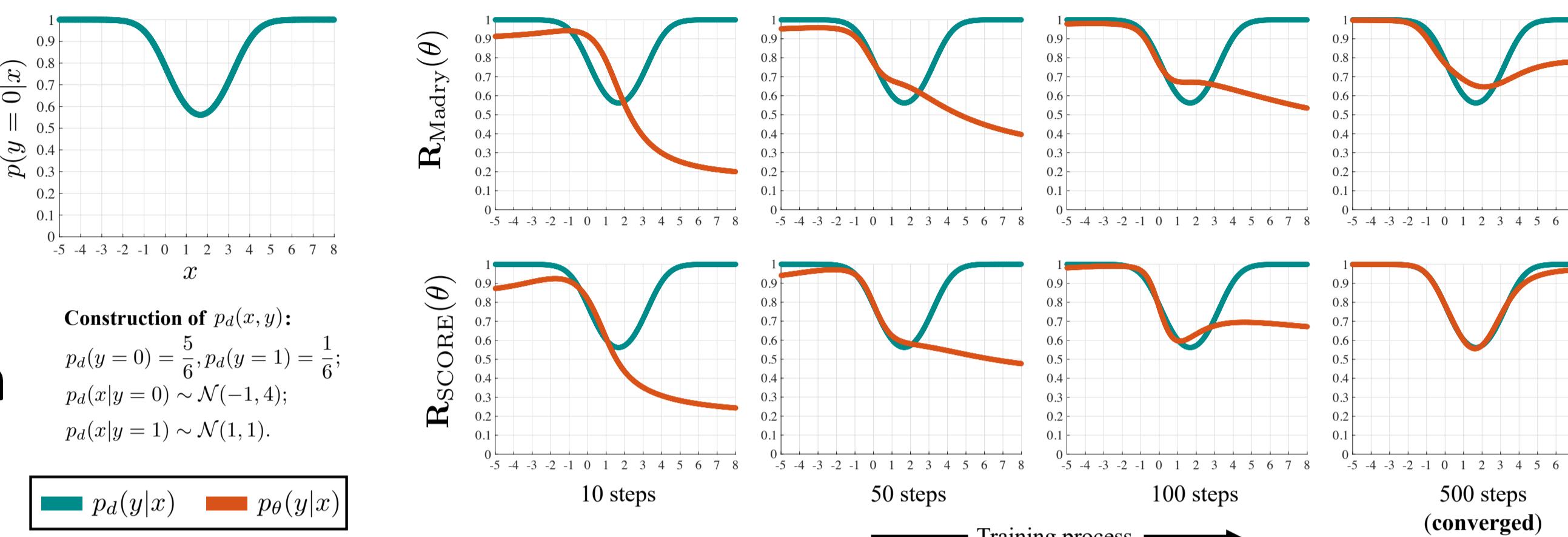
- What is an **accurate** model?

An **accurate** model has **low standard error**:

$$R_{\text{Standard}} = \mathbb{E}_{p_d(x)} [\text{KL} (p_d(y|x) \| p_\theta(y|x))]$$

**data distribution**      **model distribution**

Optimal solution:  $p_{\theta^*}(y|x) = p_d(y|x)$



60,000 training pairs, mimics the expectation form

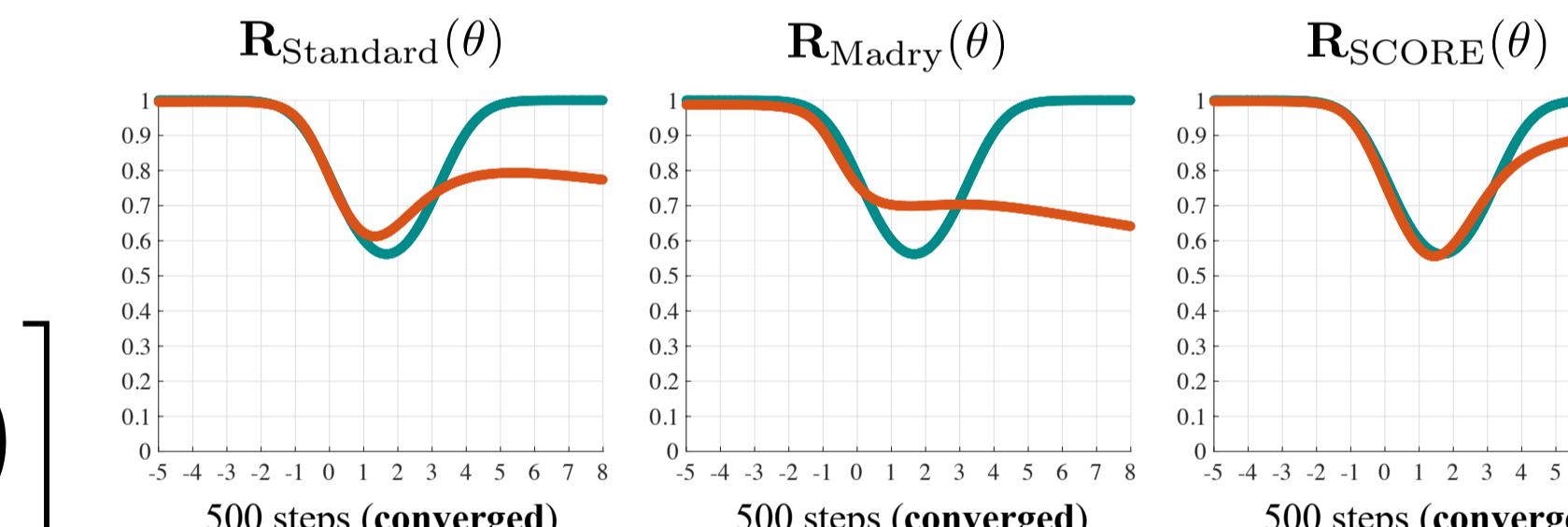
- What is a **robust** model?

A **robust** model has **low robust error**:

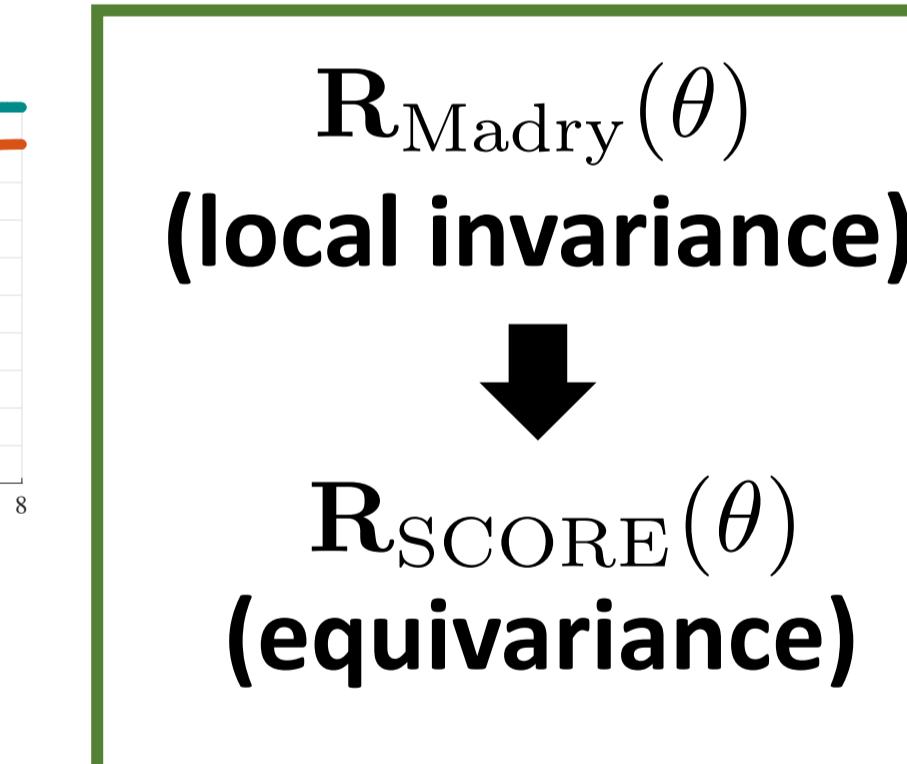
(Madry et al. ICLR 2018)

$$R_{\text{Madry}} = \mathbb{E}_{p_d(x)} \left[ \max_{x' \in B(x)} \text{KL} (p_d(y|x) \| p_\theta(y|x')) \right]$$

Optimal solution:  $p_{\theta^*}(y|x) \neq p_d(y|x)$



6 training pairs, mimics the finite-sample form



- Self-COnsistent Robust Error (**SCORE**)

$$R_{\text{SCORE}}(\theta) = \mathbb{E}_{p_d(x)} \left[ \max_{x' \in B(x)} \text{KL} (p_d(y|x') \| p_\theta(y|x')) \right]$$

(1) **Self-consistency**:  $p_{\theta^*}(y|x) = p_d(y|x)$

(2) Keep the paradigm of **robust optimization**

- How to practically optimize SCORE?

Substitute KL divergence with any **distance metric**  $\mathcal{D}$

$$R_{\text{Madry}}^{\mathcal{D}}(\theta) = \mathbb{E}_{p_d(x)} \left[ \max_{x' \in B(x)} \mathcal{D} (p_d(y|x) \| p_\theta(y|x')) \right];$$

$$R_{\text{SCORE}}^{\mathcal{D}}(\theta) = \mathbb{E}_{p_d(x)} \left[ \max_{x' \in B(x)} \mathcal{D} (p_d(y|x') \| p_\theta(y|x')) \right]$$

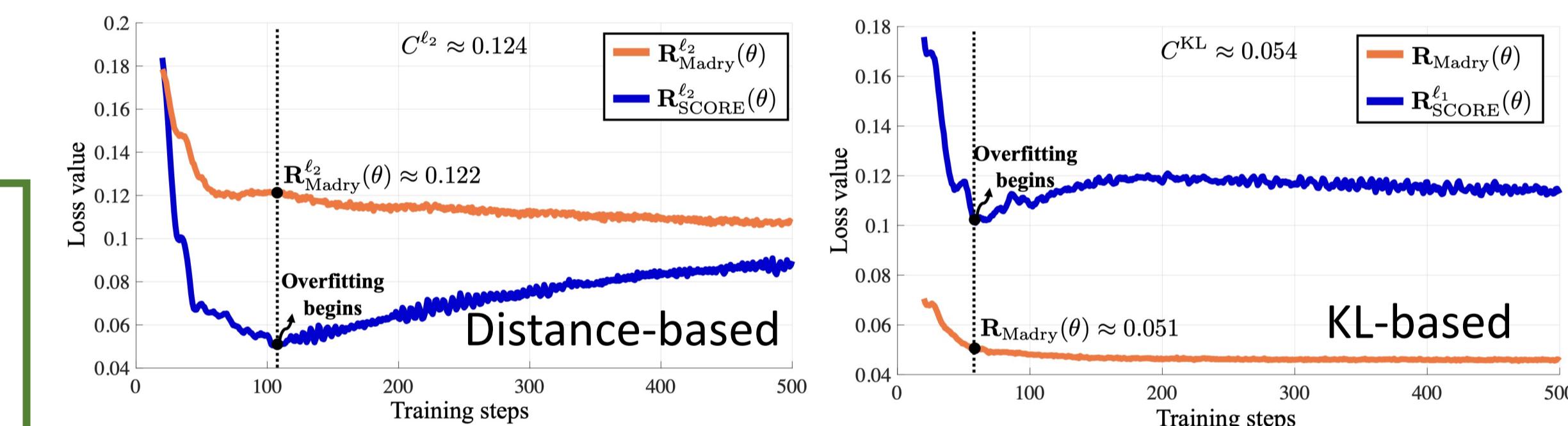
- Upper and lower bounds for SCORE

$$|R_{\text{Madry}}^{\mathcal{D}}(\theta) - C^{\mathcal{D}}| \leq R_{\text{SCORE}}^{\mathcal{D}}(\theta) \leq R_{\text{Madry}}^{\mathcal{D}}(\theta) + C^{\mathcal{D}},$$

$$\text{where } C^{\mathcal{D}} = \mathbb{E}_{p_d(x)} \left[ \max_{x' \in B(x)} \mathcal{D} (p_d(y|x) \| p_d(y|x')) \right]$$

**Upper bound**: without estimating  $\nabla_x \log p_d(y|x)$

**Lower bound**: indicates overfitting phenomena



Dataset	Method	Architecture	DDPM	Batch	Epoch	Clean	AutoAttack
CIFAR-10 ( $\ell_\infty, \epsilon = 8/255$ )	Rice et al. (2020)	WRN-34-20	x	128	200	85.34	53.42
	Zhang et al. (2020)	WRN-34-10	x	128	120	84.52	53.51
	Pang et al. (2021)	WRN-34-20	x	128	110	86.43	54.39
	Wu et al. (2020)	WRN-34-10	x	128	200	85.36	56.17
	Gowal et al. (2020)	WRN-70-16	x	512	200	85.29	57.14
	Rebuffi et al. (2021) <sup>†</sup>	WRN-28-10	1M	1024	800	85.97	60.73
	+ Ours (KL → SE, $\beta = 3$ )	WRN-28-10	1M	512	400	<b>88.61</b>	<b>61.04</b>
	+ Ours (KL → SE, $\beta = 4$ )	WRN-28-10	1M	512	400	<b>88.10</b>	<b>61.51</b>
	Rebuffi et al. (2021) <sup>†</sup>	WRN-70-16	1M	1024	800	86.94	63.58
	+ Ours (KL → SE, $\beta = 3$ )	WRN-70-16	1M	512	400	<b>89.01</b>	<b>63.35</b>
	+ Ours (KL → SE, $\beta = 4$ )	WRN-70-16	1M	512	400	<b>88.57</b>	<b>63.74</b>
	Gowal et al. (2021)	WRN-70-16	100M	1024	2000	88.74	66.10
	Wu et al. (2020)	WRN-34-10	x	128	200	60.38	28.86
	Gowal et al. (2020)	WRN-70-16	x	512	200	60.86	30.03
CIFAR-100 ( $\ell_\infty, \epsilon = 8/255$ )	Rebuffi et al. (2021) <sup>†</sup>	WRN-28-10	1M	1024	800	59.18	30.81
	+ Ours (KL → SE, $\beta = 3$ )	WRN-28-10	1M	512	400	<b>63.66</b>	<b>31.08</b>
	+ Ours (KL → SE, $\beta = 4$ )	WRN-28-10	1M	512	400	<b>62.08</b>	<b>31.40</b>
	Rebuffi et al. (2021) <sup>†</sup>	WRN-70-16	1M	1024	800	60.46	33.49
	+ Ours (KL → SE, $\beta = 3$ )	WRN-70-16	1M	512	400	<b>65.56</b>	<b>33.05</b>
	+ Ours (KL → SE, $\beta = 4$ )	WRN-70-16	1M	512	400	<b>63.99</b>	<b>33.65</b>

Find more interesting conclusions in our paper!