Improving Adversarial Robustness via Unlabeled Out-of-Domain Data

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Abstract

Data augmentation by incorporating cheap unlabeled data from multiple domains is a powerful way to improve prediction especially when there is limited labeled data. In this work, we investigate how adversarial robustness can be enhanced by leveraging out-of-domain unlabeled data. We demonstrate that for broad classes of distributions and classifiers, there exists a sample complexity gap between standard and robust classification. We quantify to what degree this gap can be bridged via leveraging unlabeled samples from a shifted domain by providing both upper and lower bounds. Moreover, we show settings where we achieve better adversarial robustness when the unlabeled data come from a shifted domain rather than the same domain as the labeled data. We also investigate how to leverage out-of-domain data when some structural information, such as sparsity, is shared between labeled and unlabeled domains. Experimentally, we augment two object recognition datasets (CIFAR-10 and SVHN) with easy to obtain and unlabeled out-of-domain data and demonstrate substantial improvement in the model’s robustness against \(\ell_\infty\) adversarial attacks on the original domain.

1 Introduction

Robustness to adversarial attacks has been a major focus in machine learning security \([1,12,26]\), and has been intensively studied in the past few years \([8,15,32]\). However, the theoretical understanding of adversarial robustness is still far from being satisfactory. Research \([36]\) have demonstrated sample complexity may be one of the obstacles in achieving high robustness under standard learning, which is a large challenge since in many real-world applications, labeled examples are few and expensive. To address this challenge, recent works \([9,37]\) showed that adversarial robustness can be improved by leveraging unlabeled data that come from the same distribution/domain as the original labeled training samples. Nevertheless, that is still limited due to the difficulty to make sure that the unlabeled data are exactly from the same distribution as the labeled data. For example, gathering a large number of unlabeled images that follow the same distribution as CIFAR-10 is challenging, since one would have to carefully match the same lighting conditions, backgrounds, etc. Meanwhile, out-of-domain unlabeled data can be much easier and cheaper to collect. For instance, we used Bing search engine to query a small number of keywords and, within hours, generated a new 500k dataset of noisy CIFAR-10 categories; we call this Cheap-10.

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In this paper, we investigate how such widely-available, out-of-domain unlabeled data could improve robustness in the original domain. We analyze the behavior of standard and robust classification under a flexible generative model with Gaussian seeds and a non-linear classifier class. Our model and classifier classes can be viewed as an extension of the Gaussian model and linear classifier class proposed in [36]. We show in this more general setting, the sample complexity gap between standard and robust classification still exists. That is, to achieve the same amount of accuracy, the sample complexity of robust training is significantly larger than that of standard training. We also demonstrate the necessity of this gap by providing a minimax type lower bound result. Luckily, we show that using unlabeled out-of-domain data can substantially improve robust accuracy as long as the unlabeled domain is not too different from the original domain or if they share some (unknown) structural information, such as similar sparse features. Interestingly, we further show settings where using out-of-domain unlabeled data can produce even better robust accuracy than using in-domain unlabeled data.

We support our theory with experiments on two benchmark image recognition tasks, CIFAR-10 and SVHN, for empirical $\ell_\infty$ robustness and certified $\ell_2$ robustness. In CIFAR-10, adding our easily generated Cheap-10 unlabeled data produces substantially higher robust accuracy than using just the CIFAR-10 data, and it achieves performance close to that of adding a much more expensive and carefully curated set of 500$k$ unlabeled images that come from the same domain as CIFAR-10. On SVHN, we systematically characterize the tradeoff between the amount of noise in the unlabeled data and the robustness gain from adding such data.

**Related works.** After the successful implementation of white-box and black-box adversarial examples [4,15,29], several heuristic defense methods were introduced and broken one after another [1–3,7,16,39]. A line of work has focused on certified robustness [10,11,22,24,33] which has appealing guarantees but has relatively limited empirical performance. Most recent efforts on training empirically robust models is based on adversarial training [18,20,27,41]. To explain why it is difficult to achieve satisfactory performance in robust learning, some works try to explain the obstacles to gain robustness in a perspective of computation cost [5,14]. Other work such as [36] try to explain the obstacle by showing the sample complexity of robust learning can be significantly larger than that of standard learning. They investigated the Gaussian model, which is a special case of our Gaussian generative model.

Some recent works [9,37] propose using semi-supervised learning method, which has a rich literature [21,28,35], to bridge that sample gap. Their theoretical results all assume the unlabeled data are drawn from the same marginal distribution as the labeled data. We show that to bridge the sample complexity gap, it is sufficient to have well-behaved unlabeled out-of-domain data. We substantially extend the previous results to more general models and classifier classes and also make the first step to quantify when and how unlabeled data coming from a shifted distribution can help in improving adversarial robustness. Experimentally, previous works augmented CIFAR-10 with Tiny images, which is curated and very similar to CIFAR-10. We introduce a new dataset Cheap-10 and obtain comparable results and demonstrate the power of incorporating out-of-domain data. Other related works include [40], which demonstrates a PCA-based procedure to incorporate unlabeled data to gain robustness and [30], who consider combining distributional robust optimization and semi-supervised learning.
2 Set-up

Consider the classification task of mapping the input $x \in \mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{s_1}$ to the label $y \in \{\pm 1\}$. We have $n$ labeled training data from an original domain $\mathcal{D}$, with a joint distribution $\mathcal{P}_{x,y}$ over $(x, y)$ pairs and marginal distribution $\mathcal{P}_x$ over $x$. Meanwhile, we have another $\tilde{n}$ unlabeled samples from a different domain $\tilde{\mathcal{D}}$, with a distribution $\tilde{\mathcal{P}}_x$ over $x$.

In this work, we focus on studying the possible advantages and limitations by performing semi-supervised learning with data from $\mathcal{D}$ and $\tilde{\mathcal{D}}$ to train a classifier for the domain $\mathcal{D}$. Specifically, we apply the pseudo-labeling approach used in [9] as follows. First, we perform supervised learning on the labeled data from domain $\mathcal{D}$ to obtain a classifier $f_0$. We then apply this classifier on $\mathcal{D}$ and generate pseudo-labels for the unlabeled data: $\{(x, f_0(x)) | x \in \tilde{\mathcal{D}}\}$, which are further used to train a final model. The classification error metrics we consider are defined as the following.

Definition 2.1 ((Robust) classification error). Let $\mathcal{P}$ be a distribution over $\mathcal{X} \times \{\pm 1\}$. The classification error $\beta$ of a classifier $g : \mathbb{R}^{s_1} \mapsto \{\pm 1\}$ is defined as $\beta_g = \mathbb{P}_{(x,y) \sim \mathcal{P}}(g(x) \neq y)$ and robust classification error $\beta^R_g = \mathbb{P}_{(x,y) \sim \mathcal{P}}(\exists u \in \mathcal{C}(x) : g(u) \neq y)$, for some constraint set $\mathcal{C}$.

Throughout the paper, we consider the constraint set $\mathcal{C}$ to be the $\ell_p$-ball $\mathbb{B}_p(x, \varepsilon) := \{u \in \mathcal{X} | ||u - x||_p \leq \varepsilon\}$ with $p = \infty$. In addition, we consider a certain type of data generating process for domain $\mathcal{D}$ — the Gaussian generative model, which is frequently used in generative models in machine learning. This model is more general than the one analyzed in [36], which only considered symmetric Gaussian mixtures. Our Gaussian generative model takes a sample from a Gaussian mixture as input, and then pass it through a nonlinear (possibly high-dimensional) mapping.

Gaussian generative model. For a function $\rho : \mathbb{R}^{s_1} \mapsto \mathbb{R}^{s_2}$, given $z \in \mathbb{R}^{s_1}$, the samples from $\mathcal{D}$ are drawn i.i.d. from a distribution over $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^{s_2} \times \{\pm 1\}$, such that

$$x = \rho(yz) \quad (1)$$

where $z \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2 I_{s_1})$, $y \sim \text{Bern}(\frac{1}{2})$ for $\mu \in \mathbb{R}^{s_1}$, $\sigma \in \mathbb{R}$.

Classifier class. The classifier class we consider in this paper is in the following form:

$$\mathcal{G} = \{g | g(x) = \text{sgn}(w^\top (\vartheta(x) - b)), (w, b) \in \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d\}, \quad (2)$$

where $\vartheta$ is a basis function and $\vartheta : \mathbb{R}^{s_2} \mapsto \mathbb{R}^d$. We remark here that this classifier class is more general than the linear classifier class considered in [36]. For a broad class of kernels, by Mercer’s theorem, the corresponding kernel classification belongs to $\mathcal{G}$ with a certain basis function $\vartheta$. Throughout the paper, we use $\vartheta = (w, b)$ to denote the parameters.

Remark 2.1. The Gaussian generative model and the classifier class we considered in this paper forms a hierarchy structure, where a random seed $z \in \mathbb{R}^{s_1}$ is mapped by a generative function $\rho$ to the input space $x \in \mathbb{R}^{s_2}$, and it is further mapped to $\mathbb{R}^d$ by $\vartheta(x)$ when implementing classification.

Notation and terminology. We let $\phi = \vartheta \circ \rho$ and denote $f_{w,b}(x) = \text{sgn}(w^\top (\vartheta(x) - b))$. In Section 3, the results will be mainly described in terms of $\phi$. Besides, let $\beta_w(b) = \mathbb{P}_{(x,y) \sim \mathcal{P}}(f_{w,b}(x) \neq y)$ and $\beta^R(w, b) = \mathbb{P}_{(x,y) \sim \mathcal{P}}(\exists u \in \mathcal{C}(x) : f_{w,b}(u) \neq y)$ for a constraint set $\mathcal{C}$. In particular, we use $\beta_{\varepsilon, \infty}$ when $\mathcal{C}$ is the $\ell_{\infty}$-ball with radius $\varepsilon$. We use $\lesssim$ for $\leq$ up to a constant, i.e. $a \lesssim b$ means $a \leq \text{const} \cdot b$, and use $\gtrsim$ for $\geq$ up to a constant. We use $\asymp$ for $= \text{ up to a constant.}$ Meanwhile, we
use \( \| \cdot \|_{\psi_2} \) for sub-gaussian norm\(^1\). We call the conditional distribution of \( x \) on \( y = 1 \) as positive distribution while for \( y = -1 \) as negative distribution. For distribution \( P_1 \) and \( P_2 \) over \( x \), we call a distribution \( P \) over \( x \) is a uniform mixture of \( P_1 \) and \( P_2 \) if it equals to \( P_1 \) and \( P_2 \) with probability \( 1/2 \) respectively.

### 3 Theoretical Results

We demonstrate for Gaussian generative models that combining unlabeled data from a reasonably well-behaved shifted domain leads to a classifier with better robust accuracy on the original domain \( D \) compared to the achievable robust accuracy using only the labeled data from \( D \). We further analyze the tradeoff between how different the shifted domain can be from \( D \) before the unlabeled data hurts the robust accuracy on \( D \). Finally, we show that if the data from a shifted domain share certain unknown sparsity structure with the data from original domain, performing semi-supervised learning also helps in obtaining a classifier of higher robust accuracy on the original domain.

**Assumptions.** Throughout this section, our theories are based on the following assumptions unless we state otherwise explicitly. 1) \( \vartheta(\cdot) \) is \( L_1 \)-Lipchitz continuous in \( \ell_2 \)-norm, i.e. \( \| \vartheta(a) - \vartheta(b) \| \leq L_1 \| a - b \| \), and \( L_1 \)-Lipchitz continuous in \( \ell_\infty \)-norm; 2) \( \varrho(\cdot) \) is \( L_2 \)-Lipchitz continuous in \( \ell_2 \)-norm and \( L_2 \)-Lipchitz continuous in \( \ell_\infty \)-norm; 3) \( \| \mathbb{E} \varphi(z) - \mathbb{E} \varphi(-z) \| = 2\alpha \sqrt{d} \) for \( z \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2 I_{s_1}) \) and some constant \( \alpha > 0 \). The last condition on the magnitude of the separation is added for the simplicity of presentation. Such a magnitude choice is also used in [9][36].

#### 3.1 Supervised learning in Gaussian generative models

We first consider the supervised setting where only the labeled data are used. In this setting, we prove the following two theorems demonstrating the sample complexity gap when one considers standard error and robust error respectively. Analogous results for Gaussian mixture models was shown in [36]: our results cover the more general Gaussian generative model setting.

*Supervised learning algorithm:* in this section, for the simplicity of presentation, we use \( 2n \) to denote the size of labeled training data. For Gaussian generative models, we focus on the following method. We first estimate \( w \) and \( b \) by \( \hat{w} = 1/n \sum_{i=1}^{n} y_i \vartheta(x_i) \) and \( \hat{b} = 1/n \sum_{i=n+1}^{2n} \vartheta(x_i) \). The final classifier is then constructed as \( f_{\hat{w}, \hat{b}}(x) = \text{sgn}(\hat{w}^\top (\vartheta(x) - \hat{b})) \). Here half of the labeled data, \( n \), is used to fit \( \hat{w} \) and the other half used to fit \( \hat{b} \), so that their estimation errors are independent, which simplifies the analysis. The following theorem shows that this method achieves high standard accuracy.

**Theorem 3.1** (Standard accuracy). For a Gaussian generative model with \( \sigma \lesssim d^{1/4} \), the method described above obtains a classifier \( f_{\hat{w}, \hat{b}} \) such that for \( d \) sufficiently large, with high probability, the classification error \( \beta(\hat{w}, \hat{b}) \) is at most \( 1\% \) even with \( n = 1 \).

Meanwhile, we have the following lower bound to show the essentiality of the increased sample complexity if we are interested in the robust error.

**Theorem 3.2** (Sample complexity gap for robust accuracy). Let \( A_n \) be any learning algorithm, i.e. a function from \( n \) samples to a binary classifier \( g_n \). Let \( \sigma \asymp d^{1/4}, \varepsilon \geq 0 \), and \( \mu \in \mathbb{R}^{s_1} \) be drawn from

\(^1\)Due to the limit of space, we present the rigorous definition of the sub-gaussian norm in the appendix.
a prior distribution $\mathcal{N}(0, I_{s_1})$. We draw $2n$ samples from $(\mu, \sigma)$-Gaussian generative model. Then, the expected robust classification error $\beta^{\epsilon, \infty}_{y_n}$ is at least $(1 - 1/d)/2$ if

$$ n \lesssim \frac{\epsilon^2 \sqrt{d}}{\log d}. $$

Taken together, these two Theorems demonstrate that a substantial larger number of labeled samples (from the same domain) are necessary in order to achieve a decent robust accuracy in that domain.

### 3.2 Improving learning via out-of-domain data

We next investigate how to improve the robust accuracy of a classifier via incorporating unlabeled out-of-domain data.

**Semi-supervised learning on out-of-domain data.** Let us denote the samples from the shifted domain as $\{\tilde{x}_i\}_{i=1}^{2\tilde{n}}$, which is incorporated via the following semi-supervised learning algorithm.

**Semi-supervised learning algorithm:** we use $\tilde{w}$ and $\tilde{b}$ obtained in supervised learning to label $\{\tilde{x}_i\}_{i=1}^{2\tilde{n}}$ via $g(x) = \text{sgn}(\tilde{w}^T(\vartheta(x) - \tilde{b}))$ and obtain the corresponding pseudo-labels $\{\tilde{y}_i\}_{i=1}^{2\tilde{n}}$. We denote sample sizes for each label class by $\tilde{n}_1 = \sum_{i=1}^{2\tilde{n}} 1(\tilde{y}_i = 1)$ and $\tilde{n}_2 = \sum_{i=1}^{2\tilde{n}} 1(\tilde{y}_i = -1)$ respectively. Then we estimate $w$ and $b$ respectively by $\hat{w} = 1/2\tilde{n}_1 \sum_{\tilde{y}_i=1} \vartheta(\tilde{x}_i) - 1/2\tilde{n}_2 \sum_{\tilde{y}_i=-1} \vartheta(\tilde{x}_i)$ and $\hat{b} = 1/2\tilde{n}_1 \sum_{\tilde{y}_i=1} \vartheta(\tilde{x}_i) + 1/2\tilde{n}_2 \sum_{\tilde{y}_i=-1} \vartheta(\tilde{x}_i)$. Given the pseudo-labels, these two estimators only depend on the shifted domain data. They are slightly different than those in the supervised setting, since the shifted domain data is not necessarily mixed uniformly. The classifier is then constructed as $f_{\tilde{w}, \tilde{b}}(x) = \text{sgn}(\tilde{w}^T(\vartheta(x) - \tilde{b}))$. For the simplicity of theoretical analysis, we don’t merge the original and out-of-domain datasets to get $\tilde{w}$ and $\tilde{b}$. However, as we show in Section 4 merging both datasets for robust training lead to better empirical performance.

Recall $\phi = \vartheta \circ \rho$, and the semi-supervised learning algorithm only involves $y$ and $\vartheta(x)$, we can equivalently view the input distribution as $\phi(yz)$ for $z \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I_{s_1})$, $y \sim \text{Bern}(1/2)$, and the classifier class as $\mathcal{G'} = \{g(g(x) = \text{sgn}(w^T x - b)) : (w, b) \in \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d\}$ (such linearization is the common purpose of kernel tricks). For the simplicity of description, our later statements will use this equivalent setting and simply consider the distributions of $\vartheta(\tilde{x})$.

**Theorem 3.3 (Robust accuracy).** Recall in Gaussian generative model, the marginal distribution of the input $x$ of labeled domain is a uniform mixture of two distributions with mean $\mu_1 = \mathbb{E}[\phi(z)]$ and $\mu_2 = \mathbb{E}[\phi(-z)]$ respectively, where $z \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 I_{s_1})$. Suppose the marginal distribution of the input of unlabeled domain is a mixture of two sub-Gaussian distributions with mean $\tilde{\mu}_1$ and $\tilde{\mu}_2$ with mixing probabilities $q$ and $1 - q$ and $\|\mathbb{E} \left[ \vartheta(\tilde{x}_i) - \mathbb{E} \left[ \vartheta(\tilde{x}_i) \right] \right] | a^T \vartheta(\tilde{x}_i) = b \| \lesssim \sqrt{d} + |b|$ for fixed unit vector $a$. Assuming the sub-Gaussian norm for both labeled and unlabeled data are upper bounded by a universal quantity $\sigma_{\text{max}} \asymp d^{1/4}$, $|\tilde{\mu}_1 - \tilde{\mu}_2| \| \lesssim \sqrt{d}$, $c < q < 1 - c$ for some constant $0 < c < 1/2$, and

$$ d_\nu = \max \left\{ \frac{\|\tilde{\mu}_1 - \mu_1\|}{\|\tilde{\mu}_1 - \mu_1\|}, \frac{\|\tilde{\mu}_2 - \mu_2\|}{\|\tilde{\mu}_2 - \mu_2\|} \right\} < c_0, $$

for some constant $c_0 \leq 1/4$, then the robust classification error is at most $1\%$ when $d$ is sufficiently large, $n \geq C$ for some constant $C$ (not depending on $d$ and $\epsilon$) and

$$ \tilde{n} \gtrsim \frac{\epsilon^2 \log d \sqrt{d}}{\sqrt{d}}. $$
We remark here that \( \sigma_{\text{max}} \), the upper bound of the sub-gaussian norm of the Gaussian generative model, is upper bounded by \( L_1 L_2 \sigma \). Comparing to the Theorem 3.2, which shows that the sample complexity of order \( \varepsilon^2 \sqrt{d} / \log d \) is necessary to achieve small robust error, the above theorem shows that, by incorporating the same order of similar unlabeled data (up to a logarithm factor), which is generally cheaper, one can achieve the same robust accuracy.

**Connections to statistical measures.** A key quantity in Theorem 3.3 is \( d_\nu \), which quantifies the difference between the labeled and unlabeled domain. In this section, we make connections between some commonly used statistical measures and \( d_\nu \) via some more specific examples. We establish connections to Wasserstein Distance, Maximal Information and \( \mathcal{H} \)-Divergence. Due to the limit of space, we only demonstrate the result for Wasserstein Distance here and put the other results in the appendix. Throughout this paragraph, we consider the distribution of the labeled domain with positive distribution \( \mathcal{P}_1 \), negative distribution \( \mathcal{P}_2 \), and \( y \sim \text{Bern}(1/2) \). The marginal distributions of shifted domain is assumed to be a uniform mixtures of \( \tilde{\mathcal{P}}_1 \) and \( \tilde{\mathcal{P}}_2 \).

**Wasserstein Distance:** the Wasserstein Distance induced by metric \( \rho \) between distributions \( \mathcal{P}_1 \) and \( \mathcal{P}_2 \) over \( \mathbb{R}^d \) is defined as

\[
W_\rho(\mathcal{P}_1, \mathcal{P}_2) = \sup_{\|f\|_{L^0} \leq 1} \left[ \int f d\mathcal{P}_1 - f d\mathcal{P}_2 \right],
\]

where \( \|f\|_{L^0} \leq 1 \) indicates the class of \( f : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \) such that for any \( x, x' \in \mathbb{R}^d \), \( |f(x) - f(x')| \leq \rho(x, x') \). Let us consider \( \rho(x, x') = \|x - x'\| \).

**Proposition 3.1.** Suppose \( \max\{W_\rho(\mathcal{P}_1, \tilde{\mathcal{P}}_1), W_\rho(\mathcal{P}_2, \tilde{\mathcal{P}}_2)\} \leq \tau \), for \( \tau \geq 0 \), then we have \( \|\mu_i - \tilde{\mu}_i\| \leq \tau \) for \( i = 1, 2 \). As a result,

\[
d_\nu \leq \frac{\tau}{\|\mu_1 - \mu_2\|_2 - 2\tau}.
\]

If we further have \( \tau \leq \|\mu_1 - \mu_2\|_2 / 2 \), we will then have \( d_\nu \leq \tau / (\|\mu_1 - \mu_2\|_2 - 2\tau) \).

As we can see, when the Wasserstein distance get smaller, the quantity \( d_\nu \) decreases.

**Data from a shifted domain can work even better.** Theorem 3.3 demonstrates the sample complexity gap in Section 3.1 can be bridged via out-of-domain data. Next, we show that in certain settings, one can achieve even better adversarial robustness when the unlabeled data comes from a shifted domain rather than the same domain as the labeled data. To illustrate this phenomenon, let us analyze a specific example of our model — the Gaussian model proposed in [36].

**Theorem 3.4.** Suppose the distribution of the labeled domain has positive distribution \( \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2 I_d) \) and negative distribution \( \mathcal{N}(-\mu, \sigma^2 I_d) \) with \( \mu \in \mathbb{R}^d \) and \( y \sim \text{Bern}(1/2) \). Samples \( (x_1, y_1), \ldots, (x_n, y_n) \) are i.i.d. drawn from the labeled domain. Suppose we have unlabeled inputs from the same domain \( x_{n+1}, \ldots, x_{n+n} \), and also have unlabeled shifted domain inputs \( \tilde{x}_1, \ldots, \tilde{x}_n \), which are drawn from a uniform mixture of \( \mathcal{N}(\tilde{\mu}, \sigma^2 I_d) \) and \( \mathcal{N}(-\tilde{\mu}, \sigma^2 I_d) \) with \( \tilde{\mu} \in \mathbb{R}^d \). Denote the parameter \( \theta = (w, b) \) of the classifier obtained through semi-supervised algorithm by \( \tilde{\theta}_{\text{same}} \) and \( \tilde{\theta}_{\text{shifted}} \), when we use \( \{x_i\}_{i=n+1}^{n+n} \) and \( \{\tilde{x}_i\} \) respectively. If we let assume \( \min_j \beta_j \geq \epsilon \) and let \( \tilde{\mu} = \mu - \epsilon I_d \), where \( I_d \) is a \( d \)-dimensional vector with every entry equals to 1, when \((1/d + 1/\tilde{n}) \cdot \sigma^2 / \epsilon^2 \rightarrow 0 \) as \( d, \tilde{n} \rightarrow \infty \), we then have

\[
\beta^{\epsilon, \infty}(\tilde{\theta}_{\text{shifted}}) \leq \beta^{\epsilon, \infty}(\tilde{\theta}_{\text{same}}).
\]

This seemingly surprising result can be explained intuitively. Heuristically, when one tries to minimize the robust error, the robust optimizer will be a regularized version of the standard optimizer. In our semi-supervised setting, the shifted domain data also act as regularization. This intuition is rigorously justified in the proof. Readers can find corresponding simulation results in the appendix.
Too irrelevant unlabeled data hurts robustness. In the results above, we demonstrate that incorporating unlabeled data from a shifted domain can improve robust accuracy in the original domain, if the shifted domain is not too different from the original (as measured by $d_p$). Here we show that there is no free lunch; if the shifted domain is too different from the original, then incorporating its unlabeled data through pseudo-labeling could decrease the robust accuracy in the original domain.

**Theorem 3.5.** Suppose that the distribution of labeled domain's positive and negative distribution area uniform two symmetric sub-gaussian distribution with means $\mu_2 = -\mu_1$, and $y \sim \text{Bern}(1/2)$. The distribution of unlabeled domain $P'$ is a mixture of two sub-gaussian distributions with mean $\tilde{\mu}_1$ and $\tilde{\mu}_2$. Let $\Xi = \{\tilde{\mu}_1, \tilde{\mu}_2 : d_p \geq \frac{1}{2}\}$. Then for $P'$ with $(\tilde{\mu}_1, \tilde{\mu}_2) \in \Xi$, with high probability, the worst case robust misclassification error $\beta^{\epsilon, \infty}(\tilde{w}, \tilde{b})$ via the previous semi-supervised learning satisfies

$$\sup_{P' : (\tilde{\mu}_1, \tilde{\mu}_2) \in \Xi} \beta^{\epsilon, \infty}(\tilde{w}, \tilde{b}) \geq 49\%.$$  

Shifted domain with unknown sparsity. In *Theorem 3.3* we show how reasonably close shifted domain data helps in improving adversarial robustness. However, sometimes, the shifted domain is not so close to the original domain in terms of $d_p$, but they still share some similarity. For instance, both domains can share some structural commonness. Here, we consider the case where the two distributions have common salient feature set; that is, the labeled and unlabeled domains share discriminant features, though the corresponding coefficients can be far apart. This setting is common in practice. For example, when one tries to classify images of different kinds of cats, the discriminant features include the eyes, ears, shapes etc. These discriminant features also applies when one aims to classify dogs, though the weights on these features might be very different.

Specifically, we consider the distributions of the labeled domain’s positive and negative parts are $\mathcal{N}(\mu_1, \sigma^2 I_d)$ and $\mathcal{N}(\mu_2, \sigma^2 I_d)$, and the labels $y \sim \text{Bern}(1/2)$. The samples $(x_1, y_1), \ldots, (x_n, y_n)$ are drawn i.i.d. from this labeled domain. Suppose we have unlabeled samples $\tilde{x}_1, \ldots, \tilde{x}_n$, which are drawn from a uniform mixture of $\mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2 I_d)$ and $\mathcal{N}(-\mu, \sigma^2 I_d)$ with $\tilde{\mu} \in \mathbb{R}^d$. Here, we assume the two domains share the support information, that is, $\sup \{\mu_1 - \mu_2, \mu_1 - \tilde{\mu}_2\}$, though the distance between $\mu_1 - \mu_2$ and $\tilde{\mu}_1 - \tilde{\mu}_2$ is not necessarily small. For such a case, we propose to use the following algorithm to help improving adversarial robustness.

**Algorithm of unknown sparsity:** we first apply the high-dimensional EM algorithm [9] to estimate $\sup(\tilde{\mu}_1 - \tilde{\mu}_2)$ from the unlabeled data. This high-dimensional EM algorithm is an extension of the traditional EM algorithm with the M-step being replaced by a regularized maximization. The detailed description can be found in the Appendix. After implementing the high-dimensional EM to estimate the support $\hat{S}$ from the unlabeled data, we then project the labeled data to this support $\hat{S}$ and therefore reduce the dimension. Finally, we apply the algorithm in the supervised setting on the labeled samples with reduced dimensionality to get the estimated $\hat{w}_{\text{sparse}} = 1/n \sum_{i=1}^n y_i [\hat{\vartheta}(x_i)]_{\hat{S}}$ and $\hat{b}_{\text{sparse}} = 1/n \sum_{i=1}^2 [\hat{\vartheta}(x_i)]_{\hat{S}}$. The following theorem provides theoretical guarantee for the robust classification error for $\hat{b}_{\text{sparse}}$ by this algorithm.

**Theorem 3.6.** Under the conditions of *Theorem 3.3* on parameters $\mu_1, \mu_2, \tilde{\mu}_1, \tilde{\mu}_2, \sigma$ and $q$. Suppose $|\sup(\mu_1 - \mu_2)| = |\sup(\tilde{\mu}_1 - \tilde{\mu}_2)| = m$, and $\min_{\tilde{\mu}_1, j - \tilde{\mu}_2, j \neq 0}|\tilde{\mu}_1 j - \tilde{\mu}_2 j| \geq \sigma \sqrt{2m \log d/n}$, where $\tilde{\mu}_i, j$ is the $j$-th entry in vector $\tilde{\mu}_i$. If $n \geq \epsilon^2 \log d/m$, we have

$$\beta^{\epsilon, \infty}(\hat{w}_{\text{sparse}}, \hat{b}_{\text{sparse}}) \leq 10^{-3} + O_P(\frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{d}).$$
Comparing to the result in Theorem 3.2, which shows that the sample complexity \(O(\varepsilon^2 \sqrt{d} / (\log d))\) is necessary to achieve small robust error, the above theorem suggests that by utilizing the shared structural information from the unlabeled domain, one can reduce the sample complexity from \(O(\sqrt{d})\) to \(O(\sqrt{m})\). Corresponding simulation results are put in the Appendix.

4 Experiments

In this section, we provide empirical support for our theory and show that using unlabeled data from shifted domains can consistently improve robust accuracy for two widely-used benchmark datasets: CIFAR-10 \cite{Krizhevsky2009} and SVHN \cite{Netzer2011}.

Datasets. The CIFAR-10 dataset has a training set of 50k images and test set of 10k images. We will use and compare three datasets as our sources of unlabeled data: 1) The 500k-TI dataset \cite{Goyal2017} that is very similar to the CIFAR-10 dataset (500k images). It will be our benchmark for using unlabeled data that is essentially from the original CIFAR-10 domain. 2) CINIC10 dataset \cite{Saito2019}, which is a subset of ImageNet \cite{Russakovsky2015} of objects that are similar to CIFAR-10 objects (260k images). CINIC10 is out-of-domain compared to CIFAR-10. 3) The Cheap-10 dataset that we created to be a benchmark for using very cheap unlabeled out-of-domain data. We created Cheap-10 by searching keywords related to CIFAR-10 objects on the Bing image search engine\footnote{https://www.bing.com/images/}. A more detailed pipeline for creating Cheap-10 is described the appendix. The SVHN dataset had 73k training and 26k test images. For SVHN task, the original dataset contains an extra 513k set of training images. We use this extra images as our source of unlabeled data and synthetically push the data out of domain by adding random Gaussian noise to it.

Methods. For each task, we first train a classification model on the original labeled data using cross-entropy loss function. We then use the trained model to assign pseudo-labels to unlabeled images. We next aggregate the two datasets to train a robust model using robust training. Following \cite{Goyal2017}, we sample half of each batch from the original data and the other half from the additional pseudo-labeled data during training. We use the robustness regularization loss introduced in \cite{Tramer2017}. For a maximum allowed p-norm perturbation of size \(\varepsilon\), we use the training loss function:

\[
\mathcal{L}(x, y; \theta) = -\log p_\theta(y|x) + \beta \max_{\tilde{x} \in B_p(x, \varepsilon)} D_{KL}(p_\theta(y|x)||p_\theta(\hat{y}|\tilde{x}))
\]

where the regularization parameter \(\beta\) balances the loss between accurate classification and stability within the \(\varepsilon\) \(\ell_p\)-norm ball. We approximate the maximization in the second term as follows:

- Similar to \cite{Li2020}, for \(\ell_\infty\) perturbations, we focus on empirical robustness of the models and use an inner loop of projected gradient descent for the maximization.

- Following \cite{Goyal2017}, for \(\ell_2\) perturbations, we focus on certified robustness and use the idea of stability training \cite{Tramer2017, Tramer2019}. We replace the maximization with large additive noise draws: \(\mathbb{E}_{\tilde{x} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma)} D_{KL}(p_\theta(y|x)||p_\theta(\hat{y}|\tilde{x}))\). The idea is to have a model that is robust to large random perturbations. Using Cohen et al.’s method \cite{Cohen2019}, in test time, we can find a safe radius of certified robust prediction for each sample.

\footnote{After removing CIFAR-10 test images that are in CINIC10}
CIFAR-10 experiments. We used a Wide ResNet 28-10 architecture [38]. Following the literature, for $\ell_\infty$ perturbation, we set $\epsilon = 8/255$. For stability training, we used $\sigma = 0.25$. More implementation details are described in the Appendix. We first train a model on the original CIFAR-10 training data (normal training) that yields a test accuracy of 96.1%. We use this model to create pseudo-labels for our three unlabeled datasets. We can use the accuracy of the model on our three datasets’ original labels to have a better idea of domain distances. The accuracy is 97% on 500k-TI—similar to CIFAR-10 test accuracy. This validates the assumption that this dataset is from the same domain as CIFAR-10. On the other hand, the accuracies on CINIC-10 and Cheap-10 are 75% and 67.9% respectively; confirming that these two datasets are out of domain.

Results for empirical robustness against $l_\infty$ perturbations are shown in Fig. 1(a). The clean accuracy is the model’s performance on non-perturbed images. The robust accuracy is the model’s performance on adversarially perturbed images. We use the strongest known adversarial attack methods, iterative projected gradient descent (PGD), to create the $l_\infty$ perturbations. More details are provided in the appendix. We find that using CINIC-10 and Cheap-10 datasets consistently improves the robust accuracy and gives very close results to that of 500k-TI, supporting our theory. It’s especially promising that simply adding our noisy Cheap-10 data, which we created in a few hours, produced significantly better robust accuracy (59.4%) compared to the best existing defenses using just CIFAR-10: TRADES method (55.4%, [41]) and Adversarial Pretraining (57.4%, [18]).

Results for certified robustness against $l_2$ perturbations are shown in Fig. 1(b). The figure shows the percentage of images that are certified to be classified correctly at each $l_2$ radius. It demonstrates that adding out-of-domain data consistently improves certified robustness compared to only using the original training set. Using unlabeled data from the same domain (500k-TI) achieves the best performance; though out-of-domain data is much cheaper and may be the only option in many applications.

SVHN experiments We use a Wide ResNet 16-8 as our model architecture. SVHN has a training set of 73k real digit images and an extended set of 531k images that come with the dataset. The extra set is a synthetically generated set of digits that to mimic the original dataset closely. We use the extended set as our source of unlabeled data. The model we trained (normal training) on the original training set has an accuracy of 96.8% on SVHN test set and an accuracy of 98.4% on the extra training set; this means that the extra data is very similar to the original SVHN dataset. To push the unlabeled data out-of-domain, we add four different levels of additive Gaussian noise to the images. We focus on $l_\infty$ perturbations with $\epsilon = 4/255$. Fig. 1 describes the results. The dashed lines show clean and robust accuracies when only the original training set is used. It can be observed that adding the unlabeled data robustly improves robust accuracy up to a certain level of additive noise ($\sigma = 0.1$). As the unlabeled data distribution gets more distant from SVHN data, the improvement achieved from adding the extra set of unlabeled images becomes smaller.

5 Further Discussions

Incorporating cheap unlabeled data is a popular way to improve the prediction performance in machine learning. In this work, we show that this substantially improves adversarial robustness, even when the unlabeled data come from a different domain.

One possible extension of our work is to consider a more general data distribution, such as non-uniform mixture and subgaussianity of the labeled data distribution. Such an extension will make the results applied to more settings. Further, our theoretical results and analysis also lay the foundation of studying the adversarial robustness of other tasks, such as multi-class classification.
Figure 1: (a) $\ell_\infty$ robustness Each row shows the CIFAR-10 test accuracy on clean and adversarially perturbed images ($\epsilon = 8/255$) when different datasets are added as unlabeled source of data. The performance when we use the two out-of-domain datasets is consistently better than the original training set and close to using the dataset from the same domain (500k-TI). (b) $\ell_2$ certified robustness Each point in the plot shows the percentage of CIFAR-10 test images that are certified to be classified correctly at that $\ell_2$ radius. Adding out-of-domain datasets consistently improves the certified radii. (c) SVHN dataset Dashed lines stand for the baseline performance of using only the labeled data. Each point on the x-axis shows a different model that is robustly trained using the original data and the unlabeled set of images with additive Gaussian noise with std ($\sigma$) equal to the axis value. The dashed lines indicate the clean and robust accuracy achieved using only the SVHN data.
and regression in the semi-supervised setting when the unlabeled data come from a different domain.

The focus of this work is on the effects of out-of-domain unlabeled data, and we use the popular and simple pseudo-labeling method to capture the key insights. An interesting direction of future work is to investigate how to improve robustness with other semi-supervised learning methods. For example, one could apply several iteration of pseudo-labeling to improve label quality.
Appendix

A Omitted Proofs

A.1 Notation

We begin with notations. For a random variable $X$, its sub-gaussian norm/Orlicz norm is defined as $\|X\|_{\psi_2} = \inf\{t > 0 : \mathbb{E}[e^{X^2/t^2}] \leq 1\}$. For a $d$-dimensional random vector $Y$, the sub-gaussian norm of $Y$ is defined as $\|Y\|_{\psi_2} = \sup_{u \in S^{d-1}} \|\langle Y, u \rangle\|$, where $S^{d-1}$ denotes the sphere of a unit ball in $\mathbb{R}^d$. For two sequences of positive numbers $a_n$ and $b_n$, $a_n \lesssim b_n$ means that for some constant $c > 0$, $a_n \leq cb_n$ for all $n$, and $a_n \asymp b_n$ if $a_n \lesssim b_n$ and $b_n \lesssim a_n$. Further, we use the notion $o_p$ and $O_p$, where for a sequence of random variables $X_n$, $X_n = o_p(a_n)$ means $X_n/a_n \to 0$ in probability, $X_n = O_p(b_n)$ means that for any $\varepsilon > 0$, there is a constant $K$, such that $\mathbb{P}(|X_n| \leq K \cdot b_n) \geq 1 - \varepsilon$, and $X_n = O_p(b_n)$ means that for any $\varepsilon > 0$, there is a constant $K$, such that $\mathbb{P}(|X_n| \geq K \cdot b_n) \geq 1 - \varepsilon$. Finally, we use $c_0, c_1, c_2, C_1, C_2, \ldots$ to denote generic positive constants that may vary from place to place.

Besides, let $L = L_1L_2$, then $\phi(\cdot)$ is $L_1L_2$-Lipschitz in $\ell_2$-norm.

A.2 Proof of Theorem 3.1

We firstly consider to prove a bound for

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\|\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \phi(z_i) - \mathbb{E}\phi(z)\| \geq t\right),$$

where $z_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2 I)$.

**Lemma A.1.** There exists a universal constant $c$, such that

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\|\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \phi(z_i) - \mathbb{E}\phi(z)\| \geq c\sigma\left(\sqrt{\frac{dL}{n}} + L\sqrt{\frac{2\log(2/d)}{n}}\right)\right) \leq \delta.$$

From the above inequality, we can immediately obtain

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\|\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \phi(z_i)\| \geq \|\mathbb{E}\phi(z)\| + c\sigma\left(\sqrt{\frac{dL}{n}} + L\sqrt{\frac{2\log(2/d)}{n}}\right)\right) \leq \delta.$$

**Remark A.1.** Note that the concentration bound still holds for $y\phi(yz)$ and $\phi(yz)$ by simply applying conditional probability.

**Proof.** Let $\vartheta_u(z) = \langle \phi(z) - \mathbb{E}\phi(z), u \rangle$

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\|\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \phi(z_i) - \mathbb{E}\phi(z)\| \geq t\right) = \mathbb{P}\left(\sup_{\|u\|=1} \langle \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \phi(z_i) - \mathbb{E}\phi(z), u \rangle \geq t\right)$$

$$= \mathbb{P}\left(\sup_{\|u\|=1} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \vartheta_u(z_i) \geq t\right)$$

$$\leq \mathbb{P}\left(\sup_{u, u' \in B(0,1)} \left|\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \vartheta_u(z_i) - \sum_{i=1}^{n} \vartheta_{u'}(z_i)\right| \geq t\right).$$
Let us use chaining and Orlicz-processes to obtain a bound. We prove \( \{ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \vartheta_u(z_i), u \in \mathbb{B}(0, 1) \} \) is a \( \vartheta_2 \)-process with respect to a rescaled distance \( \| \cdot \|/\lambda \) for some \( \lambda > 0 \). If so, we will have

\[
\mathbb{E} \exp \left( \frac{\lambda^2 \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \vartheta_u(z_i) - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \vartheta'_u(z_i)}{\|u - u'\|^2} \right) \leq 2.
\]

The LHS

\[
\mathbb{E} \exp \left( \frac{\lambda^2 \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \vartheta_u(z_i) - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \vartheta'_u(z_i)}{\|u - u'\|^2} \right) \leq \int_{0}^{\infty} e^{t} \mathbb{P} \left( \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \vartheta_u(z_i) - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \vartheta'_u(z_i) \right| \geq \frac{\sqrt{t}}{\lambda} \right) dt
\]

As long as

\[
\frac{t}{\lambda^2 \sigma^2 L^2} \geq 2, \quad \text{i.e.} \quad \lambda \leq \frac{\sqrt{n/2}}{\sigma L},
\]

we would obtain the Dudley entropy integral as

\[
J(D) = \frac{1}{\lambda} \int_{0}^{1} \sqrt{\log(1 + \exp(d \log \frac{1}{\delta}))} d\delta \approx \text{const.} \cdot \sqrt{d}/\lambda.
\]

We let \( \lambda = \sqrt{n/2}/(\sigma L) \), it gives us \( J(D) = (\sigma \tilde{L})/\sqrt{n/2} \), where \( \tilde{L} = \text{const.} \cdot L \).

Next, let us consider bounding

\[
\mathbb{P}(\hat{w}^\top (\phi(z) - \hat{b}) \leq 0) = \mathbb{P}(\hat{w}^\top (\phi(z) - \hat{b}) \leq 0). \quad \text{(notice \( \hat{w} = 0 \) is of zero probability)}
\]

We further denote \( \nu_w = [\mathbb{E}\phi(z_i^+) - \mathbb{E}\phi(z_i^-)]/2, \quad \nu_b = [\mathbb{E}\phi(z_i^+) + \mathbb{E}\phi(z_i^-)]/2 \)

\[
\gamma = c\sigma \left( \frac{\sqrt{d\tilde{L}}}{\sqrt{n/2}} + L \sqrt{\frac{2\log(2/\delta)}{n}} \right).
\]

From Lemma [A.1], we can obtain

\[
\mathbb{P} \left( \|\hat{w} - \nu_w\| \geq \gamma \right) \leq \delta,
\]

\[
\mathbb{P} \left( \|\hat{b} - \nu_b\| \geq \gamma \right) \leq \delta.
\]

Notice that for any unit vector \( v \), \( v^\top (\phi(z) - \hat{b}) \) is a \( \sigma L \)-Lipschitz function of \( (z^T, z_1^+, \cdots, z_n^+)^T \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I_{(n+1)m}) \), by standard concentration, we have the following lemma.

**Lemma A.2.** For any \( t > 0 \) and unit vector \( v \)

\[
\mathbb{P} \left( |v^\top (\phi(z) - \hat{b}) - v^\top \nu_w| \geq t \right) \leq 2 \exp(\frac{-t^2}{2\sigma^2 L^2}).
\]

Next, we provide a bound for \( \langle \hat{w}, \nu_w \rangle \).

**Lemma A.3.** For any \( t > 0 \)

\[
\mathbb{P} \left( |\langle \hat{w}, \nu_w \rangle - \|\nu_w\|^2| \geq t \right) \leq 2 \exp\left(\frac{-nt^2}{2\sigma^2 L^2\|\nu_w\|^2}\right)
\]

Taking \( \delta = 2 \exp\left(\frac{-nt^2}{2\sigma^2 L^2\|\nu_w\|^2}\right) \), we have

\[
\mathbb{P} \left( |\langle \hat{w}, \nu_w \rangle - \|\nu_w\|^2| \geq \sigma L\|\nu_w\|\sqrt{\frac{2\log(2/\delta)}{n}} \right) \leq \delta
\]
Proof. LHS is equivalent to
\[ \mathbb{P}(|\langle \hat{w} - \nu, \nu \rangle| \geq t). \]
Besides, we have \( \langle \hat{w} - \nu, \nu \rangle/\|\nu\| = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \langle y_i \phi(y_i z_i) - \nu, \nu \rangle/\|\nu\| \) is a sum of sub-gaussian variables with constant \( \sigma L \), then by sub-gaussian tail bound we have
\[ \mathbb{P}(|\langle \hat{w} - \nu, \nu \rangle| \geq t) \leq 2 \exp\left(-\frac{nt^2}{2\sigma^2 L^2 \|\nu\|^2}\right). \]
\[ \square \]

[Proof of Theorem 3.1] If we denote \( E = A \cup B \), where \( A = \left\{ |\langle \hat{w}, \nu \rangle - \|\nu\|^2| \leq \sigma L \|\nu\| \sqrt{\frac{2 \log(2/\delta_1)}{n}} \right\} \), \( B = \left\{ |\|\hat{w} - \nu\|\| \leq \gamma \right\} \), then with probability \( \mathbb{P}(E) \), we have for \( t > 0 \)
\[ \mathbb{P}\left(\frac{\hat{w}^\top \nu}{\|\nu\| + \gamma} \leq t \right| E) \leq \mathbb{P}\left(\frac{\hat{w}^\top \nu}{\|\nu\| + \gamma} \leq t \right| E \right) + 2 \exp\left(-\frac{t^2}{2\sigma^2 L^2}\right). \]
As long as we choose \( \gamma \) and \( t \) such that
\[ \frac{\hat{w}^\top \nu}{\|\nu\| + \gamma} > t \]
we have
\[ \mathbb{P}\left(\frac{\hat{w}^\top \nu}{\|\nu\| + \gamma} \leq 0 \right| E) \leq 2 \exp\left(-\frac{t^2}{2\sigma^2 L^2}\right). \]
We take
\[ \delta = 2 \exp\left(-\frac{\tilde{L}}{L}d\right), \quad \delta_1 = 2 \exp\left(-\frac{d}{8\sigma^2 L^2}\right) \]
then
\[ \gamma = 2\sqrt{2c\sigma \tilde{L}} \sqrt{\frac{d}{n}}. \]
As a result, we obtain
\[ |\langle \hat{w}, \nu \rangle - \|\nu\|^2| \leq \frac{d}{2\sqrt{n}}, \quad ||\hat{w} - \nu\|| \leq \gamma \]
with probability at least \( 1 - \delta_1 - \delta \).
We can choose
\[ t = \frac{\sqrt{d(\sqrt{n} - 1/2)}}{\sqrt{n} + 2\sqrt{2c\sigma L}}, \]
so that
\[ \mathbb{P}\left(\frac{\hat{w}^\top \nu}{\|\nu\|} \leq 0 \right| E) \leq 2 \exp\left(\frac{-d(\sqrt{n} - 1/2)^2}{2\sigma^2 L^2(\sqrt{n} + 2\sqrt{2c\sigma L})^2}\right). \]
Thusly,
\[ \mathbb{P}\left(\beta(\hat{w}, \hat{b}) \geq 2 \exp\left(\frac{-d(\sqrt{n} - 1/2)^2}{2\sigma^2 L^2(\sqrt{n} + 2\sqrt{2c\sigma L})^2}\right)\right) \leq \mathbb{P}(E^c), \]
which gives us the final result stated in the theorem.
A.3 Proof of Theorem 3.2

Since we know \( \vartheta \) is \( L_2 \)-Lipchitz continuous in \( \ell_\infty \)-norm. Then, we know
\[
\mathbb{P}_{(x,y) \sim \mathcal{P}}[\exists u \in \mathbb{B}_p(x, \varepsilon) : \langle \hat{w}, y \cdot (\vartheta(u) - \hat{b}) \rangle \leq 0] = \mathbb{P}_{(x,y) \sim \mathcal{P}}[\exists u \in \mathbb{B}_p(y/z, \varepsilon / L_2) : \langle \hat{w}, y \cdot (\vartheta(u) - \hat{b}) \rangle \leq 0]
\]
since the pre-image of \( bB_p(x, \varepsilon) \) via \( \vartheta \) includes the set \( \mathbb{B}_p(y/z, \varepsilon / L_2) \). Then following the argument in [36], the result follows.

**Remark A.2.** As a side interest, we also provide an analysis to show the lower bound result in Theorem 3.2 is achievable up to a logarithmic factor, by purely using labeled data. This scale matches the result in [36], but under a more general model considered in our paper.

\[
\mathbb{P}_{(x,y) \sim \mathcal{P}}[\exists u \in \mathbb{B}_p(x, \varepsilon) : f_{\hat{w}, \hat{b}}(u) \neq y] = \mathbb{P}_{(x,y) \sim \mathcal{P}}[\exists u \in \mathbb{B}_p(x, \varepsilon) : \langle \hat{w}, y \cdot (\vartheta(u) - \hat{b}) \rangle \leq 0] = \mathbb{P}_{(x,y) \sim \mathcal{P}}[\exists u \in \mathbb{B}_p(0, \varepsilon) : \langle \hat{w}, y \cdot (\vartheta(x + \eta) - \hat{b}) \rangle \leq 0] \leq \mathbb{P}_{(x,y) \sim \mathcal{P}}[\langle \hat{w}, (\vartheta(x) - \hat{b}) \rangle \leq \min_{\eta \in \mathbb{B}_p(0, \varepsilon)} \langle \eta L_1, \hat{w} \rangle] \leq \mathbb{P}_{(x,y) \sim \mathcal{P}}[\langle \hat{w}, (\vartheta(x) - \hat{b}) \rangle \leq \varepsilon L_1 \| \hat{w} \|_q]
\]
where \( 1/p + 1/q = 1 \).

When \( p = \infty, q = 1 \), it leads to \( \| \hat{w} \|_1 / \| \hat{w} \| \leq \sqrt{d} \). Recall in Theorem 3.1, \( E = A \cup B \), where
\[
A = \left\{ \langle \hat{w}, \nu_w \rangle - \| \nu_w \|^2 \leq \sigma L \| \nu_w \| \sqrt{2 \log(n/\delta)} \right\}, \quad B = \{ \| \hat{w} - \nu_w \| \leq \gamma \},
\]
then with probability \( \mathbb{P}(E) \), we have
\[
\mathbb{P} \left( \frac{\hat{w}^T \nu_w}{\| \hat{w} \|} \leq \varepsilon L_1 \frac{\| \hat{w} \|_q}{\| \hat{w} \|} \left| E \right\} \leq \mathbb{P} \left( \frac{\hat{w}^T \nu_w}{\| \nu_w \| + \gamma} \leq t + \varepsilon L_1 \frac{\| \hat{w} \|}{\| \nu_w \|} \left| E \right\} + 2 \exp \left( - \frac{t^2}{2 \sigma^2 L^2} \right) \right.
\]
\[
\leq \mathbb{P} \left( \frac{\hat{w}^T \nu_w}{\| \nu_w \| + \gamma} \leq t + \varepsilon L_1 \sqrt{d} \left| E \right\} + 2 \exp \left( - \frac{t^2}{2 \sigma^2 L^2} \right) \right).
\]
We still choose
\[
\delta = 2 \exp(-L/L)^2 \, d, \quad \delta_1 = 2 \exp(-d/8 \sigma^2 L^2)
\]
such that
\[
\gamma = 2 \sqrt{2c \sigma L} \sqrt{\frac{d}{n}}.
\]
As a result, we obtain
\[
\| \langle \hat{w}, \nu_w \rangle - \| \nu_w \|^2 \| \leq \frac{d}{2 \sqrt{n}}, \quad \| \hat{w} - \nu_w \| \leq 2 \sqrt{2c} \sigma L \sqrt{\frac{d}{n}}
\]
with probability at least \( 1 - \delta_1 - \delta \). We choose \( t \) such that
\[
\frac{\hat{w}^T \nu_w}{\| \nu_w \| + \gamma} > t + \varepsilon L_1 \sqrt{d}.
\]
We let
\[
t = \left( \frac{\sqrt{d}^2 - d/(2 \sqrt{n})}{\sqrt{d}^2 + 2 \sqrt{2c} \sigma L \sqrt{d}} - \varepsilon L_1 \sqrt{d} \right) \left( \frac{\sqrt{n} - 1/2}{\sqrt{n}/2 + 2 \sqrt{2c} \sigma L} - \varepsilon L_1 \sqrt{d} \right) - \frac{\sigma L \sqrt{2 \log(1/\beta)}}{\sqrt{d}} / L_1,
\]
As long as
\[
\varepsilon \leq \left( \frac{\sqrt{n} - 1/2}{\sqrt{n}/2 + 2 \sqrt{2c} \sigma L} - \frac{\sigma L \sqrt{2 \log(1/\beta)}}{\sqrt{d}} \right) / L_1,
\]
we have
\[
\beta^R(\hat{w}, \hat{b}) \leq 2 \exp(-t^2 / 2 \sigma^2 L^2) \leq \beta
\]
A.4 Statistical Measures

Recall the definition of

\[ d_\nu = \max \left\{ \frac{\| \tilde{\mu}_1 - \mu_1 \|}{\| \mu_1 - \tilde{\mu}_2 \|}, \frac{\| \tilde{\mu}_2 - \mu_2 \|}{\| \mu_2 - \tilde{\mu}_1 \|} \right\}. \]

We now make connections to commonly used statistical measures and provide a sketch of proof.

(a). Wasserstein Distance: the Wasserstein Distance induced by metric \( \rho \) between distributions \( P_1 \) and \( P_2 \) over \( \mathbb{R}^d \) is defined as

\[ W_\rho(P_1, P_2) = \sup_{\|f\|_{\text{Lip}} \leq 1} \left| \int f \, dP_1 - f \, dP_2 \right|, \]

where \( \|f\|_{\text{Lip}} \leq 1 \) indicates the class of \( f : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \) such that for any \( x, x' \in \mathbb{R}^d \), \( |f(x) - f(x')| \leq \rho(x, x') \). Let us consider \( \rho(x, x') = \|x - x'\| \).

**Proposition A.1.** Suppose \( \max\{W_\rho(P_1, \tilde{P}_1), W_\rho(P_2, \tilde{P}_2)\} \leq \tau \), for \( \tau \geq 0 \), then we have \( \|\mu_i - \tilde{\mu}_i\| \leq \tau, \quad i = 1, 2 \). As a result,

\[ d_\nu \leq \frac{\tau}{\|\tilde{\mu}_1 - \tilde{\mu}_2\|}. \]

If we further have \( \tau \leq \|\mu_1 - \mu_2\|/2 \), we have \( d_\nu \leq \tau/(\|\mu_1 - \mu_2\| - 2\tau) \).

**Proof.** Notice \( f(x) = x \) also satisfies \( \|f\|_{\text{Lip}} \leq 1 \), then we know \( \|\mu_i - \tilde{\mu}_i\| \leq \tau, \quad i = 1, 2 \). If we further have \( \tau \leq \|\mu_1 - \mu_2\|/2 \), plugging into the denominator, the result follows. \( \square \)

(b). Maximal Information: Maximal Information between distributions \( P_1 \) and \( P_2 \) over \( \mathbb{R}^d \) is defined as

\[ MI(P_1, P_2) = \sup_{O \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d} \max \left\{ \frac{\mathbb{P}_{x \sim P_1}(x \in O)}{\mathbb{P}_{x \sim P_2}(x \in O)}, \frac{\mathbb{P}_{x \sim P_2}(x \in O)}{\mathbb{P}_{x \sim P_1}(x \in O)} \right\}. \]

**Proposition A.2.** Suppose \( \max\{MI(P_1, \tilde{P}_1), MI(P_2, \tilde{P}_2)\} \leq \tau \) for \( 1 \leq \tau \leq 1 + \|\mu_1 - \mu_2\|/(2\|\mu_1\| + 2\|\mu_2\|) \), then we have \( \|\mu_i - \tilde{\mu}_i\| \leq (\tau - 1)\|\mu_i\|, \quad i = 1, 2 \). As a result, we have

\[ d_\nu \leq \frac{(\tau - 1)\max\{\|\mu_1\|,\|\mu_2\|\}}{\|\mu_1 - \mu_2\| - 2(\tau - 1)(\|\mu_1\| + \|\mu_2\|)}. \]

As we can see, as \( \tau \rightarrow 1 \), \( d_\nu \rightarrow 0 \).

**Proof.** Let \( X_1 \sim P_1, \ X_2 \sim P_2 \). By the definition of Maximal Information,

\[ \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^d} \max \left\{ \frac{\mathbb{P}(X_1 = x)}{\mathbb{P}(X_2 = x)}, \frac{\mathbb{P}(X_2 = x)}{\mathbb{P}(X_1 = x)} \right\} \leq \tau. \]

Then, we know \( \|\mu_i - \tilde{\mu}_i\| \leq (\tau - 1)\|\mu_i\|, \quad i = 1, 2 \) once we notice for all corresponding entries of the vector of \( X_1 \) and \( X_2 \), their maximal information is bounded by \( \tau \). So,

\[ d_\nu \leq \frac{(\tau - 1)\max\{\|\mu_1\|,\|\mu_2\|\}}{\|\mu_1 - \mu_2\|}. \]

If we further have \( \tau \leq 1 + \|\mu_1 - \mu_2\|/(2\|\mu_1\| + 2\|\mu_2\|) \), plugging into the denominator, the result follows. \( \square \)
(c) $H$-Divergence: let $H$ be a class of binary classifiers, then $H$-divergence between distributions $P$ and $P'$ over $\mathbb{R}^d$ is defined as

$$D_H(P, P') = \sup_{h \in H} |P_{x \sim P}(h(x) = 1) - P_{x \sim P'}(h(x) = 1)|.$$ 

To illustrate the connection between Theorem 3.3 and $H$-divergence, we consider a specific hypothesis class

$$H = \{h | h(t) = \text{sgn}(w^T(t - b)), (w, b) \in \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d\}. \tag{3}$$

**Proposition A.3.** Suppose for $X_i \sim P_i$ and $\tilde{X}_i \sim \tilde{P}_i$, $i = 1, 2$, the sub-gaussian norm of $\|X_i - \mu_i\|_{\psi_2}$ and $\|\tilde{X}_i - \tilde{\mu}_i\|_{\psi_2}$ are bounded by $\sigma$ and $\tilde{\sigma}$, where $X_i \sim P_i$, $\tilde{X}_i \sim \tilde{P}_i$, and $\mu_i, \tilde{\mu}_i$ are the corresponding means. Let $\alpha = \zeta \sqrt{\log(4/(1 - \tau))}$, where $\zeta = \max\{\sigma, \tilde{\sigma}\}$, if $\max\{D_H(P_1, \tilde{P}_1), D_H(P_2, \tilde{P}_2)\} \leq \tau$, for $\tau \leq 1$, we have $\|\mu_i - \tilde{\mu}_i\| \leq \alpha$, $i = 1, 2$. As a result,

$$d_\nu \leq \frac{\alpha}{\|\mu_1 - \mu_2\|}.$$ 

If we further have $\tau \leq 1 - 4 \exp(-\|\mu_1 - \mu_2\|^2/4\zeta^2)$, then $d_\nu \leq \alpha/\|\mu_1 - \mu_2\| - 2\alpha$.

**Proof.** It follows a simple geometric argument – a hyperplane cannot distinguish the two distributions too well. Recall if $\|X_i - \mu_i\|_{\psi_2} \leq \sigma_i$ and $\|\tilde{X}_i - \tilde{\mu}_i\|_{\psi_2} \leq \tilde{\sigma}_i$, then for $i = 1, 2$

$$P(\|X_i - \mu_i\| \geq t) \leq 2 \exp(-\frac{t^2}{\sigma^2}), \quad P(\|\tilde{X}_i - \tilde{\mu}_i\| \geq t) \leq 2 \exp(-\frac{t^2}{\tilde{\sigma}^2})$$

Consider $t^*$ such that

$$2 \exp(-\frac{t^*}{\zeta^2}) = (1 - \tau)/2, \quad i.e. t^* = \frac{\alpha}{2}.$$ 

It is easy to see the distance $\|(\mu_1 - \mu_2)/2 - (\tilde{\mu}_1 - \tilde{\mu}_2)/2\|$ should be upper bounded by $2t^*$, otherwise, there exists a hyperplane such that the probability mass of $X_1 \sim P_1$ and $\tilde{X}_1 \sim \tilde{P}_1$ has high probability mass on difference side of the hyperplane.

As we can see in the case for Wasserstein Distance, as $\tau \to 0$, $d_\nu \to 0$. However, for $H$-Divergence when $\tau \to 0$, $d_\nu$ will not go to 0. That is due to the constraint of capacity of $H$. Even if $\tau = 0$, $P_i$ and $\tilde{P}_i$ can still be quite different.

### A.5 Proof of Theorem 3.3

Let us recall the statement of Theorem 3.3 with some specified constants.

**Theorem A.1** (Robust accuracy). Consider the Gaussian generative model, where the marginal distribution of the input $x$ of labeled domain is a uniform mixture of two distributions with mean $\mu_1 = \mathbb{E}[\phi(z)]$ and $\mu_2 = \mathbb{E}[\phi(-z)]$ respectively, where $z \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 I_n)$. Suppose the marginal distribution of the input of unlabeled domain is a mixture of two sub-gaussian distributions with mean $\mu_1$ and $\mu_2$ with mixing probabilities $q$ and $1 - q$ and $\|\mathbb{E} \hat{\phi}(\tilde{x}_i) - \mathbb{E}\phi(\tilde{x}_i)\| a^T \hat{\phi}(\tilde{x}_i) = b \| \leq c_\nu \cdot (\sqrt{d} + |b|)$ for fixed unit vector $a$. Assuming the sub-gaussian norm for both labeled and unlabeled data are upper bounded by a universal quantity $c_{\max} := C_{\sigma} d^{3/4}$, $c_q < q < 1 - c_q$, $\|\mu_1 - \mu_2\| = C_\mu \sqrt{d}$, for some constants $C_{\sigma} > 0, 0 < c_q < 1/2, C_\mu > 0$ sufficiently large, and

$$d_\nu = \max \left\{\frac{\|\mu_1 - \mu_2\|}{\|\mu_1 - \mu_2\|}, \frac{\|\tilde{\mu}_1 - \tilde{\mu}_2\|}{\|\tilde{\mu}_1 - \tilde{\mu}_2\|}\right\} < c_0.$$
for some constant $c_0 \leq 1/4$, then the robust classification error is at most 1% when $d$ is sufficiently large, $n \geq C$ for some constant $C$ (not depending on $d$ and $\varepsilon$) and

$$\hat{n} \gtrsim \varepsilon^2 \log d \sqrt{d}.$$  

Now let us proceed to the proof.

For simplicity of presentation. We first denote the distributions for the two classes of labeled data as subGaussian$\{\mu_1, \sigma^2_{\text{max}}\}$, and subGaussian$\{\mu_2, \sigma^2_{\text{max}}\}$ respectively. Similarly, we also denote the distributions for the two classes of unlabeled data as subGaussian$\{\tilde{\mu}_1, \sigma^2_{\text{max}}\}$, and subGaussian$\{\tilde{\mu}_2, \sigma^2_{\text{max}}\}$ respectively. Also, to avoid the visual similarity and emphasize the estimates constructed by the labeled and unlabeled data respectively, we write $\hat{w}$ as $\hat{w}_{\text{intermediate}}$, $b$ as $\hat{b}_{\text{intermediate}}$, $\tilde{w}$ as $\tilde{w}_{\text{final}}$ and $\tilde{b}$ as $\tilde{b}_{\text{final}}$.

Then, let us write out the robust error of misclassifying class 1 against the $\ell_\infty$ attack (the robust error of misclassifying class 2 can be bounded similarly) as

$$\max_{\|d\|_\infty \leq \varepsilon} \mathbb{P} \left( \frac{\hat{w}_{\text{final}}^\top}{\|\tilde{w}_{\text{final}}\|} \left( \hat{x} + \delta - \tilde{b}_{\text{final}} \right) \leq 0 \mid \hat{x} \sim \text{subGaussian}(\tilde{\mu}_1, \sigma^2_{\text{max}}) \right)$$

$$= \mathbb{P} \left( \frac{\hat{w}_{\text{final}}^\top}{\|\tilde{w}_{\text{final}}\|} \varepsilon \leq - \frac{\hat{w}_{\text{final}}^\top}{\|\tilde{w}_{\text{final}}\|} (\mu_1 - \tilde{b}_{\text{final}}) + \varepsilon \|\tilde{w}_{\text{final}}\|_1 \right)$$

$$= \mathbb{P} \left( \frac{\hat{w}_{\text{final}}^\top}{\|\tilde{w}_{\text{final}}\|} \varepsilon \leq \frac{\hat{w}_{\text{final}}^\top}{\|\tilde{w}_{\text{final}}\|} (\mu_1 - \tilde{b}_{\text{final}} + \mu_1 - \tilde{\mu}_1 + \tilde{\mu}_2/2 - d_b + L'_1 \cdot \varepsilon \sqrt{d}) \right)$$

Denote $\tilde{b}_{\text{final}} := \frac{\hat{\mu}_1 + \tilde{\mu}_2}{2} + d_b$, we then have

$$\mathbb{P} \left( \frac{\hat{w}_{\text{final}}^\top}{\|\tilde{w}_{\text{final}}\|} \varepsilon \leq - \frac{\hat{w}_{\text{final}}^\top}{\|\tilde{w}_{\text{final}}\|} (\mu_1 - \tilde{b}_{\text{final}} + L'_1 \cdot \varepsilon \sqrt{d}) \right)$$

We are going to bound $|\frac{\hat{w}_{\text{final}}^\top}{\|\tilde{w}_{\text{final}}\|} (\mu_1 - \tilde{\mu}_1)|$, $|\frac{\hat{w}_{\text{final}}^\top}{\|\tilde{w}_{\text{final}}\|} (\tilde{\mu}_1 - \tilde{\mu}_2)/2|$, and $|\frac{\hat{w}_{\text{final}}^\top}{\|\tilde{w}_{\text{final}}\|} d_b|$ respectively.

Let $\tilde{\mu} = (\tilde{\mu}_1 - \tilde{\mu}_2)/2$, $\tilde{\nu} = (\tilde{\mu}_1 + \tilde{\mu}_2)/2$, $\mu = (\mu_1 - \mu_2)/2$, $\nu = (\mu_1 + \mu_2)/2$, and $b_i$ be the indicator that the $i$th pseudo-label $\tilde{y}_i$ is incorrect, so that $\tilde{x}_i \sim \tilde{\nu} + \text{subGaussian} (1 - 2b_i, \tilde{y}_i \tilde{\mu}, \sigma^2)$

Let $\hat{n}_1 = \sum_{i=1}^{\hat{n}} 1\{\tilde{y}_i = 1\}$, $\hat{n}_2 = \sum_{i=1}^{\hat{n}} 1\{\tilde{y}_i = -1\}$. We recall the final direction estimator as

$$\hat{w}_{\text{final}} = \frac{1}{2\hat{n}_1} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = 1} (1 - 2b_i) \tilde{\mu} + \frac{1}{2\hat{n}_1} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = -1} \tilde{\mu} + \frac{1}{2\hat{n}_2} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = 1} \tilde{\mu} - \frac{1}{2\hat{n}_2} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = -1} \tilde{\mu}$$

where $\varepsilon_i \sim \text{subGaussian} (0, \sigma^2)$ independent of each other.

Now let

$$\gamma := \frac{1}{2\hat{n}_1} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = 1} (1 - 2b_i) + \frac{1}{2\hat{n}_2} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = -1} (1 - 2b_i),$$

and define

$$\tilde{\delta} := \hat{w}_{\text{final}} - \gamma \tilde{\mu} = \frac{1}{2\hat{n}_1} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = 1} \varepsilon_i - \frac{1}{2\hat{n}_2} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = -1} \varepsilon_i.$$
We then have the decomposition and bound
\[
\frac{\|\hat{\mu}_{\text{final}}\|^2}{(\mu^\top \hat{\mu}_{\text{final}})^2} = \frac{\|\delta + \gamma \hat{\mu}\|^2}{(\gamma \|\hat{\mu}\|^2 + \hat{\mu}^\top \delta)^2} = \frac{1}{\|\hat{\mu}\|^2} \left( \gamma \|\hat{\mu}\|^2 + \hat{\mu}^\top \delta \right)^2 - \frac{1}{\|\hat{\mu}\|^2} \left( \gamma \|\hat{\mu}\|^2 + \hat{\mu}^\top \delta \right)^2
\]
\[
\leq \frac{1}{\|\hat{\mu}\|^2} + \frac{\|\delta\|^2 - \frac{1}{\|\hat{\mu}\|^2} \left( \hat{\mu}^\top \delta \right)^2}{\left( \gamma \|\hat{\mu}\|^2 + \hat{\mu}^\top \delta \right)^2} \leq \frac{1}{\|\hat{\mu}\|^2} + \frac{\|\delta\|^2}{\left( \gamma + \frac{1}{\|\hat{\mu}\|^2} \right)^2}.
\]

To write down concentration bounds for \(\|\delta\|^2\) and \(\hat{\mu}^\top \delta\) we must address their sub-Gaussianity. To do so, write
\[
\hat{\delta} = \frac{1}{2 \sum_{i=1}^n 1(\hat{y}_i = 1)} \sum_{i=1}^n 1(\hat{y}_i = 1) \varepsilon_i - \frac{1}{2 \sum_{i=1}^n 1(\hat{y}_i = -1)} \sum_{i=1}^n 1(\hat{y}_i = -1) \varepsilon_i,
\]
and
\[
\hat{y}_i \overset{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} \text{sign} \left( (z_i \hat{\mu} + \hat{\nu} - \hat{b}_{\text{intermediate}} + \varepsilon_i)^\top \hat{w}_{\text{intermediate}} \right),
\]
\[
\hat{y}_i \varepsilon_i \overset{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} \text{sign} \left( (z_i \hat{\mu} + \hat{\nu} - \hat{b}_{\text{intermediate}} + \varepsilon_i)^\top \hat{w}_{\text{intermediate}} \right) \cdot \varepsilon_i,
\]
where \(z_i\) is the true label of \(x_i\) (taken value from \(\pm 1\)).

We then have
\[
\mathbb{E}[1(\hat{y}_i = 1) = \mathbb{P}((z_i \hat{\mu} + \hat{\nu} - \hat{b}_{\text{intermediate}} + \varepsilon_i)^\top \hat{w}_{\text{intermediate}} > 0) = \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{P}((\hat{\mu}_1 - \hat{b}_{\text{intermediate}} + \varepsilon_i)^\top \hat{w}_{\text{intermediate}} > 0)\]
\[
= \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{P}((\hat{\mu}_1 - \frac{\mu_1 + \mu_2}{2} + e_b + \varepsilon_i)^\top \hat{w}_{\text{intermediate}} > 0) = \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{P}((\hat{\mu}_2 - \frac{\mu_1 + \mu_2}{2} + e_b + \varepsilon_i)^\top \hat{w}_{\text{intermediate}} > 0) = \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{P}(\varepsilon_i^\top \hat{w}_{\text{intermediate}} > -((\hat{\mu}_1 - \mu_1 + \frac{\mu_1 - \mu_2}{2} + e_b)^\top \hat{w}_{\text{intermediate}})
\]

The term in the last line can be bounded as follows. Let us recall \(d_\nu = \max \left\{ \frac{\|\hat{\mu}_1 - \mu_1\|}{\|\hat{\mu}_1 - \mu_2\|}, \frac{\|\hat{\mu}_2 - \mu_2\|}{\|\hat{\mu}_1 - \mu_2\|} \right\} < c_0\) implies that \(\|\hat{\mu} - \mu\| < c_0\|\hat{\mu}\|\), and therefore \(\|\hat{\mu}\| \geq \|\hat{\mu}\| - c_0\|\hat{\mu}\| = (1-c_0)\|\hat{\mu}\|\). We then obtain
\[
|((\hat{\mu}_1 - \mu_1)^\top \mu| \leq \|\hat{\mu}_1 - \mu_1\| \cdot \|\mu\| \leq c_0\|\hat{\mu}\| \cdot \|\mu\| \leq \frac{c_0}{1-c_0}\|\mu\|^2.
\]

As a result, we have
\[
|((\hat{\mu}_1 - \mu_1 + \frac{\mu_1 - \mu_2}{2} + e_b)^\top \hat{w}_{\text{intermediate}}| = |(\hat{\mu}_1 - \mu_1 + \frac{\mu_1 - \mu_2}{2} + e_b)^\top (\mu + e_w)|
\]
\[
\geq \|\mu\|^2 - |(\hat{\mu}_1 - \mu_1)^\top \mu| - |e_b^\top \mu| - |((\hat{\mu}_1 - \mu_1 + \frac{\mu_1 - \mu_2}{2} + e_b)^\top e_w| \geq \Omega_p(\sqrt{d}).
\]

We then have
\[
\mathbb{E}[1(\hat{y}_i = 1)] \geq \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{P}(\varepsilon_i^\top \hat{w}_{\text{intermediate}} > -(\hat{\mu}_1 - \mu_1 + \frac{\mu_1 - \mu_2}{2} + e_b)^\top \hat{w}_{\text{intermediate}})
\]
\[
\geq \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{P}(\varepsilon_i \frac{\mu_1 - \mu_2}{2} > 0) \geq \frac{c}{2},
\]

(5)
for some constant $c$ close to 1 when $d$ is sufficiently large.

Therefore, we have

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{\tilde{n}} 1(\tilde{y}_i = 1) \geq c + o_p(1),$$

and

$$\frac{1}{\sum_{i=1}^{\tilde{n}} 1(\tilde{y}_i = 1)} \sum_{i=1}^{\tilde{n}} 1(\tilde{y}_i = 1) \varepsilon_i \lesssim \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{\tilde{n}} 1(\tilde{y}_i = 1) \varepsilon_i.$$ 

In addition, we have

$$\| \mathbb{E}[1(\tilde{y}_i = 1) \varepsilon_i] \| = \| \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[1(\tilde{y}_i = 1) \varepsilon_i | \tilde{w}_{\text{intermediate}} \varepsilon_i]] \| \leq \mathbb{E}[\sqrt{d} + \| \tilde{w}_{\text{intermediate}} \varepsilon_i \|] \lesssim \sqrt{d}.$$ 

Since $\|1(\tilde{y}_i = 1) \varepsilon_i^{(j)} - \mathbb{E}[1(\tilde{y}_i = 1) \varepsilon_i^{(j)}]\|_{\psi_2} \leq 2 \|1(\tilde{y}_i = 1) \varepsilon_i^{(j)}\|_{\psi_2} \leq C \|\varepsilon_i^{(j)}\|_{\psi_2} \leq C \sigma_{\text{max}},$ we have

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{\tilde{n}} 1(\tilde{y}_i = 1) \varepsilon_i^{(j)}\right)^2 \geq (\mathbb{E}[1(\tilde{y}_i = 1) \varepsilon_i^{(j)}])^2 + t^2 \cdot \sigma_{\text{max}}^2\right) \leq e^{-C \tilde{n} t^2}.$$ 

Therefore, by union bound, with probability at least $1 - d^{-1}$,

$$\frac{1}{\sum_{i=1}^{\tilde{n}} 1(\tilde{y}_i = 1)} \sum_{i=1}^{\tilde{n}} 1(\tilde{y}_i = 1) \varepsilon_i \lesssim \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{\tilde{n}} 1(\tilde{y}_i = 1) \varepsilon_i^2 = \sum_{j=1}^{d} \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{\tilde{n}} 1(\tilde{y}_i = 1) \varepsilon_i^{(j)}\right)^2 \lesssim d + d \cdot \frac{\log d}{n} \sigma_{\text{max}}^2.$$ 

Similarly, we have

$$\frac{1}{\sum_{i=1}^{\tilde{n}} 1(\tilde{y}_i = -1)} \sum_{i=1}^{\tilde{n}} 1(\tilde{y}_i = -1) \varepsilon_i \lesssim \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{\tilde{n}} 1(\tilde{y}_i = -1) \varepsilon_i^2 = \sum_{j=1}^{d} \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{\tilde{n}} 1(\tilde{y}_i = -1) \varepsilon_i^{(j)}\right)^2 \lesssim d + d \cdot \frac{\log d}{n} \sigma_{\text{max}}^2.$$ 

Then, since $\|\hat{\delta}\|^2 \leq \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{\hat{n}} 1(\hat{y}_i = 1) (\hat{y}_i = 1) \varepsilon_i \|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{\hat{n}} 1(\hat{y}_i = -1) (\hat{y}_i = -1) \varepsilon_i \|^2,$ we have

$$\|\hat{\delta}\|^2 = O_p(\| \varepsilon_i \| (1 + \| \varepsilon_i \| \sigma)),$$

The same technique also yields a crude bound on $\mu^T \hat{\delta} = \frac{1}{2n1} \sum_{i=1}^{\tilde{n}} 1(\tilde{y}_i = 1) \mu^T \varepsilon_i - \frac{1}{2n1} \sum_{i=1}^{\tilde{n}} 1(\tilde{y}_i = -1) \mu^T \varepsilon_i.$ We can write

$$1(\tilde{y}_i = 1) \mu^T \varepsilon_i i.i.d. \sim 1 \left( (z_i \mu + \tilde{\nu} - \hat{\delta}_{\text{intermediate}} + \varepsilon_i)^T \tilde{w}_{\text{intermediate}} > 0 \right) \mu^T \varepsilon_i.$$ 

Since $\|1(\tilde{y}_i = 1) \mu^T \varepsilon_i \|_{\psi_2} \leq C \| \mu^T \varepsilon_i \|_{\psi_2} \leq C \| \hat{\mu} \|_{2, \sigma},$ we have

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{\tilde{n}} 1(\tilde{y}_i = 1) \hat{\mu}^T \varepsilon_i\right)^2 \geq t^2 \cdot \| \hat{\mu} \|^2 \sigma^2 + \| \hat{\mu} \|^2 \sigma^2\right) \leq e^{-C \tilde{n} t^2}.$$ 

and by the fact that $\left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{\tilde{n}} 1(\tilde{y}_i = 1) \mu^T \varepsilon_i\right)^2 \lesssim \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{\tilde{n}} 1(\tilde{y}_i = 1) \mu^T \varepsilon_i\right)^2,$ we have

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\| \hat{\mu}^T \hat{\delta} \| \geq \sqrt{2\sigma} \| \hat{\mu} \| + \| \hat{\mu} \| \sigma\right) = \mathbb{P}\left(\| \hat{\mu}^T \hat{\delta} \|^2 \geq C \sigma^2 \| \hat{\mu} \|^2\right) \leq e^{-\tilde{n}/8}. $$

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Finally, we need to argue that $\gamma$ is not too small. Recall that $\gamma = \frac{1}{2n_1} \sum_{y_i=1} (1 - 2b_i) + \frac{1}{2n_2} \sum_{y_i=-1} (1 - 2b_i)$ where $b_i$ is the indicator that $\tilde{y}_i$ is incorrect and therefore

$$\mathbb{E} [1 - 2b_i \mid \tilde{\omega}_{\text{intermediate}}, \tilde{y}_i = 1] = 1 - 2\mathbb{P}(\tilde{f}_{\tilde{\omega}_{\text{intermediate}}} \mid \hat{x} \sim \text{subGaussian}(\mu_1, \sigma^2))$$

$$= 2\mathbb{P}(\varepsilon_i^\top \tilde{\omega}_{\text{intermediate}} > - (\mu_1 - \mu + \frac{\mu_1 - \mu_2}{2} + e_b) \tilde{\omega}_{\text{intermediate}}) - 1.$$  

This term can be lower bounded similarly as (5), which satisfies

$$\mathbb{E} [1 - 2b_i \mid \tilde{\omega}_{\text{intermediate}}, \tilde{y}_i = 1] \geq 2\mathbb{P}(\varepsilon_i^\top \tilde{\omega}_{\text{intermediate}} > - (\mu_1 - \mu + \frac{\mu_1 - \mu_2}{2} + e_b) \tilde{\omega}_{\text{intermediate}}) - 1 \geq \frac{4}{5},$$

with high probability when $d$ is sufficiently large.

Similarly, we have

$$\mathbb{E} [1 - 2b_i \mid \tilde{\omega}_{\text{intermediate}}, \tilde{y}_i = -1] \geq \frac{4}{5},$$

with high probability when $d$ is sufficiently large.

Therefore we expect $\gamma$ to be reasonably large as long as $\mathbb{E}[\gamma] \geq \frac{4}{5}$. Indeed, define

$$\tilde{\gamma} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (1 - 2b_i).$$

We then have

$$\mathbb{E}[\tilde{\gamma}] \geq \mathbb{E}[\frac{1}{n} \sum_{y_i=1} (1 - 2b_i) + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{y_i=-1} (1 - 2b_i)]$$

$$\geq \mathbb{E}[\frac{1}{n} \cdot \frac{4}{5} n_1 + \frac{1}{n} \cdot \frac{4}{5} n_2] \geq \frac{4}{5}.$$  

By using $\gamma \geq \frac{1}{2} \tilde{\gamma}$, we have

$$\mathbb{P}(\gamma \geq \frac{1}{5}) \geq \mathbb{P}(\tilde{\gamma} \geq \frac{2}{5}) = 1 - \mathbb{P}(\tilde{\gamma} < \frac{2}{5})$$

$$\geq 1 - \mathbb{P}(|\tilde{\gamma} - \mathbb{E}[\tilde{\gamma}]| > \frac{2}{5}) \geq 1 - e^{-c\tilde{n}},$$

where the last inequality is due to Hoeffding’s inequality.

As a result, we have $\gamma \geq \frac{2}{5}$ with high probability.

Define the event,

$$\mathcal{E} = \left\{\|\delta\|^2 \leq \|\gamma\|\|\mu\|\|\hat{\mu} - \mu\| + \frac{d \cdot \sigma_{\text{max}}^2 \log d + d \xi_n^2}{n}, \quad |\mu^\top \delta| \leq \sqrt{2} \sigma_{\text{max}} \|\mu\| + \gamma \mu^\top \|\mu\|\|\mu\| + \xi_n \|\mu\| \quad \text{and} \quad \gamma \geq \frac{2}{5}\right\}$$

by the preceding discussion,

$$\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{E}^c) \leq \frac{1}{d} + e^{-\tilde{n}/8} + e^{-c\|\mu\|^2/8\sigma_{\text{max}}^2} + 2e^{-cn\|\mu\|^2/2\sigma_{\text{max}}^2} + e^{-c\tilde{n}}$$

Moreover, by the bound (4), $\mathcal{E}$ implies

$$\frac{\|\tilde{\omega}_{\text{final}}\|^2}{(\hat{\mu}^\top \tilde{\omega}_{\text{final}})^2} \leq \frac{1}{\|\hat{\mu}\|^2} + \frac{\|\delta\|^2}{\|\mu\|^4 \left(\gamma + \frac{1}{\|\mu\|^4 \|\hat{\mu}\|^2} \|\mu\| \right)^2} \leq \frac{1}{\|\hat{\mu}\|^2} + \frac{d \cdot (1 + \frac{\log d}{n} \sigma_{\text{max}}^2)}{\|\mu\|^4 \left(\frac{2}{5} + \frac{1}{\|\mu\|^2 \cdot \|\mu\| \sigma_{\text{max}}}ight)^2}.$$  

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Therefore,

\[
\frac{\tilde{\mu}^T \bar{w}_{\text{final}}}{\sigma_{\text{max}} \|\bar{w}_{\text{final}}\|} \geq \left( \frac{\sigma_{\text{max}}^2}{\|\tilde{\mu}\|^2} + \frac{d \cdot (1 + \log_d \frac{d}{n})}{\|\tilde{\mu}\|^4 \left( \frac{2}{5} - \sigma_{\text{max}}^2 \|\tilde{\mu}\|^2 \right)} \right)^{-1/2}
\]

with probability \( \geq 1 - \left( \frac{1}{d} + e^{-\theta/8} + e^{-c\|\mu\|^2/8\sigma_{\text{max}}^2} + 2e^{-cn\|\mu\|^2/2\sigma_{\text{max}}^2} \right) \).

Recall that we take \( \sigma_{\text{max}} := C_\sigma d^{1/4} \) and \( \|\tilde{\mu}_1 - \tilde{\mu}_2\|_2 = C_\mu \sqrt{d} \) for sufficiently large \( C_\mu \), we then have when \( \tilde{n} \geq \varepsilon^2 d \log d \),

\[
\frac{\tilde{\mu}^T \bar{w}_{\text{final}}}{\|\bar{w}_{\text{final}}\|} = \Omega_P(\sqrt{d}).
\]

Then let us consider

\[
\tilde{b}_{\text{final}} = \frac{1}{2\tilde{n}_1} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = 1} \tilde{x}_i + \frac{1}{2\tilde{n}_2} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = -1} \tilde{x}_i
\]

\[
= \tilde{\nu} + \frac{1}{2\tilde{n}_1} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = 1} (1 - 2b_i) \tilde{\mu} - \frac{1}{2\tilde{n}_2} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = -1} (1 - 2b_i) \tilde{\mu} + \frac{1}{2\tilde{n}_1} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = 1} \varepsilon_i + \frac{1}{2\tilde{n}_2} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = -1} \varepsilon_i
\]

\[
= \tilde{\nu} + \left[ \frac{1}{2\tilde{n}_1} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = 1} (1 - 2b_i) - \frac{1}{2\tilde{n}_2} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = -1} (1 - 2b_i) \right] \tilde{\mu} + \frac{1}{2\tilde{n}_1} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = 1} \varepsilon_i + \frac{1}{2\tilde{n}_2} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = -1} \varepsilon_i.
\]

Let

\[
\lambda := \frac{1}{\tilde{n}_1} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = 1} (1 - 2b_i) - \frac{1}{\tilde{n}_2} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = -1} (1 - 2b_i)
\]

When \( n > C \) for sufficiently large \( C \), we have \( \lambda \leq 0.01 \).

Also, let us denote \( \tilde{\delta}_2 = \frac{1}{2\tilde{n}_1} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = 1} \varepsilon_i + \frac{1}{2\tilde{n}_2} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = -1} \varepsilon_i \), we then have

\[
|\tilde{\delta}^T \tilde{\delta}_2| = \left\| \frac{1}{2\tilde{n}_1} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = 1} \varepsilon_i \right\|^2 - \left\| \frac{1}{2\tilde{n}_2} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = -1} \varepsilon_i \right\|^2 \leq \left\| \frac{1}{2\tilde{n}_1} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = 1} \varepsilon_i \right\|^2 \leq c_\varepsilon (d + d \cdot \log_d \frac{d}{n} \sigma_{\text{max}}^2)
\]

We also have

\[
\left| \frac{\bar{w}_{\text{final}}^T}{\|\bar{w}_{\text{final}}\|} d_b \right| \leq \lambda \left( \frac{\bar{w}_{\text{final}}^T}{\|\bar{w}_{\text{final}}\|} \tilde{\mu} \right) + \left| \frac{\bar{w}_{\text{final}}^T}{\|\bar{w}_{\text{final}}\|} \tilde{\delta}_2 \right|
\]

\[
\leq \lambda \|\tilde{\mu}\| + \frac{(\tilde{\delta} + \gamma \tilde{\mu})^T \tilde{\delta}_2}{\|\tilde{\delta} + \gamma \tilde{\mu}\|}
\]

\[
\leq \lambda \|\tilde{\mu}\| + \frac{\tilde{\delta}^T \tilde{\delta}_2 + \gamma \tilde{\mu}^T \tilde{\delta}_2}{\|\gamma \tilde{\mu}\| - \|\tilde{\delta}\|}
\]

\[
\leq \lambda \|\tilde{\mu}\| + \frac{c_\varepsilon (d + d \cdot \log_d \frac{d}{n} \sigma_{\text{max}}^2) + O_P(\|\tilde{\mu}\| \sigma)}{\gamma \|\tilde{\mu}\| - c_\varepsilon (d + d \cdot \log_d \frac{d}{n} \sigma_{\text{max}}^2)}
\]

\[
\leq (\lambda C_\mu + \frac{c_\varepsilon}{\gamma C_\mu - c_\varepsilon}) \cdot \sqrt{d}
\]
Therefore, when the constant $C_\mu$ is sufficiently large,

$$\frac{\tilde{w}_{\text{final}}^\top}{\|\tilde{w}_{\text{final}}\|} ((\mu_1 - \tilde{\mu}_1) + \frac{\tilde{\mu}_1 - \tilde{\mu}_2}{2} - d_b)$$

$$\geq \left| \frac{\tilde{w}_{\text{final}}^\top}{\|\tilde{w}_{\text{final}}\|} \tilde{\mu} \right| - \left| \frac{\tilde{w}_{\text{final}}^\top}{\|\tilde{w}_{\text{final}}\|} (\mu_1 - \tilde{\mu}_1) \right| - \left| \frac{\tilde{w}_{\text{final}}^\top}{\|\tilde{w}_{\text{final}}\|} d_b \right|$$

$$\geq \left( \frac{\sigma^2}{\|\tilde{\mu}\|^2} + \frac{d \cdot (1 + \log \frac{d}{\epsilon} \sigma_{\text{max}}^2)}{\|\tilde{\mu}\|^4 \left( \frac{1}{\tilde{\mu}} - \frac{\sigma_{\text{max}}}{\tilde{\mu}} \right)^2} \right)^{-1/2} - 2c_0\|\tilde{\mu}\| - (\lambda C_\mu + \frac{c_\epsilon}{\gamma C_\mu - c_\epsilon}) \cdot \sqrt{d}$$

$$= \Omega_P(\sqrt{d}).$$

The robust error is then

$$P\left( \frac{\tilde{w}_{\text{final}}^\top}{\|\tilde{w}_{\text{final}}\|} \epsilon \leq -\frac{\tilde{w}_{\text{final}}^\top}{\|\tilde{w}_{\text{final}}\|} (\mu_1 - \tilde{b}) + L_1' \cdot \epsilon \sqrt{d} \right)$$

$$= P\left( \frac{\tilde{w}_{\text{final}}^\top}{\|\tilde{w}_{\text{final}}\|} \epsilon \leq -\frac{\tilde{w}_{\text{final}}^\top}{\|\tilde{w}_{\text{final}}\|} ((\mu_1 - \tilde{\mu}_1) + \frac{\tilde{\mu}_1 - \tilde{\mu}_2}{2} - d_b) + L_1' \cdot \epsilon \sqrt{d} \right)$$

$$\leq \exp(-C\sqrt{d}) \leq 0.01,$n when $d$ is sufficiently large.

### A.6 Proof of Theorem 3.5

Let us consider the following model: $x \sim N(\mu_\sigma, \sigma^2 I)$ with $y$ uniform on $\{-1, 1\}$ and $\mu \in \mathbb{R}^d$.

Consider a linear classifier $f_w(x) = \text{sgn}(x^\top w)$.

It’s easy to see that the robust error probability is

$$err_{\text{robust}} = Q\left( \frac{\mu^\top w}{\sigma \|w\|} - \frac{\epsilon \|w\|_1}{\sigma \|w\|} \right),$$

where $Q = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-t^2/2} dt$.

Therefore

$$\arg\min_{\|w\|=1} err_{\text{robust}} = \arg\max_{\|w\|=1} \frac{\mu^\top w}{\sigma \|w\|} - \frac{\epsilon \|w\|_1}{\sigma \|w\|}$$

$$= \arg\max_{\|w\|=1} \mu^\top w - \epsilon \|w\|_1$$

$$= \arg\max_{\|w\|=1} \sum_{j=1}^d \mu_j w_j - \epsilon |w_j|$$

By observation, when reaching maximum, we have to have $\text{sgn}(w_j) = \text{sgn}(\mu_j)$, therefore

$$\arg\max_{\|w\|=1} \sum_{j=1}^d \mu_j w_j - \epsilon |w_j|$$

$$= \arg\max_{\|w\|=1} \sum_{j=1}^d (\mu_j - \epsilon \cdot \text{sgn}(\mu_j)) w_j$$

$$= \frac{T_\epsilon(\mu)}{\|T_\epsilon(\mu)\|},$$

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where $T_\varepsilon(\mu)$ is the hard-thresholding operator with $(T_\varepsilon(\mu))_j = \text{sgn}(\mu_j) \cdot \max\{|\mu_j| - \varepsilon, 0\}$.

Now let us consider the example: $\mu$ with $\mu_j > \varepsilon$ for all $j = 1, 2, \ldots d$. For the shifted domain, we let $\tilde{\mu}_1 = -\tilde{\mu}_2 = \tilde{\mu} = \mu - \varepsilon \cdot 1_p$, and the mixing proportion is half-half.

Let $b_i$ be the indicator that the $i$th pseudo-label $\tilde{y}_i = \text{sgn}(\tilde{x}_i^\top \hat{w}_\text{intermediate})$ is incorrect, so that $\tilde{x}_i \sim N((1 - 2b_i) \tilde{y}_i \tilde{\mu}, \sigma^2 I)$, and let

$$\gamma := \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{\tilde{n}} (1 - 2b_i) \in [-1, 1].$$

We may write the final direction estimator as

$$\hat{w}_{\text{final}} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{\tilde{n}} \tilde{y}_i \tilde{x}_i = \gamma \tilde{\mu} + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{\tilde{n}} \tilde{y}_i \varepsilon_i$$

where $\varepsilon_i \sim N(0, \sigma^2 I)$ independent of each other.

By orthogonal invariance of Gaussianity, we choose a coordinate system such that the first coordinate is in the direction of $\hat{w}_\text{intermediate}$, we then have

$$||\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{\tilde{n}} \tilde{y}_i \varepsilon_i||^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{\tilde{n}} \tilde{y}_i \varepsilon_i 1_2^2 + \sum_{j=2}^{d} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{\tilde{n}} \tilde{y}_i \varepsilon_{ij} 1_2^2 \leq \frac{\sigma^2}{n} \chi^2_{2\tilde{n}} + \frac{\sigma^2}{n} \chi^2_{d-1}.$$

In addition, we have $||\hat{\mu}||^2 = d \varepsilon^2$. Therefore, if $(1/d + 1/\tilde{n}) \cdot \frac{\sigma^2}{\varepsilon^2} \to 0$, we will then have

$$\frac{\hat{w}_{\text{final}}}{||\hat{w}_{\text{final}}||} \to \tilde{\mu},$$

and therefore

$$\text{err}^\infty_{\text{robust}}(f_{\hat{w}_{\text{final}}}) \leq \text{err}^\infty_{\text{robust}}(f_\mu).$$

A.7 Proof of Theorem 3.5

Suppose the labeled domain distribution is $\frac{1}{2}N(\mu, \sigma^2 I_p) + \frac{1}{2}N(-\mu, \sigma^2 I_p)$. Let $v \in \mathbb{R}^p$ be a vector such that $v^\top \mu = 0$, $||\mu|| = a ||v||$ for some $a > 0$, and let the unlabeled domain distribution be $\frac{1}{2}N(v, \sigma^2 I_p) + \frac{1}{2}N(-v, \sigma^2 I_p)$. That is, $\mu_1 = -\mu_2 = \mu, \tilde{\mu}_1 = -\tilde{\mu}_2 = v$.

We then have

$$d_v = \max\{||\tilde{\mu}_1 - \mu_1||, ||\tilde{\mu}_2 - \mu_2|| \} = \frac{\sqrt{1 + a^2} \cdot ||v||}{2 ||v||} = \frac{\sqrt{1 + a^2} \cdot ||\tilde{\mu}_1 - \tilde{\mu}_2||}{2},$$

which falls into the specified class.

Now let us consider the case where $\mu_1 = e_1, v = a^{-1} e_2$, where $e_1, e_2$ are the canonical basis, and study the performance of the classifier $\text{sgn}(\hat{w}_{\text{final}}^\top (z - \tilde{b}))$, where

$$\hat{b}_{\text{final}} = \frac{1}{2\tilde{n}_1} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = 1} \tilde{x}_i + \frac{1}{2\tilde{n}_2} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = -1} \tilde{x}_i; \quad \hat{w}_{\text{final}} = \frac{1}{2\tilde{n}_1} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = 1} \tilde{x}_i - \frac{1}{2\tilde{n}_2} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = -1} \tilde{x}_i.$$

Similar to the proof in the last section, let $b_i$ be the indicator that $\tilde{y}_i$ is incorrect and we decompose $\hat{w}_{\text{final}}$ and $\hat{b}$ into
Recall that $\hat{\mu} = 1$ and put no constraint on other coordinates. Similarly, when $\tilde{y}_i = 2$, we have

$$w_{\text{final}} = \frac{1}{2n_1} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = 1} \hat{x}_i - \frac{1}{2n_2} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = -1} \hat{x}_i$$

$$= \frac{1}{2n_1} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = 1} (1 - 2b_i) \nu + \frac{1}{2n_1} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = 1} \varepsilon_i + \frac{1}{2n_2} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = -1} (1 - 2b_i) \nu - \frac{1}{2n_2} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = -1} \varepsilon_i,$$

$$\hat{b}_{\text{final}} = \frac{1}{2n_1} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = 1} \hat{x}_i + \frac{1}{2n_2} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = -1} \hat{x}_i$$

$$= \frac{1}{2n_1} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = 1} (1 - 2b_i) \tilde{\mu} - \frac{1}{2n_2} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = -1} (1 - 2b_i) \tilde{\mu} + \frac{1}{2n_1} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = 1} \varepsilon_i + \frac{1}{2n_2} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = -1} \varepsilon_i.$$

Now let us investigate $b_i$ carefully. When $\tilde{y}_i = 1$, we have

$$\mathbb{E}[b_i \mid \tilde{y}_i = 1] = \mathbb{P}(\tilde{x} \sim \text{subGaussian}(\tilde{\mu}_1, \sigma^2) \mid (\tilde{x} - \hat{b}_\text{intermediate})^\top \hat{w}_\text{intermediate} > 0)$$

$$= \frac{\mathbb{P}((\tilde{x} - \hat{b}_\text{intermediate})^\top \hat{w}_\text{intermediate} > 0) \mid \tilde{x} \sim \text{subGaussian}(\tilde{\mu}_1, \sigma^2)}{\mathbb{P}((\tilde{x} - \hat{b}_\text{intermediate})^\top \hat{w}_\text{intermediate} > 0) \mid \tilde{x} \sim \text{subGaussian}(\tilde{\mu}_1, \sigma^2) + \mathbb{P}((\tilde{x} - \hat{b}_\text{intermediate})^\top \hat{w}_\text{intermediate} > 0) \mid \tilde{x} \sim (\tilde{\mu}_2, \sigma^2))}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} + O_p(\sqrt{\frac{d}{n}}).$$

As a result, we have

$$w_{\text{final}} = (O_p(\sqrt{\frac{d}{n}}) + O_p(\sqrt{\frac{1}{n}}))v + \frac{1}{2n_1} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = 1} \varepsilon_i - \frac{1}{2n_2} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = -1} \varepsilon_i;$$

$$\hat{b}_{\text{final}} = (O_p(\sqrt{\frac{d}{n}}) + O_p(\sqrt{\frac{1}{n}}))v + \frac{1}{2n_1} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = 1} \varepsilon_i + \frac{1}{2n_2} \sum_{\tilde{y}_i = -1} \varepsilon_i.$$

Then let us study $\varepsilon_i \mid \tilde{y}_i = 1$. When $\tilde{y}_i = 1$, we have

$$(\tilde{x} - \hat{b}_\text{intermediate})^\top \hat{w}_\text{intermediate} > 0.$$
Then we write out the misclassification error
\[
P\left( \frac{\tilde{w}_{\text{final}}^T}{\|\tilde{w}_{\text{final}}\|} (\tilde{x} - \hat{b}) \leq 0 \mid \tilde{x} \sim \text{subGaussian}(v, \sigma^2) \right) = P\left( \frac{\tilde{w}_{\text{final}}^T}{\|\tilde{w}_{\text{final}}\|} \varepsilon \leq O_p\left( \sqrt{\frac{d}{n}} \right) + O_p\left( \sqrt{\frac{d}{n}} \right) \right)
= \frac{1}{2} + O_p\left( \sqrt{\frac{d}{n}} \right) + O_p\left( \sqrt{\frac{d}{n}} \right).
\]
Therefore, when \( \frac{d}{n} \) and \( \frac{d}{\tilde{n}} \) sufficiently small, we then have
\[
\beta^{\varepsilon, \infty}(\tilde{w}, \tilde{b}) \geq \beta^{\infty}(\tilde{w}, \tilde{b}) \geq 49%.
\]

### A.8 The high-dimensional EM algorithm mentioned in the main paper

The algorithm used in the main paper to extract the support information from the unlabeled domain is presented in the following in Algorithm 1, which is adapted from [6].

### A.9 Proof of Theorem 3.6

Let us first adapt the Theorem 3.1 in [6], which states the convergence rate of Algorithm 1

**Lemma A.4** (adapted from Theorem 3.1 in [6]). Under the same conditions of Theorem 3.6, if we choose the initializations of Algorithm A.1 according to [17], then there is a constant \( \kappa \in (0, 1) \), such that the estimator \( \hat{\beta}(T_0) \) satisfies
\[
\| \hat{\beta}(T_0) - (\tilde{\mu}_1 - \tilde{\mu}_2) \|_2 \lesssim \kappa^{T_0} \cdot (\| \hat{\beta}(0) - (\tilde{\mu}_1 - \tilde{\mu}_2) \|_2 + |\tilde{\omega}(0) - q|) + \sigma \sqrt{\frac{m \log d}{n}}.
\]
In particular, if we let \( T_0 \gtrsim (- \log(\kappa))^{-1} \log(n \cdot (\| \hat{\beta}(0) - (\tilde{\mu}_1 - \tilde{\mu}_2) \|_2 + |\tilde{\omega}(0) - q|)) \), we have
\[
\| \hat{\beta}(T_0) - (\tilde{\mu}_1 - \tilde{\mu}_2) \|_2 \lesssim \sigma \sqrt{\frac{m \log d}{n}}.
\]

As a direct consequence of Lemma A.4 we have
\[
\| \hat{\beta}(T_0) - (\tilde{\mu}_1 - \tilde{\mu}_2) \|_{\infty} \lesssim \sigma \sqrt{\frac{m \log d}{n}}.
\]
Using the condition that \( \min_{i \neq j} |\tilde{\mu}_{1,i} - \tilde{\mu}_{2,j}| \geq C \sigma \sqrt{2m \log d/n} \) for sufficiently large \( C \), we then have, with high probability,
\[
\hat{S} = \text{Supp}(\hat{\beta}(T_0)) = \text{Supp}(\tilde{\mu}_1 - \tilde{\mu}_2).
\]
Therefore, when we project the labeled data to this support \( \hat{S} \), it reduce the model to the previous setting considered in Theorem 3.1 and 3.2 with the dimension of \( \nu(\tilde{x}) \) reduced to \( m \). Combing the proofs of Theorem 3.1, 3.2, and 3.3m we then have the desired result that if \( n \gtrsim \varepsilon^2 \log d/m \), we have
\[
\beta^{\varepsilon, \infty}(\tilde{w}_{\text{sparse}}, \hat{b}_{\text{sparse}}) \leq 10^{-3} + O_P\left( \frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{d} \right).
\]
Algorithm 1 Clustering of High-dimensional Gaussian Mixtures with the EM (CHIME)

1: **Inputs:** Initializations $\hat{\omega}^{(0)}$, $\hat{\mu}_1^{(0)}$, and $\hat{\mu}_2^{(0)}$, maximum number of iterations $T_0$, and a constant $\kappa \in (0,1)$. Set

$$\hat{\beta}^{(0)} = \arg\min_{\beta \in \mathbb{R}^p} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \| \beta \|^2 - \beta^\top (\hat{\mu}_1^{(0)} - \hat{\mu}_2^{(0)}) + \lambda_n^{(0)} \| \beta \|_1 \right\},$$

where the tuning parameter $\lambda_n^{(0)} = C_1 \cdot (|\omega| \vee \| \mu_1^{(0)} - \mu_2^{(0)} \|_{2,s}) / \sqrt{s} + C_\lambda \sqrt{\log p/n}$.

2: **for** $t = 0, 1, \ldots, T_0 - 1$ **do**

3: Let

$$\gamma_{\hat{\theta}(t)}(\bar{x}_i) = \frac{\hat{\omega}(t)}{\hat{\omega}(t) + (1 - \hat{\omega}(t)) \exp \left\{ (\hat{\mu}_2^{(t)} - \hat{\mu}_1^{(t)})^\top (\bar{x}_i - \frac{\hat{\mu}_2^{(t)} + \hat{\mu}_1^{(t)}}{2}) \right\}}.$$

4: Update $\hat{\omega}^{(t+1)}$, $\hat{\mu}_1^{(t+1)}$, and $\hat{\mu}_2^{(t+1)}$, by

$$\hat{\omega}^{(t+1)} = \hat{\omega}(\hat{\theta}(t)) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_{\hat{\theta}(t)}(\bar{x}_i),$$

$$\hat{\mu}_1^{(t+1)} = \hat{\mu}_1(\hat{\theta}(t)) = \left\{ n - \sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_{\hat{\theta}(t)}(\bar{x}_i) \right\}^{-1} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n (1 - \gamma_{\hat{\theta}(t)}(\bar{x}_i)) \bar{x}_i \right\},$$

$$\hat{\mu}_2^{(t+1)} = \hat{\mu}_2(\hat{\theta}(t)) = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_{\hat{\theta}(t)}(\bar{x}_i) \right\}^{-1} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_{\hat{\theta}(t)}(\bar{x}_i) \bar{x}_i \right\},$$

and update $\hat{\beta}^{(t+1)}$ via

$$\hat{\beta}^{(t+1)} = \arg\min_{\beta \in \mathbb{R}^p} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \| \beta \|^2 - \beta^\top (\hat{\mu}_1^{(t+1)} - \hat{\mu}_2^{(t+1)}) + \lambda_n^{(t+1)} \| \beta \|_1 \right\},$$

with

$$\lambda_n^{(t+1)} = \kappa \lambda_n^{(t)} + C_\lambda \sqrt{\frac{\log p}{n}}.$$

5: **end for**

6: Output the support of $\hat{\beta}^{(T_0)}$, $\hat{S} = \text{Supp}(\hat{\beta}^{(T_0)})$.

7: Project $x_i$'s to $\hat{S} = \text{Supp}(\hat{\beta}^{(T_0)})$, estimate $\hat{w}$ and $\hat{b}$ on these projected samples.

8: Construct the classifier $\text{sgn}(\hat{w}^\top (z_{\hat{S}}) - \hat{b})$.
B Experimental Implementation on Synthetic Data

We here complement our theory result in Theorem 3.4 and Theorem 3.6 by experiments with synthetic data.

Figure 2: Error Difference vs $\varepsilon$: we use synthetic data described in Theorem 3.4, where the Error Difference = Adversarial Error when Unlabeled Data from the Same Domain - Adversarial Error when Unlabeled Data from the Shifted Domain. We can see that error difference is positive for all the $\varepsilon$ we take, which implies unlabeled data from a shifted domain works even better.

Figure 3: Error Difference vs $\varepsilon$: we use gaussian synthetic data with sparsity structure, where we create 100 dimensional Gaussian data for both original domain and shifted domain, and only the first 10 coordinates matters (mean difference of positive and negative distribution of data from each domain is non-zero for only the first 10 coordinates). The Error Difference = Adversarial Error with Semi-supervised Learning Algorithm - Adversarial Error with Algorithm with Unknown Sparsity. We can see that error difference is positive for all the $\varepsilon$ we take, which implies our algorithm with unknown sparsity works better when there is some common sparsity structure.
C Experimental Implementation on Real Data

We use the implementation from [9] that can be accessed from [https://github.com/yaircarmon/semisup-adv](https://github.com/yaircarmon/semisup-adv)

C.1 Experimental setup

We follow the implementation in [9] for our experiments:

C.1.1 CIFAR10

**Architecture** We use a Wide ResNet 28-10 [38] architecture.

**Training hyperparemeters** We use a batch size of 256 with SGD optimizer (along with Nesterov momentum of 0.1). We use cosine learning rate annealing [25] with initial rate of 0.01 and no restarts. The weight decay parameter is set to 0.0005. We define an epoch to be a pass over 50000 training points. For normal training we run 200 epochs. For adversarial training and stability training we run 100 and 400 epochs respectively.

**Data Augmentation** We do a 4-pixel random cropping and a random horizontal flip.

**Adversarial attacks** We use the recommended parameters in [9]. In test time, we run 40 iterations of projected gradient descent with step-size of 0.01 and do 5 restarts.

**Stability training** We set noise variance to $\sigma = 0.25$. In test time, we set $N_0 = 100$ and $N = 10000$ with $\alpha = 0.001$.

C.1.2 SVHN

We use similar parameters to CIFAR-10 except the following.

**architecture** We use a Wide ResNet 16-8.

**Training hyper-parameters** The same as CIFAR-10 except we use batch size of 128 and run 98k gradient steps for all models.

**Data Augmentation** We do not perform any augmentation.

C.2 Cheap-10 dataset creation pipeline

To create the Cheap-10 dataset, for each CIFAR-10 class, we create 50 related keywords to search for on Bing image search engine. Using an existing image downloading API implementation [4] we were able to download $\sim 1000$ images for each key-word search. We use Bing image search engine CIFAR-10 dataset is made of 10 classes. For animal classes (bird, cat, deer, dog, frog, horse), our keyboards were made of names of different breeds and different colors or adjectives known to accompany the specific animal. For instance, Parasitic Jaeger, Scottish Fold cat, Pygmy Brocket Deer, Spinone Italiano Dog, Northern Leopard Frog, and Belgian Horse. For other classes (airplane, automobile,
ship, truck), we search for different brands or classes. For example, Lockheed Martin F-22 Raptor, Renault automobile, Tanker ship, and Citroën truck. We then downsize images to the original CIFAR-10 size of 32x32. We show example images of the dataset compared to CIFAR-10 images in Fig. 4.

![Cheap-10 examples](image)

Figure 4: **Cheap-10 examples** Each row shows 10 examples of Cheap-10 dataset.
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