

# Consistency Regularization for Adversarial Robustness

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**TL;DR.** We propose an effective consistency regularization technique that prevents robust overfitting by forcing the distribution of attacked augmentations from the same input to be similar



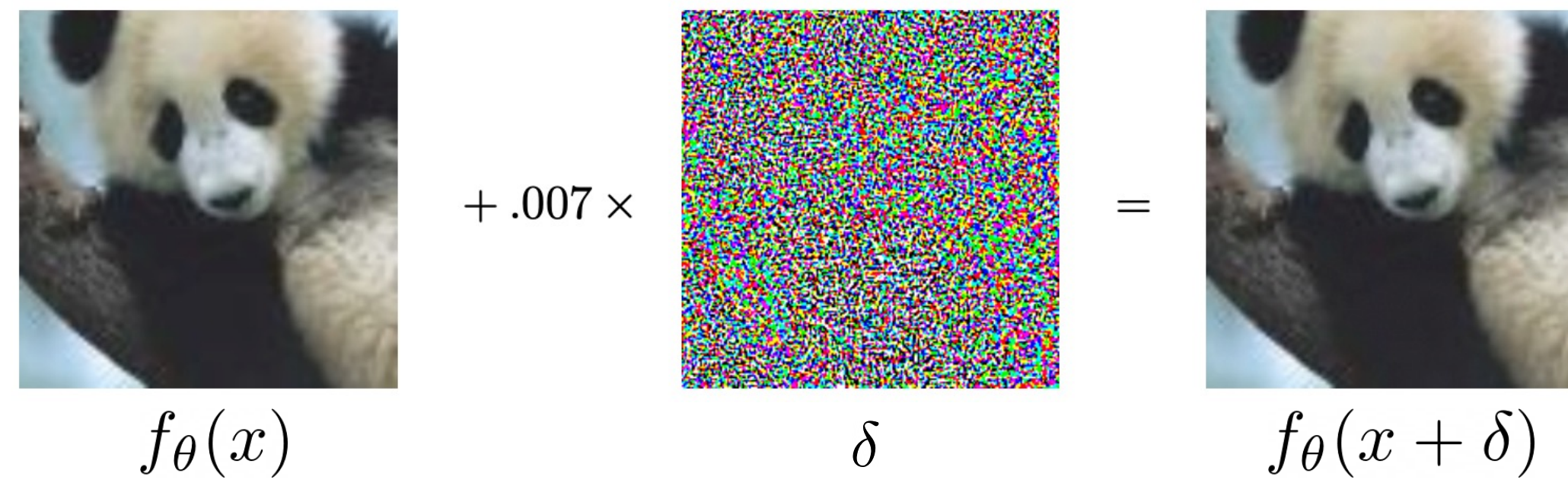
arXiv



Github

## Introduction

Deep neural networks (DNNs) are vulnerable to **adversarial noises** [1]



**Goal:** Train a DNN that is robust to such noise

$$f_{\theta}(x) = f_{\theta}(x + \delta), \quad \forall \delta : \|\delta\|_p < \epsilon$$

a classifier The hardest part

**Adversarial training (AT):** directly use adversarial examples for training

- Most **promising ways** to obtain adversarial robustness

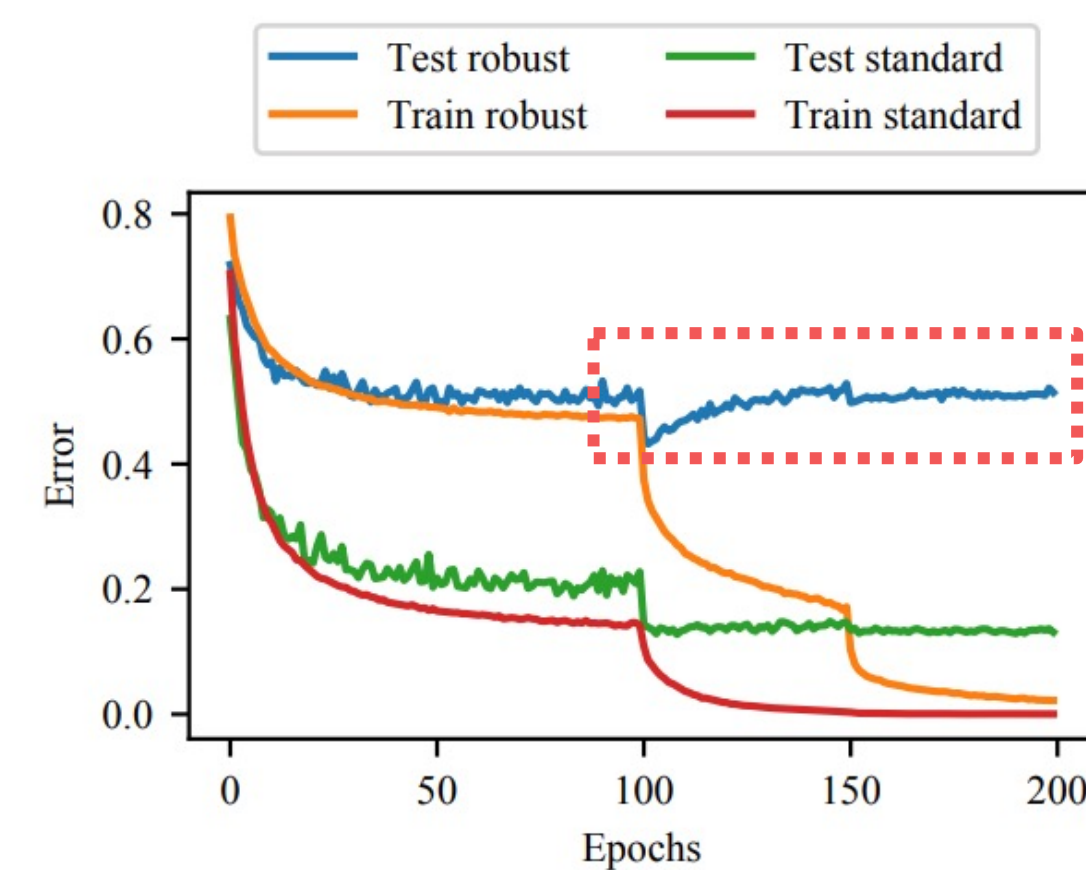
$$\mathcal{L}_{AT} := \max_{\|\delta\|_p \leq \epsilon} \mathcal{L}_{CE}(f_{\theta}(x + \delta), y)$$

One of the most basic form of AT [2]

## Robust Overfitting

**Problem.** AT suffers from **robust overfitting** [3]

- Test robust error gradually increases from the middle of the training



Only recently, advanced but **sophisticated** training schemes were proposed



Are there any **simpler** and more **intuitive** approaches?

[1] Goodfellow et al. "Explaining and Harnessing Adversarial Examples". ICLR 2015.

[2] Madry et al. "Towards Deep Learning Models Resistant to Adversarial Attacks". ICLR 2018.

[3] Rice et al. "Overfitting in adversarially robust deep learning". ICML 2020.

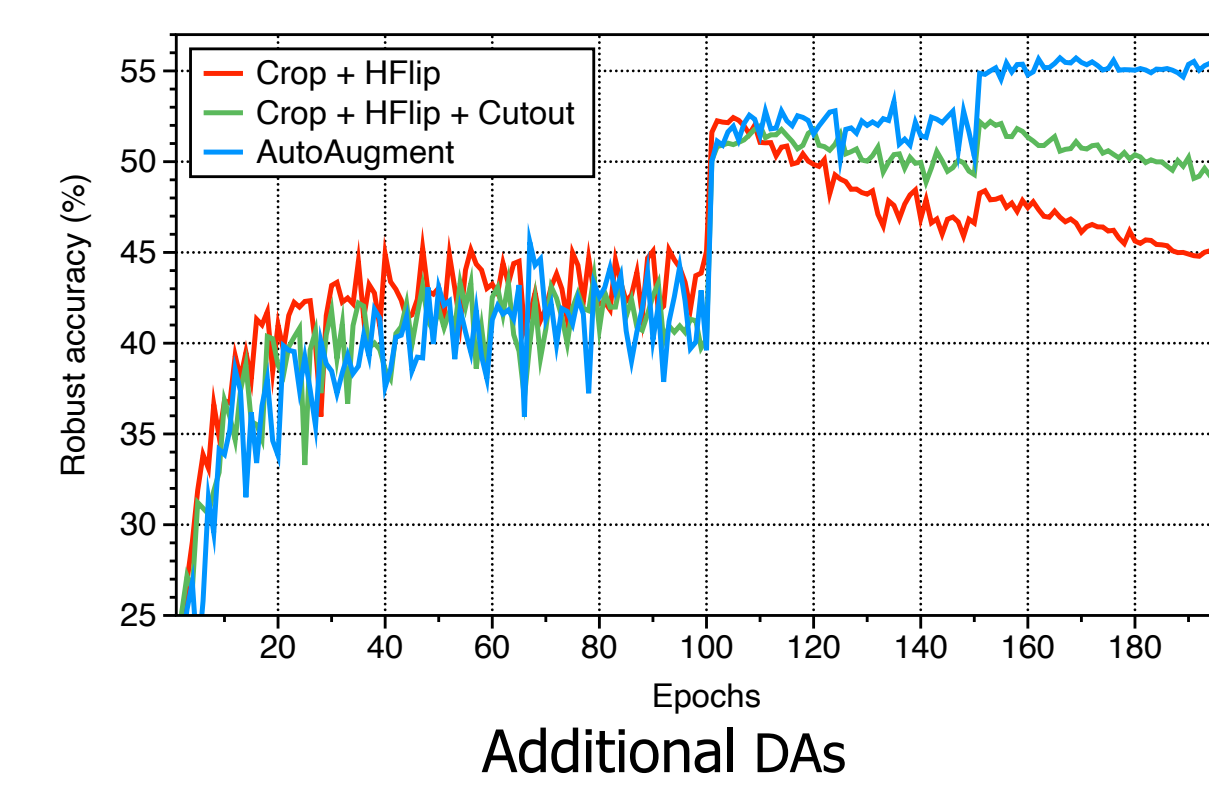
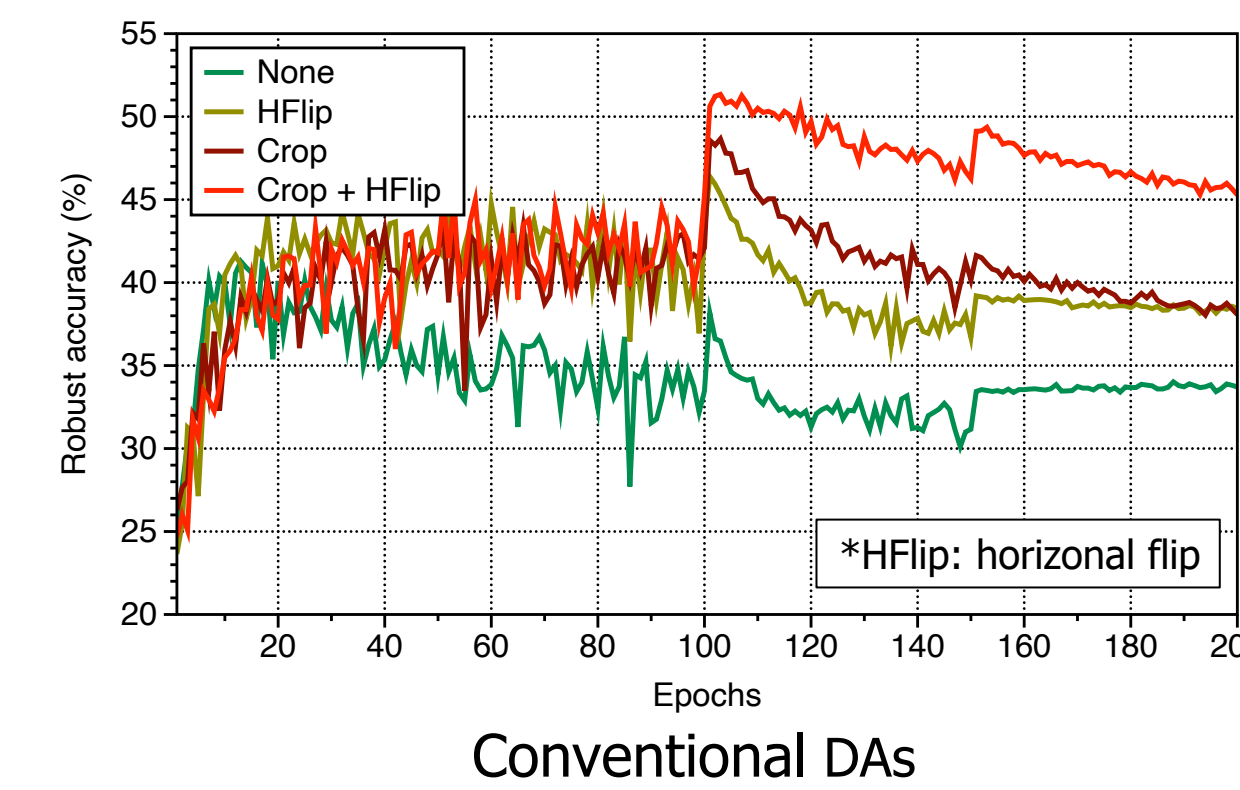
## Consistency Regularization for AT

**Data augmentations (DAs)** can somewhat reduce the robust overfitting.

$$\max_{\|\delta\|_{\infty} \leq \epsilon} \mathcal{L}_{CE}(f_{\theta}(T(x) + \delta), y) \quad \text{where } T \sim \mathcal{T}_{\text{conven}} \cup \mathcal{T}_{\text{add}}$$

crop, flip + color, cutout, grayscale

- Conventional DAs**, e.g., crop, is already useful for reducing overfitting.
- Additional DAs**, e.g., color jitter, is quite effective to reduce overfitting.



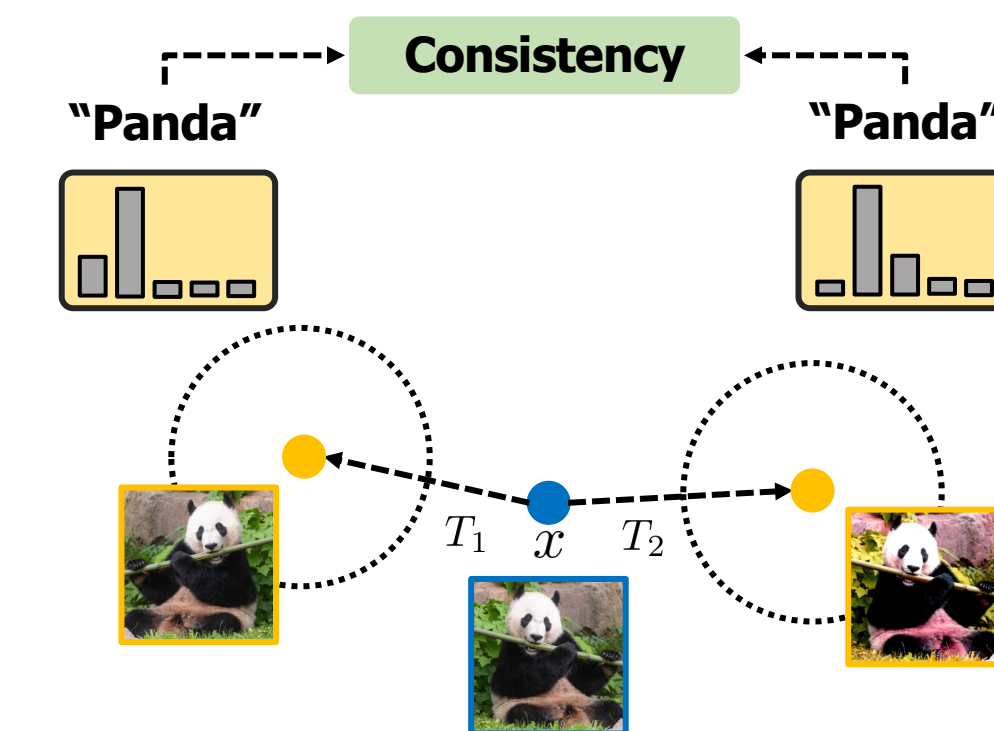
**Consistency regularization (CR)** can further improve the robustness

$$\text{JS}(\hat{f}_{\theta}(T_1(x) + \delta_1; \tau) \parallel \hat{f}_{\theta}(T_2(x) + \delta_2; \tau)) \quad \text{where } T_1, T_2 \sim \mathcal{T}$$

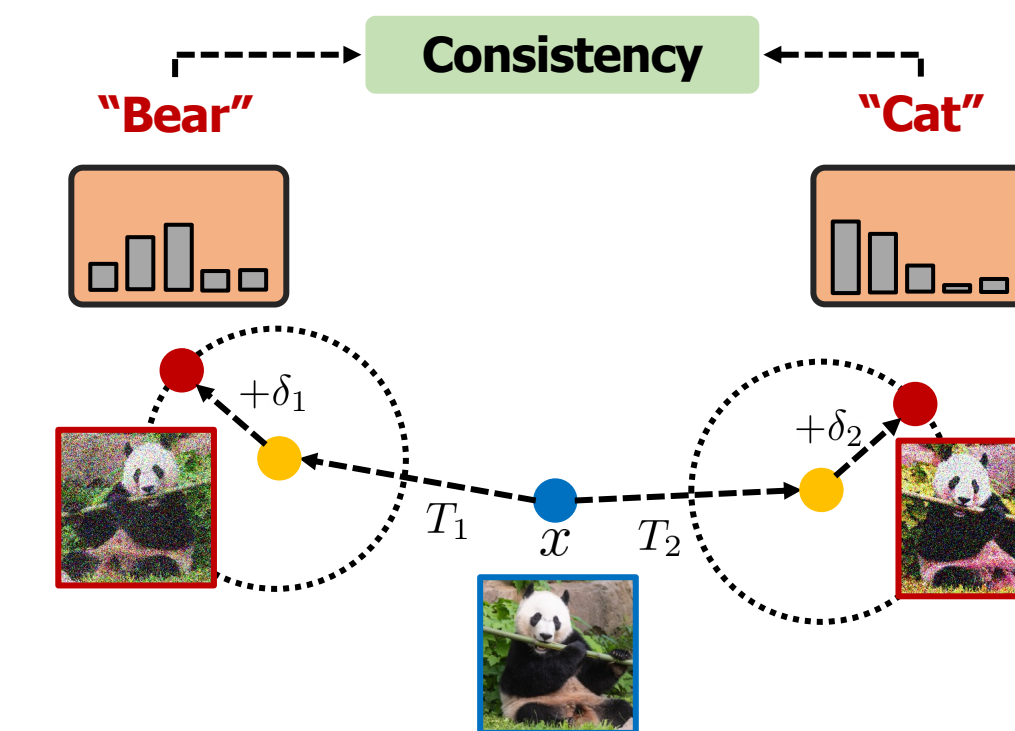
$\hat{f}_{\theta}$ : temperature ( $\tau$ ) scaled classifier

(+) **Easy-to-use:** scalable, and hyperparameter-efficient

(+) **Flexible:** Can be applied to any AT schemes



Conventional CR



Proposed CR

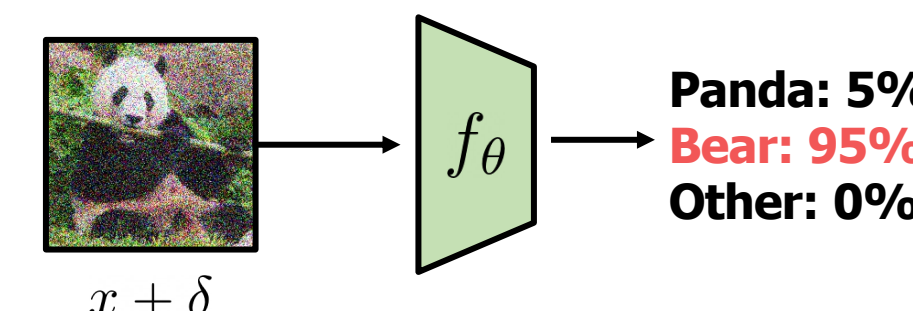
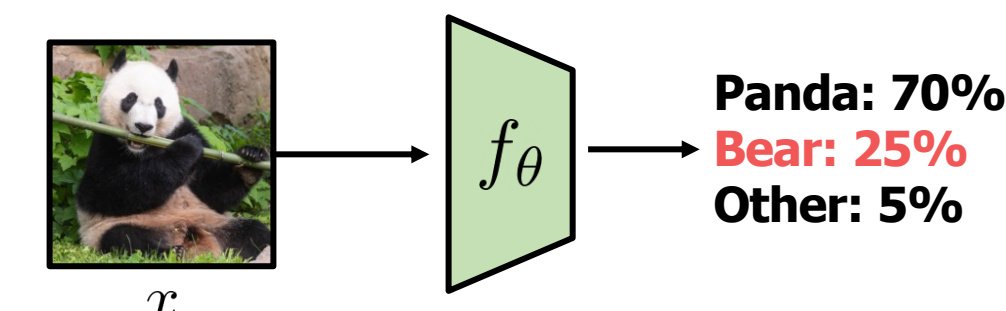


**Finding.** **Attack direction** contains intrinsic information.

- Most frequently attacked class is the **most confusing class**

$$\text{argmax}_{k \neq y} f_{\theta}^{(k)}(x) : \text{top-1 prediction disregarding the true class}$$

- Matching the attack direction injects a **strong inductive bias!**



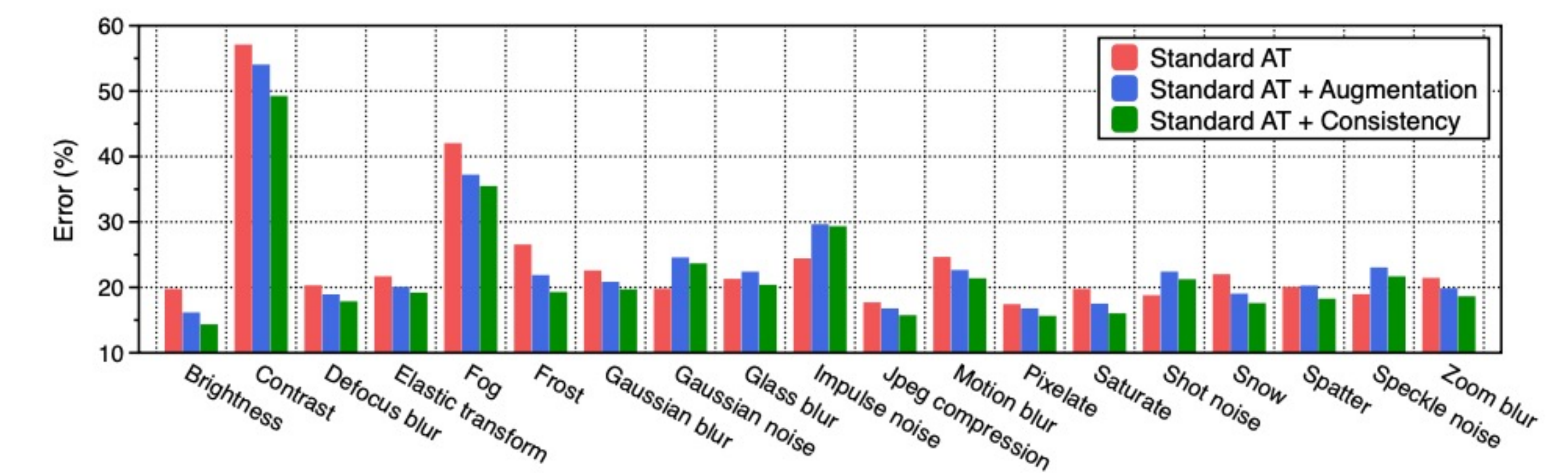
## Experimental Results

**Main results.** Our method shows the effectiveness mainly for **three parts**:

(1) reducing overfitting, (2) unseen adversaries, (3) common corruptions

Dataset (Architecture)	Method	Clean	PGD-20	PGD-100	CW <sub>∞</sub>	AutoAttack
CIFAR-10 (PreAct-ResNet-18)	Standard (Madry et al. 2018)	84.57 (83.43)	45.04 (52.82)	44.86 (52.67)	44.31 (50.66)	40.43 (47.63)
	+ Consistency	<b>86.45</b> (85.25)	<b>56.51</b> (57.53)	<b>56.38</b> (57.39)	<b>52.45</b> (52.70)	<b>48.57</b> (49.05)
	TRADES (Zhang et al. 2019)	82.87 (82.13)	50.95 (53.98)	50.83 (53.85)	49.30 (51.71)	46.32 (49.32)
	+ Consistency	<b>83.63</b> (83.55)	<b>55.00</b> (55.16)	<b>54.89</b> (54.98)	<b>49.91</b> (50.67)	<b>47.68</b> (49.01)
CIFAR-10 (WideResNet-34-10)	MART (Wang et al. 2020)	82.63 (77.00)	51.12 (54.83)	50.91 (54.74)	46.92 (49.26)	43.46 (46.74)
	+ Consistency	<b>83.43</b> (81.89)	<b>59.59</b> (60.48)	<b>59.52</b> (60.47)	<b>51.78</b> (51.83)	<b>48.91</b> (48.95)
	Standard (Madry et al. 2018)	86.37 (87.55)	50.16 (55.86)	49.80 (55.65)	49.25 (54.45)	45.62 (51.24)
	+ Consistency	<b>89.82</b> (89.93)	<b>58.63</b> (61.11)	<b>58.41</b> (60.99)	<b>56.38</b> (57.80)	<b>52.36</b> (54.08)
CIFAR-100 (PreAct-ResNet-18)	TRADES (Zhang et al. 2019)	85.05 (84.30)	51.20 (57.34)	50.89 (57.20)	50.88 (55.08)	46.17 (53.02)
	+ Consistency	<b>87.71</b> (87.92)	<b>58.39</b> (59.12)	<b>58.19</b> (58.99)	<b>54.84</b> (55.97)	<b>51.94</b> (53.11)
	MART (Wang et al. 2020)	85.75 (83.98)	49.31 (57.28)	49.06 (57.22)	48.05 (53.21)	44.96 (50.62)
	+ Consistency	<b>87.17</b> (85.81)	<b>63.26</b> (64.95)	<b>62.81</b> (64.80)	<b>57.46</b> (56.24)	<b>52.41</b> (53.33)
Tiny-ImageNet (PreAct-ResNet-18)	Standard (Madry et al. 2018)	57.13 (57.10)	22.36 (29.67)	22.25 (29.65)	21.97 (27.99)	19.85 (25.38)
	+ Consistency	<b>62.73</b> (61.62)	<b>30.75</b> (32.33)	<b>30.62</b> (32.24)	<b>27.63</b> (28.39)	<b>24.55</b> (25.52)

Dataset	Method \ $\epsilon$	$l_{\infty}$		$l_2$		$l_1$	
		4/255	16/255	150/255	300/255	2000/255	4000/255
CIFAR-10	Standard (Madry et al. 2018)	65.93	19.23	52.56	25.68	45.96	36.85
	+ Consistency	<b>73.74</b>	<b>23.47</b>	<b>65.81</b>	<b>36.87</b>	<b>58.66</b>	<b>50.79</b>
	TRADES (Zhang et al. 2019)	68.30	24.17	56.14	28.94	44.08	29.58
	+ Consistency	<b>70.33</b>	<b>26.52</b>	<b>63.70</b>	<b>39.16</b>	<b>56.48</b>	<b>48.32</b>
CIFAR-100	MART (Wang et al. 2020)	67.76	23.36	57.17	30.98	46.61	34.63
	+ Consistency	<b>72.67</b>	<b>30.31</b>	<b>66.17</b>	<b>43.76</b>	<b>60.57</b>	<b>54.19</b>
	Standard (Madry et al. 2018)	36.14	7.37	27.97	11.98	30.48	27.29
Tiny-ImageNet	+ Consistency	<b>46.11</b>	<b>11.53</b>	<b>39.77</b>	<b>20.69</b>	<b>36.04</b>	<b>32.75</b>
	Standard (Madry et al. 2018)	23.23	2.69	28.05	17.80	33.30	31.55
	+ Consistency	<b>34.18</b>	<b>5.74</b>	<b>40.06</b>	<b>30.62</b>	<b>43.90</b>	<b>42.65</b>



**Analysis on attack directions.**

- 77.45%** out of the misclassified adversarial examples predicts **the most confusing class of 'clean' input**.
- i.e., most confident prediction expect for the true class