# Revisiting Residual Networks for Adversarial Robustness

# Shihua Huang<sup>1</sup>, Zhichao Lu<sup>2</sup>, Kalyanmoy Deb<sup>1</sup>, Vishnu Naresh Boddeti<sup>1</sup>

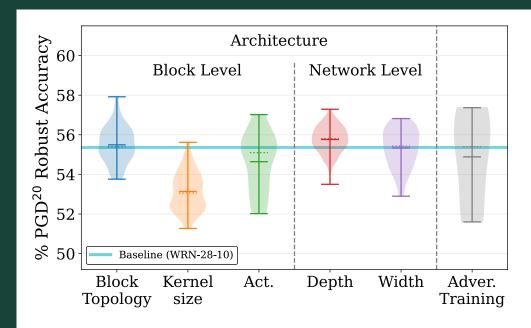
1 Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 2 Sun Yat-sen University, China

Correspondence: luzhichaocn@gmail.com



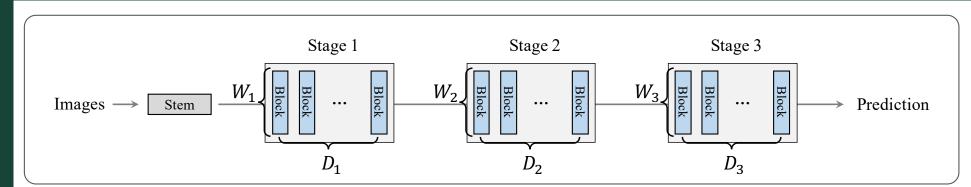


# Motivation

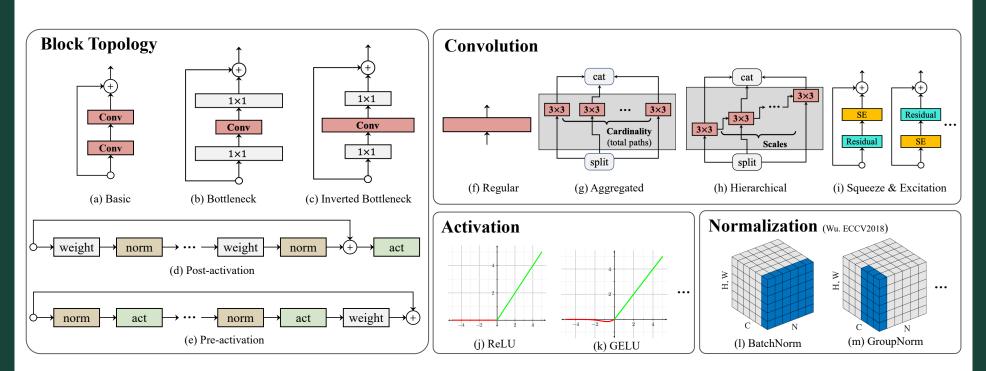


- Existing work on adversarial defenses focuses on better adversarial training.
- Architectural components can impact adversarial robustness as much as different adversarial training methods.

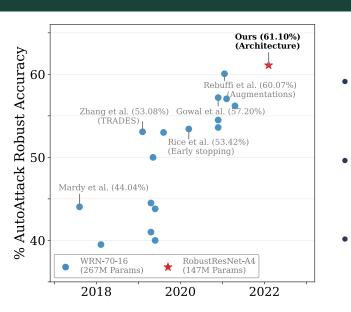
### Overview



# **Network scaling level:** depth $(D_1, D_2, D_3)$ and width $(W_1, W_2, W_3)$



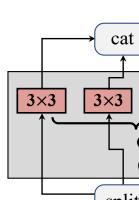
Block level: variants of residual blocks and their components, including convolution, activation, kernel size, normalization, etc.



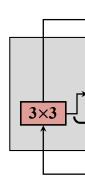
# Results

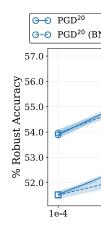
- Our final RobustResNets are based on RobustResBlock (block level) and RobustScaling (network level).
- SoTA performance, ~1 % Autoattack improvement over the second best.
- 2x more compact than others.

57.0	•
56.0 ·	A
Accuracy 82.0	0-0
OF 24.0	4
53.0 Sopust 52.0	A
8 52.0 € %	
51.0	G-⊖ Post-ac A-A Pre-act
50.0	50 1









SE (r = 64)

 $| BN \rightarrow ReLU \rightarrow 1 \times 1$ 

~---+---

Conv

·-----

 $BN \rightarrow ReLU \rightarrow 1 \times 1$ 

# Block Level Design

### 57.0 **∆-** ▲ Basic **△-**▲ Bottleneck act PGD<sup>20</sup> . Post-act CW<sup>40</sup> ▶ Post-act PGD<sup>20</sup> ⊡··⊡ Post-act CW<sup>40</sup> 51.0 O-O Post-act PGD<sup>20</sup> ⊡…⊡ Post-act CW<sup>40</sup> A-A Inverted 50.0 $4 \land A$ Pre-act PGD<sup>20</sup> $\land A$ Pre-act CW<sup>40</sup> t PGD<sup>20</sup> $\leftrightarrow \diamond$ Pre-act CW<sup>40</sup> ▲ Pre-act PGD<sup>20</sup> $\leftrightarrow$ Pre-act CW<sup>40</sup> A-A No residual 100 150 200 No. of Parameters (M) 100 150 200 250 100 150 200 250 150 200 250 No. of Parameters (M) No. of Parameters (M) No. of Parameters (M) (a) Basic (d) Comparison among (a) – (c) (b) Bottleneck (c) Inverted Bottleneck Impact of Aggregated Convolutions 3×3 ⊖ ⊖ PGD<sup>20</sup> .0 0 PGD<sup>20</sup> ¥ 56.5 ⊖ ⊖ Bottleneck PGD<sup>20</sup> ... ಕ್ಷ 55.5 - ⊡--E CW<sup>40</sup> CW<sup>40</sup> Bottleneck CW<sup>40</sup> Cardinality \$ 54.5 (total paths 54.0 4 Cardinality 4 Cardinality spli Cardinality (a) Aggregated convolution (b) $D_i = 5$ , $W_i = 12$ (c) $D_i = 7, W_i = 14$ (d) $D_i = 11, W_i = 16$ Impact of Hierarchical Convolutions 58.0 Bottleneck PGD<sup>20</sup> ⊖ → Bottleneck PGD<sup>20</sup> ⊖ → Bottleneck PGD<sup>20</sup> G→ E Bottleneck CW<sup>40</sup> G→E Bottleneck CW<sup>40</sup> Bottleneck CW<sup>40</sup> → 3×3 → • • • − 3×3 -Scales 54.0 56.0Scales Scales Scales 55.5 (b) $D_i = 5, W_i = 12$ (d) $D_i = 11, W_i = 16$ (a) Hierarchical convolution (c) $D_i = 7, W_i = 14$ \$ 55.0+ **Impact of Activation** $\rightarrow 0$ PGD<sup>20</sup> G→€ CW<sup>40</sup> **⊡**-€ CW<sup>40</sup> $\Theta \rightarrow PGD^2$ □ - E CW<sup>40</sup> PGD<sup>2</sup> G-⊖ PGD<sup>20</sup> (BN w/o wd) G-E CW<sup>40</sup> (BN w/o wd) -⊖ PGD<sup>20</sup> (BN w/o wd) ⊡-E CW<sup>40</sup> (BN w/o wd) G-⊖ PGD<sup>20</sup> (BN w/o wd) ⊡-⊡ CW<sup>40</sup> (BN w/o wd) ≈ 52.5 – 55.0 46.0 <sup>2e-4</sup> Weight Decay 5e-4 Weight Decay Weight Decay Weight Decay (a) ReLU (b) SiLU (c) GELU (d) Softplus <u>RobustResBlock</u> 59.0 G→ WRNs $\square$ WRNs w/ RobustResBlock D = 11, W = 16Hierarchically aggregated <u>ප</u> 58.0 convolution D = 7, W = 14ບ 57.0-

 $y_1$   $y_2$   $y_3$   $\cdots$   $y_8$ 

3 × 3

*c* = 4

 $x_1$   $x_2$   $x_3$   $\cdots$   $x_8$ 

3 × 3

*c* = 4

 $\rightarrow \cdots$ 

 $\rightarrow \uparrow$ 3 × 3

*c* = 4

# Impact of Residual Topology

200 50 100 150 No. of Parameters (M)

D = 7, W = 14

 $7 \times$  fewer parameters

D = 5

W = 1

D = 4, W = 10

(WRN-28-10)

O = 5, W = 12

D=4

W =

ts 56.0

Robui

54.0

53.0-

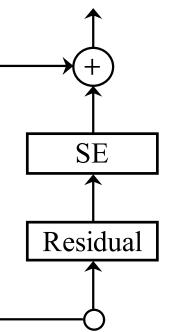
52.0-

%

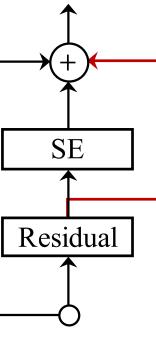
# Network Level Design

Independent Scaling by Depth or Width

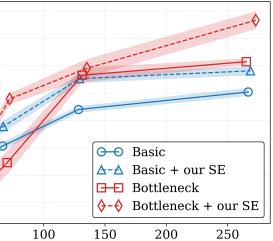




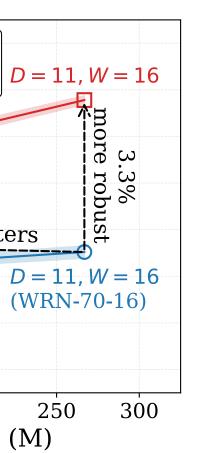
Standard SE

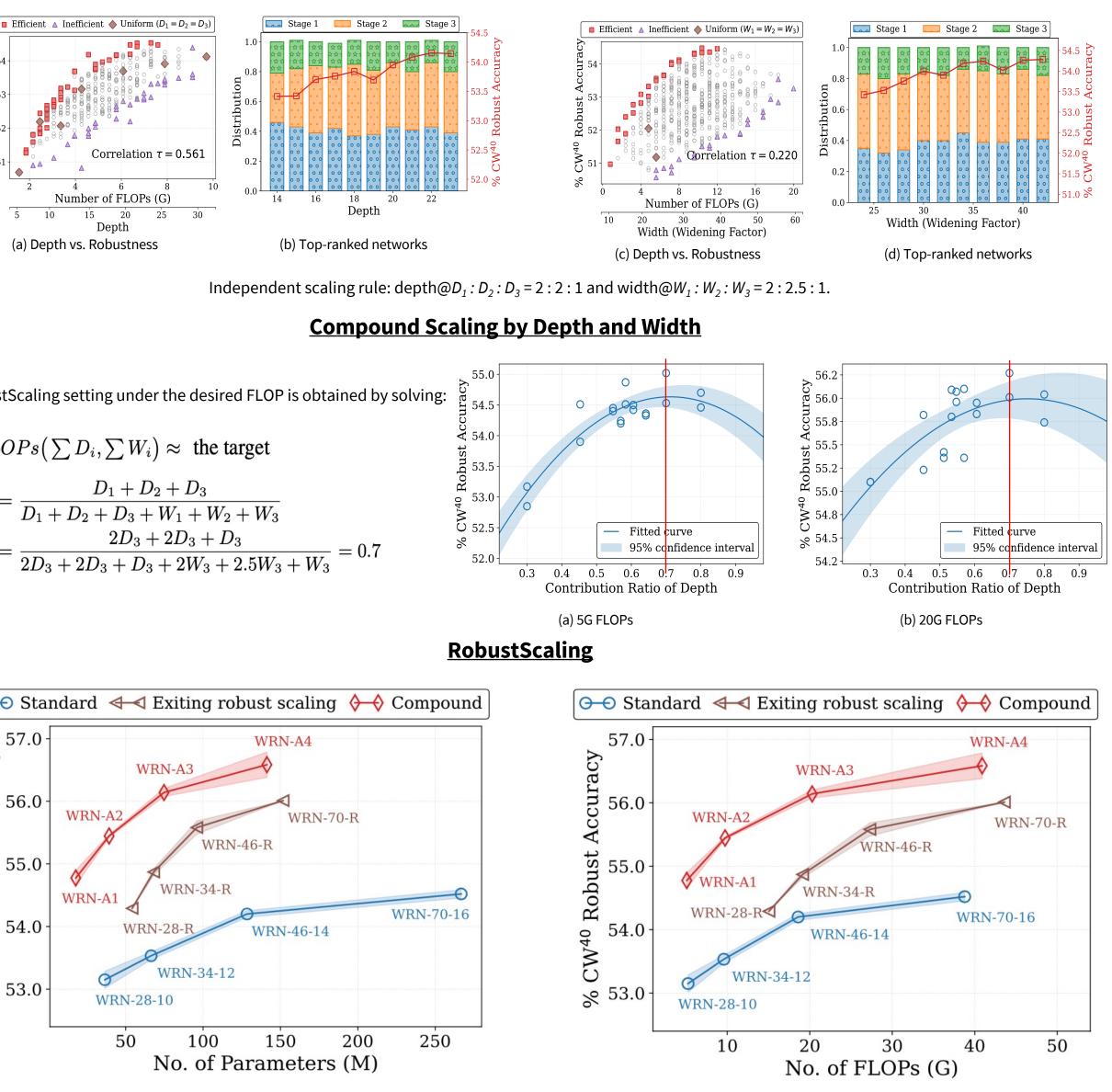


Our SE



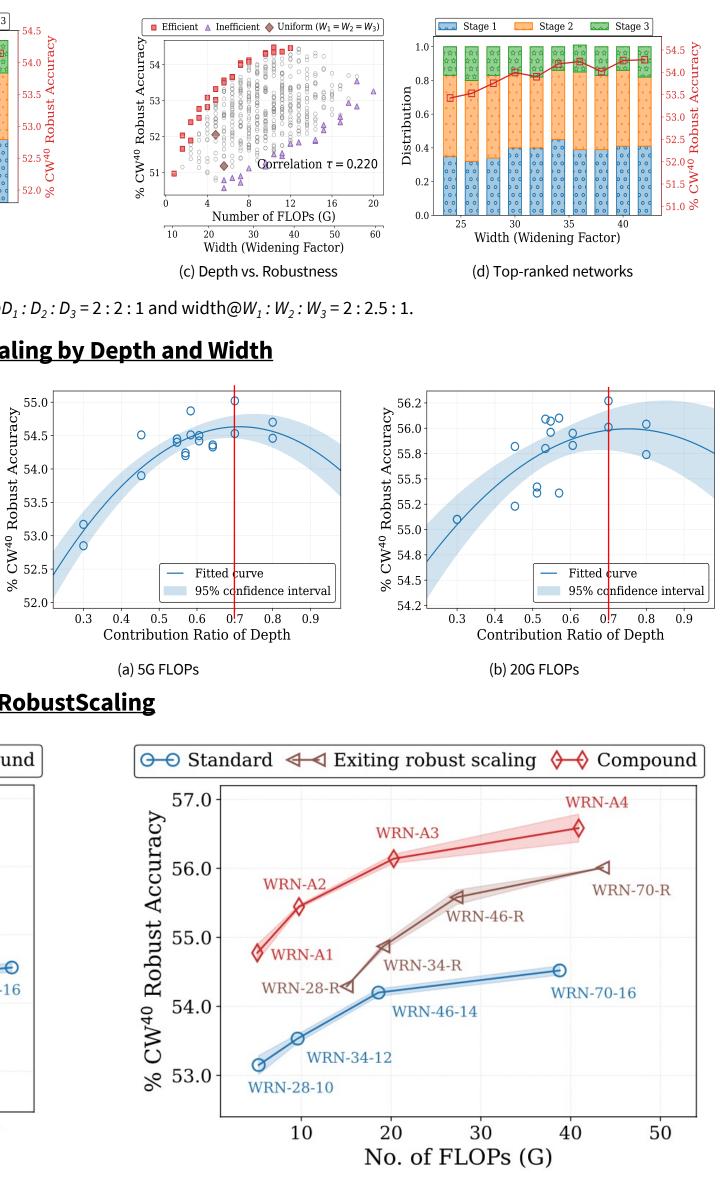
No. of Parameters (M)



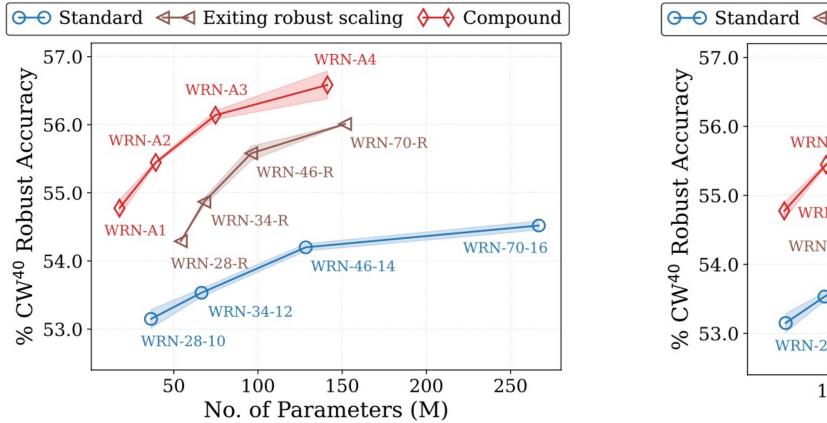




$$FLOPs(\sum D_i, \sum W_i) \approx \text{ the target}$$
$$r_D = \frac{D_1 + D_2 + D_3}{D_1 + D_2 + D_3 + W_1 + W_2 + W_3}$$
$$= \frac{2D_3 + 2D_3 + D_3}{2D_3 + 2D_3 + D_3 + 2W_3 + 2.5W_3 + W_3} = 0$$







# Comparison To State-of-the-Art

Model	#P	<sup>#</sup> F	CIFAR-10			CIFAR-100				
	(M)	(G)	Clean	$PGD^{20}$	$CW^{40}$	AutoAttack	Clean	$PGD^{20}$	$CW^{40}$	AutoAttack
WRN-28-10	36.5	5.20	$84.62_{\pm 0.06}$	$55.90_{\pm 0.21}$	$53.15_{\pm 0.33}$	$51.66_{\pm 0.29}$	$56.30_{\pm 0.28}$	$29.91_{\pm 0.40}$	$26.22_{\pm 0.23}$	$25.26_{\pm 0.06}$
RobNet-large-v2	33.3	5.10	$84.57_{\pm 0.16}$	$52.79_{\pm 0.08}$	$48.94_{\pm 0.13}$	$47.48_{\pm 0.04}$	$55.27_{\pm 0.02}$	$29.23_{\pm 0.15}$	$24.63_{\pm 0.11}$	$23.69_{\pm 0.19}$
AdvRush (7@96)	32.6	4.97	$84.95_{\pm 0.12}$	$56.99_{\pm 0.08}$	$53.27_{\pm 0.03}$	$52.90_{\pm 0.11}$	$56.40_{\pm 0.09}$	$30.40_{\pm 0.21}$	$26.16_{\pm 0.03}$	$25.27_{\pm 0.02}$
RACL (7@104)	32.5	4.93	$83.91_{\pm 0.32}$	$55.98_{\pm 0.15}$	$53.22_{\pm 0.08}$	$51.37_{\pm 0.11}$	$56.09_{\pm 0.08}$	$30.38_{\pm 0.03}$	$26.65_{\pm 0.02}$	$25.65_{\pm 0.10}$
RobustResNet-A1 (ours)	19.2	5.11	$\textbf{85.46}~(\textbf{\uparrow 0.5})$	$58.74~(\mathbf{\uparrow 1.8})$	$55.72~(\textbf{\uparrow 2.6})$	$54.42~(\textbf{\textbf{\uparrow 1.5}})$	<b>59.34</b> ( <b>† 2.9</b> )	$\textbf{32.70}~(\textbf{\uparrow 2.3})$	$\textbf{27.76}~(\textbf{\uparrow 1.1})$	$26.75~(\uparrow 1.1)$
WRN-34-12	66.5	9.60	$84.93_{\pm 0.24}$	$56.01_{\pm 0.28}$	$53.53_{\pm 0.15}$	$51.97_{\pm 0.09}$	$56.08_{\pm 0.41}$	$29.87_{\pm 0.23}$	$26.51_{\pm 0.11}$	$25.47_{\pm 0.10}$
WRN-34-R	68.1	19.1	$85.80_{\pm 0.08}$	$57.35_{\pm 0.09}$	$54.77_{\pm 0.10}$	$53.23_{\pm 0.07}$	$58.78_{\pm 0.11}$	$31.17_{\pm 0.08}$	$27.33_{\pm 0.11}$	$26.31_{\pm 0.03}$
RobustResNet-A2 (ours)	39.0	10.8	$85.80~(\textbf{\uparrow 0.0})$	$59.72~(\textbf{\textbf{\uparrow 2.4}})$	$56.74~(\mathbf{\uparrow~2.0})$	$55.49~(\textbf{\uparrow 2.3})$	<b>59.38</b> ( <b>† 0.6</b> )	$\textbf{33.0}~(\textbf{\textbf{\uparrow 1.8}})$	$28.71~(\textbf{\textbf{\uparrow 1.4}})$	$27.68~(\uparrow 1.4)$
WRN-46-14	128	18.6	$85.22_{\pm 0.15}$	$56.37_{\pm 0.18}$	$54.19_{\pm 0.11}$	$52.63_{\pm 0.18}$	$56.78_{\pm 0.47}$	$30.03_{\pm 0.07}$	$27.27_{\pm 0.05}$	$26.28_{\pm 0.03}$
RobustResNet-A3 (ours)	75.9	19.9	$\textbf{86.79}~(\textbf{\textbf{\uparrow 1.6}})$	$\textbf{60.10}~(\textbf{\textbf{\textbf{\textbf{7}}}}\textbf{\textbf{\textbf{3.7}}})$	$57.29~(\textbf{\textbf{\uparrow 3.1}})$	$55.84~(\textbf{\textbf{\textbf{3.2}}})$	$60.16~(\textbf{\textbf{\textbf{\textbf{7}3.4}}})$	$\textbf{33.59}~(\textbf{\textbf{\textbf{\textbf{3.6}}}})$	$29.58~(\textbf{\textbf{\uparrow 2.3}})$	$\textbf{28.48}~(\textbf{\textbf{\uparrow 2.2}})$
WRN-70-16	267	38.8	$85.51_{\pm 0.24}$	$56.78_{\pm 0.16}$	$54.52_{\pm 0.16}$	$52.80_{\pm 0.14}$	$56.93_{\pm 0.61}$	$29.76_{\pm 0.17}$	$27.20_{\pm 0.16}$	$26.12_{\pm 0.24}$
RobustResNet-A4 (ours)	147	39.4	87.10 ( <b>† 1.6</b> )	<b>60.26</b> ( <b>† 3.5</b> )	<b>57.9</b> ( <b>† 3.4</b> )	$56.29~(\mathbf{\uparrow~3.5})$	<b>61.66</b> ( <b>† 4.7</b> )	$34.25~(\mathbf{\uparrow~4.5})$	<b>30.04</b> ( <b>† 2.8</b> )	<b>29.00</b> ( <b>† 2.9</b> )

# Conclusions

- Architectural design significantly affects adversarial robustness.
- Residual block advancements for standard ERM training translate well to improve adversarial robustness under adversarial training.
- **RobustResNets** are proposed based on the observations from block and network levels.
- RobustResNets achieves better adversarial robustness while being more compact than state-of-the-art solutions.