## A. Proofs

## A.1. Proof of Corollary 1

Before we prove Corollary 1, We first introduce the following lemma.
Lemma 1. For $0<q<p$, the following inequality holds:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\|\boldsymbol{x}\|_{q} \leq d^{\frac{1}{q}-\frac{1}{p}}\|\boldsymbol{x}\|_{p} \tag{13}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\boldsymbol{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{d}$.
Proof. Consider $\boldsymbol{u}, \boldsymbol{v} \in \mathbb{R}^{d}$, using the Hölder's Inequality that for $m, n$ satisfying $\frac{1}{m}+\frac{1}{n}=1$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sum_{i}\left|u_{i}\right|\left|v_{i}\right| \leq\left(\sum_{i}\left|u_{i}\right|^{m}\right)^{\frac{1}{m}}\left(\sum_{i}\left|v_{i}\right|^{n}\right)^{\frac{1}{n}} \tag{14}
\end{equation*}
$$

If we take $\left|u_{i}\right|=\left|x_{i}\right|^{q}, v_{i}=1, m=\frac{p}{q}$ and $n=\frac{p}{p-q}$, we get

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sum_{i}\left|x_{i}\right|^{q} \leq\left(\sum_{i}\left|x_{i}\right|^{p}\right)^{\frac{q}{p}} d^{\frac{p-q}{p}} \tag{15}
\end{equation*}
$$

By taking the power of $\frac{1}{q}$ on both sides, we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(\sum_{i}\left|x_{i}\right|^{q}\right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \leq\left(\sum_{i}\left|x_{i}\right|^{p}\right)^{\frac{1}{p}} d^{\frac{1}{q}-\frac{1}{p}} \tag{16}
\end{equation*}
$$

which concludes the proof.
Corollary 1. Given a twice-differentiable classifier $f: \mathbb{R}^{d} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{k}$, and its attribution $g^{y}$ on label $y$, assume that $g^{y}$ is locally linear within the neighborhood of $\boldsymbol{x}, \mathcal{B}_{\varepsilon}(\boldsymbol{x})=\left\{\boldsymbol{x}+\boldsymbol{\delta}\| \| \boldsymbol{\delta} \|_{p} \leq \varepsilon\right\}$, then for all perturbations $\|\boldsymbol{\delta}\|_{p} \leq \varepsilon$ that $p>2$, $\left\|g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x}+\boldsymbol{\delta})-g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})\right\|_{2} \leq d^{\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{p}} \xi_{\text {max }} \varepsilon$, where $\xi_{\text {max }}$ is the largest singular value of $H=\nabla g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})$.
Proof. Using Lemma 1, we have $\|\boldsymbol{\delta}\|_{2} \leq d^{\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{p}}\|\boldsymbol{\delta}\|_{p}$. Similar to the proof of Theorem 1,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left\|g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x}+\boldsymbol{\delta})-g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})\right\|_{2}^{2} \leq \lambda_{\max }\|\boldsymbol{\delta}\|_{2}^{2} \leq \lambda_{\max }\left(d^{\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{p}}\|\boldsymbol{\delta}\|_{p}\right)^{2} \leq \lambda_{\max }\left(d^{\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{p}} \varepsilon\right)^{2} \tag{17}
\end{equation*}
$$

Therefore,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left\|g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x}+\boldsymbol{\delta})-g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})\right\|_{2} \leq d^{\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{p}} \xi_{\max } \varepsilon \tag{18}
\end{equation*}
$$

## A.2. Proof of Theorem 2

Theorem 2. Given a twice-differentiable classifier $f$, its attribution on label $y$, $g^{y}$, and the gradient $H=\nabla g^{y}$, assume that $g^{y}$ is locally linear within the neighborhood of $\boldsymbol{x}, \mathcal{B}_{\varepsilon}(\boldsymbol{x})=\left\{\boldsymbol{x}+\boldsymbol{\delta}\| \| \boldsymbol{\delta} \|_{\infty} \leq \varepsilon\right\}$, then for all perturbations $\|\boldsymbol{\delta}\|_{\infty} \leq \varepsilon$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left\|g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x}+\boldsymbol{\delta})-g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})\right\|_{2} \leq \varepsilon \sqrt{\sum_{i, j}\left|P_{i j}\right|} \tag{7}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $P=H H^{\top}$ and the equality is taken at $\boldsymbol{\delta}=( \pm \varepsilon, \ldots, \pm \varepsilon)^{\top}$.
Proof. Recall that under the local linearity assumption,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left\|g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x}+\boldsymbol{\delta})-g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})\right\|_{2}^{2} \leq \boldsymbol{\delta}^{\top} P \boldsymbol{\delta}=\sum_{i, j} P_{i j} \delta_{i} \delta_{j} \tag{19}
\end{equation*}
$$

Since $P_{i j} \leq\left|P_{i j}\right|$ and $\delta_{i} \delta_{j} \leq\|\boldsymbol{\delta}\|_{\infty}^{2} \leq \varepsilon^{2}$ for all $i, j$, we can easily prove the theorem that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left\|g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x}+\boldsymbol{\delta})-g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})\right\|_{2}^{2} \leq \varepsilon^{2} \sum_{i, j}\left|P_{i j}\right| \tag{20}
\end{equation*}
$$

## A.3. Proof of Proposition 1

Proposition 1. Denote the gradient-based attribution satisfying the completeness axiom of $\boldsymbol{x}$ on ground truth label $y$ by $g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})$, and the attribution on a different label $y^{\prime}$ by $g^{y^{\prime}}(\boldsymbol{x})$. Given the perturbation $\boldsymbol{\delta}$, assume that $g^{y}$ is locally linear within the neighborhood of $\boldsymbol{x}, \mathcal{B}_{\varepsilon}(\boldsymbol{x})=\left\{\boldsymbol{x}+\boldsymbol{\delta}\| \| \boldsymbol{\delta} \|_{p} \leq \varepsilon\right\}$, the classification result of $\boldsymbol{x}+\boldsymbol{\delta}$ does not change from $y$ to $y^{\prime}$ if

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(\left(\nabla g^{y^{\prime}}(\boldsymbol{x})-\nabla g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})\right) \Delta\right)^{\top} \boldsymbol{\delta}<f_{y}(\boldsymbol{x})-f_{y^{\prime}}(\boldsymbol{x}) \tag{8}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\Delta$ is an all one vector, $\Delta=(1, \ldots, 1)^{\top} \in \mathbb{R}^{d}$.
Proof. Recall that we denote the gradient-based attribution satisfying the completeness axiom of $\boldsymbol{x}$ on target label $y$ by $g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})$, $e . g$., integrated gradients. Similarly, we denote the attribution on a different label $y^{\prime}$ by $g^{y^{\prime}}(\boldsymbol{x})$. Given the perturbation $\boldsymbol{\delta}$, according to the above assumption, we can write that

$$
\begin{equation*}
g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x}+\boldsymbol{\delta})=g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})+\nabla g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})^{\top} \boldsymbol{\delta} \tag{21}
\end{equation*}
$$

Similarly, the approximation of $g^{y^{\prime}}(\boldsymbol{x}+\boldsymbol{\delta})$ is given by:

$$
\begin{equation*}
g^{y^{\prime}}(\boldsymbol{x}+\boldsymbol{\delta})=g^{y^{\prime}}(\boldsymbol{x})+\nabla g^{y^{\prime}}(\boldsymbol{x})^{\top} \boldsymbol{\delta} \tag{22}
\end{equation*}
$$

According to the completeness axiom, given an all one vector $\Delta=(1, \ldots, 1)^{\top}$, we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
\Delta^{\top} g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})=f_{y}(\boldsymbol{x}) \tag{23}
\end{equation*}
$$

Consider the perturbation $\boldsymbol{\delta}$, if $\boldsymbol{\delta}$ does not change the label of $\boldsymbol{x}$ from $y$ to $y^{\prime}$, then $f_{y^{\prime}}(\boldsymbol{x}+\boldsymbol{\delta})<f_{y}(\boldsymbol{x}+\boldsymbol{\delta})$, i.e.,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\Delta^{\top} g^{y^{\prime}}(\boldsymbol{x}+\boldsymbol{\delta})<\Delta^{\top} g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x}+\boldsymbol{\delta}) \tag{24}
\end{equation*}
$$

which gives

$$
\begin{equation*}
\Delta^{\top} g^{y^{\prime}}(\boldsymbol{x})+\Delta^{\top} \nabla g^{y^{\prime}}(\boldsymbol{x})^{\top} \boldsymbol{\delta}<\Delta^{\top} g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})+\Delta^{\top} \nabla g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})^{\top} \boldsymbol{\delta} \tag{25}
\end{equation*}
$$

By rearranging the above inequality, we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(\left(\nabla g^{y^{\prime}}(\boldsymbol{x})-\nabla g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})\right) \Delta\right)^{\top} \boldsymbol{\delta}<f_{y}(\boldsymbol{x})-f_{y^{\prime}}(\boldsymbol{x}) \tag{26}
\end{equation*}
$$

## A.4. Proof of Corollary 2

Corollary 2. Given a twice-differentiable classifier $f: \mathbb{R}^{d} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{k}$ and its attribution $g^{y}$ on label $y$, for all perturbations $\|\boldsymbol{\delta}\|_{p} \leq \varepsilon$, if the Euclidean distance of $g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x}+\boldsymbol{\delta})$ and $g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})$ is upper bounded by $T(\varepsilon ; \boldsymbol{x})$, and $0 \leq T(\varepsilon ; \boldsymbol{x}) \leq\left\|g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})\right\|_{2}$, then their cosine distance $\left(D_{c}\right)$ is upper bounded by

$$
\begin{equation*}
D_{c}\left(g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x}+\boldsymbol{\delta}), g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})\right) \leq 1-\sqrt{1-\frac{T(\varepsilon ; \boldsymbol{x})^{2}}{\left\|g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})\right\|_{2}^{2}}} \tag{10}
\end{equation*}
$$

Proof. The corollary can be proved using the geometric property (see Fig. 1a) that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sin \left(g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x}+\boldsymbol{\delta}), g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})\right) \leq \frac{T(\varepsilon ; \boldsymbol{x})}{\left\|g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})\right\|_{2}} \tag{27}
\end{equation*}
$$

and,

$$
\begin{align*}
\operatorname{cosd}\left(g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x}+\boldsymbol{\delta}), g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})\right) & =1-\cos \left(g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x}+\boldsymbol{\delta}), g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})\right)  \tag{28}\\
& =1-\sqrt{1-\sin ^{2}\left(g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x}+\boldsymbol{\delta}), g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})\right)}  \tag{29}\\
& \leq 1-\sqrt{1-\frac{T(\varepsilon ; \boldsymbol{x})^{2}}{\left\|g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})\right\|_{2}^{2}}} \tag{30}
\end{align*}
$$



Figure 3. Values of $\eta$ for different $\|\boldsymbol{\delta}\|_{\infty}$ computed from CIFAR-10 using integrated gradients. The magnitudes are ranging from 0.07 to 0.09 and are negligible comparing with the average norm of attributions which is 3.47 on CIFAR-10.

## B. Analysis of local linearity assumption

## B.1. Evaluation of local linearity assumption of attribution functions

The theories of this work are based on the local linearity assumption that $g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})$ is linear within $\mathcal{B}_{\varepsilon}(\boldsymbol{x})=\left\{\boldsymbol{x}+\boldsymbol{\delta} \mid\|\boldsymbol{\delta}\|_{p} \leq\right.$ $\varepsilon\}$. It is worth noting that such local linearity is a valid assumption for smooth functions, which can be achieved by both adversarial and attributional robust methods. Adversarial defense methods look for locally linearity functions to reduce the impact of adversarial attacks [22,35]. Similarly, attributional defense methods train for smooth gradients to defend against attribution attacks [33]. It is also a common practice in related literature [7,11, 16, 27,38] to make similar assumptions.

Furthermore, the validity of this assumption also depends on the size of $\delta$. The perturbation $\delta$ is restricted within a small $\ell_{p}$ ball around $\boldsymbol{x}$ to ensure that the perturbed images are visually indistinguishable comparing to its original counterpart. The maximum allowable size $\varepsilon$ for $\delta$ is relatively small compared with the intensity range of the original image. When $\boldsymbol{\delta}$ is small, the remainder of the Taylor series of $g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})$ is negligible and the local linearity assumption is valid. As shown in Figure 3, the value of $\eta(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{\delta})=\left\|g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})-g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x}+\boldsymbol{\delta})-\boldsymbol{\delta}^{\top} \nabla g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})\right\|_{2}$ is small and negligible when $\|\boldsymbol{\delta}\|_{\infty}$ is small.

## B.2. Generalization of Theorem 1

Theorem 3. Given a twice-differentiable classifier $f: \mathbb{R}^{d} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{k}$, and its attribution $g^{y}$ on label $y$, denote the Taylor series of $g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x}+\boldsymbol{\delta})$ as $g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})+\boldsymbol{\delta}^{\top} \nabla g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})+R_{1}(\boldsymbol{x})$. If $-(c-1) \boldsymbol{\delta}^{\top} \nabla g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x}) \preceq R_{1}(\boldsymbol{x}) \preceq(c-1) \boldsymbol{\delta}^{\top} \nabla g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})$ for a constant $c \geq 1$, where $\preceq$ refers to element-wise less than or equal to, then for all perturbations $\|\delta\|_{2} \leq \varepsilon$,

$$
\left\|g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x}+\boldsymbol{\delta})-g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})\right\|_{2} \leq c \xi_{\max } \varepsilon
$$

where $\xi_{\text {max }}$ is the largest singular value of $H=\nabla g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})$.
Proof. Based on the Taylor series of $g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})$ and the above condition, we have

$$
\begin{align*}
\left\|g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x}+\boldsymbol{\delta})-g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})\right\|_{2}^{2} \leq\left\|\boldsymbol{\delta}^{\top} \nabla g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})+(c-1) \boldsymbol{\delta}^{\top} \nabla g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})\right\|_{2}^{2} & =c^{2} \boldsymbol{\delta}^{\top} \nabla g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x}) \nabla g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})^{\top} \boldsymbol{\delta}  \tag{31}\\
& =c^{2} \frac{\boldsymbol{\delta}^{\top}}{\|\boldsymbol{\delta}\|_{2}} P \frac{\boldsymbol{\delta}}{\|\boldsymbol{\delta}\|_{2}} \cdot\|\boldsymbol{\delta}\|_{2}^{2}  \tag{32}\\
& \leq c^{2} \lambda_{\max }\|\boldsymbol{\delta}\|_{2}^{2} \leq c^{2} \lambda_{\max } \varepsilon^{2} \tag{33}
\end{align*}
$$

where $\lambda_{\text {max }}$ is the largest eigenvalue of $P=H H^{\top}=\nabla g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x}) \nabla g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})^{\top}$, and $\boldsymbol{v}_{\max }$ is the corresponding eigenvector. The equality in Eq. 33 is achieved when $\delta$ is $\varepsilon \boldsymbol{v}_{\max }$ or $-\varepsilon \boldsymbol{v}_{\max }$. Since the singular values of $H$ are equal to the square root of the eigenvalues of $P$, then,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left\|g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x}+\boldsymbol{\delta})-g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})\right\|_{2} \leq c \sqrt{\lambda_{\max }} \varepsilon=c \xi_{\max } \varepsilon . \tag{34}
\end{equation*}
$$

This is a generalized version of Theorem 1 that is applicable for all twice-differentiable classifiers. Under local linearity assumption, $R_{1}(\boldsymbol{x})=0$, which means $c=1$, the result coincides with the original version of Theorem 1 .

## B.3. Derivation of Eq. (11)

By Taylor expansion, $g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x}+\boldsymbol{\delta})-g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})=\boldsymbol{\delta}^{\top} \nabla g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})+R_{1}(\boldsymbol{x})$, where $R_{1}$ is the first order Taylor remainder. Thus, we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left\|R_{1}(\boldsymbol{x})\right\|_{2} \geq\left\|g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x}+\boldsymbol{\delta})-g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})\right\|_{2}-\left\|\boldsymbol{\delta}^{\top} \nabla g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})\right\|_{2} \tag{35}
\end{equation*}
$$

Take $c=\frac{\left\|R_{1}(\boldsymbol{x})\right\|_{2}}{\left\|\boldsymbol{\delta}^{\top} \nabla g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})\right\|_{2}}+1$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left\|\boldsymbol{\delta}^{\top} \nabla g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})\right\|_{2}+\left\|R_{1}(\boldsymbol{x})\right\|_{2}=c\left\|\boldsymbol{\delta}^{\top} \nabla g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})\right\|_{2} \tag{36}
\end{equation*}
$$

and it would be the worst-case for the linear assumption when $\boldsymbol{\delta}=\varepsilon \boldsymbol{v}_{\text {max }}$. By taking $\varepsilon \boldsymbol{v}_{\text {max }}$ as $\boldsymbol{\delta},\left\|R_{1}(\boldsymbol{x})\right\|_{2}$ can be estimated by

$$
\begin{equation*}
\max \left\{0,\left\|g^{y}\left(\boldsymbol{x}+\varepsilon \boldsymbol{v}_{\max }\right)-g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})\right\|_{2}-\left\|\varepsilon \boldsymbol{v}_{\max }^{\top} \nabla g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})\right\|_{2}\right\} \tag{37}
\end{equation*}
$$

Since $\left\|g^{y}\left(\boldsymbol{x}+\varepsilon \boldsymbol{v}_{\max }\right)-g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})\right\|_{2}-\left\|\varepsilon \boldsymbol{v}_{\max }^{\top} \nabla g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})\right\|_{2} \leq\left\|R_{1}(\boldsymbol{x})\right\|_{2}$. Putting Eq. (37) into $c$ and using the result in Eq. (6), we have

$$
\begin{align*}
c & =\max \left\{0, \frac{\left\|g^{y}\left(\boldsymbol{x}+\varepsilon \boldsymbol{v}_{\max }\right)-g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})\right\|_{2}-\left\|\varepsilon \boldsymbol{v}_{\max }^{\top} \nabla g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})\right\|_{2}}{\xi_{\max } \varepsilon}\right\}+1  \tag{38}\\
& =\max \left\{1, \frac{\left\|g^{y}\left(\boldsymbol{x}+\varepsilon \boldsymbol{v}_{\max }\right)-g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})\right\|_{2}}{\xi_{\max } \varepsilon}\right\} . \tag{39}
\end{align*}
$$

## C. Analysis of attribution gradients

## C.1. The gradient of integrated gradients

We provide the justification showing that the gradient of IG is diagonal-dominated. Consider that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\operatorname{IG}(\boldsymbol{x})_{i}=x_{i} \times \frac{1}{m} \sum_{\alpha=1}^{m} \frac{\partial f\left(\frac{\alpha}{m} \boldsymbol{x}\right)}{\partial x_{i}} \tag{40}
\end{equation*}
$$

and

$$
\begin{equation*}
\nabla \mathrm{IG}(\boldsymbol{x})_{i j}=\frac{\partial \mathrm{IG}(\boldsymbol{x})_{i}}{\partial x_{j}} \tag{41}
\end{equation*}
$$

If $i \neq j$, then

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\partial \mathrm{IG}(\boldsymbol{x})_{i}}{\partial x_{j}}=x_{i} \cdot \frac{1}{m} \sum_{\alpha=1}^{m} \frac{\partial^{2} f\left(\frac{\alpha}{m} \boldsymbol{x}\right)}{\partial x_{i} \partial x_{j}} \times \frac{\alpha}{m} \tag{42}
\end{equation*}
$$

If $i=j$, then

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\partial \mathrm{IG}(\boldsymbol{x})_{i}}{\partial x_{j}}=\frac{1}{m} \sum_{\alpha=1}^{m} \frac{\partial f\left(\frac{\alpha}{m} \boldsymbol{x}\right)}{\partial x_{j}}+x_{i} \cdot \frac{1}{m} \sum_{\alpha=1}^{m} \frac{\partial^{2} f\left(\frac{\alpha}{m} \boldsymbol{x}\right)}{\partial x_{i} \partial x_{j}} \times \frac{\alpha}{m} \tag{43}
\end{equation*}
$$

Denote that $H_{i j}^{(\alpha)}=\frac{\partial^{2} f\left(\frac{\alpha}{m} \boldsymbol{x}\right)}{\partial x_{i} \partial x_{j}}$, i.e., $H^{(\alpha)}$ is the Hessian matrix of $f\left(\frac{\alpha}{m} \boldsymbol{x}\right)$. Thus

$$
\frac{\partial \mathrm{IG}(\boldsymbol{x})_{i}}{\partial x_{j}}=\left\{\begin{array}{l}
\frac{1}{m} \sum_{\alpha=1}^{m} \nabla f\left(\frac{\alpha}{m} \boldsymbol{x}\right)+x_{i} \cdot \frac{\alpha}{m^{2}} H_{i j}^{(\alpha)}, \quad i=j  \tag{44}\\
x_{i} \cdot \sum_{\alpha=1}^{m} \frac{\alpha}{m^{2}} H_{i j}^{(\alpha)}, \quad i \neq j
\end{array}\right.
$$



Figure 4. The first 100 dimensions of gradient attribution generated from (a) MNIST and (b) Fashion-MNIST.

In matrix form,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\nabla \mathrm{IG}=\operatorname{diag}\left(\frac{1}{m} \sum_{\alpha=1}^{m} \nabla f\left(\frac{\alpha}{m} \boldsymbol{x}\right)\right)+[\boldsymbol{x}, \cdots, \boldsymbol{x}] \otimes \frac{\alpha}{m^{2}} \sum_{\alpha=1}^{m} H^{(\alpha)} \tag{45}
\end{equation*}
$$

If we use softplus as an activation function, i.e., $g(\boldsymbol{x})=\frac{1}{\beta} \log (1+\exp (\beta \boldsymbol{x}))$, then,

$$
\begin{equation*}
g^{\prime \prime}(\boldsymbol{x})=\frac{\beta e^{\beta \boldsymbol{x}}}{\left(e^{\beta \boldsymbol{x}}+1\right)^{2}} \tag{46}
\end{equation*}
$$

and

$$
\begin{equation*}
\lim _{\beta \rightarrow \infty} g^{\prime \prime}(\boldsymbol{x})=0 \tag{47}
\end{equation*}
$$

As $\beta \rightarrow \infty, H^{(\alpha)}$ will tend to 0 , and the second term in Eq. 45 will tend to 0 . At the same time, if we choose the number of steps in IG, $m$ larger, $\frac{\alpha}{m^{2}}$ will converge to 0 faster than $\frac{1}{m}$. Therefore, $\nabla \mathrm{IG}$ will be diagonal-dominated.

## C.2. Additional visualization of attribution gradients

We provide the first 100-dimensions heatmaps of absolute values of attribution gradients, i.e., gradients of IG, on MNIST and Fashion-MNIST in addition to CIFAR-10 presented in Fig. 1b. Moreover, the complete heatmaps for all the three datasets are also presented. As observed in Figs. 4 to 7, the matrices of attribution gradients are diagonal-dominant.

## D. Additional experimental results

## D.1. Additional results of upper bound on more models without the label constraint

In this subsection, we evaluate the proposed upper bound without the label constraint for the other models, apart from TRADES+IGR in the paper. The perturbation size is chosen to be 0.1 for all evaluations. As in Sec. 5, we use Theorem 1 and 2 to compute $T_{e}=\xi_{\max } \varepsilon$ and extend it to $T_{c}$ using Eq. 10. The modified upper bound $T_{e}^{\prime}=c \xi_{\max } \varepsilon$ is also provided to address the inaccurate Taylor approximation (less than $1 \%$ ). $\widehat{T}_{e}$ and $\widehat{T}_{c}$ are computed from the corresponding average attribution differences. The results are given in Table 6. It is shown that the sample distances under both Euclidean and cosine metrics are bounded by $T_{e}^{\prime}$ and $T_{c}$ as expected. All the distortion caused by the attacks i.e., $\widehat{T}_{e}$ and $\widehat{T}_{c}$ are smaller than $T_{e}^{\prime}$ and $T_{c}$.


Figure 5. The full heatmap of attribution gradients of MNIST in size $784 \times 784$.
Table 6. Evaluation of upper bounds without the label constraint. The cosine distance values $\widehat{T}_{c}$ and $\widehat{T}_{c}^{\prime}$ are converted to degrees for easier comparison.

|  | SM |  |  |  |  | Input*gradient |  |  |  |  | IG |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\ell_{2}$ | $\widehat{T}_{e}$ | $T_{e}$ | $T_{e}^{\prime}$ | $\widehat{T}_{c}$ | $T_{c}$ | $\widehat{T}_{e}$ | $T_{e}$ | $T_{e}^{\prime}$ | $\widehat{T}_{c}$ | $T_{c}$ | $\widehat{T}_{e}$ | $T_{e}$ | $T_{e}^{\prime}$ | $\widehat{T}_{c}$ | $T_{c}$ |
| AT | 0.44 | 0.94 | 0.98 | 9.19 | 14.87 | 0.07 | 0.63 | 0.63 | 1.17 | 4.34 | 0.04 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 2.73 | 4.77 |
| IG-NORM | 0.03 | 0.70 | 0.79 | 4.33 | 9.06 | 0.03 | 0.50 | 0.52 | 1.40 | 4.75 | 0.01 | 0.16 | 0.16 | 1.65 | 4.37 |
| AdvAAT | 0.30 | 1.83 | 1.83 | 11.24 | 20.44 | 0.08 | 0.66 | 0.67 | 1.84 | 3.79 | 0.04 | 0.24 | 0.24 | 0.28 | 3.82 |
| ART | 0.18 | 0.79 | 0.81 | 10.88 | 14.21 | 0.09 | 0.92 | 0.97 | 0.83 | 6.06 | 0.07 | 0.23 | 0.23 | 0.59 | 4.21 |
| TRADES | 0.11 | 0.76 | 0.76 | 10.01 | 18.40 | 0.05 | 0.48 | 0.48 | 1.19 | 3.20 | 0.03 | 0.17 | 0.17 | 1.91 | 3.87 |
| $\ell_{\infty}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| AT | 0.55 | 1.27 | - | 23.47 | 30.18 | 0.63 | 0.73 | - | 9.28 | 61.03 | 0.41 | 0.76 | - | 26.62 | 45.32 |
| IG-NORM | 0.42 | 0.70 | - | 25.16 | 32.60 | 0.21 | 0.70 | - | 6.88 | 42.94 | 0.20 | 0.48 | - | 21.63 | 35.30 |
| AdvAAT | 0.64 | 1.83 | - | 25.20 | 31.25 | 0.07 | 0.74 | - | 7.79 | 45.16 | 0.23 | 0.52 | - | 28.73 | 39.40 |
| ART | 0.49 | 1.01 | - | 23.81 | 35.17 | 0.27 | 0.79 | - | 10.21 | 48.30 | 0.31 | 0.67 | - | 31.01 | 35.64 |
| TRADES | 0.39 | 0.75 | - | 22.40 | 29.10 | 0.33 | 0.69 | - | 9.17 | 52.63 | 0.23 | 0.50 | - | 22.98 | 36.38 |

## D.2. Ablation study of upper bound using different $\varepsilon$

In this subsection, we provide more experimental results of the proposed bound on MNIST, Fashion-MNIST and CIFAR10 in both $\ell_{2}$ and $\ell_{\infty}$ cases under label constraint. More specifically, for MNIST and Fashion-MNIST, we additionally


Figure 6. The full heatmap of attribution gradients of Fashion-MNIST in size $784 \times 784$.
provide results of $\varepsilon=0.1$ and $\varepsilon=0.2$ in $\ell_{2}$ case, and $\varepsilon=0.01$ and $\varepsilon=0.03$ in $\ell_{\infty}$ case. For CIFAR-10, we provide $\varepsilon=0.2$ and $\varepsilon=0.3$ for $\ell_{2}$ case, and $\varepsilon=4 / 255$ and $\varepsilon=8 / 255$ in $\ell_{\infty}$ case. The results are presented in Tabs. 7 and 8 . For $\ell_{2}$ constrained case, we also provide the modified upper bound $T_{e}^{\prime}$ as in Sec. 5 since the Taylor approximations are inaccurate occasionally $(0 \sim 6 \%)$. For all tested $\varepsilon$, it is noticed that the theoretical bounds bound the sample Euclidean and cosine distance above. In some cases, the means of $T_{e}$ and $T_{e}^{\prime}$ are the same because $T_{e}$ bound $\widehat{T}_{e}$ well and the $c$ in Eq. (11) equals to 1 for $T_{e}^{\prime}$. As in Sec. 5, for $\ell_{\infty}$ case, we do not present the results of $T_{e}^{\prime}$, because $T_{e}$ has bounded all $\widehat{T}_{e}$ above.

## D.3. Evaluation of upper bounds under $\ell_{2}$-norm and $\ell_{\infty}$-norm constraints on larger size images.

The proposed method is also scalable to larger size images. In this subsection, we provide experimental results on Flower [20], which contains images of size of $128 \times 128 \times 3$, and a subset of ImageNet [5] containing 5,000 randomly chosen images with size of $224 \times 224 \times 3$. We choose $\varepsilon=0.1$ for $\ell_{2}$ and $\varepsilon=8 / 255$ for $\ell_{\infty}$ cases to compute the theoretical upper bounds $T_{e}$ and $T_{c}$, as well as the modified bound $T_{e}^{\prime}$, as introduced in Sec. 5. The sample distance $\widehat{T}_{e}$ and $\widehat{T}_{c}$ are computed from the mean of distances between perturbed and original attributions, where PGD-20 is used as $\ell_{2}$ attack and 200-step IFIA is used as $\ell_{\infty}$ attack. In paricular, since the baseline attribution robustness methods do not scale up to ImageNet, we only provide results using standard training and adversarial training to illustrate the scalability of our method. The results are presented in Tabs. 9 and 10.

We notice that the theoretical bounds are all valid for larger size images, where all angular and modified Euclidean bound effective bound the maximum discrepancy of perturbed attributions. It worths noting that the computation costs of the values for the upper bound in $\ell_{2}$-norm constrained case become heavier for high-dimensional images due to the computation of eigenvalues for large matrices. For $\ell_{\infty}$-norm case, these eigenvalue computations have been avoided. We will study the


Figure 7. The full heatmap of attribution gradients of CIFAR-100 in size $3072 \times 3072$.
Table 7. Evaluation of $\ell_{2}$-norm upper bound with the label constraint on MNIST, Fashion-MNIST and CIFAR-10 using different $\varepsilon$.

|  | $\widehat{T}_{e}$ | $T_{e}$ | $T_{e}^{\prime}$ | $\widehat{T}_{c}(\mathrm{deg})$ | $T_{c}(\mathrm{deg})$ | $\widehat{T}_{e}$ | $T_{e}$ | $T_{e}^{\prime}$ | $\widehat{T}_{c}(\mathrm{deg})$ | $T_{c}(\mathrm{deg})$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| MNIST | $\varepsilon=0.1$ |  |  |  |  | $\varepsilon=0.2$ |  |  |  |  |
| AT | 0.0856 | 0.3074 | 0.3101 | 4.6026 | 14.3020 | 0.1176 | 0.4611 | 0.4617 | 5.9845 | 29.6082 |
| IG-NORM | 0.1436 | 0.5776 | 0.5776 | 3.9514 | 14.6430 | 0.2094 | 0.8664 | 0.8679 | 5.4824 | 30.3707 |
| AdvAAT | 0.0938 | 0.7182 | 0.7193 | 2.1315 | 13.8325 | 0.1346 | 1.0773 | 1.1013 | 2.8725 | 28.5660 |
| ART | 0.2031 | 0.6538 | 0.6542 | 6.4244 | 13.9011 | 0.2302 | 0.9807 | 0.9993 | 8.5982 | 28.7175 |
| TRADES | 0.2159 | 1.0120 | 1.0812 | 3.4791 | 14.1049 | 0.3281 | 1.5180 | 1.5211 | 4.9429 | 29.1695 |
| TRADES+IGR | 0.2171 | 0.9928 | 1.0101 | 3.4171 | 14.0621 | 0.3032 | 1.4892 | 1.4892 | 4.5166 | 29.0745 |
| Fashion-MNIST |  |  | $\varepsilon=0.1$ |  |  |  |  | $\varepsilon=0.2$ |  |  |
| AT | 0.1080 | 0.1400 | 0.1401 | 16.7770 | 26.6451 | 0.1413 | 0.2100 | 0.2119 | 21.3901 | 63.7570 |
| IG-NORM | 0.1232 | 0.3578 | 0.3578 | 8.9312 | 17.8256 | 0.1771 | 0.5367 | 0.5371 | 12.5177 | 37.7516 |
| AdvAAT | 0.1500 | 0.3470 | 0.3533 | 7.3499 | 19.0014 | 0.1984 | 0.5205 | 0.5209 | 9.4643 | 40.6308 |
| ART | 0.2057 | 0.2774 | 0.2775 | 11.6920 | 19.9515 | 0.2343 | 0.4161 | 0.4161 | 13.4216 | 43.0352 |
| TRADES | 0.0797 | 0.1926 | 0.1987 | 10.5544 | 24.7845 | 0.1050 | 0.2889 | 0.2889 | 13.8358 | 56.9729 |
| TRADES+IGR | 0.0672 | 0.0906 | 0.0906 | 11.3338 | 17.9020 | 0.0879 | 0.1359 | 0.1510 | 14.7998 | 37.9358 |
| CIFAR-10 |  |  | $\varepsilon=0.2$ |  |  |  |  | $\varepsilon=0.3$ |  |  |
| AT | 0.0607 | 0.5064 | 0.5064 | 3.7975 | 9.5783 | 0.0858 | 1.2661 | 1.2661 | 5.2981 | 24.5816 |
| IG-NORM | 0.0123 | 0.3164 | 0.3164 | 1.4311 | 8.7679 | 0.0592 | 0.7910 | 0.7910 | 6.9460 | 22.4006 |
| AdvAAT | 0.0300 | 0.4772 | 0.4775 | 1.7094 | 7.6575 | 0.0548 | 1.1933 | 1.1933 | 3.0553 | 19.4588 |
| ART | 0.0501 | 0.4556 | 0.4699 | 3.1004 | 8.4476 | 0.0718 | 1.1391 | 1.1420 | 6.3493 | 21.5468 |
| TRADES | 0.0360 | 0.3468 | 0.3468 | 3.9435 | 7.7550 | 0.0528 | 0.8671 | 0.8780 | 5.7514 | 19.7151 |
| TRADES+IGR | 0.0395 | 0.3384 | 0.3385 | 4.1222 | 7.6942 | 0.0577 | 0.8460 | 0.8460 | 5.9201 | 19.5551 |

Table 8. Evaluation of upper bounds under $\ell_{\infty}$-norm constraint and label constraint on MNIST, Fashion-MNIST and CIFAR-10 with different $\varepsilon$.

| MNIST | $\widehat{T}_{e}$ | $T_{e}$ | $\widehat{T}_{c}(\operatorname{deg})$ | $T_{c}($ deg $)$ | $\widehat{T}_{e}$ | $T_{e}$ | $\widehat{T}_{c}(\mathrm{deg})$ | $T_{c}(\mathrm{deg})$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\varepsilon=0.01$ |  |  |  | $\varepsilon=0.03$ |  |  |  |
| AT | 0.0556 | 0.1550 | 2.9408 | 7.1839 | 0.0888 | 0.4651 | 4.2516 | 22.0345 |
| IG-NORM | 0.1005 | 0.2409 | 2.8745 | 6.0632 | 0.1710 | 0.7228 | 4.4179 | 18.4742 |
| AdvAAT | 0.0608 | 0.4398 | 1.4264 | 5.0839 | 0.1280 | 1.3195 | 2.4883 | 15.4170 |
| ART | 0.0767 | 0.5644 | 2.8025 | 10.3833 | 0.3617 | 1.6931 | 9.3505 | 32.7312 |
| TRADES | 0.1634 | 0.4443 | 2.7539 | 6.3323 | 0.3193 | 1.3330 | 4.7523 | 19.3224 |
| TRADES+IGR | 0.1744 | 0.4077 | 2.7731 | 5.1333 | 0.2932 | 1.2232 | 4.2425 | 15.5702 |
| Fashion-MNIST | $\varepsilon=0.01$ |  |  |  | $\varepsilon=0.03$ |  |  |  |
| AT | 0.0516 | 0.0560 | 6.5146 | 9.4467 | 0.1043 | 0.1680 | 16.4165 | 29.4979 |
| IG-NORM | 0.0611 | 0.1113 | 4.7737 | 8.3315 | 0.1137 | 0.3339 | 8.1315 | 25.7661 |
| AdvAAT | 0.0987 | 0.1841 | 5.3706 | 8.1184 | 0.1616 | 0.5523 | 7.9204 | 25.0658 |
| ART | 0.0660 | 0.1443 | 6.6582 | 9.2791 | 0.3946 | 0.4329 | 23.0589 | 28.9294 |
| TRADES | 0.0509 | 0.0907 | 7.0612 | 9.0233 | 0.0804 | 0.2721 | 10.8579 | 28.0672 |
| TRADES+IGR | 0.0363 | 0.0505 | 7.1214 | 8.0541 | 0.0716 | 0.1515 | 12.1090 | 24.8550 |
| CIFAR-10 | $\varepsilon=4 / 255$ |  |  |  | $\varepsilon=8 / 255$ |  |  |  |
| AT | 0.0894 | 0.1200 | 6.0843 | 6.4041 | 0.1549 | 0.2400 | 10.5129 | 12.8901 |
| IG-NORM | 0.0388 | 0.0750 | 4.5743 | 5.2004 | 0.0700 | 0.1501 | 8.1882 | 10.4443 |
| AdvAAT | 0.0776 | 0.0817 | 2.2657 | 5.7139 | 0.0959 | 0.1635 | 3.8595 | 11.4857 |
| ART | 0.0722 | 0.1056 | 4.3010 | 5.2445 | 0.1281 | 0.2113 | 8.4555 | 10.5337 |
| TRADES | 0.0539 | 0.0784 | 3.6093 | 5.3381 | 0.0909 | 0.1569 | 9.3571 | 10.7232 |
| TRADES+IGR | 0.0589 | 0.0821 | 3.8230 | 5.1622 | 0.0978 | 0.1643 | 9.5879 | 10.3668 |

Table 9. Evaluation of upper bounds with the label constraint on Flower dataset. The numbers in the brackets indicate the percentages that attacked attribution is outside the $T_{e}$.

|  | $\ell_{2}$ |  |  |  |  | $\ell_{\infty}$ |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\widehat{T}_{e}$ | $T_{e}$ | $T_{e}^{\prime}$ | $\widehat{T}_{c}(\mathrm{deg})$ | $T_{c}(\mathrm{deg})$ | $\widehat{T}_{e}$ | $T_{e}$ | $\widehat{T}_{c}(\mathrm{deg})$ | $T_{c}(\mathrm{deg})$ |
| AT | 0.0170 | 0.0341 [2.17\%] | 0.0447 | 1.3165 | 1.9806 | 0.0238 | 0.4100 | 2.1937 | 13.4811 |
| AdvAAT | 0.0295 | 0.1424 [0.00\%] | 0.1424 | 1.5568 | 2.2835 | 0.0472 | 0.1025 | 1.4130 | 11.8732 |
| TRADES | 0.0220 | 0.0534 [0.72\%] | 0.0592 | 1.3383 | 3.1567 | 0.0182 | 0.1081 | 3.3887 | 11.9829 |
| TRADES+IGR | 0.0080 | 0.0219 [0.72\%] | 0.0262 | 0.8870 | 2.1255 | 0.0242 | 0.2873 | 1.5930 | 12.5584 |

Table 10. Evaluation of upper bounds with the label constraint on ImageNet. The numbers in the brackets indicate the percentages that attacked attribution is outside the $T_{e}$.

|  | $\ell_{2}$ |  |  |  |  | $\ell_{\infty}$ |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\widehat{T}_{e}$ | $T_{e}$ | $T_{e}^{\prime}$ | $\widehat{T}_{c}(\mathrm{deg})$ | $T_{c}(\mathrm{deg})$ | $\widehat{T}_{e}$ | $T_{e}$ | $\widehat{T}_{c}(\mathrm{deg})$ | $T_{c}(\mathrm{deg})$ |
| CE | 0.1049 | 0.1923[3.06\%] | 0.2365 | 7.7959 | 8.0933 | 0.3148 | 0.7399 | 3.8227 | 10.9339 |
| AT | 0.1077 | 0.1588[3.32\%] | 0.5221 | 3.4773 | 5.1797 | 0.1974 | 0.2226 | 0.3455 | 8.7333 |

scalability of our methods under $\ell_{2}$-norm constraint in future work.


Figure 8. Distributions of differences between computed bounds and attribution differences from CIFAR-10.

## E. Alternative formulation of upper bound to the worst-case attribution deviations

The formulation of Eq. 1 can be rewritten in an equivalent form to find the maximum $\varepsilon$ subject to the attribution difference under certain threshold $\omega$. Formally, the formulation can be written as

$$
\begin{align*}
\max & \varepsilon \\
\text { s.t. } & D\left(g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x}), g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x}+\boldsymbol{\delta})\right) \leq \omega \\
& \|\boldsymbol{\delta}\|_{p} \leq \varepsilon  \tag{48}\\
& \underset{k}{\arg \max } f_{k}(\boldsymbol{x})=\underset{k}{\arg \max } f_{k}(\boldsymbol{x}+\boldsymbol{\delta})
\end{align*}
$$

Under the above formulation, we can use the theoretical bound derived using Eq. 1 to find the corresponding optimal $\varepsilon$. For the $\ell_{2}$-norm case with or without the label constraint, when $D(\cdot, \cdot)$ is the $\ell_{2}$ distance, the maximum $\varepsilon$ can be computed using the upper bound $\xi_{\max } \varepsilon$ derived in Theorem 1,

$$
\begin{align*}
\max _{\boldsymbol{\delta}}\left\|g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x}+\boldsymbol{\delta})-g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})\right\|_{2} & =\xi_{\max } \varepsilon \leq \omega  \tag{49}\\
& \Rightarrow \varepsilon \leq \frac{\omega}{\xi_{\max }} \tag{50}
\end{align*}
$$

Similarly, the maximum $\varepsilon$ when $D(\cdot, \cdot)$ is cosine distance can be derived using Corollary 2 as

$$
\begin{align*}
& \max _{\boldsymbol{\delta}} D_{c}\left(g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x}+\boldsymbol{\delta}), g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})\right)=1-\sqrt{1-\frac{\xi_{\max } \varepsilon}{\left\|g^{y}(\boldsymbol{x})\right\|_{2}^{2}}} \leq \omega  \tag{51}\\
& \Rightarrow \varepsilon \leq \frac{\|g(\boldsymbol{x})\|_{2}^{2}}{\xi_{\max }}\left(1-(1-\omega)^{2}\right) \tag{52}
\end{align*}
$$

The maximum $\varepsilon$ for the $\ell_{\infty}$ constraint case with and without the label constraint can be also derived in the same way using the relaxed upper bound in Theorem 2. Since the Kendall's rank correlation is discontinuous, researchers proposed to use cosine similarity and $\ell_{p}$ distance to measure the similarity/dissimilarity between attributions from attacked samples and original samples $[3,4,32]$. Thus, in this work, we derive the bounds for cosine similarity and Euclidean distance.

