

# SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS: TIGHTNESS OF SDP AND BURER-MONTEIRO FACTORIZATION FOR PHASE SYNCHRONIZATION IN HIGH-NOISE REGIME

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**SM1. Proofs of Lemmas in Section 2.** We defer the proof of Lemma 2.1 to Section SM5 as the lemma is a direct generalization of Lemma 12 of [SM2] and our proof follows theirs.

*Proof of Lemma 2.2.* To prove (2.7), let  $\theta \in [0, \pi]$  be the angle between  $x$  and  $y$ . By the cosine formula of triangles, we have  $\|x - y\|^2 = \|x\|^2 + \|y\|^2 - 2\|x\|\|y\|\cos(\theta)$  and  $\|x/\|x\| - y/\|y\|\|^2 = 2 - 2\cos(\theta)$ . Consider the following scenarios.

- If  $\|x\|, \|y\| \geq t$ , since  $\|x\|^2 + \|y\|^2 \geq 2\|x\|\|y\|$ , we have

$$\|x - y\|^2 \geq 2\|x\|\|y\|(1 - \cos(\theta)) \geq 2t^2(1 - \cos(\theta)) = t^2\|x/\|x\| - y/\|y\|\|^2.$$

Hence,  $\|x/\|x\| - y/\|y\|\| \leq \|x - y\|/t$ .

- If  $\|y\| \geq t > \|x\|$  and  $\cos(\theta) \geq 0$ , define a function  $f(a, b) = a^2 + b^2 - 2ab\cos(\theta)$  for  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ . Note that for any  $1 \geq a > 0, b \geq 1$ , we have  $f(a, b) \geq 1 - \cos^2(\theta)$ . This is because  $f(a, b) \geq \min_{b' \geq 1} f(a, b') = f(a, 1) = a^2 + 1 - 2a\cos(\theta) \geq \min_{1 \geq a' > 0} f(a', 1) = f(\cos(\theta), 1) = 1 - \cos^2(\theta)$ . Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{2\|x - y\|^2}{t^2} &= 2 \left( \left( \frac{\|x\|}{t} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{\|y\|}{t} \right)^2 - \frac{\|x\|}{t} \frac{\|y\|}{t} \cos(\theta) \right) \\ &\geq 2(1 - \cos^2(\theta)) \\ &\geq 2(1 - \cos(\theta)) \\ &= \left\| \frac{x}{\|x\|} - \frac{y}{\|y\|} \right\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $\|x/\|x\| - y/\|y\|\| \leq \sqrt{2}\|x - y\|/t$ .

- If  $\|y\| \geq t > \|x\|$  and  $\cos(\theta) < 0$ , we have  $\|x - y\|^2 \geq \|y\|^2 \geq t^2$  and  $\|x/\|x\| - y/\|y\|\| \leq 2$ . Hence,  $\|x/\|x\| - y/\|y\|\| \leq 2\|x - y\|/t$ .
- If  $\|y\| < t$ , we have  $\|x/\|x\| - y/\|y\|\| \leq 2 = 2\mathbb{I}\{\|y\| < t\}$ .

The proof of (2.7) is complete.

To prove (2.8), we only need to consider scenarios  $x = 0$  or  $y = 0$ , as otherwise (2.8) is reduced to (2.7). If  $y = 0$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\left\| \left( \frac{x}{\|x\|} \mathbb{I}\{x \neq 0\} + u \mathbb{I}\{x = 0\} \right) - \left( \frac{y}{\|y\|} \mathbb{I}\{y \neq 0\} + v \mathbb{I}\{y = 0\} \right) \right\| \\ &= \left\| \left( \frac{x}{\|x\|} \mathbb{I}\{x \neq 0\} + u \mathbb{I}\{x = 0\} \right) - v \right\| \leq 2 = 2\mathbb{I}\{\|y\| < t\}. \end{aligned}$$

If  $x = 0$  and  $y \neq 0$ , we have

$$\left\| \left( \frac{x}{\|x\|} \mathbb{I}\{x \neq 0\} + u \mathbb{I}\{x = 0\} \right) - \left( \frac{y}{\|y\|} \mathbb{I}\{y \neq 0\} + v \mathbb{I}\{y = 0\} \right) \right\|$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
&= \left\| u - \frac{y}{\|y\|} \right\| \leq 2 = 2\mathbb{I}\{\|y\| \geq t\} + 2\mathbb{I}\{\|y\| < t\} = 2\mathbb{I}\{\|x - y\| \geq t\} + 2\mathbb{I}\{\|y\| < t\} \\
&\leq \frac{2\|x - y\|}{t} + 2\mathbb{I}\{\|y\| < t\}.
\end{aligned}$$

The proof of (2.8) is complete.  $\square$

*Proof of Lemma 2.5.* Consider any  $m \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{1\}$ . For simplicity, we write  $\widehat{Z}^{\text{BM},m}$  as  $\widehat{Z}$  so that  $\widehat{Z} = (\widehat{V}^{\text{BM},m})^{\text{H}} \widehat{V}^{\text{BM},m}$ .

First, we are going to show

$$(SM1.1) \quad \ell(\widehat{V}^{\text{BM},m}, z^*) \leq \frac{4}{n^2} \text{Tr}(z^* z^{*\text{H}} (z^* z^{*\text{H}} - \widehat{Z})).$$

Define  $b = n^{-1} \sum_{j=1}^n \widehat{V}_j^{\text{BM},m} z_j^* = n^{-1} \widehat{V}^{\text{BM},m} z^* \in \mathbb{C}^m$ . If  $b = 0$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Tr}(z^* z^{*\text{H}} (z^* z^{*\text{H}} - \widehat{Z})) &= \text{Tr}(z^* (z^*)^{\text{H}} z^* (z^*)^{\text{H}}) - \text{Tr}(z^* z^{*\text{H}} (\widehat{V}^{\text{BM},m})^{\text{H}} \widehat{V}^{\text{BM},m}) \\
&= n \text{Tr}(z^* z^{*\text{H}}) - \text{Tr}(z^* (nb)^{\text{H}} \widehat{V}^{\text{BM},m}) \\
&= n^2.
\end{aligned}$$

Note that  $\ell(\widehat{V}^{\text{BM},m}, z^*) \leq n^{-1} \sum_{j \in [n]} 4 = 4$ . Then (SM1.1) holds. In the following, we assume  $b \neq 0$ . From Lemma 2.2, we have for any  $x, y \in \mathbb{C}^m$  such that  $x \neq 0$  and  $\|y\| = 1$ ,  $\|x/\|x\| - y\| \leq 2\|x - y\|$ . Hence, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\ell(\widehat{V}^{\text{BM},m}, z^*) &= \min_{a \in \mathbb{C}^n: \|a\|^2=1} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n \|\widehat{V}_j^{\text{BM},m} z_j^* - a\|^2 \\
&= \min_{a \in \mathbb{C}^n \setminus \{0\}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n \|\widehat{V}_j^{\text{BM},m} z_j^* - a/\|a\|\|^2 \\
&\leq \min_{a \in \mathbb{C}^n \setminus \{0\}} \frac{4}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n \|\widehat{V}_j^{\text{BM},m} z_j^* - a\|^2.
\end{aligned}$$

Since the minimum of the above display is achieved when  $a$  is the arithmetic mean of  $\{\widehat{V}_j^{\text{BM},m} z_j^*\}_{j \in [n]}$ , i.e.,  $b$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\ell(\widehat{V}^{\text{BM},m}, z^*) &\leq \frac{4}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n \|\widehat{V}_j^{\text{BM},m} z_j^* - b\|^2 \\
&= \frac{2}{n^2} \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{l=1}^n \left( \|\widehat{V}_j^{\text{BM},m} z_j^* - b\|^2 + \|\widehat{V}_l^{\text{BM},m} z_l^* - b\|^2 \right) \\
&= \frac{2}{n^2} \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{l=1}^n \|\widehat{V}_j^{\text{BM},m} z_j^* - \widehat{V}_l^{\text{BM},m} z_l^*\|^2 \\
&= \frac{4}{n^2} \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{l=1}^n (1 - \bar{z}_j^* z_l^* (\widehat{V}_j^{\text{BM},m})^{\text{H}} \widehat{V}_l^{\text{BM},m}) \\
&= \frac{4}{n^2} \text{Tr}(z^* z^{*\text{H}} (z^* z^{*\text{H}} - \widehat{Z})).
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, (SM1.1) holds.

Now it remains to upper bound  $\text{Tr}(z^* z^{*H}(z^* z^{*H} - \widehat{Z}))$ . By the definition (1.6), we have  $\text{Tr}(Y\widehat{Z}) \geq \text{Tr}(Yz^* z^{*H})$ . Rearranging this inequality, we obtain  $\text{Tr}(Y(\widehat{Z} - z^* z^{*H})) \geq 0$ . With (1.2), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Tr}(z^* z^{*H}(z^* z^{*H} - \widehat{Z})) &\leq \text{Tr}\left((Y - z^* z^{*H})(\widehat{Z} - z^* z^{*H})\right) \\ &= \sigma \text{Tr}\left(W(\widehat{Z} - z^* z^{*H})\right) \\ &\leq \sigma \left| \text{Tr}\left(W\widehat{Z}\right) \right| + \sigma |\text{Tr}(Wz^* z^{*H})| \\ &\leq \sigma \|W\| \text{Tr}(\widehat{Z}) + \sigma \|W\| \text{Tr}(z^* z^{*H}) \\ &= 2n\sigma \|W\|. \end{aligned}$$

Here, the last inequality is due to the following facts. For any two matrices  $A, B \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ ,  $\text{Tr}(AB) \leq \|A\| \|B\|_*$ , where  $\|B\|_*$  is the nuclear norm of  $B$  that is equal to the summation of all its singular values. If  $B$  is further assumed to be positive semi-definite, we have  $\|B\|_* = \text{Tr}(B)$ . In our setting,  $\widehat{Z}$  is positive semi-definite as  $\min_{u \in \mathbb{C}^n} u^H \widehat{Z} u = \min_{u \in \mathbb{C}^n} u^H (\widehat{V}^{\text{BM}, m})^H \widehat{V}^{\text{BM}, m} u \geq 0$ , and so is  $z^* z^{*H}$ .

Consequently, we have  $\ell(\widehat{V}^{\text{BM}, m}, z^*) \leq \frac{8\sigma \|W\|}{n}$ . The upper bound for  $\ell_1(\widehat{z}^{\text{MLE}}, z^*)$  can be established following the same steps as above and hence its proof is omitted.  $\square$

### SM2. Proofs of Lemmas in Section 3.2.

*Proof of Lemma 3.1.* Consider the following scenarios. If  $|x|, |y| \leq t$ , we have  $|g_t(x) - g_t(y)| = \frac{|x-y|}{t}$  by definition. If  $|x|, |y| \geq t$ , then

$$|g_t(x) - g_t(y)| = \left| \frac{x}{|x|} - \frac{y}{|y|} \right|,$$

Let  $\theta \in [0, \pi]$  be the angle between  $x$  and  $y$  on the complex plane. By the cosine formula of triangles, we have  $|x-y|^2 = |x|^2 + |y|^2 - 2|x||y|\cos(\theta)$  and  $|g_t(x) - g_t(y)|^2 = 2 - 2\cos(\theta)$ . Since  $|x|^2 + |y|^2 \geq 2|x||y|$ , we have

$$|x-y|^2 \geq 2|x||y|(1 - \cos(\theta)) \geq 2t^2(1 - \cos(\theta)) = t^2 |g_t(x) - g_t(y)|^2,$$

which yields the desired result. If  $|x| \geq t > |y|$ , then

$$|g_t(x) - g_t(y)| = \left| \frac{x}{|x|} - \frac{y}{t} \right|.$$

By using the cosine formula again, we have  $|g_t(x) - g_t(y)|^2 = 1 + \frac{|y|^2}{t^2} - 2\frac{|y|}{t}\cos(\theta)$  and  $\left| \frac{x}{t} - \frac{y}{t} \right|^2 = \frac{|x|^2}{t^2} + \frac{|y|^2}{t^2} - 2\frac{|x||y|}{t^2}\cos(\theta)$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{|x-y|^2}{t^2} - |g_t(x) - g_t(y)|^2 &= \left| \frac{x}{t} - \frac{y}{t} \right|^2 - |g_t(x) - g_t(y)|^2 \\ &= \frac{|x|^2}{t^2} - 1 - 2\frac{|x||y|}{t^2}\cos(\theta) + 2\frac{|y|}{t}\cos(\theta) \\ &= \left( \frac{|x|}{t} - 1 \right) \left( \frac{|x|}{t} + 1 \right) - 2 \left( \frac{|x|}{t} - 1 \right) \frac{|y|}{t} \cos(\theta) \\ &= \left( \frac{|x|}{t} - 1 \right) \left( \frac{|x|}{t} + 1 - 2\frac{|y|}{t}\cos(\theta) \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\geq 0,$$

where the last inequality is due to that  $\frac{|x|}{t} \geq 1 > \frac{|y|}{t} \geq 0$  and  $\cos(\theta) \leq 1$ . The scenario  $|y| \geq t > |x|$  can be proved similarly.  $\square$

*Proof of Lemma 3.2.* We prove the properties sequentially.

1. Recall the definition of  $G$  in (3.9). For any  $j \in [n]$ , by Lemma 3.1, we have

$$\begin{aligned} |[G(x, s, t)]_j - [G(y, s, t)]_j| &= |g_t(z_j^* s + \sigma[Wx]_j) - g_t(z_j^* s + \sigma[Wy]_j)| \\ &\leq t^{-1} |(z_j^* s + \sigma[Wx]_j) - (z_j^* s + \sigma[Wy]_j)| \\ &= t^{-1} \sigma |[W(x - y)]_j|. \end{aligned}$$

Summing over all  $j \in [n]$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|G(x, s, t) - G(y, s, t)\|^2 &\leq \sum_{j \in [n]} |[G(x, s, t)]_j - [G(y, s, t)]_j|^2 \\ &\leq t^{-2} \sigma^2 \sum_{j \in [n]} |[W(x - y)]_j|^2 \\ &= t^{-2} \sigma^2 \|W(x - y)\|^2 \\ &\leq t^{-2} \sigma^2 \|W\|^2 \|x - y\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

2. Using the first property, for any  $T \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|z^{(T+1)} - z^{(T)}\| &= \|G(z^{(T)}, s, t) - G(z^{(T-1)}, s, t)\| \\ &\leq t^{-1} \sigma \|W\| \|z^{(T)} - z^{(T-1)}\| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} \|z^{(T)} - z^{(T-1)}\|, \end{aligned}$$

where the last inequality is due to the assumption  $t \geq 2\sigma \|W\|$ .

3. Consider the sequence  $z^{(0)} = z^*$  and  $z^{(T)} = G(z^{(T-1)}, s, t)$  for all  $T \in \mathbb{N}$ . By the second property, we have  $\|z^{(T+1)} - z^{(T)}\| \leq \frac{1}{2} \|z^{(T)} - z^{(T-1)}\|$  for all  $T \in \mathbb{N}$ . Note that  $\{z^{(T)}\}$  is a sequence in  $\mathbb{C}_{\leq 1}^n$ , a complete metric space under  $\|\cdot\|$ . Hence, the sequence converges to a limit  $z^{(\infty)} \in \mathbb{C}_{\leq 1}^n$  which satisfies  $z^{(\infty)} = G(z^{(\infty)}, s, t)$ . Hence,  $z^{(\infty)}$  is a fixed point of  $G(\cdot, s, t)$ . Now we have proved the existence of the fixed point. To prove the uniqueness, note that if there exists another  $z' \in \mathbb{C}_{\leq 1}^n$  such that  $z' = G(z', s, t)$ , we have

$$\|z^{(\infty)} - z'\| = \|G(z^{(\infty)}, s, t) - G(z', s, t)\| \leq t^{-1} \sigma \|z^{(\infty)} - z'\| \leq \|z^{(\infty)} - z'\|/2,$$

by the first property. Hence,  $\|z^{(\infty)} - z'\| = 0$  which means  $z^{(\infty)} = z'$ .

4. For any  $j \in [n]$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} |[z^* s + \sigma Wz]_j - [z^* s' + \sigma Wz']_j| &\leq |z_j^* s - z_j^* s'| + \sigma |[W(z - z')]_j| \\ &\leq |s - s'| + \sigma |[W(z - z')]_j|. \end{aligned}$$

Summing over all  $j \in [n]$ , we have

$$\|(z^* s + \sigma Wz) - (z^* s' + \sigma Wz')\|^2 \leq \sum_{j \in [n]} (|s - s'| + \sigma |[W(z - z')]_j|)^2$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \leq \sum_{j \in [n]} \left( 2|s - s'|^2 + 2\sigma^2 |[W(z - z')]_j|^2 \right) \\
 \text{(SM2.1)} \quad & \leq 2n|s - s'|^2 + 2\sigma^2 \|W\|^2 \|z - z'\|^2.
 \end{aligned}$$

Note that for any  $j \in [n]$ , we have  $z_j = [G(z, s, t)]_j = g_t([z^*s + \sigma Wz]_j)$  and similarly  $z'_j = g_t([z^*s' + \sigma Wz']_j)$ . Hence, by Lemma 3.1, we have

$$|z_j - z'_j| \leq t^{-1} |[z^*s + \sigma Wz]_j - [z^*s' + \sigma Wz']_j|.$$

Summing over all  $j \in [n]$ , by (SM2.1), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|z - z'\|^2 & \leq t^{-2} \|(z^*s + \sigma Wz) - (z^*s' + \sigma Wz')\|^2 \\
 & \leq 2nt^{-2}|s - s'|^2 + 2\sigma^2 t^{-2} \|W\|^2 \|z - z'\|^2 \\
 & \leq 2nt^{-2}|s - s'|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|z - z'\|^2,
 \end{aligned}$$

where the last inequality is due to the assumption  $t \geq 2\sigma \|W\|$ . After rearrangement, we have  $\|z - z'\|^2 \leq 4nt^{-2}|s - s'|^2$ . From (SM2.1), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|(z^*s + \sigma Wz) - (z^*s' + \sigma Wz')\|^2 & \leq 2n|s - s'|^2 + 2\sigma^2 \|W\|^2 (4nt^{-2}|s - s'|^2) \\
 & \leq 4n|s - s'|^2, \quad \blacksquare \quad \square
 \end{aligned}$$

where the last inequality is by  $t \geq 2\sigma \|W\|$ .

*Proof of Lemma 3.3.* Consider any  $j \in [n]$ . If  $|z_j^*s + \sigma[Wz]_j| \geq t$ , we have  $[G(z, s, t)]_j = g_t(z_j^*s + \sigma[Wz]_j) = (z_j^*s + \sigma[Wz]_j)/|z_j^*s + \sigma[Wz]_j| = [F'_1(z, s)]_j$ . If  $|z_j^*s + \sigma[Wz]_j| \geq t$  is not satisfied, we have  $|[F'_1(z, s)]_j| = 1$  and  $|[G(z, s, t)]_j| \leq 1$ . Hence,

$$\begin{aligned}
 |[F'_1(z, s)]_j - [G(z, s, t)]_j| & = |[F'_1(z, s)]_j - [G(z, s, t)]_j| \mathbb{I}\{|z_j^*s + \sigma[Wz]_j| < t\} \\
 & \leq 2\mathbb{I}\{|z_j^*s + \sigma[Wz]_j| < t\}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Summing over all  $j \in [n]$ , we have

$$\|F'_1(z, s) - G(z, s, t)\|^2 = \sum_{j \in [n]} |[F'_1(z, s)]_j - [G(z, s, t)]_j|^2 \leq 4 \sum_{j \in [n]} \mathbb{I}\{|z_j^*s + \sigma[Wz]_j| < t\}. \quad \blacksquare$$

*Proof of Lemma 3.6.* Recall the definitions of  $G$  in (3.9) and  $g_t$  in (3.8). Note that for any  $t > 0, a \in \mathbb{C}_1, x \in \mathbb{C}$ , we have  $ag_t(x) = g_t(ax)$ . Hence, for any  $z \in \mathbb{C}_{\leq 1}^n, s \in \mathbb{C}, t > 0, a \in \mathbb{C}_1$ , and  $j \in [n]$ , we have  $a[G(z, s, t)]_j = g_t([z^*s + \sigma Wz]_j) = g_t(a[z^*s + \sigma Wz]_j) = g_t([z^*(as) + \sigma W(az)]_j)$ . As a result,

$$\text{if } z = G(z, s, t), \text{ then } az = G(az, as, t).$$

This means that a fixed point of  $G(\cdot, s, t)$  is also a fixed point of  $G(\cdot, as, t)$ .

Recall the definition of  $\hat{s}$  in (3.6). We only need to study the case that  $\hat{s} \neq 0$  as otherwise  $G(\cdot, |\hat{s}|, \cdot) = G(\cdot, \hat{s}, \cdot)$  and Lemma 3.6 is identical to Lemma 3.5. Since  $\hat{s} \neq 0$ ,  $\hat{s}/|\hat{s}| \in \mathbb{C}_1$  is well-defined. For any  $\delta \geq \frac{2\sigma\|W\|}{n}$ , let  $z \in \mathbb{C}_{\leq 1}^n$  be the fixed point of  $G(\cdot, |\hat{s}|, 2\delta n)$ . Then we have  $\frac{\hat{s}}{|\hat{s}|}z \in \mathbb{C}_{\leq 1}^n$  and

$$\frac{\hat{s}}{|\hat{s}|}z = G\left(\frac{\hat{s}}{|\hat{s}|}z, \frac{\hat{s}}{|\hat{s}|}|\hat{s}|, 2\delta n\right) = G\left(\frac{\hat{s}}{|\hat{s}|}z, \hat{s}, 2\delta n\right).$$

154 That is,  $\frac{\hat{s}}{|\hat{s}|}z$  is the fixed point of  $G(\cdot, \hat{s}, 2\delta n)$ . By Lemma 3.5, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 155 \quad & \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j \in [n]} \mathbb{I} \{ |[Y\hat{z}^{\text{MLE}}]_j| < \delta n \} \leq \frac{9}{n} \sum_{j \in [n]} \mathbb{I} \left\{ \left| z_j^* \hat{s} + \sigma \left[ W \frac{\hat{s}}{|\hat{s}|} z \right]_j \right| < 2\delta n \right\} \\
 156 \quad & = \frac{9}{n} \sum_{j \in [n]} \mathbb{I} \left\{ \left| \frac{\hat{s}}{|\hat{s}|} \left( z_j^* |\hat{s}| + \sigma [Wz]_j \right) \right| < 2\delta n \right\} \\
 157 \quad & = \frac{9}{n} \sum_{j \in [n]} \mathbb{I} \left\{ \left| z_j^* |\hat{s}| + \sigma [Wz]_j \right| < 2\delta n \right\}. \quad \square
 \end{aligned}$$

158 **SM3. Proofs of Lemmas in Section 3.3.** The following lemma is a coun-  
 159 terpart of Lemma 3.2 but for  $G^{(-j)}$  instead of  $G$ . Then Lemma 3.9 is the direct  
 160 consequence of the third properties of Lemmas 3.2 and SM3.1.

161 **LEMMA SM3.1.** *Consider any  $j \in [n]$ . The function  $G^{(-j)}(\cdot, \cdot, \cdot)$  has the following*  
 162 *properties:*

163 1. *For any  $x, y \in \mathbb{C}^n$  and for any  $s \in \mathbb{C}, t > 0$ , we have*

$$164 \quad \left\| G^{(-j)}(x, s, t) - G^{(-j)}(y, s, t) \right\| \leq t^{-1} \sigma \|W\| \|x - y\|^2.$$

165 2. *For any  $s \in \mathbb{C}, t \geq 2\sigma \|W\|$ , and for any  $z^{(0, -j)} \in \mathbb{C}_{\leq 1}^n$ , define  $z^{(T, -j)} =$   
 166  $G^{(-j)}(z^{(T-1, -j)}, s, t)$  for all  $T \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then*

$$167 \quad \left\| z^{(T+1, -j)} - z^{(T, -j)} \right\| \leq \frac{1}{2} \left\| z^{(T, -j)} - z^{(T-1, -j)} \right\|, \forall T \in \mathbb{N}.$$

168 3. *For any  $s \in \mathbb{C}, t \geq 2\sigma \|W\|$ ,  $G^{(-j)}(\cdot, s, t)$  has exactly one fixed point. That*  
 169 *is, there exists one and only one  $z \in \mathbb{C}_{\leq 1}^n$  such that  $z = G^{(-j)}(z, s, t)$ . In*  
 170 *addition,  $z$  can be achieved by iteratively applying  $G^{(-j)}(\cdot, s, t)$  starting from*  
 171  *$z^*$ . That is, let  $z^{(0, -j)} = z^*$  and define  $z^{(T, -j)} = G^{(-j)}(z^{(T-1, -j)}, s, t)$  for all*  
 172  *$T \in \mathbb{N}$ . We have  $z = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} G^{(-j)}(z^{(T, -j)}, s, t)$ .*

173 *Proof.* Note that  $\|W^{(-j)}\| \leq \|W\|$  since  $W^{(-j)}$  is obtained from  $W$  by zeroing  
 174 out the  $j$ th row and column. With this, the lemma can be proved following the exact  
 175 same argument as in the proof of Lemma 3.2, and hence is omitted here.  $\square$

176 **SM4. Proofs of Lemmas in Section 3.4.**

177 *Proof of Lemma 3.12.* From Corollary 2.4, we have

$$178 \quad \ell_m(\hat{V}^{\text{BM}, m}, \hat{z}^{\text{MLE}}) \leq \frac{8}{n} \sum_{j \in [n]} \mathbb{I} \{ |[Y\hat{z}^{\text{MLE}}]_j| < \delta n \}.$$

179 For each  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, \lceil n\epsilon/h \rceil$ , let  $z_{s_k} \in \mathbb{C}_{\leq 1}^n$  be the fixed point of  $G(\cdot, s_k, 2\delta n)$ . Then  
 180 by Corollary 3.8, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 181 \quad & \ell_m(\hat{V}^{\text{BM}, m}, \hat{z}^{\text{MLE}}) \\
 182 \quad & \leq 72 \sum_{0 \leq k \leq \lceil n\epsilon/h \rceil} \left( \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j \in [n]} \mathbb{I} \{ \sigma |[Wz_{s_k}]_j| > s_k - 4\delta n \} \right) + \frac{72h^2}{\delta^2 n^2} \mathbb{I} \{ h > \delta\sqrt{n} \}.
 \end{aligned}$$

183 Since  $2\delta n > 2\sigma \|W\|$ , for each  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, \lceil n\epsilon/h \rceil$ , Proposition 3.11 can be applied,  
 184 leading to

$$\begin{aligned}
 185 \quad & \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j \in [n]} \mathbb{I} \left\{ \sigma \left| [W z_{s_k}]_j \right| > s_k - 4\delta n \right\} \leq \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j \in [n]} \mathbb{I} \left\{ \sigma \left| W_{j \cdot} z_{s_k}^{(-j)} \right| > s_k - 4\delta n - 3\sigma \|W\| \right\} \\
 186 \quad & \leq \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j \in [n]} \mathbb{I} \left\{ \sigma \left| W_{j \cdot} z_{s_k}^{(-j)} \right| > (1 - \epsilon)n - h - 4\delta n - 3\sigma \|W\| \right\} \\
 187 \quad & = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j \in [n]} \mathbb{I} \left\{ \sigma \left| W_{j \cdot} z_{s_k}^{(-j)} \right| > \left( 1 - \epsilon - 4\delta - \frac{3\sigma \|W\|}{n} \right) n - h \right\}, \blacksquare
 \end{aligned}$$

188 where in the last inequality, we use  $\min_{0 \leq k \leq \lceil n\epsilon/h \rceil} s_k \geq n - (n\epsilon/h + 1)h = (1 - \epsilon)n - h$ .  
 189 Hence, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 190 \quad & \ell_m(\widehat{V}^{\text{BM}, m}, \widehat{z}^{\text{MLE}}) \\
 191 \quad & \leq 72 \sum_{0 \leq k \leq \lceil n\epsilon/h \rceil} \left( \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j \in [n]} \mathbb{I} \left\{ \sigma \left| W_{j \cdot} z_{s_k}^{(-j)} \right| > \left( 1 - \epsilon - 4\delta - \frac{3\sigma \|W\|}{n} \right) n - h \right\} \right) + \frac{72h^2}{\delta^2 n^2} \mathbb{I} \{h > \delta\sqrt{n}\}. \blacksquare
 \end{aligned}$$

192 **SM5. Auxiliary Lemmas and Proofs.** The following lemma is a generaliza-  
 193 tion of Lemma 11 of [SM1].

194 **LEMMA SM5.1.** *Consider any  $m \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{1\}$ . For any  $V \in \mathcal{V}_m$  and any  $z \in \mathbb{C}_1^n$ , we*  
 195 *have*

$$196 \quad \frac{1}{n^2} \|V^H V - z z^H\|_F^2 \leq 2\ell_m(V, z).$$

197 *Proof.* Lemma 11 of [SM1] only considers the case where  $m = n$ . However, its  
 198 proof holds for any  $m \geq 2$ , which we include here for completeness. By definition, we  
 199 have

$$200 \quad \ell_m(V, z) = 2 - \max_{a \in \mathbb{C}^n: \|a\|^2=1} \left( a^H \left( \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n z_j V_j \right) + \left( \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n z_j V_j \right)^H a \right) = 2 \left( 1 - \left\| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n z_j V_j \right\| \right). \blacksquare$$

201 In addition, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 202 \quad & n^{-2} \|V^H V - z z^H\|_F^2 = \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{l=1}^n |V_j^H V_l - z_j \bar{z}_l|^2 \\
 203 \quad & \leq \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{l=1}^n (2 - V_j^H V_l \bar{z}_j z_l - V_l^H V_j z_j \bar{z}_l) \\
 204 \quad & = 2 \left( 1 - \left\| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n z_j V_j \right\|^2 \right).
 \end{aligned}$$

205 Therefore,  $n^{-2} \|V^H V - z z^H\|_F^2 \leq \ell_m(V, z) (2 - \frac{1}{2}\ell_m(V, z)) \leq 2\ell_m(V, z)$ , and the proof  
 206 is complete.  $\square$

207 *Proof of Lemma 2.1.* We follow the proof of Lemma 12 of [SM2]. We first decom-  
 208 pose  $V$  and  $z$  into orthogonal components:

$$209 \quad (\text{SM5.1}) \quad V = a(z^*)^H + \sqrt{n}A \text{ and } z = bz^* + \sqrt{n}\beta,$$

210 where  $a \in \mathbb{C}^m, A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}, b \in \mathbb{C}, \beta \in \mathbb{C}^n$  and  $Az^* = 0, \beta^H z^* = 0$ . Note the  
 211 decomposition on  $V$  is always possible as  $V = Vz^*(z^*)^H + V(I_n - z^*(z^*)^H)$  and  
 212  $a = Vz^*, \sqrt{n}A = V(I_n - z^*(z^*)^H)$ . By the definition of the loss  $\ell_m$  in (2.1), there  
 213 exists some  $d \in \mathbb{C}^m$  such  $\|d\| = 1$  and  $\ell_m(V, z) = n^{-1} \|V - dz^H\|_F^2$ . With the decom-  
 214 position (SM5.1), it means

$$\begin{aligned} 215 \quad n\ell_m(V, z) &= \|V - dz^H\|_F^2 \\ 216 &= \left\| (a(z^*)^H + \sqrt{n}A) - d(bz^* + \sqrt{n}\beta)^H \right\|_F^2 \\ 217 &= \left\| (a - d\bar{b})(z^*)^H + \sqrt{n}(A - d\beta^H) \right\|_F^2 \\ 218 &= \left\| (a - d\bar{b})(z^*)^H \right\|_F^2 + \left\| \sqrt{n}(A - d\beta^H) \right\|_F^2 \\ 219 \quad (\text{SM5.2}) \quad &= n \|a - d\bar{b}\|^2 + n \|A - d\beta^H\|_F^2. \end{aligned}$$

220 where the third equation is due to the orthogonality  $(A - d\beta^H)z^* = 0$ . Then

$$221 \quad (\text{SM5.3}) \quad \|A - d\beta^H\|_F \leq \sqrt{\ell_m(V, z)}.$$

222 We also have

$$\begin{aligned} 223 \quad \|VY^H - d(Yz)^H\|_F &= \|V(z^*(z^*)^H + \sigma W)^H - dz^H(z^*(z^*)^H + \sigma W)^H\|_F \\ 224 &\leq \|(V - dz^H)z^*(z^*)^H\|_F + \|\sigma(V - dz^H)W\|_F \\ 225 &\leq \|(a(z^*)^H - d\bar{b}(z^*)^H)z^*(z^*)^H\|_F + \sigma \|W\| \|V - dz^H\|_F \\ 226 \quad (\text{SM5.4}) \quad &\leq n\sqrt{n} \|a - d\bar{b}\| + \sigma \|W\| \sqrt{n} \sqrt{\ell_m(V, z)}, \end{aligned}$$

227 where the second inequality is due to the fact that  $\|B_1 B_2\|_F \leq \|B_1\|_F \|B_2\|_{\text{op}}$  for any  
 228 two matrices  $B_1, B_2$ . If

$$229 \quad (\text{SM5.5}) \quad \|a - d\bar{b}\| \leq 6\epsilon \|A - d\beta^H\|_F$$

230 holds, (SM5.4) and (SM5.3) leads to

$$\begin{aligned} 231 \quad \ell_m(VY^H, Yz) &\leq \frac{1}{n} \|VY^H - d(Yz)^H\|_F^2 \\ 232 &\leq \frac{1}{n} \left( 6\epsilon n \sqrt{n} \|A - d\beta^H\|_F + \sigma \|W\| \sqrt{n} \sqrt{\ell_m(V, z)} \right)^2 \\ 233 &\leq \frac{1}{n} \left( 6\epsilon n \sqrt{n} \sqrt{\ell_m(V, z)} + \sigma \|W\| \sqrt{n} \sqrt{\ell_m(V, z)} \right)^2 \\ 234 &= n^2 \left( 6\epsilon + \frac{\sigma \|W\|}{n} \right)^2 \ell_m(V, z), \end{aligned}$$

235 which yields the desired result. The remaining proof is devoted to establishing  
 236 (SM5.5).

237 Note that

$$238 \quad \ell_m(V, z^*) = \min_{u \in \mathbb{C}^m: \|u\|=1} n^{-1} \|a(z^*)^H + \sqrt{n}A - u(z^*)^H\|_F^2$$



$$= \min_{u \in \mathbb{C}^m: \|u\|=1} n^{-1} \left( \|(a-u)(z^*)^H\|_F^2 + \|\sqrt{n}A\|_F^2 \right)$$

$$= \min_{u \in \mathbb{C}^m: \|u\|=1} \|a-u\|^2 + \|A\|_F^2.$$

Since  $\ell_m(V, z^*) \leq \epsilon^2 < 1/4$ , we have  $\|A\|_F^2 \leq \epsilon^2$ ,  $\|a\| \neq 0$  and  $\min_{u \in \mathbb{C}^m: \|u\|=1} \|a-u\|^2 = \|a - a/\|a\|\|^2 = (1-\|a\|)^2$ . Together with  $1 = n^{-1} \|V\|_F^2 = n^{-1} \|a(z^*)^H\|^2 + n^{-1} \|\sqrt{n}A\|_F^2 = \|a\|^2 + \|A\|_F^2$ , we have

$$\ell_m(V, z^*) = (1 - \|a\|)^2 + 1 - \|a\|^2 = 2 - 2\|a\|.$$

Then  $\ell_m(V, z^*) \leq \epsilon^2$  leads to  $1 \geq \|a\| \geq 1 - \epsilon^2/2$ . Similarly for  $z$ , we have  $\|\beta\|^2 \leq \epsilon^2$ ,  $1 \geq |b| \geq 1 - \epsilon^2/2$  and  $1 = |b|^2 + \|\beta\|^2$ . Since  $\epsilon < 1/2$ , we have  $\|a\| + |b| > 1$ , and consequently  $|\|a\| - |b|| \leq \|a\| - |b| (\|a\| + |b|) = \|\|a\|^2 - |b|^2\|$ . Since  $\|a\|^2 + \|A\|_F^2 = |b|^2 + \|\beta\|^2$ , we have  $|\|a\|^2 - |b|^2| = |\|\beta\|^2 - \|A\|_F^2|$ . Together with  $\|A\|_F^2, \|\beta\|^2 \leq \epsilon^2$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} |\|a\| - |b|| &\leq |\|\beta\|^2 - \|A\|_F^2| = |\|\beta\| - \|A\|_F| (\|\beta\| + \|A\|_F) \\ (SM5.6) \quad &\leq 2\epsilon |\|\beta\| - \|A\|_F| \leq 2\epsilon \|A - d\beta^H\|_F. \end{aligned}$$

Note that

$$\begin{aligned} \|a - d\bar{b}\| &= \left\| a - \frac{a}{\|a\|} |b| + \frac{a}{\|a\|} \frac{b}{|b|} \bar{b} - d\bar{b} \right\| \\ &\leq \left\| a - \frac{a}{\|a\|} |b| \right\| + \left\| \left( \frac{a}{\|a\|} \frac{b}{|b|} - d \right) \bar{b} \right\| \\ &= |\|a\| - |b|| + \left\| \frac{a}{\|a\|} \frac{b}{|b|} - d \right\| |b| \\ &\leq 2\epsilon \|A - d\beta^H\|_F + \left\| \frac{a}{\|a\|} \frac{b}{|b|} - d \right\|, \end{aligned}$$

where in the last inequality we use  $|b| \leq 1$ . Hence, to establish (SM5.5), we only need to show

$$(SM5.7) \quad \left\| \frac{a}{\|a\|} \frac{b}{|b|} - d \right\| \leq 4\epsilon \|A - d\beta^H\|_F.$$

To prove (SM5.7), define  $d_0 = \frac{a}{\|a\|} \frac{b}{|b|} \in \mathbb{C}^m$ . Then  $\|d_0\| = 1$ . Similar to (SM5.2), we have  $\|V - d_0 z^H\|_F^2 = n \|a - d_0 \bar{b}\|^2 + n \|A - d_0 \beta^H\|_F^2$ . By the definition of  $d$ ,  $\|V - dz^H\|_F^2 \leq \|V - d_0 z^H\|_F^2$ , which leads to

$$\|a - d\bar{b}\|^2 + \|A - d\beta^H\|_F^2 \leq \|a - d_0 \bar{b}\|^2 + \|A - d_0 \beta^H\|_F^2.$$

Note that  $d_0 \bar{b} = a \frac{|b|}{\|a\|}$  is proportional to  $a$  and  $\|d_0 \bar{b}\| = \|d\bar{b}\| = |b|$ . Let  $\theta \in [0, \pi]$  be the angle between  $a$  and  $d\bar{b}$  in  $\mathbb{C}^m$ . By the cosine formula of triangles, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|a - d\bar{b}\|^2 &= \|a\|^2 + \|d\bar{b}\|^2 - 2\|a\| \|d\bar{b}\| \cos(\theta) = \|a\|^2 + |b|^2 - 2\|a\| |b| \cos(\theta) \\ \|a - d_0 \bar{b}\|^2 &= \left\| a - a \frac{|b|}{\|a\|} \right\|^2 = \|a\|^2 + |b|^2 - 2\|a\| |b| \end{aligned}$$

(SM5.8)

$$\text{and } \|d - d_0\|^2 = \|d\|^2 + \|d_0\|^2 - 2\|d\|\|d_0\|\cos(\theta) = 2(1 - \cos(\theta)).$$

Hence,  $\|a - d\bar{b}\|^2 - \|a - d_0\bar{b}\|^2 = 2\|a\|\|b\|(1 - \cos(\theta))$ . By the triangle inequality,  
 $\|A - d_0\beta^H\|_F - \|A - d\beta^H\|_F \leq \|(d_0 - d)\beta^H\|_F = \|d_0 - d\|\|\beta\| \leq \epsilon\|d_0 - d\|$  where in  
the last inequality we use  $\|\beta\| \leq \epsilon$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} 2\|a\|\|b\|(1 - \cos(\theta)) &\leq \|A - d_0\beta^H\|_F^2 - \|A - d\beta^H\|_F^2 \\ &= (\|A - d_0\beta^H\|_F - \|A - d\beta^H\|_F)(\|A - d_0\beta^H\|_F + \|A - d\beta^H\|_F + 2\|A - d\beta^H\|_F) \\ &\leq \epsilon\|d_0 - d\|(\epsilon\|d_0 - d\| + 2\|A - d\beta^H\|_F). \end{aligned}$$

By (SM5.8), it becomes  $\|a\|\|b\|\|d_0 - d\|^2 \leq \epsilon\|d_0 - d\|(\epsilon\|d_0 - d\| + 2\|A - d\beta^H\|_F)$ ,  
which further leads to

$$(\epsilon^{-1}\|a\|\|b\| - \epsilon)\|d_0 - d\| \leq 2\|A - d\beta^H\|_F.$$

Since  $\|a\|, \|b\| \geq 1 - \epsilon^2/2$ , we have  $\epsilon^{-1}\|a\|\|b\| - \epsilon \geq \epsilon^{-1}(1 - \epsilon^2/2)^2 - \epsilon \geq \epsilon^{-1}(1 - \epsilon^2) - \epsilon = \epsilon^{-1}(1 - 2\epsilon^2) > (2\epsilon)^{-1}$  where the last inequality is due to  $\epsilon < 1/2$ . Hence,  
 $(2\epsilon)^{-1}\|d_0 - d\| \leq 2\|A - d\beta^H\|_F$ , which establishes (SM5.7). The proof of the lemma  
is complete.  $\square$

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