# Solutions to Selected Exercises in High-Dimensional Probability

Yuze Han

Liangyu Zhang

January 6, 2021

# 1 Appetizer and preliminaries on random variable

Exercise 0.0.5

$$\left(\frac{n}{m}\right)^m \le \prod_{i=0}^{m-1} \frac{n-i}{m-i} = \binom{n}{m} \le \sum_{k=0}^m \binom{n}{k} \le \left(\frac{n}{m}\right)^m \sum_{k=0}^m \binom{n}{k} \left(\frac{m}{n}\right)^k \le \left(\frac{n}{m}\right)^m \left(1 + \frac{m}{n}\right)^n \le \left(\frac{en}{m}\right)^m.$$

**Exercise 0.0.6** Let  $k := \lceil 1/\epsilon^2 \rceil$ . The number of ways to choose k elements from an N-element set with repetitions is  $\binom{N+k-1}{k}$ . Exercise 2.2.5 implies

$$\binom{N+k-1}{k} \le \left(\frac{e(N+k-1)}{k}\right)^k \le \left(e+eN\epsilon^2\right)^{\lceil 1/\epsilon^2 \rceil}.$$

Exercise 1.3.3 Let  $\sigma^2 = \operatorname{Var}(X_1)$ .

$$\mathbb{E}\left|\frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{N}X_{i}-\mu\right| \leq \sqrt{\mathbb{E}\left(\frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{N}X_{i}-\mu\right)^{2}} \leq \sqrt{\frac{\sigma^{2}}{N}}.$$

Note that for a sequence of r.v.s  $\{X_n\}$ ,  $X_n \stackrel{d}{\to} X$  does not necessarily imply  $\mathbb{E} X_n \to \mathbb{E} X$ . And a sufficient condition for  $\mathbb{E} X_n \to \mathbb{E} X$  is uniform integrability.

# 2 Concentration of sums of independent random variables

#### Exercise 2.1.4

$$\mathbb{E} g^{2} \mathbf{1}_{\{g>t\}} = \int_{t}^{\infty} \frac{x^{2}}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-x^{2}/2} dx = \int_{t}^{\infty} \frac{x}{\sqrt{2\pi}} d\left(-e^{-x^{2}/2}\right) = t \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-t^{2}/2} + \mathbb{P} \left\{g > t\right\}$$

$$\leq \left(t + \frac{1}{t}\right) \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-t^{2}/2} \quad \text{(by Proposition 2.1.2)}$$

Exercise 2.2.7 We first prove the following lemma.

**Lemma.** If  $\mathbb{E} X = 0$  and  $a \le X \le b$ , we have  $\mathbb{E} e^{\lambda X} \le e^{\lambda^2 (b-a)^2/8}$ .

*Proof.* The convexity of  $e^x$  implies

$$\mathbb{E}\,e^{\lambda X} \leq \mathbb{E}\,\left(\frac{b-X}{b-a}e^{\lambda a} + \frac{x-a}{b-a}e^{\lambda b}\right) = e^{\phi(\lambda)},$$

where  $\phi(x) = \ln\left[\left(\frac{b}{b-a}e^{ax} + \frac{-a}{b-a}e^{bx}\right)\right]$ . One can prove that  $\phi(0) = 0$ ,  $\phi'(0) = 0$  and  $\phi''(x) \leq \frac{(b-a)^2}{4}$ . Taylor expansion gives the desired result. An alternative proof can be found in [1, Lemma 2.2]  $\Box$  For an arbitrary  $\lambda > 0$ ,

$$\mathbb{P}\left\{\sum_{i=1}^{N} (X_i - \mathbb{E} X_i) \ge t\right\} \le \exp(-\lambda t) \prod_{i=1}^{N} \mathbb{E} \exp(\lambda (X_i - \mathbb{E} X_i))$$

$$\le \exp(-\lambda t) \prod_{i=1}^{N} \exp(\lambda^2 (M_i - m_i)^2 / 8)$$

$$= \exp\left(\frac{1}{8} \sum_{i=1}^{N} (M_i - m_i)^2 \lambda^2 - t\lambda\right)$$

The minimum is attained for  $\lambda = \frac{4t}{\sum_{i=1}^{N} (M_i - m_i)^2}$ . This complete the proof of Hoeffding's inequality.

Exercise 2.2.8 Let  $X_i = \mathbf{1}_{\{\text{The algorithm returns the wrong answer at the i-th time}\}}$ . Then  $X_i \sim B\left(1, \frac{1}{2} - \delta\right)$ . As long as  $N \geq \frac{1}{2\delta^2} \ln(1/\epsilon)$ , Hoeffding's inequality implies

$$\mathbb{P}\left\{\sum_{i=1}^{N} X_i > \frac{1}{2}\right\} = \mathbb{P}\left\{\sum_{i=1}^{N} (X_i - \mathbb{E} X_i) > \delta N\right\} \le \exp\left(-2N\delta^2\right) \le \epsilon.$$

#### Exercise 2.2.9

(a) Let  $\hat{\mu} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} X_i$ . For  $N = 4\sigma^2/\epsilon^2$ ,

$$\mathbb{P} \{|\hat{\mu} - \mu| \ge \epsilon\} \le \frac{\operatorname{Var}(\hat{\mu})}{\epsilon^2} = \frac{\sigma^2}{N\epsilon^2} = \frac{1}{4}$$

(b) We repeat part (a) K times and obtain K independent sapmle means  $\hat{\mu}_1, \hat{\mu}_2, ..., \hat{\mu}_K$  with  $K = 8 \ln(1/\delta)$ . Denote their median by  $\tilde{\mu}$ . Let  $Y_i = \mathbf{1}_{|\hat{\mu}_1 - \mu| \geq \epsilon}$ . Then  $Y_i \sim B(1, p_i)$  with  $p_i \leq 1/4$ . Hoeffding's inequality implies

$$\mathbb{P}\left\{|\tilde{\mu} - \mu| \ge \epsilon\right\} \le \mathbb{P}\left\{\sum_{i=1}^K Y_i \ge \frac{K}{2}\right\} \le \mathbb{P}\left\{\sum_{i=1}^K (Y_i - \mathbb{E}Y_i) \ge \frac{K}{4}\right\} \le \exp\left(-\frac{K}{8}\right) \le \delta.$$

**Exercise 2.3.2** For an arbitrary  $\lambda > 0$ ,

$$\mathbb{P}\left\{S_N \le t\right\} = \mathbb{P}\left\{-\lambda S_N \ge -\lambda t\right\} \le e^{\lambda t} \prod_{i=1}^N \mathbb{E} \exp(-\lambda X_i) \le \exp\left(\lambda t + (e^{-\lambda} - 1)\mu\right).$$

Substituting  $\lambda = \ln(\mu/t)$  gives the desired result.

Exercise 2.3.5 By Theorem 2.3.1 and Exercise 2.3.2, we have

$$\mathbb{P} \{|S_N - \mu| \ge \delta \mu\} \le e^{-\mu} \left(\frac{e}{1+\delta}\right)^{(1+\delta)\mu} + e^{-\mu} \left(\frac{e}{1-\delta}\right)^{(1-\delta)\mu}$$

$$= \exp\left[\delta \mu - (1+\delta)\mu \ln(1+\delta)\right] + \exp\left[-\delta \mu - (1-\delta)\mu \ln(1-\delta)\right].$$

It suffices to prove

$$\delta - (1+\delta)\ln(1+\delta) \le -c\delta^2, \quad \delta \in (-1,1)$$

for some c > 0. We can choose  $c \le 2 \ln 2 - 1$ .

**Exercise 2.3.8** The ch.f. of  $\frac{X-\lambda}{\lambda}$  converges to  $\exp(-t^2/2)$  as  $\lambda \to \infty$ . Note that  $\forall \theta > 0$ ,  $\lim_{n \to \infty} f(n\theta) = a$  does not imply  $\lim_{x \to \infty} f(x) = a$ . See [3, Example 3.4.8] for an alternative proof.

**Exercise 2.4.2** Suppose  $d \leq C \log n$ . By Theorem 2.3.1

$$\mathbb{P}\left\{\exists i \leq n : d_i \geq KC \log n\right\} \leq \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{P}\left\{d_i \geq KC \log n\right\} \leq ne^{-d} \left(\frac{ed}{KC \log n}\right)^{KC \log n}$$
$$\leq ne^{KC \log n} K^{-KC \log n} \leq e^{(KC+1-KC \log K) \log n} \leq 0.1$$

for a sufficient large constant K.

#### Exercise 2.4.3

$$\mathbb{P}\left\{\exists i \leq n : d_i \geq K \frac{\log n}{\log \log n}\right\} \leq ne^{-d} \left(\frac{ed \log \log n}{K \log n}\right)^{K \log n / \log \log n}$$
$$\leq e^{-(K-1)\log n + o(\log n)} \leq 0.1$$

for a sufficient large constant K.

**Exercise 2.4.4** Take  $V' \subset V$  randomly of size  $\tilde{n} = n^{1/3}$  with vertex indices  $I = \{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_{\tilde{n}}\}$ . Let  $\tilde{d}_j$  denote the degree of the vertex  $j \in I$  of V' and  $\tilde{d}$  denote the expected degree. Then  $\tilde{d} = o\left(\frac{\log n}{n^{2/3}}\right)$ . It follows that  $\log \tilde{d}/\log n \le -2/3 + o(1)$ . We have

$$\mathbb{P}\left\{\exists i \leq \tilde{n}: \tilde{d}_i \geq 1\right\} \leq \tilde{n}e^{-\tilde{d}}e\tilde{d} \leq e^{\log \tilde{n} + \log \tilde{d} + 1} \leq 1 - \sqrt{0.9}$$

when n is sufficiently large. Denote  $A = \{\text{There are no edges between vertices in } V'\}$ . Then  $\mathbb{P}\{A\} \geq \sqrt{0.9}$ . Condition on  $A, \{d_j, j \in I\}$  are independent. By Poisson approximation (for the accuracy of Poisson approximation, see [6]), we obtain that for any  $j \in I$ ,

$$\mathbb{P}\left\{d_{j} = 10d \mid A\right\} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi 10d}} e^{-d} \left(\frac{ed}{10d}\right)^{10d} + O\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)$$
$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{20\pi}} \exp\left[-\left(10\log 10 + \frac{1}{2} - 9\right)d\right] + O\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)$$
$$\geq an^{-c}$$

for some constants a > 0 and 0 < c < 1 and sufficiently large n. Since  $d = o(\log n)$ , we may assume c < 1/3. It follows that

$$\mathbb{P} \left\{ \exists i : d_i = 10d \right\} \ge \mathbb{P} \left\{ \exists j \in I : d_j = 10d \right\}$$

$$\ge \mathbb{P} \left\{ \exists j \in I : d_j = 10d | A \right\} \mathbb{P} \left\{ A \right\}$$

$$= \left[ 1 - (1 - \mathbb{P} \left\{ d_i = 10d \right\})^{\tilde{n}} \right] \mathbb{P} \left\{ A \right\}$$

$$\ge \left[ 1 - \exp\left( -an^{1/3 - c} \right) \right] \mathbb{P} \left\{ A \right\}$$

$$\ge 0.9$$

when n is sufficiently large.

**Exercise 2.4.5** Take  $V' \subset V$  randomly of size  $\tilde{n} = n^{1/3}$  with vertex indices  $I = \{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_{\tilde{n}}\}$ . Let  $\tilde{d}_j$  denote the degree of the vertex  $j \in I$  of V' and  $\tilde{d}$  denote the expected degree. Then  $\tilde{d} = O\left(n^{-2/3}\right)$ . We have

$$\mathbb{P}\left\{\exists i \leq \tilde{n}: \tilde{d}_i \geq 1\right\} \leq \tilde{n}e^{-\tilde{d}}e\tilde{d} \leq e^{\log \tilde{n} + \log \tilde{d} + 1} \leq 1 - \sqrt{0.9}$$

when n is sufficiently large. Denote  $A = \{\text{There are no edges between vertices in } V'\}$ . Then  $\mathbb{P}\{A\} \geq \sqrt{0.9}$ . Condition on  $A, \{d_j, j \in I\}$  are independent. Let  $k = \frac{b \log n}{\log \log n}$  with b < 1/4

and  $n' = n - n^{1/3} = \Theta(n)$ . Assume  $1 \le d \le C$ . Then for any  $j \in I$ , we have

$$\mathbb{P}\left\{d_{i} = k \mid A\right\} = \binom{n'-1}{k} \left(\frac{d}{n-1}\right)^{k} \left(1 - \frac{d}{n-1}\right)^{n'-k-1} \\
\geq \frac{(n'-k)^{k}}{k!} \left(\frac{1}{n-1}\right)^{k} \left(1 - \frac{C}{n-1}\right)^{n'-k-1} \\
= \frac{1}{k!} \left(1 - \frac{k-1+n^{1/3}}{n-1}\right)^{k} e^{-C} (1+o(1)) \\
= \frac{e^{k}}{k^{k} \sqrt{2\pi k}} e^{-C} (1+o(1)) \\
= \exp\left(k - k \log k - \frac{1}{2} \log(2\pi k) - C\right) (1+o(1)) \\
= \exp(-b \log n(1+o(1))) \\
\geq n^{-1.1b}$$

when n is sufficiently large. Note that we can also use Poisson approximation to obtain the same inequality. It follows that

$$\mathbb{P} \left\{ \exists i : d_i = k \right\} \ge \mathbb{P} \left\{ \exists j \in I : d_j = k \right\}$$

$$\ge \mathbb{P} \left\{ \exists j \in I : d_j = k | A \right\} \mathbb{P} \left\{ A \right\}$$

$$= \left[ 1 - (1 - \mathbb{P} \left\{ d_i = k \right\})^{\tilde{n}} \right] \mathbb{P} \left\{ A \right\}$$

$$\ge \left[ 1 - \exp\left( -n^{1/3 - 1.1b} \right) \right] \mathbb{P} \left\{ A \right\}$$

$$\ge 0.9$$

when n is sufficiently large.

## Exercise 2.5.1

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{E} \, |X|^p &= 2 \int_0^\infty x^p \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-x^2/2} dx \\ &= \frac{2^{p/2}}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^\infty t^{\frac{p-1}{2}} e^{-t} dt \quad \text{(by change of variables } t = x^2 \text{)} \\ &= 2^{p/2} \frac{\Gamma((1+p)/2)}{\Gamma(1/2)}. \end{split}$$

(2.11) follows from Stirling's formula  $\Gamma(x+1) \sim \sqrt{2\pi x} \left(\frac{x}{e}\right)^x$ .

**Exercise 2.5.4** Assume  $K_4 = 1$ . By Jensen's inequality,

$$\lambda \mathbb{E} X \le \ln \mathbb{E} e^{\lambda X} \le \lambda^2.$$

Since  $\lambda$  is arbitrary,  $\mathbb{E} X = 0$ .

## Exercise 2.5.5

- (a) For  $\lambda^2 \ge 1/2$ ,  $\mathbb{E} \exp(\lambda^2 X^2) = \infty$ .
- **(b)** For  $M > \sqrt{K}$ , we have

$$\mathbb{P} \ (X > M) \leq \exp(-\lambda^2 M^2) \, \mathbb{E} \, \exp(\lambda^2 X^2) \leq \exp((K - M^2) \lambda^2).$$

Letting  $\lambda \to \infty$ ,  $\mathbb{P}$  (X > M) = 0.

Exercise 2.5.7 We only verify positive definiteness and the triangular inequality.

**positive definiteness** If  $||X||_{\psi_2} = 0$ ,  $\mathbb{E} \exp\left(X^2/t^2\right) \le 2$  for all t > 0. Then for all c > 0,  $\mathbb{P}(X > c) \le e^{-c^2/t^2} \mathbb{E} e^{X^2/t^2} \le 2e^{-c^2/t^2} \to 0$  as  $t \to 0$ . Thus X = 0.

triangular inequality Let  $a = ||X||_{\psi_2}$ ,  $b = ||Y||_{\psi_2}$ . Since  $e^{x^2}$  is convex, we have

$$\mathbb{E}\,\exp\left(\frac{X+Y}{a+b}\right)^2 \leq \frac{a}{a+b}\mathbb{E}\,\exp\left(\frac{X}{a}\right)^2 + \frac{b}{a+b}\mathbb{E}\,\exp\left(\frac{Y}{b}\right)^2 \leq 2.$$

Thus  $||X + Y||_{\psi_2} \le ||X||_{\psi_2} + ||Y||_{\psi_2}$ .

## Exercise 2.5.9

**Poisson** If  $X \sim Pois(\lambda)$ , we have  $\mathbb{P}(X \geq t) \geq \frac{\lambda^{\lceil t \rceil} e^{-\lambda}}{\lceil t \rceil!} = \Omega(e^{-t \ln t})$ .

**Exponential** If  $X \sim Exp(\lambda)$ , we have  $\mathbb{P}(X \ge t) = e^{-\lambda t}$ .

**Pareto** If  $X \sim Pa(a, \theta)$ , we have  $\mathbb{P}(X \ge t) = (a/t)^{\theta} = \Omega(e^{-\theta \ln t})$ .

Cauchy The expectation of Cauchy distribution dose not exist.

**Exercise 2.5.10** From the proof of Proposition 2.5.2, we can assume c = 1. Let  $Y_i = \frac{|X_i|}{\sqrt{1 + \log i}}$ . For  $t \ge \sqrt{2}K$ ,

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\max_{i} Y_{i} > t\right) \leq \sum_{i} \mathbb{P}\left(|X_{i}| > t\sqrt{1 + \log i}\right)$$

$$\leq \sum_{i} 2 \exp\left(-\frac{t^{2}(1 + \log i)}{K^{2}}\right)$$

$$= \sum_{i} 2 \exp\left(-\frac{t^{2}}{K^{2}}\right) i^{-t^{2}/K^{2}}$$

$$\leq C_{1} \exp\left(-\frac{t^{2}}{K^{2}}\right)$$

Then we have

$$\mathbb{E} \max_{i} Y_{i} = \int_{0}^{\infty} \mathbb{P} \left( \max_{i} Y_{i} > t \right) dt$$

$$= \sqrt{2}K + \int_{\sqrt{2}K}^{\infty} \mathbb{P} \left( \max_{i} Y_{i} > t \right) dt$$

$$\leq \sqrt{2}K + C_{1} \int_{0}^{\infty} \exp \left( -\frac{t^{2}}{K^{2}} \right)$$

$$\leq C_{2}K,$$

where  $C_1, C_2 > 0$  do not depend on any parameter. Finally, for every  $N \ge 2$ ,

$$\mathbb{E} \max_{i \le N} |X_i| \le \sqrt{1 + \log N} \, \mathbb{E} \, \max_i Y_i \le C_3 K \sqrt{\log N}.$$

Exercise 2.5.11 This proof is inspired by [7]. For a tight bound, see [4].

For  $N \geq 3$ , let  $A_N = \{ \max_{i \leq N} X_i \geq C_N \sqrt{\log N} \}$  with  $C_N = \sqrt{2 - \frac{\log \log N}{\log N}} > 1$ . First, we have

$$\mathbb{E} \max_{i \leq N} X_i = \mathbb{E} \left[ \max_{i \leq N} X_i \middle| A_N \right] \mathbb{P}(A_N) + \mathbb{E} \left[ \max_{i \leq N} X_i \middle| A_N^c \right] \mathbb{P}(A_N^c)$$

$$\geq C_N \sqrt{\log N} \, \mathbb{P}(A_N) + \mathbb{E} \left[ X_1 \middle| A_N^c \right] \mathbb{P}(A_N^c)$$

$$= C_N \sqrt{\log N} \, \mathbb{P}(A_N) + \mathbb{E} \left[ X_1 \middle| X_1 < C_N \sqrt{\log N} \right] (1 - \mathbb{P}(A_N))$$

$$\geq C_N \sqrt{\log N} \, \mathbb{P}(A_N) + \mathbb{E} \left[ X_1 \middle| X_1 < 0 \right] (1 - \mathbb{P}(A_N))$$

$$\geq \left( \sqrt{\log N} - \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \right) \mathbb{P}(A_N) - \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}}.$$

Now we bound  $\mathbb{P}(A_N)$ .

$$\mathbb{P}(A_N) = 1 - \left[1 - \mathbb{P}(X_1 \ge C_N \sqrt{\log N})\right]^N \\
\ge 1 - \left[1 - \frac{1}{C_N \sqrt{2\pi \log N}} \left(1 - \frac{1}{C_N^2 \log N}\right) N^{-C_N^2/2}\right]^N \\
\ge 1 - \exp\left[-\frac{1}{C_N \sqrt{2\pi \log N}} \left(1 - \frac{1}{C_N^2 \log N}\right) N^{1 - C_N^2/2}\right] \\
= 1 - \exp\left[-\frac{1}{C_N \sqrt{2\pi}} \left(1 - \frac{1}{C_N^2 \log N}\right)\right] \\
= 1 - \exp\left[\frac{1}{C_N \sqrt{2\pi}} \left(\frac{1}{2 \log N - \log \log N} - 1\right)\right] \\
\ge 1 - \exp\left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \left(\frac{1}{\log N} - 1\right)\right].$$

For  $N \geq 8$ ,  $\mathbb{P}(A_N) \geq 1 - \exp(-1/2\sqrt{2\pi}) \triangleq C$ . When  $N \geq \exp\left(\frac{8(C+1)^2}{\pi C^2}\right)$ , we obtain

$$\mathbb{E} \max_{i \le N} X_i \ge C \sqrt{\log N} - \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} (C+1) \ge \frac{C}{2} \sqrt{\log N}.$$

Since  $\mathbb{E} X_1 = 0$  and  $\mathbb{E} \max_{i \leq N} X_i > 0$  for  $N \geq 2$ , there exists c > 0 such that  $\mathbb{E} \max_{i \leq N} X_i \geq c\sqrt{\log N}$  for all  $N \geq 1$ .

Exercise 2.6.5 The lower bound follows from

$$\left\| \sum_{i=1}^{N} a_i X_i \right\|_{L^p} \ge \left\| \sum_{i=1}^{N} a_i X_i \right\|_{L^2} = \left( \sum_{i=1}^{N} a_i^2 \right)^{1/2}.$$

The upper bound follows from

$$\left\| \sum_{i=1}^{N} a_i X_i \right\|_{L^p} \leq C_1 \sqrt{p} \left\| \sum_{i=1}^{N} a_i X_i \right\|_{\psi_2} \leq C_2 \sqrt{p} \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{N} \left\| a_i X_i \right\|_{\psi_2}^2} \leq C K \sqrt{p} \left( \sum_{i=1}^{N} a_i^2 \right)^{1/2}.$$

Exercise 2.6.7 The upper bound follows from

$$\left\| \sum_{i=1}^{N} a_i X_i \right\|_{L^p} \le \left\| \sum_{i=1}^{N} a_i X_i \right\|_{L^2} = \left( \sum_{i=1}^{N} a_i^2 \right)^{1/2}.$$

To prove the lower bound, we first note that.

$$||Z||_{L^{2}}^{2} = \mathbb{E}|Z|^{p/2}|Z|^{2-p/2} \le ||Z|^{p/2}|_{L^{2}}||Z|^{2-p/2}||_{L^{2}} = ||Z||_{L^{p}}^{p/2}||Z||_{L^{4-p}}^{2-p/2}.$$

It follows that

$$\left\| \sum_{i=1}^{N} a_i X_i \right\|_{L^p} \ge \frac{\left\| \sum_{i=1}^{N} a_i X_i \right\|_{L^2}^{4/p}}{\left\| \sum_{i=1}^{N} a_i X_i \right\|_{L^{4-p}}^{4/p-1}} \ge \frac{\left( \sum_{i=1}^{N} a_i^2 \right)^{2/p}}{\left\lceil CK\sqrt{4-p} \left( \sum_{i=1}^{N} a_i^2 \right)^{1/2} \right\rceil^{4/p-1}} = c(K) \left( \sum_{i=1}^{N} a_i^2 \right)^{1/2}$$

with 
$$c(K) = (CK\sqrt{4-p})^{1-4/p}$$
.

**Exercise 2.6.9** Let X be  $\sqrt{\log 2}$  with probability 1/4 and  $-\sqrt{\log 2}$  with probability 3/4. We have  $\|X\|_{\psi_2} = 1$  but  $\mathbb{E} \exp(X - \mathbb{E} X)^2 > 2$ .

# Exercise 2.7.2

 $\mathbf{a} \Rightarrow \mathbf{b}$  Assume  $K_1 = 1$ . We have

$$\mathbb{E}\,|X|^p=\int_0^\infty pt^{p-1}\mathbb{P}\,(|X|\geq t)dt=2p\int_0^\infty t^{p-1}e^{-t}dt=2p\Gamma(p)\leq 2p^p.$$

 $\mathbf{b} \Rightarrow \mathbf{c}$  Assume  $K_2 = 1$ . For  $0 < \lambda < 1/2e$ ,

$$\mathbb{E} \exp(\lambda |X|) = \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^p \mathbb{E} |X|^p}{p!} \le \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^p \mathbb{E} |X|^p e^p}{p^p} \le \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} \lambda^p e^p = \frac{1}{1 - \lambda e} \le \exp(2e\lambda).$$

 $\mathbf{c} \Rightarrow \mathbf{d}$  is trivial.

 $\mathbf{d} \Rightarrow \mathbf{a}$  Assume  $K_4 = 1$ .  $\mathbb{P}(|X| \ge t) \le e^{-t} \mathbb{E} e^{|X|} \le 2e^{-t}$ .

## Exercise 2.7.3 We first state the proposition.

**Proposition.** Let X be a random variable. Then the following properties are equivalent; the parameters  $K_i > 0$  appearing in these properties differ from each other by at most an absolute constant factor.

(a) The tails of X satisfy

$$\mathbb{P}\{|X| \ge t\} \le 2\exp(-t^{\alpha}/K_1^{\alpha})$$
 for all  $t \ge 0$ .

(b) The moments of X satisfy

$$||X||_{L^p} = (\mathbb{E}|X|^p)^{1/p} \le K_2 \left(\frac{p}{\alpha}\right)^{1/\alpha} \quad \text{for all } p \ge 1.$$

(c) The MGF of  $|X|^{\alpha}$  satisfies

$$\mathbb{E} \exp(\lambda^{\alpha}|X|^{\alpha}) \le \exp(K_3^{\alpha}\lambda^{\alpha}) \quad \text{for all } \lambda \text{ such that } 0 \le \lambda \le \frac{1}{K_3}.$$

(d) The MGF of  $|X|^{\alpha}$  is bounded at some point, namely

$$\mathbb{E} \exp(|X|^{\alpha}/K_{4}^{\alpha}) \leq 2.$$

Moreover, if  $\mathbb{E} X = 0$  and  $\alpha \geq 2$ , then properties a-d are also equivalent to the following one.

(e) The MGF of X satisfies

$$\mathbb{E}\,\exp(\lambda X) \leq \exp\left(K_5^{\alpha/(\alpha-1)}|\lambda|^{\alpha/(\alpha-1)}\right) \quad \textit{for all } \lambda \in \mathbb{R}.$$

If  $1 < \alpha < 2$ , then properties a-d are also equivalent to the following one.

# (f) The MGF of X satisfies

$$\mathbb{E} \exp(\lambda X) \le \exp\left(K_6^{\alpha/(\alpha-1)}|\lambda|^{\alpha/(\alpha-1)}\right) \quad \textit{for all } |\lambda| \ge 1/2e.$$

Proof.

 $a \Rightarrow b$ . Assume  $K_1 = 1$ . Note that p is not necessarily an integer. For all  $p \ge 1$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}\left|X\right|^p = \int_0^\infty pt^{p-1}\mathbb{P}\left(|X| \geq t\right)dt = 2p\int_0^\infty t^{p-1}e^{-t^\alpha}dt = \frac{2p}{\alpha}\int_0^\infty u^{p/\alpha-1}e^{-u}du = 2\Gamma\left(\frac{p}{\alpha}+1\right).$$

There exists  $K_2 > 0$  such that  $\mathbb{E}|X|^p = 2\Gamma\left(\frac{p}{\alpha} + 1\right) \le K_2\left(\frac{p}{\alpha}\right)^{p/\alpha}$ .

b  $\Rightarrow$  c. Assume  $K_2 = 1$ . For  $0 < \lambda < 1/2e^{1/\alpha}$ ,

$$\mathbb{E} \exp(\lambda^{\alpha}|X|^{\alpha}) = \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^{\alpha p} \mathbb{E} |X|^{\alpha p}}{p!} \le \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^{\alpha p} p^p e^p}{p^p} \le \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} \lambda^{\alpha p} e^p = \frac{1}{1 - 2e\lambda^{\alpha}} \le \exp(2e\lambda^{\alpha}).$$

 $c \Rightarrow d$  is trivial.

 $d \Rightarrow a$ . Assume  $K_4 = 1$ .  $\mathbb{P}(|X| \ge t) \le e^{-t^{\alpha}} \mathbb{E} e^{|X|^{\alpha}} \le 2e^{-t^{\alpha}}$ .

b c  $\Rightarrow$  e. Assume  $K_2, K_3 \leq 1$ . Let  $\beta = \alpha/(\alpha - 1)$ . We have  $1 < \beta < \alpha$ . We have the following inequality

$$\exp(x) \le x + \exp(|x|^{\beta})$$
 for all  $x \in [-1, 1]$ .

It follows that

$$\mathbb{E} \exp(\lambda X) \leq \mathbb{E} \exp\left(|\lambda|^{\beta}|x|^{\beta}\right)$$

$$= \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} \frac{|\lambda|^{\beta p} \mathbb{E} |X|^{\beta p}}{p!}$$

$$\leq \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} |\lambda|^{\beta p} \left(\frac{\beta p}{\alpha}\right)^{\beta p/\alpha} \frac{e^{p}}{p^{p}}$$

$$= \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} |\lambda|^{\beta p} p^{p(\beta/\alpha - 1)} (\alpha - 1)^{-p/(\alpha - 1)} e^{p}$$

$$\leq \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} |\lambda|^{\beta p} (\alpha - 1)^{-p/(\alpha - 1)} e^{p}$$

$$= \frac{1}{1 - |\lambda|^{\beta} (\alpha - 1)^{-1/(\alpha - 1)} e}$$

$$\leq \exp\left(2(\alpha - 1)^{-1/(\alpha - 1)} e|\lambda|^{\beta}\right)$$

$$\leq \exp\left(2(2e)^{\beta} |\lambda|^{\beta}\right)$$

$$\leq \exp\left((2e)^{\beta} |\lambda|^{\beta}\right)$$

for all  $\lambda$  satisfying  $|\lambda|^{\beta} \leq (\alpha - 1)^{1/(\alpha - 1)}/2e$ . For  $\lambda$  with large absolute value, by Young's inequality,

$$\lambda x \le |\lambda||x| \le \frac{|\lambda|^{\beta}}{\beta} + \frac{|x|^{\alpha}}{\alpha}.$$

It follows that

$$\mathbb{E}\,e^{\lambda X} \leq e^{|\lambda|^\beta/\beta} \mathbb{E}\,e^{|X|^\alpha/\alpha} \leq e^{|\lambda|^\beta/\beta} e^{1/\alpha} \leq e^{C|\lambda|^\beta}$$

for  $|\lambda|^{\beta} \geq (\alpha - 1)^{1/(\alpha - 1)}/2e$  and  $C = \frac{\alpha - 1}{\alpha} + \frac{2e(\alpha - 1)^{-1/(\alpha - 1)}}{\alpha} \leq 2e + 1$ . Thus  $\mathbb{E} e^{\lambda X} \leq \exp\left[(2e + 1)^{\beta}|\lambda|^{\beta}\right]$ .  $e \Rightarrow a$ . Assume  $K_5 = 1$ . Let  $\lambda > 0$ .

$$\mathbb{P}\left(X \geq t\right) = \mathbb{P}\left(e^{\lambda X} \geq e^{\lambda t}\right) \leq e^{-\lambda t} \mathbb{E}\left(e^{\lambda X} \leq \exp\left(-\lambda t + \lambda^{\alpha/(\alpha-1)}\right)\right).$$

Substituting  $\lambda = t^{\alpha-1}(\alpha-1)^{\alpha-1}/\alpha^{\alpha-1}$  gives

$$\mathbb{P}\left(X \geq t\right) \leq \exp\left(-\frac{(\alpha - 1)^{\alpha - 1}}{\alpha^{\alpha}}t^{\alpha}\right) \leq \exp\left(-t^{\alpha}/2^{\alpha}\right).$$

Repeating this argument for -X, we obtain the same bound for  $\mathbb{P}(X \leq -t)$ . We conclude that

$$\mathbb{P}\left(|X| \ge t\right) \le 2\exp\left(-t^{\alpha}/2^{\alpha}\right).$$

c  $\Rightarrow$  f. Assume  $K_3=1$ . Let  $\beta=\alpha/(\alpha-1)$ . By Young's inequality,

$$\mathbb{E} e^{\lambda X} < e^{|\lambda|^{\beta}/\beta} \mathbb{E} e^{|X|^{\alpha}/\alpha} < e^{|\lambda|^{\beta}/\beta} e^{1/\alpha} < \exp\left(C|\lambda|^{\beta}\right)$$

for  $|\lambda| \ge 1/2e$  and  $C = \frac{1}{\beta} + \frac{(2e)^{\beta}}{\alpha} \le (2e+1)^{\beta}$ .

 $f \Rightarrow a$ . Assume  $K_6 = 1$ . If  $t \le 2(\log 2)^{1/\alpha}$ , we have  $2\exp(-t^{\alpha}/2^{\alpha}) \ge 1$ . Otherwise,

$$\lambda := t^{\alpha - 1} (\alpha - 1)^{\alpha - 1} / \alpha^{\alpha - 1} \ge 2^{\alpha - 1} (\log 2)^{(\alpha - 1) / \alpha} \frac{(\alpha - 1)^{\alpha - 1}}{\alpha^{\alpha - 1}} \ge 1 / 2e.$$

From the proof of  $e \Rightarrow a$ , we have

$$\mathbb{P}\left(|X| \ge t\right) \le 2\exp\left(-t^{\alpha}/2^{\alpha}\right).$$

**Exercise 2.7.4** Let  $X \sim Exp(1)$ . For  $|\lambda| < 1$ , we have  $\mathbb{E} \exp(\lambda X) = \frac{1}{1-\lambda}$ . Suppose  $f(x) := e^{kx} - \frac{1}{1-x} \ge 0$  for  $x \in [-\delta, \delta]$  with  $\delta > 0$ .  $f(\delta) \ge 0$  gives  $k \ge -\frac{\log(1-\delta)}{\delta} > 1$ . Then we have f'(0) > 0. Note that f(0) = 0. This induces a contradiction.

Exercise 2.7.11 The proof is similar to Exercise 2.5.7.

**Exercise 2.8.5** For |z| < 3, we have

$$e^z = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{z^k}{k|} \le 1 + z + \frac{z^2}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{|z|^k}{(k+2)!/2} \le 1 + z + \frac{z^2}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{|z|^k}{3^k} = 1 + z + \frac{z^2/2}{1 - |z|/3}.$$

Then

$$\mathbb{E} \exp(\lambda X) \le 1 + \mathbb{E} \frac{\lambda^2 X^2 / 2}{1 - \lambda |X| / 3} \le \exp(\mathbb{E} X^2 g(\lambda)).$$

Exercise 2.8.6

$$\mathbb{P}\left\{\sum_{i=1}^{N} X_i \ge t\right\} \le e^{-\lambda t} \prod_{i=1}^{N} e^{\lambda X_i} \le \exp\left(-\lambda t + g(\lambda)\sigma^2\right).$$

Substituting  $\lambda = \frac{t}{\sigma^2 + Kt/3}$  gives

$$\mathbb{P}\left\{\sum_{i=1}^{N} X_i \ge t\right\} \le \exp\left(-\frac{t^2/2}{\sigma^2 K t/3}\right).$$

Repeating the argument for  $-X_i$ , we obtain the same bound for  $\mathbb{P}\left\{\sum_{i=1}^N \leq -t\right\}$ . A combination of the two bounds completes the proof.

# 3 Random vectors in high dimensions

### Exercise 3.1.4

(a) By Theorem 3.1.1 we have  $|||X||_2 - \sqrt{n}||_{\psi_2} \le C_0 K^2$ . Recall that for sub-gaussian r.v. X,  $||X||_{L^p} \le C_1 ||X||_{\psi_2} \sqrt{p}$ , for all  $p \ge 1$ . Hence we have:

$$\|\mathbb{E} \|X\|_2 - \sqrt{n}\| \le \mathbb{E} \|X\|_2 - \sqrt{n}\| \le C_1 \|X\|_{\psi_2} \le C_0 C_1 K^2$$

The proof is completed.

(b) By the same argument used in (a) we can get  $\mathbb{E}(\|X\|_2 - \sqrt{n})^2 \leq (CK^2\sqrt{2})^2$ , which means  $2\sqrt{n}\mathbb{E}\|X\|_2 \geq n + \mathbb{E}\|X\|_2^2 - 2C^2K^4$ . Note that  $\mathbb{E}\|X\|_2^2 = n$ , thus  $\mathbb{E}\|X\|_2 \geq \sqrt{n} - 2C^2K^4/\sqrt{n} = \sqrt{n} + o(1)$ . And it is trivial that  $E\|X\|_2 \leq (E\|X\|_2^2)^{1/2} = \sqrt{n}$ . So the answer is yes.

**Exercise 3.1.5** Use Exercise 3.1.4 we have  $\mathbb{E} \|X\|_2 \ge \sqrt{n} - 2C^2K^4/\sqrt{n}$ . Therefore,

$$\operatorname{Var}(\|X\|_2) = \mathbb{E}\|X\|_2^2 - (\mathbb{E}\|X\|_2)^2 \le n - \left(\sqrt{n} - \frac{2C^2K^4}{\sqrt{n}}\right)^2 = 4C^2K^4 - \frac{4C^4K^8}{n}$$

The proof is completed.

#### Exercise 3.1.6 We have

$$\mathbb{E}(\|X\|_2 - \sqrt{n})^2 \le \frac{\mathbb{E}(\|X\| - \sqrt{n})^2 (\|X\| + \sqrt{n})^2}{n} = \frac{\mathbb{E}(\|X\|_2^2 - n)^2}{n}.$$

Note that

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{E} \left( \|X\|_2^2 - n \right)^2 &= \mathbb{E} \|X\|_2^4 + n^2 - 2n \mathbb{E} \|X\|_2^2 \\ &= \sum_{i \neq j} \mathbb{E} \, X_i^2 X_j^2 + \sum_i \mathbb{E} \, X_i^4 = n K^4 + n(n-1) + n^2 - 2n^2 \\ &\leq n K^4. \end{split}$$

Therefore we can get  $\text{Var}(\|X\|_2) \le \mathbb{E}(\|X\|_2 - \sqrt{n})^2 \le \mathbb{E}(\|X\|_2^2 - n)^2/n = K^4$ .

## **Exercise 3.1.7** For any $\lambda > 0$ , we have

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{P}\left(\|X\|_2 \leq \epsilon \sqrt{n}\right) &= \mathbb{P}\left(-\|X\|_2^2 \geq -\epsilon^2 n\right) \\ &= \mathbb{P}\left(e^{-\lambda \|X\|_2^2} \geq e^{-\lambda \epsilon^2 n}\right) \\ &\leq \frac{\mathbb{E}\left(e^{-\lambda \|X\|_2^2}\right)}{e^{-\lambda \epsilon^2 n}} \\ &= \left(\frac{\mathbb{E}\left(e^{-\lambda X_1^2}\right)}{e^{-\lambda \epsilon^2}}\right)^n \end{split}$$

and

$$\mathbb{E} e^{-\lambda x_1^2} = \int e^{-\lambda t^2} f(t) dt \le \int e^{-\lambda t^2} dt = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{\lambda}}.$$

Setting  $\lambda = \epsilon^{-2}$  yields

$$\mathbb{P}(\|X\|_2 \le \epsilon \sqrt{n}) \le \left(\frac{\mathbb{E} e^{-\lambda X_1^2}}{e^{-\lambda \epsilon^2}}\right)^n$$
$$\le (e^{\lambda \epsilon^2} \sqrt{\pi/\lambda})^n$$
$$= (e\sqrt{\pi}\epsilon)^n.$$

**Exercise 3.3.1** By rotational invariance property of X, it suffices to prove  $\mathbb{E}X_1^2 = 1$  and  $\mathbb{E}X_1X_2 = 0$ . Since we always have  $X_1^2 + \cdots + X_n^2 = n$ ,  $\mathbb{E}X_1^2 = 1$  holds by the rotational invariance, too. Note that  $X_1X_2 \stackrel{d}{=} -X_1X_2$ , so we have  $\mathbb{E}X_1X_2 = 0$ . It is obvious the coordinates of

X are not independent, as  $X_1^2 + \cdots + X_n^2 = n$  always holds.

**Exercise 3.3.7** Note that  $dg = r^{n-1}dr d\sigma(\theta)$ , where  $\sigma(\theta)$  denotes the area element of  $\mathbb{S}^{n-1}$ . Thus we have  $e^{-\|g\|_2^2/2}dg = Ce^{-r^2/2}r^{n-1}dr \cdot d\sigma(\theta)$ , which completes the proof.

#### Exercise 3.4.3

1. By triangular inequality we have

$$\|\langle X, x \rangle\|_{\psi_2} = \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n X_i x_i \right\|_{\psi_2}$$

$$\leq \sum_{i=1}^n \|X_i x_i\|_{\psi_2}$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i| \|X_i\|_{\psi_2}$$

$$\leq \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \|X_i\|_{\psi_2}^2 \right)^{1/2}, \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{S}^{n-1}.$$

The last inequality holds by Cauchy-Schwartz's inequality.

**2.** Let  $X_1 \sim N(0,1)$ , and we simply define  $X = (X_1, \dots, X_1)$ . Then

$$||X||_{\psi_2} \ge ||\langle X, 1_n/\sqrt{n}\rangle||_{\psi_2}$$
$$= \sqrt{n}||X_1||_{\psi_2}$$
$$\gg ||X_1||_{\psi_2}.$$

**Exercise 3.4.4** First we'll verify  $||X_i||_{\psi_2} = \sqrt{n/\log(n+1)}$ ,  $\forall i \leq n$ . Recall that:

$$||X_i||_{\psi_2} = \inf\{K > 0 : \mathbb{E} \exp\{X_i^2/K^2\} \le 2\}.$$

Let  $K = \sqrt{n/\log(n+1)}$  and plug it into  $\mathbb{E} \exp\{X^2/K^2\}$  yields:

$$\mathbb{E} \exp\{X_i^2/K^2\} = \frac{1}{n} \exp\{n/K^2\} + \frac{n-1}{n}$$
$$= \frac{n+1}{n} + \frac{n-1}{n}$$
$$= 2.$$

So  $||X_i||_{\psi_2} = \sqrt{n/\log(n+1)}$ ,  $i \le n$ , and  $||X||_{\psi_2} \ge ||\langle X, e_i \rangle||_{\psi_2} = ||X_i||_{\psi_2} = \sqrt{n/\log(n+1)}$ . In addition,  $\forall x \in \mathbb{S}^{n-1}$ , we have

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{E} \, \exp\{\langle X,x\rangle^2/K^2\} &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \exp\{nx_i^2/K^2\} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{n} \exp\{n/K^2\} + \frac{n-1}{n} \quad \text{(by Karamata's inequality)} \\ &= \mathbb{E} \, \exp\{X_i^2/K^2\} \end{split}$$

Therefore,  $||X||_{\psi_2} \le ||X_i||_{\psi_2} = \sqrt{n/\log(n+1)}$ . And we may conclude that  $||X||_{\psi_2} = \sqrt{n/\log(n+1)}$ .

## Exercise 3.4.5 Recall that:

$$||X||_{\psi_2} = \sup_{\|\mathbf{y}\|=1} \inf\{K > 0 : \mathbb{E} \exp\{(X^{\top}\mathbf{y})^2/K^2\} \le 2\}.$$

By the assumption  $||X||_{\psi_2} \leq C$ ,

$$\exists C_0 > 0, \text{ s.t. } \mathbb{E} \exp\{(X^\top \mathbf{y})^2 / C_0^2\} \le 3, \ \forall \ \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{S}^{d-1}.$$

Let  $T := \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{|T|}\}, P(X = \mathbf{x}_i) := p_i.$ 

$$p_j \exp\{(\mathbf{x}_j^{\top} \mathbf{y})^2 / C_0^2\} \le \sum_{i=1}^{|T|} p_i \exp\{(\mathbf{x}_i^{\top} \mathbf{y})^2 / C_0^2\} = \mathbb{E} \exp\{(X^{\top} \mathbf{y})^2 / C_0^2\} \le 3$$

Thus

$$\left(\mathbf{x}_{j}^{\top}\mathbf{y}\right)^{2} \leq C_{0}^{2} \ln \frac{3}{p_{j}}, \ \forall \ \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{S}^{d-1}.$$

Therefore

$$\|\mathbf{x}_j\|^2 \le C_0^2 \ln \frac{3}{p_j}, \ \forall \ \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{S}^{d-1}.$$

Notice that  $\mathbb{E}XX^{\top} = I_n$  (X is isotropic),

$$n = \operatorname{tr}\left(\mathbb{E}XX^{\top}\right) = \sum_{i=1}^{|T|} p_i \|\mathbf{x}_i\|_2^2 \le \sum_{i=1}^{|T|} C_0^2 p_i \ln \frac{3}{p_i} \le t_0^2 \ln(3|T|).$$

The last inequality follows from  $x \ln x$  is convex and Jensen inequality. Hence

$$|T| \ge \frac{1}{3} \exp\left\{\frac{n}{C_0^2}\right\}.$$

**Exercise 3.4.7** Since X enjoys the rotational invariance property, it suffices to prove  $||X_1||_{\psi_2} \leq C$ . Define  $Y = \sqrt{n} \frac{X}{||X||_2}$ , it follows that  $Y \sim \text{Unif}(\sqrt{n}\mathbb{S}^{n-1})$ . From Theorem 3.4.6 we know  $||Y_1||_{\psi_2} \leq C$ , and  $|Y_1| \geq |X_1|$  always holds. So we can get  $||X_1||_{\psi_2} \leq C$ .

#### Exercise 3.4.9

(a) By rotational invariance we have  $\mathbb{E} X_i X_j = 0$ ,  $i \neq j$  and  $\mathbb{E} X_1^2 = \cdots \mathbb{E} X_n^2$ . Then it is clear that one can make the distribution isotropic by scaling the ball. We denote a *n*-dimensional  $l_1$ -ball of radius r by  $B_n(r)$ . Suppose  $X \sim \text{Unif}(B_n(1))$ , then

$$\mathbb{P}(|X_1| \le t) = \int_{-t}^{t} \int_{-1+|x_1|}^{1-|x_1|} \cdots \int_{-1+|x_1|+\dots+|x_{n-1}|}^{1-|x_1|-\dots-|x_{n-1}|} \frac{1}{\operatorname{Vol}(B_n(1))} dx_n \dots dx_2 dx_1$$

$$= \int_{-t}^{t} \frac{\operatorname{Vol}(B_{n-1}(1-|x_1|))}{\operatorname{Vol}(B_n(1))} dx_1$$

$$= \int_{-t}^{t} (1-|x_1|)^{n-1} dx_1 \frac{\operatorname{Vol}(B_{n-1}(1))}{\operatorname{Vol}(B_n(1))}$$

Setting t=1 yields  $\mathbb{P}(|X_1| \leq 1) = \frac{2}{n} \frac{\text{Vol}(B_{n-1}(1))}{\text{Vol}(B_n(1))} = 1$ , so

$$\mathbb{P}(|X_1| > t) = 1 - \frac{n}{2} \int_{-t}^{t} (1 - |x_1|)^{n-1} dx_1 = (1 - t)^n.$$

Now using results from Exercise 1.2.3 we have:

$$\mathbb{E} X_1^2 = \int_0^1 2t \mathbb{P}(|X_1| > t) dt = \int_0^1 2t (1-t)^n dt = \frac{2}{(n+1)(n+2)}.$$

Therefore the scale factor should be  $r = \sqrt{(n+1)(n+2)/2}$ .

(b) Using similar argument in part (a), we may get for  $X \sim \text{Unif}(B_n(r))$ ,

$$\mathbb{P}(|X_1| > t) = \left(1 - \frac{t}{r}\right)^n \to e^{-t}, \ n \to \infty,$$

since  $r \approx n$ . So obviously  $||X_1||_{\psi_2}$  is not bounded by any an absolute constant as n grows, and neither is  $||X||_{\psi_2}$ .

Exercise 3.4.10 (This example is copied from https://mathoverflow.net/questions/326183/)Define  $\mu_X = \frac{1}{2}\mu_{aZ} + \frac{1}{2}\mu_{bZ}$ , where  $\mu_U$  denotes the probability distribution of a random vector U,  $Z \sim N(0, I_n)$ , and a, b are constants such that 0 < a < 1 < b,  $a^2 + b^2 = 2$ . Then one can verify that X is isotropic. For any unit vector u and a real number s > 0,

$$\mathbb{E} \exp\left\{ \langle X, u \rangle^2 / s^2 \right\} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{1 - 2a^2 / s^2}} + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{1 - 2b^2 / s^2}} < 2,$$

if s is large enough (depending only on a, b), so that by the definition of sub-gaussian norm we have  $||X||_{\psi_2} \leq s$ .

On the other hand, let  $t := (b-1)\sqrt{n}/2$ , we have

$$\begin{split} 2\mathbb{E}\,e^{(\|X\|-\sqrt{n})^2/t^2} &> \mathbb{E}\,e^{(\|bZ\|-\sqrt{n})^2/t^2} \\ &> \mathbb{E}\,e^{(\|bZ\|-\sqrt{n})^2/t^2} \mathbf{1}_{\|Z\|^2>n} \\ &> e^{(b\sqrt{n}-\sqrt{n})^2/t^2} \mathbb{P}\left(\|Z\|^2>n\right) \\ &= e^4 \mathbb{P}\left(\|Z\|^2>n\right) \to e^4/2 \\ &> 4, \end{split}$$

since  $\mathbb{P}(\|Z\|^2 > n) \to 1/2$  by CLT. Therefore,  $\|\|X\| - \sqrt{n}\|_{\psi_2} \ge t = (b-1)\sqrt{n}/2 \to \infty$ , as desired.

### Exercise 3.5.3 First we'll prove the following lemma:

**Lemma.** Suppose A is either positive-semidefinite or has zero diagonal, we have

$$\max_{x \in \{-1,1\}^n} |\langle Ax, x \rangle| = \max_{x \in \{-1,0,1\}^n} |\langle Ax, x \rangle|$$

*Proof.* Obviously we have  $\max_{x \in \{-1,1\}^n} |\langle Ax, x \rangle| \leq \max_{x \in \{-1,0,1\}^n} |\langle Ax, x \rangle|$ . And next we will prove  $\max_{x \in \{-1,1\}^n} |\langle Ax, x \rangle| \geq \max_{x \in \{-1,0,1\}^n} |\langle Ax, x \rangle|$ .

When A is positive-semidefinite, we always have  $|\langle Ax, x \rangle| = \langle Ax, x \rangle$ , and  $\langle Ax, x \rangle$  is convex in x. Also note that  $[-1, 1]^n = \text{conv}\{u : u \in \{-1, 1\}^n\}$  is a polyhedron with vertices  $\{u : u \in \{-1, 1\}^n\}$ , so  $\langle Ax, x \rangle$  must attain its maximum at one of the vertices. Then we may get

$$\max_{x \in \{-1,0,1\}^n} \langle Ax, x \rangle \le \max_{x \in [-1,1]^n} \langle Ax, x \rangle = \max_{x \in \{-1,1\}^n} \langle Ax, x \rangle$$

When A has zero diagonal, suppose

$$\max_{x\in\{-1,1\}^n}|\langle Ax,x\rangle|<\max_{x\in\{-1,0,1\}^n}|\langle Ax,x\rangle|,$$

define  $x_0 = \operatorname{argmax}_{x \in \{-1,0,1\}^n} \langle Ax, x \rangle$ , then  $x_0$  has at least one zero coordinate, thus we can assume  $x_0(i_0) = 0$ . Consider  $x \in \{-1,0,1\}^n$  such that  $x(j) = x_0(j)$ ,  $\forall j \neq i_0$ , we have

$$\langle Ax, x \rangle - \langle Ax_0, x_0 \rangle = 2 \sum_{j \neq i_0} a_{i_0 j} x(i_0) x(j) = 2x(i_0) \sum_{j \neq i_0} a_{i_0 j} x(j).$$

Then setting  $x_1 = x_0 + \operatorname{sgn}(\langle Ax_0, x_0 \rangle) \cdot \operatorname{sgn}(\sum_{j \neq i_0} a_{i_0 j} x(j)) \cdot e_{i_0}$  yields  $|\langle Ax_1, x_1 \rangle| \geq |\langle Ax_0, x_0 \rangle|$ . Repeat this procedure for at most n times we will get a  $x_* \in \{-1, 1\}^n$  such that  $|\langle Ax_*, x_* \rangle| \geq |\langle Ax_0, x_0 \rangle|$ , which is a contradiction.

Suppose  $x,y \in \{-1,1\}^n$ , by polarization identity we'll get  $\langle Ax,y \rangle = \langle Au,u \rangle - \langle Av,v \rangle$ , where  $u=(x+y)/2 \in \{-1,0,1\}$  and  $v=(x-y)/2 \in \{-1,0,1\}$ . Since A is positive-semidefinite or has zero diagonal and  $|\langle Ax,x \rangle| \leq 1$ ,  $\forall x \in \{-1,1\}^n$ , from the lemma we know  $|\langle Au,u \rangle| \leq 1$ ,  $|\langle Av,v \rangle| \leq 1$ . Thus  $|\langle Ax,y \rangle| \leq |\langle Au,u \rangle| + |\langle Av,v \rangle| = 2$ ,  $\forall x,y \in \{-1,1\}$ . Then the conclusion holds via Grothendieck's inequality.

**Exercise 3.6.4** The algorithm is simple. We may just repeat the procedure in Proposition 3.6.3, and terminate as long as the number of cuts exceeds  $(0.5 - \epsilon)|E|$ . Define  $p_0 = \mathbb{P}$  (a single try fails), then we may find

$$p_0 = \mathbb{P}\left(\frac{1}{4} \sum_{i,j=1}^n A_{ij} (1 - x_i x_j) \le \left(\frac{1}{2} - \epsilon\right) |E|\right)$$
$$= \mathbb{P}\left(\frac{1}{4} \sum_{i,j=1}^n A_{ij} x_i x_j \ge \epsilon |E|\right)$$
$$= \mathbb{P}\left(\frac{1}{4} \sum_{i,j=1}^n A_{ij} \operatorname{sign}(x_i) \operatorname{sign}(x_j) \ge \epsilon |E|\right)$$

Let  $f(x) = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{i,j=1}^{n} A_{ij} \operatorname{sign}(x_i) \operatorname{sign}(x_j)$ . By Theorem 2.9.1, we have

$$p_0 \le \exp\left(-\frac{8\epsilon^2|E|^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n d_i^2}\right),\,$$

where  $d_i$  is the degree of the *i*-th vertex. It remains to bound  $\sum_{i=1}^{n} d_i^2$ . D.de Caen has proved [2]

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} d_i^2 \le |E| \left( \frac{2|E|}{n-1} + n - 2 \right) \quad \text{when } n \ge 2.$$

Then we obtain

$$p_0 \le \exp\left(-\frac{8\epsilon^2 |E|}{2|E|/(n-1) + n - 2}\right)$$
 when  $n \ge 2$ .

Futhermore, the number of runs needed N obeys the geometric distribution with parameter  $1 - p_0$ . And  $\mathbb{P}(N < \infty) = 1$ ,  $\mathbb{E} N = 1/(1 - p_0)$ .

**Exercise 3.6.7** First we set  $(X_1, X_2) := (\langle g, u \rangle, \langle g, v \rangle) \sim N(0, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \cos \alpha \\ \cos \alpha & 1 \end{bmatrix})$ , then we have

$$\mathbb{E} \operatorname{sign}\langle g, u \rangle \operatorname{sign}\langle g, v \rangle$$

$$= \mathbb{P}(X_1 > 0, X_2 > 0) + \mathbb{P}(X_1 \le 0, X_2 \le 0) - \mathbb{P}(X_1 \le 0, X_2 > 0) - \mathbb{P}(X_1 > 0, X_2 \le 0)$$

$$= 2\mathbb{P}(X_1 > 0, X_2 > 0) - (1 - 2\mathbb{P}(X_1 > 0, X_2 > 0)) \quad \text{(by symmetry)}$$

$$=4\mathbb{P}(X_1>0, X_2>0)-1$$

Note that  $(X_1, X_2) \stackrel{d}{=} (Z_1, \sin \alpha Z_1 + \cos \alpha Z_2)$ , where  $(Z_1, Z_2) \sim N(0, I_2)$ . So

$$\mathbb{P}(X_1 > 0, X_2 > 0) = \mathbb{P}(Z_1 > 0, \sin \alpha Z_1 + \cos \alpha Z_2 > 0) = \frac{\pi - \alpha}{2\pi}.$$

Thus  $\mathbb{E}\operatorname{sign}\langle g,u\rangle\operatorname{sign}\langle g,v\rangle=4\mathbb{P}\left(X_1>0,X_2>0\right)-1=(\pi-2\alpha)/\pi=2\arcsin{\langle u,v\rangle/\pi}.$ 

# 4 Random matrices

**Exercise 4.1.6** Choose  $x \in S^{n-1}$  such that  $||A^{\top}A - I_n|| = \langle (A^{\top}A - I_n)x, x \rangle$ . Note that (4.7) implies  $|||Ax||_2 - 1| \leq \delta$ . Then we have

$$||A^{\top}A - I_n|| = |||Ax||_2^2 - 1| = |||Ax||_2 - 1| (||Ax||_2 + 1) \le \delta(2 + \delta) \le 3 \max(\delta, \delta^2).$$

**Exercise 4.2.5 (b)** Let  $T = \{0,1\}^3$  with d being the Hamming distance. Consider  $K = \{(1,0,0),(1,1,0),(1,1,1)\}$  and  $\epsilon = 1.2$ . Then  $\mathcal{P}(K,d,1.1) = 2$ . However, there are 3 disjoint balls with centers in K and radii  $\epsilon/2$ .

Exercise 4.2.9 The first inequality is trivial. To prove the second inequality, let  $\mathcal{N} = \{x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_{|\mathcal{N}|}\}$  be an  $(\epsilon/2)$ -net of K without requiring  $\mathcal{N} \subset K$ . For each  $x_i \in \mathcal{N}$ , there exists  $\tilde{x}_i \in K$  such that  $||x_i - \tilde{x}_i|| \le \epsilon/2$  and  $B(x_i, \epsilon/2) \subset B(\tilde{x}_i, \epsilon)$ . It follows that  $K \subset \bigcup_{i=1}^{|\mathcal{N}|} B(x_i, \epsilon/2) \subset \bigcup_{i=1}^{|\mathcal{N}|} B(\tilde{x}_i, \epsilon)$ , which implies  $\mathcal{N}(K, d, \epsilon) \le \mathcal{N}^{\text{ext}}(K, d, \epsilon/2)$ .

**Exercise 4.2.10** Let  $T = \mathbb{R}^n$  with d being the Euclidean distance. Consider  $K = B_2^n$ ,  $L = B_2^n \setminus \{0\}$  and  $\epsilon = 1$ . We have  $\mathcal{N}(K, d, \epsilon) = 1$  but  $\mathcal{N}(L, d, \epsilon) > 1$ . The second inequality follows from Exercise 4.2.9 and the monotonicity of  $\mathcal{N}^{\text{ext}}(K, d, \epsilon)$ .

**Exercise 4.2.16** Let  $B_m = \{x \in K : d_H(x, e_0) \leq m\} \subset K$  where  $e_0 = (0, 0, \dots, 0)$ . By symmetry,  $\mathcal{N}(K, d_H, m) \geq \frac{|K|}{|B_m|}$  and  $\mathcal{P}(K, d_H, m) \leq \frac{|K|}{|B_{m/2}|}$ . Since  $|K| = 2^n$ ,  $|B_m| = \sum_{k=0}^m \binom{n}{k}$  and  $|B_{m/2}| = \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor m/2 \rfloor} \binom{n}{k}$ , we get the desired inequality.

# Exercise 4.3.7

- (a) If  $\mathcal{P}(\{0,1\}^n, d_H, 2r) \leq 2^k 1$ , for any encoding may E, there exist  $x, y \in \{0,1\}^k$  such that  $d_H(E(x), E(y)) \leq 2r$  and we can find  $z \in \{0,1\}^n$  such that  $d_H(E(x), z) \leq r$  and  $d_H(E(y), z) \leq r$ . If we receive z, we can not determine whether the original letter is x or y.
- (b) Note that  $f(\delta) \geq h(\delta)$  where  $h(\delta) = -x \log_2(x) (1-x) \log_2(1-x)$ . The upper bound  $R \leq 1 f(\delta)$  is tighter than the Hamming bound in Section 4.8. We prove a weaker result  $R \leq 1 \delta \log_2(\frac{1}{\delta})$ . From part (a), we have  $\mathcal{P}(\{0,1\}^n, d_H, 2r) \geq 2^k$ . Combining Exercise 0.0.5 and 4.2.16, we obtain

$$2^k \le \frac{2^n}{\sum_{k=0}^r \binom{n}{k}} \le \frac{2^n}{(n/r)^r}.$$

It follows that  $R \leq 1 - \delta \log_2(\frac{1}{\delta})$ .

**Exercise 4.4.4** If  $\mu \leq 0$ , Lemma 4.4.1 implies

$$\sup_{x \in S^{n-1}} |\|Ax\| - \mu| = \sup_{x \in S^{n-1}} \|Ax\| - \mu \le \frac{1}{1 - \epsilon} \left( \sup_{x \in \mathcal{N}} \|Ax\| - \mu \right) = \frac{1}{1 - \epsilon} \sup_{x \in \mathcal{N}} |\|Ax\| - \mu|.$$

If  $\mu > 0$ , without loss of generality we assume  $\mu = 1$ .

When ||A|| > 2, we have  $\sup_{x \in S^{n-1}} |||Ax|| - 1| = ||A|| - 1$  and  $\sup_{x \in \mathcal{N}} |||Ax|| - 1| \ge (1 - \epsilon)||A|| - 1$ . It follows that

$$\sup_{x \in S^{n-1}} |\|Ax\| - 1| = \frac{(1-\epsilon)\|A\| - 1 - \epsilon(\|A\| - 2)}{1 - 2\epsilon} \le \frac{1}{1 - 2\epsilon} \sup_{x \in \mathcal{N}} |\|Ax\| - 1|.$$

When  $||A|| \le 2$ , by Exercise 4.4.3, we have

$$\sup_{x \in S^{n-1}} |\|Ax\| - 1| \leq \sup_{x \in S^{n-1}} |\|Ax\|^2 - 1| \leq \frac{1}{1 - 2\epsilon} \sup_{x \in \mathcal{N}} |\|Ax\|^2 - 1| \leq \frac{3}{1 - 2\epsilon} \sup_{x \in \mathcal{N}} |\|Ax\| - 1|$$

Thus we can choose C=3.

Exercise 4.4.6 By Lemma 1.2.1 and change of variables,

$$\mathbb{E} \|A\| = \int_0^\infty \mathbb{P} \{\|A\| \ge u\} du$$

$$\le CK \left(\sqrt{m} + \sqrt{n}\right) + \int_{CK \left(\sqrt{m} + \sqrt{n}\right)}^\infty \mathbb{P} \{\|A\| \ge u\} du$$

$$= CK \left(\sqrt{m} + \sqrt{n}\right) + CK \int_0^\infty \mathbb{P} \{\|A\| \ge CK \left(\sqrt{m} + \sqrt{n} + t\right)\} dt$$

$$= CK \left(\sqrt{m} + \sqrt{n}\right) + 2CK \int_0^\infty \exp(-t^2) dt$$

$$\le \tilde{C}K \left(\sqrt{m} + \sqrt{n}\right)$$

for  $m, n \geq 1$ .

**Exercise 4.4.7** Let  $A_1^{\top}$  denote the first row of A and  $A_{\cdot 1}$  denote the first column of A. Note that  $Ae_1 = A_{\cdot 1}$  and  $A^{\top}\tilde{e}_1 = A_1$ . where  $e_1 = (1, 0, 0, \dots, 0)^{\top} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\tilde{e}_1 = (1, 0, 0, \dots, 0)^{\top} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ . Then we have

$$||A|| = \frac{||A|| + ||A^{\top}||}{2} \ge \frac{||A_{\cdot 1}|| + ||A_{1 \cdot 1}||}{2}.$$

By Exercise 3.1.4,  $\mathbb{E} ||A|| \ge C(\sqrt{m} + \sqrt{n})$  for some C > 0.

**Exercise 4.5.4** For any i, we have

$$\lambda_{i}(S) = \max_{\dim E = i} \min_{x \in S(E)} \langle Sx, x \rangle$$

$$\leq \max_{\dim E = i} \min_{x \in S(E)} (\langle Tx, x \rangle + \langle (S - T)x, x \rangle)$$

$$\leq \max_{\dim E = i} \min_{x \in S(E)} \langle Tx, x \rangle + \|S - T\|$$

$$= \lambda_{i}(T) + \|S - T\|$$

By symmetry,  $\max_i |\lambda_i(S) - \lambda_i(T)| \le ||S - T||$ .

Exercise 4.6.2 Denote  $M = \left\| \frac{1}{m} A^{\top} A - I_n \right\|$ . Consider  $u = K^2 \max(\delta, \delta^2)$  with  $\delta = C\left(\sqrt{\frac{n}{m}} + \frac{t}{\sqrt{m}}\right)$ . When  $t \leq \sqrt{m}/C - \sqrt{n}$ ,  $u = K^2 C\left(\sqrt{\frac{n}{m}} + \frac{t}{\sqrt{m}}\right) \leq K^2$ . Otherwise,  $u = K^2 C^2 \left(\sqrt{\frac{n}{m}} + \frac{t}{\sqrt{m}}\right)^2 \geq K^2$ .

By Lemma 1.2.1 and change of variables,

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{E}\,M &= \int_0^{K^2} \mathbb{P}\,\{M \geq u\} du + \int_{K^2}^\infty \mathbb{P}\,\{M \geq u\} du \\ &= K^2 \wedge \left(K^2 C \sqrt{\frac{n}{m}}\right) + \int_{K^2 \wedge \left(K^2 C \sqrt{\frac{n}{m}}\right)}^{K^2} \mathbb{P}\,\{M \geq u\} du \\ &+ \left(K^2 C^2 \frac{n}{m}\right) \vee K^2 - K^2 + \int_{\left(K^2 C^2\right) \frac{n}{m} \vee K^2}^\infty \mathbb{P}\,\{M \geq u\} du \\ &\leq K^2 C \sqrt{\frac{n}{m}} + \frac{2K^2 C}{\sqrt{m}} \int_0^\infty \exp(-t^2) dt + \frac{K^2 C^2 n}{m} + \frac{4K^2 C^2}{m} \int_0^\infty \left(\sqrt{n} + t\right) \exp(-t^2) dt \\ &\leq \tilde{C} K^2 \left(\sqrt{\frac{n}{m}} + \frac{n}{m}\right) \end{split}$$

for some  $\tilde{C} \geq 0$  and  $m, n \geq 1$ .

**Exercise 4.6.4** Note that for any  $x \in S^{n-1}$ ,  $Ax \in \mathbb{R}^m$  satisfy the assumptions of Theorem 3.1.1. Let  $\mathcal{N}$  be an 1/4-net of  $S^{n-1}$ . By Exercise 4.4.4, we have

$$\mathbb{P}\left\{\sup_{x\in S^{n-1}}|\|Ax\| - \sqrt{m}| \ge u\right\} \le \mathbb{P}\left\{\sup_{x\in \mathcal{N}}|\|Ax\| - \sqrt{m}| \ge \frac{u}{6}\right\} \le 9^n \cdot 2\,\exp\left(-\frac{Cu^2}{K^4}\right)$$

for some C > 0. Taking  $u = \tilde{C}K^2(\sqrt{n} + t)$  for a sufficiently large  $\tilde{C}$ , we obtain the desired result.

**Exercise 4.7.3** Recall Theorem 4.6.1 and note that with  $\delta = C\left(\sqrt{\frac{n}{m}} + \frac{t}{\sqrt{m}}\right)$  and  $u = t^2$ , we have

$$\max(\delta, \delta^2) \le \delta + \delta^2 \le C\left(\sqrt{\frac{n}{m}} + \sqrt{\frac{u}{m}}\right) + 2K^2C^2\left(\frac{n}{m} + \frac{u}{m}\right) \le \tilde{C}\left(\sqrt{\frac{n+u}{m}} + \frac{n+u}{m}\right),$$

where  $\tilde{C} = 2 \max(C, C^2)$ .

# 5 Concentration without independence

**Exercise 5.1.8** For any  $x \in \sqrt{n}S^{n-1}$  such that  $0 \le x_1 \le t/\sqrt{2}$ , let

$$\tilde{x} = (0, \text{sign}(x_2)\sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2}, x_3, x_4, \cdots, x_n)$$

We have  $\tilde{x} \in H$  and

$$||x - \tilde{x}||^2 = x_1^2 + \left(x_2 - \operatorname{sign}(x_2)\sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2}\right)^2 = 2x_1^2 + 2x_2^2 - 2|x_2|\sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2} \le t^2.$$

**Exercise 5.1.11** Let d(x,y) denote the length of the shortest arc connecting x and y. Without loss of generality, we assume  $x = Re_1$  and  $y = R(e_1 \cos \theta + e_2 \sin \theta)$  with R > 0 and  $0 \le \theta \le \pi$ . Then we have  $||x - y|| = 2R \sin \frac{\theta}{2}$  and  $d(x,y) = R\theta$ . It follows that  $||x - y|| \le d(x,y) \le \pi/2||x - y||$ .

**Exercise 5.1.13** It suffices to prove the upper bound. Without loss of generality, we assume that  $\mathbb{E} Z = 0$  and  $K = \|Z\|_{\psi_2}$ . For any  $t \geq 0$ , we have  $\mathbb{P}(Z \geq t) \leq 2 \exp(-c_1 t^2/K^2)$  for some  $c_1 > 0$ . Setting  $t = K\sqrt{\log 4/c_1}$  yields  $\mathbb{P}(Z \geq K\sqrt{\log 4/c_1}) \leq 1/2$ , which implies  $M \leq K\sqrt{\log 4/c_1}$ . Similarly, we can prove  $M \geq -K\sqrt{\log 4/c_1}$ . Thus  $\|Z - M\|_{\psi_2} \leq \|Z\|_{\psi_2} + \|M\|_{\psi_2} \leq CK$  for some C > 0.

**Exercise 5.1.15** Let  $X \sim \text{Unif}(S^{n-1})$ . For any fixed  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k \in S^{n-1}$ , Exercise 5.1.12 implies

$$\mathbb{P}(\exists i : |\langle X, x_i \rangle| \ge \epsilon) \le 2k \exp(-cn\epsilon^2)$$

for some c > 0. There exists  $x_{k+1} \in S^{n-1}$  such that  $|\langle x_{k+1}, x_i \rangle| \le \epsilon$  for all  $1 \le i \le k$  as long as  $k < \exp(cn\epsilon^2)/2$ . By induction, we can construct  $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N\}$  such that  $|\langle x_i, x_j \rangle| \le \epsilon$  for all  $i \ne j$  with  $N = \lceil \exp(cn\epsilon^2)/2 - 1 \rceil \ge \exp(cn\epsilon^2/2)$  for sufficiently large n.

**Exercise 5.2.3** We only prove the blow-up inequality. Let  $\sigma$  denote the Gaussian measure on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Define  $H = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : x_1 \leq 0\}$ . If  $A \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  such that  $\sigma(A) \geq 1/2$ , Theorem 5.2.1 implies that  $\sigma(A_t) \geq \sigma(H_t)$  for any  $\epsilon \geq 0$ . Note that  $H_t = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : x_1 \leq t\}$ . Then  $\sigma(H_t) = 1 - \mathbb{P}(g > t)$  where  $g \sim N(0,1)$ . By Proposition 2.1.2, we have

$$\mathbb{P}(g > t) \le \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-t^2/2} \le e^{-t^2/2}, & \text{for } t \ge 1, \\ \frac{1}{2} \le e^{-t^2/2}, & \text{for } 0 < t < 1. \end{cases}$$

It follows that  $\sigma(A_t) \ge 1 - \exp(-t^2/2)$ .

**Exercise 5.2.4** Denote  $K = ||f(X) - \mathbb{E}f(X)||_{\psi_2}$ . Since f is non-negative, we have

$$\begin{split} \|f(X) - \|f(X)\|_p\|_{\psi_2} &\leq \|f(X) - \mathbb{E} f(X)\|_{\psi_2} + \|\|\mathbb{E} f(X)\|_p - \|f(X)\|_p\|_{\psi_2} \\ &\leq K + \|\|f(X) - \mathbb{E} f(x)\|_p\|_{\psi_2} \\ &\leq K + C_1 \sqrt{p} K \\ &\leq C_2 (1 + \sqrt{p}) \|f\|_{\text{Lip}} \end{split}$$

for some  $C_1, C_2 > 0$ .

**Exercise 5.2.14** Let  $X \sim N(0, I_n)$ . By rotation variance, it suffices to define  $\phi(X) = \frac{X}{\|X\|} g(\|X\|)$  where  $g : \mathbb{R}_+ \to \mathbb{R}_+$ . Since  $\|X\|^2 \sim \chi_n^2$ , we take  $g(r) = \sqrt{n} [F_n(r^2)]^{1/n}$  where  $F_n$  is the c.d.f of  $\chi_n^2$ . To check the Lipschitz continuity, we first prove the following lemma.

**Lemma.** Suppose  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $||x|| \ge ||y||$ . Then we have  $||x - \tilde{x}|| + ||\tilde{x} - y|| \le \sqrt{2}||x - y||$  percolation where  $\tilde{x} = ||y||x/||x||$ .

Proof. Let  $\pi(x)$  denote the projection onto  $||y||B_2^n$ . Then  $\tilde{x} = \pi(x)$  and  $y \in ||y||B_2^n$ . Since  $||y||B_2^n$  is a closed convex set, we have that for any  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $z \in ||y||B_2^n$ ,  $\langle x - \pi(x), \pi(x) - z \rangle \geq 0$ . It follows that

$$||x - y||^2 = ||x - \pi(x)||^2 + ||\pi(x) - y||^2 + 2\langle x - \pi(x), \pi(x) - y\rangle$$

$$\geq ||x - \pi(x)||^2 + ||\pi(x) - y||^2$$

$$\geq \frac{(||x - \pi(x)|| + ||\pi(x) - y||)^2}{2}$$

Note that g(r) is an increasing function and g(0) = 0. Then we have

$$\|\phi\|_{\text{Lip}} \leq \sqrt{2} \max \left\{ \sup_{r \in \mathbb{R}_{+}} g'(r), \sup_{\|x\| = \|y\|, \|x - y\| > 0} \frac{\|\phi(x) - \phi(y)\|}{\|x - y\|} \right\}$$

$$\leq \sqrt{2} \max \left\{ \sup_{r \in \mathbb{R}_{+}} g'(r), \sup_{r \in \mathbb{R}_{+}} \frac{g(r)}{r} \right\}$$

$$\leq \sqrt{2} \sup_{r \in \mathbb{R}_{+}} g'(r).$$

Let  $f_n$  denote the p.d.f. of  $\chi_n^2$ . We have  $g'(r) = 2n^{-1/2}rf_n(r^2)[F_n(r^2)]^{1/n-1}$ . Note that  $F_n(x) = \gamma(n/2, x/2)/\Gamma(n/2)$  where the lower incomplete gamma function  $\gamma(s, x)$  is defined as  $\gamma(s, x) = \int_0^s t^{s-1}e^{-t}dt$ . Then

$$g'(r) = \frac{n^{-1/2}r^{n-1}e^{-r^2/2}}{\left[\Gamma(n/2)\right]^{1/n}2^{n/2-1}}\left[\gamma(n/2, r^2/2)\right]^{1/n-1}$$

Edward Neuman has proved [5]

$$\gamma(a,x) \ge \frac{x^a}{a} \exp\left(\frac{-ax}{a+1}\right).$$

It follows that

$$\begin{split} g'(r) &\leq \frac{n^{-1/2} r^{n-1} e^{-r^2/2}}{\left[\Gamma(n/2)\right]^{1/n} 2^{n/2-1}} \left[ \frac{r^n}{2^{n/2-1} n} \exp\left(\frac{-nr^2}{2(n+2)}\right) \right]^{1/n-1} \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{n} 2^{1/n-1/2}}{n^{1/n} \left[\Gamma(n/2)\right]^{1/n}} \exp\left(-\frac{3r^2}{2(n+2)}\right) \\ &\leq \frac{\sqrt{2n}}{\left[\Gamma(n/2)\right]^{1/n}}. \end{split}$$

Stirling's approximation implies  $\sup_{r \in \mathbb{R}_+} g'(r) \leq C$  for some constant C > 0 independent of n. Thus  $\phi$  is Lipschitz continuous.

**Exercise 5.3.3** Assume that  $A = (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m)^{\top}$ ,  $\max_{1 \leq i \leq m} ||a_i||_{\psi_2} \leq K$  and  $K \geq 1$ . It suffices to prove that for any ||x|| = 1, and t > 0

$$\left| \mathbb{P}\left( \left| \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \|Ax\| - 1 \right| \ge t \right) \le 2 \exp\left( -\frac{cmt^2}{K^2} \right)$$

for some c > 0. Note that  $\mathbb{E}(a_i^\top x)^2 = n$ . Denote  $s = \max(t, t^2)$ . Recalling (3.2) and Corollary 2.8.3, we have

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\left|\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\|Ax\| - 1\right| \ge t\right) \le \mathbb{P}\left(\left|\frac{1}{n}\|Ax\|^2 - 1\right| \ge s\right)$$

$$\le 2\exp\left(-c\min\left(\frac{s^2}{K^4}, \frac{s}{K^2}\right)m\right)$$

$$\le 2\exp\left(-\frac{cmt^2}{K^4}\right).$$

**Exercise 5.3.4** Let  $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n$  be an orthonormal basis of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and P be the orthogonal projection onto an m-dimensional subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Denote  $Q = \frac{n}{m}P$ . Suppose that  $\|Qx_i - Qx_j\| \ge (1 - \epsilon)\|x_i - x_j\| = \sqrt{2}(1 - \epsilon)$  for any  $i \ne j$ . For any  $\epsilon \le 1 - 1/\sqrt{2}$ ,  $\{Qx_i\}_{i=1}^n$  is 1-separated. By Proposition 4.2.12 and Corollary 4.2.13, we have  $n \le 3^m$ . Since N = n,  $m \ll \log N$  can not hold.

**Exercise 5.4.11** Denote  $\sigma^2 = \left\| \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbb{E} X_i^2 \right\|$  and  $Y = \left\| \sum_{i=1}^N X_i \right\|$ . Setting  $u = -\log n + \frac{t^2/2}{\sigma^2 + Kt/3}$  yields

$$t = \frac{K(\log n + u)}{3} + \sqrt{\frac{K^2(\log n + u)^2}{9} + 2\sigma^2(\log n + u)} \le \frac{2K(\log n + u)}{3} + \sqrt{2}\sigma\sqrt{\log n + u}.$$

Then we have

$$\mathbb{P}\left(Y \ge C\sigma\sqrt{\log n + u} + CK(\log n + u)\right) \le 2e^{-u}$$

with  $C = \sqrt{2}$ . By Lemma 1.2.1 and change of variables,

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{E} Y &\leq C\sigma\sqrt{\log n} + CK\log n + \int_{C\sigma\sqrt{\log n} + CK\log n}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(Y \geq v)dv \\ &= C\sigma\sqrt{\log n} + CK\log n + 2C\int_{0}^{\infty} \left(K + \frac{\sigma}{2\sqrt{\log n + u}}\right)e^{-u}du \\ &= C\sigma\sqrt{\log n} + CK\log n + 2C\int_{0}^{\infty} \left(K + \frac{\sigma}{2\sqrt{u}}\right)e^{-u}du \\ &\leq \tilde{C}\Big(\sigma\sqrt{1 + \log n} + K(1 + \log n)\Big) \end{split}$$

for some constant  $\tilde{C} > 0$ .

**Exercise 5.4.13** Denote  $\sigma^2 = \left\| \sum_{i=1}^N A_i^2 \right\|$  and  $Y = \left\| \sum_{i=1}^N \epsilon_i A_i \right\|$ . Setting  $u = -\log n + t^2/2\sigma^2$  yields  $t = \sqrt{2}\sigma\sqrt{\log n + u}$ . Then we have

$$\mathbb{P}\left(Y \ge \sqrt{2}\sigma\sqrt{\log n + u}\right) \le 2e^{-u}.$$

By Lemma 1.2.1 and change of variables,

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{E}\,Y^p &\leq \left(\sqrt{2}\sigma\sqrt{\log n}\right)^p + \int_{\sqrt{2}\sigma\sqrt{\log n}}^{\infty} pt^{p-1}\mathbb{P}\,(Y \geq t)dt \\ &\leq \left(\sqrt{2}\sigma\sqrt{\log n}\right)^p + 2p\int_0^{\infty} \left(\sqrt{2}\sigma\sqrt{\log n + u}\right)^{p-1} \frac{\sqrt{2}\sigma}{2\sqrt{\log n + u}}e^{-u}du \\ &= \left(\sqrt{2}\sigma\sqrt{\log n}\right)^p + p\left(\sqrt{2}\sigma\right)^p\int_0^{\infty} (\log n + u)^{p/2-1}e^{-u}du \\ &\leq \left(\sqrt{2}\sigma\sqrt{\log n}\right)^p + p\left(\sqrt{2}\sigma\right)^p\int_0^{\infty} \max\{1, 2^{p2-2}\} \left((\log n)^{p/2-1} + u^{p/2-1}\right)e^{-u}du \\ &\leq C^p\sigma^p(p + \log n)^{p/2} \end{split}$$

for some constant C > 0.

**Exercise 5.4.14 (b)** This proof is inspired by Exercise 3.18 of [1] and [8]. Note that S is positive definite and  $S_{ii} \sim B(N, 1/n)$ . Thus  $||S|| = \max_{1 \le i \le n} S_{ii}$ . Suppose that  $an \le N \le bn$  for some 0 < a < b. We first give an upper bound of  $\mathbb{E} \max_{1 \le i \le n} S_{ii}$ . By Jensen's inequality,

$$\exp\left(\lambda \mathbb{E} \max_{1 \le i \le n} S_{ii}\right) \le \mathbb{E} \exp\left(\lambda \max_{1 \le i \le n} S_{ii}\right) \le \mathbb{E} \max_{1 \le i \le n} \exp(\lambda S_{ii}) \le \sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbb{E} \exp(\lambda S_{ii})$$

for any  $\lambda > 0$ . Since  $\mathbb{E} \exp(\lambda S_{ii}) = (e^{\lambda}/n + 1 - 1/n)^N \le \exp(N(e^{\lambda} - 1)/n) \le \exp(b(e^{\lambda} - 1))$ , it follows that

$$\mathbb{E} \exp(\lambda S_{ii}) \le \frac{\log n + b(e^{\lambda} - 1)}{\lambda}.$$

Let W(x) denote the solution to  $W(x)e^{W(x)}=x$  for x>0. The upper bound is minimized for  $\lambda=1+W\left(\frac{\log n-b}{eb}\right)$ , which yields

$$\mathbb{E} \|S\| \le \frac{\log n - b}{\lambda - 1} = \frac{\log n - b}{W\left(\frac{\log n - b}{eb}\right)}.$$

Note that for  $x \ge e$ ,  $W(x) \ge \log x - \log \log x$ . When n is sufficiently large, we have

$$\mathbb{E} \|S\| \le \frac{\log n - b}{\log\left(\frac{\log n - b}{eb}\right) - \log\log\left(\frac{\log n - b}{eb}\right)} \le \frac{2\log n}{\log\log n}.$$

The proof of the lower bound is based on the following lemma.

**Lemma.** Let  $X_1, X_2, \ldots, X_n$  be Bernoulli random variables and  $X = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$ . If (a)  $\mathbb{E} X_i = \mathbb{E} X_1$  for any  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , (b)  $\max_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} \mathbb{E} X_i X_j \leq (1 + o(1))(\mathbb{E} X_1)^2$  and (c)  $n\mathbb{E} X_1 \to \infty$ , then  $\mathbb{P}(X = 0) = o(1)$ .

*Proof.* By Chebyshev's inequality,

$$\mathbb{P}\left(X=0\right) \leq \mathbb{P}\left(\left|X-\mathbb{E}\,X\right| \geq \mathbb{E}\,X\right) \leq \frac{\mathrm{Var}\left(X\right)}{\left(\mathbb{E}\,X\right)^2} = \frac{\mathbb{E}\,X^2}{\left(\mathbb{E}\,X\right)^2} - 1.$$

Since

$$\mathbb{E} X^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E} X_i^2 + 2 \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=i+1}^n \mathbb{E} X_i X_j = n \mathbb{E} X_1 + n(n-1) (\mathbb{E} X_1)^2 \le \mathbb{E} X + (\mathbb{E} X)^2,$$

it follows that

$$\frac{\mathbb{E}X^2}{(\mathbb{E}X)^2} \le \frac{1}{\mathbb{E}X} + 1 = 1 + o(1).$$

Thus 
$$\mathbb{P}(X = 0) = o(1)$$
.

Now we establish the lower bound. Let  $k = \frac{\eta \log n}{\log \log n}$  for some  $0 < \eta < 1$  and  $X_i = \mathbf{1}_{\{S_{ii} \geq k\}}$ . Clearly.  $\mathbb{E} X_i = \mathbb{E} X_1$ . Moreover,

$$n\mathbb{E} X_{1} \geq n\mathbb{P} (S_{11} = k)$$

$$= n \binom{N}{k} \left(\frac{1}{n}\right)^{k} \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right)^{N-k}$$

$$\geq \frac{n}{k!} \frac{(an - k)^{k}}{n^{k}} \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right)^{bn-k}$$

$$= \frac{ne^{k}}{k^{k} \sqrt{2\pi k}} a^{k} e^{-b} (1 + o(1))$$

$$= \exp\left(\log n + k - k \log k + k \log a - \frac{1}{2} \log(2\pi k) - b\right) (1 + o(1))$$

$$= \exp((1 - \eta) \log n(1 + o(1))).$$

Then condition (c) is satisfied. Finally, we verify the condition (b). For any  $1 \le i < j \le n$ , we have

$$\mathbb{E} X_i X_j = \mathbb{P} \left( S_{ii} \ge k, S_{jj} \ge k \right)$$

$$= \sum_{l=k}^{N-k} \sum_{m=k}^{N-l} \binom{N}{l} \binom{N-l}{m} \left( \frac{1}{n} \right)^{l+m} \left( 1 - \frac{2}{n} \right)^{N-l-m}$$

$$\le \sum_{l=k}^{N} \sum_{m=k}^{N} \binom{N}{l} \binom{N}{m} \left( \frac{1}{n} \right)^{l+m} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{n} \right)^{2N-2l-2m}$$

$$= \left[ \sum_{l=k}^{N} \binom{N}{l} \left( \frac{1}{n} \right)^{l} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{n} \right)^{N-2l} \right]^2$$

Note that for  $k \leq l < N$ ,

$$\frac{\binom{N}{l+1}\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)^{l+1}\left(1-\frac{1}{n}\right)^{N-2l-2}}{\binom{N}{l}\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)^{l}\left(1-\frac{1}{n}\right)^{N-2l}} = \frac{(N-l)n}{(l+1)(n-1)^2} \le \frac{(bn-k)n}{(k+1)(n-1)^2}.$$

Denote  $\lambda \triangleq \frac{(bn-k)n}{(k+1)(n-1)^2}$ . Since  $\lambda = o(1)$ , it follows that

$$\mathbb{E} X_i X_j \le \left[ \binom{N}{k} \left( \frac{1}{n} \right)^k \left( 1 - \frac{1}{n} \right)^{N-2k} \frac{1}{1 - \lambda} \right]^2$$

$$\le (\mathbb{E} X_1)^2 \left( 1 - \frac{1}{n} \right)^{-2k} \frac{1}{(1 - \lambda)^2}$$

$$= (1 + o(1))(\mathbb{E} X_1)^2$$

The lemma implies

$$\mathbb{E} \|S\| = \mathbb{E} \max_{1 \le i \le n} S_{ii} \ge k \, \mathbb{P} \left( \max_{1 \le i \le n} S_{ii} \ge k \right) = k \, \mathbb{P} \left( \sum_{i=1}^{n} X_i > 0 \right) \ge \frac{\eta \log n}{2 \log \log n}$$

when n is sufficiently large. Therefore, we have  $\mathbb{E} \|S\| \approx \frac{\log n}{\log \log n}$ .

Exercise 5.6.5 This argument is inspired by Remark 5.42 of [10]. Suppose Y is an isotropic random vector in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with an arbitrary distribution and  $\xi$  is a  $\{0,1\}$ -valued random variable independent of Y with  $\mathbb{E}\xi = \delta$ . Let  $X_i$  be independent copies of  $\delta^{-1/2}\xi Y$ . Then  $\Sigma = \mathbb{E}X_iX_i^{\top} = I_n$ , but  $\Sigma_m = 0$  with probability at least  $(1 - \delta)^m$ . For any m, we can find  $\delta$  such that  $(1 - \delta)^m \geq 0.9$ .

Exercise 5.6.7 Let  $X \sim \text{Unif}(\sqrt{n}e_i : i = 1, 2, ..., n)$  where  $\{e_i\}_{i=1}^n$  is the canonical basis of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Then  $\Sigma = \mathbb{E} X X^\top = I_n$ . Suppose that we sequentially throw m balls into n bins by placing each ball into a bin chosen independently and uniformly at random.  $\|\Sigma_m\|/n$  is the maximum number of balls in any bin. If  $m \ll n \log n$ , Theorem 1 of [8] implies that

$$\mathbb{E} \|\Sigma_m - \Sigma\| \ge \mathbb{E} \|\Sigma_m\| - 1 \ge \frac{n \log n}{2m \log \frac{n \log n}{m}} - 1$$

for sufficiently large n. Thus  $\|\Sigma_m - \Sigma\| \le \epsilon \|\Sigma\|$  can not hold.

Exercise 5.6.8 We prove that for every  $t \geq t_0$ , (5.22) holds with probability at least  $1 - 2n^{-ct^2}$ , where  $t_0$  and c are absolute constants. Without loss of generality, we assume  $K \geq 1$ . Let  $X_i = \frac{1}{m} (A_i A_i^{\top} - I_n)$ . Just like in the proof of Theorem 5.6.1, we can obtain  $||X_i|| \leq \frac{2K^2n}{m}$  and  $||\mathbb{E} \sum_{i=1}^m X_i^2|| \leq \frac{K^2n}{m}$ . Denote  $\delta = Kt\sqrt{\frac{n\log n}{m}}$  and  $\epsilon = \max(\delta, \delta^2)$ . By matrix Bernstein's inequality, we have

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\left\|\sum_{i=1}^m X_i\right\| \geq \epsilon\right) \leq 2n \exp\left[-\frac{c'm}{K^2n} \min(\epsilon, \epsilon^2)\right] \leq 2n \exp\left(-\frac{c'm}{K^2n} \delta^2\right) = 2n^{1-c't^2}$$

for some c'>0. Since  $\sum_{i=1}^m X_i=\frac{1}{m}A^\top A-I_n$ , Lemma 4.1.5 implies that (5.22) holds with probability at least  $1-2n^{1-c't^2}$ . Then we can find  $t_0$  and c such that  $1-c't^2\leq ct^2$  for every  $t\geq t_0$ .

# 6 Quadratic forms, symmertrization, and contraction

## Exercise 6.1.5

**Lemma.** Let Y and Z be independent random vectors s.t.  $\mathbb{E} Z = 0$ . Then for every convex and increasing function F, one has

$$\mathbb{E} F(||Y||) \le \mathbb{E} F(||Y+Z||)$$

*Proof.* We have the fact that for every convex and increasing function  $F, F(\|\cdot\|)$  is also convex.

Then it is straightforward to see:

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{E}_{\,Y} F(\|Y\|) &= \mathbb{E}_{\,Y} F(\|\mathbb{E}_{\,Z}(Y+Z)\|) \\ &\leq \mathbb{E}_{\,Y} \mathbb{E}_{\,Z} F(\|Y+Z\|) \qquad \text{(Jensen's inequality)} \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{\,Y,Z} F(\|Y+Z\|) \qquad \text{(independence)} \end{split}$$

With the lemma above, we may then complete the proof via similar arguments as in the proof of Theorem 6.1.1. Specifically, we have

$$\mathbb{E}_{X}F\left(\left\|\sum_{i\neq j}X_{i}X_{j}u_{ij}\right\|\right)$$

$$=\mathbb{E}_{X}F\left(\left\|\mathbb{E}_{\delta}\sum_{i\neq j}4\delta_{i}(1-\delta_{j})X_{i}X_{j}u_{ij}\right\|\right)$$

$$=\mathbb{E}_{X,X'}F\left(\left\|\mathbb{E}_{I}\sum_{i\in I,j\in I^{c}}4X_{i}X'_{j}u_{ij}\right\|\right)$$

$$\leq \mathbb{E}_{I}\mathbb{E}_{X,X'}F\left(4\left\|\sum_{i\in I,j\in I^{c}}X_{i}X'_{j}u_{ij}\right\|\right) \quad \text{(Jensen's inequality)}$$

So there exists  $I_0 \in \{1, ..., n\}$ , such that

$$\mathbb{E}_{X}F\left(\left\|\sum_{i\neq j}X_{i}X_{j}u_{ij}\right\|\right) \leq \mathbb{E}_{X,X'}F\left(4\left\|\sum_{i\in I_{0},j\in I_{0}^{c}}X_{i}X_{j}'u_{ij}\right\|\right)$$

$$\leq \mathbb{E}_{X,X'}F\left(4\left\|\sum_{i,j}X_{i}X_{j}'u_{ij}\right\|\right) \qquad \text{(by the lemma we just proved)}$$

**Exercise 6.2.5** Note that  $\left\|\frac{A+A^{\top}}{2}\right\| \leq \|A\|$  holds for any norm. Without loss of generality, we may assume A is symmetric. We define  $S = X^{\top}AX$  for ease of notation. Suppose  $A = \sum_i s_i u_i u_i^{\top}$ , we may get

$$S = X^{\top} \left( \sum_{i} s_i u_i u_i^{\top} \right) X = \sum_{i} s_i (X^{\top} u_i)^2.$$

Since  $X \sim N(0, I_n)$ ,  $X^{\top}u_i$  are independent standard normal random variables. Then using Proposition 2.7.1, we obtain

$$\mathbb{E} \exp (\lambda (S - \mathbb{E} S)) = \prod_{i} \mathbb{E} \exp (\lambda s_{i} ((X^{\top} u_{i})^{2} - \mathbb{E} (X^{\top} u_{i})^{2}))$$

$$\leq \prod_{i} \exp (C\lambda^{2} s_{i}^{2})$$

$$= \exp (C\lambda^{2} ||A||_{F}),$$

provided  $\lambda^2 s_i^2 \leq C$ ,  $\forall 1 \leq i \leq n$ . The remaining part is straightforward. Specifically,

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{P}\left(|S - \mathbb{E}\,S| \geq t\right) &= 2\mathbb{P}\left(S - \mathbb{E}\,S \geq t\right) \\ &= 2\mathbb{P}\left(\exp\left(\lambda(S - \mathbb{E}\,S)\right) \geq \exp\left(\lambda t\right)\right) \\ &\leq 2\mathbb{E}\,\exp\left(\lambda(S - \mathbb{E}\,S)\right) / \exp\left(\lambda t\right) \\ &\leq 2\exp\left(C\lambda^2\|A\|_F - \lambda t\right) \\ &\leq 2\exp\left(-c\min\{t^2/\|A\|_F^2, t/\|A\|\}\right) \quad \text{(optimizing over } 0 \leq \lambda \leq c/\|A\|\text{)}. \end{split}$$

**Exercise 6.2.6** If X and g are independent, then given X,  $g^{\top}BX \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \|BX\|_2^2)$ , and  $\mathbb{E}_g(\exp(\mu g^{\top}BX)) = \exp(\mu^2 \|BX\|_2^2/2)$ . Now setting  $\lambda = \mu/\sqrt{2}$  we have

$$\mathbb{E}_{X} \exp\left(\lambda^{2} \|BX\|_{2}^{2}\right) = \mathbb{E}_{X} \mathbb{E}_{g} \left(\exp\left(\sqrt{2}\lambda g^{\top}BX\right)\right) = \mathbb{E}_{g} \mathbb{E}_{X} \left(\exp\left(\sqrt{2}\lambda g^{\top}BX\right)\right)$$

Since  $||X||_{\psi_2} \leq K$ , we know that given g,  $||\sqrt{2}g^{\top}BX||_{\psi_2} \leq \sqrt{2}||Bg||_2K$ . Thus we obtain

$$\mathbb{E}_{g} \mathbb{E}_{X} (\exp{(\sqrt{2}\lambda g^{\top}BX)}) \leq \mathbb{E}_{g} \exp{(CK^{2}\lambda^{2}\|Bg\|_{2}^{2})}.$$

Supposing  $B = \sum_{i} s_i u_i v_i^{\top}$ , we obtain

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{E}_{g} \exp{(CK^{2}\lambda^{2} \|Bg\|_{2}^{2})} &= \prod_{i} \mathbb{E}_{g} \exp{(CK^{2}\lambda^{2}s_{i}^{2}(g^{\top}v_{i})^{2})} \\ &\leq \prod_{i} \exp{(C'K^{2}\lambda^{2}s_{i}^{2})} \\ &= \exp{(C'\lambda^{2} \|B\|_{F}^{2})}, \end{split}$$

provided  $|\lambda| \le c/K||B||$ .

**Exercise 6.3.5** Recall that in Exercise 6.2.6 we prove that  $\mathbb{E} \exp(\lambda^2 \|BX\|_2^2) \le \exp(C^2 K^2 \lambda^2 \|B\|_F^2)$ , provided  $|\lambda| \le c/K\|B\|$ . It follows that

$$\mathbb{P}(\|BX\|_{2} \ge CK\|B\|_{F} + t) \le \mathbb{P}(\|BX\|_{2}^{2} \ge (CK\|B\|_{F} + t)^{2}) 
= \mathbb{P}(\exp(\lambda^{2}\|BX\|_{2}^{2}) \ge \exp(\lambda^{2}(CK\|B\|_{F} + t)^{2})) 
\le \mathbb{E}(\exp(\lambda^{2}\|BX\|_{2}^{2}))/\exp(\lambda^{2}(CK\|B\|_{F} + t)^{2}) 
\le \exp(\lambda^{2}C^{2}K^{2}\|B\|_{F}^{2} - \lambda^{2}(CK\|B\|_{F} + t)^{2}) 
= \exp(-\lambda^{2}(2tCK\|B\|_{F} + t^{2})) 
\le \exp(-\lambda^{2}t^{2})$$

Setting  $\lambda = c/K||B||$  yields

$$\mathbb{P}(\|BX\|_2 \ge CK\|B\|_F + t) \le \exp(-c^2t^2/K^2\|B\|^2).$$

**Exercise 6.3.6** A simple example is that we flip a fair coin, if the result is head we set X = 0, or we sample X according to the uniform distribution on  $\sqrt{2n}\mathbb{S}^{n-1}$ .

Exercise 6.5.4 See Theorem 3.2 of [9].

**Exercise 6.7.5** Suppose  $X_i \equiv e_i \in \mathbb{R}^N$ , then  $\mathbb{E} \left\| \sum_i X_i \right\|_{\infty} = 1$ , and  $\mathbb{E} \left\| \sum_i g_i X_i \right\|_{\infty} = C \sqrt{\log N}$ .

Exercise 6.7.7, 6.7.8 One may refer to the proof of Theorem 7 in Prof. John Duchi's Note *Probability Bounds*.

# 7 Random processes

Exercise 7.1.9 Following the proof of Lemma 6.4.2, we can get the upper bound. However, the lower bound does not hold. Let  $\xi$  be 1 with probability 1-1/n and -(n-1) with probability 1/n. Suppose that  $N=1, T=\{1,2,\ldots,k\}$ , and  $X_1(t)$  are independent copies of  $\xi$ . Then we have

 $\mathbb{E} \sup_{t \in T} X_1(t) \leq 1$  and

$$\mathbb{E} \sup_{t \in T} \epsilon_1 X_1(t) = (n-1) \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{2n-1}{2n} \right)^k \right] + \left( \frac{2n-1}{2n} \right)^k - \frac{1}{2^k} - \left[ \frac{1}{2^k} - \frac{1}{(2n)^k} \right] - \frac{n-1}{(2n)^k}$$

$$\geq (n-1) \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{2n-1}{2n} \right)^k - \frac{1}{(2n)^k} \right].$$

For a fix n,  $\mathbb{E} \sup_{t \in T} \epsilon_1 X_1(t) \ge \frac{n-1}{2}$  for a sufficiently large k.

**Exercise 7.2.14** One can check that  $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_{ij}\partial x_{il}}(x) \leq 0$  and  $\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_{ij}\partial x_{kl}}f(x) \geq 0$  for  $i \neq k$ . Define  $Z(u) = \sqrt{u}X + \sqrt{1-u}Y$  and  $\Sigma_{ij,kl} = \text{Cor}(X_{ij}, X_{kl})$ . Following the proof of Lemma 7.2.7, we can obtain

$$\frac{d}{du}\mathbb{E}\,f(Z(u)) = \frac{1}{2}\sum_{i,j,k,l} \left(\Sigma_{ij,kl}^X - \Sigma_{ij,kl}^Y\right)\mathbb{E}\,\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_{ij}\partial x_{kl}}(Z(u)) \le 0.$$

Following the proof of Theorem 7.2.9, we obtain the desired inequality.

#### Exercise 7.3.2

$$||uv^{\top} - wz^{\top}||_{F}^{2} = \sum_{i,j} (u_{i}v_{j} - w_{i}z_{j})^{2}$$

$$= \sum_{i,j} [u_{i}(v_{j} - z_{j}) + (u_{i} - w_{i})z_{j}]^{2}$$

$$= \sum_{i,j} [u_{i}^{2}(v_{j} - z_{j})^{2} + (u_{i} - w_{i})^{2}z_{j}^{2} + 2u_{i}(u_{i} - w_{i})z_{j}(v_{j} - z_{j})]$$

$$= ||u - w||_{2}^{2} + ||v - z||_{2}^{2} + 2(1 - \langle u, w \rangle)(\langle z, v \rangle - 1)$$

$$\leq ||u - w||_{2}^{2} + ||v - z||_{2}^{2}$$

**Exercise 7.3.4** Define  $X_{uv} = \langle Au, v \rangle$  and  $Y_{uv} = \langle g, u \rangle + \langle h, v \rangle$  where  $g \sim N(0, I_n)$ ,  $h \sim N(0, I_m)$  are independent. By Exercise 7.3.2,  $\mathbb{E}(X_{uv} - X_{wz})^2 \leq \mathbb{E}(Y_{uv} - Y_{wz})^2$  and  $\mathbb{E}(X_{uv} - X_{uz})^2 = \mathbb{E}(Y_{uv} - Y_{uz})^2$ . Gordon's inequality without the requirement of equal variance implies the first inequality. Following the proof of Corollary 7.3.3, we obtain the second inequality.

**Exercise 7.3.5** Define  $X_u = \langle Au, u \rangle$  and  $Y_u = 2\langle g, u \rangle$  where  $g \sim N(0, I_n)$ . One can check that  $\mathbb{E}(X_u - X_v)^2 = 4 - 4\langle u, v \rangle^2$  and  $\mathbb{E}(Y_u - Y_v)^2 = 8 - 8\langle u, v \rangle$ . It follows that  $\mathbb{E}(X_u - X_v)^2 \leq \mathbb{E}(Y_u - Y_v)^2$ .

Following the proof of Corollary 7.3.3, we obtain the desired bounds.

Exercise 7.6.1 The lower bound follows from Jensen's inequality. To prove the upper bound, consider the function  $f(g) = \sup_{x,y \in T} \langle g, x - y \rangle$ . Without loss of generality, we assume diam(T) = 1. For any  $g, g' \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $f(g) \leq \sup_{x,y \in T} \langle g - g', x - y \rangle + f(g') \leq \|g - g'\| + f(g')$ . By symmetry, f(g) is 1-Lipschitz. Note that  $\mathbb{E} f(g) = w(T - T) \leq h(T - T)$ . The upper bound follows from Theorem 5.2.2.

#### Exercise 7.6.9

$$\gamma(T) = \mathbb{E}\sup_{x \in T} |\langle g, x \rangle| \leq \mathbb{E}\sup_{x \in T} |\langle g, x - y \rangle| + \mathbb{E}\left|\langle g, y \rangle\right| \leq \gamma(T - T) + \frac{2}{\pi} \|y\|_2 \leq 2\left[w(T) + \|y\|_2\right].$$

$$w(T) + \|y\|_2 = \mathbb{E} \sup_{x \in T} \langle g, x \rangle + \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2}} \, \mathbb{E} \left| \langle g, y \rangle \right| \leq 3 \, \mathbb{E} \sup_{x \in T} \left| \langle g, x \rangle \right| = 3 \gamma(T).$$

**Exercise 7.7.4** Suppose that P is an orthogonal projection and T is a closed set. Then we can decompose P as  $P = \sum_{i=1}^{m} u_i u_i^{\mathsf{T}}$  and find  $x \in T - T$  such that  $||x||_2 = \operatorname{diam}(T)$ . It follows that

$$\mathbb{E}\operatorname{diam}(PT) = \mathbb{E}\sup_{x \in T-T} ||Px|| \ge \mathbb{E}\sup_{x \in T-T} |\langle v_1, x \rangle| = w_s(T-T) = 2w_s(T)$$

On the other hand, Lemma 5.3.2 implies that

$$\mathbb{E}\operatorname{diam}(PT) \geq \mathbb{E} \|Px\|_2 \geq c\sqrt{\frac{m}{n}} \|x\|_2 = c\sqrt{\frac{m}{n}}\operatorname{diam}(T)$$

for some c > 0. This completes the proof.

**Exercise 7.7.5** Note that  $\operatorname{diam}(P(AB_2^k)) = 2\|PA\|$ , and  $w_s(AB_2^k) = \mathbb{E} \sup_{\|x\|_2 \le 1} \langle \theta, Ax \rangle = \mathbb{E} \|A^\top \theta\|_2 \le \sqrt{\mathbb{E} \operatorname{tr}(A^\top \theta \theta^\top A)} = \|A\|_F / \sqrt{n}$ . Theorem 7.7.1 implies part (a). Similarly, we can obtain part (b).

# References

[1] S. Boucheron, G. Lugosi, and P. Massart. Concentration Inequalities: A Nonasymptotic Theory of Independence. OUP Oxford, 2013.

- [2] D. de Caen. An upper bound on the sum of squares of degrees in a graph. *Discrete Mathematics*, 185(1):245–248, 1998.
- [3] R. Durrett. *Probability: Theory and Examples*. Cambridge Series in Statistical and Probabilistic Mathematics. Cambridge University Press, 2019.
- [4] Gautam Kamath. Bounds on the expectation of the maximum of samples from a gaussian. 2015.
- [5] Edward Neuman. Inequalities and bounds for the incomplete gamma function. *Results in Mathematics*, 63(3-4):1209–1214, 2013.
- [6] S. Y. Novak. Poisson approximation. arXiv: Probability, 2018.
- [7] Francesco Orabona and David Pal. Optimal non-asymptotic lower bound on the minimax regret of learning with expert advice. arXiv preprint arXiv:1511.02176, 2015.
- [8] Martin Raab and Angelika Steger. "balls into bins"—a simple and tight analysis. In International Workshop on Randomization and Approximation Techniques in Computer Science, pages 159–170. Springer, 1998.
- [9] YOAV SEGINER. The expected norm of random matrices. Combinatorics, Probability and Computing, 9(2):149–166, 2000.
- [10] Roman Vershynin. Introduction to the non-asymptotic analysis of random matrices. arXiv preprint arXiv:1011.3027, 2010.