

# Old tensor mle stuff

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## 1 Old stuff

### 1.1 Old lower bound lemma

In the conclusion of the lemma we needed to use that convergence in total variation of some estimator  $\hat{\Theta}_n$  to another,  $\hat{\Theta}$ , implied that the former has minimax error at least that of the latter in any dissimilarity measure. This holds by applying the next lemma to the random variables  $X_n = d_*(\hat{\Theta}_n, \Theta)$  and  $Y = d_*(\hat{\Theta}, \Theta)$  where  $d_*$  represents any nonnegative function. For example, we could take  $d_*$  to be the Frobenius, spectral, Fischer-Rao, Kullback-Leibler or Mahalanobis “distances”. [CF: surely I can cite this next thing, I am just proving it for my own sanity]

**Lemma 1.** *Suppose  $X_n, Y$  are nonnegative random variables such that  $X_n \rightarrow Y$  in  $d_{TV}$ . Then*

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}X_n \geq \mathbb{E}Y.$$

*Proof.* If the mean of  $Y$  is bounded then we have Markov’s inequality. Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ ; by the Dominated Convergence Theorem there is  $\alpha$  large enough that

$\mathbb{E}[Y1_{Y \leq \alpha}] \geq \mathbb{E}[Y] - \varepsilon$ . Now we have

$$\mathbb{E}[X_n] \geq \mathbb{E}[X_n 1_{X_n \leq \alpha}] \rightarrow \mathbb{E}[Y 1_{Y \leq \alpha}] \geq \mathbb{E}[Y] - \varepsilon.$$

as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , where the limit is deduced by Hölder's inequality. Letting  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$  completes the proof.  $\square$

## 1.2 Different Inner Product

**Definition 1.** For desired marginals  $\{R_a^2\}_{a \in [k]}$  (assume for now  $R$  are Hermitian though we can pick different square roots if required), define inner product

$$\langle Z, Y \rangle_R := \sum_a \langle R_a Z R_a^*, Y \rangle$$

$$\|Z\|_R^2 := \langle Z, Z \rangle_R = \sum_a \|R_a Z\|_F^2$$

We restate the projective likelihood function and define gradient and Hessian in this metric:

**Definition 2.**

$$f_{\mathbf{X}}(\Theta_1, \dots, \Theta_n) = \log \left\langle \sum_{i \in [n]} X_i X_i^*, \bigotimes_{a \in [k]} \Theta_a \right\rangle - \sum_{a \in [k]} \frac{1}{d_a} \log \det \Theta_a$$

Also  $\rho := \sum_i X_i X_i^*$  and  $\{\rho^S\}_{S \subseteq [k]}$  are marginals.

**Fact 2.**

$$(\nabla f(I))_a = d_a \rho^{\{a\}} - I_a$$

*Proof.* We can define  $\nabla f$  dually as  $\forall Z : \langle \nabla f(I), Z \rangle_R := \partial_{t=0} f(e^{tZ})$

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_{t=0} f(e^{tZ_a}) &= \partial_{t=0} \langle \rho, I_a \otimes e^{tZ_a} \rangle - \partial_{t=0} \frac{1}{d_a} \log \det e^{tZ_a} \\ &= \left\langle \rho^{\{a\}} - \frac{1}{d_a} I_a, Z_a e^{tZ_a} \right\rangle|_{t=0} = \left\langle R_a^{-1} \left( \rho^{\{a\}} - \frac{1}{d_a} I_a \right) R_a^{-1}, Z_a \right\rangle_R \end{aligned}$$

Similarly we define the Hessian as

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_{s=t=0} f(e^{tZ_a + sY_b}) &= \langle \rho, \{I_a \otimes Z_a, I_b \otimes Y_b\} \rangle \\ \implies (\nabla^2 f(I))_{aa} &= \langle R_a^{-1} \rho^{\{a\}} R_a^{-1}, \{Z, Y\} \rangle_R \\ \implies (\nabla^2 f(I))_{ab} &= \langle \rho^{\{a,b\}}, Z \otimes Y \rangle \end{aligned}$$

$\square$

[AR: Not sure how to define Hessian. I think I'd like the Hessian to be

$$\sum_a E_{aa} \otimes (1 \pm \epsilon)I + \sum_{a \neq b} E_{ab} \otimes \pm \lambda$$

for some small  $\epsilon, \lambda$ . Then the Hessian will be  $1 - \epsilon - (k-1)\lambda$ -strongly convex. ]

**Lemma 3** (Restatement of ??). *Let  $f$  be geodesically convex everywhere. All the below quantities are wrt metric  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_R$ . Assume  $f$  and  $\lambda$ -strongly geodesically convex ball of radius  $\kappa$  about  $I$ ; further assume the geodesic gradient satisfies  $\|\nabla f(I)\|_R = \epsilon < \lambda\kappa$ . Then there is an optimizer within an  $\epsilon/\lambda$ -ball.*

*Proof of ??.* The proof is exactly the same except the following:

$$g'(0) = \langle \nabla f(I), Z \rangle_R \geq -\|\nabla f(I)\|_R \|Z\|_R \geq -\epsilon$$

□

**Remark 1.** *Note the perturbation lemma then gives the following strategy. By Cole's lemma, we have that  $c\|\nabla f(I)\|_R \geq \|\nabla f(I)\|_{op}$ . If we can say the same thing for the optimizer  $Z$ , then it is enough for  $\lambda\kappa \geq \Omega(1/c) > \epsilon$  and we can improve sample complexity to  $nD > c \max_a d_a^2$ .*

*A similar thing is true if we can show the above inequality for the gradient flow for  $\log \max_a d_a$  time.*

**Lemma 4.**  $\lambda$ -strong convexity is a sufficient condition for fast convergence of the gradient flow:

$$-\partial_{t=0} \|\nabla f(e^{-t\nabla f(I)})\|_R^2 = -\partial_{t=0}^2 f(e^{-t\nabla f(I)}) = \langle \nabla^2 f, \nabla f \otimes \nabla f \rangle \geq \lambda \|\nabla f\|_R^2$$

[AR: Not sure how to write the third term above, the inner product with Hessian]

### 1.3 Old proof of ??

*Proof of ??.* Take any quadratic form of the Hessian for  $\{Z_a \perp I_a\}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_{t=0}^2 f(e^{tZ}) &= \sum_a \langle Q^a, Z_a^2 \rangle + \sum_{a \neq b} \langle Q^{ab}, Z_a \otimes Z_b \rangle \\ &\geq \sum_a \lambda_{\min}(Q^a) \|Z_a\|_F^2 - \sum_{a \neq b} \|Q^{ab}(I - P_{ab})\|_{op} \|Z_a\|_F \|Z_b\|_F \end{aligned}$$

Now we can use our high probability bounds derived above:

$$\begin{aligned} \forall a : Q^a &\succeq \frac{1-\epsilon}{d_a} I_a; \quad \forall a \neq b : \|Q^{ab}(I - P_{ab})\|_{op} < \frac{\lambda}{\sqrt{d_a d_b}} \\ \implies \partial_{t=0}^2 f(e^{tZ}) &\geq \sum_a \frac{1-\epsilon}{d_a} \|Z_a\|_F^2 - \sum_{a \neq b} \frac{\lambda}{\sqrt{d_a d_b}} \|Z_a\|_F \|Z_b\|_F \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&\geq \sum_a \frac{1-\varepsilon+\lambda}{d_a} \|Z_a\|_F^2 - \lambda \left( \sum_a \frac{1}{\sqrt{d_a}} \|Z_a\|_F \right)^2 \\
&\geq \sum_a \frac{1-\varepsilon+\lambda}{d_a} \|Z_a\|_F^2 - k\lambda \sum_a \frac{1}{d_a} \|Z_a\|_F^2 \\
&= (1-\varepsilon - (k-1)\lambda) \|Z\|^2
\end{aligned}$$

Choosing  $\varepsilon, \lambda$  small enough gives the theorem.  $\square$

*Proof:* [CF: Akshay's conceptual proof of ??]. We can in fact show that  $\nabla^2$  is well-conditioned using the following:

$$-\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \preceq \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \preceq \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

[AR: Ya  $\nabla_{ab}$  notation is fine, just needed something that was a matrix of the right dimensions, so shorthand M was to avoid weird things with  $\rho$ ]

[AR: It's fine if they're of different sizes, we enumerate the basis of the whole space as  $\cup_a e_a \otimes \{e_{i \in [d_a]}\}$ ]

[CF:  $E_{aa} \otimes \nabla_{aa}^2$  is  $kd_a^2 \times kd_a^2$  dimensional. So how does this make sense? Maybe needs to be updated along the lines of the next proof.]

$$\nabla^2 f = \sum_a E_{aa} \otimes \nabla_{aa}^2 + \sum_{a \neq b} E_{ab} \otimes \nabla_{ab}^2$$

Now we can again use the high-probability bounds derived above: [TODO: actually cref them]

$$\nabla_{aa}^2 \in \frac{1 \pm \varepsilon}{d_a}; \quad \forall a \neq b: \|\nabla_{ab}^2\|_{op} \leq \frac{\lambda}{\sqrt{d_a d_b}} \quad (1)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\nabla^2 &\preceq \sum_a E_{aa} \otimes \left( \frac{1+\varepsilon}{d_a} I_a \right) + \sum_{a < b} E_{aa} \otimes \left( \frac{\lambda}{d_a} I_a \right) + E_{bb} \otimes \left( \frac{\lambda}{d_b} I_b \right) \\
&\preceq \sum_a E_{aa} \otimes \frac{1+\varepsilon+(k-1)\lambda}{d_a} I_a
\end{aligned}$$

The same sequence of inequalities can be reversed to show a lower bound. So in fact we can show the above bounds on blocks shows  $1 + O(\varepsilon + k\lambda)$ -condition number bound on the Hessian in norm  $\|\cdot\|_d$ .  $\square$

## 2 Old gradient bounds

[TODO: lower bound Hessian for operators and tensors for all different formats; we hope to get strong convexity with  $\prod d_i / (d_1^2 + \dots + d_k^2)$  samples. I am concerned that a KLR19-style operator norm type theorem is needed to get  $\tilde{O}$  of

this, but we will do what we can with the Frobenius bounds for now; I'd expect to need at least  $\max_i \sqrt{d_i}$  too many samples.]

[TODO: It would also be nice to have that tight example for the log in KLR19...]

We recall the moment map and Hessian calculations

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_{t=0}f(e^{tX_a}) &= \langle \nabla_a, X \rangle = \langle Q^a - sI_a, X \rangle \\ \partial_{t=0}^2 f(e^{tX_a}) &= \langle X, (\nabla^2)_{aa} X \rangle = \langle Q^a, X^2 \rangle \\ \partial_{s=0} \partial_{t=0} f(e^{tX_a} \otimes e^{sY_b}) &= \langle Y, (\nabla^2)_{ab} X \rangle = \langle Q^{ab}, X \otimes Y \rangle\end{aligned}$$

### 3 Operator Scaling

In this section we have  $n$  samples of  $X \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \frac{1}{n}(\frac{1}{d_1}I_1) \otimes (\frac{1}{d_2}I_2))$ . We will denote  $D := d_1 d_2$ . In order to use the KLR analysis, we will show that the one-body marginals have low error in  $\|\cdot\|_{op}$  and the whole operator is a sufficient expander at the start.

#### 3.1 Bernstein Proof of $\|\mu\|_{op}$

This is proven using matrix concentration

**Theorem 5** (Bernstein). *Consider independent  $\{X_k\}$  such that  $\mathbb{E}X_k = 0$  and  $\lambda_{max}(X_k) \leq R$  almost surely. Further let the variance be  $\sigma^2 := \|\sum_k \mathbb{E}X_k^2\|_{op}$ .*

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{P}[\lambda_{max}\left(\sum_k X_k\right) \geq t] &\leq d \exp\left(-\frac{\Omega(t^2)}{\sigma^2 + tR}\right) \\ &\leq \begin{cases} d \exp(-\Omega(t^2/\sigma^2)) & \text{if } t \leq \sigma^2/R \\ d \exp(-\Omega(t/R)) & \text{if } t \geq \sigma^2/R \end{cases}\end{aligned}$$

In our setting,  $Q^a$  is comprised of  $N := \frac{TD}{d_a}$  copies of a rank one  $gg^*$  where each Gaussian is  $g \sim \mathcal{N}(0, N^{-1}\frac{1}{d_a}I_a) = \mathcal{N}(0, \frac{1}{TD}I_a)$ . We will drop subscripts for  $d_a, I_a$  etc when they can be understood from context. Therefore we define  $X := gg^* - \frac{1}{TD}I_a$  and note the following parameters:

$$\lambda_{max}(X) = \|g\|_2^2 - \frac{1}{TD} \quad \lambda_{min}(X) = -\frac{1}{TD}$$

While  $\|g\|_2$  is unbounded, we can threshold our distribution with a small loss in probability. Since we will be using  $\chi^2$  distributions much from now on, we will do a quick exercise to prove our threshold bounds:

**Definition 3.**  $\chi(\mu, d)$  denotes the  $\chi^2$  distribution with mean  $\mu$  and  $d$  degrees of freedom. Explicitly  $X \sim \chi(\mu, d) \implies X = \frac{\mu}{d} \sum_{i=1}^d g_i^2$  where  $g \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ .

**Lemma 6.** For  $X \sim \chi(\mu, d)$  we have the following (explicit and approximate) formula for the MGF,  $\forall \theta < (O(\frac{\mu}{d}))^{-1}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \log \mathbb{E} \exp(\theta X) &= -\frac{d}{2} \log \left( 1 - 2\theta \frac{\mu}{d} \right) \\ &\leq \theta \mu + \theta^2 \frac{O(\mu^2)}{2d} \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 7** (Sub-exp variables). *The above MGF bound gives tail decay:*

$$\begin{aligned} \forall \theta < b^{-1} : \log \mathbb{E} \exp(\theta(X - \mathbb{E}X)) &\leq \theta^2 \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \\ \implies \mathbb{P}[X - \mu \geq t] &\leq \begin{cases} \exp(-\Omega(t^2/\sigma^2)) & t \leq \sigma^2/b \\ \exp(-\Omega(t/b)) & t \geq \sigma^2/b \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

With these bounds in mind, note our variables  $\|g\|_2^2 \sim \chi(\frac{d_a}{TD}, d_a)$  so we have  $\sigma^2 = \frac{d}{(TD)^2}, b = \frac{1}{TD} \implies \sigma^2/b = \frac{d}{TD}$

$$\mathbb{P}[\exists k : \lambda_{\max}(X_k) \geq M \sqrt{\log N} \frac{d}{TD}] \leq \exp(-\Omega(M^2))$$

If we're happy with  $1/\text{poly}$  failure probability we will take  $M^2 \sim \log D$ , so in our matrix bound  $R_{\max} \leq \frac{d \log D}{TD}$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}X^2 &= \mathbb{E}(gg^*)^2 - \frac{1}{(TD)^2} I = \mathbb{E}\|g\|_2^4 \hat{g}\hat{g}^* - \frac{1}{(TD)^2} I \\ &= \frac{1}{(TD)^2} ((3d + d(d-1)) \frac{1}{d} I - I) = \frac{d+1}{(TD)^2} I \end{aligned}$$

Here  $\hat{g} := g/\|g\|_2$  and the calculation is done by independence of  $\|g\|_2, \hat{g}$ . So we also have the variance parameter

$$\sigma^2 = N \|\mathbb{E}X^2\|_{op} = \frac{TD}{d} \frac{d+1}{(TD)^2} \sim \frac{1}{TD}$$

**Corollary 8.** *We have the following operator norm concentration*

$$\mathbb{P}[\|Q^a - sI_a\|_{op} \geq t] \leq d \exp \left( -\frac{\Omega(t^2 TD)}{1 + td_a \log D} \right)$$

Since we require  $\|\cdot\|_{op}$  error  $\ll \frac{1}{d_a \log D}$ , if we are happy with  $1/\text{poly}$  failure probability we require  $TD \gg \max_a d_a^2 \log^3 D$ .

**Remark 2.** Note I'm using  $\min_a d_a < \max_a d_a < D$  in a couple places so the log term may be slightly sharpened. But the exponent is tight as we require  $TD > \max_a d_a^2$  samples for existence/ uniqueness of the solution.

### 3.2 Gaussian proof of $\|\mu\|_{op}$

The above method of first thresholding the Gaussians then using Bernstein-style concentration on a bounded random matrix feels a bit square-peg round-hole - y. Turns out there are better results specifically for the case of Gaussian matrices. Recall again that in our setting  $Q^a$  is the sum of  $N := \frac{nD}{d_a}$  copies of  $XX^*$  where  $X \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \frac{1}{nD}I_a)$ . Note first the following fact which allows us to use these specialized inequalities

**Fact 9.**  $\sum_{i=1}^N X_i X_i^* \equiv GG^*$  where  $G := \{X_1, \dots, X_N\}$ . This means if we denote  $\{\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_d\}$  the spectrum of  $\sum_{i=1}^N X_i X_i^*$ , this is the same as  $\{s_1^2, \dots, s_d^2\}$  where  $s_j := s_j(G)$  the  $j$ -th singular value. By Taylor expansion of  $\sqrt{1+x}$  we have:

$$\lambda_1, \lambda_d(GG^*) \in \frac{1}{d_a} \left(1 \pm \frac{1}{\log d_a}\right) \iff s_1, s_d(G) \in \frac{1}{\sqrt{d_a}} \left(1 \pm \frac{1}{\log d_a}\right)$$

**Corollary 10** (Corollary 5.35). Let  $G_{d,N} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times N}$  for  $d < N$  have independent standard Gaussian entries. Then for  $t \geq 0$ , the following occurs with  $\leq 2\exp(-t^2/2)$  failure probability:

$$\sqrt{N} - \sqrt{d} - t \leq s_d(G) \leq s_1(G) \leq \sqrt{N} + \sqrt{d} + t$$

**Corollary 11.** If  $nD \gtrsim d_a^2 \log^2 d_a$  then  $\|Q^a - \frac{1}{d_a}I_a\|_{op} \ll \frac{1}{d_a \log d_a}$  with failure probability  $\leq \exp(-\Omega(d_a))$

*Proof.* We have the following with  $\leq 2\exp(-t^2/2)$  failure probability:

$$s_1, s_d \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{nD}} G_{d,N} \right) \in \frac{1}{\sqrt{nD}} \left( \sqrt{\frac{nD}{d_a}} \pm (\sqrt{d_a} + t) \right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{d_a}} \left( 1 \pm \frac{d_a + t\sqrt{d_a}}{\sqrt{nD}} \right)$$

Choosing  $t \sim \sqrt{d_a}$  and  $nD \gtrsim d_a^2 \log^2 d_a$  gives the required bound.  $\square$

## 4 Old robustness

**Lemma 12.** If  $f$  is  $\lambda$ -strongly convex at  $I$  and  $\forall a : d_a \|(\nabla f)_a\|_{op} \leq \varepsilon \ll 1/k$ , then for  $Z$  such that  $\forall a : \|Z_a\|_{op} \leq \delta_a \ll 1/k$ , the function  $f$  at  $e^Z$  is  $\lambda - O(k \sum_a \delta_a)$  strongly convex.

**Lemma 13.** [CF: what I think this lemma should say] Let  $f = f_x$ . There is a constant  $c > 0$  such that if  $f$  is  $\lambda$ -strongly convex at  $I$  and that  $\|(\nabla f)_a\|_{op} \leq \varepsilon \leq ck^{-1}$  for all  $a \in [k]$ , then the function  $f$  is

$$\lambda - O(k \sum \|Z_a\|_{op})$$

-strongly convex at  $Z \in \text{PD}$  provided  $\|Z_a\|_{op} \leq ck^{-1}$  for all  $a \in [k]$ . [CF: just define operator norm on PD?]

The bulk of the work goes towards an intermediate lemma showing that each block  $\nabla_{ab}^2 f$  of the Hessian changes fairly little on the operator norm ball.

**Lemma 14.** *For perturbation  $v \rightarrow \otimes_a e^{\delta_a} \cdot v =: w$  where  $\forall a : \|\delta_a\|_{op} \ll 1$ , and let  $\{\sigma_1^{ab}, \sigma_2^{ab}\}$  be the matrix norm  $\|\cdot\|_F \rightarrow \|\cdot\|_F$  and matrix norm on subspace  $\perp$  to  $(I, I)$  for each bipartite part respectively:*

$$\forall a, b : \sigma_2^{ab}(ww^*) - \sigma_2^{ab}(vv^*) \leq O\left(\sum_a \|\delta_a\|_{op}\right) \sigma_1^{ab}(vv^*)$$

The same is true for the diagonal blocks.

[CF: I think we are safe to just say  $\|\nabla_{ab}^2 f\|_{op} := \|\nabla_{ab}^2 f\|_{F \rightarrow F}$ .]

**Lemma 15.** [CF: prev lemma in new notation; not married to the  $\Pi$ 's.] Let  $\Pi$  denote the projection to the traceless matrices. There is a constant  $c > 0$  such that if  $\|Z_a\|_{op} \leq c$  for all  $a \in [k]$  we have

$$\|\nabla_{ab}^2 f(Z) \circ \Pi\|_{op} - \|\nabla_{ab}^2 f(I) \circ \Pi\|_{op} = O\left(\sum_{a \in [k]} \|Z_a\|_{op} \|\nabla_{ab}^2 f\|_{op}\right)$$

for all  $a, b \in [k]$ .

*Proof.* [CF: needs to be updated to new notation. At this point in the paper, there's no  $M$ .] To lower bound the diagonal block, we just need a spectral lower bound on  $\{\rho^a\}$ , since  $\langle \text{vec}(X), \nabla_{aa}^2(\text{vec}(X)) \rangle := \langle \rho^a, X^2 \rangle$ .

$$\|e^{\delta_a} \rho^a e^{\delta_a} - Q_a\|_{op} \leq O(\|\delta_a\|_{op}) \|Q_a\|_{op}$$

Now we address a perturbation on  $b \neq a$ . For a spectral lower bound, we choose test  $Z \succeq 0$  and let  $\delta := e^{2\delta_b} - I$ :

$$\langle e^{\delta_b} \rho e^{\delta_b} - \rho, I_{\bar{a}} \otimes Z_a \rangle = \langle \rho, \delta \otimes Z \rangle = \langle Z, V^* \delta V \rangle$$

Here  $V \in \mathbb{R}^{d_b \times d_a}$  is the matricized version of  $\rho$ . But now since  $Z \succeq 0$ , the argument is clear

$$\leq \langle Z, V^* |\delta| V \rangle \leq \|\delta\|_{op} \langle Z, V^* I V \rangle = \|\delta\|_{op} \langle \rho, I_{\bar{a}} \otimes Z \rangle \leq \|\delta\|_{op} \|\rho^a\|_{op} \|Z\|_1$$

The argument for the off-diagonal blocks is similar. We first argue the change is small under perturbations just on those parts.

$$\langle \text{vec}(Y), M_v^{ab}(\text{vec}(Z)) \rangle := \langle vv^*, I_{\bar{a}\bar{b}} \otimes Z \otimes Y \rangle$$

$$\langle \text{vec}(Y), M_w^{ab}(\text{vec}(Z)) \rangle := \langle ww^*, I_{\bar{a}\bar{b}} \otimes Z \otimes Y \rangle$$

$$\implies M_w = (e^{\delta_b} \otimes e^{\delta_b}) M_v (e^{\delta_a} \otimes e^{\delta_a})$$



$$\implies \|M_w - M_v\|_{op} \leq O(\|\delta_a\|_{op} + \|\delta_b\|_{op})\|M_v\|_{op}$$

where in the last step we used  $\delta \ll 1$ . [CF: comment things that we wouldn't want to accidentally leave in, as I have done in the next sentence] The more difficult part of the argument to see [AR: at least for me] is the change caused by some other part  $c \neq a, b$ . First we define  $\delta := e^{2\delta_c} - I$ , and test vectors  $Z, Y$ :

$$\langle ww^* - vv^*, I_{ab} \otimes Z \otimes Y \rangle = \langle vv^*, \delta \otimes Z \otimes Y \rangle = \langle Z \otimes Y, V^* \delta V \rangle$$

Here  $V \in \mathbb{R}^{d_c \times d_a d_b}$  is the matricized version of  $v$ , i.e. the  $k$ -th element of  $ij$ -th column is  $(V_{ij})_k := v_{ijk}$ . Now in order to use our operator norm bounds, we need to deal with cancelations, so we split into positive and negative parts  $Z := Z_+ - Z_-, Y := Y_+ - Y_-$ :

$$|\langle Z \otimes Y, V^* \delta V \rangle| \leq |\langle Z_{\pm} \otimes Y_{\pm}, V^* \delta V \rangle|$$

Now we analyze each of these terms:

$$\leq |\langle Z_{\pm} \otimes Y_{\pm}, V^* |\delta| V \rangle| \leq \|\delta\|_{op} |\langle Z_{\pm} \otimes Y_{\pm}, V^* V \rangle| = \|\delta\|_{op} |\langle vv^*, I_{ab} \otimes Z_{\pm} \otimes Y_{\pm} \rangle|$$

Each of these terms we can bound by  $\sigma_1^{ab} \|Z\|_F \|Y\|_F$ . So by iterating this argument over all  $c$ , we get the desired bound.  $\square$

*Proof of Lemma 13.*

$$\langle X, \nabla_{aa}^2 X \rangle = \langle \rho^a, X^2 \rangle \leq \|\rho^a\|_{op} \|X^2\|_1 = \|\rho^a\|_{op} \|X\|_F^2$$

[AR: I am probably wrong on dimension factors here, but it's the right idea] By the condition on the gradient [TODO: what condition? cref it], we have that

$$\forall a, b : \|\nabla_{ab}^2\|_{op}^2 \leq \|\nabla_{aa}^2\|_{op} \|\nabla_{bb}^2\|_{op} = \|\rho^a\|_{op} \|\rho^b\|_{op} \leq \frac{1 + \varepsilon}{d_a d_b}$$

We apply the perturbation lemma to each part successively, and if  $\delta$  are small enough we can assume this bound holds in weaker form  $1 + \epsilon \leq 2$  for all iterations. The above lemma shows for each part and any test vectors

$$\langle ww^* - vv^*, I_{ab} \otimes \frac{Z}{\|Z\|_F} \otimes \frac{Y}{\|Y\|_F} \rangle \leq \frac{O(\sum_a \delta_a)}{\sqrt{d_a d_b}} =: \frac{\delta}{\sqrt{d_a d_b}}$$

Here the suppressed constants are  $\leq 7$ . Therefore the difference between Hessians can be bounded

$$|\langle Y, \nabla^2 f(e^Z) - \nabla^2 f(I), Y \rangle| \leq \delta \left( \sum_a \frac{\|Y_a\|_F^2}{d_a} + \sum_{a \neq b} \frac{\|Y_a\|_F \|Y_b\|_F}{\sqrt{d_a d_b}} \right) \leq k \delta \|Y\|^2$$

$\square$

After one more simple lemma, we will be ready to prove our second strong convexity result, Lemma 13.

**Lemma 16** (Lemma 3.6 in [TODO: cite KLR]; [CF: where is this used?]). [AR: *The amount we lose in robustness is related to the worst quadratic form in the whole space (not  $\perp I$ ) since we have to break up into  $\pm$  parts. ]*

$$\|\nabla_{ab}^2\|_{F \rightarrow F}^2 \leq \|\nabla_{aa}^2\|_{F \rightarrow F} \|\nabla_{bb}^2\|_{F \rightarrow F}$$

*Proof.* [AR: New simple proof:] By convexity we know  $\begin{pmatrix} \nabla_{aa}^2 & \nabla_{ab}^2 \\ \nabla_{ba}^2 & \nabla_{bb}^2 \end{pmatrix} \succeq 0$ . The result follows from e.g. Schur complements.  $\square$