

## A Truncation Algorithms for the IHT

In this section, we present the algorithms for the truncation step in the IHT algorithm, i.e., Line 6 in Algorithm 1. The truncation algorithms for sparse vector and low-rank matrix recovery are tabulated in Algorithms 2 and 3, respectively.

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**Algorithm 2** Evaluation of the truncation function  $\text{Trunc}(\Theta, s)$  in Line 6 of Algorithm 1 for nonlinear sparse vector recovery

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- 1: **Input:** Truncation level  $s > 0$ , a vector  $\Theta \in \mathbb{R}^d$
  - 2: Sort  $\{|\Theta_j|\}_{j=1}^d$  such that  $|\Theta_{j_1}| \geq |\Theta_{j_2}| \geq \dots \geq |\Theta_{j_d}|$
  - 3:  $\mathcal{S} \leftarrow \{j_1, \dots, j_s\}$
  - 4: **for**  $j$  in  $\{1, \dots, d\}$  **do**
  - 5:  $\Theta_j \leftarrow 0$  if  $j \notin \mathcal{S}$
  - 6: **end for**
  - 7: **return**  $\Theta$
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**Algorithm 3** Evaluation of the truncation function  $\text{Trunc}(\Theta, s)$  in Line 6 of Algorithm 1 for nonlinear low-rank matrix recovery

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- 1: **Input:** Truncation level  $s > 0$ , a low rank matrix  $\Theta \in \mathbb{R}^{m_1 \times m_2}$  with  $\text{rank}(\Theta) = r$
  - 2: Perform singular value decomposition  $\Theta = \mathbf{U}\mathbf{\Lambda}\mathbf{V}^\top$  where  $\mathbf{U} \in \mathbb{R}^{m_1 \times r}$ ,  $\mathbf{\Lambda} \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times r}$ ,  $\mathbf{V} \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times m_2}$ . The diagonal elements of  $\mathbf{\Lambda}$  are in decreasing order
  - 3: **for**  $j$  in  $\{1, \dots, r\}$  **do**
  - 4:  $\Lambda_{jj} \leftarrow 0$  if  $j > s$
  - 5: **end for**
  - 6:  $\Theta \leftarrow \mathbf{U}\mathbf{\Lambda}\mathbf{V}^\top$
  - 7: **return**  $\Theta$
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## B Proof of the Main Results

In this section we give a detailed proof of the main results.

### B.1 Proof of Theorem 3.5

*Proof.* We first define  $\text{supp}(\mathbf{V}) := \{j : v_j \neq 0\}$ , for any  $\mathbf{V} = (v_1, \dots, v_d)^\top \in \mathbb{R}^d$  as the support of  $\mathbf{V}$ . When proceeding Algorithm 1 for sparse vector recovery, for  $t \geq 0$ , we denote  $\mathcal{S}^{(t)} = \text{supp}(\boldsymbol{\Theta}^{(t)})$ ,  $\mathcal{S}^* = \text{supp}(\boldsymbol{\Theta}^*)$  and  $\mathcal{F}^{(t)} = \mathcal{S}^{(t)} \cup \mathcal{S}^{(t+1)} \cup \mathcal{S}^*$ . By definition, the cardinality of  $\mathcal{F}^{(t)}$  is no larger than  $2s + s^*$ , i.e.,  $\|\boldsymbol{\Theta}_{\mathcal{F}^{(t)}}\|_0 \leq 2s + s^*$ . We denote  $\tilde{\boldsymbol{\Theta}}^{(t+1)} = \boldsymbol{\Theta}^{(t)} - \eta \cdot \nabla_{\mathcal{F}^{(t)}} \ell(\boldsymbol{\Theta}^{(t)})$ , then by definition we have  $\boldsymbol{\Theta}^{(t+1)} = \text{Trunc}(\tilde{\boldsymbol{\Theta}}^{(t+1)}, s)$ . By denoting  $\boldsymbol{\Delta}^{(t)} = \boldsymbol{\Theta}^{(t)} - \boldsymbol{\Theta}^*$ , we have

$$\|\tilde{\boldsymbol{\Theta}}^{(t+1)} - \boldsymbol{\Theta}^*\|_2 = \|\boldsymbol{\Delta}^{(t)} - \eta \cdot \nabla_{\mathcal{F}^{(t)}} \ell(\boldsymbol{\Theta}^{(t)})\|_2. \quad (\text{B.1})$$

According to the definition of the least-squares loss function in (1.2),  $\nabla \ell(\boldsymbol{\Theta}^{(t)})$  is represented as:

$$\nabla \ell(\boldsymbol{\Theta}^{(t)}) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n [f(\langle \mathbf{X}_i, \boldsymbol{\Theta}^{(t)} \rangle) - Y_i] \cdot f'(\langle \mathbf{X}_i, \boldsymbol{\Theta}^{(t)} \rangle) \cdot \mathbf{X}_i = \mathbf{E}^{(t)} + \mathbf{G}^{(t)}, \quad (\text{B.2})$$

where  $\mathbf{E}^{(t)}$  and  $\mathbf{G}^{(t)}$  are defined as

$$\mathbf{E}^{(t)} := \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n [f'(\langle \mathbf{X}_i, \boldsymbol{\Theta}^{(t)} \rangle) - f'(\langle \mathbf{X}_i, \boldsymbol{\Theta}^* \rangle)] \cdot \epsilon_i \cdot \mathbf{X}_i, \text{ and} \quad (\text{B.3})$$

$$\mathbf{G}^{(t)} := \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n f'(\langle \mathbf{X}_i, \boldsymbol{\Theta}^{(t)} \rangle) \cdot [f(\langle \mathbf{X}_i, \boldsymbol{\Theta}^{(t)} \rangle) - f(\langle \mathbf{X}_i, \boldsymbol{\Theta}^* \rangle)] \cdot \mathbf{X}_i. \quad (\text{B.4})$$

Triangle inequality yields that

$$\|\tilde{\boldsymbol{\Theta}}^{(t+1)} - \boldsymbol{\Theta}^*\|_2 \leq \|\boldsymbol{\Delta}^{(t)} - \eta \cdot \mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{F}^{(t)}}^{(t)}\|_2 + \eta \cdot \|\mathbf{E}_{\mathcal{F}^{(t)}}^{(t)}\|_2. \quad (\text{B.5})$$

Using Mean Value Theorem,  $\mathbf{G}^{(t)}$  can be written as

$$\mathbf{G}^{(t)} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n f'(\langle \mathbf{X}_i, \boldsymbol{\Theta}^{(t)} \rangle) \cdot f'(\langle \mathbf{X}_i, \boldsymbol{\Theta}_1 \rangle) \cdot \langle \mathbf{X}_i, \boldsymbol{\Delta}^{(t)} \rangle \cdot \mathbf{X}_i = \mathbf{A}^{(t)} \cdot \boldsymbol{\Delta}^{(t)}, \quad (\text{B.6})$$

where  $\boldsymbol{\Theta}_1$  lies between  $\boldsymbol{\Theta}^{(t)}$  and  $\boldsymbol{\Theta}^*$  and  $\mathbf{A}^{(t)} = n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n f'(\langle \mathbf{X}_i, \boldsymbol{\Theta}^{(t)} \rangle) \cdot f'(\langle \mathbf{X}_i, \boldsymbol{\Theta}_1 \rangle) \cdot \mathbf{X}_i \mathbf{X}_i^\top$ . Since  $\text{supp}(\mathbf{G}^{(t)}) \subseteq \mathcal{F}^{(t)}$ , we actually have

$$\mathbf{G}^{(t)} = \mathbf{A}_{\cdot, \mathcal{F}^{(t)}}^{(t)} \cdot \boldsymbol{\Delta}^{(t)}. \quad (\text{B.7})$$

Therefore, combining (B.5), (B.6), and (B.7), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \|\tilde{\boldsymbol{\Theta}}^{(t+1)} - \boldsymbol{\Theta}^*\|_2 &\leq \|\boldsymbol{\Delta}^{(t)} - \eta \cdot \mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{F}^{(t)}}^{(t)}\|_2 + \eta \cdot \|\mathbf{E}_{\mathcal{F}^{(t)}}^{(t)}\|_2 \\ &\leq \|\mathbf{I} - \eta \cdot \mathbf{A}_{\mathcal{F}^{(t)}, \mathcal{F}^{(t)}}^{(t)}\|_2 \cdot \|\boldsymbol{\Delta}^{(t)}\|_2 + \eta \cdot \|\mathbf{E}_{\mathcal{F}^{(t)}}^{(t)}\|_2, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B.8})$$

where  $\mathbf{I} \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{F}^{(t)}| \times |\mathcal{F}^{(t)}|}$  is the identity matrix. Here the second inequality follows from the definition of operator norm. Since  $|\mathcal{F}^{(t)}| \leq 2s + s^*$ , by Assumptions 3.1 and 3.2 we have

$$a^2[1 - \delta(2s + s^*)] \cdot \|\mathbf{V}\|_2 \leq \mathbf{V}^\top \mathbf{A}_{\mathcal{F}^{(t)}, \mathcal{F}^{(t)}}^{(t)} \mathbf{V} \leq b^2[1 + \delta(2s + s^*)] \cdot \|\mathbf{V}\|_2$$

for any  $\mathbf{V} \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{F}^{(t)}|}$ . Therefore, given  $\eta$  we can bound  $\|\mathbf{I} - \eta \cdot \mathbf{A}_{\mathcal{F}^{(t)}, \mathcal{F}^{(t)}}^{(t)}\|_2$  by

$$\lambda_1(\eta) := \max\{1 - \eta a^2[1 - \delta(2s + s^*)], \eta b^2[1 + \delta(2s + s^*)] - 1\}. \quad (\text{B.9})$$

By choosing  $3/7 \cdot \{a^2[1 - \delta(2s + s^*)]\}^{-1} < \eta < 11/7 \cdot \{b^2[1 + \delta(2s + s^*)]\}^{-1}$ , we have  $\lambda_1(\eta) \in (0, 4/7)$ . Note that given  $a$  and  $b$ , such  $\eta$  always exists as long as the constant  $\delta(2s + s^*)$  is sufficiently small.

Moreover, due to the property of the norms,

$$\|\mathbf{E}_{\mathcal{F}^{(t)}}^{(t)}\|_2 \leq \sqrt{2s + s^*} \cdot \|\mathbf{E}^{(t)}\|_\infty. \quad (\text{B.10})$$

Therefore, combining (B.8), (B.9), and (B.10), we obtain that

$$\|\tilde{\Theta}^{(t+1)} - \Theta^*\|_2 \leq \lambda_1(\eta) \cdot \|\Delta^{(t)}\|_2 + \eta\sqrt{2s + s^*} \cdot \|\mathbf{E}^{(t)}\|_\infty. \quad (\text{B.11})$$

The following lemma further upper bounds  $\|\mathbf{E}^{(t)}\|_\infty$  with high probability.

**Lemma B.1.** For  $\mathbf{E}^{(t)}$  defined in (B.3), if we assume  $\mathbf{X}_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$  satisfies Assumption 3.4, then it holds with probability at least  $1 - d^{-1}$  that

$$\|\mathbf{E}^{(t)}\|_\infty \leq 2b\sigma D \cdot \sqrt{\log d/n}, \quad \forall t \geq 0. \quad (\text{B.12})$$

*Proof.* Recall that  $\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_n$  are i.i.d. sub-Gaussian random variables. By the definition of  $\mathbf{E}^{(t)}$ , for  $j \in \{1, \dots, d\}$ , each entry  $E_j^{(t)}$  is a sub-Gaussian random variable with variance proxy given by

$$\tau_t := \frac{\sigma^2}{n^2} \sum_{i=1}^n [f'(\langle \mathbf{X}_i, \Theta^{(t)} \rangle) - f'(\langle \mathbf{X}_i, \Theta^* \rangle)]^2 X_{ij}^2 \leq 4b^2\sigma^2 D^2/n, \quad \forall t \geq 0,$$

where  $X_{ij}$  denotes the  $j$ -th entry in  $\mathbf{X}_i$ . Here the inequality follows from the assumption that  $f'(u) \leq b$  for all  $u \in \mathbb{R}$  and Assumption 3.4. By the definition of sub-Gaussian random vectors, for any  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , we have

$$\max_{t \geq 0} \mathbb{E}[\exp(\mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{E}^{(t)})] \leq \max_{t \geq 0} \exp(\|\mathbf{A}\|_2^2 \cdot \tau_t) \leq \exp(\|\mathbf{A}\|_2^2 \cdot 4b^2\sigma^2 D^2/n).$$

By the tail inequality for sub-Gaussian random variables, we conclude that

$$\|\mathbf{E}^{(t)}\|_\infty \leq 2b\sigma D \cdot \sqrt{\log d/n}, \quad \forall t \geq 0$$

with probability at least  $1 - d^{-1}$ . Thus, we conclude the proof of the lemma.  $\square$

Now we use the following lemma from Jain et al. (2014) to characterize the relation between  $\|\tilde{\Theta}^{(t+1)} - \Theta^*\|_2$  and  $\|\Theta^{(t+1)} - \Theta^*\|_2$ .

**Lemma B.2.** For any  $\Theta \in \mathbb{R}^k$  and integer  $s \leq k$ , let  $\Theta_t = \text{Trunc}(\Theta, s)$ . Then for any  $\Theta^* \in \mathbb{R}^k$  such that  $\|\Theta^*\|_0 \leq s^*$ , we have  $\|\Theta_t - \Theta\|_2^2 \leq (k - s)/(k - s^*) \cdot \|\Theta^* - \Theta\|_2^2$ .

*Proof.* See Lemma 1 of Jain et al. (2014) for a detailed proof.  $\square$

Applying Lemma B.2 with  $\Theta = \tilde{\Theta}^{(t+1)}$ , we have

$$\|\tilde{\Theta}^{(t+1)} - \Theta^{(t+1)}\|_2^2 \leq \frac{|\mathcal{F}^{(t)}| - s}{|\mathcal{F}^{(t)}| - s^*} \cdot \|\tilde{\Theta}^{(t+1)} - \Theta^*\|_2^2 \leq \frac{s + s^*}{2s} \cdot \|\tilde{\Theta}^{(t+1)} - \Theta^*\|_2^2$$

where the second inequality follows from  $|\mathcal{F}^{(t)}| \leq 2s + s^*$ . From Assumption 3.2 that  $s \geq 8s^*$ , we further have

$$\|\tilde{\Theta}^{(t+1)} - \Theta^{(t+1)}\|_2^2 \leq 9/16 \cdot \|\tilde{\Theta}^{(t+1)} - \Theta^*\|_2^2,$$

Therefore, we obtain

$$\|\Theta^{(t+1)} - \Theta^*\|_2 \leq \|\Theta^{(t+1)} - \tilde{\Theta}^{(t+1)}\|_2 + \|\tilde{\Theta}^{(t+1)} - \Theta^*\|_2 \leq 7/4 \cdot \|\tilde{\Theta}^{(t+1)} - \Theta^*\|_2. \quad (\text{B.13})$$

Finally we obtain the main result by combining (B.11), (B.12), and (B.13):

$$\|\Theta^{(t+1)} - \Theta^*\|_2 \leq \mu_1^t \cdot \|\Theta^{(0)} - \Theta^*\|_2 + C_1 \cdot \sqrt{(2s + s^*) \log d/n},$$

where  $\mu_1 \in (0, 1)$  and  $C_1 > 0$  is an absolute constant. Therefore, we conclude the proof of the theorem.  $\square$

## B.2 Proof of Theorem 3.6

*Proof.* The proof has the similar procedure as the proof of Theorem 3.5. When Algorithm 1 is adopted for low-rank matrix recovery, for  $t \geq 0$ , we define  $\mathcal{S}^{(t)}$  and  $\mathcal{S}^*$  as

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{S}^{(t)} &:= \{\mathbf{V} \in \mathbb{R}^{m_1 \times m_2} : \text{row}(\mathbf{V}) \subseteq \text{row}(\boldsymbol{\Theta}^{(t)}), \text{col}(\mathbf{V}) \subseteq \text{col}(\boldsymbol{\Theta}^{(t)})\}, \\ \mathcal{S}^* &:= \{\mathbf{V} \in \mathbb{R}^{m_1 \times m_2} : \text{row}(\mathbf{V}) \subseteq \text{row}(\boldsymbol{\Theta}^*), \text{col}(\mathbf{V}) \subseteq \text{col}(\boldsymbol{\Theta}^*)\}.\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, any matrix in subspace  $\mathcal{F}^{(t)} := \mathcal{S}^{(t)} \cup \mathcal{S}^{(t+1)} \cup \mathcal{S}^*$  has rank no larger than  $2s + s^*$ , i.e.,  $\text{rank}(\boldsymbol{\Theta}_{\mathcal{F}^{(t)}}) \leq 2s + s^*$ , for any  $\boldsymbol{\Theta} \in \mathbb{R}^{m_1 \times m_2}$ . Therefore, by denoting  $\tilde{\boldsymbol{\Theta}}^{(t+1)} = \boldsymbol{\Theta}^{(t)} - \eta \cdot \nabla_{\mathcal{F}^{(t)}} \ell(\boldsymbol{\Theta}^{(t)})$  and  $\boldsymbol{\Theta}^{(t+1)} = \text{Trunc}(\tilde{\boldsymbol{\Theta}}^{(t+1)}, s)$ , we obtain the same results as (B.1) and (B.2) for low-rank matrix recovery and have the same definition for  $\mathbf{E}^{(t)}$  and  $\mathbf{G}^{(t)}$  as (B.3) and (B.4), respectively. With triangle inequality for the Frobenius norm, we obtain

$$\|\tilde{\boldsymbol{\Theta}}^{(t+1)} - \boldsymbol{\Theta}^*\|_F \leq \|\boldsymbol{\Delta}^{(t)} - \eta \cdot \mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{F}^{(t)}}^{(t)}\|_F + \eta \cdot \|\mathbf{E}_{\mathcal{F}^{(t)}}^{(t)}\|_F. \quad (\text{B.14})$$

We need to upper bound the two terms on the right hand side.

Using the Mean Value Theorem,  $\mathbf{G}^{(t)}$  can be written as

$$\mathbf{G}^{(t)} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n f'(\langle \mathbf{X}_i, \boldsymbol{\Theta}^{(t)} \rangle) \cdot f'(\langle \mathbf{X}_i, \boldsymbol{\Theta}_1 \rangle) \cdot \langle \mathbf{X}_i, \boldsymbol{\Delta}^{(t)} \rangle \cdot \mathbf{X}_i = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n B_i \cdot \langle \mathbf{X}_i, \boldsymbol{\Delta}^{(t)} \rangle \cdot \mathbf{X}_i,$$

where  $\boldsymbol{\Theta}_1$  lies between  $\boldsymbol{\Theta}^{(t)}$  and  $\boldsymbol{\Theta}^*$  and  $B_i = f'(\langle \mathbf{X}_i, \boldsymbol{\Theta}^{(t)} \rangle) \cdot f'(\langle \mathbf{X}_i, \boldsymbol{\Theta}_1 \rangle)$ . Hence by definition,  $\|\boldsymbol{\Delta}^{(t)} - \eta \cdot \mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{F}^{(t)}}^{(t)}\|_F$  can be written as

$$\|\boldsymbol{\Delta}^{(t)} - \eta \cdot \mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{F}^{(t)}}^{(t)}\|_F = \sup_{\tilde{\boldsymbol{\Delta}} \in \tilde{\mathcal{S}}^{(t)}} \left| \langle \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Delta}}, \boldsymbol{\Delta}^{(t)} \rangle - \eta \cdot \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n B_i \cdot \langle \mathbf{X}_i, \boldsymbol{\Delta}^{(t)} \rangle \langle \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Delta}}, \mathbf{X}_i \rangle \right| \quad (\text{B.15})$$

where  $\tilde{\mathcal{S}}^{(t)} := \{\tilde{\boldsymbol{\Delta}} \in \mathcal{F}^{(t)} : \|\tilde{\boldsymbol{\Delta}}\|_F = 1\}$ . Using triangle inequality, we have

$$\begin{aligned}& \sup_{\tilde{\boldsymbol{\Delta}} \in \tilde{\mathcal{S}}^{(t)}} \left| \langle \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Delta}}, \boldsymbol{\Delta}^{(t)} \rangle - \eta \cdot \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n B_i \cdot \langle \mathbf{X}_i, \boldsymbol{\Delta}^{(t)} \rangle \langle \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Delta}}, \mathbf{X}_i \rangle \right| \\ & \leq \sup_{\tilde{\boldsymbol{\Delta}} \in \tilde{\mathcal{S}}^{(t)}} \left| \langle \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Delta}}, \boldsymbol{\Delta}^{(t)} \rangle - \eta \cdot \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n B_i \cdot \langle \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Delta}}, \boldsymbol{\Delta}^{(t)} \rangle \right| + \\ & \quad \left| \eta \cdot \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n B_i \cdot (\langle \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Delta}}, \boldsymbol{\Delta}^{(t)} \rangle - \langle \mathbf{X}_i, \boldsymbol{\Delta}^{(t)} \rangle \langle \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Delta}}, \mathbf{X}_i \rangle) \right|\end{aligned} \quad (\text{B.16})$$

The first term on the right hand side of (B.16) is bounded as

$$\sup_{\tilde{\boldsymbol{\Delta}} \in \tilde{\mathcal{S}}^{(t)}} \left| \langle \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Delta}}, \boldsymbol{\Delta}^{(t)} \rangle - \eta \cdot \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n B_i \cdot \langle \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Delta}}, \boldsymbol{\Delta}^{(t)} \rangle \right| \leq \max\{1 - \eta a^2, \eta b^2 - 1\} \cdot \|\boldsymbol{\Delta}^{(t)}\|_F, \quad (\text{B.17})$$

due to the boundness of the derivative  $f'$ .

For the second term on the right hand side of (B.16), we introduce the following lemma from Carpentier and Kim (2015) to bound it.

**Lemma B.3.** Under Assumption 3.2, for any  $s \leq 8s^*$ , we have that

$$\sup_{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B} \in \mathcal{R}(s)} \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \langle \mathbf{X}_i, \mathbf{A} \rangle \langle \mathbf{X}_i, \mathbf{B} \rangle - \langle \mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B} \rangle \right| \leq 2\delta(s) \cdot \|\mathbf{A}\|_F \|\mathbf{B}\|_F, \quad (\text{B.18})$$

where we denote  $\mathcal{R}(s) := \{\mathbf{V} \in \mathbb{R}^{m_1 \times m_2} : |\text{row}(\mathbf{V})| \leq s, |\text{col}(\mathbf{V})| \leq s\}$ .

*Proof.* See Lemma 5.1. of Carpentier and Kim (2015) for a detailed proof.  $\square$

By applying Lemma B.3, we have

$$\sup_{\tilde{\Delta} \in \tilde{\mathcal{S}}^{(t)}} \left| \eta \cdot \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n B_i \cdot (\langle \tilde{\Delta}, \Delta^{(t)} \rangle - \langle \mathbf{X}_i, \Delta^{(t)} \rangle \langle \tilde{\Delta}, \mathbf{X}_i \rangle) \right| \leq 2\eta b^2 \delta(2s + s^*) \cdot \|\Delta^{(t)}\|_F. \quad (\text{B.19})$$

Thus (B.15) can be upper bounded by combining (B.17) and (B.19)

$$\|\Delta^{(t)} - \eta \cdot \mathbf{G}_{\mathcal{F}^{(t)}}^{(t)}\|_F \leq \lambda_2(\eta) := \max\{1 - \eta a^2, \eta b^2 - 1\} + 2\eta b^2 \delta(2s + s^*). \quad (\text{B.20})$$

By choosing  $b^{-2} < \eta < 11/7 \cdot b^{-2} \cdot [1 + 2\delta(2s + s^*)]^{-1}$ , or  $3/7 \cdot [a^2 - 2b^2\delta(2s + s^*)]^{-1} < \eta < a^{-2}$ , we have  $\lambda_2(\eta) < 4/7$ . Note that such  $\eta$  always exists as long as the constant  $\delta(2s + s^*)$  in the RIP condition is sufficiently small.

For the term  $\|\mathbf{E}_{\mathcal{F}^{(t)}}^{(t)}\|_F$ , we also have

$$\|\mathbf{E}_{\mathcal{F}^{(t)}}^{(t)}\|_F \leq \sqrt{2s + s^*} \cdot \|\mathbf{E}^{(t)}\|_2 \quad (\text{B.21})$$

due to the relation between the Frobenius norm and the operator norm. Moreover, we can further upper bound  $\|\mathbf{E}^{(t)}\|_2$  with high probability for low-rank matrix recovery depending on different assumptions on  $\mathbf{X}$ . For example, under the assumption that  $\mathbf{X}_i$  are i.i.d. sampled from the  $\Sigma$ -ensemble with some positive definite  $\Sigma$ , we have  $\|\mathbf{E}^{(t)}\|_2 = \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}}(\sqrt{m_1 + m_2}/\sqrt{n})$  (Negahban and Wainwright, 2011) (See more discussions in Remark 3.7).

To characterize the relation between  $\|\tilde{\Theta}^{(t+1)} - \Theta^*\|_F$  and  $\|\Theta^{(t+1)} - \Theta^*\|_F$ , we use another lemma in Jain et al. (2014) for matrix recovery.

**Lemma B.4.** For any  $\Theta \in \mathbb{R}^{m_1 \times m_2}$  with rank  $k$  and integer  $s \leq k$ , let  $\Theta_1 = \text{Trunc}(\Theta, s)$ . Then for any  $\Theta^* \in \mathbb{R}^{m_1 \times m_2}$  with  $\text{rank}(\Theta^*) \leq s^*$ , we have  $\|\Theta_1 - \Theta\|_F^2 \leq (k - s)/(k - s^*) \cdot \|\Theta^* - \Theta\|_F^2$ .

*Proof.* See Lemma 2 of Jain et al. (2014) for a detailed proof.  $\square$

By applying Lemma B.4, we arrive at the similar result as (B.13),

$$\|\Theta^{(t+1)} - \Theta^*\|_F \leq \|\Theta^{(t+1)} - \tilde{\Theta}^{(t+1)}\|_F + \|\tilde{\Theta}^{(t+1)} - \Theta^*\|_F \leq 7/4 \cdot \|\tilde{\Theta}^{(t+1)} - \Theta^*\|_F. \quad (\text{B.22})$$

Finally we obtain the main results for low-rank matrix recovery by combining (B.14), (B.20), (B.21), and (B.22):

$$\begin{aligned} \|\Theta^{(t)} - \Theta^*\|_F &\leq \mu_2^t \cdot \|\Theta^{(0)} - \Theta^*\|_F + \eta \sqrt{2s + s^*} \cdot \|\mathbf{E}^{(t)}\|_2 \\ &\leq \mu_2^t \cdot \|\Theta^{(0)} - \Theta^*\|_F + C_2 \sqrt{2s + s^*} \cdot \left\| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \epsilon_i \mathbf{X}_i \right\|_2, \end{aligned}$$

with  $\mu_2 \in (0, 1)$  and  $C_2 = 2b\eta > 0$  as an absolute constant. Thus, we conclude the proof of the theorem.  $\square$