## Robust Late Fusion with Rank Minimization Supplementary Material

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**Theorem 1.** Given a set of n skew-symmetric matrices  $T_i$ , the SVT solver employed by Algorithm 1 produces a skew-symmetry matrix  $\hat{T}$  if the spectrums between the dominant singular values are separated.

*Proof.* Following the proof in [1], to prove the above theorem, we first introduce some properties of skew-symmetric matrices. Assuming T is a skew-symmetric matrix with the property  $T = -T^{\top}$ , then the eigenvalues of T are pure-imaginary and come in complex-conjugate pairs. Moreover, the rank of T is even [2]. Then the following lemma characterizes the Singular Value Decomposition (SVD) of a skew-symmetric matrix.

**Lemma 1.** If T is an  $m \times m$  skew-symmetric matrix with eigenvalues  $i\lambda_1, -i\lambda_1, i\lambda_2, -i\lambda_2, \ldots, i\lambda_j, -i\lambda_j$ where  $\lambda_p > 0$ ,  $p = 1, \ldots, j$ ,  $j = \lfloor (m/2) \rfloor$ , and i denotes the imaginary unit. Then the SVD of T is given by  $T = UDV^{\top}$  where



and the forms of U, V are given in the proof.

*Proof.* Based on Murnaghan-Wintner form of a real-valued matrix [3], the matrix T can be decomposed as

$$T = XZX^{\top},\tag{1}$$

for a real-valued orthogonal matrix X and a real-valued block-upper-triangular matrix Z with 2-by-2 blocks along the diagonal.

Since T is skew-symmetric, the decomposed component Z is also skew-symmetric. Then Z has a block-diagonal form:



Furthermore, the SVD of the block matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & \lambda_1 \\ -\lambda_1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  is given by

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & \lambda_1 \\ -\lambda_1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_1 \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Assume matrix A and matrix B are defined as follows:

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Then, the real-valued matrix T has the following decomposition form:  $T = XADBX^{\top}$ . We construct U and V such that U = XA and  $V^{\top} = BX^{\top}$ , which are real and orthogonal. We thus complete the lemma which constructs the SVD of T.

Next, we use the following lemma to illustrate that the low rank approximation to a skew-symmetric matrix T generated by singular value thresholding is also skew-symmetric.

**Lemma 2.** Let T be an  $m \times m$  skew-symmetric matrix, and let  $\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \ldots \geq \lambda_j > \lambda_{j+1}$  be the magnitudes of the singular value pairs. (Recall that the previous lemma showed that the singular values come in pairs, e.g.,  $(i\lambda_p, -i\lambda_p)$ ,  $p = 1, 2, \ldots, j$ .). Then the low rank approximation of T generated by singular value thresholding in an orthogonally invariant norm is also skew-symmetric.

*Proof.* Since the number of singular values of T is even, and there is a gap between the kth and the (k + 1)th singular value, we can always get the even number of singular values if we truncate the singular values based on a threshold. Therefore, based on the SVD form from Lemma 1, we naturally obtain a skew-symmetric matrix.

Finally, we use the above lemma to prove that, given a set of n skew-symmetric matrices  $T_i$ , our ALM-based algorithm preserves a skew-symmetry matrix  $\hat{T}^{(l)}$  in each iteration, where l denotes the iterative number.

Clearly, from Algorithm 1,  $\hat{T}^{(0)}$ ,  $E_i^{(0)}$ ,  $Y_i^{(0)}$ ,  $i = 1, \ldots, n$  are all skew-symmetric. In step 4 of our algorithm, we compute the SVD of a skew-symmetric matrix  $\frac{1}{n\mu} \sum_{i=1}^{n} Y_i^{(0)} + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} T_i - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} E_i^{(0)}$  and truncate the singular values below the threshold, then the obtained  $\hat{T}^{(1)}$  is skew-symmetric based on Lemma 2 and condition of our theorem. In step 5, the obtained  $E_i^{(1)}$  is skew-symmetric due to the fact that  $T_i + \frac{Y_i^{(0)}}{\mu} - \hat{T}^{(1)}$  is skew-symmetric. Similarly, in step 6, we can obtain  $Y_i^{(1)}$  which is also skew-symmetric matrices  $\hat{T}^{(l)}, E_i^{(l)}, Y_i^{(l)}$  in each iteration. Therefore, we arrive at a skew-symmetric matrix  $\hat{T}$  when Algorithm 1 converges, which completes the proof.

## References

- [1] D. F. Gleich and L. H. Lim. Rank aggregation via nuclear norm minimization. In *KDD*, 2011. 1
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- [3] F. D. Murnaghan and A. Wintner. A canonical form for real matrices under orthogonal transformations. *Proceedings* of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America, 1931. 1