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# Some Bounds and the Conditional Maximum Bound for Restricted Isometry Constants

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## ABSTRACT

Compressed sensing seeks to recover an unknown sparse signal with  $P$  entries by making far fewer than  $P$  measurements. The restricted isometry Constants (RIC) has become a dominant tool used for such cases since if RIC satisfies some bound then sparse signals are guaranteed to be recovered exactly when no noise is present and sparse signals can be estimated stably in the noisy case. During the last few years, a great deal of attention has been focused on bounds of RIC, see, e. g., Candes (2008), Foucart et al (2009), Foucart (2010), Cai et al (2010), Mo et al (2011), Ji et al (2012). Finding bounds of RIC has theoretical and applied significance. In this paper, we obtain a bound of RIC. It improves the results by Cai et al (2010) and Ji et al (2012). Further, we discuss the problems related larger bound of RIC, and give the conditional maximum bound.

**Keywords:** Compressed sensing,  $L_1$  minimization, restricted isometry property, sparse signal recovery.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Compressed sensing aims to recover high-dimensional sparse signals based on considerably fewer linear measurements. We consider

$$y = \Phi\beta + z, \quad (1)$$

where the matrix  $\Phi \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}$  with  $n \leq p$ ,  $z \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is

a vector of measurement errors, and the unknown signal

$\beta \in \mathbb{R}^p$ . Our goal is to reconstruct  $\beta$  based on  $y$

and  $\Phi$ .

A naive approach for solving this problem is to consider

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$L_0$  minimization where the goal is to find the sparsest solution in the feasible set of possible solutions. However, this is NP hard and thus is computationally infeasible. It is then natural to consider the method of  $L_1$  minimization which can be viewed as a convex relaxation of  $L_0$  minimization. The  $L_1$  minimization method in this context is

$$\hat{\beta} = \arg \min_{\gamma \in \mathbb{R}^p} \{\|\gamma\|_1 \text{ subject to } \|y - \Phi\gamma\|_2 \leq \varepsilon\} \quad (2)$$

This method has been successfully used as an effective way for reconstructing a sparse signal in many settings. See, e. g., [1-8].

Recovery of high dimensional sparse signals is closely connected with Lasso and Dantzig selectors, e. g., see, [6, 9-12]. One of the most commonly used frameworks for sparse recovery via  $L_1$  minimization is the Restricted Isometry Property (RIP) with a RIC introduced by Candes and Tao [3]. It has been shown that  $L_1$  minimization can recover a sparse signal with a small or zero error under various conditions on  $\delta_k$  and  $\theta_{k,k'}$  (See Section 2). For example, the condition  $\delta_k + \theta_{k,k} + \theta_{k,2k} < 1$  is used in [3],  $\delta_{3k} + 3\delta_{4k} < 2$  in [4],  $\delta_{2k} + \theta_{k,2k} < 1$  in [6],  $\delta_{1.5k} + \theta_{k,1.5k} < 1$  in [13] and  $\delta_{1.25k} + \theta_{k,1.25k} < 1$  in [8].

The RIP conditions are difficult to verify for a given matrix  $\Phi$ . A widely used technique for avoiding checking the RIP directly is to generate the matrix  $\Phi$  randomly and to show that the resulting random matrix satisfies the RIP with high probability using the well-known Johnson–Lindenstrauss Lemma. (See, for example, [14]).

This is typically done for conditions involving only the restricted isometry constant  $\delta$ . Attention has been focused on  $\delta_{2k}$  as it is obviously necessary to have  $\delta_{2k} < 1$  for model identifiability. In a recent paper, Davies and Gribonval [15] constructed examples which showed that if  $\delta_{2k} \geq 0.7071$ , exact recovery of certain  $k$  sparse signal can fail in the noiseless case. On the other hand, sufficient conditions on  $\delta_{2k}$  has been given. For example,  $\delta_{2k} < 0.4142$  is used in [16],  $\delta_{2k} < 0.4531$  in [17],  $\delta_{2k} < 0.4652$  in [18],  $\delta_{2k} < 0.4721$  in [8],  $\delta_{2k} < 0.4734$  in [18] and  $\delta_{2k} < 0.4931$  in [19]. Some sufficient conditions on  $\delta_k$  has been given. For example,  $\delta_k < 0.307$  is used in [20], and  $\delta_k < 0.308$  in [21] when  $k$  is even. In this paper  $\delta_k < 0.308$  is given for any  $k$ , and the conditional maximum bound  $\delta_k < 0.5$  is obtained.

There are several benefits for improving the bound on  $\delta_k$ .

First, it allows more measurement matrices to be used in compressed sensing. Secondly, for the same matrix  $\Phi$ , it allows  $k$  to be larger, that is, it allows recovering a sparse signal with more nonzero elements. Furthermore, it gives better error estimation in a general problem to recover noisy compressible signals.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, some basic notations and known results are introduced. Our new RIC bounds of compressed sensing matrices are presented in Section 3. In Section 4, we discuss the problems related larger bound of RIC, and give conditional maximum bound.

## 2. PRELIMINARIES

Let  $\|u\|_0$  be the number of nonzero elements of vector

$u = (u_i) \in \mathbb{R}^p$ .  $u$  is called  $k$ -sparse if  $\|u\|_0 \leq k$ .

For an  $n \times p$  matrix  $\Phi$  and an integer  $k$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq p$ , the  $k$  restricted isometry constant  $\delta_k(\Phi)$  is the

smallest constant such that

$$\sqrt{1 - \delta_k(\Phi)} \|u\|_2 \leq \|\Phi u\|_2 \leq \sqrt{1 + \delta_k(\Phi)} \|u\|_2$$

(3)

for every  $k$ -sparse vector  $u$ . If  $k + k' \leq p$ , the  $k$ ,

$k'$  restricted orthogonality constant  $\theta_{k,k'}(\Phi)$ , is the

smallest number that satisfies

$$|\langle \Phi u, \Phi u' \rangle| \leq \theta_{k,k'}(\Phi) \|u\|_2 \|u'\|_2 \quad (4)$$

for all  $u$  and  $u'$  such that  $u$  and  $u'$  are  $k$ -sparse and  $k'$ -sparse respectively, and have disjoint supports. For

notational simplicity, we shall write  $\delta_k$  for  $\delta_k(\Phi)$  and

$\theta_{k,k'}$  for  $\theta_{k,k'}(\Phi)$  hereafter.

The following monotone properties can be easily checked

$$\delta_k \leq \delta_{k'}, \quad \text{if } k \leq k' \leq p. \quad (5)$$

$$\theta_{k,k'} \leq \theta_{j,j'}, \quad \text{if } k \leq j, \quad k' \leq j' \quad \text{and } j + j' \leq p.$$

(6)

Candes et al [3] showed that the constants and are related by the following inequalities

$$\theta_{k,k'} \leq \delta_{k+k'} \leq \theta_{k,k'} + \max(\delta_k, \delta_{k'}). \quad (7)$$

Cai et al [8] showed that for any  $a \geq 1$  and positive integers  $k, k'$  such that  $ak'$  is an integer, then

$$\theta_{k,ak'} \leq \sqrt{a} \theta_{k,k'}. \quad (8)$$

Cai et al [20] showed that for any  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$

$$\|x\|_2 \leq \frac{\|x\|_2}{\sqrt{n}} + \frac{\sqrt{n}}{4} (\|x\|_\infty - \|x\|_{-\infty}). \quad (9)$$

where  $\|x\|_\infty = \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |x_i|$  and  $\|x\|_{-\infty} = \min_{1 \leq i \leq n} |x_i|$ .

### 3. NEW RIC BOUNDS OF COMPRESSED SENSING MATRICES

In this section, we consider new RIP conditions for sparse signal recovery. Suppose

$$y = \Phi \beta + z$$

with  $\|z\|_2 \leq \varepsilon$ . Denote  $\hat{\beta}$  the solution of the following

$L_1$  minimization problem:

$$\hat{\beta} = \arg \min_{\gamma \in \mathbb{R}^p} \{\|\gamma\|_1 \text{ subject to } \|y - \Phi \gamma\|_2 \leq \varepsilon\} \quad (10)$$

The following is one of our main results of the paper.

**Theorem 1.** Suppose  $\beta$  is  $k$ -sparse with  $k > 1$ . Then under the condition

$$\delta_k < 0.308$$

the constrained  $L_1$  minimizer  $\hat{\beta}$  given in (10) satisfies

$$\|\beta - \hat{\beta}\|_2 \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{0.308 - \delta_k}.$$

In particular, in the noiseless case  $\hat{\beta}$  recovers  $\beta$  exactly.

This theorem improves  $\delta_k < 0.307$  in [20]

to  $\delta_k < 0.308$ , and  $k$  is even in [21] to any  $k$ . The

proof of the theorem is very long but elementary.

**Proof.** Let  $s, k$  be positive integers,  $1 \leq s < k$ , and

$$t = \sqrt{\frac{k}{s}} + \frac{1}{4} \sqrt{\frac{s}{k}}.$$

Then from Theorem 3.1 in [20], under the condition  $\delta_k + t\theta_{k,s} < 1$ , we have

$$\|\beta - \hat{\beta}\|_2 \leq \frac{2\sqrt{2}\sqrt{1+\delta_k}}{1-\delta_k - t\theta_{k,s}} \varepsilon.$$

By (8)

$$t\theta_{k,s} = t\theta_{\frac{k}{k-s}(k-s),s} \leq t\sqrt{\frac{k}{k-s}}\delta_k. \quad (11)$$

We show below that

$$\sqrt{\frac{k}{k-s}} \left( \sqrt{\frac{k}{s}} + \frac{1}{4} \sqrt{\frac{s}{k}} \right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} + \frac{5}{4} \sqrt{x} \triangleq f(x) \quad (12)$$

where  $x = \frac{s}{k-s}$ . The proof is of elementary trigonometric functions, but it is very clever.

Let  $s = k \sin^2 \alpha$ ,  $\alpha \in (0, \frac{\pi}{2})$ , then  $k-s = k \cos^2 \alpha$ .

So

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{\frac{k}{k-s}} \left( \sqrt{\frac{k}{s}} + \frac{1}{4} \sqrt{\frac{s}{k}} \right) &= \frac{1}{\cos \alpha} \left( \frac{1}{\sin \alpha} + \frac{\sin \alpha}{4} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{\tan \alpha} + \frac{5}{4} \tan \alpha = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} + \frac{5}{4} \sqrt{x}. \end{aligned}$$

It is easy to see  $f(x)$  is increasing when  $x \geq \frac{4}{5}$  and

decreasing when  $x \leq \frac{4}{5}$ . Thus  $f(x)$  obtains the minimum value

$$f\left(\frac{4}{5}\right) = \sqrt{5}.$$

That is, if  $k \equiv 0(\text{mod } 9)$ , let  $s = \frac{4}{9}k$ , then under the

condition  $\delta_k < 0.309$ , we have, see [20],

$$\|\beta - \hat{\beta}\|_2 \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{0.309 - \delta_k}. \quad (13)$$

If  $k$  is even, let  $s = \frac{k}{2}$ , then

$$f(1) = 2.250. \quad (14)$$

If  $k \geq 9$  is odd, let  $s = \frac{k-1}{2}$ , then

$$f\left(\frac{4}{5}\right) \leq f\left(\frac{k-1}{k+1}\right) < f(1). \quad (15)$$

since  $f(x)$  is increasing when  $x \geq \frac{4}{5}$ .

When  $k = 7$ , then

$$f\left(\frac{3}{4}\right) = \frac{31\sqrt{3}}{24} = 2.237. \quad (16)$$

When  $k = 5$ , then

$$f(x) = f\left(\frac{2}{3}\right) = \frac{11}{2\sqrt{6}} = 2.245. \quad (17)$$

When  $k = 3$ , we note from the remark of Theorem 3.1 in

[20] that in these cases  $s = 1$  and  $t = \sqrt{k}$ , then

$$t\sqrt{\frac{k}{k-s}} = \sqrt{3}\sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} = 2.121. \quad (18)$$

From (11) - (18) yield

$$\delta_k + t\theta_{\frac{k}{k}, \frac{k}{2}} \leq 3.25\delta_k < 1$$

if  $k$  is even, and

$$\delta_k + t\theta_{\frac{k-1}{k}, \frac{k-1}{2}} \leq 3.25\delta_k < 1$$

if  $k$  is odd. With the above relations, we can also get

$$\|\beta - \hat{\beta}\|_2 \leq \frac{2\sqrt{2}\sqrt{1+\delta_k}}{1-\delta_k - t\theta_{k,s}} \varepsilon \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{0.308 - \delta_k}.$$

**Corollary 1.** Suppose  $\beta$  is  $k$  sparse

with  $k \equiv 0(\text{mod } 9)$ . Then under the condition

$$\delta_k < 0.309$$

the constrained  $L_1$  minimizer  $\hat{\beta}$  given in (10) satisfies

$$\|\beta - \hat{\beta}\|_2 \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{0.309 - \delta_k}.$$

In particular, in the noiseless case  $\hat{\beta}$  recovers  $\beta$  exactly.

The proof sees (11)-(13).

**Corollary 2.** Suppose  $\beta$  is  $k$  sparse. If  $k \geq 9$  is odd, then under the condition

$$\delta_k < c_k$$

the constrained  $L_1$  minimizer  $\hat{\beta}$  given in (10) satisfies

$$\|\beta - \hat{\beta}\|_2 \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{c_k - \delta_k}.$$

where

$$c_k = \frac{4\sqrt{k^2 - 1}}{4\sqrt{k^2 - 1} + 9k - 1}.$$

In particular, in the noiseless case  $\hat{\beta}$  recovers  $\beta$  exactly.

The proof sees (11)-(12) and (15).

Note that  $0.308 < c_k \leq 0.309$  from (15).

To the best of our knowledge, this seems to be the first result for sparse recovery with conditions that only involve  $\delta_k$  and  $k$ . In fact, only involving  $\delta_k$ ,  $k$  and only involving  $\delta_k$  are equivalent.

#### 4. THE CONDITIONAL MAXIMUM BOUND FOR RIC

Let  $h = \hat{\beta} - \beta$ . For any subset  $Q \subset \{1, 2, \dots, p\}$ , we

define  $h_Q = hI_Q$ , where  $I_Q$  denotes the indicator

function of the set  $Q$ , i.e.,  $I_Q(j) = 1$  if  $j \in Q$  and 0

if  $j \notin Q$ . Let  $T$  be the index set of the  $k$  largest elements (in absolute value) and let  $\Omega$  be the support of  $\beta$ . The

following fact, which is based on the minimality of  $\hat{\beta}$ ,

has been widely used, see [4].

$$\|h_\Omega\|_1 \geq \|h_{\Omega^c}\|_1. \quad (19)$$

We shall show that

$$\|h_T\|_1 \geq \|h_{T^c}\|_1, \quad (20)$$

$$\|h_T\|_2 \geq \|h_{T^c}\|_2. \quad (21)$$

In fact

$$\|h_T\|_1 + \|h_{T^c}\|_1 = \|h\|_1 = \|h_\Omega\|_1 + \|h_{\Omega^c}\|_1,$$

and  $T$  has the  $k$  largest elements (in absolute value) and  $\Omega$  has at most  $k$  elements, so we have by (19)

$$\|h_T\|_1 \geq \|h_\Omega\|_1 \geq \|h_{\Omega^c}\|_1 \geq \|h_{T^c}\|_1.$$

And

$$\|h_{T^c}\|_2^2 \leq \|h_{T^c}\|_1 \|h_{T^c}\|_\infty \leq \|h_T\|_1 \frac{\|h_T\|_1}{k} \leq \|h_T\|_2^2.$$

**Definition 1.** Let  $T_m$  be the index set of the  $m$  largest elements (in absolute value). The set  $T_m$  is called a sparse index set, if  $\|h_{T_m}\|_1 \geq \|h_{T_m^c}\|_1$  and  $m \leq k$ .

It is obvious that the sparse index set exists. In fact  $T_k$  is a sparse index set since  $\|h_{T_k}\|_1 \geq \|h_{T_k^c}\|_1$ .

Here we prove that any sparse index set  $T_m$  instead of  $T_k$ , Theorem 3.1 in [20] can be improved.

**Theorem 2.** Suppose  $\beta$  is  $k$ -sparse, and  $T_m$  is sparse index set. Let  $k_1, k_2$  be positive integers such that

$$k_1 \geq m \text{ and } 8(k_1 - m) \leq k_2.$$

Let

$$t = \sqrt{\frac{k_1}{k_2}} + \frac{1}{4} \sqrt{\frac{k_2}{k_1}} - \frac{2(k_1 - m)}{\sqrt{k_1 k_2}}.$$

Then under the condition

$$\delta_{k_1} + t\theta_{k_1, k_2} < 1$$

the  $L_1$  minimizer defined in (10) satisfies

$$\|\beta - \hat{\beta}\|_2 \leq \frac{2\sqrt{2}\sqrt{1+\delta_{k_1}}}{1-\delta_{k_1}-t\theta_{k_1, k_2}} \varepsilon.$$

In particular, in the noiseless case where  $y = \Phi\beta$ ,  $L_1$  minimization recovers  $\beta$  exactly.

**Proof.** For any sparse index set  $T_m$ , let  $S_0 \supset T_m$  be the

index set of the  $k_1$  largest elements (in absolute value).

Rearrange the indices of  $S_0^c$  if necessary according to

the descending order of  $|h_i|$ ,  $i \in S_0^c$ . Partition  $S_0^c$

into  $S_0^c = \sum_{i \geq 1} S_i$ , where  $|S_i| = k_2$ , the last  $S_i$

satisfies  $|S_i| \leq k_2$ . If  $h_{S_0} = 0$ , then the theorem is

trivially true. So here, we assume that  $h_{S_0} \neq 0$ . Then it

follows from (9) that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i \geq 1} \|h_{S_i}\|_2 &\leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{k_2}} \sum_{i \geq 1} \|h_{S_i}\|_1 + \frac{\sqrt{k_2}}{4} \sum_{i \geq 1} (\|h_{S_i}\|_\infty - \|h_{S_i}\|_{-\infty}) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{k_2}} \sum_{i \geq 1} \|h_{S_i}\|_1 + \frac{\sqrt{k_2}}{4} \|h_{S_1}\|_\infty \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{k_2}} \|h_{S_0^c}\|_1 + \frac{\sqrt{k_2}}{4} \|h_{S_1}\|_\infty \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{k_2}} \left( \|h_{T_m^c}\|_1 - \|h_{S_0 \cap T_m^c}\|_1 \right) + \frac{\sqrt{k_2}}{4} \|h_{S_1}\|_\infty \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{k_2}} \left( \|h_{T_m}\|_1 - \|h_{S_0 \cap T_m^c}\|_1 \right) + \frac{\sqrt{k_2}}{4} \|h_{S_1}\|_\infty \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{k_2}} \left( \|h_{S_0}\|_1 - 2 \|h_{S_0 \cap T_m^c}\|_1 \right) + \frac{\sqrt{k_2}}{4} \|h_{S_1}\|_\infty \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{k_2}} \left( \|h_{S_0}\|_1 - 2(k_1 - m) \|h_{S_1}\|_\infty \right) + \frac{\sqrt{k_2}}{4} \|h_{S_1}\|_\infty \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{k_2}} \|h_{S_0}\|_1 + \left( \frac{\sqrt{k_2}}{4} - \frac{2(k_1 - m)}{\sqrt{k_2}} \right) \|h_{S_1}\|_\infty \\ &\leq \left( \frac{\sqrt{k_1}}{\sqrt{k_2}} + \frac{\sqrt{k_2}}{4\sqrt{k_1}} - \frac{2(k_1 - m)}{\sqrt{k_1 k_2}} \right) \|h_{S_0}\|_2 = t \|h_{S_0}\|_2 \end{aligned}$$

Now

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \langle \Phi h, \Phi h_{S_0} \rangle \right| &= \left| \langle \Phi h_{S_0}, \Phi h_{S_0} \rangle + \sum_{i \geq 1} \langle \Phi h_{S_i}, \Phi h_{S_0} \rangle \right| \\ &\geq (1 - \delta_{k_1}) \|h_{S_0}\|_2^2 - \theta_{k_1, k_2} \|h_{S_0}\|_2 \sum_{i \geq 1} \|h_{S_i}\|_2 \\ &\geq (1 - \delta_{k_1} - t\theta_{k_1, k_2}) \|h_{S_0}\|_2^2. \end{aligned}$$

Note that

$$\|\Phi h\|_2 \leq \|\Phi\beta - y\|_2 + \|\Phi\hat{\beta} - y\|_2 \leq 2\varepsilon.$$

$$\left| \langle \Phi h, \Phi h_{S_0} \rangle \right| \leq \|\Phi h\|_2 \|\Phi h_{S_0}\|_2 \leq 2\varepsilon \sqrt{1 + \delta_{k_1}} \|h_{S_0}\|_2.$$

Also the next relation

$$\begin{aligned} \|h_{S_0^c}\|_2^2 &\leq \|h_{T_m^c}\|_2^2 \leq \|h_{T_m^c}\|_1 \|h_{T_m^c}\|_\infty \\ &\leq \|h_{T_m}\|_1 \frac{\|h_{T_m}\|_1}{m} \leq \|h_{T_m}\|_2^2 \leq \|h_{S_0}\|_2^2 \end{aligned}$$

implies

$$\|h\|_2^2 = \|h_{S_0}\|_2^2 + \|h_{S_0^c}\|_2^2 \leq 2 \|h_{S_0}\|_2^2.$$

Putting them together we get

$$\|h\|_2 \leq \sqrt{2} \|h_{S_0}\|_2 \leq \frac{2\sqrt{2}\sqrt{1+\delta_{k_1}}}{1-\delta_{k_1}-t\theta_{k_1, k_2}} \varepsilon.$$

If let  $m = k$ , then Theorem 2 is Theorem 3.1 in [20].

Let  $m_0 \leq m$  be smallest positive integer so that

$$\|h_{T_m}\|_1 \geq \|h_{T_m^c}\|_1.$$

Then we have

**Theorem 3.** Suppose  $\beta$  is  $k$ -sparse. Let be  $k_1, k_2$

positive integers such that  $k_1 \geq k \geq m_0$  and

$$8(k_1 - m_0) \leq k_2. \text{ Let}$$

$$t = \sqrt{\frac{k_1}{k_2}} + \frac{1}{4} \sqrt{\frac{k_2}{k_1}} - \frac{2(k_1 - m_0)}{\sqrt{k_1 k_2}}.$$

Then under the condition

$$\delta_{k_1} + t\theta_{k_1, k_2} < 1$$

the  $L_1$  minimizer defined in (10) satisfies

$$\|\beta - \hat{\beta}\|_2 \leq \frac{2\sqrt{2}\sqrt{1+\delta_{k_1}}}{1-\delta_{k_1}-t\theta_{k_1, k_2}} \varepsilon.$$

In particular, in the noiseless case where  $y = \Phi\beta$ ,  $L_1$

minimization recovers  $\beta$  exactly.

The proof is similar to of Theorem 2.

Note that  $k$  is independent of  $h$ , but  $m$  and  $m_0$  are

dependent of  $h$ , i.e.  $m = m(h)$  and  $m_0 = m_0(h)$ .

The following is one of our main results of the paper. It is the consequence of Theorem 2.

**Theorem 4.** Suppose  $\beta$  is  $k$  sparse with  $k > 1$ . If

$k \equiv 0 \pmod{5}$  and  $T_{\frac{k}{5}}$  is sparse index set, then under

the condition  $\delta_k < 0.5$  the constrained  $L_1$  minimizer

$\hat{\beta}$  given in (10) satisfies

$$\|\beta - \hat{\beta}\|_2 \leq \frac{\sqrt{3}}{0.5 - \delta_k} \varepsilon.$$

In particular, in the noiseless case  $\hat{\beta}$  recovers

$\beta$  exactly.

**Proof.** If  $k \equiv 0 \pmod{5}$  and  $T_{\frac{k}{5}}$  is sparse index set,

then in Theorem 2, set  $k_1 = \frac{k}{5}$ ,  $k_2 = \frac{4k}{5}$ . Thus

$$t = \sqrt{\frac{k_1}{k_2}} + \frac{1}{4} \sqrt{\frac{k_2}{k_1}} - \frac{2(k_1 - \frac{k}{5})}{\sqrt{k_1 k_2}} = 1.$$

Then under the condition

$$\delta_{\frac{k}{5}} + \theta_{\frac{k}{5}, \frac{4k}{5}} < 1$$

we have

$$\|\beta - \hat{\beta}\|_2 \leq \frac{2\sqrt{2}\sqrt{1+\delta_{\frac{k}{5}}}}{1-\delta_{\frac{k}{5}}-\theta_{\frac{k}{5}, \frac{4k}{5}}} \varepsilon.$$

By (5) and (7) we get

$$\delta_{\frac{k}{5}} + \theta_{\frac{k}{5}, \frac{4k}{5}} \leq 2\delta_k < 1.$$

In this case

$$\|\beta - \hat{\beta}\|_2 \leq \frac{2\sqrt{2}\sqrt{1+\delta_{\frac{k}{5}}}}{1-\delta_{\frac{k}{5}}-\theta_{\frac{k}{5}, \frac{4k}{5}}} \varepsilon \leq \frac{2\sqrt{2}\sqrt{1+\delta_k}}{1-2\delta_k} \varepsilon \leq \frac{\sqrt{3}}{0.5-\delta_k} \varepsilon$$

.An explicitly example in [20] is constructed in which  $\delta_k < 0.5$ , but it is impossible to recover certain

$k$  sparse signals. Therefore, the bound for  $\delta_k$  cannot go

beyond 0.5 in general in order to guarantee stable recovery of  $k$  sparse signals.

#### CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No conflict of interest was declared by the authors.

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