## Supplementary material for Compressive Spectral Clustering

### A. Proof of Theorem 3.2

*Proof.* Note that  $H_{\lambda_k} = U_k U_k^\mathsf{T}$ , and that  $Y_k = V_k U_k$ . We rewrite  $\left\| \tilde{f}_i - \tilde{f}_j \right\|$  in a form that will let us apply the Johnson-Lindenstrauss lemma of norm conservation:

$$\begin{split} \left\| \tilde{f}_{i} - \tilde{f}_{j} \right\| &= \left\| \mathsf{R}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathsf{H}_{\lambda_{k}}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathsf{V}_{k}^{\mathsf{T}} (\boldsymbol{\delta}_{i} - \boldsymbol{\delta}_{j}) \right\| \\ &= \left\| \mathsf{R}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathsf{U}_{k} \mathsf{U}_{k}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathsf{V}_{k}^{\mathsf{T}} (\boldsymbol{\delta}_{i} - \boldsymbol{\delta}_{j}) \right\| \\ &= \left\| \mathsf{R}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathsf{U}_{k} (\boldsymbol{f}_{i} - \boldsymbol{f}_{j}) \right\| \end{split} \tag{1}$$

where the  $f_i$  are the standard SC feature vectors. Applying Theorem 1.1 of (Achlioptas, 2003) (an instance of the Johnson-Lindenstrauss lemma) to  $\|\mathsf{R}^\intercal \mathsf{U}_k(f_i - f_j)\|$ , the following holds. If d is larger than:

$$\frac{4+2\beta}{\epsilon^2/2 - \epsilon^3/3} \log N,\tag{2}$$

then with probability at least  $1-N^{-\beta}$ , we have,  $\forall (i,j) \in \{1,\ldots,N\}^2$ :

$$(1 - \epsilon) \| \mathsf{U}_k(\mathbf{f}_i - \mathbf{f}_j) \| \leqslant \tilde{D}_{ij} \leqslant (1 + \epsilon) \| \mathsf{U}_k(\mathbf{f}_i - \mathbf{f}_j) \|.$$

As the columns of  $U_k$  are orthonormal, we end the proof:

$$\forall (i,j) \in [1,N]^2 \quad \| \mathsf{U}_k(f_i - f_j) \| = \| f_i - f_j \| = D_{ij}.$$

#### **B. Proof of Theorem 4.1**

*Proof.* Recall that:  $\tilde{D}_{ij}^r := \|\tilde{f}_{\omega_i} - \tilde{f}_{\omega_j}\| = \|\mathbb{R}^\intercal \tilde{\mathsf{H}}_{\lambda_k}^\intercal \mathsf{V}_k^\intercal \mathsf{M}^\intercal \delta_{ij}^r \|$ , where  $\delta_{ij}^r = \delta_i^r - \delta_j^r$ . Given that  $\tilde{\mathsf{H}}_{\lambda_k} = \mathsf{H}_{\lambda_k} + \mathsf{E}$  and using the triangle inequality in the definition of  $\tilde{D}_{ij}^r$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \mathsf{R}^\mathsf{T} \mathsf{H}_{\lambda_k}^\mathsf{T} \mathsf{V}_k^\mathsf{T} \mathsf{M}^\mathsf{T} \boldsymbol{\delta}_{ij}^r \right\| &- \\ \left\| \mathsf{R}^\mathsf{T} \mathsf{E}^\mathsf{T} \mathsf{V}_k^\mathsf{T} \mathsf{M}^\mathsf{T} \boldsymbol{\delta}_{ij}^r \right\| \leqslant \tilde{D}_{ij}^r \leqslant \left\| \mathsf{R}^\mathsf{T} \mathsf{E}^\mathsf{T} \mathsf{V}_k^\mathsf{T} \mathsf{M}^\mathsf{T} \boldsymbol{\delta}_{ij}^r \right\| + \end{aligned} (3) \\ \left\| \mathsf{R}^\mathsf{T} \mathsf{H}_{\lambda_k}^\mathsf{T} \mathsf{V}_k^\mathsf{T} \mathsf{M}^\mathsf{T} \boldsymbol{\delta}_{ij}^r \right\|, \end{aligned}$$

We continue the proof by bounding  $\|\mathsf{R}^\intercal\mathsf{H}^\intercal_{\lambda_k}\mathsf{V}_k^\intercal\mathsf{M}^\intercal \delta_{ij}^r\|$  and  $\|\mathsf{R}^\intercal\mathsf{E}^\intercal\mathsf{V}_k^\intercal\mathsf{M}^\intercal \delta_{ij}^r\|$  separately.

Let  $\delta \in ]0,1]$ . To bound  $\|\mathsf{R}^\intercal \mathsf{H}_{\lambda_k}^\intercal \mathsf{V}_k^\intercal \mathsf{M}^\intercal \boldsymbol{\delta}_{ij}^r \|$ , we set  $\epsilon = \delta/2$  in Theorem 3.2. This proves that if d is larger than

$$d_0 = \frac{16(2+\beta)}{\delta^2 - \delta^3/3} \log n,$$

then with probability at least  $1 - n^{-\beta}$ ,

$$\left(1-\frac{\delta}{2}\right)D_{ij}^r \leqslant \left\|\mathsf{R}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathsf{H}_{\lambda_k}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathsf{V}_k^{\mathsf{T}}\mathsf{M}^{\mathsf{T}}\pmb{\delta}_{ij}^r\right\| \leqslant \left(1+\frac{\delta}{2}\right)D_{ij}^r,$$

for all  $(i,j) \in \{1,\ldots,n\}^2$ . To bound  $\|\mathsf{R}^\intercal\mathsf{E}^\intercal\mathsf{V}_k^\intercal\mathsf{M}^\intercal\delta_{ij}^r\|$ , we use Theorem 1.1 in (Achlioptas, 2003). This theorem proves that if  $d>d_0$ , then with probability at least  $1-n^{-\beta}$ ,

$$\left\|\mathsf{R}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathsf{E}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathsf{V}_{k}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathsf{M}^{\mathsf{T}}\pmb{\delta}_{ij}^{r}\right\| \leqslant \left(1 + \frac{\delta}{2}\right) \left\|\mathsf{E}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathsf{V}_{k}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathsf{M}^{\mathsf{T}}\pmb{\delta}_{ij}^{r}\right\|,$$

for all  $(i, j) \in \{1, \dots, n\}^2$ . Using the union bound and (3), we deduce that, with probability at least  $1 - 2n^{-\beta}$ ,

$$\left(1 - \frac{\delta}{2}\right) D_{ij}^{r} - \left(1 + \frac{\delta}{2}\right) \left\| \mathsf{E}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathsf{V}_{k}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathsf{M}^{\mathsf{T}} \boldsymbol{\delta}_{ij}^{r} \right\| \\
\leqslant \tilde{D}_{ij}^{r} \leqslant (4) \\
\left(1 + \frac{\delta}{2}\right) \left\| \mathsf{E}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathsf{V}_{k}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathsf{M}^{\mathsf{T}} \boldsymbol{\delta}_{ij}^{r} \right\| + \left(1 + \frac{\delta}{2}\right) D_{ij}^{r},$$

for all  $(i, j) \in \{1, \dots, n\}^2$  provided that  $d > d_0$ .

Then, as e is bounded by  $e_1$  on the first k eigenvalues of the spectrum and by  $e_2$  on the remaining ones, we have

$$\begin{split} \left\| \mathsf{E}^{\intercal} \mathsf{V}_{k}^{\intercal} \mathsf{M}^{\intercal} \, \delta_{ij}^{r} \right\|^{2} &= \left\| \mathsf{U} e(\mathsf{\Lambda}) \mathsf{U}^{\intercal} \mathsf{V}_{k}^{\intercal} \mathsf{M}^{\intercal} \, \delta_{ij}^{r} \right\|^{2} \\ &= \left\| e(\mathsf{\Lambda}) \mathsf{U}^{\intercal} \mathsf{V}_{k}^{\intercal} \mathsf{M}^{\intercal} \, \delta_{ij}^{r} \right\|^{2} \\ &= \sum_{l=1}^{N} e(\lambda_{l})^{2} \, \left| (\mathsf{M} \mathsf{V}_{k} \boldsymbol{u}_{l})^{\intercal} \delta_{ij}^{r} \right|^{2} \\ &\leqslant e_{1}^{2} \, \sum_{l=1}^{k} \left| (\mathsf{M} \mathsf{V}_{k} \boldsymbol{u}_{l})^{\intercal} \delta_{ij}^{r} \right|^{2} \\ &+ e_{2}^{2} \, \sum_{l=k+1}^{N} \left| (\mathsf{M} \mathsf{V}_{k} \boldsymbol{u}_{l})^{\intercal} \delta_{ij}^{r} \right|^{2} \\ &= e_{1}^{2} \, \left\| \mathsf{U}_{k}^{\intercal} \mathsf{V}_{k}^{\intercal} \mathsf{M}^{\intercal} \delta_{ij}^{r} \right\|^{2} \\ &+ e_{2}^{2} \, \left( \left\| \mathsf{U}^{\intercal} \mathsf{V}_{k}^{\intercal} \mathsf{M}^{\intercal} \delta_{ij}^{r} \right\|^{2} - \left\| \mathsf{U}_{k}^{\intercal} \mathsf{V}_{k}^{\intercal} \mathsf{M}^{\intercal} \delta_{ij}^{r} \right\|^{2} \right) \\ &= \left( e_{1}^{2} - e_{2}^{2} \right) \, \left\| \mathsf{U}_{k}^{\intercal} \mathsf{V}_{k}^{\intercal} \mathsf{M}^{\intercal} \delta_{ij}^{r} \right\|^{2} \\ &+ e_{2}^{2} \, \left\| \mathsf{U}^{\intercal} \mathsf{V}_{k}^{\intercal} \mathsf{M}^{\intercal} \delta_{ij}^{r} \right\|^{2} \\ &= \left( e_{1}^{2} - e_{2}^{2} \right) \left( D_{ij}^{r} \right)^{2} + e_{2}^{2} \, \left\| \mathsf{V}_{k}^{\intercal} \mathsf{M}^{\intercal} \delta_{ij}^{r} \right\|^{2} \\ &\leqslant \left( e_{1}^{2} - e_{2}^{2} \right) \left( D_{ij}^{r} \right)^{2} + \frac{2 \, e_{2}^{2}}{\min_{l} \left\{ v_{k}(l)^{2} \right\}}. \end{split}$$

The last step follows from the fact that

$$\begin{split} \left\| \mathsf{V}_k^{\mathsf{T}} \mathsf{M}^{\mathsf{T}} \, \pmb{\delta}_{ij}^r \right\|^2 &= \sum_{l=1}^N \frac{1}{v_k(l)^2} \left| (\mathsf{M}^{\mathsf{T}} \pmb{\delta}_{ij}^r)(l) \right|^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{v_k(\omega_i)^2} + \frac{1}{v_k(\omega_j)^2} \leqslant \frac{2}{\min_i \{v_k(i)\}^2} \end{split}$$

Define, for all  $(i, j) \in \{1, \dots, n\}^2$ :

$$e_{ij} := \sqrt{|e_1^2 - e_2^2|} D_{ij}^r + \frac{\sqrt{2}e_2}{\min_i \{v_k(i)\}}.$$

Thus, the above inequality may be rewritten as:

$$\|\mathsf{E}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathsf{V}_{k}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathsf{M}^{\mathsf{T}}\,\boldsymbol{\delta}_{ij}^{r}\| \leqslant e_{ij},$$

for all  $(i,j) \in \{1,\ldots,n\}^2$ , which combined with (4) yields

$$\left(1 - \frac{\delta}{2}\right) D_{ij}^r - \left(1 + \frac{\delta}{2}\right) e_{ij} \\
\leqslant \tilde{D}_{ij}^r \leqslant (5) \\
\left(1 + \frac{\delta}{2}\right) e_{ij} + \left(1 + \frac{\delta}{2}\right) D_{ij}^r,$$

for all  $(i,j) \in \{1,\ldots,n\}^2$ , with probability at least  $1-2n^{-\beta}$  provided that  $d>d_0$ .

Let us now separate two cases. In the case where  $D^r_{ij}\geqslant D^r_{min}>0,$  we have

$$\begin{split} e_{ij} &= \frac{e_{ij}}{D_{ij}^r} D_{ij}^r = \left( \sqrt{|e_1^2 - e_2^2|} + \frac{\sqrt{2}e_2}{D_{ij}^r \min_i \{v_k(i)\}} \right) D_{ij}^r \\ &\leqslant \left( \sqrt{|e_1^2 - e_2^2|} + \frac{\sqrt{2}e_2}{D_{min}^r \min_i \{v_k(i)\}} \right) D_{ij}^r \\ &\leqslant \frac{\delta}{2 + \delta} D_{ij}^r. \end{split}$$

provided that Eq. (7) of the main paper holds. Combining the last inequality with (5) proves the first part of the theorem.

In the case where  $D_{ij}^r < D_{min}^r$ , we have

$$e_{ij} < \sqrt{|e_1^2 - e_2^2|} D_{min}^r + \frac{\sqrt{2} e_2}{\min_i \{v_k(i)\}} \leqslant \frac{\delta}{2 + \delta} D_{min}^r.$$

provided that Eq. (7) of the main paper holds. Combining the last inequality with (5) terminates the proof.  $\Box$ 

# C. Experiments on the SBM with heterogeneous community sizes

We perform experiments on a SBM with  $N=10^3, k=20, s=16$  and hetereogeneous community sizes. More

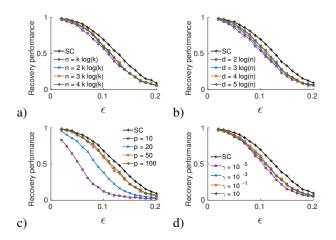


Figure 1. (a-d): recovery performance of CSC on a SBM with  $N=10^3, k=20, s=16$  and hetereogeneous community sizes versus  $\epsilon$ , for different  $n,d,p,\gamma$ . Default is  $n=2k\log k, d=4\log n, p=50$  and  $\gamma=10^{-3}$ . All results are averaged over 20 graph realisations.

specifically, the list of community sizes is chosen to be: 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90 and 95 nodes. In this scenario, there is no theoretical value of  $\epsilon$  over which it is proven that recovery is impossible in the large N limit. Instead, we vary  $\epsilon$  between 0 and 0.2 and show the recovery performance results with respect to n, d, p and  $\gamma$  in Fig. 1. Results are similar to the homogeneous case presented in Fig. 1(a-d) of the main paper.

#### References

Achlioptas, D. Database-friendly random projections: Johnson-lindenstrauss with binary coins. *Journal of Computer and System Sciences*, 66(4):671 – 687, 2003.