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When is an almost-solution, almost a solution?

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Abstract:

Suppose a given tuple of matrices A_1, \dots, A_n “almost” satisfies a polynomial equation $f(X_1, \dots, X_n)$, in the sense that $f(A_1, \dots, A_n)$ has small rank. When can we perturb A_1, \dots, A_n by small-rank matrices to obtain a genuine solution of f ? We explore this stability question, along with related problems, using representation-theoretic techniques and tools from asymptotic metric algebra. Connections to amenability and soficity of associative and Lie algebras are also discussed.