



# Tensor extrapolation methods with applications

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## Abstract

In this paper, we mainly develop the well-known vector and matrix polynomial extrapolation methods in tensor framework. To this end, some new products between tensors are defined and the concept of positive definitiveness is extended for tensors corresponding to T-product. Furthermore, we discuss on the solution of least-squares problem associated with a tensor equation using Tensor Singular Value Decomposition (TSVD). Motivated by the effectiveness of some proposed vector extrapolation methods in earlier papers, we describe how an extrapolation technique can be also implemented on the sequence of tensors produced by truncated TSVD (TTSVD) for solving possibly ill-posed tensor equations.

**Keywords** Extrapolation · Ill-posed problems · Least-squares · Sequence of tensors · Tensor SVD · T-product

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## 1 Introduction

In the last few years, several iterative methods have been proposed for solving large and sparse linear and nonlinear systems of equations. When an iterative process converges slowly, the extrapolation methods are required to obtain rapid convergence. The purpose of vector extrapolation methods is to transform a sequence of vector or matrices generated by some process to a new one that converges faster than the initial sequence. The well-known extrapolation methods can be classified into two categories: the polynomial methods that include the minimal polynomial extrapolation

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(MPE) method of Cabay and Jackson [5], the modified minimal polynomial extrapolation (MMPE) method of Sidi, Ford, and Smith [27], the reduced rank extrapolation (RRE) method of Eddy [22] and Mesina [24], Brezinski [4] and Pugatchev [26]; and the  $\epsilon$ -type algorithms including the topological  $\epsilon$ -algorithm of Brezinski [4] and the vector  $\epsilon$ -algorithm of Wynn [30]. Efficient implementations of some of these extrapolation methods have been proposed by Sidi [28] for the RRE and MPE methods using QR decomposition, while Jbilou and Sadok [12] give an efficient implementation of the MMPE based on a LU decomposition with pivoting strategy. It was also shown that when applied to linearly generated vector sequences, RRE and TEA methods are mathematically equivalent to GMRES and Lanczos methods, respectively. Those results were also extended to the block and global cases dealing with matrix sequences; see [11, 14]. Our aim in this paper is to define the analogue of these vector and matrix extrapolation methods to the tensor framework.

Basically, in the present paper, we develop some tensor extrapolation methods namely, the Tensor RRE (TRRE), the Tensor MPE (TMPE), the Tensor MMPE (TMMPE), and the Tensor Topological  $\epsilon$ -Algorithm (TTEA). We define new products and establish some of their properties. As an application, it is shown that these new tensor extrapolation methods can be applied to sequences obtained by truncation of the Tensor Singular Value Decomposition (TSVD) to solve tensor discrete ill-posed problems.

The remainder of this paper is organized as follows. Before ending this section, we recall some fundamental concepts in tensor framework. In Section 2, we give notations, some basic definitions, and properties related to tensors. Moreover, we introduce the concept of positive definiteness for tensors with respect to T-product; some new products are also defined between tensors and their properties are analyzed. In Section 3, we introduce the tensor versions of the vector polynomial extrapolation methods namely the Tensor Reduced Rank Extrapolation (TRRE), the Tensor Minimal Polynomial Extrapolation (TMPE), the Tensor Modified Minimal Polynomial Extrapolation (TMMPE), and the Tensor Topological  $\epsilon$ -Algorithm (TTEA). Section 4 describes the TSVD and its the truncated or low rank version. In addition, as an application, the TRRE method is applied to the sequence produced by truncated TSVD for solving linear discrete tensor ill-posed problems. Some numerical experiments are reported in Section 5 for the mentioned application. Concluding remarks are given in Section 6.

**Preliminaries** A tensor is a multidimensional array of data. The number of indices of a tensor is called modes or ways. Notice that a scalar can be regarded as a zero mode tensor, first mode tensors are vectors and matrices are second mode tensor. For a given  $N$ -mode tensor  $\mathcal{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3 \times \dots \times n_N}$ , the notation  $x_{i_1, \dots, i_N}$  (with  $1 \leq i_j \leq n_j$  and  $j = 1, \dots, N$ ) stand for the element  $(i_1, \dots, i_N)$  of the tensor  $\mathcal{X}$ . The norm of a tensor  $\mathcal{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times \dots \times n_\ell}$  is specified by:

$$\|\mathcal{X}\|^2 = \sum_{i_1=1}^{n_1} \sum_{i_2=1}^{n_2} \dots \sum_{i_\ell=1}^{n_\ell} x_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_\ell}^2.$$

Corresponding to a given tensor  $\mathcal{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3 \dots \times n_N}$ , the notation:

$$\mathcal{X} \underbrace{\begin{matrix} \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \dots & \vdots \end{matrix}}_{(N-1)\text{-times}} k \text{ for } k = 1, 2, \dots, n_N$$

denotes a tensor in  $\mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3 \dots \times n_{N-1}}$  which is obtained by fixing the last index and is called frontal slice. Fibers are the higher order analogue of matrix rows and columns. A fiber is defined by fixing all the indexes except one. A matrix column is a mode-1 fiber and a matrix row is a mode-2 fiber. Third-order tensors have column, row, and tube fibers. An element  $c \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times 1 \times n}$  is called a tubal-scalar of length  $n$  [17]. More details are found in [16, 19].

## 2 Definitions and new tensor products

The current section is concerned with two main parts. In the first part, we recall definitions and properties related to T-product. Furthermore, we develop the definition of positive definiteness for tensors and establish some basic results. The second part deals with presenting some new products between tensors which can be used for simplifying the algebraic computations of the main results.

### 2.1 Definitions and properties

In this part, we briefly review some concepts and notations related to the T-product; see [3, 8, 17, 18] for more details.

**Definition 1** The *T-product*  $(*)$  between two tensors  $\mathcal{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3}$  and  $\mathcal{Y} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2 \times m_2 \times n_3}$  is an  $n_1 \times m_2 \times n_3$  tensor given by:

$$\mathcal{X} * \mathcal{Y} = \text{Fold}(\text{bcirc}(\mathcal{X})\text{MatVec}(\mathcal{Y}))$$

where

$$\text{bcirc}(\mathcal{X}) = \begin{pmatrix} X_1 & X_{n_3} & X_{n_3-1} & \dots & X_2 \\ X_2 & X_1 & X_{n_3} & \dots & X_3 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ X_{n_3} & X_{n_3-1} & \ddots & X_2 & X_1 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 n_3 \times n_2 n_3}$$

$$\text{MatVec}(\mathcal{Y}) = \begin{pmatrix} Y_1 \\ Y_2 \\ \vdots \\ Y_{n_3} \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2 n_3 \times m_2}, \quad \text{Fold}(\text{MatVec}(\mathcal{Y})) = \mathcal{Y}$$

here for  $i = 1, \dots, n_3$ ,  $X_i$  and  $Y_i$  are frontal slices of the tensors  $\mathcal{X}$  and  $\mathcal{Y}$ , respectively.

The  $n_1 \times n_1 \times n_3$  identity tensor  $\mathcal{J}_{n_1 n_1 n_3}$  is the tensor whose first frontal slice is the  $n_1 \times n_1$  identity matrix, and whose other frontal slices are all zeros, that is:

$$\text{MatVec}(\mathcal{J}_{n_1 n_1 n_3}) = \begin{pmatrix} I_{n_1 n_1} \\ 0_{n_1 n_1} \\ \vdots \\ 0_{n_1 n_1} \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $I_{n_1 n_1}$  is the identity matrix.

In the special case in which  $n_1 = 1$ , the identity tensor is a tubal-scalar and denoted by  $\mathbf{e}$ , in other words  $\text{MatVec}(\mathbf{e}) = (1, 0, 0 \dots, 0)^T$ .

**Definition 2** We have the following definitions:

1. An  $n_1 \times n_1 \times n_3$  tensor  $\mathcal{A}$  is invertible, if there exists a tensor  $\mathcal{B}$  of order  $n_1 \times n_1 \times n_3$  such that:

$$\mathcal{A} * \mathcal{B} = \mathcal{J}_{n_1 n_1 n_3} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{B} * \mathcal{A} = \mathcal{J}_{n_1 n_1 n_3}$$

It is clear that  $\mathcal{A}$  is invertible if and only if  $\text{bcirc}(\mathcal{A})$  is invertible (see [25]).

2. If  $\mathcal{A}$  is an  $n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3$  tensor, then  $\mathcal{A}^T$  is the  $n_2 \times n_1 \times n_3$  tensor obtained by transposing each of the front-back frontal slices and then reversing the order of transposed frontal slices 2 through  $n_3$ . It should be commented that one may define  $\mathcal{A}^T$  as the tensor satisfying  $\text{bcirc}(\mathcal{A})^T = \text{bcirc}(\mathcal{A}^T)$  :

*Example 1* If  $\mathcal{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times 5}$  and its frontal slices are given by the  $n_1 \times n_2$  matrices  $A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4, A_5$ , then:

$$\mathcal{A}^T = \text{Fold} \begin{pmatrix} A_1^T \\ A_5^T \\ A_2^T \\ A_4^T \\ A_3^T \\ A_2^T \end{pmatrix}$$

*Remark 1* As pointed out earlier, the tensor  $\mathcal{A}$  of order  $m \times m \times n$  is invertible if  $\text{bcirc}(\mathcal{A})$  is invertible. It is equivalent to say that  $\mathcal{A}$  is invertible if  $\mathcal{A} * \mathcal{X} = \mathcal{O}$  implies  $\mathcal{X} = \mathcal{O}$  where  $\mathcal{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times 1 \times n}$  and  $\mathcal{O}$  is zero tensor.

Here, we define the notion of positive definiteness for tensors in term of T-product which can be seen as a natural extension of the same concept for matrices.

**Definition 3** The tensor  $\mathcal{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m \times n}$  is said to be positive (semi) definite if

$$(\mathcal{X}^T * \mathcal{A} * \mathcal{X})_{::1} > (\geq) 0,$$

for all nonzero tensors  $\mathcal{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times 1 \times n}$ .

Here, we comment that it is not difficult to verify that the summation of positive definite tensors is positive definite.

*Remark 2* In view of Remark 1, it is immediate to see that every positive definite tensor is invertible. It can be also verified that the inverse of a positive definite tensor is also positive definite. For any tensor  $B \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3}$  and arbitrary nonzero tensor  $\mathcal{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2 \times 1 \times n_3}$ , it can be seen that:

$$(\mathcal{X}^T * \mathcal{B}^T * \mathcal{B} * \mathcal{X})_{::1} = ((\mathcal{B} * \mathcal{X})^T * \mathcal{B} * \mathcal{X})_{::1} = \|\mathcal{B} * \mathcal{X}\|^2 \geq 0,$$

in which the last equality follows from [18]. As a result, the tensor  $\mathcal{B}^T * \mathcal{B}$  is positive semi-definite. Evidently, for any scalar  $\epsilon > 0$ :

$$(\mathcal{X}^T * (\mathcal{B}^T * \mathcal{B} + \epsilon \mathcal{J}_{n_2 n_2 n_3}) * \mathcal{X})_{::1} = \|\mathcal{B} * \mathcal{X}\|^2 + \epsilon \|\mathcal{X}\|^2 > 0,$$

This shows that the tensor  $\mathcal{B}^T * \mathcal{B} + \epsilon \mathcal{J}_{n_2 n_2 n_3}$  is positive definite.

**Definition 4** Let  $\mathcal{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3}$ . Then, the tensor  $\mathcal{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2 \times n_1 \times n_3}$  satisfying the following four conditions:

- (a)  $\mathcal{A} * \mathcal{X} * \mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}$
- (b)  $\mathcal{X} * \mathcal{A} * \mathcal{X} = \mathcal{X}$ ,
- (c)  $(\mathcal{A} * \mathcal{X})^T = \mathcal{A} * \mathcal{X}$ ,
- (d)  $(\mathcal{X} * \mathcal{A})^T = \mathcal{X} * \mathcal{A}$ .

is called the Moore-Penrose inverse of  $\mathcal{A}$  and denoted by  $\mathcal{A}^\dagger$ .

In view of [18, Lemmas 3.3 and 3.16] and by using straightforward computations, one can easily observe that conditions (a)-(d) determine  $\mathcal{A}^\dagger$  uniquely. Here, we further comment that if  $\mathcal{A}$  is invertible, then  $\mathcal{A}^\dagger = \mathcal{A}^{-1}$ .

For  $\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}$ , two tensors in  $\mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times 1 \times n_3}$ , the T-scalar product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  is a bilinear form defined by:

$$\begin{cases} \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times 1 \times n_3} \times \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times 1 \times n_3} & \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^{1 \times 1 \times n_3} \\ (\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}) & \longrightarrow \langle \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y} \rangle = \mathcal{X}^T * \mathcal{Y} \end{cases} \tag{1}$$

Let  $\mathcal{X}_1, \dots, \mathcal{X}_\ell$  a collection of  $\ell$  third tensors in  $\mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times 1 \times n_3}$ , if

$$\langle \mathcal{X}_i, \mathcal{X}_j \rangle = \begin{cases} \alpha_i \mathbf{e} & i = j \\ 0 & i \neq j \end{cases}$$

where  $\alpha_i$  is a non-zero scalar, then the set  $\mathcal{X}_1, \dots, \mathcal{X}_\ell$  is said to be an orthogonal collection of tensors. The collection is called orthonormal if  $\alpha_i = 1, i = 1, \dots, \ell$ .

**Definition 5** An  $n \times n \times \ell$  real-values tensor  $\mathcal{Q}$  is said to be orthogonal if  $\mathcal{Q}^T * \mathcal{Q} = \mathcal{Q} * \mathcal{Q}^T = \mathcal{J}_{n n \ell}$ .

We end this part with the following proposition.

**Proposition 1** Suppose that  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  are two tensors of order  $n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3$ . Then

$$(\mathcal{A}^T * \mathcal{B})_{ij\cdot} = (\mathcal{A}_{:i\cdot})^T * \mathcal{B}_{:j\cdot}.$$

*Proof* Let  $\tilde{\mathcal{J}}_\tau$  be an  $n_2 \times 1 \times n_3$  tensor whose all frontal slices are zero except its first frontal being the  $\tau$ -th column of the  $n_2 \times n_2$  identity matrix. Then, we have:

$$\mathcal{B} * \tilde{\mathcal{J}}_j = \mathcal{B}_{:j\cdot} \quad \text{and} \quad \tilde{\mathcal{J}}_i^T * \mathcal{A}^T = \mathcal{A}_{:i\cdot}^T = (\mathcal{A}_{:i\cdot})^T.$$

Notice also that:

$$(A^T * B)_{ij} = \tilde{J}_i^T * (A^T * B) * \tilde{J}_j.$$

From [18, Lemma 3.3], it is known that:

$$\tilde{J}_i^T * (A^T * B) * \tilde{J}_j = (\tilde{J}_i^T * A^T) * (B * \tilde{J}_j),$$

which completes the proof. □

We end this part by the following simple remark which is helpful in the sequel for more clarification.

*Remark 3* In what follows, we may need to solve a system of tensor equations in the following form:

$$A_{i1} * X_1 + \dots + A_{ik} * X_k = B_i, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, k, \tag{2}$$

where  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_k$  are the unknown tensors to be determined. The above system is uniquely solvable if the following system of equations has only the trivial solution:

$$A_{i1} * X_1 + \dots + A_{ik} * X_k = \mathcal{O}, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, k,$$

where  $\mathcal{O}$  stands for the zero tensor. When the diagonal tensors  $A_{11}, A_{22}, \dots, A_{kk}$  are invertible, we can easily conclude that (2) has a unique solution in the following two special cases:

- $A_{ij} = 0$  for  $j > i$ ,
- $A_{ij} = 0$  for  $j < i$ ,

for  $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, k$ .

### 2.2 New tensor products

In order to simplify derivation of generalized extrapolation methods in tensor format, we need to define new tensor products.

**Definition 6** Let  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  be 4-mode tensors with frontal slices  $\mathcal{A}_i \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3}$  and  $\mathcal{B}_j \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3}$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, \ell$  and  $j = 1, 2, \dots, k$ , respectively. The product  $\mathcal{A} \diamond \mathcal{B}$  is defined as a 5-mode tensor of order  $n_2 \times n_2 \times n_3 \times k \times \ell$  defined as follows:

$$(\mathcal{A} \diamond \mathcal{B})_{\dots j i} = \mathcal{A}_i^T * \mathcal{B}_j,$$

for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, \ell$  and  $j = 1, 2, \dots, k$ . In the case where  $k = 1$ , i.e.  $\mathcal{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3}$ ,  $\mathcal{A} \diamond \mathcal{B}$  is a 4-mode tenor whose  $i$ -th frontal slice is given by  $\mathcal{A}_i^T * \mathcal{B}$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, \ell$ .

Here, we comment that the  $\diamond$  product can be seen as a generalization of  $\diamond$ -product between two matrices given in [2]. In the sequel, we further present an alternative product called  $\star$ -product which can be seen as an extension of the  $*$ -product between a set of matrices and vectors; see [13] for more details.

**Definition 7** Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a 5-mode tensor of order  $n_2 \times n_1 \times n_3 \times k \times \ell$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  be a 4-mode tensor with frontal slices  $\mathcal{B}_1, \dots, \mathcal{B}_k \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3}$ . The product  $\mathcal{A} \star \mathcal{B}$  is

defined as a 4-mode tensor of order  $n_2 \times n_2 \times n_3 \times \ell$  such that:

$$(A \star B)_{\dots i} = \sum_{j=1}^k A_{\dots ji} \star B_j, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, \ell.$$

Evidently, a 4-mode tensor of order  $n_2 \times n_1 \times n_3 \times k$  can be considered as an 5-mode tensor of order  $n_2 \times n_1 \times n_3 \times k \times 1$ . As a result, if  $\mathcal{A}$  is a 4-mode tensor of order  $n_2 \times n_1 \times n_3 \times k$ , i.e.,  $\ell = 1$ , then  $\mathcal{A} \star \mathcal{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2 \times n_2 \times n_3}$  defined by  $\mathcal{A} \star \mathcal{B} = \sum_{\eta=1}^k \mathcal{A}_\eta \star \mathcal{B}_\eta$  where  $\mathcal{A}_i$  stands for the  $i$ -th frontal slice of  $\mathcal{A}$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ .

In the main results, it is worth to define a notion of the left inverse of a 5-mode tensors dealing with  $\star$ ,  $\bar{\star}$ , and  $\diamond$  products. To this end, we define the  $\bar{\star}$ -product between two 5-mode tensors which can be seen as an extension of  $\star$  product.

**Definition 8** Let  $\mathcal{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3 \times k \times \ell}$  and  $\mathcal{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2 \times n_1 \times n_3 \times k \times \ell}$ , the product  $\mathcal{A} \bar{\star} \mathcal{B}$  is a 5-mode tensor of order  $n_1 \times n_1 \times n_3 \times k \times k$  such that for  $\tau, \eta = 1, 2, \dots, k$ ,

$$(\mathcal{A} \bar{\star} \mathcal{B})_{\dots \tau \eta} = \sum_{j=1}^{\ell} \mathcal{A}_{\dots \eta j} \star \mathcal{B}_{\dots \tau j}.$$

**Definition 9** The tensor  $\mathcal{B}^+ \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3 \times k \times \ell}$  is called a left inverse of  $\mathcal{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2 \times n_1 \times n_3 \times k \times \ell}$ , if

$$(\mathcal{B}^+ \bar{\star} \mathcal{B})_{\dots \tau \eta} = \begin{cases} J_{n_1 n_1 n_3} & \tau = \eta \\ \mathcal{O} & \tau \neq \eta \end{cases}$$

for  $\tau, \eta = 1, 2, \dots, k$ . Here,  $\mathcal{O}$  is the 3-mode zero tensor of order  $n_1 \times n_1 \times n_3$ .

Now, we establish a proposition which reveals the relation between the two proposed products  $\star$  and  $\bar{\star}$ .

**Proposition 2** Let  $\mathcal{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3 \times k \times k}$ ,  $\mathcal{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2 \times n_1 \times n_3 \times k \times k}$ , and  $\mathcal{Y} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3 \times k}$ . Then, the following relation holds:

$$(\mathcal{A} \bar{\star} \mathcal{B}) \star \mathcal{Y} = \mathcal{A}^* \star (\mathcal{B} \star \mathcal{Y}).$$

Here,  $\mathcal{A}^*$  stands for an 5-mode tensor of order  $n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3 \times k \times k$  associated with  $\mathcal{A}$  where  $\mathcal{A}_{\dots ij}^* = \mathcal{A}_{\dots ji}$  for  $1 \leq i, j \leq k$ .

*Proof* It is clear that both sides of the above relation are 4-mode tensors of order  $n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3 \times k$ . To prove the assertion, we show that the frontal slices of both sides

are equal. Let  $1 \leq z \leq k$ ; we can observe that:

$$\begin{aligned}
 ((A \star B) \star Y)_{\dots z} &= \sum_{\ell=1}^k (A \star B)_{\dots \ell z} \star Y_{\ell} \\
 &= \sum_{\ell=1}^k \sum_{\mu=1}^k A_{\dots z \mu} \star B_{\dots \ell \mu} \star Y_{\ell} \\
 &= \sum_{\mu=1}^k A_{\dots z \mu} \star \left( \sum_{\ell=1}^k B_{\dots \ell \mu} \star Y_{\ell} \right) \\
 &= \sum_{\mu=1}^k A_{\dots z \mu} \star (B \star Y)_{\dots \mu} \\
 &= \sum_{\mu=1}^k A_{\dots \mu z}^* \star (B \star Y)_{\dots \mu} = (A^* \star (B \star Y))_{\dots z}.
 \end{aligned}$$

The result follows immediately from the above computations. □

*Remark 4* Notice that the system (2) in Remark 3 can be rewritten in the following form:

$$A \star X = B,$$

where  $A$  is 5-mode tensor such that  $A_{\dots j i} = A_{i j}$  and  $X, B$  are 4-mode tensors with frontal slices  $X_i, B_i$  for  $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, k$ . In theoretical point of view, it turns out that the solution of above equation can be uniquely derived if the left inverse of  $A$  (uniquely) exists. In fact if  $C = A^+$  then  $C^* \star (A \star \alpha) = C^* \star B$ . Now, from the previous proposition, we get  $X = C^* \star B$ .

We end this section by a proposition which can be established by using straightforward algebraic computations.

**Proposition 3** *Let  $A, B, C \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times s \times n_3 \times \ell}$  and  $D \in \mathbb{R}^{s \times n_2 \times n_3}$ . The following statements hold:*

1.  $(A + B) \diamond C = A \diamond C + B \diamond C$
2.  $A \diamond (B + C) = A \diamond B + A \diamond C$
3.  $(A \diamond B) \star D = A \diamond (B \star D)$ .

### 3 Extrapolation methods based on tensor formats

In this section, we define new tensor extrapolation methods. In the first part, we present in the tensor polynomial-type extrapolation methods by using the new tensor products introduced in the preceding section. In the second part, a tensor topological  $\epsilon$ -algorithm is developed. We notice that when we are dealing with vectors, all these new methods reduce to the classical vector extrapolation methods.



### 3.1 Tensor polynomial-type extrapolation methods

Corresponding to a given sequence of tensors  $(S_n)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3}$ , we consider the transformation  $(T_k^{(n)})$  defined by:

$$T_k(S_n) = T_k^{(n)} := \begin{cases} \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3} & \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3} \\ S_n & \mapsto T_k^{(n)} = S_n + \mathcal{G}_{k,n} \star \alpha_k \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

where the 4-mode  $\mathcal{G}_{k,n}$  with frontal slices  $G_i(n) \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3}$  is given for  $i = 1, \dots, k$ . The 4-mode tensor  $\alpha_k$  is unknown and its frontal slices are denoted by  $\alpha_i^{(n)} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2 \times n_2 \times n_3}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k$ . As the vector and matrix cases, in extrapolation methods, we aim to determine the unknown tensors. To this end, we use the transformation  $\tilde{T}_k^{(n)}$  obtained from  $T_k^{(n)}$  as follows:

$$\tilde{T}_k^{(n)} = \tilde{T}_k(S_n) = S_{n+1} + \mathcal{G}_{k,n+1} \star \alpha_k,$$

here, the 4-mode  $\mathcal{G}_{k,n+1}$  has frontal slices  $G_i(n+1) \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k$ . Let  $\Delta$  denote the forward difference operator on the index  $n$  defined as  $\Delta S_n = S_{n+1} - S_n$  and  $\Delta \mathcal{G}_{k,n}$  stand for the 4-mode tensor whose frontal slices are given by  $\Delta G_i(n) = G_i(n+1) - G_i(n)$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k$ . The generalized residual of  $T_k^{(n)}$  is represented by  $R(T_k^{(n)})$  defined as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} R(T_k^{(n)}) &= \tilde{T}_k(S_n) - T_k(S_n) \\ &= \Delta S_n + \Delta \mathcal{G}_{k,n} \star \alpha_k. \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

For an arbitrary given set of tensors  $Y_1^{(n)}, \dots, Y_k^{(n)} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3}$ , let  $\tilde{\mathbf{H}}_{k,n}$  and  $\tilde{\mathbf{L}}_{k,n}$  denote the subspaces generated by  $\Delta G_1(n), \dots, \Delta G_k(n)$  and  $Y_1^{(n)}, \dots, Y_k^{(n)}$  respectively. We comment that subspace generated by  $\Delta G_1(n), \dots, \Delta G_k(n)$  is the subspace generated with respect to the multiplication  $\star$ . Evidently, we have

$$R(T_k^{(n)}) - \Delta S_n \in \tilde{\mathbf{H}}_{k,n} \quad (5)$$

and the unknown tensors  $\alpha_i^{(n)}$  are determined by imposing the following condition,

$$R(T_k^{(n)}) \in \tilde{\mathbf{L}}_{k,n}^\perp.$$

Let  $\mathcal{L}_{k,n}$  be a 4-mode tensor with frontal slices  $Y_1^{(n)}, \dots, Y_k^{(n)}$ , the above orthogonality condition can be equivalently expressed by

$$\mathcal{L}_{k,n} \diamond R(T_k^{(n)}) = \mathcal{O}, \quad (6)$$

where  $\mathcal{O}$  is a zero tensor of order  $n_2 \times n_2 \times n_3 \times k$ . Therefore, from Proposition 3, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{O} &= \mathcal{L}_{k,n} \diamond R(T_k^{(n)}) \\ &= \mathcal{L}_{k,n} \diamond (\Delta S_n + \Delta \mathcal{G}_{k,n} \star \alpha_k) \\ &= \mathcal{L}_{k,n} \diamond \Delta S_n + \mathcal{L}_{k,n} \diamond (\Delta \mathcal{G}_{k,n} \star \alpha_k) = \mathcal{L}_{k,n} \diamond \Delta S_n + (\mathcal{L}_{k,n} \diamond \Delta \mathcal{G}_{k,n}) \star \alpha_k. \end{aligned}$$

In fact the unknown tensor  $\alpha_k$  can be seen as the solution of three following tensor equation:

$$(\mathcal{L}_{k,n} \diamond \Delta \mathcal{G}_{k,n}) \star \alpha_k = -\mathcal{L}_{k,n} \diamond \Delta S_n.$$

The choices of sequence of tensors  $G_1(n), \dots, G_k(n)$  and  $Y_1^{(n)}, \dots, Y_k^{(n)}$  determine the type of the tensor polynomial extrapolation method. In fact, for all these polynomial-type methods, the auxiliary sequence of tensors is given by  $G_i(n) = \Delta S_{n+i-1}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k$  ( $n \geq 0$ ). The following choices for  $Y_1^{(n)}, \dots, Y_k^{(n)}$  can be used:

$$\begin{aligned} Y_i^{(n)} &= \Delta S_{n+i-1} && \text{for TMPE,} \\ Y_i^{(n)} &= \Delta^2 S_{n+i-1} && \text{for TRRE,} \\ Y_i^{(n)} &= Y_i && \text{for TMMPE,} \end{aligned}$$

where the operator  $\Delta^2$  refers to the second forward difference with respect to the index  $n$  defined as:

$$\Delta^2 S_n = \Delta S_{n+1} - \Delta S_n \quad \text{and} \quad \Delta^2 G_i(n) = \Delta G_i(n+1) - \Delta G_i(n),$$

for  $i = 1, \dots, k$ . The approximation  $T_k^{(n)}$  produced by TMPE, TRRE, and TMMPE can be also expressed as follows:

$$T_k^{(n)} = \sum_{j=0}^k S_{n+j} \star \gamma_j^{(k)}$$

and the unknown tensors  $\gamma_0^{(k)}, \gamma_1^{(k)}, \dots, \gamma_k^{(k)}$  are determined by imposing the following condition:

$$\sum_{j=0}^k \gamma_j^{(k)} = \mathcal{J}_{n_2 n_2 n_3} \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{j=0}^k \eta_{i,j}^{(n)} \star \gamma_j^{(k)} = \mathcal{O}_{n_2 n_2 n_3} \quad 0 \leq i < k \tag{7}$$

such that  $\gamma_k^{(k)}$  is assumed to be invertible. Here,  $\mathcal{O}_{n_2 n_2 n_3} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2 \times n_2 \times n_3}$  is the tensor with all entries equal to 0,  $\eta_{i,j}^{(n)} = (Y_{i+1}^{(n)})^T \star \Delta S_{n+j}$ .

From now on and for simplification, we set  $n = 0$ . The system of (7) is given in the following form:

$$\begin{cases} \gamma_0^{(k)} + \gamma_1^{(k)} + \dots + \gamma_k^{(k)} = \mathcal{J}_{n_2 n_2 n_3} \\ (Y_1^{(0)})^T \star \Delta S_0 \star \gamma_0^{(k)} + (Y_1^{(0)})^T \star \Delta S_1 \star \gamma_1^{(k)} + \dots + (Y_1^{(0)})^T \star \Delta S_k \star \gamma_k^{(k)} = \mathcal{O}_{n_2 n_2 n_3} \\ (Y_2^{(0)})^T \star \Delta S_0 \star \gamma_0^{(k)} + (Y_2^{(0)})^T \star \Delta S_1 \star \gamma_1^{(k)} + \dots + (Y_2^{(0)})^T \star \Delta S_k \star \gamma_k^{(k)} = \mathcal{O}_{n_2 n_2 n_3} \\ \dots \dots \dots \\ (Y_k^{(0)})^T \star \Delta S_0 \star \gamma_0^{(k)} + (Y_k^{(0)})^T \star \Delta S_1 \star \gamma_1^{(k)} + \dots + (Y_k^{(0)})^T \star \Delta S_k \star \gamma_k^{(k)} = \mathcal{O}_{n_2 n_2 n_3} \end{cases} \tag{8}$$



for transforming slowly convergent or divergent sequences. In this section, we briefly see how to extend this idea in tensor framework and define the Tensor Topological  $\epsilon$ -Transformation (TTET). The following results can be regarded as the generalization of discussions in [11, Subsection 3.2] to the tensor framework.

Let  $(S_n)$  be a given sequence of tensors in  $\mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3}$ . We consider approximations  $E_k(S_n) = E_k^{(n)}$  of the limit or the anti-limit of the of sequence  $(S_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  such that:

$$E_k^{(n)} = S_n + \sum_{i=1}^k \Delta S_{n+i-1} * \beta_i^{(n)}, \quad n \geq 0. \tag{15}$$

where  $\beta_i^{(n)} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2 \times n_2 \times n_3}$  are the unknown tensors to be determined for  $i = 1 \dots, k$ . We set:

$$\tilde{E}_{k,j}^{(n)} = S_{n+j} + \sum_{i=1}^k \Delta S_{n+i+j-1} * \beta_i^{(n)} \quad j = 1, \dots, k,$$

where  $\tilde{E}_{k,0}^{(n)} = E_k^{(n)}$ . Let  $\tilde{R}_j(\tilde{E}_k^{(n)})$  denote the  $j$ -th generalized residual tensor, i.e.:

$$R_j(E_k^{(n)}) = \tilde{E}_{k,j}^{(n)} - \tilde{E}_{k,j-1}^{(n)}.$$

Let  $Y \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3}$  be a given third-order tensor. The coefficients  $\beta_i^{(n)}$  in (15) are computed such that:

$$\sum_{i=1}^k (Y^T * \Delta^2 S_{n+i+j-1}) * \beta_i^{(n)} = \mathcal{O}, \quad j = 0, 1 \dots, k - 1.$$

where  $\mathcal{O} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2 \times n_2 \times n_3}$ . The above conditions result in the following system of equations:

$$\begin{cases} (Y^T * \Delta^2 S_n) * \beta_1^{(n)} + \dots + (Y^T * \Delta^2 S_{n+k-1}) * \beta_k^{(n)} = -Y^T * \Delta S_n \\ \vdots \\ (Y^T * \Delta^2 S_{n+k-1}) * \beta_1^{(n)} + \dots + (Y^T * \Delta^2 S_{n+2k-2}) * \beta_k^{(n)} = -Y^T * \Delta S_{n+k-1} \end{cases}$$

In the case that the above system is uniquely solvable, we can obtain  $E_k^{(n)}$ .

### 4 Application of tensor extrapolation methods to solve ill-posed tensor problems

The main purpose of this section is to adopt the idea used by Jbilou et al. [15] for solving a class of ill-posed tensor equations. To this end, first, we need to give a brief overview on some basic concepts related to tensor SVD (TSVD) and its truncated version [18] based on the T-product of tensors.

### 4.1 TTSVD: truncated tensor singular value decomposition

Truncating the SVD of a matrix can lead to an efficient approximation for its Moore–Penrose inverse which is helpful for solving least-squares problem. More precisely, the truncated version consumes less space of storage when the rank of matrix is not very large. This inspired Miao et al. [25] to extend the theory of TSVD [18] to truncated TSVD (TTSVD).

In this part, first, we review some existing results for TSVD and TTSVD. Then, an explicit form is obtained for the minimum norm solution of least-squares problem with respect to the T-product. In the sequel, an F-diagonal tensor refers to a third-order tensor whose all frontal slices are diagonal.

The following theorem is proved in [18] where the existence of TSVD is established by construction.

**Theorem 1** [18] *Let  $\mathcal{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3}$  be a real valued tensor, then there exists orthogonal tensors  $\mathcal{U} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_1 \times n_3}$  and  $\mathcal{V} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2 \times n_2 \times n_3}$  such that*

$$\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{U} * \mathcal{S} * \mathcal{V}^T \tag{16}$$

in which  $\mathcal{S} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3}$  is an F-diagonal tensor.

The notion of TTSVD of  $\mathcal{A}$  was used in [18, 25]. In particular, the following result was proved in [25, Corollary 6].

**Corollary 1** [25] *Let  $\mathcal{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3}$  be a real valued tensor and*

$$\mathcal{A}_k = \mathcal{U}_{(k)} * \mathcal{S}_{(k)} * \mathcal{V}_{(k)}^T. \tag{17}$$

where  $\mathcal{U}_{(k)} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times k \times n_3}$  and  $\mathcal{V}_{(k)} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2 \times k \times n_3}$  are unitary tensors extracted from TSVD of  $\mathcal{A}$ . The Moore–Penrose inverse of tensor  $\mathcal{A}_k$  is given by:

$$\mathcal{A}_k^\dagger = \mathcal{V}_{(k)} * \mathcal{S}_{(k)}^\dagger * \mathcal{U}_{(k)}^T,$$

where  $\mathcal{S}_{(k)} \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times k \times n_3}$  is a F-diagonal tensor and  $k < \min(n_1, n_2)$  is called the tubal-rank of  $\mathcal{A}$  based on the T-product.

The expression (17) can be regarded the rank-k approximation of the tensor  $\mathcal{A}$ , denoted by  $\mathcal{A} \approx \mathcal{A}_k$ . We comment that the decomposition (17) is also called the tensor compact SVD (T-CSVD); see [25] for instance.

The TTSVD of  $\mathcal{A}$  can be expressed as follows:

$$\mathcal{A}_k = \sum_{j=1}^k \bar{U}_j * d_j * \bar{V}_j^T \tag{18}$$

where  $\bar{U}_j = \mathcal{U}_{(k)}(:, j, :) \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times 1 \times n_3}$ ,  $\bar{V}_j = \mathcal{V}_{(k)}(:, j, :) \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2 \times 1 \times n_3}$  and  $d_j = \mathcal{S}(j, j, :) \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times 1 \times n_3}$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, k$ .

*Remark 5* Let  $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{U} * \mathcal{S} * \mathcal{V}^T$  be the TSVD of  $\mathcal{A}$ . In view of Proposition 1, we can see that:

$$\bar{U}_i^T * \bar{U}_j = (\mathcal{U}^T * \mathcal{U})_{ij} \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{V}_i^T * \bar{V}_j = (\mathcal{V}^T * \mathcal{V})_{ij}.$$

Therefore, we have  $\bar{U}_i^T * \bar{U}_j$  and  $\bar{V}_i^T * \bar{V}_j$  are zero tubal-scalar of length  $n_3$  for  $i \neq j$ ;  $\bar{U}_i^T * \bar{U}_i = \mathbf{e}$  and  $\bar{V}_i^T * \bar{V}_i = \mathbf{e}$ .

The following theorem reveals that  $\mathcal{A}_k$  is an optimal approximation of a tensor; see [18] for the proof.

**Theorem 2** *Let the TSVD of  $\mathcal{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3}$  be given by  $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{U} * \mathcal{S} * \mathcal{V}^T$  and for  $k < \min(n_1, n_2)$ , the tensor  $\mathcal{A}_k$  given by (18) satisfies:*

$$\mathcal{A}_k = \operatorname{argmin}_{\tilde{\mathcal{A}} \in M} \|\mathcal{A} - \tilde{\mathcal{A}}\|$$

where  $M = \{\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{X} * \mathcal{Y} \mid \mathcal{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times k \times n_3}, \mathcal{Y} \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times n_2 \times n_3}\}$ .

In view of Theorem 2, the Moore-Penrose inverse of tensor  $\mathcal{A}$  is efficiently estimated on  $\tilde{M} = \{\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{X} * \mathcal{Y} \mid \mathcal{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2 \times k \times n_3}, \mathcal{Y} \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times n_1 \times n_3}\}$  by

$$\mathcal{A}^\dagger \approx \sum_{j=1}^k \bar{V}_j * d_j^\dagger * \bar{U}_j^T, \tag{19}$$

in which tubal-scalar  $d_j^\dagger \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times 1 \times n_3}$  stands for the  $(j, j, \cdot)$  entry of  $\mathcal{S}_{(k)}^\dagger$ .

The following theorem has a key role in deriving the results of the next section.

**Theorem 3** *Assume that  $\mathcal{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3}$  and  $\mathcal{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times s \times n_3}$ . If  $\hat{\mathcal{X}} = \mathcal{A}^\dagger * \mathcal{B}$ , then*

$$\|\mathcal{A} * \hat{\mathcal{X}} - \mathcal{B}\| = \min_{\mathcal{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2 \times s \times n_3}} \|\mathcal{A} * \mathcal{X} - \mathcal{B}\|. \tag{20}$$

Moreover, for any  $\tilde{\mathcal{X}} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times s \times n_3}$  such that  $\tilde{\mathcal{X}} \neq \hat{\mathcal{X}}$  and  $\|\mathcal{A} * \tilde{\mathcal{X}} - \mathcal{B}\| = \|\mathcal{A} * \hat{\mathcal{X}} - \mathcal{B}\|$ , then  $\|\hat{\mathcal{X}}\| < \|\tilde{\mathcal{X}}\|$ .

*Proof* Let  $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{U} * \mathcal{S} * \mathcal{V}^T$  be the TSVD of  $\mathcal{A}$ . From [18, Lemma 3.19], it can be seen that

$$\|\mathcal{A} * \mathcal{X} - \mathcal{B}\| = \|\mathcal{U}^T * (\mathcal{A} * \mathcal{X} - \mathcal{B})\|.$$

By some straightforward computations, we have:

$$\|\mathcal{U}^T * (\mathcal{A} * \mathcal{X} - \mathcal{B})\| = \|\mathcal{S} * \mathcal{V}^T * \mathcal{X} - \mathcal{U}^T * \mathcal{B}\|.$$

Setting  $\mathcal{Z} = \mathcal{V}^T * \mathcal{X}$  and  $\mathcal{W} = \mathcal{U}^T * \mathcal{B}$ , we get:

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathcal{U}^T * (\mathcal{A} * \mathcal{X} - \mathcal{B})\| &= \|\mathcal{S} * \mathcal{Z} - \mathcal{W}\| \\ &= \|(F_{n_3}^* \otimes I_{n_1}) \operatorname{MatVec}(\mathcal{S} * \mathcal{Z}) - (F_{n_3}^* \otimes I_{n_1}) \operatorname{MatVec}(\mathcal{W})\|_F \\ &= \|(F_{n_3}^* \otimes I_{n_1}) \operatorname{bcirc}(\mathcal{S}) \operatorname{MatVec}(\mathcal{Z}) - (F_{n_3}^* \otimes I_{n_1}) \operatorname{MatVec}(\mathcal{W})\|_F \end{aligned} \tag{21}$$

where  $\| \cdot \|_F$  is the well-known Frobenius matrix norm, the notation  $\otimes$  stands for the Kronecker product and the matrix  $F_{n_3}$  is the discrete Fourier matrix of size  $n_3 \times n_3$  defined by (see [6]):

$$F_{n_3} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n_3}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & \cdots & 1 \\ 1 & \omega & \omega^2 & \cdots & \omega^{n_3-1} \\ 1 & \omega^2 & \omega^4 & \cdots & \omega^{2(n_3-1)} \\ 1 & \omega^3 & \omega^6 & \cdots & \omega^{3(n_3-1)} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 1 & \omega^{n_3-1} & \omega^{2(n_3-1)} & \cdots & \omega^{(n_3-1)(n_3-1)} \end{pmatrix},$$

in which  $\omega = e^{-2\pi i/n_3}$  is the primitive  $n_3$ -th root of unity in which  $\mathbf{i} = \sqrt{-1}$  and  $F^*$  denotes the conjugate transpose of  $F$ .

For simplicity, we set  $Z = (F_{n_3}^* \otimes I_{n_2})\text{MatVec}(\mathcal{Z})$  and  $W = (F_{n_3}^* \otimes I_{n_1})\text{MatVec}(\mathcal{W})$ ; hence, (21) can be rewritten as follows:

$$\|\mathcal{U}^T * (\mathcal{A} * \mathcal{X} - \mathcal{B})\| = \|(F_{n_3}^* \otimes I_{n_1})\text{bcirc}(\mathcal{S})(F_{n_3} \otimes I_{n_2})Z - W\|_F.$$

Notice that

$$\|Z\|_F = \|\text{MatVec}(\mathcal{Z})\|_F = \|\mathcal{Z}\| = \|\mathcal{V}^T * \mathcal{X}\| = \|\mathcal{X}\|. \tag{22}$$

From [18, 25], it is known that there exist diagonal (rectangular) matrices  $\Sigma_1, \Sigma_2, \dots, \Sigma_{n_3}$  such that:

$$(F_{n_3}^* \otimes I_{n_1})\text{bcirc}(\mathcal{S})(F_{n_3} \otimes I_{n_2}) = \Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma_1 & & & \\ & \Sigma_2 & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & \Sigma_{n_3} \end{pmatrix},$$

and

$$(F_{n_3}^* \otimes I_{n_2})\text{bcirc}(\mathcal{S}^\dagger)(F_{n_3} \otimes I_{n_1}) = \Sigma^\dagger = \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma_1^\dagger & & & \\ & \Sigma_2^\dagger & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & \Sigma_{n_3}^\dagger \end{pmatrix}.$$

From the above computations, we have:

$$\|\mathcal{A} * \mathcal{X} - \mathcal{B}\| = \|\Sigma Z - W\|_F.$$

It is well-known from the literature that the minimum Frobenius norm solution of  $\|\Sigma Z - W\|_F$  over  $\mathbb{R}^{n_2 n_3 \times s}$  is given by  $\hat{Z} = \Sigma^\dagger W$ , i.e.:

$$\hat{Z} = \underset{Z \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2 n_3 \times s}}{\text{argmin}} \|\Sigma Z - W\|_F.$$

Let  $\hat{\mathcal{X}}$  be the tensor such that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{MatVec}(\mathcal{V}^T * \hat{\mathcal{X}}) &= (F_{n_3} \otimes I_{n_2})\Sigma^\dagger W \\ &= (F_{n_3} \otimes I_{n_2})\Sigma^\dagger (F_{n_3}^* \otimes I_{n_1})\text{MatVec}(\mathcal{W}) \\ &= \text{bcirc}(\mathcal{S}^\dagger)\text{MatVec}(\mathcal{U}^T * \mathcal{B}). \end{aligned}$$

It is immediate to deduce the following equality:

$$\text{MatVec}(\mathcal{V}^T * \hat{\mathcal{X}}) = \text{MatVec}(\mathcal{S}^\dagger * \mathcal{U}^T * \mathcal{B}),$$

which is equivalent to say that  $\mathcal{V}^T * \hat{\mathcal{X}} = \mathcal{S}^\dagger * \mathcal{U}^T * \mathcal{B}$ . Finally, the result follows from (22). □

Similar to the TSVD [18], the TTSSVD can be obtained using the fast Fourier transform. Notice that circulant matrices are diagonalizable via the normalized DFT. This fact was used for proving Theorem 1 and deriving the Matlab pseudocode for TSVD; see Algorithm 1 for more details. Here, we further use this fact and present a Matlab pseudocode for computing TTSSVD and the corresponding approximation of Moore–Penrose inverse in Algorithm 2. Note that the Matlab function `pinv(.)` reduces to `inv(.)` when the diagonal matrix  $S$  in Step 2 of the algorithm is nonsingular.

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**Algorithm 1** Matlab pseudocode for TSVD [18].

---

**Input.**  $\mathcal{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3}$ ;

Step 1. Set  $\mathcal{D} = \text{fft}(\mathcal{A}, [ ], 3)$ ;

Step 2. for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n_3$

$$[U, S, V] = \text{svd}(\mathcal{D}(:, :, i));$$

$$\mathcal{U}(:, :, i) = U; \mathcal{V}(:, :, i) = V; \mathcal{S}(:, :, i) = S;$$

end

Step 3.  $\mathcal{U} = \text{ifft}(\mathcal{U}, [ ], 3)$ ;  $\mathcal{V} = \text{ifft}(\mathcal{V}, [ ], 3)$ ;  $\mathcal{S} = \text{ifft}(\mathcal{S}, [ ], 3)$ ;

**Output.**  $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{U} * \mathcal{S} * \mathcal{V}^T$ .

---



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**Algorithm 2** Matlab pseudocode for TTSSVD and the corresponding approximation of Moore–Penrose inverse.

---

**Input.**  $\mathcal{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3}$  and  $k \leq \min(n_1, n_2)$ ;

Step 1. Set  $\mathcal{D} = \text{fft}(\mathcal{A}, [ ], 3)$ ;

Step 2. for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n_3$

$$[U, S, V] = \text{svd}(\mathcal{D}(:, :, i));$$

$$\mathcal{U}(:, :, i) = U(:, 1 : k); \mathcal{V}(:, :, i) = V(:, 1 : k);$$

$$\mathcal{S}(:, :, i) = S(1 : k, 1 : k); \mathcal{S}^\dagger(:, :, i) = \text{pinv}(S(1 : k, 1 : k));$$

end

Step 3.  $\mathcal{U}_{(k)} = \text{ifft}(\mathcal{U}, [ ], 3)$ ;  $\mathcal{V}_{(k)} = \text{ifft}(\mathcal{V}, [ ], 3)$ ;  $\mathcal{S}_{(k)} = \text{ifft}(\mathcal{S}, [ ], 3)$ ;  $\mathcal{S}_{(k)}^\dagger = \text{ifft}(\mathcal{S}^\dagger, [ ], 3)$ ;

**Output.**  $\mathcal{A}_k = \mathcal{U}_{(k)} * \mathcal{S}_{(k)} * \mathcal{V}_{(k)}^T$  and  $\mathcal{A}_k^\dagger = \mathcal{V}_{(k)} * \mathcal{S}_{(k)}^\dagger * \mathcal{U}_{(k)}^T$ .

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**4.2 Tensor extrapolation methods applied to TTSSVD sequences in ill-posed problems**

Let  $\mathcal{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3}$  be given and consider its TSVD, i.e., let us apply Algorithm 1 for  $\mathcal{A}$ . In case the matrix `bcirc(A)` has too many singular values being close to zero, the tensor  $\mathcal{A}$  is called ill-determined rank.



In this subsection, we discuss solutions of tensor equations in the following form:

$$A * X = B \tag{23}$$

where the ill-determined rank tensor  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3}$  and right-hand side  $B \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3}$  are given and  $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2 \times n_2 \times n_3}$  is an unknown tensor to be determined. We assume that the right-hand side  $B \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3}$  is contaminated by an error  $\mathcal{E}$ , i.e.,  $B = \tilde{B} + \mathcal{E}$  where  $\tilde{B}$  denotes the unknown error-free right-hand side. We are interested in determining an accurate approximation of the minimum norm (least-squares) solution of (23). From Theorem 3, it is known that the exact solution is given by:

$$\tilde{X} = A^\dagger * B.$$

Systems of tensors (23) with a tensor of ill-determined rank often are referred to as linear discrete tensor ill-posed problems. They arise in several areas in science and engineering, such as the restoration of color and multispectral images [1, 20, 29], and blind source separation [21], when one seeks to determine the cause of an observed effect.

In the matrix case, when the size of the rank deficient matrix  $A$  is moderate, using the truncated SVD is a popular method for computing an approximation for the (least-squares) solution of (in)consistent linear system of equations  $Ax = b$ . The approach replaces the matrix  $A^\dagger$  by a low-rank approximation; see, e.g., Golub and Van Loan [7] or Hansen [9]. Following the same idea, we approximate the exact solution by using the expression (19) and available right-hand side  $B$ , i.e.,  $\tilde{X} \approx A^\dagger * B$ . Basically, we take  $\tilde{X}_k \approx \tilde{X}$  in which:

$$\tilde{X}_k = \sum_{j=1}^k \tilde{V}_j * d_j^\dagger * \tilde{U}_j^T * \tilde{B},$$

where  $\tilde{U}_j = \mathcal{U}_{(k)}(:, j, :) \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times 1 \times n_3}$ ,  $\tilde{V}_j = \mathcal{V}_{(k)}(:, j, :) \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2 \times 1 \times n_3}$  and  $d_j = \mathcal{S}(j, j, :) \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times 1 \times n_3}$  are determined by Algorithm 2 for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, k$ . For the matrix case, Jbilou et al. [14] proposed the application of the RRE to the sequence of vectors generated by the truncated SVD. In the remainder of this paper, we follow the same idea and consider the application of TRRE to the sequence of tensors generated by the truncated TSVD (TTSVD). To do so, we set:

$$Y_i = \Delta^2 S_{i-1} \quad 1 \leq i \leq \ell - 2,$$

in which  $\ell = \min(n_1, n_2)$  and  $(S_k)_{k \geq 0}$  is the tensor sequence generated by the TTSVD. Thus,

$$S_k = A_k^\dagger * \tilde{B} = \sum_{j=1}^k \tilde{V}_j * \delta_j \tag{24}$$

where  $\delta_j = d_j^\dagger * \bar{U}_j^T * \tilde{\mathcal{B}}$  and  $S_0$  is set to be a zero tensor of order  $n_2 \times n_2 \times n_3$ . It can be observed that:

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta S_{k-1} &= S_k - S_{k-1} \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^k \bar{V}_j * \delta_j - \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} \bar{V}_j * \delta_j \\ &= \bar{V}_k * \delta_k. \end{aligned} \tag{25}$$

We assume here that  $\delta_k^T * \delta_k$  is invertible and notice that if  $\delta_k^T * \delta_k$  is zero, then we can delete the corresponding member from the sequence (24) and compute the next one by keeping the same index notation. To overcome the cases  $\delta_k^T * \delta_k$  is numerically non invertible, we can use a small shift  $\epsilon \mathcal{J}$  (say  $\epsilon = 1e - 8$ ) on the positive semi-definite tensor  $\delta_k^T * \delta_k$ ; see Remark 2.

Let  $\Delta S_k$  and  $\Delta^2 S_k$  be 4-mode tensors whose  $i$ -th frontal slices are given by  $\Delta S_{i-1}$  and  $\Delta^2 S_{i-1}$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ , respectively, for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ .

Notice that  $\Delta^2 S_{j-1} = \bar{V}_{j+1} * \delta_{j+1} - \bar{V}_j * \delta_j$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, k$ . Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} (\Delta^2 S_k \diamond \Delta S_k)_{\dots ji} &= (\delta_{i+1}^T * \bar{V}_{i+1}^T - \delta_i^T * \bar{V}_i^T) * \bar{V}_j * \delta_j \\ &= \delta_{i+1}^T * \bar{V}_{i+1}^T * \bar{V}_j * \delta_j - \delta_i^T * \bar{V}_i^T * \bar{V}_j * \delta_j \quad \text{for } i, j = 1, 2, \dots, k. \end{aligned}$$

Using Remark 5, we can deduce that the non-zero frontal slices of  $\Delta^2 \tilde{S}_k \diamond \Delta S_k$  are given by:

$$(\Delta^2 S_k \diamond \Delta S_k)_{\dots(i+1)i} = \delta_{i+1}^T * \delta_{i+1},$$

and

$$(\Delta^2 S_k \diamond \Delta S_k)_{\dots ii} = -\delta_i^T * \delta_i.$$

Straightforward computations together with Remark 5 show that the frontal slices of the 4-mode tensor  $(\Delta^2 S_k \diamond \Delta S_k)$  are equal to zero except the last frontal slice being equal to  $\delta_{k+1}^T * \delta_{k+1}$ . For notational simplicity, we define  $\Theta_{i+1} = \delta_{i+1}^T * \delta_{i+1}$  for  $i = 0, \dots, k$ . In summary, we need to solve the following tensor equation:

$$(\Delta^2 S_k \diamond \Delta S_k) * \beta_k = -(\Delta^2 S_k \diamond \Delta S_k),$$

where  $\beta_k$  is a 4-mode tensor with frontal slices  $\beta_0^{(k)}, \beta_1^{(k)}, \dots, \beta_{k-1}^{(k)}$ . Or equivalently, we need to find the solution of the following system of tensor equations:

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} -\Theta_1 * \beta_0^{(k)} + \Theta_2 * \beta_1^{(k)} &= \mathcal{O} \\ -\Theta_2 * \beta_1^{(k)} + \Theta_3 * \beta_2^{(k)} &= \mathcal{O} \\ &\vdots \\ -\Theta_k * \beta_{k-1}^{(k)} &= -\Theta_{k+1} \end{aligned} \right. , \tag{26}$$

here  $\mathcal{O}$  stands for zero tensor of order  $n_2 \times n_2 \times n_3$ . It is immediate to see that

$$\beta_i^{(k)} = \Theta_{i+1}^{-1} * \Theta_{k+1} \quad 0 \leq i < k, \tag{27}$$

is a solution of (26). Evidently, we have:

$$\sum_{i=0}^k \beta_i^{(k)} = \sum_{i=0}^k \Theta_{i+1}^{-1} * \Theta_{k+1}, \tag{28}$$

where  $\beta_k^{(k)} = \mathcal{J}_{n_2 n_2 n_3}$ . Note that  $\sum_{i=0}^k \Theta_{i+1}^{-1}$  is the summation of positive definite tensors which implies its invertibility. In fact, we have:

$$\left( \sum_{i=0}^k \beta_i^{(k)} \right)^{-1} = \Theta_{k+1}^{-1} * \left( \sum_{i=0}^k \Theta_{i+1}^{-1} \right)^{-1}.$$

We comment here that the assumption made on the invertibility of  $\gamma_k^{(k)}$  in Section 3.1 is implicitly satisfied here.

By the discussions in Section 3.1, from (11), we can derive  $\gamma_j^{(k)}$  for  $j = 0, 1, \dots, k - 1$  noticing that  $\gamma_k^{(k)} = \mathcal{J}_{n_2 n_2 n_3} - \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \gamma_i^{(k)}$ . More precisely, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_j^{(k)} &= \Theta_{j+1}^{-1} * \Theta_{k+1} * \left( \sum_{i=0}^k \beta_i^{(k)} \right)^{-1} \\ &= \Theta_{j+1}^{-1} * \Theta_{k+1} * \Theta_{k+1}^{-1} * \left( \sum_{i=0}^k \Theta_{i+1}^{-1} \right)^{-1} \\ &= \Theta_{j+1}^{-1} * \left( \sum_{i=0}^k \Theta_{i+1}^{-1} \right)^{-1} \quad j = 0, 1, \dots, k - 1. \end{aligned} \tag{29}$$

Having  $\gamma_0^{(k)}, \gamma_1^{(k)}, \dots, \gamma_k^{(k)}$  obtained, we can further compute  $\alpha_i^{(k)}$  for  $i = 0, 1, \dots, k - 1$  by (12).

Finally, the extrapolated third tensor can be written as follows:

$$T_k = \Delta S_k \star \alpha^{(k)} \tag{30}$$

where  $\Delta S_k$  and  $\alpha^{(k)}$  are 4-mode tensors whose  $j$ -th frontal slices are receptively given by  $\Delta S_{j-1} = S_j - S_{j-1} = \bar{V}_j * \delta_j$  and  $\alpha_{j-1}^{(k)}$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, k$ .

The generalized residual can be written in the following form:

$$R(T_k) = \Delta S_k \star \gamma^{(k)} = \sum_{i=0}^k \bar{V}_{i+1} * \delta_{i+1} * \gamma_i^{(k)},$$

where  $\gamma^{(k)}$  is a 4-mode tensor with frontal slices  $\gamma_0^{(k)}, \gamma_2^{(k)}, \dots, \gamma_k^{(k)}$ . By Remark 5, one can derive:

$$\begin{aligned} R(T_k)^T * R(T_k) &= \sum_{i=0}^k (\gamma_i^{(k)})^T * \delta_{i+1}^T * \delta_{i+1} * \gamma_i^{(k)} \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^k (\gamma_i^{(k)})^T * \Theta_{i+1} * \gamma_i^{(k)} \end{aligned}$$

Notice that  $\Theta_{i+1}$  is symmetric, i.e.,  $\Theta_{i+1} = \Theta_{i+1}^T$ . It can be verified that the inverse of a symmetric tensor is also a symmetric tensor. From (27) and (29), we can observe:

$$\begin{aligned} R(T_k)^T * R(T_k) &= \sum_{i=0}^k (\gamma_i^{(k)})^T * \Theta_{i+1} * \gamma_i^{(k)} \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^k (\gamma_i^{(k)})^T * \left( \sum_{\ell=0}^k \Theta_{\ell+1}^{-1} \right)^{-1} \\ &= \left( \sum_{j=0}^k \Theta_{j+1}^{-1} \right)^{-1} * \left( \sum_{i=0}^k \Theta_{i+1}^{-1} \right) * \left( \sum_{\ell=0}^k \Theta_{\ell+1}^{-1} \right)^{-1} \\ &= \left( \sum_{j=0}^k \Theta_{j+1}^{-1} \right)^{-1} = \Theta_k * \Theta_k^{-1} * \left( \sum_{j=0}^k \Theta_{j+1}^{-1} \right)^{-1}. \end{aligned}$$

Now, we can deduce that (see the proof of [18, Lemma 3.19] for more details):

$$\|R(T_k)\|^2 = \text{trace} \left( \left( \Theta_k * \gamma_{k-1}^{(k)} \right)_{::1} \right). \tag{31}$$

For ill-posed problems, the value of  $\|R(T_k)\|$  decreases when  $k$  increases and is sufficiently small. However, the norm of  $R(T_k)$  may increase with  $k$ . Hence, similar to [15], we may need to simultaneously exploit an alternative stopping criterion when the problem is ill-posed. To this end, we can stop iterations once either  $\|R(T_k)\|$  or

$$\eta_k := \frac{\|T_{k+1} - T_k\|}{\|T_k\|} = \frac{\sqrt{\text{trace} \left( (T_{k+1} - T_k)^T * (T_{k+1} - T_k) \right)_{::1}}}{\sqrt{\text{trace} \left( T_k^T * T_k \right)_{::1}}} \tag{32}$$

is smaller than a prescribed tolerance. Using Remark 5 and some computations, one may simplify the above relation exploiting the following relations,

$$(T_{k+1} - T_k)^T * (T_{k+1} - T_k) = \sum_{j=1}^k (\alpha_{j-1}^{(k+1)} - \alpha_{j-1}^{(k)})^T * \Theta_j * (\alpha_{j-1}^{(k+1)} - \alpha_{j-1}^{(k)}) + \alpha_k^{(k+1)} * \Theta_{k+1} * \alpha_k^{(k+1)},$$

and

$$T_k^T * T_k = \sum_{j=1}^k (\alpha_{j-1}^{(k)})^T * \Theta_j * \alpha_{j-1}^{(k)}.$$

We end this part by summarizing the above discussions in Algorithm 3.

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**Algorithm 3** The TRRE-TTSVD Algorithm.

---

**Input.**  $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3}$ , tolerance  $\epsilon$  and  $k \leq \min(n_1, n_3)$  for TTSVD of  $\mathcal{A}$ ;

Step 1. Run Algorithm 1 to compute an approximation for its Moore-Penrose inverse, i.e.,  $\mathcal{A}^\dagger = \mathcal{V} * \mathcal{S}^\dagger * \mathcal{U}^T$ .

Step 2. Set  $S_0 = \mathcal{O}$ ,  $S_1 = \bar{V}_1 * d_1^\dagger * \bar{U}_1^T * \bar{\mathcal{B}}$ ,  $T_1 = S_1$  and  $k = 2$ .

Step 3.  $\text{tol} = 1$ .

Step 4. while  $\text{tol} < \epsilon$

Compute  $S_k$  from (24)

Compute  $\gamma_j^{(k)} = \Theta_{i+1}^{-1} * \left( \sum_{\ell=0}^k \Theta_{\ell+1}^{-1} \right)^{-1}$  for  $j = 0, 1, \dots, k - 1$

Set  $\gamma_k^{(k)} = \mathcal{J}_{n_2 n_2 n_3} - \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \gamma_i^{(k)}$ .

Compute

$$\alpha_0^{(k)} = \mathcal{J}_{n_2 n_2 n_3} - \gamma_0^{(k)}, \quad \alpha_j^{(k)} = \alpha_{j-1}^{(k)} - \gamma_j^{(k)}, \quad 1 \leq j < k \text{ and } \alpha_{k-1}^{(k)} = \gamma_k^{(k)}.$$

Compute the approximation  $T_k$  using (30).

Compute  $\|R(T_k)\|$  (cf. (31)) and  $\eta_k$  (cf. (32)).

$\text{tol} = \min(\|R(T_k)\|, \eta_k)$ .

$k = k + 1$ .

end

---

## 5 Numerical experiments

In this part, we consider a test problem to numerically compare the performance of Algorithm 3 with TTSVD for solving ill-conditioned problems. All computations are carried out using MATLAB with machine epsilon about  $10^{-16}$ .

The desired solution  $\tilde{\mathcal{X}}$  is chosen as a tensor with all entries being equal to 1. The error-free right-hand side is given by  $\tilde{\mathcal{B}} = \mathcal{A} * \tilde{\mathcal{X}}$  and the associated error-contaminated right-hand side  $\mathcal{B} = \tilde{\mathcal{B}} + \mathcal{E}$  where the error-tensor  $\mathcal{E}$  has normally distributed entries with zero mean and is normalized to correspond to a specific noise-level:

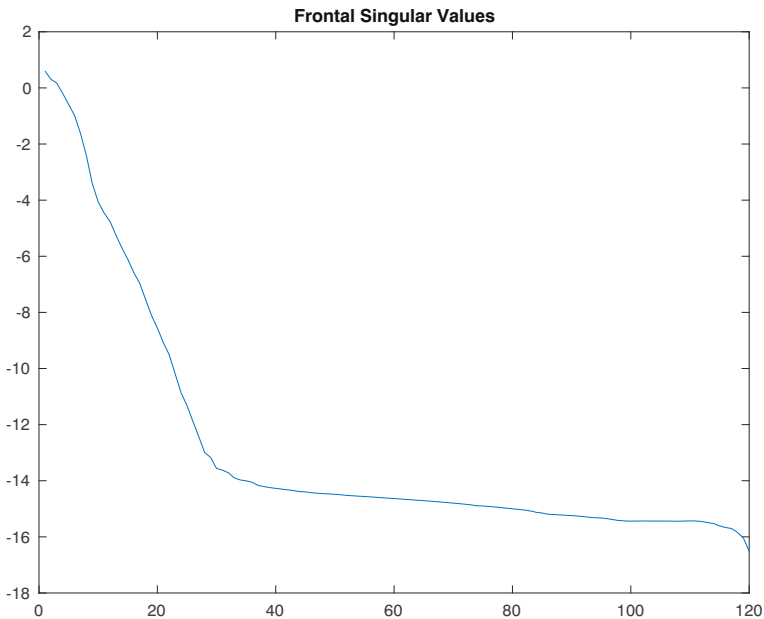
$$v = \frac{\|\mathcal{E}\|}{\|\tilde{\mathcal{B}}\|}. \tag{33}$$

For all the experiments, we reported the relative error norms:

$$\|\mathcal{S}_k - \tilde{\mathcal{X}}\|/\|\tilde{\mathcal{X}}\| \text{ and } \|\mathcal{T}_k - \tilde{\mathcal{X}}\|/\|\tilde{\mathcal{X}}\|$$

corresponding to TTSVD and TRRE-TSVD, respectively.

We used the Regularization Tools package by Hansen [10] to define the frontal slices  $A_1 = \textit{shaw}$ ,  $A_2 = \textit{baart}$ , and  $A_3 = \textit{foxgood}$  of the tensor  $\mathcal{A}$ . The computed condition numbers of the frontal slices of  $\mathcal{A}$  are  $\kappa(A_1) = 1.25 \cdot 10^{20}$  and  $\kappa(A_2) = 1.5 \cdot 10^{18}$ , and  $\kappa(A_3) = 7 \cdot 10^{19}$  where  $\kappa(A_i) = \|A_i\|_2 \|A_i^{-1}\|_2$ .



**Fig. 1** Singular values of the first frontal slice of the tensor  $\mathcal{S}$

In Fig. 1, we plotted, in a logarithmic scale, the singular values of the first frontal slice of the tensor  $\mathcal{S}$  such that  $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{U} * \mathcal{S} * \mathcal{V}^T$  is the TSVD of the tensor  $\mathcal{A}$ .

As seen, in Fig. 1, only a small number of those singular values are not close to 0 which means that the problem is very ill-conditioned. The computed tubal rank (the number of non-zero elements in the first frontal slices of  $\mathcal{S}$ ) is  $\text{rank}_t(\mathcal{A}) = 32$ ; see [23] for more details on the definition of a tubal rank.

We set  $n_1 = n_2 = 400$ ,  $n_3 = 3$ , and chose  $\nu = 10^{-2}$ ,  $10^{-3}$ . The obtained relative error norms corresponding to approximate solutions computed by TRRE-TTSVD and TTSVD are reported in Tables 1 and 2.

We observed numerically that after iteration  $k = 10$  the error norm for TTSVD begins to increase while the one for TRRE-TTSVD stagnates and this is the same phenomena observed in the vector case.

**Table 1** The computed relative errors for TTSVD and TRRE-TTSVD ( $\nu = 10^{-2}$ )

Method	TRRE-TTSVD	TTSVD
$k$	$\ \mathcal{T}_k - \tilde{\mathcal{X}}\  / \ \tilde{\mathcal{X}}\ $	$\ \mathcal{S}_k - \tilde{\mathcal{X}}\  / \ \tilde{\mathcal{X}}\ $
6	$2.2 \cdot 10^{-1}$	$1.2 \cdot 10^{-1}$
10	$4.3 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$1.7 \cdot 10^{-1}$

**Table 2** The computed relative errors for TTSVD and TRRE-TTSVD ( $\nu = 10^{-3}$ )

Method	TRRE-TTSVD	TTSVD
$k$	$\ \mathcal{T}_k - \tilde{\mathcal{X}}\ /\ \tilde{\mathcal{X}}\ $	$\ \mathcal{S}_k - \tilde{\mathcal{X}}\ /\ \tilde{\mathcal{X}}\ $
4	$4.1 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$1.7 \cdot 10^{-2}$
12	$4.2 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$2.4 \cdot 10^{-2}$

## 6 Conclusion

We proposed in this work some tensor extrapolation methods. The first class contains the tensor extrapolation polynomial-type methods while for the second class, we introduced the tensor topological  $\epsilon$ -transformation. These techniques can be regarded as generalizations of the well-known vector and matrix extrapolation methods. Besides, we introduced some new products between two tensors which can simplify the derivation of extrapolation methods based on tensor format. Some theoretical results were also established including the properties of introduced tensor products and an expression for the minimum norm least-square solution of a tensor equation. Finally, the proposed techniques were applied on the sequence of tensors corresponding to the truncated tensor singular value decomposition which can be used for solving tensor ill-posed problems.

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