

# Tensor Networks (IN2388)

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## 1. Introduction

(see corresponding slides)

## 2. Mathematical framework and graphical diagrams

### 2.1 Linear algebra fundamentals

Vector spaces :  $\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{C}^n, v = \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}^n$   
 $C([0,1], \mathbb{C})$  : space of continuous functions  $f: [0,1] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$

Matrices :  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n} : A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & \dots & a_{mn} \end{pmatrix}$

Matrix - vector product:  
 $A \cdot v = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11}v_1 + a_{12}v_2 + \dots + a_{1n}v_n \\ \vdots \\ a_{m1}v_1 + a_{m2}v_2 + \dots + a_{mn}v_n \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}^m$

$A$  can be interpreted as linear operator from  $\mathbb{C}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^m$

Remark: We will formulate definitions, theorems,--  
in terms of complex numbers; this includes  
real numbers as special case.

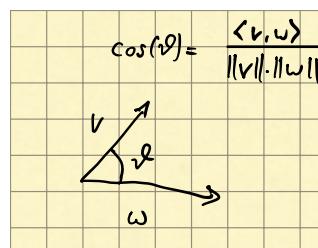
Inner product and norm on a vector space  $V$ :

$$\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle : V \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

can be defined abstractly,

in this course:  $\text{complex conjugate}$

$$\langle v, w \rangle = \sum_{j=1}^n v_j^* w_j \quad \text{for all } v, w \in \mathbb{C}^n$$



Note:  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  is linear in its second argument,

but anti-linear in its first:  $\langle \alpha \cdot v, w \rangle = \alpha^* \langle v, w \rangle$

$\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  induces a norm on  $V$  via  $\|v\| = \sqrt{\langle v, v \rangle}$

Cauchy-Schwarz inequality:

$$\text{for all } v, w \in V: |\langle v, w \rangle| \leq \|v\| \cdot \|w\|$$

Example on  $C([0,1], \mathbb{C})$ :  $\langle f, g \rangle = \int_0^1 f(x)^* g(x) dx$

Adjoint (conjugate transpose) of a matrix:

$$A^+ = (A^*)^T$$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & \dots & a_{mn} \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n} \Rightarrow A^+ = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11}^* & \dots & a_{m1}^* \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{1n}^* & \dots & a_{nn}^* \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times m}$$

Note:  $\langle v, Aw \rangle = \langle A^+ v, w \rangle \quad \forall v \in \mathbb{C}^n, w \in \mathbb{C}^m$

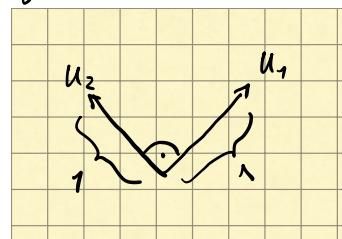
A matrix  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  is called Hermitian (or self-adjoint) if  $A^+ = A$

Unitary matrices:  $U \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  is called unitary if  $U^+ U = I$  (identity matrix)

i.e.  $U^+$  is the inverse of  $U$

Intuition:  $U = (u_1 | u_2 | \dots | u_n)$

consists of orthonormal column vectors



$U$  describes a change of basis which preserves the length of vectors.

Note:  $U^T U = I \Leftrightarrow U U^T = I$ :

$U$  is unitary if and only if  $U^T$  is unitary.

Normal matrix:  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  is called normal if it commutes with its adjoint:  $A^T A = A A^T$

In particular: every unitary and every Hermitian matrix is normal.

Eigenvalues and -vectors: Let  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ . Then a non-zero vector  $v \in \mathbb{C}^n$  is called an eigenvector of  $A$  with corresponding eigenvalue  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  if

$$A v = \lambda v$$

Determinant of a square matrix  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ :

$$\det(A) = \sum_{\sigma \in S_n} \text{sgn}(\sigma) \prod_{j=1}^n a_{j, \sigma(j)}$$

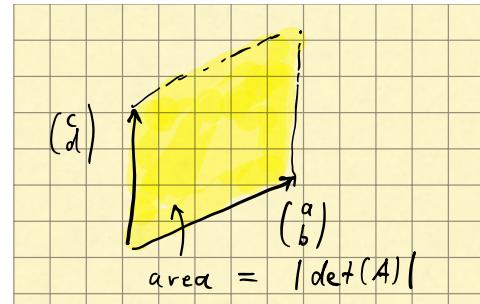
with  $S_n$  the group of all permutations of  $\{1, \dots, n\}$

Example for  $n=2$ :  $A = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $S_2 = \{ \text{id}, (1, 2) \}_{1 \leftrightarrow 2}$

$$\det(A) = \underbrace{a \cdot d}_{\sigma = \text{id}} - \underbrace{b \cdot c}_{\sigma = 1 \leftrightarrow 2}$$

Properties:

- $A$  is invertible (column or row vectors are linearly independent) if and only if  $\det(A) \neq 0$
- $\det(AT) = \det(A)$
- For all  $A, B \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ :  
$$\det(A \cdot B) = \det(A) \cdot \det(B)$$



Relevance for eigenvalues:

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$$\begin{aligned} Ar = \lambda r &\Leftrightarrow (\lambda I - A)r = 0 \Leftrightarrow \lambda I - A \text{ is } \underline{\text{not}} \text{ invertible} \\ &\Leftrightarrow \underbrace{\det(\lambda I - A)}_{\text{characteristic polynomial of } A} = 0 \quad (\lambda \text{ regarded as variable}) \end{aligned}$$

Fundamental theorem of algebra guarantees that there exist  $n$  complex roots of the characteristic polynomial ( $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ )

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Example: } A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \rightsquigarrow \det(\lambda I - A) &= \det \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 1 \\ -1 & \lambda \end{pmatrix} = \\ &= \lambda^2 + 1 = 0 \\ &\Leftrightarrow \lambda = \pm i \end{aligned}$$

Theorem (Spectral decomposition). Any normal matrix  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  is unitarily diagonalizable, i.e. there exists a unitary matrix  $U \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  and eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n \in \mathbb{C}$  such that

$$A \cdot U = U \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{↑ diagonal matrix}$$

$$\text{equivalently: } A = U \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix} U^+$$

Conversely, every matrix representable in this form is normal.

Remark: The column vectors of  $U = (u_1 | \dots | u_n)$  are a basis of eigenvectors of  $A$ , since  $A \cdot U = U \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix}$  is stating that  $A u_j = \lambda_j u_j$  for  $j = 1, \dots, n$ .

Sketch of proof (for " $\Rightarrow$ ") : Let  $A$  be normal.

- (i) Every linear subspace  $V \subseteq \mathbb{C}^n$  with dimension  $\geq 1$  which is left invariant by  $A$ , i.e.  $Ar \in V$  for all  $r \in V$ , contains at least one eigenvector of  $A$ : namely, regarding  $A$  as linear operator on  $V$ , the corresponding characteristic polynomial must contain at least one root.
- (ii) If  $v$  is an eigenvector of  $A$  with eigenvalue  $\lambda$ , then  $v$  is also an eigenvector of  $A^+$  with eigenvalue  $\lambda^*$ :
 
$$0 = \|(\lambda I - A)v\|^2 = \langle (\lambda I - A)v, (\lambda I - A)v \rangle =$$

$$= \langle v, (\lambda I - A)^+ (\lambda I - A)v \rangle \stackrel{A \text{ normal}}{=} \langle v, (\lambda I - A)(\lambda^* I - A^+)v \rangle$$

$$\underbrace{|\lambda|^2 I - \lambda^* A - \lambda A^+ + A^+ A}_{\text{has to be zero}} =$$

$$= \underbrace{\|(\lambda^* I - A^+)v\|^2}_{\text{has to be zero}} \Leftrightarrow \lambda^* v = A^+ v$$
- (iii) Let  $\lambda$  be an eigenvalue of  $A$  and  $V_\lambda$  the subspace of corresponding eigenvectors :  $V_\lambda = \{v \in \mathbb{C}^n : Av = \lambda v\}$   
 Then  $A$  and  $A^+$  leave  $V_\lambda^\perp \leftarrow \text{orthogonal complement}$  invariant, namely :
 
$$\forall w \in V_\lambda^\perp, v \in V_\lambda : \langle v, Aw \rangle = \langle A^+ v, w \rangle \stackrel{(ii)}{=} \langle \lambda^* v, w \rangle = \lambda \underbrace{\langle v, w \rangle}_{=0 \text{ since } w \in V_\lambda^\perp} = 0$$

$$\leadsto Aw \in V_\lambda^\perp, \text{ similarly } A^+ w \in V_\lambda^\perp$$
- (iv) Now we apply the above steps recursively to  $A$  restricted to  $V_\lambda^\perp$ , starting from any eigenvalue  $\lambda$  on  $V = \mathbb{C}^n$ .  
 The adjoint of  $A$  on  $V_\lambda^\perp$  is still  $A^+$  (restricted to  $V_\lambda^\perp$ ) and hence  $A$  on  $V_\lambda^\perp$  is likewise normal. □

Remark: for general matrices, eigenvectors might not form a basis, eigenvectors of different eigenvalues are not necessarily orthogonal to each other.

Useful criterion which guarantees the existence of a single leading eigenvalue: Perron - Frobenius theorem.

The spectral radius of a square matrix  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  is the largest absolute value of the eigenvalues of  $A$ :

$$\rho(A) := \max \{ |\lambda_1|, \dots, |\lambda_n| \}, \text{ with } \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n \text{ the eigenvalues of } A$$

Immediate corollary of the spectral theorem:

any Hermitian matrix is unitarily diagonalizable, and all its eigenvalues are real:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix} = U^* A U \leftarrow \text{Hermitian}$$

A Hermitian matrix  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  is called positive semidefinite if  $\langle v, Av \rangle \geq 0$  for all  $v \in \mathbb{C}^n$ .

Thus the eigenvalues of such a matrix are likewise non-negative, since for any eigenpair  $(v, \lambda)$ :

$$\underbrace{\lambda}_{>0} \underbrace{\|v\|^2}_{>0} = \lambda \langle v, v \rangle = \langle v, \lambda v \rangle = \langle v, Av \rangle \geq 0.$$

Theorem (Singular value decomposition, SVD)

Let  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  be a square matrix. Then there exist unitary matrices  $U, V \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ , and a list of real numbers  $\sigma_1 \geq \sigma_2 \geq \dots \geq \sigma_n \geq 0$  called singular values, such that

$$A = U \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \sigma_n \end{pmatrix} V^+$$

$$\downarrow (A^+ A)^+ = A^+(A^+)^+ = A^+ A$$

Proof:  $A^+ A$  is Hermitian and positive semidefinite, since

$$\forall v \in \mathbb{C}^n : \langle v, A^+ A v \rangle = \langle Av, Av \rangle = \|Av\|^2 \geq 0$$

$\rightsquigarrow$  by the spectral theorem,  $A^+ A$  is unitarily diagonalizable by some unitary matrix  $V \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ .

We denote the corresponding eigenvalues by  $\sigma_1^2, \dots, \sigma_n^2$ ,  $\sigma_j \geq 0 \forall j$

w.l.o.g  $\sigma_j \geq \sigma_{j+1} \forall j$ :

$$A^+ A = V \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1^2 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \sigma_n^2 \end{pmatrix} V^+, \quad V = (v_1, \dots, v_n)$$

Denote the number of strictly positive eigenvalues by  $k$ .

For all  $j = 1, \dots, k$ , set  $u_j = \frac{1}{\sigma_j} Av_j$

The  $u_j$ 's are orthonormal, since:

$$\langle u_j, u_\ell \rangle = \frac{1}{\sigma_j \sigma_\ell} \langle Av_j, Av_\ell \rangle = \frac{1}{\sigma_j \sigma_\ell} \underbrace{\langle v_j, A^+ A v_\ell \rangle}_{\sigma_\ell^2 v_\ell} = \delta_{j\ell}$$

In case  $k < n$ , extend  $(u_1, \dots, u_k)$  to an orthonormal basis of  $\mathbb{C}^n$ .

By construction,  $Av_j = \sigma_j u_j \quad \forall j = 1, \dots, n$ ,

which can be summarized as

$$A \cdot V = U \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \sigma_n \end{pmatrix}$$

Multiplying from the right by  $V^+$  yields the SVD of  $A$ .  $\square$

Note that the SVD exists for any matrix  $A$ .

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Remark: The SVD can be generalized to non-square matrices as follows:

Let  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$ , set  $k = \min(m, n)$ . Then there exist linear isometries  $U \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times k}$  and  $V \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times k}$ , and real non-negative singular values  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_k$  with  $\sigma_1 \geq \sigma_2 \geq \dots \geq \sigma_k \geq 0$  such that

$$A = U \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \sigma_k \end{pmatrix} V^t.$$

Note: dimensions are compatible:

$$U \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times k}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \sigma_k \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}^{k \times k}, \quad V^t \in \mathbb{C}^{k \times n}$$

Isometries are generalizations of unitary matrices:

$U \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$  with  $m \geq n$  is called an isometry if

$$U^t U = I_n.$$

The columns of  $U = (u_1 | \dots | u_n)$  are orthonormal ( $\langle u_j, u_\ell \rangle = \delta_{j\ell}$ ), but if  $m > n$  they cannot form a basis of  $\mathbb{C}^m$ ; instead, they span a proper subspace.

The rank of  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$  is the dimension of the vector space generated by the column vectors of  $A$ .

$\text{rank}(A)$  is equal to the number of non-zero singular values.

SVD becomes a low-rank factorization if many singular values are zero (and can hence be omitted):

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \boxed{A} \\
 \uparrow m \quad \downarrow n \\
 = \boxed{U} \quad \boxed{\Sigma} \quad \boxed{V^+} \\
 \uparrow k \quad \text{diag } (\sigma_1 \dots \sigma_k) \\
 \text{only keep the non-zero singular values}
 \end{array}$$

Matrix functions: Let  $f: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be an arbitrary function and  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  be normal, with spectral decomposition

$$A = U \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix} U^+$$

Then we define

$$f(A) = U \begin{pmatrix} f(\lambda_1) & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & f(\lambda_n) \end{pmatrix} U^+$$

Equivalently, if  $f$  admits a power series expansion

$$f(x) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} q_j x^j \quad \text{for all } x \in \mathbb{C}$$

$\uparrow$  can be finite as well, i.e.  $q_{j+1} = 0, q_{j+2} = 0, \dots$

$$\text{then } f(A) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} q_j A^j$$

$\uparrow$   $j$ -fold product of  $A$  with itself

Exercise:

why equivalent?

Hint: insert  
spectral decom-  
position

Examples:

$$\cdot e^A = \exp(A) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{j!} A^j$$

$$\text{Note: } \frac{d}{dt} e^{tA} = A \cdot e^{tA} \quad \text{for } t \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$e^{A+B} \neq e^A \cdot e^B$$

in general

$$\cdot \sqrt{A} \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n} \text{ satisfies } \sqrt{A} \cdot \sqrt{A} = A \quad (\text{as expected})$$

Kronecker product of two matrices  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$ ,  $B \in \mathbb{C}^{p \times q}$ :

$$A \otimes B = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11}B & \dots & a_{1n}B \\ a_{21}B & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vdots & & \\ a_{m1}B & \dots & a_{mn}B \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}^{mp \times nq}$$

Similarly: Kronecker product of two vectors:

$$v \in \mathbb{C}^n, w \in \mathbb{C}^q:$$

$$v \otimes w = \begin{pmatrix} v_1w \\ \vdots \\ v_nw \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}^{nq}$$

Properties:

- For  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$ ,  $C \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times o}$ ,  $B \in \mathbb{C}^{p \times q}$ ,  $D \in \mathbb{C}^{q \times r}$ :

$$(A \otimes B) \cdot (C \otimes D) = (A \cdot C) \otimes (B \cdot D)$$

↑      ↑  
usual matrix-matrix product

Similarly for matrix-vector:

$$(A \otimes B) \cdot (v \otimes w) = (Av) \otimes (Bw)$$

- $I_m \otimes I_n = I_{mn}$   
↑  
 $m \times m$  identity
- $\text{tr}[A \otimes B] = \text{tr}[A] \cdot \text{tr}[B]$   
↑  
matrix trace:  
sum of diagonal entries

## Vectorization of matrices:

Entries of  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$  interpreted as vector of length  $m \cdot n$ :

$$\text{vec}(A) \in \mathbb{C}^{m \cdot n}$$

Two options:

- row-major ordering: row by row, e.g.

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} \\ a_{12} \\ a_{13} \\ a_{21} \\ \vdots \\ a_{33} \end{pmatrix}$$

used in C/C++,  
default in Python / NumPy ( $\rightarrow$  this lecture),  
Mathematica, ...

- column-major ordering:

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc} a_{11} & a_{21} & a_{31} \\ a_{12} & a_{22} & a_{32} \\ a_{13} & a_{23} & a_{33} \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} \\ a_{21} \\ a_{31} \\ a_{12} \\ \vdots \\ a_{32} \end{pmatrix}$$

used by Fortran, Matlab, Julia, ...

## 2.2 Tensors and graphical tensor diagrams

General tensor  $T \in \mathbb{C}^{n_1 \times n_2 \cdots \times n_d}$ :

generalization of vectors and matrices to  
multi-dimensional arrays.

The number of dimensions of a tensor  $T$  is called  
the order or degree of  $T$ .

(An alternative name is "rank", but might lead to confusion with rank of a matrix.)

Python / NumPy :  $a.\text{ndim}$  for " $a$ " an array  
 $= \text{len}(a.\text{shape})$   
 $a.\text{shape} = (n_1, \dots, n_d)$

Examples :

- a vector is a tensor of degree 1
- a matrix is a tensor of degree 2

Notation :  $T = (t_{i_1, \dots, i_d})_{i_1, \dots, i_d} \in \mathbb{C}^{n_1 \times \dots \times n_d}$

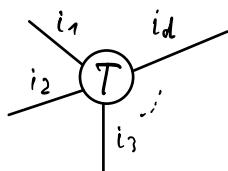
Graphical representation:

Draw a leg for each dimension (or index) :

vector  $v \in \mathbb{C}^n$  : 

matrix  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  : 

general tensor  $T$ :



tensor of degree 0:



identity map :

Contraction: (generalization of matrix - vector or matrix - matrix multiplication);

summation over a shared index

Graphical form: connect corresponding legs

Examples:  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$ ,  $v \in \mathbb{C}^n$

$$(A \cdot v)_i = \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} v_j, \quad i = 1, \dots, m$$

$$A \cdot v \stackrel{?}{=} \begin{array}{c} i \\ \textcircled{A} \\ j \\ \downarrow \\ \textcircled{v} \end{array}$$

Summation over connected leg

matrix - matrix product:

$$\begin{aligned} B &\in \mathbb{C}^{n \times p} : \\ (A \cdot B)_{ik} &= \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} b_{jk} \quad \forall i = 1, \dots, m, \quad k = 1, \dots, p \end{aligned}$$

$$A \cdot B \stackrel{?}{=} \begin{array}{c} i \\ \textcircled{A} \\ j \\ \textcircled{B} \\ k \end{array}$$

For  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ :

$$\text{tr}[A] = \sum_{j=1}^n a_{jj} \stackrel{\text{trace}}{=} \text{---} \textcircled{A} \text{---}$$

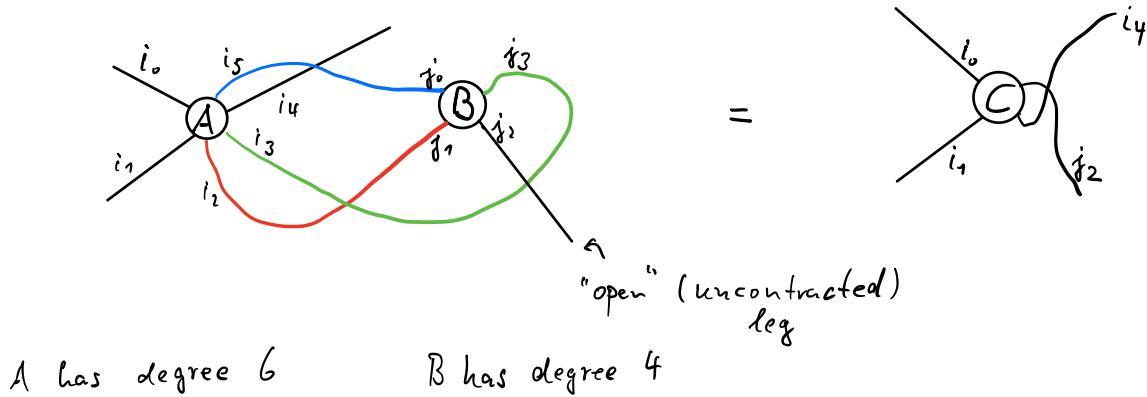
Can express the unitary property of  $U \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  as

$$\begin{aligned} U U^+ &= I : \quad \begin{array}{c} i \\ \textcircled{U} \\ j \\ \textcircled{U^+} \\ k \end{array} = \quad \text{---} \quad \text{identity} \\ (U \cdot U^+)^{ik} &= \\ &= \sum_j u_{ij} u_{kj}^* \end{aligned}$$

↑ transposition taken into account  
by how legs are connected

General contraction of two tensors :

Example :



$$\underbrace{c_{i_0, i_1, i_4, j_2}}_{\substack{\text{open indices} \\ \text{of } A}} = \sum_{k, l, m} a_{i_0 i_1 k l i_4 m} b_{m k j_2 l}$$

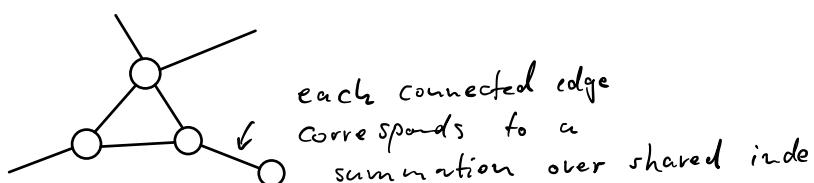
NumPy:

 $c = \text{np.tensordot}(a, b, \text{axes}=[[2, 3, 5], [1, 3, 0]])$ 
 $c = \text{np.einsum}("ijklmn, nkol \rightarrow ijmo", a, b)$ 

$$c_{ijmo} = \sum_{k, l, n} a_{ijklmn} b_{nkol}$$

$$c = \text{np.einsum}(a, (0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5), b, (\overset{6}{5}, \overset{7}{k}, \overset{8}{l}, \overset{9}{j}), (0, 1, 4, 8))$$

General tensor network:

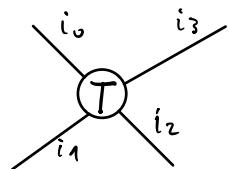


## Permutation of dimensions

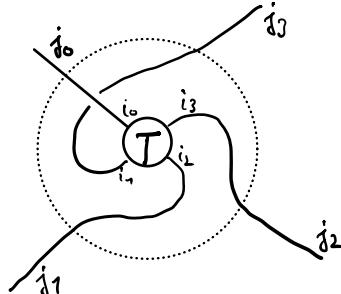
Generalization of matrix transposition:

$$\text{---} \circlearrowleft A^T \text{---} = \text{---} \circlearrowright A \text{---}$$

Example (counter-clockwise ordering of indices):



→



$$\text{np.transpose}(t, \overbrace{\quad\quad\quad(0, 2, 3, 1)}^{\text{perm}})$$

i <sub>0</sub>	i <sub>2</sub>	i <sub>3</sub>	i <sub>1</sub>
↓	↓	↓	↓
j <sub>0</sub>	j <sub>1</sub>	j <sub>2</sub>	j <sub>3</sub>

Note: Reverse permutation?

$$\text{invperm} = \text{np.argsort}(\text{perm}) \quad (0, 3, 1, 2)$$

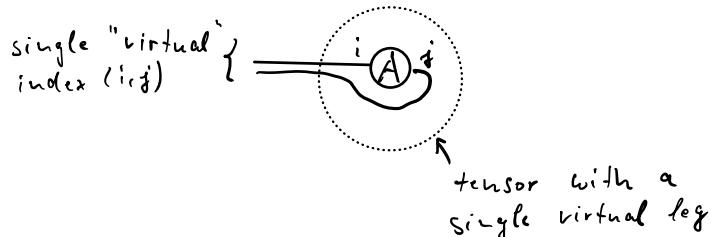
$$\text{np.transpose}(\text{np.transpose}(t, \text{perm}), \text{np.argsort}(\text{perm})) = t$$

## Vectorization

Graphical equivalent of vectorization:

combine tensor legs

For a matrix  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$ :  $\text{vec}(A) \in \mathbb{C}^{mn}$



Remark: row - vs. column major not specified in diagrams

Example:  $\text{tr}[A^T B]$  can be interpreted as dot product of two vectors:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{tr}[A^T B] &\stackrel{=}{=} \text{dot product of } A^* \text{ and } B \\ &= \sum_{i,j} a_{ij}^* b_{ij} \end{aligned}$$

Compare with inner product of  $v, w \in \mathbb{C}^n$ :

$$\langle v, w \rangle = \sum_{j=1}^n v_j^* w_j \quad \text{with } v^* \rightarrow v$$

In the following:

$$\langle A, B \rangle := \text{tr}[A^T B] = \langle \text{vec}(A), \text{vec}(B) \rangle$$

Vectorization of arbitrary tensors works analogously:

$$T \in \mathbb{C}^{n_1 \times \dots \times n_d}$$

NumPy: `np.reshape(t, -1)` ← returned vector  
points to same data

`t.flatten()` ← copies data

## Matricization

Often it is useful to interpret a tensor as matrix  
and combine tensor legs into two "virtual" index tuples

Example:  $T \in \mathbb{C}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3}$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \text{Diagram: } & \text{Left: } T \text{ with indices } i, j, k \\
 & \text{Right: } T \text{ with indices } (j, k) \\
 & \text{Matrix: } \in \mathbb{C}^{n_1 \times (n_2 \cdot n_3)} \\
 & \text{Code: np.reshape(t, (n1, n2 * n3))} \\
 \\ 
 \text{Diagram: } & \text{Left: } T \text{ with indices } i, j \\
 & \text{Right: } T \text{ with indices } (i, k) \\
 & \text{Matrix: } \in \mathbb{C}^{n_2 \times (n_1 \cdot n_3)} \\
 & \text{Code: np.reshape(np.transpose(t, (1, 0, 2)), (n2, n1 * n3))} \\
 & \quad \quad \quad \text{with } i \leftrightarrow j
 \end{array}$$

Contraction of two arbitrary tensors can thus be interpreted  
as matrix-matrix multiplication:

Example:

$$\text{Diagram: } A \text{ and } B \text{ are tensors} \quad = \quad \text{Diagram: } A \text{ and } B \text{ are matrices}$$

tensors after permuting  
dimensions and matricization

## Outer and Kronecker product

Recall for  $v \in \mathbb{C}^m$ ,  $w \in \mathbb{C}^n$ :

$$\text{Kronecker product } v \otimes w = \begin{pmatrix} v_1 w_1 \\ v_1 w_2 \\ \vdots \\ v_m w_1 \\ \vdots \\ v_m w_n \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}^{m \cdot n}$$

np.kron(v, w)

Can be interpreted as factorization of

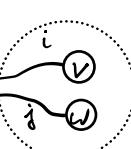
outer product  $v \circ w$ :

$$v \circ w = (v_i w_j)_{i=1..m, j=1..n} = \begin{pmatrix} v_1 w_1 & v_1 w_2 & \dots & v_1 w_n \\ v_2 w_1 & & & \\ \vdots & & & \\ v_m w_1 & & \dots & \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$$

np. outer ( $v, w$ )

$$v \circ w \stackrel{\cong}{=} \begin{array}{c} i \\ \circled{v} \quad \circled{w} \\ j \end{array}$$

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Thus  $v \otimes w =$  single combined index { 

Leads to alternative representation of SVD:

$$A = \sum_j e_j u_j \circ v_j^*$$

$$A = U \begin{pmatrix} \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot \end{pmatrix} V^+$$

$$U = (u_1; u_2; \dots; u_n)$$

In general: outer product of vectors  $v^{(1)}, \dots, v^{(d)}$  defined as

$$v^{(1)} \circ v^{(2)} \circ \dots \circ v^{(d)} \stackrel{\cong}{=} \begin{array}{c} v^{(1)} \\ \vdots \\ v^{(d)} \end{array} \quad (\text{tensor of degree } d)$$

Kronecker product of matrices

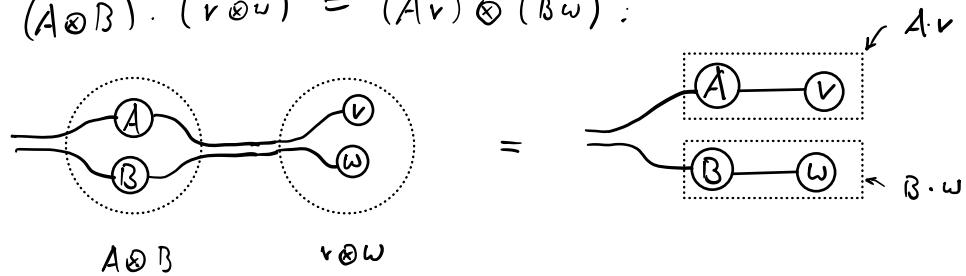
$$A \otimes B \stackrel{\cong}{=}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} A \\ \circled{B} \end{array}$$

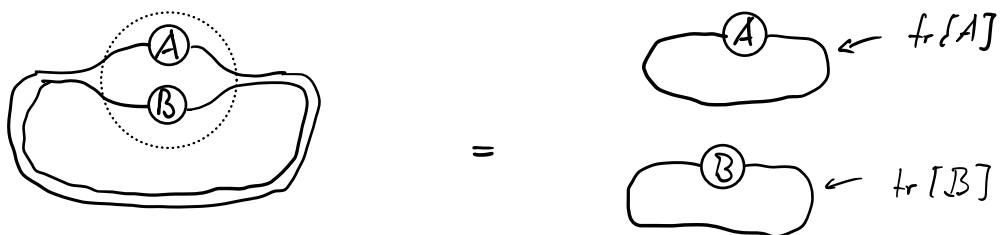
np. kron (A, B)

→ can graphically "prove" several properties of the Kronecker product:

- $(A \otimes B) \cdot (v \otimes w) = (Av) \otimes (Bw)$ :



- similarly  $(A \otimes B) \cdot (C \otimes D) = (AC) \otimes (BD)$
- $\text{tr}[A \otimes B] = \text{tr}[A] \cdot \text{tr}[B]$



Delta tensor (also denoted COPY tensor)

Can be defined for arbitrary degree  $d$

A diagram of a Delta tensor node with degree  $d=2$ . It consists of two intersecting lines meeting at a central point. The top line is labeled  $i_1$  and the bottom line is labeled  $i_2$ . The right line is labeled  $i_d$  and the left line is labeled  $j$ .

$$\delta_{i_1 \dots i_d} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i_1 = i_2 = \dots = i_d \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

For  $d=2$ : identity matrix

### 3. Canonical tensor formats and low rank approximation

#### 3.1 Low-rank approximation

##### Norms

- Spectral norm : for  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$ :

$$\|A\|_2 := \max \left\{ \|A \cdot v\| : v \in \mathbb{C}^n \text{ with } \|v\| = 1 \right\}$$

↑  
standard Euclidean norm

Can derive that:

$$\|A\|_2 = \sigma_1(A) \quad (\text{largest singular value})$$

- Frobenius norm :

$$\|A\|_F = \sqrt{\sum_{i,j} |a_{ij}|^2} = \|\text{vec}(A)\|$$

$$\text{since } \sum_{i,j} |a_{ij}|^2 = \text{tr}[A^T A] = \sum_j \sigma_j^2(A)$$

$$\|A\|_F = \sqrt{\sum_j \sigma_j^2(A)}$$

Corresponding inner product :

$$\langle A, B \rangle = \langle \text{vec}(A), \text{vec}(B) \rangle$$

Can be generalized to tensors of arbitrary degree:

for  $T \in \mathbb{C}^{n_1 \times \dots \times n_d}$

$$\|T\|_F := \|\text{vec}(T)\| = \sqrt{\sum_{i_1 \dots i_d} |t_{i_1 \dots i_d}|^2}$$

$$\langle T_1, T_2 \rangle = \langle \text{vec}(T_1), \text{vec}(T_2) \rangle$$

Basic properties :  $\|\cdot\|_2$  and  $\|\cdot\|_F$  for matrices are  
unitarily invariant:

for any  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$  and unitary  $U \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times m}$ ,  $V \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ :

$$\|UAV\|_2 = \|A\|_2, \quad \|UAV\|_F = \|A\|_F$$

(such unitary transformations leave singular values invariant)

### Von Neumann's trace inequality

Theorem: Let  $A, B \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$ , w.l.o.g.  $m \geq n$ ,  
with singular values denoted  $\sigma_1(A) \geq \sigma_2(A) \geq \dots \geq \sigma_n(A) \geq 0$   
 $\sigma_1(B) \geq \sigma_2(B) \geq \dots \geq \sigma_n(B) \geq 0$ ,  
respectively.

$$\text{Then } |\langle A, B \rangle| \leq \sum_{j=1}^n \sigma_j(A) \cdot \sigma_j(B)$$

### Optimal low-rank approximation by truncated SVD

$A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$ , w.l.o.g.  $m \geq n$ , SVD:  $A = U S V^+$  with  
isometry  $U = [u_1 | \dots | u_n] \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$ ,  $S = \text{diag}(\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n)$   
unitary  $V = [v_1 | \dots | v_n] \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$

For  $k \leq n$ , define

$$\begin{aligned} T_k(A) &= \underbrace{(u_1 | \dots | u_k)}_{\tilde{U}} \cdot \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \sigma_k \end{pmatrix}}_{\tilde{S}} \cdot \underbrace{(v_1 | \dots | v_k)^+}_{\tilde{V}^+} = \\ &= U \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \sigma_k \\ & & 0 & \ddots \\ & & & 0 \end{pmatrix} \cdot V^+ \quad (\text{see Exercise 2.2(b)}) \end{aligned}$$

→ for any unitarily invariant matrix norm  $\|\cdot\|$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\|A - T_k(A)\| &= \|USV^+ - U \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \sigma_k & 0 & \cdots & 0 \end{pmatrix} V^+\| = \\ &= \|U \cdot (S - \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \sigma_k & 0 & \cdots & 0 \end{pmatrix}) V^+\| \\ &= \left\| \begin{pmatrix} 0 & & & & \\ & \ddots & & & \\ & & 0 & & \\ & & & \ddots & \sigma_{k+1} & \\ & & & & & \ddots & \sigma_n \end{pmatrix} \right\|\end{aligned}$$

In particular:  $\|A - T_k(A)\|_2 = \sigma_{k+1}$ ,  $\|A - T_k(A)\|_F = \sqrt{\sigma_{k+1}^2 + \dots + \sigma_n^2}$

Theorem (Eckart-Young-Mirsky): Let  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$ .

Then for any unitarily invariant matrix norm  $\|\cdot\|$ ,

$$\|A - T_k(A)\| = \min \{ \|A - B\| : B \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n} \text{ has rank at most } k \}$$

Proof for  $\|\cdot\|_F$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\text{For any } B \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}: \\ \|A - B\|_F^2 &= \langle A - B, A - B \rangle = \langle A, A \rangle - \underbrace{\langle A, B \rangle}_{\langle A, B \rangle^*} - \underbrace{\langle B, A \rangle}_{\langle A, B \rangle^*} + \langle B, B \rangle = \\ &= \|A\|_F^2 - 2 \operatorname{Re} \langle A, B \rangle + \|B\|_F^2 \\ &\geq \|A\|_F^2 - 2 |\langle A, B \rangle| + \|B\|_F^2 \\ &\geq \|A\|_F^2 - 2 \sum_j \sigma_j(A) \cdot \sigma_j(B) + \|B\|_F^2 = \sum_j (\sigma_j(A) - \sigma_j(B))^2\end{aligned}$$

↑ trace inequality

If  $\operatorname{rank}(B) \leq k$ , at most  $k$  singular values of  $B$   
can be non-zero; in this case

$$\sum_j (\sigma_j(A) - \sigma_j(B))^2 \text{ is minimized by } \sigma_j(B) = \sigma_j(A), j = 1, \dots, k \\ \sigma_j(B) = 0, j = k+1, \dots$$

Inserting  $B = T_k(A)$  attains this lower of  $\|A - B\|_F^2$

□

### 3.2 Canonical Polyadic (CP) decomposition

$T \in \mathbb{C}^{n_1 \times \dots \times n_d}$ , CP decomposition of  $T$ :

$$T = \sum_{j=1}^r u_j^{(1)} \circ \dots \circ u_j^{(d)} = [[u_1^{(1)}, \dots, u_r^{(d)}]]$$

with  $U^{(k)} = (u_1^{(k)} | \dots | u_r^{(k)}) \in \mathbb{C}^{n_k \times r}$  (not necessarily isometries)

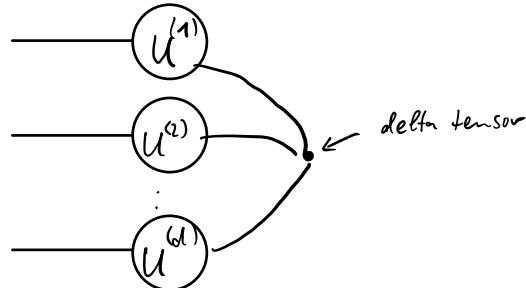


Illustration for  $d=3$ , notation  $T = \sum_{j=1}^r u_j \circ v_j \circ w_j$

$$\boxed{T} = \sum_{j=1}^r \begin{array}{c} w_j \\ \diagdown \\ u_j \end{array} \quad + \quad \begin{array}{c} w_2 \\ \diagdown \\ u_2 \end{array} \quad + \dots \quad \begin{array}{c} w_r \\ \diagdown \\ u_r \end{array}$$

Tensor rank of  $T$ : minimal possible  $r$

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Remark:

For  $d=2$  (matrix case), the rank is a lower semi-continuous function

i.e. a converging sequence of matrices of rank  $r$   
always converges to a matrix of rank at most  $r$

$$\{A^j\}_{j=1..} \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$$

Does not hold for  $d \geq 3$ :

Counterexample by Silva and Lim:

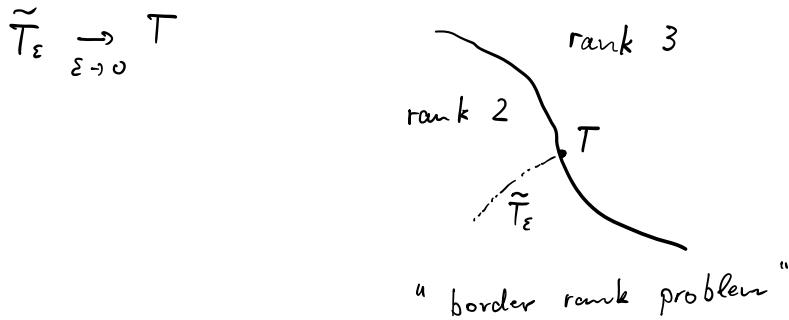
$$T = e_1 \circ e_1 \circ e_2 + e_1 \circ e_2 \circ e_1 + e_2 \circ e_1 \circ e_1, \quad e_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad e_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

has rank 3

$$\tilde{T}_\varepsilon := \frac{1}{\varepsilon} (e_1 + \varepsilon e_2) \circ (e_1 + \varepsilon e_2) \circ (e_1 + \varepsilon e_2) - \frac{1}{\varepsilon} e_1 \circ e_1 \circ e_1$$

has rank 2 (2 summands)

$$\lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} \|A^j - A\| = 0$$



Alternating least squares (ALS) algorithm commonly used to find CP decomposition

for  $d = 3$ :

Goal: given  $T$ ,  $\min_{U, V, W} \|T - [U, V, W]\|^2$

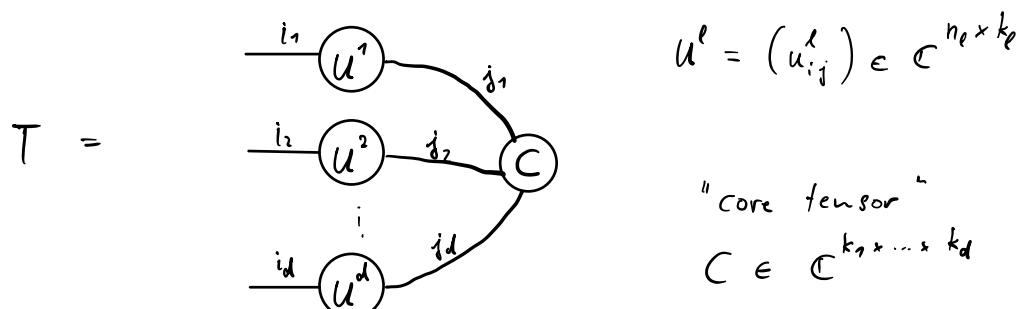
Idea: optimize  $U, V, W$  one-by-one (leads to least-squares problem)

iterate until convergence

### 3.3 Tucker decomposition

$$T = (t_{i_1 \dots i_d}) \in \mathbb{C}^{n_1 \times \dots \times n_d}$$

$$t_{i_1 \dots i_d} = \sum_{j_1=1}^{k_1} \dots \sum_{j_d=1}^{k_d} c_{j_1 \dots j_d} u_{i_1, j_1}^1 \circ \dots \circ u_{i_d, j_d}^d$$

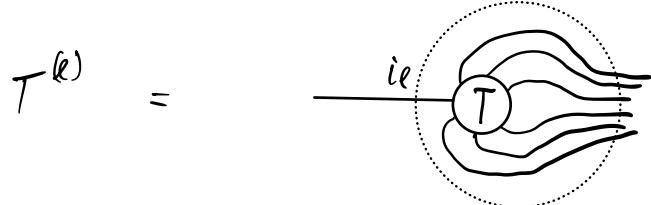


$U^l$  can be chosen to be isometries

Definition  $\ell$ -mode matricization  $T^{(\ell)}$  of a tensor  $T \in \mathbb{C}^{n_1 \times \dots \times n_d}$ :

partitioning of dimensions into  $\ell$ -th dimension and the remaining dimensions:

$$\text{Thus } T^{(\ell)} \in \mathbb{C}^{n_\ell \times (n_1 \cdots n_{\ell-1} n_{\ell+1} \cdots n_d)}$$



Multilinear rank of  $T$ :  $(r_1, \dots, r_d)$  with  $r_\ell := \text{rank}(T^{(\ell)})$

For Tucker format tensor:  $r_\ell \leq k_\ell \quad \forall \ell = 1, \dots, d$

For  $\ell \in \{1, \dots, d\}$  and a matrix  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n_\ell}$ ,  
the  $\ell$ -mode matrix product  $A \cdot_i T$  is the multiplication of  $A$  with the  $\ell$ -th dimension of  $T$ :

$$A \cdot_i T = \text{---} (A) \text{---} \begin{matrix} i_\ell \\ \vdots \\ i_d \end{matrix} \in \mathbb{C}^{n_1 \times \dots \times n_{\ell-1} \times m \times n_{\ell+1} \times \dots \times n_d}$$

(ordering of dimensions same as for  $T$ )

### Higher-order SVD algorithm (HOSVD)

Goal: Find a Tucker format approximation of a given tensor  $T$ , using prescribed dimensions  $k_1, \dots, k_d$  (with  $k_\ell \leq r_\ell \quad \forall \ell$ )

1. Compute SVD of  $\ell$ -mode matricizations:

$$T^{(\ell)} = U^\ell \cdot S^\ell \cdot (V^\ell)^\dagger, \quad S^\ell = \text{diag}(\sigma^\ell) \uparrow (\sigma_1^\ell, \sigma_2^\ell, \dots)$$

for  $\ell = 1, \dots, d$

2. Truncate :  $\tilde{U}^l := U_{:, 1:k_l}^l$  for  $l = 1, \dots, d$

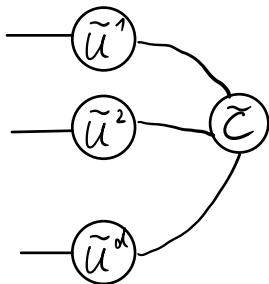
3. Form the core tensor  $\tilde{C}$  :

Initialize  $\tilde{C} \leftarrow T$

For  $l = 1, \dots, d$  :

$$\tilde{C} \leftarrow (\tilde{U}^l)^+ \cdot \tilde{C}$$

return  $(\tilde{U}^1, \dots, \tilde{U}^d, \tilde{C}, \sigma^1, \dots, \sigma^d)$



Then:  $T \approx$

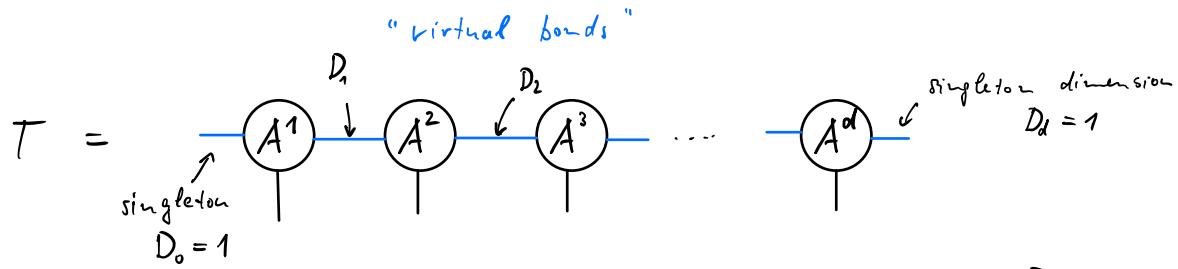
Note:  $\tilde{U}^l \cdot (\tilde{U}^l)^+$  defines a projection onto the subspace spanned by the columns of  $\tilde{U}^l$ .

Theorem: The Tucker format tensor  $\tilde{T}$  resulting from HOSRD with dimensions  $(k_1, \dots, k_d)$  satisfies the quasi-optimal condition

$$\|T - \tilde{T}\| \leq \sqrt{d} \cdot \|T - T_{\text{best}}\|,$$

with  $T_{\text{best}}$  the best approximation of  $T$  with multilinear rank  $(k_1, \dots, k_d)$ .

### 3.4 Tensor train (TT) / matrix product state (MPS) decomposition



TT cores / MPS "matrices":  $A^l \in \mathbb{C}^{n_1 \times \dots \times n_l \times D_{l+1} \times D_l}$

 $\leadsto T \in \mathbb{C}^{n_1 \times \dots \times n_d}$ 

Smallest possible tuple  $(D_0, \dots, D_d)$  is called TT rank of  $T$

Notes: only polynomially many entries with increasing  $l$   
in  $A^l$  tensors if virtual bonds are bounded:  $D_l \leq D_{\max}$

Compare with full tensor  $T \in \mathbb{C}^{n_1 \times \dots \times n_d}$ :  $n^d$  entries

Each single entry  $t_{i_1 \dots i_d}$  of a MPS tensor originates  
from a sequence of matrix products, hence "matrix product state"

$$A^1 \underset{i_1}{\ldots} A^2 \underset{i_2}{\ldots} \ldots \underset{i_d}{A^d} = A^1_{i_1, \dots} \underset{i_2, \dots}{A^2_{i_2, \dots}} \ldots \underset{i_d, \dots}{A^d_{i_d, \dots}}$$

Properties:

$$\text{Set } T_{\leq l} = A^1 \underset{\vdots}{\ldots} A^l \in \mathbb{C}^{n_1 \times \dots \times n_l \times D_l}$$

$$T_{\geq l} = A^l \underset{\vdots}{\ldots} A^d \in \mathbb{C}^{D_{l+1} \times n_{l+1} \times \dots \times n_d}$$

$$\leadsto T = \boxed{T_{\leq l}} \underset{\text{regarded as single dimension}}{\ldots} \boxed{T_{\geq l+1}} \underset{\text{regarded as single dimension}}{\ldots}$$

can be interpreted as  
matrix-matrix product

Interpreted as matrices,  $\text{rank}(T_{\leq \ell}) \leq D_\ell$   
 $\text{rank}(T_{\geq \ell+1}) \leq D_\ell$

and thus also  $\text{rank}(T_{\leq \ell} \cdot T_{\geq \ell+1}) \leq D_\ell$   
 $\Rightarrow$  matricization of MPS  $T$  as  $C^{(n_1 \dots n_\ell) \times (n_{\ell+1} \dots n_d)}$  matrix  
has rank at most  $D_\ell$ .