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Multi-feature Hyperspectral Unmixing Based on Tensor Decomposition

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Abstract—Hyperspectral unmixing allows to represent mixed pixels as a set of pure materials weighted by their abundances. Spectral features alone are often insufficient, so it is common to rely on other features of the scene. Matrix models become insufficient when the hyperspectral image is represented as a high-order tensor with additional features in a multimodal, multi-feature framework. Tensor models such as canonical polyadic decomposition allow for this kind of unmixing, but lack a general framework and interpretability of the results. In this paper, we propose a methodological framework for multi-feature unmixing based on alternating optimization alternating direction method of multipliers and incorporating abundance sum-to-one constraint (AO-ADMM-ASC), with in-depth mathematical, physical and graphical interpretation and connections with the extended linear mixing model. As additional features, we propose to incorporate mathematical morphology and reframe a previous work on neighborhood patches within our framework. Experiments on real hyperspectral image data show the efficiency of AO-ADMM-ASC and allows an in-depth interpretation of the model. Python and MATLAB implementations of AO-ADMM-ASC are made available on GitHub.

Index Terms—Hyperspectral unmixing, Tensor decomposition, Interpretability, Extended linear mixing model, Blind source separation.

I. INTRODUCTION

HYPERSPECTRAL IMAGING refers to the acquisition of images of a scene over a wide and almost continuous spectrum. A hyperspectral image (HSI) contains pixels that can cover areas of pure or mixed materials and amounts to a high spectral feature diversity [1], [2]. These characteristics allow to perform blind source separation (BSS) [3]–[5] on the observed spectral signatures to blindly extract those of pure materials (*sources*), also called *endmembers (EMs)*, and their per-pixel (*per-sample*) abundances. This case of BSS is known as hyperspectral unmixing (HU), which is an active research topic with several applications like remote sensing, chemometrics, biomedical imagery, etc [6]–[15]. HU allows to understand and quantify the physical components of a scene.

A significant part of research in BSS and HU relies on matrix factorization with additional constraints that aim at

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modeling the context of the problem. Consequently, an observed data matrix $M \in \mathbb{R}^{I \times J}$ (i.e., with I pixel samples and J spectral features) is decomposed into two factor matrices $A \in \mathbb{R}^{I \times R}$ and $B \in \mathbb{R}^{J \times R}$ such that:

$$M = AB^T = \sum_{r=1}^R a_r b_r^T \quad (1)$$

where R is the number of latent components to be estimated, and a_r and b_r are the columns of A and B , respectively, $\forall r \in \{1, \dots, R\}$. As such, the columns of B represent the estimated source signals, and the rows of A represent the per-sample abundances of the sources. The decomposition is often carried out by minimizing the generic cost function [16]:

$$\operatorname{argmin}_{A, B} \|M - AB^T\|_F^2 + r(A) + r(B) \quad (2)$$

where $r(\cdot)$ encodes the imposed constraints and/or regularizations to enforce desirable properties on the solutions.

In the case of HU, a classical approach is the nonnegative matrix factorization (NMF), which relies on the linear mixing model (LMM) of the observed HSI matrix (see Fig. 1). Hence, A and B are element-wise *nonnegative*, which applies also in most domains of BSS (other than HU) where the interpretability of the factor matrices is important. Moreover, the rows of A are subject to the *abundance sum-to-one constraint (ASC)*, which means that each row sums to 1:

$$\sum_{r=1}^R a_{ir} = 1 \quad \forall i \in \{1, \dots, I\} \quad (3)$$

which applies to domains where the coefficients of the decomposition are proportions.

When only few materials concur in the mixture for each pixel, sparsity is imposed on the abundances [17]. Finally, real HSIs often contain spectral variabilities (SVs) in the sources, e.g., variations in the EMs due to local physico-chemical variations, illumination changes or topographic effects. In order to account to these SVs, the extended linear mixing model (ELMM) was proposed to extend the LMM to account to said SVs, which is an active topic that has seen a lot of progress recently [11]–[14].

A. Tensor Analysis of HSIs

An HSI can be treated as a data cube [18]–[23] (i.e., a third-order tensor with one spectral and two spatial dimensions). However, sometimes the HSI does not come alone but is associated with additional modalities such as:

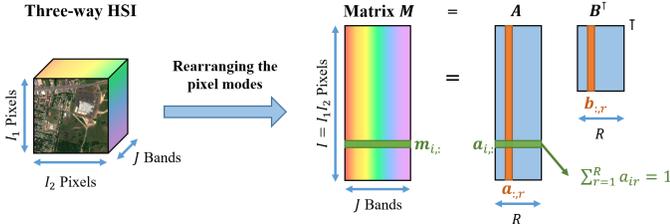


Fig. 1: Classical matrix-based HU using NMF (i.e., LMM)

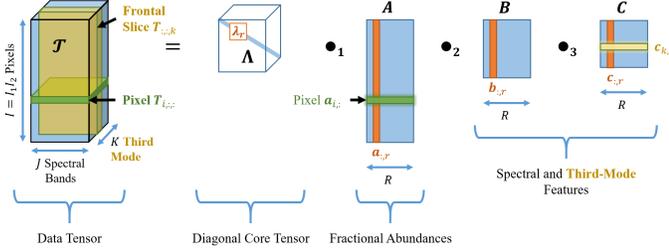


Fig. 2: Canonical polyadic decomposition of a third-order tensor. The tensor is formed of K matricized HSIs that are stacked along the third mode. A frontal slice $T_{:, :, k}$ (in yellow) represents a matricized HSI and is associated with one row of C . A horizontal (pixel) slice $T_{i, :, :}$ (in green) represents a matrix of features and is associated with one row of A .

- A time series or multi-angular data of HSI images [24].
- The HSI is combined with images acquired by different sensors (e.g., panchromatic, multispectral and LiDAR fusion) [25]–[28].
- Some spatial features are extracted from the HSI (such as in spectral-spatial classification problems [29]–[32]).

Such scenarios have recently also concerned other areas of BSS such as multi-channel signal processing [33]–[35] and multidimensional biomedical signal and image processing [36]–[40]. In the aforementioned scenarios, the data are represented natively as *tensors*¹ [41], and the challenge usually boils down to the proper modeling of a joint factorization of multivariate representations without losing the multimodal structure, and hence its interpretation in terms of BSS.

Among these scenarios, we focus on the case of HU where the HSI is associated with a set of spatial features extracted from the image itself that can be considered as new modes, which we refer to as *multi-feature HU*. In this scenario, there are some challenging questions to answer such as: how can we jointly perform a constrained factorization in such settings? And how can we interpret the extracted factors? An analysis of the literature shows that there are works that perform NMF with additional constraints [42]–[44], and others that consider the case of multimodal inputs with coupled NMF [45], [46], but this is different from considering data as tensors in our case.

As the native structure of our data is a tensor, we consider the problem in terms of tensor decomposition [41], which is

¹A tensor can be represented as a multidimensional array. The order of a tensor refers to the number of its array’s indices, which is also the number of its *modes*. For example, a tensor of dimensions $I \times J \times K$ is said to have three *modes*, and is called a *third-order tensor*. Data sets with order 3 or above are described as *high-order tensors*.

the natural framework for processing multimodal data in the signal and image processing community [47]–[49]. There are many types of decomposition, such as Tucker decomposition, block term decomposition (BTD), canonical polyadic decomposition (CPD), etc [50]. However, we choose to use CPD since there is an interest for a multi-linear model, which is also a natural model for source separation and allows for an easier *interpretability* of the extracted components, both of which are core aspects of our work².

In the third-order case, as illustrated in Fig. 2, CPD decomposes a data tensor $\mathcal{T} \in \mathbb{R}^{I \times J \times K}$ into a diagonal core tensor $\Lambda \in \mathbb{R}^{R \times R \times R}$ and 3 factor matrices $\{A \in \mathbb{R}^{I \times R}, B \in \mathbb{R}^{J \times R}, C \in \mathbb{R}^{K \times R}\}$, each representing one of the 3 modes³ of \mathcal{T} respectively, such that:

$$\mathcal{T} = \Lambda \bullet_1 A \bullet_2 B \bullet_3 C \quad (4)$$

where \bullet_d denotes the mode- d product (product along the d -th mode), further described in expressions (II), (12b), and (12c).

CPD extends NMF to high-order data and can adopt all of its features, especially that of imposing constraints. CPD is often computed by minimizing the cost function [41]:

$$\arg\min_{A, B, C} \|\mathcal{T} - \Lambda \bullet_1 A \bullet_2 B \bullet_3 C\|_F^2 + r(A, B, C) \quad (5)$$

where $r(\cdot)$ encodes the imposed constraints. Note that the nonnegative constraint ensures the existence of a minimum; in fact, without an appropriate regularisation term $r(\cdot)$, the above cost function could admit only an infimum, which may not be reachable [51]. On the other hand, with an appropriate regularisation, Problem (5) is well posed.

B. Related Works and Limitations

In the context of HU, CPD has been used with multitemporal/angular HSIs [24] as well as with HSIs having an additional diversity of extracted neighborhood patches [14] (see Fig. 7 for a 5×5 patch-HSI tensor). Moreover, some works [29]–[31] jointly considered HSIs with spatial features extracted by mathematical morphology (MM) filters [52]–[55] in the framework of multi-feature scene classification (see Fig. 8). These works show that CPD is a suitable approach for joint decomposition. However, they present some limitations.

1) *Algorithmic perspective*: The nonnegative constraint is implemented in [56] by projection onto the nonnegative orthant, which exhibits some computational issues [48]. In [14], nonnegative alternating least squares (ALS) is used where ASC is also naively implemented by projecting the abundances on the unit simplex, contrary to the common practice in the matrix case [17] where ASC is embedded in the updates. In [24], the nonnegative CPD is computed using the projected compressed ALS (ProCo-ALS) algorithm, which is considerably fast [47] but not so flexible with additional constraints. Finally, in [29]–[31], an alternative algorithm is proposed

²Note that these aspects can still be extended to more complex models such as the different variants of BTD for HU.

³Pixels form only one mode, even if images are often seen as 2D objects. The reason is to suppress the high-rankness introduced by the complex spatial features of the whole scene, which is an inconvenience for BSS methods like NMF and CPD [26].

based on alternating optimization alternating direction method of multipliers (AO-ADMM) [49] with compression and non-negative constraints, which is flexible and stable with large datasets, but has not yet addressed multi-feature HU which requires further modeling (i.e., sparsity, ASC).

2) *Interpretability*: The work of [24] faced a certain challenge in interpreting the third-mode factors, perhaps due to the naive employment of CPD. In [14], a link was established between CPD and ELMM but was not deeply investigated as it was restricted to the case of patches and tested only with synthetic data. Moreover, it faced another challenge in interpreting the factors, which poses an ambiguity on its performance and the meaning of the extracted features. Finally, [14] and [29]–[31] perform tensor decomposition with spatial features. However, the used spatial features can allow limited flexibility (e.g., patches), or the interpretation of the factor matrices was not addressed, noting here that incorporating them with CPD showed improvement in supervised classification (e.g., MM).

In this paper, we wish to consider such operations in a BSS framework from the lens of multi-feature HU with in-depth interpretability. This presents us with two main challenges:

- Tuning AO-ADMM to incorporate ASC, which is challenging due to the multilinear structure of CPD, particularly in modeling the samples as a convex combination of the spectral sources in a multimodal setting.
- Exploring the meaning of the extracted features in these conditions.

C. Contributions

To our knowledge, imposing ASC in CPD or AO-ADMM as a natural extension of NMF in [17] has not been done. Furthermore, we are interested in finding a general framework for multimodal HU favouring the interpretation of its results under any third-mode diversity. More precisely, our contributions to jointly deal with these limitations are the following:

- We propose a methodological framework for dealing with multi-feature HU based on AO-ADMM by Huang [49], and expand it to incorporate ASC with joint nonnegativity and sparsity. The proposed AO-ADMM-ASC is a general algorithm that can be applied in other domains of BSS where convex combinations of sources apply.
- We establish a unified framework for the interpretability of multi-feature HU. In particular, the link between ELMM and CPD [14] is expanded by providing in-depth physical and graphical insights for better interpretability of the CPD model and its factors.
- We propose to include MM as spatial features to perform a spectral-spatial HU and demonstrate the aforementioned points. We also revise [14] and provide detailed interpretations on the cases of patches and MM, which has not been addressed in any of the previous works [14], [29]–[31]. This analysis also shows that MM is better suited since it embeds physically meaningful features (scale and brightness of objects) into HU unlike patches.

That said, note that our main goal is to reason about the interpretability of this factorization and to describe this framework rather than to propose yet another HU algorithm.

The remainder is organized as follows. In section III, we introduce some background. In section IV, we detail the proposed framework. In section V, we present our experiments and results. Finally, we draw out some conclusions in VI.

II. NOTATIONS AND DEFINITIONS

Table I shows a list of notations for the different types of objects used throughout the paper: scalars, vectors, matrices, tensors, and array dimensions and indices. Table II denotes the types of observed data in the paper, their dimensions and different ways of indexing.

Type	Font style	Example
Scalars	unformatted lowercase	a, b, c, t
Vectors	bold lowercase	$\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{t}$
Matrices	bold uppercase	$\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{C}, \mathbf{T}$
Tensors	bold calligraphic	\mathcal{T}
Dimension	unformatted uppercase	I, J, K, R
Indices	lowercase version of the spanned dimension	i, j, k, r

TABLE I: Array notations

Table III denotes the different ways to slice and unfold a third-order tensor. The *mode unfolding* (or *matricization*) of a tensor means to reshape it into a matrix by fixing the targeted mode and rearrange the others in lexicographic order.

Table IV denotes the factor matrices of an NMF (matrix case) or CPD (tensor case). Mode-1, Mode-2 and Mode-3 correspond to the modes of *pixels*, spectral *bands*, and set of extracted spatial features (*transforms*) respectively.

We use the notation “diag{ \mathbf{v} ” to refer to the diagonal matrix whose entries are the elements of any vector \mathbf{v} .

The *outer product* of two vectors $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^I$ and $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^J$ results in a matrix $\mathbf{M} \in \mathbb{R}^{I \times J}$ as follows:

$$\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{a} \otimes \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{a}\mathbf{b}^T \iff m_{i,j} = a_i b_j$$

$$\forall i \in \{1, \dots, I\}, \forall j \in \{1, \dots, J\}$$

The *outer product* of three vectors $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^I$, $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^J$ and $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbb{R}^K$ results in a third-order tensor $\mathcal{T} \in \mathbb{R}^{I \times J \times K}$ as follows:

$$\mathcal{T} = \mathbf{a} \otimes \mathbf{b} \otimes \mathbf{c} \iff t_{i,j,k} = a_i b_j c_k$$

$$\forall i \in \{1, \dots, I\}, \forall j \in \{1, \dots, J\}, \forall k \in \{1, \dots, K\}$$

The *mode- d product* \bullet_d represents the product of a tensor by a matrix along the d -th mode. For example, assuming that we have $\mathcal{G} \in \mathbb{R}^{L \times M \times N}$, $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{I \times L}$ and $\mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{J \times M}$, the mode-1 and mode-2 product of \mathcal{G} by \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{B} respectively results in a tensor $\mathcal{T} \in \mathbb{R}^{I \times J \times N}$ defined as:

$$\mathcal{T} = \mathcal{G} \bullet_1 \mathbf{A} \bullet_2 \mathbf{B} \iff t_{ijn} = \sum_{l=1}^L \sum_{m=1}^M G_{lmn} a_{il} b_{jm}$$

III. BACKGROUND

In this section, we briefly review the existing notions in the literature upon which we base our algorithm and general interpretation of the multimodal HU framework. First, we explain how ASC is applied in NMF [17] as the proposed framework extends this for tensor decomposition. Then, we give a brief account on ELMM, including graphical and

Type	Symbol	Dimensions (pixel \times band \times transform)	i -th pixel	j -th band	k -th transform	(i, j, k) -th element
HSI matrix	M	$I \times J$	$m_{i,:}$	$m_{:,j}$	-	$m_{i,j}$
HSI tensor	\mathcal{T}	$I \times J \times K$	$T_{i,:,:}$	$T_{:,j,:}$	$T_{:,:,k}$	$t_{i,j,k}$

TABLE II: The pixels are rearranged in *lexicographic order* spanning the first mode, so I is the total number of pixels. The symbol “:” in the index indicates a span of the whole mode. For example, $m_{i,:}$ and $m_{:,j}$ represent the i -th row and j -th column *vectors* of M respectively (see Fig. 1), and $T_{:,:,k}$ represents the k -th frontal *matrix* slice of \mathcal{T} (see Fig. 2).

Variable	Symbol	Dimensions
Horizontal slice	$T_{i,:,:}$	$J \times K$
Lateral slice	$T_{:,j,:}$	$I \times K$
Frontal slice	$T_{:,:,k}$	$I \times J$
Mode-1 unfolding	$T^{(1)}$	$JK \times I$
Mode-2 unfolding	$T^{(2)}$	$IK \times J$
Mode-3 unfolding	$T^{(3)}$	$IJ \times K$

TABLE III: Tensor slicing and mode-unfolding.

Factor Mat.	Symbol	Dimensions	Row index	Col. index	Element index
Mode-1	A	$I \times R$	$a_{i,:}$	$a_{:,r}$	$a_{i,r}$
Mode-2	B	$J \times R$	$b_{j,:}$	$b_{:,r}$	$b_{j,r}$
Mode-3	C	$K \times R$	$c_{k,:}$	$c_{:,r}$	$c_{k,r}$

TABLE IV: The factor matrices, each corresponding to one of the matrix or tensor modes. R is the number of rank-1 additive terms in the decomposition.

visual interpretations, which will be the basis for the proposed interpretation. Finally, we discuss the link between CPD and ELMM preliminarily presented in [14].

A. NMF with ASC, Nonnegativity, and Sparsity

In the NMF case [17], when sparsity (ℓ_1 norm) and ASC are imposed on the abundances, (1) becomes:

$$\begin{aligned} & \underset{A, B}{\operatorname{argmin}} \frac{1}{2} \|M - AB^T\|_F^2 + \alpha \|A\|_1 \\ & \text{s.t. } A \succeq 0, B \succeq 0, \sum_{r=1}^R a_{i,r} = 1 \quad |\forall i \in \{1, \dots, I\} \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

where $\alpha > 0$, and \succeq denotes element-wise nonnegativity. A simple strategy to embed ASC goes by stacking a row vector in B and a column vector in M such that [17]:

$$\tilde{M} = [M \mid \delta \mathbf{1}_{I \times 1}], \tilde{B} = \begin{bmatrix} B \\ \delta \mathbf{1}_{1 \times R} \end{bmatrix}, \quad (7)$$

where δ is a constant that is usually set as the mean of M , and the last row of \tilde{B} is reset to δ after each iteration. This operation ensures that ASC is softly embedded in NMF since $\forall i \in \{1, \dots, I\}$ we have:

$$m_{i,J+1} = \sum_{r=1}^R a_{i,r} b_{J+1,r} = \sum_{r=1}^R a_{i,r} \delta = \delta \quad (8)$$

corresponding to $\sum_{r=1}^R a_{i,r} = 1$. Then, (6) becomes:

$$\underset{A, \tilde{B}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \frac{1}{2} \|\tilde{M} - A\tilde{B}^T\|_F^2 + \alpha \|A\|_1 \text{ s.t. } A \succeq 0, \tilde{B} \succeq 0 \quad (9)$$

There are many algorithms proposed in the literature that deal with sparse NMF and ASC, which are out of the scope of this work [42], [43]. In our case, we extend NMF within the AO-ADMM framework for CPD. NMF then becomes a special case for order-2 tensors. This tensor extension, proposed in Section IV-A is referred to as AO-ADMM-ASC.

B. ELMM

While LMM is seen as a direct approach for HU, it cannot model SVs represented by nonlinear effects or illumination conditions. One way to account to said effects is through ELMM [12], which in general assumes additional degrees of freedom that account to said SVs *at the pixel level* by introducing a *pixel-dependent* SV function $f_i : \mathbb{R}^J \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^J \quad \forall i \in \{1, \dots, I\}$, which maps each EM $b_{:,r} \quad \forall r \in \{1, \dots, R\}$ to a new spectral signature $b_{:,r}^{(i)}$ that best reflects the targeted SVs:

$$m_i = \sum_{r=1}^R a_{ir} f_i(b_{:,r}) = \sum_{r=1}^R a_{ir} b_{:,r}^{(i)}. \quad (10)$$

For example, in the case of different illumination conditions, this can be represented as a scaling factor for each pixel on the EMs. In the following, we present the parts that are at the basis of the interpretability of our proposed framework.

When ASC is imposed in LMM, all the pixels will lie on the convex hull of the set of estimated EMs (i.e., the columns of B^4), and the fractional abundances in each row of A define the coordinates of each pixel on the convex hull, which is illustrated in Fig. 3a. With the introduction of ELMM, the pixels will not lie on the same simplex anymore as each pixel is mapped to a new set of EMs, which is illustrated in Fig. 3b

⁴Here, we note that unless the EMs are not affinely independent, which is unlikely, and $R \leq J + 1$, then the convex hull is a simplex.

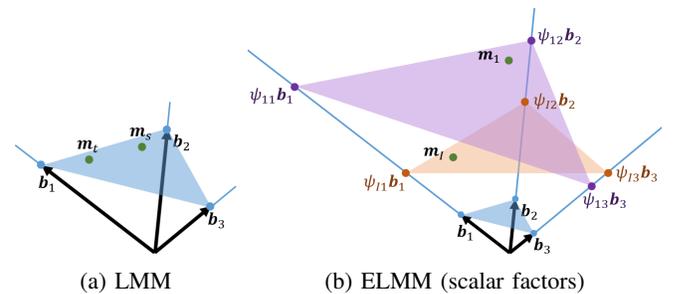


Fig. 3: Graphical comparison between LMM and ELMM (scalar factors) in the case of three spectral signatures $\{b_{:,1}, b_{:,2}, b_{:,3}\}$ and two example pixels $\{m_{s,:}, m_{t,:}\}$. The relative coordinates in the simplices are conserved.

in the case where the SV is modeled by a scaling factor ψ_{ir} that is pixel- and EM-dependent such that $\mathbf{b}_r^{(i)} = \psi_{ir} \mathbf{b}_{:,r}$ [12]. Accordingly, the new spectral signatures $\mathbf{b}_r^{(i)}$ are allowed to move only along the directions of $\mathbf{b}_{:,r}$.

In the case where the SVs are modeled with scaling factors, we denote by $\Psi \in \mathbb{R}^{I \times R}$ the matrix whose entries are the scaling factors $\psi_{ir} \forall i \in \{1, \dots, I\}$ and $\forall r \in \{1, \dots, R\}$. Then, the following are equivalent:

$$\mathbf{M} = (\mathbf{A} \square \Psi) \mathbf{B}^\top \iff \quad (11a)$$

$$\mathbf{m}_{i,:} = \sum_{r=1}^R a_{ir} \psi_{ir} \mathbf{b}_{:,r}^\top = \mathbf{a}_{i,:} \text{diag}\{\Psi_{i,:}\} \mathbf{B}^\top = \mathbf{a}_{i,:} \Psi_{(i)} \mathbf{B}^\top \quad (11b)$$

where \square is the Hadamard product. $\Psi_{i,:} \in \mathbb{R}^R$ is the i -th row of Ψ , and $\Psi_{(i)} \in \mathbb{R}^{R \times R}$ represents the diagonal matrix formed from $\Psi_{i,:}$. These mathematical, graphical, and visual relationships are the key to elaborate and interpret the case of CPD in Section IV-B.

C. CPD and ELMM

In the work of [14], a representation of CPD in terms of ELMM has been presented, which will be reported here. CPD decomposes a third-order tensor $\mathcal{T} \in \mathbb{R}^{I \times J \times K}$ such that:

$$\mathcal{T} = \Lambda \bullet_1 \mathbf{A} \bullet_2 \mathbf{B} \bullet_3 \mathbf{C} \iff \mathcal{T} = \sum_{r=1}^R \lambda_{r,r,r} \mathbf{a}_{:,r} \otimes \mathbf{b}_{:,r} \otimes \mathbf{c}_{:,r} \quad (12a)$$

$$\iff \mathcal{T} = \sum_{r=1}^R \mathbf{a}_{:,r} \otimes \mathbf{b}_{:,r} \otimes \psi_{:,r} \quad (12b)$$

$$\iff t_{i,j,k} = \sum_{r=1}^R a_{i,r} b_{j,r} \psi_{k,r} \quad (12c)$$

where $t_{i,j,k}$ is a (scalar) entry of \mathcal{T} , R is the number of estimated sources, and $\Lambda \in \mathbb{R}^{R \times R \times R}$ is a diagonal tensor that absorbs the ℓ_2 -norms of the columns of the factor matrices [41], [48]. In (12b) and (12c), we suppress the expression of Λ by absorbing its entries in the columns of \mathbf{C} , resulting in $\Psi \in \mathbb{R}^{K \times R}$ whose columns are the scaled version of those of \mathbf{C} such that $\psi_{:,r} = \lambda_{r,r,r} \mathbf{c}_{:,r} \forall r$.

As shown in [14], given that $\mathcal{T}_{:,:,k}$ denotes the k -th frontal slice of \mathcal{T} , $\forall k \in \{1, \dots, K\}$, and assuming that $\Psi_{(k)} \in \mathbb{R}^{R \times R}$ represents the diagonal matrix formed from the row $\psi_{k,:} \in \mathbb{R}^R$ of the factor Ψ , one can write:

$$\mathcal{T}_{:,:,k} = \mathbf{A} \text{diag}\{\psi_{k,:}\} \mathbf{B}^\top = \mathbf{A} \Psi_{(k)} \mathbf{B}^\top = \mathbf{A} \tilde{\mathbf{f}}_k(\mathbf{B})^\top \quad (13a)$$

$$\iff \mathbf{t}_{i,:,k} = \sum_{r=1}^R a_{i,r} (\mathbf{b}_{:,r} \psi_{k,r}) = \sum_{r=1}^R a_{i,r} \mathbf{f}_k(\mathbf{b}_{:,r}) \quad (13b)$$

where $\mathbf{t}_{i,:,k}$ is the i -th pixel row of $\mathcal{T}_{:,:,k}$. From the perspective of each frontal slice, CPD resembles a regularized coupled NMF of the frontal slices where \mathbf{A} is a common factor:

$$\text{argmin}_{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}^{(k)}} \|\mathcal{T}_{:,:,k} - \mathbf{A} \mathbf{B}^{(k)\top}\|_F^2 \text{ s.t. } \mathbf{A} \succeq 0, \mathbf{B}^{(k)} \succeq 0 \quad (14)$$

where $\mathbf{B}^{(k)} = \tilde{\mathbf{f}}_k(\mathbf{B})|_{\forall k \in \{1, \dots, K\}}$, which has an analogous expression to the case of ELMM. The latter was used in

[14] as a way to impose a spatial smoothing (14) on the abundances within a patch of neighboring pixels. This link between CPD and ELMM was preliminary presented and restricted to an application of patches with only simulated data, and the meaning of the SVs was not explored.

In Section IV-B, we propose a generalized in-depth interpretation of multi-feature HU, and in Section IV-C we present how to incorporate spatial features (e.g., patches and MM) in such a setting.

IV. PROPOSED MULTI-FEATURE HU

In this section, we present the proposed multi-feature HU framework based on CPD. First, we talk about the implementation of AO-ADMM-ASC. Then, we interpret the tensor-based ELMM model and propose to include spatial features as the third-mode.

A. AO-ADMM-ASC with Nonnegativity and Sparsity

In CPD, after imposing nonnegativity on the factor matrices, and sparsity and ASC on the abundances, (5) becomes:

$$\text{argmin}_{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{C}} \|\mathcal{T} - \Lambda \bullet_1 \mathbf{A} \bullet_2 \mathbf{B} \bullet_3 \mathbf{C}\|_F^2 + \alpha \|\mathbf{A}\|_1 \quad (15)$$

$$\text{s.t. } \mathbf{A} \succeq 0, \mathbf{B} \succeq 0, \mathbf{C} \succeq 0, \sum_{r=1}^R a_{i,r} = 1 \quad |\forall i \in \{1, \dots, I\}$$

In (15), since \mathbf{A} adopts the sum-to-one constraint on its rows, it is hence enough to normalize only the columns of \mathbf{B} and \mathbf{C} . In principle, these ℓ_2 -norms are absorbed in Λ , but for the sake of consistency, we use variable $\Psi = \Lambda \mathbf{C}$ instead of Λ and \mathbf{C} , as explained in Section III-C. In order to solve (15), we propose an algorithm inspired by AO-ADMM [49], where the factor matrices are updated in an alternating way and where each update of a factor matrix is optimized as an ADMM subproblem.

1) *ASC Solution*: In order to model the problem as close as possible to LMM, we need a tensor decomposition algorithm embedding both the ASC and the non-negativity of factors as constraints. To this end, the strategy we follow is to extend the concept from NMF to CPD by stacking:

- a row vector to \mathbf{B} (i.e., $\mathbf{b}_{J+1,:} \in \mathbb{R}^R$)
- a lateral slice to \mathcal{T} (i.e., $\mathcal{T}_{:,J+1,:} \in \mathbb{R}^{I \times 1 \times K}$)

such that $\sum_{r=1}^R a_{i,r} = 1 |_{\forall i \in \{1, \dots, I\}}$ is ensured.

In general, $\mathcal{T}_{:,J+1,:}$ can be constructed such that $\forall i \in \{1, \dots, I\}$ and $\forall k \in \{1, \dots, K\}$:

$$t_{i,J+1,k} = \sum_{r=1}^R a_{i,r} b_{J+1,r} \psi_{k,r} \quad (16)$$

So if we set:

- $\mathcal{T}_{:,J+1,K} = \delta \mathbf{1}_I$, i.e., $t_{i,J+1,K} = \delta \forall i \in \{1, \dots, I\}$
- $b_{J+1,r} = \delta \psi_{K,r}^{-1} \forall r \in \{1, \dots, R\}$,

where δ is the mean of \mathcal{T} , by substituting the expressions in (16) for $k = K$, we have:

$$t_{i,J+1,K} = \sum_{r=1}^R a_{i,r} b_{J+1,r} \psi_{K,r} \quad (17a)$$

$$\implies \delta = \delta \sum_{r=1}^R a_{i,r} \psi_{K,r}^{-1} \psi_{K,r} = \delta \sum_{r=1}^R a_{i,r} \quad (17b)$$

which implies that $\sum_{r=1}^R a_{i,r} = 1$.

At the end of each AO-ADMM iteration, \mathcal{T} and \mathbf{B} have to be updated, which boils down to a matrix and a vector updates after each iteration. We denote by $\tilde{\mathcal{T}}$ and $\tilde{\mathbf{B}}$ the extensions of \mathcal{T} and \mathbf{B} with the additional lateral slice and row vector respectively, roughly described as follows:

$$\tilde{\mathcal{T}} = [\mathcal{T} \mid \mathbf{T}_{:,J+1,:}], \quad \tilde{\mathbf{B}} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{B} \\ \mathbf{b}_{J+1,:} \end{bmatrix}, \quad (18)$$

Then, expression (15) becomes:

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{A}, \tilde{\mathbf{B}}, \Psi} & \|\tilde{\mathcal{T}} - \mathcal{I} \bullet_1 \mathbf{A} \bullet_2 \tilde{\mathbf{B}} \bullet_3 \Psi\|_F^2 + \alpha \|\mathbf{A}\|_1 \\ \text{s.t. } & \mathbf{A} \succeq 0, \tilde{\mathbf{B}} \succeq 0, \Psi \succeq 0 \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

where \mathcal{I} is a diagonal tensor of ones.

2) *ADMM Updates*: At this stage, solving (19) with AO-ADMM becomes simple. We demonstrate the ADMM sub-problem updates for each factor matrix starting with \mathbf{A} .

Supposing that $\tilde{\mathbf{T}}_{(1)}$ represents the mode-1 unfolding of $\tilde{\mathcal{T}}$, we can write the sub-problem of \mathbf{A} as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{A} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{A}} & \frac{1}{2} \|\tilde{\mathbf{T}}_{(1)} - \tilde{\mathbf{W}}_{(A)} \mathbf{A}^\top\|_F^2 + \alpha \|\mathbf{A}\|_1 \\ \text{s.t. } & \mathbf{A} \succeq 0 \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

where $\tilde{\mathbf{W}}_{(A)} \in \mathbb{R}^{(J+1)K \times I} = \tilde{\mathbf{B}} \odot \Psi$ represents the Khatri-Rao product [41]. By introducing the splitting variable $\bar{\mathbf{A}} = \mathbf{A}^\top$, expression (20) becomes:

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{A}, \bar{\mathbf{A}}} & \frac{1}{2} \|\tilde{\mathbf{T}}_{(1)} - \tilde{\mathbf{W}}_{(A)} \bar{\mathbf{A}}\|_F^2 + \alpha \|\mathbf{A}\|_1 \\ \text{s.t. } & \bar{\mathbf{A}} = \mathbf{A}^\top \text{ and } \mathbf{A} \succeq 0 \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

Adopting ADMM for (21), the updates of $\bar{\mathbf{A}}$ and \mathbf{A} become:

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\mathbf{A}} & \leftarrow (\tilde{\mathbf{W}}_{(A)}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{W}}_{(A)} + \rho \mathbf{I})^{-1} (\tilde{\mathbf{W}}_{(A)}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{T}}_{(1)} + \rho (\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{U}_{(A)})^\top) \\ \mathbf{A} & \leftarrow \max(0, \bar{\mathbf{A}}^\top - \mathbf{U}_{(A)} - \frac{\alpha}{\rho}) \\ \mathbf{U}_{(A)} & \leftarrow \mathbf{U}_{(A)} + \mathbf{A} - \bar{\mathbf{A}}^\top \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

where $\mathbf{U}_{(A)} \in \mathbb{R}^{I \times R}$ is called the dual variable.

Similarly, the updates of $\tilde{\mathbf{B}}$ and Ψ become:

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\mathbf{B}} & \leftarrow (\tilde{\mathbf{W}}_{(B)}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{W}}_{(B)} + \rho \mathbf{I})^{-1} (\tilde{\mathbf{W}}_{(B)}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{T}}_{(2)} + \rho (\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{U}_{(B)})^\top) \\ \tilde{\mathbf{B}} & \leftarrow \max(0, \tilde{\mathbf{B}}^\top - \mathbf{U}_{(B)}) \\ \mathbf{U}_{(B)} & \leftarrow \mathbf{U}_{(B)} + \tilde{\mathbf{B}} - \tilde{\mathbf{B}}^\top \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi & \leftarrow (\tilde{\mathbf{W}}_{(\Psi)}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{W}}_{(\Psi)} + \rho \mathbf{I})^{-1} (\tilde{\mathbf{W}}_{(\Psi)}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{T}}_{(3)} + \rho (\Psi + \mathbf{U}_{(\Psi)})^\top) \\ \Psi & \leftarrow \max(0, \tilde{\Psi}^\top - \mathbf{U}_{(\Psi)}) \\ \mathbf{U}_{(\Psi)} & \leftarrow \mathbf{U}_{(\Psi)} + \Psi - \tilde{\Psi}^\top \end{aligned} \quad (24)$$

where $\tilde{\mathbf{T}}_{(2)}$ and $\tilde{\mathbf{T}}_{(3)}$ are the mode-2 and mode-3 unfoldings of $\tilde{\mathcal{T}}$, $\tilde{\mathbf{W}}_{(B)} = \tilde{\mathbf{A}} \odot \Psi$ and $\tilde{\mathbf{W}}_{(\Psi)} = \tilde{\mathbf{A}} \odot \mathbf{B}$ are the Khatri-Rao products, and $\mathbf{U}_{(B)}$ and $\mathbf{U}_{(\Psi)}$ are the dual variables.

Finally, for order-2 tensors, this model becomes equivalent to solving NMF (9). The implementation of AO-ADMM-ASC is summarized in Algorithm 1. The code is available on GitHub in Python⁵ and Matlab⁶.

Algorithm 1 AO-ADMM-ASC:

Require: $\mathcal{T}, \mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}, \Psi, \mathbf{U}_{(A)}, \mathbf{U}_{(B)}, \mathbf{U}_{(\Psi)}, \alpha$

Initialize $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}, \Psi$;

Initialize $\mathbf{U}_{(A)}, \mathbf{U}_{(B)}, \mathbf{U}_{(\Psi)}$ to zero;

repeat

Set $\tilde{\mathbf{B}}$ and $\tilde{\mathcal{T}}$ based on (18);

Set $\mathbf{B} \leftarrow \tilde{\mathbf{B}}$ and $\mathcal{T} \leftarrow \tilde{\mathcal{T}}$;

for $\forall D \in \{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}, \Psi\}$ **do**

$\mathbf{W}_{(D)} = \odot_{J \neq D} \mathbf{J}$;

$\rho = \text{trace}(\mathbf{W}_{(D)}^\top \mathbf{W}_{(D)}) / R$; [49]

Update \mathbf{D} with either (22), (23), or (24);

end for

Absorb the column-wise ℓ_2 -norms of \mathbf{B} into Ψ such that

$\psi_{:,r} \leftarrow \psi_{:,r} \|\mathbf{b}_{:,r}\|_2 \quad \forall r \in \{1, \dots, R\}$

Normalize the columns of \mathbf{B}

until Termination criterion (e.g., number of iterations)

return $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}, \Psi$

B. Interpretation of Tensor-based ELMM

Here, we build upon what has been presented in Sections III-B and III-C as methodological, physical, and graphical bases for the multimodal HU interpretation. For that, we first draw the analogies across the aforementioned expressions (in Sections III and IV) through the links between the frontal slices of the tensor and the meaning of the SV function in multimodal HU. This helps to elaborate the interpretation of the tensor-based model starting from the interpretation of the matrix-based one. Then we visualize the expressions in order to interpret the multimodal HU through graphical representations of subspaces while commenting on the physical role of the extracted factors and the number of latent components R .

First, we note that expressions (13a) and (13b) are analogous to the ELMM expression (11b). The major difference between the two cases is that in CPD, the scaling factors are *frontal slice-dependent* ($\psi_{k,r}$), while in ELMM, they are pixel-dependent ($\psi_{i,r}$). Second, we visualize (11a) and (11b) in Fig. 4, and (13a) and (13b) in Fig. 5. Looking at (13a), the frontal slices $\mathbf{T}_{::,k}$ and the physical meaning that they represent have a direct influence on the SV function \mathbf{f}_k and the interpretation of the SVs, which is simply reflected as scaling factors in each row of Ψ , i.e. $\psi_{k,:}$ (or $\Psi_{(k)} = \text{diag}\{\psi_{k,:}\}$).

As a result, since the spatial and spectral information are factorized and represented by \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{B} respectively, and since \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{B} are shared by all the frontal slices, then each frontal slice $\mathbf{T}_{::,k}$ is inherently differentiated through a set of R scaling factors $\{\psi_{k,1}, \dots, \psi_{k,R}\}$. Consequently, the spectral information in each frontal slice $\mathbf{T}_{::,k}$ can be seen as the set of scaled sources $\{\mathbf{b}_{:,r}^{(k)} = \psi_{k,r} \mathbf{b}_{:,r}\} \mid \forall r \in \{1, \dots, R\}$, where $\{\mathbf{b}_{:,r}\}$

⁵<https://github.com/mhmdjouni/AoAdmmAsc-python>

⁶<https://github.com/mhmdjouni/AoAdmmAsc-matlab>

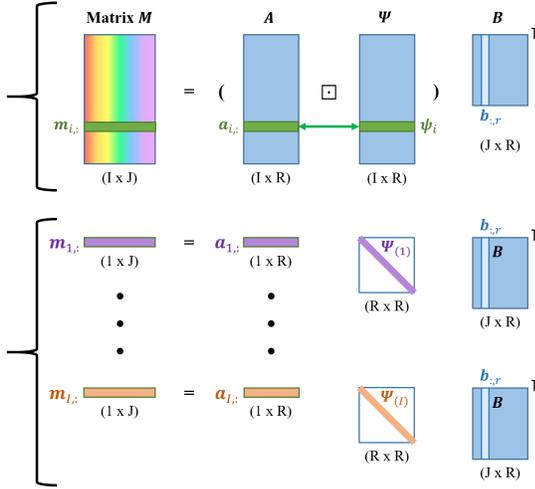


Fig. 4: Our visualization of equations (11a) (Hadamard product) and (11b) (matrix product). The color code of the bottom part follows that of Fig. 3b. We have $\Psi_{(i)} = \text{diag}\{\psi_{i,:}\}$.

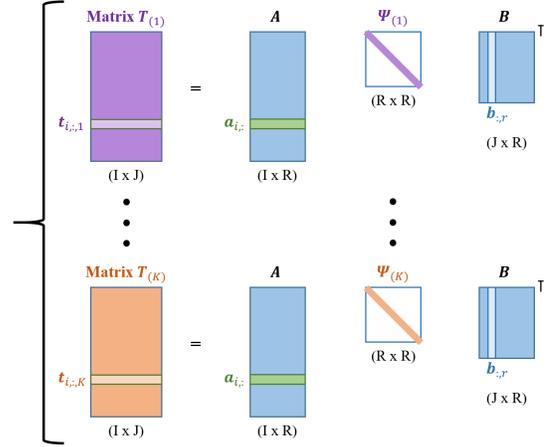


Fig. 5: Our visualization of equation (13a). The color code is made analogous to that of Fig. 2 and follows that of Fig. 6a. We have $\Psi_{(k)} = \text{diag}\{\psi_{k,:}\}$.

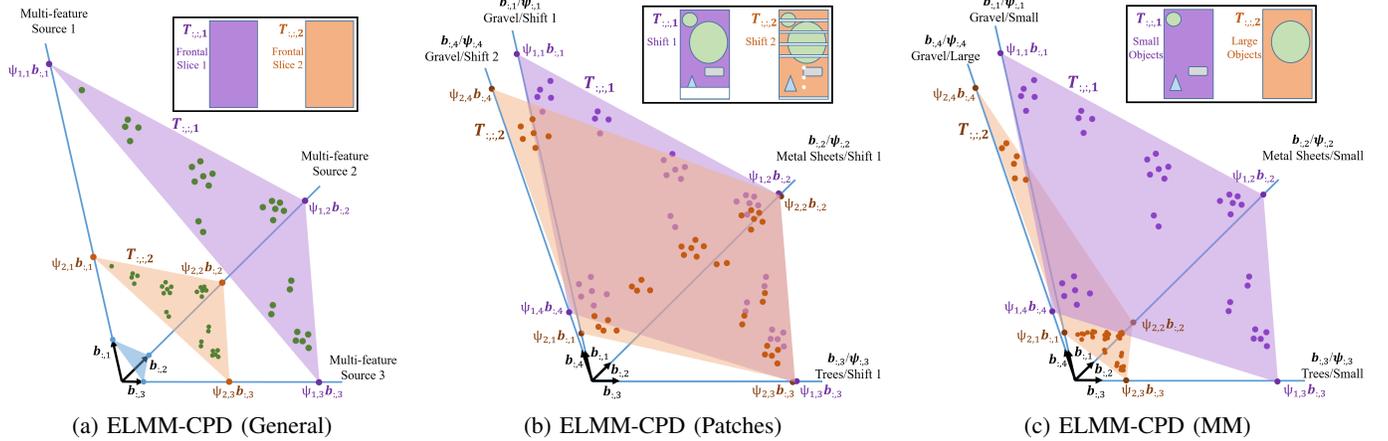


Fig. 6: Graphical representations of (a) CPD with $R = 3$ components in the case of three spectral signatures $\{b_{:,1}, b_{:,2}, b_{:,3}\}$ and two frontal slices $\{T_{:,1}, T_{:,K}\}$, and (b) patch-CPD and (c) MM-CPD with $R = 4$ components in the case of four spectral signatures $\{(b_{:,1}, \psi_{:,1}), \dots, (b_{:,4}, \psi_{:,4})\}$ and two frontal slices $\{T_{:,1}, T_{:,2}\}$. The relative coordinates of the pixels in the convex hulls must be the same since A is common for all the frontal slices.

are the columns of B (independent of the slices), $b_{:,r}^{(k)}$ are their spectral variations per frontal slice, and $\psi_{k,:}$ encodes the scaling factors of these variations.

This also means that R is a major parameter that represents the degrees of freedom especially through the scaling factors of Ψ , which then jointly encodes:

- the mode-3 evolution of the extracted components of A and B in its columns $\psi_{:,r}$
- the per-slice modeling of the SVs in its rows $\psi_{k,:}$.

Intuitively, when obtaining an augmented HSI tensor, one can say that the physical representations of any applied transformations (e.g., scale, illumination) [31] and any natural evolution of a scene (e.g., time series) [24], and resulting in $T_{:,k}$, are reflected and observed through the matrix Ψ of the decomposition. Moreover, we point out the following:

- In CPD, there are as many SV functions (and simplices) as the frontal slices of the tensor, which is significantly

lower than the number of pixels ($K \lll I$).

- In CPD, one row of R scaling factors in Ψ corresponds to a full frontal slice and is shared by all the pixel rows of A , while in classical ELMM, each row of scaling factors in Ψ corresponds to one pixel of M and interacts with only one row of A . This clearly appears when we compare (10) and (11b) to (13a) and (13b), and Fig. 4 to Fig. 5.
- On a graphical representation, when ASC is imposed, CPD suggests that each simplex contains I pixels as illustrated in Fig. 6a, such that the relative coordinates of the pixels inside each convex hull are the same since each row of Ψ interacts with all of A .

In summary, having a third mode in HSI produces scaling factors in ELMM that absorb the SVs based on the physical meaning of the frontal slices along the third mode (e.g., time, patches, MM), which balances the extracted factors in A and B independently of said SVs. Moreover, the imposed value of R represents the number of extracted sources and scaling

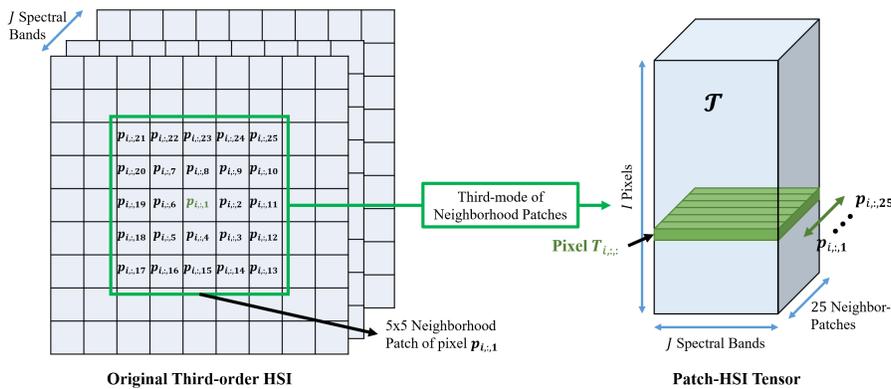


Fig. 7: An illustration of constructing a 5×5 Patch-HSI tensors based on [14].

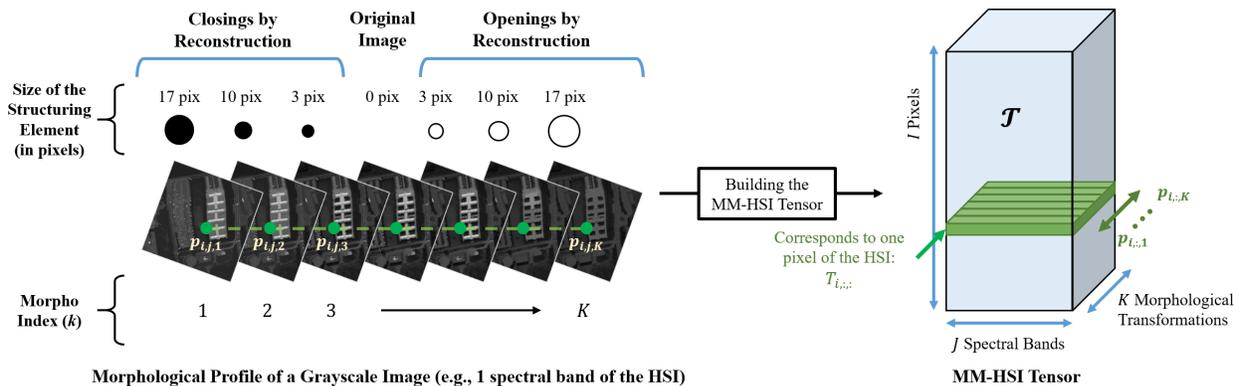


Fig. 8: Example of a sequential morphological filtering of a grayscale image (corresponding to one spectral band of the HSI of Pavia University) with Openings and Closings by Reconstruction using successive sizes of the structuring element, which is a disk in this case. The stacking of the transformations, with the original image corresponding to 0 size being placed in the middle, is referred to as the morphological profile of the image. The yellow spots mark the same pixel positioning in each of the transformations. Then, to create the MM-HSI tensor [31], the pixel positioning modes are reordered into lexicographic order along the first mode, and the yellow spots are stored along the third mode, in order to create the tensor.

factors and has a major effect on the results and the SV interpretation. As R decreases, we tend towards having fewer degrees of freedom, where CPD tends towards extracting the EMs while applying a regularization on the observed pixels influenced by the physical meaning of the information across the third mode. As R increases, we tend towards having more degrees of freedom, where CPD tends towards extracting factors with multi-feature separability of the sources. We note that R should not be too high in order to avoid over-fitting⁷ and to ensure uniqueness of the CPD [41], [51].

C. Spatial Features (patches / mathematical morphology)

In this section, for the sake of comparison and illustration, we consider two examples of spatial features that augment a HSI into a third-order tensor for multi-feature HU: neighborhood patches and MM. We revisit the case of patches with additional insights, and introduce MM. Consequently, this

⁷There is no exact value of the tensor rank, and finding a good estimate is an open challenge (as for matrix factorization problems), which is out of the scope of this paper. As a rule of thumb, R could be chosen by looking at the reconstruction error in the factorization aiming for the smallest value of R providing an acceptable reconstruction, or by observing the elbow of the plot of singular values of the mode-1 unfolding of the data.

helps demonstrate the interpretability of the model especially in terms of physical significance and the variation of R . We often refer to Fig. 5 and 6 for illustration.

1) *Patches*: We recall that the motivation for adding patches as features is to perform a spatial regularization by considering the spatial correlation of neighboring pixels [14]. Constructing a HSI tensor from neighborhood patches (coined as “Patch-HSI tensor”) is illustrated in Fig. 7. In short, each pixel tube in the original HSI cube is taken with a patch of its neighboring pixels (of predetermined size), then the pixel and its neighbors are stacked as a horizontal slice $T_{i,:}$ in the third-order tensor. That said, the first frontal slice $T_{:, :, 1}$ of said tensor is usually the matricized HSI (where the pixels represent one mode).

Here, we add that a Patch-HSI tensor has an inherently low-rank structure which is equal to that of the NMF of the matricized HSI, that is, the information contained along the third mode by each of the frontal slices of the tensor is almost essentially the same. In fact, the frontal slices are just *spatially-shifted versions* of the original image $T_{:, :, 1}$, and the values of these shifts correspond to a *small spatial kernel*, usually around 3×3 or 5×5 . However, what is different in the tensor case is that when this *shifting* information is stacked along the third mode and CPD is imposed with such a low value

of R , the model automatically applies an implicit smoothing of the pixels that belong to the same patch (i.e., the same horizontal slice of \mathcal{T}). This is because the frontal slices are jointly factorized with the degrees of freedom of a single one of them, while also sharing the information of \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{B} .

Therefore, a main advantage over NMF is that one expects to extract the same sources with a patch-local smoothing of the SVs of the estimated EMs, where the SVs are balanced out in the form of scaling factors stored in the rows of Ψ . An important note here is that the scaling factors stored in Ψ may not have a significant physical meaning.

Now, what happens when R increases? Since the information across the frontal slices are essentially the same (implying redundancy), the sources and abundances are expected to replicate, and we expect to observe slightly spatially-shifted versions of the abundance maps (i.e., in the columns of \mathbf{A}). In this case, the scaling factors in Ψ only indicate whether an estimated EM in \mathbf{B} corresponds to a certain spatial shifting or another. This point is roughly illustrated in Fig. 6b (inspired by Fig. 10) where we have three spectral sources: Gravel, Metal Sheets, and Trees, but CPD is carried out with $R = 4$. Here, the convex hull of $\mathbf{T}_{:, :, 1}$ gives a high scaling factor at \mathbf{b}_1 and a low factor at \mathbf{b}_4 , while that of $\mathbf{T}_{:, :, 2}$ gives the opposite with almost the same quantity. This is due to the fact that the materials are present with almost the same quantity in both frontal slices. In other words, there may be a problem of redundancy if some components account for the same material with patches, which does happen in practice.

This problem does not occur when the third mode represents a physical meaning such as the case of MM.

2) *mathematical morphology*: While using patches is efficient, it still ignores the physical properties of connected pixels, and the SVs are regularized indifferently among pixels belonging to different types of materials. On the other hand, morphological features [57], [58] take into account physical properties such as scale and brightness of objects and promote dealing with SV among pixels sharing these properties. Constructing a HSI tensor using MM (coined as ‘‘MM-HSI tensor’’) is illustrated in Fig. 8. In short, the matricized versions of the original HSI and the results of its morphological transformations are stacked as the frontal slices of the tensor⁸.

Through MM, we emphasize the role of incorporating spatial diversities that add physical significance to the objects of the scene. As such, one expects that a MM-HSI tensor has a more complicated structure than that of a Patch-HSI tensor since its frontal slices contain additional context on the materials, such as their sizes and brightness levels. As such, imposing a low R promotes spectral smoothing of the SVs based on a morphological regularization of the abundances, while imposing a sufficiently high R promotes a distinctive spectral-morphological multi-feature separation of the materials, unlike Patch-HSI tensors.

Since each frontal slice is seen as a characteristic of spatial scale (i.e., size of objects in the scene) and / or brightness (which is particularly relevant for ELMM because

scaling factors can be directly linked to brightness), then the scaling factors represented by Ψ indicate the quantitative correspondence of an extracted material to the aforementioned physical properties per frontal slice. This point is roughly illustrated in Fig. 6c (inspired by Fig. 11) where $\mathbf{T}_{:, :, 1}$ and $\mathbf{T}_{:, :, 2}$ characterize small and large objects respectively. Here, the convex hull of $\mathbf{T}_{:, :, 1}$ gives high scaling factors for \mathbf{b}_1 , \mathbf{b}_2 , and \mathbf{b}_3 (corresponding to small objects), and a low scaling factor at \mathbf{b}_4 (corresponds to large objects), while that of $\mathbf{T}_{:, :, 2}$ gives the opposite.

V. EXPERIMENTS AND RESULTS

In this section, we discuss the experiments and results of multi-feature HU on real HSIs in terms of AO-ADMM-ASC (compared to Naive ASC [14]), extracted factors, ELMM interpretability, and qualitative comparisons between Patch-HSI and MM-HSI tensors with low and high values of the rank. In each experiment, among 30 random initializations of the factor matrices, the result with the minimum root mean squared error (RMSE) is chosen. The estimated EMs of \mathbf{B} are identified based on their minimum spectral angular distance (SAD), in degrees, with respect to the reference.

The maps and plots shown in the experiments represent the *columns* of the factor matrices. Above each abundance map (AM), we show the material that corresponds to it with its minimum SAD value. We recall that a set of similarly indexed columns, e.g., $\{\mathbf{A}_1, \mathbf{B}_1, \Psi_1\}$, represent the abundance, spectral source signal, and third-mode source pattern (e.g., morphological print, shifting print) of one extracted material respectively. Since Ψ plays a crucial role in the interpretability of ELMM and multi-feature HU, we also highlight the relevance of its row components. Each fixed index k in the plot corresponds to a row of Ψ and thus to a frontal slice in \mathcal{T} , and the vertical grouping of points at said index, as indicated in Fig. 10c, 11c, 12c, and 13c, represents the scalars in that row. This also means that when projected on Fig. 6, in Patch-CPD, $k = 1$ contains the SV scaling factors that balance the convex hull of the original HSI and are responsible for its reconstruction, while in MM-CPD, the middle index does that. This will eventually show how MM accounts to physical effects in the scene, while patches do not.

That said, we note that we carried part of the experiments using sparse NMF with ASC [17] for the sake of qualitative comparison of the abundance maps and spectral sources obtained from the original HSI (i.e., the HSI matrix without additional filtering). Due to the difference in the type of information contained between the matrix and tensor cases, and since NMF does not apply in the framework of multi-feature HU, these results will serve only as a reference for the extracted components of CPD as they do not serve the main aim and message of this work. For that reason, we include them in Appendix A with further reasoning and explanation of the NMF case analysis and its relevance to this work.

In each case analysis, we look into the components of \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{B} first, which visually and spectrally identify the materials, then we explain their correspondence to those of Ψ , where we are interested in the significance of the third-mode patterns then their relevance to the original HSI. We

⁸The details of constructing MM-HSI tensors are out of the scope of this paper, but can be found in Section 3 of [31].

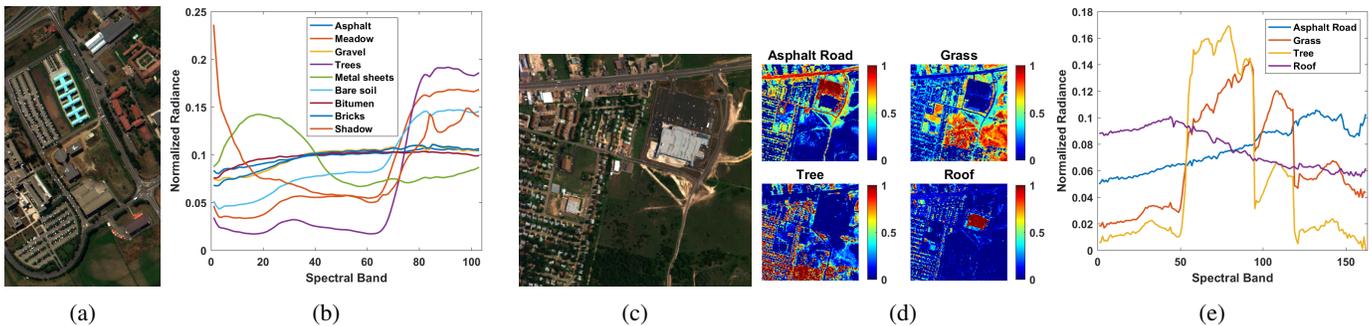


Fig. 9: 9a) Pavia in false colors. 9b) Pavia’s spectral reference, which was extracted from the mean spectrum of each class of its spatial GT. 9c) Urban in false colors. 9d) Urban’s spatial GT. 9e) Urban’s spectral reference.

note that quantitative validation of the AMs and EMs is usually not evident, especially in the case of the Urban HSI in Fig. 9d where the spatial ground-truth (GT) is not a real GT and is not usable for quantitative comparison. Moreover, there is neither a quantitative nor a qualitative reference for third-mode patterns in the literature, so here we provide an in-depth qualitative analysis.

We want to consider HSIs which show objects with spatial features of different scale and brightness levels, for which urban areas are good candidates. For that, we choose two real HSIs⁹: *Pavia University* and *Urban*. Fig. 9 shows the two HSIs in false colors with their spectral references. It is worth noting for the sake of interpretation that the MM-HSI tensors are built following the extended morphological profile (EMP) technique used in [31] with openings by reconstruction (ObRs) and closings by reconstruction (CbRs), which correspond to bright and dark objects respectively, with varying sizes of the structuring element (SE), which in turns corresponds to the scales of objects. In the following experiments, 4 sizes of the SE are used, corresponding to 8 ObR and CbR transformations, then the dimension of the third mode is $K = 9$ where the original image (corresponding to scale 0) is placed in the middle as roughly shown in Fig. 8. The Patch-HSI tensors are built following [14] as shown in Fig. 7 with 3×3 patches. This means that the dimension of the third mode is $K = 3 \times 3 = 9$ where the original image is placed at $k = 1$. We run our experiments with Intel® Core™ i7-1185G7, 32GB RAM 3200MHz LPDDR4.

A. Results Discussion - Pavia University

In this section, we present the experiments of the HSI of Pavia. We start by comparing AO-ADMM-ASC and Naive ASC. After that, we focus on CPD and the ELMM analysis of the factors while interpreting the cases of patches and MM- For the MM-HSI tensor, our SEs are disks with the successive radii: $\{2, 7, 12, 17\}$ pixels. Both Patch- and MM-HSI tensors then have $K = 9$ frontal slices and dimensions $207400 \times 103 \times 9$. Finally, we find that $R = 4$ and $R = 8$ are the best for low and high values of the rank respectively. In Fig. 9b, some classes have very similar spectral signatures, so, in

the following, sometimes we refer to *Trees* and *Meadows* as *vegetation*, and to *Asphalt*, *Bitumen*, *Gravel*, and *Bricks* as *roads* or *roofs*. *Bare Soil* can belong to either of both groups.

1) *AO-ADMM-ASC*: Here, we compare the RMSE results of MM-CPD between AO-ADMM-ASC and Naive ASC [14]. The results are shown in Table V, where we see that with AO-ADMM-ASC we gain in RMSE, which corresponds to a better estimation of the factors with respect to the observed tensor with a small difference in the execution time.

Algorithm	R	RMSE %	Time (s)
Naive ASC [14]	8	7.07	231
AO-ADMM-ASC	8	6.34	384

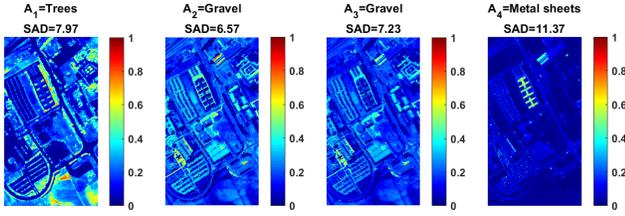
TABLE V: Pavia. The results of AO-ADMM-ASC and Naive ASC in terms of RMSE and execution time: R is the rank. The results of the minimum RMSE are shown.

2) *Low rank, ELMM and SV*: Here, we are interested in the property of CPD dealing with SV. Since Patch-HSI tensors have as an inherently low structure as that of NMF, we start by considering $R = 4$ for patches and MM- As explained in Section IV-B, such a low rank highlights the SV and *spatial regularization* aspects of multi-feature HU. We compile the discussion into two stages: (a) Fig. 10 representing Patch-CPD, and (b) Fig. 11 representing MM-CPD.

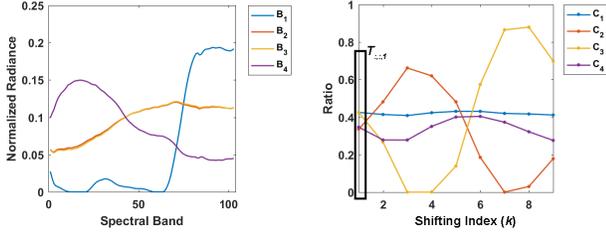
2a) In Fig. 10, B_1 and B_4 are identified as *Trees* and *Metal Sheets* respectively, which reflects the areas highlighted in A_1 and A_4 , while B_2 and B_3 coincide and are both identified as *Gravel*, which reflects the areas highlighted in A_2 and A_3 and where we already start to see *replicated* components. In fact, A_2 and A_3 are *slightly-shifted* versions of each other, which is explained better in the interpretation of Ψ_2 and Ψ_3 .

Looking at Fig. 10c, which is the most interesting, one might intuitively expect to see horizontal curves since, quantitatively, the collective SV is supposedly *constant* in patches. However, while Ψ_1 and Ψ_4 look almost straight, Ψ_2 and Ψ_3 are not. We notice here that where Ψ_2 is high, Ψ_3 is low and vice versa. In part, this means that A_2 represents the shifts where $k = \{2, 3, 4, 5\}$, while A_3 represents those where $k = \{6, 7, 8, 9\}$. In another part, the two columns fluctuate in a way that *maintains* a constant SV and *balances out* their quantitative presence across the frontal slices. As for $k = 1$, which represents the original HSI, we notice that the scaling

⁹The data sets with detailed information are available on the website: <http://lesun.weebly.com/hyperspectral-data-set.html>



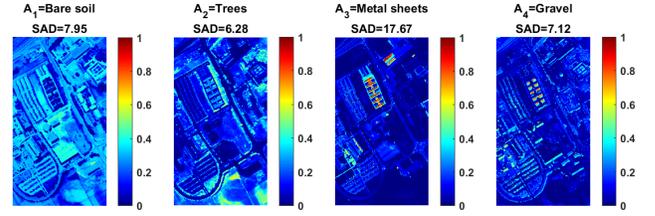
(a) Components of A



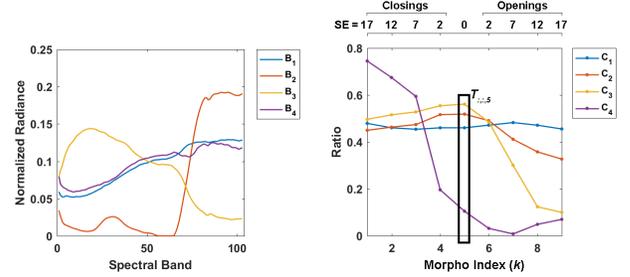
(b) Components of B

(c) Components of Ψ

Fig. 10: Pavia. CPD results of the Patch-tensor for $R=4$



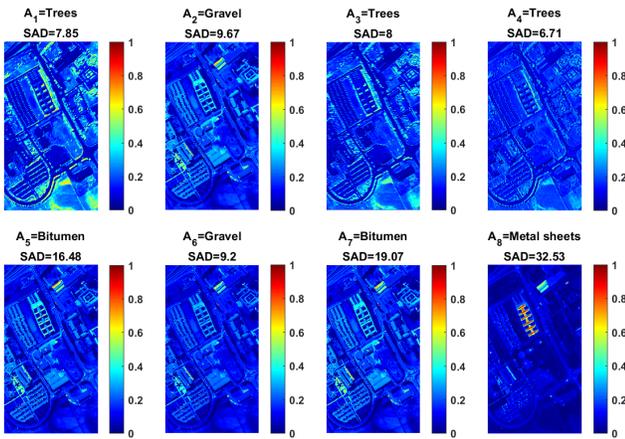
(a) Components of A



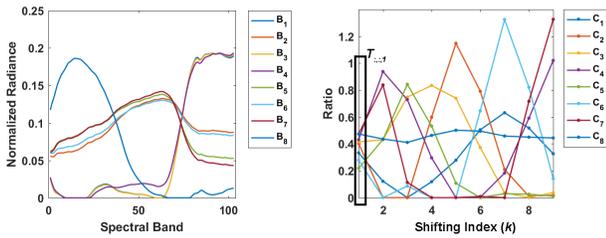
(b) Components of B

(c) Components of Ψ

Fig. 11: Pavia. CPD results of the MM-tensor for $R=4$



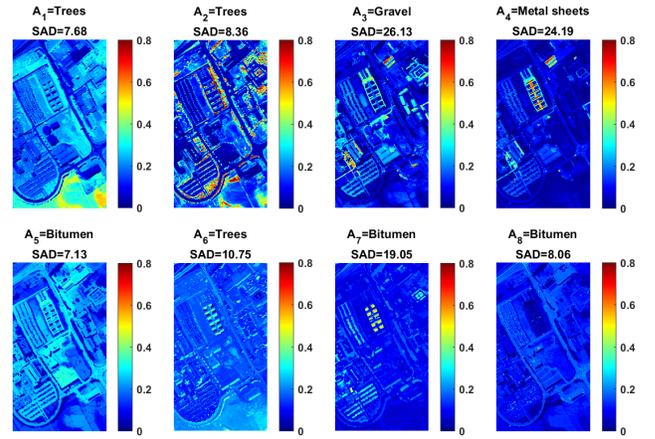
(a) Components of A



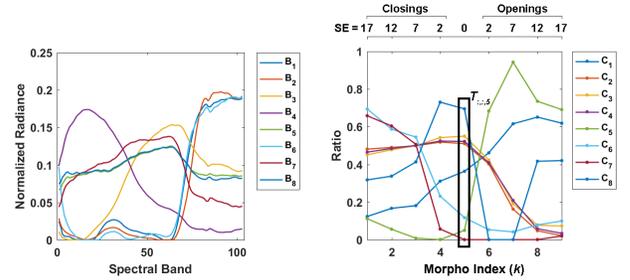
(b) Components of B

(c) Components of Ψ

Fig. 12: Pavia. CPD results of the Patch-tensor for $R=8$



(a) Components of A



(b) Components of B

(c) Components of Ψ

Fig. 13: Pavia. CPD results of the MM-tensor for $R=8$

factors are almost equal, which means that the spectral vectors of the convex hull are *equally present* in the HSI, all of which shows that Patch-HSI tensors do not account to physical spatial effects.

2b) In Fig. 11, B_1 , B_2 , and B_3 are identified as *Bare Soil*, *Trees*, and *Metal Sheets* respectively, which reflects the areas highlighted in A_1 , A_2 , and A_3 , all of which is similar to those obtained by patches. As for $\{A_4, B_4\}$, while B_4 looks very similar to B_1 , unlike patches, we notice that

A_4 highlights interesting shadow areas (dark features), which clearly reflects the *morphological awareness* incorporated into CPD with MM- The latter becomes more interesting with the interpretation of Ψ .

Looking at Fig. 11c, we observe three main patterns that can be associated to the chosen morphological parameters. First, Ψ_4 corresponds to dark features (reflected by the shadows in A_4) as it has higher values when k corresponds to CbR, then continues decreasing towards ObrR. Second, Ψ_2 and Ψ_3

correspond to small features as they have higher values around the middle ($k = 5$) where the SEs are small, which is visually reflected through the small objects highlighted in \mathbf{A}_2 (trees) and \mathbf{A}_3 (metal sheets and vehicles). Third, Ψ_1 is rather steady, which means that the spatial features shown in \mathbf{A}_1 are general.

As for $k = 5$, which represents the original HSI, we notice that Ψ_2 and Ψ_3 have the highest scaling factors since they correspond to relatively bright objects of the scene, Ψ_1 has a slightly lower factor since it corresponds to darker objects like asphalt roads, building roofs, parking lots, and bare soil areas, and Ψ_4 has the lowest factors since it corresponds to dark shadows. These relationships show the column- and row-wise significance of Ψ and how multi-feature HU can balance out the SVs and the same time reconstruct the original HSI.

3) *High rank, ELMM and multi-feature separability*: Here, we are interested in multi-feature HU when we have more degrees of freedom, where we go more in-depth into the factors of patches and MM for $R = 8$. As explained in Section IV-B, such a higher rank demonstrates the multi-feature separability of MM and how patches only replicates its components. We compile the discussion into two stages: (a) Fig. 12 representing Patch-CPD, and (b) Fig. 13 representing MM-CPD.

3a) In Fig. 12, we end up with more replicas of the same \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{B} components obtained in Fig. 10, the sets of replicas being columns $\{1, 3, 4\}$ detected as *Trees*, and $\{2, 5, 6, 7\}$ detected as *Gravel* and *Bitumen*. As for the plot of Ψ , the same remarks of Fig. 10c about balancing the constant SVs in patches apply on Fig. 12c, but since there are many replicas, the figure becomes hard to read. Finally, we notice again that for $k = 1$, the scaling factors are almost equal.

3b) In Fig. 13, we notice that multi-feature HU is done based on spectral and morphological properties, where we observe three column sets: $\{1, 2, 6\}$, $\{3, 5, 7, 8\}$, and $\{4\}$. \mathbf{B}_1 , \mathbf{B}_2 , and \mathbf{B}_6 are identified as vegetation, which respectively reflects the areas highlighted in \mathbf{A}_1 (big vegetation areas like meadow), \mathbf{A}_2 (small vegetation areas like trees), and \mathbf{A}_6 (dark shadows on vegetation areas). Therefore, while \mathbf{B}_1 , \mathbf{B}_2 , and \mathbf{B}_6 are collinear, unlike, patches, their AMs highlight interesting features accounting to the scale and brightness of vegetation objects, which we discuss more in-depth with the interpretation of Ψ and which applies to the other components as well. \mathbf{B}_3 , \mathbf{B}_5 , \mathbf{B}_7 , and \mathbf{B}_8 are identified as *Bitumen* and *Gravel*, which respectively reflects the areas highlighted in \mathbf{A}_3 (small or short areas of roads and roofs), \mathbf{A}_5 (big connected areas of roads, roofs, and parking lots), \mathbf{A}_7 (dark shadows on parking lots and buildings), and \mathbf{A}_8 (tiny bright vehicles). Finally, \mathbf{B}_4 is identified as *Metal Sheets*, which are small.

Looking at Fig. 13c, we observe four main patterns that can be associated to the chosen morphological parameters: First, Ψ_6 and Ψ_7 correspond to dark features (as observed in \mathbf{A}_6 and \mathbf{A}_7) as they have higher values when k corresponds to CbR, then continue decreasing towards ObR. Second, Ψ_2 , Ψ_3 , and Ψ_4 correspond to small features (as observed in \mathbf{A}_2 , \mathbf{A}_3 , and \mathbf{A}_4) as they have higher values around $k = 5$ where the SEs are small. Third, Ψ_1 and Ψ_5 correspond to big features (as observed in \mathbf{A}_1 and \mathbf{A}_5) as they have higher values when k corresponds to big SEs with ObR. Fourth, Ψ_8 corresponds to

the tiny vehicles as it is the highest when k corresponds to the smallest SE. Finally, we talk about the original HSI.

As for $k = 5$, we notice that Ψ_2 , Ψ_3 , Ψ_4 , and Ψ_8 have the highest scaling factors (relatively bright objects including the vehicles), Ψ_1 and Ψ_5 have lower factors (darker objects like asphalt roads, building roofs, parking lots, bare soil, and meadow areas), and Ψ_6 and Ψ_7 have the lowest factors (dark shadowy features). These relationships showcase the separability of multi-feature HU when the third-mode has a significant physical meaning and when the rank is set to be sufficiently high, which can also be interpreted in terms of ELMM and balancing the SV factors.

B. Results - Urban

In this section, we present the experiments of the Urban HSI following the same order of Pavia. Since we have the same observations, and in order to avoid repetition, we briefly go over the results. For the MM-HSI tensor, our SEs are disks with the successive radii: $\{1, 4, 7, 10\}$ pixels. Both Patch-HSI and MM-HSI tensors then have $K = 9$ frontal slices and dimensions $94249 \times 162 \times 9$. Finally, we also choose $R = 4$ and $R = 8$ for the rank.

1) *AO-ADMM-ASC*: Table VI shows the RMSE results of MM-CPD between AO-ADMM-ASC and Naive ASC [14], where again with AO-ADMM-ASC we gain in RMSE with a small difference in the execution time.

Algorithm	R	RMSE %	Time (s)
Naive ASC [14]	8	7.88	124
AO-ADMM-ASC	8	6.87	251

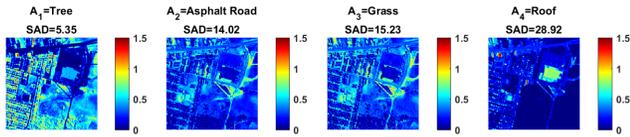
TABLE VI: Urban. The results of AO-ADMM-ASC and Naive ASC in terms of RMSE and execution time: R is the rank. The results of the minimum RMSE are shown.

2) *Low rank, ELMM and SV*: Here, we discuss the results for $R = 4$, where (a) Fig. 14 represents Patch-CPD (b) Fig. 15 represents MM-CPD. A fast look at the figures shows that we have the same observations as those of Pavia:

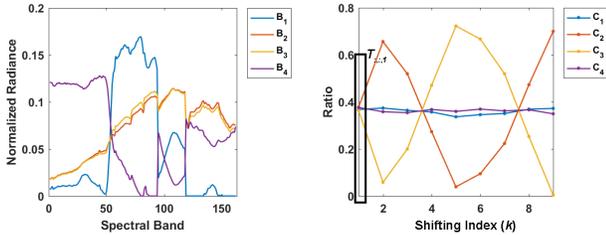
2a) In Fig. 14, \mathbf{B}_2 and \mathbf{B}_3 coincide, \mathbf{A}_2 and \mathbf{A}_3 are replicas, and they represent *Asphalt+Grass*. Moreover, in Fig. 14c, we see the same patterns and fluctuations that were observed in Fig. 10c related to the constant SV and its quantitative balance in patches, and the scaling factors are equal for $k = 1$. On the other hand, $\{\mathbf{A}_1, \mathbf{B}_1\}$ and $\{\mathbf{A}_4, \mathbf{B}_4\}$ represent *Tree+Grass* and *Roof* respectively with steady Ψ_1 and Ψ_4 patterns.

2b) In Fig. 15, while \mathbf{B}_4 looks similar to \mathbf{B}_1 , we notice that Ψ_4 has the same pattern observed in Fig. 11c, which corresponds to dark shadows and is reflected in \mathbf{A}_4 , which highlights shadows of buildings and trees that fall on grass areas. As for the other components, they can be interpreted similarly to those in the case of Pavia (including for $k = 5$), where $\{\mathbf{A}_1, \mathbf{B}_1, \Psi_1\}$, $\{\mathbf{A}_2, \mathbf{B}_2, \Psi_2\}$, and $\{\mathbf{A}_3, \mathbf{B}_3, \Psi_3\}$ represent *Asphalt+Grass*, *Tree+Grass*, and *Roof* respectively.

3) *High rank, ELMM and multi-feature separability*: Here, we discuss the results for $R = 8$, where Fig. 16 represents MM-CPD. We skip the case of Patch-CPD in order to avoid



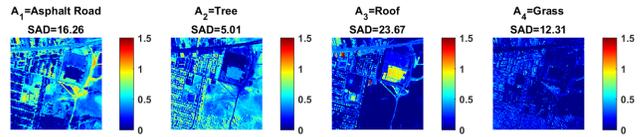
(a) Components of A



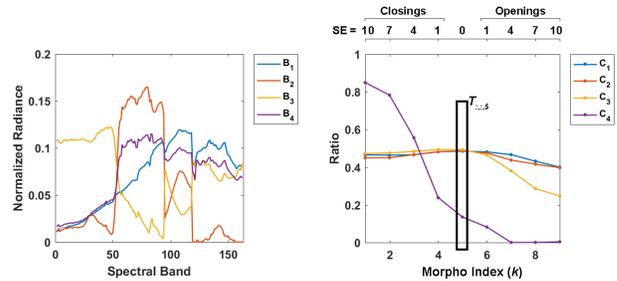
(b) Components of B

(c) Components of Ψ

Fig. 14: Urban. CPD results of the Patch-tensor for $R=4$



(a) Components of A



(b) Components of B

(c) Components of Ψ

Fig. 15: Urban. CPD results of the MM-tensor for $R=4$

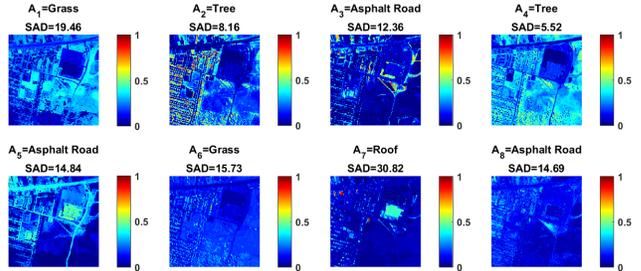
repetition, where we simply end up with more *replicas* of the components of figures 14a and 14b. In Fig. 16, we are interested in the features of the AMs that do not appear in Patch-CPD as the comments on the spectral and morphological patterns are the same as those of Pavia; where the plots reflect the qualitative features that appear in the respective AMs.

We observe three column sets: $\{1, 2, 6\}$, $\{3, 5, 7, 8\}$, and $\{4\}$. First, A_1, A_2, A_4 , and A_6 were identified as *Vegetation*: A_1 highlights grass fields, which is close to the *Grass* reference and does not appear in Patch-CPD. A_2 and A_4 highlight small and big areas, and together they correspond to the *Tree* reference. A_6 highlights dark shadows (which is reflected in Ψ_6). Second, A_3, A_5 , and A_8 are identified as *Asphalt Road*: A_8 seems to correspond to dark features (looking at Ψ_8). A_3 highlights small roads such as dirt and narrow streets, while A_5 highlights large roads like the main and connected roads, which are clearly highlighted unlike the case of patches. Third, A_7 is identified as *Roof* and highlights both small and large building roofs.

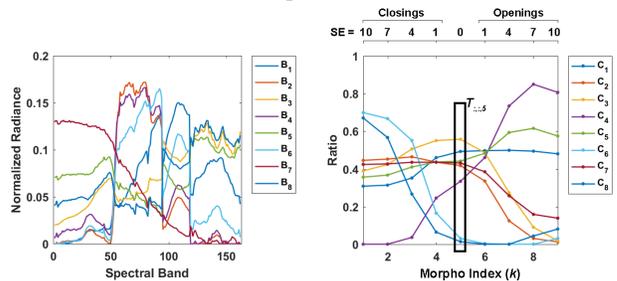
VI. CONCLUSION

In this paper, we proposed a methodological framework for multi-feature HU based on CPD and the AO-ADMM-ASC algorithm, where the samples (pixels) represent a convex combination of the sources. We also established a unified framework for the interpretability of multi-feature HU into “multilinear” subspaces which involved mathematical, physical, and graphical representations of the CPD model with ELM and SV. Finally, we proposed to include MM as spatial features in a spectral-spatial HU and provided in-depth insights on how patches and MM behave within the aforementioned framework in terms of the interpretability of the factors and the variation of the input rank, where MM incorporates physically meaningful features into the data tensor.

In the future, we plan to explore BTM which allows some flexibility with the tensor structure and can be seen as an extension to Spectral Bundles for SV [11], but also comes with many challenges such as the rank and the interpretation of the subspaces. Moreover, areas of BSS other than HU



(a) Components of A



(b) Components of B

(c) Components of Ψ

Fig. 16: Urban. CPD results of the MM-tensor for $R=8$

may be explored. Finally, it is worth mentioning that some deep learning approaches are being considered for HU (which still suffer from the increasing and flexible dimensionality of HSIs and the difficulty of finding data sets for training especially in a blind framework). However, by developing our methodological study of tensor-based unmixing and pushing for interpretability, we pave the way towards tensor-based interpretable and hybrid deep learning models as well as tensor subspace learning [21], [59], [60], which can be very helpful in blind settings such as BSS and HU.

APPENDIX A

NMF RESULTS ON THE MATRICIZED HSI

In this appendix, we include the results obtained by applying sparse NMF (with ASC) [17], which partly inspired this work.

We note that these results cannot be compared with those of tensor decomposition in terms of RMSE and execution time due to the following reasons:

- In terms of RMSE, on the one hand, we reconstruct a multi-feature HSI tensor, while on the other hand, we reconstruct a HSI matrix which does not apply in *multi-feature analysis*, so the reconstructed data represent different types of information.
- In terms of execution time, NMF typically has shorter execution times than tensor-based methods due to the added complexity. However, both tools are fundamentally different and can not be used for the same multi-linear application.

With that said, the obtained results serve only as a qualitative baseline or reference for the *abundance maps* and *spectral components* of decomposing the two HSI datasets, which can indeed be compared with those obtained in the case of MM-HSI and Patch-HSI tensors.

A. Pavia dataset

Fig. 17 shows the results obtained for the dataset of Pavia University. Each abundance map is shown with the class that is assigned to it based on the minimum SAD value, which is reported as well.

First, we look at the first three components, *Trees*, *Bare Soil*, and *Metal Sheets*. Their spectral signatures $\{B_1, B_2, B_3\}$ shown in Fig. 17b look very similar to those of the reference, but the corresponding SAD values are relatively bad (high) compared to those obtained using tensor decomposition in Fig. 10 and 11.

The abundance maps $\{A_1, A_2, A_3\}$ of Fig. 17a show highlighted elements belonging to *Trees*, *Bare Soil*, and *Metal Sheets* respectively. However, we notice that other areas of the scene belonging to these categories are barely or faintly highlighted (e.g., asphalt road, brick parking lots, other soil areas), which is due to the insufficiency of LMM to model their variabilities.

Regarding the *Shadow* component, the spectral signature B_4 looks slightly similar to the reference, but the shadows in the map are barely visible due to their relatively very low brightness A_4 .

B. Urban dataset

Fig. 18 shows the abundance maps and spectral signatures of A and B respectively. We obtain four components with relatively low (good) SAD values and good abundance maps similarity with respect to the reference. Finally, we also note that some dark areas like asphalt roads are not highlighted.

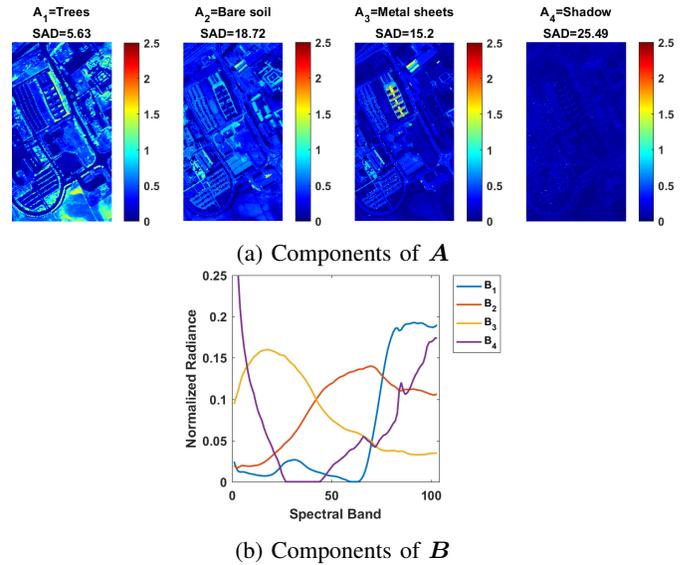


Fig. 17: Pavia. NMF results of the HSI matrix for $R = 4$

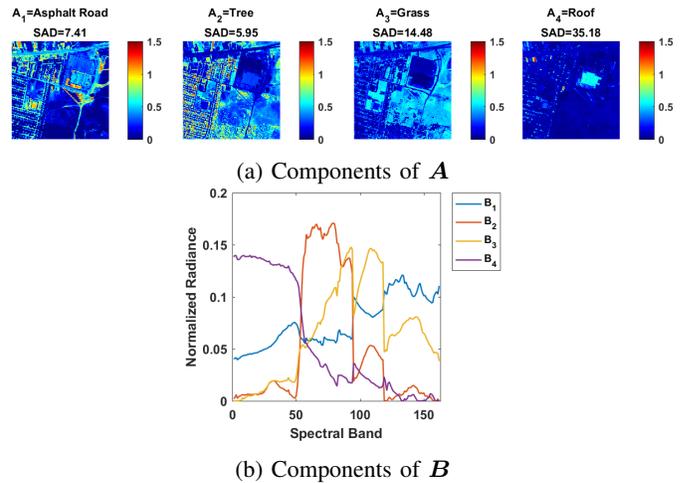


Fig. 18: Urban. NMF results of the HSI matrix for $R = 4$

ALS	alternating least squares
AO	alternating optimization
AO-ADMM	alternating optimization ADMM
AO-ADMM-ASC	AO-ADMM incorporating ASC
ASC	abundance sum-to-one constraint
BSS	blind source separation
BTD	block term decomposition
CPD	canonical polyadic decomposition
NMF	nonnegative matrix factorization
ProCo-ALS	projected compressed ALS

HYPERSPECTRAL IMAGING ACRONYMS

AM	abundance map
ELMM	extended linear mixing model
EM	endmember
GT	ground-truth
HSI	hyperspectral image
HU	hyperspectral unmixing

MATRIX / TENSOR DECOMPOSITION ACRONYMS

ADMM	alternating direction method of multipliers
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LiDAR	light detection and ranging
LMM	linear mixing model
RMSE	root mean squared error
SAD	spectral angular distance
SV	spectral variability

MATHEMATICAL MORPHOLOGY ACRONYMS

CbR	closing by reconstruction
EMP	extended morphological profile
MM	mathematical morphology
MP	morphological profile
ObR	opening by reconstruction
SE	structuring element

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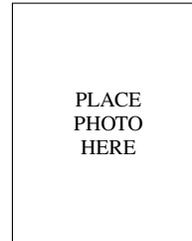
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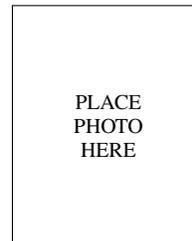
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