# LOW RANK NON-NEGATIVE TRIPLE DECOMPOSITION AND NON-NEGATIVE TENSOR COMPLETION 

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#### Abstract

Non-negative tensor factorization (NTF) is an important tool in data analysis and signal processing, and non-negative triple decomposition is a new kind of NTF. In this paper, we study the non-negative triple decomposition of third order non-negative tensors. For this purpose, an alternating proximal gradient method is introduced and the global convergence of the algorithm is also established. As an application of the proposed results, we consider the non-negative tensor completion problem. Numerical experiments show that the proposed algorithm offers competitive performance even though the given tensor is highly sparse.


Key words: high-dimensional data; Non-negative tensor factorization; low rank non-negative tensors
Mathematics Subject Classification: 65H17, 15A18, 90 C30

## 1 Introduction

Tensor decomposition is an important tool for data analysis in applications such as chemometrics, biogeochemistry, neuroscience, signal processing, cyber traffic analysis, and many others. Two well-known representations of tensors are the CANDECOMP/PARAFAC (CP) decomposition and Tucker decomposition, which are generally expressed as a sum of outer products of vectors $[2,7,18]$. Recently, a new tensor decomposition named tensor triple decomposition is introduceed in [13]. The new tensor decomposition is applied to third order tensors, which decomposes a third order tensor to three third order factor tensors and each factor tensor has two low dimensions. Third order tensors are very common and useful high order tensors in applications $[1,5,17,21,23,25,26,27,28]$.

Generally speaking, tensor rank is an essential definition in tensor decomposition and tensor completion problems. In [13], Qi et al. gave the definition of triple rank for third order tensors. It is shown that the triple rank of a third order tensor is not greater than the CP rank and the middle value of the Tucker rank, is strictly less than the CP rank with a substantial probability, and is strictly less than the middle value of the Tucker rank for an essential class of examples. This indicates that practical data can be approximated by low rank triple decomposition as long as it can be approximated by low rank CP or Tucker decomposition.

Through various applications, non-negative tensor decomposition is an effective technique that has proven to be useful for a wide variety of applications [3, 19, 10, 4]. Compared with

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[^0]non-negative matrix factorization (NMF) [15, 12], tensor factorization can more accurately consider the spatial and temporal correlation [14]. From the calculation point of view, noted that there are negative values in the decomposition results, but negative value elements are often meaningless in some practical problems. For example, it is impossible to have negative pixels in image data, document statistics, negative values cannot be explained.

In this paper, we focus on non-negative tensor factorization for third order non-negative tensors by tensor triple decomposition, which decomposes a third order non-negative tensor to corresponding low rank non-negative tensors in a balanced way. Then, an alternating proximal gradient (APG) method is introduced to apply to solve a kind of non-negative tensor completion problems. Furthermore, we establish the global convergence and the asymptotic convergence rate of the method based on the Kurdyka- Lojasiewicz inequality. The efficiency of the proposed algorithm is tested on tensor decomposition, as well as tensor completion from incomplete observations. Moreover, we also compare the results between the case of nonnegative constraint and unconstraint case. Example shows that the error and relative error for the unconstraint case are less than the nonnegative constraint case.

The remainder of this paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we recall some basic concepts and preliminary results in the literature. In Section 3, we introduce an APG method and the convergence of the algorithm is also established. Then, we study the third order non-negative tensor completion problem in Section 4. Several numerical examples are given to show the efficiency of the corresponding conclusions in Section 5.

To end this section, we present several useful symbols in the paper. Let $\mathbb{R}^{n}$ be the $n$ dimensional real Euclidean space. The set of all nonnegative vectors in $\mathbb{R}^{n}$ is denoted by $\mathbb{R}_{+}^{n}$. The set of all positive integers is denoted by $\mathbb{N}$. Denote $[n]=\{1,2, \cdots, n\}$ for any $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Vectors are denoted by bold lowercase letters i.e. $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \cdots$, matrices are denoted by capital letters i.e. $A, B, \cdots$, and tensors are written as calligraphic capitals such as $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{T}, \cdots . \mathcal{A} \geq 0$ means that all elements of $\mathcal{A}$ are nonnegative.

## 02 Preliminaries

In this section, we recall some useful notations, basic concepts and preliminary results.
We know that a third-order tensor $\mathcal{A}$ has column, row, and tube fibers, which are defined by fixing every index but one and denoted by $a_{: j k}, a_{i: k}$ and $a_{i j}$, respectively. Correspondingly, we obtain three matricizations of a tensor $\mathcal{A}$ :

$$
\begin{aligned}
& A_{(1)}=\left[a_{: 11}, a_{: 21}, \ldots, a_{: J 1}, a_{: 12}, \ldots, a_{: J 2}, \ldots, a_{: 1 K}, \ldots, a_{: J K}\right] \in R^{I \times J K}, \\
& A_{(2)}=\left[a_{1: 1}, a_{2: 1}, \ldots, a_{I: 1}, a_{1: 2}, \ldots, a_{I: 2}, \ldots, a_{1: K}, \ldots, a_{I: K}\right] \in R^{J \times I K}, \\
& A_{(3)}=\left[a_{11:}, a_{21:}, \ldots, a_{I 1:}, a_{12:}, \ldots, a_{I 2:}, \ldots, a_{1 J:}, \ldots, a_{I J:}\right] \in R^{K \times I J} .
\end{aligned}
$$

Let $\mathcal{X}=\left(x_{i j t}\right) \in \mathbb{R}^{n_{1} \times n_{2} \times n_{3}}$. As in [7], let $\mathcal{X}(i,:,:)$ denote the $i$-th horizontal slice, $\mathcal{X}(:, j,:)$ to denote the $j$-th lateral slice; $\mathcal{X}(:,:, t)$ to denote the $t$-th frontal slice. We say that $\mathcal{X}$ is a third order horizontally square tensor if all of its horizontal slices are square, i.e., $n_{2}=n_{3}$. Similarly, $\mathcal{X}$ is a third order laterally square tensor (resp. frontally square tensor) if all of its lateral slices (resp. frontal slices) are square, i.e., $n_{1}=n_{3}\left(\right.$ resp. $\left.n_{1}=n_{2}\right)$.

For $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$, assume $\mathcal{D} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ is a set of matrices. Let $\delta_{\mathcal{D}}$ denotes the indicator function of $\mathcal{D}$ such that

$$
\delta_{\mathcal{D}}(A)= \begin{cases}0, & A \in \mathcal{D}  \tag{2.1}\\ \infty, & \text { otherwise }\end{cases}
$$

Suppose $\mathbf{x}$ is a vector that can be decomposed into three blocks $\mathbf{x}_{1}, \mathbf{x}_{2}, \mathbf{x}_{3}$. Then, the function $f\left(\mathbf{x}_{1}, \mathbf{x}_{2}, \mathbf{x}_{3}\right)$ is called block multiconvex if, for each $i \in[3], f$ is a convex function of $\mathbf{x}_{i}$ while other two blocks are fixed.

Next, we present the definition of tensor triple decomposition [13].
Definition 2.1. Let $\mathcal{X}=\left(x_{i j t}\right) \in \mathbb{R}^{n_{1} \times n_{2} \times n_{3}}$ be a third order tensor. We say that $\mathcal{X}$ is the triple product of a third order horizontally square tensor $\mathcal{A}=\left(a_{i q s}\right) \in \mathbb{R}^{n_{1} \times r \times r}$, a third order laterally square tensor $\mathcal{B}=\left(b_{p j s}\right) \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times n_{2} \times r}$ and a third order frontally square tensor $\mathcal{C}=\left(c_{p q k}\right) \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times r \times n_{3}}$, and denotes

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathcal{X}=\mathcal{A B C} \tag{2.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

if for $i=1, \cdots n_{1}, j=1, \cdots n_{2}$ and $t=1, \cdots n_{3}$, we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
x_{i j t}=\sum_{p, q, s=1}^{r} a_{i q s} b_{p j s} c_{p q t} . \tag{2.3}
\end{equation*}
$$

If

$$
\begin{equation*}
r \leq \operatorname{mid}\left\{n_{1}, n_{2}, n_{3}\right\} \tag{2.4}
\end{equation*}
$$

then we call (2.2) a low rank triple decomposition of $\mathcal{X}$.
By Definition 2.1, we mainly focus on that $\mathcal{X}$ is nonnegative in this paper, and $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{C}$ are also nonnegative.

## 03 Alternating Proximal Gradient (APG) Algorithm

In this section, we first give an alternating proximal gradient (APG) algorithm, and then the global convergence and convergence rate are also studied.

To continue, we consider a given nonnegative third order tensor $\mathcal{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_{1} \times n_{2} \times n_{3}}$ with $n_{1}, n_{2}, n_{3} \geq 1$ and a fixed positive integer $r \leq \operatorname{mid}\left\{n_{1}, n_{2}, n_{3}\right\}$. Then, we have the following optimization problem:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\min _{\mathcal{A} \geq 0, \mathcal{B} \geq 0, \mathcal{C} \geq 0} f(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{C}) \tag{3.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
f(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{C})=\|\mathcal{X}-\mathcal{A B C}\|_{F}^{2}=\sum_{i=1}^{n_{1}} \sum_{j=1}^{n_{2}} \sum_{t=1}^{n_{3}}\left(x_{i j t}-\sum_{p=1}^{r} \sum_{q=1}^{r} \sum_{s=1}^{r} a_{i q s} b_{p j s} c_{p q t}\right)^{2}
$$

and $\mathcal{A}=\left(a_{i q s}\right) \in \mathbb{R}^{n_{1} \times r \times r}, \mathcal{B}=\left(b_{p j s}\right) \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times n_{2} \times r}, \mathcal{C}=\left(c_{p q k}\right) \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times r \times n_{3}}$. By (3.1), we want to obtain a triple decomposition $\mathcal{A B C}$ with triple rank not greater than $r$, to approximate $\mathcal{X}$.

Generally speaking, $f(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{C})$ in (3.1) maybe not convex in joint variables $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}$ and $\mathcal{C}$. However, $f$ is convex when any two variables in $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{C}$ are fixed. So $f$ is block multiconvex, which can be solved by the famous block coordinate descent (BCD) method [22, 6, 16, 20].

For the sake of computation in Algorithm 3.1, we present matrices $M_{1}^{k-1} \in \mathbb{R}^{r^{2} \times n_{2} n_{3}}$, $M_{2}^{k-1} \in \mathbb{R}^{r^{2} \times n_{1} n_{3}}, M_{3}^{k-1} \in \mathbb{R}^{r^{2} \times n_{1} n_{2}}$ in the $k$-th iteration with elements:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(M_{1}^{k-1}\right)_{l m}=\sum_{p=1}^{r} b_{p j s}^{k-1} c_{p q t}^{k-1}, \quad \text { where } l=q+(s-1) r, \quad m=j+(t-1) n_{2} \tag{3.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

$$
\begin{gather*}
\left(M_{2}^{k-1}\right)_{l m}=\sum_{q=1}^{r} a_{i q s}^{k} c_{p q t}^{k-1}, \quad \text { where } l=p+(s-1) r, \quad m=i+(t-1) n_{1}  \tag{3.3}\\
\left(M_{3}^{k-1}\right)_{l m}=\sum_{s=1}^{r} a_{i q s}^{k} s_{p j s}^{k}, \quad \text { where } l=p+(q-1) r, \quad m=i+(j-1) n_{1} . \tag{3.4}
\end{gather*}
$$

Let $A_{(1)} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_{1} \times r^{2}}$ be the mode- 1 unfolding of the tensor $\mathcal{A}$ and $B_{(2)} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_{2} \times r^{2}}$ be the mode-2 unfolding of the tensor $\mathcal{B}$ and $C_{(3)} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_{3} \times r^{2}}$ be the mode- 3 unfolding of the tensor $\mathcal{C}$. Let $X_{(i)}$ be the mode- $i$ unfolding of the tensor $\mathcal{X}$. $\mathfrak{B}^{*}: \mathbb{R}^{n_{i} \times r^{2}} \rightarrow \mathcal{T}$ denotes refolding mode- $i$ unfolding of a tensor to the corresponding tensor.

Now, we first show how to update $A_{(1)}$ at $k$-th iteration. Since $f=\frac{1}{2}\left\|A_{(1)} M_{1}^{k-1}-X_{(1)}\right\|_{F}^{2}$, we know that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\nabla_{A_{(1)}} f=\left(A_{(1)} M_{1}^{k-1}-X_{(1)}\right)\left(M_{1}^{k-1}\right)^{T} \tag{3.5}
\end{equation*}
$$

Let

$$
\begin{equation*}
L_{1}^{k-1}=\left\|\left(M_{1}^{k-1}\right)^{\top} M_{1}^{k-1}\right\|, \quad \omega_{1}^{k-1}=\min \left\{\hat{\omega}_{k-1}, \delta_{\omega} \sqrt{\frac{L_{1}^{k-2}}{L_{1}^{k-1}}}\right\} \tag{3.6}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\|A\|$ is the spectral norm of $A, \delta_{\omega}<1$ and $\hat{\omega}_{k-1}=\frac{t_{k-1}-1}{t_{k}}$ with

$$
t_{0}=1, \quad t_{k}=\frac{1}{2}\left(1+\sqrt{1+4 t_{k-1}^{2}}\right) .
$$

Furthermore, let $\hat{A}_{(1)}^{k-1}=A_{(1)}^{k-1}+\omega_{1}^{k-1}\left(A_{(1)}^{k-1}-A_{(1)}^{k-2}\right)$. By (3.5), it follows that

$$
\hat{G}_{1}^{k-1}=\left(\hat{A}_{1}^{k-1} M_{1}^{k-1}-X_{(1)}\right)\left(M_{1}^{k-1}\right)^{\top}
$$

Then we update $A_{(1)}^{k}$ as below:

$$
A_{(1)}^{k}=\underset{A_{(1)} \geq 0}{\operatorname{argmin}}\left\langle\hat{G}_{1}^{k-1}, A_{(1)}-\hat{A}_{(1)}^{k-1}\right\rangle+\frac{L_{1}^{k-1}}{2}\left\|A_{(1)}-\hat{A}_{(1)}^{k-1}\right\|_{F}^{2}
$$

which can be written in the closed form

$$
\begin{equation*}
A_{(1)}^{k}=\max \left\{0, \hat{A}_{(1)}^{k-1}-\hat{G}_{1}^{k-1} / L_{1}^{k-1}\right\} \tag{3.7}
\end{equation*}
$$

Then, $B_{(2)}^{k}$ and $C_{(3)}^{k}$ can be updated similarly.
At the end of iteration $k$, we check whether $f\left(\mathcal{A}^{k}, \mathcal{B}^{k}, \mathcal{C}^{k}\right) \geq f\left(\mathcal{A}^{k-1}, \mathcal{B}^{k-1}, \mathcal{C}^{k-1}\right)$. If so, we reupdate $A_{(1)}^{k}, B_{(2)}^{k}, C_{(3)}^{k}$ by (3.7) with $\hat{A}_{(1)}^{k-1}=A_{(1)}^{k-1}, \hat{B}_{(2)}^{k-1}=B_{(2)}^{k-1}, \hat{C}_{(3)}^{k-1}=C_{(3)}^{k-1}$.

## Algorithm 3.1. Alternating proximal gradient (APG) method.

Input: Nonnegative tensor $\mathcal{X}$. Choose an integer $1 \leq r \leq \operatorname{mid}\left\{n_{1}, n_{2}, n_{3}\right\}$.
Output: Nonnegative factors $A_{(1)}, B_{(2)}, C_{(3)}$.
Initialization: Choose a positive number $\delta_{\omega}<1$ and randomize $A_{(1)}^{-1}=A_{(1)}^{0}$,
$B_{(2)}^{-1}=B_{(2)}^{0}, C_{(3)}^{-1}=C_{(3)}^{0}$, as nonnegative matrices of appropriate sizes.
4: for $k=1,2, \ldots$ do
5 : $\quad$ for $n=1,2,3$ do
6: Compute $L_{n}^{k-1}$ and set $\omega_{n}^{k-1}$ according to (3.6).
7: $\quad$ Let $\hat{A}_{(1)}^{k-1}=A_{(1)}^{k-1}+\omega_{1}^{k-1}\left(A_{(1)}^{k-1}-A_{(1)}^{k-2}\right)$,

$$
\hat{B}_{(2)}^{k-1}=B_{(2)}^{k-1}+\omega_{2}^{k-1}\left(B_{(2)}^{k-1}-B_{(2)}^{k-2}\right)
$$

$$
\hat{C}_{(3)}^{k-1}=C_{(3)}^{k-1}+\omega_{3}^{k-1}\left(C_{(3)}^{k-1}-C_{(3)}^{k-2}\right)
$$

Update $A_{(1)}^{k}, B_{(2)}^{k}, C_{(3)}^{k}$ according to (3.7).
end for
if $f\left(\mathcal{A}^{k}, \mathcal{B}^{k}, \mathcal{C}^{k}\right) \geq f\left(\mathcal{A}^{k-1}, \mathcal{B}^{k-1}, \mathcal{C}^{k-1}\right)$ then
11: Reupdate $A_{(1)}^{k}, B_{(2)}^{k}, C_{(3)}^{k}$ according to (3.7) with $\hat{A}_{(1)}^{k-1}=A_{(1)}^{k-1}, \hat{B}_{(2)}^{k-1}=B_{(2)}^{k-1}$, $\hat{C}_{(3)}^{k-1}=C_{(3)}^{k-1}$.
end if
if stopping criterion is satisfied then
Return $A_{(1)}^{k}, B_{(2)}^{k}, C_{(3)}^{k}$.
end if
end for
$\mathcal{A}=\mathfrak{B}^{*}\left(A_{(1)}\right), \mathcal{B}=\mathfrak{B}^{*}\left(B_{(2)}\right)$ and $\mathcal{C}=\mathfrak{B}^{*}\left(C_{(3)}\right)$ are the final required results.
To give the convergence of the algorithm, we first review the KL inequality, which is essential in the following analysis.
Definition 3.1. A function $\psi(\mathbf{x})$ satisfies the Kurdyka-Lojasiewicz (KL) property at point $\overline{\mathbf{x}} \in \operatorname{dom}(\partial \psi)$ if there exists $\theta \in[0,1)$ such that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{|\psi(\mathbf{x})-\psi(\overline{\mathbf{x}})|^{\theta}}{\operatorname{dist}(\mathbf{0}, \partial \psi(\mathbf{x}))} \tag{3.8}
\end{equation*}
$$

is bounded around $\overline{\mathbf{x}}$ under the following notational conventions: $0^{0}=1, \infty / \infty=0 / 0=0$.
In other words, in a certain neighborhood $\mathcal{U}$ of $\overline{\mathbf{x}}$, there exists $\phi(s)=c s^{1-\theta}$ for some $c>0$ and $\theta \in[0,1)$ such that the $K L$ inequality holds:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\phi^{\prime}(|\psi(\mathbf{x})-\psi(\overline{\mathbf{x}})|) \operatorname{dist}(\mathbf{0}, \partial \psi(\mathbf{x})) \geq 1 \tag{3.9}
\end{equation*}
$$

for any $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{U} \cap \operatorname{dom}(\partial \psi)$ and $\psi(\mathbf{x}) \neq \psi(\overline{\mathbf{x}})$, where $\operatorname{dom}(\partial \psi) \triangleq\{\mathbf{x}: \partial \psi(\mathbf{x}) \neq \emptyset\}$ and $\operatorname{dist}(\mathbf{0}, \partial \psi(\mathbf{x})) \triangleq \min \{\|\mathbf{y}\|: \mathbf{y} \in \partial \psi(\mathbf{x})\}$.

Let $\mathcal{D}_{n}=\mathbb{R}_{+}^{I_{n} \times r^{2}}$ and $\delta_{\mathcal{D}_{n}}(\cdot)$ be the indicator function on $\mathcal{D}_{n}$ for $n=1,2,3$. Then (3.1) is equivalent to

$$
\begin{equation*}
\min _{\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{C}} F(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{C}) \equiv f(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{C})+\delta_{\mathcal{D}_{1}}\left(A_{(1)}\right)+\delta_{\mathcal{D}_{2}}\left(B_{(2)}\right)+\delta_{\mathcal{D}_{3}}\left(D_{(3)}\right) \tag{3.10}
\end{equation*}
$$

Obviously, $F$ is continuous in $\operatorname{dom}(F)$ and $\inf F>-\infty . \nabla f_{i}^{k}$ is Lipschitz continuous, and there exist constants $0<\ell_{i} \leq L_{i}<\infty, i=1,2,3$ for parameters $L_{i}^{k-1}$ obey $\ell_{i} \leq L_{i}^{k-1} \leq L_{i}$
and

$$
\begin{aligned}
& f_{1}^{k}\left(A_{(1)}^{k}\right) \leq f_{1}^{k}\left(\hat{A}_{(1)}^{k-1}\right)+\left\langle\hat{G}_{1}^{k}, A_{(1)}^{k}-\hat{A}_{(1)}^{k-1}\right\rangle+\frac{L_{1}^{k-1}}{2}\left\|A_{(1)}^{k}-\hat{A}_{(1)}^{k-1}\right\|^{2}, \\
& f_{2}^{k}\left(B_{(2)}^{k}\right) \leq f_{2}^{k}\left(\hat{B}_{(2)}^{k-1}\right)+\left\langle\hat{G}_{2}^{k}, B_{(2)}^{k}-\hat{B}_{(2)}^{k-1}\right\rangle+\frac{L_{2}^{k-1}}{2}\left\|B_{(2)}^{k}-\hat{B}_{(2)}^{k-1}\right\|^{2}, \\
& f_{3}^{k}\left(C_{(3)}^{k}\right) \leq f_{3}^{k}\left(\hat{C}_{(3)}^{k-1}\right)+\left\langle\hat{G}_{3}^{k}, C_{(3)}^{k}-\hat{C}_{(3)}^{k-1}\right\rangle+\frac{L_{3}^{k-1}}{2}\left\|C_{(3)}^{k}-\hat{C}_{(3)}^{k-1}\right\|^{2} .
\end{aligned}
$$

So, $F$ satisfies the Assumption 1 and 2 of [22], the same with [22] we also get the following conclusions.

Lemma 3.2. Let $\left\{A_{(1)}^{k}, B_{(2)}^{k}, C_{(3)}^{k}\right\}$ be the sequence generated by Algorithm 3.1 with

$$
0 \leq \omega_{i}^{k-1} \leq \delta_{\omega} \sqrt{L_{i}^{k-2} / L_{i}^{k-1}} \text { for } \delta_{\omega}<1
$$

Then

$$
\lim _{k \rightarrow \infty}\left\|A_{(1)}^{k}-A_{(1)}^{k+1}\right\|^{2}=0, \lim _{k \rightarrow \infty}\left\|B_{(2)}^{k}-B_{(2)}^{k+1}\right\|^{2}=0, \lim _{k \rightarrow \infty}\left\|C_{(3)}^{k}-C_{(3)}^{k+1}\right\|^{2}=0
$$

Proof. Let $F_{1}^{k}=f_{1}^{k}+\delta_{\mathcal{D}_{1}}\left(A_{(1)}\right)$. By Lemma 2.1 [22], we know that

$$
\begin{align*}
F_{1}^{k}\left(A_{(1)}^{k-1}\right)-F_{1}^{k}\left(A_{(1)}^{k}\right) & \geq \frac{L_{1}^{k-1}}{2}\left\|\hat{A}_{(1)}^{k-1}-A_{(1)}^{k}\right\|^{2}+L_{1}^{k-1}\left\langle\hat{A}_{(1)}^{k-1}-A_{(1)}^{k-1}, A_{(1)}^{k}-\hat{A}_{(1)}^{k-1}\right\rangle \\
& \geq \frac{L_{1}^{k-1}}{2}\left\|A_{(1)}^{k-1}-A_{(1)}^{k}\right\|^{2}-\frac{L_{1}^{k-2}}{2} \delta_{\omega}^{2}\left\|A_{(1)}^{k-2}-A_{(1)}^{k-1}\right\|^{2} . \tag{3.11}
\end{align*}
$$

Similarly, we can get that

$$
\begin{align*}
& F_{2}^{k}\left(B_{(2)}^{k-1}\right)-F_{2}^{k}\left(B_{(2)}^{k}\right) \geq \frac{L_{2}^{k-1}}{2}\left\|B_{(2)}^{k-1}-B_{(2)}^{k}\right\|^{2}-\frac{L_{2}^{k-2}}{2} \delta_{\omega}^{2}\left\|B_{(2)}^{k-2}-B_{(2)}^{k-1}\right\|^{2},  \tag{3.12}\\
& F_{3}^{k}\left(C_{(3)}^{k-1}\right)-F_{3}^{k}\left(C_{(3)}^{k}\right) \geq \frac{L_{3}^{k-1}}{2}\left\|C_{(3)}^{k-1}-C_{(3)}^{k}\right\|^{2}-\frac{L_{3}^{k-2}}{2} \delta_{\omega}^{2}\left\|C_{(3)}^{k-2}-C_{(3)}^{k-1}\right\|^{2} . \tag{3.13}
\end{align*}
$$

Therefore,

$$
\begin{aligned}
& F\left(A_{(1)}^{k-1}, B_{(2)}^{k-1}, C_{(3)}^{k-1}\right)-F\left(A_{(1)}^{k}, B_{(2)}^{k}, C_{(3)}^{k}\right) \\
& =\sum_{i=1}^{3}\left(F_{i}^{k-1}\left(A_{(1)}^{k-1}, B_{(2)}^{k-1}, C_{(3)}^{k-1}\right)-F_{i}^{k}\left(A_{(1)}^{k}, B_{(2)}^{k}, C_{(3)}^{k}\right)\right) \\
& \geq \frac{L_{1}^{k-1}}{2}\left\|A_{(1)}^{k-1}-A_{(1)}^{k}\right\|^{2}-\frac{L_{1}^{k-2}}{2} \delta_{\omega}^{2}\left\|A_{(1)}^{k-2}-A_{(1)}^{k-1}\right\|^{2} \\
& +\frac{L_{2}^{k-1}}{2}\left\|B_{(2)}^{k-1}-B_{(2)}^{k}\right\|^{2}-\frac{L_{2}^{k-2}}{2} \delta_{\omega}^{2}\left\|B_{(2)}^{k-2}-B_{(2)}^{k-1}\right\|^{2} \\
& +\frac{L_{3}^{k-1}}{2}\left\|C_{(3)}^{k-1}-C_{(3)}^{k}\right\|^{2}-\frac{L_{3}^{k-2}}{2} \delta_{\omega}^{2}\left\|C_{(3)}^{k-2}-C_{(3)}^{k-1}\right\|^{2}
\end{aligned}
$$

Summing the above inequality over $k$ from 1 to $K$, we have

$$
\begin{aligned}
& F\left(A_{(1)}^{0}, B_{(2)}^{0}, C_{(3)}^{0}\right)-F\left(A_{(1)}^{K}, B_{(2)}^{K}, C_{(3)}^{K}\right) \\
& \geq \sum_{k=1}^{K}\left(\frac{L_{1}^{k-1}}{2}\left\|A_{(1)}^{k-1}-A_{(1)}^{k}\right\|^{2}-\frac{L_{1}^{k-2}}{2} \delta_{\omega}^{2}\left\|A_{(1)}^{k-2}-A_{(1)}^{k-1}\right\|^{2}\right. \\
& +\frac{L_{2}^{k-1}}{2}\left\|B_{(2)}^{k-1}-B_{(2)}^{k}\right\|^{2}-\frac{L_{2}^{k-2}}{2} \delta_{\omega}^{2}\left\|B_{(2)}^{k-2}-B_{(2)}^{k-1}\right\|^{2} \\
& \left.+\frac{L_{3}^{k-1}}{2}\left\|C_{(3)}^{k-1}-C_{(3)}^{k}\right\|^{2}-\frac{L_{3}^{k-2}}{2} \delta_{\omega}^{2}\left\|C_{(3)}^{k-2}-C_{(3)}^{k-1}\right\|^{2}\right) \\
& \geq \sum_{k=1}^{K}\left(\frac{\left(1-\delta_{\omega}^{2}\right) L_{1}^{k-1}}{2}\left\|A_{(1)}^{k-1}-A_{(1)}^{k}\right\|^{2}+\frac{\left(1-\delta_{\omega}^{2}\right) L_{2}^{k-1}}{2}\left\|B_{(2)}^{k-1}-B_{(2)}^{k}\right\|^{2}\right. \\
& \left.+\frac{\left(1-\delta_{\omega}^{2}\right) L_{3}^{k-1}}{2}\left\|C_{(3)}^{k-1}-C_{(3)}^{k}\right\|^{2}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

Since $F$ is lower bounded, taking $K \rightarrow \infty$ completes the proof.
Theorem 3.3. Let $\left\{\mathcal{A}^{k}, \mathcal{B}^{k}, \mathcal{C}^{k}\right\}$ be the sequence generated by Algorithm 3.1. Assume that $\left\{\mathcal{A}^{k}, \mathcal{B}^{k}, \mathcal{C}^{k}\right\}$ is bounded and there is a positive constant $\ell$ such that $\ell \leq L_{n}^{k}$ for all $k$ and $n$. Then $\left\{\mathcal{A}^{k}, \mathcal{B}^{k}, \mathcal{C}^{k}\right\}$ converges to a critical point $\{\overline{\mathcal{A}}, \overline{\mathcal{B}}, \overline{\mathcal{C}}\}$.

Proof. Obviously, $\nabla f$ is Lipschitz continuous on any bounded set. According to [22], we can get that $F(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{C})$ is a semialgebraic function and satisfies the KL inequality at $\{\overline{\mathcal{A}}, \overline{\mathcal{B}}, \overline{\mathcal{C}}\}$.

If $F\left(\mathcal{A}^{k_{0}}, \mathcal{B}^{k_{0}}, \mathcal{C}^{k_{0}}\right)=F(\overline{\mathcal{A}}, \overline{\mathcal{B}}, \overline{\mathcal{C}})$ at some $k_{0}$, then $\left\{\mathcal{A}^{k}, \mathcal{B}^{k}, \mathcal{C}^{k}\right\}=\left\{\mathcal{A}^{k_{0}}, \mathcal{B}^{k_{0}}, \mathcal{C}^{k_{0}}\right\}=$ $\{\overline{\mathcal{A}}, \overline{\mathcal{B}}, \overline{\mathcal{C}}\}$ for all $k \geq k_{0}$. It remains to consider $F\left(\mathcal{A}^{k}, \mathcal{B}^{k}, \mathcal{C}^{k}\right)>F(\overline{\mathcal{A}}, \overline{\mathcal{B}}, \overline{\mathcal{C}})$ for all $k \geq 0$. Since $\{\overline{\mathcal{A}}, \overline{\mathcal{B}}, \overline{\mathcal{C}}\}$ is a limit point and $F\left(\mathcal{A}^{k}, \mathcal{B}^{k}, \mathcal{C}^{k}\right) \rightarrow F(\overline{\mathcal{A}}, \overline{\mathcal{B}}, \overline{\mathcal{C}})$, there must exist an integer $k_{0}$ such that $\left\{\mathcal{A}^{k_{0}}, \mathcal{B}^{k_{0}}, \mathcal{C}^{k_{0}}\right\}$ is sufficiently close to $\{\overline{\mathcal{A}}, \overline{\mathcal{B}}, \overline{\mathcal{C}}\}$ as required in Lemma 2.6 [22]. Hence, the entire sequence $\left\{\mathcal{A}^{k}, \mathcal{B}^{k}, \mathcal{C}^{k}\right\}$ converges according to Lemma 2.6 [22]. Since $\{\overline{\mathcal{A}}, \overline{\mathcal{B}}, \overline{\mathcal{C}}\}$ is a limit point of $\left\{\mathcal{A}^{k}, \mathcal{B}^{k}, \mathcal{C}^{k}\right\}$, we have $\left\{\mathcal{A}^{k}, \mathcal{B}^{k}, \mathcal{C}^{k}\right\} \rightarrow\{\overline{\mathcal{A}}, \overline{\mathcal{B}}, \overline{\mathcal{C}}\}$.

Similar with the proof of [22], we obtain the convergence rate of Algorithm 3.1. For the sake of completeness, we give the proof accordingly.
Theorem 3.4. (Convergence rate). Let $\left\{\mathcal{A}^{k}, \mathcal{B}^{k}, \mathcal{C}^{k}\right\}$ be the sequence generated by Algorithm 3.1 and converges to a critical point $\{\overline{\mathcal{A}}, \overline{\mathcal{B}}, \overline{\mathcal{C}}\}$. For the convenience, let $\mathcal{X}^{k}=$ $\left\{\mathcal{A}^{k}, \mathcal{B}^{k}, \mathcal{C}^{k}\right\}$. Then the following hold:

1. If $\theta=0, \mathcal{X}$ converges to $\overline{\mathcal{X}}$ in finitely many iterations.
2. If $\theta \in\left(0, \frac{1}{2}\right],\left\|\mathcal{X}^{k}-\overline{\mathcal{X}}\right\| \leq C \tau^{k}$ for all $k \geq k_{0}$, for certain $k_{0}>0, C>0, \tau \in[0,1)$.
3. If $\theta \in\left(\frac{1}{2}, 1\right),\left\|\mathcal{X}^{k}-\overline{\mathcal{X}}\right\| \leq C k^{-(1-\theta) /(2 \theta-1)}$ for all $k \geq k_{0}$, for certain $k_{0}>0, C>0$.

Proof. If $\theta=0$, we must have $F\left(\mathcal{X}^{k_{0}}\right)=F(\overline{\mathcal{X}})$ for some $k_{0}$. Otherwise, $F\left(\mathcal{X}^{k}\right)>F(\overline{\mathcal{X}})$ for all sufficiently large $k$. The KL inequality gives $c \cdot \operatorname{dist}\left(\mathbf{0}, \partial F\left(\mathcal{X}^{k}\right)\right) \geq 1$ for all $k \geq 0$, which is impossible since $\mathcal{X}^{k} \rightarrow \overline{\mathcal{X}}$ and $\mathbf{0} \in \partial F(\overline{\mathcal{X}})$. The finite convergence now follows from the fact that $F\left(\mathcal{X}^{k_{0}}\right)=F(\overline{\mathcal{X}})$ implies $\mathcal{X}^{k}=\mathcal{X}^{k_{0}}=\overline{\mathcal{X}}$ for all $k \geq k_{0}$.

For $\theta \in(0,1)$, we assume $F\left(\mathcal{X}^{k}\right)>F(\overline{\mathcal{X}})=0$ and define $S_{k}=\sum_{i=k}^{\infty}\left\|\mathcal{X}^{i}-\mathcal{X}^{i+1}\right\|$. Then according to [22] we can get

$$
\begin{equation*}
S_{k} \leq C_{1} \phi\left(F_{k}\right)+\left(\frac{3 \delta_{\omega}}{1-\delta_{\omega}} \sqrt{\frac{L}{\ell}}+2\right)\left(S_{k-2}-S_{k}\right) \quad \text { for } k \geq 2 \tag{3.14}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\ell=\min _{i} \ell_{i}, L=\max _{i} L_{i}$ and $C_{1}=\frac{9\left(L+s L_{G}\right)}{2 \ell\left(1-\delta_{\omega}\right)^{2}}$. Since $S_{k-2}-S_{k-1} \geq 0$. Using $\phi(s)=$ $c s^{1-\theta}$, we have from (A.8) [22] for sufficiently large $k$ that

$$
\begin{equation*}
c(1-\theta)\left(F_{k}\right)^{-\theta} \geq\left(L+s L_{G}\right)^{-1}\left(\left\|\mathcal{X}^{k}-\mathcal{X}^{k-1}\right\|+\left\|\mathcal{X}^{k-1}-\mathcal{X}^{k-2}\right\|\right)^{-1} \tag{3.15}
\end{equation*}
$$

or, equivalently, $\left(F_{k}\right)^{\theta} \leq c(1-\theta)\left(L+s L_{G}\right)\left(S_{k-2}-S_{k}\right)$. Then,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\phi\left(F_{k}\right)=c\left(F_{k}\right)^{1-\theta} \leq c\left(c(1-\theta)\left(L+s L_{G}\right)\left(S_{k-2}-S_{k}\right)\right)^{\frac{1-\theta}{\theta}} \tag{3.16}
\end{equation*}
$$

Letting $C_{2}=C_{1} c\left(c(1-\theta)\left(L+s L_{G}\right)\right)^{\frac{1-\theta}{\theta}}$ and $C_{3}=\frac{3 \delta_{\omega}}{1-\delta_{\omega}} \sqrt{\frac{L}{\ell}}+2$, we have from (3.14) and (3.16) that

$$
\begin{equation*}
S_{k} \leq C_{2}\left(S_{k-2}-S_{k}\right)^{\frac{1-\theta}{\theta}}+C_{3}\left(S_{k-2}-S_{k}\right) \tag{3.17}
\end{equation*}
$$

When $\theta \in\left(0, \frac{1}{2}\right]$, i.e., $\frac{1-\theta}{\theta} \geq 1$, (3.17) implies that $S_{k} \leq\left(C_{2}+C_{3}\right)\left(S_{k-2}-S_{k}\right)$ for sufficiently large $k$ since $S_{k-2}-S_{k} \rightarrow 0$, and thus $S_{k} \leq \frac{C_{2}+C_{3}}{1+C_{2}+C_{3}} S_{k-2}$. Note that $\left\|\mathcal{X}^{k}-\overline{\mathcal{X}}\right\| \leq$ $S_{k}$. Therefore, item 2 holds with $\tau=\sqrt{\frac{C_{2}+C_{3}}{1+C_{2}+C_{3}}}<1$ and sufficiently large $C$.

When $\theta \in\left(\frac{1}{2}, 1\right)$, i.e., $\frac{1-\theta}{\theta}<1$. Since $S_{k} \rightarrow 0$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$, we deduce from (3.17) that there exist an integer $N_{1} \geq N_{0}$ and a positive constant $C_{4}$ such that

$$
\begin{equation*}
S_{k}^{\frac{\theta}{1-\theta}} \leq C_{4}\left(S_{k-2}-S_{k}\right) \tag{3.18}
\end{equation*}
$$

for all $k \geq N_{1}$. Define $h:(0,+\infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by $h(s)=s^{-\frac{\theta}{1-\theta}}$ and let $R \in(1,+\infty)$. Take $k \geq N_{1}$ and assume first that $h\left(S_{k}\right) \leq R h\left(S_{k-2}\right)$. By rewriting (3.18) as

$$
1 \leq \frac{C_{4}\left(S_{k-2}-S_{k}\right)}{S_{k}^{\frac{\theta}{1-\theta}}}
$$

we obtain that

$$
\begin{align*}
1 & \leq C_{4}\left(S_{k-2}-S_{k}\right) h\left(S_{k}\right) \leq R C_{4}\left(S_{k-2}-S_{k}\right) h\left(S_{k-2}\right) \\
& \leq R C_{4} \int_{S_{k}}^{S_{k-2}} h(s) \mathrm{d} s \leq R C_{4} \frac{1-\theta}{1-2 \theta}\left[S_{k-2}^{\frac{1-2 \theta}{1-\theta}}-S_{k}^{\frac{1-2 \theta}{1-\theta}}\right] \tag{3.19}
\end{align*}
$$

Thus if we set $\mu=\frac{2 \theta-1}{(1-\theta) R C_{4}}>0$ and $\nu=\frac{1-2 \theta}{1-\theta}<0$ one obtains that

$$
\begin{equation*}
S_{k}^{\nu}-S_{k-2}^{\nu} \geq \mu>0, \quad S_{k}^{\nu}+S_{k-1}^{\nu}-S_{k-1}^{\nu}-S_{k-2}^{\nu} \geq \mu>0 \tag{3.20}
\end{equation*}
$$

Assume now that $h\left(S_{k}\right)>R h\left(S_{k-2}\right)$ and set $q=\left(\frac{1}{R}\right)^{\frac{1-\theta}{\theta}} \in(0,1)$. It follows immediately that $S_{k} \leq q S_{k-2}$ and furthermore recalling that $\nu$ is negative - we have

$$
S_{k}^{\nu} \geq q^{\nu} S_{k-2}^{\nu}, \quad S_{k}^{\nu}-S_{k-2}^{\nu} \geq\left(q^{\nu}-1\right) S_{k-2}^{\nu}
$$

Since $q^{\nu}-1>0$ and $S_{p} \rightarrow 0^{+}$as $p \rightarrow+\infty$, there exists $\bar{\mu}>0$ such that $\left(q^{\nu}-1\right) S_{p-1}^{\nu}>\bar{\mu}$ for all $p \geq N_{1}$. Therefore we obtain that

$$
\begin{equation*}
S_{k}^{\nu}+S_{k-1}^{\nu}-S_{k-1}^{\nu}-S_{k-2}^{\nu} \geq \bar{\mu} \tag{3.21}
\end{equation*}
$$

If we set $\hat{\mu}=\min \{\mu, \bar{\mu}\}>0$, one can combine (3.20) and (3.21) to obtain that

$$
S_{k}^{\nu}+S_{k-1}^{\nu}-S_{k-1}^{\nu}-S_{k-2}^{\nu} \geq \hat{\mu}>0
$$

for all $k \geq N_{1}$. By summing those inequalities from $N_{1}$ to some $N$ greater than $N_{1}$ we obtain that $S_{N}^{\nu}+S_{N-1}^{\nu}-S_{N_{1}+1}^{\nu}-S_{N_{1}}^{\nu} \geq \hat{\mu}\left(N-N_{1}\right)$ and

$$
S_{N} \leq\left(\frac{1}{2}\left(S_{N_{1}+1}^{\nu}+S_{N_{1}}^{\nu}+\hat{\mu}\left(N-N_{1}\right)\right)\right)^{\frac{1}{\nu}} \leq C N^{-\frac{1-\theta}{2 \theta-1}}
$$

for sufficiently large $C$ and $N$. This completes the proof.

## 4 Non-negative Tensor Completion

In this section, we consider the non-negative tensor completion problem:

$$
\min \left\{\begin{array}{ll}
\left\|\mathcal{P}_{\Omega}(\mathcal{A B C}-\mathcal{M})\right\|_{F}^{2}: & \begin{array}{l}
\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{R}^{n_{1} \times r \times r}, \mathcal{B} \in \mathcal{R}^{r \times n_{2} \times r} \\
\mathcal{A} \geq 0, \mathcal{C} \in \mathcal{R}^{r \times r \times n_{3}} \\
\mathcal{B} \geq 0, \mathcal{C} \geq 0
\end{array} \tag{4.1}
\end{array}\right\}
$$

To solve (4.1), we consider its equivalent form:

$$
\begin{array}{cl}
\min & G(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{Z})=\|\mathcal{A B C}-\mathcal{Z}\|_{F}^{2} \\
\mathrm{s.t.} & \mathcal{A} \geq 0, \mathcal{B} \geq 0, \mathcal{C} \geq 0, \mathcal{P}_{\Omega}(\mathcal{Z}-\mathcal{M})=0 \tag{4.2}
\end{array}
$$

where $\Omega$ indexes the known entries of $\mathcal{M}$ and $\mathcal{P}_{\Omega}(\mathcal{A})$ returns a copy of $\mathcal{A}$ that zeros out the entries not in $\Omega$. Our algorithm shall cycle through the decision variables $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{C}$ and $\mathcal{Z}$. It should be noted that Algorithm 3.1. is modified at $k$-th iteration such that $\mathcal{M}=\mathcal{Z}^{k-1}$ wherever $\mathcal{M}$ is referred to. Then, $\mathcal{Z}$ is updated as (3.10)

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathcal{Z}^{k}=\mathcal{P}_{\Omega}(\mathcal{M})+\mathcal{P}_{\Omega^{c}}(\mathcal{A B C}) \tag{4.3}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\Omega^{c}$ is the complement of $\Omega$. Note that for a fixed $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{C}, G(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{Z})$ is a strongly convex function of $\mathcal{Z}$ with modulus 1 . Hence, according to Theorem 3.3, the convergence result for Algorithm 3.1 still holds for this algorithm with extra update (4.3).

## 5 Numerical Examples

In this section, we investigate some data to show that they can be approximated by nonegative triple decomposition of low triple rank very well.
Example 5.1. Let $\overline{\mathcal{X}} \in \mathbb{R}^{10 \times 15 \times 100}$ be a randomly generated nonnegative tensor. Set the corresponding triple rank $r=15$. A noise term is added such that $\mathcal{X}=\overline{\mathcal{X}}+\lambda \varepsilon$, $\varepsilon=\operatorname{randn}(10,15,100)$, where $\lambda=1 e^{-3}$ is the parameter to control the noise term. The experimental result is shown in Figure 1.

We compute the triple decomposition approximation $\mathcal{A B C}$ by Algorithm 3.1 and calculate the relative error of nonnegative low triple rank approximation

$$
\text { RelativeError }=\frac{\|\mathcal{X}-\mathcal{A B C}\|_{F}}{\|\mathcal{X}\|_{F}}
$$

Figure 1 illustrates the relative error of the low triple rank approximation and the relative error is about $1.7 \%$.

Example 5.2. Let $\overline{\mathcal{X}} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_{1} \times N_{2} \times N_{3}}$ be a randomly generated nonnegative tensor, where $N_{1}, N_{2}, N_{3} \in \mathbb{N}$. The triple rank is considered in three different cases. A noise term is added such that $\mathcal{X}=\overline{\mathcal{X}}+\lambda \varepsilon, \varepsilon=\operatorname{randn}\left(N_{1}, N_{2}, N_{3}\right)$, where $\lambda=1 e^{-3}$ is the parameter to control the noise term. Experimental results are shown in Table 1.


Figure 1: Relative error of low nonnegative triple rank approximation of the $\mathcal{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{10 \times 15 \times 100}$

Table 1: The numerical results of the problem in Example 5.1

| $N_{1}$ | $N_{2}$ | $N_{3}$ | $r$ | relerr | Time | IT | error |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 10 | 20 | 100 | 10 | $2.2 \%$ | 3.42 | 250 | 2.5307 |
|  |  |  | $1 \%$ | 42.4 | 1000 | 0.6675 |  |
|  |  |  | $0.71 \%$ | 113 | 968 | 0.3766 |  |
| 15 | 30 | 100 | 15 | $1.03 \%$ | 54.1 | 1000 | 1.4881 |
|  |  |  | $0.62 \%$ | 392 | 1000 | 0.6311 |  |
|  |  |  | $0.60 \%$ | 100 | 733 | 0.7422 |  |
| 200 | 200 | 200 | 10 | $0.60 \%$ | 70 | 136 | 61.3114 |
|  |  |  | $0.45 \%$ | 312 | 282 | 46.1830 |  |
|  |  | 20 | $0.36 \%$ | 977 | 449 | 34.0303 |  |

In Table 1, "relerr" denotes the relative error, "IT" denotes the number of iterations, "Time" denotes the CPU time in seconds and error $=\|\mathcal{X}-\mathcal{A B C}\|_{F}$. This result shows clearly the three order nonnegative tensor can be approximated by low rank triple decomposition very well and we can see that the rank increases, the relative error of the tensor by this method decreases.

Example 5.3. In this test, we randomly generate a nonnegative tensor $\overline{\mathcal{X}} \in \mathbb{R}^{10 \times 30 \times 100}$, and set three different triple rank of the tensor respectively. In this experiment, we compare the test results with and without non-negative constraints. Experimental results are shown in Table 2.

Table 2: The numerical results of the problem in Example 5.3

| constrained | $r$ | relerr | Time | IT | error |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 10 | $2.2 \%$ | 8.32 | 501 | 3.8206 |
|  | 15 | $1.56 \%$ | 32.1 | 613 | 2.4464 |
|  | 30 | $1.37 \%$ | 92.6 | 985 | 2.0827 |
| unconstrained | 10 | $1.97 \%$ | 17.47 | 1000 | 3.0881 |
|  | 15 | $1.02 \%$ | 46.46 | 904 | 1.0352 |
|  | 30 | $0.71 \%$ | 100 | 738 | 0.6121 |



Figure 2: Relative error of the tensor recovery of $\mathcal{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{200 \times 200 \times 200}$

In the theory point of view, its apparent that the rank of the nonnegative triple decomposition for a third order nonnegative tensor is greater than or equal to the rank associated to the unconstrained triple decomposition. From Table 2, for given fixed rank, the error and relative error for the unconstraint case are less than the nonnegative constraint case.

Example 5.4. Let $\mathcal{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{200 \times 200 \times 200}$ be a randomly generated nonnegative tensor. Set the corresponding triple rank $r=15$. We sample fifty percent of elements of this tensor. Experimental result is shown in Figure 2.

Figure 2 illustrates the relative error of the tensor recovery via nonnegative triple decomposition and the relative error is about $0.02202 \%$.

Example 5.5. Let $\mathcal{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_{1} \times N_{2} \times N_{3}}$ be a randomly generated nonnegative tensor, where $N_{1}, N_{2}, N_{3} \in \mathbb{N}$. The sampling rate is considered in three different cases. Experimental results are shown in Table 3.

Table 3: The numerical results of the problem in Example 5.5

| $N_{1}$ | $N_{2}$ | $N_{3}$ | r | sr | relerr | Time | IT |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 10 | 20 | 100 | 20 | 0.3 | $6.9309 \times 10^{-4}$ | 11.7 | 94 |
|  |  |  |  | $5.6981 \times 10^{-4}$ | 10.5 | 90 |  |
|  |  | 0.9 | $4.2789 \times 10^{-4}$ | 10.6 | 83 |  |  |
| 15 |  | 30 | 100 | 30 | 0.3 | $3.4973 \times 10^{-4}$ | 93.5 |
|  |  |  |  |  | 68 |  |  |
|  |  |  | 0.9 | $2.1418 \times 10^{-4}$ | 89.3 | 73 |  |
| 200 | 200 | 200 | 15 | 0.3 | $2.8398 \times 10^{-4}$ | 89.7 | 81 |
|  |  |  |  | 65.7 | 59 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | 0.9 | $2.2021 \times 10^{-4}$ | 42.8 | 37 |

In Table 2, "sr" denotes sampling rate. As the sampling rate increases, the relative error decreases. Clearly, through the proposed method can achieve very good result.

## 6 Conclusions

In this paper, we introduced a nonnegative triple decomposition for third order nonnegative tensors, which decomposes a third order nonnegative tensor to three third order low rank nonnegative tensors in a balanced way. A nonnegative tensor completion method was proposed based on such low rank nonnegative triple decomposition. Furthermore, an alternating proximal gradient algorithm was provided and its convergence was also established. Numerical experiments confirmed the efficiency of the method.

## Acknowledgments

We are very grateful to the editor and the anonymous reviewers for their constructive comments and meaningful suggestions on our manuscript.

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