Abstract—Tensor-based spatial smoothing (TB-SS) is a preprocessing technique for subspace-based parameter estimation of damped and undamped harmonics. In TB-SS, multichannel data is packed into a measurement tensor. We propose a tensor-based signal subspace estimation scheme that exploits the multidimensional invariance property exhibited by the highly structured measurement tensor. In the presence of noise, a tensor-based subspace estimate obtained via TB-SS is a better estimate of the desired signal subspace than the subspace estimate obtained by, for example, the singular value decomposition of a spatially smoothed matrix or a multilinear algebra approach reported in the literature. Thus, TB-SS in conjunction with subspace-based parameter estimation schemes performs significantly better than subspace-based parameter estimation algorithms applied to the existing matrix-based subspace estimate. Another advantage of TB-SS over the conventional SS is that TB-SS is insensitive to changes in the number of samples per subarray provided that the number of subarrays is greater than the number of harmonics. In this paper, we present, as an example, TB-SS in conjunction with ESPRIT-type algorithms for the parameter estimation of one-dimensional (1-D) damped and undamped harmonics. A closed form expression of the stochastic Cramér-Rao bound (CRB) for the 1-D damped harmonic retrieval problem is also derived.

Index Terms—Damped harmonics, direction of arrival (DOA) estimation, higher-order tensor, higher-order singular value decomposition (HOSVD), multidimensional signal processing, multilinear algebra, parameter estimation, tensor-based spatial smoothing (TB-SS), tensor-ESPRIT.

I. INTRODUCTION

Damped and undamped harmonic retrieval problems arise in several areas like mobile communications, sensor array processing, and nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectroscopy [1]. The one-dimensional (1-D) undamped harmonic retrieval problem and the 1-D direction-of-arrival (DOA) estimation problem that use data from the output of a uniform linear array (ULA) of sensors have an identical data model. As a consequence, any preprocessing technique and subspace-based parameter estimation technique that can be applied to a 1-D undamped harmonic retrieval problem is also applicable to the 1-D DOA estimation problem. Spatial smoothing (SS) is a preprocessing technique used to increase the number of available snapshots and to decorrelate correlated wavefronts impinging on an array of sensors [2], [3]. In the context of damped and undamped harmonic retrieval problems, spatial smoothing is used to artificially increase the number of channels and to decorrelate correlated complex exponentials. ESPRIT [4] is a widely used subspace-based high-resolution technique for estimating the spatial frequencies of several sources impinging on the array of sensors. ESPRIT can also be used to estimate the normalized frequencies and the damping factors in a damped harmonic retrieval problem [5]. Unitary ESPRIT [6] exploits the centrosymmetry of a sensor array and enables computations in the real-valued domain, thereby reducing the complexity of ESPRIT. However, Unitary ESPRIT forces the phase factors of the complex exponentials to be on the unit circle and hence cannot be applied to a damped harmonic retrieval problem [5].

1-D Unitary ESPRIT can be, therefore, used for estimating the normalized frequencies in an undamped harmonic retrieval problem and for estimating the spatial frequencies or DOAs in a 1-D DOA estimation problem. A disadvantage of conventional SS is that its performance in conjunction with subspace-based parameter estimation algorithms depends on the number of chosen subarrays.

In conventional spatial smoothing, the data corresponding to the artificially generated new channels (or snapshots) are stacked into the measurement matrix thereby forming a new matrix with an increased number of columns. Instead of doing this, packing spatially smoothed multichannel data into a multway tensor reveals structure imposed by the spatial smoothing. The construction of a matrix-based subspace estimate from this highly structured measurement tensor using a higher-order singular value decomposition (HOSVD) based low rank approximation has been reported in [7]. However, this technique does not fully exploit the structure of the measurement tensor. In this paper, we propose a tensor-based subspace estimate that includes the core tensor and exploits the multidimensional invariance property exhibited by the measurement tensor. This tensor-based subspace estimate is thus an improved estimate of the signal subspace, thereby leading to an improved estimate of the normalized frequencies and the damping factors when tensor-based spatial smoothing (TB-SS) is used in conjunction with subspace-based parameter estimation techniques. In this paper, we use ESPRIT-type algorithms for estimating the normalized frequencies and the damping factors. However, this idea can be extended to other subspace-based parameter estimation schemes, such as, Matrix-Pencil, MUSIC, RARE [8].
Important applications of the tensor-based methods include the estimation of the model parameters for the multidimensional harmonic model [9]. Multidimensional damped and undamped harmonic models have been studied in [10] and [11]. A tensor-based method for parameter estimation in the case of the damped and delayed sinusoidal model has been reported in [12]. Subspace based algorithms have been applied to nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) data fitting problems also in [13]. We show that the structure of the data model we work with corresponds to a 2-D harmonic model with identical parameters along the two dimensions. In other words, we use a tensor-based method for solving a 1-D problem when more than one measurement snapshot is available. Note that a solution for the 1-D undamped harmonic retrieval problem with a single snapshot has been reported in [14].

We present the data model and the conventional SS in Sections II and III, respectively. We explain how and why to pack the noisy data in a tensor in Section IV. The existing matrix-based techniques are described in Section V. The proposed TB-SS for damped and undamped harmonic retrieval problems are explained in Sections VI and VII, respectively. Derivations for Cramér-Rao bounds (CRBs) are given in Section VIII. The simulation results are presented in Section IX. The paper concludes with Section X.

Notation

Scalars are denoted by italic letters (a, b), column vectors by lower-case bold-face letters (\( \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b} \)), matrices by upper-case bold-face letters (\( \mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B} \)) and tensors by calligraphic bold-face letters (\( \mathbf{\mathcal{A}}, \mathbf{\mathcal{B}} \)). The \( i \)-th element of the vector \( \mathbf{a} \) is denoted by [\( \mathbf{a} \)]\(_{i} \), the \( (i,j) \)-th element of the matrix \( \mathbf{A} \) by [\( \mathbf{A} \)]\(_{i,j} \) and the \( j \)-th column of the matrix \( \mathbf{A} \) by [\( \mathbf{A} \)]\(_{.,j} \). Let \((\cdot)^{H}, (\cdot)^{T}, (\cdot)^{*}, E\{\cdot\}\) correspond to the Hermitian transpose, the transpose, the conjugate, the expectation, and the modulus operator, respectively. The Kronecker product and the Khatri-Rao product (column-wise Kronecker product) of two matrices \( \mathbf{A} \) and \( \mathbf{B} \) are denoted as \( \mathbf{A} \otimes \mathbf{B} \) and \( \mathbf{A} \odot \mathbf{B} \), respectively. The notation used for Hadamard-Schur (elementwise) product is \( \odot \). The tensor operations we use are consistent with [15].

An \( n \)-mode vector of an \( (I_{1} \times I_{2} \times \cdots \times I_{N}) \)-dimensional tensor \( \mathbf{\mathcal{A}} \) is an \( I_{n} \)-dimensional vector obtained from \( \mathbf{\mathcal{A}} \) by varying the index \( i_{n} \) and keeping the other indices fixed.

The scalar product of two tensors \( \mathbf{\mathcal{A}}, \mathbf{\mathcal{B}} \in \mathbb{C}^{I_{1} \times I_{2} \times \cdots \times I_{N}} \) is denoted by \( \langle \mathbf{\mathcal{A}}, \mathbf{\mathcal{B}} \rangle \) and computed by summing the element-wise product of \( \mathbf{\mathcal{A}} \) and \( \mathbf{\mathcal{B}}^{\dagger} \) over all the indices, i.e.,

\[
\mathbf{c} = \langle \mathbf{\mathcal{A}}, \mathbf{\mathcal{B}} \rangle = \sum_{i_{1}=1}^{I_{1}} \sum_{i_{2}=1}^{I_{2}} \cdots \sum_{i_{N}=1}^{I_{N}} b_{i_{1},i_{2},\ldots,i_{N}}^{*} a_{i_{1},i_{2},\ldots,i_{N}}.
\]

The \( n \)-mode product of a tensor \( \mathbf{\mathcal{A}} \in \mathbb{C}^{I_{1} \times I_{2} \times \cdots \times I_{N}} \) and a matrix \( \mathbf{U} \in \mathbb{C}^{I_{n} \times I_{n}} \) along the \( n \)-th mode is denoted as

\[
\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{\mathcal{A}} \times_{n} \mathbf{U} \in \mathbb{C}^{I_{1} \times I_{2} \times \cdots \times I_{n-1} \times I_{n+1} \times \cdots \times I_{N}},
\]

where the ordering of the entries along the \( n \)-th dimension is denoted by \( I_{n} \). The nuclear norm of an \( n \)-mode tensor \( \mathbf{\mathcal{A}} \) is denoted by \( \| \mathbf{\mathcal{A}} \|_{n} \).

An identity tensor \( \mathbf{I}_{N} \) is given by \( \mathbf{I}_{N} = \mathbf{I}_{I_{1}} \otimes \mathbf{I}_{I_{2}} \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathbf{I}_{I_{N}} \), where \( \mathbf{I}_{I_{i}} \) is the identity \( I_{i} \times I_{i} \)-real matrix.

The concatenation of two tensors \( \mathbf{A} \) and \( \mathbf{B} \) along the \( n \)-th mode is denoted by \( \mathbf{A} \|_{n} \mathbf{B} \).

The higher-order SVD (HOSVD) of a tensor \( \mathbf{\mathcal{A}} \in \mathbb{C}^{I_{1} \times I_{2} \times \cdots \times I_{N}} \) is given by

\[
\mathbf{\mathcal{A}} = \mathbf{C} \times_{1} \mathbf{U}_{1} \times_{2} \cdots \times_{N} \mathbf{U}_{N},
\]

where \( \mathbf{C} \in \mathbb{C}^{I_{1} \times I_{2} \times \cdots \times I_{N}} \) is the core tensor that satisfies the all-orthogonality conditions [15] and \( \mathbf{U}_{n} \in \mathbb{C}^{I_{N} \times I_{n}}, \ n = 1, 2, \ldots, N \) are the unitary matrices of the \( n \)-mode singular vectors.

An identity tensor \( \mathbf{I}_{Nd} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d \times \cdots \times d} \) consists of elements \( i_{1}, i_{2}, \ldots, i_{N} \) that satisfy

\[
i_{1} = i_{2} = \cdots = i_{N} = 1 \text{ for } i_{1} = i_{2} = \cdots = i_{N} = 0 \text{ otherwise.}
\]

Moreover, we denote \( \mathbf{\Pi}_{d} \) as a \( p \times p \) exchange matrix with ones on its antidiagonal and zeros elsewhere. We call \( \mathbf{Q} \in \mathbb{C}^{p \times q} \) a left-\( \mathbf{\Pi} \)-real matrix if it satisfies \( \mathbf{\Pi}_{d} \mathbf{Q}^{T} = \mathbf{Q} \). The unitary matrix

\[
\mathbf{Q}_{2n+1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix}
\mathbf{I}_{n} & 0 & 0 \\
0 & \sqrt{2} & 0 \\
\mathbf{\Pi}_{d} & 0 & -\mathbf{I}_{n}
\end{bmatrix}
\]

is left-\( \mathbf{\Pi} \)-real of odd order. A unitary left-\( \mathbf{\Pi} \)-real matrix of size \( 2n \times 2n \) is obtained from \( \mathbf{Q}_{2n+1} \) by dropping its center row and center column.

A. Tensor Properties

Some of the tensor properties that we use in this paper are given below. For \( n = 1, 2, \ldots, N \), see (1) at the bottom of the page, and

\[
\langle \mathbf{I}_{n} \rangle_{(n)} \cdot (\mathbf{\mathcal{A}} \otimes \mathbf{B}^{T}) = (\mathbf{\mathcal{A}}^{T} \odot \mathbf{B})^{T}
\]  

(2)

B. Terminology

The 1-D undamped harmonic retrieval problem and the 1-D DOA estimation problem that uses data from the output of a uniform linear array (ULA) of sensors have an identical data model. In Table I, we have listed a few variables that we use in this paper and their significance in the context of a harmonic
retrieval problem and a DOA estimation problem with a ULA [5].

II. DATA MODEL

Assume a one-dimensional data sequence of \( d \) weighted and damped exponentials or harmonics in additive noise. The observation in the \( n \)th channel has the form

\[
x_i(n) = \sum_{k=1}^{d} s_k(n) e^{i\mu_k + \eta_k} + w_i(n)
\]

for \( i = 0, 1, 2, \ldots, (M - 1) \), \( n = 1, 2, \ldots, N \). The normalized frequency \( \mu_k \) is \( 2\pi f_k T \) \( (-\pi, \pi) \), where \( f_k \) is the frequency of the \( k \)th exponential, \( \eta_k \) is the damping factor of the \( k \)th exponential, \( T \) is the sampling interval, and \( s_k(n) \) is the complex amplitude of the \( k \)th exponential in the \( n \)th channel. The number of measurements or samples per channel is denoted by \( M \), and \( N \) is the total number of channels. The \( M \) measurements from a channel are arranged in a vector and \( N \) such vectors form a matrix \( \mathbf{X} \) as follows,

\[
\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{S} + \mathbf{W} \quad \in \mathbb{C}^{M \times N}
\]

(4)

The entries of the noise matrix, \( \mathbf{W} \), are assumed to be i.i.d., zero mean circularly symmetric Gaussian distributed with variance \( \sigma^2 \). The matrix \( \mathbf{S} \in \mathbb{C}^{d \times N} \) denotes the complex signal matrix due to the \( d \) complex exponentials and the \( N \) channels. The Vandermonde matrix \( \mathbf{A} \) is given by

\[
\mathbf{A} = \left[ \begin{array}{c}
o \cdot \mathbf{1} \\
o \cdot \mathbf{1} \mathbf{1} \\
o \cdot \mathbf{1} \mathbf{1} \mathbf{1} \\
\end{array} \right]
\]

where

\[
o^T = [1, 1, 1, \ldots, 1]
\]

and

\[
\Phi = \text{diag}([e^{i\mu_1 + \eta_1}, e^{i\mu_2 + \eta_2}, \ldots, e^{i\mu_d + \eta_d}])
\]

(5)

Our aim is to estimate the normalized frequencies \( \mu_k \) and the damping factors \( \eta_k \) for \( k = 1, 2, \ldots, d \).

III. SPATIAL SMOOTHING

The array of \( M \) samples (or sensors) is divided into \( L \) subarrays, each having \( M_{\text{sub}} = M - L + 1 \) samples (or sensors) to obtain a spatially smoothed matrix \( \mathbf{X}_{\text{ss}} \) from the measurement matrix \( \mathbf{X} \) in (4) as depicted in Fig. 1. To this end we define the selection matrix of the \( l \)th subarray as

\[
\mathbf{J}^{(M)}_l = \left[ \mathbf{0}_{M_{\text{sub}} \times (L-1)} \quad \mathbf{I}_{M_{\text{sub}}} \quad \mathbf{0}_{M_{\text{sub}} \times (L-l)} \right], \quad 1 \leq l \leq L
\]

(6)

Fig. 1. Subarray choices for spatial smoothing. Subarray \( l \) corresponds to the selection matrix \( \mathbf{J}^{(M)}_l, 1 \leq l \leq L \).

Fig. 2. Forming a three-way tensor \( \mathbf{X} \) from \( L \) submatrices.

such that

\[
\mathbf{X}_{\text{ss}} = \left[ \begin{array}{c}
\mathbf{J}^{(M)}_1 \cdot \mathbf{X} \\
\mathbf{J}^{(M)}_2 \cdot \mathbf{X} \\
\vdots \\
\mathbf{J}^{(M)}_L \cdot \mathbf{X}
\end{array} \right] \in \mathbb{C}^{M_{\text{sub}} \times NL}
\]

\[
= \left[ \begin{array}{c}
\mathbf{J}^{(M)}_1 \cdot \mathbf{A} \mathbf{S} \\
\mathbf{J}^{(M)}_2 \cdot \mathbf{A} \mathbf{S} \\
\vdots \\
\mathbf{J}^{(M)}_L \cdot \mathbf{A} \mathbf{S}
\end{array} \right] + \left[ \begin{array}{c}
\mathbf{J}^{(M)}_1 \cdot \mathbf{W} \\
\mathbf{J}^{(M)}_2 \cdot \mathbf{W} \\
\vdots \\
\mathbf{J}^{(M)}_L \cdot \mathbf{W}
\end{array} \right]
\]

\[
= \mathbf{A}_s \cdot [\mathbf{S}, \Phi \mathbf{S}, \ldots, \Phi^{L-1} \mathbf{S}] + \mathbf{W}_s
\]

(7)

where the Vandermonde matrix corresponding to the first subarray \( \mathbf{A}_s \) is given by

\[
\mathbf{A}_s = [\mathbf{I}_{M_{\text{sub}}}, \mathbf{0}_{M_{\text{sub}} \times (M-M_{\text{sub}})}] \in \mathbb{C}^{M_{\text{sub}} \times d}
\]

(8)

We require that \( M_{\text{sub}} \geq d \) and \( NL \geq d \) in order to estimate the \( d \) normalized frequencies and the \( d \) damping factors from \( \mathbf{X}_{\text{ss}} \). Each of the columns of the noise matrix \( \mathbf{W}_s \) is white with \( E\{\mathbf{W}_{sk} \mathbf{W}_{sk}^H\} = \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}_{M_{\text{sub}}} \) and \( E\{\mathbf{W}_{sk} \mathbf{W}_{sk}^H\} = \mathbf{0}_{M_{\text{sub}} \times M_{\text{sub}}} \) for \( k = 1, 2, \ldots, NL \), but the columns of \( \mathbf{W}_s \) are mutually correlated. Therefore, all the \( d \) spatial frequencies and the \( d \) damping factors can be estimated by applying ESPRIT-type algorithms to \( \mathbf{X}_{\text{ss}} \). Note that the effective number of samples per channel (or array aperture) reduces from \( M \) to \( M_{\text{sub}} \), and the number of effective channels (or snapshots) increases from \( N \) to \( NL \) due to spatial smoothing.

IV. PACKING MEASUREMENT SAMPLES INTO A TENSOR

In Section III, the spatially smoothed matrix \( \mathbf{X}_{\text{ss}} \) is formed by concatenating \( L \) submatrices where the \( l \)th submatrix is denoted by \( \mathbf{J}^{(M)}_{l} \cdot \mathbf{X} \). Alternatively, these \( L \) submatrices can be placed along the second dimension of a tensor, as shown in Fig. 2, to form a three-way tensor \( \mathbf{X} \) given by

\[
\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{T} \mathbf{A}_s \mathbf{2} \mathbf{B}_s \mathbf{3} \mathbf{S}^T + \mathbf{W} \quad \in \mathbb{C}^{M_{\text{sub}} \times L \times N}
\]

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in which \( I_{d \times d} \) is the identity tensor, \( A_s \in \mathbb{C}^{M_{sub} \times d} \) is defined in (8), \( B_s \in \mathbb{C}^{L \times d} \) contains the first \( L \) rows of the matrix \( A_s \), \( S^T \in \mathbb{C}^{N \times d} \), and \( \Phi \) is the noise component. In the absence of noise, the one-mode unfolding, the two-mode unfolding and the three-mode unfolding of the tensor \( \mathbf{X} \) are given by

\[
\mathbf{X}^T = V_1 \times_1 U_1 \times_2 U_2 \times_3 U_3
\]

where \( \mathbf{C} = \mathbb{C}^{M_{sub} \times L \times N} \) is the core tensor, \( U_1 = \mathbb{C}^{C \times M_{sub}} \) are the left singular vectors of \( \mathbf{X} \), \( U_2 = \mathbb{C}^{C \times L} \) are the left singular vectors of \( \mathbf{X} \), and \( U_3 = \mathbb{C}^{N \times N} \) are the left singular vectors of \( \mathbf{X} \).

In the absence of noise, \( \mathbf{X} \) can be expressed in terms of an “economy size” HOSVD in the following way:

\[
\mathbf{X} = C_{[s]} \times_1 U_{[s]}^1 \times_2 U_{[s]}^2 \times_3 U_{[s]}^3
\]

where \( C_{[s]} \in \mathbb{C}^{\min(d,M_{sub}) \times \min(d,L) \times \min(d,N)} \), \( U_{[s]}^1 \in \mathbb{C}^{\min(d,M_{sub}) \times \min(d,L) \times \min(d,N)} \), \( U_{[s]}^2 \in \mathbb{C}^{\min(d,L) \times \min(d,N)} \), and \( U_{[s]}^3 \in \mathbb{C}^{N \times \min(d,N)} \) are the left singular vectors of \( \mathbf{X} \), \( \mathbf{U} \) are the left singular vectors of \( \mathbf{X} \), and \( \mathbf{U}_{[s]}^3 \) are the left singular vectors of \( \mathbf{X} \).

If two subarrays of maximum overlap are selected, then

\[
\begin{align*}
J_1^{(1)} &= [I_{M_{sub} \times 1} \ 0_{(M_{sub} \times 1) \times 1}] \\
J_2^{(1)} &= [0_{(M_{sub} \times 1) \times 1} \ I_{M_{sub} \times 1}] \\
J_1^{(2)} &= [I_{L \times 1} \ 0_{(L \times 1) \times 1}] \\
J_2^{(2)} &= [0_{(L \times 1) \times 1} \ I_{L \times 1}]
\end{align*}
\]

\( A_s \) and \( B_s \) in (16) can be replaced by \( U_{[s]}^1 \) and \( U_{[s]}^2 \), respectively, as shown

\[
\begin{align*}
J_1^{(1)}U_{[s]}^1 &\Psi_1 = J_2^{(1)}U_{[s]}^1 \\
J_1^{(2)}U_{[s]}^2 &\Psi_2 = J_2^{(2)}U_{[s]}^2 \\
\end{align*}
\]

where \( \Psi_1 = T_1 \Phi T_1^{-1} \) and \( \Psi_2 = T_2 \Phi T_2^{-1} \). The above two overdetermined equations hold only approximately in the presence of noise. These equations can be solved for \( \Psi_1 \) and \( \Psi_2 \), respectively, using least squares (LS), total least squares (TLS), respectively, or structured least squares (SLS) [17]. The TLS solution of (18) is given by

\[
\Psi_1 = -W_{12}W_{21}^{-1}
\]

where \( W = \begin{bmatrix} W_{11} & W_{12} \\ W_{21} & W_{22} \end{bmatrix} \) contains the right singular vectors of the matrix \( J_1^{(1)}U_{[s]}^1 \) and \( J_2^{(1)}U_{[s]}^1 \) in \( \mathbb{C}^{(M_{sub} \times 1) \times 2d} \). The normalized frequencies and the damping factors are determined from \( \Psi_1 \) in the following way:

\[
\begin{align*}
\eta_k &\in \ln(|\lambda_k|) \\
\mu_k &\in \arg(\lambda_k) \quad \text{for} \quad k = 1, 2, \ldots, d
\end{align*}
\]

where \( \lambda_k \) is the \( k \)th eigenvalue of the matrix \( \Psi_1 \). The authors of [7] apply the HOOI algorithm to find a solution of \( \Psi_{[s]} \) from the tensor \( \mathbf{X} \) and determine the normalized frequencies \( \mu_1, \mu_2, \ldots, \mu_d \) by solving (18) using TLS.

C. 2-D Standard ESPRIT

We can apply 2-D standard ESPRIT to the matrix \( [\mathbf{X}]_{(3)}^{T} \). The difference to a standard 2-D harmonic retrieval problem is that here the parameters along the two dimensions are the same. We therefore start by applying a SVD to the matrix \( [\mathbf{X}]_{(3)} \) and solve for the unknown parameters as explained below. The SVD of the matrix \( [\mathbf{X}]_{(3)} \) is given by

\[
[\mathbf{X}]_{(3)} = V_3 \Sigma_3 V_3^{H}.
\]

We can solve for \( \Phi \) from the spatially smoothed matrix \( \mathbf{X}_{ss} \) using 1-D standard ESPRIT [4].

B. Method Proposed in [7]

Observe that both \( A_s \) and \( B_s \) satisfy the shift invariance property and we can write

\[
J_1^{(1)}A_s \Phi = J_2^{(1)}A_s
\]

An “economy-size” SVD of the matrix \( [\mathbf{X}]_{(3)}^{T} \) will be

\[
[\mathbf{X}]_{(3)}^{T} = V_3^{[s]} \Sigma_3^{[s]} U_3^{[s]}
\]

where \( V_3^{[s]} \in \mathbb{C}^{M_{sub} \times L \times \min(d,M_{sub} \times L)} \) spans the subspace spanned by \( C_s = (A_s \circ B_s) \). For some nonsingular matrix \( T_3 \in \mathbb{C}^{d \times d} \), \( C_s = V_3^{[s]}T_3 \). The complex-valued matrices \( \Sigma_3^{[s]} \) and \( U_3^{[s]} \) are of size \( \min(d,M_{sub} \times L) \times \min(d,N) \) and

\[
J_1^{(2)}B_s \Phi = J_2^{(2)}B_s.
\]
\( \min(d, N) \times N \), respectively. The matrix \( \Phi \) satisfies the following equations:

\[
\begin{align*}
(J_1^{(1)} \otimes I_L)C_s\Phi &= (J_2^{(2)} \otimes I_L)C_s \\
(I_{M_{sab}} \otimes J_1^{(1)})C_s\Phi &= (I_{M_{sab}} \otimes J_2^{(2)})C_s,
\end{align*}
\]

(24)

As in the standard ESPRIT algorithm, we solve for \( \Psi_b \) using one of the following equations:

\[
\begin{align*}
(J_1^{(1)} \otimes I_L)V_3^{[s]}\Psi_b &= (J_1^{(1)} \otimes I_L)V_3^{[s]} \\
(I_{M_{sab}} \otimes J_1^{(1)})V_3^{[s]}\Psi_b &= (I_{M_{sab}} \otimes J_2^{(2)})V_3^{[s]},
\end{align*}
\]

(25)

(26)

where \( \Psi_b = T_3\Phi T_3^{-1} \). We propose to solve (25) if \( M_{sab} \geq L \) or solve (26) if \( M_{sab} < L \).

VI. PROPOSED TENSOR-BASED APPROACH FOR DAMPED HARMONIC RETRIEVAL PROBLEM

The measurement tensor \( \mathbf{X} \) from (10) can be written as

\[
\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{A} \times_3 \mathbf{S}^T + \mathbf{W}
\]

(27)

where \( \mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{C}^{M_{sab} \times L \times d} \) is a tensor that exhibits shift-invariances in its first mode and in its second mode in the absence of noise. Writing the invariance (16) in tensor notation yields

\[
\begin{align*}
\mathbf{A} \times_1 J_1^{(1)} \Phi &= \mathbf{A} \times_1 J_2^{(2)} \\
\mathbf{A} \times_2 J_2^{(2)} \Phi &= \mathbf{A} \times_2 J_2^{(2)}
\end{align*}
\]

(28)

where \( J_i^{(i)} \) is the \( i \)th real matrix in the \( i \)th mode and is given by (17). Here, \( r = 1 \) corresponds to the first mode and \( r = 2 \) corresponds to the second mode.

We exploit the shift invariance of \( \mathbf{A} \) in two of its three modes. To this end we define a tensor \( \mathbf{U}^{[s]} \) in the following way [9]:

\[
\mathbf{U}^{[s]} = \mathbf{C}^{[s]} \times_1 \mathbf{U}_1^{[s]} \times_2 \mathbf{U}_2^{[s]} \in \mathbb{C}^{M_{sab} \times L \times d}.
\]

(29)

In the absence of noise and for \( N \geq d \) or with an infinite number of channels, \( \mathbf{N} \), (snapshots in the context of DOA estimation problem) the vector space spanned by the one-mode vectors and the two-mode vectors of \( \mathbf{A} \) and \( \mathbf{U}^{[s]} \) are equal. Therefore there exists a nonsingular complex matrix \( \mathbf{T} \in \mathbb{C}^{d \times d} \) for \( N \geq d \), such that

\[
\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{U}^{[s]} \times_3 \mathbf{T}.
\]

(30)

The unknown tensor \( \mathbf{A} \) is eliminated from (28) by applying (30) to get

\[
\begin{align*}
\mathbf{U}^{[s]} \times_1 J_1^{(1)} \Psi &= \mathbf{U}^{[s]} \times_1 J_1^{(1)} \\
\mathbf{U}^{[s]} \times_2 J_2^{(2)} \Psi &= \mathbf{U}^{[s]} \times_2 J_2^{(2)}
\end{align*}
\]

(31)

(32)

where \( \Psi = \mathbf{T}^{-1} \Phi \). With a finite number of components and in the presence of noise, (31) and (32) hold only approximately. These equations can be solved using LS [9], TLS or tensor-structure structured least-squares (TS-SLS) [18]. There is no restriction on \( M_{sab} \) and \( L \) except that they cannot both be less than \( (d+1) \). In the presence of noise, \( \mathbf{C}^{[s]} \), \( \mathbf{U}_1^{[s]} \), and \( \mathbf{U}_2^{[s]} \) are obtained from the noise corrupted measurement tensor \( \mathbf{X} \) via any HOSVD-based rank-(\( \min(d, M_{sab}) \), \( \min(d, L) \)) approximation of \( \mathbf{X} \).

Taking the third unfolding of the tensors on both sides of the (31), we get

\[
\begin{align*}
(J_1^{(1)} \otimes I_L) \cdot \mathbf{U}^{[s]} &\mathbf{T} = (J_2^{(1)} \otimes I_L) \cdot \mathbf{U}^{[s]} \\
(L - 1)M_{sab} &\mathbf{U}^{[s]} \mathbf{T}_3^{[s]}.
\end{align*}
\]

(33)

It is evident after comparing (25) with the above equation that the matrix \( \mathbf{U}^{[s]} \mathbf{T}_3^{[s]} \) replaces the matrix \( \mathbf{V}_3^{[s]} \), where \( \mathbf{U}^{[s]} \mathbf{T}_3^{[s]} \) is given by

\[
\begin{align*}
\mathbf{U}^{[s]} \mathbf{T}_3^{[s]} &= (U_1^{[s]} \otimes U_2^{[s]} \mathbf{C}^{[s]} \mathbf{U}_1^{[s]} \\
&= (U_1^{[s]} \otimes U_2^{[s]} \cdot U_D \Sigma_3^{[s]}
\end{align*}
\]

(34)

and the matrix \( U_D \in \mathbb{C}^{d \times d} \) has orthonormal columns. The matrix \( U_D \) is a normalized version of the third unfolding of the truncated core tensor \( \mathbf{C}^{[s]} \). The matrix \( \Sigma_3^{[s]} \) is a diagonal matrix, where the diagonal entries are the \( d \) singular values of the matrix \( \mathbf{X}^{[s]} \). Note that the diagonal entries of \( \Sigma_3^{[s]} \) are the norms of the column vectors of \( \mathbf{V}_3^{[s]} \).

In the HOSVD-based low-rank approximation, the truncation is done in all three modes separately while in the SVD-based low rank approximation truncation is only performed in the last mode. This removes more noise power and, hence, enhances the subspace. In the same way, in the HOOI-based low-rank approximation, low-rank approximations of all the three unfoldings of the three-way tensor are computed iteratively thereby leading to noise power reduction.

The authors in [19] have derived a relation between the HOSVD-based subspace estimate and the SVD-based subspace estimate. They have shown that in the presence of noise

\[
\mathbf{U}^{[s]} \mathbf{T}_3^{[s]} = (\mathbf{Z}_1 \otimes \mathbf{Z}_2 \mathbf{V}_3^{[s]}.
\]

(35)

The matrix-based subspace estimate \( \mathbf{V}_3^{[s]} \) gets premultiplied by a Kronecker product of \( \mathbf{Z}_1 \) and \( \mathbf{Z}_2 \), which are the projection matrices onto the subspaces spanned by the one-mode and the two-mode vectors of \( \mathbf{U}^{[s]} \). Therefore, the matrix-based subspace estimate is “projected into the Kronecker structure,” which does reduce the error since it enforces more of the structure the true subspace features.

The above facts lead to a significant improvement in the estimation of the normalized frequencies, \( \mu_k \) and the damping factors, \( \eta_k \) for \( k = 1, 2, \ldots, d \), using \( \mathbf{U}^{[s]} \) as it is evident from the simulation results. We measure the closeness of the estimated signal subspace to the true signal subspace in terms of largest principal angle (LPA).

There are two reasons why TB-SS in conjunction with ESPRIT type algorithms provides a lower root mean square error in the estimated parameters than 1-D ESPRIT and the method proposed in [7]. The first reason is that the tensor-based estimated signal subspace is better than the SVD-based subspace estimate obtained in 1-D ESPRIT. The second reason is that in TB-SS we solve \((M_{sab} - 1)L \) or \((L - 1)M_{sab}\) equations, depending on the values of \( M_{sab} \) and \( L \) to estimate \( d \) parameters, while in 1-D ESPRIT and in the method proposed in [7] we solve \((M_{sab} - 1)\) equations to estimate \( d \) parameters.

Both the (18) and (19) contain information about \( \Phi \). In equivalent tensor notation, both (31) and (32) contain information about \( \Phi \). We can therefore, estimate \( \Phi \) either by solving (31)

\[
\begin{align*}
(J_1^{(1)} \otimes I_L) \cdot \mathbf{U}^{[s]} &\mathbf{T} = (J_2^{(1)} \otimes I_L) \cdot \mathbf{U}^{[s]} \\
(L - 1)M_{sab} &\mathbf{U}^{[s]} \mathbf{T}_3^{[s]}.
\end{align*}
\]

(33)
or (32) or both. However combining (31) and (32) leads to averaging thereby giving a performance in between the performances given by (31) and (32). Equation(31) has \((M_{\text{sub}} - 1)L\) equations and \(d\) unknowns while (32) has \((L - 1)M_{\text{sub}}\) equations and \(d\) unknowns. We therefore solve (31) if \(M_{\text{sub}} \geq L\) or (32) if \(M_{\text{sub}} < L\). We propose an a priori rule to decide which of the two (31) and (32) should be used to estimate the parameters and why. Simulations are not needed to figure out whether to use (31) or (32) in a specific scenario. The above method of estimating the normalized frequencies and the damping factors using the shift-invariance property of the highly structured tensor \(\mathbf{A}\) is called standard Tensor-ESPRIT [9].

The LS solution of (31) or (32) is given by [9]

\[
\mathbf{X}^{T} = \left( \mathbf{\Sigma}^{(1)} \cdot \mathbf{U}^{[s]} [T_{(3)}]^{T} \right)^{+} \cdot \mathbf{\Sigma}^{(r)} \cdot \mathbf{U}^{[s]} [T_{(3)}] \in \mathbb{C}^{d \times d}
\]

\[
\mathbf{\Sigma}^{(1)} = \mathbf{J}^{(1)}_{1} \otimes I_{L}, \quad \mathbf{\Sigma}^{(r)} = \mathbf{J}^{(2)}_{r} \otimes I_{L}, \quad \mathbf{\Sigma}^{(2)} = \mathbf{I}_{M_{\text{sub}}} \otimes \mathbf{J}^{(2)}_{2}, \quad \text{for} \ r = 1,
\]

\[
\mathbf{\Sigma}^{(2)} = \mathbf{I}_{M_{\text{sub}}} \otimes \mathbf{J}^{(2)}_{2}, \quad \text{for} \ r = 2.
\]

Here, \(r = 1\) corresponds to (31) and \(r = 2\) corresponds to (32).

The TS-SLS algorithm for (31) or (32) starts with the LS solution of (31) or (32) and then the solution is improved by an iterative procedure [18]. The number of iterations required is typically one to three.

We use the tensor-based subspace estimate \(\mathbf{U}^{[s]}\) that contains the core tensor \(\mathbf{C}^{[s]}\) to estimate the unknown parameters, i.e., the normalized frequencies and the damping factors. Therefore the spatial smoothing and the subspace estimation technique proposed in this paper is a tensor-based approach.

VII. PROPOSED TENSOR-BASED APPROACH FOR UNDAMPED HARMONIC RETRIEVAL PROBLEM

Forward-backward (F-B) averaging can be applied to the spatially smoothed measurement matrix \(\mathbf{X}_{\text{ss}}\) and the measurement tensor \(\mathbf{X}\) for the undamped harmonic retrieval case, i.e., when \(\eta_{k} = 0\) for \(k = 1, 2, \ldots, d\). In the context of DOA estimation problem, F-B averaging can be applied to \(\mathbf{X}_{\text{ss}}\) provided the sensor array is centro-symmetric.

The forward-backward averaged and the spatially smoothed measurement matrix \(\mathbf{X}_{\text{ss}}^{[\text{fb}a]}\) is given by

\[
\mathbf{X}_{\text{ss}}^{[\text{fb}a]} = \mathbf{X}_{\text{ss}}^{T} \mathbf{M}_{\text{sub}} \mathbf{X}_{\text{ss}}^{*} \mathbf{I}_{NL} \in \mathbb{C}^{M_{\text{sub}} \times 2NL}.
\]

The forward-backward averaged measurement tensor \(\mathbf{X}^{[\text{fb}a]}\) is given by [9]

\[
\mathbf{X}^{[\text{fb}a]} = \left[ \mathbf{X}_{\text{ss}}^{T} \mathbf{M}_{\text{sub}} \mathbf{X}_{\text{ss}}^{*} \mathbf{I}_{NL} \right] \in \mathbb{C}^{M_{\text{sub}} \times L \times 2N}.
\]

The effective number of data samples doubles due to forward-backward averaging. For the undamped harmonic retrieval problem, we proceed with the matrix \(\mathbf{X}_{\text{ss}}^{[\text{fb}a]}\) or the tensor \(\mathbf{X}^{[\text{fb}a]}\) as described in Section VI to estimate the \(d\) normalized frequencies (\(d\) spatial frequencies in case of DOA estimation problem). Alternatively, Unitary ESPRIT can be applied to \(\mathbf{X}_{\text{ss}}\) and Unitary Tensor-ESPRIT [9] can be applied to \(\mathbf{X}\). The Unitary Tensor-ESPRIT (Unitary ESPRIT) algorithm incorporates forward-backward averaging. Therefore the performance of Unitary Tensor-ESPRIT applied to \(\mathbf{X}\) (Unitary ESPRIT applied to \(\mathbf{X}_{\text{ss}}\)) is similar to the performance of standard Tensor-ESPRIT applied to \(\mathbf{X}_{\text{ss}}^{[\text{fb}a]}\) (standard ESPRIT applied to \(\mathbf{X}_{\text{ss}}^{[\text{fb}a]}\)). The advantage of Unitary Tensor-ESPRIT (Unitary ESPRIT) over standard Tensor-ESPRIT (standard ESPRIT) is that it performs all the computations in the real-valued domain thereby reducing the computational complexity of the algorithm significantly. We need to make sure that \(N/2 \geq d\) for the undamped harmonic retrieval problem.

A rank-(\(\min(d, M_{\text{sub}}), \min(d, L)), d\)) approximation of \(\mathcal{F}(\mathbf{X})\), as defined in [9], and denoted as \(\mathbf{Z}\), is determined using any HOSVD-based low-rank approximation technique. The tensor \(\mathbf{Z}\) is given by

\[
\mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{E}_{3}^{[s]} \times_{1} \mathbf{E}_{1}^{[s]} \times_{2} \mathbf{E}_{2}^{[s]} \times_{3} \mathbf{E}_{3}^{[s]} \in \mathbb{R}^{M_{\text{sub}} \times L \times 2N}.
\]

Similar to (29), a real-valued tensor-based subspace estimate \(\mathbf{E}^{[s]}\) is formed as follows:

\[
\mathbf{E}^{[s]} = \mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{2}}^{[s]} \times_{1} \mathbf{E}_{1}^{[s]} \times_{2} \mathbf{E}_{2}^{[s]} \times_{3} \mathbf{E}_{3}^{[s]} \in \mathbb{R}^{M_{\text{sub}} \times L \times d}.
\]

In the absence of noise, the real-valued shift invariance equations satisfied by the one-mode vectors and the two-mode vectors of \(\mathbf{E}^{[s]}\) are

\[
\mathbf{E}^{[s]} \times_{1} \mathbf{K}^{(1)}_{1} \times_{3} \mathbf{T} = \mathbf{E}^{[s]} \times_{1} \mathbf{K}^{(2)}_{1}, \quad \mathbf{E}^{[s]} \times_{2} \mathbf{K}^{(1)}_{2} \times_{3} \mathbf{T} = \mathbf{E}^{[s]} \times_{2} \mathbf{K}^{(2)}_{2}.
\]

The matrices \(\mathbf{\Omega} = [\text{diag} \{\tan(\eta_{k}/2)\}]_{k=1}^{d}\) and \(\mathbf{T}\) are related through a similarity transformation. We suggest in this paper to solve (41) if \(M_{\text{sub}} \geq L\) or (42) if \(M_{\text{sub}} < L\) for estimating the normalized (or spatial) frequencies \(\eta_{1}, \eta_{2}, \ldots, \eta_{d}\). The detail of the algorithm is omitted here due to lack of space. The LS solutions of (41) and (42) are given in [9]. The TS-SLS solution is explained in [18].

Table II shows the restrictions on the values of the parameters \(M_{\text{sub}}, L\) and \(N\) for the existing approaches and the tensor-based approach TB-SS presented in this paper. Table III displays the computational complexity of the algorithms.

VIII. CRB

For the damped harmonic retrieval case, we define \(\mathbf{D} = [\mathbf{a}_{1}\mathbf{a}_{1}/\partial \mu_{1}, \mathbf{a}_{2}/\partial \mu_{2}, \ldots, \mathbf{a}_{d}/\partial \mu_{d}, \mathbf{a}_{1}/\partial \eta_{1}, \ldots, \mathbf{a}_{d}/\partial \eta_{d}]\) where \(\mathbf{a}_{k}\) is the \(k\text{th}\) column of \(\mathbf{A}\). We also define \(\mathbf{R}_{\text{es}} = [\mathbf{R}_{1}, \mathbf{R}_{2}]\). It is shown in the Appendix that the stochastic CRB is given by

\[
\text{CRB}(\beta) = \frac{\sigma^{2}}{2N} \text{Re} \left\{ (\mathbf{D}^{H} \mathbf{P}_{\text{A}} \mathbf{D}) \circ (\mathbf{R}_{\text{es}} \mathbf{A}^{H} \mathbf{R}_{\text{es}}^{-1} \mathbf{R}_{\text{es}} \mathbf{R}_{\text{es}}^{-1} \mathbf{R}_{\text{es}}^{T})^{-1} \right\}.
\]
and the matrices. The quality of estimation obtained via the HOOI algorithm is better, as evident from expressions for the stochastic CRB can be found in [20].

<p>| TABLE III |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No. of SVDs</th>
<th>Size of overdetermined set of equations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-D ESPRIT</td>
<td>((M_{sub} - 1) \times d)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Method of [7]</td>
<td>((M_{sub} - 1) \times d)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-D ESPRIT</td>
<td>((M_{sub} - 1) \times d)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TB-SS</td>
<td>((M_{sub} - 1) \times d)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IX. SIMULATION RESULTS

We use standard Tensor-ESPRIT (or standard ESPRIT) to estimate the normalized frequencies and the damping factors in the damped harmonic retrieval problem and use Unitary Tensor-ESPRIT (or Unitary ESPRIT) for estimating the normalized (or spatial) frequencies in the undamped harmonic retrieval problem. For damped harmonic retrieval problem, the estimates of the tensor \(\mathbf{C}^s\) and the matrices \(\mathbf{U}_1^s, \mathbf{U}_2^s\) can be obtained from the measurement tensor \(\mathbf{X}\) using: a) the HOOI algorithm or b) the truncated HOSVD. For undamped harmonic retrieval problem, the estimates of \(\mathbf{C}^Z, \mathbf{E}_1^s, \mathbf{E}_2^s\) can be obtained from \(\mathbf{\varphi}(\mathbf{X})\) via a) the HOOI algorithm or b) the truncated HOSVD. In this paper, six approaches have been compared in terms of the root mean square error (RMSE). The RMSEs are defined as

\[
\text{RMSE}(\mu) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{R} \sum_{i=1}^{R} \sum_{k=1}^{d} \left( \hat{\mu}_k^{(i)} - \bar{\mu}_k^{(i)} \right)^2}
\]

\[
\text{RMSE}(\eta) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{R} \sum_{i=1}^{R} \sum_{k=1}^{d} \left( \hat{\eta}_k^{(i)} - \bar{\eta}_k^{(i)} \right)^2}
\]

where \(\hat{\mu}_k, \hat{\eta}_k\) are the \(k\)th estimated normalized frequency and the \(k\)th estimated damping factor, respectively, and \(R\) is the number of runs. The first approach is without spatial smoothing (SS), i.e., estimating the unknown parameters from the matrix \(\mathbf{X}\) using standard ESPRIT with TLS. In the second approach the parameters are estimated from the spatially smoothed matrix \(\mathbf{X}_{ss}\) using 1-D standard ESPRIT with TLS. The third approach is the approach from [7] where the measurement samples are packed into the measurement tensor \(\mathbf{X}\) and the parameters are estimated from the unitary matrix of the one-mode singular vectors, i.e., \(\mathbf{U}_1^s\), using standard ESPRIT with TLS. The fourth one is estimating the parameters by applying 2-D standard ESPRIT to the matrix \([\mathbf{X}]_3\). The fifth and the sixth approaches are the TB-SS approaches. The fifth one is TB-SS with standard Tensor-ESPRIT and LS approach in which the enhanced tensor-based subspace estimate \(\mathbf{U}^s\) is formed from the measurement tensor \(\mathbf{X}\) and standard Tensor-ESPRIT is used to solve the invariance (31) or (32) via LS. The sixth and the last one is TB-SS with standard Tensor-ESPRIT and TS-SLS which is same as the fifth approach except that the TS-SLS algorithm is used instead of LS to solve the invariance (31) or (32). While applying the TS-SLS, we set the maximum number of iterations to 3. Assume that \(\mathbf{R}\) is the residual tensor, i.e., the difference between the left-hand side and the right-hand side of the (26) or (27). The TS-SLS iteration stops either when the number of iterations reaches the maximum limit or when the higher-order norm of \(\mathbf{R}\) does not change between iterations by more than \(10^{-10}\). The signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) is defined as

\[
\text{SNR} = \frac{\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{s}_k(\omega)]^2}{\sigma^2}.
\]

We modeled the source signals as a zero mean circularly symmetric complex Gaussian random process. We therefore plot the unconditional or stochastic CRBs, CRB(\(\mu\)) and CRB(\(\eta\)) in all the figures. The stochastic CRB can be achieved only for an infinite number of observations \(N\) [21], whereas we always consider a small number of observations. That is why the accuracy of TB-SS is far from CRB even though it is much better than the algorithms available in the literature.

A. Damped Harmonics

RMSEs in the normalized frequency and the damping factor are plotted for a damped harmonic retrieval problem with \(M = 15, M_{sub} = 8, L = 8, N = 8, \text{ and } \text{SNR} = 15 \text{ dB}\) in Fig. 3(a) and (b), respectively. The number of exponentials \(d\) is varied from 3 to 6. The separation between the exponentials in terms of the normalized frequency, i.e., \(\Delta \mu\), is 0.5 and in terms of the damping factor, i.e., \(\Delta \eta\), is 0.05. RMSE for SS with 1-D ESPRIT and TLS is the worst among the five scenarios. It is evident that the approach from [7] is better than the SS with 1-D ESPRIT and TLS approach for all values of \(d\). This improvement is due to a better estimate of the subspace spanned by the matrix \(\mathbf{A}_s\) obtained via the HOOI algorithm than that obtained via singular value decomposition (SVD) of the matrix \(\mathbf{X}_{ss}\). The tensor-based approaches, namely TB-SS with Tensor-ESPRIT and LS and TB-SS with Tensor-ESPRIT and TS-SLS provide a significantly better performance than the matrix-based approaches, namely 1-D ESPRIT and 2-D ESPRIT and the method from [7], at all values of \(d\). The HOOI algorithm is used to estimate the tensor-based signal subspace estimate \(\mathbf{U}^s\). The two tensor-based approaches provide an almost same performance at \(d = 3\). As \(d\) increases, the improvement of TB-SS with Tensor-ESPRIT and TS-SLS over TB-SS with Tensor-ESPRIT and LS increases. This improvement is due to the fact that the TS-SLS algorithm provides a better estimate of the matrix \(\mathbf{B}\) than that provided by the LS algorithm.

Fig. 3(c) and (d) show the RMSEs in the normalized frequency and the damping factor versus the number of exponentials \(d\) when 1) the HOOI algorithm is used to estimate the tensor-based signal subspace estimate \(\mathbf{U}^s\) and 2) the truncated HOSVD is used to estimate the tensor \(\mathbf{U}^s\). The quality of estimate obtained via the HOOI algorithm is better, as evident from Fig. 3(c) and (d), though the improvement is very small. Also note that the improvement in RMSE by using TS-SLS instead of LS is significant, more so when the number of exponentials \(d\) is large.
Fig. 3. (a) RMSE in $\mu$ for $M = 15$, $M_{\text{sub}} = 8$, $L = 8$, $N = 8$, SNR = 15 dB, $\Delta \mu = 0.5$, damped harmonics using HOOI. (b) RMSE in $\eta$ for $M = 15$, $M_{\text{sub}} = 8$, $L = 8$, $N = 8$, SNR = 15 dB, $\Delta \eta = 0.05$, damped harmonics using HOOI. (c) Comparison between RMSE in $\mu$ for $M = 15$, $M_{\text{sub}} = 8$, $L = 8$, $N = 8$, SNR = 15 dB, $\Delta \mu = 0.5$, damped harmonics using HOOI and truncated HOSVD. The tensor-based approach perform significantly better than all other approaches.

Fig. 3(e) is the plot of largest principal angle (LPA) versus the number of exponentials, $d$. The two curves correspond to the LPA between the matrix $C_s$ and the signal subspace estimate obtained in 2-D standard ESPRIT $V_3^{[a]}$, and the LPA between the matrix $C_s$ and the signal subspace estimate obtained in TB-SS $[U_3^{[a]}]^T$. The parameters used in the simulation are $M = 15$, $M_{\text{sub}} = 8$, $N = 8$, SNR = 20 dB, $\Delta \mu = 0.5$, $\Delta \eta = 0.05$. The number of exponentials $d$ is varied from 2 to 6.

Due to the lack of space, in the rest of this section, we present only those simulation results where the HOOI algorithm is used to estimate the tensor-based signal subspace estimate $U_3^{[a]}$. As already mentioned, the degradation in the RMSE by using the truncated HOSVD instead of the HOOI algorithm to estimate the tensor $U_3^{[a]}$ is very small. However, the computational complexity of the truncated HOSVD is significantly lower and therefore it is preferred over the HOOI algorithm in scenarios requiring a low computational complexity.

Fig. 4(a) and (b) depicts the RMSEs in the normalized frequency and the damping factor versus the number of channels $N$ for $M = 15$, $M_{\text{sub}} = 8$, $L = 8$, and SNR = 20 dB. There are five complex exponentials with normalized frequencies and damping factors given in Table IV. As expected, TB-SS with standard Tensor-ESPRIT and TS-SLS results in the lowest RMSE at all values of $N$. The approach from [7] is better than SS with standard ESPRIT and TLS approach at all values of $N$. This is because the estimate of $U_3^{[a]}$ obtained from $\mathbf{X}$ via the HOOI algorithm in [7] is better than the estimate of $U_3^{[a]}$ obtained by applying SVD on the matrix $X_{\text{ss}}$. The tensor-based approaches perform significantly better than all other approaches.
of exponentials $d$. This behavior indicates that the standard spatial smoothing does not lead to an improvement in the estimation of the unknown parameters when the number of channels or independent observations is high. Spatial smoothing reduces the effective number of samples per channel and that is why the performance without spatial smoothing becomes better than the performance of SS with standard ESPRIT and TLS for large $N$. However, the tensor-based approaches, proposed in this paper, are better than not applying spatial smoothing at all values of $N$.

Fig. 4(c) is the plot of largest principal angle (LPA) versus the number of channels, $N$. The HOSVD algorithm is used to estimate the tensor $\mathbf{U}^{[d]}$. The parameters used in the simulation are $M = 15$, $M_{\text{sub}} = 8$, $d = 8$, $\text{SNR} = 20$ dB, $\Delta \mu = 0.5$, $\Delta \eta = 0.05$. The number of channels $d$ is varied from 5 to 100. The signal subspace estimate obtained in tensor-based methods is always a better estimate of the true signal subspace compared to that obtained in 2-D standard ESPRIT.

Fig. 5(a) and (b) shows the RMSEs in the normalized frequency and the damping factor when the number of subarrays, $L$, is varied keeping the number of samples per channel, $M$, the same. The SS with 1-D ESPRIT and TLS approach estimates the unknown parameters from a noisy matrix $\mathbf{X}_{\text{ss}}$ of size $M_{\text{sub}} \times N L$, the SS with 2-D ESPRIT and LS approach works with a matrix of size $M_{\text{sub}} L \times N$, while the tensor-based approaches estimate the unknown parameters from a noisy tensor $\mathbf{X}$ of size $M_{\text{sub}} \times L \times N$. The simulation is performed for $d = 6$ exponentials, $N = 7$ channels, $M = 16$ samples per channel and 30 dB SNR. The unknown parameters are given in Table V. TB-SS with Tensor-ESPRIT and TS-SLS results in the smallest RMSE at all values of $L$. Moreover, this approach does not depend on the value of $L$ (or $M_{\text{sub}}$) provided $M_{\text{sub}} \geq (d + 1)$ (or $L \geq (d + 1)$). The SS with standard ESPRIT and TLS approach and the approach from [7] depend heavily on the value of $L$.

Fig. 6(a) and (b) is the RMSE in the normalized frequency versus SNR and the RMSE in the damping factor versus the SNR plot when data from $N = 6$ different channels with each having $M = 17$ samples is used to estimate the parameters of $d = 5$ damped exponentials. The normalized frequencies and the damping factors of the $5$ exponentials are given in Table IV. The number of subarrays, $L$, is 9. The matrix $\mathbf{X}_{\text{ss}}$ is of size $9 \times 54$, the matrix $[\mathbf{X}_{\text{ss}}^{[d]}]$ is of size $81 \times 6$, and the tensor $\mathbf{X}$ is of size $9 \times 9 \times 6$. TB-SS with Tensor-ESPRIT and TS-SLS results in the least RMSE among the five scenarios at all values of SNR.

Fig. 7(a) and (b) shows the RMSEs in the normalized frequency and the damping factor versus the separation between normalized frequencies, i.e., $\Delta \mu$ of the $d$ exponentials, respectively. The unknown parameters corresponding to $\Delta \mu = 0.3$ are given in Table VI. The other parameters used in simulation are

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exponential</th>
<th>Normalized Frequency</th>
<th>Damping Factor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>-0.8</td>
<td>-0.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>-0.3</td>
<td>-0.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>-0.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>-0.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>-0.21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

at all values of $N$, more so when the number of channels $N$ is small. 2-D ESPRIT applied to the matrix $[\mathbf{Y}]_{(3)}$ gives a performance similar to tensor-based approaches at large values of $N$. The approach without SS and standard ESPRIT and TLS is worst among the six scenarios when the number of channels $N$ is same as the number of exponentials $d$. It is interesting to note that this approach is better than SS with standard ESPRIT and TLS as well as the approach from [7] at $N \geq 7$, i.e., when the number of channels $N$ is significantly higher than the number
$M = 17$, $d = 5$, $N = 7$, $M_{\text{sub}} = 9$, and SNR = 20 dB. The simulation result shows that TB-SS with Tensor-ESPRIT and TS-SLS gives the best performance among the six scenarios at small values of $\Delta \mu$. Thus the ability of TB-SS with Tensor-ESPRIT and TS-SLS to resolve closely spaced exponentials is significantly better than the other four techniques. Note that the SS with 1-D ESPRIT and TLS approach and the approach from [7] are the best among the five scenarios when $\Delta \mu = 0.7, 0.8$, i.e., when the $d$ exponentials have normalized frequencies that are wide apart.

Fig. 5(a) and (b) shows the RMSEs in the normalized frequency and the damping factor versus the separation between damping factors, i.e., $\Delta \eta$ of the $d$ exponentials, respectively. Simulations are performed for $d = 5$ exponentials, $N = 7$ channels, $M = 15$ samples per channel and at 20 dB SNR. The number of subarrays $L$ is chosen to be 8. The normalized frequencies and the damping factors of the five exponentials when $\Delta \eta = -0.01$ and $\Delta \eta = -0.13$ are given in Tables VII and VIII, respectively. The normalized frequencies of the five exponentials are kept the same at all values of $\Delta \eta$. The RMSE increases with an increase in the absolute values of the damping factors, i.e., with the decrease in magnitudes of the exponentials. It is evident from the plots that TB-SS with Tensor-ESPRIT and TS-SLS gives the best performance among all the six scenarios at all values of $\Delta \eta$. The improved performance shown by TB-SS with Tensor-ESPRIT and TS-SLS approach is due to the following three factors: 1) a better estimate of the signal subspace provided by $\hat{U}[5]$ over $\hat{V}_3[5]$, 2) a further improvement in $U[5]$ provided by the TS-SLS algorithm leading to a better estimate of $\hat{\Psi}$ over the LS algorithm; and 3) a larger number of equations to be solved for the same number of unknowns $d$.

### TABLE V

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exponential</th>
<th>Normalized Frequency</th>
<th>Damping Factor</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
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<td>-0.01</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>-0.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>-0.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>-0.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>-0.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>-0.26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Tensor-ESPRIT is used to estimate the normalized frequencies from the measurement tensor $X$ with the restriction $N/2 \geq d$ and assuming one of the following two conditions to be true: (i) $M_{\text{sub}} \geq (d+1)$, (ii) $L \geq (d+1)$. Results obtained by applying Unitary ESPRIT to the measurement matrix $X$ are also presented here.

Fig. 9 shows the RMSE in the normalized frequency vs. the number of exponentials plot at an SNR of 20 dB using data from channels with each channel having $M = 13$ samples. The length of the subarray, $M_{\text{sub}}$, is chosen to be 7. The effective number of channels gets doubled to 6 as a result of applying Unitary ESPRIT or Unitary Tensor-ESPRIT. The SS with Unitary ESPRIT and LS, the SS with Unitary Tensor-ESPRIT and TLS as well as TB-SS with Unitary ESPRIT and TLS estimate the normalized frequencies from a real-valued matrix-based subspace estimate of dimensions $7 \times d$ while TB-SS with Unitary Tensor-ESPRIT and LS approach as well as TB-SS with Unitary Tensor-ESPRIT and TS-SLS approach estimate the normalized frequencies from a real-valued tensor-based subspace estimate of dimensions $7 \times 7 \times d$ using the HOOI algorithm. The normalized frequencies to be estimated are given in Table IX. SS with Unitary ESPRIT and LS provides a performance similar to that obtained by SS with Unitary ESPRIT and TLS in spite of the fact that TLS is computationally more expensive than LS. The tensor-based approaches exhibit a superior performance than the

**TABLE VI**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exponential</th>
<th>Normalized Frequency</th>
<th>Damping Factor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>-0.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>-0.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>-0.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>-0.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>-0.21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Fig. 7.** (a) RMSE in $\mu$ for $M = 17$, $N = 7$, $d = 5$, $M_{\text{sub}} = 9$, $L = 9$, SNR = 20 dB, $\Delta \eta = 0.05$, damped harmonics using HOOI. (b) RMSE in $\eta$ for $M = 17$, $N = 7$, $d = 5$, $M_{\text{sub}} = 9$, $L = 9$, SNR = 20 dB, $\Delta \mu = 0.05$, damped harmonics using HOOI.

**TABLE VII**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Normalized Frequency, $\mu$</th>
<th>Damping Factor, $\eta$</th>
<th>Magnitude, $e^{\eta}$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-1.05</td>
<td>-0.01</td>
<td>0.9900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-0.55</td>
<td>-0.02</td>
<td>0.9802</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-0.05</td>
<td>-0.03</td>
<td>0.9704</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.45</td>
<td>-0.04</td>
<td>0.9608</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.95</td>
<td>-0.05</td>
<td>0.9512</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Fig. 8.** (a) RMSE in $\mu$ for $M = 15$, $N = 7$, $d = 5$, $M_{\text{sub}} = 8$, $L = 8$, SNR = 20 dB, $\Delta \mu = 0.5$, damped harmonics using HOOI. (b) RMSE in $\eta$ for $M = 15$, $N = 7$, $d = 5$, $M_{\text{sub}} = 8$, $L = 8$, SNR = 20 dB, $\Delta \mu = 0.5$, damped harmonics using HOOI.
matrix-based approaches at all values of $d$. The reason for the superior performance is the better estimate of the signal subspace provided by the tensor $\mathbf{E}^{[d]}$ in the presence of noise.

Fig. 10(a) is the RMSE in the normalized frequency vs. the number of subarrays where 1) the truncated HOSVD algorithm leading to a significant improvement in the RMSE. In addition, the tensor-based approaches give RMSEs that stay almost the same at different values of $L$. RMSEs obtained in the matrix-based approaches, i.e., SS with Unitary ESPRIT and TLS approach and TB-SS with Unitary ESPRIT and TLS approach increase by a factor of more than 10 as $L$ increases from 2 to 8 (or $M_{\text{nth}}$ decreases from 14 to 8).

Fig. 10(b) depicts the RMSE in the normalized frequency versus the number of subarrays where 1) the truncated HOSVD and 2) the HOOI algorithm are used to estimate the signal subspace from the tensor $\varphi(X)$. Here, the RMSE obtained by using the HOOI algorithm is same as the RMSE obtained by using the truncated HOSVD algorithm.

TABLE VIII
PARAMETERS USED IN FIG. 8(A) AND (B) FOR $\Delta \eta = -0.13$

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Normalized Frequency, $\mu$</th>
<th>Damping Factor, $\eta$</th>
<th>Magnitude, $e^{\eta}$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-1.05</td>
<td>-0.01</td>
<td>0.9900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-0.55</td>
<td>-0.14</td>
<td>0.8694</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-0.05</td>
<td>-0.27</td>
<td>0.7634</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.45</td>
<td>-0.40</td>
<td>0.6703</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.95</td>
<td>-0.53</td>
<td>0.5886</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fig. 9. RMSE for $M = 13$, $N = 3$, $M_{\text{nth}} = 7$, $L = 7$, SNR = 20 dB, $\Delta \mu = 0.5$, undamped harmonics using HOOI.

TABLE IX
PARAMETERS OF UNDAMPED EXPONENTIALS USED IN FIG. 9

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No. of Exponential $d$</th>
<th>Normalized Frequencies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>-0.5, 0, 0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>-1, -0.5, 0, 0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>-1, -0.5, 0, 0.5, 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>-1.5, -1, -0.5, 0.5, 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fig. 10. (a) RMSE for $M = 15$, $d = 7$, SNR = 15 dB, $N = 4$, $\Delta \mu = 0.4$, undamped harmonics using HOOI. (b) Comparison between RMSE for $M = 15$, $d = 7$, SNR = 15 dB, $N = 4$, $\Delta \mu = 0.4$, undamped harmonics using HOOI and truncated HOSVD.
existing subspace estimates reported in literature in conjunction
with ESPRIT-type algorithms in all investigated scenarios. The
advantage of the tensor-based approaches over the existing
approaches is more significant when (a) the number of channels
$N$ is nearly equal to the number of exponentials $d$, and (b) the
exponentials are closely spaced in terms of their normalized
frequencies. In addition, the proposed tensor-based approach is
insensitive to changes in the number of samples per subarray,
$M_{\text{sub}}$, provided that the number of subarrays, $L$, is greater
than the number of exponentials $d$. TB-SS is also insensitive to
changes in $L$ provided that $M_{\text{sub}} \geq (d+1)$. TB-SS is
applicable when the number of channels is at least equal to the
number of harmonics in damped harmonic retrieval problems
and at least equal to half the number of harmonics in cases of
undamped harmonic retrieval problems. Among the two
tensor-based approaches, namely TB-SS with Tensor-ESPRIT
(Unitary Tensor-ESPRIT) and LS, and TB-SS with Tensor-ESPRIT
(Unitary Tensor-ESPRIT) and TS-SLS, the second one
provides a better performance in terms of the RMSE, particu-
larly in critical scenarios. This improvement is due to the
superior performance of the TS-SLS algorithm over the LS
algorithm. However the computational complexity of TS-SLS
is significantly higher than the LS algorithm. Therefore, the
computational complexity can be reduced by using TB-SS
with Tensor-ESPRIT and LS. The computational complexity
can be further reduced by replacing the HOOI algorithm with
the truncated HOSVD to find a low-rank approximation of the
measurement tensor $\mathbf{X}$. The degradation in the RMSE
performance due to the use of the truncated HOSVD is insignifi-
cantly small. The 1-D TB-SS presented here can be extended to the
$R$-dimensional ($R$-D) estimation of damped and undamped
harmonics and $R$-D direction-of-arrival estimation.

APPENDIX

Let $\mathbf{a}_k$ and $\mathbf{c}_k$ denote the $k$th column of the matrix $\mathbf{A}$ and the
matrix $\mathbf{R}_s$, respectively.

$$\mathbf{A} = [\mathbf{a}_1, \ldots, \mathbf{a}_d], \quad \mathbf{R}_s = [\mathbf{c}_1, \ldots, \mathbf{c}_l].$$

Following are the definitions of some parameters used here: see
(44) at the top of the page.

$$\mathbf{R}_e = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{R}_s \mathbf{A}^H + \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}_M,$$

$$\mathbf{P}_A = (\mathbf{I}_M - \mathbf{A} (\mathbf{A}^H \mathbf{A})^{-1} \mathbf{A}^H), \quad \mathbf{R}_0 = \mathbf{I}_d.$$

For $k = 1, 2, \ldots, d$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_e}{\partial [\mathbf{A}^H \mathbf{b}]_k} = \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{a}_k}{\partial [\mathbf{b}]_k} \right)^H \mathbf{c}_k + \mathbf{A} \mathbf{c}_k \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{a}_k}{\partial [\mathbf{b}]_k} \right)^H.$$  (45)

For $k = d+1, d+2, \ldots, 2d$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_e}{\partial [\mathbf{b}]_k} = \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{a}_k}{\partial [\mathbf{b}]_k} \right)^H \mathbf{c}_k + \mathbf{A} \mathbf{c}_k \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{a}_k}{\partial [\mathbf{b}]_k} \right)^H.$$  (46)

We define $r = \text{mod}(k-1, d) + 1$. Then, for $k = 1, 2, \ldots, 2d$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_e}{\partial [\mathbf{b}]_k} = \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{a}_r}{\partial [\mathbf{b}]_k} \right)^H \mathbf{c}_r + \mathbf{A} \mathbf{c}_r \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{a}_r}{\partial [\mathbf{b}]_k} \right)^H.$$  (47)

Following the derivation given in [20], we get for $p = 1, 2, \ldots, 2d$

$$\left[ \text{CRB}^{-1}(\mathbf{b}) \right]_{l;k} = \frac{2}{\sigma^2} \cdot \Re \left( \left( \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{a}_l}{\partial [\mathbf{b}]_k} \right)^H \mathbf{P}_A \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{a}_r}{\partial [\mathbf{b}]_k} \right) \right) \cdot \left( \mathbf{c}_r^H \mathbf{A}^H \mathbf{R}_e^{-1} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{c}_r \right) \right)$$  (48)

where $t = \text{mod}(p-1, d) + 1$. With the matrices $\mathbf{R}_s$ and $\mathbf{D}$
defined in Section VIII

$$\left[ \text{CRB}^{-1}(\mathbf{b}) \right]_{p;k} = \frac{2}{\sigma^2} \cdot \Re \left( \left[ \mathbf{D}^H \mathbf{P}_A \mathbf{D} \right]_{p;k} \cdot \left[ \mathbf{R}_s^H \mathbf{A}^H \mathbf{R}_e^{-1} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{R}_s \right]_{k;p} \right).$$  (49)

Equation (43) follows immediately from (49).

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