

# Numerical Treatment of Tensors and New Discretisation Paradigms

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# Overview

## DDM

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- Numerical Tensor Calculus
- Tensor Operations

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## Tensorisation

# 1 DDM

## Reasons for Domain Decomposition

- subdomains correspond to a simpler pde (constant coefficients / coefficients of similar size / same pde)
- problems in subdomains easy to solve
- storage distribution

Here:

Assume an elliptic boundary value problem in  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  with locally very smooth (analytic) solutions. Point and edge singularities may occur.

Divide  $\Omega$  into subdomains  $\Omega_\nu$  such that the pde on  $\Omega_\nu$  allows a discretisation by a physically **uniform grid**; i.e., the grid has nodal points

$$(x_i, y_j, z_k) \in \Omega_\nu \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq n_1, 1 \leq j \leq n_2, 1 \leq k \leq n_3$$

(there are transformations  $T_\nu$  of a parallelepiped  $Q_\nu = [a_1, b_1] \times [a_2, b_2] \times [a_3, b_3]$  onto  $\Omega_\nu$  and  $(x_i, y_j, z_k) = T_\nu(\mathbf{x}_0 + (ih_x, jh_y, kh_z))$ ).

Then one can hope to solve the subproblems with a cost (storage+time) related to

$$\sum_{j=1}^3 \log n_j = \log(n_1 n_2 n_3).$$

- Better *cost vs. accuracy ratio* than for spectral / p / hp methods.
- Almost no overhead. Black-box approach.
- No standard adaptive approach.
- Direct computations.

Coupling formulation, e.g., by DG:

$$\begin{aligned} a_{DG}(u, v) &:= \sum_i \int_{\Omega_i} \langle \nabla u, \nabla v \rangle \, dx \\ &\quad - \sum_i \int_{\partial\Omega_i} \left\{ \frac{\partial u}{\partial n_i} \right\} [v] - \left\{ \frac{\partial v}{\partial n_i} \right\} [u] \, ds \\ &\quad + \eta \sum_i |\partial\Omega_i|^{-1} \int_{\partial\Omega_i} [u] [v] \, ds. \end{aligned}$$

(example for  $\Delta$ ).

This allows an

- inexact solution of the subdomain problems
- inexact evaluation of the boundary data.

The accuracy is less determined by the step size (since it can be rather fine), but by the truncation to certain **tensor ranks**; i.e., the tensor rank is a more relevant parameter than the step size.

There is a direct control of the truncation error by the ranks (via SVD).

## 2 Tensors - Introduction

### 2.1 Tensors and Tensor Spaces

Given *vector spaces*  $V_j$  for  $j = 1, \dots, d$  (of any dimension), the **algebraic tensor space**

$$\mathbf{V} := V_1 \otimes V_2 \otimes \dots \otimes V_d$$

is well-defined. Particular examples of  $V_j$  :

function spaces:	$V_j = L^2(\Omega_j),$
grid functions:	$V_j = \mathbb{R}^{n_j},$
operators:	$V_j = \mathcal{L}(H_0^1(\Omega_j), H^{-1}(\Omega_j)),$ e.g., $\Delta \in \mathbf{V},$
matrices:	$V_j = \mathbb{R}^{n_j \times m_j}.$

Any element of a tensor space is called **tensor**.

**Topological tensor space:**  $V_j$  and  $\mathbf{V}$  equipped with certain norms;  
 $\mathbf{V}$  completed w.r.t. to its norm yields a Banach (or Hilbert) space.

## 2.2 Numerical Tensor Calculus

### 1) Representation - Storage:

Original data size of general tensors in  $\bigotimes_{j=1}^d \mathbb{R}^{n_j}$  is  $\prod_{j=1}^d n_j (= n^d)$ .

Try to represent tensors of interest by data of **acceptable size** .

Note that the grid functions ('**vectors**') as well as the system **matrices** are considered as tensors.

### 2) Operations:

Given representations of tensors and an operation (e.g., the matrix-vector multiplication), find the (approximate) representation of the result of the operation.

The standard requirement is that the **cost of the algorithm** is related to the data sizes of the tensors.

Of particular interest for the present problem, is the solution of linear systems.

## 2.3 Tensor Operations

*addition:*  $\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w}$ ,

*scalar product:*  $\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \rangle$

*matrix-vector multiplication:*  $\left( \bigotimes_{j=1}^d A^{(j)} \right) \left( \bigotimes_{j=1}^d v^{(j)} \right) = \bigotimes_{j=1}^d A^{(j)} v^{(j)},$

*Hadamard product:*  $(\mathbf{v} \odot \mathbf{w})[\mathbf{i}] = \mathbf{v}[\mathbf{i}]\mathbf{w}[\mathbf{i}]$ , pointwise product of functions

$$\left( \bigotimes_{j=1}^d v^{(j)} \right) \odot \left( \bigotimes_{j=1}^d w^{(j)} \right) = \bigotimes_{j=1}^d v^{(j)} \odot w^{(j)},$$

*convolution:*  $\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \in \bigotimes_{j=1}^d \mathbb{R}^n : \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{v} \star \mathbf{w}$  with  $u_{\mathbf{i}} = \sum_{0 \leq \mathbf{k} \leq \mathbf{i}} v_{\mathbf{i}-\mathbf{k}} w_{\mathbf{k}}$

$$\left( \bigotimes_{j=1}^d v^{(j)} \right) \star \left( \bigotimes_{j=1}^d w^{(j)} \right) = \bigotimes_{j=1}^d v^{(j)} \star w^{(j)}.$$



# 3 Tensor Representations

## 3.1 $r$ -Term Format (Canonical Format)

By definition, each algebraic tensor  $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{V} = V_1 \otimes V_2 \otimes \dots \otimes V_d$  has a representation

$$\mathbf{v} = \sum_{\rho=1}^r v_{\rho}^{(1)} \otimes v_{\rho}^{(2)} \otimes \dots \otimes v_{\rho}^{(d)} \quad \text{with } v_{\rho}^{(j)} \in V_j$$

and suitable  $r$ . Set

$$\mathcal{R}_r := \left\{ \sum_{\rho=1}^r v_{\rho}^{(1)} \otimes v_{\rho}^{(2)} \otimes \dots \otimes v_{\rho}^{(d)} : v_{\rho}^{(j)} \in V_j \right\}$$

**Storage:**  $rdn$  (for  $n = \max \dim V_j$ ).

If  $r$  is of moderate size, this format is advantageous.

Often, a tensor  $\mathbf{v}$  is replaced by an approximation  $\mathbf{v}_{\varepsilon} \in \mathcal{R}_r$  with  $r = r(\varepsilon)$ .

## Successful example of an r-term approximation

The discrete Laplace operator (any separable operator) is of the form

$$\mathbf{A} = T_1 \otimes I \otimes \dots \otimes I + \dots + I \otimes \dots \otimes I \otimes T_d.$$

**Solution of discrete Poisson problem:**  $\mathbf{A}^{-1} \approx \mathbf{B}_r$  with  $\mathbf{B}_r$  of the form

$$\mathbf{B}_r = \sum_{i=1}^r a_i \bigotimes_{j=1}^d \exp(-b_i T_j) \in \mathcal{R}_r,$$

where  $a_i, b_i > 0$  are explicitly known.

Helpful for preconditioning.

*Error estimate:*

$$\|\mathbf{B}_r - \mathbf{A}^{-1}\|_2 \leq O(\exp(-cr^{1/2})).$$

Easy to compute, even for  $T_j \in \mathbb{R}^{1000 \times 1000}$  and  $d = 1000$ ; i.e.,  $\mathbf{B}_r \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times M}$  with  $M = 1000^{1000}$ .

## 3.2 Matricisation and $\alpha$ -Ranks

$$V_j = \mathbb{R}^{n_j}, \mathbf{V} = \bigotimes_{j=1}^d \mathbb{R}^{n_j}, D := \{1, \dots, d\}.$$

Given a true subset  $\alpha \subset D$ , regroup the indices of  $\mathbf{v}[i_1, \dots, i_d]$  into the two tuples  $\mathbf{i}_\alpha := (i_j : j \in \alpha)$  and  $\mathbf{i}_{\alpha^c}$ , where  $\alpha^c := D \setminus \alpha$ .

*Matricisation:*

$$\mathbf{v} \mapsto M_\alpha := \mathcal{M}_\alpha(\mathbf{v}) \in \mathbb{R}^{n_\alpha \times n_{\alpha^c}}$$

with  $n_\beta := \prod_{j \in \beta} n_j$  defined by the entries

$$M_\alpha[\mathbf{i}_\alpha, \mathbf{i}_{\alpha^c}] := \mathbf{v}[i_1, \dots, i_d].$$

$\alpha$ -th rank:

$$\text{rank}_\alpha(\mathbf{v}) := \text{rank}(\mathcal{M}_\alpha(\mathbf{v})).$$

# 4 Hierarchical Format

## 4.1 Dimension Partition Tree

Example:  $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{V} = V_1 \otimes V_2 \otimes V_3 \otimes V_4$ . There are subspaces

$$\begin{aligned} U_1 \subset V_1, \quad U_2 \subset V_2, \quad U_3 \subset V_3, \quad U_4 \subset V_4, \\ U_{\{1,2\}} \subset V_1 \otimes V_2, \quad U_{\{3,4\}} \subset V_3 \otimes V_4 \end{aligned}$$

such that

$$\begin{array}{c} \mathbf{v} \in \text{span}\{\mathbf{v}\} \subset U_{\{1,2\}} \otimes U_{\{3,4\}} \subset \mathbf{V} \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ U_{\{1,2\}} \subset U_1 \otimes U_2 \quad U_{\{3,4\}} \subset U_3 \otimes U_4 \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \quad \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ U_1 \subset V_1 \quad U_2 \subset V_2 \quad U_3 \subset V_3 \quad U_4 \subset V_4 \end{array}$$

There are optimal subspaces  $U_\alpha := U_\alpha^{\min}(\mathbf{v})$  with  $\dim U_\alpha = \text{rank}_\alpha(\mathbf{v})$ .

*Dimension partition tree:*

Any binary tree  $T_D$  with root  $D := \{1, \dots, d\}$  and leaves  $\{1\}, \{2\}, \dots, \{d\}$ .

## 4.2 Algorithmic Realisation

Typical situation:  $U_{\{1,2\}} \subset U_1 \otimes U_2$  (nestedness property).

Bases:  $U_1 = \text{span}_{1 \leq i \leq r_1} \{b_i^{(1)}\}$ ,  $U_2 = \text{span}_{1 \leq j \leq r_2} \{b_j^{(2)}\}$ ,  $U_{\{1,2\}} = \text{span}_{1 \leq \ell \leq r_{\{1,2\}}} \{\mathbf{b}_\ell^{(\{1,2\})}\}$ .

$$\mathbf{b}_\ell^{(\{1,2\})} = \sum_{i=1}^{r_1} \sum_{j=1}^{r_2} c_{ij}^{(\{1,2\}, \ell)} b_i^{(1)} \otimes b_j^{(2)}$$

Basis vectors  $b_\nu^{(j)} \in V_j$  ( $1 \leq j \leq d$ ) are explicitly stored, for other nodes store the coefficient matrices

$$C^{(\alpha, \ell)} = \left( c_{ij}^{(\alpha, \ell)} \right)_{ij} \in \mathbb{K}^{r_{\alpha_1} \times r_{\alpha_2}}.$$

The tensor is represented by  $\mathbf{v} = c_1 \mathbf{b}_1^{(D)}$ .

$\mathbf{r} = (r_\alpha)_{\alpha \in T_D}$  tuple of ranks. Then

$$\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{r}} = \{\mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{V} : \text{rank}_\alpha(\mathbf{v}) \leq r_\alpha \text{ for all } \alpha \in T_D\} \quad (1)$$

## Properties of $\mathcal{H}_r$

1) *Storage*:  $r := \max_{\alpha} r_{\alpha}$ ;  $n := \max_j \dim(V_j)$ ,

$$(d-1)r^3 + drn$$

Linearity in  $d$ .

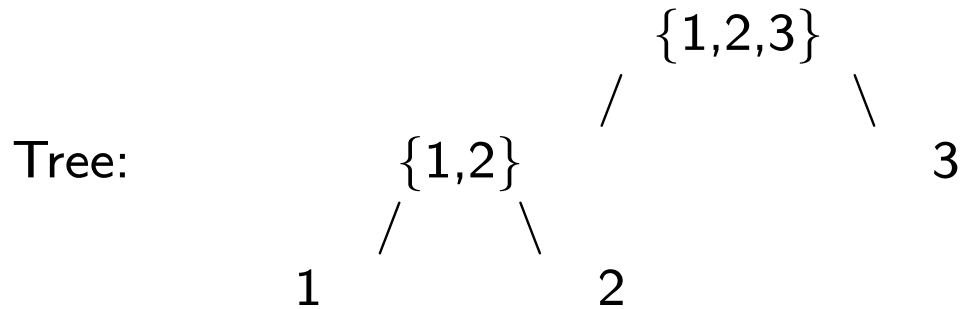
2) *Operations*: recursive algorithm, typical operation cost:

$$O(dr^4 + dnr^2)$$

Furthermore:

- HOSVD (higher-order singular value decomposition),
- quasi-optimal truncation,
- numerical stability

## Case of $d = 3$



**Trace of  $v(x, y, z)$  at  $z = z_0$ :**

1) evaluate the basis vectors  $\{b_j^{(3)} : 1 \leq j \leq r_3\}$  of  $U_3$  at  $z = z_0$ ;

$$2) \mathbf{v}|_{z=z_0} = c_1 \mathbf{b}_1^{(D)}|_{z=z_0} = c_1 \sum_{i=1}^{r_{\{1,2\}}} \left( \sum_{j=1}^{r_3} c_{ij}^{(D,1)} b_j^{(3)}|_{z=z_0} \right) b_i^{\{\{1,2\}\}} \in U_{\{1,2\}}.$$

Similar for traces at  $x = x_0$ ,  $y = y_0$  or for Neumann boundary values.

## 5 Solution of Linear Systems

Linear system

$$\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b},$$

where  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{b} \in \mathbf{V} = \bigotimes_{j=1}^d V_j$  and  $\mathbf{A} \in \bigotimes_{j=1}^d \mathcal{L}(V_j, V_j) \subset \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{V})$  are represented in one of the formats (e.g.,  $\mathbf{A}$ : r-term format,  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{b}$ : hierarchical format):

Standard linear iteration:

$$\mathbf{x}^{m+1} = \mathbf{x}^m - \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{Ax} - \mathbf{b}).$$

$\Rightarrow$  representation ranks blow up.

Therefore truncations  $T$  are used ('truncated iteration'):

$$\mathbf{x}^{m+1} = T(\mathbf{x}^m - \mathbf{B}(T(\mathbf{Ax} - \mathbf{b}))).$$

Cost per step:  $nd \times$  powers of the involved representation ranks.



$$\mathbf{x}^{m+1} = T(\mathbf{x}^m - \mathbf{B}(T(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b})))$$

Choice of  $\mathbf{B}$ :

If  $\mathbf{A}$  corresponds to an elliptic pde of order 2, choose a *separable, spectrally equivalent*  $\tilde{\mathbf{A}} \Rightarrow \mathbf{B} \approx \tilde{\mathbf{A}}^{-1}$  has a simple  $r$ -term format.

Obvious variants: cg-like methods

**Literature:**

Khoromskij 2009, Kressner-Tobler 2010, Kressner-Tobler 2011 (SIAM),  
Kressner-Tobler 2011 (CMAM), Osedelets-Tyrtysnikov-Zamarashkin 2011,  
Ballani-Grasedyck 2013, Savas-Eldén 2013

Remark: For  $d = 2$ , these linear systems may be written as matrix equations:

$$(A \otimes I + I \otimes A) \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad AX + XA = B \quad (\text{Lyapunov})$$

(cf. Benner-Breiten 2013).

## Variational Approach

Define

$$\Phi(\mathbf{x}) := \langle \mathbf{Ax}, \mathbf{x} \rangle - 2 \langle \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{x} \rangle$$

if  $\mathbf{A}$  is positive definite or

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(\mathbf{x}) &:= \|\mathbf{Ax} - \mathbf{b}\|^2 && \text{or} \\ \Phi(\mathbf{x}) &:= \|\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{Ax} - \mathbf{b})\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

and try to minimise  $\Phi(\mathbf{x})$  over all parameters of  $\mathbf{x}$  appearing in a fixed format.

*Literature:*

Espig-Hackbusch-Rohwedder-Schneider, Falcó-Nouy,  
Holtz-Rohwedder-Schneider, Mohlenkamp, Osedelets,...

So far:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{cost} &= O(\text{number of iterations} \cdot d \cdot [\text{rank}^4 + n \cdot \text{rank}^2]), \\ n &: \text{number of nodal points in } \textit{one} \text{ direction.} \end{aligned}$$

## 6 Tensorisation

$V_j = \mathbb{R}^n \Rightarrow$  storage:  $rdn + (d - 1)r^3$ . Now:  $n \rightarrow O(\log n)$

Let the vector  $y \in \mathbb{R}^n$  represent the grid values of a function in  $(0, 1]$ :

$$y_\mu = f\left(\frac{\mu + 1}{n}\right) \quad (0 \leq \mu \leq n - 1).$$

Choose, e.g.,  $n = 2^d$ , and note that  $\mathbb{R}^n \cong \mathbf{V} := \bigotimes_{j=1}^d \mathbb{R}^2$ .

Isomorphism by binary integer representation:

$\mu = \sum_{j=1}^d \mu_j 2^{j-1}$  with  $\mu_j \in \{0, 1\}$ , i.e.,

$$y_\mu = \mathbf{v}[\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_{d-1}, \mu_d].$$

### Algebraic Function Compression (black-box procedure)

- 1) Tensorisation:  $y \in \mathbb{R}^n \mapsto \mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{V}$  (storage size:  $n = 2^d$ )
- 2) Apply the *tensor truncation*:  $\mathbf{v} \mapsto \mathbf{v}_\varepsilon$
- 3) Observation: often the data size decreases from  $n = 2^d$  to  $O(d) = O(\log n)$ .

## EXAMPLE

$y \in \mathbb{C}^n$  with  $y_\mu = \zeta^\mu$  leads to an *elementary tensor*  $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{V}$ , i.e.,

$$\mathbf{v} = \bigotimes_{j=1}^d v^{(j)} \quad \text{with } v^{(j)} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \zeta^{2^{j-1}} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}^2.$$

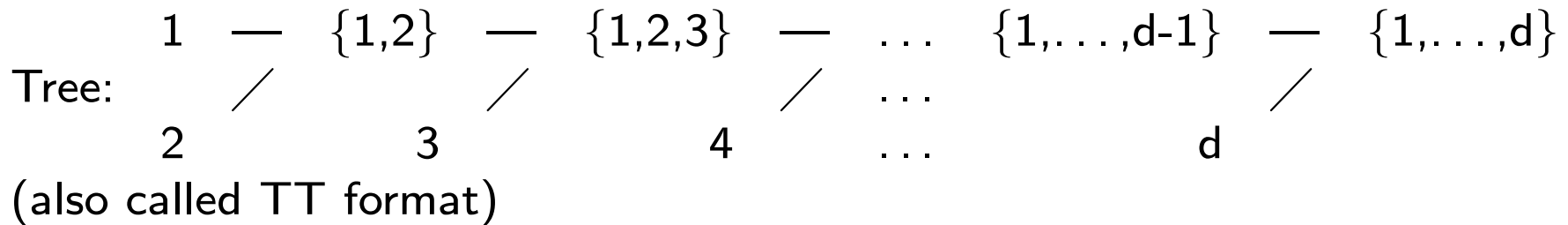
Storage size =  $2d = 2 \log_2 n$ .

### Consequence:

All functions  $f \in C((0, 1])$ , which can be well-approximated by  $r$  *trigonometric terms* or *exponential sums* with  $r$  terms (even with complex coefficients) can be approximated by a tensor representation with data size

$$2dr = O(r \log n).$$

## Hierarchical Format, Matricisation



Consider the tensorisation  $\mathbf{v} \in \bigotimes_{j=1}^d \mathbb{R}^2$  of the vector  $y = (y_0, \dots, y_{n-1}) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .  
 The matricisation for  $\alpha = \{1, \dots, j\}$  ( $1 \leq j \leq d-1$ ) yields

$$\mathcal{M}_\alpha(\mathbf{v}) = \begin{bmatrix} y_0 & y_m & \cdots & y_{n-m} \\ y_1 & y_{m+1} & \cdots & y_{n-m+1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ y_{m-1} & y_{2m-1} & \cdots & y_{n-1} \end{bmatrix} \text{ with } m := 2^j.$$

Recall:  $\text{rank}_\alpha(\mathbf{v}) = \dim \mathcal{M}_\alpha(\mathbf{v})$ .

# Polynomials

$f$  polynomial of degree  $p \Rightarrow \text{rank}_\alpha(\mathbf{v}) = \dim \mathcal{M}_\alpha(\mathbf{v}) \leq p + 1$ .

## hp method, i.e., piecewise polynomial

Singularity at  $x = 0$ , partition:

$$\left[0, \frac{1}{n}\right], \left[\frac{1}{n}, \frac{2}{n}\right], \left[\frac{2}{n}, \frac{4}{n}\right], \dots, \left[\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{2}\right], \left[\frac{1}{2}, 1\right].$$

Local polynomials of degree  $p \Rightarrow \text{rank}_\alpha(\mathbf{v}) = \dim \mathcal{M}_\alpha(\mathbf{v}) \leq p + 2$ .

**Conclusion:** If any hp approximation with a piecewise polynomial  $\mathbf{P}$  of degree  $\leq p$  exists, then the tensorised grid function  $\mathbf{f}$  can be approximated by a tensor  $\tilde{\mathbf{f}}$  such that the ranks are bounded by  $p + 2$  and

$$\|\mathbf{f} - \tilde{\mathbf{f}}\|_2 \leq \|\mathbf{f} - \mathbf{P}\|_2$$

The data size is bounded by

$$\leq 2d(p + 2)^2.$$

The computation of  $\tilde{\mathbf{f}}$  is completely black-box (e.g., no information about location of the singularity required).

# Treatment of Multivariate (Grid) Functions

So far, basis vectors

$$\{b_\nu^{(j)} : 1 \leq \nu \leq r_j\} \subset U_j$$

are required for all directions  $1 \leq j \leq d(= 3)$ .

Assume  $n_j = 2^{d_j}$  for the size of  $b_\nu^{(j)} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_j}$  and use the tensorised representation.

The data size may decrease from  $O([r^3 + n \cdot r])$  to  $O(r^3 + r \log n)$ .

The corresponding cost of operations is

$$O(r^4 + r^2 \log n).$$

This allows the use of very large  $n$ ; e.g.,  $n = 2^{30} = 1,073,741,824$ .

Consequence: **no adaptive discretisation.**

# Conclusions

Standard Paradigm:

- Work more or less proportional to the dimension of the ansatz space
- Given an accuracy requirement, minimise this dimension
- consequence: adaptive approaches, hp ansatz, big overhead

Instead for the case of Cartesian domain:

- Uniform discretisation with very fine step size
- Tensorisation leads to reduction to logarithmic work
- almost no overhead / no adaptivity
- basic operations: standard matrix operations, QR, SVD (size: rank)
- error control mainly by tensor truncations to suitable tensor ranks.

DDM: create subdomains which are images of Cartesian domains.



## **7 Literature**

W. Hackbusch: Tensor spaces and numerical tensor calculus. Springer Berlin, 2012