

**Tucker-tensor algorithm for large-scale Kohn-Sham density functional theory calculations**

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In this work, we propose a systematic way of computing a low-rank globally adapted localized Tucker-tensor basis for solving the Kohn-Sham density functional theory (DFT) problem. In every iteration of the self-consistent field procedure of the Kohn-Sham DFT problem, we construct an additive separable approximation of the Kohn-Sham Hamiltonian. The Tucker-tensor basis is chosen such as to span the tensor product of the one-dimensional eigenspaces corresponding to each of the spatially separable Hamiltonians, and the localized Tucker-tensor basis is constructed from localized representations of these one-dimensional eigenspaces. This Tucker-tensor basis forms a complete basis, and is naturally adapted to the Kohn-Sham Hamiltonian. Further, the locality of this basis in real-space allows us to exploit reduced-order scaling algorithms for the solution of the discrete Kohn-Sham eigenvalue problem. In particular, we use Chebyshev filtering to compute the eigenspace of the Kohn-Sham Hamiltonian, and evaluate nonorthogonal localized wave functions spanning the Chebyshev filtered space, all represented in the Tucker-tensor basis. We thereby compute the electron-density and other quantities of interest, using a Fermi-operator expansion of the Hamiltonian projected onto the subspace spanned by the nonorthogonal localized wave functions. Numerical results on benchmark examples involving pseudopotential calculations suggest an exponential convergence of the ground-state energy with the Tucker rank. Interestingly, the rank of the Tucker-tensor basis required to obtain chemical accuracy is found to be only weakly dependent on the system size, which results in close to linear-scaling complexity for Kohn-Sham DFT calculations for both insulating and metallic systems. A comparative study has revealed significant computational efficiencies afforded by the proposed Tucker-tensor approach in comparison to a plane-wave basis.

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Electronic structure calculations within the Kohn-Sham density functional theory (DFT) [1,2] have been very successful in providing significant insights into a wide range of materials properties over the past decade by enabling quantum-mechanically informed studies on ground-state materials properties. The Kohn-Sham approach to DFT is based on the key result by Hohenberg and Kohn [1] that the ground-state properties of a materials system can be described by a functional of electron density, which to date remains unknown. However, Kohn and Sham [2] addressed this challenge in an approximate sense by reducing the many-body problem of interacting electrons to an equivalent problem of noninteracting electrons in an effective mean field governed by the electron density. This effective single-electron formulation encompasses an unknown exchange-correlation term that includes the quantum-mechanical interaction between electrons, which is modeled in practice, and the widely used models have been successful in predicting a range of properties across various materials systems.

However, the computational complexity of traditional approaches of solving the Kohn-Sham problem scales as  $\mathcal{O}(M N^2)$ , where  $M$  denotes the number of basis functions and  $N$  specifies the system size (number of atoms or number of electrons). This enormous computational cost associated with Kohn-Sham DFT calculations, approaching cubic scaling as  $M \propto N$ , has restricted the size and complexity of accessible materials systems. Thus, to enable accurate large-scale DFT

calculations, it is desirable to develop computational methods employing a systematically improvable and complete basis, but which is also effective as that it can accurately capture the electronic structure using a small number of basis functions (small  $M$ ). In addition, it is also desirable to develop computational methods that exhibit reduced-order scaling with system size. To this end, this work develops an algorithm to construct an efficient, yet complete, basis that is systematically adapted to the Kohn-Sham Hamiltonian and combines this approach with reduced-order scaling methods for the solution of the Kohn-Sham problem to develop a computationally efficient methodology for large-scale Kohn-Sham DFT calculations.

Among the complete basis sets employed in DFT calculations, the plane-wave basis [3–5] is the most widely used, and is naturally suited for the computation of bulk-properties of materials. Although the plane-wave basis provides variational convergence in the ground-state energy with exponential convergence rate, the computations are restricted to periodic geometries with periodic boundary conditions. Furthermore, the plane-wave basis functions are extended in real space, and this limits the scalability of numerical implementations on parallel computing architectures. The other widely employed basis sets include the atomic-orbital-type basis functions [6–8], which are reduced-order basis functions that provide good accuracy with relatively few basis functions. However, these basis sets do not constitute a complete basis and may not offer systematic convergence for all materials systems. Also, in some cases, parallel scalability across processors is limited due to the nonlocality of these basis functions. Recent efforts

84 have also focused on developing adaptive reduced-order basis  
85 functions [9,10], which offers a promising direction to develop  
86 computationally efficient large-scale DFT calculations.

87 Over the past few decades, systematically improvable real-  
88 space techniques for DFT calculations have been an active area  
89 of research. Some notable developments include discretization  
90 techniques based on finite difference discretization [11,12],  
91 wavelet basis [13,14], and finite element basis [15–19].  
92 Among the real-space techniques, the finite element basis—  
93 a piecewise polynomial basis—has desirable features such  
94 as admitting general geometries and boundary conditions,  
95 locality of the basis functions that supports development of  
96 reduced-order scaling methods via localization, and good  
97 parallel scalability. However, the number of basis functions  
98  $M$  required to achieve chemical accuracy is usually larger  
99 in comparison to plane-wave basis and atomic-orbital basis.  
100 Thus it is desirable to develop a basis that is systematically  
101 improvable and complete such as plane waves, wavelets, or  
102 finite elements, has locality in real space such as wavelets and  
103 finite elements, is efficient such as atomic-orbital type basis,  
104 and exhibits good parallel scalability.

105 In addition to developing efficient basis functions, many  
106 efforts in the past decade have focused on developing algo-  
107 rithms for the solution of Kohn-Sham equations that have a  
108 reduced computational complexity. We refer to [20,21] for  
109 a comprehensive review of these methods. These methods  
110 usually exploit the locality [22] in representing the wave  
111 functions directly or indirectly, by either computing the  
112 single-electron density matrix (divide and conquer method  
113 [23–25], Fermi-operator expansion type techniques [26–30],  
114 density-matrix minimization [31,32], subspace projection type  
115 methods [33,34]), or representing the density matrix in terms  
116 of localized Wannier functions (Fermi-operator projection  
117 method [35,36], orbital minimization approach [37,38]).  
118 While these methods have been successful in achieving linear-  
119 scaling complexity for materials systems with a band gap,  
120 the computational complexity can deviate significantly from  
121 linear scaling for metallic systems with vanishing band gaps.  
122 The development of reduced-order scaling techniques which  
123 can handle both insulating and metallic systems in a unified  
124 framework is still an active area of research [26,27,29,30,34].

125 In this work, we exploit low-rank tensor-structured approx-  
126 imations [39,40] to develop a Tucker-tensor algorithm  
127 for solving the Kohn-Sham equations. This constitutes con-  
128 structing a complete, yet efficient localized Tucker-tensor basis  
129 that is adapted to the Kohn-Sham Hamiltonian, and using  
130 subspace-projected localization techniques for the solution of  
131 Kohn-Sham equations in the Tucker-tensor basis. This work  
132 has been inspired by recent studies on *a posteriori* numerical  
133 analysis of the computed electronic structure of materials  
134 systems [41], which revealed that tensor-structured approx-  
135 imations based on canonical and Tucker type representations  
136 [42–44] can provide low-rank approximations to the electronic  
137 structure of a wide range of materials systems. Further, a  
138 recent study [45] has shown that the Tucker rank required  
139 to approximate the computed electronic structure of materials  
140 is only weakly dependent on the system size, thus providing a  
141 useful direction to exploit the low-rank Tucker approximation  
142 for developing reduced-order scaling algorithms for DFT  
143 calculations.

The key challenge in this work is to develop a systematic  
procedure for computing the Tucker-tensor basis adapted to  
the Kohn-Sham eigenvalue problem in order to efficiently  
represent the *a priori* unknown Kohn-Sham wave functions.  
To this end, for every self-consistent field (SCF) iteration of a  
DFT calculation, we compute a spatially additive separable  
approximation of the Kohn-Sham Hamiltonian and solve  
for the 1D-eigenfunctions of the separable one-dimensional  
Hamiltonians. Using a localization procedure [46], we con-  
struct a one-dimensional nonorthogonal localized basis span-  
ning the eigenspaces of the corresponding one-dimensional  
Hamiltonians. We then construct the Tucker-tensor basis using  
the tensor product of these one-dimensional localized basis  
functions. The discrete Kohn-Sham eigenproblem is subse-  
quently computed by projecting the continuous problem onto  
the space spanned by this Tucker-tensor basis, where all the  
operations are conducted using tensor-structured algorithms.  
The eigenspace corresponding to the occupied states of the  
discrete Kohn-Sham Hamiltonian is computed by Cheby-  
shev filtering followed by the computation of nonorthogonal  
localized wave functions (represented in the Tucker-tensor  
basis) spanning the eigenspace. The relevant quantities such  
as the density matrix, the electron-density, and the band  
energy are computed via Fermi-operator expansion of the  
subspace-projected Hamiltonian onto the space spanned by  
the nonorthogonal localized wave functions.

The proposed Tucker-tensor approach constructs a local-  
ized tensor-structured basis adapted to the Kohn-Sham  
Hamiltonian in every SCF iteration and consequently deviates  
significantly from the usual fixed spatial basis sets currently  
employed in DFT calculations. The complexity estimates  
suggest that the proposed algorithm scales linearly with system  
size if the discretized matrices in the localized Tucker-tensor  
basis and the localized wave functions are sufficiently sparse  
(realized for large-scale materials systems). Even in the case  
where the sparsity is not realized, like relatively smaller  
materials systems, reduced-order scaling with system size is  
obtained if the Tucker-rank remains only weakly dependent  
on the system size.

In order to assess the accuracy and performance of the  
proposed Tucker-tensor algorithm, we conduct benchmark  
pseudopotential calculations on both metallic and insulating  
systems. In all our benchmark studies, we observe an ex-  
ponential convergence in the ground-state energy with the  
Tucker rank. Further, we find that the number of Tucker-  
tensor basis functions required to obtain chemical accuracy  
grows sublinearly with the system size, both for metallic and  
insulating systems. Interestingly, the Tucker rank, and hence  
the number of Tucker-tensor basis functions, was insensitive  
to significant perturbations in the electronic structure—such  
as those resulting from introducing random vacancies in a  
nanocluster. The computational time for these benchmark  
calculations suggests a close to linear-scaling complexity with  
respect to the system size for both metallic and insulating  
systems, which is closely related to the sublinear dependence  
on the number of Tucker-tensor basis functions with the  
system size. In the limit of very large system sizes, the  
required number of Tucker-tensor basis functions will scale  
linearly with system size. However, a sufficient increase in  
the system size renders the matrices involved in the proposed

algorithm sparse, owing to the locality in the Tucker-tensor basis and the wave functions, which in turn results in a linear-scaling computational complexity of the proposed approach. A comparative study of the proposed approach on modest-size benchmark calculations suggests that the number of Tucker-tensor basis functions required to achieve chemical accuracy is about five times lower than the number of plane-wave basis functions, and offers about a three to fourfold computational speedup compared to plane-wave discretizations.

The remainder of this article is organized as follows. We begin by recalling some fundamentals of tensor-structured techniques in Sec. II, followed by the real-space formulation of the Kohn-Sham density functional theory in Sec. III. We then discuss the proposed Tucker-tensor algorithm for Kohn-Sham DFT in Sec. IV followed by the numerical results on benchmark problems in Sec. V. We conclude with an outlook on future developments in Sec. VI.

## II. LOW-RANK TENSOR APPROXIMATIONS

Tensors, when represented efficiently by a small number of parameters, have significant advantages in terms of reducing the storage and computational costs in a variety of applications. For convenience, we recall here some fundamental concepts of the tensor-structured methods and refer to [39,42–44] for a comprehensive review. For convenience, we restrict our presentation here to tensors of order three.

Let  $A$  be a real-valued tensor of order three,

$$A = (a_{i_1 i_2 i_3}) \in \mathbb{V}, \quad (1)$$

where  $(i_1, i_2, i_3) \in \times_{k=1}^3 I_k$  with nonempty finite index sets  $I_1, I_2, I_3 \subset \mathbb{N}$ , and  $\mathbb{V} := \times_{k=1}^3 \mathbb{V}_k$  with  $\mathbb{V}_k := \mathbb{R}^{|I_k|}$ .

The simplest decomposition of a given tensor is the *canonical decomposition* [44], given by a linear combination of rank-1 tensors

$$A \approx A^{(R)} = \sum_{i=1}^R c_i v_i^{(1)} \otimes v_i^{(2)} \otimes v_i^{(3)}, \quad (2)$$

where  $\{v_i^{(k)}\}_{i=1}^R$  is a set of orthonormal vectors for  $k = 1, 2, 3$ . The parameter  $R$  in the decomposition is called the *canonical rank* of the tensor approximation. The storage cost of the tensor  $A$  in the canonical representation is  $\mathcal{O}(Rn)$ , where  $n := \max_{k=1,2,3} |I_k|$  denotes the univariate grid size. However, the computation of this decomposition is a NP-hard and ill-posed problem [47]. Fast and stable algorithms for reducing arbitrary full-size tensors to the canonical format with controlled accuracy are lacking.

On the other hand, robust algorithms for the representation of the full-size tensors in the rank-structured *Tucker-tensor* format are available, and thus this is the preferred tensor-structured format in this work. The rank  $(r_1, r_2, r_3)$ -Tucker representation (approximation) of  $A$  is given by

$$A^{(r)} = \sum_{l_1=1}^{r_1} \sum_{l_2=1}^{r_2} \sum_{l_3=1}^{r_3} \beta_{l_1 l_2 l_3} v_{l_1}^{(1)} \otimes v_{l_2}^{(2)} \otimes v_{l_3}^{(3)}. \quad (3)$$

In Eq. (3), for each  $k \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ ,  $\{v_{l_k}^{(k)}\}_{1 \leq l_k \leq r_k}$  constitutes an orthonormal basis of  $\mathbb{T}_k := \text{span}_{1 \leq l_k \leq r_k} v_{l_k}^{(k)}$  with  $\dim \mathbb{T}_k = r_k$ . The coefficients tensor  $\beta := (\beta_{l_1 l_2 l_3}) \in \mathbb{R}^{r_1 \times r_2 \times r_3}$  is called the

*core tensor*. As shown in Ref. [41], the Tucker approximation error of the electronic structure of molecular systems decays exponentially with increasing *Tucker rank*  $r := \max_{k=1,2,3} r_k$ . Further, the overall storage cost of  $A^{(r)}$  is bounded by  $r^3 + 3rn$ . Since usually  $r \ll n$ , this leads to an impressive data compression [41,45]. Furthermore,  $A^{(r)}$  can be computed from  $A$  by a minimization procedure,

$$A^{(r)} := \underset{A \in \mathbb{T}_r}{\text{argmin}} \|A - A\|_F^2, \quad (4)$$

where  $\|A\|_F = \sqrt{\text{tr}(A^T A)}$  is the Frobenius norm. One method for solving the minimization problem in Eq. (4) is the alternating least squares (ALS) algorithm [44], and we refer to [40,43] for other algorithms.

The Tucker-tensor approximation discussed above becomes unattractive in higher dimensions due to the exponentially growing memory requirements for storing the core tensor when dealing with larger dimensions. This has motivated alternative tensor structured formats like tensor trains (TT) [48,49], wherein a  $d$ -dimensional tensor  $A = (a_{i_1 i_2 i_3 \dots i_d})$  is approximated as

$$A \approx \sum_{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_{d-1}, \alpha_d} G_{i_1 \alpha_1}^{(1)} G_{\alpha_1 i_2 \alpha_2}^{(2)} \dots G_{\alpha_{d-1} i_d}^{(d)}, \quad (5)$$

where auxiliary indices  $\alpha_k$  vary from 1 to  $r_k$  and  $r_k$  are called compression ranks or simply TT ranks. The basic arithmetic and storage involved in the TT approach is linear in dimension  $d$  and polynomial in  $r = \max_k r_k$ . We also note that more-general tensor decomposition approaches like the hierarchical tensor representation [50–52] and tree tensor network states [53,54] have been proposed to reduce the computational complexity and storage costs of the tensor-structured representations.

In this work, as explained in Sec. IV, we focus on developing a methodology to compute a Tucker-tensor basis that effectively represents the single-electron wave functions spanning the occupied eigenspace of the Kohn-Sham Hamiltonian. We restrict ourselves in this work to the Tucker-tensor format since the single-electron wave functions are functions in a three-dimensional space where the Tucker-tensor format is efficient. Furthermore, the underlying representation of the Tucker-tensor format provides a convenient way of computing the Galerkin projection of the continuous Kohn-Sham problem into the computed Tucker-tensor basis as discussed subsequently.

## III. THE KOHN-SHAM DENSITY FUNCTIONAL THEORY

In Kohn-Sham density functional theory (DFT) [2,55], the variational problem of evaluating the ground-state properties of a given materials system consisting of  $N_e$  electrons and  $N_a$  atomic nuclei located at  $\mathbf{R} = (\mathbf{R}_j)_{1 \leq j \leq N_a}$  is equivalent to solving the nonlinear eigenvalue problem for  $N > N_e/2$  smallest eigenvalues

$$\left(-\frac{1}{2}\nabla^2 + V_{\text{eff}}(\mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{R})\right)\psi_i = \epsilon_i \psi_i, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, N, \quad (6)$$

where  $\epsilon_i$  and  $\psi_i$  denote the eigenvalues and the corresponding eigenfunctions (canonical single particle wave functions) of the Hamiltonian, respectively. In the present work, for the sake of simplicity, we discuss the formulation in a nonperiodic

302 setting restricting ourselves to spin-independent Hamiltonians.  
 303 However, the present discussion as well as the ideas proposed  
 304 subsequently can easily be generalized to periodic or semiperi-  
 305 odic materials systems and spin-dependent Hamiltonians.

306 The electron density—a central quantity in DFT—at any  
 307 spatial point  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2, x_3)$  in terms of the canonical wave  
 308 functions is given by

$$\varrho(\mathbf{x}) = 2 \sum_{i=1}^N f(\epsilon_i, \mu) |\psi_i(\mathbf{x})|^2, \quad (7)$$

309 where  $f(\epsilon, \mu) \in [0, 1]$  is the orbital occupancy function, and  
 310  $\mu$  represents the Fermi energy which is computed from the  
 311 constraint that the total number of electrons in the system is  $N_e$ .  
 312 In ground-state DFT calculations, it is common to represent  $f$   
 313 by the Fermi distribution  $f(\epsilon, \mu) = 1/(1 + \exp[(\epsilon - \mu)/\sigma])$ ,  
 314 which tends to a Heaviside function as the parameter  $\sigma \searrow 0$ .

315 In Eq. (6), the effective single-electron potential in the  
 316 Hamiltonian is given by

$$\begin{aligned} V_{\text{eff}}(\varrho, \mathbf{R}) &:= \frac{\delta E_{\text{xc}}}{\delta \varrho} + \frac{\delta E_{\text{H}}}{\delta \varrho} + V_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{R}) \\ &= V_{\text{xc}}(\varrho) + V_{\text{H}}(\varrho) + V_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{R}). \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

317 In the above,  $E_{\text{xc}}$  represents the exchange-correlation energy  
 318 that accounts for quantum-mechanical interactions between  
 319 electrons, and we adopt the widely used local density approxi-  
 320 mation (LDA) [56,57]. The Hartree energy,  $E_{\text{H}}$ , represents the  
 321 classical electrostatic interaction energy between the electrons  
 322 and is given by

$$E_{\text{H}}(\varrho) := \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \frac{\varrho(\mathbf{x}')\varrho(\mathbf{x})}{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'|} d\mathbf{x}' d\mathbf{x} = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} V_{\text{H}}(\varrho)\varrho(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}. \quad (9)$$

323 Finally,  $V_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{R})$  denotes the external electrostatic potential  
 324 corresponding to the nuclear charges. In this work, we adopt  
 325 the commonly used pseudopotential approach, where only  
 326 the valence-electron wave functions are computed. The pseu-  
 327 dopotential, which provides the effective nuclear electrostatic  
 328 potential  $V_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{R})$  for the valence electrons, is commonly  
 329 represented by the operator  $\mathcal{V}_{\text{ext}} = \mathcal{V}_{\text{loc}} + \mathcal{V}_{\text{nl}}$ , where  $\mathcal{V}_{\text{loc}}$   
 330 is the local part and  $\mathcal{V}_{\text{nl}}$  is its nonlocal part. Using the  
 331 norm-conserving Troullier-Martins pseudopotentials [58] in  
 332 the Kleinman-Bylander form [59], the action of these operators  
 333 on a Kohn-Sham wave function in real space is given by

$$\begin{aligned} V_{\text{loc}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{R})\psi(\mathbf{x}) &:= \sum_{J=1}^{N_a} V_{\text{loc}}^J(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{R}_J)\psi(\mathbf{x}), \\ V_{\text{nl}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{R})\psi(\mathbf{x}) &:= \sum_{J=1}^{N_a} \sum_{lm} C_{lm}^J \varphi_{lm}^J(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{R}_J) \Delta V_l^J(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{R}_J), \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

334 where

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta V_l^J(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{R}_J) &:= V_l^J(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{R}_J) - V_{\text{loc}}^J(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{R}_J), \\ C_{lm}^J &:= \frac{\int \varphi_{lm}^J(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{R}_J) \Delta V_l^J(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{R}_J) \psi(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}}{\int \varphi_{lm}^J(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{R}_J) \Delta V_l^J(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{R}_J) \varphi_{lm}^J(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{R}_J) d\mathbf{x}}. \end{aligned}$$

In the above,  $V_l^J(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{R}_J)$  denotes the pseudopotential com- 335  
 ponent of atom  $J$  corresponding to the azimuthal quantum 336  
 number  $l$ ,  $V_{\text{loc}}^J(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{R}_J)$  is the corresponding local potential, 337  
 and  $\varphi_{lm}^J(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{R}_J)$  is the corresponding single-atom pseudo- 338  
 wave-function with azimuthal quantum number  $l$  and magnetic 339  
 quantum number  $m$ . 340

For given positions of nuclei, the system of equations 341  
 corresponding to the Kohn-Sham eigenvalue problem is 342

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{H}\psi_i &= \epsilon_i \psi_i, \\ 2 \sum_{i=1}^N f(\epsilon_i, \mu) &= N_e, \quad \varrho(\mathbf{x}) = 2 \sum_{i=1}^N f(\epsilon_i, \mu) |\psi_i(\mathbf{x})|^2, \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

where 343

$$\mathcal{H} := \left( -\frac{1}{2} \nabla^2 + V_{\text{xc}}(\varrho) + V_{\text{H}}(\varrho) + V_{\text{loc}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{R}) + V_{\text{nl}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{R}) \right). \quad (12)$$

As the Hamiltonian  $\mathcal{H}$  depends on  $\varrho$ , which in turn is computed 344  
 from the eigenfunctions of  $\mathcal{H}$ , the system of equations in 345  
 Eq. (11) is solved by a self-consistent field (SCF) iteration 346  
 in a suitable basis. Upon self-consistently, solving the Kohn- 347  
 Sham eigenvalue problem, the ground-state energy is given 348  
 by 349

$$\begin{aligned} E_{\text{tot}} &= 2 \sum_{i=1}^N f(\epsilon_i, \mu) \epsilon_i + \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} [E_{\text{xc}}(\varrho) - V_{\text{xc}}(\varrho)\varrho] d\mathbf{x} \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \varrho V_{\text{H}}(\varrho) d\mathbf{x} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\substack{I, J=1 \\ I \neq J}}^{N_a} \frac{Z_I Z_J}{|\mathbf{R}_I - \mathbf{R}_J|}. \end{aligned}$$

Therein, the last term on the right denotes the nuclear-nuclear 350  
 repulsive energy  $E_{\text{ZZ}}$  with  $Z_I$  denoting the valence charge of 351  
 the  $I$ th nucleus. 352

#### IV. TUCKER-TENSOR ALGORITHM FOR DFT 353

We now present a Tucker-tensor algorithm for the solution 354  
 of the Kohn-Sham equations that has reduced computational 355  
 complexity in comparison to conventional approaches. In 356  
 every cycle of the SCF iteration, the proposed algorithm 357  
 provides a prescription to compute a nonorthogonal locally 358  
 adapted Tucker-tensor basis using a separable approximation 359  
 of the Hamiltonian. The Kohn-Sham eigenvalue problem 360  
 is subsequently solved by projecting the problem onto the 361  
 span of this computed Tucker-tensor basis, and by com- 362  
 puting the eigenspace corresponding to the occupied states 363  
 using Chebyshev filtering techniques. Let  $\varrho^{(n)}$  denote the 364  
 input electron density to the  $n^{\text{th}}$  SCF iteration and  $\mathcal{H}^n \equiv$  365  
 $\mathcal{H}(\varrho^{(n)}(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{R})$  be the corresponding Hamiltonian. The proposed 366  
 Tucker-tensor algorithm consists of the following key steps 367  
 with specific details discussed subsequently. (1) Construct 368  
 a separable approximation of the Hamiltonian by using one 369  
 of two proposed competing variational methods (outlined 370  
 below), 371

$$\mathcal{H}_x + \mathcal{H}_y + \mathcal{H}_z \sim \mathcal{H}^n. \quad (13)$$

(2) Compute  $r_d$  one-dimensional eigenfunctions for  $\mathcal{H}_x$ , 372  
 $\mathcal{H}_y$ ,  $\mathcal{H}_z$  represented on a finite element grid, and subsequently 373

374 employ a localization procedure to evaluate nonorthogonal  
 375 localized basis functions spanning the eigensubspaces  
 376 in each spatial dimension. (3) Compute a nonorthogonal  
 377 localized Tucker-tensor basis  $\mathbb{T}^L := (T_{ijk}^L)_{1 \leq i,j,k \leq r_d}$  as  
 378 the tensor-product of the one-dimensional localized basis  
 379 functions of step 2. (4) Compute the projection  $\mathcal{H}_h^n$  of  $\mathcal{H}^n$   
 380 onto  $\mathbb{T}^L$ . (5) Employ Chebyshev filtering to compute the  
 381 approximate occupied eigensubspace of  $\mathcal{H}_h^n$  corresponding  
 382 to the lower end of the eigenspectrum comprising of oc-  
 383 cupied states and a few unoccupied states above the Fermi  
 384 energy. Subsequently, localize the Chebyshev filtered wave  
 385 functions by utilizing a nonorthogonal localization procedure  
 386 as described in Ref. [34]. (6) Project  $\mathcal{H}_h^n$  onto the occupied  
 387 eigensubspace of  $\mathcal{H}_h^n$  represented by the localized Chebyshev  
 388 filtered wave functions. Employ a Fermi-operator expansion of  
 389 this subspace-projected Hamiltonian to compute the relevant  
 390 quantities of interest such as the density matrix, the output  
 391 electron-density and the ground-state energy. Then proceed  
 392 with the SCF iteration.

393 We now begin to discuss various details of the proposed  
 394 algorithm. Let the domain be cuboidal, i.e.,  $\Omega = \times_{k=1}^3 \omega_k$  with  
 395 one-dimensional bounded real sets  $\omega_k$ , and enclose the com-  
 396 pact support of the Kohn-Sham wave functions. We discretize  
 397  $\omega_k$  by using isoparametric 1D finite elements, and represent  
 398 functions on  $\omega_k$  by using finite element basis functions—the  
 399 piecewise polynomial functions constructed from the finite  
 400 element discretization [60]. We denote by  $n_k$  (for  $k = 1, 2, 3$ )  
 401 the dimension of the finite element space discretizing  $\omega_k$ , or,  
 402 in other words, the number of finite element basis functions in  
 403 each spatial dimension  $k$ . In the present work, we use a higher-  
 404 order finite element discretization with polynomial degree  
 405  $p > 2$ . We note that, while the ideas presented in this work are  
 406 equally applicable to any basis, the choice of the finite element  
 407 basis is motivated by the locality of the basis and its adaptive  
 408 capability.

409 Given the input electron density to the  $n^{\text{th}}$  SCF iteration,  
 410  $\varrho^{(n)}(\mathbf{x})$ , we begin by computing the local effective potential  
 411 on  $\Omega$ ,

$$V_{\text{eff}}^{\text{loc}}(\mathbf{x}) := V_{\text{xc}}(\varrho^{(n)}(\mathbf{x})) + V_{\text{H}}(\varrho^{(n)}(\mathbf{x})) + V_{\text{loc}}(\mathbf{x}). \quad (14)$$

412 We note that the evaluation of  $V_{\text{H}}$  [cf. Eq. (9)] involves the  
 413 computation of a 3D convolution integral. To this end, for  
 414 chosen rank  $r_\varrho \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\mathbf{x}' = (x'_1, x'_2, x'_3)$ , we first compute the  
 415 rank- $r_\varrho$  Tucker-tensor decomposition of the density  $\varrho^{(n)}(\mathbf{x})$   
 416 as

$$\varrho^{(n)}(\mathbf{x}') \approx \sum_{i,j,k}^{r_\varrho} \sigma_{ijk}^{(n)} \varrho_i^{(n)}(x'_1) \varrho_j^{(n)}(x'_2) \varrho_k^{(n)}(x'_3). \quad (15)$$

417 Next, we approximate the kernel  $|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'|^{-1}$  by a series  
 418 of Gaussians (see Ref. [61], where also the values of  
 419  $\alpha_p$ ,  $\beta_p$  are tabulated), and obtain for a rank parameter  
 420  $T \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$\frac{1}{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'|} \approx \sum_{p=1}^T \alpha_p e^{-\beta_p(x_1-x'_1)^2} e^{-\beta_p(x_2-x'_2)^2} e^{-\beta_p(x_3-x'_3)^2}. \quad (16)$$

Thus the computation of  $V_{\text{H}}(\varrho^{(n)})$  reduces to the computation  
 of a series of 1D convolution integrals, as

$$\begin{aligned} V_{\text{H}}(\varrho^{(n)}(\mathbf{x})) &= \int_{\Omega} \frac{\varrho^{(n)}(\mathbf{x}')}{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'|} d\mathbf{x}' \\ &\approx \sum_{p=1}^T \alpha_p \sum_{i,j,k}^{r_\varrho} \sigma_{ijk}^{(n)} \left[ \int_{\omega_1} \varrho_i^{(n)}(x'_1) e^{-\beta_p(x_1-x'_1)^2} dx'_1 \right. \\ &\quad \times \int_{\omega_2} \varrho_j^{(n)}(x'_2) e^{-\beta_p(x_2-x'_2)^2} dx'_2 \\ &\quad \left. \times \int_{\omega_3} \varrho_k^{(n)}(x'_3) e^{-\beta_p(x_3-x'_3)^2} dx'_3 \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

Upon evaluating  $V_{\text{H}}$ , we compute  $V_{\text{eff}}^{\text{loc}}$  given by Eq. (14).  
 Further, to aid the evaluation of terms arising in subsequent  
 computations, we compute the rank- $r_v$  Tucker-tensor decom-  
 position of  $V_{\text{eff}}^{\text{loc}}$ , denoted by  $\widehat{V}_{\text{eff}}^{\text{loc}}(\mathbf{x})$ . For the same reason,  
 by evaluating the rank- $r_v$  Tucker-tensor decomposition of  
 the atom-centered pseudopotential and pseudo-wave-function  
 components, we compute the tensor-structured approximation  
 of the nonlocal part of the pseudopotential operator and denote  
 this by  $\widehat{V}_{\text{nl}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{R})$ .

### A. Separable approximation of $\mathcal{H}^n$

We now explain step 1 of the Tucker-tensor algorithm in  
 more detail and present two methods to compute the additive  
 separable approximation of  $\mathcal{H}^n$ . One of the proposed methods  
 is based on a rank-1 approximation of the eigenfunction  
 corresponding to the lowest eigenvalue of the Kohn-Sham  
 Hamiltonian, while the second method involves an additive  
 separable approximation of the Kohn-Sham potential  $V_{\text{eff}}$ .  
 While the first method is applicable to both local and  
 nonlocal pseudopotentials, the latter is restricted to local  
 pseudopotentials, only.

*a. Method I. Rank-1 decomposition of wave functions.* We  
 start with the ansatz for the eigenfunction,

$$\psi(\mathbf{x}) := \prod_{k=1}^3 \psi_k(x_k), \quad (18)$$

and denote by  $X$  the function space of all one-time (weakly)  
 differentiable rank-1 functions in  $\Omega$ . The problem of comput-  
 ing the smallest eigenvalue of the Kohn-Sham Hamiltonian  
 [Eq. (12)] in the function space  $X$  is equivalent to the  
 variational problem

$$\min_{\psi \in X} \mathcal{L}(\psi), \quad (19)$$

with the Lagrangian

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}(\psi) := & \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} \left[ \sum_{p=1}^3 |\partial_{x_p} \psi_p(x_p)|^2 \prod_{\substack{q=1 \\ q \neq p}}^3 \psi_q^2(x_q) \right. \\ & + 2(\widehat{V}_{\text{eff}}^{\text{loc}}(\mathbf{x}) + \lambda) \prod_{k=1}^3 \psi_k^2(x_k) \\ & \left. + 2 \prod_{k=1}^3 \psi_k(x_k) \widehat{V}_{\text{nl}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{R}) \prod_{k=1}^3 \psi_k(x_k) \right] d\mathbf{x}. \end{aligned}$$

451 Here,  $\lambda$  is a Lagrange multiplier corresponding to the constraint

$$\prod_{k=1}^3 \int_{\omega_k} \psi_k^2(x_k) dx_k = 1. \quad (20)$$

452 Minimizers of (19) satisfy the Euler-Lagrange equations  
453  $\frac{\delta \mathcal{L}(\psi)}{\delta \psi_k} = 0$  for  $k = 1, 2, 3$ . Hence the minimizers  $\psi_k$  are the  
454 solutions of the one-dimensional problems

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2}{dx_k^2} + \frac{V_k^{\text{loc}}(x_k)}{m_k} + \frac{V_k^{\text{nl}}(x_k)}{m_k} \right] \psi_k(x_k) \\ & = -\left( \lambda + \frac{a_k}{2m_k} \right) \psi_k(x_k), \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

455 where we introduced the one-dimensional quantities

$$V_k^{\text{loc}}(x_k) := \int_{\hat{\omega}_k} \widehat{V}_{\text{eff}}^{\text{loc}}(\mathbf{x}) \prod_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq k}}^3 \psi_j^2(x_j) d\hat{\mathbf{x}}_k,$$

$$m_k := \int_{\hat{\omega}_k} \prod_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq k}}^3 \psi_j^2(x_j) d\hat{\mathbf{x}}_k,$$

$$a_k := \int_{\hat{\omega}_k} \sum_{\substack{p,q=1 \\ p \neq q; p,q \neq k}}^3 |\partial_{x_p} \psi_p(x_p)|^2 \psi_q(x_q) d\hat{\mathbf{x}}_k,$$

$$V_k^{\text{nl}}(x_k) \psi_k(x_k) := \sum_{J=1}^{N_a} \sum_{lm} \gamma_{lm}^J v_{lm}^J F_{lm}^{J,k}(x_k) \quad \text{with}$$

$$\begin{aligned} F_{lm}^{J,k}(x_k) & := \int_{\hat{\omega}_k} \widehat{\varphi}_{lm}^J(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{R}_J) \widehat{\Delta V}_l^J(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{R}_J) \\ & \quad \times \prod_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq k}}^3 \psi_j(x_j) d\hat{\mathbf{x}}_k, \end{aligned}$$

$$\gamma_{lm}^J := \int_{\omega_k} F_{lm}^{J,k}(x_k) \psi_k(x_k) dx_k,$$

$$\begin{aligned} (v_{lm}^J)^{-1} & := \int_{\Omega} \widehat{\varphi}_{lm}^J(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{R}_J) \widehat{\Delta V}_l^J(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{R}_J) \widehat{\varphi}_{lm}^J \\ & \quad \times (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{R}_J) dx, \end{aligned}$$

456 with notations

$$d\hat{\mathbf{x}}_1 := dx_2 dx_3, \quad d\hat{\mathbf{x}}_2 := dx_1 dx_3,$$

$$d\hat{\mathbf{x}}_3 := dx_1 dx_2, \quad \hat{\omega}_k := \mathbf{X}_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq k}}^3 \omega_j.$$

457 In the above expressions,  $\widehat{\Delta V}_l^J$  and  $\widehat{\varphi}_{lm}^J$  denote the rank- $r_v$   
458 Tucker-tensor decomposition of  $\Delta V_l^J$  and  $\varphi_{lm}^J$ , respectively.  
459 We note that the integrals involved in the above expressions  
460 reduce to a product of integrals in one dimension owing to  
461 the tensor-structured representation of all field quantities, thus  
462 rendering the computational complexity of evaluating these  
463 terms very low.

464 The minimizing functions  $\psi_k(x_k)$  obtained from the self-  
465 consistent solution of (21) are fixed to construct the one-  
466 dimensional potentials  $V_k^{\text{loc}}$  and  $V_k^{\text{nl}}$ . The eigenfunctions of the  
467 resulting one-dimensional Hamiltonians in Eq. (21) are then

used to construct the Tucker-tensor basis after localization, see 468  
469 Sec. IV B below.

*b. Method II. Weighted residual minimization.* In this 470  
471 method, which is restricted to local pseudopotentials, we  
472 construct an additive separable approximation of  $V_{\text{eff}}^{\text{loc}}$  by  
473 solving the weighted residual minimization problem

$$\min_{V_k^{\text{loc}} \in L^1(\omega_k) \ 1 \leq k \leq 3} \int_{\Omega} w(\mathbf{x}) \left[ \widehat{V}_{\text{eff}}^{\text{loc}}(\mathbf{x}) - \sum_{l=1}^3 V_l^{\text{loc}}(x_l) \right]^2 d\mathbf{x}, \quad (22)$$

where  $w(\mathbf{x}) \in L^2(\Omega)$  represents a nonnegative weight func- 474  
475 tion. We then construct the one-dimensional Hamiltonians  
476 for  $k = 1, 2, 3$  as  $\mathcal{H}_k := -\frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2}{dx_k^2} + V_k^{\text{loc}}(x_k)$  resulting in the  
477 one-dimensional eigenvalue problems

$$\mathcal{H}_k \xi_{k,i} = \varepsilon_{k,i} \xi_{k,i}. \quad (23)$$

The weight is chosen as  $w(\mathbf{x}) := |\varrho^{(n)}(\mathbf{x})|^\alpha$  with  $\alpha := 1$  to 478  
479 penalize the error in the separable approximation of  $\widehat{V}_{\text{eff}}^{\text{loc}}(\mathbf{x})$  in  
480 the vicinity of atoms where the electron density is higher in  
481 comparison to the regions far away from the atoms.

## B. Construction of a 3D Tucker-tensor basis $\mathbb{T}^L$

The methods outlined in Sec. IV A provide a systematic 483  
484 approach to constructing an additive separable approxima-  
485 tion to the Kohn-Sham Hamiltonian. Solving the eigenvalue  
486 problems [Eq. (21) for method I or Eq. (23) for method  
487 II], we compute the eigenfunctions associated with the one-  
488 dimensional Hamiltonians in each spatial dimension. We re-  
489 mark that the one-dimensional eigenfunctions thus computed  
490 form a complete basis for admissible functions on each  $\omega_k$ .  
491 In the discrete numerical setting, we compute  $r_{d_1}$ ,  $r_{d_2}$ ,  $r_{d_3}$   
492 eigenfunctions corresponding to the lowest eigenvalues of the  
493 one-dimensional Hamiltonians in  $x_1$ ,  $x_2$ ,  $x_3$  spatial directions,  
494 respectively. For the sake of notational simplicity in presenting  
495 our ideas, we assume  $r_{d_1} = r_{d_2} = r_{d_3} =: r_d$ . We denote by  
496  $(\xi_{k,i})_{1 \leq i \leq r_d}$  the eigenfunctions in the direction  $k$  spanning the  
497 space  $\mathbb{V}^{r_{d_k}}$  for  $k = 1, 2, 3$ . The three-dimensional Tucker-tensor  
498 basis for the Kohn-Sham DFT problem can thus be constructed  
499 as a tensor product given by

$$\mathbb{T} := \{T_{abc}\}_{1 \leq a,b,c \leq r_d} := \{\xi_{1,a} \xi_{2,b} \xi_{3,c}\}_{1 \leq a,b,c \leq r_d}. \quad (24)$$

However, the eigenfunctions  $(\xi_{k,i})_{1 \leq i \leq r_d}$  have a global support 500  
501 on  $\omega_k$ , thereby rendering the support of the corresponding  
502 three-dimensional Tucker-tensor basis global on  $\Omega$ . The global  
503 nature of these functions results in dense matrices for the  
504 Kohn-Sham DFT problem, which is not desirable. To this end,  
505 we construct a localized representation of the Tucker-tensor  
506 basis  $\{T_{abc}\}_{1 \leq a,b,c \leq r_d}$  by localizing the 1D eigenfunctions  
507  $(\xi_{k,i})_{1 \leq i \leq r_d}$  around the atomic locations in each of the spatial  
508 directions  $x_k$  for  $k = 1, 2, 3$ . Various localization procedures  
509 employing nonorthogonal localized functions [37, 62–64] have  
510 been proposed in the context of electronic structure calcula-  
511 tions, which have better localizing properties than orthogonal  
512 functions. In the present work, we adopt the weighted  $L^2$   
513 localization technique proposed in E *et al.* [46] to construct  
514 the localized 1D basis-functions spanning the eigenspace  
515  $\mathbb{V}^{r_{d_k}}$  for  $k = 1, 2, 3$ . However, we note that other localization  
516 procedures such as those proposed in Ref. [65] can also

517 be used. We obtain the localized basis by solving for each  
518  $k = 1, 2, 3$  the minimization problem

$$\operatorname{argmin}_{\phi \in \mathbb{V}^{d_k}, \|\phi\|=1} \int_{\omega_k} w(x_k) |\phi(x_k)|^2 dx_k. \quad (25)$$

519 Here,  $w(x_k) \geq 0$  is chosen to be a smooth weighting function  
520 of the form  $|x_k - b_{I_k}|^2$ , and  $b_{I_k}$  denotes a localization center.  
521 Such a choice of  $w(x_k)$  minimizes the spread of the basis-  
522 functions from a localization center. In the present work, the  
523 localization center  $b_{I_k}$  is chosen to be the  $k^{\text{th}}$  direction atom-  
524 coordinate  $R_{I_k}$  corresponding to the  $I^{\text{th}}$  atom for  $k = 1, 2, 3$ .  
525 Let  $r_{I_k}$  denote the number of localized functions we desire  
526 to compute at every atom-coordinate  $R_{I_k}$ . Representing the  
527 localized function as

$$\phi(x_k) = \sum_{i=1}^{r_{d_k}} \alpha_i \xi_{k,i}(x_k) \in \mathbb{V}^{r_{d_k}}, \quad (26)$$

528 the minimization problem in Eq. (25) is equivalent to solving  
529 the generalized eigenvalue problem in each spatial direction  $k$   
530 for the smallest  $r_{I_k}$  eigenvalues,

$$\mathbf{G}^{I_k} \boldsymbol{\alpha} = \lambda \boldsymbol{\alpha}, \quad (27)$$

531 where for  $i, j = 1, \dots, r_{d_k}$

$$G_{ij}^{I_k} := \int_{\omega_k} |x_k - R_{I_k}|^2 \xi_{k,i}(x_k) \xi_{k,j}(x_k) dx_k. \quad (28)$$

532 In the present work, we choose  $r_{I_k}$  corresponding to the  $I^{\text{th}}$   
533 atom such that  $\sum_I r_{I_k} = r_{d_k}$ . We note that we can rewrite  $\mathbf{G}^{I_k}$   
534 in Eq. (28) in matrix notation as

$$\mathbf{G}^{I_k} = \mathbf{L}_b^T \mathbf{K}_b^{I_k} \mathbf{L}_b, \quad (29)$$

535 where  $(\cdot)^T$  is the matrix transpose, the columns of the matrix  
536  $\mathbf{L}_b$  correspond to the finite element nodal values of the  
537 eigenfunctions  $\{\xi_{k,1}(x_k), \xi_{k,2}(x_k), \dots, \xi_{k,r_{d_k}}(x_k)\}$ , and

$$(\mathbf{K}_b^{I_k})_{ij} := \int_{\omega_k} |x_k - R_{I_k}|^2 N_i(x_k) N_j(x_k) dx_k, \quad (30)$$

538 with  $N_i$  denoting the finite element basis function correspond-  
539 ing to node  $i$ .

540 Upon solving Eq. (27) for each  $I_k$ , we represent the  
541 computed localized one-dimensional functions spanning  $\mathbb{V}^{r_{d_k}}$   
542 by  $(\phi_{k,i})_{1 \leq i \leq r_{d_k}}$ . Thus the three-dimensional localized Tucker-  
543 tensor basis functions for solving the Kohn-Sham DFT  
544 problem are constructed to be

$$\mathbb{T}^L := \{T_{abc}^L\}_{1 \leq a,b,c \leq r_d} := \{\phi_{1,a} \phi_{2,b} \phi_{3,c}\}_{1 \leq a,b,c \leq r_d}. \quad (31)$$

545 In practice, we use a truncation tolerance to achieve a compact  
546 support for  $(\phi_{k,i})_{1 \leq i \leq r_{d_k}}$ , and consequently for  $\{T_{abc}^L\}_{1 \leq a,b,c \leq r_d}$ .

### 547 C. Discrete Kohn-Sham eigenvalue problem

548 The projection of  $\mathcal{H}^n$  onto  $\times_{k=1}^3 \mathbb{V}^{r_{d_k}}$ , denoted by  $\mathcal{H}_h^n$ ,  
549 expressed in the localized Tucker-tensor basis  $\mathbb{T}^L$  is given by

$$(\mathcal{H}_h^n)_{(ijk),(abc)} := \sum_{p,q,r} \langle T_{ijk}^L | T_{pqr}^L \rangle^{-1} \langle T_{pqr}^L | \mathcal{H}^n | T_{abc}^L \rangle. \quad (32)$$

550 We note that it is convenient to approximate the Kohn-Sham  
551 potential  $V_{\text{eff}}$  [Eq. (8)] using a Tucker-tensor decomposition,

which reduces all integrals involved in Eq. (32) to products  
of one-dimensional integrals, and is used in the present work.  
The discrete Kohn-Sham eigenvalue problem in the localized  
Tucker-tensor basis is given by the nonHermitian standard  
eigenvalue problem

$$\tilde{\mathbf{H}} \boldsymbol{\Psi}_i = \epsilon_i^h \boldsymbol{\Psi}_i, \quad (33)$$

557 with  $\tilde{\mathbf{H}} := \mathbf{M}^{-1} \mathbf{H}$ , where  $\mathbf{H}$  denotes the discrete Hamiltonian  
558 matrix with matrix elements  $H_{IJ}$  and  $\mathbf{M}$  denotes the overlap  
559 matrix arising because of the nonorthogonality of the localized  
560 Tucker-tensor basis functions with matrix elements  $M_{IJ}$  for  
561 subscripts  $I, J \in \times_{k=1}^3 \{1, \dots, r_{d_k}\}$ . By  $\epsilon_i^h$  we denote the  $i^{\text{th}}$   
562 eigenvalue corresponding to the discrete eigenvector  $\boldsymbol{\Psi}_i$  in  
563 Eq. (33) expressed in the localized Tucker-tensor basis  $\mathbb{T}^L$ .  
564 The matrix elements  $M_{IJ}$  and  $H_{IJ}$  are given by

$$\begin{aligned} M_{IJ} &:= \int_{\Omega} T_I^L(\mathbf{x}) T_J^L(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}, \quad (34) \\ H_{IJ} &:= \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} \nabla T_I^L(\mathbf{x}) \cdot \nabla T_J^L(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} + \int_{\Omega} T_I^L(\mathbf{x}) \widehat{V}_{\text{eff}}^{\text{loc}}(\mathbf{x}) T_J^L(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} \\ &\quad + \int_{\Omega} T_I^L(\mathbf{x}) \widehat{V}_{\text{nl}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{R}) T_J^L(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}, \quad (35) \end{aligned}$$

565 with  $\widehat{V}_{\text{eff}}^{\text{loc}}$  and  $\widehat{V}_{\text{nl}}$  denoting the rank- $r_v$  Tucker-tensor decom-  
566 positions of  $V_{\text{eff}}^{\text{loc}}$  and  $V_{\text{nl}}$ , respectively. As a consequence of apply-  
567 ing the Tucker-tensor decompositions  $\widehat{V}_{\text{eff}}^{\text{loc}}$  and  $\widehat{V}_{\text{nl}}$ , the right-  
568 hand sides of (34) and (35) reduce to a tensor-structured format  
569 involving one-dimensional integrals. Thus the computational  
570 complexity associated with the computation of the discrete  
571 Hamiltonian and overlap matrix in Eqs. (34) and (35) is evalu-  
572 ated to be  $\mathcal{O}(r_d^2 n) + \mathcal{O}(r_d^6) + \mathcal{O}(r_d^2 r_v^3 n) + \mathcal{O}(r_d^6 r_v^3)$ , with  $n :=$   
573  $\max_k n_k$  relating to the number of nodes in the one-dimensional  
574 finite element mesh (univariate grid size). However, as we  
575 use a localized Tucker-tensor basis, by exploiting the locality  
576 in the basis functions, the computational complexity of  
577 evaluating the matrix elements reduces to  $\mathcal{O}(c^{1/3} n) + \mathcal{O}(c) +$   
578  $\mathcal{O}(c^{1/3} r_v^3 n) + \mathcal{O}(c r_v^3)$ , where  $c$  denotes the maximum number  
579 of nonzero entries in the matrices  $\mathbf{H}$  and  $\mathbf{M}$ . Finally, the inverse  
580 overlap matrix  $\mathbf{M}^{-1}$  involved in the computation of  $\tilde{\mathbf{H}}$  is evalu-  
581 ated using a scaled third-order Newton-Schulz iteration [66].

### 582 D. Computation of the DFT ground-state energy

583 *a. Chebyshev filtered subspace iteration.* An approximation  
584 to the eigenspace of the discrete Kohn-Sham eigenproblem  
585 in Eq. (33), spanned by  $N > N_e/2$  lowest eigenfunctions, is  
586 computed by using a Chebyshev-filtered subspace iteration  
587 (ChFSI) technique [67]. We refer to Refs. [19,34] for the details  
588 of its implementation in the context of finite element dis-  
589 cretization. The ChFSI technique exploits the rapid growth of  
590 Chebyshev polynomials in  $(-\infty, -1)$  to magnify the relevant  
591 eigenspectrum, and thereby providing an efficient approach  
592 for the solution of the Kohn-Sham eigenvalue problem.

593 In each iteration of the SCF procedure, the action of a  
594 Chebyshev filter on a given subspace is accomplished by  
595 the recursive construction of the Chebyshev polynomial of  
596 the discrete Hamiltonian together with its action on the  
597 subspace. This involves matrix-vector multiplications between  
598 the discretized Hamiltonian  $\tilde{\mathbf{H}}$  and the vectors obtained during

the course of the recursive iteration. We note that, if the discretized Hamiltonian is sufficiently sparse and the vectors obtained during the process of recursive iteration of the Chebyshev filtering procedure are sparse, the computational complexity of the relevant matrix-vector multiplications scales as  $\mathcal{O}(N)$ .

*b. Localization and truncation.* Developing a localized representation of the wave functions spanning the occupied eigenspace is one of the key ideas that has been exploited in developing reduced-order scaling algorithms [33,34], and is also employed here. We use the algorithm developed in Ref. [34] to construct a nonorthogonal localized basis of the subspace spanned by Chebyshev filtered wave functions. We recall the main ideas and present them in the context of the Tucker-tensor basis for the sake of completeness. The localized basis of the subspace spanned by the Chebyshev filtered wave functions, henceforth referred to as the localized Chebyshev filtered basis, is obtained by solving the generalized eigenvalue problem for the  $n_P$  smallest eigenvalues for every atom  $P$ ,

$$\mathbf{W}^P \boldsymbol{\alpha} = \lambda \mathbf{S} \boldsymbol{\alpha}, \quad (36)$$

where for  $l, m = 1, \dots, N$

$$W_{lm}^P := \int_{\Omega} |\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{R}_P|^2 \psi_l^f(\mathbf{x}) \psi_m^f(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}, \quad (37a)$$

$$S_{lm} := \int_{\Omega} \psi_l^f(\mathbf{x}) \psi_m^f(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}, \quad (37b)$$

and  $n_P$  denotes the number of localized functions we desire to compute at every atom centered at  $\mathbf{R}_P = (R_{Px_1}, R_{Px_2}, R_{Px_3})$ . The number  $n_P$  is chosen to be equal to the number of occupied single atom orbitals corresponding to the  $P$ th atom;  $\boldsymbol{\alpha}$  is a vector containing the coefficients corresponding to the linear combination of Chebyshev filtered functions  $\{\psi_1^f(\mathbf{x}), \psi_2^f(\mathbf{x}), \dots, \psi_{n_P}^f(\mathbf{x})\}$ . The matrix  $\mathbf{W}^P$  can be recast in matrix notation as

$$\mathbf{W}^P = \mathbf{L}^T \mathbf{K}^P \mathbf{L}, \quad (38)$$

where the columns of the matrix  $\mathbf{L}$  correspond to the coefficients of the Chebyshev filtered wave functions expressed in Tucker-tensor basis, and with

$$K_{ij}^P := \int_{\Omega} |\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{R}_P|^2 T_i^L(\mathbf{x}) T_j^L(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}. \quad (39)$$

Let  $\mathbf{K}^0$  denote the matrix in Eq. (39) for a reference atom located at  $\mathbf{R}_0$ . We note that the matrix  $\mathbf{K}^P$  for any  $P$  can be represented in terms of  $\mathbf{K}^0$  as

$$\mathbf{K}^P = \mathbf{K}^0 + |\mathbf{R}_0 - \mathbf{R}_P|^2 \mathbf{M} + 2 \sum_{k=1}^3 (R_{0x_k} - R_{Px_k}) \mathbf{B}^{x_k}, \quad (40)$$

where

$$\mathbf{K}^0 := (\mathbf{K}_1^0, \mathbf{O}_2, \mathbf{O}_3) + (\mathbf{O}_1, \mathbf{K}_2^0, \mathbf{O}_3) + (\mathbf{O}_1, \mathbf{O}_2, \mathbf{K}_3^0),$$

$$\mathbf{M} := (\mathbf{O}_1, \mathbf{O}_2, \mathbf{O}_3), \quad \mathbf{B}^{x_1} := (\mathbf{B}_1, \mathbf{O}_2, \mathbf{O}_3),$$

$$\mathbf{B}^{x_2} := (\mathbf{O}_1, \mathbf{B}_2, \mathbf{O}_3), \quad \mathbf{B}^{x_3} := (\mathbf{O}_1, \mathbf{O}_2, \mathbf{B}_3),$$

with the notation  $(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{Z}) := \mathbf{X} \otimes \mathbf{Y} \otimes \mathbf{Z}$ ,

and [with  $\phi_{k,i}$  as in Eq. (31)]

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathbf{K}_k^0)_{ij} &:= \int_{\omega_k} (x_k - R_{0x_k})^2 \phi_{k,i}(x_k) \phi_{k,j}(x_k) dx_k, \\ (\mathbf{O}_k)_{ij} &:= \int_{\omega_k} \phi_{k,i}(x_k) \phi_{k,j}(x_k) dx_k, \\ (\mathbf{B}_k)_{ij} &:= \int_{\omega_k} (x_k - R_{0x_k}) \phi_{k,i}(x_k) \phi_{k,j}(x_k) dx_k \end{aligned} \quad (41)$$

for  $k = 1, 2, 3$ . Thus  $\mathbf{W}^P$ , for any atom  $P$ , can be evaluated as a linear combination of five matrices independent of the atom  $P$ , where the integrals involved in each of the matrices can be evaluated as the product of one-dimensional integrals. We note that the matrices  $\mathbf{K}_k^0$ ,  $\mathbf{O}_k$ , and  $\mathbf{B}_k$  are sparse owing to the locality of the Tucker-tensor basis  $\mathbb{T}^L$ , thereby rendering  $\mathbf{K}^P$  sparse. Further, we truncate the wave functions involved in the computation of  $\mathbf{L}$  using a truncation tolerance, rendering  $\mathbf{L}$  sparse. Thus the computational complexity involved in the construction of  $\mathbf{W}^P$  for all atoms  $P = 1, \dots, N_a$  scales as  $\mathcal{O}(N)$ . Using the eigenvectors  $\boldsymbol{\alpha}$  from the solution of the eigenvalue problem in Eq. (36) for each atom  $P$ , the linear combination of the Chebyshev filtered vectors is computed to construct the nonorthogonal localized wave functions, which span the Chebyshev filtered space. We refer to these localized wave functions which span the Chebyshev filtered subspace as the localized Chebyshev filtered wave functions, and denote them in matrix form by  $\Phi_L$ . In practice, we achieve compact support for these localized wave functions by introducing a truncation tolerance.

*c. Computation of the electron-density.* To compute the electron-density in a given self-consistent field iteration, we first evaluate the projection of the Hamiltonian onto the space spanned by the Chebyshev filtered wave functions represented in the basis of the localized Chebyshev filtered functions, which is given by  $\mathbf{H}^\phi = \mathbf{S}^{-1} \Phi_L^T \hat{\mathbf{H}} \Phi_L$  with  $\mathbf{S} = \Phi_L^T \mathbf{M} \Phi_L$  [34]. Furthermore,  $\mathbf{S}^{-1}$  can be computed in  $\mathcal{O}(N)$  complexity if  $\mathbf{S}$  and  $\mathbf{S}^{-1}$  are exponentially localized [68]. If the discretized Hamiltonian  $\hat{\mathbf{H}}$  and the matrix  $\Phi_L$  are sparse with a bandwidth independent of  $N$ ,  $\mathbf{H}^\phi$  can be computed in  $\mathcal{O}(N)$  complexity.

Following [34], the electron-density is given by (cf. Eq. (60) in Ref. [34])

$$\rho(\mathbf{x}) = 2 \mathbf{T}^T(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{M}^{-1/2} \Phi_L f(\mathbf{H}^\phi) \mathbf{S}^{-1} \Phi_L^T \mathbf{M}^{-1/2} \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{x}), \quad (42)$$

where  $\mathbf{T}^T(\mathbf{x}) = [T_1(\mathbf{x}), T_2(\mathbf{x}), T_3(\mathbf{x}), \dots, T_{r_d}(\mathbf{x})]$  and

$$f(\mathbf{H}^\phi) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp\left(\frac{\mathbf{H}^\phi - \mu}{\sigma}\right)}, \quad (43)$$

with  $\mu$  being the chemical potential,  $\sigma = k_B T$ , and  $k_B$  the Boltzmann constant. A Chebyshev polynomial expansion is used to approximate  $f(\mathbf{H}^\phi)$  in Eq. (43), and if  $\mathbf{H}^\phi$  is sufficiently sparse,  $f(\mathbf{H}^\phi)$  can be computed in  $\mathcal{O}(N)$  complexity [27]. Furthermore, the computation of the Chebyshev polynomial expansion requires the evaluation of the Fermi energy  $\mu$ , which is achieved by using the constraint

$$2 \text{tr}(f(\mathbf{H}^\phi)) = N_e. \quad (44)$$

Here,  $N_e$  is the number of electrons in the given system. The Fermi energy can be efficiently computed with the methods described in Ref. [27], which scale as  $\mathcal{O}(N)$ . Finally, the band



energy required in computing the total energy of the system is evaluated by

$$E_{\text{band}} = 2 \sum_{i=1}^N f(\epsilon_i, \mu) \epsilon_i = 2 \text{tr}(f(\mathbf{H}^\phi) \mathbf{H}^\phi). \quad (45)$$

## V. NUMERICAL SIMULATIONS

In this section, we investigate the accuracy, performance, and scaling of the proposed Tucker-tensor algorithm for the solution of the Kohn-Sham equations. As benchmark examples we conduct pseudopotential calculations on nonperiodic three-dimensional materials systems representative of both metallic and insulating systems. The benchmark metallic systems considered include aluminum nanoclusters of various sizes: single aluminum atom, aluminum dimer, and nanoclusters containing  $1 \times 1 \times 1$  (14 atoms),  $2 \times 2 \times 2$  (63 atoms),  $3 \times 3 \times 3$  (172 atoms),  $4 \times 4 \times 4$  (365 atoms), and  $5 \times 5 \times 5$  (666 atoms) face-centered-cubic (fcc) unit cells. The benchmark insulating systems include methane molecule and alkane chains  $C_8H_{18}$ ,  $C_{16}H_{34}$ , and  $C_{33}H_{68}$ . The  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$  axes for the Tucker tensor calculations are chosen as the eigendirections of the moment of inertia tensor of the atomic system computed using the atomic locations and atomic masses of the various elements in the materials system. This provides a systematic approach of orienting the axis to align with the atomistic system and improve the efficiency of the Tucker tensor approach. In all our simulations, we choose the ranks  $r_\rho$ ,  $r_v$ , and the number  $T$  of terms in the expansion in Eq. (17), such that the approximation errors are higher-order compared to the discretization errors of the finite-dimensional Tucker-tensor basis in Eq. (24). In particular, we choose the ranks

$$r_\rho = r_v := 45, \quad T := 35,$$

and the values of  $\alpha_n$  and  $\beta_n$  are taken from Ref. [61]. Norm-conserving Troullier-Martins pseudopotentials [58] have been employed in the case of aluminum nanoclusters and alkane chains for investigating the performance of method I in the proposed Tucker-tensor algorithm, while bulk local pseudopotentials [70] are employed for conducting a comparative study between methods I and II. We use the  $n$ -stage Anderson mixing scheme [69] on the electron density for the self-consistent field iteration of the Kohn-Sham problem, and employed a stopping tolerance of  $10^{-7}$  in the square of the  $L^2$  norm of electron density difference between successive iterations. The Chebyshev filtered subspace iteration is used with a Chebyshev polynomial degree of 25 for the computation of the eigenspace associated with the occupied states. In our current Python implementation, all the matrices expressed in the Tucker-tensor basis are parallelized using MPI, and are executed on a parallel computing cluster with the following specifications: dual-socket eight-core Intel Core Sandybridge CPU nodes with 16 processors (cores) per node, 64 GB memory per node, and 40 Gbps Infiniband networking between all nodes for fast MPI communications. However, the ALS algorithm [Eq. (4)] employed in computing the Tucker-tensor decomposition of the three-dimensional fields, is not parallelized, thus requiring the various fields ( $\rho$ ,  $V_H$ ,  $V_{\text{eff}}$ ) on the tensor-structured grid to be stored locally on every compute node. This has limited the size of the materials systems considered in the present study.

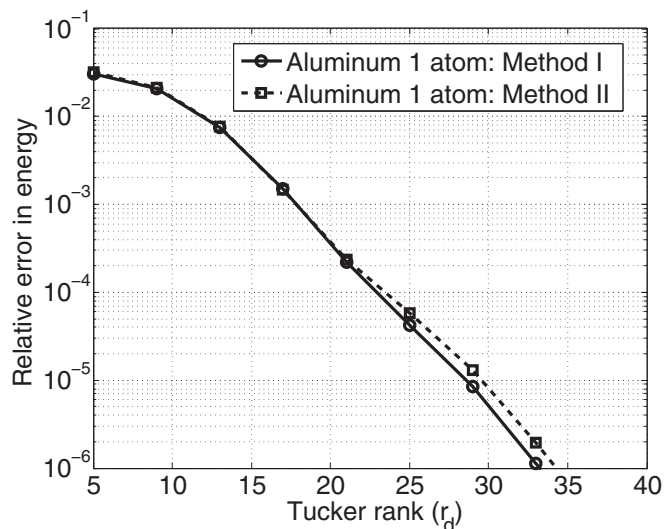


FIG. 1. Convergence of the ground-state energy with respect to the Tucker rank using local pseudopotential. Case study: aluminum atom.

The computational complexity of the proposed subspace projection algorithm relies on the locality of the Tucker-tensor basis, the locality of the localized Chebyshev filtered wave functions spanning the occupied space, and the dependence of the rank  $r_d$  on the system size. The truncation tolerances employed in the various stages of the algorithm determine the sparsity of the matrices in our formulation ( $\tilde{\mathbf{H}}, \mathbf{H}^\phi, \Phi_L, \mathbf{S}, \mathbf{W}^P$ ). In the present study, we use dense data structures for all the matrices involved, since the truncation tolerances employed in our simulations resulted in matrices with fraction of nonzero entries greater than 2% for the materials systems studied. The overhead cost of using a sparse data-structure at these density fractions results in more computational inefficiencies than treating the matrices as dense matrices.

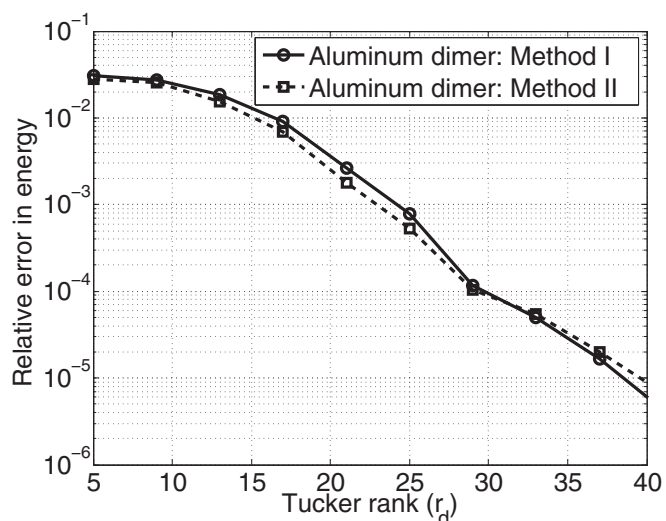


FIG. 2. Convergence of the ground-state energy with respect to the Tucker rank using local pseudopotential. Case study: aluminum dimer.

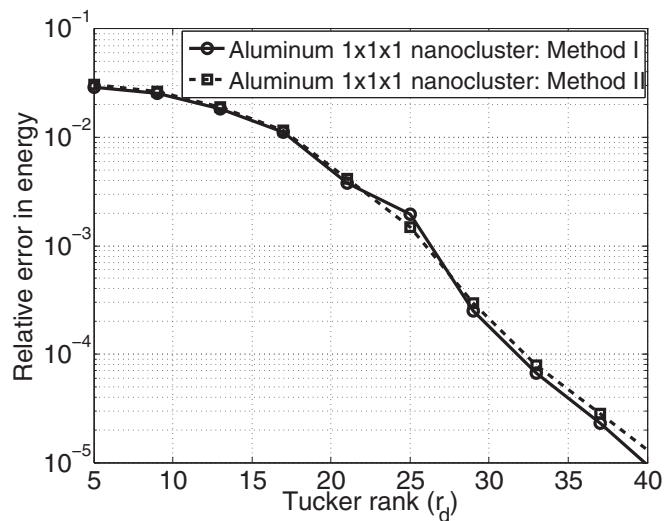


FIG. 3. Convergence of the ground-state energy with respect to the Tucker rank using local pseudopotential. Case study: Aluminum  $1 \times 1 \times 1$  nanocluster

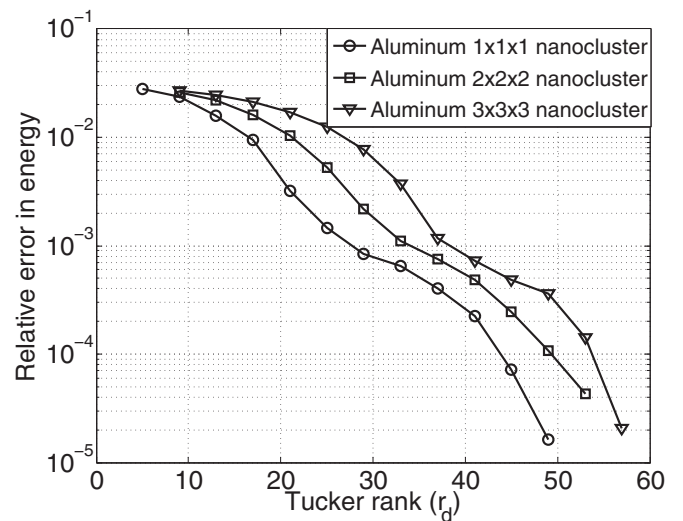


FIG. 5. Convergence of the ground-state energy with respect to the Tucker rank for nonlocal pseudopotential using method I. Case study: aluminum nanoclusters.

In the present work, we employ the recently developed real-space approach for Kohn-Sham DFT calculations using a higher-order finite element basis [19,34] to provide reference energies to assess the approximation errors in the ground-state energies obtained with the proposed Tucker-tensor approach. These reference energies are converged up to 0.1 meV in the ground-state energy per atom with respect to discretization and other numerical parameters.

#### A. Metallic systems

We first conduct a comparative study between the two methods of constructing the separable Hamiltonian which were proposed in Sec. IV A. To this end, we employ bulk local pseudopotentials [70] to conduct simulations on three

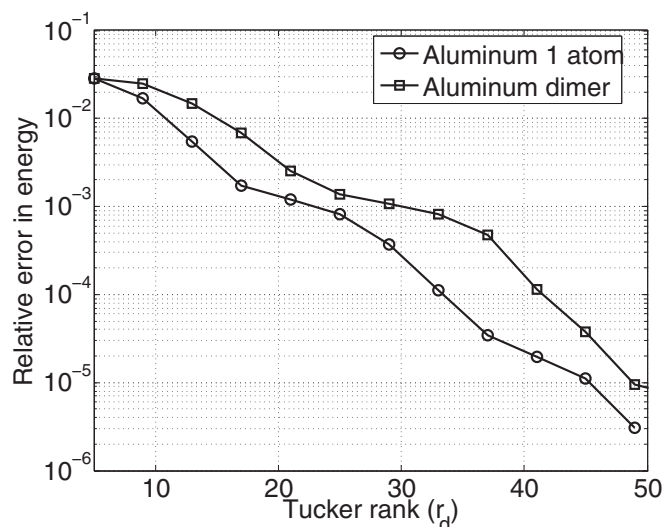


FIG. 4. Convergence of the ground-state energy with respect to the Tucker rank for nonlocal pseudopotential using method I. Case study: aluminum atom and dimer.

benchmark examples consisting of a single aluminum atom, aluminum dimer, and an aluminum nanocluster containing  $1 \times 1 \times 1$  (14 atoms) fcc unit cell with a lattice constant of 7.45 a.u. For each of these benchmark systems, the relative error in ground-state energy is computed as a function of the Tucker rank  $r_d$ , and is plotted in Figs. 1–3. The results show that both methods of computing the separable Hamiltonian provide similar accuracies in the ground-state energies. Further, there is an exponential convergence in the ground-state energy for increasing Tucker ranks. We also note that the Tucker rank required to achieve chemical accuracy ( $\sim 5$  meV in the ground-state energy per atom) is weakly dependent on the system size:  $\sim 25$  for single atom,  $\sim 30$  for dimer, and  $\sim 32$  for  $1 \times 1 \times 1$  aluminum nanocluster.

We next employ method I for computing the separable Hamiltonian while using the norm-conserving Troullier-Martins pseudopotentials [58] in the Kleinman-Bylander form [59]. The convergence of the ground-state energy with the Tucker rank is examined for the benchmark systems comprising of single aluminum atom, aluminum dimer, and aluminum nanoclusters containing  $1 \times 1 \times 1$  (14 atoms),  $2 \times 2 \times 2$  (63 atoms), and  $3 \times 3 \times 3$  (172 atoms) fcc unit cells with a lattice constant of 7.45 a.u. Figures 4 and 5 show these results which indicate an exponential rate of convergence

TABLE I. Ground-state energies per atom (eV) for various sizes of aluminum nanoclusters computed with the proposed algorithm.

Al cluster	Tucker rank	Energy	Ref. energy
$1 \times 1 \times 1$	45	-55.80965	-55.81430
$2 \times 2 \times 2$	49	-56.45924	-56.46504
$3 \times 3 \times 3$	53	-56.69260	-56.69669
$4 \times 4 \times 4$	57	-56.80104	-56.80561
$4 \times 4 \times 4$ with 5 vacancies	57	-56.76531	-56.76964
$5 \times 5 \times 5$	60	-56.87367	-56.87822

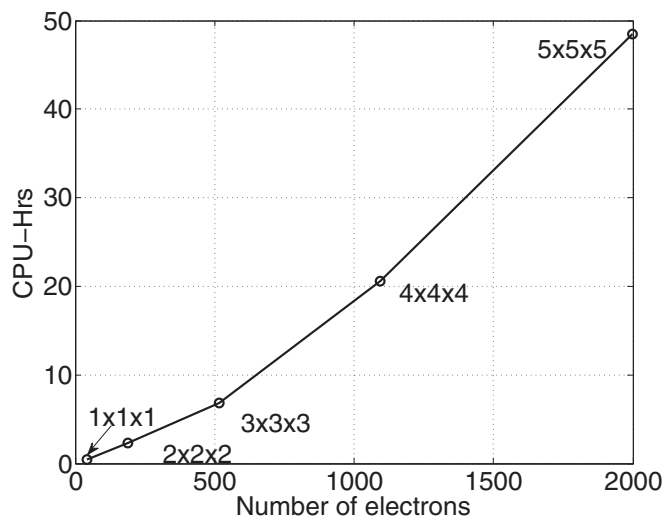


FIG. 6. Computational CPU-time per SCF iteration for  $1 \times 1 \times 1$  to  $5 \times 5 \times 5$  fcc Al nanoclusters.

TABLE III. Comparison of the proposed Tucker-tensor approach with plane-wave basis for a  $5 \times 5 \times 5$  FCC Al cluster. Reference ground-state energy for this system is  $-56.87822$  eV per atom.

Type of basis set	Number of basis functions	Absolute error in energy per atom (meV)	Time (CPU hrs)
Plane-waves basis (cutoff energy 20 Ha; cell size 80 a.u.)	1,093,421	4.3	8640
Tucker basis	216,000	4.6	2364

size for the aluminum clusters is found to be  $\mathcal{O}(N^{1.2})$ . It is remarkable that we obtain close to linear-scaling complexity even for metallic systems with the proposed Tucker-tensor algorithm for the range of systems studied. Albeit using dense data structures in our computations, we obtain close to linear-scaling complexity due to the sublinear dependence of the number of Tucker-tensor basis functions on the system size. We expect that in the limit of very large system sizes, the number of Tucker-tensor basis functions will grow linearly with the system size. However, the increase in system size renders the matrices involved in the proposed algorithm sparse, owing to the locality in the Tucker-tensor basis and the localized Chebyshev filtered wave functions. We note that the complexity estimates for the proposed Tucker-tensor algorithm (cf. Sec. IV) suggest linear-scaling complexity with system size for the case of sparse matrices. Thus we expect the close to linear-scaling computational complexity to also hold in the limit of large system sizes.

Tables II and III show the comparison of computational time and number of basis functions for the proposed algorithm using Tucker-tensor basis and plane-wave basis (ABINIT software [71]) for the computation of ground-state energy of  $3 \times 3 \times 3$  and  $5 \times 5 \times 5$  aluminum nanoclusters to within discretization error of less than 5 meV. The parameters used in the Tucker tensor calculations (domain size, SCF mixing scheme and stopping tolerances) have also been used in the plane-wave calculations for a consistent comparison. These results show that the proposed Tucker-tensor approach requires a 3–5 times lower number of Tucker-tensor basis functions in comparison to the number of plane-wave basis functions.

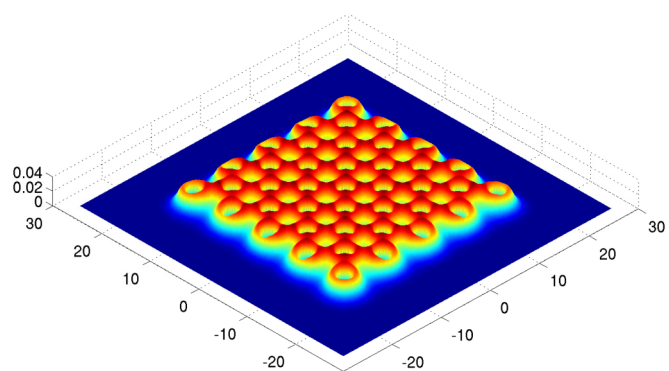


FIG. 7. Electron-density contours on the midplane of  $4 \times 4 \times 4$  fcc nanoclusters.

of the ground state energy with increasing Tucker rank. Furthermore, the number of basis functions,  $r_d^3$ , required to obtain chemical accuracy in the ground-state energy, for the case of nonlocal pseudopotentials, grows sublinearly with system size as  $\mathcal{O}(N^{0.22})$  for the range of systems studied—with Tucker rank  $r_d$  being  $\sim 33$  for single atom,  $\sim 41$  for dimer, and around 45, 49, and 53 for  $1 \times 1 \times 1$ ,  $2 \times 2 \times 2$ , and  $3 \times 3 \times 3$  aluminum nanoclusters, respectively. Moreover, we obtained ground-state energies within chemical accuracy for  $4 \times 4 \times 4$  and  $5 \times 5 \times 5$  nanoclusters using the Tucker-tensor basis with Tucker ranks of 57 and 60, respectively. We also introduced 5 random vacancies in the  $4 \times 4 \times 4$  nanocluster and found that the ground-state energy within chemical accuracy is obtained with a Tucker basis of rank 57 even for this system. The ground-state energies computed with the proposed Tucker-tensor algorithm are tabulated in Table I, and are within chemical accuracy of the reference energies. This demonstrates the effectiveness of the computed Tucker-tensor basis in accurately representing the electronic structure of materials systems with varying sizes and complexity.

The computational CPU times per SCF iteration for each of these systems is plotted against the number of electrons in Fig. 6. All computational times reported in this study denote CPU times in hours (CPU time = number of cores  $\times$  wall-clock time in hours). The scaling with the system

TABLE II. Comparison of the proposed Tucker-tensor approach with plane-wave basis for a  $3 \times 3 \times 3$  FCC Al cluster. Reference ground-state energy for this system is  $-56.69669$  eV per atom.

Type of basis set	Number of basis functions	Absolute error in energy per atom (meV)	Time (CPU hrs)
Plane-waves basis (cutoff energy 20 Ha; cell size 60 a.u.)	461,165	3.8	910
Tucker basis	148,877	4.1	360

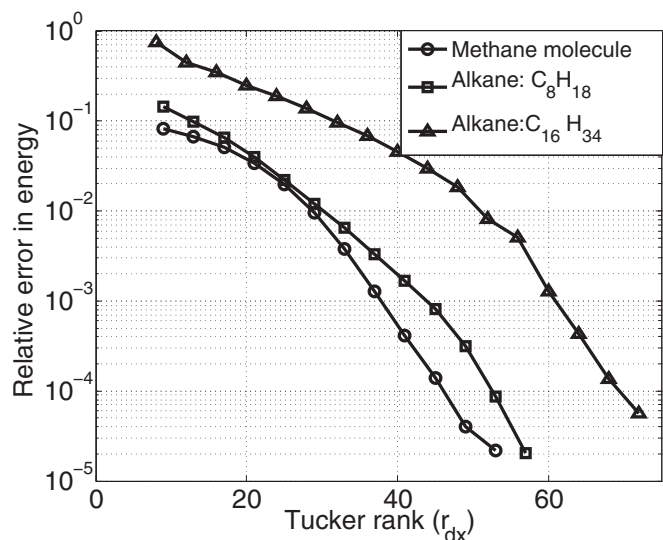


FIG. 8. Convergence of the ground-state energy with respect to the Tucker rank ( $r_{dx}$ ) for the insulating benchmark systems.

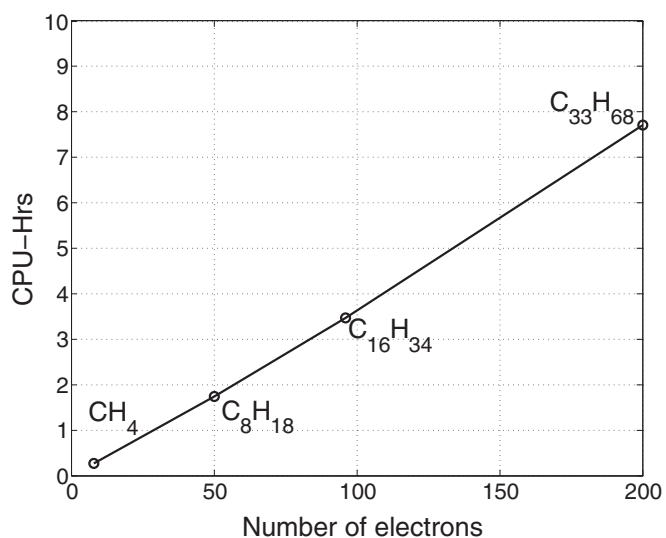


FIG. 9. Computational CPU time per SCF iteration for the insulating benchmark systems.

838 The computational times for the proposed methodology and  
 839 the current nonoptimized implementation are also lower than  
 840 the plane-wave implementation in ABINIT by a factor of 2.5  
 841 in the case of  $3 \times 3 \times 3$  aluminum nanocluster and by a  
 842 factor of 3.7 in the case of  $5 \times 5 \times 5$  aluminum nanocluster.  
 843 Further optimization of our in-house code may lead to more  
 844 significant speedups than the factors reported here, and may  
 845 provide significant savings in the computational times for  
 846 large-scale DFT calculations. Figure 7 shows the electron-  
 847 density contours on the mid-plane of a  $4 \times 4 \times 4$  nanocluster  
 848 computed with the proposed Tucker-tensor approach.

### B. Insulating systems

849  
 850 We consider three-dimensional alkane chains as our bench-  
 851 mark systems, including  $\text{CH}_4$  (methane),  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{18}$ ,  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{34}$ ,  
 852 and  $\text{C}_{33}\text{H}_{68}$ . We use norm-conserving Troullier-Martins pseu-  
 853 dopotentials [58], and method I for computing the separable  
 854 approximation of the Hamiltonian. We orient the alkane chains  
 855 along the  $x$  direction and use C-C and C-H bond lengths to  
 856 be 2.91018 and 2.0598 a.u. with the H-C-H and C-C-C bond  
 857 angles taken to be  $109.47^\circ$ . Figure 8 shows the convergence  
 858 of the ground-state energy with increasing Tucker rank  $r_{dx}$ .  
 859 For these simulations, we choose  $r_{dy} = r_{dz} = 46$  for methane  
 860 and  $r_{dy} = r_{dz} = 55$  for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{18}$ ,  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{34}$  and  $\text{C}_{33}\text{H}_{68}$ . In the  
 861 case of alkane chains, the results indicate that the Tucker  
 862 rank required to achieve chemical accuracy in the ground-state

energy is— $r_{dx} \sim 46$  for  $\text{CH}_4$ ,  $r_{dx} \sim 55$  for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{18}$ ,  $r_{dx} \sim 68$  863  
 for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{34}$ , and  $r_{dx} \sim 85$  for  $\text{C}_{33}\text{H}_{68}$ . Furthermore, the number 864  
 of basis functions ( $r_{dx}r_{dy}r_{dz}$ ) grows sublinearly with the 865  
 system size as  $\mathcal{O}(N^{0.3})$  for the range of systems studied. 866  
 The computed ground-state energies with their Tucker ranks 867  
 are tabulated in Table IV. The computational CPU times per 868  
 SCF iteration for these systems plotted against the number 869  
 of electrons are given in Fig. 9, and the scaling with system 870  
 size is found to be  $\mathcal{O}(N^{1.05})$ . Figure 10 shows the electronic 871  
 structure—isocontours of the electron density—of  $\text{CH}_4$  and 872  
 $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{18}$ . 873

TABLE IV. Ground-state energies per atom (eV) for the various insulating systems computed using the proposed algorithm.

Cluster	Tucker rank( $r_{dx}$ )	Energy	Ref. energy
$\text{CH}_4$	46	-43.73506	-43.73892
$\text{C}_8\text{H}_{18}$	55	-58.77419	-58.77903
$\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{34}$	68	-60.49686	-60.50081
$\text{C}_{33}\text{H}_{68}$	85	-61.43695	-61.44174

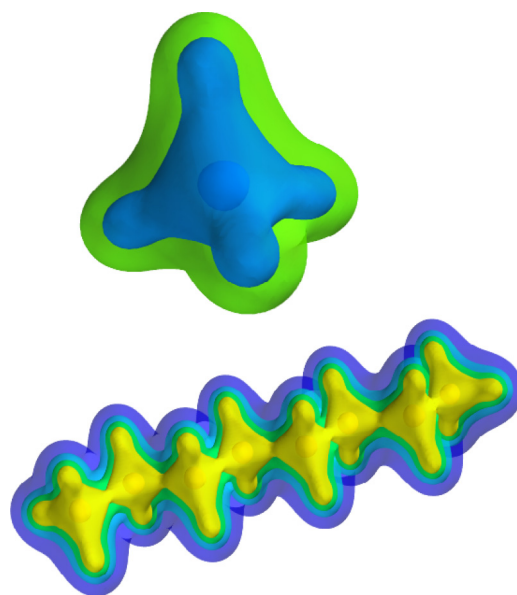


FIG. 10. Isocontours of the electron density of  $\text{CH}_4$  and  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{18}$  computed with the proposed Tucker-tensor DFT algorithm.

## VI. SUMMARY

1 875 An algorithm for the solution of the Kohn-Sham problem  
 876 is presented that exploits the low-rank approximation of the  
 877 electronic-structure afforded by Tucker-tensor representations.  
 878 A systematic procedure is developed for computing a localized  
 879 Tucker-tensor basis adapted to the Kohn-Sham eigenvalue  
 880 problem. To this end, in every iteration of the self-consistent  
 881 field procedure of the Kohn-Sham problem, a separable  
 882 approximation of the Kohn-Sham Hamiltonian is constructed,  
 883 and the localized Tucker-tensor basis is computed using the  
 884 eigenfunctions of the separable Hamiltonians in each spatial  
 885 dimension. The localized Tucker-tensor basis is subsequently  
 886 used to solve the Kohn-Sham eigenvalue problem by using  
 887 Chebyshev filtering and Fermi-operator expansion techniques  
 888 to compute the occupied eigenspace and the electron-density.  
 889 Numerical investigations on representative benchmark exam-  
 890 ples reveal an exponential convergence of the ground-state  
 891 energy with respect to the Tucker rank. In addition, the Tucker  
 892 rank required to obtain chemical accuracy in the computed  
 893 ground-state energies is found to only weakly depend on the  
 894 system size, with the number of Tucker-tensor basis functions  
 895 exhibiting a sublinear dependence on the system size for  
 896 the range of benchmark systems considered in this study.  
 897 Our benchmark studies suggest further that the proposed  
 898 algorithm exhibits a close to linear-scaling complexity with  
 899 system size for both insulating and metallic systems. This  
 900 reduced-order scaling is a result of combining the low-rank  
 901 Tucker-tensor basis with localization techniques, and consti-  
 902 tutes a promising direction for large-scale DFT calculations.  
 903 A comparative numerical study for  $3 \times 3 \times 3$  and  $5 \times 5 \times 5$

aluminum nanoclusters as benchmark systems shows about 904  
 a fivefold reduction in the number of basis functions and 905  
 about a three to fourfold computational speedup for the current 906  
 implementation of the proposed algorithm over the plane-wave 907  
 implementation in ABINIT. We note that there is much scope for 908  
 optimizing our current Python implementation, and thus the 909  
 computational efficiency afforded by the proposed algorithm 910  
 may potentially be much larger. Finally, in the present work, 911  
 we used a serial version of the ALS algorithm to compute 912  
 the Tucker-tensor decomposition of the three-dimensional 913  
 fields, thus limiting the sizes of the materials systems to 914  
 those systems where the data corresponding to all relevant 915  
 three-dimensional fields is accommodated in the memory 916  
 of a single compute node. Overcoming this limitation, and 917  
 developing an efficient and scalable parallel implementation 918  
 of all aspects of the proposed algorithm has the potential 919  
 to enabling DFT calculations on system sizes not accessible 920  
 heretofore. 921

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