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Strong convergence of projection methods for a countable family of nonexpansive mappings and applications to constrained convex minimization problems

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Abstract

In this paper, we introduce a general algorithm to approximate common fixed points for a countable family of nonexpansive mappings in a real Hilbert space, which solves a corresponding variational inequality. Furthermore, we propose explicit iterative schemes for finding the approximate minimizer of a constrained convex minimization problem and prove that the sequences generated by our schemes converge strongly to a solution of the constrained convex minimization problem. Our results improve and generalize some known results in the current literature.

MSC: 47H10; 37C25

Keywords: countable family of nonexpansive mappings; fixed point; strong convergence; constrained convex minimization problem; projection method

1 Introduction

A viscosity approximation method for finding fixed points of nonexpansive mappings was first proposed by Moudafi in 2000 [1]. He proved the convergence of the sequence generated by the proposed method. In 2004, Xu [2] proved the strong convergence of the sequence generated by the viscosity approximation method to a unique solution of a certain variational inequality problem defined on the set of fixed points of a nonexpansive map.

It is well known that the iterative methods for finding fixed points of nonexpansive mappings can also be used to solve a convex minimization problem; see, for example, [3–5] and the references therein. In 2003, Xu [4] introduced an iterative method for computing the approximate solutions of a quadratic minimization problem over the set of fixed points of a nonexpansive mapping defined on a real Hilbert space. He proved that the sequence generated by the proposed method converges strongly to the unique solution of the quadratic minimization problem. By combining the iterative schemes proposed by Moudafi [1] and Xu [4], Marino and Xu [6] considered a general iterative method and proved that the sequence generated by the method converges strongly to a unique solution of a certain variational inequality problem, which is the optimality condition for a particular minimization problem. Liu [7] and Qin *et al.* [8] also studied some applications of the iterative method considered in [6]. Yamada [5] introduced the so-called hybrid steepest-descent method

for solving the variational inequality problem and also studied the convergence of the sequence generated by the proposed method. Very recently, Tian [9] combined the iterative methods of [5, 6] in order to propose implicit and explicit schemes for constructing a fixed point of a nonexpansive mapping T defined on a real Hilbert space. He also proved the strong convergence of these two schemes to a fixed point of T under appropriate conditions. Related iterative methods for solving fixed point problems, variational inequalities and optimization problems can be found in [10–15] and the references therein.

On the other hand, the gradient-projection method for finding the approximate solutions of the constrained convex minimization problem is well known; see, for example, [16] and the references therein. The convergence of the sequence generated by this method depends on the behavior of the gradient of the objective function. If the gradient fails to be strongly monotone, then the strong convergence of the sequence generated by the gradient-projection method may fail. Very recently, Xu [17] gave an operator-oriented approach as an alternative to the gradient-projection method and to the relaxed gradient-projection algorithm, namely, an averaged mapping approach. Moreover, he constructed a counterexample which shows that the sequence generated by the gradient-projection method does not converge strongly in the setting of an infinite-dimensional space. He also presented two modifications of gradient-projection algorithms which are shown to have strong convergence. Further, he regularized the minimization problem to derive an iterative scheme that generates a sequence converging in norm to the minimum-norm solution of the constrained convex minimization problem in the consistent case. The related methods and results can be found in [18–26] and the references therein. By virtue of projections, the authors in [27] extended the implicit and explicit iterative schemes proposed in [9].

The purpose of this paper is to introduce a general algorithm to approximate common fixed points for a countable family of nonexpansive mappings in a real Hilbert space. We prove the strong convergence theorems for the sequences produced by the methods to a common fixed point of a countable family of nonexpansive mappings which is the unique solution of a corresponding variational inequality. We also propose explicit iterative schemes for finding the approximate minimizer of a constrained convex minimization problem and prove that the sequences generated by our schemes converge strongly to a solution of the constrained convex minimization problem. Our results improve and generalize some known results in the current literature, see, for example, [27, 28].

2 Preliminaries

Throughout this paper, we denote the set of real numbers and the set of positive integers by \mathbb{R} and \mathbb{N} , respectively. Let H be a real Hilbert space, and let C be a nonempty subset of H . Let $T : C \rightarrow C$ be a mapping. We denote by $F(T)$ the set of fixed points of T , i.e., $F(T) = \{x \in C : Tx = x\}$.

Definition 2.1 (i) A mapping $T : C \rightarrow C$ is said to be *nonexpansive* if $\|Tx - Ty\| \leq \|x - y\|$ for all x, y in C . T is said to be *quasi-nonexpansive* if $F(T) \neq \emptyset$ and $\|Tx - y\| \leq \|x - y\|$ for all x in C and y in $F(T)$.

(ii) A mapping $T : H \rightarrow H$ is said to be an *averaged mapping* [29] if it can be written as the average of the identity I and a nonexpansive mapping; that is,

$$T = (1 - \alpha)I + \alpha S, \tag{2.1}$$

where α is a number in $(0, 1)$, and $S : H \rightarrow H$ is nonexpansive. More precisely, when (2.1), holds, we say that T is α -averaged.

(iii) A mapping $B : C \rightarrow H$ is said to be L -Lipschitzian if $\|Bx - By\| \leq L\|x - y\|$, $\forall x, y \in C$, where $L \geq 0$ is a constant. In particular, if $L \in [0, 1)$, then B is called a *contraction* on C ; if $L = 1$, then B is nonexpansive.

(iv) A mapping $V : D(V) \subset H \rightarrow H$ is called *firmly nonexpansive* [30] if

$$\langle x - y, Vx - Vy \rangle \geq \|Vx - Vy\|^2, \quad \forall x, y \in D(V),$$

where $D(V)$ is the domain of V .

Clearly, a firmly nonexpansive mapping is a $\frac{1}{2}$ -averaged map.

Proposition 2.1 [31, 32] *Let H be a real Hilbert space, and let $S, T, B : H \rightarrow H$ be mappings.*

- (a) *If $T = (1 - \alpha)S + \alpha B$ for some α in $(0, 1)$, and if S is averaged, and B is nonexpansive, then T is averaged.*
- (b) *T is firmly nonexpansive if and only if the complement $(I - T)$ is firmly nonexpansive.*
- (c) *If $T = (1 - \alpha)S + \alpha B$ for some α in $(0, 1)$, and if S is firmly nonexpansive, and B is nonexpansive, then T is averaged.*

Recall that the metric (or nearest point) projection from H onto C is the mapping $P_C : H \rightarrow C$, which assigns to each point x in H the unique point $P_C x$ in C satisfying the property

$$\|x - P_C x\| = d(x, C) := \inf_{y \in C} \|x - y\|.$$

Lemma 2.1 [30] *Let H be a real Hilbert space. For given x in H :*

- (a) *$z = P_C x$ if and only if*

$$\langle z - x, z - y \rangle \leq 0, \quad \forall y \in C.$$

- (b) *$z = P_C x$ if and only if*

$$\|x - z\|^2 \leq \|x - y\|^2 - \|y - z\|^2, \quad \forall y \in C.$$

- (c)

$$\langle P_C x - P_C y, x - y \rangle \geq \|P_C x - P_C y\|^2, \quad \forall x, y \in H.$$

Consequently, P_C is nonexpansive and monotone.

In general, a projection mapping is firmly nonexpansive, and, thus, a $1/2$ -averaged map.

Lemma 2.2 *The following inequality holds in an inner product space X :*

$$\|x + y\|^2 \leq \|x\|^2 + 2\langle y, x + y \rangle, \quad \forall x, y \in X.$$

Lemma 2.3 [33] *In a Hilbert space H , we have*

$$\|\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y\|^2 = \lambda\|x\|^2 + (1 - \lambda)\|y\|^2 - \lambda(1 - \lambda)\|x - y\|^2, \quad \forall x, y \in H \text{ and } \lambda \in [0, 1].$$

Lemma 2.4 (Demiclosedness principle [33]) *Let $T : C \rightarrow C$ be a nonexpansive mapping with $F(T) \neq \emptyset$. If $\{x_n\}$ is a sequence in C that converges weakly to x , and if $\{(I - T)x_n\}$ converges strongly to y , then $(I - T)x = y$; in particular, if $y = 0$, then $x \in F(T)$.*

Definition 2.2 Let H be a real Hilbert space. A nonlinear operator T , whose domain $D(T) \subset H$ and range $R(T) \subset H$ is said to be:

(a) *monotone* if

$$\langle x - y, Tx - Ty \rangle \geq 0, \quad \forall x, y \in D(T),$$

(b) *η -strongly monotone* if there exists $\eta > 0$ such that

$$\langle x - y, Tx - Ty \rangle \geq \eta\|x - y\|^2, \quad \forall x, y \in D(T),$$

(c) *α -inverse strongly monotone* (for short, α -ism) if there exists $\alpha > 0$ such that

$$\langle x - y, Tx - Ty \rangle \geq \alpha\|Tx - Ty\|^2, \quad \forall x, y \in D(T).$$

It can be easily seen that (i) if T is nonexpansive, then $I - T$ is monotone; (ii) the projection map P_C is a 1-ism. The inverse strongly monotone (also referred to as co-coercive) operators have been widely used to solve practical problems in various fields, for instance, in traffic assignment problems; see, for example, [34, 35] and the references therein.

Proposition 2.2 [31] *Let $T : H \rightarrow H$ be an operator.*

(a) *T is nonexpansive if and only if the complement $I - T$ is $\frac{1}{2}$ -ism.*

(b) *If T is ν -ism, then γT is $\frac{\nu}{\gamma}$ -ism for $\nu > 0$.*

(b) *T is averaged if and only if the complement $I - T$ is ν -ism for some $\nu > \frac{1}{2}$. Indeed, for α in $(0, 1)$, T is α -averaged if and only if $I - T$ is $\frac{1}{2\alpha}$ -ism.*

Lemma 2.5 [27] *Let $B : C \rightarrow H$ be an L -Lipschitzian mapping with constant $L \geq 0$, and let $A : C \rightarrow H$ be a κ -Lipschitzian and η -strongly monotone operator with constants $\kappa, \eta > 0$. Then for $0 \leq \gamma L < \mu\eta$, we have*

$$\langle x - y, (\mu A - \gamma B)x - (\mu A - \gamma B)y \rangle \geq (\mu\eta - \gamma L)\|x - y\|^2, \quad \forall x, y \in C.$$

That is, $\mu A - \gamma B$ is strongly monotone with coefficient $\mu\eta - \gamma L$.

The following lemma plays a key role in proving strong convergence of our iterative schemes.

Lemma 2.6 [5, Lemma 3.1] *Suppose that $\lambda \in (0, 1)$ and $\mu, \kappa, \eta > 0$. Let $A : C \rightarrow H$ be an L -Lipschitzian and η -strongly monotone operator on C . In association with a nonexpansive*

mapping $T : C \rightarrow C$, define the mapping $T^\lambda : C \rightarrow H$ by

$$T^\lambda x := Tx - \lambda \mu A(Tx), \quad \forall x \in C.$$

Then T^λ is a contraction provided $\mu < \frac{2\eta}{\kappa^2}$, that is,

$$\|T^\lambda x - T^\lambda y\| \leq (1 - \lambda \tau) \|x - y\|, \quad \forall x, y \in C,$$

where $\tau = 1 - \sqrt{1 - \mu(2\eta - \mu\kappa^2)} \in (0, 1]$.

Let $A : C \rightarrow H$ be a κ -Lipschitzian and η -strongly monotone operator with constants $\kappa, \eta > 0$. Let $B : C \rightarrow E$ be an L -Lipschitzian mapping with constant $L \geq 0$. Assume that $T : C \rightarrow C$ is a nonexpansive mapping with $F(T) \neq \emptyset$. Let $0 < \mu < \frac{2\eta}{\kappa^2}$ and $0 \leq \gamma L < \tau$, where $\tau = 1 - \sqrt{1 - \mu(2\eta - \mu\kappa^2)}$. Let the net $\{x_t\}_{t \in (0,1)}$ be generated by the following implicit scheme:

$$x_t = P_C [t\gamma Bx_t + (I - t\mu A)Tx_t]. \quad (2.2)$$

Then $\{x_t\}_{t \in (0,1)}$ converges strongly to a fixed point \tilde{x} of T , which solves the variational inequality

$$\langle (\gamma B - \mu A)\tilde{x}, \tilde{x} - z \rangle \leq 0, \quad \forall z \in F(T). \quad (2.3)$$

Let the sequence $\{x_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be generated by the following explicit scheme:

$$x_{n+1} = P_C [\alpha_n \gamma Bx_n + (I - \alpha_n \mu A)Tx_n]. \quad (2.4)$$

Then $\{x_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ converges strongly to a fixed point \tilde{x} of T , which is also a solution of the variational inequality (2.3), see, for more details, [27].

Consider a self-mapping S_t on C defined by

$$S_t x = P_C [t\gamma Bx_t + (I - t\mu A)Tx], \quad \forall x \in C. \quad (2.5)$$

Then, S_t is a contraction, and it has a unique fixed point in C , which uniquely solves the fixed point equation (2.2), see [27] for more details.

Proposition 2.3 [27, Proposition 3.1] *Let H be a real Hilbert space, and let C be a nonempty, closed and convex subset of H . Let $A : C \rightarrow H$ be a κ -Lipschitzian and η -strongly accretive operator with constants $\kappa, \eta > 0$. Let $B : C \rightarrow H$ be an L -Lipschitzian mapping with constant $L \geq 0$. Assume that $T : C \rightarrow C$ is a nonexpansive mapping with $F(T) \neq \emptyset$. Let $0 < \mu < \frac{2\eta}{\kappa^2}$ and $0 \leq \gamma L < \tau$, where $\tau = 1 - \sqrt{1 - \mu(2\eta - \mu\kappa^2)}$. For each t in $(0, 1)$, let x_t denote a unique solution of the fixed point equation (2.2). Then, the following properties hold for the net $\{x_t\}_{t \in (0,1)}$:*

- (1) $\{x_t\}_{t \in (0,1)}$ is bounded;
- (2) $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \|x_t - Tx_t\| = 0$;
- (3) $t \mapsto x_t$ defines a continuous curve from $(0, 1)$ into C .

Theorem 2.1 [27, Theorem 3.1] *Let H be a real Hilbert space, and let C be a nonempty, closed and convex subset of H . Let $A : C \rightarrow H$ be an κ -Lipschitzian and η -strongly accretive operator with constants $\kappa, \eta > 0$. Let $B : C \rightarrow H$ be an L -Lipschitzian mapping with constant $L \geq 0$. Assume $T : C \rightarrow C$ is a nonexpansive mapping with $F(T) \neq \emptyset$. Let $0 < \mu < \frac{2\eta}{\kappa^2}$ and $0 \leq \gamma L < \tau$, where $\tau = 1 - \sqrt{1 - \mu(2\eta - \mu\kappa^2)}$. For each t in $(0, 1)$, let $\{x_t\}$ denote the unique solution of the fixed point equation (2.2). Then the net $\{x_t\}$ converges strongly, as $t \rightarrow 0$, to a fixed point \tilde{x} of T , which solves the variational inequality (2.3), or equivalently, $P_{F(T)}(I - \mu A + \gamma B)\tilde{x} = \tilde{x}$.*

Lemma 2.7 [36] *Let $\{s_n\}, \{\gamma_n\}$ be sequences of nonnegative real numbers satisfying the inequality:*

$$s_{n+1} \leq (1 - \gamma_n)s_n + \gamma_n\delta_n, \quad \forall n \geq 0.$$

Suppose that $\{\gamma_n\}$ and $\{\delta_n\}$ satisfy the conditions:

- (i) $\{\gamma_n\} \subset [0, 1]$ and $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \gamma_n = \infty$, or equivalently, $\prod_{n=0}^{\infty} (1 - \gamma_n) = 0$;
- (ii) $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \delta_n \leq 0$, or
- (ii)' $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \gamma_n\delta_n < \infty$.

Then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = 0$.

Lemma 2.8 [37] *Let $\{\beta_n\}$ be a sequence of real numbers with*

$$0 < \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \beta_n \leq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \beta_n < 1.$$

Let $\{x_n\}$ and $\{z_n\}$ be two sequences in a Banach space E such that

$$x_{n+1} = (1 - \beta_n)x_n + \beta_n z_n, \quad n \geq 1.$$

If

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\|x_{n+1} - z_n\| - \|x_{n+1} - x_n\|) \leq 0,$$

then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|x_n - z_n\| = 0$.

Let C be a subset of a real Banach space E , and let $\{T_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ be a family of mappings of C such that $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} F(T_n) \neq \emptyset$. Then $\{T_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ is said to satisfy the *AKTT-condition* [38] if for each bounded subset D of C , we have

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sup\{\|T_{n+1}z - T_n z\| : z \in D\} < \infty.$$

Lemma 2.9 [38] *Let C be a nonempty subset of a real Banach space E , and let $\{T_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ be a family of mappings of C into itself, which satisfies the AKTT-condition. Then for each x in C , we have that $\{T_n x\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ converges strongly to a point in C . Moreover, let the mapping T be defined by*

$$Tx = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} T_n x, \quad \forall x \in C.$$

Then for each bounded subset D of C , we have

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \{ \|T_n z - Tz\| : z \in D \} = 0.$$

In the sequel, we will write that $(\{T_n\}_{n=1}^\infty, T)$ satisfies the AKKT-condition if $\{T_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$ satisfies the AKKT-condition, and T is defined by Lemma 2.9.

We end this section with the following simple examples of mappings satisfying the AKTT-condition (see also Lemma 5.2).

Example 2.1 (i) Let E be any Banach space. For any $n \in \mathbb{N}$, let a mapping $T_n : E \rightarrow E$ be defined by

$$T_n(x) = \frac{x}{n} \quad (x \in E).$$

Then, T_n is a nonexpansive mapping for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$. It could easily be seen that $(\{T_n\}_{n=1}^\infty, T)$ satisfies the AKKT-condition, where $T(x) = 0$ for all $x \in E$.

(ii) Let $E = l^2$, where

$$l^2 = \left\{ \sigma = (\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots, \sigma_n, \dots) : \sum_{n=1}^\infty \|\sigma_n\|^2 < \infty \right\}, \quad \|\sigma\| = \left(\sum_{n=1}^\infty \|\sigma_n\|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}, \quad \forall \sigma \in l^2,$$

$$\langle \sigma, \eta \rangle = \sum_{n=1}^\infty \sigma_n \eta_n, \quad \forall \delta = (\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots, \sigma_n, \dots), \eta = (\eta_1, \eta_2, \dots, \eta_n, \dots) \in l^2.$$

Let $\{x_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}} \subset E$ be a sequence defined by

$$\begin{aligned} x_0 &= (1, 0, 0, 0, \dots), \\ x_1 &= (1, 1, 0, 0, \dots), \\ x_2 &= (1, 0, 1, 0, 0, \dots), \\ x_3 &= (1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, \dots), \\ &\dots, \\ x_n &= (\sigma_{n,1}, \sigma_{n,2}, \dots, \sigma_{n,k}, \dots), \\ &\dots, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\sigma_{n,k} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } k = 1, n + 1, \\ 0 & \text{if } k \neq 1, k \neq n + 1, \end{cases}$$

for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$. It is clear that the sequence $\{x_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ converges weakly to x_0 . Indeed, for any $\Lambda = (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n, \dots) \in l^2 = (l^2)^*$, we have

$$\Lambda(x_n - x_0) = \langle x_n - x_0, \Lambda \rangle = \sum_{k=2}^\infty \lambda_k \sigma_{n,k} \rightarrow 0$$

as $n \rightarrow \infty$. It is also obvious that $\|x_n - x_m\| = \sqrt{2}$ for any $n \neq m$ with n, m sufficiently large. Thus, $\{x_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is not a Cauchy sequence. We define a countable family of mappings $T_j : E \rightarrow E$ by

$$T_j(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{n}{n+1}x, & \text{if } x = x_n; \\ \frac{-j}{j+1}x, & \text{if } x \neq x_n, \end{cases}$$

for all $j \geq 1$ and $n \geq 0$. It is clear that $F(T_j) = \{0\}$ for all $j \geq 1$. It is obvious that T_j is a quasi-nonexpansive mapping for each $j \in \mathbb{N}$. Thus, $\{T_j\}_{j \in \mathbb{N}}$ is a countable family of quasi-nonexpansive mappings.

Let $Tx = \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} T_jx$ for all $x \in E$. It is easy to see that

$$T(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{n}{n+1}x, & \text{if } x = x_n; \\ -x, & \text{if } x \neq x_n. \end{cases}$$

Then, we obtain that T is a quasi-nonexpansive mapping with $F(T) = \{0\} = \tilde{F}(T)$. Let D be a bounded subset of E . Then there exists $r > 0$ such that $D \subset B_r = \{z \in E : \|z\| < r\}$. On the other hand, for any $j \in \mathbb{N}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sup\{\|T_{j+1}z - T_jz\| : z \in D\} &= \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sup\left\{\left\|\frac{-j-1}{j+2}z - \frac{-j}{j+1}z\right\| : z \in D\right\} \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(j+2)(j+1)} \sup\{\|z\| : z \in D\} < \infty. \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore, we have

$$\limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} \{\|T_jz - Tz\| : z \in D\} = 0.$$

Therefore, $(\{T_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}, T)$ satisfies the AKKT-condition.

3 Fixed point and convergence theorems

Let C be a nonempty, closed and convex subset of a real Hilbert space H , and let P_C be the metric (or nearest point) projection from H onto C .

Theorem 3.1 *Let C be a nonempty, closed and convex subset of a real Hilbert space H . Assume $\{T_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ is a sequence of nonexpansive mappings from C into itself such that $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} F(T_n) \neq \emptyset$. Suppose, in addition, that $T : C \rightarrow C$ is a nonexpansive mapping such that $(\{T_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}, T)$ satisfies the AKTT-condition, and $S : C \rightarrow C$ is a nonexpansive mapping with $F := \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} F(T_n) \cap F(S) \neq \emptyset$. Let $A : C \rightarrow E$ be a κ -Lipschitzian and η -strongly monotone operator with constants $\kappa, \eta > 0$. Let $B : C \rightarrow E$ be an L -Lipschitzian mapping with constant $L \geq 0$. Let $0 < \mu < \frac{2\eta}{\kappa^2}$ and $0 \leq \gamma L < \tau$, where $\tau = 1 - \sqrt{1 - \mu(2\eta - \mu\kappa^2)}$.*

For arbitrarily given x_1 in C , let the sequence $\{x_n\}$ be generated iteratively by

$$\begin{cases} y_n = P_C[\alpha_n \gamma Bx_n + (I - \alpha_n \mu A)x_n], \\ x_{n+1} = (1 - \beta_n)x_n + \beta_n T_n S y_n, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}, \end{cases} \quad (3.1)$$

where $\{\alpha_n\}, \{\beta_n\}$ are two real sequences in $(0, 1)$ satisfying the following control conditions:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{(a)} \quad & \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \alpha_n = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_n = \infty; \\
 \text{(b)} \quad & 0 < \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \beta_n \leq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \beta_n < 1.
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{3.2}$$

Then the sequence $\{x_n\}$ converges strongly to $x^* \in F(TS)$, which solves the variational inequality

$$\langle (\mu A - \gamma B)x^*, x^* - z \rangle \leq 0, \quad z \in F(TS).
 \tag{3.3}$$

Proof We divide the proof into several steps.

Step I. We claim that the sequence $\{x_n\}$ is bounded. Let p in F be fixed. In view of Lemma 2.6 we conclude that

$$\|(I - \alpha_n \mu A)x_n - (I - \alpha_n \mu A)p\| \leq (1 - \alpha_n \tau) \|x_n - p\|, \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

This together with (3.1)-(3.3) implies that

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|y_n - p\| &= \|P_C[\alpha_n \gamma Bx_n + (I - \alpha_n \mu A)x_n] - P_C p\| \\
 &\leq \|\alpha_n \gamma Bx_n + (I - \alpha_n \mu A)x_n - p\| \\
 &= \|\alpha_n (\gamma Bx_n - \mu A(p)) + (I - \alpha_n \mu A)x_n - (I - \alpha_n \mu A)p\| \\
 &\leq \alpha_n \gamma L \|x_n - p\| + \alpha_n \|(\gamma B - \mu A)p\| + (1 - \alpha_n \tau) \|x_n - p\| \\
 &= (1 - \alpha_n (\tau - \gamma L)) \|x_n - p\| + \alpha_n \|(\gamma B - \mu A)p\| \\
 &\leq \max \left\{ \|x_n - p\|, \frac{\|(\gamma B - \mu A)p\|}{\tau - \gamma L} \right\}.
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{3.4}$$

Since T_n is nonexpansive, for all n in \mathbb{N} , it follows from (3.1) and (3.4) that

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|x_{n+1} - p\| &= \|(1 - \beta_n)(x_n - p) + \beta_n(T_n S y_n - p)\| \\
 &\leq (1 - \beta_n) \|x_n - p\| + \beta_n \|T_n S y_n - p\| \\
 &\leq (1 - \beta_n) \|x_n - p\| + \beta_n \|y_n - p\| \\
 &\leq (1 - \beta_n) \|x_n - p\| + \beta_n \max \left\{ \|x_n - p\|, \frac{\|(\gamma B - \mu A)p\|}{\tau - \gamma L} \right\} \\
 &\leq \max \left\{ \|x_n - p\|, \frac{\|(\gamma B - \mu A)p\|}{\tau - \gamma L} \right\}.
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{3.5}$$

By induction, we have that $\{x_n\}$ is bounded. This implies that the sequences $\{Ax_n\}, \{Bx_n\}, \{y_n\}, \{Sy_n\}$ and $\{T_n S y_n\}$ are bounded too. Let

$$M = \sup \{ \|x_n\|, \|Ax_n\|, \|Bx_n\|, \|y_n\|, \|Sy_n\|, \|T_n S y_n\| : n \in \mathbb{N} \} < \infty,$$

and set

$$D = \{z \in E : \|z\| \leq M\}.$$

Then we have D is a bounded subset of E and $\{x_n\}, \{Ax_n\}, \{Bx_n\}, \{y_n\}, \{T_n S y_n\} \subset D$.

Step II. We claim that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|y_n - T S y_n\| = 0$. In view of (3.1), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \|y_n - x_n\| &= \|P_C[\alpha_n \gamma Bx_n + (I - \alpha_n \mu A)x_n] - P_C[x_n]\| \\ &\leq \|\alpha_n \gamma Bx_n + (I - \alpha_n \mu A)x_n - x_n\| \\ &= \|\alpha_n \gamma Bx_n + x_n - \alpha_n \mu Ax_n - x_n\| \\ &= \alpha_n \|(\gamma B - \mu A)x_n\|. \end{aligned} \tag{3.6}$$

Since $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \alpha_n = 0$, it follows from (3.6) that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|y_n - x_n\| = 0. \tag{3.7}$$

In view of Lemma 2.6, we conclude that

$$\|(I - \alpha_{n+1} \mu A)x_{n+1} - (I - \alpha_{n+1} \mu A)x_n\| \leq (1 - \alpha_{n+1} \tau) \|x_{n+1} - x_n\|, \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

This implies that

$$\begin{aligned} \|y_{n+1} - y_n\| &= \|P_C[\alpha_{n+1} \gamma Bx_{n+1} + (I - \alpha_{n+1} \mu A)x_{n+1}] - P_C[\alpha_n \gamma Bx_n + (I - \alpha_n \mu A)x_n]\| \\ &\leq \|\alpha_{n+1} \gamma Bx_{n+1} + (I - \alpha_{n+1} \mu A)x_{n+1} - \alpha_n \gamma Bx_n + (I - \alpha_n \mu A)x_n\| \\ &\leq \|\alpha_{n+1} \gamma (Bx_{n+1} - Bx_n) + \gamma (\alpha_{n+1} - \alpha_n) Bx_n \\ &\quad + (I - \alpha_{n+1} \mu A)x_{n+1} - (I - \alpha_{n+1} \mu A)x_n - \alpha_{n+1} \mu Ax_n\| \\ &\leq \alpha_{n+1} \gamma L \|x_{n+1} - x_n\| + (1 - \alpha_{n+1} \tau) \|x_{n+1} - x_n\| \\ &\quad + \gamma |\alpha_{n+1} - \alpha_n| \|Bx_n\| + \alpha_{n+1} \mu \|Ax_n\| \\ &\leq (1 - \alpha_{n+1} (\tau - \gamma L)) \|x_{n+1} - x_n\| + \gamma M |\alpha_{n+1} - \alpha_n| + \mu M \alpha_{n+1} \\ &\leq \|x_{n+1} - x_n\| + \gamma M |\alpha_{n+1} - \alpha_n| + \mu M \alpha_{n+1}. \end{aligned} \tag{3.8}$$

Next, we show that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|x_{n+1} - x_n\| = 0$. For this purpose, we denote a sequence $\{z_n\}$ by $z_n = T_n S y_n$. It follows from (3.8) that

$$\begin{aligned} \|z_{n+1} - z_n\| &= \|T_{n+1} S y_{n+1} - T_n S y_n\| \\ &\leq \|T_{n+1} S y_{n+1} - T_{n+1} S y_n\| + \|T_{n+1} S y_n - T_n S y_n\| \\ &\leq \|y_{n+1} - y_n\| + \|T_{n+1} S y_n - T_n S y_n\| \\ &\leq \|x_{n+1} - x_n\| + \gamma M |\alpha_{n+1} - \alpha_n| + \mu M \alpha_{n+1} \\ &\quad + \sup\{\|T_{n+1} z - T_n z\| : z \in D\}. \end{aligned} \tag{3.9}$$

This implies that

$$\|z_{n+1} - z_n\| - \|x_{n+1} - x_n\| \leq M|\alpha_{n+1} - \alpha_n| + \sup\{\|T_{n+1}z - T_n z\| : z \in D\}. \quad (3.10)$$

Since $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \alpha_n = 0$, in view of the *AKTT*-condition and (3.2)(a), we conclude that

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\|z_{n+1} - z_n\| - \|x_{n+1} - x_n\|) \leq 0.$$

Utilizing Lemma 2.8, we deduce that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|z_n - x_n\| = 0.$$

It follows from (3.1) and (3.2)(b) that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|x_{n+1} - x_n\| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \beta_n \|z_n - x_n\| = 0. \quad (3.11)$$

On the other hand, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|y_n - T_n S y_n\| &\leq \|y_n - x_n\| + \|x_n - x_{n+1}\| + \|x_{n+1} - T_n S y_n\| \\ &\leq \|y_n - x_n\| + \|x_n - x_{n+1}\| + (1 - \beta_n) \|x_n - T_n S y_n\| \\ &\leq \|y_n - x_n\| + \|x_n - x_{n+1}\| + (1 - \beta_n) [\|x_n - y_n\| + \|y_n - T_n S y_n\|]. \end{aligned}$$

This implies that

$$\|y_n - T_n S y_n\| \leq \frac{1}{\beta_n} [2\|y_n - x_n\| + \|x_n - x_{n+1}\|]. \quad (3.12)$$

In view of (3.7) and (3.11)-(3.12), we obtain

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|y_n - T_n S y_n\| = 0. \quad (3.13)$$

By the triangle inequality, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \|y_n - T S y_n\| &\leq \|y_n - T_n S y_n\| + \|T_n S y_n - T S y_n\| \\ &\leq \|y_n - T_n S y_n\| + \sup\{\|T_n z - T z\| : z \in D\}. \end{aligned} \quad (3.14)$$

In view of the *AKTT*-condition and (3.13)-(3.14), we deduce that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|y_n - T S y_n\| = 0.$$

Step III. We prove that there exists x^* in $F(TS)$ such that

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\mu A - \gamma B)x^*, x^* - y_n \leq 0.$$

For each t in $(0, 1)$, we define the mapping $S_t : C \rightarrow C$ by

$$S_t(x) = P_C [t\gamma Bx + (I - t\mu A)TSx], \quad \forall x \in C.$$

Since S, T and $I - t\mu A$ are nonexpansive mappings for each t in $(0, 1)$, in view of (2.5), we conclude that S_t is a contraction for each t in $(0, 1)$, and hence by the Banach contraction principle, there exists a unique fixed point x_t in C such that $S_t(x_t) = x_t$. Thus, we have

$$x_t = P_C[t\gamma Bx_t + (I - t\mu A)TSx_t]. \tag{3.15}$$

Next, we show that $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} x_t := x^*$ exists. We first show that $\{x_t\}$ is bounded. To this end, let p in F be fixed. In view of Lemma 2.7, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \|x_t - p\| &= \|P_C[t\gamma Bx_t + (I - t\mu A)TSx_t] - P_C p\| \\ &\leq \|t\gamma Bx_t + (I - t\mu A)TSx_t - p\| \\ &\leq \|t(\gamma Bx_t - \mu A(p)) + (I - t\mu A)TSx_t - (I - t\mu A)p\| \\ &= (1 - t(\tau - \gamma L))\|x_t - p\| + t\|(\gamma B - \mu A)p\|. \end{aligned}$$

This implies that

$$\|x_t - p\| \leq \frac{\|(\gamma B - \mu A)p\|}{(\tau - \gamma L)}.$$

Thus, we have that $\{x_t\}_{t \in (0,1)}$ is bounded and so are $\{ATSx_t\}_{t \in (0,1)}$ and $\{(\gamma B - \mu A)x_t\}_{t \in (0,1)}$. In view of (3.15), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \|x_t - TSx_t\| &= \|P_C[t\gamma Bx_t + (I - t\mu A)TSx_t] - P_C(TSx_t)\| \\ &\leq \|t\gamma Bx_t + (I - t\mu A)TSx_t - TSx_t\| \\ &\leq t\|(\gamma B - \mu A)x_t\|. \end{aligned}$$

This implies that

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \|x_t - TSx_t\| = 0. \tag{3.16}$$

Using the techniques in the proof of Theorem 2.1, we see that the variational inequality (3.3) has a unique solution $\tilde{x} \in F(TS)$. We show that $x_t \rightarrow \tilde{x}$ as $t \rightarrow 0$. To this end, set

$$y_t = t\gamma Bx_t + (I - t\mu A)TSx_t, \quad \forall t \in (0, 1).$$

Then we have $x_t = P_C y_t$, and for any given z in $F(TS)$,

$$\begin{aligned} x_t - z &= P_C y_t - y_t + y_t - z \\ &= P_C y_t - y_t + t(\gamma Bx_t - \mu Az) + (I - t\mu A)TSx_t - (I - t\mu A)TSz. \end{aligned} \tag{3.17}$$

Since P_C is the metric projection from E onto C , for each z in $F(TS)$, we have

$$\langle P_C y_t - y_t, P_C y_t - z \rangle \leq 0.$$

Exploiting Lemma 2.1 and (3.17), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|x_t - z\|^2 &= \langle x_t - z, x_t - z \rangle \\
 &= \langle P_C y_t - y_t, P_C y_t - z \rangle + \langle (I - t\mu A)TSx_t - (I - t\mu A)z, x_t - z \rangle + t \langle \gamma Bx_t - \mu Az, x_t - z \rangle \\
 &\leq (1 - t\tau) \|x_t - z\| + t \langle \gamma Bx_t - \mu Az, x_t - z \rangle.
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.18}$$

It follows from (3.18) that

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|x_t - z\|^2 &\leq \frac{1}{\tau} \langle \gamma Bx_t - \mu Az, x_t - z \rangle \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{\tau} [\langle \gamma Bx_t - \gamma Bz, x_t - z \rangle + \langle \gamma Bz - \mu Az, x_t - z \rangle] \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{\tau} [\gamma L \|x_t - z\|^2 + \langle \gamma Bz - \mu Az, x_t - z \rangle].
 \end{aligned}$$

This implies that

$$\|x_t - z\|^2 \leq \frac{1}{\tau - \gamma L} \langle \gamma Bz - \mu Az, x_t - z \rangle. \tag{3.19}$$

Let $\{t_n\} \subset (0, 1)$ be such that $t_n \rightarrow 0^+$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Let $x_n^* := x_{t_n}$. It follows from (3.16) that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|x_n^* - TSx_n^*\| = 0$. The boundedness of $\{x_t\}$ implies that there exists x^* in C such that $x_n^* \rightharpoonup x^*$, i.e., converges weakly, as $n \rightarrow \infty$. In view of Lemma 2.4, we deduce that $x^* \in F(TS)$. Since $x_n^* \rightarrow x^*$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$, it follows from (3.19) that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|x_n^* - x^*\| = 0$. Thus, we have that $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} x_t = x^*$ is well defined. Next, we show that x^* solves the variational inequality (3.3). Observe that

$$x_t = P_C y_t = P_C y_t - y_t + t\gamma Bx_t + (I - t\mu A)TSx_t.$$

Thus, we have

$$(\mu A - \gamma B)x_t = \frac{1}{t}(P_C y_t - y_t) - \frac{1}{t}(I - TS)x_t + \mu(Ax_t - ATStx_t).$$

Since TS is nonexpansive, we conclude that $I - TS$ is monotone. The property of metric projection implies that

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\langle (\gamma B - \mu A)x_t, x_t - z \rangle \\
 &= \frac{1}{t} \langle P_C y_t - y_t, x_t - z \rangle - \frac{1}{t} \langle (I - TS)x_t - (I - TS)z, x_t - z \rangle + \mu \langle Ax_t - ATStx_t, x_t - z \rangle \\
 &\leq \mu \langle Ax_t - ATStx_t, x_t - z \rangle \\
 &\leq \mu L \|x_t - TSx_t\| \|x_t - z\|.
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.20}$$

Replacing t by t_n in (3.20), letting $n \rightarrow \infty$, and noticing that $\{x_t - z\}_{t \in (0,1)}$ is bounded for z in $F(TS)$, with (3.16), we have

$$\langle (\gamma B - \mu A)x^*, x^* - z \rangle \leq 0. \tag{3.21}$$

Thus, we have that x^* in $F(TS)$ is a solution of the variational inequality (3.3). Consequently, $x^* = \tilde{x}$ by uniqueness. Therefore, $x_t \rightarrow \tilde{x}$ as $t \rightarrow 0$. The variational inequality (3.3) can be written as

$$\langle (I - \mu A + \gamma B)\tilde{x} - \tilde{x}, \tilde{x} - z \rangle \geq 0, \quad \forall z \in F(TS).$$

So, in terms of Lemma 2.1, it is equivalent to the following fixed point equation:

$$P_{F(TS)}(I - \mu A + \gamma B)\tilde{x} = \tilde{x}.$$

Since $\{y_n\}$ is bounded, for any subsequence of $\{y_n\}$, there exists a further subsequence $\{y_{n_i}\}$ such that $y_{n_i} \rightarrow u$ in C . In view of Lemma 2.4 and Step II, we conclude that $u \in F(TS)$. This together with (3.21) implies that

$$\begin{aligned} \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \langle \mu A x^* - \gamma B x^*, x^* - y_n \rangle &= \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \langle \mu A x^* - \gamma B x^*, x^* - y_{n_i} \rangle \\ &= \langle \mu A x^* - \gamma B x^*, x^* - u \rangle \\ &\leq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Step IV. We claim that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|x_n - x^*\| = 0$.

For each n in $\mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$, we set

$$v_n = \alpha_n \gamma B x_n + (I - \alpha_n \mu A) T S x_n$$

and observe that $y_n = P_C v_n$. Then, by Lemmas 2.1 and 2.5, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \|y_n - x^*\|^2 &= \langle y_n - x^*, y_n - x^* \rangle \\ &= \langle P_C v_n - v_n, P_C v_n - x^* \rangle + \langle v_n - x^*, y_n - x^* \rangle \\ &\leq \langle v_n - x^*, y_n - x^* \rangle \\ &= \alpha_n \langle \gamma B x_n - \mu A(x^*), y_n - x^* \rangle \\ &\quad + \langle (I - \alpha_n \mu A) T S x_n - (I - \alpha_n \mu A) T S x^*, y_n - x^* \rangle \\ &= \alpha_n \gamma \langle B x_n - B x^*, y_n - x^* \rangle \\ &\quad + \alpha_n \langle (\gamma B - \mu A) x^*, y_n - x^* \rangle \\ &\quad + \langle (I - \alpha_n \mu A) T S x_n - (I - \alpha_n \mu A) T S x^*, y_n - x^* \rangle \\ &\leq \alpha_n \gamma L \|x_n - x^*\| \|y_n - x^*\| + \alpha_n \langle (\gamma B - \mu A) x^*, y_n - x^* \rangle \\ &\quad + (1 - \alpha_n \tau) \|x_n - x^*\| \|y_n - x^*\| \\ &= (1 - \alpha_n (\tau - \gamma L)) \|x_n - x^*\| \|y_n - x^*\| \\ &\quad + \alpha_n \langle (\gamma B - \mu A) x^*, y_n - x^* \rangle \\ &\leq (1 - \alpha_n (\tau - \gamma L)) \frac{1}{2} (\|x_n - x^*\|^2 + \|y_n - x^*\|^2) \\ &\quad + \alpha_n \langle (\gamma B - \mu A) x^*, y_n - x^* \rangle. \end{aligned} \tag{3.22}$$

This implies that

$$\begin{aligned} \|y_n - x^*\|^2 &\leq \frac{(1 - \alpha_n(\tau - \gamma L))}{(1 + \alpha_n(\tau - \gamma L))} \|x_n - x^*\|^2 + \frac{2\alpha_n}{1 + \alpha_n(\tau - \gamma L)} \langle (\gamma B - \mu A)x^*, y_n - x^* \rangle \\ &\leq (1 - \alpha_n(\tau - \gamma L)) \|x_n - x^*\|^2 + \frac{2\alpha_n}{1 + \alpha_n(\tau - \gamma L)} \langle (\gamma B - \mu A)x^*, y_n - x^* \rangle \\ &= (1 - \alpha_n(\tau - \gamma L)) \|x_n - x^*\|^2 + \alpha_n \theta_n \xi_n, \end{aligned} \tag{3.23}$$

where

$$\theta_n = \tau - \gamma L \quad \text{and} \quad \xi_n = \frac{2}{(1 + \alpha_n(\tau - \gamma L))(\tau - \gamma L)} \langle (\gamma B - \mu A)x^*, y_n - x^* \rangle.$$

In view of (3.22) and (3.23), we conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} \|x_{n+1} - x^*\|^2 &= \|(1 - \beta_n)x_n + \beta_n T_n S y_n - x^*\|^2 \\ &\leq (1 - \beta_n) \|x_n - x^*\|^2 + \beta_n \|T_n S y_n - x^*\|^2 \\ &\leq (1 - \beta_n) \|x_n - x^*\|^2 + \beta_n \|y_n - x^*\|^2 \\ &\leq (1 - \beta_n) \|x_n - x^*\|^2 + \beta_n [(1 - \alpha_n(\tau - \gamma L)) \|x_n - x^*\|^2 + \alpha_n \theta_n \xi_n] \\ &\leq (1 - \beta_n \alpha_n(\tau - \gamma L)) \|x_n - x^*\|^2 + \beta_n \alpha_n \theta_n \xi_n \\ &= (1 - \beta_n \alpha_n(\tau - \gamma L)) \|x_n - x^*\|^2 + \beta_n \alpha_n(\tau - \gamma L) \frac{1}{\tau - \gamma L} \theta_n \xi_n, \end{aligned} \tag{3.24}$$

where $\gamma_n = \beta_n \alpha_n(\tau - \gamma L)$. It is easy to show that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \gamma_n = 0$, $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \gamma_n = \infty$ and $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \xi_n \leq 0$. Hence, in view of Lemma 2.7 and (3.24), we conclude that the sequence $\{x_n\}$ converges strongly to x^* in $F(TS)$. \square

Remark 3.1 Theorem 3.1 improves and extends [28, Theorems 3.1 and 3.2] in the following aspects.

- (i) The identity mapping I is extended to the case of $I - A : C \rightarrow E$, where $A : C \rightarrow E$ is a k -Lipschitzian and η -strongly monotone (possibly nonself-) mapping.
- (ii) In order to find a common fixed point of a countable family of nonexpansive self-mappings $T_n : C \rightarrow C$, the Mann-type iterations in [28, Theorem 3.2] are extended to develop the new Mann-type iteration (3.1).
- (iii) The new technique of an argument is applied in deriving Theorem 3.1. For instance, the characteristic properties (Lemma 2.1) of metric projection P_C play an important role in proving the strong convergence of the net $\{x_t\}_{t \in (0,1)}$ in Theorem 3.1.
- (iv) Whenever we have $C = E$, $B = 0$, $A = I$, the identity mapping on C and $\mu = 1$, then Theorem 3.1 reduces to [28, Theorem 3.2]. Thus, Theorem 3.1 covers [28, Theorems 3.1 and 3.2] as special cases.

Remark 3.2 In Theorem 3.1, it is shown that any sequence generated by the iterative step (3.1) converges strongly to the unique solution of the variational inequality problem (3.3). This variational inequality problem is more general than many variational inequality problems (see, for example, [27]) due to the fact that S is an arbitrary nonexpansive mapping,

and due to the well-known relations between fixed points of nonexpansive mappings and variational inequalities, the solution of (3.3) can be seen as a fixed point set of some non-expansive mapping V , and then this mapping could be added to countable family of non-expansive mappings T_n . In addition, the feasible set of the variational inequality problem (3.3) is $\text{Fix}(TS)$, with T and S being nonexpansive mappings. For several sub-sets of nonexpansive mapping, $\text{Fix}(TS) = \text{Fix}(T) \cap \text{Fix}(S)$ hold (see, e.g., [31, 32] for averaged mappings).

4 Constrained convex minimization problems

Let H be a real Hilbert space, and let C be a nonempty, closed and convex subset of H . Consider the following constrained convex minimization problem:

$$\text{minimize } \{f(x) : x \in C\}, \tag{4.1}$$

where $f : C \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a real-valued convex function. If f is Fréchet differentiable, then the gradient-projection method (for short, GPM) generates a sequence $\{x_n\}$ using the following recursive formula:

$$x_{n+1} = P_C(x_n - \lambda \nabla f(x_n)), \quad \forall n \geq 0, \tag{4.2}$$

or more generally,

$$x_{n+1} = P_C(x_n - \lambda_n \nabla f(x_n)), \quad \forall n \geq 0, \tag{4.3}$$

where in both (4.2) and (4.3), the initial guess x_0 is taken from C arbitrary, and the parameters, λ or λ_n , are positive real numbers. The convergence of algorithms (4.2) and (4.3) depends on the behavior of the gradient ∇f . As a matter of fact, it is known that if ∇f is α -strongly monotone and L -Lipschitzian with constants $\alpha, L > 0$, then the operator

$$T := P_C(I - \lambda \nabla f) \tag{4.4}$$

is a contraction; hence, the sequence $\{x_n\}$ defined by algorithm (4.2) converges in norm to the unique solution of the minimization problem (4.1). More generally, if the sequence $\{\lambda_n\}$ is chosen to satisfy the property

$$0 < \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \lambda_n \leq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \lambda_n < \frac{2\alpha}{L^2}, \tag{4.5}$$

then the sequence $\{x_n\}$ defined by algorithm (4.2) converges in norm to the unique minimizer of (4.1).

However, if the gradient ∇f fails to be strongly monotone, the operator T defined by (4.4) would fail to be contractive; consequently, the sequence $\{x_n\}$ generated by algorithm (4.2) may fail to converge strongly (see [17, Section 4]). If ∇f is Lipschitzian, then algorithms (4.2) and (4.3) can still converge in the weak topology under certain conditions.

Very recently, Xu [17] gave an alternative operator-oriented approach to algorithm (4.3); namely, an averaged mapping approach. He gave his averaged mapping approach to the gradient-projection algorithm (4.3) and the relaxed gradient-projection algorithm. Moreover, he constructed a counterexample, which shows that algorithm (4.2) does not converge in norm in an infinite-dimensional space, and also presented two modifications of

gradient-projection algorithms, which are shown to have strong convergence. Further, he regularized the minimization problem (4.1) to devise an iterative scheme that generates a sequence converging in norm to the minimum-norm solution of (4.1) in the consistent case.

Let $A : C \rightarrow H$ be a κ -Lipschitzian and η -strongly monotone operator with constants $\kappa, \eta > 0$, and let $B : C \rightarrow H$ be an l -Lipschitzian mapping with constant $l \geq 0$. Suppose that $0 < \mu < \frac{2\eta}{\kappa^2}$ and $0 \leq \gamma l < \tau$, where $\tau = \sqrt{1 - \mu(2\eta - \mu\kappa^2)}$. Suppose that the minimization problem (4.1) is consistent, and let Ω denote its solution set. Assume that the gradient ∇f is L -Lipschitzian with constant $L > 0$. Motivated by the work of Xu [17], the authors of [27] introduced the following implicit scheme that generates a net $\{x_\lambda\}_{\lambda \in (0, \frac{2}{L})}$ in an implicit way:

$$x_\lambda = P_C[s\gamma Bx_\lambda + (I - s\mu A)T_\lambda x_\lambda], \quad (4.6)$$

where T_λ and s satisfy the following conditions:

- (i) $s := s(\lambda) = \frac{2-\lambda L}{4}$ for each $\lambda \in (0, \frac{2}{L})$;
- (ii) $P_C(I - \lambda \nabla f) = sI + (1-s)T_\lambda$ for each $\lambda \in (0, \frac{2}{L})$.

They proved that $\{x_\lambda\}_{\lambda \in (0, \frac{2}{L})}$ converges strongly to a minimizer x^* in Ω of (4.1), which solves the variational inequality (2.3).

For a given arbitrary initial guess x_0 in C and a sequence $\{\lambda_n\} \subset (0, \frac{2}{L})$ with $\lambda_n \rightarrow \frac{2}{L}$, they also proposed the following explicit scheme that generates a sequence $\{x_n\}$ in an explicit way:

$$x_{n+1} = P_C[s_n \gamma Bx_n + (I - s_n \mu A)T_n x_n], \quad \forall n \geq 0, \quad (4.7)$$

where $r_n = \frac{2-\lambda_n L}{4}$ and $P_C(I - \lambda_n \nabla f) = s_n I + (1-s_n)T_n$ for each $n \geq 0$. It is proven in [27] that the sequence $\{x_n\}$ strongly converges to a minimizer x^* in Ω of (4.1).

On the other hand, we know that x^* in C solves the minimization problem (4.1) if and only if x^* solves the fixed point equation

$$x^* = P_C(I - \lambda \nabla f)x^*,$$

where $\lambda > 0$ is any fixed positive number. Note that ∇f being Lipschitzian implies that the gradient ∇f is $\frac{1}{L}$ -ism [39], which then implies that $\lambda \nabla f$ is $\frac{\lambda}{L}$ -ism. So by Proposition 2.2(c), $I - \lambda \nabla f$ is $\frac{\lambda L}{2}$ -averaged. Now since the projection P_C is $\frac{1}{2}$ -averaged, we know from Proposition 2.2(c) that $I - \lambda \nabla f$ is $\frac{2+\lambda L}{4}$ -averaged for each $\lambda \in (0, \frac{2}{L})$. Hence, we can write

$$P_C(I - \lambda \nabla f) = \frac{2 - \lambda L}{4}I + \frac{2 + \lambda L}{4}T_\lambda = sI + (1-s)T_\lambda,$$

where T_λ is nonexpansive, and $s := s(\lambda) = \frac{2-\lambda L}{4} \in (0, \frac{1}{2})$ for each $\lambda \in (0, \frac{2}{L})$. It is easy to see that

$$\lambda \rightarrow \frac{2}{L} \iff s \rightarrow 0^+.$$

For each fixed $\lambda \in (0, \frac{2}{L})$, we now consider the self-mapping

$$Q_\lambda x = P_C[s\gamma Bx_\lambda + (I - s\mu A)T_\lambda x], \quad \forall x \in C.$$

It is easy to see that Q_λ is a contraction, see [27] for more details. Thus, there exists a unique fixed point x_λ in C , which uniquely solves the fixed point equation (4.6).

The following two results, which summarize the properties of the net $\{x_\lambda\}_{\lambda \in (0, \frac{2}{L})}$ have been proved in [27].

Proposition 4.1 *Let C be a nonempty, closed and convex subset of a real Hilbert space H . Let $A : C \rightarrow H$ be a κ -Lipschitzian and η -strongly monotone operator with constants $\kappa, \eta > 0$, and let $B : C \rightarrow H$ be an l -Lipschitzian mapping with constant $l \geq 0$. Suppose that $0 < \mu < \frac{2\eta}{\kappa^2}$ and $0 \leq \gamma l < \tau$, where $\tau = \sqrt{1 - \mu(2\eta - \mu\kappa^2)}$. Suppose that the minimization problem (4.1) is consistent, and let Ω denote its solution set. Assume that the gradient ∇f is L -Lipschitzian with constant $L > 0$. For each λ in $(0, \frac{2}{L})$, let x_λ denote a unique solution of the fixed point equation (4.6), where T_λ and s satisfy the following conditions:*

- (i) $s := s(\lambda) = \frac{2-\lambda L}{4}$ for each λ in $(0, \frac{2}{L})$;
- (ii) $P_C(I - \lambda \nabla f) = sI + (1 - s)T_\lambda$ for each λ in $(0, \frac{2}{L})$.

Then, the following properties for the net $\{x_\lambda\}_{\lambda \in (0, \frac{2}{L})}$ hold:

- (a) $\{x_\lambda\}_{\lambda \in (0, \frac{2}{L})}$ is bounded;
- (b) $\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow \frac{2}{L}} \|x_\lambda - T_\lambda x_\lambda\| = 0$;
- (c) x_λ defines a continuous curve from $(0, \frac{2}{L})$ into C .

Theorem 4.1 *Let C be a nonempty, closed and convex subset of a real Hilbert space H . Let $A : C \rightarrow H$ be a κ -Lipschitzian and η -strongly monotone operator with constants $\kappa, \eta > 0$, and let $B : C \rightarrow H$ be an l -Lipschitzian mapping with constant $l \geq 0$. Suppose that $0 < \mu < \frac{2\eta}{\kappa^2}$ and $0 \leq \gamma l < \tau$, where $\tau = \sqrt{1 - \mu(2\eta - \mu\kappa^2)}$. Suppose that the minimization problem (4.1) is consistent, and let Ω denote its solution set. Assume that the gradient ∇f is L -Lipschitzian with constant $L > 0$. For each λ in $(0, \frac{2}{L})$, let x_λ denote a unique solution of the fixed point equation (4.6), where T_λ and r satisfy the following conditions:*

- (i) $s := s(\lambda) = \frac{2-\lambda L}{4}$ for each λ in $(0, \frac{2}{L})$;
- (ii) $P_C(I - \lambda \nabla f) = sI + (1 - s)T_\lambda$ for each λ in $(0, \frac{2}{L})$.

Then the net $\{x_\lambda\}_{\lambda \in (0, \frac{2}{L})}$ converges strongly, as $\lambda \rightarrow \frac{2}{L}$, to a minimizer x^ of (4.1), which solves the variational inequality (2.3); equivalently, we have $P_C(I - \mu A + \gamma B)x^* = x^*$.*

Now, we are ready to propose explicit iterative schemes for finding the approximate minimizer of a constrained convex minimization problem and prove that the sequences generated by our schemes converge strongly to a solution of the constrained convex minimization problem.

Theorem 4.2 *Let C be a nonempty, closed and convex subset of a real Hilbert space H . Assume that $\{S_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$ is a sequence of nonexpansive mappings from C into itself such that $\bigcap_{n=1}^\infty F(S_n) \neq \emptyset$. Suppose, in addition, that $S : C \rightarrow C$ is a nonexpansive mapping such that $(\{S_n\}_{n=1}^\infty, S)$ satisfies the AKTT-condition. Let $A : C \rightarrow H$ be a κ -Lipschitzian and η -strongly monotone operator with constants $\kappa, \eta > 0$, and let $B : C \rightarrow H$ be an l -Lipschitzian mapping with constant $l \geq 0$. Suppose that $0 < \mu < \frac{2\eta}{\kappa^2}$ and $0 \leq \gamma l < \tau$, where $\tau = \sqrt{1 - \mu(2\eta - \mu\kappa^2)}$. Suppose that the minimization problem (4.1) is consistent, and let Ω denote its solution set. Assume that the gradient ∇f is L -Lipschitzian with constant $L > 0$. Let $\{\lambda_n\}$ be a sequence in the interval $(0, \frac{2}{L})$ such that $\{T_n\}$ and $\{s_n\}$ satisfy the following conditions:*

- (i) $s_n = \frac{2-\lambda_n L}{4}$ for each $n \geq 0$;
- (ii) $P_C(I - \lambda_n \nabla f) = s_n I + (1 - s_n)T_n$ for each $n \geq 0$;

- (iii) $s_n \rightarrow 0$;
- (iv) $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} s_n = \infty$;
- (v) $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |\lambda_{n+1} - \lambda_n| < \infty$.

Suppose that $\{\alpha_n\}, \{\beta_n\}$ are two sequences of real numbers in $(0,1)$ satisfying the following control conditions:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a)} \quad & \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \alpha_n = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_n = \infty; \\ \text{(b)} \quad & 0 < \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \beta_n \leq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \beta_n < 1. \end{aligned} \tag{4.8}$$

For given x_1 in C arbitrarily, let the sequence $\{x_n\}$ be generated by

$$\begin{cases} y_n = P_C[\alpha_n \gamma Bx_n + (I - \alpha_n \mu A)x_n], \\ x_{n+1} = (1 - \beta_n)x_n + \beta_n T_n S_n y_n, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}. \end{cases} \tag{4.9}$$

If $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|y_n - S_n y_n\| = 0$ and $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} F(T_n) \cap F(S) \neq \emptyset$, then there exists a nonexpansive mapping $T : C \rightarrow C$ such that $(\{T_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}, T)$ satisfies the AKTT-condition, and $\{x_n\}$ converges strongly to a common element x^* in $F(TS) \cap \Omega$, which solves the variational inequality

$$\langle (\mu A - \gamma B)x^*, x^* - z \rangle \leq 0, \quad z \in F(TS). \tag{4.10}$$

Proof We divide the proof into several steps.

First, we note that

- (1) \tilde{x} in C solves the minimization problem (4.1) if and only if for each fixed $\lambda > 0$, \tilde{x} solves the fixed point equation

$$\tilde{x} = P_C(I - \lambda \nabla f)\tilde{x};$$

- (2) $P_C(I - \lambda \nabla f)$ is $\frac{2+\lambda L}{4}$ -averaged for each λ in $(0, \frac{2}{L})$; in particular, the following relation holds:

$$P_C(I - \lambda_n \nabla f) = \frac{2 - \lambda_n L}{4} I + \frac{2 + \lambda_n L}{4} T_n = s_n I + (1 - s_n) T_n, \quad \forall n \geq 0.$$

Step I. We claim that the sequence $\{T_n\}$ satisfies the AKTT-condition.

From the proof of Theorem 3.1, $\{x_n\}$ is bounded and so are $\{Bx_n\}$ and $\{T_n x_n\}$. Let D be a bounded subset of C such that $\{Bx_n, T_n x_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\} \subset D$. Since ∇f is $\frac{1}{L}$ -ism, $P_C(I - \lambda_n \nabla f)$ is nonexpansive. It follows that for any given z in D and v in Ω ,

$$\begin{aligned} \|P_C(I - \lambda_n \nabla f)z\| & \leq \|P_C(I - \lambda_n \nabla f)z - v\| + \|v\| \\ & \leq \|P_C(I - \lambda_n \nabla f)z - P_C(I - \lambda_n \nabla f)v\| + \|v\| \\ & \leq \|z - v\| + \|v\| \\ & \leq \|z\| + 2\|v\|. \end{aligned}$$

This implies that

$$\sup\{\|P_C(I - \lambda_n \nabla f)z\| : n \in \mathbb{N}, z \in D\} < \infty.$$

On the other hand, we have for any z in D and u in Ω that

$$\begin{aligned} \|AT_n z\| &\leq \|AT_n u - Az\| + \|Au\| \\ &\leq \kappa \|T_n z - T_n v\| + \|Av\| \\ &\leq \kappa \|z - v\| + \|Av\| \\ &\leq \|z\| + 2\|Av\|. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\sup\{\|AT_n z\| : n \in \mathbb{N}, z \in D\} < \infty.$$

This shows that $\{AT_n z : n \in \mathbb{N}, z \in D\}$ is bounded. We also obtain, for any z in D , that

$$\begin{aligned} &\|T_{n+1} z - T_n z\| \\ &= \left\| \frac{4P_C(I - \lambda_{n+1} \nabla f) - (2 - \lambda_{n+1} L)I}{2 + \lambda_{n+1} L} z - \frac{4P_C(I - \lambda_n \nabla f) - (2 - \lambda_n L)I}{2 + \lambda_n L} z \right\| \\ &\leq \left\| \frac{4P_C(I - \lambda_{n+1} \nabla f)}{2 + \lambda_{n+1} L} z - \frac{4P_C(I - \lambda_n \nabla f)}{2 + \lambda_n L} z \right\| + \left\| \frac{(2 - \lambda_n L)I}{2 + \lambda_n L} z - \frac{(2 - \lambda_{n+1} L)I}{2 + \lambda_{n+1} L} z \right\| \\ &= \left\| \frac{4(2 + \lambda_n L)P_C(I - \lambda_{n+1} \nabla f)z - 4(2 + \lambda_{n+1} L)P_C(I - \lambda_n \nabla f)z}{(2 + \lambda_{n+1} L)(2 + \lambda_n L)} \right\| \\ &\quad + \frac{4L|\lambda_{n+1} - \lambda_n|}{(2 + \lambda_n L)(2 + \lambda_{n+1} L)} \|z\| \\ &\leq \left\| \frac{4L(\lambda_{n+1} - \lambda_n)P_C(I - \lambda_{n+1} \nabla f)z}{(2 + \lambda_{n+1} L)(2 + \lambda_n L)} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{4(2 + \lambda_{n+1} L)P_C(I - \lambda_{n+1} \nabla f)z - (2 + \lambda_{n+1} L)P_C(I - \lambda_n \nabla f)z}{(2 + \lambda_{n+1} L)(2 + \lambda_n L)} \right\| \\ &\quad + \frac{4L|\lambda_{n+1} - \lambda_n|}{(2 + \lambda_n L)(2 + \lambda_{n+1} L)} \|z\| \\ &\leq \frac{4L|(\lambda_{n+1} - \lambda_n)|\|P_C(I - \lambda_{n+1} \nabla f)z\|}{(2 + \lambda_{n+1} L)(2 + \lambda_n L)} \\ &\quad + \frac{4(2 + \lambda_{n+1} L)\|P_C(I - \lambda_{n+1} \nabla f)z - P_C(I - \lambda_n \nabla f)z\|}{(2 + \lambda_{n+1} L)(2 + \lambda_n L)} + \frac{4L|\lambda_{n+1} - \lambda_n|}{(2 + \lambda_n L)(2 + \lambda_{n+1} L)} \|z\| \\ &\leq |\lambda_{n+1} - \lambda_n| [L\|P_C(I - \lambda_{n+1} \nabla f)z\| + 4\|\nabla f(z)\| + L\|z\|] \\ &\leq M|\lambda_{n+1} - \lambda_n|, \end{aligned}$$

for some appropriate constant $M > 0$ such that

$$L\|P_C(I - \lambda_{n+1} \nabla f)z\| + 4\|\nabla f(z)\| + L\|z\| \leq M, \quad \forall n \geq 0.$$

Thus, we get

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sup\{\|T_{n+1} z - T_n z\| : z \in D\} \leq M \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |\lambda_{n+1} - \lambda_n| < \infty.$$

Now, define a mapping $T : C \rightarrow C$ by

$$Tx = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} T_n x, \quad \forall x \in C.$$

Then T is a nonexpansive mapping. Since the minimization problem (4.1) is consistent, we conclude that $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} F(T_n) \neq \emptyset$. Consequently, the sequence $(\{T_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}, T)$ satisfies the *AKTT*-condition.

Step II. We claim that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|y_n - TSy_n\| = 0$. In view of (4.8), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \|y_n - x_n\| &= \|Q_C[\alpha_n \gamma Bx_n + (I - \alpha_n \mu A)x_n] - Q_C[x_n]\| \\ &\leq \|\alpha_n \gamma Bx_n + (I - \alpha_n \mu A)x_n - x_n\| \\ &= \|\alpha_n \gamma Bx_n + x_n - \alpha_n \mu Ax_n - x_n\| \\ &= \|\alpha_n \gamma Bx_n + x_n - \alpha_n \mu Ax_n - x_n\| \\ &= \alpha_n \|(\gamma B - \mu A)x_n\|. \end{aligned} \tag{4.11}$$

Since $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \alpha_n = 0$, it follows from (4.11) that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|y_n - x_n\| = 0. \tag{4.12}$$

In view of Lemma 2.6, we conclude that

$$\|(I - \alpha_{n+1} \mu A)x_{n+1} - (I - \alpha_{n+1} \mu A)x_n\| \leq (1 - \alpha_{n+1} \tau) \|x_{n+1} - x_n\|, \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

This implies that

$$\begin{aligned} \|y_{n+1} - y_n\| &= \|P_C[\alpha_{n+1} \gamma Bx_{n+1} + (I - \alpha_{n+1} \mu A)x_{n+1}] - P_C[\alpha_n \gamma Bx_n + (I - \alpha_n \mu A)x_n]\| \\ &\leq \|\alpha_{n+1} \gamma Bx_{n+1} + (I - \alpha_{n+1} \mu A)x_{n+1} - \alpha_n \gamma Bx_n + (I - \alpha_n \mu A)x_n\| \\ &\leq \|\alpha_{n+1} \gamma (Bx_{n+1} - Bx_n) + \gamma (\alpha_{n+1} - \alpha_n) Bx_n \\ &\quad + (I - \alpha_{n+1} \mu A)x_{n+1} - (I - \alpha_{n+1} \mu A)x_n - \alpha_{n+1} \mu Ax_n\| \\ &\leq \alpha_{n+1} \gamma L \|x_{n+1} - x_n\| + (1 - \alpha_{n+1} \tau) \|x_{n+1} - x_n\| \\ &\quad + \gamma |\alpha_{n+1} - \alpha_n| \|Bx_n\| + \alpha_{n+1} \mu \|Ax_n\| \\ &\leq (1 - \alpha_{n+1} (\tau - \gamma L)) \|x_{n+1} - x_n\| + \gamma M |\alpha_{n+1} - \alpha_n| + \mu M \alpha_{n+1} \\ &\leq \|x_{n+1} - x_n\| + \gamma M |\alpha_{n+1} - \alpha_n| + \mu M \alpha_{n+1}. \end{aligned} \tag{4.13}$$

Next, we show that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|x_{n+1} - x_n\| = 0$. To this end, denote a sequence $\{z_n\}$ by $z_n = T_n S_n y_n$. It follows from (4.14) that

$$\begin{aligned} \|z_{n+1} - z_n\| &= \|T_{n+1} S_{n+1} y_{n+1} - T_n S_n y_n\| \\ &\leq \|T_{n+1} S_{n+1} y_{n+1} - T_{n+1} S_{n+1} y_n\| \\ &\quad + \|T_{n+1} S_{n+1} y_n - T_{n+1} S_n y_n\| + \|T_{n+1} S_n y_n - T_n S_n y_n\| \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\leq \|y_{n+1} - y_n\| \\
 &\quad + \|T_{n+1}S_{n+1}y_n - T_{n+1}S_n y_n\| + \|T_{n+1}S_n y_n - T_n S_n y_n\| \\
 &\leq \|y_{n+1} - y_n\| \\
 &\quad + \|S_{n+1}y_n - S_n y_n\| + \|T_{n+1}S_n y_n - T_n S_n y_n\| \\
 &\leq \|y_{n+1} - y_n\| \\
 &\quad + \sup\{\|S_{n+1}z - S_n z\| : z \in D\} + \sup\{\|T_{n+1}z - T_n z\| : z \in D\} \\
 &\leq \|x_{n+1} - x_n\| + \gamma M|\alpha_{n+1} - \alpha_n| + \mu M\alpha_{n+1} \\
 &\quad + \sup\{\|S_{n+1}z - S_n z\| : z \in D\} + \sup\{\|T_{n+1}z - T_n z\| : z \in D\}.
 \end{aligned}$$

This implies that

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|z_{n+1} - z_n\| - \|x_{n+1} - x_n\| &\leq \gamma M|\alpha_{n+1} - \alpha_n| + \mu M\alpha_{n+1} \\
 &\quad + \sup\{\|S_{n+1}z - S_n z\| : z \in D\} \\
 &\quad + \sup\{\|T_{n+1}z - T_n z\| : z \in D\}.
 \end{aligned} \tag{4.14}$$

Since $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \alpha_n = 0$, in view of Lemma 2.8 and (4.14), we conclude that

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\|z_{n+1} - z_n\| - \|x_{n+1} - x_n\|) \leq 0.$$

Using Lemma 2.8, we deduce that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|z_n - x_n\| = 0.$$

Thus, we have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|x_{n+1} - x_n\| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \beta_n \|z_n - x_n\| = 0. \tag{4.15}$$

On the other hand, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|y_n - T_n S_n y_n\| &\leq \|y_n - x_n\| + \|x_n - x_{n+1}\| + \|x_{n+1} - T_n S_n y_n\| \\
 &\leq \|y_n - x_n\| + \|x_n - x_{n+1}\| + \|x_{n+1} - T_n S_n y_n\| \\
 &\leq \|y_n - x_n\| + \|x_n - x_{n+1}\| + (1 - \beta_n) \|x_n - T_n S_n y_n\| \\
 &\leq \|y_n - x_n\| + \|x_n - x_{n+1}\| \\
 &\quad + (1 - \beta_n) [\|x_n - y_n\| + \|y_n - T_n S_n y_n\|].
 \end{aligned} \tag{4.16}$$

It follows from (4.16) that

$$\|y_n - T_n S_n y_n\| \leq \frac{1}{\beta_n} [2\|y_n - x_n\| + \|x_n - x_{n+1}\|]. \tag{4.17}$$

In view of (4.11) and (4.15), we obtain

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|y_n - T_n S_n y_n\| = 0. \tag{4.18}$$

By the triangle inequality, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \|y_n - T_n S y_n\| &\leq \|y_n - T_n S_n y_n\| + \|T_n S_n y_n - T_n S y_n\| \\ &\leq \|y_n - T_n S_n y_n\| + \|S_n y_n - S y_n\| \\ &\leq \|y_n - T_n S_n y_n\| + \sup\{\|S_n z - S z\| : z \in D\}. \end{aligned} \tag{4.19}$$

In view of Lemma 2.9, (4.18) and (4.19), we deduce that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|y_n - T_n S y_n\| = 0. \tag{4.20}$$

By the triangle inequality, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \|y_n - T S y_n\| &\leq \|y_n - T_n S y_n\| + \|T_n S y_n - T S y_n\| \\ &\leq \|y_n - T_n S y_n\| + \sup\{\|T_n z - T z\| : z \in D\}. \end{aligned} \tag{4.21}$$

In view of the *AKTT*-condition and (4.20)-(4.21), we deduce that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|y_n - T S y_n\| = 0.$$

Step III. We prove that

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \langle (\mu A - \gamma B)x^*, x^* - y_n \rangle \leq 0,$$

where $x^* \in F(TS)$ is the same as in Theorem 3.1 and satisfies

$$\langle (\gamma B - \mu A)x^*, x^* - z \rangle \leq 0, \quad z \in F(TS). \tag{4.22}$$

Let $\{y_{n_k}\}$ be such that

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \langle (\mu A - \gamma B)x^*, x^* - y_n \rangle = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \langle (\mu A - \gamma B)x^*, x^* - y_{n_k} \rangle. \tag{4.23}$$

By the same manner as in the proof of Theorem 3.1 Step II, we can find $u \in F(TS)$ such that $y_{n_k} \rightharpoonup u$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$. In view of (ii), we have that

$$\begin{aligned} \|P_C(I - \lambda_n \nabla f)y_n - y_n\| &= \|s_n y_n + (1 - s_n)T_n y_n - y_n\| \\ &\quad + (1 - s_n)\|T_n y_n - y_n\| \\ &\leq \|T_n y_n - y_n\| \\ &\leq \|T_n y_n - T_n S y_n\| + \|T_n S y_n - y_n\| \\ &\leq \|y_n - S y_n\| + \|T_n S y_n - y_n\|, \end{aligned} \tag{4.24}$$

where $s_n = \frac{2-\lambda_n L}{4}$ for each $n \geq 0$. In view of (4.24) and taking into account $\|y_n - S y_n\| \rightarrow 0$, we conclude that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|P_C(I - \lambda_n \nabla f)y_n - y_n\| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|y_n - T_n y_n\| = 0.$$

Hence we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| P_C \left(I - \frac{2}{L} \nabla f \right) y_n - y_n \right\| &\leq \left\| P_C \left(I - \frac{2}{L} \nabla f \right) y_n - P_C (I - \lambda_n \nabla f) y_n \right\| \\ &\quad + \left\| P_C (I - \lambda_n \nabla f) y_n - x_n \right\| \\ &\leq \left\| \left(I - \frac{2}{L} \nabla f \right) y_n - (I - \lambda_n \nabla f) y_n \right\| \\ &\quad + \left\| P_C (I - \lambda_n \nabla f) y_n - y_n \right\| \\ &= \left(\frac{2}{L} - \lambda_n \right) \|\nabla f y_n\| + \|T_n y_n - y_n\|. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, from the boundedness of $\{x_n\}$, $s_n \rightarrow 0$ ($\iff \lambda_n \rightarrow \frac{2}{L}$) and $\|T_n y_n - y_n\| \rightarrow 0$, we conclude that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left\| P_C \left(I - \frac{2}{L} \nabla f \right) y_n - y_n \right\| = 0. \tag{4.25}$$

Note that the gradient ∇f is $\frac{1}{L}$ -ism. Hence, it is known that $P_C(I - \frac{2}{L} \nabla f)$ is a nonexpansive self-mapping on C . As a matter of fact, we have for each x, y in C (see the proof of Theorem 4.1)

$$\left\| P_C \left(I - \frac{2}{L} \nabla f \right) x - P_C \left(I - \frac{2}{L} \nabla f \right) y \right\|^2 \leq \|x - y\|^2.$$

Since $y_{n_k} \rightarrow u$, by Lemma 2.4, we obtain

$$u = P_C \left(I - \frac{2}{L} \nabla f \right) u.$$

This shows that $u \in \Omega$. Consequently, from (3.22) and (4.23), it follows that

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \langle (\gamma B - \mu A)x^*, y_n - x^* \rangle = \langle (\gamma B - \mu A)x^*, u - x^* \rangle \leq 0.$$

As in the last part of the proof of Theorem 3.1, we obtain that $x_n \rightarrow x^*$, which completes the proof. \square

Corollary 4.1 *Let C be a nonempty, closed and convex subset of a real Hilbert space H . Let $A : C \rightarrow H$ be a κ -Lipschitzian and η -strongly monotone operator with constants $\kappa, \eta > 0$, and let $B : C \rightarrow H$ be an l -Lipschitzian mapping with constant $l \geq 0$. Suppose that $0 < \mu < \frac{2\eta}{\kappa^2}$ and $0 \leq \gamma l < \tau$, where $\tau = \sqrt{1 - \mu(2\eta - \mu\kappa^2)}$. Suppose that the minimization problem (4.1) is consistent, and let Ω denote its solution set. Assume that the gradient ∇f is L -Lipschitzian with constant $L > 0$. Let $\{\lambda_n\}$ be a sequence in the interval $(0, \frac{2}{L})$ such that $\{T_n\}$ and $\{s_n\}$ satisfy the following conditions:*

- (i) $s_n = \frac{2-\lambda_n L}{4}$ for each $n \geq 0$;
- (ii) $P_C(I - \lambda_n \nabla f) = s_n I + (1 - s_n) T_n$ for each $n \geq 0$;
- (iii) $s_n \rightarrow 0$;
- (iv) $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} s_n = \infty$;
- (v) $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |\lambda_{n+1} - \lambda_n| < \infty$.

Suppose that $\{\alpha_n\}, \{\beta_n\}$ are two real sequences in $(0, 1)$ satisfying the following control conditions:

- (a) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \alpha_n = 0$ and $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_n = \infty$;
- (b) $0 < \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \beta_n \leq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \beta_n < 1$.

For given x_1 in C arbitrarily, let the sequence $\{x_n\}$ be generated by

$$\begin{cases} y_n = P_C[\alpha_n \gamma Bx_n + (I - \alpha_n \mu A)x_n], \\ x_{n+1} = (1 - \beta_n)x_n + \beta_n T_n y_n, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}. \end{cases}$$

Then, there exists a nonexpansive mapping $T : C \rightarrow C$ such that $(\{T_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}, T)$ satisfies the AKTT-condition, and $\{x_n\}$ converges strongly to a common element $x^* \in F(T) \cap \Omega$, which solves the variational inequality

$$\langle (\mu A - \gamma B)x^*, x^* - z \rangle \leq 0, \quad z \in F(T).$$

We end this section by considering simple examples of sequences that fulfill the desired conditions of our results.

Example 4.1 Let $\{\alpha_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ be a sequence defined by

$$\alpha_n = \frac{1}{n+1}, \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Let $L > 0$ be any arbitrary real number, and let $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ be such that $n_0 > \frac{L}{2}$. We define the sequence $\{\lambda_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ as follows:

$$\begin{cases} \lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = \dots = \lambda_{n_0} = \frac{1}{L}, & \text{if } n \leq n_0, \\ \lambda_n = \frac{2n}{(n+1)L}, & \text{if } n > n_0. \end{cases}$$

Then the sequences $\{\alpha_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ and $\{\lambda_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ satisfy all the aspects of the hypotheses of our results.

5 Applications

Let H be a real Hilbert space, and let $Q : H \rightarrow 2^H$ be a mapping. The effective domain of Q is denoted by $\text{dom}(Q)$, that is, $\text{dom}(Q) = \{x \in H : Qx \neq \emptyset\}$. The range of Q is denoted by $R(Q)$. A multi-valued mapping Q is said to be monotone if for all $x, y \in H, f \in Qx$ and $g \in Qy$,

$$\langle x - y, f - g \rangle \geq 0.$$

A monotone mapping $Q : H \rightarrow 2^H$ is said to be maximal if its graph $G(Q) : \{(x, f) : f \in Q(x)\}$ is not properly contained in the graph of any other monotone mapping. It is well-known that a monotone mapping $Q : H \rightarrow 2^H$ is maximal if and only if, for (x, f) in $H \times H, \langle x -$

$y, f - g \geq 0$ for every $(y, g) \in G(Q)$ implies that $f \in Q(x)$. For a maximal monotone operator Q on H and $r > 0$, we may define a single-valued operator $J_r = (I + rQ)^{-1} : H \rightarrow \text{dom}(Q)$, which is called the resolvent of Q for $r > 0$. Assume that $Q^{-1}0 = \{x \in H : 0 \in Qx\}$. It is known that $Q^{-1}0 = F(J_r)$ for all $r > 0$, and the resolvent J_r is firmly nonexpansive, i.e.,

$$\|J_r x - J_r y\|^2 \leq \langle x - y, J_r x - J_r y \rangle, \quad \forall x, y \in H.$$

The following lemma has been proved in [40].

Lemma 5.1 *Let H be a real Hilbert space, and let Q be a maximal monotone operator on H . For $r > 0$, let J_r be the resolvent operator associated with Q and r . Then*

$$\|J_\rho x - J_\sigma x\| \leq \frac{|\rho - \sigma|}{\rho} \|x - J_\rho x\|$$

for all $\rho, \sigma > 0$ and $x \in H$.

We also know the following lemma from [38].

Lemma 5.2 *Let C be a nonempty, closed and convex subset of a real Hilbert space H , and let Q be a maximal monotone operator on H such that $Q^{-1}0 \neq \emptyset$ and $\text{cl}(\text{dom}(Q)) \subset C \subset \bigcap_{r>0} R(I + rQ)$, where $\text{cl}(\text{dom}(Q))$ stands for the closure of $\text{dom}(Q)$. Suppose that $\{r_n\}$ is a sequence of $(0, \infty)$ such that $\inf\{r_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\} > 0$ and $\sum_{n=1}^\infty |r_{n+1} - r_n| < \infty$. Then*

- (i) $\sum_{n=1}^\infty \sup\{\|J_{r_{n+1}} z - J_{r_n} z\| : z \in D\} < \infty$ for any bounded subset D of C .
- (ii) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} J_{r_n} z = J_r z$ for all z in C and $F(J_r) = \bigcap_{n=1}^\infty F(J_{r_n})$, where $r_n \rightarrow r$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

From Theorem 3.1 and Lemma 5.2, we obtain the following result.

Theorem 5.1 *Let C be a nonempty, closed and convex subset of a real Hilbert space H . Let Q be a maximal monotone operator on H such that $Q^{-1}0 \neq \emptyset$. Given real sequences $\{\alpha_n\}$, $\{\beta_n\}$ in $(0, 1)$ and $\{r_n\}$ in $(0, \infty)$, assume that $\{\alpha_n\}$, $\{\beta_n\}$ satisfy the following control conditions:*

- (a) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \alpha_n = 0$ and $\sum_{n=1}^\infty \alpha_n = \infty$;
- (b) $0 < \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \beta_n \leq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \beta_n < 1$;
- (c) $r_n \geq \epsilon$, $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\sum_{n=1}^\infty |r_{n+1} - r_n| < \infty$.

Suppose, in addition, that $S : C \rightarrow C$ is a nonexpansive mapping with $F := \bigcap_{n=1}^\infty F(J_{r_n}) \cap F(S) \neq \emptyset$. Let $A : C \rightarrow E$ be a κ -Lipschitzian and η -strongly monotone operator with constants $\kappa, \eta > 0$, let $B : C \rightarrow E$ be an L -Lipschitzian mapping with constant $L \geq 0$. Let $0 < \mu < \frac{2\eta}{\kappa^2}$ and $0 \leq \gamma L < \tau$, where $\tau = 1 - \sqrt{1 - \mu(2\eta - \mu\kappa^2)}$. For given x_1 in C arbitrarily, let the sequence $\{x_n\}$ be generated iteratively by

$$\begin{cases} y_n = P_C[\alpha_n \gamma Bx_n + (I - \alpha_n \mu A)x_n], \\ x_{n+1} = (1 - \beta_n)x_n + \beta_n J_{r_n} S y_n, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}. \end{cases} \quad (5.1)$$

Then the sequence $\{x_n\}$ defined by (5.1) converges strongly to x^* in $F(J_rS)$, which solves the variational inequality

$$\langle (\mu A - \gamma B)x^*, x^* - z \rangle \leq 0, \quad z \in F(J_rS). \quad (5.2)$$

The following result is yet another easy consequence of Theorem 3.1 and Lemma 5.2.

Theorem 5.2 *Let C be a nonempty, closed and convex subset of a real Hilbert space H . Let Q be a maximal monotone operator on H such that $Q^{-1}0 \neq \emptyset$. Given real sequences $\{\alpha_n\}$, $\{\beta_n\}$ in $(0, 1)$ and $\{r_n\}$ in $(0, \infty)$, assume that $\{\alpha_n\}$, $\{\beta_n\}$ satisfy the following control conditions:*

- (a) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \alpha_n = 0$ and $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_n = \infty$;
- (b) $0 < \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \beta_n \leq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \beta_n < 1$;
- (c) $r_n \geq \epsilon$, $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |r_{n+1} - r_n| < \infty$.

Let $A : C \rightarrow E$ be a κ -Lipschitzian and η -strongly accretive operator with constants $\kappa, \eta > 0$, $B : C \rightarrow E$ be an L -Lipschitzian mapping with constant $L \geq 0$. Let $0 < \mu < \frac{2\eta}{\kappa^2}$ and $0 \leq \gamma L < \tau$, where $\tau = 1 - \sqrt{1 - \mu(2\eta - \mu\kappa^2)}$. For given x_1 in C arbitrarily, let the sequence $\{x_n\}$ be generated iteratively by

$$\begin{cases} y_n = P_C[\alpha_n \gamma Bx_n + (I - \alpha_n \mu A)x_n], \\ x_{n+1} = (1 - \beta_n)x_n + \beta_n J_{r_n} y_n, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}. \end{cases}$$

If $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} F(J_{r_n}) \neq \emptyset$, then the sequence $\{x_n\}$ converges strongly to x^* in $Q^{-1}0$, which solves the variational inequality

$$\langle (\mu A - \gamma B)x^*, x^* - z \rangle \leq 0, \quad z \in \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} F(J_{r_n}).$$

The following results are easy consequences of Theorem 4.2 and Lemma 5.2.

Theorem 5.3 *Let C be a nonempty, closed and convex subset of a real Hilbert space H . Assume that $\{S_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ is a sequence of nonexpansive mappings from C into itself such that $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} F(S_n) \neq \emptyset$. Suppose, in addition, that $S : C \rightarrow C$ is a nonexpansive mapping such that $(\{S_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}, S)$ satisfies the AKTT-condition. Let $A : C \rightarrow H$ be a κ -Lipschitzian and η -strongly monotone operator with constants $\kappa, \eta > 0$, and let $B : C \rightarrow H$ be an l -Lipschitzian mapping with constant $l \geq 0$. Suppose that $0 < \mu < \frac{2\eta}{\kappa^2}$ and $0 \leq \gamma l < \tau$, where $\tau = \sqrt{1 - \mu(2\eta - \mu\kappa^2)}$. Suppose that the minimization problem (4.1) is consistent, and let Ω denote its solution set. Assume that the gradient ∇f is L -Lipschitzian with constant $L > 0$. Let $\{\lambda_n\}$ be a sequence in the interval $(0, \frac{2}{L})$ such that $\{J_{r_n}\}$ and $\{s_n\}$ satisfy the following conditions:*

- (i) $s_n = \frac{2 - \lambda_n L}{4}$ for each $n \geq 0$;
- (ii) $P_C(I - \lambda_n \nabla f) = s_n I + (1 - s_n) J_{r_n}$ for each $n \geq 0$;

- (iii) $s_n \rightarrow 0$;
- (iv) $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} s_n = \infty$;
- (v) $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |\lambda_{n+1} - \lambda_n| < \infty$.

Suppose that $\{\alpha_n\}, \{\beta_n\}$ are two real sequences in $(0, 1)$ satisfying the following control conditions:

- (a) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \alpha_n = 0$ and $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_n = \infty$;
- (b) $0 < \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \beta_n \leq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \beta_n < 1$.

For given x_1 in C arbitrarily, let the sequence $\{x_n\}$ be generated by

$$\begin{cases} y_n = P_C[\alpha_n \gamma Bx_n + (I - \alpha_n \mu A)x_n], \\ x_{n+1} = (1 - \beta_n)x_n + \beta_n J_{r_n} S_n y_n, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}. \end{cases}$$

If $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|y_n - S y_n\| = 0$, then the sequence $\{x_n\}$ converges strongly to a common element x^* in $F(J_r S) \cap \Omega$, which solves the variational inequality

$$\langle (\mu A - \gamma B)x^*, x^* - z \rangle \leq 0, \quad z \in F(J_r S).$$

Theorem 5.4 Let C be a nonempty, closed and convex subset of a real Hilbert space H . Assume that $\{S_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ is a sequence of nonexpansive mappings from C into itself such that $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} F(S_n) \neq \emptyset$. Let $A : C \rightarrow H$ be a κ -Lipschitzian and η -strongly monotone operator with constants $\kappa, \eta > 0$, and let $B : C \rightarrow H$ be an l -Lipschitzian mapping with constant $l \geq 0$. Suppose that $0 < \mu < \frac{2\eta}{\kappa^2}$ and $0 \leq \gamma l < \tau$, where $\tau = \sqrt{1 - \mu(2\eta - \mu\kappa^2)}$. Suppose that the minimization problem (4.1) is consistent, and let Ω denote its solution set. Assume that the gradient ∇f is L -Lipschitzian with constant $L > 0$. Let $\{\lambda_n\}$ be a sequence in the interval $(0, \frac{2}{L})$ such that $\{J_{r_n}\}$ and $\{s_n\}$ satisfy the following conditions:

- (i) $s_n = \frac{2 - \lambda_n L}{4}$ for each $n \geq 0$;
- (ii) $P_C(I - \lambda_n \nabla f) = s_n I + (1 - s_n) J_{r_n}$ for each $n \geq 0$;
- (iii) $s_n \rightarrow 0$;
- (iv) $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} s_n = \infty$;
- (v) $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |\lambda_{n+1} - \lambda_n| < \infty$.

Suppose that $\{\alpha_n\}, \{\beta_n\}$ are two real sequences in $(0, 1)$ satisfying the following control conditions:

- (a) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \alpha_n = 0$ and $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_n = \infty$;
- (b) $0 < \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \beta_n \leq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \beta_n < 1$.

For given x_1 in C arbitrarily, let the sequence $\{x_n\}$ be generated by

$$\begin{cases} y_n = P_C[\alpha_n \gamma Bx_n + (I - \alpha_n \mu A)x_n], \\ x_{n+1} = (1 - \beta_n)x_n + \beta_n J_{r_n} y_n, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}. \end{cases}$$

Then the sequence $\{x_n\}$ converges strongly to a common element x^* in $Q^{-1}0 \cap \Omega$, which solves the variational inequality

$$\langle (\mu A - \gamma B)x^*, x^* - z \rangle \leq 0, \quad z \in \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} F(J_{r_n}).$$

Remark 5.1 In Theorem 5.1, it is shown that any sequence generated by the iterative step (5.1) converges strongly to the unique solution of the variational inequality problem (5.2). This variational inequality problem is more general than many variational inequality problems (see, for example, [27]) due to the fact that S is an arbitrary nonexpansive mapping. Indeed, in particular case, when $S = I$, the identity mapping on H , the corresponding results in current literature are special cases of our result (Theorem 5.1).

Competing interests

The author declares that they have no competing interests.

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