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Conversion of algorithms by releasing projection for minimization problems

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Abstract

The projection methods for solving the minimization problems have been extensively considered in many practical problems, for example, the least-square problem. However, the computational difficulty of the projection might seriously affect the efficiency of the method. The purpose of this paper is to construct two algorithms by releasing projection for solving the minimization problem with the feasibility sets such as the set of fixed points of nonexpansive mappings and the solution set of the equilibrium problem.

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1 Introduction

In the present paper, our main purpose is to solve the following minimization problem of finding x^* such that

$$\|x^*\| = \min_{x \in Fix(S) \cap EPA} \|x\|,$$
(1.1)

where Fix(S) is the set of fixed points of nonexpansive mapping *S* and *EPA* is the solution set of the following equilibrium problem:

Find
$$z \in C$$
 such that $F(z, y) + \langle Az, y - z \rangle \ge 0$, $\forall y \in C$, (1.2)

where *C* is a nonempty closed convex subset of a real Hilbert space *H*, $F : C \times C \rightarrow R$ is a bifunction and $A : C \rightarrow H$ is an α -inverse-strongly monotone mapping. The reasons why we focus on the above minimization problem (1.1) are mainly in two respects.

Reason 1 This problem is motivated by the following least-square problem:

$$\begin{cases} Bx = b, \\ x \in \Omega, \end{cases}$$
(1.3)

where Ω is a nonempty closed convex subset of a real Hilbert space *H*, *B* is a bounded linear operator from *H* to another real Hilbert space H_1 , B^* is the adjoint of *B* and *b* is a

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given point in H_1 . The least-squares solution to (1.3) is the least-norm minimizer of the minimization problem

$$\min_{x\in\Omega} \|Bx - b\|. \tag{1.4}$$

For some related works, please see Reich and Xu [1], Sabharwal and Potter [2], Xu [3] and Yao *et al.* [4].

Reason 2 The problem (1.2) is very general in the sense that it includes optimization problems, variational inequalities, minimax problems and the Nash equilibrium problem in noncooperative games as special cases. At the same time, fixed point algorithms for non-expansive mappings have received vast investigations due to their extensive applications in a variety of applied areas of the inverse problem, partial differential equations, image recovery and signal processing.

Based on the above facts, it is an interesting topic to construct algorithms for solving the above problems. Now we next briefly review some historic approaches which relate to the problems (1.2) and (1.4).

For solving the equilibrium problem, Combettes and Hirstoaga [5] introduced an iterative algorithm of finding the best approximation to the initial data and proved a strong convergence theorem. Moudafi [6] introduced an iterative algorithm and proved a weak convergence theorem. In 2007, Takahashi and Takahashi [7] introduced the following new scheme for finding a common element of the set of solutions of the equilibrium problem and the set of fixed point points of a nonexpansive mapping:

$$\begin{cases} F(u_n, y) + \langle Ax_n, y - u_n \rangle + \frac{1}{\lambda_n} \langle y - u_n, u_n - x_n \rangle \ge 0, \quad \forall y \in C, \\ x_{n+1} = \beta_n x_n + (1 - \beta_n) S[\alpha_n u + (1 - \alpha_n) u_n], \quad \forall n \in N. \end{cases}$$

Subsequently, algorithms constructed for solving the equilibrium problems and fixed point problems have been further developed by some authors. For some works related to the equilibrium problem, fixed point problems and the variational inequality problem, please see Blum and Oettli [8], Chang *et al.* [9], Chantarangsi *et al.* [10], Cianciaruso *et al.* [11], Colao *et al.* [12, 13], Fang *et al.* [14], Jung [15], Mainge [16], Mainge and Moudafi [17], Moudafi and Théra [18], Nadezhkina and Takahashi [19], Noor *et al.* [20], Peng *et al.* [21], Peng and Yao [22], Plubtieng and Punpaeng [23], Takahashi and Takahashi [24], Yao *et al.* [25], Yao and Liou [26] and the references therein.

We observe that the solution set of (1.3) has a unique element with a minimum norm and finding the least-squares solution of the constrained linear inverse problem is equivalent to finding the minimum-norm fixed point of the nonexpansive mapping $x \mapsto P_C(x - \lambda B^*(Bx - b))$. Hence, a natural idea is that we can use projection to construct algorithms for finding the minimum-norm solution. By using this idea, Yao and Liou [26] constructed two algorithms for solving the minimization problem (1.1):

$$x_t = \mu P_C [(1-t)Sx_t] + (1-\mu)T_r(x_t - rAx_t), \quad \forall t \in (0,1),$$
(1.5)

and

$$x_{n+1} = \mu_n P_C \Big[\alpha_n f(x_n) + (1 - \alpha_n) S x_n \Big] + (1 - \mu_n) T_r(x_n - rA x_n), \quad n \ge 0.$$
(1.6)

Remark 1.1 It is well known that projection methods are used extensively in a variety of methods in optimization theory. Apart from theoretical interest, the main advantage of projection methods, which makes them successful in real-word applications, is computational. The field of projection methods is vast; see, *e.g.*, Bauschke and Borwein [27], Combettes [28], Combettes and Pesquet [29]. However, it is clear that if the set *C* is simple enough, so that the projection onto it is easily executed, then this method is particularly useful; but if *C* is a general closed and convex set, then a minimal distance problem has to be solved in order to obtain the next iterative. This might seriously affect the efficiency of the method. Hence, it is a very interesting work of solving (1.1) without involving projection.

Motivated and inspired by the results in the literature, in this paper we suggest two algorithms:

$$\begin{cases} F(u_t, y) + \frac{1}{r} \langle y - u_t, u_t - (tf + (1-t)I - rA)x_t \rangle \ge 0, \quad \forall y \in C, \\ x_t = \mu S x_t + (1-\mu)u_t, \quad \forall t \in (0, 1 - \frac{r}{2\alpha}), \end{cases}$$

and

$$F(u_n, y) + \frac{1}{r} \langle y - u_n, u_n - (\alpha_n f + (1 - \alpha_n)I - rA)x_n \rangle \ge 0, \quad \forall y \in C,$$

$$x_{n+1} = \mu S x_n + (1 - \mu)u_n, \quad n \ge 0.$$

It is shown that under some mild conditions, the net $\{x_t\}$ and the sequences $\{x_n\}$ converge strongly to \tilde{x} which is the unique solution of the VI:

 $\tilde{x} \in \operatorname{Fix}(S) \cap EFA$, $\langle (I-f)\tilde{x}, x-\tilde{x} \rangle \ge 0$, $\forall x \in \operatorname{Fix}(S) \cap EFA$.

In particular, if we take f = 0, then the net $\{x_t\}$ and the sequences $\{x_n\}$ converge in norm to a solution of the minimization problem (1.1). It should be pointed out that our suggested algorithms solve the above minimization problem (1.1) without involving the metric projection.

2 Preliminaries

Let *C* be a nonempty closed convex subset of a real Hilbert space *H*. Recall that a mapping $A: C \to H$ is called α -*inverse-strongly monotone* if there exists a positive real number α such that $\langle Ax - Ay, x - y \rangle \ge \alpha ||Ax - Ay||^2$, $\forall x, y \in C$. It is clear that any α -inverse-strongly monotone mapping is monotone and $\frac{1}{\alpha}$ -Lipschitz continuous. A mapping $S: C \to C$ is said to be *nonexpansive* if $||Sx - Sy|| \le ||x - y||$, $\forall x, y \in C$. Denote the set of fixed points of *S* by Fix(*S*).

Let $F : C \times C \to R$ be a bifunction. Throughout this paper, we assume that a bifunction $F : C \times C \to R$ satisfies the following conditions:

- (H2) *F* is monotone, *i.e.*, $F(x, y) + F(y, x) \le 0$ for all $x, y \in C$;
- (H3) for each $x, y, z \in C$, $\lim_{t \downarrow 0} F(tz + (1 t)x, y) \le F(x, y)$;
- (H4) for each $x \in C$, $y \mapsto F(x, y)$ is convex and lower semicontinuous.

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

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

It is well known that P_C is a nonexpansive mapping and satisfies

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

We need the following lemmas for proving our main results.

Lemma 2.1 ([5]) Let C be a nonempty closed convex subset of a real Hilbert space H. Let $F: C \times C \rightarrow R$ be a bifunction which satisfies conditions (H1)-(H4). Let r > 0 and $x \in C$. Then there exists $z \in C$ such that

$$F(z,y) + \frac{1}{r} \langle y-z, z-x \rangle \ge 0, \quad \forall y \in C.$$

Further, if $T_r(x) = \{z \in C : F(z, y) + \frac{1}{r} \langle y - z, z - x \rangle \ge 0, \forall y \in C\}$, then the following hold:

- (i) T_r is single-valued and T_r is firmly nonexpansive, i.e., for any $x, y \in H$,
 - $||T_r x T_r y||^2 \leq \langle T_r x T_r y, x y \rangle;$
- (ii) *EP* is closed and convex and $EP = Fix(T_r)$.

Lemma 2.2 ([30]) Let C be a nonempty closed convex subset of a real Hilbert space H. Let the mapping $A : C \to H$ be α -inverse strongly monotone and r > 0 be a constant. Then we have

$$\|(I-rA)x - (I-rA)y\|^2 \le \|x-y\|^2 + r(r-2\alpha)\|Ax - Ay\|^2, \quad \forall x, y \in C.$$

In particular, if $0 \le r \le 2\alpha$, then I - rA is nonexpansive.

Lemma 2.3 ([31]) Let C be a closed convex subset of a real Hilbert space H, and $S: C \to C$ be a nonexpansive mapping. Then the mapping I - S is demiclosed. That is, if $\{x_n\}$ is a sequence in C such that $x_n \to x^*$ weakly and $(I - S)x_n \to y$ strongly, then $(I - S)x^* = y$.

Lemma 2.4 ([32]) Assume that $\{a_n\}$ is a sequence of nonnegative real numbers such that

 $a_{n+1} \leq (1-\gamma_n)a_n + \delta_n\gamma_n$,

where $\{\gamma_n\}$ is a sequence in (0,1) and $\{\delta_n\}$ is a sequence such that

- (1) $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \gamma_n = \infty;$
- (2) $\limsup_{n\to\infty} \delta_n \leq 0 \text{ or } \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |\delta_n \gamma_n| < \infty.$

Then $\lim_{n\to\infty} a_n = 0$.

3 Main results

In this section, we convert algorithms (1.5) and (1.6) by releasing projection P_C and construct two algorithms for finding the minimum norm element x^* of $\Gamma := EPA \cap Fix(S)$.

Let $S : C \to C$ be a nonexpansive mapping and $A : C \to H$ be an α -inverse strongly monotone mapping. Let $F : C \times C \to R$ be a bifunction which satisfies conditions (H1)-(H4). Let r and μ be two constants such that $r \in (0, 2\alpha)$ and $\mu \in (0, 1)$. In order to find a solution of the minimization problem (1.1), we construct the following implicit algorithm

$$\begin{cases} F(u_t, y) + \frac{1}{r} \langle y - u_t, u_t - ((1 - t)I - rA)x_t \rangle \ge 0, & \forall y \in C, \\ x_t = \mu S x_t + (1 - \mu)u_t, & \forall t \in (0, 1 - \frac{r}{2\alpha}). \end{cases}$$
(3.1)

We will show that the net { x_t } defined by (3.1) converges to a solution of the minimization problem (1.1). As matter of fact, in this paper, we study the following general algorithm: Taking a ρ -contraction $f : C \to H$, for each $t \in (0, 1 - \frac{r}{2\alpha})$, let { x_t } be the net defined by

$$\begin{cases} F(u_t, y) + \frac{1}{r} \langle y - u_t, u_t - (tf + (1 - t)I - rA)x_t \rangle \ge 0, & \forall y \in C, \\ x_t = \mu S x_t + (1 - \mu)u_t, & \forall t \in (0, 1 - \frac{r}{2\alpha}). \end{cases}$$
(3.2)

It is clear that if f = 0, then (3.2) reduces to (3.1). Next, we show that (3.2) is well defined. From Lemma 2.1, we know that $u_t = T_r[tf(x_t) + (1 - t)x_t - rAx_t]$. We define a mapping $W_t := \mu S + (1 - \mu)T_r[tf + (1 - t)I - rA]$. From Lemma 2.2, for $0 < t < 1 - \frac{r}{2\alpha}$, the mapping $I - \frac{r}{1-t}A$ is nonexpansive. Also, note that the mappings *S* and T_r are nonexpansive, then we have

$$\begin{split} \|W_t x - W_t y\| \\ &= \left\| \mu(Sx - Sy) + (1 - \mu) \left(T_r \left[tf(x) + (1 - t)x - rAx \right] - T_r \left[tf(y) + (1 - t)y - rAy \right] \right) \right\| \\ &\leq \mu \|Sx - Sy\| + (1 - \mu) \left\| T_r \left[tf(x) + (1 - t) \left(x - \frac{r}{1 - t} Ax \right) \right] \right\| \\ &- T_r \left[tf(y) + (1 - t) \left(y - \frac{r}{1 - t} Ay \right) \right] \right\| \\ &\leq \mu \|x - y\| + (1 - \mu)t \| f(x) - f(y) \| \\ &+ (1 - \mu)(1 - t) \left\| \left(x - \frac{r}{1 - t} Ax \right) - \left(y - \frac{r}{1 - t} Ay \right) \right\| \\ &\leq \mu \|x - y\| + (1 - \mu)t\rho \|x - y\| + (1 - \mu)(1 - t) \|x - y\| \\ &= \left[1 - (1 - \mu)(1 - \rho)t \right] \|x - y\|. \end{split}$$

This indicates that W_t is a contraction. Using the Banach contraction principle, there exists a unique fixed point x_t of W_t in *C*. Hence, (3.2) is well defined.

In the sequel, we assume:

- (1) *C* is a nonempty closed convex subset of a real Hilbert space *H*;
- (2) $S: C \to C$ is a nonexpansive mapping, $A: C \to H$ is an α -inverse strongly monotone mapping and $f: C \to H$ is a ρ -contraction;
- (3) $F: C \times C \rightarrow R$ is a bifunction which satisfies conditions (H1)-(H4);
- (4) $\Gamma \neq \emptyset$.

In order to prove our first main result, we need the following propositions.

Proposition 3.1 The net $\{x_t\}$ generated by the implicit method (3.2) is bounded.

Proof Take $z \in \Gamma$. It is clear that $Sz = z = T_r(z - rAz) = T_r[tz + (1 - t)(z - \frac{r}{1-t}Az)]$ for all $t \in (0, 1 - \frac{r}{2\alpha})$. Since T_r and $I - \frac{r}{1-t}A$ are nonexpansive, we have

$$\|u_{t} - z\| = \left\| T_{r} \left[tf(x_{t}) + (1-t) \left(x_{t} - \frac{r}{1-t} A x_{t} \right) \right] - T_{r} \left[tz + (1-t) \left(z - \frac{r}{1-t} A z \right) \right] \right\|$$

$$= \left\| t \left(f(x_{t}) - z \right) + \left[(1-t) \left(x_{t} - \frac{r}{1-t} A x_{t} \right) - \left(z - \frac{r}{1-t} A z \right) \right] \right\|$$

$$\leq t \left\| f(x_{t}) - z \right\| + (1-t) \left\| \left(x_{t} - \frac{r}{1-t} A x_{t} \right) - \left(z - \frac{r}{1-t} A z \right) \right\|$$

$$\leq t \left\| f(x_{t}) - f(z) \right\| + t \left\| f(z) - z \right\| + (1-t) \left\| x_{t} - z \right\|$$

$$\leq t \rho \|x_{t} - z\| + (1-t) \|x_{t} - z\| + t \left\| f(z) - z \right\|$$

$$= \left[1 - (1-\rho)t \right] \|x_{t} - z\| + t \left\| f(z) - z \right\|. \tag{3.3}$$

It follows from (3.2) that

$$\|x_t - z\| = \|\mu(Sx_t - z) + (1 - \mu)(u_t - z)\| \le \mu \|Sx_t - z\| + (1 - \mu)\|u_t - z\|$$

$$\le \mu \|x_t - z\| + (1 - \mu)\|u_t - z\|.$$

Hence,

$$\|x_t - z\| \le \|u_t - z\| \le \left[1 - (1 - \rho)t\right] \|x_t - z\| + t \left\|f(z) - z\right\|,\tag{3.4}$$

that is,

$$||x_t - z|| \le \frac{||f(z) - z||}{1 - \rho}.$$

So, $\{x_t\}$ is bounded. Hence $\{u_t\}$, $\{Sx_t\}$, $\{Ax_t\}$ and $\{f(x_t)\}$ are also bounded. This completes the proof.

Proposition 3.2 The net $\{x_t\}$ generated by the implicit method (3.2) is relatively norm compact as $t \to 0$.

Proof From (3.3) and Lemma 2.2, we have

$$\|u_{t} - z\|^{2} \leq t \|f(x_{t}) - z\|^{2} + (1 - t) \| \left(x_{t} - \frac{r}{1 - t} A x_{t} \right) - \left(z - \frac{r}{1 - t} A z \right) \|^{2}$$

$$\leq t \|f(x_{t}) - z\|^{2} + (1 - t) \left[\|x_{t} - z\|^{2} + \frac{r}{1 - t} \left(\frac{r}{1 - t} - 2\alpha \right) \|Ax_{t} - Az\|^{2} \right]$$

$$\leq (1 - t) \|x_{t} - z\|^{2} + r \left(\frac{r}{1 - t} - 2\alpha \right) \|Ax_{t} - Az\|^{2} + t \|f(x_{t}) - z\|^{2}.$$
(3.5)

From (3.4) and (3.5), we have

$$||x_t - z||^2 \le ||u_t - z||^2$$

$$\le (1 - t)||x_t - z||^2 + r\left(\frac{r}{1 - t} - 2\alpha\right)||Ax_t - Az||^2 + t||f(x_t) - z||^2.$$

Thus,

$$r\left(2\alpha - \frac{r}{1-t}\right) \|Ax_t - Az\|^2 \le t\left(\|f(x_t) - z\|^2 - \|x_t - z\|^2\right) \to 0.$$

Since $\liminf_{t\to 0+} r(2\alpha - \frac{r}{1-t}) > 0$, we derive

$$\lim_{t \to 0^+} \|Ax_t - Az\| = 0. \tag{3.6}$$

From Lemma 2.1 and Lemma 2.2, we obtain

$$\|u_{t} - z\|^{2} = \|T_{r}(tf(x_{t}) + (1 - t)x_{t} - rAx_{t}) - T_{r}(z - rAz)\|^{2}$$

$$\leq \langle tf(x_{t}) + (1 - t)x_{t} - rAx_{t} - (z - rAz), u_{t} - z \rangle$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} (\|tf(x_{t}) + (1 - t)x_{t} - rAx_{t} - (z - rAz)\|^{2} + \|u_{t} - z\|^{2}$$

$$- \|tf(x_{t}) + (1 - t)x_{t} - r(Ax_{t} - Az) - u_{t}\|^{2}).$$
(3.7)

It follows that

$$\|u_t - z\|^2 \le \|tf(x_t) + (1 - t)x_t - rAx_t - (z - rAz)\|^2 - \|tf(x_t) + (1 - t)x_t - r(Ax_t - Az) - u_t\|^2.$$

By the nonexpansivity of $I - \frac{r}{1-t}A$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|tf(x_t) + (1-t)x_t - rAx_t - (z - rAz)\|^2 \\ &= \left\| (1-t) \left(\left(x_t - \frac{r}{1-t} Ax_t \right) - \left(z - \frac{r}{1-t} Az \right) \right) + t (f(x_t) - z) \right\|^2 \\ &\leq (1-t) \left\| \left(x_t - \frac{r}{1-t} Ax_t \right) - \left(z - \frac{r}{1-t} Az \right) \right\|^2 + t \left\| f(x_t) - z \right\|^2 \\ &\leq (1-t) \|x_t - z\|^2 + t \|f(x_t) - z\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\|x_t - z\|^2 \le \|u_t - z\|^2 \le (1 - t)\|x_t - z\|^2 + t \|f(x_t) - z\|^2$$
$$- \|tf(x_t) + (1 - t)x_t - r(Ax_t - Az) - u_t\|^2.$$

Hence

$$||t(f(x_t)-x_t)-r(Ax_t-Az)-(u_t-x_t)||^2 \le t(||f(x_t)-z||^2-||x_t-z||^2) \to 0.$$

Since $||Ax_t - Az|| \rightarrow 0$ (by (3.6)), we deduce

$$\lim_{t\to 0^+} \|x_t - u_t\| = 0.$$

So

$$\lim_{t \to 0+} \|x_t - Sx_t\| = \lim_{t \to 0+} (1 - \mu) \|x_t - u_t\| = 0.$$
(3.8)

Next we show that $\{x_t\}$ is relatively norm compact as $t \to 0+$. Let $\{t_n\} \subset (0,1)$ be a sequence such that $t_n \to 0$ as $n \to \infty$. Put $x_n := x_{t_n}$ and $u_n := u_{t_n}$. From (3.8), we get

$$\|x_n - Sx_n\| \to 0. \tag{3.9}$$

By (3.7), we deduce

$$\begin{aligned} \|u_t - z\|^2 &\leq t \langle f(x_t) - f(z), u_t - z \rangle + t \langle f(z) - z, u_t - z \rangle \\ &+ (1 - t) \langle x_t - \frac{r}{1 - t} A x_t - \left(z - \frac{r}{1 - t} A z \right), u_t - z \rangle \\ &\leq \left[1 - (1 - \rho) t \right] \|x_t - z\| \|u_t - z\| + t \langle f(z) - z, u_t - z \rangle \\ &\leq \frac{1 - (1 - \rho) t}{2} \|x_t - z\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|u_t - z\|^2 + t \langle f(z) - z, u_t - z \rangle, \end{aligned}$$

that is,

$$||u_t - z||^2 \le [1 - (1 - \rho)t] ||x_t - z||^2 + 2t \langle f(z) - z, u_t - z \rangle.$$

Hence,

$$\|x_t - z\|^2 \le \|u_t - z\|^2 \le \left[1 - (1 - \rho)t\right] \|x_t - z\|^2 + 2t \langle f(z) - z, u_t - z \rangle.$$

It follows that

$$||x_t - z||^2 \le \frac{2}{1 - \rho} \langle f(z) - z, u_t - z \rangle.$$

In particular,

$$\|x_n - z\|^2 \le \frac{2}{1 - \rho} \langle f(z) - z, u_n - z \rangle.$$
(3.10)

Since $\{x_n\}$ is bounded, without loss of generality, we may assume that $\{x_n\}$ converges weakly to a point $x^* \in C$. Also $Sx_n \rightarrow x^*$ and $u_n \rightarrow x^*$. Noticing (3.9) we can use Lemma 2.3 to get $x^* \in Fix(S)$.

Now we show $x^* \in EPA$. Since $u_n = T_{\lambda}(t_n f(x_n) + (1 - t_n)x_n - rAx_n)$ for any $y \in C$, we have

$$F(u_n,y)+\langle Ax_n,y-u_n\rangle+\frac{1}{r}\langle y-u_n,u_n-(t_nf(x_n)+(1-t_n)x_n)\rangle\geq 0.$$

From (H2), we have

$$\langle Ax_n, y - u_n \rangle + \frac{1}{r} \langle y - u_n, u_n - (t_n f(x_n) + (1 - t_n) x_n) \rangle \ge F(y, u_n).$$
 (3.11)

Put $z_t = ty + (1 - t)x^*$ for all $t \in (0, 1 - \frac{\lambda}{2\alpha})$ and $y \in C$. Then we have $z_t \in C$. So, from (3.11), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle z_t - u_n, Az_t \rangle &\geq \langle z_t - u_n, Az_t \rangle - \langle z_t - u_n, Ax_n \rangle \\ &\quad -\frac{1}{r} \langle z_t - u_n, u_n - \left(t_n f(x_n) + (1 - t_n) x_n \right) \rangle + F(z_t, u_n) \\ &\quad = \langle z_t - u_n, Az_t - Au_n \rangle + \langle z_t - u_n, Au_n - Ax_n \rangle \\ &\quad -\frac{1}{r} \langle z_t - u_n, u_n - x_n - t_n (f(x_n) - x_n) \rangle + F(z_t, u_n). \end{aligned}$$

Since *A* is Lipschitz continuous and $||u_n - x_n|| \to 0$, we have $||Au_n - Ax_n|| \to 0$. Further, from the monotonicity of *A*, we have $\langle z_t - u_n, Az_t - Au_n \rangle \ge 0$. So, from (H4), we have

$$\langle z_t - x^*, A z_t \rangle \ge F(z_t, x^*) \quad \text{as } n \to \infty.$$
 (3.12)

From (H1), (H4) and (3.12), we also have

$$0 = F(z_t, z_t)$$

$$\leq tF(z_t, y) + (1 - t)F(z_t, x^*)$$

$$\leq tF(z_t, y) + (1 - t)\langle z_t - x^*, Az_t \rangle$$

$$= tF(z_t, y) + (1 - t)t\langle y - x^*, Az_t \rangle$$

and hence

$$0 \leq F(z_t, y) + (1-t)\langle y - x^*, Az_t \rangle.$$

Letting $t \to 0$, we have, for each $y \in C$,

$$0 \leq F(x^*, y) + \langle y - x^*, Ax^* \rangle.$$

This implies $x^* \in EPA$. Therefore we can substitute x^* for z in (3.10) to get

$$||x_n - x^*||^2 \le \frac{2}{1-\rho} \langle f(x^*) - x^*, u_n - x^* \rangle, \quad z \in \text{Fix}(S) \cap EPA.$$

Consequently, the weak convergence of $\{x_n\}$ (and $\{u_n\}$) to x^* actually implies that $x_n \to x^*$. This has proved the relative norm-compactness of the net $\{x_t\}$ as $t \to 0+$. This completes the proof.

Now we show our first main result.

Theorem 3.3 The net $\{x_t\}$ generated by the implicit method (3.2) converges in norm, as $t \to 0+$, to the unique solution x^* of the following variational inequality:

$$x^* \in \Gamma, \quad \langle (I-f)x^*, x-x^* \rangle \ge 0, \quad x \in \Gamma.$$
 (3.13)

In particular, if we take f = 0, then the net $\{x_t\}$ converges in norm, as $t \to 0+$, to a solution of the minimization problem (1.1).

Proof Now we return to (3.10) and take the limit as $n \to \infty$ to get

$$\|x^* - z\|^2 \le \frac{2}{1 - \rho} \langle z - f(z), z - x^* \rangle, \quad z \in \Gamma.$$
 (3.14)

In particular, x^* solves the following variational inequality

$$x^*\in \Gamma$$
, $\langle (I-f)z, z-x^*
angle \geq 0$, $z\in \Gamma$

or the equivalent dual variational inequality

$$x^* \in \Gamma$$
, $\langle (I-f)x^*, z-x^* \rangle \geq 0$, $z \in \Gamma$.

Therefore, $x^* = (P_{\Gamma}f)x^*$. That is, x^* is the unique fixed point in Γ of the contraction $P_{\Gamma}f$. Clearly, this is sufficient to conclude that the entire net $\{x_t\}$ converges in norm to x^* as $t \to 0$.

Finally, if we take f = 0, then (3.14) is reduced to

$$\|x^*-z\|^2 \leq \langle z, z-x^* \rangle, \quad z \in \Gamma.$$

Equivalently,

$$|x^*||^2 \leq \langle x^*, z \rangle, \quad z \in \Gamma.$$

This clearly implies that

$$\|x^*\| \le \|z\|, \quad z \in \Gamma.$$

Therefore, x^* is a solution of the minimization problem (1.1). This completes the proof. \Box

Next, we introduce an explicit algorithm for finding a solution of the minimization problem (1.1).

Algorithm 3.4 For given $x_0 \in C$ arbitrarily, let the sequence $\{x_n\}$ be generated iteratively by

$$F(u_n, y) + \frac{1}{r} \langle y - u_n, u_n - (\alpha_n f + (1 - \alpha_n)I - rA)x_n \rangle \ge 0, \quad \forall y \in C, x_{n+1} = \mu S x_n + (1 - \mu)u_n, \quad n \ge 0,$$
(3.15)

where $\{\alpha_n\}$ is a real number sequence in [0,1].

Next, we give our second main result.

Theorem 3.5 Assume that the sequence $\{\alpha_n\}$ satisfies the conditions: $\lim_{n\to\infty} \alpha_n = 0$, $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \alpha_n = \infty$ and $\lim_{n\to\infty} \frac{\alpha_{n+1}}{\alpha_n} = 1$. Then the sequence $\{x_n\}$ generated by (3.15) converges strongly to \tilde{x} which is the unique solution of the variational inequality (3.13). In particular, if f = 0, then the sequence $\{x_n\}$ converges strongly to a solution of the minimization problem (1.1).

Proof Pick $z \in \Gamma$. From Lemma 2.2, we know that $u_n = T_r[\alpha_n f(x_n) + (1 - \alpha_n)x_n - rAx_n]$. Set $z_n = \alpha_n f(x_n) + (1 - \alpha_n)x_n - rAx_n$ for all *n*. From (3.15), we get

$$\|u_{n} - z\|$$

$$= \|T_{r}z_{n} - T_{r}(z - rAz)\|$$

$$\leq \|z_{n} - (z - rAz)\|$$

$$= \left\| \left(\alpha_{n}f(x_{n}) + (1 - \alpha_{n})\left(x_{n} - \frac{rAx_{n}}{1 - \alpha_{n}}\right) \right) - \left(\alpha_{n}z + (1 - \alpha_{n})\left(z - \frac{rAz}{1 - \alpha_{n}}\right) \right) \right\|$$

$$= \left\| (1 - \alpha_{n})\left(\left(x_{n} - \frac{rAx_{n}}{1 - \alpha_{n}}\right) - \left(z - \frac{rAz}{1 - \alpha_{n}}\right) \right) + \alpha_{n}(f(x_{n}) - z) \right\|$$

$$\leq (1 - \alpha_{n})\|x_{n} - z\| + \alpha_{n}\|f(x_{n}) - f(z)\| + \alpha_{n}\|f(z) - z\|$$

$$\leq [1 - (1 - \rho)\alpha_{n}]\|x_{n} - z\| + \alpha_{n}\|f(z) - z\|.$$
(3.16)

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \|x_{n+1} - z\| &\leq \mu \|Sx_n - z\| + (1 - \mu)\|u_n - z\| \\ &\leq \mu \|x_n - z\| + (1 - \mu) [1 - (1 - \rho)\alpha_n] \|x_n - z\| + (1 - \mu)\alpha_n \|f(z) - z\| \\ &= [1 - (1 - \mu)(1 - \rho)\alpha_n] \|x_n - z\| + (1 - \mu)\alpha_n \|f(z) - z\|. \end{aligned}$$

By induction, we have

$$||x_{n+1}-z|| \le \max\left\{||x_0-z||, \frac{||f(z)-z||}{1-\rho}\right\}.$$

Therefore, $\{x_n\}$ is bounded. Hence, $\{Ax_n\}$, $\{u_n\}$, $\{Sx_n\}$ are also bounded.

From (3.16), we obtain

$$\|u_n - z\|^2 \le (1 - \alpha_n) \left\| \left(x_n - \frac{rAx_n}{1 - \alpha_n} \right) - \left(z - \frac{rAz}{1 - \alpha_n} \right) \right\|^2 + \alpha_n \|f(x_n) - z\|^2.$$

Since *A* is α -inverse strongly monotone, we know from Lemma 2.3 that

$$\left\| \left(x_n - \frac{rAx_n}{1 - \alpha_n} \right) - \left(z - \frac{rAz}{1 - \alpha_n} \right) \right\|^2 \le \|x_n - z\|^2 + \frac{r(r - 2(1 - \alpha_n)\alpha)}{(1 - \alpha_n)^2} \|Ax_n - Az\|^2.$$

It follows that

$$\|u_n - z\|^2 \le (1 - \alpha_n) \|x_n - z\|^2 + \frac{r(r - 2(1 - \alpha_n)\alpha)}{(1 - \alpha_n)} \|Ax_n - Az\|^2 + \alpha_n \|f(z) - z\|^2.$$
(3.17)

$$\|u_{n+1} - u_n\| \le \|T_r z_{n+1} - T_r z_n\| \le \|z_{n+1} - z_n\|.$$
(3.18)

From Lemma 2.3, we know that $I - \lambda A$ is nonexpansive for all $\lambda \in (0, 2\alpha)$. Thus, we have $I - \frac{\lambda_{n+1}}{1-\alpha_{n+1}}A$ is nonexpansive for all *n* due to the fact that $\frac{r}{1-\alpha_{n+1}} \in (0, 2\alpha)$. Then we get

$$\begin{aligned} \|z_{n+1} - z_n\| \\ &= \|\alpha_{n+1}f(x_{n+1}) + (1 - \alpha_{n+1})x_{n+1} - rAx_{n+1} - (\alpha_n f(x_n) + (1 - \alpha_n)x_n - rAx_n)\| \\ &\leq \left\| (1 - \alpha_{n+1}) \left(x_{n+1} - \frac{r}{1 - \alpha_{n+1}} Ax_{n+1} \right) - (1 - \alpha_n) \left(x_n - \frac{r}{1 - \alpha_n} Ax_n \right) \right\| \\ &+ \alpha_{n+1} \|f(x_{n+1}) - f(x_n)\| + |\alpha_{n+1} - \alpha_n| \|f(x_n)\| \\ &\leq (1 - \alpha_{n+1}) \left\| \left(I - \frac{r}{1 - \alpha_{n+1}} A \right) x_{n+1} - \left(I - \frac{r}{1 - \alpha_{n+1}} A \right) x_n \right\| \\ &+ \left\| (1 - \alpha_{n+1}) \left(x_n - \frac{r}{1 - \alpha_{n+1}} Ax_n \right) - (1 - \alpha_n) \left(x_n - \frac{r}{1 - \alpha_n} Ax_n \right) \right\| \\ &+ \alpha_{n+1} \rho \|x_{n+1} - x_n\| + |\alpha_{n+1} - \alpha_n| \|f(x_n)\| \\ &\leq \left[1 - (1 - \rho)\alpha_{n+1} \right] \|x_{n+1} - x_n\| + |\alpha_{n+1} - \alpha_n| \left(\|f(x_n)\| + \|x_n\| \right). \end{aligned}$$
(3.19)

From (3.15), (3.18) and (3.19), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \|x_{n+2} - x_{n+1}\| &\leq \mu \|Sx_{n+1} - Sx_n\| + (1-\mu)\|u_{n+1} - u_n\| \\ &\leq \mu \|x_{n+1} - x_n\| + (1-\mu)\|u_{n+1} - u_n\| \\ &\leq \mu \|x_{n+1} - x_n\| + (1-\mu)[1-(1-\rho)\alpha_{n+1}]\|x_{n+1} - x_n\| \\ &+ (1-\mu)|\alpha_{n+1} - \alpha_n|(\|f(x_n)\| + \|x_n\|) \\ &= [1-(1-\mu)(1-\rho)\alpha_{n+1}]\|x_{n+1} - x_n\| \\ &+ (1-\mu)(1-\rho)\alpha_{n+1}\frac{|\alpha_{n+1} - \alpha_n|}{(1-\rho)\alpha_{n+1}}(\|f(x_n)\| + \|x_n\|). \end{aligned}$$

By Lemma 2.4, we get

$$\lim_{n\to\infty}\|x_{n+1}-x_n\|=0.$$

From (3.15) and (3.17), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|x_{n+1} - z\|^2 &\leq \mu \|Sx_n - z\|^2 + (1 - \mu) \|u_n - z\|^2 \\ &\leq \mu \|x_n - z\|^2 + (1 - \mu)(1 - \alpha_n) \|x_n - z\|^2 + (1 - \mu)\alpha_n \|f(z) - z\|^2 \\ &+ (1 - \mu) \frac{r(r - 2(1 - \alpha_n)\alpha)}{(1 - \alpha_n)} \|Ax_n - Az\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

Then we obtain

$$(1-\mu)\frac{r(2(1-\alpha_n)\alpha-r)}{(1-\alpha_n)} \|Ax_n - Az\|^2$$

$$\leq \|x_n - z\|^2 - \|x_{n+1} - z\|^2 + (1-\mu)\alpha_n \|f(z) - z\|^2$$

$$\leq (\|x_n - z\| - \|x_{n+1} - z\|) \|x_{n+1} - x_n\| + (1-\mu)\alpha_n \|f(z) - z\|^2.$$

Since $\lim_{n\to\infty} \alpha_n = 0$, $\lim_{n\to\infty} \|x_{n+1} - x_n\| = 0$ and $\liminf_{n\to\infty} (1-\mu) \frac{r(2(1-\alpha_n)\alpha - r)}{(1-\alpha_n)} > 0$, we have

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \|Ax_n - Az\| = 0. \tag{3.20}$$

Next, we show $||x_n - u_n|| \to 0$. By using the firm nonexpansivity of T_{λ_n} , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|u_n - z\|^2 &= \|T_r z_n - T_r (z - rAz)\|^2 \\ &\leq \langle z_n - (z - rAz), u_n - z \rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (\|z_n - (z - rAz)\|^2 + \|u_n - z\|^2 \\ &- \|z_n - (z - rAz) - (u_n - z)\|^2) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (\|z_n - (z - rAz)\|^2 + \|u_n - z\|^2 \\ &- \|\alpha_n (f(x_n) - x_n) + (x_n - u_n) - r(Ax_n - Az)\|^2). \end{aligned}$$

From (3.16) and (3.17), we have

$$||z_n - (z - rAz)||^2 \le (1 - \alpha_n) ||x_n - z||^2 + \alpha_n ||f(x_n) - z||^2.$$

Thus,

$$\|u_n - z\|^2 \leq \frac{1}{2} ((1 - \alpha_n) \|x_n - z\|^2 + \alpha_n \|f(x_n) - z\|^2 + \|u_n - z\|^2 - \|\alpha_n (f(x_n) - x_n) + (x_n - u_n) - r(Ax_n - Az)\|^2).$$

That is,

$$\begin{aligned} \|u_n - z\|^2 &\leq (1 - \alpha_n) \|x_n - z\|^2 + \alpha_n \|f(x_n) - z\|^2 \\ &- \|\alpha_n (f(x_n) - x_n) + (x_n - u_n) - r(Ax_n - Az)\|^2 \\ &= (1 - \alpha_n) \|x_n - z\|^2 + \alpha_n \|f(x_n) - z\|^2 - \|x_n - u_n\|^2 \\ &+ 2r \langle x_n - u_n, Ax_n - Az \rangle - 2\alpha_n \langle f(x_n) - x_n, x_n - u_n \rangle \\ &- \|\alpha_n (f(x_n) - x_n) - r(Ax_n - Az)\|^2 \\ &\leq (1 - \alpha_n) \|x_n - z\|^2 + \alpha_n \|f(x_n) - z\|^2 - \|x_n - u_n\|^2 \\ &+ 2r \|x_n - u_n\| \|Ax_n - Az\| + 2\alpha_n \|f(x_n) - x_n\| \|x_n - u_n\|. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \|x_{n+1} - z\|^2 &\leq \mu \|x_n - z\|^2 + (1 - \mu)(1 - \alpha_n) \|x_n - z\|^2 + (1 - \mu)\alpha_n \|f(x_n) - z\|^2 \\ &- (1 - \mu) \|x_n - u_n\|^2 + 2r \|x_n - u_n\| \|Ax_n - Az\| \\ &+ 2\alpha_n \|f(x_n) - x_n\| \|x_n - u_n\| \\ &= \left[1 - (1 - \mu)\alpha_n\right] \|x_n - z\|^2 + (1 - \mu)\alpha_n \|f(x_n) - z\|^2 - (1 - \mu) \|x_n - u_n\|^2 \\ &+ 2r \|x_n - u_n\| \|Ax_n - Az\| + 2\alpha_n \|f(x_n) - x_n\| \|x_n - u_n\|. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$(1-\mu)\|x_n-u_n\|^2 \le \|x_n-z\|^2 - \|x_{n+1}-z\|^2 + (1-\mu)\alpha_n \|f(x_n)-z\|^2 + 2r\|x_n-u_n\|\|Ax_n-Az\| + 2\alpha_n \|f(x_n)-x_n\|\|x_n-u_n\| \le (\|x_n-z\| + \|x_{n+1}-z\|)\|x_{n+1}-x_n\| + (1-\mu)\alpha_n \|f(x_n)-z\|^2 + 2r\|x_n-u_n\|\|Ax_n-Az\| + 2\alpha_n \|f(x_n)-x_n\|\|x_n-u_n\|.$$

Since $||x_{n+1} - x_n|| \to 0$, $\alpha_n \to 0$ and $||Ax_n - Az|| \to 0$, we deduce

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \|x_n - u_n\| = 0.$$
(3.21)

This together with $||x_{n+1} - x_n|| \to 0$ implies that

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \|Sx_n - x_n\| = 0. \tag{3.22}$$

Put $\tilde{x} = \lim_{t\to 0+} x_t$, where $\{x_t\}$ is the net defined by (3.2). We will finally show that $x_n \to \tilde{x}$. Set $\nu_n = x_n - \frac{\lambda_n}{1-\alpha_n} (Ax_n - A\tilde{x})$ for all *n*. Take $z = \tilde{x}$ in (3.17) to get $||Ax_n - A\tilde{x}|| \to 0$. First, we prove $\limsup_{n\to\infty} \langle \tilde{x} - f(\tilde{x}), x_n - \tilde{x} \rangle \ge 0$. We take a subsequence $\{\nu_{n_i}\}$ of $\{\nu_n\}$ such that

$$\limsup_{n\to\infty} \langle \tilde{x} - f(\tilde{x}), x_n - \tilde{x} \rangle = \lim_{i\to\infty} \langle \tilde{x} - f(\tilde{x}), x_{n_i} - \tilde{x} \rangle.$$

It is clear that $\{x_{n_i}\}$ is bounded due to the boundedness of $\{x_n\}$. Then there exists a subsequence $\{x_{n_{i_j}}\}$ of $\{x_{n_i}\}$ which converges weakly to some point $w \in C$. Hence, $\{x_{n_{i_j}}\}$ also converges weakly to w. From (3.22), we have

$$\lim_{j \to \infty} \|x_{n_{i_j}} - S x_{n_{i_j}}\| = 0.$$
(3.23)

By the demi-closedness principle of the nonexpansive mapping (see Lemma 2.3) and (3.23), we deduce $w \in Fix(S)$. Furthermore, by a similar argument as that of Theorem 3.3, we can show that w is also in *EPA*. Hence, we have $w \in Fix(S) \cap EPA$. This implies that

$$\begin{split} \limsup_{n \to \infty} \langle \tilde{x} - f(\tilde{x}), x_n - \tilde{x} \rangle &= \lim_{j \to \infty} \langle \tilde{x} - f(\tilde{x}), x_{n_{i_j}} - \tilde{x} \rangle \\ &= \langle \tilde{x} - f(\tilde{x}), w - \tilde{x} \rangle \geq 0. \end{split}$$

From (3.15), we have

$$\begin{split} \|x_{n+1} - \tilde{x}\|^2 \\ &\leq \mu \|x_n - \tilde{x}\|^2 + (1 - \mu) \|u_n - \tilde{x}\|^2 \\ &\leq \mu \|x_n - \tilde{x}\|^2 + (1 - \mu) \|T_r z_n - T_r (\tilde{x} - rA\tilde{x})\|^2 \\ &\leq \mu \|x_n - \tilde{x}\|^2 + (1 - \mu) \|z_n - (\tilde{x} - rA\tilde{x})\|^2 \\ &= \mu \|x_n - \tilde{x}\|^2 + (1 - \mu) \|\alpha_n f(x_n) + (1 - \alpha_n)x_n - rAx_n - (\tilde{x} - rA\tilde{x})\|^2 \\ &= (1 - \mu) \left\|\alpha_n (f(x_n) - \tilde{x}) + (1 - \alpha_n) \left(\left(x_n - \frac{r}{1 - \alpha_n} Ax_n\right) - \left(\tilde{x} - \frac{r}{1 - \alpha_n} A\tilde{x}\right) \right) \right\|^2 \\ &+ \mu \|x_n - \tilde{x}\|^2 \\ &= (1 - \mu) \left((1 - \alpha_n)^2 \right) \left\| \left(x_n - \frac{r}{1 - \alpha_n} Ax_n\right) - \left(\tilde{x} - \frac{r}{1 - \alpha_n} A\tilde{x}\right) \right) \right\|^2 \\ &+ 2\alpha_n (1 - \alpha_n) \left\langle f(x_n) - \tilde{x}_n \left(x_n - \frac{r}{1 - \alpha_n} Ax_n\right) - \left(\tilde{x} - \frac{r}{1 - \alpha_n} A\tilde{x}\right) \right) \right\|^2 \\ &+ 2\alpha_n (1 - \alpha_n) \left\langle f(x_n) - \tilde{x}_n \left(x_n - \frac{r}{1 - \alpha_n} Ax_n\right) - \left(\tilde{x} - \frac{r}{1 - \alpha_n} A\tilde{x}\right) \right) \right\} \\ &+ \alpha_n^2 \|f(x_n) - \tilde{x}\|^2 \right) + \mu \|x_n - \tilde{x}\|^2 \\ &\leq \mu \|x_n - \tilde{x}\|^2 + (1 - \mu) ((1 - \alpha_n)^2 \|x_n - \tilde{x}\|^2 + 2\alpha_n (1 - \alpha_n) \langle f(x_n) - f(\tilde{x}), x_n - \tilde{x} \rangle \\ &+ 2\alpha_n (1 - \alpha_n) \langle f(\tilde{x}) - \tilde{x}, x_n - \tilde{x} \rangle - 2r\alpha_n \langle f(x_n) - \tilde{x}, Ax_n - A\tilde{x} \rangle + \alpha_n^2 \|f(x_n) - \tilde{x}\|^2 \right) \\ &\leq \mu \|x_n - \tilde{x}\|^2 + (1 - \mu) ((1 - \alpha_n)^2 \|x_n - \tilde{x}\|^2 + 2\alpha_n (1 - \alpha_n) \rho \|x_n - \tilde{x}\|^2 \\ &+ 2\alpha_n (1 - \alpha_n) \langle f(\tilde{x}) - \tilde{x}, x_n - \tilde{x} \rangle + 2r\alpha_n \|f(x_n) - \tilde{x} \|\|Ax_n - A\tilde{x}\| + \alpha_n^2 \|f(x_n) - \tilde{x}\|^2 \right) \\ &\leq \left[1 - 2(1 - \mu) (1 - \rho)\alpha_n \right] \|x_n - \tilde{x}\|^2 + (1 - \mu)\alpha_n \|f(x_n) - \tilde{x}\| \|Ax_n - A\tilde{x}\| \\ &= \left[1 - 2(1 - \mu) (1 - \rho)\alpha_n \right] \|x_n - \tilde{x}\|^2 \\ &+ 2(1 - \mu) (1 - \rho)\alpha_n \Big[\frac{\alpha_n}{1 - \rho} (\|x_n - \tilde{x}\|^2 + \|f(x_n) - \tilde{x}\|^2) \\ &+ \frac{1 - \alpha_n}{1 - \rho} \langle f(\tilde{x}) - \tilde{x}, x_n - \tilde{x} \rangle + \frac{r}{1 - \rho} \|f(x_n) - \tilde{x}\| \|Ax_n - A\tilde{x}\| \\ &= \left[1 - 2(1 - \mu) (1 - \rho)\alpha_n \Big] \left\{ \frac{\alpha_n}{1 - \rho} \|x_n - \tilde{x}\|^2 + \|f(x_n) - \tilde{x}\|^2 \right\} \right\}.$$

It is clear that $\sum_{n} 2(1-\mu)(1-\rho)\alpha_n = \infty$ and

$$\limsup_{n} \left\{ \frac{\alpha_n}{1-\rho} \left(\|x_n - \tilde{x}\|^2 + \|f(x_n) - \tilde{x}\|^2 \right) + \frac{1-\alpha_n}{1-\rho} \langle f(\tilde{x}) - \tilde{x}, x_n - \tilde{x} \rangle \right. \\ \left. + \frac{r}{1-\rho} \left\| f(x_n) - \tilde{x} \right\| \left\| Ax_n - A\tilde{x} \right\| \right\} \le 0.$$

We can therefore apply Lemma 2.4 to conclude that $x_n \rightarrow \tilde{x}$.

Finally, if we take f = 0, by a similar argument as that in Theorem 3.3, we deduce immediately that \tilde{x} is a minimum norm element in Γ . This completes the proof.

Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

Authors' contributions

All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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