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# Linesearch methods for bilevel split pseudomonotone variational inequality problems

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# Abstract

In this paper, we propose Linesearch methods for solving a bilevel split variational inequality problem (BSVIP) involving a strongly monotone mapping in the upper-level problem and pseudomonotone mappings in the lower-level one. A strongly convergent algorithm for such a BSVIP is proposed and analyzed.

**Keywords** Bilevel split variational inequality problem · Linesearch methods · Pseudomonotone mapping · Strong convergence

Mathematics Subject Classification (2010) 47J25 · 47N10 · 90C25

# 1 Introduction

Let *C* and *Q* be two nonempty closed convex subsets of two real Hilbert spaces  $\mathcal{H}_1$ and  $\mathcal{H}_2$ , respectively, and let  $A : \mathcal{H}_1 \longrightarrow \mathcal{H}_2$  be a bounded linear operator. Given mappings  $F_1 : \mathcal{H}_1 \longrightarrow \mathcal{H}_1$  and  $F_2 : \mathcal{H}_2 \longrightarrow \mathcal{H}_2$ . The split variational inequality problem (in short, SVIP) introduced first by Censor et al. [10] can be formulated as

Find 
$$x^* \in C$$
:  $\langle F_1(x^*), x - x^* \rangle \ge 0 \quad \forall x \in C$  (1)

such that

$$y^* = Ax^* \in Q : \langle F_2(y^*), y - y^* \rangle \ge 0 \ \forall y \in Q.$$
 (2)

If the solution sets of variational inequality problems (1) and (2) are denoted by  $Sol(C, F_1)$  and  $Sol(Q, F_2)$ , respectively, then the SVIP becomes the problem of finding  $x^* \in Sol(C, F_1)$  such that  $Ax^* \in Sol(Q, F_2)$ . If we consider only the problem (1) then (1) is a classical variational inequality problem, which was studied by many authors, for example [2, 4, 14, 17, 19, 21, 29]. A special case of the SVIP, when

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 $F_1 = F_2 = 0$ , is the split feasibility problem (SFP), which has been studied intensively and used to model the intensity-modulated radiation therapy [11–13, 24] and further development of this topic [5–9, 24, 26].

The SVIP was introduced and investigated by Censor et al. [10] in the case when  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  are inverse strongly monotone mappings. Specifically, they proposed the following iteration method

$$\begin{cases} x^0 \in \mathcal{H}_1 \text{ chosen arbitrarily,} \\ x^{k+1} = P_C^{F_1,\lambda}(x^k + \gamma A^*(P_Q^{F_2,\lambda} - I)(Ax^k)) \quad \forall k \ge 0, \end{cases}$$

where  $F_1$  is  $\alpha_1$ -inverse strongly monotone on  $\mathcal{H}_1$ ,  $F_2$  is  $\alpha_2$ -inverse strongly monotone on  $\mathcal{H}_2$ ,  $\gamma \in \left(0, \frac{1}{\|A\|^2}\right)$ ,  $0 \leq \lambda \leq 2 \min\{\alpha_1, \alpha_2\}$  and  $P_C^{F_1, \lambda}$  and  $P_Q^{F_2, \lambda}$  stand for  $P_C(I - \lambda F_1)$  and  $P_Q(I - \lambda F_2)$ , respectively. They proved that the sequence  $\{x^k\}$ converges weakly to a solution of the split variational inequality problem, provided that the solution set of the SVIP is nonempty.

In this paper, we suppose that  $\Phi : C \longrightarrow \mathcal{H}_1$  is  $\beta$ -strongly monotone and *L*-Lipschitz continuous on  $C, F : C \longrightarrow \mathcal{H}_1$  and  $G : Q \longrightarrow \mathcal{H}_2$  be pseudomonotone mappings. Our main purpose is to investigate the following bilevel split variational inequality problem (BSVIP)

Find 
$$x^* \in \Omega$$
 such that  $\langle \Phi(x^*), x - x^* \rangle \ge 0 \quad \forall x \in \Omega$ , (BSVIP)

where  $\Omega = \{x^* \in \text{Sol}(C, F) : Ax^* \in \text{Sol}(Q, G)\}$ . Here, A is a bounded linear operator between  $\mathcal{H}_1$  and  $\mathcal{H}_2$ .

The remaining part of the paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we collect some basic definitions and preliminary results that are needed. Section 3 deals with the algorithm and its convergence analysis. Finally, in Section 4, we illustrate the proposed algorithm by considering some preliminary computational results and experiments.

#### 2 Preliminaries

Let *C* be a nonempty closed convex subset of a real Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$ . We denote the strong convergence and the weak convergence of a sequence  $\{x^k\}$  to x in  $\mathcal{H}$  by  $x^k \longrightarrow x$  and  $x^k \rightharpoonup x$ , respectively. By  $P_C$ , we denote the metric projection onto *C*. Namely, for each  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ ,  $P_C(x)$  is the unique element in *C* such that

$$||x - P_C(x)|| \le ||x - y|| \quad \forall y \in C.$$

Some important properties of the projection operator  $P_C$  are gathered in the following lemma.

#### Lemma 1 ([18])

(i) For given  $x \in \mathcal{H}$  and  $y \in C$ ,  $y = P_C(x)$  if and only if

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

(ii)  $P_C$  is firmly nonexpansive, that is,

$$\|P_C(x) - P_C(y)\|^2 \le \langle P_C(x) - P_C(y), x - y \rangle \ \forall x, y \in \mathcal{H}.$$

Consequently,  $P_C$  is nonexpansive, i.e.,

$$\|P_C(x) - P_C(y)\| \le \|x - y\| \quad \forall x, y \in \mathcal{H}.$$

(iii) For all  $x \in \mathcal{H}$  and  $y \in C$ , we have

$$||P_C(x) - y||^2 \le ||x - y||^2 - ||P_C(x) - x||^2.$$

Let us also recall some well-known definitions, which will be used in this paper.

Let  $\mathcal{H}_1$  and  $\mathcal{H}_2$  be two Hilbert spaces and let  $A : \mathcal{H}_1 \longrightarrow \mathcal{H}_2$  be a bounded linear operator. The linear operator  $A^* : \mathcal{H}_2 \longrightarrow \mathcal{H}_1$  with the property

$$\langle A(x), y \rangle = \langle x, A^*(y) \rangle$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{H}_1$  and  $y \in \mathcal{H}_2$ , is called the adjoint operator.

The adjoint operator of a bounded linear operator A on a Hilbert space always exists and is uniquely determined. Futhermore,  $A^*$  is a bounded linear operator and  $||A^*|| = ||A||$ .

The following definitions are commonly used in the variational inequality theory

#### **Definition 1** ([15, 20, 23])

A mapping  $\phi : C \longrightarrow \mathcal{H}$  is said to be

(*i*)  $\beta$ -strongly monotone on *C* if there exists  $\beta > 0$  such that

$$\langle \phi(x) - \phi(y), x - y \rangle \ge \beta ||x - y||^2 \quad \forall x, y \in C;$$

(ii) L-Lipschitz continuous on C if

$$\|\phi(x) - \phi(y)\| \le L \|x - y\| \ \forall x, y \in C;$$

(iii) monotone on C if

$$\langle \phi(x) - \phi(y), x - y \rangle \ge 0 \quad \forall x, y \in C;$$

(iv) pseudomonotone on C if

$$\langle \phi(y), x - y \rangle \ge 0 \Longrightarrow \langle \phi(x), x - y \rangle \ge 0 \quad \forall x, y \in C.$$

The next lemmas will be used for proving the convergence of the proposed algorithm described below.

**Lemma 2** ([22, Remark 4.4]) Let  $\{a_n\}$  be a sequence of nonnegative real numbers. Suppose that for any integer *m*, there exists an integer *p* such that  $p \ge m$  and  $a_p \le a_{p+1}$ . Let  $n_0$  be an integer such that  $a_{n_0} \le a_{n_0+1}$  and define, for all integer  $n \ge n_0$ , by

$$\tau(n) = \max\{k \in \mathbb{N} : n_0 \le k \le n, a_k \le a_{k+1}\}.$$

Then,  $\{\tau(n)\}_{n\geq n_0}$  is a nondecreasing sequence satisfying  $\lim_{n\to\infty}\tau(n)=\infty$  and the following inequalities hold true:

$$a_{\tau(n)} \le a_{\tau(n)+1}, \ a_n \le a_{\tau(n)+1} \ \forall n \ge n_0.$$

**Lemma 3** ([27, Lemma 2.5]) Assume  $\{a_n\}$  is a sequence of nonnegative real numbers satisfying the condition

$$a_{n+1} \le (1 - \alpha_n)a_n + \alpha_n \xi_n, \quad \forall n \ge 0,$$

where  $\{\alpha_n\}$  is a sequence in (0, 1) and  $\{\xi_n\}$  is a sequence in  $\mathbb{R}$  such that

(i) 
$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \alpha_n = \infty;$$

 $\limsup \xi_n \le 0.$ *(ii)*  $\lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{1}{n \to \infty} \lim_{n \to \infty} a_n = 0.$ 

#### 3 The algorithm and convergence analysis

In this section, we propose a strong convergence algorithm for solving BSVIP by using the linesearch technique for an equilibrium problem [25]. The linesearch technique has been used widely in descent methods for equilibrium problems as well as for variational inequalities in order to avoid the Lipschitz continuity assumption [3, 16, 17, 20, 25]. We impose the following assumptions on the mappings F and G associated with the problem (BSVIP).

- (A<sub>1</sub>):  $F: C \longrightarrow \mathcal{H}_1$  be pseudomonotone on C.  $\lim_{\substack{k \to \infty \\ G : Q}} F(x^k) = F(\overline{x}) \text{ for every sequence } \{x^k\} \text{ converging weakly to } \overline{x}.$  $(A_2)$ :
- $(A_3)$ :
- $\lim_{k \to \infty} G(u^k) = G(\overline{u}) \text{ for every sequence } \{u^k\} \text{ converging weakly to } \overline{u}.$  $(A_4)$ :

Let us make some remarks on the above assumptions.

- Assumptions  $(A_1) (A_4)$  are widely used in the theory of VIPs. i)
- ii) In finite dimensional spaces, conditions  $(A_3)$  and  $(A_5)$  become the conditions for the continuity of  $F_1$ ,  $F_2$ .
- iii) If F and G satisfy the properties  $(A_1)$ ,  $(A_2)$  and  $(A_3)$ ,  $(A_4)$  respectively, then by [1, Lemma 6], the solution sets Sol(C, F) and Sol(Q, G) of the variational inequalities VIP(C, F) and VIP(Q, G) are closed and convex. Therefore, the solution set  $\Omega = \{x^* \in \text{Sol}(C, F) : Ax^* \in \text{Sol}(Q, G)\}$  of the SVIP is also closed and convex.
- If  $\{x^k\} \subset C$  is bounded then  $\{F(x^k)\}$  is bounded. Indeed, suppose that iii)  $\{F(x^k)\}$  is unbounded, that is, there exists a subsequence  $\{x^{k_i}\}$  of  $\{x^k\}$  such that  $\lim ||F(x^{k_i})|| = +\infty$ . Since  $\{x^{k_i}\}$  is bounded then there exists a subsequence  $\{x^{k_{i_j}}\}$  of  $\{x^{k_i}\}$  such that  $x^{k_{i_j}} \rightarrow \overline{x}$ . Therefore,  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} F(x^{k_{i_j}}) = F(\overline{x})$ .

Thus,  $\lim_{k \to \infty} \|F(x^{k_{i_j}})\| = \|F(\overline{x})\|$ . Since  $\lim_{i \to \infty} \|F(x^{k_i})\| = +\infty$ , we have  $\lim_{j \to \infty} \|F(x^{k_{i_j}})\| = +\infty$ , a contradiction. Therefore,  $\{F(x^k)\}$  is bounded.

Our algorithm can be expressed as follows.

The following theorem shows validity and convergence of the algorithm.

**Theorem 1** Suppose that the assumptions  $(A_1) - (A_5)$  and  $\Omega \neq \emptyset$  hold. Then, the sequence  $\{x^k\}$  in Algorithm 1 converges strongly to the unique solution of the bilevel split variational inequality problem (BSVIP).

*Proof* Since  $\Omega \neq \emptyset$ , problem (*BSVIP*) has a unique solution, denoted by  $x^*$ . In particular,  $x^* \in \Omega$ , i.e.,  $x^* \in \text{Sol}(C, F) \subset C$ ,  $Ax^* \in \text{Sol}(Q, G) \subset Q$ . We will prove that  $\{x^k\}$  converges in norm to  $x^*$ . We divide the proof into several steps.

**Step 1.** The linesearchs corresponding to  $u^k$ ,  $v^k$  (Step 3) and  $\overline{u}^k$ ,  $\overline{v}^k$  (Step 6) are well defined.

If  $v^k \neq u^k$  and suppose, to get a contradiction, that the following inequality holds for every nonnegative integer *n* 

$$\langle G(w^{k,n}), u^k - v^k \rangle < \frac{1}{2} \|u^k - v^k\|^2$$

where  $w^{k,n} = (1 - \gamma^n)u^k + \gamma^n v^k$ . Taking the limit as  $n \longrightarrow \infty$ , from  $w^{k,n} \longrightarrow u^k$  as  $n \longrightarrow \infty$ , it follows that

$$\langle G(u^k), u^k - v^k \rangle \le \frac{1}{2} \|u^k - v^k\|^2.$$
 (3)

Since  $v^k = P_Q(u^k - G(u^k))$ , we have

$$\langle u^k - G(u^k) - v^k, u - v^k \rangle \le 0 \quad \forall u \in Q.$$

Choose  $u = u^k \in Q$ , we get

$$\langle G(u^k), u^k - v^k \rangle \ge \|u^k - v^k\|^2.$$

Combining with (3) yields

$$||u^k - v^k||^2 \le \frac{||u^k - v^k||^2}{2}$$

which contradicts to the fact that  $u^k \neq v^k$ .

Therefore, the linesearch corresponding to  $u^k$  and  $v^k$  (Step 3) is well defined.

By proving in the same way, we find that the linesearch corresponding to  $\overline{u}^k$  and  $\overline{v}^k$  (Step 6) is also well defined.

Step 2. (a) If 
$$v^k \neq u^k$$
 for some  $k \ge 0$ , then  $G(w^k) \neq 0$ ,  $\sigma_k > 0$  and  
 $\|t^k - Ax^*\|^2 \le \|u^k - Ax^*\|^2 - (\sigma_k \|G(w^k)\|)^2$ .  
(b) If  $\overline{v}^k \neq \overline{u}^k$  for some  $k \ge 0$ , then  $F(\overline{w}^k) \neq 0$ ,  $\overline{\sigma}_k > 0$  and  
 $\|y^k - x^*\|^2 \le \|\overline{u}^k - x^*\|^2 - (\overline{\sigma}_k \|F(\overline{w}^k)\|)^2$ .

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#### Algorithm 1

Step 0. Choose  $\eta \in (0, 1), \gamma \in (0, 1), 0 < \mu < \frac{2\beta}{L^2}, \{\delta_k\} \subset [\underline{\delta}, \overline{\delta}] \subset \left(0, \frac{1}{\|A\|^2 + 1}\right),$  $\{\lambda_k\} \subset (0, 1), \lim_{k \to \infty} \lambda_k = \lambda \in (0, 1), \{\alpha_k\} \subset (0, 1), \lim_{k \to \infty} \alpha_k = 0, \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \alpha_k = \infty.$ 

**Step 1.** Let  $x^0 \in C$ . Set k := 0. **Step 2.** Compute  $u^k = P_Q(Ax^k)$  and

$$v^k = P_Q(u^k - G(u^k)).$$

If  $v^k = u^k$ , then set  $t^k = u^k$  and go to **Step 5**. Otherwise, go to **Step 3**. **Step 3** Find  $n_k$  as the smallest nonnegative integer *n* such that

$$w^{k,n} = (1 - \gamma^n)u^k + \gamma^n v^k, \langle G(w^{k,n}), u^k - v^k \rangle \ge \frac{1}{2} \|u^k - v^k\|^2$$

Set  $\gamma_k = \gamma^{n_k}$ ,  $w^k = w^{k, n_k}$ . Step 4 Compute

$$t^k = P_Q(u^k - \sigma_k G(w^k))$$

where

$$\sigma_k = \frac{\langle G(w^k), u^k - w^k \rangle}{\|G(w^k)\|^2}.$$

Step 5 Compute

$$\overline{u}^k = P_C(x^k + \delta_k A^*(t^k - Ax^k))$$

and

$$\overline{v}^k = P_C(\overline{u}^k - F(\overline{u}^k)).$$

If  $\overline{v}^k = \overline{u}^k$ , then set  $y^k = \overline{u}^k$  and go to **Step 8**. Otherwise, go to **Step 6**. **Step 6** Find  $m_k$  as the smallest nonnegative integer *m* such that

$$\overline{w}^{k,m} = (1 - \eta^m)\overline{u}^k + \eta^m\overline{v}^k,$$
  
$$\langle F(\overline{w}^{k,m}), \overline{u}^k - \overline{v}^k \rangle \ge \frac{1}{2} \|\overline{u}^k - \overline{v}^k\|^2.$$

Set  $\eta_k = \eta^{m_k}$ ,  $\overline{w}^k = \overline{w}^{k,m_k}$ . **Step 7** Compute

$$y^k = P_C(\overline{u}^k - \overline{\sigma}_k F(\overline{w}^k))$$

where

$$\overline{\sigma}_k = \frac{\langle F(\overline{w}^k), \overline{u}^k - \overline{w}^k \rangle}{\|F(\overline{w}^k)\|^2}$$

**Step 8** Compute  $z^k = (1 - \lambda_k)\overline{u}^k + \lambda_k y^k$  and  $x^{k+1} = P_C(z^k - \alpha_k \mu \Phi(z^k))$ . **Step 9** Set k := k + 1, and go to **Step 2**.

Indeed, since  $v^k \neq u^k$  then

$$\langle G(w^k), u^k - w^k \rangle = \gamma^n \langle G(w^k), u^k - v^k \rangle \ge \frac{\gamma^n \|u^k - v^k\|^2}{2} > 0,$$

which implies

$$G(w^k) \neq 0, \quad \sigma_k = rac{\langle G(w^k), u^k - w^k 
angle}{\|G(w^k)\|^2} > 0.$$

From  $Ax^* \in \text{Sol}(Q, G)$  and  $w^k \in Q$ , we have  $\langle G(Ax^*), w^k - Ax^* \rangle \ge 0$ . Using the pseudomonotonicity of *G*, we get

$$\langle G(w^k), w^k - Ax^* \rangle \ge 0. \tag{4}$$

It follows from (4) that

$$\begin{aligned} \|t^{k} - Ax^{*}\|^{2} &= \|P_{Q}(u^{k} - \sigma_{k}G(w^{k})) - P_{Q}(Ax^{*})\|^{2} \\ &\leq \|u^{k} - \sigma_{k}G(w^{k}) - Ax^{*}\|^{2} \\ &= \|u^{k} - Ax^{*}\|^{2} + \sigma_{k}^{2}\|G(w^{k})\|^{2} - 2\sigma_{k}\langle G(w^{k}), u^{k} - Ax^{*}\rangle \\ &\leq \|u^{k} - Ax^{*}\|^{2} + \sigma_{k}^{2}\|G(w^{k})\|^{2} - 2\sigma_{k}\langle G(w^{k}), u^{k} - w^{k}\rangle \\ &= \|u^{k} - Ax^{*}\|^{2} + \sigma_{k}^{2}\|G(w^{k})\|^{2} - 2\sigma_{k}^{2}\|G(w^{k})\|^{2} \\ &= \|u^{k} - Ax^{*}\|^{2} - (\sigma_{k}\|G(w^{k})\|)^{2}. \end{aligned}$$

By using the same argument as in the proof of Step 2 (a), we get Step 2 (b).

**Step 3.** For all  $k \ge 0$ , we have

$$\|\overline{u}^{k} - x^{*}\|^{2} \le \|x^{k} - x^{*}\|^{2} - \delta_{k}(1 - \delta_{k}\|A\|^{2})\|t^{k} - Ax^{k}\|^{2} - \delta_{k}\|u^{k} - Ax^{k}\|^{2}.$$

From Step 2 (a) and the fact that  $t^k = u^k$  if  $v^k = u^k$ , we have

$$\|t^{k} - Ax^{*}\| \le \|u^{k} - Ax^{*}\|.$$
(5)

From the property of the projection mapping (Lemma 1 (iii)), we get

$$\|u^{k} - Ax^{*}\|^{2} = \|P_{Q}(Ax^{k}) - Ax^{*}\|^{2}$$
  

$$\leq \|Ax^{k} - Ax^{*}\|^{2} - \|P_{Q}(Ax^{k}) - Ax^{k}\|^{2}$$
  

$$= \|Ax^{k} - Ax^{*}\|^{2} - \|u^{k} - Ax^{k}\|^{2}.$$
(6)

It follows from (5) and (6) that

$$\|t^{k} - Ax^{*}\|^{2} - \|Ax^{k} - Ax^{*}\|^{2} \le -\|u^{k} - Ax^{k}\|^{2}.$$
(7)

Then, from (7), it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \langle A(x^{k} - x^{*}), t^{k} - Ax^{k} \rangle &= \langle t^{k} - Ax^{*}, t^{k} - Ax^{k} \rangle - \|t^{k} - Ax^{k}\|^{2} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \Big[ (\|t^{k} - Ax^{*}\|^{2} - \|Ax^{k} - Ax^{*}\|^{2}) - \|t^{k} - Ax^{k}\|^{2} \Big] \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} (-\|u^{k} - Ax^{k}\|^{2} - \|t^{k} - Ax^{k}\|^{2}). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\delta_k > 0$ , from the above inequality, we have

$$2\delta_k \langle A(x^k - x^*), t^k - Ax^k \rangle \le -\delta_k \|u^k - Ax^k\|^2 - \delta_k \|t^k - Ax^k\|^2.$$
(8)

Using the nonexpansiveness of  $P_C$  and (8), we get

$$\begin{split} \|\overline{u}^{k} - x^{*}\|^{2} &= \|P_{C}(x^{k} + \delta_{k}A^{*}(t^{k} - Ax^{k})) - P_{C}(x^{*})\|^{2} \\ &\leq \|(x^{k} - x^{*}) + \delta_{k}A^{*}(t^{k} - Ax^{k})\|^{2} \\ &= \|x^{k} - x^{*}\|^{2} + \delta_{k}^{2}\|A^{*}(t^{k} - Ax^{k})\|^{2} + 2\delta_{k}\langle x^{k} - x^{*}, A^{*}(t^{k} - Ax^{k})\rangle \\ &\leq \|x^{k} - x^{*}\|^{2} + \delta_{k}^{2}\|A^{*}\|^{2}\|t^{k} - Ax^{k}\|^{2} + 2\delta_{k}\langle A(x^{k} - x^{*}), t^{k} - Ax^{k}\rangle \\ &\leq \|x^{k} - x^{*}\|^{2} + \delta_{k}^{2}\|A\|^{2}\|t^{k} - Ax^{k}\|^{2} - \delta_{k}\|u^{k} - Ax^{k}\|^{2} - \delta_{k}\|t^{k} - Ax^{k}\|^{2} \\ &= \|x^{k} - x^{*}\|^{2} - \delta_{k}(1 - \delta_{k}\|A\|^{2})\|t^{k} - Ax^{k}\|^{2} - \delta_{k}\|u^{k} - Ax^{k}\|^{2}. \end{split}$$

**Step 4.** For all  $k \ge 0$ , we have

$$\|z^{k} - x^{*}\|^{2} \leq \|\overline{u}^{k} - x^{*}\|^{2} - \lambda_{k}(1 - \lambda_{k})\|y^{k} - \overline{u}^{k}\|^{2}.$$

Indeed, from  $y^k = \overline{u}^k$  if  $\overline{v}^k = \overline{u}^k$  and Step 2 (b), we have

$$\|y^{k} - x^{*}\| \le \|\overline{u}^{k} - x^{*}\|.$$
(9)

From (9), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \|z^{k} - x^{*}\|^{2} &= \|(1 - \lambda_{k})\overline{u}^{k} + \lambda_{k}y^{k} - x^{*}\|^{2} \\ &= \|(1 - \lambda_{k})(\overline{u}^{k} - x^{*}) + \lambda_{k}(y^{k} - x^{*})\|^{2} \\ &= (1 - \lambda_{k})\|\overline{u}^{k} - x^{*}\|^{2} + \lambda_{k}\|y^{k} - x^{*}\|^{2} - \lambda_{k}(1 - \lambda_{k})\|y^{k} - \overline{u}^{k}\|^{2} \\ &\leq (1 - \lambda_{k})\|\overline{u}^{k} - x^{*}\|^{2} + \lambda_{k}\|\overline{u}^{k} - x^{*}\|^{2} - \lambda_{k}(1 - \lambda_{k})\|y^{k} - \overline{u}^{k}\|^{2} \\ &= \|\overline{u}^{k} - x^{*}\|^{2} - \lambda_{k}(1 - \lambda_{k})\|y^{k} - \overline{u}^{k}\|^{2}. \end{aligned}$$

**Step 5.** For all  $k \ge 0$ , we have

$$\|z^{k} - \alpha_{k}\mu\Phi(z^{k}) - (x^{*} - \alpha_{k}\mu\Phi(x^{*}))\| \le (1 - \alpha_{k}\tau)\|z^{k} - x^{*}\|,$$

where

$$\tau = 1 - \sqrt{1 - \mu(2\beta - \mu L^2)} \in (0, 1].$$

It is clear that

$$\begin{aligned} \|z^{k} - \alpha_{k}\mu\Phi(z^{k}) - (x^{*} - \alpha_{k}\mu\Phi(x^{*}))\| &= \|(1 - \alpha_{k})(z^{k} - x^{*}) \\ + \alpha_{k}[z^{k} - x^{*} - \mu(\Phi(z^{k}) - \Phi(x^{*}))]\| \\ &\leq (1 - \alpha_{k})\|z^{k} - x^{*}\| + \alpha_{k}\|z^{k} \\ -x^{*} - \mu(\Phi(z^{k}) - \Phi(x^{*}))\|. \end{aligned}$$
(10)

Using  $\beta$ -strongly monotonicity and *L*-Lipschitz continuity on *C* of  $\Phi$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} \|z^{k} - x^{*} - \mu(\Phi(z^{k}) - \Phi(x^{*}))\|^{2} &= \|z^{k} - x^{*}\|^{2} - 2\mu\langle z^{k} - x^{*}, \Phi(z^{k}) - \Phi(x^{*})\rangle \\ &+ \mu^{2} \|\Phi(z^{k}) - \Phi(x^{*})\|^{2} \\ &\leq \|z^{k} - x^{*}\|^{2} - 2\mu\beta\|z^{k} - x^{*}\|^{2} + \mu^{2}L^{2}\|z^{k} - x^{*}\|^{2} \\ &= (1 - 2\mu\beta + \mu^{2}L^{2})\|z^{k} - x^{*}\|^{2}. \end{aligned}$$
(11)

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#### Combining (10) and (11), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \|z^k - \alpha_k \mu \Phi(z^k) - (x^* - \alpha_k \mu \Phi(x^*))\| &\leq (1 - \alpha_k) \|z^k - x^*\| + \alpha_k \sqrt{1 - \mu(2\beta - \mu L^2)} \|z^k - x^*\| \\ &= (1 - \alpha_k \tau) \|z^k - x^*\|. \end{aligned}$$

**Step 6.** We show that the sequence  $\{x^k\}, \{\overline{u}^k\}, \{z^k\}$  and  $\{\Phi(z^k)\}$  are bounded. Since  $\{\delta_k\} \subset [\underline{\delta}, \overline{\delta}] \subset \left(0, \frac{1}{\|A\|^2 + 1}\right)$  and  $\lambda_k \in (0, 1)$ , by combining these with Step 3 and Step 4, we obtain

$$\|z^{k} - x^{*}\| \le \|\overline{u}^{k} - x^{*}\| \le \|x^{k} - x^{*}\|.$$
(12)

Using the nonexpansiveness property of  $P_C$ , Step 5 and (12), we find

$$\|x^{k+1} - x^*\| = \|P_C(z^k - \alpha_k \mu \Phi(z^k)) - P_C(x^*)\|$$
  

$$\leq \|z^k - \alpha_k \mu \Phi(z^k) - x^*\|$$
  

$$= \|z^k - \alpha_k \mu \Phi(z^k) - (x^* - \alpha_k \mu \Phi(x^*)) - \alpha_k \mu \Phi(x^*)\|$$
  

$$\leq \|z^k - \alpha_k \mu \Phi(z^k) - (x^* - \alpha_k \mu \Phi(x^*))\| + \alpha_k \mu \|\Phi(x^*)\|$$
  

$$\leq (1 - \alpha_k \tau) \|z^k - x^*\| + \alpha_k \mu \|\Phi(x^*)\|$$
  

$$\leq (1 - \alpha_k \tau) \|x^k - x^*\| + \alpha_k \mu \|\Phi(x^*)\|.$$
(13)

So, by induction, we obtain, for every  $k \ge 0$ , that

$$||x^{k} - x^{*}|| \le \max\left\{||x^{0} - x^{*}||, \frac{\mu ||\Phi(x^{*})||}{\tau}\right\}.$$

Hence, the sequence  $\{x^k\}$  is bounded and so are the sequences  $\{\overline{u}^k\}$ ,  $\{z^k\}$  and  $\{\Phi(z^k)\}$  thank to (12) and the Lipschitz continuity of  $\Phi$ .

#### **Step 7.** For all $k \ge 0$ , we have

$$\|x^{k+1} - x^*\|^2 \le (1 - \alpha_k \tau) \|z^k - x^*\|^2 + 2\alpha_k \mu \langle \Phi(x^*), x^* - z^k + \alpha_k \mu \Phi(z^k) \rangle.$$

Using the inequality

$$\|x - y\|^2 \le \|x\|^2 - 2\langle y, x - y \rangle \quad \forall x, y \in \mathcal{H}_1,$$

and Step 5, we obtain successively

$$\begin{aligned} \|x^{k+1} - x^*\|^2 &= \|P_C(z^k - \alpha_k \mu \Phi(z^k)) - P_C(x^*)\|^2 \\ &\leq \|z^k - \alpha_k \mu \Phi(z^k) - x^*\|^2 \\ &= \|z^k - \alpha_k \mu \Phi(z^k) - (x^* - \alpha_k \mu \Phi(x^*)) - \alpha_k \mu \Phi(x^*)\|^2 \\ &\leq \|z^k - \alpha_k \mu \Phi(z^k) - (x^* - \alpha_k \mu \Phi(x^*))\|^2 - 2\alpha_k \mu \langle \Phi(x^*), z^k - \alpha_k \mu \Phi(z^k) - x^* \rangle \\ &\leq (1 - \alpha_k \tau)^2 \|z^k - x^*\|^2 + 2\alpha_k \mu \langle \Phi(x^*), x^* - z^k + \alpha_k \mu \Phi(z^k) \rangle \\ &\leq (1 - \alpha_k \tau) \|z^k - x^*\|^2 + 2\alpha_k \mu \langle \Phi(x^*), x^* - z^k + \alpha_k \mu \Phi(z^k) \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

**Step 8.** (a) Suppose that  $\{u^{k_i}\}$  is a subsequence of  $\{u^k\}$  converging weakly to some  $\overline{u}$  and  $\|t^{k_i} - u^{k_i}\| \longrightarrow 0$  as  $i \longrightarrow \infty$  then  $\overline{u} \in \text{Sol}(Q, G)$ .

(b) Suppose that  $\{\overline{u}^{k_i}\}$  is a subsequence of  $\{\overline{u}^k\}$  converging weakly to some  $\widetilde{u}$  and  $\|y^{k_i} - \overline{u}^{k_i}\| \longrightarrow 0$  as  $i \longrightarrow \infty$  then  $\widetilde{u} \in \text{Sol}(C, F)$ .

First, we see that since  $\{u^k\} \subset Q, u^{k_i} \rightarrow \overline{u}$  and Q is closed and convex, it is also weakly closed, and thus  $\overline{u} \in Q$ . Since  $u^{k_i} \rightharpoonup \overline{u}$ , we obtain  $\{u^{k_i}\}$  is bounded. From (5), we get  $\{t^{k_i}\}$  is also bounded.

Case A. Suppose that there exists a subsequence of  $\{u^{k_i}\}$ , denoted again by  $\{u^{k_i}\}$ such that  $t^{k_i} = u^{k_i}$  for all *i*. If  $v^{k_i} \neq u^{k_i}$  then from Step 2, we have  $||t^{k_i} - Ax^*|| < 1$  $||u^{k_i} - Ax^*||$ . This contradicts the fact that  $t^{k_i} = u^{k_i}$ . Thus,  $v^{k_i} = u^{k_i}$  or  $P_O(u^{k_i} - u^{k_i})$  $G(u^{k_i}) = u^{k_i}$  for all *i*. Then, by Lemma 1, we have

$$\langle G(u^{k_i}), v - u^{k_i} \rangle \ge 0 \ \forall v \in Q.$$
(14)

From the weak convergence of the sequence  $\{u^{k_i}\}$  to  $\overline{u}$ , we get  $\lim_{i \to \infty} G(u^{k_i}) = G(\overline{u})$ . Thus, from (14), we have

$$\langle G(\overline{u}), v - \overline{u} \rangle \ge 0 \ \forall v \in Q,$$

i.e.  $\overline{u} \in \text{Sol}(Q, G)$ .

Case B. Suppose that there exists a subsequence of  $\{u^{k_i}\}$ , denoted again by  $\{u^{k_i}\}$ such that  $t^{k_i} \neq u^{k_i}$  for all i. Let  $\{n_i\}$  be the sequence of the smallest nonnegative integers such that, for all *i* 

$$\langle G((1-\gamma^{n_i})u^{k_i}+\gamma^{n_i}v^{k_i}), u^{k_i}-v^{k_i}\rangle \geq \frac{\|u^{k_i}-v^{k_i}\|^2}{2},$$

where  $v^{k_i} = P_Q(u^{k_i} - G(u^{k_i})), w^{k_i} = (1 - \gamma_{k_i})u^{k_i} + \gamma_{k_i}v^{k_i}, \gamma_{k_i} = \gamma^{n_i}$ . From Step 2 (a), we get

$$||t^{k_i} - Ax^*||^2 \le ||u^{k_i} - Ax^*||^2 - (\sigma_{k_i}||G(w^{k_i})||)^2,$$

where

$$\sigma_{k_i} = \frac{\langle G(w^{k_i}), u^{k_i} - w^{k_i} \rangle}{\|G(w^{k_i})\|^2}.$$

Therefore,

$$(\sigma_{k_i} \| G(w^{k_i}) \|)^2 \le \| u^{k_i} - Ax^* \|^2 - \| t^{k_i} - Ax^* \|^2 \le (\| u^{k_i} - Ax^* \| + \| t^{k_i} - Ax^* \|) \| u^{k_i} - t^{k_i} \|$$

This inequality together with the boundedness of two sequences  $\{u^{k_i}\}, \{t^{k_i}\}$  and  $||t^{k_i}$  $u^{k_i} \parallel \longrightarrow 0$  imply

$$\lim_{i \to \infty} \sigma_{k_i} \|G(w^{k_i})\| = 0.$$
<sup>(15)</sup>

Since  $\{u^{k_i}\} \subset Q$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \|v^{k_i} - u^{k_i}\| &= \|P_Q(u^{k_i} - G(u^{k_i})) - P_Q(u^{k_i})\| \\ &\leq \|G(u^{k_i})\|. \end{aligned}$$

The above inequality together with the boundedness of  $\{u^{k_i}\}$  and  $\{G(u^{k_i})\}$  imply that  $\{v^{k_i}\}$  is bounded. We also imply that  $\{w^{k_i}\}$  is bounded. Therefore,  $\{G(w^{k_i})\}$  is bounded. So from (15) and  $\langle G(w^{k_i}), u^{k_i} - w^{k_i} \rangle = \sigma_{k_i} \|G(w^{k_i})\|^2$ , we get

$$\lim_{i \to \infty} \langle G(w^{k_i}), u^{k_i} - w^{k_i} \rangle = 0.$$
<sup>(16)</sup>

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Since  $w^{k_i} = (1 - \gamma_{k_i})u^{k_i} + \gamma_{k_i}v^{k_i}$ , we have

$$\langle G(w^{k_i}), u^{k_i} - w^{k_i} \rangle = \gamma_{k_i} \langle G(w^{k_i}), u^{k_i} - v^{k_i} \rangle$$

$$\geq \frac{\gamma_{k_i} \| u^{k_i} - v^{k_i} \|^2}{2}.$$
(17)

From (16) and (17), we have

$$\lim_{i \to \infty} \gamma_{k_i} \| u^{k_i} - v^{k_i} \|^2 = 0.$$
 (18)

From

$$w^{k_i} = P_Q(u^{k_i} - G(u^{k_i})),$$

we have

$$\langle u^{k_i} - G(u^{k_i}) - v^{k_i}, v - v^{k_i} \rangle \leq 0 \ \forall v \in Q.$$

Therefore

$$\langle G(u^{k_i}), v - v^{k_i} \rangle \ge \langle u^{k_i} - v^{k_i}, v - v^{k_i} \rangle \ \forall v \in Q.$$
<sup>(19)</sup>

We now consider two distinct cases:

Case B.1.  $\limsup_{i \to \infty} \gamma_{k_i} > 0$ . In this case, there exist  $\overline{\gamma}$  and a subsequence of  $\{\gamma_{k_i}\}$ , denoted again by  $\{\gamma_{k_i}\}$  such that  $\gamma_{k_i} \longrightarrow \overline{\gamma}$ . Then, by (18), we obtain that  $\lim_{i \to \infty} ||u^{k_i} - v^{k_i}|| = 0$ . Since  $u^{k_i} \rightharpoonup \overline{u}$ , then  $v^{k_i} \rightharpoonup \overline{u}$ .

Applying the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality, we get

$$|\langle u^{k_i} - v^{k_i}, v - v^{k_i} \rangle| \le ||u^{k_i} - v^{k_i}|| . ||v - v^{k_i}||.$$
(20)

Since  $||u^{k_i} - v^{k_i}|| \longrightarrow 0$  and the sequence  $\{v^{k_i}\}$  is bounded, from (20), it ensures that  $\lim_{i \to \infty} \langle u^{k_i} - v^{k_i}, v - v^{k_i} \rangle = 0$ . So, using (19), the weak convergence of two sequences  $\{u^{k_i}\}, \{v^{k_i}\}$  to  $\overline{u}$ , we get

$$\langle G(\overline{u}), v - \overline{u} \rangle \ge 0 \ \forall v \in Q,$$

i.e.  $\overline{u} \in \text{Sol}(Q, G)$ .

Case B.2.  $\lim_{i \to \infty} \gamma_{k_i} = 0$ . From the boundedness of  $\{v^{k_i}\}$ , without loss of generality, we may assume that  $v^{k_i} \to \overline{v}$  as  $i \to \infty$ . Since  $\gamma^{m_i} = \gamma_{k_i} \to 0$  as  $i \to \infty$ , it follows that  $m_i > 1$  for *i* sufficiently large and consequently, that

$$\langle G(s^{k_i}), u^{k_i} - v^{k_i} \rangle < \frac{\|u^{k_i} - v^{k_i}\|^2}{2},$$
 (21)

where

$$s^{k_i} = (1 - \gamma^{n_i - 1})u^{k_i} + \gamma^{n_i - 1}v^{k_i}.$$

Choose  $v = u^{k_i}$  in (19), we have

$$\langle G(u^{k_i}), u^{k_i} - v^{k_i} \rangle \ge \|u^{k_i} - v^{k_i}\|^2.$$
 (22)

From (21) and (22), we have

$$\langle G(s^{k_i}), u^{k_i} - v^{k_i} \rangle < \frac{1}{2} \langle G(u^{k_i}), u^{k_i} - v^{k_i} \rangle,$$
(23)

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Since  $\{u^{k_i}\}$  and  $\{v^{k_i}\}$  are bounded and  $\gamma_{k_i} \longrightarrow 0$ , then

$$\|s^{k_i}-u^{k_i}\|=\frac{\gamma_{k_i}}{\gamma}\|u^{k_i}-v^{k_i}\|\longrightarrow 0.$$

From  $u^{k_i} \rightarrow \overline{u}$  and  $||s^{k_i} - u^{k_i}|| \longrightarrow 0$ , then we have  $s^{k_i} \rightarrow \overline{u}$ . Since  $v^{k_i} \rightarrow \overline{v}$ , then from (23), we have

$$\langle G(\overline{u}), \overline{u} - \overline{v} \rangle \leq \frac{1}{2} \langle G(\overline{u}), \overline{u} - \overline{v} \rangle.$$

Thus,

$$\langle G(\overline{u}), \overline{u} - \overline{v} \rangle \le 0.$$
 (24)

From (22), we have

$$\langle G(u^{k_i}), u^{k_i} - v^{k_i} \rangle \ge 0.$$
<sup>(25)</sup>

Since  $u^{k_i} \rightarrow \overline{u}, v^{k_i} \rightarrow \overline{v}$ , from (25), we have

$$\langle G(\overline{u}), \overline{u} - \overline{v} \rangle \ge 0.$$

Combine with (24), we have

$$\langle G(\overline{u}), \overline{u} - \overline{v} \rangle = 0. \tag{26}$$

From (26), we get

$$\lim_{i \to \infty} \langle G(u^{k_i}), u^{k_i} - v^{k_i} \rangle = \langle G(\overline{u}), \overline{u} - \overline{v} \rangle = 0.$$

Thus from (22), we get

$$\lim_{i \to \infty} \|u^{k_i} - v^{k_i}\| = 0$$

Since  $u^{k_i} \rightarrow \overline{u}$ , then  $v^{k_i} \rightarrow \overline{u}$ . From  $||u^{k_i} - v^{k_i}|| \rightarrow 0$  and the boundedness of sequence  $\{v^{k_i}\}$ , we get  $\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \langle u^{k_i} - v^{k_i}, v - v^{k_i} \rangle = 0$ . So, using (19) and the weak convergence of two sequences  $\{u^{k_i}\}, \{v^{k_i}\}$  to  $\overline{u}$ , we get

 $\langle G(\overline{u}), v - \overline{u} \rangle \ge 0 \ \forall v \in Q.$ 

i.e.  $\overline{u} \in \text{Sol}(Q, G)$ .

By using the same argument as in the proof of Step 8 (a), we get Step 8 (b).

**Step 9.** We prove that  $\{x^k\}$  converges strongly to the unique solution  $x^*$  of the problem *BSVIP*.

Let us consider two cases.

**Case 1:** There exists  $k_0$  such that the sequence  $\{||x^k - x^*||\}$  is decreasing for  $k \ge k_0$ . In this case the limit of  $\{||x^k - x^*||\}$  exists. So, it follows from Step 7 and (12) that

$$(\|x^{k+1} - x^*\|^2 - \|x^k - x^*\|^2) - 2\alpha_k \mu \langle \Phi(x^*), x^* - z^k + \alpha_k \mu \Phi(z^k) \rangle$$
  

$$\leq \|z^k - x^*\|^2 - \|x^k - x^*\|^2$$
  

$$\leq \|\overline{u}^k - x^*\|^2 - \|x^k - x^*\|^2$$
  

$$\leq 0.$$
(27)

Since the limit of  $\{\|x^k - x^*\|\}$  exists,  $\lim_{k \to \infty} \alpha_k = 0$  and  $\{z^k\}$ ,  $\{\Phi(z^k)\}$  are bounded, it follows from (27) that

$$\lim_{k \to \infty} (\|z^k - x^*\|^2 - \|x^k - x^*\|^2) = 0,$$
(28)

$$\lim_{k \to \infty} (\|\overline{u}^k - x^*\|^2 - \|x^k - x^*\|^2) = 0.$$
<sup>(29)</sup>

Thus, from (28) and (29), we conclude that

$$\lim_{k \to \infty} (\|\overline{u}^k - x^*\|^2 - \|z^k - x^*\|^2) = 0.$$
(30)

From  $\{\delta_k\} \subset [\underline{\delta}, \overline{\delta}] \subset \left(0, \frac{1}{\|A\|^2 + 1}\right)$  and Step 3, we obtain  $\underline{\delta}(1 - \overline{\delta}\|A\|^2) \|t^k - Ax^k\|^2 + \underline{\delta}\|u^k - Ax^k\|^2 \le \|x^k - x^*\|^2 - \|\overline{u}^k - x^*\|^2.$ (31)

From (29) and (31), it follows that

$$\lim_{k \to \infty} \|t^k - Ax^k\| = 0, \quad \lim_{k \to \infty} \|u^k - Ax^k\| = 0.$$
(32)

From (32), we have

$$\lim_{k \to \infty} \|t^k - u^k\| = 0.$$
(33)

Since the projection operator  $P_C$  is nonexpansive and  $\{x^k\} \subset C$ , we can write

$$\|x^{k} - \overline{u}^{k}\| = \|P_{C}(x^{k}) - P_{C}(x^{k} + \delta_{k}A^{*}(t^{k} - Ax^{k}))\|$$
  

$$\leq \|x^{k} - x^{k} - \delta_{k}A^{*}(t^{k} - Ax^{k})\|$$
  

$$= \|\delta_{k}A^{*}(t^{k} - Ax^{k})\|$$
  

$$\leq \delta_{k}\|A^{*}\|\|t^{k} - Ax^{k}\|$$
  

$$\leq \overline{\delta}\|A\|\|t^{k} - Ax^{k}\|.$$

It follows from the above inequality and  $\lim_{k \to \infty} ||t^k - Ax^k|| = 0$  that

$$\lim_{k \to \infty} \|x^k - \overline{u}^k\| = 0.$$
(34)

From Step 4 and (30) and  $\lim_{k \to \infty} \lambda_k = \lambda \in (0, 1)$ , we obtain

$$\lim_{k \to \infty} \|y^k - \overline{u}^k\| = 0.$$
(35)

Note that, for any  $k \ge 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \|z^k - \overline{u}^k\| &= \lambda_k \|y^k - \overline{u}^k\| \\ &\leq \|y^k - \overline{u}^k\|. \end{aligned}$$

Taking into account the last inequality together with (35), we have

$$\lim_{k \to \infty} \|z^k - \overline{u}^k\| = 0.$$
(36)

Note that

$$\|x^k - z^k\| \le \|x^k - \overline{u}^k\| + \|\overline{u}^k - z^k\| \quad \forall k,$$

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which together with (34) and (36) implies that

$$\lim_{k \to \infty} \|x^k - z^k\| = 0.$$
(37)

Take a subsequence  $\{z^{k_i}\}$  of  $\{z^k\}$  such that

$$\limsup_{k \to \infty} \langle \Phi(x^*), x^* - z^k \rangle = \lim_{i \to \infty} \langle \Phi(x^*), x^* - z^{k_i} \rangle.$$

Since  $\{z^{k_i}\}$  ce that  $z^{k_i}$  converges weakly to some  $\overline{z} \in \mathcal{H}_1$ . Therefore,

$$\limsup_{k \to \infty} \langle \Phi(x^*), x^* - z^k \rangle = \lim_{i \to \infty} \langle \Phi(x^*), x^* - z^{k_i} \rangle$$
$$= \langle \Phi(x^*), x^* - \overline{z} \rangle.$$
(38)

From (36), (37) and  $z^{k_i} \rightarrow \overline{z}$ , we conclude that  $\overline{u}^{k_i}$  and  $x^{k_i}$  converge weakly to  $\overline{z}$ . It follows from (35) that  $\lim_{i \to \infty} ||y^{k_i} - \overline{u}^{k_i}|| = 0$ . So, using  $\overline{u}^{k_i} \rightarrow \overline{z}$  and Step 8 (b), we get  $\overline{z} \in \text{Sol}(C, F)$ .

Next, we prove that  $A\overline{z} \in \text{Sol}(Q, G)$ .

From  $x^{k_i} \rightarrow \overline{z}$ , we get  $Ax^{k_i} \rightarrow A\overline{z}$ . This together with (32) implies that  $u^{k_i} \rightarrow A\overline{z}$ . From (33), we obtain  $\lim_{i \to \infty} ||t^{k_i} - u^{k_i}|| = 0$ . Thus, using the weak convergence of sequence  $\{u^{k_i}\}$  to  $A\overline{z}$  and Step 8 (a), we get  $A\overline{z} \in \text{Sol}(Q, G)$ .

From  $\overline{z} \in \text{Sol}(C, F)$  and  $A\overline{z} \in \text{Sol}(Q, G)$ , we have  $\overline{z} \in \Omega$ . Since  $x^*$  is the solution of Problem (*BSVIP*), we have  $\langle \Phi(x^*), \overline{z} - x^* \rangle \ge 0$ . So, from (38), we get

$$\limsup_{k \to \infty} \langle \Phi(x^*), x^* - z^k \rangle \le 0.$$

From (12) and Step 7, we obtain

$$\|x^{k+1} - x^*\|^2 \le (1 - \alpha_k \tau) \|x^k - x^*\|^2 + \alpha_k \tau \xi_k,$$

where

$$\xi_k = \frac{2\mu \langle \Phi(x^*), x^* - z^k + \alpha_k \mu \Phi(z^k) \rangle}{\tau}$$

Using  $\lim_{k \to \infty} \alpha_k = 0$ , the boundedness of  $\{\Phi(z^k)\}$  and  $\limsup_{k \to \infty} \langle \Phi(x^*), x^* - z^k \rangle \le 0$ , we get

$$\limsup_{k \to \infty} \xi_k \le 0.$$

By Lemma 3, we have  $\lim_{k \to \infty} ||x^k - x^*||^2 = 0$ , i.e.,  $x^k \to x^*$  as  $k \to \infty$ .

**Case 2:** Suppose that for any integer *m*, there exists an integer *k* such that  $k \ge m$  and  $||x^k - x^*|| \le ||x^{k+1} - x^*||$ . According to Lemma 2, there exists a nondecreasing sequence  $\{\tau(k)\}$  of  $\mathbb{N}$  such that  $\lim_{k \to \infty} \tau(k) = \infty$  and the following inequalities hold for all (sufficiently large)  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ .

$$\|x^{\tau(k)} - x^*\| \le \|x^{\tau(k)+1} - x^*\|, \quad \|x^k - x^*\| \le \|x^{\tau(k)+1} - x^*\|.$$
(39)

From (13), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \|x^{\tau(k)} - x^*\| &\leq \|x^{\tau(k)+1} - x^*\| \\ &\leq (1 - \alpha_{\tau(k)}\tau)\|z^{\tau(k)} - x^*\| + \alpha_{\tau(k)}\mu\|\Phi(x^*)\|. \end{aligned}$$
(40)

From (40) and (12), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_{\tau(k)}\tau \|z^{\tau(k)} - x^*\| &- \alpha_{\tau(k)}\mu \|\Phi(x^*)\| \le \|z^{\tau(k)} - x^*\| - \|x^{\tau(k)} - x^*\| \\ &\le \|\overline{u}^{\tau(k)} - x^*\| - \|x^{\tau(k)} - x^*\| \\ &\le 0. \end{aligned}$$

Then, it follows from the boundedness of  $\{z^k\}$  and  $\lim_{k \to \infty} \alpha_k = 0$  that

$$\lim_{k \to \infty} (\|z^{\tau(k)} - x^*\| - \|x^{\tau(k)} - x^*\|) = 0,$$
  
$$\lim_{k \to \infty} (\|\overline{u}^{\tau(k)} - x^*\| - \|x^{\tau(k)} - x^*\|) = 0.$$
 (41)

From (41) and the boundedness of  $\{x^k\}, \{\overline{u}^k\}, \{z^k\}$ , we obtain

$$\lim_{k \to \infty} (\|z^{\tau(k)} - x^*\|^2 - \|x^{\tau(k)} - x^*\|^2) = 0,$$
$$\lim_{k \to \infty} (\|\overline{u}^{\tau(k)} - x^*\|^2 - \|x^{\tau(k)} - x^*\|^2) = 0.$$

As proved in the first case, we obtain

$$\limsup_{k \to \infty} \langle \Phi(x^*), x^* - z^{\tau(k)} \rangle \le 0.$$

Then, the boundedness of  $\{\Phi(z^k)\}$  and  $\lim_{k \to \infty} \alpha_k = 0$  yield

$$\lim_{k \to \infty} \sup \langle \Phi(x^*), x^* - z^{\tau(k)} + \alpha_{\tau(k)} \mu \Phi(z^{\tau(k)}) \rangle$$

$$= \lim_{k \to \infty} \sup [\langle \Phi(x^*), x^* - z^{\tau(k)} \rangle + \alpha_{\tau(k)} \mu \langle \Phi(x^*), \Phi(z^{\tau(k)}) \rangle]$$

$$= \limsup_{k \to \infty} \langle \Phi(x^*), x^* - z^{\tau(k)} \rangle$$

$$\leq 0.$$
(42)

From (12), Step 7 and (39), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \|x^{\tau(k)+1} - x^*\|^2 &\leq (1 - \alpha_{\tau(k)}\tau) \|x^{\tau(k)} - x^*\|^2 + 2\alpha_{\tau(k)}\mu \langle \Phi(x^*), x^* - z^{\tau(k)} + \alpha_{\tau(k)}\mu \Phi(z^{\tau(k)}) \rangle \\ &\leq (1 - \alpha_{\tau(k)}\tau) \|x^{\tau(k)+1} - x^*\|^2 + 2\alpha_{\tau(k)}\mu \langle \Phi(x^*), x^* - z^{\tau(k)} + \alpha_{\tau(k)}\mu \Phi(z^{\tau(k)}) \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

In particular, since  $\alpha_{\tau(k)} > 0$ 

$$\|x^{\tau(k)+1} - x^*\|^2 \le \frac{2\mu}{\tau} \langle \Phi(x^*), x^* - z^{\tau(k)} + \alpha_{\tau(k)} \mu \Phi(z^{\tau(k)}) \rangle.$$
(43)

From (39) and (43), we have

$$\|x^{k} - x^{*}\|^{2} \leq \frac{2\mu}{\tau} \langle \Phi(x^{*}), x^{*} - z^{k} + \alpha_{k} \mu \Phi(z^{k}) \rangle.$$
(44)

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Taking the limit in (44) as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ , and using (42), we obtain that

$$\limsup_{k \to \infty} \|x^k - x^*\|^2 \le 0.$$

Therefore,  $x^k \longrightarrow x^*$  as  $k \longrightarrow \infty$ . This completes the proof of Theorem 1.

Let us analyze the condition 
$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \alpha_k = \infty$$
, which was given in Algorithm 1.

*Example 1* Choose  $\Phi$  is the identical mapping, F = G = 0,  $C = \mathbb{R}$ ,  $Q = \mathbb{R}$ . In this case, the bilevel split variational inequality problem becomes the problem of finding the minimum-norm solution of the split feasibility problem. One can find the solution set of the split split feasibility problem  $\Omega = \mathbb{R}$  and, therefore, the minimum-norm solution  $x^*$  of the split feasibility problem is  $x^* = 0$ .

Choose  $\alpha_k = \frac{1}{(k+2)^2}$  for all  $k \ge 0$ . An elementary computation shows that  $\{\alpha_k\} \subset (0, 1), \lim_{k \to \infty} \alpha_k = 0$ . Since  $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \alpha_k < \infty$ , condition  $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \alpha_k = \infty$  is violated.

The iterative sequence  $\{x^k\}$  produced by Algorithm 1 for  $\mu = 1$  and  $x^0 = 1$  is given by

$$x^{k+1} = (1 - \alpha_k) x^k \quad \forall k \ge 0.$$

Thus, by induction, for every  $k \ge 1$ , we have

$$x^{k} = \prod_{j=0}^{k-1} (1 - \alpha_{j})$$
$$= \prod_{j=0}^{k-1} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{(j+2)^{2}} \right)$$
$$= \prod_{j=0}^{k-1} \frac{(j+1)(j+3)}{(j+2)^{2}}$$
$$= \frac{k+2}{2(k+1)}.$$

Therefore,  $\lim_{k \to \infty} x^k = \frac{1}{2}$ . This means that  $\{x^k\}$  does not converge to the the minimumnorm solution  $x^* = 0$  of the split feasibility problem. Hence, condition  $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \alpha_k = \infty$  cannot be dropped.

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*Remark* In Example 1, conditions  $\{\alpha_k\} \subset (0, 1)$  and  $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \alpha_k = \infty$  guarantee the

strong convergence of  $\{x^k\}$  to the minimum-norm solution  $x^* = 0$ . In other words, condition  $\lim_{k \to 0} \alpha_k = 0$  can be dropped.

Indeed, using the inequality

$$1+x \leq e^x \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R},$$

we have

$$x^{k} = \prod_{j=0}^{k-1} (1 - \alpha_{j})$$
$$\leq \prod_{j=0}^{k-1} e^{-\alpha_{j}}$$
$$= e^{-\sum_{j=0}^{k-1} \alpha_{j}}.$$

It follows from the above inequality and  $\{\alpha_k\} \subset (0, 1)$  that

$$0 < x^k \le e^{-\sum_{j=0}^{k-1} \alpha_j} \ \forall k.$$

$$\tag{45}$$

From  $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \alpha_k = \infty$ , we have  $\lim_{k \to \infty} \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} \alpha_j = \infty$ . Consequently, (45) implies that  $\lim_{k \to \infty} x^k = 0$ .

#### **4** Numerical Results

To illustrate Theorem 1, we consider the following example:

*Example 2* Let  $\mathcal{H}_1 = \mathbb{R}^4$  with the norm  $||x|| = (x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2 + x_4^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$  for  $x = (x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4)^T \in \mathbb{R}^4$  and  $\mathcal{H}_2 = \mathbb{R}^2$  with the standard norm  $||y|| = (y_1^2 + y_2^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ . Let  $A(x) = (x_1 + x_3 + x_4, x_2 + x_3 - x_4)^T$  for all  $x = (x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4)^T \in \mathbb{R}^4$  then A is a bounded linear operator from  $\mathbb{R}^4$  into  $\mathbb{R}^2$  with  $||A|| = \sqrt{3}$ . For  $y = (y_1, y_2)^T \in \mathbb{R}^2$ , let  $B(y) = (y_1, y_2, y_1 + y_2, y_1 - y_2)^T$ , then B is a bounded linear operator from  $\mathbb{R}^4$  with  $||B|| = \sqrt{3}$ . Moreover, for any  $x = (x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4)^T \in \mathbb{R}^4$  and  $y = (y_1, y_2)^T \in \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $\langle A(x), y \rangle = \langle x, B(y) \rangle$ , so  $B = A^*$  is an adjoint operator of A.

Let

$$C = \{ (x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4)^T \in \mathbb{R}^4 : x_1 - x_2 - x_3 \ge 1 \}$$

and  $F : C \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^4$  be defined by  $F(x) = (||x||^2 + 2)a$  for all  $x \in C$ , where  $a = (1, -1, -1, 0)^T \in \mathbb{R}^4$ . It is easy to verify that *F* is pseudomonotone on *C*.

Choose  $x = (3, 1, 0, 4)^T \in C$ ,  $y = (4, 1, 0, 0)^T \in C$ . It is easy to see that  $\langle F(x) - F(y), x - y \rangle = -9 < 0.$ 

Hence, F is not monotone on C.

Suppose that there exists L > 0 such that

$$\|F(x) - F(y)\| \le L \|x - y\| \quad \forall x, y \in C.$$
(46)

Choose  $x = (1, 0, 0, k)^T \in C$  (k > 0) and  $y = (1, 0, 0, 0)^T \in C$ . From (46), we obtain

$$\sqrt{3}k \le L \ \forall k > 0,$$

which is a contradiction.

It is easy to see that the solution set Sol(C, F) of VIP(C, F) is given by

Sol(C, F) = {
$$(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4)^T \in \mathbb{R}^4 : x_1 - x_2 - x_3 = 1$$
}.

Now let  $Q = \{(u_1, u_2)^T \in \mathbb{R}^2 : u_1 - u_2 \ge 2\}$  and define another mapping  $G : Q \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  as follows:

$$G(u) = (||u||^2 + 3)b$$

for all  $u \in Q$ , where  $b = (1, -1)^T \in \mathbb{R}^2$ .

It is easy to see that G is pseudomonotone on Q, not monotone on Q, not Lipschitz on Q and that the solution set Sol(Q, G) of VIP(Q, G) is given by

Sol
$$(Q, G) = \{(u_1, u_2)^T \in \mathbb{R}^2 : u_1 - u_2 = 2\}.$$

We consider the case when  $\Phi(x) = x$  for all  $x \in C$ . This mapping  $\Phi$  is 1-Lipschitz continuous and 1-strongly monotone on *C*, and in this situation, by choosing  $\mu = 1$ , the Problem (*BSV1P*) becomes the problem of finding the minimum-norm solution of the SVIP.

The solution set  $\Omega$  of the SVIP is given by

$$\Omega = \{x = (x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4)^T \in \text{Sol}(C, F) : A(x) \in \text{Sol}(Q, G)\}$$
  
=  $\{x = (x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4)^T \in \mathbb{R}^4 : x_1 - x_2 - x_3 = 1, (x_1 + x_3 + x_4) - (x_2 + x_3 - x_4) = 2\}$   
=  $\{x = (x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4)^T \in \mathbb{R}^4 : x_1 - x_2 - x_3 = 1, x_1 - x_2 + 2x_4 = 2\}$   
=  $\{(a + 2 - 2b, a, 1 - 2b, b)^T : a, b \in \mathbb{R}\}.$ 

Suppose  $x = (a + 2 - 2b, a, 1 - 2b, b)^T \in \Omega$  then

$$\|x\| = \sqrt{(a+2-2b)^2 + a^2 + (1-2b)^2 + b^2}$$
  
=  $\sqrt{2(a+1-b)^2 + 7\left(b-\frac{4}{7}\right)^2 + \frac{5}{7}}$   
 $\ge \sqrt{\frac{5}{7}}.$ 

The above equality holds if and only if  $b = \frac{4}{7}$  and  $a = -\frac{3}{7}$ . So the minimum-norm solution  $x^*$  of the SVIP is  $x^* = \left(\frac{3}{7}, -\frac{3}{7}, -\frac{1}{7}, \frac{4}{7}\right)^T$ .

Select a random starting point  $x^0 = (-3, 2, -7, -4)^T \in C$  for the Algorithm 1. We choose  $\alpha_k = \frac{1}{k+2}, \lambda_k = \frac{k+1}{3k+2}, \delta_k = \frac{k+1}{5k+6}$ . An elementary computation

Iter(k)	$x_1^k$	$x_2^k$	$x_3^k$	$x_4^k$
0	-3.00000	2.00000	-7.00000	-4.00000
1	-1.16667	0.66667	-3.20833	-0.75000
2	-0.57407	0.24074	-2.01936	0.14646
3	-0.31674	0.06674	-1.45101	0.46449
4	-0.16780	-0.03220	-1.13559	0.59323
5	-0.05892	-0.10774	-0.95118	0.64646
4936	0.42799	-0.42820	-0.14381	0.57161
4937	0.42799	-0.42820	-0.14381	0.57161
4938	0.42800	-0.42820	-0.14381	0.57161
4939	0.42800	-0.42820	-0.14381	0.57161
4940	0.42800	-0.42820	-0.14381	0.57161

**Table 1** Algorithm 1 for Example 2, with  $\alpha_k = \frac{1}{k+2}$ ,  $\lambda_k = \frac{k+1}{3k+2}$ ,  $\delta_k = \frac{k+1}{5k+6}$ ,  $\varepsilon = 10^{-7}$  and starting point  $x^0 = (-3, 2, -7, -4)^T$ 

shows that 
$$\{\alpha_k\} \subset (0, 1), \lim_{k \to \infty} \alpha_k = \lim_{k \to \infty} \frac{1}{k+2} = 0, \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \alpha_k = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k+2} = \infty,$$
  
 $\{\lambda_k\} \subset (0, 1), \lim_{k \to \infty} \lambda_k = \frac{1}{3} \in (0, 1), \{\delta_k\} \subset \left[\frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{5}\right] \subset \left(0, \frac{1}{4}\right) = \left(0, \frac{1}{\|A\|^2 + 1}\right).$   
We have computational results in Table 1

The approximate solution obtained after 4940 iterations (with elapsed time 9.9318 s) is (see Table 1)

$$x^{4940} = (0.42800, -0.42820, -0.14381, 0.57161)^T$$

which is a good approximation to the minimum-norm solution  $x^* = \left(\frac{3}{7}, -\frac{3}{7}, -\frac{1}{7}, \frac{4}{7}\right)^T$ .

We perform the iterative schemes in MATLAB R2012a running on a laptop with Intel(R) Core(TM) i3-3217U CPU @ 1.80GHz, 2 GB RAM.

# 5 Conclusion

In this paper, we have presented an iterative algorithm for solving strongly variational inequality problems with the split variational inequality problem constraints. The proposed algorithm is a combination of the linesearch method and the hybrid steepest descent method for the variational inequality problem [28]. The strong convergence of the iterative sequence generated by the proposed iterative algorithm to the unique solution of BSVIP is obtained.

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