

An Exact Penalty Method for Monotone Variational Inequalities and Order Optimal Algorithms for Finding Saddle Points

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Abstract—We consider variational inequalities in a Banach space. We propose an exact penalty method which enables one to remove functional constraints. The obtained result is used for constructing optimal (in the sense of complexity) iterative schemes for finding saddle points under functional constraints.

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1. Consider a variational inequality (VI) in the form

$$x \in Q : \langle F(x), x - z \rangle \leq 0 \quad \forall z \in Q. \quad (1)$$

Here Q is a convex closed set in a real reflexive Banach space X , while $F : D_F \subset X \rightarrow 2^{X^*}$ is a monotone point-set mapping to the conjugate space X^* . We assume that $Q \subset \text{int } D_F$. By definition, the monotonicity of the mapping F means that

$$\langle f(x_1) - f(x_2), x_1 - x_2 \rangle \geq 0 \quad \forall x_1, x_2 \in D_F; \quad f(x_1) \in F(x_1), \quad f(x_2) \in F(x_2). \quad (2)$$

Hereinafter for a functional $f \in X^*$ and an element $x \in X$ the symbol $\langle f, x \rangle$ stands for the value of f on x . If X is a Hilbert space, then X^* is canonically identical to X , and the symbol $\langle f, x \rangle$ stands for the scalar product of elements $f, x \in X$. In addition, we assume that F is the maximal monotone mapping, i.e., no other monotone mapping exists whose graph contains that of F as a proper part. Very important examples of such mappings are single-valued hemicontinuous monotone operators ([1], P. 64) defined on the whole space X , as well as subdifferential mappings generated by proper convex and convex-concave functionals ([2], pp. 149, 153).

We understand a solution to VI (1) as a point $x_* \in Q$ such that some element $f(x_*) \in F(x_*)$ satisfies the correlation

$$\langle f(x_*), x_* - z \rangle \leq 0 \quad \forall z \in Q. \quad (3)$$

In what follows we assume that the set Q takes the form

$$Q = Q_0 \cap Q_1, \quad Q_1 = \{x \in X : \varphi_j(x) \leq 0, \quad j \in J = \{1, 2, \dots, m\}\}, \quad (4)$$

where Q_0 is a convex closed set in X , while $\varphi_j, j \in J$, are convex lower semicontinuous functionals. We assume that

$$Q_0 \subset \text{int } D_F \bigcap_{j \in J} \text{int dom } \varphi_j.$$

Thus, functionals $\varphi_j, j \in J$, are locally Lipschitz and subdifferentiable on Q_0 ([2], P. 113; [3], pp. 197–198). Many problems of mathematical physics, optimization theory, and operations research [1–6] are reducible to the form (1). Among them let us mention the convex programming problem

$$\min\{\varphi_0(x) : x \in Q\} \quad (5)$$

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