# Research Article

# An Explicit Method for the Split Feasibility Problem with Self-Adaptive Step Sizes

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An explicit iterative method with self-adaptive step-sizes for solving the split feasibility problem is presented. Strong convergence theorem is provided.

## **1. Introduction**

Since its publication in 1994, the split feasibility problem has been studied by many authors. For some related works, please consult [1-18]. Among them, a more popular algorithm that solves the split feasibility problems is Byrne's *CQ* method [2]:

$$x_{n+1} = P_C(x_n - \tau A^* (I - P_Q) A x_n), \tag{1.1}$$

where *C* and *Q* are two closed convex subsets of two real Hilbert spaces  $H_1$  and  $H_2$ , respectively, and  $A : H_1 \to H_2$  is a bounded linear operator. The *CQ* algorithm only involves the computations of the projections  $P_C$  and  $P_Q$  onto the sets *C* and *Q*, respectively, and is therefore implementable in the case where  $P_C$  and  $P_Q$  have closed-form expressions.

Note that CQ algorithm can be obtained from optimization. If we set

$$f(x) := \frac{1}{2} \|Ax - P_Q Ax\|^2,$$
(1.2)

then the convex objective *f* is differentiable and has a Lipschitz gradient given by

$$\nabla f(x) = A^* (I - P_Q) A. \tag{1.3}$$

Thus, the CQ algorithm can be obtained by minimizing the following convex minimization problem

$$\min_{x \in C} f(x). \tag{1.4}$$

We can use a gradient projection algorithm below to solve the split feasibility problem:

$$x_{n+1} = P_C(x_n - \tau_n \nabla f(x_n)), \qquad (1.5)$$

where  $\tau_n$ , the step size at iteration n, is chosen in the interval (0, 2/L), where L is the Lipschitz constant of  $\nabla f$ .

However, we observe that the determination of the step size  $\tau_n$  depends on the operator (matrix) norm ||A|| (or the largest eigenvalue of  $A^*A$ ). This means that in order to implement the *CQ* algorithm, one has first to compute (or, at least, estimate) the matrix norm of *A*, which is in general not an easy work in practice. To overcome the above difficulty, the so-called self-adaptive method which permits step size  $\tau_n$  being selected self-adaptively was developed. See, for example, [10, 14, 15, 19–23].

Inspired by the above results and the self-adaptive method, in this paper, we present an explicit iterative method with self-adaptive step sizes for solving the split feasibility problem. Convergence analysis result is given.

#### 2. Preliminaries

Let  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  be two real Hilbert spaces and C and Q two closed convex subsets of  $H_1$  and  $H_2$ , respectively. Let  $A : H_1 \to H_2$  be a bounded linear operator. The split feasibility problem is to find a point  $x^*$  such that

$$x^* \in C, \quad Ax^* \in Q. \tag{2.1}$$

Next, we use  $\Gamma$  to denote the solution set of the split feasibility problem, that is,  $\Gamma = \{x \in C : Ax \in Q\}$ .

We know that a point  $x^* \in C$  is a stationary point of problem (1.4) if it satisfies

$$\langle \nabla f(x^*), x - x^* \rangle \ge 0, \quad \forall x \in C.$$
 (2.2)

Given  $x^* \in H_1$ .  $x^*$  solves the split feasibility problem if and only if  $x^*$  solves the fixed point equation

$$x^* = P_C(x^* - \gamma A^* (I - P_Q) A x^*).$$
(2.3)

Next we adopt the following notation:

- (i)  $x_n \to x$  means that  $x_n$  converges strongly to x;
- (ii)  $x_n \rightarrow x$  means that  $x_n$  converges weakly to x;
- (iii)  $\omega_{\omega}(x_n) := \{x : \exists x_{n_i} \rightarrow x\}$  is the weak  $\omega$ -limit set of the sequence  $\{x_n\}$ .

Recall that a function  $f : H \to \mathbb{R}$  is called convex if

$$f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y) \le \lambda f(x) + (1 - \lambda)f(y), \tag{2.4}$$

for all  $\lambda \in (0, 1)$  and  $\forall x, y \in H$ . It is known that a differentiable function *f* is convex if and only if there holds the relation:

$$f(z) \ge f(x) + \langle \nabla f(x), z - x \rangle, \tag{2.5}$$

for all  $z \in H$ . Recall that an element  $g \in H$  is said to be a subgradient of  $f : H \to \mathbb{R}$  at *x* if

$$f(z) \ge f(x) + \langle g, z - x \rangle, \tag{2.6}$$

for all  $z \in H$ . If the function  $f : H \to \mathbb{R}$  has at least one subgradient at x is said to be subdifferentiable at x. The set of subgradients of f at the point x is called the subdifferential of fat x, and is denoted by  $\partial f(x)$ . A function f is called sub-differentiable if it is subdifferentiable at all  $x \in H$ . If f is convex and differentiable, then its gradient and subgradient coincide. A function  $f : H \to \mathbb{R}$  is said to be weakly lower semi continuous (w-lsc) at x if  $x_n \to x$  implies

$$f(x) \le \liminf_{n \to \infty} f(x_n).$$
(2.7)

*f* is said to be w-lsc on *H* if it is w-lsc at every point  $x \in H$ . A mapping  $T : C \to C$  is called *nonexpansive* if

$$||Tx - Ty|| \le ||x - y||,$$
 (2.8)

for all  $x, y \in C$ .

Recall that the (nearest point or metric) projection from *H* onto *C*, denoted  $P_C$ , assigns, to each  $x \in H$ , the unique point  $P_C(x) \in C$  with the property

$$\|x - P_C(x)\| = \inf\{\|x - y\| : y \in C\}.$$
(2.9)

It is well known that the metric projection  $P_C$  of H onto C has the following basic properties:

(a) ||P<sub>C</sub>(x) - P<sub>C</sub>(y)|| ≤ ||x - y|| for all x, y ∈ H;
(b) ⟨x - y, P<sub>C</sub>(x) - P<sub>C</sub>(y)⟩ ≥ ||P<sub>C</sub>(x) - P<sub>C</sub>(y)||<sup>2</sup> for every x, y ∈ H;
(c) ⟨x - P<sub>C</sub>(x), y - P<sub>C</sub>(x)⟩ ≤ 0 for all x ∈ H, y ∈ C.

**Lemma 2.1** (see [24]). Assume that  $\{a_n\}$  is a sequence of nonnegative real numbers such that

$$a_{n+1} \le (1 - \gamma_n)a_n + \delta_n, \tag{2.10}$$

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)  $\limsup_{n \to \infty} (\delta_n / \gamma_n) \le 0 \text{ or } \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |\delta_n| < \infty.$ 

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

**Lemma 2.2** (see [25]). Let  $(s_n)$  be a sequence of real numbers that does not decrease at infinity, in the sense that there exists a subsequence  $(s_{n_i})$  of  $(s_n)$  such that  $s_{n_i} \leq s_{n_i+1}$  for all  $i \geq 0$ . For every  $n \geq n_0$ , define an integer sequence  $(\tau(n))$  as

$$\tau(n) = \max\{k \le n : s_{n_i} < s_{n_i+1}\}.$$
(2.11)

*Then*  $\tau(n) \to \infty$  *as*  $n \to \infty$  *and for all*  $n \ge n_0$ 

$$\max\{s_{\tau(n)}, s_n\} \le s_{\tau(n)+1}.$$
(2.12)

#### 3. Main Results

In this section, we will introduce our algorithm and prove our main results.

Let *C* and *Q* be nonempty closed convex subsets of real Hilbert spaces  $H_1$  and  $H_2$ , respectively. Let  $A : H_1 \to H_2$  be a bounded linear operator. In the sequel, we assume that the split feasibility problem is consistent, that is  $\Gamma \neq \emptyset$ .

Algorithm 3.1. For  $u \in C$  and given  $x_0 \in C$ , let the sequence  $\{x_{n+1}\}$  defined by

$$y_n = \alpha_n u + (1 - \alpha_n) x_n,$$

$$x_{n+1} = P_C \left( y_n - \tau_n \frac{f(y_n) \nabla f(y_n)}{\left\| \nabla f(y_n) \right\|^2} \right), \quad n \ge 0,$$
(3.1)

where  $\{\alpha_n\} \subset (0, 1)$  and  $\{\tau_n\} \subset (0, 2)$ .

*Remark* 3.2. In the sequel, we may assume that  $\nabla f(y_n) \neq 0$  for all *n*. Note that this fact can be guaranteed if the sequence  $\{y_n\}$  is infinite; that is, Algorithm 3.1 does not terminate in a finite number of iterations.

**Theorem 3.3.** Assume that the following conditions are satisfied:

- (i)  $\lim_{n\to\infty}\alpha_n = 0$  and  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\alpha_n = \infty$ ;
- (ii)  $\inf_n \tau_n (2 \tau_n) > 0.$

*Then*  $\{x_n\}$  *defined by* (3.1) *converges strongly to*  $P_{\Gamma}(u)$ *.* 

## Abstract and Applied Analysis

*Proof.* Let  $v \in \Gamma$ . It follows that  $\nabla f(v) = 0$  for all  $v \in \Gamma$ . From (2.5), we deduce that

$$f(y_n) = f(y_n) - f(v) \le \langle \nabla f(y_n), y_n - v \rangle.$$
(3.2)

Thus, by (3.1) and (3.2), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|x_{n+1} - \nu\|^{2} &= \left\| P_{C} \left( y_{n} - \tau_{n} \frac{f(y_{n}) \nabla f(y_{n})}{\|\nabla f(y_{n})\|^{2}} \right) - \nu \right\|^{2} \\ &\leq \left\| y_{n} - \tau_{n} \frac{f(y_{n}) \nabla f(y_{n})}{\|\nabla f(y_{n})\|^{2}} - \nu \right\|^{2} \\ &= \left\| y_{n} - \nu \right\|^{2} - 2\tau_{n} \frac{f(y_{n})}{\|\nabla f(y_{n})\|^{2}} \langle \nabla f(y_{n}), y_{n} - \nu \rangle + \tau_{n}^{2} \frac{f^{2}(y_{n})}{\|\nabla f(y_{n})\|^{2}} \\ &\leq \left\| y_{n} - \nu \right\|^{2} - 2\tau_{n} \frac{f^{2}(y_{n})}{\|\nabla f(y_{n})\|^{2}} + \tau_{n}^{2} \frac{f^{2}(y_{n})}{\|\nabla f(y_{n})\|^{2}} \\ &= \left\| y_{n} - \nu \right\|^{2} - \tau_{n}(2 - \tau_{n}) \frac{f^{2}(y_{n})}{\|\nabla f(y_{n})\|^{2}}, \end{aligned}$$
(3.3)

It follows that

$$\|x_{n+1} - \nu\|^{2} \leq \alpha_{n} \|u - \nu\|^{2} + (1 - \alpha_{n}) \|x_{n} - \nu\|^{2} - \tau_{n} (2 - \tau_{n}) \frac{f^{2}(y_{n})}{\|\nabla f(y_{n})\|^{2}}$$

$$\leq \alpha_{n} \|u - \nu\|^{2} + (1 - \alpha_{n}) \|x_{n} - \nu\|^{2}$$

$$\leq \max \Big\{ \|u - \nu\|^{2}, \|x_{n} - \nu\|^{2} \Big\}.$$
(3.4)

By induction, we deduce

$$\|x_{n+1} - \nu\| \le \max\{\|u - \nu\|, \|x_0 - \nu\|\}.$$
(3.5)

Hence,  $\{x_n\}$  is bounded.

At the same time, we note that

$$\|y_n - \nu\|^2 = \|\alpha_n(u - \nu) + (1 - \alpha_n)(x_n - \nu)\|^2 \le (1 - \alpha_n)\|x_n - \nu\|^2 + 2\alpha_n \langle u - \nu, y_n - \nu \rangle.$$
(3.6)

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \|x_{n+1} - \nu\|^{2} &\leq (1 - \alpha_{n}) \|x_{n} - \nu\|^{2} + 2\alpha_{n} \langle u - \nu, y_{n} - \nu \rangle - \tau_{n} (2 - \tau_{n}) \frac{f^{2}(y_{n})}{\|\nabla f(y_{n})\|^{2}} \\ &= (1 - \alpha_{n}) \|x_{n} - \nu\|^{2} + 2\alpha_{n} \langle u - \nu, \alpha_{n} (u - \nu) + (1 - \alpha_{n}) (x_{n} - \nu) \rangle \\ &- \tau_{n} (2 - \tau_{n}) \frac{f^{2}(y_{n})}{\|\nabla f(y_{n})\|^{2}} \\ &= (1 - \alpha_{n}) \|x_{n} - \nu\|^{2} + 2\alpha_{n}^{2} \|u - \nu\|^{2} + 2\alpha_{n} (1 - \alpha_{n}) \langle u - \nu, x_{n} - \nu \rangle \\ &- \tau_{n} (2 - \tau_{n}) \frac{f^{2}(y_{n})}{\|\nabla f(y_{n})\|^{2}}. \end{aligned}$$
(3.7)

It follows that

$$\|x_{n+1} - \nu\|^{2} - \|x_{n} - \nu\|^{2} + \alpha_{n} \Big( \|x_{n} - \nu\|^{2} - 2\alpha_{n} \|u - \nu\|^{2} + 2\alpha_{n} \langle u - \nu, x_{n} - \nu \rangle \Big) + \tau_{n} (2 - \tau_{n}) \frac{f^{2}(y_{n})}{\|\nabla f(y_{n})\|^{2}} \leq 2\alpha_{n} \langle u - \nu, x_{n} - \nu \rangle.$$
(3.8)

Next, we will prove that  $x_n \to v$ . Set  $\omega_n = ||x_n - v||^2$  for all  $n \ge 0$ . Since  $\alpha_n \to 0$  and  $\inf_n \tau_n(2 - \tau_n) > 0$ , we may assume without loss of generality that  $\tau_n(2 - \tau_n) \ge \sigma$  for some  $\sigma > 0$ . Thus, we can rewrite (3.8) as

$$\omega_{n+1} - \omega_n + \alpha_n U_n + \frac{\sigma f^2(y_n)}{\left\|\nabla f(y_n)\right\|^2} \le 2\alpha_n \langle u - v, x_n - v \rangle, \tag{3.9}$$

where  $U_n = ||x_n - \nu||^2 - 2\alpha_n ||u - \nu||^2 + 2\alpha_n \langle u - \nu, x_n - \nu \rangle$ . Now, we consider two possible cases.

*Case* 1. Assume that  $\{\omega_n\}$  is eventually decreasing; that is, there exists N > 0 such that  $\{\omega_n\}$  is decreasing for  $n \ge N$ . In this case,  $\{\omega_n\}$  must be convergent and from (3.9) it follows that

$$0 \leq \frac{\sigma f^{2}(y_{n})}{\left\|\nabla f(y_{n})\right\|^{2}} \leq \omega_{n} - \omega_{n+1} - \alpha_{n} U_{n} + 2\alpha_{n} \left\|u - \nu\right\| \left\|x_{n} - \nu\right\| \\ \leq \omega_{n} - \omega_{n+1} + M\alpha_{n},$$

$$(3.10)$$

where M > 0 is a constant such that  $\sup_{n} \{2\|u - v\| \|x_n - v\| + \|U_n\|\} \le M$ . Letting  $n \to \infty$  in (3.10), we get

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} f(y_n) = 0. \tag{3.11}$$

Since  $\{y_n\}$  is bounded, there exists a subsequence  $\{y_{n_k}\}$  of  $\{y_n\}$  converging weakly to  $\tilde{x} \in C$ . Since,  $x_n - y_n \to 0$ , we also have  $\{x_{n_k}\}$  of  $\{x_n\}$  converging weakly to  $\tilde{x} \in C$ . From the weak lower semicontinuity of f, we have

$$0 \le f(\tilde{x}) \le \liminf_{k \to \infty} f(y_{n_k}) = \lim_{n \to \infty} f(y_n) = 0.$$
(3.12)

Hence,  $f(\tilde{x}) = 0$ ; that is,  $A\tilde{x} \in Q$ . This indicates that

$$\omega_w(y_n) = \omega_w(x_n) \in \Gamma. \tag{3.13}$$

Furthermore, by using the property of the projection (c), we deduce

$$\limsup_{n \to \infty} \langle u - \nu, x_n - \nu \rangle = \max_{\widetilde{x} \in \omega_w(x_n)} \langle u - P_{\Gamma}(u), \widetilde{x} - P_{\Gamma}(u) \rangle \le 0.$$
(3.14)

From (3.8), we obtain

$$\omega_{n+1} \le (1 - \alpha_n)\omega_n + \alpha_n \Big( 2\alpha_n \|u - v\|^2 + 2(1 - \alpha_n) \langle u - v, x_n - v \rangle \Big).$$
(3.15)

This together with Lemma 2.1 imply that  $\omega_n \to 0$ .

*Case* 2. Assume that  $\{\omega_n\}$  is not eventually decreasing. That is, there exists an integer  $n_0$  such that  $\omega_{n_0} \leq \omega_{n_0+1}$ . Thus, we can define an integer sequence  $\{\tau_n\}$  for all  $n \geq n_0$  as follows:

$$\tau(n) = \max\{k \in \mathbb{N} \mid n_0 \le k \le n, \omega_k \le \omega_{k+1}\}.$$
(3.16)

Clearly,  $\tau(n)$  is a nondecreasing sequence such that  $\tau(n) \to +\infty$  as  $n \to \infty$  and

$$\omega_{\tau(n)} \le \omega_{\tau(n)+1},\tag{3.17}$$

for all  $n \ge n_0$ . In this case, we derive from (3.10) that

$$\frac{\sigma f^2(y_{\tau(n)})}{\left\|\nabla f(y_{\tau(n)})\right\|^2} \le M \alpha_{\tau(n)} \longrightarrow 0.$$
(3.18)

It follows that

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} f(y_{\tau(n)}) = 0.$$
(3.19)

This implies that every weak cluster point of  $\{y_{\tau(n)}\}$  is in the solution set  $\Gamma$ ; that is,  $\omega_w(y_{\tau(n)}) \subset \Gamma$ . So,  $\omega_w(x_{\tau(n)}) \subset \Gamma$ . On the other hand, we note that

$$\|y_{\tau(n)} - x_{\tau(n)}\| = \alpha_{\tau(n)} \|u - x_{\tau(n)}\| \longrightarrow 0,$$
  
$$\|x_{\tau(n)+1} - y_{\tau(n)}\| \le \frac{\tau_{\tau(n)} f(y_{\tau(n)})}{\|\nabla f(y_{\tau(n)})\|} \longrightarrow 0.$$
  
(3.20)

From which we can deduce that

$$\limsup_{n \to \infty} \langle u - v, x_{\tau(n)} - v \rangle = \max_{\widetilde{x} \in \omega_w(x_{\tau(n)})} \langle u - P_{\Gamma}(u), \widetilde{x} - P_{\Gamma}(u) \rangle \le 0.$$
(3.21)

Since  $\omega_{\tau(n)} \leq \omega_{\tau(n)+1}$ , we have from (3.9) that

$$\omega_{\tau(n)} \leq (1 - 2\alpha_{\tau(n)}) \langle u - \nu, x_{\tau(n)} - \nu \rangle + 2\alpha_{\tau(n)} \|u - \nu\|^2.$$
(3.22)

Combining (3.21) and (3.22) yields

$$\limsup_{n \to \infty} \omega_{\tau(n)} \le 0, \tag{3.23}$$

and hence

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \omega_{\tau(n)} = 0. \tag{3.24}$$

From (3.15), we have

$$\limsup_{n \to \infty} \omega_{\tau(n)+1} \le \limsup_{n \to \infty} \omega_{\tau(n)}.$$
(3.25)

Thus,

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \omega_{\tau(n)+1} = 0. \tag{3.26}$$

From Lemma 2.2, we have

$$0 \le \omega_n \le \max\{\omega_{\tau(n)}, \omega_{\tau(n)+1}\}.$$
(3.27)

Therefore,  $\omega_n \to 0$ . That is,  $x_n \to v$ . This completes the proof.

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