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# Research paper

# Perturbed reflected forward backward splitting algorithm for monotone inclusion

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# A B S T R A C T

In this paper, we investigate a new reflected forward–backward splitting algorithm with selfadaptive step sizes to solve monotone inclusion problems. The implementation of our algorithm does not require the knowledge of the Lipschitz constant for the Lipschitz continuous monotone operator, unlike existing reflected forward–backward splitting algorithms, which necessitate this information during implementation. The weak convergence theorem of the proposed algorithm is given under standard conditions. We compare numerically our algorithm with other related ones in the literature through its applications in signal processing and image deblurring.

#### **1. Introduction**

Let *H* be a real Hilbert space with inner product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  and induced norm  $\| \cdot \|$ . We study the following monotone inclusion problem:

Find  $x^* \in \mathcal{H}$  such that  $\mathbf{0} \in Ax^* + Bx^*$ 

where  $A: H \to 2^H$  is a set-valued maximal monotone operator, and  $B: H \to H$  is a single-valued monotone and Lipschitz continuous operator. Inclusion problem ([IP](#page-0-7)) is closely related to variational inequalities and split feasibility problems. It is widely applied in signal processing, image restoration, and machine learning problems (see, e.g., [\[1–](#page-14-0)[3](#page-14-1)]).

Numerous splitting algorithms have been proposed in the literature to solve monotone inclusion problem ([IP\)](#page-0-7) recently. One of the celebrated splitting algorithms for solving the monotone inclusion problem [\(IP\)](#page-0-7) with the condition that  $B$  is  $\beta$ -cocoercive (also called  $\beta$ -inverse-strongly monotone), is the forward–backward splitting algorithm, devised by Lions and Mercier [[4](#page-14-2)], which features one forward evaluation of  $B$  and a backward evaluation of  $A$  at each iteration:

$$
x_{n+1} = J_{\lambda_n A}(x_n - \lambda_n B x_n),\tag{1}
$$

where  $J_{\lambda_n A} := (I + \lambda_n A)^{-1}$  is the resolvent operator (see [[5](#page-14-3)]) and  $\lambda_n$  is a positive constant. This method is known to converge weakly to a point in  $(A+B)^{-1}(0)$  provided that  $\lambda_n \in (0, 2\beta)$ . Other than the cocoercivity property of B, strong monotonicity of  $A+B$  (see [\[6\]](#page-14-4))

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<span id="page-0-8"></span><span id="page-0-7"></span>*,* (IP)

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 $\mathbf f$ 

also guarantees the convergence of Algorithm ([1](#page-0-8)). We observe that monotonicity and Lipschitz continuity conditions are weaker conditions on  $B$  than cocoercivity and strong monotonicity.

If the cocoercivity condition on  $B$  in monotone inclusion problem ([IP\)](#page-0-7) is relaxed such that  $B$  is monotone and Lipschitz continuous, then the forward–backward–forward splitting algorithm (also called Tseng splitting algorithm), proposed by Tseng [\[7\]](#page-14-5), is as:

$$
\begin{cases} y_n = J_{\lambda_n A}(x_n - \lambda_n B x_n), \\ x_{n+1} = y_n - \lambda_n (B y_n - B x_n). \end{cases}
$$
 (2)

Although forward–backward–forward splitting algorithm  $(2)$  requires an additional forward evaluation of  $B$ , the weak convergence result can be obtained when  $B$  is monotone and L-Lipschitz continuous. To achieve the strong convergence of Algorithm  $(2)$  $(2)$  $(2)$ , Gibali and Thong [\[8\]](#page-14-6) proposed two strongly convergent forward–backward–forward algorithms for solving monotone inclusion problems in real Hilbert spaces by utilizing the Mann-type method and the viscosity method. Their algorithms are stated as follows:

$$
\begin{cases}\ny_n = J_{\lambda_n A}(x_n - \lambda_n B x_n), \\
z_n = y_n - \lambda_n (B y_n - B x_n), \\
x_{n+1} = (1 - \alpha_n - \beta_n) x_n + \beta_n z_n, \\
\lambda_{n+1} = \begin{cases}\n\min \left\{ \frac{\mu \|x_n - y_n\|}{\|B x_n - B y_n\|}, \lambda_n \right\}, & \text{if } B x_n - B y_n \neq 0, \\
\lambda_n, & \text{otherwise,} \n\end{cases}\n\end{cases}
$$
\n(3)

where  $\lambda_0 > 0$ ,  $\mu \in (0, 1)$ ,  $\{\alpha_n\}$  and  $\{\beta_n\}$  are two real sequences in  $(0, 1)$  such that  $\{\beta_n\} \subset (a, b) \subset (0, 1 - \alpha_n)$  for some  $a > 0, b > 0$  and  $\lim_{n\to\infty} \alpha_n = 0, \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_n = \infty.$ 

$$
\begin{cases}\ny_n = J_{\lambda_n A}(x_n - \lambda_n B x_n), \\
z_n = y_n - \lambda_n (B y_n - B x_n), \\
x_{n+1} = \alpha_n f(x_n) + (1 - \alpha_n) z_n, \\
\lambda_{n+1} = \begin{cases}\n\min \left\{ \frac{\mu \|x_n - y_n\|}{\|B x_n - B y_n\|}, \lambda_n \right\}, & \text{if } B x_n - B y_n \neq 0, \\
\lambda_n, & \text{otherwise,} \n\end{cases}\n\end{cases} \tag{4}
$$

where  $\lambda_0 > 0$ ,  $\mu \in (0,1)$ ,  $\{\alpha_n\}$  is a real sequences in  $(0,1)$  such that  $\lim_{n\to\infty} \alpha_n = 0$ ,  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_n = \infty$ , and  $f : \mathcal{H} \to \mathcal{H}$  is a contraction mapping with constant  $\rho \in (0,1)$ . Under the conditions that operator A is maximally monotone and operator B is monotone and Lipschitz continuous, they established strong convergence theorems for the proposed Algorithm [\(3\)](#page-1-1) and Algorithm [\(4\)](#page-1-2). It is noted that Algorithms ([3](#page-1-1)) and ([4](#page-1-2)) employ an adaptive step size rule, allowing them to operate without prior knowledge of the Lipschitz constant. To accelerate the convergence speed of the algorithm, Polyak [\[9\]](#page-14-7) introduced a method known as the inertial technique, which is derived from a second-order dissipative dynamical system. Recently, Alakoya et al. [\[10](#page-14-8)] suggested an inertial version of Algorithm ([4\)](#page-1-2), as described below:

$$
\begin{cases}\n\theta_n = \begin{cases}\n\min \left\{\frac{\epsilon_n}{\|x_n - x_{n-1}\|}, \theta\right\}, & \text{if } x_n \neq x_{n-1,} \\
\theta, & \text{otherwise,} \n\end{cases} \\
w_n = x_n + \theta_n (x_n - x_{n-1}), \\
y_n = J_{\lambda_n A}(w_n - \lambda_n B w_n), \\
z_n = y_n - \lambda_n (B y_n - B w_n), \\
x_{n+1} = \alpha_n f(w_n) + (1 - \alpha_n) z_n, \\
\lambda_{n+1} = \begin{cases}\n\min \left\{\frac{\mu \|w_n - y_n\|}{\|B w_n - B y_n\|}, \lambda_n + \xi_n\right\}, & \text{if } B w_n - B y_n \neq 0, \\
\lambda_n + \xi_n, & \text{otherwise,}\n\end{cases}\n\end{cases}
$$

<span id="page-1-3"></span><span id="page-1-2"></span><span id="page-1-1"></span><span id="page-1-0"></span>(5)

where  $\theta > 0$ ,  $\lambda_0 > 0$ ,  $\mu \in (0, 1)$ ,  $\{\alpha_n\} \subset (0, 1)$ ,  $\lim_{n \to \infty} \alpha_n = 0$ ,  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_n = +\infty$ ,  $\{\epsilon_n\}$  is a positive sequence satisfying  $\lim_{n \to \infty} (\epsilon_n/\alpha_n) = 0$ ,  $\{\xi_n\}$  is a nonnegative sequence such that  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \xi_n < +\infty$ ,  $f : \mathcal{H} \to \mathcal{H}$  is a contraction mapping with coefficient  $\rho \in (0, 1)$ , operator  $B$  is monotone and uniformly continuous, and operator  $A$  is maximal monotone. It should be pointed out that Algorithm [\(5\)](#page-1-3) uses a non-monotonic step size rule, which is computationally superior to the non-increasing step size rule of Algorithms ([3](#page-1-1)) and ([4](#page-1-2)). Alakoya et al. [[10](#page-14-8)] demonstrated the strong convergence of the iterative sequence generated by the proposed Algorithm ([5](#page-1-3)) and provided several numerical examples to showcase its computational advantages over some known adaptive algorithms.

It is noted that the algorithms in [\[7,](#page-14-5)[8](#page-14-6),[10](#page-14-8)] use the same step size in each iteration. In 2020, Gibali et al. [[11\]](#page-14-9) introduced a modified inertial projection and contraction algorithm to address monotone inclusion problem [\(IP](#page-0-7)), which uses different step sizes in each iteration to compute the values of the sequence. Their iterative procedure is as follows:

<span id="page-2-0"></span>
$$
\begin{cases}\n w_n = x_n + \theta_n (x_n - x_{n-1}), \\
 y_n = J_{\lambda_n A}(w_n - \lambda_n B w_n), \\
 d_n = w_n - y_n - \lambda_n (B w_n - B y_n), \\
 \beta_n = \langle w_n - y_n, d_n \rangle / ||d_n||^2, \\
 x_{n+1} = w_n - \gamma \beta_n d_n.\n\end{cases} \tag{6}
$$

The weak convergence of Algorithm  $(6)$  $(6)$  $(6)$  was obtained under the conditions that operator A satisfies maximal monotonicity, operator *B* satisfies monotonicity and *L*-Lipschitz continuity, and the parameters meet the conditions of  $\gamma \in (1,2)$ ,  $\{\theta_n\} \subset [0,1)$ , and  $\{\lambda_n\} \subset (0,1/L)$ . Note that Algorithm ([6](#page-2-0)) also requires two forward evaluations of *B* and one backward evaluation of *A* in each iteration. Thus, its computational complexity is the same as that of Algorithms  $(2)$ ,  $(3)$  $(3)$ ,  $(4)$  $(4)$  $(4)$ , and  $(5)$ . Other related splitting algorithms to solve monotone inclusion problem ([IP\)](#page-0-7) can be found in  $[12,13]$  $[12,13]$  $[12,13]$  $[12,13]$ , which also only needs two forward evaluation of  $B$  and one backward evaluation of set-valued maximal monotone operator  $A$  per iteration. To reduce the number of evaluations of the operator  $B$  in each iteration, Malitsky and Tam  $[14]$  $[14]$  proposed a novel fixed-step algorithm for finding solutions of monotone inclusion problems, now known as the forward-reflected-backward splitting algorithm. Their algorithm requires only one forward evaluation and one backward evaluation per iteration, whereas Algorithm ([2](#page-1-0)) needs two forward evaluations. Moreover, they proved the weak convergence theorem of the algorithm under the condition that operator  $B$  is monotone and Lipschitz continuous, which is the same condition as in Algorithm [\(2\)](#page-1-0). Therefore, the computational complexity of Malitsky and Tam's algorithm is the same as Algorithm [\(1](#page-0-8)), but the former guarantees convergence under weaker conditions. On the other hand, Malitsky and Tam also introduced a forward-reflected-backward splitting algorithm with a linesearch technique, as described below:

<span id="page-2-1"></span>Having 
$$
x_n
$$
,  $\lambda_{n-1}$ , and  $Bx_{n-1}$ , choose  $\rho \in \{1, \sigma^{-1}\}$  and compute  
\n
$$
\begin{cases}\nx_{n+1} = J_{\lambda_n A} (x_n - \lambda_n Bx_n - \lambda_{n-1} (Bx_n - Bx_{n-1})) ,\\
\text{where } \lambda_n = \rho \lambda_{n-1} \sigma^i \text{ with } i \text{ being the smallest nonnegative integer} \\
\text{satisfying } \lambda_n \|Bx_{n+1} - Bx_n\| \le \mu/2 \cdot \|x_{n+1} - x_n\|,\n\end{cases}
$$
\n(7)

where  $\lambda_0, \lambda_{-1} > 0$ ,  $\mu \in (0,1)$ , and  $\sigma \in (0,1)$ . Under the conditions that operator *B* is monotone and locally Lipschitz continuous, they proved a weak convergence theorem for Algorithm [\(7\)](#page-2-1). It is worth noting that Algorithm ([7](#page-2-1)) requires at least two forward evaluations per iteration due to its use of the Armijo linesearch criterion to determine an appropriate step size, which increases the computational burden when  $B$  is complex.

Recently, Cevher and Vũ [[15\]](#page-15-0) proposed and studied the reflected forward-backward splitting algorithm for monotone inclusion problem [\(IP](#page-0-7)) when *B* is *L*-Lipschitz continuous and monotone operator:

<span id="page-2-2"></span>
$$
\begin{cases}\ny_n = 2x_n - x_{n-1}, \\
x_{n+1} = J_{\lambda_n} A(x_n - \lambda_n B y_n),\n\end{cases}
$$
\n(8)

and obtained weak convergence results when  $\lambda_n \in (0, (\sqrt{2}-1)/L)$ . Reflected forward–backward splitting algorithm [\(8\)](#page-2-2) features one forward evaluation of  $B$  and one backward evaluation of set-valued maximal monotone operator  $A$  per iteration. This property can reduce computational complexity encountered in Algorithms ([2](#page-1-0))–[\(7\)](#page-2-1). Furthermore, reflected forward–backward splitting algorithm [\(8](#page-2-2)) extends the results of [[16\]](#page-15-1) from monotone variational inequalities to monotone inclusion problem ([IP](#page-0-7)). However, it is required to know the Lipschitz constant  $L$  of monotone operator  $B$  during its implementation. This is a drawback.

The requirement of the knowledge of the Lipschitz constant of  $B$  in implementing reflected forward–backward splitting algorithm [\(8](#page-2-2)) makes us to ask this question: Can one devise a new version of reflected forward-backward splitting algorithm such that step sizes are *implemented self-adaptively without the knowledge of the Lipschitz constant L* of *B*?

In this paper, we answer the question above affirmatively. To be more precise, we propose a modified version of reflected forward–backward splitting algorithm ([8\)](#page-2-2) such that the step sizes  $\lambda_n$  are implemented adaptive without the knowledge of the Lipschitz constant of  $B$ . In this case, our algorithm would be more applicable to solve monotone inclusion problem ([IP](#page-0-7)). Specifically, our contributions manifest in the following three aspects:

- (i) we modify the reflected forward–backward splitting algorithm [\(8\)](#page-2-2) such that step sizes  $\{\lambda_n\}$  are self-adaptively generated;
- (ii) we establish a weak convergence result of our algorithm;
- (iii) we apply our results to signal processing and image deblurring problems, and we compare our algorithm with Algorithms  $(2)-(8).$  $(2)-(8).$  $(2)-(8).$  $(2)-(8).$  $(2)-(8).$

The remainder of the paper is organized as follows. In Section [2,](#page-3-0) we provide some relevant definitions and useful lemmas for the convergence analysis. The proposed splitting algorithm and its weak convergence result are stated in Section [3](#page-3-1). Section [4](#page-7-0) gives numerical experiments on signal processing and image deblurring, where we demonstrate the superiority of the proposed algorithm over related existing splitting algorithms in [\[7](#page-14-5)[,8,](#page-14-6)[10,](#page-14-8)[11](#page-14-9)[,14](#page-14-12)[,15](#page-15-0)]. The paper is finalized with some concluding remarks in Section [5](#page-13-0).

## **2. Preliminaries**

<span id="page-3-0"></span>The graph of  $A: \mathcal{H} \to 2^{\mathcal{H}}$ , denoted by gph(A), is defined by

 $gph(A) := \{(x, u) \in \mathcal{H} \times \mathcal{H} : x \in dom(A), u \in A(x)\}.$ 

We say that the operator  $\boldsymbol{A}$  is

- (i) *monotone* if  $\langle u v, x y \rangle \ge 0$  for all  $(x, u), (y, v) \in gph(A);$
- (ii) *maximal monotone* if it is monotone and  $gph(A) \supset gph(B)$ , where *B* is any other monotone operator;
- (iii)  $\eta$ -strongly monotone if there exists  $\eta > 0$  such that  $\langle u v, x y \rangle \ge \eta ||x y||^2$  for all  $(x, u), (y, v) \in gph(A)$ .

Observe that the maximal monotonicity of A is equivalent to: it is monotone and if, for any  $(x, u) \in \mathcal{H} \times \mathcal{H}$ ,  $\langle u - v, x - y \rangle \ge 0$  for all  $(y, v) \in gph(A)$ , then it follows that  $u \in A(x)$ . For a given maximal monotone operator A, the resolvent  $J_{\lambda A}(x) := (I + \lambda A)^{-1}(x)$ for  $x \in \mathcal{H}$  and  $\lambda > 0$  is a single-valued mapping, where I is the identity operator on H. Furthermore,  $||J_{\lambda A}(x) - J_{\lambda A}(y)|| \le ||x - y||$ for all  $x, y \in \mathcal{H}$ .

An operator  $B: H \to H$  is called:

- (i) L-Lipschitz continuous if there exists a number  $L > 0$  such that  $||Bx By|| \le L||x y||$  for all  $x, y \in H$ ;
- (ii) Uniformly continuous if, for every  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists  $\delta = \delta(\epsilon) > 0$ , such that  $||Bx By|| < \epsilon$  for all  $x, y \in H$  whenever  $||x y|| < \delta$ ; (iii)  $\beta$ -cocoercive or  $\beta$ -inverse-strongly monotone, if there exists  $\beta > 0$  such that  $\langle Bx - By, x - y \rangle \ge \beta ||Bx - By||^2$  for all  $x, y \in \mathcal{H}$ .

Note that cocoercivity and strong monotonicity are dual: B is  $\beta$ -cocoercive  $\Leftrightarrow B^{-1}$  is  $\beta$ -strongly monotone. The following result gives the maximal monotonicity of the sum of two monotone operators.

**Lemma 2.1** ([\[17](#page-15-2)]). Let  $A: \mathcal{H} \to 2^{\mathcal{H}}$  be a maximal monotone operator, and let  $B: \mathcal{H} \to \mathcal{H}$  be a Lipschitz continuous and monotone operator. *Then*  $A + B$  *is a maximal monotone operator.* 

<span id="page-3-3"></span><span id="page-3-2"></span>We use the following trivial identities in our convergence analysis.

**Lemma 2.2.** *Let*  $x, y, z \in \mathcal{H}$  and  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ *. Then* 

(i)  $2\langle x, y \rangle = ||x||^2 + ||y||^2 - ||x - y||^2 = ||x + y||^2 - ||x||^2 - ||y||^2$ .  $(iii)$   $\|\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y\|^2 = \alpha \|x\|^2 + (1 - \alpha)\|y\|^2 - \alpha(1 - \alpha)\|x - y\|^2.$ 

<span id="page-3-4"></span>The lemma below plays an important role in proving weak convergence of sequences in a Hilbert space.

Lemma 2.3 ([\[18](#page-15-3)]). Let C be a nonempty subset of a Hilbert space H, and let  $\{x_n\}$  be a bounded sequence in H. Assume that the following *two conditions are satisfied:*

*(i)*  $\lim_{n\to\infty}$   $||x_n - x||$  *exists for each*  $x \in C$ *,* 

*(ii) every weak cluster point of*  $\{x_n\}$  *belongs to C*.

*Then*  $\{x_n\}$  *converges weakly to a point in C*.

#### **3. Main results**

<span id="page-3-1"></span>In this section, we propose an adaptive reflected forward–backward splitting algorithm to solve monotone inclusion problem [\(IP](#page-0-7)) and analyze its weak convergence. The advantage of the proposed algorithm lies in its ability to adaptively operate without requiring prior knowledge of the Lipschitz constant of the operator B. Moreover, we apply our results to variational inequality problems.

*3.1. Weak convergence analysis*

We now introduce our adaptive splitting algorithm for the inclusion problem ([IP\)](#page-0-7) with self-adaptive step sizes.

**Remark 3.1.** We have the following comments on the suggested Algorithm [1](#page-4-0).

- (i) Unlike Algorithms [\(2\)](#page-1-0), [\(6\)](#page-2-0), and [\(8\)](#page-2-2), the proposed Algorithm [1](#page-4-0) does not require the Lipschitz constant estimate of Lipschitz continuous monotone operator  $B$  as an input parameter. Moreover, our algorithm employs a non-monotonic step size rule, which generates a non-monotonic sequence of step sizes. This is superior to the non-increasing step size criteria used in [[11\]](#page-14-9) and the Armijo-type linesearch step size rule applied in [[14\]](#page-14-12).
- (ii) Note that Algorithm ([1](#page-0-8)) and Algorithm ([8](#page-2-2)) each require one evaluation of operators A and B per iteration, Algorithm ([2](#page-1-0)) to Algorithm  $(6)$  $(6)$  $(6)$  need two evaluations of operator *B* and one evaluation of operator *A*, while Algorithm  $(7)$  performs at least two evaluations of operator B in each iteration. It should be point out that the terms  $Bx_{n+1}$  and  $By_n$  computed in the current iteration are the same as  $Bx_n$  and  $By_{n-1}$  used in the next iteration. Therefore, our Algorithm calls two forward evaluations and one backward evaluation at each iteration, which means its computational complexity is the same as the Tseng's algorithm [\[7\]](#page-14-5).

#### **Algorithm 1** The perturbed reflected forward-backward with adaptive step sizes

<span id="page-4-0"></span>**Initialization:** Pick  $\lambda_{-1} = \lambda_0 > 0$  and  $x_{-2} = x_{-1} = x_0 \in \mathcal{H}$ . Select  $\mu \in (0, 1/5)$ . Let  $\{\xi_n\}$  be a nonnegative real numbers sequence such that  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \xi_n < +\infty$ . Set  $n = 0$ .

**Iteration:** With  $x_{n-1}$ ,  $x_n$ ,  $\lambda_{n-1}$ ,  $\lambda_n$ ,  $Bx_n$ , and  $By_{n-1}$ , compute

$$
\begin{cases} y_n = 2x_n - x_{n-1}, \\ x_{n+1} = J_{\lambda_n A}(x_n - \lambda_n B y_n - \lambda_{n-1} (B x_n - B y_{n-1})), \end{cases}
$$

where

$$
\lambda_{n+1} = \begin{cases} \min \left\{ \frac{\mu ||y_n - x_{n+1}||}{\|By_n - Bx_{n+1} \|}, \lambda_n + \xi_n \right\}, & \text{if } Bx_n \neq Bx_{n+1}, \\ \lambda_n + \xi_n, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}
$$

<span id="page-4-2"></span><span id="page-4-1"></span>(9)

To analyze the convergence of Algorithm [1](#page-4-0), we need the following assumption.

#### **Assumption 3.2.**

- (i)  $A: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow 2^{\mathcal{H}}$  is set-valued maximal monotone;
- (ii)  $B: H \rightarrow H$  is a single-valued monotone and uniformly continuous;
- (iii) The solution set  $(A + B)^{-1}(0)$  of inclusion problem [\(IP](#page-0-7)) is nonempty.

We mention here that there are a lot of examples which satisfies the (ii) in [Assumption](#page-4-1) [3.2](#page-4-1) but is not Lipschitz continuous, such as  $f(x) := exp(x)$  for all  $x \in [0, \infty)$ . Then f is uniformly continuous and monotone. However, f is not Lipschitz continuous. In addition,  $f(x) := \sqrt{x}$  for all  $x \in [0, \infty)$ . Then f is also uniformly continuous and monotone. However, f is not Lipschitz continuous. Indeed, there are a lot of examples, which satisfy [Assumption](#page-4-1) [3.2](#page-4-1) (ii) but are not Lipschitz continuous. The following two lemmas are crucial for the convergence analysis of Algorithm [1.](#page-4-0)

**Lemma 3.3** ([[10](#page-14-8), Lemma 4.1]). Let  $\{\lambda_n\}$  be the sequence generated by ([9](#page-4-2)). Then  $\{\lambda_n\}$  is well-defined and  $\lim_{n\to\infty}\lambda_n = \lambda$  $\left[\min\left\{\lambda_0, \mu/Q\right\}, \lambda_0 + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \xi_n\right]$  for some  $Q > 0$ .

**Lemma 3.4.** *The sequences* { } *generated by Algorithm [1](#page-4-0) are bounded when [Assumption](#page-4-1)* [3.2](#page-4-1) *is satisfied.*

**Proof.** By using the definition of  $x_{n+1}$ , one obtains

$$
x_n - x_{n+1} - \lambda_n B y_n - \lambda_{n-1} (B x_n - B y_{n-1}) \in \lambda_n A x_{n+1}.
$$

Pick  $x^* \in (A + B)^{-1}(0)$ . It follows that  $-\lambda_n B x^* \in \lambda_n A x^*$ . From the monotonicity of A, one has

$$
\langle x_n - x_{n+1} - \lambda_n B y_n - \lambda_{n-1} (B x_n - B y_{n-1}) + \lambda_n B x^*, x_{n+1} - x^* \rangle \ge 0.
$$

Thus

$$
0 \le 2\langle x_n - x_{n+1}, x_{n+1} - x^* \rangle - 2\lambda_n \langle By_n - Bx^*, x_{n+1} - x^* \rangle
$$
  
+  $2\lambda_{n-1} \langle By_{n-1} - Bx_n, x_{n+1} - x^* \rangle$   
=  $2\langle x_n - x_{n+1}, x_{n+1} - x^* \rangle - 2\lambda_n \langle By_n - Bx_{n+1}, x_{n+1} - x^* \rangle$   
-  $2\lambda_n \langle Bx_{n+1} - Bx^*, x_{n+1} - x^* \rangle + 2\lambda_{n-1} \langle By_{n-1} - Bx_n, x_{n+1} - x_n \rangle$   
+  $2\lambda_{n-1} \langle By_{n-1} - Bx_n, x_n - x^* \rangle$ ,

which together with the monotonicity of  $B$  implies that

$$
0 \le 2\langle x_n - x_{n+1}, x_{n+1} - x^* \rangle - 2\lambda_n \langle By_n - Bx_{n+1}, x_{n+1} - x^* \rangle + 2\lambda_{n-1} \langle By_{n-1} - Bx_n, x_n - x^* \rangle + 2\lambda_{n-1} \langle By_{n-1} - Bx_n, x_{n+1} - x_n \rangle.
$$

On account of [Lemma](#page-3-2) [2.2](#page-3-2) (i), we obtain

<span id="page-4-3"></span>
$$
0 \le ||x_n - x^*||^2 - ||x_n - x_{n+1}||^2 - ||x_{n+1} - x^*||^2
$$
  
\n
$$
- 2\lambda_n \langle By_n - Bx_{n+1}, x_{n+1} - x^* \rangle + 2\lambda_{n-1} \langle By_{n-1} - Bx_n, x_n - x^* \rangle
$$
  
\n
$$
+ 2\lambda_{n-1} \langle By_{n-1} - Bx_n, x_{n+1} - x_n \rangle.
$$
\n(10)

By using the Cauchy–Schwarz inequality and [\(9\)](#page-4-2), we see that

$$
2\lambda_{n-1} \langle B y_{n-1} - B x_n, x_{n+1} - x_n \rangle
$$
  
\n
$$
\leq 2\lambda_{n-1} \| B y_{n-1} - B x_n \| \| x_{n+1} - x_n \|
$$
  
\n
$$
\leq 2\lambda_{n-1} \frac{\mu \| y_{n-1} - x_n \|}{\lambda_n} \| x_{n+1} - x_n \|
$$
  
\n
$$
\leq \frac{\mu \lambda_{n-1}}{\lambda_n} \| y_{n-1} - x_n \|^2 + \frac{\mu \lambda_{n-1}}{\lambda_n} \| x_{n+1} - x_n \|^2.
$$

Plugging ([11\)](#page-5-0) into ([10\)](#page-4-3), we arrive at

$$
\|x_{n+1} - x^*\|^2 + 2\lambda_n \langle By_n - Bx_{n+1}, x_{n+1} - x^* \rangle
$$
  
\n
$$
\le \|x_n - x^*\|^2 - \|x_n - x_{n+1}\|^2 + 2\lambda_{n-1} \langle By_{n-1} - Bx_n, x_n - x^* \rangle
$$
  
\n
$$
+ \frac{\mu \lambda_{n-1}}{\lambda_n} \|y_{n-1} - x_n\|^2 + \frac{\mu \lambda_{n-1}}{\lambda_n} \|x_{n+1} - x_n\|^2.
$$

Consequently,

$$
\|x_{n+1} - x^*\|^2 + 2\lambda_n \langle By_n - Bx_{n+1}, x_{n+1} - x^* \rangle + \frac{\mu \lambda_n}{\lambda_{n+1}} \|x_{n+1} - y_n\|^2
$$
  
\n
$$
\le \|x_n - x^*\|^2 + 2\lambda_{n-1} \langle Bx_n - By_{n-1}, x^* - x_n \rangle + \frac{\mu \lambda_{n-1}}{\lambda_n} \|x_n - y_{n-1}\|^2
$$
  
\n
$$
- \left(1 - \frac{\mu \lambda_{n-1}}{\lambda_n}\right) \|x_{n+1} - x_n\|^2 + \frac{\mu \lambda_n}{\lambda_{n+1}} \|x_{n+1} - y_n\|^2.
$$

Let us define

$$
t_n := \|x_n - x^*\|^2 + 2\lambda_{n-1}\langle Bx_n - By_{n-1}, x^* - x_n \rangle + \frac{\mu \lambda_{n-1}}{\lambda_n} \|x_n - y_{n-1}\|^2.
$$

Hence

$$
t_{n+1} \le t_n - \left(1 - \frac{\mu \lambda_{n-1}}{\lambda_n}\right) \|x_{n+1} - x_n\|^2 + \frac{\mu \lambda_n}{\lambda_{n+1}} \|x_{n+1} - y_n\|^2. \tag{12}
$$

Note that

$$
||x_{n+1} - y_n||^2 = ||(x_{n+1} - x_n) - (x_n - x_{n-1})||^2
$$
  
\n
$$
\le 2||x_{n+1} - x_n||^2 + 2||x_{n-1} - x_n||^2.
$$
\n(13)

Plugging ([13\)](#page-5-1) into ([12\)](#page-5-2), we include that

$$
t_{n+1} \le t_n - \left(1 - \frac{\mu \lambda_{n-1}}{\lambda_n}\right) ||x_{n+1} - x_n||^2
$$
  
+ 
$$
\frac{2\mu \lambda_n}{\lambda_{n+1}} ||x_{n+1} - x_n||^2 + \frac{2\mu \lambda_n}{\lambda_{n+1}} ||x_n - x_{n-1}||^2.
$$

Therefore,

$$
r_{n+1} + \frac{2\mu\lambda_{n+1}}{\lambda_{n+2}} \|x_{n+1} - x_n\|^2
$$
  
\n
$$
\leq t_n + \frac{2\mu\lambda_n}{\lambda_{n+1}} \|x_n - x_{n-1}\|^2 - \left(1 - \frac{\mu\lambda_{n-1}}{\lambda_n} - \frac{2\mu\lambda_n}{\lambda_{n+1}} - \frac{2\mu\lambda_{n+1}}{\lambda_{n+2}}\right) \|x_{n+1} - x_n\|^2.
$$
\n(14)

From the definition of  $t_n$ , the Cauchy–Schwarz inequality, and ([9](#page-4-2)), we deduce that

$$
t_n = ||x_n - x^*||^2 + 2\lambda_{n-1} \langle Bx_n - By_{n-1}, x^* - x_n \rangle + \frac{\mu \lambda_{n-1}}{\lambda_n} ||x_n - y_{n-1}||^2
$$
  
\n
$$
\ge ||x_n - x^*||^2 - 2\lambda_{n-1} ||Bx_n - By_{n-1}|| ||x^* - x_n|| + \frac{\mu \lambda_{n-1}}{\lambda_n} ||x_n - y_{n-1}||^2
$$
  
\n
$$
\ge ||x_n - x^*||^2 - \frac{\mu \lambda_{n-1}}{\lambda_n} ||x_n - y_{n-1}||^2 - \frac{\mu \lambda_{n-1}}{\lambda_n} ||x_n - x^*||^2 + \frac{\mu \lambda_{n-1}}{\lambda_n} ||x_n - y_{n-1}||^2
$$
  
\n
$$
= \left(1 - \frac{\mu \lambda_{n-1}}{\lambda_n}\right) ||x_n - x^*||^2.
$$

Since  $\lim_{n \to \infty} \left(1 - \frac{\mu \lambda_{n-1}}{n}\right)$  $\lambda_n$  $= 1 - \mu > 0$ , we see that there exists  $n_1 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $1 - \frac{\mu \lambda_{n-1}}{\lambda}$  $\frac{\lambda_{n-1}}{\lambda_n} > 0$  for all  $n \geq n_1$ . Consequently,  $t_n \geq 0$  for all  $n \geq n_1$ . Let  $s_n := t_n + \frac{2\mu\lambda_n}{1}$  $\frac{2\mu x_n}{\lambda_{n+1}} \|x_n - x_{n-1}\|^2.$ 

<span id="page-5-0"></span>(11)

<span id="page-5-3"></span><span id="page-5-2"></span><span id="page-5-1"></span>

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Note that  $s_n \ge 0$  for all  $n \ge n_1$ . It follows from [\(14](#page-5-3)) that

<span id="page-6-0"></span>
$$
s_{n+1} \le s_n - \left(1 - \frac{\mu \lambda_{n-1}}{\lambda_n} - \frac{2\mu \lambda_n}{\lambda_{n+1}} - \frac{2\mu \lambda_{n+1}}{\lambda_{n+2}}\right) \|x_{n+1} - x_n\|^2.
$$
  
 
$$
\lim_{n \to \infty} \left(1 - \frac{\mu \lambda_{n-1}}{\lambda_{n-1}} - \frac{2\mu \lambda_n}{\lambda_{n+1}}\right) = 1 - 5\mu > 0, \text{ then there exists } n_2 \in \mathbb{N}, \text{ where } n_2 \ge n_1 \text{ such that}
$$
 (15)

Since  $\lim_{n\to\infty}$  (1  $\frac{\lambda_{n-1}}{\lambda_n} - \frac{2\mu\lambda_n}{\lambda_{n+1}}$  $\frac{2\mu\lambda_n}{\lambda_{n+1}} - \frac{2\mu\lambda_{n+1}}{\lambda_{n+2}}$  = 1 - 5 $\mu > 0$ , then there exists  $n_2 \in \mathbb{N}$ , where  $n_2 \ge n_1$  such that  $1-\frac{\mu\lambda_{n-1}}{2}$  $\frac{\lambda_{n-1}}{\lambda_n} - \frac{2\mu\lambda_n}{\lambda_{n+1}}$  $\frac{2\mu\lambda_n}{\lambda_{n+1}}-\frac{2\mu\lambda_{n+1}}{\lambda_{n+2}}$  $\frac{\mu n_{n+1}}{\lambda_{n+2}} > 0$ ,  $\forall n \ge n_2$ .

Then  $\{s_n\}$  is non-increasing,  $\lim_{n\to\infty} s_n$  exists, and  $\{s_n\}$  is bounded. We can then easily obtain that  $\{x_n\}$  is bounded.  $\square$ 

<span id="page-6-3"></span>Next, we give our weak convergence result.

**Theorem 3.5.** The sequence  $\{x_n\}$  generated by Algorithm [1](#page-4-0) converge weakly to a point in  $(A + B)^{-1}(0)$  provided that Assumption [3.2](#page-4-1) is *satisfied.*

**Proof.** We obtain from ([15\)](#page-6-0) that  $\lim_{n\to\infty} ||x_{n+1} - x_n|| = 0$ . Consequently,  $\lim_{n\to\infty} ||x_n - y_n|| = 0$ . The two limits imply that  $\lim_{n\to\infty} ||x_{n+1} - y_n|| = 0$ . From the fact that  $\{x_n\}$  is bounded, one deduces that  $\{x_n\}$  has a weakly convergent subsequence  $\{x_{n_m}\}$ such that  $\{x_{n_m}\}\)$  converges weakly to  $\bar{x} \in \mathcal{H}\$ . It follows from the definition of  $x_{n+1}$  that

$$
x_{n_m} - \lambda_{n_m} By_{n_m} - \lambda_{n_m-1}(Bx_{n_m} - By_{n_m-1}) \in (I + \lambda_{n_m}A)x_{n_m+1}.
$$

Therefore,

<span id="page-6-1"></span>
$$
\frac{x_{n_m} - x_{n_m+1}}{\lambda_{n_m}} + Bx_{n_m+1} - By_{n_m} - \frac{\lambda_{n_m-1}}{\lambda_{n_m}}(Bx_{n_m} - By_{n_m-1}) \in (A + B)x_{n_m+1}.
$$
\n(16)

Since *B* is uniformly continuous, we have  $||Bx_{n_m+1} - By_{n_m}|| \to 0$  as  $m \to \infty$ . By [Lemma](#page-3-3) [2.1](#page-3-3), one obtains that  $A + B$  is maximal monotone. Therefore, the graph of  $A + B$  is demiclosed. Passing to the limit in [\(16](#page-6-1)) (noting that  $\lambda_{n_{\text{max}}} \to \lambda$  as  $m \to \infty$ ), one arrives at  $\bar{x} \in (A + B)^{-1}(0)$ . Now, one defines

$$
d_n := -\frac{\mu\lambda_{n-1}}{\lambda_n} ||x_n - y_{n-1}||^2 - \frac{2\mu\lambda_n}{\lambda_{n+1}} ||x_n - x_{n-1}||^2 - 2\lambda_{n-1} \langle Bx_n - By_{n-1}, x^* - x_n \rangle.
$$

From the fact that *B* is uniformly continuous and  $\{x_n\}$  is bounded,  $\lim_{n\to\infty} \|x_n - x_{n-1}\| = 0$ , and  $\lim_{n\to\infty} \|x_n - y_{n-1}\| = 0$ , one has lim<sub>n→∞</sub>  $d_n$  = 0. From the definitions of  $s_n$  and  $d_n$ , one has  $||x_n - x^*||^2 = s_n + d_n$ . By using the existence of the limit of  $\{s_n\}$ , one asserts that  $\lim_{n\to\infty} ||x_n - x^*||$  exists. Therefore, {x<sub>n</sub>} converges weakly to a point in  $(A + B)^{-1}(0)$  by means of [Lemma](#page-3-4) [2.3](#page-3-4). □

#### *3.2. Application to variational inequalities*

In this subsection, we apply the proposed Algorithm [1](#page-4-0) to the variational inequality problem. Let  $C$  be a nonempty, closed, and convex subset of a real Hilbert space H, and let  $M : H \to H$  be an operator. The variational inequality problem is described as:

<span id="page-6-2"></span>Find 
$$
x^* \in C
$$
 such that  $\langle Mx^*, x - x^* \rangle \ge 0$ ,  $\forall x \in C$ . (VI)

The solution set of problem  $(VI)$  is denoted by  $VI(M, C)$ .

Let  $f : \mathcal{H} \to (-\infty, +\infty]$  be a proper, lower semicontinuous, and convex function. The subdifferential of f at  $x \in \text{dom } f$  is defined by  $\partial f(x) := \{ z \in \mathcal{H} : f(y) - f(x) \ge \langle z, y - x \rangle \}$ . The normal cone of C at  $v \in C$  is given as  $N_C(v) := \{ d \in \mathcal{H} : \langle d, y - v \rangle \le 0, \forall y \in C \}$ . Let  $\delta_C(x)$  be the indicator function of C at x, that is,

$$
\delta_C(x) := \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } x \in C, \\ \infty, & \text{if } x \notin C. \end{cases}
$$

We can frame variational inequality problem ([VI\)](#page-6-2) within the context of monotone inclusion problem [\(IP](#page-0-7)) by setting  $A = \partial \delta_C$  and  $B = M$ . That is, the solution to problem ([VI\)](#page-6-2) is equivalent to the solution of the monotone inclusion problem: find  $x^* \in H$  such that  $0 \in (\partial \delta_C + M)(x^*)$ . Indeed, it can be seen that  $\delta_C : \mathcal{H} \to (-\infty, +\infty]$  is a proper, lower semicontinuous, and convex function. Moreover, one knows that  $\partial f$  is maximal monotone and  $\partial \delta_C(x) = N_C(x)$ . Let  $A = \partial \delta_C$ . Then

$$
v = J_{\lambda_n A}(x) \Longleftrightarrow x \in v + \lambda_n N_C(v)
$$
  

$$
\Longleftrightarrow \langle x - v, y - v \rangle \le 0, \ \forall y \in C \Longleftrightarrow v = P_C(x),
$$

where  $P_C$  is the projection operator from H into C, which is defined by  $P_C(x) = \min\{y \in C : ||x - y||\}$  for a fixed  $x \in H$ .

Now, we consider [\(VI](#page-6-2)) as an application of [Theorem](#page-6-3) [3.5](#page-6-3).

⎧

**Theorem 3.6.** Let M be a monotone and uniformly continuous operator, and let VI(M, C)  $\neq$  Ø. Pick  $\lambda_{-1} = \lambda_0 > 0$  and  $x_{-2} = x_{-1} = x_0 \in \mathcal{H}$ . Select  $\mu \in (0, 1/5)$ . Let  $\{\xi_n\}$  be a nonnegative real numbers sequence such that  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \xi_n < +\infty$ . Let  $\{\chi_n\}$  be the sequence generated by the *following iterative procedure:*

<span id="page-7-1"></span>
$$
\begin{cases}\ny_n = 2x_n - x_{n-1}, \\
x_{n+1} = P_C(x_n - \lambda_n M y_n - \lambda_{n-1} (M x_n - M y_{n-1})), \\
\lambda_{n+1} = \begin{cases}\n\min \left\{\frac{\mu \|y_n - x_{n+1}\|}{\|M y_n - M x_{n+1}\|}, \lambda_n + \xi_n\right\}, & \text{if } M x_n \neq M x_{n+1}, \\
\lambda_n + \xi_n, & \text{otherwise.} \n\end{cases} (17)\n\end{cases}
$$

*Then the sequence* { } *generated by Algorithm* ([17\)](#page-7-1) *converges weakly to a solution of problem* ([VI\)](#page-6-2)*.*

#### **4. Numerical experiments**

<span id="page-7-0"></span>In this section, we explore the problems related to signal processing and image deblurring, which have generated considerable interest in the field of contemporary science and technology. The primary goal is to recover a signal/an image from the available data. A task that can be conceptualized as the subsequent inverse problem described by the equation:

<span id="page-7-2"></span>
$$
y = Ax + z,\tag{18}
$$

where y represents the observed data, x corresponds to the true (original) underlying data,  $\mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{R}^m$  accounts for the measurement error, and A is an operator that can be either linear or nonlinear. This operator can take the form of a convolution operator in the context of deblurring, a Radon transform in X-ray computer tomography (CT), or a sampling mask applied in the Fourier domain for magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), as detailed in  $[19–21]$  $[19–21]$  $[19–21]$ . To solve Eq. [\(18](#page-7-2)), we can address the following constrained minimization problem:

<span id="page-7-3"></span>
$$
\min \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - P_Q \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}\|^2 \quad \text{subject to} \quad \mathbf{x} \in C,
$$
\n<sup>(19)</sup>

where  $Q := \{y\}$  in the signal processing problem, and  $Q := \{w : ||w - y + z||_2 \le \epsilon\}$  for a small  $\epsilon$  in the image deblurring problem. In fact, solving problem ([19\)](#page-7-3) is equivalent to addressing the split feasibility problem: find  $x \in C$  such that  $Ax \in Q$ . We can transform problem ([19\)](#page-7-3) into monotone inclusion problem [\(IP\)](#page-0-7) by setting  $A = \partial \delta_C$  and  $B = A^T(Ax - P_0Ax)$ . Next, we consider the application of the proposed Algorithm [1](#page-4-0) in signal processing and image deblurring, and compare its computational performance with some known fixed-step and adaptive algorithms. All programs were written and implemented on a MacBook Air 2023 with 8 GB of memory.

#### <span id="page-7-4"></span>**Example 4.1.**

Consider recovering the original signal from a degraded signal. Our setup is as follows: the original signal  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is randomly generated, with its values being  $\{-1, 0, 1\}$  and the number of non-zero elements being k. The matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$  is first randomly generated from a normal distribution and then orthogonalized row-wise. The noise vector  $z \in \mathbb{R}^m$  is randomly generated from a normal distribution with a mean of 0 and a standard deviation of 0.01. The obtained degraded signal  $y \in \mathbb{R}^m$  is generated by Eq. [\(18](#page-7-2)). We compare the performance of the proposed Algorithm [1](#page-4-0) (shortly, Our Alg.) with other fixed-step and adaptive methods in the literature, including Algorithm [\(2\)](#page-1-0) (shortly, Tseng Alg.), Algorithm [\(3\)](#page-1-1) (shortly, GT Alg. 1), Algorithm [\(4\)](#page-1-2) (shortly, GT Alg. 2), Algorithm [\(5\)](#page-1-3) (shortly, AOM Alg.), Algorithm ([6](#page-2-0)) (shortly, GTV Alg.), Algorithm [\(7\)](#page-2-1) (shortly, MT Alg.), and Algorithm ([8](#page-2-2)) (shortly, CV Alg.). In all experiments, we test the algorithms by using the following parameters:

- For Our Alg., we take  $\lambda_{-1} = \lambda_0 = 0.2$ ,  $\xi_n = 1000/(n+1)^{1.05}$ , and  $\mu = 0.19$ .
- For Tseng Alg. [[7](#page-14-5)], we select  $\lambda = 0.15/L$ .
- For GTV Alg. [[11\]](#page-14-9), we pick  $\alpha_n = 0.2$ ,  $\lambda_n = 0.15/L$ , and  $\gamma = 1.2$ .
- For CV Alg. [\[15](#page-15-0)], we choose  $\lambda_n = 0.2/L$ .
- For GT Alg. 1 [[8](#page-14-6)], we take  $\alpha_n = 0.1/(n+1)$ ,  $\beta_n = 0.8(1 \alpha_n)$ ,  $\lambda_0 = 0.2$ , and  $\mu = 0.19$ .
- For GT Alg. 2 [[8](#page-14-6)], we choose  $\alpha_n = 0.1/(n+1)$ ,  $f(x) = 0.9x$ ,  $\lambda_0 = 0.2$ , and  $\mu = 0.19$ .
- For AOM Alg. 1 [\[10](#page-14-8)], we pick  $\alpha_n = 1/(n+1)$ ,  $\theta = 0.4$ ,  $\epsilon_n = 100/(n+1)^2$ ,  $f(x) = 0.9x$ ,  $\xi_n = 1000/(n+1)^{1.05}$ ,  $\lambda_0 = 0.2$ , and  $\mu = 0.19$ .
- For MT Alg. [[14\]](#page-14-12), we select  $\sigma = 0.15$ ,  $\rho = \sigma^{-1}$ ,  $\lambda_{-1} = 0.2$ , and  $\mu = 0.19$ .

We use the mean square error MSE =  $\|\hat{x} - x\|^2/n$  (where  $\hat{x}$  is the recovered signal generated by the algorithm at the *n*th iteration) as the iteration error of the algorithm at the nth step. The stopping criterion for all algorithms is a maximum of 300 iterations. Considering four different dimensions and sparsity levels, the recovery results of all algorithms are shown in [Figs.](#page-8-0) [1](#page-8-0), [2,](#page-8-1) [3](#page-9-0), and [4](#page-9-1). The trends of their MSE with respect to the number of iterations are shown in [Fig.](#page-10-0) [5](#page-10-0). Additionally, [Table](#page-8-2) [1](#page-8-2) presents the execution time (in seconds) and the MSE values for all algorithms.

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Fig. 1. The comparison of the original signal and the recovered signal for all algorithms when  $m = 256$ ,  $n = 512$ , and  $k = 40$ .

<span id="page-8-0"></span>

<span id="page-8-1"></span>**Fig.** 2. The comparison of the original signal and the recovered signal for all algorithms when  $m = 256$ ,  $n = 512$ , and  $k = 50$ .

<span id="page-8-2"></span>



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**Fig.** 3. The comparison of the original signal and the recovered signal for all algorithms when  $m = 512$ ,  $n = 1024$ , and  $k = 60$ .

<span id="page-9-0"></span>

**Fig.** 4. The comparison of the original signal and the recovered signal for all algorithms when  $m = 512$ ,  $n = 1024$ , and  $k = 80$ .

#### <span id="page-9-2"></span><span id="page-9-1"></span>**Example 4.2.**

Let A be a convolution matrix and adopt the following settings: the convolution matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is generated by using a  $9 \times 9$ Gaussian blur kernel with a standard deviation of 4. The noise vector  $z \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is generated from a normal distribution with a mean of 0 and a standard deviation of  $10^{-4}$ . We test four original images x of size 512 × 512. The pixel intensity of all original images is scaled into the range between 0 and 1. The degraded image  $y$  is generated using Eq.  $(18)$  $(18)$ . We use signal-to-noise ratio (SNR in dB), peak signal-to-noise ratio (PSNR in dB), and structural similarity index (SSIM) to evaluate the performance of the algorithms in image recovery. The SNR is calculated as follows:

$$
SNR = 20 \log \frac{\|\mathbf{x}\|_2}{\|\mathbf{x} - \hat{\mathbf{x}}\|_2},
$$

where  $\hat{x}$  the restored image and x is the original image. The PSNR and SSIM are calculated using the functions defined in MATLAB. We also select the same algorithms and parameter settings as in [Example](#page-7-4) [4.1](#page-7-4) for this example. Typically, higher values of SNR, PSNR, and SSIM indicate better recovery performance.

The recovery results of all algorithms for four different original images are shown in [Figs.](#page-10-1) [6](#page-10-1), [7,](#page-11-0) [8,](#page-11-1) and [9.](#page-11-2) The trends of their SNR, PSNR, and SSIM values with the number of iterations are presented in [Figs.](#page-12-0) [10](#page-12-0), [11](#page-12-1), and [12.](#page-13-1) Finally, [Table](#page-13-2) [2](#page-13-2) summarizes the values of all metrics for all algorithms upon reaching the stopping condition.



**Fig. 5.** The variation of MSE for all algorithms under different cases ([Example](#page-7-4) [4.1\)](#page-7-4).

<span id="page-10-0"></span>

Fig. 6. The recovery results of all algorithms for the image "Cameraman".

<span id="page-10-1"></span>**Remark 4.3.** For the experimental results in [Examples](#page-7-4) [4.1](#page-7-4) and [4.2](#page-9-2), we have the following observations:

- (i) From [Figs.](#page-8-0)  $1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8$  $1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8$  $1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8$  $1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8$  $1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8$  $1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8$  $1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8$  $1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8$  $1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8$  $1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8$  $1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8$  $1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8$ , and  $9$ , it can be seen that our algorithm can be used to solve signal processing and image deblurring problems.
- (ii) From [Fig.](#page-10-0) [5](#page-10-0) and [Table](#page-8-2) [1](#page-8-2), it is clear that our algorithm outperforms the fixed-step algorithms in  $[7,11,15]$  $[7,11,15]$  $[7,11,15]$  $[7,11,15]$  and the adaptive methods in [\[8,](#page-14-6)[10,](#page-14-8)[14](#page-14-12)] in terms of MSE. Moreover, [Figs.](#page-12-0) [10](#page-12-0), [11,](#page-12-1) [12,](#page-13-1) and [Table](#page-13-2) [2](#page-13-2) demonstrate that our algorithm also outperforms these fixed-step and adaptive methods in SNR, PSNR, and SSIM.
- (iii) It is important to note that the algorithms in  $[7,11,15]$  $[7,11,15]$  $[7,11,15]$  $[7,11,15]$  require the prior knowledge of the Lipschitz constant of operator  $B$  to perform iterations, while our algorithm and the methods in [\[8,](#page-14-6)[10](#page-14-8)[,14](#page-14-12)] can run adaptively without this prior information.

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**Fig. 7.** The recovery results of all algorithms for the image ''Peppers''.

<span id="page-11-0"></span>

Fig. 8. The recovery results of all algorithms for the image "Pirate".

<span id="page-11-1"></span>

**Fig. 9.** The recovery results of all algorithms for the image ''Mandril''.

<span id="page-11-2"></span>(iv) As shown in [Table](#page-13-2) [2](#page-13-2), Algorithm ([8](#page-2-2)) requires the least amount of time, which is related to the fact that it only requires one forward evaluation and one backward evaluation. Moreover, it can be observed from [Tables](#page-8-2) [1](#page-8-2) and [2](#page-13-2) that the proposed algorithm has a similar computation time compared to the methods in [\[7,](#page-14-5)[8,](#page-14-6)[10,](#page-14-8)[11\]](#page-14-9). These methods require only two evaluations of  $B$  and one evaluation of  $A$  per iteration, which is consistent with the computational complexity of our algorithm.



**Fig. 10.** The variations in SNR with the number of iterations for all algorithms ([Example](#page-9-2) [4.2](#page-9-2)).

<span id="page-12-0"></span>

<span id="page-12-1"></span>Fig. 11. The variations in PSNR with the number of iterations for all algorithms [\(Example](#page-9-2) [4.2](#page-9-2)).



**Fig. 12.** The variations in SSIM with the number of iterations for all algorithms ([Example](#page-9-2) [4.2\)](#page-9-2).

<span id="page-13-2"></span><span id="page-13-1"></span>



## **5. Conclusion**

<span id="page-13-0"></span>In this paper, we introduced a perturbed reflected forward–backward splitting algorithm to solve a monotone inclusion problem such that its step sizes are generated self-adaptively unlike existing reflected forward–backward splitting algorithms where the Lipschitz constant of one of the operators must be known. We obtained weak convergence results, and also demonstrated that our algorithm is more efficient numerically than some existing splitting algorithms in the literature through experimental results in signal processing and image deblurring. In our future work, we would further explore ways to relax the monotonicity assumption of the single-valued operator.

#### **CRediT authorship contribution statement**

**Bing Tan:** Writing – original draft, Visualization, Software, Investigation. **Yekini Shehu:** Writing – original draft, Validation, Methodology, Investigation, Conceptualization. **Tiexiang Li:** Writing – review & editing. **Xiaolong Qin:** Writing – review & editing, Writing – original draft, Validation, Supervision, Methodology, Investigation, Conceptualization.

## **Ethical approval and consent to participate**

All the authors gave the ethical approval and consent to participate in this article.

#### **Consent for publication**

All the authors gave consent for the publication of identifiable details to be published in the journal and article.

#### **Code availability**

The MATLAB codes employed to run the numerical experiments are available on request.

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#### **Declaration of competing interest**

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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#### **Data availability**

Data will be made available on request.

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