

## NONLINEAR VARIATIONAL INEQUALITY PROBLEMS INVOLVING UNCERTAIN VARIABLE

Cunlin Li<sup>1</sup>, Zhifu Jia<sup>2</sup>

*Variational inequality problems have been extensively studied and applied in the area of optimization theory, but much of it has been developed in a deterministic domain. In this paper, the uncertain variational inequality is studied. Under the compact uncertain event space, we establish an uncertain nonlinear expected residual minimization (UNERM) model. Considering that uncertain variable usually has no density function, we propose integration by parts method to solve UNERM model. Under reasonable assumptions and Slater's constraint qualification, two kinds of convergence, such as convergence of global optimal solutions and convergence of stationary points, are investigated.*

**Keywords:** uncertain nonlinear variational inequalities; uncertainty theory; residual functions.

**MSC2010:** 49J 53; 49J 40; 65K 10; 90C 99.

### 1. Introduction

A nonempty closed convex set  $S \in R^n$  and a mapping  $f : S \rightarrow R^n$ , in a deterministic environment, the classical variational inequality problem (denoted by VIP(f, S) below) is to find a vector  $x^* \in S$  such that

$$(x - x^*)^T f(x^*) \geq 0, x \in S.$$

Variational inequality problem is one of the basic problems in the optimization theory. In 2010, Yao et al. [1] Studied minimum-norm solutions of variational inequalities. In 2012, Postolache et al. [2] introduced an iterative scheme to find a common element of the set of solution of a pseudomonotone, Lipschitz-continuous variational inequality problem and fixed points. In 2013, Yao et al. [3] put forward composite schemes for variational inequalities over equilibrium problems and variational inclusions. Postolache et al. [4] studied a new class of generalized extended nonlinear quasi-variational inequality problems involving set-valued relaxed monotone operators and proved it equivalent to the fixed point problem. Postolache et al. [5] proposed a variant extra gradient-type method to solve monotone variational inequalities. In 2016, Postolache et al. [6] constructed algorithms for a class of monotone variational inequalities. In 2017, Yao et al. [7] considered the split variational inequality and fixed point problem. In the same year, Yao et al. [8] considered the split variational inequality problem under a nonlinear transformation. However, there are many examples in reality that the basic problem not only involves deterministic data, but also contains some stochastic data. For example random signal process, supply chain, etc. Therefore, in order

<sup>1</sup> Professor, Ningxia Key Laboratory of intelligent information and Big Data Processing, Governance and social management research center of Northwest Ethnic regions, North Minzu University, Yinchuan, China, e-mail: bit1cl@163.com

<sup>2</sup> State Key Laboratory of Mechanics Control of Mechanical Structures, Institute of Nano Science and Department of Mathematics, Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Nanjing 210016, China; School of Mathematics and Information Science, North Minzu University, Yinchuan, China, e-mail: jzflzbx@163.com(corresponding author)

to reflect those stochastic phenomena, many researchers extend to the stochastic variational inequality problem (SVIP for short). SVIP was investigated involving many aspects. In 2008, Jiang et al. [9] applied stochastic approximation approaches to the stochastic variational inequality problems. In the same year, Shapiro et al. [10] discussed the sample average approximation method applied to a class of stochastic mathematical programs with variational (equilibrium) constraints. In 2010, Xu [11] further investigated sample average approximation methods for a class of stochastic variational inequality problems. In 2011, Luo et al. [12] did the research about stochastic variational inequality problems with additional constraints. Unlucky, there are some circumstances when no historical data are available in many practical problems of the real world, many examples inevitably contain some uncertain data, such as a new stock, emergencies, devastating military experiments, etc. In computer science, uncertain data is the data that contains noise that makes it deviate from the correct, intended or original values. In uncertainty theory, uncertain data is the data that contains belief degree representing the strength with which we believe the event will happen. It is usually described as uncertain variable. Hence, in order to rationally deal with belief degree, uncertainty theory was founded by Liu [14], subsequently the uncertain variational inequality problem was proposed by Chen and Zhu [15]. In their paper, they propose a new class of variational inequality problems, which is to find  $x^* \in S$

$$\mathcal{M}\{\gamma \in \Gamma | (x - x^*)^T F(x^*, \xi(\gamma)) \geq 0, \forall x \in S\} = 1, \quad (1)$$

where  $\xi(\gamma)$  is the uncertain variable,  $\Gamma$  is a nonempty set,  $F : R^n \times \Gamma \rightarrow R^n$  is a mapping. They solve expected value model based on uncertainty theory.

In a recent work [16], a new model presented by Li and Jia minimized an expected residual given by the regularized gap function based on uncertainty theory. The model is written as

$$\min \theta(x) := E[g(x, \xi)] = \int_T g(x, t) d\Phi(t), \quad s.t. \ x \in S, \quad (2)$$

here,  $\xi \in B$ ,  $E$  stands for the expectation with respect to the uncertain variable  $\xi$ ,  $\Phi(t)$  stands for the uncertain distribution function with respect to the uncertain variable  $\xi$ .  $T$  stands for domain of  $\Phi(t)$ . Recall that, for any  $x \in R^n$  and any  $\xi \in B$ ,

$$g(x, \xi) = (x - H(x, \xi))^T F(x, \xi) - \frac{\alpha}{2} \|x - H(x, \xi)\|_G^2, \quad (3)$$

where

$$H(x, \xi) := Proj_{S, G}(x - \alpha^{-1} G^{-1} F(x, \xi))$$

$F : R^n \times R \rightarrow R^n$  is a mapping.  $\alpha$  is a positive parameter,  $G$  is an  $n \times n$  symmetric positive-definite matrix, and  $\|\cdot\|_G$  means the G-norm defined by  $\|x\|_G = \sqrt{x^T G x}$  for  $x \in R^n$ .

In [16], Li and Jia considered an linear uncertain variational inequality problem. The properties and convergence analysis of the ERM problem were discussed. Integration by parts method is proposed to solve (2). The purpose of this paper is to introduce UNERM model for dealing with nonlinear uncertain variational inequality problem.

The paper is organized as following. We recall some preliminary results about uncertainty theory and other preliminaries in Section 2. Then, the convergence of global optimal solutions and convergence of stationary points of UNERM model are discussed in Section 3.

## 2. Preliminaries

**Definition 2.1.** (Liu [14]) Suppose  $\xi$  is an uncertain variable. Then the uncertainty distribution of  $\xi$  is defined by

$$\Phi(t) = \mathcal{M}\{\xi \leq t\}$$

for any real number  $t$ .

**Definition 2.2.** (Liu [14]) Let  $\xi$  be an uncertain variable. Then the expected value of  $\xi$  is defined by

$$E[\xi] = \int_0^{+\infty} \mathcal{M}\{\xi \geq t\} dt - \int_{-\infty}^0 \mathcal{M}\{\xi \leq t\} dt$$

provided that at least one of the two integrals is finite.

**Theorem 2.1.** (Liu [14]) Let  $\xi$  be an uncertain variable with uncertainty distribution  $\Phi$ . If the expected value exists, then

$$E[\xi] = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} t d\Phi(t).$$

**Corollary 2.1.** (Liu [14]) Let  $\xi$  be an uncertain variable with uncertainty distribution  $\Phi$ . and let  $f(t)$  be a strictly monotone function, then we have

$$E[f(\xi)] = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(t) d\Phi(t).$$

Following from the continuity of  $(F, \nabla_x F)$  and Theorem 4.2 of [16] that the function  $\theta$  is continuously differentiable over  $S$  and

$$\nabla \theta(x) = E[\nabla_x g(x, \xi)], \forall x \in S. \quad (4)$$

Uncertain variable usually has no density function, so  $\Phi(x)$  usually is not differentiable in uncertainty theory. But we can use the differentiable properties of  $g(x, \xi)$ . By the results given in [17],  $g(\cdot, \xi)$  is continuously differentiable over  $S$  for any  $\xi \in B$ , and

$$\nabla_x g(x, \xi) = F(x, \xi) - (\nabla_x F(x, \xi) - \alpha G)(H(x, \xi) - x) \quad (5)$$

**Definition 2.3.** [16] Let  $\theta_k(x)$  minimum be as follows:

$$\min \theta_k(x) = g(x, t)\Phi(t)|_{t \in T} - \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) g'(x, t_i) \quad (6)$$

where  $T_k = \{t_i | i = 1, 2, \dots, N_k\}$  be a set of observations generated by [18] satisfying  $N_k \rightarrow \infty$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ , we call  $T$  uncertain event space, theoretically  $T$  is domain of  $\Phi(t)$ ,  $g(x, t)\Phi(t)|_{t \in T}$  is a function merely related to  $x$ .

we will study the behavior of the following approximations to the ERM problem (2) as follows:

$$\theta_k(x) = g(x, t)\Phi(t)|_{t \in T} - \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) g'(x, t_i), \text{ s.t. } x \in S. \quad (7)$$

We consider the limiting behavior of problems (7) in latter section.

**Theorem 2.2.** Through [18], we can get the following conclusion

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) g'(x, t_i) = \int_T \Phi(t) g'(x, t) dt \quad (8)$$

For any  $x \in R^n$ , we also have

$$\sqrt{\lambda_{\min}} \|x\| \leq \|x\|_G \leq \sqrt{\lambda_{\max}} \|x\| \quad (9)$$

where  $\lambda_{\min}$  and  $\lambda_{\max}$  indicate the smallest and largest eigenvalues of the positive definite matrix  $G$ , respectively. For a given matrix  $A$ , we let  $\|A\|$  denote its spectral norm and  $\|A\|_{\mathcal{F}}$  denote its Frobenius matrix norm. The relationship between  $\|A\|$  and  $\|A\|_{\mathcal{F}}$ ,  $\|x\|$  and  $\|x\|_G$  are as follows,

$$\|A\| \leq \|A\|_{\mathcal{F}}. \quad (10)$$

$$\|A\|_{\mathcal{F}} \leq \sum_{j=1}^n \|A_j\|. \quad (11)$$

where  $A_j$  is the  $j$ th column vector of  $A$ .

### 3. Convergence Analysis

#### 3.1. ERM Model Hypothesis

In this paper, we still consider model (2). It has been mentioned that the function  $F$  is supposed to be affine in [16]. Some assumptions such as square integrability and positive definiteness are given, see [16] for details. The difference of this article is that we suppose that  $F$  of (3) is a nonlinear function.

To prove the latter theorem, we need suppose that the uncertain distribution function  $\Phi(t)$  is continuous on  $t \in T$ , three-order derivative of the function  $F$  exists (denoted by  $F'''_{xtx}$ ). Owing to  $H(x, t) := \text{Proj}_{S.G}(x - \alpha^{-1}G^{-1}F(x, t))$  and  $H'(x, t) := \text{Proj}_{S.G}(x - \alpha^{-1}G^{-1}F'(x, t))$ , it is easy to get  $H$ ,  $H'_x$  and  $H'_t$  are continuous.

#### 3.2. Convergence of Global Optimal Solutions

For convenience, we denote by  $S^*$  and  $S_k^*$  the sets of optimal solutions of problems (2) and (7), respectively.

**Lemma 3.1.** *For any fixed  $x \in S$ , it holds that  $\theta(x) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \theta_k(x)$ .*

**Proof** It is known from the definition of  $\theta(x)$  function of (2) and integration by parts method that

$$\begin{aligned} \theta(x) &= E[g(x, \xi)] = \int_T g(x, t) d\Phi(t) \\ &= g(x, t)\Phi(t)|_{t \in T} - \int_T \Phi(t)g'(x, t)dt, \end{aligned}$$

Thus we can get the conclusion from (7) and (8) easily.

**Theorem 3.1.** *Assume that  $x_k \in S_k^*$  for each sufficiently large  $k$ . and  $x^*$  is an accumulation point of  $\{x_k\}$ . Then, we have  $x^* \in S^*$*

**Proof** Let  $x^*$  be an accumulation point of  $\{x_k\}$ . Without loss of generality, we assume that  $\{x_k\}$  converges to  $x^*$ . It is obvious that  $x^* \in S$ . We first show that

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} (\theta_k(x_k) - \theta_k(x^*)) = 0.$$

Let  $B \subset S$  be a compact convex set containing the sequence  $x_k$ . By the continuity of  $g''_{tx}$  on the compact set  $B \times T$ , there exists a constant  $C > 0$  such that

$$\|g''_{tx}(y_{ki}, t_i)\| \leq C, \forall (x, \xi) \in B \times T. \quad (12)$$

Moreover, we have from the mean-value theorem that, for each  $x_k$  and each  $\xi_i$ , there exists  $y^{ki} = \alpha_{ki}x_k + (1 - \alpha_{ki})x^* \in B$  with  $\alpha_{ki} \in [0, 1]$  such that

$$|g'_t(x_k, t_i) - g'_t(x^*, t_i)| = |g''_{tx}(y_{ki}, t_i)^T(x_k - x^*)|.$$

So we have

$$\begin{aligned} |\theta_k(x_k) - \theta_k(x^*)| &= |g(x_k, t)\Phi(t)|_{t \in T} - \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i)g'_t(x_k, t_i) \\ &\quad - g(x^*, t)\Phi(t)|_{t \in T} - \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i)g'_t(x^*, t_i)| \\ &\leq |g(x_k, t)\Phi(t)|_{t \in T} - g(x^*, t)\Phi(t)|_{t \in T}| \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) |g'_t(x_k, t_i) - g'_t(x^*, t_i)| \\
& = |g(x_k, t) \Phi(t)|_{t \in T} - g(x^*, t) \Phi(t)|_{t \in T}| \\
& + \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) |g''_{tx}(y_{ki}, t_i)^T (x_k - x^*)| \\
& \leq |g(x_k, t) \Phi(t)|_{t \in T} - g(x^*, t) \Phi(t)|_{t \in T}| \\
& + C \|(x_k - x^*)\| \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i)
\end{aligned}$$

Because the facts that the sequence  $\{x_k\}$  converges to  $\{x^*\}$ , thus

$$|\theta_k(x_k) - \theta_k(x^*)| \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} 0, \quad (13)$$

On the other hand, noting that

$$|\theta_k(x_k) - \theta(x^*)| \leq |\theta_k(x_k) - \theta_k(x^*)| + |\theta_k(x^*) - \theta(x^*)|, \quad (14)$$

so we have from lemma 3.1 and (13) that

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \theta_k(x_k) = \theta(x^*). \quad (15)$$

Since, for each sufficiently large  $k$ ,  $x_k \in S_k^*$ , then exist  $\epsilon > 0$  such that

$$\theta_k(x_k) \leq \theta_k(x) + \epsilon \quad (16)$$

holds for any  $x \in S$ . Letting  $k \rightarrow +\infty$  in (16) and taking (15) and lemma 3.1 into account, we get  $\theta(x^*) \leq \theta(x) + \epsilon, \forall x \in S$ , which means  $x^* \in S^*$ .

### 3.3. Convergence of Stationary Points

**Theorem 3.2.** If  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} x_k = x^*$ , then  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \nabla \theta_k(x_k) = \nabla \theta(x^*)$ .

**Proof** Let  $B \subseteq S$  be a compact convex set containing the sequence  $x_k$ . By the continuity of  $F'_t, F''_{tx}, H, H'_t$ , and  $\nabla_x^2 F_j$  on the compact set  $B \times T$ , there exists a constant  $C \geq \sup\{\|x_k\|, k = 1, 2, \dots\}$  such that, for any  $(x, t) \in B \times T$ ,

$$\|F'_t\| \leq C, \quad (17)$$

$$\|F''_{tx}\| \leq C, \quad (18)$$

$$\|F'''_{xtx}\| \leq C, \quad (19)$$

$$\|H\| \leq C, j = 1, \dots, n, \quad (20)$$

$$\|H'_t\| \leq C, j = 1, \dots, n, \quad (21)$$

where  $F''_{tx}$  denotes the derivative of  $F(x, t)$  with respect to  $x, t$ . We first show that

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) \|F'_t(x_k, t_i) - F'_t(x^*, t_i)\| = 0. \quad (22)$$

In fact, from (10) and (11), we have

$$\frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) \|F'_t(x_k, t_i) - F'_t(x^*, t_i)\| \quad (23)$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) \|F'_t(x_k, t_i) - F'_t(x^*, t_i)\|_{\mathcal{F}} \quad (24)$$

$$\leq \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) \|F'_t(x_k, t_i)_j - F'_t(x^*, t_i)_j\|. \quad (25)$$

Moreover, for each  $x_k, \xi_i$  and any fixed  $j$ , from the mean-value theorem, there exists  $y_{kij} = \alpha_{kij}x_k + (1 - \alpha_{kij})\bar{x} \in B$  with  $\alpha_{kij} \in [0, 1]$  such that

$$\frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) \|F'_t(x_k, t_i)_j - F'_t(x^*, t_i)_j\| \quad (26)$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) \|F''_{tx}(y_{kij}, t_i)\| \|x_k - x^*\| \quad (27)$$

$$\leq C \|x_k - x^*\| \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) \quad (28)$$

$$\xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} 0, \quad (29)$$

where the second inequality follows from (18). (22) holds immediately from (23)-(29). In a similar way, it holds that

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) \|F(x_k, t_i) - F(x^*, t_i)\| = 0 \quad (30)$$

and

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) \|F'_x(x_k, t_i) - F'_x(x^*, t_i)\| = 0 \quad (31)$$

and

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) \|F''_{xt}(x_k, t_i) - F''_{xt}(x^*, t_i)\| = 0. \quad (32)$$

It then follows from (9), (30) and the non-expansive property of  $Proj_{S,G}$  that

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) \|H(x^*, t_i) - H(x_k, t_i)\| \\ & \leq \lambda_{\min}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) \|H(x^*, t_i) - H(x_k, t_i)\|_G \\ & \leq \lambda_{\min}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) \|(x^* - \alpha^{-1}G^{-1}F(x^*, t_i) \\ & \quad - (x_k - \alpha^{-1}G^{-1}F(x_k, t_i))\|_G \\ & \leq \lambda_{\max}^{\frac{1}{2}} \lambda_{\min}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) (\|x_k - x^*\| \\ & \quad + \alpha^{-1}\|G^{-1}\| \|F(x_k, t_i) - F(x^*, t_i)\|) \end{aligned}$$

So

$$\frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) \|H(x^*, t_i) - H(x_k, t_i)\| \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} 0. \quad (33)$$

On the other hand, by (18), (20), (32) and (33), we have

$$\frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) \|F''_{xt}(x_k, t_i)H(x_k, t_i) - F''_{xt}(x^*, t_i)H(x^*, t_i)\|$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) \|F''_{xt}(x_k, t_i)(H(x_k, t_i) - H(x^*, t_i)) \\
&\quad + (F''_{xt}(x_k, t_i) - F''_{xt}(x^*, t_i))H(x^*, t_i)\| \\
&\leq \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) (\|F''_{xt}(x_k, t_i)\| \|H(x_k, t_i) - H(x^*, t_i)\| \\
&\quad + \|F''_{xt}(x_k, t_i) - F''_{xt}(x^*, t_i)\| \|H(x^*, t_i)\|) \\
&\leq C \cdot \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) (\|H(x_k, t_i) - H(x^*, t_i)\| \\
&\quad + \|F''_{xt}(x_k, t_i) - F''_{xt}(x^*, t_i)\|) \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} 0.
\end{aligned}$$

Noting that  $C \geq \sup\{\|x_k\|, k = 1, 2, \dots\}$ , from (19) and (33), it implies that

$$\begin{aligned}
&\frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) \|F''_{xt}(x_k, t_i)x_k - F''_{xt}(x^*, t_i)x^*\| \\
&\leq \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) (\|F''_{xt}(x_k, t_i)x_k - F''_{xt}(x^*, t_i)\| \|x_k\| + \|F''_{xt}(x^*, \xi_i)\| \|x_k - x^*\|) \\
&\leq C \cdot \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) (\|F''_{xt}(x_k, t_i) - F''_{xt}(x^*, t_i)\| + \|x_k - x^*\|) \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} 0.
\end{aligned}$$

By the same way as (33), we have

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) \|H'_t(x_k, t_i) - H'_t(x^*, t_i)\| = 0. \quad (34)$$

Thus, following from (17), (21), (31) and (34), we can get

$$\begin{aligned}
&\frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) \|F'_x(x_k, t_i)H'_t(x_k, t_i) - F'_x(x^*, t_i)H'_t(x^*, t_i)\| \\
&= \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) \|F'_x(x_k, t_i)(H'_t(x_k, t_i) - H'_t(x^*, t_i)) \\
&\quad + (F'_x(x_k, t_i) - F'_x(x^*, t_i))H'_t(x^*, t_i)\| \\
&\leq \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) (\|F'_x(x_k, t_i)\| \|H'_t(x_k, t_i) - H'_t(x^*, t_i)\| \\
&\quad + \|F'_x(x_k, t_i) - F'_x(x^*, t_i)\| \|H'_t(x^*, t_i)\|) \\
&\leq C \cdot \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) (\|H'_t(x_k, t_i) \\
&\quad - H'_t(x^*, t_i)\| + \|F'_x(x_k, t_i) - F'_x(x^*, t_i)\|).
\end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) \|F'_x(x_k, t_i)H'_t(x_k, t_i) - F'_x(x^*, t_i)H'_t(x^*, t_i)\| \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} 0. \quad (35)$$

By (33)-(35), we have following naturally

$$\begin{aligned}
&\|\nabla \theta_k(x_k) - \nabla \theta_k(x^*)\| \\
&= \|\nabla_x g(x_k, t)\Phi(t)|_{t \in T} - \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) g''_{xt}(x_k, t_i)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& -\nabla_x g(x^*, t)\Phi(t)|_{t \in T} + \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) g''_{xt}(x^*, t_i) \| \\
& \leq |\nabla_x g(x_k, t)\Phi(t)|_{t \in T} - \nabla_x g(x^*, t)\Phi(t)|_{t \in T}| \\
& \quad + \left\| \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) (g''_{xt}(x_k, t_i) - g''_{xt}(x^*, t_i)) \right\| \\
& \leq |\nabla_x g(x_k, t)\Phi(t)|_{t \in T} - \nabla_x g(x^*, t)\Phi(t)|_{t \in T}| \\
& \quad + \left\| \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) ([F'_t(x_k, t_i) - F''_{xt}(x_k, t_i)(H(x_k, t_i) - x_k) \right. \\
& \quad \left. - (F'_x(x_k, t_i) - \alpha G)H'_t(x_k, t_i)] - [F'_t(x^*, t_i) - F''_{xt}(x^*, t_i)(H(x^*, t_i) - x^*) \right. \\
& \quad \left. - (F'_x(x^*, t_i) - \alpha G)H'_t(x^*, t_i)]) \right\| \\
& \leq |(\nabla_x g(x_k, t) - \nabla_x g(x^*, t))\Phi(t)|_{t \in T}| + \left\| \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) (\|F'_t(x_k, t_i) - F'_t(x^*, t_i)\| \right. \\
& \quad + \|F''_{xt}(x_k, t_i)H(x_k, t_i) - F''_{xt}(x^*, t_i)H(x^*, t_i)\| \\
& \quad + \|F''_{xt}(x_k, t_i)x_k - F''_{xt}(x^*, t_i)x^*\| \\
& \quad + \|(F'_x(x_k, t_i)H'_t(x_k, t_i) - (F'_x(x^*, t_i)H'_t(x^*, t_i))\| \\
& \quad \left. + \alpha \|G\| \|H'_t(x_k, t_i) - H'_t(x^*, t_i)\|) \right\| \\
& \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} 0.
\end{aligned}$$

Through integration by parts, we also know that

$$\begin{aligned}
\nabla \theta(x^*) &= E[\nabla_x g(x^*, \xi)] = \int_T \nabla_x g(x^*, t) d\Phi(t) \\
&= \nabla_x g(x^*, t)\Phi(t)|_{t \in T} - \int_T \Phi(t) g''_{xt}(x^*, t) dt.
\end{aligned}$$

Notice that

$$\nabla \theta_k(x^*) = \nabla_x g(x^*, t)\Phi(t)|_{t \in T} - \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) g''_{xt}(x^*, t_i).$$

Owing to

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{t_i \in T_k} \Phi(t_i) g''_{xt}(x^*, t_i) = \int_T \Phi(t) g''_{xt}(x^*, t) dt.$$

So it is easy to see that  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \nabla \theta_k(x^*) = \nabla \theta(x^*)$ . Thus, It is clear that

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \nabla \theta_k(x_k) = \nabla \theta(x^*).$$

**Definition 3.1.** Suppose that  $S = \{x \in R^n | c(x) \leq 0\}$ , where  $c_i : R^n \rightarrow R, i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ , are all continuously differentiable convex functions. A point  $x_k$  is said to be stationary of (7) if there exists a Lagrange multiplier vector  $\mu_k \in R^m$  such that

$$\nabla \theta_k(x_k) + \sum_{i=1}^m (\mu_i)_k \nabla c_i(x_k) = 0, \quad (36)$$

$$0 \leq \mu_k, c(x_k) \leq 0 \text{ and } (\mu_k)^T c(x_k) = 0. \quad (37)$$

$x^*$  is said to be a stationary point of (2) if there exists a Lagrange multiplier vector  $\mu^* \in R^m$  such that

$$\nabla \theta(x^*) + \sum_{i=1}^m \mu_i^* \nabla c_i(x^*) = 0, \quad (38)$$



$$0 \leq \mu^*, c(x^*) \leq 0 \text{ and } (\mu^*)^T c(x^*) = 0. \quad (39)$$

**Definition 3.2.** The Slater's constraint qualification holds if there exists a vector  $y \in R^n$  such that  $c_i(y) < 0$  for each  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ .

**Theorem 3.3.** Let  $x_k$  be stationary to (7) for each  $k$  and  $x^*$  be an accumulation point of  $\{x_k\}$ . If the Slater constraint qualification holds, then  $x^*$  is stationary to problem (2).

**Proof** Without loss of generality, we assume that  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} x_k = x^*$ . Let  $\mu_k$  be the corresponding multiplier vector satisfying (36)-(37).

(i) We first show that the sequence  $\{\mu_k\}$  is bounded. To this end, we denote

$$v_k := \sum_{i=1}^m (\mu_i)_k. \quad (40)$$

Let  $\{\mu_k\}$  be unbounded, which means  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} v_k = +\infty$ . Taking a subsequence, we may assume that the limits  $\mu_i^* := \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(\mu_i)_k}{v_k}$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ ) exist. For every  $i \notin \Upsilon(x^*) := \{i | c_i(x^*) = 0, 1 \leq i \leq m\}$ , it holds  $c_i(x^*) < 0$  by (37), further more  $(\mu_i^*)^T c_i(x^*) = 0$ , it holds  $\mu_i^* = 0$ . Then, from (40),

$$\sum_{i \in \Upsilon(x^*)} \mu_i^* = \sum_{i=1}^m \mu_i^* = 1. \quad (41)$$

Note that  $\nabla c_i$  is continuous for each  $i$  and  $\{\nabla \theta_k(x_k)\}$  is convergent by theorem 3.2. Because of  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} v_k = +\infty$ ,  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\nabla \theta_k(x_k)}{v_k} \rightarrow 0$ . Dividing (36) by  $v_k$  and taking a limit, we obtain

$$\sum_{i \in \Upsilon(x^*)} \mu_i^* \nabla c_i(x^*) = \sum_{i=1}^m \mu_i^* \nabla c_i(x^*) = 0. \quad (42)$$

Owing to the Slater's constraint qualification, there exists a vector  $y \in R^n$  such that  $c_i(y) < 0$  for each  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ . Noting that each  $c_i$  is convex, we have

$$(y - x^*)^T \nabla c_i(x^*) \leq c_i(y) - c_i(x^*) = c_i(y) < 0, \quad (43)$$

$$\forall i \in \Upsilon(x^*). \quad (44)$$

From (42) and  $\mu_i^* \geq 0$  for each  $i$  by (37), we get  $\mu_i^* \nabla c_i(x^*) = 0$ . Furthermore,  $\nabla c_i(x^*) \neq 0$  from (43), it implies that  $\mu_i^* = 0$  for each  $i \in \Upsilon(x^*)$ . This contradicts (41). Hence  $\{\mu_k\}$  is bounded.

(ii) By (i),  $\mu_k$  exists a subsequence such that  $\mu^* := \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \mu_k$ , we still denote it as  $\mu_k$ . Note that both  $c_i$  and  $\nabla c_i$  are continuous for each  $i$ , by Theorem 3.2, it holds  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \nabla \theta_k(x^*) = \nabla \theta(x^*)$ . Taking a limit in (36) and (37), we obtain (38) and (39) immediately. Therefore,  $x^*$  is stationary to problem (2).

### Acknowledgements

This work was supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (No.71561001), the Major Projects of North Minzu University (ZDZX201805), First-Class Disciplines Foundation of Ningxia (Grant No.NXYLXK2017B09).

## REFERENCES

- [1] Y. Yao, R.D. Chen and H.K. XU, Schemes for finding minimum-norm solutions of variational inequalities, *Nonlinear Anal.*, **72**(2010), No. 7, 3447-3456.
- [2] Y. Yao and M. Postolache, Iterative methods for pseudomonotone variational inequalities and fixed point problems, *J. Optim. Theory Appl.*, **155**(2012), No. 1, 273-287.
- [3] Y. Yao, J.I. Kang and Y.J. Cho, Composite schemes for variational inequalities over equilibrium problems and variational inclusions, *J.Inequal Appl.*, **2013**(2013), No. 1, 1-17.
- [4] B. S. Thakur and M. Postolache, Existence and approximation of solutions for generalized extended nonlinear variational inequalities, *J. Inequal. Appl.*, **2013**(2013), Art. No. 590.
- [5] Y. Yao, M. Postolache and Y.C. Liou, Variant extragradient-type method for monotone variational inequalities, *Fixed Point Theory Appl.*, **2013**(2013), Art. No. 185.
- [6] Y. Yao, M. Postolache, Y.C. Liou and Z. Yao, Construction algorithms for a class of monotone variational inequalities, *Optim. Lett.*, **10**(2016), No. 7, 1519-1528.
- [7] Y.H. Yao, Y.C. Liou and J.C. Yao, Iterative algorithms for the split variational inequality and fixed point problems under nonlinear transformations, *J. Nonlinear Sci. Appl.*, **10**(2017), No. 2, 843-854.
- [8] Y.H. Yao and X.X. Zheng, The split variational inequality problem and its algorithm iteration, *J. Nonlinear Sci. Appl.*, **10**(2017), No. 5, 2649-2661.
- [9] H. Jiang and H. Xu, Stochastic approximation approaches to the stochastic variational inequality problems, *IEEE Trans. Autom. Control.*, **53**(2008), No. 6, 1462-1475.
- [10] A. Shapiro and H. Xu, Stochastic mathematical programs with equilibrium constraints, modelling and sample average approximation. *Optimization.*, **57**(2008), No. 3, 395-418.
- [11] H. Xu, Sample average approximation methods for a class of stochastic variational inequality problems. *Asia Pac. J. Oper. Res.*, **27**(2010), No. 1, 103-119.
- [12] M.J. Luo and G.H. Lin, Stochastic variational inequality problems with additional constraints and their applications in supply chain network equilibria. *Pac J Optim.*, **7**(2011), No. 3, 263-279.
- [13] S. Chen, L.P. Pang and F.F. Guo, Stochastic methods based on Newton method to the stochastic variational inequality problem with constraint conditions. *Math. Comput. Model.*, **55**(2012), No. 3, 779-784.
- [14] B. Liu, *Uncertainty Theory*, 4nd edn, Springer, Berlin, 2015.
- [15] Q.Q. Chen and Y.G. Zhu, A class of uncertain variational inequality problems, *J. Inequal. Appl.*, **2015**(2015), Art. No. 231.
- [16] C.L. Li and Z.F. Jia, Expected residual minimization method for uncertain variational inequality problems. *J.Nonlinear Sci.Appl.*, **10**(2017), No. 11, 5958-5975.
- [17] M. Fukushima, Equivalent differentiable optimization problems and descent methods for asymmetric variational inequality problems, *Math. Program.*, **53**(1992), No. 3, 99-110.
- [18] H. Niederreiter, *Random Number Generation and Quasi-Monte Carlo Methods*. SIAM, Philadelphia, 1992.