Constant Step Scheme II for the Optimal Gradient MethodStep 0:Choose $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$, set $y_0 := x_0$ and k := 0.Step 1:Compute $f'(y_k)$.Step 2:Set $x_{k+1} := y_k - \frac{1}{L}f'(y_k)$.Step 3:Set $y_{k+1} := x_{k+1} + \frac{\sqrt{L} - \sqrt{\mu}}{\sqrt{L} + \sqrt{\mu}}(x_{k+1} - x_k), k := k + 1$ and go to Step 1.

You can find a variation of this method for instance in: C. C. Gonzaga and E. W. Karas, "Fine tuning Nesterov's steepest descent algorithm for differentiable convex programming," *Mathematical Programming*, **138** (2013), pp. 141–166.

9.1 Exercises

- 1. Complete the proof of Lemma 9.3.
- 2. We want to justify the Constant Step Scheme I of the Optimal Gradient Method. This is a particular case of the General Scheme for the Optimal Gradient Method for the following choice:

$$\begin{split} \gamma_{k+1} &:= L\alpha_k^2 = (1 - \alpha_k)\gamma_k + \alpha_k\mu \\ \boldsymbol{y}_k &= \frac{\alpha_k\gamma_k\boldsymbol{v}_k + \gamma_{k+1}\boldsymbol{x}_k}{\gamma_k + \alpha_k\mu} \\ \boldsymbol{x}_{k+1} &= \boldsymbol{y}_k - \frac{1}{L}f'(\boldsymbol{y}_k) \\ \boldsymbol{v}_{k+1} &= \frac{(1 - \alpha_k)\gamma_k\boldsymbol{v}_k + \alpha_k\mu\boldsymbol{y}_k - \alpha_kf'(\boldsymbol{y}_k)}{\gamma_{k+1}} \end{split}$$

(a) Show that
$$\boldsymbol{v}_{k+1} = \boldsymbol{x}_k + \frac{1}{\alpha_k} (\boldsymbol{x}_{k+1} - \boldsymbol{x}_k).$$

(b) Show that $\boldsymbol{y}_{k+1} = \boldsymbol{x}_{k+1} + \beta_k (\boldsymbol{x}_{k+1} - \boldsymbol{x}_k)$ for $\beta_k = \frac{\alpha_{k+1}\gamma_{k+1}(1-\alpha_k)}{\alpha_k(\gamma_{k+1}+\alpha_{k+1}\mu)}.$

(c) Show that $\beta_k = \frac{\alpha_k (1-\alpha_k)}{\alpha_k^2 + \alpha_{k+1}}$. (d) Explain why $\alpha_{k+1}^2 = (1 - \alpha_{k+1})\alpha_k^2 + \frac{\mu}{L}\alpha_{k+1}$.

10 Extension of the Optimal Gradient Method (First-Order Method, Accelerated Gradient Method, Fast Gradient Method) for "Simple" Convex Sets

We are interested now to solve the following problem:

$$\begin{cases} \text{minimize} & f(\boldsymbol{x}) \\ \text{subject to} & \boldsymbol{x} \in Q \end{cases}$$
(15)

where $f : \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$ and Q is a <u>closed convex</u> subset of \mathbb{R}^n , <u>simple enough</u> to have an easy projection onto it, *e.g.*, positive orthant, *n* dimensional box, simplex, Euclidean ball, *etc.*

Lemma 10.1 Let $f \in \mathcal{F}^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$ and Q be a closed convex set. The point x^* is a solution of (15) if and only if

$$\langle f'(\boldsymbol{x}^*), \boldsymbol{x} - \boldsymbol{x}^* \rangle \ge 0, \quad \forall \boldsymbol{x} \in Q.$$

Proof:

Indeed, if the inequality is true,

$$f(\boldsymbol{x}) \geq f(\boldsymbol{x}^*) + \langle f'(\boldsymbol{x}^*), \boldsymbol{x} - \boldsymbol{x}^* \rangle \geq f(\boldsymbol{x}^*) \quad \forall \boldsymbol{x} \in Q.$$

For the converse, let x^* be an optimal solution of the minimization problem (15). Assume by contradiction that there is a $x \in Q$ such that $\langle f'(x^*), x - x^* \rangle < 0$. Consider the function $\phi(\alpha) = f(\boldsymbol{x}^* + \alpha(\boldsymbol{x} - \boldsymbol{x}^*))$ for $\alpha \in [0, 1]$. Since $\boldsymbol{x}^*, \boldsymbol{x} \in Q$ and Q is a convex set, $\boldsymbol{x}^* + \alpha(\boldsymbol{x} - \boldsymbol{x}^*) \in Q$, for $\forall \alpha \in [0,1]$. Then, $\phi(0) = f(\boldsymbol{x}^*)$ and $\phi'(0) = \langle f'(\boldsymbol{x}^*), \boldsymbol{x} - \boldsymbol{x}^* \rangle < 0$. Therefore, for $\alpha > 0$ small enough, we have

$$f(x^* + \alpha(x - x^*)) = \phi(\alpha) < \phi(0) = f(x^*)$$

which is a contradiction.

Lemma 10.2 Let $f \in \mathcal{S}^1_{\mu}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ with $\mu > 0$, and Q be a closed convex set. Then there exists a unique solution x^* for the problem (15).

Proof: Left for exercise.

Definition 10.3 Let $f \in \mathcal{C}^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$, Q a closed convex set, $\bar{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, and $\gamma > 0$. Denote by

$$\begin{aligned} \boldsymbol{x}_Q(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}};\gamma) &:= & \arg\min_{\boldsymbol{y}\in Q} \left[f(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}}) + \langle f'(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}}), \boldsymbol{y} - \bar{\boldsymbol{x}} \rangle + \frac{\gamma}{2} \| \boldsymbol{y} - \bar{\boldsymbol{x}} \|_2^2 \right], \\ \boldsymbol{g}_Q(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}};\gamma) &:= & \gamma(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}} - \boldsymbol{x}_Q(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}};\gamma)). \end{aligned}$$

We call $\boldsymbol{g}_Q(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}};\gamma)$ the gradient mapping of f on Q. Observe that due to Lemma 10.2, $\boldsymbol{x}_Q(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}};\gamma)$ exists and it is uniquely defined.

In the case $Q \equiv \mathbb{R}^n$, notice that $\boldsymbol{x}_Q(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}};\gamma) = \bar{\boldsymbol{x}} - \frac{1}{\gamma}f'(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}})$ and $\boldsymbol{g}_Q(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}};\gamma) = f'(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}})$. Therefore, they take the roles of x_{k+1} and $f'(y_k)$ in the Constant Step Scheme I for the Optimal Gradient Method, respectively.

Theorem 10.4 Let $f \in \mathcal{S}_{\mu,L}^{1,1}(\mathbb{R}^n)$, $\gamma \geq L$, $\gamma > 0$, Q a closed convex set, and $\bar{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$. Then

$$f(\boldsymbol{x}) \geq f(\boldsymbol{x}_Q(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}};\gamma)) + \langle \boldsymbol{g}_Q(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}};\gamma), \boldsymbol{x} - \bar{\boldsymbol{x}} \rangle + \frac{1}{2\gamma} \| \boldsymbol{g}_Q(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}};\gamma) \|_2^2 + \frac{\mu}{2} \| \boldsymbol{x} - \bar{\boldsymbol{x}} \|_2^2, \quad \forall \boldsymbol{x} \in Q.$$

Proof:

Let us use the following notation $x_Q := x_Q(\bar{x}; \gamma)$ and $g_Q := g_Q(\bar{x}; \gamma)$. Consider $\phi(x) :=$ $f(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}}) + \langle f'(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}}), \boldsymbol{x} - \bar{\boldsymbol{x}} \rangle + \frac{\gamma}{2} \| \boldsymbol{x} - \bar{\boldsymbol{x}} \|_2^2.$

Then $\phi'(\boldsymbol{x}) = f'(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}}) + \gamma(\boldsymbol{x} - \bar{\boldsymbol{x}})$. Therefore $\forall \boldsymbol{x} \in Q$, we have

$$\langle \phi'(\boldsymbol{x}_Q), \boldsymbol{x} - \boldsymbol{x}_Q \rangle = \langle f'(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}}) + \gamma(\boldsymbol{x}_Q - \bar{\boldsymbol{x}}), \boldsymbol{x} - \boldsymbol{x}_Q \rangle = \langle f'(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}}) - \boldsymbol{g}_Q, \boldsymbol{x} - \boldsymbol{x}_Q \rangle \ge 0$$

due to Lemma 10.1.

Hence, $\forall \boldsymbol{x} \in Q$,

$$\begin{aligned} f(\boldsymbol{x}) &- \frac{\mu}{2} \|\boldsymbol{x} - \bar{\boldsymbol{x}}\|_2^2 &\geq f(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}}) + \langle f'(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}}), \boldsymbol{x} - \bar{\boldsymbol{x}} \rangle \\ &= f(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}}) + \langle f'(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}}), \boldsymbol{x} - \boldsymbol{x}_Q \rangle + \langle f'(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}}), \boldsymbol{x}_Q - \bar{\boldsymbol{x}} \rangle \\ &\geq f(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}}) + \langle \boldsymbol{g}_Q, \boldsymbol{x} - \boldsymbol{x}_Q \rangle + \langle f'(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}}), \boldsymbol{x}_Q - \bar{\boldsymbol{x}} \rangle \\ &= \phi(\boldsymbol{x}_Q) - \frac{\gamma}{2} \|\boldsymbol{x}_Q - \bar{\boldsymbol{x}}\|_2^2 + \langle \boldsymbol{g}_Q, \boldsymbol{x} - \boldsymbol{x}_Q \rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$= \phi(\boldsymbol{x}_Q) - \frac{1}{2\gamma} \|\boldsymbol{g}_Q\|_2^2 + \langle \boldsymbol{g}_Q, \boldsymbol{x} - \boldsymbol{x}_Q \rangle$$

$$= \phi(\boldsymbol{x}_Q) - \frac{1}{2\gamma} \|\boldsymbol{g}_Q\|_2^2 + \langle \boldsymbol{g}_Q, \bar{\boldsymbol{x}} - \boldsymbol{x}_Q \rangle + \langle \boldsymbol{g}_Q, \boldsymbol{x} - \bar{\boldsymbol{x}} \rangle$$

$$= \phi(\boldsymbol{x}_Q) + \frac{1}{2\gamma} \|\boldsymbol{g}_Q\|_2^2 + \langle \boldsymbol{g}_Q, \boldsymbol{x} - \bar{\boldsymbol{x}} \rangle.$$

Since $\gamma \geq L$, we have $\phi(\boldsymbol{x}_Q) \geq f(\boldsymbol{x}_Q)$ from Lemma 3.4, and the result follows.

We are ready to define our estimated sequence. Assume that $f \in \mathcal{S}_{\mu,L}^{1,1}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ possible with $\mu = 0$ (which means that $f \in \mathcal{F}_L^{1,1}(\mathbb{R}^n)$), $\boldsymbol{x}_0 \in Q$, and $\gamma_0 > 0$. Define

$$\begin{split} \phi_0(\boldsymbol{x}) &:= f(\boldsymbol{x}_0) + \frac{\gamma_0}{2} \|\boldsymbol{x} - \boldsymbol{x}_0\|_2^2, \\ \phi_{k+1}(\boldsymbol{x}) &:= (1 - \alpha_k)\phi_k(\boldsymbol{x}) + \alpha_k \left[f(\boldsymbol{x}_Q(\boldsymbol{y}_k; L)) + \frac{1}{2L} \|\boldsymbol{g}_Q(\boldsymbol{y}_k; L)\|_2^2 + \langle \boldsymbol{g}_Q(\boldsymbol{y}_k; L), \boldsymbol{x} - \boldsymbol{y}_k \rangle \right. \\ &+ \frac{\mu}{2} \|\boldsymbol{x} - \boldsymbol{y}_k\|_2^2 \right], \end{split}$$

for the sequences $\{\alpha_k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$ and $\{\boldsymbol{y}_k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$ which will be defined later. Similarly to the previous subsection, we can prove that $\{\phi_k(\boldsymbol{x})\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$ can be written in the form

$$\phi_k(\boldsymbol{x}) = \phi_k^* + \frac{\gamma_k}{2} \|\boldsymbol{x} - \boldsymbol{v}_k\|_2^2$$

for $\phi_0^* = f(x_0), v_0 = x_0$:

$$\begin{split} \gamma_{k+1} &= (1-\alpha_k)\gamma_k + \alpha_k\mu \\ \boldsymbol{v}_{k+1} &= \frac{1}{\gamma_{k+1}}[(1-\alpha_k)\gamma_k\boldsymbol{v}_k + \alpha_k\mu\boldsymbol{y}_k - \alpha_k\boldsymbol{g}_Q(\boldsymbol{y}_k;L)], \\ \phi_{k+1}^* &= (1-\alpha_k)\phi_k^* + \alpha_k f(\boldsymbol{x}_Q(\boldsymbol{y}_k;L)) + \left(\frac{\alpha_k}{2L} - \frac{\alpha_k^2}{2\gamma_{k+1}}\right) \|\boldsymbol{g}_Q(\boldsymbol{y}_k;L)\|_2^2 \\ &+ \frac{\alpha_k(1-\alpha_k)\gamma_k}{\gamma_{k+1}} \left(\frac{\mu}{2}\|\boldsymbol{y}_k - \boldsymbol{v}_k\|_2^2 + \langle \boldsymbol{g}_Q(\boldsymbol{y}_k;L), \boldsymbol{v}_k - \boldsymbol{y}_k \rangle \right). \end{split}$$

Now, $\phi_0^* \ge f(\boldsymbol{x}_0)$. Assuming that $\phi_k^* \ge f(\boldsymbol{x}_k)$,

$$\begin{split} \phi_{k+1}^{*} &\geq (1-\alpha_{k})f(\boldsymbol{x}_{k}) + \alpha_{k}f(\boldsymbol{x}_{Q}(\boldsymbol{y}_{k};L)) + \left(\frac{\alpha_{k}}{2L} - \frac{\alpha_{k}^{2}}{2\gamma_{k+1}}\right) \|\boldsymbol{g}_{Q}(\boldsymbol{y}_{k};L)\|_{2}^{2} \\ &+ \frac{\alpha_{k}(1-\alpha_{k})\gamma_{k}}{\gamma_{k+1}} \langle \boldsymbol{g}_{Q}(\boldsymbol{y}_{k};L), \boldsymbol{v}_{k} - \boldsymbol{y}_{k} \rangle \\ &\geq f(\boldsymbol{x}_{Q}(\boldsymbol{y}_{k};L)) + \left(\frac{1}{2L} - \frac{\alpha_{k}^{2}}{2\gamma_{k+1}}\right) \|\boldsymbol{g}_{Q}(\boldsymbol{y}_{k};L)\|_{2}^{2} \\ &+ (1-\alpha_{k}) \left\langle \boldsymbol{g}_{Q}(\boldsymbol{y}_{k};L), \frac{\alpha_{k}\gamma_{k}}{\gamma_{k+1}}(\boldsymbol{v}_{k} - \boldsymbol{y}_{k}) + \boldsymbol{x}_{k} - \boldsymbol{y}_{k} \right\rangle + \frac{(1-\alpha_{k})\mu}{2} \|\boldsymbol{x}_{k} - \boldsymbol{y}_{k}\|_{2}^{2}, \end{split}$$

where the last inequality follows from Theorem 10.4.

Therefore, if we choose

$$\begin{aligned} \boldsymbol{x}_{k+1} &= \boldsymbol{x}_Q(\boldsymbol{y}_k; L), \\ L\alpha_k^2 &= (1 - \alpha_k)\gamma_k + \alpha_k\mu, \\ \gamma_{k+1} &:= L\alpha_k^2, \\ \boldsymbol{y}_k &= \frac{1}{\gamma_k + \alpha_k\mu}(\alpha_k\gamma_k\boldsymbol{v}_k + \gamma_{k+1}\boldsymbol{x}_k), \end{aligned}$$

we obtain $\phi_{k+1}^* \ge f(\boldsymbol{x}_{k+1})$ as desired.

Hereafter, we assume that $L > \mu$ to exclude the trivial case $L = \mu$ with finished in one iteration.

The rate of converge of this algorithm is exactly the same as the previous ones, but it is necessary to solve a convex program in Step 2 for each iteration.

10.1 Exercises

1. Prove Lemma 10.2

11 Extension for the Min-Max Problem

Given $f_i \in \mathcal{S}_{\mu,L}^{1,1,}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ (i = 1, 2, ..., m), we define the following function $f : \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$,

$$f(\boldsymbol{x}) := \max_{1 \le i \le m} f_i(\boldsymbol{x}) \quad \text{for} \quad \boldsymbol{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

This function is non-differentiable in general, but we will see that the method discussed so far can be easily adapted for the following min-max-type convex optimization problem.

$$\begin{cases} \text{minimize} & f(\boldsymbol{x}) \\ \text{subject to} & \boldsymbol{x} \in Q, \end{cases}$$
(16)

where Q is a <u>closed convex set</u> with a "simple" structure, and f(x) is defined as above.

For a given $\bar{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, let us define the following linearization of f(x) at \bar{x} .

$$f(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}}; \boldsymbol{x}) := \max_{1 \le i \le m} \left[f_i(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}}) + \langle f'_i(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}}), \boldsymbol{x} - \bar{\boldsymbol{x}} \rangle
ight], \quad \text{for } \boldsymbol{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

Lemma 11.1 Let $f_i \in \mathcal{S}_{\mu,L}^{1,1}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ (i = 1, 2, ..., m). For $\boldsymbol{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, we have

$$f(\boldsymbol{x}) \ge f(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}}; \boldsymbol{x}) + rac{\mu}{2} \| \boldsymbol{x} - \bar{\boldsymbol{x}} \|_2^2,$$

 $f(\boldsymbol{x}) \le f(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}}; \boldsymbol{x}) + rac{L}{2} \| \boldsymbol{x} - \bar{\boldsymbol{x}} \|_2^2.$

Proof:

It follows from the properties of $f_i \in \mathcal{S}^{1,1}_{\mu,L}(\mathbb{R}^n)$.

Theorem 11.2 A point $x^* \in Q$ is an optimal solution of (16), if and only if

$$f(\boldsymbol{x}^*; \boldsymbol{x}) \ge f(\boldsymbol{x}^*; \boldsymbol{x}^*) = f(\boldsymbol{x}^*), \quad \forall \boldsymbol{x} \in Q.$$

Proof:

It can be proved similarly to Lemma 10.1.

Corollary 11.3 Let x^* be a minimum of a max-type function f(x) over the set Q. If $f \in \mathcal{S}^1_{\mu}(\mathbb{R}^n)$, then,

$$f(\boldsymbol{x}) \ge f(\boldsymbol{x}^*) + \frac{\mu}{2} \|\boldsymbol{x} - \boldsymbol{x}^*\|_2^2, \quad \forall \boldsymbol{x} \in Q.$$

Proof:

From Lemma 11.1 and Theorem 11.2, we have $\forall x \in Q$,

$$egin{array}{rll} f(m{x}) &\geq & f(m{x}^*;m{x})+rac{\mu}{2}\|m{x}-m{x}^*\|_2^2 \ &\geq & f(m{x}^*;m{x}^*)+rac{\mu}{2}\|m{x}-m{x}^*\|_2^2=f(m{x}^*)+rac{\mu}{2}\|m{x}-m{x}^*\|_2^2. \end{array}$$

Lemma 11.4 Let $f_i \in \mathcal{S}^1_{\mu}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ for (i = 1, 2, ..., m) with $\mu > 0$ and Q be a closed convex set. Then there is a unique solution \boldsymbol{x}^* for the problem (16).

Proof:

Again, the proof is similar to the one of Lemma 10.2.

Definition 11.5 Let $f_i \in \mathcal{C}^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$ (i = 1, 2, ..., m), Q a closed convex set, $\bar{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, and $\gamma > 0$. Denote by

$$\begin{aligned} \boldsymbol{x}_f(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}};\gamma) &:= & \arg\min_{\boldsymbol{y}\in Q} \left[f(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}};\boldsymbol{y}) + \frac{\gamma}{2} \|\boldsymbol{y} - \bar{\boldsymbol{x}}\|_2^2 \right], \\ \boldsymbol{g}_f(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}};\gamma) &:= & \gamma(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}} - \boldsymbol{x}_f(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}};\gamma)). \end{aligned}$$

We call $\boldsymbol{g}_f(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}};\gamma)$ the gradient mapping of max-type function f on Q. Observe that due to Lemma 11.4, $\boldsymbol{x}_f(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}};\gamma)$ exists and it is uniquely defined since $f_i(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}}) + \langle f'_i(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}}), \boldsymbol{x} - \bar{\boldsymbol{x}} \rangle + \frac{\gamma}{2} \|\boldsymbol{y} - \bar{\boldsymbol{x}}\|_2^2 \in S^1_{\mu}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ (i = 1, 2, ..., m).

Notice also that when m = 1, the above definition coincides with Definition 10.3.

Theorem 11.6 Let $f_i \in \mathcal{S}_{\mu,L}^{1,1}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ $(i = 1, 2, ..., m), \gamma \geq L, \gamma > 0, Q$ a closed convex set, and $\bar{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$. Then

$$f(\boldsymbol{x}) \geq f(\boldsymbol{x}_f(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}};\gamma)) + \langle \boldsymbol{g}_f(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}};\gamma), \boldsymbol{x} - \bar{\boldsymbol{x}} \rangle + \frac{1}{2\gamma} \|\boldsymbol{g}_f(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}};\gamma)\|_2^2 + \frac{\mu}{2} \|\boldsymbol{x} - \bar{\boldsymbol{x}}\|_2^2, \quad \forall \boldsymbol{x} \in Q.$$

Proof: Let us use the following notation: $\boldsymbol{x}_f := \boldsymbol{x}_f(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}}; \gamma)$ and $\boldsymbol{g}_f := \boldsymbol{g}_f(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}}; \gamma)$.

From Lemma 11.1 and Corollary 11.3 (taking $f(\boldsymbol{x})$ in there as $f(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}}; \boldsymbol{x}) + \frac{\gamma}{2} \|\boldsymbol{x} - \bar{\boldsymbol{x}}\|_2^2$), we have $\forall \boldsymbol{x} \in Q$,

$$\begin{aligned} f(\boldsymbol{x}) &- \frac{\mu}{2} \| \boldsymbol{x} - \bar{\boldsymbol{x}} \|_{2}^{2} &\geq f(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}}; \boldsymbol{x}) \\ &= f(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}}; \boldsymbol{x}) + \frac{\gamma}{2} \| \boldsymbol{x} - \bar{\boldsymbol{x}} \|_{2}^{2} - \frac{\gamma}{2} \| \boldsymbol{x} - \bar{\boldsymbol{x}} \|_{2}^{2} \\ &\geq f(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}}; \boldsymbol{x}_{f}) + \frac{\gamma}{2} \| \boldsymbol{x}_{f} - \bar{\boldsymbol{x}} \|_{2}^{2} + \frac{\gamma}{2} \| \boldsymbol{x} - \boldsymbol{x}_{f} \|_{2}^{2} - \frac{\gamma}{2} \| \boldsymbol{x} - \bar{\boldsymbol{x}} \|_{2}^{2} \\ &= f(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}}; \boldsymbol{x}_{f}) + \frac{\gamma}{2} \| \boldsymbol{x}_{f} - \bar{\boldsymbol{x}} \|_{2}^{2} + \frac{\gamma}{2} \langle \bar{\boldsymbol{x}} - \boldsymbol{x}_{f}, 2\boldsymbol{x} - \boldsymbol{x}_{f} - \bar{\boldsymbol{x}} \rangle \\ &= f(\bar{\boldsymbol{x}}; \boldsymbol{x}_{f}) + \frac{\gamma}{2} \| \boldsymbol{x}_{f} - \bar{\boldsymbol{x}} \|_{2}^{2} + \frac{\gamma}{2} \langle \bar{\boldsymbol{x}} - \boldsymbol{x}_{f}, 2(\boldsymbol{x} - \bar{\boldsymbol{x}}) + \bar{\boldsymbol{x}} - \boldsymbol{x}_{f} \rangle \end{aligned}$$