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# Viscosity approximation methods for nonexpansive semigroups in CAT(0) spaces

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## Abstract

In this paper, we study the strong convergence of Moudafi's viscosity approximation methods for approximating a common fixed point of a one-parameter continuous semigroup of nonexpansive mappings in CAT(0) spaces. We prove that the proposed iterative scheme converges strongly to a common fixed point of a one-parameter continuous semigroup of nonexpansive mappings which is also a unique solution of the variational inequality. The results presented in this paper extend and enrich the existing literature.

**Keywords:** viscosity approximation method; nonexpansive semigroup; variational inequality; CAT(0) space; common fixed point

## 1 Introduction

Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space. A *geodesic path* joining  $x \in X$  to  $y \in X$  (or, more briefly, a *geodesic* from  $x$  to  $y$ ) is a map  $c$  from a closed interval  $[0, l] \subset \mathbb{R}$  to  $X$  such that  $c(0) = x$ ,  $c(l) = y$ , and  $d(c(t), c(t')) = |t - t'|$  for all  $t, t' \in [0, l]$ . In particular,  $c$  is an isometry and  $d(x, y) = l$ . The image  $\alpha$  of  $c$  is called a *geodesic* (or metric) *segment* joining  $x$  and  $y$ . When it is unique, this geodesic segment is denoted by  $[x, y]$ . The space  $(X, d)$  is said to be a *geodesic space* if every two points of  $X$  are joined by a geodesic, and  $X$  is said to be *uniquely geodesic* if there is exactly one geodesic joining  $x$  and  $y$  for each  $x, y \in X$ . A subset  $Y \subseteq X$  is said to be *convex* if  $Y$  includes every geodesic segment joining any two of its points. A geodesic triangle  $\Delta(x_1, x_2, x_3)$  in a geodesic metric space  $(X, d)$  consists of three points  $x_1, x_2, x_3$  in  $X$  (the vertices of  $\Delta$ ) and a geodesic segment between each pair of vertices (the edges of  $\Delta$ ). A comparison triangle for the geodesic triangle  $\Delta(x_1, x_2, x_3)$  in  $(X, d)$  is a triangle  $\bar{\Delta}(x_1, x_2, x_3) := \Delta(\bar{x}_1, \bar{x}_2, \bar{x}_3)$  in the Euclidean plane  $\mathbb{E}^2$  such that  $d_{\mathbb{E}^2}(\bar{x}_i, \bar{x}_j) = d(x_i, x_j)$  for all  $i, j \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ .

A geodesic space is said to be a CAT(0) space if all geodesic triangles of appropriate size satisfy the following comparison axiom.

CAT(0): Let  $\Delta$  be a geodesic triangle in  $X$  and let  $\bar{\Delta}$  be a comparison triangle for  $\Delta$ . Then  $\Delta$  is said to satisfy the CAT(0) *inequality* if for all  $x, y \in \Delta$  and all comparison points  $\bar{x}, \bar{y} \in \bar{\Delta}$ ,

$$d(x, y) \leq d_{\mathbb{E}^2}(\bar{x}, \bar{y}).$$

If  $x, y_1, y_2$  are points in a CAT(0) space and if  $y_0$  is the midpoint of the segment  $[y_1, y_2]$ , then the CAT(0) inequality implies

$$d^2(x, y_0) \leq \frac{1}{2}d^2(x, y_1) + \frac{1}{2}d^2(x, y_2) - \frac{1}{4}d^2(y_1, y_2). \tag{1.1}$$

This is the (CN)-inequality of Bruhat and Tits [1]. In fact (cf. [2], p.163), a geodesic space is a CAT(0) space if and only if it satisfies the (CN)-inequality.

It is well known that any complete, simply connected Riemannian manifold having non-positive sectional curvature is a CAT(0) space. Other examples include pre-Hilbert spaces,  $\mathbb{R}$ -trees (see [2]), Euclidean buildings (see [3]), the complex Hilbert ball with a hyperbolic metric (see [4]), and many others. Complete CAT(0) spaces are often called Hadamard spaces.

It is proved in [2] that a normed linear space satisfies the (CN)-inequality if and only if it satisfies the parallelogram identity, i.e., is a pre-Hilbert space; hence it is not so unusual to have an inner product-like notion in Hadamard spaces. Berg and Nikolaev [5] introduced the concept of quasilinearization as follows.

Let us formally denote a pair  $(a, b) \in X \times X$  by  $\vec{ab}$  and call it a vector. Then *quasilinearization* is defined as a map  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle : (X \times X) \times (X \times X) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defined by

$$\langle \vec{ab}, \vec{cd} \rangle = \frac{1}{2}(d^2(a, d) + d^2(b, c) - d^2(a, c) - d^2(b, d)) \quad (a, b, c, d \in X). \tag{1.2}$$

It is easily seen that  $\langle \vec{ab}, \vec{cd} \rangle = \langle \vec{cd}, \vec{ab} \rangle$ ,  $\langle \vec{ab}, \vec{cd} \rangle = -\langle \vec{ba}, \vec{cd} \rangle$  and  $\langle \vec{ax}, \vec{cd} \rangle + \langle \vec{xb}, \vec{cd} \rangle = \langle \vec{ab}, \vec{cd} \rangle$  for all  $a, b, c, d, x \in X$ . We say that  $X$  satisfies the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality if

$$\langle \vec{ab}, \vec{cd} \rangle \leq d(a, b)d(c, d) \tag{1.3}$$

for all  $a, b, c, d \in X$ . It is known [5, Corollary 3] that a geodesically connected metric space is a CAT(0) space if and only if it satisfies the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality.

In 2010, Kakavandi and Amini [6] introduced the concept of a dual space for CAT(0) spaces as follows. Consider the map  $\Theta : \mathbb{R} \times X \times X \rightarrow C(X)$  defined by

$$\Theta(t, a, b)(x) = t\langle \vec{ab}, \vec{ax} \rangle, \tag{1.4}$$

where  $C(X)$  is the space of all continuous real-valued functions on  $X$ . Then the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality implies that  $\Theta(t, a, b)$  is a Lipschitz function with a Lipschitz seminorm  $L(\Theta(t, a, b)) = |t|d(a, b)$  for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $a, b \in X$ , where

$$L(f) = \sup \left\{ \frac{f(x) - f(y)}{d(x, y)} : x, y \in X, x \neq y \right\}$$

is the Lipschitz semi-norm of the function  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . Now, define the pseudometric  $D$  on  $\mathbb{R} \times X \times X$  by

$$D((t, a, b), (s, c, d)) = L(\Theta(t, a, b) - \Theta(s, c, d)).$$

**Lemma 1.1** [6, Lemma 2.1]  $D((t, a, b), (s, c, d)) = 0$  if and only if  $t\langle \vec{ab}, \vec{xy} \rangle = s\langle \vec{cd}, \vec{xy} \rangle$  for all  $x, y \in X$ .

For a complete CAT(0) space  $(X, d)$ , the pseudometric space  $(\mathbb{R} \times X \times X, D)$  can be considered as a subspace of the pseudometric space  $(\text{Lip}(X, \mathbb{R}), L)$  of all real-valued Lipschitz functions. Also,  $D$  defines an equivalence relation on  $\mathbb{R} \times X \times X$ , where the equivalence class of  $\vec{tab} := (t, a, b)$  is

$$[\vec{tab}] = \{s\vec{cd} : t\langle \vec{ab}, \vec{xy} \rangle = s\langle \vec{cd}, \vec{xy} \rangle \forall x, y \in X\}.$$

The set  $X^* := \{[\vec{tab}] : (t, a, b) \in \mathbb{R} \times X \times X\}$  is a metric space with metric  $D$ , which is called the dual metric space of  $(X, d)$ .

Recently, Dehghan and Rooin [7] introduced the duality mapping in CAT(0) spaces and studied its relation with subdifferential, by using the concept of quasilinearization. Then they presented a characterization of metric projection in CAT(0) spaces as follows.

**Theorem 1.2** [7, Theorem 2.4] *Let  $C$  be a nonempty convex subset of a complete CAT(0) space  $X$ ,  $x \in X$  and  $u \in C$ . Then*

$$u = P_C x \quad \text{if and only if} \quad \langle \vec{yu}, \vec{ux} \rangle \geq 0 \quad \text{for all } y \in C.$$

From now on, let  $\mathbb{N}$  be the set of positive integers, let  $\mathbb{R}$  be the set of real numbers, and let  $\mathbb{R}^+$  be the set of nonnegative real numbers. Let  $C$  be a nonempty, closed and convex subset of a complete CAT(0) space  $X$ . A family  $\mathcal{S} := \{T(t) : t \in \mathbb{R}^+\}$  of self-mappings of  $C$  is called a one-parameter continuous semigroup of nonexpansive mappings if the following conditions hold:

- (i) for each  $t \in \mathbb{R}^+$ ,  $T(t)$  is a nonexpansive mapping on  $C$ , i.e.,

$$d(T(t)x, T(t)y) \leq d(x, y), \quad \forall x, y \in C;$$

- (ii)  $T(s + t) = T(t) \circ T(s)$  for all  $t, s \in \mathbb{R}^+$ ;
- (iii) for each  $x \in X$ , the mapping  $T(\cdot)x$  from  $\mathbb{R}^+$  into  $C$  is continuous.

A family  $\mathcal{S} := \{T(t) : t \in \mathbb{R}^+\}$  of mappings is called a one-parameter strongly continuous semigroup of nonexpansive mappings if conditions (i), (ii) and (iii) and the following condition are satisfied:

- (iv)  $T(0)x = x$  for all  $x \in C$ .

We shall denote by  $\mathcal{F}$  the common fixed point set of  $\mathcal{S}$ , that is,

$$\mathcal{F} := F(\mathcal{S}) = \{x \in C : T(t)x = x, t \in \mathbb{R}^+\} = \bigcap_{t \in \mathbb{R}^+} F(T(t)).$$

One classical way to study nonexpansive mappings is to use contractions to approximate nonexpansive mappings. More precisely, take  $t \in (0, 1)$  and define a contraction  $T_t : C \rightarrow C$  by

$$T_t = tu + (1 - t)Tx, \quad \forall x \in C,$$

where  $u \in C$  is an arbitrary fixed element. Banach's contraction mapping principle guarantees that  $T_t$  has a unique fixed point  $x_t$  in  $C$ . It is unclear, in general, what the behavior of  $x_t$  is as  $t \rightarrow 0$ , even if  $T$  has a fixed point. However, in the case of  $T$  having a fixed point,

Browder [8] proved that  $x_t$  converges strongly to a fixed point of  $T$  that is nearest to  $u$  in the framework of Hilbert spaces. Reich [9] extended Browder's result to the setting of Banach spaces and proved, in a uniformly smooth Banach space, that  $x_t$  converges strongly to a fixed point of  $T$  and the limit defines the (unique) sunny nonexpansive retraction from  $C$  onto  $F(T)$ .

Halpern [10] introduced the following explicit iterative scheme (1.5) for a nonexpansive mapping  $T$  on a subset  $C$  of a Hilbert space by taking any points  $u, x_1 \in C$  and defined the iterative sequence  $\{x_n\}$  by

$$x_{n+1} = \alpha_n u + (1 - \alpha_n)Tx_n. \tag{1.5}$$

He proved that the sequence  $\{x_n\}$  generated by (1.5) converges to a fixed point of  $T$ .

It is an interesting problem to extend the above (Browder's [8] and Halpern's [10]) results to the nonexpansive semigroup case. In [11], Shioji and Takahashi introduced the following implicit iteration in a Hilbert space:

$$x_n = \alpha_n u + (1 - \alpha_n) \frac{1}{t_n} \int_0^{t_n} T(s)x_n ds, \tag{1.6}$$

where  $C$  is a nonempty closed convex subset of a real Hilbert space  $H$ ,  $u \in C$ ,  $\{\alpha_n\}$  is a sequence in  $(0, 1)$ ,  $\{t_n\}$  is a sequence of positive real numbers divergent to  $\infty$ . Under suitable conditions, they proved strong convergence of  $\{x_n\}$  to a member of  $\mathcal{F}$ .

Later, Suzuki [12] was the first to introduce in a Hilbert space the following iteration process:

$$x_n = \alpha_n u + (1 - \alpha_n)T(t_n)x_n, \quad \forall n \geq 1, \tag{1.7}$$

where  $\{T(t) : t \geq 0\}$  is a strongly continuous semigroup of nonexpansive mappings on  $C$  such that  $\mathcal{F} \neq \emptyset$  and  $\{\alpha_n\}$  and  $\{t_n\}$  are appropriate sequences of real numbers. He proved that  $\{x_n\}$  generated by (1.7) converges strongly to the element of  $\mathcal{F}$  nearest to  $u$ . Using Moudafi's viscosity approximation methods, Song and Xu [13] introduced the following iteration process:

$$x_n = \alpha_n f(x_n) + (1 - \alpha_n)T(t_n)x_n, \quad \forall n \geq 1, \tag{1.8}$$

and

$$x_{n+1} = \alpha_n f(x_n) + (1 - \alpha_n)T(t_n)x_n, \quad \forall n \geq 1. \tag{1.9}$$

They proved that  $\{x_n\}$  converges to the same point of  $\mathcal{F}$  in a reflexive strictly Banach space with a uniformly Gâteaux differentiable norm.

In the similar way, Dhompongsa *et al.* [14] extended Browder's iteration to a strongly continuous semigroup of nonexpansive mappings  $\{T(t) : t \geq 0\}$  in a complete CAT(0) space  $X$  as follows:

$$x_n = \alpha_n x_0 \oplus T(t_n)x_n, \quad \forall n \geq 1,$$

where  $C$  is a nonempty closed convex subset of a complete CAT(0) space  $X$ ,  $x_0 \in C$ ,  $\{\alpha_n\}$  and  $\{t_n\}$  are sequences of real numbers satisfying  $0 < \alpha_n < 1$ ,  $t_n > 0$ , and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} t_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \alpha_n/t_n = 0$ . The proved that  $\mathcal{F} \neq \emptyset$  and  $\{x_n\}$  converges to the element of  $\mathcal{F}$  nearest to  $u$ . For other related results, see [15, 16].

In 2012, Shi and Chen [17], studied the convergence theorems of the following Moudafi's viscosity iterations for a nonexpansive mapping  $T$ : for a contraction  $f$  on  $C$  and  $t \in (0, 1)$ , let  $x_t \in C$  be a unique fixed point of the contraction  $x \mapsto tf(x) \oplus (1 - t)Tx$ ; i.e.,

$$x_t = tf(x_t) \oplus (1 - t)Tx_t, \tag{1.10}$$

and  $x_0 \in C$  is arbitrarily chosen and

$$x_{n+1} = \alpha_n f(x_n) \oplus (1 - \alpha_n)Tx_n, \quad \forall n \geq 0, \tag{1.11}$$

where  $\{\alpha_n\} \subset (0, 1)$ . They proved  $\{x_t\}$  defined by (1.10) converges strongly as  $t \rightarrow 0$  to  $\tilde{x} \in F(T)$  such that  $\tilde{x} = P_{F(T)}f(\tilde{x})$  in the framework of CAT(0) space satisfying property  $\mathcal{P}$ , i.e., if for  $x, u, y_1, y_2 \in X$ ,

$$d(x, P_{[x, y_1]}u)d(x, y_1) \leq d(x, P_{[x, y_2]}u)d(x, y_2) + d(x, u)d(y_1, y_2).$$

Furthermore, they also obtained that  $\{x_n\}$  defined by (1.11) converges strongly as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  to  $\tilde{x} \in F(T)$  under certain appropriate conditions imposed on  $\{\alpha_n\}$ .

By using the concept of quasilinearization, Wangkeeree and Preechasilp [18] improved Shi and Chen's results. In fact, they proved the strong convergence theorems for two given iterative schemes (1.10) and (1.11) in a complete CAT(0) space without the property  $\mathcal{P}$ .

Motivated and inspired by Song and Xu [13], Dhompongsa *et al.* [14], and Wangkeeree and Preechasilp [18], in this paper we aim to study the strong convergence theorems of Moudafi's viscosity approximation methods for a one-parameter continuous semigroup of nonexpansive mappings  $\mathcal{S} := \{T(t) : t \in \mathbb{R}^+\}$  in CAT(0) spaces. Let  $C$  be a nonempty, closed and convex subset of a CAT(0) space  $X$ . For a given contraction  $f$  on  $C$  and  $\alpha_n \in (0, 1)$ , let  $x_n \in C$  be a unique fixed point of the contraction  $x \mapsto \alpha_n f(x) \oplus (1 - \alpha_n)T(t_n)x$ ; i.e.,

$$x_n = \alpha_n f(x_n) \oplus (1 - \alpha_n)T(t_n)x_n, \quad n \geq 0, \tag{1.12}$$

and

$$x_{n+1} = \alpha_n f(x_n) \oplus (1 - \alpha_n)T(t_n)x_n, \quad n \geq 0. \tag{1.13}$$

We prove that the iterative schemes  $\{x_n\}$  defined by (1.12) and  $\{x_n\}$  defined by (1.13) converge strongly to the same point  $\tilde{x}$  such that  $\tilde{x} = P_{\mathcal{F}}f(\tilde{x})$ , which is the unique solution of the variational inequality

$$\langle \overrightarrow{\tilde{x}f\tilde{x}}, \overrightarrow{x\tilde{x}} \rangle \geq 0, \quad x \in \mathcal{F},$$

where  $\mathcal{F}$  is the common fixed point set of  $\mathcal{S}$ , that is,

$$\mathcal{F} := F(\mathcal{S}) = \{x \in C : T(t)x = x, t \in \mathbb{R}^+\} = \bigcap_{t \in \mathbb{R}^+} F(T(t)).$$

## 2 Preliminaries

In this paper, we write  $(1 - t)x \oplus ty$  for the unique point  $z$  in the geodesic segment joining from  $x$  to  $y$  such that

$$d(z, x) = td(x, y) \quad \text{and} \quad d(z, y) = (1 - t)d(x, y).$$

We also denote by  $[x, y]$  the geodesic segment joining from  $x$  to  $y$ , that is,  $[x, y] = \{(1 - t)x \oplus ty : t \in [0, 1]\}$ . A subset  $C$  of a CAT(0) space is convex if  $[x, y] \subseteq C$  for all  $x, y \in C$ .

The following lemmas play an important role in our paper.

**Lemma 2.1** [2, Proposition 2.2] *Let  $X$  be a CAT(0) space,  $p, q, r, s \in X$  and  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ . Then*

$$d(\lambda p \oplus (1 - \lambda)q, \lambda r \oplus (1 - \lambda)s) \leq \lambda d(p, r) + (1 - \lambda)d(q, s).$$

**Lemma 2.2** [19, Lemma 2.4] *Let  $X$  be a CAT(0) space,  $x, y, z \in X$  and  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ . Then*

$$d(\lambda x \oplus (1 - \lambda)y, z) \leq \lambda d(x, z) + (1 - \lambda)d(y, z).$$

**Lemma 2.3** [19, Lemma 2.5] *Let  $X$  be a CAT(0) space,  $x, y, z \in X$  and  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ . Then*

$$d^2(\lambda x \oplus (1 - \lambda)y, z) \leq \lambda d^2(x, z) + (1 - \lambda)d^2(y, z) - \lambda(1 - \lambda)d^2(x, y).$$

The concept of  $\Delta$ -convergence introduced by Lim [20] in 1976 was shown by Kirk and Panyanak [21] in CAT(0) spaces to be very similar to the weak convergence in Banach space setting. Next, we give the concept of  $\Delta$ -convergence and collect some basic properties.

Let  $\{x_n\}$  be a bounded sequence in a CAT(0) space  $X$ . For  $x \in X$ , we set

$$r(x, \{x_n\}) = \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} d(x, x_n).$$

The asymptotic radius  $r(\{x_n\})$  of  $\{x_n\}$  is given by

$$r(\{x_n\}) = \inf\{r(x, \{x_n\}) : x \in X\},$$

and the asymptotic center  $A(\{x_n\})$  of  $\{x_n\}$  is the set

$$A(\{x_n\}) = \{x \in X : r(x, \{x_n\}) = r(\{x_n\})\}.$$

It is known from Proposition 7 of [22] that in a complete CAT(0) space,  $A(\{x_n\})$  consists of exactly one point. A sequence  $\{x_n\} \subset X$  is said to  $\Delta$ -converge to  $x \in X$  if  $A(\{x_{n_k}\}) = \{x\}$  for every subsequence  $\{x_{n_k}\}$  of  $\{x_n\}$ . The uniqueness of an asymptotic center implies that a CAT(0) space  $X$  satisfies Opial's property, *i.e.*, for given  $\{x_n\} \subset X$  such that  $\{x_n\}$   $\Delta$ -converges to  $x$  and given  $y \in X$  with  $y \neq x$ ,

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} d(x_n, x) < \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} d(x_n, y).$$

Since it is not possible to formulate the concept of demiclosedness in a CAT(0) setting, as stated in linear spaces, let us formally say that ' $I - T$  is demiclosed at zero' if the conditions  $\{x_n\} \subseteq C$   $\Delta$ -converges to  $x$  and  $d(x_n, Tx_n) \rightarrow 0$  imply  $x \in F(T)$ .

**Lemma 2.4** [21] *Every bounded sequence in a complete CAT(0) space always has a  $\Delta$ -convergent subsequence.*

**Lemma 2.5** [23] *If  $C$  is a closed convex subset of a complete CAT(0) space and if  $\{x_n\}$  is a bounded sequence in  $C$ , then the asymptotic center of  $\{x_n\}$  is in  $C$ .*

**Lemma 2.6** [23] *If  $C$  is a closed convex subset of  $X$  and  $T : C \rightarrow X$  is a nonexpansive mapping, then the conditions  $\{x_n\}$   $\Delta$ -converges to  $x$  and  $d(x_n, Tx_n) \rightarrow 0$  imply  $x \in C$  and  $Tx = x$ .*

Having the notion of quasilinearization, Kakavandi and Amini [6] introduced the following notion of convergence.

A sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in the complete CAT(0) space  $(X, d)$   $w$ -converges to  $x \in X$  if

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \langle \overrightarrow{xx_n}, \overrightarrow{xy} \rangle = 0,$$

i.e.,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (d^2(x_n, x) - d^2(x_n, y) + d^2(x, y)) = 0$  for all  $y \in X$ .

It is obvious that convergence in the metric implies  $w$ -convergence, and it is easy to check that  $w$ -convergence implies  $\Delta$ -convergence [6, Proposition 2.5], but it is showed in [24, Example 4.7] that the converse is not valid. However, the following lemma shows another characterization of  $\Delta$ -convergence as well as, more explicitly, a relation between  $w$ -convergence and  $\Delta$ -convergence.

**Lemma 2.7** [24, Theorem 2.6] *Let  $X$  be a complete CAT(0) space,  $\{x_n\}$  be a sequence in  $X$  and  $x \in X$ . Then  $\{x_n\}$   $\Delta$ -converges to  $x$  if and only if  $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \langle \overrightarrow{xx_n}, \overrightarrow{xy} \rangle \leq 0$  for all  $y \in X$ .*

**Lemma 2.8** [25, Lemma 2.1] *Let  $\{a_n\}$  be a sequence of non-negative real numbers satisfying the property*

$$a_{n+1} \leq (1 - \alpha_n)a_n + \alpha_n\beta_n, \quad n \geq 0,$$

where  $\{\alpha_n\} \subseteq (0, 1)$  and  $\{\beta_n\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  such that

- (i)  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \alpha_n = \infty$ ;
- (ii)  $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \beta_n \leq 0$  or  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |\alpha_n\beta_n| < \infty$ .

Then  $\{a_n\}$  converges to zero as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

### 3 Viscosity approximation methods

In this section, we present the strong convergence theorems of Moudafi's viscosity approximation methods for a one-parameter continuous semigroup of nonexpansive mappings  $\mathcal{S} := \{T(t) : t \in \mathbb{R}^+\}$  in CAT(0) spaces. Before proving main results, we need the following two vital lemmas.

**Lemma 3.1** *Let  $X$  be a complete CAT(0) space. Then, for all  $u, x, y \in X$ , the following inequality holds:*

$$d^2(x, u) \leq d^2(y, u) + 2\langle \overrightarrow{xy}, \overrightarrow{xu} \rangle.$$

*Proof* Using (1.2), we have that

$$\begin{aligned}
 d^2(y, u) - d^2(x, u) - 2\langle \vec{y}\vec{x}, \vec{x}\vec{u} \rangle &= d^2(y, u) - d^2(x, u) - 2\langle \vec{y}\vec{u}, \vec{x}\vec{u} \rangle - 2\langle \vec{u}\vec{x}, \vec{x}\vec{u} \rangle \\
 &= d^2(y, u) - d^2(x, u) - 2\langle \vec{y}\vec{u}, \vec{x}\vec{u} \rangle + 2d^2(x, u) \\
 &= d^2(y, u) + d^2(x, u) - 2\langle \vec{y}\vec{u}, \vec{x}\vec{u} \rangle \\
 &\geq d^2(y, u) + d^2(x, u) - 2d(y, u)d(x, u) \\
 &= (d^2(y, u) - d^2(x, u))^2 \geq 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore we obtain that

$$d^2(x, u) \leq d^2(y, u) + 2\langle \vec{x}\vec{y}, \vec{x}\vec{u} \rangle,$$

which is the desired result. □

**Lemma 3.2** *Let  $X$  be a CAT(0) space. For any  $t \in [0, 1]$  and  $u, v \in X$ , let  $u_t = tu \oplus (1 - t)v$ . Then, for all  $x, y \in X$ ,*

- (i)  $\langle \vec{u}_t\vec{x}, \vec{u}_t\vec{y} \rangle \leq t\langle \vec{u}\vec{x}, \vec{u}\vec{y} \rangle + (1 - t)\langle \vec{v}\vec{x}, \vec{u}\vec{y} \rangle;$
- (ii)  $\langle \vec{u}_t\vec{x}, \vec{u}\vec{y} \rangle \leq t\langle \vec{u}\vec{x}, \vec{u}\vec{y} \rangle + (1 - t)\langle \vec{v}\vec{x}, \vec{u}\vec{y} \rangle$  and  $\langle \vec{u}_t\vec{x}, \vec{v}\vec{y} \rangle \leq t\langle \vec{u}\vec{x}, \vec{v}\vec{y} \rangle + (1 - t)\langle \vec{v}\vec{x}, \vec{v}\vec{y} \rangle.$

*Proof* (i) It follows from (CN)-inequality (1.1) that

$$\begin{aligned}
 2\langle \vec{u}_t\vec{x}, \vec{u}_t\vec{y} \rangle &= d^2(u_t, y) + d^2(x, u_t) - d^2(x, y) \\
 &\leq td^2(u, y) + (1 - t)d^2(v, y) - t(1 - t)d^2(u, v) + d^2(x, u_t) - d^2(x, y) \\
 &= td^2(u, y) + td^2(x, u_t) - td^2(u, u_t) - td^2(x, y) \\
 &\quad + (1 - t)d^2(v, y) + (1 - t)d^2(x, u_t) - (1 - t)d^2(v, u_t) - (1 - t)d^2(x, y) \\
 &\quad + td^2(u, u_t) + (1 - t)d^2(v, u_t) - t(1 - t)d^2(u, v) \\
 &= t[d^2(u, y) + d^2(x, u_t) - d^2(u, u_t) - d^2(x, y)] \\
 &\quad + (1 - t)[d^2(v, y) + d^2(x, u_t) - d^2(v, u_t) - d^2(x, y)] \\
 &\quad + t(1 - t)d^2(u, v) + (1 - t)t^2d^2(u, v) - t(1 - t)d^2(u, v) \\
 &= t\langle \vec{u}\vec{x}, \vec{u}\vec{y} \rangle + (1 - t)\langle \vec{v}\vec{x}, \vec{u}\vec{y} \rangle.
 \end{aligned}$$

(ii) The proof is similar to (i). □

For any  $\alpha_n \in (0, 1)$ ,  $t_n \in [0, \infty)$  and a contraction  $f$  with coefficient  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ , define the mapping  $G_n : C \rightarrow C$  by

$$G_n(x) = \alpha_n f(x) \oplus (1 - \alpha_n)T(t_n)x, \quad \forall x \in C. \tag{3.1}$$

It is not hard to see that  $G_n$  is a contraction on  $C$ . Indeed, for  $x, y \in C$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 d(G_n(x), G_n(y)) &= d(\alpha_n f(x) \oplus (1 - \alpha_n)T(t_n)x, \alpha_n f(y) \oplus (1 - \alpha_n)T(t_n)y) \\
 &\leq d(\alpha_n f(x) \oplus (1 - \alpha_n)T(t_n)x, \alpha_n f(y) \oplus (1 - \alpha_n)T(t_n)x)
 \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}
 &+ d(\alpha_n f(y) \oplus (1 - \alpha_n)T(t_n)x, \alpha_n f(y) \oplus (1 - \alpha_n)T(t_n)y) \\
 &\leq \alpha_n d(f(x), f(y)) + (1 - \alpha_n)d(T(t_n)x, T(t_n)y) \\
 &\leq \alpha_n \alpha d(x, y) + (1 - \alpha_n)d(x, y) \\
 &= (1 - \alpha_n(1 - \alpha))d(x, y).
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore we have that  $G_n$  is a contraction mapping. Let  $x_n \in C$  be the unique fixed point of  $G_n$ ; that is,

$$x_n = \alpha_n f(x_n) \oplus (1 - \alpha_n)T(t_n)x_n \quad \text{for all } n \geq 0. \tag{3.2}$$

Now we are in a position to state and prove our main results.

**Theorem 3.3** *Let  $C$  be a closed convex subset of a complete CAT(0) space  $X$ , and let  $\{T(t)\}$  be a one-parameter continuous semigroup of nonexpansive mappings on  $C$  satisfying  $\mathcal{F} \neq \emptyset$  and uniformly asymptotically regular (in short, u.a.r.) on  $C$ , that is, for all  $h \geq 0$  and any bounded subset  $B$  of  $C$ ,*

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{x \in B} d(T(h)(T(t)x), T(t)x) = 0.$$

*Let  $f$  be a contraction on  $C$  with coefficient  $0 < \alpha < 1$ . Suppose that  $t_n \in [0, \infty)$ ,  $\alpha_n \in (0, 1)$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} t_n = \infty$ ,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \alpha_n = 0$  and let  $\{x_n\}$  be given by (3.2). Then  $\{x_n\}$  converges strongly as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  to  $\tilde{x}$  such that  $\tilde{x} = P_{\mathcal{F}}f(\tilde{x})$ , which is equivalent to the following variational inequality:*

$$\langle \overrightarrow{\tilde{x}f\tilde{x}}, \overrightarrow{\tilde{x}\tilde{x}} \rangle \geq 0, \quad \forall x \in \mathcal{F}. \tag{3.3}$$

*Proof* We first show that  $\{x_n\}$  is bounded. For any  $p \in \mathcal{F}$ , we have that

$$\begin{aligned}
 d(x_n, p) &= d(\alpha_n f(x_n) \oplus (1 - \alpha_n)T(t_n)x_n, p) \leq \alpha_n d(f(x_n), p) + (1 - \alpha_n)d(T(t_n)x_n, p) \\
 &\leq \alpha_n d(f(x_n), p) + (1 - \alpha_n)d(x_n, p).
 \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$d(x_n, p) \leq d(f(x_n), p) \leq d(f(x_n), f(p)) + d(f(p), p) \leq \alpha d(x_n, p) + d(f(p), p).$$

This implies that

$$d(x_n, p) \leq \frac{1}{1 - \alpha} d(f(p), p).$$

Hence  $\{x_n\}$  is bounded, so are  $\{T(t_n)x_n\}$  and  $\{f(x_n)\}$ . We get that

$$\begin{aligned}
 d(x_n, T(t_n)x_n) &= d(\alpha_n f(x_n) \oplus (1 - \alpha_n)T(t_n)x_n, T(t_n)x_n) \\
 &\leq \alpha_n d(f(x_n), T(t_n)x_n) + (1 - \alpha_n)d(T(t_n)x_n, T(t_n)x_n) \\
 &\leq \alpha_n d(f(x_n), T(t_n)x_n) \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty.
 \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\{T(t)\}$  is u.a.r. and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} t_n = \infty$ , then for all  $h > 0$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d(T(h)(T(t_n)x_n), T(t_n)x_n) \leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{x \in B} d(T(h)(T(t_n)x), T(t_n)x) = 0,$$

where  $B$  is any bounded subset of  $C$  containing  $\{x_n\}$ . Hence

$$\begin{aligned} d(x_n, T(h)x_n) &\leq d(x_n, T(t_n)x_n) + d(T(t_n)x_n, T(h)(T(t_n)x_n)) \\ &\quad + d(T(h)(T(t_n)x_n), T(h)x_n) \\ &\leq 2d(x_n, T(t_n)x_n) + d(T(t_n)x_n, T(h)(T(t_n)x_n)) \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty. \end{aligned} \tag{3.4}$$

We will show that  $\{x_n\}$  contains a subsequence converging strongly to  $\tilde{x}$  such that  $\tilde{x} = P_{F(T)}f(\tilde{x})$ , which is equivalent to the following variational inequality:

$$\langle \overrightarrow{\tilde{x}f\tilde{x}}, \overrightarrow{x\tilde{x}} \rangle \geq 0, \quad x \in \mathcal{F}. \tag{3.5}$$

Since  $\{x_n\}$  is bounded, by Lemma 2.4, there exists a subsequence  $\{x_{n_j}\}$  of  $\{x_n\}$  which  $\Delta$ -converges to a point  $\tilde{x}$ , denoted by  $\{x_j\}$ . We claim that  $\tilde{x} \in \mathcal{F}$ . Since every CAT(0) space has Opial's property, for any  $h \geq 0$ , if  $T(h)\tilde{x} \neq \tilde{x}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} d(x_j, T(h)\tilde{x}) &\leq \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} \{d(x_j, T(h)x_j) + d(T(h)x_j, T(h)\tilde{x})\} \\ &\leq \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} \{d(x_j, T(h)x_j) + d(x_j, \tilde{x})\} \\ &= \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} d(x_j, \tilde{x}) \\ &< \limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} d(x_j, T(h)\tilde{x}). \end{aligned}$$

This is a contradiction, and hence  $\tilde{x} \in \mathcal{F}$ . So we have the claim. It follows from Lemma 3.2(i) that

$$\begin{aligned} d^2(x_j, \tilde{x}) &= \langle \overrightarrow{x_j\tilde{x}}, \overrightarrow{x_j\tilde{x}} \rangle \\ &\leq \alpha_j \langle \overrightarrow{f(x_j)\tilde{x}}, \overrightarrow{x_j\tilde{x}} \rangle + (1 - \alpha_j) \langle \overrightarrow{T(t_j)x_j\tilde{x}}, \overrightarrow{x_j\tilde{x}} \rangle \\ &\leq \alpha_j \langle \overrightarrow{f(x_j)\tilde{x}}, \overrightarrow{x_j\tilde{x}} \rangle + (1 - \alpha_j) d(T(t_j)x_j, \tilde{x}) d(x_j, \tilde{x}) \\ &\leq \alpha_j \langle \overrightarrow{f(x_j)\tilde{x}}, \overrightarrow{x_j\tilde{x}} \rangle + (1 - \alpha_j) d^2(x_j, \tilde{x}). \end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} d^2(x_j, \tilde{x}) &\leq \langle \overrightarrow{f(x_j)\tilde{x}}, \overrightarrow{x_j\tilde{x}} \rangle \\ &= \langle \overrightarrow{f(x_j)f(\tilde{x})}, \overrightarrow{x_j\tilde{x}} \rangle + \langle \overrightarrow{f(\tilde{x})\tilde{x}}, \overrightarrow{x_j\tilde{x}} \rangle \\ &\leq d(f(x_j), f(\tilde{x})) d(x_j, \tilde{x}) + \langle \overrightarrow{f(\tilde{x})\tilde{x}}, \overrightarrow{x_j\tilde{x}} \rangle \\ &\leq \alpha d^2(x_j, \tilde{x}) + \langle \overrightarrow{f(\tilde{x})\tilde{x}}, \overrightarrow{x_j\tilde{x}} \rangle, \end{aligned}$$

and thus

$$d^2(x_j, \tilde{x}) \leq \frac{1}{1-\alpha} \langle \overrightarrow{f(\tilde{x})\tilde{x}}, \overrightarrow{x_j\tilde{x}} \rangle. \tag{3.6}$$

Since  $\{x_j\}$   $\Delta$ -converges to  $\tilde{x}$ , by Lemma 2.7, we have

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \langle \overrightarrow{f(\tilde{x})\tilde{x}}, \overrightarrow{x_j\tilde{x}} \rangle \leq 0.$$

It follows from (3.6) that  $\{x_j\}$  converges strongly to  $\tilde{x}$ . Next, we show that  $\tilde{x}$  solves the variational inequality (3.3). Applying Lemma 2.3, for any  $q \in \mathcal{F}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} d^2(x_j, q) &= d^2(\alpha_j f(x_j) \oplus (1-\alpha_j)T(t_j)x_j, q) \\ &\leq \alpha_j d^2(f(x_j), q) + (1-\alpha_j)d^2(T(t_j)x_j, q) - \alpha_j(1-\alpha_j)d^2(f(x_j), T(t_j)x_j) \\ &\leq \alpha_j d^2(f(x_j), q) + (1-\alpha_j)d^2(x_j, q) - \alpha_j(1-\alpha_j)d^2(f(x_j), T(t_j)x_j). \end{aligned}$$

It implies that

$$d^2(x_j, q) \leq d^2(f(x_j), q) - (1-\alpha_j)d^2(f(x_j), T(t_j)x_j).$$

Taking the limit through  $j \rightarrow \infty$ , we can get that

$$d^2(\tilde{x}, q) \leq d^2(f(\tilde{x}), q) - d^2(f(\tilde{x}), \tilde{x}).$$

Hence

$$0 \leq \frac{1}{2} [d^2(\tilde{x}, \tilde{x}) + d^2(f(\tilde{x}), q) - d^2(\tilde{x}, q) - d^2(f(\tilde{x}), \tilde{x})] = \langle \overrightarrow{\tilde{x}f(\tilde{x})}, \overrightarrow{q\tilde{x}} \rangle, \quad \forall q \in \mathcal{F}.$$

That is,  $\tilde{x}$  solves the inequality (3.3). Finally, we show that the sequence  $\{x_n\}$  converges to  $\tilde{x}$ . Assume that  $x_{n_i} \rightarrow \hat{x}$ , where  $i \rightarrow \infty$ . By the same argument, we get that  $\hat{x} \in \mathcal{F}$  and solves the variational inequality (3.3), *i.e.*,

$$\langle \overrightarrow{\tilde{x}f(\tilde{x})}, \overrightarrow{\hat{x}\tilde{x}} \rangle \leq 0, \tag{3.7}$$

and

$$\langle \overrightarrow{\hat{x}f(\hat{x})}, \overrightarrow{\hat{x}\tilde{x}} \rangle \leq 0. \tag{3.8}$$

Adding up (3.7) and (3.8), we get that

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\geq \langle \overrightarrow{\tilde{x}f(\tilde{x})}, \overrightarrow{\hat{x}\tilde{x}} \rangle - \langle \overrightarrow{\hat{x}f(\hat{x})}, \overrightarrow{\hat{x}\tilde{x}} \rangle \\ &= \langle \overrightarrow{\tilde{x}f(\tilde{x})}, \overrightarrow{\hat{x}\tilde{x}} \rangle + \langle \overrightarrow{f(\hat{x})f(\tilde{x})}, \overrightarrow{\hat{x}\tilde{x}} \rangle - \langle \overrightarrow{\hat{x}\tilde{x}}, \overrightarrow{\hat{x}\tilde{x}} \rangle - \langle \overrightarrow{\tilde{x}f(\tilde{x})}, \overrightarrow{\hat{x}\tilde{x}} \rangle \\ &= \langle \overrightarrow{\hat{x}\tilde{x}}, \overrightarrow{\hat{x}\tilde{x}} \rangle - \langle \overrightarrow{f(\hat{x})f(\tilde{x})}, \overrightarrow{\hat{x}\tilde{x}} \rangle \\ &\geq \langle \overrightarrow{\hat{x}\tilde{x}}, \overrightarrow{\hat{x}\tilde{x}} \rangle - d(f(\hat{x}), f(\tilde{x}))d(\hat{x}, \tilde{x}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\geq d^2(\tilde{x}, \hat{x}) - \alpha d(\hat{x}, \tilde{x})d(\hat{x}, \tilde{x}) \\ &\geq d^2(\tilde{x}, \hat{x}) - \alpha d^2(\hat{x}, \tilde{x}) \\ &\geq (1 - \alpha)d^2(\tilde{x}, \hat{x}). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $0 < \alpha < 1$ , we have that  $d(\tilde{x}, \hat{x}) = 0$ , and so  $\tilde{x} = \hat{x}$ . Hence the sequence  $x_n$  converges strongly to  $\tilde{x}$ , which is the unique solution to the variational inequality (3.3). This completes the proof.  $\square$

If  $f \equiv u$ , then the following result can be obtained directly from Theorem 3.3.

**Corollary 3.4** *Let  $C$  be a closed convex subset of a complete CAT(0) space  $X$ , and let  $\{T(t)\}$  be a one-parameter continuous semigroup of nonexpansive mappings on  $C$  satisfying  $\mathcal{F} \neq \emptyset$  and uniformly asymptotically regular (in short, u.a.r.) on  $C$ , that is, for all  $h \geq 0$  and any bounded subset  $B$  of  $C$ ,*

$$\limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{x \in B} d(T(h)(T(t)x), T(t)x) = 0.$$

*Let  $u$  be any element in  $C$ . Suppose  $t_n \in [0, \infty)$ ,  $\alpha_n \in (0, 1)$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} t_n = \infty$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \alpha_n = 0$  and let  $\{x_n\}$  be given by*

$$x_n = \alpha_n u \oplus (1 - \alpha_n)T(t_n)x_n.$$

*Then  $\{x_n\}$  converges strongly as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  to  $\tilde{x}$  such that  $\tilde{x} = P_{\mathcal{F}}\tilde{x}$ , which is equivalent to the following variational inequality:*

$$\langle \vec{\tilde{x}u}, \vec{x\tilde{x}} \rangle \geq 0, \quad x \in \mathcal{F}. \tag{3.9}$$

**Theorem 3.5** *Let  $C$  be a closed convex subset of a complete CAT(0) space  $X$ , and let  $\{T(t)\}$  be a one-parameter continuous semigroup of nonexpansive mappings on  $C$  satisfying  $\mathcal{F} \neq \emptyset$  and uniformly asymptotically regular (in short, u.a.r.) on  $C$ , that is, for all  $h \geq 0$  and any bounded subset  $B$  of  $C$ ,*

$$\limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{x \in B} d(T(h)(T(t)x), T(t)x) = 0.$$

*Let  $f$  be a contraction on  $C$  with coefficient  $0 < \alpha < 1$ . Suppose that  $t_n \in [0, \infty)$ ,  $\alpha_n \in (0, 1)$ ,  $x_0 \in C$ , and  $\{x_n\}$  is given by*

$$x_{n+1} = \alpha_n f(x_n) \oplus (1 - \alpha_n)T(t_n)x_n, \quad \forall n \geq 0, \tag{3.10}$$

*where  $\{\alpha_n\} \subset (0, 1)$  satisfies the following conditions:*

- (i)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \alpha_n = 0$ ;
- (ii)  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \alpha_n = \infty$  and
- (iii)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} t_n = \infty$ .

*Then  $\{x_n\}$  converges strongly as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  to  $\tilde{x}$  such that  $\tilde{x} = P_{\mathcal{F}}f(\tilde{x})$ , which is equivalent to the variational inequality (3.3).*

*Proof* We first show that the sequence  $\{x_n\}$  is bounded. For any  $p \in \mathcal{F}$ , we have that

$$\begin{aligned} d(x_{n+1}, p) &= d(\alpha_n f(x_n) \oplus (1 - \alpha_n)T(t_n)x_n, p) \\ &\leq \alpha_n d(f(x_n), p) + (1 - \alpha_n)d(T(t_n)x_n, p) \\ &\leq \alpha_n (d(f(x_n), f(p)) + d(f(p), p)) + (1 - \alpha_n)d(T(t_n)x_n, p) \\ &\leq \max \left\{ d(x_n, p), \frac{1}{1 - \alpha} d(f(p), p) \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

By induction, we have

$$d(x_n, p) \leq \max \left\{ d(x_0, p), \frac{1}{1 - \alpha} d(f(p), p) \right\}$$

for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Hence  $\{x_n\}$  is bounded, so are  $\{T(t_n)x_n\}$  and  $\{f(x_n)\}$ . Using the assumption that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \alpha_n = 0$ , we get that

$$d(x_{n+1}, T(t_n)x_n) \leq \alpha_n d(f(x_n), T(t_n)x_n) \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

Since  $\{T(t)\}$  is u.a.r. and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} t_n = \infty$ , then for all  $h \geq 0$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d(T(h)(T(t_n)x_n), T(t_n)x_n) \leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{x \in B} d(T(h)(T(t_n)x), T(t_n)x) = 0,$$

where  $B$  is any bounded subset of  $C$  containing  $\{x_n\}$ . Hence

$$\begin{aligned} &d(x_{n+1}, T(h)x_{n+1}) \\ &\leq d(x_{n+1}, T(t_n)x_n) + d(T(t_n)x_n, T(h)(T(t_n)x_n)) \\ &\quad + d(T(h)(T(t_n)x_n), T(h)x_{n+1}) \\ &\leq 2d(x_{n+1}, T(t_n)x_n) + d(T(t_n)x_n, T(h)(T(t_n)x_n)) \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty. \end{aligned} \tag{3.11}$$

Let  $\{z_m\}$  be a sequence in  $C$  such that

$$z_m = \alpha_m f(z_m) \oplus (1 - \alpha_m)T(t_m)z_m.$$

It follows from Theorem 3.3 that  $\{z_m\}$  converges strongly as  $m \rightarrow \infty$  to a fixed point  $\tilde{x} \in \mathcal{F}$ , which solves the variational inequality (3.3). Now, we claim that

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \langle \overrightarrow{f(\tilde{x})\tilde{x}}, \overrightarrow{x_{n+1}\tilde{x}} \rangle \leq 0.$$

It follows from Lemma 3.2(i) that

$$\begin{aligned} d^2(z_m, x_{n+1}) &= \langle \overrightarrow{z_m x_{n+1}}, \overrightarrow{z_m x_{n+1}} \rangle \\ &\leq \alpha_m \langle \overrightarrow{f(z_m)x_{n+1}}, \overrightarrow{z_m x_{n+1}} \rangle + (1 - \alpha_m) \langle \overrightarrow{T(t_m)z_m x_{n+1}}, \overrightarrow{z_m x_{n+1}} \rangle \\ &= \alpha_m \langle \overrightarrow{f(z_m)f(\tilde{x})}, \overrightarrow{z_m x_{n+1}} \rangle + \alpha_m \langle \overrightarrow{f(\tilde{x})\tilde{x}}, \overrightarrow{z_m x_{n+1}} \rangle + \alpha_m \langle \overrightarrow{\tilde{x}z_m}, \overrightarrow{z_m x_{n+1}} \rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & + \alpha_m \langle \overrightarrow{z_m x_{n+1}}, \overrightarrow{z_m x_{n+1}} \rangle + (1 - \alpha_m) \langle \overrightarrow{T(t_m)z_m T(t_m)x_{n+1}}, \overrightarrow{z_m x_{n+1}} \rangle \\
 & + (1 - \alpha_m) \langle \overrightarrow{T(t_m)x_{n+1}x_{n+1}}, \overrightarrow{z_m x_{n+1}} \rangle \\
 \leq & \alpha_m \alpha d(z_m, \tilde{x})d(z_m, x_{n+1}) + \alpha_m \langle \overrightarrow{f(\tilde{x})\tilde{x}}, \overrightarrow{z_m x_{n+1}} \rangle + \alpha_m d(\tilde{x}, z_m)d(z_m, x_{n+1}) \\
 & + \alpha_m d^2(z_m, x_{n+1}) + (1 - \alpha_m) d^2(z_m, x_{n+1}) \\
 & + (1 - \alpha_m) d(T(t_m)x_{n+1}, x_{n+1})d(z_m, x_{n+1}) \\
 \leq & \alpha_m \alpha d(z_m, \tilde{x})M + \alpha_m \langle \overrightarrow{f(\tilde{x})\tilde{x}}, \overrightarrow{z_m x_{n+1}} \rangle + \alpha_m d(\tilde{x}, z_m)M + \alpha_m d^2(z_m, x_{n+1}) \\
 & + (1 - \alpha_m) d^2(z_m, x_{n+1}) + (1 - \alpha_m) d(T(t_m)x_{n+1}, x_{n+1})M \\
 \leq & d^2(z_m, x_{n+1}) + \alpha_m \alpha d(z_m, \tilde{x})M + \alpha_m d(\tilde{x}, z_m)M + d(T(t_m)x_{n+1}, x_{n+1})M \\
 & + \alpha_m \langle \overrightarrow{f(\tilde{x})\tilde{x}}, \overrightarrow{z_m x_{n+1}} \rangle,
 \end{aligned}$$

where  $M \geq \sup_{m,n \geq 1} \{d(z_m, x_n)\}$ . This implies that

$$\langle \overrightarrow{f(\tilde{x})\tilde{x}}, \overrightarrow{x_{n+1}z_m} \rangle \leq (1 + \alpha)d(z_m, \tilde{x})M + \frac{d(T(t_m)x_{n+1}, x_{n+1})}{\alpha_m} M. \tag{3.12}$$

Taking the upper limit as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  first, and then  $m \rightarrow \infty$ , inequality (3.12) yields that

$$\limsup_{m \rightarrow \infty} \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \langle \overrightarrow{f(\tilde{x})\tilde{x}}, \overrightarrow{x_{n+1}z_m} \rangle \leq 0. \tag{3.13}$$

Since

$$\begin{aligned}
 \langle \overrightarrow{f(\tilde{x})\tilde{x}}, \overrightarrow{x_{n+1}\tilde{x}} \rangle & = \langle \overrightarrow{f(\tilde{x})\tilde{x}}, \overrightarrow{x_{n+1}z_m} \rangle + \langle \overrightarrow{f(\tilde{x})\tilde{x}}, \overrightarrow{z_m \tilde{x}} \rangle \\
 & \leq \langle \overrightarrow{f(\tilde{x})\tilde{x}}, \overrightarrow{x_{n+1}z_m} \rangle + d(f(\tilde{x}), \tilde{x})d(z_m, \tilde{x}).
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, by taking the upper limit as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  first, and then  $m \rightarrow \infty$  the last inequality, it follows from  $z_m \rightarrow \tilde{x}$  and (3.13) that

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \langle \overrightarrow{f(\tilde{x})\tilde{x}}, \overrightarrow{x_{n+1}\tilde{x}} \rangle \leq 0.$$

Finally, we prove that  $x_n \rightarrow \tilde{x}$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . For any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we set  $y_n = \alpha_n \tilde{x} \oplus (1 - \alpha_n)T(t_n)x_n$ . It follows from Lemma 3.1 and Lemma 3.2(i), (ii) that

$$\begin{aligned}
 d^2(x_{n+1}, \tilde{x}) & \leq d^2(y_n, \tilde{x}) + 2 \langle \overrightarrow{x_{n+1}y_n}, \overrightarrow{x_{n+1}\tilde{x}} \rangle \\
 & \leq (\alpha_n d(\tilde{x}, \tilde{x}) + (1 - \alpha_n) d(T(t_n)x_n, \tilde{x}))^2 \\
 & \quad + 2[\alpha_n \langle \overrightarrow{f(x_n)y_n}, \overrightarrow{x_{n+1}\tilde{x}} \rangle + (1 - \alpha_n) \langle \overrightarrow{T(t_n)x_n y_n}, \overrightarrow{x_{n+1}\tilde{x}} \rangle] \\
 & \leq (1 - \alpha_n)^2 d^2(x_n, \tilde{x}) + 2[\alpha_n \alpha_n \langle \overrightarrow{f(x_n)\tilde{x}}, \overrightarrow{x_{n+1}\tilde{x}} \rangle + \alpha_n (1 - \alpha_n) \langle \overrightarrow{f(x_n)T(t_n)x_n}, \overrightarrow{x_{n+1}\tilde{x}} \rangle] \\
 & \quad + (1 - \alpha_n) \alpha_n \langle \overrightarrow{T(t_n)x_n \tilde{x}}, \overrightarrow{x_{n+1}\tilde{x}} \rangle + (1 - \alpha_n)(1 - \alpha_n) \langle \overrightarrow{T(t_n)x_n T(t_n)x_n}, \overrightarrow{x_{n+1}\tilde{x}} \rangle \\
 & \leq (1 - \alpha_n)^2 d^2(x_n, \tilde{x}) + 2[\alpha_n \alpha_n \langle \overrightarrow{f(x_n)\tilde{x}}, \overrightarrow{x_{n+1}\tilde{x}} \rangle + \alpha_n (1 - \alpha_n) \langle \overrightarrow{f(x_n)T(t_n)x_n}, \overrightarrow{x_{n+1}\tilde{x}} \rangle] \\
 & \quad + (1 - \alpha_n) \alpha_n \langle \overrightarrow{T(t_n)x_n \tilde{x}}, \overrightarrow{x_{n+1}\tilde{x}} \rangle + (1 - \alpha_n)^2 d(T(t_n)x_n, T(t_n)x_n) d(x_{n+1}, \tilde{x})
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= (1 - \alpha_n)^2 d^2(x_n, \tilde{x}) + 2[\alpha_n^2 \langle f(x_n)\tilde{x}, \overrightarrow{x_{n+1}\tilde{x}} \rangle + \alpha_n(1 - \alpha_n) \langle f(x_n)\tilde{x}, \overrightarrow{x_{n+1}\tilde{x}} \rangle] \\
 &= (1 - \alpha_n)^2 d^2(x_n, \tilde{x}) + 2\alpha_n \langle f(x_n)\tilde{x}, \overrightarrow{x_{n+1}\tilde{x}} \rangle \\
 &= (1 - \alpha_n)^2 d^2(x_n, \tilde{x}) + 2\alpha_n \langle f(x_n)f(\tilde{x}), \overrightarrow{x_{n+1}\tilde{x}} \rangle + 2\alpha_n \langle f(\tilde{x})\tilde{x}, \overrightarrow{x_{n+1}\tilde{x}} \rangle \\
 &\leq (1 - \alpha_n)^2 d^2(x_n, \tilde{x}) + 2\alpha_n \alpha d(x_n, \tilde{x})d(x_{n+1}, \tilde{x}) + 2\alpha_n \langle f(\tilde{x})\tilde{x}, \overrightarrow{x_{n+1}\tilde{x}} \rangle \\
 &\leq (1 - \alpha_n)^2 d^2(x_n, \tilde{x}) + \alpha_n \alpha (d^2(x_n, \tilde{x}) + d^2(x_{n+1}, \tilde{x})) + 2\alpha_n \langle f(\tilde{x})\tilde{x}, \overrightarrow{x_{n+1}\tilde{x}} \rangle,
 \end{aligned}$$

which implies that

$$\begin{aligned}
 d^2(x_{n+1}, \tilde{x}) &\leq \frac{1 - (2 - \alpha)\alpha_n + \alpha_n^2}{1 - \alpha\alpha_n} d^2(x_n, \tilde{x}) + \frac{2\alpha_n}{1 - \alpha\alpha_n} \langle f(\tilde{x})\tilde{x}, \overrightarrow{x_{n+1}\tilde{x}} \rangle \\
 &\leq \frac{1 - (2 - \alpha)\alpha_n}{1 - \alpha\alpha_n} d^2(x_n, \tilde{x}) + \frac{2\alpha_n}{1 - \alpha\alpha_n} \langle f(\tilde{x})\tilde{x}, \overrightarrow{x_{n+1}\tilde{x}} \rangle + \alpha_n^2 M,
 \end{aligned}$$

where  $M \geq \sup_{n \geq 0} \{d^2(x_n, \tilde{x})\}$ . It then follows that

$$d^2(x_{n+1}, \tilde{x}) \leq (1 - \alpha'_n) d^2(x_n, \tilde{x}) + \alpha'_n \beta'_n,$$

where

$$\alpha'_n = \frac{2(1 - \alpha)\alpha_n}{1 - \alpha\alpha_n} \quad \text{and} \quad \beta'_n = \frac{(1 - \alpha\alpha_n)\alpha_n}{2(1 - \alpha)} M + \frac{1}{(1 - \alpha)} \langle f(\tilde{x})\tilde{x}, \overrightarrow{x_{n+1}\tilde{x}} \rangle.$$

Applying Lemma 2.8, we can conclude that  $x_n \rightarrow \tilde{x}$ . This completes the proof. □

If  $f \equiv u$ , then the following corollary can be obtained directly from Theorem 3.5.

**Corollary 3.6** *Let  $C$  be a closed convex subset of a complete CAT(0) space  $X$ , and let  $\{T(t)\}$  be a one-parameter continuous semigroup of nonexpansive mappings on  $C$  satisfying  $\mathcal{F} \neq \emptyset$  and uniformly asymptotically regular (in short, u.a.r.) on  $C$ , that is, for all  $h \geq 0$  and any bounded subset  $B$  of  $C$ ,*

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{x \in B} d(T(h)(T(t)x), T(t)x) = 0.$$

Suppose that  $t_n \in [0, \infty)$ ,  $\alpha_n \in (0, 1)$ ,  $x_0 \in C$  and  $\{x_n\}$  is given by

$$x_{n+1} = \alpha_n u \oplus (1 - \alpha_n) T(t_n)x_n, \quad \forall n \geq 0, \tag{3.14}$$

where  $\{\alpha_n\} \subset (0, 1)$  satisfies the following conditions:

- (i)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \alpha_n = 0$ ;
- (ii)  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \alpha_n = \infty$  and
- (iii)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} t_n = \infty$ .

Then  $\{x_n\}$  converges strongly as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  to  $\tilde{x}$  such that  $\tilde{x} = P_{\mathcal{F}}\tilde{x}$ , which is equivalent to the variational inequality (3.9).

#### Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

#### Authors' contributions

Both authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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