



# A generalized form of Ekeland's variational principle

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## Abstract

In this paper we prove a generalized version of the Ekeland variational principle, which is a common generalization of Zhong variational principle and Borwein Preiss Variational principle. Therefore in a particular case, from this variational principle we get a Zhong type variational principle, and a Borwein-Preiss variational principle. As a consequence, we obtain a Caristi type fixed point theorem.

## 1 Introduction

In 1974 I. Ekeland formulated a variational principle in [5] having applications in many domains of Mathematics, including fixed point theory. Ekeland's variational principle (see, for instance [5] and [6]) has been widely used in nonlinear analysis, since it entails the existence of approximate solutions of minimization problems for lower semicontinuous functions on complete metric spaces (see, for instance [1]). Later, Borwein and Preiss gave a different form of this principle suitable for applications in subdifferential theory [2]. Ekeland's variational principle has many generalizations in the very recent books of Borwein, Zhu [3], Meghea [7] and the references therein.

In this paper we give a generalized form of Ekeland variational principle, which is a generalization of the variational principles given by Ekeland-Borwein-Preiss and also by Zhong. As a consequence, we obtain a Caristi type fixed point theorem in a complete metric space.

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Key Words: Ekeland variational principle, Zhong variational principle, Borwein Preiss variational principle, metric spaces, Caristi type fixedpoint

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## 2 A generalized form of Ekeland's variational principle

In this section we give a common generalization of the variational principles of Borwein-Preiss-Ekeland [3] and Zhong [9].

First, we recall some notions used in our results, such as lower semi-continuous or proper functions. For this let  $(X, d)$  be an arbitrary metric space:

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$  be a function. We say that the function  $f$  is lower semicontinuous at  $x_0 \in X$  if

$$\liminf_{x \rightarrow x_0} f(x) = f(x_0),$$

where  $\liminf_{x \rightarrow x_0} f(x) = \sup_{V \in \mathcal{V}(x_0)} \inf_{x \in V} f(x)$ , where  $\mathcal{V}(x_0)$  is a neighborhood system of  $x_0$ .

**Definition 2.2.** Let  $f : X \rightarrow \overline{\mathbb{R}}$  be a function. We define the following set

$$\mathcal{D}(f) = \{x \in X \mid f(x) < \infty\}.$$

We say that the function  $f$  is proper if  $\mathcal{D}(f) \neq \emptyset$ .

Now, we prove our main result.

**Theorem 2.1.** Let  $h : [0, +\infty) \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$  be continuous non-increasing function. Let  $(X, d)$  be a complete metric space and  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$  be a proper, lower semi-continuous function bounded from below. Suppose that  $\rho : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+ \cup \{\infty\}$  is a function, satisfying:

- (i) for each  $x \in X$ , we have  $\rho(x, x) = 0$ ;
- (ii) for each  $(y_n, z_n) \in X \times X$ , such that  $\rho(y_n, z_n) \rightarrow 0$  we have  $d(y_n, z_n) \rightarrow 0$ ;
- (iii) for each  $z \in X$  the function  $y \mapsto \rho(y, z)$  is lower semi-continuous function.

Let  $\delta_n \geq 0$  ( $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$ ) be a nonnegative number sequence and  $\delta_0 > 0$  a positive number. For every  $x_0 \in X$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$  with

$$f(x_0) \leq \inf_{x \in X} f(x) + \varepsilon, \quad (2.1)$$

there exists a sequence  $\{x_n\} \subset X$  which converges to some  $x_\varepsilon$  ( $x_n \rightarrow x_\varepsilon$ ) such that

$$h(d(x_0, x_n))\rho(x_\varepsilon, x_n) \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{2^n \delta_0}, \text{ for all } n \in \mathbb{N}. \quad (2.2)$$

If  $\delta_n > 0$  for infinitely many  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then

$$f(x_\varepsilon) + h(d(x_0, x_\varepsilon)) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \delta_n \rho(x_\varepsilon, x_n) \leq f(x_0), \quad (2.3)$$

and for  $x \neq x_\varepsilon$  we have that

$$f(x) + h(d(x_0, x)) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \delta_n \rho(x, x_n) > f(x_\varepsilon) + h(d(x_0, x_\varepsilon)) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \delta_n \rho(x_\varepsilon, x_n). \quad (2.4)$$

If  $\delta_k > 0$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}^*$  and  $\delta_j = 0$  for every  $j > k$ , then for each  $x \neq x_\varepsilon$  there exists  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $m \geq k$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) + h(d(x_0, x)) \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \delta_i \rho(x, x_i) + h(d(x_0, x)) \delta_k \rho(x, x_m) > \\ f(x_\varepsilon) + h(d(x_0, x_\varepsilon)) \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \delta_i \rho(x_\varepsilon, x_i) + h(d(x_0, x_\varepsilon)) \delta_k \rho(x_\varepsilon, x_m). \end{aligned} \quad (2.5)$$

*Proof.* In the first case, for infinitely many  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , without loss of generality, we can assume that  $\delta_n > 0$ , for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . We can define the following set:

$$\mathcal{W}(x_0) = \{x \in X \mid f(x) + h(d(x_0, x)) \delta_0 \rho(x, x_0) \leq f(x_0)\}. \quad (2.6)$$

By the assumption (i), we have that  $\rho(x_0, x_0) = 0$ , so  $x_0 \in \mathcal{W}(x_0)$ . Therefore the set  $\mathcal{W}(x_0) \neq \emptyset$ . From the lower semi-continuity of the functions  $f$  and  $\rho(y, \cdot)$  and continuity of function  $h$ , we have that  $\mathcal{W}(x_0)$  is closed subset of  $X$ . We can choose  $x_1 \in \mathcal{W}(x_0)$ , such that

$$f(x_1) + h(d(x_0, x_1)) \delta_0 \rho(x_1, x_0) \leq \inf_{x \in \mathcal{W}(x_0)} \{f(x) + h(d(x_0, x)) \delta_0 \rho(x, x_0)\} + \frac{\varepsilon \cdot \delta_1}{2\delta_0}$$

and set again:

$$\mathcal{W}(x_1) = \left\{ x \in \mathcal{W}(x_0) \mid f(x) + h(d(x_0, x)) \sum_{i=0}^1 \delta_i \rho(x, x_i) \leq f(x_1) + h(d(x_0, x_1)) \delta_0 \rho(x_1, x_0) \right\}$$

Similarly as above, we have that  $\mathcal{W}(x_1) \neq \emptyset$  (since  $x_1 \in \mathcal{W}(x_1)$ ), and  $\mathcal{W}(x_1)$  is non-empty closed subset of  $\mathcal{W}(x_0)$ , which means that  $\mathcal{W}(x_1)$  is a non-empty closed subset of  $X$  as well.

Using the mathematical induction we can define a sequence  $x_{n-1} \in \mathcal{W}(x_{n-2})$  and  $\mathcal{W}(x_{n-1})$  such that:

$$\mathcal{W}(x_{n-1}) = \left\{ x \in \mathcal{W}(x_{n-2}) \mid f(x) + h(d(x_0, x)) \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \delta_i \rho(x, x_i) \leq \right.$$

$$f(x_{n-1}) + h(d(x_0, x_{n-1})) \sum_{i=0}^{n-2} \delta_i \rho(x_{n-1}, x_i)\}.$$

It is easy to see that  $\mathcal{W}(x_{n-1}) \neq \emptyset$ , and  $\mathcal{W}(x_{n-1})$  is closed subset of  $X$ . We can choose  $x_n \in \mathcal{W}(x_{n-1})$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} f(x_n) + h(d(x_0, x_n)) \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \delta_i \rho(x_n, x_i) &\leq \\ &\leq \inf_{x \in \mathcal{W}(x_{n-1})} \left\{ f(x) + h(d(x_0, x)) \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \delta_i \rho(x, x_i) \right\} + \frac{\delta_n \cdot \varepsilon}{2^n \delta_0}, \end{aligned}$$

and we can define the set

$$\mathcal{W}(x_n) = \left\{ x \in \mathcal{W}(x_{n-1}) \mid f(x) + h(d(x_0, x)) \sum_{i=0}^n \delta_i \rho(x, x_i) \leq f(x_n) + h(d(x_0, x_n)) \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \delta_i \rho(x_n, x_i) \right\}$$

which is closed subset of  $X$ .

Let  $z$  be an arbitrary element of  $\mathcal{W}(x_n)$ . Then from the definition of  $\mathcal{W}(x_n)$  we have the following inequality

$$\begin{aligned} f(z) + h(d(x_0, z)) \sum_{i=0}^n \delta_i \rho(z, x_i) &\leq f(x_n) + h(d(x_0, x_n)) \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \delta_i \rho(x_n, x_i) \Leftrightarrow \\ \Leftrightarrow f(z) + h(d(x_0, z)) \delta_n \rho(z, x_n) + h(d(x_0, z)) \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \delta_i \rho(z, x_i) &\leq f(x_n) + h(d(x_0, x_n)) \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \delta_i \rho(x_n, x_i). \end{aligned}$$

Then, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} h(d(x_0, z)) \delta_n \rho(z, x_n) &\leq \left[ f(x_n) + h(d(x_0, x_n)) \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \delta_i \rho(x_n, x_i) \right] - \\ &\quad - \left[ f(z) + h(d(x_0, z)) \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \delta_i \rho(z, x_i) \right] \leq \\ &\leq \left[ f(x_n) + h(d(x_0, x_n)) \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \delta_i \rho(x_n, x_i) \right] \\ &\quad - \inf_{x \in \mathcal{W}(x_{n-1})} \left[ f(x) + h(d(x_0, x)) \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \delta_i \rho(x, x_i) \right] \\ &\leq \frac{\delta_n \varepsilon}{2^n \delta_0}, \end{aligned}$$

therefore

$$h(d(x_0, z))\rho(z, x_n) \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{2^n \delta_0}. \quad (2.7)$$

So, if  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , then  $\rho(z, x_n) \rightarrow 0$ . Then from (ii) it follows that  $d(z, x_n) \rightarrow 0$ . Therefore  $\text{diam}(\mathcal{W}(x_n)) \rightarrow 0$ , whenever  $n \rightarrow \infty$  and we obtain a descending sequence  $\{\mathcal{W}(x_n)\}_{n \geq 0}$  of nonempty closed subsets of  $X$ ,

$$\mathcal{W}(x_0) \supset \mathcal{W}(x_1) \supset \dots \supset \mathcal{W}(x_n) \supset \dots$$

such that  $\text{diam}(\mathcal{W}(x_n)) \rightarrow 0$ , as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Applying the Cantor intersection theorem for the set sequence  $\{\mathcal{W}(x_n)\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ , we have that there exists an  $x_\varepsilon \in X$  such that

$$\bigcap_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{W}(x_n) = \{x_\varepsilon\}.$$

We can observe that  $z = x_\varepsilon$  satisfies the inequality (2.7), therefore  $x_n \rightarrow x_\varepsilon$ . If  $x \neq x_\varepsilon$ , then there exists  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$f(x) + h(d(x_0, x)) \sum_{i=0}^m \delta_i \rho(x, x_i) > f(x_m) + h(d(x_0, x_m)) \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \delta_i \rho(x_m, x_i). \quad (2.8)$$

It is clear that if  $q \geq m$  then

$$\begin{aligned} f(x_m) + h(d(x_0, x_m)) \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \delta_i \rho(x, x_i) &\geq f(x_q) + h(d(x_0, x_q)) \sum_{i=0}^{q-1} \delta_i \rho(x_q, x_i) \geq \\ &\geq f(x_\varepsilon) + h(d(x_0, x_\varepsilon)) \sum_{i=0}^{q-1} \delta_i \rho(x_\varepsilon, x_i). \end{aligned}$$

using the inequality (2.8) we get the following estimate

$$f(x) + h(d(x_0, x)) \sum_{i=0}^m \delta_i \rho(x, x_i) \geq f(x_\varepsilon) + h(d(x_0, x_\varepsilon)) \sum_{i=0}^q \delta_i \rho(x_\varepsilon, x_i),$$

from where if  $q, m \rightarrow \infty$ , we have the claimed (2.4) relation.

Now, we assume the existence of a  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\delta_k > 0$  and  $\delta_j = 0$  for each  $j > k \geq 0$ . Without loss of generality we can assume that  $\delta_i > 0$  for every  $i \leq k$ . If  $n \leq k$  then we can take  $x_n$  and  $\mathcal{W}(x_n)$  similarly as above. If  $n > k$ , we can choose  $x_n \in \mathcal{W}(x_{n-1})$  so that

$$f(x_n) + h(d(x_0, x_n)) \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \delta_i \rho(x_n, x_i) \leq \inf_{x \in \mathcal{W}(x_{n-1})} \left\{ f(x) + h(d(x_0, x)) \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \delta_i \rho(x, x_i) \right\} + \frac{\delta_k \varepsilon}{2^n \delta_0},$$

and we define the following set

$$\mathcal{W}(x_n) = \left\{ x \in \mathcal{W}(x_{n-1}) \mid f(x) + h(d(x_0, x)) \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \delta_i \rho(x, x_i) + h(d(x_0, x)) \delta_k \rho(x, x_n) \leq \right. \\ \left. f(x_n) + h(d(x_0, x)) \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \delta_i \rho(x_n, x_i) \right\}.$$

In the same way as above, we can see that the statement of Theorem 2.1 holds.

But, if we have  $x \neq x_\varepsilon$ , then there exists  $m > k$  such that

$$f(x) + h(d(x_0, x)) \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \delta_i \rho(x, x_i) + h(d(x_0, x)) \delta_k \rho(x, x_m) > f(x_m) + h(d(x_0, x)) \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \delta_i \rho(x_m, x_i) \\ \geq f(x_\varepsilon) + h(d(x_0, x_\varepsilon)) \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \delta_i \rho(x_\varepsilon, x_i) + h(d(x_0, x_\varepsilon)) \delta_k \rho(x_\varepsilon, x_m),$$

which concludes the proof.  $\square$

### 3 Relation with the Zhong variational principle and the Ekeland-Borwein-Preiss variational principle

We show that in a special case of the Theorem 2.1 we get Zhong's variational principle (see for instance [9] and [10]), and in another special case we get the generalized form of Ekeland-Borwein-Preiss variational principle given by Li Yongxin and Shi Shuzhong (see [2], [8] and [3]).

#### 3.1 Relation with Ekeland-Borwein-Preiss variational principle

From the theorem 2.1 we have that

$$f(x) + h(d(x_0, x)) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \delta_n \tilde{\rho}(x, x_n) > f(x_\varepsilon) + h(d(x_0, x_\varepsilon)) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \delta_n \tilde{\rho}(x_\varepsilon, x_n).$$

We choose  $h \equiv \varepsilon > 0$  and  $\tilde{\rho} = \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \rho$ . This means that theorem 2.1 gets the following form:

**Corollary 3.1.** (*Yongxin-Shuzong [8]*) *Let  $(X, d)$  be a complete metric space and  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{\infty\}$  be a lower semi-continuous function bounded from below, such that  $\mathcal{D}(f) \neq \emptyset$ . Suppose that  $\rho : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+ \cup \{\infty\}$  is a function, satisfying:*

- (i) for each  $x \in X$ , we have  $\rho(x, x) = 0$ ;
- (ii) for each  $(y_n, z_n) \in X \times X$ , such that  $\rho(y_n, z_n) \rightarrow 0$  we have  $d(y_n, z_n) \rightarrow 0$ ;
- (iii) for each  $z \in X$  the function  $y \mapsto \rho(y, z)$  is lower semi-continuous function.

And let  $\delta_n \geq 0 (n \in \mathbb{N}^*)$  be a nonnegative number sequence,  $\delta_0 > 0$ . Then for every  $x_0 \in X$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$  with

$$f(x_0) \leq \inf_{x \in X} f(x) + \varepsilon, \quad (3.9)$$

there exists a sequence  $\{x_n\} \subset X$  which converges to some  $x_\varepsilon$  ( $x_n \rightarrow x_\varepsilon$ ) such that

$$\rho(x_\varepsilon, x_n) \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{2^n \delta_0} \quad n \in \mathbb{N}. \quad (3.10)$$

If  $\delta_n > 0$  for infinitely many  $n$ , then

$$f(x_\varepsilon) + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \delta_n \rho(x_\varepsilon, x_n) \leq f(x_0), \quad (3.11)$$

and for  $x \neq x_\varepsilon$  we have

$$f(x) + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \delta_n \rho(x, x_n) > f(x_\varepsilon) + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \delta_n \rho(x_\varepsilon, x_n). \quad (3.12)$$

### 3.2 Relation with Zhong variational principle

To obtain the Zhong's variational principle as a special case of Theorem 2.1 we choose the functions  $h$ ,  $\rho$ , and the sequence  $\delta_n$  as follows. Let  $\delta_0 = 1$  and  $\delta_n = 0$ , for every  $n > 0$ . Let  $\varepsilon, \lambda > 0$  and  $h(t) = \frac{\varepsilon}{\lambda(1+g(t))}$ , where  $g : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  is a continuous non-decreasing function. Then, in this case

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \delta_n \rho(x, x_n) = \delta_0 \rho(x, x_0) = \rho(x, x_0).$$

If  $\rho = d$  then the Theorem 2.1 has the following form:

$$f(x) \geq f(x_\varepsilon) + \frac{\varepsilon}{\lambda(1+g(d(x_0, x_\varepsilon)))} d(x_\varepsilon, x_0) - \frac{\varepsilon}{\lambda(1+g(d(x_0, x)))} d(x, x_0). \quad (3.13)$$

In the sequel, we examine the conditions when the following inequality holds:

$$\frac{d(x_0, x)}{1+g(d(x_0, x))} - \frac{d(x_0, x_\varepsilon)}{1+g(d(x_\varepsilon, x_0))} \leq \frac{d(x, x_\varepsilon)}{1+g(d(x_\varepsilon, x_0))} \quad (3.14)$$

We use the notations

$$\begin{cases} d(x_0, x) = a, \\ d(x_0, x_\varepsilon) = c, \\ d(x, x_\varepsilon) = b. \end{cases}$$

It is easy to see that  $a, b, c$  are exactly the sides of a triangle. The inequality (3.14) is equivalent with the following

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{a}{1+g(a)} &\leq \frac{b+c}{1+g(c)} \Leftrightarrow \\ a + ag(c) &\leq (b+c) + (b+c)g(a). \end{aligned} \quad (3.15)$$

Now, we distinguish two cases, whether  $a \geq c$  or  $a < c$ .

If  $a \geq c$ , then by the choice of  $g$ , we have  $g(a) \geq g(c)$ , so  $ag(c) \leq ag(a) \leq (b+c)g(a)$ . So, if  $x \notin B(x_\varepsilon, d(x_0, x_\varepsilon))$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &\geq f(x_\varepsilon) + \frac{\varepsilon}{\lambda(1+g(d(x_0, x_\varepsilon)))}d(x_\varepsilon, x_0) - \frac{\varepsilon}{\lambda(1+g(d(x_0, x)))}d(x, x_0) \geq \\ &\geq f(x_\varepsilon) - \frac{\varepsilon}{\lambda(1+g(d(x_0, x_\varepsilon)))}d(x, x_\varepsilon) \end{aligned} \quad (3.16)$$

Now, we examine the case when  $a < c$ . We can observe that, if  $x \mapsto \frac{g(x)}{x}$  is a non-increasing function, then  $\frac{g(c)}{c} \leq \frac{g(a)}{a}$  and we obtain

$$a + ag(c) \leq a + cg(a) \leq (b+c) + cg(a) \leq (b+c) + (b+c)g(a).$$

So, in this case, the (3.14) inequality holds assuming that  $x \mapsto \frac{g(x)}{x}$  is non-increasing.

Now, we can announce the following corollary of the Theorem 2.1.

**Corollary 3.2.** *Let  $g : [0, +\infty) \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$  continuous non-decreasing function. Let  $(X, d)$  be a complete metric space and  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{\infty\}$  be a lower semi-continuous function bounded from below, such that  $\mathcal{D}(f) \neq \emptyset$ . Then for every  $x_0 \in X$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$  with*

$$f(x_0) \leq \inf_{x \in X} f(x) + \varepsilon, \quad (3.17)$$

*there exists a sequence  $\{x_n\} \subset X$  which converges to some  $x_\varepsilon$  ( $x_n \rightarrow x_\varepsilon$ ) such that*

$$h(d(x_0, x_n))d(x_\varepsilon, x_n) \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{2^n} \quad n \in \mathbb{N}. \quad (3.18)$$



then if  $x \notin B(x_0, d(x_0, x_\varepsilon))$ ,

$$f(x) \geq f(x_\varepsilon) - \frac{\varepsilon}{\lambda(1 + g(d(x_0, x_\varepsilon)))} d(x, x_\varepsilon). \quad (3.19)$$

If  $\frac{g(x)}{x}$  is decreasing on  $(0, d(x_0, x_\varepsilon)]$  then for all  $x \neq x_\varepsilon$

$$f(x) \geq f(x_\varepsilon) - \frac{\varepsilon}{\lambda(1 + g(d(x_0, x_\varepsilon)))} d(x, x_\varepsilon).$$

**Remark 3.1.** If  $g$  is differentiable then we have  $\left(\frac{g(x)}{x}\right)' \leq 0$ , which means that  $g(x) \leq x$ .

#### 4 An extension of Caristi fixed point theorem

In this section we give an extension of Caristi fixed point theorem. In the

sequel let  $\xi = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \delta_n < \infty$ , then we have the following:

**Theorem 4.2.** Let  $(X, d)$  be a complete metric space, such that the function  $\rho$  is continuous. Let  $\varphi : X \rightarrow X$  be an operator for which there exists a lower semi-continuous mapping  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+ \cup \{\infty\}$ , such that

$$(i) \quad h(d(x_0, \varphi(x)))\rho(\varphi(x), y) - h(d(x_0, x))\rho(x, y) \leq \rho(x, \varphi(x)),$$

$$(ii) \quad \xi\rho(u, \varphi(u)) \leq f(u) - f(\varphi(u)).$$

Then  $\varphi$  has at least one fixed point.

*Proof.* We argue by contradiction. We assume that

$$\varphi(x) \neq x, \text{ for all } x \in X. \quad (4.20)$$

Using Corollary 3.1 we have that for each  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists a  $\delta_j$  sequence of positive real numbers and a sequence  $(x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ ,  $x_n \rightarrow x_\varepsilon$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $x_\varepsilon \in X$  such that for every  $x \in X$ ,  $x \neq x_\varepsilon$  we have

$$f(x) + h(d(x_0, x)) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \delta_n \rho(x, x_n) > f(x_\varepsilon) + h(d(x_0, x_\varepsilon)) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \delta_n \rho(x_\varepsilon, x_n). \quad (4.21)$$

In (4.21) we can put  $x := \varphi(x_\varepsilon)$ , because  $\varphi(x_\varepsilon) \neq x_\varepsilon$ . So, we get the following inequality:

$$f(x_\varepsilon) - f(\varphi(x_\varepsilon)) < h(d(x_0, \varphi(x_\varepsilon))) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \delta_n \rho(\varphi(x_\varepsilon), x_n) - h(d(x_0, x_\varepsilon)) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \delta_n \rho(x_\varepsilon, x_n) \Leftrightarrow$$

$$f(x_\varepsilon) - f(\varphi(x_\varepsilon)) < \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \delta_n [h(d(x_0, \varphi(x_\varepsilon)))\rho(\varphi(x_\varepsilon), x_n) - h(d(x_0, x_\varepsilon))\rho(x_\varepsilon, x_n)]. \quad (4.22)$$

Using (i), we get the following

$$\begin{aligned} f(x_\varepsilon) - f(\varphi(x_\varepsilon)) &< \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \delta_n [h(d(x_0, \varphi(x_\varepsilon)))\rho(\varphi(x_\varepsilon), x_n) - h(d(x_0, x_\varepsilon))\rho(x_\varepsilon, x_n)] \\ &\leq \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \delta_n [\rho(x_\varepsilon, \varphi(x_\varepsilon))] = \rho(x_\varepsilon, \varphi(x_\varepsilon)) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \delta_n = \xi \rho(x_\varepsilon, \varphi(x_\varepsilon)). \end{aligned} \quad (4.23)$$

If in (ii) we choose  $u = x_\varepsilon$  we get the following inequality

$$\xi \rho(x_\varepsilon, \varphi(x_\varepsilon)) \leq f(x_\varepsilon) - f(\varphi(x_\varepsilon)). \quad (4.24)$$

From the (4.23) we have

$$f(x_\varepsilon) - f(\varphi(x_\varepsilon)) < \xi \rho(x_\varepsilon, \varphi(x_\varepsilon)). \quad (4.25)$$

If we compare the inequalities (4.25) and (4.24), we have that

$$\xi \rho(x_\varepsilon, \varphi(x_\varepsilon)) \leq f(x_\varepsilon) - f(\varphi(x_\varepsilon)) < \xi \rho(x_\varepsilon, \varphi(x_\varepsilon)),$$

which is a contradiction.

Thus, there exists  $\tilde{x} \in X$  such that  $\tilde{x} \in \varphi(\tilde{x})$ .  $\square$

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