



Please read sections 4.1–4.2 in [Tr]. In this exercise we will prove the existence part in a slightly weaker version of Browder–Minty’s theorem. The proof utilizes the following topological result (Brower’s fixed point theorem).

Theorem 1. *Let C be a compact convex set and $f : C \rightarrow C$ a continuous function. Then there is at least one point $x \in C$ such that $f(x) = x$ (fixed point of f).*

- 1] Consider the following standard “counter-example” to Brower’s fixed point theorem in Hilbert spaces. Let H be a Hilbert space with an orthonormal basis $\{e_1, e_2, \dots\}$. Let B be the closed unit ball in H and consider a map $f : B \rightarrow B$ sending a vector x with coordinates (x_1, x_2, \dots) into a vector y with coordinates $((1 - \|x\|_H^2)^{1/2}, x_1, x_2, \dots)$.
- a) Show that $f : B \rightarrow B$ is continuous.
 - b) Show that f has no fixed points in B .
 - c) Which of the assumptions of Browder’s fixed point theorem is violated by this example?

- 2] Let V be a reflexive separable Banach space, $\{w_1, w_2, \dots\}$ be everywhere dense in V . Let further $A : V \rightarrow V'$ be a monotone, coercive, hemicontinuous, and *bounded*¹ operator. Then for every $f \in V'$ there is $y \in V$ such that $Ay = f$.

We start with some auxiliary results about A .

- a) Use hemicontinuity of A to show that if $0 \leq (Av - f)(v - y)$ for all $v \in V$ then $Ay = f$.
- b) Assume that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|y_n - y\|_V = 0$. Show that $\forall v \in V: \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (A(y_n))(v) = (A(y))(v)$, that is, $A(y_n) \rightharpoonup A(y)$ in V' .² Hint: use monotonicity and the previous characterization of $Ay = f$.

The remainder of the existence proof utilizes Galerkin method: let $V_n = \text{span}(w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n) \subset V$, $f_n \in V'_n$ is the restriction of f to V_n , and similarly $A_n : V_n \rightarrow V'_n$ be defined as $V_n \ni v \mapsto A(v)$ restricted to V_n . We can describe this process in more details by selecting a basis in V_n .

¹ $A : V \rightarrow V'$ is bounded if for every bounded set $S \subset V$ there is a constant $C_S > 0$ such that $\forall v \in S: \|Av\|_{V'} \leq C_S$.

²Such operators A are called *demicontinuous*.

Namely, let $\{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_m\} \in V_n$, $m \leq n$ be a basis in V_n . Define $i_n : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow V$ as $i_n((x_1, \dots, x_m)) = \sum_{k=1}^m x_k e_k$. Let further $i'_n : V' \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ be defined as $(i'_n(f))(x) = f(i_n(x))$, or in other words $\sum_{k=1}^m [i'_n(f)]_k x_k = \sum_{k=1}^m x_k f(e_k)$.

- c) Show that the problem of finding $y_n \in V_n$ such that $A_n y_n = f_n$ in V'_n is equivalent to finding $x \in \mathbb{R}^m$ such that $i'_n(A(i_n(x)) - f) = 0$ in \mathbb{R}^m .
- d) Let us define a function $F_n : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ by $F_n(x) = i'_n(A(i_n(x)) - f)$. Show that F_n is continuous.
- e) Use coercivity of A and continuity of F_n to show that for some $r > 0$ if $\|x\|_{\mathbb{R}^m} \geq r$ then the product $x^T F_n(x) \geq 0$.
- f) Use Brower's fixed point theorem to show that for every $n = 1, 2, \dots$ the problem $F_n(x) = 0$ admits a solution $x_n \in \mathbb{R}^m$ (hence also $A_n y_n = f_n$ where $y_n = i_n(x_n)$) by considering fixed points of a map $x \mapsto -r F_n(x) / \|F_n(x)\|_{\mathbb{R}^m}$ of the ball $B_r := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^m \mid \|x\|_{\mathbb{R}^m} \leq r\}$ into itself (in fact, into its boundary), where $r > 0$ is found in the previous part.
- g) Use coercivity of A to show that the sequence $\{y_n\}$ is bounded in V .

Since $\{y_n\}$ is a bounded sequence and V is a reflexive Banach set, it contains a weakly converging subsequence, say $y_{n'} \rightharpoonup \bar{y}$. Similarly, since A is bounded then the sequence $\{A y_{n'}\}$ is bounded in V' (which is a reflexive Banach set in its own right) and therefore also contains a weakly converging subsequence $A y_{n''} \rightharpoonup g \in V'$ (and still $y_{n''} \rightharpoonup \bar{y}$).

- h) Use the separability of V to show that $g = f$.
- i) Utilize the previously established convergence(s) and monotonicity of A to show that for an arbitrary $v \in V$ we have the inequality $0 \leq (Av - f)(v - \bar{y})$ (and as a result, $A(\bar{y}) = f$).