

# Proof-theoretical unwinding of mathematics

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# Outline

- 1 What is Proof Mining?
- 2 What is Metastability?
- 3 Unwinding mathematical proofs

# What is Proof Mining?

# Functional Interpretations

Informally, it is a mapping  $F$  that takes a formula  $A$  of a theory  $\mathcal{A}$  and maps it to a formula  $A^F \equiv \exists \underline{u} A_F(\underline{u})$  of a theory  $\mathcal{B}$

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Proof interpretations: (proofs of) theorems of  $\mathcal{A}$  are mapped to (proofs of) theorems of  $\mathcal{B}$ :

$$\mathcal{A} \vdash A \rightsquigarrow \mathcal{B} \vdash A^F.$$

in a way that one obtains a term  $\underline{t}$  witnessing the  $\exists$ -quantification in  $A^F$ :

$$\mathcal{A} \vdash A \Rightarrow \text{there is a term } \underline{t} \text{ such that } \mathcal{B} \vdash A_F(\underline{t}).$$

# Main Applications

Functional interpretations are used to show results of:

- **Relative consistency:**  $\perp^F \equiv \perp$ , so

$$\mathcal{A} \vdash \perp \Rightarrow \mathcal{B} \vdash \perp, \text{ i.e., } \text{Con}(\mathcal{B}) \Rightarrow \text{Con}(\mathcal{A});$$

- **Conservation:** if  $A^F \equiv A$ , for  $A \in \Gamma$ , then

$$\text{for any } A \in \Gamma, \quad \mathcal{A} \vdash A \Rightarrow \mathcal{B} \vdash A;$$

- **Unprovability:** if  $\mathcal{B} \not\vdash A_F(t)$ , then  $\mathcal{A} \not\vdash A$ ;

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- **Unprovability:** if  $\mathcal{B} \not\vdash A_F(t)$ , then  $\mathcal{A} \not\vdash A$ ;
- **Kreisel's shift of paradigm:** Functional interpretations allow for the extraction of the **computational content** hidden in the proof of the theorem – the term  $\underline{t}$  captures the computational content of (the proof of)  $A$ .

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  - ▶ General Logical Metatheorems (2003-05)
- ▶ F.Ferreira and P.Oliva: bounded functional interpretation (2005)
  - ▶ Completely new translation of formulas
  - ▶ Independence on bounded parameters is intrinsic/explicit

# Peano Arithmetic in all finite types

The finite types  $\mathcal{T}^\omega$  are defined inductively by:

$0 \in \mathcal{T}^\omega$  (natural numbers),

$\rho, \sigma \in \mathcal{T}^\omega \Rightarrow \rho \rightarrow \sigma \in \mathcal{T}^\omega$  (functions from  $\rho$  to  $\sigma$ ).

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In the language of Peano arithmetic in all finite types, we consider an appropriate notion of majorizability:

$$\begin{cases} n \leq_0^* m & \leftrightarrow & n \leq_0 m \\ x \leq_{\rho \rightarrow \sigma}^* y & \leftrightarrow & \forall u^\rho, v^\rho (u \leq_\rho^* v \rightarrow xu \leq_\sigma^* yv \wedge yu \leq_\sigma^* yv) \end{cases}$$

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- E.g., for  $f, g : 0 \rightarrow 0$ , we have  $f \leq_1^* g$  iff  $f$  is less or equal than  $g$  pointwise and that  $g$  is nondecreasing. We say that  $f$  is *monotone* if  $f \leq_1^* f$ , which just means it is nondecreasing.

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Together with the usual logical and arithmetical constants, and the combinators from  $\lambda$ -abstraction, we also have:

**Bounded quantification:**  $\forall x \trianglelefteq t$  and  $\exists x \trianglelefteq t$ , where  $x \notin FV(t)$ .

**Monotone quantification:**  $\tilde{\forall}x \equiv \forall x \trianglelefteq x$  and  $\tilde{\exists}x \equiv \exists x \trianglelefteq x$ .

**Bounded formulas** are formulas that don't contain unbounded quantifiers, for example

$$A_{\text{qf}} \mid \forall n' \leq n \ A_{\text{bd}} \mid \forall t \in [0, 1] \ A_{\text{bd}}.$$

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$\text{PA}_{\trianglelefteq}^{\omega}$  is Peano Arithmetic in all finite types with the (intensional) majorizability relation  $\trianglelefteq$ .



# Characteristic Principles

- $\text{MAJ}^\omega$  – Majorizability Axioms:

$$\forall x \exists y (x \sqsubseteq y)$$

- $\text{mAC}_{\text{bd}}^\omega$  – Monotone Bounded Choice:

$$\tilde{\forall} x \tilde{\exists} y A_{\text{bd}}(x, y) \rightarrow \tilde{\exists} f \tilde{\forall} x \tilde{\exists} y \sqsubseteq f(x) A_{\text{bd}}(x, y)$$

- $\text{bC}_{\text{bd}}^\omega$  – Bounded Collection Principle:

$$\forall x \sqsubseteq t \exists y A_{\text{bd}}(x, y) \rightarrow \exists z \forall x \sqsubseteq t \exists y \sqsubseteq z A_{\text{bd}}(x, y)$$

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## Bounded functional interpretation

$$A \rightsquigarrow A^B \equiv \tilde{\forall} \underline{x} \tilde{\exists} \underline{y} A_B(\underline{x}, \underline{y}), \quad \text{w/ } A_B \text{ a bounded formula.}$$

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## Characterization Theorem

$$\text{PA}_{\trianglelefteq}^\omega + \text{MAJ}^\omega + \text{mAC}_{\text{bd}}^\omega + \text{bC}_{\text{bd}}^\omega \vdash A \leftrightarrow A^B.$$

# Soundness of the interpretation

## Theorem (Soundness)

*Let  $\Delta$  be a set of universal sentences (with bounded matrices). If*

$$\text{PA}_{\leq}^{\omega} + \text{MAJ}^{\omega} + \text{mAC}_{\text{bd}}^{\omega} + \text{bC}_{\text{bd}}^{\omega} + \Delta \vdash A,$$

*then there are closed monotone terms  $\underline{t}$  such that*

$$\text{PA}_{\leq}^{\omega} + \Delta \vdash \forall \underline{x} \exists \underline{y} \leq \underline{t} \underline{x} A_B(\underline{x}, \underline{y}).$$

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$$\Rightarrow \text{PA}_{\sqsubseteq}^{\omega} + \Delta \vdash \tilde{\forall} z \, \forall x \, \underline{y} \sqsubseteq z \, \exists y \, \underline{y} \sqsubseteq \underline{t} z \, A_{\text{bd}}(x, y)$$

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# Formal Theories

To apply this proof-theoretical technique is necessary to work with (semi-)formal proofs, which in general is not the case for usual mathematical theorems. We need to extend our formal setting...

- ▶ Finite types with base types 0 and  $X$ , denoted  $\mathcal{T}^{\omega, X}$ , are constructed in the usual way, where  $X$  is the type of objects in an abstract (metric, Banach, Hilbert, etc.) space.
- ▶ Extend the majorizability notion to  $\mathcal{T}^{\omega, X}$  in an appropriate way.
- ▶ Add axioms characterizing the abstract space and all the required new constants.

We want that a soundness theorem still exists for the extended theory:

- New constants must be majorizable;
- Add moduli (of convergence, of Cauchyiness, of asymptotic regularity, of metastability, etc.) witnessing problematic existential quantifiers ('computational gaps');
- Universal axiomatic (possible with bounded matrices and using the new moduli).



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Let  $\text{PA}_{\underline{\Delta}}^{\omega}[X, \dots]$  be one such theory. Then,

### Soundness for extended theories

If  $\text{PA}_{\underline{\Delta}}^{\omega}[X, \dots] + \text{Principles}[X] \vdash A$ ,  
 then there are closed monotone terms  $\underline{t}$  such that  

$$\text{PA}_{\underline{\Delta}}^{\omega}[X, \dots] \vdash \tilde{\forall} \underline{x} \tilde{\exists} \underline{y} \trianglelefteq \underline{t} \underline{x} A_B(\underline{x}, \underline{y}).$$

# What is Metastability?

# Metastability

Let  $(x_n)$  be a sequence of real numbers.

- $(x_n)$  satisfies the **Cauchy property** if

$$(I) \quad \forall k \in \mathbb{N} \exists n \in \mathbb{N} \forall i, j \geq n \left( |x_i - x_j| \leq \frac{1}{k+1} \right)$$

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$$(II) \quad \forall k \in \mathbb{N} \forall f \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}} \exists n \in \mathbb{N} \forall i, j \in [n; f(n)] \left( |x_i - x_j| \leq \frac{1}{k+1} \right)$$

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(I) is equivalent to (II):

Clearly  $(I) \rightarrow (II)$ . The reverse direction,  $(II) \rightarrow (I)$ , is shown by contradiction: (II) states that there is no counterexample to (I).

The Cauchy (I) and the metastability (II) properties are equivalent,  
so...

*Why look at (II)?*

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- A Cauchy rate  $\phi$

$$\forall k \in \mathbb{N} \forall i, j \geq \phi(k) \left( |x_i - x_j| \leq \frac{1}{k+1} \right)$$

in general, is not computable (Specker sequences) and may be highly non-uniform.

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- In many cases it is, instead, possible to extract a uniform computable metastability rate  $\Phi$

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(The term **metastability** was coined by T.Tao in 2007 while studying the Mean Ergodic Theorem.)

# An easy example

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We have the following metastability result for any such sequence:

## Quantitative version (Kreisel, 1952)

Let  $(x_n)$  be a decreasing sequence of real numbers and  $D \in \mathbb{N}$  be such that  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N} (0 \leq x_n \leq D)$ . Then

$$\forall k \in \mathbb{N} \forall f \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}} \exists n \leq \Phi(k, f) \forall i, j \in [n; f(n)] \left( |x_i - x_j| \leq \frac{1}{k+1} \right),$$

where  $\Phi(k, f) := \max\{f^{(i)}(0) : i < R\}$ , with  $R = D(k+1)$ .

Proof:

Towards a contradiction, assume the result to be false. Then,  
 $n = 0$  fails:

$$x_0 - x_{f(0)} \geq x_{i_0} - x_{j_0} > \frac{1}{k+1}$$

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Hence,

$$x_0 \geq x_0 - x_{f^{(R)}(0)} > \frac{R}{k+1} = D,$$

which gives the contradiction.  $\square$



# Unwinding mathematical proofs

# Proof Mining

G.Kreisel (1951) was the first to formulate the program of **unwinding proofs** under the general question:

*“What more do we know if we have proved a theorem by restricted means than if we merely know that it is true?”*

By suggestion of D. Scott, “unwinding proofs” evolved into the more appealing term “**proof mining**”.

# Goals of proof mining

The main idea is to analyse an ineffective mathematical proof in order to obtain additional information:

- effective bounds, algorithms (rates of convergence, of metastability, of asymptotic regularity, ... );
- results of independence of certain parameters;
- generalization of the proof by weakening of premises.

# The good choices for study

The quality of these applications of proof theory seems to rest on two distinct aspects:

- 1<sup>st</sup> The chosen result must be **of interest** to the community with its finitary information wanted;
- 2<sup>nd</sup> The extracted information must be of a **simple** nature if not new

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  - 2<sup>nd</sup> The extracted information must be of a **simple** nature if not new
- ▶ The analysis of arithmetical comprehension (lurking in common place mathematical arguments, e.g. compactness principles) would require the use of Spector's bar-recursive functionals.
  - ▶ However, that goes against the goal of “simple information” and would not be appreciated by the general mathematician.
  - ▶ In most cases the use of such comprehension principles can actually be avoided: it may happen via an ‘arithmetization’ of the argument,  $\varepsilon$ -weakening, or by other simplifications to the proof.

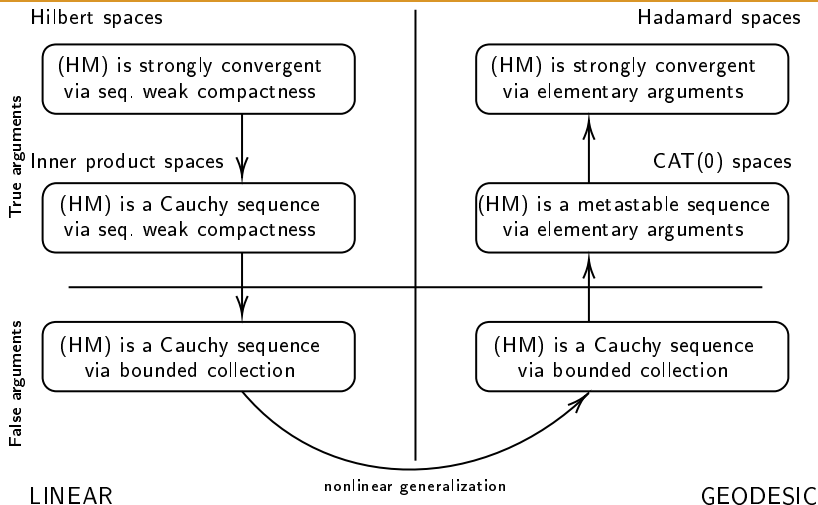
## Removal by False principles

- ▶ In [1], a macro was developed in which certain sequential weak compactness arguments (arithmetical comprehension) were bypassed by instead relying on a (set-theoretically false) bounded collection argument.
- ▶ Moreover, the bounded collection argument is computationally tame, in the sense that it does not contribute to an increase in the complexity of the final finitary information.
- ▶ This perspective was applied in the study of strong convergence for several Halpern-type iterations and, recently, in the study of the convergence of Dykstra's algorithm (which follows a completely different proof strategy).

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<sup>1</sup>F.Ferreira, L.Leuştean, P.Pinto. On the removal of weak compactness arguments in proof mining. *Advances in Mathematics*, 354:106728, 55pp, 2019.

# The alternating Halpern-Mann



<sup>2</sup>B.Dinis, P.Pinto. Strong convergence for the alternating Halpern-Mann iteration in CAT(0) spaces. *SIAM Journal on Opt.*, 33(2), 785-815, 2023.

# Generalizations

- ▶ Proof mining provides a deeper understanding of the proof, stripping it to its essential arguments: **generalizations!**
  - ▶ In the previous slide, we already saw an example of a generalization from inner product spaces to  $\text{CAT}(0)$  spaces.
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# Generalizations

- ▶ Proof mining provides a deeper understanding of the proof, stripping it to its essential arguments: **generalizations!**
- ▶ In the previous slide, we already saw an example of a generalization from inner product spaces to  $CAT(0)$  spaces.
- ▶ Successful in generalizations from a linear to nonlinear setting.
  - “Lion-Man” game – weakening of compactness assumption;<sup>2</sup>
  - Suzuki’s theorem reducing the convergence of a generalized iterative schema to that of its original version;<sup>3</sup>
  - Abstract versions of proximal algorithm in  $CAT(0)$ ;<sup>4</sup>

<sup>2</sup>U.Kohlenbach, G.López-Acedo, and A.Nicolae. A uniform betweenness property in metric spaces and its role in the quantitative analysis of the “Lion-Man” game. *Pacific J. Math.*, 310(1):181–212, 2021.

<sup>3</sup>U.Kohlenbach, and P.Pinto. Quantitative translations for viscosity approximation methods in hyperbolic spaces. *J. Math. Anal. Appl.*, 507, 2022.

<sup>4</sup>A.Sipoş. Abstract strongly convergent variants of the proximal point algorithm. *Comput. Optim. Appl.*, 83(1):349–380, 2022.

# Nonlinear spaces

Let us briefly recall certain settings of geodesic spaces:

W-hyperbolic spaces  $\Rightarrow$  normed spaces

UCW-hyperbolic spaces  $\Rightarrow$  uniformly convex normed spaces

$CAT(0)$ spaces  $\Rightarrow$  inner product spaces

# Nonlinear spaces

Let us briefly recall certain settings of geodesic spaces:

W-hyperbolic spaces  $\Rightarrow$  normed spaces

UCW-hyperbolic spaces  $\Rightarrow$  uniformly convex normed spaces

$CAT(0)$ spaces  $\Rightarrow$  inner product spaces

- ▶ Several results that hold in Hilbert spaces, still hold in a more general setting of (uniformly) **smooth normed spaces** where 'inner product'-like arguments are still available. In this instance, one assumes some additional conditions on the norm which are more general than assuming it to arise from an inner-product.
- ▶ Despite the relevance of these spaces, no geodesic counterpart existed in the literature.

# Smooth Hyperbolic spaces

In [5], the notion of nonlinear smooth space was introduced as a space  $(X, d, W, \pi)$  satisfying:

$$(P1) \quad \pi(\overrightarrow{xy}, \overrightarrow{xy}) = d^2(x, y)$$

$$(P2) \quad \pi(\overrightarrow{xy}, \overrightarrow{uv}) = -\pi(\overrightarrow{yx}, \overrightarrow{uv}) = -\pi(\overrightarrow{xy}, \overrightarrow{vu})$$

$$(P3) \quad \pi(\overrightarrow{xy}, \overrightarrow{uv}) + \pi(\overrightarrow{yz}, \overrightarrow{uv}) = \pi(\overrightarrow{xz}, \overrightarrow{uv})$$

$$(P4) \quad \pi(\overrightarrow{xy}, \overrightarrow{uv}) \leq d(x, y)d(u, v)$$

$$(P5) \quad d^2(W(x, y, \lambda), z) \leq (1 - \lambda)^2 d^2(x, z) + 2\lambda \pi(\overrightarrow{yz}, \overrightarrow{W(x, y, \lambda)z}),$$

where  $\pi : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and  $\overrightarrow{xy}$  denotes the pair  $(x, y) \in X \times X$ .

The function  $\pi$  is a nonlinear analogue of the normalized duality map in the normed setting.

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<sup>5</sup>P.Pinto. Nonexpansive maps in nonlinear smooth spaces. To appear in: *Transactions of the American Mathematical Society*, 48pp, 2024.

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The function  $\pi$  is a nonlinear analogue of the normalized duality map in the normed setting.

► In [5], it was shown that this notion extends both CAT(0) spaces as well as smooth normed spaces, providing an unifying framework for several important results in functional analysis.

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**Theorem 6.6.** *Let  $X$  be a uniformly smooth hyperbolic space with  $\omega_X$  a modulus of uniform continuity for  $\pi$ . Assume that  $(z_m)$  is a Cauchy sequence with rate of metastability  $\xi$ , and let  $(x_n)$  be generated by  $(H_{\text{ppa}})$ . Then, for all  $\varepsilon > 0$  and  $f \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ ,*

$$\exists n \leq \Omega \exists w \in C \forall i \in [n; n + f(n)] \left( d(w, T_i(w)) \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \wedge d(x_i, w) \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \right),$$

with  $\Omega := \Omega(\varepsilon, f, \sigma_1, \sigma_2, \tilde{\alpha}, b, \mu, \Delta, \xi, \omega_X) := \hat{\chi}(\theta^M(\hat{\xi}))$ , where  $\hat{\xi} := \tilde{\xi}(\varepsilon_0, f_0, N_0)$  as per the construction in Lemma 2.2,

$$\varepsilon_0 := \min \left\{ \frac{\tilde{\varepsilon}}{2}, \omega_X \left( b, \frac{\tilde{\varepsilon}}{2} \right) \right\}, \quad f_0(k) := \left\lceil \frac{b}{\delta_1(k)} \right\rceil, \quad N_0 := \left\lfloor \frac{3b}{2\tilde{\varepsilon}} \right\rfloor, \quad \tilde{\varepsilon} := \frac{\varepsilon^2}{48b},$$

and, taking  $\chi$  from Lemma 2.6 and writing  $g^M$  for  $g^M(k) := \max\{g(k') : k' \leq k\}$ ,

$$\delta_1(k) := \frac{\min \left\{ \frac{\varepsilon}{2}, \Delta \left( b, \frac{\eta_k}{\mu(0)} \right), \Delta \left( b, \frac{\omega_X(b, \tilde{\varepsilon})}{2} \right), 3\tilde{\alpha}(K(k)) \cdot \tilde{\varepsilon}, \frac{2\tilde{\varepsilon}}{K(k)} \right\}}{\mu(K(k))},$$

$$\eta_k := \frac{\tilde{\varepsilon}}{3(k+1)}, \quad K(k) := \max\{k' + f_\chi(k') : k' \leq \theta(k)\},$$

$$f_\chi(k) := \underset{10}{\hat{\chi}}(k) - k + f^M(\hat{\chi}(k)) + 2, \quad \hat{\chi}(k) := \chi[\sigma_2, b^2] \left( \frac{\varepsilon^2}{4}, k \right),$$

and also, with  $\psi$  as in Lemma 6.4,

$$\theta(k) := \psi(\varepsilon_1(k), f_\chi, N_1(k), b) := f_\chi^+ \left( \left\lceil \frac{b}{\varepsilon_1(k)} \right\rceil \right) (N_1(k))$$

$$\varepsilon_1(k) := \frac{1}{2} \Delta \left( b, \frac{\eta_k}{\mu(0)} \right), \quad N_1(k) := \sigma_1 \left( \frac{\delta_2(k)}{b} \right),$$

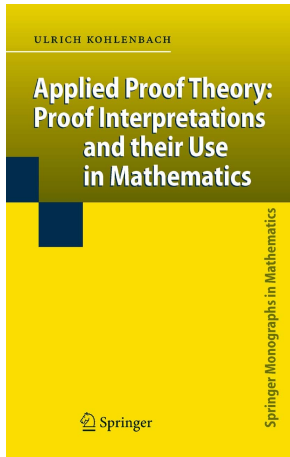
$$\delta_2(k) := \min \left\{ \varepsilon_1(k), \Delta \left( b, \frac{\omega_X(b, \tilde{\varepsilon})}{2} \right), \frac{\omega_X(b, \tilde{\varepsilon})}{2} \right\}.$$

In particular,  $(x_n)$  is a Cauchy sequence with rate of metastability  $\Omega$ .

... which, by easy ('elementary') mathematical arguments, entails the following infinitary result:

**Corollary 6.7.** *Let  $X$  be a complete uniformly smooth UCW hyperbolic space,  $C$  a nonempty closed convex subset of  $X$ , and  $\{T_n\}$  a resolvent-like family of nonexpansive maps on  $C$ . For given  $x_0, u \in C$ , if  $(x_n)$  is generated by  $(H_{ppa})$  with  $\{T_n\}$  and a sequence  $(\alpha_n) \subseteq (0, 1]$  satisfying  $\lim \alpha_n = 0$  and  $\sum \alpha_n = \infty$ , then  $(x_n)$  converges towards  $Q(u)$ , where  $Q$  is the sunny nonexpansive retraction of  $C$  onto  $\text{Fix}(\{T_n\})$ .*

# The book



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## Other selected sources

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- My homepage:  
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Thank you