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A NOTE ON THE LAGRANGIAN SADDLE-POINTS<sup>1/</sup>

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# A NOTE ON THE LAGRANGIAN SADDLE-POINTS

by Leonid Hurwicz and Hirofumi Uzawa  $\frac{1}{/}$

## 1. Introduction.

1.1 In the present note we obtain a theorem on programming in linear spaces, designed to handle a class of cases not covered by Theorem V.3.1 of Chapter 4 in [4]. (This theorem will be referred to below as Theorem V.3.1.) The latter theorem guarantees the existence of Lagrangian multipliers (functionals) for a class of extremization problems under rather mild restrictions on the nature of spaces and functions considered, but it requires the order-defining cones ("positive orthants") to possess interiors. This requirement is satisfied by the positive orthants in such spaces as  $(m)$  and  $(M)$ <sup>2/</sup>, but it is not satisfied in many important cases; in particular, it fails to be satisfied in such spaces as  $(\mathcal{L}_p)$ ,  $(L_p)$ ,  $(s)$ ,  $(S)$ .<sup>3/</sup> It is natural to inquire whether Lagrangian multipliers might exist in situations where the positive orthant has no interior. The present note provides only a partial answer to this question. It is shown that the assumption of a non-empty interior cannot be completely dispensed with, but it can be weakened in such a way as to yield Lagrangian saddle-points for a class of cases including the  $(\mathcal{L}_p)$  spaces. On the other hand, it is found that such saddle-points need not exist in the  $(S)$  or  $(s)$  spaces. With regard to the  $(L_p)$  spaces the question is still open.

1.2. We are concerned with the problem of extremization (more specifically, maximization) under constraints in certain linear topological spaces.

Our maximization problem is stated in terms of a linear system  $\chi$  and two linear topological spaces  $\mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{Z}$ , with ordering relations defined on  $\mathcal{Y}$  and  $\mathcal{Z}$  respectively by the convex cones  $P_Y$  and  $P_Z$ . A point  $y_0 \in \mathcal{Y}$  is said to be maximal over the set  $Y \subseteq \mathcal{Y}$ , if  $y_0 \in Y$  and, for each  $y \in Y$ ,  $y \succeq y_0$  implies  $y \preceq y_0$  <sup>4/</sup>.

Given two concave functions,  $f: X \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$  and  $g: X \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}$ ,  
 $X$  a convex subset<sup>5/</sup> of  $\mathcal{X}$ , we shall say that  $x_0$  maximizes  $f(x)$  subject to  
 $x \in X$  and  $g(x) \geq 0$  if  $f(x)$  is maximal over the set  $f[X \cap g^{-1}(P_Z)]$ ; i.e.,  
if  $x_0 \in X$ , and  $g(x_0) \geq 0$ , and  $f(x) \not\geq f(x_0)$  for all  $x \in X$  satisfying  $g(x) \geq 0$ .

We are interested in conditions under which the Lagrangian expression

$$(1) \quad \mathcal{Q}(s, z^*; y^*) = y^*[f(x)] + z^*[g(x)]$$

( where  $y^*$  and  $z^*$  are respectively continuous linear functionals over  $\mathcal{Y}$  and  $\mathcal{Z}$  ) has a (non-negative) saddle-point, i.e., the following conditions are satisfied: there exists continuous linear functionals  $y_0^*$  and  $z_0^*$  such that

$$(2.1) \quad y_0^* \geq 0 \text{ and } z_0^* \geq 0,$$

$$(2.2) \quad \mathcal{Q}(x, z_0^*; y_0^*) \leq \mathcal{Q}(x_0, z_0^*; y_0^*) \leq \mathcal{Q}(x_0, z^*; y_0^*)$$

for all  $x \in X$  and all  $z^* \geq 0$ .<sup>6/</sup>

In Theorem V.3.1, it was shown that the Lagrangian  $\mathcal{Q}$  has such a saddle-point if

(N<sup>o</sup>) the convex cones  $P_Y$  and  $P_Z$  both have non-empty interiors, and

(R<sup>o</sup>) for some  $x_* \in X$ ,  $g(x_*)$  is an interior point of  $P_Z$ .<sup>7/</sup>

Theorem V.3.1 remains valid if (R<sup>o</sup>) is replaced by the condition (R<sup>o'</sup>) for any linear functional  $z^* \geq 0$ , there exists a point  $x_{z^*}$  such that  $z^*(x_{z^*}) > 0$ .

(R<sup>o'</sup>) is meaningful even when the cone  $P_Z$  has no interior, and the question arises as to whether the condition (N<sup>o</sup>) could be weakened or modified.

1.3. At this point we shall give two examples to show that the condition (N<sup>o</sup>) cannot be completely dispensed with, even in such specialized classes of spaces as complete metric or locally convex.

First, consider the case in which  $\mathcal{Y}$  is the set of all reals (with the natural topology) and  $\mathcal{X}$  is the space (S), the set of all measurable functions defined on  $0 \leq t \leq 1$ . It is known<sup>8/</sup> that there is no non-null continuous linear functional on the space (S). It then follows from a theorem of Klee<sup>9/</sup> that there is no non-null linear non-negative functional on (S); cf. [6], p.267, (4.1). Hence, in (S), the regularity condition (R<sup>n</sup>) is (vacuously) satisfied.<sup>10/</sup> Now suppose that the Lagrangian  $\mathcal{L}$  has a saddle-point at  $(x_0, z_0^*)$ ; then  $z_0^* = 0$  (since there are no other non-negative functionals) and, since  $y_0^* \geq 0$ , we must have  $f(x) \geq f(x_0)$  for all  $x \in X$ . But if  $X$  is the set of all non-negative reals,  $f(x) = x$ , and  $g(x) = a - xb$ , with  $a$  and  $b$  in (S),  $a(t) = 2$  for all  $t$  in  $[0,1]$ ,  $b(t) = 1$  for all  $t$  in  $[0,1]$ , then  $x_0 = 2$ , yet  $f(3) > f(2)$ . Hence the Lagrangian has no saddle-point here.

Second, consider the space (s), the set of all numerical sequences  $a = (a_1, a_2, \dots)$ . Let  $\mathcal{X}$  and  $\mathcal{Y}$  be each an (s) space,  $\mathcal{Y}$  the set of reals, and let

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} 2^{-i} x_i (1+x_i)^{-1}, \quad g(x) = b - x,$$

$b = (1/2, 1/2, \dots)$ ,  $X = P_Z$  = the set of all numerical sequences with non-negative coordinates. Then  $x_0 = b$  and  $f(x_0) = 0$ . Now suppose that the Lagrangian  $\mathcal{L}$  has a saddle-point. It is known<sup>11/</sup> that every continuous functional  $z^*$  on the space (s) is of the form

$$z^*(z) = \sum_{i=1}^n z_i^* z_i$$

where  $n$  is a finite integer and  $z = (z_1, z_2, \dots)$ . If  $\mathcal{L}$  has a saddle-point at  $(x_0, z_0^*)$ , we must have

$$f(x) + \sum_{i=1}^n z_{0i}^* (1/2 - x_i) \leq 0 \text{ for all } x \text{ in } (s).$$

But let  $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots)$ , with  $x_i = 1/2$  for all  $i \neq n+1$  and  $x_{n+1} = 1$ .

Then

$$f(x) + \sum_{i=1}^n z_{0i}^* \cdot (1/2 - x_i) = 2^{-(n+1)} \cdot (1/2 - 1/3) > 0,$$

thus contradicting the required inequality. Hence the Lagrangian saddle-point does not exist here either.

1.4 In attempting to extend the theorem on Lagrangian saddle-points, we may note that it requires the existence of non-null linear continuous non-negative functionals on the product space  $Y \times Z$ . One natural approach is through certain theorems guaranteeing the continuity of any linear non-negative functional. Some of these theorems, unfortunately, require that the positive orthant possess interior, and are, therefore, of no value for our purpose. But the theorems of Nachbin ([8], p. 464, Theorem 1) and Klee (Lemma A, cf. footnote 9 above) do not call for the existence of the interior and can be used here.

Since both (S) and (s) satisfy all of the conditions of Lemma A,<sup>12/</sup> the preceding examples show that the hypotheses of Lemma A (together with the convexity of  $X$ , the concavity of  $f$  and  $g$ , and the regularity condition  $(R^?)$ ) are not sufficient to guarantee the existence of linear (even non-continuous) functionals satisfying the saddle-point inequalities (2). Hence, even in spaces where the hypotheses of Lemma A are satisfied, we must supply some counterpart of the condition  $(N^?)$  above which required that the positive orthants have interiors.

Now an examination of the proof of Theorem V.3.1 shows that  $(N^?)$  was used to establish the existence of a hyperplane (i.e., a continuous linear functional) separating two convex sets. But under the hypotheses of Lemma A we only need to prove the existence of a linear functional (i.e., a maximal linear variety) separating the two sets, since the continuity

then follows from non-negativeness. The existence of such a separating functional is purely algebraic property and hence the conditions under which such a separation can be performed are also algebraic. These are stated in an earlier paper of Klee ([5], p.456, (8.10) )<sup>13/</sup>:

Two disjoint convex sets can be separated by a linear functional provided that either the linear system (vector space) is finite-dimensional or one of the sets has a non-empty core.

The core of a set  $S$  in a linear system  $L$  is defined as follows: a point  $\underline{x}$  in  $L$  belongs to the core of  $S$ , to be denoted by  $X_0$ , if and only if

given any  $z \in L$ ,  $z \neq x$ , there exists a point  $y = \lambda'x + (1-\lambda')z$ ,  $0 < \lambda' < 1$ , such that all points  $y = \lambda x + (1-\lambda)z$ ,  $0 < \lambda < \lambda'$ , belong to  $S$ .

I.e.,  $\underline{x}$  belongs to  $S$  if and only if, in every direction of the linear system, there is a segment originating at  $\underline{x}$ .

In every linear topological space, the core of a set includes its interior, but the converse is not always true. In certain spaces, as we shall see below, the assumption that the core is non-empty is weaker than the assumption that the interior is non-empty, and it becomes natural to replace the condition  $(N^i)$  (stating that the interiors are non-empty) by the condition

$(N^{ii})$  the cores of  $P_y$  and  $P_z$  are non-empty.

Under these circumstances it turns out <sup>14/</sup> that the regularity condition  $(R^{ii})$  is equivalent to

$(R^{iii})$  for some  $x_* \in X$ ,  $g(x_*)$  is in the core of  $P_z$ .

Hence the conditions  $(N^{ii})$  and  $(R^{iii})$  are the precise counterparts of  $(N^i)$  and  $(R^i)$ , with 'core' replacing 'interior'.

1.5 Applying Lemma A to the linear functional obtained by the method of Theorem V.3.1, we find that the conclusions of Theorem V.3.1 remain valid with 'core' replacing 'interior' in its assumptions, provided we assume in addition that the spaces  $\mathcal{Y}$  and  $\mathcal{Z}$  are complete metric linear and that the cones  $P_Y$  and  $P_Z$  are closed and span their respective spaces. A precise statement of this result is found in 2.1 below.

Now all of the following spaces are complete metric linear and have closed space-spanning positive orthants:  $(S)$ ,  $(s)$ ,  $(L_p)$ ,  $p > 0$ ,  $(\ell_p)$ ,  $p > 0$ . Hence the possibility of applying the theorem of 2.1 below depends on whether their positive orthants have non - empty cores. It turns out that the spaces  $(S)$ ,  $(s)$ ,  $(L_p)$ , have positive orthants with empty cores.<sup>15/</sup> For  $(S)$ ,  $(s)$ , and  $(L_p)$ ,  $p < 1$ , this was to be expected, since we know that the theorem of 2.1 fails in these spaces. With regard to the spaces  $(L_p)$  the question of the existence of Lagrangian saddle-points is still unresolved. But it turns out that the positive orthant of bounded functions on any domain has a non-empty core<sup>16/</sup> and this includes all the  $(\ell_p)$  spaces,  $p > 0$ . The fact that  $(\ell_p)$ ,  $p < 1$ , are covered is rather interesting, since it shows that local convexity is not necessary; on the other hand, the fact that  $(s)$  does not, in general, have Lagrangian saddle-points, shows that local convexity is not sufficient in a complete metric space with a closed space-spanning positive orthant whose core is empty, even when  $(R^1)$  holds.

2. A Theorem on Lagrangian Saddle-Points.

2.1 Theorem. Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be a linear system,  $\mathcal{Y}$  and  $\mathcal{Z}$  complete metric linear spaces; let  $P_Y$  and  $P_Z$  be closed convex cones, with non-empty cores, in  $\mathcal{Y}$  and  $\mathcal{Z}$  respectively, and let  $P_Y - P_Y$  and  $P_Z - P_Z$  have interiors; let  $X$  be a (fixed) convex subset of  $\mathcal{X}$ ,  $f$  a concave function on  $X$  to  $\mathcal{Y}$ ,  $g$  a concave function on  $X$  to  $\mathcal{Z}$ , and

(R''') for some  $x_*$   $X$ ,  $g(x_*)$  is in the core of  $P_z$ .

Under these assumptions, if  $x_0$  maximizes  $f(x)$  subject to  $x \in X$ ,  $g(x) \geq 0$ , then there exist continuous linear functionals  $y_0^* \geq 0$  and  $z_0^* \geq 0$  such that the Lagrangian expression  $\mathbb{D}(x, z^*; y^*)$  defined by (1) has a saddle-point at  $(x_0, z_0^*)$  for all  $x \in X$  and  $z^* \geq 0$ ; i.e.,  $\mathbb{D}$  satisfies the inequalities (2).

## 2.2 Proof of the Theorem.

Let  $\mathcal{W}$  be the topological product space  $\mathcal{Y} \times \mathcal{Z}$  and consider the subset of  $\mathcal{W}$  defined by

(3)  $A = \{ w = (y, z) : y \in \mathcal{Y}, z \in \mathcal{Z}, y \leq f(x), z \leq g(x), \text{ for some } x \in X \}$ . Because of the concavity of the functions  $f$  and  $g$  and the convexity of the set  $X$ , the set  $A$  is also convex.

Now suppose it can be shown that there exists a hyperplane supporting the set  $A$  at the point  $w_0 = (f(x_0), 0_z)$ ,  $0_z$  being the origin of  $\mathcal{Z}$ , i.e., a non-null linear continuous functional  $w_0^*$  such that, for some real number  $\alpha$ ,

$$(4) \quad w_0^*(w_0) = \alpha \quad \text{and} \quad w_0^*(w) \leq \alpha \quad \text{for all } w \in A.$$

Let  $w_0^* = (y_0^*, z_0^*)$ . Then, by the reasoning used in the proof of Theorem V.3.1, we may conclude that  $y_0^* \geq 0$  and  $z_0^* \geq 0$ , and that the Lagrangian expression  $\mathbb{D}(x, z; y_0^*)$  satisfies the inequalities in (2) above. Furthermore, the regularity condition (R''') implies that  $y_0^* \neq 0$ . For suppose that  $y_0^* = 0$ . Since  $w_0^*$  is non-null, it follows that  $z_0^* \geq 0$ . Let  $z_1$  be a point in  $\mathcal{Z}$  such that  $z_0^*(z_1) < 0$ . But (2) implies that

$$z_0^*[g(x)] \leq 0 \quad \text{for all } x \in X;$$

hence, in particular, we have

$$z_0^*[g(x_*)] \leq 0$$

for the element  $x_* \in X$  whose existence is postulated by the condition (R''').



Therefore, letting  $z_\lambda = \lambda g(x_*) + (1 - \lambda)z_1$ , we have

$$z_0^*(z_\lambda) < 0 \text{ for all } 0 < \lambda < 1.$$

But  $g(x_*)$ , by hypothesis, is in the core of  $P_z$ ; hence  $z \in P_z$  for sufficiently small  $\lambda > 0$  and hence  $z_0^*[z_\lambda] \geq 0$  if  $\lambda$  is small enough; this contradiction shows that  $y_0^* \neq 0$ .

Therefore, it only remains to be shown that a  $w_0^*$  with the specified properties does exist. To establish the existence of  $w_0^*$ , we first define the sets

$$(5) \quad \{ A_1 = \{ w=(y,z) : y \in f(x), z \in g(x), \text{ for some } x \in X \} ,$$

$$(6) \quad B = \{ w=(y,z) : y \in f(x_0), z \geq 0 \}.$$

The set B is convex with a non-empty core and disjoint from the convex set  $A_1$ . Hence, by Lemma B (cf. footnote 13), there exists a maximal linear variety, i.e., an additive homogeneous non-null functional,  $h(w) = \alpha$ , such that

$$(7) \quad h(w^i) \leq \alpha \leq h(w^j) \text{ for all } w^i \in A_1, w^j \in B.$$

It follows from (7) that the image  $h(B)$  is not the whole space of reals, and since B is closed convex,  $h$  linear, and the space complete metric linear, we may apply Lemma A (cf. footnote 9). It follows that  $h$  is continuous; we shall, therefore, denote it by  $w_0^*$ .

Because of the continuity of  $w_0^*$ , we have

$$(8) \quad w_0^*(w) \leq \alpha \text{ for all } w \in \bar{A}_1,$$

where  $\bar{A}_1$  is the closure of  $A_1$ . Therefore, if we can show that

$$(9) \quad A \subseteq \bar{A}_1,$$

it will follow that

$$(10) \quad w_0^* \leq \alpha \text{ for all } w \in A.$$

In order to establish (9), let  $w = (y, z) \in A$ . For any  $y_1 \geq 0$  and  $\xi > 0$ , we have

$$w_\xi = (y - \xi y_1, z) \in A_1$$

and  $\lim_{\xi \rightarrow 0} w_\xi = w$ . Hence  $w \in \bar{A}_1$ .

Finally, since  $w_0 \in A \cap B$ , (7) implies

$$(11) \quad w_0^*(w_0) = \alpha.$$

Hence we have established that  $w_0^*$  is a continuous linear functional with (10) and (11) satisfied, so that the set  $\{w : w_0^*(w) = \alpha\}$  is a hyperplane supporting the set  $A$  at the point  $w_0$ . This completes the proof of the Theorem.

2.3 In this section, we investigate the relationships between the various regularity conditions. The conditions to be examined are:

(R<sup>i</sup>) There exists  $x_* \in X$  such that  $g(x_*)$  is in the interior of  $P_z$ .

(R<sub>C</sub><sup>ii</sup>) For any non-null non-negative linear continuous functional  $z^*$ , there exists  $x_{z^*} \in X$  such that

$$(12) \quad z^*(x_{z^*}) > 0.$$

(R<sup>iii</sup>) For any non-null non-negative linear functional  $z^*$  there exists  $x_{z^*} \in X$  such that (12) is satisfied.

(R<sup>iv</sup>) There exists  $x_* \in X$  such that  $g(x_*)$  is in the core of  $P_z$ .

It will first be shown that, in any topological space, the following implications hold:

$$(R^i) \Rightarrow (R^{iv}) \Rightarrow (R^{iii}) \Rightarrow (R_{C}^{ii}).$$

(a)  $(R^i) \Rightarrow (R^{iv})$ . Proof. By  $(R^i)$ ,  $g(x_*)$  is in the interior of  $P_z$  for some  $x_* \in X$ . But, in any linear topological space, every point of the interior is a point of the core (cf Klee, [5], p.445, (2.1)). Hence  $g(x_*)$  is in the core of  $P_z$  and  $(R^{iv})$  holds.

(b)  $(R^{iv}) \Rightarrow (R^{iii})$ . Proof. We show that, for any  $z^* \neq 0$ ,  $z^*(z_*) > 0$  for  $z_* = g(x_*)$ . For suppose the latter statement to be false. Then, for some  $z_0^* \neq 0$ ,  $z_0^*(z_*) = 0$ . Now there exists an element  $z_1$  such that  $z_0^*(z_1) < 0$ . Hence  $z_0^*(z_\lambda) < 0$  for any  $z = \lambda z_* + (1-\lambda)z_1$ ,  $0 \leq \lambda < 1$ . On

the other hand, since  $z_*$  is in the core of  $P_z$ ,  $z_\lambda \in P_z$  for sufficiently small  $\lambda > 0$ , so that  $z_0^*(z_\lambda) \geq 0$ . This contradiction completes the proof.

(c)  $(R^{ii}) \Rightarrow (R_C^{ii})$ . Proof. If a  $z^*$  qualifies under  $(R_C^{ii})$ , it also qualifies under  $(R^{ii})$ .

Thus we see that  $(R_C^{ii})$  is no more restrictive than any of the other regularity conditions.  $(R_C^{ii})$  would have been sufficient in the proof of our Theorem where  $(R^{ii'})$  was used. However, under the other assumptions made, this would not have added generality to our result. For

(d)  $(R_C^{ii}) \Rightarrow (R^{ii})$  if the space is complete metric linear and  $P_z$  closed and space spanning<sup>17/</sup> (i.e., such that  $P_z - P_z = \mathcal{Z}$ ),

(e)  $(R^{ii}) \Rightarrow (R^{ii'})$  if the core of  $P_z$  is non-empty.

Proof. (d) follows directly from Lemma A. To prove (e), we show that if  $(R^{ii'})$  is false while the core of  $P_z$  is non-empty,  $(R^{ii})$  must be false too. Let  $(R^{ii'})$  be false. Consider the set  $A = \{z: z \leq g(x) \text{ for some } x \in X\}$ . Since  $X$  is convex and  $g$  concave,  $A$  must be convex. Now suppose it has been shown that  $A$  does not intersect the core of  $P_z$ . Then Lemma B provides the required non-negative functional. Hence it remains to be shown that the intersection of  $A$  with the core of  $P_z$  is empty.

Suppose that the intersection is not empty, so that there is an element  $z$  in the core of  $P_z$  such that  $z = g(x)$  for some  $x \in X$ . Now, for any  $0 \leq \lambda \leq 1$ ,  $(1-\lambda)[g(x)-z]$  is in  $P_z$  by definition of  $A$ . Also, if  $\lambda$  is sufficiently small,  $(1-\lambda)z + \lambda y$  is in  $P_z$  for any  $y$ . Hence, for any  $y$  and all sufficiently small  $\lambda$ , the sum of these two vectors must also be in the convex cone  $P_z$ . In view of the identity

$$(1-\lambda)g(x) + \lambda y = (1-\lambda)z + (1-\lambda)[g(x)-z],$$

the vector  $(1-\lambda)g(x) + \lambda y$  is in  $P_z$  for any  $y$  and all sufficiently small  $\lambda$ . The latter statement means that  $g(x)$  is in the core of  $P_z$  and hence contradicts the falsity of  $(R^{ii'})$ .

We may also note that

(f)  $(R^{ii}) \Rightarrow (R^i)$  if  $P_z$  has a non-empty interior. Proof. When a convex set in a linear topological space has an interior, its core equals the interior (cf. Klee [5], p. 448, (4.5) and (p 445, (2.1)) ).

Hence, in view of  $(d_1)$  (cf. footnote 17), (e), and (f), the conditions  $(R^i)$  and  $R_C^i$  are equivalent in any topological linear space if  $P_z$  has a non-empty interior.

### 3. Applications.

3.1 Let  $T$  be an arbitrary set and  $\mathcal{B}(T)$  the set of all bounded real-valued functions defined on  $T$ ; i.e.,

$$(13) \quad \mathcal{B}(T) = \left\{ x = (x(t)) : \sup_{t \in T} |x(t)| < \infty \right\} .$$

$\mathcal{B}(T)$  is a linear system with usual addition and scalar multiplication. Let  $\mathcal{L}$  be any linear system in  $\mathcal{B}(T)$ , and  $P$  the positive orthant of  $\mathcal{L}$ ; i.e.,

$$(14) \quad P = \left\{ x = (x(t)) : x \in \mathcal{L}, x(t) \geq 0 \text{ for all } t \in T \right\} .$$

We may note that a function positively bounded from below belongs to the core of  $P$ ; i.e., if  $x = (x(t))$  in  $P$  satisfies

$$(15) \quad \inf_{t \in T} x(t) = m_x > 0 ,$$

then  $\underline{x}$  is in the core of  $P$ . In fact, for any point  $z = (z(t))$  in  $\mathcal{L}$ ,

let

$$(16) \quad \lambda_0 = (1 + M_z/m_x)^{-1}$$

where  $M_z = \sup_{t \in T} |z(t)| < \infty$ . Then we have

$$(17) \quad 0 < \lambda_0 < 1 \quad \text{and} \quad M_z/m_x = \lambda_0^{-1} - 1 .$$

Hence, for any  $\lambda$  such that  $0 < \lambda \leq \lambda_0$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 (18) \quad (1-\lambda)x(t) + \lambda z(t) &\geq (1-\lambda)m_x - \lambda|z(t)| \\
 &\geq \lambda m_x [(1-\lambda)/\lambda - M_z/m_x] \\
 &\geq \lambda m_x [(1-\lambda)/\lambda - (1-\lambda_0)/\lambda_0] \\
 &\geq 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

This inequality shows that, for any  $z$  in  $\mathcal{L}$ , there exists a positive number  $\lambda_0$  such that  $(1-\lambda)x + \lambda z$  is in  $P$  for all  $0 < \lambda < \lambda_0$ . This is equivalent to saying that  $x$  is in the core of the positive orthant  $P$ .

We also note that any function  $x=(x(t))$  in  $\mathcal{L}$  is represented as the difference of two functions belonging to  $P$ :

$$(19) \quad x = x^+ - x^-,$$

where  $x^+(t) = \max [x(t), 0]$ ,  $x^-(t) = \max [-x(t), 0]$  for all  $t \in T$ .

The conditions that the positive orthant  $P$  have a non-empty core and that the set  $P - P$  have a non-empty interior are therefore satisfied for each of the following spaces:

$$(m), (M), (\ell_p) \text{ with } p > 0.$$

Also, in each of these spaces the positive orthant is closed. Hence our theorem (2.1 above) may be applied to these types of linear spaces, while Theorem V.3.1 would not have been applicable in the  $(\ell_p)$  spaces, since their positive orthants have empty interiors. It should be pointed out that, for these spaces, our theorem could also have been proved by using Nachbin's Theorem 1 in [8] instead of Lemma A.

3.2 In this section we show that, in certain spaces, the positive orthant has no core. This makes it impossible to apply the theorem of 2.1, but does not necessarily imply the non-existence of a Lagrangian saddle-point.

(a) The space (s). This is the space of all numerical sequences

$x = (x_1, x_2, \dots)$ . Denote by  $P$  its positive orthant, i.e., the set of all sequences  $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots)$  such that  $x_i \geq 0$  for  $i=1, 2, \dots$ . Suppose that

a certain element  $y = (y_1, y_2, \dots)$  of  $P$  is in the core  $P_0$  of  $P$ .

Then  $y_i > 0$  for all  $i$  and given any element

$\underline{z}$  of the space, there must exist a number  $0 < \lambda < 1$ , such that all vectors of the form  $\lambda y + (1-\lambda)z$  belong to  $P$ , provided  $0 < \lambda < \lambda'$ . In particular, this would have to be true for  $\underline{z}$  such that  $z_i = -iy_i$  for all  $i$ . But then

$$\lambda y_i - (1-\lambda)(iy_i) \geq 0 \text{ for all } i = 1, 2, \dots,$$

provided  $\lambda$  is small enough, so that

$$i \leq \lambda/(1-\lambda) \text{ for } i=1, 2, \dots,$$

which is impossible. Hence  $\underline{y}$  is not in the core  $P_0$ ; since it was picked arbitrarily,  $P_0$  must be empty.

(b) The space (S). This is the space of all measurable functions defined on the interval  $[0, 1]$ . We proceed in a manner analogous to that for the space (s). Given an element  $\underline{y}$  in the positive orthant  $P$ , i.e., a measurable function  $y(t)$ ,  $y(t) \geq 0$ ,  $0 \leq t \leq 1$ , we take for  $\underline{z}$  the function specified by the condition  $z(t) = -t^{-1}y(t)$ ;  $\underline{z}$  is measurable since it is the product of  $(y(t))$  and  $((-t^{-1}))$  which are measurable.

This choice of  $\underline{z}$  shows that  $\underline{y}$  is not in  $P_0$  and hence the core of  $P$  is empty.

(c) The space L. This is the space of the equivalence classes of all (absolutely) Lebesgue integrable functions defined on the interval  $[0, 1]$ , i.e.,  $L_1$ . To begin with, let us show that a bounded function  $y(t)$  cannot be in the core of the positive orthant. Thus suppose that  $y(t)$  is a bounded non-negative function and take as  $\underline{z}$  the function

$$z(t) = -t^{-(1/2)}$$

(This is legitimate since  $\underline{z}$  is integrable.) Now for any  $\lambda$ , however small, there is a positive number  $t_\lambda$  such that<sup>18/</sup>

$$\lambda y(t_\lambda) + (1-\lambda)z(t_\lambda) < 0 \text{ for all } t \text{ in } (0, t_\lambda).$$

Hence a bounded function cannot be an element of the core. By a similar procedure, one can show that a function bounded on some open

interval  $(a,b)$  within  $[0,1]$  cannot be in the core: here we define  $z(t)$  as  $-(t-a)^{-(1/2)}$  for  $t$  in  $(a,1)$  and zero in  $[0,a]$ .

Now a non-negative integrable function need not be bounded on an open interval, but it must be bounded on a set of positive measure (cf. Titchmarsh [11], pp.341-2). Let  $E$  be such a set. Then there will exist a point  $a$  in  $[0,1)$  such that the intersection of  $E$  with the interval  $[a,b)$  is of positive measure for all  $b > a$  (cf. Saks [9], pp 128-131). Here again  $z(t)$ , defined as in the preceding case, shows that an arbitrarily chosen non-negative integrable  $y(t)$  is not in the core of the positive orthant, since, for any  $\lambda > 0$ , there exists a set  $E_\lambda$  of positive measure with  $\lambda y(t) + (1-\lambda)z(t) < 0$  for  $t \in E_\lambda$ . Hence the core is empty.

(d) Other  $L_p$  spaces. The proof that the core is empty proceeds along lines analogous to those of the proof for  $L$ .

3.3 Among applications of particular interest to the economist, it may be mentioned that Debreu's Theorem 2 in [3], asserting that a Pareto Optimum is a Valuation Equilibrium, can be modified in the following way: Debreu's assumption that, for infinite-dimensional spaces, the production set has an interior would be weakened to requiring that  $Y$  have a core, while the space would be assumed complete linear metric and orderings in terms of suitable convex cones would be introduced.

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FOOTNOTES

1/ We wish to acknowledge the support received from the Office of Naval Research.

We are grateful to Professor S. Karlin, of Stanford University, for a suggestion concerning the regularity condition in Theorem V.3.1, Ch. 4 of [4] which provided a stimulus for this note, and also to Professor G. K. Kalisch, of the University of Minnesota, for clarification of the problem discussed in section 3.2 (c) of the present note.

2/ Cf. Banach [1], pp. 10-11.

3/ Cf. Banach [1], pp. 9-12.

4/ We write  $y' \geq y''$  if and only if  $y' - y'' \in P_y$ ;  $y' \leq y''$  means that  $y' \geq y''$  but  $y'' \not\geq y'$ . (I.e.,  $y_0$  is maximal over  $Y$  if  $y_0 \in Y$  and  $y \not\geq y_0$  for all  $y \in Y$ .) The same notational principles are followed in other spaces.

5/  $X$  is usually a convex cone, typically the positive orthant.

6/  $y^* \geq 0$  means that  $y^*(y) \geq 0$  for all  $y \geq 0$ ;  $y^* \leq 0$  means that  $y^* \geq 0$  but  $-y^* \not\geq 0$ , so that  $y^* \geq 0$  implies  $y^* \neq 0$ ; the notation for other spaces is similar.

7/ In Chapter 4 of [4] this has been called the Slater regularity condition.

8/ Cf. Banach [1], p.234, and LaSalle [7], p.134.

9/ Klee [6], p.266: "(3.4) If  $E$  is a complete metric linear space,  $C$  is a closed convex subset of  $E$  such that  $C-C$  has non-empty interior, and  $f$  is a linear functional on  $E$  from which  $fC \neq E$ , then  $f$  is continuous." For the sake of brevity, this result will be referred to as Lemma A.

It may be noted that if  $C - C = E$  (which we express by " $C$  spans  $E$ ") then  $C-C$  necessarily has a non-empty interior.

- 10/ The situation is the same in the  $L_p$  spaces for  $0 < p < 1$ .  
Cf. Klee [6], p 267.
- 11/ Cf. Banach [1], p.50.
- 12/ (S) and (s) are what Banach calls F-spaces. Cf Banach [1], p. 35.
- 13/ This result will be referred to as Lemma B. Cf. also Stone, [10], Part 3.
- 14/ See section 2.3 below.
- 15/ See section 3.2 below.
- 16/ See section 3.1 below.
- 17/  $(d_1) : (R_0^1) \implies (R^1)$  in any linear topological space if  $P_z$  has a non-empty interior. Cf. Bourbaki [2], p.52, Prop. 16.
- 18/ Let  $y(t) = M$  for all  $t \in [0,1]$ . Then  $\lambda y + (1-\lambda) (-t^{-(1/2)}) \geq 0$  implies  $t \geq (1/k^2)$ ,  $k = (1-\lambda)/(\lambda M)$ . Hence we may take any  $0 < t_\lambda < (1/k^2)$ .

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