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Author(s)	Kuroiwa, Daishi
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# Lagrange Duality of Set-Valued Optimization with Natural Criteria\*

黒岩 大史 (Daishi Kuroiwa)

*Department of Mathematics and Computer Science*

*Interdisciplinary Faculty of Science and Engineering, Shimane University*

*1060 Nishikawatsu, Matsue, Shimane 690-8504, JAPAN*

## Abstract

Set optimization problems with objective set-valued maps are considered, and some criteria of solutions are defined. Also, cone lower semicontinuity of set-valued maps are introduced, and existence theorems of solutions of such problems are established. Moreover, some duality results of these problems are investigated.

## 1 Introduction

We observe a set-valued optimization problem (SP) as follows:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{(SP)} & \text{Minimize } F(x) \\ & \text{subject to } x \in S \end{array}$$

where  $X$  is a set,  $(Y, \leq)$  an ordered vector space,  $F$  a map from  $X$  to  $2^Y$ , and  $S$  a nonempty subset of  $\text{Dom}(F) = \{x \in X \mid F(x) \neq \emptyset\}$ . This type of set-valued optimization problem has been developed as a generalization of vector-valued optimization problems for around twenty years. In many paper concerned with set-valued optimization (for example [2, 5, 4, 6, 7, 11]), we can see that a minimal solution  $x_0 \in S$  is defined such as:

$$F(x_0) \cap \text{Min} \bigcup_{x \in S} F(x) \neq \emptyset$$

and this problem are often called ‘vector optimization with set-valued maps.’ However the criterion of solutions is sometimes not suitable for set-valued optimization because it is only based on simple comparisons between vectors though our problem is set-valued optimization.

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Our aim of this paper is to introduce some natural, suitable, and proper criteria based on comparisons between values of the (set-valued) objective map for set-valued optimization, and investigate some properties concerned with the problem. In this paper, we call such criteria based on the idea above natural criteria for set-valued optimization, see [9].

The organization of this paper is as follows: in Section 2, we formulate our set-valued optimization problem and define two types of notions of solutions. In Section 3, we introduce (natural) lower semicontinuities for set-valued maps, characterize such continuities, and derive some existence theorems of solutions by using the lower semicontinuities. Finally, we show some duality theorems for our set-valued optimization in Section 4.

## 2 Natural Criteria of Set-Valued Optimization

First, we redefine our set-valued minimization problem (SP). Let  $X$  be a topological space,  $(Y, \leq_K)$  an ordered topological space with an ordering convex cone  $K$ ,  $F$  a map from  $X$  to  $2^Y$ , and  $S \subset \text{Dom}(F) (= \{x \in X \mid F(x) \neq \emptyset\})$ . Our set-valued minimization problem is the following:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(SP)} \quad & \text{Minimize} \quad F(x) \\ & \text{subject to} \quad x \in S. \end{aligned}$$

To define notions of solutions for our problem, we introduce some relations between two nonempty sets which like the order relation in topological vector spaces; though the number types of such relations is six, we treat two important relations of them, see [8].

In this paper, we define

$$\begin{aligned} A \leq^l B & \stackrel{\text{def}}{\iff} A + K \supset B, \\ A \leq^u B & \stackrel{\text{def}}{\iff} A \subset B - K, \end{aligned}$$

for nonempty subsets  $A, B$  of  $Y$ . In these cases,  $A$  is said to be smaller than  $B$  with  $l$ -inequality (resp.  $u$ -inequality) if  $A \leq^l B$  (resp.  $A \leq^u B$ ).

In the above notations,  $l$  means *lower* and  $u$  means *upper*. Note that  $A \leq^l B$  is equivalent to  $\text{Min } A = \text{Min } B$  and  $A \leq^u B$  is equivalent to  $\text{Max } A = \text{Max } B$ .

By using the set relations above, we introduce two types criteria of minimal solutions in the following definition. In this paper, when we consider  $l$ -minimal solution, we assume that  $F$  is  $l$ -closed map, that is  $F(x)$  is  $l$ -closed for each  $x \in X$  for simple consideration. Also we assume similar assumption,  $u$ -closedness of  $F$ , when we consider  $u$ -minimal solution.

**Definition 2.1** [9] An element  $x_0 \in S$  is said to be

- (i)  $l$ -minimal solution of (SP) if  
for any  $x \in S$  with  $F(x) \leq^l F(x_0)$ ,  $F(x_0) \leq^l F(x)$  is satisfied;
- (ii)  $u$ -minimal solution of (SP) if  
for any  $x \in S$  with  $F(x) \leq^u F(x_0)$ ,  $F(x_0) \leq^u F(x)$  is satisfied.

### 3 Semicontinuity of Set-Valued Maps and Existence Theorems

To consider existence of solutions of (SP) for our solutions, some cone semicontinuity were introduced in [5, 9].

**Definition 3.1** [9] A set-valued map  $F$  is said to be  $l$ -type lower semicontinuous on  $S$  if for any  $l$ -closed subset  $A$  of  $Y$ ,  $\mathcal{L}^l(A) = \{x \in S | F(x) \leq^l A\}$  is closed.

**Definition 3.2** [9] A set-valued map  $F$  is said to be  $l$ -type quasi lower semicontinuous at  $x_0 \in S$  if for each net  $\{x_\lambda\}$  converges to  $x_0$  with  $\{F(x_\lambda)\}$  is  $l$ -decreasing, that is,  $F(x_{\lambda'}) \leq^l F(x_\lambda)$  for  $\lambda < \lambda'$ ,  $F(x_0) \leq^l \text{Lim sup}_\lambda(F(x_\lambda) + K)$  is satisfied. A set-valued map  $F$  is said to be  $l$ -type quasi lower semicontinuous on  $S$  if it is  $l$ -type quasi lower semicontinuous at each point of  $S$ .

**Definition 3.3** [5] A set-valued map  $F$  is said to be upper  $K$ -semicontinuous at  $x_0 \in S$  if for any open set  $V$  with  $V \leq^l F(x_0)$ , there exists a neighborhood  $U$  of  $x_0$  such that  $x \in U$  implies  $V \leq^l F(x)$ ; A set-valued map  $F$  is said to be upper  $K$ -semicontinuous on  $S$  if it is upper  $K$ -semicontinuous at each point of  $S$ .

Now we can see some characterization with respect to these lower semicontinuity.

**Proposition 3.1** [9] Let  $F$  be a  $l$ -closed set-valued map. Then we have the following:

- (i) upper  $K$ -semicontinuity on  $S$  implies  $l$ -type lower semicontinuity on  $S$ ;
- (ii)  $l$ -type lower semicontinuity on  $S$  implies  $l$ -type quasi lower semicontinuity on  $S$ .

Also, if  $X$  and  $Y$  are finite dimensional and  $F$  is locally bounded, then we have

- (iv)  $l$ -type lower semicontinuity on  $S$  implies upper  $K$ -semicontinuity on  $S$ .

Moreover,  $Y$  is the real-field, and  $F$  is a singleton map, then  $l$ -type lower semicontinuity and upper  $K$ -semicontinuity are equivalent to the ordinary lower semicontinuity of real-valued functions.

Note that quasi lower semicontinuity is more weaker than another semicontinuity.

Now, we investigate  $u$ -type lower semicontinuity of set-valued maps.

**Definition 3.4** [9] A set-valued map  $F$  is said to be  $u$ -type lower semicontinuous on  $S$  if for any  $u$ -closed subset  $A$  of  $Y$ ,  $\mathcal{L}^u(A) = \{x \in S | F(x) \leq^u A\}$  is closed.

**Definition 3.5** [9] A set-valued map  $F$  is said to be  $u$ -type quasi lower semicontinuous at  $x_0 \in S$  if for each net  $\{x_\lambda\}$  converges to  $x_0$  with  $\{F(x_\lambda)\}$  is  $u$ -decreasing, that is,  $F(x_{\lambda'}) \leq^u F(x_\lambda)$  for  $\lambda < \lambda'$ ,  $F(x_0) \leq^u \text{Lim sup}_\lambda(F(x_\lambda) + K)$  is satisfied. A set-valued map  $F$  is said to be  $u$ -type quasi lower semicontinuous on  $S$  if it is  $u$ -type quasi lower semicontinuous at each point of  $S$ .

**Definition 3.6** [5] A set-valued map  $F$  is said to be lower  $K$ -semicontinuous at  $x_0 \in S$  if for any open set  $V$  with  $V \cap F(x_0) \neq \emptyset$ , there exists a neighborhood  $U$  of  $x_0$  such that  $x \in U$  implies  $V \cap (F(x) - K) \neq \emptyset$ ; A set-valued map  $F$  is said to be lower  $K$ -semicontinuous on  $S$  if it is lower  $K$ -semicontinuous at each point of  $S$ .

Now we can see some characterization with respect to these lower semicontinuities.

**Proposition 3.2** [9] Let  $F$  be a  $u$ -closed set-valued map. Then we have the following:

(i)  $u$ -type lower semicontinuity on  $S$  implies  $u$ -type quasi lower semicontinuity on  $S$ .

Also, if  $X$  and  $Y$  are finite dimensional and  $F$  is locally bounded, then we have

(iii)  $u$ -type lower semicontinuity on  $S$  is equivalent to lower  $K$ -semicontinuity on  $S$ .

Moreover,  $Y$  is the real-field, and  $F$  is a singleton map, then  $u$ -type lower semicontinuity and lower  $K$ -semicontinuity are equivalent to the ordinary lower semicontinuity of real-valued functions.

Now, we consider existence theorems for  $l$ -type and  $u$ -type minimal solutions.

**Theorem 3.1** [9] Let  $X$  be a topological space and  $Y$  an ordered topological vector space. If  $S$  is a nonempty compact subset of  $X$  and  $F : S \rightarrow 2^Y$  is a  $l$ -type quasi lower semicontinuous and  $l$ -closed set-valued map, then there exists a  $l$ -type minimal solution of (SP).

**Theorem 3.2** [9] Let  $X$  be a topological space and  $Y$  an ordered topological vector space. If  $S$  is a nonempty compact subset of  $X$  and  $F : S \rightarrow 2^Y$  is a  $u$ -type quasi lower semicontinuous and  $u$ -closed set-valued map, then there exists a  $u$ -type minimal solution of (SP).

By using one of the above theorems, we can prove the following:

**Corollary 3.1** Let  $X$  be a topological space,  $S$  a nonempty compact subset of  $X$ , and  $f : S \rightarrow 2^Y$  is a lower semicontinuous, then there exists an element  $x_0 \in S$  such that  $f(x_0) = \inf_{x \in S} f(x)$ .

Let  $Y^*$  be the topological dual space of  $Y$ ,  $\theta^*$  the null vector of  $Y^*$ , and  $K^+$  the positive polar cone of  $K$ , that is,  $K^+ = \{y^* \in Y^* | \langle y^*, k \rangle \geq 0, \forall k \in K\}$ .

**Theorem 3.3** [9] Let  $(X, d)$  be a complete metric space,  $Y$  an ordered locally convex space with the cone  $K$ . Also,  $F$  be a map from  $X$  to  $2^Y$  satisfying the following conditions:

- there exists  $y^* \in K^+ \setminus \{\theta^*\}$  such that
  - $\inf \langle y^*, F(x) \rangle$  is finite for each  $x \in S$
  - $F(x_1) \leq^l F(x_2), x_1, x_2 \in S \Rightarrow \inf \langle y^*, F(x_2) \rangle - \inf \langle y^*, F(x_1) \rangle \geq d(x_2, x_1)$

- $F : S \rightarrow 2^Y$  is  $l$ -type lower semicontinuous and  $l$ -closed.

Then, there exists a  $l$ -type minimal solution of (SP).

**Theorem 3.4** [9] Let  $(X, d)$  be a complete metric space,  $Y$  an ordered locally convex space with the cone  $K$ . Also,  $F$  be a map from  $X$  to  $2^Y$  satisfying the following conditions:

- there exists  $y^* \in K^+ \setminus \{\theta^*\}$  such that
  - $\inf \langle y^*, F(x) \rangle$  is finite for each  $x \in S$
  - $F(x_1) \leq^u F(x_2), x_1, x_2 \in S \Rightarrow \sup \langle y^*, F(x_2) \rangle - \sup \langle y^*, F(x_1) \rangle \geq d(x_2, x_1)$
- $F : S \rightarrow 2^Y$  is  $u$ -type lower semicontinuous and  $u$ -closed.

Then, there exists a  $u$ -type minimal solution of (SP).

Using one of the above theorems, we can show Phelps' theorem, see [1]:

**Corollary 3.2** Let  $(Y, \|\cdot\|)$  be a Banach space,  $D$  a closed nonempty subset of  $Y$ , and  $K$  a convex cone of  $Y$ . If there exist  $y^* \in K^+$  and  $\alpha > 0$  such that

- $\langle y^*, \cdot \rangle$  is bounded from below on  $D$  and
- $K \subset \{y \in Y \mid \langle y^*, y \rangle + \alpha \|y\| \leq 0\}$ .

Then  $\text{Min } D = \text{Ext}_K D \neq \emptyset$ .

## 4 Duality of Set-Valued Optimization

In this section, we consider a  $l$ -type set-valued minimization problem with an inequality constraint (SP) and its dual problem (SD).

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{(SP)} & l\text{-Minimize} \quad F(x) \\ & \text{subject to} \quad G(x) \leq^l \theta \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{(SD)} & l\text{-Maximize} \quad \Phi(T) \\ & \text{subject to} \quad T \in \mathcal{L}_+(Y, Z) \end{array}$$

where,  $X$  is a nonempty set,  $(Y, \leq_K)$ ,  $(Z, \leq_L)$  ordered vector spaces with ordering cones  $K$ ,  $L$ , respectively,  $F : X \rightarrow 2^Z$ ,  $G : X \rightarrow 2^Y$ ,  $\mathcal{L}(Y, Z) = \{T : Y \rightarrow Z \mid T \text{ is linear}\}$ ,  $\mathcal{L}_+(Y, Z) = \{T \in \mathcal{L}(Y, Z) \mid T(K) \subset L\}$ ,  $\text{Gr}(G) = \{(x, y) \in X \times Y \mid y \in G(x)\}$  and  $\Phi : \mathcal{L}(Y, Z) \rightarrow 2^Z$  defined by  $\Phi(T) = l\text{-Min}\{F(x) + T(y) \mid (x, y) \in \text{Gr}(G)\}$ .

**Definition 4.1 (Solutions)**  $x_0$  is said to be

- an  $l$ -feasible solution of (SP) if  $G(x) \leq^l \theta$ ;

(ii) an  $l$ -solution of (SP) if  $x_0$  is  $l$ -feasible and

$$x \in X, G(x) \leq^l \theta, F(x) \leq^l F(x_0) \text{ implies } F(x_0) \leq^l F(x).$$

$T_0$  is said to be

(i) a feasible solution of (SD) if

$$T_0 \in \mathcal{L}_+(Y, Z) \text{ and } \Phi(T) \neq \emptyset;$$

(ii) an  $l$ -solution of (SD) if  $T_0$  is feasible and there exists  $A_0 \in \Phi(T_0)$  such that

$$T_1 \in \mathcal{L}_+(Y, Z), A_1 \in \Phi(T), A_0 \leq^l A_1 \text{ implies } A_1 \leq^l A_0$$

**Proposition 4.1 (Weak Duality)**

Let  $x_0$  be an  $l$ -feasible solution of (SP),  $T_1$  an  $l$ -feasible solution of (SD), and  $(x_1, y_1)$  an element of  $\text{Gr}(G)$  satisfying  $F(x_1) + T_1(y_1) \in \Phi(T_1)$ . Then,

$$F(x_0) \leq^l F(x_1) + T_1(y_1) \text{ implies } F(x_1) + T_1(y_1) \leq^l F(x_0)$$

**Definition 4.2 (Lagrangian Function)** For  $x \in X, y \in Y, T \in \mathcal{L}(Y, Z)$ ,

$$L(x, y, T) = F(x) + T(y).$$

In usual,  $y$  is an element of  $G(x)$ .

**Definition 4.3 (Saddle Point)**

$(x_0, y_0, T_0) \in \text{Gr}(G) \times \mathcal{L}_+(Y, Z)$  is said to be an  $l$ -saddle point of  $L$  if

- (i)  $L(x, y, T_0) \leq^l L(x_0, y_0, T_0), (x, y) \in \text{Gr}(G) \Rightarrow L(x_0, y_0, T_0) \leq^l L(x, y, T_0)$
- (ii)  $L(x_0, y_0, T_0) \leq^l L(x_0, y_0, T), T \in \mathcal{L}_+(Y, Z) \Rightarrow L(x_0, y_0, T) \leq^l L(x_0, y_0, T_0)$

**Theorem 4.1** Assume that  $K$  is closed,  $L$  is solid, and  $F$  satisfies the following bounded condition: for each  $x \in \text{Dom}(F)$  there exists  $y^* \in K^+$  such that

- $\langle y^*, y \rangle > 0$  for each  $y \in K \setminus \{\theta\}$ ;
- $\inf_{y \in F(x)} \langle y^*, y \rangle > -\infty$ .

If  $(x_0, y_0, T_0) \in \text{Gr}(G) \times \mathcal{L}_+(Y, Z)$  is an  $l$ -saddle point of  $L$ , then we have

- (i)  $y_0 \leq \theta$  and  $T_0(y_0) = \theta$ ;
- (ii)  $x_0$  is an  $l$ -solution of (SP);
- (iii)  $T_0$  is an  $l$ -solution of (SD).

**Theorem 4.2**  $(x_0, y_0, T_0) \in \text{Gr}(G) \times \mathcal{L}_+(Y, Z)$  is an  $l$ -saddle point of  $L$  if and only if

- (i)  $L(x, y, T_0) \leq^l L(x_0, y_0, T_0), (x, y) \in \text{Gr}(G) \Rightarrow L(x_0, y_0, T_0) \leq^l L(x, y, T_0)$
- (ii)  $y_0 \leq \theta$  and  $T_0(y_0) = \theta$ .

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