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## Research Article

# Best Proximity Sets and Equilibrium Pairs for a Finite Family of Multimaps

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We establish the existence of a best proximity pair for which the best proximity set is nonempty for a finite family of multimaps whose product is either an  $\mathfrak{A}_\xi^k$ -multimap or a multimap  $T : A \rightarrow 2^B$  such that both  $T$  and  $S \circ T$  are closed and have the KKM property for each Kakutani multimap  $S : B \rightarrow 2^A$ . As applications, we obtain existence theorems of equilibrium pairs for free  $n$ -person games as well as for free 1-person games. Our results extend and improve several well-known and recent results.

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## 1. Introduction

Let  $E := (E, \|\cdot\|)$  be a normed space,  $A$  a nonempty subset of  $E$ , and  $T : A \rightarrow E$  a single-valued map. Whenever the equation  $T(x) = x$  has no solution in  $A$ , it is natural to ask if there exists an approximate solution. Fan [1] provided sufficient conditions for the existence of an approximate solution  $a \in A$  (called a best approximant) such that

$$\|a - T(a)\| = d(T(a), A) := \inf\{d(T(a), x) : x \in A\}, \quad (1.1)$$

where  $A$  is compact and convex and  $T$  is continuous. However, there is no guarantee that such an approximate solution is optimal. For suitable subsets  $A$  and  $B$  of  $E$  and multimap  $T : A \rightarrow 2^B$ , Sadiq Basha and Veeramani [2] provided sufficient conditions for the existence of an optimal solution  $(a, T(a))$  (called a best proximity pair) such that

$$d(a, T(a)) = d(A, B) := \inf\{\|x - y\| : x \in A, y \in B\}. \quad (1.2)$$

Srinivasan and Veeramani [3, 4] extended these results and obtained existence theorems of equilibrium pairs for constrained generalized games. Kim and Lee [5, 6] generalized

Srinivasan and Veeramani results and obtained existence theorems of equilibrium pairs for free  $n$ -person games. Recently, Al-Thagafi and Shahzad [7] generalized and extended the above results to Kakutani multimaps.

In this paper, we establish the existence of a best proximity pair for which the best proximity set is nonempty for a finite family of multimaps whose product is either an  $\mathfrak{A}_c^{\mathfrak{K}}$ -multimap or a multimap  $T : A \rightarrow 2^B$  such that both  $T$  and  $S \circ T$  are closed and have the **KKM** property for each Kakutani multimap  $S : B \rightarrow 2^A$ . As applications, we obtain existence theorems of equilibrium pairs for free  $n$ -person games as well as free 1-person games. Our results extend and improve several well-known and recent results.

## 2. Preliminaries

Throughout,  $E := (E, \|\cdot\|)$  is a normed space,  $A$  and  $B$  are nonempty subsets of  $E$ ,  $2^A$  is the family of all subsets of  $A$ ,  $\text{co}A$  is the convex hull of  $A$  in  $E$ ,  $\text{int} A$  is the interior of  $A$  in  $E$ ,  $\mathfrak{C}(A, B)$  is the set of all continuous single-valued maps,  $d(x, A) := \inf\{d(x, a) : a \in A\}$ , and  $d(A, B) := \inf\{\|a - b\| : a \in A \text{ and } b \in B\}$ . A map  $T : A \rightarrow 2^B$  is called a multimap (multifunction or correspondence) if  $T(x)$  is nonempty for each  $x \in A$ . A multimap  $T : A \rightarrow 2^A$  is said to have a fixed point  $a \in A$  if  $a \in T(a)$ ; the set of fixed points of  $T$  is denoted by  $F(T)$ . A multimap  $T : A \rightarrow 2^B$  is said to be (a) upper semicontinuous if  $\overline{T^{-1}(D)} = \{x \in A : T(x) \cap D \neq \emptyset\}$  is closed in  $A$  whenever  $D$  is closed in  $B$ , (b) compact if  $\overline{T(A)}$  is compact in  $B$ , (c) closed if its graph  $\text{Gr}(T) := \{(x, y) : x \in A \text{ and } y \in T(x)\}$  is closed in  $A \times B$  and (d) compact-valued (resp., convex) if  $T(x)$  is compact (resp., convex) in  $B$  for every  $x \in A$ . A map  $f : A \rightarrow B$  is proper if  $f^{-1}(K)$  is compact in  $A$  whenever  $K$  is compact in  $B$ . A map  $f : A \rightarrow E$  is quasilinear if the set  $Q(x) := \{a \in A : \|f(a) - x\| \leq r\}$  is convex for every  $x \in E$  and  $r \in [0, \infty)$ .

**Lemma 2.1** (see [8]). *Let  $A$  and  $B$  be nonempty subsets of a normed space  $E$ . If  $T : A \rightarrow 2^B$  is an upper semicontinuous multimap with compact values, then  $T$  is closed.*

The set of all  $a \in A$  such that  $\|a - x\| = d(x, A)$ , denoted by  $P_A(x)$ , is called the set of best approximations in  $A$  to  $x \in E$ . The multimap  $P_A : E \rightarrow 2^A$  is called the metric projection on  $A$ . Whenever  $A$  is compact and convex,  $P_A$  is upper semicontinuous with compact and convex values (see [8]).

A polytope  $P$  in  $A$  is any convex hull of a nonempty finite subset  $D$  of  $A$ . Whenever  $\mathfrak{X}$  is a class of maps, denote the set of all finite compositions of maps in  $\mathfrak{X}$  by  $\mathfrak{X}_c$  and denote the set of all multimaps  $T : A \rightarrow 2^B$  in  $\mathfrak{X}$  by  $\mathfrak{X}(A, B)$ . Let  $\mathfrak{A}$  be an abstract class of maps [9] satisfying the following properties:

- (1)  $\mathfrak{A}$  contains the class  $\mathfrak{C}$  of continuous single-valued maps;
- (2) each  $T \in \mathfrak{A}_c$  is upper semicontinuous with compact values;
- (3) for any polytope  $P$ , each  $T \in \mathfrak{A}_c(P, P)$  has a fixed point.

Let  $T : A \rightarrow 2^B$ . We say that (e)  $T$  is an  $\mathfrak{A}_c^{\mathfrak{K}}$ -multimap [9] if for every compact set  $K$  in  $A$ , there exists an  $\mathfrak{A}_c$ -multimap  $f : K \rightarrow 2^B$  such that  $f(x) \subseteq T(x)$  for each  $x \in K$ , (f)  $T$  is a **K**-multimap (or Kakutani multimap) [10] if  $T$  is upper semicontinuous with compact and convex values, (g)  $S : A \rightarrow 2^B$  is a generalized **KKM**-multimap with respect to  $T$  [11] if  $T(\text{co}D) \subseteq S(D)$  for each finite subset  $D$  of  $A$ , (h)  $T$  has the **KKM** property [11] if, whenever  $S : A \rightarrow 2^B$  is a generalized **KKM** multimap w.r.t.  $T$ , the family  $\{\overline{S(x)} : x \in A\}$  has the finite

intersection property; (i)  $T$  is a **PK**-multimap [12] if there exists a multimap  $g : A \rightarrow 2^B$  satisfying  $A = \bigcup \{\text{int } g^{-1}(y) : y \in B\}$  and  $\text{co}(g(x)) \subseteq T(x)$  for every  $x \in A$ . Note that each  $\mathfrak{A}_c^\kappa$ -multimap has the **KKM** property and each **K**-multimap (resp.,  $\mathfrak{A}_c$ -multimap, **PK**-multimap) is an  $\mathfrak{A}_c^\kappa$ -multimap (see [9, 13, 14]).

Let  $A$  and  $B_i$  be nonempty subsets of a normed space  $E$  for each  $i \in I_n := \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ . Define

$$\begin{aligned} A_i^0 &:= \{a \in A : \|a - b\| = d(A, B_i) \text{ for some } b \in B_i\}, \\ B_i^0 &:= \{b \in B_i : \|a - b\| = d(A, B_i) \text{ for some } a \in A\}, \end{aligned} \quad (2.1)$$

$A^0 := \bigcap_{i \in I_n} A_i^0$ . For  $n = 1$ , let  $A_0 := A_1^0 = A^0$  and  $B_0 := B_1^0$ .

The following result is a part of [7, Theorem 3.1].

**Lemma 2.2.** *Let  $A$  and  $B_i$  be nonempty subsets of  $E$  for each  $i \in I_n$ :*

- (a)  $P_A(B_i^0) = P_{A_i^0}(B_i^0) = A_i^0$ ;
- (b) if  $A_i^0$  and  $B_i$  are compact (resp., convex), then  $B_i^0$  is compact (resp., convex);
- (c) if  $A_i^0$  is nonempty, compact, and convex and  $B_i^0$  is convex, then  $P_{A_i^0|B_i^0}$  is a **K**-multimap.

*Remark 2.3.* We note, from part (a) of Lemma 2.2 and the definitions of  $A^0$ ,  $A_i^0$ , and  $B_i^0$ , that

- (a<sub>1</sub>)  $A_i^0$  is nonempty if and only if  $B_i^0$  is nonempty;
- (a<sub>2</sub>)  $P_A(B_i^0) = A^0$  if and only if  $A_i^0 = A^0$ ; so [5, Theorems 1, 2, and 4] by Kim and Lee are valid only whenever  $A_i^0 = A^0$ ;
- (a<sub>3</sub>)  $\bigcap_{i=1}^n P_A(B_i^0) = \bigcap_{i=1}^n P_{A_i^0}(B_i^0) = \bigcap_{i=1}^n A_i^0 = A^0$ . So  $A^0 \neq \emptyset$  if and only if  $\bigcap_{i=1}^n P_{A_i^0}(y_i) \neq \emptyset$  for some  $(y_1, \dots, y_n) \in \prod_{i=1}^n B_i^0$ .

**Lemma 2.4** (see [11, 14]). *Let  $A$  be a nonempty convex subset of a normed space  $E$ . If  $T : A \rightarrow 2^A$  is a closed and compact multimap having the **KKM** property, then  $T$  has a fixed point.*

**Lemma 2.5** (see [15]). *For each  $i \in I_n$ , let  $B_i$  be a nonempty, compact, and convex subset of a normed space  $E$ ,  $P_i : \prod_{j=1}^n B_j \rightarrow 2^{B_i}$  a map such that*

- (a)  $x_i \notin \text{co}P_i(x)$  for each  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in B := \prod_{j=1}^n B_j$ ;
- (b)  $P_i^{-1}(y)$  is open in  $B$  for each  $y \in B_i$ .

*Then there exists  $b \in B$  such that  $P_i(b) = \emptyset$  for each  $i \in I_n$ .*

**Lemma 2.6** (see [5, 6, 15, 16]). *Let  $B$  be a nonempty, compact, and convex subset of a normed space  $E$  and  $P : B \rightarrow 2^B$  a map such that*

- (a)  $x \notin \text{co}P(x)$  for each  $x \in B$ .

*Assume that one of the following conditions is satisfied:*

- (b<sub>1</sub>) if  $z \in P^{-1}(y)$ , then there exists some  $y' \in B$  such that  $z \in \text{int } P^{-1}(y')$ ;
- (b<sub>2</sub>)  $P^{-1}(y)$  is open in  $B$  for each  $y \in B$ .

*Then there exists  $b \in B$  such that  $P(b) = \emptyset$ .*

### 3. Best proximity results

**Lemma 3.1.** *Let  $A$  and  $B_i$  be subsets of a normed space  $E$  such that  $A_i^0$  (resp.,  $B_i^0$ ) are nonempty, compact (resp., closed), and convex for each  $i \in I_n$ . Suppose that  $f : A^0 \rightarrow A^0$  is a continuous, proper, quasilinear, and surjective self-map, and  $P : Y \rightarrow 2^{A^0}$  is a multimap defined by  $P(y_1, \dots, y_n) := \bigcap_{i=1}^n P_{A_i^0}(y_i)$  for each  $(y_1, \dots, y_n) \in Y := \prod_{i=1}^n B_i^0$ . Then  $f^{-1}P : Y \rightarrow 2^{A^0}$  is a  $\mathbf{K}$ -multimap.*

*Proof.* Fix  $i \in I_n$ . Since  $A_i^0$  is compact and convex, then  $P_{A_i^0} : E \rightarrow 2^{A_i^0}$  is a  $\mathbf{K}$ -multimap. As  $B_i^0$  is closed, we conclude, from Lemma 2.2(c), that  $P_{A_i^0|_{B_i^0}}$  is a  $\mathbf{K}$ -multimap and, hence,  $P : Y \rightarrow 2^{A^0}$  is a  $\mathbf{K}$ -multimap. Let  $S := f^{-1}P$ . As  $f$  is surjective and

$$S(Y) = f^{-1}P(Y) \subseteq f^{-1}(A^0) = A^0, \quad (3.1)$$

then  $S : Y \rightarrow 2^{A^0}$  is a multimap. To show that  $S$  is upper semicontinuous, let  $D$  be a closed subset of  $A^0$  and let  $\{y_m\}$  be a sequence in  $S^{-1}(D)$  such that  $y_m = (y_{m1}, \dots, y_{mn}) \rightarrow y = (y_1, \dots, y_n) \in Y$  as  $m \rightarrow \infty$ . Choose a sequence  $\{x_m\}$  in  $D$  such that  $x_m \in S(y_m)$ . Then  $f(x_m) \in P(y_m) \subseteq A^0$  for each  $m \geq 1$ . As  $D$  is compact, we may assume that  $x_m \rightarrow x \in D$  as  $m \rightarrow \infty$ . The continuity of  $f$  and the compactness of  $A^0$  imply that  $f(x_m) \rightarrow f(x) \in A^0$  as  $m \rightarrow \infty$ . Since  $f(x_m) \in P_{A_i^0}(y_{mi})$ , it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \|f(x) - y_i\| &\leq \|f(x) - f(x_m)\| + \|f(x_m) - y_{mi}\| + \|y_{mi} - y_i\| \\ &= \|f(x) - f(x_m)\| + d(y_{mi}, A_i^0) + \|y_{mi} - y_i\| \end{aligned} \quad (3.2)$$

for each  $m$ . Letting  $m \rightarrow \infty$ , we obtain  $\|f(x) - y_i\| = d(y_i, A_i^0)$ . This implies that  $f(x) \in P_{A_i^0}(y_i)$  and hence  $f(x) \in P(y)$ . From this, we conclude that  $x \in S(y) \cap D$  and  $y \in S^{-1}(D)$ . Therefore,  $S^{-1}(D)$  is closed and hence  $S$  is upper semicontinuous.

Notice, as  $f$  is proper and  $P(y)$  is compact, that  $S(y)$  is compact. Also, as  $f$  is quasilinear, the set

$$Q(y_i) := \{a \in A^0 : \|f(a) - y_i\| = d(y_i, A_i^0)\} \quad (3.3)$$

is convex. For  $a_1, a_2 \in S(y)$ , we have  $f(a_1), f(a_2) \in P(y)$  and hence  $f(a_1), f(a_2) \in P_{A_i^0}(y_i)$ . This implies that  $a_1, a_2 \in Q(y_i)$  and, by the convexity of  $Q(y_i)$ ,  $y_\lambda := \lambda a_1 + (1 - \lambda)a_2 \in Q(y_i)$  for each  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ . Thus  $f(y_\lambda) \in P_{A_i^0}(y_i)$  and hence  $f(y_\lambda) \in P(y)$ . From this, we conclude that  $y_\lambda \in S(y)$  and hence  $S(y)$  is convex. Therefore,  $S : Y \rightarrow 2^{A^0}$  is a  $\mathbf{K}$ -multimap.  $\square$

*Definition 3.2.* Let  $A$  and  $B_i$  be nonempty subsets of a normed space  $E$ ,  $T_i : A \rightarrow 2^{B_i}$  a multimap for each  $i \in I_n$ ,  $f : A' \rightarrow A'$  a self-map of a nonempty subset  $A'$  of  $A$ , and  $a \in A$ . If  $d(f(a), T_i(a)) = d(A, B_i)$ , one says that  $(f(a), T_i(a))$  is a best proximity pair. The best proximity set for the pair  $(f(a), T_i(a))$  is given by

$$\mathfrak{T}_a^i(f) := \{b \in T_i(a) : d(f(a), T_i(a)) = \|f(a) - b\| = d(A, B_i)\}. \quad (3.4)$$

For  $n = 1$ , let  $\mathfrak{T}_a(f) := \mathfrak{T}_a^1(f)$ . Whenever  $f$  is the identity map, we write  $\mathfrak{T}_a^i$  instead of  $\mathfrak{T}_a^i(f)$ .

*Definition 3.3.* Let  $T : A \rightarrow 2^B$  be a multimap. One says that  $T$  is a  $\mathbf{KKM}_0$ -multimap if  $T$  and  $S \circ T : A \rightarrow 2^A$  are closed and have the  $\mathbf{KKM}$  property for each  $\mathbf{K}$ -multimap  $S : B \rightarrow 2^A$ .

**Theorem 3.4.** *Let  $A$  and  $B_i$  be subsets of a normed space  $E$ ,  $A_i^0$  (resp.,  $B_i^0$ ) nonempty, compact (resp., closed), and convex, and  $T_i : A \rightarrow 2^{B_i}$  a multimap for each  $i \in I_n$ . Suppose that  $\bigcap_{i=1}^n P_{A_i^0}(\mathbf{y}_i)$  is nonempty for each  $(\mathbf{y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{y}_n) \in Y$  and  $T : A^0 \rightarrow 2^Y$  is a  $\mathbf{KKM}_0$ -multimap (resp.,  $\mathfrak{A}_c^\kappa$ -multimap) where  $T(x) := \prod_{i=1}^n T_i(x)$  for each  $x \in A^0$  and  $Y := \prod_{i=1}^n B_i^0$ . Then, for each continuous, proper, quasiasffine, and surjective self-map  $f : A^0 \rightarrow A^0$ , there exists  $a \in A^0$  such that the best proximity set  $\mathfrak{T}_a^i(f)$  is nonempty and closed.*

*Proof.* Fix  $i \in I_n$ . Define  $P : Y \rightarrow 2^{A^0}$  by  $P(\mathbf{y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{y}_n) := \bigcap_{i=1}^n P_{A_i^0}(\mathbf{y}_i)$  for each  $(\mathbf{y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{y}_n) \in Y$ . Let  $f : A^0 \rightarrow A^0$  be a continuous, proper, and quasiasffine self-map. As  $\bigcap_{i=1}^n P_{A_i^0}(\mathbf{y}_i)$  is nonempty for each  $(\mathbf{y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{y}_n) \in \prod_{i=1}^n B_i^0$ , it follows from Lemma 3.1 that  $f^{-1}P : Y \rightarrow 2^{A^0}$  is a  $\mathbf{K}$ -multimap. Now, assume that  $T : A^0 \rightarrow 2^Y$  is a  $\mathbf{KKM}_0$ -multimap. It follows from the definition of a  $\mathbf{KKM}_0$ -multimap that  $f^{-1}P \circ T : A^0 \rightarrow 2^{A^0}$  is a closed multimap having the  $\mathbf{KKM}$  property. As  $A^0$  is a compact set,  $f^{-1}P \circ T$  is a compact multimap. By Lemma 2.4, there exists  $a \in A^0$  such that  $a \in (f^{-1}P \circ T)(a)$  and hence  $f(a) \in P(T(a))$ . Thus, there exists  $(b_1, \dots, b_n) \in T(a) = \prod_{i=1}^n T_i(a)$  such that  $f(a) \in P(b_1, \dots, b_n) = \bigcap_{i=1}^n P_{A_i^0}(b_i) \subseteq A^0$ . Hence,  $f(a) \in P_{A_i^0}(b_i) \subseteq A_i^0$  and  $b_i \in T_i(a) \subseteq B_i^0$ . This implies that there exists  $a'_i \in A_i^0$  such that  $\|a'_i - b_i\| = d(A, B_i)$  and hence

$$d(A, B_i) \leq d(f(a), T_i(a)) \leq \|f(a) - b_i\| = d(b_i, A_i^0) \leq \|a'_i - b_i\| = d(A, B_i). \quad (3.5)$$

Thus  $d(f(a), T_i(a)) = \|f(a) - b_i\| = d(A, B_i)$ .

Next, assume that  $T : A^0 \rightarrow 2^Y$  is an  $\mathfrak{A}_c^\kappa$ -multimap. Then, there exists an  $\mathfrak{A}_c$ -multimap  $T' : A^0 \rightarrow 2^Y$  such that  $T'$  is upper semicontinuous with compact values and  $T'(x) := \prod_{i=1}^n T'_i(x) \subseteq T(x)$  for each  $x \in A^0$  for every  $x \in A^0$ . Since  $f^{-1}P \circ T' : A^0 \rightarrow 2^{A^0}$  is an  $\mathfrak{A}_c^\kappa$ -multimap (hence, a multimap having the  $\mathbf{KKM}$  property) and  $f^{-1}P \circ T'$  is closed, then  $T' : A^0 \rightarrow 2^Y$  is a  $\mathbf{KKM}_0$ -multimap. It follows from the previous paragraph that there exists  $(a, b) \in A^0 \times Y$  such that  $b = (b_1, \dots, b_n)$ ,  $b_i \in T'_i(a)$ , and

$$d(f(a), T'_i(a)) = \|f(a) - b_i\| = d(A, B_i). \quad (3.6)$$

As  $d(A, B_i) \leq d(f(a), T_i(a)) \leq d(f(a), T'_i(a))$ , we conclude that

$$d(f(a), T_i(a)) = \|f(a) - b_i\| = d(A, B_i). \quad (3.7)$$

Therefore, in both cases, the best proximity set  $\mathfrak{T}_a^i(f)$  is nonempty and its closedness follows from the continuity of the norm.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.5.** *Let  $A$  and  $B_i$  be subsets of a normed space  $E$  such that  $A_i^0$  (resp.,  $B_i^0$ ) is nonempty, compact (resp., closed), and convex. Suppose that  $\bigcap_{i=1}^n P_{A_i^0}(\mathbf{y}_i)$  is nonempty for each  $(\mathbf{y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{y}_n) \in Y := \prod_{i=1}^n B_i^0$  and  $T_i : A^0 \rightarrow 2^{B_i^0}$  is an  $\mathfrak{A}_c^\kappa$ -multimap for each  $i \in I_n$ . Then, for each continuous, proper, quasiasffine, and surjective self-map  $f : A^0 \rightarrow A^0$ , there exists  $a \in A^0$  such that the best proximity set  $\mathfrak{T}_a^i(f)$  is nonempty and closed.*

*Proof.* Define  $T : A^0 \rightarrow 2^Y$  by  $T(x) := \prod_{i=1}^n T_i(x)$  for each  $x \in A^0$ . As  $T : A^0 \rightarrow 2^Y$  is an  $\mathfrak{A}_c^\kappa$ -multimap, the result follows from Theorem 3.4.  $\square$

*Remark 3.6.* Since each PK-multimap is an  $\mathfrak{A}_c^\kappa$ -multimap, Theorem 4.1 of [12] is a special case of Corollary 3.5.

**Corollary 3.7.** *Let  $A$  and  $B_i$  be subsets of a normed space  $E$ ,  $A_i^0$  (resp.,  $B_i^0$ ) nonempty, compact (resp., closed), and convex, and  $T_i : A \rightarrow 2^{B_i}$  a multimap for each  $i \in I_n$ . Suppose that  $\bigcap_{i=1}^n P_{A_i^0}(y_i)$  is nonempty for each  $(y_1, \dots, y_n) \in Y$  and  $T : A^0 \rightarrow 2^Y$  is a  $\mathbf{KKM}_0$ -multimap (resp.,  $\mathfrak{A}_c^\kappa$ -multimap) where  $T(x) := \prod_{i=1}^n T_i(x)$  for each  $x \in A^0$  and  $Y := \prod_{i=1}^n B_i^0$ . Then, there exists  $a \in A^0$  such that the best proximity set  $\mathfrak{T}_a^i$  is nonempty and closed.*

**Theorem 3.8.** *Let  $A$  and  $B_i$  be subsets of a normed space  $E$ ,  $A_i^0$  (resp.,  $B_i^0$ ) nonempty, compact (resp., closed), and convex,  $T_i : A^0 \rightarrow 2^{B_i}$  an upper semicontinuous multimap with compact values, and  $T_i(x) \cap B_i^0$  nonempty for each  $x \in A^0$  for each  $i \in I_n$ . Suppose that  $\bigcap_{i=1}^n P_{A_i^0}(y_i)$  is nonempty for each  $(y_1, \dots, y_n) \in Y := \prod_{i=1}^n B_i^0$ . Then, for each continuous, proper, quasiasffine and, surjective self-map  $f : A^0 \rightarrow A^0$ , there exists  $a \in A^0$  such that the best proximity set  $\mathfrak{T}_a^i(f)$  is nonempty and closed.*

*Proof.* Fix  $i \in I_n$ . Define  $T'_i : A^0 \rightarrow 2^{B_i^0}$  by  $T'_i(x) := T_i(x) \cap B_i^0$  for each  $x \in A^0$ . Thus  $T'_i : A^0 \rightarrow 2^{B_i^0}$  is an upper semicontinuous multimap with compact values. Define  $T : A^0 \rightarrow 2^Y$  by  $T(x) := \prod_{i=1}^n T'_i(x)$  for each  $x \in A^0$ . As  $A^0$  is compact and  $T : A^0 \rightarrow 2^Y$  is an upper semicontinuous multimap with compact values, then  $T$  is an  $\mathfrak{A}_c^\kappa$ -multimap. It follows from Corollary 3.5 that there exists  $(a, b) \in A^0 \times Y$  such that  $b = (b_1, \dots, b_n) \in \prod_{i=1}^n T'_i(a)$  and

$$d(f(a), T'_i(a)) = \|f(a) - b_i\| = d(A, B_i). \quad (3.8)$$

As  $d(A, B_i) \leq d(f(a), T_i(a)) \leq d(f(a), T'_i(a))$ , the result follows as in Theorem 3.4.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.9.** *Let  $A$  and  $B_i$  be subsets of a normed space  $E$ ,  $A_i^0$  (resp.,  $B_i^0$ ) nonempty, compact (resp., closed), and convex,  $T_i : A^0 \rightarrow 2^{B_i}$  an upper semicontinuous multimap with compact values, and  $T_i(x) \cap B_i^0$  nonempty for each  $x \in A^0$  for each  $i \in I_n$ . Suppose that  $\bigcap_{i=1}^n P_{A_i^0}(y_i)$  is nonempty for each  $(y_1, \dots, y_n) \in Y := \prod_{i=1}^n B_i^0$ . Then, there exists  $a \in A^0$  such that the best proximity set  $\mathfrak{T}_a^i$  is nonempty and closed.*

*Remark 3.10.* Corollary 3.9 extends and improves [7, Theorems 3.2 and 3.4] by Al-Thagafi and Shahzad, [5, Theorems 1 and 2] by Kim and Lee, [3, Theorem 3.4] by Srinivasan and Veeramani, and [4, Theorem 3.2] by Srinivasan and Veeramani.

#### 4. Equilibrium pair results for free $n$ -person games

A free  $n$ -person game is a family of ordered quadruples  $(A, B_i, T_i, P_i)_{i \in I_n}$  such that  $A$  and  $B_i$  are nonempty subsets of a normed space  $E$ ,  $T_i : A \rightarrow 2^{B_i}$  is a constraint multimap, and  $P_i : B \rightarrow 2^{B_i}$  is a preference map where  $B := \prod_{j=1}^n B_j$  (see [5]). An equilibrium pair for  $(A, B_i, T_i, P_i)_{i \in I_n}$  is a point  $(a, b) \in A \times B$  such that  $T_i(a) \cap P_i(b) = \emptyset$ . For details on economic terminology (see [5, 16]).

**Theorem 4.1.** *Let  $(A, B_i, T_i, P_i)_{i \in I_n}$  be a free  $n$ -person game such that  $A$  and  $B_i$  are nonempty subsets of a normed space  $E$ ,  $T_i : A \rightarrow 2^{B_i}$  is a constraint multimap, and  $P_i : B \rightarrow 2^{B_i}$  is a preference map*



where  $B := \prod_{j=1}^n B_j$ . Assume that  $A^0$  is nonempty,  $T(x) := \prod_{i=1}^n T_i(x)$  for each  $x \in A^0$ ,  $Y := \prod_{i=1}^n B_i^0$ , and for each  $i \in I_n$ ,

- (a)  $A_i^0$  and  $B_i$  are nonempty, compact, and convex;
- (b)  $\bigcap_{i=1}^n P_{A_i^0}(y_i)$  is nonempty for each  $(y_1, \dots, y_n) \in \prod_{i=1}^n B_i^0$ ;
- (c)  $T : A^0 \rightarrow 2^Y$  is a  $\mathbf{KKM}_0$ -multimap (resp.,  $\mathfrak{A}_c^k$ -multimap);
- (d)  $x_i \notin \text{co}P_i(x)$  for each  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in B$ ;
- (e)  $P_i^{-1}(y)$  is open for each  $y \in B_i$ .

Then, there exists  $b \in B$  such that  $P_i(b) = \emptyset$  and, for each continuous, proper, quasiasffine, and surjective self-map  $f : A^0 \rightarrow A^0$ , there exists  $a \in A^0$  such that the best proximity set  $\mathfrak{A}_a^i(f)$  is nonempty and compact. If, in addition,  $P_i(z)$  is nonempty for each  $z \notin \prod_{i=1}^n \mathfrak{A}_a^i(f)$ , then  $(a, b)$  is an equilibrium pair in  $A^0 \times \prod_{i=1}^n \mathfrak{A}_a^i(f)$ .

*Proof.* Fix  $i \in I_n$ . As  $A_i^0$  and  $B_i$  are compact and convex, it follows from Lemma 2.2(b) that  $B_i^0$  is compact and convex. By Theorem 3.4, there exists  $a \in A^0$  such that the best proximity set  $\mathfrak{A}_a^i(f)$  is nonempty and closed. By Lemma 2.5, there exists  $b = (b_1, \dots, b_n) \in Y$  such that  $P_i(b) = \emptyset$ . As  $P_i(z)$  is nonempty for each  $z \notin \prod_{i=1}^n \mathfrak{A}_a^i(f)$ , we conclude that  $b = (b_1, \dots, b_n) \in \prod_{i=1}^n \mathfrak{A}_a^i(f)$ . Thus  $(a, b) \in A^0 \times Y$ ,  $b = (b_1, \dots, b_n) \in \prod_{i=1}^n T_i(a)$ ,  $T_i(a) \cap P_i(b) = \emptyset$  and  $d(f(a), T_i(a)) = \|f(a) - b_i\| = d(A, B_i)$ . Thus  $(a, b)$  is an equilibrium pair in  $A^0 \times \prod_{i=1}^n \mathfrak{A}_a^i(f)$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 4.2.** Let  $(A, B_i, T_i, P_i)_{i \in I_n}$  be a free  $n$ -person game such that  $A$  and  $B_i$  are nonempty subsets of a normed space  $E$ ,  $T_i : A \rightarrow 2^{B_i}$  is a constraint multimap, and  $P_i : B \rightarrow 2^{B_i}$  is a preference map where  $B := \prod_{j=1}^n B_j$ . Assume that  $A^0$  is nonempty,  $T(x) := \prod_{i=1}^n T_i(x)$  for each  $x \in A^0$ ,  $Y := \prod_{i=1}^n B_i^0$ , and for each  $i \in I_n$ ,

- (a)  $A_i^0$  and  $B_i$  are nonempty, compact, and convex;
- (b)  $\bigcap_{i=1}^n P_{A_i^0}(y_i)$  is nonempty for each  $(y_1, \dots, y_n) \in \prod_{i=1}^n B_i^0$ ;
- (c)  $T : A^0 \rightarrow 2^Y$  is a  $\mathbf{KKM}_0$ -multimap (resp.,  $\mathfrak{A}_c^k$ -multimap);
- (d)  $x_i \notin \text{co}P_i(x)$  for each  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in B$ ;
- (e)  $P_i^{-1}(y)$  is open for each  $y \in B_i$ .

Then, there exists  $b \in B$  such that  $P_i(b) = \emptyset$  and there exists  $a \in A^0$  such that the best proximity set  $\mathfrak{A}_a^i$  is nonempty and compact. If, in addition,  $P_i(z)$  is nonempty for each  $z \notin \prod_{i=1}^n \mathfrak{A}_a^i$ , then  $(a, b)$  is an equilibrium pair in  $A^0 \times \prod_{i=1}^n \mathfrak{A}_a^i$ .

**Theorem 4.3.** Let  $(A, B_i, T_i, P_i)_{i \in I_n}$  be a free  $n$ -person game such that  $A$  and  $B_i$  are subsets of a normed space  $E$ ,  $T_i : A \rightarrow 2^{B_i}$  is a constraint multimap, and  $P_i : B \rightarrow 2^{B_i}$  is a preference map where  $B := \prod_{j=1}^n B_j$ . Assume that  $A^0$  is nonempty,  $Y := \prod_{i=1}^n B_i^0$ , and for each  $i \in I_n$ ,

- (a)  $A_i^0$  and  $B_i$  are nonempty, compact, and convex;
- (b)  $\bigcap_{i=1}^n P_{A_i^0}(y_i)$  is nonempty for each  $(y_1, \dots, y_n) \in \prod_{i=1}^n B_i^0$ ;
- (c)  $T_i \mid A^0$  is an upper semicontinuous multimap with compact values and  $T_i(x) \cap B_i^0$  is nonempty for each  $x \in A^0$ ;
- (d)  $x_i \notin \text{co}P_i(x)$  for each  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in B$ ;
- (e)  $P_i^{-1}(y)$  is open for each  $y \in B_i$ .

Then, there exists  $b \in B$  such that  $P_i(b) = \emptyset$  and, for each continuous, proper, quasiasffine, and surjective self-map  $f : A^0 \rightarrow A^0$ , there exists  $a \in A^0$  such that the best proximity set  $\mathfrak{T}_a^i(f)$  is nonempty and compact. If, in addition,  $P_i(z)$  is nonempty for each  $z \notin \prod_{i=1}^n \mathfrak{T}_a^i(f)$ , then  $(a, b)$  is an equilibrium pair in  $A^0 \times \prod_{i=1}^n \mathfrak{T}_a^i(f)$ .

*Proof.* Use Theorem 3.8 instead of Theorem 3.4 in the proof of Theorem 4.1.  $\square$

**Corollary 4.4.** Let  $(A, B_i, T_i, P_i)_{i \in I_n}$  be a free  $n$ -person game such that  $A$  and  $B_i$  are subsets of a normed space  $E$ ,  $T_i : A \rightarrow 2^{B_i}$  is a constraint multimap, and  $P_i : B \rightarrow 2^{B_i}$  is a preference map where  $B := \prod_{j=1}^n B_j$ . Assume that  $A^0$  is nonempty,  $Y := \prod_{i=1}^n B_i^0$ , and for each  $i \in I_n$ ,

- (a)  $A_i^0$  and  $B_i$  are nonempty, compact, and convex;
- (b)  $\bigcap_{i=1}^n P_{A_i^0}(y_i)$  is nonempty for each  $(y_1, \dots, y_n) \in \prod_{i=1}^n B_i^0$ ;
- (c)  $T_i \mid A^0$  is an upper semicontinuous multimap with compact values and  $T_i(x) \cap B_i^0$  is nonempty for each  $x \in A^0$ ;
- (d)  $x_i \notin \text{co}P_i(x)$  for each  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in B$ ;
- (e)  $P_i^{-1}(y)$  is open for each  $y \in B_i$ .

Then, there exists  $b \in B$  such that  $P_i(b) = \emptyset$ , and there exists  $a \in A^0$  such that the best proximity set  $\mathfrak{T}_a^i$  is nonempty and compact. If, in addition,  $P_i(z)$  is nonempty for each  $z \notin \prod_{i=1}^n \mathfrak{T}_a^i$ , then  $(a, b)$  is an equilibrium pair in  $A^0 \times \prod_{i=1}^n \mathfrak{T}_a^i$ .

*Remark 4.5.* Corollary 4.4 extends and improves [7, Theorem 4.1] by Al-Thagafi and Shahzad and [5, Theorem 4] by Kim and Lee.

**Theorem 4.6.** Let  $(A, B, T, P)$  be a free 1-person game such that  $A$  and  $B$  are subsets of a normed space  $E$ ,  $T : A \rightarrow 2^B$  is a constraint multimap, and  $P : B \rightarrow 2^B$  is a preference map. Assume that

- (a)  $A_0$  and  $B$  are nonempty, compact, and convex;
- (b)  $T : A_0 \rightarrow 2^{B_0}$  is a  $\mathbf{KKM}_0$ -multimap (resp.,  $\mathfrak{A}_c^\kappa$ -multimap);
- (c)  $x \notin \text{co}P(x)$  for each  $x \in B$ ;
- (d) one of the following conditions is satisfied:
  - (d<sub>1</sub>) if  $z \in P^{-1}(y)$  for some  $y \in B$ , then there exists some  $y' \in B$  such that  $z \in \text{int} P^{-1}(y')$ ;
  - (d<sub>2</sub>) for each  $y \in B$ ,  $P^{-1}(y)$  is open in  $B$ .

Then, there exists  $b \in B$  such that  $P(b) = \emptyset$  and, for each continuous, proper, quasiasffine, and surjective self-map  $f : A_0 \rightarrow A_0$ , there exists  $a \in A_0$  such that the best proximity set  $\mathfrak{T}_a(f)$  is nonempty and compact. If, in addition,  $P(z)$  is nonempty for each  $z \notin \mathfrak{T}_a(f)$ , then  $(a, b)$  is an equilibrium pair in  $A_0 \times \mathfrak{T}_a(f)$ .

*Proof.* Since  $A_0$  and  $B_0$  are nonempty, compact, and convex, it follows from Theorem 3.4 that there exists  $(a, c) \in A_0 \times B_0$  such that  $c \in T(a)$  and  $d(f(a), T(a)) = \|f(a) - c\| = d(A, B)$  and so  $\mathfrak{T}_a(f)$  is nonempty. By Lemma 2.6, there exists  $b \in B_0$  such that  $P(b) = \emptyset$ . As  $P(z)$  is nonempty whenever  $z \in B \setminus \mathfrak{T}_a(f)$ , we conclude that  $b \in \mathfrak{T}_a(f)$ . So  $(a, b) \in A_0 \times B_0$ ,  $b \in T(a)$  and  $d(f(a), T(a)) = \|f(a) - b\| = d(A, B)$ . Thus  $(a, b)$  is an equilibrium pair in  $A_0 \times \mathfrak{T}_a(f)$ .  $\square$



**Corollary 4.7.** *Let  $(A, T, P)$  be a free 1-person game such that  $A$  is a nonempty, compact, and convex subset of a normed space  $E$ ,  $T : A \rightarrow 2^A$  is a constraint multimap, and  $P : A \rightarrow 2^A$  is a preference map. Assume that*

- (a)  $T : A \rightarrow 2^A$  is a  $\mathbf{KKM}_0$ -multimap (resp.,  $\mathfrak{A}_c^k$ -multimap);
- (b)  $x \notin \text{co}P(x)$  for each  $x \in A$ ;
- (c) one of the following conditions is satisfied:
  - (c<sub>1</sub>) if  $z \in P^{-1}(y)$  for some  $y \in A$ , then there exists some  $y' \in A$  such that  $z \in \text{int } P^{-1}(y')$ ;
  - (c<sub>2</sub>) for each  $y \in A$ ,  $P^{-1}(y)$  is open in  $A$ .

*Then, there exists  $b \in A$  such that  $P(b) = \emptyset$  and, for each continuous, proper, quasiasffine, and surjective self-map  $f : A \rightarrow A$ , there exists  $a \in A$  such that  $f(a) = b$ . If, in addition,  $P(z)$  is nonempty for each  $z \notin \{x \in A : f(x) \in T(x)\}$ , then  $f(a) \in T(a)$ .*

*Remark 4.8.* Corollary 4.7 extends and improves [7, Theorem 4.3] by Al-Thagafi and Shahzad and [5, Theorem 3] by Kim and Lee.

Corollary 4.7 follows also from the following result.

**Theorem 4.9.** *Let  $(A, B, T, P)$  be a free 1-person game such that  $A$  and  $B$  are subsets of a normed space  $E$ ,  $T : A \rightarrow 2^B$  is a constraint multimap, and  $P : B \rightarrow 2^B$  is a preference map. Assume that*

- (a)  $A_0$  and  $B$  are nonempty, compact, and convex;
- (b)  $T \upharpoonright A_0$  is an upper semicontinuous multimap with compact values and  $T(x) \cap B_0$  is nonempty for each  $x \in A_0$ ;
- (c)  $x \notin \text{co}P(x)$  for each  $x \in B$ ;
- (d) one of the following conditions is satisfied:
  - (d<sub>1</sub>) if  $z \in P^{-1}(y)$  for some  $y \in B$ , then there exists some  $y' \in B$  such that  $z \in \text{int } P^{-1}(y')$ ;
  - (d<sub>2</sub>) for each  $y \in B$ ,  $P^{-1}(y)$  is open in  $B$ .

*Then, there exists  $b \in B$  such that  $P(b) = \emptyset$  and, for each continuous, proper, quasiasffine, and surjective self-map  $f : A_0 \rightarrow A_0$ , there exists  $a \in A_0$  such that the best proximity set  $\mathfrak{T}_a(f)$  is nonempty and compact. If, in addition,  $P(z)$  is nonempty for each  $z \notin \mathfrak{T}_a(f)$ , then  $(a, b)$  is an equilibrium pair in  $A_0 \times \mathfrak{T}_a(f)$ .*

*Proof.* Use Theorem 3.8 instead of Theorem 3.4 in the proof of Theorem 4.3. □

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