

## Sensitivity Analysis for Weak and Strong Vector Quasiequilibrium Problems

Lam Quoc Anh<sup>1</sup> and Phan Quoc Khanh<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Department of Mathematics,  
Teacher College, Cantho University, Cantho City, Vietnam*

<sup>2</sup> *Department of Mathematics, International University of Hochiminh City,  
Linh Trung, Thu Duc, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam*

Received November 20, 2008

Revised May 16, 2009

**Abstract.** We present the main contributions of our recent works on various kinds of stability for two typical vector quasiequilibrium problems. They reflect the major results and are improvements or modifications, not repeated statements, of our recent sufficient conditions for semicontinuities, continuity and Hölder continuity of solution maps of the considered problems.

2000 Mathematics Subject Classification: 90C31, 49K40, 65K99.

*Key words:* Parametric vector quasiequilibrium problems, Solution maps, Semicontinuity, Hausdorff lower semicontinuity, Continuity, Hölder continuity.

### 1. Introduction

The aim of this paper is to present results on continuity of different types of solution maps of rather general parametric vector quasiequilibrium problems. These results reflect our recent works on stability of such problems but are not a survey with theorems repeated from the previous papers, since many of them are improvements and some of them are modifications of what presented in those papers. For this purpose we choose the following setting. Let  $X$ ,  $\Lambda$  and  $M$  be topological spaces,  $Y$  a topological vector space,  $A \subseteq X$  a nonempty subset and  $C \subseteq Y$  a solid closed convex cone. Let  $K : A \times \Lambda \rightarrow 2^A$  and  $f : A \times \Lambda \times M \rightarrow Y$ .

For  $x, y \in Y$  we adopt the notations

$$\begin{aligned}x &\geq y \Leftrightarrow x - y \in C; \\x &> y \Leftrightarrow x - y \in \text{int}C; \\x &\not\geq y \Leftrightarrow x - y \notin C,\end{aligned}$$

and similarly for  $\leq, <, \not\leq$ , etc, where  $\text{int}C$  stands for the interior of  $C$ . For  $(\lambda, \mu) \in \Lambda \times M$  consider the following parametric quasiequilibrium problems

(WQEP) Find  $\bar{x} \in K(\bar{x}, \lambda)$  such that, for all  $y \in K(\bar{x}, \lambda)$ ,

$$f(\bar{x}, y, \mu) \not\leq 0.$$

(SQEP) Find  $\bar{x} \in K(\bar{x}, \lambda)$  such that, for all  $y \in K(\bar{x}, \lambda)$ ,

$$f(\bar{x}, y, \mu) \geq 0.$$

Note that quasiequilibrium problems encompass many optimization-related models like vector minimization, variational inequalities, Nash equilibria, fixed-point and coincidence-point problems, complementarity problems, minimax inequalities, traffic networks, etc. We investigated more general quasiequilibrium problems in [4, 8, 9, 14, 18, 19], but the above two problems are typical. Moreover, quasivariational inclusion problems and relation problems in [7, 10, 16, 17, 19, 20, 23, 24] are generalizations of quasiequilibrium problems, but it is not much hard to extend results of the latter to them. Note also that there is a large number of works on the subject, but we have to refer the reader to the references listed in our above papers, since we mention here mainly the latter due to the lack of space.

For a set-valued mapping  $Q : X \rightarrow 2^Y$ , recall that  $Q$  is called upper semicontinuous (usc in short; lower semicontinuous, lsc, respectively) at  $x_0$  if for any open subset  $U$  of  $Y$  with  $Q(x_0) \subseteq U$  ( $Q(x_0) \cap U \neq \emptyset$ ), there is a neighborhood  $N$  of  $x_0$  such that  $Q(N) \subseteq U$  ( $\forall x \in N, Q(x) \cap U \neq \emptyset$ ). When  $Y$  is a topological vector space,  $Q$  is said to be Hausdorff upper semicontinuous (H-usc in short; Hausdorff lower semicontinuous, H-lsc, respectively) at  $x_0$  if for each neighborhood  $B$  of the origin in  $Y$ , there exists a neighborhood  $N$  of  $x_0$  such that,  $Q(x) \subseteq Q(x_0) + B, \forall x \in N$  ( $Q(x_0) \subseteq Q(x) + B, \forall x \in N$ ).  $Q$  is said to be continuous at  $x_0$  if it is both lsc and usc at  $x_0$ . When  $X$  and  $Y$  are vector spaces,  $Q$  is said to be concave on  $A \subseteq X$  if, for each  $x, z \in A$  and  $t \in [0, 1]$ ,

$$Q((1-t)x + tz) \subseteq (1-t)Q(x) + tQ(z).$$

There are several notions of semicontinuity of vector (single-valued) functions in the literature, but they may appear under slightly different terms. In this paper,  $h : A \rightarrow Y$  is said to be  $C$ -lower semicontinuous,  $C$ -lsc in short ( $C$ -upper semicontinuous,  $C$ -usc, respectively) at  $x_0$  if for any neighborhood  $U$  of  $h(x_0)$ , there is a neighborhood  $N$  of  $x_0$  such that  $h(N) \subseteq U + C$  ( $h(N) \subseteq U - C$ , respectively). For  $b \in Y$ , we use the following notations for the level sets of  $h$

with respect to different orderings  $\leq$  (by the context, no confusion threat),

$$L_{\leq b}h = \{x \in A : h(x) \leq b\}$$

and similarly for other level sets  $L_{\not\leq b}h$ ,  $L_{\geq b}h$ , etc.

**Proposition 1.1.** *Let  $h : A \rightarrow Y$ .*

- i)  *$h$  is  $C$ -lsc at  $x_0$  if and only if  $L_{\not\leq b}h$  is closed at  $x_0$  for all  $b \in Y$ .*
- ii)  *$h$  is  $C$ -usc at  $x_0$  if and only if  $L_{\not\leq b}h$  is closed at  $x_0$  for all  $b \in Y$ .*

In Sec. 2 we establish sufficient conditions for various kinds of semicontinuity of solution maps. Sec. 3 is devoted to continuity conditions. Sec. 4 deals with Hölder continuity of solution maps. Consequences for quasivariational inequalities are derived in Sec. 5.

## 2. Semicontinuity of Solution Maps

### 2.1. Quasi-semicontinuity of Vector Functions

The equivalence stated in Proposition 1.1 suggests the following weaker notions.

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $h : A \rightarrow Y$  and  $b \in Y$  be given.

- i)  $h$  is called  $b$ -level  $C$ -lower semicontinuous ( $(b, C)$ -lsc) at  $x_0$  if  $L_{\not\leq b}h$  is closed at  $x_0$ .
- ii)  $h$  is called  $b$ -level  $C$ -upper semicontinuous ( $(b, C)$ -usc) at  $x_0$  if  $L_{\not\leq b}h$  is closed at  $x_0$ .
- iii)  $h$  is called  $b$ -level  $C$ -quasilower semicontinuous ( $(b, C)$ -qlsc) at  $x_0$  if  $L_{\leq b}h$  is closed at  $x_0$ .
- iv)  $h$  is called  $b$ -level  $C$ -quasiupper semicontinuous ( $(b, C)$ -qusc) at  $x_0$  if  $L_{\geq b}h$  is closed at  $x_0$ .

**Remark 2.2.** It is not difficult to equivalently rewrite the above notions in terms of neighborhoods. We rewrite only ii) and iii) as examples.

- ii)  $h$  is  $(b, C)$ -usc at  $x_0$  if and only if there is a neighborhood  $N$  of  $x_0$  with  $h(N) \subseteq b - \text{int}C$  whenever  $h(x_0) \in b - \text{int}C$ .
- iii)  $h$  is  $(b, C)$ -qlsc at  $x_0$  if and only if there exists a neighborhood  $N$  of  $x_0$  such that  $h(N) \cap (b - C) = \emptyset$  whenever  $h(x_0) \notin b - C$ .

The following relationships between  $C$ -semicontinuity and  $C$ -quasisemicontinuity resemble those for the scalar counterparts.

**Proposition 2.3.** *Let  $h : A \rightarrow Y$ .*

- i) *If  $h$  is  $C$ -lsc at  $x_0$  then  $h$  is  $C$ -qlsc at  $x_0$ .*
- ii) *If  $h$  is  $C$ -usc at  $x_0$  then  $h$  is  $C$ -qusc at  $x_0$ .*

*Proof.* For i) suppose that  $h$  is  $C$ -lsc at  $x_0$  and  $x_\alpha \rightarrow x_0$  with  $h(x_\alpha) \leq b$  for some  $b \in Y$ , but  $h(x_0) \in Y \setminus (b - C)$ . Since  $h$  is  $C$ -lsc at  $x_0$  and  $Y \setminus (b - C)$  is open, one can assume that  $h(x_\alpha) \in Y \setminus (b - C) + C$ . So there are  $t_\alpha \in Y \setminus (b - C)$  and  $c_\alpha \in C$ , such that  $h(x_\alpha) = t_\alpha + c_\alpha$ . As  $h(x_\alpha) \in b - C$ , there is  $c'_\alpha \in C$  such that  $h(x_\alpha) = b - c'_\alpha$ . Therefore,  $t_\alpha = b - c'_\alpha - c_\alpha \in b - C$ , which is impossible as  $t_\alpha \in Y \setminus (b - C)$ .

ii) It may be checked similarly. ■

Examples 2.1 and 2.2 in [13] show that the converse of Proposition 2.3 is not true and the relations asserted in Proposition 2.3 cannot be similarly stated for a particular level  $b$  (unlike the scalar case). The following results are sum rules.

**Proposition 2.4.** *Let  $X, Z$  be topological spaces,  $A \subseteq X$  and  $B \subseteq Z$  be nonempty open sets,  $C \subseteq Y$  be a solid closed convex cone and  $f : A \rightarrow Y, g : B \rightarrow Y, A \subseteq X, B \subseteq Z$ . If  $f$  and  $g$  are  $C$ -lsc (or  $C$ -usc) at  $x_0$  and  $z_0$ , respectively, then  $h = f + g$  is  $C$ -lsc (or  $C$ -usc) at  $(x_0, z_0)$ .*

*Proof.* By similarity and symmetry, it suffices to check the  $C$ -upper semicontinuity. Let  $U$  be any open subset containing  $f(x_0) + g(z_0)$ . There are open neighborhoods  $U_1$  and  $U_2$  of  $f(x_0)$  and  $g(z_0)$ , respectively, such that  $U_1 + U_2 \subseteq U$ . Since  $f$  and  $g$  are  $C$ -lsc, there are open neighborhoods  $N_1$  and  $N_2$  of  $x_0$  and  $z_0$ , respectively such that  $f(x) \in U_1 - C$  and  $g(z) \in U_2 - C$ , for all  $(x, z) \in N_1 \times N_2$ . Hence  $h(x, z) = f(x) + g(z) \in U_1 + U_2 - C \subseteq U - C$ , for all  $(x, z) \in N_1 \times N_2$ , i.e.,  $h$  is  $C$ -usc at  $(x_0, z_0)$ . ■

Unfortunately, Proposition 2.4 cannot be extended for  $C$ -quasi semicontinuous functions as shown by Example 2.3 in [13].

**Proposition 2.5.** *Let  $X, Y, Z, A, B, C, f$  and  $g$  be as in Proposition 2.4.*

- i) *If  $f$  is  $C$ -qlsc at  $x_0$  and  $g$  is  $C$ -lsc at  $z_0$ , then  $h = f + g$  is  $C$ -qlsc at  $(x_0, z_0)$ .*
- ii) *If  $f$  is  $C$ -qusc at  $x_0$  and  $g$  is  $C$ -usc at  $z_0$ , then  $h$  is  $C$ -qusc at  $(x_0, z_0)$ .*

*Proof.* We demonstrate only i). For arbitrary  $b \in Y$ , assume that  $(x_\alpha, z_\alpha) \rightarrow (x_0, z_0)$  and  $h(x_\alpha, z_\alpha) \leq b$ . For each  $e \in \text{int}C$ , as  $g$  is  $C$ -lsc at  $z_0$ , there is a subnet  $z_\beta$  such that  $g(z_\beta) > g(z_0) - e$ , for all  $\beta$ . Hence

$$f(x_\beta) + g(z_0) - e \leq b.$$

As  $f$  is  $C$ -qlsc at  $x_0$ ,

$$f(x_0) + g(z_0) - e \leq b.$$

Consequently,  $f(x_0) + g(z_0) \leq b$ . Thus,  $h$  is  $(b, C)$ -qlsc at  $(x_0, z_0)$ . By the arbitrariness of  $b$ ,  $h$  is  $C$ -qlsc at  $(x_0, z_0)$ . ■

Examples 2.4-2.6 in [13] prevent us to state results similar to Propositions 2.4 and 2.5 for a given fixed level  $b$ .

2.2. Upper Semicontinuity of Solution Maps

In the sequel, for problems (WQEP) and (SQEP) and for  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , let  $E(\lambda) = \{x \in A \mid x \in K(x, \lambda)\}$  and  $S^w(\lambda, \mu)$ ,  $S^s(\lambda, \mu)$  be the solutions sets of these problems, respectively, corresponding to  $(\lambda, \mu)$ . Since the existence of solutions for quasiequilibrium problems have been intensively studied, see e.g. our recent papers [5, 14-19, 23, 24], we focus on the stability study, assuming always the needed existence. In the subsections of Sec. 2 assume additionally that the spaces  $X, Y, \Lambda$  and  $M$  involved in our problems are Hausdorff.

**Theorem 2.6.**  $S^w$  is usc at  $(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$  if

- i)  $f$  is  $(0, C)$ -usc in  $K(A, \Lambda) \times K(A, \Lambda) \times \{\mu_0\}$ ;
- ii) one of the following two conditions holds
  - ii<sub>1</sub>)  $K$  is continuous in  $A \times \{\lambda_0\}$  and  $A$  is compact;
  - ii<sub>2</sub>)  $E$  is usc at  $\lambda_0$  and  $E(\lambda_0)$  is compact, and  $K$  is lsc in  $E(\lambda_0) \times \{\lambda_0\}$ .

*Proof.* It suffices to consider the case ii<sub>2</sub>), since the other case is similar and simpler. Suppose that  $S^w$  is not usc at  $(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$ , i.e., there is an open superset  $U$  of  $S^w(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$  such that there are nets  $(\lambda_\alpha, \mu_\alpha)$  tending to  $(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$  and  $x_\alpha \in S^w(\lambda_\alpha, \mu_\alpha)$  with  $x_\alpha \notin U$ , for all  $\alpha$ . By the upper semicontinuity of  $E$  and the compactness of  $E(\lambda_0)$  one can assume that  $x_\alpha \rightarrow x_0$ , for some  $x_0 \in E(\lambda_0)$ . Suppose there is  $y_0 \in K(x_0, \lambda_0)$  such that  $f(x_0, y_0, \mu_0) < 0$ . The lower semicontinuity of  $K$  in turn shows the existence of  $y_\alpha \in K(x_\alpha, \lambda_\alpha)$  such that  $y_\alpha \rightarrow y_0$ . Condition i) allows one to assume that  $f(x_\alpha, y_\alpha, \mu_\alpha) < 0$ , which is impossible as  $x_\alpha \in S^w(\lambda_\alpha, \mu_\alpha)$ , for all  $\alpha$ . Thus,  $x_0 \in S^w(\lambda_0, \mu_0) \subseteq U$ , which is again a contradiction, since  $x_\alpha \notin U$  for each  $\alpha$ . ■

The assumptions of Theorem 2.6 are essential (see Examples 2.2 and 2.3 in [12]). Similarly, for (SQEP) we have

**Theorem 2.7.** Impose assumption ii) of Theorem 2.6 and assume further that

- i)  $f$  is  $(0, C)$ -qusc in  $K(A, \Lambda) \times K(A, \Lambda) \times \{\mu_0\}$ .

Then,  $S^s$  is usc at  $(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$ .

2.3. Quasiconvexity of Vector Functions

Now we discuss several generalized quasiconvexity notions for vector functions in order to use them in the next subsection. In this subsection let  $X$  be a vector space,  $A \subseteq X$  be a convex set,  $Y$  be a topological vector space,  $C \subseteq Y$  be a solid convex cone and  $h : A \rightarrow Y$ . The following definition is known. (The relations  $\leq, <$  are defined by  $C$ .)

**Definition 2.8.** i)  $h$  is said to be strictly convex if, for every  $x_1, x_2 \in A$  and  $t \in (0, 1)$ ,

$$h(tx_1 + (1 - t)x_2) < th(x_1) + (1 - t)h(x_2).$$

- ii)  $h$  is called quasiconvex if, for every  $x_1, x_2 \in A$  and  $t \in [0, 1]$ ,

either  $h(tx_1 + (1 - t)x_2) \leq h(x_1)$  or  $h(tx_1 + (1 - t)x_2) \leq h(x_2)$ .

iii)  $h$  is said to be strictly quasiconvex if, for every  $x_1, x_2 \in A$  and  $t \in (0, 1)$ ,

either  $h(tx_1 + (1 - t)x_2) < h(x_1)$  or  $h(tx_1 + (1 - t)x_2) < h(x_2)$ .

**Remark 2.9.** If  $Y = C \cup (-C)$ , like for scalar functions, convexity (strict convexity, respectively) implies quasiconvexity (strict quasiconvexity). However, this is not true in general as shown by Examples 4.1 and 4.2 in [13].

We propose the following relaxed convexity for vector functions.

**Definition 2.10.** Let  $b \in Y$  be fixed. If for all  $x_1, x_2 \in A$ ,  $t \in (0, 1)$  and  $x_t = (1 - t)x_1 + tx_2$ ,

- i)  $h(x_1) \not\leq b, h(x_2) \not\leq b$  implies  $h(x_t) \not\leq b$ , then  $h$  is said to be  $\text{lev}_{\leq b}$ -convex;
- ii)  $h(x_1) \geq b, h(x_2) > b$  implies  $h(x_t) > b$ , then  $h$  is called  $\text{lev}_{> b}$ -convex.

Note that, if  $Y = C \cup (-C)$ , these two properties coincide. Furthermore, if  $h$  is  $\text{lev}_{\leq b}$ -convex ( $\text{lev}_{> b}$ -convex, respectively), then  $L_{\leq b}h$  ( $L_{> b}h$ , respectively) is convex, but not vice versa as shown by Example 4.3 in [13].

**Remark 2.11.** If  $h$  is strictly quasiconcave, then  $h$  is  $\text{lev}_{\leq b}$ -convex, for all  $b \in Y$ . Indeed, let  $x_1, x_2 \in A$  be such that  $h(x_1) \not\leq b, h(x_2) \not\leq b$ . Suppose the existence of  $c_1 \in C$  such that  $h(x_t) - b = -c_1$ . Since  $h$  is strictly quasiconcave,  $h(x_t) > h(x_1)$  or  $h(x_t) > h(x_2)$ , for all  $t \in (0, 1)$ . If  $h(x_t) > h(x_1)$ , there is  $c_2 \in \text{int}C$  with  $h(x_t) = h(x_1) + c_2$ . Hence,  $h(x_1) - b = -c_1 - c_2 \in -\text{int}C$ , which is impossible as  $h(x_1) \not\leq b$ . If  $h(x_t) > h(x_2)$  we have a similar contradiction.

Examples 4.2 and 4.4 in [13] assert that  $\text{lev}_{\leq b}$ -convexity does not follow neither from strict concavity nor from strict convexity and indicates that neither quasiconcavity nor quasiconvexity implies  $\text{lev}_{\leq b}$ -convexity.

**Remark 2.12.** If  $h$  is strictly quasiconcave or concave, then  $h$  is  $\text{lev}_{> b}$ -convex for all  $b \in Y$ . Indeed, assume that  $h$  is strictly quasiconcave and  $x_1, x_2 \in A$  such that  $h(x_1) \geq b, h(x_2) > b$ . For any  $t \in (0, 1)$ , if  $h(x_t) > h(x_1)$ , there is  $c_1 \in \text{int}C$  with  $h(x_t) - h(x_1) = c_1$ . Since  $h(x_1) \geq b$ , there is  $c_2 \in C$  with  $h(x_1) = b + c_2$ . Consequently,  $h(x_t) - b = c_1 + c_2 \in \text{int}C$ , i.e.,  $h(x_t) > b$ . Similarly,  $h(x_t) > b$  if  $h(x_t) > h(x_2)$ . Thus,  $h$  is  $\text{lev}_{> b}$ -convex. The case, where  $h$  is concave, is analogous.

The mentioned Example 4.4 shows also that neither quasiconcavity nor quasiconvexity yields  $\text{lev}_{> b}$ -convexity.

*2.4. Lower Semicontinuity of Solution Maps*

In this subsection assume additionally that  $X$  is a Hausdorff topological vector space and  $A$  is convex. We consider the following problems (WQEP<sub>1</sub>) and (SQEP<sub>1</sub>) as auxiliary problems to (WQEP) and (SQEP), respectively:

(WQEP<sub>1</sub>) Find  $\bar{x} \in K(\bar{x}, \lambda)$  such that, for all  $y \in K(\bar{x}, \lambda)$ ,

$$f(\bar{x}, y, \mu) \not\leq 0;$$

(SQEP<sub>1</sub>) Find  $\bar{x} \in K(\bar{x}, \lambda)$  such that, for all  $y \in K(\bar{x}, \lambda)$ ,

$$f(\bar{x}, y, \mu) > 0.$$

Let  $S_1^w(\lambda, \mu)$  and  $S_1^s(\lambda, \mu)$  be the solution sets of (WQEP<sub>1</sub>) and (SQEP<sub>1</sub>), respectively, corresponding to  $(\lambda, \mu)$ .

**Theorem 2.13.** *The map  $S^w$  of (WQEP) is lsc at  $(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$  if*

i)  *$f$  is  $(0, C)$ -qlsc in  $K(A, A) \times K(A, A) \times \{\mu_0\}$  and  $f(\cdot, \cdot, \mu_0)$  is  $\text{lev}_{\leq 0}$ -convex in  $E(\lambda_0) \times K(A, \lambda_0)$ ;*

ii)  *$E$  is lsc at  $\lambda_0$  and  $E(\lambda_0)$  is convex;  $K$  is usc and compact-valued in  $E(\lambda_0) \times \{\lambda_0\}$ ;  $K(\cdot, \lambda_0)$  is concave in  $E(\lambda_0)$ .*

*Proof.* We start by proving that  $S_1^w$  is lsc at  $(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$ . Suppose to the contrary that  $S_1^w$  is not lsc at  $(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$ , i.e., there are  $x_0 \in S_1^w(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$ , and a net  $(\lambda_\alpha, \mu_\alpha)$  tending to  $(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$ , such that for any choice of  $x_\alpha \in S_1^w(\lambda_\alpha, \mu_\alpha)$ ,  $\{x_\alpha\}$  does not converge to  $x_0$ . Since  $E$  is lsc at  $\lambda_0$ , there is  $\bar{x}_\alpha \in E(\lambda_\alpha)$  with  $\bar{x}_\alpha \rightarrow x_0$ . By our assumption, there must be a subnet  $\bar{x}_\beta$  such that  $\bar{x}_\beta \notin S_1^w(\lambda_\beta, \mu_\beta)$ , for all  $\beta$ , i.e., for some  $y_\beta \in K(\bar{x}_\beta, \lambda_\beta)$ ,

$$f(\bar{x}_\beta, y_\beta, \mu_\beta) \leq 0. \quad (1)$$

As  $K$  is usc at  $(x_0, \lambda_0)$  and  $K(x_0, \lambda_0)$  is compact one has  $y_0 \in K(x_0, \lambda_0)$  such that  $y_\beta \rightarrow y_0$  (taking a subnet if necessary). By assumption ii), (1) yields that  $f(x_0, y_0, \mu_0) \leq 0$ , which is impossible since  $x_0 \in S_1^w(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$ .

Now let us check that

$$S^w(\lambda_0, \mu_0) \subseteq \text{cl}S_1^w(\lambda_0, \mu_0). \quad (2)$$

Let  $\bar{x} \in S^w(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$ ,  $\bar{x}^1 \in S_1^w(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$  and  $x_t = (1-t)\bar{x} + t\bar{x}^1$  with  $t \in (0, 1)$ . Since  $K(\cdot, \lambda_0)$  is concave, for all  $y \in K(x_t, \lambda_0)$ , there exist  $\bar{y} \in K(\bar{x}, \lambda_0)$  and  $\bar{y}_1 \in K(\bar{x}^1, \lambda_0)$  such that  $y = (1-t)\bar{y} + t\bar{y}_1$ . Since  $f(\cdot, \cdot, \mu_0)$  is  $\text{lev}_{\leq 0}$ -convex,  $f(x_t, y, \mu_0) \not\leq 0$ , i.e.,  $x_t \in S_1^w(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$ . Therefore (2) holds. By the lower semi-continuity of  $S_1^w$  at  $(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$ ,  $S^w$  is lsc at  $(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$  since

$$S^w(\lambda_0, \mu_0) \subseteq \text{cl}S_1^w(\lambda_0, \mu_0) \subseteq \liminf S_1^w(\lambda_\alpha, \mu_\alpha) \subseteq \liminf S^w(\lambda_\alpha, \mu_\alpha).$$

■

Example 3.1 in [12] shows the essentialness of the above assumptions.

**Theorem 2.14.** *The solution map  $S^s$  is lsc at  $(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$  if*

i)  *$f$  is  $(0, C)$ -lsc in  $K(A, A) \times K(A, A) \times \{\mu_0\}$  and  $f(\cdot, \cdot, \mu_0)$  is  $\text{lev}_{> 0}$ -convex in  $E(\lambda_0) \times K(A, \lambda_0)$ ;*

ii)  *$E$  is lsc at  $\lambda_0$  and  $E(\lambda_0)$  is convex;  $K$  is usc and compact-valued in  $E(\lambda_0) \times \{\lambda_0\}$ ;  $K(\cdot, \lambda_0)$  is concave in  $E(\lambda_0)$ .*

We omit the proof since its technique is similar to that for Theorem 2.13. We now proceed to Hausdorff lower semicontinuity.

**Theorem 2.15.** *Impose the assumptions of Theorem 2.13 and*

- iii)  $f(\cdot, \cdot, \mu_0)$  is  $(0, C)$ -usc in  $K(A, \Lambda) \times K(A, \Lambda)$ ;
- iv)  $K(\cdot, \lambda_0)$  is lsc in  $E(\lambda_0)$  and  $E(\lambda_0)$  is compact.

*Then  $S^w$  is Hausdorff lower semicontinuous at  $(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$ .*

*Proof.* We first show that  $S^w(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$  is closed. Assume that  $x_\alpha \in S^w(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$  and  $x_\alpha \rightarrow x_0$ . Since  $E(\lambda_0)$  is compact,  $x_0 \in E(\lambda_0)$ . Suppose there exists  $y_0 \in K(x_0, \lambda_0)$  such that

$$f(x_0, y_0, \mu_0) < 0. \tag{3}$$

Since  $K(\cdot, \lambda_0)$  is lsc at  $x_0$ , there is  $y_\alpha \in K(x_\alpha, \lambda_0)$  with  $y_\alpha \rightarrow y_0$ . As  $x_\alpha \in S(\lambda_0)$ ,

$$f(x_\alpha, y_\alpha, \mu_0) \not\leq 0. \tag{4}$$

Assumption iii) shows a contradiction between (3) and (4). Thus,  $S^w(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$  is closed and then compact.

Now suppose  $S^w$  is not Hlsc at  $(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$ , i.e., there are  $B$  (a neighborhood of the origin in  $X$ ) and  $(\lambda_\alpha, \mu_\alpha) \rightarrow (\lambda_0, \mu_0)$  such that, for all  $\alpha$ , there exists  $x_{0\alpha} \in S^w(\lambda_0, \mu_0) \setminus (S^w(\lambda_\alpha, \mu_\alpha) + B)$ . Since  $S^w(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$  is compact, we can assume that  $x_{0\alpha} \rightarrow x_0 \in S^w(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$ . Then there are  $\alpha_1$ , a neighborhood  $B_1$  of 0 in  $X$  with  $B_1 + B_1 \subseteq B$  and  $b_\alpha \in B_1$  such that, for each  $\alpha \geq \alpha_1$ ,  $x_{0\alpha} = x_0 + b_\alpha$ . Since  $S^w$  is lsc at  $\lambda_0$ , there is  $z_\alpha \in S^w(\lambda_\alpha, \mu_\alpha)$  with  $z_\alpha \rightarrow x_0$  and then there is  $\alpha_2$  such that, for all  $\alpha \geq \alpha_2$ ,  $b'_\alpha \in B_1$  exists with  $z_\alpha = x_0 - b'_\alpha$ . Consequently, for all  $\alpha \geq \alpha_0 := \max\{\alpha_1, \alpha_2\}$ ,

$$x_{0\alpha} = x_0 + b_\alpha = z_\alpha + b'_\alpha + b_\alpha \in z_\alpha + B.$$

As  $x_{0\alpha} \notin S^w(\lambda_\alpha, \mu_\alpha) + B$ , this is impossible. Thus,  $S^w$  is Hlsc at  $\lambda_0$ . ■

Example 3.2 in [12] confirms the essentialness of the added assumptions.

**Theorem 2.16.** *Impose the assumptions of Theorem 2.14, and the following additional conditions:*

- iii)  $f(\cdot, \cdot, \mu_0)$  is  $(0, C)$ -qusc in  $K(A, \Lambda) \times K(A, \Lambda)$ ;
- iv)  $K(\cdot, \lambda_0)$  is lsc in  $E(\lambda_0)$  and  $E(\lambda_0)$  is compact.

*Then  $S^s$  is Hausdorff lower semicontinuous at  $(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$ .*

### 3. Continuity of Solution Maps

In this section we avoid concavity assumptions and use relaxed monotonicity conditions. The following monotonicity notions are extensions of the counterparts for the scalar case.

**Definition 3.1.** [2] Let  $X$  be a set,  $Y$  be a linear space and  $C \subseteq Y$  be a convex cone. Let  $y_1 \leq y_2$  mean  $y_2 - y_1 \in C$ . Let  $g : X \times X \rightarrow Y$ .

i)  $g$  is called quasimonotone I in  $X$  if, for all  $x, z \in X$  and  $x \neq z$ ,

$$[g(x, z) \not\leq 0] \implies [g(z, x) \leq 0].$$

ii)  $g$  is called quasimonotone II in  $X$  if, for all  $x, z \in X$  and  $x \neq z$ ,

$$[g(x, z) > 0] \implies [g(z, x) \not\leq 0].$$

iii)  $g$  is termed pseudomonotone I in  $X$  if, for all  $x, z \in X$  and  $x \neq z$ ,

$$[g(x, z) \not\leq 0] \implies [g(z, x) \leq 0].$$

iv)  $g$  is termed pseudomonotone II in  $X$  if, for all  $x, z \in X$  and  $x \neq z$ ,

$$[g(x, z) \geq 0] \implies [g(z, x) \not\leq 0].$$

**Remark 3.2.** Note that if  $g$  is quasimonotone I (pseudomonotone I), then  $g$  is quasimonotone II (pseudomonotone II, respectively). Indeed, when  $g$  is quasimonotone I, if  $g(x, z) > 0$  (i.e.  $g(x, z) \not\leq 0$ ) then  $g(z, x) \leq 0$ , i.e.  $g(z, x) \not\leq 0$ . So  $g$  is quasimonotone II. The relation between the pseudomonotonicities I and II is checked similarly.

The following example ensures that the converse is not true.

**Example 3.3.** Let  $X = R, Y = R^2, C = R^2_+$  and  $g : R \times R \rightarrow R \times R$  is defined by

$$g(x, z) = \begin{cases} (1, 1), & \text{if } x \leq z, \\ (-1, 1), & \text{if } x > z. \end{cases}$$

Then  $g$  is both quasimonotone II and pseudomonotone II in  $R$ , but is neither quasimonotone I nor pseudomonotone I.

**Theorem 3.4.** Impose for (WQEP) the assumptions of Theorem 2.6 and

- a)  $f(\cdot, \cdot, \mu_0)$  is quasimonotone I in  $K(A, \lambda_0) \times K(A, \lambda_0)$ ;
- b) for all  $x \in S^w(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$  and all  $y \in S^w(\lambda_0, \mu_0) \setminus \{x\}$ , one has  $f(x, y, \mu_0) \not\leq 0$ .

Then  $S^w$  is continuous at  $(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$ .

*Proof.* It suffices to prove that  $S^w$  is lsc at  $(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$ . Suppose to the contrary that there are a net  $(\lambda_\alpha, \mu_\alpha)$  tending to  $(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$  and a point  $x_0 \in S^w(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$  such that, for any choice of  $x_\alpha \in S^w(\lambda_\alpha, \mu_\alpha)$ , the net  $\{x_\alpha\}$  does not converge to  $x_0$ . Since  $E$  is usc and  $E(\lambda_0)$  is compact, we can assume that  $x_\alpha \rightarrow \bar{x}_0$  for some  $\bar{x}_0 \in E(\lambda_0)$ .

From the proof of Theorem 2.6, we see that  $\bar{x}_0 \in S^w(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$ . By the contradiction assumption one has  $\bar{x}_0 \neq x_0$ . Due to assumption b) one has

$$f(\bar{x}_0, x_0, \mu_0) \not\leq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad f(x_0, \bar{x}_0, \mu_0) \not\leq 0,$$

which is impossible since  $f(., ., \mu_0)$  is quasimonotone I. ■

**Theorem 3.5.** *Impose the assumptions of Theorem 2.7. Assume further that*

- a)  $f(., ., \mu_0)$  is quasimonotone II in  $K(A, \lambda_0) \times K(A, \lambda_0)$ ;
- b) for all  $x \in S^s(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$  and all  $y \in S^s(\lambda_0, \mu_0) \setminus \{x\}$ , one has  $f(x, y, \mu_0) > 0$ .

Then  $S^s$  is continuous at  $(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$ .

We can modify the assumptions and use pseudomonotonicity as follows.

**Theorem 3.6.** *Impose the assumptions of Theorem 2.6 and*

- a')  $f(., ., \mu_0)$  is pseudomonotone I in  $K(A, \lambda_0) \times K(A, \lambda_0)$ ;
- b') if  $f(x, y, \mu_0) \in \text{bd}(-C)$  then  $x = y$  ( $\text{bd}(\cdot)$  denotes the boundary);
- c') for all  $x$  and  $\bar{x}$  in  $S(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$ ,  $f(x, \bar{x}, \mu_0) \not\leq 0$ .

Then  $S^w$  is continuous at  $(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$ .

*Proof.* We retain the first part of the proof of Theorem 2.6 to obtain  $\bar{x}_0 \neq x_0$ . By c') one has  $f(x_0, \bar{x}_0, \mu_0) \not\leq 0$  and  $f(\bar{x}_0, x_0, \mu_0) \not\leq 0$ . Clearly, a') implies that  $f(\bar{x}_0, x_0, \mu_0) \leq 0$ . Hence  $f(\bar{x}_0, x_0, \mu_0) \in \text{bd}(-C)$ . Assumption b') now yields a contradiction that  $\bar{x}_0 = x_0$ . ■

**Theorem 3.7.** *Assume as in Theorem 2.7 and that*

- a')  $f(., ., \mu_0)$  is pseudomonotone II in  $K(A, \lambda_0) \times K(A, \lambda_0)$ ;
- b') if  $f(x, y, \mu_0) \in \text{bd}(C)$  then  $x = y$ ;
- c') for all  $x$  and  $\bar{x}$  in  $S(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$ ,  $f(x, \bar{x}, \mu_0) \geq 0$ .

Then  $S^s$  is continuous at  $(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$ .

## 4. Hölder Continuity of Solution Maps

### 4.1. Hölder-related Notions

Throughout this section let  $X, A$  and  $M$  be metric spaces and  $Y$  be a metric linear space. For convenience we use  $d(., .)$  to denote the metric in any of these spaces (the context makes it clear which space is considered).

**Definition 4.1.** i) (Classical) A multifunction  $K : X \times A \rightarrow 2^X$  is said to be  $(l_1, \alpha_1, l_2, \alpha_2)$ -Hölder at  $(x_0, \lambda_0)$  if there exist neighborhoods  $N$  of  $x_0$  and  $U$  of  $\lambda_0$  such that, for all  $x_1, x_2 \in N$  and all  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2 \in U$ ,

$$K(x_1, \lambda_1) \subseteq \{x \in X \mid \exists z \in K(x_2, \lambda_2), d(x, z) \leq l_1 d^{\alpha_1}(x_1, x_2) + l_2 d^{\alpha_2}(\lambda_1, \lambda_2)\}.$$

ii) For  $m, \beta, \theta > 0$  and  $f : X \times X \times M \rightarrow R$ ,  $f$  is termed  $m, \beta$ -Hölder at  $\mu_0 \in M$   $\theta$ -relative to  $A \subseteq X$  if there is a neighborhood  $V$  of  $\mu_0$  such that for all  $\mu_1, \mu_2 \in V$  and all  $x \neq y$  in  $A$ ,

$$d(f(x, y, \mu_1), f(x, y, \mu_2)) \leq md^\beta(\mu_1, \mu_2)d^\theta(x, y).$$

**Definition 4.2.** Let  $f : X \times X \rightarrow R$ .

i) For  $h \geq 0$  and  $\beta > 0$ ,  $f$  is called  $h.\beta$ -Hölder-strongly pseudomonotone in  $S \subseteq X$  if, for all  $x \neq y$  in  $S$ ,

$$[f(x, y) \geq 0] \implies [f(y, x) + hd^\beta(x, y) \leq 0].$$

ii)  $f$  is called quasimonotone in  $S \subseteq X$  if, for all  $x \neq y$  in  $S$ ,

$$[f(x, y) < 0] \implies [f(y, x) \geq 0].$$

$f$  is called  $h.\beta$ -Hölder-strongly monotone in  $S$  if, for all  $x \neq y$  in  $S$ ,

$$f(x, y) + f(y, x) + hd^\beta(x, y) \leq 0.$$

It is easy to see that if  $f$  is  $h.\beta$ -Hölder-strongly monotone in  $S$ , then  $f$  is  $h.\beta$ -Hölder-strongly pseudomonotone in  $S$ . The following Hölder-related assumptions (cf. [3]) will be crucial for considering problems (WQEP) and (SQEP). For the reference point  $(\lambda_0, \mu_0) \in \Lambda \times M$ , there are neighborhoods  $U(\lambda_0)$  and  $V(\mu_0)$  of  $\lambda_0$  and  $\mu_0$ , respectively, such that

(W) for fixed  $h > 0, \beta > \theta > 0$ , all  $\mu \in V(\mu_0)$  and all  $x \neq y$  in  $E(U(\lambda_0))$ ,

$$hd^\beta(x, y) \leq d(f(x, y, \mu), Y \setminus -\text{int}C) + d(f(y, x, \mu), Y \setminus -\text{int}C). \tag{5}$$

(S) It is similar to (W), but with (5) replaced by

$$hd^\beta(x, y) \leq d(f(x, y, \mu), C) + d(f(y, x, \mu), C).$$

**Remark 4.3.** These assumptions look complicated. But they are not hard to be checked. To make their meanings clearer we consider the simplest case where  $f : X \times X \rightarrow R$ . Then (W) and (S) coincide and collapse to the following: for all  $x \neq y$  in  $S$ ,

$$hd^\beta(x, y) \leq d(f(x, y), R_+) + d(f(y, x), R_+). \tag{6}$$

**Proposition 4.4.** i) If  $f : X \times X \rightarrow R$  satisfies (6) then  $f$  is  $h.\beta$ -Hölder-strongly pseudomonotone in  $S$  (the two types defined in Definition 4.2 ii) coincide in this case). Conversely, if  $f$  is  $h.\beta$ -Hölder-strongly pseudomonotone in  $S$  and quasimonotone in  $S$ , then  $f$  satisfies (6).

ii) If  $f : X \times X \rightarrow R$  is  $h.\beta$ -Hölder-strongly monotone in  $K \subseteq X$ , then  $f$  satisfies (6).

Examples 1.1 and 1.2 in [3] show that the converse of Proposition 4.4 is not true.

4.2. Hölder Continuity of Solution Maps

**Theorem 4.5.** Assume that

- i) there are neighborhoods  $U(\lambda_0)$  of  $\lambda_0$  and  $V(\mu_0)$  of  $\mu_0$  such that  $f$  is  $n_1\delta_1$ -Hölder at  $\mu_0$   $\theta$ -relative to  $E(U(\lambda_0))$  and, for all  $x \in E(U(\lambda_0))$  and all  $\mu \in V(\mu_0)$ ,  $f(x, \cdot, \mu)$  is  $n_2\delta_2$ -Hölder in  $E(U(\lambda_0))$ ;
- ii) for (WQEP) (for (SQEP)) assumption (W) (assumption (S)) is satisfied, respectively.
- iii)  $K(\cdot, \cdot)$  is  $(l_1\alpha_1, l_2\alpha_2)$ -Hölder in  $E(U(\lambda_0)) \times \lambda_0$ ;
- iv)  $\alpha_1\delta_2 = \beta > \theta$  and  $h > 2n_2l_1^{\delta_2}$ .

Then, for each  $(\lambda, \mu)$  in a neighborhood of  $(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$ , (WQEP) ((SQEP), respectively) has a unique solution  $x(\lambda, \mu)$  which satisfies the Hölder condition

$$d(x(\lambda_1, \mu_1), x(\lambda_2, \mu_2)) \leq k_1d^{\alpha_2\delta_2/\beta}(\lambda_1, \lambda_2) + k_2d^{\delta_1/(\beta-\theta)}(\mu_1, \mu_2),$$

where  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  are positive constants depending on  $h, \beta, n_1, n_2, \delta_1, \delta_2, \theta$ , etc.

*Proof.* We demonstrate the assertion only for (SQEP). Let  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2 \in U(\lambda_0)$  and  $\mu_1, \mu_2 \in V(\mu_0)$ .

**Step 1.** We prove that, for all  $x(\lambda_1, \mu_1) \in S^s(\lambda_1, \mu_1)$  and all  $x(\lambda_1, \mu_2) \in S^s(\lambda_1, \mu_2)$ ,

$$d_1 := d(x(\lambda_1, \mu_1), x(\lambda_1, \mu_2)) \leq \left( \frac{n_1}{h - 2n_2l_1^{\delta_2}} \right)^{1/(\beta-\theta)} d^{\delta_1/(\beta-\theta)}(\mu_1, \mu_2). \quad (7)$$

Let  $x(\lambda_1, \mu_1) \neq x(\lambda_1, \mu_2)$  (if the equality holds then we are done). Since  $x(\lambda_1, \mu_1) \in K(x(\lambda_1, \mu_1), \lambda_1)$ ,  $x(\lambda_1, \mu_2) \in K(x(\lambda_1, \mu_2), \lambda_1)$  and by the Hölder continuity of  $K(\cdot, \lambda_1)$ , there are  $x_1 \in K(x(\lambda_1, \mu_1), \lambda_1)$  and  $x_2 \in K(x(\lambda_1, \mu_2), \lambda_1)$  such that

$$d(x(\lambda_1, \mu_1), x_2) \leq l_1d^{\alpha_1}(x(\lambda_1, \mu_1), x(\lambda_1, \mu_2)), \quad (8)$$

$$d(x(\lambda_1, \mu_2), x_1) \leq l_1d^{\alpha_1}(x(\lambda_1, \mu_1), x(\lambda_1, \mu_2)). \quad (9)$$

As  $x(\lambda_1, \mu_1)$  and  $x(\lambda_1, \mu_2)$  are solutions of (SQEP), we have

$$f(x(\lambda_1, \mu_1), x_1, \mu_1) \geq 0, \quad (10)$$

$$f(x(\lambda_1, \mu_2), x_2, \mu_2) \geq 0. \quad (11)$$

On the other hand, assumption ii) implies that

$$d(f(x(\lambda_1, \mu_1), x(\lambda_1, \mu_2), \mu_1), C) + d(f(x(\lambda_1, \mu_2), x(\lambda_1, \mu_1), \mu_1), C) \geq hd_1^\beta.$$

Hence, by (10) and (11),

$$\begin{aligned} & d(f(x(\lambda_1, \mu_1), x(\lambda_1, \mu_2), \mu_1), f(x(\lambda_1, \mu_1), x_1, \mu_1)) \\ & + d(f(x(\lambda_1, \mu_2), x(\lambda_1, \mu_1), \mu_1), f(x(\lambda_1, \mu_2), x(\lambda_1, \mu_1), \mu_2)) \\ & + d(f(x(\lambda_1, \mu_2), x(\lambda_1, \mu_1), \mu_2), f(x(\lambda_1, \mu_2), x_2, \mu_2)) \geq hd_1^\beta. \end{aligned}$$

This together with assumption i) yield

$$n_2 d^{\delta_2}(x(\lambda_1, \mu_2), x_1) + n_1 d_1^\theta d^{\delta_1}(\mu_1, \mu_2) + n_2 d^{\delta_2}(x(\lambda_1, \mu_1), x_2) \geq h d_1^\beta,$$

which, by (8) and (9), implies that

$$n_2 l_1^{\delta_2} d_1^{\alpha_1 \delta_2} + n_1 d_1^\theta d^{\delta_1}(\mu_1, \mu_2) + n_2 l_1^{\delta_2} d_1^{\alpha_1 \delta_2} \geq h d_1^\beta.$$

Assumption iv) now yields that

$$d_1^{\beta-\theta} \leq \left( \frac{n_1}{h - 2n_2 l_1^{\delta_2}} \right) d^{\delta_1}(\mu_1, \mu_2).$$

**Step 2.** We show that, for each  $x(\lambda_1, \mu_2) \in S^s(\lambda_1, \mu_2)$  and  $x(\lambda_2, \mu_2) \in S^s(\lambda_2, \mu_2)$ ,

$$d_2 := d(x(\lambda_1, \mu_2), x(\lambda_2, \mu_2)) \leq \left( \frac{2n_2 l_2^{\delta_2}}{h - 2n_2 l_1^{\delta_2}} \right)^{1/\beta} d^{\alpha_2 \delta_2 / \beta}(\lambda_1, \lambda_2). \quad (12)$$

Let  $x(\lambda_1, \mu_2) \neq x(\lambda_2, \mu_2)$ . Thanks to iii) we have  $x'_1 \in K(x(\lambda_2, \mu_2), \lambda_1)$  and  $x'_2 \in K(x(\lambda_1, \mu_2), \lambda_2)$  such that

$$d(x(\lambda_1, \mu_2), x'_2) \leq l_2 d^{\alpha_2}(\lambda_1, \lambda_2), \quad (13)$$

$$d(x(\lambda_2, \mu_2), x'_1) \leq l_2 d^{\alpha_2}(\lambda_1, \lambda_2). \quad (14)$$

By the Hölder continuity of  $K(\cdot, \cdot)$  there are  $x''_1 \in K(x(\lambda_1, \mu_2), \lambda_1)$  and  $x''_2 \in K(x(\lambda_2, \mu_2), \lambda_2)$  such that

$$d(x'_1, x''_1) \leq l_1 d^{\alpha_1}(x(\lambda_1, \mu_2), x(\lambda_2, \mu_2)), \quad (15)$$

$$d(x'_2, x''_2) \leq l_1 d^{\alpha_1}(x(\lambda_1, \mu_2), x(\lambda_2, \mu_2)). \quad (16)$$

By the definition of (SQEP), we have

$$f(x(\lambda_1, \mu_2), x''_1, \mu_2) \geq 0, \quad (17)$$

$$f(x(\lambda_2, \mu_2), x''_2, \mu_2) \geq 0. \quad (18)$$

It follows from assumption ii) that

$$d(f(x(\lambda_1, \mu_2), x(\lambda_2, \mu_2), \mu_2), C) + d(f(x(\lambda_2, \mu_2), x(\lambda_1, \mu_2), \mu_2), C) \geq h d_2^\beta.$$

Due to (17) and (18), one has

$$\begin{aligned} & d(f(x(\lambda_1, \mu_2), x(\lambda_2, \mu_2), \mu_2), f(x(\lambda_1, \mu_2), x'_1, \mu_2)) \\ & + d(f(x(\lambda_1, \mu_2), x'_1, \mu_2), f(x(\lambda_1, \mu_2), x''_1, \mu_2)) \\ & + d(f(x(\lambda_2, \mu_2), x(\lambda_1, \mu_2), \mu_2), f(x(\lambda_2, \mu_2), x'_2, \mu_2)) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &+ d(f(x(\lambda_2, \mu_2), x'_2, \mu_2), f(x(\lambda_2, \mu_2), x''_2, \mu_2)) \\
 &\geq hd_2^\beta.
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence, the Hölder continuity assumptions in i) of  $f$  imply that

$$n_2d^{\delta_2}(x(\lambda_2, \mu_2), x'_1) + n_2d^{\delta_2}(x'_1, x''_1) + n_2d^{\delta_2}(x(\lambda_1, \mu_2), x'_2) + n_2d^{\delta_2}(x'_2, x''_2) \geq hd_2^\beta.$$

From (13), (14), (15) and (16) we have

$$n_2l_2^{\delta_2}d^{\alpha_2\delta_2}(\lambda_1, \lambda_2) + n_2l_1^{\delta_2}d^{\alpha_1\delta_2} + n_2l_2^{\delta_2}d^{\alpha_2\delta_2}(\lambda_1, \lambda_2) + n_2l_1^{\delta_2}d_2^{\alpha_1\delta_2} + \geq hd_2^\beta.$$

Then (12) follows from assumption iv), since

$$d_2^\beta \leq \left( \frac{2n_2l_2^{\delta_2}}{h - 2n_2l_1^{\delta_2}} \right) d^{\alpha_2\delta_2}(\lambda_1, \lambda_2).$$

**Step 3.** Finally, for all  $x(\lambda_1, \mu_1) \in S^s(\lambda_1, \mu_1)$  and all  $x(\lambda_2, \mu_2) \in S^s(\lambda_2, \mu_2)$ , from

$$d(x(\lambda_1, \mu_1), x(\lambda_2, \mu_2)) \leq d_1 + d_2,$$

it follows that

$$\rho(S(\lambda_1, \mu_1), S(\lambda_2, \mu_2)) \leq k_1d^{\alpha_2\delta_2/\beta}(\lambda_1, \lambda_2) + k_2d^{\delta_1/(\beta-\theta)}(\mu_1, \mu_2),$$

where  $k_1 = \left( \frac{2n_2l_2^{\delta_2}}{h - 2n_2l_1^{\delta_2}} \right)^{\frac{1}{\beta}}$  and  $k_2 = \left( \frac{n_1}{h - 2n_2l_1^{\delta_2}} \right)^{\frac{1}{\beta-\theta}}$ .

Taking  $\lambda_2 = \lambda_1$  and  $\mu_2 = \mu_1$  we see that the diameter of  $S^s(\lambda_1, \mu_1)$  is 0, i.e., this set is a singleton  $\{x(\lambda_1, \mu_1)\}$ . Similarly,  $S^s(\lambda_2, \mu_2)$  is also a singleton. Thus the solution is unique and the required Hölder condition is checked. ■

In the special case where  $Y = R$  and  $C = R_+$ , (WQEP) and (SQEP) become (QEP) studied in [11]. From Proposition 4.4 we see that Theorem 4.5 not only generalizes but also improves Theorems 2.1 and 2.2 of [11].

### 5. Particular Cases

Since equilibrium problems contain - as special cases - many problems as mentioned in Sec. 1, we can derive from the results of Sec. 2-4 consequences for such special cases. Now we discuss only some corollaries for quasivariational inequalities as examples.

Let  $X$  be a normed space,  $A \subseteq X$  be nonempty and convex,  $\Lambda$  be a metric space and  $K : A \times \Lambda \rightarrow 2^A$ . Let  $X^*$  be the dual space of  $X$  and  $T : X \times \Lambda \rightarrow X^*$ . We consider the following parametric quasivariational inequality, for each  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , (QVI) Find  $\bar{x} \in K(\bar{x}, \lambda)$  such that, for all  $y \in K(\bar{x}, \lambda)$ ,

$$\langle T(\bar{x}, \lambda), y - \bar{x} \rangle \geq 0,$$

where  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  denotes the pairing between  $X$  and  $X^*$ .

Setting  $Y = R, C = R_+$  and  $f(x, y, \mu) = \langle T(x, \mu), y - x \rangle$ , (QVI) becomes a case of (WQEP) and (SQEP) (in this special case the two problem coincide). Consequently, the following result is immediate from Theorem 2.6.

**Corollary 5.1.** *The solution map  $S$  of (QVI) is usc at  $\lambda_0$  if*

- i)  $\{(x, y, \lambda) \mid \langle T(y, \lambda), y - x \rangle \geq 0\}$  is closed in  $K(A, \Lambda) \times K(A, \Lambda) \times \{\lambda_0\}$ ;
- ii)  $E$  is usc at  $\lambda_0$ ,  $E(\lambda_0)$  is compact and  $K$  is lsc in  $K(A, \Lambda) \times K(A, \Lambda)$ .

Corollary 5.1 includes and improves Theorems 2.2 and 2.3 of [21], Theorems 4.1 and 4.3 of [22]. Similarly, we can obtain direct corollaries of Theorems 2.13, 2.15, 3.4, 3.6 and these results are new for (QVI).

**Corollary 5.2.** *For problem (QVI) assume that*

a) *there are neighborhoods  $U(\lambda_0)$  of  $\lambda_0$  and  $V(\mu_0)$  of  $\mu_0$  such that, for all  $x \in E(U(\lambda_0))$ ,  $T(x, \cdot)$  is  $n_3 \cdot \delta_3$ -Hölder at  $\mu_0$  and  $T(\cdot, \cdot)$  is bounded in  $E(U(\lambda_0)) \times V(\mu_0)$ , and  $E(U(\lambda_0))$  is bounded;*

b) *for all  $\mu \in V(\mu_0)$ ,  $T(\cdot, \mu)$  is  $h \cdot \beta$ -Hölder strongly monotone in  $E(U(\lambda_0))$ , i.e.,  $\forall x, y \in E(U(\lambda_0))$ ,*

$$\langle T(x, \mu) - T(y, \mu), y - x \rangle + h \|x - y\|^\beta \leq 0;$$

- c)  $K$  is  $(l_1 \cdot \alpha_1, l_2 \cdot \alpha_2)$ -Hölder in  $E(U(\lambda_0)) \times \{\lambda_0\}$ ;
- d)  $\alpha_1 = \beta$  and  $h > 2n_2 l_1$ .

*Then, in a neighborhood of  $(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$ , the solution  $x(\lambda, \mu)$  of (QVI) is unique and has the following Hölder continuity property*

$$d(x(\lambda_1, \mu_1), x(\lambda_2, \mu_2)) \leq k_1 d^{\alpha_2/\beta}(\lambda_1, \lambda_2) + k_2 d^{\delta_3/\beta}(\mu_1, \mu_2),$$

where  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  are positive constants depending on  $h, \beta, n_3, \delta_3$ , etc.

*Proof.* We verify the assumptions of Theorem 4.5. i) is fulfilled with  $n_1 = Nn_3, \delta_1 = \delta_3, \theta = 0, n_2 = M$  and  $\delta_2 = 1$ , where  $N, M > 0$  are such that  $\|T(x, \mu)\| \leq M$  for each  $(x, \mu) \in E(U(\lambda_0)) \times V(\mu_0)$ , and  $\|x - y\| \leq N$  for each  $x, y \in E(U(\lambda_0))$ .

For ii) one has, by b),

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\geq \langle T(x, \mu) - T(y, \mu), y - x \rangle + h \|y - x\|^\beta \\ &= f(x, y, \mu) + f(y, x, \mu) + h \|y - x\|^\beta. \end{aligned}$$

Applying Proposition 4.4 ii) we see that assumption ii) of Theorem 4.5 is satisfied.

iii) is the same as c). Finally, for iv) one has from d) that  $\alpha_1 \delta_2 = \beta > \theta$  and  $h > 2n_2 l_1$ , as  $\delta_2 = 1$  and  $\theta = 0$ . ■

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