

# Mixed Vector Equilibrium Problem Involving Multi-Valued Mapping

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**Abstract:** In this paper, we consider and study a mixed vector equilibrium problem involving multi-valued mapping in a Hausdorff topological vector space. We prove some existence results for mixed vector equilibrium problem involving multi-valued mapping using KKM theorem, the concept of coercing family for multi-valued mappings and core of a set. The problem of this paper is a combination of a vector equilibrium problem and a vector variational inequality problem and is more general than many existing problems available in the literature.

**Keywords:** Equilibrium problem, Variational inequality, Vector, Generalized KKM theorem, Core, Coercing family.

## 1 Introduction

The equilibrium problem has been extensively studied, beginning with *Blum* and *Oettli* [5] where they proposed it as a generalization of optimization and variational inequality problem.

Let  $K$  be a convex subset of a topological vector space  $X$ , and let  $f : K \times K \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a given function with  $f(x, x) = 0$  on  $K$ . The scalar-valued equilibrium problem deals with the existence of  $\bar{x} \in K$  such that

$$f(\bar{x}, y) \geq 0, \forall y \in K. \quad (1)$$

It turns out that this problem includes, as special cases many problems such as fixed point problem, complementarity problem, Nash equilibrium problem etc.. For more details, we refer to [2, 3, 4].

Let  $Y$  be an another Hausdorff topological vector space and  $C \subseteq Y$  a cone. Given a vector-valued mapping  $f : K \times K \rightarrow Y$ . The problem of finding  $\bar{x} \in K$  such that

$$f(\bar{x}, y) \notin -\text{int}C, \forall y \in K. \quad (2)$$

Problem (2) is called vector equilibrium problem, see e.g. [8, 9, 10, 2].

Let  $T : K \rightarrow L(X, Y)$  be a mapping, where  $L(X, Y)$  denotes the space of all linear bounded mappings from  $X$

into  $Y$ . The vector variational inequality problem is to find  $\bar{x} \in K$  such that

$$\langle T(\bar{x}), y - \bar{x} \rangle \notin -\text{int}C, \forall y \in K.$$

In this paper, we consider and study a mixed vector equilibrium problem involving multi-valued mapping which is a combination of a vector equilibrium problem and a vector variational inequality problem. We prove some existence results for our problem using different concepts. It is easy to check that mixed vector equilibrium problem involving multi-valued mapping includes vector equilibrium problems, equilibrium problems, variational inequalities, vector variational inequalities etc. as special cases.

## 2 Preliminaries and Formulation

Throughout this paper, let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two Hausdorff topological vector spaces. Let  $K$  be a nonempty convex closed subset of  $X$  and  $C \subseteq Y$  a pointed closed convex cone with nonempty interior i.e.,  $\text{int}C \neq \emptyset$ . The partial order " $\leq_C$ " on  $Y$  induced by  $C$  is defined by  $x \leq_C y$  if and only if  $y - x \in C$ . Let  $f : K \times K \rightarrow Y$  and  $T : K \rightarrow 2^{L(X, Y)}$  be two mappings. We consider the following problem:

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Find  $x \in K$ ,  $v \in T(x)$  such that for all  $y, b \in K$ , and  $\lambda \in (0, 1]$ ,

$$f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)b, y) + \langle v, y - x \rangle \notin -\text{int}C. \quad (3)$$

We call problem (3) as mixed vector equilibrium problem involving multi-valued mapping. We prove some existence results for problem (3) in different settings.

The following definitions and concepts are needed to prove the results of this paper.

**Definition 1.**[7] Let  $K$  be a nonempty convex subset of a topological vector space  $X$ . A multi-valued mapping  $F : K \rightarrow 2^X$  is said to be KKM mapping, if for every finite subset  $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$  of  $K$ ,

$$\text{Co}\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\} \subseteq \bigcup_{i=1}^n F(x_i),$$

where  $\text{Co}\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$  denotes the convex hull of  $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$ .

**Definition 2.** A multi-valued mapping  $T : K \rightarrow 2^{L(X, Y)}$  is called  $C$ -monotone, if for any  $x, y \in K$

$$\langle s - t, y - x \rangle \in -C, \quad \forall s \in T(x), t \in T(y);$$

or, equivalently

$$\langle s, y - x \rangle \leq_C -\langle t, x - y \rangle, \quad \forall s \in T(x), t \in T(y).$$

**Definition 3.** Let  $(Y, C)$  be an ordered topological vector space. A mapping  $T : X \rightarrow Y$  is said to be  $C$ -convex, if for any pair of points  $x, y \in X$ , and  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ ,

$$T(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y) \leq_C \lambda T(x) + (1 - \lambda)T(y).$$

**Lemma 1.**[6] Let  $(Y, C)$  be an ordered topological vector space with a pointed closed convex cone  $C$  with  $\text{int}C \neq \emptyset$ . Then for all  $x, y \in Y$ , we have

- (i)  $y - x \in \text{int}C$  and  $y \notin \text{int}C$  imply  $x \notin \text{int}C$ ;
- (ii)  $y - x \in C$  and  $y \notin \text{int}C$  imply  $x \notin \text{int}C$ ;
- (iii)  $y - x \in -\text{int}C$  and  $y \notin -\text{int}C$  imply  $x \notin -\text{int}C$ ;
- (iv)  $y - x \in -C$  and  $y \notin -\text{int}C$  imply  $x \notin -\text{int}C$ .

**Definition 4.**[4] Consider a subset  $K$  of a topological vector space  $X$  and a topological space  $Y$ . A family  $\{(C_i, Z_i)\}_{i \in I}$  of pair of sets is said to be coercing for a mapping  $F : K \rightarrow 2^Y$  if and only if

- (i) for each  $i \in I$ ,  $C_i$  is contained in a compact convex subset of  $K$  and  $Z_i$  is a compact subset of  $Y$ ;
- (ii) for each  $i, j \in I$ , there exists  $k \in I$  such that  $C_i \cup C_j \subseteq C_k$ ;
- (iii) for each  $i \in I$ , there exists  $l \in I$  with  $\bigcap_{x \in C_l} F(x) \subseteq Z_i$ .

**Theorem 1.**[4] Let  $X$  be a Hausdorff topological vector space,  $Y$  a convex subset of  $X$ ,  $K$  a nonempty subset of  $Y$  and  $F : K \rightarrow 2^Y$  a KKM mapping with compactly closed values in  $Y$  (i.e., for all  $x \in K$ ,  $F(x) \cap Z$  is closed for every compact set  $Z$  of  $Y$ ). If  $F$  admits a coercing family, then

$$\bigcap_{x \in K} F(x) \neq \emptyset.$$

**Definition 5.**[5] Let  $K$  and  $D$  be convex subsets of  $X$  with  $D \subset K$ . The core of  $D$  relative to  $K$ , denoted by  $\text{core}_K D$ , is the set defined by  $a \in \text{core}_K D$  if and only if  $a \in D$  and  $D \cap (a, y) \neq \emptyset$ , for all  $y \in K \setminus D$ .

### 3 Existence Results

**Theorem 2.** Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two Hausdorff topological vector spaces and  $K$  a nonempty subset of  $X$ . Let  $C$  be a closed convex pointed cone in  $Y$  with  $\text{int}C \neq \emptyset$  and  $W : K \rightarrow 2^Y$  defined by  $W = Y \setminus \{-\text{int}C\}$ . Let  $f : K \times K \rightarrow Y$  and  $T : K \rightarrow 2^{L(X, Y)}$  be two mappings such that following conditions holds:

- (i)  $T$  is  $C$ -monotone and hemicontinuous;
- (ii)  $f$  is continuous in the first argument and  $C$ -convex in the second argument;
- (iii)  $f(\lambda z + (1 - \lambda)b, z) = 0$ , for all  $z, b \in K$  and  $\lambda \in (0, 1]$ ;
- (iv)  $W$  is closed;
- (v) there exists a family  $\{(C_i, Z_i)\}_{i \in I}$  satisfying conditions (i) and (ii) of Definition 4 and the following condition: For each  $i \in I$ , there exists  $l \in I$  such that

$$\{x \in K : f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)b, y) - \langle u, x - y \rangle \notin -\text{int}C, \forall y \in C_l, u \in T(y)\} \subseteq Z_i.$$

Then, there exists a point  $x \in K$  such that for all  $y \in K$ ,  $v \in T(x)$ ,

$$f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)b, y) + \langle v, y - x \rangle \notin -\text{int}C.$$

For the proof of Theorem 2, we need the following proposition, for which all the assumptions of Theorem 2 are remain same.

**Proposition 1.** The following two problems are equivalent:

- (I) Find  $x \in K : f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)b, y) - \langle u, x - y \rangle \notin -\text{int}C; \forall b, y \in K, u \in T(y)$ ;
- (II) Find  $x \in K : f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)b, y) + \langle v, y - x \rangle \notin -\text{int}C; \forall b, y \in K, v \in T(x)$ ;

where  $\lambda \in (0, 1]$ .

*Proof.* Suppose that (II) holds. Then there exists  $x \in K$  such that for  $v \in T(x)$ ,

$$f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)b, y) + \langle v, y - x \rangle \notin -\text{int}C.$$

Since  $T$  is  $C$ -monotone, we have

$$\langle v, y - x \rangle \leq_C -\langle u, x - y \rangle, \quad v \in T(x), u \in T(y).$$

Also

$$f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)b, y) + \langle v, y - x \rangle \leq_C f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)b, y) - \langle u, x - y \rangle. \quad (4)$$

Since  $f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)b, y) + \langle v, y - x \rangle \notin -intC$ , using (iv) of Lemma 1 and (4), we obtain

$$f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)b, y) - \langle u, x - y \rangle \notin -intC;$$

i.e., (I) holds.

Conversely, suppose that (I) holds. Then

$$f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)b, y) - \langle u, x - y \rangle \notin -intC, u \in T(y).$$

Let for all  $y \in K, x_\alpha = \alpha y + (1 - \alpha)x, 0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$ . Then  $x_\alpha \in K$  and hence we have

$$f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)b, x_\alpha) - \langle u', x - x_\alpha \rangle \notin -intC, u' \in T(x_\alpha),$$

and therefore

$$(1 - \alpha)f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)b, x_\alpha) - (1 - \alpha)\langle u', x - x_\alpha \rangle \notin -intC, \quad (5)$$

for  $u' \in T(x_\alpha)$ .

Since  $\langle u', x - x_\alpha \rangle = \alpha \langle u', x - y \rangle$ , therefore (5) can be written as

$$(1 - \alpha)f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)b, x_\alpha) - \alpha(1 - \alpha)\langle u', x - y \rangle \notin -intC, \quad (6)$$

for  $u' \in T(x_\alpha)$ .

As  $f$  is  $C$ -convex in the second argument and  $f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)b, x) = 0$ , for all  $x \in K$ , we have for  $u' \in T(x_\alpha)$

$$\begin{aligned} & (1 - \alpha)f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)b, x_\alpha) - \alpha(1 - \alpha)\langle u', x - y \rangle \\ & \leq_C \alpha(1 - \alpha)f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)b, y) + \alpha(1 - \alpha)\langle u', y - x \rangle. \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

Hence by (6) and (iv) of Lemma 1, (7) implies that

$$\alpha(1 - \alpha)f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)b, y) + \alpha(1 - \alpha)\langle u', y - x \rangle \notin -intC, \quad (8)$$

for  $u' \in T(x_\alpha)$ .

Dividing by  $\alpha(1 - \alpha)$ , we have

$$f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)b, y) + \langle u', y - x \rangle \notin -intC, u' \in T(x_\alpha). \quad (9)$$

Since  $T$  is hemicontinuous and  $W$  is closed, from (9) we have

$$f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)b, y) + \langle v, y - x \rangle \in W, v \in T(x),$$

and thus

$$f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)b, y) + \langle v, y - x \rangle \notin -intC, v \in T(x),$$

i.e., (II) holds. □

*Proof of Theorem 2.* For each  $y \in K$ , consider the set

$$F(y) = \{x \in K : f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)b, y) - \langle u, x - y \rangle \notin -intC; u \in T(y)\}.$$

We claim that  $F$  is a KKM mapping. If  $F$  is not a KKM mapping, then there exists a finite subset  $\{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n\}$  of  $K$  and  $t_i \geq 0, i = 1, 2, \dots, n$  with  $\sum_{i=1}^n t_i = 1$  such that

$$z = \sum_{i=1}^n t_i y_i \notin \bigcup_{i=1}^n F(y_i).$$

Then

$$f(\lambda z + (1 - \lambda)b, y_i) - \langle u, z - y_i \rangle \in -intC. \quad (10)$$

It follows that

$$\sum_{i=1}^n t_i f(\lambda z + (1 - \lambda)b, y_i) - \sum_{i=1}^n t_i \langle u, z - y_i \rangle \in -intC. \quad (11)$$

From the conditions imposed on  $f$ , we have

$$0 = f(\lambda z + (1 - \lambda)b, z) \leq_C \sum_{i=1}^n t_i f(\lambda z + (1 - \lambda)b, y_i). \quad (12)$$

Also, since

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \langle u, z - z \rangle \\ &= \left\langle u, \sum_{i=1}^n t_i z - \sum_{i=1}^n t_i y_i \right\rangle \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n t_i \langle u, z - y_i \rangle, \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

therefore, combining (12) and (13), we have

$$\sum_{i=1}^n t_i f(\lambda z + (1 - \lambda)b, y_i) - \sum_{i=1}^n t_i \langle u, z - y_i \rangle \in C,$$

which contradicts (11). Hence  $F$  is a KKM mapping.

Next, we show that  $F(y)$  is closed. Let  $\{x_n\}$  be a sequence in  $F(y)$  such that  $x_n \rightarrow x_0$ . As  $f$  is continuous in the first argument, we have

$$f(\lambda x_n + (1 - \lambda)b, y) - \langle u, x_n - y \rangle \rightarrow f(\lambda x_0 + (1 - \lambda)b, y) - \langle u, x_0 - y \rangle.$$

As  $W$  is closed, we have

$$f(\lambda x_0 + (1 - \lambda)b, y) - \langle u, x_0 - y \rangle \in W.$$

It follows that

$$f(\lambda x_0 + (1 - \lambda)b, y) - \langle u, x_0 - y \rangle \notin -intC.$$

It implies that  $x_0 \in F(y)$ , so  $F(y)$  is closed. In view of assumption (v),  $F$  has compactly closed values.

Assumption (v) implicates that the family  $\{(C_i, Z_i)\}_{i \in I}$  satisfies the following condition which is for all  $i \in I$ , there exists  $l \in I$  such that

$$\bigcap_{y \in C_i} F(y) \subseteq Z_i;$$

and therefore it is a coercing family for  $F$ .

Hence by applying Theorem 1, we have

$$\bigcap_{y \in K} F(y) \neq \emptyset.$$

Thus, there exists  $x \in K$  such that for all  $y, b \in K$ ,

$$f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)b, y) - \langle u, x - y \rangle \notin -\text{int}C, u \in T(y).$$

Lastly, we apply Proposition 1 and we obtain

$$f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)b, y) + \langle v, y - x \rangle \notin -\text{int}C, v \in T(x).$$

Hence problem (3) admits a solution. This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Proposition 2.**[1] Assume that  $\phi : K \rightarrow Y$  is  $C$ -convex,  $x_0 \in \text{core}_K D$ ,  $\phi(x_0) \notin \text{int}C$  and  $\phi(y) \notin -\text{int}C$ , for all  $y \in D$ . Then,  $\phi(y) \notin -\text{int}C$ , for all  $y \in K$ .

**Theorem 3.** Let  $X, Y, C, W, f$  and  $T$  be same as in Theorem 2 and satisfying conditions (i) – (iv) of Theorem 2. In addition, the following condition is satisfied which is there exists a nonempty convex compact subset  $D$  of  $K$  such that  $x \in D \setminus \text{core}_K D$  and  $y \in \text{core}_K D$ . Then there exists  $x \in D$  such that for all  $y, b \in K$  and  $\lambda \in (0, 1]$ ,

$$f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)b, y) + \langle v, y - x \rangle \notin -\text{int}C, v \in T(x).$$

*Proof.* From Proposition 1, it follows that the following problems are equivalent i.e., find  $x \in D$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} (I) & f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)b, y) - \langle u, x - y \rangle \notin -\text{int}C; \forall b \in K, y \in D, u \in T(y); \\ (II) & f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)b, y) + \langle v, y - x \rangle \notin -\text{int}C; \forall b \in K, y \in D, v \in T(x); \end{aligned}$$

where  $\lambda \in (0, 1]$ .

Set  $\phi(y) = f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)b, y) + \langle v, y - x \rangle$ . Clearly  $\phi(y)$  is  $C$ -convex and  $\phi(y) \notin -\text{int}C$ , for all  $y \in D$ .

If  $x \in \text{core}_K D$ , then set  $x_0 = x$ . If  $x \in D \setminus \text{core}_K D$ , then set  $x_0 = y$ , where  $y$  is same as in the hypothesis of the theorem. In both cases,  $x_0 \in \text{core}_K D$  and  $\phi(x_0) \notin \text{int}C$ . Hence by Proposition 2, it follows that

$$\phi(y) \notin -\text{int}C, \forall y \in K.$$

Thus there exists  $x \in D$  such that for all  $y \in K$ ,

$$f(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)b, y) + \langle v, y - x \rangle \notin -\text{int}C, v \in T(x).$$

This completes the proof.  $\square$

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