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SOME GENERALIZATIONS OF DUALITY THEOREMS IN MATHEMATICAL PROGRAMMING PROBLEMS

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§ 1. Introduction and problem setting

Let X , Z and W be real linear spaces and suppose that Z and W are in duality with respect to a certain bilinear functional $((,))$. Let C and D be nonempty sets in X and Z respectively, and let f and g be finite-valued real functions on C and D respectively. Assume that $g(z) = -\infty$ for every $z \notin D$. Let A be a transformation from C into Z .

We shall be concerned with the following two problems:

- (I) Determine $M = \inf\{f(x) - g(Ax); x \in C\}$,
- (II) Determine $M^* = \sup\{g^*(w) - f_A^*(w); w \in W\}$,

where

$$g^*(w) = \inf\{((z, w)) - g(z); z \in D\}$$

and

$$f_A^*(w) = \sup\{((Ax, w)) - f(x); x \in C\}.$$

Here we define

$$r + \infty = \infty + r = \infty, \quad r - \infty = -\infty + r = -\infty$$

for all real numbers r , and set

$$\infty + \infty = \infty, \quad -\infty - \infty = -\infty, \quad -(-\infty) = \infty.$$

More precisely, we shall study the problems

- (i) the existence of x or w which attains the infimum or the supremum,
- (ii) relations between the values M and M^* .

An answer to problem (ii) is called a duality theorem.

R. T. Rockafellar [6] investigated these problems in the case where A is linear and continuous, C and D are convex sets and f and $-g$ are convex functions. Our problems (I) and (II) contain the problems discussed by U. Dieter [3], K. S. Kretschmer [4] and R. Van Slyke and R. Wets [7]. M. Yamasaki [8] studied the above problems in the case where C is a convex set, D is a convex cone, f is a convex function, $g=0$ and A is convex with respect to D .

In the present paper, we shall generalize duality theorems given in [3], [4], [7] and [8] by making use of a well-known separation theorem. We shall introduce in § 5 a condition which was called the normality condition in [6] and [7]. By means of this condition, duality theorems in § 3 will be generalized.

§ 2. Preliminaries

For later use, we shall recall some notions and results in [1] and [2].

Let X and Y be real linear spaces in duality with respect to a certain bilinear functional $((,))$. Let us denote the weak topology on X by $w(X, Y)$ and the Mackey topology by $s(X, Y)$. A locally convex Hausdorff topology $t(X, Y)$ on X compatible with this duality is stronger than $w(X, Y)$ and weaker than $s(X, Y)$. If X is assigned $t(X, Y)$, then every element of Y is identified with a $t(X, Y)$ -continuous linear functional on X .

Let R be the set of real numbers and R_0 the set of non-negative real numbers.

We shall utilize the following separation theorem :

Proposition 1.¹⁾ *Let K be a $w(X, Y)$ -closed convex set in X and x_0 be an element of X such that $x_0 \notin K$. Then there exist $y_0 \in Y$ and $\alpha \in R$ such that*

$$((x_0, y_0)) > \alpha \geq ((x, y_0))$$

for all $x \in K$.

Next we shall recall the conjugate operation of convex functions in [3], which will be used in § 4. For a finite-valued real convex function p on X with nonempty convex domain P , the conjugate function p^* and the conjugate set P^* are defined by

$$p^*(y) = \sup\{((x, y)) - p(x) ; x \in P\},$$

$$P^* = \{y \in Y ; p^*(y) < \infty\}.$$

Then p^* is a finite-valued real convex function with convex domain P^* .

Let us define

$$[p, P] = \{(x, r) ; x \in P \text{ and } r \geq p(x)\}.$$

For a finite-valued real concave function q on X with nonempty convex domain Q , there are similar definitions :

$$q^*(y) = \inf\{((x, y)) - q(x) ; x \in Q\},$$

1) [1], p. 73, Proposition 4 and [2], p. 50, Proposition 1.

$$Q^* = \{y \in Y; q^*(y) > -\infty\},$$

$$[q, Q] = \{(x, r); x \in Q \text{ and } r \leq q(x)\}.$$

Then q^* is a finite-valued real concave function with convex domain Q^* .
Dieter proved

Proposition 2.²⁾ *Let $X \times R$ and $Y \times R$ be in duality with respect to the bilinear functional \langle, \rangle defined by*

$$\langle (x, r), (y, s) \rangle = ((x, y)) + rs$$

for all $(x, r) \in X \times R$ and $(y, s) \in Y \times R$.

(1) *If P is $w(X, Y)$ -closed and p is lower semicontinuous with respect to $w(X, Y)$, then $[p, P]$ is $w(X \times R, Y \times R)$ -closed.*

(2) *If $[p, P]$ is $w(X \times R, Y \times R)$ -closed, then $p^{**} = (p^*)^* = p$ and $P^{**} = (P^*)^* = P$.*

§ 3. Duality theorems

Let $Z \times R$ and $W \times R$ be in duality with respect to the bilinear functional \langle, \rangle defined by

$$\langle (z, r), (w, s) \rangle = ((z, w)) + rs$$

for every $(z, r) \in Z \times R$ and $(w, s) \in W \times R$. Let E, E_0 and L be the sets in $Z \times R$ defined by

$$E = \{(Ax - z, r + f(x) - g(z)); x \in C, z \in D \text{ and } r \in R_0\},$$

$$L = \{(0, r); 0 \in Z \text{ and } r \in R\},$$

$$E_0 = E \cap L.$$

In case $C \cap A^{-1}(D)$ is not empty, we have

$$E_0 = \{(0, r + f(x) - g(Ax)); 0 \in Z, x \in C \cap A^{-1}(D) \text{ and } r \in R_0\}.$$

First we shall study the existence of x which attains the value M of problem (I). We have

Theorem 1. *Assume that the value M is finite. Then there exists $x \in C$ such that $Ax \in D$ and $M = f(x) - g(Ax)$ if and only if the set E_0 is $w(Z \times R, W \times R)$ -closed.*

Proof. Since M is finite, we have

$$\{0\} \times (M, +\infty) \subset E_0 \subset \{0\} \times [M, +\infty).$$

2) [3], p. 98, Hilfssatz 5 and p. 99, Hilfssatz 7.

Therefore the set E_0 is $w(Z \times R, W \times R)$ -closed if and only if $(0, M)$ belongs to E_0 . We see easily that there exists $x \in C$ such that $Ax \in D$ and $M = f(x) - g(Ax)$ if and only if $(0, M) \in E_0$.

Observe that the set E_0 is $w(Z \times R, W \times R)$ -closed whenever the set E is $w(Z \times R, W \times R)$ -closed, since the set L is $w(Z \times R, W \times R)$ -closed. However, the $w(Z \times R, W \times R)$ -closedness of the set E_0 does not necessarily imply the $w(Z \times R, W \times R)$ -closedness of the set E . This is shown by Example 5. 1 in [4] or Example 3. 5 in [7].

As for the $w(Z \times R, W \times R)$ -closedness of the set E_0 , we have

Proposition 3. *Let X be a topological linear space and let Z be assigned $w(Z, W)$. Assume that the functions f and $-g$ are lower semicontinuous and that the transformation A is continuous. If $C \cap A^{-1}(D)$ is a nonempty and compact set, then the set E_0 is $w(Z \times R, W \times R)$ -closed.*

Proof. Let $\{(0, r_t); t \in T\}$ be a net in E_0 which $w(Z \times R, W \times R)$ -converges to $(z, r) \in Z \times R$. Then $z = 0$ and there exists $x_t \in C \cap A^{-1}(D)$ such that $r_t \geq f(x_t) - g(Ax_t)$. By the compactness of $C \cap A^{-1}(D)$, there exists a subnet $\{x_t; t \in T'\}$ which converges to some $x \in C \cap A^{-1}(D)$. Then by the continuity of A and the lower semicontinuity of f and $-g$, we have

$$r = \lim_{t \in T'} r_t \geq \lim_{t \in T'} f(x_t) - \overline{\lim}_{t \in T'} g(Ax_t) \geq f(x) - g(Ax),$$

and hence $(0, r) \in E_0$. Therefore the set E_0 is $w(Z \times R, W \times R)$ -closed.

Next we shall investigate some relations between the values M and M^* . We have

Theorem 2. *It is always valid that $M^* \leq M$.*

Proof. In case $C \cap A^{-1}(D)$ is empty, we have $M = \infty$ and our assertion is obvious. In case $C \cap A^{-1}(D)$ is not empty, let x and w be arbitrary elements of $C \cap A^{-1}(D)$ and W respectively. The inequalities

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) + f_A^*(w) &\geq ((Ax, w)), \\ g(Ax) + g^*(w) &\leq ((Ax, w)) \end{aligned}$$

follow from the definitions of f_A^* and g^* in § 1. Thus we have

$$f(x) - g(Ax) \geq g^*(w) - f_A^*(w).$$

This completes the proof.

Before giving the converse relation $M^* \geq M$, we shall prepare

Lemma 1. *If $w \in W$ and $\alpha \in R$ satisfy the inequality*

$$\alpha \geq ((u, w)) - r$$

for all $(u, r) \in E$, then

$$\alpha \geq f_A^*(w) - g^*(w).$$

Proof. Since $(Ax - z, f(x) - g(z)) \in E$ for any $x \in C$ and $z \in D$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha &\geq ((Ax - z, w)) - f(x) + g(z) \\ &= \{((Ax, w)) - f(x)\} - \{((z, w)) - g(z)\}. \end{aligned}$$

From the definitions of f_A^* and g^* , it follows that

$$\alpha \geq f_A^*(w) - g^*(w).$$

Now we shall prove

Theorem 3. *If the value M is finite and the set E is convex and $w(Z \times R, W \times R)$ -closed, then $M = M^*$ holds.*

Proof. For an arbitrarily fixed $\varepsilon > 0$, $(0, M - \varepsilon) \notin E$. Since E is a $w(Z \times R, W \times R)$ -closed convex set, there exist $(w, s) \in W \times R$ and $\alpha \in R$ such that

$$(M - \varepsilon)s > \alpha \geq ((u, w)) + rs$$

for all $(u, r) \in E$ by Proposition 1. From the fact that $(0, M + \varepsilon) \in E$, it follows that $(M - \varepsilon)s > (M + \varepsilon)s$ and hence $s < 0$. Writing $\alpha_0 = \alpha/s$ and $w_0 = -w/s$, we have

$$M - \varepsilon < \alpha_0 \leq -((u, w_0)) + r$$

for all $(u, r) \in E$. By means of Lemma 1, we see that

$$\alpha_0 \leq g^*(w_0) - f_A^*(w_0) \leq M^*.$$

Therefore $M^* > M - \varepsilon$. By the arbitrariness of ε , we conclude that $M^* \geq M$. The converse inequality was given in Theorem 2. This completes the proof.

Theorem 4. *If the value M^* is finite and the set E is convex and $w(Z \times R, W \times R)$ -closed, then $M = M^*$ holds.*

Proof. Suppose $(0, M^*) \notin E$. By Proposition 1 there exist $(w, s) \in W \times R$ and $\alpha \in R$ such that

$$(1) \quad M^*s > \alpha \geq ((u, w)) + rs$$

for all $(u, r) \in E$. For a fixed $(u_1, r_1) \in E$, we have $(u_1, r_1 + t) \in E$ for all $t \in R_0$ and by (1)

$$\alpha \geq ((u_1, w)) + r_1 s + t s.$$

Letting $t \rightarrow \infty$, we see that $s \leq 0$. First we shall consider the case where $s < 0$. Writing $\alpha_0 = \alpha/s$ and $w_0 = -w/s$, we have

$$(2) \quad M^* < \alpha_0 \leq -((u, w_0)) + r$$

for all $(u, r) \in E$. It follows from Lemma 1 that

$$\alpha_0 \leq g^*(w_0) - f_A^*(w_0) \leq M^*.$$

This is a contradiction. Next we shall consider the case where $s = 0$. Then we have

$$(3) \quad 0 > \alpha \geq ((u, w))$$

for all $(u, r) \in E$. On the other hand, there exist $v \in W$ and $\beta \in R$ such that

$$(4) \quad \beta \geq ((u, v)) - r$$

for all $(u, r) \in E$. In fact, by our assumption that M^* is finite, we can find $v \in W$ such that both $f_A^*(v)$ and $g^*(v)$ are finite. By the definitions of f_A^* and g^* , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \beta &= f_A^*(v) - g^*(v) \geq ((Ax, v)) - f(x) - ((z, v)) + g(z) \\ &\geq ((Ax - z, v)) - \{r + f(x) - g(z)\} \end{aligned}$$

for all $x \in C, z \in D$ and $r \in R_0$, which implies (4). On account of (3) and (4), we have

$$\alpha t + \beta \geq ((u, tw + v)) - r$$

for all $(u, r) \in E$ and $t \in R_0$. We see by Lemma 1 that

$$\alpha t + \beta \geq f_A^*(tw + v) - g^*(tw + v) \geq -M^*.$$

Letting $t \rightarrow \infty$, we have $M^* = \infty$, since $\alpha < 0$. This is a contradiction. Thus $(0, M^*) \in E$. It follows that $M^* \geq M$. On account of Theorem 2, we have $M = M^*$.

With regard to the convexity of the set E , we have

Theorem 5. *Assume that C and D are convex sets and f and $-g$ are convex functions. If any one of the following conditions (M. 1) and (M. 2) is fulfilled, then the set E is convex:*

(M. 1) A is linear,

(M. 2) D is a cone, A is convex with respect to D^3 , i. e.,

$$A(tx_1 + (1-t)x_2) - tAx_1 - (1-t)Ax_2 \in D$$

for any $x_1, x_2 \in C$ and $t \in R_0$ with $0 < t < 1$, and g is increasing with respect to D , i. e., $g(z_1) \geq g(z_2)$ whenever $z_1 - z_2 \in D$.

Proof. Assume condition (M. 2). Let $(u_i, r_i) \in E (i=1, 2)$ and $t \in R_0$, $0 < t < 1$. Then there exist $x_i \in C, z_i \in D$ and $s_i \in R_0$ such that $u_i = Ax_i - z_i$ and $r_i = s_i + f(x_i) - g(z_i)$. Let us denote $u_t = tu_1 + (1-t)u_2$, $r_t = tr_1 + (1-t)r_2$, $x_t = tx_1 + (1-t)x_2$, $z_t = tz_1 + (1-t)z_2$ and $s_t = ts_1 + (1-t)s_2$. Then $x_t \in C, z_t \in D$ and $s_t \in R_0$. Since A is convex with respect to D , we have $tAx_1 + (1-t)Ax_2 = Ax_t - v$ for some $v \in D$. Thus $u_t = Ax_t - (v + z_t) \in A(C) - D$. On the other hand, by the convexity of f and $-g$ and by the assumption that g is increasing with respect to D , we have

$$\begin{aligned} r_t &= s_t + tf(x_1) + (1-t)f(x_2) - tg(z_1) - (1-t)g(z_2) \\ &\geq s_t + f(x_t) - g(z_t) \geq s_t + f(x_t) - g(v + z_t), \end{aligned}$$

and hence $r_t = s + f(x_t) - g(v + z_t)$ for some $s \in R_0$. Therefore $(u_t, r_t) \in E$ and the set E is convex. Similarly we can prove that condition (M. 1) implies the convexity of the set E .

By means of Theorem 5, we see that Theorems 3 and 4 are some generalizations of duality theorems in [3], [4], [7] and [8].

We shall study the $w(Z \times R, W \times R)$ -closedness of the set E . In the rest of this section, we always assume that X is a topological linear space, that Z is assigned $w(Z, W)$, that the sets C and D are closed, that the functions f and $-g$ are lower semicontinuous and that the transformation A is continuous. Then we have

Theorem 6. *Assume that, for any $w(Z \times R, W \times R)$ -convergent net $\{(u_t, r_t); t \in T\}$ in E , there exist $\{x_t; t \in T\} \subset C$ and $\{z_t; t \in T\} \subset D$ such that*

$$u_t = Ax_t - z_t, \quad r_t \geq f(x_t) - g(z_t)$$

and $\{x_t; t \in T\}$ contains a convergent subnet. Then the set E is $w(Z \times R, W \times R)$ -closed.

Proof. Let $\{(u_t, r_t); t \in T\}$ be a net in E which $w(Z \times R, W \times R)$ -converges to $(u, r) \in Z \times R$. By our assumption, there exist $\{x_t; t \in T\} \subset C$ and $\{z_t; t \in T\} \subset D$ such that

$$u_t = Ax_t - z_t, \quad r_t \geq f(x_t) - g(z_t)$$

3) We correct the definition of this notion in [8], p. 332 in the present form.

and $\{x_t; t \in T\}$ contains a subnet $\{x_t; t \in T'\}$ which converges to some x . Then $\{z_t; t \in T'\}$ converges to $Ax - u = z$, since A is continuous. Since C and D are closed, we have $x \in C$ and $z \in D$. By the lower semicontinuity of f and $-g$, we have

$$r = \lim_{t \in T'} r_t \geq \liminf_{t \in T'} f(x_t) - \overline{\lim}_{t \in T'} g(z_t) \geq f(x) - g(z).$$

Therefore $(u, r) \in E$ and the set E is $w(Z \times R, W \times R)$ -closed.

Corollary. *If the set C is compact, then the set E is $w(Z \times R, W \times R)$ -closed.*

Similarly we can prove

Proposition 4. *Assume that A is homeomorphic and that the set D is compact. Then the set E is $w(Z \times R, W \times R)$ -closed.*

§ 4. The case where A is linear and continuous

We shall recall the convex programming problems studied by Rockafellar [6].

Let X and Y be real linear spaces which are in duality with respect to the bilinear functional $((,))_1$ and let Z and W be real linear spaces which are in duality with respect to the bilinear functional $((,))_2$. Let C and D be nonempty convex sets in X and Z respectively, and let f and $-g$ be finite-valued real convex functions on C and D respectively. Let A be a linear transformation from X into Z which is $w(X, Y) - w(Z, W)$ continuous and let A^* be its adjoint. Thus A^* is a linear transformation from W into Y which is $w(W, Z) - w(Y, X)$ continuous and satisfies $((Ax, w))_2 = ((x, A^*w))_1$ for all $x \in X$ and $w \in W$.

By virtue of the conjugate operations for convex sets and convex functions defined in § 2, we see that the function g^* defined in § 1 is the conjugate function of the concave function g and that $f_A^*(w) = f^*(A^*w)$ holds, where f^* is the conjugate function of the convex function f . Let us denote by C^* and D^* the conjugate sets of convex sets C and D respectively. The convex programming problems discussed in [6] are as follows:

(III) Determine $N = \inf\{f(x) - g(Ax); x \in C \text{ and } Ax \in D\}$,

(IV) Determine $N^* = \sup\{g^*(w) - f^*(A^*w); w \in D^* \text{ and } A^*w \in C^*\}$.

Here we use the convention that the infimum and the supremum on the empty set are equal to $+\infty$ and $-\infty$ respectively.

These problems contain the problems investigated by Dieter [3], Kretschmer [4]. Dieter discussed the case where $X=Z$ and A is the identity transformation. Kretschmer discussed the case where

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= ((x, y_0)), \quad C = P, \\ g(z) &= 0, \quad D = Q + z_0, \end{aligned}$$

where P and Q are convex cones which are $w(Z, W)$ -closed and $w(Z, W)$ -closed respectively, and $y_0 \in Y$ and $z_0 \in Z$ are fixed elements. In this case, problems (III) and (IV) are called linear programming problems. Van Slyke and Wets [7] investigated problem (III) in the case where $g=0$ and $D=\{b\}$, ($b \in Z$).

Now we shall apply our results in § 3 to problems (III) and (IV). On account of Theorems 3, 4 and 5, we have

Proposition 5. *Let $Z \times R$ and $W \times R$ be in duality as in § 3 and let E be the set in $Z \times R$ defined by*

$$E = \{(Ax - z, r + f(x) - g(z)); x \in C, z \in D \text{ and } r \in R_0\}.$$

If the set E is $w(Z \times R, W \times R)$ -closed and either N or N^ is finite, then $N = N^*$ holds.*

Since problems (III) and (IV) have symmetry, we can derive a dual statement to the above result. Observing that

$$-N^* = \inf\{(-g^*(w)) - (-f^*(A^*w)); w \in D^* \text{ and } A^*w \in C^*\},$$

we shall consider the following problem :

$$(V) \text{ Determine } -N^{**} = \sup\{-f^{**}(x) + g^{**}(A^{**}x); x \in C^{**} \text{ and } A^{**}x \in D^{**}\}.$$

It is always valid that $N^{**} \leq N$. If the sets $[f, C]$ and $[g, D]$ defined in § 2 are $w(X \times R, Y \times R)$ -closed and $w(Z \times R, W \times R)$ -closed respectively, then $f^{**} = f$, $g^{**} = g$, $C^{**} = C$ and $D^{**} = D$ by Proposition 2. In this case, the set F in $Y \times R$ defined by

$$F = \{(A^*w - y, r - g^*(w) + f^*(y)); w \in D^*, y \in C^* \text{ and } r \in R_0\}$$

plays the role of the set E in § 3. Noting $A^{**} = A$ and applying Theorems 3, 4 and 5, we have

Proposition 6. *Assume that the sets $[f, C]$ and $[g, D]$ are $w(X \times R, Y \times R)$ -closed and $w(Z \times R, W \times R)$ -closed respectively. If the set F is $w(Y \times R, X \times R)$ -closed and either N or N^* is finite, then $N = N^*$ holds.*

We shall give an application of Theorem 6.

Proposition 7. *Let C and D be $w(X, Y)$ -closed and $w(Z, W)$ -closed respectively and let f and $-g$ be lower semicontinuous with respect to $w(X, Y)$ and $w(Z, W)$ respectively. Assume that any $w(X, Y)$ -bounded set in X is relatively $w(X, Y)$ -compact. If we further assume that $A^*(D^*) \cap (C^*)^\circ$ is not empty, then the set E is $w(Z \times R, W \times R)$ -closed, where $(C^*)^\circ$ denotes the $s(Y, X)$ -interior of C^* .*

Proof. Let $\{(u_t, r_t); t \in T\}$ be a net in E which $w(Z \times R, W \times R)$ -converges to $(u, r) \in Z \times R$. Then there exist $x_t \in C$ and $z_t \in D$ such that $u_t = Ax_t - z_t$ and $r_t \geq f(x_t) - g(z_t)$. By the definitions of f^* and g^* , we have

$$r_t \geq ((x_t, y))_1 - ((z_t, w))_2 - f^*(y) + g^*(w)$$

for all $y \in C^*$ and $w \in D^*$. By our assumption, there are y_0 and w_0 such that $w_0 \in D^*$ and $y_0 = A^*w_0 \in (C^*)^\circ$. For any $y \in Y$, there exists $\varepsilon > 0$ such that $y_0 \pm \varepsilon y \in (C^*)^\circ$. Consequently

$$\begin{aligned} r_t &\geq ((x_t, y_0 \pm \varepsilon y))_1 - ((z_t, w_0))_2 - f^*(y_0 \pm \varepsilon y) + g^*(w_0) \\ &= ((Ax_t - z_t, w_0))_2 \pm \varepsilon ((x_t, y))_1 - f^*(y_0 \pm \varepsilon y) + g^*(w_0) \\ &= ((u_t, w_0))_2 \pm \varepsilon ((x_t, y))_1 - f^*(y_0 \pm \varepsilon y) + g^*(w_0). \end{aligned}$$

Since $\{r_t - ((u_t, w_0))_2; t \in T\}$ converges to $r - ((u, w_0))_2$, there is $t_0 \in T$ such that $\{r_t - ((u_t, w_0))_2; t \in T, t > t_0\}$ is bounded. Consequently $\{((x_t, y))_1; t \in T, t > t_0\}$ is bounded for every $y \in Y$, and hence $\{x_t; t \in T, t > t_0\}$ is relatively $w(X, Y)$ -compact by our assumption. Thus $\{x_t; t \in T\}$ contains a $w(X, Y)$ -convergent subnet. Therefore the set E is $w(Z \times R, W \times R)$ -closed by Theorem 6.

Note that any $w(X, Y)$ -bounded set in X is relatively $w(X, Y)$ -compact provided that Y is a disk space (= espace tonnelé) and X is the topological dual space of Y ([2], p. 65, Théorème 1).

§ 5. Normality condition

We return to the general problem (I). Let E be as defined in § 3 and denote by \bar{E} the $w(Z \times R, W \times R)$ -closure of E . We shall introduce another quantity m defined by

$$m = \inf\{r; r \in R \text{ and } (0, r) \in \bar{E}\},$$

where we set $m = \infty$ in the case where $(0, r) \notin \bar{E}$ for any $r \in R$. This

quantity was called the subvalue in the case of linear programming problems (cf. [4]).

We have

Theorem 7. *It is always valid that $M^* \leq m \leq M$.*

Proof. The inequality $m \leq M$ follows immediately from the definitions of m and M . To prove $M^* \leq m$, we may suppose that $m < \infty$. Let $(0, r) \in \bar{E}$. Then there exists a net $\{(u_t, r_t); t \in T\}$ in E which $w(Z \times R, W \times R)$ -converges to $(0, r)$. For every $t \in T$, there exist $x_t \in C$, $z_t \in D$ and $s_t \in R_0$ such that $u_t = Ax_t - z_t$ and $r_t = s_t + f(x_t) - g(z_t)$. By the definitions of f_A^* and g^* , we have

$$\begin{aligned} r_t &\geq f(x_t) - g(z_t) \geq ((Ax_t, w)) - f_A^*(w) - ((z_t, w)) + g^*(w) \\ &= ((u_t, w)) + g^*(w) - f_A^*(w) \end{aligned}$$

for any $w \in W$ and hence $r \geq g^*(w) - f_A^*(w)$. Thus we have $M^* \leq m$.

Theorem 8. *If the set \bar{E} is convex and $M^* > -\infty$, then $M^* = m$ holds.*

Proof. On account of Theorem 7, it suffices to show the inequality $M^* \geq m$ in the case where M^* is finite. Suppose $(0, M^*) \notin \bar{E}$. Applying Proposition 1 to $(0, M^*)$ and the $w(Z \times R, W \times R)$ -closed convex set \bar{E} , we can arrive at a contradiction by the same argument as in the proof of Theorem 4. Therefore $(0, M^*) \in \bar{E}$. Thus we have $M^* \geq m$.

Theorem 9. *If the set \bar{E} is convex and $m < \infty$, then $M^* = m$ holds.*

Proof. By Theorem 7, it is enough to show the inequality $M^* \geq m$ in the case where m is finite. For an arbitrarily fixed $\epsilon > 0$, we have $(0, m - \epsilon) \notin \bar{E}$ by the definition of m . Applying Proposition 1 to $(0, m - \epsilon)$ and the $w(Z \times R, W \times R)$ -closed convex set \bar{E} , we can prove the inequality $m - \epsilon < M^*$ by the same argument as in the proof of Theorem 3. By the arbitrariness of ϵ , we have $m \leq M^*$.

Note that the set \bar{E} is convex whenever the set E is convex ([1], p. 50, Proposition 14).

By means of Theorem 5, we see that Theorems 8 and 9 are some generalizations of Theorem 2 in [4].

Now we introduce

Definition. Problem (I) is said to be normal if $\bar{E} \cap L = \bar{E}_0$, where L and E_0 are the sets defined in § 3 and \bar{E}_0 is the $w(Z \times R, W \times R)$ -closure of E_0 .

The normality condition was first introduced in [6], cf. [7].
We shall prove

Theorem 10. *Problem (I) is normal if and only if $M=m$.*

Proof. Observe that $\bar{E}_0 = \{0\} \times [M, +\infty)$ in case M is finite, $\bar{E}_0 = L$ in case $M = -\infty$ and \bar{E}_0 is empty in case $M = \infty$. Similarly, $\bar{E} \cap L = \{0\} \times [m, +\infty)$ in case m is finite, $\bar{E} \cap L = L$ in case $m = -\infty$ and $\bar{E} \cap L$ is empty in case $m = \infty$. Our theorem follows from these observations.

From Theorems 8, 9 and 10, we obtain

Corollary 1. *Assume that problem (I) is normal and \bar{E} is convex. If $M < \infty$ or $-\infty < M^*$, then $M = M^*$.*

From Theorems 7 and 10, we have

Corollary 2. *If $M = M^*$, then problem (I) is normal.*

These corollaries are a generalization of Theorem 7 of [6].

We easily have

Proposition 8. *If the set E is $w(Z \times R, W \times R)$ -closed, then problem (I) is normal.*

By this proposition, we see that Corollary 1 is a generalization of Theorems 3 and 4. However it seems difficult to verify the normality in the case where the set E is not $w(Z \times R, W \times R)$ -closed.

We have

Proposition 9. *Assume that the set E is convex. If L intersects the $s(Z \times R, W \times R)$ -interior E° of E , then problem (I) is normal.*

Proof. Suppose $\bar{E}_0 \neq \bar{E} \cap L$. Then there exists $(0, r_1) \in \bar{E} \cap L$ such that $(0, r_1) \notin \bar{E}_0$. By our assumption, there is $(0, r_0) \in L$ such that $(0, r_0) \in E^\circ$. Let U be a convex $s(Z \times R, W \times R)$ -neighborhood of $(0, r_0)$ satisfying $U \subset E^\circ$. Since $(0, r_1) \in \bar{E}$ and E is convex, we see that the set

$$V = \{(z, s); z = tu, s = (1-t)r_1 + tr \text{ for all } (u, r) \in U \text{ and } t \in R_0 \\ \text{with } 0 < t \leq 1\}$$

is contained in E ([1], p. 51, Proposition 15). It is clear that $L \cap V \subset L \cap E = E_0$. Since $(0, (1-t)r_1 + tr) \in L \cap V$ for all $t, 0 < t \leq 1$, we see that $(0, r_1) \in \bar{L} \cap \bar{V} \subset \bar{E}_0$. This is a contradiction. Therefore $\bar{E}_0 = \bar{E} \cap L$.

This is a straightforward extension of Proposition 5.2 in [7].

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