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## **Minimax Inequalities Equivalent to the Fan–Knaster–Kuratowski–Mazurkiewicz Theorems**

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**Abstract.** The purpose of this note is to give further generalizations of the Ky Fan minimax inequality by relaxing the compactness and convexity of sets and the quasi-concavity of the functional and to show that our minimax inequalities are equivalent to the Fan–Knaster–Kuratowski–Mazurkiewicz (FKKM) theorem and a modified FKKM theorem given in this note.

**Key Words.** The minimax inequality, Variational inequalities, The FKKM theorem, Noncompact and nonconvex sets, Equivalence.

**AMS Classification.** 49A29, 90C33, 90C50.

### **1. Introduction**

The Knaster–Kuratowski–Mazurkiewicz (KKM) theorem is a very basic and useful result which is equivalent to many basic theorems such as Sperner's lemma, Brouwer's fixed-point theorem, and Ky Fan's minimax inequality. Since Knaster *et al.* [12] gave this theorem, many generalizations of the KKM theorem have been given. Among these generalizations, an important one is the so-called Fan–Knaster–Kuratowski–Mazurkiewicz (FKKM) theorem which was obtained by Ky Fan [9, Theorem 1] (also see Theorem 4 of [10]) and can be used to prove and/or generalize many existence theorems such as fixed-point theorems and coincidence theorems for noncompact convex sets and intersection theorems for

sets with convex sections (cf. [8]). Subsequently, Ben-El-Mechaiekh *et al.* [4], [5] gave fixed-point theorems for set-valued mappings without compactness of the domain. These fixed-point theorems in fact can be proved to be equivalent to the FKKM theorem. Tarafdar [15] also gave a fixed-point theorem which is equivalent to the FKKM theorem. In this note we generalize the minimax inequalities of Fan [8], Allen [1], and Zhou and Chen [19] which have wide applications to mathematical programming, partial differential equation theory, game theory, impulsive control, and economics [2], [3], [6], [11], [13], [14], [16]–[18] and show that our minimax inequalities are equivalent to the FKKM theorem and a modified FKKM theorem obtained in this note.

We begin with some definitions. Throughout the paper all topological vector spaces are assumed to be Hausdorff and are denoted by  $E$ .

Let  $X$  be a subset of  $E$  and let  $\varphi: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{\pm\infty\}$ . We say the functional  $\varphi$  is *lower semicontinuous* if, for each point  $x'$ , we have

$$\liminf_{x \rightarrow x'} \varphi(x) \geq \varphi(x').$$

An equivalent definition of the lower semicontinuity of  $\varphi$  is that the set  $\{x \in X: \varphi(x) \leq a\}$  is closed for every  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Let  $Y$  be a convex subset of  $E$  and let  $\emptyset \neq X \subset Y$ . A functional  $\varphi(x, y): X \times Y \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{\pm\infty\}$  is said to be  $\gamma$ -*diagonally quasi-concave* ( $\gamma$ -DQCV) in  $x$  [19] if, for any finite subset  $\{x_1, \dots, x_m\} \subset X$  and any  $x_\lambda = \sum_{j=1}^m \lambda_j x_j$  with  $\lambda_j \geq 0$  and  $\sum_{j=1}^m \lambda_j = 1$ , we have

$$\min_{1 \leq j \leq m} \varphi(x_j, x_\lambda) \leq \gamma.$$

**Remark 1.** The above definition on  $\gamma$ -DQCV is slightly more general than that of Zhou and Chen [19]. Here we do not require that  $X = Y$  and that  $X$  be convex.

It is easily shown that an equivalent definition of the  $\gamma$ -diagonal quasi-concavity is that the convex hull of every finite subset  $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m\}$  of  $X$  is contained in the corresponding union  $\bigcup_{j=1}^m \{y \in Y: \varphi(x_j, y) \leq \gamma\}$ .

**Remark 2.** Zhou and Chen [19] gave a class of diagonal (quasi-)concavity (convexity) conditions which are weaker than the usual (quasi-)concavity (convexity) conditions and from which many theorems in convex analysis and (quasi-)variational inequalities can be generalized.

Denote the convex hull of the set  $Z$  by  $\text{co } Z$ .

## 2. Generalizations of the Ky Fan Minimax Inequality

Fan [9], [10] has obtained a further generalization of the classical KKM theorem which is stated in the following theorem.

**Theorem 1 (Ky Fan).** *In a Hausdorff topological vector space, let  $Y$  be a convex set and  $\emptyset \neq X \subset Y$ . For each  $x \in X$ , let  $F(x)$  be a relatively closed subset of  $Y$  such that the convex hull of every finite subset  $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m\}$  of  $X$  is contained in the corresponding union  $\bigcup_{j=1}^m F(x_j)$ . If there is a nonempty subset  $X_0$  of  $X$  such that the intersection  $\bigcap_{x \in X_0} F(x)$  is compact and  $X_0$  is contained in a compact convex subset of  $Y$ , then  $\bigcap_{x \in X} F(x) \neq \emptyset$ .*

If we want  $X \cap [\bigcap_{x \in X} F(x)] \neq \emptyset$ , we can modify Theorem 1 to the following form:

**Theorem 2.** *In a Hausdorff topological vector space, let  $Y$  be a convex set and  $\emptyset \neq X \subset Y$ . For each  $x \in X$ , let  $F(x)$  be a relatively closed subset of  $Y$  such that the convex hull of every finite subset  $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m\}$  of  $X$  is contained in the corresponding union  $\bigcup_{j=1}^m F(x_j)$ . If there is a nonempty set  $X_0$  of  $X$  such that for each  $y \in Y \setminus X_0$  there exists  $x \in X_0$  with  $y \notin F(x)$ , and  $X_0$  is contained in a compact convex subset of  $Y$ , then  $X \cap (\bigcap_{x \in X} F(x)) \neq \emptyset$ .*

*Proof.* By assumption we know that  $\bigcap_{x \in X_0} F(x)$  is a closed subset of  $X_0$ . Since  $X_0$  is contained in a compact convex subset of  $Y$ ,  $\bigcap_{x \in X_0} F(x)$  is compact. Thus, by Theorem 1,  $\bigcap_{x \in X} F(x) \neq \emptyset$ . Now for any  $y \in \bigcap_{x \in X} F(x)$  we must have  $y \in \bigcap_{x \in X_0} F(x) \subset X_0$ , for otherwise  $y \notin F(x)$  for some  $x \in X_0$ . Therefore,  $y \in X$ .  $\square$

We now prove the following minimax inequality independently of Theorem 1 and show the equivalence of Theorem 1 with our minimax inequality in Theorem 3 below.

**Theorem 3.** *Let  $Y$  be a nonempty convex subset of a Hausdorff topological vector space  $E$ , let  $\emptyset \neq X \subset Y$ , and let  $\varphi: X \times Y \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{\pm \infty\}$  be a functional such that*

- (i)  $(x, y) \mapsto \varphi(x, y)$  is lower semicontinuous in  $y$ ;
- (ii)  $(x, y) \mapsto \varphi(x, y)$  is  $\gamma$ -DQCV in  $x$ ;
- (iii) *there exists a nonempty subset  $C$  of  $X$  such that  $\bigcap_{x \in C} \{y \in Y: \varphi(x, y) \leq \gamma\}$  is compact and  $C$  is contained in a compact convex subset  $B$  of  $Y$ .*

*Then there exists a point  $y^* \in Y$  such that  $\varphi(x, y^*) \leq \gamma$  for all  $x \in X$ .*

*Proof.* If  $\gamma = \infty$ , the conclusion is clearly true. So we assume that  $\gamma \neq \infty$ . We now prove the theorem by considering two cases.

*Case 1.* We first consider the case where  $Y$  is compact. Suppose, by way of contradiction, that for every  $y \in Y$  there exists some point  $x \in X$  such that

$$\varphi(x, y) > \gamma. \tag{1}$$

For each  $x \in X$ , define

$$N(x) = \{y \in Y: \varphi(x, y) > \gamma\}.$$

Then, for all  $x \in X$ ,  $N(x)$  is open in  $Y$  ( $N(x)$  may be empty for some  $x$ ) by assumption (i). Thus, by (1), we have

$$Y \subset \bigcup_{x \in X} N(x).$$

Since  $Y$  is compact,  $\{N(x)\}$  has a finite subcover  $N(x_1), \dots, N(x_m)$ . Choose a partition of unity  $\mu_j: Y \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , subordinate to  $\{N(x)\}$ . Define a map  $B: Y \rightarrow Y$  by

$$B(y) = \sum_{j=1}^m \mu_j(y)x_j,$$

which is continuous and maps  $Y$  into  $S \equiv \text{co}\{x_1, \dots, x_m\}$ . In particular,  $B$  maps  $S$  into itself. By Brouwer's fixed-point theorem, there exists  $x_\lambda \in S$  such that  $B(x_\lambda) = x_\lambda$ .

Let  $I = \{j: 1 \leq j \leq m \text{ \& } \mu_j(x_\lambda) > 0\}$ . Then  $x_\lambda = \sum_{j \in I} \mu_j(x_\lambda)x_j$  and, for all  $j \in I$ ,  $x_\lambda \in N(x_j)$  and thus  $\varphi(x_j, x_\lambda) > \gamma$ . However, this contradicts assumption (ii).

*Case 2.* We now consider the case where  $Y$  is not compact. Let  $D = \bigcap_{x \in C} \{y \in Y: \varphi(x, y) \leq \gamma\}$ . Then  $D$  is compact by assumption.

Consider an arbitrary finite subset  $\{x_1, \dots, x_m\}$  of  $X$ . Let

$$X_1 = X_0 \cup \{x_1, \dots, x_m\}$$

and let  $A = B \cup \{x_1, \dots, x_m\}$ . Since  $B$  is compact convex,  $\text{co } A$  is compact. Also since  $X \cup B$  is a subset of  $Y$ , we have  $\text{co } A \subset Y$ . Hence, by the conclusion in Case 1, there exists a vector  $y' \in \text{co } A$  such that  $\varphi(x, y') \leq \gamma$  for all  $x \in X_1$ . Thus  $y' \in D$ .

For each  $x \in X_1$ , let

$$K(x) = \{y \in Y: \varphi(x, y) \leq \gamma\}.$$

Then  $y' \in D \cap [\bigcap_{j=1}^m K(x_j)]$ . Thus, the collection  $\{D \cap K(x): x \in X\}$  has the finite intersection property. Since  $D$  is compact and  $K(x)$  is closed,  $D \cap K(x)$  is compact. Hence  $\bigcap_{x \in X} [D \cap K(x)] \neq \emptyset$  and therefore  $\bigcap_{x \in X} K(x) \neq \emptyset$ . So there exists a vector  $y^* \in Y$  such that  $y^* \in K(x)$  for all  $x \in X$  and thus  $\varphi(x, y^*) \leq \gamma$  for all  $x \in X$ .  $\square$

Note that Theorem 3 cannot guarantee  $y^* \in X$  even if  $y^* \in \bigcap_{x \in X} F(x)$ . If we require  $y^* \in X$ , we need to strengthen condition (iii) of Theorem 3 and have the following theorem.

**Theorem 4.** *Suppose all the conditions in Theorem 3 hold except that assumption (iii) is replaced by*

- (iii) *there exists a nonempty set  $C \subset X$  such that for each  $y \in Y \setminus C$  there exists  $x \in C$  with  $\varphi(x, y) > \gamma$  and  $C$  is contained in a compact convex subset of  $Y$ .*

*Then there exists a point  $y^* \in X$  such that  $\varphi(x, y^*) \leq \gamma$  for all  $x \in X$ .*

*Proof.* By conditions (i) and (iii)',  $D \equiv \bigcap_{x \in C} \{y \in Y: \varphi(x, y) \leq \gamma\}$  is a closed subset of  $C$ . Since  $C$  is contained in a compact convex subset of  $Y$ ,  $D$  is compact. Thus by Theorem 3 there exists a point  $y^* \in Y$  such that  $\varphi(x, y^*) \leq \gamma$  for all  $x \in X$ . Now  $y^*$  must be in  $C$ , for otherwise hypothesis (iii)' would be violated. Therefore,  $y^* \in X$ . □

**Remark 3.** Theorem 4 is a generalization of the minimax inequality of Fan [8] by relaxing the quasi-concavity of  $\varphi$  and the convexity and compactness of  $X$ ; a generalization of Allen [1] by relaxing the quasi-concavity of  $\varphi$  and the convexity of  $X$ ; and a generalization of Zhou and Chen [19] by relaxing the convexity of  $X$ .

As an application of Theorem 4, we give the following theorem which generalizes a theorem in Fan [7], [10].

**Theorem 5.** *Let  $X$  be a set in a normal vector space  $E$ , and let  $\psi: X \rightarrow E$  be a continuous map which can be continuously extended to a convex subset  $Y$  of  $E$  which contains  $X$ . Let  $C$  be a nonempty subset of  $X$ . Suppose, for every  $y \in Y \setminus C$ , there exists  $x \in C$  such that*

$$\|x - \psi(y)\| < \|y - \psi(y)\|$$

*and  $C$  is contained in a compact convex subset of  $Y$ . Then there is a point  $\hat{y} \in X$  satisfying*

$$\|\hat{y} - \psi(\hat{y})\| = \min_{x \in X} \|x - \psi(\hat{y})\|.$$

*(In particular, if  $\psi(\hat{y}) \in X$ , then  $\hat{y}$  is a fixed point of  $\psi$ .)*

*Proof.* Define  $\varphi: X \times Y \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by

$$\varphi(x, y) = \|y - \psi(y)\| - \|x - \psi(y)\|.$$

Then  $\varphi(x, y)$  satisfies all the assumptions with  $\gamma = 0$  for Theorem 4. Hence the result follows from Theorem 4. □

### 3. Equivalence of Theorems 1 and 3

As noted, the fixed-point theorems of Ben-El-Mechaiekh *et al.* [4], [5] and Tarafdar [15] are equivalent to Theorem 1. Here we prove that our Theorem 3 is also equivalent to Theorem 1.

Theorem 1  $\Rightarrow$  Theorem 3.

*Proof.* For  $x \in X$ , let  $F(x) = \{y \in Y: \varphi(x, y) \leq \gamma\}$ . By condition (i),  $F(x)$  is closed in  $Y$ . Also, since  $\varphi$  is  $\gamma$ -DQ-CV in  $x$ , the convex hull of every finite subset

$\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m\}$  of  $X$  is contained in the corresponding union  $\bigcup_{j=1}^m F(x_j)$ . Condition (iii) says that  $\bigcap_{x \in C} F(x)$  is compact and  $C$  is contained in a compact convex subset of  $Y$ . Hence, by Theorem 1, there is a point  $y^*$  in  $\bigcap_{x \in X} F(x)$ , so  $\varphi(x, y^*) \leq \gamma$  for all  $x \in X$ .  $\square$

Theorem 3  $\Rightarrow$  Theorem 1.

*Proof.* Define  $G = \{(x, y) \in X \times Y : y \in F(x)\}$  and define  $\varphi: X \times Y \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$  by

$$\varphi(x, y) = \begin{cases} \gamma & \text{if } (x, y) \in G, \\ +\infty & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

where  $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Since  $F(x)$  is a relatively closed subset of  $Y$ , then, for every  $x \in X$ ,  $\varphi$  is lower semicontinuous in  $y \in Y$ . Also, since the convex hull of every finite subset  $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m\}$  of  $X$  is contained in the corresponding union  $\bigcup_{j=1}^m F(x_j)$ , then for any  $x_\lambda$  in the convex hull we have  $x_\lambda \in F(x_j)$  for some  $j$ . Hence  $\varphi(x_j, x_\lambda) \leq \gamma$  for some  $j$  and thus  $\varphi$  is  $\gamma$ -DQCV in  $x \in X$  for every  $y \in Y$ . Also,

$$\bigcap_{x \in X_0} \{y \in Y : \varphi(x, y) \leq \gamma\} = \bigcap_{x \in X_0} F(x)$$

is compact and  $X_0$  is contained in a compact convex subset of  $Y$  by the assumptions of Theorem 1.

Thus by Theorem 3 there exists a point  $y^* \in Y$  such that  $\varphi(x, y^*) \leq \gamma$  for all  $x \in X$ . That is,  $y^* \in F(x)$  for all  $x \in X$ . So  $\bigcap_{x \in X} F(x) \neq \emptyset$ .  $\square$

Thus the Ben-El-Mechaiekh *et al.* fixed-point theorems, Tarafdar's fixed-point theorem, the FKKM theorem (Theorem 1), and Theorem 3 are equivalent to one another. We can similarly show that Theorems 2 and 4 are also equivalent.

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