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# A characterization of nonemptiness and boundedness of the solution set for set-valued vector equilibrium problems via scalarization and stability results

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## Abstract

In this paper, the existence theorems of solutions for generalized weak vector equilibrium problems are developed in real reflexive Banach spaces. Based on recession method and scalarization technique, we derive a characterization of nonemptiness and boundedness of solution set for generalized weak vector equilibrium problems. Moreover, Painlevé–Kuratowski upper convergence of solution set is also discussed as an application, when both the objective mapping and the constraint set are perturbed by difference parameters.

**Keywords:** Equilibrium problem, Barrier cone, Pseudomonotone mappings, Stability analysis

## Background

Let  $X$  be a real reflexive Banach space and  $Y$  be a real normed linear space. Suppose that, and  $C \subseteq Y$  is a nonempty, closed and convex pointed cone with  $\text{int } C \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $K \subseteq X$  be a non-empty subset and a set-valued function  $F : K \times K \rightarrow 2^Y \setminus \{\emptyset\}$ , the following generalized weak vector equilibrium problem (GWVEP) is to find  $\bar{x} \in K$  such that

$$\bar{x} \in K \text{ such that } F(\bar{x}, y) \cap (-\text{int } C) = \emptyset, \forall y \in K, \quad (\text{GWVEP})$$

and the dual problem for (GWVEP), is so called (DGWVEP), is to find  $\bar{x} \in K$  such that

$$\bar{x} \in K \text{ such that } F(y, \bar{x}) \cap (\text{int } C) = \emptyset, \forall y \in K. \quad (\text{DGWVEP})$$

Both (GWVEP) and (DGWVEP) have been extensively studied by many authors (see Ansari and Flores-Bazán 2006; Ansari et al. 2001a, b, 2002; Flores-Bazán and Flores-Bazán 2003; Ansari et al. 2001; Sadeqi and Alizadeh 2011; Zhong et al. 2011). An important and interesting topic for (GWVEP) and (DGWVEP) is to study the nonemptiness and boundedness of the solution sets. As far as we known, the first paper which discussed this issues was Flores-Bazán and Flores-Bazán (2003) in the case where  $F$  is vector-valued. They studied the existence of solutions of (GWVEP) under the asymptotic analysis, where neither compactness of  $K$  nor any coercivity condition is assumed in

reflexive Banach spaces. By using idea of recession method in Flores-Bazán and Flores-Bazán (2003), Ansari and Flores-Bazán (2006) gave some necessary and sufficient conditions for nonemptiness and boundedness of the solution set of (GWVEP). In 2011, Sadeqi and Alizadeh (2011) discussed and improved some results of Ansari and Flores-Bazán (2006). They gave the conditions under which the solution set of (GWVEP) is non-empty, convex and weakly compact subset in reflexive Banach spaces. After a thorough review of the literature and according to our knowledge, we found that the convexity assumed for second variable of  $F$  is an essential assumption (see also Chen et al. 2008; Flores-Bazán 2000; Fang and Huang 2007).

On the other hand, the stability analysis of the solution mappings to generalized vector equilibrium problem is an important topic in vector optimization theory. Recently, the lower semicontinuity, (Hölder) continuity of the solution maps to (GWVEP) are discussed in Li and Li (2011), Gong (2008), Chen et al. (2009), Xu and Li (2013). Among those papers, we observe that the linear scalarization technique is one effective to deal with the lower semicontinuity and (Hölder) continuity of solution mappings to (GWVEP). Based on the linear scalarization, the solution sets for (GWVEP) is the union of family of the solution set to scalarized equilibrium problems with respect to the linear map on dual cone. In natural, the union of family of solution sets to scalarized equilibrium problems is finer than the solution set to (GWVEP). In order to obtain the equality, convexity in second variable of  $F$  is assumed.

Motivated and Inspired by above works, the aim of this paper is to consider a (GWVEP) with a set-valued map on unbounded constraint set in reflexive Banach spaces. We first collect the characterization results of the nonemptiness and boundedness of the solution set of (GWVEP). By using the linear scalarization technique, we characterize the nonemptiness and boundedness of the solution set of (GWVEP) in terms of nonemptiness and boundedness of a family of scalar equilibrium problem with respect to linear maps in connected base for dual cone of  $C$ . Finally, we give the stability results for the solution maps to (GWVEP) in the sense of Painlevé–Kuratowski upper convergence of solution set.

The paper is organized as follows. In “Preliminaries” section, we introduce some basic notations and preliminary results. In “Characterization of nonemptiness and boundedness of the solution set” section, by using a scalarization technique, we establish the nonemptiness and boundedness of solution set for (GWVEP) in reflexive Banach spaces. In “Stability analysis” section, we give an application to the stability of the solution sets for (GWVEP).

## Preliminaries

Throughout this paper, unless otherwise specified, we always assume that  $X$  is a real reflexive Banach space,  $Y$  is a real normed space with dual space  $Y^*$  and  $C \subseteq Y$  is a non-empty, closed, convex and pointed cone with  $\text{int } C \neq \emptyset$ . Let

$$C^* := \{\xi \in Y^* : \langle \xi, y \rangle \geq 0, \quad \forall y \in C\}$$

be the dual cone of  $C$ . Clearly,

$$\begin{aligned} y \in C &\Leftrightarrow \langle \xi, y \rangle \geq 0, \quad \forall \xi \in C^*, \\ y \in \text{int } C &\Leftrightarrow \langle \xi, y \rangle > 0, \quad \forall \xi \in C^*. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $int C \neq \emptyset$ , for any fixed  $e \in int C$ , it proved in Huang et al. (2014) that the dual cone  $C^*$  of  $C$  has a following weak\* compact base  $C^{*0}$ .

$$C^{*0} := \{\xi \in C^* : \langle \xi, e \rangle = 1\},$$

where a subset  $D \subset C^*$  is said to be a base of  $C^*$   $\Leftrightarrow 0 \notin D$  and  $C^* \subset \cup_{t \geq 0} tD$ .

A vector  $x \in K$  is called weak efficient solution to the (GWVEP) if

$$F(x, y) \cap (-int C) = \emptyset, \quad \forall y \in K, \tag{1}$$

and weak efficient solution to the (DGWVEP) if

$$F(y, x) \cap (int C) = \emptyset, \quad \forall y \in K. \tag{2}$$

Denote by  $S_W^P(K, F)$  and  $S_W^D(K, F)$  the set of all weak efficient solution to the (GWVEP) and (DGWVEP), respectively.

**Definition 1** (Zhong et al. 2011) Let  $K$  be a non-empty convex subset of  $X$ . For a given closed convex cone  $C$  of a real normed space  $Y$ , the set-valued map  $F : K \rightarrow 2^Y \setminus \{\emptyset\}$  is said to be

- (i) upper  $C$ -convex, if for any  $x, y \in K$  and for any  $t \in [0, 1]$ ,
 
$$tF(x) + (1 - t)F(y) \subseteq F(tx + (1 - t)y) + C;$$
- (ii) lower  $C$ -convex, if for any  $x, y \in K$  and for any  $t \in [0, 1]$ ,
 
$$F(tx + (1 - t)y) \subseteq tF(x) + (1 - t)F(y) - C;$$
- (iii)  $C$ -convex, if  $F$  is both upper  $C$ -convex and lower  $C$ -convex.

*Remark 1* If  $F$  is a upper  $C$ -convex map on  $K$ , then for any  $x \in K, F(x) + C$  is convex set.

We first recall the well-known concept of monotone mapping for a real set-valued mapping.

**Definition 2** A bifunction  $f : K \times K \rightarrow 2^{\mathbb{R}} \setminus \{\emptyset\}$  is said to be

- (i) monotone on  $K$ , if for any  $x, y \in K$ 

$$z + z' \leq 0, \quad \forall z \in f(x, y), z' \in f(y, x);$$
- (ii) pseudomonotone on  $K$ , if for any  $x, y \in K$ 

$$z \geq 0, \quad \forall z \in f(x, y) \Rightarrow z' \leq 0, \forall z' \in f(y, x).$$

It is well-known that every monotone map is pseudomonotone map.

In the case where  $F$  is a vector set-valued, the concept of monotonicity can be also extended as follows.

**Definition 3** Let  $C \subseteq Y$  be a nonempty, closed, convex and pointed cone with  $int C \neq \emptyset$ . A set-valued map  $F : K \times K \rightarrow 2^Y \setminus \{\emptyset\}$  is said to be

- (i)  $C$ -monotone if, for all  $x, y \in K$ ,  
 $F(x, y) + F(y, x) \subseteq -C$ ;
- (ii)  $C$ -pseudomonotone type  $I$  if, for all  $x, y \in K$ ,  
 $F(x, y) \cap (-int C) = \emptyset \Rightarrow F(y, x) \cap (int C) = \emptyset$ ;
- (iii)  $C$ -pseudomonotone type  $II$  if, for all  $x, y \in K$ ,  
 $F(x, y) \cap (-int C) = \emptyset \Rightarrow F(y, x) \subseteq -C$ ;
- (iv)  $\xi$ -monotone w.r.t.  $C^*$  if, for any  $\xi \in C^*$  and for any  $x, y \in K$ ,  
 $\xi(z) + \xi(z') \leq 0, \quad \forall z \in F(x, y), \quad \forall z' \in F(y, x)$ ;
- (v)  $\xi$ -pseudomonotone w.r.t.  $C^*$  if, for any  $\xi \in C^*$  and for any  $x, y \in K$ ,  
 $\xi(z) \geq 0, \quad \forall z \in F(x, y) \Rightarrow \xi(z') \leq 0, \quad \forall z' \in F(y, x)$ .

*Remark 2* (1) It is clear that  $C$ -monotone mapping is  $C$ -pseudomonotone type  $I$  and type  $II$  and  $C$ -pseudomonotone type  $II$  implies  $C$ -pseudomonotone type  $I$ .

- (2) Every  $C$ -monotone mapping is  $\xi$ -pseudomonotone w.r.t.  $C^*$ .
- (3) Every  $C$ -pseudomonotone type  $II$  mapping is  $\xi$ -pseudomonotone w.r.t.  $C^*$ . Indeed, for any  $\xi \in C^*$  and for any  $x, y \in K$  satisfying  $\xi(z) \geq 0$  for all  $z \in F(x, y)$ , we have  $z \notin -int C$  and so  $F(x, y) \cap (-int C) = \emptyset$ .  $F(y, x) \subseteq -C$  implies that  $\xi(z') \leq 0$  for all  $z' \in F(y, x)$ . But,  $C$ -pseudomonotone type  $I$  may not implies  $\xi$ -pseudomonotone w.r.t.  $C^*$ .

*Example 1* Let  $X = \mathbb{R}, K = [0, 1], Y = \mathbb{R}^2, C = \mathbb{R}_+^2$ . Define  $F : K \times K \rightarrow 2^Y \setminus \{\emptyset\}$  by

$$F(x, y) = \begin{cases} (x, -x) & \text{if } x = y, \\ \{(y - x)\} \times [0, (y - x)] & \text{if } y - x > 0, \\ \{(y - x)\} \times [(y - x), 0] & \text{if } y - x < 0. \end{cases}$$

Thus, clearly that  $F$  is  $\xi$ -pseudomonotone on  $K$  w.r.t.  $C^* \equiv C$ . Indeed, for any  $x, y \in K$  and  $\xi \in C^*$  if  $\xi(F(x, y)) \geq 0$ , then  $y - x > 0$ . This implies that

$$F(y, x) = \{(x - y)\} \times [(x - y), 0] \subseteq -\mathbb{R}_+^2 \Rightarrow \xi(z) \leq 0, \quad \forall z \in F(y, x).$$

But  $C$ -pseudomonotone type  $II$  in the case when  $x = y$ .

*Example 2* Let  $X = \mathbb{R}, K = [0, +\infty), Y = \mathbb{R}^2, C = \mathbb{R}_+^2$  and  $C^* \equiv C$ . Define  $F : K \times K \rightarrow 2^Y \setminus \{\emptyset\}$  by

$$F(x, y) = \{0\} \times [0, |y - x|], \quad \forall x, y \in K.$$

Thus, clearly that for any  $x, y \in K, F(x, y) \cap (-int C) = \emptyset$  implies that  $F(y, x) \cap (int C) = \emptyset$ . Hence,  $F$  is pseudomonotone on  $K$  type  $I$ , but not  $C$ -pseudomonotone type  $II$ .

Moreover, for any  $\xi \in C^*$  and  $x, y \in K$ , we then have

$$\xi(F(x, y)) = \xi(F(y, x)) \geq 0.$$

Therefore,  $F$  is not  $\xi$ -pseudomonotone on  $K$  w.r.t.  $C^*$  as shown in the following example.

**Definition 4** A topological space  $E$  is said to be connected iff, it is not the union of two disjoint nonempty open sets. Moreover,  $E$  is said to be path-connected iff, any two points of  $E$  can be joined by a path.

The following lemma, which gives an equivalent characterization of connected spaces, plays an important role in our proof.

**Lemma 1** A topological space  $E$  is connected if and only if the only subsets of  $E$  which are both open and closed are  $E$  and  $\emptyset$ .

**Definition 5** Let  $F : K \rightarrow 2^Y$  be a set-valued mapping with nonempty values.  $F$  is said to be

- (i) upper semicontinuous(u.s.c.) on  $K$  iff, for every  $x \in K$  and every neighborhood  $N(F(x))$  of  $F(x)$ , there exists a neighborhood  $N(x)$  of  $x$  such that  $F(N(x)) \subseteq N(F(x))$ ;
- (ii) lower semicontinuous(l.s.c.) on  $K$  iff, for every  $x \in K, u \in F(x)$  and every neighborhood  $N(u)$  of  $u$ , there exists a neighborhood  $N(x)$  of  $x$  such that  $F(x') \cap N(u) \neq \emptyset$  for every  $x' \in N(x)$ .

**Proposition 1** (Aubin and Ekeland 1984; Ferro 1989)

- (i)  $F$  is l.s.c. at  $\bar{\lambda}$  if and only if for any sequence  $\{\lambda_n\} \subset \Lambda$  with  $\lambda_n \rightarrow \bar{\lambda}$  and any  $\bar{x} \in F(\bar{\lambda})$ , there exists  $x_n \in F(\lambda_n)$  such that  $x_n \rightarrow \bar{x}$ .
- (ii)  $F$  is weakly l.s.c. at  $\bar{\lambda}$  if and only if for any sequence  $\{\lambda_n\} \subset \Lambda$  with  $\lambda_n \rightarrow \bar{\lambda}$  and any  $\bar{x} \in F(\bar{\lambda})$ , there exists  $x_n \in F(\lambda_n)$  such that  $x_n \rightarrow \bar{x}$ .
- (iii) If  $F$  has compact values (i.e.,  $F(\lambda)$  is a compact set for each  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ ), then  $F$  is u.s.c. at  $\bar{\lambda}$  if and only if for any sequence  $\{\lambda_n\} \subset \Lambda$  with  $\lambda_n \rightarrow \bar{\lambda}$  and for any  $x_n \in F(\lambda_n)$ , there exists  $\bar{x} \in F(\bar{\lambda})$  and a subsequence  $\{x_{n_k}\}$  of  $\{x_n\}$  such that  $x_{n_k} \rightarrow \bar{x}$ .

We collect the following well-known KKM-Fan lemma.

**Lemma 2** (Fan 1984) Let  $M$  be a nonempty, closed and convex subset of  $X$  and  $F : M \rightarrow 2^M \setminus \{\emptyset\}$  be a set-valued map. Suppose that for any finite set  $\{x_1, \dots, x_m\} \subseteq M$ , one has

- (i)  $\text{conv}\{x_1, \dots, x_m\} \subset \cup_{i=1}^m F(x_i)$  (i.e.,  $F$  is a KKM map on  $M$ );
- (ii)  $F(x)$  is closed for every  $x \in M$ ; and
- (iii)  $F(x)$  compact for some  $x \in M$ .

Then  $\cap_{x \in M} F(x) \neq \emptyset$ .

Now, we recall the fundamental tools used throughout this paper. This leads to the concepts of asymptotic cone and asymptotic function through its epigraph.

$$K_\infty = \left\{ d \in X : \exists t_k \rightarrow +\infty, x_k \in X \text{ such that } \frac{1}{t_k} x_k \rightarrow d \right\},$$

where “ $\rightharpoonup$ ” or “ $\omega - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x$ ” means convergence in the weak topology. In case  $K$  is convex subset,  $K_\infty$  can also be determined by the following formula

$$K_\infty = \{d \in X : x_0 + td \in K, \forall t > 0, \forall x_0 \in K\}.$$

The barrier cone of  $K$  is defined by

$$\text{barr } K = \left\{ \xi^* \in K^* : \sup_{y \in K} \langle \xi^*, y \rangle < +\infty \right\}.$$

**Proposition 2** (Ansari and Flores-Bazán 2006, Proposition 2.1) *The following holds:*

- (i)  $K^1 \subseteq K^2$  implies  $K_\infty^1 \subseteq K_\infty^2$ ;
- (ii)  $(K + x)_\infty = K_\infty, \forall x \in X$ ;
- (iii) let  $\{K^i\}_{i \in I}$  be any family of nonempty sets in  $X$ , then

$$\left( \bigcap_{i \in I} K^i \right)_\infty \subseteq \bigcap_{i \in I} K_\infty^i. \tag{3}$$

If, in addition,  $\bigcap_{i \in I} K^i \neq \emptyset$  and each set  $K^i$  is closed and convex, then we obtain an equality in (3).

**Lemma 3** (Adly et al. 2004) *Let  $K$  be a nonempty, closed and convex subset of a real reflexive Banach space  $X$  with  $\text{int}(\text{barr } K) \neq \emptyset$ . Then there is no sequence  $\{x_n\} \subset K$  with  $\|x_n\| \rightarrow \infty$  such that origin is a weak limit of  $\frac{x_n}{\|x_n\|}$ , i.e.  $\frac{x_n}{\|x_n\|} \rightharpoonup 0$ .*

**Lemma 4** (Fan and Zhong 2008) *Let  $K$  be a nonempty, closed, convex subset of a real reflexive Banach space  $X$  with  $\text{int}(\text{barr } K) \neq \emptyset$ . Then there exists no sequence  $\{d_n\} \subset K_\infty$  with each  $\|d_n\| = 1$  such that  $d_n \rightarrow 0$ .*

**Lemma 5** (Fan and Zhong 2008) *Let  $(M, d)$  be a metric space and  $\mu_0 \in M$  be a given point. Let  $K : M \rightarrow 2^X$  be a set-valued mapping with nonempty valued and upper semicontinuous at  $\mu_0$ . Then there exists a neighborhood  $N(\mu_0)$  of  $\mu_0$  such that  $(K(\mu)_\infty) \subset (K(\mu_0)_\infty)$  for all  $\mu \in N(\mu_0)$ .*

**Characterization of nonemptiness and boundedness of the solution set**

In this section, we shall prove the characterization of nonemptiness and boundedness of the solution set for (GWVEP) which states that under suitable conditions.

First of all, we recall the existing assumptions and results which can be found in Ansari and Flores-Bazán (2006), Zhong et al. (2011), Sadeqi and Alizadeh (2011).

**Assumption 1** (Zhong et al. 2011; Ansari and Flores-Bazán 2006) *The set-valued map  $F : K \times K \rightarrow 2^Y \setminus \{\emptyset\}$  is such that:*

- (F<sub>0</sub>)  $F(x, x) = \{0\}$  for all  $x \in K$ .
- (F<sub>1</sub>) For any  $x, y \in K, F(x, y) \cap (-\text{int } C) = \emptyset \Rightarrow F(y, x) \subseteq -C$  ( $C$  pseudomonotone type II).

- (F<sub>2</sub>) For any  $x \in K, F(x, \cdot) : K \rightarrow 2^Y \setminus \{\emptyset\}$  is  $C$ -convex.
- (F<sub>3</sub>) For any  $x, y \in K$ , the set  $\{z \in [x, y] : F(z, y) \cap (-\text{int } C) = \emptyset\}$  is closed, where  $[x, y]$  denotes the closed line segment joining  $x$  and  $y$ .
- (F<sub>4</sub>) For any  $x \in K, F(x, \cdot)$  is weakly lower semicontinuous.
- (F<sub>5</sub>) For any  $y \in K, \{x \in K : F(y, x) \cap (\text{int } C) = \emptyset\}$  is convex.

Under Assumption 1, It is proved in Zhong et al. (2011) that,  $S_W^P(K, F)$  is nonempty if  $K$  is bounded subset of  $X$ . In the case where  $K$  is unbounded, it is needed to determine the behavior of  $F$  along some particular directions. We introduce the following cones.

$$R_1 := \{d \in K_\infty : F(y, y + td) \cap (\text{int } C) = \emptyset, \quad \forall y \in K, t > 0\}. \tag{4}$$

The following lemma illustrates that the solution set  $S_W^P(K, F)$  and  $S_W^D(K, F)$  are coincide no matter what  $K$  is bounded or not.

**Lemma 6** (Sadeqi and Alizadeh 2011, Lemma 3.4) *Let  $K$  be a nonempty, closed and convex subset of  $X$  and  $F : K \times K \rightarrow 2^Y \setminus \{\emptyset\}$  be a set valued map satisfying (F<sub>0</sub>) – (F<sub>3</sub>). Then*

$$S_W^P(K, F) = S_W^D(K, F).$$

**Theorem 1** (Sadeqi and Alizadeh 2011, Theorem 3.5) *Let  $K$  be a nonempty, closed and convex subset of  $X$  and  $F : K \times K \rightarrow 2^Y \setminus \{\emptyset\}$  be a set valued map satisfying (F<sub>0</sub>) – (F<sub>5</sub>). If the set the solution set  $S_W^P(K, F)$  is nonempty, then*

$$(S_W^P(K, F))_\infty = (S_W^D(K, F))_\infty = R_1.$$

The following theorem is due to the result in Zhong et al. (2011), Ansari and Flores-Bazán (2006), Sadeqi and Alizadeh (2011).

**Theorem 2** *Let  $K$  be a nonempty closed convex subset of  $X$  and  $F : K \times K \rightarrow 2^Y \setminus \{\emptyset\}$  be a set valued mapping satisfying assumptions (F<sub>0</sub>) – (F<sub>5</sub>). Suppose that  $\text{int}(\text{barr}(K)) \neq \emptyset$ . Then the following statements are equivalent.*

- (i) *the solution set of  $S_W^P(K, F)$  is nonempty and bounded;*
- (ii) *the solution set of  $S_W^D(K, F)$  is nonempty and bounded;*
- (iii)  $R_1 = \{0\}$ ;
- (iv) *there exists a bounded set  $B \subset K$  such that for every  $x \in K \setminus B$ , there exists some  $y \in B$  such that  $F(y, x) \cap (\text{int } C) \neq \emptyset$ .*

*Proof* (i)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (ii) and (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii) are obtained by Theorems 1 and 2, respectively.

(iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iv) Suppose not, if (iv) does not hold, then there exists a sequence  $\{x_n\} \subseteq K$  such that for each  $n, \|x_n\| > n$  and

$$F(y, x_n) \cap (\text{int } C) = \emptyset,$$

for every  $y \in K$  with  $\|y\| \leq n$ . For fixed  $y \in K$  and  $t > 0$ , without loss of generality, we may take a subsequence  $\{x_{n_k}\}$  of  $\{x_n\}$  such that

$$\frac{t}{\|x_{n_k} - y\|} \in (0, 1) \quad \text{and} \quad \omega - \lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{x_{n_k} - y}{\|x_{n_k} - y\|} = \omega - \lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{x_{n_k}}{\|x_{n_k}\|} = d_0 \in K_\infty. \tag{5}$$

Thanks to Lemma 3, one has  $d_0 \neq 0$ . The lower  $C$ -convexity of  $F(x, \cdot)$  implies

$$F\left(y, y + \frac{t(x_{n_k} - y)}{\|x_{n_k} - y\|}\right) \subseteq \left(1 - \frac{t}{\|x_{n_k} - y\|}\right)F(y, y) + \frac{t}{\|x_{n_k} - y\|}F(y, x_{n_k}) - C.$$

It follows from  $F(y, y) = \{0\}$  and  $F(y, x_{n_k}) \cap (\text{int } C) = \emptyset$  that

$$F\left(y, y + \frac{t(x_{n_k} - y)}{\|x_{n_k} - y\|}\right) \cap (\text{int } C) = \emptyset.$$

Since  $y + \frac{t(x_{n_k} - y)}{\|x_{n_k} - y\|} \rightarrow y + td_0$  and  $F$  is weakly lower semicontinuous at second argument, we have that  $F(y, y + td_0) \cap (\text{int } C) = \emptyset$ , and so  $d_0 \in R_1$ . This is a contradiction. Hence (iv) holds.

(iv)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii) Let  $G : K \rightarrow 2^K$  be a set-valued mapping defined by

$$G(y) := \{x \in K : F(y, x) \cap (\text{int } C) = \emptyset\}, \quad \forall y \in K. \tag{6}$$

We first prove that  $G(y)$  is a closed subset of  $K$ . Indeed, for any  $x_n \in G(y)$  with  $x_n \rightarrow x_0$ , we have  $F(y, x_n) \cap (\text{int } C) = \emptyset$ . It follows from the weakly lower semicontinuity of  $F(x, \cdot)$  that  $F(y, x_0) \cap (\text{int } C) = \emptyset$ . This shows that  $x_0 \in G(y)$  and so  $G(y)$  is closed.

Next, we will show that  $G$  is a KKM mapping. Suppose to the contrary that there exist  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n \in (0, 1)$  with  $\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \dots + \alpha_n = 1, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n \in K$  and  $\bar{y} = \alpha_1 y_1 + \alpha_2 y_2 + \dots + \alpha_n y_n \in \text{co}\{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n\}$  such that  $\bar{y} \notin \cup_{i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}} G(y_i)$ . Then

$$F(y_i, \bar{y}) \cap (\text{int } C) \neq \emptyset, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

Using  $(F_1)$  yields

$$F(\bar{y}, y_i) \cap (-\text{int } C) \neq \emptyset, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n. \tag{7}$$

The upper  $C$ -convexity of  $F$  implies

$$\alpha_1 F(\bar{y}, y_1) + \alpha_2 F(\bar{y}, y_2) + \dots + \alpha_n F(\bar{y}, y_n) \subseteq F(\bar{y}, \bar{y}) + C = 0 + C \subseteq C.$$

This is a contradiction with (7). Therefore,  $G$  is KKM mapping.

We may assume that  $B$  is a bounded closed convex set (otherwise, consider the closed convex hull of  $B$  instead of  $B$ ). Let  $\{y_1, \dots, y_m\}$  be finite number of points in  $K$  and let  $M := \text{co}(B \cup \{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_m\})$ . Then the reflexivity of the space  $X$  yields that  $M$  is weakly compact convex. We consider the set-valued mapping  $G'$  which defined by  $G'(y) := G(y) \cap M$  for all  $y \in M$ . Then each  $G'(y)$  is a weakly compact convex subset of  $M$  and  $G'$  is a KKM mapping. We claim that

$$\emptyset \neq \cap_{y \in M} G'(y) \subset B. \tag{8}$$

By Lemma 2, the intersection in (8) is nonempty. Moreover, if there exists some  $x_0 \in \cap_{y \in M} G'(y)$  but  $x_0 \notin B$ , then by (iv), we have  $F(y, x_0) \cap (\text{int } C) \neq \emptyset$  for some  $y \in B$ . Thus,  $x_0 \notin G(y)$  and so  $x_0 \notin G'(y)$ , which is a contradiction to the choice of  $x_0$ .

Let  $z \in \bigcap_{y \in M} G(y)$ . Then, by (8) we get  $z \in B$ , and so  $z \in \bigcap_{i=1}^m (G(y_i) \cap B)$ . This shows that the collection  $\{G(y) \cap B : y \in K\}$  has finite intersection property. For each  $y \in K$ , it follows from the weak compactness of  $G(y) \cap B$  that  $\bigcap_{y \in K} (G(y) \cap B)$  is nonempty, which coincides with the solution set of  $S_W^D(F, K)$ . The proof is complete.  $\square$

The following example show that Theorem 2 is applicable.

*Example 3* Let  $X = \mathbb{R}, K = [0, +\infty), Y = \mathbb{R}^2, C = \mathbb{R}_+^2, e = (1, 1) \in \text{int } C$ . A set-valued map  $F : K \times K \rightarrow 2^{\mathbb{R}^2} \setminus \{\emptyset\}$  is defined by

$$F(x, y) = \{y - x\} \times [(y - x), (1 + x)(y - x)], \quad \forall x, y \in K.$$

We have that  $K_\infty = [0, +\infty)$  and  $C^{*0} := \{(x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2, x_1 + x_2 = 1, x_1 \geq 0 \text{ and } x_2 \geq 0\}$ . It is easily seen that  $F$  is satisfied conditions  $(F_0)$ - $(F_4)$ . To verify  $(F_5)$  holds, we fixed  $\bar{y} \in [0, +\infty)$  and consider the following set,

$$\begin{aligned} \{x \in K : F(\bar{y}, x) \cap \text{int } C = \emptyset\} &= \{x \in [0, +\infty) : x - \bar{y} \leq 0 \text{ or } (1 + x)(x - \bar{y}) \leq 0\} \\ &= \{x \in [0, +\infty) : x \leq \bar{y}\} = [0, \bar{y}] \text{ is convex set.} \end{aligned}$$

Obviously,

$$\begin{aligned} R_1 &= \{d \in K_\infty : F(y, y + td) \cap (\text{int } C) = \emptyset, \forall y \in K, t > 0\} \\ &= \{d \in [0, +\infty) : td \leq 0, \forall t > 0 \text{ and } \forall y \in [0, +\infty)\} = \{0\}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, Theorem 2 concludes that  $S_W^P(F, K)$  is nonempty and bounded. It follows from direct calculating that  $S_W^P(F, K) = \{0\}$ .

In what follow, we shall discuss the relationship between the nonemptiness and boundedness of the solution set for (GWVEP) and the solution set for (GWVEP) which  $F$  is composed by  $\xi \in C^*$ . We recall the concept of  $\xi$ -efficient solution set for (GWVEP) as follows.

For any fixed  $\xi \in C^{*0}$ , the real set-valued map  $\xi(F) : K \times K \rightarrow 2^{\mathbb{R}} \setminus \{\emptyset\}$  is defined by

$$\xi(F)(x, y) := \{\xi(z) : z \in F(x, y)\}, \quad \forall x, y \in K. \tag{9}$$

A vector  $x \in K$  is called  $\xi$ -weak efficient solution to the (GWVEP) if

$$\inf_{z \in F(x, y)} \xi(z) \geq 0, \quad \forall y \in K,$$

and  $\xi$ -weak efficient solution to the (DGWVEP) if

$$\sup_{z \in F(y, x)} \xi(z) \leq 0, \quad \forall y \in K.$$

Denote by  $S_\xi^P(K, F)$  and  $S_\xi^D(K, F)$  the set of all  $\xi$ -weak efficient solution to the (GWVEP) and (DGWVEP), respectively.

The following lemma characterizes relation between  $S_W^P(K, F)$  and  $S_\xi^P(K, F)$ .

**Lemma 7** *Suppose that  $\text{int } C \neq \emptyset$  and for any  $x \in K, F(x, K) + C$  is a convex set. Then,*

$$S_W^P(K, F) = \bigcup_{\xi \in C^* \setminus \{0\}} S_\xi^P(K, F) = \bigcup_{\xi \in C^{*0}} S_\xi^P(K, F).$$

*Proof* ( $\supseteq$ ) Let  $x_0 \in \cup_{\xi \in C^{*0}} S_{\xi}^P(K, F)$ . Then there exists  $\xi_0 \in C^{*0}$  such that

$$\xi_0(z) \geq 0 \quad \text{for all } y \in K \quad \text{for all } z \in F(x_0, y). \tag{10}$$

We claim that  $x_0 \in S_W^P(K, F)$ . If not, then there exists  $y_0 \in K$  such that

$$\xi_0(z_0) < 0 \quad \text{for some } z_0 \in F(x_0, y_0).$$

This is a contradiction with (10). Hence, we have desired.

( $\subseteq$ ) Let  $x_0 \in S_W^P(K, F)$ . Then,

$$F(x_0, y) \cap (-\text{int } C) = \emptyset \quad \text{for all } y \in K.$$

This implies that

$$F(x_0, K) \cap (-\text{int } C) = \emptyset.$$

Since  $C$  is a pointed convex cone, we have

$$(F(x_0, K) + C) \cap (-\text{int } C) = \emptyset.$$

Using the separation theorem for convex sets, there exists some  $\xi' \in Y^* \setminus \{0\}$  such that

$$\inf\{\xi'(F(x_0, y) + c : y \in K, c \in C)\} \geq \sup\{\xi'(-c) : c \in C\}. \tag{11}$$

From (11), we get  $\xi' \in C^* \setminus \{0\}$  and so

$$\xi'(z) \geq 0 \quad \text{for all } z \in F(x_0, y) \quad \text{for all } y \in K.$$

By our hypothesis, we have  $C^{*0}$  is a weakly compact base for  $C^*$  and we can choose  $e \in \text{int } C$  with  $\xi'(e) > 0$ . Setting  $\xi'' = \frac{\xi'}{\xi'(e)}$ , we then have that  $\xi'' \in C^{*0}$  and

$$\xi''(z) \geq 0 \quad \text{for all } z \in F(x_0, y) \quad \text{for all } y \in K.$$

Hence,  $x_0 \in S_{\xi''}^P(K, F) \subseteq \cup_{\xi \in C^{*0}} S_{\xi}^P(K, F)$ . This completes the proof. □

The following corollary give the sufficient conditions for nonemptiness and boundedness of solution set for (GWVEP) in the case of real set-valued mappings.

It follows from Theorem 2, we can derive the following corollary in the case where  $F : K \times K \rightarrow 2^{\mathbb{R}} \setminus \{\emptyset\}$ .

**Corollary 1** *Let  $K$  be a nonempty closed convex subset of  $X$  and  $F : K \times K \rightarrow 2^{\mathbb{R}} \setminus \{\emptyset\}$  be a set-valued mapping satisfying assumptions  $(F_0) - (F_4)$ . Suppose that  $\text{int}(\text{barr}(K)) \neq \emptyset$ . Then the following statements are equivalent.*

- (i) *the solution set of  $S_W^P(K, F)$  is nonempty and bounded;*
- (ii) *the solution set of  $S_W^D(K, F)$  is nonempty and bounded;*
- (iii)  $R = \{d \in K_{\infty} : \sup_{z \in F(y, y+td)} z \leq 0, \forall y \in K, t > 0\} = \{0\}$ ;
- (iv) *there exists a bounded set  $B \subset K$  such that for every  $x \in K \setminus B$ , there exists  $y \in B$  such that  $z > 0$  for some  $z \in F(y, x)$ .*

*Proof* We see that  $F$  satisfies the assumption  $(F_0)$ - $(F_4)$  in Theorem 2. It is easy to verify, by  $(F_2)$ , that  $(F_5)$  is satisfied. □

By virtue of Lemma 7, one sees that the solution set for (GWVEP) can be represented by union of real set-valued  $\xi(F)$  mappings. This means that the nonemptiness of  $S_{\xi}^P(K, F)$  guarantees the existence of solution for (GWVEP). We next establish the existence theorem for  $\xi$ -weak efficient solution to the (GWVEP).

By the idea of linear scalarization technique, for any  $\xi \in C^{*0}$ , we first introduce the set

$$R_1^{\xi} := \left\{ d \in K_{\infty} : \sup_{z \in F(y, y+td)} \xi(z) \leq 0, \forall y \in K, t > 0 \right\}.$$

The following lemma shows that the condition of  $\cup_{\xi \in C^{*0}} R_1^{\xi} = \{0\}$  is weaker than  $R_1 = \{0\}$ .

**Lemma 8**  $R_1 = \{0\} \Rightarrow \cup_{\xi \in C^{*0}} R_1^{\xi} = \{0\}$ .

*Proof* Assume that  $R_1 = \{0\}$ . Let  $d_0 \in \cup_{\xi \in C^{*0}} R_{\xi}$ . Then there exists  $\xi_0 \in C^{*0}$  and  $d_0 \in K_{\infty}$  such that for every  $y \in K$  and  $t > 0$

$$\xi_0(z) \leq 0 \quad \text{for all } z \in F(y, y + td_0). \tag{12}$$

We claim that for any  $z \in F(y, y + td_0), z \notin \text{int } C$ . If not, there exists  $z_0 \in F(y, y + td_0)$  such that  $z \in \text{int } C$  and so

$$\xi_0(z_0) > 0, \tag{13}$$

which leads to contradiction with (12). Hence, for every  $y \in K$  and  $t > 0$

$$F(y, y + td_0) \cap (\text{int } C) = \emptyset.$$

By our hypothesis,  $d_0 = 0$ .

The following example shows that the inverse implication of Lemma 8 may not be true. The following example has been changed format.

*Example 4* Let  $X = \mathbb{R}, K = [0, +\infty), Y = \mathbb{R}^2, C = \mathbb{R}_+^2, e = (1, 1) \in \text{int } C$ . Define  $F : K \times K \rightarrow 2^Y \setminus \{\emptyset\}$  by

$$F(x, y) = \begin{cases} \{0\} \times [0, 1 - |y - x|], & \text{if } 0 \leq |y - x| \leq 1, \\ [|y - x| - 1, 0] \times \{0\}, & \text{if } |y - x| > 1. \end{cases}$$

Then  $K_{\infty} = [0, +\infty)$  and  $C^{*0} = \{(x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}_+^2 : x_1 + x_2 = 1\}$ .

We see that for any  $y \in \mathbb{R}_+, d \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $t > 0$ ,

$$F(y, y + td) \subseteq \begin{cases} \{0\} \times [0, 1], & \text{if } 0 \leq |td| \leq 1, \\ [0, +\infty) \times \{0\}, & \text{if } |td| > 1, \end{cases}$$

which implies that  $F(y, y + td) \cap \text{int } C = \emptyset$  for all  $y \in \mathbb{R}_+, d \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $t > 0$ . Hence,  $R_1 = [0, +\infty)$ . But, for any  $\xi \in C^{*0}$ , we have for any  $y, d \in \mathbb{R}_+$  and  $t > 0$

$$\xi(z) \geq 0, \quad \text{for all } x \in F(y, y + td),$$

which implies that  $d$  must be 0, and so  $R_1^\xi = \{0\}$  for all  $\xi \in C^{*0}$ .

From the Corollary 1, we can obtain the following characterization corollary for  $\xi$ -efficient solution  $S_\xi^P(K, F)$  and  $S_\xi^D(K, F)$ .

**Corollary 2** *Let  $\xi \in C^{*0}$  be any given. Let  $K$  be a nonempty closed convex subset of  $X$  and  $F : K \times K \rightarrow 2^Y \setminus \{\emptyset\}$  be a set-valued mapping satisfying assumptions  $(F_0), (F_2)–(F_4)$  and (v) in Definition 3. Suppose that  $\text{int}(\text{barr}(K)) \neq \emptyset$ . Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (i) *the solution set of  $S_\xi^P(K, F)$  is nonempty and bounded;*
- (ii) *the solution set of  $S_\xi^D(K, F)$  is nonempty and bounded;*
- (iii)  $R_1^\xi = \{0\}$ ;
- (iv) *there exists a bounded set  $B \subset K$  such that for every  $x \in K \setminus B$ , there exists  $y \in B$  such that  $\xi(z) > 0$  for some  $z \in F(y, x)$ .*

*Proof* For any fixed  $\xi \in C^* \setminus \{0\}$ , we define  $\xi(F) : K \times K \rightarrow 2^{\mathbb{R}} \setminus \{\emptyset\}$  as in (9). It is not hard to check that  $\xi(F)$  satisfies conditions  $(F_0)–(F_4)$  in Corollary 1. □

We now characterize the nonemptiness and boundedness of  $S_W^P(K, F)$  in term of non-emptiness and boundedness of the solution set  $S_\xi^P(K, F)$  for any  $\xi \in C^{*0}$ .

**Theorem 3** *Let  $X$  be a reflexive Banach space and  $K$  be a closed convex subset of  $X$  with  $\text{int}(\text{barr}K) \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $Y$  be a normed space and  $C^{*0}$  is a compact base of  $C^*$ . Suppose that  $F : K \times K \rightarrow 2^Y \setminus \{\emptyset\}$  is a set-valued mapping satisfying assumptions  $(F_0), (F_2)–(F_4)$  and (v) in Definition 3.*

*Then  $S_W^P(K, F)$  is nonempty and bounded if and only if for any  $\xi \in C^{*0}, S_\xi^P(K, F)$  is nonempty and bounded.*

*Proof* Suppose that for any  $\xi \in C^{*0}, S_\xi^P(K, F)$  is nonempty and bounded. Then by Corollary 2,  $R_1^\xi = \{0\}$ . We claim that  $S_W^P(K, F)$  is nonempty and bounded. The nonemptiness of  $S_W^P(K, F)$  is obvious, because of  $S_\xi^P(K, F) \subset S_W^P(K, F)$ . We only need to show that  $S_W^P(K, F)$  is bounded. If not, there exists a sequence  $x_n \in S_W^P(K, F)$  such that  $\|x_n\| \rightarrow +\infty$ . Since  $x_n \in S_W^P(K, F)$ , we then have

$$F(x_n, y) \cap (-\text{int } C) = \emptyset, \quad \text{for all } y \in K.$$

Thus, for every  $z_n \in F(x_n, y), z_n \notin -\text{int } C$ . Then there exists  $\xi_n \in C^{*0}$  such that

$$\xi_n(z_n) \geq 0, \quad \text{for all } z \in F(x_n, y), \text{ for all } y \in K.$$

By the  $\xi$ -pseudomonotonicity of  $F$ , we have

$$\xi_n(z'_n) \leq 0, \quad \text{for all } z' \in F(y, x_n), \text{ for all } y \in K \tag{14}$$

Since  $C^{*0}$  is compact, without loss of generality, we can assume that  $\xi_n \rightarrow \xi_0 \in C^{*0}$ . For any fixed  $y \in K$  and  $t > 0$ , without loss of generality, we may take a subsequence  $\{x_{n_k}\}$  of  $\{x_n\}$  such that

$$\frac{t}{\|x_{n_k} - y\|} \in (0, 1) \quad \text{and} \quad w - \lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{x_{n_k} - y}{\|x_{n_k} - y\|} = w - \lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{x_{n_k}}{\|x_{n_k}\|} = d_0 \in K_\infty.$$

By Lemma 3,  $d_0 \neq 0$ . Upper  $C$ -convexity of  $F$  implies

$$\left(1 - \frac{1}{\|x_{n_k} - y\|}\right)F(y, y) + \frac{t}{\|x_{n_k} - y\|}F(y, x_{n_k}) \subseteq F\left(y, y + \frac{t(x_{n_k} - y)}{\|x_{n_k} - y\|}\right) + C$$

It follows from  $F(y, y) = \{0\}$  and (14) that for any  $\xi_n$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \xi_n\left(F\left(y, y + \frac{t(x_{n_k} - y)}{\|x_{n_k} - y\|}\right)\right) &\leq \left(1 - \frac{1}{\|x_{n_k} - y\|}\right)\xi_n(F(y, y)) + \frac{t}{\|x_{n_k} - y\|}\xi_n(F(t, x_{n_k})) \\ &\leq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $F$  is weakly lower semicontinuous at second variable and  $\xi_n \rightarrow \xi_0$ , we have

$$\xi_0(F(y, y + td_0)) \leq 0.$$

This implies that  $0 \neq d_0 \in R_1^{\xi_0}$ , which is a contradiction.

Conversely, we assume that  $S_W^P(K, F)$  is nonempty and bounded. We claim that  $S_\xi^P(K, F)$  is nonempty and bounded for all  $\xi \in C^{*0}$ . We consider the set  $A \subseteq C^{*0}$  as follows.

$$A := \{\xi \in C^{*0} : S_\xi^P(K, F) \text{ is nonempty and bounded}\}.$$

Clearly,  $A$  is nonempty. Firstly, we claim that  $A$  is open subset in  $C^{*0}$ . If not, there exists  $\xi_0 \in A$  and a sequence  $\xi_n \in C^{*0}$  with  $\xi_n \rightarrow \xi_0$  such that  $\xi_n \notin A$ . This implies that  $R_1^{\xi_n} \neq \{0\}$ . Then there exists  $d_n \in R_1^{\xi_n}$  such that  $\|d_n\| = 1$ . Since  $C^{*0}$  is compact and  $\|d_n\| = 1$ , without loss of generality, we may assume that  $d_n \rightarrow d_0 \in K_\infty \setminus \{0\}$ . Since  $d_n \in R_1^{\xi_n}$ , we have

$$\xi_n(z') \leq 0 \quad \text{for all } z' \in F(y, y + td_n) \quad \text{for all } y \in K.$$

Since  $F$  is weakly lower semicontinuous at second variable and  $\xi_n \rightarrow \xi_0$ , we have

$$\xi_0(z') \leq 0 \quad \text{for all } z' \in F(y, y + td_0) \quad \text{for all } y \in K.$$

Thus  $0 \neq d_0 \in R_{\xi_0}$ . This implies that  $S_{\xi_0}^P(K, F)$  is not nonempty and bounded, which leads to a contradiction with  $\xi_0 \in A$ . Hence  $A$  is an open subset of  $C^{*0}$ .

Finally, we claim that  $A$  is a closed subset of  $C^{*0}$ . Let  $\xi_n \in A$  with  $\xi_n \rightarrow \xi_0$ . In view of  $\xi_n \in A$ , we have  $S_{\xi_n}(K, F)$  is nonempty and bounded. Let  $x_n \in S_{\xi_n}^P(K, F)$ . Whereas  $S_{\xi_n}^P(K, F) \subset S_W^P(K, F)$  and  $S_W^P(K, F)$  is bounded,  $\{x_n\}$  is also. We may assume that  $x_n \rightarrow x_0 \in K$ . Since  $x_n \in S_{\xi_n}(K, F)$ , then we have

$$\xi_n(z) \geq 0 \quad \text{for all } z \in F(x_n, y) \quad \text{for all } y \in K.$$

By  $\xi$ -pseudomonotonicity of  $F$ , we get

$$\xi_n(z') \leq 0, \quad \text{for all } z' \in F(y, x_n), \quad \text{for all } y \in K.$$

Since  $F$  is weakly lower semicontinuous at the second variable, letting  $n \rightarrow \infty$

$$\xi_0(z') \leq 0, \quad \text{for all } z' \in F(y, x_0), \quad \text{for all } y \in K.$$

Hence,  $x_0 \in S_{\xi_0}^D(K, F)$ . Thanks to Corollary 2, we get that  $x_0 \in S_{\xi_0}^P(K, F)$ . The boundedness of  $S_W^P(K, F)$  implies  $S_{\xi_0}^P(K, F)$  is also. This means that  $\xi_0 \in A$  and so  $A$  is closed. Since the base  $C^{*0}$  of  $C^*$  is connected, we have  $A$  must be  $C^{*0}$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 4** *Let  $X$  be a reflexive Banach space and  $K$  be a closed convex subset of  $X$  with  $\text{int}(\text{barr}K) \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $Y$  be a normed space and  $C^{*0}$  is a compact base of  $C^*$ . Suppose that  $F : K \times K \rightarrow 2^Y \setminus \{\emptyset\}$  is a set-valued mapping satisfying assumptions  $(F_0), (F_2)–(F_4)$  and (v) in Definition 3. Then the following statements are equivalent.*

- (i)  $S_W^P(K, F)$  is nonempty and bounded;
- (ii) For every  $\xi \in C^{*0}, S_{\xi}^P(K, F)$  is nonempty and bounded;
- (iii)  $\cup_{\xi \in C^{*0}} R_1^{\xi} = \{0\}$ .

*Remark 3* Theorem 4 generalize Theorem 2, in the following three cases:

- (i) Condition  $(F_1)$  is relaxed to the condition  $(F_1^{\xi})$ .
- (ii) Recession cone  $R_1 = \{0\}$  is relaxed to the condition  $\cup_{\xi \in C^{*0}} R_1^{\xi} = \{0\}$ .
- (iii) Condition  $(F_5)$  is omitted.

The following example show that Theorem 4 is applicable.

*Example 5* Let  $X = \mathbb{R}, K = [0, +\infty), Y = \mathbb{R}^2, C = \mathbb{R}_+^2, e = (1, 1) \in \text{int } C$ . A set-valued map  $F : K \times K \rightarrow 2^{\mathbb{R}^2} \setminus \{\emptyset\}$  is defined by

$$F(x, y) = \{(y - x)\} \times [(y - x), (e^{(y-x)} - 1) + (y - x)]$$

Then, clearly  $(F_0), (F_2) - (F_4)$  and (v) in Definition 3 are satisfied. For any  $\xi \in C^{*0}$ , we consider

$$\begin{aligned} R_1^{\xi} &= \left\{ d \in K_{\infty} : \sup_{z \in (F(y, y+td))} \xi(z) \leq 0, \forall y \in K, t > 0 \right\} \\ &= \left\{ d \in [0, +\infty) : \xi(z) \leq 0, \forall z \in \{td\} \times [td, (e^{td} - 1) + td] \text{ and } \forall y \in K, t > 0 \right\} = \{0\}. \end{aligned}$$

It follows from Theorem 4 that,  $S_W^P(K, F)$  is nonempty and bounded.

**Stability analysis**

In this section, we shall establish the stability theorem of solution set for (GWVEP) when the mapping  $F$  and the domain set  $K$  are perturbed by different parameters.

We first recall some important notions . Let  $(\Lambda, d_{\Lambda})$  and  $(M, d_M)$  be two metric spaces. Let  $K(\lambda)$  be perturbed by a parameter  $\lambda$ , which varies over  $(\Lambda, d_{\Lambda})$ , that is,  $K : \Lambda \rightarrow 2^X$  is a set-valued mapping with nonempty, closed, and convex values. Let  $F$  be perturbed by a parameter  $\mu$ , which varies over  $(M, d_M)$ , that is,  $F : K \times K \times M \rightarrow 2^Y \setminus \{\emptyset\}$  is a parametric set-valued mapping.

Consider the parametric generalized weak vector equilibrium problems, denoted by (PGWVEP), which consists in finding  $\bar{x} \in K(\lambda)$  such that

$$F(\bar{x}, y, \mu) \cap (-\text{int } C) \neq \emptyset \quad \forall y \in K(\lambda). \tag{PGWVEP}$$

Denote by  $S_W^P(\lambda, \mu)$  the set of all weak efficient solution to the (PGWVEP).

Let  $\{A_n\}$  be a sequence of nonempty subset of  $X$ . We define

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow +\infty} A_n := \{x \in X : \exists \{n_k\}, x_{n_k} \in A_{n_k} \text{ such that } x_{n_k} \rightarrow x\}.$$

We say that the sequence  $\{A_n\}$  is of upper convergence in the sense of Painlevé–Kuratowski (P.K. convergence) Durea (2007) to  $A$  if  $\limsup_{n \rightarrow +\infty} A_n \subseteq A$ .

The following theorem shows that under suitable situation, there exists a neighborhood  $N(\lambda_0) \times N(\mu_0)$  of  $(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$  such that  $S_W^P(\lambda, \mu)$  P.K. convergence to  $S_W^P(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$  in the neighborhood  $N(\lambda_0) \times N(\mu_0)$ .

**Theorem 5** *Let  $X$  be a real reflexive Banach space and  $K$  be a closed convex subset of  $X$  with  $\text{int}(\text{barr}K) \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $Y$  be a normed space and  $C^{*0}$  is a compact base of  $C^*$ . Suppose that  $F$  satisfies the following conditions:*

- (I)  $K(\cdot)$  is continuous on  $\Lambda$  and  $\text{int}(\text{barr} K(\lambda_0)) \neq \emptyset$ , for all  $\lambda \in \Lambda$  and has nonempty closed convex valued.
- (II) For any  $\lambda \in \Lambda$  and  $x \in K(\lambda)$ ,  $F(x, x, \mu) = \{0\}$ .
- (III) For any  $\lambda \in \Lambda$  and  $\mu \in M$ ,  $F(\cdot, \cdot, \mu)$  is  $\xi$ -pseudomonotone on  $K(\lambda)$  w.r.t.  $C^{*0}$ .
- (IV) For any  $\mu \in M$  and  $x \in K(\mu)$ ,  $F(x, \cdot, \mu)$  is  $C$ -convex.
- (V) For any  $\lambda \in \Lambda$  and  $\mu \in M$ ,  $F(\cdot, \cdot, \cdot)$  is continuous on  $K(\lambda) \times K(\lambda) \times M$ .

If  $S_W^P(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$  is nonempty and bounded, then the following statements hold.

- (i) there exists a neighborhood  $N(\lambda_0) \times N(\mu_0)$  such that  $S_W^P(\lambda, \mu)$  has a nonempty and bounded for all  $(\lambda, \mu) \in N(\lambda_0) \times N(\mu_0)$ .
- (ii)  $\limsup_{(\lambda, \mu) \rightarrow (\lambda_0, \mu_0)} S_W^P(\lambda, \mu) \subseteq S_W^P(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$ .

*Proof* (i) We claim that there exists a neighborhood  $N(\lambda_0) \times N(\mu_0)$  of  $(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$  such that for any  $(\lambda, \mu) \in N(\lambda_0) \times N(\mu_0)$  and  $\xi \in C^{*0}$

$$R_1^\xi(\lambda, \mu) := \left\{ d \in K(\lambda)_\infty : \sup_{z \in (F(y, y + td, \mu))} \xi(z) \leq 0, \forall y \in K, t > 0 \right\} = \{0\}.$$

If not, there exists  $(\lambda_n, \mu_n) \in \Lambda \times M$  with  $(\lambda_n, \mu_n) \rightarrow (\lambda_0, \mu_0)$  and  $\xi' \in C^{*0}$  such that  $R_1^{\xi'}(\lambda_n, \mu_n) \neq \{0\}$ .

Since  $K$  is lower semicontinuous at  $\lambda_0$ , for any  $y \in K(\lambda_0)$ , we have  $y_n \in K(\lambda_n)$  such that  $y_n \rightarrow y$ . Together with  $\mu_n \rightarrow \mu_0$ , we have  $(y_n, \mu_n) \rightarrow (y, \mu_0)$ . Thus, we can select a sequence  $\{d_n\}$  such that

$$d_n \in K(\lambda_n)_\infty \text{ and } \sup_{z \in (F(y_n, y_n + td_n, \mu_n))} \xi'(z) \leq 0, \forall y \in K(\lambda_n), t > 0. \tag{15}$$

with  $\|d_n\| = 1$  for all  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ . Since  $\{d_n\}$  is a bounded sequence in a reflexive Banach space  $X$  we can assume that  $d_n \rightharpoonup d_0$ . It follows from Lemma 4 that  $d_0 \neq 0$ . We claim that  $d_0 \in K(\lambda_0)_\infty$ . Since  $K$  is upper semicontinuous at  $\lambda_0$  and  $d_n \in K(\lambda_n)_\infty$ , by Lemma 5,

we have that  $d_n \in K(\lambda_0)_\infty$ , for all sufficiently large  $n$ . By the closure of  $K(\lambda_0)_\infty$ , we have  $d_0 \in K(\lambda_0)_\infty$ . Notice that the continuity assumption of  $F$ , taking the limit in (15), we have

$$\sup_{z \in F(y, y + td_0, \mu_0)} \xi'(z) \leq 0,$$

which implies that  $0 \neq d_0 \in R_1^{\xi'}(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$ . This is a contradiction with  $S_W^P(\lambda_0, \mu_0) \neq \emptyset$ , so we have the claim.

(ii) We want to show that for any  $(\lambda, \mu) \rightarrow (\lambda_0, \mu_0)$ ,

$$\limsup_{(\lambda, \mu) \rightarrow (\lambda_0, \mu_0)} S_W^P(\lambda, \mu) \subseteq S_W^P(\lambda_0, \mu_0).$$

Let  $\bar{x} \in \limsup_{(\lambda, \mu) \rightarrow (\lambda_0, \mu_0)} S_W^P(\lambda, \mu)$ . Then there exists a sequence  $x_{n_k} \in S_W^P(\lambda_{n_k}, \mu_{n_k})$  such that  $x_{n_k} \rightarrow \bar{x}$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ . Since  $K$  is upper semicontinuous at  $\lambda_0$ , for sufficiently large  $n$  we get that

$$K(\lambda_n) \subseteq K(\lambda_0) + \frac{1}{n}B,$$

where  $B$  is a closed unit ball. By virtue of  $x_{n_k} \in K(\lambda_{n_k})$ , we get that

$$d(x_{n_k}, K(\lambda_0)) \leq \frac{1}{n_k} \rightarrow 0.$$

It follows from  $K(\lambda_0)$  is closed and  $x_{n_k} \rightarrow \bar{x}$  that  $\bar{x} \in K(\lambda_0)$ .

Since  $K$  is lower semicontinuous at  $\lambda_0$ , for any  $y \in K(\lambda_0)$  there exists  $y_{n_k} \in K(\lambda_{n_k})$  with  $y_{n_k} \rightarrow y$ . By our hypothesis, we get

$$F(x_{n_k}, y_{n_k}, \mu_{n_k}) \cap (-\text{int } C) = \emptyset.$$

Continuity of  $F$  implies

$$F(\bar{x}, y, \mu_0) \cap (-\text{int } C) = \emptyset.$$

Since the latest inequality holds for all  $y \in K(\lambda_0)$ . Hence,  $\bar{x} \in S_W^P(\lambda_0, \mu_0)$ . □

### Conclusions

In this paper, some characterizations of nonemptiness and boundedness of solution sets for generalized weak vector equilibrium problems are established in a reflexive Banach space. By using the linear scalarization method, we give a sufficient and necessary condition for the nonemptiness and boundedness of  $S_W^P(K, F)$  in term of nonemptiness and boundedness of the solution set  $S_\xi^P(K, F)$  for any  $\xi \in C^{*0}$ . As application, we discuss the stability result for the solution set to (PGWVEP) in the sense of Painlevé–Kuratowski upper convergence of set.

#### Authors' contributions

Both authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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**Competing interests**

Both authors declare that they have no competing interests.

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