

# Vector variational-like inequalities with $\eta$ -generally convex mappings

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## Abstract

Because of applications in optimization problems, mathematical programming, equilibrium problem and operations research, considerable progresses have been achieved in both theory and applications of vector variational-like inequalities. In this work, we consider vector variational-like inequalities with  $\eta$ -generally convex mappings and prove some existence results for our inequalities in the setting of Hausdorff topological vector space. The results presented in this article are more general and can be used to solve many known problems related to vector variational inequalities, variational-like inequalities and vector variational-like inequalities.

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## 1 Introduction

The vector variational inequalities in a finite-dimensional Euclidean space was first introduced by Giannessi [6], which is the vector-valued version of the variational inequality of Hartman and Stampacchia [7]. Many authors studied several kinds of vector variational inequalities in abstract spaces [2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20].

Ansari [1] introduced and considered vector variational-like inequalities in the setting of reflexive Banach spaces. Since then, Lee et al. [12] and Siddiqi et al. [15] have studied various kind of vector variational-like inequalities in different directions. In this work, we consider vector variational-like inequalities with  $\eta$ -generally convex mappings and prove some existence results for our inequalities in the setting of Hausdorff topological vector spaces.

## 2 Preliminaries

**Definition 1** *The Hausdorff topological vector space  $Y$  is said to be an ordered space denoted by  $(Y, P)$  if ordering relations are defined in  $Y$  by a closed convex cone  $P$  of  $Y$  as follows:*

$$\begin{aligned} \text{for all } x, y \in Y, \quad & y \preceq x \Leftrightarrow x - y \in P, \\ \text{for all } x, y \in Y, \quad & y \leq x \Leftrightarrow x - y \in P \setminus \{0\}, \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x, y \in Y, \quad y \not\leq x \Leftrightarrow x - y \notin P \setminus \{0\}.$

If the interior of  $P$ ,  $\text{int } P$ , is nonempty, then the weak ordering relations in  $Y$  are also defined as follows:

for all  $x, y \in Y, \quad y < x \Leftrightarrow x - y \in \text{int } P,$   
 for all  $x, y \in Y, \quad y \not< x \Leftrightarrow x - y \notin \text{int } P.$

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be the real Hausdorff topological vector spaces and  $L(X, Y)$  be the set of all linear continuous functions from  $X$  to  $Y$ . For  $l \in L(X, Y)$ , the value of the linear function  $l$  at  $x$  is denoted by  $\langle l, x \rangle$ . Let  $X^*$  be the dual space of  $X$  and  $Y^*$  be the dual space of  $Y$ .

Throughout this article, unless otherwise specified, we assume that  $(Y, P)$  is an ordered Hausdorff topological vector space with  $\text{int } P \neq \emptyset$ .

**Definition 2** *Let  $E$  be a subset of a topological vector space  $X$ . A multivalued mapping  $A : E \rightarrow 2^X$  is said to be a KKM mapping if, for each finite subset  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  of  $E$ ,  $\text{co}\{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \subseteq \bigcup_{i=1}^n A(x_i)$ , where  $\text{co } A$  denotes the convex hull of the set  $A$ .*

The following KKM theorem plays a crucial role in deriving existence results for our problem.

**Theorem 3 (KKM–Fan Theorem)** *Let  $E$  be a subset of a Hausdorff topological vector space  $X$ , let  $A : E \rightarrow 2^X$  be a KKM map. If for each  $x \in E$ ,  $A(x)$  is closed, and if for at least one point  $x \in E$ ,  $A(x)$  is compact, then  $\bigcap_{x \in E} A(x) \neq \emptyset$ .*

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be real Hausdorff topological vector spaces and  $K$  a subset of  $X$ . Let  $T : X \rightarrow L(X, Y)$  and  $\eta : K \times K \rightarrow K$ , then we introduce the following vector variational-like inequality problem:

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{find } x_0 \in K \text{ such that for each } z \in K, \lambda \in (0, 1] \\ &\langle T(\lambda x_0 + (1 - \lambda)z), \eta(y, x_0) \rangle \notin -\text{int } P, \quad \text{for all } y \in K. \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

## 2.1 Special cases

1. If  $\lambda = 1$ , then problem (1) reduces to the vector variational-like inequality problem introduced and studied by Siddiqi et al. [13]

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{find } x_0 \in K \text{ such that} \\ &\langle Tx_0, \eta(y, x_0) \rangle \notin -\text{int } P, \quad \text{for all } y \in K. \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

2. If  $\eta(y, x_0) = y - x_0$ , then problem (1) is equivalent to the following vector variational inequality problem introduced and studied by Yu et al. [18]

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{find } x_0 \in K \text{ such that for each } z \in K, \lambda \in (0, 1] \\ &\langle T(\lambda x_0 + (1 - \lambda)z), y - x_0 \rangle \notin -\text{int } P, \quad \text{for all } y \in K, \end{aligned}$$

where  $T : X \rightarrow L(X, Y)$  is a mapping and  $K - K \subset K$ .

**Definition 4** Let  $T : X \rightarrow L(X, Y)$  and  $\eta : K \times K \rightarrow K$ . Then  $T$  is said to be

1.  $\eta$ -monotone, if

$$\langle Tx - Ty, \eta(x, y) \rangle \in P, \quad \text{for all } x, y \in K$$

2.  $\eta$ -hemicontinuous, if for all  $x, y \in K$ , the function  $t \mapsto \langle T(ty + (1 - t)x), \eta(x, y) \rangle$  is continuous at  $0^+$ .

3.  $\eta$ -generally convex if for any  $x, y, w, z \in K$ ,

$$\langle Tz, \eta(x, w) \rangle \notin -\text{int } P, \quad \text{and} \quad \langle Tz, \eta(y, w) \rangle \notin -\text{int } P$$

implies

$$\langle Tz, \eta(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y, w) \rangle \notin -\text{int } P, \quad \text{for all } \lambda \in [0, 1].$$

### 3 Existence theorems

We begin with the following lemma which is necessary for the proof of main results of this article.

**Lemma 5** *Let  $X$  be a topological vector space,  $K$  a closed convex subset of  $X$  and  $(Y, P)$  be an ordered topological vector space with  $\text{int} P \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $T : X \rightarrow L(X, Y)$  be  $\eta$ -monotone and  $\eta$ -hemicontinuous mapping. Let  $\eta : K \times K \rightarrow K$  be continuous and affine such that  $\eta(x, x) = 0$ , for all  $x \in K$ . Then for each  $z \in K$ ,  $\lambda \in (0, 1]$  the following statements are equivalent.*

*Find  $x_0 \in K$  such that*

$$(i) \quad \langle T(\lambda x_0 + (1 - \lambda)z), \eta(y, x_0) \rangle \notin -\text{int} P, \quad \text{for all } y \in K;$$

$$(ii) \quad \langle T(\lambda y + (1 - \lambda)z), \eta(y, x_0) \rangle \notin -\text{int} P, \quad \text{for all } y \in K.$$

**Proof:** Let  $z \in K$ ,  $\lambda \in (0, 1]$ . We denote  $T_z(x) = T(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)z)$ , where  $x \in K$ . For every  $x, y \in K$ , because  $T$  is  $\eta$ -monotone, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{\lambda} \langle T(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)z) - T(\lambda y + (1 - \lambda)z), \\ & \eta(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)z, \lambda y + (1 - \lambda)z) \rangle \in P, \end{aligned}$$

since  $\eta(\cdot, \cdot)$  is affine and  $\eta(z, z) = 0$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle T_z(x) - T_z(y), \eta(x, y) \rangle &= \frac{1}{\lambda} \langle T(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)z) - T(\lambda y + (1 - \lambda)z), \\ \eta(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)z, \lambda y + (1 - \lambda)z) \rangle &\in P. \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $T_z : K \rightarrow L(X, Y)$  is also  $\eta$ -monotone.

Now we prove that the conclusion (i) $\Rightarrow$ (ii). Let  $\mathbf{x}_0$  be a solution of (i). Since  $T_z$  is  $\eta$ -monotone,  $\eta(\cdot, \cdot)$  is affine and  $\eta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}) = 0$ ,

$$\langle T_z(\mathbf{y}) - T_z(\mathbf{x}_0), \eta(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x}_0) \rangle \in P, \quad \text{for all } \mathbf{y} \in K.$$

That is,

$$\langle T_z(\mathbf{x}_0), \eta(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x}_0) \rangle \in \langle T_z(\mathbf{y}), \eta(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x}_0) \rangle - P, \quad \text{for all } \mathbf{y} \in K. \quad (3)$$

Suppose to the contrary that (ii) were false. Then there exists  $\mathbf{y}_0 \in K$  such that

$$\langle T(\lambda \mathbf{y}_0 + (1 - \lambda)z), \eta(\mathbf{y}_0, \mathbf{x}_0) \rangle \in -\text{int } P,$$

that is,

$$\langle T_z(\mathbf{y}_0), \eta(\mathbf{y}_0, \mathbf{x}_0) \rangle \in -\text{int } P.$$

By (3) we obtain

$$\langle T_z(\mathbf{x}_0), \eta(\mathbf{y}_0, \mathbf{x}_0) \rangle \in \langle T_z(\mathbf{y}_0), \eta(\mathbf{y}_0, \mathbf{x}_0) \rangle - P.$$

Therefore

$$\langle T_z(\mathbf{x}_0), \eta(\mathbf{y}_0, \mathbf{x}_0) \rangle \in -\text{int } P - P \subset -\text{int } P,$$

which contradicts (i).

Conversely, suppose that (ii) holds. Then  $\mathbf{x}_0 \in K$  satisfies

$$\langle T(\lambda \mathbf{y} + (1 - \lambda)z), \eta(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x}_0) \rangle \notin -\text{int } P, \quad \text{for all } \mathbf{y} \in K.$$

That is

$$\langle T_z(\mathbf{y}), \eta(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x}_0) \rangle \notin -\text{int } P, \quad \text{for all } \mathbf{y} \in K.$$

For each  $\mathbf{y} \in K$ ,  $t \in (0, 1)$ , we let  $\mathbf{y}_t = t\mathbf{y} + (1 - t)\mathbf{x}_0$ . Since  $K$  is convex, thus  $\mathbf{y}_t \in K$ . Then we have

$$\langle T_z(\mathbf{y}_t), \eta(\mathbf{y}_t, \mathbf{x}_0) \rangle \notin -\text{int } P.$$

Since  $\eta(\cdot, \cdot)$  is affine and  $\eta(x_0, x_0) = 0$ , we have

$$\langle T(\lambda(t\mathbf{y} + (1-t)x_0) + (1-\lambda)z), t\eta(\mathbf{y}, x_0) \rangle \notin -\text{int } P.$$

That is

$$\langle T(\lambda(x_0 + t(\mathbf{y} - x_0)) + (1-\lambda)z), \eta(\mathbf{y}, x_0) \rangle \notin -\text{int } P.$$

Considering  $T$  is  $\eta$ -hemicontinuous, let  $t \rightarrow 0^+$ , we have

$$\langle T(\lambda x_0 + (1-\lambda)z), \eta(\mathbf{y}, x_0) \rangle \notin -\text{int } P, \quad \text{for all } \mathbf{y} \in K.$$

This completes the proof. ♠

By Lemma 5, we obtain the following theorem.

**Theorem 6** *Let  $X$  be a real Hausdorff topological vector space and let  $K$  be a compact and convex subset of  $X$ , and  $(Y, P)$  be an ordered topological vector space with  $\text{int } P \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $T : X \rightarrow L(X, Y)$  be  $\eta$ -monotone and  $\eta$ -hemicontinuous. Let  $\eta : K \times K \rightarrow K$  be a continuous affine mapping such that  $\eta(x, x) = 0$ , for all  $x \in K$ . Then, problem (1) is solvable, that is, for every  $z \in K$ ,  $\lambda \in (0, 1]$ , there exists  $x_0 \in K$  such that*

$$\langle T(\lambda x_0 + (1-\lambda)z), \eta(\mathbf{y}, x_0) \rangle \notin -\text{int } P, \quad \text{for all } \mathbf{y} \in K.$$

**Proof:** For  $\mathbf{y} \in K$ , we define

$$A_1(\mathbf{y}) = \{x \in K : \langle T(\lambda x + (1-\lambda)z), \eta(\mathbf{y}, x) \rangle \notin -\text{int } P\}$$

$$A_2(\mathbf{y}) = \{x \in K : \langle T(\lambda \mathbf{y} + (1-\lambda)z), \eta(\mathbf{y}, x) \rangle \notin -\text{int } P\}$$

The proof is divided into the following three steps.

1.  $A_1 : K \rightarrow 2^K$  is a KKM-mapping:

Since  $y \in A_1(y)$ ,  $A_1(y) \neq \emptyset$ . Assume that there exists a finite subset  $\{y_1, \dots, y_n\} \subset K$ , and  $t_i \geq 0$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$  with  $\sum_{i=1}^n t_i = 1$ , such that

$$x = \sum_{i=1}^n t_i y_i \notin \bigcup_{i=1}^n A_1(y_i).$$

Clearly,  $x \notin A_1(y_i)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ . We have

$$\langle T(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)z), \eta(y_i, x) \rangle \in -\text{int } P, \quad i = 1, \dots, n.$$

Then  $\langle T(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)z), \eta(y_i, \sum_{i=1}^n t_i y_i) \rangle$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n t_i \langle T(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)z), \eta(y_i, y_i) \rangle \in -\text{int } P.$$

Since  $\eta(\cdot, \cdot)$  is affine and  $\eta(y_i, y_i) = 0$ , we have  $0 \in -\text{int } P$ , which is a contradiction.

Hence  $A_1$  is a KKM mapping.

2.  $\bigcap_{y \in K} A_1(y) = \bigcap_{y \in K} A_2(y)$ .

If  $x \in A_1(y)$ , then

$$\langle T(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)z), \eta(y, x) \rangle \notin -\text{int } P.$$

Since  $T$  is  $\eta$ -monotone,  $\eta(\cdot, \cdot)$  is affine and  $\eta(z, z) = 0$ ,  $T_z$  is also  $\eta$ -monotone. We have

$$\langle T(\lambda y + (1 - \lambda)z) - T(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)z), \eta(y, x) \rangle \in P.$$

That is,

$$\langle T(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)z), \eta(y, x) \rangle \in \langle T(\lambda y + (1 - \lambda)z), \eta(y, x) \rangle - P.$$



Suppose that  $x \notin A_2(\mathbf{y})$ , we have

$$\langle T(\lambda \mathbf{y} + (1 - \lambda)z), \eta(\mathbf{y}, x) \rangle \in -\text{int } P.$$

or

$$\langle T(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)z), \eta(\mathbf{y}, x) \rangle \in -\text{int } P - P \subset -\text{int } P,$$

which contradicts  $x \in A_1(\mathbf{y})$ .

Therefore,  $x \in A_2(\mathbf{y})$ , that is,  $A_1(\mathbf{y}) \subset A_2(\mathbf{y})$ . Then

$$\bigcap_{\mathbf{y} \in K} A_1(\mathbf{y}) \subset \bigcap_{\mathbf{y} \in K} A_2(\mathbf{y}).$$

On the other hand, suppose that  $x \in \bigcap_{\mathbf{y} \in K} A_2(\mathbf{y})$ . We have

$$\langle T(\lambda \mathbf{y} + (1 - \lambda)z), \eta(\mathbf{y}, x) \rangle \notin -\text{int } P, \quad \text{for all } \mathbf{y} \in K.$$

By Lemma 5, we obtain

$$\langle T(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)z), \eta(\mathbf{y}, x) \rangle \notin -\text{int } P, \quad \text{for all } \mathbf{y} \in K.$$

That is,  $x \in \bigcap_{\mathbf{y} \in K} A_1(\mathbf{y})$ .

Hence  $\bigcap_{\mathbf{y} \in K} A_1(\mathbf{y}) \supset \bigcap_{\mathbf{y} \in K} A_2(\mathbf{y})$ . So,  $\bigcap_{\mathbf{y} \in K} A_1(\mathbf{y}) = \bigcap_{\mathbf{y} \in K} A_2(\mathbf{y})$ .

### 3. $\bigcap_{\mathbf{y} \in K} A_2(\mathbf{y}) \neq \emptyset$ .

Since  $\mathbf{y} \in A_2(\mathbf{y})$ ,  $A_2(\mathbf{y}) \neq \emptyset$ . By 2, we know  $A_1(\mathbf{y}) \subset A_2(\mathbf{y})$ . By 1, we know that  $A_1$  is a KKM mapping. Then  $A_2$  is also a KKM mapping.

Now, we prove that for any  $\mathbf{y} \in K$ ,  $A_2(\mathbf{y})$  is closed-valued. Assume that there exists a net  $\{x_n\} \subset A_2(\mathbf{y})$  such that  $x_n \rightarrow x \in K$ . Because

$$\langle T(\lambda \mathbf{y} + (1 - \lambda)z), \eta(\mathbf{y}, x_n) \rangle \notin -\text{int } P, \quad \text{for all } n,$$

we have

$$\langle T(\lambda \mathbf{y} + (1 - \lambda)z), \eta(\mathbf{y}, x) \rangle \notin -\text{int } P.$$

Hence  $x \in A_2(\mathbf{y})$ .

It follows from the compactness of  $K$  and closedness of  $A_2(y) \subset K$ , that  $A_2(y)$  is compact. By the KKM theorem, we have  $\bigcap_{y \in K} A_2(y) \neq \emptyset$ , and also  $\bigcap_{y \in K} A_1(y) \neq \emptyset$ .

Hence there exists

$$x_0 \in \bigcap_{y \in K} A_1(y) = \bigcap_{y \in K} A_2(y);$$

that is, there exists  $x_0 \in K$  such that

$$\langle T(\lambda x_0 + (1 - \lambda)z), \eta(y, x_0) \rangle \notin -\text{int } P, \quad \text{for all } y \in K,$$

that is,  $x_0$  is the solution of the problem (1).



The following Theorem 7 is proved in a different setting than Theorem 2.1 of Ansari [1]. We take  $T : X \rightarrow L(X, Y)$  to be  $\eta$ -monotone,  $\eta$ -hemicontinuous and  $\eta$ -generally convex, although Ansari [1] considered  $T$  to be  $\eta$ -pseudomonotone and  $V$ -hemicontinuous.

**Theorem 7** *Let  $X$  be a reflexive Banach space,  $(Y, P)$  an ordered topological vector space with  $\text{int } P \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $K$  be a nonempty, bounded and convex subset of  $X$ . Let  $\eta : K \times K \rightarrow K$  be a continuous and affine such that  $\eta(x, x) = 0$  for all  $x \in K$ . Let  $T : X \rightarrow L(X, Y)$  be  $\eta$ -monotone,  $\eta$ -hemicontinuous and  $\eta$ -generally convex on  $K$ . Then problem (1) is solvable.*

**Proof:**

$$A_1(y) = \{x \in K : \langle T(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)z), \eta(y, x) \rangle \notin -\text{int } P\},$$

$$A_2(y) = \{x \in K : \langle T(\lambda y + (1 - \lambda)z), \eta(y, x) \rangle \notin -\text{int } P\},$$

where  $\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z} \in \mathbf{K}$ ,  $\lambda \in (0, 1]$ .

By using the proof of Theorem 6, we know that  $\mathbf{A}_2$  is a KKM mapping and  $\mathbf{A}_2(\mathbf{y})$  is closedly valued. We also know that

$$\bigcap_{\mathbf{y} \in \mathbf{K}} \mathbf{A}_1(\mathbf{y}) = \bigcap_{\mathbf{y} \in \mathbf{K}} \mathbf{A}_2(\mathbf{y}).$$

Because  $\mathbf{K}$  is bounded, closed, convex and  $\mathbf{X}$  is a reflexive Banach space, therefore  $\mathbf{K}$  is weakly compact.

Now, we prove that  $\mathbf{A}_2(\mathbf{y})$  is convex. Suppose that  $\mathbf{y}_1, \mathbf{y}_2 \in \mathbf{A}_2(\mathbf{y})$  and  $t_1, t_2 \geq 0$  with  $t_1 + t_2 = 1$ . Then

$$\langle \mathbf{T}(\lambda \mathbf{y} + (1 - \lambda)\mathbf{z}), \eta(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{y}_i) \rangle \notin -\text{int } \mathbf{P}, \quad i = 1, 2.$$


Since  $\mathbf{T}$  is  $\eta$ -generally convex,

$$\langle \mathbf{T}(\lambda \mathbf{y} + (1 - \lambda)\mathbf{z}), \eta(\mathbf{y}, t_1 \mathbf{y}_1 + t_2 \mathbf{y}_2) \rangle \notin -\text{int } \mathbf{P},$$

that is,  $t_1 \mathbf{y}_1 + t_2 \mathbf{y}_2 \in \mathbf{A}_2(\mathbf{y})$ . Hence  $\mathbf{A}_2(\mathbf{y})$  is convex. Since  $\mathbf{A}_2(\mathbf{y})$  is closed and convex,  $\mathbf{A}_2(\mathbf{y})$  is weakly closed.

Considering that  $\mathbf{A}_2(\mathbf{y})$  is a KKM mapping and  $\mathbf{A}_2(\mathbf{y})$  is a weakly closed subset of  $\mathbf{K}$ ,  $\mathbf{A}_2(\mathbf{y})$  is weakly compact. By using the KKM theorem, there exists  $\mathbf{x}_0 \in \mathbf{K}$  such that  $\mathbf{x}_0 \in \bigcap_{\mathbf{y} \in \mathbf{K}} \mathbf{A}_1(\mathbf{y}) = \bigcap_{\mathbf{y} \in \mathbf{K}} \mathbf{A}_2(\mathbf{y}) \neq \emptyset$ . That is, there exists  $\mathbf{x}_0 \in \mathbf{K}$  such that

$$\langle \mathbf{T}(\lambda \mathbf{x}_0 + (1 - \lambda)\mathbf{z}), \eta(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x}_0) \rangle \notin -\text{int } \mathbf{P}, \quad \text{for all } \mathbf{y} \in \mathbf{K}.$$

Hence problem (1) is solvable. 

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