

FIXED POINTS AND VARIATIONAL PRINCIPLE WITH APPLICATIONS TO EQUILIBRIUM PROBLEMS ON CONE METRIC SPACES

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ABSTRACT. The aim of this paper is to establish variational principle on cone metric spaces and to give some existence theorems of solutions for equilibrium problems on cone metric spaces. We give some equivalences of an existence theorem of solutions for equilibrium problems on cone metric spaces.

1. Introduction

In [11, 12], the author obtained a variational principle, so called Ekeland's variational principle. It is one of the most important results obtained in non-linear analysis, and is useful tools to solve problems in optimization, optimal control theory, game theory, nonlinear equations and dynamical systems [5, 6, 10, 12, 13, 30].

It was known that Petal's theorem, Daneš's drop theorem, Krasnoselskii-Zabrejko and Caristi's fixed point theorem are equivalent to Ekeland's variational principle (see [25] and references therein). Since this variational principle was proved, there have appeared many extensions and equivalence formulations of Ekeland's variational principle (see [1, 22, 24, 29]).

Recently, the author [14] introduced the notion of cone metric spaces as a generalization of metric spaces. They introduced the concept of convergence in cone metric spaces and obtained some fixed point theorems for contractive mappings defined on cone metric spaces.

In this paper, we obtain an extension of Ekeland's variational principle to cone metric spaces. We present Caristi's fixed point theorem, Takahashi's minimization theorem and an equilibrium version of Ekeland's variational principle

Received December 5, 2011; Revised March 5, 2012.

2010 *Mathematics Subject Classification.* 47H10, 54H25.

Key words and phrases. variational principle, equilibrium problem, upper semi-continuous, cone metric space.

The author(S. H. Cho) was supported by Basic Science Research Program through the National Research Foundation of Korea(NRF) funded by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology(No. 2011-0012118).

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in the setting of complete cone metric spaces. And then we prove that these results and Ekeland's variational principle are equivalent. We establish some existence theorems of solution for equilibrium problem on cone metric spaces without any convexity assumption. And then, we obtain some equivalences of an existence theorem of solution for equilibrium problem on cone metric spaces.

2. Preliminaries

Consistent with Huang and Zhang [14], the following definitions will be needed in the sequel.

Let E be a topological vector space. A subset P of E is a *cone* if the following conditions are satisfied:

- (i) P is non-empty closed and $P \neq \{0\}$,
- (ii) $ax + by \in P$, whenever $x, y \in P$ and $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ ($a, b \geq 0$),
- (iii) $P \cap (-P) = \{0\}$.

Given a cone $P \subset E$, we define a partial ordering \leq on E with respect to P by $x \leq y$ if and only if $y - x \in P$. We write $x < y$ to indicate that $x \leq y$ but $x \neq y$.

For $x, y \in E$, $x \ll y$ stand for $y - x \in \text{int}(P)$, where $\text{int}(P)$ is the interior of P . A cone P is called *regular* if every increasing sequence which is bounded from above is convergent. That is, if $\{u_n\}$ is a sequence such that for some $z \in E$

$$u_1 \leq u_2 \leq \cdots \leq z,$$

then there exists $u \in E$ such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = u.$$

Equivalently, a cone P is regular if and only if every decreasing sequence which is bounded from below is convergent.

If E is a normed space, a cone P is called *normal* whenever there exists a number $M > 0$ such that for all $x, y \in E$, $0 \leq x \leq y$ implies $\|x\| \leq M\|y\|$.

It is well known that every regular cone in a normed space is normal (see [14, 28]).

A cone P is *complete* if every upper bounded non-empty subset A of E , $\sup A$ exists in E . Equivalently, a cone P is complete if every lower bounded non-empty subset A of E , $\inf A$ exists in E .

If E is a normed space, a complete cone P is *continuous* whenever, for any upper bounded chain $\{x_\alpha : \alpha \in \Gamma\}$, $\sup\{\|x_\alpha - \sup\{x_\beta : \beta \in \Gamma\}\| : \alpha \in \Gamma\} = 0$.

Equivalently, if E is a normed space, a complete cone P is *continuous* whenever, for any lower bounded chain $\{x_\alpha : \alpha \in \Gamma\}$, $\inf\{\|x_\alpha - \inf\{x_\beta : \beta \in \Gamma\}\| : \alpha \in \Gamma\} = 0$.

Note that if E is a normed space and P is complete and continuous, then for every non-increasing (resp. non-decreasing) sequence $\{x_n\} \subset P$ bounded from below (resp. above), we have $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = \inf_n x_n$ (resp. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = \sup_n x_n$).

The authors [2, 3, 8, 14, 15, 16, 26, 31, 34] obtained fixed point theorems on cone metric spaces under assumption that the cone is normal. Also, the authors [7, 23, 32] proved fixed point results under assumption that the cone is regular. And the authors [4, 9, 17, 18, 19, 21, 20, 27, 28] do not use the notion of normality or regularity to obtain their results on cone metric spaces.

In this paper, we use the concept of regularity to obtain our results.

Without special mention, we assume that E is a normed space, P is a cone in E with $\text{int}(P) \neq \emptyset$ and \leq is a partial ordering with respect to P . Also, we assume that 2^E (resp. $K(E)$) is the family of all non-empty (resp. non-empty compact) subsets of E .

For a non-empty set X , a mapping $d : X \times X \rightarrow E$ is called *cone metric* [14] on X if the following conditions are satisfied:

- (i) $0 \leq d(x, y)$ for all $x, y \in X$, and $d(x, y) = 0$ if and only if $x = y$,
- (ii) $d(x, y) = d(y, x)$ for all $x, y \in X$,
- (iii) $d(x, y) \leq d(x, z) + d(z, y)$ for all $x, y, z \in X$.

Let (X, d) be a cone metric space. A sequence $\{x_n\}$ of points in X *converges* [14] to a point $x \in X$ (denoted by $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x$ or $x_n \rightarrow x$) if for any $c \in \text{int}(P)$, there exists $N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that for all $n > N$, $d(x_n, x) \ll c$. A sequence $\{x_n\}$ of points in X is *Cauchy* [14] if for any $c \in \text{int}(P)$, there exists $N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that for all $n, m > N$, $d(x_n, x_m) \ll c$. (X, d) is called *complete* if every Cauchy sequence is convergent.

Note that if $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d(x_n, x) = 0$, then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x$. The converse is true if E is a normed space and P is a normal cone. Also, note that if $\lim_{n, m \rightarrow \infty} d(x_n, x_m) = 0$, then $\{x_n\}$ is a Cauchy sequence in X . If E is a normed space and P is a normal cone, then $\{x_n\}$ is a Cauchy sequence in X if and only if $\lim_{n, m \rightarrow \infty} d(x_n, x_m) = 0$.

Let (X, d) be a cone metric (or metric) space. A subset A of X is called *sequentially closed* if for any sequence $\{x_n\} \subset X$ with $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x$, we have $x \in A$. A subset A of X is *sequentially compact* if every sequence in X has a convergent subsequence. A mapping $g : X \rightarrow E$ is *sequentially continuous* at $x \in X$ if, for any sequence $\{x_n\} \subset X$ with $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x$, we have $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} gx_n = gx$. A set-valued mapping $F : X \rightarrow 2^E$ is called *bounded from below* if there exists $z \in E$ such that $Fx - z \subset P$ for all $x \in X$. A set-valued mapping $F : X \rightarrow 2^E$ is called *sequentially lower semi-continuous* at $x_0 \in X$ if, for any closed subset C of E and for any sequence $\{x_n\} \subset X$ with $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x_0$, there exists $N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that, for all $n > N$, $Fx_n \not\subset C$ whenever $Fx_0 \not\subset C$.

When F is sequentially lower semi-continuous at each point in X , we say that F is sequentially lower semi-continuous.

A set-valued mapping $F : X \rightarrow 2^E$ is *sequentially upper semi-continuous* at $x_0 \in X$ if, for any closed subset C of E and for any sequence $\{x_n\} \subset X$ with $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x_0$, there exists $N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that, for all $n > N$, $Fx_n \cap C = \emptyset$ whenever $Fx_0 \cap C = \emptyset$.

We say that F is sequentially upper semi-continuous if F is sequentially upper semi-continuous at each point in X .

Example 2.1. Let $X = \mathbb{R}$, $E = \mathbb{R}^2$ and $P = \mathbb{R}_+^2$. We define a set-valued mapping $F : X \rightarrow 2^E$ by

$$Fx = \begin{cases} \{(0, 0)\}, & \text{if } x = 0; \\ \{(-|x|, 0), (0, -|x|)\}, & \text{if } x \neq 0. \end{cases}$$

Then F is sequentially lower semi-continuous and sequentially upper semi-continuous.

We have the following properties of sequentially lower semi-continuous and sequentially upper semi-continuous, respectively.

Lemma 2.1. *A set-valued mapping $F : X \rightarrow 2^E$ is sequentially lower semi-continuous if and only if the set $L(C) = \{x \in X : Fx \subset C\}$ is sequentially closed for all closed subset C of E .*

Proof. Let C be a closed subset of E . Suppose that $L(C)$ is sequentially closed. Let $x_0 \in X$ be fixed, and let $\{x_n\}$ be any sequence of points in X such that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x_0$. If $Fx_0 \not\subset C$, then $x_0 \notin L(C)$. Since $L(C)$ is sequentially closed, there exists $N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $x_n \notin L(C)$ for all $n > N$. Thus, $Fx_n \not\subset C$ for all $n > N$. Hence F is sequentially lower semi-continuous on X .

Assume that F is sequentially lower semi-continuous on X . Let C be any fixed closed subset of E , and let $\{x_n\}$ be a sequence of points in $L(C)$ such that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x_0$. If $x_0 \notin L(C)$, then $Fx_0 \not\subset C$. Since F is sequentially lower semi-continuous at x_0 , there exists $N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $Fx_n \not\subset C$ for all $n > N$. Thus, $x_n \notin L(C)$ for all $n > N$, which is a contradiction. Hence $x_0 \in L(C)$, and hence $L(C)$ is sequentially closed. \square

Lemma 2.2. *A set-valued mapping $F : X \rightarrow 2^E$ is sequentially upper semi-continuous if and only if the set $U(C) = \{x \in X : Fx \cap C \neq \emptyset\}$ is sequentially closed for all closed subset C of E .*

Proof. The proof is similar as proof of Lemma 2.1. \square

Lemma 2.3. *If a set valued mapping $F : X \rightarrow 2^E$ is sequentially lower semi-continuous and a mapping $g : X \rightarrow E$ is sequentially continuous, then $F + g$ is sequentially lower semi-continuous.*

Proof. Suppose that $F + g$ is not sequentially lower semi-continuous. Then there exists a closed subset C of E such that $L(C) = \{x \in X : Fx + gx \subset C\}$ is not sequentially closed. Then there exists a sequence $\{x_n\} \subset L(C)$ with $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = z$ such that $z \notin L(C)$.

Since $Fz \not\subset -gz + C$, there exists $y \in Fz$ such that $y \notin -gz + C$. Then there exists $\epsilon > 0$ such that

$$B(y, \epsilon) \cap (-gz + C) = \emptyset,$$

where $B(y, \epsilon) = \{x \in X : \|x - y\| < \epsilon\}$.

Since $Fz \not\subset E - B(y, \frac{\epsilon}{2})$ and F is sequentially lower semi-continuous and g is sequentially continuous, there exists $N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that, for all $n > N$,

$$Fx_n \cap B(y, \frac{\epsilon}{2}) \neq \emptyset$$

and

$$\|gx_n - gz\| < \frac{\epsilon}{2}.$$

If $Fx_n \subset -gx_n + C$ for some $n > N$, then there exists $y_1 \in Fx_n \cap B(y, \frac{\epsilon}{2})$ such that $y_1 = -gx_n + c_1$ for some $c_1 \in C$, and $\|c_1 - y_1 - gz\| < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$. Thus we have $\|y - (-gz + c_1)\| \leq \|y - y_1\| + \|y_1 + gz - c_1\| < \epsilon$. Hence $-gz + c_1 \in B(y, \frac{\epsilon}{2})$, which is a contradiction, because $B(y, \epsilon) \cap (-gz + C) = \emptyset$. Thus $Fx_n \not\subset -gx_n + C$ for all $n > N$, and so $x_n \notin L(C)$ for all $n > N$, which is a contradiction. \square

For $A \subset E$ and $x \in E$, we denote $\rho(x, A) = \inf\{\|x - y\| : y \in A\}$.

Lemma 2.4. *If a set valued mapping $F : X \rightarrow K(E)$ is sequentially upper semi-continuous and a mapping $g : X \rightarrow E$ is sequentially continuous, then $F + g$ is sequentially upper semi-continuous.*

Proof. Suppose that $F + g$ is not sequentially upper semi-continuous. Then there exists a closed subset C of E such that $U(C) = \{x \in X : Fx + gx \cap C \neq \emptyset\}$ is not sequentially closed. Then there exists a sequence $\{x_n\} \subset U(C)$ with $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = z$ such that $z \notin U(C)$. Thus, $Fz \cap (-gz + C) = \emptyset$.

Let $\epsilon = \inf\{\rho(x, -gz + C) : x \in Fz\}$. Then since Fz is compact and $-gz + C$ is closed, we have $\epsilon > 0$. Let $V = \{x \in E : \rho(x, Fz) < \frac{1}{2}\epsilon\}$. Then

$$V \cap (-gz + C) = \emptyset$$

and

$$Fz \cap (E - V) = \emptyset.$$

Since F is sequentially upper semi-continuous and g is sequentially continuous, there exists $N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that, for all $n > N$,

$$Fx_n \subset V$$

and

$$\|gx_n - gz\| < \frac{1}{2}\epsilon.$$

If $Fx_n + gx_n \cap C \neq \emptyset$ for some $n > N$, then there exists $u \in Fx_n$ such that $u + gx_n = c_1$ for some $c_1 \in C$. Hence $u = -gx_n + c_1 \in V$. Thus we have

$$\rho(-gz + c_1, Fz) \leq \|-gz + c_1 - u\| + \rho(u, Fz) = \|gx_n - gz\| + \rho(u, Fz) < \epsilon,$$

which is a contradiction.

Hence $Fx_n + gx_n \cap C = \emptyset$ for all $n > N$, and hence $\{x_n\}_{n > N} \not\subset U(C)$, which is a contradiction. \square

Lemma 2.5 ([14]). *Let (X, d) be a cone metric space such that P is normal. Then, for each $x \in X$, $d(x, \cdot)$ is sequentially continuous.*

3. Fixed point theorems

In this section, we obtain a fixed point theorem for set-valued mappings, which is closely related with the Ekeland's variational principle.

Lemma 3.1. *Let (X, d) be a cone metric space, and let $\{x_n\}$ be a sequence in X such that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = \bar{x} \in X$. Suppose that a set valued mapping $T : X \rightarrow 2^X$ satisfies the following conditions:*

- (1) $x_{n+1} \in Tx_n$ and $Tx_{n+1} \subset Tx_n$ for all $n \geq 1$;
- (2) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup\{\|d(x_n, u)\| : u \in Tx_n\} = 0$;
- (3) $\bar{x} \in Tx_n$ for all $n \geq 1$.

Then $\bigcap_{n \geq 1} Tx_n = \{\bar{x}\}$.

If, in addition

- (4) $T\bar{x} \neq \emptyset$ and $T\bar{x} \subset Tx_n$ for all $n \geq 1$,

then $T\bar{x} = \{\bar{x}\}$.

Proof. From (3), we have $\bar{x} \in \bigcap_{n \geq 1} Tx_n$. If $u \in \bigcap_{n \geq 1} Tx_n$, then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|d(x_n, u)\| = 0$$

by (2). Hence $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d(x_n, u) = 0$, and hence $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = u$. Thus $\bar{x} = u$, and so $\bigcap_{n \geq 1} Tx_n = \{\bar{x}\}$.

Suppose that (4) is satisfied. Then $T\bar{x} \subset \bigcap_{n \geq 1} Tx_n = \{\bar{x}\}$. Since $T\bar{x} \neq \emptyset$, $T\bar{x} = \{\bar{x}\}$. \square

Let (X, d) be a cone metric space, and let $F : X \times X \rightarrow 2^E$ be a mapping. We define a relation \triangleleft on X as follows: for any $x, y \in X$,

$$(3.1) \quad y \triangleleft x \text{ if and only if } F(x, y) + d(x, y) \subset -P.$$

For each $x \in X$, we denote $S(x) = \{y \in X : y \triangleleft x\}$.

Let (X, d) be a cone metric space, and let $F : X \times X \rightarrow 2^E$ be a set valued mapping. Consider the following conditions, respectively.

- (F1) $0 \in F(x, x)$ and $F(x, x) \subset -P$ for all $x \in X$.
- (F2) $F(x, y) \subset F(x, z) + F(z, y) - P$ for all $x, y, z \in X$.
- (F3) $F(x, \cdot)$ is bounded from below for each $x \in X$.
- (F4) $F(x, \cdot)$ is sequentially lower semi-continuous for each $x \in X$.

Lemma 3.2. *Let (X, d) be a cone metric space such that P is regular. Suppose that a set valued mapping $F : X \times X \rightarrow 2^E$ satisfies (F1), (F2), (F3) and (F4).*

If \triangleleft is a relation defined as (3.1), then we have the followings.

- (a) \triangleleft is a preordering on X ;
- (b) For each $x \in X$, $S(x)$ is sequentially closed in (X, d) ;
- (c) $S(y) \subset S(x)$ whenever $y \in S(x)$ for $x, y \in X$;
- (d) For each $x \in X$, $\{d(x, y) : y \in S(x)\}$ is bounded;
- (e) If $x_{n+1} \triangleleft x_n$ for all $n \geq 0$, then $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} d(x_n, x_{n+1})$ is convergent.

Proof. Let \triangleleft be the relation defined as (3.1). Then from (F1) $x \triangleleft x$ for each $x \in X$. Let $x \triangleleft y$ and $y \triangleleft z$ for $x, y, z \in X$. Then $F(y, x) + d(y, x) \subset -P$ and $F(z, y) + d(z, y) \subset -P$.

Since $F(z, x) \subset F(z, y) + F(y, x) - P$, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} F(z, x) + d(y, x) + d(y, z) &\subset F(z, y) + F(y, x) + d(y, x) + d(y, z) - P \\ &\subset -P. \end{aligned}$$

Because $d(x, z) - d(y, x) - d(y, z) \in -P$, $F(z, x) + d(z, x) \subset -P$. Thus $x \triangleleft z$. Hence (a) is proved.

For each $x \in X$, since $d(x, \cdot) + F(x, \cdot)$ is sequentially lower semi-continuous, $S(x)$ is sequentially closed, and so (b) is proved.

Let $y \in S(x)$ and $z \in S(y)$. Then $y \triangleleft x$ and $z \triangleleft y$. Thus we have $z \triangleleft x$, and so $z \in S(x)$. Hence $S(y) \subset S(x)$, and (c) is proved.

Let $x \in X$ and $y \in S(x)$. Then $y \triangleleft x$, and so $F(x, y) + d(x, y) \subset -P$. Hence $d(x, y) \in -F(x, y) + (-P)$. By (F3), $F(x, y)$ is bounded from below. Thus there exists $z \in E$ such that $F(x, y) - z \subset P$. Thus $F(x, y) \subset z + P$. Hence $d(x, y) \in -z - P$, and hence $0 \leq d(x, y) \leq -z$. Thus $\{d(x, y) : y \in S(x)\}$ is bounded.

Finally, we show that (e) is satisfied.

Let $x_{n+1} \triangleleft x_n$ for all $n \geq 0$. Then $F(x_k, x_{k+1}) + d(x_k, x_{k+1}) \subset -P$, and so $\sum_{k=1}^n F(x_k, x_{k+1}) + \sum_{k=1}^n d(x_k, x_{k+1}) \subset -P$. By (F2), we have $F(x_1, x_{n+1}) \subset \sum_{k=1}^n F(x_k, x_{k+1}) - P$. Thus we obtain $F(x_1, x_{n+1}) \subset -\sum_{k=1}^n d(x_k, x_{k+1}) - P$, and so $\sum_{k=1}^n d(x_k, x_{k+1}) \subset -F(x_1, x_{n+1}) - P$. From (F3) there exists $z \in E$ such that $F(x_1, x_{n+1}) - z \subset P$. Hence we have $\sum_{k=1}^n d(x_k, x_{k+1}) \in -z - P$, and hence $\sum_{k=1}^n d(x_k, x_{k+1}) \leq -z$ for all $n \geq 1$. Since P is regular, $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} d(x_n, x_{n+1})$ is convergent. \square

Theorem 3.1. *Let (X, d) be a complete cone metric space such that P is complete and regular. Suppose that a set valued mapping $F : X \times X \rightarrow 2^E$ satisfies (F1), (F2), (F3) and (F4).*

If \triangleleft is a preordering defined as (3.1), then for each $x_0 \in X$ there exists $\bar{x} \in X$ such that $\bar{x} \in S(x_0)$ and $S(\bar{x}) = \{\bar{x}\}$.

Proof. Let $x_0 \in X$ be fixed. We can choose $x_1 \in S(x_0)$ by Lemma 3.2(d) such that

$$\frac{1}{2} \sup\{\|d(x_0, u)\| : u \in S(x_0)\} \leq \|d(x_0, x_1)\|.$$

Again, we choose $x_2 \in S(x_1)$ such that

$$\frac{1}{2} \sup\{\|d(x_1, v)\| : v \in S(x_1)\} \leq \|d(x_1, x_2)\|.$$

Inductively, we can choose a sequence $\{x_n\}$ of points in X such that

$$(3.2) \quad x_{n+1} \in S(x_n) \text{ and } \frac{1}{2} \sup\{\|d(x_n, w)\| : w \in S(x_n)\} \leq \|d(x_n, x_{n+1})\|$$

for all $n \geq 1$.

From Lemma 3.2(c), we have $S(x_{n+1}) \subset S(x_n)$ for all $n \geq 0$. Hence condition (1) of Lemma 3.1 is satisfied.

From Lemma 3.2(e), $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} d(x_k, x_{k+1})$ is convergent. Thus, for any $c \in \text{int}(P)$, there exists $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $\sum_{k>n_0} d(x_k, x_{k+1}) \ll c$, and so $d(x_n, x_m) \ll c$ for all $m > n > n_0$. Hence $\{x_n\}$ is a Cauchy sequence in X . Since X is complete, there exists $\bar{x} \in X$ such that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = \bar{x}$. From (3.2) we have $\limsup\{\|d(x_n, w)\| : w \in S(x_n)\} = 0$. Hence condition (2) of Lemma 3.1 is satisfied.

From Lemma 3.2(b), $S(x_n)$ is sequentially closed for all $n \geq 0$. Since $\{x_{k+1}\}_{k \geq n} \subset S(x_n)$, $\bar{x} \in S(x_n)$ for all $n \geq 0$. Hence $\bar{x} \in S(x_0)$.

From Lemma 3.2(c), $S(\bar{x}) \subset S(x_n)$ for all $n \geq 0$. Thus all conditions of Lemma 3.1 are satisfied, and from Lemma 3.1 $S(\bar{x}) = \{\bar{x}\}$. \square

Theorem 3.2. *Let (X, d) be a complete cone metric space such that P is complete and regular. Suppose that a set valued mapping $F : X \times X \rightarrow 2^E$ satisfies (F1), (F2), (F3) and (F4).*

Assume that a set valued mapping $T : X \rightarrow 2^X$ satisfies the following condition: for each $x \in X$, there exists $y \in Tx$ such that

$$(3.3) \quad F(x, y) + d(x, y) \subset -P.$$

Then T has a fixed point in X .

Proof. We define a preordering \triangleleft as (3.1). From Theorem 3.1 there exists $\bar{x} \in X$ such that $S(\bar{x}) = \{\bar{x}\}$. From (3.3), there exists $z \in T\bar{x}$ such that $z \triangleleft \bar{x}$. Hence $z \in S(\bar{x})$, and hence $z = \bar{x}$. Thus, $\bar{x} \in T\bar{x}$. \square

Remark 3.1. If d is a complete metric (resp. cone metric) on a set X , then for each $\epsilon > 0$, ϵd is also a complete metric (resp. cone metric) on a set X .

From Remark 3.1 and Theorem 3.2 we have the following result.

Corollary 3.3. *Let (X, d) be a complete cone metric space such that P is complete and regular. Suppose that a set valued mapping $F : X \times X \rightarrow 2^E$ satisfies (F1), (F2), (F3) and (F4).*

Assume that a set valued mapping $T : X \rightarrow 2^X$ satisfies the following condition: for each $\epsilon > 0$ and for each $x \in X$, there exists $y \in Tx$ such that

$$F(x, y) + \epsilon d(x, y) \subset -P.$$

Then T has a fixed point in X .

From Theorem 3.2 and Corollary 3.3 we obtain the following two corollaries, respectively.

Corollary 3.4. *Let (X, d) be a complete cone metric space such that P is complete and regular. Suppose that a set valued mapping $F : X \times X \rightarrow 2^E$ satisfies (F1), (F2), (F3) and (F4).*

Assume that a mapping $f : X \rightarrow X$ satisfies the following condition:

$$F(x, fx) + d(x, fx) \subset -P$$

for each $x \in X$. Then f has a fixed point in X .

Corollary 3.5. *Let (X, d) be a complete cone metric space such that P is complete and regular. Suppose that a set valued mapping $F : X \times X \rightarrow 2^E$ satisfies (F1), (F2), (F3) and (F4).*

Assume that a mapping $f : X \rightarrow X$ satisfies the following condition:

$$F(x, fx) + \epsilon d(x, fx) \subset -P$$

for each $\epsilon > 0$ and for each $x \in X$. Then f has a fixed point in X .

Remark 3.2. Let (X, ρ) be a complete metric space and $e \in \text{int}(P)$ be fixed. Then $\rho(\cdot, \cdot)e$ is a complete cone metric on X . Also, $K = \{re : r \geq 0\}$ is a complete and regular cone.

From Remark 3.2 and Theorem 3.2 we obtain the following results.

Corollary 3.6. *Let (X, ρ) be a complete metric space. Suppose that a set valued mapping $F : X \times X \rightarrow 2^E$ satisfies (F1), (F2), (F3) and (F4).*

Assume that a set valued mapping $T : X \rightarrow 2^X$ satisfies the following condition: for each $x \in X$, there exists $y \in Tx$ such that

$$F(x, y) + \rho(x, y)e \subset -P.$$

Then T has a fixed point in X .

4. Ekeland type variational principle

In this section, we give an Ekeland's variational principle for set-valued mappings, which is closely related with generalized equilibrium problems.

Theorem 4.1. *Let (X, d) be a complete cone metric space such that P is complete and regular. Suppose that a set valued mapping $F : X \times X \rightarrow 2^E$ satisfies (F1), (F2), (F3) and (F4). Then, for every $x_0 \in X$, there exists $\bar{x} \in X$ such that*

- (a) $F(x_0, \bar{x}) + d(x_0, \bar{x}) \subset -P$,
- (b) $F(\bar{x}, x) + d(\bar{x}, x) \not\subset -P$ for all $x \neq \bar{x}$.

Proof. Let \triangleleft be a preordering defined as (3.1), and let $x_0 \in X$. Then from Theorem 3.1 there exists $\bar{x} \in X$ such that $\bar{x} \in S(x_0)$ and $S(\bar{x}) = \{\bar{x}\}$.

Since $\bar{x} \in S(x_0)$, from (3.1) we obtain

$$F(x_0, \bar{x}) + d(x_0, \bar{x}) \subset -P.$$

For all $x \neq \bar{x}$, $x \notin S(\bar{x})$. Thus we have

$$F(\bar{x}, x) + d(\bar{x}, x) \not\subset -P. \quad \square$$

Corollary 4.2. *Let (X, d) be a complete cone metric space such that P is complete and regular. Suppose that a set valued mapping $F : X \times X \rightarrow 2^E$ satisfies (F1), (F2), (F3) and (F4). Then, for each $\epsilon > 0$ and for every $x_0 \in X$, there exists $\bar{x} \in X$ such that*

- (a) $F(x_0, \bar{x}) + \epsilon d(x_0, \bar{x}) \subset -P$,
- (b) $F(\bar{x}, x) + \epsilon d(\bar{x}, x) \not\subset -P$ for all $x \neq \bar{x}$.

Theorem 4.3. *Let (X, d) be a complete cone metric space such that P is complete and regular. Suppose that a set valued mapping $F : X \times X \rightarrow 2^E$ satisfies (F1), (F2), (F3) and (F4). Then the following are equivalent.*

(a) Ekeland type variational principle: *For every $x_0 \in X$, there exists $\bar{x} \in X$ such that $\bar{x} \in S_0 = \{x \in X : F(x_0, x) + d(x_0, x) \subset -P\}$ and $F(\bar{x}, x) + d(\bar{x}, x) \not\subset -P$ for all $x \neq \bar{x}$.*

(b) Caristi-Kirk type fixed point theorem: *Let $T : X \rightarrow 2^X$ be a set-valued mapping such that, for every $x_* \in S_0$, there exists $x \in Tx_*$ satisfying $F(x_*, x) + d(x_*, x) \subset -P$. Then there exists $\bar{x} \in S_0$ such that $\bar{x} \in T\bar{x}$.*

(c) Oettli and Théra type theorem: *Let $D \subset X$ such that, for every $x_* \in S_0 \setminus D$, there exists $x \in X$ such that $x \neq x_*$ and $F(x_*, x) + d(x_*, x) \subset -P$. Then there exists $\bar{x} \in S_0 \cap D$.*

Proof. (a) \Rightarrow (c): Suppose that (a) and the hypothesis of (c) are satisfied.

Suppose that $S_0 \cap D = \emptyset$. By (a), there exists $\bar{x} \in S_0$ and $F(\bar{x}, x) + d(\bar{x}, x) \not\subset -P$ for all $x \neq \bar{x}$. Since $S_0 \cap D = \emptyset$, $\bar{x} \in S_0 \setminus D$. By the hypothesis of (c), there exists $x \in X$ such that $x \neq \bar{x}$ and $F(\bar{x}, x) + d(\bar{x}, x) \subset -P$, which is a contradiction.

(c) \Rightarrow (a): Assume that (c) is satisfied. For every $x_0 \in X$, let $G(x_0) = \{x \in X : F(x_0, x) + d(x_0, x) \subset -P, x \neq x_0\}$. Let $D = \{x_0 : G(x_0) = \emptyset\}$. If $x_0 \notin D$, then $G(x_0) \neq \emptyset$. Hence there exists $x \in G(x_0)$, and so $x \neq x_0$ and $F(x_0, x) + d(x_0, x) \subset -P$. Thus the hypothesis of (c) is satisfied. By (c), there exists $\bar{x} \in S_0 \cap D$. Thus $\bar{x} \in S_0$ and $F(\bar{x}, x) + d(\bar{x}, x) \not\subset -P$ for all $x \neq \bar{x}$.

(b) \Rightarrow (c): Suppose that (b) and the hypothesis of (c) are satisfied.

Let $Tx_* = \{x \in X : x \neq x_*\}$. Suppose that $S_0 \cap D = \emptyset$. Then for all $x \in S_0$, $x \notin D$. By the hypothesis of (c), for every $x_* \in S_0 \setminus D$, there exists $x \in X$ such that $x \neq x_*$ and $F(x_*, x) + d(x_*, x) \subset -P$. That is, for all $x_* \in S_0$, there exists $x \in X$ such that $x \in Tx_*$ and $F(x_*, x) + d(x_*, x) \subset -P$. By (b), there exists $\bar{x} \in S_0$ such that $\bar{x} \in T\bar{x}$, and hence $\bar{x} \neq \bar{x}$, which is a contradiction.

(c) \Rightarrow (b): Suppose that (c) and the hypothesis of (b) are satisfied.

Suppose that $x \notin Tx$ for all $x \in X$. Let $D = \{x \in X : x \in Tx\}$. Then $D = \emptyset$. By the hypothesis of (b), for every $x_* \in S_0$, there exists $x \in Tx_*$ satisfying $F(x_*, x) + d(x_*, x) \subset -P$. Since $D = \emptyset$, $x_* \in S_0 \setminus D$, and $x \neq x_*$. By (c), there exists $\bar{x} \in S_0 \cap D$. Hence $D \neq \emptyset$, which is a contradiction. \square

From Remark 3.2 and Theorem 4.1 we have the following result.

Corollary 4.4. *Let (X, ρ) be a complete metric space. Suppose that a set valued mapping $F : X \times X \rightarrow 2^E$ satisfies (F1), (F2), (F3) and (F4). Then, for every $x_0 \in X$, there exists $\bar{x} \in X$ such that*

- (a) $F(x_0, \bar{x}) + \rho(x_0, \bar{x})e \subset -K$,
- (b) $F(\bar{x}, x) + \rho(\bar{x}, x)e \not\subset -K$ for all $x \neq \bar{x}$.

From Remark 3.1 and Corollary 4.4 we obtain the following result.

Corollary 4.5 ([33]). *Let (X, ρ) be a complete metric space. Suppose that a set valued mapping $F : X \times X \rightarrow 2^E$ satisfies (F1), (F2), (F3) and (F4). Then, for each $\epsilon > 0$ and for every $x_0 \in X$, there exists $\bar{x} \in X$ such that*

- (a) $F(x_0, \bar{x}) + \epsilon \rho(x_0, \bar{x})e \subset -K$,
- (b) $F(\bar{x}, x) + \epsilon \rho(\bar{x}, x)e \not\subset -K$ for all $x \neq \bar{x}$.

5. Equilibrium problems

Let K be a non-empty subset of a cone metric space (X, d) , and let $F : K \times K \rightarrow 2^E$ be a mapping. By an *equilibrium problem*, we understand the problem of finding $\bar{x} \in K$ such that

$$(5.1) \quad F(\bar{x}, x) \subset P \text{ for all } x \in K.$$

We consider some possible cases of equilibrium problems as follows:
the problem of finding $\bar{x} \in K$ such that

$$(5.2) \quad F(\bar{x}, x) \subset E - \text{int}(-P) \text{ for all } x \in K,$$

the problem of finding $\bar{x} \in K$ such that

$$(5.3) \quad F(\bar{x}, x) \not\subset \text{int}(-P) \text{ for all } x \in K,$$

the problem of finding $\bar{x} \in K$ such that

$$(5.4) \quad F(\bar{x}, x) \cap (E - \text{int}(-P)) \neq \emptyset \text{ for all } x \in K.$$

Note that \bar{x} is a solution of (5.1) $\Rightarrow \bar{x}$ is a solution of (5.2) $\Rightarrow \bar{x}$ is a solution of (5.3) $\Leftrightarrow \bar{x}$ is a solution of (5.4).

Let K be a non-empty subset of a cone metric space (X, d) , and let $F : K \times K \rightarrow 2^E$ be a mapping and $\epsilon > 0$. A point $\bar{x} \in K$ is called an ϵ -solution of equilibrium problem (5.1) if

$$F(\bar{x}, x) + \epsilon d(\bar{x}, x) \subset P$$

for all $x \in K$.

Without any convexity assumption, we study on existence theorems of solution for equilibrium problem (5.1) on cone metric spaces.

Theorem 5.1. *Let (X, d) be a cone metric space, and let K be a sequentially compact subset of X . Suppose that a mapping $F : K \times K \rightarrow 2^E$ satisfies the following conditions:*

- (1) *for each $y \in K$, $F(\cdot, y)$ is sequentially lower semi-continuous.*
- (2) *for each $\epsilon > 0$, there exists an ϵ -solution $x \in K$ of equilibrium problem (5.1). That is, there exists $x \in K$ such that*

$$F(x, y) + \epsilon d(x, y) \subset P$$

for all $y \in K$. Then there exists a solution $\bar{x} \in K$ of equilibrium problem (5.1).

Proof. By (2), for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$, there exists $x_n \in K$ such that

$$F(x_n, y) + \frac{1}{n}d(x_n, y) \subset P$$

for all $y \in X$.

Since K is sequentially compact, we may assume that there exists $\bar{x} \in K$ such that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = \bar{x}$.

For fixed $y \in K$ and for fixed $n \in \mathbb{N}$, let $L_{n,y}(P) = \{x \in K : F(x, y) + \frac{1}{n}d(x, y) \subset P\}$. By Lemma 2.3 and Lemma 2.5, $F(\cdot, y) + \frac{1}{n}d(\cdot, y)$ is sequentially lower semi-continuous. By applying Lemma 2.1, $L_{n,y}(P)$ is sequentially closed.

For $m > n$, we obtain

$$F(x_m, y) + \frac{1}{n}d(x_m, y) = F(x_m, y) + \frac{1}{m}d(x_m, y) + (\frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{m})d(x_m, y) \subset P + P = P.$$

Thus, $\{x_m\}_{m>n} \subset L_{n,y}(P)$, and so $\bar{x} \in L_{n,y}(P)$ for all $y \in K$ and for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Hence $F(\bar{x}, y) + \frac{1}{n}d(\bar{x}, y) \subset P$.

By letting $n \rightarrow \infty$ in above inequality, we have $F(\bar{x}, y) \subset P$ for all $y \in K$. \square

Let (X, d) be a cone metric space. We say that $x_0 \in X$ satisfies property **(B.C)** if every sequence $\{x_n\} \subset X$ satisfying $F(x_0, x_n) \subset -P$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $F(x_n, x) + \frac{1}{n}d(x_n, x) \not\subset -P$ for all $x \in X$ and for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, has a convergent subsequence.

Theorem 5.2. *Let (X, d) be a complete cone metric space such that P is complete and regular. Suppose that a set valued mapping $F : X \times X \rightarrow K(E)$ satisfies (F1), (F2), (F3) and (F4), and $F(\cdot, y)$ is sequentially upper semi-continuous for each $y \in X$. If some $x_0 \in X$ satisfies property **(B.C)**, then equilibrium problem (5.4) has a solution.*

Proof. Let $\epsilon = \frac{1}{n}$ in Corollary 4.2. Then for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and for each $x_0 \in X$, there exists $x_n \in X$ such that $F(x_0, x_n) + \frac{1}{n}d(x_0, x_n) \subset -P$ and $F(x_n, x) + \frac{1}{n}d(x_n, x) \not\subset -P$ for all $x \in X$.

Since $-\frac{1}{n}d(x_0, x_n) \in -P$, $F(x_0, x_n) \subset -P$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Hence x_0 is satisfying condition **(B.C)**, and so there exists a subsequence $\{x_{n(k)}\}$ of $\{x_n\}$ such that $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} x_{n(k)} = \bar{x}$ for some $\bar{x} \in X$.

For fixed $y \in K$ and for fixed $n(k) \in \mathbb{N}$, let

$$U_{n(k),y}(E - \text{int}(-P)) = \{x \in K : F(x, y) + \frac{1}{n(k)}d(x, y) \cap (E - \text{int}(-P)) \neq \emptyset\}.$$

By Lemma 2.4 and Lemma 2.5, $F(\cdot, y) + \frac{1}{n(k)}d(\cdot, y)$ is sequentially upper semi-continuous. By applying Lemma 2.2, $U_{n(k),y}(E - \text{int}(-P))$ is sequentially closed.

For $m(k) > n(k)$, since $F(x_{m(k)}, y) + \frac{1}{m(k)}d(x_{m(k)}, y) \not\subset -P$ and $-P - (\frac{1}{n(k)} - \frac{1}{m(k)})d(x_{m(k)}, y) = -P$, we obtain

$$F(x_{m(k)}, y) + \frac{1}{n(k)}d(x_{m(k)}, y)$$

$$= F(x_{m(k)}, y) + \frac{1}{m(k)}d(x_{m(k)}, y) + \left(\frac{1}{n(k)} - \frac{1}{m(k)}\right)d(x_{m(k)}, y) \\ \not\subset -P.$$

Hence we have $F(x_{m(k)}, y) + \frac{1}{n(k)}d(x_{m(k)}, y) \not\subset \text{int}(-P)$, and hence,

$$F(x_{m(k)}, y) + \frac{1}{n(k)}d(x_{m(k)}, y) \cap (E - \text{int}(-P)) \neq \emptyset.$$

Thus, $\{x_{m(k)}\}_{m(k) > n(k)} \subset U_{n(k), y}(E - \text{int}(-P))$. So $\bar{x} \in U_{n, y}(E - \text{int}(-P))$ for all $y \in K$. Hence $F(\bar{x}, y) + \frac{1}{n(k)}d(\bar{x}, y) \cap (E - \text{int}(-P)) \neq \emptyset$.

By letting $k \rightarrow \infty$ in above inequality, we have $F(\bar{x}, y) \cap (E - \text{int}(-P)) \neq \emptyset$ for all $y \in K$. \square

Theorem 5.3. *Let (X, d) be a complete cone metric space such that P is complete and regular. Suppose that a set valued mapping $F : X \times X \rightarrow 2^E$ satisfies (F1), (F2), (F3) and (F4). For every $x_0 \in X$, let $S_0 = \{x \in X : F(x_0, x) + d(x_0, x) \subset -P\}$. Then the following are equivalent.*

(a) Existence of solution for equilibrium problem: Assume that, for every $x_* \in S_0$, there exists $y \in X$ such that $y \neq x_*$ and $F(x_*, y) + d(x_*, y) \subset -P$. Then there exists $\bar{x} \in S_0$ such that $F(\bar{x}, x) \subset P$ for all $x \in X$.

(b) Oettli and Théra type theorem: Let $D \subset X$ such that, for every $x_* \in S_0 \setminus D$, there exists $x \in X$ such that $x \neq x_*$ and $F(x_*, x) + d(x_*, x) \subset -P$. Then there exists $\bar{x} \in S_0 \cap D$.

Proof. (a) \Rightarrow (b): Suppose that (a) and the hypothesis of (b) are satisfied. Then there exists $\bar{x} \in S_0$ such that $F(\bar{x}, x) \subset P$ for all $x \in X$.

Suppose that $S_0 \cap D = \emptyset$. Then $\bar{x} \in S_0 \setminus D$. By the hypothesis of (b), there exists $y \in X$ such that $y \neq \bar{x}$ and $F(\bar{x}, y) + d(\bar{x}, y) \subset -P$. Thus $F(\bar{x}, y) \subset -P$. Hence we have $F(\bar{x}, y) = \{0\}$. Hence $d(\bar{x}, y) \in -P$, and hence $\bar{x} = y$, which is a contradiction.

(b) \Rightarrow (a): Suppose that (b) and the hypothesis of (a) are satisfied. Let $D = \{x \in X : F(x, y) \subset P \text{ for all } y \in X\}$. By the hypothesis of (a), for all $x_* \in S_0 \setminus D$, there exists $x \in X$ such that $x \neq x_*$ and $F(x_*, x) + d(x_*, x) \subset -P$. By (b), there exists $\bar{x} \in S_0 \cap D$. Hence $\bar{x} \in D$ and $F(\bar{x}, y) \subset P$ for all $y \in X$. \square

From Remark 3.2, Theorem 4.3 and Theorem 5.3 we have the following result.

Corollary 5.4. *Let (X, ρ) be a complete metric space. Suppose that a set valued mapping $F : X \times X \rightarrow 2^E$ satisfies (F1), (F2), (F3) and (F4). Then the following are equivalent.*

(a) Ekeland type variational principle: For every $x_0 \in X$, there exists $\bar{x} \in X$ such that $\bar{x} \in M_0 = \{x \in X : F(x_0, x) + \rho(x_0, x)e \subset -K\}$ and $F(\bar{x}, x) + \rho(\bar{x}, x)e \not\subset -K$ for all $x \neq \bar{x}$.

(b) Caristi-Kirk type fixed point theorem: *Let $T : X \rightarrow 2^X$ be a set-valued mapping such that, for every $x_* \in M_0$, there exists $x \in Tx_*$ satisfying $F(x_*, x) + \rho(x_*, x)e \subset -K$. Then there exists $\bar{x} \in X$ such that $\bar{x} \in T\bar{x}$.*

(c) Oettli and Théra type theorem: *Let $D \subset X$ such that, for every $x_* \in M_0 \setminus D$, there exists $x \in X$ such that $x \neq x_*$ and $F(x_*, x) + \rho(x_*, x)e \subset -K$. Then there exists $\bar{x} \in M_0 \cap D$.*

(d) Existence of solution for equilibrium problem: *Assume that, for every $x_* \in M_0$, there exists $y \in X$ such that $y \neq x_*$ and $F(x_*, y) + \rho(x_*, y)e \subset -K$. Then there exists $\bar{x} \in M_0$ such that $F(\bar{x}, x) \subset K$ for all $x \in X$.*

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