

*Research Article*

# Generalized Levitin-Polyak Well-Posedness of Vector Equilibrium Problems

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We study generalized Levitin-Polyak well-posedness of vector equilibrium problems with functional constraints as well as an abstract set constraint. We will introduce several types of generalized Levitin-Polyak well-posedness of vector equilibrium problems and give various criteria and characterizations for these types of generalized Levitin-Polyak well-posedness.

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## 1. Introduction

It is well known that the well-posedness is very important for both optimization theory and numerical methods of optimization problems, which guarantees that, for approximating solution sequences, there is a subsequence which converges to a solution. The study of well-posedness originates from Tykhonov [1] in dealing with unconstrained optimization problems. Levitin and Polyak [2] extended the notion to constrained (scalar) optimization, allowing minimizing sequences  $\{x_n\}$  to be outside of the feasible set  $X_0$  and requiring  $d(x_n, X_0)$  (the distance from  $x_n$  to  $X_0$ ) to tend to zero. The Levitin and Polyak well-posedness is generalized in [3, 4] for problems with explicit constraint  $g(x) \in K$ , where  $g$  is a continuous map between two metric spaces and  $K$  is a closed set. For minimizing sequences  $\{x_n\}$ , instead of  $d(x_n, X_0)$ , here the distance  $d(g(x_n), K)$  is required to tend to zero. This generalization is appropriate for penalty-type methods (e.g., penalty function methods, augmented Lagrangian methods) with iteration processes terminating when  $d(g(x_n), K)$  is small enough (but  $d(x_n, X_0)$  may be large). Recently, the study of generalized Levitin-Polyak well-posedness was extended to nonconvex vector optimization problems with abstract and functional constraints (see [5]), variational inequality problems with abstract and functional constraints (see [6]), generalized variational inequality problems with abstract and functional constraints [7], generalized vector variational inequality problems with abstract

and functional constraints [8], and equilibrium problems with abstract and functional constraints [9]. Most recently, S. J. Li and M. H. Li [10] introduced and researched two types of Levitin-Polyak well-posedness of vector equilibrium problems with variable domination structures. Huang et al. [11] introduced and researched the Levitin-Polyak well-posedness of vector quasiequilibrium problems. Li et al. [12] introduced and researched the Levitin-Polyak well-posedness for two types of generalized vector quasiequilibrium problems. However, there is no study on the generalized Levitin-Polyak well-posedness for vector equilibrium problems and vector quasiequilibrium problems with explicit constraint  $g(x) \in K$ .

Motivated and inspired by the above works, in this paper, we introduce two types of generalized Levitin-Polyak well-posedness of vector equilibrium problems with functional constraints as well as an abstract set constraint and investigate criteria and characterizations for these two types of generalized Levitin-Polyak well-posedness. The results in this paper generalize and extend some known results in literature.

## 2. Preliminaries

Let  $(X, d_X)$ ,  $(Z, d_Z)$ , and  $Y$  be locally convex Hausdorff topological vector spaces, where  $d_X(d_Z)$  is the metric which compatible with the topology of  $X(Z)$ . Throughout this paper, we suppose that  $K \subset Z$  and  $X_1 \subset X$  are nonempty and closed sets,  $C : X \rightarrow 2^Y$  is a set-valued mapping such that for any  $x \in X$ ,  $C(x)$  is a pointed, closed, and convex cone in  $Z$  with nonempty interior  $\text{int}C(x)$ ,  $e : X \rightarrow Y$  is a continuous vector-valued mapping and satisfies that for any  $x \in X$ ,  $e(x) \in \text{int}C(x)$ ,  $f : X \times X_1 \rightarrow Y$  and  $g : X_1 \rightarrow Z$  are two vector-valued mappings, and  $X_0 = \{x \in X_1 : g(x) \in K\}$ . We consider the following vector equilibrium problem with variable domination structures, functional constraints, as well as an abstract set constraint: finding a point  $x^* \in X_0$ , such that

$$f(x^*, y) \notin -\text{int}C(x^*), \quad \forall y \in X_0. \quad (\text{VEP})$$

We always assume that  $X_0 \neq \emptyset$  and  $g$  is continuous on  $X_1$  and the solution set of (VEP) is denoted by  $\Omega$ .

Let  $(P, d)$  be a metric space,  $P_1 \subseteq P$ , and  $x \in P$ . We denote by  $d(x, P_1) = \inf\{d(x, p) : p \in P_1\}$  the distance function from the point  $x \in P$  to the set  $P_1$ .

*Definition 2.1.* (i) A sequence  $\{x_n\} \subset X_1$  is called a type I Levitin-Polyak (in short LP) approximating solution sequence for (VEP) if there exists  $\{\epsilon_n\} \subset \mathbf{R}_+^1$  with  $\epsilon_n \rightarrow 0$  such that

$$d(x_n, X_0) \leq \epsilon_n, \quad (2.1)$$

$$f(x_n, y) + \epsilon_n e(x_n) \notin -\text{int}C(x_n), \quad \forall y \in X_0. \quad (2.2)$$

(ii)  $\{x_n\} \subset X_1$  is called type II approximating solution sequence for (VEP) if there exists  $\{\epsilon_n\} \subset \mathbf{R}_+^1$  with  $\epsilon_n \rightarrow 0$  and  $\{y_n\} \subset X_0$  satisfying (2.1), (2.2), and

$$f(x_n, y_n) - \epsilon_n e(x_n) \in -C(x_n). \quad (2.3)$$

(iii)  $\{x_n\} \subset X_1$  is called a generalized type I approximating solution sequence for (VEP) if there exists  $\{\epsilon_n\} \subset \mathbf{R}_+^1$  with  $\epsilon_n \rightarrow 0$  satisfying

$$d(g(x_n), K) \leq \epsilon_n \quad (2.4)$$

and (2.2).

(iv)  $\{x_n\} \subset X_1$  is called a generalized type II approximating solution sequence for (VEP) if there exists  $\{\epsilon_n\} \subset \mathbf{R}_+^1$  with  $\epsilon_n \rightarrow 0$  and  $\{y_n\} \subset X_0$  satisfying (2.2), (2.3), and (2.4).

*Definition 2.2.* The vector equilibrium problem (VEP) is said to be type I (resp., type II, generalized type I, generalized type II) LP well-posed if  $\Omega \neq \emptyset$  and for any type I (resp., type II, generalized type I, generalized type II) LP approximating solution sequence  $\{x_n\}$  of (VEP), there exists a subsequence  $\{x_{n_j}\}$  of  $\{x_n\}$  and  $\bar{x} \in \Omega$  such that  $x_{n_j} \rightarrow \bar{x}$ .

*Remark 2.3.* (i) If  $Y = \mathbf{R}$  and  $C(x) = \mathbf{R}_+^1 = \{r \in \mathbf{R} : r \geq 0\}$  for all  $x \in X$ , then the type I (resp., type II, generalized type I, generalized type II) LP well-posedness of (VEP) defined in Definition 2.2 reduces to the type I (resp., type II, generalized type I, generalized type II) LP well-posedness of the scalar equilibrium problem with abstract and functional constraints introduced by Long et al. [9]. Moreover, if  $X^*$  is the topological dual space of  $X$ ,  $F : X_1 \rightarrow X^*$  is a mapping,  $\langle F(x), z \rangle$  denotes the value of the functional  $F(x)$  at  $z$ , and  $f(x, y) = \langle F(x), y - x \rangle$  for all  $x, y \in X_1$ , then the type I (resp., type II, generalized type I, generalized type II) LP well-posedness of (VEP) defined in Definition 2.2 reduces to the type I (resp., type II, generalized type I, generalized type II) LP well-posedness for the variational inequality with abstract and functional constraints introduced by Huang et al. [6]. If  $K = Z$ , then  $X_1 = X_0$  and the type I (resp., type II) LP well-posedness of (VEP) defined in Definition 2.2 reduces to the type I (resp., type II) LP well-posedness of the vector equilibrium problem introduced by S. J. Li and M. H. Li [10].

(ii) It is clear that any (generalized) type II LP approximating solution sequence of (VEP) is a (generalized) type I LP approximating solution sequence of (VEP). Thus the (generalized) type I LP well-posedness of (VEP) implies the (generalized) type II LP well-posedness of (VEP).

(iii) Each type of LP well-posedness of (VEP) implies that the solution set  $\Omega$  is nonempty and compact.

(iv) Let  $g$  be a uniformly continuous functions on the set

$$S(\delta_0) = \{x \in X_1 : d(g(x), K) \leq \delta_0\} \quad (2.5)$$

for some  $\delta_0 > 0$ . Then generalized type I (resp., type II) LP well-posedness implies type I (resp., type II) LP well-posedness.

### 3. Criteria and Characterizations for Generalized LP Well-Posedness of (VEP)

In this section, we present necessary and/or sufficient conditions for the various types of (generalized) LP well-posedness of (VEP) defined in Section 2.

### 3.1. Criteria and Characterizations without Using Gap Functions

In this subsection, we give some criteria and characterizations for the (generalized) LP well-posedness of (VEP) without using any gap functions of (VEP).

Now we introduce the Kuratowski measure of noncompactness for a nonempty subset  $A$  of  $X$  (see [13]) defined by

$$\alpha(A) = \inf \left\{ \epsilon > 0 : A \subset \bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i, \text{ for every } A_i, \text{ diam} A_i < \epsilon \right\}, \quad (3.1)$$

where  $\text{diam} A_i$  is the diameter of  $A_i$  defined by

$$\text{diam} A_i = \sup \{ d(x_1, x_2) : x_1, x_2 \in A_i \}. \quad (3.2)$$

Given two nonempty subsets  $A$  and  $B$  of  $X$ , the excess of set  $A$  to set  $B$  is defined by

$$e(A, B) = \sup \{ d(a, B) : a \in A \}, \quad (3.3)$$

and the Hausdorff distance between  $A$  and  $B$  is defined by

$$H(A, B) = \max \{ e(A, B), e(B, A) \}. \quad (3.4)$$

For any  $\epsilon > 0$ , four types of approximating solution sets for (VEP) are defined, respectively, by

$$T_1(\epsilon) := \{ x \in X_1 : d(g(x), K) \leq \epsilon \text{ and } f(x, y) + \epsilon e(x) \notin -\text{int} C(x), \text{ for all } y \in X_0 \},$$

$$T_2(\epsilon) := \{ x \in X_1 : d(x, X_0) \leq \epsilon \text{ and } f(x, y) + \epsilon e(x) \notin -\text{int} C(x), \text{ for all } y \in X_0 \},$$

$$T_3(\epsilon) := \{ x \in X_1 : d(g(x), K) \leq \epsilon \text{ and } f(x, y) + \epsilon e(x) \notin -\text{int} C(x), \text{ for all } y \in X_0 \text{ and } f(x, y) - \epsilon e(x) \in -C(x), \text{ for some } y \in X_0 \},$$

$$T_4(\epsilon) := \{ x \in X_1 : d(x, X_0) \leq \epsilon \text{ and } f(x, y) + \epsilon e(x) \notin -\text{int} C(x), \text{ for all } y \in X_0 \text{ and } f(x, y) - \epsilon e(x) \in -C(x), \text{ for some } y \in X_0 \}.$$

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $X$  be complete.*

(i) (VEP) is generalized type I LP well-posed if and only if the solution set  $\Omega$  is nonempty and compact and

$$e(T_1(\epsilon), \Omega) \longrightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } \epsilon \longrightarrow 0. \quad (3.5)$$

and (ii) (VEP) is type I LP well-posed if and only if the solution set  $\Omega$  is nonempty and compact and

$$e(T_2(\epsilon), \Omega) \longrightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } \epsilon \longrightarrow 0. \quad (3.6)$$

(iii) (VEP) is generalized type II LP well-posed if and only if the solution set  $\Omega$  is nonempty and compact and

$$e(T_3(\epsilon), \Omega) \longrightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } \epsilon \longrightarrow 0. \quad (3.7)$$

(iv) (VEP) is type II LP well-posed if and only if the solution set  $\Omega$  is nonempty and compact and

$$e(T_4(\epsilon), \Omega) \longrightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } \epsilon \longrightarrow 0. \quad (3.8)$$

*Proof.* The proofs of (ii), (iii), and (iv) are similar with that of (i) and they are omitted here. Let (VEP) be generalized type I LP well-posed. Then  $\Omega$  is nonempty and compact. Now we show that (3.5) holds. Suppose to the contrary that there exist  $l > 0$ ,  $\epsilon_n > 0$  with  $\epsilon_n \rightarrow 0$  and  $z_n \in T_1(\epsilon_n)$  such that

$$d(z_n, \Omega) \geq l. \quad (3.9)$$

Since  $\{z_n\} \subset T_1(\epsilon_n)$  we know that  $\{z_n\}$  is generalized type I LP approximating solution for (VEP). By the generalized type I LP well-posedness of (VEP), there exists a subsequence  $\{z_{n_j}\}$  of  $\{z_n\}$  converging to some element of  $\Omega$ . This contradicts (3.9). Hence (3.5) holds.

Conversely, suppose that  $\Omega$  is nonempty and compact and (3.5) holds. Let  $\{x_n\}$  be a generalized type I LP approximating solution for (VEP). Then there exists a sequence  $\{\epsilon_n\}$  with  $\{\epsilon_n\} \subseteq \mathbf{R}_+^1$  and  $\epsilon_n \rightarrow 0$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} d(g(x_n), K) &\leq \epsilon_n, \\ f(x_n, y) + \epsilon_n e(x_n) &\notin -\text{int } C(x_n), \quad \forall y \in X_0. \end{aligned} \quad (3.10)$$

Thus,  $\{x_n\} \subset T_1(\epsilon)$ . It follows from (3.5) that there exists a sequence  $\{z_n\} \subseteq \Omega$  such that

$$d(x_n, z_n) = d(x_n, \Omega) \leq e(T_1(\epsilon), \Omega) \longrightarrow 0. \quad (3.11)$$

Since  $\Omega$  is compact, there exists a subsequence  $\{z_{n_k}\}$  of  $\{z_n\}$  converging to  $x_0 \in \Omega$ . And so the corresponding subsequence  $\{x_{n_k}\}$  of  $\{x_n\}$  converging to  $x_0$ . Therefore (VEP) is generalized type I LP well-posed. This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $X$  be complete. Assume that*

- (i) *for any  $y \in X_1$ , the vector-valued function  $x \mapsto f(x, y)$  is continuous;*
- (ii) *the mapping  $W : X \rightarrow 2^Y$  defined by  $W(x) = Y \setminus -\text{int } C(x)$  is closed.*

*Then (VEP) is generalized type I LP well-posed if and only if*

$$T_1(\epsilon) \neq \emptyset, \quad \forall \epsilon > 0, \quad \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \alpha(T_1(\epsilon)) = 0. \quad (3.12)$$

*Proof.* First we show that for every  $\epsilon > 0$ ,  $T_1(\epsilon)$  is closed. In fact, let  $\{x_n\} \subset T_1(\epsilon)$  and  $x_n \rightarrow \bar{x}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} d(g(x_n), K) &\leq \epsilon, \\ f(x_n, y) + \epsilon e(x_n) &\notin -\text{int } C(x_n), \quad \forall y \in X_0. \end{aligned} \quad (3.13)$$

From (3.13), we get

$$\begin{aligned} d(g(\bar{x}), K) &\leq \epsilon, \\ f(x_n, y) + \epsilon e(x_n) &\in W(x_n), \quad \forall y \in X_0. \end{aligned} \quad (3.14)$$

By assumptions (i), (ii), we have  $f(\bar{x}, y) + \epsilon e(\bar{x}) \notin -\text{int } C(\bar{x})$ , for all  $y \in X_0$ . Hence  $\bar{x} \in T_1(\epsilon)$ .  
Second, we show that

$$\Omega = \bigcap_{\epsilon > 0} T_1(\epsilon). \quad (3.15)$$

It is obvious that

$$\Omega \subset \bigcap_{\epsilon > 0} T_1(\epsilon). \quad (3.16)$$

Now suppose that  $\epsilon_n > 0$  with  $\epsilon_n \rightarrow 0$  and  $x^* \in \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} T_1(\epsilon_n)$ . Then

$$d(g(x^*), K) \leq \epsilon_n, \quad \forall n \in \mathbf{N}, \quad (3.17)$$

$$f(x^*, y) + \epsilon_n e(x^*) \notin -\text{int } C(x^*), \quad \forall y \in X_0. \quad (3.18)$$

Since  $K$  is closed,  $g$  is continuous, and (3.17) holds, we have  $x^* \in X_0$ . By (3.18) and closedness of  $W(x^*)$ , we get  $f(x^*, y) \in W(x^*)$ , for all  $y \in X_0$ , that is,  $x^* \in \Omega$ . Hence (3.15) holds.

Now we assume that (3.12) holds. Clearly,  $T_1(\cdot)$  is increasing with  $\epsilon > 0$ . By the Kuratowski theorem (see [14]), we have

$$H(T_1(\epsilon), \Omega) \rightarrow 0, \quad \text{as } \epsilon \rightarrow 0. \quad (3.19)$$

Let  $\{x_n\}$  be any generalized type I LP approximating solution sequence for (VEP). Then there exists  $\epsilon_n > 0$  with  $\epsilon_n \rightarrow 0$  such that (3.13) holds. Thus,  $x_n \in T_1(\epsilon_n)$ . It follows from (3.19) that  $d(x_n, \Omega) \rightarrow 0$ . So there exist  $u_n \in \Omega$ , such that

$$d(x_n, u_n) \rightarrow 0. \quad (3.20)$$

Since  $\Omega$  is compact, there exists a subsequence  $\{u_{n_j}\}$  of  $\{u_n\}$  and a solution  $x^* \in \Omega$  satisfying

$$u_{n_j} \rightarrow x^*. \quad (3.21)$$

From (3.20) and (3.21), we get  $d(x_{n_j}, x^*) \rightarrow 0$ .

Conversely, let (VEP) be generalized type I LP well-posed. Observe that for every  $\epsilon > 0$ ,

$$H(T_1(\epsilon), \Omega) = \max\{e(T_1(\epsilon), \Omega), e(\Omega, T_1(\epsilon))\} = e(T_1(\epsilon), \Omega). \quad (3.22)$$

Hence,

$$\alpha(T_1(\epsilon)) \leq 2H(T_1(\epsilon), \Omega) + \alpha(\Omega) = 2e(T_1(\epsilon), \Omega), \quad (3.23)$$

where  $\alpha(\Omega) = 0$  since  $\Omega$  is compact. From Theorem 3.1(i), we know that  $e(T_1(\epsilon), \Omega) \rightarrow 0$  as  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ . It follows from (3.23) that (3.12) holds. This completes the proof.  $\square$

Similar to Theorem 3.2, we can prove the following result.

**Theorem 3.3.** *Let  $X$  be complete. Assume that*

- (i) *for any  $y \in X_1$ , the vector-valued function  $x \mapsto f(x, y)$  is continuous;*
- (ii) *the mapping  $W : X \rightarrow 2^Y$  defined by  $W(x) = Y \setminus -\text{int } C(x)$  is closed;*
- (iii) *the set-valued mapping  $C : X_1 \rightarrow 2^Y$  is closed;*
- (iv) *for any  $x^* \in \Omega$ ,  $f(x^*, y) \in -\partial C$ , for some  $y \in X_0$ . Then (VEP) is generalized type II LP well-posed if and only if*

$$T_3(\epsilon) \neq \emptyset, \quad \forall \epsilon > 0, \quad \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \alpha(T_3(\epsilon)) = 0. \quad (3.24)$$

*Definition 3.4.* (VEP) is said to be generalized type I (resp., generalized type II) well-set if  $\Omega \neq \emptyset$  and for any generalized type I (resp., generalized type II) LP approximating solution sequence  $\{x_n\}$  for (VEP), we have

$$d(x_n, \Omega) \rightarrow 0, \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty. \quad (3.25)$$

From the definitions of the generalized LP well-posedness for (VEP) and those of the generalized well-set for (VEP), we can easily obtain the following proposition.

**Proposition 3.5.** *The relations between generalized LP well-posedness and generalized well set are*

- (i) *(VEP) is generalized type I LP well-posed if and only if (VEP) is generalized type I well-set and  $\Omega$  is compact.*
- (ii) *(VEP) is generalized type II LP well-posed if and only if (VEP) is generalized type II well-set and  $\Omega$  is compact.*

By combining the proof of Theorem 3.3 in [10] and that of Theorem 3.1, we can prove that the following results show that the relations between the generalized LP well-posedness for (VEP) and the solution set  $\Omega$  of (VEP).

**Theorem 3.6.** *Let  $X$  be finite dimensional. Assume that*

- (i) *for any  $y \in X_1$ , the vector-valued function  $x \mapsto f(x, y)$  is continuous;*
- (ii) *the mapping  $W : X \rightarrow 2^Y$  defined by  $W(x) = Y \setminus -\text{int } C(x)$  is closed;*
- (iii) *there exists  $\epsilon_0 > 0$  such that  $T_1(\epsilon_0)$  (resp.,  $T_3(\epsilon_0)$ ) is bounded.*

If  $\Omega$  is nonempty, then (VEP) is generalized type I (resp., generalized type II) LP well-posed.

**Corollary 3.7.** *Suppose  $\Omega \neq \emptyset$ . And assume that*

- (i) *for any  $y \in X_1$  the vector-valued function  $x \mapsto f(x, y)$  is continuous;*
- (ii) *the mapping  $W : X \rightarrow 2^Y$  defined by  $W(x) = Y \setminus -\text{int } C(x)$  is closed;*
- (iii) *there exists  $\epsilon_0 > 0$  such that  $T_1(\epsilon_0)$  (resp.,  $T_3(\epsilon_0)$ ) is compact.*

If  $\Omega$  is nonempty, then (VEP) is generalized type I (resp., generalized type II) LP well-posed.

### 3.2. Criteria and Characterizations Using Gap Functions

In this subsection, we give some criteria and characterizations for the (generalized) LP well-posedness of (VEP) using the gap functions of (VEP) introduced by S. J. Li and M. H. Li [10].

Chen et al. [15] introduced a nonlinear scalarization function  $\xi_e : X \times Z \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  defined by

$$\xi_e(x, y) = \inf\{\lambda \in \mathbf{R} : y \in \lambda e(x) - C(x)\}. \quad (3.26)$$

*Definition 3.8* ([10]). A mapping  $g : X \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  is said to be a gap function on  $X_0$  for (VEP) if

- (i)  $g(x) \geq 0$ , for all  $x \in X_0$ ;
- (ii)  $g(x^*) = 0$  and  $x^* \in X_0$  if and only if  $x^* \in \Omega$ .

S. J. Li and M. H. Li [10] introduced a mapping  $\phi : X \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  defined as follows:

$$\phi(x) = \sup_{y \in X_0} \{-\xi_e(x, f(x, y))\}. \quad (3.27)$$

**Lemma 3.9** (see [10]). *If for any  $x \in X_0$ ,  $f(x, x) \in -\partial C(x)$ , where  $\partial C(x)$  is the topological boundary of  $C(x)$ , then the mapping  $\phi$  defined by (3.27) is a gap function on  $X_0$  for (VEP).*

Now we consider the following general constrained optimization problems introduced and researched by Huang and Yang [4]:

$$\begin{aligned} (P) \quad & \min \phi(x) \\ \text{s.t. } & x \in X_1, \quad g(x) \in K. \end{aligned} \quad (3.28)$$

We use  $\text{argmin } \phi$  and  $v^*$  denote the optimal set and value of (P), respectively.

The following example illustrates that it is useful to consider sequences that satisfy  $d(g(x_n), K) \rightarrow 0$  instead of  $d(x_n, X_0) \rightarrow +\infty$  for (VEP).



*Example 3.10.* Let  $\alpha > 0$ ,  $X = R^1$ ,  $Z = R^1$ ,  $C(x) = R_+^2$ , and  $e(x) = (1, 1)$  for each  $x \in X$ ,  $K = R_-^1$ ,

$$X_1 = R_+^1, g(x) = \begin{cases} x, & \text{if } x \in [0, 1], \\ \frac{1}{x^2}, & \text{if } x \geq 1, \end{cases}$$

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} (x^\alpha - y^\alpha, -x^\alpha - y - 1), & \text{if } x \in [0, 1], \forall y \in X_1, \\ \left(\frac{1}{x^\alpha} - \frac{1}{y^\alpha}, -\frac{1}{x^\alpha} - y - 1\right), & \text{if } x > 1, \forall y \in X_1, \\ (-1, -1), & \text{if } x < 0, \forall y \in X_1. \end{cases} \quad (3.29)$$

Then, it is easy to verify that  $X_0 = \{x \in X_1 : g(x) \in K\}$  and (VEP) is equivalent to the optimization problem (P) with

$$\phi(x) = \begin{cases} -x^\alpha, & \text{if } x \in [0, 1], \\ -\frac{1}{x^\alpha}, & \text{if } x \geq 1. \end{cases} \quad (3.30)$$

Huang and Yang [4] showed that  $x_n = (2n)^{1/\alpha}$  is the unique solution to the following penalty problem  $(PP_\alpha(n))$ :

$$(PP_\alpha(n)) \min_{x \in X_1} \phi(x) + n[\max\{0, g(x)\}]^\alpha, \quad n \in \mathbf{N}, \quad (3.31)$$

and  $d(g(x_n), K) \rightarrow 0$  and  $d(x_n, X_0) \rightarrow +\infty$ .

Now, we recall the definitions about generalized well-posedness for (P) introduced by Huang and Yang [4] (or [7]) as follows

*Definition 3.11.* A sequence  $\{x_n\} \subset X_1$  is called a generalized type I (resp., generalized type II) LP approximating solution sequence for (P) if the following (3.32) and (3.33) (resp., (3.32) and (3.34)) hold:

$$d(g(x_n), K) \rightarrow 0, \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty, \quad (3.32)$$

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \phi(x_n) \leq v^*, \quad (3.33)$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \phi(x_n) = v^*. \quad (3.34)$$

*Definition 3.12.* (P) is said to be generalized type I (resp., generalized type II) LP well-posed if

- (i)  $\operatorname{argmin} \phi \neq \emptyset$ ;
- (ii) for every generalized type I (resp., generalized type II) LP approximating solution sequence  $\{x_n\}$  for (P), there exists a subsequence  $\{x_{n_j}\}$  of  $\{x_n\}$  converging to some element of  $\operatorname{argmin} \phi$ .

The following result shows the equivalent relations between the generalized LP well-posedness of (VEP) and the generalized LP well-posedness of (P).

**Theorem 3.13.** *Suppose that  $f(x, x) \in -\partial C(x)$ , for all  $x \in X_0$ . Then*

- (i) (VEP) is generalized type I well-posed if and only if (P) is generalized type I well-posed;
- (ii) (VEP) is generalized type II well-posed if and only if (P) is generalized type II well-posed.

*Proof.* (i) By Lemma 3.9, we know that  $\phi$  is a gap function on  $X_0$ ,  $\bar{x} \in \Omega$  if and only if  $\bar{x} \in \operatorname{argmin} \phi$  with  $v^* = \phi(\bar{x}) = 0$ .

Assume that  $\{x_n\}$  is any generalized type I LP approximating solution sequence for (VEP). Then there exists  $\epsilon_n > 0$  with  $\epsilon_n \rightarrow 0$  such that

$$d(g(x_n), K) \leq \epsilon_n, \quad (3.35)$$

$$f(x_n, y) + \epsilon_n e(x_n) \notin -\operatorname{int} C(x_n), \quad \forall y \in X_0. \quad (3.36)$$

It follows from (3.35) and (3.36) that

$$d(g(x_n), K) \rightarrow 0, \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty, \quad (3.37)$$

$$\xi_e(x_n, f(x_n, y)) \geq -\epsilon_n, \quad \forall y \in X_0. \quad (3.38)$$

Hence, we obtain

$$\phi(x_n) = \sup_{y \in X_0} \{-\xi_e(x_n, f(x_n, y))\} \leq \epsilon_n. \quad (3.39)$$

Thus,

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \phi(x_n) \leq 0 \quad \text{since } \epsilon_n \rightarrow 0. \quad (3.40)$$

The above formula and (3.37) imply that  $\{x_n\}$  is a generalized type I LP approximating solution sequence for (P).

Conversely, assume that  $\{x_n\}$  is any generalized type I LP approximating solution sequence for (P). Then  $d(g(x_n), K) \rightarrow 0$  and  $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \phi(x_n) \leq 0$ .

Thus, there exists  $\epsilon_n > 0$  with  $\epsilon_n \rightarrow 0$  satisfying (3.35) and

$$\phi(x_n) = \sup_{y \in X_0} \{-\xi_e(x_n, f(x_n, y))\} \leq \epsilon_n. \quad (3.41)$$

From (3.41), we have

$$\xi_e(x_n, f(x_n, y)) \geq -\epsilon_n, \quad \forall y \in X_0. \quad (3.42)$$

Equivalently, (3.36) holds. Hence,  $\{x_n\}$  is a generalized type I LP approximating solution sequence for (VEP).

(ii) The proof is similar to (i) and is omitted. This completes the proof.  $\square$

Now we consider a real-valued function  $c = c(t, s)$  defined for  $t, s \geq 0$  sufficiently small, such that

$$\begin{aligned} c(t, s) &\geq 0, \quad \forall t, s, \quad c(0, 0) = 0, \\ s_n \rightarrow 0, \quad t_n \geq 0, \quad c(t_n, s_n) &\rightarrow 0, \quad \text{imply } t_n \rightarrow 0. \end{aligned} \quad (3.43)$$

**Lemma 3.14** (see [4, Theorem 2.2]). *Suppose that  $f(x, x) \in -\partial C(x)$  for any  $x \in X_0$ .*

(i) *If (P) is generalized type II LP well-posed, then there exists a function  $c$  satisfying (3.43) such that*

$$|\phi(x) - v^*| \geq c(d(x, \operatorname{argmin} \phi), d(g(x), K)), \quad \forall x \in X_1. \quad (3.44)$$

(ii) *Assume that  $\operatorname{argmin} \phi$  is nonempty and compact, and (3.44) holds for some  $c$  satisfying (3.43). Then (P) is generalized type II LP well-posed.*

*The following theorem follows immediately from Lemma 3.14 and Theorem 3.13 with  $\phi(x)$  defined by (3.27) and  $v^* = 0$ .*

**Theorem 3.15.** *Suppose that  $f(x, x) \in -\partial C(x)$  for any  $x \in X_0$ .*

(i) *If (VEP) is generalized type II LP well-posed, then there exists a function  $c$  satisfying (3.43) such that*

$$|\phi(x)| \geq c(d(x, \Omega), d(g(x), K)), \quad \forall x \in X_1. \quad (3.45)$$

(ii) *Assume that  $\Omega$  is nonempty and compact, and (3.45) holds for some  $c$  satisfying (3.43). Then (VEP) is generalized type II LP well-posed.*

**Definition 3.16** (see [4, 7]). (i) Let  $Z$  be a topological space and let  $Z_1 \subset Z$  be a nonempty subset. Suppose that  $G : Z \rightarrow R \cup \{+\infty\}$  is an extend real-valued function. Then the function  $G$  is said to be level-compact on  $Z_1$  if for any  $s \in R^1$  the subset  $\{z \in Z_1 : G(z) \leq s\}$  is compact.

(ii) Let  $Z$  be a finite dimensional normed space and  $Z_1 \subset Z$  be nonempty. A function  $h : Z \rightarrow R^1 \cup \{+\infty\}$  is said to be level-bounded on  $Z_1$  if  $Z_1$  is bounded or

$$\lim_{z \in Z_1, \|z\| \rightarrow +\infty} h(z) = +\infty. \quad (3.46)$$

**Proposition 3.17.** *Assume that for any  $y \in X_1$ , the vector-valued function  $x \mapsto f(x, y)$  is continuous and the mapping  $W : X \rightarrow 2^Y$  defined by  $W(x) = Y \setminus -\operatorname{int} C(x)$  is closed, and  $\Omega$  is nonempty. Then, (VEP) is generalized type I LP well-posed if one of the following conditions holds:*

(i) *there exists  $\delta_1 > 0$  such that  $S(\delta_1)$  is compact, where*

$$S(\delta_1) = \{x \in X_1 : d(g(x), K) \leq \delta_1\}; \quad (3.47)$$

- (ii) the function  $\phi$  defined by (3.27) is level-compact on  $X_1$ ;  
 (iii)  $X$  is a finite-dimensional normed space and

$$\lim_{x \in X_1, \|x\| \rightarrow +\infty} \max\{\phi(x), d(g(x), K)\} = +\infty; \quad (3.48)$$

- (iv) there exists  $\delta_1 > 0$  such that  $\phi$  is level-compact on  $S(\delta_1)$  defined by (3.47).

*Proof.* Let  $\{x_n\} \subseteq X_1$  be a generalized type I LP approximating solution sequence for (VEP). Then there exists a sequence  $\{\epsilon_n\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}_+^1$  with  $\epsilon_n > 0$  such that (3.35) and (3.36) hold. From (3.20), without loss of generality, we assume that  $\{x_n\} \subset S(\delta_1)$ . Since  $S(\delta_1)$  is compact, there exists a subsequence  $\{x_{n_j}\}$  of  $\{x_n\}$  and  $x_0 \in S(\delta_1)$  such that  $x_{n_j} \rightarrow x_0$ . This fact combined with (3.35) yields that  $x_0 \in X_0$ . Furthermore, it follows from (3.36) and the continuity of  $f$  with respect to the first argument and the closedness of  $W$  that we have  $f(x_0, y) \notin -\text{int} C(x_0)$ , for all  $y \in X_0$ . So  $x_0 \in \Omega$ . This implies that (VEP) is generalized type I LP well-posed.

It is easy to see that condition (ii) implies condition (iv). Now we show that condition (iii) implies condition (iv). It follows from [10, Proposition 4.2] that the function  $\phi$  defined by (3.27) is lower semicontinuous, and thus for any  $t \in \mathbb{R}^1$ , the set  $\{x \in S(\delta_1) : \phi(x) \leq t\}$  is closed. Since  $X$  is a finite dimensional space, we need only to show that for any  $t \in \mathbb{R}^1$ , the set  $\{x \in S(\delta_1) : \phi(x) \leq t\}$  is bounded. Suppose to the contrary that there exists  $t \in \mathbb{R}^1$  and  $\{x'_n\} \subset S(\delta_1)$  and  $\phi(x'_n) \leq t$  such that  $\|x'_n\| \rightarrow +\infty$ . It follows from  $\{x'_n\} \subset S(\delta_1)$  that  $d(g(x'_n), K) \leq \delta_1$  and so

$$\max\{\phi(x'_n), d(g(x'_n), K)\} \leq \max\{t, \delta_1\}. \quad (3.49)$$

Which contradicts with (3.48).

Therefore, we only need to prove that if condition (iv) holds, then (VEP) is generalized type I LP well-posed. Suppose that condition (iv) holds and  $\{x_n\}$  is a generalized type I LP approximating solution sequence for (VEP). Then there exists  $\{\epsilon_n\} \subset \mathbb{R}_+^1$  with  $\epsilon_n > 0$  such that (3.35) and (3.36) hold. By (3.35), we can assume without loss of generality that

$$\{x_n\} \subset S(\delta_1). \quad (3.50)$$

It follows from (3.36) that  $\xi_e(x_n, f(x_n, y)) \geq -\epsilon_n$ , for all  $y \in X_0$ . Thus,

$$\phi(x_n) \leq \epsilon_n, \quad \forall n. \quad (3.51)$$

From (3.51), without loss of generality, we assume that  $\{x_n\} \subseteq \{x \in S(\delta_1) : \phi(x) \leq b\}$  for some  $b > 0$ . Since  $\phi$  is level-compact on  $S(\delta_1)$ , the subset  $\{x \in S(\delta_1) : \phi(x) \leq b\}$  is compact. It follows that there exists a subsequence  $\{x_{n_j}\}$  of  $\{x_n\}$  and  $\bar{x} \in S(\delta_1)$  such that  $x_{n_j} \rightarrow \bar{x}$ . This together with (3.35) yields  $\bar{x} \in X_0$ . Furthermore by the continuity of  $f$  with respect to the first argument, the closedness of  $W$ , and (3.36) we have  $x_0 \in \Omega$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

Similarly, we can prove Proposition 3.18.

**Proposition 3.18.** *Assume that for any  $y \in X_1$ , the vector-valued function  $x \mapsto f(x, y)$  is continuous and the mapping  $W : X \rightarrow 2^Y$  defined by  $W(x) = Y \setminus -\text{int } C(x)$  is closed, and  $\Omega$  is nonempty. Then, (VEP) is type I LP well-posed if one of the following conditions holds:*

(i) *there exists  $\delta_1 > 0$  such that  $S_1(\delta_1)$  is compact where*

$$S_1(\delta_1) = \{x \in X_1 : d(x, X_0) \leq \delta_1\}; \quad (3.52)$$

(ii) *the function  $\phi$  defined by (3.27) is level-compact on  $X_1$ ;*

(iii)  *$X$  is a finite-dimensional normed space and*

$$\lim_{x \in X_1, \|x\| \rightarrow +\infty} \max\{\phi(x), d(x, X_0)\} = +\infty; \quad (3.53)$$

(iv) *there exists  $\delta_1 > 0$  such that  $\phi$  is level-compact on  $S_1(\delta_1)$  defined by (3.52).*

**Proposition 3.19.** *Assume that  $X$  is a finite dimensional space, for any  $y \in X_1$ , the vector-valued function  $x \mapsto f(x, y)$  is continuous and the mapping  $W : X \rightarrow 2^Y$  defined by  $W(x) = Y \setminus -\text{int } C(x)$  is closed, and  $\Omega$  is nonempty. Suppose that there exists  $\delta_1 > 0$  such that the function  $\phi(x)$  defined by (3.27) is level-bounded on the set  $S(\delta_1)$  defined by (3.47). Then (VEP) is generalized type I LP well-posed.*

*Proof.* Let  $\{x_n\}$  be a generalized type I LP approximating solution sequence for (VEP). Then there exists  $\{\epsilon_n\}$  with  $\epsilon_n > 0$  such that (3.35) and (3.36) hold.

From (3.35), without loss of generality, we assume that  $\{x_n\} \subset S(\delta_1)$ . Let us show by contradiction that  $\{x_n\}$  is bounded. Otherwise we assume without loss of generality that  $\|x_n\| \rightarrow +\infty$ . By the level-boundedness of  $\phi$ , we have

$$\lim_{\|x\| \rightarrow +\infty} \phi(x) = +\infty. \quad (3.54)$$

It follows from (3.36) and the proof in Proposition 3.17 that (3.51) holds. which contradicts with (3.54).

Now we assume without loss of generality that  $x_n \rightarrow \bar{x}$ . Furthermore by the continuity of  $f$  with respect to the first argument, the closedness of  $W$ , and (3.36) we have  $x_0 \in \Omega$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

Similarly, we can prove the following Proposition 3.20.

**Proposition 3.20.** *Assume that  $X$  is a finite dimensional space, for any  $y \in X_1$ , the vector-valued function  $x \mapsto f(x, y)$  is continuous and the mapping  $W : X \rightarrow 2^Y$  defined by  $W(x) = Y \setminus -\text{int } C(x)$  is closed, and  $\Omega$  is nonempty. Suppose that there exists  $\delta_1 > 0$  such that the function  $\phi(x)$  defined by (3.27) is level-bounded on the set  $S_1(\delta_1)$  defined by (3.52). Then (VEP) is type I LP well-posed.*

*Remark 3.21.* Theorem 3.1 generalizes and extends [9, Theorems 3.1–3.6] from scalar-valued case to vector-valued case. Propositions 3.17–3.20, respectively, generalize and extend [9, Propositions 4.3, 4.2, 4.5, and 4.4] from scalar-valued case to vector-valued case. Theorems 3.2, 3.3, 3.6, 3.13, and 3.15, Proposition 3.5 and Corollary 3.7, respectively, extend [10, Theorems 3.1–3.3, 4.1, and 4.2, Proposition 3.1 and Corollary 3.1] from the well-posedness

of (VEP) to the generalized well-posedness of (VEP). It is easy to see that the results in this paper generalize and extend the main results in [6] in several aspects.

*Remark 3.22.* The generalized Levitin-Polyak well-posedness for vectorquasiequilibrium problems and generalized vector-quasiequilibrium problems with explicit constraint  $g(x) \in K$  is still an open question and we will do the research in the near future.

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