

## STRICT BENSON PROPER- $\varepsilon$ -EFFICIENCY IN VECTOR OPTIMIZATION WITH SET-VALUED MAPS

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**Abstract:** In this paper the notion of Strict Benson proper- $\varepsilon$ -efficient solution for a vector optimization problem with set-valued maps is introduced. The scalarization theorems and  $\varepsilon$ -Lagrangian multiplier theorems are established under the assumption of ic-cone-convexlikeness of set-valued maps.

**Keywords:** Ic-cone-convexlikeness, Set-valued Maps, strict Benson proper- $\varepsilon$ -efficiency, scalarization,  $\varepsilon$ -Lagrangian Multipliers.

**MSC:** 90C26, 90C29, 90C30, 90C46.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

In the study of vector optimization, the theory of efficiency plays an important role. Kuhn and Tucker [8] and later Geoffrion [6] observed that certain efficient points exhibit some abnormal properties and to eliminate such anomalous solutions in large set of efficient solutions, they introduced the concept of proper efficiency. Borwein [2] and Benson [1] proposed proper efficiency for vector

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maximization problem over cones. Chen and Rong [4] and Li [9] gave characterization of Benson proper efficiency for vector optimization problems. Cheng and Fu [5] introduced the concept of strong efficiency in locally convex spaces. Various authors have studied approximate efficient solutions for vector optimization problems. Some of them are Liu [11], Chen and Huang [3] and Rong and Wu [12]. Li, Xu and Zhu [10] introduced  $\varepsilon$ -strictly efficient solutions for set-valued optimization problem.

The purpose of this paper is to introduce the notion of Strict Benson proper- $\varepsilon$ -efficient solution for vector optimization problems with set-valued maps as a generalization of Benson proper efficient solution [1]. We study the relationship of Strict Benson proper- $\varepsilon$ -efficient solution with  $\varepsilon$ -strict efficient solution given by Li et al. [10]. An alternative theorem is presented in section 3 for ic-cone-convexlikeness set-valued maps, which were introduced by Sach [13], and scalarization theorems and  $\varepsilon$ -Lagrangian Multiplier theorems are established in sections 4 and 5.

## 2. DEFINITIONS AND NOTATIONS

Let  $X$  be locally convex topological vector space and  $Y, Z$  be real locally convex Hausdorff topological vector spaces; let  $D \subset Y, E \subset Z$  be pointed closed convex cones. For a set  $A \subset Y$ , we write  $\text{cone } A = \{\lambda a : \lambda \geq 0, a \in A\}$ .

The closure and interior of the set  $A$  are denoted by  $\text{cl } A$  and  $\text{int } A$ . A convex subset  $B$  of cone  $A$  is a base of  $A$  if  $0 \notin \text{cl } B$  and  $A = \text{cone } B$ . Let  $Y^*$  be the dual space of  $Y$ , the positive dual cone  $D^*$  of  $D \subset Y$  is defined as  $D^* = \{f \in Y^* : f(y) \geq 0 \text{ for all } y \in D\}$ . The set  $D^\#$  of strictly positive functions is defined as  $D^\# = \{f \in Y^* : f(y) > 0 \text{ for all } y \in D \setminus \{0\}\}$ .

For a set-valued map  $F : X \rightarrow 2^Y$  the domain of  $F$ , denoted by  $\text{dom } F$ , is defined as  $\text{dom } F = \{x \in X : F(x) \neq \emptyset\}$ , and the image of  $F$ , denoted as  $\text{im } F$ , is defined as  $\text{im } F = F(X) = \bigcup_{x \in X} F(x)$ .

Benson [1] introduced the following definition of proper efficiency.

**Definition 2.1.** If  $S$  is non empty set in  $Y$  and  $D$  is a convex cone in  $Y$ , then  $y \in S$  is called Benson proper efficient point of  $S$  over  $D$  written as  $y \in \text{BPMin}[S, D]$  if  $\text{clcone}(S + D - y) \cap (-D) = \{0\}$  (1)

Now we introduce the notion of Strict Benson proper- $\varepsilon$ -efficient point of a set  $S$  over a cone  $D$ .

**Definition 2.2.** Let  $S$  be a non empty set in  $Y, D$  be a convex cone in  $Y$  and  $\varepsilon \in D$ , then  $\bar{y} \in S$  is called a Strict Benson proper- $\varepsilon$ -efficient point of  $S$  over  $D$  written as  $\bar{y} \in \text{BP-}\varepsilon\text{-Min}[S, D]$  if  $\text{clcone}(S + \varepsilon - \bar{y}) \cap (-D \setminus \{0\}) = \emptyset$ . (2)

It is easy to verify that  $\text{BPMin}[S, D] \subset \text{BP-}\varepsilon\text{-Min}[S, D]$ .

The following example illustrates the proper containment, that is, there exists  $\bar{y} \notin \text{BP-}\varepsilon\text{-Min}[S, D]$  but  $\bar{y} \in \text{BPMin}[S, D]$ .

**Example 2.3.** Let  $Y = \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $D = \{(x, y) : x \leq y, y \geq 0\}$ ,  $\varepsilon = \left(\frac{3}{2}, \frac{3}{2}\right)$ ,  
 $S = \left\{\left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{4}\right), \left(\frac{5}{4}, 1\right), \left(\frac{5}{2}, \frac{5}{2}\right), (1, 1)\right\}$ ,  $\bar{y} = (1, 1)$ , then  $S + \varepsilon - \bar{y} = \left\{\left(1, \frac{5}{4}\right), \left(\frac{7}{4}, \frac{3}{2}\right), (3, 3), \left(\frac{3}{2}, \frac{3}{2}\right)\right\}$   
 and  $\text{clcone}(S + \varepsilon - \bar{y}) \cap (-D \setminus \{0\}) = \phi$ .  
 Thus,  $\bar{y} \in \text{BP-}\varepsilon\text{-Min}[S, D]$ .  
 Also,  $S - \bar{y} = \left\{\left(\frac{-1}{2}, \frac{-1}{4}\right), \left(\frac{1}{4}, 0\right), \left(\frac{3}{2}, \frac{3}{2}\right), (0, 0)\right\}$  which shows that  $\left(\frac{-1}{2}, \frac{-1}{4}\right) \in \text{clcone}(S + D - \bar{y}) \cap (-D \setminus \{0\})$  and  $\text{clcone}(S + D - \bar{y}) \cap (-D \setminus \{0\}) \neq \phi$ .  
 Thus,  $\bar{y} \notin \text{BP-}\varepsilon\text{-Min}[S, D]$ .

Li, Xu and Zhu [10] introduced  $\varepsilon$ -strictly minimal efficient point which is defined as follows.

**Definition 2.4.** Let  $S$  be a non empty subset of  $Y$ ,  $D$  be a convex cone in  $Y$ ,  $B$  be a base of  $D$ ,  $\varepsilon \in D$ , then  $\bar{y} \in S$  is called an  $\varepsilon$ -strictly minimal efficient point of  $S$  with respect to  $B$ , written as  $\bar{y} \in \varepsilon\text{-Fmin}[S, B]$  if there is a neighborhood  $U$  of 0 such that  $\text{clcone}(S + \varepsilon - \bar{y}) \cap (U - B) = \phi$  (3)

It is shown in the following theorem that every  $\varepsilon$ -strict minimal efficient point of  $S$  with respect to  $B$  is Strict Benson proper- $\varepsilon$ -efficient point of  $S$  over  $D$ .

**Theorem 2.5.**  $\varepsilon\text{-Fmin}[S, B] \subset \text{BP-}\varepsilon\text{-Min}[S, D]$ .

**Proof.** Let  $\bar{y} \in \varepsilon\text{-Fmin}[S, B]$ , which implies that there is neighborhood  $U$  of 0 such that  $\text{clcone}(S + \varepsilon - \bar{y}) \cap (U - B) = \phi$ .  
 Now, to show  $\bar{y} \in \text{BP-}\varepsilon\text{-Min}[S, D]$ , we have to prove  $\text{clcone}(S + \varepsilon - \bar{y}) \cap (-D \setminus \{0\}) = \phi$ .  
 On the contrary, suppose that there exists  $y^* \in \text{clcone}(S + \varepsilon - \bar{y}) \cap (-D \setminus \{0\})$ . It follows that  $y^* \in \text{clcone}(S + \varepsilon - \bar{y})$  and  $y^* \in (-D \setminus \{0\})$ , which gives that  $y^* = -d$ , for  $d \in D \setminus \{0\}$ . Since  $B$  is a base of  $D$ , therefore  $D = \text{cone } B$ , which gives that  $d = \lambda b$ , for  $\lambda \geq 0$ ,  $b \in B$ . It follows that  $y^* = -d = -\lambda b$ .  
 Clearly,  $\frac{y^*}{\lambda} = -b \in (U - B)$  and also,  $\frac{y^*}{\lambda} \in \text{clcone}(S + \varepsilon - \bar{y})$ . Thus,  $\frac{y^*}{\lambda} \in \text{clcone}(S + \varepsilon - \bar{y}) \cap (U - B)$ , which gives a contradiction.

**Remark 2.6.** The following example illustrates that the set of Strict Benson proper- $\varepsilon$ -efficient points is not contained in the set of  $\varepsilon$ -strictly minimal efficient points.

**Example 2.7.** Let  $Y = \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $S = \left\{\left(\frac{-1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right), \left(-2, \frac{3}{4}\right), \left(\frac{-1}{10}, \frac{3}{2}\right)\right\}$ ,  $D = \{(x, y) : x \leq 0, y \leq 0\}$ ,  
 $B = \{(x, y) : x + y + 1 = 0, x \leq 0, y \leq 0\}$  be a base of cone  $D$ ,  $\varepsilon = \left(\frac{-1}{2}, 0\right)$ ,  $\bar{y} = \left(\frac{-1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right)$

and  $U = \{(x, y) : x^2 + y^2 < \frac{1}{4}\}$ , then  $S + \varepsilon - \bar{y} = \left\{\left(\frac{-1}{2}, 0\right), \left(-2, \frac{1}{4}\right), \left(\frac{-1}{10}, 1\right)\right\}$  and  $\text{clcone}(S + \varepsilon - \bar{y}) \cap (-D \setminus \{0\}) = \phi$ , which gives that  $\bar{y} \in \text{BP-}\varepsilon\text{-Min}[S, D]$ . Also,  $\left(\frac{-1}{10}, 1\right) \in \text{clcone}(S + \varepsilon - \bar{y}) \cap (U - B)$ , which shows that  $\bar{y} \notin \varepsilon\text{-Fmin}[S, B]$ . Thus  $\text{BP-}\varepsilon\text{-Min}[S, D] \not\subset \varepsilon\text{-Fmin}[S, B]$ .

### 3. THEOREM OF ALTERNATIVE

A theorem of the alternative will be established in this section for ic- $D$ -convexlike set-valued maps, which were introduced by Sach [13] and are defined as follows.

**Definition 3.1.** A set-valued map  $F : X \rightarrow 2^Y$  is called ic- $D$ -convexlike on  $X$  if  $\text{intcone}(F(X) + D)$  is a convex cone and  $F(X) + D \subset \text{clintcone}(F(X) + D)$ .

**Theorem 3.2.** Let  $\text{int } D \neq \phi$  and let the set-valued map  $F : X \rightarrow 2^Y$  be ic- $D$ -convexlike on  $X$  then, one and only one of the following statements is true:

- (I) there exists  $x \in X$  such that  $F(x) \cap (-\text{int } D) \neq \phi$
- (II) there exists  $\mu \in (D^* \setminus \{0\})$  such that  $\mu(y) \geq 0$ , for all  $y \in F(X)$ .

**Proof.** Assume that both (I) and (II) hold. Then there exist  $x \in X$ ,  $y \in F(x)$  such that  $y \in -\text{int } D$ , which gives that  $\mu(y) < 0$  for every  $\mu \in D^* \setminus \{0\}$ . This contradicts (II). Thus (I) and (II) cannot hold simultaneously.

Now, we show that if (I) is not true, then (II) holds.

Suppose that  $F(X) \cap (-\text{int } D) = \phi$ .

(4)

Now we claim that  $\text{intcone}(F(X) + D) \cap (-\text{int } D) = \phi$ . Indeed, let  $y^* \in \text{intcone}(F(X) + D) \cap (-\text{int } D)$ , then there exist  $x \in X$ ,  $d \in D$ ,  $\lambda > 0$  such that  $y^* = \lambda(F(x) + d) \in -\text{int } D$ , which gives that  $\frac{y^*}{\lambda} - d \in F(x)$ . Since  $y^* \in -\text{int } D$ ,  $\lambda > 0$  therefore,  $\frac{y^*}{\lambda} \in -\text{int } D$ , which implies that  $\frac{y^*}{\lambda} - d \in -\text{int } D$ . Thus,  $\frac{y^*}{\lambda} - d \in F(X) \cap (-\text{int } D)$ , which contradicts (4).

By the assumption  $F$  is ic- $D$ -convexlike on  $X$ , we have that  $\text{intcone}(F(X) + D)$  is a convex cone. Thus, by separation theorem for convex sets in topological vector spaces as given by Jahn [7], there exists  $\mu \in Y^* \setminus \{0\}$  such that

$$\mu(y + td) \geq 0 \text{ for all } y \in F(X), d \in D \text{ and } t > 0. \quad (5)$$

We assert that  $\mu(d) \geq 0$  for all  $d \in D$  otherwise, suppose that there exists  $\bar{d} \in D$  with  $\mu(\bar{d}) < 0$ . Then we will have  $\mu(y + t\bar{d}) = \mu(y) + t\mu(\bar{d}) < 0$ , for given  $y$  and sufficiently large  $t$ , which contradicts (5). Thus,  $\mu \in D^* \setminus \{0\}$ . Letting  $t \rightarrow 0$  in (5), we obtain  $\mu(y) \geq 0$  for all  $y \in F(X)$ . This implies that (II) is true.

### 4. SCALARIZATION

We consider the following set-valued optimization problem:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(VP)} \quad & \text{D-min}_{x \in X_0} F(x) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & G(x) \cap (-E) \neq \phi \end{aligned}$$

where  $X_0 \subset X$  is a nonempty set,  $E \subset Z$  is a pointed closed convex cone,  $-E = \{-x : x \in E\}$ ,  $F : X_0 \rightarrow 2^Y$ ,  $G : X_0 \rightarrow 2^Z$  are set-valued maps. The set of feasible solutions of (VP) is denoted by  $V = \{x \in X_0 : G(x) \cap (-E) \neq \emptyset\}$ .

We now introduce Strict Benson proper- $\varepsilon$ -efficient solution of (VP).

**Definition 4.1.** A point  $\bar{x} \in V$  is said to be Strict Benson proper- $\varepsilon$ -efficient solution of (VP) if  $F(\bar{x}) \cap \text{BP-}\varepsilon\text{-Min}[F(V), D] \neq \emptyset$ .

A pair  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  is said to be Strict Benson proper- $\varepsilon$ -minimizer of (VP) if  $\bar{y} \in F(\bar{x}) \cap \text{BP-}\varepsilon\text{-Min}[F(V), D]$ .

Corresponding to the set-valued optimization problem (VP), we associate the following scalar optimization problem:

$$\begin{aligned} (\text{SP})_\mu \quad & \min_{x \in V} (\mu F)(x) \\ & \text{where } \mu \in D^* \setminus \{0\} \end{aligned}$$

**Definition 4.2.** Let  $\bar{x} \in V$ ,  $\bar{y} \in F(\bar{x})$ , then  $\bar{x}$  is said to be an  $\varepsilon$ -minimal solution of  $(\text{SP})_\mu$ , if  $\mu(\bar{y}) \leq \mu(y) + \mu(\varepsilon)$  for all  $y \in F(V)$  and  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  is said to be an  $\varepsilon$ -rminimizer pair of  $(\text{SP})_\mu$ .

The fundamental results characterizing Strict Benson proper- $\varepsilon$ -minimizer of (VP) in terms of  $\varepsilon$ -minimizer of  $(\text{SP})_\mu$  are now discussed.

**Theorem 4.3.** Let  $\mu \in D^\#$  be fixed. If  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  is an  $\varepsilon$ -minimizer pair of  $(\text{SP})_\mu$ , then  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  is a Strict Benson proper- $\varepsilon$ -minimizer pair of (VP).

**Proof.** Since  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  is an  $\varepsilon$ -minimizer of  $(\text{SP})_\mu$ , therefore

$$\mu(\bar{y}) \leq \mu(y) + \mu(\varepsilon), \text{ for all } y \in F(V). \quad (6)$$

Now, we shall show that  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  is a Strict Benson proper- $\varepsilon$ -minimizer pair of (VP). It is enough to show that,  $\text{clcone}(F(V) + \varepsilon - \bar{y}) \cap (-D \setminus \{0\}) = \emptyset$ . Indeed, if there exists  $y^* \in \text{clcone}(F(V) + \varepsilon - \bar{y}) \cap (-D \setminus \{0\})$ , then, there exist  $\{y_n\} \subset F(V)$  and  $\{\lambda_n\} \subset \mathbb{R}_+$  such that  $y^* = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \lambda_n(y_n + \varepsilon - \bar{y})$  and  $y^* \in -D \setminus \{0\}$

$$\text{By using (6), we have } \mu(y^*) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \lambda_n \mu(y_n + \varepsilon - \bar{y}) \geq 0 \quad (7)$$

Since  $\mu \in D^\#$  and  $y^* \in -D \setminus \{0\}$ , therefore  $\mu(y^*) < 0$ , which contradicts (7).

Thus, we conclude  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  is a Strict Benson proper- $\varepsilon$ -minimizer pair of (VP).

Below we give an example to illustrate the above theorem.

**Example 4.4.** Let  $X = \mathbb{R}$ ,  $Y = \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $Z = \mathbb{R}^2$  and  $D = \{(x, y) : x \geq y, y \geq 0\}$ ,  $E = \{(x, y) : y \geq x, x \leq 0\}$  and  $\varepsilon = (\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})$ .

Define  $F : X \rightarrow 2^Y$ , as  $F(x) = \begin{cases} [0, 1] \times [0, 1] & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ [0, x^2] \times [0, x^2] & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$  and define  $G : X \rightarrow 2^Z$ , as

$$G(x) = \begin{cases} ([0, x], \frac{x}{2}) & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ [-2, -1] \times [-2, -1] & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$$

The feasible set of the problem (VP) is  $V = \{x : x \geq 0\}$ .

Let  $\mu = (\frac{3}{2}, \frac{3}{2}) \in D^\#$ ,  $\bar{x} = 1$  and  $\bar{y} = (\frac{1}{2}, 0) \in F(\bar{x})$ .

Then,  $F(V) = [0, 1] \times [0, 1]$ ,  $\mu(\bar{y}) = \frac{3}{4}$ ,  $\mu(\varepsilon) = \frac{3}{2}$  and  $\mu(\bar{y}) \leq \mu(y) + \mu(\varepsilon)$ , for all  $y \in F(V)$ , which implies that,  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  is an  $\varepsilon$ -minimizer pair of (SP) $\mu$ .

Since  $\varepsilon - \bar{y} = (0, \frac{1}{2})$ , therefore  $\text{clcone}(F(V) + \varepsilon - \bar{y}) \cap (-D \setminus \{0\}) = \phi$ .

Thus,  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  is a Strict Benson proper- $\varepsilon$ -minimizer pair of (VP).

**Theorem 4.5.** Let  $\bar{F} : X \rightarrow 2^Y$  be defined as  $\bar{F}(x) = F(x) + \varepsilon - \bar{y}$  for all  $x \in X$  and  $\bar{F}$  be ic- $D$ -convexlike on  $V$ . If  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  is a Strict Benson proper- $\varepsilon$ -minimizer pair of (VP), then there exists  $\mu \in D^* \setminus \{0\}$  such that  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  is an  $\varepsilon$ -minimizer pair of (SP) $\mu$ .

**Proof.** Let  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  be a strict Benson proper- $\varepsilon$ -minimizer pair of (VP). Then  $\bar{x} \in V$  and  $\bar{y} \in F(\bar{x}) \cap \text{BP-}\varepsilon\text{-Min}[F(V), D]$ , which gives that  $\text{clcone}(F(V) + \varepsilon - \bar{y}) \cap (-D \setminus \{0\}) = \phi$ . It follows that  $(F(V) + \varepsilon - \bar{y}) \cap (-\text{int } D) = \phi$ .

By assumption  $\bar{F}$  is ic- $D$ -convexlike on  $V$ , then by Theorem 3.1 there exists  $\mu \in D^* \setminus \{0\}$  such that  $\mu(z) \geq 0$  for all  $z \in \bar{F}(V)$ , which gives that  $\mu(y + \varepsilon - \bar{y}) \geq 0$ , for all  $y \in F(V)$ .

Thus,  $\mu(y) + \mu(\varepsilon) \geq \mu(\bar{y})$ , for all  $y \in F(V)$ . Hence,  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  is an  $\varepsilon$ -minimizer pair of (SP) $\mu$ .

## 5. $\varepsilon$ -LAGRANGIAN MULTIPLIER THEOREMS

In this section we present two  $\varepsilon$ -Lagrangian Multiplier theorems which show that a Strict Benson proper- $\varepsilon$ -minimizer of the constrained set-valued vector optimization problem (VP) is exactly a Strict Benson proper- $\varepsilon$ -minimizer for an appropriate unconstrained set-valued vector optimization problem under certain conditions.

Let  $L(Z, Y)$  be the space of continuous linear operators from  $Z$  to  $Y$ , and let  $L_+(Z, Y) = \{T \in L(Z, Y) : T(E) \subset D\}$ .

Denote by  $(F, G)$  the set-valued map from  $X$  to  $Y \times Z$  defined by  $(F, G)(x) = F(x) \times G(x)$ , for all  $x \in X$ .

If  $\mu \in Y^*$ ,  $T \in L(Z, Y)$ , we define  $\mu F : X \rightarrow 2^{\mathbb{R}}$  and  $F + TG : X \rightarrow 2^Y$  as  $(\mu F)(x) = \mu(F(x))$  and  $(F + TG)(x) = F(x) + T(G(x))$ , respectively.

The set-valued Lagrange map of (VP),  $L : X_0 \times L_+(Z, Y) \rightarrow 2^Y$  is defined as  $L(x, T) = F(x) + T(G(x))$ , where  $(x, T) \in X_0 \times L_+(Z, Y)$ .

We consider the following unconstrained set-valued minimization problem associated with (VP) for a fixed  $T \in L_+(Z, Y)$

$$(VP)_T \quad D\text{-min}_{x \in X_0} L(x, T)$$

Sach [13] gave the following result for ic-cone convexlike set-valued maps.

**Lemma 5.1.** Let  $\text{intcone}(\text{im}F + D) \neq \phi$ , then  $F$  is an ic- $D$ -convexlike if and only if  $k \text{intcone}(\text{im}F + D) + (1 - k) \text{cone}(\text{im}F + D) \subset \text{intcone}(\text{im}F + D)$ , for all  $k \in (0, 1)$ .

We establish the following result by using the above lemma.

**Lemma 5.2.** If  $(F, G)$  is ic- $D$ -convexlike on  $X$  and  $\text{intcone}(\text{im}(F, G) + D \times E) \neq \phi$  then for  $\mu \in D^* \setminus \{0\}$ ,  $(\mu F, G)$  is ic- $(\mathbb{R}_+ \times E)$ -convexlike on  $X$ .

**Proof.** Let  $(F, G)$  be ic- $D$ -convexlike on  $X$ . Then by using Lemma 5.1

$k(\text{intcone}(\text{im}F + D), \text{intcone}(\text{im}G + E)) + (1 - k)(\text{cone}(\text{im}F + D), \text{cone}(\text{im}G + E)) \subset (\text{intcone}(\text{im}F + D), \text{intcone}(\text{im}G + E))$ , for all  $k \in (0, 1)$  which gives that  $k \text{intcone}(\text{im}F + D) + (1 - k) \text{cone}(\text{im}F + D) \subset \text{intcone}(\text{im}F + D)$ , for all  $k \in (0, 1)$  and  $k \text{intcone}(\text{im}G + E) + (1 - k) \text{cone}(\text{im}G + E) \subset \text{intcone}(\text{im}G + E)$ , for all  $k \in (0, 1)$ .

Now, it is enough to show  $k \text{intcone}(\text{im} \mu F + \mathbb{R}_+) + (1 - k) \text{cone}(\text{im} \mu F + \mathbb{R}_+) \subset \text{intcone}(\text{im} \mu F + \mathbb{R}_+)$ , for all  $k \in (0, 1)$ .

Let  $y^* \in k \text{intcone}(\text{im} \mu F + \mathbb{R}_+) + (1 - k) \text{cone}(\text{im} \mu F + \mathbb{R}_+)$ , then there exists  $\lambda_1 > 0$ ,  $\lambda_2 \geq 0$ ,  $x_1, x_2 \in X$ ,  $y_1 \in F(x_1)$ ,  $y_2 \in F(x_2)$  and  $r_1, r_2 \in \mathbb{R}_+$  such that  $y^* = k\lambda_1(\mu(y_1) + r_1) + (1 - k)\lambda_2(\mu(y_2) + r_2)$ , which gives that  $y^* = \mu(k\lambda_1 y_1 + (1 - k)\lambda_2 y_2) + k\lambda_1 r_1 + (1 - k)\lambda_2 r_2$ . Now  $k\lambda_1 y_1 + (1 - k)\lambda_2 y_2 \in k\lambda_1(F(x_1) + D) + (1 - k)\lambda_2(F(x_2) + D)$

$\subset k \text{intcone}(\text{im}F + D) + (1 - k) \text{cone}(\text{im}F + D) \subset \text{intcone}(\text{im}F + D)$ , for all  $k \in (0, 1)$ .

This gives that there exists  $\lambda_3 > 0$ ,  $x_3 \in X$ ,  $y_3 \in F(x_3)$  and  $d_3 \in D$  such that  $k\lambda_1 y_1 + (1 - k)\lambda_2 y_2 = \lambda_3(y_3 + d_3)$ .

Then,  $y^* = \mu(\lambda_3(y_3 + d_3)) + k\lambda_1 r_1 + (1 - k)\lambda_2 r_2 = \lambda_3 \mu(y_3) + \lambda_3 \mu(d_3) + k\lambda_1 r_1 + (1 - k)\lambda_2 r_2$   
 $\in \lambda_3(\mu(F(x_3)) + \mu(d_3)) + (k\lambda_1 r_1 + (1 - k)\lambda_2 r_2)/\lambda_3$   
 $\subset \text{intcone}(\text{im} \mu F + \mathbb{R}_+)$ , as  $\mu(d_3) \in \mathbb{R}_+$  and  $(k\lambda_1 r_1 + (1 - k)\lambda_2 r_2)/\lambda_3 \in \mathbb{R}_+$ .

Thus,  $(\mu F, G)$  is ic- $(\mathbb{R}_+ \times E)$ -convexlike on  $X$ .

We now give  $\varepsilon$ -Lagrangian multiplier theorems:

**Theorem 5.3.** Let  $Y$  be locally convex space,  $D$  be closed convex pointed cone with a non empty interior. Let  $\bar{F} : X \rightarrow 2^Y$  be defined as  $\bar{F}(x) = F(x) + \varepsilon - \bar{y}$  for all  $x \in X$ ,  $\bar{F}$  be ic- $D$ -convexlike on  $V$  and  $(F, G)$  be ic- $(D \times E)$ -convexlike on  $X_0$  and  $\text{intcone}((\text{im}F, G) + D \times E) \neq \phi$ . Further, let (VP) satisfy the generalized Slater constraint qualification, that is,  $\text{im}G \cap (-\text{int} E) \neq \phi$ . If  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  is a Strict Benson proper- $\varepsilon$ -minimizer of (VP) and  $0 \in T(G(\bar{x}))$ , then there exist  $T \in L_+(Z, Y)$  and  $\mu \in D^* \setminus \{0\}$  such that  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  is an  $\varepsilon$ -minimizer pair of the following scalar set-valued optimization problem  $(\overline{VP})_\mu \min_{x \in X_0} \mu(F(x) + T(G(x)))$

If  $\mu \in D^\#$  then  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  is a Strict Benson proper- $\varepsilon$ -minimizer of  $(\overline{VP})_T$ .

**Proof.** Since  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  is a Strict Benson proper- $\varepsilon$ -minimizer of (VP), therefore by Theorem 4.2 there exists  $\mu \in D^* \setminus \{0\}$  such that

$$\mu(F(x) + \varepsilon - \bar{y}) \geq 0, \text{ for all } x \in V \quad (8)$$

Let us define  $H : X_0 \rightarrow 2^{\mathbb{R} \times Z}$  as  $H(x) = \mu(F(x) + \varepsilon - \bar{y}) \times G(x) = (\mu F, G)(x) + (\mu(\varepsilon) - \mu(\bar{y}), 0)$ . Since  $(F, G)$  is  $\text{ic}-(D \times E)$ -convexlike on  $X_0$ , and  $\text{intcone}[(\text{im} F, G) + D \times E] \neq \phi$ , therefore by Lemma 5.2  $H$  is  $\text{ic}-(\mathbb{R}_+ \times E)$  convexlike on  $X_0$ .

Further, (8) implies that the system  $x \in X_0, H(x) \cap (-\text{int}(\mathbb{R}_+ \times E)) \neq \phi$  has no solution. Hence by Theorem 3.1, there exists  $(\lambda, \psi) \in \mathbb{R}_+ \times E^* \setminus \{0, 0\}$ ,  $y \in F(x)$ ,  $z \in G(x)$  such that  $\lambda\mu(y + \varepsilon - \bar{y}) + \psi(z) \geq 0$  for all  $x \in X_0$  (9)

We claim that  $\lambda \neq 0$ .

On the contrary, suppose that  $\lambda = 0$  then, we have  $\psi \in E^* \setminus \{0\}$ . By generalized Slater constraint qualification, there exists  $x_1 \in X_0$  such that

$G(x_1) \cap (-\text{int } E) \neq \phi$ . Thus, there exists  $z_1 \in G(x_1)$  such that  $z_1 \in (-\text{int } E)$ , which gives that  $\psi(z_1) < 0$  but on substituting  $\lambda = 0$  and taking  $x = x_1$  and  $z = z_1$  in (9), we have  $\psi(z_1) \geq 0$ , which is a contradiction. Hence  $\lambda > 0$ .

Since  $\mu \in D^* \setminus \{0\}$ . We can choose  $d \in D \setminus \{0\}$  such that  $\lambda\mu(d) = 1$ .

We define the operator  $T : Z \rightarrow Y$  as  $T(z) = \psi(z)d$  (10)

then  $T \in L_+(Z, Y)$  and  $0 \in \psi(G(\bar{x}))d = T(G(\bar{x}))$ .

Hence,  $\bar{y} \in F(\bar{x}) + T(G(\bar{x}))$ .

From (9) and (10), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda\mu(y + \varepsilon + T(z)) &= \lambda\mu(y) + \lambda\mu(\varepsilon) + \psi(z)\lambda\mu(d) = \lambda\mu(y) + \lambda\mu(\varepsilon) + \psi(z) \\ &\geq \lambda\mu(\bar{y}), \text{ for all } x \in X_0 \text{ which gives that} \end{aligned}$$

$$\mu(\bar{y}) \leq \mu(y + T(z)) + \mu(\varepsilon) \text{ for all } x \in X_0, y \in F(x) \text{ and } z \in G(x).$$

Hence,  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  is an  $\varepsilon$ -minimizer pair of set-valued optimization problem  $(\overline{VP})_\mu$ .

If  $\mu \in D^\#$ , then by using Theorem 4.1, we get that  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  is Strict Benson proper- $\varepsilon$ -minimizer of  $(\overline{VP})_T$ .

We now establish the converse of Theorem 5.1.

**Theorem 5.4.** Let  $\bar{x} \in V, \bar{y} \in F(\bar{x})$ . If there exists  $T \in L_+(Z, Y)$  such that  $0 \in T(G(\bar{x}))$ , and  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  is a Strict Benson proper- $\varepsilon$ -minimizer  $(\overline{VP})_T$ , then  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  is a Strict Benson proper- $\varepsilon$ -minimizer of (VP).

**Proof.** Since  $0 \in T(G(\bar{x}))$ , and  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  is a Strict Benson proper- $\varepsilon$ -minimizer of  $(\overline{VP})_T$ , therefore,  $\bar{y} \in F(\bar{x}) + T(G(\bar{x}))$  and  $\text{clcone}(F(V) + T(G(V)) + \varepsilon - \bar{y}) \cap (-D \setminus \{0\}) = \phi$ . (11)

Now we shall show that  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  is a Strict Benson proper- $\varepsilon$ -minimizer pair of (VP).

For that, it is enough to show that  $\text{cone}(F(V) + \varepsilon - \bar{y}) \cap (-D \setminus \{0\}) = \phi$ .

On the contrary, if  $y^* \in \text{cone}(F(V) + \varepsilon - \bar{y}) \cap (-D \setminus \{0\})$  then there exists  $x \in V, y \in F(x), k > 0$  such that  $y^* = k(y + \varepsilon - \bar{y})$  and  $y^* \in (-D \setminus \{0\})$ .

Since  $0 \in T(G(\bar{x}))$ , therefore,  $y^* \in \text{clcone}(F(V) + T(G(V)) + \varepsilon - \bar{y})$ , which contradicts (11).

Hence,  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$  is a Strict Benson proper- $\varepsilon$ -minimizer of (VP).



## 6. CONCLUSION

The objective of this paper is to introduce the notion of Strict Benson proper- $\varepsilon$ -efficient solution for vector optimization problem with set-valued maps to generalize the notion of Benson proper efficiency and establish an alternative theorem. We also obtain scalarization theorems and  $\varepsilon$ -Lagrangian multiplier theorems under the assumption of ic-cone-convexlikeness.

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