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STUDY OF SOLUTIONS TO DIFFERENTIAL
INCLUSIONS BY THE "PIPE METHOD"

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PREFACE

A pipe of a differential inclusion is a set-valued map associating with each time t a subset $P(t)$ of states which contains a trajectory of the differential inclusion for any initial state x_0 belonging to $P(0)$. As in the Liapunov method, knowledge of a pipe provides information on the behavior of the trajectory. In this paper, the characterization of pipes and non-smooth analysis of set-valued maps are used to describe several classes of pipes.

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INTRODUCTION

We propose a method analogous to Liapunov's second method for studying the asymptotic properties of solutions to differential equations or inclusions.

Let F be a set-valued map from a subset $K \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ to \mathbb{R}^n describing the dynamics of the system:

$$(0.1) \quad x'(t) \in F(x(t)), \quad x(0) = x_0 \text{ given in } K$$

Let V be a function from a neighborhood of K to \mathbb{R}_+ .

All methods falling under the name of Liapunov's second method deal with the fact that inequalities of the type

$$(0.2) \quad \forall x \in K, \quad \inf_{v \in F(x)} \langle v'(x), v \rangle \leq -W(x, v)$$

(where W is a non-negative function on $\text{Graph}(F)$) imply, under reasonable assumptions, that

$$(0.3) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \forall x_0 \in K, \text{ there exists a solution } x(\cdot) \text{ to (0.1) such} \\ \text{that } t \rightarrow V(x(t)) \text{ is decreasing} \end{array} \right.$$

According to the choice of the function V (and the function W), we then can deduce information upon the behavior of some solutions to (0.1); in particular, that

$$(0.4) \quad \forall t \geq 0, V(x(t)) \leq V(x(t_0)).$$

(We refer to Aubin-Cellina [1984], Chapter 6, for a presentation of the Liapunov method for non-differentiable functions V and for differential inclusions.) The "pipe method" we propose aims for the same objectives. A "pipe" P is a set-valued map

$$(0.5) \quad t \in \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow P(t) \subset K$$

which is related to the dynamics described by F by

$$(0.6) \quad \forall t \geq 0, \forall x \in P(t), F(t, x) \cap DP(t, x) \neq \emptyset$$

where

$$(0.7) \quad DP(t, x) := \{v \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \liminf_{h \rightarrow 0^+} d(v, \frac{P(t+h) - x}{h}) = 0\}$$

denotes the "contingent derivative" of P at $(t, x) \in \text{Graph}(P)$ (see Aubin-Cellina [1984], Section 4.3). Indeed, Haddad's viability theorem (see Haddad [1981], Aubin-Cellina [1984], Section 4.4) implies that under reasonable conditions, condition (0.6) implies that

$$(0.8) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \forall x_0 \in K, \text{ there exists a solution } x(\cdot) \text{ to (0.1) such} \\ \text{that } \forall t \geq 0, x(t) \in P(t) \end{array} \right.$$

According to the choice of the pipe P , we are able to infer properties of the behavior of some solutions to (0.1). The pipe method has drawbacks analogous to Liapunov's method: when the dynamics of a system are described by a map F , how can we find its pipes?

However, we shall give several examples of pipes in the following pages. We begin with pipes derived from potential functions V , of the form

$$(0.9) \quad P(t) := \{x \in K \mid V(x(t)) \leq w(t)\}$$

where $w(t)$ is a function we shall construct in terms of F and V . Such pipes yield information analogous to the ones provided by Liapunov method.

We shall also characterize pipes of the form

$$(0.10) \quad P(t) := \{x \in K \mid w_-(t) \leq V(x-c(t)) \leq w_+(t)\}$$

and more generally, of the form

$$(0.11) \quad P(t) := \{x \in K \mid \forall i=1, \dots, p, V_i(\phi(t,x)) \leq w_i(t)\}$$

We shall study pipes defined by constraints

$$(0.12) \quad P(t) := \{x \in K \mid A(t,x) \in M\}$$

where A is a continuous map from $\mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}^n$ to a vector space \mathbb{R}^p . Finally, we consider pipes of the form

$$(0.13) \quad P(t) := \phi(t, C, D)$$

where C and D are closed subsets of \mathbb{R}^n and ϕ is a differentiable map from $\mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n$. In particular, when C is reduced to a point c , we investigate pipes of the form

$$(0.14) \quad P(t) := c + \phi(t)D$$

Such pipes allow us to infer that for any $x_0 \in c + \phi(0)D$, there exists a trajectory $x(\cdot)$ of (0.1) converging to c at time T when $\phi(T) = 0$.

We shall rely on results of non-smooth analysis as they are presented in Chapter 7 of Aubin-Cellina [1984] to give sufficient conditions for set-valued maps of the form (0.11), (0.12) or (0.13) to be pipes of a given set-valued map F .

1. THE PIPE METHOD: A GENERAL DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND NOTES

Let us consider a dynamical system described by a set-valued map $(t, x) \in [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow F(t, x) \in \mathbb{R}^n$.

We consider the initial-value problem for the differential inclusion

$$(1.1) \quad x'(t) \in F(t, x(t)) ; x(0) = x_0$$

where $(0, x_0) \in \text{Dom}(F)$ is given.

We recall the definitions of the contingent cone $T_K(x)$ to a subset K at $x \in K$:

$$(1.2) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} T_K(x) := \{v \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \liminf_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{d(x+hv, K)}{h} = 0\} \\ = \bigcap_{\varepsilon, \alpha > 0} \bigcup_{h \in]0, \alpha[} (\frac{1}{h}(K-x) + \varepsilon B) \end{array} \right.$$

(see Aubin-Cellina [1984], pp.176-177). When G is a set-valued map from X to Y and when (x, y) belongs to the graph of G , the contingent derivative $DG(x, y)$ of G at (x, y) is the closed process (set-valued map whose graph is a closed cone) from X to Y defined by

$$(1.3) \quad DG(x, y)(u) := \{v \in Y \mid \liminf_{\substack{h \rightarrow 0^+ \\ u' \rightarrow u}} d(v, \frac{G(x+hu') - y}{h}) = 0\}$$

We observe that

$$(1.4) \quad \text{Graph} DG(x, y) = T_{\text{Graph}(G)}(x, y)$$

When P is a set-valued map from \mathbb{R} to X , it is enough to know the values of the contingent derivative $DP(t, x)$ of P at $(t, x) \in \text{Graph}(P)$ at 1, 0 and -1. We observe that

$$(1.5) \quad DP(t, x)(1) = \{v \in X \mid \liminf_{h \rightarrow 0^+} d(v, \frac{P(t+h) - x}{h}) = 0\}$$

and we shall often set

$$(1.6) \quad DP(t,x) := DP(t,x)(1)$$

We also observe that

$$(1.7) \quad DP(t,x)(-1) = \left\{ v \in X \mid \liminf_{h \rightarrow 0^+} d\left(v, \frac{P(t-h) - x}{h}\right) = 0 \right\}$$

and that

$$(1.8) \quad T_{P(t)}(x) \subset DP(t,x)(0)$$

(Equality holds when P is Lipschitz around x.)

Definition 1.1: We shall say that a set-valued map P from $[0,T]$ to \mathbb{R}^n is a pipe of a set-valued map $F : \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ on $[0,T]$ if

$$(1.9) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{(i) Graph } (P) \text{ is closed and contained in } \text{Dom}(F) \\ \text{(ii) } \forall t \in [0, T[, \forall x \in P(t), F(t,x) \cap DP(t,x) \neq \emptyset \\ \text{(iii) } \forall x \in P(T), F(T,x) \cap DP(T,x)(0) \neq \emptyset \end{array} \right.$$

Condition (1.9)iii) naturally disappears when we take $T := +\infty$. Hence Haddad's viability theorem (see Haddad [1981], Aubin-Cellina [1984], Theorem 4.1.1, p.180) can be reformulated in the following way:

Theorem 1.2: Let us assume that

$$(1.10) \quad F \text{ is bounded, its graph is closed and its values are convex.}$$

Let P be a pipe of F on $[0,T]$. Then, for any $x_0 \in P(0)$, there exists a trajectory of (1.1) satisfying

$$(1.11) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{(i) } \forall t \in [0, T], x(t) \in P(t) \\ \text{(ii) for almost all } t \in [0, T[, x'(t) \in DP(t, x(t)). \end{array} \right.$$

and, when $T < +\infty$,

$$(1.12) \quad \forall t \in [T, \infty[, x'(t) \in F(T, x(t)) \text{ and } x(t) \in P(T).$$

Proof: We introduce the following set-valued map G from $\text{Graph}(P)$ to $\mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}^n$ defined by

$$(1.13) \quad G(\tau, x) := \begin{cases} \{1\} \times F(\tau, x) & \text{if } \tau \in [0, T[\\ [0, 1] \times F(\tau, x) & \text{if } \tau = T \\ \{0\} \times F(T, x) & \text{if } \tau > T \end{cases}$$

When $\tau < T$, condition (1.9)ii) implies the existence of v in $F(\tau, x) \cap DP(\tau, x)$. We then deduce that $(1, v)$ belongs to the contingent cone to $\text{Graph}(P)$ at (τ, x) . When $\tau \geq T$, condition (1.9)iii) states that $(0, v)$ belongs to the contingent cone to $\text{Graph}(F)$ at (T, x) . Hence, the set-valued map G satisfies

$$\forall (\tau, x) \in \text{Graph}(P), G(\tau, x) \cap T_{\text{Graph}(p)}(\tau, x) \neq \emptyset.$$

Since G is bounded, its graph is closed and its values are convex, Haddad's theorem states that the differential inclusion

$$(\tau'(t), x'(t)) \in G(\tau(t), x(t)) ; (\tau(0), x(0)) = (0, x_0)$$

has a viable trajectory $t \rightarrow (\tau(t), x(t))$ in $\text{Graph}(P)$. Since $\tau(t) = t$ when $t \in [0, T]$, $\tau(t) = T$ when $t \geq T$, we infer that $x(\cdot)$ is a solution to (1.1) satisfying (1.11). ■

In order to check that a set-valued map P is a pipe of a given set-valued map F , we need to use some calculus on contingent cones and contingent derivatives of set-valued maps. Sooner or later, we shall need regularity assumptions of the type: $x \rightarrow T_K(x)$ is lower semicontinuous at some point x_0 . This motivates the introduction of the Kuratowski $\lim \inf$ of the contingent cones

$$(1.14) \quad \liminf_{y \rightarrow x} T_K(y) := \bigcap_{\varepsilon > 0} \bigcup_{\alpha > 0} \bigcap_{y \in B_K(x, \alpha)} (T_K(y) + \varepsilon B)$$

A theorem due to Cornet [1981], Penot [1981] (see Aubin-Ekeland [1984], Theorem 7.1.7, p.409) implies that this $\lim \inf$ of the contingent cones is the tangent cone $C_K(x)$ to K at x introduced by Clarke [1975] (see also Clarke [1983], Aubin-Ekeland [1984], Definition 7.1.3, p.506) and defined by

$$(1.15) \quad \left\{ \begin{aligned} C_K(x) &:= \{v \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \lim_{\substack{h \rightarrow 0 + \\ y \rightarrow x}} \frac{d(y+hv, K)}{h} = 0\} \\ &= \bigcap_{\varepsilon > 0} \bigcup_{\alpha, \beta > 0} \bigcap_{\substack{y \in B_K(x, \alpha) \\ 0 < h \leq \beta}} \left(\frac{1}{h}(K-y) + \varepsilon B \right) \end{aligned} \right.$$

It is a closed convex subcone of the contingent cone $T_K(x)$, which coincides with it when K is a C^1 -manifold, when K is convex or more generally, when $y \rightarrow T_K(y)$ is lower semicontinuous at x .

When G is a set-valued map from X to Y and when (x, y) belongs to the graph of G , we define the derivative $CG(x, y)$ of G at (x, y) by

$$(1.16) \quad v \in CG(x, y)(u) \Leftrightarrow (u, v) \in C_{\text{Graph}(G)}(x, y)$$

When G is Lipschitz around x , we observe that

$$(1.17) \quad CG(x, y)(u) = \left\{ v \in Y \mid \lim_{\substack{h \rightarrow 0 + \\ (x', y') \rightarrow (x, y) \\ \text{Graph}(G)}} d\left(v, \frac{G(x'+hu) - y'}{h}\right) = 0 \right\}$$

When G is a C^1 -single-valued map, $CG(x, G(x))$ coincides with the usual Jacobian $G'(x)$. When V is a function from \mathbb{R}^n to $\mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$ and when we want to take into account the order relation (for defining pipes of the form

$$P(t) := \{x \in K \mid V(x) \leq w(t)\}$$

for instance), we are led to introduce the epigraph of V defined by

$$(1.18) \quad \text{Ep}(V) := \{(x, w) \in \text{Dom } V \times \mathbb{R} \mid V(x) \leq w\}$$

We then observe the following facts:

$$T_{\text{Ep}(V)}(x, V(x)) = \text{EPD}_+ V(x)$$

is the epigraph of the epi-contingent derivative $D_+ V(x)$ defined by

$$(1.19) \quad D_+V(x)(u) = \liminf_{\substack{h \rightarrow 0+ \\ u' \rightarrow u}} \frac{V(x+hu) - Vx}{h}$$

and that

$$C_{Ep(V)}(x, V(x)) = E_p C_+V(x)$$

is the epigraph of the epi-derivative $C_+V(x)$ of V at x , which is a lower semicontinuous, positively homogeneous convex function.

We always have

$$(1.20) \quad D_+V(x) \leq C_+V(x)$$

and equality holds when V is C^1 around x , or convex. When V is Lipschitz around x , we obtain simpler formulas

$$(1.21) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{(i) } D_+V(x)(u) = \liminf_{h \rightarrow 0+} \frac{V(x+hu) - V(x)}{h} \quad (\text{a Dini derivative}) \\ \text{(ii) } C_+V(x)(u) = \limsup_{\substack{h \rightarrow 0+ \\ y \rightarrow x}} \frac{V(y+hu) - V(y)}{h} \quad (\text{Clarke's} \\ \text{directional derivative}) \end{array} \right.$$

We observe also that when V is upper semicontinuous at x and $w > V(x)$, then $T_{Ep(V)}(x, w) = C_{Ep(V)}(x, w) = \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}$.

We shall also use the notation:

$$(1.22) \quad C_-V(x)(u) := \liminf_{\substack{h \rightarrow 0+ \\ y \rightarrow x}} \frac{V(y+hu) - V(y)}{h}$$

whose hypograph is the tangent cone to the hypograph of V at $(x, V(x))$ (when V is locally Lipschitz). Finally, we define the generalized gradient $\partial V(x)$ of V at x as the (possibly empty) closed convex subset

$$(1.23) \quad \partial V(x) := \{p \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \forall v \in \mathbb{R}^n, \langle p, v \rangle \leq C_+V(x)(v)\}$$

In particular, when $V := \psi_K$ is the indicator of a subset K ($\psi_K(x) = 0$ when $x \in K$ and $\psi_K(x) = +\infty$ when $x \notin K$), then

$$(1.24) \quad \partial\psi_K(x) = (C_K(x))^- = : N_K(x)$$

where $N_K(x)$ is the normal cone to K at x . We say that a solution \bar{x} to

$$(1.25) \quad \bar{x} \in K \text{ and } 0 \in \partial V(\bar{x}) + N_K(\bar{x})$$

is a critical and stationary point of V on K . Elements $\bar{x} \in K$ minimizing V on K are critical points; the converse is true when V is convex.

2. PIPES DERIVED FROM POTENTIAL FUNCTIONS

Let $K \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be the viability domain and let us consider a "potential function" V from \mathbb{R}^n to $\mathbb{R}_+ \cup \{+\infty\}$. We shall study in this section pipes of the form

$$(2.1) \quad P(t) := \{x \in K \mid V(x) \leq w(t)\}$$

where w is a non-negative function defined on $[0, T]$. We shall begin by providing sufficient conditions on K, V, w and F implying that set-valued maps P of the form (2.1) are pipes of F . We obtain in this case the following result:

Proposition 2.1: Let us assume that K is closed and that V is locally Lipschitz around K . Let w be a C^1 -function defined on a neighborhood of V such that

$$(2.2) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \forall t \in [0, T[\text{ the elements of } P(t) \text{ are not critical} \\ \text{points of } V \text{ on } K \end{array} \right.$$

We posit the following condition

$$(2.3) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \forall t \in [0, T[, \forall x \in K \text{ such that } V(x) = w(t), \\ \exists u \in F(t, x) \cap C_K(x) \text{ such that } C_+ V(x)(u) \leq w'(t) \end{array} \right.$$

and

$$(2.4) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{If } x \in K \text{ satisfying } V(x) = w(T) \text{ is a critical} \\ \text{point of } V \text{ on } K, \text{ then } 0 \in F(T, x). \end{array} \right.$$

Then the set-valued map P defined by (2.1) is a pipe of F on $[0, T]$. \blacktriangle

Therefore, if F satisfies assumption (1.10), then for all $x_0 \in K$ satisfying $V(x) \leq w(0)$, there exists a trajectory of the differential inclusion (1.1) satisfying

$$(2.5) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{(i) } \forall t \in [0, T], x(t) \in K \text{ and } V(x(t)) \leq w(t), \\ \text{(ii) for almost all } t \geq 0, \\ x'(t) \in T_K(x(t)) \text{ and } D_+ V(x(t))(x'(t)) \leq w'(t) \end{array} \right. \quad \blacktriangle$$

We recall that when V is C^1 ,

$$(2.6) \quad D_+ V(x)(u) = C_+ V(x)(u) = \langle V'(x), u \rangle$$

and that when V is convex and continuous,

$$(2.7) \quad D_+ V(x)(u) = C_+ V(x)(u) = \inf_{h > 0} \frac{V(x+hu) - V(x)}{h} . \quad \blacksquare$$

We shall also study pipes of the form

$$P(t) := \{x \in K \mid w_-(t) \leq V(x-c(t)) \leq w_+(t)\}$$

where c is a function from $[0, T]$ to K and w_- and w_+ are non-negative functions, which define some kind of neighborhood around a function $t \rightarrow c(t)$, such as periodic trajectories of the dynamical system (1.1). They are special cases of pipes associated to p potential functions V_i by the formula

$$(2.8) \quad P(t) := \{x \in K \mid V_i(\phi(t, x)) \leq w_i(t), i=1, \dots, p\}$$

where ϕ is a smooth map from $[0, T] \times K$ to $\text{Dom } \vec{V}$. We shall then provide sufficient conditions on ϕ, \vec{w} and the functions V_i for a set-valued P of this type to be a pipe for a given set-valued map F .

Theorem 2.2: Let us assume that K is closed, that ϕ is C^1 around $[0, T] \times K$, that \vec{w} is C^1 around $[0, T]$ and that the p potential functions V_i are locally Lipschitz on a neighborhood of $\phi([0, T] \times K)$. Let us set

$$(2.9) \quad I(t, x) := \{i=1, \dots, p \mid V_i(\phi(t, x)) = w_i(t)\}$$

We assume that

$$(2.10) \quad \begin{cases} \forall t \in [0, T], \forall x \in P(t), \\ 0 \in \text{co} \left[\bigcup_{i \in I(t, x)} \phi'_x(t, x) * \partial V_i(\phi(t, x)) \right] + N_K(x) \end{cases}$$

and that

$$(2.11) \quad \begin{cases} 0 \in F(t, x) \text{ for all } x \in P(T) \text{ such that there exists} \\ i \in I(T, x) \text{ such that } 0 \in \phi'_x(T, x) * \partial V_i(\phi(T, x)) + N_K(x) \end{cases}$$

We posit the following assumption

$$(2.12) \quad \begin{cases} \text{(i) } \forall t \in [0, T[, \forall x \in P(t), \exists u \in F(t, x) \cap C_K(x) \text{ such that} \\ \quad \forall i \in I(t, x), C_+ V_i(\phi(t, x)) (\phi'_t(t, x) + \phi'_x(t, x)u) \leq w'_i(t) \\ \text{(ii) } \forall x \in P(T), \exists u \in F(T, x) \cap C_K(x) \text{ such that} \\ \quad \forall i \in I(T, x), C_+ V_i(\phi(T, x)) (\phi'_x(T, x)u) \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

Then the set-valued map P defined by (2.8) is a pipe of F . ▲

If F satisfies assumption (1.10), then, for all $x_0 \in K$ satisfying $V_i(\phi(0, x)) \leq w_i(0)$ ($i=1, \dots, p$), there exists a trajectory of the differential inclusion (1.1) satisfying

$$(2.13) \quad \begin{cases} \text{(i) } \forall t \in [0, T[, \forall i=1, \dots, p, V_i(\phi(t, x(t))) \leq w_i(t) \\ \text{(ii) for almost all } t \in [0, T], \text{ for all } i \in I(t, x(t)), \\ \quad x'(t) \in T_K(x(t)) \text{ and} \\ \quad D_+ V_i(\phi(t, x(t))) (\phi'_t(t, x(t)) + \phi'_x(t, x(t))x'_i(t)) \leq w'_i(t) \end{cases} \quad \blacktriangle$$

Remark: Observe that the elements $x \in K$ satisfying

$$0 \in \Phi'_x(t, x) \ast \partial V_i(\Phi(t, x)) + N_K(x)$$

are the critical points of $x \rightarrow V_i(\Phi(t, x))$ on K . Assumption (2.11) states that critical points of some function $V_i(\Phi(T, \cdot))$ on K are equilibria of $F(T, \cdot)$. We can say that a solution to

$$(2.14) \quad 0 \in \text{co} \left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n \Phi'_x(t, x) \ast \partial V_i(\Phi(t, x)) + N_K(x) \right)$$

is a Pareto critical point of the functions $V_i(\Phi(t, \cdot))$, (Pareto minima do satisfy this inclusion).

Remark: Observe also that if

$$(2.15) \quad \forall t \in [0, T[, \forall i=1, \dots, n, w'_i(t) < 0,$$

then property (2.10) follows from (2.12). This is usually the interesting case, since we would like the pipes $P(t)$ to decrease when t increases.

Corollary 2.3: Let K be a closed subset, V be a C^1 function from a neighborhood of $[0, T]$ to K , w_- and w_+ be C^1 non-negative functions satisfying

$$(2.16) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \forall t \in [0, T[, \quad 0 \leq w_-(t) < w_-(T) = w_+(T) < w_+(t) \\ \text{and } w'_-(t) > 0, w'_+(t) < 0 \end{array} \right.$$

We posit the following assumption:

$$(2.17) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{(i) } \forall t \in [0, T[, \forall x \text{ such that } V(x-c(t)) = w_+(t), \\ \text{there exists } u \in F(t, x) \cap C_K(x) \text{ such that} \\ C_+ V(x-c(t))(u-c'(t)) \leq w'_+(t) \\ \text{(ii) } \forall t \in [0, T[, \forall x \text{ such that } V(x-c(t)) = w_-(t), \\ \text{there exists } u \in F(t, x) \cap C_K(x) \text{ such that} \\ C_- V(x-c(t))(u-c'(t)) \geq w'_-(t) \\ \text{(iii) } \forall x \text{ such that } V(x-c(T)) = w_+(T) = w_-(T), 0 \in F(T, x) \end{array} \right.$$

Then the set-valued map P defined by

$$(2.18) \quad P(t) := \{x \in K ; w_-(t) \leq V(x-c(t)) \leq w_+(t)\}$$

is a pipe of F on $[0, T]$.

Proof of Theorem 2.2: We set $\text{Dom } \vec{V} = \bigcap_{i=1}^P \text{Dom } V_i$, $\vec{V}(x) := (V_1(x), \dots, V_P(x))$ and $E_P(\vec{V}) := \{(x, w) \in \text{Dom } \vec{V} \times \mathbb{R}^P \mid V_i(x) \leq w_i \text{ for } i=1, \dots, p\}$. Let A be the C^1 map from a neighborhood of $[0, T] \times K$ to $\mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^P$ defined by

$$(2.20) \quad A(t, x) := (\phi(t, x), w(t))$$

Then we can write

$$(2.21) \quad \text{Graph}(P) := \{(t, x) \in [0, T] \times K \mid A(t, x) \in E_P(\vec{V})\}$$

We then use Proposition 7.6.3, p.440, of Aubin-Ekeland [1984]. It states that

$$(2.22) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \{\tau \in T_{[0, T]}(t), u \in T_K(x) \mid A'(t, x)(\tau, u) \in T_{E_P(\vec{V})}(A(t, x))\} \\ \supset T_{\text{Graph}(P)}(t, x) \end{array} \right.$$

and that if the transversality condition

$$(2.23) \quad A'(t, x)(T_{[0, T]}(t) \times C_K(x)) - C_{E_P(\vec{V})}(A(t, x)) = \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^P$$

then

$$(2.24) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \{\tau \in T_{[0, T]}(t), u \in C_K(x) \mid \\ A'(t, x)(\tau, u) \in C_{E_P(\vec{V})}(A(t, x))\} \subset C_{\text{Graph}(P)}(t, x) \end{array} \right.$$

Inclusion (2.22) implies that for all $t \in [0, T]$,

$$(2.25) \quad \begin{cases} DP(t, x) \\ \subset \{u \in T_K(x) \mid \forall i \in I(t, x), D_+ V_i(\phi(t, x))(\phi'_t(t, x) + \phi'_x(t, x)u) \\ \leq w'_i(t)\} \end{cases}$$

since

$$(2.26) \quad A'(t, x)(\tau, u) = (\phi'_t(t, x)\tau + \phi'_x(t, x)(u), w'(t)\tau),$$

and since

$$(2.27) \quad \begin{cases} T_{Ep}(\vec{V})(A(t, x)) = T_{Ep}(\vec{V})(\phi(t, x), w(t)) \\ = \{(u, \lambda) \in \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^P \mid \forall i \in I(t, x), \lambda_i \geq D_+ V_i(\phi(t, x))(u)\} \end{cases}$$

In the same way, inclusion (2.24) can be rewritten in the following form

$$(2.28) \quad \begin{cases} \{u \in C_K(x) \mid \forall i \in I(t, x), C_+ V_i(\phi(t, x))(\phi'_t(t, x)\tau + \phi'_x(t, x)u) \\ \leq w'_i(t)\tau\} \subset CP(t, x)(\tau) \subset DP(t, x)(\tau). \end{cases}$$

This inclusion and assumption (2.12) imply that P is a pipe of F . It remains to check the transversality condition (2.23), which can be written in the following way:

$$\forall u_d \in \mathbb{R}^n, \forall \lambda_d \in \mathbb{R}^P, \exists u \in C_K(x), \exists \tau \in T_{[0, T]}(t)$$

such that

$$(2.29) \quad \begin{cases} \forall i \in I(t, x), w'_i(t)\tau \geq \\ C_+ V_i(\phi(t, x))(\phi'_t(t, x)\tau + \phi'_x(t, x)u - u_d) + \lambda_d \end{cases}$$

By assumption (2.10) and the separation theorem, there exists $\hat{u} \in C_K(x)$ such that

$$(2.30) \quad \forall i \in I(t, x), C_+ V_i(\phi(t, x))(\phi'_x(t, x)\hat{u}) < 0$$

There exists η such that $C_+ V_i(\phi(t,x))(\phi'_x(t,x)\hat{u} + v) \leq 0$ when $v \in \eta B$. Let $\beta = 0$ if $\lambda_d \leq 0$ and

$$\beta > \lambda_d / |C_+ V_i(\phi(t,x))(\phi'_x(t,x)\hat{u})| \text{ if } \lambda_d > 0.$$

We take $\alpha = \beta + \eta \|u_d\|$. Hence, $\tau := 0$ and $u := \alpha \hat{u}$ provide

a solution to (2.29).

Then this transversality condition holds true for all $t \in [0, T[$ and all $x \in P(t)$. When it fails to be true for some $x \in P(T)$, we then assume that such an x is an equilibrium of $F(T, \cdot)$.

3. PIPES DEFINED BY TIME-DEPENDENT CONSTRAINTS

Let us consider a continuous single valued map A from a neighborhood of $[0, T] \times K$ to a vector space \mathbb{R}^P and a subset M of \mathbb{R}^P . We shall provide sufficient conditions for a set-valued map P of the form

$$(3.1) \quad P(t) := \{x \in K \mid A(t, x) \in M\}$$

to be a pipe of a set-valued map F . We begin with the case when A is continuously differentiable.

Proposition 3.1: Let K and M be closed subsets and A be continuously differentiable. We assume that for all $t \in [0, T], \forall x \in P(t)$,

$$(3.2) \quad A'_x(t, x)C_K(x) - C_M(A(t, x)) = \mathbb{R}^P$$

If for any $t \in [0, T]$ and any $x \in P(t)$, there exists $v \in F(t, x) \cap C_K(x)$ satisfying

$$(3.3) \quad \begin{cases} \text{(i)} & A'_x(t, x)v \in C_M(A(t, x)) - A'_t(t, x) \text{ when } t < T \\ \text{(ii)} & A'_x(T, x)v \in C_M(A(T, x)) \quad \text{when } t = T \end{cases}$$

then the set-valued map P defined by (3.1) is a pipe of F on $[0, T]$ and

$$(3.4) \quad DP(t,x) \subset \{u \in T_K(x) \mid A'_x(t,x)u \in T_M(A(t,x)) - A'_t(t,x)\} \quad \blacktriangle$$

We can relax the assumption that A is continuously differentiable and replace the Jacobian of A by the derivative $CA(t,x) := CA(t,x,A(t,x))$ whose graph is the tangent cone to the graph of A at (t,x) .

Then Proposition 3.1 follows from

Proposition 3.2: Let K and M be closed subsets and A be a continuous map. We assume that for all $t \in [0,T], \forall x \in P(t)$,

$$(3.5) \quad \begin{cases} \text{(i) } \text{Dom } CA(t,x) = \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^n \\ \text{(ii) } CA(t,x)(0, C_K(x)) - C_M(A(t,x)) = \mathbb{R}^P \end{cases}$$

If for any $t \in [0,T]$ and any $x \in P(t)$ there exists $v \in F(t,x) \cap C_K(x)$ satisfying

$$(3.6) \quad \begin{cases} \text{(i) } CA(t,x)(1,v) \in C_M(A(t,x)) \text{ when } t < T \\ \text{(ii) } CA(T,x)(0,v) \in C_M(A(T,x)) \text{ when } t = T, \end{cases}$$

then the set-valued map P defined by (3.1) is a pipe of F on $[0,T]$ and

$$(3.7) \quad DP(t,x) \subset \{u \in T_K(x) \mid DA(t,x)(1,u) \cap T_M(A(t,u)) \neq \emptyset\} \quad \blacktriangle$$

Proof: The graph of P is the projection onto $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^n$ of the subset

$$L := ([0,T] \times K \times M) \cap \text{Graph } A \subset \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^P$$

By Proposition 7.6.3, p.440 of Aubin-Ekeland [1984], we know that

$$(3.8) \quad \begin{cases} (T_{[0,T]}(t) \times T_K(x) \times T_M(Ax)) \cap \text{Graph } DA(t,x) \\ \supset T_L(t,x,A(t,x)) \end{cases}$$

This implies inclusion (3.7).

We also know that the transversality condition

$$(3.9) \quad T_{[0,T]}(t) \times C_K(x) \times C_M(x) - \text{graph } CA(t,x) = \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^p,$$

implies that

$$(3.10) \quad C_L(t,x,A(t,x)) \supset T_{[0,T]}(t) \times C_K(x) \times C_M(Ax) \cap \text{Graph } CA(t,x)$$

We then observe that

$$(3.11) \quad \{u \in C_K(x) \mid CA(t,x)(\tau,u) \cap C_M(A(t,x)) \neq \emptyset\} \subset CP(t,x)(\tau)$$

Indeed, let w belong to $CA(t,x)(\tau,u) \cap C_M(A(t,x))$ and let $t_n \rightarrow t$, $x_n \rightarrow x$ and $h_n \rightarrow 0+$. Since (τ,u,w) belongs to $C_L(t,x,A(t,x))$, there exist sequences $\tau_n \rightarrow \tau$, $u_n \rightarrow u$ and $w_n \rightarrow w$ such that $(t_n + h_n\tau_n, x_n + h_nu_n, A(t_n, x_n) + h_nw_n) \in L$, i.e. such that $x_n + h_nu_n \in P(t_n + h_n\tau_n)$ for all n . This implies that u belongs to $C(t,x)(\tau)$. It remains to check the transversality condition (3.9).

Let τ, u, w be given in $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^p$. Since $\text{Dom } CA(t,x) = \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^n$, there exists $v \in CA(t,x)(-\tau, -u)$. By assumption (3.5)ii), there exist $u_1 \in C_K(x)$ and $w_1 \in C_M(A(t,x))$ such that $-w-v \in CA(0, u_1) - w_1$. Hence $-w$ belongs to $CA(-\tau, u_1 - u) - w$, i.e., $(0 - \tau, u_1 - u, w_1 - w)$ belongs to $\text{Graph } (A)$ and $(0, u_1, w_1)$ to $C_{[0,T]} \times K \times M^{(t,x,A(t,x))}$.

4. HOMOTOPIC TRANSFERS

Let us consider two closed subsets C and D of \mathbb{R}^n and a differentiable map ϕ from a neighborhood of $[0,T] \times C \times D$ to \mathbb{R}^n . We consider pipes of the form

$$(4.1) \quad P(t) := \phi(t, C, D)$$

Proposition 4.1: Let us assume that

$$\forall t \leq T \quad \forall x \in P(t), \quad \exists (y, z) \in C \times D \text{ such that } \phi(t, y, z) = x, \\ \exists (u, v) \in T_C \times T_D(y, z) \text{ such that}$$

$$(4.2) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{(i) if } t < T, \phi'_Y(t, y, z)u + \phi'_Z(t, y, z)v \in F(t, x) - \phi'_t(t, y, z) \\ \text{(ii) if } t = T, \phi'_Y(T, y, z)u + \phi'_Z(T, y, z)v \in F(T, x) \end{array} \right.$$

Then the set-valued map P defined by (4.1) is a pipe of F on $[0, T]$. \blacktriangle

Proof: We observe that $\text{Graph}(P)$ is the image of $[0, T] \times C \times D$ under the map ψ defined by $\psi(t, y, z) = (t, \phi(t, y, z))$.

By Proposition 7.6.2, p.430 of Aubin-Ekeland [1984], $\psi'(t, y, z)T_{[0, T] \times C \times D}(t, y, z) \subset T_{\text{Graph}(P)}(\psi(t, y, z))$. We deduce that condition (4.1)i) implies property (1.9)ii). We proceed in the same way to show that (4.1)ii) implies (1.9)iii) since $P(T) = \phi(T, C, D)$. \blacksquare

When C and D are closed and convex, we can characterize pipes of the form (4.1) through dual conditions. If K is a subset of \mathbb{R}^n , we denote by

$$(4.3) \quad \sigma(K, p) := \sup_{x \in K} \langle p, x \rangle$$

its support function.

Proposition 4.2: Let us assume that the values of F are compact and convex and that the subsets C and D are closed and convex. If for any $t \in [0, T], \forall x \in P(t)$, there exists $(x, y) \in C \times D$ satisfying $\phi(t, y, z) = x$ and for all

$$p \in \phi'_Y(t, y, z)^{* -1} N_C(y) \cap \phi'_Z(t, y, z)^{* -1} N_D(z),$$

we have

$$(4.4) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{(i) } \forall t < T, \langle p, \phi'_t(t, y, z) \rangle + \sigma(F(t, \phi(t, y, z)), -p) \geq 0 \\ \text{(ii) for } t = T, \sigma(F(T, \phi(T, y, z)), -p) \geq 0 \end{array} \right.$$

then the set-valued map P defined by (4.1) is a pipe of F on $[0, T]$. \blacktriangle

Proof: When C and D are convex, $T_C \times D(y, z) = T_C(y) \times T_D(z)$ so that conditions (4.2)i) and ii) can be written

$$(4.5) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{(i)} \quad (F(t, \phi) - \phi'_t(t, y, z)) \cap (\phi'_y(t, y, z)T_C(y) + \phi'_z(t, y, z)T_D(z)) \neq \emptyset \\ \text{(ii)} \quad F(T, \phi) \cap (\phi'_y(T, y, z)T_C(y) + \phi'_z(T, y, z)T_D(z)) \neq \emptyset \end{array} \right.$$

The separation theorem shows that they are equivalent to conditions (4.4). ■

Corollary 4.3: Let us assume that C and D are closed convex subsets and that the values of F are convex and compact. Let $\phi: \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ be a differentiable function satisfying either one of the following equivalent conditions:

For any $t \geq 0$, $x \in P(t)$, there exists $y \in C, z \in D$ such that $x = y + \phi(t)z$ and either

$$(4.6) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{(i)} \quad (F(t, y + \phi(t)z) - \phi'(t)z) \cap (T_C(y) + T_D(z)) \neq \emptyset \text{ if } t < T \\ \text{(ii)} \quad F(T, y + \phi(T)z) \cap (T_C(y) + T_D(z)) \neq \emptyset \text{ if } t = T \end{array} \right.$$

or

$$(4.7) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \forall p \in N_C(y) \cap N_D(z), \\ \text{(i)} \quad \phi'(t) \sigma_D(p) + \sigma(F(t, y + \phi(t)z), -p) \geq 0 \text{ if } t < T \\ \text{(ii)} \quad \sigma(F(T, y + \phi(T)z), -p) \geq 0 \text{ if } t = T \end{array} \right.$$

Then the set-valued map P defined by

$$(4.8) \quad P(t) := C + \phi(t)D$$

is a pipe of F on $[0, T]$. ▲

Let us consider the instance when $C = \{c\}$ and when 0 belongs to the interior of the closed convex subset D .

We introduce the function a_0 defined by

$$(4.9) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} a_0(t,w) := \\ \sup_{z \in D} \sup_{\substack{p \in N_D(z) \\ \sigma_D(p) = 1}} \inf_{v \in F(t, c + wz)} \langle p, v \rangle \\ = \sup_{z \in D} \inf_{v \in F(t, c + wz)} \sup_{\substack{p \in N_D(z) \\ \sigma_D(p) = 1}} \langle p, v \rangle \end{array} \right.$$

(The last equation follows from the minimax theorem.)

Let us assume that there exists a continuous function $a : \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, satisfying $a(t, 0) = 0$ for all $t \geq 0$, such that

$$(4.10) \quad \forall (t, w) \in \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}_+, \quad a(t, w) \geq a_0(t, w)$$

Let ϕ be a solution to the differential equation

$$(4.11) \quad \phi'(t) = a(t, \phi(t)), \quad \phi(0) = \phi_0 \text{ given}$$

satisfying

$$(4.12) \quad a(T, \phi(T)) = 0$$

Since $\sigma_D(p) > 0$ for all $p \neq 0$, we deduce that for all $z \in D$ and all $p \in N_D(z)$,

$$\begin{aligned} \phi'(t)\sigma_D(p) &\geq a(t, \phi(t))\sigma_D(p) \geq a_0(t, \phi(t))\sigma_D(p) \\ &\geq -\sigma_D(p) \sup_{v \in F(t, c + \phi(t)z)} \langle -\frac{p}{\sigma_D(p)}, v \rangle \\ &= -\sigma(F(t, c + \phi(t)z), -p) \end{aligned}$$

Hence, condition (4.7)i) is satisfied. Also

$$0 = a(T, \phi(T)) \geq a_0(T, \phi(T)) \geq \frac{-1}{\sigma_{D(p)}} \sigma(F(T, c + \phi(T)z), -p)$$

Then

$$(4.13) \quad P(t) := c + \phi(t)D$$

defines a pipe of F.

For instance, if $D := B$ is the unit ball, then $\sigma_B(p) = \|p\|$ and $N_B(z) = \lambda z$ for all $z \in S := \{x \mid \|x\| = 1\}$. Hence, in this case we have

$$(4.15) \quad a_0(t, w) := \sup_{\|z\|=1} \inf_{v \in F(t, c+wz)} \langle v, z \rangle$$

In other words, the function a_0 defined by (4.9) conceals all the information needed to check whether a given subset D can generate a pipe P .

Remark: When a is non-positive and satisfies $a(t, 0) = 0$ for all $t \geq 0$, then there exists a non-negative non-increasing solution $\phi(\cdot)$ of the differential equation (4.11)

When $T = \infty$, we infer that $\int_0^\infty a(\tau, \phi(\tau)) d\tau$ is finite. Let us assume that for 0 all $w_* \in \mathbb{R}_+$,

$$(4.16) \quad \lim_{\substack{t \rightarrow \infty \\ w \rightarrow w_*}} a(t, w) = a_*(w_*)$$

Then the limit ϕ_* of $\phi(t)$ when $t \rightarrow \infty$ satisfies the equation

$$a_*(\phi_*) = 0$$

Otherwise, there would exist $\varepsilon > 0$ and T such that $a_*(\phi_*) + \varepsilon < 0$ and for all $t > T$, $a(t, \phi(t)) \leq a_*(\phi_*) + \varepsilon$ by definition of a_* . We deduce the contradiction

$$\phi(t) - \phi(T) = \int_T^t a(\tau, \phi(\tau)) d\tau \leq (t-T)(a_*(\phi_*) + \varepsilon)$$

when t is large enough. ■

Example: Let us consider the case when F does not depend upon t .
We set

$$(4.17) \quad \rho_0 := \sup_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}} \inf_{w > 0} (\lambda w - a_0(w))$$

Assume also that $\lambda_0 \in \mathbb{R}$ achieves the supremum. We can take $\psi(w) := \lambda_0 w - \rho_0$.

If $\rho_0 > 0$, the function

$$(4.18) \quad \phi_T(t) := \begin{cases} \frac{\rho_0}{\lambda_0} (1 - \exp(\lambda_0(t-T))) & \text{if } \lambda_0 \neq 0 \\ -\rho_0(t-T) & \text{if } \lambda_0 = 0 \end{cases}$$

is such that $P(t) := \{c + \phi_T(t)D\}$ is a pipe of F such that $P(T) = \{c\}$.

If $\rho_0 \leq 0$ and $\lambda_0 < 0$, then the functions

$$(4.19) \quad \phi(t) := \frac{1}{\lambda_0} (\rho_0 - e^{\lambda_0 t})$$

are such that $P(t) := c + \phi_C(t)D$ defines a pipe of F on $[0, \infty[$ such that $P(t)$ decreases to the set $P_\infty := c + \frac{\rho_0}{\lambda_0} D$.

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