

On f -Proximinal and f -Remotal Points of Pairs of Sets

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In this paper we introduce the notions of f -proximinal points and f -remotal points of pairs of sets in a Hausdorff topological space X relative to a functional f on $X \times X$ and discuss the existence of such points.

Let X be a Hausdorff topological space, f a continuous real-valued function on $X \times X$ and U, V a pair of subsets of X . We call points $u^* \in U, v^* \in V$ f -proximinal points of sets U, V if $f(u^*, v^*) = \inf \{f(u, v) : u \in U, v \in V\}$ and f -remotal points of sets U, V if $f(u^*, v^*) = \sup \{f(u, v) : u \in U, v \in V\}$. When one of the two sets is reduced to a single point, the problem of f -proximinal points of pair of sets is reduced to that of f -best approximation (cf. [8] or [4]) and of f -remotal points of pair of sets to that of f -farthest points (cf. [2] or [5]).

The set U is said to be *inf-compact* with respect to (w.r.t.) the set V if each minimizing net of V (i.e. a net $\{u_\alpha\}$ such that $f(u_\alpha, V) \rightarrow \inf \{f(u, v) : u \in U, v \in V\}$, where $f(x, V) = \inf \{f(x, v) : v \in V\}$) contains a subnet converging in U .

The set U is said to be *sup-compact* w.r.t. the set V if each maximizing net of V (i.e. a net $\{u_\alpha\}$ such that $f_V(u_\alpha) \rightarrow \sup \{f(u, v) : u \in U, v \in V\}$, where $f_V(x) = \sup \{f(x, y) : y \in V\}$) contains a subnet converging in U .

The set V is said to be f -proximinal w.r.t. U if each point x of U has f -best approximation \bar{v} in V i.e. $\bar{v} \in V$ satisfying $f(x, \bar{v}) = \inf \{f(x, y) : y \in V\}$. V is said to be f -remotal w.r.t. U if each point x of U has f -farthest point \bar{v} in V i.e. $\bar{v} \in V$ satisfying $f(x, \bar{v}) = \sup \{f(x, y) : y \in V\}$.

The following theorem gives the existence of f -proximinal points of pair of sets U, V .

Theorem 1. *Let U, V be a pair of closed subsets of the space X such that U is inf-compact w.r.t. V and V is f -proximinal w.r.t. U . Then f -proximinal points of the pair of sets U, V exist.*

Proof. Let $f(U, V) = \inf \{f(x, y) : x \in U, y \in V\} = \inf \{f(x, V) : x \in U\}$. Then there exist a net $\{u_\alpha\}$ in U such that $f(u_\alpha, V) \rightarrow f(U, V)$. Since U is inf-compact w.r.t. V , this net $\{u_\alpha\}$ has a convergent subnet $\{u_\beta\} \rightarrow u^* \in U$. Since the function $x \rightarrow f(x, V)$ is continuous, it follows that $f(u^*, V) = f(U, V)$. Since V is f -proximinal w.r.t. U , there exists an element $v^* \in V$ such that $f(u^*, v^*) = f(u^*, V) = f(U, V)$. This implies that u^*, v^* are f -proximinal points of the pair U, V .

Since inf-compact sets are f -proximinal [4], we have:

Corollary 1. *Let U, V be a pair of closed subsets of X such that U is inf-compact w.r.t. V and V is inf-compact w.r.t. U then f -proximinal points of the pair U, V exist.*

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Corollary 2. *Let U, V be a pair of closed subsets of X such that U is compact and V is f -proximal w.r.t. U then f -proximal points of the pair U, V exist.*

The following theorem gives the existence of f -remotal points of the pair of sets in a Hausdorff topological vector space X .

Theorem 2. *Let U, V be a pair of bounded subsets of the space X such that U is sup-compact w.r.t. V and V is f -remotal w.r.t. U . Then f -remotal points of the pair of sets U, V exist.*

The proof of this theorem is analogous to that of Theorem 1.

Since sup-compact sets are f -remotal [5], we have:

Corollary 3. *Let U, V be a pair of bounded subsets of X such that U is sup-compact w.r.t. V and V is sup-compact w.r.t. U . Then f -remotal points of the pair U, V exist.*

Corollary 4. *Let U, V be a pair of bounded subsets of X such that U is compact and V is f -remotal w.r.t. U . Then f -remotal points of the pair U, V exist.*

Remark 1. If the sets U, V are such that the functional f attains its infimum (supremum) on $U \times V$ then f -proximal points (f -remotal points) of the pair U, V exist.

Remark 2. In case X is a metric space and $f=d$, the metric on X , the notion of f -proximal points of the pair of sets coincides with that of proximal points (cf. [3]), of f -remotal points of the pair of sets with that of farthest points relative to the two sets (cf. [1]) and results proved in this paper generalize some of the earlier known results of [1] and [3].

Remark 3. Some characterizations of f -proximal points of pairs of convex sets were given by D.V. Pai [6] and by D.V. Pai and P. Govindarajulu [7] in Hausdorff locally convex linear topological spaces.

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