

## ***K*-CONTINUITY PROBLEM OF *K*-SUPERQUADRATIC SET-VALUED FUNCTIONS**

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### ABSTRACT

In this paper we study *K*-superquadratic set-valued functions. We will present here some connections between *K*-boundedness of *K*-superquadratic set-valued functions and *K*-semicontinuity of multifunctions of this kind.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $X = (X, +)$  be an arbitrary topological group. A real-valued function  $F$  is called superquadratic, if it fulfils inequality

$$(1) \quad 2F(x) + 2F(y) \leq F(x + y) + F(x - y), \quad x, y \in X.$$

If the sign “ $\leq$ ” in (1) is replaced by “ $\geq$ ”, then  $F$  is called subquadratic. The continuity problem of functions of this kind was considered in [2]. This problem was also considered in the class of set-valued functions. In this case  $F$  is called subquadratic set-valued function, if it satisfies inclusion

$$(2) \quad F(x + y) + F(x - y) \subset 2F(x) + 2F(y), \quad x, y \in X$$

and superquadratic set-valued function, if it satisfies inclusion defined in such a form:

$$(3) \quad 2F(x) + 2F(y) \subset F(x + y) + F(x - y), \quad x, y \in X.$$

For usual (i.e. single-valued) functions the properties of subquadratic and superquadratic functions are quite analogous and, in view of the fact that if a function  $F$  is subquadratic, then the function  $-F$  is superquadratic and conversely, it is not necessary to investigate functions of these two kinds individually.

In the case of set-valued functions the situation is different. Even if properties of subquadratic and superquadratic set-valued functions are similar, we have to prove them separately.

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If the sign “ $\subset$ ” in the inclusions above is replaced by “ $=$ ”, then  $F$  is called quadratic set-valued function. The class of quadratic set-valued functions is an important subclass of the class of subquadratic and superquadratic set-valued functions. Quadratic set-valued functions have already extensive bibliography (see D. Henney [1], K. Nikodem [4] and W. Smajdor [5]). The continuity problem of subquadratic and superquadratic set-valued functions was considered in [6] and [7].

If we enlarge the space of values of a set-valued function  $F$  by a cone  $K$  we can consider  $K$ -superquadratic set-valued functions, that is solutions of the inclusion

$$(4) \quad F(x+y) + F(x-y) \subset 2F(x) + 2F(y) + K, \quad x, y \in X.$$

The concept of  $K$ -superquadraticity is related to real-valued superquadratic functions. Note, in the case when  $F$  is a single-valued real function and  $K = [0, \infty)$ , we obtain the standard definition of superquadratic functions (1).

Similarly, if a set-valued function  $F$  satisfies the following inclusion

$$(5) \quad 2F(x) + 2F(y) \subset F(x+y) + F(x-y) + K, \quad x, y \in X$$

then it is called  $K$ -subquadratic. The  $K$ -continuity problem of multifunction of this kind was considered in [8]. It has been proved there that a  $K$ -subquadratic set-valued function  $F$  defined on 2-divisible topological group  $X$  with non-empty, compact and convex values in a locally convex topological vector space  $Y$ , which is  $K$ -continuous at zero and locally  $K$ -bounded in  $X$ , is  $K$ -continuous everywhere in  $X$ .

In this paper we shall consider similar problem for  $K$ -superquadratic set-valued functions. Likewise as in functional analysis we can look for connections between  $K$ -boundedness and  $K$ -semi-continuity of set-valued functions of this kind.

Assuming  $K = \{0\}$  in (4) and (5), we obtain the inclusions (2) and (3).

Let us start with the notations used in this paper. Let  $Y$  be a topological vector space. Let  $n(Y)$  denotes the family of all non-empty subsets of  $Y$  and  $cc(Y)$ —the family of all compact and convex members of  $n(Y)$ . The term *set-valued function* will be abbreviated to the form s.v.f.

Recall that a set  $K \subset Y$  is called a cone iff  $K + K \subset K$  and  $sK \subset K$  for all  $s \in (0, \infty)$ .

**Definition 1.** (cf. [3]) *A cone  $K$  in a topological vector space  $Y$  is said to be a normal cone iff there exists a base  $\mathfrak{W}$  of zero in  $Y$  such that*

$$W = (W + K) \cap (W - K)$$

for all  $W \in \mathfrak{W}$ .

**Definition 2.** (cf. [3]) *An s.v.f.  $F: X \rightarrow n(Y)$  is said to be  $K$ -upper semi-continuous (abbreviated  $K$ -u.s.c.) at  $x_0 \in X$  iff for every neighbourhood  $V$  of zero in  $Y$  there exists a neighbourhood  $U$  of zero in  $X$  such that*

$$F(x) \subset F(x_0) + V + K$$

for every  $x \in x_0 + U$ .

**Definition 3.** (cf. [3]) *An s.v.f.  $F: X \rightarrow n(Y)$  is said to be  $K$ -lower semi-continuous (abbreviated  $K$ -l.s.c.) at  $x_0 \in X$  iff for every neighbourhood  $V$  of zero in  $Y$  there exists a neighbourhood  $U$  of zero in  $X$  such that*

$$F(x_0) \subset F(x) + V + K$$

for every  $x \in x_0 + U$ .

**Definition 4.** (cf. [3]) *An s.v.f.  $F: X \rightarrow n(Y)$  is said to be  $K$ -continuous at  $x_0 \in X$  iff it is both  $K$ -u.s.c. and  $K$ -l.s.c. at  $x_0$ . It is said to be  $K$ -continuous iff it is  $K$ -continuous at each point of  $X$ .*

Note that in the case where  $K = \{0\}$  the  $K$ -continuity of  $F$  means its continuity with respect to the Hausdorff topology on  $n(Y)$ .

In this paper we will use the following lemma.

**Lemma 1.** (cf. [8]) *Let  $Y$  be a topological vector space and  $K$  be a cone in  $Y$ . Let  $A, B, C$  be non-empty subsets of  $Y$  such that  $A + C \subset B + C + K$ . If  $B$  is convex and  $C$  is bounded, then  $A \subset \overline{B + K}$ .*

## 2. THE MAIN RESULT

In the proof of the main theorem we will often use four known lemmas (see Lemma 1.1, Lemma 1.3, Lemma 1.6 and Lemma 1.9 in [9]). The first lemma says that for a convex subset  $A$  of an arbitrary real vector space  $Y$  the equality  $(s + t)A = sA + tA$  holds for every  $s, t \geq 0$  or  $(s, t < 0)$ . The second lemma says that in a real vector space  $Y$  for two convex subsets  $A, B$  the set  $A + B$  is also convex. The next lemma says that if  $A \subset Y$  is a closed set and  $B \subset Y$  is a compact set, where  $Y$  denotes a real topological vector space, then the set  $A + B$  is closed. For any sets  $A, B \subset Y$ , where  $Y$  denotes the same space as above, the inclusion  $\overline{A + B} \subset \overline{A} + \overline{B}$  holds and the equality holds if and only if the set  $\overline{A + B}$  is closed.

Notice that for the cone  $K$  the following remark holds.

**Remark 1.** *Let  $Y$  be a real topological vector space. If  $K$  is a closed cone, then it is a cone with zero.*

Let us adopt the following three definitions which are natural extension of the concept of the boundedness for real-valued functions.

**Definition 5.** An s.v.f.  $F: X \rightarrow n(Y)$  is said to be  $K$ -lower bounded on a set  $A \subset X$  iff there exists a bounded set  $B \subset Y$  such that  $F(x) \subset B + K$  for all  $x \in A$ . An s.v.f.  $F: X \rightarrow n(Y)$  is said to be  $K$ -lower bounded at a point  $x \in X$  iff there exists a neighbourhood  $U_x$  of zero in  $X$  such that  $F$  is  $K$ -lower bounded on a set  $x + U_x$ .

**Definition 6.** An s.v.f.  $F: X \rightarrow n(Y)$  is said to be  $K$ -upper bounded on a set  $A \subset X$  iff there exists a bounded set  $B \subset Y$  such that  $F(x) \subset B - K$  for all  $x \in A$ . An s.v.f.  $F: X \rightarrow n(Y)$  is said to be  $K$ -upper bounded at a point  $x \in X$  iff there exists a neighbourhood  $U_x$  of zero in  $X$  such that  $F$  is  $K$ -upper bounded on a set  $x + U_x$ .

**Definition 7.** An s.v.f.  $F: X \rightarrow n(Y)$  is said to be locally  $K$ -bounded in  $X$  iff it is both  $K$ -upper and  $K$ -lower bounded at every point  $x \in X$ .

**Definition 8.** We say that 2-divisible topological group  $X$  has the property  $(\frac{1}{2})$  iff for every neighbourhood  $V$  of zero there exists a neighbourhood  $W$  of zero such that  $\frac{1}{2}W \subset W \subset V$ .

For the  $K$ -superquadratic set-valued functions the following theorem holds.

**Theorem 1.** Let  $X$  be a 2-divisible topological group with property  $(\frac{1}{2})$ ,  $Y$  – locally convex topological real vector space and  $K \subset Y$  a closed normal cone. If a  $K$ -superquadratic s.v.f.  $F: X \rightarrow cc(Y)$  is  $K$ -u.s.c. at zero,  $F(0) = \{0\}$  and locally  $K$ -bounded in  $X$ , then it is  $K$ -u.s.c. in  $X$ .

*Proof.* Suppose that  $F$  is not  $K$ -u.s.c. at a point  $z \in X$ , i.e. there exists a neighbourhood  $V$  of zero in  $Y$  such that for every neighbourhood  $U$  of zero in  $X$  we can find  $x_u \in U$  for which

$$F(z + x_u) \not\subseteq F(z) + V + K.$$

Take a balanced convex neighbourhood  $W$  of zero in  $Y$  such that

$$W \subset V$$

and

$$\overline{F(z) + W + K} \subset F(z) + V + K.$$

Then also

$$(6) \quad F(z + x_u) \not\subseteq \overline{F(z) + W + K}.$$

Let a neighbourhood  $U$  of zero in  $X$  be arbitrarily fixed. Suppose that

$$(7) \quad F(z + x_u) + 2^k \left( 2^k - 1 \right) F(x_u) \not\subseteq \overline{F(z + (1 - 2^k)x_u) + 2^k W + K}$$

for some  $k \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ . The proof of (7) runs by induction. For  $k = 0$  condition (7) holds with respect to (6). Putting  $y = x$  in (4) and using condition  $F(0) = \{0\}$ , we have

$$F(2x) \subset 4F(x) + K.$$

An easy induction shows

$$(8) \quad F(2^n x) \subset 4^n F(x) + K$$

for  $x \in X$  and for all positive integers  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . By  $K$ -superquadraticity of  $F$  and (8), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & F\left(z + (1 - 2^{k+1})x_u\right) + F(z + x_u) = \\ & = F\left(z + x_u - 2^k x_u - 2^k x_u\right) + F\left(z + x_u - 2^k x_u + 2^k x_u\right) \subset \\ & \subset 2F\left(z + x_u - 2^k x_u\right) + 2F\left(2^k x_u\right) + K \subset \\ (9) \quad & \subset 2F\left(z + (1 - 2^k)x_u\right) + 2^{2k+1}F(x_u) + K. \end{aligned}$$

In view of the fact that for any sets  $A, B \subset Y, \overline{A} + \overline{B} \subset \overline{A + B}$  we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \overline{F\left(z + (1 - 2^k)x_u\right) + 2^k W + \overline{K} + K} \subset \\ & \subset \overline{F\left(z + (1 - 2^k)x_u\right) + 2^k W + K} \end{aligned}$$

and, consequently,

$$(10) \quad \overline{\overline{F\left(z + (1 - 2^k)x_u\right) + 2^k W + \overline{K} + K}} \subset \overline{F\left(z + (1 - 2^k)x_u\right) + 2^k W + K}.$$

By (7) and (10), we obtain

$$F(z + x_u) + 2^k \left(2^k - 1\right) F(x_u) \not\subset \overline{\overline{F\left(z + (1 - 2^k)x_u\right) + 2^k W + \overline{K} + K}}.$$

Notice that for a cone  $K$  the equality  $aK = K$  holds for every  $a \in (0, \infty)$ . Hence,

$$(11) \quad \begin{aligned} & 2F(z + x_u) + 2^{k+1} \left(2^k - 1\right) F(x_u) \not\subset \\ & \not\subset \overline{\overline{2F\left(z + (1 - 2^k)x_u\right) + 2^{k+1}W + \overline{K} + K}}. \end{aligned}$$

By (11) and Lemma 1,

$$\begin{aligned} & 2F(z + x_u) + 2^{k+1} \left(2^k - 1\right) F(x_u) + 2^{2k+1}F(x_u) \not\subset \\ & \not\subset \overline{\overline{2F\left(z + (1 - 2^k)x_u\right) + 2^{k+1}W + \overline{K} + 2^{2k+1}F(x_u) + K}}. \end{aligned}$$

In view of Remark 1,  $K$  is a cone with zero. Therefore by above,

$$(12) \quad 2F(z + x_u) + 2^{k+1} \left( 2^k - 1 \right) F(x_u) + 2^{2k+1} F(x_u) + K \not\subseteq \\ \not\subseteq \overline{2F(z + (1 - 2^k)x_u) + 2^{k+1}W + K} + 2^{2k+1}F(x_u) + K.$$

In view of the fact that the sum of closed and compact sets is closed and for any sets  $A, B \subset Y$ ,  $\overline{A} + \overline{B} = \overline{A + B}$ , in the case where  $\overline{A} + \overline{B}$  is a closed set, we get

$$(13) \quad \overline{2F(z + (1 - 2^k)x_u) + 2^{k+1}W + K} + 2^{2k+1}F(x_u) = \\ = \overline{2F(z + (1 - 2^k)x_u) + 2^{k+1}W + K + 2^{2k+1}F(x_u)}.$$

Since  $K$  is a cone, by (9), we obtain

$$(14) \quad \overline{F(z + (1 - 2^{k+1})x_u) + F(z + x_u) + 2^{k+1}W + K} \subset \\ \subset \overline{2F(z + (1 - 2^k)x_u) + 2^{k+1}W + K + 2^{2k+1}F(x_u)}.$$

Since  $F$  has closed values, we get

$$(15) \quad F(z + x_u) + \overline{F(z + (1 - 2^{k+1})x_u) + 2^{k+1}W + K} + K \subset \\ \subset \overline{F(z + (1 - 2^{k+1})x_u) + F(z + x_u) + 2^{k+1}W + K} + K.$$

Consequently, by (12–15) we conclude

$$2F(z + x_u) + 2^{k+1} \left( 2^k - 1 \right) F(x_u) + 2^{2k+1} F(x_u) + K \not\subseteq \\ \not\subseteq F(z + x_u) + \overline{F(z + (1 - 2^{k+1})x_u) + 2^{k+1}W + K} + K.$$

By convexity of the sets  $F(x_u)$  i  $F(z + x_u)$ , we obtain

$$F(z + x_u) + F(z + x_u) + 2^{k+1} \left( 2^{k+1} - 1 \right) F(x_u) + K \not\subseteq \\ \not\subseteq F(z + x_u) + \overline{F(z + (1 - 2^{k+1})x_u) + 2^{k+1}W + K} + K.$$

Therefore,

$$F(z + x_u) + 2^{k+1} \left( 2^{k+1} - 1 \right) F(x_u) \not\subseteq \\ \not\subseteq \overline{F(z + (1 - 2^{k+1})x_u) + 2^{k+1}W + K}.$$

We have proved that (7) holds for every neighbourhood  $U$  of zero in  $X$  and  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

Since  $K$  is a normal cone, there exists a base  $\mathfrak{W}$  of neighbourhoods of zero in  $Y$  such that  $M = (M + K) \cap (M - K)$  for all  $M \in \mathfrak{W}$ . We can choose  $W_1 \in \mathfrak{W}$  and balanced neighbourhood  $W_2$  of zero in  $Y$  such that

$$W_2 \subset W_1 \subset W.$$

Because  $F$  is  $K$ -lower bounded on a neighbourhood of  $z$ , there exists a neighbourhood  $U_0$  of zero in  $X$  and a bounded set  $B_1 \subset Y$  such that

$$F(z+t) \subset B_1 + K, \quad t \in U_0.$$

Since the set  $B_1$  is bounded, there exists  $\lambda_1 > 0$  such that

$$B_1 \subset \frac{1}{\lambda_1}W_2.$$

Therefore, by above,

$$F(z+t) \subset \frac{1}{\lambda_1}W_2 + K, \quad t \in U_0.$$

Similarly, since  $F$  is  $K$ -upper bounded on a neighbourhood of  $z$ , there exists a neighbourhood  $U_1$  of zero in  $X$  and a bounded set  $B_2 \subset Y$  such that

$$F(z+t) \subset B_2 - K, \quad t \in U_1.$$

Since the set  $B_2$  is bounded, there exists  $\lambda_2 > 0$  such that

$$B_2 \subset \frac{1}{\lambda_2}W_2.$$

Therefore, by above,

$$F(z+t) \subset \frac{1}{\lambda_2}W_2 - K, \quad t \in U_1.$$

Let  $\lambda := \min\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2\}$ . Since  $W_2$  is a balanced set, we get

$$(16) \quad F(z+t) \subset \frac{1}{\lambda}W_2 + K \subset \frac{1}{\lambda}W_1 + K, \quad t \in U_0$$

and

$$(17) \quad F(z+t) \subset \frac{1}{\lambda}W_2 - K \subset \frac{1}{\lambda}W_1 - K, \quad t \in U_1.$$

By (16) and (17), we obtain

$$(18) \quad F(z+t) \subset \left(\frac{1}{\lambda}W_1 + K\right) \cap \left(\frac{1}{\lambda}W_1 - K\right), \quad t \in U_0 \cap U_1.$$

Because of  $W_1 \in \mathfrak{W}$ , we have

$$\left(\frac{1}{\lambda}W_1 + K\right) \cap \left(\frac{1}{\lambda}W_1 - K\right) = \frac{1}{\lambda}W_1$$

and, consequently, the following inclusion holds

$$(19) \quad F(z+t) \subset \frac{1}{\lambda}W$$

for every  $t \in U_0 \cap U_1$ .

Let  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  be so large that

$$(20) \quad 2^k > \frac{3}{\lambda}.$$

Let  $U$  be a symmetric neighbourhood of zero in  $X$  such that  $U+U \subset U_0 \cap U_1$  and  $\frac{1}{2}U \subset U$ . Consider two sets  $\frac{1}{2^k}U$  i  $\frac{1}{\lambda 2^k(2^k-1)}W$ . Since  $F$  is  $K$ -u.s.c. at zero and  $F(0) = \{0\}$ , there exists a symmetric neighbourhood  $U_2$  of zero in  $X$  such that

$$(21) \quad U_2 \subset \frac{1}{2^k}U \subset U$$

and

$$(22) \quad F(t) \subset \frac{1}{\lambda 2^k(2^k-1)}W + K, \quad t \in U_2.$$

There exists  $x_u \in U_2$  such that (7) holds. By (21),

$$(23) \quad (1 - 2^k)x_u = x_u - 2^k x_u \in U_2 - U \subset U + U \subset U_0 \cap U_1$$

and by (22),

$$(24) \quad F(x_u) \subset \frac{1}{\lambda 2^k(2^k-1)}W + K.$$

Let  $a \in F(z + (1 - 2^k)x_u)$ ,  $b \in F(z + x_u)$  i  $c \in F(x_u)$ . By (19), (20), (23) and (24), we obtain

$$b + 2^k \left(2^k - 1\right) c - a \in \frac{1}{\lambda}W + \frac{1}{\lambda}W + K + \frac{1}{\lambda}W \subset 2^k W + K.$$

Therefore,

$$b + 2^k \left(2^k - 1\right) c \in F\left(z + (1 - 2^k)x_u\right) + 2^k W + K.$$

We have proved that

$$F(z + x_u) + 2^k \left(2^k - 1\right) F(x_u) \subset F\left(z + (1 - 2^k)x_u\right) + 2^k W + K,$$

which contradicts (7).  $\square$

This article is an introduction to the discussion on the  $K$ -continuity problem for  $K$ -superquadratic set-valued functions. In the theory of  $K$ -subquadratic and  $K$ -superquadratic set-valued functions an important role is played by theorems giving possibly weak conditions under which such multi-functions are  $K$ -continuous.



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