

Openness, Hölder metric regularity and Hölder continuity properties of semialgebraic set-valued maps

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In Variational Analysis, the following notions are well-known:

- Openness
- Metric regularity
- Lipschitz/Hölder continuity

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- Lipschitz/Hölder continuity

See the books and the references therein:

Aubin–Frankowska (1990), Bonnas–Shapiro (2000), Ioffe (2017),
Klatte–Kummer (2002), Mordukhovich (2006), Rockafellar–Wets
(1998)

Theorem (Penot, Nonlinear Anal., 1989)

Let $F: \mathbb{R}^n \rightrightarrows \mathbb{R}^m$ be a set-valued map. The following are equivalent:

- (i) the map F is open at a linear rate;
- (ii) the map F is metrically regular;
- (iii) the inverse map F^{-1} is pseudo-Lipschitz continuous (i.e., F^{-1} has the Aubin property).

Theorem (Borwein–Zhuang, J. Math. Anal. Appl., 1988)

Let $F: \mathbb{R}^n \rightrightarrows \mathbb{R}^m$ be a set-valued map. The following are equivalent:

- (i) the map F is open at an order rate $p > 0$;
- (ii) the map F is metrically regular of order $1/p$;
- (iii) the inverse map F^{-1} is pseudo-Hölder of order $1/p$.

Note: Openness at a positive-order rate implies openness;

Note: Openness at a positive-order rate implies openness; the converse is not true in general:

Example

Let

$$f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow (-1, 1), \quad x \mapsto f(x) := \begin{cases} e^{-1/x} & \text{if } x > 0, \\ 0 & \text{if } x = 0, \\ -e^{1/x} & \text{if } x < 0. \end{cases}$$

We have f is open but f is not open at a positive-order rate.

Theorem (Gowda–Sznajder, Math. Program., 1996)

Let $F: \mathbb{R}^n \rightrightarrows \mathbb{R}^m$ be a polyhedral set-valued map with its range being a convex set. The following are equivalent:

- (i) the map F is open;
- (ii) the inverse map F^{-1} is lower Lipschitz continuous;
- (iii) the inverse map F^{-1} is Lipschitz continuous.

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Polyhedral maps are semialgebraic! So it is natural to study relations between the following notions for **semialgebraic maps**:

- openness,
- Hölder metric regularity, and
- Hölder continuity properties

- A set $X \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ is **locally closed** if for each $x \in X$, there exists $\epsilon > 0$ such that $\mathbb{B}_\epsilon(x) \cap X$ is a closed set in \mathbb{R}^n .
- Let $F: \mathbb{R}^n \rightrightarrows \mathbb{R}^m$ be a set-valued map. Set

$$\mathbf{dom}F := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid F(x) \neq \emptyset\},$$

$$\mathbf{range}F := \{y \in \mathbb{R}^m \mid \exists x \in \mathbb{R}^n, y \in F(x)\},$$

$$\mathbf{graph}F := \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^m \mid x \in \mathbf{dom}F, y \in F(x)\}.$$

- The **inverse map** $F^{-1}: \mathbb{R}^m \rightrightarrows \mathbb{R}^n$ of the map F is defined as

$$F^{-1}(y) := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid y \in F(x)\}.$$

- The map F is called **lower semicontinuous** (l.s.c) if for any $x \in \text{dom}F$, any $y \in F(x)$ and for any sequence $\{x^k\} \subset \text{dom}F$ converging to x , there exists a sequence $\{y^k\} \subset F(x^k)$ converging to y .
- F is said to be an **open map** from $\text{dom}F$ into $\text{range}F$ if for every open set U in $\text{dom}F$, the set $F(U)$ is open in $\text{range}F$.

Definitions

- F is said to be **Hölder metrically regular** if for each point $y^* \in \text{range}F$ and for each compact set $K \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, there exist constants $\epsilon > 0$, $c > 0$ and $\alpha > 0$ such that

$$\text{dist}(x, F^{-1}(y)) \leq c[\text{dist}(y, F(x))]^\alpha$$

for all $x \in K$ and all $y \in \mathbb{B}_\epsilon(y^*) \cap \text{range}F$.

- F is said to be **Hölder metrically subregular** if for each point $y^* \in \text{range}F$ and for each compact set $K \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, there exist constants $c > 0$ and $\alpha > 0$ such that

$$\text{dist}(x, F^{-1}(y^*)) \leq c[\text{dist}(y^*, F(x))]^\alpha$$

for all $x \in K$.

Definitions

- F is said to be **pseudo-Hölder continuous** if for each point $x^* \in \text{dom}F$ and for each compact set $K \subset \mathbb{R}^m$, there exist constants $\epsilon > 0$, $c > 0$ and $\alpha > 0$ such that

$$F(x^1) \cap K \subset F(x^2) + c\|x^1 - x^2\|^\alpha \mathbb{B}$$

for all $x^1, x^2 \in \mathbb{B}_\epsilon(x^*) \cap \text{dom}F$.

- F is said to be **lower pseudo-Hölder continuous** if for each point $x^* \in \text{dom}F$ and for each compact set $K \subset \mathbb{R}^m$, there exist constants $\epsilon > 0$, $c > 0$ and $\alpha > 0$ such that

$$F(x^*) \cap K \subset F(x) + c\|x^* - x\|^\alpha \mathbb{B}$$

for all $x \in \mathbb{B}_\epsilon(x^*) \cap \text{dom}F$.

- A subset S of \mathbb{R}^n is called **semialgebraic**, if it is a finite union of sets of the form

$$\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid f_i(x) = 0, i = 1, \dots, k; f_i(x) > 0, i = k + 1, \dots, p\},$$

where all f_i are polynomials.

- A set-valued map $F: \mathbb{R}^n \rightrightarrows \mathbb{R}^m$ is said to be **semialgebraic**, if its graph is a semialgebraic set.

Examples

The following maps are semialgebraic:

- Piecewise linear/quadratic maps
- Polynomial/rational maps

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Let $F: \mathbb{R}^n \rightrightarrows \mathbb{R}^m$ be a semialgebraic map. Then

- The inverse map $F^{-1}: \mathbb{R}^m \rightrightarrows \mathbb{R}^n$ is semialgebraic
- The following maps are semialgebraic

$$\mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad (x, y) \mapsto \text{dist}(x, F^{-1}(y)),$$

and

$$\mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad (x, y) \mapsto \text{dist}(y, F(x)).$$

The Łojasiewicz inequality

Proposition (The Łojasiewicz inequality)

Let $K \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be a compact semialgebraic set and let $\phi, \psi: K \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be semialgebraic functions satisfying the following:

- (i) ϕ is continuous;
- (ii) for any sequence $\{x^k\} \subset K$ converging to $\bar{x} \in K$ such that $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \psi(x^k) = 0$, it holds that $\psi(\bar{x}) = 0$.

Then $\psi^{-1}(0) \subset \phi^{-1}(0)$ if and only if there exist constants $c > 0$ and $\alpha > 0$ such that

$$c|\psi(x)|^\alpha \geq |\phi(x)| \quad \text{for all } x \in K.$$

Note: If ψ is continuous then (ii) holds.

Theorem

Let $F: \mathbb{R}^n \rightrightarrows \mathbb{R}^m$ be a semialgebraic set-valued map with closed graph. The map F is Hölder metrically subregular.

Tool: The Łojasiewicz inequality!

Characterizations of the openness

Proof.

Fix a point $y^* \in \text{range} F$ and a compact semialgebraic set $K \subset \mathbb{R}^n$. Consider the functions

$$\phi: K \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad x \mapsto \text{dist}(x, F^{-1}(y^*)),$$

and

$$\psi: K \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad x \mapsto \text{dist}(y^*, F(x)).$$

Applying the Łojasiewicz inequality to the functions ϕ and ψ , we can see that the map F is Hölder metrically subregular. □

Theorem

Let $F: \mathbb{R}^n \rightrightarrows \mathbb{R}^m$ be a semialgebraic set-valued map with closed graph. The following are equivalent:

- (i) F is an open map from $\text{dom}F$ into $\text{range}F$ and $\text{range}F$ is locally closed;
- (ii) F is Hölder metrically regular;
- (iii) F^{-1} is pseudo-Hölder continuous;
- (iv) F^{-1} is lower pseudo-Hölder continuous.

The main point of the proof is to show the implication (i) \Rightarrow (ii).

Tool: The Łojasiewicz inequality!

Proof of (i) \Rightarrow (ii).

There are two steps:

1. F is open if and only if the following function is continuous:

$$\phi: \mathbb{R}^n \times \text{range}F \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad (x, y) \mapsto \text{dist}(x, F^{-1}(y)).$$

Proof of (i) \Rightarrow (ii).

There are two steps:

1. F is open if and only if the following function is continuous:

$$\phi: \mathbb{R}^n \times \text{range} F \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad (x, y) \mapsto \text{dist}(x, F^{-1}(y)).$$

2. Applying the Łojasiewicz inequality to the functions

$$\phi(x, y) := \text{dist}(x, F^{-1}(y)) \quad \text{and} \quad \psi(x, y) := \text{dist}(y, F(x)),$$

we can see that the map F is Hölder metrically regular. □

Characterizations of the openness

Corollary

Let $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ be a continuous semialgebraic (single valued) map. Then the following are equivalent:

- (i) f is an open map from \mathbb{R}^n into $\text{range} f$ and $\text{range} f$ is locally closed;
- (ii) f is Hölder metrically regular;
- (iii) f^{-1} is pseudo-Hölder continuous;
- (iv) f^{-1} is lower pseudo-Hölder continuous.

Proof.

Since the map f is continuous, the graph of f is closed. Then the conclusion follows directly from the previous theorem. □

Characterizations of the openness

Proposition (See also Pühl, J. Math. Anal. Appl., 1998)

Let $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a **(not necessarily semialgebraic)** continuous function. Then the following are equivalent:

- (i) f is open;
- (ii) f has no extremum points.

Proof.

This is based on the following facts:

1. If $X \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ is a compact and connected set, then so is $f(X)$.
2. Every compact and connected set in \mathbb{R} is a closed and bounded interval. □

Consider the semialgebraic variational inequality:

$$\text{Find } \mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{C} \text{ s.t. } \langle \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{p}, \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x} \rangle \geq 0 \quad \forall \mathbf{y} \in \mathbf{C}, \quad (\text{VI})$$

where

- $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ is a continuous semialgebraic map,
- $C \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ is a closed convex semialgebraic set, and
- $p \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is a parameter vector.

Semialgebraic variational inequalities

Let $\mathcal{S}: \mathbb{R}^n \rightrightarrows \mathbb{R}^n$ be the **solution map** associated to (VI) and let $\mathcal{F}: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ be the **normal map** defined by

$$\mathcal{F}(u) := f(\Pi_C(u)) + u - \Pi_C(u),$$

where Π_C is the Euclidean projection onto the set C . We have

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{S}(p) &= \Pi_C(\mathcal{F}^{-1}(-p)), \\ \mathcal{F}^{-1}(-p) &= \{x - f(x) - p \mid x \in \mathcal{S}(p)\}.\end{aligned}$$

For simplicity, we will assume that $\text{dom}\mathcal{S}$ and $\text{range}\mathcal{S}$ are open.

Theorem (Dontchev–Rockafellar, SIOPT, 1996)

If f is an affine map and C is a convex polyhedral set, then the following are equivalent:

- (i) S is lower semicontinuous;
- (ii) S is pseudo-Lipschitz continuous;
- (iii) S is locally single valued and Lipschitz continuous;
- (iv) The “critical face” condition holds.

See also Ioffe [Math. Program, 2018] for a new proof!

Semialgebraic variational inequalities: **General case**

Dontchev–Rockafellar (SIOPT, 1996) ask whether **the lower semicontinuity of \mathcal{S} implies the local single valuedness and Lipschitz continuity of \mathcal{S} .**

Semialgebraic variational inequalities: **General case**

Dontchev–Rockafellar (SIOPT, 1996) ask whether **the lower semicontinuity of \mathcal{S} implies the local single valuedness and Lipschitz continuity of \mathcal{S}** . The following gives a negative answer to this question.

Example

Let $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2, (x, y) \mapsto (x^2 - y^2, 2xy)$ and $C := \mathbb{R}^2$. Then the solution map \mathcal{S} associated to (VI) is given by

$$\mathcal{S}: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightrightarrows \mathbb{R}^2, \quad p \mapsto f^{-1}(-p).$$

The map \mathcal{S} is l.s.c, but it is not locally single valued and also not Lipschitz continuous around $(0, 0) \in \mathbb{R}^2$.

Theorem

The following statements are equivalent:

- (i) \mathcal{S} is lower semicontinuous;
- (ii) \mathcal{S} is pseudo-Hölder continuous;
- (iii) \mathcal{S} is lower pseudo-Hölder continuous;
- (iv) \mathcal{S}^{-1} is open (i.e., it maps open sets into open sets);
- (v) \mathcal{S}^{-1} is Hölder metrically regular.
- (vi) \mathcal{F} is open;
- (vii) \mathcal{F} is Hölder metrically regular;
- (viii) \mathcal{F}^{-1} is pseudo-Hölder continuous;
- (ix) \mathcal{F}^{-1} is lower pseudo-Hölder continuous.

Note: The lower semicontinuity of \mathcal{S} does **not** imply the local single valuedness of \mathcal{S} .

Semialgebraic variational inequalities: General case

Note: The lower semicontinuity of \mathcal{S} does **not** imply the local single valuedness of \mathcal{S} . However, we have

Theorem

If the map \mathcal{S} is l.s.c, then there is an integer N such that

$$\#\mathcal{S}(p) \leq N \quad \text{for all } p \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

Proof.

The proof uses tools from Semialgebraic Geometry. □

References and thank you!

The details of the talk can be found in the manuscript:

- J. H. LEE AND T. S. PHẠM, [Openness, Hölder metric regularity and Hölder continuity properties of semialgebraic set-valued maps](#), arxiv.org/abs/2004.02188, 2020.

Thank you very much for your kind attention!