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A NOTE ON

THE GALE-NIKAIDO-DEBREU LEMMA AND
THE EXISTENCE OF GENERAL EQUILIBRIUM

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ABSTRACT.

In this note, we give an other version of the generalized Gale-Nikaido-Debreu lemma which has as direct corollary the usual statement without weakening any conclusion. We give also an other simple way for discarding free disposability.

Key Words: upper semi-continuous correspondence, partition of unity, retraction, transitive general quasi-equilibrium, free disposability.

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RESUME.

Dans cette note, nous donnons une autre version du lemme de Gale-Nikaido-Debreu généralisé qui a comme corollaire direct le résultat de Debreu sans affaiblissement de la conclusion. Nous donnons également une autre façon simple d'écarter la libre disposition.

Mots clés: correspondance semi-continue supérieurement, partition de l'unité, rétraction, quasi-équilibre transitif, libre disposition.

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In a paper published in JME, one of the two authors of this note gave a lemma presented as the most convenient version for applications in general equilibrium theory of the generalized statement of Gale-Nikaido-Debreu lemma :

Lemma 1. (Florenzano)

{ Let P be a closed convex cone with vertex 0 in $\mathbb{R}^L$, B the closed ball with center 0 and radius 1 , S the sphere with same center and same radius and ζ an upper semi-continuous and non-empty compact convex-valued correspondence from $B \cap P$ into $\mathbb{R}^L$. If ζ satisfies the condition

$$\forall p \in S \cap P, \exists z \in \zeta(p), p \cdot z \leq 0$$

{ then there exists $\bar{p} \in B \cap P$ such that $\zeta(\bar{p}) \cap P^0 \neq \emptyset$, where

$$P^0 = \{z \in \mathbb{R}^L / z \cdot p \leq 0 \forall p \in P\}$$

is the polar cone of P .

A very simple proof of lemma 1 was based upon the Brouwer's fixed-point theorem and the concept of partition of unity subordinated to a covering. It was evident from the proof that ζ does not need to be compact-valued but only such that $\zeta(p) - P^0$ is closed for each p in $B \cap P$. In particular, if P is the whole space ($P^0 = \{0\}$), we had as corollary :

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Corollary 1 (Cornet)

{ If ζ is an upper semi-continuous and non-empty closed convex-valued correspondence from B into $\mathbb{R}^\ell$, satisfying the condition

$$\forall p \in S, \exists z \in \zeta(p), p \cdot z \leq 0$$

{ then there exists $\bar{p} \in B$ such that $0 \in \zeta(\bar{p})$

Note also that the point $\bar{p}$, of which lemma 1 and corollary 1 demonstrate the existence, is not proved $\neq 0$. Actually, one can easily check that 0 is the unique point $\bar{p} \in B$ such that $0 \in \zeta(\bar{p})$, where $\zeta(p) = \{-p\}$ for every $p \in B$, and thus verifies the assumptions of corollary 1. This weakening of conclusion of lemma 1 with regard to the statement of Debreu (1956) was presented in the JME paper (1982) as the counterpart of the advantage of not leaving out the case where P is a linear subspace of $\mathbb{R}^\ell$.

The aim of this note is to state a corollary of lemma 1 which allows to deduce the standard statement of Gale-Nikaido-Debreu lemma without any weakening of the conclusion.

Corollary 2 (Le Van)

{ Under the assumptions of lemma 1 on B , S and P , let Q be a closed subset of $B \cap P$ containing $S \cap P$ and such that there exists a retraction r from B onto Q . If ζ is an upper semi-continuous and non-empty compact convex-valued correspondence from Q into $\mathbb{R}^\ell$, satisfying the condition

$$\forall p \in S \cap P, \exists z \in \zeta(p), p \cdot z \leq 0$$

{ then there exists $\bar{p} \in Q$ such that $\zeta(\bar{p}) \cap P^0 \neq \emptyset$.

Proof

Let $\zeta' : B \cap P \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^\ell$ be defined by $\zeta'(p) = \zeta(r(p))$. Since r is continuous, ζ' is upper semi-continuous. Since the restriction r/Q is the identity $Q \rightarrow Q$, ζ' satisfies the condition

$$\forall p \in S \cap P, \exists z \in \zeta(p) = \zeta'(p), p \cdot z \leq 0$$

./.

By lemma 1, there exists $\bar{p} \in B \cap P$ such that $\zeta(\bar{p}) \cap P^0 \neq \emptyset$;
 $\bar{p} = r(\bar{p}) \in Q$ and satisfies $\zeta(\bar{p}) \cap P^0 \neq \emptyset$

□

It should be emphasized that lemma 1 can be deduced from corollary 2. Indeed, if $Q = B \cap P$, Q is a closed convex subset of $\mathbb{R}^\ell$ and it follows from an extension of Tietze's theorem (see for example proposition 3.58 of Schwartz (1969)) that identity $Q \rightarrow Q$ has a continuous extension $B \rightarrow Q$; in other words, there exists a retraction $r : B \rightarrow B \cap P$. A direct proof of corollary 2 could be based on degree theory and would give an alternative proof of lemma 1.

Corollary 3 (Debreu)

{ Let P be a closed convex cone with vertex 0 in $\mathbb{R}^\ell$ which is not a linear subspace ; let P^0 , B and S be as in lemma 1. If ζ is an upper semi-continuous and non-empty compact convex-valued correspondence from $S \cap P$ into $\mathbb{R}^\ell$ satisfying the condition :

$$\forall p \in S \cap P, \exists z \in \zeta(p), p \cdot z \leq 0$$

} then there exists $\bar{p} \in S \cap P$ such that $\zeta(\bar{p}) \cap P^0 \neq \emptyset$

Proof

Corollary 3 is deduced from corollary 2 by proving the existence of a retraction from B onto $S \cap P$.

Since P is not a linear subspace of $\mathbb{R}^\ell$, there exists a non null vector $v \in P^0 \cap -P$. (see K. Border (1985), Proposition 2.18). Then $w = \frac{-v}{\|v\|} \in S \cap P$ and $w \cdot x \geq 0$ for all $x \in P$. Let $H = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^\ell / w \cdot x = 0\}$ be the hyperplane orthogonal to w and let $\pi : \mathbb{R}^\ell \rightarrow H$ be the orthogonal projection onto H , i.e. $\pi(x) = x - (x \cdot w)w$. Firstly $\pi(B) = B \cap H$. Secondly, $\tilde{\pi}$, the restriction of π to $S \cap P$, is a homeomorphism between $S \cap P$ and $\tilde{\pi}(S \cap P)$ and $\tilde{\pi}(S \cap P)$ is convex (see Proposition 18.3 in K. Border (1985)). As above, it follows from Tietze's theorem that there exists a retraction ρ from $B \cap H$ onto $\tilde{\pi}(S \cap P)$. Define $r = \tilde{\pi}^{-1} \circ \rho \circ \pi|_B$. r is a retraction from B onto $S \cap P$. Then it follows from corollary 2 that there exists $\bar{p} \in S \cap P$ such that $\zeta(\bar{p}) \cap P^0 \neq \emptyset$.

□

Remarks

In some cases, it is not necessary to invoke Tietze's theorem to exhibit a retraction. For example, if P is a closed half-space, i.e. $P = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^\ell / w \cdot x \geq 0\}$ for some $w \in S$, define $\pi : B \rightarrow H$ by $\pi(x) = x - (x \cdot w)w$ and $r : B \rightarrow S \cap P$ by $r(x) = \pi(x) + (1 - \|\pi(x)\|^2)^{1/2} w$. It is readily proved that r is a retraction from B onto $S \cap P$.

The previous example suggests a very simple trick, alternative to that one used by Bergstrom (1976), for proving the existence of a transitive general quasi-equilibrium without free disposability.

A pure exchange economy $E = ((X^i, R^i, \omega^i); i = 1, \dots, m)$ is defined by m consumption sets $X^i \subset \mathbb{R}^\ell$, for each i , a complete preorder R^i on X^i and an initial endowment $\omega^i \in \mathbb{R}^\ell$. The strict preference relation corresponding to R^i is :

$$x^i P^i x'^i \Leftrightarrow x^i R^i x'^i \text{ and not } x'^i R^i x^i.$$

Let us define

$$P^i(x^i) = \{x'^i \in X^i \mid x'^i P^i x^i\}$$

$$(P^i)^{-1}(x^i) = \{x'^i \in X^i \mid x^i P^i x'^i\}$$

If $p \in S^{\ell-1}$ (unit sphere of $\mathbb{R}^\ell$), we define

$$\gamma^i(p) = \{x^i \in X^i \mid p \cdot x^i \leq p \cdot \omega^i\}$$

$$\delta^i(p) = \{x^i \in X^i \mid p \cdot x^i < p \cdot \omega^i\}$$

$$\varphi^i(p) = \{x^i \in X^i \mid x^i \in \gamma^i(p) \text{ and } \delta^i(p) \cap P^i(x^i) = \emptyset\}$$

$$\eta(p) = \sum_{i=1}^m \varphi^i(p) - \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^m \omega^i \right\}.$$

A quasi-equilibrium without free-disposability of E is $(\bar{p}, \bar{x}) \in S^{\ell-1} \times \prod_{i=1}^m X^i$ such that

$$1) \forall i, \bar{x}^i \in \varphi^i(\bar{p})$$

$$2) \sum_{i=1}^m \bar{x}^i = \sum_{i=1}^m \omega^i.$$

./.

Proposition 1.

Under the following assumptions :

- $$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{H1 : } \forall i = 1, \dots, m, X^i \text{ is a non empty compact convex subset of } \mathbb{R}^\ell. \\ \text{H2 : } \forall i = 1, \dots, m, \forall x^i \in X^i, (P^i)^{-1}(x^i) \text{ is open in } X^i \\ \text{H3 : } \forall i = 1, \dots, m, \forall x^i \in X^i, x^i \notin \text{Co}(P^i(x^i)) \\ \text{H4 : } \forall i = 1, \dots, m, \omega^i \in X^i \\ \text{H5 : If } x = (x^i) \in \prod_{i=1}^m X^i, \sum_{i=1}^m x^i = \sum_{i=1}^m \omega^i \Rightarrow \forall i, P^i(x^i) \neq \emptyset \end{array} \right.$$
- then there exists a quasi-equilibrium without free disposability.

Proof

For $(p, q) \in S^\ell$ (unit-sphere of $\mathbb{R}^{\ell+1}$), with $p \in \mathbb{R}^\ell$ and $q \in \mathbb{R}_+$, let us define :

$$\hat{\gamma}^i(p, q) = \{x^i \in X^i / p \cdot x^i \leq p \cdot \omega^i + q\}$$

$$\hat{\delta}^i(p, q) = \{x^i \in X^i / p \cdot x^i < p \cdot \omega^i + q\}$$

$$\hat{P}^i(x^i) = \{z^i \in X^i / z^i = \lambda y^i + (1-\lambda)x^i, \lambda \in]0, 1], y^i \in P^i(x^i)\}$$

$$\hat{\varphi}^i(p, q) = \{x^i \in X^i / x^i \in \hat{\gamma}^i(p, q) \text{ and } \hat{\delta}^i(p, q) \cap \hat{P}^i(x^i) = \emptyset\}$$

$$\hat{\eta}(p, q) = \left(\sum_{i=1}^m \hat{\varphi}^i(p, q) - \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^m \omega^i \right\} \right) \times \{-m\}.$$

Using the same techniques as in Geistdoerfer-Florenzano (1982), one can show that $\hat{\eta}$ is an upper semi-continuous correspondence from $S^\ell_n(\mathbb{R}^\ell \times \mathbb{R}_+)$ into $\mathbb{R}^{\ell+1}$, with non-empty compact convex-values. One has :

$$\forall (p, q) \in S^\ell_n(\mathbb{R}^\ell \times \mathbb{R}_+), \forall (z, -m) \in \hat{\eta}(p, q)$$

$$p \cdot z - mq \leq 0.$$

Then by corollary 3, there exist $(\bar{p}, \bar{q}) \in S^\ell_n(\mathbb{R}^\ell \times \mathbb{R}_+)$ and a negative number t such that :

$$(0, t) \in \hat{\eta}(\bar{p}, \bar{q})$$

./.

That means $\exists \bar{x} = (\bar{x}^i) \in \prod_{i=1}^m X^i$

such that $\bar{x}^i \in \hat{\varphi}^i(\bar{p}, \bar{q})$, $\forall i = 1, \dots, m$

$$\sum_{i=1}^m \bar{x}^i = \sum_{i=1}^m \omega^i$$

$$t = -m$$

It is straightforward to show that

$$\forall i = 1, \dots, m, \bar{p} \cdot \bar{x}^i = \bar{p} \cdot \omega^i + \bar{q}.$$

Hence $m \bar{q} = 0 \Rightarrow \bar{q} = 0 \Rightarrow \bar{p} \in S^{\ell-1}$.

Finally, there exists $\bar{p} \in S^{\ell-1}$ and $\bar{x} = (\bar{x}^i) \in \prod_{i=1}^m X^i$ such that.

$$\forall i = 1, \dots, m, \quad \bar{x}^i \in \hat{\varphi}^i(\bar{p}, 0) \subset \varphi^i(\bar{p})$$

$$\text{and} \quad \sum_{i=1}^m \bar{x}^i = \sum_{i=1}^m \omega^i$$

□

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