

1           **MOREAU ENVELOPE OF SUPREMUM FUNCTIONS WITH**  
2           **APPLICATIONS TO INFINITE AND STOCHASTIC**  
3           **PROGRAMMING\***

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5           **Abstract.** In this paper, we investigate the Moreau envelope of the supremum of a family  
6 of convex, proper, and lower semicontinuous functions. Under mild assumptions, we prove that  
7 the Moreau envelope of a supremum is the supremum of Moreau envelopes, which allows us to ap-  
8 proximate possibly nonsmooth supremum functions by smooth functions that are also the suprema  
9 of functions. Consequently, we propose and study approximated optimization problems from infi-  
10 nite and stochastic programming for which we obtain zero-duality results and optimality conditions  
11 without the verification of constraint qualification conditions.

12           **Key words.** Moreau envelope, subdifferential calculus, supremum function, infinite program-  
13 ming, semi-infinite programming, stochastic programming.

14           **AMS subject classifications.** 49J53; 90C15; 90C34; 90C25

15           **1. Introduction.** The Moreau envelope (also called Moreau regularization) is  
16 ubiquitous in optimization, convex analysis, and variational analysis. It appears as  
17 a natural way to regularize a convex function through an associated optimization  
18 problem. Since its introduction by J.J. Moreau in [26], it has allowed both theoretical  
19 and practical development of the areas mentioned above (see [1, 3, 21, 22, 29] and the  
20 references therein). Furthermore, its study is strongly linked to the development of  
21 proximal algorithms to solve and approximate optimization problems.

22           Supremum functions play a fundamental role in diverse areas such as optimization,  
23 convex analysis, and variational analysis. For instance, in optimization, they enable  
24 to model robust objective or constraints functions for real-world applications. Hence,  
25 several authors have developed subdifferential calculus and optimality conditions for  
26 general optimization problems using such a class of mappings. We refer to [9, 17, 18, 27]  
27 and the references therein, where it is shown that the supremum functions can be used  
28 as a universal approach to study the whole theory of convex subdifferential calculus.  
29 It is also important to mention that supremum functions are also used in nonconvex  
30 analysis (see, e.g., [24, 28, 30]). Despite the significant theoretical advances in the study  
31 of this type of functions, from a practical point of view, it is not easy to deal with the  
32 nonsmoothness of supremum functions. Thus, considering appropriate regularizations  
33 could be a good alternative for applications.

34           In this paper, we study the Moreau envelope of supremum functions. We prove  
35 that, under concave-convex assumptions on the family of functions, the Moreau en-  
36 velope of a supremum is the supremum of Moreau envelopes, which allows us to ap-  
37 proximate possibly nonsmooth supremum functions by smooth functions that are also  
38 the suprema of functions. Consequently, we obtain optimality conditions and zero-

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39 duality results for infinite and stochastic programming of approximated optimization  
 40 problems, where we replace the original functions by its Moreau envelope. The ob-  
 41 tained results do not require constraint qualification conditions, which, in general, are  
 42 difficult to verify.

43 The paper is organized as follows. After some preliminaries, in Section 3, by using  
 44 an inf-sup theorem due to J.J. Moreau [25], we show that the Moreau envelope of a  
 45 supremum is the supremum of Moreau envelopes, and we provide a formula for its  
 46 gradient. In Section 4, we obtain optimality conditions and zero-duality gap results  
 47 for infinite programming problems. In Section 5, we furnish optimality conditions for  
 48 some stochastic optimization problems. The paper ends with some final comments.

## 49 2. Preliminaries.

50 **2.1. Basic tools from convex analysis.** Throughout this paper,  $\mathcal{H}$  is a Hilbert  
 51 space endowed with an inner product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ . The weak topology in  $\mathcal{H}$  is denoted by  
 52  $w$  and its respective convergence by  $\rightharpoonup$ . For a set  $A \subset \mathcal{H}$ , we denote by  $\text{co}(A)$  the  
 53 *convex hull* generated by  $A$ . The *indicator* and the *support function* of  $A$  are defined,  
 54 respectively, by

$$55 \quad \delta_A(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x \in A, \\ +\infty & \text{if } x \notin A, \end{cases} \quad \sigma_A(x) = \sup_{y \in A} \langle x, y \rangle.$$

57 The *distance function* from  $x$  to  $A$  is given by  $\text{dist}(x, A) = \inf \{\|x - y\| : y \in A\}$ .  
 58 Moreover, if  $A$  is nonempty, closed and convex, the *projection* of  $x \in \mathcal{H}$  onto  $A$   
 59 is denoted by  $\text{proj}_A(x)$ .

60 Given a function  $g : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_\infty := \mathbb{R} \cup \{+\infty\}$ , the *domain* and the *epigraph* of  $g$   
 61 are

$$62 \quad \text{dom } g := \{x \in \mathcal{H} : g(x) < +\infty\} \text{ and } \text{epi } g := \{(x, \alpha) \in \mathcal{H} \times \mathbb{R} : g(x) \leq \alpha\},$$

63 respectively. We say that  $g$  is *proper* if  $\text{dom } g \neq \emptyset$ . The class of all proper, convex,  
 64 and lower semicontinuous functions is denoted by  $\Gamma_0(\mathcal{H})$ .

65 The Fenchel conjugate function of  $g$  is given by

$$66 \quad g^*(x^*) := \sup \{\langle x^*, z \rangle - g(z) : z \in \mathcal{H}\} \text{ for all } x^* \in \mathcal{H},$$

68 and the biconjugate is given by  $g^{**} = (g^*)^*$ .

69 The (*Moreau-Rockafellar*) *convex subdifferential* of  $g$  at a point  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ , where  $g$   
 70 is finite, is the set

$$71 \quad \partial g(x) := \{x^* \in \mathcal{H} : \langle x^*, x \rangle = g^*(x^*) + g(x)\},$$

72 otherwise, we set  $\partial g(x) = \emptyset$ .

73 The next lemma will be used through the paper.

74 **LEMMA 2.1.** *Let  $(g_c)_{c \in \mathcal{C}} \subset \Gamma_0(\mathcal{H})$  be a family of functions indexed by a convex*  
 75 *set  $\mathcal{C}$ . If the map  $c \rightarrow g_c(x)$  is concave for all  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ , then*

- 76 a) *The map  $\mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{H} \ni (c, x^*) \rightarrow g_c^*(x^*)$  is convex.*  
 77 b) *In addition, if  $(\mathcal{C}, \tau)$  is topological space and the map  $c \rightarrow g_c(x)$  is  $\tau$ -upper*  
 78 *semicontinuous for all  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ , then the function  $(c, x^*) \rightarrow g_c^*(x^*)$  is  $\tau \times w$ -*  
 79 *lower semicontinuous.*

*Proof.* a) For  $(c_1, x_1^*), (c_2, x_2^*) \in \mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{H}$  and  $\alpha \in [0, 1]$  fixed, let us consider the  
 convex combination

$$(c_\alpha, x_\alpha^*) := \alpha(c_1, x_1^*) + (1 - \alpha)(c_2, x_2^*).$$

80 Then, by the concavity of  $c \mapsto g_c(w)$  for  $w \in \mathcal{H}$  arbitrary,

$$81 \quad g_{c_\alpha}(w) \geq \alpha g_{c_1}(w) + (1 - \alpha)g_{c_2}(w).$$

83 Hence, by the latter inequality and the definition of the convex conjugate,

$$\begin{aligned} 84 \quad \langle w, x_\alpha^* \rangle - g_{c_\alpha}(w) &\leq \alpha \langle w, x_1^* \rangle + (1 - \alpha) \langle w, x_2^* \rangle - \alpha g_{c_1}(w) - (1 - \alpha)g_{c_2}(w) \\ 85 \quad &\leq \alpha (\langle w, x_1^* \rangle - g_{c_1}(w)) + (1 - \alpha) (\langle w, x_2^* \rangle - g_{c_2}(w)) \\ 86 \quad &\leq \alpha g_{c_1}^*(x_1^*) + (1 - \alpha)g_{c_2}^*(x_2^*). \end{aligned}$$

88 Since  $w \in \mathcal{H}$  is arbitrary, we get that

$$89 \quad g_{c_\alpha}^*(x_\alpha^*) \leq \alpha g_{c_1}^*(x_1^*) + (1 - \alpha)g_{c_2}^*(x_2^*),$$

91 which proves the convexity of the map  $(c, x^*) \rightarrow g_c^*(x^*)$ .

92 b) By virtue of the upper semicontinuity of  $c \mapsto g_c(w)$  for all  $w \in \mathcal{H}$ , the function

$$93 \quad (c, x^*) \rightarrow \langle w, x^* \rangle - g_c(w)$$

95 is  $\tau \times w$ -lower semicontinuous for all  $w \in \mathcal{H}$ . Hence, since the conjugate is the  
96 supremum of  $\tau \times w$ -lower semicontinuous functions, the above function is also  $\tau \times w$ -  
97 lower semicontinuous, which proves b).  $\square$

98 Let  $g: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_\infty$  be a function in  $\Gamma_0(\mathcal{H})$ . For any  $\lambda > 0$ , the Moreau envelope of  
99  $g$  of index  $\lambda$  is the function  $e_\lambda g: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , defined by

$$100 \quad e_\lambda g(x) := \inf_{y \in \mathcal{H}} \left( g(y) + \frac{1}{2\lambda} \|x - y\|^2 \right) \text{ for all } x \in \mathcal{H}.$$

101 The latter infimum is attained at a unique point  $P_\lambda g(x) \in \mathcal{H}$ , which satisfies

$$102 \quad e_\lambda g(x) = g(P_\lambda g(x)) + \frac{1}{2\lambda} \|x - P_\lambda g(x)\|^2 \text{ and } P_\lambda g(x) + \lambda \partial g(P_\lambda g(x)) \ni x.$$

103 Moreover, the operator  $P_\lambda g(x) = (I + \lambda \partial g)^{-1}: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  is everywhere defined and  
104 nonexpansive. It is called the resolvent of index  $\lambda$  of  $A = \partial g$ . The Moreau envelope  
105  $e_\lambda g$  is convex and continuously differentiable. For each  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ , its gradient is given  
106 by

$$107 \quad (2.1) \quad \nabla e_\lambda g(x) = \frac{1}{\lambda} (x - P_\lambda g(x)).$$

108 The operator  $A_\lambda = \frac{1}{\lambda} (I - P_\lambda g)$  is called the Yosida approximation of index  $\lambda$  of  
109 the maximal monotone operator  $A = \partial g$ . This operator is Lipschitz continuous of  
110 constant  $1/\lambda$  and satisfies

$$111 \quad A_\lambda x = \nabla e_\lambda g(x) \text{ and } A_\lambda(x) \in \partial g(P_\lambda g(x)) \text{ for all } x \in \mathcal{H}.$$

112 The following proposition summarizes the main properties of the Moreau envelope in  
113 Hilbert spaces. We refer to [1, 2, 4] for more details.

114 **PROPOSITION 2.2.** *Let  $g: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_\infty$  be a function in  $\Gamma_0(\mathcal{H})$ . Then the following*  
115 *hold.*

- 116 1. *Monotone convergence:*  $e_\lambda g(x) \nearrow g(x)$  as  $\lambda \searrow 0$  for all  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ .
- 117 2. *Convergence of resolvents:*  $P_\lambda g(x) \rightarrow x$  as  $\lambda \rightarrow 0$  for all  $x \in \overline{\text{dom } g}$  and  
118  $P_\lambda g \rightarrow \text{proj}_{\overline{\text{dom } g}}(x)$  as  $\lambda \rightarrow 0$  for all  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ .
- 119 3. *Conjugate:*  $(e_\lambda g)^*(x^*) = g^*(x^*) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|x^*\|^2$  for all  $x^* \in \mathcal{H}$ .
- 120 4. *Lower epi-convergence:* If  $x_k \rightarrow x$  and  $\lambda_k \searrow 0$ , then  $g(x) \leq \liminf_{k \rightarrow \infty} e_{\lambda_k} g(x_k)$ .

121 **2.2. Inf-sup Theorem.** One of the main tools used in this article is the following  
 122 inf-sup theorem. Its proof is based on the inf-sup theorem proved by J.J. Moreau  
 123 in [25]. We refer to [34] for historical perspectives and other variants of inf-sup  
 124 theorems.

125 **PROPOSITION 2.3.** *Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a convex set and let  $g : \mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_\infty$  be a function  
 126 such that*

- 127 • *The function  $x \mapsto g(c, x)$  belongs to  $\Gamma_0(\mathcal{H})$  for all  $c \in \mathcal{C}$ .*
- 128 • *The function  $c \mapsto g(c, x)$  is concave for all  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ .*
- 129 • *There exists  $c_0 \in \mathcal{C}$  and  $k_0 > \inf_{x \in \mathcal{H}} g(c_0, x)$  such that  $\{x \in \mathcal{H} : g(c_0, x) \leq k_0\}$   
 130 *is bounded.**

131 *Then,  $\inf_{x \in \mathcal{H}} \sup_{c \in \mathcal{C}} g(c, x) = \sup_{c \in \mathcal{C}} \inf_{x \in \mathcal{H}} g(c, x)$ .*

132 *Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be the vector space spanned by  $\mathcal{C}$ . We extend the function  $g$  to the  
 133 whole space  $\mathcal{F} \times \mathcal{H}$  by

$$134 \hat{g}(c, x) := \begin{cases} g(c, x) & \text{if } (c, x) \in \mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{H} \\ -\infty & \text{if } (c, x) \notin \mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{H}. \end{cases}$$

136 Since  $\hat{g}$  satisfies the assumptions of [25, Proposition 2], we obtain that

$$137 \inf_{x \in \mathcal{H}} \sup_{c \in \mathcal{F}} \hat{g}(c, x) = \sup_{c \in \mathcal{F}} \inf_{x \in \mathcal{H}} \hat{g}(c, x).$$

139 Therefore,

$$140 \inf_{x \in \mathcal{H}} \sup_{c \in \mathcal{C}} g(c, x) = \inf_{x \in \mathcal{H}} \sup_{c \in \mathcal{F}} \hat{g}(c, x) = \sup_{c \in \mathcal{F}} \inf_{x \in \mathcal{H}} \hat{g}(c, x) = \sup_{c \in \mathcal{C}} \inf_{x \in \mathcal{H}} g(c, x),$$

141 which proves the result. □

142 **2.3. Perturbation function and duality.** Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a family of indexes. Fol-  
 143 lowing [14, 15], let  $\mathcal{X}_c$  be a family of Banach spaces indexed by  $c \in \mathcal{C}$ . We de-  
 144 note by  $0_c$  the zero vector in  $\mathcal{X}_c$ . Consider for each  $c \in \mathcal{C}$  a perturbation function  
 145  $\Phi_c : \mathcal{H} \times \mathcal{X}_c \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_\infty$ . For each  $x^* \in \mathcal{H}$ , the primal problem is given by

$$146 (\mathbf{P}_{x^*}) \quad \inf_{x \in \mathcal{H}} \sup_{c \in \mathcal{C}} (\Phi_c(x, 0_c) - \langle x^*, x \rangle),$$

148 and its corresponding dual is given by

$$149 (\mathbf{D}_{x^*}) \quad \sup_{c \in \mathcal{C}, x_c^* \in \mathcal{X}_c^*} -\Phi_c^*(x^*, x_c^*).$$

151 The following result establishes a zero duality gap for convex perturbation functions  
 152 (see [14, Proposition 3.2] and [15, 23]).

153 **PROPOSITION 2.4.** *Let  $\Phi_c \in \Gamma_0(\mathcal{H} \times \mathcal{X}_c)$  for  $c \in \mathcal{C}$  such that  $\sup_{c \in \mathcal{C}} \Phi_c(\cdot, 0)$  is  
 154 proper. Then, the following statements are equivalent:*

- 155 a)  $\inf (\mathbf{P}_{x^*}) = \max (\mathbf{D}_{x^*})$ .
- 156 b) *The set  $\mathcal{W} = \bigcup_{c \in \mathcal{C}} \{(x^*, \alpha) \in \mathcal{H} \times \mathbb{R} : \exists x_c^* \in \mathcal{X}_c^*, \text{ s.t. } \Phi_c^*(x^*, x_c^*) \leq \alpha\}$  is closed  
 157 and convex.*

158 **3. Moreau envelope of the supremum function.** In this section, we study  
 159 the Moreau envelope of the supremum function

$$160 (3.1) \quad f(x) := \sup_{c \in \mathcal{C}} f_c(x) \text{ for all } x \in \mathcal{H},$$

161 where  $(f_c)_{c \in \mathcal{C}}$  is a family of functions in  $\Gamma_0(\mathcal{H})$  indexed by a convex set  $\mathcal{C} \neq \emptyset$ .

162 The following structural result, whose proof is based on Proposition 2.3, estab-  
 163 lishes that the Moreau envelope of a supremum is the supremum of Moreau envelopes  
 164 under the concavity of the maps  $c \mapsto f_c(x)$  for all  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ .

165 **THEOREM 3.1.** *Let  $\mathcal{C} \neq \emptyset$  be a convex set and  $(f_c)_{c \in \mathcal{C}}$  be a family of functions*  
 166 *in  $\Gamma_0(\mathcal{H})$  such the supremum function  $f := \sup_{c \in \mathcal{C}} f_c$  is proper and the function*  
 167  *$c \mapsto f_c(x)$  is concave for all  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ . Then, for all  $\lambda > 0$*

$$168 \quad (3.2) \quad e_\lambda f(x) = \sup_{c \in \mathcal{C}} e_\lambda f_c(x) \quad \text{for all } x \in \mathcal{H}.$$

169 Moreover, if  $\mathcal{C}$  is compact and the function  $c \mapsto f_c(x)$  is upper semicontinuous for all  
 170  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ , then the supremum in (3.2) is attained.

171 *Proof.* Fix  $\lambda > 0$  and  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ . Let us consider the function  $g : \mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_\infty$   
 172 defined by

$$173 \quad g(c, y) := f_c(y) + \frac{1}{2\lambda} \|y - x\|^2.$$

174 It is clear that  $\sup_{c \in \mathcal{C}} g(c, y) = f(y) + \frac{1}{2\lambda} \|y - x\|^2$ . Also, for any  $c_0 \in \mathcal{C}$  fixed,  
 the function  $f_{c_0}$  belongs to  $\Gamma_0(\mathcal{H})$ , thus, it has an affine minorant. Then, the set  
 $\{y \in \mathcal{H} : g(c_0, y) \leq \alpha\}$  is bounded for all  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ . Hence, by virtue of Proposition 2.3,  
 the following equality holds:

$$\sup_{c \in \mathcal{C}} \inf_{y \in \mathcal{H}} g(c, y) = \inf_{y \in \mathcal{H}} \sup_{c \in \mathcal{C}} g(c, y).$$

175 Therefore, for all  $x \in \mathcal{H}$

$$\begin{aligned} 176 \quad \sup_{c \in \mathcal{C}} e_\lambda f_c(x) &= \sup_{c \in \mathcal{C}} \inf_{y \in \mathcal{H}} \left( f_c(y) + \frac{1}{2\lambda} \|y - x\|^2 \right) \\ 177 &= \sup_{c \in \mathcal{C}} \inf_{y \in \mathcal{H}} g(c, y) \\ 178 &= \inf_{y \in \mathcal{H}} \sup_{c \in \mathcal{C}} g(c, y) \\ 179 &= \inf_{y \in \mathcal{H}} \left( f(y) + \frac{1}{2\lambda} \|y - x\|^2 \right) \\ 180 &= e_\lambda f(x), \end{aligned}$$

182 which ends the proof. □

183 The next result provides a framework where the concave assumption on Theorem 3.1  
 184 automatically holds. For a given set  $T \neq \emptyset$ , we define the  $T$ -dimensional simplex  
 185  $\Delta(T)$  as the set of all functions  $(\alpha_t) \in \mathbb{R}_+^T$  such that  $\alpha_t \neq 0$  for finitely many  $t \in T$ ,  
 186 and  $\sum \alpha_t = 1$ .

187 **COROLLARY 3.2.** *Let  $T$  be a nonempty set and  $(g_t)_{t \in T}$  be a family of functions*  
 188 *on  $\Gamma_0(\mathcal{H})$  such that  $g := \sup_{t \in T} g_t$  is proper. Then, for all  $\lambda > 0$*

$$189 \quad e_\lambda g(x) = \sup_{(\alpha_t) \in \Delta(T)} e_\lambda \left( \sum_{t \in T} \alpha_t g_t \right) (x) \quad \text{for all } x \in \mathcal{H}.$$

190 *Proof.* Consider  $\mathcal{C} := \Delta(T)$  and the family  $f_c(x) = \sum_{t \in T} \alpha_t g_t(x)$  for  $c = (\alpha_t) \in \mathcal{C}$ .  
 191 It is clear that  $(f_c)_{c \in \mathcal{C}}$  satisfies the assumptions of Theorem 3.1 and  $g = \sup_{c \in \mathcal{C}} f_c$ .  
 192 Therefore,

$$193 \quad e_\lambda g(x) = \sup_{c \in \mathcal{C}} e_\lambda f_c(x) = \sup_{(\alpha_t) \in \Delta(T)} e_\lambda \left( \sum_{t \in T} \alpha_t g_t \right) (x) \quad \text{for all } x \in \mathcal{H},$$

194 which ends the proof.  $\square$

195 An prominent case of the above result corresponds to the case where  $T$  is a finite set.  
 196 We write this important particular case as a corollary.

197 **COROLLARY 3.3.** *Let  $g_i : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_\infty$  with  $i = 1, \dots, n$  be a finite family of functions*  
 198 *on  $\Gamma_0(\mathcal{H})$  such that  $\bigcap_{i=1}^n \text{dom } g_i \neq \emptyset$ . Then, for all  $\lambda > 0$*

$$199 \quad e_\lambda g(x) = \sup_{(\alpha_i)_{i=1}^n \in \Delta_n} e_\lambda \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i g_i \right) (x) \quad \text{for all } x \in \mathcal{H},$$

200 where  $\Delta_n := \{(\alpha_i)_{i=1}^n \in \mathbb{R}_+^n : \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i = 1\}$ .

201 The rest of this section is dedicated to calculating the gradient of the Moreau  
 202 envelope of the supremum function defined in (3.1). The following formula (see [10,  
 203 Corollary 3.13] and also [9, 18, 27, 28]) will be useful for this purpose.

204 **PROPOSITION 3.4.** *Let  $(g_t)_{t \in T} \subset \Gamma_0(\mathcal{H})$ , and suppose that  $g := \sup_{t \in T} g_t$  is finite*  
 205 *and continuous at  $\bar{x}$ . Assume additionally that  $T$  is a compact topological space and*  
 206 *for every  $z \in \text{dom } g$ , the function  $t \mapsto g_t(z)$  is upper semicontinuous. Then*

$$207 \quad \partial g(\bar{x}) = \text{co} \{x^* \in \partial g_t(\bar{x}) : g_t(\bar{x}) = g(\bar{x})\}.$$

208 To calculate the gradient of the Moreau envelope of the supremum function  $f$  defined  
 209 in (3.1), we introduce the following notation: for  $\lambda > 0$  and  $x \in \mathcal{H}$  given, we define  
 210 the active set of  $e_\lambda f$  at  $x$  by

$$211 \quad \mathcal{C}_\lambda(x) := \{c \in \mathcal{C} : e_\lambda f(x) = e_\lambda f_c(x)\}.$$

212

214 **THEOREM 3.5.** *Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a nonempty compact and convex set and  $(f_c)_{c \in \mathcal{C}} \subset \Gamma_0(\mathcal{H})$*   
 215 *be a family of functions such that  $f = \sup_{c \in \mathcal{C}} f_c$  is proper and the map  $\mathcal{C} \ni c \mapsto f_c(x)$*   
 216 *is concave and upper semicontinuous for all  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ . Then, for all  $\lambda > 0$  and  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ ,*  
 217 *the set  $\mathcal{C}_\lambda(x)$  is nonempty,*

$$218 \quad (3.3) \quad P_\lambda f(x) = P_\lambda f_c(x) \text{ and } \nabla e_\lambda f(x) = \frac{x - P_\lambda f_c(x)}{\lambda} \text{ for all } c \in \mathcal{C}_\lambda(x).$$

220 *Proof.* By virtue of Theorem 3.1, we have that  $e_\lambda f(x) = \sup_{c \in \mathcal{C}} e_\lambda f_c(x)$  for all  
 221  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ . Since for each  $y \in \mathcal{H}$  the function  $c \rightarrow f_c(y)$  is upper semicontinuous, the  
 222 function  $c \rightarrow f_c(y) + \frac{1}{2\lambda} \|x - y\|^2$  is also upper semicontinuous for each  $y \in \mathcal{H}$ . Conse-  
 223 quently, since the infimum of upper semicontinuous functions is upper semicontinuous,  
 224 the function  $c \rightarrow e_\lambda f_c(x)$  is also upper semicontinuous for all  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ . Moreover, since  
 225 the Moreau envelope is continuously differentiable, Proposition 3.4 implies that

$$226 \quad \{\nabla e_\lambda f(x)\} = \partial e_\lambda f(x) = \text{co} \{\nabla e_\lambda f_c(x) : c \in \mathcal{C}_\lambda(x)\}.$$

227 Finally,  $\frac{x - P_\lambda f_c(x)}{\lambda} \in \partial e_\lambda f(x)$  for any  $c \in \mathcal{C}_\lambda(x)$ , which implies (3.3).  $\square$

228 **4. Optimality and duality in infinite programming.** In this section, we  
 229 investigate the regularization of general problems arising in infinite and semi-infinite  
 230 programming. To cover several classes of problems, we start our analysis by consid-  
 231 ering the class of Robust (objective) optimization problems:

$$232 \quad (\mathcal{P}) \quad \min_{x \in \mathcal{Q}} f(x) := \sup_{c \in \mathcal{C}} f_c(x),$$

233 where  $(f_c)_{c \in \mathcal{C}}$  is a family of functions on  $\Gamma_0(\mathcal{H})$  and  $\mathcal{Q}$  is a closed convex set. For  
 234  $\lambda > 0$ , we consider the following regularization version of problem  $(\mathcal{P})$ :

$$235 \quad (\mathcal{P}_\lambda) \quad \min_{x \in \mathcal{Q}} e_\lambda f(x).$$

236 The formal relation between these optimization problems is given in the following  
 237 proposition.

238 **PROPOSITION 4.1.** *Let  $x_k$  be an  $\epsilon_k$ -minimizer of Problem  $(\mathcal{P}_{\lambda_k})$  for  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , where*  
 239  *$\epsilon_k \rightarrow 0$  and  $\lambda_k \searrow 0$ . If  $x_k \rightarrow \bar{x}$ , then  $\bar{x}$  is a minimizer of  $(\mathcal{P})$ .*

240 *Proof.* Since  $x_k$  is an  $\epsilon_k$ -minimizer of Problem  $(\mathcal{P}_{\lambda_k})$  and by virtue of Proposition  
 241 2.2, it follows that for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}$

$$242 \quad e_{\lambda_k} f(x_k) \leq e_{\lambda_k} f(x) + \epsilon_k \leq f(x) + \epsilon_k \quad \text{for all } x \in \mathcal{Q}. \quad \square$$

244 Hence, according to Proposition 2.2,  $f(\bar{x}) \leq \liminf e_{\lambda_k} f(x_k) \leq f(x)$  for all  $x \in \mathcal{Q}$ ,  
 245 which proves the result.

246 The following result gives necessary and sufficient optimality conditions for the  
 247 optimization problem  $(\mathcal{P}_\lambda)$ .

248 **THEOREM 4.2.** *Let  $\mathcal{C} \neq \emptyset$  be a nonempty compact convex set and  $(f_c)_{c \in \mathcal{C}} \subset \Gamma_0(\mathcal{H})$*   
 249 *be a family of functions such that  $f := \sup_{c \in \mathcal{C}} f_c$  is proper and the map  $c \mapsto f_c(x)$*   
 250 *is concave and upper semicontinuous for all  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ . Then,  $\bar{x} \in \mathcal{Q}$  is a solution of*  
 251 *Problem  $(\mathcal{P}_\lambda)$  if and only if there exist  $c \in \mathcal{C}_\lambda(\bar{x})$ , which is nonempty, such that*

$$252 \quad (4.1) \quad \text{P}_\lambda f_c(\bar{x}) \in \bar{x} + N_{\mathcal{Q}}(\bar{x}).$$

254 *Proof.* Let us consider the function  $\varphi := e_\lambda f + \delta_{\mathcal{Q}}$ . Then,  $\bar{x} \in \mathcal{Q}$  is a minimum of  
 255  $(\mathcal{P}_\lambda)$  if and only if  $0_{\mathcal{H}} \in \partial(e_\lambda f + \delta_{\mathcal{Q}})(\bar{x})$ . Hence, by the smoothness of the Moreau  
 256 envelope and the sum rule for the the convex subdifferential (see, e.g., [4, Corollary  
 257 16.38]), we obtain that

$$258 \quad \partial(e_\lambda f + \delta_{\mathcal{Q}})(\bar{x}) = \nabla e_\lambda f(\bar{x}) + N_{\mathcal{Q}}(\bar{x}).$$

Therefore, by virtue of Theorem 3.5,  $\bar{x} \in \mathcal{Q}$  is a solution of  $(\mathcal{P}_\lambda)$  if and only if there  
 exists  $c \in \mathcal{C}_\lambda(\bar{x})$  such that

$$0_{\mathcal{H}} \in \frac{\bar{x} - \text{P}_\lambda f_c(\bar{x})}{\lambda} + N_{\mathcal{Q}}(\bar{x}),$$

260 which implies the result. □

261 **Remark 4.3.** It is important to emphasize that Theorem 4.2 does not require  
 262 any qualification conditions. Moreover, the concave assumption can be obtained for  
 263 arbitrary family of functions by considering the generalized simplex as in the Corollary  
 264 3.2.

265 Now, we proceed to apply Theorem 4.2 to obtain necessary and sufficient opti-  
 266 mality conditions for concrete classes of optimization problems.

267 *Infinite Programming Problems.* Let us consider the following infinite program-  
 268 ming problem:

$$269 \quad (\text{I}) \quad \begin{array}{ll} \min g(x) \\ \text{s.t.} & x \in \mathcal{Q} \text{ and } f_c(x) \leq 0 \text{ for all } c \in \mathcal{C}, \end{array}$$

270 where  $g \in \Gamma_0(\mathcal{H})$ ,  $\mathcal{Q} \subset \mathcal{H}$  is a closed and convex set,  $(f_c)_{c \in \mathcal{C}} \subset \Gamma_0(\mathcal{H})$  and  $\mathcal{C}$  is a  
 271 compact and convex set. Given  $\lambda > 0$  and  $\eta \in [0, +\infty)$ , we consider the following  
 272 regularization form of the Problem (I)

$$273 \quad (\text{I}_{\lambda, \eta}) \quad \begin{array}{ll} \min e_\lambda g(x) \\ \text{s.t.} & x \in \mathcal{Q} \text{ and } e_\lambda f_c(x) \leq \eta \text{ for all } c \in \mathcal{C}. \end{array}$$

274 The following result relates (I) and  $(\text{I}_{\lambda, \eta})$ . The proof follows similar arguments to the  
 275 given in the proof of Proposition 4.1, so we omit it.

276 **PROPOSITION 4.4.** *Let  $(x_k)$  be a sequence of  $\epsilon_k$ -minimizers of  $(\text{I}_{\lambda_k, \eta_k})$  with  $\eta_k \rightarrow$   
 277  $0$ ,  $\epsilon_k \rightarrow 0$  and  $\lambda_k \searrow 0$ . If  $x_k \rightarrow \bar{x}$ , then  $\bar{x}$  is a minimizer of (I).*

278 The next theorem gives necessary and sufficient optimality conditions for the  
 279 problem  $(\text{I}_{\lambda, \eta})$ .

280 **THEOREM 4.5.** *Let  $g \in \Gamma_0(\mathcal{H})$ ,  $\mathcal{C}$  be a nonempty, compact and convex set and  
 281  $(f_c)_{c \in \mathcal{C}} \subset \Gamma_0(\mathcal{H})$  be a family of functions such that the supremum function  $f :=$   
 282  $\sup_{c \in \mathcal{C}} f_c$  is proper and the map  $c \mapsto f_c(x)$  is concave for all  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ . Let  $\lambda > 0$  and  
 283  $\eta \in [0, +\infty)$ , and assume that the optimal value of Problem  $(\text{I}_{\lambda, \eta})$  is finite. Then, if  $\bar{x}$   
 284 is a solution of Problem  $(\text{I}_{\lambda, \eta})$  there are  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2 \geq 0$  and  $c \in \mathcal{C}$  with  $\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 = 1$  such  
 285 that*

$$286 \quad (4.2) \quad \alpha_2(e_\lambda f(\bar{x}) - \eta) = 0 \text{ and } 0_{\mathcal{H}} \in \bar{x} - \alpha_1 P_\lambda g(\bar{x}) - \alpha_2 P_\lambda f_c(\bar{x}) + N_{\mathcal{Q}}(\bar{x}).$$

288 *Conversely, if  $\bar{x}$  is feasible for  $(\text{I}_{\lambda, \eta})$ , satisfies (4.2) and  $\text{proj}_{\mathcal{Q}}(P_\lambda f_c(\bar{x})) \neq \bar{x}$ , then  $\bar{x}$   
 289 is a minimum of  $(\text{I}_{\lambda, \eta})$ .*

290 *Proof.* Let us denote by  $\beta$  the optimal value of Problem  $(\text{I}_{\lambda, \eta})$  and consider the  
 291 optimization problem

$$292 \quad (4.3) \quad \min_{x \in \mathcal{Q}} h(x),$$

293 where  $h(x) := \max\{e_\lambda g(x) - \beta + \eta, e_\lambda f(x)\}$ . Then,  $\bar{x}$  solves  $(\text{I}_{\lambda, \eta})$  if and only if  $\bar{x}$   
 294 solves (4.3). Therefore,  $\bar{x}$  solves  $(\text{I}_{\lambda, \eta})$  if and only if

$$295 \quad 0_{\mathcal{H}} \in \partial(h + \delta_{\mathcal{Q}})(\bar{x}).$$

297 By the continuity of  $h$  and the sum rule for the convex subdifferential (see, e.g., [4,  
 298 Corollary 16.38]), we obtain that

$$299 \quad 0_{\mathcal{H}} \in \partial h(\bar{x}) + N_{\mathcal{Q}}(\bar{x}).$$

301 Moreover, due to Proposition 3.4, the subdifferential of the above max function is given  
 302 by the convex hull of (sub)-gradients which attains the maximum. In our particular  
 303 case (recall that  $e_\lambda g(\bar{x}) = \beta$ )

$$304 \quad \partial h(\bar{x}) = \begin{cases} \text{co}\{\nabla e_\lambda g(\bar{x}), \nabla e_\lambda f(\bar{x})\} & \text{if } e_\lambda f(\bar{x}) = \eta, \\ \nabla e_\lambda g(\bar{x}) & \text{if } e_\lambda f(\bar{x}) < \eta. \end{cases}$$

Finally, by virtue of Theorem 3.5, the gradient  $\nabla e_\lambda f(\bar{x}) = \frac{\bar{x} - P_\lambda f_c(\bar{x})}{\lambda}$  for any  $c \in \mathcal{C}_\lambda(\bar{x})$ . Therefore, (4.2) holds.

Conversely, notice that if the multiplier  $\alpha_1$  in (4.2) is equal to zero, then

$$P_\lambda f_c(\bar{x}) \in \bar{x} + N_{\mathcal{Q}}(\bar{x}),$$

306 which means that  $\text{proj}_{\mathcal{Q}}(P_\lambda f_c(\bar{x})) = \bar{x}$ . Thus, (4.2) holds with  $\alpha_1 \neq 0$ . Hence, for  
 307 every feasible point  $y$  of Problem  $(\mathbf{I}_{\lambda,\eta})$ , we have that

$$\begin{aligned} 308 \quad 0 &\leq \alpha_1(e_\lambda g(y) - e_\lambda g(\bar{x})) + \alpha_2(e_\lambda f_c(y) - e_\lambda f_c(\bar{x})) \\ 309 &\leq \alpha_1(e_\lambda g(y) - e_\lambda g(\bar{x})) + \alpha_2(\eta - e_\lambda f_c(\bar{x})) \\ 310 &= \alpha_1(e_\lambda g(y) - e_\lambda g(\bar{x})) \end{aligned}$$

312 where in the last inequality equality we have used that  $\alpha_2(\eta - e_\lambda f_c(\bar{x})) = 0$ . Therefore,  
 313 dividing by  $\alpha_1$ , we get that  $e_\lambda g(y) \geq e_\lambda g(\bar{x})$  for every feasible point  $y$  of Problem  
 314  $(\mathbf{I}_{\lambda,\eta})$ , which ends the proof.  $\square$

315 *Conic programming.* Let us consider the following conic programming problem

$$\begin{aligned} 316 \quad (4.4) \quad &\min g(x) \\ &\text{s.t. } x \in \mathcal{Q} \text{ and } F(x) \in -\mathcal{K}, \end{aligned}$$

317 where  $g$  is a function in  $\Gamma_0(\mathcal{H})$ ,  $\mathcal{Q} \subset \mathcal{H}$  is a closed and convex set,  $\mathcal{K} \subset \mathcal{Z}$  is a closed  
 318 convex cone of a Banach space  $\mathcal{Z}$  and  $F : \text{dom } F \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}$ . We recall that  $F$  is  $\mathcal{K}$ -convex  
 319 (see, e.g., [7, 20, 35]), if  $\langle x^*, F \rangle$  is convex for all  $x^* \in \mathcal{K}^+$ , where

$$\langle x^*, F \rangle(x) = \begin{cases} \langle x^*, F(x) \rangle & \text{if } x \in \text{dom } F, \\ +\infty & \text{if } x \notin \text{dom } F. \end{cases}$$

322 and  $\mathcal{K}^+ := \{x^* \in \mathcal{Z} : \langle x^*, w \rangle \geq 0 \text{ for all } w \in \mathcal{K}\}$  is the positive polar cone of  $\mathcal{K}$ . The  
 323 Problem (4.4) can be equivalently written as

$$\begin{aligned} 324 \quad (\mathcal{R}) \quad &\min g(x) \\ &\text{s.t. } x \in \mathcal{Q} \text{ and } \sup_{x^* \in \mathcal{K}^+ \cap \mathbb{B}} \langle x^*, F \rangle(x) \leq 0, \end{aligned}$$

325 where  $\mathbb{B}$  is the unit ball in  $\mathcal{Z}$ . Thus, for  $\lambda > 0$  and  $\eta \in [0, +\infty)$ , we propose the  
 326 following regularized problem:

$$\begin{aligned} 327 \quad (\mathcal{R}_{\lambda,\eta}) \quad &\min e_\lambda g(x) \\ &\text{s.t. } x \in \mathcal{Q} \text{ and } e_\lambda \left[ \sup_{x^* \in \mathcal{K}^+ \cap \mathbb{B}} \langle x^*, F \rangle \right] (x) \leq \eta. \end{aligned}$$

328 As a consequence of Theorem 4.5, we get optimality conditions for the problem  $(\mathcal{R}_{\lambda,\eta})$ .

330 **COROLLARY 4.6.** *Fix  $\lambda > 0$  and  $\eta \in [0, +\infty)$ . Assume that  $g$  belongs to  $\Gamma_0(\mathcal{H})$ ,  
 331  $\mathcal{Q}$  is a closed and convex set,  $\mathcal{K}$  is a closed convex cone and  $F$  be a  $\mathcal{K}$ -convex function  
 332 such that the optimal value of  $(\mathcal{R}_{\lambda,\eta})$  is finite. Then, if  $\bar{x}$  is a optimal solution of  
 333 Problem  $(\mathcal{R}_{\lambda,\eta})$ , then there exist  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2 \geq 0$  and  $x^* \in \mathcal{K}^+ \cap \mathbb{B}$  with  $\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 = 1$  such  
 334 that*

$$335 \quad (4.5) \quad \alpha_2(\langle x^*, F(\bar{x}) \rangle - \eta) = 0 \text{ and } \alpha_1 P_\lambda g(\bar{x}) + \alpha_2 P_\lambda \langle x^*, F \rangle(\bar{x}) \in \bar{x} + N_{\mathcal{Q}}(\bar{x}).$$

337 *Conversely, if  $\bar{x}$  is a feasible for  $(\mathcal{R}_{\lambda,\eta})$ , satisfies (4.5) and  $\text{proj}_{\mathcal{Q}}(P_\lambda \langle x^*, F \rangle(\bar{x})) \neq \bar{x}$ ,  
 338 then  $\bar{x}$  is a optimal solution of  $(\mathcal{R}_{\lambda,\eta})$ .*

339 **4.1. Duality in infinite programming.** In this section, associated to a point  
 340  $x^* \in \mathcal{H}$ , we consider the Primal optimization problem

$$341 \quad (\mathbf{P}(x^*)) \quad \begin{aligned} & \inf (e_\lambda f(x) - \langle x^*, x \rangle) \\ & \text{s.t. } x \in \mathcal{Q}, \end{aligned}$$

342 The for each  $c \in \mathcal{C}$  let us consider  $\mathcal{X}_c := \mathcal{H} \times \mathcal{H}$  and the perturbation function  
 343  $\Phi_c : \mathcal{H} \times \mathcal{X}_c \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_\infty$  given by

$$344 \quad \Phi_c(x, y, z) = e_\lambda f_c(x + y) + \delta_{\mathcal{Q}}(x + z)$$

346

347 **PROPOSITION 4.7.** *Let  $\mathcal{C} \neq \emptyset$  be a compact convex set and  $(f_c)_{c \in \mathcal{C}} \subset \Gamma_0(\mathcal{H})$  be a*  
 348 *family of functions with  $f$  proper and such that for all  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ , the map  $c \mapsto f_c(x)$  is*  
 349 *concave and upper semicontinuous. Moreover, assume that  $\mathcal{Q}$  is a nonempty closed*  
 350 *convex set. Then, we have that*

$$351 \quad \Phi_c^*(x^*, y^*, z^*) = \begin{cases} f_c^*(y^*) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|y^*\|^2 + \sigma_{\mathcal{Q}}(z^*) & \text{if } x^* = y^* + z^* \\ +\infty & \text{if } x^* \neq y^* + z^* \end{cases}$$

353 *Proof.* Let us compute the conjugate of  $\Phi_c$ . Fix  $(x^*, y^*, z^*) \in \mathcal{H} \times \mathcal{X}_c$ , then

$$354 \quad \begin{aligned} \Phi_c^*(x^*, y^*, z^*) &= \sup_{(x, y, z) \in \mathcal{H} \times \mathcal{X}_c} \{ \langle x^*, x \rangle + \langle y^*, y \rangle + \langle z^*, z \rangle - \Phi_c(x, y, z) \} \\ 355 &= \sup_{(x, u, w) \in \mathcal{H} \times H \times \mathcal{Q}} \{ \langle x^*, x \rangle + \langle y^*, u - x \rangle + \langle z^*, w - x \rangle - e_\lambda f_c(u) \} \\ 356 &= \sup_{(x, u, w) \in \mathcal{H} \times H \times \mathcal{Q}} \{ \langle x^* - y^* - z^*, x \rangle + \langle y^*, u \rangle + \langle z^*, w \rangle - e_\lambda f_c(u) \} \\ 357 &= \begin{cases} f_c^*(y^*) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|y^*\|^2 + \sigma_{\mathcal{Q}}(z^*) & \text{if } x^* = y^* + z^* \\ +\infty & \text{if } x^* \neq y^* + z^* \end{cases} \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

359 Given  $\lambda > 0$  and  $x^* \in \mathcal{H}$ , we consider the dual problem of  $(\mathbf{P}(x^*))$  as (see Section  
 360 2.3).

$$361 \quad (\mathbf{D}(x^*)) \quad \begin{aligned} & - \inf \left( f_c^*(y^*) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|y^*\|^2 + \sigma_{\mathcal{Q}}(z^*) \right) \\ & \text{s.t. } c \in \mathcal{C} \text{ and } (y^*, z^*) \in \mathcal{X}_c \text{ such that } x^* = y^* + z^*. \end{aligned}$$

362 **THEOREM 4.8.** *Let  $\mathcal{C} \neq \emptyset$  be a compact convex set and  $(f_c)_{c \in \mathcal{C}} \subset \Gamma_0(\mathcal{H})$  be a*  
 363 *family of functions with  $f$  being proper and such that for all  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ , the map  $c \mapsto f_c(x)$*   
 364 *is concave and upper semicontinuous. Moreover, assume that  $\mathcal{Q}$  is a nonempty, closed*  
 365 *and convex set. Then*

$$366 \quad (4.6) \quad \inf \mathbf{P}(x^*) = \max \mathbf{D}(x^*), \quad \text{for all } x^* \in \mathcal{H}.$$

*Proof.* Let us consider the set

$$\mathcal{W} := \bigcup_{c \in \mathcal{C}} \{ (x^*, \alpha) \in \mathcal{H} \times \mathbb{R} : \exists (y^*, z^*) \in \mathcal{X}_c \text{ s.t. } \Phi_c^*(x^*, y^*, z^*) \leq \alpha \}.$$

368 We are going to prove that  $\mathcal{W}$  is closed and convex, which by Proposition 2.4 and  
 369 Proposition 4.7, implies that (4.6) holds.

**Convexity:** Let us consider  $\beta \in [0, 1]$  and  $(x_1^*, \alpha_1), (x_2^*, \alpha_2) \in \mathcal{W}$ , then by definition of the set  $\mathcal{W}$  there are  $c_1, c_2 \in \mathcal{C}$  and  $y_1^*, z_1^*, y_2^*, z_2^* \in \mathcal{H}$  such that  $\Phi_{c_i}^*(x_i^*, y_i^*, z_i^*) \leq \alpha_i$  for  $i = 1, 2$ . Then, by Proposition 4.7 we have that  $x_i^* = y_i^* + z_i^*$  and  $f(y_i^*) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|y_i^*\|^2 + \sigma_{\mathcal{Q}}(z_i^*) \leq \alpha_i$ . Then, define

$$(c_\beta, x_\beta^*, y_\beta^*, z_\beta^*, \alpha_\beta) := \beta(c_1, x_1^*, y_1^*, z_1^*, \alpha_1) + (1 - \beta)(c_2, x_2^*, y_2^*, z_2^*, \alpha_2),$$

370 we get that  $x_\beta^* = y_\beta^* + z_\beta^*$  and by convexity of the involved functions (see Lemma 2.1)

$$\begin{aligned} 371 \quad f_{c_\beta}^*(y_\beta^*) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|y_\beta^*\|^2 + \sigma_{\mathcal{Q}}(z_\beta^*) &\leq \beta \left( f_{c_1}^*(y_1^*) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|y_1^*\|^2 + \sigma_{\mathcal{Q}}(z_1^*) \right) \\ 372 &\quad + (1 - \beta) \left( f_{c_2}^*(y_2^*) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|y_2^*\|^2 + \sigma_{\mathcal{Q}}(z_2^*) \right) \\ 373 &\quad = \beta \alpha_1 + (1 - \beta) \alpha_2 = \alpha_\beta, \\ 374 \end{aligned}$$

375 which shows the convexity of  $\mathcal{W}$ .

376 **Closedness:** Let us consider a sequence  $(x_n^*, \alpha_n) \in \mathcal{W}$  converging to  $(x^*, \alpha)$ , then  
377 by definition of the set  $\mathcal{W}$  and Proposition 4.7 we have that there are  $c_n \in \mathcal{C}$  and  
378  $y_n^*, z_n^* \in \mathcal{H}$  such that  $x_n^* = y_n^* + z_n^*$  and

$$379 \quad (4.7) \quad f_{c_n}^*(y_n^*) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|y_n^*\|^2 + \sigma_{\mathcal{Q}}(z_n^*) \leq \alpha_n, \text{ for all } n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

381 By compactness of  $\mathcal{C}$  we can assume, by passing to a subsequence (subnet if  $\mathcal{C}$  is not  
382 first countable) that  $c_n \rightarrow c \in \mathcal{C}$ . Now, let us notice that the above inequality implies  
383 that

$$384 \quad (4.8) \quad h^{**}(x_n^*) + \frac{\lambda}{4} \|y_n^*\|^2 \leq f(y_n^*) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|y_n^*\|^2 + \sigma_{\mathcal{Q}}(z_n^*) \leq \alpha_n, \text{ for all } n \in \mathbb{N},$$

386 where  $h(x^*) := \inf\{f^*(w_1^*) + \frac{\lambda}{4} \|w_1^*\|^2 + \sigma_{\mathcal{Q}}(w_2^*) : x^* = w_1^* + w_2^*\}$ , that is  $h$ , is the  
387 inf-convolution between  $(e_{\lambda/2} f)^*$  and  $\sigma_{\mathcal{Q}}$ . Let us check that  $h^{**}$  is proper. Indeed,  
388 by [4, Proposition 13.21] we have that  $h^*(x) = e_{\lambda/2} f(x) + \delta_{\mathcal{Q}}(x)$  is proper convex and  
389 lsc. Therefore, its conjugate function  $h^{**}$  is also proper. Now, since  $h^{**}$  is proper and  
390 lsc we have that  $\inf_{n \in \mathbb{N}} h^{**}(x_n^*) > -\infty$ , so using (4.8) we have that  $(y_n^*)$  is bounded,  
391 and so is  $(z_n^*)$ . Therefore, by passing to a subsequence we can assume that  $(y_n^*)$  and  
392  $(z_n^*)$  converges weakly to some  $y^*$  and  $z^*$ , respectively. Now, by Lemma 2.1 we have  
393 that

$$394 \quad (4.9) \quad \liminf f_{c_n}^*(y_n^*) \geq f_c^*(y^*).$$

396 Finally, using (4.8) and (4.9) we get that

$$397 \quad f_c^*(y^*) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|y^*\|^2 + \sigma_{\mathcal{Q}}(z^*) \leq \alpha \text{ with } x^* = y^* + z^*,$$

399 Therefore,  $(x^*, \alpha) \in \mathcal{W}$  and that completes the proof.  $\square$

400 **5. Optimality and duality in stochastic programming.** In this section we  
401 use our formulae and results to study optimality conditions and zero duality gap to  
402 regularizations of general stochastic problems using the Moreau regularization.

403 **5.1. Normal integrands and expectation functional.** We start this section  
 404 by recalling some definitions and notations. For a topological space  $\mathcal{T}$ , we denote  
 405 its Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra by  $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{T})$ . Let  $(\Omega, \mathcal{A})$  be a measurable space. A set-valued map  
 406  $M : \Omega \rightrightarrows \mathcal{H}$  is measurable if for every open set  $U \subset \mathcal{H}$  the set  $M^{-1}(U) := \{\omega \in \Omega :$   
 407  $M(\omega) \cap U \neq \emptyset\}$  is measurable. The set-valued map  $M$  is said to be graph measurable  
 408 when  $\text{graph } M \in \mathcal{A} \otimes \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ . Here, it is important to recall that when  $(\Omega, \mathcal{A})$  is a  
 409 complete measure space (for some measure) a set-valued map with closed valued is  
 410 measurable if and only if it is graph measurable. A function  $g : \Omega \times \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_\infty$  is called  
 411 a normal integrand if the epigraph multifunction,  $\omega \rightrightarrows \text{epi } g(\omega, \cdot)$  is measurable with  
 412 closed values. We say that  $g$  is proper if the map  $x \mapsto g(\omega, x)$  is proper for almost all  
 413  $\omega \in \Omega$ . In addition, when  $g_\omega := g(\omega, \cdot)$  is convex for all  $\omega \in \Omega$ , the function  $g$  is called  
 414 a convex normal integrand. Again, if the measure space is complete,  $g$  is a normal  
 415 integrand if and only if  $g$  is measurable and the map  $g_\omega$  is lsc, for all  $\omega \in \Omega$ . We refer  
 416 to [8, 31, 32] for more details.

417 Now, let us consider a finite measure  $\mu$  over  $\mathcal{A}$ . Let  $g : \Omega \times \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_\infty$  be a  
 418 measurable function. We define the expectation functional associated to  $g$  (also called  
 419 continuous or integral sum) as the function  $\mathbb{E}_g^\mu : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow [-\infty, +\infty]$  given by

$$420 \quad \mathbb{E}_g^\mu(x) := \int_{\Omega} g^+(\omega, x) d\mu(\omega) + \int_{\Omega} g^-(\omega, x) d\mu(\omega),$$

422 where  $g^+(\omega, x) := \max\{g(\omega, x), 0\}$  and  $g^-(\omega, x) := \min\{g(\omega, x), 0\}$ . Here, we use the  
 423 convention  $+\infty + -\infty = +\infty$ .

424 The following is a well-known result for expectation functionals (see, e.g., [6, 11,  
 425 12, 33]).

426 **PROPOSITION 5.1.** *Let  $\mathcal{H}$  be a separable Hilbert space and let  $g$  be a convex normal*  
 427 *integrand such that there exist  $x^* \in L^1(\Omega, \mathcal{H})$  and  $\alpha \in L^1(\Omega, \mathbb{R})$  such that*

$$428 \quad g(\omega, x) \geq \langle x^*(\omega), x \rangle + \alpha(\omega), \text{ for almost all } \omega \in \Omega.$$

430 *Then,  $\mathbb{E}_g^\mu$  is convex and lsc. Moreover, if  $x$  is a point where  $\mathbb{E}_g^\mu$  is continuous, then*  
 431 *we have*

$$432 \quad (5.1) \quad \partial \mathbb{E}_g^\mu(x) = \int_{\Omega} \partial_x g(\omega, x) d\mu(\omega),$$

433 where  $\int_{\Omega} \partial_x g(\omega, x) d\mu(\omega)$  denotes the Aumann integral of the convex subdifferential  
 $\partial_x g(\omega, x)$ , that is,

$$\int_{\Omega} \partial_x g(\omega, x) d\mu(\omega) := \left\{ \int_{\Omega} x^*(\omega) d\mu(\omega) : x^*(\omega) \in \partial_x g(\omega, x) \text{ a.a. } \omega \in \Omega \right\}.$$

434 We recall that a net of measures  $\mu_\alpha$  converges weakly to  $\mu$  if and only if for every  
 435 bounded continuous real function  $\phi : \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  one has

$$436 \quad \lim_{\alpha} \int_{\mathcal{S}} \phi(s) d\mu_\alpha = \int_{\mathcal{S}} \phi(s) d\mu.$$

437 We refer to [5, Chapter 8] for more details about the weak convergence of measures.

438 **5.2. Distributionally Robust Optimization.** Let  $\mathcal{S}$  be a complete and sep-  
 439 arable metric space. We denote by  $\mathcal{A}$  the borel  $\sigma$ -algebra on  $\mathcal{S}$ . Given a collection  $\Theta$   
 440

441 of probability measures on  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{A})$ , we consider the following *Distributionally Robust*  
 442 *Optimization* problem

443 (DR) 
$$\min_{x \in \mathcal{Q}} \sup_{\nu \in \Theta} \mathbb{E}_\nu^\nu(x),$$

444 where  $\varphi: \mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_\infty$  is a convex normal integrand and  $\mathcal{Q} \subset \mathcal{H}$  is a closed and  
 445 convex set. Distributionally robust optimization is a paradigm for decision-making  
 446 under uncertainty where the uncertain problem data is governed by a probability  
 447 distribution that is itself subject to uncertainty [37]. We refer to [13, 16, 36, 37] for  
 448 more details and applications of this model. For  $\lambda > 0$ , we propose the following  
 449 approximation of (DR):

450 (DR $_\lambda$ ) 
$$\min_{x \in \mathcal{Q}} e_\lambda \left[ \sup_{\nu \in \Theta} \mathbb{E}_\nu^\nu(x) \right].$$

451 The following corollary, which is a consequence of Theorem 4.2, provides optimality  
 452 conditions for the approximate problem (DR $_\lambda$ ).

453 **COROLLARY 5.2.** *Let  $\mathcal{H}$  be a separable Hilbert space and  $\Theta$  be a collection of*  
 454 *probability measures on  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{A})$ , which is assumed to be convex and compact for the*  
 455 *weak topology. Let  $\varphi: \mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_\infty$  be a convex normal integrand such that*

- 456 (i) *For all  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ , the map  $s \mapsto \varphi(s, x)$  is upper semicontinuous and bounded*  
 457 *from above.*  
 458 (ii) *There are integrable functions  $x^*: \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  and  $\alpha: \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that*

459 (5.2) 
$$\varphi(s, x) \geq \langle x^*(s), x \rangle + \alpha(s), \text{ for all } x \in \mathcal{H} \text{ and } s \in \mathcal{S}.$$

*Then, for every  $\lambda > 0$ ,  $\bar{x}$  is a solution of (DR $_\lambda$ ) if and only if there exist  $\mu \in \Theta$  with*  
 $e_\lambda \mathbb{E}_\varphi^\mu(\bar{x}) = \sup_{\nu \in \Theta} e_\lambda \mathbb{E}_\nu^\nu(\bar{x})$  *and  $\bar{u} \in \bar{x} + N_{\mathcal{Q}}(\bar{x})$  such that*

$$\bar{x} - \bar{u} \in \lambda \int_{\mathcal{S}} \partial_x \varphi(s, \bar{u}) d\mu(s).$$

*Proof.* We observe that the map  $(\nu, x) \rightarrow \mathbb{E}_\nu^\nu(x)$  is concave in  $\nu$  and convex  
 in  $x$ . On the one hand, by virtue of (ii) and Proposition 5.1,  $\mathbb{E}_\nu^\nu \in \Gamma_0(\mathcal{H})$  for all  
 $\nu \in \Theta$ . On the other hand, due to [5, Corollary 8.2.5], the map  $\nu \rightarrow \mathbb{E}_\nu^\nu(x)$  is upper  
 semicontinuous for all  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ . Besides, by assumption (i), the map  $x \mapsto \sup_{\nu \in \Theta} \mathbb{E}_\nu^\nu(x)$   
 is continuous over  $\mathcal{H}$ , in particular, proper. Therefore, by Theorem 4.2,  $\bar{x}$  solves  
 (DR $_\lambda$ ) if and only if there exist  $\mu \in \Theta$  with  $e_\lambda \mathbb{E}_\varphi^\mu(\bar{x}) = \sup_{\nu \in \Theta} e_\lambda \mathbb{E}_\nu^\nu(\bar{x})$  such that

$$P_\lambda \mathbb{E}_\varphi^\mu(\bar{x}) \in \bar{x} + N_{\mathcal{Q}}(\bar{x}).$$

Moreover,  $u := P_\lambda \mathbb{E}_\varphi^\mu(\bar{x})$  is characterized as the unique point satisfying  $\bar{x} \in \bar{u} +$   
 $\lambda \partial \mathbb{E}_\varphi^\mu(\bar{u})$  (see, e.g., [4, Proposition 16.34]). Finally, by using Proposition 5.1, we  
 obtain that  $\bar{u}$  satisfies

$$\bar{x} - \bar{u} \in \lambda \int_{\mathcal{S}} \partial_x \varphi(s, \bar{u}) d\mu(s),$$

460 which concludes the proof. □

461 **5.3. Stochastic robust programming.** Let  $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \mathbb{P})$  be a complete probabil-  
 462 ity space. For each  $\omega \in \Omega$ , we consider the problem

$$463 \quad (5.3) \quad \min_{x \in \mathcal{Q}} f(\omega, x) := \sup_{x \in \mathcal{C}} f_c(\omega, x),$$

464 where  $(f_c)_{c \in \mathcal{C}}$  is a family of functions defined from  $\Omega \times \mathcal{H}$  into  $\mathbb{R}_\infty$ . We assume that  
 465  $\mathcal{C}$  is a bounded, closed and convex set of a separable Hilbert space  $\mathcal{Z}$ . To deal with  
 466 (5.3), we introduce the concept of concave-convex normal integrands.

467 **DEFINITION 5.3.** Let  $(f_c)_{c \in \mathcal{C}}$  be a family of functions defined from  $\Omega \times \mathcal{H}$  into  
 468  $\mathbb{R}_\infty$ . We say  $(f_c)_{c \in \mathcal{C}}$  is a family of concave-convex normal integrands if:

- 469 (a) The set-valued map  $\Omega \times \mathcal{C} \ni \text{epi } f_c(\omega, \cdot) := \{(x, \alpha) \in \mathcal{H} \times \mathbb{R} : f_c(\omega, x) \leq \alpha\}$  is  
 470  $\mathcal{A} \otimes \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{C})$ -measurable with nonempty, closed and convex values.  
 471 (b) The set-valued map  $\Omega \times \mathcal{H} \ni \text{hypo } f_{(\cdot)}(\omega, x) := \{(c, \beta) \in \mathcal{C} \times \mathbb{R} : f_c(\omega, x) \geq \beta\}$   
 472 is  $\mathcal{A} \otimes \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ -measurable with nonempty, closed and convex values.

473 In particular, the above definition implies that the following maps are convex normal  
 474 integrand:

- 475 (i)  $(\omega, x) \mapsto f_c(\omega, x)$ , for all  $c \in \mathcal{C}$ ;  
 476 (ii)  $(\omega, c) \mapsto -f_c(\omega, x)$ , for all  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ .

477 The next proposition shows that the supremum function defined in (5.3) is also a  
 478 normal integrand.

479 **PROPOSITION 5.4.** Let  $\mathcal{H}$  be a separable Hilbert space and  $(f_c)_{c \in \mathcal{C}}$  be a family of  
 480 concave-convex normal integrands. Then, the supremum function  $f := \sup_{c \in \mathcal{C}} f_c$  is  
 481 also a convex normal integrand.

*Proof.* Let us consider the set

$$B := \{(\omega, x) : \Omega \times \mathcal{H} : \text{hypo } f_{(\cdot)}(\omega, x) \neq \emptyset\}.$$

482 Due to condition (b) from Definition 5.3, the set  $B$  is measurable. Moreover, it  
 483 is easy to see that  $f(\omega, x) = -\infty$  for  $(\omega, x) \notin B$ . Furthermore, by virtue of [8,  
 484 Theorem III. 9], we are able to find sequences of measurable functions  $c_n : B \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$   
 485 and  $\beta_n : B \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that for all  $(\omega, x) \in B$

- 486 i)  $(c_n(\omega, x), \beta_n(\omega, x)) \in \text{hypo } f_{(\cdot)}(\omega, x)$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ;  
 487 ii)  $\text{cl} \{(c_n(\omega, x), \beta_n(\omega, x)) : n \in \mathbb{N}\} = \text{hypo } f_{(\cdot)}(\omega, x)$ .

488 We claim that

$$489 \quad (5.4) \quad f(\omega, x) = \sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \beta_n(\omega, x) \text{ for all } (\omega, x) \in B.$$

Indeed, fix  $(\omega, x) \in B$ . On the one hand, due to i), it follows that for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$

$$f(\omega, x) \geq f_{c_n(\omega, x)}(\omega, x) \geq \beta_n(\omega, x),$$

which implies that  $f(\omega, x) \geq \sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \beta_n(\omega, x)$ . On the other hand, due to ii), for each  
 $(c_*, \beta_*) \in \text{hypo } f_{(\cdot)}(\omega, x)$ , there exists a sequence  $(c_{n_k}(\omega, x), \beta_{n_k}(\omega, x)) \rightarrow (c_*, \beta_*)$ .  
 Then,

$$\beta_* = \lim_k \beta_{n_k}(\omega, x) \leq \sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \beta_n(\omega, x).$$

490 Since  $(c_*, \beta_*)$  is arbitrary, we conclude that  $f(\omega, x) \leq \sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \beta_n(\omega, x)$ . Thus, (5.4)  
 491 holds. From (5.4), we deduce that  $f$  is  $\mathcal{A} \otimes \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ -measurable. Finally, for each fixed  
 492  $\omega \in \Omega$  the function  $f(\omega, \cdot)$  is convex and lsc, hence by virtue of [19, Proposition 9.3],  
 493 the function  $f$  is a convex normal integrand.  $\square$

494 LEMMA 5.5. Let  $\mathcal{H}$  be a separable Hilbert space and let  $f: \Omega \times \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_\infty$  be a  
 495 convex normal integrand. Assume that there exist  $x^* \in L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{H})$  and  $\alpha \in L^1(\Omega, \mathbb{R})$   
 496 such that for all  $x \in \mathcal{H}$

$$497 \quad (5.5) \quad f(\omega, x) \geq \langle x^*(\omega), x \rangle + \alpha(\omega), \text{ almost all } \omega \in \Omega.$$

498 Then, for every  $\lambda > 0$ , the function  $e_\lambda f$  is a convex normal integrand and

$$499 \quad (5.6) \quad e_\lambda f_\omega(x) \geq \langle x^*(\omega), x \rangle - \frac{\lambda}{2} \|x^*(\omega)\|^2 + \alpha(\omega) \text{ for all } x \in \mathcal{H} \text{ and a.a. } \omega \in \Omega.$$

501 Here  $e_\lambda f_\omega(x)$  denotes the Moreau envelope of the function  $f_\omega: x \mapsto f(\omega, x)$  for a fixed  
 502  $\omega \in \Omega$ .

503 *Proof.* The first assertion follows from [32, Exercise 14.38 ]. To prove (5.6), from  
 504 (5.5) there exists a null set  $N$  such that

$$505 \quad (5.7) \quad f(\omega, P_\lambda f_\omega(x)) \geq \langle x^*(\omega), P_\lambda f_\omega(x) \rangle + \alpha(\omega), \text{ for all } \omega \in \Omega \setminus N.$$

507 Thus, for all  $\omega \in \Omega \setminus N$

$$\begin{aligned} 508 \quad e_\lambda f_\omega(x) &= f_\omega(P_\lambda f_\omega(x)) + \frac{1}{2\lambda} \|x - P_\lambda f_\omega(x)\|^2 \\ 509 &\geq \langle x^*(\omega), P_\lambda f_\omega(x) \rangle + \frac{1}{2\lambda} \|x - P_\lambda f_\omega(x)\|^2 + \alpha(\omega) \\ 510 &\geq \inf_{z \in \mathcal{H}} \left( \langle x^*(\omega), z \rangle + \frac{1}{2\lambda} \|x - z\|^2 \right) + \alpha(\omega) \\ 511 &= \langle x^*(\omega), x \rangle - \frac{\lambda}{2} \|x^*(\omega)\|^2 + \alpha(\omega), \end{aligned}$$

513 which ends the proof. □

514 Now, we consider the expectation version of the optimization problem (5.3):

$$515 \quad (\mathbf{E}) \quad \min_{x \in \mathcal{Q}} \mathbb{E}_f^{\mathbb{P}}(x),$$

516 where  $f: \Omega \times \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_\infty$  is a function and  $\mathcal{Q} \subset \mathcal{H}$  is a closed and convex set. Besides,  
 517 we consider regularized version of (E).

$$518 \quad (\mathbf{E}_\lambda) \quad \min_{x \in \mathcal{Q}} \mathbb{E}_{e_\lambda f}^{\mathbb{P}}(x),$$

519 where  $e_\lambda f(\omega, x) := e_\lambda f_\omega(x)$  denotes the Moreau envelope of the function  $f_\omega: x \mapsto$   
 520  $f(\omega, x)$  for a fixed  $\omega \in \Omega$ . According to Proposition 5.4 and Lemma 5.5, problems  
 521 (E) and (E $_\lambda$ ) are well-defined. Moreover, we have the following relationship between  
 522 these problems.

523 PROPOSITION 5.6. Under the assumptions of Lemma 5.5, consider sequences of  
 524  $\lambda_k \searrow 0$  and  $\epsilon_k \rightarrow 0^+$ , and let  $(x_k)$  be a sequence of  $\epsilon_k$ -minimizer of problem (E $_\lambda$ ) for  
 525 each  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , respectively. If  $x_k \rightharpoonup \bar{x}$ , then  $\bar{x}$  is a minimum of Problem (E).

526 *Proof.* On the one hand, for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  we have

$$527 \quad (5.8) \quad \mathbb{E}_{e_{\lambda_k} f}^{\mathbb{P}}(x_k) \leq \mathbb{E}_{e_{\lambda_k} f}^{\mathbb{P}}(x) + \epsilon_k \leq \mathbb{E}_f^{\mathbb{P}}(x) + \epsilon_k, \text{ for all } x \in \mathcal{Q}.$$

529 On the other hand, by Proposition 2.2 we have

$$530 \quad (5.9) \quad f_\omega(\bar{x}) \leq \liminf_{k \rightarrow \infty} e_{\lambda_k} f_\omega(x_k) \text{ for all } \omega \in \Omega.$$

531 Hence, by Lemma 5.5, we can apply Fatou's Lemma to conclude that

(5.10)

$$533 \quad \mathbb{E}_f^{\mathbb{P}}(\bar{x}) \leq \int_{\Omega} \liminf_{k \rightarrow \infty} e_{\lambda_k} f_\omega(x_k) d\mathbb{P} \leq \liminf_{k \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\Omega} e_{\lambda_k} f_\omega(x_k) d\mathbb{P} = \liminf_{k \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}_{e_{\lambda_k} f}^{\mathbb{P}}(x_k),$$

535 where in the first inequality we used (5.9). Finally, taking into account (5.8) and  
536 (5.10) we conclude the proof.  $\square$

537 Now, we provide optimality for the regularized problem.

538 **THEOREM 5.7.** *Suppose that  $\mathcal{H}$  is separable and let  $f$  be a convex normal integrand*  
539 *satisfying (5.5) with  $\mathbb{E}_f^{\mathbb{P}}$  is proper. Then, for any  $\lambda > 0$ ,  $\bar{x}$  is a minimum of Problem*  
540 *(E $_{\lambda}$ ) if and only if*

$$541 \quad (5.11) \quad \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}}(P_{\lambda} f_{\omega}(\bar{x})) \in \bar{x} + N_{\mathcal{Q}}(\bar{x}).$$

543 Here  $f_{\omega}$  denotes the map  $x \mapsto f(\omega, x)$  for a fixed  $\omega \in \Omega$ .

544 *Proof.* Since  $\mathbb{E}_f^{\mathbb{P}}$  is proper, there exists  $x_0 \in \mathcal{H}$  such that  $\mathbb{E}_f^{\mathbb{P}}(x_0) \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then, by  
545 using Lemma 5.5, for all  $x \in \mathcal{H}$  and almost all  $\omega \in \Omega$

$$546 \quad f_{\omega}(x_0) + \frac{1}{2\lambda} \|x - x_0\|^2 \geq e_{\lambda} f_{\omega}(x) \geq \langle x^*(\omega), x \rangle - \frac{\lambda}{2} \|x^*(\omega)\|^2 + \alpha(\omega).$$

548 Thus, according to Proposition 5.1,  $\mathbb{E}_{e_{\lambda} f}^{\mathbb{P}}$  is convex, lower semicontinuous and finite  
549 in the whole space. Consequently,  $\mathbb{E}_{e_{\lambda} f}^{\mathbb{P}}$  is also continuous on  $\mathcal{H}$ . Hence, by Fermat's  
550 rule,  $\bar{x}$  is a minimum of Problem (E $_{\lambda}$ ) if and only if  $0_{\mathcal{H}} \in \partial \mathbb{E}_{e_{\lambda} f}^{\mathbb{P}}(\bar{x}) + N_{\mathcal{Q}}(\bar{x})$ . Now,  
551 by using (2.1) and Proposition 5.1,

$$552 \quad \partial \mathbb{E}_{e_{\lambda} f}^{\mathbb{P}}(\bar{x}) = \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}} \left( \frac{\bar{x} - P_{\lambda} f_{\omega}(\bar{x})}{\lambda} \right).$$

554 Therefore,

$$555 \quad \begin{aligned} & 0_{\mathcal{H}} \in \partial \mathbb{E}_{e_{\lambda} f}^{\mathbb{P}}(\bar{x}) + N_{\mathcal{Q}}(\bar{x}) \\ 556 \quad \Leftrightarrow & 0_{\mathcal{H}} \in \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}} \left( \frac{\bar{x} - P_{\lambda} f_{\omega}(\bar{x})}{\lambda} \right) + N_{\mathcal{Q}}(\bar{x}) \\ 557 \quad \Leftrightarrow & 0_{\mathcal{H}} \in \bar{x} - \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}}(P_{\lambda} f_{\omega}(\bar{x})) + N_{\mathcal{Q}}(\bar{x}), \end{aligned}$$

559 which ends the proof.  $\square$

560 **5.4. Duality in stochastic robust programming.** In this section, we consider  
561 a duality scheme for the problem (E $_{\lambda}$ ). For  $\lambda > 0$  and  $x^* \in \mathcal{H}$  fixed, let us consider  
562 the following primal optimization problem:

$$563 \quad (P_s(x^*)) \quad \inf_{x \in \mathcal{Q}} (\mathbb{E}_{e_{\lambda} f}^{\mathbb{P}}(x) - \langle x^*, x \rangle),$$

564 where  $f$  is the supremum function defined in (5.3). Also, we consider the following  
565 spaces

$$566 \quad \begin{aligned} L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{C}) &:= \{c \in L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{Z}) : c(\omega) \in \mathcal{C} \text{ a.a. } \omega \in \Omega\}, \\ \mathcal{X}_c &:= L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{H}) \times \mathcal{H}, \text{ for } c \in L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{C}), \end{aligned}$$

567 and the perturbation function  $\Phi_c : \mathcal{H} \times \mathcal{X}_c \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_\infty$  given by

$$568 \quad \Phi_c(x, y, z) = \int_{\Omega} e_\lambda f_{c(\omega)}(\omega, x + y(\omega)) d\mathbb{P} + \delta_{\mathcal{Q}}(x + z),$$

569

570 where  $\mathcal{Q} \subset \mathcal{H}$  is a closed and convex set and  $e_\lambda f_{c(\omega)}(\omega, x + y(\omega)) := e_\lambda (f_{c(\omega)}(\omega, \cdot))(x +$   
 571  $y(\omega))$  for all  $\omega \in \Omega$ . The following result shows that the perturbation function is well-  
 572 defined and the objective function of  $(\mathbf{E}_\lambda)$  can be recovered through its maximization.  
 573

574 **PROPOSITION 5.8.** *Let  $(f_c)_{c \in \mathcal{C}}$  be a family of concave.convex normal integrands*  
 575 *such that the supremum function  $f := \sup_{c \in \mathcal{C}} f_c$  is proper. Then, for all  $c \in L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{C})$ ,*  
 576 *the map  $(\omega, x) \mapsto f_{c(\omega)}(\omega, x)$  is a convex normal integrand. Moreover, if there exist*  
 577  *$x^* \in L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{H})$  and  $\alpha \in L^1(\Omega, \mathbb{R})$  such that*

$$578 \quad (5.12) \quad f_c(\omega, x) \geq \langle x^*(\omega), x \rangle + \alpha(\omega) \text{ for all } (\omega, c, x) \in \Omega \times \mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{H},$$

580 *then the map  $(\omega, x) \mapsto e_\lambda f_{c(\omega)}(\omega, x)$  is a convex normal integrand,  $\Phi_c$  is well-defined*  
 581 *for all  $c \in L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{C})$  and*

$$582 \quad (5.13) \quad \sup_{c \in L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{C})} \Phi_c(x, 0_{\mathcal{X}_c}) = \mathbb{E}_{e_\lambda}^{\mathbb{P}} f(x) \text{ for all } x \in \mathcal{Q}.$$

583

*Proof.* First, according to [19, Proposition 9.4 and Remark 9.4] (see also [32, Corollary 14.34]), the function  $(\omega, c, x) \rightarrow f_c(\omega, x)$  is  $\mathcal{A} \otimes \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{C}) \otimes \mathcal{H}$ -measurable. Hence, for each  $c \in L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{C})$ , the functions  $(\omega, x) \rightarrow f_{c(\omega)}(\omega, x)$  is  $\mathcal{A} \otimes \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ -measurable and convex and lower semicontinuous with respect to  $x$ . Hence, it defines a convex normal integrand.

Now, if (5.13) holds, then the map  $(\omega, x) \mapsto f_{c(\omega)}(\omega, x)$  satisfies (5.5). Thus, by applying Lemma 5.5 to this map, we get that  $e_\lambda f_{c(\omega)}(\omega, x)$  is a convex normal integrand and satisfies (5.6). In particular, for each  $y \in L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{H})$  and  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ , the function  $\omega \mapsto e_\lambda f_{c(\omega)}(\omega, x + y(\omega))$  is measurable. Therefore,  $\Phi_c$  is well-defined for all  $c \in L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{C})$ . Finally, to prove (5.13), fix  $x \in \mathcal{Q}$  and consider the function

$$h_x(\omega, c, z) := f_c(\omega, z) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|x - z\|^2 \quad (\omega, c, z) \in \Omega \times \mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{H}.$$

584 This function, being the sum of convex normal integrands, is also a convex normal  
 585 integrand (see, e.g., [32, Proposition 14.44]). Hence, by virtue of [32, Proposition  
 586 14.40], the function  $(\omega, c) \mapsto \inf_{z \in \mathcal{H}} h_x(\omega, c, z) = e_\lambda f_c(\omega, x)$  is measurable (in both  
 587 variables), and upper semicontinuous and concave with respect to  $c$ , that is, the map  
 588  $(\omega, c) \mapsto -e_\lambda f_c(\omega, x)$  is a convex normal integrand. Now, due to (5.12), we have that  
 589  $-\int_{\Omega} e_\lambda f_{c(\omega)}(\omega, x) d\mathbb{P} < +\infty$ , for each  $c \in L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{C})$ . Then, interchanging the infimum  
 590 and the integral (see, e.g., [8, 11, 19, 31]), we get that

$$591 \quad \inf_{c \in L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{C})} \int_{\Omega} -e_\lambda f_{c(\omega)}(\omega, x) d\mu = \int_{\Omega} \inf_{c \in \mathcal{C}} -e_\lambda f_c(\omega, x) d\mu.$$

592

593 Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}
594 \quad \sup_{c \in L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{C})} \Phi_c(x, 0_{\mathcal{X}_c}) &= - \inf_{c \in L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{C})} \int_{\Omega} -e_{\lambda} f_{c(\omega)}(\omega, x) d\mu \\
595 \quad &= - \int_{\Omega} \inf_{c \in \mathcal{C}} -e_{\lambda} f_c(\omega, x) d\mu \\
596 \quad &= \int_{\Omega} \sup_{c \in \mathcal{C}} e_{\lambda} f_c(\omega, x) d\mu \\
597 \quad &= \int_{\Omega} e_{\lambda} f(\omega, x) d\mu, \\
598
\end{aligned}$$

599 where we have used Theorem 3.1 in the last equality, which proves (5.12).  $\square$

600 LEMMA 5.9. *Suppose, in addition the assumptions of Proposition 5.8, that  $\mathbb{E}_f^{\mathbb{P}}$  is*  
601 *proper. Then, the function*

$$\begin{aligned}
602 \quad (5.14) \quad (\omega, c, x^*) &\mapsto f_c^*(\omega, x^*) = \sup_{x \in \mathcal{H}} \langle x^*, x \rangle - f_c(\omega, x), \\
603
\end{aligned}$$

604 *is a convex normal integrand. Moreover, there exist  $x \in L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{H})$  and  $\alpha \in L^1(\Omega, \mathbb{R})$*   
605 *such*

$$\begin{aligned}
606 \quad (5.15) \quad f_c^*(\omega, x^*) &\geq \langle x^*, x(\omega) \rangle + \alpha(\omega) \text{ for all } (\omega, c, x) \in \Omega \times \mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{H}.
\end{aligned}$$

608 *Proof.* Let us recall that  $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \mathbb{P})$  is a complete probability space.

609 On the one hand, since the set-valued map  $(\omega, c) \rightarrow \text{epi } f_c(\omega, \cdot)$  is measurable with  
610 respect to  $\mathcal{A} \otimes \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{C})$ , the conjugate function defined in (5.14) is measurable with  
611 respect to  $\mathcal{A} \otimes \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{C}) \otimes \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}) = \mathcal{A} \otimes \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{H})$ . Moreover, by Lemma 2.1, the function  
612  $(c, x^*) \mapsto f_c^*(\omega, x^*)$  is convex and lower semicontinuous for all  $\omega \in \Omega$ . Hence, the  
613 function defined in (5.15) is a convex normal integrand.

614 On the other hand, since  $\mathbb{E}_f^{\mathbb{P}}$  is proper, there exists  $x_0 \in \mathcal{H}$  such that the map  $\omega \mapsto$   
615  $f(\omega, x_0)$  is integrable. For  $\omega \in \Omega$  define  $x(\omega) := x_0$  and  $\alpha(\omega) := -f(\omega, x_0)$ . Then, by  
616 the definition of convex conjugate, for all  $(\omega, c, x) \in \Omega \times \mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{H}$

$$\begin{aligned}
617 \quad f_c^*(\omega, x^*) &\geq \langle x^*, x_0 \rangle - f_c(\omega, x_0) \geq \langle x^*, x_0 \rangle - f(\omega, x_0) = \langle x^*, x(\omega) \rangle + \alpha(\omega), \\
618
\end{aligned}$$

619 which ends the proof.  $\square$

620 Remark 5.10. It is worth noting that to prove (5.15) it suffices that the integral  
621 function  $L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{H}) \ni x(\cdot) \rightarrow \int_{\Omega} f(\omega, x(\omega)) d\mathbb{P}$  is proper.

622 PROPOSITION 5.11. *Suppose, in addition to the assumptions of Proposition 5.8,*  
623 *that  $\mathbb{E}_f^{\mathbb{P}}$  is proper. Then, we have that*

$$\begin{aligned}
624 \quad \Phi_c^*(x^*, y^*, z^*) &= \begin{cases} \int_{\Omega} \left( f_{c(\omega)}^*(\omega, y^*(\omega)) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|y^*(\omega)\|^2 \right) d\mathbb{P} & \text{if } x^* = \int_{\Omega} y^*(\omega) d\mathbb{P} + z^*, \\ +\sigma_{\mathcal{Q}}(z^*) & \\ 625 \quad & +\infty & \text{if } x^* \neq \int_{\Omega} y^*(\omega) d\mathbb{P} + z^*. \end{cases}
\end{aligned}$$

626 *Proof.* Indeed,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Phi_c^*(x^*, y^*, z^*) &= \sup_{(x, y, z) \in \mathcal{H} \times \mathcal{X}_c} \left( \langle x^*, x \rangle + \int_{\Omega} \langle y^*(\omega), y(\omega) \rangle d\mathbb{P} + \langle z^*, z \rangle \right. \\
 &\quad \left. - \int_{\Omega} e_{\lambda} f_{c(\omega)}(\omega, x + y(\omega)) d\mathbb{P} - \delta_{\mathcal{Q}}(x + z) \right) \\
 &= \sup_{x \in \mathcal{H}} \langle x^* - \int_{\Omega} y^*(\omega) d\mathbb{P} - z^*, x \rangle + \sup_{v \in \mathcal{Q}} \langle z^*, v \rangle \\
 &\quad + \sup_{u \in L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{H})} \int_{\Omega} (\langle y^*(\omega), u(\omega) \rangle - e_{\lambda} f_{c(\omega)}(\omega, x + y(\omega))) d\mathbb{P}
 \end{aligned}$$

628 where we have used the change of variables  $u = y + x$  and  $v = z + x$ .

629 Moreover,  $\sup_{v \in \mathcal{Q}} \langle z^*, v \rangle = \sigma_{\mathcal{Q}}(z^*)$  and

$$\sup_{x \in \mathcal{H}} \langle x^* - \int_{\Omega} y^*(\omega) d\mathbb{P} - z^*, x \rangle = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x^* = \int_{\Omega} y^*(\omega) d\mathbb{P} + z^*, \\ +\infty & \text{if } x^* \neq \int_{\Omega} y^*(\omega) d\mathbb{P} + z^*. \end{cases}$$

Since  $\mathbb{E}_f^{\mathbb{P}}$  is proper we have that there exist at least one  $u_0 \in L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{H})$  such that

$$\int_{\Omega} e_{\lambda} f_{c(\omega)}(\omega, u_0(\omega)) d\mathbb{P} < +\infty$$

632 Then by Rockafellar's formula for the conjugate of a integral function (see, e.g., [8, 11, 19, 31]), we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\sup_{u \in L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{H})} \int_{\Omega} (\langle y^*(\omega), u(\omega) \rangle - e_{\lambda} f_{c(\omega)}(\omega, x + y(\omega))) d\mathbb{P} \\
 &= \int_{\Omega} (e_{\lambda} f_{c(\omega)}(\omega, \cdot))^*(y^*(\omega)) d\mathbb{P} \\
 &= \int_{\Omega} \left( f_{c(\omega)}^*(\omega, y^*(\omega)) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|y^*(\omega)\|^2 \right) d\mathbb{P},
 \end{aligned}$$

638 which ends the proof.  $\square$

639 Given  $\lambda > 0$  and  $x^*$  fixed, we consider the dual problem for  $(\mathbf{P}_s(x^*))$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 &-\inf \left\{ \int_{\Omega} \left( f_{c(\omega)}^*(\omega, y^*(\omega)) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|y^*(\omega)\|^2 \right) d\mathbb{P} + \sigma_{\mathcal{Q}}(z^*) \right\} \\
 &(\mathbf{D}_s(x^*)) \quad \text{s.t. } c \in L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{C}) \text{ and } (y^*, z^*) \in \mathcal{X}_c \text{ such that } x^* = \int_{\Omega} y^*(\omega) d\mathbb{P} + z^*.
 \end{aligned}$$

641 Now, we establish the main result of this section.

642 **THEOREM 5.12.** *Let  $\mathcal{C} \neq \emptyset$  be a convex and bounded set of a Hilbert space  $\mathcal{Z}$  and*  
 643  *$(f_c)_{c \in \mathcal{C}}$  be a family of concave-convex normal integrands such that (5.12) holds and*  
 644  *$\text{dom } \mathbb{E}_f^{\mathbb{P}} \cap \mathcal{Q} \neq \emptyset$ . Then,  $\inf \mathbf{P}_s(x^*) = \max \mathbf{D}_s(x^*)$  for all  $x^* \in \mathcal{H}$ .*

*Proof.* By Proposition 2.4, we have to prove that the following set is closed and convex.

$$\mathcal{W} := \bigcup_{c \in L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{C})} \{ (x^*, \alpha) \in \mathcal{H} \times \mathbb{R} : \exists (y^*, z^*) \in \mathcal{X}_c^* \text{ s.t. } \Phi_c^*(x^*, y^*, z^*) \leq \alpha \}.$$

645 **Convexity:** Let us consider  $\beta \in [0, 1]$  and  $(x_1^*, \alpha_1), (x_2^*, \alpha_2) \in \mathcal{W}$ , then by definition  
 646 of the set  $\mathcal{W}$  and Proposition 5.11, there are  $c_1, c_2 \in L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{C})$ ,  $y_1^*, y_2^* \in L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{H})$  and  
 647  $z_1^*, z_2^* \in \mathcal{H}$  such that

$$648 \int_{\Omega} \left( f_{c_i(\omega)}^*(\omega, y_i^*(\omega)) \right) d\mathbb{P} + \frac{\lambda}{2} \int_{\Omega} \|y_i^*(\omega)\|^2 d\mathbb{P} + \sigma_{\mathcal{Q}}(z_i^*) \leq \alpha_i,$$

and  $x_i^* = \int_{\Omega} y_i^*(\omega) d\mathbb{P} + z_i^*$  for  $i = 1, 2$ . Define

$$(c_{\beta}, x_{\beta}^*, y_{\beta}^*, z_{\beta}^*, \alpha_{\beta}) := \beta(c_1, x_1^*, y_1^*, z_1^*, \alpha_1) + (1 - \beta)(c_2, x_2^*, y_2^*, z_2^*, \alpha_2).$$

650 Then,  $x_{\beta}^* = \int_{\Omega} y_{\beta}^*(\omega) d\mathbb{P} + z_{\beta}^*$  and, by virtue of Lemma 2.1, we get

$$651 \Phi_{c_{\beta}}^*(x_{\beta}^*, y_{\beta}^*, z_{\beta}^*) \leq \beta \Phi_{c_1}^*(x_1^*, y_1^*, z_1^*) + (1 - \beta) \Phi_{c_2}^*(x_2^*, y_2^*, z_2^*)$$

$$652 = \beta \alpha_1 + (1 - \beta) \alpha_2 = \alpha_{\beta},$$

654 which prove the convexity of  $\mathcal{W}$ .

655 **Closedness:** Let us consider a sequence  $(x_n^*, \alpha_n) \in \mathcal{W}$  converging to  $(x^*, \alpha)$ . Then,  
 656 by definition of  $\mathcal{W}$  and Proposition 5.11, there are  $c_n \in L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{C})$ ,  $y_n^* \in L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{H})$  and  
 657  $z_n^* \in \mathcal{H}$  such that  $x_n^* = \int_{\Omega} y_n^*(\omega) d\mathbb{P} + z_n^*$  and

$$658 (5.16) \int_{\Omega} f_{c_n(\omega)}^*(\omega, y_n^*(\omega)) d\mathbb{P} + \frac{\lambda}{2} \int_{\Omega} \|y_n^*(\omega)\|^2 d\mathbb{P} + \sigma_{\mathcal{Q}}(z_n^*) \leq \alpha_n \text{ for all } n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

660 Since  $\mathcal{C} \subset \mathcal{Z}$  is a closed, convex and bounded, then  $L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{C})$  is also closed, convex  
 661 and bounded in  $L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{Z})$ . So, without loss of generality, we can assume that  $c_n \rightarrow$   
 662  $c \in L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{C})$ . Now, on the one hand, by inequality (5.15), there are  $x \in L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{H})$  and  
 663  $\alpha \in L^1(\Omega, \mathbb{R})$  such that for almost all  $\omega \in \Omega$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$

$$664 (5.17) \begin{aligned} f_{c_n(\omega)}^*(\omega, y_n^*(\omega)) + \frac{\lambda}{6} \|y_n^*(\omega)\|^2 &\geq \langle y_n^*(\omega), x(\omega) \rangle + \alpha(\omega) + \frac{\lambda}{6} \|y_n^*(\omega)\|^2 \\ &\geq \inf_{y^* \in \mathcal{H}} \left( \langle y^*, x(\omega) \rangle + \frac{\lambda}{6} \|y^*\|^2 \right) + \alpha(\omega) \\ &\geq -\frac{3}{2\lambda} \|x(\omega)\|^2 + \alpha(\omega). \end{aligned}$$

665 On the other hand,

$$666 (5.18) \begin{aligned} \frac{\lambda}{6} \int_{\Omega} \|y_n^*(\omega)\|^2 d\mathbb{P} + \sigma_{\mathcal{Q}}(z_n^*) &\geq \frac{\lambda}{6} \left\| \int_{\Omega} y_n^*(\omega) d\mathbb{P} \right\|^2 + \sigma_{\mathcal{Q}}(z_n^*) \\ &\geq h(x_n^*) := \inf \left\{ \frac{\lambda}{6} \|v^*\|^2 + \sigma_{\mathcal{Q}}(w^*) : v^* + w^* = x_n^* \right\}, \end{aligned}$$

667 where  $h \in \Gamma_0(\mathcal{H})$  (see, e.g., [4, Proposition 12.14]). Therefore, by using (5.16), (5.17)  
 668 and (5.18), we conclude that  $(y_n^*)$  is bounded in  $L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{H})$ . Thus,  $y_n^* \rightarrow y^* \in L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{H})$   
 669 up to a subsequence and, by the equality  $x_n^* = \int_{\Omega} y_n(\omega) d\mathbb{P} + z_n^*$ , the sequence  $z_n^* \rightarrow$   
 670  $z^* \in \mathcal{H}$ .

671 Now, by Lemma 5.9, the integral functional defined from  $L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{Z}) \times L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{H})$   
 672 into  $\mathbb{R}_{\infty}$  by

$$673 (c, x^*) \rightarrow \mathcal{I}_{f^*}(c, x^*) := \begin{cases} \int_{\Omega} f_{c(\omega)}^*(\omega, x(\omega)) d\mathbb{P} & \text{if } c \in L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{C}), \\ +\infty & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

674

675 is well-defined and weak lower semicontinuous in  $L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{Z}) \times L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{H})$ . In particular,  
 676 passing to the limits in (5.16), we obtain that

$$677 \int_{\Omega} f_{c(\omega)}^*(\omega, y^*(\omega)) d\mathbb{P} + \frac{\lambda}{2} \int_{\Omega} \|y^*(\omega)\|^2 d\mathbb{P} + \sigma_{\mathcal{Q}}(z^*) \leq \alpha,$$

679 which proves  $(x^*, \alpha) \in \mathcal{W}$ , and, consequently,  $\mathcal{W}$  is closed.  $\square$

680 **6. Final comments.** In this work, under concave-convex assumptions, we have  
 681 proved that the Moreau envelope commutes with the supremum function of a family  
 682 of convex functions. This unexpected result enables us to compute the gradient of  
 683 envelopes of supremum function and propose regularization of optimization problems  
 684 that contain supremum functions in the objective or the constraint. Moreover, we  
 685 provide optimality conditions and zero-duality results for optimization problems in  
 686 infinite and stochastic programming. We emphasize that the obtained results do  
 687 not require the verification of classical qualification conditions, which, in general, are  
 688 challenging to check even in the finite-dimensional setting.

689 We expect that our results can be used to design algorithms to approximate op-  
 690 timization problems to infinite and semi-infinite programming with robust constraint  
 691 or objective function.

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