

# MAXIMAL MONOTONICITY OF BIFUNCTIONS

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For each monotone bifunction  $F$  defined on a subset  $C$  of a Banach space, an associated monotone operator  $A^F$  can be defined. The bifunction  $F$  is called maximal monotone if  $A^F$  is maximal monotone. We provide simple verifiable conditions for a bifunction to be maximal monotone and show the relation to the existence of solutions of an equilibrium problem. Also, we establish some properties of the domain of a maximal monotone bifunction. Finally, we define and study cyclically monotone bifunctions.

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