

# **Robust second order cone conditions and duality for multiobjective problems under uncertainty data**

**Cao Thanh Tinh1,[2](http://orcid.org/0000-0001-6848-4919) · Thai Doan Chuong3,4**

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## **Abstract**

This paper studies a class of multiobjective convex polynomial problems, where both the constraint and objective functions involve uncertain parameters that reside in ellipsoidal uncertainty sets. Employing the robust deterministic approach, we provide necessary conditions and sufficient conditions, which are exhibited in relation to second order cone conditions, for robust (weak) Pareto solutions of the uncertain multiobjective optimization problem. A dual multiobjective problem is proposed to examine robust converse, robust weak and robust strong duality relations between the primal and dual problems. Moreover, we establish robust solution relationships between the uncertain multiobjective optimization program and a (scalar) second order cone programming relaxation problem of a corresponding weightedsum optimization problem. This in particular shows that we can find a robust (weak) Pareto solution of the uncertain multiobjective optimization problem by solving a second order cone programming relaxation.

**Keywords** Multiobjective optimization · Second order cone programming · Robust optimization · Convex polynomial · Optimality condition

**Mathematics Subject Classification** 65K10 · 49K99 · 90C46 · 90C29

 $\boxtimes$  Cao Thanh Tinh tinhct@uit.edu.vn

> Thai Doan Chuong chuongthaidoan@yahoo.com

- <sup>1</sup> Vietnam National University, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
- <sup>2</sup> Department of Mathematics and Physics, University of Information Technology, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
- <sup>3</sup> Department of Mathematics, Brunel University London, London, United Kingdom
- <sup>4</sup> Department of Mathematics and Applications, Saigon University, 273 An Duong Vuong Street, District 5, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

#### **1 Introduction**

Since the seminal paper by Soyster [\[34\]](#page-25-0), robust optimization has become a useful and efficient deterministic mathematical approach to handle problems relating to decision making in the face of data uncertainty [\[5](#page-24-0), [7\]](#page-24-1). Recently, the robust optimization approach has been applied to various domains in multiobjective/vector frameworks with many further developments and high-potential techniques to solve various real-life decision making problems under the data uncertainty (see e.g., [\[9](#page-24-2), [12](#page-24-3), [16](#page-24-4)[–18,](#page-24-5) [20,](#page-25-1) [23](#page-25-2), [24](#page-25-3), [26](#page-25-4), [36\]](#page-25-5) and the references therein).

A recent research direction in robust multiobjective optimization has been devoted to investigating on how to reformulate and solve a robust multiobjective optimization problem via semidefinite programming (SDP) (see e.g., [\[4](#page-24-6)]) techniques by exploiting special structures of the constraint and objective functions such as linear, quadratic or polynomials; see e.g., [\[10,](#page-24-7) [11,](#page-24-8) [14,](#page-24-9) [25,](#page-25-6) [28](#page-25-7)]. For example, Magron et al. [\[28](#page-25-7)] used SDP relaxations to approximate Pareto curves of a bi-criteria polynomial program. The author in [\[11](#page-24-8)] established duality and linear matrix inequality conditions for a multiobjective SOS-convex optimization problem under constraint uncertainty, while Lee and Jiao in [\[25\]](#page-25-6) examined such a multiobjective problem by employing an approximate constraint scalarization approach to find robust efficient solutions via SDP duals. In terms of two-stage frameworks, the authors in [\[14\]](#page-24-9) reformulated and solved an adjustable robust linear multiobjective optimization using SDP relaxations.

Remarkably, a new class of first-order scaled diagonally dominant sums-of-squares convex (1st-SDSOS-convex) polynomials has been recently introduced in [\[8](#page-24-10)]. This class is a subclass of SOS-convex polynomials [\[3](#page-24-11), [21](#page-25-8)], and is a numerically tractable subclass of convex polynomials in the sense that checking a given polynomial is 1st-SDSOS-convex or not can be done by solving a feasibility problem of a second order cone programming (SOCP) problem [\[1,](#page-24-12) [2](#page-24-13), [8\]](#page-24-10). The class of 1st-SDSOS-convex polynomials covers all separable convex quadratic functions and any polynomial that can be expressed as a sum of even powers with the corresponding nonnegative coefficients [\[8\]](#page-24-10). The interested readers are referred to a more recent paper [\[13\]](#page-24-14) for an application of the class of 1st-SDSOS-convex polynomials to examine duality and optimality conditions for weak efficient solutions of a multiobjective optimization problem.

In this paper, we consider an *uncertain* multiobjective optimization problem that is defined by

<span id="page-1-0"></span>
$$
\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \left\{ \left( f_1(x, u_1), \dots, f_m(x, u_m) \right) \mid g_l(x, \omega_l) \le 0, \ l = 1, \dots, q \right\},\tag{U}
$$

where  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is the vector of *decision* variables,  $u_{\zeta} \in U_{\zeta}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, \omega_l \in \Omega_l, l =$ 1, ..., *q*, are *uncertain* parameters,  $U_{\zeta}$ ,  $\zeta = 1, \ldots, m$ ,  $\Omega_l$ ,  $l = 1, \ldots, q$  are *uncertainty sets* and  $f_\zeta : \mathbb{R}^n \times U_\zeta \to \mathbb{R}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, g_l : \mathbb{R}^n \times \Omega_l \to \mathbb{R}, l = 1, \ldots, q$  are bi-functions.

In what follows, the uncertainty sets  $U_{\zeta}$ ,  $\zeta = 1, \ldots, m$ ,  $\Omega_l$ ,  $l = 1, \ldots, q$  are assumed to be *ellipsoids* given by

$$
U_{\zeta} := \{ u_{\zeta} \in \mathbb{R}^s \mid u_{\zeta}^T A_{\zeta} u_{\zeta} \le \rho_{\zeta} \}, \quad \Omega_l := \{ \omega_l \in \mathbb{R}^r \mid \omega_l^T B_l \omega_l \le \tau_l \}, \tag{1}
$$

where  $A_{\zeta}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, B_{l}, l = 1, \ldots, q$  are positive-definite symmetric matrices  $(A_{\zeta} > 0, B_{l} > 0)$  and  $\rho_{\zeta}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, \tau_{l}, l = 1, \ldots, q$  are positive real numbers  $(\rho_{\zeta} > 0, \tau_{l} > 0)$ , while the bi-functions  $f_{\zeta}(\cdot, \cdot), \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, g_{l}(\cdot, \cdot), l = 1, \ldots, q$  are assumed to satisfy that  $f_\zeta(\cdot, u_\zeta), u_\zeta \in U_\zeta$  and  $g_l(\cdot, \omega_l), \omega_l \in \Omega_l$  are *1st-SDSOS-convex* polynomials (cf. Definition [2\)](#page-3-0) and that  $f_\zeta(x, \cdot)$ ,  $g_\zeta(x, \cdot)$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  are *affine* functions given by

<span id="page-2-1"></span>
$$
f_{\zeta}(x, u_{\zeta}) := p_{\zeta}^{0}(x) + \sum_{i=1}^{s} u_{\zeta}^{i} p_{\zeta}^{i}(x) \text{ for } u_{\zeta} := (u_{\zeta}^{1}, \dots, u_{\zeta}^{s}) \in \mathbb{R}^{s},
$$
  

$$
g_{l}(x, \omega_{l}) := h_{l}^{0}(x) + \sum_{j=1}^{r} \omega_{l}^{j} h_{l}^{j}(x) \text{ for } \omega_{l} := (\omega_{l}^{1}, \dots, \omega_{l}^{r}) \in \mathbb{R}^{r},
$$
 (2)

where  $p_{\xi}^{i}$ ,  $i = 0, 1, ..., s$ ,  $\zeta = 1, ..., m$  and  $h_{l}^{j}$ ,  $j = 0, 1, ..., r$ ,  $l = 1, ..., q$  are given polynomials with degrees at most  $\eta \in \mathbb{N}_0 := \{0, 1, 2, \ldots\}$ . Without loss of generality, we suppose that  $\eta$  is an even number because otherwise we can replace  $\eta$  by  $\eta + 1$ .

To deal with the uncertainty problem [\(U\)](#page-1-0), we associate with it the following *robust* counterpart:

$$
\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \left\{ \left( \max_{u_1 \in U_1} f_1(x, u_1), \dots, \max_{u_m \in U_m} f_m(x, u_m) \right) \mid g_l(x, \omega_l) \le 0, \ \forall \omega_l \in \Omega_l, \ l = 1, \dots, q \right\},\tag{R}
$$

where the uncertain objective functions and uncertain constraint functions are enforced for all possible realizations within the corresponding uncertainty sets.

From now on, the feasible set of problem  $(R)$  is denoted by

$$
C := \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid g_l(x, \omega_l) \leq 0, \ \forall \omega_l \in \Omega_l, \ l = 1, \ldots, q \right\}.
$$
 (3)

We also use the notations  $F := (F_1, \ldots, F_m)$ , where  $F_\zeta(x) := \max_{u_\zeta \in U_\zeta} f_\zeta(x, u_\zeta), \zeta =$  $1, \ldots, m$  for  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

<span id="page-2-2"></span>The forthcoming concepts of solutions are in terms of *worst-case* robustness efficiencies (see e.g., [\[16,](#page-24-4) [22](#page-25-9)]) of multiobjective/vector optimization (cf. [\[15,](#page-24-15) [19](#page-24-16), [27](#page-25-10), [29](#page-25-11), [31,](#page-25-12) [35\]](#page-25-13)).

**Definition 1** (i) A point  $\bar{x} \in C$  is called a *robust Pareto solution* of problem [\(U\)](#page-1-0) if  $\bar{x}$  is a Pareto solution of problem  $(R)$ , i.e., for all  $x \in C$ ,

<span id="page-2-3"></span><span id="page-2-0"></span>
$$
F(x) - F(\bar{x}) \notin -\mathbb{R}^m_+ \setminus \{0\},\
$$

where  $\mathbb{R}^m_+$  stands for the nonnegative orthant of  $\mathbb{R}^m$ . (ii) We say that  $\bar{x} \in C$  is a *robust weak Pareto solution* of problem [\(U\)](#page-1-0) if  $\bar{x}$  is a weak Pareto solution of problem [\(R\)](#page-2-0), i.e., for all  $x \in C$ ,

 $F(x) - F(\bar{x}) \notin -\text{int } \mathbb{R}^m_+,$ 

where int  $\mathbb{R}^m_+$  denotes the topological interior of  $\mathbb{R}^m_+$ .

The purpose of this paper is threefold: Firstly, we propose necessary and sufficient optimality conditions for robust (weak) Pareto solutions of the uncertain multiobjective optimization problem [\(U\)](#page-1-0). The obtained optimality conditions are displayed by means of second order cone (SOC) conditions, which provide a numerically checkable certificate of the solvability of the robust optimality conditions. Interestingly, it is shown that the SOC conditions are equivalent to the robust Karush-Kuhn-Tucker (KKT) condition. These are done by employing the special structures of the 1st-SDSOS-convex polynomials that empower us to provide robust optimality conditions by way of SOC conditions. These results will be given in Sect. [2.](#page-3-1)

Secondly, we suggest a dual multiobjective problem in terms of SOC conditions to the robust multiobjective optimization problem  $(R)$  and explore robust strong, robust weak and robust converse duality relations between  $(R)$  and its dual. The obtained dual results characterize the SOC conditions as well as the fulfilment of the robust KKT condition. In particular, this shows how we can verify a Pareto solution of the robust multiobjective optimization problem [\(R\)](#page-2-0) by solving the corresponding dual multiobjective problem, which is expressed in terms of SOC conditions. These results will be given in Sect. [3.](#page-12-0)

Thirdly, we establish robust solution relationships between the uncertain multiobjective optimization problem [\(U\)](#page-1-0) and an SOCP relaxation of a corresponding weighted-sum optimization problem. These relationships show how one can find a robust (weak) Pareto solution of the uncertain multiobjective polynomial program [\(U\)](#page-1-0) by solving an SOCP relaxation. In this way, we obtain strong SOCP duality and exact SOCP relaxation among the (scalar) dual, relaxation and weighted-sum optimization programs. These results will be presented in Sect. [4.](#page-16-0) The last section summarizes the main results and provides some perspectives on this research topic.

#### <span id="page-3-1"></span>**2 Second-order cone optimality conditions and solution relationships**

To begin with, some notations and definitions are presented. The notation  $\mathbb{R}^n$  signifies the Euclidean space whose norm is denoted by  $\|\cdot\|$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N} := \{1, 2, ...\}$ . The inner product in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is defined by  $\langle x, y \rangle := x^T y$  for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . Denote by  $\mathbb{R}[x]$  (or  $\mathbb{R}[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$ ) the ring of polynomials in  $x := (x_1, \ldots, x_n)$  with real coefficients. Consider a polynomial *f* with degree at most  $\eta$  where  $\eta$  is an even number, and let  $l := \eta/2$ . We note the canonical basis of  $\mathbb{R}_n[x_1,\ldots,x_n]$  as

$$
x^{(\eta)} := (1, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, x_1^2, x_1 x_2, \dots, x_2^2, \dots, x_n^2, \dots, x_1^{\eta}, \dots, x_n^{\eta})^T,
$$

where  $\mathbb{R}_n[x_1,\ldots,x_n]$  is the space including of all real polynomials on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with degree  $\eta$ . Let  $s(\eta, n)$  be the dimension of  $\mathbb{R}_\eta[x_1,\ldots,x_n]$  and for each  $1 \leq \alpha \leq s(\eta, n)$ , let  $i(\alpha) =$  $(i_1(\alpha), \ldots, i_n(\alpha)) \in (\mathbb{N}_0)^n$  denote the multi-index satisfying

$$
x_{\alpha}^{(\eta)} = x^{i(\alpha)} := x_1^{i_1(\alpha)} \dots x_n^{i_n(\alpha)}.
$$

Let the monomials  $m_\alpha(x) = x_\alpha^{(\eta)}$  be the  $\alpha$ -th coordinate of  $x^{(\eta)}$ ,  $1 \le \alpha \le s(\eta, n)$ . Thus, we can write

$$
f(x) = \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s(\eta,n)} f_{\alpha} m_{\alpha}(x) = \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s(\eta,n)} f_{\alpha} x_{\alpha}^{(\eta)}.
$$

Given  $u \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $y = (y_\alpha) \in \mathbb{R}^{s(u,n)}$ , the Riesz functional  $L_y : \mathbb{R}_\eta[x] \to \mathbb{R}$  is defined by

$$
L_{y}(f) = \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s(u,n)} f_{\alpha} y_{\alpha} \text{ for } f(x) = \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s(u,n)} f_{\alpha} x_{\alpha}^{(\eta)}, \tag{4}
$$

and the moment matrix  $\mathbf{M}_u(y)$  about  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  with degree *u* generated by  $y = (y_\alpha) \in \mathbb{R}^{s(2u,n)}$ is defined by

<span id="page-3-4"></span><span id="page-3-3"></span><span id="page-3-2"></span>
$$
\mathbf{M}_{u}(y) = \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s(2u,n)} y_{\alpha} M_{\alpha},
$$
\n(5)

where  $M_{\alpha}$ ,  $\alpha = 1, \ldots, s(2u, n)$ , are the  $(s(u, n) \times s(u, n))$  symmetric matrices such that

$$
x^{(u)}(x^{(u)})^T = \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s(2u,n)} x_{\alpha}^{(u)} M_{\alpha}.
$$
 (6)

<span id="page-3-0"></span> $\mathcal{L}$  Springer

**Definition 2** Let *d* be a polynomial on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . (i) The polynomial *d* with degree  $\eta = 2\ell, l \in$ N0, is *scaled diagonally dominant sum-of-squares* (SDSOS) [\[1](#page-24-12)] if there exist nonnegative numbers  $\alpha_i$ ,  $\beta_{ij}^+$ ,  $\beta_{ij}^ \gamma_{ij}^+$ ,  $\gamma_{ij}^-$  and  $p \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $1 \le p \le s(\ell, n)$  such that

$$
d(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{p} \alpha_i m_i^2(x) + \sum_{i,j=1, i \neq j}^{p} (\beta_{ij}^+ m_i(x) + \gamma_{ij}^+ m_j(x))^2 + \sum_{i,j=1, i \neq j}^{p} (\beta_{ij}^- m_i(x) - \gamma_{ij}^- m_j(x))^2,
$$

where  $m_i$ ,  $m_j$  are monomials in the variable x. We let  $\text{SDSOS}_n[x]$  denote the set of all SDSOS polynomials on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with degree at most  $\eta$ . (ii) For the polynomial *d* with degree  $\eta \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , we consider a polynomial *D* defined as

$$
D(x, y) := d(x) - d(y) - \nabla d(y)^T (x - y),
$$

where ∇*d*(*y*) stands for the derivative of *d* at *y*. The polynomial *d* is called *first-order scaled diagonally dominant sum-of-squares convex* (1st-SDSOS-convex) [\[8](#page-24-10)] if *D* is an SDSOS polynomial in the variable of (*x*, *y*).

It is worth mentioning here that all 1st-SDSOS-convex polynomials are convex, the sum of two 1st-SDSOS-convex polynomials is a 1st-SDSOS-convex polynomial, and the product of a 1st-SDSOS-convex polynomial and a nonnegative scalar is also a 1st-SDSOS-convex polynomial.

The first theorem in this section provides necessary and sufficient optimality conditions for robust (weak) Pareto solutions of problem [\(U\)](#page-1-0) in terms of second order cone (SOC) conditions. Let  $Q_\zeta$ ,  $\zeta = 1, \ldots, m$  and  $E_l$ ,  $l = 1, \ldots, q$  be square matrices such that  $A_\zeta =$  $Q_\zeta^T Q_\zeta$  and  $B_l = E_l^T E_l$ .

<span id="page-4-4"></span>**Theorem 1** (SOC conditions for robust (weak) efficiencies) *Let*  $\bar{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  *be a robust feasible point of problem* [\(U\)](#page-1-0)*.*

(i) *Suppose that the Slater condition is satisfied; i.e., there exists*  $\hat{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  *such that for all*  $\omega_l \in \Omega_l, l = 1 \ldots, q$ ,

<span id="page-4-3"></span><span id="page-4-2"></span><span id="page-4-1"></span><span id="page-4-0"></span>
$$
g_l(\hat{x}, \omega_l) < 0. \tag{7}
$$

*If*  $\bar{x}$  is a robust weak Pareto solution of problem [\(U\)](#page-1-0), then there exist  $\mu_l^0 \in \mathbb{R}_+$ ,  $\mu_l^j \in$  $\mathbb{R}, l = 1, ..., q, j = 1, ..., r \text{ and } (\alpha_1^0, ..., \alpha_m^0) \in \mathbb{R}_+^m \setminus \{0\}, \alpha_{\zeta}^i \in \mathbb{R}, \zeta =$  $1, \ldots, m, i = 1, \ldots, s$  such that

$$
\sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \left( \alpha_{\zeta}^{0} p_{\zeta}^{0} + \sum_{i=1}^{s} \alpha_{\zeta}^{i} p_{\zeta}^{i} \right) + \sum_{l=1}^{q} \left( \mu_{l}^{0} h_{l}^{0} + \sum_{j=1}^{r} \mu_{l}^{j} h_{l}^{j} \right) - \sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \alpha_{\zeta}^{0} F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}) \in \text{SDSOS}_{\eta}[x], \quad (8)
$$

$$
\|\mathcal{Q}_{\zeta}(\alpha_{\zeta}^1,\ldots,\alpha_{\zeta}^s)\| \leq \sqrt{\rho_{\zeta}}\alpha_{\zeta}^0, \ \zeta = 1,\ldots,m,
$$
\n(9)

$$
||E_l(\mu_l^1, \dots, \mu_l^r)|| \le \sqrt{\tau_l} \mu_l^0, \ l = 1, \dots, q,
$$
\n(10)

*where*  $F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}) := \max_{u_{\zeta} \in U_{\zeta}} f_{\zeta}(\bar{x}, u_{\zeta})$  *for*  $\zeta = 1, \ldots, m$ .

- (ii) If there exist  $\mu_l^0 \in \mathbb{R}_+, \mu_l^j \in \mathbb{R}, l = 1, \ldots, q, j = 1, \ldots, r$  and  $(\alpha_1^0, \ldots, \alpha_m^0) \in$  $\mathbb{R}^m_+\setminus\{0\}, \alpha^i_{\zeta} \in \mathbb{R}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, i = 1, \ldots, s \text{ such that (8), (9) and (10) are satisfied,}$  $\mathbb{R}^m_+\setminus\{0\}, \alpha^i_{\zeta} \in \mathbb{R}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, i = 1, \ldots, s \text{ such that (8), (9) and (10) are satisfied,}$  $\mathbb{R}^m_+\setminus\{0\}, \alpha^i_{\zeta} \in \mathbb{R}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, i = 1, \ldots, s \text{ such that (8), (9) and (10) are satisfied,}$  $\mathbb{R}^m_+\setminus\{0\}, \alpha^i_{\zeta} \in \mathbb{R}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, i = 1, \ldots, s \text{ such that (8), (9) and (10) are satisfied,}$  $\mathbb{R}^m_+\setminus\{0\}, \alpha^i_{\zeta} \in \mathbb{R}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, i = 1, \ldots, s \text{ such that (8), (9) and (10) are satisfied,}$  $\mathbb{R}^m_+\setminus\{0\}, \alpha^i_{\zeta} \in \mathbb{R}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, i = 1, \ldots, s \text{ such that (8), (9) and (10) are satisfied,}$  $\mathbb{R}^m_+\setminus\{0\}, \alpha^i_{\zeta} \in \mathbb{R}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, i = 1, \ldots, s \text{ such that (8), (9) and (10) are satisfied,}$ *then*  $\bar{x}$  *is a robust weak Pareto solution of problem* [\(U\)](#page-1-0).
- (iii) *If there exist*  $\mu_l^0 \in \mathbb{R}_+$ ,  $\mu_l^j \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $l = 1, \ldots, q$ ,  $j = 1, \ldots, r$  and  $(\alpha_1^0, \ldots, \alpha_m^0) \in$ int  $\mathbb{R}^m_+$ ,  $\alpha^i_\zeta \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\zeta = 1, \ldots, m$ ,  $i = 1, \ldots, s$  such that [\(8\)](#page-4-0), [\(9\)](#page-4-1) and [\(10\)](#page-4-2) are satisfied, *then*  $\bar{x}$  *is a robust Pareto solution of problem* [\(U\)](#page-1-0).

*Proof* (i) Suppose that the Slater condition [\(7\)](#page-4-3) is satisfied and let  $\bar{x}$  be a robust weak Pareto solution of problem [\(U\)](#page-1-0). Put  $F_\zeta(x) := \max_{u_\zeta \in U_\zeta} f_\zeta(x, u_\zeta), \zeta = 1, \ldots, m$  and  $G_l(x) :=$  $\max_{\omega \in \Omega} g_l(x, \omega_l), l = 1, \ldots, q$  for  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . Then, it holds that  $F_\zeta, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m$  and  $ω$ *l*∈Ω<sub>i</sub>  $G_l, l = 1, \ldots, q$  are convex functions finite on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  because  $f_\zeta(\cdot, u_\zeta), u_\zeta \in U_\zeta$  and  $g_l(\cdot, \omega_l)$ ,  $\omega_l \in \Omega_l$  are 1st-SDSOS-convex polynomials (hence, convex polynomials),  $f_\ell(x, \cdot)$ and  $g_l(x, \cdot)$  are affine functions for each  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , and  $U_\zeta$  and  $\Omega_l$  are compact sets. Note that the Slater condition [\(7\)](#page-4-3) ensures that for each  $l = 1, \ldots, q$ ,

<span id="page-5-2"></span><span id="page-5-1"></span><span id="page-5-0"></span>
$$
G_l(\hat{x}) < 0. \tag{11}
$$

Since  $\bar{x}$  is a robust weak Pareto solution of problem [\(U\)](#page-1-0), it ensures that

$$
\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid F_{\zeta}(x) - F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}) < 0, \ \zeta = 1, \dots, m, \ G_l(x) < 0, \ l = 1, \dots, q\} = \emptyset.
$$

Invoking a classical alternative theorem in convex analysis (see e.g., [\[32](#page-25-14), Theorem 21.1]), we can find  $\lambda_{\zeta} \geq 0$ ,  $\zeta = 1, \ldots, m$ ,  $\gamma_l \geq 0$ ,  $l = 1, \ldots, q$  such that  $\sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} (\lambda_{\zeta})^2 + \sum_{l=1}^{q}$ *l*=1 (γ*l*)<sup>2</sup> > 0 and

$$
\sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \lambda_{\zeta} \big( F_{\zeta}(x) - F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}) \big) + \sum_{l=1}^{q} \gamma_l G_l(x) \ge 0, \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n.
$$
 (12)

We observe by [\(11\)](#page-5-0) and [\(12\)](#page-5-1) that  $(\lambda_1, ..., \lambda_m) \neq 0$ , and that

$$
\inf_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \left\{ \sum_{\zeta=1}^m \lambda_{\zeta} F_{\zeta}(x) + \sum_{l=1}^q \gamma_l G_l(x) \right\} \ge \sum_{\zeta=1}^m \lambda_{\zeta} F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}). \tag{13}
$$

Denoting  $W := \prod_{i=1}^{m} U_{\zeta} \times \prod_{i=1}^{q} \Omega_i \subset \mathbb{R}^{ms+qr}$ , it is true that *W* is a convex compact set. Now, by recalling the definition of  $F_\zeta$ ,  $\zeta = 1, \ldots, m$  and  $G_l$ ,  $l = 1, \ldots, q$ , we get by [\(13\)](#page-5-2) that

$$
\inf_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \max_{w \in W} \left\{ \sum_{\zeta=1}^m \lambda_{\zeta} f_{\zeta}(x, u_{\zeta}) + \sum_{l=1}^q \gamma_l g_l(x, \omega_l) \right\} \ge \sum_{\zeta=1}^m \lambda_{\zeta} F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}),\tag{14}
$$

where  $w := (u_1, \ldots, u_m, \omega_1, \ldots, \omega_q)$ . Let  $H : \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^{ms+qr} \to \mathbb{R}$  be defined by  $H(x, w) := \sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \lambda_{\zeta} f_{\zeta}(x, u_{\zeta}) + \sum_{l=1}^{q}$  $\sum_{l=1}^{1} \gamma_l g_l(x, \omega_l)$  for  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $w := (u_1, \ldots, u_m, \omega_1, \ldots, \omega_q) \in$  $\mathbb{R}^{ms+qr}$ . Then, *H* is a convex function in variable *x* and affine function in variable *w* and so, we refer to the classical minimax theorem (see e.g., [\[33,](#page-25-15) Theorem 4.2]) to claim that

<span id="page-5-3"></span>
$$
\inf_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \max_{w \in W} H(x, w) = \max_{w \in W} \inf_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} H(x, w).
$$

This together with [\(14\)](#page-5-3) entails that

$$
\max_{w \in W} \inf_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \left\{ \sum_{\zeta=1}^m \lambda_{\zeta} f_{\zeta}(x, u_{\zeta}) + \sum_{l=1}^q \gamma_l g_l(x, \omega_l) \right\} \ge \sum_{\zeta=1}^m \lambda_{\zeta} F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}).
$$

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Hence, we can find  $\bar{u}_{\zeta} := (\bar{u}_{\zeta}^1, \ldots, \bar{u}_{\zeta}^s) \in U_{\zeta}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m$  and  $\bar{\omega}_l := (\bar{\omega}_l^1, \ldots, \bar{\omega}_l^r) \in$  $\Omega_l$ ,  $l = 1, \ldots, q$  such that

$$
\sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \lambda_{\zeta} f_{\zeta}(x, \bar{u}_{\zeta}) + \sum_{l=1}^{q} \gamma_{l} g_{l}(x, \bar{\omega}_{l}) \ge \sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \lambda_{\zeta} F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}), \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^{n}.
$$
 (15)

We now consider a polynomial on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  given by for each  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\sigma(x) := \sum_{\zeta=1}^m \lambda_{\zeta} f_{\zeta}(x, \bar{u}_{\zeta}) +$ 

*q γl gl*(*x*,  $\bar{\omega}_l$ ) −  $\sum_{k}^{m} \lambda_{\zeta} F_{\zeta}(\bar{x})$ . By our assumption, it is easy to see that σ is a 1st-SDSOS*l*=1 convex polynomial and moreover,  $\sigma(x) \ge 0$ ,  $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , by virtue of [\(15\)](#page-6-0). So,  $\sigma \in \mathbf{SDSOS}_{\eta}[x]$ (cf. [\[8](#page-24-10), Proposition 5.3]).

Now, the relations  $\bar{u}_{\zeta} := (\bar{u}_{\zeta}^1, \dots, \bar{u}_{\zeta}^s) \in U_{\zeta}, \zeta = 1, \dots, m$  mean that

<span id="page-6-1"></span><span id="page-6-0"></span>
$$
\bar{u}_{\zeta}^{T} A_{\zeta} \bar{u}_{\zeta} \le \rho_{\zeta}, \ \zeta = 1, \dots, m. \tag{16}
$$

Setting  $\alpha_{\zeta}^0 := \lambda_{\zeta} \geq 0, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m$  and  $\alpha_{\zeta}^i := \alpha_{\zeta}^0 \bar{u}_{\zeta}^i \in \mathbb{R}, i = 1, \ldots, s, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m$ , we claim that [\(9\)](#page-4-1) holds. To see this, let  $\zeta \in \{1, ..., m\}$ . If  $\alpha_{\zeta}^0 = 0$ , then  $\alpha_{\zeta}^i = 0$  for all  $i = 1, \ldots, s$ , and hence, [\(9\)](#page-4-1) is trivially valid. If  $\alpha_{\zeta}^{0} \neq 0$ , then it follows from [\(16\)](#page-6-1) that

$$
\hat{u}_{\zeta}^T A_{\zeta} \hat{u}_{\zeta} \leq \rho_{\zeta} (\alpha_{\zeta}^0)^2,
$$

where  $\hat{u}_{\zeta} := (\alpha_{\zeta}^1, \dots, \alpha_{\zeta}^s)$ . Since  $A_{\zeta} = Q_{\zeta}^T Q_{\zeta}$ , we arrive at the conclusion that  $\|\mathcal{Q}_{\zeta}(\alpha_{\zeta}^1,\ldots,\alpha_{\zeta}^s)\| \leq \sqrt{\rho_{\zeta}}\alpha_{\zeta}^0$ , which shows that [\(9\)](#page-4-1) holds, too. Similarly, by letting  $\mu_l^0 := \gamma_l \geq 0, l = 1, \ldots, q$  and  $\mu_l^j := \mu_l^0 \bar{\omega}_l^j \in \mathbb{R}, j = 1, \ldots, r, l = 1, \ldots, q$ , we conclude from the relations  $\bar{\omega}_l := (\bar{\omega}_l^1, \ldots, \bar{\omega}_l^r) \in \Omega_l, l = 1, \ldots, q$  that [\(10\)](#page-4-2) also holds.

Next, by noting the definitions of functions  $f_{\zeta}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m$  and  $g_l, l = 1, \ldots, q$  in [\(2\)](#page-2-1), we obtain that  $\lambda_{\zeta} f_{\zeta}(x, \bar{u}_{\zeta}) = \alpha_{\zeta}^0 p_{\zeta}^0(x) + \sum_{i=1}^s$  $\alpha_{\xi}^{i} p_{\xi}^{i}(x)$  and  $\gamma_{l} g_{l}(x, \bar{\omega}_{l}) = \mu_{l}^{0} h_{l}^{0}(x) +$  $\sum$ <sup>r</sup>

*j*=1  $\mu_l^j h_l^j(x)$ ,  $l = 1, \ldots, q$ , for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . This together with the definition of  $\sigma$  yields

$$
\sum_{\zeta=1}^m (\alpha_{\zeta}^0 p_{\zeta}^0 + \sum_{i=1}^s \alpha_{\zeta}^i p_{\zeta}^i) + \sum_{l=1}^q (\mu_l^0 h_l^0 + \sum_{j=1}^r \mu_l^j h_l^j) - \sum_{\zeta=1}^m \alpha_{\zeta}^0 F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}) = \sigma,
$$

which shows that (8) is satisfied. Therefore, the proof of (i) is accomplished.

(ii) Assume that there exist  $\mu_l^0 \in \mathbb{R}_+$ ,  $\mu_l^j \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $l = 1, \ldots, q, j = 1, \ldots, r$  and  $(\alpha_1^0, \ldots, \alpha_m^0) \in \mathbb{R}^m_+\setminus\{0\}, \alpha_\zeta^i \in \mathbb{R}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, i = 1, \ldots, s$  such that [\(8\)](#page-4-0), [\(9\)](#page-4-1) and [\(10\)](#page-4-2) hold.

Consider any  $\zeta \in \{1, ..., m\}$ . We claim by [\(9\)](#page-4-1) that if  $\alpha_{\zeta}^{0} = 0$ , then  $\alpha_{\zeta}^{i} = 0$  for all  $i = 1, \ldots, s$ . Assume on contrary that  $\alpha_{\zeta}^{0} = 0$  but there exists  $i_0 \in \{1, \ldots, s\}$  with  $\alpha_{\zeta}^{i_0} \neq 0$ . In this case, [\(9\)](#page-4-1) entails that  $\|Q_\zeta w_\zeta\| = 0$ , where  $w_\zeta := (\alpha_\zeta^1, \dots, \alpha_\zeta^s) \neq 0$ . This establishes a contradiction as inasmuch  $||Q_\zeta w_\zeta||^2 = w_\zeta^T A_\zeta w_\zeta > 0$ , where the strict inequality is satisfied by virtue of  $A_{\zeta} > 0$ . So, our claim is valid. Similarly, we assert by [\(10\)](#page-4-2) that if  $\mu_l^0 = 0$  for each  $l \in \{1, ..., q\}$ , then  $\mu_l^j = 0$  for all  $j = 1, ..., r$ .

Now, denote  $\hat{u}_{\zeta} := (\hat{u}_{\zeta}^1, \dots, \hat{u}_{\zeta}^s), \zeta = 1, \dots, m$  and  $\hat{\omega}_l := (\hat{\omega}_l^1, \dots, \hat{\omega}_l^r), l = 1, \dots, q$ , where

$$
\hat{u}_{\zeta}^i := \begin{cases}\n0 & \text{if } \alpha_{\zeta}^0 = 0, \\
\frac{\alpha_{\zeta}^i}{\alpha_{\zeta}^0} & \text{if } \alpha_{\zeta}^0 \neq 0,\n\end{cases}\n\quad i = 1, \ldots, s, \quad\n\hat{\omega}_{l}^j := \begin{cases}\n0 & \text{if } \mu_l^0 = 0, \\
\frac{\mu_l^j}{\mu_l^0} & \text{if } \mu_l^0 \neq 0,\n\end{cases}\n\quad j = 1, \ldots, r.
$$

It follows from  $(9)$  and  $(10)$  that

 $\hat{u}_{\xi}^{T} A_{\xi} \hat{u}_{\xi} \leq \rho_{\xi}, \ \xi = 1, \ldots, m, \ \hat{\omega}_{l}^{T} B_{l} \hat{\omega}_{l} \leq \tau_{l}, \ l = 1, \ldots, q,$ 

which show that  $\hat{u}_{\zeta} \in U_{\zeta}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m$  and  $\hat{\omega}_l \in \Omega_l, l = 1, \ldots, q$ . Then, for any  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,

$$
\alpha_{\zeta}^{0} p_{\zeta}^{0}(x) + \sum_{i=1}^{s} \alpha_{\zeta}^{i} p_{\zeta}^{i}(x) = \alpha_{\zeta}^{0} p_{\zeta}^{0}(x) + \sum_{i=1}^{s} (\alpha_{\zeta}^{0} \hat{u}_{\zeta}^{i}) p_{\zeta}^{i}(x)
$$
  

$$
= \alpha_{\zeta}^{0} [p_{\zeta}^{0}(x) + \sum_{i=1}^{s} \hat{u}_{\zeta}^{i} p_{\zeta}^{i}(x)] = \alpha_{\zeta}^{0} f_{\zeta}(x, \hat{u}_{\zeta}), \ \zeta = 1, ..., m,
$$

where we note that if  $\alpha_{\zeta}^{0} = 0$  for each  $\zeta \in \{1, ..., m\}$ , then  $\alpha_{\zeta}^{i} = 0$  for all  $i = 1, ..., s$ , as shown above. Similarly,  $\mu_l^0 h_l^0(x) + \sum_{j=1}^r$  $\mu_l^j h_l^j(x) = \mu_l^0 g_l(x, \hat{\omega}_l), \ l = 1, \ldots, q$  for each  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

Therefore, we use [\(8\)](#page-4-0) to find  $\sigma_0 \in SDSOS_n[x]$  such that

$$
\sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \alpha_{\zeta}^{0} f_{\zeta}(x, \hat{u}_{\zeta}) = \sigma_{0}(x) - \sum_{l=1}^{q} \mu_{l}^{0} g_{l}(x, \hat{\omega}_{l}) + \sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \alpha_{\zeta}^{0} F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}), \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^{n}.
$$
 (17)

Let  $\tilde{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  be an arbitrary robust feasible point of problem [\(U\)](#page-1-0). Note here that  $\sigma_0(\tilde{x})$  −  $\sum_{i=1}^{q} \mu_i^0 g_l(\tilde{x}, \hat{\omega}_l) \ge 0$  inasmuch as  $\sigma_0$  is an SDSOS polynomial, and hence  $\sigma_0(\tilde{x}) \ge 0$  and  $\mu_l^0 \ge 0$  $l=1$ <br>  $0, g_l(\tilde{x}, \hat{\omega}_l) \leq 0, l = 1, \ldots, q$ . Then, we estimate [\(17\)](#page-7-0) at  $\tilde{x}$  to obtain that  $\sum_{\zeta=1}^m$  $\alpha_{\zeta}^0 f_{\zeta}(\tilde{x}, \hat{u}_{\zeta}) \geq$  $\sum$ <sup>*m*</sup>  $\zeta=1$  $\alpha_{\zeta}^0 F_{\zeta}(\bar{x})$  and thus,

<span id="page-7-1"></span><span id="page-7-0"></span>
$$
\sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \alpha_{\zeta}^{0} F_{\zeta}(\tilde{x}) \ge \sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \alpha_{\zeta}^{0} F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}), \qquad (18)
$$

due to the fact that  $\alpha_{\zeta}^{0} \geq 0$ ,  $F_{\zeta}(\tilde{x}) \geq f_{\zeta}(\tilde{x}, \hat{u}_{\zeta})$  for  $\zeta = 1, \ldots, m$ .

Note by [\(18\)](#page-7-1) that  $F(\tilde{x}) - F(\tilde{x}) \notin -\text{int } \mathbb{R}^m_+$  because of  $(\alpha_1^0, \ldots, \alpha_m^0) \in \mathbb{R}^m_+ \setminus \{0\}$ . So,  $\tilde{x}$  is a robust weak Pareto solution of problem [\(U\)](#page-1-0).

(iii) Assume that there exist  $\mu_l^0 \in \mathbb{R}_+$ ,  $\mu_l^j \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $l = 1, \ldots, q, j = 1, \ldots, r$  and  $(\alpha_1^0, \ldots, \alpha_m^0) \in \text{int } \mathbb{R}_+^m, \alpha_\zeta^i \in \mathbb{R}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, i = 1, \ldots, s \text{ such that (8), (9) and (10)}$  $(\alpha_1^0, \ldots, \alpha_m^0) \in \text{int } \mathbb{R}_+^m, \alpha_\zeta^i \in \mathbb{R}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, i = 1, \ldots, s \text{ such that (8), (9) and (10)}$  $(\alpha_1^0, \ldots, \alpha_m^0) \in \text{int } \mathbb{R}_+^m, \alpha_\zeta^i \in \mathbb{R}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, i = 1, \ldots, s \text{ such that (8), (9) and (10)}$  $(\alpha_1^0, \ldots, \alpha_m^0) \in \text{int } \mathbb{R}_+^m, \alpha_\zeta^i \in \mathbb{R}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, i = 1, \ldots, s \text{ such that (8), (9) and (10)}$  $(\alpha_1^0, \ldots, \alpha_m^0) \in \text{int } \mathbb{R}_+^m, \alpha_\zeta^i \in \mathbb{R}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, i = 1, \ldots, s \text{ such that (8), (9) and (10)}$  $(\alpha_1^0, \ldots, \alpha_m^0) \in \text{int } \mathbb{R}_+^m, \alpha_\zeta^i \in \mathbb{R}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, i = 1, \ldots, s \text{ such that (8), (9) and (10)}$  $(\alpha_1^0, \ldots, \alpha_m^0) \in \text{int } \mathbb{R}_+^m, \alpha_\zeta^i \in \mathbb{R}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, i = 1, \ldots, s \text{ such that (8), (9) and (10)}$ hold. Following the same lines as in the proof of (ii), we arrive at the assertion that

<span id="page-7-2"></span>
$$
\sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \alpha_{\zeta}^{0} F_{\zeta}(\tilde{x}) \ge \sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \alpha_{\zeta}^{0} F_{\zeta}(\tilde{x}) \tag{19}
$$

for each given robust feasible point  $\tilde{x}$  of problem [\(U\)](#page-1-0). We claim that  $\bar{x}$  is a robust Pareto solution of problem [\(U\)](#page-1-0). Otherwise, there exists a robust feasible point  $x^*$  of problem (U)

such that  $F(x^*) - F(\bar{x}) \in -\mathbb{R}^m \setminus \{0\}$ . Moreover, by  $(\alpha_1^0, \ldots, \alpha_m^0) \in \text{int } \mathbb{R}^m_+$ such that  $F(x^*) - F(\bar{x}) \in -\mathbb{R}^m_+\setminus\{0\}$ . Moreover, by  $(\alpha_1^0, \dots, \alpha_m^0) \in \text{int } \mathbb{R}^m_+$ , we see that  $\sum_{\zeta=1}^m \alpha_{\zeta}^0 F_{\zeta}(x^*) - \sum_{\zeta=1}^m \alpha_{\zeta}^0 F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}) < 0$ , which contradicts the assertion in (19). So, our  $\frac{m}{\zeta-1} \alpha_{\zeta}^0 F_{\zeta}(x^*) - \sum_{\zeta=1}^m \alpha_{\zeta}^0 F_{\zeta}(x) < 0$ , which contradicts the assertion in [\(19\)](#page-7-2). So, our claim is true and the proof is complete.  $\Box$ 

*Remark 1* The Slater condition [\(7\)](#page-4-3) is *important* for obtaining necessary SOC conditions. The following example shows that the conclusion of (i) in Theorem [1](#page-4-4) may go awry if this Slater condition does not hold.

**Example 1** (The importance of the Slater condition) Consider the robust multiobjective convex polynomial optimization problem

$$
\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}} \left\{ \left( \max_{u \in U} \{ x^8 + (3 - u^2) x^2 - 2x + 1 \}, \max_{u \in U} \{ (2 - u^1) x^2 - 3x - 1 \} \right) \mid x^8 + 2x^2 \le 0, \right. \\
 \left. (PE1)
$$
\n
$$
(1 - \omega^2) x^8 + (1 - \omega^1) x^2 - 1 \le 0, \forall \omega := (\omega^1, \omega^2) \in \Omega \right\},
$$

where  $U := \{u : = (u^1, u^2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid \frac{(u^1)^2}{2} + \frac{(u^2)^2}{3} \le 1\}$  and  $\Omega := \{\omega : = (\omega^1, \omega^2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid \omega \le 1\}$  $({\omega}^1)^2 + ({\omega}^2) \le 1$ . The problem [\(PE1\)](#page-8-0) can be expressed in terms of problem [\(R\)](#page-2-0), where the ellipsoids  $U_1 := U_2 := U$  and  $\Omega_1 := \Omega_2 := \Omega$  are described respectively by

<span id="page-8-0"></span>
$$
A_1 := A_2 := \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{3} \end{pmatrix}, \quad B_1 := B_2 := \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},
$$

 $\rho_1 := \rho_2 := \tau_1 := \tau_2 := 1$  and the bi-functions  $f_\zeta$ ,  $\zeta = 1, 2, g_l, l = 1, 2$  are given by  $f_{\zeta}(x, u) := p_{\zeta}(0x) + \sum_{k=1}^{n} u^{i} p_{\zeta}(k)$  for  $u := (u^{1}, u^{2}) \in \mathbb{R}^{2}$  with  $p_{1}^{0}(x) := x^{8} + 3x^{2} - 1$  $2x + 1, p_1^1(x) := 0, p_1^2(x) := -x^2, p_2^0(x) := 2x^2 - 3x - 1, p_2^1(x) := -x^2, p_2^2(x) := 0$ for  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $g_l(x, \omega) := h_l^0(x) + \sum_{i=1}^2 \omega^j h_l^j(x)$  for  $\omega := (\omega^1, \omega^2) \in \mathbb{R}^2$  with  $h_1^0(x) :=$ *j*=1  $x^8 + 2x^2$ ,  $h_1^1(x) := h_1^2(x) := 0$ ,  $h_2^0(x) := x^8 + x^2 - 1$ ,  $h_2^1(x) := -x^2$ ,  $h_2^2(x) := -x^8$  for  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

It is clear that  $f_\zeta(\cdot, u), u \in U, \zeta = 1, 2$  and  $g_l(\cdot, \omega), \omega \in \Omega, l = 1, 2$  are 1st-SDSOSconvex polynomials and that  $\bar{x} := 0$  is a Pareto solution of the robust problem [\(PE1\)](#page-8-0). However, we assert that the SOC condition given in  $(8)$  is not valid at  $\bar{x}$ . To see this, suppose by the contradiction that there exist  $(\alpha_1^0, \alpha_2^0) \in \mathbb{R}_+^2 \setminus \{0\}, \alpha_\zeta^i \in \mathbb{R}, \zeta = 1, 2, i = 1, 2,$  $\mu_l^0 \in \mathbb{R}_+$ ,  $\mu_l^j \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $l = 1, 2$ ,  $j = 1, 2$  and  $\sigma \in \mathbf{SDSOS}_8[x]$  such that

$$
\sum_{\zeta=1}^{2} (\alpha_{\zeta}^{0} p_{\zeta}^{0} + \sum_{i=1}^{2} \alpha_{\zeta}^{i} p_{\zeta}^{i}) + \sum_{l=1}^{2} (\mu_{l}^{0} h_{l}^{0} + \sum_{j=1}^{2} \mu_{l}^{j} h_{l}^{j}) - \sum_{\zeta=1}^{2} \alpha_{\zeta}^{0} F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}) = \sigma,
$$
 (20)

where  $F_1(\bar{x}) := \max_{u \in U} \{p_1^0(\bar{x}) + \sum_{i=1}^2$  $i=1$  $u^i p_1^i(\bar{x})$ } = 1 and  $F_2(\bar{x}) := \max_{u \in U} \{ p_2^0(\bar{x}) + \sum_{i=1}^2$ *i*=1  $u^i p_2^i(\bar{x})$ } = −1. We rearrange [\(20\)](#page-8-1) and obtain that  $(\alpha_1^0 + \mu_1^0 + \mu_2^0 - \mu_2^2)x^8 + (3\alpha_1^0 + 2\alpha_2^0 - \alpha_1^2 - \alpha_2^1 + 2\mu_1^0 + \mu_2^0 - \mu_2^1)x^2 - (2\alpha_1^0 + 3\alpha_2^0)x$  $=\mu_2^0 + \sigma(x)$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

For each  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , as  $\mu_2^0 \ge 0$  and  $\sigma(x) \ge 0$ , it entails that  $(\alpha_1^0 + \mu_1^0 + \mu_2^0 - \mu_2^2)x^8 \ge (2\alpha_1^0 + 3\alpha_2^0)x - (3\alpha_1^0 + 2\alpha_2^0 - \alpha_1^2 - \alpha_2^1 + 2\mu_1^0 + \mu_2^0 - \mu_2^1)x^2.$ (21)

<span id="page-8-2"></span><span id="page-8-1"></span> $\circled{2}$  Springer

Considering  $x_{\zeta} := \frac{1}{\zeta}$ , where  $\zeta \in \mathbb{N}$ , we claim by [\(21\)](#page-8-2) that

<span id="page-9-0"></span>
$$
\alpha_1^0 + \mu_1^0 + \mu_2^0 - \mu_2^2 \ge \zeta^6 [(2\alpha_1^0 + 3\alpha_2^0)\zeta - (3\alpha_1^0 + 2\alpha_2^0 - \alpha_1^2 - \alpha_2^1 + 2\mu_1^0 + \mu_2^0 - \mu_2^1)]
$$
  
 
$$
\ge (2\alpha_1^0 + 3\alpha_2^0)\zeta - (3\alpha_1^0 + 2\alpha_2^0 - \alpha_1^2 - \alpha_2^1 + 2\mu_1^0 + \mu_2^0 - \mu_2^1)
$$

for  $\zeta$  large enough. This means that

$$
\alpha_1^0 + \mu_1^0 + \mu_2^0 - \mu_2^2 \ge (2\alpha_1^0 + 3\alpha_2^0)\zeta - (3\alpha_1^0 + 2\alpha_2^0 - \alpha_1^2 - \alpha_2^1 + 2\mu_1^0 + \mu_2^0 - \mu_2^1) \tag{22}
$$

for all  $\zeta$  large enough. Now, letting  $\zeta \to \infty$  in [\(22\)](#page-9-0), we arrive at a contradiction. Consequently, the result of (i) in Theorem [1](#page-4-4) is not true for this setting. The reason is that the Slater condition fails for this problem.

Similarly as shown in [\[13,](#page-24-14) Example 2.7] that the 1st-SDSOS-convexity assumption in our framework is also *important* for the validation of SOC conditions. That is, the conclusion of (i) in Theorem [1](#page-4-4) may fail for a robust multiobjective polynomial problem, where the related functions are convex (but *not* 1st-SDSOS-convex) polynomials although the Slater qualification holds.

We now show that the SOC conditions in  $(8)$ ,  $(9)$  and  $(10)$  are equivalent to the robust Karush-Kuhn-Tucker (KKT) condition of problem [\(U\)](#page-1-0). In doing so, we say that the *robust KKT condition* is valid at  $\bar{x} \in C$  if there exist  $\bar{\omega}_l \in \Omega_l$ ,  $l = 1, \ldots, q$  and  $\alpha := (\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_m) \in$  $\mathbb{R}^m_+\setminus\{0\}, \lambda := (\lambda_1,\ldots,\lambda_q) \in \mathbb{R}^q_+, \bar{u}_\zeta \in U_\zeta, \zeta = 1,\ldots,m$  such that

<span id="page-9-1"></span>
$$
\sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \alpha_{\zeta} \nabla_{1} f_{\zeta}(\bar{x}, \bar{u}_{\zeta}) + \sum_{l=1}^{q} \lambda_{l} \nabla_{1} g_{l}(\bar{x}, \bar{\omega}_{l}) = 0,
$$
\n
$$
\sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \alpha_{\zeta} f_{\zeta}(\bar{x}, \bar{u}_{\zeta}) - \sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \alpha_{\zeta} F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}) = 0, \ \lambda_{l} g_{l}(\bar{x}, \bar{\omega}_{l}) = 0, \ l = 1, \dots, q,
$$
\n(23)

where  $\nabla_1 f_\zeta$  (resp.,  $\nabla_1 g_l$ ) denotes the derivative of  $f_\zeta$  (resp.,  $g_l$ ) with respect to the first variable and  $F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}) := \max_{u_{\zeta} \in U_{\zeta}} f_{\zeta}(\bar{x}, u_{\zeta})$  for  $\zeta = 1, ..., m$ . Note that if  $f_{\zeta}(\cdot, u_{\zeta}) := p_{\zeta}^0$  for

all  $u_{\zeta} \in U_{\zeta}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m$  (i.e., there is *no uncertainty* on the objective functions), then the above robust KKT condition was examined in [\[11\]](#page-24-8) for a class of SOS-convex polynomials, and in [\[9\]](#page-24-2) for a more general class of local Lipschitz nonsmooth functions.

<span id="page-9-5"></span>**Theorem 2** (SOC and robust KKT conditions) Let  $\bar{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  be a robust feasible point of *problem* [\(U\)](#page-1-0)*. Then, the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (i) *The SOC conditions given in* [\(8\)](#page-4-0)*,* [\(9\)](#page-4-1) *and* [\(10\)](#page-4-2) *hold.*
- (ii) *The robust KKT condition is valid at*  $\bar{x}$ .
- (iii) *There exist*  $\mu_l^0 \in \mathbb{R}_+$ ,  $\mu_l^j \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $l = 1, \ldots, q$ ,  $j = 1, \ldots, r$  and  $(\alpha_1^0, \ldots, \alpha_m^0) \in$  $\mathbb{R}^m_+\setminus\{0\}, \alpha_\zeta^i \in \mathbb{R}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, i = 1, \ldots, s$  such that

$$
\sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} (\alpha_{\zeta}^{0} \nabla p_{\zeta}^{0}(\bar{x}) + \sum_{i=1}^{s} \alpha_{\zeta}^{i} \nabla p_{\zeta}^{i}(\bar{x})) + \sum_{l=1}^{q} (\mu_{l}^{0} \nabla h_{l}^{0}(\bar{x}) + \sum_{j=1}^{r} \mu_{l}^{j} \nabla h_{l}^{j}(\bar{x})) = 0,
$$
\n
$$
\sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} (\alpha_{\zeta}^{0} p_{\zeta}^{0}(\bar{x}) + \sum_{i=1}^{s} \alpha_{\zeta}^{i} p_{\zeta}^{i}(\bar{x})) - \sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \alpha_{\zeta}^{0} F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}) = 0, \ \mu_{l}^{0} h_{l}^{0}(\bar{x}) + \sum_{j=1}^{r} \mu_{l}^{j} h_{l}^{j}(\bar{x}) = 0, \ l = 1, ..., q,
$$
\n(24)

<span id="page-9-4"></span><span id="page-9-3"></span><span id="page-9-2"></span>
$$
\|\mathcal{Q}_{\zeta}(\alpha_{\zeta}^1,\ldots,\alpha_{\zeta}^s)\| \leq \sqrt{\rho_{\zeta}}\alpha_{\zeta}^0, \ \zeta = 1,\ldots,m,
$$
\n(25)

$$
||E_l(\mu_l^1, \dots, \mu_l^r)|| \le \sqrt{\tau_l} \mu_l^0, \ l = 1, \dots, q,
$$
\n(26)

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*where*  $F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}) := \max_{u_{\zeta} \in U_{\zeta}} f_{\zeta}(\bar{x}, u_{\zeta})$  *for*  $\zeta = 1, \ldots, m$ .

*Proof*  $[(i) \implies (ii)]$  Suppose that the SOC conditions given in [\(8\)](#page-4-0), [\(9\)](#page-4-1) and [\(10\)](#page-4-2) are valid. Following the proof of (ii) in Theorem [1,](#page-4-4) we observe by [\(9\)](#page-4-1) and [\(10\)](#page-4-2) that there exist  $\hat{u}_\zeta \in$  $U_{\zeta}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m$  and  $\hat{\omega}_l \in \Omega_l, l = 1, \ldots, q$  such that

$$
\alpha_{\zeta}^{0} p_{\zeta}^{0}(x) + \sum_{i=1}^{s} \alpha_{\zeta}^{i} p_{\zeta}^{i}(x) = \alpha_{\zeta}^{0} f_{\zeta}(x, \hat{u}_{\zeta}), \ \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^{n}, \ \zeta = 1, ..., m,
$$
  

$$
\mu_{l}^{0} h_{l}^{0}(x) + \sum_{j=1}^{r} \mu_{l}^{j} h_{l}^{j}(x) = \mu_{l}^{0} g_{l}(x, \hat{\omega}_{l}), \ \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^{n}, \ l = 1, ..., q.
$$
 (27)

Now, we use [\(8\)](#page-4-0) to find  $\sigma \in SDSOS_n[x]$  such that

$$
\sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \alpha_{\zeta}^{0} f_{\zeta}(x, \hat{u}_{\zeta}) - \sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \alpha_{\zeta}^{0} F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}) = \sigma(x) - \sum_{l=1}^{q} \mu_{l}^{0} g_{l}(x, \hat{\omega}_{l}), \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^{n}, \tag{28}
$$

where  $F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}) := \max_{u_{\zeta} \in U_{\zeta}} f_{\zeta}(\bar{x}, u_{\zeta})$  for  $\zeta = 1, \ldots, m$ . Observe here that  $\sigma(\bar{x})$  –  $\sum_{i=1}^{q} \mu_i^0 g_l(\bar{x}, \hat{\omega}_l) \ge 0$  inasmuch as  $\sigma$  is an SDSOS polynomial and hence  $\sigma(\bar{x}) \ge 0$ , and  $\mu_l^0 g_l(\bar{x}, \hat{\omega}_l) \leq 0, l = 1, \ldots, q$  as  $\bar{x}$  is a robust feasible point of problem [\(U\)](#page-1-0). By estimating [\(28\)](#page-10-0) at  $\bar{x}$ , we obtain that  $\sum_{\zeta=1}^m$  $\alpha_{\zeta}^{0} f_{\zeta}(\bar{x}, \hat{u}_{\zeta}) \geq \sum_{\zeta=1}^{m}$  $\alpha_{\zeta}^0 F_{\zeta}(\bar{x})$  and thus,

<span id="page-10-1"></span><span id="page-10-0"></span>
$$
\sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \alpha_{\zeta}^{0} f_{\zeta}(\bar{x}, \hat{u}_{\zeta}) = \sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \alpha_{\zeta}^{0} F_{\zeta}(\bar{x})
$$
\n(29)

due to the fact that  $\alpha_{\zeta}^{0} \geq 0$ ,  $F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}) \geq f_{\zeta}(\bar{x}, \hat{u}_{\zeta})$  for  $\zeta = 1, ..., m$ . Substituting  $x := \bar{x}$  into [\(28\)](#page-10-0) and taking [\(29\)](#page-10-1) into account, we arrive at  $\sigma(\bar{x}) - \sum_{n=1}^{q}$ *l*=1  $\mu_l^0 g_l(\bar{x}, \hat{\omega}_l) = 0$ . This ensures that  $\sigma(\bar{x}) = 0$  and

$$
\mu_l^0 g_l(\bar{x}, \hat{\omega}_l) = 0, \ l = 1, \dots, q. \tag{30}
$$

Therefore,  $\sigma(x) \geq \sigma(\bar{x})$ ,  $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , which means that  $\bar{x}$  is a minimizer of  $\sigma$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . It entails that  $\nabla \sigma(\bar{x}) = 0$ , and so we get by [\(28\)](#page-10-0) that

$$
\sum_{\zeta=1}^m \alpha_\zeta^0 \nabla_1 f_\zeta(\bar{x}, \hat{u}_\zeta) + \sum_{l=1}^q \mu_l^0 \nabla_1 g_l(\bar{x}, \hat{\omega}_l) = 0
$$

which together with [\(29\)](#page-10-1) and [\(30\)](#page-10-2) shows that the robust KKT condition is valid at  $\bar{x}$ .

 $[(ii) \implies (iii)]$  Suppose that the robust KKT condition is valid at  $\bar{x}$ . This means that there exist  $\alpha := (\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_m) \in \mathbb{R}^m_+\setminus\{0\}, \lambda := (\lambda_1, \ldots, \lambda_q) \in \mathbb{R}^q_+$  and  $\bar{u}_{\zeta} := (\bar{u}_{\zeta}^1, \ldots, \bar{u}_{\zeta}^s) \in$  $U_{\zeta}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, \bar{\omega}_l := (\bar{\omega}_l^1, \ldots, \bar{\omega}_l^r) \in \Omega_l, l = 1, \ldots, q$ , such that [\(23\)](#page-9-1) is valid. Let  $\alpha_{\zeta}^{0} := \alpha_{\zeta} \ge 0, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, \alpha_{\zeta}^{i} := \alpha_{\zeta}^{0} \bar{u}_{\zeta}^{i} \in \mathbb{R}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, i = 1, \ldots, s \text{ and } \mu_{l}^{0} :=$  $\lambda_l \ge 0, l = 1, ..., q, \mu_l^j := \mu_l^0 \bar{\omega}_l^j \in \mathbb{R}, l = 1, ..., q, j = 1, ..., r$ . Arguing similarly as in the proof of Theorem [1,](#page-4-4) we show that  $(25)$  and  $(26)$  hold and that

<span id="page-10-2"></span> $\circled{2}$  Springer

$$
\alpha_{\zeta} f_{\zeta}(x, \bar{u}_{\zeta}) = \alpha_{\zeta}^{0} p_{\zeta}^{0}(x) + \sum_{i=1}^{s} \alpha_{\zeta}^{i} p_{\zeta}^{i}(x), \ \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^{n}, \ \zeta = 1, ..., m,
$$
  

$$
\lambda_{l} g_{l}(x, \bar{\omega}_{l}) = \mu_{l}^{0} h_{l}^{0}(x) + \sum_{j=1}^{r} \mu_{l}^{j} h_{l}^{j}(x), \ \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^{n}, \ l = 1, ..., q.
$$

This together with  $(23)$  proves that  $(24)$  is valid.

 $\begin{bmatrix} (\mathbf{iii}) \implies (\mathbf{i}) \end{bmatrix}$  Let  $\mu_l^0 \in \mathbb{R}_+$ ,  $\mu_l^j \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $l = 1, \ldots, q$ ,  $j = 1, \ldots, r$  and  $(\alpha_1^0, \ldots, \alpha_m^0) \in$  $\mathbb{R}^m_+\setminus\{0\}$ ,  $\alpha^i_\zeta \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\zeta = 1, \ldots, m$ ,  $i = 1, \ldots, s$  be such that [\(24\)](#page-9-4), [\(25\)](#page-9-2) and [\(26\)](#page-9-3) hold. As above, we use [\(25\)](#page-9-2) and [\(26\)](#page-9-3) to find  $\hat{u}_{\zeta} \in U_{\zeta}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m$  and  $\hat{\omega}_l \in \Omega_l, l = 1, \ldots, q$  such that

<span id="page-11-0"></span>
$$
\alpha_{\zeta}^{0} p_{\zeta}^{0}(x) + \sum_{i=1}^{s} \alpha_{\zeta}^{i} p_{\zeta}^{i}(x) = \alpha_{\zeta}^{0} f_{\zeta}(x, \hat{u}_{\zeta}), \ \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^{n}, \ \zeta = 1, ..., m,
$$
  

$$
\mu_{l}^{0} h_{l}^{0}(x) + \sum_{j=1}^{r} \mu_{l}^{j} h_{l}^{j}(x) = \mu_{l}^{0} g_{l}(x, \hat{\omega}_{l}), \ \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^{n}, \ l = 1, ..., q.
$$
 (31)

Consider a function  $d : \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$  defined by

$$
d(x) := \sum_{\zeta=1}^m \alpha_{\zeta}^0 f_{\zeta}(x, \hat{u}_{\zeta}) + \sum_{l=1}^q \mu_l^0 g_l(x, \hat{\omega}_l) - \sum_{\zeta=1}^m \alpha_{\zeta}^0 F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n.
$$

As  $f_{\zeta}(\cdot, \hat{u}_{\zeta})$ ,  $\zeta = 1, \ldots, m$  and  $g_l(\cdot, \hat{\omega}_l)$ ,  $l = 1, \ldots, q$  are 1st-SDSOS-convex polynomials, *d* is 1st-SDSOS-convex and hence, being a convex function. We show by [\(24\)](#page-9-4) and [\(31\)](#page-11-0) that

$$
\nabla d(\bar{x}) = 0, \sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \alpha_{\zeta}^{0} f_{\zeta}(\bar{x}, \hat{u}_{\zeta}) - \sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \alpha_{\zeta}^{0} F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}) = 0, \mu_{l}^{0} g_{l}(\bar{x}, \hat{\omega}_{l}) = 0, l = 1, ..., q.
$$

Then, the convexity of *d* entails that  $d(x) \geq d(\bar{x}) = 0$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . This together with the 1st-SDSOS-convexity of *d* guarantees that  $d \in SDSOS_n[x]$  (cf. [\[8](#page-24-10), Proposition 5.3]). Taking [\(31\)](#page-11-0) into account, we arrive at

$$
\sum_{\zeta=1}^m (\alpha_{\zeta}^0 p_{\zeta}^0 + \sum_{i=1}^s \alpha_{\zeta}^i p_{\zeta}^i) + \sum_{l=1}^q (\mu_l^0 h_l^0 + \sum_{j=1}^r \mu_l^j h_l^j) - \sum_{\zeta=1}^m \alpha_{\zeta}^0 F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}) \in SDSOS_{\eta}[x].
$$

Consequently, the assertion in (i) holds. The proof is complete.  $\Box$ 

- *Remark [2](#page-9-5)* (i) The result in Theorem 2 provides new characterizations for the robust KKT condition via the proposed SOC conditions in the setting of *1st-SDSOS-convex* polynomials. The interested reader is referred to [\[11,](#page-24-8) Proposition 2.10] for corresponding characterizations for the robust KKT condition in terms of the linear matrix inequality (LMI) conditions in the setting of *SOS-convex* polynomials.
- (ii) In the definition of robust KKT condition in [\(23\)](#page-9-1), if  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^m_+ \setminus \{0\}$  is replaced by  $\alpha \in \text{int}\mathbb{R}^m_+$ , then the corresponding condition is called *robust strong KKT* condition. Using a concept of robust *proper* Pareto solution for our setting and proceeding similarly as in the proof of Theorem [2,](#page-9-5) we could obtain some characterizations or at least some sufficient conditions for the fulfillment of the robust *strong KKT* condition and thus for the validation of the hypothesis (iii) of Theorem [1.](#page-4-4) This would be an interesting topic for a further study.

#### <span id="page-12-0"></span>**3 Robust duality via second order cone conditions**

In this section, we propose a dual multiobjective problem to the robust multiobjective optimization problem  $(R)$  and explore duality relations between them. More precisely, we justify that robust dual results characterize the SOC conditions as well as the robust KKT condition. This particularly shows a Pareto point of the primal robust multiobjective optimization problem [\(R\)](#page-2-0) by solving its dual problem, which is exhibited in terms of SOC conditions.

In connection with  $(R)$ , we consider a dual multiobjective problem as follows:

<span id="page-12-1"></span>
$$
\max_{(t_{\zeta}, \alpha_{\zeta}^{0}, \alpha_{\zeta}^{i}, \mu_{l}^{0}, \mu_{l}^{j})} \left\{ (t_{1}, \ldots, t_{m}) \in \mathbb{R}^{m} \mid \sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} (\alpha_{\zeta}^{0} p_{\zeta}^{0} + \sum_{i=1}^{s} \alpha_{\zeta}^{i} p_{\zeta}^{i}) + \sum_{l=1}^{q} (\mu_{l}^{0} h_{l}^{0} + \sum_{j=1}^{r} \mu_{l}^{j} h_{l}^{j}) - \sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \alpha_{\zeta}^{0} t_{\zeta} \in \text{SDSOS}_{\eta}[x], t_{\zeta} \in \mathbb{R}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m,
$$
  

$$
\| Q_{\zeta}(\alpha_{\zeta}^{1}, \ldots, \alpha_{\zeta}^{s}) \| \leq \sqrt{\rho_{\zeta}} \alpha_{\zeta}^{0}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m,
$$
  

$$
\| E_{l}(\mu_{l}^{1}, \ldots, \mu_{l}^{r}) \| \leq \sqrt{\tau_{l}} \mu_{l}^{0}, l = 1, \ldots, q,
$$
  

$$
(\alpha_{1}^{0}, \ldots, \alpha_{m}^{0}) \in \mathbb{R}_{+}^{m} \setminus \{0\}, \alpha_{\zeta}^{i} \in \mathbb{R}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, i = 1, \ldots, s,
$$
  

$$
\mu_{l}^{0} \in \mathbb{R}_{+}, \mu_{l}^{j} \in \mathbb{R}, j = 1, \ldots, r, l = 1, \ldots, q \}.
$$

It is worth noticing here that a Pareto solution (resp., a weak Pareto solution) of a "max" multiobjective problem like the dual problem [\(D\)](#page-12-1) is defined similarly as in Definition [1](#page-2-2) by replacing  $-\mathbb{R}^m_+ \setminus \{0\}$  (resp.,  $-\text{int } \mathbb{R}^m_+ \setminus \{0\}$  (resp., int  $\mathbb{R}^m_+$ ). We also recall here the notation  $F := (F_1, \ldots, F_m)$  with  $F_\zeta(x) := \max_{u_\zeta \in U_\zeta} f_\zeta(x, u_\zeta), \zeta = 1, \ldots, m$  for  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

<span id="page-12-3"></span>The following theorem provides weak and strong duality relations between the dual problem  $(D)$  and the primal problem  $(R)$ .

**Theorem 3** (i) (Robust weak duality) Let  $(t_\zeta, \alpha_\zeta^0, \alpha_\zeta^i, \mu_l^0, \mu_l^j, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, i = 1, \ldots, s$ ,  $j = 1, \ldots, r, l = 1, \ldots, q$  *be a feasible point of problem* [\(D\)](#page-12-1) *and let*  $\hat{x}$  *be a feasible point of problem* [\(R\)](#page-2-0)*. We have*

<span id="page-12-2"></span>
$$
F(\hat{x}) - (t_1, \dots, t_m) \notin -\mathrm{int} \mathbb{R}^m_+.
$$
 (32)

(ii) (Robust strong dual characterization) Let  $\bar{x}$  be a weak Pareto solution of problem [\(R\)](#page-2-0). *The robust KKT condition is valid at*  $\bar{x}$  *if and only if there exists a weak Pareto solution of problem* [\(D\)](#page-12-1), say  $(\bar{t}_{\zeta}, \bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^0, \bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^i, \bar{\mu}_{l}^0, \bar{\mu}_{l}^j, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, i = 1, \ldots, s, j = 1, \ldots, r, l =$ 1,..., *q*)*, such that*

$$
F(\bar{x})=(\bar{t}_1,\ldots,\bar{t}_m).
$$

*Proof* (i) As  $(t_\zeta, \alpha_\zeta^0, \alpha_\zeta^i, \mu_l^0, \mu_l^j, \zeta = 1, ..., m, i = 1, ..., s, j = 1, ..., r, l = 1, ..., q)$  is a feasible point of problem [\(D\)](#page-12-1), we find  $\sigma \in SDSOS_n[x]$  such that

$$
\sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \left( \alpha_{\zeta}^{0} p_{\zeta}^{0}(x) + \sum_{i=1}^{s} \alpha_{\zeta}^{i} p_{\zeta}^{i}(x) \right) + \sum_{l=1}^{q} \left( \mu_{l}^{0} h_{l}^{0}(x) + \sum_{j=1}^{r} \mu_{l}^{j} h_{l}^{j}(x) \right) - \sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \alpha_{\zeta}^{0} t_{\zeta} = \sigma(x), \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^{n},
$$
\n(33)

$$
\|\mathcal{Q}_{\zeta}(\alpha_{\zeta}^1,\ldots,\alpha_{\zeta}^s)\| \leq \sqrt{\rho_{\zeta}}\alpha_{\zeta}^0, \ \zeta = 1,\ldots,m,
$$
\n(34)

$$
||E_l(\mu_l^1, \dots, \mu_l^r)|| \le \sqrt{\tau_l} \mu_l^0, \ l = 1, \dots, q,
$$
\n(35)

where  $(\alpha_1^0, \ldots, \alpha_m^0) \in \mathbb{R}_+^m \setminus \{0\} \alpha_{\zeta}^i \in \mathbb{R}, t_{\zeta} \in \mathbb{R}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, i = 1, \ldots, s$  and  $\mu_l^0 \in$  $\mathbb{R}_+$ ,  $\mu_l^j \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $j = 1, ..., r$  $j = 1, ..., r$  $j = 1, ..., r$ ,  $l = 1, ..., q$ . As shown in the proof of (ii) of Theorem 1, we show by [\(34\)](#page-13-0) and [\(35\)](#page-13-1) that there exist  $\hat{u}_{\zeta} \in U_{\zeta}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m$  and  $\hat{\omega}_l \in \Omega_l, l = 1, \ldots, q$ such that

<span id="page-13-2"></span><span id="page-13-1"></span><span id="page-13-0"></span>
$$
\alpha_{\zeta}^{0} p_{\zeta}^{0}(x) + \sum_{i=1}^{s} \alpha_{\zeta}^{i} p_{\zeta}^{i}(x) = \alpha_{\zeta}^{0} f_{\zeta}(x, \hat{u}_{\zeta}), \ \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^{n}, \ \zeta = 1, \dots, m,
$$
  

$$
\mu_{l}^{0} h_{l}^{0}(x) + \sum_{j=1}^{r} \mu_{l}^{j} h_{l}^{j}(x) = \mu_{l}^{0} g_{l}(x, \hat{\omega}_{l}), \ \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^{n}, \ l = 1, \dots, q.
$$

Note further that  $\sigma(\hat{x}) \ge 0$  as  $\sigma$  is an SDSOS polynomial and that  $g_l(\hat{x}, \hat{\omega}_l) \le 0, l =$ 1,..., *q*, as  $\hat{x}$  is a feasible point of problem [\(R\)](#page-2-0). We now estimate [\(33\)](#page-13-2) at  $\hat{x}$  to arrive at

<span id="page-13-3"></span>
$$
\sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \alpha_{\zeta}^{0} F_{\zeta}(\hat{x}) \geq \sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \alpha_{\zeta}^{0} f_{\zeta}(\hat{x}, \hat{u}_{\zeta}) \geq \sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \alpha_{\zeta}^{0} t_{\zeta}, \tag{36}
$$

where we should remind that  $F_{\zeta}(\hat{x}) := \max_{u_{\zeta} \in U_{\zeta}} f_{\zeta}(\hat{x}, u_{\zeta}) \ge f_{\zeta}(\hat{x}, \hat{u}_{\zeta})$  for all  $\zeta = 1, \ldots, m$ . On  $\alpha_0$  account of  $(\alpha_1^0, \ldots, \alpha_m^0) \in \mathbb{R}_+^m \setminus \{0\}$ , we conclude by [\(36\)](#page-13-3) that  $F(\hat{x}) - (t_1, \ldots, t_m) \notin -\text{int } \mathbb{R}_+^m$ , which concludes that  $(32)$  holds.

(ii) Let  $\bar{x}$  be a weak Pareto solution of problem  $(R)$ . Suppose that the robust KKT condition is valid at  $\bar{x}$ . By Theorem [2,](#page-9-5) the SOC conditions hold, i.e., there exist  $\bar{\mu}_l^0 \in \mathbb{R}_+$ ,  $\bar{\mu}_l^j \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $l =$  $1, \ldots, q, j = 1, \ldots, r$  and  $(\bar{\alpha}_1^0, \ldots, \bar{\alpha}_m^0) \in \mathbb{R}^m_+\setminus\{0\}, \bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^i \in \mathbb{R}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, i = 1, \ldots, s$ such that

$$
\sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} (\bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^{0} p_{\zeta}^{0} + \sum_{i=1}^{s} \bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^{i} p_{\zeta}^{i}) + \sum_{l=1}^{q} (\bar{\mu}_{l}^{0} h_{l}^{0} + \sum_{j=1}^{r} \bar{\mu}_{l}^{j} h_{l}^{j}) - \sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^{0} F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}) \in SDSOS_{\eta}[x],
$$
  
 $||Q_{\zeta}(\bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^{1}, \dots, \bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^{s})|| \le \sqrt{\rho_{\zeta}} \bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^{0}, \ \zeta = 1, \dots, m,$   
 $||E_{l}(\bar{\mu}_{l}^{1}, \dots, \bar{\mu}_{l}^{r})|| \le \sqrt{\tau_{l}} \bar{\mu}_{l}^{0}, \ l = 1, \dots, q,$ 

where  $F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}) := \max_{u_{\zeta} \in U_{\zeta}} f_{\zeta}(\bar{x}, u_{\zeta})$  for  $\zeta = 1, \ldots, m$ . Letting  $\bar{t}_{\zeta} := F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}), \zeta = 1, \ldots, m$ , it holds that

$$
F(\bar{x})=(\bar{t}_1,\ldots,\bar{t}_m)
$$

and that  $(\bar{t}_{\xi}, \bar{\alpha}_{\xi}^0, \bar{\alpha}_{\xi}^i, \bar{\mu}_{l}^0, \bar{\mu}_{l}^j, \xi = 1, \ldots, m, i = 1, \ldots, s, j = 1, \ldots, r, l = 1, \ldots, q)$  is a feasible point of problem [\(D\)](#page-12-1).

We assert further that  $(\bar{t}_{\zeta}, \bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^0, \bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^i, \bar{\mu}_{l}^0, \bar{\mu}_{l}^j, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, i = 1, \ldots, s, j = 1, \ldots, r, l =$  $1, \ldots, q$ ) is a weak Pareto solution of problem [\(D\)](#page-12-1). To see this, assume on the contrary that

there exists another feasible point of problem [\(D\)](#page-12-1), say  $(\tilde{t}_{\zeta}, \tilde{\alpha}_{\zeta}^0, \tilde{\alpha}_{\zeta}^i, \tilde{\mu}_{\zeta}^0, \tilde{\mu}_{\zeta}^i, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, i =$ 1,...,*s*, *j* = 1,...,*r*, *l* = 1,...,*q*), such that  $(\tilde{t}_1, ..., \tilde{t}_m) - (\tilde{t}_1, ..., \tilde{t}_m) \in \text{int} \mathbb{R}_+^m$ , which amounts to the following relation:

$$
F(\bar{x})-(\tilde{t}_1,\ldots,\tilde{t}_m)\in-\mathrm{int}\mathbb{R}^m_+.
$$

This clearly shows a contradiction to the robust weak duality of (i).

Conversely, let  $(\bar{t}_{\zeta}, \bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^0, \bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^i, \bar{\mu}_{l}^0, \bar{\mu}_{l}^j, \zeta = 1, ..., m, i = 1, ..., s, j = 1, ..., r, l =$ 1,..., *q*) be a weak Pareto solution of problem [\(D\)](#page-12-1) such that  $F(\bar{x}) = (\bar{t}_1, \ldots, \bar{t}_m)$ . Then, we obtain that

$$
\sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} (\bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^{0} p_{\zeta}^{0} + \sum_{i=1}^{s} \bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^{i} p_{\zeta}^{i}) + \sum_{l=1}^{q} (\bar{\mu}_{l}^{0} h_{l}^{0} + \sum_{j=1}^{r} \bar{\mu}_{l}^{j} h_{l}^{j}) - \sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^{0} F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}) \in \mathbf{SDSOS}_{\eta}[x],
$$
  
\n
$$
\|Q_{\zeta}(\bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^{1}, \dots, \bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^{s})\| \leq \sqrt{p_{\zeta}} \bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^{0}, \ \zeta = 1, \dots, m,
$$
  
\n
$$
\|E_{l}(\bar{\mu}_{l}^{1}, \dots, \bar{\mu}_{l}^{r})\| \leq \sqrt{\tau_{l}} \bar{\mu}_{l}^{0}, \ l = 1, \dots, q,
$$

where  $(\bar{\alpha}_1^0, \ldots, \bar{\alpha}_m^0) \in \mathbb{R}_+^m \setminus \{0\}, \bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^i \in \mathbb{R}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, i = 1, \ldots, s$  and  $\bar{\mu}_l^0 \in \mathbb{R}_+, \bar{\mu}_l^j \in \mathbb{R}_+^m$  $\mathbb{R}, l = 1, \ldots, q, j = 1, \ldots, r$  $\mathbb{R}, l = 1, \ldots, q, j = 1, \ldots, r$  $\mathbb{R}, l = 1, \ldots, q, j = 1, \ldots, r$ . In other words, the SOC conditions given in Theorem 1 hold, and so, by Theorem 2, the robust KKT condition is valid at  $\bar{x}$  as well. and so, by Theorem [2,](#page-9-5) the robust KKT condition is valid at  $\bar{x}$  as well.

In the forthcoming corollary, we derive a robust strong duality relation under the validation of the Slater condition, which is an easy-to-verify condition in practice.

**Corollary 1** (Robust strong duality with the Slater condition) *Suppose that the Slater condition* [\(7\)](#page-4-3) *is satisfied. Let*  $\bar{x}$  *be a weak Pareto solution of problem* [\(R\)](#page-2-0). Then, there exists a weak *Pareto solution of problem* [\(D\)](#page-12-1), say  $(\bar{t}_{\zeta}, \bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^0, \bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^i, \bar{\mu}_{l}^0, \bar{\mu}_{l}^j, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, i = 1, \ldots, s, j =$  $1, \ldots, r, l = 1, \ldots, q$ *), such that* 

$$
F(\bar{x})=(\bar{t}_1,\ldots,\bar{t}_m),
$$

*where*  $F := (F_1, ..., F_m)$  *with*  $F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}) := \max_{u_{\zeta} \in U_{\zeta}} f_{\zeta}(\bar{x}, u_{\zeta}), \zeta = 1, ..., m$ .

*Proof* Let  $\bar{x}$  be a weak Pareto solution of problem [\(R\)](#page-2-0). Under the Slater condition [\(7\)](#page-4-3), we employ Theorem  $1(i)$  $1(i)$  to conclude that the SOC conditions given in  $(8)$ ,  $(9)$  and  $(10)$  hold. In view of Theorem [2,](#page-9-5) it is equivalent to saying that the robust KKT condition is valid at  $\bar{x}$ . To finish the proof of the theorem, it remains to invoke Theorem 3(ii). finish the proof of the theorem, it remains to invoke Theorem [3\(](#page-12-3)ii).

In the following theorem, we present a robust converse duality relation between the robust multiobjective problem  $(R)$  and its dual problem  $(D)$ .

**Theorem 4** (Robust converse duality) *Let the feasible set C in* [\(3\)](#page-2-3) *be compact and the Slater condition* [\(7\)](#page-4-3) *hold.* If  $(\bar{t}_{\zeta}, \bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^0, \bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^i, \bar{\mu}_{l}^0, \bar{\mu}_{l}^j, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, i = 1, \ldots, s, j = 1, \ldots, r, l =$ 1,..., *q*) *is a weak Pareto solution of problem* [\(D\)](#page-12-1)*, then there exists a weak Pareto solution of problem*  $(R)$ *, denoted by*  $\bar{x}$ *, such that* 

<span id="page-14-0"></span>
$$
F(\bar{x}) - (\bar{t}_1, \dots, \bar{t}_m) \in -\mathbb{R}^m_+.
$$
 (37)

*Proof* Let  $(\bar{t}_{\zeta}, \bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^0, \bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^i, \bar{\mu}_{l}^0, \bar{\mu}_{l}^j, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, i = 1, \ldots, s, j = 1, \ldots, r, l = 1, \ldots, q)$  be a weak Pareto solution of problem [\(D\)](#page-12-1). Then, it is clear that

$$
\sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \left( \bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^{0} p_{\zeta}^{0} + \sum_{i=1}^{s} \bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^{i} p_{\zeta}^{i} \right) + \sum_{l=1}^{q} \left( \bar{\mu}_{l}^{0} h_{l}^{0} + \sum_{j=1}^{r} \bar{\mu}_{l}^{j} h_{l}^{j} \right) - \sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^{0} \bar{t}_{\zeta} \in \mathbf{SDSOS}_{\eta}[x],\tag{38}
$$

$$
\|Q_{\zeta}(\bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^1,\ldots,\bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^s)\| \le \sqrt{\rho_{\zeta}}\bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^0, \ \zeta = 1,\ldots,m,
$$
\n(39)

$$
||E_l(\bar{\mu}_l^1,\ldots,\bar{\mu}_l^r)|| \le \sqrt{\tau_l} \bar{\mu}_l^0, \ l = 1,\ldots,q,
$$
\n(40)

where  $(\bar{\alpha}_1^0, \ldots, \bar{\alpha}_m^0) \in \mathbb{R}_+^m \setminus \{0\}, \bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^i \in \mathbb{R}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, i = 1, \ldots, s$  and  $\bar{\mu}_l^0 \in \mathbb{R}_+, \bar{\mu}_l^j \in \mathbb{R}_+^m$  $\mathbb{R}, l = 1, \ldots, q, j = 1, \ldots, r.$ 

Put  $X := \{F(x) + w \mid x \in C, w \in \mathbb{R}_{+}^{m}\}\$ , where  $F := (F_1, \ldots, F_m)$  with  $F_{\zeta}(x) :=$ Put  $X := \{F(x) + w \mid x \in C, w \in \mathbb{R}_+^m\}$ , where  $F := (F_1, \dots, F_m)$  with  $F_{\zeta}(x) := \max_{u_{\zeta} \in U_{\zeta}} f_{\zeta}(x, u_{\zeta}), \zeta = 1, \dots, m$  for  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . Since  $F_{\zeta}, \zeta = 1, \dots, m$  are convex functions

finite on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , it holds that *X* is a closed convex set, and we claim that

<span id="page-15-6"></span><span id="page-15-5"></span><span id="page-15-4"></span><span id="page-15-3"></span><span id="page-15-0"></span>
$$
(\bar{t}_1,\ldots,\bar{t}_m)\in X.\tag{41}
$$

Indeed, if this is not the case, i.e.,  $(\bar{t}_1, \ldots, \bar{t}_m) \notin X$ . By a classical strong separation theorem in convex analysis (see e.g., [\[30,](#page-25-16) Theorem 2.2]), there exists  $\lambda := (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m) \in \mathbb{R}^m_+ \setminus \{0\}$ such that  $\sum_{\zeta=1}^m \lambda_{\zeta} \bar{t}_{\zeta} < \inf \{ \lambda^T v \mid v \in X \}.$  This entails that

$$
\sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \lambda_{\zeta} \bar{t}_{\zeta} < \inf \Big\{ \sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \lambda_{\zeta} F_{\zeta}(x) \mid x \in C \Big\}.
$$
 (42)

Observe that the (scalar) optimization problem on the right hand-side of [\(42\)](#page-15-0) has an optimal solution as the feasible set *C* is compact and  $F_\zeta$ ,  $\zeta = 1, \ldots, m$  are convex functions finite on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and thus being continuous. Then, there exists an optimal solution  $x_* \in C$  such that

<span id="page-15-2"></span><span id="page-15-1"></span>
$$
\sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \lambda_{\zeta} \bar{t}_{\zeta} < \sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \lambda_{\zeta} F_{\zeta}(x_{*}) \tag{43}
$$

and that

$$
\left\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \sum_{\zeta=1}^m \lambda_{\zeta} F_{\zeta}(x) - \sum_{\zeta=1}^m \lambda_{\zeta} F_{\zeta}(x_*) < 0, \ \zeta=1,\ldots,m, \ G_l(x) < 0, \ l=1,\ldots,q\right\} = \emptyset,
$$

where  $G_l(x) := \max_{\omega \in \Omega_l} g_l(x, \omega_l)$ , for  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n, l = 1, \ldots, q$ . Invoking a classical alternative  $ω$ *l*∈Ω*l* theorem in convex analysis (see e.g., [\[32,](#page-25-14) Theorem 21.1]), we find  $\lambda_0 \geq 0, \gamma_l \geq 0, l =$  $1, \ldots, q$ , not all zero, such that

$$
\lambda_0\left(\sum_{\zeta=1}^m \lambda_{\zeta} F_{\zeta}(x) - \sum_{\zeta=1}^m \lambda_{\zeta} F_{\zeta}(x_*)\right) + \sum_{l=1}^q \gamma_l G_l(x) \ge 0, \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n.
$$
 (44)

On account of the Slater condition [\(7\)](#page-4-3), we assert by [\(44\)](#page-15-1) that  $\lambda_0 > 0$ , and so there is no loss of generality in assume that  $\lambda_0 := 1$ . Consequently, we arrive at

$$
\sum_{\zeta=1}^m \lambda_{\zeta} F_{\zeta}(x) - \sum_{\zeta=1}^m \lambda_{\zeta} F_{\zeta}(x_*) + \sum_{l=1}^q \gamma_l G_l(x) \geq 0, \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n.
$$

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Now, following the same lines (after  $(12)$ ) as in the proof of Theorem [1\(](#page-4-4)i), we can find  $\alpha_j^{i*} \in \mathbb{R}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, i = 1, \ldots, s$  and  $\mu_l^{0*} \in \mathbb{R}_+, \mu_l^{j*} \in \mathbb{R}, l = 1, \ldots, q, j = 1, \ldots, r$ such that

$$
\sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} (\lambda_{\zeta} p_{\zeta}^{0} + \sum_{i=1}^{s} \alpha_{\zeta}^{i*} p_{\zeta}^{i}) + \sum_{l=1}^{q} (\mu_{l}^{0*} h_{l}^{0} + \sum_{j=1}^{r} \mu_{l}^{j*} h_{l}^{j}) - \sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \lambda_{\zeta} F_{\zeta}(x_{*}) \in SDSOS_{\eta}[x],
$$
  
\n
$$
\|Q_{\zeta}(\alpha_{\zeta}^{1*}, \dots, \alpha_{\zeta}^{s*})\| \le \sqrt{\rho_{\zeta}} \lambda_{\zeta}, \ \zeta = 1, \dots, m,
$$
  
\n
$$
\|E_{l}(\mu_{l}^{1*}, \dots, \mu_{l}^{r*})\| \le \sqrt{\tau_{l}} \mu_{l}^{0*}, \ l = 1, \dots, q.
$$
\n(45)

Letting  $\gamma := \frac{1}{\sum_{\zeta=1}^m \lambda_{\zeta}} \Big(\sum_{\zeta=1}^m$  $\sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \lambda_{\zeta} F_{\zeta}(x_*) - \sum_{\zeta=1}^{m}$  $\lambda_{\zeta} \bar{t}_{\zeta}$ ), we conclude by [\(43\)](#page-15-2) that  $\gamma > 0$  and, by [\(45\)](#page-16-1), that

$$
\sum_{\zeta=1}^m \left( \lambda_{\zeta} p_{\zeta}^0 + \sum_{i=1}^s \alpha_{\zeta}^{i*} p_{\zeta}^i \right) + \sum_{l=1}^q \left( \mu_l^{0*} h_l^0 + \sum_{j=1}^r \mu_l^{j*} h_l^j \right) - \sum_{\zeta=1}^m \lambda_{\zeta} (\bar{t}_{\zeta} + \gamma) \in \mathbf{SDSOS}_{\eta}[x].
$$

Therefore,  $(\bar{t}_{\zeta} + \gamma, \lambda_{\zeta}, \alpha_{\zeta}^{i*}, \mu_{l}^{0*}, \mu_{l}^{j*}, \zeta = 1, ..., m, i = 1, ..., s, j = 1, ..., r, l =$  $1, \ldots, q$  is a feasible point of problem [\(D\)](#page-12-1), and

$$
(\bar{t}_1+\gamma,\ldots,\bar{t}_m+\gamma)-(\bar{t}_1,\ldots,\bar{t}_m)=(\gamma,\ldots,\gamma)\in\mathrm{int}\mathbb{R}^m_+.
$$

This contradicts the fact that  $(\bar{t}_{\zeta}, \bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^0, \bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^i, \bar{\mu}_{l}^0, \bar{\mu}_{l}^j, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, i = 1, \ldots, s, j =$  $1, \ldots, r, l = 1, \ldots, q$  is a weak Pareto solution of problem [\(D\)](#page-12-1). Hence, our assertion in  $(41)$  is valid.

Granting this, we find  $\bar{x} \in C$  and  $\bar{w} := (\bar{w}_1, \ldots, \bar{w}_m) \in \mathbb{R}^m_+$  such that

<span id="page-16-3"></span><span id="page-16-2"></span><span id="page-16-1"></span>
$$
(\bar{t}_1,\ldots,\bar{t}_m)=F(\bar{x})+\bar{w},\qquad(46)
$$

which concludes that [\(37\)](#page-14-0) holds. By [\(38\)](#page-15-4) and [\(46\)](#page-16-2), we find  $\sigma \in SDSOS_n[x]$  such that

$$
\sum_{\zeta=1}^m (\bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^0 p_{\zeta}^0 + \sum_{i=1}^s \bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^i p_{\zeta}^i) + \sum_{l=1}^q (\bar{\mu}_l^0 h_l^0 + \sum_{j=1}^r \bar{\mu}_l^j h_l^j) - \sum_{\zeta=1}^m \bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^0 (F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}) + \bar{w}_{\zeta}) = \sigma.
$$

This, together with  $\sum_{\zeta=1}^m \bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^0 \bar{w}_{\zeta} \ge 0$ , guarantees that

$$
\sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} (\bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^{0} p_{\zeta}^{0} + \sum_{i=1}^{s} \bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^{i} p_{\zeta}^{i}) + \sum_{l=1}^{q} (\bar{\mu}_{l}^{0} h_{l}^{0} + \sum_{j=1}^{r} \bar{\mu}_{l}^{j} h_{l}^{j}) - \sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^{0} F_{\zeta}(\bar{x})
$$
  
= 
$$
\sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \bar{\alpha}_{\zeta}^{0} \bar{w}_{\zeta} + \sigma \in \mathbf{SDSOS}_{\eta}[x].
$$
 (47)

In view of Theorem [1\(](#page-4-4)ii), we get by [\(39\)](#page-15-5), [\(40\)](#page-15-6) and [\(47\)](#page-16-3) that  $\bar{x}$  is a weak Pareto solution of problem (R), and so the proof of the theorem is complete. problem  $(R)$ , and so the proof of the theorem is complete.

#### <span id="page-16-0"></span>**4 Finding robust efficient solutions via SOCP relaxations**

In this section, we show how to find a robust (weak) Pareto solution of the uncertain multiobjective problem [\(U\)](#page-1-0) by using a second-order cone programming (SOCP) relaxation. This

is done by establishing robust solution relationships between the uncertain multiobjective problem [\(U\)](#page-1-0) and an SOCP relaxation of a corresponding weighted-sum optimization program.

For a given  $v := (v_1, \ldots, v_m) \in \mathbb{R}_+^m \setminus \{0\}$ , let us consider a corresponding weighted-sum optimization problem of  $(R)$  as follows:

<span id="page-17-0"></span>
$$
\inf_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \Big\{ \sum_{\zeta=1}^m \nu_{\zeta} F_{\zeta}(x) \mid g_l(x, \omega_l) \leq 0, \ \forall \omega_l \in \Omega_l, \ l = 1, \ldots, q \Big\},\tag{Pv}
$$

where  $F_{\zeta}(x) := \max_{u_{\zeta} \in U_{\zeta}} f_{\zeta}(x, u_{\zeta}), \zeta = 1, ..., m$  for  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

A second-order cone programming (SOCP) *dual* program of problem  $(P_v)$  $(P_v)$  is defined by

$$
\sup_{(t,\lambda_{\zeta}^i,\mu_l^0,\mu_l^j)}\left\{t\mid \sum_{\zeta=1}^m\left(\nu_{\zeta}p_{\zeta}^0+\sum_{i=1}^s\lambda_{\zeta}^ip_{\zeta}^i\right)+\sum_{l=1}^q\left(\mu_l^0h_l^0+\sum_{j=1}^r\mu_l^jh_l^j\right)-t\in\text{SDSOS}_{\eta}[x], t\in\mathbb{R},\right\}
$$
\n(D<sub>v</sub>)

<span id="page-17-2"></span>
$$
\|Q_{\zeta}(\lambda_{\zeta}^1,\ldots,\lambda_{\zeta}^s)\| \leq \sqrt{\rho_{\zeta}}\nu_{\zeta},\ \lambda_{\zeta}^i \in \mathbb{R}, i = 1,\ldots,s, \zeta = 1,\ldots,m,
$$
  

$$
\|E_l(\mu_l^1,\ldots,\mu_l^r)\| \leq \sqrt{\tau_l}\mu_l^0,\mu_l^0 \in \mathbb{R}_+, \mu_l^j \in \mathbb{R}, j = 1,\ldots,r, l = 1,\ldots,q\},
$$

where  $Q_{\zeta}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m$  and  $E_l, l = 1, \ldots, q$  are square matrices such that  $A_{\zeta} = Q_{\zeta}^T Q_{\zeta}$ and  $B_l = E_l^T E_l$  as previously.

We also consider an SOCP *relaxation* program of problem  $(P_v)$  $(P_v)$  as

$$
\inf_{(y,\xi_{\zeta},\tilde{\xi}_{l},z^{\zeta},\tilde{z}^{l})} \Big\{ \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s(\eta,n)} (\sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \nu_{\zeta} p_{\zeta}^{0})_{\alpha} y_{\alpha} + \sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \nu_{\zeta} \sqrt{\rho_{\zeta}} \xi_{\zeta} \mid \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s(\eta,n)} (h_{l}^{0})_{\alpha} y_{\alpha} + \sqrt{\tau_{l}} \tilde{\xi}_{l} \leq 0, l = 1,\ldots,q, \tag{D_v^*}
$$

<span id="page-17-1"></span>
$$
\sum_{\alpha=1}^{s(\eta,n)} (p_{\zeta}^{i})_{\alpha} y_{\alpha} + (Q_{\zeta}^{i})^{T} z^{\zeta} = 0, \|z^{\zeta}\| \leq \xi_{\zeta}, i = 1, ..., s, \zeta = 1, ..., m,
$$
  
\n
$$
\sum_{\alpha=1}^{s(\eta,n)} (h_{l}^{j})_{\alpha} y_{\alpha} + (E_{l}^{j})^{T} \tilde{z}^{l} = 0, \|\tilde{z}^{l}\| \leq \tilde{\xi}_{l}, j = 1, ..., r, l = 1, ..., q,
$$
  
\n
$$
\|\begin{pmatrix} 2(\mathbf{M}_{\frac{\eta}{2}}(y))_{ij} & \cdots (\mathbf{M}_{\frac{\eta}{2}}(y))_{jj} \end{pmatrix}\| \leq (\mathbf{M}_{\frac{\eta}{2}}(y))_{ii} + (\mathbf{M}_{\frac{\eta}{2}}(y))_{jj}, 1 \leq i, j \leq s(\frac{\eta}{2}, n),
$$
  
\n
$$
y := (y_{\alpha}) \in \mathbb{R}^{s(\eta,n)}, y_{1} = 1,
$$
  
\n
$$
\xi_{\zeta} \in \mathbb{R}, z^{\zeta} \in \mathbb{R}^{s}, \zeta = 1, ..., m, \tilde{\xi}_{l} \in \mathbb{R}, \tilde{z}^{l} \in \mathbb{R}^{r}, l = 1, ..., q \},
$$

where  $Q^i_\zeta$ ,  $i = 1, \ldots, s$  are the columns of the matrix  $Q_\zeta$  for  $\zeta = 1, \ldots, m$  and  $E^j_i$ ,  $j =$ 1, ..., *r* are the columns of the matrix  $E_l$  for  $l = 1, \ldots, q$ .

<span id="page-17-3"></span>The following lemma is needed for our analysis in the sequel.

**Lemma 1** (Jensen's inequality with 1st-SDSOS-convex polynomials, cf. [\[8,](#page-24-10) Proposition 6.1]) *Consider a 1st-SDSOS-convex polynomial d on*  $\mathbb{R}^n$  *with degree*  $\eta := 2\ell$ *. Let*  $y = (y_\alpha) \in$  $\mathbb{R}^{s(\eta,n)}$  *with*  $y_1 = 1$  *and*  $1 \le i, j \le s(\ell, n)$ ,

$$
\|\begin{pmatrix} 2(\mathbf{M}_{\ell}(y))_{ij} \\ (\mathbf{M}_{\ell}(y))_{ii} - (\mathbf{M}_{\ell}(y))_{jj} \end{pmatrix}\| \leq (\mathbf{M}_{\ell}(y))_{ii} + (\mathbf{M}_{\ell}(y))_{jj}.
$$
 (48)

*Then, one has*

$$
L_{y}(d) \geq d(L_{y}(x_{1}),\ldots,L_{y}(x_{n})),
$$

*where*  $L_y$  *is given as in* [\(4\)](#page-3-2) *and*  $x_i$  *denotes the polynomial which maps a vector* x *in*  $\mathbb{R}^n$  *to its ith coordinate.*

Robust solution relationships between the uncertain multiobjective optimization prob-lem [\(U\)](#page-1-0) and an SOCP relaxation  $(D_{\nu}^{*})$  $(D_{\nu}^{*})$  of the corresponding weighted-sum optimization problem  $(P_v)$  $(P_v)$  is now ready to be established. This result illustrates, in particular, that we can find robust (weak) Pareto solutions of program [\(U\)](#page-1-0) by solving the (scalar) SOCP relaxation problem [\(D](#page-17-1)∗ <sup>ν</sup> ). In addition, we obtain *strong SOCP duality-exact SOCP relaxation* among the dual problem ( $D_{\nu}$ ), the relaxation ( $D_{\nu}^{*}$ ) and the weighted-sum optimization problem ( $P_{\nu}$ ) that might be of independent interest.

**Theorem 5** *Let the Slater qualification condition* [\(7\)](#page-4-3) *be valid. Then, we have the following statements:*

(i) If  $\bar{x} := (\bar{x}_1, \ldots, \bar{x}_n)$  *is a robust weak Pareto solution of problem* [\(U\)](#page-1-0)*, then there exist*  $v \in \mathbb{R}_+^m \setminus \{0\}$  *and*  $\xi_\zeta \in \mathbb{R}, \tilde{\xi}_l \in \mathbb{R}, z^\zeta \in \mathbb{R}^s, \tilde{z}^l \in \mathbb{R}^r, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, l = 1, \ldots, q$  such *that*

$$
\min(\mathbf{P}_{\nu}) = \max(\mathbf{D}_{\nu}) = \min(\mathbf{D}_{\nu})
$$
\n(49)

 $and$   $(\bar{y}, \xi_1, \ldots, \xi_m, \tilde{\xi}_1, \ldots, \tilde{\xi}_q, z^1, \ldots, z^m, \tilde{z}^1, \ldots, \tilde{z}^q)$  *is an optimal solution of prob*lem  $(D_{\nu}^*)$  $(D_{\nu}^*)$ , where  $\bar{y} := (1, \bar{x}_1, \ldots, \bar{x}_n, \bar{x}_1^2, \bar{x}_1 \bar{x}_2, \ldots, \bar{x}_2^2, \ldots, \bar{x}_n^2, \ldots, \bar{x}_1^n, \ldots, \bar{x}_n^n)$ .

(ii) *Consider L<sub>y</sub>* given as in [\(4\)](#page-3-2) and  $x_i$  being the polynomial which maps a vector x in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ *to its ith coordinate. Let*  $v \in \mathbb{R}^m_+ \setminus \{0\}$  *be such that the problem*  $(P_v)$  $(P_v)$  *admits an optimal*  $solution. If (\bar{y}, \xi_1, \ldots, \xi_m, \tilde{\xi}_1, \ldots, \tilde{\xi}_q, z^1, \ldots, z^m, \tilde{z}^1, \ldots, \tilde{z}^q) \text{ with } \bar{y} := (\bar{y}_\alpha) \in \mathbb{R}^{s(\eta, n)}$ *is an optimal solution of problem*  $(D_v^*)$  $(D_v^*)$ , *then*  $\bar{x} := (L_{\bar{y}}(x_1), \ldots, L_{\bar{y}}(x_n)) \in \mathbb{R}^n$  *is a robust weak Pareto solution of problem* [\(U\)](#page-1-0)*. Moreover, if*  $v \in \text{int} \mathbb{R}^m_+$ *, then*  $\bar{x}$  *is a robust Pareto solution of problem* [\(U\)](#page-1-0)*.*

*Proof* (i) Let  $\bar{x} := (\bar{x}_1, \ldots, \bar{x}_n)$  be a robust weak Pareto solution of problem [\(U\)](#page-1-0). In view of Theorem [1\(](#page-4-4)i), there exist  $\mu_l^0 \in \mathbb{R}_+$ ,  $\mu_l^j \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $l = 1, \ldots, q$ ,  $j = 1, \ldots, r$  and  $\nu :=$  $(v_1, ..., v_m) \in \mathbb{R}^m_+\setminus\{0\}, \lambda^i_\zeta \in \mathbb{R}, \zeta = 1, ..., m, i = 1, ..., s$  such that

$$
\sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \left( \nu_{\zeta} p_{\zeta}^{0} + \sum_{i=1}^{s} \lambda_{\zeta}^{i} p_{\zeta}^{i} \right) + \sum_{l=1}^{q} \left( \mu_{l}^{0} h_{l}^{0} + \sum_{j=1}^{r} \mu_{l}^{j} h_{l}^{j} \right) - \sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \nu_{\zeta} F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}) \in \text{SDSOS}_{\eta}[x], \quad (50)
$$

$$
\|\mathcal{Q}_{\zeta}(\lambda_{\zeta}^1,\ldots,\lambda_{\zeta}^s)\| \le \sqrt{\rho_{\zeta}}\nu_{\zeta}, \ \zeta = 1,\ldots,m,
$$
\n(51)

$$
||E_l(\mu_l^1, \dots, \mu_l^r)|| \le \sqrt{\tau_l} \mu_l^0, \ l = 1, \dots, q,
$$
\n(52)

where  $F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}) := \max_{u_{\zeta} \in U_{\zeta}} f_{\zeta}(\bar{x}, u_{\zeta})$  for  $\zeta = 1, \ldots, m$ . **Step 1.** Let us first prove that

$$
\min(P_{\nu}) = \sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \nu_{\zeta} F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}) = \max(D_{\nu}).
$$
\n(53)

<span id="page-18-3"></span><span id="page-18-2"></span><span id="page-18-1"></span><span id="page-18-0"></span> $\mathcal{L}$  Springer

By [\(50\)](#page-18-0), we find  $\sigma \in SDSOS_n[x]$  such that

$$
\sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \left( \nu_{\zeta} p_{\zeta}^{0}(x) + \sum_{i=1}^{s} \lambda_{\zeta}^{i} p_{\zeta}^{i}(x) \right) = \sigma(x) - \sum_{l=1}^{q} \left( \mu_{l}^{0} h_{l}^{0}(x) + \sum_{j=1}^{r} \mu_{l}^{j} h_{l}^{j}(x) \right) + \sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \nu_{\zeta} F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}), \ \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^{n}.
$$
\n(54)

As shown in the proof of (ii) in Theorem [1,](#page-4-4) we show by  $(51)$  and  $(52)$  that there exist  $\hat{u}_{\zeta} \in U_{\zeta}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m$  and  $\hat{\omega}_l \in \Omega_l, l = 1, \ldots, q$  such that

<span id="page-19-0"></span>
$$
\nu_{\zeta} p_{\zeta}^{0}(x) + \sum_{i=1}^{s} \lambda_{\zeta}^{i} p_{\zeta}^{i}(x) = \nu_{\zeta} f_{\zeta}(x, \hat{u}_{\zeta}), \ \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^{n}, \ \zeta = 1, \dots, m,
$$
  

$$
\mu_{l}^{0} h_{l}^{0}(x) + \sum_{j=1}^{r} \mu_{l}^{j} h_{l}^{j}(x) = \mu_{l}^{0} g_{l}(x, \hat{\omega}_{l}), \ \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^{n}, \ l = 1, \dots, q.
$$

Let  $\hat{x}$  be an arbitrary feasible point of problem [\(P](#page-17-0)<sub>v</sub>). This entails that  $g_l(\hat{x}, \hat{\omega}_l) < 0, l =$ 1,..., *q*. Note further that  $F_{\zeta}(\hat{x}) := \max_{u_{\zeta} \in U_{\zeta}} f_{\zeta}(\hat{x}, u_{\zeta}) \ge f_{\zeta}(\hat{x}, \hat{u}_{\zeta})$  for all  $\zeta = 1, \ldots, m$  and

that  $\sigma(\hat{x}) \ge 0$  as  $\sigma$  is an SDSOS polynomial. Estimating [\(54\)](#page-19-0) at  $\hat{x}$ , we arrive at

<span id="page-19-1"></span>
$$
\sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \nu_{\zeta} F_{\zeta}(\hat{x}) \ge \sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \nu_{\zeta} f_{\zeta}(\hat{x}, \hat{u}_{\zeta}) \ge \sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \nu_{\zeta} F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}). \tag{55}
$$

This concludes that  $\bar{x}$  is an optimal solution of problem [\(P](#page-17-0)<sub>v</sub>), and so min (P<sub>v</sub>) =  $\sum_{r=1}^{m} v_{\zeta} F_{\zeta}(\bar{x})$ .  $\sum_{\zeta=1}^m v_{\zeta} F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}).$  To proceed, let

$$
\nu^* := \sup_{(t,\lambda_{\zeta}^i,\mu_t^0,\mu_t^j)} \{t \mid \sum_{\zeta=1}^m (\nu_{\zeta} p_{\zeta}^0 + \sum_{i=1}^s \lambda_{\zeta}^i p_{\zeta}^i) + \sum_{l=1}^q (\mu_l^0 h_l^0 + \sum_{j=1}^r \mu_l^j h_l^j) - t \in \text{SDSOS}_{\eta}[x], t \in \mathbb{R}, \|\mathcal{Q}_{\zeta}(\lambda_{\zeta}^1,\ldots,\lambda_{\zeta}^s)\| \leq \sqrt{\rho_{\zeta}} \nu_{\zeta}, \ \lambda_{\zeta}^i \in \mathbb{R}, i = 1,\ldots,s, \zeta = 1,\ldots,m, \|E_l(\mu_l^1,\ldots,\mu_l^r)\| \leq \sqrt{\tau_l} \mu_l^0, \mu_l^0 \in \mathbb{R}_+, \mu_l^j \in \mathbb{R}, j = 1,\ldots,r, l = 1,\ldots,q \}.
$$

By putting  $\bar{t} := \sum_{\zeta=1}^m v_{\zeta} F_{\zeta}(\bar{x})$ , we get by [\(50\)](#page-18-0) that  $(\bar{t}, \lambda_{\zeta}^i, \mu_l^0, \mu_l^j, i = 1, \ldots, s, \zeta$  $1, \ldots, m, j = 1, \ldots, r, l = 1, \ldots, q$  is a feasible point of problem  $(D_{\nu})$  $(D_{\nu})$  and so,  $\bar{t} \leq \nu^*$ . Let us show that

<span id="page-19-2"></span>
$$
\nu^* \le \min(\mathbf{P}_\nu). \tag{56}
$$

To see this, assume that  $(t, \lambda_{\zeta}^{i}, \mu_{l}^{0}, \mu_{l}^{j}, i = 1, ..., s, \zeta = 1, ..., m, j = 1, ..., r, l =$ 1,..., *q*) is a feasible point of problem  $(D_{\nu})$  $(D_{\nu})$ . Then,  $\mu_l^0 \in \mathbb{R}_+$ ,  $\mu_l^j \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $l = 1, ..., q$ ,  $j =$ 1, ..., *r* and  $\lambda_{\zeta}^{i} \in \mathbb{R}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, i = 1, \ldots, s$  satisfying

$$
\sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \left( v_{\zeta} p_{\zeta}^{0} + \sum_{i=1}^{s} \lambda_{\zeta}^{i} p_{\zeta}^{i} \right) + \sum_{l=1}^{q} \left( \mu_{l}^{0} h_{l}^{0} + \sum_{j=1}^{r} \mu_{l}^{j} h_{l}^{j} \right) - t \in \mathbf{SDSOS}_{\eta}[x],
$$
  

$$
\| Q_{\zeta}(\lambda_{\zeta}^{1}, \dots, \lambda_{\zeta}^{s}) \| \leq \sqrt{\rho_{\zeta}} v_{\zeta}, \ \zeta = 1, \dots, m,
$$
  

$$
\| E_{l}(\mu_{l}^{1}, \dots, \mu_{l}^{r}) \| \leq \sqrt{\tau_{l}} \mu_{l}^{0}, \ l = 1, \dots, q.
$$

By similar arguments as in [\(54\)](#page-19-0) to [\(55\)](#page-19-1), we come to the conclusion  $\sum_{\zeta=1}^m v_{\zeta} F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}) \geq t$ , which proves that [\(56\)](#page-19-2) is valid due to min [\(P](#page-17-0)<sub>v</sub>) =  $\sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} v_{\zeta} F_{\zeta}(\bar{x})$ . Consequently, [\(53\)](#page-18-3) holds.

**Step 2.** Denote  $\bar{y} := \bar{x}^{(\eta)} = (1, \bar{x}_1, \ldots, \bar{x}_n, \bar{x}_1^2, \bar{x}_1 \bar{x}_2, \ldots, \bar{x}_2^2, \ldots, \bar{x}_n^2, \ldots, \bar{x}_1^{\eta}, \ldots, \bar{x}_n^{\eta})$ . We now prove that there exist  $\xi_{\zeta} \in \mathbb{R}, \tilde{\xi}_{l} \in \mathbb{R}, z^{\zeta} \in \mathbb{R}^{s}, \tilde{z}^{l} \in \mathbb{R}^{r}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m, l = 1, \ldots, q$ such that

 $(\bar{y}, \xi_1, \ldots, \xi_m, \tilde{\xi}_1, \ldots, \tilde{\xi}_q, z^1, \ldots, z^m, \tilde{z}^1, \ldots, \tilde{z}^q)$  is an optimal solution of problem  $(D^*_v)$  $(D^*_v)$ and

$$
\min(P_{\nu}) = \min(D_{\nu}) = \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s(\eta,n)} (\sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \nu_{\zeta} p_{\zeta}^{0})_{\alpha} \bar{y}_{\alpha} + \sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \nu_{\zeta} \sqrt{\rho_{\zeta}} \xi_{\zeta}.
$$
 (57)

Since  $\bar{x}$  is a feasible point of problem  $(P_v)$  $(P_v)$ , it is true that

$$
\max_{\omega_l:=(\omega_l^1,\dots,\omega_l^r)\in\Omega_l} \{h_l^0(\bar{x})+\sum_{j=1}^r \omega_l^j h_l^j(\bar{x})\}\leq 0, l=1,\dots,q.
$$

This entails that

<span id="page-20-3"></span><span id="page-20-0"></span>
$$
[\omega_l := (\omega_l^1, \dots, \omega_l^r) \in \mathbb{R}^r, ||E_l \omega_l|| \le \sqrt{\tau_l}]
$$
  
\n
$$
\Rightarrow h_l^0(\bar{x}) + \sum_{j=1}^r \omega_l^j h_l^j(\bar{x}) \le 0, l = 1, \dots, q.
$$
\n(58)

Letting  $\hat{\omega}_l := 0_r \in \mathbb{R}^r$ , we have  $||E_l \hat{\omega}_l|| < \sqrt{\tau_l}$ , i.e., the strict feasibility condition holds for [\(58\)](#page-20-0). This allows us to employ the strong duality in second-order cone programming (see e.g., [\[6](#page-24-17), Theorem 7.1]) to assert that there exist  $\tilde{z}^l \in \mathbb{R}^r$ ,  $\tilde{\xi}_l \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $l = 1, ..., q$  such that  $\|\tilde{z}^l\| \leq \tilde{\xi}_l, l = 1, \ldots, q$  and

$$
h_l^0(\bar{x}) + \sqrt{\tau_l} \tilde{\xi}_l \le 0, \ l = 1, \dots, q,
$$
  

$$
h_l^j(\bar{x}) + (E_l^j)^T \tilde{z}^l = 0, \ j = 1, \dots, r, l = 1, \dots, q.
$$

Similarly, by  $F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}) := \max_{u_{\zeta} := (u_{\zeta}^1, ..., u_{\zeta}^s) \in U_{\zeta}} \{p_{\zeta}^0(x) + \sum_{i=1}^s \}$  $u^i_\zeta p^i_\zeta(x)$ ,  $\zeta = 1, \ldots, m$ , we have  $[u_{\zeta} := (u_{\zeta}^1, \ldots, u_{\zeta}^s) \in \mathbb{R}^s, \|Q_{\zeta} u_{\zeta}\| \leq \sqrt{\rho_{\zeta}}$ 

$$
\Rightarrow p_{\zeta}^{0}(\bar{x}) + \sum_{i=1}^{s} u_{\zeta}^{i} p_{\zeta}^{i}(\bar{x}) \leq F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}), \ \zeta = 1, \ldots, m,
$$

and so, we can find  $z^{\zeta} \in \mathbb{R}^s$ ,  $\xi_{\zeta} \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\zeta = 1, \ldots, m$  such that  $||z^{\zeta}|| \le \xi_{\zeta}, \zeta = 1, \ldots, m$  and

$$
p_{\zeta}^{0}(\bar{x}) + \sqrt{\rho_{\zeta}} \xi_{\zeta} \le F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}), \zeta = 1, ..., m,
$$
  
\n
$$
p_{\zeta}^{i}(\bar{x}) + (Q_{\zeta}^{i})^{T} z^{\zeta} = 0, i = 1, ..., s, \zeta = 1, ..., m.
$$
 (59)

As  $\bar{y} := \bar{x}^{(\eta)} = (1, \bar{x}_1, \ldots, \bar{x}_n, \bar{x}_1^2, \bar{x}_1 \bar{x}_2, \ldots, \bar{x}_2^2, \ldots, \bar{x}_n^2, \ldots, \bar{x}_1^{\eta}, \ldots, \bar{x}_n^{\eta})$ , it holds that  $\bar{v}_1 := 1$  and

$$
L_{\bar{y}}(p_{\zeta}^{i}) = \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s(\eta,n)} (p_{\zeta}^{i})_{\alpha} \bar{y}_{\alpha} = \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s(\eta,n)} (p_{\zeta}^{i})_{\alpha} \bar{x}_{\alpha}^{(\eta)} = p_{\zeta}^{i}(\bar{x}), i = 0, 1, ..., s, \zeta = 1, ..., m,
$$
  

$$
L_{\bar{y}}(h_{l}^{j}) = \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s(\eta,n)} (h_{l}^{j})_{\alpha} \bar{y}_{\alpha} = \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s(\eta,n)} (h_{l}^{j})_{\alpha} \bar{x}_{\alpha}^{(\eta)} = h_{l}^{j}(\bar{x}), j = 0, 1, ..., r, l = 1, ..., q,
$$
 (60)

<span id="page-20-2"></span><span id="page-20-1"></span> $\circled{2}$  Springer

where  $L<sub>y</sub>$  is defined as in [\(4\)](#page-3-2). Furthermore, by the definition of the moment matrix (cf. [\(5\)](#page-3-3) and  $(6)$ , we see that

$$
\mathbf{M}_{\frac{\eta}{2}}(\bar{y}) = \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s(\eta,n)} \bar{y}_{\alpha} M_{\alpha} = \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s(\eta,n)} \bar{x}_{\alpha}^{(\frac{\eta}{2})} M_{\alpha} = \bar{x}^{(\frac{\eta}{2})} (\bar{x}^{(\frac{\eta}{2})})^T \succeq 0,
$$

which ensures that for each  $1 \le i, j \le s(\frac{\eta}{2}, n)$ ,

<span id="page-21-6"></span>
$$
\|\left(\frac{2(\mathbf{M}_{\frac{\eta}{2}}(\bar{y}))_{ij}}{(\mathbf{M}_{\frac{\eta}{2}}(\bar{y}))_{ii}-(\mathbf{M}_{\frac{\eta}{2}}(\bar{y}))_{jj}}\right)\|\leq (\mathbf{M}_{\frac{\eta}{2}}(\bar{y}))_{ii}+(\mathbf{M}_{\frac{\eta}{2}}(\bar{y}))_{jj}.
$$

Consequently,  $(\bar{y}, \xi_1, \ldots, \xi_m, \tilde{\xi}_1, \ldots, \tilde{\xi}_q, z^1, \ldots, z^m, \tilde{z}^1, \ldots, \tilde{z}^q)$  is a feasible point of problem  $(D_{\nu}^*)$  $(D_{\nu}^*)$ , and it in turn implies that

$$
\inf (\mathbf{D}_{\nu}) \leq \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s(\eta,n)} (\sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \nu_{\zeta} p_{\zeta}^{0})_{\alpha} \bar{y}_{\alpha} + \sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \nu_{\zeta} \sqrt{\rho_{\zeta}} \xi_{\zeta} \leq \sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \nu_{\zeta} F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}) = \min (\mathbf{P}_{\nu}), \tag{61}
$$

where the second inequality holds by  $(59)$  and  $(60)$ , while the equality holds by  $(53)$ .

We now justify that  $\min(P_\nu) \leq \inf(D_\nu)$  $\min(P_\nu) \leq \inf(D_\nu)$  $\min(P_\nu) \leq \inf(D_\nu)$  $\min(P_\nu) \leq \inf(D_\nu)$  $\min(P_\nu) \leq \inf(D_\nu)$ . Let  $(y, \xi_1, \ldots, \xi_m, \tilde{\xi}_1, \ldots, \tilde{\xi}_q, z^1, \ldots, z^m$ ,  $\tilde{z}^1, \ldots, \tilde{z}^q$  ) be a feasible point of problem  $(D_{\nu}^*)$  $(D_{\nu}^*)$ , where  $y := (y_{\alpha}) \in \mathbb{R}^{s(\eta, n)}$ , and denote  $\tilde{x} := (L_y(x_1), \ldots, L_y(x_n)).$  Then,

<span id="page-21-5"></span>
$$
\sum_{\alpha=1}^{s(\eta,n)} (h_l^0)_{\alpha} y_{\alpha} + \sqrt{\tau_l} \tilde{\xi}_l \le 0, l = 1, ..., q,
$$
  
\n
$$
\sum_{\alpha=1}^{s(\eta,n)} (p_{\zeta}^i)_{\alpha} y_{\alpha} + (Q_{\zeta}^i)^T z^{\zeta} = 0, \|z^{\zeta}\| \le \xi_{\zeta}, i = 1, ..., s, \zeta = 1, ..., m,
$$
  
\n
$$
\sum_{\alpha=1}^{s(\eta,n)} (h_l^j)_{\alpha} y_{\alpha} + (E_l^j)^T \tilde{z}^l = 0, \|\tilde{z}^l\| \le \tilde{\xi}_l, j = 1, ..., r, l = 1, ..., q,
$$
  
\n
$$
y_1 = 1,
$$
  
\n(64)

$$
\|\left(\frac{2(\mathbf{M}_{\frac{n}{2}}(y))_{ij}}{(\mathbf{M}_{\frac{n}{2}}(y))_{ii} - (\mathbf{M}_{\frac{n}{2}}(y))_{jj}}\right)\| \leq (\mathbf{M}_{\frac{n}{2}}(y))_{ii} + (\mathbf{M}_{\frac{n}{2}}(y))_{jj}, 1 \leq i, j \leq s(\frac{n}{2}, n). \quad (65)
$$

Considering any  $l \in \{1, \ldots, q\}$ , we verify that

<span id="page-21-0"></span>
$$
\sum_{\alpha=1}^{s(\eta,n)} (h_l^0)_{\alpha} y_{\alpha} + \sqrt{\tau_l} \tilde{\xi}_l \ge \max_{\omega_l := (\omega_l^1, \dots, \omega_l^r) \in \Omega_l} \{h_l^0(\tilde{x}) + \sum_{j=1}^r \omega_l^j h_l^j(\tilde{x})\},\tag{66}
$$

where  $\tilde{x} := (L_y(x_1), \ldots, L_y(x_n))$ . It suffices to show that for any  $\omega_l \in \Omega_l$ , it holds that

<span id="page-21-4"></span><span id="page-21-3"></span><span id="page-21-2"></span><span id="page-21-1"></span>
$$
\sum_{\alpha=1}^{s(\eta,n)} (h_l^0)_{\alpha} y_{\alpha} + \sqrt{\tau_l} \tilde{\xi}_l \ge h_l^0(\tilde{x}) + \sum_{j=1}^r \omega_l^j h_l^j(\tilde{x}). \tag{67}
$$

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Since  $\omega_l := (\omega_l^1, \ldots, \omega_l^r) \in \Omega_l$ , it holds that  $||E_l(\omega_l^1, \ldots, \omega_l^r)|| \leq \sqrt{\tau_l}$ . This together with [\(63\)](#page-21-0) ensures that

$$
\sqrt{\tau_l} \tilde{\xi}_l \geq \|\tilde{z}_l\| \|E_l(\omega_l^1, \dots, \omega_l^r)\| \geq -\tilde{z}_l^T E_l(\omega_l^1, \dots, \omega_l^r)
$$
  
= 
$$
-\sum_{j=1}^r \omega_l^j (E_l^j)^T \tilde{z}_l = \sum_{j=1}^r \omega_l^j (\sum_{\alpha=1}^{s(\eta, n)} (h_l^j)_{\alpha} y_{\alpha}).
$$

Therefore, we have

$$
\sum_{\alpha=1}^{s(\eta,n)} (h_l^0)_{\alpha} y_{\alpha} + \sqrt{\tau_l} \tilde{\xi}_l \ge \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s(\eta,n)} (h_l^0)_{\alpha} y_{\alpha} + \sum_{j=1}^r \omega_l^j \Big( \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s(\eta,n)} (h_l^j)_{\alpha} y_{\alpha} \Big) = L_y \Big( h_l^0 + \sum_{j=1}^r \omega_l^j h_l^j \Big),\tag{68}
$$

where  $L_y$  is defined as in [\(4\)](#page-3-2). Note that the polynomial  $h_l^0 + \sum_{j=1}^r \omega_l^j h_l^j$  is 1st-SDSOSconvex by our assumption. On account of  $(64)$  and  $(65)$ , we invoke the Jensen's inequality given in Lemma [1](#page-17-3) to claim that

$$
L_y(h_l^0 + \sum_{j=1}^r \omega_l^j h_l^j) \ge (h_l^0 + \sum_{j=1}^r \omega_l^j h_l^j)(L_y(x_1), \dots, L_y(x_n)) = h_l^0(\tilde{x}) + \sum_{j=1}^r \omega_l^j h_l^j(\tilde{x}),
$$

which together with  $(68)$  shows that  $(67)$  holds. So,  $(66)$  is true. Granting this, we conclude from [\(62\)](#page-21-5) that  $\tilde{x}$  is a feasible point of problem ( $P_v$ ) and hence,

<span id="page-22-1"></span><span id="page-22-0"></span>
$$
\min\left(\mathbf{P}_{\nu}\right) \leq \sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \nu_{\zeta} F_{\zeta}(\tilde{x}).\tag{69}
$$

Similarly, we can verify that

$$
\sum_{\alpha=1}^{s(\eta,n)} (p_{\zeta}^0)_{\alpha} y_{\alpha} + \sqrt{\rho_{\zeta}} \xi_{\zeta} \ge \max_{u_{\zeta} \in U_{\zeta}} \{p_{\zeta}^0(\tilde{x}) + \sum_{i=1}^s u_{\zeta}^i p_{\zeta}^i(\tilde{x})\}, \ \zeta = 1, \ldots, m,
$$

and so

$$
\sum_{\alpha=1}^{s(\eta,n)}(\sum_{\zeta=1}^m\nu_{\zeta}p_{\zeta}^0)_{\alpha}y_{\alpha}+\sum_{\zeta=1}^m\nu_{\zeta}\sqrt{\rho_{\zeta}}\xi_{\zeta}\geq \sum_{\zeta=1}^m\nu_{\zeta}F_{\zeta}(\tilde{x}).
$$

Hence, by [\(69\)](#page-22-1), it follows that

$$
\inf\left(\mathbf{D}_{\nu}\right)\geq\min\left(\mathbf{P}_{\nu}\right).
$$

Granting this, we invoke  $(61)$  to conclude that

$$
\min(P_{\nu}) = \min(D_{\nu}) = \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s(\eta,n)} (\sum_{\zeta=1}^m \nu_{\zeta} p_{\zeta}^0)_{\alpha} \bar{y}_{\alpha} + \sum_{\zeta=1}^m \nu_{\zeta} \sqrt{\rho_{\zeta}} \xi_{\zeta},
$$

i.e., [\(57\)](#page-20-3) is valid and  $(\bar{y}, \xi_1, \ldots, \xi_m, \tilde{\xi}_1, \ldots, \tilde{\xi}_q, z^1, \ldots, z^m, \tilde{z}^1, \ldots, \tilde{z}^q)$  is an optimal solution of problem  $(D^*_{\nu})$  $(D^*_{\nu})$ .

(ii) Let  $v := (v_1, \ldots, v_m) \in \mathbb{R}^m_+ \setminus \{0\}$  be such that the problem  $(P_v)$  $(P_v)$  admits an optimal solution. Suppose that  $\hat{x}$  is an optimal solution of problem ( $P_{\nu}$ ). Arguing similarly as in the

 $\hat{\mathfrak{D}}$  Springer

proof of Step 2 of (i), we arrive at

<span id="page-23-7"></span><span id="page-23-6"></span><span id="page-23-4"></span><span id="page-23-0"></span>
$$
\min(\mathbf{P}_{\nu}) = \min(\mathbf{D}_{\nu}).\tag{70}
$$

Let  $(\bar{y}, \xi_1, \ldots, \xi_m, \tilde{\xi}_1, \ldots, \tilde{\xi}_q, z^1, \ldots, z^m, \tilde{z}^1, \ldots, \tilde{z}^q)$  with  $\bar{y} := (\bar{y}_\alpha) \in \mathbb{R}^{s(\eta, n)}$  be an optimal solution of problem  $(D_{\nu}^{*})$  $(D_{\nu}^{*})$ . Then, we have  $\xi_{\zeta} \in \mathbb{R}, \tilde{\xi}_{l} \in \mathbb{R}, z^{\zeta} \in \mathbb{R}^{s}, \tilde{z}^{l} \in \mathbb{R}^{r}, \zeta =$  $1, \ldots, m, l = 1, \ldots, q$  and

$$
\min(\mathbf{D}_{\nu}) = \sum_{\alpha=1}^{s(\eta,n)} (\sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \nu_{\zeta} p_{\zeta}^{0})_{\alpha} \bar{y}_{\alpha} + \sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \nu_{\zeta} \sqrt{\rho_{\zeta}} \xi_{\zeta}, \qquad (71)
$$

$$
\sum_{\alpha=1}^{s(\eta,n)} (h_l^0)_{\alpha} \bar{y}_{\alpha} + \sqrt{\tau_l} \tilde{\xi}_l \le 0, l = 1, \dots, q,
$$
\n(72)

$$
\sum_{\alpha=1}^{s(\eta,n)} (p_{\zeta}^i)_{\alpha} \bar{y}_{\alpha} + (Q_{\zeta}^i)^T z^{\zeta} = 0, \|z^{\zeta}\| \le \xi_{\zeta}, i = 1, \dots, s, \zeta = 1, \dots, m,
$$
 (73)

$$
\sum_{\alpha=1}^{s(\eta,n)} (h_l^j)_{\alpha} \bar{y}_{\alpha} + (E_l^j)^T \tilde{z}^l = 0, \|\tilde{z}^l\| \le \tilde{\xi}_l, j = 1, \dots, r, l = 1, \dots, q,
$$
\n(74)

$$
\bar{y}_1 = 1,\tag{75}
$$

$$
\|\left(\frac{2(\mathbf{M}_{\frac{\eta}{2}}(\bar{y}))_{ij}}{(\mathbf{M}_{\frac{\eta}{2}}(\bar{y}))_{ii}-(\mathbf{M}_{\frac{\eta}{2}}(\bar{y}))_{jj}}\right)\| \leq (\mathbf{M}_{\frac{\eta}{2}}(\bar{y}))_{ii}+(\mathbf{M}_{\frac{\eta}{2}}(\bar{y}))_{jj}, 1 \leq i, j \leq s(\frac{\eta}{2}, n). (76)
$$

Denote  $\bar{x} := (L_{\bar{y}}(x_1), \ldots, L_{\bar{y}}(x_n)) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . As shown in (i), under the validation of [\(72\)](#page-23-0), [\(74\)](#page-23-1), [\(75\)](#page-23-2) and [\(76\)](#page-23-3), we can verify that  $\bar{x}$  is a feasible point of problem ( $P_{\nu}$ ), and so

<span id="page-23-5"></span><span id="page-23-3"></span><span id="page-23-2"></span><span id="page-23-1"></span>
$$
\min\left(\mathbf{P}_{\nu}\right) \leq \sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} \nu_{\zeta} F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}).\tag{77}
$$

Similarly, we derive from  $(73)$ ,  $(75)$  and  $(76)$  that

$$
\sum_{\alpha=1}^{s(\eta,n)}(\sum_{\zeta=1}^m\nu_{\zeta}p_{\zeta}^0)_{\alpha}\bar{y}_{\alpha}+\sum_{\zeta=1}^m\nu_{\zeta}\sqrt{\rho_{\zeta}}\xi_{\zeta}\geq \sum_{\zeta=1}^m\nu_{\zeta}F_{\zeta}(\bar{x}).
$$

Combining this with [\(77\)](#page-23-5), [\(71\)](#page-23-6) and [\(70\)](#page-23-7) shows that min ( $P_v$ ) =  $\sum_{\zeta=1}^{m} v_{\zeta} F_{\zeta}(\bar{x})$ , and so  $\bar{x}$  is an optimal solution of problem  $(P_v)$  $(P_v)$ . We can make conclusion that  $\hat{\dot{x}}$  is a robust weak Pareto solution of problem [\(U\)](#page-1-0). In the case of  $v \in \text{int}\mathbb{R}^m_+$ , we obtain that  $\bar{x}$  is a robust Pareto solution of problem [\(U\)](#page-1-0). The proof is accomplished.

### **5 Conclusions**

In this paper, we have presented necessary and sufficient optimality conditions in terms of second order cone conditions for robust (weak) Pareto solutions of an uncertain multiobjective optimization problem. We have also addressed a dual problem to the robust multiobjective optimization problem and examined robust converse, robust weak and robust strong duality relations between the primal and dual problems. Furthermore, robust solution relationships between the uncertain multiobjective optimization program and (scalar) second order cone programming (SOCP) *dual* and *relaxation* problems have been established by using the duality theory in second order cone programming. Particularly, it has been shown that one can calculate a robust (weak) Pareto solution of the uncertain multiobjective optimization problem by solving a related second order cone programming relaxation.

The results obtained in this paper are conceptual dual/relaxation schemes that have potentially numerical experiments for a subclass of robust convex multiobjective polynomial optimization problems. It would be of great interest to see how we can develop associated algorithms that allow to find robust (weak) Pareto solutions of an uncertain multiobjective optimization problem via its SOCP *dual* or *relaxation* programs.

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## **Declarations**

**Conflict of interest** The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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