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# Multi-fuzzy extension of crisp functions using bridge functions

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ABSTRACT. In this paper we investigate various bridge functions like lattice homomorphisms, order homomorphisms, *L*-fuzzy lattices and strong *L*-fuzzy lattices for multi-fuzzy extensions of crisp functions and discuss properties of such multi-fuzzy extensions.

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#### 1. INTRODUCTION

We introduced multi-fuzzy sets [3, 4] to handle life problems with multi dimensional characteristic properties. The theory of multi-fuzzy sets is an extension of theories of L-fuzzy sets and Atanassov intuitionistic fuzzy sets. We proposed important basic topological, algebraic and set theoretical concepts of multi-fuzzy sets [2, 3, 4, 5, 7] and studied some fundamental properties of them. Multi-fuzzy extension of crisp functions [4] is one of the most relevant part of multi-fuzzy set theory and so we introduced the concept of bridge functions. In this paper, multi-fuzzy extensions of crisp functions based on the bridge functions lattice homomorphisms, order homomorphisms, L-fuzzy lattices and strong L-fuzzy lattices are studied.

## 2. Preliminaries

Throughout this paper, we will use the following notations. X and Y stand for universal sets, I, J and K stand for indexing sets, L and M stand for partially ordered sets,  $\{L_j : j \in J\}$  and  $\{M_i : i \in I\}$  are families of complete lattices with order reversing involutions, unless it is stated otherwise and  $L^X$  stands for the set of all functions from X to L. The products  $\prod M_i, \prod L_j, \prod N_k, \prod M_i^X, \prod L_j^Y$  and  $\prod N_k^Z$  vary over  $i \in I, j \in J$  and  $k \in K$ . Partial order  $\geq$  is the opposite order relation of the partial order <.

**Definition 2.1** ([1]). Let X be a nonempty ordinary set and L be a complete lattice. An L-fuzzy set on X is a mapping  $A: X \to L$ , that is, the family of all the L-fuzzy sets on X is just  $L^X$  consisting of all the mappings from X to L.

**Definition 2.2** ([9]). Let ':  $M \to M$  and ':  $L \to L$  be order reversing involutions. A mapping  $h: M \to L$  is called an order homomorphism, if it satisfies the conditions h(0) = 0,  $h(\forall a_i) = \forall h(a_i)$  and  $h^{-1}(b') = (h^{-1}(b))'$ , where  $h^{-1}: L \to M$  is defined by  $\forall b \in L$ ,  $h^{-1}(b) = \lor \{a \in M : h(a) \le b\}.$ 

Wang [9] proved the following properties of order homomorphism. For every  $a \in M$  and  $p \in L$ ;  $a \leq h^{-1}(h(a)), h(h^{-1}(p)) \leq p, h^{-1}(1_L) = 1_M, h^{-1}(0_L) = 0_M$ and  $a \leq h^{-1}(p)$  if and only if  $h(a) \leq p$  if and only if  $h^{-1}(p') \leq a'$ . Both h and  $h^{-1}$  are order preserving and arbitrary join preserving maps. More over  $h^{-1}(\wedge a_i) =$  $\wedge h^{-1}(a_i).$ 

**Definition 2.3** ([10]). If  $\{L_j : j \in J\}$  is a family of lattices, then the product  $\prod L_j$ is a lattice if for arbitrary  $x, y \in \prod L_j$ , the join  $x \vee y$  and the meet  $x \wedge y$  of x, y are defined as:

$$(x \lor y)_j = x_j \lor y_j$$
 and  $(x \land y)_j = x_j \land y_j, \forall x_j, y_j \in L_j, \forall j \in J;$ 

or, equivalently,  $x \leq y$  is defined by  $x_j \leq_j y_j, \forall j \in J$ , where  $\leq$  and  $\leq_j$  are the order relations in  $\prod L_j$  and  $L_j$  respectively.

## 2.1. Multi-fuzzy sets

**Definition 2.4** ([3, 4]). Let X be a nonempty set, J be an indexing set and  $\{L_i:$  $j \in J$  a family of partially ordered sets. A multi-fuzzy set A in X is a set :

$$A = \{ \langle x, (\mu_j(x))_{j \in J} \rangle : x \in X, \ \mu_j \in L_j^X, \ j \in J \}.$$

The function  $\mu_A = (\mu_j)_{j \in J}$  is called the multi-membership function of the multifuzzy set A. If |J| = n, a natural number, then n is called the dimension of A. Complement of A is  $A' = \{ \langle x, (\mu'_i(x))_{i \in J} \rangle : x \in X \}$ , where  $\mu'_i$  is the order reversing involution of  $\mu_i$ .

**Definition 2.5** ([3]). Let  $\{L_j : j \in J\}$  be a family of partially ordered sets,

$$A = \{ \langle x, (\mu_j(x))_{j \in J} \rangle : x \in X, \ \mu_j \in L_j^X, \ j \in J \}$$

and

$$B = \{ \langle x, (\nu_j(x))_{j \in J} \rangle : x \in X, \ \nu_j \in L_j^X, \ j \in J \}$$

be multi-fuzzy sets in a nonempty set X with the product order. Then  $A \sqsubseteq B$  if and only if  $\mu_i(x) \leq \nu_i(x), \forall x \in X \text{ and } \forall j \in J.$ 

The equality, union and intersection of A and B are defined as:

(a) 
$$A = B$$
 if and only if  $\mu_j(x) = \nu_j(x)$ ,  $\forall x \in X$  and  $\forall j \in J$ ;  
(b)  $A \sqcup B = \{ \langle x, (\mu_j(x) \lor \nu_j(x))_{j \in J} \rangle : x \in X \};$ 

(c) 
$$A \sqcap B = \{ \langle x, (\mu_j(x) \land \nu_j(x))_{j \in J} \rangle : x \in X \}.$$

**Proposition 2.6** ([3]). Let  $A, B, C \in \prod_{i=1}^{n} M_i^X$  be multi-fuzzy sets in X. Then

- (a)  $A \sqcup A = A$ ,  $A \sqcap A = A$ ;
- (b)  $A \sqsubseteq A \sqcup B$ ,  $B \sqsubseteq A \sqcup B$ ,  $A \sqcap B \sqsubseteq A$  and  $A \sqcap B \sqsubseteq B$ ;
- (c)  $A \sqsubseteq B$  if and only if  $A \sqcup B = B$  if and only if  $A \sqcap B = A$ .

### 2.2. L-fuzzy lattices and strong L-fuzzy lattices

**Definition 2.7** ([8]). Let  $(M, \wedge_M, \vee_M)$  be a lattice and L be a complete lattice with the least element  $0_L$  and the greatest element  $1_L$ . The mapping  $A : M \to L$  is called a lattice-valued fuzzy lattice (*L*-fuzzy lattice) if all the *p*-level sets ( $p \in L$ ) of A are sublattices of M.

**Proposition 2.8** ([8]). Let  $(M, \wedge_M, \vee_M)$  be a lattice and  $(L, \wedge_L, \vee_L)$  a complete lattice with  $0_L$  and  $1_L$ .

(a) Let  $p, q \in L$  and  $A: M \to L$  be an L-fuzzy lattice. If  $p \leq q$ , then the q-level set

 $A_q = \{x \in M : q \le A(x)\}$ 

is a sublattice of the p-level set

$$A_p = \{ x \in M : p \le A(x) \}.$$

(b) A mapping  $A: M \to L$  is an L-fuzzy lattice if and only if

 $A(x) \wedge_L A(y) \leq A(x \wedge_M y)$  and  $A(x) \wedge_L A(y) \leq A(x \vee_M y)$ 

for all  $x, y \in M$ .

**Definition 2.9** ([6]). Let  $(M, \land, \lor)$  be a lattice and  $(L, \land, \lor)$  be a lattice with the least element  $0_L$  and the greatest element  $1_L$ . The mapping  $A : M \to L$  is called a strong *L*-fuzzy lattice if  $A_a^b = \{x \in M : a \leq A(x) \leq b\}$  is a sublattice of *M*, for all  $a, b \in L$ .

**Proposition 2.10** ([6]). Let  $A : M \to L$  be a strong L-fuzzy lattice, and let  $p, q, r, s \in L$ . If  $p \leq q \leq r \leq s$ , then  $A_q^r$  is a sublattice of  $A_p^s$ .

**Theorem 2.11** ([6]). Let  $(M, \land, \lor)$  be a lattice and  $(L, \land, \lor)$  a complete lattice with  $0_L$  and  $1_L$ . The mapping  $A : M \to L$  is a strong L-fuzzy lattice if and only if A satisfies the following conditions, for all  $x, y \in M$ :

- (a)  $A(x) \wedge A(y) \leq A(x \wedge y) \leq A(x) \vee A(y);$
- (b)  $A(x) \wedge A(y) \le A(x \lor y) \le A(x) \lor A(y)$ .

**Theorem 2.12** ([6]). Let M be a lattice, L be a completely distributive lattice and  $A_j: M \to L$  be a strong L-fuzzy lattice (L-fuzzy lattice), for each  $j \in J$ , then  $\bigvee_{j \in J} A_j$ 

and  $\bigwedge_{j \in J} A_j$  are strong L-fuzzy lattices (L-fuzzy lattices respectively).

**Theorem 2.13** ([6]). Let M be a lattice, L be a complete lattice and  $A : M \to L$  be a mapping. A is a lattice homomorphism if and only if A is an order preserving strong L-fuzzy lattice.

**Theorem 2.14** ([6]). Let L, M and N be complete lattices,  $B : N \to M$  be a lattice homomorphism and  $A : M \to L$  be a strong L-fuzzy lattice, then  $A \circ B : N \to L$  is a strong L-fuzzy lattice. **Definition 2.15** ([6]). Let M and L be complete lattices,  $A: M \to L$  be an L-fuzzy lattice. Then  $A^{-1}: L \to M$  is the upper adjoint of A, that is, for every  $b \in L$ ,

$$A^{-1}(b) = \begin{cases} \bigvee \{a \in M : A(a) \le b\}, & \text{if there exists an } a \in M \text{ such that } A(a) \le b; \\ 0_M, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

**Lemma 2.16** ([6]). Let M and L be complete lattices,  $A : M \to L$  be an L-fuzzy lattice, then:

(a)  $A^{-1}(l_1 \wedge l_2) \leq A^{-1}(l_1) \wedge A^{-1}(l_2);$ (b)  $A^{-1}(l_1 \vee l_2) \geq A^{-1}(l_1) \vee A^{-1}(l_2).$ 

That is,  $A^{-1}$  is order preserving.

#### 3. BRIDGE FUNCTIONS AND MULTI-FUZZY EXTENSIONS

Multi-fuzzy extension of a crisp function is useful to map a multi-fuzzy set into another multi-fuzzy set. In the case of a crisp function, there exists infinitely many multi-fuzzy extensions, even though the domain and range of multi-fuzzy extensions are fixed.

**Definition 3.1** ([4]). Let  $f: X \to Y$  and  $h: \prod M_i \to \prod L_j$  be functions. The multi-fuzzy extension of f and the inverse of the extension are  $f: \prod M_i^X \to \prod L_j^Y$  and  $f^{-1}: \prod L_j^Y \to \prod M_i^X$  defined by

$$f(A)(y) = \bigvee_{y=f(x)} h(A(x)), \ A \in \prod M_i^X, \ y \in Y$$

and

$$f^{-1}(B)(x) = h^{-1}(B(f(x))), \ B \in \prod L_j^Y, \ x \in X;$$

where  $h^{-1}$  is the upper adjoint [9] of h. The function  $h : \prod M_i \to \prod L_j$  is called the bridge function of the multi-fuzzy extension of f.

Order homomorphisms, lattice homomorphisms, arbitrary join preserving maps, complement preserving maps, etc. are useful bridge functions for multi-fuzzy extensions.

**Example 3.2.** Let  $h: \prod M_i \to \{0, 1\}$  be the bridge function for the multi-fuzzy extension  $f: \prod M_i^X \to 2^X$  of a crisp function  $f: X \to X$ . This type of extensions is useful in defuzzification problems of multi-fuzzy sets. The crisp subsets

$$\bar{A}_{f}^{h} = \left\{ y \in X : \bigvee_{y=f(x)} h(A(x)) = 1 \right\}$$

and

$$\underline{A}_{f}^{h} = \left\{ y \in X : \bigwedge_{y=f(x)} h(A(x)) = 1 \right\}$$

satisfy the relation  $\underline{A}_f^h \subseteq \overline{A}_f^h$ .

**Lemma 3.3.** Let  $h : \prod M_i \to \{0, 1\}$  be the bridge function for the multi-fuzzy extension  $f : \prod M_i^X \to 2^X$  of a crisp function  $f : X \to X$ , and let

$$\bar{A}_{f}^{h} = \left\{ y \in X : \bigvee_{y=f(x)} h(A(x)) = 1 \right\}$$

and

$$\underline{A}_{f}^{h} = \left\{ y \in X : \bigwedge_{y=f(x)} h(A(x)) = 1 \right\},\$$

for any  $A\in \prod M_i^X.$  If h is a lattice homomorphism and  $A,B\in \prod M_i^X,$  then

(a)  $\overline{A}_{f}^{h} \cup \overline{B}_{f}^{h} = (\overline{A \cup B})_{f}^{h};$ (b)  $\overline{A}_{f}^{h} \cap \overline{B}_{f}^{h} = (\overline{A \cap B})_{f}^{h};$ (c)  $\underline{A}_{f}^{h} \cup \underline{B}_{f}^{h} = (\underline{A \cup B})_{f}^{h};$ (d)  $\underline{A}_{f}^{h} \cap \underline{B}_{f}^{h} = (\underline{A \cap B})_{f}^{h}.$ 

*Proof.* (a) to (d) follow from the definitions.

**Example 3.4.** Let  $h : \prod M_i \to [0,1]$  be the bridge function for the multi-fuzzy extension  $f : \prod M_i^X \to [0,1]^X$  of a crisp function  $f : X \to X$ . This type of extensions produces fuzzy sets from multi-fuzzy sets and this process is called fuzzification of multi-fuzzy set.

## 3.1. Extensions based on order homomorphisms

**Proposition 3.5** ([4]). If an order homomorphism  $h : \prod M_i \to \prod L_j$  is the bridge function for the multi-fuzzy extension of a crisp function  $f : X \to Y$ , then for any  $k \in K$ ,  $A_k \in \prod M_i^X$ ,  $B_k \in \prod L_j^Y$ :

- (a)  $f(0_X) = 0_Y;$
- (b)  $f(\sqcup A_k) = \sqcup f(A_k);$

(c) 
$$(f^{-1}(B))' = f^{-1}(B')$$

that is, the extension map f is an order homomorphism.

**Theorem 3.6** ([4]). If an order homomorphism  $h : \prod M_i \to \prod L_j$  is the bridge function for the multi-fuzzy extension of a crisp function  $f : X \to Y$ , then for any  $k \in K, A_k \in \prod M_i^X, B_k \in \prod L_j^Y$ :

- (a)  $A_1 \sqsubseteq A_2$  implies  $f(A_1) \sqsubseteq f(A_2)$ ;
- (b)  $f(\sqcup A_k) = \sqcup f(A_k);$
- (c)  $f(\Box A_k) \sqsubseteq \Box f(A_k);$
- (d)  $f(A_{[\alpha]}) \subseteq f(A)_{[h(\alpha)]};$
- (e)  $f^{-1}(1_Y) = 1_X$  and  $f^{-1}(0_Y) = 0_X$ ;
- (f)  $B_1 \sqsubseteq B_2$  implies  $f^{-1}(B_1) \sqsubseteq f^{-1}(B_2)$ ;
- (g)  $f^{-1}(\sqcup B_k) = \sqcup f^{-1}(B_k);$
- (h)  $f^{-1}(\Box B_k) = \Box f^{-1}(B_k);$

(i)  $A \sqsubseteq f^{-1}(f(A));$ (j)  $f(f^{-1}(B)) \sqsubseteq B$ .

## 3.2. Extensions based on lattice valued fuzzy lattices

**Theorem 3.7.** Let  $\{L_j : j \in J\}$  and  $\{M_i : i \in I\}$  be families of completely distributive lattices, lattice valued fuzzy lattice  $h: \prod M_i \to \prod L_j$  be the bridge function for the multi-fuzzy extension of  $f: X \to Y$ .

(a) The supremum extension  $\overline{F}: \prod M_i^X \to \prod L_i^Y$  of f defined by;

$$\bar{F}(A)(y) = \bigvee_{x \in f^{-1}(y)} h(A(x)), \ A \in \prod M_i^X, \ y \in Y,$$

is a lattice valued fuzzy lattice with respect to the inclusion as the order relation.

(b) The infimum extension  $\bar{f}: \prod M_i^X \to \prod L_i^Y$  of f defined by;

$$\bar{f}(A)(y) = \bigwedge_{x \in f^{-1}(y)} h(A(x)), \ A \in \prod M_i^X, \ y \in Y,$$

is a lattice valued fuzzy lattice with respect to the inclusion as the order relation.

*Proof.* (a) We have

$$\begin{split} \bar{F}(A_1 \sqcup A_2)(y) &= \bigvee \{h((A_1 \sqcup A_2)(x)) : x \in X, \ y = f(x)\} \\ &= \bigvee \{h(A_1(x) \lor A_2(x)) : x \in X, \ y = f(x)\} \\ &\ge \bigvee \{h(A_1(x)) \land h(A_2(x)) : x \in X, \ y = f(x)\} \\ &= \left(\bigvee \{h(A_1(x)) : x \in X, \ y = f(x)\}\right) \land \left(\bigvee \{(h(A_2(x)) : x \in X, \ y = f(x)\}\right) \\ &= \bar{F}(A_1)(y) \land \bar{F}(A_2)(y) = (\bar{F}(A_1) \sqcap \bar{F}(A_2))(y). \end{split}$$

That is,  $\overline{F}(A_1) \sqcap \overline{F}(A_2) \sqsubseteq \overline{F}(A_1 \sqcup A_2)$ . Similarly  $\overline{F}(A_1) \sqcap \overline{F}(A_2) \sqsubseteq \overline{F}(A_1 \sqcap A_2)$ , which implies that  $\overline{F}(A_1) \sqcap \overline{F}(A_2) \sqsubseteq \overline{F}(A_1 \sqcup A_2) \sqcap \overline{F}(A_1 \sqcap A_2)$ . 

(b) Similar to (a).

**Theorem 3.8.** Let  $\{L_j : j \in J\}$  and  $\{M_i : i \in I\}$  be families of completely distributive lattices and the strong lattice valued fuzzy lattice  $h: \prod M_i \to \prod L_j$  be the bridge function for the multi-fuzzy extension of  $f: X \to Y$ . Then the supremum and infimum extensions  $\overline{F}, \overline{f}: \prod M_i^X \to \prod L_j^Y$  of f are strong lattice valued fuzzy lattices with respect to the inclusion as the order relation.

*Proof.* Similar to the Theorem 3.7.

**Remark 3.9.** Similarly one can show that,  $f(1_X)$  need not equal  $1_Y$  and  $f^{-1}(1_Y)$ need not equal  $1_X$ . If an order homomorphism is the bridge function for the multifuzzy extension of the crisp function f, then  $f(0_X) = 0_Y$ ,  $A \sqsubseteq B$  implies  $f(A) \sqsubseteq$  $f(B), f^{-1}(0_Y) = 0_X, f(\sqcup A_k) = \sqcup f(A_k) \text{ and } f(\sqcap A_k) \sqsubseteq \sqcap f(A_k).$ 

**Theorem 3.10.** Let  $f : \prod M_i^X \to \prod L_j^Y$  be the multi-fuzzy extension of a crisp function  $f : X \to Y$  with respect to the lattice valued fuzzy lattice  $h : \prod M_i \to \prod L_j$ as the bridge function. For any  $k \in K$ ,  $A_k \in \prod M_i^X$ ,  $B_k \in \prod L_j^Y$ :

(a)  $B_1 \sqsubseteq B_2$  implies  $f^{-1}(B_1) \sqsubseteq f^{-1}(B_2)$ ; (b)  $\sqcup f^{-1}(B_k) \sqsubseteq f^{-1}(\sqcup B_k)$ ; (c)  $f^{-1}(\sqcap B_k) \sqsubseteq \sqcap f^{-1}(B_k)$ .

*Proof.* (a) Assume that  $B_1 \sqsubseteq B_2$ . For every  $y \in Y$ ,  $B_1(y) \leq B_2(y)$ , that is  $B_1(f(x)) \leq B_2(f(x)), \forall x \in f^{-1}(y)$ . Hence

$$f^{-1}(B_1)(y) = \bigvee h^{-1}(B_1(f(x))) \le \bigvee h^{-1}(B_2(f(x))) = f^{-1}(B_2)(y).$$

Thus  $f^{-1}(B_1) \sqsubseteq f^{-1}(B_2)$ . (b) and (c) follow immediately from (a).

**Remark 3.11.** Multi-fuzzy extension of a crisp function with respect to a lattice valued fuzzy lattice (bridge function for the extension) need not satisfy the following relations. For  $k \in K$ :

(i) 
$$f(0_X) = 0_Y$$
;  
(ii)  $f^{-1}(0_Y) = 0_X$ ;  
(iii)  $A \sqsubseteq B$  implies  $f(A) \sqsubseteq f(B)$ ;  
(iv)  $\sqcup f(A_k) \sqsubseteq f(\sqcup A_k)$ ;  
(v)  $f(\sqcap A_k) \sqsubseteq \sqcap f(A_k)$ .

*Proof.* See the counter example. Let  $L = \{0_L, 1_L\}, M = \{0_M, a, b, 1_M\}$  be the diamond lattice with the bottom element  $0_M$  and the top element  $1_M$ . Suppose the *L*-fuzzy lattice  $h: M \to L$  defined by

$$h = \left(\begin{array}{ccc} 0_M & a & b & 1_M \\ 1_L & 0_L & 0_L & 1_L \end{array}\right)$$

is the bridge function for the multi-fuzzy extension  $f: M^X \to L^Y$  of the crisp function  $f: X \to Y$ .

(i) For any  $y \in Y$ ,  $f(0_X)(y) = \lor \{h(0_X(x)) : x \in X, y = f(x)\} = h(0_M) = 1_L$ . Hence  $1_Y = f(0_X) \neq 0_Y$ .

(ii)  $f^{-1}(0_Y)(y) = h^{-1}(0_Y(f(x))) = h^{-1}(0_L) = a \lor b = 1_M$ . Therefore  $f^{-1}(0_Y) = 1_X \neq 0_X$ .

(iii) Let  $A(x) = 0, B(x) = a, \forall x \in X$  and suppose that  $A \sqsubseteq B$ . Thus  $0_M = A(x) \leq B(x) = a, \forall x \in X$ . But  $1_L = h(0_M) = h(A(x)) \not \leq h(B(x)) = h(a) = 0_L$ . Hence  $f(A) \not \subseteq f(B)$ .

(iv) and (v) follow immediately from (iii).

#### 3.3. Extensions based on lattice homomorphisms

**Theorem 3.12.** If a complete lattice homomorphism  $h : \prod M_i \to \prod L_j$  is the bridge function for the multi-fuzzy extension of a crisp function  $f : X \to Y$ , then for any  $k \in K$ ,  $A_k \in \prod M_i^X$ ,  $B_k \in \prod L_j^Y$ :

- (a)  $f(0_X) = 0_Y$  and  $f(1_X) = 1_Y$ ;
- (b)  $A_1 \sqsubseteq A_2$  implies  $f(A_1) \sqsubseteq f(A_2)$ ;

- (c)  $f(\sqcup A_k) = \sqcup f(A_k);$
- (d)  $f(\sqcap A_k) \sqsubseteq \sqcap f(A_k);$ (e)  $f^{-1}(1_Y) = 1_X;$ (f)  $B_1 \sqsubseteq B_2$  implies  $f^{-1}(B_1) \sqsubseteq f^{-1}(B_2);$ (g)  $\sqcup f^{-1}(B_k) \sqsubset f^{-1}(\sqcup B_k);$
- $(g) \sqcup J \quad (D_k) \sqsubseteq J \quad (\sqcup D_k),$
- (h)  $f^{-1}(\sqcap B_k) \sqsubseteq \sqcap f^{-1}(B_k).$

Proof. Straightforward.

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