
CHAPTER-IV
FUZZY ROUGH FUZZY
SETS

CHAPTER IV
FUZZY ROUGH FUZZY SETS

IV:1 INTRODUCTION

In previous chapter we canvassed the notion of rough fuzzy sets introduced by Dubois and Prade [D₁,D₂]. Dubois and Prade [D₁,D₂] have approached the problem of combining the concept of roughness and fuzziness in a different way also; which we are going to discuss here. The new concept so emerged is described by him as a fuzzy rough set. However, as we shall see in the following discussion it is not merely a fuzzification of a rough set, but an entirely new concept. Here, they consider fuzzy equivalence relations; fuzzy partition and obtain rough set corresponding to a fuzzy set. This rough set may be more appropriately called fuzzy rough fuzzy set. However, Dubois and Prade designate it as a fuzzy rough set. Since the term fuzzy rough set is already used in Chapter II for a different concept we shall use the term fuzzy rough fuzzy set.

We begin with some basic notions.

IV:2 FUZZY RELATION; FUZZY PARTATION

Definition (IV:2:1) [D₃;M]

A fuzzy relation R on U is a fuzzy set
 $R : UXU \longrightarrow [0,1]$.

Note (IV:2:2)

Throughout this chapter we consider a binary operation $*$ on $[0,1]$ with the following properties :

$$(i) \quad a * (b * c) = (a * b) * c$$

(Associativity)

$$(ii) \quad a * b = b * a$$

(Commutativity)

$$(iii) \quad a \leq b \text{ implies } a * c \leq b * c$$

(Monotonicity)

$$(iv) \quad a * 1 = a$$

(Existence of identity)

where, a, b, c are elements of $[0,1]$.

Definition IV:2:3 $[D_1; D_2; D_3]$

A fuzzy relation R on U is a $*$ similarity relation on U if

$$(i) \quad R(x,x) = 1$$

(Reflexivity)

$$(ii) \quad R(x,y) = R(y,x)$$

(Commutativity)

$$(iii) \quad R(x,y) \geq R(x,z) * R(z,y)$$

($*$ -transitivity)

If $*$ = min, then the above relation is called a similarity relation on U $[Z_1]$.

Example (IV:2:4) [B]

Let R_1, R_2, \dots, R_n be equivalence relations on U .
 Let $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n$ be real number's such that $\alpha_i > 0$ and $\sum \alpha_i = 1$.
 Define

$$R(x,y) = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i R_i(x,y).$$

Clearly R is a fuzzy relation on U . Let T_m be a binary operation on $[0,1]$, defined by

$$a T_m b = \max \{ 0, a+b-1 \}.$$

Since each R_i is an equivalence relation and $\sum \alpha_i = 1$,

R is reflexive and symmetric relation.

We claim that R is T_m - transitive relation.

To justify the claim we are to show that $\forall x, z \in U$,

$$R(x,z) \geq R(x,y) T_m R(y,z), \quad \forall y \in U \quad (i)$$

If $R(x,y) + R(y,z) - 1 \leq 0$, then $R(x,y) T_m R(y,z) = 0$ and the equality (i) holds trivially.

Therefore, consider $R(x,y) + R(y,z) - 1 > 0$.

By definition, we have

$$R(x,y) + R(y,z) - 1 = \sum \alpha_i (R_i(x,y) + R_i(y,z) - 1) \quad (ii)$$

Obviously, coefficient of α_i in the above equation is either +1 or -1 or 0.

Let without the loss of generality it be +1
for $i = 1, 2, \dots, K$ only.

But then for $i = 1, 2, \dots, K$;

$$R_i(x, y) = 1 \text{ and } R_i(y, z) = 1 \text{ and hence } R_i(x, z) = 1.$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} R(x, z) &= \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i R_i(x, z) \\ &\geq \sum_{i=1}^K \alpha_i \\ &\geq \sum \alpha_i (R_i(x, y) + R_i(y, z) - 1) \\ &= R(x, y) + R(y, z) - 1 \\ &= R(x, y) \text{ } T_m \text{ } R(y, z). \end{aligned}$$

Hence R is T_m similarity relation on U .

Definition (IV:2:5) [D_1, H]

Let U be a universe and R be a $*$ -similarity relation on U . Then for any $x \in U$, a fuzzy class $[x]_R$ is a fuzzy set $[x]_R : U \longrightarrow [0, 1]$ defined as

$$[x]_R(y) = R(x, y), \forall y \in U.$$

Remark (IV:2:6)

If R is the crisp equivalence relation, then fuzzy class is an equivalence class induced by R .

Definition (IV:2:7) [D₁,D₂,H]

A fuzzy set X of U is called fuzzy equivalence class of a $*$ -similarity relation R on U , if,

- (i) There is $x \in U$ such that $X(x) = 1$
(X is normalized)
- (ii) $X(x) * R(x,y) \leq X(y)$.
(Extensionality condation)
- (iii) $X(x) * X(y) \leq R(x,y)$
(Singleton condation)

Proposition (IV:2:8) [D₁,D₂]

Every fuzzy class is a fuzzy equivalence class.

Proof

For $x \in U$ and a $*$ -similarity relation R , consider the fuzzy class $[x]_R$.

We claim that $[x]_R$ is fuzzy equivalence class.

- (i) Since R is reflexive, $x \in U$; $R(x,x) = 1$.
Therefore, $[x]_R(x) = 1$
Thus X is normalized.
- (ii) Let $y, z \in U$
$$[x]_R(z) * R(z,y) = R(x,z) * R(z,y)$$

$$\leq R(x,y), \text{ since } R \text{ is } * \text{-similarity}$$

$$\text{relation}$$

$$= [x]_R(y)$$

Hence Extensionality condation holds.

(iii) Let $y, z \in U$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} [x]_R(y) * [x]_R(z) &= R(x, y) * R(x, z) \\ &\leq R(y, z), \text{ since } R \text{ is } *\text{-similarity} \\ &\text{relation.} \end{aligned}$$

Hence Singleton condition holds.

Thus, $[x]_R$ is a fuzzy equivalence class of $*\text{-similarity}$ relation R .

Proposition (IV:2:9) [H]

Let X_1, X_2 be two equivalence classes be such that $X_1(x) = X_2(x) = 1$, for some $x \in U$, Then $X_1 = X_2$.

Proof

Let $z \in U$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} X_1(z) &= X_1(z) * 1 \\ &= X_1(z) * X_1(x) * X_2(x) \\ &\leq \sup_y \{ X_1(z) * X_1(y) * X_2(y) \} \\ &\leq X_1(z) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Thus, } X_1(z) &= \sup_y \{ X_1(z) * X_1(y) * X_2(y) \} \\ &\leq \sup_y \{ R(z, y) * X_2(y) \} \\ &\leq \sup_y \{ X_2(z) \} \\ &= X_2(z) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $X_1(z) \leq X_2(z)$

Similarly, we can prove $X_2(z) \leq X_1(z)$

Hence, $X_1 = X_2$.

Corollary (IV:2:10)

If X_1, X_2 are fuzzy equivalence classes such that $X_1 \subseteq X_2$ under the assumption of Prop. (IV:2:9), then $X_1 = X_2$.

Proof

$X_1 \subseteq X_2$ implies $X_1(x) \leq X_2(x) \quad \forall x \in U$.

But, $\exists x \in U$ such that $X_1(x) = 1$.

Therefore, $X_1(x) = X_2(x) = 1$

Hence the result.

Proposition (IV:2:11) [D₁]

For any $x, y \in U, x \neq y$ and $R(x, y) = 1$, fuzzy classes $[x]_R$ and $[y]_R$ are equal.

Proof

Let $z \in U$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} [x]_R(z) &= R(x, z) \\ &\geq R(x, y) * R(y, z) \\ &= R(x, y), \text{ since } R(x, y) = 1 \\ &= [y]_R(z) \end{aligned}$$

Thus $[x]_R \geq [y]_R$

Similarly we can prove $[y]_R \geq [x]_R$

Hence $[x]_R = [y]_R$.

Proposition (IV:2:12)[D₂]

Let X be a fuzzy equivalence class with respect to $*$ -similarity relation R on U . Then $x \in U$ such that

$$X = [x]_R.$$

Proof

Since X is normalized, there exist $x_0 \in U$ such that $X(x_0) = 1$

Consider the fuzzy class $[x_0]_R$.

By Prop. (IV:2:8), $[x_0]_R$ is fuzzy equivalence class.

Hence X and $[x_0]_R$ are two fuzzy equivalence classes such that

$$X(x_0) = 1 = [x_0]_R(x_0)$$

Therefore by proposition (IV:2:9)

$$X = [x_0]$$

Hence the proof.

Proposition (IV:2:8) and (IV:2:9) leads to the following.

Proposition (IV:2:13)[D₂]

The set of fuzzy equivalence classes is the set $\{ [x]_R \mid x \in U \}$, for any $*$ -similarity relation R .

Definition (IV:2:14)

Let $\Phi = \{ X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n \}$ be a family of normal fuzzy sets and $n < |U|$. Then Φ is said to be fuzzy partition on U , if

$$(i) \quad \inf_x \left[\max_{i=1, n} X_i(x) \right] > 0$$

(Φ covers U)

$$(ii) \quad \min\{ X_i(x), X_j(x) \} < 1, \forall i, j; i \neq j$$

(i.e. all X_i 's are disjoint)

Note (IV:2:15)

In $[D_1, D_2]$ fuzzy partition is defined as follows.

$$(i) \quad \inf_x \left[\max_{i=1, n} X_i(x) \right] > 0$$

$$(ii) \quad \sup_x \{ \min(X_i(x), X_j(x)) \} \forall i, j; i \neq j$$

However, we shall use Def.(IV:2:14) which is more general.

Proposition (IV:2:16)

Let U be the universe. Then a $*$ -similarity relation R on U induces a fuzzy partition on U .

Proof

$$\text{Let } \Phi = \{ [x]_R \mid x \in U \}$$

Our claim is that Φ is fuzzy partition on U .

(i) We have for any $y \in U$

$$U\{ [x]_R \mid x \in U \}(y) = \sup_x \{ [x]_R(y) \} = 1 > 0$$

Therefore,

$$\inf_x \{ \max\{ [x]_R(y) \mid x \in U \} \} > 0.$$

(ii) Let $[x]_R \neq [y]_R$

suppose that for some $z \in U$

$$\min \{ [x]_R(z), [y]_R(z) \} = 1$$

Therefore,

$$[x]_R(z) = [y]_R(z) = 1$$

But then by Prop. (IV:2:9),

$$[x]_R = [y]_R$$

This is a contradiction

Hence $\min\{ [x]_R(z), [y]_R(z) \} < 1$.

Thus Φ be a fuzzy partitioning of U .

IV:3 FUZZY ROUGH FUZZY SETS

Definition (IV:3:1) $[D_1, D_2]$

Let U be the universe, $\Phi = \{ X_1, \dots, X_n \}$, $n < |U|$ be a fuzzy partition of U . Let X be a fuzzy set of U . The lower approximation of X with respect to Φ , is the fuzzy set

$\underline{P}X : \Phi \longrightarrow [0,1]$ defined as follows :

$$\underline{P}X(X_i) = \inf \{ \max(1-X_i(x); X(x)) \}$$

Definition (IV:3:2) [D₁, D₂]

Let U be the universe. $\Phi = \{X_1, \dots, X_n\}$, $n < |U|$ be a fuzzy partition of U . Let X be a fuzzy set of U . The upper approximation of X with respect to Φ , is the fuzzy set $\bar{P}X : \Phi \longrightarrow [0,1]$ defined as,

$$\bar{P}X(X_i) = \sup_x \{ \min (X_i(x), X(x)) \}$$

Definition (IV:3:3) [D₁, D₂]

Let U be the universe, $\Phi = \{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n\}$, $n < |U|$ be a partition of U . A fuzzy rough fuzzy set is a pair $(\underline{P}X, \bar{P}X)$.

Definition (IV:3:4) [D₁, D₂]

Let R be a $*$ -similarity relation on U and let $U/R = \{ [x]_R \mid x \in U \} = \Phi$ be a fuzzy partitioning of U . The lower approximation of X with respect to R is the fuzzy set

$w(\underline{P}X) : U \longrightarrow [0,1]$ defined as follows

$$w(\underline{P}X)(x) = \inf_x \{ \max(X(y), 1-R(x,y)) \} \quad \forall x \in U.$$

where w is a mapping from U/R to U defined as

$$w([x]_R) = \{ y \mid [x]_R = [y]_R \} = \{ y \mid y \in [x]_R \}.$$

Definition (IV:3:5) [D₁, D₂]

Let $U/R = \{ [x]_R \mid x \in U \} = \Phi$, be a partitioning of U and X be a fuzzy set of U . The upper approximation of X with respect to R is the fuzzy set,

$$w(\bar{P}X) : U \longrightarrow [0,1] \text{ defined as,}$$

$$w(\bar{P}X)(x) = \sup_x \{ \min(X(y), R(x,y)) \}$$

Definition (IV:3:6) [D₁, D₂]

A fuzzy rough fuzzy set is a pair $(w(\underline{P}X), w(\bar{P}X))$.

Proposition (IV:3:7)

Let R be a crisp equivalence relation, then the fuzzy rough fuzzy set defined by Def.(IV:3:3) agrees with the rough fuzzy set defined by Def.(III:2:3).

Proof

Let $\Phi_1 = \{ [x]_R \mid x \in U \}$ be a (crisp) partitioning of U , then by Def.(III:2:3) $(\underline{R}X, \bar{R}X)$ be a rough fuzzy set where,

$$\underline{R}X([x]_R) = \inf_x \{ X(y) \mid [x]_R = [y]_R \} \quad (i)$$

and

$$\bar{R}X([x]_R) = \sup_x \{ X(y) \mid [x]_R = [y]_R \} \quad (ii)$$

Let, $\Phi_2 = \{ \chi_{[x]_R} \mid x \in U \}$ be a fuzzy partitioning induced by (characteristics function of) R , then by Def.(IV:3:3) $(\underline{P}X, \bar{P}X)$ be a fuzzy rough fuzzy set where

$$\underline{P}X(\chi_{[x]_R}) = \inf_y \{ \max(X(y), 1 - \chi_{[x]_R}(y)) \} \quad (iii)$$

and

$$\bar{P}X(\chi_{[x]_R}) = \sup_y \{ \min(X(y), \chi_{[x]_R}(y)) \} \quad (iv)$$

Our claim is that,

$$\underline{P}X(\chi_{[x]_R}) = \underline{R}X([x]_R) \quad \text{and}$$

$$\bar{P}X(\chi_{[x]_R}) = \bar{R}X([x]_R)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Consider, } \underline{P}X(\chi_{[x]_R}) &= \inf_y \{ \max(X(y), 1 - \chi_{[x]_R}(y)) \}, \text{ by (III)} \\ &= \inf_y \{ X(y) \mid y \in [x]_R \} \\ &= \inf_y \{ X(y) \mid [x]_R = [y]_R \} \\ &= \underline{R}X([x]_R), \quad \text{by (I)} \end{aligned}$$

Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{P}X(\chi_{[x]_R}) &= \sup_y \{ \min(X(y), \chi_{[x]_R}(y)) \}, \text{ by (IV)} \\ &= \sup_y \{ X(y) \mid y \in [x]_R \} \\ &= \sup_y \{ X(y) \mid [x]_R = [y]_R \} \\ &= \bar{R}X([x]_R) \end{aligned}$$

Proposition (IV:3:7)

Let ϕ be a fuzzy partition of U be such that $\phi = U/R$, where R be a similarity relation on U . Let $x \in U$ be such that $[x]_R = X_i \in U$. Then

$$w(\underline{P}X)(x) = \underline{P}X([x]_R) \quad \text{and}$$

$$w(\bar{P}X)(x) = \bar{P}X([x]_R)$$

Proof

$$\begin{aligned}
w(\underline{P}X)(x) &= \inf_y \{ \max(X(y), 1-R(x,y)) \} \\
&= \inf_y \{ \max(X(y), 1-[x]_R(y)) \} \\
&= \inf_y \{ \max(X(y), 1-X_1(y)) \} \\
&= \underline{P}X(X_1) \\
&= \underline{P}X([x]_R)
\end{aligned}$$

Similarly,

$$w(\bar{P}X)(x) = \bar{P}X([x]_R)$$

Proposition (IV:3:8)

Let R be a similarity relation on U be such that $U/R = \Phi$; fuzzy partitioning of U . Then followings are holds.

- i) $w(\bar{P}(X \cup Y)) = w(\bar{P}X) \cup w(\bar{P}Y)$
- ii) $w(\bar{P}(X \cap Y)) \subseteq w(\bar{P}X) \cap w(\bar{P}Y)$
- iii) $w(\underline{P}(X \cap Y)) = w(\underline{P}X) \cap w(\underline{P}Y)$
- iv) $w(\underline{P}(X \cup Y)) \supseteq w(\underline{P}X) \cup w(\underline{P}Y)$
- v) $w(\bar{P}(-X)) = -w(\underline{P}X)$
- vi) $w(\underline{P}(-X)) = -w(\bar{P}X)$
- vii) $w(\underline{p}x) \subseteq X \subseteq w(\bar{P}X)$
- viii) $w(\bar{P}P X) \supseteq w(\bar{P}X)$ and $w(\underline{P}P X) \subseteq w(\underline{P}X)$

Proof Let $x \in U$

(i) Consider

$$\begin{aligned}
 w(\overline{P}(X \cup Y))(x) &= \sup_y \{ \min((X \cup Y)(y); R(x,y)) \} \\
 &= \sup_y \{ \min(\max(X(y), Y(y)); R(x,y)) \} \\
 &= \sup_y \{ \max(\min(X(y), R(x,y)); \\
 &\quad \max(Y(y), R(x,y))) \} \\
 &= \max(\sup_y \{ \min(X(y), R(x,y)) \}; \\
 &\quad \sup_y \{ \min(Y(y), R(x,y)) \}) \\
 &= \max(w(PX)(x), w(PY)(x)) \\
 &= (w(\overline{P}X) \cup w(\overline{P}Y))(x)
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$w(\overline{P}(X \cup Y)) = w(\overline{P}X) \cup w(\overline{P}Y)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{(ii) } w(\overline{P}(X \cap Y))(x) &= \sup_y \{ \min((X \cap Y)(y); R(x,y)) \} \\
 &= \sup_y \{ \min(\min(X(y), Y(y)); R(x,y)) \} \\
 &= \sup_y \{ \min(\min(X(y), R(x,y)); \\
 &\quad \min(Y(y), R(x,y))) \} \\
 &\leq \min(\sup_y \{ \min(X(y), R(x,y)) \}; \\
 &\quad \sup_y \{ \min(Y(y), R(x,y)) \}) \\
 &= \min(w(\overline{P}X)(x), w(\overline{P}Y)(x)) \\
 &= (w(\overline{P}X) \cap w(\overline{P}Y))(x)
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$w(\overline{P}(X \cap Y)) \subseteq w(\overline{P}X) \cap w(\overline{P}Y)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{(iii) } w(\underline{P}(X \cap Y))(x) &= \inf_y \{ \max((X \cap Y)(y); 1-R(x,y)) \} \\
&= \inf_y \{ \max(\min(X(y), Y(y)); 1-R(x,y)) \} \\
&= \inf_y \{ \min(\max(X(y), 1-R(x,y)); \\
&\quad \max(Y(y), 1-R(x,y))) \} \\
&= \min(\inf_y \{ \max(X(y), 1-R(x,y)) \}; \\
&\quad \inf_y \{ \max(Y(y), 1-R(x,y)) \}) \\
&= \min(w(\underline{P}X)(x), w(\underline{P}Y)(x)) \\
&= (w(\underline{P}X) \cap w(\underline{P}Y))(x)
\end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$w(\underline{P}(X \cap Y)) = w(\underline{P}X) \cap w(\underline{P}Y)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{(iv) } w(\underline{P}(X \cup Y))(x) &= \inf_y \{ \max((X \cup Y)(y); 1-R(x,y)) \} \\
&= \inf_y \{ \max(\max(X(y), Y(y)); 1-R(x,y)) \} \\
&= \inf_y \{ \max(\max(X(y), 1-R(x,y)); \\
&\quad \max(Y(y), 1-R(x,y))) \} \\
&\geq \max(\inf_y \{ \max(X(y), 1-R(x,y)) \}; \\
&\quad \inf_y \{ \max(Y(y), 1-R(x,y)) \}) \\
&= \max(w(\underline{P}X)(x), w(\underline{P}Y)(x)) \\
&= (w(\underline{P}X) \cup w(\underline{P}Y))(x)
\end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$w(\underline{P}(X \cup Y)) \supseteq w(\underline{P}X) \cup w(\underline{P}Y)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
(v) \quad w(\bar{P}(-X))(x) &= \sup_y \{ \min(-X(y), R(x,y)) \} \\
&= \sup_y \{ 1 - \max(X(y), 1 - R(x,y)) \} \\
&= 1 - \inf_y \{ \max(X(y), 1 - R(x,y)) \} \\
&= 1 - w(\underline{P}X)(x) \\
&= -w(\underline{P}X)(x)
\end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$w(\bar{P}(-X)) = -w(\underline{P}X)$$

(vi) Similarly we can prove

$$w(\underline{P}(-X)) = -w(\bar{P}X)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
(vii) \quad \text{Consider } w(\bar{P}X)(x) &= \sup_y \{ \min(X(y), R(x,y)) \} \\
&= \max\{ X(x), \sup_{x \neq y} \{ X(y), R(x,y) \} \} \\
&\geq X(x)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Thus } w(\bar{P}X) = X \quad (I)$$

We have,

$$\begin{aligned}
-X \subseteq w(\bar{P}(-X)), \quad \text{Since by (V)} \\
= -w(\underline{P}X)
\end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$w(\underline{P}X) \subseteq X \quad (II)$$

By (I) and (II)

$$w(\underline{P}X) \subseteq X \subseteq w(\bar{P}X)$$

(viii) We have,

$$w(\overline{PPX}) = w(\overline{P}(w(\overline{PX}))) \quad \text{and}$$

$$w(\underline{PPX}) = w(\underline{P}(w(\underline{PX})))$$

To prove (viii), replace X by $w(\underline{PX})$ and $w(\overline{PX})$ respectively in inequality (vii).

IV:4 SUMMARY

We have shown in this chapter that the fuzzy rough set defined by Dubois and Prade $[D_1, D_2]$ is nothing but the fuzzy rough fuzzy set. Dubois and Prade used fuzzy relation; fuzzy partition, in the definition of rough set and obtain fuzzy rough fuzzy set corresponding to a given fuzzy set.