

## FUZZY PAIRS IN FUZZY $\alpha$ -LATTICES

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ABSTRACT. In this paper, we introduce the notion of a fuzzy  $\alpha$ -modular pair in a fuzzy  $\alpha$ -lattice and obtain some results.

**Key Words:** Fuzzy  $\alpha$ -lattice, fuzzy modular pair, fuzzy  $\alpha$ -modular pair,  $\alpha$ -comparable.

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### 1. INTRODUCTION

The concept of fuzzy ordering was defined by Zadeh [5] in 1971. Yuan and Wu [1] introduced the concept of a fuzzy sublattice. Ajmal and Thomas [8] defined a fuzzy lattice and a fuzzy sublattice as a fuzzy algebra in 1994. Chon [4] considered Zadeh's fuzzy order [6] and proposed a new notion of a fuzzy lattice and studied level sets of such structures. At the same time he also proved some results for distributive and modular fuzzy lattices. Mezzomo *et. al.* [3] changed the way to define the fuzzy supremum and the fuzzy infimum of a pair of elements by considering as a threshold fixed  $\alpha \in [0, 1)$  instead of, as usual, zero.

The concept of a modular pair in a lattice is well investigated by Maeda and Maeda [2]. Recently, Wasadikar and Khubchandani [7] defined a fuzzy modular pair in a fuzzy lattice and obtained some properties of fuzzy modular pairs. In this paper, we introduce the notion of a fuzzy  $\alpha$ -modular pair in a fuzzy  $\alpha$ -lattice and prove some properties analogous to the classical theory.

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## 2. PRELIMINARIES

In fuzzy sets, each element of a nonempty set  $X$  is mapped to  $[0, 1]$  by a membership function  $\mu : X \rightarrow [0, 1]$ .

A mapping  $A : X \times X \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is called a fuzzy binary relation on  $X$ .

The following definition is from Zadeh [6]. A fuzzy binary relation  $A$  on  $X$  is called:

- (i) fuzzy reflexive if  $A(x, x) = 1$ , for all  $x \in X$ ;
- (ii) fuzzy symmetric if  $A(x, y) = A(y, x)$ , for all  $x, y \in X$ ;
- (iii) fuzzy transitive if  $A(x, z) \geq \sup_{y \in X} \min[A(x, y), A(y, z)]$ ;
- (iv) fuzzy antisymmetric if  $A(x, y) > 0$  and  $A(y, x) > 0$  implies  $x = y$ .

Based on the above properties Zadeh [6] introduced the following concepts related to a fuzzy binary relation  $A$  on a set  $X$ :

- (i)  $A$  is called a fuzzy equivalence relation on  $X$  if  $A$  is fuzzy reflexive, fuzzy symmetric and fuzzy transitive;
- (ii)  $A$  is a fuzzy partial order relation if  $A$  is fuzzy reflexive, fuzzy antisymmetric and fuzzy transitive and the pair  $(X, A)$  is called a fuzzy partially ordered set or a fuzzy poset;
- (iii)  $A$  is a fuzzy total order relation if it is a fuzzy partial order relation and  $A(x, y) > 0$  or  $A(y, x) > 0$ , for all  $x, y \in X$ , and the fuzzy poset  $(X, A)$  is called of a fuzzy totally ordered set or a fuzzy chain.

**Definition 2.1.** [4, Definition 3.1] Let  $(X, A)$  be a fuzzy poset and let  $Y \subseteq X$ . An element  $u \in X$  is said to be an upper bound for  $Y$  iff  $A(y, u) > 0$ , for all  $y \in Y$ . An upper bound  $u_0$  for  $Y$  is the least upper bound (or supremum) of  $Y$  iff  $A(u_0, u) > 0$ , for every upper bound  $u$  for  $Y$ . We then write  $u_0 = \sup Y = \vee Y$ . If  $Y = \{x, y\}$ , then we write  $\vee Y = x \vee y$ .

Similarly, an element  $v \in X$  is said to be a lower bound for  $Y$  iff  $A(v, y) > 0$ , for all  $y \in Y$ . A lower bound  $v_0$  for  $Y$  is the greatest lower bound (or infimum) of  $Y$  iff  $A(v, v_0) > 0$ , for every lower bound  $v$  for  $Y$ . We then write  $v_0 = \inf Y = \wedge Y$ . If  $Y = \{x, y\}$ , then we write  $\wedge Y = x \wedge y$ .

## 3. FUZZY $\alpha$ -LATTICES

Mezzomo and Bedregal [3] generalized the concept of a (fuzzy) upper bound as follows.

**Definition 3.1.** [3, Definition 3.1] Let  $(X, A)$  be a fuzzy poset. Let  $Y \subseteq X$  and  $\alpha \in [0, 1)$ . An element  $u \in X$  is said to be an  $\alpha$ -upper bound for  $Y$  whenever  $A(x, u) > \alpha$ , for all  $x \in Y$ . An  $\alpha$ -upper bound  $u_0$  for  $Y$  is called a least  $\alpha$ -upper bound (or  $\alpha$ -Supremum) of  $Y$  iff  $A(u_0, u) > \alpha$ , for every  $\alpha$ -upper bound  $u$  of  $Y$ .

Dually, an element  $v \in X$  is said to be an  $\alpha$ -lower bound for  $Y$  iff  $A(v, x) > \alpha$ , for all  $x \in Y$ . An  $\alpha$ -lower bound  $v_0$  for  $Y$  is called a greatest  $\alpha$ -lower bound (or  $\alpha$ -infimum) of  $Y$  iff  $A(v, v_0) > \alpha$  for every  $\alpha$ -lower bound  $v$  for  $Y$ .

We denote the least  $\alpha$ -upper bound of the set  $\{x, y\}$  by  $x \vee_\alpha y$  and the greatest  $\alpha$ -lower bound of the set  $\{x, y\}$  by  $x \wedge_\alpha y$ .

*Remark 3.2.* [3, Remark 3.1] Since  $A$  is fuzzy antisymmetric, the least  $\alpha$ -upper (greatest  $\alpha$ -lower) bound, if it exists, is unique.

**Proposition 3.3.** [3, Proposition 3.1] *Let  $(X, A)$  be fuzzy poset,  $\alpha \in [0, 1)$  and  $x, y, z \in X$ . If  $A(x, y) > \alpha$  and  $A(y, z) > \alpha$ , then  $A(x, z) > \alpha$ .*

**Definition 3.4.** [3, Definition 3.2] A fuzzy poset  $(X, A)$  is a fuzzy  $\alpha$ -lattice iff  $x \vee_\alpha y$  and  $x \wedge_\alpha y$  exists for all  $x, y \in X$ , for some  $\alpha \in [0, 1)$ .

**Definition 3.5.** [3, Definition 3.4] A fuzzy poset  $(X, A)$  is called fuzzy sup  $\alpha$ -lattice, if each pair of element has  $\alpha$ -supremum in  $X$ , denoted by  $sup_\alpha X$ .

Dually, it is called fuzzy inf  $\alpha$ -lattice, if each pair of element has  $\alpha$ -infimum in  $X$ , denoted by  $inf_\alpha X$ . A fuzzy semi  $\alpha$ -lattice is a fuzzy poset which is a fuzzy sup  $\alpha$ -lattice or a fuzzy inf  $\alpha$ -lattice.

**Definition 3.6.** [3, Definition 3.5] Let  $(X, A)$  be a fuzzy poset and  $I$  be a fuzzy set on  $X$ . The  $\alpha$ -supremum in  $I$  denoted by  $sup_\alpha I$ , is an element of  $X$  such that if  $x \in X$  and  $\mu_I(x) > \alpha$ , then  $A(x, sup_\alpha I) > \alpha$  and if  $u \in X$  is such that  $A(x, u) > \alpha$  whenever  $\mu_I(x) > \alpha$ , then  $A(sup_\alpha I, u) > \alpha$ .

Similarly, the  $\alpha$ -infimum in  $I$  denoted by  $inf_\alpha I$ , is an element of  $X$  such that if  $x \in X$  and  $\mu_I(x) > \alpha$ , then  $A(inf_\alpha I, x) > \alpha$  and if  $v \in X$  is such that  $A(v, x) > \alpha$  whenever  $\mu_I(x) > \alpha$ , then  $A(v, inf_\alpha I) > \alpha$ .

**Definition 3.7.** [3, Definition 3.6] A fuzzy inf  $\alpha$ -lattice is called inf complete if all of its nonempty fuzzy sets have  $\alpha$ -infimum.

Similarly, a fuzzy sup  $\alpha$ -lattice is called sup-complete if all of its nonempty fuzzy set admit  $\alpha$ -supremum. A fuzzy  $\alpha$ -lattice is complete whenever it is, simultaneously, inf-complete and sup-complete.

**Proposition 3.8.** [3, Proposition 3.2] *Let  $(X, A)$  be a complete fuzzy sup  $\alpha$ -lattice (inf  $\alpha$ -lattice) and  $I$  be a fuzzy set on  $X$ . Then,  $\sup_\alpha I$  ( $\inf_\alpha I$ ) exists and it is unique.*

**Proposition 3.9.** [3, Proposition 3.3] *Let  $\mathcal{L} = (X, A)$  be a fuzzy sup  $\alpha$ -lattice, then there exist an element  $\top$  in  $X$ , such that  $A(x, \top) > \alpha$  for all  $x \in X$ .*

**Proposition 3.10.** [3, Proposition 3.4] *Let  $\mathcal{L} = (X, A)$  be a fuzzy inf  $\alpha$ -lattice, then there exist an element  $\perp$  in  $X$ , such that  $A(\perp, x) > \alpha$  for all  $x \in X$ .*

**Definition 3.11.** [3, Definition 3.6] *A fuzzy lattice  $(X, A)$  is bounded if there exists  $\top$  and  $\perp$  in  $X$  such that for any  $x \in X$ ,  $A(\perp, x) > \alpha$  and  $A(x, \top) > \alpha$ .*

**Corollary 3.12.** [3, Corollary 3.1] *Every fuzzy lattice is a fuzzy  $\alpha$ -lattice.*

We illustrate the concepts of an  $\alpha$ -upper bound and  $\alpha$ -lower bound with an example.

*Example 3.13.* Consider the set  $X = \{x, y, z, w\}$ , let  $\alpha=0.2$  and let  $A : X \times X \rightarrow [0, 1]$  be a fuzzy relation defined as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} A(x, x) &= A(y, y) = A(z, z) = A(w, w) = 1.0, \\ A(w, z) &= 0.2, A(w, y) = 0.5, A(w, x) = 0.9, \\ A(z, w) &= 0.0, A(z, y) = 0.3, A(z, x) = 0.6, \\ A(y, w) &= 0.0, A(y, z) = 0.0, A(y, x) = 0.4, \\ A(x, w) &= 0.0, A(x, z) = 0.0, A(x, y) = 0.0. \end{aligned}$$

Then  $A$  is a fuzzy total order relation.

Let  $Y = \{w, z\}$ . Then  $x, y$  and  $z$  are the  $\alpha$ -upper bounds of  $Y$ . Since  $A(z, w) = 0.0$  and  $A(w, z) = 0.2 \geq \alpha$ , it follows that the  $\alpha$ -supremum of  $Y$  is  $z$  and the  $\alpha$ -infimum is  $w$ .

The fuzzy  $\alpha$ -join and fuzzy  $\alpha$ -meet tables are as follows:

$\vee_\alpha$	$x$	$y$	$z$	$w$	$\wedge_\alpha$	$x$	$y$	$z$	$w$
$x$	$x$	$x$	$x$	$x$	$x$	$x$	$y$	$z$	$w$
$y$	$x$	$y$	$y$	$y$	$y$	$y$	$y$	$z$	$w$
$z$	$x$	$y$	$z$	$z$	$z$	$z$	$z$	$z$	$w$
$w$	$x$	$y$	$z$	$w$	$w$	$w$	$w$	$w$	$w$

We note that  $(X, A)$  is a fuzzy lattice as well as a fuzzy  $\alpha$ -lattice for  $\alpha = 0.2$ .

In Figure 1, we show the related tabular and graphical representations for the fuzzy relation  $A$ .

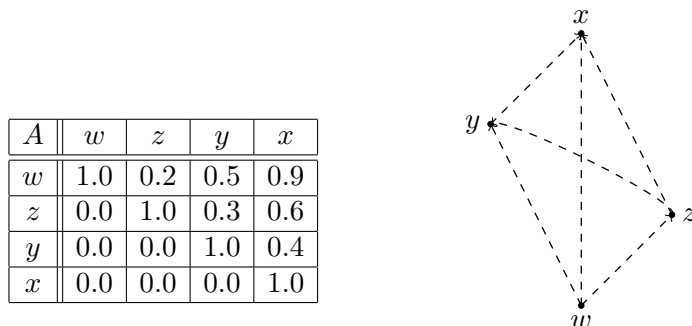


Figure 1

The following example shows that a subset of a fuzzy poset may not have a greatest  $\alpha$ -lower bound (least  $\alpha$ -upper bound).

*Example 3.14.* Let  $X = \{x_1, y_1, z_1, w_1\}$ .

Let  $A : X \times X \rightarrow [0, 1]$  be a fuzzy relation defined as follows:

$$A(x_1, x_1) = A(y_1, y_1) = A(z_1, z_1) = A(w_1, w_1) = 1.0,$$

$$A(x_1, y_1) = 0.20, A(x_1, z_1) = 0.30, A(x_1, w_1) = 0.90,$$

$$A(y_1, x_1) = 0.0, A(y_1, z_1) = 0.0, A(y_1, w_1) = 0.50,$$

$$A(z_1, x_1) = 0.0, A(z_1, y_1) = 0.0, A(z_1, w_1) = 0.70,$$

$$A(w_1, x_1) = 0.0, A(w_1, y_1) = 0.0, A(w_1, z_1) = 0.0.$$

Then  $A$  is a fuzzy partial order relation.

The fuzzy  $\alpha$ -join and fuzzy  $\alpha$ -meet tables are as follows:

$\vee_\alpha$	$x_1$	$y_1$	$z_1$	$w_1$	$\wedge_\alpha$	$x_1$	$y_1$	$z_1$	$w_1$
$x_1$	$x_1$	$y_1$	$z_1$	$w_1$	$x_1$	$x_1$	$x_1$	$x_1$	$x_1$
$y_1$	$y_1$	$y_1$	$w_1$	$w_1$	$y_1$	$x_1$	$y_1$	$x_1$	$y_1$
$z_1$	$z_1$	$w_1$	$z_1$	$w_1$	$z_1$	$x_1$	$x_1$	$z_1$	$z_1$
$w_1$	$w_1$	$w_1$	$w_1$	$w_1$	$w_1$	$x_1$	$y_1$	$z_1$	$w_1$

We note that  $(X, A)$  is a fuzzy lattice.

In Figure 2, we show the related tabular and graphical representation for the fuzzy relation  $A$ .

$A$	$x_1$	$y_1$	$z_1$	$w_1$
$x_1$	1.0	0.20	0.30	0.90
$y_1$	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.50
$z_1$	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.70
$w_1$	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0

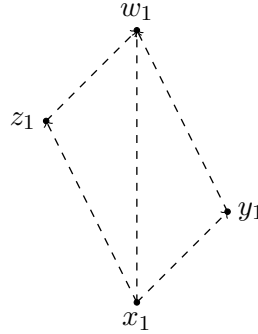


Figure 2

In Figure 3, we show the related tabular and graphical representations for the fuzzy relation  $A$  for  $\alpha > 0.30$ .

Here  $x_1 \vee_\alpha w_1 = w_1$ ,  $x_1 \wedge_\alpha w_1 = x_1$ ,

$y_1 \vee_\alpha w_1 = w_1$ ,  $y_1 \wedge_\alpha w_1 = y_1$ ,

$z_1 \vee_\alpha w_1 = w_1$ ,  $z_1 \wedge_\alpha w_1 = z_1$ ,

$y_1 \vee_\alpha z_1 = w_1$ ,  $y_1 \vee_\alpha x_1 = w_1$ ,  $z_1 \vee_\alpha x_1 = w_1$ .

But  $y_1 \wedge_\alpha z_1$ ,  $y_1 \wedge_\alpha x_1$ ,  $z_1 \wedge_\alpha x_1$  does not exist.

$A$	$x_1$	$y_1$	$z_1$	$w_1$
$x_1$	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.90
$y_1$	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.50
$z_1$	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.70
$w_1$	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0

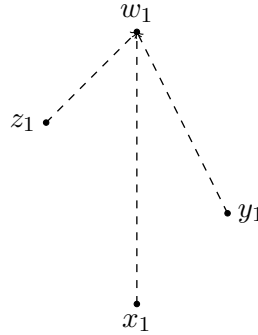


Figure 3

*Remark 3.15.* We note that Example 3.13 is an example of a fuzzy  $\alpha$ -lattice for  $\alpha = 0.2$  whereas Example 3.14, is not a fuzzy  $\alpha$ -lattice for  $\alpha > 0.30$ .

**Proposition 3.16.** [3, Proposition 3.7] *Let  $(X, A)$  be a fuzzy  $\alpha$ -lattice,  $\alpha \in [0, 1)$  and let  $x, y, z \in X$ . The following statements hold:*

(i)  $A(x, x \vee_\alpha y) > \alpha$ ,  $A(y, x \vee_\alpha y) > \alpha$ ,  $A(x \wedge_\alpha y, x) > \alpha$ ,  $A(x \wedge_\alpha y, y) > \alpha$ ;

- (ii)  $A(x, z) > \alpha$  and  $A(y, z) > \alpha$  implies  $A(x \vee_{\alpha} y, z) > \alpha$ ;
- (iii)  $A(z, x) > \alpha$  and  $A(z, y) > \alpha$  implies  $A(z, x \wedge_{\alpha} y) > \alpha$ ;
- (iv)  $A(x, y) > \alpha$  iff  $x \vee_{\alpha} y = y$ ;
- (v)  $A(x, y) > \alpha$  iff  $x \wedge_{\alpha} y = x$ ;
- (vi) If  $A(y, z) > \alpha$ , then  $A(x \wedge_{\alpha} y, x \wedge_{\alpha} z) > \alpha$  and  $A(x \vee_{\alpha} y, x \vee_{\alpha} z) > \alpha$ ;
- (vii) If  $A(x \vee_{\alpha} y, z) > \alpha$ , then  $A(x, z) > \alpha$  and  $A(y, z) > \alpha$ ;
- (viii) If  $A(x, y \wedge_{\alpha} z) > \alpha$ , then  $A(x, y) > \alpha$  and  $A(x, z) > \alpha$ .

**Proposition 3.17.** [3, Proposition 3.8] *Let  $(X, A)$  be a fuzzy  $\alpha$ -lattice and let  $x, y, z \in X$ . Then*

- (i)  $x \vee_{\alpha} x = x$  and  $x \wedge_{\alpha} x = x$ ;
- (ii)  $x \vee_{\alpha} y = y \vee_{\alpha} x$  and  $x \wedge_{\alpha} y = y \wedge_{\alpha} x$ ;
- (iii)  $(x \vee_{\alpha} y) \vee_{\alpha} z = x \vee_{\alpha} (y \vee_{\alpha} z)$  and  $(x \wedge_{\alpha} y) \wedge_{\alpha} z = x \wedge_{\alpha} (y \wedge_{\alpha} z)$ ;
- (iv)  $(x \vee_{\alpha} y) \wedge_{\alpha} x = x$  and  $(x \wedge_{\alpha} y) \vee_{\alpha} x = x$ .

**Lemma 3.18.** *Let  $(X, A)$  be a fuzzy  $\alpha$ -lattice and  $x, y, x', y' \in X$ . If  $A(x', x) > \alpha$  and  $A(y', y) > \alpha$ , then  $A(x' \wedge_{\alpha} y', x \wedge_{\alpha} y) > \alpha$  and  $A(x' \vee_{\alpha} y', x \vee_{\alpha} y) > \alpha$ .*

*Proof.* As  $A(x', x) > \alpha$  so, by (vi) of Proposition 3.16, we have that  $A(x' \wedge_{\alpha} y', x \wedge_{\alpha} y') > \alpha$ . (I)

Also,  $A(y', y) > \alpha$  so, by (vi) of Proposition 3.16, we have  $A(x \wedge_{\alpha} y', x \wedge_{\alpha} y) > \alpha$ . (II)

From (I) and (II) by fuzzy transitivity of  $A$  we have  $A(x' \wedge_{\alpha} y', x \wedge_{\alpha} y) > \alpha$ .

Similarly, we can show that  $A(x' \vee_{\alpha} y', x \vee_{\alpha} y) > \alpha$ .  $\square$

**Definition 3.19.** [3, Definition 3.8] *Let  $(X, A)$  be a fuzzy  $\alpha$ -lattice.  $(X, A)$  is fuzzy distributive iff  $x \wedge_{\alpha} (y \vee_{\alpha} z) = (x \wedge_{\alpha} y) \vee_{\alpha} (x \wedge_{\alpha} z)$  and  $(x \vee_{\alpha} y) \wedge_{\alpha} (x \vee_{\alpha} z) = x \vee_{\alpha} (y \wedge_{\alpha} z)$ .*

Note that  $(X, A)$  is fuzzy distributive iff  $A(x \wedge_{\alpha} (y \vee_{\alpha} z), (x \wedge_{\alpha} y) \vee_{\alpha} (x \wedge_{\alpha} z)) > \alpha$  and  $A((x \vee_{\alpha} y) \wedge_{\alpha} (x \vee_{\alpha} z), x \vee_{\alpha} (y \wedge_{\alpha} z)) > \alpha$ .

We now define fuzzy modularity in a fuzzy  $\alpha$ -lattice.

**Proposition 3.20.** (*Modular inequality*) *Let  $(X, A)$  be a fuzzy  $\alpha$ -lattice and let  $x, y, z \in X$ . Then  $A(x, z) > \alpha$  implies  $A(x \vee_{\alpha} (y \wedge_{\alpha} z), (x \vee_{\alpha} y) \wedge_{\alpha} z) > \alpha$ .*

*Proof.* As  $A(x, x \vee_{\alpha} y) > \alpha$  and  $A(x, z) > \alpha$  by (iii) of Proposition 3.16, we have  $A(x, (x \vee_{\alpha} y) \wedge_{\alpha} z) > \alpha$ . (I)

Since  $A(y \wedge_\alpha z, y) > \alpha$  and  $A(y, x \vee_\alpha y) > \alpha$  by fuzzy transitivity of  $A$  we have  $A(y \wedge_\alpha z, x \vee_\alpha y) > \alpha$ .

Using (iii) of Proposition 3.16, we have

$$A(y \wedge_\alpha z, (x \vee_\alpha y) \wedge_\alpha z) > \alpha. \quad (\text{II})$$

Thus by (I) and (II) and by (ii) of Proposition 3.16, we have

$$A(x \vee_\alpha (y \wedge_\alpha z), (x \vee_\alpha y) \wedge_\alpha z) > \alpha. \quad \square$$

**Definition 3.21.** Let  $(X, A)$  be a fuzzy  $\alpha$ -lattice.  $(X, A)$  is fuzzy  $\alpha$ -modular iff  $A(x, z) > \alpha$  implies  $x \vee_\alpha (y \wedge_\alpha z) = (x \vee_\alpha y) \wedge_\alpha z$  for all  $x, y, z \in X$ .

By the modular inequality, a fuzzy  $\alpha$ -lattice  $(X, A)$  is fuzzy  $\alpha$ -modular iff  $A(x, z) > \alpha$  implies  $A(x \vee_\alpha y) \wedge_\alpha z, x \vee_\alpha (y \wedge_\alpha z) > \alpha$  for  $x, y, z \in X$ .

**Proposition 3.22.** Let  $(X, A)$  be a fuzzy  $\alpha$ -lattice.  $(X, A)$  be a fuzzy distributive lattice, then  $(X, A)$  is fuzzy  $\alpha$ -modular lattice.

*Proof.* Let  $x, y, z \in X$ . Suppose  $A(x, z) > \alpha$ .

Since  $(X, A)$  is fuzzy distributive so, we have

$$(x \vee_\alpha y) \wedge_\alpha z = (x \wedge_\alpha z) \vee_\alpha (y \wedge_\alpha z). \text{ Thus,}$$

$$A((x \vee_\alpha y) \wedge_\alpha z, x \vee_\alpha (y \wedge_\alpha z)) = A((x \wedge_\alpha z) \vee_\alpha (y \wedge_\alpha z), x \vee_\alpha (y \wedge_\alpha z)). \quad (\text{I})$$

As  $A(x, z) > \alpha$  by (v) of Proposition 3.16, we have  $x \wedge_\alpha z = x$ .

So, (I) reduces to

$$A((x \vee_\alpha y) \wedge_\alpha z, x \vee_\alpha (y \wedge_\alpha z)) = A(x \vee_\alpha (y \wedge_\alpha z), x \vee_\alpha (y \wedge_\alpha z)) > \alpha.$$

Hence  $(x \vee_\alpha y) \wedge_\alpha z = x \vee_\alpha (y \wedge_\alpha z)$ .

Thus,  $(X, A)$  is fuzzy  $\alpha$ -modular lattice.  $\square$

#### 4. FUZZY $\alpha$ -MODULAR PAIRS IN A FUZZY $\alpha$ -LATTICE

In this section, we define a fuzzy  $\alpha$ -modular pair in a fuzzy  $\alpha$ -lattice and we prove some propositions.

We recall the definition of a fuzzy modular pair in a fuzzy lattice from [7].

**Definition 4.1.** Let  $X$  be a nonempty set and  $\mathcal{L} = (X, A)$  be a fuzzy lattice with  $\perp$ . Let  $x, y \in X$ . We say that  $(x, y)$  is a fuzzy meet-modular pair and we write  $(x, y)_F M_m$  if whenever  $A(z, y) > 0$ , then  $(z \vee_F x) \wedge_F y = z \vee_F (x \wedge_F y)$ .

We say that  $(x, y)$  is a fuzzy join-modular pair and we write  $(x, y)_F M_j$  if whenever  $A(y, z) > 0$ , then  $(z \wedge_F x) \vee_F y = z \wedge_F (x \vee_F y)$ .

We write  $(x, y)_F \overline{M}_j$  or  $(x, y)_F \overline{M}_m$  when the pair  $(x, y)$  is not a fuzzy join-modular or fuzzy meet-modular pair respectively.



**Definition 4.2.** Let  $(X, A)$  be a fuzzy  $\alpha$ -lattice. We say that  $(x, y)$  is a fuzzy  $\alpha$ -modular pair and we write  $(x, y)FM_\alpha$ , if whenever  $A(z, y) > \alpha$  for some  $z \in X$ ,  $\alpha \in [0, 1)$ , then  $(z \vee_\alpha x) \wedge_\alpha y = z \vee_\alpha (x \wedge_\alpha y)$ .

We say that  $(x, y)$  is a fuzzy dual  $\alpha$ -modular pair and we write  $(x, y)FM_\alpha^*$ , if whenever  $A(y, z) > \alpha$  for some  $z \in X$ , then  $(z \wedge_\alpha x) \vee_\alpha y = z \wedge_\alpha (x \vee_\alpha y)$ .

We write  $(x, y)\overline{FM}_\alpha$  when the pair  $(x, y)$  is not a fuzzy  $\alpha$ -modular pair.

*Example 4.3.* Let  $X = \{v, w, x, y, z\}$  and let  $A : X \times X \rightarrow [0, 1]$  be a fuzzy relation defined as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} A(v, v) &= A(w, w) = A(x, x) = A(y, y) = A(z, z) = 1.0, \\ A(v, w) &= 0.40, A(v, x) = 0.50, A(v, y) = 0.80, A(v, z) = 0.94, \\ A(w, v) &= 0.0, A(w, x) = 0.20, A(w, y) = 0.60, A(w, z) = 0.90, \\ A(x, v) &= 0.0, A(x, w) = 0.0, A(x, y) = 0.30, A(x, z) = 0.70, \\ A(y, v) &= 0.0, A(y, w) = 0.0, A(y, x) = 0.0, A(y, z) = 0.40, \\ A(z, v) &= 0.0, A(z, w) = 0.0, A(z, x) = 0.0, A(z, y) = 0.0. \end{aligned}$$

Then  $A$  is a fuzzy partial order relation.

The fuzzy  $\alpha$ -join and  $\alpha$ -fuzzy meet tables are as follows:

$\vee_\alpha$	$v$	$w$	$x$	$y$	$z$	$\wedge_\alpha$	$v$	$w$	$x$	$y$	$z$
$v$	$v$	$w$	$x$	$y$	$z$	$v$	$v$	$v$	$v$	$v$	$v$
$w$	$w$	$w$	$x$	$y$	$z$	$w$	$v$	$w$	$w$	$w$	$w$
$x$	$x$	$x$	$x$	$y$	$z$	$x$	$v$	$w$	$x$	$x$	$x$
$y$	$y$	$y$	$y$	$y$	$z$	$y$	$v$	$w$	$x$	$y$	$y$
$z$	$z$	$z$	$z$	$z$	$z$	$z$	$v$	$w$	$x$	$y$	$z$

We note that  $(X, A)$  is a fuzzy lattice.

Here for  $A(v, x) = 0.50 > 0$ ,  $(y, x)_FM_m$  holds in a fuzzy lattice  $(X, A)$  as  $(v \vee_F y) \wedge_F x = y \wedge_F x = x = v \vee_F x = v \vee_F (y \wedge_F x)$ .

For  $A(w, y) = 0.60 > 0$ ,  $(x, y)_FM_m$  holds in a fuzzy lattice  $(X, A)$  as  $(w \vee_F x) \wedge_F y = x \wedge_F y = x = w \vee_F x = w \vee_F (x \wedge_F y)$ .

In Figure 4, we show the related tabular and graphical representations for the fuzzy relation  $A$ .

$A$	$v$	$w$	$x$	$y$	$z$
$v$	1.0	0.40	0.50	0.80	0.94
$w$	0.0	1.0	0.20	0.60	0.90
$x$	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.30	0.70
$y$	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.40
$z$	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0

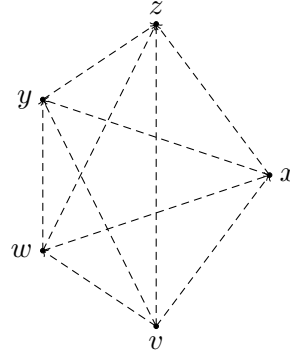


Figure 4

Now using Example 4.3 we construct an example which shows that a pair may be a fuzzy meet modular pair in a fuzzy lattice but may not be a fuzzy  $\alpha$ -modular pair in a fuzzy  $\alpha$ -lattice.

*Example 4.4.* We use Example 4.3 to construct a fuzzy  $\alpha$ -lattice for  $\alpha \geq 0.40$ .

We have  $A(v, v) = A(w, w) = A(x, x) = A(y, y) = A(z, z) = 1.0$ ,  
 $A(v, w) = 0.40$ ,  $A(v, x) = 0.50$ ,  $A(v, y) = 0.80$ ,  $A(v, z) = 0.94$ ,  
 $A(w, v) = 0.0$ ,  $A(w, x) = 0.0$ ,  $A(w, y) = 0.60$ ,  $A(w, z) = 0.90$ ,  
 $A(x, v) = 0.0$ ,  $A(x, w) = 0.0$ ,  $A(x, y) = 0.0$ ,  $A(x, z) = 0.70$ ,  
 $A(y, v) = 0.0$ ,  $A(y, w) = 0.0$ ,  $A(y, x) = 0.0$ ,  $A(y, z) = 0.40$ ,  
 $A(z, v) = 0.0$ ,  $A(z, w) = 0.0$ ,  $A(z, x) = 0.0$ ,  $A(z, y) = 0.0$ .

The fuzzy  $\alpha$ -join and fuzzy  $\alpha$ -meet tables are as follows:

$\vee_\alpha$	$v$	$w$	$x$	$y$	$z$	$\wedge_\alpha$	$v$	$w$	$x$	$y$	$z$
$v$	$v$	$w$	$x$	$y$	$z$	$v$	$v$	$v$	$v$	$v$	$v$
$w$	$w$	$w$	$z$	$y$	$z$	$w$	$v$	$w$	$v$	$w$	$w$
$x$	$x$	$z$	$x$	$z$	$z$	$x$	$v$	$v$	$x$	$v$	$x$
$y$	$y$	$y$	$z$	$y$	$z$	$y$	$v$	$w$	$v$	$y$	$y$
$z$	$z$	$z$	$z$	$z$	$z$	$z$	$v$	$w$	$x$	$y$	$z$

We note that for  $A(v, x) = 0.50 > \alpha$ ,  $(y, x)FM_\alpha$  holds as  $(v \vee_\alpha y) \wedge_\alpha x = y \wedge_\alpha x = v = v \vee_\alpha v = v \vee_\alpha (y \wedge_\alpha x)$ .

We note that for  $A(w, y) = 0.60 > \alpha$ ,  $(x, y)FM_\alpha$  does not hold as  $(w \vee_\alpha x) \wedge_\alpha y = z \wedge_\alpha y = y$  and  $w \vee_\alpha (x \wedge_\alpha y) = w \vee_\alpha v = w \neq y$ .

Note that  $(x, y)FM_m$  holds but  $(x, y)FM_\alpha$  does not hold for  $\alpha \geq 0.40$ .

In Figure 5, we show the related tabular and graphical representations for the fuzzy relation  $A$ .

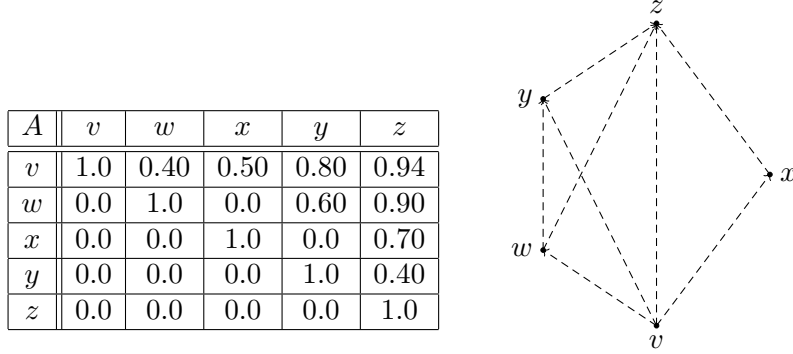


Figure 5

*Remark 4.5.* Let  $(X, A)$  be a fuzzy poset and  $x, y \in X$ . We say that  $x$  and  $y$  are  $\alpha$ -comparable, if  $A(x, y) > \alpha$  or  $A(y, x) > \alpha$  for some  $\alpha \in [0, 1)$ .

**Proposition 4.6.** *Let  $(X, A)$  be a fuzzy  $\alpha$ -lattice. If  $x$  and  $y$  are  $\alpha$ -comparable, then  $(y, x)FM_\alpha$  for some  $\alpha \in [0, 1)$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $x$  and  $y$  are  $\alpha$ -comparable, then  $A(x, y) > \alpha$  or  $A(y, x) > \alpha$ .

Case (1): Let  $A(x, y) > \alpha$ . Suppose that  $A(z, x) > \alpha$  for some  $z \in X$ . Then by fuzzy transitivity of  $A$  we have  $A(z, y) > \alpha$ , that is,  $z \vee_\alpha y = y$ . As  $A(z, x) > \alpha$  and  $A(z, y) > \alpha$  so, by (iii) of Proposition 3.16, we get  $A(z, x \wedge_\alpha y) > \alpha$ .

Hence  $z \vee_\alpha (y \wedge_\alpha x) = y \wedge_\alpha x = (z \vee_\alpha y) \wedge_\alpha x$ .

Therefore  $(y, x)FM_\alpha$  holds.

Case (2): Let  $A(y, x) > \alpha$ . Suppose that  $A(z, x) > \alpha$ .

Since  $A(z, x) > \alpha$  and  $A(y, x) > \alpha$  by (ii) of Proposition 3.16, we have  $A(z \vee_\alpha y, x) > \alpha$  such that  $z \vee_\alpha (y \wedge_\alpha x) = z \vee_\alpha y = (z \vee_\alpha y) \wedge_\alpha x$ .

Hence  $(y, x)FM_\alpha$  holds.  $\square$

**Corollary 4.7.** *Let  $(X, A)$  be a fuzzy  $\alpha$ -lattice. Then  $(x \wedge_\alpha y, x)FM_\alpha$ ,  $(x \wedge_\alpha y, y)FM_\alpha$ ,  $(x, x \vee_\alpha y)FM_\alpha$ ,  $(y, x \vee_\alpha y)FM_\alpha$  and  $(x \wedge_\alpha y, x \vee_\alpha y)FM_\alpha$ .*

**Proposition 4.8.** *Let  $(X, A)$  be a fuzzy  $\alpha$ -lattice. Suppose that  $(x, y)FM_\alpha$  holds. Let  $z \in X$ . If  $A(x \wedge_\alpha y, z) > \alpha$  and  $A(z, y) > \alpha$ , then  $(z \vee_\alpha x) \wedge_\alpha y = z$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $(x, y)FM_\alpha$  hold and let  $z \in X$ .

Suppose that  $A(x \wedge_\alpha y, z) > \alpha$ , so by (iv) of Proposition 3.16, we have

$$(x \wedge_\alpha y) \vee_\alpha z = z.$$

Since  $(x, y)FM_\alpha$  holds, if  $A(z, y) > \alpha$ , then

$$(z \vee_\alpha x) \wedge_\alpha y = z \vee_\alpha (x \wedge_\alpha y).$$

Hence  $(z \vee_\alpha x) \wedge_\alpha y = z$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 4.9.** *Let  $(X, A)$  be a fuzzy  $\alpha$ -lattice. Let  $x, y \in X$  be such that  $(x, y)FM_\alpha$ . If  $A(x \wedge_\alpha y, x') > \alpha$ ,  $A(x', x) > \alpha$ ,  $A(x \wedge_\alpha y, y') > \alpha$  and  $A(y', y) > \alpha$ , then  $(x', y')FM_\alpha$ .*

*Proof.* To prove this we use Proposition 4.8.

Let  $(x, y)FM_\alpha$  hold. Suppose that  $A(x \wedge_\alpha y, y') > \alpha$  and  $A(y', y) > \alpha$ .

Since  $A(x \wedge_\alpha y, x') > \alpha$  and  $A(x \wedge_\alpha y, y') > \alpha$ ,

by (iii) of Proposition 3.16, we have  $A(x \wedge_\alpha y, x' \wedge_\alpha y') > \alpha$ . (I)

As  $A(x', x) > \alpha$  and  $A(y', y) > \alpha$  so by Lemma 3.18, we get

$$A(x' \wedge_\alpha y', x \wedge_\alpha y) > \alpha. \quad \text{(II)}$$

From (I) and (II) by fuzzy antisymmetry of  $A$  we get

$$x' \wedge_\alpha y' = x \wedge_\alpha y. \quad \text{(III)}$$

Now, let  $z \in X$  be such that  $A(z, y') > \alpha$ .

As  $A(z, y') > \alpha$  and  $A(y', y) > \alpha$  by fuzzy antisymmetry of  $A$  we have

$$A(z, y) > \alpha.$$

As  $(x, y)FM_\alpha$  holds, we have  $(z \vee_\alpha x) \wedge_\alpha y = z \vee_\alpha (x \wedge_\alpha y)$ .

Thus, by (III) we obtain  $(z \vee_\alpha x) \wedge_\alpha y = z \vee_\alpha (x' \wedge_\alpha y')$ . (IV)

Since  $A(x', x) > \alpha$  by (iii) of Proposition 3.16, we have

$$A(z \vee_\alpha x', z \vee_\alpha x) > \alpha.$$

As  $A(y', y) > \alpha$  and  $A(z \vee_\alpha x', z \vee_\alpha x) > \alpha$  again using Lemma 3.18, we have  $A((z \vee_\alpha x') \wedge_\alpha y', (z \vee_\alpha x) \wedge_\alpha y) > \alpha$ .

By using (IV) we get  $A((z \vee_\alpha x') \wedge_\alpha y', z \vee_\alpha (x' \wedge_\alpha y')) > \alpha$ .

Thus,  $(x', y')FM_\alpha$  holds.  $\square$

## 5. Conclusion

In this paper, we have presented a novel approach to modularity in fuzzy  $\alpha$ -lattices.

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