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Fuzzy rank functions in the set of all binary systems

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Abstract

In this paper, we introduce fuzzy rank functions for groupoids, and we investigate their roles in the semigroup of binary systems by using the notions of right parallelisms and ρ -shrinking groupoids.

Keywords: (Fuzzy) rank-subalgebra, (Fuzzy) rank- d -function, (Fuzzy) symmetric-rank-function, Right parallel, ρ -Shrinking, Selective, $Bin(X)$

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Background

The notion of a fuzzy subset of a set was introduced by Zadeh (1965). His seminal paper has opened up new insights and applications in a wide range of scientific fields. Rosenfeld (1971) used the notion of a fuzzy subset to set down corner stone papers in several areas of mathematics. Mordeson and Malik (1998) published a remarkable book, *Fuzzy commutative algebra*, presented a fuzzy ideal theory of commutative rings and applied the results to the solution of fuzzy intersection equations. The book included all the important work that has been done on L -subspaces of a vector space and on L -subfields of a field.

In the study of groupoids $(X, *)$ defined on set X , it has also proven useful to investigate the semigroups $(Bin(X), \square)$ where $Bin(X)$ is the set of all binary systems (groupoids) $(X, *)$ along with an associative product operation $(X, *) \square (X, \bullet) = (X, \square)$ such that $x \square y = (x * y) \bullet (y * x)$ for all $x, y \in X$. Thus, e.g., it becomes possible to recognize that the left-zero-semigroup $(X, *)$ with $x * y = x$ for all $x, y \in X$ acts as the identity of this semigroup [see Kim and Neggers (2008)]. Fayoumi (2011) introduced the notion of the center $ZBin(X)$ in the semigroup $Bin(X)$ of all binary systems on a set X , and showed that a groupoid $(X, \bullet) \in ZBin(X)$ if and only if it is a locally-zero groupoid. Han et al. (2012) introduced the notion of hypergroupoids $(HBin(X), \square)$, and showed that $(HBin(X), \square)$ is a supersemigroup of the semigroup $(Bin(X), \square)$ via the identification $x \longleftrightarrow \{x\}$. They proved that $(HBin^*(X), \ominus, [\emptyset])$ is a BCK-algebra.

In this paper, we introduce fuzzy rank functions for groupoids, and we investigate their roles in the semigroup of binary systems by using the notions of right parallelisms and ρ -shrinking groupoids.

Preliminaries

Given a non-empty set X , we let $Bin(X)$ denote the collection of all groupoids $(X, *)$, where $*$: $X \times X \rightarrow X$ is a map and where $*(x, y)$ is written in the usual product form. Given elements $(X, *)$ and (X, \bullet) of $Bin(X)$, define a product “ \square ” on these groupoids as follows:

$$(X, *) \square (X, \bullet) = (X, \square)$$

where

$$x \square y = (x * y) \bullet (y * x)$$

for any $x, y \in X$. Using that notion, H. S. Kim and J. Neggers proved the following theorem.

Theorem 1 (Kim and Neggers 2008) *$(Bin(X), \square)$ is a semigroup, i.e., the operation “ \square ” as defined in general is associative. Furthermore, the left-zero-semigroup is the identity for this operation.*

Fuzzy rank functions for groupoids

Given a groupoid $(X, *)$ in $Bin(X)$, a map $\rho : X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ (or $\rho : X \rightarrow [0, 1]$) is said to be:

- (i) a (fuzzy) rank-subalgebra: $\rho(x * y) \geq \min\{\rho(x), \rho(y)\}$,
- (ii) a (fuzzy) rank-co-subalgebra: $\rho(x * y) \leq \max\{\rho(x), \rho(y)\}$,
- (iii) a (fuzzy) rank- d -function: $\rho(x * y) = \max\{\rho(x) - \rho(y), 0\}$,
- (iv) a (fuzzy) symmetric-rank-function: $\rho(x * y) = \max\{\rho(x) - \rho(y), \rho(y) - \rho(x)\}$ for all $x, y \in X$.

Note that if $\rho : X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ is a fuzzy subset of X , then it is a fuzzy rank-subalgebra as well. Thus these algebraic structures are special cases of the classes of fuzzy rank-subalgebras. Each of the types listed above serve as some idea of measure of size when the binary operation “ $*$ ” is considered as corresponding very roughly to a (group) sum (product), a left-zero-semigroup, a d -algebra (BCK -algebra) or an absolute (value) difference. For the sake of being able to make comparisons in the behavior of interactions of rank-type and groupoid it seems a better idea to consider these simultaneously rather than study only isolated cases without considering common aspects as well as distinguishing ones.

Example 2 (a) Let $(X, *)$ be a left-zero-semigroup, i.e., $x * y = x$ for all $x, y \in X$. If $\rho : X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ is any map, then $\rho(x * y) = \rho(x)$ for all $x, y \in X$. It follows that $\rho(x * y) \geq \min\{\rho(x), \rho(y)\}$ and $\rho(x * y) \leq \max\{\rho(x), \rho(y)\}$ for all $x, y \in X$, which shows that every function $\rho : X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ is both a (fuzzy) rank-subalgebra and a (fuzzy) rank-co-subalgebra.

- (b) Let $(X, *)$ be a left-zero-semigroup and let $\rho : X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ be a (fuzzy) rank- d -function. Then it is a zero function. In fact, if we assume that there exists an $x_0 \in X$ such that $\rho(x_0) > 0$, then $0 < \rho(x_0) = \rho(x_0 * y) = \max\{\rho(x_0) - \rho(y), 0\}$ for all $y \in X$. If we take $y := x_0$, then it leads to a contradiction.

(c) Let $(X, *)$ be a left-zero-semigroup and let $\rho : X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ be a (fuzzy) symmetric-rank-function. Assume that there exists $x_0 \in X$ such that $0 < \rho(x_0)$. Since ρ is a (fuzzy) symmetric-rank-function, we have $\rho(x) = \rho(x * y) = \max\{\rho(x) - \rho(y), \rho(y) - \rho(x)\}$ for all $x, y \in X$. If we take $x := x_0, y := y_0$, then $0 < \rho(x_0) = \rho(x_0 * x_0) = \max\{\rho(x_0) - \rho(x_0), \rho(x_0) - \rho(x_0)\} = 0$, a contradiction. This shows that ρ is a zero function.

If $(X, *)$ is a right-zero-semigroup, i.e., $x * y = y$ for all $x, y \in X$, then any function $\rho : X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ is both a (fuzzy) rank-subalgebra and a (fuzzy) rank-co-subalgebra of $(X, *)$, while if ρ is either a (fuzzy) rank- d -function or a (fuzzy) symmetric-rank-function, then it is a zero function.

A groupoid $(X, *)$ is said to be *selective* (Neggers 1976; Neggers and Kim 1996) if $x * y \in \{x, y\}$ for all $x, y \in X$. For example, every left-(right-)zero-semigroup is selective. Given a selective groupoid $(X, *)$, we may construct a digraph via $x \rightarrow y \Leftrightarrow x * y = y$ for all $x, y \in X$. Hence selective groupoids are interpretable as digraphs on the (vertex) set X .

Proposition 3 *Let $(X, *)$ be a selective groupoid and let $\rho : X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ be a (fuzzy) rank- d -function of X . If $x \in X$ such that $\rho(x) > 0$, then any vertex $y (\neq x)$ in X with $x \rightarrow y$ has $\rho(y) = 0$.*

Proof Let $y (\neq x)$ in X with $x \rightarrow y$. Since $(X, *)$ is selective and $x \rightarrow y$, we have $x * y = x$. It follows from the fact that ρ is a rank- d -function that $\rho(x) = \rho(x * y) = \max\{\rho(x) - \rho(y), 0\}$ and hence that $\rho(x) = \rho(x) - \rho(y)$, proving that $\rho(y) = 0$. □

Theorem 4 *Let $(X, *)$ be a selective groupoid and let $\rho : X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ be a (fuzzy) rank- d -function of X . If $x \in X$ such that $\rho(x) > 0$, then there exists at most one vertex $x \in X$ such that $\rho(x) > 0$.*

Proof Assume that there are two vertices x and y in X such that $\rho(x) > 0, \rho(y) > 0$. It follows that $x \rightarrow y, y \rightarrow x$ by Proposition 3. Now $x \rightarrow y$ implies that $x * y = y$. Hence $0 < \rho(y) = \rho(x * y) = \max\{\rho(x) - \rho(y), 0\} = \rho(x) - \rho(y)$. This shows that $2\rho(y) = \rho(x)$. Similarly, $y \rightarrow x$ implies $2\rho(x) = \rho(y)$. Thus we obtain $\rho(x) = 2\rho(y) = 4\rho(x)$, which implies $\rho(x) = 0$, a contradiction. □

Proposition 5 *If $(X, *)$ is a selective groupoid, then every (fuzzy) rank- d -function of $(X, *)$ is a zero function.*

Proof If $(X, *)$ is a selective groupoid, then $x * x = x$ for all $x \in X$. Since ρ is a (fuzzy) rank- d -function, we obtain $\rho(x) = \rho(x * x) = \max\{\rho(x) - \rho(x), 0\} = 0$, proving the proposition. □

Given a map $\rho : X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$, we define

$$\sum_i(\rho) := \{(X, *) \in Bin(X) | \text{the condition (i) holds for } (X, *)\} \quad (i = 1, 2, 3, 4).$$

Proposition 6 $(\sum_i(\rho), \square)$ is a subsemigroup of $(Bin(X), \square)$ where $i = 1, 2, 3$.

Proof Let $(X, *), (X, \bullet) \in \sum_1(\rho)$. Then $\rho(x * y) \geq \min\{\rho(x), \rho(y)\}$ and $\rho(x \bullet y) \geq \min\{\rho(x), \rho(y)\}$ for all $x, y \in X$. If we let $(X, \square) := (X, *) \square (X, \bullet)$, then for any $x, y \in X$, we have $x \square y = (x * y) \bullet (y * x)$. It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \rho(x \square y) &= \rho((x * y) \bullet (y * x)) \\ &\geq \min\{\rho(x * y), \rho(y * x)\} \\ &\geq \min\{\min\{\rho(x), \rho(y)\}, \min\{\rho(y), \rho(x)\}\} \\ &= \min\{\rho(x), \rho(y)\} \end{aligned}$$

This shows that $(X, *) \square (X, \bullet) = (X, \square) \in \sum_1(\rho)$. Hence $(\sum_1(\rho), \square)$ is a subsemigroup of $(Bin(X), \square)$. Similarly, we may obtain that $(\sum_i(\rho), \square)$ is also a subsemigroup of $(Bin(X), \square)$ where $i = 2, 3$. □

Note that $(\sum_4(\rho), \square)$ need not be a subsemigroup of $(Bin(X), \square)$. Let $(X, *), (X, \bullet) \in \sum_1(\rho)$ and let $(X, \square) := (X, *) \square (X, \bullet)$. If we take $x, y \in X$ such that $\rho(x) > \rho(y)$, then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \rho(x \square y) &= \rho((x * y) \bullet (y * x)) \\ &= \max\{\rho(x * y) - \rho(y * x), \rho(y * x) - \rho(y * x)\} \\ &= \max\{\max\{\rho(x) - \rho(y), \rho(y) - \rho(x)\} \\ &\quad - \max\{\rho(y) - \rho(x), \rho(x) - \rho(y)\}, \\ &\quad \max\{\rho(y) - \rho(x), \rho(x) - \rho(y)\} \\ &\quad - \max\{\rho(x) - \rho(y), \rho(y) - \rho(x)\}\} \\ &= \min\{[\rho(x) - \rho(y)] - [\rho(x) - \rho(y)], \\ &\quad [\rho(x) - \rho(y)] - [\rho(x) - \rho(y)]\} \\ &= 0 < \rho(x) - \rho(y) \\ &= \max\{\rho(x) - \rho(y), \rho(y) - \rho(x)\}, \end{aligned}$$

which shows that $(\sum_4(\rho), \square)$ is not a subsemigroup of $(Bin(X), \square)$.

Let $\rho : X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ be a map. A groupoid $(X, *)$ is said to have a ρ -chain n if there exist $x_1, \dots, x_n \in X$ such that $\rho(x_1) < \rho(x_2) < \dots < \rho(x_n)$. We denote the ρ -chain by $\langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle$. A groupoid $(X, *)$ is said to have the ρ -height n if $\langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle$ is the largest maximal ρ -chain in $(X, *)$.

Proposition 7 *Let $\rho : X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ be a map and let $Bin(X) = \sum_1(\rho)$. Then the ρ -height of $(X, *)$ is ≥ 2 for any $(X, *) \in Bin(X)$.*

Proof Assume there exist $x, y, z \in X$ such that $\rho(x) < \rho(y) < \rho(z)$. Let $(X, *)$ be a groupoid such that $x = y * z$. Then $(X, *) \in Bin(X) = \sum_1(\rho)$. It follows that $\rho(y * z) = \rho(x) < \rho(y) = \min\{\rho(y), \rho(z)\}$. This shows that $(X, *) \notin \sum_1(\rho) = Bin(X)$, a contradiction. □

Proposition 8 *Let $\rho : X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ be a map and let $Bin(X) = \sum_1(\rho)$. If ρ has two values $a, b \in [0, \infty)$ with $a < b$, then there exists uniquely an $\hat{x} \in X$ such that $\rho(\hat{x}) = b$ and $\rho(y) = a$ for all $y \neq \hat{x}$ in X .*

Proof Let $\hat{x} \in X$ such that $\rho(\hat{x}) = b > a$. If $y \in X$ such that $\hat{x} \neq y$, then $\rho(y) = a$. In fact, if $\rho(y) = b$, then we may take a groupoid $(X, *)$ in $Bin(X)$ such that $\rho(\hat{x} * y) = a$,

since $\text{Bin}(X) = \sum_1(\rho)$. It follows that $a = \rho(\widehat{x} * y) \geq \min\{\rho(\widehat{x}), \rho(y)\} = b$, a contradiction. We claim that such an \widehat{x} is unique. Assume that there are two elements x', \widehat{x} in X such that $\rho(\widehat{x}) = b = \rho(x')$. A groupoid (X, \bullet) satisfying $\rho(\widehat{x} \bullet x') = a$ may then be selected. It follows that $a = \rho(\widehat{x} \bullet x') \geq \min\{\rho(\widehat{x}), \rho(x')\} = b$, a contradiction. \square

Proposition 9 *Let $(X, *) \in \text{Bin}(X)$ and let $\rho : X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ be a (fuzzy) rank-d-function of X . Then*

- (1) $\text{Ker}(\rho) \neq \emptyset$,
- (2) if $\rho(x) \leq \rho(y)$ then $x * y \in \text{Ker}(\rho)$,
- (3) $\text{Ker}(\rho)$ is a right ideal of $(X, *)$.

Proof (1) Given $x \in X, \rho(x * x) = \max\{\rho(x) - \rho(x), 0\} = 0$. It follows that $x * x \in \text{Ker}(\rho)$. (2) If $\rho(x) \leq \rho(y)$ then $\rho(x * y) = \max\{\rho(x) - \rho(y), 0\} = 0$ and hence $x * y \in \text{Ker}(\rho)$. (3) Given $x \in \text{Ker}(\rho), y \in X$, we have $\rho(x * y) = \max\{\rho(x) - \rho(y), 0\} = \max\{0 - \rho(y), 0\} = 0$, which shows $x * y \in \text{Ker}(\rho)$. \square

Right parallelisms

Let ρ_1, ρ_2 be mappings from X to $[0, \infty)$. The map ρ_1 is said to be *right parallel* to ρ_2 if $\rho_1(a) \leq \rho_1(b)$ implies $\rho_2(a) \leq \rho_2(b)$, and we denote it by $\rho_1 \parallel \rho_2$.

Proposition 10 *If ρ_1 is a (fuzzy) rank-subalgebra of $(X, *)$ and $\rho_1 \parallel \rho_2$, then ρ_2 is also a (fuzzy) rank-subalgebra of $(X, *)$.*

Proof If ρ_1 is a rank-subalgebra of $(X, *)$, then $\rho_1(x * y) \geq \min\{\rho_1(x), \rho_1(y)\}$ for all $x, y \in X$. Without loss of generality, we let $\rho_1(x * y) \geq \rho_1(x)$. Since $\rho_1 \parallel \rho_2$, we obtain $\rho_2(x * y) \geq \rho_2(x)$. It follows that $\rho_2(x * y) \geq \min\{\rho_2(x), \rho_2(y)\}$. \square

Given maps $\rho_i : X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$, we define

$$\begin{aligned} (\rho_1 + \rho_2)(x) &:= \rho_1(x) + \rho_2(x) \\ (\rho_1 \bullet \rho_2)(x) &:= \rho_1(x)\rho_2(x) \end{aligned}$$

for all $x \in X$.

Note that $\rho_1 + \rho_2$ need not be a (fuzzy) rank-subalgebra of $(X, *)$ even though ρ_1 and ρ_2 are (fuzzy) rank-subalgebras of $(X, *)$. In fact,

$$\begin{aligned} (\rho_1 + \rho_2)(x * y) &= \rho_1(x * y) + \rho_2(x * y) \\ &\geq \min\{\rho_1(x), \rho_1(y)\} + \min\{\rho_2(x), \rho_2(y)\} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\min\{(\rho_1 + \rho_2)(x), (\rho_1 + \rho_2)(y)\} = \min\{\rho_1(x) + \rho_2(x), \rho_1(y) + \rho_2(y)\}$$

In the real numbers, it is not always true that $\min\{a, b\} + \min\{c, d\} \geq \min\{a + c, b + d\}$, which shows that $\rho_1 + \rho_2$ need not be a (fuzzy) rank-subalgebra of $(X, *)$.

Proposition 11 *Let ρ_1, ρ_2 be mappings from X to $[0, \infty)$. If ρ_1 is a constant for all $x \in X$ and if $\rho_1 \parallel \rho_2$, then ρ_2 is also a constant function on X .*

Proof Straightforward. □

Note that any map ρ_1 is right parallel to ρ_2 if ρ_2 is a constant function. The ‘right parallel’ relation “ \parallel ” is reflexive and transitive, but it is not an anti-symmetric, i.e., \parallel is a quasi order, but not a partial order on $\{\rho \mid \rho : X \rightarrow [0, \infty) : \text{a map}\}$.

For example, we let $X := [0, \infty)$ and let $\rho_1 : X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ be the identity map, and let $\rho_2 : X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ be a map defined by $\rho_2(x) := e^x$. Then $\rho_1(a) \leq \rho_1(b)$ if and only if $\rho_2(a) \leq \rho_2(b)$ for all $a, b \in X$, i.e., $\rho_1 \parallel \rho_2$, $\rho_2 \parallel \rho_1$, but $\rho_1 \neq \rho_2$.

Proposition 12 *If ρ_1 is a (fuzzy) rank-subalgebra of $(X, *)$ and $\rho_1 \parallel \rho_2$, then $\rho_1 \bullet \rho_2$ is also a (fuzzy) rank-subalgebra of $(X, *)$.*

Proof If ρ_1 is a rank-subalgebra of $(X, *)$, then $\rho_1(x * y) \geq \min\{\rho_1(x), \rho_1(y)\}$ for all $x, y \in X$. If we assume $\rho_1(x * y) \geq \rho_1(x)$, then

$$\begin{aligned} (\rho_1 \bullet \rho_2)(x * y) &= \rho_1(x * y)\rho_2(x * y) \\ &\geq \rho_1(x)\rho_1(y) \\ &= (\rho_1 \bullet \rho_2)(x) \\ &\geq \min\{(\rho_1 \bullet \rho_2)(x), (\rho_1 \bullet \rho_2)(y)\}, \end{aligned}$$

which proves the proposition. □

Corollary 13 *If ρ_1 is a (fuzzy) rank-co-subalgebra of $(X, *)$ and $\rho_1 \parallel \rho_2$, then $\rho_1 \bullet \rho_2$ and ρ_2 are also (fuzzy) rank-co-subalgebras of $(X, *)$.*

Proof The proofs are similar to Propositions 10 and 12. □

In the above note, we mentioned that $\rho_1 + \rho_2$ need not be a rank-subalgebra of $(X, *)$. Using the notion of the right parallelism, we prove the following.

Proposition 14 *If ρ_i is a rank-subalgebra of $(X, *)$ ($i = 1, 2$) and if $\rho_1 \parallel \rho_2$, then $\rho_1 + \rho_2$ is also a rank-subalgebra of $(X, *)$.*

Proof Since ρ_1 is a rank-subalgebra of $(X, *)$, we have $\rho_1(x * y) \geq \min\{\rho_1(x), \rho_1(y)\}$ for all $x, y \in X$. Without loss of generality, we let $\rho_1(x * y) \geq \rho_1(x)$. Since $\rho_1 \parallel \rho_2$, we obtain $\rho_2(x * y) \geq \rho_2(x)$. It follows that $\rho_1(x * y) + \rho_2(x * y) \geq \rho_1(x) + \rho_2(x)$ and hence $(\rho_1 + \rho_2)(x * y) \geq \min\{(\rho_1 + \rho_2)(x), (\rho_1 + \rho_2)(y)\}$, proving the proposition. □

Corollary 15 *If ρ_i is a rank-co-subalgebra of $(X, *)$ ($i = 1, 2$) and if $\rho_1 \parallel \rho_2$, then $\rho_1 + \rho_2$ is also a rank-co-subalgebra of $(X, *)$.*

Proof Similar to Proposition 14. □

Proposition 16 Let $X := \mathbf{R}$ be the set of all real numbers. Let ρ_1, ρ_2 be mappings from X to $[0, \infty)$ and let $\rho_2(x) := x$ for all $x \in X$. If $\rho_1 \parallel \rho_2$, then ρ_1 is strictly increasing.

Proof Assume that there are $x, y \in X$ such that $x < y, \rho_1(x) \geq \rho_1(y)$. Since $\rho_1 \parallel \rho_2$, we obtain $x = \rho_2(x) \geq \rho_2(y) = y$, a contradiction. □

Theorem 17 If ρ_i is a rank- d -function of $(X, *)$ ($i = 1, 2$) and if $\rho_1 \parallel \rho_2$, then $\rho_1 + \rho_2$ is also a rank- d -function of $(X, *)$.

Proof Given $x, y \in X$, we have four cases: (i) $\rho_1(x) \geq \rho_1(y), \rho_2(x) \geq \rho_2(y)$; (ii) $\rho_1(x) \geq \rho_1(y), \rho_2(x) < \rho_2(y)$; (iii) $\rho_1(x) < \rho_1(y), \rho_2(x) \geq \rho_2(y)$; (iv) $\rho_1(x) < \rho_1(y), \rho_2(x) < \rho_2(y)$. Since $\rho_1 \parallel \rho_2$, the cases (ii) and (iii) are removed. For the case (i), we have $\rho_1(x * y) = \rho_1(x) - \rho_1(y)$ and $\rho_2(x * y) = \rho_2(x) - \rho_2(y)$. It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} (\rho_1 + \rho_2)(x * y) &= \rho_1(x * y) + \rho_2(x * y) \\ &= \rho_1(x) - \rho_1(y) + \rho_2(x) - \rho_2(y) \\ &= (\rho_1 + \rho_2)(x) - (\rho_1 + \rho_2)(y) \\ &\leq \max\{(\rho_1 + \rho_2)(x) - (\rho_1 + \rho_2)(y), 0\}, \end{aligned}$$

For the case (iv), we have $\rho_1(x * y) = 0 = \rho_2(x * y)$. It follows that $(\rho_1 + \rho_2)(x * y) = \rho_1(x * y) + \rho_2(x * y) = 0 = \max\{(\rho_1 + \rho_2)(x) - (\rho_1 + \rho_2)(y), 0\}$, proving the theorem. □

Note that if $\rho_1 \parallel \rho_2, \rho_2 \parallel \rho_3$, then $\rho_1 \parallel \rho_2 + \rho_3$, and if $\rho_1 \parallel \rho_2, \rho_1 \parallel \rho_3$, then $\rho_1 \parallel \rho_2 + \rho_3$.

ρ -Shrinking groupoids

A groupoid $(X, *)$ is said to be ρ -shrinking if $\rho : X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ is a map satisfying the condition:

$$\rho(x * y) \leq \min\{\rho(x), \rho(y)\}$$

for all $x, y \in X$.

Example 18 Let $X := [0, \infty)$ and let $x * y := x + y$ for all $x, y \in X$. If we define $\rho(x) := x$ for all $x \in X$, then $\rho(x * y) \geq \max\{\rho(x), \rho(y)\}$. It follows that $(e^{-\rho})(x * y) = e^{-x}e^{-y} \leq \min\{e^{-x}, e^{-y}\} = \min\{(e^{-\rho})(x), (e^{-\rho})(y)\}$, which shows that $(X, *)$ is $e^{-\rho}$ -shrinking.

Theorem 19 If $(X, *)$ is both ρ_1 -shrinking and ρ_2 -shrinking and if $\rho_1 \parallel \rho_2$, then $(X, *)$ is both $(\rho_1 + \rho_2)$ -shrinking and $\rho_1 \bullet \rho_2$ -shrinking.

Proof Since $(X, *)$ is ρ_1 -shrinking, we have $\rho_1(x * y) \leq \min\{\rho_1(x), \rho_1(y)\}$ for all $x, y \in X$. The condition $\rho_1 \parallel \rho_2$ implies that $\rho_2(x * y) \leq \min\{\rho_2(x), \rho_2(y)\}$. Hence

$$\begin{aligned} (\rho_1 + \rho_2)(x * y) &= \rho_1(x * y) + \rho_2(x * y) \\ &\leq \min\{\rho_1(x), \rho_1(y)\} + \min\{\rho_2(x), \rho_2(y)\} \end{aligned}$$

Without loss of generality, we may assume $\rho_1(x) \leq \rho_1(y)$. Then $\rho_2(x) \leq \rho_2(y)$, since $\rho_1 || \rho_2$. It follows that $(\rho_1 + \rho_2)(x * y) \leq \rho_1(x) + \rho_2(y) = (\rho_1 + \rho_2)(x)$. Hence $(X, *)$ is $(\rho_1 + \rho_2)$ -shrinking. Similarly, if we assume $\rho_1(x) \leq \rho_1(y)$, then

$$\begin{aligned} (\rho_1 \bullet \rho_2)(x * y) &= \rho_1(x * y)\rho_2(x * y) \\ &\leq \rho_1(x)\rho_1(x) \\ &= (\rho_1 \bullet \rho_2)(x) \\ &= \min\{(\rho_1 \bullet \rho_2)(x), (\rho_1 \bullet \rho_2)(y)\}, \end{aligned}$$

which shows that $(X, *)$ is $\rho_1 \bullet \rho_2$ -shrinking. □

Proposition 20 *If $(X, *)$ and (X, \bullet) are ρ -shrinking and if $(X, \square) := (X, *) \square (X, \bullet)$, then (X, \square) is also ρ -shrinking.*

Proof If $(X, \square) := (X, *) \square (X, \bullet)$, then for all $x, y \in X$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \rho(x \square y) &= \rho((x * y) \bullet (y * x)) \\ &\leq \min\{\rho(x * y), \rho(y * x)\} \\ &\leq \min\{\min\{\rho(x), \rho(y)\}, \min\{\rho(y), \rho(x)\}\} \\ &= \min\{\rho(x), \rho(y)\}, \end{aligned}$$

showing that (X, \square) is ρ -shrinking. □

Proposition 20 shows that the collection of all ρ -shrinking groupoids forms a subsemigroup of $(Bin(X), \square)$.

Given maps $\rho : X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ and $\sigma : Y \rightarrow [0, \infty)$, we define a map $[\rho, \sigma] : X \times Y \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ by $[\rho, \sigma](x) := \rho(x) + \sigma(y)$ as a sort of “inner product” ranking. Given groupoids $(X, *)$ and (Y, \bullet) , we define a Cartesian product $(X \times Y, \nabla)$ where $(x, y)\nabla(x', y') := (x * x', y \bullet y')$ for all $(x, y), (x', y') \in X \times Y$.

Proposition 21 *If $(X, *)$ is ρ -shrinking and (Y, \bullet) is σ -shrinking, then $(X \times Y, \nabla)$ is $[\rho, \sigma]$ -shrinking.*

Proof Since $(X, *)$ is ρ -shrinking and (Y, \bullet) is σ -shrinking, we have $\rho(x * y) \leq \min\{\rho(x), \rho(y)\}$ and $\sigma(x \bullet y) \leq \min\{\sigma(x), \sigma(y)\}$ for all $x, y \in X$. It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \rho(x * y) + \sigma(x \bullet y) &\leq \min\{\rho(x), \rho(y)\} + \min\{\sigma(x), \sigma(y)\} \\ &\leq \min\{\rho(x) + \sigma(x), \rho(y) + \sigma(y)\} \\ &= \min\{[\rho, \sigma](x), [\rho, \sigma](y)\}, \end{aligned}$$

which proves the proposition. □

Conclusions

Above, we introduced four (fuzzy) rank functions in the semigroup of all binary systems (i.e., groupoids), and we investigated their roles related to selective groupoids and the notion of $Bin(X)$. Using the notion of “right parallelism”, we showed that if ρ_i is a (fuzzy) rank-subalgebra (resp., (fuzzy) rank- d -function) of $(X, *)$ ($i = 1, 2$) and if $\rho_1 || \rho_2$, then $\rho_1 + \rho_2$ is also a (fuzzy) rank-subalgebra (resp., (fuzzy) rank- d -function) of $(X, *)$.

By introducing the notion of ρ -shrinking to groupoids, we found that if $(X, *)$ is both ρ_1 -shrinking and ρ_2 -shrinking and if $\rho_1 \parallel \rho_2$, then it is both $(\rho_1 + \rho_2)$ -shrinking and $\rho_1 \bullet \rho_2$ -shrinking. This research may provide hyper-fuzzy rank functions in the set of all binary systems naturally, and thus several well-developed theorems/propositions in the areas of soft fuzzy theory and intuitionistic fuzzy set theory can then possibly be applied in future research also.

Authors' contributions

All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

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