

POSSIBILITIES OF APPLICATION FUZZY SETS IN ANALYSIS  
OF A CONSUMPTION STRUCTURE

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In previous studies the differentiation of consumption structure was considered according to the height of income social groups and number of persons in the household, without investigation of the demographic structure of the family. The mean values of the results obtained give only the possibility to make comparisons considering the number of family members height of affluence group and the family head's affiliation to an adequate social-professional group /a house hold-family head is a person with the highest income/. All that makes some individual features of household vanish, because it may happen that budgets of different households will find themselves in the same affluence group with the same number of persons in a family, their structures differing significantly.

In this communication there have been presented possibilities of estimation changes in consumption structures as a consequence of changing demographic economic and social situation of families throughout many years with application of fuzzy sets.

We would obtain the whole picture of changes if we would observe families' housekeeping starting the beginning throughout next stages of evolution up to retiring by the founders. But it would conduce to uncomparability of the data resulting from many years observations. Trying to overcome those difficulties there has been constructed a quasi-dynamic model of family's changing consumption structure basing on result of researches on households budgets of one year. We make proper classification of empirical data according to

established criteria and selected proper consumption structures of each individual family.

Let  $B = \{b_i, i=1,2,\dots,n\}$  be a set of researching households budgets. Then including individual household to  $X_j$  class can be describe by this characteristic function  $w_j: B \rightarrow \{0,1\}$

$$(1) \quad w_{ji} = w_j(b_i) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{when } b_i \in X_j \\ 0 & \text{when } b_i \notin X_j \end{cases}$$

This given set  $B$  characterizes the matrix of information  $\underline{w}$ . To each household  $b_i \in B$  ( $i=1,2,\dots,n$ ) is ordered a quantity  $c_i$  which is equal of expense on distinguished consumer good or aggregated group of goods. We obtain the model approximating cumulated curves of group expenses of accordingly selected families in their different evolution stages and belonging to specified  $X_j$  class.

The continuous function  $f(t, \bar{\alpha}_j)$ ,  $j=1,2,\dots,m$ ;  $\bar{\alpha}_j \in R^m$ . Applying the least squares method we receive dependence

$$(2) \quad \sum_{j=1}^p \sum_{i=1}^m (w_{ji} (c_i - f(t_i, \bar{\alpha}_j)))^2$$

Function  $R^{p \cdot m} \rightarrow R^k$ , where  $p \cdot m \leq k + n$ ;  $p$  - number of classification;  $m$  - number of function's parameters  $f(t_i, \bar{\alpha}_j)$ ;  $n$  - number of observations;  $k$  - number of conditions which must fulfil parameters  $\bar{\alpha}_j$  ( $j=1,\dots,m$ ).

The hard classification to the  $X_j$  class gives only some informations about the examined object. Fuzzy subset is suitable instrument to describe such situation.

Applying the classical definition of fuzzy subset in described problem it will be enough to change characteristic function (1) into characteristic fuzzy function

$$\mu_j: B \rightarrow [0,1]$$

$\mu_j(b_i) = 1$ ,  $i \in [0,1]$ , what means, that  $i$ -th budget in  $1$ - degree fulfils the criteria of  $X_j$  class. The obtained in that way fuzzy matrix information  $\underline{\mu}$  we place into dependence (2) what gives us more adequate description of reality.

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