

# RELATIONS AND DISTINCTIONS BETWEEN POSSIBILITY MEASURES AND FUZZY MEASURES

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**Abstract** In this paper, we discuss some relations and distinctions between possibility measure and F-additive fuzzy measure, F-additive semi-continuous fuzzy measure which all defined on the power set of X with  $\text{card}(X) \leq \aleph_1$ .

**Keywords:** fuzzy measure, possibility measure, F-additivity

## 1. Introduction

The concepts of possibility measure and fuzzy measure were firstly introduced by L. A. Zadeh[1] and M. Sugeno[2] respectively. Many authors(A. Kandel[3], H. T. Nguyen[4] etc) pointed out that a possibility measure is a fuzzy measure before M. L. Puri[5] and Z. Wang[6] showed that the above statement is not true in general when the discourse set X is infinite. Following [5] and [6], in this paper, the relations and distinctions between possibility measure, F-additive fuzzy measure and F-additive semi-continuous fuzzy measure([6]) are discussed in detail for the cases that  $\text{card}(X) \leq \aleph_1$ . We show that the concept of possibility measure is weaker than the one of F-additive fuzzy measure and stronger than the one of F-additive semi-continuous fuzzy measure.

## 2. Definitions and assumptions

Let  $X$  be a non-empty set and  $\mathcal{A}$  a  $\sigma$ -algebra of subsets of  $X$ . A fuzzy measure is a set function  $\mu: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow [0, 1]$  with the properties:

$$(FM1) \mu(\emptyset) = 0;$$

$$(FM2) A \subset B \Rightarrow \mu(A) \leq \mu(B);$$

$$(FM3) A_n \in \mathcal{A}, A_n \uparrow \Rightarrow \mu(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mu(A_n);$$

$$(FM4) A_n \in \mathcal{A}, A_n \downarrow \Rightarrow \mu(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mu(A_n).$$

When  $\mu$  satisfies (FM1), (FM2) and (FM3), we call  $\mu$  a semi-continuous fuzzy measure.

Let  $P(X) = \{A; A \subset X\}$ , A possibility measure is a set function  $\mu: P(X) \rightarrow [0, 1]$  with the properties:

$$(P1) \mu(\emptyset) = 0;$$

$$(P2) A \subset B \Rightarrow \mu(A) \leq \mu(B);$$

$$(P3) \mu\left(\bigvee_{t \in T} A_t\right) = \bigvee_{t \in T} \mu(A_t), \text{ where } T \text{ is an arbitrary index set.}$$

We can easily prove the following two propositions.

**Proposition1**  $\mu$  is a possibility measure iff  $\mu$  satisfies (P1), (P2) and

$$(P3)' \mu(A) \leq \bigvee_{x \in A} \mu(\{x\}) \quad \forall A \in P(X)$$

**Proposition2** A fuzzy measure or a semi-continuous fuzzy measure  $\mu$  is a possibility measure iff  $\mu$  satisfies (P3)'.

As a possibility measure  $\mu$  is defined on  $P(X)$  and has F-additivity, i. e.  $\mu(A \cup B) = \mu(A) \vee \mu(B)$ , then if we want to discuss the relations and distinctions between possibility measure, fuzzy measure, semi-continuous fuzzy measure, we must assume that  $\mathcal{A} = P(X)$  and fuzzy measure and semi-continuous fuzzy measure have F-additivity.

Throughout this paper, we assume that the fuzzy measure and

semi-continuous fuzzy measure are defined on  $P(X)$  and have F-additivity, and note

FM =  $\{\mu; \mu \text{ is a F-additive fuzzy measure on } P(X)\}$

PM =  $\{\mu; \mu \text{ is a possibility measure on } P(X)\}$

SCFM =  $\{\mu; \mu \text{ is a F-additive semi-continuous fuzzy measure on } P(X)\}$

### 3. The relations between FM, PM and SCFM

#### 3.1 X is an arbitrary set

Theorem1  $FM \subset SCFM, PM \subset SCFM.$

Proof obvious.

#### 3.2 $Card(X) < \aleph_0$

Let  $X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$ , we have

Theorem2  $FM = PM = SCFM$

Proof. In [5] and [6], it is pointed out that  $PM \subset FM$ , then, from Theorem1, we only need to prove that  $SCFM \subset PM$ .

Let  $\mu \in SCFM$ , then,  $\forall A \in P(X), A = \{x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_k}\}$  ( $k \leq n$ ), we have, by using the F-additivity of  $\mu$ , that

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(A) &= \mu(\{x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_k}\}) \\ &= \mu(\{x_{i_1}\}) \vee \mu(\{x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_k}\}) \\ &= \mu(\{x_{i_1}\}) \vee \mu(\{x_{i_2}\}) \vee \mu(\{x_{i_3}, \dots, x_{i_k}\}) = \dots \\ &= \mu(\{x_{i_1}\}) \vee \mu(\{x_{i_2}\}) \vee \dots \vee \mu(\{x_{i_k}\}) = \bigvee_{x \in A} \mu(\{x\}) \end{aligned}$$

Applying Proposition2, we know that  $\mu \in PM$  and this ends the proof.

#### 2.3 $Card(X) = \aleph_0$

Let  $X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, \dots\}$ , we have

Theorem3  $FM \subset PM = SCFM$

Proof. From Theorem1, it is sufficient to prove that  $SCFM \subset PM$ .

Let  $\mu \in \text{SCFM}$ , then,  $\forall A \in P(X)$ , (1) if  $\text{card}(A) < \aleph_0$ , the conclusion follows by referring the proof of Theorem2; (2) if  $\text{card}(A) = \aleph_0$ , note  $A = \{x_{i_1}, \dots, x_{i_n}, \dots\}$ , there holds

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(A) &= \mu(\{x_{i_1}, \dots, x_{i_n}, \dots\}) = \mu(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \{x_{i_1}, \dots, x_{i_n}\}) \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mu(\{x_{i_1}, \dots, x_{i_n}\}) \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mu(\{x_{i_1}\}) \vee \dots \vee \mu(\{x_{i_n}\}) \text{ (cf. the proof of Theorem2)} \\ &= \bigvee_{n=1}^{\infty} \mu(\{x_{i_n}\}) = \bigvee_{x \in A} \mu(\{x\}) \end{aligned}$$

Using Proposition2, we obtain that  $\mu \in \text{PM}$ , and then the proof is complete.

2.4  $\aleph_0 < \text{card}(X) \leq \aleph_1$

We have

Theorem4  $\text{FM} \subset \text{PM} \subset \text{SCFM}$

In the proof of Theorem4, we consider that Cantor's continuum hypothesis is true, that is to say,  $\aleph_0 < \text{card}(X) \leq \aleph_1$  is equivalent to that  $\text{card}(X) = \aleph_1$ . It must be pointed out that even we don't admit the continuum hypothesis, Theorem4 is also true, which will be explained at the end of this section.

Proof of Theorem4 We suppose that  $\text{card}(X) = \aleph_1$ .

It is obvious that  $P(X)$  has only the operations " $\cup$ ", " $\cap$ " and " $-$ " of subsets of  $X$  and has nothing to do with the structures (algebraic, topological or ordered etc) defined on  $X$ , it is equivalent to say that we can endow any structure on  $X$  and this action has no influence on our problem. At the same time, since  $\text{card}(X) = \aleph_1$ , then there exists a bijection between  $X$  and interval  $[0, 1]$ . Then we may assume that  $X$  has the same structure of  $[0, 1]$  or we regard  $X = [0, 1]$  and prove Theorem4, this assumption is without any loss of generality to the proof. In the following, we assume that  $X = [0, 1]$ .

From Theorem1, it only need to prove that  $FM \subset PM$ .

Let  $\mu \in FM$ , we show that  $\mu \in PM$ .

$\forall A \in P([0, 1])$ , if  $\mu(A) = 0$ , then

$$\mu(A) \leq \bigvee_{x \in A} \mu(\{x\})$$

and the conclusion follows.

If  $\mu(A) > 0$ , noting  $A_1^1 = A \cap [0, 1/2]$ ,  $A_2^1 = A \cap [1/2, 1]$ , from F-additivity of  $\mu$ , we have

$$\mu(A) = \mu(A_1^1) \vee \mu(A_2^1)$$

When  $\mu(A) = \mu(A_1^1)$ , take  $A_1 = A_1^1$ , otherwise, take  $A_1 = A_2^1$ , we have

$$\mu(A) = \mu(A_1)$$

Without any loss of generality, we suppose that  $A_1 \subset [0, 1/2]$ . Observing that  $A_1^2 = A_1 \cap [0, 1/4]$ ,  $A_2^2 = A_1 \cap [1/4, 1/2]$ , similar to above discussion, we can choose  $A_2 = A_1^2$  (or  $A_2^2$ ) such that

$$\mu(A_2) = \mu(A_1)$$

According to the same principle, we can choose  $A_3, A_4, \dots, A_n, \dots$ , such that  $\mu(A_n) = \mu(A)$ ,  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and  $A \supset A_1 \supset A_2 \supset \dots \supset A_n \supset \dots$

Furthermore, from the process of choosing  $\{A_n\}$ , we easily know that  $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n = \emptyset$  or there exists unique  $\tilde{x} \in [0, 1]$  such that  $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n = \{\tilde{x}\}$ .

As  $\mu \in FM$ , we obtain that

$$\mu\left(\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n\right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mu(A_n) = \mu(A) > 0$$

This implies that  $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \neq \emptyset$ , i.e.  $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n = \{\tilde{x}\}$  and hence

$$\mu(A) = \mu(\{\tilde{x}\}) \leq \bigvee_{x \in A} \mu(\{x\})$$

and Theorem4 is proved.

Remark. If we don't admit the continuum hypothesis, we can embed X

into a subset of  $[0, 1]$  (in the sense of above discussion) and prove Theorem 4 according to the same process mentioned above.

#### 4. Distinctions between FM, PM and SCFM

##### 4.1 When $\text{card}(X) \geq \aleph_0$ , we have $\text{FM} \neq \text{PM}$

We can define  $\mu \in \text{PM}$  as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(A) &= 1 & A \neq \emptyset \\ &= 0 & A = \emptyset \end{aligned}$$

but  $\mu \notin \text{FM}$ . In fact, as  $X$  is infinite, we can choose a countable subset  $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, \dots\} \subset X$ . Note  $A_n = \{x_n, x_{n+1}, \dots\}$ ,  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have  $A_n \downarrow \emptyset$ ,  $\mu(A_n) = 1$ , but  $\mu(\emptyset) = 0$ .

##### 4.2 When $\text{card}(X) > \aleph_0$ , we have $\text{PM} \neq \text{SCFM}$

We can construct  $\mu \in \text{SCFM}$  as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(A) &= 1 & \text{card}(A) > \aleph_0, \\ &= 0 & \text{card}(A) \leq \aleph_0, \end{aligned}$$

but  $\mu \notin \text{PM}$ . In fact,  $\mu(X) = 1$  and  $\bigvee_{x \in X} \mu(\{x\}) = 0$ .

#### 5. Conclusions

The results arrived at in the section 3 and 4 can be summarized below:

- (1)  $\text{Card}(X) < \aleph_0$  :  $(\mu \in \text{FM}) \xrightarrow{\iff} (\mu \in \text{PM}) \xrightarrow{\iff} (\mu \in \text{SCFM})$ ;
- (2)  $\text{Card}(X) = \aleph_1$  :  $(\mu \in \text{FM}) \xrightarrow{\not\iff} (\mu \in \text{PM}) \xrightarrow{\iff} (\mu \in \text{SCFM})$ ;
- (3)  $\aleph_0 < \text{card}(X) \leq \aleph_1$  :  $(\mu \in \text{FM}) \xrightarrow{\not\iff} (\mu \in \text{PM}) \xrightarrow{\not\iff} (\mu \in \text{SCFM})$ .

where " $\xrightarrow{\iff}$ " and " $\xrightarrow{\not\iff}$ " mean "implies" and "does not implies" respectively.

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