

# Random Fuzzy Sets and Fuzzy Martingales

Li Lushu

Department of Mathematics, Huaiyin Teachers' College

Jiangsu 223001, P.R.China

**Abstract:** We study random fuzzy sets and their relationship to fuzzy set-valued measures in a separable Banach space. Using the conditional expectations of random fuzzy sets, we introduce the concept of fuzzy martingales. Some properties and convergence theorems of fuzzy martingales are investigated.

**Keywords:** Probability space, random fuzzy set, conditional expectation, fuzzy martingale.

## 1. Introduction

The concept of fuzzy random variables was introduced by Puri and Ralescu [6] on the basis of the set representation of fuzzy sets. It enables us to use the rich mathematical apparatus of the theory of random sets and set-valued measures. The definitions and properties developed by Puri and Ralescu [12] allows us to further develop the concepts of random fuzzy sets in a Banach space. The purpose of this paper is to study the conditional expectations of random fuzzy sets and fuzzy martingales.

## 2. Random Sets and Random Fuzzy Sets

Throughout this paper,  $(\Omega, \Sigma, P)$  will be a complete probability space, where the probability measure  $P$  is nonatomic. Let  $X$  be a separable Banach space with norm  $\| \cdot \|$ , and let  $K(X)$  and  $CoK(X)$  denote the family of all nonempty compact and nonempty compact convex subsets of  $X$ , respectively. A linear structure in  $K(X)$  is defined by

$$A + B = \{ a + b; a \in A, b \in B \} \quad \text{and} \quad \lambda A = \{ \lambda a; a \in A \}$$

The topology in  $K(X)$  is introduced via the Hausdorff distance

$$d_H(A, B) = \max \{ \sup_{a \in A} \inf_{b \in B} \| a - b \|, \sup_{b \in B} \inf_{a \in A} \| a - b \| \}$$

The norm of  $A \in K(X)$  is defined as  $\| A \|_H = \sup_{a \in A} \| a \|$ . A random set

is a  $\Sigma$ -measurable set-valued mapping  $f: \Omega \rightarrow K(X)$ . For a random set  $f$ , let  $S(f)$  be the set of integrable selectors of  $f$ . Then the Aumann integral of  $f$  is defined by (see [2], [3])

$$(A) \int f dP = \{ \int \varphi dP; \varphi \in S(f) \}$$

A random set  $f$  is called integrable bounded if  $\int \|f\|_H dP < \infty$ . Note that because the prob. measure  $P$  is nonatomic,  $\int \|f\|_H dP < \infty$  implies the existence of  $\int f dP \in CoK(X)$ . More details on the measurability and integrability of random sets can be found in [3, 5, or 8].

Let  $F^*(X)$  denote the family of all fuzzy sets  $\mu: X \rightarrow [0, 1]$  with the properties

(a)  $\mu$  is uppercontinuous

(b)  $L_\alpha(\mu)$  is non-empty compact and convex for each  $\alpha \in [0, 1]$ .

where  $L_\alpha(\mu)$  is the  $\mu$ -level set of  $\alpha$  defined via

$$L_\alpha(\mu) = \begin{cases} \{x \in X; \mu(x) > \alpha\} & \text{if } \alpha > 0 \\ \text{cl}\{x \in X; \mu(x) > 0\} & \text{if } \alpha = 0 \end{cases}$$

A linear structure in  $F^*(X)$  is defined by the operations

$$(\mu + \nu)(x) = \sup_{0 \leq \alpha \leq 1} \{ \alpha; x \in L_\alpha(\mu) + L_\alpha(\nu) \}$$

$$(\lambda \mu)(x) = \sup_{0 \leq \alpha \leq 1} \{ \alpha; x \in \lambda L_\alpha(\mu) \}$$

for  $\mu, \nu \in F^*(X)$  and  $\lambda \in K$ . The metric in  $F^*(X)$  is defined by

$$\delta(\mu, \nu) = \sup_{0 \leq \alpha \leq 1} d_H(L_\alpha(\mu), L_\alpha(\nu))$$

and the norm  $\|\mu\|$  of a fuzzy set  $\mu \in F^*(X)$  is defined as

$$\|\mu\| = \sup_{0 \leq \alpha \leq 1} \|L_\alpha(\mu)\|_H.$$

For  $\mu_n (n > 1), \mu \in F^*(X)$ , we denote  $d_H(L_\alpha(\mu_n), L_\alpha(\mu)) \rightarrow 0$  and  $\delta(\mu_n, \mu) \rightarrow 0$  by  $\mu_n \xrightarrow{\alpha} \mu$  and  $\mu_n \xrightarrow{\delta} \mu$ , respectively.

**Definition 2.1.** A random fuzzy set is a mapping  $\mu: \Omega \rightarrow F^*(X)$  such that  $L_\alpha(\mu)$  is a random set for each  $\alpha \in [0, 1]$ .

**Definition 2.2.** The expected value of random fuzzy set  $\mu$ , denoted by  $E\mu$ , is the fuzzy set such that

$$E\mu(x) = \sup_{0 \leq \alpha \leq 1} \{ \alpha; x \in (A) \int L_\alpha(\mu(\omega)) dP \} \quad (x \in X)$$

**Definition 2.3.** A random fuzzy set  $\mu$  is called integrably bounded if the random set  $L_0(\mu)$  is integrably bounded. The sequence of random fuzzy sets  $\{\mu_n\}$  is called uniformly integrably bounded if the sequence

of random sets  $\{L_\alpha(\mu_n)\}$  is uniformly integrably bounded.

Note that the existence and uniqueness of  $E\mu$  for an integrably bounded random fuzzy set  $\mu$  are established in [6], and we have

$$L_\alpha(E\mu) = (A) \int L_\alpha(\mu(\omega)) dP \quad (\text{Aumann's integral})$$

Applying the properties of Aumann's integrals [2] [3], we get

**Theorem 2.1.** Suppose  $\mu, \nu$  are integrably bounded random fuzzy sets.

Then (1)  $E\mu \in F^*(X)$

$$(2) \delta(E\mu, E\nu) \leq \int \delta(\mu(\omega), \nu(\omega)) dP$$

$$(3) E(\mu + \nu) = E\mu + E\nu$$

**Proof.** (1) See [6, theorem 4.2].

(2) Since  $E\mu, E\nu \in F^*(X)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \delta(E\mu, E\nu) &= \sup_{0 \leq \alpha \leq 1} d_H(L_\alpha(E\mu), L_\alpha(E\nu)) \\ &= \sup_{0 \leq \alpha \leq 1} d_H((A) \int L_\alpha(\mu(\omega)) dP, (A) \int L_\alpha(\nu(\omega)) dP) \\ &\leq \sup_{0 \leq \alpha \leq 1} \int d_H(L_\alpha(\mu(\omega)), L_\alpha(\nu(\omega))) dP \\ &\leq \int [\sup_{0 \leq \alpha \leq 1} d_H(L_\alpha(\mu(\omega)), L_\alpha(\nu(\omega)))] dP \\ &= \int \delta(\mu(\omega), \nu(\omega)) dP \end{aligned}$$

(3) For every  $x \in X$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} &= \sup_{0 \leq \alpha \leq 1} \{ \alpha : x \in (A) \int L_\alpha(\mu(\omega)) dP + (A) \int L_\alpha(\nu(\omega)) dP \} \\ &= \sup_{0 \leq \alpha \leq 1} \{ \alpha : x \in L_\alpha(\mu) + L_\alpha(\nu) \} = (E\mu + E\nu)(x) \end{aligned}$$

i.e.  $E(\mu + \nu) = E\mu + E\nu$

Q.E.D.

**Theorem 2.2.** Let  $\mu_n (n \geq 1), \mu$  be a sequence of uniformly integrably bounded random fuzzy sets. Then

(1) for each  $\alpha \in [0, 1]$ ,

$$\mu_n(\omega) \rightarrow \mu(\omega) \quad \text{a.e.} \implies E\mu_n(\omega) \rightarrow E\mu(\omega) \quad \text{a.e.}$$

$$(2) \mu_n(\omega) \rightarrow \mu(\omega) \quad \text{a.e.} \implies E\mu_n(\omega) \rightarrow E\mu(\omega) \quad \text{a.e.}$$

**Proof.** (1) For each  $\alpha \in [0, 1]$ ,  $L_\alpha(\mu_n) (n \geq 1), L_\alpha(\mu)$  is a sequence of uniformly integrably bounded convex random sets. It follows from [8] that  $d_H((A) \int L_\alpha(\mu_n(\omega)) dP, (A) \int L_\alpha(\mu(\omega)) dP) \rightarrow 0$  a.e.,

that is  $E\mu_n \rightarrow E\mu$  a.e.

(2) Follows from theorem 2.1.(2) immediately.

Q.E.D.

Definition 2.2. Let  $\Sigma_0$  be a sub- $\sigma$ -algebra of  $\Sigma$  and  $\mu$  an integrably bounded random fuzzy set. The conditional expectation of  $\mu$  with respect to  $\Sigma_0$ , denoted by  $E(\mu / \Sigma_0)$ , is the random fuzzy set with properties:

- (a)  $E(\mu / \Sigma_0)$  is  $\Sigma_0$ -measurable
- (b)  $E(E(\mu / \Sigma_0) \cdot \chi_A) = E(\mu \cdot \chi_A)$  for every  $A \in \Sigma_0$

Note that the existence and uniqueness (P-a.e) of  $E(\mu / \Sigma_0)$  are established in [7] and [8]. Some of the properties of this conditional expectation are stated next:

Theorem 2.3. Let  $\mu, \nu$  be integrably bounded random fuzzy sets. Then

- (1)  $L_\alpha(E\mu / \Sigma_0) = E(L_\alpha(\mu) / \Sigma_0)$  for each  $\alpha \in [0, 1]$
- (2)  $E((\alpha\mu + \beta\nu) / \Sigma_0) = \alpha E(\mu / \Sigma_0) + \beta E(\nu / \Sigma_0)$
- (3)  $E(E(\mu / \Sigma_0)) = E(\mu)$
- (4) if  $\mu$  is  $\Sigma_0$ -measurable, then  $E(\mu / \Sigma_0) = \mu$  a.e.
- (5) if  $\Sigma_1 \subset \Sigma_2$  are two sub- $\sigma$ -algebras of  $\Sigma$ , then  

$$E(E(\mu / \Sigma_1) / \Sigma_2) = E(\mu / \Sigma_1) = E(E(\mu / \Sigma_2) / \Sigma_1)$$

Proof. (1) See [7, proposition 4.1].

(2) (3) (4) can be verify easily.

(5)  $\Sigma_1 \subset \Sigma_2$  implies that  $E(\mu / \Sigma_1)$  is  $\Sigma_2$ -measurable. It follows from (4) that  $E(E(\mu / \Sigma_1) / \Sigma_2) = E(\mu / \Sigma_1)$  a.e. For every  $A \in \Sigma_1 \subset \Sigma_2$ , since  $E(E(\mu / \Sigma_2) \cdot \chi_A) = E(\mu \cdot \chi_A)$ , we have  $E(E\mu / \Sigma_2) / \Sigma_1 = E(\mu / \Sigma_1)$ . This completes the proof of (5). Q.E.D.

Theorem 2.4. Let  $\mu_n$  ( $n \geq 1$ ),  $\mu$  be a sequence of integrably bounded random fuzzy sets. Then

- (1) for each  $\alpha \in [0, 1]$ ,

$$\mu_n \xrightarrow{\alpha} \mu \quad \text{a.e} \implies E(\mu_n / \Sigma_0) \xrightarrow{\alpha} E(\mu / \Sigma_0) \quad \text{a.e.}$$

- (2)  $\mu \xrightarrow{\delta} \mu \quad \text{a.e} \implies E(\mu_n / \Sigma_0) \xrightarrow{\delta} E(\mu / \Sigma_0) \quad \text{a.e.}$

Proof. Follows from theorem 2.2 evidently.

### 3. Fuzzy Martingales and Their Convergence

In this section, let  $N = \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$  and  $\bar{N} = N \cup \{\infty\}$ . Let  $\{\Sigma_n, n \in N\}$  be an increasing sequence of sub- $\sigma$ -algebras of  $\Sigma$ ,

and  $\Sigma_\infty = \sigma(\bigcup_{n \geq 1} \Sigma_n) = \Sigma$ . The sequence  $\{\mu_n, \Sigma_n; n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  of random fuzzy sets and increasing sub- $\sigma$ -algebras will be called a adaptive random fuzzy process if  $\mu_n: \Omega \rightarrow F^*(X)$  is a  $\Sigma_n$ -measurable integrably bounded random fuzzy set for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . A random variable  $\tau: \Omega \rightarrow \bar{\mathbb{N}}$  is called a stopping time if  $[\tau = n] = \{\omega \in \Omega; \tau(\omega) = n\} \in \Sigma_n$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . For a stopping time  $\tau$ , we define a  $\sigma$ -algebra  $\Sigma_\tau$  as

$$\Sigma_\tau = \{A \in \Sigma; A \cap [\tau = n] \in \Sigma_n, n \in \mathbb{N}\}$$

Definition 3.1. A fuzzy submartingale (supermartingale) is a adaptive random fuzzy process  $\{\mu_n, \Sigma_n; n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  such that, for  $\forall m, n$  with  $m < n$ ,

$$E(\mu_n / \Sigma_m) \geq \mu_m \quad (E(\mu_n / \Sigma_m) \leq \mu_m) \quad \text{a.e.}$$

If  $\{\mu_n, \Sigma_n; n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is both a submartingale and a supermartingale, it is called a fuzzy martingale.

Obviously,  $\{\mu_n, \Sigma_n; n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is a fuzzy submartingale (supermartingale) iff  $\{L_\alpha(\mu_n), \Sigma_n; n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is a set-valued submartingale (supermartingale) for each  $\alpha \in [0, 1]$  (see [4, 5, 8]).

To investigate the properties of fuzzy martingales, we only consider the case of fuzzy submartingale because there are corresponding results for fuzzy supermartingales.

Theorem 3.1. Suppose  $\{\mu_n, \Sigma_n; n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is a fuzzy submartingale,  $s$  and  $t$  are two finite stopping time with  $s < t$ . Then

$$E(\mu_t / \Sigma_s) \geq \mu_s \quad \text{a.e.}$$

To prove this theorem, we need the following lemmas:

Lemma 3.1. Suppose  $\{\mu_n, \Sigma_n; n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is a adaptive random fuzzy process,  $\mu$  is a random fuzzy set. If we define  $\mu_\infty = \mu$ , then for any stopping time  $\tau$ ,  $\mu_\tau$  is a  $\Sigma_\tau$ -measurable random fuzzy set.

Lemma 3.2. Suppose  $\{f_n, \Sigma_n; n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is a set-valued submartingale,  $s$  and  $t$  are two stopping time with  $s < t$ . Then

$$E(f_t / \Sigma_s) \supseteq f_s \quad \text{a.e.}$$

We omit the proofs of lemma 3.1 and lemma 3.2.

Proof of Theorem 3.1. It follows from lemma 3.1 that  $\mu_t$  is  $\Sigma_t$ -measur-

able and  $\mu_s$  is  $\Sigma_s$ -measurable for the finite stopping time  $s$  and  $t$ . We also can show that  $\mu_t$  and  $\mu_s$  are both integrably bounded. So we have

$$\mu_s(x) = \sup_{0 \leq \alpha \leq 1} \{ \alpha ; x \in L_\alpha(\mu_s) \}$$

$$\text{and } E(\mu_t / \Sigma_s)(x) = \sup_{0 \leq \alpha \leq 1} \{ \alpha ; x \in E(L_\alpha(\mu_t) / \Sigma_s) \}$$

But for each  $\alpha \in [0, 1]$ ,  $\{ L_\alpha(\mu_n), \Sigma_n; n \in \mathbb{N} \}$  is a set submartingale.

By lemma 3.2, we get  $E(L_\alpha(\mu_t) / \Sigma_s) \supseteq L_\alpha(\mu_s)$  a.e. Hence we have

$$E(\mu_t / \Sigma_s) > \mu_s \quad \text{a.e.} \quad \text{Q.E.D.}$$

Now we consider the convergence of fuzzy martingales. First, we discuss the  $\delta$ -convergence, we have

**Theorem 3.2.** Let  $\{ \mu_n, \Sigma_n; n \in \mathbb{N} \}$  be a fuzzy submartingale and  $\mu$  an integrably bounded random fuzzy set. If  $\| \mu_n - \mu \|_L \rightarrow 0$ ,

then  $\mu_n \xrightarrow{\delta} \mu$  a.e.

Where the norm  $\| \cdot \|_L$  is the  $L^1(\Omega, P; X)$ -norm.

**Proof.** Since  $\| \mu_n - \mu \|_L \rightarrow 0$ , we know that for  $\forall \varepsilon > 0$  and  $\forall \sigma > 0$ , there exists natural number  $N$  such that for  $\forall n > N$ ,

$$\| \mu_n - \mu \|_L < \varepsilon \sigma$$

But  $P\{ \omega \in \Omega; \sup_{n > N} \| \mu_n - \mu \| > \sigma \}$

$$< \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_{S_\sigma} 1/\sigma \cdot \| \mu_n - \mu \| dP$$

$$< \sup_{n > N} \int_{S_\sigma} 1/\sigma \cdot \| \mu_n - \mu \| dP = 1/\sigma \cdot \sup_{n > N} \| \mu_n - \mu \|_L$$

where  $S_\sigma = \{ \omega \in \Omega; \sup_{n > N} \| \mu_n - \mu \| > \sigma \}$ . Hence,

$$P\{ \omega \in \Omega; \sup_{n > N} \| \mu_n - \mu \| > \sigma \}$$

$$< 1/\sigma \cdot \sup_{n > N} \| \mu_n - \mu \|_L < 1/\sigma \cdot \varepsilon \sigma = \varepsilon.$$

That is  $\mu_n \xrightarrow{\delta} \mu$  a.e. Q.E.D.

Finally, we discuss the  $\alpha$ -convergence of fuzzy martingales:

**Theorem 3.3.** Suppose  $\{ \mu_n, \Sigma_n; n \in \mathbb{N} \}$  is a fuzzy submartingale.

If  $\sup_{n > 1} E \| \mu_n(\omega) \|_s < \infty$ , then there exists an integrably bounded random fuzzy set  $\mu; \Omega \rightarrow F^*(X)$  such that  $\mu_n \xrightarrow{\alpha} \mu$  a.e. and

$$E(\mu / \Sigma_n) > \mu_n \quad \text{a.e.} \quad (\forall n \in \mathbb{N})$$

**Proof.** For each  $\alpha \in [0, 1]$ , it follows from the conditions of this theorem that  $\{ L_\alpha(\mu_n), \Sigma_n; n \in \mathbb{N} \}$  is a set-valued submartingale and

$\sup_{n>1} E \|L^\alpha(\mu_n)\|_H < \infty$ . Using [8, theorem 9.5.8], we know that there exists an integrably bounded random set  $f_\alpha : \Omega \rightarrow \text{co}K(X)$  such that

$$d_H(L^\alpha(\mu_n), f_\alpha) \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{a.e.}$$

Since  $\alpha < \beta \implies L^\alpha(\mu_n) \supseteq L^\beta(\mu_n)$ , we have  $\alpha < \beta \implies f_\alpha \supseteq f_\beta$ , i.e.  $f_\alpha$  ( $0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$ ) are nested. If we let

$$\mu(\omega)(x) = \sup_{0 \leq \alpha \leq 1} \{ \alpha ; x \in f_\alpha(\omega) \}$$

then  $\mu : \Omega \rightarrow F^*(X)$  is an integrably bounded random fuzzy set and

$$L^\alpha(\mu)(\omega) = f_\alpha(\omega) \quad (\forall \alpha \in [0, 1])$$

Hence  $d_H(L^\alpha(\mu_n), L^\alpha(\mu)) \rightarrow 0$  a.e. ( $\forall \alpha \in [0, 1]$ ). That is

$$\mu_n \xrightarrow{\alpha} \mu \quad \text{P-a.e.}$$

Further, for  $\forall t, n \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $n < m$ , since  $\{\mu_n, \Sigma_n; n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is a fuzzy martingale, we have

$$E(\mu_m / \Sigma_n) > \mu_n$$

Let  $m \rightarrow \infty$ , it follows theorem 2.4 that

$$E(\mu / \Sigma_n) > \mu_n \quad \text{a.e.}$$

Q.E.D.

## References

1. Z. Artstein, Set-valued measures, Trans. Amer. Soc. 165(1972) 103-125.
2. R.J. Aumann, Integrals of set-valued functions, J. Math. Anal. Appl. 12(1965) 1-12.
3. G. Debreu, Integration of correspondences, Proc. 5th Berkley Symp. Vol.II Part I (Univ. of California Press 1966), 351-372.
4. F. Hiai, Radon-Nikodym theorems for set-valued measures, J. Multivariate Anal. 8(1978) 96-118.
5. F. Hiai and H. Umegaki, Integrals, conditional expectations and martingales of multivalued functions, J. Multivariate Anal. 7(1977) 149-182.
6. M.L. Puri and D.A. Ralescu, Fuzzy random variables, J. Math. Anal. Appl. 114(1986) 409-442.
7. M.L. Puri and D.A. Ralescu, Convergence theorem for fuzzy martingales, J. Math. Anal. Appl. 160(1991) 107-122.
8. Zhang Wenxiu, Wang Guojun, etc, Introduction to Fuzzy Mathematics, Xi'an Jiaotong University Press, 1991.