

# Interval-valued fuzzy subgroups induced by T-triangular norms

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**Abstract:** In this paper, we define interval-valued fuzzy subgroups and normal interval-valued fuzzy subgroups by T-triangular norms. At the same time, their properties are studied respectively. Furthermore, we obtain some results similar to the theories of classical groups.

**Keywords:** Interval-valued fuzzy sets; T-norms; interval-valued fuzzy subgroups; normal interval-valued fuzzy subgroups.

## 1 Introduction

Interval-valued fuzzy sets were introduced by many authors [3-4] in 1975. In recent years, investigation for interval-valued fuzzy sets is rising with days [5, 6, 7, 8]. Because the membership functions of a fuzzy set isn't usually easy to be determined in the applications, but the membership degree of an interval-valued fuzzy set is relative easy to be determined. Meng [7] and Sun [8] studied their basis theories in detail, and obtain three basis theorems of interval-valued fuzzy sets, i. e., the decomposition theorem, the representation theorem and the extension principle.

Rosenfeld's [2] first presented the concept of fuzzy subgroups in 1971. R. Biswas [1] introduced and studied interval-valued fuzzy subgroups at the first time in 1994. Nevertheless, the two kinds of fuzzy subgroups were defined by minimal operator  $\wedge$ .

The main goal of this paper is to define the interval-valued fuzzy subgroups and the normal interval-valued fuzzy subgroups once again by T-triangular norms. And give a necessary and sufficient condition for interval-valued fuzzy sets to be the two kinds of fuzzy subgroups respectively. Finally, we will get the theorem of homomorphic images (inverse-images) by the extension principle of the interval-valued fuzzy sets.

In Section 2, we state the operations of the interval numbers and the definition of the interval-valued fuzzy sets. We also recall the definition of the T-triangular norms and some results about them. In Section 3 and 4, the interval-valued fuzzy subgroup and the normal interval-valued fuzzy subgroup is defined respectively. In addition, their properties and structures are discussed. In fact, this paper is a continuation and development of [1].

## 2 preliminaries and propositions

In this Section, we first give below some preliminaries.

Throughout this paper, let  $I$  be a closed unit interval, i. e.,  $I = [0, 1]$ .

Let  $[I] = \{ \bar{a} = [a^-, a^+]; a^- \leq a^+, a^-, a^+ \in I \}$ . Especially, for arbitrary  $a \in I$ , putting  $a = [a, a]$ , then  $a \in [I]$  is obvious. The elements in  $[I]$  is called the interval numbers on  $I$ . we make the following definitions about interval numbers.

For any  $\bar{a}_j \in [I]$ ,  $\bar{a}_j = [a_j^-, a_j^+]$ ,  $a_j^-, a_j^+ \in I$ ,  $j \in J$ . we define

$$\bigvee_{j \in J} a_j^- = \sup \{a_j^-; j \in J\}; \quad \bigwedge_{j \in J} a_j^- = \inf \{a_j^-; j \in J\};$$

$$\sup \bar{a}_j = \bigvee_{j \in J} [a_j^-, a_j^+] = [\bigvee_{j \in J} a_j^-, \bigvee_{j \in J} a_j^+]; \quad \inf \bar{a}_j = \bigwedge_{j \in J} [a_j^-, a_j^+] = [\bigwedge_{j \in J} a_j^-, \bigwedge_{j \in J} a_j^+].$$

Especially, for  $\bar{a}, \bar{b} \in [I]$ , where  $\bar{a} = [a^-, a^+]$ ,  $\bar{b} = [b^-, b^+]$ , we define  
 $\bar{a} = \bar{b}$  iff  $a^- = b^-, a^+ = b^+$ ;  $\bar{a} \leq \bar{b}$  iff  $a^- \leq b^-, a^+ \leq b^+$ ;  $\bar{a} < \bar{b}$  iff  $\bar{a} \leq \bar{b}$  and  $\bar{a} \neq \bar{b}$ ;

Clearly,  $([I], \leq, \vee, \wedge)$  constitutes a complete lattice with a minimal element  $\bar{0} = [0, 0]$  and a maximal element  $\bar{1} = [1, 1]$ .

**Definition 2.1** Let  $X$  be an ordinary set, mapping  $\bar{A}: X \rightarrow [I]$  is called an interval-valued fuzzy set (in short written by IVFS) on  $X$ . Let  $IF(X)$  denote the family of all IVFS on  $X$ . For each  $\bar{A} \in IF(X)$ , suppose  $\bar{A}(x) = [A^-(x), A^+(x)]$  where  $A^-(x) \leq A^+(x)$ ,  $x \in X$ . Then the ordinary fuzzy set  $\bar{A}: X \rightarrow I$  and  $A^+: X \rightarrow I$  is called a lower fuzzy set and an upper fuzzy set of  $\bar{A}$  respectively. In addition, we define.

$\Phi(x) = [0, 0]$ ,  $X(x) = [1, 1]$  where  $x \in X$ . obviously,  $\Phi, X \in IF(X)$ .

for every  $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2) \in [I]$ , let  $\bar{A}_{(\lambda_1, \lambda_2)} = \{x \in X; A^-(x) \geq \lambda_1, A^+(x) \geq \lambda_2\}$ .

Then  $\bar{A}_{(\lambda_1, \lambda_2)}$  is called a cut-set of  $\bar{A}$ . Evidently  $\bar{A}_{(\lambda_1, \lambda_2)} = A_{\lambda_1}^- \cap A_{\lambda_2}^+$ .

**Definition 2.2** Mapping  $T: [0, 1]^2 \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is called a  $T$ -triangular norm (in short written by  $T$ -norm), if the following conditions are satisfied. where  $a, b, c \in [0, 1]$ .

- (1)  $T(a, 1) = a$
- (2)  $T(a, b) = T(b, a)$
- (3)  $T(a, b) \leq T(a, c)$  if  $b \leq c$ .
- (4)  $T(a, T(b, c)) = T(T(a, b), c)$ .

Especially, Let  $T_H$  be a  $T$ -norm with  $T(a, a) = a$ , where  $a \in [0, 1]$ . Then we call  $T_H$  an idempotent  $T$ -norm.

**Definition 2.3** Let  $T$  be a  $T$ -norm,  $\bar{a}, \bar{b} \in [I]$ ,  $\bar{a} = [a^-, a^+]$ ,  $\bar{b} = [b^-, b^+]$ .

Let  $T: [I] \times [I] \rightarrow [I]$ . we define  $T(\bar{a}, \bar{b}) = [T(a^-, b^-), T(a^+, b^+)]$ .

**Proposition 2.1** Let  $T$  be a  $T$ -norm, then for arbitrary  $a, b \in [0, 1]$ , we have

- (1)  $T(a, 0) = 0$
- (2)  $T(a, b) \leq \min\{a, b\}$ .

**Definition 2.4** Let  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  are  $T$ -norms. Then  $T_1$  is called to be stronger than  $T_2$ , if for each  $a, b \in [0, 1]$ ,  $T_1(a, b) \geq T_2(a, b)$  holds. written as  $T_1 \geq T_2$ .

**Proposition 2.2.** Let  $T$  be a  $T$ -norm. Then for every  $a \in [0, 1]$ ,  $T \leq \wedge$  and  
 $T = \wedge$  iff  $T(a, a) = a$ .

### 3 Interval-valued fuzzy subgroups

In this section, we first give the extension principle in IVFS. Next, we define the interval-valued fuzzy subgroup once again by operator  $T$ -norms. consequently we will obtain the main results in this

section, i. e. , a necessary and sufficient condition for IVFS on groups to be interval-valued fuzzy subgroups and homomorphic theorem with respect to them.

**Definition 3.1** Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two ordinary sets. mapping  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  induces two mappings

$$F_f: IF(X) \rightarrow IF(Y) \quad \text{and} \quad F_f^{-1}: IF(Y) \rightarrow IF(X). \text{ We define}$$

$$F_f(\bar{A})(y) = \begin{cases} \text{Sup}_{x \in f^{-1}(y)} \bar{A}(x) & \text{if } f^{-1}(y) \neq \Phi, y \in Y. \\ [0, 0] & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad F_f^{-1}(\bar{B})(x) = \bar{B}(f(x))$$

where  $f^{-1}(y) = \{x \in X; f(x) = y\}$ ,  $\bar{A}, \bar{B} \in IF(X)$ .

This is a process which the mapping between IVFS is transformed by an ordinary mapping  $f$ . We call the process the extension principle of IVFS. The mapping  $F_f$  and  $F_f^{-1}$  is called an interval-valued fuzzy transformation and inverse transformation induced by  $f$  respectively.

Clearly, we have

$$F_f(\bar{A})(y) = [\bigvee_{x \in f^{-1}(y)} A^-(x), \bigvee_{x \in f^{-1}(y)} A^+(x)] = [F_f(A^-)(y), F_f(A^+)(y)]$$

$$F_f^{-1}(\bar{B})(x) = [B^-(f(x)), B^+(f(x))] = [F_f^{-1}(B^-)(x), F_f^{-1}(B^+)(x)]$$

They are simply written as  $F_f(\bar{A}) = [F_f(A^-), F_f(A^+)]$  and

$$F_f^{-1}(\bar{B}) = [F_f^{-1}(B^-), F_f^{-1}(B^+)].$$

**Definition 3.2** Let  $G$  be a classical group,  $T$  be a  $T$ -norm. Then the IVFS  $\bar{A}, G \rightarrow [I]$  is called an interval-valued fuzzy subgroup (in short written by IVFG') with respect to  $T$ , if the following conditions are fulfilled

$$(1) \quad \bar{A}(x \cdot y) \geq T(\bar{A}(x), \bar{A}(y))$$

$$(2) \quad \bar{A}(x^{-1}) \geq \bar{A}(x)$$

where  $x, y \in G$ .

Let  $IF(G, T)$  denote the family of all IVFG' on  $G$ .

Note, if  $T = \wedge$ , IVFG' in this paper is exactly IVFG' in [1].

**Theorem 3.1.** Let  $G$  be a classical group,  $T$  be a  $T$ -norm,  $\bar{A}$  be an IVFS on  $G$  and  $\bar{A}(e) = [1, 1]$  ( $e$  is a unit element of  $G$ ). Then

$$\bar{A} \in IF(G, T) \text{ iff for all } x, y \in G, \bar{A}(x \cdot y^{-1}) \geq T(\bar{A}(x), \bar{A}(y)).$$

**proof** Necessity. It is clearly verified by the monotonicity of  $T$ -norms.

Sufficiency. First, for arbitrary  $x \in G$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{A}(x^{-1}) &= \bar{A}(e \cdot x^{-1}) \geq T(\bar{A}(e), \bar{A}(x)) = [T(1, A^-(x)), T(1, A^+(x))] \\ &= [A^-(x), A^+(x)] \\ &= A(x) \end{aligned}$$

Second, for every  $x, y \in G$ , we can infer that

$$\bar{A}(x \cdot y) = \bar{A}(x \cdot (y^{-1})^{-1}) \geq T(\bar{A}(x), \bar{A}(y^{-1})) \geq T(\bar{A}(x), \bar{A}(y))$$

Consequently,  $\bar{A} \in IF(G, T)$

**Theorem 3.2** Let  $G$  be a classical group,  $T_1, T_2$  be  $T$ -norms and  $T_1 \geq T_2$ .

Then  $IF(G, T_1) \subset IF(G, T_2)$

proof obvious.

**Corollary** Let  $G$  be a classical group,  $T$  be a  $T$ -norm. Then

$$(1) IF(G, \wedge) \subset IF(G, T)$$

$$(2) IF(G, \cdot) \subset IF(G, \vee). \text{ where } \cdot \text{ is a multiplicative operator.}$$

**Note:** Clearly, above IVFG\* is a generalization of the IVFG\* in [1]

**Theorem 3.3** Let  $G$  and  $\bar{G}$  be classical groups, mapping  $f: G \rightarrow \bar{G}$  be a homomorphism of the groups,  $T$  be a  $T$ -norm. Then the following conclusions hold.

$$(1) \text{ If } B \in IF(\bar{G}, T), \text{ then } F_f^{-1}(B) \in IF(G, T).$$

$$(2) \text{ If } T \text{ is a continuous } T\text{-norm and } \bar{A} \in IF(\bar{G}, T). \text{ Then } F_f(\bar{A}) \in IF(G, T).$$

**proof** We only proof (1), on the one hand, for each  $x \in G$ , by definition 3.1, 3.2 and homomorphic definition, we can infer that

$$F_f^{-1}(B)(x^{-1}) = B(f(x^{-1})) = B((f(x))^{-1}) \geq B(f(x)), = F_f^{-1}(B)(x)$$

On the other hand, for every  $x, y \in G$ , we can get that

$$\begin{aligned} F_f^{-1}(B)(x \cdot y) &= B(f(x \cdot y)) = B(f(x) \cdot f(y)) \geq T(B(f(x)), B(f(y))) \\ &= T(F_f^{-1}(B)(x), F_f^{-1}(B)(y)). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $F_f^{-1}(B) \in IF(G, T)$ .

#### 4 Normal interval-valued fuzzy subgroups

In this section, we define the normal interval-valued fuzzy subgroups on groups, obtain a necessary and sufficient condition for IVFS to be normal interval-valued fuzzy subgroups. Furthermore, we get the theorem of homomorphic images (inverse-images).

**Definition 4.1** Let  $G$  be a classical group,  $T$  be a  $T$ -norm.  $\bar{A} \in IF(G, T)$ .

$\bar{A}(x \cdot y) = \bar{A}(y \cdot x)$  for all  $x, y \in G$ . Then  $\bar{A}$  is called a normal interval-valued fuzzy subgroup (in short written by NIFG\*) with respect to  $T$  on  $G$ .

Let  $NIF(G, T)$  denote the family of NIFG\* with respect to  $T$ -norms on  $G$ .

**Theorem 4.1** Let  $G$  be a classical group,  $T$  be a  $T$ -norm,  $\bar{A} \in IF(G, T)$  and  $\bar{A}_{[\lambda_1, \lambda_2]}$  be a subgroup in  $G$  for all  $[\lambda_1, \lambda_2] \in [I]$ . Then  $\bar{A} \in NIF(G, T)$  iff  $\bar{A}_{[\lambda_1, \lambda_2]}$  is a normal subgroup in  $G$ .

**proof** Necessity. For any  $x \in A_{[\lambda_1, \lambda_2]} = A_{\lambda_1}^- \cap A_{\lambda_2}^+$ ,  $y \in G, [\lambda_1, \lambda_2] \in [I]$ .

$$\text{We have } \bar{A}(y \cdot x \cdot y^{-1}) = \bar{A}(y^{-1} \cdot (y \cdot x)) = \bar{A}(x) = [A^-(x), A^+(x)] \geq [\lambda_1, \lambda_2].$$

It follows that  $y \cdot x \cdot y^{-1} \in \bar{A}_{[\lambda_1, \lambda_2]}$ . i. e.,  $\bar{A}_{[\lambda_1, \lambda_2]}$  is a normal subgroup in  $G$ .

Sufficiency. Suppose  $\bar{A} \notin NIF(G, T)$ , it means that there exists  $x_0, y_0 \in G$ , such that  $\bar{A}(x_0 \cdot y_0) \neq \bar{A}(y_0 \cdot x_0)$ . Without loss of generality, we assume that

$$\bar{A}(x_0 \cdot y_0) < \bar{A}(y_0 \cdot x_0), \text{ and let } [\lambda_1, \lambda_2] = \frac{1}{2} (\bar{A}(x_0 \cdot y_0) + \bar{A}(y_0 \cdot x_0)).$$

Evidently, we have  $\bar{A}(x_0 \cdot y_0) < [\lambda_1, \lambda_2] \leq \bar{A}(y_0 \cdot x_0)$ .

It follows that  $x_0 \cdot y_0 \notin \bar{A}_{[\lambda_1, \lambda_2]}$  and  $y_0 \cdot x_0 \in \bar{A}_{[\lambda_1, \lambda_2]}$ .

Thus  $y_0^{-1} \cdot (y_0 \cdot x_0) \cdot y_0 = x_0 \cdot y_0 \notin \bar{A}_{(\alpha_1, \alpha_2)}$ .

This contradicts that  $\bar{A}_{(\alpha_1, \alpha_2)}$  is a normal subgroup in  $G$ .

**Corollary 4.1** Let  $G$  be a classical group,  $T$  be a  $T$ -norm,  $\bar{A} \in NIF(G, T)$ .

Let  $G|_{\bar{\lambda}} = \{x \in G; \bar{A}(x) = \bar{A}(e)\}$ , where  $e$  is a unit element of  $G$ .

Then the classical set  $G|_{\bar{\lambda}}$  is a normal subgroup in  $G$ .

**Theorem 4.2** Let  $G$  be a classical group,  $T_H$  be a idempotent  $T$ -norm and  $\bar{A} \in IF(G, T_H)$ . Then  $\bar{A} \in NIF(G, T_H)$  iff for all  $x, y \in G, \bar{A}(y^{-1} \cdot x \cdot y) = \bar{A}(x)$ .

**proof** By Definition 4.1 and the definition of  $T_H$ , its proof is straightforward.

Applying Definition 3.1, 4.1 and Theorem 4.2 to the above space  $NIF(\bar{G}, T_H)$ , We obtain the following theorem.

**Theorem 4.3** Let  $G$  and  $\bar{G}$  be classical groups, the mapping  $f: G \rightarrow \bar{G}$  be a homomorphism in the groups,  $T_H$  be a idempotent  $T$ -norm. Then

$$(1) F_f(\bar{A}) \in NIF(\bar{G}, T_H) \quad \text{if } \bar{A} \in NIF(G, T_H)$$

$$(2) F_f^{-1}(\bar{B}) \in NIF(G, T_H) \quad \text{if } \bar{B} \in NIF(\bar{G}, T_H)$$

**proof** We only verify (2). By Definition 3.1, for any  $x, y \in G$  we can infer that

$$\begin{aligned} F_f^{-1}(\bar{B})(x \cdot y) &= \bar{B}(f(x \cdot y)) = \bar{B}(f(x) \cdot f(y)) = \bar{B}(f(y) \cdot f(x)) \\ &= \bar{B}(f(y \cdot x)) = F_f^{-1}(\bar{B})(y \cdot x) \end{aligned}$$

Consequently,  $F_f^{-1}(\bar{B}) \in NIF(G, T_H)$

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