

# Interval-valued fuzzy linear spaces

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**Abstract:** In this paper, the concept of a interval-valued fuzzy linear space (i. e. i-v fuzzy linear space) is introduced, and its properties are shown. Then using the extension principle of i-v fuzzy sets, images and inverse-images of i-v fuzzy linear spaces under a linear transformation are studied.

**Key words:** i-v fuzzy sets; fields; linear space; i-v fuzzy fields, i-v fuzzy linear space.

## 1. Introduction

In 1975, Zadeh [7] introduced the concept of interval-valued fuzzy sets (in short, written by i-v fuzzy sets), where the values of the membership functions are intervals of real numbers instead of the real points. In [3], Gorzalczany studied i-v fuzzy sets for approximate reasoning. Meng [5] made a deep study on the fundamental theory of i-v fuzzy sets, and had shown decomposition theorem and expression theorem, etc. This makes it possible to establish some corresponding mathematics theory with respect to the classical branch. For example, Biswas's i-v fuzzy subgroups [1].

It is well-known that fuzzy linear space is an important concept in fuzzy algebras, and based on membership function valued in  $[0, 1]$ , its theory has been built up by Nanda [6], Biswas [2] and Gu [4]. The present paper's purpose is to set up a theory of i-v fuzzy linear space over i-v fuzzy fields, such that it is an good extension of above mentioned works.

The rest of the paper consists of three parts. After preliminar-

ies in section 2, the i-v fuzzy field is defined in section 3. Then in section 4, the theory of i-v fuzzy linear spaces is built up.

## 2. Preliminaries

Let  $I = [0, 1]$ ,  $[I] = \{[a, b] : a \leq b, a, b \in I\}$ . For each  $a \in I$ , if we let  $a = [a, a]$ , then  $a \in [I]$ .

Let  $a_t \in I, t \in T$ . Then we write

$$\bigvee_{t \in T} a_t = \sup \{a_t : t \in T\}, \quad \bigwedge_{t \in T} a_t = \inf \{a_t : t \in T\}$$

Let  $[a_t, b_t] \in [I], t \in T$ , we define

$$\bigvee_{t \in T} [a_t, b_t] = \left[ \bigvee_{t \in T} a_t, \bigvee_{t \in T} b_t \right], \quad \bigwedge_{t \in T} [a_t, b_t] = \left[ \bigwedge_{t \in T} a_t, \bigwedge_{t \in T} b_t \right]$$

Furtherly, for  $[a_i, b_i] \in [I], i = 1, 2$ , we define

$$[a_1, b_1] = [a_2, b_2] \Leftrightarrow a_1 = a_2, b_1 = b_2;$$

$$[a_1, b_1] \leq [a_2, b_2] \Leftrightarrow a_1 \leq a_2, b_1 \leq b_2;$$

$$[a_1, b_1] < [a_2, b_2] \Leftrightarrow [a_1, b_1] \leq [a_2, b_2] \text{ and } [a_1, b_1] \neq [a_2, b_2].$$

Obviously,  $([I], \leq, \bigvee, \bigwedge)$  is a complete lattice with universal bounds  $[0, 0]$  and  $[1, 1]$ .

Let  $X$  be a nonempty set. A mapping  $A : X \rightarrow [I]$  is said to be an i-v fuzzy set. If we let  $A(x) = [A^-(x), A^+(x)], \forall x \in X$ , then the fuzzy set  $A^- : X \rightarrow I$  (resp,  $A^+ : X \rightarrow I$ ) is called the lower (resp, upper) fuzzy set of  $A$ .

We use the symbol  $IF(X)$  to denote the set of all i-v fuzzy sets on  $X$ .

Let  $A_t \in IF(X), t \in T, \forall x \in X$ , Then we define

$$\bigcup_{t \in T} A_t : \left( \bigcup_{t \in T} A_t \right)(x) = \bigvee_{t \in T} A_t(x);$$

$$\bigcap_{t \in T} A_t : \left( \bigcap_{t \in T} A_t \right)(x) = \bigwedge_{t \in T} A_t(x);$$

$$A_{t_1} \subset A_{t_2} \Leftrightarrow A_{t_1}(x) \leq A_{t_2}(x), t_1, t_2 \in T;$$

$$A_{t_1} = A_{t_2} \Leftrightarrow A_{t_1}(x) = A_{t_2}(x), t_1, t_2 \in T.$$

## 3. i-v fuzzy fields

**Definition 3. 1.** Let  $X, Y$  be two sets,  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  be a mapping. Then the following mappings

$$f: IF(X) \rightarrow IF(Y)$$

$$f(A)(y) = \begin{cases} \bigvee_{x \in f^{-1}(y)} A(x), & \text{if } f^{-1}(y) \neq \emptyset, \forall y \in Y \\ [0, 0], & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

and  $f^{-1}: IF(Y) \rightarrow IF(X), f^{-1}(B)(x) = B(f(x))$

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

are called an i-v fuzzy transformation and an i-v fuzzy inverse transformation, respectively.

The above method, i. e.  $f$  and  $f^{-1}$  are induced by  $f$  is called extension principle. Clearly,

$$\begin{aligned} f(A)(y) &= \left[ \bigvee_{x \in f^{-1}(y)} A^-(x), \bigvee_{x \in f^{-1}(y)} A^+(x) \right] \\ &= [f(A^-(y)), f(A^+(y))] \\ f^{-1}(B)(x) &= [B^-(f(x)), B^+(f(x))] \\ &= [f^{-1}(B^-(x)), f^{-1}(B^+(x))]. \end{aligned}$$

**Definition 3. 2.** Let  $X$  be a field and  $F$  an i-v fuzzy set on  $X$ . If the following conditions hold:

- (1)  $F(x+y) \geq F(x) \wedge F(y), x, y \in X;$
- (2)  $F(-x) \geq F(x), x \in X;$
- (3)  $F(xy) \geq F(x) \wedge F(y), x, y \in X;$
- (4)  $F(x^{-1}) \geq F(x), x (\neq 0) \in X.$

then  $F$  is said to be an i-v fuzzy field of  $X$ , denoted by  $(F, X)$ .

**Proposition 3. 1.** If  $(F, X)$  is a i-v fuzzy field of  $X$ , then

- (1)  $F(0) \geq F(x), x \in X;$
- (2)  $F(1) \geq F(x), x (\neq 0) \in X;$
- (3)  $F(0) \geq F(1)$

**Proposition 3. 2.** Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be fields, and  $f$  a homomorphism of  $X$  into  $Y$ . Suppose that  $(F, X)$  is a i-v fuzzy field of  $X$  and  $(G, Y)$  is a i-v fuzzy field of  $Y$ , then

- (1)  $(f(F), Y)$  is a i-v fuzzy field of  $Y$ .
- (2)  $(f^{-1}(G), X)$  is a i-v fuzzy field of  $X$ .

#### 4. i-v fuzzy linear spaces

**Definition 4.1.** Let  $X$  be a field and  $(F, X)$  be an i-v fuzzy field of  $X$ . Let  $Y$  be a linear space over  $X$  and  $V$  be an i-v fuzzy set of  $Y$ .

Suppose the following conditions hold:

- (1)  $V(x+y) \geq V(x) \wedge V(y), x, y \in Y$ ;
- (2)  $V(-x) \geq V(x), x \in Y$ ;
- (3)  $V(\lambda x) \geq F(\lambda) \wedge V(x), \lambda \in X$  and  $x \in Y$ ;
- (4)  $F(1) \geq V(0)$

then  $(V, Y)$  is called an i-v fuzzy linear space over an  $(F, X)$ .

**Definition 4.2** Let  $(V, Y)$  and  $(W, Y)$  be two i-v fuzzy linear space over an i-v fuzzy field  $(F, X)$ . If  $W \subset V$ , then  $(W, Y)$  is said to be an i-v fuzzy linear subspace of  $(V, Y)$ .

**Proposition 4.1.** If  $(V, Y)$  is an i-v fuzzy linear space over  $(F, X)$ , then

- (1)  $F(0) \geq V(0)$ ;
- (2)  $V(0) \geq V(x), x \in Y$ ;
- (3)  $F(1) \geq V(x), x \in Y$

**Proposition 4.2.** Let  $(F, X)$  be an i-v fuzzy field of  $X$ , and  $Y$  a linear space over  $X$ . Assume  $V$  is an i-v fuzzy set of  $Y$ . Then  $(V, Y)$  is an i-v fuzzy linear space over  $(F, X)$  iff

- (1)  $V(\lambda x + \mu y) \geq (F(\lambda) \wedge V(x)) \wedge (F(\mu) \wedge V(y)), \lambda, \mu \in X$   
and  $x, y \in Y$ ;
- (2)  $F(1) \geq V(x), x \in Y$ .

**Proposition 4.3.** Let  $(V, Y)$  be an i-v fuzzy linear space over  $(F, X)$ , and  $W \subset V$ . Then  $(W, Y)$  is an i-v fuzzy linear subspace of  $(V, Y)$  iff  $W(\lambda x + \mu y) \geq (F(\lambda) \wedge W(x)) \wedge (F(\mu) \wedge W(y)), \lambda, \mu \in X$  and  $x, y \in Y$ .

**Proposition 4.4.** The intersection of a family of i-v fuzzy linear spaces is an i-v fuzzy linear space.

**Proposition 4.5.** The intersection of a family of i-v fuzzy linear subspaces is an i-v fuzzy linear subspace.

**Proposition 4.6.** Let  $Y$  and  $Z$  be linear spaces over the field  $X$ , and  $f$

a linear transformation of  $Y$  into  $Z$ . Let  $(F, X)$  be an i-v fuzzy field of  $X$ , and  $(W, Z)$  be an i-v fuzzy linear space over  $(F, X)$ . Then  $(f^{-1}(W), Y)$  is an i-v fuzzy linear space over  $(F, X)$ .

**Proposition 4.7.** Let  $Y$  and  $Z$  be linear spaces over the field  $X$ , and  $f$  a linear transformation of  $Y$  into  $Z$ . Let  $(F, X)$  be an i-v fuzzy field of  $X$  and  $(V, Y)$  be an i-v fuzzy linear space over  $(F, X)$ . Then  $(f(V), Z)$  is an i-v fuzzy linear space over  $(F, X)$ .

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