

Application of Fuzzy Soft Set Theory in Day to Day Problems

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ABSTRACT

In our daily life we often face some problems in which the right decision making is highly essential. But most of these cases we become confused about the right solution. To obtain the best feasible solution of these problems we have to consider various parameters relating to the solution. For this we can use the best mathematical tool called Fuzzy soft set theory. In this paper we select a burning problem for the parents and successfully applied the Fuzzy soft set theory in decision making.

KEYWORDS

Fuzzy set_1, Fuzzy Softset, Decision Matrix

1. INTRODUCTION

The most appropriate theory for dealing with uncertainty in the theory of Fuzzy Sets developed by Zadeh [1] in 1965. A Fuzzy Set is defined by its membership function, whose values are defined on the interval [0,1].

Pawlak introduced rough set theory [3] in 1982, which is another significant approach to modeling vagueness. This theory has been successfully applied to many field such as machine learning, data mining, data analysis, medicine etc.

Presently work on the Soft Set theory is progressing rapidly. Maji *et al.* [4] described the application of Soft Set theory for decision-making problems by using rough sets. Chen *et al.*, [13] introduce a new definition of Soft Set parameterization reduction and compare his definition to the related concept of attributes reduction in rough set theory.

Rosenfeld [14] proposed the concept of Fuzzy group in order to establish the algebraic structure of Fuzzy Sets. Rough groups were defined by Biswas *et al.* [15] and have studied the algebraic properties of rough sets. Before going to the main objectives of our study we need the following notations for better understanding the topic

1.1 Important Notations

Let us recall the notation of Fuzzy Sets as follows :

For every set $A \subset X$, define its indicator function μ_A

$$\mu_A(x) = 1, \text{ if } x \in A \\ 0, \text{ if } x \notin A$$

A Fuzzy Set F is described by its membership function μ_A . For every $x \in X$, this function associates a real number $\mu_F(x)$ in the interval [0,1]. The number $\mu_F(x)$ is interpreted for the point x as a degree of belonging x to the Fuzzy Set F .

Let F and G be two Fuzzy Set and μ_F, μ_G are their membership functions. The complement CF is defined by its membership functions as

$$\mu_{CF}(x) = 1 - \mu_F(x)$$

The union $F \cup G$ can be defined by any one of the following membership functions.

$$\mu_{F \cup G}(x) = \max \{ \mu_F(x), \mu_G(x) \}$$

$$\mu_{F \cup G}(x) = \mu_F(x) + \mu_G(x) - \mu_F(x) \cdot \mu_G(x)$$

$$\mu_{F \cup G}(x) = \min \{ 1, \mu_F(x), \mu_G(x) \}$$

The intersection $F \cap G$ can be defined by any one of the following membership function.

$$\mu_{F \cap G}(x) = \min \{ \mu_F(x), \mu_G(x) \}$$

$$\mu_{F \cap G}(x) = \mu_F(x) \cdot \mu_G(x)$$

$$\mu_{F \cap G}(x) = \max \{ 0, \mu_F(x) + \mu_G(x) - 1 \}$$

Though the Fuzzy Set is progressing rapidly, but there exists a difficulty; how to set the membership function in each particular case.

To avoid such difficulties, Molodtsov [2] use an adequate parameterization. U be an initial universal set and E be a set of parameters. The pair (F, E) is called a Soft Set (over U) if and only if F is a mapping of E into the set of all subsets of U . Hence the Soft Set is a parameterized family of subsets of the set U . Every set $F(\varepsilon), \varepsilon \in E$, from this family may be considered as the set of ε -element of the Soft Set (F, E) .

2. APPLICATION OF SOFT SET THEORY

Molodtsov [2] presented some applications of the soft set theory in several directions viz. study of smoothness of functions, game theory, operations research, Riemann-integration, Perron integration, probability, theory of measurement, etc. In this section, we present an application of soft set theory in a decision making problem with the help of rough approach [3]. Let us now formulate our problem as follows:

Problem: Let $U = \{c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4, c_5, c_6, c_7\}$ be the set of seven cars and

$E = \{ \text{expensive, fuel efficiency, spacious, maintenance free, ecofriendly, high security measure} \}$ are set of parameters. Let (F, P) be a soft set representing the "suitable cars" given by $(F, P) = \{ \text{expensive cars} = \{c_2, c_3, c_5, c_7\}, \text{fuel efficiency} = \{c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4\}, \text{spacious} = \{c_4, c_5, c_6, c_7\}, \text{maintenance free} = \{c_2, c_4, c_6, c_7\}, \text{ecofriendly} = \{c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4, c_5, c_6\}, \text{high security measure} = \{c_3, c_4, c_6, c_7\} \}$

Suppose that Mr X wants to buy a car consisting the parameter **fuel efficiency, spacious, ecofriendly, high security measure** which forms the subset

$P = \{ \text{fuel efficiency, spacious, ecofriendly, high security measure} \}$ of the set E .

The problem is to select the car which is suitable with the choice parameters set by Mr X.

Solution:

Let us first make a tabular representation of the problem:

Consider the soft set (F, P) where P is the choice parameter of Mr X.

Suppose $h_{ij} = 1$ if $h_i \in F(e_j)$
 $= 0$ if $h_i \notin F(e_j)$

	e_1	e_2	e_3	e_4
C_1	1	0	1	0
C_2	1	0	1	0
C_3	1	0	1	1
C_4	1	1	1	1
C_5	0	1	1	0
C_6	0	1	1	1
C_7	0	0	1	1

Where $e_i \in P$, $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$

REDUCT –TABLE OF A SOFT SET:

Here P is subset of E so, (F, P) is a soft subset of (F, E)

Let Q be a reduct of P . Then soft set (F, Q) is called reduct softest of the softest (F, P)

Choice value of an object C_i

The choice value of an object C_i is p_i where

$P_i = \sum_j c_{ij}$, where c_{ij} is the entries in the table of reduct-softest.

Where C_i in the entries in the table of reduct softest. ([13].)

ALGORITHM FOR SELECTION OF CAR

To select the car for Mr. X, the following algorithm may be followed-

1. Input the softest (F, E) .
2. Input the set P of the choice parameter for Mr. X,
3. Find all reduced soft sets of (F, P) .
4. Choose one reduced-softset say (F, Q) of (F, P)
5. Find k for which $P_k = \max p_i$

Then C_k in the optional choice object of K has more than one value, than any one of them could be chosen by Mr. X.

Using the above algorithm we try to solve the above problem. Here $P = \{e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4\}$. From table we see that $\{e_1, e_2, e_4\}$ is the reduct of P .

Using choice value the reduct-soft-set can be tabulated as-

	e_1	e_2	e_4	choice value
c_1	1	0	0	$p_1=1$
c_2	1	0	0	$p_2=1$
c_3	1	0	1	$p_3=2$
c_4	1	1	1	$p_4=3$
c_5	0	1	0	$p_5=1$
c_6	0	1	1	$p_6=2$
c_7	0	0	1	$p_7=1$

Here $\max p_i = p_4$

DECISION : Mr X can buy the car c_4

Weighted table of a soft set

Lin [16] introduced the theory of “W-soft set” which is weighted soft set. The weighted choice value of an object c_i is Wp_i where

$$Wp_i = \sum_j d_{ij} \text{ such that } d_{ij} = w_j \times e_{ij}$$

The revised Algorithm for selection of car ---

1. Input the softset (F, E)
2. Input the set P of choice parameter for Mr X which is a subset of E
3. Find all reduct-softset of (F, P)
4. Choose one reduct-softset (F, Q)
5. Find weighted table of the softset (F, Q) according to the weights decided by Mr X.
6. Find k for which $Wp_i = \max Wp_i$

Then c_k is the optional choice object. If k has more than one value, then any one of them could be chosen by Mr X by using his option.

Let us try to solve the original problem by using revised algorithm.

Suppose Mr X sets the

weights for the parameter as follows

fuel efficiency----- $w_1=0.9$

spacious----- $w_2=0.7$

ecofriendly----- $w_3=0.6$

high security measure— $w_4=0.5$

Using these weights the reduct-softset can be tabulated as –

	$w_j \times e_1$	$w_j \times e_2$	$w_j \times e_4$	Choe value Wp_i
c_1	0.9	0	0	0.9
c_2	0.9	0	0	0.9
c_3	0.9	0	0.5	1.4
c_4	0.9	0.7	0.5	2.1
c_5	0	0.7	0	0.7
c_6	0	0.7	0.5	1.2
c_7	0	0	0.5	0.5

Here max $Wp_i = Wp_4$

DECISION : Mr X can buy the car c_4

Mr X is facing a problem for choosing the suitable course for his son among the available courses medical , engineering ,computer application , pure science and humanities which are denoted by **m, e, c, p** and **h** respectively . He seeks advice from four counseling agencies **a₁, a₂, a₃, a₄** .

The four agencies provided the information about the courses considering the parameters **availability of seat ,future prospects , affordability , studentfriendly curriculum , job security and eligibility of the student** which are denoted by **s₁,s₂,s₃,s₄ , s₅ and s₆** respectively.

$U = \{m, e, c, p, h\}$ be the set of courses for study and $S = \{s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4, s_5, s_6\}$ be the set of parameters .

The information provided by the counseling agencies forms the fuzzy soft sets $(F_1, S), (F_2, S), (F_3, S)$ and (F_4, S) over U where F_1, F_2, F_3, F_4 are mappings from S into I^U , where I^U is the set of all fuzzy subsets of U given by the counseling agencies .

$$F_1(s_1) = \left\{ \frac{m}{0.5}, \frac{e}{0.6}, \frac{c}{0.5}, \frac{p}{0.8}, \frac{h}{0.9} \right\}$$

$$F_1(s_2) = \left\{ \frac{m}{0.8}, \frac{e}{0.7}, \frac{c}{0.6}, \frac{p}{0.4}, \frac{h}{0.3} \right\}$$

$$F_1(s_3) = \left\{ \frac{m}{0.1}, \frac{e}{0.2}, \frac{c}{0.3}, \frac{p}{0.6}, \frac{h}{0.8} \right\}$$

$$F_1(s_4) = \left\{ \frac{m}{0.3}, \frac{e}{0.4}, \frac{c}{0.5}, \frac{p}{0.4}, \frac{h}{0.8} \right\}$$

$$F_1(s_5) = \left\{ \frac{m}{0.9}, \frac{e}{0.8}, \frac{c}{0.7}, \frac{p}{0.6}, \frac{h}{0.2} \right\}$$

$$F_1(s_6) = \left\{ \frac{m}{0.1}, \frac{e}{0.2}, \frac{c}{0.3}, \frac{p}{0.5}, \frac{h}{0.8} \right\}$$

$$F_2(s_1) = \left\{ \frac{m}{0.52}, \frac{e}{0.59}, \frac{c}{0.6}, \frac{p}{0.85}, \frac{h}{0.91} \right\},$$

$$F_2(s_2) = \left\{ \frac{m}{0.79}, \frac{e}{0.75}, \frac{c}{0.65}, \frac{p}{0.43}, \frac{h}{0.25} \right\}$$

$$F_2(s_3) = \left\{ \frac{m}{0.15}, \frac{e}{0.22}, \frac{c}{0.40}, \frac{p}{0.70}, \frac{h}{0.90} \right\}$$

$$F_2(s_4) = \left\{ \frac{m}{0.25}, \frac{e}{0.35}, \frac{c}{0.45}, \frac{p}{0.50}, \frac{h}{0.75} \right\}$$

$$F_2(s_5) = \left\{ \frac{m}{0.87}, \frac{e}{0.88}, \frac{c}{0.75}, \frac{p}{0.65}, \frac{h}{0.30} \right\}$$

$$F_2(s_6) = \left\{ \frac{m}{0.13}, \frac{e}{0.22}, \frac{c}{0.35}, \frac{p}{0.49}, \frac{h}{0.85} \right\}$$

$$F_3(s_1) = \left\{ \frac{m}{0.55}, \frac{e}{0.63}, \frac{c}{0.54}, \frac{p}{0.75}, \frac{h}{0.91} \right\}$$

$$F_3(s_2) = \left\{ \frac{m}{0.88}, \frac{e}{0.86}, \frac{c}{0.70}, \frac{p}{0.50}, \frac{h}{0.40} \right\}$$

$$F_3(s_3) = \left\{ \frac{m}{0.20}, \frac{e}{0.30}, \frac{c}{0.50}, \frac{p}{0.70}, \frac{h}{0.90} \right\}$$

$$F_3(s_4) = \left\{ \frac{m}{0.29}, \frac{e}{0.33}, \frac{c}{0.48}, \frac{p}{0.52}, \frac{h}{0.85} \right\}$$

$$F_3(s_5) = \left\{ \frac{m}{0.85}, \frac{e}{0.84}, \frac{c}{0.78}, \frac{p}{0.65}, \frac{h}{0.23} \right\}$$

$$F_3(s_6) = \left\{ \frac{m}{0.12}, \frac{e}{0.25}, \frac{c}{0.30}, \frac{p}{0.57}, \frac{h}{0.85} \right\}$$

$$F_4(s_1) = \left\{ \frac{m}{0.58}, \frac{e}{0.67}, \frac{c}{0.56}, \frac{p}{0.86}, \frac{h}{0.95} \right\}$$

$$F_4(s_2) = \left\{ \frac{m}{0.89}, \frac{e}{0.87}, \frac{c}{0.69}, \frac{p}{0.45}, \frac{h}{0.36} \right\}$$

$$F_4(s_3) = \left\{ \frac{m}{0.19}, \frac{e}{0.27}, \frac{c}{0.34}, \frac{p}{0.57}, \frac{h}{0.89} \right\}$$

$$F_4(s_4) = \left\{ \frac{m}{0.32}, \frac{e}{0.35}, \frac{c}{0.40}, \frac{p}{0.45}, \frac{h}{0.70} \right\}$$

$$F_4(s_5) = \left\{ \frac{m}{0.85}, \frac{e}{0.87}, \frac{c}{0.73}, \frac{p}{0.61}, \frac{h}{0.23} \right\}$$

$$F_4(s_6) = \left\{ \frac{m}{0.18}, \frac{e}{0.24}, \frac{c}{0.37}, \frac{p}{0.56}, \frac{h}{0.78} \right\}$$

ALGORITHM

We shall follow the following algorithm for the solution of the problem discussed above .

1. Input the performance evaluation of courses by different counseling agencies as matrix .
2. Find the average of the corresponding entries of all the matrices in step I
3. Multiply the weightage of different courses of the guardian to the corresponding entries of each row to get the comprehensive decision matrix .
4. Formulate the comparison table
5. Find the row-sums and column-sums of the comparison table
6. Obtain the score for each product and the product of with maximum score is recommended as the best choice .

Now the matrix representation of above four fuzzy soft set $(F_1, S), (F_2, S), (F_3, S)$ and (F_4, S) are as follows

$(F_1, S) =$	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.8	0.9
	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.3
	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.6	0.8
	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.8
	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.2
	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.8

$$(F_2, S) = \begin{bmatrix} 0.58 & 0.67 & 0.56 & 0.86 & 0.95 \\ 0.89 & 0.87 & 0.69 & 0.45 & 0.36 \\ 0.19 & 0.27 & 0.34 & 0.57 & 0.89 \\ 0.2 & 0.35 & 0.40 & 0.45 & 0.70 \\ 0.85 & 0.87 & 0.73 & 0.61 & 0.23 \\ 0.18 & 0.24 & 0.37 & 0.56 & 0.78 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(F_3, S) = \begin{bmatrix} 0.52 & 0.59 & 0.6 & 0.85 & 0.91 \\ 0.79 & 0.75 & 0.65 & 0.43 & 0.25 \\ 0.15 & 0.22 & 0.40 & 0.70 & 0.90 \\ 0.25 & 0.35 & 0.45 & 0.50 & 0.75 \\ 0.87 & 0.88 & 0.75 & 0.65 & 0.30 \\ 0.13 & 0.22 & 0.35 & 0.49 & 0.85 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(F_4, S) = \begin{bmatrix} 0.55 & 0.63 & 0.54 & 0.75 & 0.91 \\ 0.88 & 0.86 & 0.70 & 0.50 & 0.40 \\ 0.20 & 0.30 & 0.50 & 0.70 & 0.90 \\ 0.85 & 0.84 & 0.78 & 0.65 & 0.23 \\ 0.12 & 0.25 & 0.30 & 0.57 & 0.85 \end{bmatrix}$$

Taking the average of the above four fuzzy soft sets we get the performance evaluation matrix as

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0.54 & 0.62 & 0.55 & 0.82 & 0.92 \\ 0.84 & 0.80 & 0.66 & 0.45 & 0.33 \\ 0.16 & 0.25 & 0.39 & 0.64 & 0.87 \\ 0.29 & 0.36 & 0.46 & 0.47 & 0.78 \\ 0.87 & 0.85 & 0.74 & 0.63 & 0.24 \\ 0.13 & 0.23 & 0.33 & 0.53 & 0.82 \end{bmatrix}$$

Suppose that Mr X sets the preference weightage for the different courses as

$$W = \begin{bmatrix} m & e & c & p & h \\ 0.3 & 0.3 & 0.275 & 0.1 & 0.025 \end{bmatrix}$$

such that $\sum w_j = 1$

The comprehensive decision matrix **D** can be obtained by multiplying **A row by row** by the weightage matrix **W** and the transposing it as follow

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} 0.54 & 0.84 & 0.16 & 0.29 & 0.87 & 0.13 \\ 0.62 & 0.80 & 0.25 & 0.36 & 0.85 & 0.23 \\ 0.55 & 0.66 & 0.39 & 0.46 & 0.74 & 0.33 \\ 0.82 & 0.45 & 0.64 & 0.47 & 0.63 & 0.53 \\ 0.92 & 0.33 & 0.87 & 0.78 & 0.24 & 0.82 \end{bmatrix}$$

The comparison table of the above comprehensive decision matrix is

	m	e	c	p	h	Row-sum
m	6	2	3	4	6	21
e	4	6	3	6	6	25
c	3	3	6	6	6	24
p	2	0	0	6	6	14
h	0	0	0	0	6	6
Column-sum	15	11	12	22	30	

The row-sum and the column-sum from the comprehensive decision matrix and the score for each c_i are as below

	Row-sum	Column-sum	Score
m	21	15	6
e	25	11	14
c	24	12	12
p	14	22	-8
h	6	30	-24

Here we find that the maximum score is obtain by **e** , that is by the course **ENGINEERING** .

Hence Mr X can choose the course **ENGINEERING** for his son.

3. CONCLUSION

Thus we see that Fuzzy soft set theory is very much interesting and useful for solving the day to day problems. It helps to take decision making in a critical situation .

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