# FUZZY IDEALS OF NEAR-RINGS WITH INTERVAL VALUED MEMBERSHIP FUNCTIONS

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## **Abstract**

In this paper, for a complete lattice  $\mathcal{L}$ , we introduce interval-valued  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy ideal (prime ideal) of a near-ring which is an extended notion of fuzzy ideal (prime ideal) of a near-ring. Some characterization and properties are discussed.

#### 1. Introduction

Zadeh in [19] introduced the concept of a fuzzy subset of a non-empty set X as a function from X to [0,1]. Goguen in [10] generalized the fuzzy subset of X, to  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy subset, as a function from X to a lattice  $\mathcal{L}$ .

Since Rosenfeld [18] in 1971 introduced the concept of fuzzy subgroups following Zadeh, fuzzy algebra theory has been developed by many researchers. Liu [12] defined the fuzzy ideals of a ring and discussed the operations on fuzzy ideals. Mukherjee and Sen [16], Malik and Mordeson [16], Mashinchi and Zahedi [14], Zahedi [21], shown the meaning of the fuzzy prime ideals and its nature. The notion of fuzzy ideals and its properties were applied to various areas: distributive lattice [2], BCK-algebra [17], hyperrings [6,8], nearrings [1,11], hypernear-rings [7].

In 1975, Zadeh [20] introduced the concept of interval-valued fuzzy subsets (in short written by i-v fuzzy sets), where the values of the membership functions are intervals of numbers instead of the numbers. In [4], Biswas defined interval-valued fuzzy subgroups of the same nature of Rosenfeld's fuzzy subgroups.

In this paper, for a complete lattice  $\mathcal{L}$ , we define Interval-valued  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy ideals (prime ideals) of a near-

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ring, and we obtain an exact analogue of fuzzy ideals. In particular, we show there exists a one-to-one correspondence between the set of all f-invariant i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy prime ideals of R and the set of all i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy prime ideals of R', where R and R' are near-rings and f is a homomorphism from R onto R'.

## 2. Basic Definitions

From now on this paper  $\mathcal{L}$  is a complete lattice [3], i.e. there is a partial order  $\leq$  on  $\mathcal{L}$  such that, for any  $S \subseteq \mathcal{L}$ , infimum of S and supremum of S exist and these will be denoted by  $\bigwedge_{s \in S} \{s\}$  and  $\bigvee_{s \in S} \{s\}$ , respectively. In particular for any elements  $a,b \in \mathcal{L}$ , in  $f\{a,b\}$  and  $\sup\{a,b\}$  will be denoted by  $a \wedge b$  and  $a \vee b$ , respectively. Also,  $\mathcal{L}$  is a ditributive lattice with a least element 0 and a greatest element 1. If  $a,b \in \mathcal{L}$ ; we write  $a \geq b$  if  $b \leq a$ , and a > b if  $a \geq b$  and  $a \neq b$ .

**Definition 2.1.** Given two elements  $a,b \in \mathcal{L}$  with  $a \le b$ , we define the following closed interval set:

$$[a,b] = \{c \in \mathcal{L} | a \le c \le b\}.$$

Suppose  $\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{L})$  denotes the family of all closed intervals of  $\mathcal{L}$ .

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**Definition 2.2.** Let  $I_1 = [a_1, b_1]$ ,  $I_2 = [a_2, b_2]$  and  $I_i = [a_i, b_i]$  be elements of  $\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{L})$  then we define

$$I_1 \wedge I_2 = [a_1 \wedge a_2, b_1 \wedge b_2],$$

$$I_1 \vee I_2 = [a_1 \vee a_2, b_1 \vee b_2],$$

$$\bigwedge_{i} \{I_i\} = [\bigwedge_{i} \{a_i\}, \bigwedge_{i} \{b_i\}],$$

$$\bigvee_{i} \{I_i\} = [\bigvee_{i} \{a_i\}, \bigvee_{i} \{b_i\}].$$

We call  $I_2 \le I_1$  if and only if  $a_2 \le a_1$  and  $b_2 \le b_1$ .

**Definition 2.3.** Let X be a non-empty set. An  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy subset F defined on X is given by

$$F = \{(x, \mu_F(x) | x \in X) \}$$
, where  $\mu_F : X \to \mathcal{L}$ .

**Definition 2.4.** Let X be a non-empty set. An intervalvalued  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy subset F defined on X is given by

$$F = \{(x, [\mu_F^L(x), \mu_F^U(x)]) | x \in X\},\$$

where  $\mu_F^L$  and  $\mu_F^U$  are two  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy subsets of X such that  $\mu_F^L(x) \le \mu_F^U(x)$  for all  $x \in X$ .

Suppose  $\hat{\mu}_F(x) = [\mu_F^L(x), \mu_F^U(x)]$ . If  $\mu_F^L(x) = \mu_F^U(x)$  = c where  $0 \le c \le 1$ , then we have  $\hat{\mu}_F(x) = [c, c]$  which we also assume, for the sake of convenience, to belong to  $\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{L})$ . Thus  $\hat{\mu}_F(x) \in \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{L})$  for all  $x \in X$ . Therefore the i-v fuzzy subset F is given by

$$F = \{(x, \hat{\mu}_F(x)) | x \in X\}$$
, where  $\hat{\mu}_F : X \to \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{L})$ .

**Definition 2.5.** Let f be a mapping from a set X into a set Y. Let A be an i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy subset of X. then the image of A, i.e., f[A] is the i-v fuzzy subset of Y with the membership function defined by

$$\hat{\mu}_{f[A]}(y) = \begin{cases} \bigvee_{z \in f^{-1}(y)} {\{\hat{\mu}_A(z)\} \text{ if } f^{-1}(y) \neq \emptyset} \\ [0,0] \qquad \text{for all } y \in Y \end{cases}$$

Let B be an i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy subset of Y. Then the inverse image of B, i.e.,  $f^{-1}[B]$  is the i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy subset of X with the membership function given by

$$\hat{\mu}_{f^{-1}[B]} = \hat{\mu}_B(f(x))$$
 for all  $x \in X$ .

**Definition 2.6.** Let X and Y be any two non-empty sets and  $f: X \to Y$  be any function. An i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy subset of F of X is called f-invariant if

$$f(x) = f(y) \Rightarrow \hat{\mu}_F(x) = \hat{\mu}_F(y)$$
, where  $x, y \in X$ .

**Definition 2.7.** A non-empty set R with two binary operations + and  $\cdot$  is called a near-ring [5,15] if

- 1) (R,+) is a group,
- 2)  $(R,\cdot)$  is a semigroup,
- 3)  $x \cdot (y+z) = x \cdot y + x \cdot z$  for all  $x, y, z \in R$ .

To be more precise, they are left near-rings because the left distributive law is satisfied. We will use the word near-ring to mean left near-ring. We denote xy instead of  $x \cdot y$ . Note that x0 = 0 and x(-y) = -xy but in general  $0x \neq 0$  for all  $x \in R$  [15, Lemma 1.10]. A nearring R is called a zero symmetric if 0x = 0 for all  $x \in R$ .

**Definition 2.8.** Let  $(R,+,\cdot)$  be a near-ring. An ideal of R is a subset I of R such that

- 1) (I,+) is a normal subgroup of (R,+),
- 2)  $RI \subset I$ ,
- 3)  $(r+i)s-rs \in I$  for all  $i \in I$  and  $r, s \in R$ .

Note that if I satisfies (1) and (2) then it is called a left ideal of R. If I satisfies (1) and (3) then it is called a right ideal of R. Let P be an ideal of R. We call P a prime ideal if for any ideal  $I, J \subseteq R$ ,  $IJ \subseteq P$  then  $I \subseteq P$  or  $J \subseteq P$ .

## i-v L-Fuzzy Ideals in a Near-Ring

In this section first we define interval-valued  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy subnear-rings and ideals and then we explain some results in this connection.

**Definition 3.1.** Let  $(R,+,\cdot)$  be a near-ring. An i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy subset F of R is called an i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy subnear-ring, if the following hold:

1)  $\hat{\mu}_F(x) \wedge \hat{\mu}_F(y) \leq \hat{\mu}_F(x-y)$  for all  $x, y \in R$ ,

2) 
$$\hat{\mu}_F(x) \wedge \hat{\mu}_F(y) \leq \hat{\mu}_F(x \cdot y)$$
 for all  $x, y \in R$ .

Furthermore F is called an i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy ideal of R, if F is an i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy subnear-ring of R and

3) 
$$\hat{\mu}_F(x) = \hat{\mu}_F(y+x-y)$$
 for all  $x, y \in R$ ,

4) 
$$\hat{\mu}_F(x) \le \hat{\mu}_F(xy)$$
 for all  $x, y \in R$ ,

5) 
$$\hat{\mu}_E(i) \le \hat{\mu}_E((x+i)y - xy)$$
 for all  $x, y, i \in R$ .

Note that F is an i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy left ideal of R if it satisfies (1), (3) and (4), and F is an i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy right ideal of R if it satisfies (1), (2), (3) and (5).

Now, we give an example of an i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy ideal of a near-ring.

**Example 3.2.** Let  $R = \{0, a, b, c\}$  be a set with two binary operations as follows:

Then  $(R,+,\cdot)$  is a near-ring. Define an i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy subset F by membership function  $\hat{\mu}_F:R\to\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{L})$  by  $\hat{\mu}_F(b)=\hat{\mu}_F(c)<\hat{\mu}_F(a)<\hat{\mu}_F(0)$ . Then F is an i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy ideal of R.

**Lemma 3.3.** For an i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy ideal F of a near-ring R, we have

$$\hat{\mu}_F(x) = \hat{\mu}_F(-x) \le \hat{\mu}_F(0)$$
 for all  $x \in R$ .

**Proposition 3.4.** Let F be an i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy ideal of R. If  $\hat{\mu}_F(x-y) = \hat{\mu}_F(0)$  then  $\hat{\mu}_F(x) = \hat{\mu}_F(y)$ .

**Proof.** Assume that  $\hat{\mu}_F(x-y) = \hat{\mu}_F(0)$ . Then

$$\hat{\mu}_F(x) = \hat{\mu}_F(x - y + y)$$

$$\geq \hat{\mu}_F(x - y) \wedge \hat{\mu}_F(y)$$

$$= \hat{\mu}_F(0) \wedge \hat{\mu}_F(y)$$

$$= \hat{\mu}_F(y).$$

Similarly, using  $\hat{\mu}_F(y-x) = \hat{\mu}_F(x-y) = \hat{\mu}_F(0)$ , we get

$$\hat{\mu}_F(y) \ge \hat{\mu}_F(x)$$
.

**Corollary 3.5.**  $[\mu_F^L, \mu_F^U]$  is an i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy ideal of a near-ring R if and only if  $\mu_F^L, \mu_F^U$  are  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy ideals of R. Now, we define

$$F_t^L = \left\{ x \in X \middle| \mu_F^L(x) \ge t \right\} \quad \text{and} \quad F_s^U = \left\{ x \in X \middle| \mu_F^U(x) \ge s \right\}.$$

Then  $\hat{\mu}_F$  is an i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy ideal of R if and only if for every t, s where  $0 \le t \le s \le 1$ ,  $F_t^L$ ,  $F_s^U \ne \emptyset$  are ideals of R.

**Definition 3.6.** Let  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  be two i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy subsets of a near-ring R. Then  $F_1 \cap F_2$  and  $F_1 \circ F_2$  are defined as follows:

$$\hat{\mu}_{F_1 \cap F_2} = \hat{\mu}_{F_1}(x) \wedge \hat{\mu}_{F_2}(x)$$

$$\hat{\mu}_{F_1 o F_2}(x) = \begin{cases} \bigvee_{x = yz} \left\{ \hat{\mu}_{F_1}(y) \wedge \hat{\mu}_{F_2}(z) \right\} \\ [0.0] \quad \text{if } x \text{ is not expressible as } x = yz \end{cases}$$

**Lemma 3.7.** Let *R* be a near-ring, we have

- If F<sub>1</sub>, F<sub>2</sub> are two i-v L-fuzzy ideals of R (right or left) then F<sub>1</sub> ∩ F<sub>2</sub> is an i-v L-fuzzy ideal of R (right or left), respectively;
- 2) If R is a zero-symmetric and if  $F_1$  is an i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy right ideal and  $F_2$  is an i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy left ideal, then  $F_1 o F_2 \subseteq F_1 \cap F_2$ .

**Proof.** (1) It is an immediate consequence of Corollary 3.5 and Definition 3.6.

(2) We assume *R* is a zero symmetric near-ring. If  $\hat{\mu}_{F_0 o F_2}(x) = 0$ , there is nothing to prove. Otherwise

$$\hat{\mu}_{F_1 o F_2}(x) = \bigvee_{x = yz} \{ \hat{\mu}_{F_1}(y) \wedge \hat{\mu}_{F_2}(z) \}.$$

Since  $F_1$  is an i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy left ideal, we have

$$\hat{\mu}_{F_1}(z) \le \hat{\mu}_{F_1}(yz) = \hat{\mu}_{F_1}(x)$$
,

and since  $F_1$  is an i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy right ideal, we have

$$\hat{\mu}_{F_1}(x) = \hat{\mu}_{F_1}(yz) = \hat{\mu}_{F_1}((0+y)z - 0z) \ge \hat{\mu}_{F_1}(y)$$
.

Therefore

$$\hat{\mu}_{F_1 o F_2}(x) \le \hat{\mu}_{F_1}(x) \land \hat{\mu}_{F_2}(x) = \hat{\mu}_{F_1 \cap F_2}(x)$$
.

**Definition 3.8.** Let X be a non-empty set and F be an i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy subset of X. Then we define

$$F_{[t,s]} = \{x \in X | \hat{\mu}_F(x) \ge [t,s] \}$$
.

The set  $F_{[t,s]}$  is called the "level set" of F.

It is easy to see that  $F_{[t,s]} = F_t^L \cap F_s^U$ .

Now, we obtain the relation between an i-v *L*-fuzzy ideal and level ideals. This relation is expressed in terms of a necessary and sufficient condition.

**Theorem 3.9.** Let R be a near-ring and F be an i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy subset of R. Then F is an i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy ideal of R if and only if for every t, s where  $0 \le t \le s \le 1$ ,  $F_{[t,s]} \ne \emptyset$  is an ideal of R.

**Proof.** The proof is similar to the proof of Theorem 3.4 of [7], by considering the suitable modification with using Definitions 2.4 and 3.1.

**Definition 3.10.** An i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy ideal P of a near-ring R is said to be prime if P is not constant function and for any i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy ideals  $F_1, F_2$  in  $R, F_1 \circ F_2 \subseteq P$  implies  $F_1 \subseteq P$  or  $F_2 \subseteq P$ .

**Proposition 3.11.** Let P be an i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy prime ideal of a near-ring R. Define

$$\pi = \{x \in R | \hat{\mu}_P(x) = \hat{\mu}_P(0) \},$$

then  $\pi$  is a prime ideal in R.

**Proof.** The proof is similar to the proof of Theorem 3.7 in [1].

**Proposition 3.12.** Let R be a near-ring and  $F_1, F_2$  are i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy prime ideals of R, then  $F_1 \cap F_2$  is an i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy prime if and only if  $F_1 \subseteq F_2$  or  $F_2 \subseteq F_1$ .

**Proof.** The proof is straightforward, in view of the fact that  $F_1 \circ F_2 \subseteq F_1 \cap F_2$ .

We have the following corollary which plays an important role in the determination of i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy prime ideals.

**Corollary 3.13.** Let R be a near-ring. Then every ideal of R is a level ideal of an i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy ideal of R.

**Proof.** Let *I* be any ideal of a near-ring *R* and let  $[\alpha_1, \alpha_2] \le [\beta_1, \beta_2] \ne [0,0]$  be elements in  $\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{L})$ . Then the fuzzy subset *F* is defined as follows:

$$\hat{\mu}_F(x) = \begin{cases} [\beta_1, \beta_2] & \text{if } x \in I \\ [\alpha_1, \alpha_2] & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

We have  $I = F_{[\beta_1, \beta_2]}$  and by Theorem 3.9, it is enough to prove that F is an i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy ideal.

An element  $[\alpha_1,\alpha_2] \neq [1,1]$  in  $\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{L})$  is called "prime" if for any  $[a_1,a_2],[b_1,b_2] \in \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{L}), \ [a_1,a_2] \wedge [b_1,b_2] \leq [\alpha_1,\alpha_2]$  implies either  $[a_1,a_2] \leq [\alpha_1,\alpha_2]$  or  $[b_1,b_2] \leq [\alpha_1,\alpha_2]$ .

**Theorem 3.14.** Let I be a prime ideal of a near-ring R and let  $[\alpha_1, \alpha_2]$  a prime element in  $\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{L})$ . Let P be the fuzzy subset of R defined by

$$\hat{\mu}_P(x) = \begin{cases} [1,1] & \text{if } x \in I \\ [\alpha_1, \alpha_2] & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then P is an i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy prime ideal.

**Proof.** By Corollary 3.13, P is clearly a non-constant i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy ideal. Let  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  be any i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy ideals and let  $F_1 \nsubseteq P, F_2 \nsubseteq P$ . Then there exist x, y in R, such that  $\hat{\mu}_{F_1}(x) \nleq \hat{\mu}_{P}(x)$  and  $\hat{\mu}_{F_2}(x) \nleq \hat{\mu}_{P}(x)$ . This implies that  $\hat{\mu}_{P}(x) = \hat{\mu}_{P}(y) = [\alpha_1, \alpha_2]$  and hence  $x \notin R$  and  $y \notin R$ . Since I is prime, there exists  $r \in R$  such that  $xry \notin I$ . Now, we have  $\hat{\mu}F_1(x) \nleq [\alpha_1, \alpha_2]$  and  $\hat{\mu}F_2(ry) \nleq [\alpha_1, \alpha_2]$  (otherwise  $\hat{\mu}F_2(y) \lneq [\alpha_1, \alpha_2]$  and since  $[\alpha_1, \alpha_2]$  is prime,  $\hat{\mu}_{F_1}(x) \land \hat{\mu}_{F_2}(ry) \nleq [\alpha_1, \alpha_2]$  and hence  $(F_1oF_2)(xry) \nleq [\alpha_1, \alpha_2] = \hat{\mu}_{P}(xry)$  so that  $F_1oF_2 \nsubseteq P$ . Hence P is an i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy prime.

**Lemma 3.15.** Let f be a mapping from a non-empty set X into a non-empty set Y, and let A, B are i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy subsets of X, Y, respectively, such that

$$\hat{\mu}_A = [\mu_A^L, \mu_A^U] : X \to \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{L}) \text{ and}$$

$$\hat{\mu}_{R} = [\mu_{R}^{L}, \mu_{R}^{U}]: Y \to \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{L}).$$

Then

$$\hat{\mu}_{f[A]} = [f(\mu_A^L), f(\mu_A^U)]$$
 and

$$\hat{\mu}_{f^{-1}[B]} = [f^{-1}(\mu_B^L), f^{-1}(\mu_B^U)].$$

Using Lemma 3.15, the following propositions are obvious.

**Proposition 3.16.** Let f be a homomorphism from a near ring R onto a near-ring R', and A be any f-invariant i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy prime ideal of R. Then f[A] is an i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy prime ideal of R'.

**Proposition 3.17.** Let f be a homomorphism from a near ring R onto a near-ring R', and B be any f-invariant i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy prime ideal of R'. Then  $f^{-1}[B]$  is an i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy prime ideal of R.

**Theorem 3.18.** Let f be a homomorphism from a near ring R onto a near-ring R', then the mapping  $A \to f[A]$  defines a one-to-one correspondence between the set of all f-invariant i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy prime ideals of R and the set of all i-v  $\mathcal{L}$ -fuzzy prime ideals of R'.

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