A REVIEW ON AMBIGUOUS SET THEORY

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ABSTRACT

Lately, the accurate assessment of uncertainty in data featuring fuzzy attributes has become a significant challenge. To address this, various frameworks such as fuzzy sets and intuitionistic fuzzy sets theory have been extensively proposed. A particular challenge arises when computing the complement of true or false membership values, especially in situations involving indeterminacy. In response to this, the concept of ambiguous set (AS) has emerged as a recent addition. The discussion includes a real-world example that demonstrates how dealing with unconsciousness and ambiguity in human perception motivated the development of ambiguous set theory. Ultimately, the study delves into the definition of ambiguous sets, their mathematical representation, and associated concepts.

KEYWORDS:*Fuzzy Set; Intuitionistic Fuzzy Set; Ambiguous Set; Uncertainty.*

1.INTRODUCTION

Recently, addressing the precise evaluation of uncertainty and vagueness in attributes has become a pivotal concern for data science researchers. For uncertainty management in data, many contributions were made by the researchers [1-3].

Recently, Singh et al. [4] introduced the ambiguous set (AS) theory to address the issue of ambuity data. The AS emphasizes on the [5]:

"Development, perspective, and dispersion of ambiguity, and its association with various conceptual details and human perceptions".

The fundamental notion of an AS is to characterize each event with four member- ship degrees, viz., true membership degree (TMD), false membership degree (FMD), partially true membership degree (PTMD), and partially false membership degree (PFMD), all of which are considered dependent.

Singh and Bose [6] expanded the idea of Singh et. al. [4], and discussed many characteristics of the AS. This theory is also intended to be addressed to the ambiguity and unconsciousness of human perception [7]. Singh and Huang [8] proposed different formulas to define TMD, FMD, PTMD, and PFMD. Singh [9] presented a number of aggregation operators for integrating single-valued ambiguous numbers (SVANs). Singh [5] demonstrated the application of AS in decision-making. Singh and Huang [10] presented the concept of four-valued ambiguous logic, whose application was shown in designing ambiguous inference system. Singh and Huang [11]

proposed an ambiguous edge detection method to identify the edges in computed tomography scans of coronavirus disease 2019 cases.

The author has dedicated this study to elucidating the fundamentals of AS and its associated ideas through an illustrative example.

The remaining sections of the article are outlined as follows: Section 2 offers preliminary insights into the AS. Section 3 discusses the diverse mathematical definitions of AS. Concluding remarks and future directions are presented in Section 4.

2 Ambiguous Set (AS)

This section outlines fundamental definitions of Fuzzy Set (FS) and Intuitionistic Fuzzy Set (IFS), followed by the AS.

Definition 1: (FS) [12]. Consider a fixed universe $U = \{g\}$ for any event g. A fuzzy set A for $g \in U$ is defined by:

$$A = \{g, \Phi t(g) \mid g \in U \} (1)$$

Here, $\Phi_t: U \to [0, 1]$ represents the true membership degree function for A, and $\Phi_t(g) \in [0, 1]$ is the membership degree of $g \in U$ in A.

Definition 2: (IFS) [13]. For a fixed universe $U = \{g\}$, an interval fuzzy set I

for $g \in U$ is defined by:

 $I = \{g, \Phi t(g), \Phi f(g) \mid g \in U \} (2)$

Here, $\Phi t(g) : U \rightarrow [0, 1]$ and $\Phi f(g) : U \rightarrow [0, 1]$ represent the true and false mem- bership degrees, respectively. Both $\Phi t(g)$ and $\Phi f(g)$ satisfy: $0 \le \Phi t(g) + \Phi f(g) \le 1$.

A hesitant membership degree $\Phi h(g)$ is incorporated in IFS *I*, expressed as:

 $I = \{g, \Phi t(g), \Phi f(g), \Phi h(g) | g \in U \} (3)$

Here, in Eq. 3, $\Phi t(g)$, $\Phi f(g)$, and $\Phi h(g)$ satisfy:

$$\Phi t(g) + \Phi f(g) + \Phi h(g) = 1$$
 (4)

Next, the definition of AS is presented in terms of four membership degrees.

Definition 4: (AS) [8]. Consider a fixed universe U. An ambiguity set S for

 $g \in U$ is defined by:

$$S = \{g, \Psi t(g), \Psi f(g), \Psi ta(g), \Psi fa(g) \mid g \in U$$
(5)

Here, in Eq. 5, $\Psi t(g)$, $\Psi f(g)$, $\Psi ta(g)$, and $\Psi fa(g)$ satisfy: $0 \leq \Psi t(g) + \Psi f(g) + \Psi ta(g) + \Psi fa(g) \leq 2$.

In Definition 2, the terms $\Psi t(g)$, $\Psi f(g)$, $\Psi ta(g)$, and $\Psi fa(g)$ are denoted as the true membership function (TMF), false membership function (FMF), partially true membership function (PTMF), and partially false membership function (PFMF), respectively. Together, these four functions are collectively referred to as ambiguous membership functions (AMFs). Singh and Huang [8] proposed four categories of AMFs: T1AMFs, T2AMFs, T3AMFs, and T4AMFs.

3 Related Definitions for the AS

This section introduces various mathematical definitions related to the AS.

Definition 5: (Ambiguousness) [8]. The assignment of membership degrees to the event g is termed as an ambiguousness operation. An ambifier $\emptyset = (\Psi t, \Psi f, \Psi ta, \Psi fa)$ is a 4-tuple of membership functions Ψt , Ψf , Ψta , Ψfa : [0, 1]. When applied to g, the ambifier \emptyset produces an AS S in U as:

 $S = \{g, \Psi t(g), \Psi f(g), \Psi ta(g), \Psi fa(g)\}$ (6)

An AS defines a region in a 2-dimensional (2D) space based on ambiguous membership functions (AMFs), known as an ambiguous region (AR). Mathematically, it can be defined as:

Definition 6: (AR) [8]. For $g \in U$, an AR, denoted as SRN, is a convex polygonal region with vertices $(X_1(g), 0), (X_2(g), 0), (0, Y_1(g)), \text{ and } (0, Y_2(g)).$

Fig. 1 illustrates the membership degrees for S1 and S2. The green shaded region in this figure represents the AR.



Fig. 1: Degree of memberships and the AR: (a) Membership degrees for S_1 (b) Membership degrees for S_2

The presence of ambiguity arises from unconsciousness. The quantification of this ambiguity can be measured using entropy, known as ambiguous entropy (AE). Mathematically, it can be defined as:

Definition 7: (AE). The AE for an AS *S* (Eq. 5) is defined as:

$$AE(S) = 1 - \frac{1}{4} [\Psi t(g) + \Psi f(g)] \times [\Psi ta(g) - \Psi fa(g)]$$

$$\tag{7}$$

Where, S is any event in the universe. Here, Ψt , Ψf , Ψta , $\Psi fa : [0, 1]$ for the ambiguity set S.

Definition 8: (AND operator) [7]. Two ambiguity sets S_1 and S_2 can be combined with the AND operator, defined as:

 $S_{AND} = \{\min(\Psi t_1, \Psi t_2), \max(\Psi f_1, \Psi f_2), \max(\Psi ta_1, \Psi ta_2), \max(\Psi fa_1, \Psi fa_2)\}$ (8)

Definition 9: (OR operator) [7]. Two ambiguity sets S_1 and S_2 can be combined with the OR operator, defined as:

 $S_{OR} = \{\max(\Psi t_1, \Psi t_2), \min(\Psi f_1, \Psi f_2), \min(\Psi ta_1, \Psi ta_2), \min(\Psi fa_1, \Psi fa_2)\}$ (9)

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In Eqs. 8 and 9, Ψ t1 (g), Ψ f1(g), Ψ ta1 (g), and Ψ fa1 (g) belong to S_1 ; whereas Ψ t2 (g), Ψ f2(g), Ψ ta2 (g), and Ψ fa2 (g) belong to S_2 .

By following Eqs. 8 and $9,S_1$ and S_2 are obtained, satisfying the following properties:

P1: $(S_1)^{\mathcal{C}} = \{g, \Psi 1 f(g), \Psi t 1(g), 1 - \Psi t 1(g), 1 - \Psi f 1(g) | g \in U\}$, where

 $S_1 = \{g, \Psi t1 (g), \Psi f1(g), \Psi ta1 (g), \Psi fa1 (g) | g \in U\}.$

Here, "*C*" denotes the complement operator.

P2: $S_1 \wedge S_2 = S_2 \wedge S_1$, and

P3: $S_1 \lor S_2 = S_2 \lor S_1$

4 Conclusions and Future Directions

In this study, related works on the AS theory was reviewed for the scientific community, providing a clear and detailed explanation. Various definitions and mathematical operations for the ASs were discussed in this article.

The AS theory can be applied in various domains, including digital image segmentation, time series prediction, decision-making model, and so on.

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