

ON FUZZY PARTITIONS

M.A.H. Shakhathreh^{1 §}, W.A.A. Shatanawi²

M.M.M. Jaradat³, A.A.A. Fora⁴

^{1,3,4}Department of Mathematics

Yarmouk University

Irbid, JORDAN

¹e-mail: mali@yu.edu.jo

³e-mail: mmjst4@yu.edu.jo

⁴e-mail: afora_jo@yahoo.com

²Department of Mathematics

The Hashemite University

Zarqa, JORDAN

²e-mail: swasfi@hu.edu.jo

Abstract: Several definitions of fuzzy partitions are introduced. The relations between them are studied. The weakest and the strongest one are indicated. The relations between our definitions of fuzzy partition on X and a partition of X are studied.

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1. Basic Concepts

The study of fuzzy sets was largely motivated by the theory of distributions founded by Zadeh in 1965 [5]. In some sense, fuzzy sets play a major role in many topics in mathematics such as fuzzy topology, fuzzy algebra, fuzzy graph theory and fuzzy analysis. Thus the attraction of fuzzy sets to a large number of analyst is understandable, for fuzzy sets one can refer to [1] and [2]. Let \mathcal{A} be a family of fuzzy sets on X , we say that \mathcal{A} is locally finite if for each $x \in X$ there is a finite subset $A_0 = \{f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n\}$ of \mathcal{A} such that $f(x) = 0$ for all $f \notin A_0$ and $\sum_{i=1}^n f_i(x) = 1$. A family \mathcal{A} of fuzzy sets on X is said to be a fuzzy

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[§]Correspondence author

partition of a set X if \mathcal{A} is locally finite and $f \neq 0$ for all $f \in \mathcal{A}$ (see [3] and [4]). In the present paper, the authors introduced several definitions of fuzzy partitions and they studied the relations between them.

Let X be a universal set and P subset of X . The characteristic function χ_P of the set P is defined to be the function $\chi_P : X \rightarrow [0, 1]$ such that $\chi_P(x) = 1$ if $x \in P$ and 0 otherwise. By a fuzzy set λ in X we mean a function from X to $[0, 1]$. Let λ and μ be two fuzzy sets on X by $\lambda \leq \mu$ we mean $\lambda(x) \leq \mu(x)$ for all $x \in X$. Let $\mathcal{A} = \{\lambda_\gamma : \gamma \in \Lambda\}$ be a collection of fuzzy sets. Then the union and the intersection are defined as follows: $(\bigcup_{\gamma \in \Lambda} \lambda_\gamma)(x) = \sup_{\gamma \in \Lambda} \lambda_\gamma(x)$ and $(\bigcap_{\gamma \in \Lambda} \lambda_\gamma)(x) = \inf_{\gamma \in \Lambda} \lambda_\gamma(x)$. The support of the fuzzy set λ in X ; denoted by $\text{supp}\lambda$, is defined by $\text{supp}\lambda = \lambda^{-1}(0, 1] = \{x \in X : \lambda(x) > 0\}$.

Definition 1.1. A fuzzy set λ is called a weakly empty if $\lambda < 1/2$, a weakly universal if $\lambda > 1/2$.

Definition 1.2. Let $\mathcal{A} = \{\lambda_\gamma : \gamma \in \Lambda\}$ be a collection of fuzzy sets on the set X . The fuzzy sum, $f \sum_{\gamma \in \Lambda} \lambda_\gamma$, is defined to be $(f \sum_{\gamma \in \Lambda} \lambda_\gamma)(x) = \inf\{\sum_{\gamma \in \Lambda} \lambda_\gamma(x), 1\}$

2. Main Results

In order to facility our subsequent arguments, the letters $A_1, A_2, B_1, B_2, C_1, C_2, C_3$, and C_4 stand for the following statements:

A_1 : Each element of \mathcal{A} is a non weakly empty.

A_2 : Each element of \mathcal{A} is a nonzero.

B_1 : For any two distinct λ_γ and λ_α of \mathcal{A} , $\lambda_\gamma \cap \lambda_\alpha$ is weakly empty.

B_2 : For any two distinct λ_γ and λ_α of \mathcal{A} , $\lambda_\gamma \cap \lambda_\alpha = 0$.

C_1 : The union of all fuzzy sets of \mathcal{A} is 1; that is, $\bigcup_{\gamma \in \Lambda} \lambda_\gamma = 1$.

C_2 : The fuzzy sum of all fuzzy sets of \mathcal{A} is 1; that is, $f \sum_{\gamma \in \Lambda} \lambda_\gamma = 1$.

C_3 : $f \sum_{\gamma \in \Lambda} \lambda_\gamma$ is weakly universal.

C_4 : $\bigcup_{\gamma \in \Lambda} \lambda_\gamma$ is weakly universal.

Now we are in the position to present our fuzzy partitions.

Definition 2.1. Let \mathcal{A} be a collection of fuzzy sets on X . Then $\mathcal{A} = \{\lambda_\gamma : \gamma \in \Lambda\}$ is called:

1. F_1 fuzzy partition of X iff A_1, B_1 , and C_4 are satisfied.
2. F_2 fuzzy partition of X iff A_1, B_1 , and C_3 are satisfied.
3. F_3 fuzzy partition of X iff A_1, B_1 , and C_1 are satisfied.
4. F_4 fuzzy partition of X iff A_1, B_1 , and C_2 are satisfied.
5. F_5 fuzzy partition of X iff A_2, B_1 , and C_4 are satisfied.

- 6. F_6 fuzzy partition of X iff $A_2, B_1,$ and C_3 are satisfied.
- 7. F_7 fuzzy partition of X iff $A_2, B_1,$ and C_1 are satisfied.
- 8. F_8 fuzzy partition of X iff $A_2, B_1,$ and C_2 are satisfied.
- 9. F_9 fuzzy partition of X iff $A_1, B_2,$ and C_4 are satisfied.
- 10. F_{10} fuzzy partition of X iff $A_1, B_2,$ and C_1 are satisfied.

Lemma 2.1. *Let \mathcal{A} be a family of fuzzy sets on X . If \mathcal{A} satisfies C_1 , then \mathcal{A} satisfies C_2 and so C_3 .*

Proof. Given $x \in X$. If there is $\gamma \in \Lambda$ such that $\lambda_\gamma(x) = 1$, then $(f \sum_{\gamma \in \Lambda} \lambda_\gamma)(x) = \inf\{\sum_{\gamma \in \Lambda} \lambda_\gamma(x), 1\} = 1$. If $\lambda_\gamma(x) < 1$ for all $\gamma \in \Lambda$, then there is $\gamma_1, \gamma_2 \in \Lambda$ such that $1 > \lambda_{\gamma_1}(x), \lambda_{\gamma_2}(x) > 0.9$ because $(\bigcup_{\gamma \in \Lambda} \lambda_\gamma)(x) = 1$. Thus, $(f \sum_{\gamma \in \Lambda} \lambda_\gamma)(x) = \inf\{\sum_{\gamma \in \Lambda} \lambda_\gamma(x), 1\} = 1$. So \mathcal{A} satisfies C_2 . \square

Following the same arguments as in the proof of Lemma 2.1, we can prove the next results.

Lemma 2.2. *Let \mathcal{A} be a family of fuzzy sets on X . If \mathcal{A} satisfies C_4 , then \mathcal{A} satisfies C_3 .*

Theorem 2.1. *Let \mathcal{A} be a family of fuzzy sets on X . Then F_1 fuzzy partition of X implies F_2 fuzzy partition of X implies F_6 fuzzy partition of X*

Proof. The proof of this theorem follows from Lemma 2.2 and the following fact: “every non empty weakly empty fuzzy set is a nonzero fuzzy set”. \square

The converse of the implications in Theorem 2.1 are not true.

Example 2.1. Let $X = [0, 1]$, and let

$$\lambda_1(x) = \left(\frac{1}{4}\chi_{\{0\}} + \frac{1}{3}\chi_{(0,1/2)} + \frac{1}{4}\chi_{\{1/2\}} + \frac{1}{3}\chi_{(1/2,1)} + \frac{1}{2}\chi_{\{1\}}\right)(x),$$

$$\lambda_2(x) = \left(\frac{1}{4}\chi_{\{0\}} + \frac{1}{3}\chi_{(0,1/2)} + \frac{1}{2}\chi_{\{1/2\}} + \frac{1}{3}\chi_{(1/2,1)} + \frac{1}{4}\chi_{\{1\}}\right)(x),$$

and

$$\lambda_3(x) = \left(\frac{1}{2}\chi_{\{0\}} + \frac{1}{3}\chi_{(0,1/2)} + \frac{1}{4}\chi_{\{1/2\}} + \frac{1}{3}\chi_{(1/2,1)} + \frac{1}{4}\chi_{\{1\}}\right)(x).$$

Then $\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3\}$ is F_2 fuzzy partition of X which is not F_1 fuzzy partition of X .

Example 2.2. Let $X = [0, 1]$, and let $\lambda_1 = \frac{5}{7}, \lambda_2 = \frac{2}{7}$. Then $\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2\}$ is F_6 fuzzy partition of X which is not F_2 fuzzy partition of X .

Theorem 2.2. *Let \mathcal{A} be a family of fuzzy sets on X . Then F_3 fuzzy partition of X implies F_4 fuzzy partition of X implies F_8 fuzzy partition of X implies F_6 fuzzy partition of X*

Proof. The proof of this theorem follows by Lemma 2.1, then by noting that every non empty weakly empty fuzzy set is a nonzero fuzzy set and noting that if C_2 holds, then C_3 holds. \square

The converse of the implication in Theorem 2.2 are not true.

Example 2.3. Let $X = [0, 1]$, and let $\lambda_1(x) = (0.9\chi_{[0,1/2]} + 0.1\chi_{(1/2,1]})(x)$, $\lambda_2(x) = (0.1\chi_{[0,1/2]} + 0.9\chi_{(1/2,1]})(x)$. Then $\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2\}$ is F_4 fuzzy partition of X which is not F_3 fuzzy partition of X .

Example 2.4. Let $X = [0, 1]$, and let $\lambda_1(x) = \frac{1}{4}$, $\lambda_2(x) = \frac{1}{3}$, and $\lambda_3 = \frac{2}{3}$. Then $\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3\}$ is F_8 fuzzy partition of X which is not F_4 fuzzy partition of X .

Example 2.5. Let $X = [0, 1]$, and let $\lambda_1(x) = (\frac{1}{3}\chi_{[0,1/2]} + \frac{1}{2}\chi_{(1/2,1]})(x)$, $\lambda_2(x) = (\frac{1}{2}\chi_{[0,1/2]} + \frac{1}{3}\chi_{(1/2,1]})(x)$. Then $\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2\}$ is F_6 fuzzy partition of X which is not F_8 fuzzy partition of X .

Theorem 2.3. Let \mathcal{A} be a family of fuzzy sets on X . Then F_3 fuzzy partition of X implies F_7 fuzzy partition of X implies F_8 fuzzy partition of X .

Proof. The proof of this theorem follows by noting that every non empty weakly empty fuzzy set is a nonzero fuzzy set and Lemma 2.1. \square

The converse of the implications of Theorem 2.3 are not true.

Example 2.6. Let $X = [0, 1]$, and let $\lambda_1 = 0.2$, $\lambda_2 = 1$. Then $\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2\}$ is F_7 fuzzy partition of X which is not F_3 fuzzy partition of X .

Example 2.7. Let $X = [0, 1]$, and let $\lambda_1 = 0.1$, $\lambda_2 = 0.2$, $\lambda_3 = 0.3$, and $\lambda_4 = 0.4$. Then $\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3, \lambda_4\}$ is F_8 fuzzy partition of X which is not F_7 fuzzy partition of X .

Theorem 2.4. Let \mathcal{A} be a family of fuzzy sets on X . Then F_{10} fuzzy partition of X implies F_9 fuzzy partition of X implies F_1 fuzzy partition of X implies F_5 fuzzy partition of X implies F_6 fuzzy partition of X .

Proof. This theorem follows from the definition of C_1, C_2, B_1, B_2, A_1 , and A_1 and by Lemma 2.2. \square

The converse of the implications of Theorem 2.4 are not true.

Example 2.8. Let $X = [0, 1]$, and let $\lambda_1(x) = (\frac{3}{4}\chi_{[0,1/2]})(x)$, $\lambda_2(x) = (\frac{3}{4}\chi_{(1/2,1]})(x)$. Then $\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2\}$ is F_9 fuzzy partition of X which is not F_{10} fuzzy partition of X .

Example 2.9. Let $X = [0, 1]$, and let $\lambda_1(x) = (\frac{3}{4}\chi_{[0,1/2]} + \frac{1}{4}\chi_{(1/2,1]})(x)$, $\lambda_2(x) = (\frac{1}{4}\chi_{[0,1/2]} + \frac{3}{4}\chi_{(1/2,1]})(x)$. Then $\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2\}$ is F_1 fuzzy partition of X which is not F_9 fuzzy partition of X .

Example 2.6 is F_5 fuzzy partition of X which is not F_1 fuzzy partition of X .

Example 2.10. Let $X = [0, 1]$, and let $\lambda_1(x) = 0.3, \lambda_2(x) = 0.4$. Then $\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2\}$ is F_6 fuzzy partition of X which is not F_5 fuzzy partition of X .

Theorem 2.5. Let \mathcal{A} be a family of fuzzy sets on X . Then F_{10} fuzzy partition of X implies F_3 fuzzy partition of X implies F_4 fuzzy partition of X implies F_2 fuzzy partition of X .

Proof. This Result follows from the definition of B_1, B_2, C_2, C_3 , and Lemma 2.1. □

The converse of Theorem 2.5 is not true.

Example 2.11. Let $X = [0, 1]$, and let $\lambda_1(x) = (\chi_{[0,1/2]} + 0.1\chi_{(1/2,1]})(x), \lambda_2(x) = (0.1\chi_{[0,1/2]} + \chi_{(1/2,1]})(x)$. Then $\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2\}$ is F_3 fuzzy partition of X which is not F_{10} fuzzy partition of X .

Example 2.9 is F_4 fuzzy partition of X which is not F_3 fuzzy partition of X . While Example 2.8 is F_2 fuzzy partition of X which is not F_4 fuzzy partition of X ; that is, F_4 does not imply F_3 fuzzy partition of X and F_2 does not imply F_4 fuzzy partition of X .

Theorem 2.6. Let \mathcal{A} be a family of fuzzy sets on X . Then:

1. F_7 fuzzy partition of X implies F_5 fuzzy partition of X .
2. F_3 fuzzy partition of X implies F_1 fuzzy partition of X .

Proof. This result follows by noting that if $\bigcup_{\gamma \in \Lambda} \lambda_\gamma = 1$, then $\bigcup_{\gamma \in \Lambda} \lambda_\gamma$ is weakly universal. □

The converse of the implications of Theorem 2.6 are not true.

Example 2.12. Let $X = [0, 1]$, and let $\lambda_1(x) = \frac{1}{4}, \lambda_2(x) = \frac{3}{4}$. Then $\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2\}$ is F_5 fuzzy partition of X which is not F_7 fuzzy partition of X .

Example 2.3 is F_1 fuzzy partition of X which is not F_3 fuzzy partition of X .

The next result indicates the independency of the introduced fuzzy partitions of X .

Theorem 2.7. The following two pairs of fuzzy partitions of X are independent:

1. F_9 and F_3 are fuzzy partitions of X .
2. F_1 and F_4 are fuzzy partitions of X .
3. F_1 and F_7 are fuzzy partitions of X .
4. F_4 and F_7 are fuzzy partitions of X .

5. F_4 and F_5 are fuzzy partitions of X .
6. F_9 and F_4 are fuzzy partitions of X .
7. F_9 and F_7 are fuzzy partitions of X .
8. F_2 and F_7 are fuzzy partitions of X .
9. F_2 and F_5 are fuzzy partitions of X .
10. F_2 and F_8 are fuzzy partitions of X .
11. F_9 and F_8 are fuzzy partitions of X .

Proof. Example 2.8 is an example on F_9, F_1, F_5 , and F_2 fuzzy partitions of X which is not F_3, F_4, F_7 , and F_8 fuzzy partitions of X ; that is the following implications are not hold, $F_9 \rightarrow F_3, F_1 \rightarrow F_4, F_1 \rightarrow F_7, F_5 \rightarrow F_4, F_9 \rightarrow F_4, F_9 \rightarrow F_7, F_2 \rightarrow F_7, F_2 \rightarrow F_8$, and $F_9 \rightarrow F_8$. While Example 2.12 is a F_3 fuzzy partition of X which is not F_9 fuzzy partition of X , Example 2.1 is a F_4 fuzzy partition of X which is not F_1, F_5 , and F_9 fuzzy partitions of X , Example 2.6 is a F_7 fuzzy partition of X which is not F_1 and F_2 fuzzy partitions of X , Example 2.7 is a F_8 fuzzy partition of X which is not F_2 and F_9 fuzzy partitions of X , and Example 2.11 is a F_7 fuzzy partition of X which is not F_9 fuzzy partition of X . This proves 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, and 11 of our theorem. Example 2.1 is a F_2 fuzzy partition of X which is not F_5 fuzzy partition of X , while Example 2.2 is a F_5 fuzzy partition of X which is not F_2 fuzzy partition of X ; that is F_5 and F_2 fuzzy partitions of X are independent on each other which proves 9 of our theorem. Example 2.6 is F_7 fuzzy partition of X which is not F_4 fuzzy partition of X . On the other hand Example 2.1 is a F_4 fuzzy partition of X which is not F_7 fuzzy partition of X ; that is F_4 does not imply F_7 and F_7 does not imply F_4 which proves 4 of our theorem. \square

Our next results show that the weakest fuzzy partitions of our definitions is F_{10} fuzzy partition and the strongest fuzzy partitions of our definitions is F_6 fuzzy partition.

Theorem 2.8. *Let \mathcal{A} be a family of fuzzy sets on X . Then F_{10} fuzzy partition of X implies F_i fuzzy partition of X for all $i = 1, 2, \dots, 9$.*

Theorem 2.9. *Let \mathcal{A} be a family of fuzzy sets on X , and let $i = 1, 2, \dots, 10$. Then F_i fuzzy partition of X implies F_6 fuzzy partition of X .*

The next results give the relations between the partition of X and the fuzzy partition of X .

Theorem 2.10. *Let $\{D_i : i \in \Lambda\}$ be a partition of X . Then $\mathcal{A} = \{\chi_{D_i} : i \in \Lambda\}$ is a F_{10} fuzzy partition of X .*

Proof. Given $i \in \Lambda$. Since $D_i \neq \emptyset$, there is $x_i \in D_i$. So $\chi_{D_i}(x_i) = 1$. Hence χ_{D_i} is non weakly empty. So \mathcal{A} satisfies A_1 . For $i \neq j$ in Λ , we have $D_i \cap D_j = \emptyset$

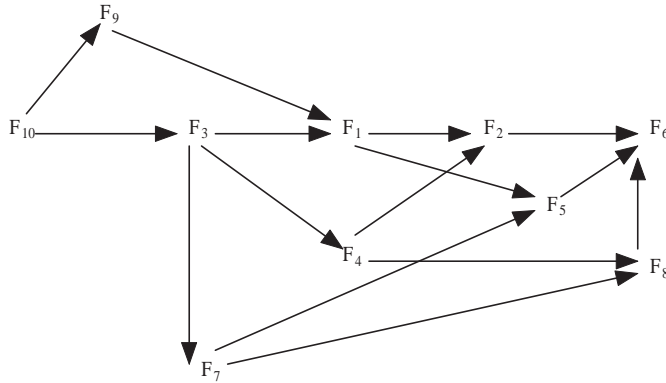


Figure 1: This diagram shows the implications between the fuzzy partitions.

and hence $\chi_{D_i} \cap \chi_{D_j} = 0$. So \mathcal{A} satisfies B_2 . Finally, for $x \in X$, there is unique $j \in \Lambda$ such that $x \in D_j$. So $\chi_{D_j}(x) = 1$ and $\chi_{D_i}(x) = 0$ for all $i \neq j$. Therefore $(\bigcup_{i \in \Lambda} \chi_{D_i})(x) = 1$ and \mathcal{A} satisfies C_1 . Therefore \mathcal{A} is F_{10} fuzzy partition of X . \square

Applying Theorem 2.8 and Theorem 2.10 we have the following result.

Corollary 2.1. *Let $\{D_i : i \in \Lambda\}$ be a partition of X . Then $\mathcal{A} = \{\chi_{D_i} : i \in \Lambda\}$ is a F_i fuzzy partition of X , where $i = 1, 2, \dots, 10$.*

Theorem 2.11. *Let $D_i \subseteq X$ for all $i \in \Lambda$ be such that $\mathcal{A} = \{\chi_{D_i} : i \in \Lambda\}$ is a F_6 fuzzy partition of X . Then $\{D_i : i \in \Lambda\}$ is a partition of X .*

Proof. Given $i \in \Lambda$. Since $\chi_{D_i} \neq 0$, we have $D_i \neq \emptyset$. For $i \neq j$ in Λ , we have $\chi_{D_j} \cap \chi_{D_i}$ is weakly empty; that is, $\inf\{\chi_{D_j}(x), \chi_{D_i}(x)\} < \frac{1}{2}$ for all $x \in X$ and hence $\inf\{\chi_{D_j}(x), \chi_{D_i}(x)\} = 0$. Therefore $D_j \cap D_i = \emptyset$. If there is $x \in X$ such that $x \notin D_i$ for all $i \in \Lambda$, we have $\chi_{D_i}(x) = 0$ for all $i \in \Lambda$. Therefore $(f \sum_{i \in \Lambda} \chi_{D_i})(x) = 0$ which is a contradiction. So $X = \bigcup_{i \in \Lambda} D_i$. Therefore $\{D_i : i \in \Lambda\}$ is a partition of X . \square

Applying Theorem 2.9 and Theorem 2.11, we have the following result.

Corollary 2.2. *Let $D_i \subseteq X$ for all $i \in \Lambda$ be such that $\mathcal{A} = \{\chi_{D_i} : i \in \Lambda\}$ is a F_i fuzzy partition of X where $i = 1, 2, \dots, 10$. Then $\{D_i : i \in \Lambda\}$ is a partition of X .*

The next result presents a way to construct a partition on a set X from a fuzzy partition of X by using the support of the of the fuzzy sets in X .

Theorem 2.12. Let $\mathcal{A} = \{\lambda_\gamma : \gamma \in \Lambda\}$ be an F_9 fuzzy partition of X . Then $\{\text{supp}\lambda_\gamma : \gamma \in \Lambda\}$ is a partition on X .

Proof. Since \mathcal{A} is non weakly empty, we have $\text{supp}\lambda_\gamma \neq \emptyset$ for all $\gamma \in \Lambda$. If $\text{supp}\lambda_{\gamma_1} \cap \text{supp}\lambda_{\gamma_2} \neq \emptyset$ for some $\gamma_1 \neq \gamma_2$ in Λ , then there is $x \in X$ such that $\lambda_{\gamma_1}(x) > 0$ and $\lambda_{\gamma_2}(x) > 0$. So $(\lambda_{\gamma_1} \cap \lambda_{\gamma_2})(x) > 0$ which is a contradiction. Therefore for $\lambda_{\gamma_1} \neq \lambda_{\gamma_2}$ in Λ , we have $\text{supp}\lambda_{\gamma_1} \cap \text{supp}\lambda_{\gamma_2} = \emptyset$. Given $x \in X$. Since $(\bigcup_{\gamma \in \Lambda} \lambda_\gamma)(x) > \frac{1}{2}$, there is $\gamma_0 \in \Lambda$ such that $\lambda_{\gamma_0}(x) > 0$ and hence $x \in \text{supp}\lambda_{\gamma_0}$. Hence $X = \bigcup_{\gamma \in \Lambda} \text{supp}\lambda_\gamma$. Therefore $\{\text{supp}\lambda_\gamma : \gamma \in \Lambda\}$ is a partition on X . \square

Applying Theorem 2.8 and Theorem 2.12, we have the following result.

Corollary 2.3. Let $\mathcal{A} = \{\lambda_\gamma : \gamma \in \Lambda\}$ be F_{10} fuzzy partition of X . Then $\{\text{supp}\lambda_\gamma : \gamma \in \Lambda\}$ is a partition on X .

Remark 2.1. Let $\mathcal{A} = \{\lambda_\gamma : \gamma \in \Lambda\}$ be F_i ($i = 1, 2, \dots, 8$) fuzzy partition of X . Then it is not necessary $\{\text{supp}\lambda_\gamma : \gamma \in \Lambda\}$ to be a partition on X .

Example 2.13. Let $\lambda_1 = \chi_{[0, \frac{1}{2}]} + 0.1\chi_{(\frac{1}{2}, 1]}$ and $\lambda_2 = 0.1\chi_{[0, \frac{1}{2}]} + \chi_{(\frac{1}{2}, 1]}$. Then $\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2\}$ is F_i ($i = 1, 2, \dots, 8$) fuzzy partition of X but $\{\text{supp}\lambda_1, \text{supp}\lambda_2\}$ is not a partition on X .

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