

# ON FUZZY $\varphi\psi$ -CONTINUOUS MULTIFUNCTION

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Received 13 November 2004; Accepted 3 November 2005

Here, we would study and characterize fuzzy  $\varphi\psi$ -continuity for fuzzy multifunctions which extend fuzzy  $\varphi\psi$ -continuity of fuzzy functions. Moreover, we obtain some results in fuzzy multifunctions.

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## 1. Introduction and preliminaries

In the last three decades, the theory of multifunctions has advanced in a variety of ways and applications of this theory can be found, specially in functional analysis and fixed point theory. Recently many authors, for example, Albrycht and Matłoka [1] and Beg [3] have studied fuzzy multifunctions and have characterized some property of fuzzy multifunctions defined on a fuzzy topological space. Several authors have studied some type of fuzzy continuity for fuzzy functions and fuzzy multifunctions [1–5], [8–12]. In [3] fuzzy  $\varphi\psi$ -continuous functions have been studied. But this brand of fuzzy continuity has not considered for fuzzy multifunctions which we attempt to study and characterize.

The *fuzzy set* in (on) a universe  $X$  is a function with domain  $X$  and values in  $I = [0, 1]$ . The class of all fuzzy sets on  $X$  will be denoted by  $I^X$  and symbols  $A, B, \dots$  are used for fuzzy sets on  $X$ .  $01_X$  is called *empty fuzzy set*, where  $1_X$  is the characteristic function on  $X$ . For any fuzzy set  $A$  in  $X$ , the function value  $A(x)$  is called the *grade of membership* of  $x$  in  $A$ . We write  $x \in A$  if  $A(x) > 0$ . For any fuzzy set  $A$ , the fuzzy set  $1 - A(x)$  is called the *complement* of  $A$  which is denoted by  $A^c$ . Let  $A$  and  $B$  be fuzzy sets in  $X$ , we write  $A \leq B$  if  $A(x) \leq B(x)$  for all  $x$  in  $X$ . For any family  $\{A_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}}$  of fuzzy sets in  $X$ ,  $\bigvee_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}} A_\alpha$  and  $\bigwedge_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}} A_\alpha$  are defined by  $\sup_{\alpha} A_\alpha(x)$  and  $\inf_{\alpha} A_\alpha(x)$ , respectively. A family  $\tau$  of fuzzy sets in  $X$  is called a *fuzzy topology* for  $X$  if (i)  $\alpha 1_X \in \tau$  for each  $\alpha \in I$ ; (ii)  $A \wedge B \in \tau$  where  $A, B \in \tau$  and (iii)  $\bigvee_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}} A_\alpha \in \tau$  whenever  $A_\alpha \in \tau$  for all  $\alpha$  in  $\mathcal{A}$ . The pair  $(X, \tau)$  is called a *fuzzy topological space* [6]. Every member of  $\tau$  is called *fuzzy open set* and its complements

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are called *fuzzy closed sets* [6]. In a fuzzy topological space  $X$  the *interior* and the *closure* of a fuzzy set  $A$  (simply  $\text{int}(A)$  and  $\text{cl}(B)$ , resp.) are defined by

$$\begin{aligned}\text{int}(A) &= \bigvee \{U : A \leq U, U \text{ is a fuzzy open set}\}, \\ \text{cl}(A) &= \bigwedge \{F : A \leq F, F \text{ is a fuzzy closed set}\}.\end{aligned}\tag{1.1}$$

A *neighborhood of a fuzzy set  $A$*  in a fuzzy topological space  $X$  is any fuzzy set  $B$  for which there is a fuzzy open set  $V$  satisfying  $A \leq V \leq B$ . Any fuzzy open set  $V$  that satisfies  $A \leq V$  is called a *fuzzy open neighborhood* of  $A$  [10]. A fuzzy set  $A$  is called a *fuzzy point* if it takes the value 0 for all  $y \in X$  except one, say  $x \in X$ . If its value at  $x$  is  $\epsilon$  ( $0 < \epsilon \leq 1$ ), we denote this fuzzy point by  $x_\epsilon$  [11]. For any fuzzy point  $x_\epsilon$  and any fuzzy set  $A$  we write  $x_\epsilon \in A$  if and only if  $\epsilon \leq A(x)$ . Let  $f$  be a function from  $X$  to  $Y$ . A fuzzy function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is defined by

$$f(A)(y) = \begin{cases} \bigvee_{x \in f^{-1}(\{y\})} A(x) & f^{-1}(\{y\}) \neq \emptyset, \\ 0 & f^{-1}(\{y\}) = \emptyset, \end{cases}\tag{1.2}$$

for all  $y$  in  $Y$ , where  $A$  is an arbitrary fuzzy set in  $X$  [12]. A fuzzy function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is called *fuzzy continuous* if for each  $x_\epsilon \in X$  and each fuzzy neighborhood  $B$  of  $f(x_\epsilon)$  there exists a fuzzy neighborhood  $A$  of  $x_\epsilon$  such that  $f(A) \leq B$  [11]. A *fuzzy multifunction*  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  assigns to each  $x$  in  $X$  a fuzzy set  $f(x)$  of  $Y$  [2]. If  $A$  is a fuzzy set in  $X$ , then the fuzzy set  $f(A)$  in  $Y$  is defined by

$$f(A)(y) = \bigvee_{x \in X} (f(x)(y) \wedge A(x)).\tag{1.3}$$

For more details about fuzzy multifunctions and their properties, the reader is referred to [1, 2, 10]. Throughout this paper,  $(X, \tau)$  and  $(Y, \nu)$  are fuzzy topological spaces. The symbol  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is used for a fuzzy multifunction from  $X$  to  $Y$ , while  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  for a fuzzy function from  $X$  to  $Y$ .

### Main results

*Definition 1.1.* (i) A fuzzy function  $\varphi$  on  $X$  is called a *fuzzy operation* on  $X$ , if  $\varphi(01_X) = 01_X$  and  $\text{int}(A) \leq \varphi(A)$ , where  $A$  is any nonempty fuzzy set in  $X$ .  $\varphi$  is called a *monotonous fuzzy operation*, if  $\varphi(A) \leq \varphi(B)$ , whenever  $A, B \in I^X$  and  $A \leq B$  [5].

(ii)  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is called a *fuzzy  $\varphi\psi$ -continuous function at  $x_\epsilon \in X$*  if for each fuzzy open neighborhood  $B$  of  $f(x_\epsilon)$ , there is a fuzzy open neighborhood  $A$  of  $x_\epsilon$  such that  $f(\varphi(A)) \leq \psi(B)$ , where  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$  are fuzzy operation on  $X$  and  $Y$ , respectively.  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is said to be a *fuzzy  $\varphi\psi$ -continuous function* if it is a fuzzy  $\varphi\psi$ -continuous function at each  $x_\epsilon \in X$ .

*Definition 1.2.* (i)  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is called a *fuzzy  $\varphi\psi$ -continuous multifunction at  $x_\epsilon \in X$*  if for each fuzzy open neighborhood  $B$  of  $f(x_\epsilon)$ , there is a fuzzy open neighborhood  $A$  of  $x_\epsilon$  such that  $f(\varphi(A)) \leq \psi(B)$ , where  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$  are fuzzy operation on  $X$  and  $Y$ , respectively.  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is said to be a *fuzzy  $\varphi\psi$ -continuous multifunction* if it is a fuzzy  $\varphi\psi$ -continuous multifunction at each  $x_\epsilon \in X$ .

(ii)  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is called a *single valued fuzzy multifunction* if  $f$  at each  $x$  is a fuzzy point  $1_{\{y_x\}}$ , where  $y_x \in Y$ . In this case it would induce a fuzzy function  $\tilde{f} : X \rightarrow Y$  for  $\tilde{f}(x) = y_x$ . Therefore,  $f(x) = 1_{\{\tilde{f}(x)\}}$ .

PROPOSITION 1.3. *Suppose  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a single valued fuzzy multifunction. Then for any fuzzy set  $A$  in  $X$ ;  $f(A) = \tilde{f}(A)$ . Therefore,  $f$  is a  $\varphi\psi$ -continuous multifunction if and only if  $\tilde{f}$  is a fuzzy  $\varphi\psi$ -continuous function.*

*Proof.* The equivalence for any fuzzy set  $A$  of  $X$  can be derived from the following fact:

$$f(\varphi(A))(y) = \bigvee_{z \in X} (f(z)(y) \wedge \varphi(A)(z)) = \bigvee_{z \in X} (1_{\{\tilde{f}(z)\}}(y) \wedge \varphi(A)(z)). \quad (1.4)$$

On the other hand,

$$\tilde{f}(\varphi(A))(y) = \begin{cases} \bigvee_{h \in \tilde{f}^{-1}(\{y\})} \varphi(A)(h) & \tilde{f}^{-1}(\{y\}) \neq \emptyset, \\ 0 & \tilde{f}^{-1}(\{y\}) = \emptyset. \end{cases} \quad (1.5)$$

Therefore,  $f(\varphi(A)) = \tilde{f}(\varphi(A))$ . Now replacing identity function as a fuzzy operation on  $X$  instead of  $\varphi$  completes the proof.  $\square$

From the above result this brand of continuity for fuzzy multifunctions is in fact a generalization of  $\varphi\psi$ -continuity introduced in [3]. Next, we would like to present a result showing the relation between fuzzy  $\varphi\psi$ -continuity and fuzzy  $\varphi\psi$ -continuity in respect of nets. First we note to the following results.

PROPOSITION 1.4. *Suppose  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a fuzzy multifunction and  $A, B \in I^X$  such that  $A \leq B$ . Then  $f(A) \leq f(B)$ .*

*Proof.*

$$f(A)(y) = \bigvee_{z \in X} (f(z)(y) \wedge A(z)) \leq \bigvee_{z \in X} (f(z)(y) \wedge B(z)) = f(B)(y). \quad (1.6)$$

$\square$

LEMMA 1.5. *Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a fuzzy multifunction and let  $x_\epsilon$  be a fuzzy point in  $X$ . Then  $f(x_\epsilon) = f(x) \wedge \epsilon$ .*

*Proof.* It is straightforward.  $\square$

We say that a net  $(x_{\epsilon_\alpha}^\alpha)_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}}$  of fuzzy points in a fuzzy topological space  $X$  is  $\varphi$ -convergent to a fuzzy point  $x_\epsilon$  (we will denote it by  $x_{\epsilon_\alpha}^\alpha \xrightarrow{\varphi} x_\epsilon$ ) if for any neighborhood set  $A$  of  $x_\epsilon$ , there is an  $\alpha_0 \in \mathcal{A}$  in which  $x_{\epsilon_\alpha}^\alpha \in \varphi(A)$  for all  $\alpha \geq \alpha_0$ .

LEMMA 1.6. *Consider a fuzzy set  $A$  and a convergent net  $(A_\alpha)$  of fuzzy sets which  $A_\alpha \rightarrow A$  in  $X$ . Then  $A_\alpha \xrightarrow{\varphi} A$ .*

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*Proof.* From the assumption given any fuzzy open neighborhood  $B$  of  $A$ , there is  $\alpha_0 \in \mathcal{A}$  such that for all  $\alpha \geq \alpha_0$ ,

$$A_\alpha \leq B = \text{int}(B) \leq \varphi(B). \quad (1.7)$$

□

A fuzzy multifunction  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is called *net-fuzzy  $\varphi\psi$ -continuous* if for each net of fuzzy points  $x_{\epsilon_\alpha}^\alpha$  and  $x_\epsilon$  in  $X$ ,  $f(x_{\epsilon_\alpha}^\alpha) \xrightarrow{\psi} f(x_\epsilon)$ , where  $(x_{\epsilon_\alpha}^\alpha) \xrightarrow{\varphi} x_\epsilon$ .

**THEOREM 1.7.** *Let  $X$  be a fuzzy topological space. For any fuzzy multifunction  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  the following are equivalent:*

- (i)  *$f$  is a fuzzy  $\varphi\psi$ -continuous;*
- (ii)  *$f$  is a net-fuzzy  $\varphi\psi$ -continuous.*

*Proof.* (i) $\Rightarrow$ (ii).

For any fuzzy open neighborhood  $B$  of  $f(x_\epsilon)$ , there is a fuzzy open neighborhood  $A$  of  $x_\epsilon$  such that

$$f(\varphi(A)) \leq \psi(B). \quad (1.8)$$

From the assumption, there is  $\alpha_0 \in \mathcal{A}$  for which

$$x_{\epsilon_\alpha}^\alpha \leq \varphi(A) \quad (\forall \alpha \geq \alpha_0). \quad (1.9)$$

According to Proposition 1.4,  $f(x_{\epsilon_\alpha}^\alpha) \leq f(\varphi(A)) \leq \psi(B)$ .

(ii) $\Rightarrow$ (i).

On the contrary, there is a fuzzy point  $x_\epsilon$  in  $X$ , a fuzzy open neighborhood  $B$  of  $f(x_\epsilon)$  such that, there is not a fuzzy neighborhood  $A$  of  $x_\epsilon$  satisfying in  $f(\varphi(A)) \leq \psi(B)$ . This means that there is  $z_A \in Y$  with the following property:

$$f(\varphi(A))(z_A) > \psi(B)(z_A). \quad (1.10)$$

Therefore,

$$\bigvee_{x \in X} (f(x)(z_A) \wedge \varphi(A)(x)) > \psi(B)(z_A). \quad (1.11)$$

Then  $f(x_A)(z_A) \wedge \varphi(A)(z_A) > \psi(B)(z_A)$  for a suitable  $x_A$  of  $X$ . We conclude that

$$f(x_A)(z_A) > \psi(B)(z_A). \quad (1.12)$$

Consider  $\{A_\alpha : \alpha \in \mathcal{A}\}$  as a system of fuzzy neighborhoods at  $x_\epsilon$ . The following order makes  $\mathcal{A}$  as a directed set and so it makes  $\{A_\alpha : \alpha \in \mathcal{A}\}$  as a net:

$$\alpha \leq \beta \iff A_\beta \leq A_\alpha. \quad (1.13)$$

Applying (1.12) for  $A_\alpha$  instead of  $A$ , there is  $x_{\epsilon_\alpha}^\alpha$  in  $A_\alpha$  for which  $f(x_{\epsilon_\alpha}^\alpha) > \psi(B)$ . From the choice of  $x_{\epsilon_\alpha}^\alpha$  in  $A_\alpha$ ,  $x_{\epsilon_\alpha}^\alpha \rightarrow x_\epsilon$ . Lemma 1.6 implies that  $x_{\epsilon_\alpha}^\alpha \xrightarrow{\varphi} x_\epsilon$ . Since  $f(x_{\epsilon_\alpha}^\alpha)(z_A) = f(x_\alpha)(z_\alpha) \wedge \epsilon_\alpha \leq f(x_\alpha)(z_\alpha)$  so from (1.12),  $f(x_{\epsilon_\alpha}^\alpha)$  is not  $\psi$ -convergent to  $f(x_\epsilon)$ , which completes the proof. □

In the following result we show continuity of the composition of two fuzzy multifunction. Suppose  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  and  $g : Y \rightarrow Z$ . We define *composition*  $gof : X \rightarrow Z$  by  $(gof)(x) = g(f(x)) = \bigcup_{t \in f(x)} g(t)$ .

**COROLLARY 1.8.** *Suppose  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a fuzzy  $\varphi\psi$ -continuous single valued multifunction and suppose  $g : Y \rightarrow Z$  be  $\psi\eta$ -fuzzy continuous multifunction. Then,  $gof : X \rightarrow Z$  is  $\varphi\eta$ -fuzzy continuous multifunction.*

*Proof.* Assume that  $x_{\epsilon_\alpha} \xrightarrow{\varphi} x_\epsilon$  in  $X$ . Since  $f$  is fuzzy  $\varphi\psi$ -continuous multifunction, so

$$f(x_{\epsilon_\alpha}) \xrightarrow{\psi} f(x_\epsilon). \tag{1.14}$$

Assume that  $g$  is  $\psi\eta$ -fuzzy continuous multifunction and  $f$  is fuzzy  $\varphi\psi$ -continuous single valued multifunction, so

$$g(f(x_{\epsilon_\alpha})) \xrightarrow{\eta} g(f(x_\epsilon)). \tag{1.15}$$

Therefore,

$$(gof)(x_{\epsilon_\alpha}) \xrightarrow{\eta} (gof)(x_\epsilon). \tag{1.16}$$

Theorem 1.7 completes the proof. □

*Definition 1.9.* Let  $X_0$  be a subset of  $X$ , let  $i : X_0 \rightarrow X$  be the inclusion map, and let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a fuzzy multifunction. Say that  $f \circ i$  is the *restriction* of  $f$  to  $X_0$ .

**LEMMA 1.10.** *Assuming  $\varphi$  is a fuzzy operation on  $X$  and  $X_0 \subseteq X$ . Then  $\tilde{\varphi}(A) = \varphi(\tilde{A})$  defines a fuzzy operation on  $X_0$ , where  $\tilde{A}$  is the extension of  $A$  by zero to  $X$ .*

*Proof.* It is easy to see that  $\tilde{\varphi}$  is a well-defined map and  $\tilde{\varphi}(01_X) = 01_X$ .  $\varphi$  is a fuzzy operation, so  $\text{int}(\tilde{A}) \leq \varphi(\tilde{A})$ . But,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{int}(A) &= \bigvee \{ \dot{U} : \dot{U} \leq A, \dot{U} \text{ is a fuzzy open set} \} \\ &= \bigvee \{ U \circ i : U \leq A, U \text{ is a fuzzy open set} \}. \end{aligned} \tag{1.17}$$

For  $x_0 \in X_0$ ,  $\text{int}(A)(x_0) = \text{int}(\tilde{A})(x_0)$ . This shows that

$$\text{int}(A) \leq \varphi(\tilde{A}) \leq \tilde{\varphi}(A). \tag{1.18}$$

□

The following result shows the fuzzy continuity of the restriction of fuzzy multifunction.

**THEOREM 1.11.** *Suppose  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a fuzzy  $\varphi\psi$ -continuous multifunction and  $X_0 \subseteq X$ . Then  $f \circ i$  is a  $\tilde{\varphi}\psi$ -fuzzy continuous multifunction, where  $\varphi$  is a monotonous fuzzy operation.*

*Proof.* For any fuzzy point  $x_\epsilon$  in  $X_0$ ,  $j(x_\epsilon)$  is a fuzzy point in  $X$ . It shows that for any fuzzy open neighborhood  $B$  of  $f(i(x_\epsilon))$ , there is a fuzzy open neighborhood  $A$  of  $i(x_\epsilon)$

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for which  $f(\varphi(A)) \leq \psi(B)$ . But  $Aoi$  is a fuzzy open neighborhood of  $x_\epsilon$  in  $X_0$ , only we must show that  $f oi(\tilde{\varphi}(Aoi)) \leq \psi(B)$ . To see this,

$$\begin{aligned}
 f oi(\tilde{\varphi}(Aoi))(y) &= \bigvee_{z \in X_0} ((f oi)(z)(y) \wedge \tilde{\varphi}(Aoi)(z)) \\
 &= \bigvee_{z \in X_0} (f(z)(y) \wedge \varphi(\widetilde{Aoi})(z)) \\
 &\leq \bigvee_{z \in X_0} (f(z)(y) \wedge \varphi(A)(z)) \\
 &= f(\varphi(A))(y) \\
 &\leq \psi(B)(y).
 \end{aligned} \tag{1.19}$$

□

**PROPOSITION 1.12.** *Suppose  $(X, \tau)$  and  $(Y, \eta)$  be fuzzy topological spaces,  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$  are fuzzy operations on  $X$  and  $Y$ , respectively, where  $\varphi$  is a monotonous fuzzy operation. Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be any fuzzy multifunction and let  $\mathcal{B}$  be a base for  $\eta$ . Then  $f$  is fuzzy  $\varphi\psi$ -continuous multifunction if and only if  $f$  is fuzzy  $\varphi\psi$ -continuous multifunction with respect to  $\mathcal{B}$ .*

*Proof.* ( $\Rightarrow$ ) is straightforward.

For ( $\Leftarrow$ ) consider any fuzzy point  $x_\epsilon$  in  $X$  and any fuzzy open neighborhood  $B$  of  $f(x_\epsilon)$ .  $C \in \mathcal{B}$  exists such that  $f(x_\epsilon) \leq C$  and  $C \leq B$ . From the assumption there is a fuzzy open neighborhood  $A$  of  $x_\epsilon$  such that  $f(\varphi(A)) \leq \psi(C)$ . But  $\psi$  is monotonous so  $f(\varphi(A)) \leq \psi(B)$ . □

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