

## ON A CONSTRUCTION OF CODES BY $P$ -FUZZY SETS

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### Abstract

$P$ -fuzzy sets are considered as mappings from an arbitrary nonempty set  $S$  into a partially ordered set  $P$ . The necessary and sufficient conditions are given under which a family  $P$  of subsets of  $S$  represents a collection of level subsets for a fuzzy set  $\bar{A} : S \rightarrow P$ . Thus the conditions are obtained under which a binary block-code  $V$  can be ordered, so that it uniquely determines a  $P$ -fuzzy set and vice-versa. An explicit description of a Hamming distance for such codes is given, and it is shown that some well known binary block-codes (BCD, Gray's codes) can be represented by  $P$ -fuzzy sets.

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### 1. $P$ -fuzzy sets

Let  $S$  be an arbitrary set which is not empty, and  $(P, \leq)$  a partially ordered set. Any function  $\bar{A} : S \rightarrow P$  is a  $P$ -fuzzy set on  $S$ . Let also for  $p \in P$ ,  $\bar{A}_p : S \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ , so that for  $x \in S$ ,  $\bar{A}_p(x) = 1$  iff  $\bar{A}(x) \geq p$ . Obviously,  $\bar{A}_p$  is a characteristic function of a  $p$ -level subset (or, a  $p$ -cut)

$$A_p = \{x \in S \mid \bar{A}_p(x) = 1\}.$$

Let  $\bar{A} : S \rightarrow P$  be a  $P$ -fuzzy set on  $S$ , and  $\sim$  a binary relation on  $P$ , such that for  $p, q \in P$

$$p \sim q \text{ iff } A_p = A_q.$$

$\sim$  is obviously an equivalence relation on  $P$ . Let

$$F = \bar{A}(S) = \{p \in P \mid p = \bar{A}(x), \text{ for some } x \in S\},$$

and for  $p \in P$ , let

$$[p] = \{q \in P \mid p \leq q\}.$$

**Lemma 1.** *If  $\bar{A} : S \rightarrow P$  is a  $P$ -fuzzy set on  $S$ , then for  $p, q \in P$*

$$p \sim q \text{ iff } [p] \cap F = [q] \cap F.$$

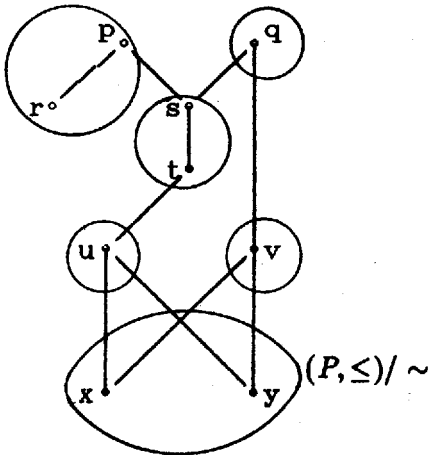
*Proof.*

$$\begin{aligned} p \sim q &\text{ iff } A_p = A_q \text{ iff (for } x \in S) (\bar{A}(x) \geq p \text{ iff } \bar{A}(x) \geq q) \\ &\text{ iff } \{x \in S \mid \bar{A}(x) \in [p]\} = \{x \in S \mid \bar{A}(x) \in [q]\} \\ &\text{ iff } [p] \cap F = [q] \cap F. \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

**Example 1.**

$$S = \{a, b, c, d, e\} \quad P = \{p, q, r, s, t, u, v, x, y\}$$

$$\bar{A} = \begin{pmatrix} a & b & c & d & e \\ s & u & v & p & q \end{pmatrix}$$



	a	b	c	d	e
$\bar{A}_p$	0	0	0	1	0
$\bar{A}_q$	0	0	0	0	1
$\bar{A}_r$	0	0	0	1	0
$\bar{A}_s$	1	0	0	1	1
$\bar{A}_t$	1	0	0	1	1
$\bar{A}_u$	1	1	0	1	1
$\bar{A}_v$	0	0	1	0	1
$\bar{A}_x$	1	1	1	1	1
$\bar{A}_y$	1	1	1	1	1

$$A_p = A_r = \{d\}; A_q = \{e\}; A_s = A_t = \{a, d, e\};$$

$$A_u = \{a, b, d, e\}; A_v = \{c, e\}; A_x = A_y = \{a, b, c, d, e\}$$

**Lemma 2.** Let  $\bar{A} : S \rightarrow P$  be a fuzzy set. Now for every  $x \in S$ , if  $\bar{A}(x) = p$ , then  $p$  is a supremum of the class to which it belongs, i.e.  $p = \bigvee [p]_{\sim}$ .

*Proof.* If  $q \in [p]_{\sim}$ , then  $p = \bar{A}(x) \geq q$ . Hence,  $p = \bigvee [p]_{\sim}$ .  $\square$

The following statement is a Theorem of decomposition for P-fuzzy sets.

**Theorem 1.** If  $\bar{A} : S \rightarrow P$  is a P-fuzzy set on  $S$ , then for  $x \in S$ ,

$$\bar{A}(x) = \bigvee (p \in P | \bar{A}_p(x) = 1)$$

(i.e. the supremum on the right exists in  $(P, \leq)$  for every  $x \in S$ , and is equal to  $\bar{A}(x)$  ).

*Proof.* Let  $\bar{A}(x) = r \in P$ . Then,  $\bar{A}_r(x) = 1$ . Now, if for any  $p \in P$   $\bar{A}_p(x) = 1$ , then  $\bar{A}(x) \geq p$ , i.e.  $r \geq p$ . On the other hand,  $r \in \{p \in P | \bar{A}_p(x) = 1\}$ , and thus  $r$  is the greatest element of that family. Thus,

$$\bar{A}(x) = r = \bigvee (p | \bar{A}_p(x) = 1). \quad \square$$

Let  $\bar{A}_P = \{A_p | p \in P\}$ , for  $\bar{A} : S \rightarrow P$ . This family of subsets of  $S$  has the following properties:

**Proposition 1.** For a P-fuzzy set  $\bar{A} : S \rightarrow P$ ,

- (1) if  $p, q \in P$  and  $p \leq q$ , then  $A_q \subseteq A_p$ ;
- (2) if for  $P_1 \subseteq P$  there exists a supremum of  $P_1$  ( $\bigvee (p | p \in P_1)$ ), then  $\bigcap (A_p | p \in P_1) = A_{\bigvee (p | p \in P_1)}$ ;
- (3)  $\bigcup (A_p | p \in P) = S$ ;
- (4) for every  $x \in S$ ,  $\bigcap (A_p | x \in A_p) \in \bar{A}_P$ .

*Proof.*

- (1) If  $p \leq q$ , then  $\overline{A}_q(x) = 1$  implies  $\overline{A}_p(x) = 1$ , i.e.  $A_q \subseteq A_p$ ;  
 (2) Suppose that for  $P_1 \subseteq P$  the supremum  $\bigvee(p|p \in P_1)$  exists in  $P$ . Then for  $x \in S$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} x \in A_{\bigvee(p|p \in P_1)} & \text{ iff } \overline{A}_{\bigvee(p|p \in P_1)}(x) = 1 \text{ iff } \overline{A}(x) \geq \bigvee(p|p \in P_1) \\ & \text{ iff } \overline{A}(x) \geq p \text{ for all } p \in P_1, \\ & \text{ iff } x \in \bigcap(A_p|p \in P_1); \end{aligned}$$

- (3) If  $x \in S$ , then  $\overline{A}(x) = p \in P$  and  $x \in A_p$ . Thus,  $x \in \bigcup(A_p|p \in P)$ , i.e.  $S \subseteq \bigcup(A_p|p \in P)$ . Obviously,  $\bigcup(A_p|p \in P) \subseteq S$ , and the equality holds;  
 (4) Let  $x \in S$ . Then,  $x \in A_p$  iff  $\overline{A}(x) \geq p$ , i.e. iff  $\overline{A}_p(x) = 1$ . By Theorem 1,  $\overline{A}(x) = \bigvee(p|\overline{A}_p(x) = 1)$ , and by (2)

$$A_{\bigvee(p|\overline{A}_p(x)=1)} = \bigcap(A_p|\overline{A}_p(x) = 1).$$

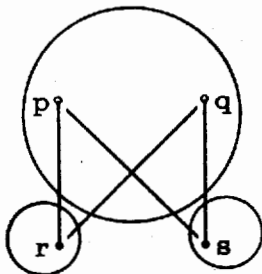
Hence,  $\bigcap(A_p|x \in A_p) \in \overline{A}_P$ .  $\square$

*Remark.* The converse of (2) in Proposition 1 is not true, as shown by the following example.

**Example 2.**

$$S = \{a, b\} \quad P = \{p, q, r, s\}$$

$$\overline{A} = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ r & s \end{pmatrix}$$



$(P, \leq) / \sim$

	a	b
$\overline{A}_p$	0	0
$\overline{A}_q$	0	0
$\overline{A}_r$	1	0
$\overline{A}_s$	0	1

$$\begin{aligned} A_p &= A_q = \emptyset \\ A_r &= \{a\} \\ A_s &= \{b\} \end{aligned}$$

In this P-fuzzy set,  $A_r \cap A_s \in \overline{A_P}$ , but (2), (Proposition 1) is not true, since  $r \vee s$  does not exist in P.

**Theorem 2.** Let S be a nonempty set, and P a family of its subsets ( $P \subseteq \mathcal{P}(S)$ ), such that:

- (1)  $\bigcup P = S$ ;
- (2) for every  $x \in S$ ,  $\bigcap (p \in P | x \in p) \in P$ .

Let  $\overline{A} : S \rightarrow P$  be defined with

$$\overline{A}(x) = \bigcap (p \in P | x \in p).$$

Then,  $\overline{A}$  is a P-fuzzy set, where  $(P, \leq)$  is a partially ordered set under  $p \leq q$  iff  $q \subseteq p$  ( $p, q \in P$ ), and for every  $p \in P$ ,

$$p = A_p.$$

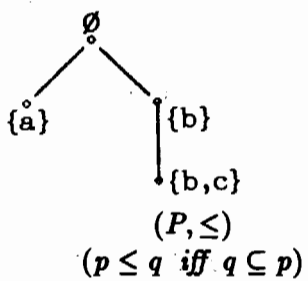
*Proof.*  $\overline{A}$  is well defined. Indeed, by (2), for every  $x \in S$  the family  $\{p \in P | x \in p\}$  is uniquely determined.

$\overline{A}$  is obviously a P-fuzzy set, and we have to prove that for every  $p \in P$ ,  $p = A_p$  (recall that  $A_p = \{x \in S | \overline{A}(x) \geq p\}$ ).

Let  $x \in S$ . Then,  
 $x \in A_p$  iff  $\overline{A}(x) \geq p$  iff (by the definition of  $\overline{A}$ )  
 $\bigcap (q \in P | x \in q) \geq p$  iff (by the definition of  $\leq$ )  
 $\bigcap (q \in P | x \in q) \subseteq p$  iff  $x \in p$  (since by (1), the intersection is not empty).  
 □

**Example 3.**  $S = \{a, b, c\}$   $P = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{b, c\}\}$

Conditions (1) and (2) are satisfied. Thus, we have the following P-fuzzy set:



$$\overline{A} = \begin{pmatrix} a & b & c \\ \{a\} & \{b\} & \{b, c\} \end{pmatrix}$$

	a	b	c	
$\overline{A}_p$	{a}	{b}	{b, c}	$A_p$
$A_\emptyset$	0	0	0	∅
$A_{\{a\}}$	1	0	0	{a}
$A_{\{b\}}$	0	1	0	{b}
$A_{\{b, c\}}$	0	1	1	{b, c}

As shown in the table, for every  $p \in P$ ,  $A_p = p$ .

## 2. Codes generated by $P$ -fuzzy sets

Let  $S = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  and let  $(P, \leq)$  be a finite partially ordered set. Every  $P$ -fuzzy set on  $S$  determines a binary block-code  $V$  of length  $n$ , in the following way:

To every class  $[p]_{\sim}$  ( $p \in P$ ), there corresponds a codeword

$$v_{[p]} = x_1 x_2 \dots x_n, \text{ such that } x_i = j \text{ iff } \overline{A_p}(i) = j, \text{ for } i \in S, \text{ and } j \in \{0, 1\}.$$

We shall use the following componentwise defined order on the set of codewords belonging to a binary block-code  $V$ : for  $x, y \in V$ ,  $x = x_1 \dots x_n$ ,  $y = y_1 \dots y_n$ ,

$$(*) \quad x \leq y \text{ iff } y_1 \leq x_1, \dots, y_n \leq x_n,$$

where  $\leq$  on the right is the ordinary ordering relation on the lattice  $(\{0, 1\}, \leq) : 0 < 1$ .

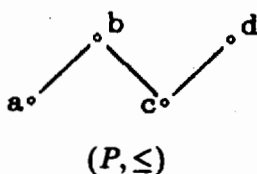
Thus, for example,  $101101 \leq 001001$ .

**Theorem 3.** Every finite partially ordered set  $(P, \leq)$  determines a block-code  $V$ , such that  $(P, \leq)$  is isomorphic with  $(V, \leq)$ .

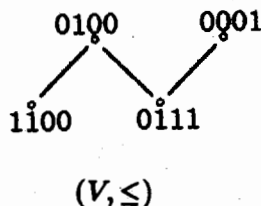
*Proof.* Let  $P = \{p_1, \dots, p_n\}$ , and let  $\overline{A} : P \rightarrow P$  be the identity mapping, as a  $P$ -fuzzy set on  $P$ . The decomposition of  $\overline{A}$  gives a family  $\{\overline{A_p} | p \in P\}$  which is the required code, under the above defined order  $(*)$ . Consider the mapping  $f : P \rightarrow \{\overline{A_p} | p \in P\}$ , such that  $f(p) = \overline{A_p}$ . By Lemma 2 every  $(\sim)$ -class contains exactly one element, and thus  $f$  is one-to-one. If  $p, q \in P$  and  $p \leq q$ , then  $A_q \subseteq A_p$ , which by  $(*)$  means that  $\overline{A_p} \leq \overline{A_q}$ , and  $f$  is an isomorphism.  $\square$

**Example 4.**  $P = \{a, b, c, d\}$

$$\overline{A} = \begin{pmatrix} a & b & c & d \\ a & b & c & d \end{pmatrix} \quad V = \{1100, 0100, 0111, 0001\}$$



$\overline{A_x}$	$a$	$b$	$c$	$d$
$\overline{A_a}$	1	1	0	0
$\overline{A_b}$	0	1	0	0
$\overline{A_c}$	0	1	1	1
$\overline{A_d}$	0	0	0	1



If  $V$  is a binary block-code, and  $\bar{A}$  is a  $P$ -fuzzy set, then we say that  $\bar{A}$  corresponds to  $V$  if the block-code determined by  $\bar{A}$  (as defined at the beginning of the paragraph) is  $V$ .

**Theorem 4.** Let  $V = \{v_1, \dots, v_k\} \subseteq \{0, 1\}^n$  be a binary block-code, such that for every  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  at least one codeword has a nonzero  $i$ -th coordinate. Then there is a  $P$ -fuzzy set which corresponds to  $V$  if and only if for every  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$

$$(a) \quad \bigvee (v \in V | v(i) = 1) \in V.$$

(The supremum in (a) is induced by  $\leq$  in  $(*)$ .)

*Proof.* If we think of the codewords of  $V$  as of the characteristic functions of the subsets of  $\{1, \dots, n\}$ , then the "if" part follows by Theorem 2, since the supremum in (a) is in fact the intersection of the corresponding subsets.

The converse is true by Proposition 1.  $\square$

Recall that the *Hamming weight*  $\|x\|$  of a codeword  $x \in \{0, 1\}^n$  is the number of the nonzero coordinates in  $x$ , the *Hamming distance*  $d(x, y)$  between  $x$  and  $y$  from  $\{0, 1\}^n$  is the number of coordinates in which  $x$  and  $y$  differ. The *code distance* of  $V \subseteq \{0, 1\}^n$  is the minimum Hamming distance between two different codewords in  $V$ , and is denoted by  $d(V)$ .

Let  $\bar{A} : S \rightarrow P$  be a  $P$ -fuzzy set. We say that the number of elements of  $S$  which are mapped into the same element  $p$  of  $P$  is a *degree* of the class  $[p]_{\sim}$ , or of the corresponding codeword  $v_{[p]}$ , and we denote it by  $s(v_{[p]})$ .

In the following four propositions, let  $V$  be a code corresponding to a  $P$ -fuzzy set  $\bar{A} : S \rightarrow P$ .

As it was done in [3] for lattice valued fuzzy sets, we shall describe the above-mentioned parameters in terms of  $P$ -fuzzy sets.

**Proposition 2.**

$$d(V) \geq \min_{p \in \bar{A}(S)} s(v_{[p]}).$$

(Recall that  $\bar{A}(S) = \{p \in P | p = \bar{A}(x), \text{ for some } x \in S\}$ .)

*Proof.* If two codewords from  $V$  differ in the coordinate mapped onto  $p$ , they differ in at least  $s(v_{[p]})$  coordinates.  $\square$

**Proposition 3.** If  $v_{[p]} \in V$ , then

$$\|v_{[p]}\| = \sum (s(v_{[q]})) | q \in \bar{A}(S), \text{ and } v_{[p]} \leq v_{[q]}).$$

*Proof.* If  $i \in S$ , and  $v_{[p]} \in V$ , then  $v_{[p]}(i) = 1$  if  $q = \bar{A}(i) \geq r$ , for every  $r \in [p]_{\sim}$ . Every  $q \in \bar{A}(S)$  represents one class  $[q]_{\sim}$  (by Lemma 2), and the number of these classes coincides with  $\|v_{[p]}\|$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 4.** *If  $v_{[p]} \leq v_{[q]}$ , then*

$$d(v_{[p]}, v_{[q]}) = \sum (s(v_{[r]}) | v_{[r]} \in K),$$

where  $K = \{v_{[r]} \in V | v_{[r]} \geq v_{[p]}, \text{ and } \lceil (v_{[r]} \geq v_{[q]})\}$ .

*Proof.* If  $v_{[r]} \geq v_{[p]}$ , and  $\lceil (v_{[r]} \geq v_{[q]})$ ,  $r \in \bar{A}(S)$ , then for every  $i \in S$  such that  $\bar{A}(i) = r$ ,  $v_{[p]}(i) = 1$ , and  $v_{[q]}(i) = 0$ . Moreover, every nonzero coordinate in  $v_{[q]}$  is nonzero in  $v_{[p]}$  as well.  $\square$

**Theorem 5.** *For any  $v_{[p]}, v_{[q]} \in V$ ,*

$$(b) \quad d(v_{[p]}, v_{[q]}) = \sum (s(v_{[r]}) | v_{[r]} \in K)$$

where  $K = \{v_{[r]} \in V | v_{[r]} \geq v_{[p]} \text{ and } \lceil (v_{[r]} \geq v_{[q]}),$   
or  $v_{[r]} \geq v_{[q]} \text{ and } \lceil (v_{[r]} \geq v_{[p]})\}$ .

*Proof.* If  $v_{[p]} \leq v_{[q]}$ , then the proof follows by Proposition 4. Now, let  $v_{[p]}$  and  $v_{[q]}$  be uncomparable. If  $v_{[r]} \geq v_{[p]}$ , and  $\lceil (v_{[r]} \geq v_{[q]})$ , then for every  $i \in S$  such that  $\bar{A}(i) = r$ ,  $v_{[p]}(i) = 1$  and  $v_{[q]}(i) = 0$ . On the other hand, if  $v_{[r]} \geq v_{[q]}$ ,  $\lceil (v_{[r]} \geq v_{[p]})$  and  $\bar{A}(i) = r$ , then  $v_{[q]}(i) = 1$ , and  $v_{[p]}(i) = 0$ . Hence,

$$d(v_{[p]}, v_{[q]}) \geq \sum (s(v_{[r]}) | v_{[r]} \in K).$$

Now, if  $v_{[p]}$  and  $v_{[q]}$  differ in  $i$ -th coordinate, for example  $v_{[q]}(i) = 1$  and  $v_{[p]}(i) = 0$ , then for  $\bar{A}(i) = r$ ,  $v_{[r]} \geq v_{[q]}$  and  $\lceil (v_{[r]} \geq v_{[p]})$ . Thus,  $v_{[r]} \in K$ , and the equality (b) holds.  $\square$

\* \* \*

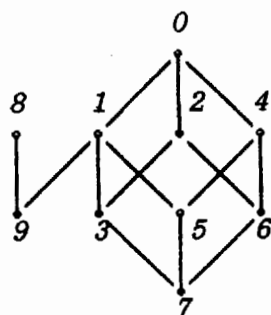
Some well known codes can be represented by  $P$ -fuzzy sets, i.e. they satisfy the conditions of Theorem 4.



**Example 5.** a) For a BCD-code  $V = \{0000, 0001, \dots, 1001\}$ , there is a corresponding  $P$ -fuzzy set, as shown in the sequel.

$$\bar{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 8 & 4 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$S = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}, P = \{1, 2, \dots, 9\}$$



$(P, \leq)$

	1	2	3	4
p	8	4	2	1
0	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	1
2	0	0	1	0
3	0	0	1	1
4	0	1	0	0
5	0	1	0	1
6	0	1	1	0
7	0	1	1	1
8	1	0	0	0
9	1	0	0	1

The construction is based on Theorem 4.

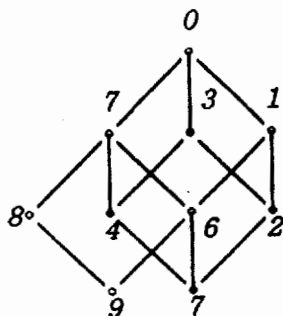
b) The following Gray's code can be represented by a  $P$ -fuzzy set in a similar way.

$$V = \{0000, 0001, 0011, 0010, 0110, 0111, 0101, 0100, 1100, 1101\}$$

$$S = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$$

$$P = \{0, 1, \dots, 9\}$$

$$\bar{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 8 & 7 & 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$



$(P, \leq)$

	1	2	3	4
p	8	7	3	1
0	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	1
2	0	0	1	1
3	0	0	1	0
4	0	1	1	0
5	0	1	1	1
6	0	1	0	1
7	0	1	0	0
8	1	1	0	0
9	1	1	0	1

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## REZIME

### O KONSTRUKCIJI KODOVA POMOĆU $P$ -RASPLINUTIH SKUPOVA

Posmatraju se  $P$ -rasplinuti skupovi, kao funkcije iz proizvoljnog nepraznog skupa  $S$  u parcijalno uređjeni skup  $P$ . Daju se potrebni i dovoljni uslovi pod kojima familija podskupova skupa  $S$  predstavlja kolekciju na koju se razlaže dati rasplinuti skup na  $S$ . Time se dolazi do uslova pod kojima se binarni blok-kod može opisati pomoću  $P$ -rasplinutog skupa. Eksplicitno se opisuje norma, Hemingovo i uopšte kodno rastojanje, a daju se i primeri poznatih kodova (BCD, kodovi Greja) izraženih pomoću  $P$ -rasplinutih skupova.

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