

# Fuzzy Systems

### **Fuzzy Arithmetic**

#### Prof. Dr. Rudolf Kruse Christian Moewes

{kruse,cmoewes}@iws.cs.uni-magdeburg.de
Otto-von-Guericke University of Magdeburg
Faculty of Computer Science
Department of Knowledge Processing and Language Engineering



#### **Outline**

#### 1. The Extension Principle

Truth Values

Extensions to Sets and Fuzzy Sets

2. Fuzzy Arithmetic

#### Motivation I

How to extend  $\phi: X^n \to Y$  to  $\hat{\phi}: \mathcal{F}(X)^n \to \mathcal{F}(Y)$ ?

Let  $\mu \in \mathcal{F}(\mathbb{R})$  be a fuzzy set of the imprecise concept "about 2".

Then the degree of membership  $\mu(2.2)$  can be seen as *truth value* of the statement "2.2 is about equal to 2".

Let  $\mu' \in \mathcal{F}(\mathbb{R})$  be a fuzzy set of the imprecise concept "old".

Then the truth value of "2.2 is about equal 2 **and** 2.2 is old" can be seen as membership degree of 2.2 *w.r.t.* imprecise concept "about 2 and old".

R. Kruse, C. Moewes FS – Fuzzy Arithmetic Lecture 4 2 / 32

# Motivation II – Operating on Truth Values

Any  $\top$  ( $\bot$ ) can be used to represent conjunction (disjunction).

However, now only  $T_{\min}$  and  $\perp_{\max}$  shall be used.

Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be set of imprecise statements that can be combined by and, or.

truth :  $\mathcal{P} \to [0,1]$  assigns truth value truth(a) to every  $a \in \mathcal{P}$ .

truth(a) = 0 means a is definitely false.

truth(a) = 1 means a is definitely true.

If 0 < truth(a) < 1, then only gradual truth of statement a.

R. Kruse, C. Moewes FS – Fuzzy Arithmetic Lecture 4 3/32

### Motivation III – Extension Principle

Combination of two statements  $a, b \in P$ :

$$\operatorname{truth}(a \text{ and } b) = \operatorname{truth}(a \wedge b) = \min \{\operatorname{truth}(a), \operatorname{truth}(b)\},$$
  
 $\operatorname{truth}(a \text{ or } b) = \operatorname{truth}(a \vee b) = \max \{\operatorname{truth}(a), \operatorname{truth}(b)\}$ 

For infinite number of statements  $a_i$ ,  $i \in I$ :

$$truth(\forall i \in I : a_i) = \inf \{truth(a_i) \mid i \in I\}, truth(\exists i \in I : a_i) = \sup \{truth(a_i) \mid i \in I\}$$

This concept helps to extend  $\phi: X^n \to Y$  to  $\hat{\phi}: \mathcal{F}(X)^n \to \mathcal{F}(Y)$ .

- Crisp tuple  $(x_1, \ldots, x_n)$  is mapped to crisp value  $\phi(x_1, \ldots, x_n)$ .
- Imprecise descriptions  $(\mu_1, \ldots, \mu_n)$  of  $(x_1, \ldots, x_n)$  are mapped to fuzzy value  $\hat{\phi}(\mu_1, \ldots, \mu_n)$ .

### Example – How to extend the addition?

$$+: \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}, \quad (a, b) \mapsto a + b$$

Extensions to sets:  $+: 2^{\rm I\!R} \times 2^{\rm I\!R} \to 2^{\rm I\!R}$ 

$$(A,B)\mapsto A+B=\{y\mid (\exists a)(\exists b)y=a+b\land a\in A\land b\in B\}$$

Extensions to fuzzy sets:

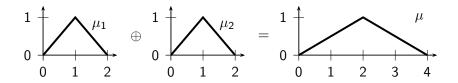
$$+: \mathcal{F}(\mathbb{R}) \times \mathcal{F}(\mathbb{R}) \to \mathcal{F}(\mathbb{R}), \quad (\mu_1, \mu_2) \mapsto \mu_1 \oplus \mu_2$$

$$\begin{split} \mathsf{truth} \big( y \in \mu_1 \oplus \mu_2 \big) &= \mathsf{truth} \big( (\exists a) (\exists b) : y = a + b \wedge a \in \mu_1 \wedge b \in \mu_2 \big) \\ &= \sup_{a,b} \{ \mathsf{truth} \big( y = a + b \big) \wedge \mathsf{truth} \big( a \in \mu_1 \big) \wedge \\ &\quad \mathsf{truth} \big( b \in \mu_2 \big) \} \end{split}$$

$$= \sup_{a,b: y=a+b} \{ \min(\mu_1(a), \ \mu_2(b)) \}$$

R. Kruse, C. Moewes FS – Fuzzy Arithmetic Lecture 4 5/32

#### Example – How to extend the addition?



$$\mu(2)=1$$
 because  $\mu_1(1)=1$  and  $\mu_2(1)=1$   $\mu(5)=0$  because if  $a+b=5$ , then  $\min\{\mu_1(a),\ \mu_2(b)\}=0$   $\mu(1)=0.5$  because it is the result of an optimization task with optimum at, e.g.  $a=0.5$  and  $b=0.5$ 

R. Kruse, C. Moewes FS – Fuzzy Arithmetic Lecture 4 6 / 32

#### **Extension to Sets**

#### Definition

Let  $\phi: X^n \to Y$  be a mapping. The extension  $\hat{\phi}$  of  $\phi$  is given by

$$\hat{\phi}: [2^X]^n \to 2^Y$$
 with  $\delta(A_1, A_2) = \{y \in Y \mid \exists (x_1, x_2)\}$ 

$$\hat{\phi}(A_1,\ldots,A_n) = \{ y \in Y \mid \exists (x_1,\ldots,x_n) \in A_1 \times \ldots \times A_n : \\ \phi(x_1,\ldots,x_n) = v \}.$$

R. Kruse, C. Moewes FS – Fuzzy Arithmetic Lecture 4 7/32

### **Extension to Fuzzy Sets**

#### Definition

Let  $\phi: X^n \to Y$  be a mapping. The extension  $\hat{\phi}$  of  $\phi$  is given by

$$\hat{\phi}: [\mathcal{F}(X)]^n o \mathcal{F}(Y)$$
 with  $\hat{\phi}(\mu_1, \dots, \mu_n)(y) = \sup\{\min\{\mu_1(x_1), \dots, \mu_n(x_n)\} \mid (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in X^n \land \phi(x_1, \dots, x_n) = y\}$ 

assuming that  $\sup \emptyset = 0$ .

R. Kruse, C. Moewes FS – Fuzzy Arithmetic Lecture 4 8 / 32

#### Example I

Let fuzzy set "approximately 2" be defined as

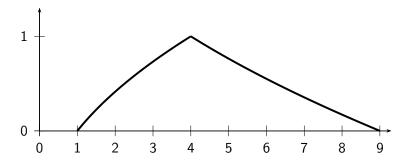
$$\mu(x) = \begin{cases} x - 1, & \text{if } 1 \le x \le 2\\ 3 - x, & \text{if } 2 \le x \le 3\\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

The extension of  $\phi: \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}, x \mapsto x^2$  to fuzzy sets on  $\mathbb{R}$  is

$$\begin{split} \hat{\phi}(\mu)(y) &= \sup \left\{ \mu(x) \; \middle| \; x \in \mathrm{I\!R} \wedge x^2 = y \right\} \\ &= \begin{cases} \sqrt{y} - 1, & \text{if } 1 \leq y \leq 4 \\ 3 - \sqrt{y}, & \text{if } 4 \leq y \leq 9 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \end{split}$$

R. Kruse, C. Moewes FS – Fuzzy Arithmetic Lecture 4 9/32

### Example II



The extension principle is taken as basis for "fuzzifying" whole theories. Now, it will be applied to arithmetic operations on fuzzy intervals.



#### **Outline**

#### 1. The Extension Principle

#### 2. Fuzzy Arithmetic

Linguistic Variables

Analysis of Linguistic Data

Efficient Operations on Fuzzy Sets

Interval Arithmetic

#### **Fuzzy Sets on the Real Numbers**

There are many different types of fuzzy sets.

Very interesting are fuzzy sets defined on set  ${\rm I\!R}$  of real numbers.

Membership functions of such sets, i.e.

$$\mu: \mathbb{R} \to [0, 1],$$

clearly indicate quantitative meaning.

Such concepts may essentially characterize states of fuzzy variables.

They play important role in many applications, e.g. fuzzy control, decision making, approximate reasoning, optimization, and statistics with imprecise probabilities.

R. Kruse, C. Moewes FS - Fuzzy Arithmetic Lecture 4 11/32

# Some Special Fuzzy Sets I

Here, we only consider special classes  $\mathcal{F}(\mathbb{R})$  of fuzzy sets  $\mu$  on  $\mathbb{R}$ .

#### Definition

(a) 
$$\mathcal{F}_N(\mathbb{R}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{ \mu \in \mathcal{F}(\mathbb{R}) \mid \exists x \in \mathbb{R} : \mu(x) = 1 \},$$

**(b)** 
$$\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{C}}(\mathbb{R}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{ \mu \in \mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{N}}(\mathbb{R}) \mid \forall \alpha \in (0,1] : [\mu]_{\alpha} \text{ is compact } \},$$

(c) 
$$\mathcal{F}_I(\mathbb{R}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{ \mu \in \mathcal{F}_N(\mathbb{R}) \mid \forall a, b, c \in \mathbb{R} : c \in [a, b] \Rightarrow (a, b) \}$$

$$\mu(c) \ge \min\{\mu(a), \mu(b)\}\$$
.

R. Kruse, C. Moewes FS – Fuzzy Arithmetic Lecture 4 12/32

### Some Special Fuzzy Sets II

An element in  $\mathcal{F}_N(\mathrm{I\!R})$  is called **normal fuzzy set**:

- It's meaningful if  $\mu \in \mathcal{F}_N(\mathbb{R})$  is used as *imprecise description* of an existing (but not precisely measurable) variable  $\subseteq \mathbb{R}$ .
- In such cases it would not be plausible to assign maximum membership degree of 1 to no single real number.

#### Sets in $\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{C}}(\mathbb{R})$ are **upper semi-continuous**:

- Function f is upper semi-continuous at point  $x_0$  if values near  $x_0$  are either close to  $f(x_0)$  or less than  $f(x_0)$   $\Rightarrow \lim_{x \to x_0} \sup f(x) \le f(x_0)$ .
- This simplifies arithmetic operations applied to them.

#### Fuzzy sets in $\mathcal{F}_I(\mathbb{R})$ are called **fuzzy intervals**:

- The are normal and fuzzy convex.
- Their core is a classical interval.
- $\mu \in \mathcal{F}_I(\mathbb{R})$  for real numbers are called **fuzzy numbers**.

R. Kruse, C. Moewes FS – Fuzzy Arithmetic Lecture 4 13/32

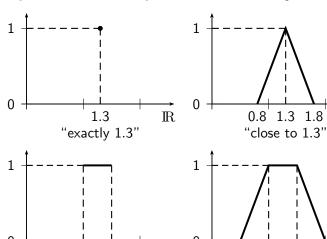


#### Comparison of Crisp Sets and Fuzzy Sets on ${\mathbb R}$

 $\mathbb{R}$ 

 $\mathbb{R}$ 

14 / 32



1.5

crisp interval fuzzy interval

R. Kruse, C. Moewes FS – Fuzzy Arithmetic Lecture 4

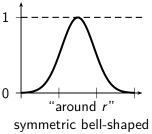
0.5

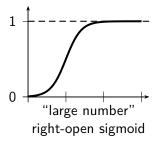
1.5

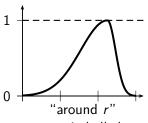
 $\mathbb{R}$ 



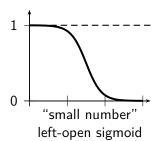
# **Basic Types of Fuzzy Numbers**







asymmetric bell-shaped



# **Quantitative Fuzzy Variables**

The concept of a fuzzy number plays fundamental role in formulating *quantitative fuzzy variables*.

These are variables whose states are fuzzy numbers.

When the fuzzy numbers represent linguistic concepts, e.g.

very small, small, medium, etc.

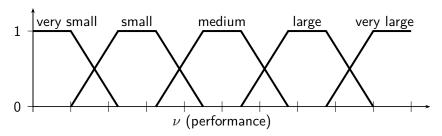
then final constructs are called linguistic variables.

Each linguistic variable is defined in terms of *base variable* which is a variable in classical sense, *e.g.* temperature, pressure, age.

Linguistic terms representing approximate values of base variable are captured by appropriate fuzzy numbers.

R. Kruse, C. Moewes FS - Fuzzy Arithmetic Lecture 4 16/32

#### **Linguistic Variables**



Each linguistic variable is defined by quintuple  $(\nu, T, X, g, m)$ .

- name  $\nu$  of the variable
- ullet set T of  $\mathit{linguistic terms}$  of  $\nu$
- base variable  $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}$
- syntactic rule g (grammar) for generating linguistic terms
- semantic rule m that assigns meaning m(t) to every  $t \in T$ , i.e.  $m: T \to \mathcal{F}(X)$

### **Operations on Linguistic Variables**

To deal with linguistic variables, consider

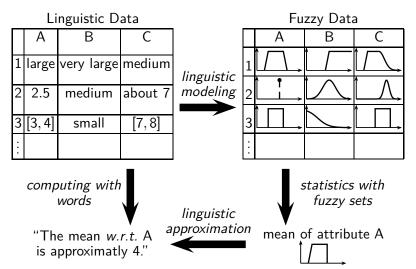
- not only set-theoretic operations
- but also arithmetic operations on fuzzy numbers (*i.e.* interval arithmetic).

#### e.g. statistics:

- Given a sample = (small, medium, small, large, ...).
- How to define mean value or standard deviation?

R. Kruse, C. Moewes FS – Fuzzy Arithmetic Lecture 4 18 / 32

# **Analysis of Linguistic Data**



## **Example – Application of Linguistic Data**

Consider the problem to model the climatic conditions of several towns.

A tourist may want information about tourist attractions.

Assume that linguistic random samples are based on subjective observations of selected people, e.g.

- climatic attribute clouding
- linguistic values cloudless, clear, fair, cloudy, . . .

R. Kruse, C. Moewes FS – Fuzzy Arithmetic Lecture 4 20/32

### Example – Linguistic Modeling by an Expert

The attribute *clouding* is modeled by elementary linguistic values, e.g.

$$\begin{array}{c} \mathsf{cloudless} \mapsto \mathsf{sigmoid}(0, -0.07) \\ & \mathsf{clear} \mapsto \mathsf{Gauss}(25, 15) \\ & \mathsf{fair} \mapsto \mathsf{Gauss}(50, 20) \\ & \mathsf{cloudy} \mapsto \mathsf{Gauss}(75, 15) \\ & \mathsf{overcast} \mapsto \mathsf{sigmoid}(100, 0.07) \\ & \mathsf{exactly})(x) \mapsto \mathsf{exact}(x) \\ & \mathsf{approx})(x) \mapsto \mathsf{Gauss}(x, 3) \\ & \mathsf{between}(x, y) \mapsto \mathsf{rectangle}(x, y) \\ & \mathsf{approx\_between}(x, y) \mapsto \mathsf{trapezoid}(x - 20, x, y, y + 20) \end{array}$$

where  $x, y \in [0, 100] \subset \mathbb{R}$ .

#### **Example**

Gauss(a, b) is, e.g. a function defined by

$$f(x) = \exp\left(-\left(\frac{x-a}{b}\right)^2\right), \quad x, a, b \in \mathbb{R}, \quad b > 0$$

induced language of expressions:

e.g. approx(x) and cloudy is represented by function

$$min \{Gauss(x, 3), Gauss(75, 15)\}$$
.

R. Kruse, C. Moewes FS – Fuzzy Arithmetic Lecture 4 22/32

# **Example – Linguistic Random Sample**

Attribute : Clouding

Observations : Limassol, Cyprus

2009/10/23 : cloudy

2009/10/24 : dil approx\_between(50, 70)

 $\begin{array}{lll} 2009/10/25 & : & {\sf fair\ or\ cloudy} \\ 2009/10/26 & : & {\sf approx}(75) \\ 2009/10/27 & : & {\sf dil}({\sf clear\ or\ fair}) \end{array}$ 

2009/10/28 : int cloudy 2009/10/29 : con fair 2009/11/30 : approx(0)

2009/11/31 : cloudless 2009/11/01 : cloudless or dil clear

2009/11/02 : overcast

2009/11/03 : cloudy and between(70, 80)

... : ... 2009/11/10 : clear

Statistics with fuzzy sets are necessary to analyze linguistic data.

R. Kruse, C. Moewes FS – Fuzzy Arithmetic Lecture 4 23 / 32

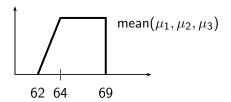
# **Example – Ling. Random Sample of 3 People**

no.	age (linguistic data)	age (fuzzy data)
1	approx. between 70 and 80 and definitely not older than 80	$\mu_1$ 64 70 80
2	between 60 and 65	60 65
3	62	$ \begin{array}{c} \mu_3 & \bullet \\ \hline  $

R. Kruse, C. Moewes FS – Fuzzy Arithmetic Lecture 4 24/32

# **Example – Mean Value of Ling. Random Sample**

$$\mathsf{mean}(\mu_1,\mu_2,\mu_3) = \frac{1}{3} \left( \mu_1 \oplus \mu_2 \oplus \mu_3 \right)$$



i.e. approximately between 64 and 69 but not older than 69

R. Kruse, C. Moewes FS – Fuzzy Arithmetic Lecture 4 25 / 32

# **Efficient Operations I**

How to define arithmetic operations for calculating with  $\mathcal{F}(\mathbb{R})$ ?

Using extension principle for sum  $\mu \oplus \mu'$ , product  $\mu \odot \mu'$  and reciprocal value  $\operatorname{rec}(\mu)$  of arbitrary fuzzy sets  $\mu, \mu' \in \mathcal{F}(\mathbb{R})$ 

$$\begin{split} &(\mu \oplus \mu')(t) = \sup \left\{ \min \{ \mu(x_1), \mu'(x_2) \} \; \middle| \; x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{R}, x_1 + x_2 = t \right\}, \\ &(\mu \odot \mu')(t) = \sup \left\{ \min \{ \mu(x_1), \mu'(x_2) \} \; \middle| \; x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{R}, x_1 \cdot x_2 = t \right\}, \\ &\operatorname{rec}(\mu)(t) = \sup \left\{ \mu(x) \; \middle| \; x \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}, \frac{1}{x} = t \right\}. \end{split}$$

In general, operations on fuzzy sets are much more complicated (especially if vertical instead of horizontal representation is applied).

It's desirable to reduce fuzzy arithmetic to ordinary set arithmetic.

Then, we apply elementary operations of interval arithmetic.

# **Efficient Operations II**

#### Definition

A family  $(A_{\alpha})_{\alpha \in (0,1)}$  of sets is called *set representation* of  $\mu \in \mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{N}}(\mathbb{R})$  if

(a) 
$$0 < \alpha < \beta < 1 \Longrightarrow A_{\beta} \subseteq A_{\alpha} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$$
 and

(b) 
$$\mu(t) = \sup \{ \alpha \in [0,1] \mid t \in A_{\alpha} \}$$

holds where  $\sup \emptyset = 0$ .

#### **Theorem**

Let  $\mu \in F_N(\mathbb{R})$ . The family  $(A_\alpha)_{\alpha \in (0,1)}$  of sets is a set representation of  $\mu$  if and only if

$$[\mu]_{\underline{\alpha}} = \{t \in \mathbb{R} \mid \mu(t) > \alpha\} \subseteq A_{\alpha} \subseteq \{t \in \mathbb{R} \mid \mu(t) \ge \alpha\} = [\mu]_{\alpha}$$

is valid for all  $\alpha \in (0,1)$ .

### **Efficient Operations III**

#### Theorem

Let  $\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_n$  be normal fuzzy sets of  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $\phi : \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$  be a mapping. Then the following holds:

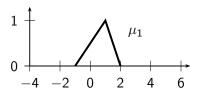
- (a)  $\forall \alpha \in [0,1) : [\hat{\phi}(\mu_1,\ldots,\mu_n)]_{\underline{\alpha}} = \phi([\mu_1]_{\underline{\alpha}},\ldots,[\mu_n]_{\underline{\alpha}}),$
- (b)  $\forall \alpha \in (0,1] : [\hat{\phi}(\mu_1,\ldots,\mu_n)]_{\alpha} \supseteq \phi([\mu_1]_{\alpha},\ldots,[\mu_n]_{\alpha}),$
- (c) if  $((A_i)_{\alpha})_{\alpha \in (0,1)}$  is a set representation of  $\mu_i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , then  $(\phi((A_1)_{\alpha}, \dots, (A_n)_{\alpha}))_{\alpha \in (0,1)}$  is a set representation of  $\hat{\phi}(\mu_1, \dots, \mu_n)$ .

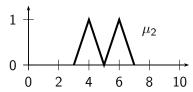
For arbitrary mapping  $\phi$ , set representation of its extension  $\hat{\phi}$  can be obtained with help of set representation  $((A_i)_{\alpha})_{\alpha \in (0,1)}, i = 1, 2, ..., n$ .

It's used to carry out arithmetic operations on fuzzy sets efficiently.



#### Example I





For  $\mu_1, \mu_2$ , the set representations are

• 
$$[\mu_1]_{\alpha} = [2\alpha - 1, 2 - \alpha],$$

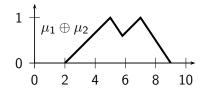
• 
$$[\mu_2]_{\alpha} = [\alpha + 3, 5 - \alpha] \cup [\alpha + 5, 7 - \alpha].$$

Let  $\mathsf{add}(x,y) = x + y$ , then  $(A_\alpha)_{\alpha \in (0,1)}$  represents  $\mu_1 \oplus \mu_2$ 

$$\begin{split} A_{\alpha} &= \mathsf{add}([\mu_1]_{\alpha}, [\mu_2]_{\alpha}) = [3\alpha + 2, 7 - 2\alpha] \cup [3\alpha + 4, 9 - 2\alpha] \\ &= \begin{cases} [3\alpha + 2, 7 - 2\alpha] \cup [3\alpha + 4, 9 - 2\alpha], & \text{if } \alpha \geq 0.6 \\ [3\alpha + 2, 9 - 2\alpha], & \text{if } \alpha \leq 0.6. \end{cases} \end{split}$$

R. Kruse, C. Moewes FS – Fuzzy Arithmetic Lecture 4 29 / 32

## Example II



$$(\mu_1 \oplus \mu_2)(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x-2}{3}, & \text{if } 2 \le x \le 5\\ \frac{7-x}{2}, & \text{if } 5 \le x \le 5.8\\ \frac{x-4}{3}, & \text{if } 5.8 \le x \le 7\\ \frac{9-x}{2}, & \text{if } 7 \le x \le 9\\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

R. Kruse, C. Moewes FS – Fuzzy Arithmetic Lecture 4 30/32



#### Interval Arithmetic I

Determining the set representations of arbitrary combinations of fuzzy sets can be reduced very often to simple interval arithmetic.

Using fundamental operations of arithmetic leads to the following  $(a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R})$ :

$$[a,b] + [c,d] = [a+c,b+d]$$
 
$$[a,b] - [c,d] = [a-d,b-c]$$
 
$$[a,b] \cdot [c,d] = \begin{cases} [ac,bd], & \text{for } a \geq 0 \land c \geq 0 \\ [bd,ac], & \text{for } b < 0 \land d < 0 \end{cases}$$
 
$$[\min\{ad,bc\},\max\{ad,bc\}], & \text{for } ab \geq 0 \land cd \geq 0 \land ac < 0 \end{cases}$$
 
$$[\min\{ad,bc\},\max\{ac,bd\}], & \text{for } ab < 0 \land cd < 0 \end{cases}$$
 
$$\frac{1}{[a,b]} = \begin{cases} \left[\frac{1}{b},\frac{1}{a}\right], & \text{if } 0 \notin [a,b] \\ \frac{1}{b},\infty) \cup \left(-\infty,\frac{1}{a}\right], & \text{if } a < 0 \land b > 0 \\ \frac{1}{b},\infty), & \text{if } a = 0 \land b > 0 \\ \left(-\infty,\frac{1}{a}\right], & \text{if } a < 0 \land b = 0 \end{cases}$$

R. Kruse, C. Moewes FS – Fuzzy Arithmetic Lecture 4 31/32

#### Interval Arithmetic II

In general, set representation of  $\alpha$ -cuts of extensions  $\hat{\phi}(\mu_1, \dots, \mu_n)$  cannot be determined directly from  $\alpha$ -cuts.

It only works always for continuous  $\phi$  and fuzzy sets in  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{C}}(\mathbb{R})$ .

#### Theorem

Let  $\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_n \in \mathcal{F}_C(\mathbb{R})$  and  $\phi : \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$  be a continuous mapping. Then

$$\forall \alpha \in (0,1] : [\hat{\phi}(\mu_1,\ldots,\mu_n)]_{\alpha} = \phi([\mu_1]_{\alpha},\ldots,[\mu_n]_{\alpha}).$$

So, a horizontal representation is better than a vertical one. Finding  $\hat{\phi}$  values is easier than directly applying the extension principle. However, all  $\alpha$ -cuts cannot be stored in a computer. Only a finite number of  $\alpha$ -cuts can be stored.