

# Fuzzy Rule Based Systems

# Natural Language

- Natural language is often used for human communication,
- It comprises fundamental atomic terms that are vague, imprecise and ambiguous.
- These fundamental terms are referred to as “*atoms*”.
- A collection of *atoms* will form “*molecules*” or phrases or composite terms of natural language.
- Example *atoms*
  - *slow, medium, young, beautiful*
- *Example of composite terms*
  - *very slow horse, at least about 5, fairly beautiful painting, very dangerous act of terrorism.*

- Atomic terms can be defined to exist as elements on a universe  $X$  and another universe say  $Z$  represent its interpretations, of natural language terms.
- The interpretation of these terms is vague and is best represented as fuzzy sets.
- The strength of these interpretation is defined by a membership value.
- Thus, Natural language can be expressed as a mapping from a set of atomic terms to a corresponding set of interpretations.
  - For an atomic term “ $\alpha$ ” in the universe of natural language  $X$ , there exists a fuzzy set  $\underline{A}$  in the universe of interpretations,  $Y$ .
  - The relationship between “ $\alpha$ ” to  $\underline{A}$  is a mapping  $\underline{M}$ , expressed as
 
$$\mu_{\underline{M}}(\alpha, y) = \mu_{\underline{A}}(y)$$

# Linguistic Hedges

- Adjectives/adverbs used to modify the atomic terms and their membership values are referred to as “linguistic hedges”.
- Examples
  - *very, low, slight, almost, approximately*
- For an atomic term, “ $\alpha$ ” represented as the following are some of the hedges.

$$\alpha = \int_Y \frac{\mu_\alpha(y)}{y}$$

$$\text{"Very"} \quad \alpha = \alpha^2 = \int_Y \frac{|\mu_\alpha(y)|^2}{y} \quad \text{"Very, very"} \quad \alpha = \alpha^4 = \int_Y \frac{|\mu_\alpha(y)|^4}{y}$$

$$\text{"Plus"} \quad \alpha = \alpha^{1.25} \quad \text{"Slightly"} \quad \alpha = \sqrt{\alpha} \quad \text{"Minus"} \quad \alpha = \alpha^{0.75}$$

- For any modifier  $h(a)$ ,
  - If  $h(a) < a$ , then the modifier is **strong**.
  - If  $h(a) > a$ , then the modifier is **weak**.
  - If  $h(a) = a$ , then it is identity **modifier**.
- A strong modifier strengthens a fuzzy predicate to which it applied but reduces the truth value of the associated proposition.
- Similarly a weak modifier, weakens a predicate and hence increase the truth value of the associated proposition.
  - ✓ E.g Let  $\text{old}(80) = 0.90$ ,
    - ✓ Very old  $= 0.9^2 = 0.81$
    - ✓ Fairly old  $= \sqrt{a} = 0.94$

# Fuzzy Operators

- Two fundamental fuzzy operators are in existence.
  - **Concentration** - which tends to concentrate the elements of a fuzzy set by reducing the degree of membership of all the elements that are “partly” in the set.
  - The less the membership, the more it is concentrated.
  - e.g.  $\alpha^2[0.9 \rightarrow 0.81; 0.1 \rightarrow 0.01]$

- **Dilation** - which stretches a fuzzy set by increasing the degree of membership of all the elements that are “partly” in the set.

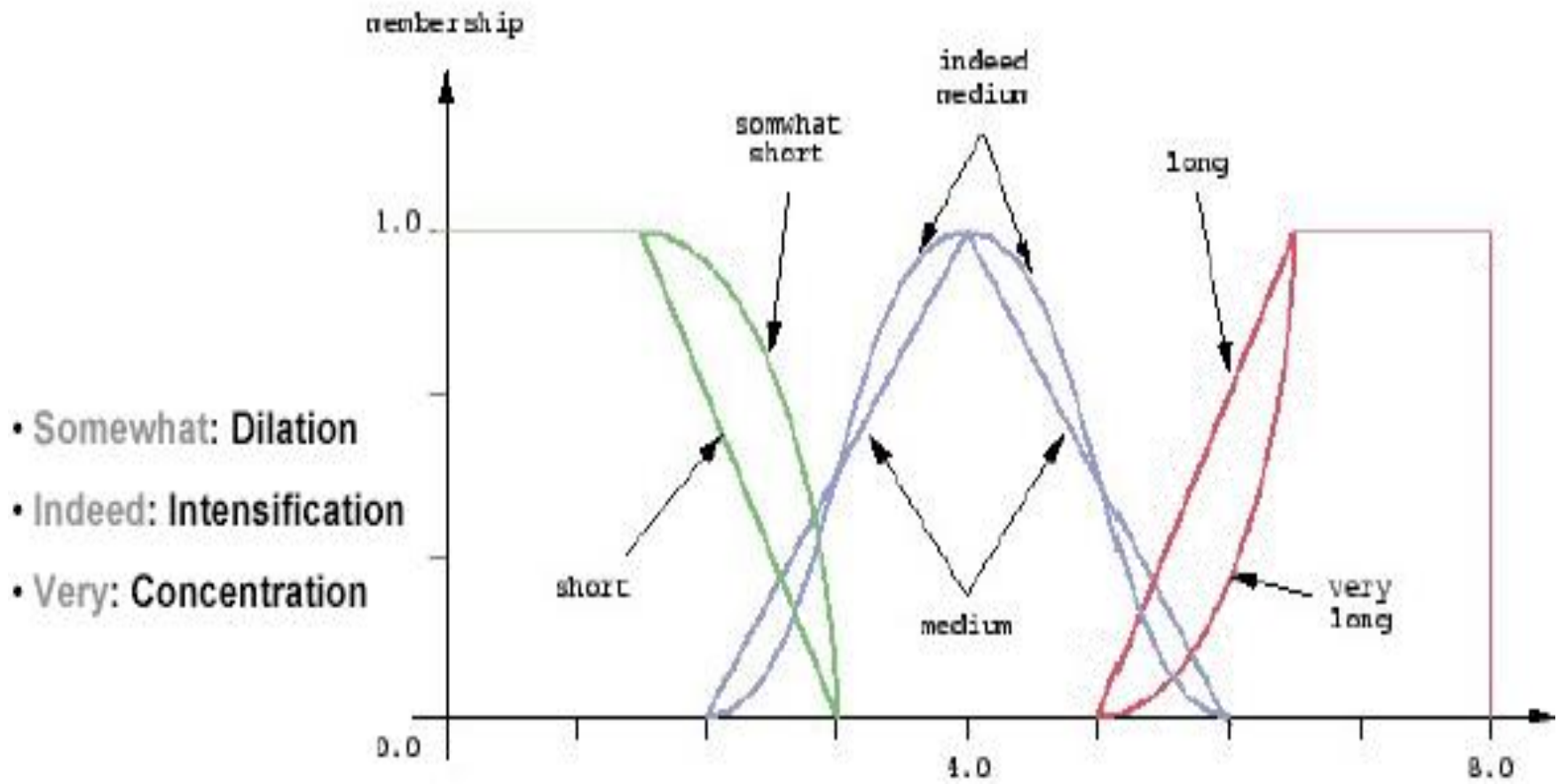
➤ e.g.

$$\sqrt{\alpha}[0.9 \rightarrow 0.95; 0.1 \rightarrow 0.32]$$

- **Intensification** - It is a combination of concentration and dilation. It increases the degree of membership of those elements in a fuzzy set with original membership values greater than 0.5, and decreases the degree of membership of those elements in the set with original membership less than 0.5.
- It increases the contrast between the elements of the set that have more/less than half membership.

- Mathematically,

$$\text{"Intensity"} \quad \alpha = \begin{cases} 2\mu_{\alpha}^2(y) & \text{for } 0 \leq \mu_{\alpha}(y) \leq 0.5 \\ 1 - 2[1 - \mu_{\alpha}(y)]^2 & \text{for } 0.5 \leq \mu_{\alpha}(y) \leq 1 \end{cases}$$





- **Fuzzification** - It is opposite of **intensification**.

Mathematically,

$$\mu_{FUZ(\underline{A})}(x) = \begin{cases} [\mu_{\underline{A}}(x) / 2]^{1/2} & \text{for } 0 \leq \mu_{\alpha}(y) \leq 0.5 \\ 1 - 2[(1 - \mu_{\underline{A}}(x)) / 2]^{1/2} & \text{for } 0.5 \leq \mu_{\alpha}(y) \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

- These operators are extensively used in several image processing, pattern recognition and artificial intelligent problems.

- ***A linguistic expression*** can be formed by using logical connectives between linguistic hedges.
- Example:
  - “*not costly*” And “*very high building*”
- Order of precedence:

*Not*  $\rightarrow$  *And*  $\rightarrow$  *Or*

# Example

- Let the universe of integers,  $Y=\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$  and the following linguistic terms

$$\text{"Small"} = \left\{ \frac{1}{1} + \frac{0.8}{2} + \frac{0.6}{3} + \frac{0.4}{4} + \frac{0.2}{5} \right\} \quad \text{"Large"} = \left\{ \frac{0.2}{1} + \frac{0.4}{2} + \frac{0.6}{3} + \frac{0.8}{4} + \frac{1}{5} \right\}$$

Construct the *composite* term “*not very small and not very, very large*”

# Solution

$$\begin{aligned} not \quad very \quad small &= 1 - very \quad small = 1 - small^2 \\ &= \left\{ \frac{0}{1} + \frac{0.36}{2} + \frac{0.64}{3} + \frac{0.84}{4} + \frac{0.96}{5} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} not \quad very \quad very \quad large &= 1 - very \quad very \quad large = 1 - large^4 \\ &= \left\{ \frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{0.9}{3} + \frac{0.6}{4} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

∴ The linguistic expression "*not very small And not very very large*"

$$\begin{aligned} &= \left\{ \frac{0}{1} + \frac{0.36}{2} + \frac{0.64}{3} + \frac{0.84}{4} + \frac{0.96}{5} \right\} \cap \left\{ \frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{0.9}{3} + \frac{0.6}{4} \right\} \\ &= \left\{ \frac{0.36}{2} + \frac{0.64}{3} + \frac{0.6}{4} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

# Rule Based Systems

- The most common way to represent human knowledge is to form it into natural language expressions of the type  
*IF premise (antecedent) THEN conclusion (consequent)*
- It expresses an inference such that
  - Given a fact (premise, hypothesis, antecedent) one can derive another fact called a conclusion (consequent).
- This form of knowledge representation is referred to as *shallow knowledge*.
  - It uses linguistic variables as its antecedent and consequent.

# Canonical Rule Forms

- Three canonical forms of rule based statements
  - Assignment statements: Restricts the value of a variable.
    - ✓  $x=large; color=yellow$
    - ✓  $x=x$
  - Conditional statements: Restricts the value of a variable based on a condition.
    - ✓ *IF  $x$  is large THEN  $color=yellow$*
  - Unconditional statements: Restricts the value of a variable based on any condition.
    - ✓  $x$  is large
    - ✓ Stop

# Compound Rules

- Several linguistic connectives can be used to combine rules.
- These combined rules are referred to a *compound rules*.
- Example:

*IF price is high THEN buying capacity (bc) is very low.*

*IF price is high And quality is good THEN bc is high.*

*IF price is low and quality is good THEN bc is medium.*

*ELSE*

*IF price is medium and quality is bad THEN bc is low.*

# Decomposition of Compound Rules

- The basic properties and operations defined for fuzzy sets can be used to decompose any compound rule into a number of simple canonical rules.

## ❖ Multiple Conjunctive Antecedents

*IF  $x$  is  $\underline{A}^1$  And  $\underline{A}^2$  And .... And  $\underline{A}^L$  THEN  $y$  is  $\underline{B}^S$*

Assuming a new fuzzy subset  $\underline{A}^S$  as

$$\underline{A}^S = \underline{A}^1 \cap \underline{A}^2 \cap \dots \cap \underline{A}^L$$

Thus the compound rule can be rewritten as

$$IF \underline{A}^S THEN \underline{B}^S$$



## ❖ Multiple Disjunctive Antecedents

*IF  $x$  is  $\underline{A}^1$  OR  $\underline{A}^2$  OR .... OR  $\underline{A}^L$  THEN  $y$  is  $\underline{B}^S$*

Assuming a new fuzzy set  $\underline{A}^S$  as

$$\underline{A}^S = \underline{A}^1 \cup \underline{A}^2 \cup \dots \cup \underline{A}^L$$

Thus the compound rule can be rewritten as

$$IF \underline{A}^S THEN \underline{B}^S$$

## ❖ Conditional ELSE statements

$$IF \underline{A}^1 THEN (\underline{B}^1 ELSE \underline{B}^2)$$

This can be decomposed into

$$IF \underline{A}^1 THEN \underline{B}^1 OR IF NOT \underline{A}^1 THEN \underline{B}^2$$

## ❖ Conditional UNLESS statements

*IF  $\underline{A}^1$  (THEN  $\underline{B}^1$ ) UNLESS  $\underline{A}^2$ )*

This can be decomposed into

*IF  $\underline{A}^1$  THEN  $\underline{B}^1$  OR IF  $\underline{A}^2$  THEN NOT  $\underline{B}^1$*

*IF  $\underline{A}^1$  THEN ( $\underline{B}^1$  ELSE IF  $\underline{A}^2$  THEN ( $\underline{B}^2$ ))*

This may be further simplified as

*IF  $\underline{A}^1$  THEN  $\underline{B}^1$  OR IF NOT  $\underline{A}^1$  AND  $\underline{A}^2$  THEN  $\underline{B}^2$*

## ❖ Nested IF-THEN Rules

*IF  $\underline{A}^1$  THEN (IF  $\underline{A}^2$  THEN ( $\underline{B}^1$ ))*

It can be put in the form

*IF  $\underline{A}^1$  AND  $\underline{A}^2$  THEN  $\underline{B}^1$*

# Likelihood and Truth Qualification

- *Atomic* and *composite* terms may also be modified by **likelihood linguistic variables**, such as
  - “*likely*”, “*very likely*”, “*highly likely*” or “*unlikely*”.
- They may also be modified by **truth qualification** statements such as
  - “*true*”, “*fairly true*”, “*very true*”, “*false*”, “*fairly false*” or “*very false*”.
- These likelihood labels are based on the notions of probability.

# Example

□ Let the universe of discourse is given by  
 $U=\{0, 0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.4, 0.5, 0.6, 0.7, 0.8, 1.0\}$   
where the elements represent probabilities.  
Compute the meaning of the linguistic variable  $x$ ,  
where  $x$  = “*highly unlikely*”

with

$$"likely" = \left\{ \frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{0.9} + \frac{1}{0.8} + \frac{0.8}{0.7} + \frac{0.6}{0.6} + \frac{0.5}{0.5} + \frac{0.3}{0.4} + \frac{0.2}{0.3} \right\}$$

and “*highly*” and “*unlikely*” defined as

- “*highly*” = “*minus very very*” =  $(very\ very)^{0.75}$
- “*unlikely*” = “*not likely*”

# Solution

$$\text{"*unlikely*" = "1 - *likely*" = } \left\{ \frac{1}{0} + \frac{1}{0.1} + \frac{1}{0.2} + \frac{0.8}{0.3} + \frac{0.6}{0.4} + \frac{0.5}{0.5} + \frac{0.7}{0.6} + \frac{0.8}{0.7} \right\}$$

$$\text{"*very very unlikely*" = "(*unlikely*)"}^4$$

$$= \left\{ \frac{1}{0} + \frac{1}{0.1} + \frac{1}{0.2} + \frac{0.4}{0.3} + \frac{0.2}{0.4} \right\}$$

$$\text{"*highly unlikely*" = "min us *very very unlikely*"}$$

$$= \left( \frac{1}{0} + \frac{1}{0.1} + \frac{1}{0.2} + \frac{0.4}{0.3} + \frac{0.2}{0.4} \right)^{0.75} = \left( \frac{1}{0} + \frac{1}{0.1} + \frac{1}{0.2} + \frac{0.5}{0.3} + \frac{0.3}{0.4} \right)$$

# Aggregation of Fuzzy Rules

- Mostly a rule based system involves more than one rule.
- The process of obtaining overall consequent from the individual consequents is known as aggregation of rules.

## ❖ Conjunctive system of rules

- These rules must be jointly satisfied and are connected by “*and*” connectives.
- The aggregated output (consequent),  $y$ , is found by the fuzzy intersection of all the individual rule consequents,  $y^i$ , where  $i = 1, 2, \dots, r$ , as

$$y = y^1 \text{ and } y^2 \text{ and } \dots \text{ and } y^r$$

or

$$y = y^1 \cap y^2 \cap \dots \cap y^r$$

In terms of membership

$$\mu_y(y) = \min(\mu_{y^1}(y), \mu_{y^2}(y), \dots, \mu_{y^r}(y)) \quad \text{for } y \in Y$$

## ❖ Disjunctive system of rules

- At least one rule is required to be satisfied and these rules are connected by “*or*” connectives.
- The aggregated output (consequent),  $y$ , is found by the fuzzy union of all the individual rule consequents,  $y^i$ , where  $i = 1, 2, \dots, r$ , as

$$y = y^1 \text{ or } y^2 \text{ or } \dots \text{ or } y^r$$

or

$$y = y^1 \cup y^2 \cup \dots \cup y^r$$

In terms of membership

$$\mu_y(y) = \max(\mu_{y^1}(y), \mu_{y^2}(y), \dots, \mu_{y^r}(y)) \quad \text{for } y \in Y$$



# Graphical Methods of Inference

- Inferences from a family of rules can also be achieved by graphical techniques due to Mamdani.
- The individual antecedents are represented as membership functions in the graphical view.
- So are the consequents.
- The inference is obtained using Mamdani's implication method of inference.
- The inputs applied to the system, in conjunction with the membership functions of the antecedents and consequents determine the inference.

# Example

□ Consider a system guided by a disjunctive set of rules manifested by  $r$  linguistics of the form

*If  $x_1$  is  $\underline{A}_1^k$  and  $x_2$  is  $\underline{A}_2^k$  THEN  $y^k$  is  $\underline{B}^k$  for  $k=1,2,\dots,r$*

The inputs to the system are crisp delta functions,  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ , whose memberships are given by

$$\mu(x_1) = \delta(x_1 - \text{input}(i)) = \begin{cases} 1, & x_1 = \text{input}(i) \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\mu(x_2) = \delta(x_2 - \text{input}(j)) = \begin{cases} 1, & x_2 = \text{input}(j) \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Find the crisp output using Mamdani approach.

# Solution

Based on Mamdani's implication method of inference for a set of disjunctive rules, the aggregated output for the  $r$  rules will be given by

$$\mu_{\underline{B}^k}(y) = \max_k [\min[\mu_{\underline{A}_1^k}(\text{input}(i)), \mu_{\underline{A}_2^k}(\text{input}(j))]] \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, r$$

Basically, it implies that the following steps are to be taken.

- Find out the individual minimum of intersection of all the individual antecedents with the inputs.
- Find out the maximum of all these  $k$  minima.
- Defuzzify the fuzzy output to a crisp value.

# Solution

