

FUZZY UNION

# FUZZY UNIONS

$$u : [0, 1] \times [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1].$$

The argument to this function is the pair consisting of the membership grade of some element  $x$  in fuzzy set  $A$  and the membership grade of that same element in fuzzy set  $B$ . The function returns the membership grade of the element in the set  $A \cup B$ . Thus,

$$(A \cup B)(x) = u[A(x), B(x)]$$

for all  $x \in X$ .

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A *fuzzy union/t-conorm*  $u$  is a binary operation on the unit interval that satisfies at least the following axioms for all  $a, b, d \in [0, 1]$ :

**Axiom u1.**  $u(a, 0) = a$  (*boundary condition*).

**Axiom u2.**  $b \leq d$  implies  $u(a, b) \leq u(a, d)$  (*monotonicity*).

**Axiom u3.**  $u(a, b) = u(b, a)$  (*commutativity*).

**Axiom u4.**  $u(a, u(b, d)) = u(u(a, b), d)$  (*associativity*).

Since this set of axioms is essential for fuzzy unions, we call it the *axiomatic skeleton* for fuzzy unions/t-conorms.

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The most important additional requirements for fuzzy unions are expressed by the following axioms:

**Axiom u5.**  $u$  is a continuous function (*continuity*).

**Axiom u6.**  $u(a, a) > a$  (*superidempotency*).

**Axiom u7.**  $a_1 < a_2$  and  $b_1 < b_2$  implies  $u(a_1, b_1) < u(a_2, b_2)$  (*strict monotonicity*).

Any continuous and superidempotent  $t$ -conorm is called *Archimedean*; if it is also strictly monotonic, it is called *strictly Archimedean*.

$$u(a, b) = \max(a, b).$$

$$u_w(a, b) = \min(1, (a^w + b^w)^{1/w}) \quad (w > 0).$$

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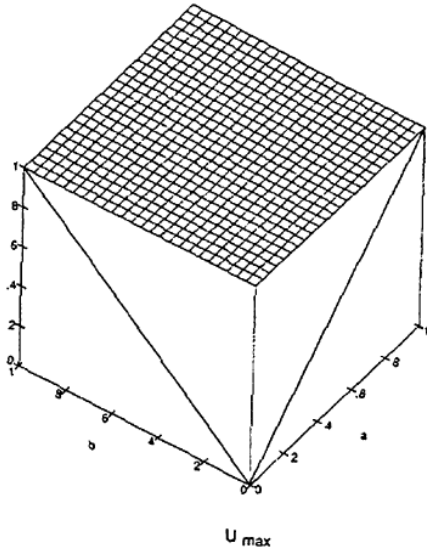
**Standard union:**  $u(a, b) = \max(a, b)$ .

**Algebraic sum:**  $u(a, b) = a + b - ab$ .

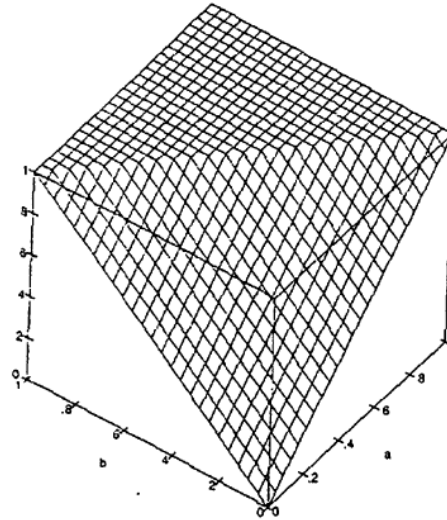
**Bounded sum:**  $u(a, b) = \min(1, a + b)$ .

**Drastic union:**  $u(a, b) = \begin{cases} a & \text{when } b = 0 \\ b & \text{when } a = 0 \\ 1 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$

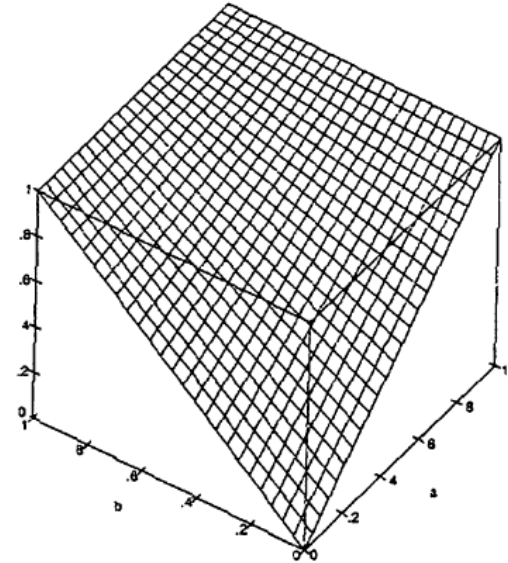
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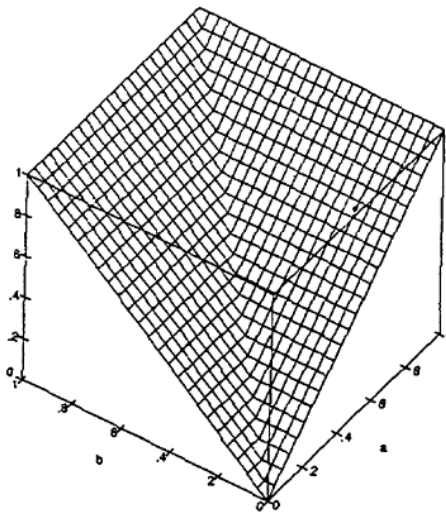
(U)



$\min(1, a+b)$



$a+b-ab$



max

$$\max(a, b) \leq a + b - ab \leq \min(1, a + b) \leq u_{\max}(a, b)$$