

# ON FUZZY LINEAR REPRESENTATIONS OF FINITE GROUPS

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## ABSTRACT

A linear representation  $\rho$  of a finite group  $G$  in a finite dimensional vector space  $V$  induces, through Zadeh's extension principle, a function,  $\tilde{\rho}$ , from  $I^G$  into  $I^{GL(V)}$ , where  $GL(V)$  is the group of all linear automorphisms of  $V$ . If  $W$  is a fuzzy subspace of  $V$ , the group of all fuzzy linear automorphisms of  $W$ ,  $GL(W)$ , is a subgroup of  $GL(V)$ .  $W$  is said to be stable under the action of a fuzzy subgroup  $A$  of  $G$  if  $\tilde{\rho}(A)$  is a fuzzy subset of  $GL(W)$  i.e.  $\tilde{\rho}(A)$  is zero at every  $f$  inside  $GL(V)$  and outside  $GL(W)$ . If  $W$  is stable under the action of  $A$ , then its support subspace is stable under the action of the support subgroup of  $A$  in the crisp sense. Finally, we show that if there are two stable fuzzy subspaces one of them is contained in the other, then the support subspace of the smaller one is a direct summand of the support subspace of the larger one.

*Keywords:* Linear representation of finite groups, Fuzzy subgroup, Fuzzy subspace, Stable fuzzy subspace, Fuzzy direct summand.

## 1. PREREQUISITES

Throughout,  $G$  will be a finite group with identity  $e$ , and  $V$  will be a vector space over a field  $F$ .  $0$  will denote both the zeros of  $F$  and  $V$ .  $GL(V)$  will be the group of all linear automorphisms of  $V$ . A group homomorphism  $\rho: G \rightarrow GL(V)$  is called a *linear representation* of  $G$  in  $V$ . See [5].

A fuzzy subset  $A$  of  $G$  is called a *fuzzy subgroup* of  $G$  if it satisfies for all  $x, y \in G$ :

$$(G 1) A(xy) \geq A(x) \wedge A(y),$$

$$(G 2) A(x^{-1}) = A(x),$$

$$(G 3) A(e) = 1.$$

A fuzzy subset  $W$  of  $V$  is called a *fuzzy subspace* of  $V$  if it satisfies for all  $u, v \in V$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in F$ :

$$(S 1) W(\alpha u + \beta v) \geq W(u) \wedge W(v),$$

$$(S 2) W(0) = 1.$$

Let  $X, Y$  be any two sets, a function  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is extended by means of Zadeh's extension principle to a function  $\tilde{f}: I^X \rightarrow I^Y$  defined by; for all  $A \in I^X$  and

$$y \in Y \text{ let } \tilde{f}(A)(y) = \sup \{A(x) : f(x) = y\}. \quad (1)$$

See [2], [9].

### Remark 1.1

If  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is a function and  $A$  is a crisp subset of  $X$ , then  $\tilde{f}(A)$  is also a crisp subset of  $Y$  and  $\tilde{f}(A) = f(A)$ .

If  $X \Leftrightarrow Y$  and  $A \in I^Y$ , considering  $A$  as a function from  $Y$  into  $I$ , the restriction  $A|_X$  is a fuzzy subset of  $X$ .

If  $A$  is a fuzzy subset of a set  $X$ , the *support subset* of  $A$  in  $X$ , denoted by  $\bar{A}$ , is;

$$\bar{A} = \{x \in X : A(x) > 0\}. \quad (2)$$

One easily prove that:

$$\tilde{f}(A) = f(A). \quad (3)$$

Lemma 1.2 [see 2]

- 1) If  $W$  is a fuzzy subspace of  $V$ , then  $\bar{W}$  is a subspace of  $V$ .
- 2) If  $A$  is a fuzzy subgroup of  $G$ , then  $\bar{A}$  is a subgroup of  $G$ .

If  $W$  is a fuzzy subspace of  $V$ ,  $GL(W)$  will denote the set of all linear automorphisms of  $W$ , see Definition 3.3.1 of [6] So;

$$GL(W) = \{f : f \in GL(V), \tilde{f}(W) = W\}. \quad (4)$$

Lemma 1.3 Let  $W$  be a fuzzy subspace of  $V$ , then  $GL(W) = \{f \in GL(V) : W(v) = W(f(v)) \text{ for all } v \in V\}$ .

Proof Straight forward from (1) and  $f$  being an invertible homomorphism.

Lemma 1.4  $GL(W)$  is a subgroup of  $GL(V)$ .

Lemma 1.5 If  $f \in GL(W)$ , the restriction of  $f$  to  $\bar{W}$ ,  $f|_{\bar{W}}$ , is an automorphism of  $\bar{W}$ .

Proof Let  $v \in \bar{W}$ , then  $W(v) = W(f(v)) > 0$ , so  $f(v) \in \bar{W}$ .

From the above lemma we can see that ;  $GL(W)$  is a subgroup of  $GL(\bar{W})$ .

An operation  $\circ$  on a set  $X$  is extended, by Zadeh's extension principle [9], to an operation on  $I^X$  denoted by the same  $\circ$  as follows ; for all  $A, B \in I^X$  and each  $x \in X$  let

$$(A \circ B)(x) = \sup \{A(a) \wedge B(b) : a \circ b = x\}. \quad (5)$$

See [2], [4] and [7] for all the details.

The operation of  $G$  and the two operations of both  $V$  and  $F$  are extended to operations on the

appropriate fuzzy subsets. These extensions are denoted by the same notations for the original operations.

If  $W_1, W_2$  are fuzzy subspaces of  $V$  such that  $W_1 \cap W_2 = 1_0$ , we say that their sum  $W_1 + W_2$  is *direct* and it is denoted by:  $W_1 \oplus W_2$ . Note that;  $a_x$  is the fuzzy subset taking value  $a$  ( $0 \leq a \leq 1$ ) at  $x$  and 0 elsewhere.

Lemma 1.6 Let  $W_1, W_2$  be two fuzzy subspaces of  $V$  such that  $W_1 \cap W_2 = 1_0$ . Then  $\bar{W}_1 \oplus \bar{W}_2 = \overline{(W_1 \oplus W_2)}$ . Moreover for all  $v \in V$ ,  $(W_1 \oplus W_2)(v) = W_1(c) \wedge W_2(d)$ , where  $c$  and  $d$  are the unique vectors,  $c \in \bar{W}_1, d \in \bar{W}_2$ , such that  $v = c + d$ .

Proof It is straight forward to show that  $\bar{W}_1 \cap \bar{W}_2 = \{0\}$ . Let  $v \in \bar{W}_1 \oplus \bar{W}_2$ , so  $v = a + b$  with  $W_1(a) > 0, W_2(b) > 0$ . Then  $(\bar{W}_1 \oplus \bar{W}_2)(v) = \sup \{W_1(c) \wedge W_2(d) : c+d=v\} \geq W_1(a) \wedge W_2(b) > 0$ . Let  $v \in \overline{(W_1 \oplus W_2)}$ , then  $(W_1 \oplus W_2)(v) = \sup \{W_1(c) \wedge W_2(d) : c+d=v\} > 0$ . Then, there are  $a, b \in V$  and  $a + b = v$  such that  $W_1(a) > 0$  and  $W_2(b) > 0$ . The second part comes from; if  $v = c + d$  with  $c \in \bar{W}_1$  and  $d \in \bar{W}_2$ , then  $c$  and  $d$  are the only elements such that:  $\bar{W}_1(c) \wedge \bar{W}_2(d) > 0$ .

## 2. STABLE FUZZY SUBSPACE

Definition 2.1

A fuzzy subspace  $W$  of  $V$  is said to be *stable under the action of a fuzzy subgroup  $A$  of  $G$*  with respect to the linear representation  $\rho : G \rightarrow GL(V)$  if it satisfies for all  $f \in GL(V)$  and  $f \notin GL(W)$  ;

$$\tilde{\rho}(A)(f) = 0. \quad (6)$$

Equation (6) means; for every  $f \in GL(V) \setminus GL(W)$  we have:

$$\tilde{\rho}(A)(f) = \sup \{A(a) : a \in G, \rho(a) = f\} = 0.$$

**Lemma 2.2**

- 1)  $W$  is stable under the action of  $A$  if and only if it is stable under the action of  $\bar{A}$ .
- 2) If  $W$  is stable under the action of  $A$  then  $\bar{W}$  is also stable under the action of  $A$ .

*Proof*

- 1) Assume that  $W$  is stable under the action of  $A$ . To prove that  $W$  is stable under the action of  $\bar{A}$ ; let  $f \in GL(W)$ , then it is enough to prove  $f \notin \rho(\bar{A})$  because  $\rho(\bar{A}) = \tilde{\rho}(\bar{A})$ . This is straight forward from (3) and (6).  
On the other hand ; assume that  $W$  is stable under the action of  $\bar{A}$ . Let  $f \in GL(W)$ , then (3) and (6) imply also that  $\rho(A)(f) = 0$ .
- 2) If  $f \in GL(\bar{W})$  then  $f \in GL(W)$ . This proves the second part of the lemma.

**Proposition 2.3**

If a fuzzy subspace  $W$  is stable under the action of a fuzzy subgroup  $A$ . Then  $\bar{W}$  is stable under the action of  $A$  in the crisp sense i.e.  $\rho(a)(w) \in \bar{W}$  for all  $a \in \bar{A}$  and  $w \in \bar{W}$ .

*Proof* Suppose not, then

$W(\rho(a)(w)) = 0$  for some  $a \in \bar{A}$ ,  $w \in \bar{W}$ . So  $0 = W(\rho(a)(w)) \neq W(w) > 0$ . Then, by Lemma 1.3:  $\rho(a) \notin GL(W)$ . So, since  $W$  is stable;  $\tilde{\rho}(A)(\rho(a)) = 0$ , but we have:  
 $\tilde{\rho}(A)(\rho(a)) = \sup \{A(x) : \rho(x) = \rho(a)\} \geq A(a) > 0$ , which is a contradiction.

For the linear representation  $\rho : G \rightarrow GL(V)$ , if  $a \in G$  the linear automorphism  $\rho(a)$  will be denoted by  $\rho_a$ .

**Proposition 2.4**

Let  $W$  be a stable fuzzy subspace under the action of a fuzzy subgroup  $A$ . Then  $\rho_a \in GL(W)$  for all  $a \in A$ .

*Proof* Suppose not, then there is some  $a \in A$  with  $\rho_a \notin GL(W)$ . So,  $\tilde{\rho}(A)(\rho_a) = 0$ . But we have:  
 $\tilde{\rho}(A)(\rho_a) = \sup \{A(x) : \rho(x) = \rho_a\} \geq A(a) > 0$ , which is a contradiction.

Since the set of linear transformations  $\{\rho_a : a \in G\}$  is finite ; the sum  $\Sigma \rho_a$  is defined and is also an automorphism of  $V$ . So we get the following lemma which is important in the proof of the next theorem.

**Lemma 2.5** Let  $\rho_G = \Sigma \rho_a$  then  $\rho_x \rho_G = \rho_G \rho_x = \rho_G \in GL(W)$  for all  $x \in G$  and any stable fuzzy subspace  $W$ .

**Theorem 2.6** Let  $U \subseteq W$  be two fuzzy subspaces of  $V$  both are stable under the action of a fuzzy subgroup  $A$ . Then there is a fuzzy subspace  $V$  of  $V$  satisfying:

- 1)  $V$  is stable under the action of  $A$ .
- 2)  $V \subseteq W$ .
- 3) The sum  $U \oplus V$  is direct i.e.  $U \cap V = 1_0$ .
- 4)  $\bar{U} \oplus \bar{V} = \bar{W}$ .

*Proof* Let  $W$  be a subspace of  $V$  stable under the action of  $\bar{A}$  such that  $\bar{W} = \bar{U} \oplus W$ , see Theorem 1 of 1.3 of [5]. Define a fuzzy subset  $V$  of  $V$  as follows: for all  $v \in V$ ;

$$V(v) = \begin{cases} W(\rho_g(V)) & \text{if } v \in W, \\ 0 & \text{if } v \notin W \end{cases}$$

We claim that  $V$  is a fuzzy subspace of  $V$ . Let  $u, v \in V$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in F$ . Consider  $V(\alpha u + \beta v)$ , we may assume both  $u$  and  $v$  are in  $W$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} V(\alpha u + \beta v) &= W(\rho_G(\alpha u + \beta v)) = \\ &= W(\alpha \rho_G(u) + \beta \rho_G(v)) \geq W(\rho_G(u)) \wedge W(\rho_G(v)) \\ &= V(u) \wedge V(v). \text{ This proves our claim.} \end{aligned}$$

We claim again that  $\bar{V} = \bar{W}$ . Let  $w \in W \subseteq \bar{W}$ . Then  $\rho_G(w) \in \bar{W}$ , because  $\bar{W}$  is stable under the action of  $\bar{A}$  by Proposition 2.3. Then  $V(w) = W(\rho_G(w)) > 0$ , which means  $w \in \bar{V}$ . On the other hand, let  $w \in \bar{V}$ , so  $V(w) > 0$  which means  $w \in W$ . This

proves the second claim. Our third claim is that  $U \cap V = 1_0$ . It is straight forward to prove that  $U \cap V = 1_0$  if and only if  $\bar{U} \cap \bar{V} = \{0\}$ . Finally, it remains to prove that  $V$  is stable under the action of  $A$ . Suppose not. Then there is  $f \notin GL(V)$  such that  $\bar{\rho}(A)(f) > 0$ . Then  $\bar{\rho}(A)(f) = \sup \{A(a) : a \in G, \rho_a = f\} > 0$ .

So there is  $x \in \bar{A}$  such that  $\rho_x = f \notin GL(V)$ . Then there is  $v \in V$  such that

$\bar{\rho}_x(V)(v) \neq V(v)$  because  $\bar{\rho}_x(V) \neq V$ . Then;  
 $\bar{\rho}_x(V)(v) = \sup \{V(u) : \rho_x(u) = v\} = V(\rho_x^{-1}(v))$ . So,  
 $V(\rho_y(v)) \neq V(v)$ , where  $y$  is the inverse of  $x$  in  $\bar{A}$ . We have two cases for  $v$ .

Case 1:  $v \notin W$  then  $\rho_y(v) \notin W$  because  $W$  is stable under the action of  $\bar{A}$  and we get  $V(\rho_y(v)) = V(v) = 0$ .

Case 2:  $v \in W$  then  $\rho_y(v) \in W$ , so we get  $V(\rho_y(v)) = W(\rho_G \rho_y(v)) = W(\rho_G(v)) = V(v)$ .

In both cases, we get a contradiction and  $V$  is stable under the action of  $A$ .

### 3. AN EXAMPLE

let  $G$  be a finite group of order  $n$  which is equal to the dimension of  $V$ . Let  $\{v_x\}_{x \in G}$  be a basis for  $V$  indexed by the elements of  $G$ . Define the linear representation

$\rho: G \rightarrow GL(V)$  by ;  $\rho(x)(v_y) = v_{xy}$  for all  $x, y \in G$  and extend it by linearity. This linear representation is called the *regular representation* of  $G$ . Let  $W$  be the subspace of  $V$  generated by  $w = \sum v_x$ . Then  $\rho(a)(v) = v$  for all  $v \in W$  and  $a \in G$ . Let  $\bar{W}$  be the fuzzy subset of  $V$  defined by

$$\bar{W}(v) = \begin{cases} 1/2 & \text{if } v \in W, v \neq 0, \\ 1 & \text{if } v = 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then  $W$  is a fuzzy subspaces of  $V$  with  $\bar{W} = W$ .  $GL(W) = \{f: f \rightarrow GL(V), W(v) = W(f(v)) \text{ for all } v \in V\}$ . So  $f \in GL(W)$  if and only if  $f(w) = \alpha w$  for some  $\alpha \in F$ . In particular  $\{\rho(x) : x \in G\} \subseteq GL(W)$ . Now, let  $A$  be any fuzzy subgroup of  $G$ . Let  $f \in GL(V)$ , then;  
 $\bar{\rho}(A)(f) = \sup \{A(x) : \rho(x) = f\}$ .

Then,  $\bar{\rho}(A)(f)$  may be different from zero only at  $f$  for which  $f(w) = w$ . This means  $W$  is stable under any fuzzy subgroup of  $G$ .

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