

# Convolution algebras

John Harding

New Mexico State University  
[wordpress.nmsu.edu/hardingj/](https://wordpress.nmsu.edu/hardingj/)

[jharding@nmsu.edu](mailto:jharding@nmsu.edu)

Malaysia Logic Society (online), October 2021

# Overview

This is a story that begins in one place, and winds through other topics. The aim is an overview, rather than full detail.

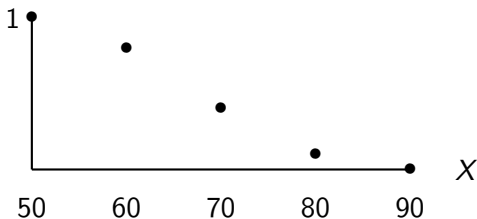
This work was done with Carol and Elbert Walker.

## Type-1 fuzzy subsets

$$X = \{50, 60, 70, 80, 90\}$$

A type-1 fuzzy subset of  $X$  is a map  $\text{COLD} : X \rightarrow [0, 1]$

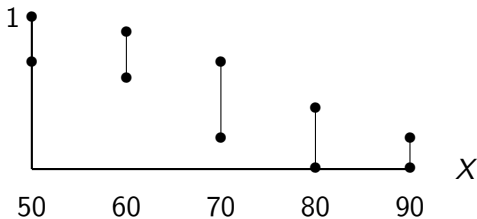
The expert's opinion that 60 degrees F is cold is 0.8.



## Interval valued fuzzy subsets

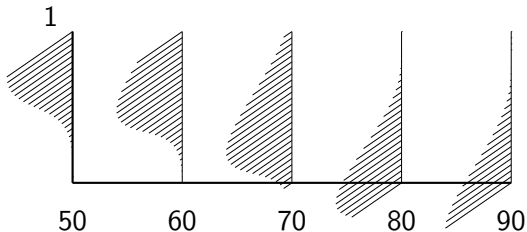
This is a map  $\text{COLD} : X \rightarrow \{(a, b) \in [0, 1]^2 : a \leq b\}$ .

The expert's opinion that 60 F is cold is between  $[0.6, 0.9]$ .



## Type-2 fuzzy subsets

A type-2 fuzzy subset is  $\text{COLD} : X \rightarrow \{f \mid f : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]\}$



## Truth value algebras

The truth value algebras for fuzzy sets, interval valued fuzzy sets, and type-2 fuzzy sets are

$$I = [0, 1]$$

$$I^{[2]} = \{(a, b) : a \leq b \in I\}$$

$$M = \{f \mid f : I \rightarrow I\}$$

$I$  and  $I^{[2]}$  sit in  $M$  as characteristic functions of points and intervals

## Operations

$I$  and  $I^{[2]}$  have naturally defined operations of  $\wedge, \vee, *, 0, 1$  making them De Morgan algebras.

**Definition (Zadeh)** Define the following operations on  $M$

1.  $(f \sqcap g)(x) = \bigvee \{(f(y) \wedge g(z)) : y \wedge z = x\}$
2.  $(f \sqcup g)(x) = \bigvee \{(f(y) \wedge g(z)) : y \vee z = x\}$
3.  $f^*(x) = f(1 - x) = \bigvee \{f(y) : y^* = x\}$
4.  $0(x) = 1$  if  $x = 0$  and  $0$  otherwise
5.  $1(x) = 1$  if  $x = 1$  and  $0$  otherwise

These are **convolutions** of the corresponding operations on  $I$ .

( For polynomials  $(p \cdot q)(n) = \sum \{p(i) \cdot q(j) : i + j = n\}$  )

## Equations

**Theorem**  $M$  satisfies the equations for De Morgan algebras except that absorption and distributivity are weakened to the following.

1.  $x \cap (x \cup y) = x \cup (x \cap y)$
2.  $(x \cap y) \cup (x \cap z) \cup (y \cap z) = (x \cup y) \cap (x \cup z) \cap (y \cup z)$

$M$  is not a lattice.

The unbalanced distributive laws do not hold.

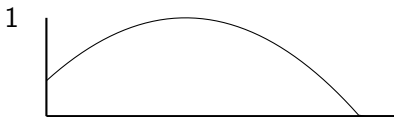
$M$  is a type of thing known as a De Morgan Birkhoff system.

We return later to see why these things are true.



## A related algebra

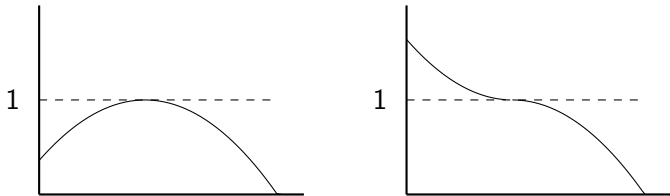
**Definition** A function  $f : I \rightarrow I$  is convex normal if it goes up to 1, then down.



Convex normal functions are a not too restrictive setting for our desired use as belief functions.

## A related algebra

We can "straighten" each convex normal function by reflecting its increasing part in the line  $y = 1$ .



Straightening takes the convolution operations to the pointwise operations on the lattice of decreasing functions from  $I$  to  $[0, 2]$ .

## A related algebra

**Theorem** The convex normal functions are a subalgebra of  $M$ . For the quotient  $L$  of this subalgebra modulo agreement c.a.e.

1.  $L$  is a complete, completely distributive DeMorgan algebra
2.  $L$  is a compact Hausdorff topological algebra
3.  $\int_0^1 |f(x) - g(x)| dx$  is a metric on it

Further, the convolution  $\Delta$  of any continuous t-norm on  $I$  gives a commutative quantale structure  $(L, \Delta, \vee)$ .

## Interlude

We began in a practical place, with the truth value algebra  $M$  for type-2 fuzzy sets. This was vaguely tied to convolutions.

Let's return to convolutions in a more deliberate way ...

**Definition** A relational structure  $\mathfrak{X} = (X, (R_i)_I)$  is a set  $X$  with a family  $R_i$  of  $n_i$ -ary relations on it.

**Note:** A binary operation  $+ : X \times X \rightarrow X$  is a ternary relation.

## The convolution algebra

**Definition** For a relational structure  $\mathfrak{X}$  and complete lattice  $L$ , the convolution algebra  $L^{\mathfrak{X}}$  is the lattice  $L^X$  with additional operations  $f_i$  is given by

$$f_i(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)(x) = \bigvee \{ \alpha_1(x_1) \wedge \dots \wedge \alpha_n(x_{n_i}) : (x_1, \dots, x_{n_i}, x) \in R_i \}$$

The dual convolution algebra  $L^{\mathfrak{X}^-}$  has additional operations

$$g_i(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)(x) = \bigwedge \{ \alpha_1(x_1) \vee \dots \vee \alpha_n(x_{n_i}) : (x_1, \dots, x_{n_i}, x) \in R_i \}$$

The double convolution algebra has both  $L^{\mathfrak{X}^*} = (L^X, (f_i)_I, (g_i)_I)$ .

## Our motivating example

Our type-2 fuzzy truth value algebra  $M$  is the convolution algebra

$$M = I^I$$

where  $I$  on the bottom is the unit interval as a lattice and  $I$  in the exponent is the unit interval  $(I, \vee, \wedge, *, 0, 1)$  with operations viewed as ternary, binary, and unary relations. Here  $x^* = 1 - x$ .

We give another well-known motivating example ...

## Complex algebras

If you consider a group  $\mathcal{G} = (G, \cdot, {}^{-1}, e)$  as a relational structure with a ternary, binary, and unary relation, its complex algebra is the usual group complex  $\mathcal{G}^+$  where

$$A; B = \{ab : a \in A, b \in B\}$$

$$A^\sim = \{a^{-1} : a \in A\}$$

$$1' = \{e\}$$

These have been studied apparently since Frobenius. They are basic examples of relation algebras.

## Complex algebras

For a relational structure  $\mathfrak{X}$ , its complex algebra  $\mathfrak{X}^+$  is the power set  $\mathcal{P}(X)$  with operations  $f_i$  where

$$f_i(A_1, \dots, A_{n_i}) = \{x : \exists(x_1, \dots, x_{n_i}, x) \in R_i \text{ with } x_j \in A_j \text{ each } j\}$$

Its dual complex algebra  $\mathfrak{X}^-$  is  $(\mathcal{P}(X), (g_i)_I)$  where

$$g_i(A_1, \dots, A_{n_i}) = \{x : \forall(x_1, \dots, x_{n_i}, x) \in R_i \Rightarrow \exists j \text{ with } x_j \in A_j\}$$

Its double complex algebra  $\mathfrak{X}^*$  is  $(\mathcal{P}(X), (f_i)_I, (g_i)_I)$ .



## Fundamental relationship

**Proposition** For  $\mathfrak{X}$  a relational structure

1.  $\mathfrak{X}^+ \simeq 2^{\mathfrak{X}}$
2.  $\mathfrak{X}^- \simeq 2^{\mathfrak{X}^-}$
3.  $\mathfrak{X}^* \simeq 2^{\mathfrak{X}^*}$

**Theorem** If  $L$  is a non-trivial complete lattice

1.  $L$  a frame  $\Rightarrow \mathfrak{X}^+$  and  $L^{\mathfrak{X}}$  satisfy the same equations.
2.  $L$  a dual frame  $\Rightarrow \mathfrak{X}^-$  and  $L^{\mathfrak{X}^-}$  ”
3.  $L$  completely distributive  $\Rightarrow \mathfrak{X}^*$  and  $L^{\mathfrak{X}^*}$  ”

**Note** This provides the properties of  $M$  described earlier by considering the complex algebra  $I^+$  of the unit interval.

## Categorical aspects

**Definition**  $\text{Lat}$  is the category whose objects are complete lattices and whose morphisms are maps that preserve  $\wedge, \vee$ . Let  $\text{Lat}^-$  have the same objects with maps that preserve  $\vee, \wedge$  and  $\text{Lat}^*$  have the same objects with maps that preserve  $\wedge, \vee$ .

**Definition**  $\text{Rel}_\tau$  is the category of relational structures of type  $\tau$  with morphisms being  $\rho$ -morphisms.

**Definition**  $\text{Alg}_\tau$  is the category whose objects are complete lattices with additional operations of type  $\tau$  and homomorphisms preserving  $\wedge, \vee$  and the additional operations.

## Categorical aspects

**Theorem** There is a bifunctor, covariant in the first argument and contravariant in the second

$$\text{Conv}(\cdot, \cdot) : \text{Lat} \times \text{Rel}_\tau \rightarrow \text{Alg}_\tau$$

For objects it takes  $(L, \mathfrak{X})$  to  $L^\mathfrak{X}$

For morphisms it takes  $f : L \rightarrow M$ ,  $p : \mathcal{Y} \rightarrow \mathfrak{X}$  to  $\phi : L^\mathfrak{X} \rightarrow M^\mathcal{Y}$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathfrak{X} & \xrightarrow{p} & \mathcal{Y} \\ \alpha \downarrow & & \downarrow \phi(\alpha) \\ L & \xrightarrow{f} & M \end{array}$$

# Topoi

We go in one further direction, again motivated by our original algebra  $M$  of type-2 fuzzy truth values.

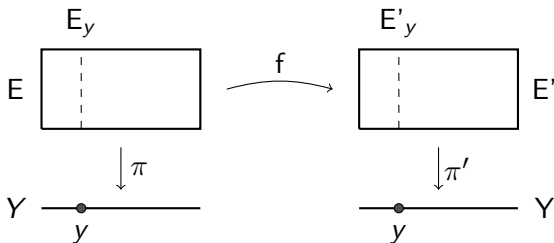
A topos is a type of category that has features similar to the category of sets.

Each topos has an “internal logic” describing how things appear within the topos.

Here we are interested in a particular type of topos, that of étalé spaces.

# Étalé spaces

**Definition** An étalé space  $\mathcal{E}$  over a topological space  $Y$  is a topological space  $E$  and a local homeomorphism  $\pi : E \rightarrow Y$ .



A morphism of étalé spaces over  $Y$  is a continuous map  $f : E \rightarrow E'$  mapping a “stalk” to the corresponding stalk.

# Étalé spaces

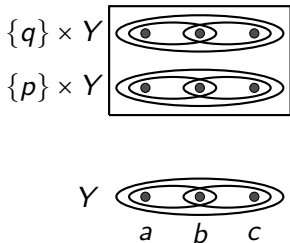
The category of étalé spaces is a topos. Its objects play the role of sets. In a way, they are “continuously varying sets”.

Just as ordinary sets have subsets, an étalé has subobjects. There is an étalé that plays the role of the power set of a set, the power étalé  $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{E})$  whose “global elements” are subobjects of  $\mathcal{E}$ .

**Theorem** The subobjects of an étalé  $\mathcal{E}$  are the open sets of  $E$ , naturally considered as étalés.

# Étalé spaces

**Definition** For a set  $X$ , let the “constant étalé  $\hat{X}$  is the space  $X \times Y$  with obvious projection.

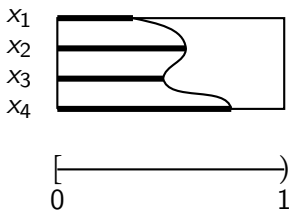


The constant étalé of  $X = \{p, q\}$ .

**Definition** Let  $Y$  be the topological space consisting of the set  $[0,1)$  with the half-intervals  $[0,\lambda)$  as opens.

**Note** The frame  $\mathcal{O}(Y)$  of open sets of  $Y$  is the unit interval  $[0,1]$ .

**Key observation (Höhle)** Fuzzy subsets of  $X$  correspond to subobjects of the constant étalé  $\hat{X}$  over  $Y$ .



So subobjects of the constant étalé  $\hat{I}$  correspond to elements of  $M$ .



## Relational étalés

An  $n$ -ary relation on a set  $X$  is a subset  $R \subseteq X \times \cdots \times X$ .

**Definition** An  $n$ -ary relation on an étalé  $\mathcal{E}$  is a subobject of the product  $\mathcal{E} \times \cdots \times \mathcal{E}$ .

**Definition** A relational étalé is an étalé with a family of relations.

**Definition** For a relational étalé  $\mathcal{E}$ , the complex algebra  $\mathcal{E}^+$  is the set of subobjects of  $\mathcal{E}$  with operations given by relational image.

**Theorem**  $M$  is isomorphic to the complex algebra  $\hat{1}^+$  of the constant relational étalé over  $I$ .

## Further results

**Theorem** For  $Y$  a topological space,  $L = \mathcal{O}(Y)$  its lattice of open sets, and  $\mathfrak{X}$  a relational structure

$$L^{\mathfrak{X}} \simeq \hat{\mathfrak{X}}^+.$$

These are both external notions. A topos is like a set theory, it has a “internal” complex algebras as well created via power objects.

**Theorem**  $L^{\mathfrak{X}}$  is isomorphic to the algebra of global elements of the internal complex algebra of the constant étalé  $\hat{\mathfrak{X}}$ .

**Corollary**  $M$  is isomorphic to the global elements of the internal complex algebra of  $\hat{I}$ .

## Further results

It is tempting to conclude that the type-2 fuzzy truth value algebra is the internal complex algebra of the real unit interval  $I$  in the topos of étalés over  $Y$ .

Almost ...  $I$  is not the internal real unit interval in the topos!

These issues disappear if we modify our approach and replace the relational structure  $I$  with its rational counterpart. From a type-2 fuzzy standpoint, this seems to not be a large issue.

Thank You!

