

# Construction of Associative Functions for Several Fuzzy Logics via the Ordinal Sum Theorem

Mayuka F. Kawaguchi<sup>1(✉)</sup> and Michiro Kondo<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Hokkaido University, Sapporo 060-0814, Japan  
mayuka@ist.hokudai.ac.jp

<sup>2</sup> Tokyo Denki University, Inzai, Chiba 270-1382, Japan  
mkondo@mail.dendai.ac.jp

**Abstract.** In this report, the ordinal sum theorem of semigroups is applied to construct logical operations for several fuzzy logics. The generalized form of ordinal sum for fuzzy logics on  $[0, 1]$  is defined in order to uniformly express several families of logical operations. Then, the conditions in ordinal sums for various properties of logical operations are presented: for examples, the monotonicity, the location of the unit element, the left/right-continuity, or and/or-likeness. Finally, some examples to construct pseudo-uninorms by the proposed method are illustrated.

**Keywords:** Ordinal sum · Pseudo-t-norms · Pseudo t-conorms · Pseudo-uninorms

## 1 Introduction

The concept of ordinal sums has been originated by Climescu [3], and then has been generalized by Clifford [1], [2] to a method for constructing a new semigroup from a given linearly-ordered system of semigroups. In the history of the research on fuzzy logical connectives as t-norms, t-conorms, and uninorms, the ordinal sum has been often appeared as representations of such operations [4]-[14].

In this paper, the authors challenge to reform the ordinal sum on  $[0,1]$  to a more general scheme as a common platform to construct fuzzy logical connectives in the broader sense: including non-commutative ones besides t-norms, t-conorms and uninorms. The results of this work would be useful for obtaining an associative operation suitable for human thinking/evaluation, in several applications such as information aggregation in diagnoses systems, construction of metrics based on fuzzy relation, constraint satisfaction in multicriteria decision making, and so on.

## 2 Origin of Ordinal Sum Theorem

Climescu [3] has introduced the original concept of ordinal sums which is a method to construct a new semigroup from a family of semigroups. According to Schweizer et al. [13], his definition of an ordinal sum is expressed as follows.

**Ordinal Sum Theorem by Climescu [3] and Schweizer et al. [13]**

Let  $(A, F)$  and  $(B, G)$  be semigroups. If the sets  $A$  and  $B$  are disjoint and if  $H$  is the mapping defined on  $(A \cup B) \times (A \cup B)$  by

$$H(x, y) = \begin{cases} F(x, y), & x \in A, y \in A, \\ x, & x \in A, y \in B, \\ y, & x \in B, y \in A, \\ G(x, y), & x \in B, y \in B, \end{cases} \tag{1}$$

then  $(A \cup B, H)$  is a semigroup.

On the other hand, Clifford [1], [2] has introduced a more generalized definition of the same concept, and has named it an ordinal sum. The following theorem is the reformatted version by Klement et al.

**Ordinal Sum Theorem by Clifford [1], [2], and Klement et al. [11]**

Let  $(A, \leq)$  with  $A \neq \emptyset$  be a linearly ordered set and  $(G_\alpha)_{\alpha \in A}$  with  $G_\alpha = (X_\alpha, *_\alpha)$  be a family of semigroups. Assume that for all  $\alpha, \beta \in A$  with  $\alpha < \beta$  the sets  $X_\alpha$  and  $X_\beta$  are either disjoint or that  $X_\alpha \cap X_\beta = \{x_{\alpha\beta}\}$ , where  $x_{\alpha\beta}$  is both the unit element of  $G_\alpha$  and the annihilator of  $G_\beta$ , and where for each  $\gamma \in A$  with  $\alpha < \gamma < \beta$  we have  $X_\gamma = \{x_{\alpha\beta}\}$ . Put  $X = \bigcup_{\alpha \in A} X_\alpha$  and define the binary operation  $*$  on  $X$  by

$$x * y = \begin{cases} x *_\alpha y & \text{if } (x, y) \in X_\alpha \times X_\alpha, \\ x & \text{if } (x, y) \in X_\alpha \times X_\beta \text{ and } \alpha < \beta, \\ y & \text{if } (x, y) \in X_\alpha \times X_\beta \text{ and } \beta < \alpha. \end{cases} \tag{2}$$

Then  $G = (X, *)$  is a semigroup. The semigroup  $G$  is commutative if and only if for each  $\alpha \in A$  the semigroup  $G_\alpha$  is commutative.

Here,  $G$  is called the ordinal sum of  $(G_\alpha)_{\alpha \in A}$ , and each  $G_\alpha$  is called a summand.

**3 A Generalization of Ordinal Sums on the Unit Interval [0, 1]**

In this research work, let us restrict the linearly ordered set  $A$ , mentioned in Section 2, to be finite. One of the main ideas proposed here is to give an indexing independently from ordering to the set of summands  $(G_\alpha)_{\alpha \in A}$  by introducing a bijection as a correspondence between them.

**Definition 1.** Consider a permutation  $\sigma$  on  $A = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ , i.e. a bijection  $\sigma: \{1, 2, \dots, n\} \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ , then define a linear order  $\leq$  in the family of sets  $\{X_i\}_{i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}}$  as follows:

$$X_i \leq X_j \stackrel{\text{def.}}{\Leftrightarrow} \sigma(i) \leq \sigma(j) \quad \text{for } \forall i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}. \quad (3)$$

*Example 1.* If  $n = 6$ , and a permutation  $\sigma$  is given as

$$\sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 1 & 3 & 5 & 6 & 4 & 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 6 & 2 & 5 & 3 & 4 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix},$$

then we get the linear order in  $\{X_i\}_{i \in \{1, 2, \dots, 6\}}$  as  $X_1 \leq X_6 \leq X_2 \leq X_5 \leq X_3 \leq X_4$ . This permutation  $\sigma$  works to locate an element  $X_i$  with index  $i$  at the  $\sigma(i)$ -th position.

Hereafter, we treat the case that  $X = \bigcup_{i=1}^n X_i = [0, 1]$  and  $X_i (i = 1, 2, \dots, n)$  are disjoint each another, in order to apply the ordinal sum theorem for constructing various logical connectives defined in  $[0, 1]$ .

**Definition 2.** Let  $I = \{I_i\}_{i=1, 2, \dots, n}$  be a partition by a finite number of non-empty subintervals of  $[0, 1]$ , i.e.  $\bigcup_{i=1}^n I_i = [0, 1]$  and  $I_i \cap I_j = \emptyset (i \neq j)$  hold. Also, we denote  $a_i = \inf I_i$ ,  $b_i = \sup I_i$ .

There exists the linear order relation among pairwise disjoint real subintervals according to the real number order. Thus, the permutation  $\sigma$  in Definition 1 gives the indexing as  $I_i \leq I_j \Rightarrow \sigma(i) \leq \sigma(j)$ . In other words, the subinterval at  $k$ -th position is indexed as  $I_{\sigma^{-1}(k)}$ .

*Example 2.* If  $n = 4$ , and a partition  $I$  and a permutation  $\sigma$  are given as

$$I = \{[0, 0.25], ]0.25, 0.5], ]0.5, 0.75], ]0.75, 1]\} \text{ and}$$

$$\sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 2 & 4 & 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & 4 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix},$$

respectively, then we have the following indexing for subintervals :

$$I_3 = [0, 0.25], I_1 = ]0.25, 0.5], I_4 = ]0.5, 0.75], I_2 = ]0.75, 1];$$

$$I_3 \leq I_1 \leq I_4 \leq I_2.$$

**Definition 3.** Let  $I'$  be a subset of  $I = \{I_i\}_{i=1,2,\dots,n}$ .  $I'$  is called to be ascending ordered if  $I_i \leq I_j$  holds for  $\forall I_i, I_j \in I' (i \leq j)$ . Similarly,  $I'$  is called to be descending ordered if  $I_i \leq I_j$  holds for  $\forall I_i, I_j \in I' (j \leq i)$ .

**Definition 4.** Two subsets  $\underline{I}$  and  $\tilde{I}$  of  $I = \{I_i\}_{i=1,2,\dots,n}$  are defined as follows:

$$\underline{I} \stackrel{def.}{=} \{I_i \mid I_i \leq I_n\}, \quad \tilde{I} \stackrel{def.}{=} \{I_i \mid I_n \leq I_i\}.$$

*Example 3.* When  $n = 6$  and a permutation  $\sigma$  is given as

$$\sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 1 & 6 & 2 & 5 & 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & 5 & 6 & 4 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix},$$

we obtain the indexing of  $I = \{I_i\}_{i=1,2,\dots,6}$  as  $I_1 \leq I_3 \leq I_5 \leq I_6 \leq I_4 \leq I_2$ , and we have  $\underline{I} = \{I_1, I_3, I_5, I_6\}$  and  $\tilde{I} = \{I_6, I_4, I_2\}$ . Here,  $\underline{I}$  is ascending ordered, and  $\tilde{I}$  descending ordered.

**Definition 5.** Assign each binary operation  $H_i : [0,1]^2 \rightarrow [0,1]$  to each direct product  $I_i \times I_j$  of a subinterval  $I_i \in I$ . Then, we define the binary operation  $H : [0,1]^2 \rightarrow [0,1]$  as the following ordinal sum:

$$H(x, y) = \begin{cases} a_i + (b_i - a_i)H_i\left(\frac{x - a_i}{b_i - a_i}, \frac{y - a_i}{b_i - a_i}\right) & \text{if } (x, y) \in I_i \times I_i \\ x & \text{if } (x, y) \in I_i \times I_j \text{ and } i < j \\ y & \text{if } (x, y) \in I_i \times I_j \text{ and } j < i. \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

## 4 Construction of Logical Connectives on [0, 1]

### 4.1 Properties Required for Fuzzy Logical Connectives

Conjunctive/disjunctive operations on  $[0,1]$  used in various fuzzy logic are defined by combining some of the following properties.

Associativity:

$$(A) \quad a * (b * c) = (a * b) * c$$

Commutativity:

$$(C) \quad a * b = b * a$$

Existence of the unit element:

$$(U1) \quad a * 1 = 1 * a = a$$

$$(U0) \quad a * 0 = 0 * a = a$$

$$(UE) \quad a * e = e * a = a \quad (e \in ]0,1[ )$$

Boundary conditions:

$$(Bmin) \quad a * b \leq \min(a, b)$$

$$(Bmax) \quad a * b \geq \max(a, b)$$

Monotonicity:

$$(M) \quad a \leq b \Rightarrow a * c \leq b * c, c * a \leq c * b$$

Left-continuity, right-continuity:

$$(LC) \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow b-0} a * x = a * b, \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow a-0} x * b = a * b$$

$$(RC) \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow b+0} a * x = a * b, \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow a+0} x * b = a * b$$

And-like, or-like [6]:

$$(AL) \quad 0 * 1 = 1 * 0 = 0$$

$$(OL) \quad 0 * 1 = 1 * 0 = 1$$

The definitions of already-known logical operations are expressed by the combinations of the above-mentioned properties as follows.

- t-Norms: (A), (C), (U1), (M)
- t-Conorms: (A), (C), (U0), (M)
- Uninorms: (A), (C), (UE), (M)
  
- Pseudo-t-norms [5]: (A), (U1), (M)
- Pseudo-t-conorms: (A), (U0), (M)
- Pseudo-uninorms [10]: (A), (UE), (M)
  
- t-Subnorms [8], [9]: (A), (C), (Bmin), (M)
- t-Subconorms: (A), (C), (Bmax), (M)

Here, the authors introduce the notion of pseudo-t-sub(co)norms as follows.

- Pseudo-t-subnorms: (A), (Bmin), (M)
- Pseudo-t-subconorms: (A), (Bmax), (M)

## 4.2 Realizations of the Properties in the Framework of Ordinal Sum

We obtain the following theorems regarding to a binary operation  $H : [0,1]^2 \rightarrow [0,1]$  defined in Definition 5.

**Theorem 1.** (Clifford [1], [2])

- (i)  $H$  is associative if and only if all summands  $H_i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, n$ ) are associative.
- (ii)  $H$  is commutative if and only if all summands  $H_i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, n$ ) are commutative.

**Theorem 2**

If  $\underline{I}$  is ascending ordered,  $\tilde{I}$  is descending ordered,  $H_i$  for  $\sigma(i) < \sigma(n)$  satisfy the boundary condition (Bmin),  $H_i$  for  $\sigma(n) < \sigma(i)$  satisfy the boundary condition (Bmax), and all summands including  $H_n$  are monotone-increasing (M), then  $H$  is monotone-increasing (M).

See Appendix for the detailed proof of Theorem 2.

**Theorem 3**

- (i) If  $I_n$  is right-closed (i.e. there exists  $\max I_n$ ) and  $H_n$  satisfies (U1) (i.e. it has the unit element 1), then  $e = \max I_n = b_n$  is the unit element of  $H$ .
- (ii) If  $I_n$  is left-closed (i.e. there exists  $\min I_n$ ) and  $H_n$  satisfies (U0) (i.e. it has the unit element 0), then  $e = \min I_n = a_n$  is the unit element of  $H$ .
- (iii) If  $H_n$  satisfies (UE) (i.e. it has the unit element  $e' \in ]0,1[$ ), then  $e = a_n + e'(b_n - a_n)$  is the unit element of  $H$ .

**Corollary of Theorem 3**

- (i) If  $\sigma(n) = n$  and  $H_n$  satisfies (U1) (i.e. it has the unit element 1), then  $H$  satisfies (U1).
- (ii) If  $\sigma(n) = 1$  and  $H_n$  satisfies (U0) (i.e. it has the unit element 0), then  $H$  satisfies (U0).

**Theorem 4**

- (i) Let the subinterval including 0 be closed, and the other subintervals be left-open and right-closed as  $I_i = ]a_i, b_i]$ . Then,  $H$  is left-continuous (LC) if and only if all summands  $H_i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, n$ ) are left-continuous (LC).
- (ii) Let the subinterval including 1 be closed, and the other subintervals be left-closed and right-open as  $I_i = [a_i, b_i[$ . Then,  $H$  is right-continuous (RC) if and only if all summands  $H_i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, n$ ) are right-continuous (RC).

**Theorem 5**

Suppose that the indices  $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  satisfy  $\sigma(i) = 1$  and  $\sigma(j) = n$ .

- (i) If  $i < j$ , then  $H$  is and-like (AL).
- (ii) If  $j < i$ , then  $H$  is or-like (OL).

**5 Applications**

*Example 4.* Let us consider the case to construct “a left-continuous t-norm.” We can obtain it by applying the following conditions to eq. (4):

Theorem 1 (i), (ii)	for associativity and commutativity,
Theorem 2	for monotonicity,
Corollary of Theorem 3 (i)	for unit element $e = 1$ , and
Theorem 4 (i)	for left-continuity.

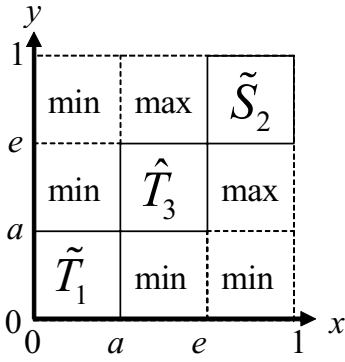
The above result is a finite version of Jenei’s method [8], [9], to construct a left-continuous t-norm.

*Example 5.* Also, we can construct various kinds of pseudo-uninorms through applying the following conditions to eq. (4):

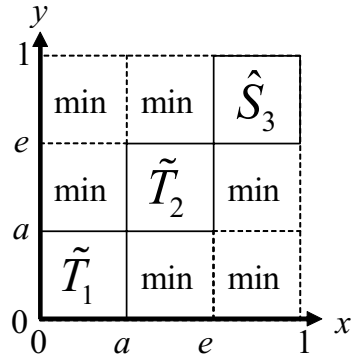
Theorem 1 (i)	for associativity,
Theorem 2	for monotonicity,
Theorem 3	for unit element $e \in [0, 1]$ ,
Theorem 4	for left-continuity/right-continuity, and
Theorem 5	for and-likeness/or-likeness.

Fig.1 (a) illustrates a case of left-continuous and-like pseudo-uninorms, where  $n = 3$ ,  $\sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 3 & 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $I = \{[0, a], ]a, e], ]e, 1]\}$ . All summands  $\tilde{T}_1$ ,  $\hat{T}_3$  and  $\tilde{S}_2$  are associative, monotone increasing and left-continuous. Since  $\sigma(1) = 1$  and  $\sigma(2) = 3$ , Th.5(i) is applicable. Also, Th.3(i) is applicable because  $\hat{T}_3$  is a pseudo-t-norm and  $I_3 = (a, e]$  is right-closed, thus  $e = \max I_3$  is the unit element.

Fig.1 (b) illustrates a case of right-continuous and-like pseudo-uninorms, where  $n = 3$ ,  $\sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $I = \{[0, a[, ]a, e[, ]e, 1]\}$ . All summands  $\tilde{T}_1$ ,  $\tilde{T}_2$  and  $\hat{S}_3$  are associative, monotone increasing and right-continuous. Since  $\sigma(1) = 1$  and  $\sigma(3) = 3$ , Th.5(i) is applicable. Also, Th.3(ii) is applicable because  $\hat{S}_3$  is a pseudo-t-conorm and  $I_3 = [a, e)$  is left-closed, thus  $e = \min I_3$  is the unit element.

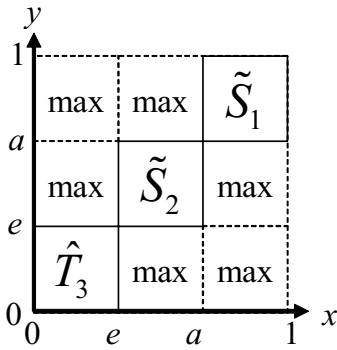


(a) left-continuous (LC) case  
 $I = \{[0, a], [a, e], [e, 1]\}$   
 $\tilde{T}_1$  : LC pseudo-t-subnorm  
 $\tilde{S}_2$  : LC pseudo-t-subconorm  
 $\hat{T}_3$  : LC pseudo-t-norm

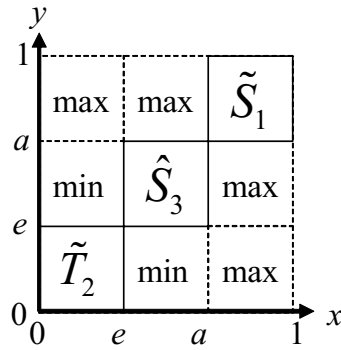


(b) right-continuous (RC) case  
 $I = \{[0, a], [a, e], [e, 1]\}$   
 $\tilde{T}_1$  : RC pseudo-t-subnorm  
 $\tilde{T}_2$  : RC pseudo-t-subnorm  
 $\hat{S}_3$  : RC pseudo-t-conorm

**Fig. 1.** Examples of and-like pseudo-uninorms  $H(x, y)$  ( $n = 3$ ,  $e$ : unit element)



(a) left-continuous (LC) case  
 $I = \{[0, e], [e, a], [a, 1]\}$   
 $\tilde{S}_1$  : LC pseudo-t-subconorm  
 $\tilde{S}_2$  : LC pseudo-t-subconorm  
 $\hat{T}_3$  : LC pseudo-t-norm



(b) right-continuous (RC) case  
 $I = \{[0, e], [e, a], [a, 1]\}$   
 $\tilde{S}_1$  : RC pseudo-t-subconorm  
 $\tilde{T}_2$  : RC pseudo-t-subnorm  
 $\hat{S}_3$  : RC pseudo-t-conorm

**Fig. 2.** Examples of or-like pseudo-uninorms  $H(x, y)$  ( $n = 3$ ,  $e$ : unit element)



Fig. 2 (a) illustrates a case of left-continuous or-like pseudo-uninorms, where  $n = 3$ ,  $\sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $I = \{[0, e], [e, a], [a, 1]\}$ . All summands  $\hat{T}_3$ ,  $\tilde{S}_2$  and  $\tilde{S}_1$  are associative, monotone increasing and left-continuous. Since  $\sigma(3) = 1$  and  $\sigma(1) = 3$ , Th. 5(ii) is applicable. Also, Th. 3(i) is applicable because  $\hat{T}_3$  is a pseudo-t-norm and  $I_3 = [0, e]$  is right-closed, thus  $e = \max I_3$  is the unit element.

Fig. 2 (b) illustrates a case of right-continuous or-like pseudo-uninorms, where  $n = 3$ ,  $\sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $I = \{[0, e], [e, a], [a, 1]\}$ . All summands  $\tilde{T}_2$ ,  $\hat{S}_3$  and  $\tilde{S}_1$  are associative, monotone increasing and right-continuous. Since  $\sigma(2) = 1$  and  $\sigma(1) = 3$ , Th. 5(ii) is applicable. Also, Th. 3(ii) is applicable because  $\hat{S}_3$  is a pseudo-t-conorm and  $I_3 = [e, a]$  is left-closed, thus  $e = \min I_3$  is the unit element.

## 6 Concluding Remarks

In this paper, the authors proposed a general method to construct various fuzzy logical connectives on  $[0, 1]$  by the ordinal sum scheme which generates a new semigroup from a system of semigroups. Through our proposed method, we can generate various fuzzy logical connectives as t-norms, t-conorms, uninorms, and also non-commutative ones such as pseudo-t-norms, pseudo-t-conorms, pseudo-uninorms, by combining the conditions corresponding to the required properties, and by choosing adequate summands from already-known operations.

## References

1. Clifford, A.: Naturally totally ordered commutative semigroups. *Amer. J. Math.* **76**, 631–646 (1954)
2. Clifford, A.: Totally ordered commutative semigroups. *Bull. Amer. Math. Soc.* **64**, 305–316 (1958)
3. Climescu, A.C.: Sur l'équation fonctionnelle de l'associativité. *Bull. École. Polytech. Jassy.* **1**, 1–16 (1946)
4. De Baets, B., Mesiar, R.: Ordinal sums of aggregation operators. In: Bouchon-Meunier, B., Gutierrez-Rios, J., Magdalena, L., Yager, R. (eds.) *Technologies for Constructing Intelligent Systems: Tools*, pp. 137–147. Springer-Verlag, Heidelberg (2002)
5. Flondor, P., Georgescu, G., Iorgulescu, A.: Pseudo-t-norms and pseudo-BL algebras. *Soft Computing* **5**, 355–371 (2001)
6. Fodor, J.C., Yager, R.R., Rybalov, A.: Structure of uninorms. *Int. J. of Uncertainty, Fuzziness and Knowledge-Based Systems* **5**, 411–427 (1997)

7. Frank, M.J.: On the simultaneous associativity of  $F(x, y)$  and  $x + y - F(x, y)$ . *Aequationes Math.* **19**, 194–224 (1979)
8. Jenei, S.: Generalized ordinal sum theorem and its consequence to the construction of triangular norms. *BUSEFAL* **80**, 52–56 (1999)
9. Jenei, S.: A note of the ordinal sum theorem and its consequence for construction of triangular norms. *Fuzzy Sets and Systems* **126**, 199–205 (2002)
10. Kawaguchi, M.F., Watari, O., Miyakoshi, M.: Fuzzy logics and substructural logics without exchange. In: *Proc. of FUSFLAT-LFA 2005, Barcelona*, pp. 973–978 (2005)
11. Klement, E.P., Mesiar, R., Pap, E.: *Triangular Norms*. Kluwer Academic Pub. (2000)
12. Ling, C.-H.: Representation of associative functions. *Pub. Math. Debrecen* **12**, 189–212 (1965)
13. Schweizer, B., Sklar, A.: Associative functions and abstract semigroups. *Pub. Math. Debrecen* **10**, 69–81 (1963)
14. Yager, R.R., Rybalov, A.: Uninorm aggregation operators. *Fuzzy Sets and Systems* **80**, 111–120 (1996)

## Appendix

### *Proof of Theorem 2*

(a)  $x \in I_i \quad (\sigma(i) < \sigma(n))$

Let us consider a partition of  $[0,1]$  as follows:

$$\bigcup_{1 \leq \sigma(j) < \sigma(i)} I_j < I_i < \bigcup_{\sigma(i) < \sigma(j) \leq \sigma(n)} I_j < \bigcup_{\substack{\sigma(n) < \sigma(j) \leq n, \\ i < j}} I_j < \bigcup_{\substack{\sigma(n) < \sigma(j) \leq n, \\ j < i}} I_j .$$

Then we have

$$H(x, y) = \begin{cases} y = \min(x, y) & \text{if } y \in \bigcup_{1 \leq \sigma(j) < \sigma(i)} I_j \\ a_i + (b_i - a_i)H_i \left( \frac{x - a_i}{b_i - a_i}, \frac{y - a_i}{b_i - a_i} \right) & \text{if } y \in I_i \\ x = \min(x, y) & \text{if } y \in \bigcup_{\sigma(i) < \sigma(j) \leq \sigma(n)} I_j \\ x = \min(x, y) & \text{if } y \in \bigcup_{\sigma(n) < \sigma(j) \leq n, i < j} I_j \\ y = \max(x, y) & \text{if } y \in \bigcup_{\sigma(n) < \sigma(j) \leq n, j < i} I_j . \end{cases}$$

Since  $H_i$  satisfies (Bmin) and (M),  $\min(x, a_i) \leq a_i \leq H(x, y) \leq \min(x, b_i)$  for any  $y \in I_i$ . Besides min, max and  $H_i$  satisfy (M). Thus,  $H(x, y)$  is monotone increasing w.r.t.  $y \in [0,1]$ .

(b)  $x \in I_n$

Let us consider a partition of  $[0,1]$  as follows:

$$\bigcup_{1 \leq \sigma(j) < \sigma(n)} I_j < I_n < \bigcup_{\sigma(n) < \sigma(j) \leq n} I_j .$$

Then we have

$$H(x, y) = \begin{cases} y = \min(x, y) & \text{if } y \in \bigcup_{1 \leq \sigma(j) < \sigma(n)} I_j \\ a_n + (b_n - a_n)H_n\left(\frac{x - a_n}{b_n - a_n}, \frac{y - a_n}{b_n - a_n}\right) & \text{if } y \in I_n \\ y = \max(x, y) & \text{if } y \in \bigcup_{\sigma(n) < \sigma(j) \leq n} I_j . \end{cases}$$

Since  $\min(x, a_n) \leq a_n \leq H(x, y) \leq b_n \leq \max(x, b_n)$  for any  $y \in I_n$  and  $\min$ ,  $\max$  and  $H_n$  satisfy (M),  $H(x, y)$  is monotone increasing w.r.t.  $y \in [0,1]$ .

(c)  $x \in I_i$  ( $\sigma(n) < \sigma(i)$ )

Let us consider a partition of  $[0,1]$  as follows:

$$\bigcup_{\substack{1 \leq \sigma(j) < \sigma(n), \\ j < i}} I_j < \bigcup_{\substack{1 \leq \sigma(j) < \sigma(n), \\ i < j}} I_j < \bigcup_{\sigma(n) \leq \sigma(j) < \sigma(i)} I_j < I_i < \bigcup_{\sigma(i) < \sigma(j) \leq n} I_j .$$

Then we have

$$H(x, y) = \begin{cases} y = \min(x, y) & \text{if } y \in \bigcup_{\substack{1 \leq \sigma(j) < \sigma(n), \\ j < i}} I_j \\ x = \max(x, y) & \text{if } y \in \bigcup_{\substack{1 \leq \sigma(j) < \sigma(n), \\ i < j}} I_j \\ x = \max(x, y) & \text{if } y \in \bigcup_{\sigma(n) \leq \sigma(j) < \sigma(i)} I_j \\ a_i + (b_i - a_i)H_i\left(\frac{x - a_i}{b_i - a_i}, \frac{y - a_i}{b_i - a_i}\right) & \text{if } y \in I_i \\ y = \max(x, y) & \text{if } y \in \bigcup_{\sigma(i) < \sigma(j) \leq n} I_j . \end{cases}$$

Since  $H_i$  satisfies (Bmax) and (M),  $\max(x, a_i) \leq H(x, y) \leq b_i \leq \max(x, b_i)$  for any  $y \in I_i$ . Besides  $\min$ ,  $\max$  and  $H_i$  satisfy (M). Thus,  $H(x, y)$  is monotone increasing w.r.t.  $y \in [0,1]$ .

From (a), (b) and (c), for any  $x \in [0,1]$ ,  $H(x, y)$  is monotone increasing w.r.t.  $y \in [0,1]$ . The similar discussion is valid for the case w.r.t.  $x$ . Therefore,  $H$  is monotone increasing.  $\square$