

# On Applications of Fuzzy Soft Sets in Dimension Reduction and Medical Diagnosis

## Abstract

In our daily life, we often come across various problems related to the high dimensionality of data. In such type of problems irrelevant and superfluous data along with useful data is also present. Thus, dimensionality reduction has found wide applications in data analysis and management. In recent years the issue of dimensionality reduction in a fuzzy situation has also gained importance and has invited attention of researchers. The various techniques and theories have been developed by them to solve these types of problems. Some of these techniques based on probabilistic approach and others are non-probabilistic approach.

For finding coherent and logical solution to various real life problems containing uncertainty, impreciseness and vagueness, fuzzy soft set theory is gaining significance. In this paper concept of fuzzy soft set has been defined as hybridization of fuzzy set and soft set theory. A new technique is proposed to convert the soft set table into fuzzy soft set table and has been applied in dimension reduction of big data. An application of fuzzy soft set has also studied in Medical Diagnosis following Sanchez's approach.

**Keywords:** Soft set, fuzzy set, fuzzy soft set, dimensionality reduction, medical diagnosis.

## 1. Introduction

Various real life problems in engineering, social and medical sciences, economics etc. engage imprecise and enormous data and their solution concern the use of mathematical principles based on uncertainty and imprecision. In recent years to dealing with such systems in an effective way a number of theories have been proposed. Some of these theories are probability, game theory, fuzzy sets, intuitionistic fuzzy sets, etc.

The most suitable theory for dealing with uncertainty is the theory of fuzzy sets developed by Zadeh [1] in 1965. Another one is rough set theory pioneered by Pawlak [3] in 1982, which is also a momentous tactic to modeling vagueness. This theory has been successfully applied to many fields such as machine learning, data mining, data analysis, medicine etc.

In 1999, Molodtsov [4] introduced a general mathematical tool known as soft set theory to handle the objects which have been defined using a very loose and hence very general set of characteristics, which was completely a new approach for modeling vagueness and uncertainties.

In addition to defining the fundamental outlines of soft set theory, Molodtsov [4] also illustrated how soft set theory is free from parameterization insufficiency condition of fuzzy set theory, rough set theory, probability theory and game theory. Soft set theory is a universal framework, as various traditional models emerge as unique case of soft sets theory.

Soft set theory has prospective for application in resolving realistic problems in economics, engineering, environment, social science, medical science and business management. The absence of any restriction on the approximate description in soft set theory makes this theory very convenient and easily applicable. Thus in recent years, research on soft set theory has been dynamic and impressive movement has been achieved.

Later on, Maji et al [6] studied the theory of soft sets and also promote a hybrid model known as fuzzy soft set [5], which is a combination of soft set and fuzzy set. In [7] they also studied the intuitionistic fuzzy soft set. The concept of fuzzy soft set introduced by Maji et al [6] was generalized by Majumdar and Samanta [11].

Neog and Sut [12, 13] illustrated with counter examples that the axioms of contradiction and exclusion are not authenticate in case of soft sets and fuzzy soft sets if we apply the notion of complement commenced by Maji et al [6, 7]. Accordingly, they put forward new definitions of complement of soft sets and fuzzy soft sets and demonstrated that all the properties of complement of a set are possessed by soft sets and fuzzy soft sets due to the proposed definition of complement.

For extreme data dimensionality reductions becomes the centre of curiosity to a significant point of study in various fields of application (refer to Gupta and Sharma [14]). A number of techniques proposed by the researchers and authors related to dimensionality reduction. Hooda and Hooda[10 ] studied dimension reduction in multivariate analysis by using maximum entropy criterion.

Chen et al [9] present a new definition of parameterization reduction in soft sets and compare this definition to the associated concept of attributes reduction in rough set theory. In this paper we used fuzzy soft set based approach to reduce the dimensionality of data. The proposed novel method of dimensionality reduction involves constructions of binary information table from soft sets and fuzzy soft sets in a parametric sense for dimensionality reduction.

## 2. Preliminaries

In this section we will describe the preliminary definitions, and results which will be required later in this paper.

## 2.1 Fuzzy Set

The concept of a fuzzy set is an extension of the concept of a crisp set. Just as a crisp set on a universal set  $X$  is defined by its characteristic function from  $X$  to  $\{0, 1\}$ , where a fuzzy set on a domain  $X$  is defined by its membership function from  $X$  to  $[0, 1]$ .

**Definition 2.1:** Let  $X$  is a non-empty set, (called the universal set or the universe of discourse or simply domain). Then a function  $\mu_A(x): X \rightarrow [0, 1]$ , defines fuzzy set on  $X$  as

$$A = \{(x_i, \mu_A(x_i)) : \mu_A(x_i) \in [0, 1]; \forall x_i \in X\},$$

where  $\mu_A(x_i)$  is called membership function and satisfies the following properties:

$$\mu_A(x_i) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } x_i \notin A \text{ and there is no ambiguity} \\ 1, & \text{if } x_i \in A \text{ and there is no ambiguity} \\ 0.5, & \text{there is max ambiguity whether } x_i \notin A \text{ or } x_i \in A \end{cases}$$

## Representation of Fuzzy Set

There are following ways to represent fuzzy set.

(a) Fuzzy set  $A$  on  $X$  can be represented by, set of ordered pair as follows

$$A = \{(x, \mu_A(x)) : x \in X\}.$$

(b) In case, if the domain is finite fuzzy set  $A = \sum \frac{\mu_A(x_i)}{x_i}$ .

For example if  $\mu_A(a) = 0, \mu_A(b) = 0.7, \mu_A(c) = 0.4, \mu_A(d) = 1$ .

Then, fuzzy set  $A$  can be written as

$$A = \{(a, 0), (b, 0.7), (c, 0.4), (d, 1)\} \text{ or } A = \frac{0}{a} + \frac{0.7}{b} + \frac{0.4}{c} + \frac{1}{d}.$$

(c) In case, the domain is continuous  $A = \int \frac{\mu_A(x)}{x}$ .

(d) In case, the domain is finite and consisting  $n$ - elements  $x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n$ . Then fuzzy set

$A =$

$x_1$	$x_2$	.....	$x_n$
0.5	0.6	.....	0.9

(e) By means of a graph

(i) The fuzzy membership function for fuzzy linguistic term "COOL" relating to temperature is as below

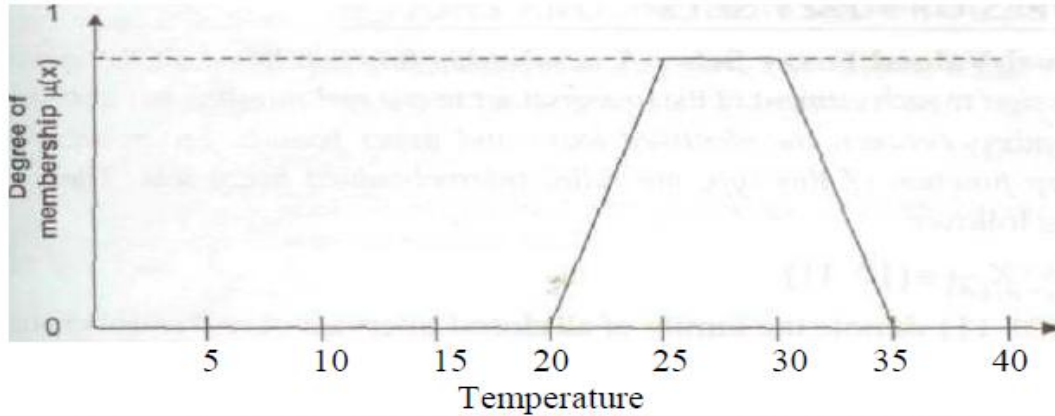
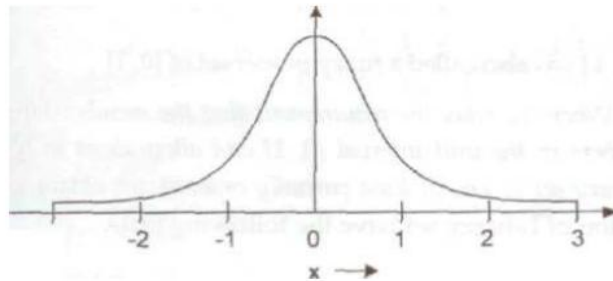


Fig1.: Continuous membership function for "COOL"

(ii) A membership function can also be given mathematically as

$$\mu_A(x) = \frac{1}{(1+x)^2}$$

The graph of the above function is shown below:



**Fig.2: Continuous membership function dictated by mathematical function**

**Definition 2.2** In the definition of fuzzy set  $S$  the membership function  $m_S(z)$  illustrates the membership of the element  $z$  of the base set  $Z$ , whereby for  $m_S(z)$  a large class of function can be taken. For the fuzzy set  $S$ , the grade of membership  $m_S(z_0)$  of a membership function  $m_S(z)$  express for the special element  $z = z_0$ . This value is in the unit interval  $[0, 1]$ .

## 2.2 Soft Set

Soft set theory that was insinuated by Molodtsov in 1999 to deal with uncertainty in a non-parametric approach is a generalization of fuzzy set theory. Soft set theory has a productive prospective for application in various areas, some of which had been discussed by Molodtsov [4]. To deal with a collection of approximate portrayal of objects, a generalized parametric gizmo is used known as Soft set.

Each approximate portrayal has two parts a predicate and an approximate value sets. Since the initial portrayal of the object has an approximate nature, therefore, there is no need to introduce the notion of exact solution. The soft set theory is very handy and simply valid in performance

118 due to the nonexistence of any restrictions on the approximate descriptions. With the aid of  
 119 words and sentences, real number, function, mapping and so on; any parameter can be operate  
 120 that we desire.

121 **Definitions 2.3** Let  $X$  is an initial universe set and  $E$  is the set of parameters and  $A \in E$ .  
 122 Then the pair  $(F, A)$  is called a soft set (over  $X$ ) if  $F$  is a mapping of  $A$  into the power set of  $X$ ,  
 123 i.e.,  $F: A \rightarrow P(X)$ .

124 Obviously, for a given universe  $X$  a soft set is a parameterized family of subsets over  $X$

125 **Example2.1.** Let  $X = \{c_1, c_2, c_3\}$  be the set of three cars and  $E = \{e_1 = \text{costly}, e_2 = \text{metallic color},$   
 126  $e_3 = \text{cheap}\}$  be set of parameters. Let  $A = \{e_1, e_2\}$ , then  $(F, A) = \{F(e_1) = \{c_1, c_2, c_3\}, F(e_2) = \{c_1, c_2\}\}$   
 127 is the crisp soft set over  $X$  which describes the “attractiveness of cars” which Mr. S is going to  
 128 buy.

129 **Table 2.1**

Y/A	$e_1$	$e_2$
$c_1$	1	1
$c_2$	1	1
$c_3$	1	0

130  
 131 **Example 2.2** Let  $X = \{m_1, m_2, \dots, m_5\}$  be the sets of mobiles under consideration and  $E$  be the  
 132 set of parameters,  $A = E = \{e_1 = \text{expensive}, e_2 = \text{good quality}, e_3 = \text{cheap}, e_4 =$   
 133  $\text{stylish}, e_5 = \text{latest}\}$ . Then the soft set  $(F, E)$  describes the attractiveness of the mobiles as  
 134  $(F, E) = \{\{\text{expensive} = m_1, m_2, m_5\}, \{\text{good quality} = m_3, m_5\}, \{\text{cheap} = m_3, m_4, m_5\},$   
 135  $\{\text{stylish} = m_1, m_2, \dots, m_5\}, \{\text{latest} = m_1, m_3, m_4, m_5\}\}$ . This soft set representation is  
 136 shown in the table 2.1 form as below:

137 **Table 2.2**

$X/E$	$e_1$	$e_2$	$e_3$	$e_4$	$e_5$
$m_1$	1	0	0	1	1
$m_2$	1	0	0	1	0
$m_3$	0	1	1	1	1
$m_4$	0	0	1	1	1
$m_5$	1	1	1	1	1

138  
 139 **2.3 Fuzzy Soft Set**  
 140 By hybridization of fuzzy sets and soft sets, Maji et al [6] defined fuzzy soft sets. Actually, the  
 141 concept of fuzzy soft set is an extension of crisp soft set. The fuzziness or vagueness deals with

uncertainty inherent in the dimensionality reduction and decision making problems like medical diagnosis. The definition of fuzzy soft set is given and illustrated by examples.

**Definition 2.4** Let  $X$  be a universal set and  $F(X)$  be the set of all fuzzy subsets of  $X$ . Let  $E$  a set of parameters and  $A \in E$ , a pair  $(F, A)$  is called fuzzy soft set, where  $F$  is a mapping from  $A$  to  $F(X)$ . Thus, a fuzzy soft set  $(F, A)$  over  $X$  can be represented by the set of ordered pairs

$$(F, A) = \{(p, F_A(p)) : p \in P, F_A(p) \in F(X)\}$$

**Example 2.3** Let  $X = \{b_1, b_2, b_3\}$  be the set of three bikes represented as set of object and  $P = \{\text{costly}(p_1), \text{colour}(p_2), \text{getup}(p_3)\}$  be the set of parameters, where  $A = \{p_1, p_2\} \subset P$ . Then  $F_A = \{F_A(p_1) = \{b_1/0.5, b_2/0.7, b_3/0.4\}, F_A(p_2) = \{b_1/0.6, b_2/0.3, b_3/0.8\}\}$  is the fuzzy soft set over  $X$  which describes the “attractiveness of the bikes”.

**Example 2.4** In example 2.2 of soft set considered above if  $m_2$  has stylish then it will not be possible to express it with only the two numbers 0 and 1. In that case we can characterize it by a membership function instead of the crisp number 0 and 1 that associated with each element a real number in the interval  $[0, 1]$ . The fuzzy soft set can then be described as

$$F_E = \left\{ F_E(e_1) = \left\{ \frac{m_1}{0.36}, \frac{m_2}{0.24}, \frac{m_3}{0}, \frac{m_4}{0}, \frac{m_5}{0.6} \right\}, F_E(e_2) = \left\{ \frac{m_1}{0}, \frac{m_2}{0}, \frac{m_3}{0.32}, \frac{m_4}{0}, \frac{m_5}{0.40} \right\}, F_E(e_3) = \left\{ \frac{m_1}{0}, \frac{m_2}{0}, \frac{m_3}{0.48}, \frac{m_4}{0.36}, \frac{m_5}{0.6} \right\}, F_E(e_4) = \left\{ \frac{m_1}{0.6}, \frac{m_2}{0.4}, \frac{m_3}{0.8}, \frac{m_4}{0.6}, \frac{m_5}{1} \right\}, F_E(e_5) = \left\{ \frac{m_1}{0.48}, \frac{m_2}{0}, \frac{m_3}{0.64}, \frac{m_4}{0.48}, \frac{m_5}{0.8} \right\} \right\}.$$

The tabular representation of this fuzzy soft set  $F_E$  is as shown below:

**Table 2.3**

$X/E$	$e_1$	$e_2$	$e_3$	$e_4$	$e_5$
$m_1$	0.36	0.00	0.00	0.60	0.48
$m_2$	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.40	0.00
$m_3$	0.00	0.32	0.48	0.80	0.64
$m_4$	0.00	0.00	0.36	0.60	0.48
$m_5$	0.60	0.40	0.60	1.00	0.80

### 3. A New Technique for Finding Thresh Hold Value

In this section we introduce a new concept of dimensionality reduction by using the fuzzy soft sets approach via soft sets. Here we also propose a process by which we convert binary valued information table of soft sets into the object oriented membership valued information table of fuzzy soft sets. By this process we assign the membership value of objects with respect to parameters in fuzzy soft sets by using soft set information. Before discussing our proposed method we first define some terms.

168 Given a soft set  $(\Omega, E)$ , with tabular presentation,  $X = \{m_1, m_2, \dots, m_n\}$  is the object set,  
169  $E = \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_m\}$  is the parameter set, and  $m_{ij}$  are the entries in the table of  $(\Omega, E)$ .

170 **Definition 3.1** For soft set  $(\Omega, E)$ ,  $X = \{m_1, m_2, \dots, m_n\}$ ,  $E = \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_m\}$  we denote  
171  $T_E(m_i) = \sum_j m_{ij}$  as an oriented- object sum and  $R_i = (T_E(m_i)/|E|)$  is oriented-object grade  
172 with respect to parameters.

173 **Definition 3.2.** For soft set  $(\Omega, E)$ ,  $X = \{m_1, m_2, \dots, m_n\}$ ,  $E = \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_m\}$  we denote  
174  $S_X(e_j) = \sum_i m_{ij}$  as an oriented- parameter sum and  $C_j = (S_X(e_j)/|X|)$  is oriented-parameter  
175 grade with respect to objects.

176 **Definition 3.3** For soft set  $(\Omega, E)$ ,  $X = \{m_1, m_2, \dots, m_n\}$ ,  $E = \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_m\}$  we construct a  
177 fuzzy soft set  $F_E$  over  $X$  by assigning membership value of objects with respect to parameter by  
178 using definition 3.1 and definition 3.2. Let  $v_{ij}$  be the membership value of objects in fuzzy soft  
179 set  $F_E$  then  $v_{ij} = (m_{ij} \times R_i \times C_j)$  such that  $v_{ij} \in [0, 1]$

180 We construct a fuzzy soft set and corresponding table via soft set defined in example 2.1 by using  
181 the definition 3.3.

182 **Definition 3.4** For fuzzy soft set  $F_E$ ,  $X = \{m_1, m_2, \dots, m_n\}$ ,  $E = \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_m\}$  we denote  
183  $O_i = (\sum_j v_{ij})/|E|$  oriented- object grade with respect to parameters.

184 **Definition 3.5** For fuzzy soft set  $F_E$ ,  $X = \{m_1, m_2, \dots, m_n\}$ ,  $E = \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_m\}$  we denote  
185  $E_j = (\sum_i v_{ij})/|X|$  oriented- parameter grade with respect to objects.

186 For fuzzy soft set represent in example 3 the values of  $O_i = 0.29, 0.13, 0.45, 0.29, 0.68$  for  
187  $i = 1$  to 5 respectively and the value of  $E_j = 0.24, 0.14, 0.29, 0.68, 0.48$  for  $j = 1$  to 5  
188 respectively. In proposed technique we define a term known as threshold value.

189 **Definition 3.6** For fuzzy soft set  $F_E$  we denote  $T = (\sum_i \sum_j v_{ij})/(|X| \times |E|)$  as threshold value of  
190 fuzzy soft sets. For fuzzy soft set represent in example 2.4 the threshold value defined in  
191 definition 3.6 is 0.37.

### 192 **3.1 Proposed Algorithm:**

193 The step wise process of proposed technique is as follows:

- 194 ➤ Input the soft set  $(\Omega, E)$ .
- 195 ➤ Construct the binary valued information table of soft set  $(\Omega, E)$ .
- 196 ➤ Convert soft set  $(\Omega, E)$  into fuzzy soft set  $F_E$  and construct fuzzy soft set table by using  
197 soft set table by proposed technique.
- 198 ➤ Find the value of Grade membership  $O_i$  of  $i^{th}$  object and  $E_j$  of  $j^{th}$  parameter in fuzzy soft  
199 set.
- 200 ➤ Find the threshold value " $T$ " of fuzzy soft sets

- Remove those rows for which  $O_i < T$  and column for which  $E_j > T$  in fuzzy soft set table.
- The new table is our desired dimensionality reduced table.

#### 4. Application of New Technique in dimensionality reduction

Here we analyze again the example presented by Maji et al in [7] and is discussed by Chen et al [9]. Let  $U = \{h_1, h_2, h_3, h_4, h_5, h_6\}$  be a set of six houses,  $E = \{\text{expensive, beautiful, wooden, cheap, in green surroundings, modern, in good repair, in bad repair}\}$  be the set of parameters. Let Mr. X is interested to buy a house on the following parameters subset  $P = \{\text{beautiful, wooden, cheap, in green surroundings, in good repair}\}$ . Let  $\{p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4, p_5\}$  be symbolic representation of the set P. Boolean-valued information system table gives the soft set as in Table 4.1.

**Table 4.1**

$U/P$	$p_1$	$p_2$	$p_3$	$p_4$	$p_5$
$h_1$	1	1	1	1	1
$h_2$	1	1	1	1	0
$h_3$	1	0	1	1	1
$h_4$	1	0	1	1	0
$h_5$	1	0	1	0	0
$h_6$	1	1	1	1	1

Next we determine oriented-object grade  $R_i$  and oriented-parameter grade  $C_j$  of given soft sets by using table 3 by applying proposed technique, then table 4.1 transformed into the following Table 4.2:

**Table 4.2**

$/P$	$p_1$	$p_2$	$p_3$	$p_4$	$p_5$	$R_i$
$h_1$	1	1	1	1	1	1
$h_2$	1	1	1	1	0	4/5
$h_3$	1	0	1	1	1	4/5
$h_4$	1	0	1	1	0	3/5
$h_5$	1	0	1	0	0	2/5
$h_6$	1	1	1	1	1	1
$C_j$	1	1/2	1	5/6	1/2	

Transform table 4.2 into the fuzzy soft set table by assigning membership value  $v_{ij}$  of object using the proposed method where  $v_{ij} = (m_{ij} \times R_i \times C_j)$  such that  $v_{ij} \in [0, 1]$ , thus the transformed table is as:



**Table 4.3**

$U/P$	$p_1$	$p_2$	$p_3$	$p_4$	$p_5$
$h_1$	1.00	0.50	1.00	0.83	0.50
$h_2$	0.80	0.40	0.80	0.66	0
$h_3$	0.80	0	0.80	0.66	0.40
$h_4$	0.60	0	0.60	0.50	0
$h_5$	0.40	0	0.40	0	0
$h_6$	1.00	0.50	1.00	0.83	0.50

Now determine oriented-object grade  $H_i = (\sum_j v_{ij})/|P|$  and oriented-parameter grade  $P_j = (\sum_i v_{ij})/|U|$  of fuzzy soft set table where  $i = 1$  to  $|U|$  and  $j = 1$  to  $|P|$ . Then by applying this process table 4.3 transformed into new table as given below:

**Table 4.4**

$U/P$	$p_1$	$p_2$	$p_3$	$p_4$	$p_5$	$H_i$
$h_1$	1.00	0.50	1.00	0.83	0.50	0.77
$h_2$	0.80	0.40	0.80	0.66	0	0.53
$h_3$	0.80	0	0.80	0.66	0.40	0.53
$h_4$	0.60	0	0.60	0.50	0	0.34
$h_5$	0.40	0	0.40	0	0	0.16
$h_6$	1.00	0.50	1.00	0.83	0.50	0.77
$P_j$	0.75	0.23	0.75	0.58	0.23	

Now determine  $T = (\sum_i \sum_j v_{ij})/(|U| \times |P|)$  threshold value of fuzzy soft sets, thus by calculation we get value of  $T = 0.52$ . Now remove those rows for which  $H_i < T$  and those columns for which  $P_j > T$ . Now after removing the corresponding rows and columns table 4.4 transform into new table 4.5 and that is desired reduced table:

239

Table 4.5

$U/P$	$p_2$	$p_5$	$H_i$
$h_1$	0.50	0.50	0.77
$h_2$	0.40	0	0.53
$h_3$	0	0.40	0.53
$h_6$	0.50	0.50	0.77
$P_j$	0.23	0.23	

240

241 As can be seen above, data size has been reduced to approximately 75%. Yet after the process of  
 242 reduction the reduced dataset maintain the same decision partition stated by Maji et al [7], that  
 243 Mr. X prefers the house  $h_1$  and  $h_6$ .

## 244 5. Application in Medical Diagnosis

245 Here we study an application of fuzzy soft sets in medical diagnosis following Sanchez's  
 246 approach [ 2].

### 247 5.1 Methodology

248 Suppose S is a system of symptoms, D is a set of diseases and P is a set of patients. Then A  
 249 fuzzy soft set (F, D) is constructed over S, where F is a mapping from D to  $I^S$ . This fuzzy soft set  
 250 gives a relation matrix  $R_1$  (say) and is called symptom-disease matrix. Its complement (F,D)<sup>c</sup>  
 251 gives another relation matrix  $R_2$ (say) and is called non symptom - disease matrix. These matrices  
 252 are referred to 'Soft Medical Knowledge'.

253 Again we construct another Fuzzy Soft Set (F<sub>1</sub>, S) over P, where F<sub>1</sub> is a mapping from S to  $I^P$ .  
 254 This fuzzy set gives a relation matrix Q called patient-system matrix. Then we obtain two new  
 255 relation matrices as given below:

256  $T_1 = Q \circ R_1$  and  $T_2 = Q \circ R_2$  called symptom-patient matrix and non symptom-patient matrix  
 257 respectively and their membership values are given by

$$258 \quad \mu_{R_1}(p_i, d_j) = \cup [\mu_q, p_i, e_k) \cap \mu_{R_1}(e_k, d_j) \text{ and}$$

$$259 \quad \mu_{R_2}(p_i, d_j) = \cup [\mu_q, p_i, e_k) \cap \mu_{R_2}(e_k, d_j), \text{ where } \cup = \max \text{ and } \cap = \min$$

260 In case  $\max \{\mu_{R_1}(p_i, d_j) - \mu_{R_2}(p_i, d_j)\}$  occurs for exactly  $(p_i, d_k)$ , only then we conclude that the  
 261 acceptable diagnostic hypothesis for patient  $p_i$  is the disease  $d_k$ , however, if there is a tie, the  
 262 process is to be repeated for patient  $p_i$  by reassessing the symptoms.

263

264

## 5.2 A Case Study

Suppose there are three patients  $p_1, p_2$  and  $p_3$  in a hospital with symptoms temperature, headache, cough and stomach problem. Let the possible diseases relating to these symptoms be viral fever and malaria. We consider the set  $S = \{e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4\}$ , where  $e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4$  represent symptoms temperature, headache, cough and stomach problem respectively and  $D = \{d_1, d_2\}$ , where  $d_1$  and  $d_2$  represent the parameters viral fever and malaria respectively.

Next, we suppose that  $F(d_1) = \{e_1/.8, e_2/.5, e_3/.4, e_4/.3\}$ ,  $F(d_2) = \{e_1/.6, e_2/.4, e_3/.3, e_4/.9\}$ . Hence the fuzzy soft set  $(F, D)$  is a parameterized family of all fuzzy sets over the set  $S$  given by  $\{F(d_1), F(d_2)\}$  and determined from expert medical documentation. Thus the fuzzy soft set  $(F, D)$  gives an approximate description of the soft medical knowledge of the two diseases and symptoms and are represented by the following two relation matrices  $R_1$  and  $R_2$ :

$$R_1 = \begin{matrix} & d_1 & d_2 \\ e_1 & .8 & .6 \\ e_2 & .5 & .4 \\ e_3 & .4 & .3 \\ e_4 & .3 & .9 \end{matrix} \quad R_2 = \begin{matrix} & d_1 & d_2 \\ e_1 & .2 & .4 \\ e_2 & .5 & .6 \\ e_3 & .6 & .7 \\ e_4 & .7 & .1 \end{matrix}$$

Let  $P = \{p_1, p_2, p_3\}$  be the universal set where  $p_1, p_2$  and  $p_3$  represent the patients under consideration and  $S = \{e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4\}$ , where  $e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4$  represent symptoms temperature, headache, cough and stomach problem respectively be the parameters. Further suppose that  $F(e_1) = \{p_1/.7, p_2/.8, p_3/.3\}$ ,  $F(e_2) = \{p_1/.5, p_2/.4, p_3/.5\}$ ,  $F(e_3) = \{p_1/.6, p_2/.5, p_3/.4\}$  and  $F(e_4) = \{p_1/.4, p_2/.7, p_3/.5\}$ . Then fuzzy soft set  $(F, S)$  represents a relation matrix  $Q$  called patient- symptoms matrix and is given by

$$Q = \begin{matrix} & e_1 & e_2 & e_3 & e_4 \\ p_1 & .7 & .5 & .6 & .4 \\ p_2 & .8 & .4 & .5 & .7 \\ p_3 & .3 & .5 & .4 & .5 \end{matrix}$$

On combining the relation matrices  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  with  $Q$  and following max.[min.] rule, we get two matrices  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  called patient-disease and patient-non disease matrices respectively and given by

$$T_1 = Q \circ R_1 = \begin{matrix} & d_1 & d_2 \\ p_1 & .7 & .6 \\ p_2 & .8 & .7 \\ p_3 & .5 & .3 \end{matrix}, T_2 = Q \circ R_2 = \begin{matrix} & d_1 & d_2 \\ p_1 & .6 & .6 \\ p_2 & .7 & .5 \\ p_3 & .5 & .5 \end{matrix} \text{ and } T_1 - T_2 = \begin{matrix} & d_1 & d_2 \\ p_1 & .1 & .0 \\ p_2 & .1 & .2 \\ p_3 & 0 & -.1 \end{matrix}$$

Thus from matrix  $T_1 - T_2$  we can infer that  $p_1$  and  $p_3$  are suffering from  $d_1$  and  $p_2$  is suffering from  $d_2$ .

## 5. Conclusion

In this paper a new technique of dimensionality reduction are discussed by using fuzzy soft set theory via soft set theory. By using proposed technique in considered example taken by Maji et al [6] we see that data size has been reduced to approx 75% and reduced data still maintain the same decision partition stated by Maji et al [7]. The example illustrates our contribution and shows that the proposed algorithm efficiently captures the reduction. We have also studied an application of fuzzy soft set in medical diagnosis and illustrated by a case study.

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