

***t*-BEST APPROXIMATION IN FUZZY NORMED SPACES**

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ABSTRACT. The main purpose of this paper is to find *t*-best approximations in fuzzy normed spaces. We introduce the notions of *t*-proximal sets and *F*-approximations and prove some interesting theorems. In particular, we investigate the set of all *t*-best approximations to an element from a set.

1. Introduction

The theory of fuzzy sets was introduced by L. Zadeh [9] in 1965. since then, many mathematicians have studied fuzzy normed spaces from several angles ([6], [1], [2]) and, in 2001, Veeramani introduced the concept of *t*-best approximations in fuzzy metric spaces. In this paper we consider the set of all *t*-best approximations on fuzzy normed spaces and prove several theorems pertaining to this set.

Definition 1.1. A binary operation $*$: $[0, 1] \times [0, 1] \longrightarrow [0, 1]$ is said to be a continuous *t*-norm if $([0, 1], *)$ is a topological monoid with unit 1 such that $a * b \leq c * d$ whenever $a \leq c$ and $b \leq d$ ($a, b, c, d \in [0, 1]$).

Definition 1.2. [6] The 3-tuple $(X, N, *)$ is said to be a fuzzy normed space if X is a vector space, $*$ is a continuous *t*-norm and N is a fuzzy set on $X \times (0, \infty)$ satisfying the following conditions for every $x, y \in X$ and $t, s > 0$,

- (i) $N(x, t) > 0$,
- (ii) $N(x, t) = 1 \Leftrightarrow x = 0$,
- (iii) $N(\alpha x, t) = N(x, t/|\alpha|)$, for all $\alpha \neq 0$,
- (iv) $N(x, t) * N(y, s) \leq N(x + y, t + s)$,
- (v) $N(x, \cdot) : (0, \infty) \longrightarrow [0, 1]$ is continuous,
- (vi) $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} N(x, t) = 1$.

Lemma 1.3. [6] Let N be a fuzzy norm. Then:

- (i) $N(x, t)$ is nondecreasing with respect to t for each $x \in X$,
- (ii) $N(x - y, t) = N(y - x, t)$.

Remark 1.4. As was shown in [6], every fuzzy normed space induces a fuzzy metric space on it and is therefore a topological space.

Definition 1.5. [6] Let $(X, N, *)$ be a fuzzy normed space. The open ball $B(x, r, t)$ and the closed ball $B[x, r, t]$ with the center $x \in X$ and radius $0 < r < 1$, $t > 0$ are

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defined as follows:

$$B(x, r, t) = \{y \in X : N(x - y, t) > 1 - r\},$$

$$B[x, r, t] = \{y \in X : N(x - y, t) \geq 1 - r\}.$$

Lemma 1.6. [6] *If $(X, N, *)$ is a fuzzy normed space. Then:*

- (i) *the function $(x, y) \rightarrow x + y$ is continuous,*
- (ii) *the function $(\alpha, x) \rightarrow \alpha x$ is continuous.*

2. t -best Approximation

Definition 2.1. [8] Let A be a nonempty subset of a fuzzy normed space $(X, N, *)$. For $x \in X$, $t > 0$, let

$$d(A, x, t) = \sup\{N(y - x, t) : y \in A\}.$$

An element $y_0 \in A$ is said to be a t -best approximation of x from A if

$$N(y_0 - x, t) = d(A, x, t)$$

Definition 2.2. Let A be a nonempty set of a fuzzy normed space $(X, N, *)$. For $x \in X$, $t > 0$, we shall denote the set of all elements of t -best approximation of x from A by $P_A^t(x)$; i.e.,

$$P_A^t(x) = \{y \in A : d(A, x, t) = N(y - x, t)\}.$$

If each $x \in X$ has at least (respectively exactly) one t -best approximation in A , then A is called a t -proximal (respectively t -Chebyshev) set.

Definition 2.3. For $t > 0$, a nonempty closed subset A of a fuzzy normed space $(X, N, *)$ is said to be t -boundedly compact if for each x in X and $0 < r < 1$, $B[x, r, t] \cap A$ is a compact subset of X .

Theorem 2.4. (*Invariance by translation and scalar multiplication*)

*Let A be a nonempty subset of a fuzzy normed space $(X, N, *)$. Then:*

- (i) $d(A + y, x + y, t) = d(A, x, t)$, for every $x, y \in X$ and $t > 0$,
- (ii) $P_A^t(x + y) = P_A^t(x) + y$, for every $x, y \in X$ and $t > 0$,
- (iii) $d(\alpha A, \alpha x, t) = d(A, x, t / |\alpha|)$ for every $x \in X$, $t > 0$ and $\alpha \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$,
- (iv) $P_{\alpha A}^{|\alpha|t}(\alpha x) = \alpha P_A^t(x)$, for every $x \in X$, $t > 0$ and $\alpha \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$,
- (v) A is t -proximal (respectively t -chebyshev) if and only if $A + y$ is t -proximal (respectively t -chebyshev), for any given $y \in X$,
- (vi) A is t -proximal (respectively t -chebyshev) if and only if αA is $|\alpha|t$ -proximal (respectively $|\alpha|t$ -chebyshev), for any given $\alpha \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$.

Proof. (i) For any $x, y \in X$ and $t > 0$,

$$\begin{aligned} d(A + y, x + y, t) &= \sup\{N((z + y) - (x + y), t) : z \in A\} \\ &= \sup\{N(z - x, t) : z \in A\} \\ &= d(A, x, t). \end{aligned}$$

(ii) Using (i), $y_0 \in P_{A+y}^t(x+y)$ if and only if $y_0 \in A+y$ and $d(A+y, x+y, t) = N(x+y-y_0, t)$ if and only if $y_0-y \in A$ and $d(A, x, t) = N(x-(y_0-y), t)$ if and only if $y_0-y \in P_A^t(x)$; i.e., $y_0 \in P_A^t(x)+y$.

(iii) We have,

$$\begin{aligned} d(\alpha A, \alpha x, t) &= \sup\{N(\alpha x - \alpha z, t) : z \in A\} \\ &= \sup\{N(\alpha(x-z), t) : z \in A\} \\ &= \sup\{N(x-z, t/|\alpha|) : z \in A\} \\ &= d(A, x, t/|\alpha|). \end{aligned}$$

(iv) From (iii) it follows that $y_0 \in P_{\alpha A}^{|\alpha|t}(\alpha x)$ if and only if $y_0 \in \alpha A$ and $d(\alpha A, \alpha x, |\alpha|t) = N(\alpha x - y_0, |\alpha|t)$ if and only if $y_0/\alpha \in A$ and $N(x - y_0/\alpha, t) = d(A, x, t)$. However, this is equivalent to $y_0/\alpha \in P_A^t(x)$; i.e., $y_0 \in \alpha P_A^t(x)$.

(v) is an immediate consequence of (ii), and (vi) follows from (iv). \square

Corollary 2.5. *Let M be a nonempty subspace of X . Then:*

- (i) $d(M, x+y, t) = d(M, x, t)$, for every $t > 0$, $x \in X$ and $y \in M$,
- (ii) $P_M^t(x+y) = P_M^t(x)+y$, for every $t > 0$, $x \in X$ and $y \in M$,
- (iii) $d(M, \alpha x, |\alpha|t) = d(M, x, t)$, for every $t > 0$, $x \in X$ and $\alpha \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$,
- (iv) $P_M^{|\alpha|t}(\alpha x) = \alpha P_M^t(x)$, for every $t > 0$, $x \in X$ and $\alpha \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$.

Proof. (i) and (ii) follow from theorem (2.4)(i) and (2.4)(ii), and the fact that if M is a subspace and $y \in M$, then $M+y = M$.

(iii) and (iv) follow from Theorem 2.4 ((iii) and (iv)), and the fact that if M is a subspace and $\alpha \neq 0$, then $\alpha M = M$. \square

Definition 2.6. For $x \in X$, $0 < r < 1$, $t > 0$,

$$\begin{aligned} S[x, r, t] &= \{y \in X : N(x-y, t) = 1-r\}, \\ e_A^t(x) &= 1-d(A, x, t). \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 2.7. *Let $(X, N, *)$ be a fuzzy normed space, A be a subset of X , $x \in X \setminus \bar{A}$ and $t > 0$. Then we have,*

$$\begin{aligned} P_A^t(x) &= A \cap B[x, e_A^t(x), t] \\ &= A \cap S[x, e_A^t(x), t]. \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

Proof. The inclusions

$$P_A^t(x) \subseteq A \cap S[x, e_A^t(x), t] \subseteq A \cap B[x, e_A^t(x), t] \tag{2}$$

are obvious by the definitions of $P_A^t(x)$ and $e_A^t(x)$.

Conversely, let $y \in A \cap B[x, e_A^t(x), t]$, then we have, $y \in A$ and

$$N(y-x, t) \geq 1 - e_A^t(x) = d(A, x, t) \geq N(y-x, t).$$

Therefore $y \in A$ and

$$N(y-x, t) = d(A, x, t),$$

which implies that $y \in P_A^t(x)$. So, $A \cap B[x, e_A^t(x), t] \subset P_A^t(x)$, whence, by (2), we have (1), which completes the proof. \square

Remark 2.8. Let $(X, N, *)$ be a fuzzy normed space, A be a subset of X , $x \in X \setminus \overline{A}$ and $t > 0$. Then we have

$$A \cap B(x, e_A^t(x), t) = \emptyset, \quad (3)$$

because, if $y_0 \in A \cap B(x, e_A^t(x), t)$ then $d(A, x, t) \geq N(x - y_0, t) > d(A, x, t)$, which is absurd.

Corollary 2.9. Let $(X, N, *)$ be a fuzzy normed space, A be a subset of X , $x \in X \setminus \overline{A}$ with $P_A^t(x) \neq \emptyset$ and $0 < r < 1$ such that :

$$\emptyset \neq A \cap B[x, r, t] \subseteq S[x, r, t]. \quad (4)$$

Then we have

$$r = e_A^t(x),$$

and consequently $A \cap B[x, r, t] = P_A^t(x)$.

Proof. If $r < e_A^t(x)$, then by the definition of $e_A^t(x)$ we have $A \cap B[x, r, t] = \emptyset$, which contradicts (4). If $r > e_A^t(x)$, since $P_A^t(x) \neq \emptyset$, then by (1) we have

$$\emptyset \neq P_A^t(x) = A \cap B[x, e_A^t(x), t] \subseteq A \cap B(x, r, t),$$

which contradicts (4), and this completes the proof. \square

Definition 2.10. Let $(X, N, *)$ be a fuzzy normed space, $0 < r < 1$ and $t > 0$. We shall say that a set $A \subset X$ supports the cell $B[x, r, t]$, or that A is a support set of the cell $B[x, r, t]$, if we have $d(A, B[x, r, t], t) = 1$ and $A \cap B(x, r, t) = \emptyset$.

Theorem 2.11. Let $(X, N, *)$ be a fuzzy normed space, A a non-void set in X , $x \in X \setminus \overline{A}$, $a_0 \in A$ and $t > 0$. We have $a_0 \in P_A^t(x)$ if and only if the set A supports the cell $B = B[x, 1 - N(a_0 - x, t), t]$.

Proof. Assume that $a_0 \in P_A^t(x)$. Hence $N(a_0 - x, t) = d(A, x, t)$. Then by (3), we have $A \cap B(x, 1 - N(a_0 - x, t), t) = \emptyset$, on the other hand, since $a_0 \in A \cap B[x, 1 - N(a_0 - x, t), t]$, we have $d(A, B, t) = 1$. Consequently, the set A supports the cell B . Conversely, suppose $a_0 \notin P_A^t(x)$, hence $N(a_0 - x, t) < d(A, x, t)$, and let $0 < \varepsilon < 1$ be such that $N(a_0 - x, t) < d(A, x, t) - \varepsilon$. Then there exists an $a \in A$ such that $N(a_0 - x, t) < d(A, x, t) - \varepsilon < N(a - x, t)$, hence $a \in B(x, 1 - N(a_0 - x, t), t)$. Consequently, A does not support the cell B , which completes the proof. \square

Remark 2.12. We recall that a set A in a topological space τ is said to be countably compact, if every countable open cover of A has a finite subcover, or, what is equivalent, if for every decreasing sequence $A_1 \supset A_2 \supset \dots$ of non-void closed subsets of A we have $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \neq \emptyset$.

Theorem 2.13. Let $(X, N, *)$ be a fuzzy normed space, τ be an arbitrary topology on X and $t > 0$. If A is a non-void set of X such that for $A \cap B[x, r, t]$ is τ -countably compact, then A is t -proximal.

Proof. For every $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $0 < 1 - d(A, x, t) + \frac{d(A, x, t)}{n+1} < 1$. Put

$$A_n^t = A \cap B[x, 1 - d(A, x, t) + \frac{d(A, x, t)}{n+1}, t] \quad (n = 1, 2, \dots).$$

Since for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $d(A, x, t)(1 - \frac{1}{n+1}) < d(A, x, t)$, obviously $A_1^t \supset A_2^t \supset \dots$ and each A_n^t is non-void. Hence there exists $a_n^t \in A$ such that

$$d(A, x, t)(1 - \frac{1}{n+1}) < N(a_n^t - x, t)$$

It follows that $a_n^t \in A_n^t$. Now, since each A_n^t is τ -countably compact and τ -closed, we conclude that there exists an $a_0 \in \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n^t$. Then we have

$$d(A, x, t) \geq N(a_0 - x, t) \geq d(A, x, t)(1 - \frac{1}{n+1}) \quad (n = 1, 2, \dots),$$

whence $a_0 \in P_A^t(x)$ which completes the proof. □

Definition 2.14. Let A be a nonempty subset of a fuzzy normed space $(X, N, *)$. An element $y_0 \in A$ is said to be an F -best approximation of $x \in X$ from A if it is a t -best approximation of x from A , for every $t > 0$, i.e.,

$$y_0 \in \bigcap_{t \in (0, \infty)} P_A^t(x).$$

The set of all elements of F -best approximations of x from A is denoted by $FP_A(x)$, i.e.,

$$FP_A(x) = \bigcap_{t \in (0, \infty)} P_A^t(x).$$

If each $x \in X$ has at least (respectively exactly) one F -best approximation in A , then A is called a F -proximal (respectively F -chebyshev) set.

Example 2.15. Let $X = \mathbb{R}^2$. For $a, b \in [0, 1]$, let $a * b = ab$. Define $N : \mathbb{R}^2 \times (0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, 1]$ by

$$N((x_1, x_2), t) = (\exp \frac{\sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2}}{t})^{-1}.$$

Then $(X, N, *)$ is a fuzzy normed space. Let $A = \{(x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid -1 \leq x_1 \leq 1, 0 \leq x_2 \leq x_1^2\}$ and $x = (0, 2)$. Then for every $t > 0$,

$$N((-1, 1) - (0, 3), t) = N((1, 1) - (0, 3), t) = (\exp \frac{\sqrt{5}}{t})^{-1}.$$

On the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned} d(A, (0, 3), t) &= \sup\{N((x_1, x_2) - (0, 3), t) \mid -1 \leq x_1 \leq 1, 0 \leq x_2 \leq x_1^2\} \\ &= \sup\{(\exp \frac{\sqrt{x_1^2 + (x_2 - 3)^2}}{t})^{-1} \mid -1 \leq x_1 \leq 1, 0 \leq x_2 \leq x_1^2\} \\ &= (\exp \frac{\sqrt{5}}{t})^{-1}. \end{aligned}$$

So, for every $t > 0$, $y_0 = (-1, 1)$ and $y_1 = (1, -1)$ are t -best approximations of $(0, 3)$ from A . Therefore $y_0 = (-1, 1)$ and $y_1 = (1, -1)$ are F -best approximations of $x = (0, 3)$ from A . Therefore A is not an F -Chebyshev set.

Example 2.16. Let $X = \mathbb{R}$. For $a, b \in [0, 1]$, let $a * b = ab$. Define

$$N : \mathbb{R} \times (0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, 1],$$

by

$$N(x, t) = \frac{t}{t + |x|}.$$

Then $(X, N, *)$ is a fuzzy normed space. Let $A = [0, 1]$. Then, for every $x > 1$, 1 is an F -best approximation of x from A and for every $x < 0$, 0 is an F -best approximation of x from A . So A is an F -proximal set.

Remark 2.17. For an arbitrary set $A \subset X$ we shall denote by ∂A the boundary of A , by $\text{Int}A$ the interior of A (hence $\partial A = \overline{A} \setminus \text{Int}A$), and by \mathcal{M}_A the set of all elements of the F -best approximation of the elements $x \in X$ from A , i.e.

$$\mathcal{M}_A = \bigcup_{x \in X} FP_A(x).$$

Theorem 2.18. Let $(X, N, *)$ be a fuzzy normed space and A be a F -best proximal set in X . Then

$$\partial A \subset \overline{\mathcal{M}_A}.$$

Proof. If $\partial A = \emptyset$, the statement is obvious. If $\partial A \neq \emptyset$, let $a_0 \in \partial A$, $0 < \varepsilon < 1$ and $t > 0$ be arbitrary. Then there exists $0 < \varepsilon' < 1$ such that $(1 - \varepsilon') * (1 - \varepsilon') > 1 - \varepsilon$ and the cell $B(a_0, \varepsilon', t/2)$ contains at least one element $x \in X \setminus A$. Let $\pi_A(x) \in FP_A(x)$ (it exists, since by hypothesis, A is F -proximal). Then we have,

$$\begin{aligned} N(a_0 - \pi_A(x), t) &\geq N(a_0 - x, t/2) * N(x - \pi_A(x), t/2) \\ &= N(a_0 - x, t/2) * N(A, x, t/2) \\ &\geq N(a_0 - x, t/2) * N(a_0 - x, t/2) \\ &\geq (1 - \varepsilon') * (1 - \varepsilon') \\ &> 1 - \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

So, $B(a_0, \varepsilon, t) \cap \mathcal{M}_A \neq \emptyset$ and since $\varepsilon > 0$ is arbitrary, we obtain $a_0 \in \overline{\mathcal{M}_A}$ which completes the proof. \square

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