

## CATEGORY OF $(POM)_L$ -FUZZY GRAPHS AND HYPERGRAPHS

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**ABSTRACT.** In this note by considering a complete lattice  $L$ , we define the notion of an  $L$ -Fuzzy hyperrelation on a given non-empty set  $X$ . Then we define the concepts of  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy graph, hypergraph and subhypergroup and obtain some related results. In particular we construct the categories of the above mentioned notions, and give a (full and faithful) functor from the category of  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy subhypergroups ( $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy graphs) into the category of  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy hypergraphs. Also we show that for each finite objects in the category of  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy graphs, the coproduct exists, and under a suitable condition the product also exists.

### 1. Introduction

Rosenfeld [9] in 1975 defined the notion of a fuzzy graph. Berge studied hypergraphs [1]. Roy and Goetschel gave the notion of fuzzy hypergraphs [10]. Zahedi and Khorashadi-Zadeh in [9] gave some categoric connections between fuzzy hypergraphs, subhypergroups, . . . . Now we follow [10] and [11]. In this regard we redefine the notion of fuzzy hypergraph. In fact we give a new approach to this notion. To explain this, first we give the notions of fuzzy graph and fuzzy hypergraph which have defined in [9] and [10] respectively.

**Definition 1.1.** [9] A fuzzy graph is a triple  $(X, \delta, \mu)$ , where  $\delta$  is a fuzzy subset of a finite non-empty set of  $X$  and  $\mu$  is a fuzzy relation on  $\delta$ , i.e.  $\mu$  is a fuzzy subset of  $X \times X$ , and  $\mu(x, y) \leq \delta(x) \wedge \delta(y)$ , for all  $x, y \in X$ .

**Definition 1.2.** [10] Let  $X$  be a finite non-empty set and let  $\xi$  be a finite family of non-trivial fuzzy subsets on  $X$ , i.e. for all  $\mu$  in  $\xi$ ,  $\text{supp}\mu \neq \emptyset$  and  $X = \bigcup_{\mu \in \xi} \text{supp}\mu$ , where by  $\text{supp}\mu$  we mean the set  $\{x \in X | \mu(x) > 0\}$ . Then the pair  $\mathcal{H} = (X, \xi)$  is called a fuzzy hypergraph on  $X$ .

**Remark 1.3.** We expect a hypergraph to be a fuzzy graph if  $\xi$  in Definition 1.2 is a singleton. However if  $\delta$  is a fuzzy subset on a finite nonempty set  $X$  and  $\text{supp}\delta = X$ , then the pair  $(X, \xi = \{\delta\})$  is a fuzzy hypergraph on  $X$  according to Definition 1.2, while  $(X, \delta)$  is not a fuzzy graph according to Definition 1.1. The problem arises because the fuzzy relation  $\mu$  has no place in Definition 1.2. Hence this definition is not a generalization of Definition 1.1. So in this paper we work with the Definition 1.2, that is a genuine extension of Definition 1.1.

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Received: November 2004; Accepted: February 2005

*Key words and phrases:* Fuzzy graph, Fuzzy hypergraph, Fuzzy subhypergroup, Partially ordered monoid.

Now in this note first we give the notions of  $L$ -Fuzzy hypersubsets,  $L$ -Fuzzy hyperrelations on a set  $X$ ,  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy hyperrelations on an  $L$ -Fuzzy hypersubsets of  $X$  and  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy hyperrelations on a finite family of  $L$ -Fuzzy subsets. Then we present the concepts of  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy (hyper)graphs and construct the categories  $(POM)_L - FG_r$  of all  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy graphs and  $(POM)_L - FHG_r$  of all  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy hypergraphs. After that we show that there is a full and faithful functor from  $(POM)_L - FG_r$  into  $(POM)_L - FHG_r$ . Finally we define the notion of  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy hypergroups and then construct the category  $(POM)_L - FHG_p$  of all  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy hypergroups, and obtain some related results.

Throughout this paper we let  $L$  be a complete lattice with the greatest element 1 and the least element 0.

**Definition 1.4.** [3, 8] Let  $T : L \times L \longrightarrow L$  be a binary operation having the properties:

- (i)  $T(x, 1) = x$
- (ii)  $T(x, y) = T(y, x)$
- (iii)  $T(x, y) \leq T(u, y)$  if  $x \leq u$
- (iv)  $T(x, T(y, z)) = T(T(x, y), z)$ .

Henceforth  $(L, T)$  is a partially ordered commutative monoid [2].

**Remark 1.5.** In the mathematical tradition of algebra  $(L, T)$  is better known as a partially ordered monoid in which the unity coincides with the top element of the lattice, for example in this regard see [2, 5]. However authors in the fuzzy set tradition sometimes call  $T$  an  $L$ - $t$ -norm, because  $T$  is known as a  $t$ -norm when  $L$  is the unit interval.

It is obvious that if  $\{x_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in \Lambda}$  and  $\{y_\beta\}_{\beta \in \Lambda'}$  are two families of elements of  $L$ , then

$$\bigvee_{\substack{\alpha \in \Lambda \\ \beta \in \Lambda'}} T(x_\alpha, y_\beta) \leq T\left(\bigvee_{\alpha \in \Lambda} x_\alpha, \bigvee_{\beta \in \Lambda'} y_\beta\right). (*)$$

By an  $L$ -Fuzzy subset  $\delta$  on a set  $X$ , we mean a function  $\delta : X \longrightarrow L$ .

**Notation:**

- (i) We let  $F_L(X)$  shows the set of all  $L$ -Fuzzy subsets on  $X$ , i.e.

$$F_L(X) = \{\delta | \delta : X \longrightarrow L \text{ is a function}\}.$$

- (ii) Write  $p^*(X) = p(X) \setminus \{\emptyset\}$ , i.e.  $p^*(X)$  is the set of all non-empty subsets of  $X$ .

**Definition 1.6.** [7] It is well-known that a hyperstructure is a non-empty set  $H$  together with a map  $o : H \times H \longrightarrow p^*(H)$ , called hyperoperation. A hyperstructure  $(H, o)$  is called a hypergroup if the following axioms hold:

- (i)  $(xoy)oz = xo(yoz), \forall x, y, z \in H$ ,
- (ii)  $aoH = H = Hoa, \forall a \in H$ ,

where by  $AoB$  we mean  $\bigcup_{x \in A, y \in B} xoy$ , for all subsets  $A, B$  of  $H$ .

**Lemma 1.7.** Let  $(H, o)$  be a hyperstructure. Then the following statements are equivalent:

- (i)  $aoH = Hoa = H, \forall a \in H,$
- (ii) for all  $a$  and  $y$  in  $H$  there exist  $u$  and  $v$  in  $H$  such that  $y \in uoa$  and  $y \in aov.$

## 2. $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy (hyper)graphs

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $\delta \in F_L(X)$ . Then we say that  $\delta$  is non-trivial if

$$\delta^* = \text{supp}\delta = \{x \in X \mid 0 \leq \delta(x), \delta(x) \neq 0\} \neq \emptyset.$$

**Definition 2.2.** Let  $\mu \in F_L(X \times X)$ . Then we say that  $\mu$  is an  $L$ -Fuzzy relation on  $X$ .

**Definition 2.3.** Let  $\delta \in F_L(X)$  and  $\mu \in F_L(X \times X)$ . Then  $\mu$  is said to be a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy relation on  $\delta$  if

$$\mu(x, y) \leq T(\delta(x), \delta(y)), \quad \forall x, y \in X.$$

**Definition 2.4.** Let  $X \neq \emptyset$  and  $\delta \in F_L(p^*(X))$ . Then  $\delta$  is said to be an  $L$ -Fuzzy hypersubset of  $X$ , if for any finite family  $\{A_i\}_{i=1,2,\dots,n}$  of  $p^*(X)$  we have

$$\delta\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i\right) \leq \bigvee_{i=1}^n \delta(A_i).$$

**Lemma 2.5.** Let  $\delta \in F_L(X)$ . Then  $\delta$  induces an  $L$ -Fuzzy hypersubset  $\delta'$  of  $X$ .

*Sketch of proof.* Define  $\delta' \in F_L(p^*(X))$  as follows:

$$\delta'(A) = \bigvee_{a \in A} \delta(a), \quad \forall A \in p^*(X).$$

**Definition 2.6.** Let  $\mu \in F_L(p^*(X) \times p^*(X))$ . Then  $\mu$  is called an  $L$ -Fuzzy hyperrelation on  $X$  if:

$$\mu\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n E_i, \bigcup_{j=1}^m F_j\right) = \bigvee_{i=1}^n \left(\bigvee_{j=1}^m \mu(E_i, F_j)\right)$$

for any finite families  $\{E_i\}_{i=1,2,\dots,n}$  and  $\{F_j\}_{j=1,2,\dots,m}$  of  $p^*(X)$ .

**Remark 2.7.** Let  $\mu$  be an  $L$ -Fuzzy hyperrelation on  $X$ . Then  $A \subseteq B$  and  $C \subseteq D$  imply that  $\mu(A, C) \leq \mu(B, D)$ .

**Theorem 2.8.** Let  $\mu$  be an  $L$ -Fuzzy relation on  $X$ . Then  $\mu$  induces an  $L$ -Fuzzy hyperrelation  $\mu'$  on  $X$ .

*Sketch of proof.* Define  $\mu' \in F_L(p^*(X) \times p^*(X))$  as follows:

$$\mu'(A, B) = \bigvee_{a \in A} \left(\bigvee_{b \in B} \mu(a, b)\right), \quad \forall A, B \in p^*(X).$$

**Definition 2.9.** Let  $\delta$  be an  $L$ -Fuzzy hypersubset of  $X$  and  $\mu$  be an  $L$ -Fuzzy hyperrelation on  $X$ . Then  $\mu$  is said to be a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy hyperrelation on  $\delta$  if

$$\mu(E, F) \leq T(\delta(E), \delta(F)), \quad \forall E, F \in p^*(X).$$

**Lemma 2.10.** Let  $\mu$  be a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy relation on  $\delta$ , and  $\mu', \delta'$  be such as defined in Theorem 2.8 and Lemma 2.5 respectively. Then  $\mu'$  is a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy hyperrelation on  $\delta'$ .

*Proof.* The proof is easy.  $\square$

**Definition 2.11.** Let  $X \neq \emptyset$  and  $\xi = \{\mu_i\}_{i=1,2,\dots,n}$  be a family of non-trivial  $L$ -Fuzzy subsets of  $X$  and  $X = \bigcup_{i=1}^n \mu_i^*$ . Then the  $L$ -Fuzzy hyperrelation  $\mu$  on  $X$  is called a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy hyperrelation on  $\xi$  if for all  $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ :

$$\mu(A, B) \leq T\left(\bigvee_{x \in A} \mu_i(x), \bigvee_{y \in B} \mu_j(y)\right) \quad , \quad \forall A, B \in p^*(X), A \subseteq \mu_i^*, B \subseteq \mu_j^*.$$

**Theorem 2.12.** Let  $X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$ ,  $\mu \in F_L(p^*(X) \times p^*(X))$  and  $\delta \in F_L(p^*(X))$ . If  $\mu$  is a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy hyperrelation on  $\delta$ , then there is a family  $\xi$  of non-trivial elements of  $F_L(X)$  such that  $\mu$  is a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy hyperrelation on  $\xi$ .

*Sketch of proof.* For each  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , define  $\mu_i$  as follows:

$$\mu_i : X \longrightarrow L, \quad \mu_i(x) = \begin{cases} \delta(\{x_i\}) & \text{if } \delta(\{x_i\}) \neq 0, x = x_i \\ 1 & \text{if } \delta(\{x_i\}) = 0, x = x_i \\ 0 & \text{if } x \neq x_i \end{cases}$$

Now let  $\xi = \{\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_n\}$ . Then it can be checked that  $\mu$  is a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy hyperrelation on  $\xi$ .

**Theorem 2.13.** Let  $\mu$  be a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy hyperrelation on a family  $\xi = \{\mu_i\}_{i=1,2,\dots,n}$  of  $L$ -Fuzzy subsets of  $X$ . Then there exists an  $L$ -Fuzzy hypersubset  $\delta$  of  $X$  such that  $\mu$  is a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy hyperrelation on  $\delta$ .

*Proof.* Define the  $L$ -Fuzzy hypersubset  $\delta$  of  $X$  as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \delta : p^*(X) &\longrightarrow L \\ A &\longmapsto \bigvee_{i=1}^n \left( \bigvee_{x \in A \cap \mu_i^*} \mu_i(x) \right). \end{aligned}$$

It is obvious that  $\delta$  is well-defined and since each  $\mu_i$  is non-trivial for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , we conclude that  $\delta$  is also non-trivial. First we show that  $\delta$  is an  $L$ -Fuzzy hyper-subset of  $X$ . Let  $\{A_j\}_{j=1,2,\dots,t}$  be a finite family of  $p^*(X)$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \delta \left( \bigcup_{j=1}^t A_j \right) &= \bigvee_{i=1}^n \left( \bigvee_{x \in \left( \bigcup_{j=1}^t A_j \right) \cap \mu_i^*} \mu_i(x) \right) = \bigvee_{i=1}^n \left( \bigvee_{x \in \bigcup_{j=1}^t (A_j \cap \mu_i^*)} \mu_i(x) \right) \\ &= \bigvee_{i=1}^n \left( \bigvee_{j=1}^t \left( \bigvee_{x \in (A_j \cap \mu_i^*)} \mu_i(x) \right) \right) = \bigvee_{j=1}^t \left( \bigvee_{i=1}^n \left( \bigvee_{x \in (A_j \cap \mu_i^*)} \mu_i(x) \right) \right) \\ &= \bigvee_{j=1}^t (\delta(A_j)) . \end{aligned}$$

Now let  $E, F \in p^*(X)$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(E, F) &= \mu(X \cap E, X \cap F) = \mu \left( \bigcup_{i=1}^n \mu_i^* \cap E, \bigcup_{j=1}^n \mu_j^* \cap F \right) \\ &= \mu \left( \bigcup_{i=1}^n (\mu_i^* \cap E), \bigcup_{j=1}^n (\mu_j^* \cap F) \right) \\ &= \bigvee_{i=1}^n \left( \bigvee_{j=1}^n \mu(\mu_i^* \cap E, \mu_j^* \cap F) \right) , \\ &\leq \bigvee_{i=1}^n \left( \bigvee_{j=1}^n T \left( \bigvee_{x \in \mu_i^* \cap E} \mu_i(x), \bigvee_{y \in \mu_j^* \cap F} \mu_j(y) \right) \right) \\ &\leq T \left( \bigvee_{i=1}^n \left( \bigvee_{x \in \mu_i^* \cap E} \mu_i(x) \right), \bigvee_{j=1}^n \left( \bigvee_{y \in \mu_j^* \cap F} \mu_j(y) \right) \right) , \text{ by } (*) \\ &= T(\delta(E), \delta(F)) . \end{aligned}$$

□

**Definition 2.14.** Let  $X \neq \emptyset$  be a finite set. Then the triple  $H = (X, \delta, \mu)$  is called a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy graph on  $X$  if

- (i)  $\delta \in F_L(X)$ ,
- (ii)  $\mu \in F_L(X \times X)$  and  $\mu$  is a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy relation on  $\delta$ .

Note that if  $L = [0, 1] \subseteq \mathbf{R}$  and  $T = \min$ , then a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy graph is also a fuzzy graph.

**Remark 2.15.** Let  $H = (X, \delta, \mu)$  be a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy graph. So  $\mu(x, y) \leq T(\delta(x), \delta(y))$ , for all  $x, y \in X$ . If  $x \notin \delta^*$ , then

$$\mu(x, y) \leq T(\delta(x), \delta(y)) = T(0, \delta(y)) = 0 ; \forall y \in X$$

That is  $\mu(x, y) = 0$ . So  $(x, y) \notin \mu^*$  for all  $y \in X$ . Now if we put  $Y = \delta^* \subseteq X$ , then  $(Y, \delta|_Y, \mu|_{Y \times Y})$  is a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy graph, called the saturated  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy subgraph of  $(X, \delta, \mu)$ .

From now on we let all  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy graph  $(X, \delta, \mu)$  to be the saturated  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy subgraph of itself, so that  $\delta^* = X$ .

**Definition 2.16.** Let  $X \neq \emptyset$  be a finite set and  $\mathcal{H} = (X, \{\mu_i\}_{i=1,2,\dots,n}, \mu)$ . Then  $\mathcal{H}$  is called a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy hypergraph on  $X$  if  $\mu$  is a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy hyperrelation on  $\{\mu_i\}_{i=1,2,\dots,n}$ .

**Theorem 2.17.** Every  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy graph on  $X$ , induces (naturally) a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy hypergraph on  $X$ .

*Proof.* Let  $(X, \delta, \mu)$  be a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy graph where  $\delta^* = X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$ . We define  $\delta_i$ , for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$  as follows:

$$\delta_i : X \rightarrow L , \delta_i(x) = \begin{cases} \delta(x_i) & \text{if } x = x_i \\ 0 & \text{if } x \neq x_i \end{cases}$$

we have  $\delta_i^* = \{x_i\}$  and  $X = \bigcup_{i=1}^n \delta_i^*$ . Consider  $\mu' \in F_L(p^*(X) \times p^*(X))$  as defined in Theorem 2.8. Now we claim that  $(X, \{\delta_i\}_{i=1,2,\dots,n}, \mu')$  is a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy hypergraph on  $X$ . To see this, since  $\delta(x_i) = \delta_i(x_i)$  for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mu'(\delta_i^*, \delta_j^*) &= \mu'(\{x_i\}, \{x_j\}) = \mu(x_i, x_j) \\ &\leq T(\delta(x_i), \delta(x_j)) = T(\delta_i(x_i), \delta_j(x_j)) \\ &= T\left(\bigvee_{x \in \delta_i^*} \delta_i(x), \bigvee_{y \in \delta_j^*} \delta_j(y)\right). \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $\mu$  is a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy hyperrelation on  $\{\delta_i\}_{i=1,2,\dots,n}$ , and the proof is complete.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.18.** Let  $X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$  and  $(X, \{\mu_i\}_{i=1,2,\dots,n}, \mu)$  be a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy hypergraph on  $X$  such that  $\mu_i^* = \{x_i\}$ , for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . Then  $\mu$  induces a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy graph on  $X$ .

*Sketch of Proof.* Define  $\delta \in F_L(X)$  and  $\mu' \in F_L(X \times X)$  as follows:

$$\delta : X \rightarrow L , \delta(x_i) = \mu_i(x_i), \forall i = 1, 2, \dots, n$$

and

$$\mu'(x_i, x_j) = \mu(\{x_i\}, \{x_j\}), \forall x_i, x_j \in X .$$

Then the proof can be completed by some calculations.

**Theorem 2.19.** (i) Every (ordinary) graph is a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy graph.  
(ii) Every (ordinary) hypergraph is a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy hypergraph.

*Sketch of proof.* (i) Let  $G = (X, E)$  be a graph. Define

$$\delta : X \rightarrow L, \quad \delta(x) = 1, \quad \text{for all } x \in X$$

and

$$\mu : X \times X \rightarrow L, \quad \mu(x, y) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } (x, y) \in E \\ 0 & \text{if } (x, y) \notin E \end{cases}$$

Then we see that  $(X, \delta, \mu)$  is a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy graph on  $X$ .

(ii) Let  $\mathcal{H} = (X, \{E_i\}_{i=1,2,\dots,n})$  be a hypergraph. Define  $\mu_i = \chi_{E_i}$ , for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . Then if  $\mu$  is an arbitrary  $L$ -Fuzzy hyperrelation on  $X$ , we conclude that  $(X, \{\mu_i\}_{i=1,2,\dots,n}, \mu)$  is a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy hypergraph on  $X$ .

### 3. Category of $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy hypergraphs

**Definition 3.1.** Let  $(X, \{\mu_i\}_{i=1,2,\dots,n}, \mu)$  and  $(Y, \{\delta_i\}_{i=1,2,\dots,m}, \delta)$  be two  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy hypergraphs. If

$$\alpha : \{1, 2, \dots, n\} \longrightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, m\}$$

and  $f : X \longrightarrow Y$  be two functions such that

- (i)  $f(\mu_i^*) \subseteq \delta_{\alpha(i)}^*$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ,
- (ii)  $\mu_i(x) \leq \delta_{\alpha(i)}(f(x))$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ,  $\forall x \in X$ ,
- (iii)  $\mu(E, F) \leq \delta(f(E), f(F))$ ,  $\forall E, F \in p^*(X)$ ,

then  $(f, \alpha)$  is called a homomorphism of  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy hypergraphs.

#### Category of $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy hypergraphs ( $(POM)_L - FHG_r$ ):

In order to construct the category  $(POM)_L - FHG_r$  of all  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy hypergraphs, we consider all  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy hypergraphs as the objects of this category and for any two objects  $\mathcal{X} = (X, \{\mu_i\}_{i=1,2,\dots,n}, \mu)$  and  $\mathcal{Y} = (Y, \{\delta_i\}_{i=1,2,\dots,m}, \delta)$ , we define  $\text{Hom}(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y})$  as follows:

$$\text{Hom}(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}) = \{(f, \alpha) \mid (f, \alpha) \text{ is a homomorphism from } \mathcal{X} \text{ to } \mathcal{Y}\}.$$

Now let  $\mathcal{X} = (X, \{\mu_i\}_{i=1,2,\dots,l}, \mu)$ ,  $\mathcal{Y} = (Y, \{\delta_i\}_{i=1,2,\dots,m}, \delta)$ ,  $\mathcal{Z} = (Z, \{\nu_i\}_{i=1,2,\dots,n}, \nu)$  be three  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy hypergraphs and let  $(f, \alpha) : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$  and  $(g, \beta) : \mathcal{Y} \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}$  be two homomorphisms of  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy hypergraphs. We define the composition of these homomorphisms by

$$(g, \beta) \circ (f, \alpha) = (g \circ f, \beta \circ \alpha).$$

Then  $(g \circ f, \beta \circ \alpha)$  is a homomorphism from  $\mathcal{X}$  to  $\mathcal{Z}$ , because for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$  we have

- i)  $g \circ f(\mu_i^*) = g(f(\mu_i^*)) \subseteq g(\delta_{\alpha(i)}^*) \subseteq \nu_{\beta \circ \alpha(i)}^*$
- ii)  $\mu_i(x) \leq \delta_{\alpha(i)}(f(x)) \leq \nu_{\beta \circ \alpha(i)}(g \circ f(x))$ ,  $\forall x \in X$
- iii)  $\mu(E, F) \leq \delta(f(E), f(F)) \leq \nu(g(f(E)), g(f(F)))$ ,  $\forall E, F \in p^*(X)$ .

Now it is easy to check that  $(POM)_L - FHG_r$  has all properties of a category.

**Theorem 3.2.** Let  $(f, \alpha) : (X, \{\mu_i\}_{i=1,2,\dots,n}, \mu) \longrightarrow (Y, \{\delta_i\}_{i=1,2,\dots,m}, \delta)$  be a homomorphism of  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy hypergraphs. Then  $(f, \alpha)$  is an isomorphism in  $(POM)_L - FHG_r$  if and only if

- (i)  $\alpha \in S_n$ , where  $S_n$  is the permutation group on  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ ,
- (ii)  $f$  is one to one and onto,
- (iii)  $f(\mu_i^*) = \delta_{\alpha(i)}^*$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ,
- (iv)  $\mu_i(x) = \delta_{\alpha(i)}(f(x))$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ,  $\forall x \in X$ ,
- (v)  $\mu(E, F) = \delta(f(E), f(F))$ ,  $\forall E, F \in p^*(X)$ .

*Proof.*  $(\Rightarrow)$  Let  $(f, \alpha)$  be an isomorphism. Then

(i),(ii): There exists a morphism  $(g, \beta)$  in  $(POM)_L - FHG_r$  such that  $(g, \beta) \circ (f, \alpha) = (1_X, 1_{\{1,2,\dots,n\}})$  and  $(f, \alpha) \circ (g, \beta) = (1_Y, 1_{\{1,2,\dots,m\}})$ . These show that  $g \circ f = 1_X$ ,  $f \circ g = 1_Y$ ,  $\beta \circ \alpha = 1_{\{1,2,\dots,n\}}$  and  $\alpha \circ \beta = 1_{\{1,2,\dots,m\}}$ . This means that  $f$  is bijective and  $\alpha \in S_n$ ; moreover  $m = n$ .

(iii): Let  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  and  $j = \alpha(i)$ . Then  $\beta(j) = 1$ . So

$$\begin{aligned} g(\delta_j^*) &\subseteq \mu_{\beta(j)}^* \Rightarrow f(g(\delta_j^*)) \subseteq f(\mu_{\beta(j)}^*) \\ &\Rightarrow \delta_j^* \subseteq f(\mu_{\beta(j)}^*) \Rightarrow \delta_{\alpha(i)}^* \subseteq f(\mu_i^*). \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand we have  $f(\mu_i^*) \subseteq \delta_{\alpha(i)}^*$ . Thus  $\delta_{\alpha(i)}^* = f(\mu_i^*)$ .

(iv): Let  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ ,  $x \in X$  and  $\alpha(i) = j$ ,  $f(x) = y$ . Then

$$\mu_i(x) \leq \delta_{\alpha(i)}(f(x)) .$$

Since  $\delta_j(y) \leq \mu_{\beta(j)}(g(y))$  we get that  $\delta_{\alpha(i)}(f(x)) \leq \mu_i(x)$ . Thus  $\mu_i(x) = \delta_{\alpha(i)}(f(x))$ .

(v): Let  $E, F \subseteq X$ , and  $A = f(E)$ ,  $B = f(F)$ . Thus  $g(A) = E$  and  $g(B) = F$ . Since  $\delta(A, B) \leq \mu(g(A), g(B))$  we conclude that

$$\delta(f(E), f(F)) \leq \mu(E, F) \leq \delta(f(E), f(F)),$$

and (v) is proved.

$(\Leftarrow)$  Define  $g = f^{-1}$  and  $\beta = \alpha^{-1}$ , first we show that  $(g, \beta)$  is a morphism in  $(POM)_L - FHG_r$  from  $(Y, \{\delta_i\}_{i=1,2,\dots,m}, \delta)$  in to  $(X, \{\mu_i\}_{i=1,2,\dots,n}, \mu)$ .

Note that since  $\alpha$  is bijective, we must have  $m = n$ . Let  $j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ . Then there exists  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  such that  $i = \beta(j)$ . For  $i$  we have  $f(\mu_i^*) = \delta_{\alpha(i)}^*$ , by (iii) so  $\mu_i^* = g(\delta_{\alpha(i)}^*)$ , and hence  $g(\delta_j^*) = \mu_{\beta(j)}^*$ . Thus condition (i) of Definition 3.1 holds.

Now let  $j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  and  $y \in Y$ . Then there exists  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  and  $x \in X$  such that  $i = \beta(j)$  and  $x = g(y)$ . Now from (iv) we get

$$\mu_i(x) = \delta_{\alpha(i)}(f(x)) \Rightarrow \mu_{\beta(j)}(g(y)) = \delta_j(y) .$$

Hence, the condition (ii) of Definition 3.1 holds too. Let  $A, B \subseteq Y$ . Then there exist  $E, F \subseteq X$  such that  $E = g(A)$  and  $F = g(B)$ . For  $E, F$  we have

$$\mu(E, F) = \delta(f(E), f(F)) \Rightarrow \delta(A, B) = \mu(g(A), g(B)) .$$

Hence  $(g, \beta)$  is a morphism in  $(POM)_L - FHG_r$ . It is clear that  $(g, \beta) \circ (f, \alpha) = (f, \alpha) \circ (g, \beta) = (1, 1)$ . So  $(g, \beta)$  is an isomorphism.  $\square$

**Definition 3.3.** Let  $\mathcal{X} = (X, \delta, \mu)$ ,  $\mathcal{Y} = (Y, \delta', \mu')$  be two  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy graphs. If  $f : X \longrightarrow Y$  be a function such that:

- (i)  $\delta(x) \leq \delta'(f(x)), \forall x \in X,$
- (ii)  $\mu(x, y) \leq \mu'(f(x), f(y)), \forall (x, y) \in X \times Y,$

then we say that  $f$  is a homomorphism from  $\mathcal{X}$  to  $\mathcal{Y}$ .

### Category of $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy graphs $((POM)_L - FG_r)$ :

We construct the category  $(POM)_L - FG_r$  of all  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy graphs. The objects of this category are all  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy graphs, and for any two objects  $\mathcal{X} = (X, \delta, \mu)$ ,  $\mathcal{Y} = (Y, \delta', \mu')$ , we define  $\text{Hom}(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y})$  to be the set of all homomorphism from  $\mathcal{X}$  into  $\mathcal{Y}$ . It is easy to see that  $(POM)_L - FG_r$  has all properties of a category.

**Theorem 3.4.** *In  $(POM)_L - FG_r$ , coproduct exists, for any finite family of objects.*

*Proof.* Let  $\{(A_i, \delta_i, \mu_i)\}_{i \in I}$  be a finite family of objects of  $(POM)_L - FG_r$ . For  $\{A_i\}_{i \in I}$ . It is well-known that  $(\bigcup_{i \in I}^0 A_i, \lambda_i)$  is a coproduct in the category of sets,

where by  $\bigcup_{i \in I}^0 A_i$  we mean the set  $\{(a, i) | (a, i) \in \bigcup_{i \in I} (A_i \times \{i\}), a \in A_i\}$ , and for each  $i \in I$ ,

$$\lambda_i : A_i \rightarrow \bigcup_{i \in I}^0 A_i \quad , \quad \lambda_i(a) = (a, i).$$

Now we define

$$\delta : \bigcup_{i \in I}^0 A_i \rightarrow L \quad , \quad \delta((a, i)) = \delta_i(a) \quad \text{for all } (a, i),$$

and

$$\mu : \bigcup_{i \in I}^0 A_i \times \bigcup_{i \in I}^0 A_i \rightarrow L \quad , \quad \mu((a, i), (b, j)) = \begin{cases} \mu_i(a, b) & \text{if } i = j \\ 0 & \text{if } i \neq j \end{cases}$$

Then it is easy to see that  $\mu$  is a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy relation on  $\delta$ . So  $(\bigcup_{i \in I}^0 A_i, \delta, \mu)$  is an object in  $(POM)_L - FG_r$ . Now we show that for each  $i \in I$ ,  $\lambda_i : (A_i, \delta_i, \mu_i) \rightarrow (\bigcup_{i \in I}^0 A_i, \delta, \mu)$  is a morphism in  $(POM)_L - FG_r$ . To see this:

- (i)  $\delta(\lambda_i(a)) = \delta(a, i) = \delta_i(a)$ , for all  $a \in A_i$ ,
- (ii)  $\mu(\lambda_i(a), \lambda_i(b)) = \mu((a, i), (b, i)) = \mu_i(a, b)$ ,  $\forall a, b \in A_i$ .

Thus  $\lambda_i$  is a morphism.

Next we prove that  $((\bigcup_{i \in I}^0 A_i, \delta, \mu), \{\lambda_i\}_{i \in I})$  is a coproduct for  $\{(A_i, \delta_i, \mu_i)\}_{i \in I}$ .

Let  $(S, \delta', \mu')$  be a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy graph and  $\{f_i : (A_i, \delta_i, \mu_i) \rightarrow (S, \delta', \mu')\}_{i \in I}$  be a family of morphisms in  $(POM)_L - FG_r$ .

Since  $(\bigcup_{i \in I}^0 A_i, \{\lambda_i\}_{i \in I})$  is the coproduct for  $\{A_i\}_{i \in I}$  in the category of sets, we conclude that there exists a unique morphism  $\psi : \bigcup_{i \in I}^0 A_i \rightarrow S$  in the category of sets, such that

$$\psi \circ \lambda_i = f_i, \quad \forall i \in I.$$

Now it can be checked that, in fact  $\psi : (\bigcup_{i \in I}^0 A_i, \delta, \mu) \rightarrow (S, \delta', \mu')$  is a morphism in  $(POM)_L - FG_r$ . Moreover it is unique, and this makes commutative the following diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (\bigcup_{i \in I}^0 A_i, \delta, \mu) & \xleftarrow{\lambda_i} & (A_i, \delta_i, \mu_i) \\ \psi \downarrow & & \swarrow f_i \\ (S, \delta', \mu') & & \end{array}$$

that is  $(\bigcup_{i \in I}^0 A_i, \delta, \mu)$  is a coproduct. □

### Category of fuzzy subsets (FS) [5]:

The objects in this category are pairs  $(S, \delta)$ , where  $S$  is a set and  $\delta$  is a fuzzy subset on  $S$ . A morphism from  $(S, \delta)$  to  $(S', \delta')$  is an ordinary function  $f : S \rightarrow S'$  such that  $\delta(x) \leq \delta'(f(x))$ ,  $\forall x \in S$ . The identity associated with the object  $(S, \delta)$  is the identity map on the set  $S$ .

The composition of maps  $f : (S, \delta) \rightarrow (S', \delta')$  and  $g : (S', \delta') \rightarrow (S'', \delta'')$  is  $g \circ f : (S, \delta) \rightarrow (S'', \delta'')$  where  $g \circ f : S \rightarrow S''$  and  $\delta(S) \leq \delta'(f(S)) \leq \delta''(g(f(S)))$  for all  $s \in S$ .

**Lemma 3.5.** *Let  $\{(A_i, S_i)\}_{i \in I}$  be a family of fuzzy subsets. Then the product of this family exists in FS.*

*Sketch of Proof.* Define the fuzzy subset  $\delta$  as follows:

$$\delta : \prod_{i \in I} A_i \rightarrow [0, 1], \quad \delta((a_i)_{i \in I}) = \bigwedge_{i \in I} \delta_i(a_i).$$

Now  $(\prod_{i \in I} A_i, \delta)$ ,  $\{\Pi_i\}_{i \in I}$  is a product for  $\{(A_i, \delta_i)\}_{i \in I}$ ; for details see [4].

**Definition 3.6.** [8] Let  $(L, T)$  be a partially ordered monoid such that

$$\bigwedge_{\substack{\alpha \in I \\ \beta \in J}} T(x_\alpha, y_\beta) \leq T(\bigwedge_{\alpha \in I} x_\alpha, \bigwedge_{\beta \in J} y_\beta),$$

for any two families  $\{x_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$ ,  $\{y_\beta\}_{\beta \in J}$  of elements of  $L$ . Then we say that  $T$  satisfies the meet-property.

**Theorem 3.7.** *Let  $(L, T)$  be a partially ordered monoid which satisfies the meet-property. Then the product exists for any finite family of objects in  $(POM)_L - FG_r$ .*

*Sketch of Proof.* Let  $\{(A_i, \delta_i, \mu_i)\}_{i \in I}$  be a finite family of objects of  $(POM)_L - FG_r$ . Consider the product  $(\prod_{i \in I} A_i, \{\Pi_i\}_{i \in I})$  of  $\{A_i\}_{i \in I}$  in the category of sets. Define

$$\delta : \prod_{i \in I} A_i \longrightarrow L \quad ; \quad \delta((a_i)_{i \in I}) = \bigwedge_{i \in I} \delta_i(a_i) \quad (1)$$

and

$$\mu : \prod_{i \in I} A_i \times \prod_{i \in I} A_i \longrightarrow L \quad ; \quad \mu((a_i)_{i \in I}, (b_i)_{i \in I}) \longrightarrow \bigwedge_{i \in I} \mu_i(a_i, b_i) \quad (2)$$

Now we show that  $\mu$  is a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy relation on  $\delta$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} \mu((a_i)_{i \in I}, (b_i)_{i \in I}) &= \bigwedge_{i \in I} \mu_i(a_i, b_i) \quad ; \text{ by (2)} \\ &\leq \bigwedge_{i \in I} T(\delta_i(a_i), \delta_i(b_i)); \text{ since } \mu_i \text{ is } L_t \text{ - fuzzy relation on } \delta_i, \forall i \in I \\ &\leq T(\bigwedge_{i \in I} \delta_i(a_i), \bigwedge_{i \in I} \delta_i(b_i)) \quad ; \text{ by meet property of } T \\ &= T(\delta((a_i)_{i \in I}), \delta((b_i)_{i \in I})) \quad ; \text{ by (1)}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $(\prod_{i \in I} A_i, \delta, \mu)$  is an object in  $(POM)_L - FG_r$ .

By considering the family  $\{\Pi_i | \Pi_i : (\prod_{i \in I} A_i, \delta, \mu) \longrightarrow (A_i, \delta_i, \mu_i)\}_{i \in I}$  of morphism in  $(POM)_L - FG_r$ , it is not difficult to prove that  $(\prod_{i \in I} A_i, \delta, \mu), \{\Pi_i\}_{i \in I}$  is the product of  $\{(A_i, \delta_i, \mu_i)\}_{i \in I}$  in  $(POM)_L - FG_r$ .

**Theorem 3.8.** *There exists a full and faithful functor from  $(POM)_L - FG_r$  to  $(POM)_L - FHG_r$ . Hence there exists an embedding from  $(POM)_L - FG_r$  into  $(POM)_L - FHG_r$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $(X, \delta, \mu)$  be a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy graph, and  $A, B \in p^*(X)$ . Define

$$\mu'(A, B) = \bigvee_{a \in A} (\bigvee_{b \in B} \mu(a, b)).$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \mu'(A, B) &= \bigvee_{a \in A} (\bigvee_{b \in B} \mu(a, b)) \\ &\leq \bigvee_{a \in A} (\bigvee_{b \in B} T(\delta(a), \delta(b))) \\ &\leq T(\bigvee_{a \in A} \delta(a), \bigvee_{b \in B} \delta(b)), \text{ by (*)} \end{aligned}$$

So  $(X, \{\delta\}, \mu')$  is a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy hypergraph. Now define

$$\begin{aligned} F : L_t - FG_r &\longrightarrow L_t - FHG_r \\ (X, \delta, \mu) &\longmapsto (X, \{\delta\}, \mu') \\ f &\longmapsto (f, 1) \end{aligned}$$

for any morphism  $f : (X, \delta, \mu) \longrightarrow (Y, \lambda, \nu)$  in  $(POM)_L - FG_r$ , where  $1 : \{1\} \longrightarrow \{1\}$  is the identity function.

We show that  $F$  is a functor.

- (i)  $f(\delta^*) = f(X) \subseteq Y = \lambda^*$
- (ii) Since  $f$  is a morphism in  $(POM)_L - FG_r$ , then

$$\delta(x) \leq \lambda(f(x)), \quad \forall x \in X.$$

- (iii)  $\mu'(E, F) = \bigvee_{a \in E} (\bigvee_{b \in F} \mu(a, b)) \leq \bigvee_{a \in E} \bigvee_{b \in F} (\nu(f(a), f(b))) = \nu'(f(E), f(F)).$

Thus  $(f, 1)$  is a morphism in  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy hypergraph. Now if  $g : (Y, \lambda, \nu) \longrightarrow (Z, \xi, \rho)$  be a morphism in  $(POM)_L - FG_r$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} f(gof) &= (gof, 1) = (gof, 1o1) \\ &= (g, 1)o(f, 1), \text{ by Definition of } L_t - FHG_r \\ &= F(g)oF(f). \end{aligned}$$

It is clear that

$$F(1_{(X, \delta, \mu)}) = (1_X, 1) = 1_{F(X)}.$$

So  $F$  is a (covariant) functor.

Now let  $\mathcal{X} = (X, \delta, \mu)$  and  $\mathcal{Y} = (Y, \lambda, \nu)$  be two arbitrary objects in  $(POM)_L - FG_r$ . Consider two arbitrary morphisms  $f, g$  from  $\mathcal{X}$  to  $\mathcal{Y}$  such that  $F(f) = F(g)$ . Thus we have  $(f, 1) = (g, 1)$ , which implies that  $f = g$ . That is  $F$  is a faithful functor.

Also for the given objects  $\mathcal{X}$  and  $\mathcal{Y}$ , let  $(f, \alpha)$  be an arbitrary morphism from  $F(\mathcal{X}) = (X, \{\delta\}, \mu')$  to  $F(\mathcal{Y}) = (Y, \{\lambda\}, \nu')$  in  $(POM)_L - FHG_r$ . Then  $f : X \longrightarrow Y$  and  $\alpha = 1 : \{1\} \longrightarrow \{1\}$  are two functions. Now it is easy to check that  $f$  is a morphism from  $\mathcal{X}$  to  $\mathcal{Y}$  in  $(POM)_L - FG_r$ , and moreover  $F(f) = (f, 1) = (f, \alpha)$ . Thus  $F$  is a full functor.  $\square$

**Definition 3.9.** Let  $(H, *)$  be a hypergroup and  $\delta \in F_L(H)$ . Then  $(H, *, \delta)$  is called a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy subhypergroup of  $H$  if

- (i)  $T(\delta(x), \delta(y)) \leq \bigwedge_{\alpha \in x*y} \{\delta(\alpha)\}, \quad \forall x, y \in H$
- (ii)  $\forall x, a \in H, \exists y \in H$  such that  $x \in a * y$  and
 
$$T(\delta(x), \delta(a)) \leq \delta(y).$$
- (ii)  $\forall x, a \in H, \exists z \in H$  such that  $x \in z * a$  and
 
$$T(\delta(x), \delta(a)) \leq \delta(z).$$

**Example 3.10.** Let  $A$  be a set of  $n$  elements, say  $\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$ . Then  $L = (p(A), \subseteq)$  is a complete lattice which is not a chain. If we consider  $T$  as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} T : L \times L &\longrightarrow L \\ (B, C) &\longmapsto B \cap C \end{aligned}$$

Then  $(L, T)$  is a partially ordered monoid. Now let  $H = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ . Define the hyperoperation " $\circ$ " on  $H$  by

$$\begin{aligned} \circ : H \times H &\longrightarrow P^*(H) \\ (i, j) &\longmapsto \{i, j\} \end{aligned}$$

Then it is easy to see that  $(H, \circ)$  is a (commutative) hypergroup. Clearly

$$\begin{aligned} \delta : H &\longrightarrow L \\ i &\longmapsto \{a_1, \dots, a_i\} \end{aligned}$$

is an  $L$ -Fuzzy subset on  $H$ . Now we can check that  $(H, \circ, \delta)$  is an  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy subhypergroup of  $H$ . Moreover we can show that for any  $k \in N$ ,  $k \leq n$ ,  $(H_k, \circ, \delta)$  is a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy subhypergroup of  $H_k$ .

**Remark 3.11.** Let  $(H, *, \delta)$  be a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy subhypergroup of  $H$ . If  $x \in H$  and  $x \notin \delta^*$ , i.e.  $\delta(x) = 0$ , then the conditions of Definitions 3.9 always hold. Thus without loss of generality we always suppose that  $\delta^* = H$ .

### Category of $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy subhypergroups $((POM)_L - FHG_p)$ :

The objects are all  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy subhypergroups. A morphism from  $(H, *, \delta)$  to  $(H', *', \delta')$  is a function  $f : H \longrightarrow H'$ , satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(i)} \quad & f(x * y) = f(x) *' f(y), \forall x, y \in H \\ \text{(ii)} \quad & \delta(x) \leq \delta'(f(x)), \forall x \in H. \end{aligned}$$

**Lemma and Definition 3.12** (see [9]). Let  $\delta \in F_L(X)$ . Define  $\mu_\delta \in F_L(X \times X)$  as follows:

$$\mu_\delta(x, y) = T(\delta(x), \delta(y)), \quad \forall (x, y) \in X \times Y.$$

Then  $\mu_\delta$  is a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy relation on  $\delta$ , and called the strong  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy relation on  $X$ .

*Proof.* The proof is obvious. □

**Theorem 3.12.** *There exists a functor from  $(POM)_L - FHG_p$  to  $(POM)_L - FG_r$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $(H, *, \delta)$  be a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy subhypergroup. Define  $F((H, *, \delta)) = (H, \delta, \mu_\delta)$ . By Lemma 3.12  $(H, \delta, \mu_\delta)$  is a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy graph. Let  $f : (A, *, \delta) \longrightarrow (B, \circ, \delta')$  be a morphism in  $(POM)_L - FHG_p$ . Define  $F(f) = f$ . We have  $F(f) : (A, \delta, \mu_\delta) \longrightarrow (B, \delta', \mu_{\delta'})$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{i)} \quad & \delta(a) \leq \delta'(f(a)), \forall a \in A \\ \text{ii)} \quad & \mu_\delta(a, b) = T(\delta(a), \delta(b)) \\ & \leq T(\delta'(f(a)), \delta'(f(b))) \\ & = \mu_{\delta'}(f(a), f(b)). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $F(f)$  is a morphism in  $(POM)_L - FG_r$ . It is clear that  $F(1_{(A, *, \delta)}) = 1_{(A, \delta, \mu_\delta)}$ , and  $F(g \circ f) = F(g) \circ F(f)$ . Hence  $F$  is a functor. □

**Theorem 3.13.** *There exists a functor from  $(POM)_L - FHG_p$  to  $(POM)_L - FHG_r$ .*

*Proof.* The proof follows from Theorems 3.8 and 3.13.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.14.** *Let  $L$  be totally ordered. Then every  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy hypergraph, induces a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy hypergroup.*

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{H} = (X, \{\mu_i\}_{i=1,2,\dots,n}, \mu)$  be a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy hypergraph. Define

$$o : p^*(X) \times p^*(X) \longrightarrow p^*(p^*(X))$$

by

$$o(A, B) = o(B, A) = \{C \in p^*(X) \mid \bigvee_{i=1}^n \bigvee_{a \in A} \mu_i(a) \leq \bigvee_{i=1}^n \bigvee_{c \in C} \mu_i(c) \leq \bigvee_{i=1}^n \bigvee_{b \in B} \mu_i(b)\}$$

or

$$\bigvee_{i=1}^n \bigvee_{b \in B} \mu_i(b) \leq \bigvee_{i=1}^n \bigvee_{c \in C} \mu_i(c) \leq \bigvee_{i=1}^n \bigvee_{a \in A} \mu_i(a)\}.$$

Thus clearly  $A, B \in AoB, \forall A, B \in p^*(X)$ . (1)

Now we must show that  $(p^*(X), o)$  is a commutative hypergroup, to see this let  $A, Y \in p^*(X)$  and  $U = V = Y$ . By (1) we have  $Y \in AoV$  and  $Y = UoA$ . Therefore by Lemma 1.5 we have

$$Aop^*(X) = p^*(X)oA = p^*(X) \quad , \quad \forall A \in p^*(X).$$

Let  $A, B, C \in p^*(X)$ . Then by considering the totally ordered property of  $L$ , it is not difficult to check that  $(AoB)oC = Ao(BoC)$ . Hence  $(p^*(X), o)$  is a commutative hypergroup.

Now define

$$\delta : p^*(X) \longrightarrow L \quad ; \quad \delta(A) = \bigvee_{i=1}^n \bigvee_{a \in A} \mu_i(a) \quad , \quad \forall A \in p^*(X).$$

We claim that  $(p^*(X), o, \delta)$  is a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy subhypergroup. Let  $A, B \in p^*(X)$  such that  $\delta(A) \leq \delta(B)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \inf_{D \in AoB} \{\delta(D)\} &= \inf_{\delta(A) \leq \delta(D) \leq \delta(B)} \{\delta(D)\} \geq \delta(A) \\ &= T(\delta(A), 1) \geq T(\delta(A), \delta(B)) \end{aligned}$$

So condition (i) of Definition 3.9 holds.

Since  $B \in AoB = BoA$  and  $T(\delta(A), \delta(B)) \leq \delta(A)$ , so conditions (ii) and (iii) of Definition 3.9 hold too. Therefore  $(p^*(X), o, \delta)$  is a  $(POM)_L$ -Fuzzy subhypergroup.

Note that since  $X = \bigcup_{i=1}^n \mu_i^*$ , hence  $\delta^* = p^*(X)$ .  $\square$

**Question:** Let  $L$  be totally ordered. Then can the object function defined in Theorem 3.14 be completed to a functor?

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