

## ON $(\alpha, \beta)$ -FUZZY SUBALGEBRAS OF *BCK/BCI*-ALGEBRAS

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**ABSTRACT.** Using the *belongs to* relation ( $\in$ ) and *quasi-coincidence with* relation ( $q$ ) between fuzzy points and fuzzy sets, the concept of  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -fuzzy subalgebras where  $\alpha, \beta$  are any two of  $\{\in, q, \in \vee q, \in \wedge q\}$  with  $\alpha \neq \in \wedge q$  is introduced, and related properties are investigated.

### 1. Introduction

The idea of quasi-coincidence of a fuzzy point with a fuzzy set, which is mentioned in [4], played a vital role to generate some different types of fuzzy subgroups, called  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -fuzzy subgroups, introduced by Bhakat and Das[2]. In particular,  $(\in, \in \vee q)$ -fuzzy subgroup is an important and useful generalization of Rosenfeld's fuzzy subgroup. It is now natural to investigate similar type of generalizations of the existing fuzzy sub-systems of other algebraic structures. With this objective in view, we introduce the concept of  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -fuzzy subalgebra of a *BCK/BCI*-algebra and investigate related results.

### 2. Preliminaries

By a *BCI-algebra* we mean an algebra  $(X, *, 0)$  of type  $(2, 0)$  satisfying the axioms:

- (i)  $(\forall x, y, z \in X) (((x * y) * (x * z)) * (z * y) = 0)$ ,
- (ii)  $(\forall x, y \in X) ((x * (x * y)) * y = 0)$ ,
- (iii)  $(\forall x \in X) (x * x = 0)$ ,
- (iv)  $(\forall x, y \in X) (x * y = y * x = 0 \Rightarrow x = y)$ .

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We can define a partial ordering  $\leq$  by  $x \leq y$  if and only if  $x * y = 0$ . If a *BCI*-algebra  $X$  satisfies  $0 * x = 0$  for all  $x \in X$ , then we say that  $X$  is a *BCK*-algebra. In what follows let  $X$  denote a *BCK/BCI*-algebra unless otherwise specified. A nonempty subset  $S$  of  $X$  is called a *subalgebra* of  $X$  if  $x * y \in S$  for all  $x, y \in S$ . We refer the reader to the book [3] for further information regarding *BCK/BCI*-algebras.

A fuzzy set  $\mu$  in a set  $X$  of the form

$$\mu(y) := \begin{cases} t \in (0, 1] & \text{if } y = x, \\ 0 & \text{if } y \neq x \end{cases}$$

is said to be a *fuzzy point* with support  $x$  and value  $t$  and is denoted by  $x_t$ .

For a fuzzy point  $x_t$  and a fuzzy set  $\mu$  in a set  $X$ , Pu and Liu[4] gave meaning to the symbol  $x_t \alpha \mu$ , where  $\alpha \in \{\in, q, \in \vee q, \in \wedge q\}$ .

To say that  $x_t \in \mu$  (resp.  $x_t q \mu$ ) means that  $\mu(x) \geq t$  (resp.  $\mu(x) + t > 1$ ), and in this case,  $x_t$  is said to *belong to* (resp. *be quasi-coincident with*) a fuzzy set  $\mu$ .

To say that  $x_t \in \vee q \mu$  (resp.  $x_t \in \wedge q \mu$ ) means that  $x_t \in \mu$  or  $x_t q \mu$  (resp.  $x_t \in \mu$  and  $x_t q \mu$ ). For all  $t_1, t_2 \in [0, 1]$ ,  $\min\{t_1, t_2\}$  will be denoted by  $M(t_1, t_2)$ .

A fuzzy set  $\mu$  in  $X$  is called a *fuzzy subalgebra* of  $X$  if it satisfies

$$(1) \quad (\forall x, y \in X) (\mu(x * y) \geq M(\mu(x), \mu(y))).$$

**PROPOSITION 2.1.** *Let  $\mu$  be a fuzzy set in  $X$ . Then  $\mu$  is a fuzzy subalgebra of  $X$  if and only if  $U(\mu; t) := \{x \in X \mid \mu(x) \geq t\}$  is a subalgebra of  $X$  for all  $t \in (0, 1]$ , for our convenience, the empty set  $\emptyset$  is regarded as a subalgebra of  $X$ .*

### 3. $(\alpha, \beta)$ -fuzzy subalgebras

In what follows let  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  denote any one of  $\in, q, \in \vee q$ , or  $\in \wedge q$  unless otherwise specified. To say that  $x_t \bar{\alpha} \mu$  means that  $x_t \alpha \mu$  does not hold.

**PROPOSITION 3.1.** *For any fuzzy set  $\mu$  in  $X$ , the condition (1) is equivalent to the following condition*

$$(2) \quad (\forall x, y \in X) (\forall t_1, t_2 \in (0, 1]) (x_{t_1}, y_{t_2} \in \mu \Rightarrow (x * y)_{M(t_1, t_2)} \in \mu).$$

*Proof.* Assume that the condition (1) is valid. Let  $x, y \in X$  and  $t_1, t_2 \in (0, 1]$  be such that  $x_{t_1}, y_{t_2} \in \mu$ . Then  $\mu(x) \geq t_1$  and  $\mu(y) \geq t_2$ ,

which imply from (1) that

$$\mu(x * y) \geq M(\mu(x), \mu(y)) \geq M(t_1, t_2).$$

Hence  $(x * y)_{M(t_1, t_2)} \in \mu$ .

Conversely suppose that the condition (2) is valid. Note that  $x_{\mu(x)} \in \mu$  and  $y_{\mu(y)} \in \mu$  for all  $x, y \in X$ . Thus  $(x * y)_{M(\mu(x), \mu(y))} \in \mu$  by (2), and so  $\mu(x * y) \geq M(\mu(x), \mu(y))$ .

Note that if  $\mu$  is a fuzzy set in  $X$  defined by  $\mu(x) \leq 0.5$  for all  $x \in X$ , then the set  $\{x_t \mid x_t \in \wedge q \mu\}$  is empty.

A fuzzy set  $\mu$  in  $X$  is said to be an  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -fuzzy subalgebra of  $X$ , where  $\alpha \neq \in \wedge q$ , if it satisfies the following conditions:

$$(3) \quad (\forall x, y \in X) (\forall t_1, t_2 \in (0, 1]) (x_{t_1} \alpha \mu, y_{t_2} \alpha \mu \Rightarrow (x * y)_{M(t_1, t_2)} \beta \mu.)$$

EXAMPLE 3.2. Consider a *BCI*-algebra  $X = \{0, a, b, c\}$  with the following Cayley table (see [1]):

$*$	0	a	b	c
0	0	a	b	c
a	a	0	c	b
b	b	c	0	a
c	c	b	a	0

Let  $\mu$  be a fuzzy set in  $X$  defined by  $\mu(0) = 0.6$ ,  $\mu(a) = 0.7$ , and  $\mu(b) = \mu(c) = 0.3$ . Then  $\mu$  is an  $(\in, \in \vee q)$ -fuzzy subalgebra of  $X$ . But

- (1)  $\mu$  is not an  $(\in, \in)$ -fuzzy subalgebra of  $X$  since  $a_{0.62} \in \mu$  and  $a_{0.66} \in \mu$ , but  $(a * a)_{M(0.62, 0.66)} = 0_{0.62} \notin \mu$ .
- (2)  $\mu$  is not a  $(q, \in \vee q)$ -fuzzy subalgebra of  $X$  since  $a_{0.41} q \mu$  and  $b_{0.77} q \mu$ , but  $(a * b)_{M(0.41, 0.77)} = c_{0.41} \notin \vee q \mu$ .
- (3)  $\mu$  is not an  $(\in \vee q, \in \vee q)$ -fuzzy subalgebra of  $X$  since  $a_{0.5} \in \vee q \mu$  and  $c_{0.8} \in \vee q \mu$ , but  $(a * c)_{M(0.5, 0.8)} = b_{0.5} \notin \vee q \mu$ .

THEOREM 3.3. Every  $(\in \vee q, \in \vee q)$ -fuzzy subalgebra is an  $(\in, \in \vee q)$ -fuzzy subalgebra.

*Proof.* Let  $\mu$  be an  $(\in \vee q, \in \vee q)$ -fuzzy subalgebra of  $X$ . Let  $x, y \in X$  and  $t_1, t_2 \in (0, 1]$  be such that  $x_{t_1} \in \mu$  and  $y_{t_2} \in \mu$ . Then  $x_{t_1} \in \vee q \mu$  and  $y_{t_2} \in \vee q \mu$ , which imply that  $(x * y)_{M(t_1, t_2)} \in \vee q \mu$ . Hence  $\mu$  is an  $(\in, \in \vee q)$ -fuzzy subalgebra of  $X$ .

THEOREM 3.4. Every  $(\in, \in)$ -fuzzy subalgebra is an  $(\in, \in \vee q)$ -fuzzy subalgebra.

*Proof.* Straightforward.

Example 3.2 shows that the converse of Theorems 3.3 and 3.4 need not be true.

**PROPOSITION 3.5.** *If  $\mu$  is a non-zero  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -fuzzy subalgebra of  $X$ , then  $\mu(0) > 0$ .*

*Proof.* Assume that  $\mu(0) = 0$ . Since  $\mu$  is non-zero, there exists  $x \in X$  such that  $\mu(x) = t > 0$ . If  $\alpha = \in$  or  $\alpha = \in \vee q$ , then  $x_t \alpha \mu$ , but  $(x * x)_{M(t,t)} = 0_t \bar{\beta} \mu$ . This is a contradiction. If  $\alpha = q$ , then  $x_1 \alpha \mu$  because  $\mu(x) + 1 = t + 1 > 1$ . But  $(x * x)_{M(1,1)} = 0_1 \bar{\beta} \mu$ , which is a contradiction. Hence  $\mu(0) > 0$ .

For a fuzzy set  $\mu$  in  $X$ , we denote  $X_0 := \{x \in X \mid \mu(x) > 0\}$ .

**THEOREM 3.6.** *If  $\mu$  is a nonzero  $(\in, \in)$ -fuzzy subalgebra of  $X$ , then the set  $X_0$  is a subalgebra of  $X$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $x, y \in X_0$ . Then  $\mu(x) > 0$  and  $\mu(y) > 0$ . Suppose that  $\mu(x * y) = 0$ . Note that  $x_{\mu(x)} \in \mu$  and  $y_{\mu(y)} \in \mu$ , but  $(x * y)_{M(\mu(x), \mu(y))} \bar{\in} \mu$  because  $\mu(x * y) = 0 < M(\mu(x), \mu(y))$ . This is a contradiction, and thus  $\mu(x * y) > 0$ , which shows that  $x * y \in X_0$ . Consequently  $X_0$  is a subalgebra of  $X$ .

**THEOREM 3.7.** *If  $\mu$  is a nonzero  $(\in, q)$ -fuzzy subalgebra of  $X$ , then the set  $X_0$  is a subalgebra of  $X$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $x, y \in X_0$ . Then  $\mu(x) > 0$  and  $\mu(y) > 0$ . If  $\mu(x * y) = 0$ , then

$$\mu(x * y) + M(\mu(x), \mu(y)) = M(\mu(x), \mu(y)) \leq 1.$$

Hence  $(x * y)_{M(\mu(x), \mu(y))} \bar{q} \mu$ , which is a contradiction since  $x_{\mu(x)} \in \mu$  and  $y_{\mu(y)} \in \mu$ . Thus  $\mu(x * y) > 0$ , and so  $x * y \in X_0$ . Therefore  $X_0$  is a subalgebra of  $X$ .

**THEOREM 3.8.** *If  $\mu$  is a nonzero  $(q, \in)$ -fuzzy subalgebra of  $X$ , then the set  $X_0$  is a subalgebra of  $X$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $x, y \in X_0$ . Then  $\mu(x) > 0$  and  $\mu(y) > 0$ . Thus  $\mu(x) + 1 > 1$  and  $\mu(y) + 1 > 1$ , which imply that  $x_1 q \mu$  and  $y_1 q \mu$ . If  $\mu(x * y) = 0$ , then  $\mu(x * y) < 1 = M(1, 1)$ . Therefore  $(x * y)_{M(1,1)} \bar{\in} \mu$ , which is a contradiction. It follows that  $\mu(x * y) > 0$  so that  $x * y \in X_0$ . This completes the proof.

**THEOREM 3.9.** *If  $\mu$  is a nonzero  $(q, q)$ -fuzzy subalgebra of  $X$ , then the set  $X_0$  is a subalgebra of  $X$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $x, y \in X_0$ . Then  $\mu(x) > 0$  and  $\mu(y) > 0$ . Thus  $\mu(x) + 1 > 1$  and  $\mu(y) + 1 > 1$ , and therefore  $x_1 \text{ q } \mu$  and  $y_1 \text{ q } \mu$ . If  $\mu(x * y) = 0$ , then  $\mu(x * y) + M(1, 1) = 0 + 1 = 1$ , and so  $(x * y)_{M(1,1)} \bar{\text{q}} \mu$ . This is impossible, and hence  $\mu(x * y) > 0$ , i.e.,  $x * y \in X_0$ . This completes the proof.

**COROLLARY 3.10.** *If  $\mu$  is one of the following*

- (i) a nonzero  $(\in, \in \wedge \text{q})$ -fuzzy subalgebra of  $X$ ,
- (ii) a nonzero  $(\in, \in \vee \text{q})$ -fuzzy subalgebra of  $X$ ,
- (iii) a nonzero  $(\in \vee \text{q}, \text{q})$ -fuzzy subalgebra of  $X$ ,
- (iv) a nonzero  $(\in \vee \text{q}, \in)$ -fuzzy subalgebra of  $X$ ,
- (v) a nonzero  $(\in \vee \text{q}, \in \wedge \text{q})$ -fuzzy subalgebra of  $X$ ,
- (vi) a nonzero  $(\text{q}, \in \wedge \text{q})$ -fuzzy subalgebra of  $X$ ,
- (vii) a nonzero  $(\text{q}, \in \vee \text{q})$ -fuzzy subalgebra of  $X$ ,

then the set  $X_0$  is a subalgebra of  $X$ .

*Proof.* The proof is similar to the proof of Theorems 3.6, 3.7, 3.8, and/or 3.9.

**THEOREM 3.11.** *Every nonzero  $(\text{q}, \text{q})$ -fuzzy subalgebra of  $X$  is constant on  $X_0$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\mu$  be a nonzero  $(\text{q}, \text{q})$ -fuzzy subalgebra of  $X$ . Assume that  $\mu$  is not constant on  $X_0$ . Then there exists  $y \in X_0$  such that  $t_y = \mu(y) \neq \mu(0) = t_0$ . Then either  $t_y > t_0$  or  $t_y < t_0$ . Suppose  $t_y < t_0$  and choose  $t_1, t_2 \in (0, 1]$  such that  $1 - t_0 < t_1 < 1 - t_y < t_2$ . Then  $\mu(0) + t_1 = t_0 + t_1 > 1$  and  $\mu(y) + t_2 = t_y + t_2 > 1$ , and so  $0_{t_1} \text{ q } \mu$  and  $y_{t_2} \text{ q } \mu$ . Since

$$\mu(y * 0) + M(t_1, t_2) = \mu(y) + t_1 = t_y + t_1 < 1,$$

we have  $(y * 0)_{M(t_1, t_2)} \bar{\text{q}} \mu$ , which is a contradiction. Next assume that  $t_y > t_0$ . Then  $\mu(y) + (1 - t_0) = t_y + 1 - t_0 > 1$  and so  $y_{1-t_0} \text{ q } \mu$ . Since

$$\mu(y * y) + (1 - t_0) = \mu(0) + 1 - t_0 = t_0 + 1 - t_0 = 1,$$

we get  $(y * y)_{M(1-t_0, 1-t_0)} \bar{\text{q}} \mu$ . This is impossible. Therefore  $\mu$  is constant on  $X_0$ .

**THEOREM 3.12.** *Let  $\mu$  be a non-zero  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -fuzzy subalgebra of  $X$ , where  $(\alpha, \beta)$  is one of the following:*

- $(\in, \text{q})$ ,
- $(\text{q}, \in)$ ,
- $(\in \vee \text{q}, \text{q})$ ,
- $(\in \vee \text{q}, \in)$ ,
- $(\in, \in \wedge \text{q})$ ,
- $(\text{q}, \in \wedge \text{q})$ ,
- $(\in \vee \text{q}, \in \wedge \text{q})$ ,

Then  $\mu = \chi_{X_0}$ , the characteristic function of  $X_0$ .

*Proof.* Assume that there exists  $x \in X_0$  such that  $\mu(x) < 1$ . For  $\alpha = \in$ , choose  $t \in (0, 1]$  such that  $t < M(1 - \mu(x), \mu(x), \mu(0))$ . Then  $x_t \alpha \mu$  and  $0_t \alpha \mu$ , but  $(x * 0)_{M(t,t)} = x_t \bar{\beta} \mu$  where  $\beta = q$  or  $\beta = \in \wedge q$ . This is a contradiction. Now let  $\alpha = q$ . Then  $x_1 \alpha \mu$  and  $0_1 \alpha \mu$ , but  $(x * 0)_{M(1,1)} = x_1 \bar{\beta} \mu$  for  $\beta = \in$  or  $\beta = \in \wedge q$ , a contradiction. Finally let  $\alpha = \in \vee q$  and choose  $t \in (0, 1]$  such that  $x_t \in \mu$  but  $x_t \bar{q} \mu$ . Then  $x_t \alpha \mu$  and  $0_1 \alpha \mu$ , but  $(x * 0)_{M(t,1)} = x_t \bar{\beta} \mu$  for  $\beta = q$  or  $\beta = \in \wedge q$ . This is impossible. Note that  $x_1 \alpha \mu$  and  $0_1 \alpha \mu$  but  $(x * 0)_{M(1,1)} = x_1 \bar{\in} \mu$ , a contradiction. Therefore  $\mu = \chi_{X_0}$ .

**THEOREM 3.13.** *Let  $S$  be a subalgebra of  $X$  and let  $\mu$  be a fuzzy set in  $X$  such that*

- (i)  $\mu(x) = 0$  for all  $x \in X \setminus S$ ,
- (ii)  $\mu(x) \geq 0.5$  for all  $x \in S$ .

Then  $\mu$  is a  $(q, \in \vee q)$ -fuzzy subalgebra of  $X$ .

*Proof.* Let  $x, y \in X$  and  $t_1, t_2 \in (0, 1]$  be such that  $x_{t_1} q \mu$  and  $y_{t_2} q \mu$ , that is,  $\mu(x) + t_1 > 1$  and  $\mu(y) + t_2 > 1$ . Then  $x * y \in S$  because if not then  $x \in X \setminus S$  or  $y \in X \setminus S$ . Thus  $\mu(x) = 0$  or  $\mu(y) = 0$ , and so  $t_1 > 1$  or  $t_2 > 1$ . This is a contradiction. If  $M(t_1, t_2) > 0.5$ , then  $\mu(x * y) + M(t_1, t_2) > 1$  and thus  $(x * y)_{M(t_1, t_2)} q \mu$ . If  $M(t_1, t_2) \leq 0.5$ , then  $\mu(x * y) \geq 0.5 \geq M(t_1, t_2)$  and so  $(x * y)_{M(t_1, t_2)} \in \mu$ . Therefore  $(x * y)_{M(t_1, t_2)} \in \vee q \mu$ . This completes the proof.

**THEOREM 3.14.** *Let  $\mu$  be a  $(q, \in \vee q)$ -fuzzy subalgebra of  $X$  such that  $\mu$  is not constant on  $X_0$ . Then there exists  $x \in X$  such that  $\mu(x) \geq 0.5$ . Moreover,  $\mu(x) \geq 0.5$  for all  $x \in X_0$ .*

*Proof.* Assume that  $\mu(x) < 0.5$  for all  $x \in X$ . Since  $\mu$  is not constant on  $X_0$ , there exists  $x \in X_0$  such that  $t_x = \mu(x) \neq \mu(0) = t_0$ . Then either  $t_0 < t_x$  or  $t_0 > t_x$ . For the first case, choose  $\delta > 0.5$  such that  $t_0 + \delta < 1 < t_x + \delta$ . It follows that  $x_\delta q \mu$ ,  $\mu(x * x) = \mu(0) = t_0 < \delta = M(\delta, \delta)$  and  $\mu(x * x) + M(\delta, \delta) = \mu(0) + \delta = t_0 + \delta < 1$  so that  $(x * x)_{M(\delta, \delta)} \bar{\in} \vee q \mu$ . This is a contradiction. Now if  $t_0 > t_x$ , we can choose  $\delta > 0.5$  such that  $t_x + \delta < 1 < t_0 + \delta$ . Then  $0_\delta q \mu$  and  $x_1 q \mu$ , but  $(x * 0)_{M(1, \delta)} = x_\delta \bar{\in} \vee q \mu$  since  $\mu(x) < 0.5 < \delta$  and  $\mu(x) + \delta = t_x + \delta < 1$ . This leads a contradiction. Therefore  $\mu(x) \geq 0.5$  for some  $x \in X$ . We now show that  $\mu(0) \geq 0.5$ . Assume that  $\mu(0) = t_0 < 0.5$ . Since there exists  $x \in X$  such that  $\mu(x) = t_x \geq 0.5$ , it follows that  $t_0 < t_x$ . Choose  $t_1 > t_0$  such that  $t_0 + t_1 < 1 < t_x + t_1$ . Then  $\mu(x) + t_1 = t_x + t_1 > 1$ , and so  $x_{t_1} q \mu$ . Now we get

$$\mu(x * x) + M(t_1, t_1) = \mu(0) + t_1 = t_0 + t_1 < 1,$$

$$\mu(x * x) = \mu(0) = t_0 < t_1 = M(t_1, t_1).$$

Hence  $(x * x)_{M(t_1, t_1)} \in \overline{\nabla q} \mu$ , a contradiction. Therefore  $\mu(0) \geq 0.5$ . Finally suppose that  $t_x = \mu(x) < 0.5$  for some  $x \in X_0$ . Take  $t > 0$  such that  $t_x + t < 0.5$ . Then  $\mu(x) + 1 = t_x + 1 > 1$  and  $\mu(0) + (0.5 + t) > 1$ , which imply that  $x_{1q} \mu$  and  $0_{0.5+tq} \mu$ . But  $(x * 0)_{M(1, 0.5+t)} = x_{0.5+t} \in \overline{\nabla q} \mu$  since  $\mu(x * 0) = \mu(x) < 0.5 + t < M(1, 0.5 + t)$  and

$$\mu(x * 0) + M(1, 0.5 + t) = \mu(x) + 0.5 + t = t_x + 0.5 + t < 0.5 + 0.5 = 1.$$

This is a contradiction. Hence  $\mu(x) \geq 0.5$  for all  $x \in X_0$ . This completes the proof.

**THEOREM 3.15.** *A fuzzy set  $\mu$  in  $X$  is an  $(\in, \in \vee q)$ -fuzzy subalgebra of  $X$  if and only if it satisfies:*

$$(4) \quad (\forall x, y \in X) (\mu(x * y) \geq M(\mu(x), \mu(y), 0.5)).$$

*Proof.* Suppose that  $\mu$  is an  $(\in, \in \vee q)$ -fuzzy subalgebra of  $X$  and let  $x, y \in X$ . If  $M(\mu(x), \mu(y)) < 0.5$ , then  $\mu(x * y) \geq M(\mu(x), \mu(y))$ . For, assume that  $\mu(x * y) < M(\mu(x), \mu(y))$  and choose  $t$  such that  $\mu(x * y) < t < M(\mu(x), \mu(y))$ . Then  $x_t \in \mu$  and  $y_t \in \mu$  but  $(x * y)_{M(t, t)} = (x * y)_{t \in \overline{\nabla q} \mu}$ , a contradiction. Hence  $\mu(x * y) \geq M(\mu(x), \mu(y))$  whenever  $M(\mu(x), \mu(y)) < 0.5$ . Now suppose that  $M(\mu(x), \mu(y)) \geq 0.5$ . Then  $x_{0.5} \in \mu$  and  $y_{0.5} \in \mu$ , which imply that

$$(x * y)_{M(0.5, 0.5)} = (x * y)_{0.5} \in \vee q \mu.$$

Thus  $\mu(x * y) \geq 0.5$ . Otherwise,  $\mu(x * y) + 0.5 < 0.5 + 0.5 = 1$ , a contradiction. Consequently,  $\mu(x * y) \geq M(\mu(x), \mu(y), 0.5)$  for all  $x, y \in X$ . Conversely assume that (4) is valid. Let  $x, y \in X$  and  $t_1, t_2 \in (0, 1]$  be such that  $x_{t_1} \in \mu$  and  $y_{t_2} \in \mu$ . Then  $\mu(x) \geq t_1$  and  $\mu(y) \geq t_2$ . If  $\mu(x * y) < M(t_1, t_2)$ , then  $M(\mu(x), \mu(y)) \geq 0.5$ . Otherwise, we have

$$\mu(x * y) \geq M(\mu(x), \mu(y), 0.5) \geq M(\mu(x), \mu(y)) \geq M(t_1, t_2),$$

a contradiction. It follows that

$$\mu(x * y) + M(t_1, t_2) > 2\mu(x * y) \geq 2M(\mu(x), \mu(y), 0.5) = 1$$

so that  $(x * y)_{M(t_1, t_2)} q \mu$ . Therefore  $\mu$  is an  $(\in, \in \vee q)$ -fuzzy subalgebra of  $X$ .

**THEOREM 3.16.** *For any subset  $S$  of  $X$ , the characteristic function  $\chi_S$  of  $S$  is an  $(\in, \in \vee q)$ -fuzzy subalgebra of  $X$  if and only if  $S$  is a subalgebra of  $X$ .*

*Proof.* Assume that  $\chi_S$  is an  $(\in, \in \vee q)$ -fuzzy subalgebra of  $X$ . Let  $x, y \in S$ . Then  $\chi_S(x) = 1 = \chi_S(y)$ , and so  $x_1 \in \chi_S$  and  $y_1 \in \chi_S$ . It follows that  $(x * y)_1 = (x * y)_{M(1,1)} \in \vee q \chi_S$  which yields  $\chi_S(x * y) > 0$ . Hence  $xy \in S$ , and thus  $S$  is a subalgebra of  $X$ . Conversely if  $S$  is a subalgebra of  $X$ , then  $\chi_S$  is an  $(\in, \in)$ -fuzzy subalgebra of  $X$ . It follows from Theorem 3.4 that  $\chi_S$  is an  $(\in, \in \vee q)$ -fuzzy subalgebra of  $X$ .

**THEOREM 3.17.** *Let  $\{\mu_i \mid i \in \Lambda\}$  be a family of  $(\in, \in \vee q)$ -fuzzy subalgebras of  $X$ . Then  $\mu := \bigcap_{i \in \Lambda} \mu_i$  is an  $(\in, \in \vee q)$ -fuzzy subalgebra of  $X$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $x, y \in X$  and  $t_1, t_2 \in (0, 1]$  be such that  $x_{t_1} \in \mu$  and  $y_{t_2} \in \mu$ . Assume that  $(x * y)_{M(t_1, t_2)} \overline{\in \vee q} \mu$ . Then  $\mu(x * y) < M(t_1, t_2)$  and  $\mu(x * y) + M(t_1, t_2) \leq 1$ , which imply that

$$(5) \quad \mu(x * y) < 0.5.$$

Let  $\Omega_1 := \{i \in \Lambda \mid (x * y)_{M(t_1, t_2)} \in \mu_i\}$  and

$$\Omega_2 := \{i \in \Lambda \mid (x * y)_{M(t_1, t_2)} q \mu_i\} \cap \{j \in \Lambda \mid (x * y)_{M(t_1, t_2)} \overline{\in} \mu_j\}.$$

Then  $\Lambda = \Omega_1 \cup \Omega_2$  and  $\Omega_1 \cap \Omega_2 = \emptyset$ . If  $\Omega_2 = \emptyset$ , then  $(x * y)_{M(t_1, t_2)} \in \mu_i$  for all  $i \in \Lambda$ , that is,  $\mu_i(x * y) \geq M(t_1, t_2)$  for all  $i \in \Lambda$ , which yields  $\mu(x * y) \geq M(t_1, t_2)$ . This is a contradiction. Hence  $\Omega_2 \neq \emptyset$ , and so for every  $i \in \Omega_2$  we have  $\mu_i(x * y) < M(t_1, t_2)$  and  $\mu_i(x * y) + M(t_1, t_2) > 1$ . It follows that  $M(t_1, t_2) > 0.5$ . Now  $x_{t_1} \in \mu$  implies  $\mu(x) \geq t_1$  and thus  $\mu_i(x) \geq \mu(x) \geq t_1 \geq M(t_1, t_2) > 0.5$  for all  $i \in \Lambda$ . Similarly we get  $\mu_i(y) > 0.5$  for all  $i \in \Lambda$ . Next suppose that  $t := \mu_i(x * y) < 0.5$ . Taking  $t < r < 0.5$ , we get  $x_r \in \mu_i$  and  $y_r \in \mu_i$ , but  $(x * y)_{M(r, r)} = (x * y)_r \overline{\in \vee q} \mu_i$ . This contradicts that  $\mu_i$  is an  $(\in, \in \vee q)$ -fuzzy subalgebra of  $X$ . Hence  $\mu_i(x * y) \geq 0.5$  for all  $i \in \Lambda$ , and so  $\mu(x * y) \geq 0.5$  which contradicts (5). Therefore  $(x * y)_{M(t_1, t_2)} \in \vee q \mu$  and consequently  $\mu$  is an  $(\in, \in \vee q)$ -fuzzy subalgebra of  $X$ .

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