



**A COMPARATIVE STUDY TO SOLVE DECISION MAKING FUZZY  
LINEAR PROGRAMMING PROBLEM WITH PENTAGONAL FUZZY  
NUMBERS BY RANKING TECHNIQUES**

<sup>1</sup>Geetha P and Hari Priya K<sup>2</sup>  
Assistant Professor, Department of Mathematics and <sup>2</sup>II – M.Sc Mathematics,  
V.V. Vanniaperumal College for Women (Autonomous),  
Virudhunagar- 626 001.

Corresponding author : [geetha@vvvcollege.org](mailto:geetha@vvvcollege.org)

**ABSTRACT**

In this paper, with the help of Pentagonal Fuzzy Numbers, a decision-making Fuzzy Linear Programming Problem (FLPP) is solved. In order to exhibit the Fuzzy Linear Programming Problem, a comparative study of two ranking techniques such as Subinterval Addition Method and Subinterval Average Method is analysed.

**Keywords:** Defuzzification, Pentagonal Fuzzy Numbers, Ranking Techniques, Fuzzy Linear Programming Problem

**INTRODUCTION**

Fuzzy sets are sets in mathematics that contain items with varying degrees of membership. Zadeh (1965) developed fuzzy sets as an extension of classical sets to describe non-statistical uncertainties. The use of fuzzy sets is common where there is uncertain or incomplete information. Numerous new mathematical theories addressing uncertainty and imprecision have been developed due to the introduction of fuzzy sets. One such

thing is the fuzzy numbers. A fuzzy number is a generalisation of real number that does not refer to a single value but rather to a set of possible values. Linear programming is a special case of mathematical programming. It is a method to achieve the best outcome like profit of a sale. It is a technique for the optimization of a linear objective function, subject to linear equality and inequality constraints. It is widely utilised in business, industry,

and other fields in addition to mathematics. The concept of decision making in a fuzzy environment was introduced by Bellman and Zadeh (1970). Tanaka and Asai. (1984) was the first to propose the concept of fuzzy linear programming. Zimmerman (1978) developed a solution to the fuzzy linear programming problem in the fuzzy environment. Fuzzy linear programming problem refers to a linear programming problem where all of the parameters are represented by fuzzy numbers. Fuzzification in linear programming problems comes under three categories: fuzzy linear programming problems with fuzzy constraints, fuzzy linear programming problems with fuzzy objective functions, and fuzzy linear programming problems with fuzzy objective functions and fuzzy constraints Verdegay (1984). Stephen Dinagar and Kamalanathan (2017) solved the fuzzy linear programming problem with fuzzy objective function and fuzzy constraints. Sundaresan *et al.* (2016) handled linear programming in resource management techniques.

Based on the ordering of the fuzzy numbers, it is easy to determine if a fuzzy number is greater or smaller. The ranking function, which converts each fuzzy integer into a real line, was used to do this.

Lexicographic screening approach for ranking was developed by Wang *et al.* (2005). Area between centroid and its original point approach was developed by Wang and Lee (2008). Area technique, the improved PILOT ranking procedure and the SD of the PILOT procedure were all imported by Stephen Dinagar and Kamalanathan (2015). Subinterval Addition Method and Subinterval Average Method was proposed by Stephen Dinagar and Kamalanathan (2017) to defuzzify any fuzzy number and to solve the fuzzy linear programming problem. In this paper, with the help of pentagonal fuzzy numbers, we solve decision-making Fuzzy Linear Programming Problem (FLPP). In order to exhibit the fuzzy linear programming problem, we give a comparative study of two ranking techniques such as Subinterval Addition Method and Subinterval Average Method.

#### **RANKING TECHNIQUES AND METHOD OF SOLVING FLPP**

Stephen Dinagar and Kamalanathan (2017) have provided the procedure of the two types of ranking techniques, Subinterval Addition Method and Subinterval Average Method and also provided the algorithm for the two methods.

**Definition 2.1:** [5] In a nonempty set  $X$ , a fuzzy set  $A$  is characterized by its

membership function  $\mu_A(x)$  whose values lies in  $[0,1]$  for all  $x$  in  $X$ .

**Definition 2.2 :** [5] A fuzzy number  $A$  is a fuzzy set of the real line with a normal, convex, and continuous membership function of bounded support. We denote the family of fuzzy numbers by  $F$ .

**Definition 2.3:** [5] Pentagonal fuzzy number  $A = (a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4, a_5)$  and its membership function is

$$\mu_A(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & , x < a_1 \\ \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{x - a_1}{a_2 - a_1} \right) & , a_1 \leq x \leq a_2 \\ \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{x - a_2}{a_3 - a_2} \right) & , a_2 \leq x \leq a_3 \\ 1 - \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{x - a_3}{a_4 - a_3} \right) & , a_3 \leq x \leq a_4 \\ \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{a_5 - x}{a_5 - a_4} \right) & , a_4 \leq x \leq a_5 \\ 0 & , x > a_5 \end{cases}$$

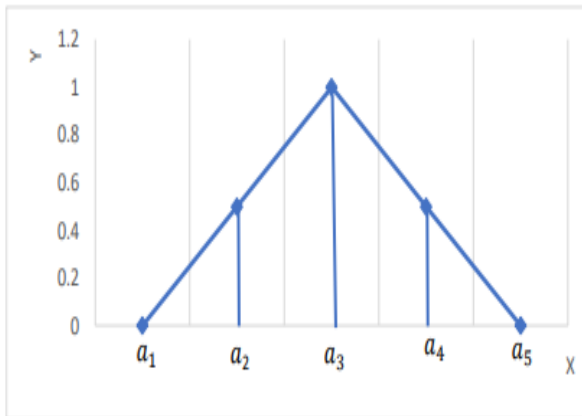


Figure 1: Pentagonal Fuzzy Number

**Ranking Techniques 2.4:** [5] A fuzzy number  $(a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n)$  defines on  $x$ -

axis, each  $a_i$  is a real point, where the range of  $i$  varies from 1 to  $n$ .

The entire range is shuffled into intervals in the form  $(a_j, a_k)$  where  $1 \leq j \leq k \leq n$ .

**SUBINTERVAL ADDITION METHOD**

Consider all the sums  $a_j + a_k$  where  $1 \leq j \leq k \leq n$ . The average of all this kind of possible additions defines the ranking function. When  $i$  takes the value  $n$ , ranking function  $\Re(A^n) = \frac{2}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n a_i$

**SUBINTERVAL AVERAGE METHOD**

Find the average  $(a_j + a_k)/2$  of each sub interval where  $1 \leq j \leq k \leq n$ . The average of average of all this kind of intervals is our ranking function.

Therefore,  $\Re(A^n) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n a_i$

**Method of Solving Fuzzy Linear Programming Problems 2.5:** [5]

FLPP is specified as Maximize (or Minimize)  $\tilde{Z} = \tilde{c}_1 x_1 + \tilde{c}_2 x_2 + \dots + \tilde{c}_n x_n$

Subject to  $\sum_{j=1}^n \tilde{a}_{ij} x_j \leq \tilde{b}_i, i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, m_0, \sum_{j=1}^n \tilde{a}_{ij} x_j \geq \tilde{b}_i, i = m_0 + 1, \dots, m$  and  $x_j \geq 0 \forall j = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n$  where  $x_j \in R$  and  $\tilde{a}_{ij}, \tilde{b}_i, \tilde{c}_j \in F(R)$  are fuzzy numbers  $A^i$  (in algorithm it is mentioned as  $A^t$ ) where  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$  and  $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$

For example, in case of Triangular Fuzzy Number, we have

Ranking Techniques	Intervals	Average of Upper and Lower Limits	Average of column (iii)	Ranking $\mathfrak{R}(A^3)$	In General, $\mathfrak{R}(A^n)$
Subinterval Addition method	$(a_1, a_2),$ $(a_2, a_3),$ $(a_1, a_3),$ $(a_1, a_1),$ $(a_2, a_2),$ $(a_3, a_3)$	$(a_1 + a_2),$ $(a_2 + a_3),$ $(a_1 + a_3),$ $(a_1 + a_1),$ $(a_2 + a_2),$ $(a_3 + a_3)$	$\{[(a_1 + a_2)] +$ $[(a_2 + a_3)] +$ $[(a_1 + a_3)] +$ $[(a_1 + a_1)] +$ $[(a_2 + a_2)] +$ $[(a_3 + a_3)]\} \div 6$	$\mathfrak{R}(A^3)$ $= \frac{4(a_1 + a_2 + a_3)}{6}$	$\mathfrak{R}(A^n)$ $= \frac{2}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n a_i$
Subinterval Average Method	$(a_1, a_2),$ $(a_2, a_3),$ $(a_1, a_3),$ $(a_1, a_1),$ $(a_2, a_2),$ $(a_3, a_3)$	$\left[\frac{(a_1 + a_2)}{2}\right],$ $\left[\frac{(a_2 + a_3)}{2}\right],$ $\left[\frac{(a_1 + a_3)}{2}\right],$ $\left[\frac{(a_1 + a_1)}{2}\right],$ $\left[\frac{(a_2 + a_2)}{2}\right],$ $\left[\frac{(a_3 + a_3)}{2}\right]$	$\left\{\left[\frac{(a_1 + a_2)}{2}\right] +$ $\left[\frac{(a_2 + a_3)}{2}\right] +$ $\left[\frac{(a_1 + a_3)}{2}\right] +$ $\left[\frac{(a_1 + a_1)}{2}\right] +$ $\left[\frac{(a_2 + a_2)}{2}\right] +$ $\left[\frac{(a_3 + a_3)}{2}\right]\} \div 6$	$\mathfrak{R}(A^3)$ $= \frac{4(a_1 + a_2 + a_3)}{12}$	$\mathfrak{R}(A^n)$ $= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n a_i$

**ALGORITHM**

**Step 1:** FLPP is Maximize (or Minimize)

$$\tilde{Z} = \sum_{j=1}^n \tilde{c}_j^{A^t} x_j \text{ subject to } \sum_{j=1}^n \tilde{a}_{ij}^{A^t} x_j \leq$$

$$\tilde{b}_i^{A^t}, i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, m_0, \sum_{j=1}^n \tilde{a}_{ij}^{A^t} x_j \geq$$

$$\tilde{b}_i^{A^t}, i = m_0 + 1, \dots, m \quad \text{and} \quad x_j \geq$$

$$0 \text{ for all } j = 1 \text{ to } n \quad \text{and} \quad x_j \in R,$$

$$\tilde{a}_{ij}^{A^t}, \tilde{b}_i^{A^t}, \tilde{c}_j^{A^t} \in F(R), i = 1 \text{ to } m \text{ and}$$

$$j = 1 \text{ to } n$$

When  $t=3$ ,  $\tilde{a}_{ij}^{A^t}, \tilde{b}_i^{A^t}, \tilde{c}_j^{A^t}$  are triangular fuzzy numbers.

When  $t=4$ ,  $\tilde{a}_{ij}^{A^t}, \tilde{b}_i^{A^t}, \tilde{c}_j^{A^t}$  are trapezoidal fuzzy numbers.

When  $t=5$ ,  $\tilde{a}_{ij}^{A^t}, \tilde{b}_i^{A^t}, \tilde{c}_j^{A^t}$  are pentagonal fuzzy numbers and so on.

**Step 2:** By applying the ranking function form the relation I and II to the fuzzy numbers,  $\tilde{a}_{ij}^{A^t}, \tilde{b}_i^{A^t}, \tilde{c}_j^{A^t}$ , they can be defuzzified.

**Step 3:** Using the ranking function, the FLPP becomes a crisp valued LPP of the form:

$$\text{Maximize (or Minimize)} \quad \tilde{Z} =$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^n R(\tilde{c}_j^{A^t}) x_j, \text{ subject to}$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^n R(\tilde{a}_{ij}^{A^t}) x_j \geq, \leq, = R(\tilde{b}_i^{A^t}) \quad \text{and}$$

$$x_j \geq 0 \text{ for all } j = 1 \text{ to } n \quad \text{where}$$

$$R(\tilde{a}_{ij}^{A^t}), R(\tilde{b}_i^{A^t}), R(\tilde{c}_j^{A^t}) \in R, i =$$

$$1 \text{ to } m \text{ and } j = 1 \text{ to } n$$

**Step 4:** When the above equation is solved using the simplex method, we obtain the optimal solution.

## SOLVING FLPP BY RANKING TECHNIQUES OF PENTAGONAL FUZZY NUMBERS – A COMPARATIVE STUDY

Here, we solve the above FLPP with objective function and constraints in pentagonal fuzzy numbers using simplex method. First, we defuzzify it and then simplex algorithm is applied to solve the FLPP.

A girl is running a YouTube channel where she uploads two types of videos, traditional drawing video and digital drawing video. For digital drawing, it will take (7, 10, 11, 22, 25) minutes to complete the drawing process and will take (0.4, 1.6, 2.1, 3.5, 4.9) minutes to complete the editing process. For traditional drawing, it will take (4, 9, 10, 12, 15) minutes to complete the drawing process and will take (1, 3.1, 5.6, 7.3, 8) minutes to complete the editing process. Totally, in a day, she spends (60, 100, 170, 200, 220) minutes for the drawing process and (22, 48, 50, 75, 80) minutes for the editing process. To be eligible for monetization in YouTube, she needs to increase the watch time (hours) of her channel. In a day, by uploading a single digital drawing video, she gains about (1, 2.2, 2.7, 4.1, 5) watch time every hour and by uploading a single traditional drawing video, she gains about (1.1, 3.6, 4, 5, 6.3) watch time every hour. How many of each video should she

upload every day to increase the watch time of her channel, thus increasing her chance of monetization?

**Solution:** Let  $x_1$  be the number of digital drawing videos and  $x_2$  be the number of traditional drawing videos to be uploaded per day to increase the watch time.

Then, the mathematical form of the given problem will be

Maximize  $Z = \tilde{c}_1x_1 + \tilde{c}_2x_2$  subject to  
 $\tilde{a}_{11}x_1 + \tilde{a}_{12}x_2 \leq \tilde{b}_1, \tilde{a}_{21}x_1 + \tilde{a}_{22}x_2 \leq \tilde{b}_2$  and  $x_1, x_2 \geq 0$  where  $\tilde{a}_{11} = (7,10,11,22,25)$ ,  $\tilde{a}_{12} = (4,9,10,12,15)$ ,  
 $\tilde{a}_{21} = (0.4,1.6,2.1,3.5,4.9)$ ,  $\tilde{a}_{22} = (1,3.1,5.6,7.3,8)$ ,  $\tilde{b}_1 = (60,100,170,200,220)$ ,  
 $\tilde{b}_2 = (22,48,50,75,80)$ ,  $\tilde{c}_1 = (1,2.2,2.7,4.1,5)$ ,  $\tilde{c}_2 = (1.1,3.6,4,5,6.3)$

### SUBINTERVAL ADDITION METHOD

First let us defuzzify the numbers using the relation  $\mathfrak{R}(A^n) = \frac{2}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n a_i$

The given FLPP becomes Maximize  $Z = 6x_1 + 8x_2$  subject to  $30x_1 + 20x_2 \leq 300$ ,  
 $5x_1 + 10x_2 \leq 110$  and  $x_1, x_2 \geq 0$

Solving using simplex method, we get Max  $Z=96, x_1 = 4, x_2 = 9$

Therefore, by uploading 4 digital drawing videos and 9 traditional drawing videos per day, she gains about 96 watch time per hour to increase her chance of monetization.

### SUBINTERVAL AVERAGE METHO

First let us defuzzify the numbers using the relation  $\mathfrak{R}(A^n) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n a_i$

The given FLPP becomes Maximize  $Z = 3x_1 + 4x_2$  subject to  $15x_1 + 10x_2 \leq 150$ ,  $\frac{5}{2}x_1 + 2x_2 \leq 55$  and  $x_1, x_2 \geq 0$   
Solving using simplex method, we get Max  $Z=48$ ,  $x_1 = 4$ ,  $x_2 = 9$

Therefore, by uploading 4 digital drawing videos and 9 traditional drawing videos per day, she gains about 48 watch time per hour to increase her chance of monetization.

### COMPARATIVE STUDY

The solution of the LPP  $x_1 = 4$  and  $x_2 = 9$  does not change by applying the above two different ranking techniques. In Subinterval Addition Method the objective function value is 96. It is reduced to 48 in Subinterval Average Method. This happens because the defuzzified value that we got by using the Subinterval Addition Method is twice the value that we got by using Subinterval Average Method.

### CONCLUSION

An application of decision making FLPP with pentagonal fuzzy numbers was solved. A comparative study has been made by considering an example by applying the proposed two techniques. Thus, the Subinterval Addition Method is

considered as the best method because the resulting objective function value is closure to corresponding value of early crisp problem.

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