

## Fuzzy almost bi-ideals in semigroups

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### Abstract

The notion of fuzzy subsets was introduced by Zadeh in 1965 and the notion of almost bi-ideals was introduced by Bogdanovic in 1981. The fuzzy theory has developed in many directions and found applications in a wide variety of fields. In this paper, we define fuzzy almost bi-ideals in semigroups and give some relationship between almost bi-ideals and fuzzy almost bi-ideals of semigroups.

## 1 Introduction

In 1952, Good and Hughes [3] introduced the notion of bi-ideals of semigroups. The concept of a bi-ideal is not only interesting but also important in

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semigroups. In 1965, the definition of fuzzy subsets was introduced by Zadeh [9]. The fuzzy subset theory is a generalization of conventional mathematics set theory. Kuroki [7] studied various kinds of fuzzy ideals in semigroups and characterized them. Interesting research on fuzzy semigroups can be found in [8]. In 2011, Chon [2] also characterized the fuzzy bi-ideal generated by fuzzy subsets in semigroups. In 1980, Grosek and Satko [4] defined and studied the notion of left (respectively, right, two-sided) almost ideals of semigroups. Moreover, they characterized when a semigroup  $S$  contains no proper left (respectively, right, two-sided) almost ideals. In 1981, Bogdanovic [1] introduced the notion of almost bi-ideals in semigroups.

In this paper, we first give some properties of almost bi-ideals of semigroups and introduce the notion of fuzzy almost bi-ideals by using the concepts of almost bi-ideals and fuzzy ideals of semigroups. Moreover, we give some relationship between almost bi-ideals and fuzzy almost bi-ideals of semigroups.

## 2 Preliminary Notes

### 2.1 Bi-ideals in semigroups

In 1952, Good and Hughes [3] introduced the notion of bi-ideals as follows:

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $S$  be a semigroup and  $B$  be a subsemigroup of  $S$ . If  $BSB \subseteq B$ , then  $B$  is called a *bi-ideal* of  $S$

**Example 2.1.** Let  $\mathbb{N}$  be the set of all positive integers. Then  $\mathbb{N}$  is a semigroup under the usual multiplication. Let  $B = 2\mathbb{N}$ . Thus  $B$  is a subsemigroup of  $\mathbb{N}$  and  $BNB = 4\mathbb{N} \subseteq 2\mathbb{N} = B$ . Hence  $B$  is a bi-ideal of  $\mathbb{N}$ .

### 2.2 Fuzzy sets

In 1965, Zadeh [9] introduced the concept of a fuzzy subset of a set. Let  $X$  be any set. A function  $f$  from  $X$  to the unit interval  $[0, 1]$  is called a *fuzzy subset* of  $X$ .

Let  $f$  and  $g$  be any two fuzzy subsets of  $X$ . The fuzzy subsets  $f \cap g$ ,  $f \cup g$  of  $X$  and  $f \subseteq g$  are defined as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}(f \cap g)(x) &= f(x) \wedge g(x), \\(f \cup g)(x) &= f(x) \vee g(x), \\f \subseteq g &\text{ if } f(x) \leq g(x)\end{aligned}$$

for all  $x \in X$ . Let  $f$  be a fuzzy subset of  $X$ . The *support* of  $f$  is defined by  $\text{supp}f := \{x \in X \mid f(x) \neq 0\}$ .

Let  $A$  be a non-empty subset of  $X$ . The *characteristic mapping* of  $A$  is a fuzzy subset of  $X$  defined by

$$C_A(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \in A, \\ 0 & \text{if } x \notin A. \end{cases}$$

Let  $s$  be any element in  $X$ . The *characteristic mapping* of  $s$  is a fuzzy subset of  $X$  defined by

$$C_s(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x = s, \\ 0 & \text{if } x \neq s. \end{cases}$$

Next, we recall the definitions and propositions of fuzzy ideals in semigroups from [8].

**Definition 2.2.** Let  $f$  be a fuzzy subset of a semigroup  $S$ .

- (1)  $f$  is called a *fuzzy subsemigroup* of  $S$  if and only if  $f(xy) \geq f(x) \wedge f(y)$ .
- (2)  $f$  is called a *fuzzy left ideal* of  $S$  if and only if  $f(xy) \geq f(y)$ .
- (3)  $f$  is called a *fuzzy right ideal* of  $S$  if and only if  $f(xy) \geq f(x)$ .
- (4)  $f$  is called a *fuzzy two-sided ideal* of  $S$  if and only if  $f(xy) \geq f(x) \vee f(y)$ .

Let  $f$  and  $g$  be two fuzzy subsets of a semigroup  $S$ . A *product*  $f \circ g$  is defined by

$$(f \circ g)(x) = \begin{cases} \bigvee_{x=yz} \{f(y) \wedge g(z)\}, & \text{if } \exists y, z \in S, \text{ such that } x = yz, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

**Proposition 2.3.** Let  $f$  be a fuzzy subset of a semigroup  $S$ . Then the following properties hold:

- (1)  $f$  is a fuzzy subsemigroup of  $S$  if and only if  $f \circ f \subseteq f$ .
- (2)  $f$  is a fuzzy left ideal of  $S$  if and only if  $S \circ f \subseteq f$ .
- (3)  $f$  is a fuzzy right ideal of  $S$  if and only if  $f \circ S \subseteq f$ .
- (4)  $f$  is a fuzzy two-sided ideal of  $S$  if and only if  $S \circ f \subseteq f$  and  $f \circ S \subseteq f$ .

Finally, we recall the definition of fuzzy bi-ideals of semigroups.

**Definition 2.4.** A fuzzy subset  $f$  of a semigroup  $S$  is called a fuzzy bi-ideal of  $S$  if

$$f(xyz) \geq f(x) \wedge f(z)$$

for all  $x, y, z \in S$ .

**Proposition 2.5.** Let  $f$  be any fuzzy subsemigroup of a semigroup  $S$ . Then  $f$  is a fuzzy bi-ideal of  $S$  if and only if  $f \circ S \circ f \subseteq f$ .

### 2.3 Almost bi-ideals in semigroups

In 1980, Grosek and Satko [4] defined the notion of a left almost ideal of a semigroup : a non-empty subset  $G_L$  of a semigroup  $S$  is said to be a left almost ideal of  $S$  if

$$sG_L \cap G_L \neq \emptyset$$

for all  $s \in S$ . A right  $A$ -ideal of  $S$  is similarly defined. If  $G$  is both left and right almost ideal of  $S$ , then  $G$  is called an almost ideal of  $S$ .

In 1981, Bogdanovic [1] introduced the notion of almost bi-ideals as following:

**Definition 2.6.** A non-empty subset  $B$  of a semigroup  $S$  is called an *almost bi-ideal* of  $S$  if  $BsB \cap B \neq \emptyset$  for all  $s \in S$ .

**Example 2.2.** Consider the semigroup  $\mathbb{Z}_4$  under the usual addition. Let  $B = \{\bar{1}, \bar{2}, \bar{3}\}$ . Consider

$$\begin{aligned} (B + \bar{0} + B) \cap B &= \{\bar{0}, \bar{1}, \bar{2}, \bar{3}\} \cap \{\bar{1}, \bar{2}, \bar{3}\} = \{\bar{1}, \bar{2}, \bar{3}\} \neq \emptyset. \\ (B + \bar{1} + B) \cap B &= \{\bar{0}, \bar{1}, \bar{2}, \bar{3}\} \cap \{\bar{1}, \bar{2}, \bar{3}\} = \{\bar{1}, \bar{2}, \bar{3}\} \neq \emptyset. \\ (B + \bar{2} + B) \cap B &= \{\bar{0}, \bar{1}, \bar{2}, \bar{3}\} \cap \{\bar{1}, \bar{2}, \bar{3}\} = \{\bar{1}, \bar{2}, \bar{3}\} \neq \emptyset. \\ (B + \bar{3} + B) \cap B &= \{\bar{0}, \bar{1}, \bar{2}, \bar{3}\} \cap \{\bar{1}, \bar{2}, \bar{3}\} = \{\bar{1}, \bar{2}, \bar{3}\} \neq \emptyset. \end{aligned}$$

Then  $B$  is an almost bi-ideal of  $\mathbb{Z}_4$ .

**Example 2.3.** Consider the semigroup  $S = \{a, b, c, d\}$  with the multiplication table:

	$a$	$b$	$c$	$d$
$a$	$a$	$a$	$a$	$a$
$b$	$a$	$a$	$a$	$a$
$c$	$a$	$a$	$b$	$a$
$d$	$a$	$a$	$b$	$b$

Let  $B = \{a, b\}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} BaB \cap B &= \{a\} \cap \{a, b\} = \{a\} \neq \emptyset. \\ BbB \cap B &= \{a\} \cap \{a, b\} = \{a\} \neq \emptyset. \\ BcB \cap B &= \{a\} \cap \{a, b\} = \{a\} \neq \emptyset. \\ BdB \cap B &= \{a\} \cap \{a, b\} = \{a\} \neq \emptyset. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $B$  is an almost bi-ideal of  $S$ .

Next, we give some properties of almost bi-ideals of semigroups.

**Remark 2.7.** *Every bi-ideal of a semigroup  $S$  is an almost bi-ideal of  $S$ .*

*Proof.* Assume that  $B$  is a bi-ideal of a semigroup  $S$ . Then  $BsB \neq \emptyset$  and  $BsB \subseteq BSB \subseteq B$  for all  $s \in S$ . Hence  $BsB \cap B = BsB \neq \emptyset$ .

Therefore  $B$  is an almost bi-ideal of  $S$ .  $\square$

**Remark 2.8.** *Let  $B$  be an almost bi-ideal of a semigroup  $S$ . Let  $B'$  be a non-empty subset of  $S$  such that  $B \subseteq B' \subseteq S$ . Then  $B'$  is an almost bi-ideal of  $S$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $B$  be an almost bi-ideal of a semigroup  $S$  such that  $B \subseteq B' \subseteq S$ . Then  $\emptyset \neq BsB \cap B \subseteq B'sB' \cap B'$  for all  $s \in S$ . Thus  $B'$  is an almost bi-ideal of  $S$ .  $\square$

**Remark 2.9.** *The union of two almost bi-ideals of a semigroup  $S$  is an almost bi-ideal of  $S$ .*

*Proof.* Use Remark 2.8  $\square$

**Example 2.4.** Consider a semigroup  $(\mathbb{Z}_5, +)$ . We have  $B_1 = \{\bar{1}, \bar{3}, \bar{4}\}$  and  $B_2 = \{\bar{1}, \bar{2}, \bar{4}\}$  are almost bi-ideals but  $B = B_1 \cap B_2 = \{\bar{1}, \bar{4}\}$  is not an almost bi-ideal of  $\mathbb{Z}_5$  because  $B + \bar{0} + B = \{\bar{0}, \bar{2}, \bar{3}\}$ . So, in general, the intersection of two almost bi-ideals need not be an almost bi-ideal.

## 3 Results

### 3.1 Fuzzy almost bi-ideals

In this subsection, we define fuzzy almost bi-ideals in semigroups and give some relationship between almost bi-ideals and fuzzy almost bi-ideals of semigroups.

**Definition 3.1.** Let  $f$  be a fuzzy subset of a semigroup  $S$  such that  $f \neq 0$ .  $f$  is called a *fuzzy almost bi-ideal* of  $S$  if for all  $s \in S$ ,  $(f \circ C_s \circ f) \cap f \neq 0$ .

**Theorem 3.2.** Let  $f$  be a fuzzy almost bi-ideal of a semigroup  $S$  and  $g$  be a fuzzy subset of  $S$  such that  $f \subseteq g$ . Then  $g$  is a fuzzy almost bi-ideal of  $S$ .

*Proof.* Assume that  $f$  is a fuzzy almost bi-ideal of a semigroup  $S$  and  $g$  is a fuzzy subset of  $S$  such that  $f \subseteq g$ . Then for all  $s \in S$ ,  $(f \circ C_s \circ f) \cap f \subseteq (g \circ C_s \circ g) \cap g$  and  $(f \circ C_s \circ f) \cap f \neq 0$ . This implies  $(g \circ C_s \circ g) \cap g \neq 0$  for all  $s \in S$ . Therefore  $g$  is a fuzzy almost bi-ideal.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.3.** Let  $f$  and  $g$  be a fuzzy almost bi-ideal of a semigroup  $S$ . Then  $f \cup g$  is a fuzzy almost bi-ideal of  $S$ .

*Proof.* Since  $f \subseteq f \cup g$ , by Theorem 3.2,  $f \cup g$  is a fuzzy almost bi-ideal of  $S$ .  $\square$

**Example 3.1.** Consider the semigroup  $\mathbb{Z}_5$  under the usual addition. Let  $f : \mathbb{Z}_5 \rightarrow [0, 1]$  be defined by  $f(\bar{0}) = 0, f(\bar{1}) = 0.5, f(\bar{2}) = 0, f(\bar{3}) = 0.1, f(\bar{4}) = 0.1$  and  $g : \mathbb{Z}_5 \rightarrow [0, 1]$  be defined by  $g(\bar{0}) = 0, g(\bar{1}) = 0.2, g(\bar{2}) = 0.1, g(\bar{3}) = 0$  and  $g(\bar{4}) = 0.2$ . We have  $f$  and  $g$  are fuzzy almost bi-ideals of  $\mathbb{Z}_5$  but  $f \cap g$  is not a fuzzy almost bi-ideal of  $\mathbb{Z}_5$ .

**Theorem 3.4.** Let  $B$  be a non-empty subset of a semigroup  $S$ . Then  $B$  is an almost bi-ideal of  $S$  if and only if  $C_B$  is a fuzzy almost bi-ideal of  $S$ .

*Proof.* Assume that  $B$  is an almost bi-ideal of a semigroup  $S$ . Then  $BsB \cap B \neq \emptyset$  for all  $s \in S$ . Thus there exists  $x \in BsB$  and  $x \in B$ . So  $(C_B \circ C_s \circ C_B)(x) = 1$  and  $C_B(x) = 1$ . Hence  $(C_B \circ C_s \circ C_B) \cap C_B \neq 0$  for all  $s \in S$ . Therefore  $C_B$  is a fuzzy almost bi-ideal of  $S$ .

Conversely, assume that  $C_B$  is a fuzzy almost bi-ideal of  $S$ . Let  $s \in S$ . Then  $(C_B \circ C_s \circ C_B) \cap C_B \neq 0$ . Then there exists  $x \in S$  such that  $[(C_B \circ C_s \circ C_B) \cap C_B](x) \neq 0$ . Hence  $x \in BsB \cap B$ . So  $BsB \cap B \neq \emptyset$  for all  $s \in S$ . Consequently,  $B$  is an almost bi-ideal of  $S$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.5.** Let  $f$  be a fuzzy subset of a semigroup  $S$ . Then  $f$  is a fuzzy almost bi-ideal of  $S$  if and only if  $\text{supp } f$  is an almost bi-ideal of  $S$ .

*Proof.* Assume that  $f$  is a fuzzy almost bi-ideal of a semigroup  $S$ . Let  $s \in S$ . Then  $(f \circ C_s \circ f) \cap f \neq 0$ . Hence for each  $s \in S$ , there exists  $x \in S$  such that  $[(f \circ C_s \circ f) \cap f](x) \neq 0$ . So there exist  $y_1, y_2 \in S$  such that

$x = y_1sy_2, f(x) \neq 0, f(y_1) \neq 0$  and  $f(y_2) \neq 0$ . That is  $x, y_1, y_2 \in \text{supp } f$ . Thus  $(C_{\text{supp } f} \circ C_s \circ C_{\text{supp } f})(x) \neq 0$  and  $C_{\text{supp } f}(x) \neq 0$ . Therefore  $(C_{\text{supp } f} \circ C_s \circ C_{\text{supp } f}) \cap C_{\text{supp } f} \neq 0$ . Hence  $C_{\text{supp } f}$  is a fuzzy almost bi-ideal of  $S$ . By Theorem 3.4,  $\text{supp } f$  is an almost bi-ideal of  $S$ .

Conversely, assume that  $\text{supp } f$  is an almost bi-ideal of  $S$ . By Theorem 3.4,  $C_{\text{supp } f}$  is a fuzzy almost bi-ideal of  $S$ . Then  $(C_{\text{supp } f} \circ C_s \circ C_{\text{supp } f}) \cap C_{\text{supp } f} \neq 0$  for all  $s \in S$ . Then there exists  $x \in S$  such that  $[(C_{\text{supp } f} \circ C_s \circ C_{\text{supp } f}) \cap C_{\text{supp } f}](x) \neq 0$ . Hence  $(C_{\text{supp } f} \circ C_s \circ C_{\text{supp } f})(x) \neq 0$  and  $C_{\text{supp } f}(x) \neq 0$ . Then there exist  $y_1, y_2 \in S$  such that  $x = y_1sy_2, f(x) \neq 0, f(y_1) \neq 0$  and  $f(y_2) \neq 0$ . This means  $(f \circ C_s \circ f) \cap f \neq 0$ . Therefore  $f$  is a fuzzy almost bi-ideal of  $S$ .  $\square$

## 3.2 Minimal fuzzy almost bi-ideals

In this subsection, we define minimal fuzzy almost bi-ideals in semigroups and give some relationship between minimal almost bi-ideals and minimal fuzzy almost bi-ideals of semigroups.

**Definition 3.6.** A fuzzy almost bi-ideal  $f$  is called *minimal* if for each fuzzy almost bi-ideal  $g$  of  $S$  such that  $g \subseteq f$ , we have  $\text{supp } g = \text{supp } f$ .

**Theorem 3.7.** Let  $B$  be a non-empty subset of a semigroup  $S$ . Then  $B$  is a minimal almost bi-ideal of  $S$  if and only if  $C_B$  is a minimal fuzzy almost bi-ideal of  $S$ .

*Proof.* Assume that  $B$  is a minimal almost bi-ideal of a semigroup  $S$ . By Theorem 3.4,  $C_B$  is a fuzzy almost bi-ideal of  $S$ . Let  $g$  be a fuzzy almost bi-ideal of  $S$  such that  $g \subseteq C_B$ . Then  $\text{supp } g \subseteq \text{supp } C_B = B$ . Since  $g \subseteq C_{\text{supp } g}$ , we have  $(g \circ C_B \circ g) \cap g \subseteq (C_{\text{supp } g} \circ C_B \circ C_{\text{supp } g}) \cap C_{\text{supp } g}$ . Thus  $C_{\text{supp } g}$  is a fuzzy almost bi-ideal of  $S$ . By Theorem 3.4,  $\text{supp } g$  is an almost bi-ideal of  $S$ . Since  $B$  is minimal,  $\text{supp } g = B = \text{supp } C_B$ . Therefore  $C_B$  is minimal.

Conversely, assume that  $C_B$  is a minimal fuzzy almost bi-ideal of  $S$ . Let  $B'$  be an almost bi-ideal of  $S$  such that  $B' \subseteq B$ . Then  $C_{B'}$  is a fuzzy almost bi-ideal of  $S$  such that  $C_{B'} \subseteq C_B$ . Hence  $B' = \text{supp } C_{B'} = \text{supp } C_B = B$ . Therefore  $B$  is minimal.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.8.** A semigroup  $S$  has no proper almost bi-ideal of  $S$  if and only if for all fuzzy almost bi-ideal  $f$  of  $S$ ,  $\text{supp } f = S$ .

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