

## L-fuzzy ideals of a poset

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**ABSTRACT.** Many generalization of ideals of a lattice to an arbitrary poset have been studied by different scholars. In this paper, we introduce several  $L$ -fuzzy ideals of a poset which generalize the notion of an  $L$ -fuzzy ideal of a lattice and give the characterizations of them.

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### 1. INTRODUCTION

**W**e have found several generalizations of ideals of a lattice to arbitrarily partially ordered set (poset) in a literature which has been studied by different authors. Closed ideals or normal ideals of a poset were introduced by Birkhoff [2], who gives credit to Stone [15] for the case of Boolean algebras. Next, in 1954 the second type of ideal of a poset called Frink ideal has been introduced by Frink [6]. Following this Venkatanarasimhan developed the theory of semi-ideals and ideals for posets [17] and [18], in 1970. These ideals are called ideals in the sense of Venkatanarasimhan or V-ideals for short. Next, the concept of ideals of a poset have been suggested by Erné [4] in 1979 which are called  $m$ -ideal. This ideal generalize almost all ideals of a poset suggested by different authors. Latter, Halaš [9], in 1994, introduced a new ideal of a poset which which seems to be a suitable generalization of the usual concept of ideal in a lattice. we will simply call ideal in the sense of Halaš.

On the other hand, the notion of fuzzy ideals of a lattice has been studied by different authors in series of papers [1, 14, 16, 19].

In this paper we introduce several generalizations of fuzzy ideals of a lattice to an arbitrary poset whose truth values are in a complete lattice satisfying the infinite meet distributive law and give several characterizations of them. We also prove that the set of all  $L$ -fuzzy ideals of a poset forms a complete lattice with respect to point-wise ordering. Throughout this work  $L$  stands for a non-trivial complete

lattice satisfying the infinite meet distributive law:  $a \wedge \sup S = \sup\{a \wedge s : s \in S\}$ , for any  $a \in L$  and for any subset  $S$  of  $L$ .

## 2. PRELIMINARIES

We briefly recall certain necessary concepts, terminologies and notations from [2, 3, 8].

A binary relation " $\leq$ " on a set  $Q$  is called a partial order, if it is reflexive, anti-symmetric and transitive. A pair  $(Q, \leq)$  is called a partially ordered set or simply a poset, if  $Q$  is a non-empty set and  $\leq$  is a partial order on  $Q$ . When confusion is unlikely, we use simply the symbol  $Q$  to denote a poset  $(Q, \leq)$ .

Let  $Q$  be a poset and  $A \subseteq Q$ . Then the set  $A^u = \{x \in Q : x \geq a \forall a \in A\}$  is called the upper cone of  $A$  and the set  $A^l = \{x \in Q : x \leq a \forall a \in A\}$  of  $A$  is called the lower cone of  $A$ .  $A^{ul}$  shall mean  $\{A^u\}^l$  and  $A^{lu}$  shall mean  $\{A^l\}^u$ . Let  $a, b \in Q$ . Then the upper cone  $\{a\}^u$  is simply denoted by  $a^u$  and the upper cone  $\{a, b\}^u$  is denoted by  $(a, b)^u$ . Similar notations are used for lower cones. We note that  $A \subseteq A^{ul}$  and  $A \subseteq A^{lu}$  and if  $A \subseteq B$  in  $Q$ , then  $A^l \supseteq B^l$  and  $A^u \supseteq B^u$ . Moreover,  $A^{lul} = A^l$ ,  $A^{ulu} = A^u$ ,  $\{a^u\}^l = a^l$  and  $\{a^l\}^u = a^u$ .

An element  $x_0$  in  $Q$  is called the least upper bound of  $A$  or supremum of  $A$ , denoted by  $\sup A$  (receptively, the greatest lower bound of  $A$  or infimum of  $A$ , denoted by  $\inf A$ ), if  $x_0 \in A^u$  and  $x_0 \leq x$ , for each  $x \in A^u$  (respectively, if  $x_0 \in A^l$  and  $x \leq x_0$ , for each  $x \in A^l$ ).

An element  $x_0$  in  $Q$  is called the largest (respectively, the smallest) element, if  $x \leq x_0$  (respectively,  $x_0 \leq x$ ), for all  $x \in Q$ . The largest (respectively, the smallest) element, if it exists in  $Q$ , is denoted by 1 (respectively, by 0).

A poset  $(Q, \leq)$  is called bounded, if it has 0 and 1. Note that if  $A = \emptyset$ , we have  $A^{ul} = (\emptyset^u)^l = Q^l$  which is either empty or consists of the least element 0 of  $Q$  alone, if it exists.

Now we recall definitions of ideals of a poset that are introduced by different scholars.

**Definition 2.1.** (i) [2] A subset  $I$  of a poset  $Q$  is called a closed or normal ideal of  $Q$ , if  $I^{ul} \subseteq I$  (or equivalently,  $I^{ul} = I$ , since  $I \subseteq I^{ul}$ ).

(ii)[6] A subset  $I$  of a poset  $Q$  is called a Frink ideal in  $Q$  if  $F^{ul} \subseteq I$ , whenever  $F$  is a finite subset of  $I$ .

(iii) [17] A non-empty subset  $I$  of a poset  $Q$  is called a semi-ideal or an order ideal of  $Q$ , if  $a \leq b$  and  $b \in I$  implies  $a \in I$ .

(iv) [18] A subset  $I$  of a poset  $Q$  is called a V-ideal or an ideal in the sense of Venkatannarasimhan, if  $I$  is a semi-ideal and for any non-empty subset  $A \subseteq I$ , if  $\sup A$  exists, then  $\sup A \in I$ .

(v) [9] A subset  $I$  of a poset  $Q$  is called an ideal in  $Q$  in the sense of Halaš, if  $(a, b)^{ul} \subseteq I$ , whenever  $a, b \in I$

Note that every ideal of a poset  $Q$  contains  $Q^l$ . The following definition generalize all the definitions of ideal given above.

**Definition 2.2** ([4]). Let  $Q$  be a poset and  $m$  denote any cardinal number. Then a subset  $I$  of a poset  $Q$  is called an  $m$ -ideal in  $Q$ , if for any subset  $A$  of  $I$  of cardinality strictly less than  $m$ , written as  $A \subset_m I$ , we have  $A^{ul} \subseteq I$ .

**Remark 2.3** ([5]). The following special cases are included in this general definition:

- (1) 2-ideals are semi-ideals containing  $Q^l$ .
- (2) 3-ideals are ideals in the sense of Halaš containing  $Q^l$ .
- (3)  $\omega$ -ideals are Frinkideals containing  $Q^l$  where  $\omega$  the least infinite cardinal number.
- (4)  $\Omega$ -ideals are closed ideals, where the symbol  $\Omega$  mean if  $I$  has cardinality  $\kappa$  then  $\Omega$  is a cardinal greater than  $\kappa$ .
- (5) V-ideals are 2-ideals which are closed under finite supremum and containing  $Q^l$ .

**Remark 2.4.** The following remarks are due to Halaš and Rachunek [11].

- (1) if  $Q$  is a lattice then a non-empty subset  $I$  of  $Q$  is an ideal as a poset if and only if it is an ideal as a lattice.
- (2) if a poset  $Q$  does not have the least element then the empty subset  $\emptyset$  is an ideal in  $Q$  (since  $\emptyset^{ul} = (\emptyset^u)^l = Q^l = \emptyset$ ).

**Definition 2.5.** Let  $A$  be any subset of a poset  $Q$ . Then the smallest ideal containing  $A$  is called an ideal generated by  $A$  and is denoted by  $(A]$ . The ideal generated by a singleton set  $A = \{a\}$ , is called principal ideal and is denoted by  $(a]$ .

Note that for any subset  $A$  of  $Q$  if  $\sup A$  exists then  $A^{ul} = (\sup A]$ .

The followings are some characterizations of ideals generated by a subset  $A$  of a poset  $Q$ . We write  $F \subset\subset A$  to mean  $F$  is a finite subset of  $A$ .

- (1)  $(A]_C = \bigcup\{B^{ul} : B \subseteq A\}$  is the closed ideal or normal ideal generated by  $A$  where the union is taken overall subsets  $B$  of  $A$ .
- (2)  $(A]_F = \bigcup\{F^{ul} : F \subset\subset A\}$  is the Frink ideal generated by  $A$ , where the union is taken overall finite subsets  $F$  of  $A$ .
- (3) Define  $C_1 = \bigcup\{(a, b)^{ul} : a, b \in A\}$  and  $C_n = \bigcup\{(a, b)^{ul} : a, b \in C_{n-1}\}$  for each positive integer  $n \geq 2$ , inductively. Then  $(A]_H = \bigcup\{C_n : n \in \mathcal{N}\}$  is the ideal generated by  $A$  in the sense of Halaš, where  $\mathcal{N}$  denotes the set of positive integers.
- (4) if  $a \in Q$  then  $(a] = \{x \in Q : x \leq a\} = a^l$  is the principal ideal generated by  $a$ .

**Lemma 2.6** ([10]). Let  $\mathcal{I}(Q)$  be the set of all ideals of a poset  $Q$  in the sense of Halaš and  $I, J \in \mathcal{I}(Q)$ . Then the supremum  $I \vee J$  of  $I$  and  $J$  in  $\mathcal{I}(Q)$  is:

$$I \vee J = \bigcup\{C_n : n \in \mathcal{N}\},$$

where  $C_1 = \bigcup\{(a, b)^{ul} : a, b \in I \cup J\}$  and  $C_n = \bigcup\{(a, b)^{ul} : a, b \in C_{n-1}\}$ , for each positive integer  $n \geq 2$ .

**Definition 2.7** ([9]). An ideal  $I$  of a poset  $Q$  is called a  $u$ -ideal, if  $(x, y)^u \cap I \neq \emptyset$ , for all  $x, y \in I$ .

Note that an easy induction shows  $I$  is a  $u$ -ideal, if  $F^u \cap I \neq \emptyset$ , for any finite subset  $F$  of  $I$ .

**Theorem 2.8** ([9]). *Let  $\mathcal{I}(Q)$  be the set of all ideals of  $Q$  in the sense of Halaš and  $I, J$  be  $u$ -ideals of a poset  $Q$ . Then the supremum  $I \vee J$  of  $I$  and  $J$  in  $\mathcal{I}(Q)$  is:*

$$I \vee J = \bigcup \{(a, b)^{ul} : a \in I, b \in J\}.$$

**Definition 2.9** ([7]). Let  $X$  be a non-empty set. An  $L$ -fuzzy subset  $\mu$  of  $X$  is a mapping from  $X$  into  $L$ , where  $L$  is a complete lattice satisfying the infinite meet distributive law.

Note that if  $L$  is a unit interval of real numbers, then  $\mu$  is the usual fuzzy subset of  $X$  originally introduced by Zadeh [20].

**Definition 2.10** ([16]). Let  $\mu$  be an  $L$ -fuzzy subset of  $X$ . Then for each  $\alpha \in L$ , the set  $\mu_\alpha = \{x : \mu(x) \geq \alpha\}$  is called the level subset of  $\mu$  at  $\alpha$ .

**Lemma 2.11** ([12]). *Let  $\mu$  be an  $L$ -fuzzy subset of a poset  $Q$ . Then  $\mu(x) = \sup\{\alpha \in L : x \in \mu_\alpha\}$ , for all  $x \in Q$ .*

**Definition 2.12** ([7]). Let  $L$  be a complete lattice satisfying the infinite meet distributivity and  $X$  be a non-empty set. For any  $L$ -fuzzy subsets  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$ , define  $\mu \subseteq \sigma$  if and only  $\mu(x) \leq \sigma(x)$ , for all  $x \in X$ .

It can be easily verified that  $\subseteq$  is a partial order on the set  $L^X$  of  $L$ -fuzzy subsets of  $X$  and is called the point wise ordering.

**Definition 2.13** ([13]). Let  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$  be an  $L$ -fuzzy subsets a non-empty set  $X$ . The union of fuzzy subsets  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$  of  $X$ , denoted by  $\mu \cup \sigma$ , is a fuzzy subset of  $X$  defined by: for all  $x \in X$ ,

$$(\mu \cup \sigma)(x) = \mu(x) \vee \sigma(x)$$

and the intersection of fuzzy subsets  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$  of  $X$ , denoted by  $\mu \cap \sigma$ , is a fuzzy subset of  $X$  defined by: for all  $x \in X$ ,

$$(\mu \cap \sigma)(x) = \mu(x) \wedge \sigma(x).$$

More generally, the union and intersection of any family  $\{\mu_i\}_{i \in \Delta}$  of  $L$ -fuzzy subsets of  $X$ , denoted by  $\bigcup_{i \in \Delta} \mu_i$  and  $\bigcap_{i \in \Delta} \mu_i$  respectively, are defined by:

$$\left(\bigcup_{i \in \Delta} \mu_i\right)(x) = \sup_{i \in \Delta} \mu_i(x) \text{ and } \left(\bigcap_{i \in \Delta} \mu_i\right)(x) = \inf_{i \in \Delta} \mu_i(x),$$

for all  $x \in X$ , respectively.

**Definition 2.14** ([16]). An  $L$ -fuzzy subset  $\mu$  of a lattice  $X$  with  $0$  is said to be an  $L$ -fuzzy ideal of  $X$ , if  $\mu(0) = 1$  and  $\mu(a \vee b) = \mu(a) \wedge \mu(b)$ , for all  $a, b \in X$ .

**Definition 2.15.** Let  $\mu$  be an  $L$ -fuzzy subset of a lattice  $X$ . The smallest fuzzy ideal of  $X$  containing  $\mu$  is called a fuzzy ideal generated by  $\mu$  and is denoted by  $(\mu)$ .

**Lemma 2.16.** *Let  $\mathcal{FI}(Q)$  be the set of all  $L$ -fuzzy ideals of a lattice  $X$  and  $\mu$  be an  $L$ -fuzzy subset of  $X$ . Then  $(\mu) = \bigcap\{\theta \in \mathcal{FI}(Q) : \mu \subseteq \theta\}$ .*

### 3. L-FUZZY IDEALS OF A POSET

In this section, we introduce several notions of  $L$ -fuzzy ideals of a poset and give several characterizations of them. Throughout this paper  $Q$  stands for a poset ( $Q \leq$ ) with 0 unless otherwise stated.

We shall begin with the following definition.

**Definition 3.1.** An  $L$ -fuzzy subset  $\mu$  of  $Q$  is called an  $L$ -fuzzy closed ideal, if it satisfies the following conditions:

- (i)  $\mu(0) = 1$ ,
- (ii) for any subset  $A$  of  $Q$ ,  $\mu(x) \geq \inf\{\mu(a) : a \in A\} \forall x \in A^{ul}$ .

**Lemma 3.2.** A subset  $I$  of  $Q$  is a closed ideal of  $Q$  if and only if its characteristic map  $\chi_I$  is a closed  $L$ -fuzzy ideal of  $Q$ .

*Proof.* Suppose  $I$  is a closed ideal of  $Q$ . Since  $0 \in I^{ul} \subseteq I$ , we have  $\chi_I(0) = 1$ . Let  $A$  be any subset of  $Q$  and  $x \in A^{ul}$ .

If  $A \subseteq I$ , then we have  $x \in A^{ul} \subseteq I^{ul} \subseteq I$ . Thus  $\chi_I(x) = 1 = \inf\{\chi_I(a) : a \in A\}$ .

If  $A \not\subseteq I$ , then there is  $b \in A$  such that  $b \notin I$ . Thus  $\chi_I(b) = 0$ . This implies  $\inf\{\chi_I(a) : a \in A\} = 0$ . So  $\chi_I(x) \geq 0 = \inf\{\chi_I(a) : a \in A\}$ , for all  $x$  in  $A^{ul}$ . Hence for any  $A \subseteq Q$ , we have  $\chi_I(x) \geq \inf\{\chi_I(a) : a \in A\}$ , for all  $x \in A^{ul}$ . Therefore  $\chi_I$  is a fuzzy closed ideal of  $Q$ .

Conversely, suppose  $\chi_I$  is a fuzzy closed ideal. Since  $\chi_I(0) = 1$ , we have  $0 \in I$ , i.e.,  $\{0\} = Q^l \subseteq I$ . Let  $x \in I^{ul}$ . Then by hypotheses,  $\chi_I(x) \geq \inf\{\chi_I(a) : a \in I\} = 1$ . This implies  $\chi_I(x) = 1$ . Thus  $x \in I$ . So  $I^{ul} \subseteq I$ . Hence  $I$  is a closed ideal. This proves the result.  $\square$

The following result Characterize the  $L$ -fuzzy closed ideal of  $Q$  in terms of its level subsets.

**Lemma 3.3.** An  $L$ -fuzzy subset  $\mu$  of  $Q$  is an  $L$ -fuzzy closed ideal of  $Q$  if and only if  $\mu_\alpha$  is a closed ideal of  $Q$ , for all  $\alpha \in L$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\mu$  be an  $L$ -fuzzy closed ideal of  $Q$  and  $\alpha \in L$ . Then  $\mu(0) = 1 \geq \alpha$ . Thus  $0 \in \mu_\alpha$ , i.e.,  $\{0\} = Q^l \subseteq \mu_\alpha$ . Again let  $x \in (\mu_\alpha)^{ul}$ . Then  $\mu(x) \geq \inf\{\mu(a) : a \in \mu_\alpha\} \geq \alpha$ . Thus  $x \in \mu_\alpha$ . Thus  $(\mu_\alpha)^{ul} \subseteq \mu_\alpha$ . So  $\mu_\alpha$  is a closed ideal.

Conversely, suppose that  $\mu_\alpha$  is a closed ideal of  $Q$ , for all  $\alpha \in L$ . In particular,  $\mu_1$  is a closed ideal. Since  $\{0\} = Q^l \subseteq (\mu_1)^{ul} \subseteq \mu_1$ , we have  $0 \in \mu_1$ . Then  $\mu(0) = 1$ . Again let  $A$  be any subset of  $Q$ . Put  $\alpha = \inf\{\mu(a) : a \in A\}$ . Then  $\mu(a) \geq \alpha$ ,  $\forall a \in A$ . Thus  $A \subseteq \mu_\alpha$ . This implies  $A^{ul} \subseteq \mu_\alpha^{ul} \subseteq \mu_\alpha$ . Since  $x \in A^{ul}$ ,  $x \in \mu_\alpha$ . So  $\mu(x) \geq \alpha = \inf\{\mu(a) : a \in A\}$ . Hence  $\mu$  is an  $L$ -fuzzy closed ideal of  $Q$ . This proves the result.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.4.** Let  $\mu$  be a fuzzy closed ideal of a poset  $Q$ . Then  $\mu$  is anti-tone in the sense that  $\mu(x) \geq \mu(y)$ , whenever  $x \leq y$ .

*Proof.* Let  $x, y \in Q$  such that  $x \leq y$ . Put  $\mu(y) = \alpha$ . Since  $\mu$  a fuzzy closed ideal, we have  $\mu_\alpha$  is a closed ideal of  $Q$ , i.e.,  $(\mu_\alpha)^{ul} \subseteq \mu_\alpha$ . Since  $\mu(y) = \alpha$ ,  $y \in \mu_\alpha$ . Then  $y^l = \{y\}^{ul} \subseteq (\mu_\alpha)^{ul} \subseteq \mu_\alpha$ . Thus  $x \leq y \Rightarrow x \in y^l \Rightarrow x \in \mu_\alpha$ . So  $\mu(x) \geq \alpha = \mu(y)$ . This proves the result.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.5.** *The intersection of any family of fuzzy closed ideals is a fuzzy closed ideal.*

**Theorem 3.6.** *Let  $(A]_C$  be a closed ideal generated subset  $A$  of  $Q$  and  $\chi_A$  be its characteristics functions. Then  $(\chi_A] = \chi_{(A]_C}$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $(A]_C$  is a closed ideal of  $Q$  containing  $A$ , by Lemma 3.2, we have  $\chi_{(A]_C}$  is a fuzzy closed ideal. Since  $A \subseteq (A]$ , we have  $\chi_A \subseteq \chi_{(A]_C}$ . We remain to show that it is the smallest fuzzy closed ideal containing  $\chi_A$ . Let  $\mu$  be any  $L$ -fuzzy closed ideal such that  $\chi_A \subseteq \mu$ . Then  $\mu(a) = 1$ , for all  $a \in A$ . Now we claim  $\chi_{(A]_C} \subseteq \mu$ . Let  $x \in Q$ . If  $x \notin (A]$ , then  $\chi_{(A]}(x) = 0 \leq \mu(x)$ . If  $x \in (A]_C$ , then  $x \in B^{ul}$ , for some subset  $B$  of  $A$ . Thus  $\mu(x) \geq \inf\{\mu(b) : b \in B\} = 1 = \chi_{(A]_C}(x)$ . So  $\chi_{(A]_C}(x) \leq \mu(x)$ , for all  $x \in Q$ . Hence the claim holds. This completes the proof.  $\square$

In the following theorem we characterize the fuzzy closed ideal generated by a fuzzy subset of  $Q$  in terms of its level ideals.

**Theorem 3.7.** *Let  $\mu$  be an  $L$ -fuzzy subset of  $Q$ . Then the  $L$ -fuzzy subset  $\hat{\mu}$  of  $Q$  defined by  $\hat{\mu}(x) = \sup\{\alpha \in L : x \in (\mu_\alpha]_C\}$ , for all  $x \in Q$  is a fuzzy closed ideal of  $Q$  generated by  $\mu$ .*

*Proof.* We show  $\hat{\mu}$  is the smallest fuzzy closed ideal containing  $\mu$ . Let  $x \in Q$  and put  $\mu(x) = \beta$ . Then  $x \in \mu_\beta \subseteq (\mu_\beta]_C$ . Thus  $\beta \in \{\alpha \in L : x \in (\mu_\alpha]_C\}$ . So

$$\mu(x) = \beta \leq \sup\{\alpha \in L : x \in (\mu_\alpha]_C\} = \hat{\mu}(x).$$

Hence  $\mu \subseteq \hat{\mu}$ .

Again since  $0 \in Q^l \subseteq (\mu_\alpha]_C$ , for all  $\alpha \in L$ , we have  $\hat{\mu}(0) = 1$ . Let  $A$  be any subset of  $Q$  and  $x \in A^{ul}$ . On the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned} \inf\{\hat{\mu}(a) : a \in A\} &= \inf\{\sup\{\alpha_a : a \in (\mu_{\alpha_a}]_C\} : a \in A\} \\ &= \sup\{\inf\{\alpha_a : a \in A\} : a \in (\mu_{\alpha_a}]_C\}. \end{aligned}$$

Put  $\lambda = \inf\{\alpha_a : a \in A\}$ . Then  $\lambda \leq \alpha_a$ , for all  $a \in A$ . Thus  $(\mu_{\alpha_a}]_C \subseteq (\mu_\lambda]_C, \forall a \in A$ . So  $A \subseteq (\mu_\lambda]_C$  and thus  $x \in A^{ul} \subseteq ((\mu_\lambda]_C)^{ul} \subseteq (\mu_\lambda]_C$ . Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \inf\{\hat{\mu}(a) : a \in A\} &= \sup\{\inf\{\alpha_a : a \in A\} : a \in (\mu_{\alpha_a}]_C\} \\ &\leq \sup\{\lambda \in L : x \in (\mu_\lambda]_C\} \\ &= \hat{\mu}(x). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $\hat{\mu}$  is a Fuzzy closed ideal.

Again let  $\theta$  be any fuzzy closed ideal of  $Q$  such that  $\mu \subseteq \theta$ . Then  $\mu_\alpha \subseteq \theta_\alpha$ . Thus  $(\mu_\alpha]_C \subseteq (\theta_\alpha]_C = \theta_\alpha$ . So for any  $x \in Q$ ,  $\hat{\mu}(x) = \sup\{\alpha \in L : x \in (\mu_\alpha]_C\} \leq \sup\{\alpha \in L : x \in \theta_\alpha\} = \theta(x)$ . Hence  $\hat{\mu} \subseteq \theta$ . This proves that  $\hat{\mu}$  is the smallest fuzzy closed ideal containing  $\mu$ . Therefore  $\hat{\mu} = (\mu]$ .  $\square$

In the following we give an algebraic characterization of  $L$ -fuzzy Closed ideal generated by a fuzzy subset of  $Q$ .

**Theorem 3.8.** *Let  $\mu$  be a fuzzy subset of  $Q$ . Then the fuzzy subset  $\bar{\mu}$  defined by*

$$\bar{\mu}(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x = 0 \\ \sup\{\inf_{a \in A} \mu(a) : A \subseteq Q \text{ and } x \in A^{ul}\} & \text{if } x \neq 0 \end{cases}$$

*is a fuzzy closed ideal of  $Q$  generated by  $\mu$ .*

*Proof.* It is enough to show that  $\bar{\mu} = \hat{\mu}$ , where  $\hat{\mu}$  is a fuzzy subset defined in the above theorem. Let  $x \in Q$ . If  $x = 0$ , then  $\bar{\mu}(x) = 1 = \hat{\mu}(x)$ . Let  $x \neq 0$ . Put

$$A_x = \{ \inf_{a \in A} \mu(a) : A \subseteq Q \text{ and } x \in A^{ul} \} \text{ and } B_x = \{ \alpha : x \in (\mu_\alpha]_C \}.$$

Now we show  $\sup A_x = \sup B_x$ . Let  $\alpha \in A_x$ . Then  $\alpha = \inf_{a \in A} \mu(a)$ , for some subset  $A$  of  $Q$  such that  $x \in A^{ul}$ . This implies that  $\alpha \leq \mu(a)$ , for all  $a \in A$ . Thus  $A \subseteq \mu_\alpha \subseteq (\mu_\alpha]_C$ . Since  $(\mu_\alpha]_C$  is a closed ideal, we have  $A^{ul} \subseteq ((\mu_\alpha]_C)^{ul} \subseteq (\mu_\alpha]_C$ . So  $x \in (\mu_\alpha]$ , i.e.,  $\alpha \in B_x$ . Hence  $A_x \subseteq B_x$ . Therefore  $\sup A_x \leq \sup B_x$ .

Again let  $\alpha \in B_x$ . Then  $x \in (\mu_\alpha]_C$ . Since  $(\mu_\alpha]_C = \bigcup \{ A^{ul} : A \subseteq \mu_\alpha \}$ , we have  $x \in A^{ul}$ , for some subset  $A$  of  $\mu_\alpha$ . This implies  $\mu(a) \geq \alpha$ , for all  $a \in A$ . Thus  $\inf \{ \mu(a) : a \in A \} \geq \alpha$ . Put  $\beta = \inf \{ \mu(a) : a \in A \}$ . Then  $\beta \in A_x$ . Thus for each  $\alpha \in B_x$ , we get  $\beta \in A_x$  such that  $\alpha \leq \beta$ . So  $\sup A_x \geq \sup B_x$ . Hence  $\sup A_x = \sup B_x$  and thus  $\bar{\mu} = \hat{\mu}$ . Therefore  $\bar{\mu} = (\mu)$ .  $\square$

The above result yields the following.

**Theorem 3.9.** *The set  $\mathcal{FCI}(Q)$  of all  $L$ -fuzzy closed ideals of  $Q$  forms a complete lattice, in which the supremum  $\sup_{i \in \Delta} \mu_i$  and the infimum  $\inf_{i \in \Delta} \mu_i$  of any family  $\{ \mu_i : i \in \Delta \}$  of  $L$ -fuzzy closed ideals of  $Q$  respectively are given by:*

$$\begin{aligned} & (\sup_{i \in \Delta} \mu_i)(x) \\ &= \overline{\left( \bigcup_{i \in \Delta} \mu_i \right)}(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x = 0 \\ \sup \{ \inf_{a \in A} (\bigcup_{i \in \Delta} \mu_i)(a) : A \subseteq Q \text{ and } x \in A^{ul} \} & \text{if } x \neq 0 \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

and  $(\inf_{i \in \Delta} \mu_i)(x) = (\bigcap_{i \in \Delta} \mu_i)(x)$ , for all  $x \in Q$ .

**Corollary 3.10.** *For any  $\mu$  and  $\theta$  in  $\mathcal{FCI}(Q)$ , the supremum  $\mu \vee \theta$  and the infimum  $\mu \wedge \theta$  of  $\mu$  and  $\theta$ , respectively are:*

$$\begin{aligned} & (\mu \vee \theta)(x) \\ &= \overline{(\mu \cup \theta)}(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x = 0 \\ \sup \{ \inf_{a \in A} (\mu \cup \theta)(a) : A \subseteq Q \text{ and } x \in A^{ul} \} & \text{if } x \neq 0 \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

and  $(\mu \wedge \theta)(x) = (\mu \cap \theta)(x)$ , for all  $x \in Q$ .

Now we introduce the fuzzy version of the ideals of a poset introduced by Frink [6].

**Definition 3.11.** An  $L$ -fuzzy subset  $\mu$  of  $Q$  is called an  $L$ -fuzzy Frink ideal, if it satisfies the following conditions:

- (i)  $\mu(0) = 1$ ,
- (ii) for any finite subset  $F$  of  $Q$ ,  $\mu(x) \geq \inf \{ \mu(a) : a \in F \} \forall x \in F^{ul}$ .

**Lemma 3.12.** *An  $L$ -fuzzy subset  $\mu$  of  $Q$  is an  $L$ -fuzzy Frink ideal of  $Q$  if and only if  $\mu_\alpha$  is a Frink ideal of  $Q$ , for all  $\alpha \in L$ .*

**Corollary 3.13.** *A subset  $I$  of  $Q$  is a Frink ideal of  $Q$  if and only if its characteristic map  $\chi_I$  is an  $L$ -fuzzy Frink ideal of  $Q$ .*

**Lemma 3.14.** *The intersection of any family of fuzzy Frink-ideals is a Fuzzy frink-ideal.*

**Theorem 3.15.** *Let  $(A)_F$  be a Frink-ideal generated subset  $A$  of  $Q$  and  $\chi_A$  be its characteristics functions. Then  $(\chi_A) = \chi_{(A)_F}$ .*

In the following theorems we give characterizations of fuzzy Frink ideals generated by a fuzzy subset of  $Q$ .

**Theorem 3.16.** *For any fuzzy subset  $\mu$  of  $Q$ , define a fuzzy subset  $\hat{\mu}$  of  $Q$  by  $\hat{\mu}(x) = \sup\{\alpha \in L : x \in (\mu_\alpha)_F\}$ , for all  $x \in Q$ . Then  $\hat{\mu}$  is a Frink fuzzy ideal of  $Q$  generated by  $\mu$ .*

In the following we give an algebraic characterization of fuzzy ideals generated by fuzzy sets. We write  $F \subset\subset Q$  to mean that  $F$  a finite subset of  $Q$ .

**Theorem 3.17.** *Let  $\mu$  be a fuzzy subset of  $Q$ . Then the fuzzy subset  $\bar{\mu}$  defined by:*

$$\bar{\mu}(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x = 0 \\ \sup\{\inf_{a \in F} \mu(a) : F \subset\subset Q \text{ and } x \in F^{ul}\} & \text{if } x \neq 0 \end{cases}$$

*is a Frink fuzzy ideal of  $Q$  generated by  $\mu$ .*

The above result yields the following.

**Theorem 3.18.** *The set  $\mathcal{FFI}(Q)$  of all  $L$ -fuzzy Frink ideal of  $Q$  forms a complete lattice, in which the supremum  $\sup_{i \in \Delta} \mu_i$  and the infimum  $\inf_{i \in \Delta} \mu_i$  of any family  $\{\mu_i : i \in \Delta\}$  of  $L$ -fuzzy Frink ideals of  $Q$  are given by:*

$$\sup_{i \in \Delta} \mu_i = \overline{\bigcup_{i \in \Delta} \mu_i} \text{ and } \inf_{i \in \Delta} \mu_i = \bigcap_{i \in \Delta} \mu_i.$$

**Corollary 3.19.** *For any  $\mu$  and  $\theta$  in  $\mathcal{FFI}(Q)$ , the supremum  $\mu \vee \theta$  and the infimum  $\mu \wedge \theta$  of  $\mu$  and  $\theta$ , respectively are:*

$$\mu \vee \theta = \overline{\mu \cup \theta} \text{ and } \mu \wedge \theta = \mu \cap \theta.$$

Now we introduce the fuzzy version of semi-ideals and  $V$ -ideals of a poset introduced by Venkatanarasimhan [17, 18].

**Definition 3.20.** An  $L$ -fuzzy subset  $\mu$  of  $Q$  is called an  $L$ -fuzzy semi-ideal or  $L$ -fuzzy order ideal, if  $\mu(x) \geq \mu(y)$ , whenever  $x \leq y$  in  $Q$ .

**Definition 3.21.** An  $L$ -fuzzy subset  $\mu$  of  $Q$  is called an  $L$ -fuzzy  $V$ -ideal, if it satisfies the following conditions:

- (i)  $\mu(0) = 1$ ,
- (ii) for any  $x, y \in Q$ ,  $\mu(x) \geq \mu(y)$ , whenever  $x \leq y$ ,
- (iii) for any non-empty finite subset  $F$  of  $Q$ , if  $\sup F$  exists, then

$$\mu(\sup F) \geq \inf\{\mu(a) : a \in F\}.$$

**Theorem 3.22.** *Every  $L$ -fuzzy Frink ideal is an  $L$ -fuzzy  $V$ -ideal.*

*Proof.* Let  $\mu$  is an  $L$ -fuzzy Frink ideal and let  $x, y \in Q$  such that  $x \leq y$ . Put  $\mu(y) = \alpha$ . Since  $\mu$  an  $L$ -fuzzy Frink ideal, we have  $\mu_\alpha$  is a Frink ideal of  $Q$ . Since  $\mu(y) = \alpha$ ,  $y \in \mu_\alpha$ . Then  $\{y\} \subseteq \mu_\alpha$ . Thus  $\{y\}^{ul} \subseteq \mu_\alpha$ . Since  $x \leq y$ ,  $x \in y^l = y^{ul} \subseteq \mu_\alpha$ . So  $\mu(x) \geq \alpha = \mu(y)$ .



Again let  $F$  be any nonempty subset of  $Q$  such that  $\sup F$  exists in  $Q$ . Then  $F^{ul} = (\sup A]$ . Thus  $\sup F \in F^{ul}$  and  $\mu(\sup F) \geq \inf\{\mu(a) : a \in F\}$ . So  $\mu$  is an  $L$ -fuzzy  $V$ -ideal.  $\square$

Now we introduce the fuzzy version ideals of a poset introduced by Halaš [9] which seems to be a suitable generalization of the usual concept of  $L$ -fuzzy ideal of a lattice.

**Definition 3.23.** An  $L$ -fuzzy subset  $\mu$  of  $Q$  is called an  $L$ -fuzzy ideal in the sense of Halaš, if it satisfies the following conditions:

- (i)  $\mu(0) = 1$ ,
- (ii) for any  $a, b \in Q$ ,  $\mu(x) \geq \mu(a) \wedge \mu(b)$ , for all  $x \in (a, b)^{ul}$ .

In the rest of this paper, an  $L$ -fuzzy ideal of a poset will mean an  $L$ -fuzzy ideal in the sense of Halaš given in the above definition.

**Lemma 3.24.** An  $L$ -fuzzy subset  $\mu$  of  $Q$  is an  $L$ -fuzzy ideal of  $Q$  if and only if  $\mu_\alpha$  is an ideal of  $Q$  in the sense of Halaš, for all  $\alpha \in L$ .

**Corollary 3.25.** A subset  $I$  of  $Q$  is an ideal of  $Q$  in the sense of Halaš if and only if its characteristic map  $\chi_I$  is an  $L$ -fuzzy ideal of  $Q$ .

**Lemma 3.26.** If  $\mu$  is an  $L$ -fuzzy ideal of  $Q$ , then the following assertions hold:

- (1) for any  $x, y \in Q$ ,  $\mu(x) \geq \mu(y)$ , whenever  $x \leq y$ ,
- (2) for any  $x, y \in Q$ ,  $\mu(x \vee y) \geq \mu(x) \wedge \mu(y)$ , whenever  $x \vee y$  exists.

**Theorem 3.27.** Let  $(Q, \leq)$  be a lattice. Then an  $L$ -fuzzy subset  $\mu$  of  $Q$  is an  $L$ -fuzzy ideal in the poset  $Q$  if and only if it is an  $L$ -fuzzy ideal in the lattice  $Q$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\mu$  be an  $L$ -fuzzy ideal in the poset  $Q$  and  $a, b \in Q$ . Then  $\mu(0) = 1$ . Since  $a \vee b \in (a \vee b] = (a, b)^{ul}$ , we have  $\mu(a \vee b) \geq \mu(a) \wedge \mu(b)$ . Since  $\mu$  is anti-tone, we have  $\mu(a) \geq \mu(a \vee b)$  and  $\mu(b) \geq \mu(a \vee b)$ . Thus  $\mu(a) \wedge \mu(b) \geq \mu(a \vee b)$ . So  $\mu(a \vee b) = \mu(a) \wedge \mu(b)$ . Hence  $\mu$  is an  $L$ -fuzzy ideal in the lattice  $Q$ .

Conversely, suppose  $\mu$  is an  $L$ -fuzzy ideal in the lattice  $Q$ . Let  $a, b \in Q$  and  $x \in (a, b)^{ul}$ . Then  $x \leq y$ , for all  $y \in (a, b)^u$ . Since  $a \vee b \in (a, b)^u$ , we have  $x \leq a \vee b$ . Thus  $\mu(x) \geq \mu(a \vee b) = \mu(a) \wedge \mu(b)$ . So  $\mu$  is an  $L$ -fuzzy ideal in the poset  $Q$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.28.** The intersection of any family of  $L$ -fuzzy ideals is an  $L$ -fuzzy ideal.

**Theorem 3.29.** Let  $(A]_H$  be an ideal generated subset  $A$  of  $Q$  in the sense of Halaš and  $\chi_A$  be its characteristics functions. Then  $(\chi_A] = \chi_{(A]_H}$ .

**Definition 3.30.** Let  $\mu$  be a fuzzy subset of  $Q$  and  $\mathcal{N}$  be a set of positive integers. Define a fuzzy subset  $C_1^\mu$  of  $Q$  by  $C_1^\mu(x) = \sup\{\mu(a) \wedge \mu(b) : x \in (a, b)^{ul}\}$ ,  $\forall x \in Q$ . Inductively, let  $C_{n+1}^\mu(x) = \sup\{C_n^\mu(a) \wedge C_n^\mu(b) : x \in (a, b)^{ul}\}$ , for each  $n \in \mathcal{N}$ .

Now we give a characterization of an  $L$ -fuzzy ideal generated by a fuzzy subset of a poset  $Q$ .

**Theorem 3.31.** The set  $\{C_n^\mu : n \in \mathcal{N}\}$  form a chain and the fuzzy subset  $\hat{\mu}$  defined by: for all  $x \in Q$ ,

$$\hat{\mu}(x) = \sup\{C_n^\mu(x) : n \in \mathcal{N}\}$$

is a fuzzy ideal generated by  $\mu$ .

*Proof.* Let  $x \in Q$  and  $n \in \mathcal{N}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} C_{n+1}^\mu(x) &= \sup\{C_n^\mu(a) \wedge C_n^\mu(b) : x \in (a, b)^{ul}\} \\ &\geq C_n^\mu(x) \wedge C_n^\mu(x) \text{ (since } x \in x^l = (x, x)^{ul}\text{)} \\ &= C_n^\mu(x), \forall x \in Q. \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $C_n^\mu \subseteq C_{n+1}^\mu$ , for each  $n \in \mathcal{N}$ . So  $\{C_n^\mu : n \in \mathcal{N}\}$  is a chain.

Now we show  $\hat{\mu}$  is the smallest fuzzy ideal containing  $\mu$ . Since

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\mu}(x) &= \sup\{C_n^\mu(x) : n \in \mathcal{N}\} \\ &\geq C_1^\mu(x) \\ &= \sup\{\mu(a) \wedge \mu(b) : x \in (a, b)^{ul}\} \\ &\geq \mu(x) \wedge \mu(x) \text{ (since } x \in (x, x)^{ul}\text{)} \\ &= \mu(x), \forall x \in Q, \end{aligned}$$

we have  $\mu \subseteq \hat{\mu}$ . Let  $a, b \in L$  and  $x \in (a, b)^{ul}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\mu}(x) &= \sup\{C_n^\mu(x) : n \in \mathcal{N}\} \\ &\geq C_n^\mu(x) \text{ for all } n \in \mathcal{N} \\ &= \sup\{C_{n-1}^\mu(y) \wedge C_{n-1}^\mu(z) : x \in (y, z)^{ul}\} \text{ for all } n \geq 2. \\ &\geq C_{n-1}^\mu(a) \wedge C_{n-1}^\mu(b) \quad \forall n \geq 2 \text{ (since } x \in (a, b)^{ul}\text{)} \\ &= C_m^\mu(a) \wedge C_m^\mu(b), \quad \forall m \in \mathcal{N}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\mu}(x) &\geq \sup\{C_m^\mu(a) \wedge C_m^\mu(b) : m \in \mathcal{N}\} \\ &= \sup\{C_m^\mu(a) : m \in \mathcal{N}\} \wedge \sup\{C_m^\mu(b) : m \in \mathcal{N}\} \\ &= \hat{\mu}(a) \wedge \hat{\mu}(b). \end{aligned}$$

So  $\hat{\mu}$  is a fuzzy ideal.

Again let  $\theta$  be any fuzzy ideal of  $Q$  such that  $\mu \subseteq \theta$ . Now let  $a, b \in Q$  and  $x \in (a, b)^{ul}$ . Then  $\theta(x) \geq \theta(a) \wedge \theta(b) \geq \mu(a) \wedge \mu(b)$ . This implies

$$\theta(x) \geq \sup\{\mu(a) \wedge \mu(b) : x \in (a, b)^{ul}\} = C_1^\mu(x), \forall x \in (a, b)^{ul}.$$

Again for any  $x \in (a, b)^{ul}$ , we have  $\theta(x) \geq \theta(a) \wedge \theta(b) \geq C_1^\mu(a) \wedge C_1^\mu(b)$ . This implies

$$\theta(x) \geq \sup\{C_1^\mu(a) \wedge C_1^\mu(b) : x \in (a, b)^{ul}\} = C_2^\mu(x).$$

Thus by induction, we have  $\theta(x) \geq C_n^\mu(x) \forall n \in \mathcal{N}$  and  $\forall x \in (a, b)^{ul}$ . So for any  $x \in Q$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\mu}(x) &= \sup\{C_n^\mu(x) : n \in \mathcal{N}\} \\ &= \sup\{C_n^\mu(a) \wedge C_n^\mu(b) : x \in (a, b)^{ul}\} \\ &\leq \sup\{\theta(a) \wedge \theta(b) : x \in (a, b)^{ul}\} \text{ (since, } a, b \in (a, b)^{ul}\text{)} \\ &\leq \theta(x). \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $\hat{\mu} \subseteq \theta$ . This completes the proof. □

The above result yields the following.

**Theorem 3.32.** The set  $\mathcal{FI}(Q)$  of all  $L$ -fuzzy ideal of  $Q$  forms a complete lattice, in which the supremum  $\sup_{i \in \Delta} \mu_i$  and the infimum  $\inf_{i \in \Delta} \mu_i$  of any family  $\{\mu_i : i \in \Delta\}$  in  $\mathcal{FI}(Q)$  respectively are: for all  $x \in Q$ ,

$$(\sup_{i \in \Delta} \mu_i)(x) = \sup\{C_n^{\bigcup_{i \in \Delta} \mu_i}(x) : n \in \mathcal{N}\} \text{ and } (\inf_{i \in \Delta} \mu_i)(x) = (\bigcap_{i \in \Delta} \mu_i)(x).$$

**Corollary 3.33.** For any  $\mu$  and  $\theta \in \mathcal{FI}(Q)$  the supremum  $\mu \vee \theta$  and the infimum  $\mu \wedge \theta$  of  $\mu$  and  $\theta$  respectively are: for all  $x \in Q$ ,

$$(\mu \vee \theta)(x) = \sup\{C_n^{\mu \cup \theta}(x) : n \in \mathcal{N}\} \text{ and } (\mu \wedge \theta)(x) = (\mu \cap \theta)(x).$$

**Theorem 3.34.** The following implications hold, where none of them is an equivalence:

- (1)  $L$ -fuzzy closed ideal  $\implies L$ -fuzzy Frink ideal  $\implies L$ -fuzzy  $V$ -ideal  $\implies L$ -fuzzy semi-ideal,
- (2)  $L$ -fuzzy closed ideal  $\implies L$ -fuzzy Frink ideal  $\implies L$ -fuzzy ideal  $\implies L$ -fuzzy semi-ideal.

The following examples show that the converse of the above implications do not hold in general.

**Example 3.35.** Consider the Poset  $([0, 1], \leq)$  with the usual ordering. Define a fuzzy subset  $\mu : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  by:

$$\mu(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \in [0, \frac{1}{2}) \\ 0 & \text{if } x \in [\frac{1}{2}, 1]. \end{cases}$$

Then  $\mu$  is  $L$ -fuzzy Frink ideal but not  $L$ -fuzzy closed ideal.

**Example 3.36.** Consider the poset  $(Q, \leq)$  depicted in the figure below. Define a fuzzy subset  $\mu : Q \rightarrow [0, 1]$  by:  $\mu(0) = \mu(a) = 1$ ,  $\mu(a') = \mu(b') = \mu(c') = \mu(d') = \mu(1) = 0.2$ ,  $\mu(b) = 0.6$ ,  $\mu(c) = 0.5$  and  $\mu(d) = 0.7$ .

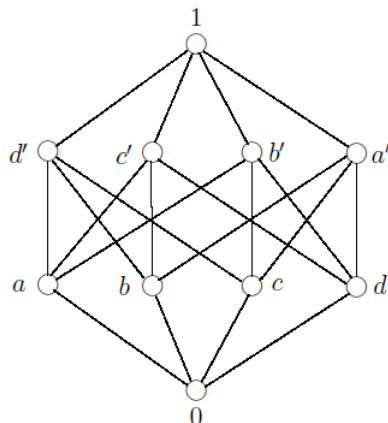


Figure 1

Then  $\mu$  is  $L$ -fuzzy ideal but not  $L$ -fuzzy Frink-ideal.

**Example 3.37.** Consider the poset  $(Q, \leq)$  depicted in the figure below. Define a fuzzy subset  $\mu : Q \rightarrow [0, 1]$  by:  $\mu(0) = 1$ ,  $\mu(a) = \mu(b) = 0.8$  and  $\mu(c) = 0.6$ .

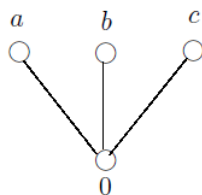


Figure 2

Then  $\mu$  is  $L$ -fuzzy V-ideal but not  $L$ -fuzzy Frink-ideal.

**Example 3.38.** Consider the poset  $(Q, \leq)$  depicted in the figure below. Define a fuzzy subset  $\mu : Q \rightarrow [0, 1]$  by:  $\mu(0) = \mu(a) = 1$ ,  $\mu(b) = 0.8$ ,  $\mu(c) = 0.9$ ,  $\mu(d) = \mu(e) = 0.2$  and  $\mu(1) = 0$ .

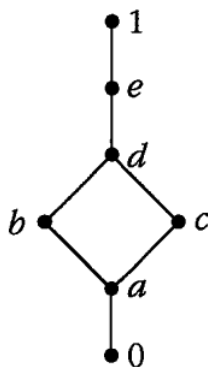


Figure 3

Then  $\mu$  is  $L$ -fuzzy semi-ideal but not  $L$ -fuzzy ideal.

**Theorem 3.39.** Let  $x \in Q$  and  $\alpha \in L$ . Define an  $L$ -fuzzy subset  $\alpha_x$  of  $Q$  by

$$\alpha_x(y) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } y \in (x] \\ \alpha & \text{if } y \notin (x], \end{cases}$$

for all  $y \in Q$ . Then  $\alpha_x$  is an  $L$ -fuzzy ideal of  $Q$ .

*Proof.* By the definition of  $\alpha_x$ , we clearly have  $\alpha_x(0) = 1$ . Let  $a, b \in Q$  and  $y \in (a, b)^{ul}$ .

If  $a, b \in (x]$ , then  $(a, b)^{ul} \subseteq (x]$  and  $\alpha_x(a) = \alpha_x(b) = 1$ . Thus  $\alpha_x(y) = 1 = 1 \wedge 1 = \alpha_x(a) \wedge \alpha_x(b)$ .

If  $a \notin (x]$  or  $b \notin (x]$ , then  $\alpha_x(a) = \alpha$  or  $\alpha_x(b) = \alpha$ . Thus

$$\alpha_x(y) \geq \alpha = \alpha_x(a) \wedge \alpha_x(b).$$

So in either cases, we have  $\alpha_x(y) \geq \alpha_x(a) \wedge \alpha_x(b)$ , for all  $y \in (a, b)^{ul}$ . Hence  $\alpha_x$  is an  $L$ -fuzzy ideal.  $\square$

**Definition 3.40.** The  $L$ -fuzzy ideal  $\alpha_x$  defined above is called the  $\alpha$ -level principal fuzzy ideal corresponding to  $x$ .

**Definition 3.41.** An  $L$ -fuzzy ideal  $\mu$  of a poset  $Q$  is called a  $u$ - $L$ -fuzzy ideal, if for any  $a, b \in Q$ , there exists  $x \in (a, b)^u$  such that  $\mu(x) = \mu(a) \wedge \mu(b)$ .

Note that this property is immediately extends from  $\{a, b\}$  to any finite subset of  $Q$ . That is, if  $\mu$  is a  $u$ - $L$ -fuzzy ideal then there exists  $x \in F^u$  such that  $\mu(x) = \mu(a) \wedge \mu(b)$ .

**Lemma 3.42.** *An  $L$ -fuzzy ideal  $\mu$  of  $Q$  is a  $u$ - $L$ -fuzzy ideal of  $Q$  if and only if  $\mu_\alpha$  is a  $u$ -ideal of  $Q$ , for all  $\alpha \in L$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose  $\mu$  is a  $u$ - $L$ -fuzzy ideal and  $\alpha \in L$ . Since  $\mu$  is an  $L$ -fuzzy ideal,  $\mu_\alpha$  is an ideal of  $Q$ . Let  $a, b \in \mu_\alpha$ . Then  $\mu(a) \geq \alpha$  and  $\mu(b) \geq \alpha$ . Thus  $\mu(a) \wedge \mu(b) \geq \alpha$ . Since  $\mu$  is a  $u$ - $L$ -fuzzy ideal, there exists  $x \in (a, b)^u$  such that  $\mu(x) = \mu(a) \wedge \mu(b)$ . So  $\mu(x) \geq \alpha$ . Hence  $x \in \mu_\alpha \cap (a, b)^u$  and thus  $\mu_\alpha \cap (a, b)^u \neq \emptyset$ . Therefore  $\mu_\alpha$  is a  $u$ - $L$ -fuzzy ideal of a poset  $Q$ .

Conversely, suppose  $\mu_\alpha$  is a  $u$ -ideal of a poset  $Q$ , for all  $\alpha \in L$ . Then  $\mu$  is an  $L$ -fuzzy ideal. Let  $a, b \in Q$  and put  $\alpha = \mu(a) \wedge \mu(b)$ . Then  $\mu_\alpha \cap (a, b)^u \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $x \in \mu_\alpha \cap (a, b)^u$ . Then  $x \in \mu_\alpha$  and  $x \in (a, b)^u$ . This implies  $\mu(x) \geq \alpha = \mu(a) \wedge \mu(b)$  and  $a \leq x, b \leq x$ . Since  $\mu$  is anti-tone, we have  $\mu(a) \geq \mu(x)$  and  $\mu(b) \geq \mu(x)$ . Thus  $\mu(a) \wedge \mu(b) \geq \mu(x)$ . So there exists  $x \in (a, b)^u$  such that  $\mu(x) = \mu(a) \wedge \mu(b)$ . Hence  $\mu$  is a  $u$ - $L$ -fuzzy ideal.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.43.** *Let  $(Q, \leq)$  be a poset with 1 and let  $x \in Q$  and  $\alpha \in L$ . Then the  $\alpha$ -level principal fuzzy ideal corresponding to  $x$  is a  $u$ - $L$ -fuzzy ideal.*

**Remark 3.44.** Every  $L$ -fuzzy ideal is not a  $u$ - $L$ -fuzzy ideal. For example consider the poset  $(Q \leq)$  depicted in the figure below and define a fuzzy subset  $\mu : Q \rightarrow [0, 1]$  and of  $Q$  by  $\mu(0) = 1, \mu(a) = \mu(b) = 0.9, \mu(c) = \mu(d) = \mu(1) = 0.7$ . Then  $\mu$  is an  $L$ -fuzzy ideal but not a  $u$ - $L$ -fuzzy ideal.

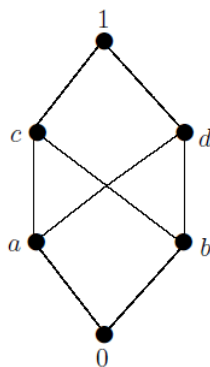


Figure 4

**Theorem 3.45.** *Every  $u$ - $L$ -fuzzy ideal is an  $L$ -fuzzy Frink ideal.*

*Proof.* suppose  $\mu$  is a  $u$ - $L$ -fuzzy ideal. Let  $F$  be a finite subset of  $Q$ . Then there is  $y \in F^u$  such that  $\mu(y) = \inf\{\mu(a) : a \in F\}$ . Let  $x \in F^{ul}$ . Then  $x \leq s, \forall s \in F^u$ . Since  $y \in F^u, x \leq y$ . Thus  $\mu(x) \geq \mu(y) = \inf\{\mu(a) : a \in F\}$ . So

$$\mu(x) \geq \inf\{\mu(a) : a \in F\}.$$

Hence  $\mu$  is an  $L$ -fuzzy Frink ideal.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.46.** Let  $\mu$  and  $\theta$  be  $u$ - $L$ -fuzzy ideals of  $Q$ . Then the supremum  $\mu \vee \theta$  of  $\mu$  and  $\theta$  in  $\mathcal{FI}(Q)$  is given by: for all  $x \in Q$ ,

$$(\mu \vee \theta)(x) = \sup\{\mu(a) \wedge \theta(b) : x \in (a, b)^{ul}\}.$$

*Proof.* Let  $\sigma$  be an  $L$ -fuzzy subset of  $Q$  defined by: for each  $x \in Q$ ,

$$\sigma(x) = \sup\{\mu(a) \wedge \theta(b) : x \in (a, b)^{ul}\}.$$

We claim  $\sigma$  is the smallest  $L$ -fuzzy ideal of  $Q$  containing  $\mu \cup \theta$ . Let  $x \in Q$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma(x) &= \sup\{\mu(a) \wedge \theta(b) : x \in (a, b)^{ul}\} \\ &\geq \mu(x) \wedge \theta(0), \text{ (since } x \in (x, 0)^{ul}\text{)} \\ &= \mu(x) \wedge 1 = \mu(x). \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $\sigma \supseteq \mu$ . Similarly, we can show  $\sigma \supseteq \theta$ . So  $\sigma \supseteq \mu \cup \theta$ .

Let  $a, b \in Q$  and  $x \in (a, b)^{ul}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma(a) \wedge \sigma(b) &= \sup\{\mu(c) \wedge \theta(d) : a \in (c, d)^{ul}\} \wedge \sup\{\mu(e) \wedge \theta(f) : b \in (e, f)^{ul}\} \\ &= \sup\{\mu(c) \wedge \theta(d) \wedge \mu(e) \wedge \theta(f) : a \in (c, d)^{ul}, b \in (e, f)^{ul}\} \\ &\leq \sup\{\mu(c) \wedge \theta(d) \wedge \mu(e) \wedge \theta(f) : a, b \in (c, d, e, f)^{ul}\} \\ &= \sup\{\mu(c) \wedge \mu(e) \wedge \theta(d) \wedge \theta(f) : a, b \in (c, d, e, f)^{ul}\}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\mu$  and  $\theta$  are  $u$ - $L$ -fuzzy ideals, for each  $c, e$  and  $d, f$ , there are  $r \in (c, e)^u$  and  $s \in (d, f)^u$  such that  $\mu(r) = \mu(c) \wedge \mu(e)$  and  $\theta(s) = \theta(d) \wedge \theta(f)$ . Since  $r \in (c, e)^u$  and  $s \in (d, f)^u$ ,  $\{c, d, e, f\}^{ul} \subseteq \{s, r\}^{ul}$ . Thus  $a, b \in \{s, r\}^{ul}$ . So  $(a, b)^{ul} \subseteq \{s, r\}^{ul}$  and thus  $x \in \{s, r\}^{ul}$ . Hence for all  $x \in (a, b)^{ul}$ ,

$$\sigma(a) \wedge \sigma(b) \leq \sup\{\mu(r) \wedge \theta(s) : x \in (r, s)^{ul}\} \leq \sigma(x).$$

Therefore  $\sigma$  is an  $L$ -fuzzy ideal.

Let  $\phi$  be any  $L$ -fuzzy ideal of  $Q$  such that  $\mu \cup \theta \subseteq \phi$ . Then for any  $x \in Q$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma(x) &= \sup\{\mu(a) \wedge \theta(b) : x \in (a, b)^{ul}\} \\ &\leq \sup\{\phi(a) \wedge \phi(b) : x \in (a, b)^{ul}\} \\ &\leq \phi(x). \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $\sigma \subseteq \phi$ . So  $\sigma = (\mu \cup \theta) = \mu \vee \theta$ . Hence  $\sigma$  is the supremum of  $\mu$  and  $\theta$  in  $\mathcal{FI}(Q)$ .  $\square$

Now we complete this paper by introducing the following definition which generalize all the  $L$ -fuzzy ideals of a poset introduced above.

**Definition 3.47.** An  $L$ -fuzzy subset  $\mu$  of  $Q$  is an  $L$ -fuzzy  $m$ -ideal, if it satisfies the following conditions:

- (i)  $\mu(0) = 1$ ,
- (ii) for any subset  $A$  of  $Q$  of cardinality strictly less than  $m$ , we have  $\mu(x) \geq \inf\{\mu(a) : a \in A\}$ ,  $\forall x \in A^{ul}$ , where  $m$  is any cardinal.

**Remark 3.48.** Note that the  $L$ -fuzzy  $\Omega$ -ideals are nothing but the  $L$ -fuzzy closed ideal, the  $L$ -fuzzy  $\omega$ -ideals are nothing but the  $L$ -Fuzzy Frink-ideals, the  $L$ -fuzzy 3-ideals are nothing but the  $L$ -fuzzy ideals and the  $L$ -fuzzy 2-ideals are nothing but the  $L$ -fuzzy semi-ideals.

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