

# Possibility measure space

FirasHusseinMaghool

AL- Qadisiya University

Faculty of Computer science and information technology

Department of mathematics

AL- Qadisiya , Iraq

## Abstract:

In this paper, we define a possibility measure as a set function  $Pos : F \rightarrow [0,1]$  where  $F$  is  $\sigma$ -field and discuss some properties of possibility measure to prove important theory

**Keyword:**  $\sigma$ -field, measurable space, possibility measure.

## 1-Introduction:

Possibility measures were introduced by Zadeh [3] in 1978. In his view, Possibility theory is an uncertainty theory devoted to the handling of incomplete information.

Possibility theory lies at the crossroads between fuzzy sets, probability and non-monotonic reasoning. Qualitative possibility theory is closely related to belief revision theory. Possibilistic logic provides a rich representation setting, which enables the handling of lower bounds of possibility theory measures, while remaining close to classical logic. Quantitative possibility theory is the simplest framework for statistical reasoning with imprecise probabilities.

possibility and necessity measures can also be the basis of a full-edged representation of partial belief that parallels probability [2],[4].

In this work define the possibility measure as a set function and study some properties of this measure.

## 2-Preliminaries

**Definition(2.1)[1]:** A family  $F$  of subsets of a set  $\Omega$  is called a  $\sigma$ -field on a set  $\Omega$ , if

$$(1) \Omega \in F$$

$$(2) \text{ If } A \in F, \text{ then } A^c \in F$$

$$(3) \text{ If } A_n \in F, n = 1, 2, \dots \text{ then } \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \in F$$

A measurable space is a pair  $(\Omega, F)$ , where  $\Omega$  is a set and  $F$  is  $\sigma$ -field on  $\Omega$

A subset  $A$  of  $\Omega$  is called measurable (measurable with respect to the  $\sigma$ -field  $F$ ), if  $A \in F$  i.e. any member of  $F$  is called a measurable set.

## Definition(2.2)[4]:

Let  $(\Omega, F)$  be a measurable space, a set function  $Pos : F \rightarrow [0,1]$  is said to be possibility measure if it satisfies the following axioms:

$$(1) Pos(\Omega) = 1$$

$$(2) Pos(\emptyset) = 0$$

(3) For every sequence  $\{A_n\}$  in  $F$ , we have

$$Pos\left(\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n\right) = \max_{1 \leq n \leq \infty} \{Pos(A_n)\}$$

A Possibility space is a triple  $(\Omega, F, Pos)$  where  $\Omega$  is a set,  $F$  is a  $\sigma$ -field,  $Pos$  a possibility measure on  $F$ .

**3-Main result**

**Theorem(3.1)**

Let  $(\Omega, F, Pos)$  be a possibility space, then

(1)  $0 \leq Pos(A) \leq 1$ .

(2)  $Pos(A_1 \cup A_2) \leq Pos(A_1) + Pos(A_2)$ .

(3) If  $A_1, A_2 \in F$  and  $A_1 \subset A_2$  then  $Pos(A_1) \leq Pos(A_2)$ .

(4) If  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n \in F$ , then  $Pos(\bigcup_{k=1}^n A_k) \leq \max_{1 \leq k \leq n} \{Pos(A_k)\}$ .

(5)  $Pos(\bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} A_k) \leq \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} Pos(A_k)$

(6)  $Pos(A_1 \cap A_2) \leq \min\{Pos(A_1), Pos(A_2)\}$

(7)  $Pos(A_1) + Pos(A_2) - 1 \leq Pos(A_1 \cap A_2)$

(8) If  $A_1, A_2 \in F$ , then  $Pos(A_1 - A_2) \geq Pos(A_1) - Pos(A_2)$ .

**Proof :**

(1) Let  $A \in F$

since  $\emptyset \subseteq A \subseteq \Omega$  then  $Pos(\emptyset) \leq Pos(A) \leq Pos(\Omega)$ .

(2)  $Pos(A_1 \cup A_2) = \max\{Pos(A_1), Pos(A_2)\} \leq Pos(A_1) + Pos(A_2)$ .

(3) If  $A_1, A_2 \in F$ ,  $A_1 \subset A_2 \in F$  then

$$A_1^c \cup A_2 = \Omega$$

$$Pos(A_1^c \cup A_2) \leq Pos(A_1^c) + Pos(A_2)$$

$$\Rightarrow Pos(\Omega) \leq Pos(A_1^c) + Pos(A_2)$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 \leq Pos(A_1^c) + Pos(A_2)$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 \leq 1 - Pos(A_1) + Pos(A_2)$$

$$\Rightarrow Pos(A_1) \leq Pos(A_2)$$

(4) put  $A_k = \emptyset$  for all  $k \geq n$

$$\Rightarrow Pos(\bigcup_{k=1}^n A_k) = Pos(\bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} A_k) = \max_{1 \leq k \leq \infty} \{Pos(A_k)\}$$

Since  $Pos(A_k) = Pos(\emptyset) = 0$  when  $k \geq n$  then

$$\max_{1 \leq k \leq \infty} \{Pos(A_k)\} = \max_{1 \leq k \leq n} \{Pos(A_k)\}$$

$$\Rightarrow Pos(\bigcup_{k=1}^n A_k) \leq \max_{1 \leq k \leq n} \{Pos(A_k)\}$$

(5)  $Pos(\bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} A_k) = \max_{1 \leq k \leq \infty} \{Pos(A_k)\}$

$$\leq Pos(A_1) + Pos(A_2) + \dots$$

$$\leq \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} Pos(A_k)$$

(6) Since  $A_1 \cap A_2 \subset A_1$  and  $A_1 \cap A_2 \subset A_2$

$$\Rightarrow Pos(A_1 \cap A_2) \leq Pos(A_1) \text{ and}$$

$$Pos(A_1 \cap A_2) \leq Pos(A_2)$$

$$Pos(A_1 \cap A_2) \leq \min\{Pos(A_1), Pos(A_2)\}$$

(7) Since

$$Pos(A_1^c \cup A_2^c) \leq Pos(A_1^c) + Pos(A_2^c)$$

$$\begin{aligned} -Pos(A_1^c \cup A_2^c) &\geq -(Pos(A_1^c) + Pos(A_2^c)) \\ &\geq -(1 - Pos(A_1)) - (1 - Pos(A_2)) \\ &\geq Pos(A_1) + Pos(A_2) - 2 \end{aligned}$$

And

$$\begin{aligned} Pos(A_1 \cap A_2) &= 1 - Pos(A_1 \cap A_2)^c \\ &= 1 - Pos(A_1^c \cup A_2^c) \geq 1 + Pos(A_1) + Pos(A_2) - 2 \\ Pos(A_1 \cap A_2) &\geq Pos(A_1) + Pos(A_2) - 1 \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$Pos(A_1) + Pos(A_2) - 1 \leq Pos(A_1 \cap A_2)$$

From definition (2.2) we have

$$\max\{Pos(A_1), Pos(A_2)\} = Pos(A_1 \cup A_2)$$

since

$$\begin{aligned} \max\{Pos(A_1), Pos(A_2)\} &\leq Pos(A_1) + Pos(A_2) \\ \text{then } Pos(A_1 \cup A_2) &\leq Pos(A_1) + Pos(A_2) \end{aligned}$$

(8) If

$$\begin{aligned} Pos(A_1 - A_2) &= pos(A_1 \cap A_2^c) \geq Pos(A_1) + pos(A_2^c) - 1 \\ (\text{from part (5)}) &= pos(A_1) + 1 - Pos(A_2) - 1 \\ &= Pos(A_1) - Pos(A_2) \\ Pos(A_1 - A_2) &\geq Pos(A_1 \cap A_2^c) \geq Pos(A_1) + Pos(A_2^c) - 1 \\ &\geq Pos(A_1) + (1 - Pos(A_2)) - 1 \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$Pos(A_1 - A_2) \geq Pos(A_1) - Pos(A_2).$$

**Definition (3.2)[1] :**

A sequence  $\{A_n\}$  of subset of a set  $\Omega$  is said to be increasing if  $A_n \subset A_{n+1}$  for  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ . And is said to be decreasing if  $A_{n+1} \subset A_n$  for  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ .

A monotone sequence of sets is one which either increasing or decreasing

**Theorem(3.3)[1] :**

Any monotone sequence from subset in  $\Omega$  is converge.

**Definition (3.4)[1]:**

If  $\{A_n\}$  is an increasing sequence of subset of a set  $\Omega$  and  $\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n = A$ , we say that  $A_n$  an increasing sequence of a set with limit  $A$ , or that  $A_n$  increase to  $A$ , write  $A_n \uparrow A$ , also if  $\{A_n\}$  is a decreasing sequence of subset of a set  $\Omega$  and  $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n = A$ , we say that the  $A_n$  a decreasing sequence of a set with limit  $A$ , or that the  $A_n$  decrease to  $A$ , write  $A_n \downarrow A$ .

**Theorem (3.5)[1]:**

Let  $\{A_n\}$  be a sequence of subset of a set  $\Omega$  and let  $A \subset \Omega$

$$(1) \text{ If } A_n \uparrow A \text{ then } A_n^c \downarrow A^c$$

$$(2) \text{ If } A_n \downarrow A \text{ then } A_n^c \uparrow A^c$$

**Theorem(3.6):**

Let  $(\Omega, F, Pos)$  be a Possibility space, and let  $\{A_n\}$  be a sequence in  $F$  with  $Pos(A_n) \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , then for any  $A \in F$ , we have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Pos(A \cup A_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Pos(A - A_n) = Pos(A)$$

**Proof :**

Since  $A \subset A \cup A_n \Rightarrow Pos(A) \subset Pos(A \cup A_n)$

for each  $n$ , and since

$$Pos(A \cup A_n) \leq Pos(A) + Pos(A_n) \quad \text{for each } n,$$

it follows that

$$Pos(A) < Pos(A \cup A_n) \leq Pos(A) + Pos(A_n)$$

for each  $n$ .

we have  $Pos(A \cup A_n) \rightarrow Pos(A)$  by using

$$Pos(A_n) \rightarrow 0 .$$

since  $(A - A_n) \subset A \subset (A - A_n) \cup A_n$  we have

$$Pos(A - A_n) \leq Pos(A) \subset Pos(A - A_n) + Pos(A_n)$$

Then  $Pos(A - A_n) \rightarrow Pos(A)$  by using

$$Pos(A_n) \rightarrow 0 .$$

**Theorem (3.7):**

Let  $(\Omega, F, Pos)$  be a Possibility space and let  $\{A_n\}$  be a sequence in  $F$ , we have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Pos(A_n) > 0 \quad \text{if } A_n \uparrow \Omega \quad \text{and}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Pos(A_n) < 1 \quad \text{if } A_n \downarrow \phi$$

**Proof :**

$$\text{Let } A_n \uparrow \Omega \text{ and } \Omega = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n ,$$

$$1 = Pos(\Omega) = Pos\left(\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n\right) = \sup Pos(A_n) \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} Pos(A_n)$$

Since  $Pos(A_n)$  is increasing to  $n$ , we have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Pos(A_n) > 0$$

If  $A_n \downarrow \phi$ , then  $A_n^c \uparrow \Omega$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Pos(A_n) = 1 - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Pos(A_n^c) < 1$$

**Theorem(3.8):**

Let  $(\Omega, F, Pos)$  be a Possibility space, for any sequence  $\{A_n\}$  in  $F$ , we have

(1) If  $A_n \uparrow A$  then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Pos(A_n) \leq Pos(A) .$$

(2) If  $A_n \downarrow A$  then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Pos(A_n) \geq Pos(A) .$$

**Proof:**

(1) Since  $A_n \uparrow A \Rightarrow A_n \subset A_{n+1}$  for

$$n = 1, 2, \dots \quad \text{and} \quad \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n = A$$

$$\Rightarrow A_n \subset A \quad \text{for } n = 1, 2, \dots \Rightarrow$$

$$Pos(A_n) \leq Pos(A) .$$

(2) Since  $A_n \downarrow A \Rightarrow A_n^c \uparrow A^c$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Pos(A_n^c) \leq Pos(A^c)$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (1 - Pos(A_n)) \leq 1 - Pos(A)$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Pos(A_n) \geq Pos(A) .$$

**Theorem(3.9):**

Let  $(\Omega, F, Pos)$  be a Possibility space and let  $\{A_n\}$  is a sequence of subsets of  $\Omega$ , If

$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} Pos(A_n) < \infty$  then  
 $Pos\{\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n\} = 0$ .

**Proof:**

Since

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{K=n}^{\infty} A_K = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \bigcup_{k=n}^{\infty} A_K$$

$$\Rightarrow Pos(\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n) \leq Pos(\bigcup_{k=n}^{\infty} A_K) \text{ for all } n$$

$n$

$$\Rightarrow Pos(\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n) \leq \sum_{k=n}^{\infty} Pos(A_k) \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty$$

**Definition (3.10):**

Let  $(\Omega, F, Pos)$  be a Possibility space .we say that  $Pos$  is

(1) Continuous from above at  $A \in F$ , if  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Pos(A_n) = Pos(A)$ , for  $\{A_n\}$  be a sequence in  $F$  with  $A_n \downarrow A$ .

(2) Continuous from below at  $A \in F$ , if  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Pos(A_n) = Pos(A)$ , for  $\{A_n\}$  be a sequence in  $F$  with  $A_n \uparrow A$ .

$Pos$  is called continuous from above if it is continuous from above at  $A$  for all  $A \in F$ , also  $Pos$  is called continuous from below at  $A$  for all  $A \in F$ .

**Theorem (3.11):**

Let  $(\Omega, F, Pos)$  be a Possibility space, then the following statements are equivalent:

(1)  $Pos$  is continuous from above at  $A \in F$ .

(2)  $Pos$  is continuous from below at  $A \in F$ .

**Proof:**

(1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2)

Let  $\{A_n\}$  be a sequence in  $F$ , with  $A_n \uparrow A$ , we have

$$A_n^c - A^c \downarrow \phi \Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Pos(A_n^c - A^c) = Pos\theta(\phi) = 0$$

$$Pos(A_n^c - A^c) \geq Pos(A_n^c) - \theta(A^c)$$

Since  $\Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Pos(A_n^c - A^c)$

$$\geq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Pos(A_n^c) - Pos(A^c)$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Pos(A_n^c) - Pos(A^c) \leq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Pos(A_n) - 1 + Pos(A) \leq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Pos(A_n) \geq Pos(A)$$

Since  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Pos(A_n) \leq Pos(A)$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Pos(A_n) = Pos(A)$$

That is  $Pos$  is continuous from below at  $A \in F$ .

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1)

Let  $\{A_n\}$  be a sequence in  $F$ , with  $A_n \downarrow A$ , we have

$$A_n^c \cup A \uparrow \Omega \Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Pos(A_n^c \cup A) = Pos(\Omega) = 1$$

$$\text{Since } Pos(A_n^c \cup A) \leq Pos(A_n^c) + Pos(A)$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Pos(A_n^c \cup A) \leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Pos(A_n^c) + Pos(A)$$

$$1 \leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Pos(A_n^c) + Pos(A)$$

$$1 \leq 1 - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Pos(A_n) + Pos(A)$$

$$\text{Since } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Pos(A_n) \geq Pos(A)$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Pos(A_n) = Pos(A)$$

That is  $Pos$  is continuous from above at  $A \in F$

### Reference

- [1] R.B .Ash, "Real Analysis and probability", university of Illinois,Academic press(1972).
- [2] B. R Gaines and L. Kohout, Possible automata. Proc. Int. Symp. Multiple-Valued logics, Bloomington, IN, pages 183-196, 1975.
- [3] L. A. Zadeh, "Fuzzy sets as a basis for a theory of possibility,"Fuzzy Sets and Systems, vol. 1, pp. 3–28, 1978
- [4 ] B. Liu, Uncertainty Theory, 2nd ed., Springer-Verlag, Berlin, 2007.