

# Alpha Level Subgroups of Alpha-Fuzzy Subgroup

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## Abstract

The concept of  $\alpha$ -level subgroup of an  $\alpha$ -fuzzy subgroup is defined and its characterizations are obtained. It is also proved a necessary and sufficient condition for two  $\alpha$ -level subgroups to be equal.

**Keywords:** fuzzy subgroup,  $\alpha$ -fuzzy set,  $\alpha$ -fuzzy subgroup, level subgroups.

**Mathematical Subject Classification:** 03E72, 08A72, 20N25.

## I. Introduction and Preliminaries

In 1965, Zadeh introduced the notion of fuzzy set[1]. In 1971, A. Rosenfeld defined fuzzy groups[2] and many group theory results have been extended to fuzzy groups. P.Sivaramakrishna Das introduced the concept of level subgroups of a fuzzy group[3]. P.K.Sharma introduced the notion of  $\alpha$ -fuzzy set,  $\alpha$ -fuzzy subgroup,  $\alpha$ -fuzzy coset and analysed their characterizations in[5]. In this paper,  $\alpha$ - level subgroups of an  $\alpha$ -fuzzy subgroup is defined and its characterizations are obtained. It is also discussed about  $\alpha$ -fuzzy subgroups relative to a finite cyclic group.

Throughout this paper,  $\alpha$ - denotes a member of  $[0,1]$ .

**Definition 1.1** Let  $X$  be a non empty set. A **fuzzy subset**  $A$  of  $X$  is a function

$$A : X \rightarrow [0,1].$$

**Definition 1.2** A fuzzy subset  $A$  of a group  $G$  is called a **fuzzy subgroup** of  $G$  if

- (i)  $A(xy) \geq \min\{A(x), A(y)\}$
- (ii)  $A(x^{-1}) = A(x)$ , for all  $x, y \in G$ .

**Definition 1.3** Let  $A$  be a fuzzy subset of a set  $S$ . For  $t \in [0,1]$ , the set  $A_t = \{x \in S/A(x) \geq t\}$  is called a **level subset** of  $A$ .

**Definition 1.4** Let  $G$  be a group and  $A$  be a fuzzy subgroup of  $G$ . The subgroups  $A_t$ ,  $t \in [0,1]$  and  $t \leq A(e)$ , are called **level subgroups** of  $A$ .

**Definition 1.6** Let  $A$  be a fuzzy subset of a group  $G$ . Let  $\alpha \in [0,1]$ . Then an  **$\alpha$ -fuzzy subset** of  $G$ (with respect to a fuzzy set  $A$ ), denoted by  $A^\alpha$ , is defined as  $A^\alpha(x) = \min\{A(x), \alpha\}$ , for all  $x \in G$ .

**Definition 1.7** A fuzzy subset  $A$  of a group  $G$  is called a  **$\alpha$ -fuzzy subgroup** of  $G$  if

- (i)  $A^\alpha(xy) = \min\{A^\alpha(x), A^\alpha(y)\}$
- (ii)  $A^\alpha(x^{-1}) = A^\alpha(x)$ , for all  $x, y \in G$ .

**Theorem 1.8** If  $A : G \rightarrow [0,1]$  is a  $\alpha$ -fuzzy group of a group  $G$ , then

- (i)  $A^\alpha(x) \leq A^\alpha(e)$ , where  $e$  is the identity element of  $G$ .
- (ii)  $A^\alpha(xy^{-1}) = A^\alpha(e) \Rightarrow A^\alpha(x) = A^\alpha(y)$ , for all  $x, y \in G$ .

**Theorem 1.9**  $A : G \rightarrow [0,1]$  is a fuzzy group of a group  $G$  iff  $A^\alpha(xy^{-1}) \geq \min\{A^\alpha(x), A^\alpha(y)\}$ , for all  $x, y \in G$ .

## II. $\alpha$ - LEVEL SUBGROUPS OF $\alpha$ -FUZZY SUBGROUP

In this section, the concept of  $\alpha$ - level subgroup of an  $\alpha$ -fuzzy subgroup is defined and its properties are determined. The relation between  $\alpha$ -fuzzy subgroups and their  $\alpha$ -level subgroups is obtained.

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $G$  be a group. Let  $A : G \rightarrow [0,1]$  be a fuzzy subset of  $G$ . For  $t \in [0,1]$ , an  $\alpha$ -level subset of the fuzzy subset  $A$ , denoted by  $A_t^\alpha$ , is defined as  $A_t^\alpha = \{x \in G \mid A^\alpha(x) \geq t\}$ .

**Example 2.2.** Let  $G = \{e, a, b, ab\}$  be a group. Let  $A : G \rightarrow [0,1]$  be defined as

$$A(x) = \begin{cases} 0.6, & \text{if } x = e \\ 0.8, & \text{if } x = a, b \\ 0.7, & \text{if } x = ab \end{cases} \quad \text{Let } \alpha = 0.7 \text{ and } t = 0.65. \text{ Then } A_t^\alpha = \{a, b, ab\} \text{ is an } \alpha\text{-level subset of } A.$$

**Theorem 2.3** Let  $G$  be a group. Let  $t \in [0,1]$  and let  $t \leq A_t^\alpha(e)$ . Let  $A : G \rightarrow [0,1]$  be an  $\alpha$ -fuzzy subgroup of a group  $G$ . Then the  $\alpha$ -level subset  $A_t^\alpha$  is a subgroup of  $G$ , where  $e$  is the identity of  $G$ .

**Proof:**

Let  $G$  be a group. Let  $A : G \rightarrow [0,1]$  be an  $\alpha$ -fuzzy subgroup. Let  $t \in [0,1]$  and

$$t \leq A_t^\alpha(e). \quad A_t^\alpha = \{x \in G \mid A^\alpha(x) \geq t\} \text{ is non empty subset of } G. \text{ If } x, y \in A_t^\alpha, \text{ then } \min\{A^\alpha(x), A^\alpha(y)\} \geq t.$$

Since  $A^\alpha$  is a fuzzy subgroup,  $A^\alpha(xy) \geq \min\{A^\alpha(x), A^\alpha(y)\} \geq t$  which implies  $xy \in A_t^\alpha$ . Also  $A^\alpha(x^{-1}) = A^\alpha(x)$ . Since  $x \in A_t^\alpha$ ,  $A^\alpha(x) \geq t$  which implies that  $A^\alpha(x^{-1}) \geq t$ . Therefore  $x^{-1} \in A_t^\alpha$ . Thus  $A_t^\alpha$  is a subgroup of  $G$ .

**Theorem 2.4:** Let  $G$  be a group. Let  $A : G \rightarrow [0,1]$  be a fuzzy subset of  $G$  such that  $A_t^\alpha$  is a subgroup of  $G$ , for all  $t \in [0,1]$ ,  $t \leq A^\alpha(e)$ . Then  $A$  is an  $\alpha$ - fuzzy subgroup of  $G$ .

**Proof:**

Let  $x, y \in G$  and let  $A^\alpha(x) = t_1$  and  $A^\alpha(y) = t_2$ , where  $t_1, t_2 \in [0, 1]$ . Therefore  $x \in A_{t_1}^\alpha$  and  $y \in A_{t_2}^\alpha$ . Suppose that  $t_1 < t_2$ . Then  $A_{t_2}^\alpha \subset A_{t_1}^\alpha$  which implies that  $y \in A_{t_1}^\alpha$ . Since  $x, y \in A_{t_1}^\alpha$  and  $A_{t_1}^\alpha$  is a subgroup of  $G$ ,  $xy \in A_{t_1}^\alpha$ . Therefore  $A^\alpha(xy) \geq t = \min\{A^\alpha(x), A^\alpha(y)\}$ . Now let  $x \in G$  and  $A^\alpha(x) = t$ . Therefore  $a \in A_t^\alpha$  which implies that  $a^{-1} \in A_t^\alpha$ , since  $A_t^\alpha$  is a subgroup of  $G$ . Then  $A^\alpha(x^{-1}) \geq t = A^\alpha(x)$ . Thus  $A^\alpha$  is a fuzzy group and hence  $A$  is an  $\alpha$ -fuzzy subgroup of  $G$ .

**Definition 2.5** Let  $G$  be a group. Let  $A$  be an  $\alpha$ -fuzzy subgroup of  $G$ . If  $t \in [0, 1]$  and  $t \leq A^\alpha(e)$ , then the subgroups  $A_t^\alpha$  are said to be  $\alpha$ -level subgroups of  $A$ .

**Example 2.6**

Let  $G = \{e, a, b, c\}$  be the Klein four group. Let a fuzzy subset  $A$  of  $G$  be defined as

$$A(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } x = e, a \\ 3/4, & \text{if } x = b, c \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

If  $\alpha = 0.85$ , then  $A$  is an  $\alpha$ -fuzzy subgroup of  $G$ . If  $t = 0.8$ , then

$A_t^\alpha = \{e, a\}$  which is a subgroup of  $G$  and is an  $\alpha$ -level subgroup of  $A$ .

**Remark 2.7** If  $G$  is a group which is also finite, then the number of subgroups of  $G$  is finite whereas the number of  $\alpha$ -level subgroups of an  $\alpha$ -fuzzy subgroup  $A$  seems to be infinite. But since every  $\alpha$ -level subgroup is a subgroup of  $G$ , not all these  $\alpha$ -level subgroups will be distinct. This is characterized in the following theorem.

**Theorem 2.8** Let  $G$  be a group. Let  $A$  be an  $\alpha$ -fuzzy subgroup of  $G$ . Let  $t_1, t_2 \in [0, 1]$  and  $t_1 < t_2$ . Then two  $\alpha$ -level subgroups  $A_{t_1}^\alpha, A_{t_2}^\alpha$  of  $A$  are equal iff there is no  $x \in G$  such that  $t_1 < A^\alpha(x) < t_2$ .

**Proof:**

Assume that  $A_{t_1}^\alpha = A_{t_2}^\alpha$ . Suppose that there exists  $x \in G$  such that  $t_1 < A^\alpha(x) < t_2$ . Then  $x \in A_{t_1}^\alpha$  but  $x \notin A_{t_2}^\alpha$ . This implies that  $A_{t_1}^\alpha \neq A_{t_2}^\alpha$  which is a contradiction. Conversely, assume that there is no  $x \in G$  such that  $t_1 < A^\alpha(x) < t_2$ . Since  $t_1 < t_2$ ,  $A_{t_2}^\alpha \subset A_{t_1}^\alpha$ . If  $x \in A_{t_1}^\alpha$ , then  $t_1 \leq A^\alpha(x)$ . Also  $A^\alpha(x)$  does not lie between  $t_1, t_2$ . Therefore  $t_2 \leq A^\alpha(x)$  which implies that  $A_{t_1}^\alpha = A_{t_2}^\alpha$ .

**Corollary 2.9** Let  $G$  be a finite group of order  $n$ . Let  $A$  be an  $\alpha$ -fuzzy subgroup of  $G$ . Let  $t_i$ 's be the distinct images of elements of  $G$ . Then  $A_{t_i}^\alpha$ 's are the only  $\alpha$ -level subgroups of  $A$  [  $im(A^\alpha) = \{t_i / A^\alpha(x) = t_i \text{ for some } x \in G\}$  ]

**Proof:**

Since  $t_i \leq A^\alpha(e)$ , for all  $t_i$  where  $t_i \in [0,1]$ ,  $e$ -identity of  $G$  By theorem 2.3,  $A_{t_i}^\alpha$  is a subgroup of  $G$  for each  $i$ . Let  $t \in [0,1]$ . Suppose that  $t = A^\alpha(e)$ , then  $A_t^\alpha = \{e\}$  which is an  $\alpha$ -level subgroup of  $A$ . Let  $t \neq \text{Im}(A^\alpha)$ . Suppose that  $t_i < t < t_j$ , where  $t_i, t_j \in \text{Im}(A^\alpha)$ . Since  $A^\alpha(x) \neq t$ , for all  $x \in G$  by theorem 2.8,  $A_{t_i}^\alpha = A_{t_j}^\alpha = A_t^\alpha$  which is an  $\alpha$ -level subgroup of  $A$ . Suppose that  $t < t_r$ , where  $t_r$  is the least element in  $\text{Im}(A^\alpha)$ . Then  $A^\alpha(x) > t$  for all  $x \in G$ . Therefore  $A_{t_r}^\alpha = A_t^\alpha = G$ . Thus for any  $t \in [0,1]$ ,  $A_{t_i}^\alpha$ 's are the only  $\alpha$ -level subgroup of  $A$ .

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