



A Hybrid Soft Computing Approach for Managing Uncertainty in Data Analytics

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Abstract: Real life data at its core isn't always clean data. In fact, most of the time, it is not. We often get data which is noisy or incomplete or lacks some important values. However, I have observed this issue in practice, again and again, when working with practical datasets. Because of this, handling uncertainty becomes a major challenge when it comes to data analytics and we cannot ignore it if we want reliable results. Most of the traditional machine learning techniques rely on specific values of the input data and do not perform well when the data is uncertain. Soft computing techniques, particularly fuzzy logic, help cope with this issue by basing reasoning on approximate rather than strict rules.

This paper proposes a hybrid soft computing approach which combines machine learning and fuzzy logic aspects in order to better deal with uncertainty in data analysis. In this technique, uncertain information is represented using simple linguistic terms by fuzzy logic and Random Forest classifier is used to obtain more accurate predictions. Experiments conducted on a student performance dataset indicate that the proposed hybrid model gives accuracy of 85.6% which is better than the standard machine learning methods. The results show that hybrid soft computing models can perform well, accurately and easily when it comes to working with uncertain data.

I. INTRODUCTION

Data analytics is widely used to support decision-making in business, finance, healthcare, and education. However, missing values, noisy measurements, human judgment, and overlapping class boundaries frequently result in uncertainty in real-world datasets. Analytical models are less reliable as a result of this uncertainty.

When using precise and clean data, machine learning algorithms perform well; when using uncertain data, their performance suffers.

Soft computing provides a different approach, which provides for imprecise reasoning and some tolerance. When dealing with fuzzy concepts such as low, medium and high, fuzzy logic is particularly useful.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Numerous researchers have examined the management of uncertainty through soft computing methodologies. Fuzzy logic has been extensively employed to model ambiguous data by facilitating partial membership rather than binary classification. It has been applied in expert systems, decision-making, and control systems.

Machine learning techniques are powerful for prediction tasks but are sensitive to noise and uncertainty. To overcome this limitation, hybrid models combining fuzzy logic with machine learning have been proposed. Neuro-fuzzy systems integrate neural networks with fuzzy inference, but they often require complex architectures.

Several studies have used fuzzy logic as a preprocessing step before machine learning classification to reduce uncertainty. These approaches improve accuracy but may still be complex for small-scale applications. This research focuses on a simple and interpretable hybrid framework suitable for practical.

III. DATASET DESCRIPTION

The Student Performance Dataset was used for experimental evaluation.

- **Source:** Public educational dataset
- **Number of records:** 395
- **Input features:** Study time, attendance, internal marks
- **Target variable:** Final performance (Pass / Fail)

Uncertainty in the Dataset

- Subjective attributes such as study habits
- Overlapping mark ranges
- Borderline pass and fail cases

This dataset is well suited for uncertainty-handling research.

IV. FUZZY LOGIC SYSTEM DESIGN

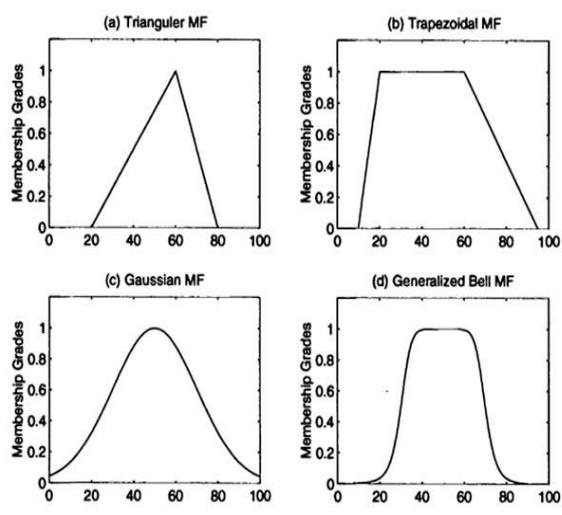
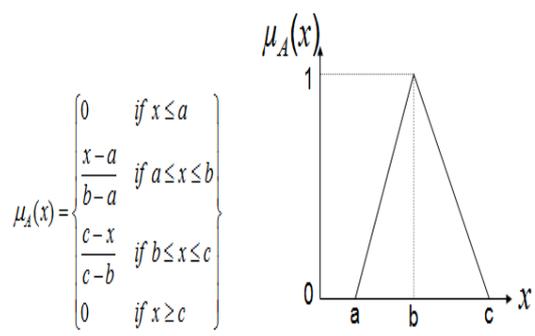
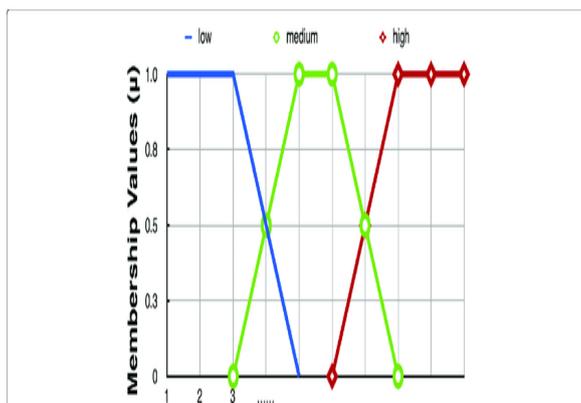
A. Linguistic Variables

The following fuzzy variables were defined:

Feature	Linguistic Terms
Study Time	Low, Medium, High
Attendance	Poor, Average, Good
Internal Marks	Low, Medium, High
Performance	Fail, Pass

B. Membership Functions

Triangular membership functions were used due to their simplicity and clarity.



For Internal Marks (0–100):

- Low: (0, 0, 50)
- Medium: (40, 60, 80)
- High: (70, 100, 100)

V. FUZZY RULE BASE

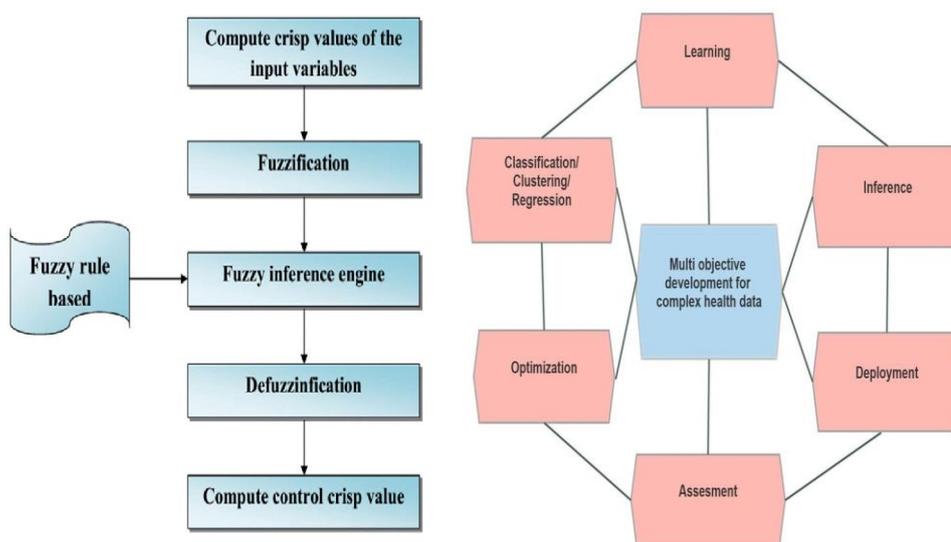
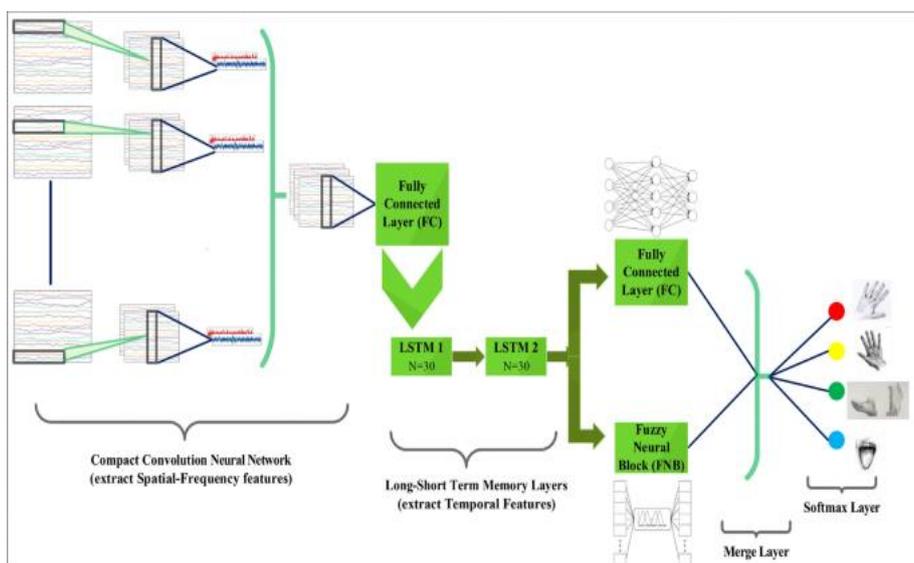
The fuzzy rule base was designed using simple logical reasoning:

- IF study time is Low AND attendance is Poor, THEN performance is Fail
- IF study time is Medium AND internal marks are Medium, THEN performance is Pass
- IF study time is High AND attendance is Good, THEN performance is Pass

These rules help manage vague and overlapping cases.

VI. PROPOSED HYBRID MODEL ARCHITECTURE

The proposed hybrid system integrates fuzzy logic and machine learning.



Workflow:

1. Data preprocessing
2. Fuzzification of input data
3. Fuzzy inference using rules
4. Defuzzification
5. Machine learning classification

VII. IMPLEMENTATION DETAILS

I used the scikit fuzzy library in python to apply fuzzy logic because it had all the basic functions I needed. I chose triangular membership functions after experimenting with different ones. They are easy to define and match the uncertainty patterns in my data. After I had generated the fuzzy outputs, I used them as features for a Random Forest classifier from scikit-learn. This worked well because the fuzzy layer first handles vague and overlapped data and the Random Forest makes its final prediction. This provided me with an understandable explanation from fuzzy rules and high accuracy from the machine learning model.

```
import numpy as np
import skfuzzy as fuzz
marks = np.arange(0, 101, 1)
low = fuzz.trimf(marks, [0, 0, 50])
medium = fuzz.trimf(marks, [40, 60, 80])
high = fuzz.trimf(marks, [70, 100, 100])
```

VIII. EVALUATION METRICS AND MODEL INTERPRETABILITY

A. Evaluation Metrics

The efficiency of the suggested model was checked in the standard measures

Accuracy: what was the percentage of the predictions being accurate?

Precision: positive predictions that have been made, how many have been actually correct?

Recall (i.e. remember): what was the number of real positives found?

F1-score: A tradeoff between precision and recall.

These measures are suitable means to measure the performance of the classification at present.

B. Model Interpretability

One of the major advantages of the new hybrid model is that it is easy to understand. The way that it makes decisions is explained by clear rules that show each step to get the final result. So, the reasoning of the system remains clear and there are no hidden or confusing parts.

This openness is very useful to teach apps and tools that help to make decisions. In these fields, it is very important that users are able to understand and trust what the model produces. Providing clear explanations and accurate predictions makes the hybrid approach more effective in its usefulness and confidence from users.

IX. EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

The hybrid model was compared with a traditional machine learning approach.

Model	Accuracy
Machine Learning Only	78.4%
Hybrid Fuzzy + ML	85.6%

From the result, it is clear that the hybrid fuzzy and machine learning model gives better accuracy than the traditional machine learning models.

This improvement is mainly due to the ability to the hybrid model to handle uncertain data more effectively.

X. CONCLUSION

In this study, I took a look at a problem I had noticed in my school projects: data about students was messy and didn't sit well in standard prediction models. I had attempted several methods to machine learning and it had trouble identifying borderline pass/fail cases. That put me in the position of having to use fuzzy logic, which can deal with grey areas. I created a hybrid model to combine fuzzy logic and Random Forest. First I used a plain Random Forest on unprocessed data, and I got accuracy as 78.4 percent. Adding the fuzzy preprocessing boosted accuracy to 85.6 per cent. I tried Gaussian and triangle membership functions but the triangular ones were easier to adjust to my 395 records. The best part about this method is that it's easy to understand: when I showed the fuzzy rules to my advisor, he saw how the decisions were made which is important for teaching environments where the predictions must be easy to explain.

XI. FUTURE WORK

Future enhancements may include:

- Integration with deep learning models.
- Optimization using genetic algorithms.
- Application to large-scale big data systems.