Solutions of Fuzzy Linear Systems

Nasrin Sultana ¹ **and A. F. M. Khodadad Khan** ²

1 *Department of Computer Science and Engineering, University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh,*

2 *Department of Mathematics, Dhaka University and School of Engineering and Computer Science,*

Independent University, Bangladesh.

e-mail: khoda@secs.iub.edu.bd.

Received on 07.01.2009. Accepted for Publication on 04.07.2009

Abstract

In this paper, we investigate the solution of system of fuzzy linear equations, $Ax = b$, where A is a crisp real $n \times n$ matrix and b is a vector consisting of n triangular fuzzy numbers. Assuming that the unknown vector *x* is a fuzzy number vector of the same type as \dot{b} , and defining the addition and scalar-multiplication by Zadeh's extension principle, we propose a method of solution that replaces the $n \times n$ fuzzy system by a $3n \times 3n$ crisp linear system $MX = B$, where M is a block symmetric matrix depending on *A* and *B* is a vector whose components are rearranged parameters of the fuzzy numbers in b . We provide conditions for the existence of a unique fuzzy solution of the system under investigation. We use the *Mathematica* package for symbolic and numeric computation.

*Keywords***:** System of Fuzzy Linear Equations, Fuzzy Linear Equations, Triangular Fuzzy Numbers, Block matrix, Block Symmetric Matrix, Determinant of Block Matrix, Inverse of Block Matrix.

I. Introduction

In application of mathematics to problems in sciences and engineering, one often encounters systems of linear equations. Various methods have been developed to solve such systems analytically or numerically. Since in many applications, some parameters need to be represented by fuzzy numbers rather than crisp numbers, it is important that we address the problem of solving linear systems $Ax = b$, where some or all components of the matrix *A* and the vector *b* are fuzzy numbers. Such a system of fuzzy linear equations (SFLE, in short) has been investigated by a host of researchers, including Friedman¹, Peeva², Zhang³.

In this paper, a particular method for solving a SFLE $Ax = b$ is presented, where $A = (a_{ij})$, $1 \le i, j \le n$ is a crisp $n \times n$ matrix and *b* is a vector of triangular fuzzy numbers (TrFN), assuming the unknown vector x is also a TrFN. First of all we transform the $n \times n$ fuzzy system $Ax = b$ to a $3n \times 3n$ crisp system $MX = B$, where *M* is a block symmetric matrix constructed from *A,* and *B* is a vector of rearranged parameters of the fuzzy numbers in *b*. We define the conditions for existence of a unique fuzzy solution and then solve the expanded system numerically. An algorithm is given to solve the system and we also develop a programming code in *Mathematica*. For *Mathematica* we refer to $[Don^4$, Wolfram⁵]. Finally the q and validity of the algorithm and program is illustrated by solving some examples.

II. Preliminaries

L.A. Zadeh⁶ first introduced the concept of fuzzy sets, and today fuzzy mathematical literature abounds with studies on fuzzy numbers and their applications. For characterizations of fuzzy numbers and their arithmetic operations, we refer to [Congxin and Ma^{7,8}, Dubois and Prade⁹, Goetschel and Voxman¹⁰, Kaufman and Gupta¹¹, Klir and Yuan¹²].

In [12], a fuzzy number is defined as follows:

Definition 2.1 (Fuzzy Number)

A fuzzy set $\mu : \mathbb{R} \to I = [0,1]$ is said to be a fuzzy number if it possesses the following properties

1. μ is a normal fuzzy set;

2. for every $\alpha \in (0,1]$, the α -cut, μ^{α} is a closed interval denoted by $[\mu(\alpha),\mu(\alpha)]$;

3. the support of μ , μ^{0+} , is bounded.

We shall denote the set of all fuzzy numbers by *FN* (**R**).

In this paper, we shall be using triangular fuzzy numbers, as such numbers are most commonly used.

Definition 2.2 (Triangular Fuzzy Number)

A fuzzy number $\mu \in FN(R)$ is said to be a triangular fuzzy number (TrFN, in short) if there exists three real numbers *p*,*q* and *s* such that $p \le q \le s$, and

1.
$$
\mu(x) = 1
$$
, for $x = q$;
\n2. for every $\alpha \in I_0 = (0,1]$,
\n
$$
\mu^{\alpha} = [\underline{\mu}(\alpha), \overline{\mu}(\alpha)] = [p + (q - p)\alpha, s - (s - q)\alpha];
$$
\n3. $\mu^{0+} = (p, s)$.

Such a fuzzy number will be denoted by $Tr[p,q,s]$, and the set of all triangular fuzzy numbers will be denoted by

*TrFN***(R**). $[p, q, s]$ is called the parameter-vector of *Tr*[p, q, s]. In case $p < q < s$, the membership function of $Tr[p,q,s]$ is

$$
\mu(x) = \begin{cases}\n0 & , if \quad x < p \\
(x - p)/(q - p) & , if \quad p \le x < q \\
1 & , if \quad x = q \\
(s - x)/(s - q) & , if \quad q < x \le s\n\end{cases}
$$
\n
$$
\mu(x) = \begin{cases}\n0 & , if \quad x < p \\
\sum_{j=1}^{n} a_{ij} Tr[u_j, \\
\sum_{j=1}^{n
$$

For such functions, we have:

Proposition 2.1 [11]

If $\mu = Tr[p, q, s], \gamma = Tr[k, l, m]$ and *c* is a real number, then

I. $\mu = \gamma$ if and only if $p = k$, $q = l$ and $g = m$.

II. $\mu + \gamma = Tr[p + k, q + l, s + m]$.

If $a_{ij} \ge 0, 1 \le j \le n$, then this simplifies to

II.
$$
\mu + \gamma = Tr[p + k, q + l, s + m]
$$
.
\nIII. $c\mu = \begin{cases} Tr[cp, cq, cs], if \ c \ge 0 \\ Tr[cs, cq, cp], if \ c < 0. \end{cases}$ $Tr\left[\sum_{j=1}^{n} a_{ij} u_j, \sum_{j=1}^{n} a_{ij} u_j\right]$

III. The Model and Solution

Consider the system of fuzzy linear equations (SFLE, in short)

$$
a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \cdots + a_{1n}x_n = b_1
$$

\n
$$
a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \cdots + a_{2n}x_n = b_2
$$

\n
$$
\vdots
$$

\n
$$
a_{n1}x_1 + a_{n2}x_2 + \cdots + a_{nn}x_n = b_n
$$

\n
$$
\vdots
$$

\n
$$
a_{n1}x_1 + a_{n2}x_2 + \cdots + a_{nn}x_n = b_n
$$

\n
$$
\vdots
$$

\n<

in "unknowns" x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n , where the coefficients $a_{ij} \in$ **R** for $1 \le i, j \le n$ and $b_i = Tr[p_i, q_i, s_i] \in TrFN(R)$ is $k = 0$ and 1 and $1 \le i, j \le n$, for $1 \le i \le n$. In matrix-vector form (3.1) can be expressed as

$$
Ax = b,\tag{3.2}
$$

where $A = (a_{ij})$, $1 \le i, j \le n$, is a crisp $n \times n$ matrix and $b = (b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n)^t$ is a column vector of TrFN's, $b_i = Tr[p_i, q_i, s_i]$, $1 \le i \le n$ and $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)^t$ $m_{n+i, n+j} = a_{ij}$ and is an unknown column vector.

Definition 3.1

A vector $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)^t \in \text{TrFN}(\mathbf{R})^n$,

where $x_i = Tr[u_i, v_i, w_i]$, $1 \le i \le n$, is called a *solution* of the SFLE (3.2) if

$$
x < p
$$

\n
$$
p \le x < q
$$

\n
$$
\sum_{j=1}^{n} a_{ij} Tr[u_j, v_j, w_j] = Tr[p_i, q_i, s_i], 1 \le i \le n. \quad (3.3)
$$

 $q < x \leq s$ shall see. $x = q$ The system (3.2) does not always have a solution, as we $\langle x \leq s \rangle$ shall see. shall see.

x s **IV. The Solution Procedure**

Suppose that system (3.2) has a solution $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)^t \in \mathsf{TrFN}(\mathbf{R})^n$, where $TrFN(\mathbf{R})^n$, where $\mathbf{x}_i = Tr[u_i, v_i, w_i], \ 1 \leq i \leq n$. Then the *i*-th equation of the system (3.2) is Sultana and Khan

vector $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)' \in TrFN(\mathbb{R})^n$,

here $x_i = Tr[u_i, v_i, w_i]$, $1 \le i \le n$, is called a *solution*

the SFLE (3.2) if
 $\int_{=4}^{1} a_{ij} Tr[u_j, v_j, w_j] = Tr[p_i, q_i, s_i]$, $1 \le i \le n$. (3.3)
 $\int_{=4}^{1} a_{ij} Tr[u_j, v_j, w_j] = Tr[p_i$ Sultana and Khan

Sultana and Khan

Sultana and Khan

Notec $x_i = Tr[u_i, v_i, w_i]$, $1 \le i \le n$, is called a *solution*

of the SFLE (3.2) if
 $\sum_{j=1}^{n} a_{ij} Tr[u_j, v_j, w_j] = Tr[p_i, q_i, s_i]$, $1 \le i \le n$. (3.3)

The system (3.2) does not alwa here $x_i = Ir[u_i, v_i, w_i]$, $1 \le i \le n$, is called a *solution*

f the SFLE (3.2) if
 $\int_{-1}^{n} a_{ij} Tr[u_j, v_j, w_j] = Tr[p_i, q_i, s_i]$, $1 \le i \le n$. (3.3)

he system (3.2) does not always have a solution, as we

suall see.

V. The Solution Pro *i*_{*i*} *Ir*[u_j, v_j, w_j] = *Tr*[p_i, q_i, s_i], 1 ≤ *i* ≤ *n*. (3.3)
 system (3.2) does not always have a solution, as we

ee.
 in Execution Procedure

se that system (3.2) has a solution
 x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)^{*t*} ∈ *TrF* Sultana and Khan

Sultana and Khan

A vector $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)' \in TrFN(\mathbf{R})^n$,

where $x_i = Tr[u_i, y_i, w_i]$, $1 \le i \le n$, is called a *solution*

of the SFLE (3.2) if
 $\sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} Tr[u_j, v_j, w_j] = Tr[p_i, q_i, s_i]$, $1 \le i \le n$. (3.3)

The sy Sultana and Khan

ctor $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)' \in TFN(\mathbf{R})^n$,
 $e x_i = Tr[u_i, y_i, w_i], 1 \le i \le n$, is called a *solution*
 $a_i Tr[u_j, y_j, w_j] = Tr[p_i, q_i, s_i], 1 \le i \le n$. (3.3)

system (3.2) does not always have a solution, as we

see.
 for graditry Sultana and Khan
 x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n $f \in TrFN(\mathbf{R})^n$,
 i, v_i, w_i], $1 \le i \le n$, is called a *solution*

if
 x, w_j] = $Tr[p_i, q_i, s_i]$, $1 \le i \le n$. (3.3)

(3.3)

(3.2) has a solution, as we

(3.2) has a solution
 x_n $f \in TrFN(\mathbf{R})^$ Sultana and Khan
 x_2, \dots, x_n , $i \in TrFN(\mathbf{R})^n$,
 v_i, w_i , $1 \le i \le n$, is called a *solution*

f
 v_j] = $Tr[p_i, q_i, s_i]$, $1 \le i \le n$. (3.3)

does not always have a solution, as we
 Procedure

system (3.2) has a solution
 \math

$$
a_{i1}Tr[u_1, v_1, w_1] + \cdots + a_{ii}Tr[u_i, v_i, w_i] + \cdots + a_{in}Tr[u_n, v_n, w_n] = Tr[p_i, q_i, s_i]
$$
\n(4.1)

$$
c \ge 0
$$

\n
$$
c < 0.
$$
\n
$$
Tr\left[\sum_{j=1}^{n} a_{ij} u_j, \sum_{j=1}^{n} a_{ij} v_j, \sum_{j=1}^{n} a_{ij} w_j\right] = Tr[p_i, q_i, s_i] \quad (4.2)
$$

and we get three crisp equations

$$
\sum_{j=1}^{n} a_{ij} u_j = p_i, \sum_{j=1}^{n} a_{ij} v_j = q_i, \sum_{j=1}^{n} a_{ij} w_j = s_i.
$$
 (4.3)

 $a_{n1}x_1 + a_{n2}x_2 + \cdots + a_{nn}x_n = b_n$ crisp system of linear equations by defining m_{ij} for $1 \le i, j \le 3n$ as follows:

for $k = 0$ and 1 and $1 \le i, j \le n$,

$$
m_{2kn+i,2kn+j} = \begin{cases} a_{ij} & \text{if } a_{ij} > 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } a_{ij} \le 0 \end{cases}
$$
 (4.4)

$$
m_{2kn+i,2(1-k)n+j} = \begin{cases} a_{ij} & \text{if } a_{ij} < 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } a_{ij} \ge 0 \end{cases}
$$
 (4.5)

$$
m_{n+i,n+j} = a_{ij}
$$
 and
\n $m_{i,n+j} = m_{n+i,j} = m_{n+i,2n+j} = m_{2n+i,n+j} = 0$ (4.6)

The expanded crisp system is

$$
m_{11}u_1 + \dots + m_{1n}u_n + m_{1,n+1}v_1 + \dots + m_{1,2n}v_n + m_{1,2n+1}w_1 + \dots + m_{1,3n}w_n = p_1
$$

\n
$$
m_{n1}u_1 + \dots + m_{nn}u_n + m_{n,n+1}v_1 + \dots + m_{n,2n}v_n + m_{n,2n+1}w_1 + \dots + m_{n,3n}w_n = p_n
$$

 $m_{n+1}u_1 + \cdots + m_{n+1}u_n + m_{n+1}u_1 + \cdots + m_{n+1}u_n + m_{n+1}u_1 + \cdots + m_{n+1}u_n$ ………………………………………………………………………… (4.7)

$$
m_{2n,1}u_1 + \dots + m_{2n,n}u_n + m_{2n,n+1}v_1 + \dots + m_{2n,2n}v_n + m_{2n,2n+1}w_1 + \dots + m_{2n,3n}w_n = q_n
$$

\n
$$
m_{2n+1,1}u_1 + \dots + m_{2n+1,n}u_n + m_{2n+1,n+1}v_1 + \dots + m_{2n+1,2n}v_n + m_{2n+1,2n+1}w_1 + \dots + m_{2n+1,3n}w_n = s_1
$$

 $m_{3n,1}u_1 + \cdots + m_{3n,n}u_n + m_{3n,n+1}v_1 + \cdots + m_{3n,2n}v_n + m_{3n,2n+1}w_1 + \cdots + m_{3n,3n}w_n = s_n$

which may be abbreviated as

 $MX = B$, (4.8) where $M = (m_{ii}), 1 \le i, j \le 3n$,

$$
X = (u_1, u_2, \cdots, u_n, v_1, v_2, \cdots, v_n, w_1, w_2, \cdots, w_n)^t (4.9) \qquad u_1 + (-2)w_2 = -3
$$

\n
$$
B = (p_1, p_2, \cdots, p_n, q_1, q_2, \cdots, q_n, s_1, s_2, \cdots, s_n)^t \qquad 3u_1 + 5u_2 = 1
$$

\n
$$
(4.10) \qquad v_1 + (-2)v_2 = 0
$$

and the structure of *M* is

$$
M = \begin{pmatrix} M_1 & O & M_2 \\ O & A & O \\ M_2 & O & M_1 \end{pmatrix}
$$
 (4.11)
$$
\begin{pmatrix} -2\mu_2 & +w_1 \\ 3w_1 + 5w_2 \\ (1, 0) & (0, -2) \end{pmatrix}
$$

which is a block symmetric matrix of size $3n \times 3n$, where the block M_1 is the $n \times n$ matrix

$$
M_1 = (m_{ij}^{(1)}) \text{ with } m_{ij}^{(1)} = \begin{cases} a_{ij} & \text{if } a_{ij} > 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } a_{ij} \le 0 \end{cases}
$$

 We existence of Solution
 The crisp system (4.8) has a unique
 the matrix M is nonsingular. No

the block M_2 is the $n \times n$ matrix where M_1 and M_2 are only

$$
M_2 = (m_{ij}^{(2)}) \text{ with } m_{ij}^{(2)} = \begin{cases} a_{ij} & \text{if } a_{ij} < 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } a_{ij} \ge 0 \end{cases}, \qquad \qquad \overline{A} = M_1 - M_2.
$$

Theorem 5.1
The matrix *M* is nonsingular

the block $A = M_1 + M_2$ and the block O is the $n \times n$ A and A are both nonsingular. zero matrix.

Now, the crisp system (4.8) can be written as

$$
\begin{pmatrix} M_1 & O & M_2 \\ O & A & O \\ M_2 & O & M_1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \\ w \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} P \\ q \\ s \end{pmatrix},
$$
\n(4.14)\n
$$
(4.14)
$$
\ni) $\det(AB) = \det(A)$ \n
$$
\begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ B & A \end{pmatrix}
$$

where

$$
u = (u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n)^t, v = (v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n)^t,
$$

\n
$$
w = (w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n)^t
$$

\n
$$
p = (p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n)^t, q = (q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n)^t,
$$

\n
$$
s = (s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n)^t
$$

\n
$$
(4.16)
$$

\n
$$
(4.16)
$$

\n
$$
u = (w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n)^t, w_n = (w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n)^t, w_n = (w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n)^t
$$

\n
$$
y \text{ adding the } (2n + i) \text{-th row of } M \text{ in (4.11) to its } i\text{-th}
$$

The above construction is illustrated in the following example.

Example 1

Consider the 2×2 fuzzy linear system

$$
x_1 - 2x_2 = Tr[-3, 0, 2]
$$

and then s

$$
3x_1 + 5x_2 = Tr[1, 3, 4]
$$

(2n + i) -t

If $x_1 = Tr[u_1, v_1, w_1]$, $x_2 = Tr[u_2, v_2, w_2]$ constitute a solution, then we obtain the following 6×6 system according to (4.7) applying (4.4) , (4.5) and (4.6) .

Sultana and Kh₈₇₇
\n
$$
1,2n+1W_1 + \cdots + m_{n+1,3n}W_n = q_1
$$
\n
$$
2n+1W_1 + \cdots + m_{2n,3n}W_n = q_n
$$
\n
$$
1,2n+1W_1 + \cdots + m_{2n,3n}W_n = s_1
$$
\n
$$
1,2n+1W_1 + \cdots + m_{3n,3n}W_n = s_n
$$
\nIf $x_1 = Tr[u_1, v_1, w_1], x_2 = Tr[u_2, v_2, w_2]$ constitute a solution, then we obtain the following 6×6 system according to (4.7) applying (4.4), (4.5) and (4.6).\n
$$
u_1 + (-2)w_2 = -3
$$
\n
$$
3u_1 + 5u_2 = 1
$$
\n
$$
v_1 + (-2)v_2 = 0
$$
\n
$$
3v_1 + 5v_2 = 3
$$
\n
$$
(-2)u_2 + w_1 = 2
$$
\n
$$
3w_1 + 5w_2 = 4
$$
\nHere $M_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 3 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$ and $M_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$.
\nV. Existence of Solution
\nThe crisp system (4.8) has a unique solution if and only if the matrix M is nonsingular. Note that $A = M_1 + M_2$, where M_1 and M_2 are defined in (4.12) and (4.13). Define

0 if $a_{ij} \le 0$
the matrix *M* is nonsingular. Note that $A = M_1 + M_2$, ≤ 0 The crisp system (4.8) has a unique solution if and only if where M_1 and M_2 are defined in (4.12) and (4.13). Define

$$
\overline{A} = M_1 - M_2. \tag{5.1}
$$

 (4.13) The matrix M is nonsingular if and only if the matrices *A* and \overline{A} are both nonsingular.

Proof:

For any square blocks *A*, *B*, *C* and *D* of equal size, we have [14]

i).
$$
det(AB) = det(A) det(B)
$$
.
ii). If $M = \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix}$, then
 $det(M) = det(AD - BC)$,

to *O* (zero matrix).

ⁿ s (*s* ,*s* , ,*s*) ¹ ² (4.16) row for 1 *i n* , we obtain

$$
K_1 = \begin{pmatrix} M_1 + M_2 & O & M_1 + M_2 \\ O & A & O \\ M_2 & O & M_1 \end{pmatrix},
$$

and then subtracting the *j*-th column of K_1 from its $(2n + j)$ -th column for $1 \le j \le n$ we obtain

$$
K_{2} = \begin{pmatrix} M_{1} + M_{2} & O & O \\ O & A & O \\ M_{2} & O & M_{1} - M_{2} \end{pmatrix}
$$

\nIt follows that
\n
$$
det(M) = det(K_{2})
$$
\n
$$
det(M) = det(M_{1} + M_{2})
$$
\n
$$
det(M) = det(M_{1} + M_{3})
$$
\n
$$
det(M) = det(M_{1} + M_{2})
$$
\n
$$
det(M) = det(M_{1} + M_{3})
$$
\n
$$
det(M) = det(M_{1} + M_{2})
$$
\n
$$
det(M) = det(M_{1} + M_{3})
$$
\n<math display="</math>

Theorem 5.2

If the matrix M , as defined in (4.11), is invertible, then $\sqrt{2}$ G_1 *O* G_2 \qquad *Z*

$$
M^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} G_1 & O & G_2 \\ O & A^{-1} & O \\ G_2 & O & G_1 \end{bmatrix}, \qquad (5.2) = \frac{A^{-1} - \overline{A}^{-1}}{2} = G_{31}.
$$

where $G_1 = \frac{1}{2} \left((M_1 + M_2)^{-1} + (M_1 - M_2)^{-1} \right)$ $(M_1 + M_2)^{-1} + (M_1 - M_2)^{-1}$ Again consider 1

$$
= \frac{1}{2} (A^{-1} + \overline{A}^{-1})
$$
 (5.3) $\frac{1}{C_{12} + C_{32}} = 0$ an

$$
G_2 = \frac{1}{2} \left((M_1 + M_2)^{-1} - (M_1 - M_2)^{-1} \right)
$$
\nwhich give $G_{12} = G_{32} = O$.
\nAlso from (ii), (v) and (viii), we get
\n
$$
= \frac{1}{2} (A^{-1} - \overline{A}^{-1})
$$
\n(5.4)

Proof:

Let *M* be an invertible matrix. Now in order to calculate M^{-1} , we observe that

M = (det(A))² det(
$$
\overline{A}
$$
).
\nlet(M) $\neq 0$ if and only if det(A) $\neq 0$ and
\n
$$
C_{33} = \frac{(M_1 + M_2)^{-1} + (M_1 - M_2)^{-1}}{2}
$$
\n= $\frac{A^{-1} + \overline{A}^{-1}}{2} = G_{11}$
\n= $\frac{A^{-1} + \overline{A}^{-1}}{2} = G_{11}$
\nand
\nM, as defined in (4.11), is invertible, then
\n
$$
G_{13} = \frac{(M_1 + M_2)^{-1} - (M_1 - M_2)^{-1}}{2}
$$
\n= $\frac{A^{-1} - \overline{A}^{-1}}{2} = G_{31}$.
\n
$$
G_2 = O - G_1
$$
\n= $\frac{1}{2} (M_1 + M_2)^{-1} + (M_1 - M_2)^{-1}$ Again considering (iv) and (vi), as $M_1 + M_2 = A \neq 0$ and
\n
$$
= \frac{1}{2} (A^{-1} + \overline{A}^{-1})
$$
\n(5.3) $G_{12} + G_{23} = O$ and $G_{12} - G_{32} = O$
\n
$$
= \frac{1}{2} (A^{-1} - \overline{A}^{-1})
$$
\n(5.4) $G_{21} = O, G_{22} = A^{-1}$ and $G_{23} = O$.
\n
$$
= \frac{1}{2} (A^{-1} - \overline{A}^{-1})
$$
\n(5.5) $G_{12} + G_{23} = O$ and $G_{12} - G_{32} = O$
\n
$$
= \frac{1}{2} (A^{-1} - \overline{A}^{-1})
$$
\n(5.6) $G_{21} = O, G_{22} = A^{-1}$ and $G_{23} = O$.
\n
$$
= \frac{1}{2} (A^{-1} - \overline{A}^{-1})
$$
\n(5.7) $G_{21} = O, G_{22} = A^{-1}$ and $G_{23} = O$.
\n
$$
= \frac{1
$$

where I_n is an $n \times n$ identity matrix, and which leads to the following relations:

(i)
$$
M_1G_{11} + M_2G_{31} = I_n
$$

\n(ii) $AG_{21} = O$
\n(iii) $M_2G_{11} + M_1G_{31} = O$
\n(iv) $M_1G_{12} + M_2G_{32} = O$
\n(v) $AG_{22} = I_n$
\n(vi) $M_2G_{12} + M_1G_{32} = O$
\n(vii) $M_2G_{12} + M_1G_{32} = O$
\n(viii) $M_2G_{11} + M_2G_{12} = O$
\n(v) $AG_{12} = I_n$
\n(v) $AG_{12} = I_n$
\n(v) $AG_{12} + M_1G_{12} = O$
\n(d) $W_2G_{12} + M_1G_{12} = O$
\n(e) $AG_{12} = I_n$
\n(f) $W_2G_{12} + M_1G_{12} = O$
\n(g) $W_2G_{12} + M_1G_{12} = O$
\n(g) $W_2G_{12} + M_1G_{12} = O$
\n(g) $W_2G_{12} + M_1G_{12} = O$

Substituting the following matrices:\n
$$
\begin{bmatrix}\n0 & 0 & 0 \\
A & 0 & 0 \\
0 & M_1 - M_2\n\end{bmatrix}
$$
\n
$$
\begin{bmatrix}\n\text{Substituting the following: } \\
\text{Substituting the following: } \\
\text{Substituting the following: } \\
\text{Substituting the equations: } \\
\text{Substit
$$

$$
G_{33} = \frac{(M_1 + M_2)^{-1} + (M_1 - M_2)^{-1}}{2}
$$

=
$$
\frac{A^{-1} + \overline{A}^{-1}}{2} = G_{11}
$$

and

$$
G_{13} = \frac{(M_1 + M_2)^{-1} - (M_1 - M_2)^{-1}}{2}
$$

=
$$
\frac{A^{-1} - \overline{A}^{-1}}{2} = G_{31}.
$$

 $\frac{1}{2} \left((M_1 + M_2)^{-1} + (M_1 - M_2)^{-1} \right)$ Again considering (iv) and (vi), as M_1 $M_1 + M_2$ ⁻¹ + $(M_1 - M_2)$ ⁻¹)
Again considering (iv) and (vi), as $M_1 + M_2 = A \neq O$ and $M_1 - M_2 = \overline{A} \neq O$, we obtain

$$
G_{12} + G_{32} = O
$$
 and $G_{12} - G_{32} = O$
which give $G = G_1 - O_2$

Also from (ii), (v) and (viii), we get

$$
G_{21} = O
$$
, $G_{22} = A^{-1}$ and $G_{23} = O$.

Now letting $G_{11} = G_{33} = G_1$ and $G_{13} = G_{31} = G_2$, the proof is completed.

> Once M^{-1} , as defined in (5.2), is calculated by (5.3) and (5.4), we have, from (4.14)

$$
\begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \\ w \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} G_1 p + G_2 s \\ A^{-1} q \\ G_2 p + G_1 s \end{pmatrix}.
$$
 (5.5)

Rearranging, we get

$$
[u, v, w] = [G_1 p + G_2 s, A^{-1} q, G_2 p + G_1 s]
$$
\n(5.6)

The *i*-th row of the right-hand side of (5.5) is a parameter vector of a trapezoidal fuzzy number if and only if

$$
(G_1 p + G_2 s)_i \le (A^{-1} q)_i \le (G_2 p + G_1 s)_i
$$
 (5.7)
Thus we conclude

Theorem 5.3

$$
x = (x_1, x_2, \cdots, x_n)^t \in \text{TrFN}(\mathbf{R})^n
$$
, where

(v) $AG_{22} = I_n$
 $x_i = Tr[u_i, v_i, w_i]$, $1 \le i \le n$, if and only if the following (vi) $M_2 G_{12} + M_1 G_{32} = O$ conditions hold:

- i). *A* and \overline{A} are both nonsingular, where \overline{A} is as in (5.1) ;
- ii). $G_1 p + G_2 s \le A^{-1} q \le G_2 p + G_1 s$, $G_2 = \frac{1}{2} (A^{-1} A^{-1})$. where G_1 , G_2 are as in (5.3) and (5.4), and *p*, *q*, *s* are as in (4.16).

VI. Computation of Solution using MATHEMATICA

Summarizing the discussion in the previous section, we have the following algorithm for the calculating the solution of SFLE (3.2).

Step 1. Input the matrix *A* .

Step 2. Input *b* as a matrix whose rows are the parameter-vectors of the TrFNs.

Step 3. Compute det(*A*). If $det(A) = 0$, print "The method does" not lead to a solution" and stop. Else, continue.

- Step 4. Compute M_1 and M_2 (as defined in and M_2 (as defined in
Step 12. The solution vector is $(Tr[x_i])_{1 \le i \le n}$, $(4.12-13)$.
- Step 5. Set $A = M_1 M_2$ and compute where x_i is the *i*-th componer

 $det(A)$.

If $\det(\overline{A}) = 0$, print "The method does not lead to a solution" and stop. Else, continue.

Step 6. Compute A^{-1} and \overline{A}^{-1} .

Step 7. Set
$$
G_1 = \frac{1}{2} (A^{-1} + \overline{A}^{-1})
$$
 and
 $G_2 = \frac{1}{2} (A^{-1} - \overline{A}^{-1})$.

Step 8. Set $p = col(1)$ of *b*, $q = col(2)$ of *b* and $s = col(3)$ of *b*.

Step 9. Compute $u = G_1 \cdot p + G_2 \cdot s$, $v = A^{-1} \cdot q$

and $w = G_2 \cdot p + G_1 \cdot s$.

- Step 10. Check whether $u \le v \le w$. If any of these inequalities is false, print, "The system does not have TrFN vector solution", and end. Else, print, "The system has unique TrFN-vector solution" and continue.
- Step 11. Set the solution vector $x = (x_i)$, where

 $x_i = (u_i, v_i, w_i), 1 \le i \le n$.

where x_i is the *i*-th component of the

vector *x*.

We illustrate the above procedure with four examples using *Mathematica* code.

solution[A , b] := If $[Det[A] == 0$, Print ["The method does not lead to a solution"],

 $n =$ Dimensions [A] [[1]]; M1:=Table[If[A[[i, j]] ≥ 0, A[[i, j]], 0], {i, n}, {j, n}]; M2:=Table[If[A[[i, j]] ≤ 0 , A[[i, j]], 0], {i, n}, {j, n}]; \bar{A} : = M1 - M2: If $[Det[\tilde{A}] == 0$, Print ["The method does not lead to a solution"], $G1 = \text{[Inverse[A]} + \text{Inverse[A]} / 2$; $G2 = (Inverse[A] - Inverse[\tilde{A}]) / 2$; $p = Transpose [b] [[1]]; q = Transpose [b] [[2]]; s = Transpose [b] [[3]];$ $u = G1. p + G2. s$; $v = Inverse [A]. q$; $w = G2. p + G1. s$; test = Table[u[[i]] $\leq v$ [[i]] $\leq w$ [[i]], {i, n}]; $truth = Table[True, {i, n}]$: If [test \neq truth, Print ["The system does not have TrapFN-vector solution"], Print["The system has unique TrapFN-vector solution"]; $x = N[Table[\{u[[i]], v[[i]], w[[i]]\}, \{i, n\}]]]\]$

Example 2 (*A* is singular)

 $Clear[A, b]$ $A = \{\{2, 0, 1\}, \{4, 2, 3\}, \{-5, 3, -1\}\};$ $b = \{\{3, 8, 11\}, \{-8, -4, 1\}, \{-2, 0, 5\}\};$ solution[A, b]

The method does not lead to a solution

Example 3 (\overline{A} is singular)

 $Clear(A, b)$ $A = \{(1, -1), (1, 1)\};$ $b = \{(-1, 3, 5), (-4, 1, 8)\};$

 $solution[A, b]$

The method does not lead to a solution

Example 4 (Solution fails)

 $Clear[A, b]$

 $A = \{ \{2, 3, 1\}, \{-4, 0, 3\}, \{1, 2, -1\} \};$ $b = \{ \{-1, 2, 6\}, \{3, 5, 8\}, \{-2, 1, 3\} \};$

solution[A, b]

The system does not have TrFN-vector solution

Example 5 (Solution exists)

 $Clear[**A**,**b**]$

 $A = \{ \{1, 2, -1, 0, 1\}, \{-1, 3, 2, 1, 0\}, \{0, -1, 3, 2, -1\}, \{2, 0, 1, -1, 3\}, \{1, -2, 0, 2, 1\} \}$ $b = \{\{2, 10, 17\}, \{-4, 9, 18\}, \{-13, -3, 8\}, \{-8, 0, 10\}, \{-2, 4, 13\}\};$ $solution[A, b]$

The system has unique TrFN-vector solution

 $\{(-1, 0, 2,), (1, 3, 4,), (-4, -2, 0,), (3, 4, 5,), (1, 2, 3,)\}$

- 1. Friedman Menahem, Ming Ma, Kandel Abraham, *Fuzzy linear systems*, Fuzzy Sets and System 96(1998) 201-209, North-Holland.
- 2. Peeva Ketty, *Fuzzy linear systems*, Fuzzy Sets and System 49(1992) 339-355, North-Holland.
- 3. Zhang Q.L., Zhu Q.M., Longdon A., and Davis T., *Fuzzy analogy of linear systems,* In Program of the Second CEMS Research Student Conference, Univ of the West of England 2003
- 4. Don Eugene, Ph.D., *Schaum's Outline of Theory and Problems of Mathematica*, Schaum's Outline Series, Mc Graw-Hill International Book Company 2001.
- 5. Wolfram S. *The Mathematica Book*. Fifth Edition, 2003, WWW. Stephenwolfram.com
- 6. Zadeh L.A., *Fuzzy sets*, Information and Control, 8 (1965) 338-353.
- 7. Congxin Wu and Ma Ming, *Embedding problem of fuzzy number space-part I*, Fuzzy Sets and System 44 (1991) 33- 38, North-Holland.
- 8. Congxin Wu and Ma Ming, *Embedding problem of fuzzy number space-part III*, Fuzzy Sets and System 46 (1992) 281-286, North-Holland.
- 9. Dubios D. and H. Prade, *Operations on fuzzy numbers*, Inter. J. of Systems Sci. 9 (1978) 613-626.
- 10. Goetschel Jr. Roy and Voxman William, *Eigen fuzzy number sets*, Fuzzy Sets and System 16 (1985)75-85, North-Holland.
- 11. Kaufman Arnold and Gupta M. M., *Introduction to fuzzy arithmetic*, Van Nostral Reinhold Company Inc. New York 1985.
- 12. Klir J. George and Yuan Bo., *Fuzzy sets and fuzzy logic theory and applications.* Prentice-Hall of India Private Limited, New Delhi 2000.
- 13. Lowen R., *Fuzzy set theory*, Kluwer Academic Publisher, Dordrecht, Boston, London.
- 14. Silvester John R. *Determinants of Block Matrices*, Math Gazette 84(2000) 460-467, London.