

# Constructing t-norms from a given behaviour on join-irreducible elements

Serife Yilmaz<sup>1</sup> and Bernard De Baets<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Mathematics  
Karadeniz Technical University  
61080 Trabzon, Turkey  
serife.yilmaz@ugent.be

<sup>2</sup> Department of Applied Mathematics, Biometrics and Process Control  
Ghent University  
B-9000 Gent, Belgium  
bernard.debaets@ugent.be

Triangular norms (t-norms for short) were originally studied in the theory of probabilistic metric spaces in order to generalize the classical triangle inequality to this field [7, 12]. Later on, they played an important role as interpretation of the conjunction in many-valued logics [4], in particular in fuzzy logics [8]. An important class of t-norms is the class of sup-preserving t-norms which play a major role, particularly in residuated lattices [4]. Triangular conorms are introduced as dual notion of triangular norms [10]. There have been some construction methods of t-norms on various classes of lattices [11, 5, 9, 6]. Some lattices can be generated by a class of elements: join- or meet-irreducible elements and some others [1, 2]. In this contribution, we focus on constructing t-norms on complete lattices from a given behavior on join-irreducible elements. We present the sup-extension method to describe the behavior of a t-norm on a finite distributive lattice by means of join-irreducible elements by the following theorem:

**Theorem.** Let  $L$  a finite distributive lattice and  $J(L)^* = J(L) \cup \{0, 1\}$ . If  $T$  is a t-norm on  $J(L)^*$ , then the function  $\tilde{T}$  defined as follows:

$$\tilde{T}(x, y) = \bigvee_{j \in \eta(x)} \bigvee_{k \in \eta(y)} T(j, k)$$

where  $\eta(x) = \{i \in J(L)^* \mid i \leq x\} = J(L)^* \cap \downarrow x$  for all  $x \in L$ , is a t-norm on  $L$ .

We provide a method to construct t-conorms by carrying out the dual method on meet-irreducible elements. We also obtain some inf-preserving t-conorms on principle ideals of a lattice from given inf-preserving t-conorms. We show that if  $T$  is a t-norm on a complete lattice  $L$  and every join-irreducible element of  $L$  is idempotent, then  $T = \wedge$ . We give a method to construct t-norms on a product of distributive lattices  $L = L_1 \times L_2 \times \dots \times L_n$ . Giving a partition of the set of join-irreducible elements of  $L = L_1 \times L_2 \times \dots \times L_n$ , we show that for a given t-norm on join-irreducible elements, the restriction to each set that forms the partition is not necessarily a t-norm, but a t-subnorm. Moreover, we partition the set of join-irreducible elements  $J(L^{[n]})$  of a power

of chains  $L^{[n]}$ , given in [13], into  $n$  sets such that

$$\begin{aligned} J_1 &= \{(0, 0, \dots, 0, a) \mid a \in L\} \\ J_2 &= \{(0, 0, \dots, a, a) \mid a \in L\} \\ &\vdots \\ J_{n-1} &= \{(0, a, \dots, a, a) \mid a \in L\} \\ J_n &= \{(a, a, \dots, a, a) \mid a \in L\}. \end{aligned}$$

and provide a method to construct a t-norm from given t-norms on the parts of this partition. We show that if  $L$  is finite, then the constructed t-norm is sup-preserving. In an interval valued lattice  $L$ , the set  $D_L = \{[x, x] \mid x \in L\}$  is called the diagonal of  $L$  [3]. Our last result on the characterization of sup-preserving t-norms on  $L^{[n]}$  extends result of [3]: Any sup-preserving t-norm  $T$  on  $L^{[n]}$  can be characterized by its behaviour on  $J_n$  and  $T((0, \dots, 0, 1), (0, \dots, 0, 1))$  if it is closed on the diagonal.

## References

1. G. Birkhof. *Lattice Theory*. American Mathematical Society, Providence, RI, 1967.
2. B.A. Davey and H.A. Priestley. *Introduction to Lattices and Orders*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United States, 1990.
3. B. Van Gasse, C. Cornelis, G. Deschrijver, and E. Kerre. A characterization of interval-valued residuated lattices. *International Journal of Approximate Reasoning*, 49:478–487, 2008.
4. P. Hajek. *Metamathematics of Fuzzy Logic*. Kluwer Academic Publishers, Dordrecht, Holland, 1998.
5. S. Jenei and B. De Baets. On the direct decomposability of t-norms on product lattices. 139:699–707, 2003.
6. F. Karacal and Y. Sagiroglu. Infinitely  $\vee$ -distributive t-norms on complete lattices and pseudo-complements. *Fuzzy Sets and Systems*, 160:32–43, 2009.
7. K. Menger. Statistical metrics. *Proceeding of National Academy of Sciences*, 28:535–537, 1942.
8. H.T. Nguyen and E. Walker. *A First Course in Fuzzy Logic*. CRC Press, Boca Raton, Florida, 1997.
9. S. Saminger. On ordinal sums of triangular norms on bounded lattices. *Fuzzy Sets and Systems*, 157:1403–1416, 2006.
10. B. Schweizer and A. Sklar. Associative functions and statistical triangle inequalities. *Publ. Math. Debrecen*, 8:169–186, 1961.
11. B. Schweizer and A. Sklar. *Associative Functions and Abstract Semigroups*. Publ. Math. Debrecen, Amsterdam, Holland, 1963.
12. B. Schweizer and A. Sklar. *Probabilistic Metric Spaces*. North Holland, Amsterdam, Holland, 1983.
13. C. L. Walker and E. A. Walker. Automorphisms of powers of linearly ordered sets. *International Journal of Uncertainty, Fuzziness and Knowledge-Based Systems*, 14:77–85, 2006.