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# A New Type of *p*-Ideals in *BCI*-Algebras Based on Hesitant Fuzzy Sets

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**Abstract.** Using the concept of hesitant union (U), the notion of U-hesitant fuzzy *p*-ideals is introduced, and their properties are investigated. Relations between U-hesitant fuzzy ideals and U-hesitant fuzzy *p*-ideals are considered. Conditions for the U-hesitant fuzzy *p*-ideal are provided. The reduction property for U-hesitant fuzzy *p*-ideals is established.

Key Words and Phrases: hesitant union, U-hesitant fuzzy ideal, U-hesitant fuzzy *p*-ideal.

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## 1. Introduction

As a generalization of fuzzy sets, Torra introduced the notion of hesitant fuzzy sets (see [9, 10]), and it is a very useful tool to deal with uncertainty, which can be accurately and perfectly described in terms of the opinions of decision makers. Xu and Xia [14] proposed a variety of distance measures for hesitant fuzzy sets, based on which the corresponding similarity measures can be obtained. They investigated the connections of the aforementioned distance measures and further developed a number of hesitant ordered weighted distance measures and hesitant ordered weighted similarity measures. Xu and Xia [15] defined the distance and correlation measures for hesitant fuzzy information and then discussed their properties in detail. Also, hesitant fuzzy set theory is used in decision making problem etc. (see [7, 11, 12, 13, 15]), and is applied to BCK/BCI-algebras, EQ-algebras, residuated lattices and MTL-algebras (see [2, 3, 4, 6]). In [8], Song et al. introduced the notion of  $\mathbb{U}$ -hesitant fuzzy subalgebras and  $\mathbb{U}$ -hesitant fuzzy ideals, and investigated several properties.

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104

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In this paper, we introduce the notion of U-hesitant fuzzy p-ideals in BCIalgebras and investigate several properties. We consider relations between Uhesitant fuzzy ideals and  $\cup$ -hesitant fuzzy p-ideals, and provide conditions for the  $\square$ -hesitant fuzzy ideal to be a  $\square$ -hesitant fuzzy *p*-ideal. We establish the reduction property for U-hesitant fuzzy *p*-ideals.

# 2. Preliminaries

A BCK/BCI-algebra is an important class of logical algebras introduced by K. Iséki and was extensively investigated by several researchers.

An algebra (X; \*, 0) of type (2, 0) is called a *BCI-algebra* if it satisfies the following conditions:

(I) 
$$(\forall x, y, z \in X)$$
  $(((x * y) * (x * z)) * (z * y) = 0),$ 

(II) 
$$(\forall x, y \in X) ((x * (x * y)) * y = 0),$$

(III) 
$$(\forall x \in X) \ (x * x = 0),$$

(IV)  $(\forall x, y \in X)$   $(x * y = 0, y * x = 0 \Rightarrow x = y).$ 

If a BCI-algebra X satisfies the following identity:

(V)  $(\forall x \in X) \ (0 * x = 0),$ 

then X is called a BCK-algebra.

Any BCK/BCI-algebra X satisfies the following conditions:

$$\left(\forall x \in X\right) \left(x * 0 = x\right),\tag{1}$$

$$(\forall x, y, z \in X) (x \le y \implies x \ast z \le y \ast z, \ z \ast y \le z \ast x),$$
(2)

$$(\forall x, y, z \in X) ((x * y) * z = (x * z) * y),$$

$$(\exists)$$

$$(\forall x, y, z \in X) ((x * z) * (y * z) \leq x * y)$$

$$(4)$$

$$(\forall x, y, z \in X) \left( (x * z) * (y * z) \le x * y \right) \tag{4}$$

where  $x \leq y$  if and only if x \* y = 0.

Any BCI-algebra X satisfies the following conditions:

$$(\forall x, y, z \in X) \left( 0 * \left( 0 * \left( (x * z) * (y * z) \right) \right) = (0 * y) * (0 * x) \right), \tag{5}$$

$$(\forall x, y \in X) (0 * (0 * (x * y)) = (0 * y) * (0 * x)),$$
(6)

$$(\forall x \in X) (0 * (0 * (0 * x)) = 0 * x).$$
(7)

A BCI-algebra X is said to be p-semisimple (see [1]) if 0 \* (0 \* x) = x for all  $x \in X$ .

Every p-semisimple BCI-algebra X satisfies:

$$(\forall x, y, z \in X) ((x * z) * (y * z) = x * y).$$
(8)

A subset A of a BCK/BCI-algebra X is called an *ideal* of X if it satisfies:

$$0 \in A,\tag{9}$$

$$(\forall x \in X) (x * y \in A, y \in A \Rightarrow x \in A).$$
(10)

A subset A of a *BCI*-algebra X is called a *p*-*ideal* of X (see [16]) if it satisfies (9) and

$$(\forall x, y, z \in X) ((x * z) * (y * z) \in A, y \in A \Rightarrow x \in A).$$
(11)

Note that an ideal A of a BCI-algebra X is a p-ideal of X if and only if the following assertion is valid (see [16]):

$$(\forall x, y, z \in X) ((x * z) * (y * z) \in A \implies x * y \in A).$$

$$(12)$$

We refer the reader to the books [1, 5] for further information regarding BCK/BCI-algebras.

A hesitant fuzzy set on a reference set X (see [9]) is defined in terms of a function  $\mathcal{G}$  that when applied to X returns a subset of [0, 1], that is,  $\mathcal{G} : X \to \mathscr{P}([0, 1])$ .

Given a hesitant fuzzy set  $\mathcal{G}$  on X, we define  $\mathrm{Inf}\mathcal{G}$  as follows:

$$\operatorname{Inf} \mathcal{G}(x) = \begin{cases} \min \operatorname{minimum} \text{ of } \mathcal{G}(x) & \operatorname{if} \mathcal{G}(x) \text{ is finite,} \\ \inf \operatorname{mum} \text{ of } \mathcal{G}(x) & \operatorname{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$
(13)

for all  $x \in X$ . It is obvious that  $Inf\mathcal{G}$  is fuzzy set in X.

For a hesitant fuzzy set  $\mathcal{G}$  on X and  $x, y \in X$ , we define

$$\mathcal{G}(x) \cup \mathcal{G}(y) := \{ t \in \mathcal{G}(x) \cup \mathcal{G}(y) \mid t \ge \max\{ \mathrm{Inf}\mathcal{G}(x), \mathrm{Inf}\mathcal{G}(y) \} \}.$$
(14)

We say that  $\mathcal{G}(x) \cup \mathcal{G}(y)$  is the *hesitant union* of  $\mathcal{G}(x)$  and  $\mathcal{G}(y)$ . Note that the following assertions are always true:

$$\mathcal{G}(x) \cup \mathcal{G}(x) = \mathcal{G}(x), \tag{15}$$

$$\mathcal{G}(a) \subseteq \mathcal{G}(x), \ \mathcal{G}(b) \subseteq \mathcal{G}(y) \ \Rightarrow \ \mathcal{G}(a) \sqcup \mathcal{G}(b) \subseteq \mathcal{G}(x) \sqcup \mathcal{G}(y)$$
(16)

for all  $a, b, x, y \in X$ . For any hesitant fuzzy set  $\mathcal{G}$  on X and  $\tau \in \mathscr{P}([0, 1])$ , we consider the set

$$L(\mathcal{G},\tau) := \{ x \in X \mid \mathcal{G}(x) \subseteq \tau \},\$$

A New Type of *p*-Ideals in *BCI*-Algebras Based on Hesitant Fuzzy Set

which is called the *lower hesitant*  $\tau$ -*level set* of  $\mathcal{G}$  on X.

A hesitant fuzzy set  $\mathcal{G}$  on a BCK/BCI-algebra X is called a *hesitant fuzzy ideal* of X based on the hesitant union ( $\mathbb{U}$ ) (briefly,  $\mathbb{U}$ -hesitant fuzzy ideal of X) (see [8]) if it satisfies:

$$(\forall x \in X) \left( \mathcal{G}(0) \subseteq \mathcal{G}(x) \right), \tag{17}$$

107

$$(\forall x, y \in X) \left( \mathcal{G}(x) \subseteq \mathcal{G}(x * y) \cup \mathcal{G}(y) \right).$$
(18)

### 3. p-ideals of BCI-algebras based on the hesitant union

In what follows, let X denote a BCI-algebra unless otherwise specified.

**Definition 1.** A hesitant fuzzy set  $\mathcal{G}$  on X is called a hesitant fuzzy p-ideal of a BCI-algebra X based on the hesitant union  $(\bigcup)$  (briefly,  $\bigcup$ -hesitant fuzzy p-ideal of X) if it satisfies (17) and

$$(\forall x, y, z \in X) \left( \mathcal{G}(x) \subseteq \mathcal{G}((x * z) * (y * z)) \cup \mathcal{G}(y) \right).$$
(19)

**Example 1.** Let  $X = \{0, a, b, c\}$  be a BCI-algebra with the following Cayley table (see [1]):

Define a hesitant fuzzy set  $\mathcal{G}$  on X as follows:

$$\mathcal{G}: X \to \mathscr{P}([0,1]), \quad x \mapsto \begin{cases} \{0.4, 0.45\} \cup (0.5, 0.7) & \text{if } x \in \{0,c\} \\ [0.4, 0.7] & \text{otherwise}, \end{cases}$$

It is routine to verify that  $\mathcal{G}$  is a  $\bigcup$ -hesitant fuzzy p-ideal of X.

**Theorem 1.** Every  $\bigcup$ -hesitant fuzzy p-ideal of X is a  $\bigcup$ -hesitant fuzzy ideal of X.

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a  $\bigcup$ -hesitant fuzzy *p*-ideal of *X*. Since x \* 0 = x for all  $x \in X$ , taking z := 0 in (19) yields

$$\mathcal{G}(x) \subseteq \mathcal{G}((x*0)*(y*0)) \cup \mathcal{G}(y) = \mathcal{G}(x*y) \cup \mathcal{G}(y)$$

for all  $x, y \in X$ . Therefore  $\mathcal{G}$  is a  $\bigcup$ -hesitant fuzzy ideal of X.

The converse of Theorem 1 is not true in general as seen in the following example.

**Example 2.** Consider a BCI-algebra  $X = \{0, 1, 2, a, b\}$  with the following Cayley table (see [1]):

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Define a hesitant fuzzy set  $\mathcal{G}$  on X as follows:

$$\mathcal{G}: X \to \mathscr{P}([0,1]), \quad x \mapsto \begin{cases} \{0.4\} \cup [0.5, 0.6) \cup \{0.7\} & \text{if } x \in \{0, 2, a\}, \\ [0.4, 0.6] \cup \{0.7\} & \text{otherwise}, \end{cases}$$

Then  $\mathcal{G}$  is a  $\mathbb{U}$ -hesitant fuzzy ideal of X. But it is not a  $\mathbb{U}$ -hesitant fuzzy p-ideal of X since

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{G}((b*b)*(a*b)) & \Downarrow \mathcal{G}(a) = \mathcal{G}(0) & \Downarrow \mathcal{G}(a) \\ &= \{t \in \mathcal{G}(0) \cup \mathcal{G}(a) \mid t \ge \max\{\mathrm{Inf}\mathcal{G}(0), \mathrm{Inf}\mathcal{G}(a)\}\} \\ &= \{t \in \{0.4\} \cup [0.5, 0.6) \cup \{0.7\} \mid t \ge 0.4\} \\ &= \{0.4\} \cup [0.5, 0.6) \cup \{0.7\} \not\supseteq [0.4, 0.6] \cup \{0.7\} = \mathcal{G}(b). \end{aligned}$$

**Lemma 1** ([8]). Every  $\bigcup$ -hesitant fuzzy ideal  $\mathcal{G}$  of X satisfies:

$$(\forall x, y \in X) (x \le y \implies \mathcal{G}(x) \subseteq \mathcal{G}(y)), \qquad (20)$$

$$(\forall x, y, z \in X) (x * y \le z \implies \mathcal{G}(x) \subseteq \mathcal{G}(y) \cup \mathcal{G}(z)).$$
(21)

**Proposition 1.** Every  $\bigcup$ -hesitant fuzzy p-ideal  $\mathcal{G}$  of X satisfies the following assertion:

$$(\forall x \in X) \left( \mathcal{G}(x) \subseteq \mathcal{G}(0 * (0 * x)) \right).$$
(22)

$$(\forall x, y, z \in X) \left( \mathcal{G}((x * z) * (y * z)) \subseteq \mathcal{G}(x * y) \right).$$
(23)

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a  $\bigcup$ -hesitant fuzzy *p*-ideal of *X*. If we put z := x and y := 0 in (19), then

$$\mathcal{G}(x) \subseteq \mathcal{G}((x*x)*(0*x)) \uplus \mathcal{G}(0) = \mathcal{G}(0*(0*x)) \uplus \mathcal{G}(0) \subseteq \mathcal{G}(0*(0*x))$$

for all  $x \in X$  by (III), (17), (15) and (16). Thus (22) holds.

Note that  $\mathcal{G}$  is a  $\bigcup$ -hesitant fuzzy ideal of X by Theorem 1. Since  $(x * z) * (y * z) \leq x * y$  for all  $x, y, z \in X$ , it follows from (20) that

$$\mathcal{G}((x*z)*(y*z)) \subseteq \mathcal{G}(x*y),$$

A New Type of *p*-Ideals in *BCI*-Algebras Based on Hesitant Fuzzy Set

which proves (23).

Given a hesitant fuzzy set  $\mathcal{G}$  on X, we consider the following inclusion:

$$(\forall x, y, z \in X) \left( \mathcal{G}(x * y) \subseteq \mathcal{G}((x * z) * (y * z)) \right).$$
(24)

109

The following example shows that there is a U-hesitant fuzzy ideal  $\mathcal{G}$  of X which does not satisfy the condition (24).

**Example 3.** Let  $X = \{0, 1, 2, a, b\}$  be a BCI-algebra with the following Cayley table (see [5]):

*	0	1	2	a	b
0	0	0	0	a	a
1	1	0	0	a	a
2	2	2	0	b	a
a	a	a	a	0	0
b	b	b	a	2	0.

Define a hesitant fuzzy set  $\mathcal{G}$  on X as follows:

$$\mathcal{G}: X \to \mathscr{P}([0,1]), \quad x \mapsto \begin{cases} \{0.4, 0.45, 0.5\} & \text{if } x = 0, \\ \{0.4\} \cup [0.45, 0.5] & \text{if } x = 1, \\ \{0.4\} \cup [0.45, 0.6) & \text{if } x = 2, \\ [0.4, 0.5] & \text{if } x = a, \\ [0.4, 0.6] & \text{if } x = b. \end{cases}$$

It is routine to verify that  $\mathcal{G}$  is a  $\mathbb{U}$ -hesitant fuzzy ideal of X. But  $\mathcal{G}$  does not satisfy the condition (24) because

$$\mathcal{G}(2*a) = \mathcal{G}(b) = [0.4, 0.6] \supset [0.4, 0.5] = \mathcal{G}((2*2)*(a*2)).$$

We provide conditions for a U-hesitant fuzzy ideal to be a U-hesitant fuzzy p-ideal.

**Theorem 2.** If a U-hesitant fuzzy ideal G of X satisfies the condition (24), then it is a U-hesitant fuzzy p-ideal of X.

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a  $\mathbb{U}$ -hesitant fuzzy ideal of X satisfying the condition (24). Then

$$\mathcal{G}(x) \subseteq \mathcal{G}(x \ast y) \uplus \mathcal{G}(y) \subseteq \mathcal{G}((x \ast z) \ast (y \ast z)) \uplus \mathcal{G}(y)$$

for all  $x, y, z \in X$  by (18) and (16). Therefore  $\mathcal{G}$  is a  $\bigcup$ -hesitant fuzzy p-ideal of X.

**Lemma 2** ([8]). Every  $\bigcup$ -hesitant fuzzy ideal  $\mathcal{G}$  of X satisfies the following assertion:

$$(\forall x \in X) \left( \mathcal{G}(0 * (0 * x)) \subseteq \mathcal{G}(x) \right).$$
(25)

**Theorem 3.** If a U-hesitant fuzzy ideal G of X satisfies the condition (22), then it is a U-hesitant fuzzy p-ideal of X.

*Proof.* Let  $x, y, z \in X$ . Using (22), (6), (5) and Lemma 2, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{G}(x*y) &\subseteq \mathcal{G}(0*(0*(x*y))) = \mathcal{G}((0*y)*(0*x)) \\ &= \mathcal{G}(0*(0*((x*z)*(y*z)))) \\ &\subseteq \mathcal{G}((x*z)*(y*z)). \end{aligned}$$

It follows from Theorem 2 that  $\mathcal{G}$  is a  $\mathbb{U}$ -hesitant fuzzy *p*-ideal of *X*.

**Theorem 4.** In a p-semisimple BCI-algebra, every  $\bigcup$ -hesitant fuzzy ideal is a  $\bigcup$ -hesitant fuzzy p-ideal.

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a  $\bigcup$ -hesitant fuzzy ideal of a *p*-semisimple *BCI*-algebra *X*. Using (18) and (8), we have

$$\mathcal{G}(x) \subseteq \mathcal{G}(x * y) \cup \mathcal{G}(y) = \mathcal{G}((x * z) * (y * z)) \cup \mathcal{G}(y)$$

for all  $x, y, z \in X$ . Therefore  $\mathcal{G}$  is a  $\bigcup$ -hesitant fuzzy p-ideal of X.

**Corollary 1.** In a BCI-algebra X in which its BCK-part is  $\{0\}$ , every  $\bigcup$ -hesitant fuzzy ideal is a  $\bigcup$ -hesitant fuzzy p-ideal.

**Corollary 2.** In a BCI-algebra X in which every element is minimal, every  $\square$ -hesitant fuzzy ideal is a  $\square$ -hesitant fuzzy p-ideal.

**Corollary 3.** Let X be a BCI-algebra in which any one of the following conditions is true:

- $(1) \ (x*y)*(z*u)=(x*z)(*y*u),$
- (2) 0 \* (y \* x) = x \* y,
- (3) (x \* y) \* (x \* z) = z \* y,
- (4)  $z * x = z * y \implies x = y$ ,
- (5)  $x * y = 0 \Rightarrow x = y$

for all  $x, y, z, u \in X$ . Then every  $\bigcup$ -hesitant fuzzy ideal is a  $\bigcup$ -hesitant fuzzy p-ideal.

**Lemma 3** ([8]). If  $\mathcal{G}$  is a  $\bigcup$ -hesitant fuzzy ideal of X, then the lower hesitant  $\tau$ -level set  $L(\mathcal{G}, \tau)$  of  $\mathcal{G}$  on X is an ideal of X for all  $\tau \in \mathscr{P}([0,1])$  with  $L(\mathcal{G}, \tau) \neq \emptyset$ .

**Lemma 4** ([16]). An ideal A of X is a p-ideal of X if and only if it satisfies

$$(\forall x \in X) (0 * (0 * x) \in A \implies x \in A).$$
(26)

**Theorem 5.** If  $\mathcal{G}$  is a  $\bigcup$ -hesitant fuzzy p-ideal of X, then the lower hesitant  $\tau$ level set  $L(\mathcal{G}, \tau)$  of  $\mathcal{G}$  on X is a p-ideal of X for all  $\tau \in \mathscr{P}([0, 1])$  with  $L(\mathcal{G}, \tau) \neq \emptyset$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\tau \in \mathscr{P}([0,1])$  be such that  $L(\mathcal{G},\tau) \neq \emptyset$ . If  $\mathcal{G}$  is a  $\Downarrow$ -hesitant fuzzy p-ideal of X, then it is a  $\Downarrow$ -hesitant fuzzy ideal of X, and so  $L(\mathcal{G},\tau)$  is an ideal of X by Lemma 3. Assume that  $0 * (0 * x) \in L(\mathcal{G},\tau)$  for all  $x \in X$ . Then  $\mathcal{G}(0 * (0 * x)) \subseteq \tau$ , which implies by (22) that  $\mathcal{G}(x) \subseteq \mathcal{G}(0 * (0 * x)) \subseteq \tau$ . Hence  $x \in L(\mathcal{G},\tau)$ , and thus  $L(\mathcal{G},\tau)$  is a p-ideal of X by Lemma 4.

**Corollary 4.** If  $\mathcal{G}$  is a  $\bigcup$ -hesitant fuzzy ideal of a p-semisimple BCI-algebra X, then the lower hesitant  $\tau$ -level set  $L(\mathcal{G}, \tau)$  of  $\mathcal{G}$  on X is a p-ideal of X for all  $\tau \in \mathscr{P}([0,1])$  with  $L(\mathcal{G}, \tau) \neq \emptyset$ .

**Corollary 5.** Let X be a BCI-algebra in which at least one of the five conditions in Corollary 3 is true. If  $\mathcal{G}$  is a  $\bigcup$ -hesitant fuzzy ideal of X, then the lower hesitant  $\tau$ -level set  $L(\mathcal{G}, \tau)$  of  $\mathcal{G}$  on X is a p-ideal of X for all  $\tau \in \mathscr{P}([0, 1])$  with  $L(\mathcal{G}, \tau) \neq \emptyset$ .

The following example shows that the converse of Theorem 5 is not true in general.

**Example 4.** Consider a BCI-algebra  $X = \{0, 1, a, b, c\}$  with the following Cayley table (see [1]):

*	0	1	a	b	c
0	0	0	a	b	С
1	1	0	a	b	c
a	a	a	0	c	b
b	b	b	c	0	a
c	c	c	b	a	0.

Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a hesitant fuzzy set on X given as follows:

$$\mathcal{G}: X \to \mathscr{P}([0,1]), \quad x \mapsto \begin{cases} (0.5, 0.6) & \text{if } x \in \{0,1\}, \\ [0.5, 0.6) \cup \{0.7\} & \text{if } x = a, \\ \{0.4\} \cup [0.5, 0.7] & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then we have

$$L(\mathcal{G},\tau) = \begin{cases} \{0,1\} & \text{if } (0.5,0.6) \subseteq \tau \text{ and } [0.5,0.6) \cup \{0.7\} \nsubseteq \tau, \\ \{0,1,a\} & \text{if } [0.5,0.6) \cup \{0.7\} \subseteq \tau \text{ and } \{0.4\} \cup [0.5,0.7] \nsubseteq \tau, \\ X & \text{if } \{0.4\} \cup [0.5,0.7] \subseteq \tau, \\ \emptyset & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

and so  $L(\mathcal{G},\tau)$  is a p-ideal of X for all  $\tau \in \mathscr{P}([0,1])$  with  $L(\mathcal{G},\tau) \neq \emptyset$ . Note that  $\mathcal{G}(0) \subseteq \mathcal{G}(x)$  for all  $x \in X$ . But  $\mathcal{G}(b) = \{0.4\} \cup [0.5, 0.7]$  and

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{G}((b*a)*(1*a)) & \uplus \, \mathcal{G}(1) = \mathcal{G}(b) & \uplus \, \mathcal{G}(1) \\ &= \{t \in \mathcal{G}(b) \cup \mathcal{G}(1) \mid t \geq \max\{\mathrm{Inf}\mathcal{G}(b), \mathrm{Inf}\mathcal{G}(1)\}\} \\ &= \{t \in \{0.4\} \cup [0.5, 0.7] \mid t \geq \max\{0.4, 0.5\}\} \\ &= [0.5, 0.7], \end{aligned}$$

and thus  $\mathcal{G}(b) \nsubseteq \mathcal{G}((b * a) * (1 * a)) \sqcup \mathcal{G}(1)$ . Therefore  $\mathcal{G}$  is not a  $\sqcup$ -hesitant fuzzy p-ideal of X.

We provide a condition for the converse of Theorem 5 to be true.

**Theorem 6.** Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a hesitant fuzzy set on X satisfying the condition

$$(\forall x, y \in X) \left( \mathcal{G}(x) \cup \mathcal{G}(y) = \mathcal{G}(x) \cup \mathcal{G}(y) \right).$$
(27)

If the lower hesitant  $\tau$ -level set  $L(\mathcal{G}, \tau)$  of  $\mathcal{G}$  on X is a p-ideal of X for all  $\tau \in \mathscr{P}([0,1])$  with  $L(\mathcal{G}, \tau) \neq \emptyset$ , then  $\mathcal{G}$  is a  $\bigcup$ -hesitant fuzzy p-ideal of X.

*Proof.* For any  $x \in X$ , let  $\mathcal{G}(x) = \tau_x$ . Then  $x \in L(\mathcal{G}, \tau_x)$ , and so  $L(\mathcal{G}, \tau_x)$  is a *p*-ideal of X by assumption. Thus  $0 \in L(\mathcal{G}, \tau_x)$ , and hence  $\mathcal{G}(0) \subseteq \tau_x = \mathcal{G}(x)$ . For any  $x, y, z \in X$ , taking  $\tau = \mathcal{G}((x * z) * (y * z)) \cup \mathcal{G}(y)$  yields

$$(x * z) * (y * z) \in L(\mathcal{G}, \tau)$$
 and  $y \in L(\mathcal{G}, \tau)$ 

Hence  $x \in L(\mathcal{G}, \tau)$ , and so

$$\mathcal{G}(x) \subseteq \tau = \mathcal{G}((x \ast z) \ast (y \ast z)) \cup \mathcal{G}(y) = \mathcal{G}((x \ast z) \ast (y \ast z)) \uplus \mathcal{G}(y)$$

by using the condition (27). Therefore  $\mathcal{G}$  is a  $\bigcup$ -hesitant fuzzy *p*-ideal of *X*.

**Theorem 7.** Given a nonempty proper subset A of X, define a hesitant fuzzy set  $\mathcal{G}$  on X as follows:

$$\mathcal{G}: X \to \mathscr{P}([0,1]), \quad x \mapsto \begin{cases} \tau_1 & \text{if } x \in A, \\ \tau_2 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$
(28)

where  $\tau_1, \tau_2 \in \mathscr{P}([0,1])$  with  $\tau_1 \subsetneq \tau_2$ . If  $\mathcal{G}$  is a  $\bigcup$ -hesitant fuzzy p-ideal of X, then A is a p-ideal of X.

*Proof.* Note that

$$L(\mathcal{G},\tau) = \begin{cases} A & \text{if } \tau_1 \subseteq \tau \text{ and } \tau_2 \nsubseteq \tau, \\ X & \text{if } \tau_2 \subseteq \tau, \\ \emptyset & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

If  $\mathcal{G}$  is a  $\mathbb{U}$ -hesitant fuzzy *p*-ideal of *X*, then  $L(\mathcal{G}, \tau)$  is a *p*-ideal of *X* for all  $\tau \in \mathscr{P}([0,1])$  with  $L(\mathcal{G}, \tau) \neq \emptyset$  by Theorem 5. Hence *A* should be a *p*-ideal of *X*.

**Lemma 5.** If  $\operatorname{Inf} \tau_1 = \operatorname{Inf} \tau_2 \in \tau_1 \cap \tau_2$ , then the hesitant fuzzy set  $\mathcal{G}$  in Theorem 7 satisfies the condition (27).

*Proof.* Let  $x, y \in X$ . If  $x, y \in A$ , then

$$\mathcal{G}(x) \cup \mathcal{G}(y) = \{t \in \mathcal{G}(x) \cup \mathcal{G}(y) \mid t \ge \max\{\mathrm{Inf}\mathcal{G}(x), \mathrm{Inf}\mathcal{G}(y)\}\}\$$
$$= \{t \in \tau_1 \mid t \ge \mathrm{Inf}\tau_1\}\}\$$
$$= \tau_1 = \mathcal{G}(x) \cup \mathcal{G}(y).$$

If  $x, y \in X \setminus A$ , then

$$\mathcal{G}(x) \cup \mathcal{G}(y) = \{t \in \mathcal{G}(x) \cup \mathcal{G}(y) \mid t \ge \max\{\mathrm{Inf}\mathcal{G}(x), \mathrm{Inf}\mathcal{G}(y)\}\}\$$
$$= \{t \in \tau_2 \mid t \ge \mathrm{Inf}\tau_2\}\}\$$
$$= \tau_2 = \mathcal{G}(x) \cup \mathcal{G}(y).$$

If  $x \in A$  and  $y \in X \setminus A$ , then  $\mathcal{G}(x) = \tau_1 \subsetneq \tau_2 = \mathcal{G}(y)$ , and so

$$\mathcal{G}(x) \cup \mathcal{G}(y) = \{t \in \mathcal{G}(x) \cup \mathcal{G}(y) \mid t \ge \max\{\mathrm{Inf}\mathcal{G}(x), \mathrm{Inf}\mathcal{G}(y)\}\}\$$
  
=  $\{t \in \tau_2 \mid t \ge \max\{\mathrm{Inf}\tau_1, \mathrm{Inf}\tau_2\}\}\$   
=  $\{t \in \tau_2 \mid t \ge \mathrm{Inf}\tau_2\}\$   
=  $\tau_2 = \mathcal{G}(x) \cup \mathcal{G}(y).$ 

Similarly, if  $x \in X \setminus A$  and  $y \in A$ , then  $\mathcal{G}(x) \cup \mathcal{G}(y) = \mathcal{G}(x) \cup \mathcal{G}(y)$ . Thus  $\mathcal{G}$  satisfies the condition (27).

**Theorem 8.** If  $\text{Inf}\tau_1 = \text{Inf}\tau_2 \in \tau_1 \cap \tau_2$  and A is a p-ideal of X, then the hesitant fuzzy set  $\mathcal{G}$  in Theorem 7 is a  $\bigcup$ -hesitant fuzzy p-ideal of X.

*Proof.* It is by Theorem 6 and Lemma 5.

**Theorem 9.** (Reduction property for  $\square$ -hesitant fuzzy *p*-ideals) Let  $\mathcal{G}$  and  $\mathcal{H}$  be  $\square$ -hesitant fuzzy ideals of X such that  $\mathcal{G}(0) = \mathcal{H}(0)$  and  $\mathcal{G}(x) \supseteq \mathcal{H}(x)$  for all  $x \in X$ . If  $\mathcal{G}$  is a  $\square$ -hesitant fuzzy *p*-ideal of X, then so is  $\mathcal{H}$ .

*Proof.* Assume that  $\mathcal{G}$  is a  $\bigcup$ -hesitant fuzzy *p*-ideal of *X*. Note that

0 \* (0 \* (x \* (0 \* (0 \* x)))) = (0 \* (0 \* (0 \* x))) \* (0 \* x) = (0 \* x) \* (0 \* x) = 0

for all  $x \in X$  by (6), (7) and (III). Using the hypothesis and (22) yields

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{H}(x*(0*(0*x))) &\subseteq \mathcal{G}(x*(0*(0*x))) \\ &\subseteq \mathcal{G}(0*(0*(x*(0*(0*x))))) \\ &= \mathcal{G}(0) = \mathcal{H}(0), \end{aligned}$$

and so

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{H}(x) &\subseteq \mathcal{H}(x * (0 * (0 * x))) \uplus \mathcal{H}(0 * (0 * x)) \\ &\subseteq \mathcal{H}(0) \uplus \mathcal{H}(0 * (0 * x)) \\ &\subseteq \mathcal{H}(0 * (0 * x)) \uplus \mathcal{H}(0 * (0 * x)) \\ &= \mathcal{H}(0 * (0 * x)) \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x \in X$  by (18), (16), (17) and (15). Therefore  $\mathcal{H}$  is a  $\bigcup$ -hesitant fuzzy *p*-ideal of X by Theorem 3.

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A New Type of *p*-Ideals in *BCI*-Algebras Based on Hesitant Fuzzy Set

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