

Set theory and arithmetic in fuzzy logic*

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1 Introduction

One of Petr Hájek’s great endeavours in logic was the development of first-order fuzzy logic $BL\forall$ in [15]: this work unified some earlier conceptions of many-valued semantics and their calculi, but it also technically prepared the ground for a natural next step, that being an attempt at employing $BL\forall$ or its extensions as background logics for non-classical axiomatic theories of fuzzy mathematics. Hájek initiated this study in the late nineties, in parallel with a continued investigation of the properties of $BL\forall$ itself. Considering his previous engagements in set theory and arithmetic, and also the key rôles these disciplines play in logic, it seems natural that he focused primarily on these theories, from both mathematical and meta-mathematical points of view. With time passing, other authors have contributed to the area; other parts of axiomatic fuzzy mathematics based on fuzzy logic have been explored; and the work of several predecessors turned out to be important. Nevertheless, Hájek’s (and his co-authors’) elegant results stand out as a fundamental contributions to the aforementioned axiomatic theories of fuzzy mathematics, and for a large part coincide with the state of the art in these fields of research.

In this paper we survey Hájek’s contributions to arithmetic and set theory over fuzzy logic, in some cases slightly generalizing the results. Our generalizations always concern the underlying fuzzy logic: Hájek, as the designer of the logic $BL\forall$, naturally worked in this logic or in one of its three prominent extensions—Łukasiewicz, Gödel, or product logic. However, Esteva and Godo’s similar, but weaker fuzzy logic MTL of left-continuous t-norms can be, from many points of view, seen as an even more fundamental fuzzy logic; therefore, where meaningful and easy enough, we discuss or present the generalization of Hájek’s results to MTL.

The paper is organized as follows: after the necessary preliminaries given in Section 2, we address three areas of axiomatic fuzzy mathematics—a ZF-style fuzzy set theory (Section 3), arithmetic with a fuzzy truth predicate (Section 4), and naïve Cantor-style fuzzy set theory (Section 5). The motivation and historical background are presented at the beginning of each section. Owing to the survey character of this paper, for details and proofs (except for those which are new) we refer the readers to the original works indicated within the text.

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2 Preliminaries

This paper deals with some formal theories axiomatized in several first-order fuzzy logics: $\text{MTL}\forall$, $\text{BL}\forall$, and its three salient extensions—Łukasiewicz logic ($\text{L}\forall$), Gödel logic ($\text{G}\forall$), and product fuzzy logic ($\text{Π}\forall$), with or without the connective Δ . We assume the reader's familiarity with the basic apparatus of these fuzzy logics; all standard definitions can be found in the introductory chapter [3], which is freely available online. In this section we only focus on the definitions and theorems needed further on which cannot be found in [3].

Of the first-order variants of a fuzzy logic L (see [3, Def. 5.1.2]), throughout the paper we employ exclusively that first-order variant $\text{L}\forall$ which includes the axiom $(\forall x)(\chi \vee \varphi) \rightarrow \chi \vee (\forall x)\varphi$ (for x not free in χ) ensuring strong completeness with respect to (safe) models over linearly ordered L -algebras.

Convention 2.1. Let us fix the following notational conventions:

- The conjunction $\varphi \& \dots \& \varphi$ of n identical conjuncts φ will be denoted by φ^n .
- The exponents φ^n take the highest precedence in formulae, followed by prefix unary connectives. The connectives \rightarrow and \leftrightarrow take the lowest precedence.
- The chain of implications $\varphi_1 \rightarrow \varphi_2, \varphi_2 \rightarrow \varphi_3, \dots, \varphi_{n-1} \rightarrow \varphi_n$ can be written as $\varphi_1 \longrightarrow \varphi_2 \longrightarrow \dots \longrightarrow \varphi_n$, and similarly for \longleftarrow .
- We use the abbreviations $(\forall xPt)\varphi$ and $(\exists xPt)\varphi$, respectively, for $(\forall x)(xPt \rightarrow \varphi)$ and $(\exists x)(xPt \& \varphi)$, for any infix binary predicate P , term t , formula φ , and variable x .
- Negation of an atomic formula can alternatively be expressed by crossing its (usually infix) predicate: $x \not\in y =_{\text{df}} \neg(x \in y)$, and similarly for $\neq, \not\subseteq, \not\approx$, etc.

As usual, by an *extension* of a logic L we mean a logic which is at least as strong as L and has the same logical symbols as L . (Thus, e.g., BL is an extension of MTL , but $\text{BL}\Delta$ is not.)

Definition 2.2. Let L be a logic extending $\text{MTL}\forall$ or $\text{MTL}\forall\Delta$. Let T be a theory over L , M a model of T , and φ a formula in the language of T .

We say that φ is *crisp in M* if $M \models \varphi \vee \neg\varphi$, and that φ is *crisp in T* if it is crisp in all models of T .

Taking into account the semantics of L , one can observe that φ is crisp in M iff it only takes the values 0 and 1 in M ; the linear completeness theorem for L yields that φ is crisp in T iff $T \vdash_L \varphi \vee \neg\varphi$. By convention we will also say that an n -ary predicate P is crisp in M or T if the formula $P(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ is crisp in M or T .

Definition 2.3. Let L extend $\text{MTL}\forall$ or $\text{MTL}\forall\Delta$. By $L_=$ we shall denote the logic L with the identity predicate $=$ that satisfies the reflexivity axiom $x = x$ and the intersubstitutivity schema $x = y \rightarrow (\varphi(x) \leftrightarrow \varphi(y))$.

Remark 2.4. It can be observed that the identity predicate $=$ is symmetric and transitive, using suitable intersubstitutivity axioms. The crispness of $=$ can be enforced by the additional axiom $x = y \vee x \neq y$. However, the latter axiom is superfluous in all extensions of $\text{MTL}\forall\Delta_=$, and also in those extensions of $\text{MTL}\forall_=$ that validate the schema $(\varphi \rightarrow \varphi^2) \rightarrow (\varphi \vee \neg\varphi)$, e.g., in $\text{L}\forall_=$ and $\text{Π}\forall_=$, since over all these logics the predicate $=$ comes out crisp anyway (the proof is analogous to that of [18, Cor. 1]).

Later on we will need the following lemmata, formulated here just for the variants of MTL, but valid as well for any stronger logic (as they only assert some provability claims).

Lemma 2.5. *The following are theorems of propositional MTL:*

1. $(\varphi \rightarrow \varphi \& \varphi) \& (\varphi \rightarrow \psi) \rightarrow (\varphi \wedge \psi \rightarrow \varphi \& \psi)$
2. $(\varphi \rightarrow \varphi \& \varphi) \& (\psi \rightarrow \psi \& \psi) \rightarrow (\varphi \wedge \psi \rightarrow \varphi \& \psi)$

Proof. 1. $\varphi \wedge \psi \rightarrow \varphi \rightarrow \varphi \& \varphi \rightarrow \varphi \& \psi$ (the antecedents of the theorem are used in the second and third implication).

2. By prelinearity, we can take the cases $\varphi \rightarrow \psi$ and $\psi \rightarrow \varphi$. The former case follows by weakening from Lemma 2.5(1); the latter is proved analogously: $\varphi \wedge \psi \rightarrow \psi \rightarrow \psi \& \psi \rightarrow \varphi \& \psi$. \square

Lemma 2.6 (cf. [24]). *MTL \forall_{Δ} proves:*

1. $(\exists x)\Delta\varphi \rightarrow \Delta(\exists x)\varphi$
2. $(\forall x)\Delta\varphi \leftrightarrow \Delta(\forall x)\varphi$
3. $(\forall x)\Delta(\varphi \& \psi) \rightarrow (\forall x)\Delta\varphi \& (\forall x)\Delta\psi$
4. $\Delta(\varphi \vee \neg\varphi) \leftrightarrow \Delta(\varphi \rightarrow \Delta\varphi)$

Proof. By inspection of the BL \forall_{Δ} -proofs [24] we can observe that the theorems are valid in MTL \forall_{Δ} , too. \square

Lemma 2.7. *Let $\varphi(x, y, \dots)$ be a formula of MTL \forall and $\psi(x, \dots)$ a formula of MTL $\forall_{=}$, and t be a term substitutable for both x and y in φ and for x in ψ . Then:*

1. MTL \forall proves: $\varphi(t, t) \rightarrow (\exists x)\varphi(x, t)$
2. MTL $\forall_{=}$ proves: $(\forall x = t)(\psi(x)) \leftrightarrow \psi(t)$
3. MTL $\forall_{=}$ proves: $(\exists x = t)(\psi(x)) \leftrightarrow \psi(t)$

Proof. 1. Immediate by the MTL \forall -axiom of dual specification.

2. Left to right: $(\forall x)(x = t \rightarrow \psi(x)) \rightarrow (t = t \rightarrow \psi(t)) \leftrightarrow \psi(t)$, by specification and the reflexivity of $=$. Right to left: $\psi(t) \rightarrow (x = t \rightarrow \psi(x))$ by the intersubstitutivity of equals; generalize on x and shift the quantifier to the consequent.

3. Left to right: $x = t \& \psi(x) \rightarrow \psi(t)$ by the intersubstitutivity of equals; generalize on x and shift the quantifier (as \exists) to the antecedent. Right to left: $\psi(t) \rightarrow (t = t \& \psi(t)) \rightarrow (\exists x)(x = t \& \psi(t))$, by the reflexivity of $=$, dual specification, and Lemma 2.7(1). \square

Lemma 2.8. *In MTL $\forall_{=}$, any formula is equivalent to a formula in which function symbols are applied only to variables and occur only in atomic subformulae of the form $y = F(x_1, \dots, x_k)$.*

Proof. Using Lemma 2.7, we can inductively decompose nested terms $s(t)$ by $\varphi(s(t)) \leftrightarrow (\exists x = t)\varphi(s(x))$ and finally by $\varphi(F(x_1, \dots, x_k)) \leftrightarrow (\exists y = F(x_1, \dots, x_k))\varphi(y)$ for all function symbols F . \square

We now give a few results on the conservativity of introducing predicate and function symbols.

Definition 2.9. For L a logic, T_1 a theory in a language Γ_1 and $T_2 \supseteq T_1$ a theory in a language $\Gamma_2 \supseteq \Gamma_1$, we say that T_2 is a *conservative extension* of T_1 if $T_2 \vdash_L \varphi$ implies $T_1 \vdash_L \varphi$ for each Γ_1 -formula φ .

The proofs of the following theorems are easy adaptations of the proofs from [16]. Note that Theorem 2.11 covers introducing constants, too, for $n = 0$ (in which case the congruence axiom becomes trivially provable and need not be explicitly added to the theory).

Theorem 2.10 (Adding predicate symbols, cf. [16]). *Let L extend $\text{MTL}\forall$ or $\text{MTL}\forall_\Delta$ and T be a theory over L in a language Γ . Let $P \notin \Gamma$ be an n -ary predicate symbol and $\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ a Γ -formula. If T' results from T by adding P and the axiom*

$$P(x_1, \dots, x_n) \leftrightarrow \varphi(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

then T' is a conservative extension of T .

Theorem 2.11 (Adding function symbols, cf. [16]). *Let L extend $\text{MTL}\forall_=$ or $\text{MTL}\forall_{\Delta=}$ and T be a theory over L in a language Γ . Let $F \notin \Gamma$ be an n -ary function symbol and φ a Γ -formula with $n+1$ free variables. Let T' result from T by adding the axiom $\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_n, F(x_1, \dots, x_n))$ and the congruence axiom $x_1 = z_1 \ \& \ \dots \ \& \ x_n = z_n \rightarrow F(x_1, \dots, x_n) = F(z_1, \dots, z_n)$.*

1. *If L extends $\text{MTL}\forall_=$ and $T \vdash_L (\exists y)\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_n, y)$, then T' is a conservative extension of T .*
2. *If L extends $\text{MTL}\forall_{\Delta=}$ and $T \vdash_L (\exists y)\Delta\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_n, y)$, then T' is a conservative extension of T .*

If, in addition, $T \vdash_L (\exists y)(\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_n, y) \ \& \ (\forall y')(\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_n, y') \rightarrow y = y'))$, then each T' -formula is T' -equivalent to a T -formula.

3 ZF-style set theories in fuzzy logic

This section intends to give an overview of results on axiomatic set theory developed in fuzzy logic in the style of classical Zermelo–Fraenkel set theory. It draws primarily on [21], where a ZF-like set theory is developed over $\text{BL}\forall_\Delta$. The theory introduced in [21] was called ‘fuzzy set theory’ for simplicity, and the acronym FST was used; this was not meant to suggest that FST was *the* set theory in fuzzy logic, since clearly there are many possible ways to develop a set theory in fuzzy logic. It was shown that FST theory admitted many-valued models, and that at the same time it faithfully interpreted classical Zermelo–Fraenkel set theory ZF. Moreover, some of its mathematics was developed.

Here, for the sake of precision, we shall use FST_{BL} for the above theory from [21] over $\text{BL}\forall_\Delta$, and alongside, we shall consider a theory FST_{MTL} developed over $\text{MTL}\forall_\Delta$. The focus will be on the theory FST_{BL} .

We start with a short overview of related ZF-style set theories in non-classical logics. A more comprehensive treatment of the history of the subject can be found in [10] (see also [24]); these take into account also the interesting story of the full comprehension schema (discussed in Section 5).

An early attempt is presented in the works of D. Klaua [26, 27, 28], who does not develop axiomatic theory but constructs cumulative hierarchies of sets, defining many-valued truth

functions of $=$, \subseteq , and \in over a set of truth values that is an MV-algebra. Interestingly, in [28] he constructs a cumulative universe similar to ours in definition of its elements and the value of the membership function, but with a non-crisp equality; his universe then validates extensionality and comprehension, but fails to validate the congruence axioms. Klaua’s works have been continued and made more accessible in the works of S. Gottwald [7, 8, 9].

It is instructive to study a selection of papers on ZF-style set theory in the intuitionistic logic. W.C. Powell’s paper [31] defines a ZF-like theory with an additional axiom of double complement (similar in effect to our support), develops some technical means, such as ordinals and ranks, and defines a class of stabilized sets, which it proves to be an inner model of classical ZF. The paper [11] by R.J. Grayson omits double complement but uses collection instead of replacement, and constructs, within the theory, a Heyting-valued universe over a complete Heyting algebra. Using a particular Boolean algebra which it constructs, it shows relative consistency with respect to ZF. This paper also offers examples of how (variants of) axioms of classical ZF can strengthen the underlying logic to the classical one. For example, the axiom of foundation, together with a very weak fragment of ZF, implies the law of the excluded middle, which yields the full classical logic (both in intuitionistic logic and in the logics we use here), and thus the theory becomes classical. It also shows—by using \in -induction instead of foundation—that some classically equivalent principles are no longer equivalent in a weaker logical setting.

Inspired by the intuitionistic set theory results, G. Takeuti and S. Titani wrote [35] on ZF-style set theory over Gödel logic, giving an axiomatization and presenting some nice mathematics. Later, the authors enhanced their approach to the comprehensive work [36]. Therein, the logical system combines Łukasiewicz connectives with the product conjunction, the strict negation and a constant denoting $\frac{1}{2}$ on $[0, 1]$ (thus defining the well-known *logic of Takeuti and Titani*, a predecessor of the logics LII and $\text{LII}_{\frac{1}{2}}$ —see [15, Sect. 9.1]). This logic contains Gödel logic, and it is Gödel logic that is used in the set-theoretic axioms. Equality in this system is many-valued. Within their set-theoretic universe, Takeuti and Titani are then able to reconstruct the algebra of truth values determining the logic, and they also prove a completeness theorem. In her paper [38], Titani gives analogous constructions, including completeness, for a set theory in lattice-valued logic. This theory was interpreted in FST_{BL} in [20].

We will now start developing our theories FST_{BL} and FST_{MTL} . We will not give proofs for statements that were proved elsewhere, for FST_{BL} ; as for a possible generalization for FST_{MTL} , proofs can be obtained by inspection of the FST_{BL} case. For both theories, we assume the logic contains a (crisp) equality. The only non-logical symbol in the language is a binary predicate symbol \in .

Definition 3.1. In both FST_{BL} and FST_{MTL} we define:

- *Crispness:* $\text{Cr}(x) \equiv_{\text{df}} (\forall u)\Delta(u \in x \vee u \notin x)$
- *Inclusion:* $x \subseteq y \equiv_{\text{df}} (\forall z \in x)(z \in y)$

Semantically, crisp sets only take the classical membership values. Using Lemma 2.6 one gets:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cr}(x) \longleftrightarrow (\forall u)\Delta(u \in x \rightarrow \Delta(u \in x)) \longleftrightarrow \\ \Delta(\forall u)(u \in x \rightarrow \Delta(u \in x)) \longleftrightarrow \Delta\Delta(\forall u)(u \in x \rightarrow \Delta(u \in x)), \end{aligned}$$

so crispness itself is a crisp property: one has $\vdash_{\text{MTL}\forall_{\Delta}} \text{Cr}(x) \leftrightarrow \Delta\text{Cr}(x)$. Thus also $\text{Cr}(x) \longleftrightarrow \Delta\text{Cr}(x) \longleftrightarrow (\Delta\text{Cr}(x))^2 \longleftrightarrow (\text{Cr}(x))^2$.

Definition 3.2. FST_{BL} is a theory over $\text{BL}\forall_{\Delta=}$, with a basic predicate symbol \in . (FST_{MTL} is defined analogously over $\text{MTL}\forall_{\Delta=}$.) The axioms of the theory are as follows:

1. *Extensionality:* $x = y \leftrightarrow \Delta(x \subseteq y) \ \& \ \Delta(y \subseteq x)$; the condition on the right is $\text{MTL}\forall_{\Delta}$ -equivalent to $(\forall z)\Delta(z \in x \leftrightarrow z \in y)$
2. *Empty set:* $(\exists x)\Delta(\forall y)(y \notin x)$; we introduce¹ a new constant \emptyset
3. *Pair:* $(\exists z)\Delta(\forall u)(u \in z \leftrightarrow (u = x \vee u = y))$; we introduce the pairing $\{x, y\}$ and singleton $\{x\}$ function symbols
4. *Union:* $(\exists z)\Delta(\forall u)(u \in z \leftrightarrow (\exists y)(u \in y \ \& \ y \in x))$; we introduce a unary function symbol $\bigcup x$, and we use $x \cup y$ for $\bigcup\{x, y\}$
5. *Weak power:* $(\exists z)\Delta(\forall u)(u \in z \leftrightarrow \Delta(u \subseteq x))$; we introduce a unary function symbol $\text{WP}(x)$
6. *Infinity:* $(\exists z)\Delta(\emptyset \in z \ \& \ (\forall x \in z)(x \cup \{x\} \in z))$
7. *Separation:* $(\exists z)\Delta(\forall u)(u \in z \leftrightarrow (u \in x \ \& \ \varphi(u, x)))$, if z is not free in φ ; we introduce a function symbol $\{u \in z \mid \varphi(u, x)\}$, and we use $x \cap y$ for $\{u \in x \mid u \in y\}$
8. *Collection:* $(\exists z)\Delta((\forall u \in x)(\exists v)\varphi(u, v) \rightarrow (\forall u \in x)(\exists v \in z)\varphi(u, v))$, if z is not free in φ
9. *\in -Induction:* $\Delta(\forall x)(\Delta(\forall y \in x)\varphi(y) \rightarrow \varphi(x)) \rightarrow \Delta(\forall x)\varphi(x)$
10. *Support:* $(\exists z)(\text{Cr}(z) \ \& \ \Delta(x \subseteq z))$; we introduce a unary function symbol $\text{Supp}(x)$.

Let us remark that making $=$ a crisp predicate is not an altogether arbitrary decision. Indeed, in particular logics, such as Łukasiewicz logic or product logic,² even much weaker assumptions on equality than those of Definition 2.3 entail its crispness; this was pointed out by Petr Hájek in an unpublished note. This, together with the fact that a crisp equality is much easier to handle (while it does not prevent a development of a very rich fuzzy set theory), makes the crispness of $=$ a universal choice in our theory.

We consistently use Δ after existential quantifiers³ in axioms in order to be able to define some of the standard set-theoretic operations like the empty set, a pair, a union, the set ω , etc., as the Skolem functions of these axioms (i.e., by Theorem 2.11). Notice that if FST_{BL} and FST_{MTL} were defined with the function symbols for these set-theoretic operations in the primitive language, the corresponding Skolem axioms (i.e., $y \notin \emptyset$, $u \in \{x, y\} \leftrightarrow u = x \vee u = y$, etc.) would not contain these Δ 's.

In the weak power set axiom, the second Δ weakens the statement.

Further, similarly as in set theory over the intuitionistic logic (see [11]), the axiom of foundation in a very weak setting implies the law of excluded middle for all formulae.

¹At the same time, we add the axiom $y \notin \emptyset$ to the theory; see Theorem 2.11. Henceforth, whenever we add new constants and function symbols, we also add the corresponding axioms implicitly.

²In fact, in any logic that proves the schema $(\varphi \rightarrow \varphi^2) \rightarrow (\varphi \vee \neg\varphi)$; cf. Remark 2.4.

³Note the semantics of the existential quantifier: mere validity of a formula $(\exists x)\varphi(x)$ in a model \mathbf{M} does not guarantee that there is an object m for which $\|\varphi(m)\|_{\mathbf{M}} = 1$.

Therefore, \in -induction is used instead. For a reader familiar with [21], we point out that here we employ a different spelling of the \in -induction schema: originally, the schema read $\Delta(\forall x)((\forall y \in x)\varphi(y) \rightarrow \varphi(x)) \rightarrow \Delta(\forall x)\varphi(x)$. The current form of induction axiom was inspired by Titani's paper [38]. As pointed out in [20], it is an open problem whether the original \in -induction implies the current one (the converse is obviously the case).

Given the above sample of possible problems, the first thing one might like to vouchsafe is that the presented theory really *is fuzzy*, i.e., that it admits many-valued models. In [21], this has been done for FST_{BL} , in the following manner.

Take a complete $\text{BL}\forall_{\Delta}$ -chain $\mathbf{A} = \langle A, *^{\mathbf{A}}, \rightarrow^{\mathbf{A}}, \wedge^{\mathbf{A}}, \vee^{\mathbf{A}}, 0^{\mathbf{A}}, 1^{\mathbf{A}}, \Delta^{\mathbf{A}} \rangle$ and define a universe $V^{\mathbf{A}}$ by transfinite induction. Take $\text{Fnc}(x)$ for a unary predicate stating that x is a function, and $\text{Dom}(x)$ and $\text{Rng}(x)$ for unary functions assigning to x its domain and range, respectively. Set:

$$\begin{aligned} V_0^{\mathbf{A}} &= \{\emptyset\} \\ V_{\alpha+1}^{\mathbf{A}} &= \{f: \text{Fnc}(f) \ \& \ \text{Dom}(f) = V_{\alpha}^{\mathbf{A}} \ \& \ \text{Rng}(f) \subseteq A\} \text{ for any ordinal } \alpha \\ V_{\lambda}^{\mathbf{A}} &= \bigcup_{\alpha < \lambda} V_{\alpha}^{\mathbf{A}} \text{ for a limit ordinal } \lambda \\ V^{\mathbf{A}} &= \bigcup_{\alpha \in \text{Ord}} V_{\alpha}^{\mathbf{A}} \end{aligned}$$

Observe that $\alpha \leq \beta \in \text{Ord}$ implies $V_{\alpha}^{\mathbf{A}} \subseteq V_{\beta}^{\mathbf{A}}$. Define two binary functions from $V^{\mathbf{A}}$ into A , assigning to any $u, v \in V^{\mathbf{A}}$ the values $\|u \in v\|$ and $\|u = v\|$ in A :

$$\begin{aligned} \|u \in v\| &= v(u) \text{ if } u \in \text{Dom}(v), \text{ otherwise } 0^{\mathbf{A}} \\ \|u = v\| &= 1^{\mathbf{A}} \text{ if } u = v, \text{ otherwise } 0^{\mathbf{A}} \end{aligned}$$

and use induction on the complexity of formulae to define for any formula $\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ a corresponding n -ary function from $(V^{\mathbf{A}})^n$ into A , assigning to an n -tuple u_1, \dots, u_n the value $\|\varphi(u_1, \dots, u_n)\|$:

$$\begin{aligned} \|0\| &= 0^{\mathbf{A}} \\ \|\psi \ \& \ \chi\| &= \|\psi\| *^{\mathbf{A}} \|\chi\|, \text{ and similarly for } \rightarrow, \wedge \text{ and } \vee \\ \|\Delta\psi\| &= \Delta^{\mathbf{A}}\|\psi\| \\ \|(\forall x)\psi\| &= \bigwedge_{u \in V^{\mathbf{A}}} \|\psi(x/u)\| \\ \|(\exists x)\psi\| &= \bigvee_{u \in V^{\mathbf{A}}} \|\psi(x/u)\| \end{aligned}$$

For a sentence φ , one says that φ is valid in $V^{\mathbf{A}}$ iff $\|\varphi\| = 1^{\mathbf{A}}$ is provable in ZF. We are able to demonstrate the following soundness result:

Theorem 3.3. *Let φ be a closed formula provable in FST_{BL} . Let \mathbf{A} be a complete $\text{BL}\forall_{\Delta}$ -chain. Then φ is valid in $V^{\mathbf{A}}$.*

We remark that an analogous construction of an \mathbf{A} -valued universe can be performed for a complete $\text{MTL}\forall_{\Delta}$ -algebra; based on that, the above result can be stated for FST_{MTL} w.r.t. the universe defined over such algebra. In either case, the given construction provides

an interpretation of the fuzzy set theory in classical ZF. Currently, there is no completeness theorem available.⁴

Within FST_{BL} , one can define a class of hereditarily crisp sets and prove it to be an inner model of ZF in FST_{BL} .

Definition 3.4. In FST_{BL} we define the following predicates:

- $\text{HCT}(x) \equiv_{\text{df}} \text{Cr}(x) \ \& \ (\forall u \in x)(\text{Cr}(u) \ \& \ u \subseteq x)$; we write $x \in \text{HCT}$ for $\text{HCT}(x)$
- $\text{H}(x) \equiv_{\text{df}} \text{Cr}(x) \ \& \ (\exists x' \in \text{HCT})(x \subseteq x')$; we write $x \in \text{H}$ for $\text{H}(x)$

Lemma 3.5. FST_{BL} proves that HCT and H are crisp classes, and moreover, that H is transitive.

It was shown in [21] that FST_{BL} proves H to be an inner model of ZF. In more detail, for φ a formula in the language of ZF (where the language of classical logic is considered with connectives $\&$, \rightarrow , 0 , and the universal quantifier \forall) one defines a translation φ^{H} inductively as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi^{\text{H}} &= \varphi \text{ for } \varphi \text{ atomic} \\ 0^{\text{H}} &= 0 \\ (\psi \ \& \ \chi)^{\text{H}} &= \psi^{\text{H}} \ \& \ \chi^{\text{H}} \\ (\psi \rightarrow \chi)^{\text{H}} &= \psi^{\text{H}} \rightarrow \chi^{\text{H}} \\ ((\forall x)\psi)^{\text{H}} &= (\forall x \in \text{H})(\psi^{\text{H}}) \end{aligned}$$

(Then also $(\neg\psi)^{\text{H}} = \neg(\psi^{\text{H}})$, $(\psi \vee \chi)^{\text{H}} = \psi^{\text{H}} \vee \chi^{\text{H}}$, and $((\exists x)\psi)^{\text{H}} = (\exists x \in \text{H})(\psi^{\text{H}})$).

One can show that the law of the excluded middle holds in H:

Lemma 3.6. Let $\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ be a ZF-formula whose free variables are among x_1, \dots, x_n . Then FST_{BL} proves $(\forall x_1 \in \text{H}) \dots (\forall x_n \in \text{H})(\varphi^{\text{H}}(x_1, \dots, x_n) \vee \neg\varphi^{\text{H}}(x_1, \dots, x_n))$.

Considering classical ZF with the axioms of empty set, pair, union, power set, infinity, separation, collection, extensionality, and \in -induction, one can prove their translations in FST_{BL} :

Lemma 3.7. For φ being the universal closure of any of the abovementioned axioms of ZF, FST_{BL} proves φ^{H} .

This provides an interpretation of ZF in FST_{BL} (in particular, H is an inner model of ZF in FST_{BL}):

Theorem 3.8. Let a closed formula φ be a theorem of ZF. Then $\text{FST}_{\text{BL}} \vdash \varphi^{\text{H}}$.

Moreover, the interpretation is faithful: if $\text{FST}_{\text{BL}} \vdash \varphi^{\text{H}}$, then $\text{ZF} \vdash \varphi^{\text{H}}$ (since it is formally stronger), but then $\text{ZF} \vdash \varphi$.

Again, by inspection of the proof, one arrives at the conclusion that exactly the same result can be obtained for FST_{MTL} . This poses the question of a formal difference between

⁴Clearly, if one chooses the standard MV-algebra $[0, 1]_{\mathbb{L}}$ for \mathbf{A} , then expectably the set theory with the above axioms built over $\text{L}\forall_{\Delta}$ will *not* be complete w.r.t. $V^{\mathbf{A}}$, as $V^{\mathbf{A}}$ preserves the logic of \mathbf{A} and $[0, 1]_{\mathbb{L}}$ is not recursively axiomatizable.

FST_{BL} and FST_{MTL} : it would be interesting to determine to what degree the two theories, built in one fashion over two distinct logics, differ.

We now discuss ordinal numbers in FST_{BL} , along the lines of [20]. In order to obtain a suitable definition of ordinal numbers in FST_{BL} , we rely on Theorem 3.8. Recall the classical definition of an ordinal number by a predicate symbol Ord_0 :

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Ord}_0(x) \equiv_{\text{df}} & (\forall y \in x)(y \subseteq x) \ \& \\ & (\forall y, z \in x)(y \in z \vee y = z \vee z \in y) \ \& \\ & (\forall q \subseteq x)(q \neq \emptyset \rightarrow (\exists y \in q)(y \cap q = \emptyset)) \end{aligned}$$

If $x \in \mathbf{H}$, then $\text{Ord}_0(x) \leftrightarrow \text{Ord}_0^{\mathbf{H}}(x)$, and $\text{Ord}_0(x)$ is crisp. We define ordinal numbers to be those sets in \mathbf{H} for which $\text{Ord}_0^{\mathbf{H}}$ is satisfied:

Definition 3.9. In FST_{BL} we define: $\text{Ord}(x) \equiv_{\text{df}} x \in \mathbf{H} \ \& \ \text{Ord}_0(x)$.

Furthermore, we define in FST_{BL} :

$$\text{CrispFn}(f) \equiv_{\text{df}} \text{Rel}(f) \ \& \ \text{Cr}(f) \ \& \ (\forall x \in \text{Dom}(f))(\langle x, y \rangle \in f \ \& \ \langle x, z \rangle \in f \rightarrow y = z)$$

where the property of being a relation, and the operations of ordered pair, domain, and range are defined as in classical ZF.

The *iterated weak power* property is as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ItWP}(f) \equiv_{\text{df}} & \text{CrispFn}(f) \ \& \ \text{Dom}(f) \in \text{Ord} \ \& \ f(\emptyset) = \emptyset \ \& \\ & (\forall \alpha \in \text{Ord})(\alpha \neq \emptyset \ \& \ \alpha \in \text{Dom}(f) \rightarrow f(\alpha) = \bigcup_{\beta \in \alpha} \text{WP}(f(\beta))) \end{aligned}$$

The notion is crisp: $\text{ItWP}(f) \leftrightarrow \Delta \text{ItWP}(f)$. Moreover, $\text{ItWP}(f) \ \& \ \text{ItWP}(g) \ \& \ \text{Dom}(f) \leq \text{Dom}(g) \rightarrow \Delta(f \subseteq g)$.

Lemma 3.10. FST_{BL} proves: $(\forall \alpha \in \text{Ord})(\exists f)(\text{ItWP}(f) \ \& \ \text{Dom}(f) = \alpha)$.

Definition 3.11. For each $\alpha \in \text{Ord}$, let \hat{V}_α be the unique (crisp) set z such that:

$$(\exists f)(\text{ItWP}(f) \ \& \ \alpha \in \text{Dom}(f) \ \& \ f(\alpha) = z)$$

Then one can show some classical results about ordinal induction and ranks, such as:

Theorem 3.12. FST_{BL} proves: $(\forall x)(\exists \alpha \in \text{Ord})(x \in \hat{V}_\alpha)$.

4 Arithmetic and the truth predicate

In this section we focus on theories of arithmetic over fuzzy logic. We recall the results obtained in [22], taking into account also [32]; these papers muse on the degree to which considering a logical system formally weaker than the classical one eradicates the paradoxes one obtains when adding a truth predicate to a theory of arithmetic. Then we briefly visit the method which Petr Hájek used in order to show that the first-order satisfiability problem in a standard product algebra is non-arithmetical (in [17]). Interestingly, in all these works, the theory of arithmetic is a crisp one—enriched, in the respective cases, by new language elements that admit a many-valued interpretation.

4.1 Classical arithmetic and the truth predicate

We start with a tiny review of theories of arithmetic in classical first-order logic. The language of arithmetic has a unary function symbol s for successors, binary function symbols $+$ for addition and \cdot for multiplication, an object constant 0 , and its predicate symbols are $=$ for equality and \leq for ordering.⁵ An *arithmetical formula (sentence)* is a formula (sentence) in this language.

We assume $=$ is a logical symbol and the usual axioms for it are implicitly present. *Robinson arithmetic* Q has the following axioms:

- (Q1) $s(x) = s(y) \rightarrow x = y$
- (Q2) $s(x) \neq 0$
- (Q3) $x \neq 0 \rightarrow (\exists y)(x = s(y))$
- (Q4) $x + 0 = x$
- (Q5) $x + s(y) = s(x + y)$
- (Q6) $x \cdot 0 = 0$
- (Q7) $x \cdot s(y) = x \cdot y + x$
- (Q8) $x \leq y \leftrightarrow (\exists z)(z + x = y)$

Peano arithmetic PA adds induction, usually as an axiom schema. Here we will need a (classically equivalent) rule: for each arithmetical formula φ , from $\varphi(0)$ and $(\forall x)(\varphi(x) \rightarrow \varphi(s(x)))$ derive $(\forall x)\varphi(x)$.

The *standard model of arithmetic* is the structure $\mathcal{N} = \langle N, 0, s, +, \cdot, \leq \rangle$, where N is the set of natural numbers and $0, s, +, \cdot, \leq$ are the familiar operations and ordering of natural numbers (by an abuse that is quite common, the same notation is maintained for the symbols of the language and for their interpretations on N).

An arithmetization of syntax, first introduced by Gödel, is feasible in theories of arithmetic such as Q or PA; thereby, in particular, each arithmetical formula φ is assigned a Gödel number, denoted $\overline{\varphi}$. Then one obtains a classical diagonal result: for T a theory containing PA,⁶ and for each formula ψ in the language of T with exactly one free variable, there is a sentence φ in the language of T such that $T \vdash \varphi \leftrightarrow \psi(\overline{\varphi})$.

A theory T such as above (i.e., with a Gödel encoding of formulae), has a truth predicate iff its language contains a unary predicate symbol Tr such that $T \vdash \varphi \leftrightarrow \text{Tr}(\overline{\varphi})$ for each sentence φ of the language. This is what Petr Hájek likes to call the (*full*) *dequotation scheme*, with the following example for its import: the sentence ‘It’s snowing.’ is true if and only if it’s snowing. Hence another term in usage ‘It’s snowing–“It’s snowing” lemma’. On the margin, we remark that a per-partes dequotation is native to PA (or indeed, $\text{I}\Sigma_1$): one can define partial truth predicates for fixed levels of the arithmetical hierarchy and fixed number of free variables (see [23]). However, here it is required of Tr that it do the same job uniformly for all formulae.

The juxtaposition of the diagonal result with the requirements posed on a truth predicate reveals that consistent arithmetical theories (over classical logic) cannot define their own truth (a result due to Tarski): taking $\neg\text{Tr}(x)$ for $\psi(x)$, diagonalization yields a sentence φ such that $T \vdash \varphi \leftrightarrow \neg\text{Tr}(\overline{\varphi})$, so $T \vdash \varphi \leftrightarrow \neg\varphi$, a contradiction.

⁵One can also take \leq to be a defined symbol, relying on axiom (Q8).

⁶An analogous statement can be formed for weaker theories, including Q .

4.2 Arithmetic with a fuzzy truth predicate

The paper [22] notes that a (crisp) Peano arithmetic might be combined with a (many-valued) truth predicate over Łukasiewicz logic (where the existence of a φ such that $\varphi \leftrightarrow \neg\varphi$ is not contradictory); it then proceeds to develop the theory. We shall reproduce its main results, in combination with those from [32].

Definition 4.1. PAL stands for a Peano arithmetic in Łukasiewicz logic, i.e., a theory with the axioms and rules of first-order Łukasiewicz logic $L\forall$, the congruence axioms of equality w.r.t. the primitive symbols of the language of arithmetic, the above axioms (Q1)–(Q8), and the induction rule.

Making PAL crisp is easy: one postulates a crispness axiom for the predicate symbol $=$ as the only basic predicate symbol of the theory (\leq is definable). In other words, $x = y \vee x \neq y$ is adopted as a new axiom. Then one can prove crispness for all arithmetical formulae, propagating it over connectives and quantifiers.

However, the work [32] of G. Restall (actually earlier than [22]) shows that PAL is provably crisp even without a crispness axiom.⁷ The proof is a neat example of weakening operating hand in hand with the induction rule, showing that:

1. $\text{PAL} \vdash x = 0 \vee x \neq 0$
2. If $\text{PAL} \vdash \varphi(0, y)$ and $\text{PAL} \vdash \varphi(x, 0)$ and $\text{PAL} \vdash \varphi(x, y) \rightarrow \varphi(s(x), s(y))$, then $\text{PAL} \vdash \varphi(x, y)$.
3. $\text{PAL} \vdash (\exists x)(x = 0 \leftrightarrow y = z)$
4. $\text{PAL} \vdash y = z \vee y \neq z$

and consequently:

Theorem 4.2 ([32]). *Let $\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ be an arithmetical formula. Then*

$$\text{PAL} \vdash \varphi(x_1, \dots, x_n) \vee \neg\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_n).$$

Crispness pertaining to PAL as the theory of numbers, as Restall goes on to remark, need not concern *additional* concepts that one may wish to add to it, such as the truth predicate; these may be governed by the laws of Łukasiewicz logic $L\forall$.

Definition 4.3 ([22]). PALTr is the theory obtained from PAL by expanding its language with a new unary predicate symbol Tr (extending the congruence axioms of $=$ to include Tr, while only arithmetical formulae are considered in the induction rule) and adding the axiom schema $\varphi \leftrightarrow \text{Tr}(\overline{\varphi})$ for each formula φ of the expanded language.

Theorem 4.4 ([22]). *PALTr is consistent.*⁸

⁷In fact, Restall does not prove the crispness axiom in PAL but rather verifies it as a semantic consequence of the theory PAL in the standard MV-algebra; note that this is a weaker statement since $L\forall$ is not complete w.r.t. the standard MV-algebra. Still, each of the steps can be reconstructed syntactically in PAL.

⁸In fact, [22] proves a stronger statement, for a variant of PALTr allowing the predicate symbol Tr to occur in formulae the induction rule is applied to.

Hence any theory obtained by replacing $L\forall$ with a weaker logic is consistent too. In choosing a weaker logic, one might want to retain weakening in order to be able to prove crispness of the arithmetical part.

The paper then proceeds to show that one cannot go further and demand that Tr as formalized truth commute with the connectives: such a theory is contradictory.

Theorem 4.5 ([22]). *The standard model \mathcal{N} cannot be expanded to a model of PALTr . Thus PALTr has no standard model.*

Actually, [32] shows that PAL as such is ω -inconsistent over the standard MV-algebra $[0, 1]_{\mathbb{L}}$. It is yet to be investigated whether Peano arithmetic with a truth predicate developed in a suitable weaker logic than $L\forall$ might have standard models.

4.3 Non-arithmeticity of product logic

Now we turn to a different topic, though with the same arithmetic flavour. We recall the main result of [17], where a particular expansion of a crisp, finitely axiomatizable arithmetic over first-order product logic $\Pi\forall$ is considered, in order to show that first-order satisfiability in standard product algebra $[0, 1]_{\Pi}$ is non-arithmetical.

Definition 4.6 ([17]).

1. $\text{Q}\Pi$ stands for a crisp theory extending Robinson arithmetic in product logic with finitely many axioms (such as the theory PA^- of [25]).⁹
2. $\text{Q}\Pi U$ expands $\text{Q}\Pi$ with a new unary predicate U and adds the following axioms:

$$\begin{aligned} & \neg(\forall x)Ux \\ & \neg(\exists x)\neg Ux \\ & y = s(x) \rightarrow (Uy \leftrightarrow (Ux)^2) \\ & x \leq y \rightarrow (Uy \rightarrow Ux) \end{aligned}$$

Informally speaking, the axioms enforce the truth value of Ux to decrease monotonically (and exponentially) towards 0, but never reaching it, as x is iteratively incremented by the successor function s . Hájek has shown that, among all (classical) structures for the language of arithmetic, *exactly those that are isomorphic to the standard model of arithmetic (\mathcal{N}) can be expanded to a $[0, 1]_{\Pi}$ -model of $\text{Q}\Pi U$* . Hence, one can decide truth in the standard model of arithmetic in the manner indicated in the next theorem. Take $\bigwedge \text{Q}\Pi U$ to be the \wedge -conjunction of all axioms of $\text{Q}\Pi U$.

Theorem 4.7 ([17]). *An arithmetical sentence φ is true in \mathcal{N} iff the formula*

$$\bigwedge \text{Q}\Pi U \wedge \varphi$$

is satisfiable in $[0, 1]_{\Pi}$.

Hence, first-order satisfiability in $[0, 1]_{\Pi}$ is a non-arithmetical decision problem. This technique inspired Franco Montagna to prove that also first-order tautologousness in the standard product algebra $[0, 1]_{\Pi}$, as well as in all standard BL-algebras, are non-arithmetical; these results are to be found in [29], actually in the volume containing also Hájek's paper [17].

⁹The authors thank V. Švejdar for providing this reference.

5 Cantor–Łukasiewicz set theory

Another first-order mathematical theory to which Hájek has significantly contributed is naïve set theory over Łukasiewicz logic. As is well known, the rule of contraction (or equivalently the validity of $\varphi \rightarrow \varphi \& \varphi$ in sufficiently strong logics) is needed to obtain a contradiction from the existence of Russell’s set by the usual proof. Indeed, the consistency of the unrestricted comprehension schema has been established over several contraction-free logics, including the logic BCK [30] and variants of linear logic [37, 12]. Łukasiewicz logic, which is closely related to the latter logics and like them disvalidates the contraction rule, is thus a natural candidate for the investigation of whether or not it can support a consistent and viable naïve set theory.

The consistency of the unrestricted comprehension schema over Łukasiewicz logic was first conjectured by Skolem [33] in 1957. In the 1960’s, Skolem [34], Chang [5], and Fenstad [6] obtained various partial consistency results for the comprehension schema restricted to certain syntactic classes of formulae. A proof of the full consistency theorem was eventually published in 1979 by White [39]. Unlike its predecessors, White’s proof was based strictly on proof-theoretical methods and did not attempt at constructing a model for the theory.

White’s proof of the consistency of unrestricted comprehension over Łukasiewicz logic prompted Hájek to elaborate the theory, for which he coined the name Cantor–Łukasiewicz set theory. With the consistency of Cantor–Łukasiewicz set theory supposedly established, its non-triviality was questioned: i.e., whether the theory is strong enough to reconstruct reasonably large parts of mathematics (as conjectured already by Skolem). Hájek’s contributions [18, 13, 14], dealing mainly with arithmetic and decidability in Cantor–Łukasiewicz set theory, gave a partially negative answer to this question. Naïve comprehension over (standard) Łukasiewicz logic has also been developed by Restall [32], some of whose earlier results Hájek independently rediscovered in [18], and by Yatabe [40, 41] who extended some of Hájek’s results. We survey the results on Cantor–Łukasiewicz set theory in Sections 5.1–5.2.

In 2009 Terui (pers. comm.) found what appears to be a serious gap in White’s consistency proof. Consequently, the consistency status of Cantor–Łukasiewicz set theory remains unknown. It is therefore worth asking which of Hájek’s and Yatabe’s results survive in weaker fuzzy logics, such as IMTL or MTL.¹⁰ This problem is addressed in Section 5.3 below, giving some initial positive results and indicating the main problems that such enterprise has to face.

5.1 Basic notions of Cantor–Łukasiewicz set theory

Definition 5.1 ([18]). *Cantor–Łukasiewicz set theory*, denoted here by C_L ,¹¹ is a theory in first-order Łukasiewicz logic. The language of C_L is the smallest language \mathcal{L} such that it contains the binary *membership predicate* \in and for each formula φ of \mathcal{L} and each variable x contains the *comprehension term* $\{x \mid \varphi\}$. (Thus, comprehension terms in C_L can be nested.) The theory C_L is axiomatized by the unrestricted *comprehension schema*:

$$y \in \{x \mid \varphi(x)\} \leftrightarrow \varphi(y),$$

¹⁰The consistency status of naïve comprehension over these logics is not known, either. Still, being weaker, they have better odds of consistency even if naïve comprehension turns out to be inconsistent over Łukasiewicz logic.

¹¹In [18] and subsequent papers, the theory was denoted by CL_0 , whereas CL denoted an inconsistent extension of CL_0 . In this paper we shall use a systematic symbol C_L for naïve set theory over the logic L . The corresponding theory over *standard* $[0, 1]_L$ -valued Łukasiewicz logic is called H in [39, 40].

for each formula φ of C_L and any variables x, y .

Remark 5.2. An alternative way of axiomatizing naïve set theory is to use the comprehension schema of the form:

$$(\exists z)(\forall x)(x \in z \leftrightarrow \varphi) \quad (1)$$

for any formula φ in the language containing just the binary membership predicate \in and not containing free occurrences of the variable z . The latter restriction is partly alleviated by the fixed-point theorem (see Theorem 5.9 below), which makes it possible to introduce sets by self-referential formulae (though not uniquely). The comprehension terms of Definition 5.1 are then the Skolem functions of the comprehension axioms (1), conservatively introduceable, eliminable, and nestable by Theorems 5.6 and 2.11 and Lemma 2.8.

Remark 5.3. Clearly, no bivalent or even finitely-valued propositional operator can be admitted in the propositional language of naïve set theories over fuzzy logics on pain of contradiction, as Russell’s paradox could easily be reconstructed by means of such an operator. Unrestricted comprehension is thus inconsistent in any fuzzy logic with Δ (incl. L_Δ) as well as in any fuzzy logic with strict negation (e.g., Gödel logic, product logic, and the logics SBL and SMTL). For further restrictions on the fuzzy logic underlying naïve comprehension see Corollary 5.26 below.

Cantor–Lukasiewicz set theory is in many respects similar to other naïve set theories over various logics, esp. substructural. In particular, the shared features include the distinction between intensional and extensional equality, the fixed-point theorem, the existence of the universal and Russell’s set, non-well-foundedness of the universe, etc. The reason for these resemblances is the fact that the proofs of these theorems are mainly based on instances of the comprehension schema and involve just a few logical steps, all of which are available in most usual non-classical logics. Moreover, the comprehension schema ensures the availability of the constructions provided by the axioms of ZF-style set theories, such as pairing, unions, power sets, and infinity. We shall give a brief account of these features of C_L . Unless a reference is given, the proofs are easy or can be found in [18] or [4].

First observe that by the comprehension schema, the usual elementary fuzzy set operations are available in C_L :

Definition 5.4. In C_L , we define:¹²

$$\begin{aligned} \emptyset &=_{\text{df}} \{q \mid \perp\} & \setminus x &=_{\text{df}} \{q \mid q \notin x\} \\ x \cap y &=_{\text{df}} \{q \mid q \in x \ \& \ q \in y\} & x \cup y &=_{\text{df}} \{q \mid q \in x \oplus q \in y\} \\ x \sqcap y &=_{\text{df}} \{q \mid q \in x \wedge q \in y\} & x \sqcup y &=_{\text{df}} \{q \mid q \in x \vee q \in y\} \end{aligned}$$

The usual properties of these fuzzy set operations are provable in C_L .¹³ Notice, however, that the notions of kernel and support of a fuzzy set are undefinable in C_L , as they would

¹²See Theorems 2.10–2.11 for the conservativeness of these (and subsequent similar) definitions in C_L . The symbol \oplus denotes the ‘strong’ disjunction of Lukasiewicz logic, defined in L as $\varphi \oplus \psi \equiv_{\text{df}} \neg(\neg\varphi \ \& \ \neg\psi)$.

¹³The schematic translation of propositional tautologies into theorems of elementary fuzzy set theory presented in [2] only relies on certain distributions of quantifiers, and so works for C_L (as well as C_{MTL} introduced in Section 5.3). The converse direction (disproving theorems not supported by propositional tautologies), however, cannot be demonstrated in the same way as in the higher-order fuzzy logic of [2] (namely, by constructing a model from the counterexample propositional evaluation), since no method of constructing models of C_L or C_{MTL} is known. In fact, it is well possible (esp. for C_{MTL}) that the comprehension schema does strengthen the logic of the theory (as it does exclude some algebras of semantic truth values, see comments following Theorem 5.19 and preceding Corollary 5.26 in Section 5.3 below).

make the connective Δ definable (by setting $\Delta\varphi(y) \equiv y \in \text{Ker}\{x \mid \varphi(x)\}$). Thus unlike ZF-style fuzzy set theories (such as FST of Section 3), naïve fuzzy set theories can hardly serve as axiomatizations of Zadeh's fuzzy sets, as some of the basic concepts of fuzzy set theory cannot be defined in theories with unrestricted comprehension.¹⁴

Definition 5.5. In C_L , we define the following binary predicates:

- *Inclusion:* $x \subseteq y \equiv_{\text{df}} (\forall u)(u \in x \rightarrow u \in y)$.
- *Extensional equality (or co-extensionality):*¹⁵ $x \approx y \equiv_{\text{df}} (\forall u)(u \in x \leftrightarrow u \in y)$.
- *Leibniz equality:* $x = y \equiv_{\text{df}} (\forall u)(x \in u \leftrightarrow y \in u)$.

We will use $x \neq y$, $x \not\approx y$, $x \not\subseteq y$, etc., respectively for $\neg(x = y)$, $\neg(x \approx y)$, $\neg(x \in y)$, etc.

As there is a direct correspondence between sets and properties in C_L , the definition of Leibniz equality effectively says that the sets which have the same properties (expressible in the language of C_L) are equal (cf. Leibniz's principle of identity of indiscernibles). Since moreover a concept's intension is often identified with the set of its properties, Leibniz equality can also be understood as *co-intensionality*, or *intensional equality*. Unlike in first-order fuzzy logics with identity (see Section 2), the predicates $=$ and \approx are defined predicates of C_L . It turns out that the properties required of the identity predicate (in particular, the intersubstitutivity of identicals) are satisfied by Leibniz equality, but not by extensional equality. Since moreover Leibniz equality turns out to be crisp in C_L , it can be understood as the crisp identity of the objects of C_L (i.e., each model of C_L can be factorized by $=$ *salva veritate* of all formulae).

The following theorem lists basic provable properties of both equalities.

Theorem 5.6. C_L proves:

1. Both $=$ and \approx are fuzzy equivalence relations; i.e.:

$$x = x, \quad x = y \rightarrow y = x, \quad x = y \ \& \ y = z \rightarrow x = z,$$

and analogously for \approx . Moreover, \subseteq is a fuzzy preorder whose min-symmetrization is \approx :

$$x \subseteq x, \quad x \subseteq y \ \& \ y \subseteq z \rightarrow x \subseteq z, \quad x \approx y \leftrightarrow x \subseteq y \ \wedge \ y \subseteq x.$$

2. Leibniz equality is crisp, i.e., $x = y \vee x \neq y$.
3. Leibniz equality ensures intersubstitutivity: $x = y \rightarrow (\varphi(x) \leftrightarrow \varphi(y))$, for any C_L -formula φ .
4. Leibniz equality implies co-extensionality: $x = y \rightarrow x \approx y$. The converse (i.e., the extensionality of C_L -sets), however, is inconsistent with C_L [18].¹⁶

¹⁴In order to become a full-fledged theory of fuzzy sets, some kind of (preferably, conservative) extension of naïve fuzzy set theories would be needed: cf. [1] and [14, §3]. Such extensions, however, make the comprehension axioms restricted to the formulae in the original language, and so lose the intuitive appeal of the unrestricted comprehension schema. Cf. Remark 5.15 below.

¹⁵In [4] as well as [18] and subsequent papers, extensional equality was denoted by $=_e$.

¹⁶In fact, as proved in [13], if $C_L \vdash t \notin t$ for a term t , then there is a term t' such that $C_L \vdash t \approx t' \ \& \ t \neq t'$. Moreover, as also proved in [13], if $C_L \vdash (\forall u)(u \approx t \rightarrow u \notin t)$ for a term t , then there are infinitely many terms t_i such that C_L proves $t \approx t_i$ and $t_i \neq t_j$, for each $i, j \in \mathbb{N}$. (Thus, for instance, there are infinitely many Leibniz-different empty sets.) The above terms t', t_i are defined by the fixed-point theorem (i.e., Theorem 5.9 below).

By means of the crisp identity, (crisp) singletons, pairs, and ordered pairs can be defined in C_L :

Definition 5.7. In C_L , we define (for all $k \geq 1$):

$$\begin{aligned} \{x\} &=_{\text{df}} \{q \mid q = x\} & \{x, y\} &=_{\text{df}} \{q \mid q = x \vee q = y\} \\ \langle x, y \rangle &=_{\text{df}} \{\{x\}, \{x, y\}\} & \langle x_1, \dots, x_k, x_{k+1} \rangle &=_{\text{df}} \langle \langle x_1, \dots, x_k \rangle, x_{k+1} \rangle \end{aligned}$$

The behavior of these crisp sets is as expected (cf. Theorem 5.18 below). In particular, C_L proves $\langle x, y \rangle = \langle u, v \rangle \leftrightarrow x = u \wedge y = v$. This makes it possible to employ the following notation:

Convention 5.8. By $\{\langle x, y \rangle \mid \varphi\}$ we abbreviate the comprehension term $\{q \mid (\exists x)(\exists y)(q = \langle x, y \rangle \wedge \varphi)\}$, and similarly for tuples of higher arities.

Like many other naïve set theories, C_L enjoys the fixed-point theorem that makes self-referential definitions possible:

Theorem 5.9 (The Fixed-Point Theorem). *For each formula $\varphi(x, \dots, z)$ of C_L there is a comprehension term ζ_φ such that C_L proves $\zeta_\varphi \approx \{x \mid \varphi(x, \dots, \zeta_\varphi)\}$.*

The proof, given in [18], is just a reformulation of the proof from [4], which works well in C_L . The proof is constructive, i.e., yields effectively and explicitly a particular fixed-point comprehension term ζ_φ for each formula φ .

Convention 5.10. Let us denote the particular fixed-point comprehension term ζ constructed in the proof of Theorem 5.9 by $\text{FP}_z\{x \mid \varphi(x, \dots, z)\}$. In definitions using the fixed-point theorem, instead of $u =_{\text{df}} \text{FP}_z\{x \mid \varphi(x, \dots, z)\}$ we shall write just $u \approx_{\text{df}} \{x \mid \varphi(x, \dots, u)\}$.

Thus if we define a fixed point $u \approx_{\text{df}} \{x \mid \varphi(x, \dots, u)\}$, then by Theorem 5.9, C_L proves $q \in u \leftrightarrow \varphi(q, \dots, u)$. The fixed-point theorem thus ensures that the “equation” $C_L \vdash q \in z \leftrightarrow \varphi(q, \dots, z)$ has a solution in z for any formula $\varphi(q, \dots, z)$. Consequently, as usual in non-classical naïve set theories enjoying the fixed-point theorem, C_L proves the (non-unique) existence of a “Quine atom” $u \approx \{u\}$, a set comprised of its own properties $u \approx \{p \mid u \in p\}$, etc.

5.2 Arithmetic in Cantor–Łukasiewicz set theory

In naïve set theories that enjoy the fixed-point theorem, the set ω of natural numbers can be defined in a more elegant way than in ZF-like set theories, straightforwardly applying the idea that a natural number is either 0 or the successor of another natural number. Identifying 0 with the empty set \emptyset and the successor $s(x)$ of x with $\{x\}$, we define by the fixed-point theorem:

$$\omega \approx_{\text{df}} \{n \mid n = 0 \vee (\exists m \in \omega)(n = s(m))\}. \quad (2)$$

The definition is not unique w.r.t. Leibniz identity: as shown in [13], there are infinitely many terms ω_i such that $\omega \approx \omega_i$ (so ω_i satisfies the co-extensionality (2) as well), but $\omega_i \neq \omega_j$, for each (metamathematical) natural numbers $i, j \in \mathbb{N}$.¹⁷

C_L expanded by the constant ω satisfying (2) proves some basic arithmetical properties of ω (cf. Section 4.1), e.g.:

¹⁷This is a corollary of the theorem given in footnote 16, as ω satisfies its conditions.

Theorem 5.11 ([18]). C_L proves:

1. $s(x) \neq 0$
2. $s(x) = s(y) \rightarrow x = y$
3. $x \in \omega \leftrightarrow s(x) \in \omega$

With suitable definitions of addition and multiplication (as given in [13], namely as ternary predicates, adapting the usual inductive definitions to Łukasiewicz logic by means of min-conjunction \wedge), further arithmetical properties, amounting in effect to a C_L -analogue of Grzegorzczuk's weakening Q^- of Robinson arithmetic, can be proved. The proof of essential undecidability of the latter weak classical arithmetic can then be adapted for C_L , yielding its essential undecidability and incompleteness. The proof proceeds along the usual lines of Gödel numbering and self-reference; see [13] for details.

Theorem 5.12 ([13]). *The theory C_L is essentially undecidable and essentially incomplete; i.e., each consistent recursively axiomatizable extension of C_L is undecidable and incomplete.*

Recall, though, that a theory T over first-order Łukasiewicz logic is considered complete if for each pair φ, ψ of sentences in the language of T , either $\varphi \rightarrow \psi$ or $\psi \rightarrow \varphi$ is provable in T (see [15]; such theories are also called linear, e.g., in [19]). Incompleteness thus means that for some pair φ, ψ of sentences, neither $\varphi \rightarrow \psi$ nor $\psi \rightarrow \varphi$ is provable in T . The self-referential lemma thus refers to pairs of formulae as well:

Lemma 5.13 ([13]). *For each pair $\psi_1(x_1, x_2), \psi_2(x_1, x_2)$ of C_L -formulae there is a pair φ_1, φ_2 of C_L -sentences such that C_L proves $\varphi_1 \leftrightarrow \psi_1(\overline{\varphi}_1, \overline{\varphi}_2)$ and $\varphi_2 \leftrightarrow \psi_2(\overline{\varphi}_1, \overline{\varphi}_2)$.*

Regarding induction, the situation is tricky:

Theorem 5.14 ([18]). *If C_L is consistent, then C_L extended by the rule*

$$\frac{\varphi(0), (\forall x)(\varphi(x) \leftrightarrow \varphi(s(x)))}{(\forall x \in \omega)\varphi(x)},$$

for any φ not containing ω , is consistent as well. However, C_L extended by the same rule for any φ (including those containing the constant ω), is inconsistent.

The latter inconsistency claim was demonstrated in [18] by developing arithmetic in the extended theory, constructing a truth predicate (cf. section 4.2), and showing that it commutes with connectives, which (as shown in [22]) yields inconsistency.

In the variant of C_L over standard $[0, 1]$ -valued Łukasiewicz logic (called H , see footnote 11), the arithmetic of ω can be shown to be ω -inconsistent ([40], cf. [32]); i.e., $H \vdash \varphi(\overline{n})$ for each numeral \overline{n} , but also $H \vdash (\exists n \in \omega)\neg\varphi(n)$ for some formula φ . It is unclear, though, whether the result can be extended to C_L (see [14]).

It can be shown [13] that in every model of C_L , the set ω contains a crisp initial segment isomorphic to the standard model of natural numbers. However, this segment need not represent a set of the model (cf. the ω -inconsistency of H).

Remark 5.15. In order to be able to handle such collections of elements that need not be sets, but are nevertheless present in models of C_L , extending C_L with classes (which cannot enter the comprehension schema) has been proposed [14, 1]. Although this move may be technically

advantageous and can possibly yield an interesting theory, admittedly it destroys the appeal of unrestricted comprehension by restricting it to class-free formulae. It should be kept in mind, though, that the tentative consistency of unrestricted comprehension in C_L itself is only admitted by a restriction of its language (see Remark 5.3 above and Corollary 5.26 below), and therefore does not apply the comprehension principle unrestrictedly anyway. As this is a common feature of substructural naïve set theories, it suggests that the consistency of naïve comprehension in certain contraction-free substructural logics (and so the necessity of contraction for Russell’s paradox) is in a sense “accidental”, and that a truly unrestricted comprehension principle would require other logical frameworks (such as paraconsistent or inconsistency-adaptive ones).

5.3 C_L over MTL

In this section we shall discuss which of Hájek’s results in C_L can survive the weakening of the underlying logic to the logic MTL. We will only give an initial study, hinting at the main problems of this transition.

Naïve set theory over the first-order logic MTL axiomatized in the same way as in Definition 5.1 will be denoted by C_{MTL} . The basic set operations as well as inclusion and the two equalities can be conservatively introduced in C_{MTL} in the same way as in Definitions 5.4–5.5. The proof from [4, 18] of the fixed-point theorem (Theorem 5.9) works well in C_{MTL} ; consequently, the set ω of natural numbers can be introduced in C_{MTL} in the same self-referential way as in C_L (see Section 5.2).

It can be easily observed that similarly as in C_L (cf. Theorem 5.6), both equalities $=, \approx$ are fuzzy equivalence relations, inclusion \subseteq is a fuzzy preorder whose min-symmetrization is \approx , and Leibniz equality implies intersubstitutivity (and therefore also co-extensionality). It will also be seen later that \approx is provably fuzzy and differs from $=$ (so the extensionality of all sets is inconsistent with C_{MTL} , too), although these facts need be proved in a different manner than in [18].

In [18], the crispness of $=$, or the provability of $(x = y) \vee (x \neq y)$, is inferred from the fact that C_L proves contraction (or $\&$ -idempotence) for the Leibniz equality, i.e., $(x = y) \rightarrow (x = y)^2$. Hájek’s proof of the latter fact works well in C_{MTL} , too. However, since MTL-algebras (unlike MV-algebras for Łukasiewicz logic) can have non-trivial $\&$ -idempotents, crispness in MTL does not generally follow from $\&$ -idempotence. Consequently, in C_{MTL} Hájek’s proof only ensures the $\&$ -idempotence of the Leibniz identity.

Whether the crispness of $=$ can be proved in C_{MTL} by some additional arguments appears to be an open problem. Below we give some partial results which further restrict the possible truth values of Leibniz identity; the complete solution is, however, as yet unknown. The question is especially pressing since so many proofs of Hájek’s advanced results in [18, 13] utilize the crispness of $=$ in C_L . In some cases, the results can be reconstructed in C_{MTL} by more cautious proofs; examples of such theorems (though mostly simple ones) are given below. Since, however, many proofs in [18, 13] seem to use the crispness of $=$ in a very essential manner, it is currently unclear which part of Hájek’s results on C_L described in Sections 5.1–5.2 can still be recovered in C_{MTL} .

For reference in further proofs, let us first summarize the properties of $\subseteq, =, \text{ and } \approx$ that translate readily into C_{MTL} :

Theorem 5.16 (cf. [18]). *C_{MTL} proves:*

1. $x = x$, $x = y \rightarrow y = x$, $x = y \ \& \ y = z \rightarrow x = z$, and analogously for \approx
2. $x \subseteq x$, $x \subseteq y \ \& \ y \subseteq z \rightarrow x \subseteq z$, $x \approx y \leftrightarrow x \subseteq y \ \wedge \ y \subseteq x$
3. $x = y \rightarrow (\varphi(x) \leftrightarrow \varphi(y))$, for any C_{MTL} -formula φ .
4. $x = y \rightarrow x \approx y$
5. $x = y \rightarrow (x = y)^2$

Now let us reconstruct in C_{MTL} some basic theorems of C_{L} , without relying on the crispness of Leibniz equality. First it can be observed that the $\&$ -idempotence of $=$ makes it irrelevant which of the two conjunctions is used between equalities. Consequently, $=$ is not only $\&$ -transitive (see Theorem 5.16(1)), but also \wedge -transitive, so the notation $x = y = z$ can be used without ambiguity.

Theorem 5.17. C_{MTL} proves:

1. $a = b \ \wedge \ c = d \leftrightarrow a = b \ \& \ c = d$
2. $x = y \ \wedge \ y = z \rightarrow x = z$

Proof. The claims follow directly from Theorem 5.16(5) and Lemma 2.5. \square

Even without assuming the crispness of $=$, singletons and pairs (defined as in Definition 5.7) behave as expected. Unlike C_{L} , where crisp cases can be taken due to the crispness of $=$ and the proofs are thus essentially classical, C_{MTL} requires more laborious proofs of these facts.

Theorem 5.18. C_{MTL} proves:

1. $\{a\} = \{b\} \leftrightarrow a = b$
2. $\{a, b\} = \{c, d\} \leftrightarrow (a = c \ \wedge \ b = d) \vee (a = d \ \wedge \ b = c)$
3. $\{a, b\} \subseteq \{c\} \leftrightarrow a = b = c$; in particular, $\{a, b\} \approx \{a\} \leftrightarrow a = b$
4. $\langle a, b \rangle = \langle c, d \rangle \leftrightarrow a = c \ \wedge \ b = d$
5. $\langle x', y' \rangle \in \{\langle x, y \rangle \mid \varphi(x, y, \dots)\} \leftrightarrow \varphi(x', y', \dots)$
6. $y \approx y \cup \{x\} \leftrightarrow x \in y$

Proof. 1. Right to left: by intersubstitutivity. Left to right: $\{a\} = \{b\} \rightarrow \{a\} \approx \{b\} \leftrightarrow (\forall x)(x \in \{a\} \leftrightarrow x \in \{b\}) \leftrightarrow (\forall x)(x = a \leftrightarrow x = b) \rightarrow a = a \leftrightarrow a = b \leftrightarrow a = b$.

2. Right to left: Both disjuncts imply the consequent by intersubstitutivity. Left to right:

$$\begin{aligned}
& \{a, b\} = \{c, d\} \rightarrow \{a, b\} \approx \{c, d\} \leftrightarrow (\forall x)(x = a \vee x = b \leftrightarrow x = c \vee x = d) \leftrightarrow \\
& (\forall x)(x = a \vee x = b \rightarrow x = c \vee x = d) \wedge (\forall x)(x = c \vee x = d \rightarrow x = a \vee x = b) \leftrightarrow \\
& (\forall x)(x = a \rightarrow x = c \vee x = d) \wedge (\forall x)(x = b \rightarrow x = c \vee x = d) \wedge \\
& (\forall x)(x = c \rightarrow x = a \vee x = b) \wedge (\forall x)(x = d \rightarrow x = a \vee x = b) \rightarrow \\
& (a = c \vee a = d) \wedge (b = c \vee b = d) \wedge (c = a \vee c = b) \wedge (d = a \vee d = b)
\end{aligned}$$

Distributivity then yields max-disjunction of 16 min-conjunctions, of which 14 are equivalent to $a = b = c = d$, one to $a = c \wedge b = d$, and one to $a = d \wedge b = c$.

3. Right to left: $x \in \{a, b\} \longrightarrow x = a \vee x = b \longleftarrow x = c \vee x = c \longleftarrow x = c \longleftarrow x \in \{c\}$; intersubstitutivity is used in the second step. Left to right:

$$\begin{aligned} \{a, b\} \subseteq \{c\} &\longleftarrow (\forall x)(x = a \vee x = b \rightarrow x = c) \longleftarrow \\ &(\forall x)(x = a \rightarrow x = c) \wedge (\forall x)(x = b \rightarrow x = c) \longrightarrow a = c \wedge b = c. \end{aligned}$$

4. Right to left: by Theorems 5.18(1)–(2). Left to right: By Theorem 5.18(2),

$$\langle a, b \rangle = \langle c, d \rangle \leftrightarrow (\{a\} = \{c\} \wedge \{a, b\} = \{c, d\}) \vee (\{a\} = \{c, d\} \wedge \{a, b\} = \{c\}).$$

Thus it is sufficient to show the following two implications:

$$\begin{aligned} \{a\} = \{c\} \wedge \{a, b\} = \{c, d\} &\longleftarrow && \text{by Th. 5.18(1) and 5.18(2)} \\ a = c \wedge ((a = c \wedge b = d) \vee (a = d \wedge b = c)) &\longleftarrow && \text{by distributivity} \\ (a = c \wedge a = c \wedge b = d) \vee (a = d \wedge b = c \wedge a = c) &\longrightarrow && \text{by min-transitivity of } = \\ a = c \wedge b = d, \quad \text{and} &&& \\ \{a\} = \{c, d\} \wedge \{a, b\} = \{c\} &\longrightarrow && \text{by Theorem 5.16(2)} \\ \{c, d\} \subseteq \{a\} \wedge \{a, b\} \subseteq \{c\} &\longrightarrow && \text{by Theorem 5.18(3)} \\ a = b = c = d &\longrightarrow && a = c \wedge b = d. \end{aligned}$$

5. The claim is proved by the following chain of equivalences:

$$\begin{aligned} (\exists x)(\exists y)(\langle x', y' \rangle = \langle x, y \rangle \ \& \ \varphi(x, y, \dots)) &\longleftarrow && \text{by Theorems 5.18(4) and 5.17} \\ (\exists x)(\exists y)(x = x' \ \& \ y = y' \ \& \ \varphi(x, y, \dots)) &\longleftarrow && \text{in first-order MTL} \\ (\exists x = x')(\exists y = y')(\varphi(x, y, \dots)) &\longleftarrow && \text{by Lemma 2.7(3)} \\ \varphi(x', y', \dots) &&& \end{aligned}$$

6. The claim is proved by the following chain of equivalences (where the last one follows from Lemma 2.7(2)):

$$\begin{aligned} y \approx y \cup \{x\} &\longleftarrow (\forall q)(q \in y \leftrightarrow q \in y \vee q = x) \longleftarrow \\ (\forall q)(q \in y \rightarrow q \in y \vee q = x) \wedge (\forall q)(q \in y \rightarrow q \in y) \wedge (\forall q)(q = x \rightarrow q \in y) &\longleftarrow \\ (\forall q)(q = x \rightarrow q \in y) &\longleftarrow x \in y. \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

Several useful facts about the Leibniz equality can be derived from considering Russell's set, $r =_{\text{df}} \{x \mid x \notin x\}$. The following observation is instrumental for these considerations:

Theorem 5.19. C_{MTL} proves: $(r \in r)^2 \leftrightarrow \perp$.

Proof. By comprehension, $r \in r \leftrightarrow r \notin r$; thus $r \in r \ \& \ r \in r \longleftrightarrow r \in r \ \& \ r \notin r \longleftrightarrow \perp$. \square

Since $r \in r \leftrightarrow r \notin r$, the truth value of the formula $r \in r$ is the fixed point ϱ of negation in the MTL-algebra of semantic truth values in any model of C_{MTL} . Consequently, C_{MTL} has models only over MTL-algebras possessing the fixed point (e.g., there is no model of C_{MTL} over Chang's MV-algebra). Moreover, Theorem 5.19 makes it possible to establish the inconsistency of extensionality in C_{MTL} without the assumption of the crispness of $=$:

Corollary 5.20. C_{MTL} plus the extensionality axiom $x \approx y \rightarrow x = y$ is inconsistent.

Proof. Since $x = y \rightarrow x \approx y$ is a theorem (Th. 5.16(4)), under extensionality the equality relations $=$ and \approx would coincide. Thus by Theorems 5.16(5) and 5.18(6), the relation \in would have to yield idempotent values. However, by Theorem 5.19, $r \in r$ is not idempotent. \square

Theorem 5.19 shows that the fixed point ϱ of negation is nilpotent; consequently, there are no non-trivial idempotents smaller than ϱ . As a corollary, the truth value of Leibniz identity cannot lie between 0 and ϱ :

Corollary 5.21. C_{MTL} proves: $x \neq y \vee (r \in r \rightarrow x = y)$.

Proof. By Theorems 5.16(5) and 5.19, and the strong linear completeness of MTL.

A direct proof in C_{MTL} can easily be given as well: By prelinearity we can prove that

$$(x = y \rightarrow r \in r)^2 \vee (r \in r \rightarrow x = y).$$

Thus to prove Cor. 5.21 it is sufficient to prove $(x = y \rightarrow r \in r)^2 \rightarrow (x = y \rightarrow \perp)$. Now, $x = y \longleftrightarrow (x = y)^2 \longrightarrow (r \in r)^2 \longleftrightarrow \perp$, respectively by Theorem 5.16(5), the assumption $(x = y \rightarrow r \in r)^2$, and Theorem 5.19. \square

Thus, only sufficiently large truth values (namely, those larger than the truth value ϱ of $r \in r$) can be non-trivial idempotents in any model of C_{MTL} . This result can be extended by considering the following sets:

Definition 5.22. For each $n \geq 1$, we define $r_n =_{\text{df}} \{x \mid (x \notin x)^n\}$

By definition, $r_n \in r_n \leftrightarrow (r_n \notin r_n)^n$. Consequently, the semantic truth value ϱ_n of $r_n \in r_n$ satisfies $\varrho_n = (\neg \varrho_n)^n$. Clearly, $\varrho_n > 0$ for each n , since otherwise $0 = \varrho_n = (\neg \varrho_n)^n = (-0)^n = 1^n = 1 \neq 0$, a contradiction. The values ϱ_n form a non-increasing chain:

Theorem 5.23. For each $n \geq 1$, C_{MTL} proves: $r_{n+1} \in r_{n+1} \rightarrow r_n \in r_n$.

Proof. We shall prove that $(r_n \in r_n \rightarrow r_{n+1} \in r_{n+1})^n \rightarrow (r_{n+1} \in r_{n+1} \rightarrow r_n \in r_n)$, whence the theorem follows by prelinearity.

First, by $(r_n \in r_n \rightarrow r_{n+1} \in r_{n+1})^n$ we have $(r_{n+1} \notin r_{n+1} \rightarrow r_n \notin r_n)^n$. Then we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} r_{n+1} \in r_{n+1} &\longleftrightarrow (r_{n+1} \notin r_{n+1})^{n+1} && \text{by definition} \\ &\longrightarrow (r_{n+1} \notin r_{n+1})^n && \text{by weakening} \\ &\longrightarrow (r_n \notin r_n)^n && \text{by } (r_{n+1} \notin r_{n+1} \rightarrow r_n \notin r_n)^n \\ &\longleftrightarrow r_n \in r_n && \text{by definition. } \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

As a corollary to Theorems 5.19 and 5.23, the truth values ϱ_n are nilpotent for each n :

Corollary 5.24. $(r_n \in r_n)^2 \leftrightarrow \perp$

Proof. By Theorems 5.19 and 5.23, $(r_n \in r_n)^2 \longrightarrow (r_1 \in r_1)^2 \longleftrightarrow \perp$. \square

The sequence of truth values ϱ_n is in fact strictly decreasing, and the sequence of $\neg \varrho_n$ strictly increasing:

Theorem 5.25. *In any model of C_{MTL} , the truth values ϱ_n of $r_n \in r_n$ form a strictly decreasing chain and the truth values $\neg\varrho_n$ of $r_n \notin r_n$ form a strictly increasing chain.*

Proof. By Theorem 5.23 we know that $\varrho_{n+1} \leq \varrho_n$, so $\neg\varrho_n \leq \neg\varrho_{n+1}$. Suppose $\neg\varrho_n = \neg\varrho_{n+1}$. Then $\varrho_{n+1} = (\neg\varrho_{n+1})^{n+1} = (\neg\varrho_n)^{n+1} = ((\neg\varrho_n)^n \& \neg\varrho_n) = (\varrho_n \& \neg\varrho_n) = 0$, but we have already observed that $\varrho_{n+1} > 0$ for all n —a contradiction. Thus $\neg\varrho_{n+1} \neq \neg\varrho_n$, so $\neg\varrho_{n+1} > \neg\varrho_n$ and $\varrho_{n+1} < \varrho_n$. \square

As a corollary we obtain that the theory C_{MTL} is *infinite-valued*, as each model's MTL-algebra contains an infinite decreasing chain of truth values below the fixed point of \neg and an infinite increasing chain of truth values above the fixed point of \neg . Moreover, since $(\neg\varrho_n)^n = \varrho_n$, which by Corollary 5.24 is not idempotent, $\neg\varrho_n$ is not n -contractive.¹⁸ Consequently, there are no models of C_{MTL} over n -contractive MTL-algebras, for any $n \geq 1$:

Corollary 5.26. *Naïve comprehension is inconsistent in all logics $C_n\text{MTL}$ of n -contractive MTL-algebras (i.e., in MTL plus the axiom $\varphi^{n-1} \rightarrow \varphi^n$), for any $n \geq 1$. Consequently, it is also inconsistent in any extension of any $C_n\text{MTL}$, which class includes all logics $S_n\text{MTL}$ of n -nilpotent MTL-algebras (i.e., MTL plus the axiom $\varphi^{n-1} \vee \neg\varphi$) as well as the logics NM and WNM of (weak) nilpotent minima.¹⁹*

By Theorem 5.25, the truth values $\neg\varrho_n$ of $r_n \notin r_n$ form an increasing sequence. By Corollary 5.24, each $\neg\varrho_n$ is nilpotent, since $(\neg\varrho_n)^{2n} = ((\neg\varrho_n)^n)^2 = \varrho_n^2 = 0$. Non-trivial idempotents can thus only occur among truth values larger than all $\neg\varrho_n$:

Corollary 5.27. *In any model of C_{MTL} , all non-trivial idempotents are larger than all truth values $\neg\varrho_n$ of $r_n \notin r_n$. (In particular, they are larger than the fixed point ϱ_1 of negation).*

This fact is internalized in the theory by the following strengthening of Corollary 5.21:

Corollary 5.28. *For all $n \geq 1$, C_{MTL} proves: $x \neq y \vee (r_n \notin r_n \rightarrow x = y)$.*

Proof. The proof is analogous to that of Corollary 5.21: by prelinearity, it is sufficient to prove $(x = y \rightarrow r_n \notin r_n)^{2n} \rightarrow x \neq y$, which obtains by $x = y \leftrightarrow (x = y)^{2n} \rightarrow (r \in r)^{2n} \leftrightarrow (r_n \in r_n)^2 \leftrightarrow \perp$, using the previous observations. \square

By Corollary 5.27, the truth values of the Leibniz equality can only be 0 or sufficiently large (namely, larger than all ϱ_n). At present it is, however, unclear whether they have to be crisp or not. As we have seen in Theorems 5.16–5.18, some basic properties of Leibniz equality known from C_L can be proved in C_{MTL} by more laborious proofs even without the assumption of the crispness of $=$. However, since most of Hájek's results on arithmetic in C_L rely heavily on the crispness of identity, it is unclear whether they can be reconstructed in C_{MTL} or not.

¹⁸Recall that an element x of an MTL-algebra is called n -contractive if $x^{n-1} = x^n$. Equivalently, x is n -contractive if x^{n-1} is idempotent. An MTL-algebra is called n -contractive if all its elements are n -contractive.

¹⁹Owing to the existence of a fixed point ϱ_1 of negation, naïve comprehension is furthermore inconsistent in logics with strict negation, i.e., in SMTL and any of its extensions, which include IIMTL, SBL, II, and G.

6 Conclusions

In this paper we have surveyed (and on a few occasions slightly generalized) the work in axiomatic fuzzy mathematics connected with Petr Hájek. A recurring pattern could be observed in Hájek's work in this area: even in a non-classical setting of mathematical fuzzy logic, he made a point of employing the knowledge and methods he mastered during earlier stages of his career, for example, in comparing axiomatic theories using syntactic interpretations, or in relying on strong independence results in arithmetic.

Even though Hájek's results remain a landmark of these investigations, it could also be seen from our exposition of them that the theories in question (as well as their metamathematics) are still at initial stages of their development, and many interesting questions remain still open. Hájek's investigation into these theories opened the way for interesting research and demonstrated that some intriguing results can be achieved. One of the aims of this paper was to gather the results in this field of research scattered in several papers and present them in a synoptic perspective, in order to promote further research in this area of axiomatic non-classical mathematics. We therefore conclude it with a list of open problems mentioned or alluded to in this paper:

- Can a completeness theorem be proved for the ZF-style fuzzy set theory FST over MTL ?
- What is the difference between FST_{BL} and FST_{MTL} ?
- Can Peano arithmetic with a truth predicate over MTL (or some intermediate logic between MTL and L) have standard models?
- Is C_L (or at least C_{MTL}) consistent (relative to a well-established classical theory)?
- Is the Leibniz equality = crisp in C_{MTL} ?
- Is ω crisp in C_L (C_{MTL})?
- Is C_{MTL} (essentially) undecidable and incomplete?
- Is there a method of constructing models of C_L or C_{MTL} , so that the models would satisfy some required properties?

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