

# Bankruptcy Problem under Uncertainty of Claims and Estate

**Jaroslav Ramík**

*ramik@opf.slu.cz*

Silesian University in Opava  
School of Business Administration in Karvina  
Czech Republic

IWoMCDM – 2021

# Contents

- **Motivation - Introduction**
- **Classical bankruptcy problems and games**
- **Interval bankruptcy problem**
- **Fuzzy interval bankruptcy problem**
- **Illustrating example**
- **Conclusion**

# Motivation - Introduction

- Several individuals hold claims on a finite resource - estate and the total amount is not enough to fulfill all of the claims
- **Problem:** Distribute the resource (Estate) to individual claimants fairly so as to respect individual claims as much as possible

# Classical bankruptcy problems (CB) and games

CBP - triple  $(N, c, E)$ :

$N = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  – set of claimants

$\mathbf{c} = (c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n)$  – positive vector of claims  $c_i$ ,  $i \in N$

$E$  - positive total estate.

*Alternatively:*

$(\mathbf{c}; E)$  generates a cooperative game  $(N; v)$ , -  
*bankruptcy game*, whose characteristic form is  
given by

$v(T) = \max\{0, E - \sum c_i\}$ ,  $T \subseteq N$  - value of coalition  $T$

# Interval bankruptcy problem 1

- $I(\mathbf{R})$  - set of all closed and bounded intervals on  $\mathbf{R}$
- $\mathbf{R}$  - set of real numbers
- $I(\mathbf{R})^n$  - set of all  $n$ -dimensional vectors in  $I(\mathbf{R})$
- $I, J \in I(\mathbf{R})$ , with  $I = [I^-; I^+]$ ,  $J = [J^-; J^+]$  and  $k \geq 0$
- Interval operations:

$$I + J = [I^- + J^-; I^+ + J^+], \quad kI = [kI^-; kI^+]$$

- Partial ordering on  $I(\mathbf{R})^n$ :

$$I \leq J \quad \text{if} \quad I^- \leq J^- \quad \text{and} \quad I^+ \leq J^+$$

$$I = J, \text{ if } I \leq J \text{ and } J \leq I, \quad I < J, \text{ if } I \leq J \text{ and } I \neq J$$

For any  $T \subseteq N$ , we use the notation:

$$c(T) = \sum_{i \in T} c_i^-, \quad c^+(T) = \sum_{i \in T} c_i^+$$

Minimal/maximal rights:

$$m_i^-(e) = \max\{c_i^-, e - c^+(N \setminus \{i\})\}, \quad m_i^+(e) = \min\{c_i^+, e - c(N \setminus \{i\})\}$$

# Interval bankruptcy problem 2

**Definition 1:** A *bankruptcy rule* for an IB-problem  $(c, E)$  is a vector mapping  $\mathbf{s} : I(\mathbf{R}^+)^{n+1} \rightarrow I(\mathbf{R}^+)^n$  where  $\mathbf{s}(c, E) = (s_1(c, E), \dots, s_n(c, E))$ , such that  $c = (c_1, \dots, c_n) \in I(\mathbf{R}^+)^n$ ,  $c_i = [c_i^-; c_i^+]$ ,  $i \in N$ , and  $E = [E^-; E^+] \in I(\mathbf{R}^+)$ , satisfying

(1)  $s_i(\mathbf{c}, E) = [s_i^-(c, E), s_i^+(c, E)] \subseteq c_i = [c_i^-, c_i^+]$ ,  
for all  $i \in N$ , *(Individual rationality)*

(2)  $E = [E^-; E^+] \subseteq \sum_{j \in N} s_j(\mathbf{c}, E)$ . *(Efficiency)*

# Interval bankruptcy problem 3

**Proposition 1:**  $(c, E)$  - IB-problem. Let

$$c^-(N) \leq E^- \leq E^+ \leq c^+(N).$$

Then  $s_i(c, E) = [s_i^-, s_i^+] \in I(\mathbf{R}^+)$  defined for  $i \in N$ , by

$$s_i^- = m_i^-(E^-) + [m_i^+(E^-) - m_i^-(E^-)] \frac{E^- - m_N^-(E^-)}{m_N^+(E^-) - m_N^-(E^-)}, \quad (*)$$

$$s_i^+ = m_i^-(E^+) + [m_i^+(E^+) - m_i^-(E^+)] \frac{E^+ - m_N^-(E^+)}{m_N^+(E^+) - m_N^-(E^+)}, \quad (**)$$

is a bankruptcy rule called the *adjusted proportional rule* (*AP-rule*) for the IB-problem  $(c, E)$  satisfying conditions (1), (2) .

# Fuzzy interval bankruptcy problem 1

- Claimants declare their claims with vague words: “about”, “around”, “rather small”, “very big”, etc.
- **The key issue**: how to distribute the uncertain, i.e. interval, fuzzy interval or, eventually, the estate given with some probability, to the individual claimants?
- A fuzzy set  $A$  of  $\mathbf{R}$  is a *fuzzy number (fuzzy interval)*, whenever  $A$  is normal (i.e. there exists  $x_0$  with  $\mu_A(x_0) = 1$ ) and its membership function  $\mu_A : \mathbf{R} \rightarrow [0;1]$  satisfies that the  $\alpha$ -cut  $[A]_\alpha = \{x \mid \mu_A(x) \geq \alpha\}$  is closed, compact and convex subset of  $\mathbf{R}$  for every  $\alpha \in [0;1]$ .
- Fuzzy number  $A$  of  $\mathbf{R}$  is equivalent to the family of  $\alpha$ -cuts  $\{[A]_\alpha \mid \alpha \in [0;1]\}$ .



# Fuzzy interval bankruptcy problem 2

**Definition 2:**  $\tilde{c} = (\tilde{c}_1, \dots, \tilde{c}_n) \in F(\mathbf{R}^+)^n$  be a vector of fuzzy numbers:

$\tilde{c}_i = [c_i^-(\alpha); c_i^+(\alpha)]$ ,  $i \in N$ ,  $\tilde{E} = [E^-(\alpha); E^+(\alpha)] \in F(\mathbf{R}^+)$   
 $\alpha \in [0;1]$  be the families of  $\alpha$ -cuts

A *bankruptcy rule* for an FB-problem  $(\tilde{c}, \tilde{E})$  is a vector mapping  $\tilde{s} : F(\mathbf{R}^+)^{n+1} \rightarrow F(\mathbf{R}^+)^n$  :

$[\tilde{s}(\tilde{c}, \tilde{E})]_\alpha = ([\tilde{s}_1(\tilde{c}, \tilde{E})]_\alpha, \dots, [\tilde{s}_n(\tilde{c}, \tilde{E})]_\alpha)$

where  $\tilde{s}_i : F(\mathbf{R}^+)^{n+1} \rightarrow F(\mathbf{R}^+)$ ,  $i \in N$ .

Here, for each  $\alpha \in [0;1]$ ,  $[\tilde{s}(\tilde{c}, \tilde{E})]_\alpha$  is an IB-problem.

# Fuzzy interval bankruptcy problem 3

**Proposition 2:** Let  $(\tilde{c}; \tilde{E})$  be a FB-problem. Let

$\tilde{E} = \{[E^-(\alpha); E^+(\alpha)] \mid \alpha \in [0;1]\}$  and let

$$\sum_{i \in S} c_i^-(\alpha) \leq E^-(\alpha) \leq E^+(\alpha) \leq \sum_{i \in S} c_i^+(\alpha)$$

for all  $\alpha \in [0;1]$ .

Then for  $\alpha \in [0;1]$ ,  $[\tilde{s}_i(\tilde{c}; \tilde{E})]_\alpha = [s_i^-(\alpha); s_i^+(\alpha)] \in I(\mathbf{R}^+)$

is a closed interval defined for  $i \in N$ , by

$$s_i^-(\alpha) = m_i^-(E^-(\alpha)) + [m_i^+(E^-(\alpha)) - m_i^-(E^-(\alpha))] \frac{E^-(\alpha) - m_N^-(E^-(\alpha))}{m_N^+(E^-(\alpha)) - m_N^-(E^-(\alpha))}, \quad (+)$$

$$s_i^+(\alpha) = m_i^-(E^+(\alpha)) + [m_i^+(E^+(\alpha)) - m_i^-(E^+(\alpha))] \frac{E^+(\alpha) - m_N^-(E^+(\alpha))}{m_N^+(E^+(\alpha)) - m_N^-(E^+(\alpha))}. \quad (++)$$

Family  $\{[s_i^-(\alpha); s_i^+(\alpha)] \mid \alpha \in [0;1]\}$ , where the  $\alpha$ -cuts are defined by (+), (++) , defines a bankruptcy rule called the *adjusted fuzzy proportional rule (AFP-rule)* for the FB-problem  $(\tilde{c}; \tilde{E})$ .

# Fuzzy interval bankruptcy problem 4

The mean values  $s_i^-(\tilde{E})$ ,  $s_i^+(\tilde{E})$  give the corresponding *interval* share  $[s_i^-(\tilde{E}); s_i^+(\tilde{E})]$  of claimant  $i$ :

$$s_i^-(\tilde{E}) = \frac{\int_0^1 \alpha s_i^-(\alpha) d\alpha}{\int_0^1 s_i^-(\alpha) d\alpha}, \quad s_i^+(\tilde{E}) = \frac{\int_0^1 \alpha s_i^+(\alpha) d\alpha}{\int_0^1 s_i^+(\alpha) d\alpha}, \quad i \in N. \quad (2)$$

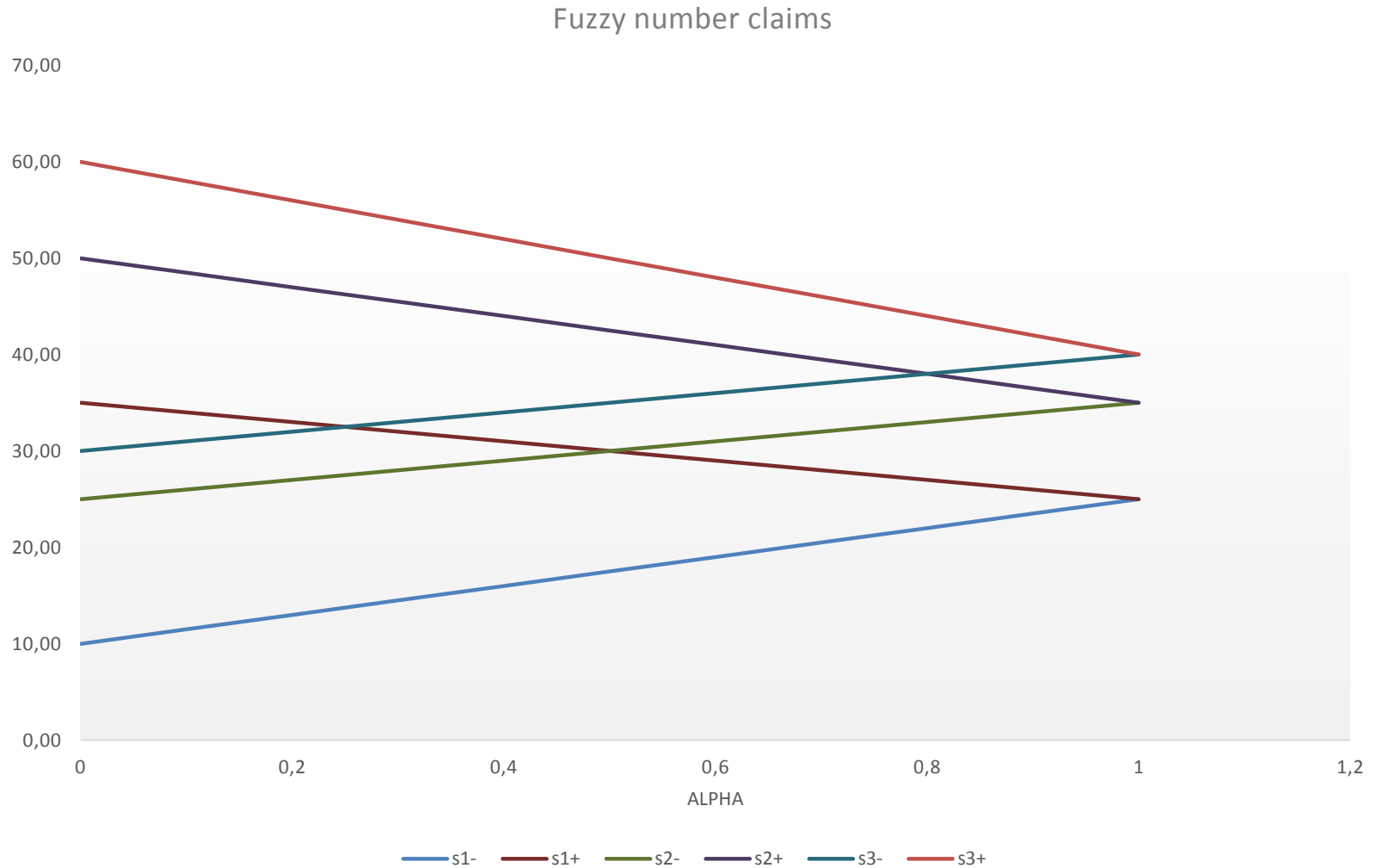
Moreover,  $S_i(\tilde{E})$  is the *crisp* corresponding division share of claimant  $i \in N$ , defined by

$$S_i(\tilde{E}) = \frac{s_i^-(\tilde{E}) + s_i^+(\tilde{E})}{2}, \quad i \in N. \quad (3)$$

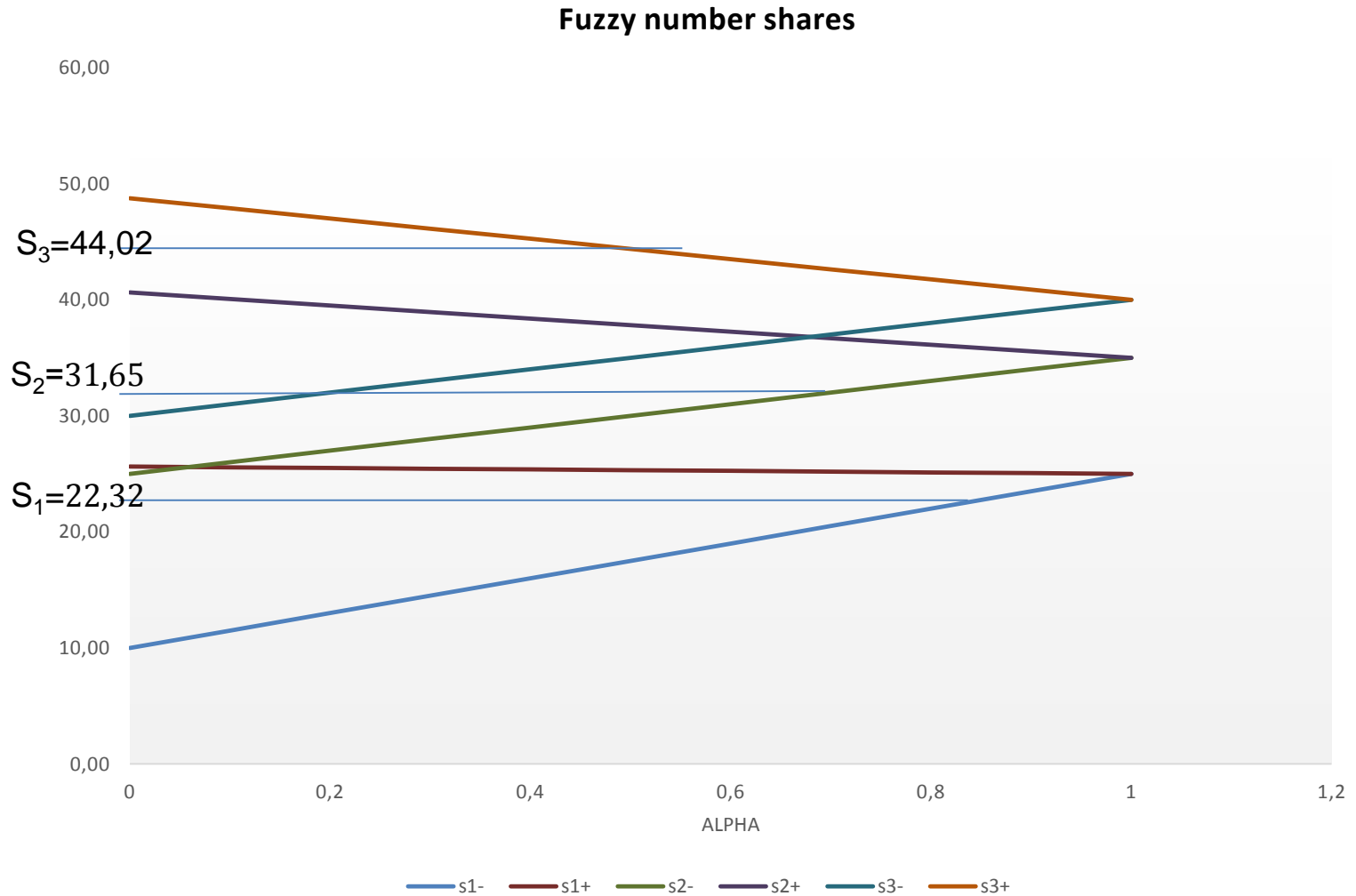
# Example: 1

- Let  $(\tilde{c}; \tilde{E})$  be a FB-problem as follows. The following claims are expressed as trapezoidal fuzzy intervals (fuzzy numbers ):
- $N = \{1,2,3\}$ ,  $\tilde{c} = (\tilde{c}_1, \tilde{c}_2, \tilde{c}_3) \in F(\mathbf{R}^+)^3$ , where
- $\tilde{c}_1 = [c_{11}; c_{12}; c_{13}; c_{14}] = [10; 25; 25; 35]$ ,
- $\tilde{c}_2 = [c_{21}; c_{22}; c_{23}; c_{24}] = [25; 35; 35; 50]$ ,
- $\tilde{c}_3 = [c_{31}; c_{32}; c_{33}; c_{34}] = [30; 40; 40; 60]$ .
- Fuzzy estate is also a trapezoidal fuzzy number
- $\tilde{E} = [E_1; E_2; E_3; E_4] = [85; 100; 100; 115]$ .
- For  $\alpha \in [0;1]$  the equivalent formulas by  $\alpha$ -cuts are as follows
- $\tilde{c}_1 = [10 + 15\alpha ; 35 - 10\alpha]$ ,  $\tilde{c}_2 = [25 + 10\alpha ; 50 - 15\alpha]$ ,
- $\tilde{c}_3 = [30 + 10\alpha ; 60 - 20\alpha]$ .
- $\tilde{E} = [85 + 15\alpha ; 115 - 15\alpha]$ , see Fig. 1.

# Example: 2 (Fig. 1)



# Example: 3 (Fig. 2)



# Example: 4

- Substituting these values into formulas (2) and (3), we obtain functions  $s_i^-(\alpha)$  and  $s_i^+(\alpha)$ , see Fig. 2. Hence, by these formulas we calculate the integrals of the interval share of each claimant  $i$  as
  - $[s_1^-(\tilde{E}); s_1^+(\tilde{E})] = [19,00 ; 25,25]$ ,
  - $[s_2^-(\tilde{E}); s_2^+(\tilde{E})] = [31,00 ; 37,25]$ ,
  - $[s_3^-(\tilde{E}); s_3^+(\tilde{E})] = [36,00 ; 43,50]$ .
- Moreover, by (3) we obtain the crisp division share of each claimant  $i \in N = \{1,2,3\}$ , as
  - $S_1(\tilde{E}) = 22,32 ; S_2(\tilde{E}) = 31,65 ; S_3(\tilde{E}) = 44,02$  .
- The above mentioned division scheme  $s(\tilde{E})$  is an interval solution of the given FB-problem  $(\tilde{c}, \tilde{E})$ . Moreover, by the vector of mean values  $\mathbf{S}(\tilde{E}) = ( 22,32 , 31,65 , 44,02 )$  we obtain a crisp solution of FB-problem  $(\tilde{c}, \tilde{E})$ .

# Conclusion

- When claims of claimants had fuzzy interval uncertainty, we settled such type of division problems by transforming it into division problems under classical interval uncertainty.
- An example was presented to illustrate particular problems and solution concepts. Here, we extended the classical bankruptcy problem (CB-problem), and the corresponding proportional rule (AP-rule) to FB-problem.
- The other classical bankruptcy rules, e.g. contested garment consistent rule (CGC-rule) and recursive completion rule (RC-rule) could be also extended to FB-problem in the future research.



# Some references

- BRANZEI, R. et al. (2010). Cooperative interval games: A survey. *Central European J. Oper. Research*, 18, pp. 397–411.
- BRANZEI, R. et al. (2004). How to cope with division problems under interval uncertainty of claims?. *Int. J. Uncertain and Fuzziness*, 12, pp. 191–200.
- CURIEL, I. J. et al. (1987). Bankruptcy games. *Z. Op. Res.*, 31, pp. A143–A159.
- DUBOIS, D. et al. (1980). *Fuzzy sets and systems. Theory and applications*. Mathematics in Science and Engineering, 144, Academic Press, New York.
- HABIS, H. et al. (2013). Stochastic bankruptcy games. *Int. J. Game Theory*, 42, pp. 973–988.
- RAMÍK, J. et al. (2004) A non-controversial definition of fuzzy sets. In Transactions on rough sets II - Rough sets and fuzzy sets. J.F. Peters, A. Skowron, Eds. Berlin-Heidelberg, Springer - Verlag, 2004, 201–207.
- YAGER, R. R. et al. (2000). Fair division under interval uncertainty. *Int. J. Uncertain. Fuzziness*, 8, pp. 611–618.