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## Solving Fully Fuzzy Linear System with the Necessary and Sufficient Condition to have a Positive Solution

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**Abstract:** This paper proposes new matrix methods for solving positive solutions for a positive Fully Fuzzy Linear System (FFLS). All coefficients on the right hand side are collected in one block matrix, while the entries on the left hand side are collected in one vector. Therefore, the solution can be gained with a non-fuzzy common step. The necessary theorems are derived to obtain a necessary and sufficient condition in order to obtain the solution. The solution for FFLS is obtained where the entries of coefficients are unknown. The methods and results are also capable of solving Left-Right Fuzzy Linear System (LR-FLS). To best illustrate the proposed methods, numerical examples are solved and compared to the existing methods to show the efficiency of the proposed method. New numerical examples are presented to demonstrate the contributions in this paper.

Keywords: Fully Fuzzy Linear System, Sufficient Condition, Positive Solution

## **1 Introduction**

System of linear equations has a wide application in varying subjects including mathematics, physics, statistics, operational research, engineering, economics, finance and social sciences. Nevertheless, most of these applications are characterized by the lacking of the imprecision system coefficients and improper information on actual parameters values. Therefore, there is a need to review the mathematical models and numerical variable that are suitable to deal with these ambiguous values; for examples, researchers may introduce fuzzy numbers instead of crisp numbers. Most importantly, it is possible to solve fuzzy linear system (FLS) when the matrix elements are crisp numbers while the right hand side is a fuzzy vector. On the other hand it is called FFLS when both the matrix elements and vector are fuzzy numbers.

The first achievable approach of FLS was obtained by Friedman et al. [14] they proposed a generic model for solving a  $n \times n$  FLS by employing the embedding approach. The original FLS was replaced by a  $2n \times 2n$  crisp linear system and obtained the solution.

Dehghan et al. [12] introduced several methods for solving FFLS that are similar to the classic methods derived from Linear Algebra, such as the LU decomposition and Cramer's rule in order to determine the approximated solution of a system. He also shared a new method of using Linear Programming (LP) in order to obtain the solution of square and non-square matrix. The Adomian decomposition method was also expanded in order to solve the positive fuzzy vector solution of FFLS in [11]. Dehghan and Hashemi in [13] investigated the iterative solution like Gauss–Seidel, Jacobi and Jacobi over-relaxation (JOR).

Few researchers commented on new methods to solve FFLS [21-25], and brought forward new methods to solve FFLS. However, Kumar et al. [4] introduced a new computational method to solve FFLS by relying on the computation of row reduced echelon form. The contribution of their method is that it can easily check the consistency of the system, nique, infinite or no solution.

In this paper, new methods are proposed to solve FFLS through two computational steps. Firstly, we rearrange the coefficients in left hand side to make it easy to transfer from fuzzy system to an associated linear system. Secondly, the problem is solved by the classical methods in Linear Algebra. Unlike the existing methods, the equations are rearranged and the matrices are

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represented in a square block matrix. Thereafter, the classical method such as the matrix inverse method is used to find the solution. Through these new methods, we can study the fuzzy solution using the associated linear system, and the conditions for the system to have a consistent solution.

The structure of this paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, the basic definitions of the fuzzy set theory and matrix theory are discussed. This is to explain the concept of FFLS and operations of block matrices. In Section 3, we review the solution of FFLS and introduce the new methods. The theorems and lemmas are derived to obtain a necessary and sufficient condition to prove the existence of solution. Also the solution of LR-FLS is discussed. In Section 4, we conclude the paper.

## 2 Preliminaries

In this section, basic definitions and notions of fuzzy set theory are reviewed [5], [1]:

**Definition 2.1.** Let X be a universal set. Then, we define the fuzzy subset  $\tilde{A}$  of X by its membership function  $\mu_{\tilde{A}}: X \to [0,1]$  which assigns to each element  $x \in X$  a real number  $\mu_{\tilde{A}}(x)$  in the interval [0,1]; where the value  $\mu_{\tilde{A}}(x)$  represents the grade of membership of x in  $\tilde{A}$ . A fuzzy set  $\tilde{A}$  is written as:

$$\tilde{A} = \{(x, \mu_{\tilde{A}}(x)), x \in X, \ \mu_{\tilde{A}}(x) \in [0, 1]\}.$$

**Definition 2.2.** A fuzzy set  $\tilde{A}$  in  $X = \mathbb{R}^n$  is convex fuzzy set if:  $\forall r: r_n \in X \ \forall \lambda \in [0, 1]$ 

$$\mu_{\tilde{A}}(\lambda x_1 + (I - \lambda)x_2) \ge \min(\mu_{\tilde{A}}(x_1), \mu_{\tilde{A}}(x_2)).$$

**Definition 2.3.** Let  $\tilde{A}$  be a fuzzy set defined on the set of real numbers  $\mathbb{R}$ .  $\tilde{A}$  is called normal fuzzy set if there exist  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $\mu_{\tilde{A}}(x) = 1$ .

A fuzzy number  $\tilde{m}$  is called Left -Right Fuzzy number (LR fuzzy number) where its membership function satisfy

$$\mu_{\tilde{A}}(x) = \begin{cases} L\left(\frac{a_1-x}{\alpha}\right), & x \le a_1 \quad \alpha > 0, \\\\ 1, & a_1 \le x \le a_2, \\\\ R(\frac{x-a_2}{\beta}), & a_2 \le x \quad \beta > 0, \end{cases}$$
(1)

where  $m, \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ . And the function L(.) is called a left shape function if the following hold

$$-L(x) = L(-x),$$
  
 $-L(0) = 1, L(1) = 0,$ 

-*L* is non-increasing on  $[0,\infty]$ .

Also the definition of function R(.) which called right shape is similar to that of L(.). It is symbolically written  $\tilde{m} = (m, \alpha, \beta)_{LR}$ , where m symbolizes the mean value, while  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are left and right spreads, respectively. We denote the set of LR fuzzy numbers F(R).

**Definition 2.4.** *Two fuzzy numbers*  $\tilde{m} = (m, \alpha, \beta)_{LR}$ and  $\tilde{n} = (n, \gamma, \delta)_{LR}$  are called equal, if  $n = m, \gamma = \alpha, \delta = \beta$ .

**Definition 2.5.** (Arithmetic operations on LR fuzzy numbers) We will represent arithmetic operations for two LR Fuzzy numbers  $\tilde{m} = (m, \alpha, \beta)_{LR}$  and  $\tilde{n} = (n, \gamma, \delta)_{LR}$  as follows:

#### -Addition:

$$\tilde{m} \oplus \tilde{n} = (m+n, \alpha+\gamma, \beta+\delta)_{LR}.$$
 (2)

-Opposite:

$$-\tilde{m} = -(m, \alpha, \beta)_{LR} = (-m, \beta, \alpha)_{RL}.$$
 (3)

-Subtraction:

$$\tilde{m} \ominus \tilde{n} = (m - n, \alpha + \delta, \beta + \gamma)_{LR}.$$
 (4)

#### -Approximate multiplication:

If 
$$\tilde{m} > 0$$
 and  $\tilde{n} > 0$  then,

$$\tilde{m} \otimes \tilde{n} \cong (mn, m\gamma + n\alpha, m\delta + n\beta)_{LR}.$$
(5)

If  $\tilde{m} < 0$  and  $\tilde{n} < 0$  then,

$$\tilde{m} \otimes \tilde{n} \cong (m n, -n\beta - m\delta, -n\alpha - m\gamma)_{RL}$$
 (6)

$$m > 0$$
 and  $n < 0$  then,

(7)

 $\tilde{m} \otimes \tilde{n} \cong (mn, n\alpha - m\delta, n\beta - m\gamma)_{RL}.$ 

-Scalar multiplication:

Let  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ , then,

$$\lambda \otimes \tilde{m} = \begin{cases} (\lambda m, \lambda \alpha, \lambda \beta)_{LR}, & \lambda \ge 0, \\ \\ (\lambda m, -\lambda \beta, -\lambda \alpha)_{RL}, & \lambda < 0. \end{cases}$$
(8)

**Definition 2.6.** A popular LR fuzzy number is a triangular fuzzy number (TFN), where

$$L = R = \max(0, 1 - x)$$

consequently, Its membership function in (1) is given by:

$$\mu_{\tilde{A}}(x) = \begin{cases} 1 - \frac{m - x}{\alpha}, m - \alpha \le x < m, \alpha > 0, \\\\ 1 - \frac{x - m}{\beta}, m \le x < m + \beta, \beta > 0, \\0 & otherwise, \end{cases}$$
(9)

and it is symbolically written as a triangular fuzzy number  $\tilde{m} = (m, \alpha, \beta)$ .

**Definition 2.7.** A vector  $\tilde{X} = (\tilde{x}_1, \tilde{x}_2, ..., \tilde{x}_n)$ , where  $\tilde{x}_i, 1 \le i \le n$  are LR fuzzy numbers, is called an LR fuzzy vector.

**Definition 2.8.** A matrix  $\tilde{A} = (\tilde{a}_{ij})_{i,j=1}^n$  is called a fuzzy number matrix, or shortly fuzzy matrix, if each element of  $\tilde{A}$  is a fuzzy number.

**Definition 2.9.** Let  $\tilde{A} = (\tilde{a}_{ij})$  and  $\tilde{B} = (\tilde{b}_{ij})$  be two  $m \times n$  and  $n \times p$  respectively. We define  $\tilde{A} \otimes \tilde{B} = \tilde{C} = (\tilde{c}_{ij})$  which is the  $m \times p$  matrix where

$$\tilde{c}_{ij} = \sum_{k=1,\dots,n}^{\oplus} \tilde{a}_{ik} \otimes \tilde{b}_{kj}.$$
(10)

**Definition 2.10.** (Fully fuzzy linear system) Consider the  $n \times n$  linear system,

$$\begin{cases} \tilde{a}_{11}\tilde{x}_{1} + \tilde{a}_{12}\tilde{x}_{2} + \dots + \tilde{a}_{1n}\tilde{x}_{n} = \tilde{b}_{1}, \\ \tilde{a}_{21}\tilde{x}_{1} + a_{22}\tilde{x}_{2} + \dots + \tilde{a}_{2n}\tilde{x}_{n} = \tilde{b}_{2}, \\ \vdots \\ \tilde{a}_{n1}\tilde{x}_{1} + \tilde{a}_{n2}\tilde{x}_{2} + \dots + \tilde{a}_{nn}\tilde{x}_{n} = \tilde{b}_{n}, \end{cases}$$
(11)

where  $\forall \tilde{a}_{ij}, \tilde{b}_j \in F(R)$  this system is called a fully fuzzy linear system (FFLS). The matrix  $\tilde{A} = (\tilde{a}_{ij})_{i,j=1}^n$  and the vector  $\tilde{B} = (\tilde{b}_j)_{i=1}^n$  may be represented as

$$\tilde{A} \otimes \tilde{X} = \tilde{B} \tag{12}$$

If the all entries of  $\tilde{A}, \tilde{B} \ge 0$  it is called positive FFLS. If the vector  $\tilde{X} = (\tilde{x}_j)_{j=1}^n$  satisfies (12), and all entries of  $\tilde{X} = (\tilde{x}_j)$  are positives, where  $\forall \tilde{x}_j \in F(R), j = 1, 2, ..., n$ , it is called positive fuzzy solution, abbreviated  $(P - \tilde{X})$ . If  $\exists \tilde{x}_j \notin F(R), j = 1, 2, ..., n$ , it is called non fuzzy solution.

## **3 Solving FFLS**

Now we are going to solve FFLS by using the matrix theory. A necessary and sufficient conditions for FFLS to have a positive solution are investigated. At the end of this section LR-FLS is solved using the new method.

#### 3.1 The proposed method for solving FFLS

In order to solve (12), we assume that  $\tilde{A}$ ,  $\tilde{X}$ ,  $\tilde{B} \ge 0$ , where  $\tilde{A} = (A, M, N)$ ,  $\tilde{X} = (x, y, z)$  and  $\tilde{B} = (b, h, g)$ , then

$$(A, M, N) \otimes (x, y, z) = (b, h, g).$$
 (13)

By Arithmetic operations on fuzzy numbers we have,

$$\begin{cases}
Ax = b, \\
Ay + Mx = h, \\
Az + Nx = g.
\end{cases}$$
(14)

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First, we will find the associated linear system for fuzzy system. The system in (12) can be represented by these equations

$$\begin{pmatrix}
a_{i1}x_1 + a_{i2}x_2 + \dots + a_{in}x_n = b_i, \\
(a_{i1}y_1 + a_{i2}y_2 + \dots + a_{in}y_n) + \\
(m_{i1}x_1 + m_{i2}x_2 + \dots + m_{in}x_n) = h_i, \\
(a_{i1}z_1 + a_{i2}z_2 + \dots + a_{in}z_n) + \\
(n_{i1}x_1 + n_{i2}x_2 + \dots + n_{in}x_n) = g_i,
\end{cases}$$
(15)

Let us rearrange the linear system and add zero terms as follows:

$$\begin{cases} (a_{i1}x_{1} + a_{i2}x_{2} + \dots + a_{in}x_{n}) + \\ (0 + 0 + \dots + 0) + \\ (0 + 0 + \dots + 0) = b_{i}, \end{cases}$$

$$(m_{i1}x_{1} + m_{i2}x_{2} + \dots + m_{in}x_{n}) + \\ (a_{i1}y_{1} + a_{i2}y_{2} + \dots + a_{in}y_{n}) + \\ (0 + 0 + \dots + 0) = h_{i}, \end{cases}$$

$$(n_{i1}x_{1} + n_{i2}x_{2} + \dots + n_{in}x_{n}) + \\ (0 + 0 + \dots + 0) + \\ (a_{i1}y_{1} + a_{i2}y_{2} + \dots + a_{in}y_{n}) = g_{i}, \end{cases}$$
(16)

where  $1 \le i \le n$ .

Appoint the block  $S = (s_{i, j})_{3n \times 3n}$  matrix where  $1 \le i \le n$  as follows:

$$s_{i, j} = s_{i+n, j+n} = s_{i+2n, j+2n} = a_{ij},$$
  
 $s_{i+n, j} = m_{ij},$  (17)  
 $s_{i+2n, j} = n_{ij}.$ 

Also, any  $s_{ij}$  which is undetermined in (17) is zero. Then we have a new  $3n \times 3n$  block matrix *S*:

$$S = \begin{pmatrix} A & 0 & 0 \\ M & A & 0 \\ N & 0 & A \end{pmatrix}$$

**Definition 3.1.** (*The associated linear system*) Let the block matrix *S* be as follows,

$$S = \begin{pmatrix} A & 0 & 0 \\ M & A & 0 \\ N & 0 & A \end{pmatrix},$$

where A, M and N square matrices are in common size n. Also let

$$X = Vec(x, y, z) = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix}$$

and,

$$B = \operatorname{Vec}(b, h, g) = \begin{pmatrix} b \\ h \\ g \end{pmatrix},$$

where x, y, z, b, h and g are vectors of n components. We will appoint new  $3n \times 3n$  linear system,

$$SX = B, \tag{18}$$

in matrix form,

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & 0 & 0 \\ M & A & 0 \\ N & 0 & A \end{pmatrix} Vec(x, y, z) = Vec(b, h, g),$$
(19)

hence, the new linear system can be written by:

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & 0 & 0 \\ M & A & 0 \\ N & 0 & A \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} b \\ h \\ g \end{pmatrix}.$$
 (20)

where,

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} \dots a_{1n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{n1} \dots & a_{nn} \end{pmatrix},$$
$$M = \begin{pmatrix} m_{11} \dots & m_{1n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ m_{n1} \dots & m_{nn} \end{pmatrix},$$
$$N = \begin{pmatrix} n_{11} \dots & n_{1n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ n_{n1} \dots & n_{nn} \end{pmatrix},$$
$$x = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix}, \quad y = \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{pmatrix}, \quad z = \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ \vdots \\ z_n \end{pmatrix},$$
$$b = \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ \vdots \\ b_n \end{pmatrix}, \quad h = \begin{pmatrix} h_1 \\ \vdots \\ h_n \end{pmatrix}, \quad g = \begin{pmatrix} g_1 \\ \vdots \\ g_n \end{pmatrix}.$$

In this paper, the linear system SX = B, is called the associated linear system for FFLS.

In order to prove few theorems in this section we have to review the operation block matrices, since the techniques used for manipulating block matrices are similar for ordinary matrices. As an application, the elementary row or column operations for ordinary matrices can be generalized to block or partitioned matrices as follows [6]:

1.By interchanging two block rows or columns.

- 2.By multiplying a block row or columns from the left or right by a non-singular matrix of appropriate size.
- 3.By multiplying a block row or column by a non-zero matrix from the left or right, then add it to another row or column.

As such, there is a necessity to show the relation between the solution for the associated crisp system in Definition 3.1. and FFLS. Therefore the following two statements based on the techniques for block matrices reviewed:

- -The  $3n \times 3n$  crisp linear system in (18) can be uniquely obtained the solution *X*, if and only if the matrix *S* is nonsingular.
- -Are the components of 3n dimensional crisp solution vector X in (20) representing a corresponding solution  $\tilde{X}$  of fuzzy system? In other words, is the solution for SX = B also a solution for FFLS.

The next theorem determines when crisp matrix S is nonsingular.

**Theorem 3.1.** The block matrix S in (18) is non-singular if and only if the matrix A in (13) is non-singular.

#### Proof

Since *A*, *M* and *N* are square matrices in common order *n*, we can easily make the matrix *S* a diagonal block matrix by subtracting the first row multiplied by  $MA^{-1}$  from the second row, and subtracting the first row multiplied by  $NA^{-1}$  from the third row as follows:

$$S = \begin{pmatrix} A & 0 & 0 \\ M & A & 0 \\ N & 0 & A \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} A & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & A & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & A \end{pmatrix} = S_1.$$

Now, we will expand  $S_1$  through 3 block matrices of order  $3n \times 3n$ ,  $(E_1, E_2, E_3)$  where,

$$E_{1} = \begin{pmatrix} A & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & I_{n} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & I_{n} \end{pmatrix},$$
$$E_{2} = \begin{pmatrix} I_{n} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & A & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & I_{n} \end{pmatrix},$$

$$E_3 = \begin{pmatrix} I_n & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & I_n & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & A \end{pmatrix}$$

Hence,

$$S_1 = E_1 E_2 E_3.$$

Clearly,

$$|S| = |S_1| = |E_1| |E_2| |E_3| = |A|^3.$$

Therefore,

$$|S| \neq 0$$
 if and only if  $|A| \neq 0$ .

Moreover,

$$|S| = |A|^3. (21)$$

And this concludes the proof.

Now we will study the equivalency between the fuzzy system and the associated crisp linear system.

**Theorem 3.2.** The unique solutions of SX = B in (18) and  $\tilde{A} \otimes X = \tilde{B}$  in (12) are equivalent.

**Proof** Let *A* be an invertible matrix in (13). A row reduced echelon form of augmented (G | B) is employed to compute the solution.

$$S = \begin{pmatrix} A & 0 & 0 & \vdots & b \\ M & A & 0 & \vdots & h \\ N & 0 & A & \vdots & g \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \\ \begin{pmatrix} I & 0 & 0 & \vdots & A^{-1}b \\ M & A & 0 & \vdots & h \\ N & 0 & A & \vdots & g \end{pmatrix} = S_1 \\ S_1 \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} I & 0 & 0 & \vdots & A^{-1}b \\ 0 & A & \vdots & g \end{pmatrix} = S_2 \\ \begin{pmatrix} I & 0 & 0 & \vdots & A^{-1}b \\ 0 & A & \vdots & g - NA^{-1}b \\ 0 & 0 & A & \vdots & g - NA^{-1}b \end{pmatrix} = S_2 \\ S_2 \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} I & 0 & 0 & \vdots & A^{-1}b \\ 0 & I & 0 & \vdots & A^{-1}(h - MA^{-1}b) \\ 0 & 0 & I & A^{-1}(g - NA^{-1}b) \end{pmatrix} = S_3,$$

the solution of SX = B is  $A^{-1}h$ 

$$= \begin{pmatrix} A^{-1} (h - MA^{-1}b) \\ A^{-1} (g - NA^{-1}b) \end{pmatrix},$$

then,

$$\begin{pmatrix} A^{-1}b \\ A^{-1}h - A^{-1}MA^{-1}b \\ A^{-1}g - A^{-1}NA^{-1}b \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix}.$$
 (22)

Now, from (14) we can get *x*, *y* and *z* by multiplying each equation by  $A^{-1}$ ,

$$x = A^{-1}b,$$
  
 $y + A^{-1}Mx = A^{-1}h,$  (23)  
 $z + A^{-1}Nx = A^{-1}g.$ 

By substituting  $x = A^{-1}b$  in second and third equations  $y + A^{-1}MA^{-1}b = A^{-1}h$ ,

$$z + A^{-1}NA^{-1}b = A^{-1}g.$$

Hence after rearranging the equations we get

$$y = A^{-1}h - A^{-1}MA^{-1}b,$$
  

$$z = A^{-1}g - A^{-1}NA^{-1}b.$$
(24)

Then *x*, *y* and *z* are equivalent to the proposed solution of P - X for P - FFLS in (22).

**Corollary 3.1.** If the associated linear system does not have a unique solution then the FFLS does not have one either.

The following examples show that the solution can be obtained directly form (20).

**Example 3.1.** Find a positive solution for the following FFLS, [12].

 $(6, 1, 4) \otimes (x_1, y_1, z_1) \oplus (5, 2, 2) \otimes (x_2, y_2, z_2) \oplus (3, 2, 1) \otimes (x_3, y_3, z_3) = (58, 30, 60),$ 

 $(32, 30, 30) \otimes (x_2, y_2, z_2) \oplus (20, 19, 24) \otimes (x_3, y_3, z_3) = (316, 297, 514).$ 

Where  $\tilde{x}_i = (x_i, y_i, z_i) \ge 0$ , i = 1, 2, 3. Solution The system may be written in matrix form,

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$$\begin{pmatrix} (6,1,4) & (5,2,2) & (3,2,1) \\ (12,8,20) & (14,12,15) & (8,8,10) \\ (24,10,34) & (32,30,30) & (20,19,24) \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\begin{pmatrix} (x_1, y_1, z_1) \\ (x_2, y_2, z_2) \\ (x_3, y_3, z_3) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} (58,30,60) \\ (142,139,257) \\ (316,297,514) \end{pmatrix}.$$

where,

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 5 & 3 \\ 12 & 14 & 8 \\ 24 & 32 & 20 \end{pmatrix},$$
$$M = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 8 & 12 & 8 \\ 10 & 30 & 19 \end{pmatrix}, N = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 2 & 1 \\ 20 & 15 & 10 \\ 34 & 30 & 24 \end{pmatrix},$$
$$b = \begin{pmatrix} 58 \\ 142 \\ 316 \end{pmatrix}, h = \begin{pmatrix} 30 \\ 139 \\ 297 \end{pmatrix}, g = \begin{pmatrix} 60 \\ 257 \\ 514 \end{pmatrix},$$
$$x = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix}, y = \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \end{pmatrix}, z = \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \\ z_3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The associated linear system can be constructed by SX = B, where *S*, *X* and *B* are appointed as follows :

$$S = \begin{pmatrix} A & 0 & 0 \\ M & A & 0 \\ N & 0 & A \end{pmatrix},$$

also,

$$X = Vec(x, y, z) = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \end{pmatrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \\ z_3 \end{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix},$$
$$B = Vec(b, h, g) = \begin{pmatrix} b \\ h \\ g \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 58 \\ 142 \\ 316 \end{pmatrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} 30 \\ 139 \\ 297 \end{pmatrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} 60 \\ 257 \\ 514 \end{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Since  $|A| \neq 0$ , according to Theorem 3.1.,  $|S| \neq 0$ .

Then the associated linear system is given by SX = B:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 6 & 5 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 12 & 14 & 8 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 24 & 32 & 20 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 2 & 6 & 5 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 8 & 12 & 8 & 12 & 14 & 8 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 10 & 30 & 19 & 24 & 32 & 20 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 4 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 6 & 5 & 3 \\ 20 & 15 & 10 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 12 & 14 & 8 \\ 34 & 30 & 24 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 24 & 32 & 20 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \\ z_1 \\ z_2 \\ z_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 58 \\ 142 \\ 316 \\ 30 \\ 139 \\ 297 \\ 60 \\ 257 \\ 514 \end{pmatrix},$$

the crisp solution can be obtained by only computing  $X = S^{-1}B$ :

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} x_{1} \\ x_{2} \\ x_{3} \\ y_{1} \\ y_{2} \\ x_{3} \\ y_{1} \\ y_{2} \\ y_{3} \\ z_{1} \\ z_{2} \\ z_{3} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \\ 3 \\ 1 \\ \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \\ 3 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ or } \\ \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \\ 3 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$X = \begin{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_{1} \\ x_{2} \\ x_{3} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} y_{1} \\ y_{2} \\ y_{3} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0.5 \\ 0.5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0.5 \\ 0.5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0.5 \\ 0.5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Then the fuzzy solution is

$$\begin{split} \tilde{X} &= \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{x}_1 \\ \tilde{x}_2 \\ \tilde{x}_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} (x_1, y_1, z_1) \\ (x_2, y_2, z_2) \\ (x_3, y_3, z_3) \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} (4, 1, 3) \\ (5, 0.5, 2) \\ (3, 0.5, 1) \end{pmatrix}, \end{split}$$

where  $\tilde{X}$  is a unique solution according to Theorem 3.2.

Now, the third question to be answered.

-Does the exact solution  $\tilde{X}$  satisfying (12) is a positive fuzzy solution for any FFLS?

Before answering the above question, two examples are illustrated here for non-fuzzy solution and non-positive fuzzy solution.

**Example 3.2.** Find a positive solution for the following FFLS.

$$(5, 0, 1) \otimes (x_1, y_1, z_1) \oplus (6, 1, 2) \otimes (x_2, y_2, z_2) = (50, 10, 17),$$

$$(7, 1, 0) \otimes (x_1, y_1, z_1) \oplus (4, 0, 1) \otimes (x_2, y_2, z_2) = (48, 5, 7).$$

Where  $\tilde{x}_i = (x_i, y_i, z_i) \ge 0, i = 1, 2$ .

#### Solution

The system may be written in matrix form,

$$\begin{pmatrix} (5, 0, 1) & (6, 1, 2) \\ (7, 1, 0) & (4, 0, 1) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} (x_1, y_1, z_1) \\ (x_2, y_2, z_2) \end{pmatrix}$$
$$= \begin{pmatrix} (50, 10, 17) \\ (48, 5, 7) \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then,

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 4 \end{pmatrix}, M = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, N = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$
$$b = \begin{pmatrix} 50 \\ 48 \end{pmatrix}, h = \begin{pmatrix} 10 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}, g = \begin{pmatrix} 17 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix},$$
d.

and,

:

$$x = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix}, y = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix}, z = \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Hence, the associated linear system is given by SX = B

$$\begin{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \end{pmatrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \end{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 50 \\ 48 \end{pmatrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} 10 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} 17 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix}.$$

By computing  $S^{-1}B$  then,

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \end{pmatrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \end{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{7}{11} \\ \frac{15}{11} \end{pmatrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Hence, the unique solution of the fuzzy system is

$$\tilde{x}_1 = (x_1, y_1, z_1) = (4, -\frac{7}{11}, 0),$$
  
 $\tilde{x}_2 = (x_2, y_2, z_2) = (5, \frac{15}{11}, \frac{1}{2}).$ 

Since  $y_1 = -\frac{7}{11}$  is non-positive, the solution is a non-fuzzy solution even though |S|,  $|A| \neq 0$ . However the vector solution X is unique, but  $\tilde{X}$  is still is a non-fuzzy vector.

**Example 3.3.** Find a positive solution for the following FFLS.

$$(3.1, 0.4, 0.1) \otimes (x_1, y_1, z_1) \oplus (2, 0.6, 0.4) \otimes (x_2, y_2, z_2) = (17.3, 14.75, 7.86),$$

$$(8, 0.6, 0.7) \otimes (x_1, y_1, z_1) \oplus (6.9, 0.2, 0.1) \otimes (x_2, y_2, z_2) = (51.6, 32.91, 22.72).$$

*Where*  $\tilde{x}_i = (x_i, y_i, z_i) \ge 0, \ i = 1, 2.$ 

#### Solution

The system may be written in matrix form,

$$\begin{pmatrix} (3.1, 0.4, 0.1) & (2, 0.6, 0.4) \\ (8, 0.6, 0.7) & (6.9, 0.2, 0.1) \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\begin{pmatrix} (x_1, y_1, z_1) \\ (x_2, y_2, z_2) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} (17.3, 14.75, 7.86) \\ (51.6, 32.91, 22.72) \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then,

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 3.1 & 2 \\ 8 & 6.9 \end{pmatrix},$$
$$M = \begin{pmatrix} 0.4 & 0.6 \\ 0.6 & 0.2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad N = \begin{pmatrix} 0.1 & 0.4 \\ 0.7 & 0.1 \end{pmatrix},$$
$$b = \begin{pmatrix} 17.3 \\ 51.6 \end{pmatrix}, \quad h = \begin{pmatrix} 14.75 \\ 32.91 \end{pmatrix}, \quad g = \begin{pmatrix} 7.86 \\ 22.72 \end{pmatrix},$$
and

and,

$$x = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix}, y = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix}, z = \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Hence, the matrix *S* is appointed as follows,

$$\begin{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3.1 & 2 \\ 8 & 6.9 \end{pmatrix} & \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} & \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} 0.4 & 0.6 \\ 0.6 & 0.2 \end{pmatrix} & \begin{pmatrix} 3.1 & 2 \\ 8 & 6.9 \end{pmatrix} & \begin{pmatrix} 0. & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} 0.1 & 0.4 \\ 0.7 & 0.1 \end{pmatrix} & \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} & \begin{pmatrix} 3.1 & 2 \\ 8 & 6.9 \end{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix}$$

The vector *B* is appointed as follows,

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 17.3 \\ 51.6 \end{pmatrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} 14.75 \\ 32.91 \end{pmatrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} 7.86 \\ 22.72 \end{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix}.$$

The crisp solution of system  $X = S^{-1}B$  is

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \end{pmatrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \end{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} 3.0269 \\ 0.883302 \end{pmatrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} 0.126902 \\ 2.7833 \end{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then the fuzzy solution is

$$\tilde{x}_1 = (x_1, y_1, z_1) = (3, 3.0269, 0.126902)$$

$$\tilde{x}_2 = (x_2, y_2, z_2) = (4, 0.883302, 2.7833)$$

Since  $x_1 - y_1 \ge 0$ , then  $(x_1, y_1, z_1)$  is a non-positive LR fuzzy number.

Therefore, we have to determine, the conditions for known positive matrix  $\tilde{A}$  and positive vector  $\tilde{B}$  to have a positive solution. In the following section, the conditions for FFLS to have positive solution are discussed.

# 3.2 A necessary and sufficient conditions for FFLS to have positive solution

A necessary and sufficient conditions for FFLS to have a positive solution are investigated in the two following cases:

**Case 1:** The conditions on both  $\tilde{A}$  and  $\tilde{B}$ .

(Dehghan et al. [12]) studied this case using the following theorem.

**Theorem 3.3.** (Dehghan et al. [12]) let  $\tilde{A} = (A, M, N), \tilde{B} = (b, h, g) \ge 0$ , and

 $\begin{array}{ll} i- & Centric \ matrix \ A \ be \ an \ inverse-nonnegative. \\ i.e. \ A^{-1} \ exist \ and \ A^{-1} > 0. \\ ii- \ h \geq MA^{-1}b, \ g \geq NA^{-1}b \ and \\ & \left(MA^{-1}+I\right)b \geq h. \end{array}$ 

Then the system has P - X.

Literature review revealed that no investigation, was carried out whether the P - FFLS have P - X or not, even though it is mentioned in most of studies for (P - FFLS). Although [12] illustrated an example of non-fuzzy solution, they couldn't apply their theorem.

Therefore, we can summarize the weakness of this theorem in two points:

- **1.** The further condition  $(MA^{-1} + I)b \ge h$  is used to proof  $x y \ge 0$  in X = (x, y, z).
- The following alternative proof shows that  $(MA^{-1}+I)b \ge h$  is redundant, and must be omitted.

$$b \ge 0$$
 and  $A^{-1} > 0 \Rightarrow X = A^{-1}b \ge 0$ ,

$$x - y = (A^{-1}b) - (A^{-1}h - A^{-1}MA^{-1}b)$$
  
= A^{-1}b - A^{-1}h + A^{-1}MA^{-1}b.

Hence:

$$x - y = A^{-1} \left[ (b - h) + (MA^{-1}b) \right]$$
  
=  $A^{-1} \left[ (b - h) + (Mx) \right],$ 

 $(b-h) \ge 0$  since  $\tilde{b} = (b, h, g)$  is non-negative fuzzy number vector and  $A^{-1}$ ,  $Mx \ge 0$ ,

then 
$$x - y \ge 0$$
.

However  $(MA^{-1} + I)b \ge h$  is already satisfied by the hypothesis  $A^{-1} > 0$ ,

$$(MA^{-1}+I)b-h = (MA^{-1}b+b)-h$$
  
=  $(MA^{-1}b) + (b-h),$ 

- since  $A^{-1} > 0$ , M,  $b \ge 0$  and  $(b-h) \ge 0$ , then  $(MA^{-1}+I)b-h \ge 0$ .
- **2.** The condition  $A^{-1} > 0$  is very powerful, as is shown in the following theorem.
- **Theorem 3.4**. (*Minc*, [32]) The inverse of a nonnegative matrix A is a nonnegative if and only if A is a generalized permutation matrix.
  - Therefore, the restriction  $A^{-1} > 0$  discussed in our case (P FFLS) by the following result.
  - **Corollary 3.2.** If the matrix A in (13) is a generalized permutation matrix then the right spread matrix M is also a generalized permutation matrix, and must have the same structure of A, i.e.  $\forall \tilde{a}_{ij} = (a_{ij}, m_{ij}, n_{ij})$ ,

when 
$$a_{ij} = 0$$
, then  $m_{ij} = 0$ ,  $\forall i, j = 1, ..., n_{ij}$ 

#### Proof

The proof is obtained easily by contradiction.

Let  $\exists m_{ij} \neq 0$ , and  $a_{ij} = 0$ . Then,

 $a_{ij} - m_{ij} \ge 0$ . This led to  $\tilde{a}_{ij}$  as a negative LR fuzzy number, which contradict with the hypothesis  $\forall \tilde{a}_{ij} \ge 0$  in *P* – *FFLS*. And this concludes the proof.

According to Theorem 3.4. and Corollary 3.2.  $A^{-1} > 0$  is only satisfied in our case of (P - FFLS) when:

- 1. The entries of the matrices  $A = (a_{ij})_{i,j=1}^n$  and  $M = (m_{ij})_{i,j=1}^n$  are all zero except for a single positive entry in each row and column.
- 2. The right spread  $m_{ij} \neq 0$  only when  $a_{ij} \neq 0$ .

In order to point out the weakness of the previous theorem, according to the discussion above, we can illustrate an example in following form of  $a_{ij}$  to satisfy Theorem 3.3.

$$\tilde{a}_{ij} = \begin{cases} (0, 0, n_{ij}), \text{ where } a_{ij} = 0.\\ (a_{ij}, m_{ij}, n_{ij}), \text{ where } a_{ij} \neq 0. \end{cases}$$

**Example 3.4.** *Find the positive solution for the following FFLS.* 

 $\begin{array}{cccc} (0, & 0, & 0.1) \otimes (x_1, y_1, z_1) \oplus (0, & 0, & 0.6) \otimes \\ (x_2, y_2, z_2) \oplus (0, & 0, & 0.2) \otimes (x_3, y_3, z_3) \oplus (4, & 2, & 0.2) \otimes \\ (x_4, y_4, z_4) = (16, 8.4, 14.9), \end{array}$ 

 $(11, 0, 0) \otimes (x_1, y_1, z_1) \oplus (0, 0, 0.2) \otimes (x_2, y_2, z_2) \oplus (0, 0, 0.11) \otimes (x_3, y_3, z_3) \oplus (0, 0, 0.13) \otimes (x_4, y_4, z_4) = (55, 7.2, 42.07),$ 

 $(0, 0, 0.5) \otimes (x_1, y_1, z_1) \oplus (5, 3, 0.6) \otimes (x_2, y_2, z_2) \oplus (0, 0, 0.9) \otimes (x_3, y_3, z_3) \oplus (0, 0, 0.17) \otimes (x_4, y_4, z_4) = (95, 60.5, 19.83),$ 

 $(0, 0, 0.9) \otimes (x_1, y_1, z_1) \oplus (0, 0, 0.9) \otimes (x_2, y_2, z_2) \oplus (2, 0.5, 0.7) \otimes (x_3, y_3, z_3) \oplus (0, 0, 0.3) \otimes (x_4, y_4, z_4) = (10, 4.3, 26.5).$ 

Where  $\tilde{x}_i = (x_i, y_i, z_i) \ge 0, i = 1, ..., 4.$ 

#### Solution

The system may be written in matrix form,

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & 0 & 0 \\ M & A & 0 \\ N & 0 & A \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} b \\ h \\ g \end{pmatrix},$$

where,

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 4 \\ 11 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, M = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 5 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$
$$N = \begin{pmatrix} 0.1 & 0.6 & 0.2 & 0.2 \\ 0 & 0.2 & 0.11 & 0.13 \\ 0.5 & 0.6 & 0.9 & 0.17 \\ 0.9 & 0.9 & 0.7 & 0.3 \end{pmatrix}.$$
$$A^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{11} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{5} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{4} & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Also,

$$b = \begin{pmatrix} 16\\55\\95\\10 \end{pmatrix}, \ h = \begin{pmatrix} 8.4\\7.2\\60.5\\4.3 \end{pmatrix}, \ g = \begin{pmatrix} 14.9\\42.07\\19.83\\26.5 \end{pmatrix},$$
$$x = \begin{pmatrix} x_1\\x_2\\x_3\\x_4 \end{pmatrix}, \ y = \begin{pmatrix} y_1\\y_2\\y_3\\y_4 \end{pmatrix}, \ z = \begin{pmatrix} z_1\\z_2\\z_3\\z_4 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Since  $A^{-1} > 0$ , we can apply Theorem 3.3.

$$h - MA^{-1}b = \begin{pmatrix} 0.4\\ 7.2\\ 3.5\\ 1.8 \end{pmatrix} \ge 0,$$
$$g - NA^{-1}b = \begin{pmatrix} 1.2\\ 37.2\\ 0.75\\ 0.2 \end{pmatrix} \ge 0,$$

$$(MA^{-1}+I)b-h = \begin{pmatrix} 15.6\\ 47.8\\ 91.5\\ 8.2 \end{pmatrix} \ge 0.$$

Then the crisp solution X is obtained by  $X = S^{-1}B$ , where

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{pmatrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \\ y_4 \end{pmatrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \\ z_3 \\ z_4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 19 \\ 5 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} 0.654545 \\ 0.7 \\ 0.9 \\ 0.1 \end{pmatrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} 3.38182 \\ 0.15 \\ 0.1 \\ 0.3 \end{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix}$$

Hence the P - X is

$$\tilde{x}_1 = (x_1, y_1, z_1) = (5, 0.654545, 3.38182),$$
  
 $\tilde{x}_2 = (x_2, y_2, z_2) = (19, 0.7, 0.15),$   
 $\tilde{x}_3 = (x_3, y_3, z_3) = (5, 0.9, 0.1),$   
 $\tilde{x}_4 = (x_4, y_4, z_4) = (4, 0.1, 0.3).$ 

To overcome these weaknesses in Theorem 3.3., we provide the following theorem without the powerful condition  $A^{-1} > 0$ .

**Theorem 3.5.** The P - FFLS has P - X when center matrix A is invertible, that is, if

$$i - A^{-1}(I + MA^{-1})b \ge A^{-1}h$$
  
 $ii - A^{-1}h \ge A^{-1}(MA^{-1})b,$   
 $iii - A^{-1}g \ge A^{-1}NA^{-1}b.$ 

#### Proof

y,  $z \ge 0$  can be easily obtained by comparing to (22),  $y \ge 0$  is obtained from  $A^{-1}h \ge A^{-1}(MA^{-1})b$ .

Similarly,

 $z \ge 0$  is obtained from  $A^{-1}g \ge A^{-1}NA^{-1}$ .

Now, to complete the main contribution in this theorem, we have to show  $x - y \ge 0$  can be obtained without  $A^{-1} > 0$ .

$$x - y = (A^{-1}b) - (A^{-1}h - A^{-1}MA^{-1}b) = (A^{-1}b + A^{-1}MA^{-1}b) - (A^{-1}h),$$

and,

0.

$$(A^{-1}b + A^{-1}MA^{-1}b) = A^{-1}(b + MA^{-1}b) = A^{-1}(I + MA^{-1})b,$$

then  $x - y \ge 0$  if and only if  $A^{-1}(I + MA^{-1})b - A^{-1}h \ge 0$ 

The proof is completed.

Now, we apply Theorem 3.5 for Example 3.3. Since  $A^{-1} \ge 0$ , Theorem 3.3. fails to investigate this system:

$$A^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 3.1 & 2\\ 8 & 6.9 \end{pmatrix}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1.280 & -0.3710\\ -1.484 & -0.3710 \end{pmatrix}$$

By applying (i) in Theorem 3.5.

$$A^{-1}(I + MA^{-1})b = \begin{pmatrix} 6.64378\\ 0.152134 \end{pmatrix},$$

and,

$$A^{-1}h = \begin{pmatrix} 6.67069\\ -2.96456 \end{pmatrix}$$

Then,

$$A^{-1}(I + MA^{-1})b - A^{-1}h = \begin{pmatrix} -0.026901\\ 3.1167 \end{pmatrix}$$

Hence,

 $A^{-1}(I + MA^{-1})b \neq A^{-1}h$ , because 6.64378  $\neq$  6.67069.

Finally, P - FLLS does not has P - X.

**Case 2:** The conditions on  $\tilde{A}$  when  $\tilde{B}$  are arbitraries.

In this case the necessary and sufficient condition in positive fuzzy matrix  $\tilde{A}$  to have P - X when  $\tilde{B}$  is an arbitrary positive fuzzy vector. (Friedman et al. [14]) investigated this case for FLS, so we will follow their technique in our case. To the best of our knowledge, this case has not been studied for FFLS.

**Lemma 3.1.** If  $S^{-1}$  exist it must have the same structure as *S*, *i.e.* 

$$S^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} A' & 0 & 0 \\ \\ M' & A' & 0 \\ \\ N' & 0 & A' \end{pmatrix},$$

and,

$$A' = A^{-1},$$
  
$$M' = -A^{-1}MA^{-1}$$
  
$$N' = -A^{-1}NA^{-1}.$$

Proof

Let  $(\dot{S:I})$  be a rectangle block matrix,

$$(S:I) = \begin{pmatrix} A & 0 & 0 & \vdots & I & 0 & 0 \\ M & A & 0 & \vdots & 0 & I & 0 \\ N & 0 & A & \vdots & 0 & 0 & I \\ \vdots & & & \vdots & & \end{pmatrix},$$

using Theorem 3.1.,  $S^{-1}$  is exist then  $A^{-1}$  is exist. By multiplying each rows by  $A^{-1}$ ,

$$egin{pmatrix} I & 0 \ 0 \ \stackrel{1}{\cdot} A^{-1} & 0 & 0 \ A^{-1}M \ I \ 0 \ \stackrel{1}{\cdot} 0 & A^{-1} & 0 \ A^{-1}N \ 0 \ I \ \stackrel{1}{\cdot} 0 & 0 & A^{-1} \end{pmatrix},$$

after that, subtracting the first row multiplied by  $A^{-1}M$  and  $A^{-1}N$  from the second row and third row, respectively.

$$\begin{pmatrix} I \ 0 \ 0 \ \stackrel{!}{:} \ A^{-1} \ 0 \ 0 \\ 0 \ I \ 0 \ \stackrel{!}{:} \ -A^{-1}MA^{-1} \ A^{-1} \ 0 \\ 0 \ 0 \ I \ \stackrel{!}{:} \ -A^{-1}NA^{-1} \ 0 \ A^{-1} \end{pmatrix},$$

then,

$$S^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} A' & 0 & 0 \\ \\ M' & A' & 0 \\ \\ N' & 0 & A' \end{pmatrix},$$

A -1

. .

where,

$$A = A^{-1},$$
  
 $M' = -A^{-1}MA^{-1},$  (25)  
 $N' = -A^{-1}NA^{-1}.$ 

**Lemma 3.2.** The matrix S is an inverse-nonnegative, if and only if the centric matrix A be an inverse-nonnegative and the spreads matrices M and N are zero matrices, i.e.  $S^{-1} > 0$ , if and only if  $A^{-1} > 0$ , and  $\tilde{A} = (A, 0, 0)$ .

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## Proof

By Lemma 3.1.

$$S^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} A' & 0 & 0 \\ M' & A' & 0 \\ N' & 0 & A' \end{pmatrix}$$
$$= \begin{pmatrix} A^{-1} & 0 & 0 \\ -A^{-1}MA^{-1} & A^{-1} & 0 \\ -A^{-1}NA^{-1} & 0 & A^{-1} \end{pmatrix},$$

A' > 0 if and only if  $A^{-1} > 0$ .

 $M' \ge 0$  if and only if  $-A^{-1}MA^{-1} \ge 0$  implies that M =

 $N' \ge 0$  if and only if  $-A^{-1}NA^{-1} \ge 0$  implies that N =

The proof is completed. The following result answers case 2.

**Theorem 3.6.** If  $A^{-1} > 0$  and the spreads matrices M, N are zeros, then the unique solution X of SX = B represents a positive LR fuzzy number vector  $\tilde{X}$  for an arbitrary positive LR fuzzy number vector  $\tilde{B}$  in  $\tilde{A} \otimes X = \tilde{B}$ .

#### Proof

0.

0.

 $\tilde{B} \ge 0$  by hypothesis implies  $B \ge 0$ . By Lemma 3.1.,

$$A^{-1} > 0$$
 and  $M = N = 0$  then  $S^{-1} > 0$ .

Hence,

$$S^{-1}B \ge 0 \Longrightarrow X \ge 0 \Longrightarrow y, z \ge 0.$$

Then  $\tilde{X}$  is LR fuzzy vector.

Now the nonnegative of  $\tilde{X}$  is obtained as follows:

$$x - y = A^{-1}b - A^{-1}h + A^{-1}MA^{-1}b,$$
  
=  $A^{-1}(b - h)$ , since  $b \ge h$ ,  
then  $x - y \ge 0$ .

This theorem shows that the conditions in  $\tilde{A} = (A, M, N)$  to let  $\tilde{B}$  an arbitrary positive vector are  $A^{-1} > 0$  and M = N = 0 in  $\tilde{A} = (A, M, N)$ .

**Corollary 3.3.** The unique solution X of SX = B represents a positive LR fuzzy number vector for an arbitrary a positive LR fuzzy number vector  $\tilde{B}$  if

 $i - A^{-1} > 0,$ ii - The FFLS is a LR-FLS.

Proof

According to previous Theorem 3.6.,

M = N = 0 then  $\tilde{A} = (A, 0, 0)$ .

Hence the fuzzy matrix  $\tilde{A}$  represents by only crisp matrix A.

Unfortunately, the guarantee of  $A^{-1}$  to be nonnegative is very small as is shown in Theorem 3.4.

Now we illustrate an example for this case under the previous conditions.

**Example 3.5.** Consider the following FFLS. Find the positive solution, when  $\tilde{B}$  is an arbitrary positive LR fuzzy vector.

$$\begin{cases} (3, 0, 0) \otimes (x_1, y_1, z_1) = (b_1, h_1, g_1), \\ (4, 0, 0) \otimes (x_2, y_2, z_2) = (b_2, h_2, g_2), \\ (7, 0, 0) \otimes (x_3, y_3, z_3) = (b_3, h_3, g_3). \end{cases}$$

*Where*  $\tilde{x}_i = (x_i, y_i, z_i) \ge 0, i = 1, 2, 3.$ 

#### Solution

The system may be written in matrix form,

$$\begin{pmatrix} (0, 0, 0) & (0, 0, 0) & (3, 0, 0) \\ (4, 0, 0) & (0, 0, 0) & (0, 0, 0) \\ (0, 0, 0) & (7, 0, 0) & (0, 0, 0) \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\begin{pmatrix} (x_1, y_1, z_1) \\ (x_2, y_2, z_2) \\ (x_3, y_3, z_3) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} (b_1, h_1, g_1) \\ (b_2, h_2, g_2) \\ (b_3, h_3, g_3) \end{pmatrix}$$

The associated linear system SX = B can be obtained as follows:

(	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0 \	
	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	۱
	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	
	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	
	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	
	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	
ſ	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0 /	

$(x_1)$		$(b_1)$	
<i>x</i> <sub>2</sub>		$b_2$	
<i>x</i> <sub>3</sub>		$b_3$	
<i>y</i> 1		$h_1$	
<i>y</i> <sub>2</sub>	=	$h_2$	
<i>y</i> 3		$h_3$	
<i>z</i> 1		<i>g</i> <sub>1</sub>	
<i>z</i> <sub>2</sub>		<i>g</i> <sub>2</sub>	
$\langle z_3 \rangle$		$g_3/$	

By computing  $S^{-1}B$ , then

	$(x_1)$		$\left(\frac{b_2}{4}\right)$
	<i>x</i> <sub>2</sub>		$\frac{b_3}{7}$
	<i>x</i> <sub>3</sub>		$\frac{b_1}{3}$
	<i>y</i> 1		$\frac{h_2}{4}$
X =	<i>y</i> 2	=	$\frac{h_3}{7}$
	уз		$\frac{h_1}{3}$
	<i>z</i> 1		<u>82</u> 4
	Z2		<u>83</u> 7
	$\left(z_{3}\right)$		$\left(\frac{g_1}{3}\right)$

The general solution for an arbitrary fuzzy vector  $\tilde{B}$  is

$$\begin{split} \tilde{x}_1 &= (x_1, y_1, z_1) = \left(\frac{b_2}{4}, \frac{h_2}{4}, \frac{g_2}{4}\right), \\ \tilde{x}_2 &= (x_2, y_2, z_2) = \left(\frac{b_3}{7}, \frac{h_3}{7}, \frac{g_3}{7}\right), \\ \tilde{x}_3 &= (x_3, y_3, z_3) = \left(\frac{b_1}{3}, \frac{h_1}{3}, \frac{g_1}{3}\right). \end{split}$$

Some particular solutions of this FFLS are:

-When

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} (b_1, h_1, g_1) \\ (b_2, h_2, g_2) \\ (b_3, h_3, g_3) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} (5, 3, 8) \\ (3, 2, 1) \\ (4, 3, 1) \end{pmatrix}$$

then

$$\tilde{X} = \begin{pmatrix} (x_1, y_1, z_1) \\ (x_2, y_2, z_2) \\ (x_3, y_3, z_3) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \left(\frac{3}{4}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{4}\right) \\ \left(\frac{4}{7}, \frac{3}{7}, \frac{1}{7}\right) \\ \left(\frac{5}{3}, 1, \frac{8}{3}\right) \end{pmatrix}.$$



-When

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} (b_1, h_1, g_1) \\ (b_2, h_2, g_2) \\ (b_3, h_3, g_3) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} (7, 2, 1) \\ (6, 0, 1) \\ (3, 1, 9) \end{pmatrix}$$

then

$$\tilde{X} = \begin{pmatrix} (x_1, y_1, z_1) \\ (x_2, y_2, z_2) \\ (x_3, y_3, z_3) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \left(\frac{3}{2}, 0, \frac{1}{4}\right) \\ \left(\frac{3}{7}, \frac{1}{7}, \frac{9}{7}\right) \\ \left(\frac{7}{3}, \frac{2}{3}, \frac{1}{3}\right) \end{pmatrix}.$$

-When

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} (b_1, h_1, g_1) \\ (b_2, h_2, g_2) \\ (b_3, h_3, g_3) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} (1, 1, 1) \\ (3, 3, 3) \\ (6, 6, 6) \end{pmatrix}$$

then

$$\tilde{X} = \begin{pmatrix} (x_1, y_1, z_1) \\ (x_2, y_2, z_2) \\ (x_3, y_3, z_3) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \left(\frac{3}{4}, \frac{3}{4}, \frac{3}{4}\right) \\ \left(\frac{6}{7}, \frac{6}{7}, \frac{6}{7}\right) \\ \left(\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}\right) \end{pmatrix}.$$

We note that the solution must be positive LR fuzzy vector for any arbitrary right hand side positive fuzzy vector  $\tilde{B}$ .

### 3.3 Solution of LR-FLS

In this section we will show the P-X for positive LR FLS (P-LR-FLS) can be obtained by supposing the spreads matrices are zero, i.e. M = N = 0 in

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & A & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & A \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} b \\ h \\ g \end{pmatrix}.$$
 (26)

The solution of P - LR - FLS can computed easily or directly by

$$\begin{cases} x = A^{-1}b, \\ y = A^{-1}h, \\ z = A^{-1}g. \end{cases}$$

A necessary and sufficient condition For P - LR - FLSis needed, and according to Corollary 3.3. this method can obtain the solution for an arbitrary vector positive  $\tilde{B}$  as is shown in Example 3.5. Other examples for P - LR - FLSare illustrated in Example 3.6. and for  $10 \times 10$  *FFLS* in Example 3.7.

**Example 3.6.** Find P - X for the following LR -FLS.

$$\begin{cases} 10 x_1 + 9 x_2 = (120, 4, 9), \\ x_1 + 8 x_2 = (80, 1, 5). \end{cases}$$

*Where*  $\tilde{x}_i = (x_i, y_i, z_i) \ge 0, i = 1, 2.$ 

#### Solution

The system may be written in FFLS form,

 $(10, 0, 0) \otimes (x_1, y_1, z_1) \oplus (9, 0, 0) \otimes (x_2, y_2, z_2) = (120, 4, 9),$ 

$$(1, 0, 0) \otimes (x_1, y_1, z_1) \oplus (8, 0, 0) \otimes (x_2, y_2, z_2) = (80, 1, 5).$$

Then SX = B is

$$\begin{pmatrix} 10 & 9 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 8 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 10 & 9 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 8 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 10 & 9 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 8 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ y_1 \\ y_2 \\ z_1 \\ z_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 120 \\ 80 \\ 4 \\ 1 \\ 9 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The crisp solution X is obtained by  $X = S^{-1}B$ ,

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ y_1 \\ y_2 \\ z_1 \\ z_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{240}{71} \\ \frac{680}{71} \\ \frac{23}{71} \\ \frac{6}{71} \\ \frac{23}{71} \\ \frac{6}{71} \\ \frac{27}{71} \\ \frac{41}{71} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Hence the positive solution is

$$\tilde{x}_1 = (x_1, y_1, z_1) = \left(\frac{240}{71}, \frac{23}{71}, \frac{27}{71}\right)$$

$$\tilde{x}_2 = (x_2, y_2, z_2) = \left(\frac{680}{71}, \frac{6}{71}, \frac{41}{71}\right)$$



**Example 3.7.** Find P - X for the following  $10 \times 10$  FFLS.

Where  $\tilde{x}_i = (x_i, y_i, z_i) \ge 0, i = 1, ..., 10.$ 

#### Solution

The system may be written in matrix form,

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & 0 & 0 \\ M & A & 0 \\ N & 0 & A \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} b \\ h \\ g \end{pmatrix}.$$

where,

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 6 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 8 & 7 & 9 & 8 & 9 \\ 4 & 4 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 4 & 5 & 9 & 7 & 8 \\ 2 & 7 & 6 & 4 & 4 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 \\ 3 & 6 & 8 & 5 & 8 & 8 & 5 & 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 4 & 3 & 2 & 1 & 3 & 7 & 6 & 3 & 4 & 5 \\ 5 & 4 & 3 & 2 & 8 & 6 & 3 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 6 & 5 & 7 & 3 & 8 & 5 & 4 & 7 & 2 & 3 \\ 7 & 6 & 5 & 4 & 3 & 7 & 6 & 9 & 7 & 9 \\ 8 & 7 & 6 & 5 & 4 & 3 & 9 & 6 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$M = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 3 & 2 & 2 & 1 & 3 & 0 & 2 & 3 & 1 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 3 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 & 4 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 4 & 2 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 4 & 1 & 1 & 3 & 3 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 6 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 1 & 4 & 2 & 1 & 5 & 2 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 2 & 3 & 2 & 1 & 3 & 3 & 5 & 1 & 1 \\ 5 & 5 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 5 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 & 4 & 2 & 3 & 2 & 3 & 6 & 4 & 3 \\ 3 & 2 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 2 & 1 & 4 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$N = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 4 & 5 \\ 0 & 8 & 3 & 6 & 7 & 6 & 3 & 5 & 1 \\ 3 & 5 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 5 & 8 & 3 & 2 \\ 6 & 3 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 5 & 4 & 7 & 2 & 7 \\ 8 & 9 & 3 & 0 & 5 & 2 & 2 & 8 & 6 & 9 \\ 4 & 8 & 3 & 4 & 8 & 5 & 3 & 2 & 5 \\ 3 & 1 & 4 & 3 & 1 & 8 & 0 & 3 & 3 \\ 1 & 4 & 5 & 8 & 3 & 8 & 1 & 4 & 7 \\ 7 & 5 & 1 & 5 & 7 & 8 & 3 & 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 8 & 4 & 9 & 8 & 8 & 8 & 3 & 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$



b =	(450) 476) 359 427 279) 300 384 471 508 477)	, $h =$	(297 303 293 293 236 280 294 406 432 327)	, <i>g</i> =	$\begin{pmatrix} 473\\548\\452\\480\\562\\519\\423\\628\\565\\700 \end{pmatrix}$
x =	$ \left(\begin{array}{c} x_1\\ x_2\\ x_3\\ x_4\\ x_5\\ x_6\\ x_7\\ x_8\\ x_9\\ x_{10} \end{array}\right) $	, y =	( y1 y2 y3 y4 y5 y6 y7 y8 y9 y10	, z =	$\begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \\ z_3 \\ z_4 \\ z_5 \\ z_6 \\ z_7 \\ z_8 \\ z_9 \\ z_{10} \end{pmatrix}.$

Then the crisp solution X is obtained by  $X = S^{-1}B$ ,

	$\left(\begin{array}{c} x_{1} \\ x_{2} \\ x_{3} \\ x_{4} \\ x_{5} \\ x_{6} \\ x_{7} \\ x_{8} \\ x_{9} \\ x_{10} \end{array}\right)$	$\left(\begin{array}{c} 9\\ 6\\ 8\\ 7\\ 9\\ 4\\ 9\\ 8\\ 6\\ 9 \end{array}\right)$	
X =	( y <sub>1</sub> y <sub>2</sub> y <sub>3</sub> y <sub>4</sub> y <sub>5</sub> y <sub>6</sub> y <sub>7</sub> y <sub>8</sub> y <sub>9</sub> y <sub>10</sub> )	$ \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ 3 \\ 6 \\ 5 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} $	
	$ \begin{pmatrix}             Z_1 \\             Z_2 \\             Z_3 \\             Z_4 \\             Z_5 \\             Z_6 \\             Z_7 \\             Z_8 \\             Z_9 \\             Z_{10}             \right) $	$ \begin{pmatrix} 9 \\ 1 \\ 4 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 5 \\ 4 \\ 2 \\ 9 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} $	

Then the fuzzy solution is

	$(x_1,y_1,z_1)$		$(^{(9,2,9)})$	
$\tilde{X} =$	$(x_2, y_2, z_2)$	=	(6,1,1)	
	$(x_3, y_3, z_3)$		(8,2,4)	
	$(x_4, y_4, z_4)$		(7,0,1)	
	$(x_5, y_5, z_5)$		(9,3,2)	
	$(x_6, y_6, z_6)$		(4,3,5)	
	$(x_7, y_7, z_7)$		(9,6,4)	
	$(x_8, y_8, z_8)$		(8,5,2)	
	$(x_9, y_9, z_9)$		(6,3,9)	
	$(x_{10}, y_{10}, z_{10})$		$\left( \left( 9,2,1\right) \right)$	

## **4** Conclusion

Positive solution of fully fuzzy linear systems, where the coefficients are postive, can be solved by classical methods of linear algebra through Gauss elimination method, Cramer's rule, Cholesky method, decomposition method, and some other iterative methods. These computational methods have many disadvantages such as the large number of iterations, finding more numbers of determinants or inverse of many matrices, and large number of computational steps. In order to solve the fully fuzzy linear system, we proposed a model based on the representation of all matrices in one block matrix then making two computational steps by finding the inverse of the block matrix. After that, the method was used to solve fully fuzzy linear systems and the consistency of fuzzy solution can be checked by an associated linear system. The method was employed to solve LR-FLS.

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