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# The cube of opposition and the complete appraisal of situations by means of Sugeno integrals

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**Abstract.** The cube of opposition is a logical structure that underlies many information representation settings. When applied to multiple criteria decision, it displays various possible aggregation attitudes. Situations are usually assessed by combinations of properties they satisfy, but also by combinations of properties they do not satisfy. The cube of opposition applies to qualitative evaluation when criteria are weighted as well as in the general case where any subset of criteria may be weighted for expressing synergies between them, as for Sugeno integrals. Sugeno integrals are well-known as a powerful qualitative aggregation tool which takes into account positive synergies between properties. When there are negative synergies between properties we can use the so-called desintegral associated to the Sugeno integral. The paper investigates the use of the cube of opposition and of the if-then rules extracted from these integrals and desintegrals in order to better describe acceptable situations.

## 1 Introduction

The description of situations (or objects, or items) is usually based on the degrees to which they satisfy properties (or criteria). Sugeno integrals [12, 13] are qualitative integrals first used as aggregation operators in multiple criteria decision. They deliver a global evaluation between the minimum and the maximum of the partial evaluations. The definition of the Sugeno integral is based on a monotonic set function, called capacity or fuzzy measure, which represents the importance of the subsets of criteria.

More recently Sugeno integrals have been used as a representation tool for describing more or less acceptable objects [11] under a bipolar view. In such a context the properties are supposed to be positive, i.e, the global evaluation increases with the partial ratings. But some objects can be accepted because they don't satisfy some properties. So we also need to consider negative properties, i.e., the global evaluation increases when the partial ratings decreases. Hence a pair of evaluations made of a Sugeno integral and a reversed Sugeno integral are used to describe acceptable objects in terms of properties they must have and of properties they must avoid. This reversed integral is a variant of Sugeno integral, called a desintegral. Their definition is based on a decreasing set function called anti-capacity.

Moreover, it was proved that the Sugeno integrals and the associated desintegrals can be encoded as a possibilistic logic base [7, 5]. These results have been used for

extracting decision rules from qualitative data evaluated on the basis of Sugeno integrals [1]. This paper extends these results to the extraction of decision rules from qualitative data using qualitative desintegrals. These decision rules should help completing the results presented in [11].

Besides, we can distinguish the optimistic part and the pessimistic part of any capacity [8]. It has been recently indicated that Sugeno integrals associated to these capacities and their associated desintegrals form a cube of opposition [9], the integrals being present on the front facet and the desintegrals on the back facet of the cube (each of these two facets fit with the traditional views of squares of opposition). As this cube summarizes all the evaluation options, we may consider the different Sugeno integrals and desintegrals present on the cube in the selection process of acceptable situations.

The paper is organized as follows. Section 2 introduces the cube of opposition and discusses its relevance for multiple criteria aggregation. Section 3 restates the main results on Sugeno integrals, desintegrals, and their logical rule counterparts, before presenting the cube of opposition for Sugeno integrals and desintegrals in section 4. Section 5 takes advantage of the cube for discussing the different aggregation attitudes and their relations.

## 2 Square and cube of opposition in multiple criteria evaluation

The traditional square of opposition [10] is built with universally and existentially quantified statements in the following way. Consider a statement (**A**) of the form “all  $P$ 's are  $Q$ 's”, which is negated by the statement (**O**) “at least one  $P$  is not a  $Q$ ”, together with the statement (**E**) “no  $P$  is a  $Q$ ”, which is clearly in even stronger opposition to the first statement (**A**). These three statements, together with the negation of the last statement, namely (**I**) “at least one  $P$  is a  $Q$ ” can be displayed on a square whose vertices are traditionally denoted by the letters **A**, **I** (affirmative half) and **E**, **O** (negative half), as pictured in Figure 1 (where  $\bar{Q}$  stands for “not  $Q$ ”).

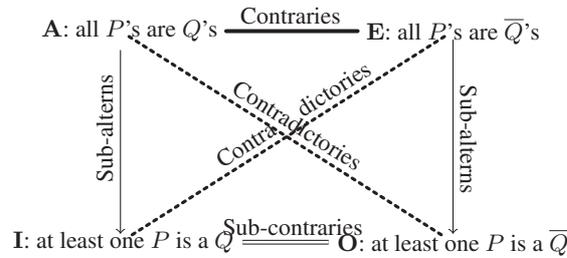
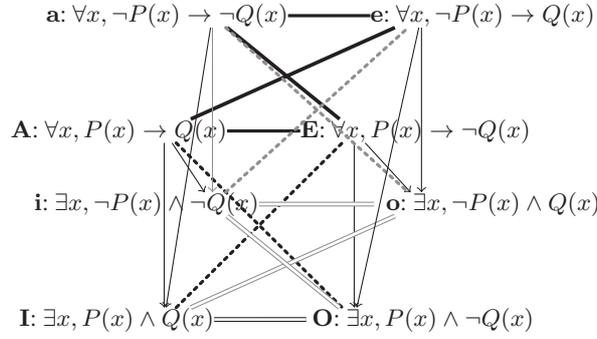


Fig. 1. Square of opposition

As can be checked, noticeable relations hold in the square:

- (i) **A** and **O** (resp. **E** and **I**) are the negation of each other;
- (ii) **A** entails **I**, and **E** entails **O** (it is assumed that there is at least one  $P$  for avoiding existential import problems);
- (iii) together **A** and **E** cannot be true, but may be false ;
- (iv) together **I** and **O** cannot be false, but may be true.

Changing  $P$  into  $\neg P$ , and  $Q$  in  $\neg Q$  leads to another similar square of opposition **aeoi**, where we also assume that the set of “not- $P$ ’s” is non-empty. Then the 8 statements, **A, I, E, O, a, i, e, o** may be organized in what may be called a *cube of opposition* [4] as in Figure 2.



**Fig. 2.** Cube of opposition of quantified statements

The front facet and the back facet of the cube are traditional squares of opposition. In the cube, if we also assume that the sets of “ $Q$ ’s” and “not- $Q$ ’s” are non-empty, then the thick non-directed segments relate contraries, the double thin non-directed segments sub-contraries, the diagonal dotted non-directed lines contradictories, and the vertical uni-directed segments point to subalterns, and express entailments. Stated in set vocabulary, **A, I, E, O, a, i, e, o**, respectively means  $P \subseteq Q, P \cap Q \neq \emptyset, P \subseteq \bar{Q}, P \cap \bar{Q} \neq \emptyset, \bar{P} \subseteq \bar{Q}, \bar{P} \cap \bar{Q} \neq \emptyset, \bar{P} \subseteq Q, \bar{P} \cap Q \neq \emptyset$ . In order to satisfy the four conditions of a square of opposition for the front and the back facets, we need  $P \neq \emptyset$  and  $\bar{P} \neq \emptyset$ . In order to have the inclusions indicated by the diagonal arrows in the side facets, we need  $Q \neq \emptyset$  and  $\bar{Q} \neq \emptyset$  as further normalization conditions.

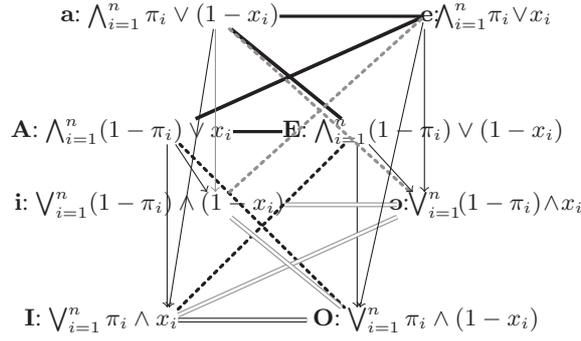
Suppose  $P$  denotes a set of important properties,  $Q$  a set of satisfied properties (for a considered object). Vertices **A, I, a, i** correspond respectively to 4 different cases: i) all important properties are satisfied, ii) at least one important property is satisfied, iii) all satisfied properties are important, iv) at least one non satisfied property is not important.

Note also the cube is compatible with an understanding having a bipolar flavor [3]. Suppose that among possible properties for the considered objects, some are desirable (or requested) and form a subset  $R$  and some others are excluded (or undesirable) and form a subset  $E$ . Clearly, one should have  $E \subseteq \bar{R}$ . For a considered object the set of properties is partitioned into the subset of satisfied properties  $S$  and the subset  $\bar{S}$  of properties not satisfied. Then vertex **A** corresponds to  $R \subseteq S$  and **a** to  $\bar{R} \subseteq \bar{S}$ . Then **a** also corresponds to  $E \subseteq \bar{S}$ .

More generally, satisfaction of properties may be graded, and importance (both with respect to desirability and undesirability) is also a matter of degree. It is the case in multiple criteria aggregation where objects are evaluated by means of a set  $\mathcal{C}$  of criteria  $i$  (where  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ). Let us denote by  $x_i$  the evaluation of a given object for criterion  $i$ , and  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_i, \dots, x_n)$ . We assume here that  $\forall i, x_i \in [0, 1]$ .  $x_i = 1$  means that the object fully satisfies criterion  $i$ , while  $x_i = 0$  expresses a total absence of

satisfaction. Let  $\pi_i \in [0, 1]$  represent the level of importance of criterion  $i$ . The larger  $\pi_i$  the more important the criterion.

Simple qualitative aggregation operators are the weighted min and the weighted max [2]. The first one measures the extent to which all important criteria are satisfied; it corresponds to the expression  $\bigwedge_{i=1}^n (1 - \pi_i) \vee x_i$ , while the second one,  $\bigvee_{i=1}^n \pi_i \wedge x_i$ , is optimistic and only requires that at least one important criterion be highly satisfied. Under the hypothesis of the double normalization ( $\exists i, \pi_i = 1$  and  $\exists j, \pi_j = 0$ ) and the hypothesis  $\exists r, x_r = 1$  and  $\exists s, x_s = 0$ , weighted min and weighted max correspond to vertices **A** and **I** of the cube on Fig. 3.



**Fig. 3.** Cube of weighted qualitative aggregations

There is a correspondance between the aggregation functions on the right facet and those on the left facet, replacing  $x$  with  $1 - x$ .

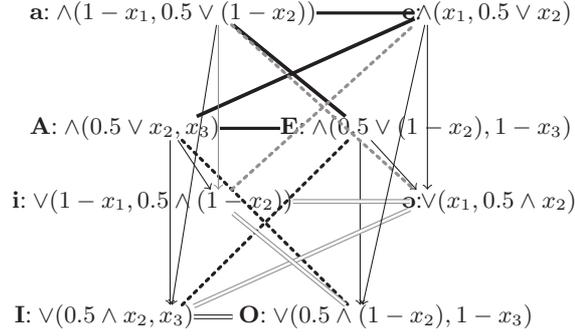
Suppose that a fully satisfied object  $x$  is an object with an global rating equal to 1. Vertices **A**, **I**, **a** and **i** correspond respectively to 4 different cases:  $x$  is such that

- i) **A**: all properties having some importance are fully satisfied (if  $\pi_i > 0$  then  $x_i = 1$  for all  $i$ ).
- ii) **I**: there exists at least one important property fully satisfied ( $\pi_i = 1$  and  $x_i = 1$ ),
- iii) **a**: all somewhat satisfied properties are fully important (if  $x_i > 0$  then  $\pi_i = 1$  for all  $i$ )
- iv) **i**: there exists at least one unimportant property that is not satisfied ( $\pi_i = 0$  and  $x_i = 0$ ). These cases are similar to those presented in the cube on Fig. 2.

*Example 1.* We consider  $\mathcal{C} = \{1, 2, 3\}$  and  $\pi_1 = 0, \pi_2 = 0.5$  and  $\pi_3 = 1$ ; see Fig. 4.

- on vertex **A** (resp. **I**) a fully satisfied object is such that  $x_2 = x_3 = 1$  (resp.  $x_3 = 1$ ).
- on vertex **a** (resp. **i**) a fully satisfied object is such that  $x_1 = x_2 = 0$  (resp.  $x_1 = 0$ ),

The operations of the front facet of the cube of Fig. 3 merge positive evaluations that focus on the high satisfaction of important criteria, while the local ratings  $x_i$  on the back could be interpreted as negative ones (measuring the intensity of faults). Then aggregations yield global ratings evaluating the lack of presence of important fault. In this case, weights are tolerance levels forbidding a fault to be too strongly present Then the vertices **a** and **i** in the back facet are interpreted differently: **a** is true if all somewhat intolerable faults are fully absent; **i** is true if there exists at least one intolerable fault that is absent. This framework this involves two complementary points of view, recently discussed in a multiple criteria aggregation perspective [6].



**Fig. 4.** Cube of weighted qualitative aggregations

### 3 Sugeno integrals, desintegrals and rules

In the definition of Sugeno integral the relative weights of the set of properties are represented by a capacity (or fuzzy measure) which is a set function  $\mu : 2^{\mathcal{C}} \rightarrow L$  that satisfies  $\mu(\emptyset) = 0$ ,  $\mu(\mathcal{C}) = 1$  and  $A \subseteq B$  implies  $\mu(A) \leq \mu(B)$ .

In order to translate a Sugeno integral into rules we also need the notions of conjugate capacity, qualitative Moebius transform and focal sets: The conjugate capacity of  $\mu$  is defined by  $\mu^c(A) = 1 - \mu(\bar{A})$  where  $\bar{A}$  is the complementary of  $A$ .

In this paper, the capacities are supposed to be normalized in a special way, i.e.  $\exists A \neq \mathcal{C}$  such that  $\mu(A) = 1$  and  $\exists B$  such that  $\mu^c(B) = 1$ . It is worth noticing that in such a context there exists a non-empty set, namely  $B$ , such that  $\mu(\bar{B}) = 0$ .

The inner qualitative Moebius transform of a capacity  $\mu$  is a mapping  $\mu_{\#} : 2^{\mathcal{C}} \rightarrow L$  defined by

$$\mu_{\#}(E) = \mu(E) \text{ if } \mu(E) > \max_{B \subseteq E} \mu(B) \text{ and } 0 \text{ otherwise.}$$

It contains the minimal information characterizing  $\mu$  ( $\mu(A) = \max_{E \subseteq A} \mu_{\#}(E)$ ). A set  $E$  for which  $\mu_{\#}(E) > 0$  is called a focal set. The set of the focal sets of  $\mu$  is denoted by  $\mathcal{F}(\mu)$ . The Sugeno integral of an object  $x$  with respect to a capacity  $\mu$  is originally defined by [12, 13]:

$$S_{\mu}(x) = \max_{\alpha \in L} \min(\alpha, \mu(\{i | x_i \geq \alpha\})). \quad (1)$$

There are two equivalent expressions used in this article:

$$S_{\mu}(x) = \max_{A \in \mathcal{F}(\mu)} [\min(\mu(A), \min_{i \in A} x_i)] = \min_{A \in \mathcal{F}(\mu^c)} [\max(\mu(\bar{A}), \max_{i \in A} x_i)]. \quad (2)$$

The first expression in (2) is the generalisation of a normal disjunctive form from Boolean functions to lattice-valued ones. The second is the generalisation of a normal conjunctive form. Clearly using the first form,  $S_{\mu}(x) = 1$  if and only if there is a focal set  $E$  of  $\mu$  for which  $\mu(E) = 1$  and  $x_i = 1$  for all  $i$  in  $E$ . Likewise, using the second form  $S_{\mu}(x) = 0$  if and only if there is a focal set  $F$  of  $\mu^c$  for which  $\mu^c(F) = 1$  and  $x_i = 0$  for all  $i$  in  $F$ . The Sugeno integral can then be expressed in terms of if-then rules that facilitate the interpretation of the integral, when it has been derived from data (see [1] for more details).

**Selection rules** Each focal  $T$  of  $\mu$  corresponds to the selection rule:

$$\text{If } x_i \geq \mu(T) \text{ for all } i \in T \text{ then } S_\mu(x) \geq \mu(T).$$

The objects selected by such rules are those satisfying to a sufficient extent all properties present in the focal set appearing in the rule.

**Elimination rules** Each focal set of the conjugate  $\mu^c$  with level  $\mu^c(F)$  corresponds to the following elimination rule:

$$\text{If } x_i \leq 1 - \mu^c(F) \text{ for all } i \in F \text{ then } S_\mu(x) \leq 1 - \mu^c(F).$$

The objects rejected by these rules are those that do not satisfy enough the properties in the focal set of  $\mu^c$  of some such rule.

When Sugeno integrals are used as aggregation functions for selecting acceptable objects, the properties are considered positive: the global evaluation increases with the partial ratings. But generally we have also negative properties: the global evaluation increases when the partial ratings decrease. In such a context we can use a desintegral associated to the Sugeno integral. We now presents this desintegral.

In the case of negative properties, weights are assigned to sets of properties by means of an anti-capacity (or anti-fuzzy measure) which is a set function  $\nu : 2^{\mathcal{C}} \rightarrow L$  such that  $\nu(\emptyset) = 1$ ,  $\nu(\mathcal{C}) = 0$ , and if  $A \subseteq B$  then  $\nu(B) \leq \nu(A)$ . Clearly,  $\nu$  is an anticapacity if and only if  $1 - \nu$  is a capacity. The conjugate  $\nu^c$  of an anti-capacity  $\nu$  is an anti-capacity defined by  $\nu^c(A) = 1 - \nu(\bar{A})$ , where  $\bar{A}$  is the complementary of  $A$ . The desintegral is defined from the corresponding Sugeno integral, by reversing the direction of the local value scales ( $x$  becomes  $1 - x$ ), and by considering a capacity induced by the anti-capacity  $\nu$ , as follows:

$$S_\nu^\downarrow(x) = S_{1-\nu^c}(1-x). \quad (3)$$

Based on this identity, we straightforwardly obtain the following rules associated to the desintegral  $S_\nu^\downarrow$  from those derived from the integral  $S_{1-\nu^c}$ :

**Proposition 1**

**Selection rules** Each focal  $T$  of  $1 - \nu^c$  corresponds to the selection rule:

$$\text{If } x_i \leq \nu^c(T) \text{ for all } i \text{ in } T, \text{ then } S_\nu^\downarrow(x) \geq 1 - \nu^c(T).$$

The objects selected by these rules are those that do not possess, to a high extent (less than  $\nu^c(T)$ ), faults present in the focal set of the capacity  $1 - \nu^c$ .

**Elimination rules** Each focal set of  $1 - \nu$  corresponds to the elimination rule:

$$\text{If } x_i \geq 1 - \nu(F) \text{ for all } i \in F \text{ then } S_\nu^\downarrow(x) \leq \nu(F).$$

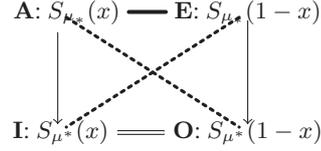
The objects rejected by these rules are those possessing to a sufficiently large extent the faults in the focal sets of the capacity  $1 - \nu$ .

**proof:** The first result is obvious. For the second, notice that  $1 - (1 - \nu^c)^c(A) = \nu(A)$ .

## 4 The cube of opposition and Sugeno integrals

When we consider a capacity  $\mu$ , its pessimistic part is  $\mu_*(A) = \min(\mu(A), \mu^c(A))$  and its optimistic part is  $\mu^*(A) = \max(\mu(A), \mu^c(A))$  [8]. We have  $\mu_* \leq \mu^*$ ,  $\mu_*^c = \mu^*$  and  $\mu^{*c} = \mu_*$ . We need these notions in order to respect the fact that, in the square of opposition, the vertices  $A, E$  express stronger properties than vertices  $I, O$ .

**Proposition 2** A capacity  $\mu$  induces the following square of opposition for the associated Sugeno integrals



*Proof.* **A** entails **I** and **E** entails **O** since  $\mu_* \leq \mu^*$ . **A** and **O** (resp. **E** and **I**) are the negation of each other since for all capacities  $\mu$  we have the relation:

$$S_{\mu}(x) = 1 - S_{\mu^c}(1-x). \quad (4)$$

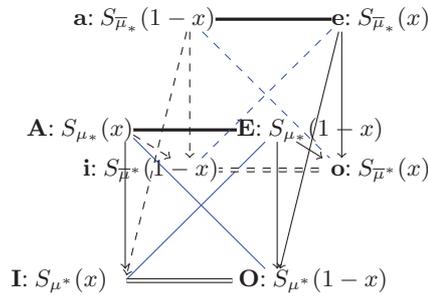
Let us prove that expressions at vertices **A** and **E** cannot be both equal to 1. Consider  $x$  such that  $S_{\mu_*}(x) = 1$ , hence using Equation (4),  $1 = 1 - S_{\mu^*}(1-x)$ . So  $S_{\mu^*}(1-x) \leq S_{\mu_*}(1-x) = 0$  which entails  $S_{\mu^*}(1-x) = 0$ .

Similarly we can prove that **I** and **O** cannot be false together.

*Remark 1.* In the above square of opposition, **A** and **E** can be false together and **I** and **O** can be true together. For instance, if  $\mu$  is a non-fully informed necessity measure  $N$  (for instance  $\mathcal{F}(N) = \{E\}$ , with weight 1, where  $E$  is not a singleton), it comes down to the known fact that we can find a subset  $A$  such that  $N(A) = N(\bar{A}) = 0$ , and for possibility measure  $\Pi(A) = 1 - N(\bar{A})$  it holds that  $\Pi(A) = \Pi(\bar{A}) = 1$ .

Note that  $S_{\mu_*}(1-x) = S_{1-\mu^*}(x)$  and  $S_{\mu^*}(1-x) = S_{1-\mu_*}(x)$  where  $1-\mu^*$  and  $1-\mu_*$  are anti capacities. Hence a capacity  $\mu$  defines a square of opposition where the decision rules on the vertices **A** and **I** (resp. **E** and **O**) are based on a Sugeno integral (resp. desintegral).

In order to present the cube associated to Sugeno integrals we need to introduce the negation of a capacity  $\mu$ , namely the capacity  $\bar{\mu}$  defined as follows:  $\bar{\mu}_{\#}(\bar{E}) = \mu_{\#}(E)$  and  $\bar{\mu}(A) = \max_{\bar{E} \subseteq A} \mu_{\#}(E)$ . A square of opposition **aieo** can be defined with the capacity  $\bar{\mu}$ . Hence we can construct a cube **AIEO** and **aieo** as follows: [9]:



**Fig. 5.** Cube of opposition associated to  $\mu$

**Proposition 3** *If  $\exists i \neq j \in \mathcal{C}$  such that  $x_i = 0, x_j = 1$  and  $\{i\}, \{j\}, \mathcal{C} \setminus \{i\}, \mathcal{C} \setminus \{j\}$  are focal sets of  $\mu$ , then the cube in Fig. 5 is a cube of opposition.*

*Proof.* **AIEO** and **aieo** are squares of opposition (due to  $\mu_* \leq \mu^*$  and  $\bar{\mu}_* \leq \bar{\mu}^*$ ).

Let us prove that  $S_{\mu_*}(x) \leq S_{\bar{\mu}^*}(1-x)$  (the arrow **A**  $\rightarrow$  **i** on the left side facet).

$S_{\mu_*}(x) = \min_A [\max(\min(\mu(\bar{A}), 1 - \mu(A)), \max_{i \in A} x_i)]$  and

$S_{\bar{\mu}^*}(1-x) = \max_A [\min(\max(\bar{\mu}(A), 1 - \bar{\mu}(\bar{A})), \min_{i \in A} (1 - x_i))]$ . So we just need to find sets  $E$  and  $F$  such that one term inside  $\min_A$  is less than one term inside  $\max_A$ .

Let us consider  $A = \{i\}$  where  $i$  is such that  $x_i = 0$ . We have

$\max(\min(\mu(\bar{A}), 1 - \mu(A)), \max_{i \in A} x_i) = \min(\mu(\mathcal{C} \setminus \{i\}), 1 - \mu(\{i\}))$  and

$\min(\max(\bar{\mu}(A), 1 - \bar{\mu}(\bar{A})), \min_{i \in A} (1 - x_i)) = \max(\bar{\mu}(\{i\}), 1 - \bar{\mu}(\mathcal{C} \setminus \{i\}))$ .

Note that  $\mu(\mathcal{C} \setminus \{i\}) = \mu_{\#}(\mathcal{C} \setminus \{i\})$ , since  $\mathcal{C} \setminus \{i\}$  is focal for  $\mu$  and  $\bar{\mu}(\{i\}) = \bar{\mu}_{\#}(\{i\}) = \mu_{\#}(\mathcal{C} \setminus \{i\})$  by definition. So  $\min(\mu(\mathcal{C} \setminus \{i\}), 1 - \mu(\{i\})) \leq \mu(\mathcal{C} \setminus \{i\}) = \mu_{\#}(\mathcal{C} \setminus \{i\}) \leq \max(\bar{\mu}(\{i\}), 1 - \bar{\mu}(\mathcal{C} \setminus \{i\}))$ . The inequality  $S_{\bar{\mu}^*}(1-x) \leq S_{\mu_*}(x)$  linking **a** with **I**, is obtained, under the condition  $\exists j \in \mathcal{C}$  such that  $x_j = 1$ , and  $\mathcal{C} \setminus \{j\}$  must be a focal set of  $\bar{\mu}$ , i.e.,  $\{j\}$  is focal for  $\mu$  using the equation (4). For arrow **E**  $\rightarrow$  **o** and **e**  $\rightarrow$  **O**, we need by symmetry to exchange  $i$  and  $j$  in the above requirements. This concludes the proof.

The cube of opposition is reduced to the facet **AEIO** if and only if  $\mu = \bar{\mu}$ . So the cube is degenerated if and only if for each focal set  $T \neq \mathcal{C}$  of  $\mu$ , the complement  $\bar{T}$  is also focal and  $\mu_{\#}(T) = \mu_{\#}(\bar{T})$ , in other words, capacities expressing ignorance in the sense that  $\mu(A) = \mu(\bar{A})$  for all  $A \neq \emptyset, \mathcal{C}$ . Likewise the cube is reduced to the top facet **AEea**, if  $\mu$  is self-conjugate, that is,  $\mu = \mu^c$ , i.e.,  $\mu(A) + \mu(\bar{A}) = 1$ .

## 5 Discussing aggregation attitudes with the cube

In this following, we characterize situations where objects get a global evaluation equal to 1 using aggregations on the top facet. According to the selection rules, we can restrict to focal sets of the capacity with weight 1.

**Proposition 4** *The global evaluations at vertices **A****I****a****i** of a cube associated to a capacity  $\mu$  are maximal respectively in the following situations pertaining to the focal sets of  $\mu$ :*

**A:** *The set of totally satisfied properties contain a focal set with weight 1 and overlaps all other focal sets.*

**I:** *The set of satisfied properties contains a focal set with weight 1 or overlaps all other focal sets.*

**a:** *The set of totally violated properties contains no focal set and its complement is contained in a focal set with weight 1.*

**i:** *The set of totally violated properties contains no focal set or its complement is contained in a focal set with weight 1.*

*Proof.* **A:**  $S_{\mu_*}(x) = 1$  iff there exists a set  $A$  such that  $\mu_*(A) = 1$  and for all  $i$  in  $A$ ,  $x_i = 1$ .  $\mu_*(A) = 1$  is equivalent to  $\mu(A) = 1$  and  $\mu^c(A) = 1$ , that is  $\mu(\bar{A}) = 0$ . So  $A$  contains a focal set of  $\mu$  with weight 1 and overlaps all focal sets.

- I:**  $S_{\mu^*}(x) = 1$  iff  $\exists A$  such that  $\mu^*(A) = 1$  and for all  $i$  in  $A$ ,  $x_i = 1$ . Since  $\mu^*(A) = \max(\mu(A), \mu^c(A)) = 1$ , either  $\mu(A) = 1$  or  $\mu^c(A) = 1$ , i.e.,  $\mu(\bar{A}) = 0$ . So  $A$  contains a focal set of  $\mu$  with weight 1 or it overlaps all focal sets.
- a:**  $S_{\bar{\mu}_*}(1-x) = 1$  if and only if there exists a set  $A$  such that  $\bar{\mu}_*(A) = 1$  and for all  $i$  in  $A$ ,  $x_i = 0$ . The condition  $\bar{\mu}_*(A) = 1$  reads  $\bar{\mu}(A) = 1$  and  $\bar{\mu}^c(A) = 1$ . The first condition says that  $\bar{\mu}_\#(B) = 1$  for some subset  $B$  of  $A$  that is  $\mu_\#(\bar{B}) = 1$ , where  $\bar{B}$  contains  $\bar{A}$ . The second condition says that  $\bar{\mu}(\bar{A}) = 0 = \mu(A)$ . It means that there is no focal set of  $\mu$  contained in  $A$ . So  $S_{\bar{\mu}_*}(1-x) = 1$  if and only if there exists  $A$  such that for all  $i$  in  $A$ ,  $x_i = 0$ , and  $\bar{A}$  is contained in a focal set of  $\mu$  with weight 1, and  $A$  contains no focal set of  $\mu$ .
- i:**  $S_{\bar{\mu}^*}(1-x) = 1$  iff  $\exists A$  such that  $\bar{\mu}^*(A) = 1$  and for all  $i$  in  $A$ ,  $x_i = 0$ . Since  $\bar{\mu}^*(A) = \max(\bar{\mu}(A), \bar{\mu}^c(A)) = 1$ , either  $\bar{\mu}(A) = 1$  or  $\bar{\mu}^c(A) = 1$ , i.e.,  $\bar{\mu}(\bar{A}) = 0$ . So, from the previous case we find that  $S_{\bar{\mu}^*}(1-x) = 1$  if and only if for all  $i$  in  $A$ ,  $x_i = 0$ , and  $\bar{A}$  is contained in a focal set of  $\mu$  with weight 1, or  $A$  contains no focal set of  $\mu$ .

*Example 2.* Assume  $\mathcal{C} = \{p, q, r\}$ . We want to select objects with properties  $p$  and  $q$  or  $p$  and  $r$ . Hence we have  $\mathcal{F}_\mu = \{\{p, q\}, \{p, r\}\}$  with  $\mu_\#(\{p, q\}) = \mu_\#(\{p, r\}) = 1$ . We can calculate the useful capacities:

| capacity         | $\{p\}$ | $\{q\}$ | $\{r\}$ | $\{p, q\}$ | $\{p, r\}$ | $\{q, r\}$ | $\{p, q, r\}$ |
|------------------|---------|---------|---------|------------|------------|------------|---------------|
| $\mu_\#$         | 0       | 0       | 0       | 1          | 1          | 0          | 0             |
| $\mu$            | 0       | 0       | 0       | 1          | 1          | 0          | 1             |
| $\mu^c$          | 1       | 0       | 0       | 1          | 1          | 1          | 1             |
| $\mu_\#^c$       | 1       | 0       | 0       | 0          | 0          | 1          | 0             |
| $\bar{\mu}_\#$   | 0       | 1       | 1       | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0             |
| $\bar{\mu}$      | 0       | 1       | 1       | 1          | 1          | 1          | 1             |
| $\bar{\mu}_\#^c$ | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0          | 0          | 1          | 0             |
| $\bar{\mu}^c$    | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0          | 0          | 1          | 1             |

$\mu^c \geq \mu$  so  $\mu_* = \mu$  and  $\mu^* = \mu^c$   
 $\bar{\mu} \geq \bar{\mu}^c$  so  $\bar{\mu}^* = \bar{\mu}$  and  $\bar{\mu}_* = \bar{\mu}^c$   
 Note that  $\bar{\mu}$  is a possibility measure.

The aggregation functions on the vertices are:

**A** :  $S_\mu(x) = \max(\min(x_p, x_q), \min(x_p, x_r))$

**I** :  $S_{\mu^c}(x) = \max(x_p, \min(x_q, x_r))$

**a** :  $S_{\bar{\mu}^c}(1-x) = \min(1-x_q, 1-x_r)$

**i** :  $S_{\bar{\mu}}(1-x) = \max(1-x_q, 1-x_r)$ .

Note that for vertex **A**, the two focal sets overlap so that the first condition of Proposition 4 is met when  $S_\mu(x) = 1$ . For vertex **I**, one can see that  $S_{\mu^c}(x) = 1$  when  $x_p = 1$  and  $\{p\}$  does overlap all focal sets of  $\mu$ ; the same occurs when  $x_q = x_r = 1$ . For vertex **a**,  $S_{\bar{\mu}^c}(1-x) = 1$  when  $x_q = x_r = 0$ , and note that the complement of  $\{q, r\}$  is contained in a focal set of  $\mu$ , while  $\{q, r\}$  contains no focal set of  $\mu$ . For vertex **i**,  $S_{\bar{\mu}}(1-x) = 1$  when,  $x_q = 0$  or  $x_r = 0$ , and clearly, neither  $\{q\}$  nor  $\{r\}$  contain any focal set of  $\mu$ , but the complement of each of them is a focal set of  $\mu$ .

## 6 Concluding remarks

This paper has shown how the structure of the cube of opposition extends from ordinary sets to weighted min- and max-based aggregations and more generally to Sugeno

integrals, which constitute a very important family of qualitative aggregation operators, which moreover have a logical reading. The cube exhausts all the possible aggregation attitudes. Moreover, as mentioned in Section 2, it is compatible with a bipolar view where we distinguish between desirable properties and rejected properties. It thus provides a rich theoretical basis for multiple criteria aggregation.

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