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**INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF  
 ADVANCED RESEARCH (IJAR)**

Article DOI: 10.21474/IJAR01/4086  
 DOI URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.21474/IJAR01/4086>



## RESEARCH ARTICLE

### OPERATIONS ON M-STRONG FUZZY GRAPHS.

M. Rostamy Malkhalifeh<sup>1</sup>, \*H. Saleh<sup>2</sup> and F. Falahati Nezhad<sup>3</sup>.

1. Department of Mathematics, Science and Research Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran.
2. Department of Mathematics, Central Tehran Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran.
3. Young Researchers and Elite Club, Safadasht Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran.

#### Manuscript Info

##### Manuscript History

Received: 08 March 2017  
 Final Accepted: 01 April 2017  
 Published: May 2017

##### Key words:-

Deleted lexicographical  
 product, Disjunction, Fuzzy graph,  
 Symmetric difference, Strong fuzzy  
 graph.

#### Abstract

In current paper, deleted lexicographical product, disjunction and symmetric difference on fuzzy graphs are defined and some of their properties are discussed. Moreover, the concept of M-strong fuzzy graphs are investigated for mentioned operations. These results also are illustrated with some examples.

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#### Introduction:-

In 1965, Lotfi A. Zade established Fuzzysset for representing uncertainty [6]. Fuzzy set has numerous applications in different branches of modern sciences consisting operations research, transportation, information theory and neural networks [7, 8].

A graph  $G$  is an ordered pair  $(V, E)$ , where  $V = V(G)$  is the set of vertices of  $G$  and  $E = E(G)$  is the set of edges of  $G$  where  $E \subseteq V \times V$ . Graph theory has been used to study modern science such as operations research, transportation and cluster analysis.

In 1975, Rosenfeld introduced fuzzy graphs [5] based on fuzzy set. Fuzzy graph theory plays essential roles in various disciplines including information theory, neural networks, clustering problems and control theory, etc. Fuzzy models is more compatible to the system in compare with classical models [9, 10].

Bhutani and Rosenfeld introduced the notion of M-strong fuzzy graphs and studied some of their properties. [1, 4] Many interesting graphs are obtained from composing simpler graphs via several operations. For more information on graph operations see [3].

In this paper, we defined deleted lexicographical product, disjunction and symmetric difference of two fuzzy graphs and prove that new graphs constructed from mentioned operations are fuzzy graph. Also we show that deleted lexicographical product, disjunction and symmetric difference of two M-strong fuzzy graphs are also M-strong fuzzy graph. Finally we prove that if  $G_1 \times G_2$ ,  $G_1 \vee G_2$  and  $G_1 \oplus G_2$  are M-strong fuzzy graphs, then at least one factor must be M-strong fuzzy graph. All properties are illustrated with examples.

**Corresponding Author:- H. Saleh.**

Address:- Department of Mathematics, Central Tehran Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran.

**Preliminaries:-**

In this section, we list some necessary definitions as follows:

**Definition 2.1**[6]. A fuzzy set  $A$  is a set of ordered pairs  $\{(x, \mu_A(x)) | x \in X\}$  where  $X$  is universal set.  $\mu_A(x)$  is a map from  $X$  to  $[0, 1]$  which is called a membership function or degree of membership of  $x$  in  $A$ .

**Definition 2.2**[5]. A fuzzy graph  $G$  is a pair of functions  $(\mu, \rho)$  where  $\mu$  is a fuzzy subset of  $X$  and  $\rho: X \times X \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is symmetric fuzzy relation on  $\mu$  such that  $\rho(x, y) \leq \min\{\mu(x), \mu(y)\}$ .

Throughout the paper, we use  $xy$  instead of  $(x, y)$  for an element of  $E(G)$ .

**Definition 2.3**[2]. The *deleted lexicographical product* of two graphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  is defined as a graph  $G_1 \bar{\times} G_2$  with the vertex set  $V(G_1) \times V(G_2)$  and vertex  $(x_1, x_2)$  is adjacent with vertex  $(y_1, y_2)$  whenever  $x_1$  is adjacent with  $y_1$  in  $G_1$  and  $x_2 \neq y_2$  or  $x_1 = y_1$  and  $x_2$  is adjacent with  $y_2$  in  $G_2$ .

**Definition 2.4**[3]. The *disjunction* of two fuzzy graphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  is defined as a fuzzy graph  $G_1 \vee G_2$  with the vertex set  $V(G_1) \times V(G_2)$  and vertex  $(x_1, x_2)$  is adjacent with vertex  $(y_1, y_2)$  whenever  $x_1$  is adjacent with  $y_1$  or  $x_2$  is adjacent with  $y_2$  in  $G_2$  or both of them.

**Definition 2.5**[3]. The *symmetric difference* of two fuzzy graphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  is defined as a fuzzy graph  $G_1 \oplus G_2$  with the vertex set  $V(G_1) \times V(G_2)$  and vertex  $(x_1, x_2)$  is adjacent with vertex  $(y_1, y_2)$  whenever  $x_1$  is adjacent with  $y_1$  in  $G_1$  or  $x_2$  is adjacent with  $y_2$  in  $G_2$  but not both.

**Definition 2.6**[1]. A fuzzy subgraph  $(\mu, \rho)$  of  $G$  is called a  $M$ -strong fuzzy sub graph if  $\rho(xy) = \min\{\mu(x), \mu(y)\}$  for all  $xy \in E(G)$ .

**Some operations on fuzzy graphs:-**

In this section, we present new definitions for some fuzzy graph operations and prove that new graphs are also fuzzy graphs.

**Definition 3.1.** The *deleted lexicographical product* of two fuzzy graphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  is defined as a fuzzy graph  $G_1 \bar{\times} G_2$  with the vertex set  $V(G_1) \times V(G_2)$  and vertex  $(x_1, x_2)$  is adjacent with vertex  $(y_1, y_2)$  whenever  $x_1$  is adjacent with  $y_1$  in  $G_1$  and  $x_2 \neq y_2$  or  $x_1 = y_1$  and  $x_2$  is adjacent with  $y_2$  in  $G_2$  with  $(\mu_1 \bar{\times} \mu_2)(x_1, x_2) = \min\{\mu_1(x_1), \mu_2(x_2)\}$  for all  $(x_1, x_2) \in V(G_1 \bar{\times} G_2)$  and

$$(\rho_1 \bar{\times} \rho_2)((x_1, x_2)(y_1, y_2)) = \min\{\rho_2(x_2 y_2), \mu_1(x_1) | x_1 = y_1 \in V(G_1), x_2 y_2 \in E(G_2)\}$$

$$(\rho_1 \bar{\times} \rho_2)((x_1, x_2)(y_1, y_2)) = \min\{\rho_1(x_1 y_1), \mu_2(x_2), \mu_2(y_2) | x_1 y_1 \in E(G_1), x_2, y_2 \in V(G_2)\}$$

**Theorem 3.1.** Let  $G$  be a deleted lexicographical product of two fuzzy graphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  and  $(\mu_i, \rho_i)$  be a fuzzy subgraph of  $G_i$  where  $i \in \{1, 2\}$ , then  $((\mu_1 \bar{\times} \mu_2), (\rho_1 \bar{\times} \rho_2))$  be a fuzzy subgraph of  $G$ .

**Proof.** Let  $G = G_1 \bar{\times} G_2$ , we have:

$$(\rho_1 \bar{\times} \rho_2)((x_1, x_2)(y_1, y_2)) = \min\{\mu_1(x_1), \rho_2(x_2 y_2)\}$$

$$\leq \min\{\mu_1(x_1), \min\{\mu_2(x_2), \mu_2(y_2)\}\}$$

$$= \min\{\min\{\mu_1(x_1), \mu_2(x_2)\}, \min\{\mu_1(x_1), \mu_2(y_2)\}\}$$

$$= \min\{\min\{\mu_1(x_1), \mu_2(x_2)\}, \min\{\mu_1(y_1), \mu_2(y_2)\}\}$$

$$= \min\{(\mu_1 \bar{\times} \mu_2)(x_1, x_2), (\mu_1 \bar{\times} \mu_2)(y_1, y_2)\}.$$

and also,

$$(\rho_1 \bar{\times} \rho_2)((x_1, x_2)(y_1, y_2)) = \min\{\rho_1(x_1 y_1), \mu_2(x_2), \mu_2(y_2)\}$$

$$\leq \min\{\min\{\mu_1(x_1), \mu_1(y_1)\}, \mu_2(x_2), \mu_2(y_2)\}$$

$$= \min\{\min\{\mu_1(x_1), \mu_2(x_2)\}, \min\{\mu_1(y_1), \mu_2(y_2)\}\}$$

$$= \min\{(\mu_1 \bar{\times} \mu_2)(x_1, x_2), (\mu_1 \bar{\times} \mu_2)(y_1, y_2)\}$$

**Definition 3.2.** The *disjunction* of two fuzzy graphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  is defined as a fuzzy graph  $G_1 \vee G_2$  with the vertex set  $V(G_1) \times V(G_2)$  and vertex  $(x_1, x_2)$  is adjacent with vertex  $(y_1, y_2)$  whenever  $x_1$  is adjacent with  $y_1$  or  $x_2$  is adjacent with  $y_2$  in  $G_2$  or both of them with

$$(\mu_1 \vee \mu_2)(x_1, x_2) = \min\{\mu_1(x_1), \mu_2(x_2)\} \text{ for all } (x_1, x_2) \in V(G_1 \vee G_2)$$

and

$$(\rho_1 \vee \rho_2)((x_1, x_2)(y_1, y_2)) = \min\{\rho_1(x_1 y_1), \mu_2(x_2), \mu_2(y_2) | x_1 y_1 \in E(G_1), x_2, y_2 \in V(G_2)\}$$

$$(\rho_1 \vee \rho_2)((x_1, x_2)(y_1, y_2)) = \min\{\rho_2(x_2 y_2), \mu_1(x_1), \mu_1(y_1) | x_2 y_2 \in E(G_2), x_1, y_1 \in V(G_1)\}$$

$$(\rho_1 \vee \rho_2)((x_1, x_2)(y_1, y_2)) = \min\{\rho_1(x_1 y_1), \rho_2(x_2 y_2) | x_1 y_1 \in E(G_1), x_2 y_2 \in E(G_2)\}$$

**Theorem 3.2.** Let  $G$  be a disjunction of two fuzzy graphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  and  $(\mu_i, \rho_i)$  be a fuzzy sub graph of  $G_i$  where  $i \in \{1, 2\}$ , then  $((\mu_1 \vee \mu_2), (\rho_1 \vee \rho_2))$  be a fuzzy subgraph of  $G$ .

**Proof.** Let  $G = G_1 \vee G_2$ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\rho_1 \vee \rho_2)((x_1, x_2)(y_1, y_2)) &= \min\{\rho_1(x_1 y_1), \mu_2(x_2), \mu_2(y_2)\} \\
 &\leq \min\{\min\{\mu_1(x_1), \mu_1(y_1)\}, \mu_2(x_2), \mu_2(y_2)\} \\
 &= \min\{\min\{\mu_1(x_1), \mu_2(x_2)\}, \min\{\mu_1(y_1), \mu_2(y_2)\}\} \\
 &= \min\{(\mu_1 \vee \mu_2)(x_1, x_2), (\mu_1 \vee \mu_2)(y_1, y_2)\}
 \end{aligned}$$

and also

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\rho_1 \vee \rho_2)((x_1, x_2)(y_1, y_2)) &= \min\{\rho_1(x_1 y_1), \rho_2(x_2 y_2)\} \\
 &\leq \min\{\min\{\mu_1(x_1), \mu_1(y_1)\}, \min\{\mu_2(x_2), \mu_2(y_2)\}\} \\
 &= \min\{\min\{\mu_1(x_1), \mu_2(x_2)\}, \min\{\mu_1(y_1), \mu_2(y_2)\}\} \\
 &= \min\{(\mu_1 \vee \mu_2)(x_1, x_2), (\mu_1 \vee \mu_2)(y_1, y_2)\}
 \end{aligned}$$

**Definition 3.3.** The symmetric difference of two fuzzy graphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  is defined as a fuzzy graph  $G_1 \oplus G_2$  with the vertex set  $V(G_1) \times V(G_2)$  and vertex  $(x_1, x_2)$  is adjacent with vertex  $(y_1, y_2)$  whenever  $x_1$  is adjacent with  $y_1$  in  $G_1$  or  $x_2$  is adjacent with  $y_2$  in  $G_2$  but not both with

$$(\mu_1 \oplus \mu_2)(x_1, x_2) = \min\{\mu_1(x_1), \mu_2(x_2)\} \text{ for all } (x_1, x_2) \in V(G_1 \oplus G_2)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\rho_1 \oplus \rho_2)((x_1, x_2)(y_1, y_2)) &= \min\{\rho_1(x_1 y_1), \mu_2(x_2), \mu_2(y_2) \mid x_1 y_1 \in E(G_1), x_2, y_2 \in V(G_2)\} \\
 (\rho_1 \oplus \rho_2)((x_1, x_2)(y_1, y_2)) &= \min\{\rho_2(x_2 y_2), \mu_1(x_1), \mu_1(y_1) \mid x_2 y_2 \in E(G_2), x_1, y_1 \in V(G_1)\}
 \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 3.3.** Let  $G$  be a symmetric difference of two fuzzy graphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  and  $(\mu_i, \rho_i)$  be a fuzzy subgraph of  $G_i$  where  $i \in \{1, 2\}$ , then  $((\mu_1 \oplus \mu_2), (\rho_1 \oplus \rho_2))$  be a fuzzy subgraph of  $G$ .

**Proof.** Using Theorem 3.2, we can get the desired result.

### M-strong fuzzy graphs:-

In this section, we prove some theorems to show that if  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  are M-strong fuzzy graphs, then new fuzzy graph constructed from them are M-strong fuzzy graph too.

Also, if  $G_1 \bar{\times} G_2, G_1 \vee G_2$  and  $G_1 \oplus G_2$  are M-strong fuzzy graphs, then at least one factor must be M-strong fuzzy graph. All computations are illustrated with examples.

**Theorem 4.1.** Let  $G$  be a deleted lexicographical product of two M-strong fuzzy graphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ , then  $G$  is a M-strong fuzzy graph.

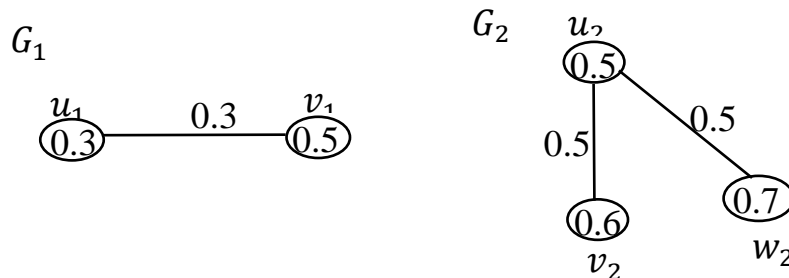
**Proof.** The first part is taken over all edges  $(x_1, x_2)(y_1, y_2) \in E(G)$  such that  $x_2 y_2 \in E(G_2)$  and  $x_1 = y_1$ . Using the fact that  $G_2$  is a M-strong fuzzy graph, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\rho_1 \bar{\times} \rho_2)((x_1, x_2)(y_1, y_2)) &= \min\{\mu_1(x_1), \rho_2(x_2 y_2)\} \\
 &= \min\{\mu_1(x_1), \min\{\mu_2(x_2), \mu_2(y_2)\}\} \\
 &= \min\{\min\{\mu_1(x_1), \mu_2(x_2)\}, \min\{\mu_1(x_1), \mu_2(y_2)\}\} \\
 &= \min\{\min\{\mu_1(x_1), \mu_2(x_2)\}, \min\{\mu_1(y_1), \mu_2(y_2)\}\} \\
 &= \min\{(\mu_1 \bar{\times} \mu_2)(x_1, x_2), (\mu_1 \bar{\times} \mu_2)(y_1, y_2)\}.
 \end{aligned}$$

The second part is taken over all edges  $(x_1, x_2)(y_1, y_2) \in E(G)$  such that  $\square_1 \square_1 \in \square(\square_1)$  and  $\square_2, \square_2 \in \square(\square_2)$ . Using the fact that  $G_1$  is a M-strong fuzzy graph, we have

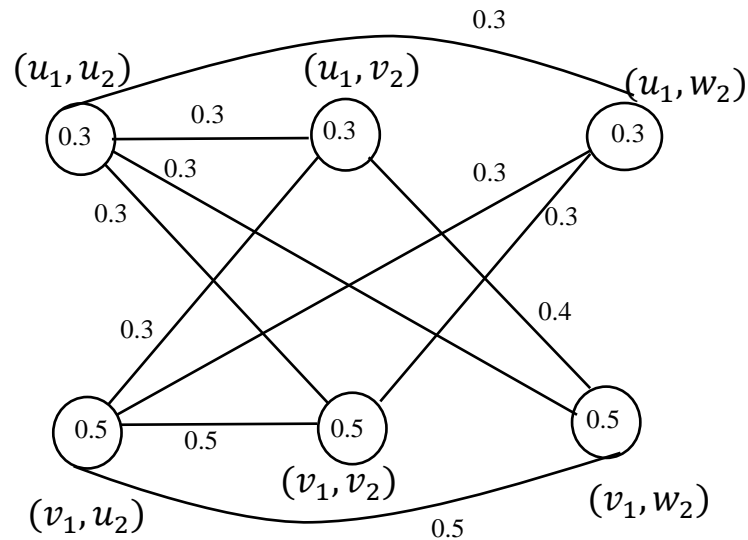
$$\begin{aligned}
 (\square_1 \bar{\times} \square_2)((\square_1, \square_2)(\square_1, \square_2)) &= \square \square \square \{\square_1(\square_1 \square_1), \mu_2(\square_2), \mu_2(\square_2)\} \\
 &= \square \square \square \{\square \square \square \{\mu_1(\square_1), \mu_1(\square_1)\}, \mu_2(\square_2), \mu_2(\square_2)\} \\
 &= \square \square \square \{\square \square \square \{\mu_1(\square_1), \mu_2(\square_2)\}, \square \square \square \{\mu_1(\square_1), \mu_2(\square_2)\}\} \\
 &= \square \square \square \{(\mu_1 \bar{\times} \mu_2)(\square_1, \square_2), (\mu_1 \bar{\times} \mu_2)(\square_1, \square_2)\}.
 \end{aligned}$$

**Example 4.1.** Let  $\square_1$  and  $\square_2$  be two fuzzy graphs illustrated in figure 1:



**Figure 1:-** Two M-strong fuzzy graphs  $\square_1$  and  $\square_2$ .

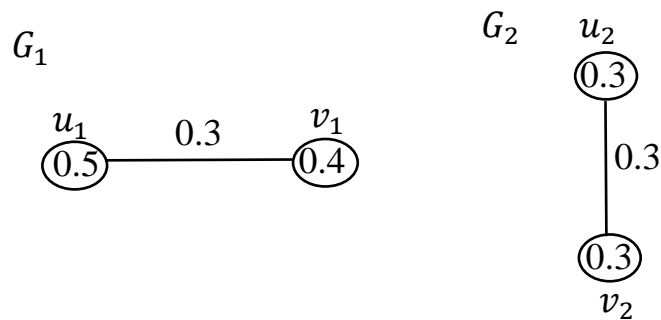
According to definition 3.1, deleted lexicographical product of two fuzzy graphs  $\square_1$  and  $\square_2$  is presented in figure 2:



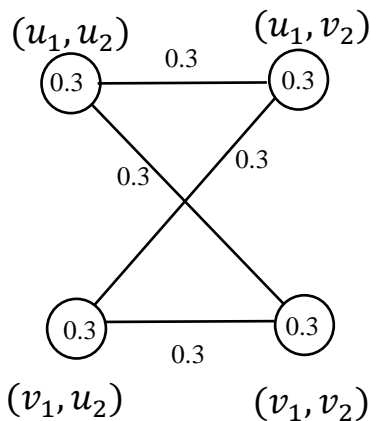
**Figure 2:-** The deleted lexicographical product of two graphs  $\square_1$  and  $G_2$  and it is easy to see that it is a M-strong fuzzy graph.

**Remark.** The opposite is not necessarily true.

**Example 4.2.** Two fuzzy graphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  and deleted lexicographical product of them are considered in figure 3 and 4, respectively.



**Figure 3:-** Two fuzzy graphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$



**Figure 4:-** The graph  $G_1 \bar{\times} G_2$  formed by  $G_1$  and  $G_2$

It is easy to see that  $G_1 \bar{\times} G_2$  and  $G_2$  are strong fuzzy graphs but  $G_1$  is not.

**Theorem 4.2.** If  $G = G_1 \bar{\times} G_2$  is M-strong fuzzy graph, then at least  $G_1$  or  $G_2$  must be M-strong fuzzy graph.

**Proof.** Suppose that both  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  are not M-strong fuzzy graphs.

Then there exist  $x_1 y_1 \in E(G_1)$  and  $x_2 y_2 \in E(G_2)$  such that

$$\mu_1(x_1 y_1) < \min\{\mu_1(x_1), \mu_1(y_1)\} \text{ and } \mu_2(x_2 y_2) < \min\{\mu_2(x_2), \mu_2(y_2)\}$$

According to the definition 3.1,

$$(\rho_1 \bar{\times} \rho_2)((x_1, x_2)(y_1, y_2)) = \min\{\mu_2(x_2 y_2), \mu_1(x_1) \mid x_1 = y_1 \in V(G_1) \& x_2 y_2 \in E(G_2)\}$$

and

$$(\mu_1 \bar{\times} \mu_2)(x_1, x_2) = \min\{\mu_1(x_1), \mu_2(x_2)\} \text{ and } (\mu_1 \bar{\times} \mu_2)(y_1, y_2) = \min\{\mu_1(y_1), \mu_2(y_2)\}$$

Since

$$(\rho_1 \bar{\times} \rho_2)((x_1, x_2)(y_1, y_2)) = \min\{\mu_2(x_2 y_2), \mu_1(x_1)\} < \min\{\mu_2(x_2), \mu_2(y_2), \mu_1(x_1)\}$$

and

$$\min\{(\mu_1 \bar{\times} \mu_2)(x_1, x_2), (\mu_1 \bar{\times} \mu_2)(x_1, y_2)\} = \min\{\mu_1(x_1), \mu_2(x_2), \mu_2(y_2)\}$$

So

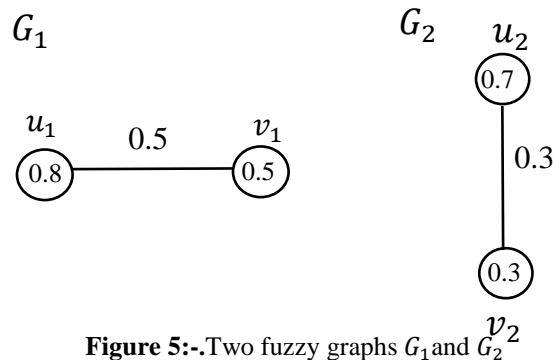
$$(\rho_1 \bar{\times} \rho_2)((x_1, x_2)(x_1, y_2)) < \min\{(\mu_1 \bar{\times} \mu_2)(x_1, x_2), (\mu_1 \bar{\times} \mu_2)(x_1, y_2)\}$$

Which is in contradiction to  $G = G_1 \bar{\times} G_2$  as M-strong fuzzy graph. Hence if  $G = G_1 \bar{\times} G_2$  is M-strong fuzzy graph, then at least  $G_1$  or  $G_2$  must be M-strong fuzzy graph.

Using definition 3.2, we can easily arrive at:

**Theorem 4.3.** Let  $G$  be a disjunction of two M-strong fuzzy graphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ , then  $G$  is a M-strong fuzzy graph.

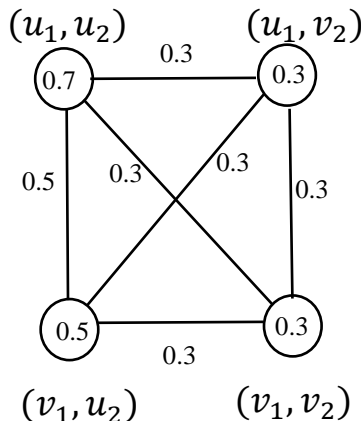
**Example 4.3.** Consider two fuzzy graphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  in figure 5:



**Figure 5:-**Two fuzzy graphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$

it is obvious that  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  are strong fuzzy graphs.

Based on definition 3.2, the graph  $G_1 \vee G_2$  is illustrated in figure 6 as follows:



**Figure 6:-**The disjunction of two fuzzy graphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ .

It is easy to see that the disjunction of  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  is a strong fuzzy graph.

**Theorem 4.4.** If  $G = G_1 \vee G_2$  is M-strong fuzzy graph, then at least  $G_1$  or  $G_2$  must be M-strong fuzzy graph.

**Proof.** Suppose that both  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  are not M-strong fuzzy graphs, then there exist  $x_1y_1 \in E(G_1)$  and  $x_2y_2 \in E(G_2)$  such that

$$\mu_1(x_1y_1) < \min\{\mu_1(x_1), \mu_1(y_1)\} \text{ and } \mu_2(x_2y_2) < \min\{\mu_2(x_2), \mu_2(y_2)\}$$

According to the definition 3.2,

$$(\rho_1 \vee \rho_2)((x_1, x_2)(y_1, y_2)) = \min\{\mu_1(x_1y_1), \mu_2(x_2), \mu_2(y_2)\} \mid x_1y_1 \in E(G_1), x_2, y_2 \in V(G_2)\}$$

and

$$(\mu_1 \vee \mu_2)(x_1, x_2) = \min\{\mu_1(x_1), \mu_2(x_2)\} \text{ and } (\mu_1 \vee \mu_2)(y_1, y_2) = \min\{\mu_1(y_1), \mu_2(y_2)\}$$

Since

$$(\rho_1 \vee \rho_2)((x_1, x_2)(y_1, y_2)) =$$

$$\min\{\mu_1(x_1y_1), \mu_2(x_2), \mu_2(y_2)\} < \min\{\mu_1(x_1), \mu_1(y_1), \mu_2(x_2), \mu_2(y_2)\}$$

and

$$\min\{(\mu_1 \vee \mu_2)(x_1, x_2), (\mu_1 \vee \mu_2)(y_1, y_2)\} = \min\{\mu_1(x_1), \mu_1(y_1), \mu_2(x_2), \mu_2(y_2)\}$$

therefore

$$(\rho_1 \vee \rho_2)((x_1, x_2)(y_1, y_2)) < \min\{(\mu_1 \vee \mu_2)(x_1, x_2), (\mu_1 \vee \mu_2)(y_1, y_2)\}$$

Which is in contradiction to  $G = G_1 \vee G_2$  as M-strong fuzzy graph. Hence if  $G = G_1 \vee G_2$  is M-strong fuzzy graph, then at least  $G_1$  or  $G_2$  must be M-strong fuzzy graph.

**Theorem 4.5.** If  $G = G_1 \oplus G_2$  be M-strong fuzzy graph, then at least  $G_1$  or  $G_2$  must be M-strong fuzzy graph.

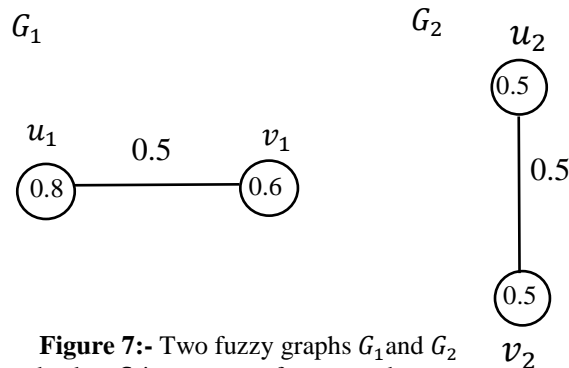
**Proof.** It is straightforward.

**Theorem 4.6.** Let  $G$  be a symmetric difference of two M-strong fuzzy graphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ , then  $G$  is a M-strong fuzzy graph.

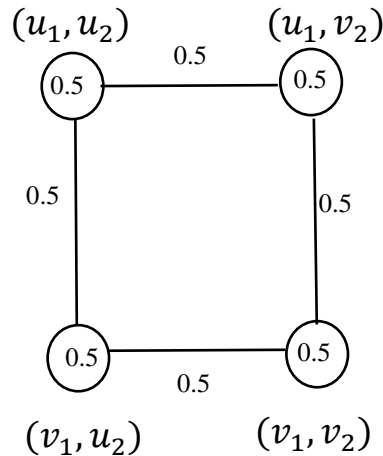
**Proof.** It is straightforward.

In next example, we will illustrate that the opposite is not necessarily true.

**Example 4.4.** Two fuzzy graphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  are illustrated in figure 7 and symmetric difference of  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  is presented in figure 8:



**Figure 7:-** Two fuzzy graphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$   
 $G_1 \oplus G_2$  and  $G_2$  are strong fuzzy graphs, but  $G_1$  is not strong fuzzy graph.



**Figure 8:-** The symmetric difference of two graphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$

### Conclusion:-

In present paper, specific operations on fuzzy graphs have been introduced and some theorems are discussed. Some properties of M-strong fuzzy graphs are investigated.

Fuzzy graph theory is highly utilized in various areas. In future work, we can focus on Intuitionistic, bipolar and hyperfuzzy graphs and attempt to investigate many properties on them.

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