

# On intuitionistic $L$ -fuzzy socle of modules

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**Abstract:** In this paper we try to study the intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy aspects of socle of modules over rings. We demonstrate some properties of a socle of intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy submodules and their relations with intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy essential submodules and a family of intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy complemented submodules of a module. Some related results are also established.

**Keywords:** Intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy submodule, Intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy simple submodule, Intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy essential submodule, Socle of an intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy submodule.

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## 1 Introduction

Let  $M$  be a unitary module over a commutative ring  $R$  with zero element  $\theta$ . Recall that a submodule  $K$  of an  $R$ -module  $M$  is called an essential submodule of  $M$  denoted by  $K \leq_e M$ , if for every submodule  $N$  of  $M$ ,  $K \cap N = \{\theta\}$  implies that  $N = \{\theta\}$ . Equivalently,  $K \cap N \neq \{\theta\}$  for all non-zero submodules  $N$  of  $M$ . A submodule  $K$  of a module  $M$  is called complement for a submodule  $N$  of  $M$  if it is maximal with respect to the property that  $K \cap N = \{\theta\}$ . The socle of an  $R$ -module  $M$  is denoted by  $\text{Soc}(M)$  and is defined as the sum of all simple submodules of  $M$ , i.e., the socle of  $M$  is the largest submodule of  $M$  generated by simple modules. For more information about essential submodules, complement of a submodule and socle of a module, we refer to [1, 8, 16].



Atanassov and Stoeva [3] generalized the notion of  $L$ -fuzzy subsets given by Goguen [6] to an intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy subset, where  $L$  is any complete lattice with a complete order reversing involution  $N$ . Wang and He in [15] and Deschrijver and Kerre in [5] studied the relationship between intuitionistic fuzzy sets and  $L$ -fuzzy sets and some extensions of fuzzy set theory. Palaniappan and others in [10] studied intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy subgroups. Meena and Thomas in [9] discussed the notion of intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy subrings. Sharma et al. [7, 11, 12] discussed intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy submodules, intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy prime and primary submodule of a module. The notions like intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy essential submodule, intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy complement of a submodule and intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy simple submodule were studied by the author et al. in [13] and [14].

In this paper, our attempt is to investigate the intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy aspects of a socle of a module. Using the concepts of intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy essentiality and relative complement defined by the author et al. in [13], it is proved that if  $A$  is an intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy submodule of  $M$  such that  $A = \text{Soc}(A)$ , then  $A$  has no proper intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy essential submodules. Further, if  $A = \text{Soc}(A)$  and  $IF_L(A)$  (the family of intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy submodules of  $A$ ) is complemented, then for any  $C \in IF_L(A)$ ,  $IF_L(C)$  is also intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy complemented. It is shown that if  $E$  is the intersection of all intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy essential submodules of  $A$ , where  $A$  is an intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy submodule of  $M$ , then every non-zero intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy submodule of  $E$  contains a simple intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy submodule of  $E$ . It leads us to the result that  $\text{Soc}(A) = E$ . Apart of these results we have also evaluated the socle of a direct sum of intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy submodules.

## 2 Preliminaries

Throughout this paper,  $R$  is a commutative ring with identity,  $M$  a unitary  $R$ -module and  $L$  stands for a complete lattice with least element 0 and greatest element 1,  $\theta$  denotes the zero element of  $M$ . The lattice  $L$  is called regular if  $a \wedge b \neq 0$  for every  $a \neq 0, b \neq 0$  and  $a \vee b \neq 1$  for every  $a \neq 1, b \neq 1$  (see [4]).

**Definition 2.1.** [7] Let  $(L, \leq)$  be a complete lattice with an evaluative order reversing operation  $N : L \rightarrow L$ . Let  $X$  be a non-empty set. An intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy set  $A$  in  $X$  is defined as an object of the form  $A = \{\langle x, \mu_A(x), \nu_A(x) \rangle : x \in X\}$ , where  $\mu_A : X \rightarrow L$  and  $\nu_A : X \rightarrow L$  define respectively the degree of membership and the degree of non-membership for every  $x \in X$  satisfying  $\mu_A(x) \leq N(\nu_A(x))$ . A complete order reversing involution is a mapping  $N : L \rightarrow L$  such that

- (i)  $N(0) = 1$  and  $N(1) = 0$ ;
- (ii) If  $\alpha \leq \beta$ , then  $N(\beta) \leq N(\alpha)$ ;
- (iii)  $N(N(\alpha)) = \alpha$ ;
- (iv)  $N(\bigvee_{i=1}^n \alpha_i) = \bigwedge_{i=1}^n N(\alpha_i)$  and  $N(\bigwedge_{i=1}^n \alpha_i) = \bigvee_{i=1}^n N(\alpha_i)$ .

We also denote an intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy set simply by  $ILFS$  and the set of all  $ILFS$ 's on  $X$  by  $ILFS(X)$ .

**Remark 2.2.** When  $\mu_A(x) = N(\nu_A(x))$ , for all  $x \in X$ , then  $A$  is called  $L$ -fuzzy set. We use the notion  $A = (\mu_A, \nu_A)$  to denote the intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy set  $A = \{\langle x, \mu_A(x), \nu_A(x) \rangle : x \in X\}$ .

For  $A, B \in ILFS(X)$  we say that  $A \subseteq B$  if and only if  $\mu_A(x) \leq \mu_B(x)$  and  $\nu_A(x) \geq \nu_B(x)$  for all  $x \in X$ . Also,  $A \subset B$  if and only if  $A \subseteq B$  and  $A \neq B$ .

For  $A \in ILFS(X)$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in L$  with  $\alpha \leq N(\beta)$ , in analogy with the operator  $A_{(\alpha, \beta)}$  defined by Atanassov for intuitionistic fuzzy sets in [2], we define here

$$A_{(\alpha, \beta)} = \{x \in X : \mu_A(x) \geq \alpha, \nu_A(x) \leq \beta\}.$$

Then  $A_{(\alpha, \beta)}$  is called the  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -cut set of  $A$ . The support of an  $ILFS$   $A$  is denoted by  $A^*$  and is defined as

$$A^* = \{x \in X : \mu_A(x) > 0, \nu_A(x) < 1\}.$$

**Definition 2.3.** [11] Let  $A = (\mu_A, \nu_A)$  be an  $ILFS$  of  $X$  and  $Y \subseteq X$ . Then the intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy characteristic function  $\chi_Y = (\mu_{\chi_Y}, \nu_{\chi_Y})$  on  $Y$  is defined as

$$\mu_{\chi_Y}(y) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } y \in Y \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}; \quad \nu_{\chi_Y}(y) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } y \in Y \\ 1, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}.$$

**Definition 2.4.** [7, 11] Let  $A \in ILFS(M)$ . Then  $A$  is called an intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy module ( $ILFM$ ) of  $M$  if for all  $x, y \in M, r \in R$ , the following statements are satisfied:

- (i)  $\mu_A(x - y) \geq \mu_A(x) \wedge \mu_A(y)$ ;
- (ii)  $\mu_A(rx) \geq \mu_A(x)$ ;
- (iii)  $\mu_A(\theta) = 1$ ;
- (iv)  $\nu_A(x - y) \leq \nu_A(x) \vee \nu_A(y)$ ;
- (v)  $\nu_A(rx) \leq \nu_A(x)$ ;
- (vi)  $\nu_A(\theta) = 0$ .

The collection of all intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy modules of  $M$  is denoted by  $IF_L(M)$ . If  $A, B \in IF_L(M)$  such that  $B \subseteq A$ , then  $B$  is called an intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy submodule of  $A$ . If  $L$  is regular and  $A, B \in IF_L(M)$ , then  $A^*, B^*$  are submodules of  $M$ . Further we see that  $(A + B)^* = A^* + B^*$  and  $(A \cap B)^* = A^* \cap B^*$  (see [7]). Also,  $A^* = \{\theta\}$  if and only if  $A = \chi_{\{\theta\}}$  (see [13]). If  $A, B \in IF_L(M)$ , then the direct sum of  $A$  and  $B$  is  $A + B$  provided  $A \cap B = \chi_{\{\theta\}}$ , and this is denoted by  $A \oplus B$ . If  $A, B, C \in IF_L(M)$  be such that  $C = A \oplus B$ , then  $A, B$  are called intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy direct summands of  $C$ .

**Definition 2.5.** [13] Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module and  $A, C \in IF_L(M)$  be such that  $\chi_{\{\emptyset\}} \neq C \subseteq A$ . Then  $C$  is called an intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy essential submodule of  $A$  if  $C \cap B \neq \chi_{\{\emptyset\}}, \forall B \in IF_L(M)$  such that  $\chi_{\{\emptyset\}} \neq B \subseteq A$ . We denote this by writing  $C \trianglelefteq_e A$ .

In particular, when  $A = \chi_M$ . Then  $C$  is called an intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy essential submodule of  $M$ , written as  $C \trianglelefteq_e \chi_M$  or  $C \trianglelefteq_e M$ , if  $C \cap B \neq \chi_{\{\emptyset\}}, \forall B \neq \chi_{\{\emptyset\}} \in IF_L(M)$ .

**Proposition 2.6.** [13] Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module and  $A, C \in IF_L(M)$  be such that  $C \trianglelefteq_e A$ . Then  $C^* \trianglelefteq_e A^*$ , but the converse is true when  $L$  is regular.

**Theorem 2.7.** [13] Let  $A, B, C \in IF_L(M)$  be such that  $C \subseteq B \subseteq A$ . Then  $C \trianglelefteq_e A$  if and only if  $C \trianglelefteq_e B$  and  $B \trianglelefteq_e A$ .

**Theorem 2.8.** [13] Let  $C_1, C_2, A_1, A_2 \in IF_L(M)$ . If  $C_1 \trianglelefteq_e A_1$  and  $C_2 \trianglelefteq_e A_2$ , then  $C_1 \cap C_2 \trianglelefteq_e A_1 \cap A_2$ .

**Corollary 2.9.** [13] Let  $C_1, C_2, A \in IF_L(M)$ . If  $C_1 \trianglelefteq_e A$  and  $C_2 \trianglelefteq_e A$ , then  $C_1 \cap C_2 \trianglelefteq_e A$ .

**Theorem 2.10.** [13] Let  $L$  be a regular lattice and  $C_1, C_2, A_1, A_2 \in IF_L(M)$ . If  $C_i \trianglelefteq_e A_i, i = 1, 2$ . If  $C_1 \cap C_2 = \chi_{\{\emptyset\}}$ , then  $A_1 \cap A_2 = \chi_{\{\emptyset\}}$  and  $C_1 \oplus C_2 \trianglelefteq_e A_1 \oplus A_2$ .

**Corollary 2.11.** [13] Let  $L$  be a regular lattice and  $C_1, C_2, A \in IF_L(M)$ . If  $C_i \trianglelefteq_e A, i = 1, 2$ . If  $C_1 \cap C_2 = \chi_{\{\emptyset\}}$ , then  $C_1 \oplus C_2 \trianglelefteq_e A$ .

**Theorem 2.12.** [13] Let  $L$  be a regular lattice and  $C, A \in IF_L(M)$  where  $C \subseteq A$ . Let  $f : N \rightarrow M$  be a module homomorphism such that  $f(B) \subseteq A$  where  $B \in IF_L(N)$ . If  $C \trianglelefteq_e A$ , then  $f^{-1}(C) \trianglelefteq_e B$ .

**Definition 2.13.** [13] Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module and  $A, B, C \in IF_L(M)$  be such that  $B \subseteq A$ . Then  $C$  is called an intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy complement of  $B$  in  $A$  if  $C \subseteq A$  and  $C$  is maximal with the property that  $B \cap C = \chi_{\{\emptyset\}}$ . We write  $C$  is complement of  $B$  in  $A$ .

**Theorem 2.14.** [13] Let  $L$  be a regular lattice and  $M$  be an  $R$ -module. If  $C$  is complement of  $B$  in  $A$ , then  $C^*$  is complement of  $B^*$  in  $A^*$ .

**Remark 2.15.** [13] The converse of the above theorem is not true. If for any  $A, B, C \in IF_L(M)$  the submodule  $C^*$  is complement of  $B^*$  in  $A^*$ , then  $C$  need not be complement of  $B$  in  $A$ .

**Definition 2.16.** [13] Let  $A, B \in IF_L(M)$ . Then  $B$  is said to be a strictly proper intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy submodule of  $A$  if  $B \subseteq A$  and  $B \neq \chi_{\{\emptyset\}}$  and  $A|_{B^*} = B$  and  $B^* \subseteq A^*$ . Also  $B$  is said to be a proper intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy submodule of  $A$  if  $B \subseteq A, B \neq \chi_{\{\emptyset\}}$  and  $B^* \subseteq A^*$ .

**Definition 2.17.** [14]  $A \in IF_L(M)$  is said to be an intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy simple module if  $A$  has no proper intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy submodules.

**Theorem 2.18.** [14] Let  $L$  be a regular lattice and  $M$  be a module over ring  $R$ . Then  $M$  is simple if and only if  $\chi_M$  is an intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy simple module.

**Lemma 2.19.** *Let  $L$  be a regular lattice and  $B, C, D \in IF_L(M)$  such that  $B \subseteq C$ . Then*

$$C \cap (D + B) = (C \cap D) + B.$$

*Proof.* Let  $A = C \cap (D + B)$ . Then

$$A^* = [C \cap (D + B)]^* = C^* \cap (D^* + B^*).$$

Since  $B \subseteq C$ , so  $B^* \subseteq C^*$ . Now by the modular law

$$C^* \cap (D^* + B^*) = (C^* \cap D^*) + B^*.$$

Thus

$$A^* = (C^* \cap D^*) + B^* = (C \cap D)^* + B^*.$$

Also, we get  $A = (C \cap D) + B$ . Thus, the result follows.  $\square$

### 3 Socle of an intuitionistic $L$ -fuzzy submodule

In this section we study the concept of a socle of an intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy submodule of a module and we analyse some of its properties.

**Definition 3.1.** *If  $A \in IF_L(M)$ , then the socle of  $A$ , denoted by  $\text{Soc}(A)$ , is defined as the sum of all intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy simple submodules of  $A$ . Thus  $\text{Soc}(A) = \sum B_i$ , where  $B_i$  is an intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy simple submodule of  $A$ . If  $A$  has no intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy simple submodule, then  $\text{Soc}(A) = \chi_{\{\emptyset\}}$ .*

**Theorem 3.2.** *If  $A = \text{Soc}(A)$ , then  $A$  has no proper intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy essential submodules.*

*Proof.* Given  $A = \text{Soc}(A) = \sum B_i$ , where  $B_i$  are intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy simple submodules of  $A$ , let  $C$  be an intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy essential submodule of  $A$ . Then there exist intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy submodules  $B'_i$  of  $A$  such that  $C \cap B_i = B'_i$  and  $B'_i \neq \chi_{\{\emptyset\}}$ .

Now

$$\mu_{B'_i}(x) = \mu_{C \cap B_i}(x) = \mu_C(x) \wedge \mu_{B_i}(x) \leq \mu_C(x)$$

and

$$\nu_{B'_i}(x) = \nu_{C \cap B_i}(x) = \nu_C(x) \vee \nu_{B_i}(x) \geq \nu_C(x)$$

imply that  $B'_i \subseteq C$ . Similarly,  $B'_i \subseteq B_i$ . Now  $B_i$  is an intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy simple submodule of  $A$ , so  $B'_i \subseteq B_i$  implies  $B'_i = B_i$ . Also  $B'_i \subseteq C$  implies that  $C$  contains all intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy simple submodules of  $A$ . Thus  $\text{Soc}(A) \subseteq C$ . This gives  $A \subseteq C$ . Thus  $A = C$ , i.e.,  $A$  is an essential submodule of itself. Hence  $A$  has no proper intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy essential submodules.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.3.** *If  $A \in IF_L(M)$  and  $E$  is the intersection of all intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy essential submodules of  $A$ , then  $\text{Soc}(A) \subseteq E$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $E = \cap\{B_i : B_i \trianglelefteq_e A\}$ . Suppose  $B_i, C \in IF_L(M)$  be such that  $C$  is an intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy simple submodule of  $A$  and  $B_i \trianglelefteq_e A$ . Then  $B_i \cap C \neq \chi_{\{\emptyset\}}$ . Also  $B_i \cap C \subseteq C$  and  $C$  being an intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy simple submodule of  $A$ , we have  $B_i \cap C = C$ .

Now

$$\mu_C(x) = \mu_{B_i \cap C}(x) = \mu_{B_i}(x) \wedge \mu_C(x) \leq \mu_{B_i}(x)$$

and

$$\nu_C(x) = \nu_{B_i \cap C}(x) = \nu_{B_i}(x) \vee \nu_C(x) \geq \nu_{B_i}(x).$$

Thus  $C \subseteq B_i$ . This implies that if  $C$  is an intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy simple submodule of  $A$ , then  $C$  is contained in every intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy essential submodule  $B_i$  of  $A$ . Hence  $\text{Soc}(A) \subseteq E$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.4.** *Let  $L$  be a regular lattice and  $A \in IF_L(M)$ . Let  $E$  be the intersection of all intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy essential submodules of  $A$ . If every non-zero intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy submodule of  $E$  is a direct summand of  $E$ , then every non-zero intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy submodule of  $E$  contains an intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy simple submodule of  $A$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $E = \cap\{B_i : B_i \trianglelefteq_e A\}$ . Suppose  $C(\neq \chi_{\{\emptyset\}}) \in IF_L(M)$  be such that  $C \subseteq E$ . We consider  $\mathfrak{F} = \{F : F \subseteq C, F \in IF_L(M)\}$ . By Zorn's Lemma there exists a maximal element  $B$  in  $\mathfrak{F}$  such that  $B \subseteq C$  and  $B \in IF_L(M)$ . By the given condition  $E = B \oplus B'$ , for some  $B' \in IF_L(M)$ . Now

$$C = C \cap E = C \cap (B \oplus B') = B \oplus (C \cap B')$$

by Lemma (2.19).

If  $C \cap B'$  is not an intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy simple submodule, then it contains a non-zero intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy submodule  $D$  of  $M$ . So there exists  $D' \in IF_L(M)$  such that  $E = D \oplus D'$ . Also

$$C \cap B' = (C \cap B') \cap E = (C \cap B') \cap (D \oplus D') = D' \oplus (C \cap B' \cap D).$$

This implies

$$B \oplus (C \cap B') = B \oplus D' \oplus (C \cap B' \cap D) = B \oplus D.$$

Thus  $C \cap B' = D$ , which is a contradiction. Therefore  $C \cap B'$  is an intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy simple submodule of  $A$ . Thus  $C$  contains an intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy simple submodule  $C \cap B'$  of  $A$ . This proves the result.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.5.** *Let  $L$  be a regular lattice and  $A \in IF_L(M)$ . If  $E$  is the intersection of all intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy essential submodules of  $A$ , then  $E \subseteq \text{Soc}(A)$ .*

*Proof.* Firstly, we show that every intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy submodule of  $E$  is a direct summand. Let  $C$  be an intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy submodule of  $E$ . Then  $C$  is an intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy submodule of  $A$ . So there exists an intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy submodule  $B$  such that  $B$  is a complement of  $C$  in  $A$ , i.e.,  $C \cap B = \chi_{\{\emptyset\}}$ . Let  $C' \in IF_L(M)$  be such that  $C' \cap (C \oplus B) = \chi_{\{\emptyset\}}$ .

Now  $C \subseteq C \oplus B$  implies  $C \cap C' = \chi_{\{\emptyset\}}$ . Similarly  $B \cap C' = \chi_{\{\emptyset\}}$ . If  $C \cap (B \oplus C') \neq \chi_{\{\emptyset\}}$ , then there exist a non-zero element  $x$  in  $M$  such that  $x \in [C \cap (B \oplus C')]^* = C^* \cap (B^* \oplus C'^*)$ , i.e.,  $\mu_C(x) > 0$ ,  $\nu_C(x) < 1$  and  $\mu_{B \oplus C'}(x) > 0$ ,  $\nu_{B \oplus C'}(x) < 1$ . This implies that there exist

unique  $y, z \in M$  such that  $x = y + z$  and  $\mu_B(y) \wedge \mu_{C'}(z) > 0$  and  $\nu_B(y) \vee \nu_{C'}(z) < 1$ , where  $\mu_B(y) > 0, \mu_{C'}(z) > 0$  and  $\nu_B(y) < 1, \nu_{C'}(z) < 1$ . Thus  $x = y + z$  with  $x \in C^*, y \in B^*$  and  $z \in C'^*$ . Also  $z$  is a non-zero element of  $M$ , for otherwise it implies that  $x$  is a zero element of  $M$ .

Now  $z = x - y \in C'^* \cap (B^* \oplus C^*) = [C' \cap (B \oplus C)]^*$ . This shows that  $C' \cap (B \oplus C) \neq \chi_{\{\emptyset\}}$ , a contradiction. Thus  $C \cap (B \oplus C') = \chi_{\{\emptyset\}}$ . By the maximality of  $B$  we have  $B \oplus C' = B$ .

Now

$$\mu_B(x) = \mu_{B \oplus C'}(x) \geq \mu_B(0) \wedge \mu_{C'}(x) = \mu_{C'}(x)$$

and

$$\nu_B(x) = \nu_{B \oplus C'}(x) \leq \nu_B(0) \vee \nu_{C'}(x) = \nu_{C'}(x).$$

Thus  $C' \subseteq B$  and hence  $\chi_{\{\emptyset\}} = C' \cap B = C'$ . This proves  $C \oplus B \trianglelefteq_e A$ . Thus  $E \subseteq C \oplus B$ . This implies  $E = E \cap (C \oplus B) = E \oplus (C \cap B)$ , since  $C \subseteq E$  and  $C \cap (E \cap B) = \chi_{\{\emptyset\}}$ . Thus every intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy submodule of  $E$  is a direct summand.

Let  $D$  be the sum of all intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy simple submodules of  $E$ . Then  $D$  is a direct summand of  $E$  so there exists  $D' \in IF_L(M)$  such that  $E = D \oplus D'$ . If  $D' \neq \chi_{\{\emptyset\}}$ , then there exists an intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy simple submodule  $G$  of  $D'$ . This gives  $G \subseteq D$ , a contradiction. Thus  $D' = \chi_{\{\emptyset\}}$ . This implies  $E = D$ . Hence  $E \subseteq \text{Soc}(A)$ .  $\square$

Using Theorem (3.3), Theorem (3.4) and Theorem (3.5), we get the following theorem.

**Theorem 3.6.** *Let  $L$  be a regular lattice and  $A \in IF_L(M)$ . If  $E$  is the intersection of all intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy essential submodules of  $A$ , then  $\text{Soc}(A) = E$ .*

**Theorem 3.7.** *Let  $L$  be a regular lattice and  $f : N \rightarrow M$  be a module homomorphism. If  $A \in IF_L(M)$  and  $B \in IF_L(N)$  such that  $f(B) \subseteq A$ , then  $f^{-1}(\text{Soc}(A)) \subseteq \text{Soc}(B)$ .*

*Proof.* This follows immediately by using Theorem (3.6), Theorem (2.12) and Corollary (2.9).  $\square$

**Theorem 3.8.** *Let  $L$  be a regular lattice and  $A, A_1, A_2 \in IF_L(M)$  such that  $A_1, A_2 \subseteq A$  and  $A = A_1 \oplus A_2$ . Then  $\text{Soc}(A) = \text{Soc}(A_1) \oplus \text{Soc}(A_2)$ .*

*Proof.* This follows immediately by using Theorem (3.6) and Corollaries (2.9) and (2.11).  $\square$

**Theorem 3.9.** *Let  $L$  be a regular lattice and  $A, B, C \in IF_L(M)$  such that  $A \subseteq B \subseteq C$ . If  $A$  is a direct summand of  $C$ , then  $A$  is also a direct summand of  $B$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $A$  is a direct summand of  $C$ , there exists  $A' \in IF_L(M)$  with  $A' \subseteq C$  such that  $A + A' = C$  and  $A \cap A' = \chi_{\{\emptyset\}}$ . Now  $(A + A') \cap B = B$ . Then by using Lemma (2.19) we get  $A + (A' \cap B) = B$ . Also  $A \cap (A' \cap B) = \chi_{\{\emptyset\}}$ . This implies that  $A$  is also a direct summand of  $B$ .  $\square$

**Definition 3.10.** *If  $A \in IF_L(M)$  and  $IF_L(A) = \{C \subseteq A : C \in IF_L(M)\}$ . Then  $IF_L(A)$  is intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy complemented if for all  $C \subseteq A, C \in IF_L(M)$  there exists  $C' \in IF_L(M)$  such that  $C \cap C' = \chi_{\{\emptyset\}}$  and  $C + C' = A$ . In other words,  $IF_L(A)$  is intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy complemented if every element of  $IF_L(A)$  is a direct summand of  $A$ .*

**Theorem 3.11.** *Let  $L$  be a regular lattice and  $A \in IF_L(M)$ . If  $A = \text{Soc}(A)$ , then  $IF_L(A)$  is intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy complemented and for any  $C \in IF_L(A)$ ,  $IF_L(C)$  is also intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy complemented.*

*Proof.* Since  $A = \text{Soc}(A)$ , then by Theorem (3.2)  $A$  has no proper intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy essential submodule. Let  $C$  be any intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy submodule of  $A$ . If  $B$  is a relative complement for  $C$  in  $A$ , then as Theorem (3.5) we get  $B \oplus C \leq_e A$ . But given that  $A$  has no proper intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy essential submodule, so  $B \oplus C = A$  and  $B$  being a relative complement for  $C$ , we get  $B \cap C = \chi_{\{\emptyset\}}$ . Hence  $IF_L(A)$  is intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy complemented.

Let  $B \in IF_L(M)$  and  $B \subseteq C$ . Then  $B \subseteq A$ . As  $IF_L(A)$  is intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy complemented, so there exists  $F \in IF_L(M)$  such that  $B + F = A$  and  $B \cap F = \chi_{\{\emptyset\}}$ .

Now

$$(C \cap F) \cap B = C \cap (F \cap B) = C \cap \chi_{\{\emptyset\}} = \chi_{\{\emptyset\}}.$$

Also by Lemma (2.8),

$$(C \cap F) + B = C \cap (F + B) = C \cap A = C.$$

Hence there exists  $C \cap F (\subseteq C) \in IF_L(M)$  such that  $(C \cap F) \cap B = \chi_{\{\emptyset\}}$  and  $(C \cap F) + B = C$ . Thus,  $IF_L(C)$  is intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy complemented.  $\square$

## 4 Conclusion

In this paper, we studied the concept of a socle of an intuitionistic fuzzy submodule of a module in the lattice setting. It is proved that if the socle of an intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy submodule  $A$  of an  $R$ -module  $M$  is  $A$ , then  $A$  has no proper intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy essential submodules. Further, we showed that if  $E$  is the intersection of all intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy essential submodules of  $A$ , then every non-zero intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy submodule of  $E$  contains a simple intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy submodule of  $E$ . Using this result, we showed that when  $L$  is regular, then  $\text{Soc}(A) = E$ . Apart from this we have also evaluated the socle of a direct sum of intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy submodules. Further, we showed that if  $A = \text{Soc}(A)$  and  $IF_L(A)$  is intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy complemented, then for any  $C \in IF_L(A)$ ,  $IF_L(C)$  is also intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy complemented. Finally, the investigations on the relations between the socle of intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy submodules and intuitionistic  $L$ -fuzzy prime submodules will provide various exciting results.

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