

1 **Similarity Measure between Pythagorean Fuzzy Sets based on Lower, Upper and Middle**
2 **Fuzzy Sets with Applications to Pattern Recognition and Multicriteria Decision Making**
3 **with PF-TODIM**

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8 **Abstract**

9 Similarity measure (SM) plays an important role to differentiate between objects. Similarity
10 measure of a Pythagorean fuzzy set (PFS) is very useful and effective to show the discrimination
11 between two Pythagorean fuzzy sets (PFSs). Therefore, in this paper, we suggest new similarity
12 measure between PFSs based on the information taken by converting the PFSs into their lower,
13 upper and middle fuzzy sets (FSs) to calculate the degree of similarity between PFSs. We
14 construct axiomatic definition for new SM of PFSs. Furthermore, we put forward a new way to
15 express the similarity measure of PFSs to show the competency, reliability and applicability. To
16 exhibit the reasonability and usefulness of proposed methods, we present several practical
17 examples related to pattern recognition and multicriteria decision making problems. Finally, we
18 construct an algorithm for Portuguese of interactive and multiple attributes decision making
19 (TODIM) method based proposed similarity measures to handle complex multicriteria decision
20 making problems related to day to day life. Our final results show that the suggested method is
21 reasonable, reliable and useful in managing different life setting complex decision making
22 problems in the context of Pythagorean fuzzy sets domain.

23 **Keywords:** Fuzzy Set, Pythagorean Fuzzy Sets, Similarity Measures, Pattern Recognition,
24 TODIM, Multicriteria Decision Making

25 **1. Introduction**

26 The concept of fuzzy sets was first proposed by (Zadeh, 1965). With a widely spread use in
27 various fields, fuzzy sets not only provide us a broad opportunity to measure uncertainties in
28 more powerful and logical way, but also are a meaningful way to represent vague concepts in
29 natural language. It is known that most systems based on crisp set theory or two valued logics are
30 somehow difficult for handling imprecise and vague information. In this sense, fuzzy sets can be
31 used and provide solutions to more real world problems. Furthermore, to treat more imprecise
32 and vague information in daily life, various applications and extensions of fuzzy sets are made
33 by researchers, such as multi attribute decision making (MADM) is a significant branch and it
34 plays an important role in human activities is given by (Garg, 2017, Zeng et al., 2018). Recently,
35 many tools have introduced for representing and communicating uncertainty. For example,
36 (Zadeh, 1965), introduced the fuzzy set (FS). The theory of fuzzy set has obtained a lot of
37 attention for many years, but the weakness of FS, just has a membership degree (MD) and
38 ignores unsure data in real DM problems. To overcome this disadvantage of FS, (Atanassov,
39 1986) gave the amazing concept of intuitionistic fuzzy sets (IFSs), with the characterization of
40 membership degree (MD) and non-membership degree (NMD) and the degree of hesitancy.
41 Thus, IFSs are more powerful and capable than fuzzy sets. The condition of IFSs state that the
42 sum of MD and NMD is always less or equal to 1. However, there exist circumstances where the
43 sum of MD and NMD is more than one. To overcome, this disadvantage, the new generalization
44 of IFSs called Pythagorean fuzzy sets (PFSs) was introduced by (Yager, 2013; Yager &
45 Abbasov, 2013), and Pythagorean membership grades in multicriteria decision making by
46 (Yager, 2013). The range of PFSs is much wider than IFS, in which the sum of the square of MD
47 and NMD is restricted to less than or equal to 1. For example, (0.6, 0.7), is that situation in which
48 both IFSs cannot evaluate the attribute value of (0.6, 0.7) because $0.6 + 0.7 > 1$ and $(0.6)^2 +$
49 $(0.7)^2 < 1$, respectively. Therefore, we can say that PFSs are more powerful and rigorous than
50 IFSs to handle incomplete information related to daily life. Fuzzy sets have many applications in
51 almost all fields such as clustering, image processing, mathematical programming, fuzzy control,

52 pattern recognition, water quality, engineering, medical diagnosis, business management,
53 decision making, data mining, etc. Application of fuzzy sets in soil science, fuzzy logic, fuzzy
54 measurements and fuzzy decisions is given by (Mcbratney & Odeh, 1997), an application of
55 fuzzy set theory to inventory control models is suggested by (Gen et al., 1997). On possible and
56 necessary inclusion of intuitionistic fuzzy sets is given by (Grzegorzewski, 2011). Image
57 enhancement using fuzzy set is proposed by (Pal & King, 1980). The similarity measures based
58 on lower, upper and middle fuzzy sets corresponding to PFSs, provides us a new way to
59 construct similarity measures between PFSs. On the basis of numerical analysis results, we find
60 that our new construction can handle amicably different problems related to daily life especially
61 problems involving in pattern recognition and multicriteria decision making process. As a
62 whole, our proposed construction method for similarity measures between PFSs can provide a
63 more effective way for measuring similarity degrees between PFSs. Similarity measure is a
64 significant instrument to determine the degree of SMs between two objects. (Kaufman &
65 Rousseeuw, 1990), introduced few models to present traditional similarity measures with
66 applications in various leveled group investigation. Different similarity measures between FSs
67 has been introduced. (Dengfeng & Chuntian, 2002), introduced a few SMs between IFSs utilized
68 in design recognition. (Liang & Shi, 2003) proposed similarity measures between IFSs and
69 furthermore present the connections between these measures with applications to design
70 recognition is given by (Mitchell, 2003). Deciphered IFSs as ensembles of ordered FSs from the
71 statistical perspective to change techniques is suggested by (Dengfeng & Chuntian, 2002).
72 (Liang & Shi, 2019) utilized numerical comparisons to express that their suggested SMs are
73 more reliable than those of (Dengfeng & Chuntian, 2002). (Hung & Yang, 2004) expressed a few
74 SMs between IFSs dependent on Hausdorff distance which are very much utilized with linguistic
75 variables. (Xu & Chen, 2008) gave the comparisons of distance and SMs between IFSs.
76 Pythagorean fuzzy sets are being used in variety of applications in almost all fields including
77 pattern recognition, multicriteria decision making, engineering, medical diagnosis, business
78 management, clustering etc. The similarity measure of constrained Pythagorean fuzzy sets
79 (CPFSSs) is presented by (Pan et al., 2021) suggested the complex distance measure of PFS and
80 apply it to pattern recognition. (Yang & Hussain, 2019) suggested distance and SM between
81 hesitant fuzzy sets and apply it to clustering. (Li & Lu, 2019) suggested many new distance and
82 SM between PFSs with its applications and give the concept of normalized Hamming and

83 Hausdorff distance. Fuzzy entropy for Pythagorean fuzzy sets with application to multicriterion
84 decision making is coined by (Yang & Hussain, 2018). Many distance and similarity measure of
85 PFSs with its applications are discussed in this literature (Hussain & Yang, 2019), (Li & Lu,
86 2019), (Peng & Garg, 2019), (Verma & Merijo, 2019) and (Zhao & Chen, 2019). Similarity
87 Measures for New Hybrid Models: mF Sets and mF Soft Sets s suggested by (Akram &
88 Waseem 2019) .A hybrid method for complex Pythagorean fuzzy decision making,
89 Mathematical Problems in Engineering is put forwarded by (Akram et al., 2021). Minimum
90 spanning tree hierarchical clustering algorithm: A new Pythagorean fuzzy similarity measure for
91 the analysis of functional brain networks is given by (Habib et al., 2022). A new outranking
92 method for multicriteria decision making with complex Pythagorean fuzzy information (Akram
93 et. al., 2022). Belief and plausibility measures on Pythagorean fuzzy sets and its applications
94 with BPI-VIKOR is proposed by (Hussain et al., 2022) An integrated ELECTRE-I approach for
95 risk evaluation with hesitant Pythagorean fuzzy information is proposed by (Akram et. al.,
96 2022). The similarity measure between two PFSs is very useful to indicate the degree of
97 resemblance between two objects. Generally, information systems in PFSs are carried out by its
98 lower, upper and middle fuzzy sets. In this manuscript, we put forward new construction for
99 similarity measures between PFSs based on lower, upper and middle fuzzy sets with the
100 objective to develop useful and reasonable similarity measures between PFSs. We have utilized
101 TODIM methods because the decision making outcome is determined by computing the degree
102 of gain or loss of an alternative relative to the rest, to better reflect the behavioral preference of
103 the decision makers.

104 The rest of the manuscript is arranged as follows. Section 2 consists of some basic
105 preliminaries about PFSs. In Section 3, we introduced new similarity measure between PFSs
106 based on the lower, upper and center FSs. In Section 4, we show the performance of our
107 proposed similarity measures using different examples. In section 5, we use Pythagorean fuzzy
108 TODIM method to manage problem involving multicriteria decision making. At the end,
109 conclusion is conveyed in Section 6.

110 2. Preliminaries

111 The basic concepts of IFS and PFS are respectively given in following section.

112 **Definition 1.** An intuitionistic fuzzy set (IFS) S in X is defined by (Atanassov, 1999), as an
113 object of the following form as,

$$114 \quad S = \left\{ \left(x_i, \mu_{\hat{S}}(x_i), \nu_{\hat{S}}(x_i) \right) : x_i \in X \right\},$$

115 where $\mu_{\hat{S}}(x_i): X \rightarrow [0,1]$, denotes the degree of membership of $x_i \in S$ and $\nu_{\hat{S}}(x_i): X \rightarrow [0,1]$,
116 denotes the degree of non-membership of $x_i \in \hat{S}$ and $0 \leq \mu_{\hat{S}}(x_i) + \nu_{\hat{S}}(x_i) \leq 1$. The degree of non
117 -determinacy of IFS \hat{S} is symbolized by the following relation $\pi_{\hat{S}}(x_i) = 1 - (\mu_{\hat{S}}(x_i) + \nu_{\hat{S}}(x_i))$.

118 **Definition 2.** A Pythagorean fuzzy set PFS G in X is given by (Yager & Abbasov, 2013) as

$$119 \quad G = \left\{ \left(x_i, \mu_G(x_i), \nu_G(x_i) \right) : x_i \in X \right\},$$

120 where $\mu_G(x_i): X \rightarrow [0,1]$, represents the degree of membership and $\nu_G(x_i): X \rightarrow [0,1]$,
121 represents the degree of membership. For every $x_i \in B$ with the condition that

$$122 \quad 0 \leq \mu_G^2(x_i) + \nu_G^2(x_i) \leq 1.$$

123 **Definition 3.** (Atanassov, 1999). For all $P \in PFSs(X)$, the following expression is termed as
124 Pythagorean index of the element $x_i \in G$

$$125 \quad \pi_G(x_i) = \sqrt{1 - \left\{ \mu_G^2(x_i) + \nu_G^2(x_i) \right\}}, \text{ It is obvious that } 0 \leq \pi_G^2(x_i) \leq 1, \forall x_i \in X.$$

126 **Definition 4.** Let P_1, P_2 and P_3 are three PFSs on X . A similarity $SM S(G, H)$ is mapped as,

127 $S : PFSs(X) \times PFSs(X) \rightarrow [0, 1]$ have the following operations

128 $(S_1) \quad 0 \leq S(G, H) \leq 1;$

129 $(S_2) \quad S(G, H) = 1 \text{ if } G = H;$

130 $(S_3) \quad S(G, H) = S(H, G);$

131 $(S_4) \quad S(G, H) \geq S(G, I) \text{ and } S(H, I) \geq S(G, I) \text{ if } G \subseteq H \subseteq I;$

132 $(S_5) \quad S(G, H) = 0 \text{ if } G = X \text{ and } H = \emptyset \text{ or } G = \emptyset \text{ and } H = X.$

133 **Definition 5.** (Peng et al., 2017) If G and H be two PFSs on X the following operations can be
134 define as follows:

135 (1) $G^c = \{ \langle x_i, \nu_G(x_i), \mu_G(x_i) \rangle : x_i \in X \};$

136 (2) $G \subseteq H \text{ iff } \forall x_i \in X, \mu_G(x_i) \leq \mu_H(x_i) \text{ and } \nu_G(x_i) \geq \nu_H(x_i);$

137 (3) $G = H \text{ iff } \forall x_i \in X, \mu_G(x_i) = \mu_H(x_i) \text{ and } \nu_G(x_i) = \nu_H(x_i);$

138 (4) $G \cap H = \{ x_i, \min(\mu_G(x_i), \mu_H(x_i)), \max(\nu_G(x_i), \nu_H(x_i)) \};$

139 (5) $G \cup H = \{ x_i, \max(\mu_G(x_i), \mu_H(x_i)), \min(\nu_G(x_i), \nu_H(x_i)) \}.$

140 3. Construction of new similarity measures

141 In this section, we construct some new and useful similarity measures between two PFSs. We
142 use **the similar idea** of (Hwang & Yang, 2013) and define some similarity measures on PFSs
143 based on lower, upper and middle Pythagorean fuzzy set. Let us take a PFS

144 $G = \{ \langle x_i, \mu_G(x_i), \nu_G(x_i) \rangle : x_i \in X \}$, we first define the lower, upper and middle Pythagorean
 145 **fuzzy sets** with reference to (Hwang & Yang, 2013; Gregorszewsk, 2011). Assume that the
 146 lower, upper and middle Pythagorean fuzzy **sets** are denoted by G^L, G^U and G^M respectively as
 147 follows:

$$148 \quad G^L = \{ \langle x_i, \mu_G^L(x_i), \nu_G^L(x_i) \rangle : x_i \in X \}, \mu_G^L(x_i) = \mu_G^2(x_i);$$

$$149 \quad G^U = \{ \langle x_i, \mu_G^U(x_i), \nu_G^U(x_i) \rangle : x_i \in X \}, \mu_G^U(x_i) = \mu_G^2(x_i) + \pi_G^2(x_i) = 1 - \nu_G^2(x_i);$$

$$150 \quad G^M = \{ \langle x_i, \mu_G^M(x_i) \rangle : x_i \in X \}, \mu_G^M(x_i) = \frac{\mu_G^2(x_i) + 1 - \nu_G^2(x_i)}{2}.$$

151 First, we extend the similarity measures between IFSs (Hwang & Yang, 2013) to the similarity
 152 measures between Pythagorean fuzzy sets as follows:

$$153 \quad \tilde{S}_C(G, H) = 1 - \frac{1}{2n} \sum_{i=1}^n \{ |\mu_G^2(x_i) - \nu_G^2(x_i)| - |\mu_H^2(x_i) - \nu_H^2(x_i)| \} \quad (1)$$

$$154 \quad \tilde{S}_H(G, H) = 1 - \frac{1}{2n} \sum_{i=1}^n \{ |\mu_G^2(x_i) - \mu_H^2(x_i)| - |\nu_G^2(x_i) - \nu_H^2(x_i)| \} \quad (2)$$

$$155 \quad \begin{aligned} \tilde{S}_L(G, H) = 1 - \frac{1}{4n} \sum_{i=1}^n \{ & |\mu_G^2(x_i) - \nu_G^2(x_i)| - |\mu_H^2(x_i) - \nu_H^2(x_i)| \} \\ & - \frac{1}{4n} \sum_{i=1}^n \{ |\mu_G^2(x_i) - \mu_H^2(x_i)| - |\nu_G^2(x_i) - \nu_H^2(x_i)| \} \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

$$156 \quad \tilde{S}_O(G, H) = 1 - \sqrt{\frac{1}{2n} \sum_{i=1}^n \{ |\mu_G^2(x_i) - \mu_H^2(x_i)|^2 \}} \quad (4)$$

$$157 \quad \tilde{S}_{DC}(G, H) = 1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt[p]{n}} \sqrt[p]{\sum_{i=1}^n |\tilde{m}_G(i) - \tilde{m}_H(i)|^p} \quad (5)$$

158 where $\tilde{m}_G(i) = (\mu_G^2(x_i) + 1 - \nu_G^2(x_i)) / 2$ and $\tilde{m}_H(i) = (\mu_H^2(x_i) + 1 - \nu_H^2(x_i)) / 2$ $1 \leq P < \infty$.

159 $\tilde{S}_{HF}(G, H) = \frac{1}{2}(\rho\tilde{\mu}^2(G, H) + \rho\tilde{\nu}^2(G, H))$ (6)

160 where

161 $\rho\tilde{\mu}^2(G, H) = 1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt[p]{n}} \sqrt[p]{\sum_{i=1}^n |\mu_G^2(x_i) - \mu_H^2(x_i)|^p}$ and $\rho\tilde{\nu}^2(G, H) = 1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt[p]{n}} \sqrt[p]{\sum_{i=1}^n |\nu_G^2(x_i) - \nu_H^2(x_i)|^p}$

162

163 $\tilde{S}_e^p(G, H) = 1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt[p]{n}} \sqrt[p]{\sum_{i=1}^n (\tilde{\phi}_{iGH} + \tilde{\phi}_{jGH}(i))^p}$ (7)

164 where

165 $\tilde{\phi}_{iGH}(i) = |\mu_G^2(x_i) - \mu_H^2(x_i)|/2$ and $\tilde{\phi}_{jGH}(i) = |(1 - \nu_G^2(x_i)) - (1 - \nu_H^2(x_i))|/2$ $1 \leq P < \infty$

166 $\tilde{S}_s^p(G, H) = 1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt[p]{n}} \sqrt[p]{\sum_{i=1}^n (\tilde{Q}_{s1}(x_i) + \tilde{Q}_{s2}(x_i))^p}$ (8)

167 $\tilde{Q}_{s1}(x_i) = |\tilde{m}_{G1}(x_i) - \tilde{m}_{H1}(x_i)|/2$, $\tilde{Q}_{s2}(x_i) = |\tilde{m}_{G2}(x_i) - \tilde{m}_{H2}(x_i)|/2$, $\tilde{m}_{G1}(i) = (\tilde{\mu}_G^2(x_i) + \tilde{m}_G(i))/2$,

168 $\tilde{m}_{G2}(i) = (\tilde{m}_G(i) + 1 - \tilde{\nu}_G(i))/2$, $\tilde{m}_{H1}(i) = (\tilde{\mu}_H^2(i) + \tilde{m}_H(x_i))/2$, $\tilde{m}_{H2}(i) = (\tilde{m}_H(i) + 1 - \tilde{\nu}_H(i))/2$.

169 $\tilde{S}_{HB}(G, H) = \frac{1}{2}(\tilde{\rho}_\mu^2(G, H) + \tilde{\rho}_\nu^2(G, H))$ (9)

170 where $\tilde{\rho}_\mu^2(G, H) = 1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt[p]{n}} \sqrt[p]{\sum_{i=1}^n |\tilde{\mu}_G^2(x_i) - \tilde{\mu}_H^2(x_i)|^p}$ and $\tilde{\rho}_\nu^2(G, H) = 1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt[p]{n}} \sqrt[p]{\sum_{i=1}^n |\tilde{\nu}_G^2(x_i) - \tilde{\nu}_H^2(x_i)|^p}$

171 Next, we extend the above defined similarity measures Eqs. (1) - (9) between two PFSs G and H

172 to the similarity measures between two PFSs G and H based on below, above and center (bac)

173 fuzzy sets respectively as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
\tilde{S}_{lumc}(G, H) &= 1 - \frac{1}{3n} \sum_{i=1}^n |\mu_G^2(x_i) - \mu_H^2(x_i)| + |\nu_G^2(x_i) - \nu_H^2(x_i)| \\
&+ \frac{1}{2} |\mu_G^2(x_i) - \mu_H^2(x_i) + \nu_G^2(x_i) - \nu_H^2(x_i)|
\end{aligned} \tag{10}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\tilde{S}_{lumH}(G, H) &= 1 - \frac{1}{3n} \sum_{i=1}^n |\mu_G^2(x_i) - \mu_H^2(x_i)| + |\nu_G^2(x_i) - \nu_H^2(x_i)| \\
&+ \frac{1}{2} |\mu_G^2(x_i) - \mu_H^2(x_i) + \nu_G^2(x_i) - \nu_H^2(x_i)|
\end{aligned} \tag{11}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\tilde{S}_{lumL}(G, H) &= 1 - \frac{1}{3n} \sum_{i=1}^n |\mu_G^2(x_i) - \mu_H^2(x_i)| + |\nu_G^2(x_i) - \nu_H^2(x_i)| \\
&+ \frac{1}{2} |\mu_G^2(x_i) - \mu_H^2(x_i) + \nu_G^2(x_i) - \nu_H^2(x_i)|
\end{aligned} \tag{12}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\tilde{S}_{lumO}(G, H) &= 1 - \frac{1}{3} \left(\sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n |\mu_G^2(x_i) - \mu_H^2(x_i)|^2} + \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n |\nu_G^2(x_i) - \nu_H^2(x_i)|^2} \right. \\
&\left. + \sqrt{\frac{1}{4n} \sum_{i=1}^n |\mu_G^2(x_i) - \mu_H^2(x_i) + \nu_G^2(x_i) - \nu_H^2(x_i)|^2} \right)
\end{aligned} \tag{13}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\tilde{S}_{lumDC}(G, H) &= 1 - \frac{1}{3} \left(\sqrt[p]{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n |\mu_G^2(x_i) - \mu_H^2(x_i)|^p} + \sqrt[p]{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n |\nu_G^2(x_i) - \nu_H^2(x_i)|^p} \right. \\
&\left. + \sqrt[p]{\frac{1}{2^p n} \sum_{i=1}^n |\mu_G^2(x_i) - \mu_H^2(x_i) + \nu_G^2(x_i) - \nu_H^2(x_i)|^p} \right)
\end{aligned} \tag{14}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\tilde{S}_{lumHB}(G, H) &= 1 - \frac{1}{3} \left(\sqrt[p]{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n |\mu_G^2(x_i) - \mu_H^2(x_i)|^p} + \sqrt[p]{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n |\nu_G^2(x_i) - \nu_H^2(x_i)|^p} \right. \\
&\left. + \sqrt[p]{\frac{1}{2^p n} \sum_{i=1}^n |\mu_G^2(x_i) - \mu_H^2(x_i) + \nu_G^2(x_i) - \nu_H^2(x_i)|^p} \right)
\end{aligned} \tag{15}$$

180

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{S}_{leum}^p(G, H) = & 1 - \frac{1}{3} \left(\sqrt[p]{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n |\mu_G^2(x_i) - \mu_H^2(x_i)|^p} + \sqrt[p]{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n |v_G^2(x_i) - v_H^2(x_i)|^p} \right. \\ & \left. + \sqrt[p]{\frac{1}{2^p n} \sum_{i=1}^n |\mu_G^2(x_i) - \mu_H^2(x_i) + v_G^2(x_i) - v_H^2(x_i)|^p} \right) \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

181

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{S}_{lsum}^p(G, H) = & 1 - \frac{1}{3} \left(\sqrt[p]{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n |\mu_G^2(x_i) - \mu_H^2(x_i)|^p} + \sqrt[p]{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n |v_G^2(x_i) - v_H^2(x_i)|^p} \right. \\ & \left. + \sqrt[p]{\frac{1}{2^p n} \sum_{i=1}^n |\mu_G^2(x_i) - \mu_H^2(x_i) + v_G^2(x_i) - v_H^2(x_i)|^p} \right) \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

$$\tilde{S}_{lum}^p(G, H) = 1 - \frac{1}{3} \left(\sqrt[p]{\frac{2^p}{3^p n} \sum_{i=1}^n |\mu_G^2(x_i) - \mu_H^2(x_i)|^p} + \sqrt[p]{\frac{2^p}{3^p n} \sum_{i=1}^n |v_G^2(x_i) - v_H^2(x_i)|^p} + \sqrt[p]{\frac{1}{3^p n} \sum_{i=1}^n |\mu_G^2(x_i) - \mu_H^2(x_i) + v_H^2(x_i) - v_G^2(x_i)|^p} \right) \quad (18)$$

182

183 To show the reasonability and usefulness of our proposed similarity measures of Eqs. (10) –
 184 (18), we put forward the following examples.

185 4. Demonstration of Results and Application

186 In the following section, we present some practical examples related to pattern recognition and
 187 multicriteria decision making to show reasonability and practicability of our proposed similarity
 188 measures of Eqs. (10) – (18) as follows:

189 **Example 1.** Let G and H be two PFSs which are express in the following Table 1,

190 Table 1, reflects the calculation of suggested similarity measures using Eqs. (1) - (9). The
 191 numerical **result shows** the reasonability of our proposed methods of calculating similarities
 192 between PFSs. Next, we utilized our newly constructed similarity measures Eqs. (10) - (18)
 193 based on lower upper and middle fuzzy sets to calculate similarity measures between PFSs.

194 **Examples 2.** Let G and H be two PFSs which are express in the Table 2. From the numerical
 195 simulations of Table 2, it is clear that the newly constructed similarity measures of Eqs. (10) -
 196 (18) based on lower, upper and middle fuzzy sets are reasonable and appropriate. In the
 197 following subsection, we apply our proposed similarity measures of Eqs. (10) – (18) in handling
 198 problems related **pattern recognition**.

199 4.1 Application to Pattern Recognition

200 In this subsection, we particularly use our similarity measures of Eqs. (10) – (18) in application
 201 in pattern recognition. We utilize the law of maximum similarity between two PFSs to measure
 202 the similarity between two PFSs.

203 **Example 3.** Let G_1 and G_2 are two given patterns in PFSs in finite universe of discourse X .

204 $G_1 = \{(x, 0.70, 0.70)\}$ and $G_2 = \{(x, 0.80, 0.30)\}$.

205 We have a sample Q which is expressed by the PFSs

206 $Q = \{(x, 0.70, 0.50)\}$

207 The objective is to recognize the sample Q with one of the given patterns G_1 and G_2 , using the
 208 principle of maximum degree of similarity between two PFSs the procedure of transmission Q to
 209 G_m is

210
$$S_{PFS,m} = \arg \max_{1 \leq i \leq 2} (S_{PFS}(G_i, Q))$$

211 Utilizing the proposed similarity measures of Eqs. (10) – (18) between PFSs, we have the
 212 following G_i , $i = 1, 2$ and Q . The calculation of similarity measures of Eqs. (10) – (18) are
 213 given as follows:

214 G_i , $i = 1, 2$ and Q . The calculation of similarity measures Eqs. (1) - (18) are given as follows

215 $\tilde{S}_C(G_1, Q) = 0.88$, $\tilde{S}_C(G_2, Q) = 0.896$, $\tilde{S}_{lumC}(G_1, Q) = 0.64$, $\tilde{S}_{lumC}(G_2, Q) = 0.86$,

216 $\tilde{S}_H(G_1, Q) = 0.88$, $\tilde{S}_H(G_2, Q) = 0.86$, $\tilde{S}_{lumH}(G_1, Q) = 0.64$, $\tilde{S}_{lumH}(G_2, Q) = 0.86$,

217 $\tilde{S}_L(G_1, Q) = 0.88$, $\tilde{S}_L(G_2, Q) = 0.86$, $\tilde{S}_{lumL}(G_1, Q) = 0.88$, $\tilde{S}_{lumL}(G_2, Q) = 0.86$,

218 $\tilde{S}_0(G_1, Q) = 0.65, \tilde{S}_0(G_2, Q) = 0.86, \tilde{S}_{lumO}(G_1, Q) = 0.99, \tilde{S}_{lumO}(G_2, Q) = 0.86,$

219 $\tilde{S}_{Dc}(G_1, Q) = 0.88, \tilde{S}_{DC}(G_2, Q) = 0.86, \tilde{S}_{lumDC}(G_1, Q) = 0.88, \tilde{S}_{lumDC}(G_2, Q) = 0.86,$

220 $\tilde{S}_{HB}(G_1, Q) = 0.88, \tilde{S}_{HB}(G_2, Q) = 0.86, \tilde{S}_{lumHB}(G_1, Q) = 0.88, \tilde{S}_{lumHB}(G_2, Q) = 0.86,$

221 $\tilde{S}_e^P(G_1, Q) = 0.88, \tilde{S}_e^P(G_2, Q) = 0.86, \tilde{S}_{lume}^P(G_1, Q) = 0.88, \tilde{S}_{lume}^P(G_2, Q) = 0.86,$

222 $\tilde{S}_s^P(G_1, Q) = 0.79, \tilde{S}_s^P(G_2, Q) = 0.86, \tilde{S}_{lums}^P(G_1, Q) = 0.88, \tilde{S}_{lums}^P(G_2, Q) = 0.86,$

223 $\tilde{S}_h^P(G_1, Q) = 0.93, \tilde{S}_h^P(G_2, Q) = 0.99, \tilde{S}_{lumh}^P(G_1, Q) = 0.95, \tilde{S}_{lumh}^P(G_2, Q) = 0.92.$

224 Intuitively, we expect that Q should belong to the pattern G_I . The above numerically computed
 225 results shows that the sample Q belongs to the pattern G_I according to the principle of maximum
 226 degree of similarity between PFSs. Most of the similarity measures are agreed expect few
 227 conflicts with negligible error. This might the result of poor approximation. So we can conclude
 228 that the sample Q belong to the pattern G_I according to the principle of maximum degree of
 229 similarity between PFSs.

230 Next, we propose Pythagorean fuzzy TODIM to apply our propose similarity measure in an
 231 application to daily life matters containing complex multicriteria decision making process.

232 **5. Pythagorean Fuzzy TODIM**

233 Step 1: The Pythagorean fuzzy decision matrix with respect to alternatives $\tilde{H}_i, i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, m$ to
 234 the criteria $\tilde{C}_j, j = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n$ is given as follows:

$$\begin{array}{l}
235 \\
\end{array}
\tilde{R} = (r_{ij})_{m \times n} = \begin{array}{c|cccc}
\tilde{H}_i / \tilde{C}_j & \tilde{C}_1 & \tilde{C}_2 & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \tilde{C}_n \\
\hline
\tilde{H}_1 & r_{11} & r_{12} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & r_{1j} \\
\tilde{H}_2 & r_{21} & r_{22} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & r_{2j} \\
\cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\
\cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\
\tilde{H}_m & r_{i1} & r_{i2} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & r_{ij}
\end{array}$$

236 Step 2: The transform of the decision matrix to the normalized Pythagorean decision matrix as
237 follows:

$$238 \quad \tilde{L} = (l_{ij})_{m \times n} = \begin{cases} r_{ij} & \text{for beneficial attribute} \\ (r_{ij})^c & \text{for cost attribute} \end{cases}$$

239 Step 3: Calculation of the relative weights of criteria by following formula

$$240 \quad \tilde{w}_{jr} = \tilde{w}_j / \tilde{w}_r, \quad 0 \leq w_{jr} \leq 1$$

$$241 \quad \tilde{w}_r = \max[\tilde{w}_j : j = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n] \text{ and } 0 \leq \tilde{w}_{jr} \leq 1$$

242 Step 4: Calculate the dominance degree of each alternative \tilde{H}_i over each alternative \tilde{H}_t with
243 respect to the criterion by \tilde{C}_j using,

$$244 \quad \tilde{\phi}_j(\tilde{H}_i, \tilde{H}_t) = \begin{cases} \sqrt{\frac{\tilde{w}_{rj} d(\tilde{I}_{ij}, \tilde{I}_{tj})}{\sum_{j=1}^n \tilde{w}_{jr}}} & \text{if } \tilde{I}_{ij} > \tilde{I}_{tj} \\ 0 & \text{if } \tilde{I}_{ij} = \tilde{I}_{tj} \\ -\frac{1}{\tilde{\theta}} \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{j=1}^n \tilde{w}_{rj} d(\tilde{I}_{ij}, \tilde{I}_{tj})}{\tilde{w}_{jr}}} & \text{if } \tilde{I}_{ij} < \tilde{I}_{tj} \end{cases}$$

245 Step 5: Calculate the overall dominance degree of \tilde{H}_i over each alternative \tilde{H}_t using

$$246 \quad \tilde{\delta}(\tilde{H}_i, \tilde{H}_t) = \sum_{j=1}^n \tilde{\phi}_j(\tilde{H}_i, \tilde{H}_t)$$

247 $\tilde{\delta}(\tilde{H}_i, \tilde{H}_t)$ denotes the measurement of dominance of alternative \tilde{H}_i over alternative \tilde{H}_t

248 Step 6: Derive the overall value of each alternative \tilde{H}_i by using

$$249 \quad \varepsilon_i = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \tilde{\delta}(\tilde{H}_i, \tilde{H}_t) - \min_i \left(\sum_{i=1}^m \tilde{\delta}(\tilde{H}_i, \tilde{H}_t) \right)}{\max_i \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^m \tilde{\delta}(\tilde{H}_i, \tilde{H}_t) \right\} - \min_i \left(\sum_{i=1}^m \tilde{\delta}(\tilde{H}_i, \tilde{H}_t) \right)}$$

250 Clearly, $0 \leq \varepsilon_i \leq 1$, and we select the greater value of ε_i and consider this as better alternative \tilde{H}_i .

251 Thus, one can choose the appropriate alternative, in accordance with a descending order of the

252 overall values of all the alternatives.

253 Step: 7 Find the best alternatives according to the given values.

254 **Example 4.** (Application in vehicle selection)

255 Consider a customer wants to purchase a new model car. Assume that four types of cars as
 256 alternative A_j ($j= 1,2,3,4$) are available in the market. The customer considers the following four
 257 criterias before buying a new model car:

258 C_1 : *Economical to operate*, C_2 : *Price*, C_3 : *Reliable*, C_4 : *Capacious*.

259 We noticed that C_2 is cost attribute while other three are benefit attributes. The evaluated values
 260 of alternatives A_i over criteria are given in the decision making Table 3.

261 As D_2 is cost attribute so we have to find the compliment of C_2 for normalize the decision matrix
 262 and is given in Table 4.

263 Assume that the weights are known, so we denote these four criterias as C_j where $j=1,2,3,4$ and
 264 their respective weighted vector is represented by $w=(0.40, 0.30, 0.20, 0.10)$.

265 Step 3: Since w_1 is maximum of all other weights than C_1 is reference criteria and the weight
 266 $w_r = 0.4$. So, the relative weight of all the given criteria C_j ($j=1,2,3,4$) are

267
$$w_r = \max \{w_j, j = 1, 2, 3, 4\}$$

268 $w_{1r} = 0.4/0.4 = 1, \quad w_{2r} = 0.2/0.4 = 0.5, \quad w_{3r} = 0.1/0.4 = 0.25, \quad w_{4r} = 0.3/0.4 = 0.75$

269
$$\sum_{i=1}^n w_{jr} = 1 + 0.75 + 0.5 + 0.25 = 2.5 = \theta$$

270 Step 4: Calculation of the degree of dominance by using

271
$$d(G, H) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n |\mu_G^2(x_i) - \mu_H^2(x_i)| \vee |v_G^2(x_i) - v_H^2(x_i)|$$

272
$$\phi_1(A_x, A_t) (x, y = 1, 2, 3, 4)$$

273 The calculated values are given in Table 5, 6, 7, and 8 respectively.

274 The overall dominance degree of A_i is mentioned in Table 9.

275 The overall value of dominance degree of A_i over each alternative A_j can be find as

276
$$\varepsilon_i = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \delta(A_x, A_t) - \min_i \left(\sum_{i=1}^m \delta(A_x, A_t) \right)}{\max_i \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^m \delta(A_x, A_t) \right\} - \min_i \sum_{i=1}^m \delta(A_x, A_t)}$$

277
$$\varepsilon_1 = \frac{3.1506 - (-6.0942)}{7.528 - (-6.0942)} = 0.6787, \varepsilon_2 = \frac{-6.0942 - (-6.0942)}{7.528 - (-6.0942)} = 0$$

278
$$\varepsilon_3 = \frac{7.528 - (-6.0942)}{7.528 - (-6.0942)} = 1, \varepsilon_4 = \frac{5.9042 - (-6.0942)}{7.528 - (-6.0942)} = 0.88.$$

279 Final ranking is mentioned in Table 10. From Table 10, we conclude that the final ranking is

280 made according to descending order as

281
$$A_3 \succ A_4 \succ A_1 \succ A_2$$

282 From the above ranking of alternatives, it is clear that the alternative A_3 is considered as the best

283 among all available four alternatives. The ranking of alternatives A_i are carried out in descending

284 order based on the overall value ε_i of each alternative \tilde{H}_i . The alternative A_i having the highest

285 overall value is selected as the best alternative. Hence, the alternative A_3 is considered as the best

286 alternative.

287 **6. Conclusions**

288 Varieties of information measures are suggested in the literature but still there is space to
289 improve, modify and to create new ones. Adopting the similarity measures between PFSs based
290 on lower, middle and upper fuzzy sets, we provide a novel way of constructing similarity
291 measures between PFSs. The new similarity measure between PFSs based on the information
292 taken by converting the PFSs into their lower, upper and middle fuzzy sets (FSs) to calculate the
293 degree of similarity between PFSs is very effective and useful. On the basis of numerical
294 analysis results, we found that our novel construction provides very useful and reasonable
295 results. Applications of our proposed methods related to pattern recognition and multicriteria
296 decision making show the usefulness and practical applicability of proposed methods. **Finally,**
297 **Pythagorean fuzzy TODIM method based on our proposed similarity measures is constructed to**
298 **handle complex problems related to daily life. Holistically, our suggested measures between**
299 **PFSs can provide a more reasonable and effective way of calculating degree of similarity**
300 **between PFSs.**

301 **Future Direction**

302 In the future, we will consider clustering objects in uncertain and ambiguous environments using
303 our proposed new construction method for similarity measures between PFSs.

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307 **Competing interests**

308 The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

309 **Authors' contributions**

310 All authors contributed equally. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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Table 1. Calculations of similarity measures of PFSs using Eqs. (1) - (9).

	1	2	3	4	5	6
G	(0.7, 0.7)	(0.6, 0.5)	(0.2, 0.5)	(0.6, 0.6)	(0.6, 0.4)	(0.3, 0.4)
H	(0.8, 0.4)	(0.8, 0.4)	(0.4, 0.6)	(0.9, 0.2)	(0.5, 0.7)	(0.2, 0.2)
\tilde{S}_c	0.7200	0.7050	0.7950	0.6150	0.9800	0.9650
\tilde{S}_L	0.6000	0.8025	0.8475	0.4425	0.9150	0.9325
\tilde{S}_H	0.8799	0.9527	0.9807	0.7964	0.8851	0.9843
\tilde{S}_O	0.6534	0.7825	0.8611	0.5487	0.6610	0.8749
\tilde{S}_{DC}	0.7600	0.8150	0.9950	0.6150	0.7800	0.9650
\tilde{S}_s^p	0.7200	0.8200	0.9000	0.6200	0.7800	0.900
\tilde{S}_{HB}	0.7300	0.8200	0.9000	0.6200	0.7800	0.9200
\tilde{S}_s^p	0.7300	0.1960	0.7200	0.6200	0.8100	0.9700
\tilde{S}_h^p	0.8800	0.9600	0.9600	0.9700	0.9600	0.6200

Table 2. Calculations of similarity measures of PFSs using Eqs. (10) - (18)

	1	2	3	4	5	6
G	(0.7, 0.7)	(0.6, 0.5)	(0.2, 0.5)	(0.6, 0.6)	(0.6, 0.4)	(0.3, 0.4)
H	(0.8, 0.4)	(0.8, 0.4)	(0.4, 0.6)	(0.9, 0.2)	(0.5, 0.7)	(0.2, 0.2)
\tilde{S}_{lumc}	0.73	0.82	0.92	0.62	0.78	0.92
\tilde{S}_{lumH}	0.73	0.82	0.92	0.62	0.78	0.92
\tilde{S}_{lumL}	0.73	0.82	0.92	0.62	0.78	0.92
\tilde{S}_{lumO}	0.73	0.82	0.92	0.62	0.78	0.92
\tilde{S}_{lumDC}	0.73	0.82	0.92	0.62	0.78	0.92
\tilde{S}_{lumHB}	0.73	0.82	0.92	0.62	0.78	0.92
\tilde{S}_{leum}^p	0.73	0.82	0.92	0.62	0.78	0.92
\tilde{S}_{lsum}^p	0.73	0.82	0.92	0.62	0.78	0.92
\tilde{S}_{lum}^p	0.82	0.91	0.95	0.74	0.85	0.95

Table 3. Pythagorean fuzzy decision matrix

	C_1	C_2	C_3	C_4
A_1	(0.60, 0.70)	(0.70, 0.30)	(0.50, 0.40)	(0.60, 0.60)
A_2	(0.50, 0.50)	(0.60, 0.50)	(0.40, 0.30)	(0.40, 0.70)
A_3	(0.80, 0.20)	(0.80, 0.30)	(0.40, 0.60)	(0.80, 0.40)
A_4	(0.70, 0.50)	(0.70, 0.70)	(0.70, 0.20)	(0.50, 0.60)

Table 4. The normalized decision matrix

	C_1	C_2	C_3	C_4
A_1	(0.60,0.70)	(0.30,0.70)	(0.50,0.40)	(0.60,0.60)
A_2	(0.50,0.50)	(0.50,0.60)	(0.40,0.30)	(0.40,0.70)
A_3	(0.80,0.20)	(0.30,0.80)	(0.40,0.60)	(0.80,0.40)
A_4	(0.70,0.50)	(0.70,0.70)	(0.70,0.20)	(0.50,0.60)

Table 5. The matrix for criteria C_1

	A_1	A_2	A_3	A_4
A_1	0.0000	0.6000	-0.4500	-0.3098
A_2	-0.3098	0.0000	-0.3900	-0.3200
A_3	1.0600	0.9800	0.0000	0.7200
A_4	0.7700	0.7700	0.2890	0.0000

Table 6. The matrix for criteria C_2

	A_1	A_2	A_3	A_4
A_1	0.0000	0.8940	-0.3460	-0.5656
A_2	-0.3577	0.0000	-0.4730	-1.3856
A_3	0.7500	1.183	0.0000	1.4140
A_4	-0.6066	1.0900	-1.4140	0.0000

Table 7. The matrix for criteria C_3

	A_1	A_2	A_3	A_4
A_1	0.0000	0.9480	1.4140	-0.1690
A_2	-0.3794	0.0000	-0.6570	-0.7260
A_3	-0.5656	-0.6570	0.0000	-0.7260
A_4	1.4140	1.8160	1.8160	0.0000

Table 8. The matrix for criteria C₄

	A_1	A_2	A_3	A_4
A_1	0.0000	0.8660	-0.3860	0.6550
A_2	-32650	0.0000	-0.5059	-0.2633
A_3	0.9660	1.2640	0.0000	1.1400
A_4	-0.2422	0.6580	-0.4560	0.0000

Table 9. The overall dominance degree

	A_1	A_2	A_3	A_4	$\sum_{i=1}^n \phi_y(A_x, A_t)$
A_1	0.0000	3.3080	0.2320	-0.3894	3.1506
A_2	-1.3734	0.0000	-2.0259	-2.6949	-6.0942
A_3	2.2104	2.7700	0.0000	2.5480	7.5280
A_4	1.3352	4.3340	0.235	0.0000	5.9042

Table 10. Ranking of alternatives

	A_1	A_2	A_3	A_4
ε_i	0.6787	0.0000	1.0000	0.8800