

# Reliability and Importance

## Discounting of Neutrosophic Masses

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In this paper, we introduce for the first time the discounting of a neutrosophic mass in terms of reliability and respectively the importance of the source.

We show that reliability and importance discounts commute when dealing with classical masses.

Let  $\Phi = \{\Phi_1, \Phi_2, \dots, \Phi_n\}$  be the frame of discernment, where  $n \geq 2$ , and the set of elements:

$$F = \{A_1, A_2, \dots, A_m\}, \text{ for } m \geq 1, F \subset G^\Phi. \quad (1)$$

Let  $G^\Phi = (\Phi, \cup, \cap, \mathcal{C})$  be the

A  $m$ -ary is defined as follows:

$$m_n: G \rightarrow [0, 1]^3$$

$$\text{for any } x \in G, m_n(x) = (t(x), i(x), f(x)), \quad (2)$$

where  $t(x) =$  believe that  $x$  will occur (truth);

$i(x) =$  indeterminacy about occurrence;

and  $f(x) =$  believe that  $x$  will not occur (falsity).

Simply, we say in neutrosophic logic:

$$t(x) = \text{believe in } x;$$

$$i(x) = \text{believe in neut}(x)$$

[the neutral of  $x$ , i.e. neither  $x$  nor  $\text{anti}(x)$ ];

and  $f(x) = \text{believe in anti}(x)$  [the opposite of  $x$ ].

Of course,  $t(x), i(x), f(x) \in [0, 1]$ , and

$$\sum_{x \in G} [t(x) + i(x) + f(x)] = 1, (3)$$

while

$$m_n(\phi) = (0, 0, 0). (4)$$

It is possible that according to some parameters (or data) a source is able to predict the believe in a hypothesis  $x$  to occur, while according to other parameters (or other data) the same source may be able to find the believe in  $x$  not occurring, and upon a third category of parameters (or data) the source may find some indeterminacy (ambiguity) about hypothesis occurrence.

An element  $x \in G$  is called **non-neutral** if

$$n_m(x) \neq (0, 0, 0), (5)$$

i.e.  $t(x) > 0$  or  $i(x) > 0$  or  $f(x) > 0$ .

Any **non-neutral**  $m$ :

$$m : G^\phi \rightarrow [0, 1] (6)$$

can be simply written as a neutrosophic mass as:

$$m(A) = (m(A), 0, 0). (7)$$

Let  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3)$  be the reliability coefficient of the source,  $\alpha \in [0,1]^3$ .

Then, for any  $x \in G^\theta \setminus \{\theta, I_t\}$ ,

where  $\theta =$  the empty set

and  $I_t =$  total ignorance,

$$m_n(x)_\alpha = (\alpha_1 t(x), \alpha_2 i(x), \alpha_3 f(x)), \quad (8)$$

and

$$m_n(I_t)_\alpha = \left( t(I_t) + (1 - \alpha_1) \sum_{x \in G^\theta \setminus \{\phi, I_t\}} t(x), \right. \\ \left. i(I_t) + (1 - \alpha_2) \sum_{x \in G^\theta \setminus \{\phi, I_t\}} i(x), f(I_t) + (1 - \alpha_3) \sum_{x \in G^\theta \setminus \{\phi, I_t\}} f(x) \right) \quad (9),$$

and, of course,

$$m_n(\phi)_\alpha = (0, 0, 0).$$

The missing mass of each element  $x$ , for  $x \neq \phi, x \neq I_t$ , is transferred to the mass of the total ignorance in the following way:

$$t(x) - \alpha_1 t(x) = (1 - \alpha_1) \cdot t(x) \text{ is transferred to } t(I_t), \quad (10)$$

$$i(x) - \alpha_2 i(x) = (1 - \alpha_2) \cdot i(x) \text{ is transferred to } i(I_t), \quad (11)$$

$$\text{and } f(x) - \alpha_3 f(x) = (1 - \alpha_3) \cdot f(x) \text{ is transferred to } f(I_t). \quad (12)$$

$$m_n(x)_{\beta_1} = (\beta \cdot t(x), i(x), f(x) + (1 - \beta) \cdot t(x)), (13)$$

Let  $\beta \in [0, 1]$  be the importance coefficient of the source. This discounting can be done in several ways.

- a. For any  $x \in G^\theta \setminus \{\phi\}$ ,

$$m_n(x)_{\beta_1} = (\beta \cdot t(x), i(x), f(x) + (1 - \beta) \cdot t(x)), (13)$$

which means that  $t(x)$ , the believe in  $x$ , is diminished to  $\beta \cdot t(x)$ , and the missing mass,  $t(x) - \beta \cdot t(x) = (1 - \beta) \cdot t(x)$ , is transferred to the believe in *anti*( $x$ ).

- b. Another way:

For any  $x \in G^\theta \setminus \{\phi\}$ ,

$$m_n(x)_{\beta_2} = (\beta \cdot t(x), i(x) + (1 - \beta) \cdot t(x), f(x)), (14)$$

which means that  $t(x)$ , the believe in  $x$ , is similarly diminished to  $\beta \cdot t(x)$ , and the missing mass  $(1 - \beta) \cdot t(x)$  is now transferred to the believe in *neut*( $x$ ).

- c. The third way is the most general, putting together the first and second ways.

For any  $x \in G^\theta \setminus \{\phi\}$ ,

$$m_n(x)_{\beta_3} = (\beta \cdot t(x), i(x) + (1 - \beta) \cdot t(x) \cdot \gamma, f(x) + (1 - \beta) \cdot t(x) \cdot (1 - \gamma)), (15)$$

where  $\gamma \in [0, 1]$  is a parameter that splits the missing mass  $(1 - \beta) \cdot t(x)$  a part to  $i(x)$  and the other part to  $f(x)$ .

For  $\gamma = 0$ , one gets the first way of distribution, and when  $\gamma = 1$ , one gets the second way of distribution.

« Not Co©©±°; »

**a. Reliability first, Importance second.**

For any  $x \in G^\theta \setminus \{\phi, I_t\}$ , one has after reliability  $\alpha$  discounting, where

$$\alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3):$$

$$m_n(x)_\alpha = (\alpha_1 \cdot t(x), \alpha_2 \cdot t(x), \alpha_3 \cdot f(x)), \quad (16)$$

and

$$m_n(I_t)_\alpha = \left( t(I_t) + (1 - \alpha_1) \cdot \sum_{x \in G^\theta \setminus \{\phi, I_t\}} t(x), i(I_t) + (1 - \alpha_2) \cdot \sum_{x \in G^\theta \setminus \{\phi, I_t\}} i(x), f(I_t) + (1 - \alpha_3) \cdot \sum_{x \in G^\theta \setminus \{\phi, I_t\}} f(x) \right) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (T_{I_t}, I_{I_t}, F_{I_t}). \quad (17)$$

Now we do the importance  $\beta$  discounting method, the third importance discounting way which is the most general:

$$m_n(x)_{\alpha\beta_3} = (\beta\alpha_1 t(x), \alpha_2 i(x) + (1 - \beta)\alpha_1 t(x)\gamma, \alpha_3 f(x) + (1 - \beta)\alpha_1 t(x)(1 - \gamma)) \quad (18)$$

and

$$m_n(I_t)_{\alpha\beta_3} = (\beta \cdot T_{I_t}, I_{I_t} + (1 - \beta)T_{I_t} \cdot \gamma, F_{I_t} + (1 - \beta)T_{I_t}(1 - \gamma)). \quad (19)$$

**b. Importance first, Reliability second.**

For any  $x \in G^\theta \setminus \{\phi, I_t\}$ , one has after importance  $\beta$  discounting (third way):

$$m_n(x)_{\beta_3} = (\beta \cdot t(x), i(x) + (1 - \beta)t(x)\gamma, f(x) + (1 - \beta)t(x)(1 - \gamma)) \quad (20)$$

and

$$m_n(I_t)_{\beta_3} = (\beta \cdot t(I_t), i(I_t) + (1 - \beta)t(I_t)\gamma, f(I_t) + (1 - \beta)t(I_t)(1 - \gamma)). \quad (21)$$

Now we do the reliability  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3)$  discounting, and one gets:

$$m_n(x)_{\beta_3\alpha} = (\alpha_1 \cdot \beta \cdot t(x), \alpha_2 \cdot i(x) + \alpha_2(1 - \beta)t(x)\gamma, \alpha_3 \cdot f(x) + \alpha_3 \cdot (1 - \beta)t(x)(1 - \gamma)) \quad (22)$$

and

$$m_n(I_t)_{\beta_3\alpha} = (\alpha_1 \cdot \beta \cdot t(I_t), \alpha_2 \cdot i(I_t) + \alpha_2(1 - \beta)t(I_t)\gamma, \alpha_3 \cdot f(I_t) + \alpha_3(1 - \beta)t(I_t)(1 - \gamma)). \quad (23)$$

**Remark.**

We see that (a) and (b) are in general different, so reliability of sources does not commute with the importance of sources.

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Let's consider a classical mass  $m: G^\theta \rightarrow [0, 1]$  (24)

and the focal set  $F \subset G^\theta$ ,  $F = \{A_1, A_2, \dots, A_m\}$ ,  $m \geq 1$ , (25)

and of course  $m(A_i) > 0$ , for  $1 \leq i \leq m$ .

Suppose  $m(A_i) = a_i \in (0,1]$ . (26)

**a. Reliability first, Importance second.**

Let  $\alpha \in [0, 1]$  be the reliability coefficient of  $m(\cdot)$ .

For  $x \in G^\theta \setminus \{\phi, I_t\}$ , one has  $m(x)_\alpha = \alpha \cdot m(x)$ , (27)

and  $m(I_t) = \alpha \cdot m(I_t) + 1 - \alpha$ . (28)

Let  $\beta \in [0, 1]$  be the importance coefficient of  $m(\cdot)$ .

Then, for  $x \in G^\theta \setminus \{\phi, I_t\}$ ,

$$m(x)_{\alpha\beta} = (\beta\alpha m(x), \alpha m(x) - \beta\alpha m(x)) = \alpha \cdot m(x) \cdot (\beta, 1 - \beta), \quad (29)$$

considering only two components: believe that  $x$  occurs and, respectively, believe that  $x$  does not occur.

Further on,

$$m(I_t)_{\alpha\beta} = (\beta\alpha m(I_t) + \beta - \beta\alpha, \alpha m(I_t) + 1 - \alpha - \beta\alpha m(I_t) - \beta + \beta\alpha) = [\alpha m(I_t) + 1 - \alpha] \cdot (\beta, 1 - \beta). \quad (30)$$

**b. Importance first, Reliability second.**

For  $x \in G^\theta \setminus \{\phi, I_t\}$ , one has

$$m(x)_\beta = (\beta \cdot m(x), m(x) - \beta \cdot m(x)) = m(x) \cdot (\beta, 1 - \beta), \quad (31)$$

and  $m(I_t)_\beta = (\beta m(I_t), m(I_t) - \beta m(I_t)) = m(I_t) \cdot (\beta, 1 - \beta). \quad (32)$

Then, for the reliability discounting scaler  $\alpha$  one has:

$$m(x)_{\beta\alpha} = \alpha m(x)(\beta, 1 - \beta) = (\alpha m(x)\beta, \alpha m(x) - \alpha\beta m(m)) \quad (33)$$

and  $m(I_t)_{\beta\alpha} = \alpha \cdot m(I_t)(\beta, 1 - \beta) + (1 - \alpha)(\beta, 1 - \beta) = [\alpha m(I_t) + 1 - \alpha] \cdot (\beta, 1 - \beta) = (\alpha m(I_t)\beta, \alpha m(I_t) - \alpha m(I_t)\beta) + (\beta - \alpha\beta, 1 - \alpha - \beta + \alpha\beta) = (\alpha\beta m(I_t) + \beta - \alpha\beta, \alpha m(I_t) - \alpha\beta m(I_t) + 1 - \alpha - \beta - \alpha\beta). \quad (34)$

Hence (a) and (b) are equal in this case.

**1. Classical mass.**

The following classical is given on  $\theta = \{A, B\}$  :

	A	B	AUB	
$m$	0.4	0.5	0.1	(35)

Let  $\alpha = 0.8$  be the reliability coefficient and  $\beta = 0.7$  be the importance coefficient.

**a. Reliability first, Importance second.**

	A	B	AUB	
$m_\alpha$	0.32	0.40	0.28	
$m_{\alpha\beta}$	(0.224, 0.096)	(0.280, 0.120)	(0.196, 0.084)	(36)

We have computed in the following way:

$$m_{\alpha}(A) = 0.8m(A) = 0.8(0.4) = 0.32, (37)$$

$$m_{\alpha}(B) = 0.8m(B) = 0.8(0.5) = 0.40, (38)$$

$$m_{\alpha}(AUB) = 0.8(AUB) + 1 - 0.8 = 0.8(0.1) + 0.2 = 0.28, (39)$$

and  $m_{\alpha\beta}(B) = (0.7m_{\alpha}(A), m_{\alpha}(A) - 0.7m_{\alpha}(A)) = (0.7(0.32), 0.32 - 0.7(0.32)) = (0.224, 0.096), (40)$

$$m_{\alpha\beta}(B) = (0.7m_{\alpha}(B), m_{\alpha}(B) - 0.7m_{\alpha}(B)) = (0.7(0.40), 0.40 - 0.7(0.40)) = (0.280, 0.120), (41)$$

$$m_{\alpha\beta}(AUB) = (0.7m_{\alpha}(AUB), m_{\alpha}(AUB) - 0.7m_{\alpha}(AUB)) = (0.7(0.28), 0.28 - 0.7(0.28)) = (0.196, 0.084). (42)$$

**b. Importance first, Reliability second.**

	A	B	AUB
$m$	0.4	0.5	0.1
$m_{\beta}$	(0.28, 0.12)	(0.35, 0.15)	(0.07, 0.03)
$m_{\beta\alpha}$	(0.224, 0.096)	(0.280, 0.120)	(0.196, 0.084)

(43)

We computed in the following way:

$$m_{\beta}(A) = (\beta m(A), (1 - \beta)m(A)) = (0.7(0.4), (1 - 0.7)(0.4)) = (0.280, 0.120), (44)$$

$$m_{\beta}(B) = (\beta m(B), (1 - \beta)m(B)) = (0.7(0.5), (1 - 0.7)(0.5)) = (0.35, 0.15), (45)$$

$$m_{\beta}(AUB) = (\beta m(AUB), (1 - \beta)m(AUB)) = (0.7(0.1), (1 - 0.7)(0.1)) = (0.07, 0.03), (46)$$

and  $m_{\beta\alpha}(A) = \alpha m_{\beta}(A) = 0.8(0.28, 0.12) = (0.8(0.28), 0.8(0.12)) = (0.224, 0.096), (47)$

$$m_{\beta\alpha}(B) = \alpha m_{\beta}(B) = 0.8(0.35, 0.15) = (0.8(0.35), 0.8(0.15)) = (0.280, 0.120), (48)$$



$$\begin{aligned}
 m_{\beta\alpha}(AUB) &= \alpha m(AUB)(\beta, 1 - \beta) + (1 - \alpha)(\beta, 1 - \beta) = 0.8(0.1)(0.7, 1 - \\
 &0.7) + (1 - 0.8)(0.7, 1 - 0.7) = 0.08(0.7, 0.3) + 0.2(0.7, 0.3) = \\
 &(0.056, 0.024) + (0.140, 0.060) = (0.056 + 0.140, 0.024 + 0.060) = \\
 &(0.196, 0.084). \quad (49)
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore reliability discount commutes with importance discount of sources when one has classical masses.

The result is interpreted this way: believe in  $A$  is 0.224 and believe in  $nonA$  is 0.096, believe in  $B$  is 0.280 and believe in  $nonB$  is 0.120, and believe in total ignorance  $AUB$  is 0.196, and believe in non-ignorance is 0.084.

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{'š} \odot \text{; } \mathbf{1} \text{ 'š} \odot \text{-; } \mathbf{3} \text{ } \mathbf{Yh} \text{ } \mathbf{Yq} \text{ } \mathbf{Q} \text{ } \mathbf{a} \text{ } \mathbf{\&} \text{ } \mathbf{Y} \text{ } \mathbf{Y} \text{ } \mathbf{0} \text{ } \mathbf{Y} \text{ } \mathbf{\pm} \text{ } \mathbf{Y} \text{ } \mathbf{a} \text{ } \mathbf{\ll} \text{ } \mathbf{f} \text{ } \mathbf{!} \text{ } \mathbf{\check{s}} \text{ } \mathbf{-} \text{ } \mathbf{; } \text{ } \mathbf{-} \text{ } \mathbf{\&} \text{ } \mathbf{; } \mathbf{\check{s}} \text{ } \mathbf{; } \mathbf{Y} \text{ } \mathbf{0} \text{ } \mathbf{\ll} \\
 & \mathbf{I} \text{ } \mathbf{0} \text{ } \mathbf{-} \mathbf{\ll} \mathbf{R} \text{ } \mathbf{\check{s}} \text{ } \mathbf{a} \text{ } \mathbf{0} \text{ } \mathbf{e} \text{ } \mathbf{f} \text{ } \mathbf{' } \mathbf{\ll} \mathbf{\pm} \mathbf{R} \mathbf{e} \mathbf{-}
 \end{aligned}$$

Let's consider the third way of redistribution of masses related to importance coefficient of sources.  $\beta = 0.7$ , but  $\gamma = 0.4$ , which means that 40% of  $\beta$  is redistributed to  $i(x)$  and 60% of  $\beta$  is redistributed to  $f(x)$  for each  $x \in G^\theta \setminus \{\phi\}$ ; and  $\alpha = 0.8$ .

**a. Reliability first, Importance second.**

	A	B	AUB
$m$	0.4	0.5	0.1
$m_\alpha$	0.32	0.40	0.28
$m_{\alpha\beta}$	(0.2240, 0.0384, 0.0576)	(0.2800, 0.0480, 0.0720)	(0.1960, 0.0336, 0.0504).

(50)

We computed  $m_\alpha$  in the same way.

But:

$$m_{\alpha\beta}(A) = (\beta \cdot m_\alpha(A), i_\alpha(A) + (1 - \beta)m_\alpha(A) \cdot \gamma, f_\alpha(A) + (1 - \beta)m_\alpha(A)(1 - \gamma)) = (0.7(0.32), 0 + (1 - 0.7)(0.32)(0.4), 0 + (1 - 0.7)(0.32)(1 - 0.4)) = (0.2240, 0.0384, 0.0576). \quad (51)$$

Similarly for  $m_{\alpha\beta}(B)$  and  $m_{\alpha\beta}(AUB)$ .

**b. Importance first, Reliability second.**

	A	B	AUB
m	0.4	0.5	0.1
$m_\beta$	(0.280, 0.048, 0.072)	(0.350, 0.060, 0.090)	(0.070, 0.012, 0.018)
$m_{\beta\alpha}$	(0.2240, 0.0384, 0.0576)	(0.2800, 0.0480, 0.0720)	(0.1960, 0.0336, 0.0504).

(52)

We computed  $m_\beta(\cdot)$  in the following way:

$$m_\beta(A) = (\beta \cdot t(A), i(A) + (1 - \beta)t(A) \cdot \gamma, f(A) + (1 - \beta)t(A)(1 - \gamma)) = (0.7(0.4), 0 + (1 - 0.7)(0.4)(0.4), 0 + (1 - 0.7)0.4(1 - 0.4)) = (0.280, 0.048, 0.072). \quad (53)$$

Similarly for  $m_\beta(B)$  and  $m_\beta(AUB)$ .

To compute  $m_{\beta\alpha}(\cdot)$ , we take  $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = \alpha_3 = 0.8$ , (54)

in formulas (8) and (9).

$$\begin{aligned} m_{\beta\alpha}(A) &= \alpha \cdot m_{\beta}(A) = 0.8(0.280, 0.048, 0.072) \\ &= (0.8(0.280), 0.8(0.048), 0.8(0.072)) \\ &= (0.2240, 0.0384, 0.0576). \end{aligned} \quad (55)$$

Similarly  $m_{\beta\alpha}(B) = 0.8(0.350, 0.060, 0.090) = (0.2800, 0.0480, 0.0720)$ . (56)

For  $m_{\beta\alpha}(AUB)$  we use formula (9):

$$\begin{aligned} m_{\beta\alpha}(AUB) &= (t_{\beta}(AUB) + (1 - \alpha)[t_{\beta}(A) + t_{\beta}(B)], i_{\beta}(AUB) \\ &\quad + (1 - \alpha)[i_{\beta}(A) + i_{\beta}(B)], \\ &\quad f_{\beta}(AUB) + (1 - \alpha)[f_{\beta}(A) + f_{\beta}(B)]) \\ &= (0.070 + (1 - 0.8)[0.280 + 0.350], 0.012 \\ &\quad + (1 - 0.8)[0.048 + 0.060], 0.018 + (1 - 0.8)[0.072 + 0.090]) \\ &= (0.1960, 0.0336, 0.0504). \end{aligned}$$

Again, the reliability discount and importance discount commute.

«**α**»<sup>-</sup>»**α**

In this paper we have defined a new way of discounting a classical and neutrosophic mass with respect to its importance. We have also defined the discounting of a neutrosophic source with respect to its reliability.

In general, the reliability discount and importance discount do not commute. But if one uses classical masses, they commute (as in Examples 1 and 2).

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