

***k*-Pseudo-Similar Interval–Valued Fuzzy Matrices**

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Received 16 July 2014; accepted 26 July 2014

Abstract. In this paper, we have introduced the concept of *k*-pseudo-similar interval-valued fuzzy matrices (IVFM) as a generalization of *k*-pseudo-similar fuzzy matrices and as a special case for *k*=1, it reduces to pseudo-similar interval – valued fuzzy matrices (IVFM).

Keywords: pseudo-similar IVFM, *k*-pseudo-similar IVFM.

AMS mathematics Subject Classification (2010): 15A57, 15A09

1. Introduction

Throughout, we deal with IVFM, that is, matrices whose entries are intervals and all the intervals are subintervals of the interval [0, 1]. The concept of IVFM a generalization of fuzzy matrix was introduced and developed by Shyamal and Pal [7], by extending the max-min operations on fuzzy algebra $F=[0, 1]$, for elements $a,b \in F$, $a+b=\max\{a,b\}$ and $a \cdot b=\min\{a,b\}$. In [3], Meenakshi and Kaliraja have represented an IVFM as an interval matrix of its lower and upper limit fuzzy matrices. $A \in F_{mn}$ is regular if there exists X such that $AXA = A$; X is called a generalized (*g*) inverse of A and is denoted as A^{-} . $A\{1\}$ denotes the set of all *g*-inverses of a regular matrix A .

In [4], Meenakshi and Jenita have introduced the concept of *k*-regular fuzzy matrix as a generalization of regular fuzzy matrix developed in [1]. A matrix $A \in F_n$, the set of all $n \times n$ fuzzy matrices is said to be right (left) *k*-regular if there exists X (Y) $\in F_n$, such that

$$A^k XA = A^k \quad (AYA^k = A^k)$$

X (Y) is called a right (left) *k*-*g*-inverse of A , where *k* is a positive integer. Recently, Meenakshi and Poongodi have extended the concept of *k*-regularity of fuzzy matrices to IVFM and determined the structure of *k*-regular IVFM in [5].

In section 2, some basic definitions and results required are given.

In section 3, we have introduced the concept of *k*-pseudo-similar interval-valued fuzzy matrices (IVFM) as a generalization of *k*-pseudo-similar fuzzy matrices [6] and as a special case for *k*=1, it reduces to pseudo-similar interval – valued fuzzy matrices (IVFM).

2. Preliminaries

Definition 2.1. [2] $A \in F_m$ and $B \in F_n$ are said to be pseudo-similar and denoted as $A \cong B$ if there exist $X \in F_{mn}$ and $Y \in F_{nm}$ such that $A = XBY$, $B = YAX$ and $XYX = X$.

Theorem 2.1. [2] Let $A \in F_m$ and $B \in F_n$ such that $A \cong B$. Then A is a regular matrix $\Leftrightarrow B$ is a regular matrix.

Theorem 2.2. [2] Let $A \in F_m$ and $B \in F_n$. Then the following are equivalent.

- (i) $A \cong B$
- (ii) $A^T \cong B^T$
- (iii) $A^k \cong B^k$, for any integer $k \geq 1$.
- (iv) $PAP^T \cong QBQ^T$, for some permutation matrices $P \in F_m$ and $Q \in F_n$.

Lemma 2.1. [2] Let $A \in F_m$ and $B \in F_n$. Then the following are equivalent:

- (i) $A \cong B$
- (ii) There exist $X \in F_{mn}$, $Y \in F_{nm}$ such that $A = XBY$, $B = YAX$ and $XY \in F_m$ is idempotent.
- (iii) There exist $X \in F_{mn}$, $Y \in F_{nm}$ such that $A = XBY$, $B = YAX$ and $YX \in F_n$ is idempotent.

Definition 2.2. [3] Let $A \in (IVFM)_{mn}$. If A is regular, then there exists a matrix $X \in (IVFM)_{nm}$, such that $AXA = A$, for all $X \in A\{1\}$.

Definition 2.3. [3] For a pair of fuzzy matrices $E=(e_{ij})$ and $F=(f_{ij})$ in F_{mn} such that $E \leq F$, let us define the interval matrix denoted as $[E, F]$, whose ij^{th} entry is the interval with lower limit e_{ij} and upper limit f_{ij} , that is $([e_{ij}, f_{ij}])$. In particular for $E=F$, IVFM $[E, E]$ reduces to $E \in F_{mn}$.

For $A=(a_{ij})=[a_{ijL}, a_{ijU}] \in (IVFM)_{mn}$, let us define $A_L=(a_{ijL})$ and $A_U=(a_{ijU})$. Clearly A_L and A_U belongs to F_{mn} such that $A_L \leq A_U$ and from Definition 2.3 A can be written as $A=[A_L, A_U]$, where A_L and A_U are called lower and upper limits of A respectively.

The basic operations on IVFM are as follows [3]:

For $A=(a_{ij})_{m \times n}$ and $B=(b_{ij})_{m \times n}$, their sum $A+B$ is defined by,

$$A+B = A+(a_{ij}+b_{ij}) = ([a_{ijL}+b_{ijL}, a_{ijU}+b_{ijU}]) \quad (2.1)$$

and their product is defined by,

$$AB=(c_{ij}) = \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik} b_{kj} = \left[\sum_{k=1}^n (a_{ikL} b_{kjL}), \sum_{k=1}^n (a_{ikU} b_{kjU}) \right] \quad i=1,2,\dots,m \text{ and } j=1,2,\dots,p \quad (2.2)$$

In particular if $a_{ijL} = a_{ijU}$ and $b_{ijL} = b_{ijU}$ then (2.2) reduces to the standard max-min composition of fuzzy matrices [1]. $A \leq B \Leftrightarrow a_{ijL} \leq b_{ijL}$ and $a_{ijU} \leq b_{ijU}$. For $A \in (IVFM)_{mn}$, A^T denote the transpose of A .

Lemma 2.2. [3] For $A=[A_L, A_U] \in (IVFM)_{mn}$ and $B=[B_L, B_U] \in (IVFM)_{np}$ the following hold:

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- (i) $A^T = [A_L^T, A_U^T]$
(ii) $AB = [A_L B_L, A_U B_U]$

Definition 2.4. [5] A matrix $A \in (\text{IVFM})_n$, is said to be right k-regular if there exists a matrix $X \in (\text{IVFM})_n$ such that $A^k X A = A^k$, for some positive integer k. X is called a right k-g-inverse of A.

$$\text{Let } A_r \{1^k\} = \{X / A^k X A = A^k\}.$$

Definition 2.5. [5] A matrix $A \in (\text{IVFM})_n$, is said to be left k-regular if there exists a matrix $Y \in (\text{IVFM})_n$ such that $A Y A^k = A^k$, for some positive integer k. Y is called a left k-g-inverse of A.

$$\text{Let } A_\ell \{1^k\} = \{Y / A Y A^k = A^k\}.$$

In general, right k-regular IVFM is different from left k-regular IVFM. Hence a right k-g-inverse need not be a left k-g-inverse [5].

Theorem 2.3. [5] Let $A = [A_L, A_U] \in (\text{IVFM})_n$. Then A is right k-regular IVFM $\Leftrightarrow A_L$ and $A_U \in F_n$ are right k-regular.

Theorem 2.4. [5] Let $A = [A_L, A_U] \in (\text{IVFM})_n$. Then A is left k-regular IVFM $\Leftrightarrow A_L$ and $A_U \in F_n$ are left k-regular.

3. k-pseudo-similar IVFM

Definition 3.1. $A = [A_L, A_U] \in (\text{IVFM})_m$ and $B = [B_L, B_U] \in (\text{IVFM})_n$ are said to be pseudo-similar IVFM, denoted by $A \stackrel{I}{\cong} B$ if there exist $X = [X_L, X_U] \in (\text{IVFM})_{mn}$ and $Y = [Y_L, Y_U] \in (\text{IVFM})_{nm}$ such that $A = X B Y$, $B = Y A X$ and $X Y X = X$.

Remark 3.1. In particular, if $A_L = A_U$ and $B_L = B_U$ then Definition 3.1 reduces to pseudo-similar fuzzy matrices (Definition 2.1). Also we observe that $A \stackrel{I}{\cong} B \Leftrightarrow B \stackrel{I}{\cong} A$.

Definition 3.2. $A = [A_L, A_U] \in (\text{IVFM})_n$ is said to be right k-pseudo-similar to $B = [B_L, B_U] \in (\text{IVFM})_n$ and it is denoted by $A \stackrel{I(k)}{r}{\cong} B$ if there exist $X = [X_L, X_U]$, $Y = [Y_L, Y_U] \in (\text{IVFM})_n$ such that $A = X B Y$, $B = Y A X^k$, $X^k Y X = X^k$ and $Y X Y = Y$.

Definition 3.3. $A = [A_L, A_U] \in (\text{IVFM})_n$ is said to be left k-pseudo-similar to $B = [B_L, B_U] \in (\text{IVFM})_n$ and it is denoted by $A \stackrel{I(k)}{\ell}{\cong} B$ if there exist $X = [X_L, X_U]$, $Y = [Y_L, Y_U] \in (\text{IVFM})_n$ such that $A = X^k B Y$, $B = Y A X$, $X Y X^k = X^k$ and $Y X Y = Y$.

Remark 3.2. In particular, if $A_L = A_U$ and $B_L = B_U$ then Definition 3.2 and Definition 3.3 reduce to right (left) k- pseudo-similar fuzzy matrices studied in [6]. Further, for k=1, Definitions 3.2 and 3.3 are identical and reduced to pseudo-similar IVFM [Definition

3.1]. We observe that the right (left) k-pseudo similarity relation on IVFM is not transitive as in the case of pseudo similar fuzzy matrices [2].

Lemma 3.1. Let $A=[A_L, A_U]$, $B=[B_L, B_U] \in (\text{IVFM})_n$. If $A \underset{r}{\cong}^{I(k)} B$ then we have the following:

- (i) $A_L^k = X_L B_L^k Y_L$ and $A_U^k = X_U B_U^k Y_U$
- (ii) $B_L Y_L X_L = Y_L X_L B_L = B_L$ and $B_U Y_U X_U = Y_U X_U B_U = B_U$
- (iii) $A_L X_L Y_L = X_L Y_L A_L = A_L$ and $A_U X_U Y_U = X_U Y_U A_U = A_U$
- (iv) $B_L^k = Y_L A_L^k X_L$ and $B_U^k = Y_U A_U^k X_U$

Proof: Since $A \underset{r}{\cong}^{I(k)} B$, $A = XBY$, $B = YAX^k$, $X^k YX = X^k$ and $YXY = Y$.

$$(i) \quad A = XBY \Rightarrow A^2 = (XBY)(XBY) = X(BYX)BY$$

$$BYX = (YAX^k)YX = YA(X^k YX) = YAX^k = B$$

$$\text{Therefore, } A^2 = (XBY)(XBY) = X(BYX)BY = XBBY = XB^2Y.$$

Thus proceeding we get $A^k = XB^k Y$.

$$A^k = XB^k Y \Rightarrow [A_L, A_U]^k = [X_L, X_U][B_L, B_U]^k [Y_L, Y_U]$$

$$\Rightarrow [A_L^k, A_U^k] = [X_L, X_U][B_L^k, B_U^k][Y_L, Y_U] \Rightarrow A_L^k = X_L B_L^k Y_L \text{ and } A_U^k = X_U B_U^k Y_U.$$

Thus (i) holds.

$$(ii) \quad YXB = YX(YAX^k) = (YXY)AX^k = YAX^k = B.$$

$$YXB = B \Rightarrow [Y_L, Y_U][X_L, X_U][B_L, B_U] = [B_L, B_U] \Rightarrow Y_L X_L B_L = B_L \text{ and } Y_U X_U B_U = B_U.$$

$$BYX = B \Rightarrow [B_L, B_U][Y_L, Y_U][X_L, X_U] = [B_L, B_U] \Rightarrow B_L Y_L X_L = B_L \text{ and } B_U Y_U X_U = B_U$$

$$(iii) \quad AXY = (XBY)XY = XB(YXY) = XBY = A.$$

$$XYA = XY(XBY) = X(YXB)Y = XBY = A.$$

$$AXY = A \Rightarrow [A_L, A_U][X_L, X_U][Y_L, Y_U] = [A_L, A_U]$$

$$\Rightarrow [A_L X_L Y_L, A_U X_U Y_U] = [A_L, A_U] \Rightarrow A_L X_L Y_L = A_L \text{ and } A_U X_U Y_U = A_U$$

$$XYA = A \Rightarrow [X_L, X_U][Y_L, Y_U][A_L, A_U] = [A_L, A_U] \Rightarrow [X_L Y_L A_L, X_U Y_U A_U] = [A_L, A_U]$$

$$\Rightarrow X_L Y_L A_L = A_L \text{ and } X_U Y_U A_U = A_U.$$

(iv)

$$B = YXB \Rightarrow B^k = YXB^k \Rightarrow B^k = YX(B^k YX) = Y(XB^k Y)X = YA^k X.$$

$$B^k = YA^k X \Rightarrow [B_L, B_U]^k = [Y_L, Y_U][A_L, A_U]^k [X_L, X_U] B_L^k = Y_L A_L^k X_L \text{ and}$$

$$\Rightarrow [B_L^k, B_U^k] = [Y_L, Y_U][A_L^k, A_U^k][X_L, X_U] \Rightarrow B_U^k = Y_U A_U^k X_U.$$

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Lemma 3.2. Let $A=[A_L, A_U], B=[B_L, B_U] \in (\text{IVFM})_n$. If $A \stackrel{I(k)}{\underset{\ell}{\cong}} B$ then we have the following:

- (i) $B_L^k = Y_L A_L^k X_L$ and $B_U^k = Y_U A_U^k X_U$
- (ii) $A_L X_L Y_L = X_L Y_L A_L = A_L$ and $A_U X_U Y_U = X_U Y_U A_U = A_U$
- (iii) $B_L Y_L X_L = Y_L X_L B_L = B_L$ and $B_U Y_U X_U = Y_U X_U B_U = B_U$
- (iv) $A_L^k = X_L B_L^k Y_L$ and $A_U^k = X_U B_U^k Y_U$

Proof: This can be proved along the same lines as that of Lemma 3.1 and hence omitted.

Theorem 3.1. Let $A, B \in (\text{IVFM})_n$ such that $A \stackrel{I(k)}{r} \cong B$. A is right (left) k -regular $\Leftrightarrow B$ is right (left) k -regular.

Proof:

Since $A \stackrel{I(k)}{r} \cong B$, $A = XBY, B = YAX^k, X^k YX = X^k$ and $YXY = Y \Rightarrow$

$$A_L = X_L B_L Y_L, B_L = Y_L A_L X_L^k, A_U = X_U B_U Y_U \text{ and } B_U = Y_U A_U X_U^k.$$

By Lemma 3.1,

$$\begin{aligned} A_L^k &= X_L B_L^k Y_L, A_U^k = X_U B_U^k Y_U, B_L Y_L X_L = Y_L X_L B_L = B_L, \\ B_U Y_U X_U &= Y_U X_U B_U = B_U, A_L X_L Y_L = X_L Y_L A_L = A_L, A_U X_U Y_U = X_U Y_U A_U = A_U, \\ B_L^k &= Y_L A_L^k X_L \text{ and } B_U^k = Y_U A_U^k X_U. \end{aligned}$$

Let A be right k -regular. Then by Theorem 2.3, A_L and A_U are right k -regular.

Since, A_L and A_U are right k -regular there exists $G=[G_L, G_U] \in (\text{IVFM})_n$ such that $A_L^k G_L A_L = A_L^k$ and $A_U^k G_U A_U = A_U^k$. Choose $U=YGX, U=[U_L, U_U] \in (\text{IVFM})_n$.

$$U = YGX \Rightarrow U_L = Y_L G_L X_L \text{ and } U_U = Y_U G_U X_U.$$

To prove that, B is right k -regular, let us prove that B_L and B_U are right k -regular.

$$\begin{aligned} B_L^k U_L B_L &= (Y_L A_L^k X_L)(Y_L G_L X_L) B_L = Y_L (A_L^k X_L Y_L) G_L (X_L B_L) \\ &= Y_L A_L^k G_L (X_L B_L Y_L X_L) = Y_L A_L^k G_L (A_L X_L) = Y_L (A_L^k G_L A_L) X_L = Y_L A_L^k X_L = B_L^k. \\ B_U^k U_U B_U &= (Y_U A_U^k X_U)(Y_U G_U X_U) B_U = Y_U (A_U^k X_U Y_U) G_U (X_U B_U) \\ &= Y_U A_U^k G_U (X_U B_U Y_U X_U) = Y_U A_U^k G_U (A_U X_U) = Y_U (A_U^k G_U A_U) X_U = Y_U A_U^k X_U = B_U^k. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, B_L and B_U are right k -regular. Hence by Theorem 2.3, B is right k -regular.

Converse part follows by replacing A by B in the above proof.

A is left k -regular $\Leftrightarrow B$ is left k -regular can be proved in the same manner and hence omitted.

Hence the Theorem..

Theorem 3.2. Let $A, B \in (\text{IVFM})_n$ such that $A \stackrel{I(k)}{\underset{\ell}{\cong}} B$. A is right (left) k -regular $\Leftrightarrow B$ is right (left) k -regular.

Proof: This can be proved as that of Theorem 3.1 and hence omitted.

Remark 3.3. For $k=1$, Theorems 3.1 and 3.2 reduces to the following theorem.

Theorem 3.3. Let $A \in (\text{IVFM})_m$ and $B \in (\text{IVFM})_n$ such that $A \stackrel{I}{\cong} B$. Then A is a regular matrix $\Leftrightarrow B$ is a regular matrix.

Remark 3.4. In particular, for fuzzy matrices, $A_L=A_U$ and $B_L=B_U$, Theorem 3.3 reduces to Theorem 2.1.

Lemma 3.3. Let $A, B \in (\text{IVFM})_n$. If $A \stackrel{I(k)}{\cong}_r B$ then there exist $X, Y \in (\text{IVFM})_n$ such that $A = XBY, B = YAX^k$ and XY is k -potent.

Proof:

Since $A \stackrel{I(k)}{\cong}_r B, A = XBY, B = YAX^k, X^k YX = X^k$ and $YXY = Y$.

$$(XY)^k = (XY)^{k-1} XY = (XY)^{k-2} XYXY = (XY)^{k-2} X(YXY) = (XY)^{k-2} XY = \dots = XY.$$

Hence the proof.

Lemma 3.4. Let $A, B \in (\text{IVFM})_n$. If $A \stackrel{I(k)}{\cong}_\ell B$ then there exist $X, Y \in (\text{IVFM})_n$ such that $A = X^k BY, B = YAX$ and YX is k -potent.

Proof:

Since $A \stackrel{I(k)}{\cong}_\ell B, A = X^k BY, B = YAX, XYX^k = X^k$ and $YXY = Y$.

$$(YX)^k = (YX)^{k-1} YX = (YX)^{k-2} YXYX = (YX)^{k-2} (YXY)X = (YX)^{k-2} YX = \dots = YX.$$

Hence the proof.

Remark 3.5. For $k=1$, from Lemma 3.3 and Lemma 3.4 we get an equivalence condition for pseudo similar IVFM in the following:

Lemma 3.5. Let $A \in (\text{IVFM})_m$ and $B \in (\text{IVFM})_n$. Then the following are equivalent:

- (i) $A \stackrel{I}{\cong} B$
- (ii) There exist $X \in (\text{IVFM})_{mn}, Y \in (\text{IVFM})_{nm}$ such that $A = XBY, B = YAX$ and $XY \in (\text{IVFM})_m$ is idempotent.
- (iii) There exist $X \in (\text{IVFM})_{mn}, Y \in (\text{IVFM})_{nm}$ such that $A = XBY, B = YAX$ and $YX \in (\text{IVFM})_n$ is idempotent.

Proof:

(i) \Rightarrow (ii) and (i) \Rightarrow (iii) are trivial, since $XYX = X \Rightarrow XY \in (\text{IVFM})_m$ and $YX \in (\text{IVFM})_n$ are idempotent matrices.

(ii) \Rightarrow (i): $A = XBY = X(YAX)Y = (XY)A(XY) = (XY)XBY(XY) = (XYX)B(YXY).$

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Similarly, $B = YAX = (YXY)A(XYX)$. Put $XYX = X'$ and $YXY = Y'$. Then, $A = X'BY'$ and $B = Y'AX'$. Further using XY is idempotent, we get $X'Y' = (XYX)(YXY) = XY$ and $(X'Y')(X'Y') = (XY)(XY) = X'Y'$. Thus $X'Y'$ is idempotent. Set $X'Y'X' = X''$ and $Y'X'Y' = Y''$. Then, $A = X'BY' = X'Y'AX'Y' = (X'Y'X')B(Y'X'Y')$, therefore $A = X''BY''$. Similarly, $B = Y''AX''$. By using $X'Y'$ is idempotent, we have

$X''Y''X'' = (X'Y'X')(Y'X'Y')(X'Y'X') = X'Y'X' = X''$. Therefore, $A \stackrel{I}{\cong} B$. Thus (i) holds.

(iii) \Rightarrow (i): Can be proved in the same manner and hence omitted.

Remark 3.6. In particular, if $A_L = A_U$ and $B_L = B_U$, Lemma 3.5 reduces to Lemma 2.1.

Lemma 3.6. Let $A \in (\text{IVFM})_m$ and $B \in (\text{IVFM})_n$. Then the following are equivalent:

- (i) $A \stackrel{I}{\cong} B$
- (ii) There exist $X \in (\text{IVFM})_{mn}$, $Y \in (\text{IVFM})_{nm}$ such that $A = XBY$, $B = YAX$, $XYX = X$ and $YXY = Y$.
- (iii) There exist $X \in (\text{IVFM})_{mn}$, $Y \in (\text{IVFM})_{nm}$ such that $A = XBY$, $B = ZAX$, $XYX = X = XZX$.

Proof:

(i) \Rightarrow (iii): Since $A \stackrel{I}{\cong} B$, $A = XBY$, $B = YAX$ and $XYX = X$.

Let $Y=Z$, then $B = ZAX$ and $X = XZX$ as required. Thus (iii) holds.

(iii) \Rightarrow (ii): Suppose there exist $X \in (\text{IVFM})_{mn}$, $Y, Z \in (\text{IVFM})_{nm}$ such that $A = XBY$, $B = ZAX$, $XYX = X = XZX$, then

$A = XBY = X(ZAX)Y = XZ(XBY)(XY) = (XZX)B(YXY) = XB(YXY)$ and $B = ZAX = Z(XBY)X = ZX(ZAX)YX = (ZXZ)A(XYX) = (ZXZ)AX$. Set

$YXY = Y'$ and $Z' = ZXZ$. Then, $X = XYX = XY(XYX) = XY'X$ and

$X = XZX = XZ(XZX) = XZ'X$. In addition, we have $A = XBY'$ and $B = Z'AX$. Set $Y'' = Z'XY'$.

Then $XY''X = XZ'(XY'X) = XZ'X = X$ and

$Y''XY'' = Z'(XY'X)Z'XY' = Z'XY' = Y''$. We directly check that $XBY'' = A$,

$Y''AX = B$. Thus there exist $X \in (\text{IVFM})_{mn}$, $Y'' \in (\text{IVFM})_{nm}$ such that $A = XBY''$, $B = Y''AX$, $XY''X = X$ and $Y''XY'' = Y''$.

Thus (ii) holds. (ii) \Rightarrow (i): This is trivial.

Theorem 3.4. Let $A, B \in (\text{IVFM})_n$. Then the following are equivalent.

- (i) $A \stackrel{I(k)}{\underset{r}{\cong}} B$
- (ii) $B^T \stackrel{I(k)}{\underset{\ell}{\cong}} A^T$

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(iii) $PAP^T \underset{r}{\cong}^{I(k)} PBP^T$ for some permutation matrix $P=[P_L, P_U] \in (IVFM)_n$ with $P_L=P_U=P$.

Proof:

(i) \Leftrightarrow (ii): This is direct by taking transpose on both sides and by using $(A^T)^T = A$ and $(AX)^T = X^T A^T$.

(ii) \Leftrightarrow (iii): Suppose $A \underset{r}{\cong}^{I(k)} B$ then $A = XBY$, $B = YAX^k$, $X^k YX = X^k$ and $YXY = Y$.

$$A = XBY \Rightarrow PAP^T = PXBYP^T = (PXP^T)(PBP^T)(PYP^T) \quad (3.1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} B = YAX^k \Rightarrow PBP^T &= PYAX^k P^T = (PYP^T)(PAP^T)(PX^k P^T)^k \\ &= (PYP^T)(PAP^T)(PXP^T) \end{aligned} \quad (3.2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} X^k YX = X^k \Rightarrow PX^k P^T &= PX^k YXP^T \Rightarrow PX^k P^T = (PX^k P^T)(PYP^T)(PXP^T) \\ &\Rightarrow (PXP^T)^k = (PXP^T)^k (PYP^T)(PXP^T) \end{aligned} \quad (3.3)$$

$$Y = YXY \Rightarrow PYP^T = PYXYP^T \Rightarrow PYP^T = (PYP^T)(PXP^T)(PYP^T) \quad (3.4)$$

Hence $PAP^T \underset{r}{\cong}^{I(k)} PBP^T$.

Conversely, suppose $PAP^T \underset{r}{\cong}^{I(k)} PBP^T$.

Pre multiply by P^T and post multiply by P in Equations (3.1) to (3.4), we get $A = XBY$, $B = YAX^k$, $X^k YX = X^k$ and $YXY = Y$. Hence $A \underset{r}{\cong}^{I(k)} B$.

Hence the proof.

Theorem 3.5. Let $A, B \in (IVFM)_n$. Then the following are equivalent.

- (i) $A \underset{\ell}{\cong}^{I(k)} B$
- (ii) $B^T \underset{r}{\cong}^{I(k)} A^T$
- (iii) $PAP^T \underset{\ell}{\cong}^{I(k)} PBP^T$ for some permutation matrix $P=[P_L, P_U] \in (IVFM)_n$ with $P_L=P_U=P$.

Proof: Proof of the theorem is similar to Theorem 3.4 and hence omitted.

Theorem 3.6. Let $A, B \in (IVFM)_n$. If $A \underset{r}{\cong}^{I(k)} B$ then $A^k \underset{r}{\cong}^{I(k)} B^k$.

Proof:

Suppose $A \underset{r}{\cong}^{I(k)} B$ then $A = XBY$, $B = YAX^k$, $X^k YX = X^k$ and $YXY = Y$.

Prove that, $A^k \underset{r}{\cong}^{I(k)} B^k$.

By Lemma [3.1] (i), $A^k = XB^k Y$.

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Next, let us prove that, $B^k = YA^k X^k$.

By Lemma [3.1] (ii), $BYX = YXB = B \Rightarrow$

$$B^k = YXB^k = YXB^{k-1}B = YXB^{k-1}(YAX^k) = Y(XB^{k-1}Y)AX^k = Y(A^{k-1})AX^k = YA^k X^k$$

Hence $A^k \stackrel{r}{\cong} B^k$.

Theorem 3.7. Let $A, B \in (\text{IVFM})_n$. If $A \stackrel{\ell}{\cong} B$ then $A^k \stackrel{\ell}{\cong} B^k$.

Proof:

This is similar to Theorem 3.6 and hence omitted.

Remark 3.7: As a special case of Theorem 3.5, Theorem 3.6 and Theorem 3.7 for $k=1$, we have the following:

Theorem 3.8. Let $A \in (\text{IVFM})_m$ and $B \in (\text{IVFM})_n$. Then the following are equivalent.

- (i) $A \stackrel{I}{\cong} B$
- (ii) $A^T \stackrel{I}{\cong} B^T$
- (iii) $A^k \stackrel{I}{\cong} B^k$, for any integer $k \geq 1$.
- (iv) $PAP^T \stackrel{I}{\cong} PBP^T$, for some permutation matrix $P = [P_L, P_U] \in (\text{IVFM})_n$ with $P_L = P_U = P$.
- (v)

Remark 3.8. In particular, if $A_L = A_U$ and $B_L = B_U$, Theorem 3.8 reduces to Theorem 2.2.

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