



# Separation Axioms of Interval-Valued Fuzzy Soft Topology via Quasi-Neighborhood Structure

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Received: 27 December 2019; Accepted: 26 January 2020; Published: 2 February 2020



**Abstract:** In this study, we present the concept of the interval-valued fuzzy soft point and then introduce the notions of its neighborhood and quasi-neighborhood in interval-valued fuzzy soft topological spaces. Separation axioms in an interval-valued fuzzy soft topology, so-called q- $T_i$  for i = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, are introduced, and some of their basic properties are also studied.

**Keywords:** interval-valued fuzzy soft set; interval-valued fuzzy soft topology; interval-valued fuzzy soft point; interval-valued fuzzy soft neighborhood; interval-valued fuzzy soft quasi-neighborhood; interval-valued fuzzy soft separation axioms

## 1. Introduction

In 1999, Molodtsov [1] proposed a new mathematical approach known as soft set theory for dealing with uncertainties and vagueness. Traditional tools such as fuzzy sets [2] and rough sets [3] cannot clearly define objects. Soft set theory is different from traditional tools for dealing with uncertainties. A soft set was defined by a collection of approximate descriptions of an object based on parameters by a given set-valued map. Maji et al. [4] initiated the research on both fuzzy set and soft set hybrid structures called fuzzy soft sets and presented a concept that was subsequently discussed by many researchers. Different extensions of the classical fuzzy soft sets were introduced, such as generalized fuzzy soft sets [5], intuitionist fuzzy soft sets [6,7], vague soft sets [8], interval-valued fuzzy soft sets [9], and interval-valued intuitive fuzzy soft sets [10]. In particular, to alleviate some disadvantages of fuzzy soft sets, interval-valued fuzzy soft sets were introduced where no objective procedure was available to select the crisp membership degree of elements in fuzzy soft sets. Tanya and Kandemir [11] started topological studies of fuzzy soft sets. They used the classical concept of topology to construct a topological space over a fuzzy soft set and named it the fuzzy soft topology. They also studied some fundamental topological properties for the fuzzy soft topology, such as interior, closure, and base. Later, Simsekler and Yuksel [12] studied the fuzzy soft topological space in the case of Tanay and Kandemir [11]. However, they established the concept of the fuzzy soft topology over a fuzzy soft set with a set of fixed parameters and considered some topological concepts for fuzzy soft topological spaces such as the base, subbase, neighborhood, and Q-neighborhood. Roy and Samanta [13] noted a new concept of the fuzzy soft topology. They suggested the notion of the fuzzy soft topology over an ordinary set by adding fuzzy soft subsets of it, where everywhere, the parameter set is supposed to be fixed. Then, in [14], they continued to study the fuzzy soft topology and established a fuzzy soft point definition and various neighborhood structures. Atmaca and Zorlutuna [15] considered the concept of soft quasi-coincidence for fuzzy soft sets. By applying this new concept, they also studied the basic topological notions such as interior and closure for fuzzy soft sets. The concept of the product fuzzy soft topology and the boundary fuzzy soft topology was introduced by Zahedi et al. [16,17], and they



studied some of their properties. They also suggested a new definition for the fuzzy soft point and then different neighborhood structures. Separation axioms of the fuzzy topological space and fuzzy soft topological space were studied by many authors, see [18–23] and [24–27]. The aim of this work is to develop interval-valued fuzzy soft separation axioms. We start with preliminaries and then give the definition of the interval-valued fuzzy soft point as a generalization of the interval-valued fuzzy point and fuzzy soft point in order to create different neighborhood structures in the interval-valued fuzzy soft topological space in Sections 3 and 4. Finally, in Section 5, the notion of separation axioms q- $T_i$ , i = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 in the interval-valued fuzzy soft topology is introduced, and some of their basic properties are also studied.

## 2. Preliminaries

Throughout this paper, *X* is the set of objects and *E* is the set of parameters. The set of all subsets of *X* is denoted by P(X) and  $A \subset E$ , showing a subset of *E*.

**Definition 1** ([1]). A pair (f, A) is called a soft set over X, if f is a mapping given by  $f : A \to P(X)$ . For any parameter  $e \in A$ ,  $f(e) \subset X$  may be considered as the set e-approximate elements of the soft set (f, A). In other words, the soft set is not a kind of set, but a parameterized family of subsets of the set X.

Before introducing the notion of the interval-valued fuzzy soft sets, we give the concept of the interval-valued fuzzy set.

**Definition 2** ([28]). An interval-valued fuzzy (*IVF*) set over X is defined by the membership function  $f : X \to int([0,1])$ , where int([0,1]) denotes the set of all closed subintervals of [0,1]. Suppose that  $x \in X$ . Then,  $f(x) = [f^{-}(x), f^{+}(x)]$  is called the degree of membership of the element  $x \in X$ , where  $f^{-}(x)$  and  $f^{+}$  are the lower and upper degrees of the membership of x and  $0 < f^{-}(x) < f^{+}(x) < 1$ .

Yang et al. [9] suggested the concept of interval-valued fuzzy soft set by combining the interval-valued fuzzy set and soft set as below.

**Definition 3** ([9]). An interval-valued fuzzy soft (IVFS) set over X denoted by  $f_E$  or (f, E) is defined by the mapping  $f : E \to \mathcal{IVF}(X)$ , where  $\mathcal{IVF}(X)$  is the set of all interval-valued fuzzy sets over X. For any  $e \in E, f(e)$  can be written as an interval-valued fuzzy set such that  $f(e) = \{\langle x, [f_e^-(x), f_e^+(x)] \rangle : x \in X\}$ where  $f_e^-(x)$  and  $f_e^+(x)$  are the lower and upper degrees of the membership of x with respect to e, where  $0 \le f_e^-(x) \le f_e^+(x) \le 1$ .

Note that  $\mathcal{IVFS}(X, E)$  shows the set of all *IVFS* sets over *X*.

**Definition 4** ([9]). Let  $f_A$  and  $g_B$  be two IVFS sets over X. We say that:

- 1.  $f_A$  is an interval-valued fuzzy soft subset of  $g_B$ , denoted by  $f_A \leq g_B$ , if and only if:
  - (i)  $A \leq B$ ,
  - (ii) For all  $e \in A$ ,  $f_e^-(x) \le g_e^-(x)$  and  $f_e^+(x) \le g_e^+(x)$ ,  $\forall x \in X$ .
- 2.  $f_A = g_B$  if and only if  $f_A \leq g_B$  and  $g_A \leq f_B$ .
- 3. The union of two IVFS sets  $f_A$  and  $g_B$ , denoted by  $f_A \tilde{\lor} g_B$ , is the IVFS set  $(f \lor g, C)$ , where  $C = A \cup B$ , and for all  $e \in C$ , we have:

$$(f \lor g)_e(x) = \begin{cases} [f_e^-(x), f_e^+(x)], & e \in A - B\\ [g_e^-(x), g_e^+(x)], & e \in B - A\\ [\max(f_e^-(x), g_e^-(x), \max(f_e^+(x), g_e^+(x))] & e \in A \cap B, \end{cases}$$

for all  $x \in X$ .

- 4. The intersection of two IVFS sets  $f_A$  and  $g_B$ , denoted by  $f_A \tilde{\wedge} g_B$ , is the IVFS set  $(f \wedge g, C)$ , where  $C = A \cap B$ , and for all  $e \in C$ , we have  $(f \wedge g)_e(x) = [minf_e^-(x), g_e^-(x), minf_e^+(x), g_e^+(x)]$  for all  $x \in X$ .
- 5. The complement of the IVFS set  $f_A$  is denoted by  $f_A^c(x)$  where for all  $e \in A$ , we have  $f_e^c(x) = [1 f_e^+(x), 1 f_e^-(x)]$ .

**Definition 5** ([9]). *Let*  $f_E$  *be an IVFS set. Then:* 

- 1.  $f_E$  is called the null interval-valued fuzzy soft set, denoted by  $\emptyset_E$ , if  $f_e^-(x) = f_e^+(x) = 0$ , for all  $x \in X, e \in E$ .
- 2.  $f_E$  is called the absolute interval-valued fuzzy soft set, denoted by  $X_E$ , if  $f_e^-(x) = f_e^+(x) = 1$ , for all  $x \in X, e \in E$ .

Motivated by the definition of the soft mapping, discussed in [29], we define the concept of the *IVFS* mapping as the following:

**Definition 6.** Let  $f_A$  be an IVFS set over  $X_1$  and  $g_B$  be an IVFS set over  $X_2$ , where  $A \subseteq E_1$  and  $B \subseteq E_2$ . Let  $\Phi_u : X_1 \to X_2$  and  $\Phi_p : E_1 \to E_2$  be two mappings. Then:

1. The map  $\Phi : \mathcal{IVFS}(X_1, E_1) \to \mathcal{IVFS}(X_2, E_2)$  is called an IVFS map from  $X_1$  to  $X_2$ , and for any  $y \in X_2$  and  $\varepsilon \in B \subseteq E_2$ , the lower image and the upper image of  $f_A$  under  $\Phi$  is the IVFS $\Phi(f_A)$  over  $X_2$ , respectively, defined as below:

$$\begin{split} [\Phi(f^{-})](\varepsilon)(y) &= \begin{cases} \sup_{x \in \Phi_{u^{-1}}(y)} [\sup_{e \in \Phi_{p^{-1} \cap A}} f^{-}(e)](x), & \text{if } \Phi_{p}^{-1}(\varepsilon) \cap A \neq \phi \text{ and } \Phi_{u}^{-1}(y) \neq \phi \\ 0, & \text{otherwise}, \end{cases} \\ \\ [\Phi(f^{+})](\varepsilon)(y) &= \begin{cases} \sup_{x \in \Phi_{u^{-1}}(y)} [\sup_{e \in \Phi_{p^{-1} \cap A}} f^{+}(e)](x), & \text{if } \Phi_{p}^{-1}(\varepsilon) \cap A \neq \phi \text{ and } \Phi_{u}^{-1}(y) \neq \phi \\ 0, & \text{otherwise}. \end{cases} \end{split}$$

2. Let  $\Phi : IVFS(X_1, E_1) \to IVFS(X_2, E_2)$  be an IVFS map from  $X_1$  to  $X_2$ . The lower inverse image and the upper inverse image of IVFS  $g_B$  under  $\Phi$  denoted by  $\Phi^{-1}(g_B)$  is an IVFS over  $X_1$ , respectively, such that for all  $x \in X_1$  and  $e \in E_1$ , it is defined as below:

$$[\Phi^{-1}(g^{-})](e)(x) = \begin{cases} g^{-}_{\Phi_{p(e)}} \Phi_{u}(x), & \text{if } \Phi_{p}(e) \in B\\ 0, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$
$$[\Phi^{-1}(g^{+})](e)(x) = \begin{cases} g^{+}_{\Phi_{p(e)}} \Phi_{u}(x), & \text{if } \Phi_{p}(e) \in B\\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

**Proposition 1.** Let  $\Phi : \mathcal{IVFS}(X, E) \to \mathcal{IVFS}(Y, F)$  be an IVFS mapping between X and X, and let  $\{f_{iA}\}_{i \in J} \subset \mathcal{IVFS}(X, E)$  and  $\{g_{iB}\}_{i \in J} \subset \mathcal{IVFS}(Y, F)$  be two families of IVFS sets over X and Y, respectively, where  $A \subseteq E$  and  $B \subseteq F$ , then the following properties hold.

- 1.  $[\Phi(f_{jA})]^c \leq \Phi(f_{jA})^c$  for each  $j \in J$ .
- 2.  $[\Phi^{-1}(g_{jB})]^c = \Phi^{-1}(g_{jB})^c$  for each  $j \in J$ .
- 3. If  $g_{iB} \leq \tilde{g}_{jB}$ , then  $\Phi^{-1}(g_{iB}) \leq \Phi^{-1}(g_{jB})$  for each  $i, j \in J$ .
- 4. If  $f_{iA} \leq f_{jA}$ , then  $\Phi(f_{iA}) \leq \Phi(f_{jA})$  for each  $i, j \in J$ .
- 5.  $\Phi[\tilde{\vee}_{i\in J}f_{jA}] = \tilde{\vee}_{i\in J}\Phi(f_{jA}) \text{ and } \Phi^{-1}[\tilde{\vee}_{i\in J}g_{iB}] = \tilde{\vee}_{i\in I}\Phi^{-1}(g_{iB}).$
- 6.  $\Phi[\tilde{\wedge}_{i\in I}f_{iA}] = \tilde{\wedge}_{i\in I}\Phi(f_{iA}) \text{ and } \Phi^{-1}[\tilde{\wedge}_{i\in I}g_{iB}] = \tilde{\wedge}_{i\in I}\Phi^{-1}(g_{iB}).$

**Proof.** We only prove Part (5). The other parts follow a similar technique. For any  $k \in F$ ,  $y \in Y$ , and  $a \in A$ , then:

$$\begin{split} \Phi[\tilde{\vee}_{j\in J}f_{jA}](k)(y) &= \sup_{x\in\Phi_{u}^{-}(y)} (\sup_{z\in\Phi_{p}^{-1}(k)} (\tilde{\vee}_{j\in J})f_{jA})(z)(x) \\ &= \sup_{x\in\Phi_{u}^{-}(y)} (\sup_{z\in\Phi_{p}^{-1}(k)} (\max([f_{ja}^{-}, f_{ja}^{+}])))(k)(y) \\ &= \sup_{x\in\Phi_{u}^{-1}(y)} (\max(\sup_{j\in J} (\sup_{z\in\Phi_{p}^{-1}(k)} [f_{ja}^{-}(k), f_{ja}^{+}(k)]))(y) \\ &= \max_{j\in J} (\sup_{x\in\Phi_{u}^{-1}(y)} (\sup_{z\in\Phi_{p}^{-1}(k)} [f_{ja}^{-}(k))(y), f_{ja}^{+}(k)]))(y)] \\ &= \max_{j\in J} (\sup_{x\in\Phi_{u}^{-1}(y)} (\sup_{z\in\Phi_{p}^{-1}(k)} f_{jA}(k)(y))) \\ &= \max_{j\in J} \Phi(f_{jA})(k)(y). \end{split}$$

Now, we prove that  $\Phi^{-1}[\tilde{\vee}_{j\in J}g_{jB}] = \tilde{\vee}_{j\in J}\Phi^{-1}(g_{jB})$ . For any  $e \in E, x \in X$  and  $b \in B$ :

$$\begin{split} \Phi^{-1}[\tilde{\vee}_{j\in J}g_{jB}](e)(x) &= (\tilde{\vee}_{j\in J})g_{jB}(\Phi_{p}(e))(\Phi_{u}(x)) \\ &= [\max_{j\in J}g_{jb}^{-}, \max_{j\in J}g_{jb}^{+}](\Phi_{p}(e))(\Phi_{u}(x)) \\ &= [[\max_{j\in J}g_{jb}^{-}(\Phi_{p}(e))(\Phi_{u}(x)), \max_{j\in J}g_{jb}^{+}(\Phi_{p}(e))(\Phi_{u}(x))] \\ &= [\max_{j\in J}\Phi_{u}^{-1}(g_{jb}^{-})(e)(x), \max_{j\in J}\Phi_{u}^{-1}(g_{jb}^{+})(e)(x)] \\ &= \max_{j\in J}[\Phi_{u}^{-1}(g_{jb}^{-})(e)(x), \Phi_{u}^{-1}(g_{jb}^{+})(e)(x)] \\ &= \max_{j\in J}\Phi_{u}^{-1}(g_{jB})(e)(x) \\ &= \tilde{\vee}_{j\in J}\Phi_{u}^{-1}(g_{jB})(e)(x). \end{split}$$

## 3. Interval-Valued Fuzzy Soft Topological Spaces

The interval-valued fuzzy topology *IVFT* was discussed by Mondal and Samanta [30]. In this section, we recall their definition and then present different neighborhood structures in the interval-valued fuzzy soft topology (*IVFST*).

**Definition 7.** *Let X be a non-empty set, and let*  $\tau$  *be a collection of interval valued fuzzy soft sets over X with the following properties:* 

- (i)  $\emptyset_E$ ,  $X_E$  belong to  $\tau$ ,
- (ii) If  $f_{1E}$ ,  $f_{2E}$  are IVFS sets belong to  $\tau$ , then  $f_{1E} \tilde{\wedge} f_{2E}$  belong to  $\tau$ ,
- (iii) If the collection of IVFS sets  $\{f_{iE} | i \in J\}$  where J is an index set, belonging to  $\tau$ , then  $\tilde{\vee}_{i \in J} f_{iE}$  belong to  $\tau$ .

Then,  $\tau$  is called the interval-valued fuzzy soft topology over X, and the triplet  $(X, E, \tau)$  is called the interval-valued fuzzy soft topological space (IVFST).

As the ordinary topologies, the indiscrete IVFST over X contains only  $\emptyset_E$  and  $X_E$ , while the discrete IVFST over X contains all IVFS sets. Every member of  $\tau$  is called an interval-valued fuzzy soft open set (IVFS-open) in X. The complement of an IVFS-open set is called an IVFS-closed set.

**Remark 1.** If  $f_e^-(x) = f_e^+(x) = a \in [0, 1]$ , then we put  $[f_e^-(x), f_e^+(x)] = [a, a] = a$ .

**Example 1.** Let X = [0, 1] and E be any subset of X. Consider the IVFS set  $f_E$  over X by the mapping:

$$f: E \to \mathcal{IVF}([0,1])$$

such that for any  $e \in E, x \in X$ :

$$\tilde{f}_e(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & 0 \le x \le e \\ 0 & e < x \le 1. \end{cases}$$

Then, the collection  $\tau = \{\Phi_E, X_E, f_E\}$  is an IVFST over X.

- 1. Clearly  $X_E, \emptyset_E \in \tau$ .
- 2. Let  $\{f_{jE}\}_{j\in J}$  be a sub-family of  $\tau$  where for any  $j \in J$  if  $x \in X$  such that for all  $e \in E$ :

$$f_{je}(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & 0 \le x \le e \\ 0 & e < x \le 1. \end{cases}$$

Since:

$$\forall_j f_{je}(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & 0 \le x \le e \\ 0 & e < x \le 1 \end{cases}$$

then  $\tilde{\vee}_j f_{jE} \in \tau$ .

3. Let  $f_E, g_E \in \tau$ , where:

$$f_e(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & 0 \le x \le e \\ 0 & e < x \le 1, \end{cases}$$

and:

$$g_e(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & 0 \le x \le e \\ 0 & e < x \le 1. \end{cases}$$

Since:

$$f_e(x) \wedge g_e(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & 0 \le x \le e \\ 0 & e < x \le 1 \end{cases}$$

*Thus,*  $f_E \wedge g_E \in \tau$ *.* 

**Example 2** ([23]). Let  $\mathbb{R}$  be the set of all real numbers with the usual topology  $\tau_u$  where  $\tau_u = \langle \{(a, b), a, b \in \mathbb{R} \} \rangle$  and E is a parameter set. Let  $U = (a, b) \subset \mathbb{R}$  be an open interval in  $\mathbb{R}$ ; we define IVFS  $\tilde{U}_E$  over  $\mathbb{R}$  by the mapping:

$$\tilde{U}: E \to (Int[0,1])^{\mathbb{R}}$$

such that for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ :

$$ilde{U}_{e}(x) = \left\{ egin{array}{cc} 1 & x \in (a,b) \ 0 & x \notin (a,b). \end{array} 
ight.$$

Then, the family  $\{\tilde{U}_E : (a,b) \subset \mathbb{R}, \forall a, b \in \mathbb{R}\}$  generates an IVFS over  $\mathbb{R}$ , and we denote it by  $\tau_u^{(IVFS)}$ :

- 1. Clearly,  $\mathbb{R}_E, \mathcal{O}_E \in \tau_u^{(IVFS)}$  where for all  $e \in E, k \in \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R}_E(e)(k) = [1, 1]$ , and  $\mathcal{O}_e(k) = 0$
- 2. Let  $\{\tilde{U}_{jE}\}_{j\in J}$  be a sub-family of  $\tau_u^{(IVFS)}$  where for any  $j \in J$  if  $x \in (a_j, b_j)$  and interval  $(a_j, b_j)$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  such that for all  $e \in E$ :

$$\tilde{U}_{je}(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & x \in (a_j, b_j) \\ 0 & x \notin (a_j, b_j) \end{cases}$$

Since  $\tilde{\vee}_{j}\tilde{U}_{jE} = (\widetilde{\cup_{j}U_{j}}, E)$  where  $\cup_{j}U_{jE} \in \tau_{u}$ , then  $\tilde{\vee}_{j}\tilde{U}_{jE} \in \tau_{u}^{(IVFS)}$ 

3. Let  $\tilde{U}_E, \tilde{V}_E \in \tau_u^{(IVFS)}$ , then  $\tilde{U}_E \wedge \tilde{V}_E \in \tau_u^{(IVFS)}$  since  $\tilde{U}_E \wedge \tilde{V}_E = (\tilde{U \cap V}, E)$  where  $U \cap V \in \tau_u$ .

**Definition 8.** Let interval  $[\lambda_e^-, \lambda_e^+] \subseteq [0, 1]$  for all  $e \in E$ . Then,  $\tilde{x}_E$  is called an interval-valued fuzzy soft point (IVFS point) with support  $x \in X$  and e lower value  $\lambda_e^-$  and e upper value  $\lambda_e^+$ , if for each  $y \in X$ :

$$\tilde{x}(e)(y) = \begin{cases} [\lambda_e^-, \lambda_e^+] & y = x \\ 0 & otherwise. \end{cases}$$

**Example 3.** Let X = [0, 1] and E be any subset of X. Consider IVFS point  $\tilde{x}_E$  with support x, lower value zero, and upper value 0.3, we define IVFS point  $\tilde{x}_E$  by:

$$\tilde{x}(e)(c) = \begin{cases} [0, 0.3] & c = x \\ 0 & otherwise, \end{cases}$$

for any  $e \in E$  and  $c \in X$ .

**Definition 9.** The IVFS point  $\tilde{x}_E$  belongs to IVFS set  $f_E$ , denoted by  $\tilde{x}_E \in f_E$ , whenever for all  $e \in E$ , we have  $\lambda_e^- \leq f_e^-(x)$  and  $\lambda_e^+ \leq f_e^+(x)$ .

**Theorem 1.** Let  $f_E$  be an IVFS set, then  $f_E$  is the union of all its IVFS points, i.e.,  $f_E = \tilde{\nabla}_{\tilde{x}_F \in f_F} \tilde{x}_E$ .

**Proof.** Let  $x \in X$  be a fixed point,  $y \in X$  and  $e \in E$ . Take all  $\tilde{x}_E \in f_E$  with different *e* lower and *e* upper values  $\lambda_{je}^-, \lambda_{je}^+$  where  $j \in J$ . Then, there exists  $\lambda_{je}^- = f_e^-, \lambda_{je}^+ = f_e^+$  where:

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_{\tilde{x}_E \in f_E} \tilde{x}_e(y) &= [\sup \ \tilde{x}_e^-(y), \sup \ \tilde{x}_e^+(y)] \\ &= [\sup_{\lambda_{je}^- \tilde{\leq} f^-(x)} \lambda_{je}^-, \sup_{\lambda_{je}^+ \tilde{\leq} f^+(x)} \lambda_{je}^+] \\ &= [f_e^-(x), f_e^+(x)]. \end{aligned}$$

**Proposition 2.** Let  $\{f_{jE}\}_{j\in J}$  be a family of IVFS sets over X, where J is an index set and  $\tilde{x}_E$  is an IVFS point with support x, e lower value  $\lambda_e^-$ , and e upper value  $\lambda_e^+$ . If  $\tilde{x} \in \Lambda_{j\in J} \{f_{jE}\}$ , then  $\tilde{x}_E \in \{f_{jE}\}$  for each  $j \in J$ .

**Proof.** Let  $\tilde{x}_E$  be an *IVFS* point with support x, e lower value  $\lambda_e^-$ , and e upper value  $\lambda_e^+$ , and let  $\tilde{x} \in \tilde{\Lambda}_{j \in J} \{f_{jE}\}$ . Then,  $\lambda_e^- \leq \Lambda_{j \in J} \{f_{je}^-\}(x) \leq \{f_{je}^-\}(x)$  for each  $e \in E$ ,  $x \in X$  and  $\lambda_e^+ \leq \Lambda_{j \in J} \{f_{je}^+\}(x) \leq \{f_{je}^+\}(x)$  for each  $e \in E$ ,  $x \in X$ . Thus,  $[\lambda_e^-, \lambda_e^+] \leq [\{f_{je}^-\}(x), \{f_{je}^+\}(x)]$ , for each  $e \in E$ ,  $x \in X$ . Thus,  $[\lambda_e^-, \lambda_e^+] \leq [\{f_{je}^-\}(x), \{f_{je}^+\}(x)]$ , for each  $e \in E$ ,  $x \in X$ . Hence,  $\tilde{x}_E \in \{f_{jE}\}_{j \in J}$ .  $\Box$ 

**Remark 2.** If  $\tilde{x}_E \in f_E \vee g_E$  does not imply  $\tilde{x}_E \in f_E$  or  $\tilde{x}_E \in g_E$ .

This is shown in the following example.

**Example 4.** Let  $\tau$  be an IVFST over X, where  $\tau = \{\emptyset_E, X_E, f_E, g_E, f_E \wedge g_E\}$ , and  $\tilde{x}_E$  be the absolute IVFS point with support x, e lower value  $\lambda_e^-$ , and e upper value  $\lambda_e^+$ . If  $f_E$  and  $g_E$  are two IVFS sets in X defined as below:

$$f: E \to \mathcal{IVF}([0,1])$$
$$g: E \to \mathcal{IVF}([0,1])$$

and:

such that for any  $e \in E, x \in X$ :

and:

$$g_e(x) = \begin{cases} [0.2,1] & 0 \le x \le e \\ 0 & e < x \le 1. \end{cases}$$

 $f_e(x) = \begin{cases} [1, 0.5] & 0 \le x \le e \\ 0 & e < x \le 1 \end{cases}$ 

Since:

$$f_e(x) \lor g_e(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } 0 \le x \le e \\ 0 & \text{if } e < x \le 1, \end{cases}$$

then  $\tilde{x}_E \in f_E \vee g_E$ , but  $\tilde{x}_E \notin f_E$  and  $\tilde{x}_E \notin g_E$ .

**Theorem 2.** Let  $\tilde{x}_E$  be an IVFS point with support x, e lower value  $\lambda_e^-$ , and e upper value  $\lambda_e^+$  and  $f_E$  and  $g_E$  be IVFS sets. If  $\tilde{x}_E \in f_E \vee g_E$ , then there exists IVFS point  $\tilde{x}_{1E} \in f_E$  and IVFS point  $\tilde{x}_{2E} \in g_E$  such that  $\tilde{x}_E = \tilde{x}_{1E} \vee \tilde{x}_{2E}$ .

**Proof.** Let  $\tilde{x}_E \in \tilde{f}_E \tilde{\vee} g_E$ . Then,  $\lambda_e^- \leq f_e^-(x) \vee g_e^-(x)$  and  $\lambda_e^+ \leq f_e^+(x) \vee g_e^+(x)$ , for each  $e \in E$ ,  $x \in X$ . Let us choose

 $E_{1} = \{ e \in E | \lambda_{e}^{-} \leq f_{e}^{-}(x), \lambda_{e}^{+} \leq f_{e}^{+}(x) : x \in X \}, \\ E_{2} = \{ e \in E | \lambda_{e}^{-} \leq g_{E}^{-}(x), \lambda_{e}^{+} \leq g_{E}^{+}(x) : x \in X \} \\ \text{and:}$ 

$$\tilde{x}_1(e)(y) = \begin{cases} [\lambda_e^-, \lambda_e^+] & \text{if } y = x_1, e \in E_1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$
$$\tilde{x}_2(e)(y) = \begin{cases} [\lambda_e^-, \lambda_e^+], & \text{if } y = x_2, e \in E_2 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Since  $x_{1e}^- \leq f_{1e}^-(x)$  and  $x_{1e}^+ \leq f_{1e}^+(x)$  for each  $e \in E_1, x \in X$ , that implies  $\tilde{x}_{1E} \in f_{1E}$  and also  $x_{2e}^- \leq f_{2e}^-(x)$ , and  $x_{2e}^+ \leq f_{2e}^+(x)$  for each  $e \in E_2, x \in X$ , that implies  $\tilde{x}_{2E} \in f_{2E}$ . Consequently,  $E_1 \vee E_2 = E$  and  $\tilde{x}_E = \tilde{x}_{1E} \vee \tilde{x}_{2E}$ .  $\Box$ 

**Definition 10.** Let  $(X, E, \tau)$  be an IVFST space and  $\tilde{x}_E$  be an IVFS point with support x, e lower value  $\lambda_e^-$ , and e upper value  $\lambda_e^+$ . The IVFS set  $g_E$  is called the interval-valued fuzzy soft neighborhood (IVFSN) of IVFS point  $\tilde{x}_E$ , if there exists the IVFS-open set  $f_E$  in X such that  $\tilde{x}_E \in f_E \in g_E$ . Therefore, the IVFS-open set  $f_E$  is an IVFSN of the IVFS point  $\tilde{x}_E$  if  $\forall e \in E, x \in X$  such that  $\lambda_e^- < f_e^-(x)$  and  $\lambda_e^+ < f_e^+(x)$ .

**Definition 11.** Let  $(X, E, \tau)$  be an IVFST space and  $\tilde{x}_E$  be an IVFS point with support x, e lower value  $\lambda_e^-$ , and e upper value  $\lambda_e^+$  and  $\tilde{x}_E^*$  be an IVFS point with support  $x^*$ , e lower value  $\varepsilon_e^-$ , and e upper value  $\varepsilon_e^+$ .  $\tilde{x}_E^*$  is said to be compatible with  $\lambda_e^-$ ,  $\lambda_e^+$ , if  $\tilde{x}_E^*$  provides that  $0 \le \varepsilon_e^- \le \lambda_e^-$  and  $0 \le \varepsilon_e^+ \le \lambda_e^+$  for each  $e \in E$ .

### **Proposition 3.**

- 1. If  $f_E$  is an IVFSN of the IVFS point  $\tilde{x}_E$  and  $f_E \leq h_E$ , then  $h_E$  is also an IVFSN of  $\tilde{x}_E$ .
- 2. If  $f_E$  and  $g_E$  are two IVFSN of the IVFS point  $\tilde{x}_E$ , then  $f_E \wedge g_E$  is also the IVFSN of  $\tilde{x}_E$ .
- 3. If  $f_E$  is an IVFSN of the IVFS point  $\tilde{x}_E^*$  with support  $x^*$ , e lower value  $\lambda_e^- \varepsilon_e^-$ , and e upper value  $\lambda_e^+ \varepsilon_e^+$ , for all  $\varepsilon_e^-$  compatible with  $\lambda_e^-$  and  $\varepsilon_e^+$  compatible with  $\lambda_e^+$ , then  $f_E$  is an IVFSN of the IVFS point  $\tilde{x}_E$ .
- 4. If  $f_E$  is an IVFSN of the IVFS point  $\tilde{x}_{1E}$  and  $g_E$  is an IVFSN of the IVFS point  $\tilde{x}_{2E}$ , then  $f_E \tilde{\lor} g_E$  is also an IVFSN of  $\tilde{x}_{1E}$  and  $\tilde{x}_{2E}$ .
- 5. If  $f_E$  is an IVFSN of the IVFS point  $\tilde{x}_E$ , then there exists IVFSN  $g_E$  of  $\tilde{x}_E$  such that  $g_E \leq f_E$  and  $g_E$  is IVFSN of IVFS point  $\tilde{y}$  with support y, e lower value  $\gamma_e^-$ , and e upper value  $\gamma_e^+$ , for all  $\tilde{y}_E \in g_E$ .

## Proof.

- 1. Let  $f_E$  be an *IVFSN* of the *IVFS* point  $\tilde{x}$ . Then, there exists the *IVFS*-open set  $g_E$  in X such that  $\tilde{x}_E \in \tilde{g}_E \leq f_E$ . Since  $f_E \leq h_E$ ,  $\tilde{x}_E \in \tilde{g}_E \leq f_E \leq h_E$ . Thus,  $h_E$  is an *IVFSN* of  $\tilde{x}_E$ .
- 2. Let  $f_E$  and  $g_E$  be two *IVFSN* of the *IVFS* point  $\tilde{x}_E$ . Then, there exists two *IVFS*-open sets  $h_E$ ,  $k_E$  in X such that  $\tilde{x}_E \in h_E \leq f_E$  and  $\tilde{x}_E \in k_E \leq g_E$ . Thus,  $\tilde{x}_E \in h_E \wedge k_E \leq f_E \wedge g_E$ . Since  $h_E \wedge k_E$  is an *IVFS*-open set,  $g_E \wedge f_E$  is an *IVFSN* of  $\tilde{x}_E$ .
- 3. Let  $f_E$  be an *IVFSN* of the *IVFS* point  $\tilde{x}_E^*$  with support  $x^*$ , e lower value  $\lambda_e^- \varepsilon_e^-$ , and e upper value  $\lambda_e^+ \varepsilon_e^+$ , for all  $\varepsilon_e^-$  compatible with  $\lambda_e^-$  and  $\varepsilon_e^+$  compatible with  $\lambda_e^+$ . Then, there exists *IVFS*-open set  $g_E^{x^*}$  such that  $\tilde{x}_E^* \in \tilde{g}_E^{x^*} \leq f_E$ . Let  $g_E = \tilde{\vee}_{x^*} g_E^{x^*}$ , then  $g_E$  is *IVFS*-open in *X* and  $g_E \leq f_E$ . By Theorem 1 and since for all  $e \in E$ ,  $\tilde{\vee} \tilde{x}_E^* = \tilde{x}_E \leq \tilde{\vee}_{x^*} g_E^{x^*} = g_E \leq f_E$ . Hence,  $\tilde{x}_E \in g_E \leq f_E$ , i.e.,  $f_E$  is an *IVFSN* of  $\tilde{x}_E$ .
- 4. Let  $f_E$  be an *IVFSN* of the *IVFS* point  $\tilde{x}_{1E}$  with support  $x_1$ , e lower value  $\lambda_{1e}^-$ , and e upper value  $\lambda_{1e}^+$  and  $g_E$  be an *IVFSN* of the *IVFS* point  $\tilde{x}_{2E}$  with support  $x_2$ , e lower value  $\lambda_{2e}^-$ , and e upper value  $\lambda_{2e}^+$ . Then, there exists *IVFS*-open sets  $h_{1E}$ ,  $h_{2E}$  such that  $\tilde{x}_{1E} \in h_{1E} \leq f_E$  and  $\tilde{x}_{2E} \in h_{2E} \leq f_E$ , respectively. Since  $\tilde{x}_{1E} \in h_{1E}$ ,  $\lambda_{1e}^- \leq h_{1e}^-(x)$ ,  $\lambda_{1e}^+ \leq h_{1e}^+(x)$  for each  $e \in E$  and  $x \in X$ . Since  $\tilde{x}_{2E} \in h_{2E}$ ,  $\lambda_{2e}^- \leq h_{2e}^-(x)$ ,  $\lambda_{2e}^+ \leq h_{2e}^+(x)$  for each  $e \in E$  and  $x \in X$ . Thus, we have:

$$\max\{[\lambda_{1e}^{-},\lambda_{1e}^{+}],[\lambda_{2e}^{-},\lambda_{2e}^{+}]\} \le \max\{[h_{1e}^{-}(x),h_{1e}^{+}(x)],[h_{2e}^{-}(x),h_{2e}^{+}(x)]\}$$

for each  $e \in E$ ,  $x \in X$ . Therefore,  $\tilde{x}_{1E} \tilde{\vee} \tilde{x}_{2E} \tilde{\in} h_{1E} \tilde{\vee} h_{2E}$ ,  $h_{1E} \tilde{\vee} h_{2E} \in \tau$ , and  $h_{1E} \tilde{\vee} h_{2E} \tilde{\leq} f_E \tilde{\vee} g_E$ . Consequently,  $f_E \tilde{\vee} g_E$  is an *IVFSN* of  $x_{1E} \tilde{\vee} x_{2E}$ .

5. Let  $f_E$  be an *IVFSN* of the *IVFS* point  $\tilde{x}_E$ , with support x, e lower value  $\lambda_e^-$ , and e upper value  $\lambda_e^+$ . Then, there exists *IVFS*-open set  $g_E$  such that  $\tilde{x}_E \in g_E \leq f_E$ . Since  $g_E$  is an *IVFS*-open set,  $g_E$  is a neighborhood of its points, i.e.,  $g_E$  is an *IVFSN* of *IVFS* point  $\tilde{y}_E$  with support y, e lower value  $\gamma_e^-$ , and e upper value  $\gamma_e^+$ , for all  $e \in E$ . Furthermore,  $g_E$  is an *IVFSN* of *IVFS* point  $\tilde{x}_E$  since  $\tilde{x}_E \in g_E$ . Therefore, there exists  $g_E$  that is an *IVFSN* of  $\tilde{x}_E$  such that  $g_E \leq f_E$  and  $g_E$  is an *IVFSN* of  $\tilde{y}_E$ ; since  $f_E$  is an *IVFSN* of  $\tilde{x}_E$ .

**Definition 12.** Let  $(X, E, \tau)$  be an IVFST space and  $f_E$  be an IVFS set. The IVFS-closure of  $f_E$  denoted by  $Clf_E$  is the intersection of all IVFS-closed super sets of  $f_E$ . Clearly,  $Clf_E$  is the smallest IVFS-closed set over X that contains  $f_E$ .

**Example 5** ([23]). Consider IVFST  $\tau_u^{IVFS}$  over  $\mathbb{R}$  as introduced in Example 2, and if  $\tilde{H}_E$  is an IVFS over  $\mathbb{R}$  related of the open interval  $H = (a, b) \subset \mathbb{R}$  by mapping:

$$\tilde{H}: E \to (Int[0,1])^{\mathbb{R}}$$
$$\tilde{H}_e(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & x \in (a,b) \\ 0 & x \notin (a,b) \end{cases}$$

where  $e \in E$  and  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , then the closure of  $\tilde{H}_E$  is defined as:

$$Cl\tilde{H}: E \to (Int[0,1])^{\mathbb{R}}$$
$$\tilde{H}_e(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & x \in [a,b] \\ 0 & x \notin [a,b]. \end{cases}$$

**Remark 3.** By replacing  $\tilde{x}_E$  for  $f_E$ , the IVFS-closure of  $\tilde{x}_E$  denoted by  $Cl\tilde{x}_E$  is the intersection of all IVFS-closed super sets of  $\tilde{x}_E$ .

**Proposition 4.** Let  $(X, E, \tau)$  be an IVFST space and  $f_E$  and  $g_E$  be two IVFSS over X. Then:

- 1.  $Cl \emptyset_E = \emptyset_E$  and  $Cl \tilde{X}_E = \tilde{X}_E$ ,
- 2.  $f_E \leq Clf_E$ , and  $Clf_E$  is the smallest IVFS-closed set containing IVFS $f_E$ ,
- 3.  $Cl(Clf_E) = Clf_E$ ,
- 4. *if*  $f_E \leq g_E$ , then  $(Clf_E) \leq Clg_E$ .
- 5.  $f_E$  is an IVFS-closed set if and only if  $f_E = Clf_E$ ,
- $6. \quad Cl(f_E \tilde{\lor} g_E) = Clf_E \tilde{\lor} Clg_E,$
- 7.  $Cl(f_E \tilde{\wedge} g_E) \tilde{\leq} Clf_E \tilde{\wedge} Clg_E.$

Proof. We only prove Part (6). A similar technique is used to show the other parts.

Since  $f_E \leq f_E \forall g_E$  and  $g_E \leq f_E \forall g_E$ , by Part (4), we have  $Clf_E \leq Cl(f_E \forall g_E)$  and  $Clg \leq Cl(f_E \forall g_E)$ . Then,  $Clf_E \forall Clg_E \leq Cl(f_E \forall g_E)$ .

Conversely, we have  $f_E \leq Clf_E$  and  $g_E \leq Clg_E$ , by Part (2). Then,  $f_E \vee g_E \leq Clf_E \vee Clg_E$  where  $Clf_E \vee Clg_E$  is an *IVFS*-closed set. Thus,  $Cl(f_E \vee g_E) \leq Clf_E \vee Clg_E$ .

Therefore,  $Cl(f_E \tilde{\lor} g_E) = Clf_E \tilde{\lor} Clg_E$ .  $\Box$ 

**Definition 13.** Let  $(X_1, E_1, \tau_1)$  and  $(X_2, E_2, \tau_2)$  be two IVFSTS and:

$$\Phi: (X_1, E_1, \tau_1) \to (X_2, E_2, \tau_2)$$

be an IVFS map. Then,  $\Phi$  is called an:

- 1. *interval-valued fuzzy soft continuous (IVFSC) map if and only if for each*  $g_{E_2} \in \tau_2$ *, we have*  $\Phi^{-1}(g_{E_2}) \in \tau_1$ *,*
- 2. *interval-valued fuzzy soft open (IVFSO) map if and only if for each*  $f_E \in \tau_1$ *, we have*  $\Phi(f_{E_1}) \in \tau_2$ *.*

**Theorem 3.** Let  $(X_1, E_1, \tau_1)$  and  $(X_2, E_2, \tau_2)$  be two IVFST and  $\Phi$  be an IVFS mapping from  $X_1$  to  $X_2$ , then the following statements are equivalent:

- 1.  $\Phi$  is IVFC,
- 2. For each IVFS point  $\tilde{x}_E$  on  $X_1$ , the inverse of every neighborhood of  $\Phi(\tilde{x}_E)$  under  $\Phi$  is a neighborhood of  $\tilde{x}_E$ ,
- 3. For each IVFS point  $\tilde{x}_E$  on  $X_1$  and each neighborhood  $g_E$  of  $\Phi(\tilde{x}_E)$ , there exists a neighborhood  $f_E$  of  $\tilde{x}_E$  such that  $\Phi(f_E) \leq g_E$ .

### Proof.

(1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) Let  $g_E$  be an *IVFSN* of  $\Phi(\tilde{x}_E)$  in  $\tau_2$ . Then, there exists an *IVFS*-open set  $f_E$  in  $\tau_2$  such that  $\Phi(\tilde{x}_E) \in f_E \leq g_E$ . Since  $\Phi$  is *IVFSC*,  $\Phi^{-1}(f_E)$  is an *IVFS*-open in  $\tau_1$ , and we have  $\tilde{x}_E \in \Phi^{-1}(f_E) \leq \Phi^{-1}(g_E)$ .

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3) Let  $g_E$  be an *IVFSN* of  $\Phi(\tilde{x}_E)$ . By the hypothesis,  $\Phi^{-1}(g_E)$  is an *IVFSN* of  $\tilde{x}_E$ . Consider  $f_E = \Phi^{-1}(g_E)$  to be an *IVFSN* of  $\tilde{x}_E$ . Then, we have  $\Phi(f_E) = \Phi(\Phi^{-1}(g_E)) \leq g_E$ .

(3)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) Let  $g_E$  be an *IVFS*-open set in  $\tau_2$ . We must show that  $\Phi^{-1}(g_E)$  is an *IVFS*-open set in  $\tau_1$ . Now, let  $\tilde{x}_E \in \Phi^{-1}(g_E)$ . Then,  $\Phi(\tilde{x}_E) \in g_E$ . Since  $g_E$  is an *IVFS*-open set in  $\tau_2$ , we get that  $g_E$  is an *IVFSN*  $\Phi(\tilde{x}_E)$  in  $\tau_2$ . By the hypothesis, there exists *IVFS*-open set  $f_E$  that is an *IVFSN* of  $\tilde{x}_E$  such that  $\Phi(f_E) \leq g_E$ . Thus,  $f_E \leq \Phi^{-1}[\Phi(f_E)] \leq \Phi^{-1}(g_E)$  for  $f_E$  is an *IVFSN* of  $\tilde{x}_E$ . From here,  $f_E \leq \Phi^{-1}(g_E)$ , as  $f_E$  is an *IVFSN* of  $\tilde{x}_E$ . Hence,  $\Phi^{-1}(g_E) \in \tau_1$ .  $\Box$ 

## 4. Quasi-Coincident Neighborhood Structure of Interval-Valued Fuzzy Soft Topological Spaces

In this section, we present the quasi-coincident neighborhood structure in the interval-valued fuzzy soft topology (*IVFST*) and its properties.

**Definition 14.** The IVFS point  $\tilde{x}_E$  is called soft quasi-coincident with IVFS  $f_E$ , denoted by  $\tilde{x}_E \tilde{q} f_E$ , if there exists  $e \in E$  such that  $\lambda_e^- + f_e^-(x) > 1$  and  $\lambda_e^+ + f_e^+(x) > 1$ . If  $f_E$  is not soft quasi-coincident with  $f_E$ , we write  $f_E \neg \tilde{q} g_E$ .

**Definition 15.** The IVFS set  $f_E$  is called soft quasi-coincident with IVFS  $g_E$ , denoted by  $f_E\tilde{q}g_E$ , if there exists  $e \in E$  such that  $f_e^-(x) + g_e^-(x) > 1$  and  $f_e^+(x) + g_e^+(x) > 1$ .

**Proposition 5.** Let  $\tilde{x}_E$  be an IVFS point with support x, e lower value  $\lambda_e^-$ , and e upper value  $\lambda_e^+$  and  $f_E$ ,  $g_E$  two IVFS sets. Then:

(*i*)  $f_E \leq g_E \Leftrightarrow f_E \neg \tilde{q}g_E^c$ , (*ii*)  $\tilde{x}_E \in f_E \Leftrightarrow \tilde{x}_E \neg \tilde{q}f_E^c$ .

**Proof.** We just prove Part (i). A similar technique is used to show Part (ii). For two *IVFS* sets  $f_E$ ,  $g_E$ , we have:

$$f_{E} \tilde{\leq} g_{E} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \forall e \in E : [f_{e}^{-}(x), f_{e}^{+}(x)] \leq [g_{e}^{-}(x), g_{e}^{+}(x)], \forall x \in X$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \quad \forall e \in E : f_{e}^{-}(x) \leq g_{e}^{-}(x) \text{ and } f_{e}^{+}(x) \leq g_{e}^{+}(x), \forall x \in X$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \quad \forall e \in E : f_{e}^{-}(x) + 1 - g_{e}^{-}(x) \leq 1 \text{ and } f_{e}^{+}(x) + 1 - g_{e}^{+}(x) \leq 1, \forall x \in X$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \quad \forall e \in E : f_{e}^{-}(x) + g_{e}^{-c}(x) \leq 1 \text{ and } f_{e}^{+}(x) + g_{e}^{+c}(x) \leq 1, \forall x \in X$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \quad f_{E} \neg \tilde{q} g_{E}^{c}.$$

**Proposition 6.** Let  $\{f_{jE} : j \in J\}$  be a family of IVFS sets over X and  $\tilde{x}_E$  be an IVFS point with support x, e lower value  $\lambda_e^-$ , and e upper value  $\lambda_e^+$ . If  $\tilde{x}_E \tilde{q}(\tilde{\wedge} f_{jE})$ , then  $\tilde{x}_E \tilde{q} f_{jE}$  for each  $j \in J$ .

**Proof.** Let  $\tilde{x}_E \tilde{q}(\tilde{\wedge} f_{jE})$ . Then,  $\lambda_e^- \tilde{q}(\tilde{\wedge}_j f_{je}^-)(x)$ ,  $\lambda_e^+ \tilde{q}(\tilde{\wedge}_j f_{je}^+)(x)$  for  $e \in E$ , and  $x \in X$ . This implies that  $\lambda_e^- > 1 - \Lambda_j(f_{je}^-)(x)$  and  $\lambda_e^+ > 1 - \Lambda_j(f_{je}^+)(x)$ ,  $x \in X$ . Since  $\Lambda_j f_{je}^-(x) \leq f_{je}^-(x)$  and  $\Lambda_j f_{je}^+(x) \leq f_{je}^+(x)$ , then  $\lambda_e^- > 1 - \Lambda_j(f_{je}^-)(x) > 1 - f_{je}^-(x)$  for each  $e \in E$ ,  $x \in X$  and  $\lambda_e^+ > 1 - \Lambda_j(f_{je}^+)(x) > 1 - f_{je}^+(x)$  for each  $e \in E$ ,  $x \in X$  and  $\lambda_e^+ > 1 - \Lambda_j(f_{je}^+)(x) > 1 - f_{je}^+(x)$  for each  $e \in E$ ,  $x \in X$ . Hence,  $\lambda_e^- > 1 - f_{je}^-(x)$  and  $\lambda_e^+ > 1 - f_{je}^+(x)$ . Therefore,  $[\lambda_e^-, \lambda_e^+] > [1, 1] - [f_{je}^-(x), f_{je}^+(x)]$  implies that  $\tilde{x}_E > 1 - f_{jE}^-$  and  $\tilde{x}_E \tilde{q} f_{jE}$  for each  $j \in J$ .  $\Box$ 

**Remark 4.**  $\tilde{x}_E \tilde{q}(f_E \lor g_E)$  does not imply  $\tilde{x}_E \tilde{q} f_E$  or  $\tilde{x}_E \tilde{q} g_E$ . This is shown in the following example.

**Example 6.** Let us consider Example 4 where  $\tilde{x}_E \tilde{q}(f_E \tilde{\lor} g_E)$ , but  $\tilde{x}_E \neg \tilde{q} f_E$  and  $\tilde{x}_E \neg \tilde{q} g_E$ .

**Theorem 4.** Let  $\tilde{x}_E$  be an IVFS point  $\tilde{x}_E$  with support x, e lower value  $\lambda_e^-$ , and e upper value  $\lambda_e^+$  and  $f_E$ ,  $g_E$  be IVFS sets over X. If  $\tilde{x}_E \tilde{q}(f_E \vee g_E)$ , then there exists  $\tilde{x}_{1E} \tilde{q}f_E$  and  $\tilde{x}_{2E} \tilde{q}g_E$  such that  $\tilde{x}_E = \tilde{x}_{1E} \tilde{\vee} \tilde{x}_{2E}$ .

The proof is very similar to the proof of Theorem 2.

**Definition 16.** Let  $(X, E, \tau)$  be an IVFSTS and  $\tilde{x}_E$  be an IVFS point with support x, e lower values  $\lambda_e^-$ , and e upper values  $\lambda_e^+$ . The IVFS set  $g_E$  is called a quasi-soft neighborhood (QIVFSN) of IVFS point  $\tilde{x}_E$  if there exists the IVFS-open set  $f_E$  in X such that  $\tilde{x}_E \tilde{q} f_E \tilde{\leq} g_E$ . Thus, the IVFS-open set  $f_E$  is a QIVFSN of the IVFS point  $\tilde{x}_E$  if and only if  $\exists e \in E, x \in X$  such that  $\lambda_e^- + f_e^-(x) > 1$  and  $\lambda_e^+ + f_e^+(x) > 1$ .

**Remark 5.** A quasi-coincident soft neighborhood of an IVFS point generally does not contain the point itself. This is shown by the following:

**Example 7.** Let X = [0, 1] and E be any subset of X. Consider two IVFS sets  $f_E$ ,  $g_E$  over X by the mapping  $f : E \to \mathcal{IVF}([0, 1])$  and  $f : E \to \mathcal{IVF}([0, 1])$  such that for any  $e \in E$ ,  $x \in X$ :

$$ilde{f}_e(x) = \left\{ egin{array}{cc} [0.4, 0.5] & 0 \leq x \leq e \ 0 & e < x \leq 1, \end{array} 
ight.$$

and:

$$\tilde{g}_e(x) = \begin{cases}
[0.6, 0.7] & 0 \le x \le e \\
0 & e < x \le 1
\end{cases}$$

and  $\tilde{x}_E$  be any IVFS point defined by:

$$\tilde{x}_e(c) = \begin{cases} [0.4, 0.5] & c = x \\ 0 & c \neq x. \end{cases}$$

Let  $\tau = \{\emptyset_E, X_E, f_E, g_E\}$ . Then clearly,  $\tau$  is an IVFST over X. Since  $f_E \leq g_E$  and  $\tilde{x}\tilde{q}f_E$ , thus  $g_E$  is a QIVFSN of  $\tilde{x}_E$ . However,  $\tilde{x}_E \notin g_E$ .

## **Proposition 7.**

- (1) If  $f_E \leq g_E$  and  $f_E$  is a QINVSN of  $\tilde{x}_E$ , then  $g_E$  is also a QINVSN of  $\tilde{x}_E$ ,
- (2) If  $f_E$ ,  $g_E$  are QINVSN of  $\tilde{x}_E$ , then  $f_E \tilde{\land} g_E$  is also a QINVSN of  $\tilde{x}_E$ .
- (3) If  $f_E$  is a QINVSN of  $\tilde{x}_{1E}$  and  $g_E$  is a QINVSN of  $\tilde{x}_{2E}$ , then  $f_E \tilde{\lor} g_E$  is also a QINVSN of  $\tilde{x}_{1E} \tilde{\lor} \tilde{x}_{2E}$ .
- (4) If  $f_E$  is a QINVSN of  $\tilde{x}_E$ , then there exists  $g_E$  that is a QINVSN of  $\tilde{x}_E$ , such that  $g_E \leq f_E$ , and  $g_E$  is a QINVSN of  $y_E$ ,  $\forall y_E \tilde{q}g_E$ .

**Proof.** (1) and (2) are straightforward.

(3) Let  $f_E$  be a QINVSN of  $\tilde{x}_{1E}$  and  $g_E$  be a QINVSN of  $\tilde{x}_{2E}$ . Then, there exists an IVFS-open set  $h_{1E}$ in X such that  $\tilde{x}_{1E}\tilde{q}h_{1E} \leq f_E$  and  $g_E$  is a QINVSN of  $\tilde{x}_{2E}$ . Thus, there exists an IVFS-open set  $h_{2E}$ in X such that  $\tilde{x}_{2E}\tilde{q}h_{2E} \leq g_E$ . Since  $\tilde{x}_{1E}\tilde{q}h_{1E}$  for each  $e \in E$ ,  $x \in X$ ,  $\lambda_{1e}^- + h_{1e}^- > 1$ ,  $\lambda_{1e}^+ + h_{1e}^+ > 1$ , this implies that  $\lambda_{1e}^- > 1 - h_{1e}^-, \lambda_{1e}^+ > 1 - h_{1e}^+$  for each  $e \in E$ . Since  $\tilde{x}_{2E}\tilde{q}h_{2E}$ , for each  $e \in E$ ,  $\lambda_{2e}^- + h_{2e}^- > 1$ ,  $\lambda_{2e}^+ + h_{2e}^+ > 1$ , this implies that  $\lambda_{2e}^- > 1 - h_{2e}^-, \lambda_{2e}^+ > 1 - h_{2e}^+$  for each  $e \in E$ ,  $x \in X$ . From here,

$$\max(\lambda_{1e}^{-},\lambda_{2e}^{-}) > \max(1-h_{1e}^{-}(x)), (1-h_{2e}^{-}(x)), \max(\lambda_{1e}^{+},\lambda_{2e}^{+}) > \max(1-h_{1e}^{+}(x)), (1-h_{2e}^{+}(x)).$$

Therefore,  $\tilde{x}_{1E} \tilde{\vee} \tilde{x}_{2E} \tilde{q} (h_{1E} \tilde{\vee} h_{2E}) \tilde{\leq} f_E \tilde{\vee} g_E$ . Consequently,  $f_E \tilde{\vee} g_E$  is a *QINVSN* of  $\tilde{x}_{1E} \tilde{\vee} \tilde{x}_{2E}$ .

(4) Let  $f_E$  be a *QINVSN* of  $\tilde{x}_E$ . Then, there exists  $g_E$  that is a *QINVSN* of  $\tilde{x}_E$  such that  $\tilde{x}_E \tilde{q}g_E \tilde{\leq} f_E$ . Consider the  $g_E = h_E$ . Indeed, since  $\tilde{x}_E \tilde{q}h_E$  and  $h_E$  is an *IVFS*-open set,  $h_E$  is a *QINVSN* of  $\tilde{x}_E$ . Thus, we obtain  $h_E$  that is a *QINVSN* of  $\tilde{y}_E$ .

**Theorem 5.** In  $IVFST(X, E, \tau)$ , the IVFS point  $\tilde{x}_E$  belongs to  $Clf_E$  if and only if each QIVFS of  $\tilde{x}_E$  is soft quasi-coincident with  $f_E$ .

**Proof.** Let *IVFS* point  $\tilde{x}_E$  with support x, e lower value  $\lambda_e^-$ , and e upper value  $\lambda_e^+$  belong to  $Clf_E$ , *i.e*,  $\tilde{x}_E \in Clf_E$ . For any *IVFS*-closed  $g_E$  containing  $f_E$ ,  $\tilde{x}_E \in g_E$ , which implies that  $\lambda_e^- \leq g_e^-(x)$  and  $\lambda_e^+ \leq g_e^+(x)$ , for all  $x \in X$ ,  $e \in E$ . Consider  $h_E$  to be an *QIVFN* of the *IVFS* point  $\tilde{x}_E$  and  $h_E \neg \tilde{q}f_E$ . Then, for any  $e \in E$  and  $x \in X$ ,  $h_e^-(x) + f_e^-(x) \leq 1$ ,  $h_e^+(x) + f_e^+(x) \leq 1$ , and so,  $f_E \leq h_E^c$ . Since  $h_E$  is a *QIVFSN* of the *IVFS* point  $\tilde{x}_E$ , by  $\tilde{x}_E$ , it does not belong to  $h_E^c$ . Therefore, we have that  $\tilde{x}_E$  does not belong to  $Clf_E$ . This is a contradiction.

Conversely, let any *QIVFSN* of the *IVFS* point  $\tilde{x}_E$  be soft quasi-coincident with  $f_E$ . Consider that  $\tilde{x}_E$  doe not belong to  $Clf_E$ , *i.e*,  $\tilde{x}_E \notin Clf_E$ . Then, there exists an *IVFS*-closed set  $g_E$ , which contains  $f_E$  such that  $\tilde{x}_E$  does not belong to  $g_E$ . We have  $\tilde{x}_E \tilde{q} g_E^c$ . Then,  $g_E^c$  is an *QIVFSN* of the *IVFS* point  $\tilde{x}_E$  and  $f_E \neg \tilde{q} g_E^c$ . This is a contradiction with the hypothesis.  $\Box$ 

### 5. IVFS Quasi-Separation Axioms

In this section, we develop the separation axioms to *IVFST*, so-called *IVFSQ* separation axioms (*IVFSq-T<sub>i</sub>* axioms) for i = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, and consider some of their properties.

**Definition 17.** Let  $(X, E, \tau)$  be an IVFST space. Let  $\tilde{x}_E$  and  $\tilde{y}_E$  be IVFS points over X, where:

$$\tilde{x}(e)(z) = \begin{cases} [\lambda_e^-, \lambda_e^+] & z = x\\ 0 & otherwise \end{cases}$$

and:

$$\tilde{y}(e)(z) = \begin{cases} [\gamma_e^-, \gamma_e^+] & z = y \\ 0 & otherwise, \end{cases}$$

then  $\tilde{x}_E$  and  $\tilde{y}_E$  are said to be distinct if and only if  $\tilde{x}_E \wedge \tilde{y}_E = \emptyset_E$ , which means  $x \neq y$ .

**Definition 18.** Let  $(X, E, \tau)$  be an IVFST space. The IVFS point  $\tilde{x}_E$  is called a crisp IVFS point  $x_E^{[1,1]}$ , if  $\lambda_e^- = \lambda_e^+ = 1$  for all  $e \in E$ .

**Definition 19.** Let  $(X, E, \tau)$  be an IVFST space and  $\tilde{x}_E$  and  $\tilde{y}_E$  be two IVFS points. If there exists IVFS open sets  $f_E$  and  $g_E$  such that:

- (a) when  $\tilde{x}_E$  and  $\tilde{y}_E$  are two distinct IVFS points with different supports x and y, e lower values, and e upper values  $\lambda_e^-$ ,  $\lambda_e^+$  and  $\gamma_e^-$ ,  $\gamma_e^+$ , respectively, and  $f_E$  is an IVFSN of the IVFS point  $\tilde{x}_E$  and  $\tilde{y}_E \neg \tilde{q}f_E$  or  $g_E$  is an IVFSN of the IVFS point  $\tilde{y}_E$  and  $\tilde{x}_E \neg \tilde{q}g_E$ ,
- (b) when  $\tilde{x}_E$  and  $\tilde{y}_E$  are two IVFS points with the same supports x = y, e value  $\lambda_e^- < \gamma_e^-$ , and e value  $\lambda_e^+ < \gamma_e^+$  and  $f_E$  is a QIVFSN of the IVFS point  $\tilde{y}_E$  such that  $\tilde{x}_E \neg \tilde{q}f_E$ ,

then  $(X, E, \tau)$  is an interval-valued fuzzy soft quasi- $T_0$  space (IVFSq- $T_0$  space).

**Example 8.** Consider the IVFS set defined in Example 3.1 and  $\tilde{x}_E$ ,  $\tilde{y}_E$  to be any two distinct IVFS points in X defined by:

$$\tilde{x}(e)(z) = \begin{cases} 1 & z = x \\ 0 & z \neq x \end{cases}$$

and:

$$\tilde{y}(e)(z) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } z = y \\ 1 & \text{if } z \neq y. \end{cases}$$

Then,  $f_E$  is an IVFSN of  $\tilde{x}_E$  and  $\tilde{y}_E \neg \tilde{q} f_E$ . Thus, X is an IVFSq-T<sub>0</sub> space.

**Theorem 6.**  $(X, E, \tau)$  is an IVFSq-T<sub>0</sub> space if and only if for every two IVFS points  $\tilde{x}_E, \tilde{y}_E$  and  $\tilde{x}_E \notin Cl\tilde{y}_E$  or  $\tilde{y}_E \notin Cl\tilde{x}_E$ .

**Proof.** Let  $(X, E, \tau)$  be an *IVFS*q-*T*<sub>0</sub> space and  $\tilde{x}_E$  and  $\tilde{y}_E$  be two *IVFS* points in *X*.

First consider that  $\tilde{x}_E$  and  $\tilde{y}_E$  are two distinct *IVFS* points with different supports x and y, e lower values, and e upper values  $\lambda_e^-$ ,  $\gamma_e^-$  and  $\lambda_e^+$ ,  $\gamma_e^+$ , respectively. Then, a crisp *IVFS* point  $\tilde{x}_E^{[1,1]}$  has an *IVFSN*  $f_E$  such that  $\tilde{y}_E \neg \tilde{q} f_E$  or a crisp *IVFS* point  $\tilde{y}_E^{[1,1]}$  has an *IVFSN*  $g_E$  such that  $\tilde{x}_E \neg \tilde{q} f_E$ . Consider that the crisp *IVFS* point  $\tilde{x}_E^{[1,1]}$  has an *IVFSN*  $f_E$  such that  $\tilde{y}_E \neg \tilde{q} f_E$ . Consider that the crisp *IVFS* point  $\tilde{x}_E^{[1,1]}$  has an *IVFSN*  $f_E$  such that  $\tilde{y}_E \neg \tilde{q} f_E$ . Moreover,  $f_E$  is an *QINFSN* of  $\tilde{x}_E$ 

and  $\tilde{y}_E \neg \tilde{q}f_E$ . Hence,  $\tilde{x}_E \notin Cl\tilde{y}_E$ . Next, we consider the case  $\tilde{x}_E$  and  $\tilde{y}_E$  to be two *IVFS* points with the same supports x = y, e lower value  $\lambda_e^- < \gamma_e^-$ , and e upper value  $\lambda_e^+ < \gamma_e^+$ . Then,  $\tilde{y}_E$  has a *QIVFSN* that is not quasi-coincident with  $\tilde{x}_E$ , and so, by Theorem 5,  $\tilde{x}_E \notin Cl\tilde{y}_E$ .

Conversely, let  $\tilde{x}_E$  and  $\tilde{y}_E$  be two *IVFS* points in *X*. Consider without loss of generality that  $\tilde{x}_E \notin Cl\tilde{y}_E$ . First, consider that  $\tilde{x}_E$  and  $\tilde{y}_E$  are two distinct *IVFS* points with different supports *x* and *y*, *e* lower values, and *e* upper values  $\lambda_e^-$ ,  $\gamma_e^-$  and  $\lambda_e^+$ ,  $\gamma_e^-$ , respectively, since  $\tilde{x}_E \notin Cl\tilde{y}_E$  for any  $e \in E$ ,  $f_e^-(y) = f_e^+(y) = 0$  and  $f_e^-(x) = f_e^+(x) = 1$ . Then,  $Cl(\tilde{y}_E)^c$  is an *IVFSN* of  $\tilde{x}_E$  such that  $Cl(\tilde{y}_E)^c \neg \tilde{q}\tilde{y}_E$ . Next, let  $\tilde{x}_E$  and  $\tilde{y}_E$  be two *IVFS* points with the same supports x = y, and we must have *e* lower value  $\lambda_e^- > \gamma_e^-$  and e upper value  $\lambda_e^+ > \gamma_e^+$ , then  $\tilde{x}_E$  has a *QIVFSN* that is not quasi-coincident with  $\tilde{y}_E$ .  $\Box$ 

**Definition 20.** Let  $(X, E, \tau)$  be an IVFST and  $\tilde{x}_E$  and  $\tilde{y}_E$  be two IVFS points, if there exists IVFS open sets  $f_E$  and  $g_E$  such that:

- (a) when  $\tilde{x}_E$  and  $\tilde{y}_E$  are two distinct IVFS points with different supports x and y, e lower values, and e upper values  $\lambda_e^-$ ,  $\gamma_e^-$  and  $\lambda_e^+$ ,  $\gamma_e^+$ , respectively,  $f_E$  is an IVFSN of IVFS points  $\tilde{x}_E$  and  $\tilde{y}_E \neg \tilde{q}f_E$ , and  $g_E$  is an IVFSN of IVFS points  $\tilde{y}_E$  and  $\tilde{x}_E \neg \tilde{q}g_E$ ,
- (b) when  $\tilde{x}_E$  and  $\tilde{y}_E$  are two IVFS points with the same supports x = y, e value  $\lambda_e^- < \gamma_e^-$ , and e value  $\lambda_e^+ < \gamma_e^+$ ,  $f_E$  is an QIVFSN of the IVFS point  $\tilde{y}_E$  such that  $\tilde{x}_E \neg \tilde{q}f_E$ ,

then  $(X, E, \tau)$  is an interval-valued fuzzy soft quasi- $T_1$  space (IVFSq- $T_1$  space).

**Theorem 7.** (*X*, *E*,  $\tau$ ) *is an IVFSq-T*<sub>1</sub> *space if and only if any IVFS point*  $\tilde{x}_E$  *in X is an IVFS-closed set.* 

**Proof.** Suppose that each *IVFS* point  $\tilde{x}_E$  in X is an *IVFS*-closed set, i.e.,  $g_E = \tilde{x}_E^c$ . Then,  $g_E$  is an *IVFS*-open set. Let  $x_E$  and  $y_E$  be two *IVFS* points as follows: First, consider that  $\tilde{x}_E$  and  $\tilde{y}_E$  are two distinct *IVFS* points with different supports x and y, e lower values, and e upper values  $\lambda_e^-$ ,  $\gamma_e^-$  and  $\lambda_e^+$ ,  $\gamma_e^+$ , respectively. Then,  $g_E$  is an *IVFS*-open set such that  $g_E$  is an *IVFSN* of *IVFS* point  $\tilde{y}_E$  and  $\tilde{x}_E \neg \tilde{q}g_E$ . Similarly,  $f_E = \tilde{y}_E^c$  is an *IVFS*-open set and  $f_E$  is an *IVFSN* of the *IVFS* points  $\tilde{x}_E$  and  $\tilde{y}_E \neg \tilde{q}f_E$ . Next, we consider the case  $\tilde{x}_E$  and  $\tilde{y}_E$  to be two *IVFS* points with the same supports x = y, e value  $\lambda_e^- < \gamma_e^-$ , and e value  $\lambda_e^+ < \gamma_e^+$ . Then,  $\tilde{y}_E$  has a *QIVFSN*  $g_E$ , which is not quasi-coincident with  $\tilde{x}_E$ . Thus, X is an *IVFS*- $T_1$  space.

Conversely, Let  $(X, E, \tau)$  be an IVFSq- $T_1$  space. Suppose that any IVFS point  $\tilde{x}_E$  is not an IVFS-closet set in X, i.e.,  $f_E \doteq \tilde{x}_E^c$ . Then,  $\tilde{f}_E \neq Cl\tilde{f}_E$ , and there exists  $\tilde{y}_E \in Cl\tilde{f}_E$  such that  $\tilde{x}_E \neq \tilde{y}_E$ .

First, consider that  $\tilde{x}_E$  and  $\tilde{y}_E$  are two distinct *IVFS* points with different supports x and y, e lower values, and e upper values  $\lambda_e^-$ ,  $\gamma_e^-$  and  $\lambda_e^+$ ,  $\gamma_e^+$ , respectively. Suppose that e lower value  $\lambda_e^- \leq 0.5$  and e upper value  $\lambda_e^+ \leq 0.5$ . Since  $\tilde{y}_E \in Clf_E$ , by Theorem 4.1, any  $f_E$  is a *QIVFSN* of  $\tilde{y}_E$  and  $\tilde{x}_E \tilde{q} f_E$ . Then, there exists *IVFS*-open set  $h_E$  such that  $\tilde{y}\tilde{q}h_E \leq f_E$ . Hence,  $h_e^-(y) + \gamma_e^- > 1$ . Next, let  $\tilde{x}_E$  and  $\tilde{y}_E$  be two *IVFS* points with the same supports x = y, e value  $\lambda_e^- < \gamma_e^-$ , and e value  $\lambda_e^+ < \gamma_e^+$ . Since  $y_E \in Clx_E$ , by Theorem 5, each  $f_E$  is a *QIVFSN* of *IVFS* points  $\tilde{y}_E$ ,  $\tilde{x}_E \tilde{q} f_E$ . This is a contradiction.  $\Box$ 

**Definition 21.** Let  $(X, E, \tau)$  be an IVFST and  $\tilde{x}_E$  and  $\tilde{y}_E$  be two IVFS points, if there exists IVFS open sets  $f_E$  and  $g_E$  such that:

- (a) when  $\tilde{x}_E$  and  $\tilde{y}_E$  are two distinct IVFS points with different supports x and y, e lower values, and e upper values  $\lambda_e^-$ ,  $\gamma_e^-$  and  $\lambda_e^+$ ,  $\gamma_e^+$ , respectively,  $f_E$  is an IVFSN of the IVFS point  $\tilde{x}_E$  and  $g_E$  is an IVFSN of the IVFS point  $\tilde{y}_E$ , such that  $f_E \neg \tilde{q}g_E$ ,
- (b) when  $\tilde{x}_E$  and  $\tilde{y}_E$  are two IVFS points with the same supports x = y, e value  $\lambda_e^- < \gamma_e^-$ , and e value  $\lambda_e^+ < \gamma_e^+$ ,  $f_E$  is an IVFSN of IVFS point  $\tilde{x}_E$  and  $g_E$  is a QIVFSN of IVFS point  $\tilde{y}_E$ ,

then  $(X, E, \tau)$  is an interval-valued fuzzy soft quasi- $T_2$  space (IVFS q- $T_2$  space).

**Example 9.** Suppose that X = [0,1] and E are any proper  $(E \subset X)$ . Consider IVFS sets  $f_E$  and  $g_E$  over X defined as below:  $f : E \to IVF([0,1])$  and  $g : E \to IVF([0,1])$ , such that for any  $e \in E, x \in X$ :

$$f(e)(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & 0 \le x \le e \\ 0 & e < x \le 1 \end{cases}$$

and:

$$g(e)(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & 0 \le x \le e \\ 1 & e \le x \le 1. \end{cases}$$

Let  $\tau = \{\emptyset_E, X_E, f_E, g_E\}$ . Then clearly,  $\tau$  is an IVFST over X. Therefore, for any two absolute distinct IVFS points  $\tilde{x}_E, \tilde{y}_E$  in X defined by:

$$\tilde{x}(e)(z) = \begin{cases} 1 & z = x \\ 0 & z \neq x \end{cases}$$

and:

$$\tilde{y}(e)(z) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } z = y \\ 1 & \text{if } z \neq y \end{cases}$$

Then,  $f_E$  is an IVFSN of  $\tilde{x}_E$ , and  $g_E$  is an IVFSN of  $\tilde{y}_E$ , such that  $f_E \neg \tilde{q}g_E$ . Then, X is an IVFS q- $T_2$  space.

**Theorem 8.**  $IVFST(X, E, \tau)$  is an IVFSq- $T_2$  space if and only if for any  $x \in X$ , we have  $\tilde{x}_E = \tilde{\Lambda} \{Clf_E : f_E \in IVFSN \text{ of } \tilde{x}_E\}.$ 

**Proof.** Let  $(X, E, \tau)$  be a crisp IVFSq- $T_2$  space and  $\tilde{x}_E$  be an IVFS point with support x, e lower value  $\lambda_e^-$ , and e upper value  $\gamma_e^+$ . Let  $y_E$  be a crisp IVFS point with support y, e lower value  $\gamma_e^-$ , and e upper value  $\lambda_e^+$ . If  $\tilde{x}_E$  and  $\tilde{y}_E$  are two IVFS points with different supports x and y, e lower values, and e upper values  $\lambda_e^-$ ,  $\gamma_e^-$  and  $\lambda_e^+$ ,  $\gamma_e^+$ , respectively, then there exist two IVFS-open sets  $f_E$  and  $g_E$  containing IVFS points  $\tilde{y}_E$  and  $\tilde{x}_E$ , respectively, such that  $f_E \neg \tilde{q}g_E$ . Then,  $g_E$  is an IVFSN of IVFS point  $\tilde{x}_E$  and  $f_E$  is a QIVFSN of  $\tilde{y}_E$  such that  $f_E \neg \tilde{q}g_E$ . Hence,  $\tilde{y}_E \notin Clg_E$ . If  $\tilde{x}_E$  and  $\tilde{y}_E$  are two IVFS points with the same supports x = y, then  $\gamma_e^- > \lambda_e^-$  and  $\gamma_e^- > \lambda_e^+$ . Thus, there are QIVFSN  $f_E$  of IVFS points  $\tilde{y}_E$  and IVFSN  $g_E$  such that  $f_E \neg \tilde{q}g_E$ . Hence,  $\tilde{y}_E \notin Clg_E$ .

Conversely, let  $\tilde{x}_E$  and  $\tilde{y}_E$  be two distinct *IVFS* points with different supports *x* and *y*, *e* lower values, and *e* upper values  $\lambda_e^-$ ,  $\lambda_e^+$  and  $\gamma_e^-$ ,  $\gamma_e^+$ , respectively. Since:

$$\tilde{x}_E = \tilde{\bigwedge} \{ Clf_E : f_E \in IVFSN \text{ of } \tilde{x}_E \}, \text{ and } \tilde{\bigwedge} \{ Cl([f_e^-, f_e^+])(y) : f_E \in IVFSN \text{ of } \tilde{x}_E \} = 0.$$

Thus,  $\tilde{y}_E \neg \tilde{q} \wedge \{Clf_E : f_E \in IVFSN \text{ of } \tilde{x}_E\}$ . Therefore, there exists  $f_E$  that is an *IVFSN* of  $\tilde{x}$  and  $\tilde{y}_E \neg \tilde{q}Clf_E$ . Take two  $\tau$ -*IVFS*-open sets  $f_E$  and  $(Clf_E)^c$ . Therefore,  $f_E$  is an *IVFSN* of *IVFS* point  $\tilde{x}_E$ ,  $(Clf_E)^c$  an *IVFSN* of *IVFS* point  $\tilde{y}_E$ , and  $f_E \neg \tilde{q}(Clf_E)^c$ .  $\Box$ 

**Definition 22.** Let  $(X, E, \tau)$  be an IVFST. If for any IVFS point  $\tilde{x}_E$  with support x, e lower values  $\lambda_e^-$ , and e upper values  $\lambda_e^+$  and any IVFS-closed set  $f_E$  in X such that  $\tilde{x}_E \neg \tilde{q}f_E$ , there exists two IVFS-open sets  $h_E$  and  $k_E$  such that  $\tilde{x}_E \in h_E$  and  $f_E \leq k_E$ ,  $h_E \neg \tilde{q}k_E$ , then  $(X, E, \tau)$  is called an interval-valued fuzzy soft quasi regular space (IVFS q-regular space).

 $(X, E, \tau)$  is called an interval-valued fuzzy soft quasi- $T_3$  space, if it is an *IVFS* q-regular space and an *IVFS* q- $T_1$  space.

**Theorem 9.**  $IVFST(X, E, \tau)$  is an IVFS q-T<sub>3</sub> space if and only if for any  $IVFSN g_E$  of IVFS point  $\tilde{x}_E$  there exists an IVFS-open set  $f_E$  in X such that  $\tilde{x}_E \in f_E \leq cl f_E \leq g_E$ .

**Proof.** Let  $g_E$  be an *IVFS* set in *X* and  $\tilde{x}_E$  be an *IVFS* point with support *x*, e lower value  $\lambda_e^-$ , and e upper value  $\lambda_e^+$  such that  $\tilde{x}_E \in g_E$ . Then, clearly,  $g_E^c$  is an *IVFS*-closed set. Since *X* is an *IVFS* q-*T*<sub>3</sub> space, there exist two *IVFS*-open sets  $f_E$ ,  $h_E$  such that  $\tilde{x}_E \in f_E$ ,  $g_E^c \leq h_E$ ,  $h_E$  and  $f_E \neg \tilde{q}h_E$ . Thus,  $f_E^c \leq h_E^c$ . Therefore,  $Clf_E \leq h_E^c$  implies  $Clf_E \leq g_E$ . Hence,  $\tilde{x}_E \in f_E \leq Clf_E \leq g_E$ .

Conversely, let  $\tilde{x}_E$  be an *IVFS* point with different support x, e lower value  $\lambda_e^-$ , and e upper value  $\lambda_e^+$ , and let  $g_E$  be an *IVFS*-closed set such that  $\tilde{x}_E \neg \tilde{q}g_E$ . Then,  $g_E^c$  is an *IVFS*-open set containing the *IVFS* point  $\tilde{x}_E$ , i.e.,  $\tilde{x}_E \in g_E^c$ . Thus, there exists an *IVFS*-open set  $f_E$  containing  $\tilde{x}_E$  such that  $\tilde{x}_E \in f_E \leq Clf_E \leq g_E g_E \leq (Clf_E)^c$ . Therefore, clearly,  $(Clf_E)^c$  is an *IVFS*-open set containing  $g_E$  and  $f_E \neg \tilde{q}(Clf_E)^c$ . Hence, X is an *IVFS* q- $T_3$  space.  $\Box$ 

**Definition 23.** Let  $(X, E, \tau)$  be an IVFST. If for any two IVFS-closed sets  $f_E$  and  $g_E$  such that  $f_E \neg \tilde{q}g_E$ , there exists two IVFS-open sets  $h_E$  and  $k_E$  such that  $f_E \leq h_E$  and  $g_E \leq k_E$ , then  $(X, E, \tau)$  is called an interval-valued fuzzy soft quasi-normal space (IVFS q-normal space).

 $(X, E, \tau)$  is called an interval-valued fuzzy soft quasi  $T_4$  space if it is an *IVFS* q-normal space and an *IVFS*q- $T_1$  space.

**Theorem 10.**  $IVFST(X, E, \tau)$  is an IVFS q- $T_4$  space if and only if for any IVFS-closed set  $f_E$  and IVFS-open set containing  $f_E$ , there exists an IVFS-open set  $h_E$  in X such that  $f_E \leq h_E \leq clh_E \leq g_E$ .

**Proof.** Let  $f_E$  be an *IVFS*-closed set in *X* and  $g_E$  be an *IVFS*-open set in *X* containing  $f_E$ , i.e.,  $f_E \leq g_E$ . Then,  $g_E^c$  is an *IVFS*-closed set such that  $f_E \neg \tilde{q}g_E^c$ .

Since X is an *IVFS* q- $T_4$  space, there exist two *IVFS*-open sets  $h_E, k_E$  such that  $f_E \leq h_E, g_E^c \leq k_E$ , and  $h_E \neg \tilde{q}k_E$ . Thus,  $h_E \leq k_E^c$ , but  $Clh_E \leq Clk_E^c = k_E$ . Furthermore,  $g_E^c \leq k_E$  implies  $k^c \leq g_E$ . That is an *IVFS*-closed set over X. Therefore,  $Clh_E \leq k_E^c$ . Hence, we have  $f_E \leq h_E \leq Clh_E \leq g_E$ .

Conversely, let  $\tilde{f}_E$  and  $g_E$  be any *IVFS*-closed sets such that  $f_E \neg \tilde{q}g_E$ . Then,  $f_E \tilde{\leq} g_E^c$ . Thus, there exists an *IVFS*-open set  $h_E$  such that  $f_E \tilde{\leq} h_E \tilde{\leq} Clh_E \tilde{\leq} g_E$ . Therefore, there are two *IVFS*-open sets  $h_E$  and  $(Clh_E)^c$  such that  $f_E \tilde{\leq} h_E$ ,  $g_E \tilde{\leq} (Clh_E)^c$ . This shows that X is an *IVFS* q- $T_4$  space.  $\Box$ 

**Theorem 11.** If  $\Phi$  :  $(X_1, E_1, \tau_1) \rightarrow (X_2, E_2, \tau_2)$  is an IVFSC and IVFSO map where  $\Phi_u X_1 \rightarrow X_2$  and  $\Phi_p E_1 \rightarrow E_2$  are two ordinary bijections, then  $X_1$  is an IVFSq- $T_i$  space if and only if  $X_2$  is an IVFSq- $T_i$  space for i = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4.

**Proof.** We just prove when i = 2. The other parts are similar.

Suppose that we have two *IVFS* points  $\tilde{k}_{E_2}$  and  $\tilde{s}_{E_2}$  with different supports k and s, e lowers value, and e upper values  $\lambda_e^-$ ,  $\lambda_e^+$  and  $\gamma_e^-$ ,  $\gamma_e^+$ , respectively, for any  $e \in E_2$ . Then, the inverse lower and upper image of *IVFS* point  $\tilde{k}_{E_2}$  under the *IVFSO* map  $\Phi$  is an *IVFS* point in  $X_1$  with different support  $\Phi^{-1}(k)$  as below:

$$\Phi^{-1}(\tilde{k}^{-})(e)(x) = \tilde{k}^{-}(\Phi_{\nu}(e))(\Phi_{u}(x)) \text{ and } \Phi^{-1}(\tilde{k}^{+})(e)(x) = \tilde{k}^{+}(\Phi_{\nu}(e))(\Phi_{u}(x)).$$

Furthermore, the inverse lower and upper image of *IVFS* point  $\tilde{s}_{E_2}$  under the *IVFSO* map  $\Phi$  is an *IVFS* point in  $X_1$  with different support  $\Phi^{-1}(s)$  as below:

$$\Phi^{-1}(\tilde{s}^{-})(e)(x) = \tilde{s}^{-}(\Phi_{p}(e))(\Phi_{u}(x)) \text{ and } \Phi^{-1}(\tilde{s}^{+})(e)(x) = \tilde{s}^{+}(\Phi_{p}(e))(\Phi_{u}(x)).$$

Since  $(X_1, E_1, \tau_1)$  is an *IVFS*q- $T_2$  space, there exist two *IVFS*-open sets  $f_E$  and  $g_E$  in  $X_1$  such that  $\Phi^{-1}(\tilde{k}_{E_2}) \in f_E$ ,  $\Phi^{-1}(\tilde{s}_{E_2}) \in g_E$ , and  $f_E \neg \tilde{q}g_E$ . Thus,  $\tilde{k}_{E_2} \in f_E$  and  $\tilde{s}_{E_2} \in g_E$ , while  $\Phi(f_E) \neg \tilde{q}\Phi(g_E)$ . Therefore,  $(X_2, E_2, \tau_2)$  is an *IVFS*q- $T_2$  space.

Conversely, suppose that we have two *IVFS* points  $\tilde{x}_E$  and  $\tilde{y}_E$  with different supports  $x, y \in X_1$ , e lower value, and e upper value  $\lambda_e^-, \lambda_e^+$  and  $\gamma_e^-, \gamma_e^+$ , respectively. Then, the lower and upper image

of an *IVFS* point  $\tilde{x}_E$  under the *IVFSC* map  $\Phi$  is an *IVFS* point in  $X_2$  with different support  $\Phi_u(x)$  as below:

$$\begin{split} \Phi(\tilde{x}^{-})(\varepsilon)(k) &= \sup_{z \in \Phi^{-1}(k)} [\sup_{e \in \Phi_{p}^{-1}(\varepsilon)} (\tilde{x}^{-})(e)](z) \\ &= \begin{cases} \lambda_{e}^{-} & \text{if } k = \Phi_{u}(x) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \end{split}$$

and:

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(\tilde{x}^+)(\varepsilon)(k) &= \sup_{z \in \Phi^{-1}(k)} [\sup_{e \in \Phi_p^{-1}(\varepsilon)} (\tilde{x}^+)(e)](z) \\ &= \begin{cases} \lambda_e^+ & \text{if } k = \Phi_u(x) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

and the lower and upper image of an *IVFS* point  $\tilde{y}_E$  under the *IVFSC* map  $\Phi$  is an *IVFS* point in  $X_2$  with different support  $\Phi_u(y)$  as below:

$$\begin{split} \Phi(\tilde{y}^{-})(\varepsilon)(k) &= \sup_{z \in \Phi^{-1}(k)} [\sup_{e \in \Phi^{-1}_{p}(\varepsilon)} (\tilde{y}^{-})(e)](z) \\ &= \begin{cases} \gamma_{e}^{-} & \text{if } k = \Phi_{u}(y) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \end{split}$$

and:

$$\begin{split} \Phi(\tilde{y}^+)(\varepsilon)(k) &= \sup_{z \in \Phi^{-1}(k)} [\sup_{e \in \Phi_p^{-1}(\varepsilon)} (\tilde{y}^+)(e)](z) \\ &= \begin{cases} \gamma_e^+ & \text{if } k = \Phi_u(y) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \end{split}$$

Since  $(X_2, E_2, \tau_2)$  is an *IVFS*q-*T*<sub>2</sub> space, there exist two *IVFS*-open sets  $f_{E_2}$  and  $g_{E_2}$  in  $X_2$  such that  $\Phi(\tilde{x})\tilde{\in}f_{E_2}, \Phi(\tilde{y})\tilde{\in}g_{E_2}$ , and  $f_{E_2}\neg \tilde{q}g_{E_2}$ . Clearly,  $\tilde{x}_E\tilde{\in}\Phi^{-1}(f_{E_2}), \tilde{y}_E\tilde{\in}\Phi^{-1}(g_{E_2})$  and  $\Phi^{-1}(f_{E_2})\neg \tilde{q}\Phi^{-1}(g_{E_2})$ . Then,  $(X_1, E_1, \tau_1)$  is an *IVFS*q-*T*<sub>2</sub> space.  $\Box$ 

#### 6. Conclusions

The aim of this study was to develop the interval-valued fuzzy soft separation axioms in order to build a framework that will provide a method for object ranking. Thus, in this paper, we introduced a new definition of the interval-valued fuzzy soft point and then considered some of its properties, and different types of neighborhoods of the *IVFS* point were studied in interval-valued fuzzy soft topological spaces. The separation axioms of interval-valued fuzzy soft topological spaces were presented, and furthermore, the basic properties were also studied.

**Author Contributions:** conceptualization, M.A.; methodology, M.A. and A.Z.K.; writing—original draft preparation, M.A.; writing—review and editing, M.A., A.Z.K. and A.K.; supervision, A.K. and A.Z.K.; project administration, A.K. All authors have read and agreed to the published version of the manuscript.

**Funding:** This research was supported by the Fundamental Research Grant Schemes having Ref. No.: FRGS/1/2018/STG06/UPM/01/3 and vot number 5540153.

**Acknowledgments:** The authors would like to thank the referees and Editors for the useful comments and remarks, which improved the present manuscript substantially.

Conflicts of Interest: The authors declare they have no conflict of interest.

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