

In case there are  $n$  inputs, that is, if each *if*-side contains  $n$  variables, the relation matrix  $\mathbf{R}$  generalises to an  $n + 1$  dimensional array. Let  $\mathbf{e}_i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, n$ ) be the inputs, then inference is carried out by a generalised composition,

$$\mathbf{u} = (\mathbf{e}_1 \times \mathbf{e}_2 \times \dots \times \mathbf{e}_n) \vee . \wedge \mathbf{R}$$

Inference is still the usual composition operation; we just have to keep track of the dimensions.

## 5. Summary

We have achieved a method of representing and executing a rule *If the level is low then open V<sub>1</sub>* in a computer program. In summary:

1. Define fuzzy sets **low** and **open** corresponding to a low level and an open valve; these can be defined on different universes.
2. Represent the implication as a relation  $\mathbf{R}$  by means of the outer product,  $\mathbf{R} = \text{low} \circ \text{min open}$ . The result is a matrix.
3. Perform the inference with an actual measurement. In the most general case this measurement is a fuzzy set, say, the vector **level**. The control action  $\mathbf{v}_1$  is obtained by means of the compositional rule of inference,  $\mathbf{v}_1 = \text{level} \vee . \wedge \mathbf{R}$ .

Fuzzy controllers are implemented in a more specialised way, but they were originally developed from the concepts and definitions presented above, especially inference and implication.

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