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# Common Fixed Point Theorems in a Complete 2-metric Space

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#### Abstract

In the present paper, we establish a common fixed point theorem for four self-mappings of a complete 2-metric space using the weak commutativity condition and A-contraction type condition and then extend the theorem for a class of mappings.

**Key words:** fixed point, common fixed point, 2-metric space, completeness

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# 1 Introduction

In 1981, D. Delbosco [4] gave an unified approach for different contractive mappings to prove the fixed point theorem by considering the set  $\mathcal{F}$  of all continuous functions  $g: [0, +\infty)^3 \to [0, \infty)$  satisfying the following conditions:

(g-1): g(1,1,1) = h < 1

(g-2): if  $u, v \in [0, \infty)$  are such that  $u \leq g(v, v, u)$  or,  $u \leq g(v, u, v)$  or,  $u \leq g(u, v, v)$ ; then  $u \leq hv$ .

Recently Akram et al. [1] have modified the above concept slightly and introduced a general class of contractions called A-contraction which is a proper superclass of Kannan's contraction [8], Bianchini's contraction [2] and Reich's contraction [11].

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#### **1.1** A-contraction

Let a nonempty set A consisting of all functions  $\alpha \colon R^3_+ \to R_+$  satisfying

- (i)  $\alpha$  is continuous on the set  $R^3_+$  of all triplets of nonnegative reals(with respect to the Euclidean metric on  $R^3$ ).
- (ii)  $a \leq kb$  for some  $k \in [0,1)$  whenever  $a \leq \alpha(a,b,b)$  or  $a \leq \alpha(b,a,b)$  or  $a \leq \alpha(b,b,a)$ , for all a, b.

**Definition 1.1** A self map T on a metric space X is said to be A-contraction if it satisfies the condition:

$$d(Tx, Ty) \le \alpha \left( d(x, y), d(x, Tx), d(y, Ty) \right)$$

$$(1.1)$$

for all  $x, y \in X$  and some  $\alpha \in A$ .

Here we prove a common fixed point theorem for two pairs of weakly commuting mappings using the idea of A-contraction and then extend the theorem for a family of self-mappings in a 2-metric space. Before proving our main theorem we need to state some preliminary ideas and definitions of weakly commuting mappings in a 2-metric space.

# 2 Preliminaries

In sixties, S. Gähler ([6]-[7]) introduced the concept of 2-metric space. Since then a number of mathematician have been investigating the different aspects of fixed point theory in the setting of 2-metric space.

## 2.1 2-metric space

Let X be a non empty set. A real valued nonnegative function d on  $X \times X \times X$ is said to be a 2-metric on X if

- (I) given distinct elements x, y of X, there exists an element z of X such that  $d(x, y, z) \neq 0$
- (II) d(x, y, z) = 0 when at least two of x, y, z are equal,
- (III) d(x, y, z) = d(x, z, y) = d(y, z, x) for all x, y, z in X, and
- (IV)  $d(x, y, z) \le d(x, y, w) + d(x, w, z) + d(w, y, z)$  for all x, y, z, w in X.

When d is a 2-metric on X, then the ordered pair (X, d) is called a 2-metric space.

A sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in X is said to be a Cauchy sequence if for each  $u \in X$ ,  $\lim d(x_n, x_m, u) = 0$  as  $n, m \to \infty$ .

A sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in X is convergent to an element  $x \in X$  if for each  $u \in X$ ,  $\lim_{n\to\infty} d(x_n, x, u) = 0$ 

A complete 2-metric space is one in which every Cauchy sequence in X converges to an element of X.

In 1984, M. D. Khan [9] in his doctoral thesis, defined weakly commuting mappings in a 2-metric space as follows.

**Definition 2.1** Let S and T be two mappings from a 2-metric space (X, d) into itself. Then a pair of mappings (S, T) is said to be weakly commuting on x, if  $d(STx, TSx, u) \leq d(Tx, Sx, u)$  for all  $u \in X$ .

Note that a commuting pair (S, T) on a 2-metric space (X, d) is weakly commuting, but the converse is not true (see [10]). On the otherhand Cho–Khan–Singh [3] have proved some common fixed point theorems for weakly commuting selfmappings in a 2-metric space. Here we shall prove some common fixed point theorems in 2-metric space in a more generalised conditions.

## 3 Main results

**Theorem 3.1** Let I, J, S and T be four self mappings of a complete 2-metric space (X, d) satisfying

$$I(X) \subset T(X)$$
 and  $J(X) \subset S(X)$ . (3.1)

For  $\alpha \in A$  and for all  $x, y, u \in X$ 

$$d(Ix, Jy, u) \le \alpha \left( d(Sx, Ty, u), d(Sx, Ix, u), d(Ty, Jy, u) \right).$$

$$(3.2)$$

If one of I, J, S and T is continuous and if I and J weakly commute with S and T respectively, then I, J, S and T have a unique common fixed point z in X.

**Proof** Let  $x_0$  be an arbitrary element of X. We define  $Ix_{2n+1} = y_{2n+2}$ ,  $Tx_{2n} = y_{2n}$  and  $Jx_{2n} = y_{2n+1}$ ,  $Sx_{2n+1} = y_{2n+1}$ ; n = 1, 2, ... Taking  $x = x_{2n+1}$  and  $y = x_{2n}$  in (3.2) we have

$$d(Ix_{2n+1}, Jx_{2n}, u) \le \le \alpha (d(Sx_{2n+1}, Tx_{2n}, u), d(Sx_{2n+1}, Ix_{2n+1}, u), d(Tx_{2n}, Jx_{2n}, u))$$

or,

$$d(y_{2n+2}, y_{2n+1}, u) \le \alpha \left( d(y_{2n+1}, y_{2n}, u), d(y_{2n+1}, y_{2n+2}, u), d(y_{2n}, y_{2n+1}, u) \right).$$

So by axiom (ii) of function  $\alpha$ ,

$$d(y_{2n+1}, y_{2n+2}, u) \le k.d(y_{2n}, y_{2n+1}, u) \text{ where } k \in [0, 1)$$
 (3.3)

Similarly by putting  $x = x_{2n-1}$  and  $y = x_{2n}$  in (3.2) we get

$$d(Ix_{2n-1}, Jx_{2n}, u) \le \le \alpha (d(Sx_{2n-1}, Tx_{2n}, u), d(Sx_{2n-1}, Ix_{2n-1}, u), d(Tx_{2n}, Jx_{2n}, u))$$

or,

$$d(y_{2n}, y_{2n+1}, u) \le \alpha \left( d(y_{2n-1}, y_{2n}, u), d(y_{2n-1}, y_{2n}, u), d(y_{2n}, y_{2n+1}, u) \right)$$

So by axiom (ii) of function  $\alpha$ ,

$$d(y_{2n}, y_{2n+1}, u) \le k.d(y_{2n-1}, y_{2n}, u) \quad \text{where } k \in [0, 1)$$
(3.4)

So by (3.3) and (3.4) we get

$$d(y_{2n+1}, y_{2n+2}, u) \le k \cdot d(y_{2n}, y_{2n+1}, u) \le k^2 \cdot d(y_{2n-1}, y_{2n}, u).$$

Proceeding in this way

$$d(y_{2n+1}, y_{2n+2}, u) \le k^{2n+1} \cdot d(y_0, y_1, u)$$

and

$$d(y_{2n}, y_{2n+1}, u) \le k^{2n} \cdot d(y_0, y_1, u).$$

So in general

$$d(y_n, y_{n+1}, u) \le k^n \cdot d(y_0, y_1, u).$$
(3.5)

Then using property (IV) of 2-metric space we get

$$d(y_n, y_{n+2}, u) \leq d(y_n, y_{n+2}, y_{n+1}) + d(y_n, y_{n+1}, u) + d(y_{n+1}, y_{n+2}, u)$$
  
$$\leq d(y_n, y_{n+2}, y_{n+1}) + \sum_{r=0}^{1} d(y_{n+r}, y_{n+r+1}, u).$$
(3.6)

Here we consider two possible cases to show that  $d(y_n, y_{n+2}, y_{n+1}) = 0$ .

**Case I.** n = even = 2m (say) Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} d\left(y_n, y_{n+2}, y_{n+1}\right) &= d\left(y_{2m}, y_{2m+2}, y_{2m+1}\right) \\ &= d\left(y_{2m+2}, y_{2m+1}, y_{2m}\right) \\ &= d\left(Ix_{2m+1}, Jx_{2m}, y_{2m}\right) \\ &\leq \alpha \left(d\left(Sx_{2m+1}, Tx_{2m}, y_{2m}\right), d\left(Sx_{2m+1}, Ix_{2m+1}, y_{2m}\right), \\ &\quad d\left(Tx_{2m}, Jx_{2m}, y_{2m}\right)\right) \\ &= \alpha \left(d\left(y_{2m+1}, y_{2m}, y_{2m}\right), d\left(y_{2m+1}, y_{2m+2}, y_{2m}\right), \\ &\quad d\left(y_{2m}, y_{2m+1}, y_{2m}\right)\right) \\ &= \alpha \left(0, d\left(y_{2m+1}, y_{2m+2}, y_{2m}\right), 0\right). \end{aligned}$$

So by axiom (ii) of function  $\alpha$ ,

 $d(y_n, y_{n+2}, y_{n+1}) = d(y_{2m}, y_{2m+2}, y_{2m+1}) \le k \cdot 0 = 0 \quad \text{where } k \in [0, 1)$ 

which implies  $d(y_n, y_{n+2}, y_{n+1}) = 0$ .

**Case II.** n = odd = 2m + 1 (say)Therefore

$$\begin{split} d\left(y_n, y_{n+2}, y_{n+1}\right) &= d\left(y_{2m+1}, y_{2m+3}, y_{2m+2}\right) \\ &= d\left(y_{2m+3}, y_{2m+2}, y_{2m+1}\right) \\ &= d\left(Jx_{2m+2}, Ix_{2m+1}, y_{2m+1}\right) \\ &\leq \alpha\left(d\left(Sx_{2m+1}, Tx_{2m+2}, y_{2m+1}\right), d\left(Tx_{2m+2}, Jx_{2m+2}, y_{2m+1}\right)\right) \\ &= \alpha\left(d\left(y_{2m+1}, y_{2m+2}, y_{2m+1}\right), d\left(y_{2m+1}, y_{2m+2}, y_{2m+1}\right)\right) \\ &= \alpha\left(d\left(y_{2m+2}, y_{2m+3}, y_{2m+1}\right)\right) \\ &= \alpha\left(0, 0, d\left(y_{2m+2}, y_{2m+3}, y_{2m+1}\right)\right) . \end{split}$$

Then by axiom (ii) of function  $\alpha$ ,

$$d(y_n, y_{n+2}, y_{n+1}) = d(y_{2m+1}, y_{2m+3}, y_{2m+2}) \le k \cdot 0 = 0 \quad \text{where } k \in [0, 1)$$

So in either cases  $d(y_n, y_{n+2}, y_{n+1}) = 0$ . Therefore from (3.6) we have

$$d(y_n, y_{n+2}, u) \le \sum_{r=0}^{1} d(y_{n+r}, y_{n+r+1}, u).$$

Proceeding in the same fashion we have for any p > 0,

$$d(y_n, y_{n+p}, u) \le \sum_{r=0}^{p-1} d(y_{n+r}, y_{n+r+1}, u)$$

Then by (3.5) we get

$$d(y_n, y_{n+p}, u) \le \frac{k^n}{1-k} d(y_0, y_1, u) \to 0$$
 as  $n \to \infty, p > 0$  and  $k \in [0, 1)$ .

Hence  $\{y_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence. Then by completeness of X,  $\{y_n\}$  converges to a point  $z \in X$  i.e.  $y_n \to z \in X$  as  $n \to \infty$ . Since  $\{y_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence and taking limit as  $n \to \infty$ , we get  $Ix_{2n} = Tx_{2n+1} \to z$ ,  $Jx_{2n-1} = Sx_{2n} \to z$  and also  $Jx_{2n+1} \to z$ .

Next suppose that S is continuous. Then  $\{SIx_{2n}\}$  converges to Sz. Then by property (IV) of 2-metric space, we have

$$d(ISx_{2n}, Sz, u) \le d(ISx_{2n}, Sz, SIx_{2n}) + d(ISx_{2n}, SIx_{2n}, u) + d(SIx_{2n}, Sz, u)$$
  
$$\le d(ISx_{2n}, Sz, SIx_{2n}) + d(Sx_{2n}, Ix_{2n}, u) + d(SIx_{2n}, Sz, u),$$

since I and S weakly commute.

Letting  $n \to \infty$ , it follows that  $\{ISx_{2n}\}$  converges to Sz. Again by using (3.2) we have

$$d(ISx_{2n}, Jx_{2n+1}, u) \leq \leq \alpha \left( d\left(S^{2}x_{2n}, Tx_{2n+1}, u\right), d\left(S^{2}x_{2n}, ISx_{2n}, u\right), d\left(Tx_{2n+1}, Jx_{2n+1}, u\right) \right).$$

Since  $\alpha$  is continuous, taking limit as  $n \to \infty$  we get

$$d(Sz, z, u) \le \alpha \left( d(Sz, z, u), d(Sz, Sz, u), d(z, z, u) \right)$$

implies

$$d\left(Sz, z, u\right) \le \alpha\left(d\left(Sz, z, u\right), 0, 0\right).$$

So by axiom (ii) of function  $\alpha$ ,

$$d(Sz, z, u) \le k \cdot 0 = 0 \quad \text{which gives } Sz = z. \tag{3.7}$$

Again using the inequality (3.2) we have

$$d(Iz, Jx_{2n+1}, u) \le \alpha \left( d(Sz, Tx_{2n+1}, u), d(Sz, Iz, u), d(Tx_{2n+1}, Jx_{2n+1}, u) \right).$$

Passing limit as  $n \to \infty$  we get

$$d\left(Iz, z, u\right) \le \alpha\left(d\left(Sz, z, u\right), d\left(z, Iz, u\right), d\left(z, z, u\right)\right)$$

implies

$$d(Iz, z, u) \le \alpha (0, d(z, Iz, u), 0).$$

Then by axiom (ii) of function  $\alpha$ ,

$$d(Iz, z, u) \le k \cdot 0 = 0 \quad \text{which gives } Iz = z. \tag{3.8}$$

Since  $I(X) \subset T(X)$ , there exists a point  $z' \in X$  such that Tz' = z = Iz, so by (3.2) we have

$$\begin{aligned} d(z, Jz', u) &= d(Iz, Jz', u) \\ &\leq \alpha \left( d(Sz, Tz', u), d(Sz, Iz, u), d(Tz', Jz', u) \right) \\ &= \alpha \left( d(z, z, u), d(z, z, u), d(z, Jz', u) \right) \\ &= \alpha \left( 0, 0, d(z, Jz', u) \right). \end{aligned}$$

So by axiom (ii) of function  $\alpha$ ,

$$d(z, Jz', u) \le k \cdot 0 = 0$$
 which implies  $Jz' = z$ .

As J and T weakly commute

$$d\left(JTz', TJz', u\right) \le d\left(Tz', Jz', u\right) = 0$$

which gives JTz' = TJz' implies

$$Jz = JTz' = TJz' = Tz. ag{3.9}$$

Thus from (3.2) we have

$$d(z, Tz, u) = d(Iz, Jz, u)$$
  

$$\leq \alpha (d(Sz, Tz, u), d(Sz, Iz, u), d(Tz, Jz, u))$$
  

$$= \alpha (d(z, Tz, u), 0, 0).$$

So by axiom (ii) of function  $\alpha$ ,

$$d(z, Tz, u) \le k \cdot 0 = 0 \quad \text{which implies } Tz = z. \tag{3.10}$$

So by (3.7),(3.8),(3.9) and (3.10) we conclude that z is a common fixed point of I, J, S and T.

For uniqueness, Let w be another common fixed point in X such that

Iz = Jz = Sz = Tz = z and Iw = Jw = Sw = Tw = w.

Then by (3.2) we have

$$\begin{split} d\,(w,z,u) \,&=\, d\,(Iw,Jz,u) \\ &\leq\, \alpha\,(d\,(Sw,Tz,u)\,,d\,(Sw,Iw,u)\,,d\,(Tz,Jz,u)) \\ &=\, \alpha\,(d\,(w,z,u)\,,d\,(w,w,u)\,,d\,(z,z,u)) \\ &=\, \alpha\,(d\,(w,z,u)\,,0,0)\,. \end{split}$$

So by axiom (ii) of function  $\alpha$ ,

$$d(w, z, u) \leq k \cdot 0 = 0$$
 which implies  $w = z$ .

So uniqueness of z is proved.

The same result holds if any one of I, J and T is continuous.

**Corollary 3.2** Let S, T, I and J be four self mappings of a complete 2-metric space (X, d) satisfying

$$I(X) \subset T(X) \text{ and } J(X) \subset S(X)$$
(3.11)

$$d(Ix, Jy, u) \le c \cdot \max\{d(Sx, Ty, u), d(Sx, Ix, u), d(Ty, Jy, u)\}$$
(3.12)

for all x, y, u in X, where  $0 \le c < 1$ .

If one of S, T, I and J is continuous and if I and J weakly commute with S and T respectively, then I, J, S and T have a unique common fixed point z in X.

This result is a 2-metric analogue of the theorem of B. Fisher [5].

For any  $f: (X, d) \to (X, d)$  we denote  $F_f = \{x \in X : x = f(x)\}.$ 

**Lemma 3.3** Let I, J, S and T be four self mappings of a complete 2-metric space (X, d). If the inequality (3.2) holds for  $\alpha \in A$  and for all  $x, y, u \in X$ . Then  $(F_S \cap F_T) \cap F_I = (F_S \cap F_T) \cap F_J$ .

**Proof** Let  $x \in (F_S \cap F_T) \cap F_I$ . Then by(3.2)

$$d(x, Jx, u) = d(Ix, Jx, u)$$
  

$$\leq \alpha (d(Sx, Tx, u), d(Sx, Ix, u), d(Tx, Jx, u))$$
  

$$= \alpha (0, 0, d(x, Jx, u)).$$

So by axiom (ii) of function  $\alpha$ ,

$$d(x, Jx, u) \le k \cdot 0 = 0$$
 implies  $x = Jx$ .

Thus

$$(F_S \cap F_T) \cap F_I \subset (F_S \cap F_T) \cap F_J.$$

Similarly we have

$$(F_S \cap F_T) \cap F_J \subset (F_S \cap F_T) \cap F_I$$
  
and so  $(F_S \cap F_T) \cap F_I = (F_S \cap F_T) \cap F_J$ 

**Theorem 3.4** Let S, T and  $\{I_n\}_{n \in N}$  be mappings from a complete 2-metric space (X, d) into itself satisfying

$$I_1(X) \subset T(X) \text{ and } I_2(X) \subset S(X). \tag{3.13}$$

For  $\alpha \in A$  and for all  $x, y, u \in X$ ,

$$d(I_n x, I_{n+1} y, u) \le \alpha (d(Sx, Ty, u), d(Sx, I_n x, u), d(Ty, I_{n+1} y, u))$$
(3.14)

holds for all  $n \in N$ . If one of S, T,  $I_1$  and  $I_2$  is continuous and if  $I_1$  and  $I_2$  weakly commute with S and T respectively, then S, T and  $\{I_n\}_{n\in N}$  have a unique common fixed point z in X.

**Proof** By Theorem 3.1, S, T,  $I_1$  and  $I_2$  have a unique common fixed point z in X. Now z is a unique common fixed point of S, T,  $I_1$  and also by Lemma 3.3,  $(F_S \cap F_T) \cap F_{I_1} = (F_S \cap F_T) \cap F_{I_2}$ , z is a common fixed point of S, T,  $I_2$ . Also z is unique common fixed point of S, T,  $I_2$ . If not, let w be another common fixed point of S, T,  $I_2$ . Then by (3.14)

$$d(z, w, u) = d(I_1z, I_2w, u)$$
  

$$\leq \alpha (d(Sz, Tw, u), d(Sz, I_1z, u), d(Tw, I_2w, u))$$
  

$$= \alpha (d(z, w, u), d(z, z, u), d(w, w, u))$$
  

$$= \alpha (d(z, w, u), 0, 0).$$

So by axiom (ii) of function  $\alpha$ ,

$$d(z, w, u) \le k \cdot 0 = 0$$
 implies  $z = w$ .

In the similar manner we can show that z is a unique common fixed point of S, T and  $I_3$ . Continuing in this way, we arrive at desired result.

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