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## RATIONAL TYPE CYCLIC CONTRACTION IN $G$ -METRIC SPACES

**Abstract.** Rational type cyclic contraction via  $\mathcal{C}$ -class function is established in  $G$ -metric spaces, which can not be reduced to the contractive condition in standard metric spaces. A common fixed-point result is obtained for the pair of  $(A, B)$ -weakly increasing mappings in  $G$ -metric spaces.

**Key words:**  $G$ -metric spaces, Cyclic maps,  $\mathcal{C}$ -class function, Common fixed point

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**1. Introduction.** In 2012, Jleli and Samet [3] observed that some of the fixed-point theorems in  $G$ -metric spaces can be deduced from standard metric spaces or quasi-metric spaces (for details see [7], [8]). Shatanawi and Abodayeh [9] introduced a new contractive condition and proved fixed-point and common fixed-point results in  $G$ -metric spaces, for which the techniques of Jleli and Samet [3], Samet et al. [6] are inapplicable.

In this paper, we introduce rational type cyclic contraction via  $\mathcal{C}$ -class function in  $G$ -metric space that generalizes the contractive condition of Shatanawi and Abodayeh [9] for larger class of auxiliary functions and deduced common fixed-point result in  $G$ -metric spaces. Some examples are also presented to show that our results are effective.

### 2. Preliminaries.

**Definition 1.** An altering distance function is a continuous, non-decreasing mapping  $\phi: [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ , such that  $\phi^{-1}(0) = 0$ .

#### Notation:

- (i)  $\Phi$  is the family of all altering distance functions.

- (ii)  $\Psi$  is the family of all mappings  $\psi: [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  with the property: if  $\{t_m\}_{m \in \mathbb{N}} \subset [0, \infty)$  and  $\psi(t_m) \rightarrow 0$ , then  $t_m \rightarrow 0$ .

Note that  $\Phi \subset \Psi$ .

**Definition 2.** [5] Let  $X$  be a nonempty set. Let  $G: X \times X \times X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  be a function satisfying the following properties:

- (G<sub>1</sub>)  $G(x, y, z) = 0$ , if  $x = y = z$ ,  
 (G<sub>2</sub>)  $G(x, x, y) > 0, \forall x, y \in X$  with  $x \neq y$ ,  
 (G<sub>3</sub>)  $G(x, x, y) \leq G(x, y, z), \forall x, y, z \in X$  with  $z \neq y$ ,  
 (G<sub>4</sub>)  $G(x, y, z) = G(x, z, y) = G(y, z, x) = \dots$  (symmetry in all three variables),  
 (G<sub>5</sub>)  $G(x, y, z) \leq G(x, a, a) + G(a, y, z), \forall x, y, z, a \in X$  (rectangle inequality).

The function  $G$  is called  $G$ -metric on  $X$  and the pair  $(X, G)$  is called a  $G$ -metric space.

**Definition 3.** [5] A  $G$ -metric space  $(X, G)$  is said to be symmetric if

$$G(x, y, y) = G(y, x, x), \forall x, y \in X.$$

**Lemma 1.** [5] If  $(X, G)$  is a  $G$ -metric space, then

$$G(x, y, y) \leq 2G(y, x, x), \forall x, y \in X.$$

**Definition 4.** [5] Let  $(X, G)$  be a  $G$ -metric space,  $x \in X$  be a point, and  $\{x_n\} \subseteq X$  be a sequence. We say that:

- (1) a sequence  $\{x_n\}$   $G$ -converges to  $x$ , if  $\lim_{n, m \rightarrow \infty} G(x_n, x_m, x) = 0$ ; that is, for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  satisfying  $G(x_n, x_m, x) < \varepsilon, \forall n, m \geq n_0$ .
- (2) a sequence  $\{x_n\}$  is  $G$ -Cauchy if  $\lim_{n, m, k \rightarrow \infty} G(x_n, x_m, x_k) = 0$ ; that is, for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  satisfying  $G(x_n, x_m, x_k) < \varepsilon, \forall n, m, k \geq n_0$ .
- (3)  $(X, G)$  is complete if every  $G$ -Cauchy sequence in  $X$  is  $G$ -convergent in  $X$ .

**Proposition 1.** [5] Let  $(X, G)$  be a  $G$ -metric space,  $\{x_n\} \subseteq X$  be a sequence, and  $x \in X$ . Then the following are equivalent:

- (a)  $\{x_n\}$   $G$ -converges to  $x$ ,
- (b)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} G(x_n, x_n, x) = 0$ ,
- (c)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} G(x_n, x, x) = 0$ .

**Proposition 2.** [5] A sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in a  $G$ -metric space  $(X, G)$  is  $G$ -Cauchy if and only if  $\lim_{n, m \rightarrow \infty} G(x_n, x_m, x_m) = 0$ .

**Definition 5.** [1] A sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in a  $G$ -metric space  $(X, G)$  is asymptotically regular if  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} G(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) = 0$ .

**Lemma 2.** [1] Let  $\{x_n\}$  be an asymptotically regular sequence in a  $G$ -metric space  $(X, G)$  and suppose that  $\{x_n\}$  is not Cauchy. Then there exist a positive real number  $\varepsilon > 0$  and two subsequences  $\{x_{n_k}\}$  and  $\{x_{m_k}\}$  of  $\{x_n\}$ , such that  $\forall k \in \mathbb{N}$ :

$$k \leq n_k < m_k < n_{k+1},$$

$$G(x_{n_k}, x_{n_k+1}, x_{m_k-1}) \leq \varepsilon < G(x_{n_k}, x_{n_k+1}, x_{m_k})$$

and, also, for all given  $p_1, p_2, p_3 \in \mathbb{Z}$ :

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} G(x_{n_k+p_1}, x_{m_k+p_2}, x_{m_k+p_3}) = \varepsilon.$$

**Definition 6.** [5] Let  $(X, G)$  be a  $G$ -metric space. We say that a mapping  $T: X \rightarrow X$  is  $G$ -continuous at  $x \in X$  if  $\{Tx_m\} \rightarrow Tx$  for all sequences  $\{x_m\} \subseteq X$ , such that  $\{x_m\} \rightarrow x$ .

In 2013, Shatanawi and Postolache [10] introduced  $(A, B)$ -weakly increasing functions for a pair of mappings:

**Definition 7.** Let  $(X, \preceq)$  be a partially ordered set and  $A, B$  be two closed subsets of  $X$  with  $X = A \cup B$ . Let  $f, g: X \rightarrow X$  be two mappings. Then the pair  $(f, g)$  is said to be  $(A, B)$ -weakly increasing if  $fx \preceq gfx, \forall x \in A$  and  $gx \preceq fgx, \forall x \in B$ .

Kirk et al. [4] introduced cyclic mappings and proved fixed point results for cyclic mappings:

**Definition 8.** A self-map  $f: X \rightarrow X$  is cyclic if there exist non-empty subsets  $A_0, A_1, \dots, A_{p-1} \subseteq X$ , such that

$$X = \bigcup_{i=1}^p A_i \text{ and } f(A_i) \subseteq A_{i+1} \text{ for } 0 \leq i \leq p-1 \text{ (where } A_p = A_0).$$

Ansari [2] introduced  $\mathcal{C}$ -class functions as follows:

**Definition 9.** A mapping  $F: [0, \infty)^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is called a  $\mathcal{C}$ -class function if it is continuous and satisfies the following conditions:

$$(F_1) \quad F(s, t) \leq s, \forall s, t \geq 0;$$

$$(F_2) \quad F(s, t) = s \text{ implies that either } s = 0 \text{ or } t = 0, \forall s, t \geq 0.$$

**Example 7.** Let  $s, t \in [0, \infty)$ ; then we have:

$$(1) \quad F(s, t) = s - t,$$

$$(2) \quad F(s, t) = \frac{s - t}{1 + t},$$

$$(3) \quad F(s, t) = \frac{s}{1 + t},$$

$$(2) \quad F(s, t) = ks, k \in (0, 1).$$

**3. Main Results.** Here we consider functions  $\psi \in \Psi$  and generalize the contractivity condition of Shatanawi and Abodayeh ([9], Theorem 2.1) by using  $\mathcal{C}$ -class function, and prove common fixed point theorems in  $G$ -metric spaces.

**Theorem 1.** Let  $\preceq$  be an ordered relation in a set  $X$ . Let  $(X, G)$  be a complete  $G$ -metric space and  $X = A \cup B$ , where  $A$  and  $B$  are nonempty closed subsets of  $X$ . Let  $f, g$  be self mappings on  $X$  that satisfy the following conditions:

- (i) The pair  $(f, g)$  is  $(A, B)$ -weakly increasing.
- (ii)  $f(A) \subseteq B$  and  $g(B) \subseteq A$ .
- (iii) There exist two functions  $\phi \in \Phi, \psi \in \Psi$ , such that

$$\phi(G(fx, gfx, gy)) \leq F(\phi(M(x, y)), \psi(M(x, y))) \quad (1)$$

holds for all comparative elements  $x, y \in X$  with  $x \in A$  and  $y \in B$  and

$$\phi(G(gx, fgy, fy)) \leq F(\phi(M'(x, y)), \psi(M'(x, y))) \quad (2)$$

holds for all comparative elements  $x, y \in X$  with  $x \in B$  and  $y \in A$ , where  $F$  is a  $\mathcal{C}$ -class function,

$$M(x, y) = \max \left\{ G(x, fx, y), \frac{G(fx, fx, y)[1 + G(x, x, gy)]}{1 + G(x, fx, y)}, \frac{G(gy, gy, y)[1 + G(fx, fx, x)]}{1 + G(x, fx, y)} \right\}$$

and

$$M'(x, y) = \max \left\{ G(x, gx, y), \frac{G(gx, gx, y)[1 + G(x, x, fy)]}{1 + G(x, gx, y)}, \frac{G(fy, fy, y)[1 + G(gx, gx, x)]}{1 + G(x, gx, y)} \right\}.$$

(iv)  $f$  or  $g$  is continuous.

Then,  $f$  and  $g$  have a common fixed point in  $A \cap B$ .

**Proof.** Start with  $x_0 \in A$ . Since  $f(A) \subseteq B$ , there exists  $x_1 \in B$ , such that  $fx_0 = x_1$  and, since  $g(B) \subseteq A$ , there exists  $x_2 \in A$ , such that  $gx_1 = x_2$ . Continuing this way, we construct a sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in  $X$ , such that

$$fx_{2n} = x_{2n+1}, \text{ for } x_{2n} \in A; \text{ and } gx_{2n+1} = x_{2n+2}, \text{ for } x_{2n+1} \in B, n \geq 0.$$

Using condition (i), we have  $x_n \preceq x_{n+1}, \forall n \geq 0$ .

If  $x_{2n} = x_{2n+1}$ , for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $x_{2n}$  is a fixed point of  $f$  in  $A \cap B$ . Since  $x_{2n} \preceq x_{2n+1}$ , from (1) we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(G(x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+2}, x_{2n+2})) &= \phi(G(fx_{2n}, gfx_{2n}, gx_{2n+1})) \leq \\ &\leq F(\phi(M(x_{2n}, x_{2n+1})), \psi(M(x_{2n}, x_{2n+1}))), \end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} M(x_{2n}, x_{2n+1}) &= \\ &= \max \left\{ G(x_{2n}, fx_{2n}, x_{2n+1}), \frac{G(fx_{2n}, fx_{2n}, x_{2n+1})[1 + G(x_{2n}, x_{2n}, gx_{2n+1})]}{1 + G(x_{2n}, fx_{2n}, x_{2n+1})}, \right. \\ &\quad \left. \frac{G(gx_{2n+1}, gx_{2n+1}, x_{2n+1})[1 + G(fx_{2n}, fx_{2n}, x_{2n})]}{1 + G(x_{2n}, fx_{2n}, x_{2n+1})} \right\} = \\ &= \max \left\{ G(x_{2n}, x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+1}), \frac{G(x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+1})[1 + G(x_{2n}, x_{2n}, x_{2n+2})]}{1 + G(x_{2n}, x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+1})} \right\}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \left. \frac{G(x_{2n+2}, x_{2n+2}, x_{2n+1})[1 + G(x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+1}, x_{2n})]}{1 + G(x_{2n}, x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+1})} \right\} = \\ & = \max\{G(x_{2n}, x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+1}), G(x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+2}, x_{2n+2})\} = \\ & = G(x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+2}, x_{2n+2}). \end{aligned}$$

From (3) and  $(F_1)$  we have:

$$\begin{aligned} & \phi(G(x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+2}, x_{2n+2})) \leq \\ & \leq F(\phi(G(x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+2}, x_{2n+2})), \psi(G(x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+2}, x_{2n+2}))) \leq \\ & \leq \phi(G(x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+2}, x_{2n+2})), \end{aligned}$$

which implies

$$\begin{aligned} & F(\phi(G(x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+2}, x_{2n+2})), \psi(G(x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+2}, x_{2n+2}))) = \\ & = \phi(G(x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+2}, x_{2n+2})). \end{aligned}$$

From  $(F_2)$  we have:

$$\phi(G(x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+2}, x_{2n+2})) = 0 \text{ or } \psi(G(x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+2}, x_{2n+2})) = 0.$$

Since  $\phi \in \Phi$  and  $\psi \in \Psi$ , we have  $G(x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+2}, x_{2n+2}) = 0$ . That is,  $x_{2n} = x_{2n+1} = x_{2n+2}$ . Hence,  $x_{2n}$  is a common fixed point of  $f$  and  $g$  in  $A \cap B$ . Now, assume that  $x_n \neq x_{n+1}, \forall n \geq 0$ . Since  $x_{2n} \preceq x_{2n+1}$ , from (1) we have:

$$\begin{aligned} & \phi(G(x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+2}, x_{2n+2})) = \phi(G(fx_{2n}, gfx_{2n}, gx_{2n+1})) \leq \\ & \leq F(\phi(M(x_{2n}, x_{2n+1})), \psi(M(x_{2n}, x_{2n+1}))), \end{aligned} \tag{4}$$

where

$$M(x_{2n}, x_{2n+1}) = \max\{G(x_{2n}, x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+1}), G(x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+2}, x_{2n+2})\}.$$

If  $M(x_{2n}, x_{2n+1}) = G(x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+2}, x_{2n+2}), \forall n \geq 0$ , then from (4) we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \phi(G(x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+2}, x_{2n+2})) \leq \\ & \leq F(\phi(G(x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+2}, x_{2n+2})), \psi(G(x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+2}, x_{2n+2}))). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $F$  is  $\mathcal{C}$ -class function, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} & F(\phi(G(x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+2}, x_{2n+2})), \psi(G(x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+2}, x_{2n+2}))) = \\ & = \phi(G(x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+2}, x_{2n+2})) \implies \phi(G(x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+2}, x_{2n+2})) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

or

$$\psi(G(x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+2}, x_{2n+2})) = 0, \forall n \geq 0.$$

Since  $\phi \in \Phi$ , we have  $G(x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+2}, x_{2n+2}) = 0, \forall n \geq 0$ ; this implies  $x_{2n+1} = x_{2n+2}, \forall n \geq 0$ : a contradiction. Therefore,  $M(x_{2n}, x_{2n+1}) = G(x_{2n}, x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+1}), \forall n \geq 0$ .

Now, from (4) and  $(F_1)$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(G(x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+2}, x_{2n+2})) & \leq \\ & \leq F(\phi(G(x_{2n}, x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+1})), \psi(G(x_{2n}, x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+1}))) \leq \\ & \leq \phi(G(x_{2n}, x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+1})), \forall n \geq 0. \end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

Since  $x_{2n+1} \preceq x_{2n+2}$ , from (2) we can prove:

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(G(x_{2n+2}, x_{2n+3}, x_{2n+3})) & \leq \\ & \leq F(\phi(G(x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+2}, x_{2n+2})), \psi(G(x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+2}, x_{2n+2}))) \leq \\ & \leq \phi(G(x_{2n+1}, x_{2n+2}, x_{2n+2})), \forall n \geq 0. \end{aligned} \tag{6}$$

From (5) and (6), we conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(G(x_{n+1}, x_{n+2}, x_{n+2})) & \leq F(\phi(G(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1})), \psi(G(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}))) \leq \\ & \leq \phi(G(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1})), \forall n \geq 0. \end{aligned} \tag{7}$$

Since  $\phi \in \Phi$ , we get  $G(x_{n+1}, x_{n+2}, x_{n+2}) \leq G(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}), \forall n \geq 0$ , which implies that the sequence  $\{G(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1})\}$  is a non-negative monotonically decreasing sequence. So, there exists  $r \geq 0$ , such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} G(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) = r. \tag{8}$$

By taking the limit as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  in (7), we get

$$\phi(r) \leq F(\phi(r), \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \psi(G(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}))) \leq \phi(r),$$

which implies that  $F(\phi(r), \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \psi(G(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}))) = \phi(r)$ .

From  $(F_2)$ , we get  $\phi(r) = 0$  or  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \psi(G(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1})) = 0$ . Since  $\phi \in \Phi$  and  $\psi \in \Psi$ , we get

$$r = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} G(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) = 0. \tag{9}$$

From the definition of  $G$ -metric space, we have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} G(x_n, x_n, x_{n+1}) = 0. \quad (10)$$

Now, we prove that  $\{x_n\}$  is  $G$ -Cauchy. It is sufficient to show that  $\{x_{2n}\}$  is a  $G$ -Cauchy sequence.

Suppose that  $\{x_n\}$  is not Cauchy. Then, by (9), (10), and Lemma 2, there exist  $\varepsilon > 0$  and two subsequences  $\{x_{2n_k}\}$  and  $\{x_{2m_k}\}$  of  $\{x_{2n}\}$ , such that  $\forall k \in \mathbb{N}, k \leq n_k < m_k < n_{k+1}$  and for all given  $p_1, p_2, p_3 \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} G(x_{2n_k+p_1}, x_{2m_k+p_2}, x_{2m_k+p_3}) = \varepsilon. \quad (11)$$

Since  $x_{2m_k} \preceq x_{2n_k+1}$ , from (1) we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(G(x_{2m_k+1}, x_{2m_k+2}, x_{2n_k+2})) &= \phi(G(fx_{2m_k}, gfx_{2m_k}, gx_{2n_k+1})) \leq \\ &\leq F(\phi(M(x_{2m_k}, x_{2n_k+1}), \psi(M(x_{2m_k}, x_{2n_k+1}))), \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} M(x_{2m_k}, x_{2n_k+1}) &= \max \left\{ G(x_{2m_k}, x_{2m_k+1}, x_{2n_k+1}), \right. \\ &\quad \frac{G(x_{2m_k+1}, x_{2m_k+1}, x_{2n_k+1})[1 + G(x_{2m_k}, x_{2m_k}, x_{2n_k+2})]}{1 + G(x_{2m_k}, x_{2m_k+1}, x_{2n_k+1})}, \\ &\quad \left. \frac{G(x_{2n_k+2}, x_{2n_k+2}, x_{2n_k+1})[1 + G(x_{2m_k+1}, x_{2m_k+1}, x_{2m_k})]}{1 + G(x_{2m_k}, x_{2m_k+1}, x_{2n_k+1})} \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Using (9), (10) and (11), we get  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} M(x_{2m_k}, x_{2n_k+1}) = \varepsilon$ . Taking limit as  $k \rightarrow \infty$  in (12), we get

$$\phi(\varepsilon) \leq F(\phi(\varepsilon), \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \psi(M(x_{2m_k}, x_{2n_k+1}))).$$

Since  $F$  is a  $\mathcal{C}$ -class function, we get

$$\phi(\varepsilon) \leq F(\phi(\varepsilon), \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \psi(M(x_{2m_k}, x_{2n_k+1}))) \leq \phi(\varepsilon);$$

this implies that

$$\phi(\varepsilon) = 0 \text{ or } \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \psi(M(x_{2m_k}, x_{2n_k+1})) = 0;$$

so we get  $\varepsilon = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} M(x_{2m_k}, x_{2n_k+1}) = 0$ : a contradiction. Thus,  $\{x_{2n}\}$  is a  $G$ -Cauchy sequence in  $(X, G)$ . So, the sequence  $\{x_n\}$  is a  $G$ -Cauchy sequence in  $(X, G)$ . Since  $(X, G)$  is complete, there exists  $u \in$



$X$ , such that  $\{x_n\}$  is  $G$ -convergent to  $u$ . Therefore, the subsequences  $\{x_{2n}\}$  and  $\{x_{2n+1}\}$  are  $G$ -convergent to  $u$ . Since  $\{x_{2n}\} \subseteq A$  and  $A$  are closed,  $u \in A$ . Also,  $\{x_{2n+1}\} \subseteq B$  and  $B$  are closed, so  $u \in B$ . Now, we may assume that  $f$  is continuous. So, we have  $fu = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} fx_{2n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_{2n+1} = u$ . By uniqueness of the limit, we have  $fu = u$ . Since  $u \preceq u$ , from (1) we have:

$$\phi(G(u, gu, gu)) = \phi(G(fu, gfu, gu)) \leq F(\phi(M(u, u)), \psi(M(u, u))), \tag{13}$$

where

$$M(u, u) = \max \left\{ G(u, fu, u), \frac{G(fu, fu, u)[1 + G(u, u, gu)]}{[1 + G(u, fu, u)]}, \frac{G(gu, gu, u)[1 + G(fu, fu, u)]}{[1 + G(u, fu, u)]} \right\} = G(u, gu, gu).$$

Using (13), we obtain

$$\phi(G(u, gu, gu)) \leq F(\phi(G(u, gu, gu)), \psi(G(u, gu, gu))).$$

Since  $F$  is a  $\mathcal{C}$ -class function, we have

$$\phi(G(u, gu, gu)) = 0 \text{ or } \psi(G(u, gu, gu)) = 0.$$

This implies  $G(u, gu, gu) = 0$ . Hence,  $gu = u$ . Thus,  $u$  is a common fixed point of  $f$  and  $g$  in  $A \cap B$ .  $\square$

The following example shows that the condition (iii) defined in Theorem 1 is more general than the condition (iii) of Theorem 2.1 in [9].

**Example 8.** Let  $X = \{0, 1\}$  and define  $G: X \times X \times X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  as

$$G(0, 0, 0) = G(1, 1, 1) = 0, G(0, 0, 1) = 1 \text{ and } G(0, 1, 1) = 2.$$

Then the function  $G$  is a  $G$ -metric on  $X$ .

Take  $A = B = \{0, 1\}$ , and  $x \preceq y$  if and only if  $x \leq y$ . Define the mappings  $f, g: X \rightarrow X$  as follows:

$$f(0) = 1, f(1) = 0 \text{ and } g(0) = 0, g(1) = 1.$$

Let  $\phi, \psi: [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  and  $F: [0, \infty) \times [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be defined by  $\phi(t) = t/2$ ,  $\psi(t) = t$  and  $F(s, t) = s/(1+t)$ , for all  $s, t \in [0, \infty)$ .

For  $x = 0$ ,  $y = 1$ ,

$$M(0, 1) = \max \left\{ G(0, f0, 1), \frac{G(f0, f0, 1)[1 + G(0, 0, g1)]}{1 + G(0, f0, 1)}, \frac{G(g1, g1, 1)[1 + G(f0, f0, 0)]}{1 + G(0, f0, 1)} \right\} = \max\{2, 0\} = 2.$$

Now,

$$F(\phi(M(0, 1)), \psi(M(0, 1))) = F(\phi(2), \psi(2)) = F(1, 2) = \frac{1}{3} \geq \phi(G(f0, gf0, g1)) = \phi(0).$$

For  $x = 1$ ,  $y = 0$ :

$$M(1, 0) = \max \left\{ G(1, f1, 0), \frac{G(f1, f1, 0)[1 + G(1, 1, g0)]}{1 + G(1, f1, 0)}, \frac{G(g0, g0, 0)[1 + G(f1, f1, 1)]}{1 + G(1, f1, 0)} \right\} = \max\{1, 0\} = 1.$$

Now,

$$F(\phi(M(1, 0)), \psi(M(1, 0))) = F(\phi(1), \psi(1)) = F\left(\frac{1}{2}, 1\right) = \frac{1}{4} \geq \phi(G(f1, gf1, g0)) = \phi(0).$$

Hence, the condition (iii) of Theorem 1 is satisfied.

But  $\phi(G(0, f0, 1)) - \psi(G(0, f0, 1)) = \phi(2) - \psi(2) = 1 - 2 = -1 \leq 0$ . This shows that the condition (iii) of Theorem 2.1 in [9] does not hold.

In Theorem 1, if we replace  $\psi \in \Psi$  with  $\psi \in \Phi$  and take  $M(x, y) = G(x, fx, y)$ ,  $M'(x, y) = G(x, gx, y)$  and  $F(s, t) = s - t$ , then we get Theorem 2.1 of [9], as a particular case.

Now, the following example validates Theorem 1.

**Example 9.** Let  $X = [0, 1/2]$  and let  $f, g: X \rightarrow X$  be given as  $f(x) = \frac{x^2}{1+x}$  and  $g(x) = \frac{x}{2}$ . Take  $A = [0, 1/2]$  and  $B = [0, 1/2]$ .

Define the function  $G: X \times X \times X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  as

$$G(x, y, z) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } x = y = z, \\ \max\{x, y, z\}, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Clearly,  $G$  is a complete  $G$ -metric on  $X$ . We introduce a relation on  $X$  by  $x \preceq y$  if and only if  $y \leq x$ . Also, define the functions  $F: [0, \infty)^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by  $F(s, t) = s - t$  and  $\phi, \psi: [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  by  $\phi(t) = 2t$  and  $\psi(t) = \frac{t}{1 + 2t}$ .

Note that  $f(A) = [0, 1/4] \subseteq B$  and  $g(B) = [0, 1/2] \subseteq A$ .

To prove (i), given  $x \in X$ ,

$$gfx = \frac{x^2}{2(1+x)}.$$

Since  $x \in [0, 1/2]$ ,  $\frac{x^2}{2(1+x)} < \frac{x^2}{(1+x)}$ . Thus,  $gfx \leq fx$  and, hence,  $fx \preceq gfx$  for all  $x \in X$ .

To prove (iii), given  $x \in A$  and  $y \in B$  with  $y \geq x$ . Then

$$G(fx, gfx, gy) = \max \left\{ \frac{x^2}{(1+x)}, \frac{x^2}{2(1+x)}, \frac{y}{2} \right\} = \frac{y}{2}$$

and

$$M(x, y) = \max \left\{ y, \frac{y(1+x)}{(1+y)}, \frac{y(1+\frac{y}{2})}{(1+y)} \right\} = y.$$

Since

$$\frac{2y}{2} \leq 2y - \frac{y}{(1+2y)},$$

we have

$$\phi(G(fx, gfx, fy)) \leq F(\phi(M(x, y)), \psi(M(x, y))).$$

Hence, all the conditions of Theorem 1 are satisfied. Notice that 0 is the unique common fixed point of  $f$  and  $g$ .

**Corollary 1.** *Let  $\preceq$  be an ordered relation in a set  $X$ . Let  $(X, G)$  be a complete  $G$ -metric space and  $X = A \cup B$ , where  $A$  and  $B$  are nonempty closed subsets of  $X$ . Let  $f$  be a continuous self map on  $X$  that satisfies the following conditions:*

- (1)  $fx \preceq f^2x, \forall x \in X$ .
- (2)  $f(A) \subseteq B$  and  $f(B) \subseteq A$ .
- (3) There exist two functions  $\phi \in \Phi, \psi \in \Psi$ , such that

$$\phi(G(fx, f^2x, fy)) \leq F(\phi(M(x, y)), \psi(M(x, y))) \quad (14)$$

holds for all comparative elements  $x, y \in X$ , where  $F$  is a  $\mathcal{C}$ -class function,

$$M(x, y) = \max \left\{ G(x, fx, y), \frac{G(fx, fx, y)[1 + G(x, x, fy)]}{1 + G(x, fx, y)}, \frac{G(fy, fy, y)[1 + G(fx, fx, x)]}{1 + G(x, fx, y)} \right\}.$$

Then  $f$  has a fixed point in  $A \cap B$ .

**Proof.** The proof follows from Theorem 1 by taking  $g = f$ .  $\square$

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