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Almost contractive coupled mapping in ordered complete metric spaces

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Abstract

In this paper, we introduce the notion of almost contractive mapping $F : X \times X \rightarrow X$ with respect to the mapping $g : X \rightarrow X$ and establish some existence and uniqueness theorems of a coupled common coincidence point in ordered complete metric spaces. Also, we introduce an example to support our main results. Our results generalize several well-known comparable results in the literature.

MSC: 54H25; 47H10; 34B15

Keywords: coupled fixed point; partially ordered set; mixed monotone property

1 Introduction and preliminaries

The existence and uniqueness theorems of a fixed point in complete metric spaces play an important role in constructing methods for solving problems in differential equations, matrix equations, and integral equations. Furthermore, the fixed point theory is a crucial method in numerical analysis to present a way for solving and approximating the roots of many equations in real analysis. One of the main theorems on a fixed point is the Banach contraction theorem [1]. Many authors generalized the Banach contraction theorem in different metric spaces in different ways. For some works on fixed point theory, we refer the readers to [2–17]. The study of a coupled fixed point was initiated by Bhaskar and Lakshmikantham [18]. Bhaskar and Lakshmikantham [18] obtained some nice results on a coupled fixed point and applied their results to solve a pair of differential equations. For some results on a coupled fixed point in ordered metric spaces, we refer the reader to [18–26].

The following definitions will be needed in the sequel.

Definition 1.1 Let (X, \preceq) be a partially ordered set and $F : X \times X \rightarrow X$. The mapping F is said to have the mixed monotone property if $F(x, y)$ is monotone non-decreasing in x and is monotone non-increasing in y , that is, for any

$$x, y \in X, x_1, x_2 \in X, \quad x_1 \preceq x_2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad F(x_1, y) \preceq F(x_2, y)$$

and

$$y_1, y_2 \in X, \quad y_1 \preceq y_2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad F(x, y_1) \succeq F(x, y_2).$$

Definition 1.2 We call an element $(x, y) \in X \times X$ a coupled fixed point of the mapping $F : X \times X \rightarrow X$ if

$$F(x, y) = x \quad \text{and} \quad F(y, x) = y.$$

Definition 1.3 [20] Let (X, \preceq) be a partially ordered set and $F : X \times X \rightarrow X$ and $g : X \rightarrow X$. The mapping F is said to have the mixed g -monotone property if F is monotone g -non-decreasing in its first argument and is monotone g -non-increasing in its second argument, that is, for any $x, y \in X$,

$$x_1, x_2 \in X, \quad g(x_1) \preceq g(x_2) \quad \Rightarrow \quad F(x_1, y) \preceq F(x_2, y) \tag{1}$$

and

$$y_1, y_2 \in X, \quad g(y_1) \preceq g(y_2) \quad \Rightarrow \quad F(x, y_1) \succeq F(x, y_2). \tag{2}$$

Definition 1.4 An element $(x, y) \in X \times X$ is called a coupled coincidence point of the mappings $F : X \times X \rightarrow X$ and $g : X \rightarrow X$ if

$$F(x, y) = g(x) \quad \text{and} \quad F(y, x) = g(y).$$

The main results of Bhaskar and Lakshmikantham in [18] are the following.

Theorem 1.1 [18] Let (X, \preceq) be a partially ordered set and d be a metric on X such that (X, d) is a complete metric space. Let $F : X \times X \rightarrow X$ be a continuous mapping having the mixed monotone property on X . Assume that there exists a $k \in [0, 1)$ with

$$d(F(x, y), F(u, v)) \leq \frac{k}{2} [d(x, u) + d(y, v)] \quad \forall x \succeq u \text{ and } y \preceq v.$$

If there exist two elements $x_0, y_0 \in X$ with

$$x_0 \preceq F(x_0, y_0) \quad \text{and} \quad y_0 \succeq F(y_0, x_0),$$

then there exist $x, y \in X$ such that

$$x = F(x, y) \quad \text{and} \quad y = F(y, x).$$

Theorem 1.2 [18] Let (X, \preceq) be a partially ordered set and d be a metric on X such that (X, d) is a complete metric space. Assume that X has the following property:

- (i) if a nondecreasing sequence $\{x_n\}$ in X converges to $x \in X$, then $x_n \preceq x$ for all n ,
- (ii) if a nonincreasing sequence $\{y_n\}$ in X converges to $y \in X$, then $y_n \succeq y$ for all n .

Let $F : X \times X \rightarrow X$ be a mapping having the mixed monotone property on X . Assume that there exists $k \in [0, 1)$ with

$$d(F(x, y), F(u, v)) \leq \frac{k}{2} [d(x, u) + d(y, v)] \quad \forall x \succeq u \text{ and } y \preceq v.$$

If there exist two elements $x_0, y_0 \in X$ with

$$x_0 \preceq F(x_0, y_0) \quad \text{and} \quad y_0 \succeq F(y_0, x_0),$$

then there exist $x, y \in X$ such that

$$x = F(x, y) \quad \text{and} \quad y = F(y, x).$$

Definition 1.5 Let (X, d) be a metric space and $F : X \times X \rightarrow X$ and $g : X \rightarrow X$ be mappings. We say that F and g commute if

$$F(g(x), g(y)) = g(F(x, y))$$

for all $x, y \in X$.

Nashine and Shatanawi [22] proved the following coupled coincidence point theorems.

Theorem 1.3 [22] Let (X, d, \preceq) be an ordered metric space. Let $F : X \times X \rightarrow X$ and $g : X \rightarrow X$ be mappings such that F has the mixed g -monotone property on X such that there exist two elements $x_0, y_0 \in X$ with $g(x_0) \preceq F(x_0, y_0)$ and $g(y_0) \succeq F(y_0, x_0)$. Suppose that there exist non-negative real numbers α, β, L with $\alpha + \beta < 1$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} d(F(x, y), F(u, v)) &\leq \alpha \min\{d(F(x, y), g(x)), d(F(u, v), g(x))\} \\ &\quad + \beta \min\{d(F(x, y), g(u)), d(F(u, v), g(u))\} \\ &\quad + L \min\{d(F(x, y), g(u)), d(F(u, v), g(x))\} \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

for all $(x, y), (u, v) \in X \times X$ with $g(x) \preceq g(u)$ and $g(y) \succeq g(v)$. Further suppose that $F(X \times X) \subseteq g(X)$ and $g(X)$ is a complete subspace of X . Also suppose that X satisfies the following properties:

- (i) if a nondecreasing sequence $\{x_n\}$ in X converges to $x \in X$, then $x_n \preceq x$ for all n ,
- (ii) if a nonincreasing sequence $\{y_n\}$ in X converges to $y \in X$, then $y_n \succeq y$ for all n .

Then there exist $x, y \in X$ such that

$$F(x, y) = g(x) \quad \text{and} \quad F(y, x) = g(y),$$

that is, F and g have a coupled coincidence point $(x, y) \in X \times X$.

Theorem 1.4 [22] Let (X, \preceq) be a partially ordered set and suppose that there is a metric d on X such that (X, d) is a complete metric space. Let $F : X \times X \rightarrow X$ and $g : X \rightarrow X$ be mappings such that F has the mixed g -monotone property on X such that there exist two elements $x_0, y_0 \in X$ with $g(x_0) \preceq F(x_0, y_0)$ and $g(y_0) \succeq F(y_0, x_0)$. Suppose that there exist non-negative real numbers α, β, L with $\alpha + \beta < 1$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} d(F(x, y), F(u, v)) &\leq \alpha \min\{d(F(x, y), g(x)), d(F(u, v), g(x))\} \\ &\quad + \beta \min\{d(F(x, y), g(u)), d(F(u, v), g(u))\} \\ &\quad + L \min\{d(F(x, y), g(u)), d(F(u, v), g(x))\} \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

for all $(x, y), (u, v) \in X \times X$ with $g(x) \leq g(u)$ and $g(y) \geq g(v)$. Further suppose that $F(X \times X) \subseteq g(X)$, g is continuous nondecreasing and commutes with F , and also suppose that either

- (a) F is continuous, or
- (b) X has the following property:
 - (i) if a nondecreasing sequence $\{x_n\}$ in X converges to $x \in X$, then $x_n \leq x$ for all n ,
 - (ii) if a nonincreasing sequence $\{y_n\}$ in X converges to $y \in X$, then $y_n \geq y$ for all n .

Then there exist $x, y \in X$ such that

$$F(x, y) = g(x) \quad \text{and} \quad F(y, x) = g(y),$$

that is, F and g have a coupled coincidence point $(x, y) \in X \times X$.

Berinde [27–30] initiated the concept of almost contractions and studied many interesting fixed point theorems for a Ćirić strong almost contraction. So, it is fundamental to recall the following definition.

Definition 1.6 [27] A single-valued mapping $f : X \times X$ is called a Ćirić strong almost contraction if there exist a constant $\alpha \in [0, 1)$ and some $L \geq 0$ such that

$$d(fx, fy) \leq \alpha M(x, y) + Ld(y, fx)$$

for all $x, y \in X$, where

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

The aim of this paper is to introduce the notion of almost contractive mapping $F : X \times X \rightarrow X$ with respect to the mapping $g : X \rightarrow X$ and present some uniqueness and existence theorems of coupled fixed and coincidence point. Our results generalize Theorems 1.1-1.4.

2 Main theorems

We start with the following definition.

Definition 2.1 Let (X, d, \leq) be an ordered metric space. We say that the mapping $F : X \times X \rightarrow X$ is an almost contractive mapping with respect to the mapping $g : X \rightarrow X$ if there exist a real number $\alpha \in [0, 1)$ and a nonnegative number L such that

$$\begin{aligned} d(F(x, y), F(u, v)) \\ \leq \alpha \max \{ d(g(x), g(u)), d(g(y), g(v)), d(F(x, y), g(x)), d(F(u, v), g(u)) \} \\ + L \min \{ d(F(x, y), g(u)), d(F(u, v), g(x)) \} \end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

for all $(x, y), (u, v) \in X \times X$ with $g(x) \leq g(u)$ and $g(y) \geq g(v)$.

Theorem 2.1 Let (X, d, \leq) be an ordered metric space. Let $F : X \times X \rightarrow X$ and $g : X \rightarrow X$ be mappings such that

- (1) F is an almost contractive mapping with respect to g .

- (2) F has the mixed g -monotone property on X .
- (3) There exist two elements $x_0, y_0 \in X$ with $g(x_0) \leq F(x_0, y_0)$ and $g(y_0) \geq F(y_0, x_0)$.
- (4) $F(X \times X) \subseteq g(X)$ and $g(X)$ is a complete subspace of X .

Also, suppose that X satisfies the following properties:

- (i) if a nondecreasing sequence $\{x_n\}$ in X converges to $x \in X$, then $x_n \leq x$ for all n ,
- (ii) if a nonincreasing sequence $\{y_n\}$ in X converges to $y \in X$, then $y_n \geq y$ for all n .

Then there exist $x, y \in X$ such that

$$F(x, y) = g(x) \quad \text{and} \quad F(y, x) = g(y),$$

that is, F and g have a coupled coincidence point $(x, y) \in X \times X$.

Proof Let $x_0, y_0 \in X$ be such that $g(x_0) \leq F(x_0, y_0)$ and $g(y_0) \geq F(y_0, x_0)$. Since $F(X \times X) \subseteq g(X)$, we can choose $x_1, y_1 \in X$ such that $g(x_1) = F(x_0, y_0)$ and $g(y_1) = F(y_0, x_0)$.

In the same way, we construct $g(x_2) = F(x_1, y_1)$ and $g(y_2) = F(y_1, x_1)$.

Continuing in this way, we construct two sequences $\{x_n\}$ and $\{y_n\}$ in X such that

$$g(x_{n+1}) = F(x_n, y_n) \quad \text{and} \quad g(y_{n+1}) = F(y_n, x_n) \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}. \tag{6}$$

Since F has the mixed g -monotone property, by induction we may show that

$$g(x_0) \leq g(x_1) \leq g(x_2) \leq \dots \leq g(x_{n+1}) \leq \dots$$

and

$$g(y_0) \geq g(y_1) \geq g(y_2) \geq \dots \geq g(y_{n+1}) \geq \dots$$

If $(g(x_{n+1}), g(y_{n+1})) = (g(x_n), g(y_n))$ for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$, then $F(x_n, y_n) = g(x_n)$ and $F(y_n, x_n) = g(y_n)$, that is, (x_n, y_n) is a coincidence point of F and g . So we may assume that $(g(x_{n+1}), g(y_{n+1})) \neq (g(x_n), g(y_n))$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Since $g(x_n) \geq g(x_{n-1})$ and $g(y_n) \leq g(y_{n-1})$, from (5) and (6), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & d(g(x_n), g(x_{n+1})) \\ &= d(F(x_{n-1}, y_{n-1}), F(x_n, y_n)) \\ &\leq \alpha \max\{d(g(x_{n-1}), g(x_n)), d(g(y_{n-1}), g(y_n)), d(F(x_n, y_n), g(x_n)), \\ &\quad d(F(x_{n-1}, y_{n-1}), g(x_{n-1}))\} + L \min\{d(F(x_n, y_n), g(x_{n-1})), d(F(x_{n-1}, y_{n-1}), g(x_n))\} \\ &= \alpha \max\{d(g(x_{n-1}), g(x_n)), d(g(y_{n-1}), g(y_n)), d(g(x_{n+1}), g(x_n)), d(g(x_n), g(x_{n-1}))\} \\ &\quad + L \min\{d(g(x_{n+1}), g(x_{n-1})), d(g(x_n), g(x_n))\} \\ &= \alpha \max\{d(g(x_{n-1}), g(x_n)), d(g(y_{n-1}), g(y_n)), d(g(x_{n+1}), g(x_n))\}. \end{aligned}$$

If $\max\{d(g(x_{n-1}), g(x_n)), d(g(y_{n-1}), g(y_n)), d(g(x_{n+1}), g(x_n))\} = d(g(x_{n+1}), g(x_n))$, then $d(g(x_{n+1}), g(x_n)) \leq \alpha d(g(x_{n+1}), g(x_n))$ and hence $d(g(x_{n+1}), g(x_n)) = 0$. Thus $d(g(x_{n-1}), g(x_n)) =$

$d(g(y_{n-1}), g(y_n)) = 0$. Therefore $d(g(x_{n-1}), g(y_{n-1})) = d(g(x_n), g(y_n))$, a contradiction. Thus

$$\begin{aligned} & \max \{d(g(x_{n-1}), g(x_n)), d(g(y_{n-1}), g(y_n)), d(g(x_{n+1}), g(x_n))\} \\ & = \max \{d(g(x_{n-1}), g(x_n)), d(g(y_{n-1}), g(y_n))\}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$d(g(x_{n+1}), g(x_n)) \leq \alpha \max \{d(g(x_{n-1}), g(x_n)), d(g(y_{n-1}), g(y_n))\}. \quad (7)$$

Similarly, we may show that

$$d(g(y_n), g(y_{n+1})) \leq \alpha \max \{d(g(x_{n-1}), g(x_n)), d(g(y_{n-1}), g(y_n))\}. \quad (8)$$

From (7) and (8), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \max \{d(g(x_{n+1}), g(x_n)), d(g(y_n), g(y_{n+1}))\} \\ & \leq \alpha \max \{d(g(x_{n-1}), g(x_n)), d(g(y_{n-1}), g(y_n))\}. \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

Repeating (9) n -times, we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \max \{d(g(x_{n+1}), g(x_n)), d(g(y_n), g(y_{n+1}))\} \\ & \leq \alpha^n \max \{d(g(x_0), g(x_1)), d(g(y_0), g(y_1))\}. \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

Now, we shall prove that $\{g(x_n)\}$ and $\{g(y_n)\}$ are Cauchy sequences in $g(X)$.

For each $m \geq n$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & d(g(x_m), g(x_n)) \\ & \leq d(g(x_n), g(x_{n+1})) + d(g(x_{n+1}), g(x_{n+2})) + \dots \\ & \quad + d(g(x_{m-1}), g(x_m)) \\ & \leq \alpha^n \max \{d(g(x_0), g(x_1)), d(g(y_0), g(y_1))\} + \dots \\ & \quad + \alpha^{m-1} \max \{d(g(x_0), g(x_1)), d(g(y_0), g(y_1))\} \\ & \leq \frac{\alpha^n}{1 - \alpha} \max \{d(g(x_0), g(x_1)), d(g(y_0), g(y_1))\}. \end{aligned}$$

Letting $n, m \rightarrow +\infty$ in the above inequalities, we get that $\{g(x_n)\}$ is a Cauchy sequence in $g(X)$. Similarly, we may show that $\{g(y_n)\}$ is a Cauchy sequence in $g(X)$. Since $g(X)$ is a complete subspace of X , there exists $(x, y) \in X \times X$ such that $g(x_n) \rightarrow g(x)$ and $g(y_n) \rightarrow g(y)$. Since $\{g(x_n)\}$ is a non-decreasing sequence and $g(x_n) \rightarrow g(x)$ and as $\{g(y_n)\}$ is a non-increasing sequence and $g(y_n) \rightarrow g(y)$, by the assumption we have $g(x_n) \leq g(x)$ and $g(y_n) \geq g(y)$ for all n . Since

$$\begin{aligned} & d(g(x_{n+1}), F(x, y)) \\ & = d(F(x_n, y_n), F(x, y)) \end{aligned}$$

$$\leq \alpha \max \{d(g(x_n), g(x)), d(g(y_n), g(y)), d(g(x_{n+1}), g(x_n)), d(F(x, y), g(x))\} \\ + L \min \{d(g(x_{n+1}), g(x)), d(F(x, y), g(x_n))\}.$$

Letting $n \rightarrow \infty$ in the above inequality, we get $d(g(x), F(x, y)) = 0$. Hence $g(x) = F(x, y)$. Similarly, one can show that $g(y) = F(y, x)$. Thus we proved that F and g have a coupled coincidence point. \square

Theorem 2.2 *Let (X, \preceq) be a partially ordered set and suppose that there is a metric d on X such that (X, d) is a complete metric space. Let $F : X \times X \rightarrow X$ and $g : X \rightarrow X$ be mappings such that*

- (1) F is an almost contractive mapping with respect to g .
- (2) F has the mixed g -monotone property on X .
- (3) There exist two elements $x_0, y_0 \in X$ with $g(x_0) \preceq F(x_0, y_0)$ and $g(y_0) \succeq F(y_0, x_0)$.
- (4) $F(X \times X) \subseteq g(X)$.
- (5) g is continuous nondecreasing and commutes with F .

Also suppose that either

- (a) F is continuous, or
- (b) X has the following property:
 - (i) if a nondecreasing sequence $\{x_n\}$ in X converges to $x \in X$, then $x_n \preceq x$ for all n ,
 - (ii) if a nonincreasing sequence $\{y_n\}$ in X converges to $y \in X$, then $y_n \succeq y$ for all n .

Then there exist $x, y \in X$ such that

$$F(x, y) = g(x) \quad \text{and} \quad F(y, x) = g(y),$$

that is, F and g have a coupled coincidence point $(x, y) \in X \times X$.

Proof As in the proof of Theorem 2.1, we construct two Cauchy sequences (gx_n) and (gy_n) in X such that (gx_n) is a nondecreasing sequence in X and (gy_n) is a nonincreasing sequence in X . Since X is a complete metric space, there is $(x, y) \in X \times X$ such that $gx_n \rightarrow x$ and $gy_n \rightarrow y$. Since g is continuous, we have $g(gx_n) \rightarrow gx$ and $g(gy_n) \rightarrow gy$.

Suppose that (a) holds. Since F is continuous, we have $F(gx_n, gy_n) \rightarrow F(x, y)$ and $F(gy_n, gx_n) \rightarrow F(y, x)$. Also, since g commutes with F and g is continuous, we have $F(gx_n, gy_n) = gF(x_n, y_n) = g(gx_{n+1}) \rightarrow gx$ and $F(gy_n, gx_n) = gF(y_n, x_n) = g(gy_{n+1}) \rightarrow gy$. By uniqueness of limit, we get $gx = F(x, y)$ and $gy = F(y, x)$.

Second, suppose that (b) holds. Since $g(x_n)$ is a nondecreasing sequence such that $g(x_n) \rightarrow x$, $g(y_n)$ is a nonincreasing sequence such that $g(y_n) \rightarrow y$, and g is a nondecreasing function, we get that $g(gx_n) \preceq gx$ and $g(gy_n) \succeq gy$ hold for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$. By (5), we have

$$d(g(gx_{n+1}), F(x, y)) \\ = d(F(gx_n, gy_n), F(x, y)) \\ \leq \alpha \max \{d(g(gx_n), g(x)), d(g(gy_n), g(y)), d(g(gx_{n+1}), g(gx_n)), d(F(x, y), g(x))\} \\ + L \min \{d(g(gx_{n+1}), g(x)), d(F(x, y), g(gx_n))\}.$$

Letting $n \rightarrow +\infty$, we get $d(g(x), F(x, y)) = 0$ and hence $g(x) = F(x, y)$. Similarly, one can show that $g(y) = F(y, x)$. Thus (x, y) is a coupled coincidence point of F and g . \square

Corollary 2.1 *Let (X, \preceq) be a partially ordered set and suppose that there is a metric d on X such that (X, d) is a complete metric space. Let $F : X \times X \rightarrow X$ be a mapping such that F has the mixed monotone property on X such that there exist two elements $x_0, y_0 \in X$ with $x_0 \preceq F(x_0, y_0)$ and $y_0 \succeq F(y_0, x_0)$. Suppose that there exist a real number $\alpha \in [0, 1)$ and a nonnegative number L such that*

$$d(F(x, y), F(u, v)) \leq \alpha \max\{d(x, u), d(y, v), d(F(x, y), x), d(F(u, v), u)\} + L \min\{d(F(x, y), u), d(F(u, v), x)\} \quad (11)$$

for all $(x, y), (u, v) \in X \times X$ with $x \preceq u$ and $y \succeq v$ and also suppose that either

(a) F is continuous, or

(b) X has the following property:

(i) if a nondecreasing sequence $\{x_n\}$ in X converges to $x \in X$, then $x_n \preceq x$ for all n ,

(ii) if a nonincreasing sequence $\{y_n\}$ in X converges to $y \in X$, then $y_n \succeq y$ for all n ,

then there exist $x, y \in X$ such that

$$F(x, y) = x \quad \text{and} \quad F(y, x) = y,$$

that is, F has a coupled fixed point $(x, y) \in X \times X$.

Proof Follows from Theorem 2.2 by taking $g = I$, the identity mapping. □

Let (X, \preceq) be a partially ordered set. Then we define a partial order \preceq on the product space $X \times X$ as follows:

$$\text{for } (x, y), (u, v) \in X \times X, \quad (u, v) \preceq (x, y) \Leftrightarrow x \succeq u, \quad y \preceq v.$$

Now, we prove some uniqueness theorem of a coupled common fixed point of mappings $F : X \times X \rightarrow X$ and $g : X \rightarrow X$.

Theorem 2.3 *In addition to the hypotheses of Theorem 2.1, suppose that $L = 0$, $\alpha < \frac{1}{2}$, F and g commute and for every $(x, y), (x^*, y^*) \in X \times X$, there exists $(u, v) \in X \times X$ such that $(F(u, v), F(v, u))$ is comparable to $(F(x, y), F(y, x))$ and $(F(x^*, y^*), F(y^*, x^*))$. Then F and g have a unique coupled common fixed point, that is, there exists a unique $(x, y) \in X \times X$ such that*

$$x = g(x) = F(x, y) \quad \text{and} \quad y = g(y) = F(y, x).$$

Proof The existence of coupled coincidence points of F and g follows from Theorem 2.1. To prove the uniqueness, let (x, y) and (x^*, y^*) be coupled coincidence points of F and g ; that is, $g(x) = F(x, y)$, $g(y) = F(y, x)$, $g(x^*) = F(x^*, y^*)$ and $g(y^*) = F(y^*, x^*)$. Now, we prove that

$$g(x) = g(x^*) \quad \text{and} \quad g(y) = g(y^*). \quad (12)$$

By the hypotheses, there exists $(u, v) \in X \times X$ such that $(F(u, v), F(v, u))$ is comparable to $(F(x, y), F(y, x))$ and $(F(x^*, y^*), F(y^*, x^*))$. Put $u_0 = u$, $v_0 = v$. Let $u_1, v_1 \in X$ be such that

$g(u_1) = F(u_0, v_0)$ and $g(v_1) = F(v_0, u_0)$. Then as a similar proof of Theorem 2.1, we construct two sequences $\{g(u_n)\}$, $\{g(v_n)\}$ in $g(X)$, where $g(u_{n+1}) = F(u_n, v_n)$ and $g(v_{n+1}) = F(v_n, u_n)$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Further, set $x_0 = x$, $y_0 = y$, $x_0^* = x^*$, $y_0^* = y^*$. Define the sequences $\{g(x_n)\}$, $\{g(y_n)\}$ in the following way: define $gx_1 = F(x_0, y_0) = F(x, y)$ and $gy_1 = F(y_0, x_0) = F(y, x)$. Also, define $gx_2 = F(x_1, y_1)$ and $gy_2 = F(y_1, x_1)$. For each $n \in \mathbb{N}$, define $gx_{n+1} = F(x_n, y_n)$ and $gy_{n+1} = F(y_n, x_n)$. In the same way, we define the sequences $\{g(x_n^*)\}$, $\{g(y_n^*)\}$. Now, we prove that

$$g(x_n) = F(x, y) = g(x) \quad \text{and} \quad g(y_n) = F(y, x) = g(y).$$

Since (x, y) is a coupled coincidence point of F and g , we have $F(x, y) = g(x)$ and $F(y, x) = g(y)$. Thus $g(x_1) = F(x_0, y_0) = F(x, y) = g(x)$ and $g(y_1) = F(y_0, x_0) = F(y, x) = g(y)$. Therefore $g(x_1) \leq g(x)$, $g(x) \leq g(x_1)$, $g(y_1) \leq g(y)$ and $g(y) \leq g(y_1)$. Since F is monotone g -non-decreasing on its first argument, $g(x_1) \leq g(x)$, and $g(x) \leq g(x_1)$, we have $F(x_1, y_1) \leq F(x, y_1)$ and $F(x, y_1) \leq F(x_1, y_1)$. Therefore,

$$F(x_1, y_1) = F(x, y_1). \tag{13}$$

Also, since F is monotone g -non-increasing on its second argument, $g(y_1) \leq g(y)$ and $g(y) \leq g(y_1)$, we have $F(x, y) \leq F(x, y_1)$ and $F(x, y_1) \leq F(x, y)$. Therefore,

$$F(x, y) = F(x, y_1). \tag{14}$$

From (13) and (14), we have

$$g(x_2) = F(x_1, y_1) = F(x, y) = g(x).$$

Similarly, we may show that

$$g(y_2) = F(y_1, x_1) = F(y, x) = g(y).$$

Note that $g(x_2) \leq g(x)$, $g(x) \leq g(x_2)$, $g(y_2) \leq g(y)$ and $g(y) \leq g(y_2)$. Since F is monotone g -non-decreasing on its first argument, $g(x_2) \leq g(x)$, and $g(x) \leq g(x_2)$, we have $F(x_2, y_2) \leq F(x, y_2)$ and $F(x, y_2) \leq F(x_2, y_2)$. Therefore,

$$F(x_2, y_2) = F(x, y_2). \tag{15}$$

Also, since F is monotone g -non-increasing on its second argument, $g(y_2) \leq g(y)$ and $g(y) \leq g(y_2)$, we have $F(x, y) \leq F(x, y_2)$ and $F(x, y_2) \leq F(x, y)$. Therefore,

$$F(x, y) = F(x, y_2). \tag{16}$$

From (15) and (16), we have

$$g(x_3) = F(x_2, y_2) = F(x, y) = g(x).$$

Similarly, we may show that

$$g(y_3) = F(y_2, x_2) = F(y, x) = g(y).$$

Continuing in the same way, we have that

$$g(x_n) = F(x, y) = g(x) \quad \text{and} \quad g(y_n) = F(y, x) = g(y)$$

hold for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Similarly, we can show that

$$g(x_n^*) = F(x^*, y^*) = g(x^*) \quad \text{and} \quad g(y_n^*) = F(y^*, x^*) = g(y^*) \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

hold for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Since

$$(F(x, y), F(y, x)) = (g(x_1), g(y_1)) = (g(x), g(y))$$

and

$$(F(u, v), F(v, u)) = (g(u_1), g(v_1))$$

are comparable, $g(x) \leq g(u_1)$ and $g(y) \geq g(v_1)$. Since F has the mixed g -monotone property of X , we have $g(x) \leq g(u_n)$ and $g(y) \geq g(v_n)$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Also, since $(g(x^*), g(y^*))$ and $(F(u, v), F(v, u)) = (g(u_1), g(v_1))$ are comparable, and F has the g -monotone property, then we can show that for $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we have that $(g(x^*), g(y^*))$ and $(g(u_n), g(v_n))$ are comparable. Now, if $(g(x), g(y)) = (g(u_k), g(v_k))$ for some $k \in \mathbb{N}$ or $(g(x^*), g(y^*)) = (g(u_k), g(v_k))$ for some $k \in \mathbb{N}$, then $(g(x), g(y))$ and $(g(x^*), g(y^*))$ are comparable, say $g(x) \leq g(x^*)$ and $g(y) \geq g(y^*)$. Thus from (5) we have

$$\begin{aligned} & d(g(x), g(x^*)) \\ &= d(F(x, y), F(x^*, y^*)) \\ &\leq \alpha \max \{ d(g(x), g(x^*)), d(g(y), g(y^*)), d(F(x, y), g(x)), d(F(x^*, y^*), g(x^*)) \} \\ &= \alpha \max \{ d(g(x), g(x^*)), d(g(y), g(y^*)) \} \end{aligned} \tag{17}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} & d(g(y^*), g(y)) \\ &= d(F(y^*, x^*), F(y, x)) \\ &\leq \alpha \max \{ d(g(y), g(y^*)), d(g(x), g(x^*)), d(F(y^*, x^*), g(y^*)), d(F(y, x), g(y)) \} \\ &= \alpha \max \{ d(g(y), g(y^*)), d(g(x), g(x^*)) \}. \end{aligned} \tag{18}$$

From (17) and (18), we have

$$\max \{ d(g(x), g(x^*)), d(g(y), g(y^*)) \} \leq \alpha \max \{ d(g(y), g(y^*)), d(g(x), g(x^*)) \}.$$

Since $\alpha < 1$, we have $d(g(x), g(x^*)) = 0$ and $d(g(y), g(y^*)) = 0$. Therefore (12) is satisfied. Now, suppose that $(g(x), g(y)) \neq (g(u_n), g(v_n))$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $(g(x^*), g(y^*)) \neq (g(u_n), g(v_n))$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Since $g(x) \leq g(u_n)$ and $g(y) \geq g(v_n)$, then from (5) we have

$$\begin{aligned} & d(g(x), g(u_{n+1})) \\ &= d(F(x, y), F(u_n, v_n)) \\ &\leq \alpha \max \{ d(g(x), g(u_n)), d(g(y), g(v_n)), d(F(x, y), g(x)), d(F(u_n, v_n), g(u_n)) \} \\ &= \alpha \max \{ d(g(x), g(u_n)), d(g(y), g(v_n)), d(g(u_{n+1}), g(u_n)) \} \\ &\leq \alpha \max \{ d(g(x), g(u_n)), d(g(y), g(v_n)), d(g(u_{n+1}), g(x)) + d(g(x), g(u_n)) \} \\ &\leq \alpha \max \{ d(g(x), g(u_n)), d(g(y), g(v_n)), 2d(g(u_{n+1}), g(x)), 2d(g(x), g(u_n)) \} \\ &= \alpha \max \{ 2d(g(x), g(u_n)), d(g(y), g(v_n)), 2d(g(u_{n+1}), g(x)) \}. \end{aligned}$$

If

$$\max \{ 2d(g(x), g(u_n)), d(g(y), g(v_n)), 2d(g(u_{n+1}), g(x)) \} = 2d(g(u_{n+1}), g(x))$$

then $d(g(u_{n+1}), g(x)) \leq 2\alpha d(g(u_{n+1}), g(x))$. Since $2\alpha < 1$, we have $d(g(u_{n+1}), g(x)) = 0$. Therefore $d(g(x), g(u_n)) = 0$ and $d(g(y), g(v_n)) = 0$ and hence $(g(x), g(y)) = (g(u_n), g(v_n))$, a contradiction. Thus

$$\begin{aligned} d(g(x), g(u_{n+1})) &\leq \alpha \max \{ 2d(g(x), g(u_n)), d(g(y), g(v_n)) \} \\ &\leq 2\alpha \max \{ d(g(x), g(u_n)), d(g(y), g(v_n)) \}. \end{aligned} \tag{19}$$

Similarly, we may show that

$$d(g(v_{n+1}), g(y)) \leq 2\alpha \max \{ d(g(x), g(u_n)), d(g(y), g(v_n)) \}. \tag{20}$$

From (19) and (20), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \max \{ d(g(x), g(u_{n+1})), d(g(v_{n+1}), g(y)) \} \\ &\leq 2\alpha \max \{ d(g(v_n), g(y)), d(g(u_n), g(x)), d(g(u_{n+1})) \}. \end{aligned} \tag{21}$$

By repeating (21) n -times, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \max \{ d(g(x), g(u_{n+1})), d(g(v_{n+1}), g(y)) \} \\ &\leq 2\alpha \max \{ d(g(v_n), g(y)), d(g(u_n), g(x)) \} \\ &\vdots \\ &\leq (2\alpha)^{n+1} \max \{ d(g(x), g(u_0)), d(g(v_0), g(y)) \}. \end{aligned}$$

Letting $n \rightarrow +\infty$ in the above inequalities, we get that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \max \{ d(g(x), g(u_{n+1})), d(g(v_{n+1}), g(y)) \} = 0.$$

Hence

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d(g(x), g(u_{n+1})) = 0 \tag{22}$$

and

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d(g(y), g(v_{n+1})) = 0. \tag{23}$$

Similarly, we may show that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d(g(x), g(u_{n+1})) = 0 \tag{24}$$

and

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d(g(y), g(v_{n+1})) = 0. \tag{25}$$

By the triangle inequality, (22), (23), (24) and (25),

$$\begin{aligned} d(g(x), g(x^*)) &\leq d(g(x), g(u_{n+1})) + d(g(x^*), g(u_{n+1})) \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty, \\ d(g(y), g(y^*)) &\leq d(g(y), g(v_{n+1})) + d(g(y^*), g(v_{n+1})) \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty, \end{aligned}$$

we have $g(x) = g(x^*)$ and $g(y) = g(y^*)$. Thus we have (12). This implies that $(g(x), g(y)) = (g(x^*), g(y^*))$.

Since $g(x) = F(x, y)$ and $g(y) = F(y, x)$, by commutativity of F and g , we have

$$g(g(x)) = g(F(x, y)) = F(g(x), g(y)) \quad \text{and} \quad g(g(y)) = g(F(y, x)) = F(g(y), g(x)). \tag{26}$$

Denote $g(x) = z, g(y) = w$. Then from (26)

$$g(z) = F(z, w) \quad \text{and} \quad g(w) = F(w, z). \tag{27}$$

Thus (z, w) is a coupled coincidence point. Then from (26) with $x^* = z$ and $y^* = w$ it follows $g(z) = g(x)$ and $g(w) = g(y)$, that is,

$$g(z) = z \quad \text{and} \quad g(w) = w. \tag{28}$$

From (27) and (28),

$$z = g(z) = F(z, w) \quad \text{and} \quad w = g(w) = F(w, z).$$

Therefore, (z, w) is a coupled common fixed point of F and g . To prove the uniqueness, assume that (p, q) is another coupled common fixed point. Then by (26) we have $p = g(p) = g(z) = z$ and $q = g(q) = g(w) = w$. □

Corollary 2.2 *In addition to the hypotheses of Corollary 2.1, suppose that $L = 0, \alpha < \frac{1}{2}$, and for every $(x, y), (y^*, x^*) \in X \times X$, there exists $(u, v) \in X \times X$ such that $u \leq F(u, v), v \geq F(v, u)$,*

and $(F(u, v), F(v, u))$ is comparable to $(F(x, y), F(y, x))$ and $(F(x^*, y^*), F(y^*, x^*))$. Then F has a unique coupled fixed point, that is, there exist a unique $(x, y) \in X \times X$ such that

$$x = F(x, y) \quad \text{and} \quad y = F(y, x).$$

Proof Follows from Theorem 2.3 by taking $g = I$, the identity mapping. □

Theorem 2.4 *In addition to the hypotheses of Theorem 2.1, if gx_0 and gy_0 are comparable and $L = 0$, then F and g have a coupled coincidence point (x, y) such that $gx = F(x, y) = F(y, x) = gy$.*

Proof Follow the proof of Theorem 2.1 step by step until constructing two sequences $\{x_n\}$ and $\{y_n\}$ in X such that $gx_n \rightarrow gx$ and $gy_n \rightarrow gy$, where (x, y) is a coincidence point of F and g . Suppose $gx_0 \leq gy_0$, then it is an easy matter to show that

$$gx_n \leq gy_n \quad \text{and} \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}.$$

Thus, by (5) we have

$$\begin{aligned} d(gx_n, gy_n) &= d(F(x_{n-1}, y_{n-1}), F(y_{n-1}, x_{n-1})) \\ &\leq \alpha \max \{ d(g(x_{n-1}), g(y_{n-1})), d(F(x_{n-1}, y_{n-1}), g(x_{n-1})), d(F(y_{n-1}, x_{n-1}), g(y_{n-1})) \} \\ &= \alpha \max \{ d(g(x_{n-1}), g(y_{n-1})), d(g(x_n), g(x_{n-1})), d(g(y_n), g(y_{n-1})) \}. \end{aligned}$$

On taking the limit as $n \rightarrow +\infty$, we get $d(gx, gy) = 0$. Hence

$$F(x, y) = gx = gy = F(y, x).$$

A similar argument can be used if $gy_0 \leq gx_0$. □

Corollary 2.3 *In addition to the hypotheses of Corollary 2.1, if x_0 and y_0 are comparable and $L = 0$, then F has a coupled fixed point of the form (x, x) .*

Proof Follows from Theorem 2.4 by taking $g = I$, the identity mapping. □

Now, we introduce the following example to support our results.

Example 2.1 Let $X = [0, 1]$. Then (X, \leq) is a partially ordered set with the natural ordering of real numbers. Define the metric d on X by

$$d(x, y) = \begin{cases} \max\{x, y\} & \text{if } x \neq y; \\ 0 & \text{if } x = y. \end{cases}$$

Define $g : X \rightarrow X$ by $g(x) = x^2$ and $F : X \times X \rightarrow X$ by

$$F(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{3(x^2 - y^2)}{4}, & x > y; \\ 0, & x \leq y. \end{cases}$$

Then

- (1) $g(X)$ is a complete subset of X .
- (2) $F(X \times X) \subseteq g(X)$.
- (3) X satisfies (i) and (ii) of Theorem 2.1.
- (4) F has the mixed g -monotone property.
- (5) For any $L \in [0, +\infty)$, F and g satisfy that

$$\begin{aligned} & d(F(x, y), F(u, v)) \\ & \leq \frac{3}{4} \max\{d(g(x), g(u)), d(g(y), g(v)), d(F(x, y), g(x)), d(F(u, v), g(u))\} \\ & \quad + L \min\{d(F(x, y), g(u)), d(F(u, v), g(x))\} \end{aligned}$$

for all $g(x) \leq g(u)$ and $g(y) \geq g(v)$ holds for all $x, y, u, v \in X$ with $g(x) \leq g(u)$ and $g(y) \geq g(v)$.

Thus, by Theorem 2.1, F has a coupled fixed point. Moreover, $(0, 0)$ is a coupled coincidence point of F .

Proof The proof of (1)-(4) is clear. We divide the proof of (5) into the following cases.

Case 1: If $g(x) \leq g(y)$ and $g(u) \leq g(v)$, then $x \leq y$ and $u \leq v$. Hence

$$\begin{aligned} & d(F(x, y), F(u, v)) = d(0, 0) = 0 \\ & \leq \frac{3}{4} \max\{d(g(x), g(u)), d(g(y), g(v)), d(F(x, y), g(x)), d(F(u, v), g(u))\} \\ & \quad + L \min\{d(F(x, y), g(u)), d(F(u, v), g(x))\}. \end{aligned}$$

Case 2: If $g(x) \leq g(y)$ and $g(u) > g(v)$, then $x \leq y$ and $u > v$. Hence

$$\begin{aligned} & d(F(x, y), F(u, v)) = d\left(0, \frac{3(u^2 - v^2)}{4}\right) \\ & = \frac{3}{4}(u^2 - v^2) \\ & \leq \frac{3}{4}u^2 \\ & = \frac{3}{4} \max\left\{\frac{3}{4}(u^2 - v^2), u^2\right\} \\ & = \frac{3}{4} \max\{F(u, v), g(u)\} \\ & = \frac{3}{4}d(F(u, v), g(u)) \\ & \leq \frac{3}{4} \max\{d(g(x), g(u)), d(g(y), g(v)), d(F(x, y), g(x)), d(F(u, v), g(u))\} \\ & \quad + L \min\{d(F(x, y), g(u)), d(F(u, v), g(x))\}. \end{aligned}$$

Case 3: If $g(x) > g(y)$ and $g(u) \leq g(v)$, then $x > y$ and $u \leq v$. Hence $v \leq y < x \leq u \leq v$. Therefore $v < v$, which is impossible.

Case 4: If $g(x) > g(y)$ and $g(u) > g(v)$, then $x > y$ and $u > v$. Thus $v \leq y < x \leq u$.

Subcase I: $x = u$ and $y = v$. Here, we have

$$\begin{aligned} d(F(x, y), F(u, v)) &= d(0, 0) = 0 \\ &\leq \frac{3}{4} \max \{d(g(x), g(u)), d(g(y), g(v)), d(F(x, y), g(x)), d(F(u, v), g(u))\} \\ &\quad + L \min \{d(F(x, y), g(u)), d(F(u, v), g(x))\}. \end{aligned}$$

Subcase II: $x \neq u$ or $y \neq v$. Here, we have $u^2 - v^2 > x^2 - y^2$. Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} d(F(x, y), F(u, v)) &= d\left(\frac{3(x^2 - y^2)}{4}, \frac{3(u^2 - v^2)}{4}\right) \\ &= \frac{3}{4}(u^2 - v^2) \\ &\leq \frac{3}{4}u^2 \\ &= \frac{3}{4} \max \left\{ \frac{3}{4}(u^2 - v^2), u^2 \right\} \\ &= \frac{3}{4} \max \{F(u, v), g(u)\} \\ &= \frac{3}{4} d(F(u, v), g(u)) \\ &\leq \frac{3}{4} \max \{d(g(x), g(u)), d(g(y), g(v)), d(F(x, y), g(x)), d(F(u, v), g(u))\} \\ &\quad + L \min \{d(F(x, y), g(u)), d(F(u, v), g(x))\}. \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

Note that the mappings F and g satisfy all the hypotheses of Theorem 2.1 for $\alpha = \frac{3}{4}$ and any $L \geq 0$. Thus F and g have a coupled coincidence point. Here $(0, 0)$ is a coupled coincidence point of F and g .

Remarks

- (1) Theorem 1.1 is a special case of Corollary 2.1.
- (2) Theorem 1.2 is a special case of Corollary 2.1.
- (3) Theorem 1.3 is a special case of Theorem 2.1.
- (4) Theorem 1.4 is a special case of Theorem 2.2.

Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

Authors' contributions

All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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