Research Article

A Common Fixed Point Theorem for Nonlinear Quasi-Contractive Mappings on $b$-Metric Spaces with Application in Integral Equations

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Received 12 June 2020; Revised 4 September 2020; Accepted 14 September 2020; Published 29 September 2020

1. Introduction

In 1974, Ćirić presented the first fixed point result for quasi-contractive mappings. This Ćirić’s theorem is one of the most general results with linear comparison function in classical metrical fixed point theory (see [1, 2]). The existence and uniqueness of fixed point for mappings defined on metric spaces, which satisfies a quasi-contractive inequality with a nonlinear comparison function, were considered by Danes [3], Ivanov [4], Aranđelović et al. [5], and Bessenyei [6]. Alshehri et al. [7] proved a fixed point theorem for quasi-contractive mappings, defined by linear quasi-contractive conditions on b-metric spaces. Common fixed point generalizations of Ćirić result was obtained by Das and Naik [8], with linear comparison functions and by Di Bari and Vetro [9], with a nonlinear comparison function.

The notion of symmetric spaces, which is the oldest and one of the most important generalizations of metric spaces, was introduced by Fréchet [10]. He used the name E-space for a symmetric space. In the last 50 years, many authors (see [11–16]) called them semimetric (in German halb-metrischer) spaces. Now, the term symmetric space is usual. After 1955, the term semimetric space is widely used to denote a symmetric space in which the closure operator is idempotent, which started the papers of Heath, Brown, Mc Auley, Jones, and Burke (see [17, 18]). Fixed point investigation was started by Cicchese [19] and Jachymski et al. [18] on semimetric spaces and by Hicks and Rhoades [20] on symmetric spaces.

In [10], Fréchet also considered the class of E-spaces with regular écart which include the class of $b$-metric spaces. Important examples of $b$-metric spaces are quasi-normed spaces introduced by Bourgin [21] and Hyers [22] and spaces of homogeneous type which have many applications in the theory of analytic functions (see Coifman and Weiss [23]). First, fixed point results on $b$-metric spaces were presented by Bakhtin [24] and Czerwik [25].
In this paper, we present a common fixed point result for a pair of mappings defined on a \( b \)-metric space, which satisfies a quasi-contractive inequality with a nonlinear comparison function.

2. Symmetric Spaces and \( b \)-Metric Spaces

The ordered pair \( (\Delta, \mu) \), where \( \Delta \) is a nonempty set and \( \mu : \Delta^2 \to [0,\infty) \), is a symmetric space, if and only if it satisfies:

(W1) \( \mu(i, k) = 0 \) if and only if \( i = k \)

(W2) \( \mu(i, k) = \mu(k, i) \) for any \( i, k \in \Delta \)

The difference between symmetric spaces and more convenient metric spaces is in the absence of triangle inequality, but many notions in symmetric spaces are defined similar to those in metric spaces. For instance, in symmetric space \( (\Delta, \mu) \), the limit point of a sequence \( (i_n) \) is defined by

\[
\lim \mu(i_n, i) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \lim_{n \to \infty} i_n = i. \tag{1}
\]

Also, we say that a sequence \( (i_n) \subseteq \Delta \) is a Cauchy sequence, if for any given \( \varepsilon > 0 \), there exists a positive integer \( n_0 \) such that \( \mu(i_m, i_n) < \varepsilon \) for every \( m, n \geq n_0 \). If each Cauchy sequence in symmetric space \( (\Delta, \mu) \) is convergent, then we say that \( (\Delta, \mu) \) is a complete symmetric space.

By

\[
diam(A) = \sup_{x, y \in A} \mu(x, y), \tag{2}
\]

we indicate the diameter of the set \( A \).

Let \( (\Delta, \mu) \) be a symmetric space. We can introduce the topology \( \tau_d \) by defining the family of all closed sets as follows: a set \( A \subseteq \Delta \) is closed if and only if for each \( i \in \Delta, \mu(i, A) = 0 \) implies \( i \in A \), where

\[
\mu(i, A) = \inf \{ \mu(i, a) : a \in A \}. \tag{3}
\]

The convergence of a sequence \( (i_n) \) in the topology \( \tau_d \) need not imply \( \mu(i_n, i) \to 0 \), but the converse is true.

Let \( (\Delta, \mu) \) be a symmetric space, \( (i_n), (\kappa_n), (z_n) \subseteq \Delta \) and \( i, k \in \Delta \). We considered the following seven properties as partial replacements for the triangle inequality:

(W3) \( \lim \mu(i_n, i) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \lim \mu(i_n, k) = 0 \Rightarrow i = k \)

(W4) \( \lim \mu(i_n, i) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \lim \mu(i_n, \kappa_n) = 0 \Rightarrow \lim \mu(i_n, \kappa_n) = 0 \)

(HE) \( \lim \mu(i_n, i) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \lim \mu(\kappa_n, \kappa_n) = 0 \Rightarrow \lim \mu(i_n, \kappa_n) = 0 \)

(CC) \( \lim \mu(i_n, \kappa_n) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \lim \mu(\kappa_n, \kappa_n) = 0 \Rightarrow \lim \mu(i_n, \kappa_n) = 0 \)

(JMS) \( \lim \mu(i_n, \kappa_n) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \lim \mu(\kappa_n, \kappa_n) = 0 \Rightarrow \lim \mu(i_n, \kappa_n) = 0 \)

(SC) \( \lim_{n \to \infty} \mu(i_n, k) = 0 \) implies \( \lim_{n \to \infty} \mu(i_n, k) = \mu(i, k) \)

The property (W3) has been introduced by Fréchet [10]; (W4), (HE), and (W) by Pitcher and Chittenden [14]; (CC) by Sims [15]; (JMS) by Jachymski et al. [18]; and (SC) by Arandelović and Kečkić [17]. Note that \( (W) \Rightarrow (W4) \Rightarrow (W3), (W) \Rightarrow (JMS), (W) \Rightarrow (HE), (CC) \Rightarrow (W3), \) and \( (CC) \Rightarrow (SC) \) (see [17, 26]).

In [26], the authors give examples for the following relationships: \( (W3) \Rightarrow (W4), (W4) \Rightarrow (HE), (W4) \Rightarrow (CC), (W3) \Rightarrow (HE), (W3) \Rightarrow (CC), (CC) \Rightarrow (W4), (HE) \Rightarrow (CC), (HE) \Rightarrow (W3), (HE) \Rightarrow (W4), \) and \( (CC) \Rightarrow (HE). \) The fact that \( (W) \Rightarrow (CC) \) has been proved in [27].

Definition 1. Let \( \Delta \) be a nonempty set, \( \mu : \Delta \times \Delta \to [0,\infty) \). \( (\Delta, \mu) \) is said to be a \( b \)-metric space if there exists \( s \in [0,\infty) \) such that

1. \( \mu(i, k) = 0 \) if and only if \( i = k \)
2. \( \mu(i, k) = \mu(k, i) \) for any \( i, k \in \Delta \)
3. \( \mu(i, z) \leq s[\mu(i, k) + \mu(k, z)] \) for all \( i, k, z \in \Delta \).

Any \( s \in [0,\infty) \) which satisfies inequality (3) of Definition 1 for all \( i, k, z \in \Delta \), where \( (\Delta, \mu) \) is a \( b \)-metric space, is said to be the \( b \) constant of space \( (\Delta, \mu) \). It is clear that if \( s = 1 \), then \( (\Delta, \mu) \) is a metric space.

Lemma 2. Let \( (\Delta, \mu) \) be a \( b \)-metric space with \( b \) constant \( s \). Then, \( s \geq 1 \).

Proof. Let \( i, k \in \Delta \). Then, \( \mu(i, k) \leq s[\mu(i, k) + \mu(k, k)] = s\mu(i, k) \), which implies that \( s \geq 1 \).

In [17], the following result was proved.

Lemma 3 (see [17]). Let \( (\Delta, \mu) \) be a \( b \)-metric space. Then, \( (\Delta, \mu) \) is a symmetric space which satisfies the properties \( (W3), (W4), (HE), (W), \) and \( (JMS) \).

3. Comparison Functions

Let \( \chi : [0,\infty) \to [0,\infty) \) be a function such that \( \chi(i) = 0 \) if and only if \( i = 0 \). Define:

1. \( \chi \in \mathcal{Z}_0 \) if and only if \( \chi(r) < r \) for each \( r \) such that \( r > 0 \)
2. \( \chi \in \mathcal{Z}_1 \) if and only if \( \lim_{r \to r} \chi(r) = \chi(r) \) for each \( r \) such that \( r > 0 \)
3. \( \chi \in \mathcal{Z}_2 \) if and only if \( \lim_{r \to r} \chi(r) = \chi(r) \) for any \( r > 0 \)
4. \( \chi \in \mathcal{Z}_3 \) if and only if \( \lim_{r \to r} \chi(r) < r \) for any \( r > 0 \)
5. \( \chi \in \mathcal{Z}_4 \) if and only if \( \lim_{r \to r} \chi(r) < r \) for all \( r > 0 \)
6. \( \chi \in \mathcal{Z}_5 \) if and only if \( \lim_{r \to r} (1 - \chi(r)) = \infty \)
7. \( \chi \in \mathcal{Z}_6 \) if and only if \( I - \chi : [0,\infty) \to [0,\infty) \) is a strictly increasing surjection
8. \( \chi \in \mathcal{Z}_7 \) if and only if \( \{ i : (I - \chi)(i) < r \} \) is bounded for every \( r > 0 \)
9. \( \chi \in \mathcal{Z}_8 \) if and only if \( \chi \) is monotone nondecreasing

If \( \chi \in \bigcap_{\nu=0}^{\tau} \mathcal{Z}_\nu \), then we say that \( \chi \) is a comparison function.
If $\chi \in \mathcal{E}_1$, then $\chi$ is continuous from the right on $(0, \infty)$.
If $\chi \in \mathcal{E}_2$, then $\chi$ is upper semicontinuous on $(0, \infty)$.

The class of $\mathcal{E}_0 \cap \mathcal{E}_1 \cap \mathcal{E}_2 \cap \mathcal{E}_3$ has been applied in the theory of nonlinear quasi-contractions by Danes [18], $\mathcal{E}_1 \cap \mathcal{E}_2 \cap \mathcal{E}_3 \cap \mathcal{E}_4$ by Ivanov [4], $\mathcal{E}_0 \cap \mathcal{E}_1 \cap \mathcal{E}_2 \cap \mathcal{E}_3$ by Arandelović et al. [5] and Di Bari and Vetro [9], $\mathcal{E}_0 \cap \mathcal{E}_1 \cap \mathcal{E}_2$ by Arandelović et al. [5], and the class of $\mathcal{E}_0 \cap \mathcal{E}_2 \cap \mathcal{E}_3 \cap \mathcal{E}_4$ by Besenyei [6].

Note that $\mathcal{E}_1 \subseteq \mathcal{E}_2$, $(\mathcal{E}_1 \cap \mathcal{E}_2) \subseteq (\mathcal{E}_2 \cap \mathcal{E}_3)$, and $(\mathcal{E}_2 \cap \mathcal{E}_3) \subseteq (\mathcal{E}_1 \cap \mathcal{E}_2)$, some further inclusion between different classes of comparison functions will be presented in the next statements.

**Proposition 4.** If $\chi \in \mathcal{E}_1 \cap \mathcal{E}_2$, then $\chi \in \mathcal{E}_3$.

**Proof.** For any $r > 0$, from $\lim_{t \to r} \chi(x(t)) < r$, we get that $\lim_{t \to r} \chi(x(t)) < r$, because $\chi$ is monotone nondecreasing. So, we obtain that $\lim_{t \to r} \chi(x(t)) < r$, for every $r > 0$. ☐

**Proposition 5.** $\mathcal{E}_5 = \mathcal{E}_7$.

**Proof.** Let $\chi \in \mathcal{E}_5$. If there exists $r > 0$ such that $\{t : t - \chi(t) < r\}$ is unbounded; then, for every $M > 0$, there exists $t > 0$ such that $t - \chi(t) < r$. So,

$$\lim_{t \to r} \chi(x(t)) < r < \infty, \tag{4}$$

which is a contradiction with $\chi \in \mathcal{E}_5$.

Let $\chi \in \mathcal{E}_7$. Suppose that there exists an increasing sequence $(t_n) \subseteq (0, \infty)$ such that $\lim_{n \to \infty} t_n = \infty$ and $R > 0$ such that $(t_n - \chi(t_n)) < R$, for each $n$. Hence, $(t_n) \subseteq \{t : t - \chi(t) < R\}$. So, $\{t : t - \chi(t) < R\}$ is unbounded which implies that $\chi \in \mathcal{E}_5$.

**Proposition 6.** If $\chi \in \mathcal{E}_6$, then $\chi \in \mathcal{E}_5$.

**Proof.** Let $\chi \in \mathcal{E}_6$. Suppose that there exists a strictly increasing sequence $(t_n) \subseteq (0, \infty)$ such that $\lim_{n \to \infty} t_n = \infty$ and $R > 0$ such that $(t_n - \chi(t_n)) < R$, for each positive integer $n$. So, for any $t > 0$, we have $t - \chi(t) < R$, because there exists a sequence $(t_n)$ such that $t < t_n$, which implies that $\chi$ is not a surjection. Hence, $\lim_{t \to r} (t - \chi(t)) = \infty$. ☐

Two following two lemmas have been proved in [5].

**Lemma 7.** Let $\chi \in \mathcal{E}_0 \cap \mathcal{E}_1 \cap \mathcal{E}_2 \cap \mathcal{E}_3$. Then, there exists $\Omega \in \mathcal{E}_2 \cap \mathcal{E}_3 \cap \mathcal{E}_4 \cap \mathcal{E}_5$ such that

$$\chi(t) \leq \Omega(t) < t, \tag{5}$$

for each $t > 0$.

**Lemma 8.** Let $\chi_1, \ldots, \chi_n \in \mathcal{E}_0 \cap \mathcal{E}_1 \cap \mathcal{E}_2 \cap \mathcal{E}_3 \cap \mathcal{E}_4$. Then, there exists $\Omega \in \mathcal{E}_0 \cap \mathcal{E}_2 \cap \mathcal{E}_3 \cap \mathcal{E}_4 \cap \mathcal{E}_5$ such that

$$\chi_k(t) \leq \Omega(t) < t, \tag{6}$$

for each $1 \leq k \leq n$ and $t > 0$.

**4. Main Results**

First, recall some standard terminology and notations from the fixed point theory.

Let $A$ be a nonempty set, and let $Y : A \to A$ be an arbitrary mapping.

Let $A$ and $\Lambda$ be nonempty sets, $Y, \Gamma : A \to \Lambda$, and $Y(\Lambda) \subseteq \Gamma(\Lambda)$. Choose a point $t_0 \in A$ such that $Y(t_0) = \Gamma(t_0)$. Continuing this process, having $t_n \in \Lambda$, we obtain $t_{n+1} \in \Lambda$ such that $Y(t_n) = \Gamma(t_{n+1})$. $Y(t_n)$ is called a Jungck sequence with an initial point $t_0$. Note that a Jungck sequence might not be determined by its initial point $t_0$.

Let $A$ be a nonempty set and $Y, \Gamma : A \to A$. $Y$ and $\Gamma$ are called weakly compatible if they commute at their coincidence points.

**Lemma 9** (see [28]). Let $A$ be a nonempty set and let $Y, \Gamma : A \to A$ be weakly compatible self mappings. If $A$ and $\Gamma$ have a unique point of coincidence $\lambda = Y(\lambda) = \Gamma(\lambda)$, then $\lambda$ is the unique common fixed point of $Y$ and $\Gamma$.

Now, we present our main result. Before stating the result, we make a convention to abbreviate $Y(\lambda)$ and $\Gamma(\lambda)$ in order to avoid too much parenthesis.

**Theorem 10.** Let $(\Lambda, \mu)$ be a $b$-metric space with $b$ constant $s$ and let $Y, \Gamma : \Lambda \to \Lambda$ be two mappings. Suppose that the range of $\Gamma$ contains the range of $Y$ and that $\Gamma(\Lambda)$ is a complete subspace of $\Lambda$. If there exist $\chi_1, \chi_2, \chi_3, \chi_4 : [0, \infty) \to [0, \infty)$ such that

$$s \cdot \chi_1, s \cdot \chi_2, s \cdot \chi_3, s \cdot \chi_4, s \cdot \chi_5 \in \mathcal{E}_0 \cap \mathcal{E}_2 \cap \mathcal{E}_3$$

and

$$\mu(Y(1), Y(\kappa)) \leq \max \{\chi_1(\mu(\Gamma(1), Y(1))), \chi_2(\mu(\Gamma(1), Y(1))), \chi_3(\mu(\Gamma(1), Y(1))), \chi_4(\mu(\Gamma(1), Y(1))), \chi_5(\mu(\Gamma(1), Y(1)))\}, \tag{7}$$

for any $\kappa, \kappa \in \Lambda$, then there exists $z \in \Lambda$ which is the limit of every Jungck sequence defined by $Y$ and $\Gamma$. Further, $z$ is the unique point of coincidence of $Y$ and $\Gamma$. Moreover, if $\Delta = \Lambda$ and $Y, \Gamma$ are weakly compatible, then $z$ is the unique common fixed point for $Y$ and $\Gamma$.

**Proof.** We shall, first, reduce the statement to the case $\chi_1 = \cdots = \chi_5$ and $s \cdot \chi_i \in \mathcal{E}_0 \cap \mathcal{E}_2 \cap \mathcal{E}_3 \cap \mathcal{E}_5$. Indeed, from Lemma 7, it follows that there exist functions $\chi_5^* : [0, \infty) \to [0, \infty)$ such that $s \cdot \chi_5^* \in \mathcal{E}_0 \cap \mathcal{E}_2 \cap \mathcal{E}_3 \cap \mathcal{E}_5$ and

$$\chi_k(t) \leq \chi_k^*(t) < t, \tag{7}$$

for each $t > 0$ and for all $1 \leq k \leq 5$, whereas from Lemma 8, it follows that there exists a real function $\chi : [0, \infty) \to [0, \infty)$ such that $s \cdot \chi \in \mathcal{E}_0 \cap \mathcal{E}_2 \cap \mathcal{E}_3 \cap \mathcal{E}_5$ and

$$\chi_k^*(t) \leq \chi(t) < \frac{t}{s} \cdot (1 \leq k \leq 5) \text{ for each } t > 0, \tag{7}$$

which implies
\[ \mu(Y_t, Y_k) \leq \max \{ \chi(\mu(\Gamma_i, \Gamma_k)), \chi(\mu(\Gamma_j, Y_t)), \chi(\mu(\Gamma_j, Y_k)), \chi(\mu(\Gamma_k, Y_t)), \chi(\mu(\Gamma_k, Y_k)) \} \cdot (\mu(\Gamma_k, Y_k), \chi(\mu(\Gamma_j, Y_t)), \chi(\mu(\Gamma_j, Y_k))) \].

(11)

Thus, we can assume that \( \chi_i = \chi \) for all \( 1 \leq j \leq 5 \) and \( s \cdot \chi \in \mathbb{E}_0 \cap \mathbb{E}_1 \cap \mathbb{E}_2 \cap \mathbb{E}_3 \).

Let \( t_\infty \in \Delta \) be arbitrary and let \( (t_n) \) be an arbitrary sequence such that \( Y(t_n) \) is a Jungck sequence with an initial point \( t_0 \).

Let \( d_0 = \mu(\Gamma_{t_0}, Y_{t_0}) \). We will prove that there exists a real number \( r_0 \) such that:

\[ r_0 - s \cdot \chi(r_0) \leq d_0 \quad \text{and} \quad r - s \cdot \chi(r) > d_0 \quad \text{for} \quad r > r_0. \]

(12)

Consider the set \( D = \{ r \mid t - s \cdot \chi(t) = d_0 \forall t > r \} \) which is nonempty, since \( r - \chi(r) \to \infty \) as \( r \to \infty \). Also, if \( q \in D \) and \( p > q \) imply \( p \in D \), and hence, \( D \) is an unbounded interval. Set \( r_0 = \inf D \). For each positive integer \( n \), there is \( r_n \notin D \) such that \( r_0 < r_n < r_0 - 1/n \), and therefore, there is \( r_0 > t_n > r_0 - 1/n \) such that \( r_n - s \cdot \chi(t_n) < d_0 \). Since \( \chi \) is nondecreasing, we have \( s \cdot \chi(t_n) \leq s \cdot \chi(r_0) \) which implies that \( t_n = s \cdot \chi(r_0) \). Taking the limit as \( n \to \infty \), we get \( r_0 - s \cdot \chi(r_0) = d_0 \).

For any \( j \geq 0 \), define \( \delta(t_j) = \{ Y_{t_k} \mid k = j + 1, j + 2, \ldots, j + n \} \) and \( \delta(t_j) = \{ Y_{t_k} \mid k = j + 1, j + 2, \ldots, j + n \} \). Also, let \( \text{diam}(A) \) denote the diameter of \( A \).

Next, we prove that

\[ \delta(\delta(t_k)) \leq \chi(\delta(\delta(t_{k-1}))) \]

(13)

for all positive integer \( k, n \).

Since \( \chi \) is nondecreasing, it commutes with max, and for all \( k \leq i, j \leq k + n \), we have

\[ \mu(Y_{t_i}, Y_{t_j}) \leq \chi(\max \{ \mu(\Gamma_{t_i}, \Gamma_{t_j}), \mu(\Gamma_{t_i}, \mu(\Gamma_{t_j}, Y_{t_i}), \mu(\Gamma_{t_j}, Y_{t_j}), \mu(\Gamma_{t_j}, Y_{t_j}) \}) \]

\[ = \chi(\max \{ \mu(Y_{t_{i-1}}, Y_{t_{j-1}}), \mu(Y_{t_{i-1}}, Y_{t_{j-1}}), \mu(Y_{t_{j-1}}, Y_{t_{j-1}}), \mu(Y_{t_{j-1}}, Y_{t_{j-1}}), \mu(Y_{t_{j-1}}, Y_{t_{j-1}}) \}) \]

\[ \leq \chi(\text{diam}(\delta(t_{k-1}))). \]

(14)

By induction, from (13), we obtain that

\[ \delta(\delta(t_k)) \leq \chi(\delta(\delta(t_{k-1}))). \]

(15)

For \( 1 \leq i, j \leq n \), we have \( Y_{t_i}, Y_{t_j} \in \delta(t_{k-1}) \), and hence, by (13)

\[ \mu(Y_{t_i}, Y_{t_j}) \leq \delta(\delta(t_k)) \leq \chi(\text{diam}(\delta(t_{k-1}))) \leq \text{diam}(\delta(t_{k-1})). \]

(16)

Therefore, there is \( 1 \leq k \leq n \) such that

\[ \text{diam}(\delta(t_k)) = \mu(Y_{t_0}, Y_{t_k}) \leq s \cdot \mu(Y_{t_0}, Y_{t_1}) + \mu(Y_{t_1}, Y_{t_k}) \]

\[ \leq s \cdot d_0 + s \cdot \text{diam}(\delta(t_{k-1})). \]

(17)

Hence, we get

\[ \text{diam}(\delta(t_k)) - s \cdot \chi(\text{diam}(\delta(t_{k-1}))) \leq d_0, \]

which implies that \( \text{diam}(\delta(t_k)) \leq r_0 \), and hence

\[ \text{diam}(\delta(t_k)) = \text{sup}_{n} \text{diam}(\delta(t_n)) \leq r_0. \]

(19)

Hence, all Jungck sequences defined by \( Y \) and \( \Gamma \) are bounded.

Now, we shall prove that our Jungck sequence is a Cauchy sequence. Let \( m > n \) be positive integers. Then, \( Y_{t_m}, Y_{t_n} \in \delta(t_n) \). Using (15) (with \( l = n \)) and (19), we get

\[ \mu(Y_{t_m}, Y_{t_n}) \leq \chi(\max \{ \mu(\Gamma_{t_m}, Y_{t_n}), \mu(\Gamma_{t_n}, Y_{t_m}), \mu(\Gamma_{t_m}, Y_{t_n}), \mu(\Gamma_{t_n}, Y_{t_m}) \}) \]

\[ = \chi(\max \{ \mu(Y_{t_{n-1}}, \mu(\Gamma_{t_{n-1}}, Y_{t_n}), \mu(\Gamma_{t_{n-1}}, Y_{t_n}), \mu(\Gamma_{t_{n-1}}, Y_{t_n}), \mu(\Gamma_{t_{n-1}}, Y_{t_n}) \} \}). \]

(21)

If \( n \to \infty \), then the left-hand side in the previous inequality tends to \( \mu(\kappa, Y_Z) \), and the first, the second, and the fifth argument of max tend to \( \mu(\kappa, \kappa) = 0 \), whereas the third and the fourth tend to \( \mu(\kappa, Y_Z) \). Thus, we have

\[ \mu(\kappa, Y_Z) \leq \chi(\mu(\kappa, Y_Z)), \]

which is impossible, unless \( \mu(\kappa, Y_Z) = 0 \).

Finally, we prove that the point of coincidence is unique. Suppose that there is two points of coincidence \( \kappa \) and \( \kappa' \) obtained by \( z \) and \( z' \), i.e., \( Y_Z = \Gamma_{z} = \kappa \) and \( Y_{z'} = \Gamma_{z'} = \kappa' \).

Then, by (8) we have

\[ \mu(\kappa, \kappa') = \mu(Y_{z}, Y_{z'}) \leq \chi(\max \{ \mu(\Gamma_{z}, \Gamma_{z'}), \mu(\Gamma_{z'}, Y_{z}) \}) \]

\[ = \chi(\max \{ \mu(\kappa, \kappa'), 0, \mu(\kappa, \kappa'), \mu(\kappa', \kappa) \}) \}

\[ = \chi(\mu(\kappa, \kappa')) < \mu(\kappa, \kappa'). \]

(23)

unless \( \mu(\kappa, \kappa') = 0 \). Since every Jungck sequence converges to some point of coincidence, and the point of coincidence is unique, it follows that all Jungck sequences converge to the same limit.
Let $\Delta = \Lambda$ and let $Y$, $\Gamma$ be weakly compatible. By Lemma 3, we get that $\kappa = z$ which is the unique common fixed point of $Y$ and $\Gamma$.

The previous theorem extended earlier results for nonlinear contractions on metric spaces obtained by Danes [3], Ivanov [4], Arandelović et al. [5], and Bessenyei [6] and common fixed point results of Das and Naik [8] and Di Bari and Vetro [9]. It also generalizes the fixed point theorem of Aleksić et al. [7] which proved the fixed point theorems for quasi-contractive mappings on $b$-metric spaces, defined by linear quasi-contractive conditions.

Example 1. Let $\Delta = \Lambda = \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$ be equipped with the following $b$-metric $\mu : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$ by $\mu(i, \kappa) = |i - \kappa|^2$.

It is easy to see that $(\Delta = \Lambda, \mu)$ is a complete $b$-metric space with $s = 2$.

Define the self-maps $Y$ and $\Gamma$ by

\[
Y = \begin{pmatrix}
0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\
0 & 0 & 1 & 0
\end{pmatrix},
\Gamma = \begin{pmatrix}
0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\
0 & 0 & 3 & 1
\end{pmatrix}.
\]

We see that $\Gamma(\Delta) \supseteq Y(\Delta)$.

Define $\chi : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ by $\chi(t) = t - \sinh^{-1} t$. One can easily check that $Y$ satisfies condition (8). Indeed, we have some cases as follows:

(1) $(i, \kappa) = (0, 2)$. Then,
\[
\mu(Y, Y) = |Y_0 - Y_2|^2 = 1 - 9 - \sinh^{-1}(9) \\
\leq \chi_1(\mu(\Gamma, \Gamma)) \\
\leq \max \{ \chi_1(\mu(\Gamma, \Gamma)), \chi_2(\mu(\Gamma, Y)), \chi_3(\mu(Y, Y)) \}.
\]

(2) $(i, \kappa) = (1, 2)$. Then,
\[
\mu(Y, Y) = |Y_1 - Y_2|^2 = 1 - 9 - \sinh^{-1}(9) \\
= \chi_1(\mu(\Gamma, \Gamma)) \\
\leq \max \{ \chi_1(\mu(\Gamma, \Gamma)), \chi_2(\mu(\Gamma, Y)), \chi_3(\mu(Y, Y)) \}.
\]

(3) $(i, \kappa) = (3, 2)$. Then,
\[
\mu(Y, Y) = |Y_1 - Y_2|^2 = 1 - 4 - \sinh^{-1}(4) \\
= \chi_1(\mu(\Gamma, \Gamma)) \\
\leq \max \{ \chi_1(\mu(\Gamma, \Gamma)), \chi_2(\mu(\Gamma, Y)), \chi_3(\mu(Y, Y)) \}.
\]

Thus, all the conditions of Theorem 10 are satisfied, and hence, $Y$ and $\Gamma$ have a common fixed point. Indeed, 0 is the unique common fixed point of $Y$ and $\Gamma$.

5. Application

The existence of the solution for the following integral equation is the main purpose in this section.

\[
\sigma(t) = f \left( t, \int_0^\mu g(i, \kappa, \sigma(\rho(\kappa)))d\kappa \right),
\]

where $t \in [0, \infty)$.

We will ensure such an existence by applying Theorem 10. Let $BC[0, \infty)$ be the space of all real, bounded and continuous functions on the interval $[0, \infty)$. We endow it with the $b$-metric

\[
d(i, \kappa) = \sup \{ \|i(t) - \kappa(t)\|^p : t \in [0, \infty) \},
\]

where $p \geq 1$.

Theorem 11. Suppose that the following assumptions are satisfied:

(i) $\rho, \sigma : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ are continuous functions so that
\[
\Lambda^p = \sup \{ \|t(t)\| : t \in [0, \infty) \} < 1,
\]

(ii) The function $f : [0, \infty) \times R \rightarrow R$ is continuous so that
\[
|f(i, \sigma_1) - f(i, \sigma_2)| \leq |\sigma_1 - \sigma_2|,
\]

(iii) For all $i \in [0, \infty)$ and $\sigma_1 \in R$
\[
|g(i, \kappa, \sigma_1(\rho(\kappa))) - g(i, \kappa, \sigma_2(\rho(\kappa)))| \leq |\sigma_1(\rho(\kappa)) - \sigma_2(\rho(\kappa))|,
\]

where $g : [0, \infty)^2 \times R \rightarrow R$ is continuous.

(iv) $M = \max \{ f(i, 0) : i \in [0, \infty) \} < \infty$ and $G = \sup \{ |g(i, 0, 0)| : i \in [0, \infty) \} < \infty$.

Then, the integral equation (28) admits at least one solution in the space $(BC[0, \infty))$.

Proof. Let us consider the operator $Y : BC[0, \infty) \rightarrow BC[0, \infty)$ defined by

\[
Y(\sigma)(i) = f \left( t, \int_0^\mu g(i, \kappa, \sigma(\rho(\kappa)))d\kappa \right).
\]

In view of the given assumptions, we infer that the function $Y(\sigma)$ is continuous for arbitrarily $\sigma \in BC[0, \infty)$. Now, we show that $Y(\sigma)$ is bounded in $BC[0, \infty)$.

As
|Y(σ(i))| = \left| f\left(i, \int_0^{\rho(i)} g(i, \kappa, \sigma(\rho(\kappa)))d\kappa \right) \right| \\
\leq \left| f\left(i, \int_0^{\rho(i)} g(i, \kappa, \sigma(\rho(\kappa)))d\kappa \right) - f(i, 0) \right| + |f(i, 0)|. \tag{34}

Thus, we have

\left| f\left(i, \int_0^{\rho(i)} g(i, \kappa, \sigma(\rho(\kappa)))d\kappa \right) - f(i, 0) \right| \leq \Lambda\|\sigma\| + \Lambda G. \tag{35}

Thus, we obtain that

\left| f\left(i, \int_0^{\rho(i)} g(i, \kappa, \sigma(\rho(\kappa)))d\kappa \right) - f(i, 0) \right| \leq \Lambda\|\sigma\| + \Lambda G. \tag{36}

From the above calculations, we have

\|Y(\sigma(i))\| \leq \Lambda\|\sigma\| + \Lambda G + M. \tag{37}

Due to the above inequality, the function \(Y\) is bounded. Now, we show that \(Y\) satisfies all the conditions of Theorem 10. Let \(\sigma_1, \sigma_2\) be some elements of \(BC[0, \infty)\). Then, we have

\|Y(\sigma_1(i)) - Y(\sigma_2(i))\|^p \leq \left( \left( \int_0^{\rho(i)} |g(i, \kappa, \sigma_1(\rho(\kappa))) - g(i, \kappa, \sigma_2(\rho(\kappa)))|d\kappa \right) \right)^p \\
\leq \left( \left( \int_0^{\rho(i)} |\sigma_1(\rho(\kappa)) - \sigma_2(\rho(\kappa))|d\kappa \right) \right)^p \\
\leq \left( \left( \int_0^{\rho(i)} |\sigma_1(\rho(\kappa)) - \sigma_2(\rho(\kappa))|d\kappa \right) \right)^p \\
\leq \left( \left( \int_0^{\rho(i)} |\sigma_1(\rho(\kappa)) - \sigma_2(\rho(\kappa))|d\kappa \right) \right)^p \\
\leq \left( \left( \int_0^{\rho(i)} |\sigma_1(\rho(\kappa)) - \sigma_2(\rho(\kappa))|d\kappa \right) \right)^p \\
\leq \left( \left( \int_0^{\rho(i)} |\sigma_1(\rho(\kappa)) - \sigma_2(\rho(\kappa))|d\kappa \right) \right)^p \\
\leq \left( \left( \int_0^{\rho(i)} |\sigma_1(\rho(\kappa)) - \sigma_2(\rho(\kappa))|d\kappa \right) \right)^p \\
\leq \left( \left( \int_0^{\rho(i)} |\sigma_1(\rho(\kappa)) - \sigma_2(\rho(\kappa))|d\kappa \right) \right)^p \\
\leq \left( \left( \int_0^{\rho(i)} |\sigma_1(\rho(\kappa)) - \sigma_2(\rho(\kappa))|d\kappa \right) \right)^p \\
\leq \left( \left( \int_0^{\rho(i)} |\sigma_1(\rho(\kappa)) - \sigma_2(\rho(\kappa))|d\kappa \right) \right)^p \\
\leq \Lambda^2 \chi_1(1, \sigma_1, \sigma_2) \leq M(\sigma_1, \sigma_2). \tag{38}

Thus, using Theorem 10, we obtain that the operator \(Y\) admits a fixed point. Thus, the functional integral equation (28) admits at least one solution in \(BC[0, \infty)\).

### Data Availability

No data were used to support this study.

### Conflicts of Interest

The author declared no potential conflicts of interest with respect to the research, authorship, and/or publication of this article.

### Authors’ Contributions

All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

### Acknowledgments

The second author was supported by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development of Serbia, Grant no. 451-03-68 / 2020-14 / 200105.

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