

# Fixed point uniqueness of generalized $(\psi, \varphi)$ -weak contractions in partially ordered metric spaces under suitable constraints

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## Abstract

In this paper, by providing an example, I show that the condition which produced by Radenović and Kadelburg in [Generalized weak contractions in partially ordered metric spaces, *Comput. Math. Appl.* 60 (2010) pp. 1776-1783] is not sufficient for uniqueness of the fixed point. Furthermore, a new sufficient condition is introduced for the uniqueness of the fixed point. Some suitable examples are furnished to demonstrate the validity of the hypotheses of my results.

Keywords: Fixed Point Uniqueness, Generalized  $(\psi, \varphi)$ -Weak Contraction, Ordered Metric Spaces  
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## 1 Introduction and Preliminaries

The study of fixed point theory in the setting of a partially ordered metric space was first started in 2004 by Ran and Reurings [11] and then by Nieto and López (see [6, 7]). Many authors obtained several interesting results in ordered metric spaces, for example, see [3, 4, 5, 8, 10].

The following definitions and notations will be used in this paper.

**Definition 1.1.** [9] Let  $(X, \preceq)$  be a partially ordered set and let  $T$  and  $S$  be two self-maps on  $X$ . Then

- 1) the elements  $x, y \in X$  are comparable if  $x \preceq y$  or  $y \preceq x$  holds and we denote it by  $x \preceq \succeq y$ .
- 2) a subset  $A$  of  $X$  is said to be well ordered if any two elements of  $A$  are comparable .
- 3) the ordered metric space  $(X, \preceq, d)$  is called regular whenever if a nondecreasing sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in  $(X, \preceq)$  converges to  $x \in X$ , then  $x_n \preceq x$ , for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .
- 4)  $T$  is called nondecreasing with respect to  $\preceq$  if  $x \preceq y$  implies  $Tx \preceq Ty$  .
- 5) the mappings  $T$  and  $S$  are called weakly increasing if  $Tx \preceq STx$  and  $Sx \preceq TSx$  for all  $x \in X$ . A mapping  $T$  is called weakly increasing if  $T$  and  $T$  are weakly increasing maps which means that  $Tx \preceq T^2x$  for each  $x \in X$ .

The control functions were introduced by Đorić [1] as follows:

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**Definition 1.2.** A pair  $(\psi, \varphi)$  of self-maps on  $[0, \infty)$  is called a pair of control functions, if the following conditions are satisfied:

1.  $\psi$  is a continuous nondecreasing function and  $\psi(t) = 0$  if and only if  $t = 0$ .
2.  $\varphi$  is lower semi-continuous with  $\varphi(t) = 0$  if and only if  $t = 0$ .

So far, many authors have studied fixed point theorems which are based on control functions (see, e.g. [1, 2, 9, 12]).

Consider the following notations:

- $m(x, y) = \max \left\{ d(x, y), d(x, Tx), d(y, Sy), \frac{d(x, Sy) + d(y, Tx)}{2} \right\}$ ,
- $n(x, y) = \max \left\{ d(x, y), \frac{d(x, Tx) + d(y, Sy)}{2}, \frac{d(x, Sy) + d(y, Tx)}{2} \right\}$ ,
- $m_T(x, y) = \max \left\{ d(x, y), d(x, Tx), d(y, Ty), \frac{d(x, Ty) + d(y, Tx)}{2} \right\}$ ,
- $n_T(x, y) = \max \left\{ d(x, y), \frac{d(x, Tx) + d(y, Ty)}{2}, \frac{d(x, Ty) + d(y, Tx)}{2} \right\}$ ,

for all  $x, y \in X$ , where  $T$  and  $S$  are two self-maps on the metric space  $(X, d)$ .

In 2010, Radenović and Kadelburg [9], studied generalized weak contractions in partially ordered metric spaces and extended result of Đorić [1], Harjani and Sadarangani [2], as well as Zhang and Song [12]. They obtained the following results:

**Theorem 1.3.** [9, Theorem 3.1] Let  $(X, \preceq, d)$  be an ordered complete metric space and  $(T, S)$  be a pair of weakly increasing maps on  $X$  such that for any two comparable elements  $x, y \in X$

$$\psi(d(Tx, Sy)) \leq \psi(m(x, y)) - \phi(m(x, y)), \quad (1.1)$$

where  $(\psi, \varphi)$  is a pair of control functions.

Then  $T$  and  $S$  have a common fixed point, provided by at least one of the following cases holds:

- (i)  $T$  or  $S$  is continuous, or
- (ii)  $X$  is regular.

**Corollary 1.4.** [9, Theorem 3.3] Let  $(X, \preceq, d)$  be an ordered complete metric space and  $T : X \rightarrow X$  be a nondecreasing map such that  $x_0 \preceq Tx_0$  for some  $x_0 \in X$  and for every comparable elements  $x, y \in X$ ,

$$\psi(d(Tx, Ty)) \leq \psi(m_T(x, y)) - \phi(m_T(x, y)), \quad (1.2)$$

where  $(\psi, \varphi)$  is a pair of control functions. Then, in each of the following two cases,  $T$  has a fixed point.

- (i)  $T$  is continuous, or
- (ii)  $X$  is regular.

**Theorem 1.5.** [9, Theorem 3.4] Let  $(X, \preceq, d)$  be an ordered complete metric space and  $(T, S)$  be a weakly increasing pair of self-maps on  $X$ . Suppose that there exist a pair of control functions  $(\psi, \varphi)$  such that for any two comparable elements  $x, y \in X$ ,

$$\psi(d(Tx, Sy)) \leq \psi(n(x, y)) - \phi(n(x, y)).$$

Then in each of the following two cases the mappings  $T$  and  $S$  have at least one common fixed point:

- (i)  $T$  either  $S$  is continuous, or
- (ii)  $X$  is regular.

**Theorem 1.6.** [9, Theorem 4.3] Let all the conditions of Corollary 1.4 be fulfilled and let the following condition hold:

- (a) for arbitrary two points  $x, y \in X$  there exists  $z \in X$  which is comparable with both  $x$  and  $y$ .
- Then the fixed point of  $T$  is unique.

In the first part of this paper, with presenting an example, it is shown that Theorem 1.6 is not true as it stands. Then, it is shown that, by adding a suitable condition, the uniqueness of common fixed point can be proved.

## 2 Main Results

The following example indicates that Theorem 1.6 may fail.

**Example 2.1.** Let  $X = \{O = (0, 0), A = (2, 2), B = (0, 2), C = (2, 0)\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$  be endowed with the metric  $d$  defined by

$$d((x_1, x_2), (y_1, y_2)) = \sqrt{|x_1 - y_1|^2 + |x_2 - y_2|^2}.$$

Suppose that relation  $\preceq$  is defined on  $X$  as follows:

$$\preceq = \{(O, O), (A, A), (B, B), (C, C), (B, O), (B, A), (C, O), (C, A)\}.$$

Then  $(X, \preceq, d)$  is a regular ordered complete metric space. Suppose that  $T : X \rightarrow X$  is defined as follows:

$$T(O) = O, \quad T(A) = A, \quad T(B) = C, \quad T(C) = B.$$

Then,  $T$  is nondecreasing with respect to  $\preceq$  and  $O \preceq O = TO$ . Choosing  $\psi(t) = t$  and  $\varphi(t) = \frac{t}{a}$  for any  $t \geq 0$ , where  $a \geq 2 + \sqrt{2}$  is a real number, one can verify that, all conditions of Theorem 1.6 are satisfied. Indeed, for the points  $A$  and  $B$ , we have  $A \preceq \succeq B$  and

$$\psi(d(TA, TB)) = \psi(d(A, C)) = 2.$$

On the other hand

$$\begin{aligned} m_T(A, B) &= \max \left\{ d(A, B), d(A, A), d(B, C), \frac{d(A, C) + d(B, A)}{2} \right\} \\ &= \max \{2, 0, 2\sqrt{2}, 2\} \\ &= 2\sqrt{2}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, one has

$$\begin{aligned} \psi(m_T(A, B)) - \varphi(m_T(A, B)) &= \psi(2\sqrt{2}) - \varphi(2\sqrt{2}) \\ &= 2\sqrt{2} - \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{a} \\ &\geq 2 \quad (\text{because } a \geq 2 + \sqrt{2}). \end{aligned}$$

Consequently

$$\psi(d(TA, TB)) \leq \psi(m_T(A, B)) - \varphi(m_T(A, B)).$$

The case of points  $A$  and  $C$  is treated similarly since it is really the same as the case of points  $A$  and  $B$ . Again, for the points  $O$  and  $C$ , we have  $O \preceq \succeq C$  and

$$\psi(d(TO, TC)) = \psi(d(O, B)) = 2.$$

On the other hand we have

$$\begin{aligned} m_T(O, C) &= \max \left\{ d(O, C), d(O, O), d(C, B), \frac{d(O, B) + d(C, O)}{2} \right\} \\ &= \max \{2, 0, 2\sqrt{2}, 2\} \\ &= 2\sqrt{2}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we get

$$\begin{aligned}\psi(m_T(O, C)) - \varphi(m_T(O, C)) &= \psi(2\sqrt{2}) - \varphi(2\sqrt{2}) \\ &= 2\sqrt{2} - \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{a} \\ &\geq 2 \quad (\text{because } a \geq 2 + \sqrt{2}).\end{aligned}$$

Consequently, we have

$$\psi(d(TO, TC)) \leq \psi(m_T(O, C)) - \varphi(m_T(O, C)).$$

The case of points  $O$  and  $B$  is treated similarly since it is really the same as the case of points  $O$  and  $C$ . So, the relation (1.1) is established for any two comparable elements of  $X$ . Also, it is clear that the condition (a) is reliable. Thus, all the conditions of Theorem 1.6 be fulfilled. However,  $O$  and  $A$  are distinct fixed points of  $T$ .

Note that these two fixed points of  $T$  are incomparable; there are two points ( $B$  and  $C$ ) which are comparable to both of them, but none of them satisfies the condition  $Z \preceq TZ$ .

The preceding example shows that the condition (a) in Theorem 1.6 can not grantee the uniqueness of the fixed point and the theorem contains a gap. In the next result, by assuming an additional condition, this result can be repaired.

**Theorem 2.2.** Let  $(X, \preceq, d)$  be an ordered complete metric space and  $T : X \rightarrow X$  be a nondecreasing map such that, for every comparable elements  $x, y \in X$ ,

$$\psi(d(Tx, Ty)) \leq \psi(m_T(x, y)) - \phi(m_T(x, y)), \quad (2.1)$$

where  $(\psi, \varphi)$  is a pair of control functions. Also suppose that the following condition holds:

(b) for arbitrary non-comparable elements  $x, y \in X$  there exists  $z \in X$  which is comparable with  $x$  and  $y$  and  $z \preceq Tz$ . Then, in each of the following two cases,  $T$  has a unique fixed point.

(i)  $T$  is continuous, or

(ii)  $X$  is regular.

**Proof .** We first claim that the fixed points set of  $T$  is nonempty. Indeed, if  $X$  is a singleton set, say  $X = \{x_0\}$ , then  $x_0 = T(x_0)$  and  $x_0$  is the unique fixed point of  $T$ . So, one can suppose that  $X$  has at least two distinct elements. One can consider following two cases:

(I) any two elements of  $X$  are comparable. In this case, one of the following two state occurs:

(I<sub>1</sub>)  $x_0 \preceq T(x_0)$ , for some  $x_0 \in X$ .

In this case, it follows from Corollary 1.4, that  $T$  has a fixed point and the claim is proved.

(I<sub>2</sub>)  $T(x) \preceq x$ , for any  $x \in X$ . (Notice that any two elements of  $X$  are comparable)

We define a new order  $\ll$  on  $X$  as follows:

$$x \ll y \Leftrightarrow y \preceq x,$$

for any  $x, y \in X$ . Now, for any  $x \in X$ , we have  $x \ll Tx$ . It is easy to verify that, all the conditions of Corollary 1.4 are satisfied for  $(X, \ll, d)$ , except (maybe) the regularity of  $(X, \ll, d)$  which we do not need it here (Because, any two elements of  $X$  are comparable). So by Corollary 1.4,  $T$  has a fixed point  $z$  in  $(X, \ll, d)$ . It is clear that  $z$  is a fixed point of  $T$  in  $(X, \preceq, d)$ .

(II) there exist at least two incomparable points in  $X$ . With this assumption, our claim is proved by combining the condition (b) and Corollary 1.4.

Now let  $u$  and  $v$  be two fixed points of  $T$ . One of the following two cases can occurs:

(1)  $u \preceq \succeq v$ . In this case, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\psi(d(u, v)) &= \psi(d(Tu, Tv)) \\ &\leq \psi(m_T(u, v)) - \phi(m_T(u, v)),\end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}m_T(u, v) &= \max \left\{ d(u, v), d(u, Tu), d(v, Tv), \frac{d(u, Tv) + d(v, Tu)}{2} \right\} \\ &= \max \left\{ d(u, v), 0, 0, \frac{d(u, v) + d(v, u)}{2} \right\} \\ &= d(u, v).\end{aligned}$$

Thus, it follows that

$$\psi(d(u, v)) \leq \psi(d(u, v)) - \phi(d(u, v)),$$

which is a contradiction unless  $d(u, v) = 0$ , i.e.,  $u = v$ .

(2)  $u$  and  $v$  are not comparable. In this case by the hypothesis (b), there exists  $z \in X$  such that  $z \preceq \succeq u$  and  $z \preceq \succeq v$  and  $z \preceq Tz$ . Put  $y_n := T^n y$ , for any  $y \in X$  and  $n \geq 0$ . Since  $T$  is nondecreasing, we obtain that  $u = u_n \preceq \succeq z_n$ ,  $v = v_n \preceq \succeq z_n$  for each  $n \geq 0$ . If there exists  $n_0 \geq 0$  such that,  $z_{n_0} = u$  then  $v \preceq \succeq z_{n_0} = u$  and so from item (1),  $u = v$ . Thus, we can assume that  $z_n \neq u$ ,  $\forall n \geq 0$ . Since  $z \preceq Tz$ , proceeding as in the proof of [9, Theorem 3.1], one can conclude that  $\{z_n\}$  is a convergent sequence and

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d(z_{n-1}, z_n) = 0. \quad (2.2)$$

Now, we claim that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d(u, z_n) = 0.$$

Indeed, for any  $n \geq 1$  we have

$$u = u_n \preceq \succeq z_n.$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned}\psi(d(u, z_n)) &= \psi(d(Tu_{n-1}, Tz_{n-1})) \\ &\leq \psi(m_T(u_{n-1}, z_{n-1})) - \phi(m_T(u_{n-1}, z_{n-1})) \\ &\leq \psi(m_T(u, z_{n-1})) - \phi(m_T(u, z_{n-1})) \\ &< \psi(m_T(u, z_{n-1})) \text{ (because } m_T(u, z_{n-1}) \neq 0)\end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}m_T(u, z_{n-1}) &= \max \left\{ d(u, z_{n-1}), d(u, Tu), d(z_{n-1}, Tz_{n-1}), \frac{d(u, Tz_{n-1}) + d(z_{n-1}, Tu)}{2} \right\} \\ &= \max \left\{ d(u, z_{n-1}), d(z_{n-1}, z_n), \frac{d(u, z_n) + d(z_{n-1}, u)}{2} \right\}.\end{aligned}$$

Using the fact that  $\psi$  is a nondecreasing function, it follows that

$$d(u, z_n) < \max \left\{ d(u, z_{n-1}), d(z_{n-1}, z_n), \frac{d(u, z_n) + d(z_{n-1}, u)}{2} \right\}. \quad (2.3)$$

Now, one can consider the following two cases:

(i<sub>1</sub>) there exists a sequence  $\{n_k\}_{k \geq 0}$  of distinct positive integers that

$$d(u, z_{n_k-1}) \leq d(z_{n_k-1}, z_{n_k}).$$

In this case, (2.2) implies that

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} d(u, z_{n_k-1}) = 0,$$

and using the fact that  $\{z_n\}$  is a convergent sequence, one can conclude that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d(u, z_n) = 0.$$

(i<sub>2</sub>) there exists  $n_0 \geq 1$  such that

$$d(u, z_n) > d(z_{n-1}, z_n),$$

for any  $n \geq n_0$ . In this case, (2.2) implies that, for any  $n \geq n_0$

$$\begin{aligned} d(u, z_n) &< \max \left\{ d(u, z_{n-1}), d(u, z_n), \frac{d(u, z_n) + d(z_{n-1}, u)}{2} \right\} \\ &= \max \{ d(u, z_{n-1}), d(u, z_n) \}. \end{aligned}$$

So, one can conclude that

$$d(u, z_n) < d(u, z_{n-1}),$$

for any  $n \geq n_0$ . Thus, for any  $n$ , the sequence  $\{d(u, z_n)\}_{n \geq n_0}$  is non-increasing and bounded below. So, it has a limit  $l \geq 0$ . In addition, we have:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} m_T(u, z_{n-1}) = l.$$

Passing to (upper)limit in the relation

$$\psi(d(u, z_n)) \leq \psi(m_T(u, z_{n-1})) - \phi(m_T(u, z_{n-1})),$$

one concludes that

$$\psi(l) \leq \psi(l) - \phi(l).$$

Which is a contradiction unless  $l = 0$ . So, in any case, we proved that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d(u, z_n) = 0.$$

In the same way, one can show that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d(v, z_n) = 0.$$

Finally, for any  $n \geq 0$ , we have

$$0 \leq d(u, v) \leq d(u, z_n) + d(v, z_n).$$

Letting  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , we obtain that  $d(u, v) = 0$ , i.e.,  $u = v$ .

Hence, in any case, the fixed point of  $T$  is unique.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.3.** Assume that all the conditions of Corollary 1.4 are satisfied. Also suppose that the following condition holds:

(c) for arbitrary non-comparable two fixed points  $x, y \in X$  there exists  $z \in X$  which is comparable with  $x$  and  $y$ , and also  $z \preceq Tz$ .

Then  $T$  has a unique fixed point.

**Proof .** By Corollary 1.4,  $T$  has at least a fixed point. Remainder of proof is similar to Theorem 2.2.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.4.** Assume that all the conditions of Corollary 1.4 are satisfied. Then  $T$  has a unique fixed point if and only if the set of all fixed points of  $T$  is well ordered.

**Proof .** By Corollary 1.4,  $T$  has at least a fixed point. Now, if the fixed point of  $T$  is unique then the set of all fixed points of  $T$  is a singleton and so is well ordered.

Conversely, suppose that the set of all fixed points of  $T$  is well ordered, and  $u$  and  $v$  are two distinct fixed point of  $T$ . Then  $u \preceq v$ . Similarly as in the proof of item (1) in Theorem 2.2, it can be shown that  $u = v$ .  $\square$

**Remark 2.5.** If  $m_T(x, y)$  is replaced by  $n_T(x, y)$  in the Theorem 2.3, then we can replace the condition (b) by the condition (a), i.e., we have the following theorem:

**Theorem 2.6.** Let  $(X, \preceq, d)$  be an ordered complete metric space and  $T : X \rightarrow X$  be a nondecreasing map such that  $x_0 \preceq Tx_0$ , for some  $x_0 \in X$  and for any two comparable elements  $x, y \in X$ ,

$$\psi(d(Tx, Ty)) \leq \psi(n_T(x, y)) - \phi(n_T(x, y)), \quad (2.4)$$

where  $(\psi, \varphi)$  is a pair of control functions. Furthermore, let the condition (a) of Theorem 1.6 hold. If  $T$  is continuous or  $X$  is regular, then  $T$  has a unique fixed point.

**Proof .** Firstly, similar to the proof of Corollary 1.4, One can conclude that  $T$  has a fixed point. Now, let  $u$  and  $v$  be two fixed points of  $T$ . One can consider the following two cases:

(1)  $u \preceq v$ .

In this case, similarly as in the proof of item (1) in Theorem 2.2, it can be shown that  $u = v$ .

(2)  $u$  and  $v$  are not comparable.

In this case by the hypothesis (a) of Theorem 1.6, there exist  $z \in X$  such that  $z \preceq u$  and  $z \preceq v$ .

By using the employed notations in the proof of Theorem 2.2, (without lose of generality) one can suppose that  $z_n \neq u$ , for all  $n \geq 0$  and prove that  $u = u_n \preceq z_n$  and  $v = v_n \preceq z_n$  for each  $n \geq 0$ . Now, for any  $n \geq 1$ ,  $u = u_n \preceq z_n$ , hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \psi(d(u, z_n)) &= \psi(d(Tu_{n-1}, Tz_{n-1})) \\ &\leq \psi(n_T(u_{n-1}, z_{n-1})) - \phi(n_T(u_{n-1}, z_{n-1})) \\ &\leq \psi(n_T(u, z_{n-1})) - \phi(n_T(u, z_{n-1})), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} n_T(u, z_{n-1}) &= \max \left\{ d(u, z_{n-1}), \frac{d(u, Tu) + d(z_{n-1}, Tz_{n-1})}{2}, \frac{d(u, Tz_{n-1}) + d(z_{n-1}, Tu)}{2} \right\} \\ &= \max \left\{ d(u, z_{n-1}), \frac{d(z_{n-1}, z_n)}{2}, \frac{d(u, z_n) + d(z_{n-1}, u)}{2} \right\} \\ &\leq \max \left\{ d(u, z_{n-1}), \frac{d(z_{n-1}, u) + d(u, z_n)}{2}, \frac{d(u, z_n) + d(z_{n-1}, u)}{2} \right\} \\ &= \max \left\{ d(u, z_{n-1}), \frac{d(z_{n-1}, u) + d(u, z_n)}{2} \right\} \\ &\leq \max \{ d(u, z_{n-1}), d(u, z_n) \}. \end{aligned}$$

Similar to the proof of Theorem 2.2, one can complete the proof.  $\square$

**Example 2.7.** As we saw, in the Example 2.4, the condition (a) is hold, but the mapping  $T$  has two distinct fixed points. Now, notice that, the condition (b) of the Theorem 2.2 is not satisfied. In fact, for the points  $A$  and  $O$  there is no  $Z \in X$  which is comparable with  $A$  and  $O$  and  $Z \preceq TZ$ . Also, notice that, the mapping  $T$  is not satisfied in the Theorem 2.6. Indeed,, for the points  $A$  and  $B$  we have  $A \preceq B$  and

$$\begin{aligned} n_T(A, B) &= \max \left\{ d(A, B), \frac{d(A, A) + d(B, C)}{2}, \frac{d(A, C) + d(B, A)}{2} \right\} \\ &= \max \{ 2, \sqrt{2}, 2 \} \\ &= 2. \end{aligned}$$

So, for any pair  $(\psi, \varphi)$  of control functions we have:

$$\psi(d(TA, TB)) = \psi(d(A, C)) = \psi(2).$$

Also,

$$\begin{aligned} \psi(n_T(A, B)) - \varphi(n_T(A, B)) &= \psi(2) - \varphi(2) \\ &< \psi(2) \quad (\text{because } \varphi(2) > 0) \\ &= \psi(d(TA, TB)). \end{aligned}$$

Hence the conditions (2.4) of Theorem 2.4 is not satisfy. Finally, note that all conditions of Theorem 2.3 are satisfied, except condition (c) which is not established. In fact,  $O$  and  $A$  are two non comparable fixed points of  $T$  and there is no  $Z \in X$  which is comparable with  $O$ ,  $A$  and  $TZ$ .

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