

## The triples of $(v, u, \phi)$ -contraction and $(q, p, \phi)$ -contraction in $b$ -metric spaces and its application

E. L. Ghasab<sup>a,\*</sup>, H. A. Ebadizadeh<sup>a</sup>, J. Sharafi<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Mathematics Group, Faculty of Basic Sciences, Emam Ali University, Tehran, Iran.

Received 1 February 2022; Revised 4 March 2022; Accepted 9 March 2022.

Communicated by Ghasem Soleimani Rad

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**Abstract.** The aim of this work is to introduce the concepts of  $(v, u, \phi)$ -contraction and  $(q, p, \phi)$ -contraction, and to obtain new results in fixed point theory for four mappings in  $b$ -metric spaces. Finally, we have developed an example and an application for a system of integral equations that protects the main theorems.

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**Keywords:**  $b$ -metric space,  $\phi$ -function,  $(v, u, \phi)$ -contraction,  $(q, p, \phi)$ -contraction.

**2010 AMS Subject Classification:** 54E50, 54A20, 47H10.

### 1. Introduction and preliminaries

We start this research with the definition of a  $b$ -metric on a non-empty set  $\mathcal{X}$ , which is introduced by Bakhtin [2] and Czerwik [7].

**Definition 1.1** [7] A mapping  $d : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$  is named a  $b$ -metric with a parameter  $s \geq 1$  if, for all  $x, y, z \in \mathcal{X}$ , the following conditions are held:

- (b1)  $d(x, y) = 0$  if and only if  $x = y$ ;
- (b2)  $d(x, y) = d(y, x)$ ;
- (b3)  $d(x, z) \leq s[d(x, y) + d(y, z)]$ .

In this case,  $(\mathcal{X}, d)$  is called a  $b$ -metric space.

Each metric space is a  $b$ -metric space with coefficient  $s = 1$ . Therefore, the class of  $b$ -metric spaces is larger than the class of metric spaces.

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\*Corresponding author.

E-mail address: e.l.ghasab@gmail.com (E. L. Ghasab); Ebadizadeh.h@gmail.com (H. A. Ebadizadeh); Javad.sharafi6@yahoo.com (J. Sharafi).

**Example 1.2** [1] For  $p \in (0, 1)$ , take  $X = l_p(\mathbb{R}) = \{x = \{x_n\} \subset \mathbb{R} : \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |x_n|^p < \infty\}$ .

Define  $d(x, y) = (\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |x_n - y_n|^p)^{\frac{1}{p}}$ . Then  $(X, d)$  is a  $b$ -metric space with  $s = 2^{\frac{1}{p}}$ .

Some of other definitions of convergent and Cauchy sequences, completeness, examples, applications and extensions of fixed point theory in this space are considered in [1, 3–5, 11, 14, 15] and references therein.

**Definition 1.3** [10] Consider a  $b$ -metric space  $(\mathcal{X}, d)$  with a coefficient  $s \geq 1$  and two self-mappings  $f$  and  $g$  on  $\mathcal{X}$ . Also, suppose that  $\{x_n\}$  is a sequence in  $\mathcal{X}$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f x_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} g x_n = t$  for some  $t \in \mathcal{X}$ . The pair  $\{f, g\}$  is called compatible iff  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d(f g x_n, g f x_n) = 0$ .

In this paper, we prove two new common fixed point theorems in  $b$ -metric spaces. Also, we support both main theorems with an example and an application of existence of a common solution for two systems of an integral equation.

## 2. Main results

**Definition 2.1** The function  $\phi : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  is named a  $\phi$ -function if the following properties are held:

- i)  $\phi(t) = 0 \Leftrightarrow t = 0$ ;
- ii)  $\phi(t) < t$  for each  $t \geq 0$ .

The collection of all  $\phi$ -functions will be denoted by  $\Phi$ .

**Example 2.2** Define a function  $\phi : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  by  $\phi(t) = \frac{t}{2}$  if  $t \in [0, \infty)$ . Then it is clear that  $\phi$  is a  $\phi$ -function.

First, we define the concept of a  $(v, u, \phi)$ -contraction.

**Definition 2.3** Consider a  $b$ -metric space  $(\mathcal{X}, d)$  with a parameter  $s \geq 1$  and four self-mappings  $f, g, A$  and  $B$  on  $\mathcal{X}$ . If there exist a function  $\phi \in \Phi$  and two constants  $v \in (0, \frac{1}{s})$  and  $u \geq 0$  such that

$$d(fx, gy) \leq v \max\{\phi(d(fx, Ax)), \phi(d(gy, By)), \phi(d(Ax, By))\} + u \min\{d(fy, gy), d(fx, gx)\} \quad (1)$$

for each  $x, y \in \mathcal{X}$ , then  $(f, g, A, B)$  is called a  $(v, u, \phi)$ -contraction.

Let  $x_0 \in \mathcal{X}$  be an optional point and  $f, g, A$  and  $B$  be four self-mappings so that  $f(\mathcal{X}) \subseteq B(\mathcal{X})$ ,  $g(\mathcal{X}) \subseteq A(\mathcal{X})$ . Choose  $x_1 \in \mathcal{X}$  so that  $f x_0 = B x_1$  and  $x_2 \in \mathcal{X}$  so that  $g x_1 = A x_2$ . This can be accomplished as  $f(\mathcal{X}) \subseteq B(\mathcal{X})$  and  $g(\mathcal{X}) \subseteq A(\mathcal{X})$ . By continuing this process, we obtain a sequence  $\{z_n\}$  introduced by  $z_{2n} = f x_{2n} = B x_{2n+1}$  and  $z_{2n+1} = g x_{2n+1} = A x_{2n+2}$  for all  $n \geq 0$ . The sequence  $\{z_n\}$  is named a Jungck type iterative sequence with initial guess  $x_0$ .

**Theorem 2.4** Assume that  $f, g, A$  and  $B$  are four self-mappings on a complete  $b$ -metric space  $\mathcal{X}$  with a parameter  $s \geq 1$  provided that the pairs  $\{f, A\}$  and  $\{g, B\}$  are compatible,  $f(\mathcal{X}) \subseteq B(\mathcal{X})$  and  $g(\mathcal{X}) \subseteq A(\mathcal{X})$ . If  $(f, g, A, B)$  is a  $(v, u, \phi)$ -contraction, then  $f, g, A$  and  $B$  have a common fixed point in  $\mathcal{X}$  so that  $A$  and  $B$  are continuous.

**Proof.** Suppose  $x_0$  is an arbitrary point of  $\mathcal{X}$ . Construct Jungck type iterative sequence  $\{z_n\}$  in  $\mathcal{X}$  with initial guess  $x_0$ . Now, we show that  $\{z_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence. From (1), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 d(z_{2n}, z_{2n+1}) &= \phi(d(fx_{2n}, gx_{2n+1})) & (2) \\
 &\leq v \max\{\phi(d(fx_{2n}, Ax_{2n})), \phi(d(gx_{2n+1}, Bx_{2n+1})), \phi(d(Ax_{2n}, Bx_{2n+1}))\} \\
 &\quad + u \min\{d(fx_{2n+1}, gx_{2n+1}), d(fx_{2n}, gx_{2n})\} \\
 &= v \max\{\phi(d(z_{2n}, z_{2n-1})), \phi(d(z_{2n+1}, z_{2n})), \phi(d(z_{2n-1}, z_{2n}))\} \\
 &\quad + u \min\{d(z_{2n+1}, z_{2n+1}), d(z_{2n}, z_{2n})\} \\
 &= v \max\{\phi(d(z_{2n}, z_{2n-1})), \phi(d(z_{2n+1}, z_{2n}))\}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Now, let  $\phi(d(z_{2n}, z_{2n+1})) > \phi(d(z_{2n-1}, z_{2n}))$ . Then, by (2), we have  $d(z_{2n}, z_{2n+1}) < v\phi(d(z_{2n}, z_{2n+1}))$ , which is a contradiction. Hence,  $\phi(d(z_{2n}, z_{2n+1})) \leq \phi(d(z_{2n-1}, z_{2n}))$ , which implies by (2) that

$$d(z_{2n}, z_{2n+1}) \leq v\phi(d(z_{2n-1}, z_{2n})) < vd(z_{2n-1}, z_{2n}). \tag{3}$$

By a similar argument, we have

$$d(z_{2n-1}, z_{2n}) \leq v\phi(d(z_{2n-2}, z_{2n-1})) < vd(z_{2n-2}, z_{2n-1}). \tag{4}$$

Now, from (3) and (4), we get

$$d(z_n, z_{n-1}) \leq v\phi(d(z_{n-1}, z_{n-2})) < vd(z_{n-1}, z_{n-2})$$

for  $n \geq 2$ , where  $0 < v < \frac{1}{s}$ . By induction, we have

$$d(z_n, z_{n-1}) \leq v^{n-1}d(z_1, z_0) \tag{5}$$

for all  $n \geq 2$ . Now, we prove that  $\{z_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence. First we show that  $\lim_{m,n \rightarrow \infty} d(z_m, z_n) = 0$  for each  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $m > n > 1$ . Then, by (b3), we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 d(z_n, z_m) &\leq sd(z_n, z_{n+1}) + sd(z_{n+1}, z_m) \\
 &\leq sd(z_n, z_{n+1}) + s^2d(z_{n+1}, z_{n+2}) + s^2d(z_{n+2}, z_m) \\
 &\leq sd(z_n, z_{n+1}) + s^2d(z_{n+1}, z_{n+2}) + \dots + s^{m-n}d(z_{m-1}, z_m) \\
 &\quad \vdots \\
 &\leq sv^n(1 + sv + \dots + s^{m-n-1}v^{m-n-1})d(z_0, z_1) \quad (vs < 1) \\
 &< \frac{sv^n}{1 - sv}d(z_0, z_1),
 \end{aligned}$$

which implies that  $\lim_{m,n \rightarrow \infty} d(z_n, z_m) = 0$ . Hence,  $\{z_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence. Due to the completeness of the  $b$ -metric space, there exists  $z \in \mathcal{X}$  so that  $z_n \rightarrow z$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Thus,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} fx_{2n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Bx_{2n+1} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} gx_{2n+1} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Ax_{2n+2} = z.$$

Now we demonstrate that  $z$  is a common fixed point of  $f$ ,  $g$ ,  $A$  and  $B$ . Since  $A$  is continuous, we have  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A^2 x_{2n+2} = Az$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A f x_{2n} = Az$ . Since  $f$  and  $A$  are compatible,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d(f A x_{2n}, A f x_{2n}) = 0.$$

Thus, we have  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f A x_{2n} = Az$ . Consider  $x = A x_{2n}$  and  $y = x_{2n+1}$  in (1). Then, we get

$$\begin{aligned} d(f A x_{2n}, g x_{2n+1}) &\leq v \max\{\phi(d(f A x_{2n}, A^2 x_{2n})), \phi(d(g x_{2n+1}, B x_{2n+1})), \phi(d(A^2 x_{2n}, B x_{2n+1}))\} \\ &\quad + u \min\{d(f x_{2n+1}, g x_{2n+1}), d(f A x_{2n}, g A x_{2n})\} \\ &< v \max\{d(f A x_{2n}, A^2 x_{2n}), d(g x_{2n+1}, B x_{2n+1}), d(A^2 x_{2n}, B x_{2n+1})\} \\ &\quad + u \min\{d(f x_{2n+1}, g x_{2n+1}), d(f A x_{2n}, g A x_{2n})\}. \end{aligned}$$

Now, we have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d(A f x_{2n}, g x_{2n+1}) = d(Az, z) \leq v \max\{\phi((Az, z)), 0, 0\}.$$

Consequently,  $d(Az, z) \leq v d(Az, z)$  with  $0 < v < \frac{1}{s}$ . Hence,  $Az = z$ . Similarly, since  $B$  is continuous and  $B$  and  $g$  are compatible, we get  $Bz = z$ . Also, by (1), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} d(fz, g x_{2n+1}) &\leq v \max\{\phi(d(fz, Az)), \phi(d(g x_{2n+1}, B x_{2n+1})), \phi(d(Az, B x_{2n+1}))\} \\ &\quad + u \min\{d(f x_{2n+1}, g x_{2n+1}), d(fz, gz)\}. \end{aligned}$$

By taking  $n \rightarrow \infty$  and since  $Az = Bz = z$ , we have

$$d(fz, z) \leq v \max\{\phi(d(fz, z)), \phi(d(z, z))\},$$

which induces that  $fz = z$  (by  $0 < v < \frac{1}{s}$ ). Similarly  $gz = z$ . Thus,  $Az = Bz = fz = gz = z$  and the proof ends.  $\blacksquare$

**Example 2.5** Consider a  $b$ -metric by  $d(x, y) = |x - y|^2$  for all  $x, y \in \mathcal{X} = [0, 1]$  with the parameter  $s = 2$ . Define the mappings  $f$ ,  $g$ ,  $A$  and  $B$  on  $\mathcal{X}$  by  $f(x) = x$ ,  $g(x) = 2x$ ,  $A(x) = 4x$  and  $B(x) = 8x$ . Clearly,  $f(\mathcal{X}) \subset B(\mathcal{X})$  and  $g(\mathcal{X}) \subset A(\mathcal{X})$ . Also, two pairs  $\{f, A\}$ , and  $\{g, B\}$  are compatible. Further, for  $\phi(t) = \frac{t}{2}$  and for all  $x, y \in \mathcal{X}$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(d(fx, gy)) &= |x - 2y|^2 = \frac{1}{16}(|4x - 8y|^2) \\ &= \frac{1}{8} \phi(d(Ax, By)) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{8} \max\{\phi(d(fx, Ax)), \phi(d(gz, Bz)), \phi(d(Ax, By))\} \\ &\quad + u \min\{d(fy, gy), d(fx, gx)\}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, all conditions of Theorem 2.4 are held with  $v = \frac{1}{8}$  and  $u = 0$ . Obviously,  $f$ ,  $g$ ,  $A$  and  $B$  have a common fixed point at  $x = 0$ .

Now, we define a new notion of contractions which is named a  $(q, p, \phi)$ -contraction.

**Definition 2.6** Consider a  $b$ -metric space  $(\mathcal{X}, d)$  with a parameter  $s \geq 1$  and two mappings  $f, g : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$  and two self-mappings  $T$  and  $R$  on  $\mathcal{X}$ . If there exist a  $\phi$ -function

$\phi$  and two constants  $q \in (0, \frac{1}{s})$  and  $p \geq 0$  so that

$$\begin{aligned}
 d(f(x, y), g(w, z)) \leq & q \max\left\{\frac{1}{2}(\phi(d(Rx, Tw)) - \phi(d(Ry, Tz))), \right. \\
 & \frac{1}{2}(\phi(d(g(w, z), Tw)) - \phi(d(g(z, w), Tz))), \\
 & \left. \frac{1}{2}(\phi(d(f(x, y), Rx)) - \phi(d(f(y, x), Ry)))\right\} \\
 & + p \min\left\{\frac{1}{2}(d(f(w, z), g(w, z)) + d(f(z, w), g(z, w))), \right. \\
 & \left. \frac{1}{2}(d(f(x, y), g(x, y)) + d(f(y, x), g(y, x)))\right\}
 \end{aligned} \tag{6}$$

for each  $x, y, z, w \in \mathcal{X}$ , then  $(f, g, R, T)$  is named a  $(q, p, \phi)$ -contraction.

In 2006, Bhaskar and Lakshmikantham [6] defined the concept of a coupled fixed point and proved some fixed point results for a mixed monotone mapping. For more details on coupled, tripled and  $n$ -tuple fixed point theorems, we refer to [8, 9, 13, 16, 17] and references therein. The second result of this article is related to the existence of common coupled fixed point for four mappings.

**Definition 2.7** [12] Consider a nonempty set  $\mathcal{X}$  and mappings  $F : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$  and  $g : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$ .  $F$  and  $g$  is said to be commutative if  $F(gx, gy) = g(F(x, y))$  for each  $x, y \in \mathcal{X}$ .

In the sequel, denote  $\mathcal{X} \times \dots \times \mathcal{X}$  by  $\mathcal{X}^n$ , where  $\mathcal{X}$  is a non-empty set and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

**Lemma 2.8** [8] Let  $(\mathcal{X}, d)$  be a  $b$ -metric space with a parameter  $s \geq 1$ . Then the following assertions hold:

1.  $(\mathcal{X}^n, D)$  is a  $b$ -metric space with

$$D((x_1, \dots, x_n), (y_1, \dots, y_n)) = \max[d(x_1, y_1), d(x_2, y_2), \dots, d(x_n, y_n)].$$

2. The mappings  $f : \mathcal{X}^n \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$ ,  $g : \mathcal{X}^n \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$ ,  $T : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$  and  $R : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$  have a  $n$ -tuple common fixed point if and only if the mappings  $F : \mathcal{X}^n \rightarrow \mathcal{X}^n$ ,  $G : \mathcal{X}^n \rightarrow \mathcal{X}^n$ ,  $\mathcal{T} : \mathcal{X}^n \rightarrow \mathcal{X}^n$  and  $\mathcal{R} : \mathcal{X}^n \rightarrow \mathcal{X}^n$  defined by

$$\begin{aligned}
 F(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) &= (f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n), f(x_2, \dots, x_n, x_1), \dots, f(x_n, x_1, \dots, x_{n-1})), \\
 G(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) &= (g(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n), g(x_2, \dots, x_n, x_1), \dots, g(x_n, x_1, \dots, x_{n-1})), \\
 \mathcal{T}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) &= (Tx_1, Tx_2, \dots, Tx_n), \mathcal{R}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = (Rx_1, Rx_2, \dots, Rx_n)
 \end{aligned}$$

have a common fixed point in  $\mathcal{X}^n$ .

3.  $(\mathcal{X}, d)$  is complete if and only if  $(\mathcal{X}^n, D)$  is complete.

Note that the Lemma 2.8 is a two-way relationship. Thus, we can obtain  $n$ -tuple fixed point results from fixed point theorems and conversely.

The second result of this work is the following theorem.

**Theorem 2.9** Assume that  $T$  and  $R$  are two mappings on a complete  $b$ -metric space  $\mathcal{X}$  with a parameter  $s \geq 1$  and  $f$  and  $g$  are two mappings on  $\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X}$  and provided that the pairs  $\{f, R\}$  and  $\{g, T\}$  are commutative and  $f(\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X}) \subset T(\mathcal{X})$  and  $g(\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X}) \subset R(\mathcal{X})$ . If  $(f, g, R, T)$  is a  $(q, p, \phi)$ -contraction, then  $f, g, R$  and  $T$  have a common coupled fixed point so that  $R$  and  $T$  are continuous.

**Proof.** Let us define  $D : \mathcal{X}^2 \times \mathcal{X}^2 \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  by  $D((x_1, x_2), (y_1, y_2)) = \max[d(x_1, y_1), d(x_2, y_2)]$ ,  $F, G : \mathcal{X}^2 \rightarrow \mathcal{X}^2$  by  $F(x, y) = (f(x, y), f(y, x))$  and  $G(x, y) = (g(x, y), g(y, x))$ , and  $\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{R} : \mathcal{X}^2 \rightarrow \mathcal{X}^2$  by  $\mathcal{T}(x, y) = (Tx, Ty)$  and  $\mathcal{R}(x, y) = (Rx, Ry)$ . Using Lemma 2.8,  $(\mathcal{X}^2, D)$  is a complete  $b$ -metric space. Also,  $(x, y) \in \mathcal{X}^2$  is a common coupled fixed point of  $f, g$  and  $T, R$  if and only if it is a common fixed point of  $F, G$  and  $\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{R}$ . On the other hands, from (6), we have either

$$\begin{aligned}
 D(F(x, y), G(w, z)) &= D((f(x, y), f(y, x)), (g(w, z), g(z, w))) \\
 &= \max[d(f(x, y), g(w, z)), d(f(y, x), g(z, w))] \\
 &= d(f(x, y), g(w, z)) \\
 &\leq q \max\left\{\frac{1}{2}(\phi(d(Rx, Tw)) - \phi(d(Ry, Tz))), \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \frac{1}{2}(\phi(d(g(w, z), Tw)) - \phi(d(g(z, w), Tz))), \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \frac{1}{2}(\phi(d(f(x, y), Rx)) - \phi(d(f(y, x), Ry)))\right\} \\
 &\quad + p \min\left\{\frac{1}{2}(d(f(w, z), g(w, z)) + d(f(z, w), g(z, w))), \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \frac{1}{2}(d(f(x, y), g(x, y)) + d(f(y, x), g(y, x)))\right\} \\
 &\leq q \max\{\phi(D(\mathcal{R}(x, y), \mathcal{T}(w, z))), \phi(D(G(x, y), \mathcal{T}(w, z))), \\
 &\quad \phi(D(F(x, y), \mathcal{R}(w, z)))\} \\
 &\quad + p \min\{D(F(w, z), G(w, z)), D(F(x, y), G(x, y))\}
 \end{aligned}$$

or

$$\begin{aligned}
 D(F(x, y), G(w, z)) &= D((f(x, y), f(y, x)), (g(w, z), g(z, w))) \\
 &= \max[d(f(x, y), g(w, z)), d(f(y, x), g(z, w))] \\
 &= d(f(y, x), g(z, w)) \\
 &\leq q \max\left\{\frac{1}{2}(\phi(d(Ry, Tz)) - \phi(d(Rx, Tw))), \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \frac{1}{2}(\phi(d(g(z, w), Tz)) - \phi(d(g(w, z), Tw))), \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \frac{1}{2}(\phi(d(f(y, x), Ry)) - \phi(d(f(x, y), Rx)))\right\} \\
 &\quad + p \min\left\{\frac{1}{2}(d(f(z, w), g(z, w)) + d(f(w, z), g(w, z))), \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \frac{1}{2}(d(f(y, x), g(y, x)) + d(f(x, y), g(x, y)))\right\} \\
 &\leq q \max\{\phi(D(\mathcal{R}(y, x), \mathcal{T}(z, w))), \phi(D(G(y, x), \mathcal{T}(z, w))), \\
 &\quad \phi(D(F(y, x), \mathcal{R}(z, w)))\} \\
 &\quad + p \min\{D(F(z, w), G(z, w)), D(F(y, x), G(y, x))\}
 \end{aligned}$$

Now, by Theorem 2.4,  $F, G, \mathcal{R}$  and  $\mathcal{T}$  have a common fixed point and by Lemma 2.8,  $f, g, R$  and  $T$  have a common coupled fixed point. This completes the proof. ■

### 3. Application

Assume the systems of integral equations:

$$\begin{cases} x(t) = \int_a^b M(t, s)K(s, x(s), y(s))ds, \\ y(t) = \int_a^b M(t, s)K(s, y(s), x(s))ds \end{cases} \tag{7}$$

for all  $t \in I = [a, b]$ , where  $M \in C(I \times I, [0, \infty))$  and  $K \in C(I \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R})$ . Also, let  $C(I, \mathbb{R})$  be the Banach space of all real continuous functions considered on  $I$  with the sup norm. Consider the  $b$ -metric  $d(x, y) = \|x - y\|^2$  for every  $x, y \in C(I, \mathbb{R})$ . Then the space  $(C(I, \mathbb{R}), d)$  is a complete  $b$ -metric space with the parameter  $s = 2$ .

**Theorem 3.1** Let  $(C(I, \mathbb{R}), d)$  be a complete  $b$ -metric space. Suppose  $f : C(I, \mathbb{R}) \times C(I, \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow C(I, \mathbb{R})$  is an operator such that

$$f(x, y)t = \frac{1}{2} \left( \int_a^b M(t, s)K(s, x(s), y(s))ds \right),$$

where  $M \in C(I \times I, [0, \infty))$  and  $K \in C(I \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R})$  be an operator satisfying the following conditions:

- (i)  $\|K\|_\infty = \sup_{s \in I, x, y \in C(I, \mathbb{R})} |K(s, x(s), y(s))| < \infty$ ,
- (ii) for every  $x, y \in C(I, \mathbb{R})$  and all  $t \in I$ , we have

$$\|K(t, x(t), y(t)) - K(t, u(t), v(t))\| \leq \max_{t \in I} |x(t) - u(t)|^2 - \max_{t \in I} |y(t) - v(t)|^2,$$

- (iii)  $\sup_{t \in I} \int_a^b M(t, s)ds < \frac{1}{s}$ .

Then the system (7) has a common solution.

**Proof.** Consider a complete  $b$ -metric  $d(x, y) = \max_{t \in I} (|x(t) - y(t)|^2)$  for each  $x, y \in C(I, \mathbb{R})$ . By a simple computation, we get

$$d(f(x, y), g(u, v)) \leq \frac{1}{2} [d(Rx, Tu) - d(Ry, Tv)] \left( \max_{s \in I} \int_a^b M(t, s)ds \right)$$

for every  $x, y, u, v \in C(I, \mathbb{R})$ , where  $f(x, y) = g(x, y)$  and  $Rx = Tx = Ix = x$ . Let  $q = \max_{s \in I} \int_a^b M(t, s)ds$  and  $\phi(t) = t$ . Then we conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} d(f(x, y), g(u, v)) &\leq q \left( \frac{1}{2} (\phi(d(Rx, Tu)) - \phi(d(Ry, Tv))) \right), \\ &\leq q \max \left\{ \frac{1}{2} (\phi(d(Rx, Tu)) - \phi(d(Ry, Tv))), \right. \\ &\quad \left. \frac{1}{2} (\phi(d(g(u, v), Tu)) - \phi(d(g(v, u), g(v, u), Tv))) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

for every  $x, y, u, v \in C(I, \mathbb{R})$ . By applying Theorem 2.9 with  $\phi(t) = t$ ,  $p = 0$  and  $Rx = Tx = Ix = x$ , the operators  $f$  and  $g$  have a common coupled fixed point, which is the common solution of the system (7). ■

## Acknowledgments

The authors wish to thank editor and referees for their helpful suggestions to improve this manuscript.

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