Hindawi Publishing Corporation
Abstract and Applied Analysis
Volume 2015, Article ID 345856, 16 pages
http://dx.doi.org/10.1155/2015/345856

Research Article

Applications of Multivalued Contractions on Graphs to Graph-Directed Iterated Function Systems

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Received 12 August 2014; Accepted 18 December 2014

Academic Editor: Naseer Shahzad

We apply a fixed point result for multivalued contractions on complete metric spaces endowed with a graph to graph-directed iterated function systems. More precisely, we construct a suitable metric space endowed with a graph G and a suitable G-contraction such that its fixed points permit us to obtain more information on the attractor of a graph-directed iterated function system.

1. Introduction

Based on the work of Hutchinson [1] and being popularized by Barnsley [2], the method of iterated function systems (IFS) permits us to generate fractals by iterating a collection of transformations $\{T_i : i = 1, \ldots, p\}$. If each T_i is a contraction on a complete metric space M, it was shown in [1] that there exists a unique nonempty compact set $K \subset M$ which is invariant with respect to $\{T_i : i = 1, \ldots, p\}$; that is,

$$K = \bigcup_{i=1}^{p} T_i (K) . \tag{1}$$

This attractor K is such that, for every compact $A \subset M$,

$$g^n (A) \longrightarrow K \quad \text{with respect to the Hausdorff metric,} \tag{2}$$

where

$$g (A) = \bigcup_{i=1}^{p} T_i (A) . \tag{3}$$

The existence of K can be deduced from the Banach fixed point theorem.

A fixed point result which is, in some sense, a combination of the Banach contraction principle and the Knaster-Tarski fixed point theorem in a partially ordered set was obtained by Ran and Reurings [3] in 2004. They considered a monotone, order preserving single-valued map f defined on a complete metric space endowed with a partial ordering. They assumed that f satisfies a contraction condition not necessarily for all x and y, but for those such that $x \leq y$. Subsequently, their result was generalized by many authors, in particular by Nieto, Rodríguez-López, Pouso, Petruşel, and Rus [4–7]. In 2008, Jachymski [8] presented a nice unification of most of the previous results by considering complete metric spaces endowed with a graph G. He introduced the notion of single-valued G-contraction for which he obtained fixed point results.

Using those fixed point results, Gwóźdź-Łukawska and Jachymski [9] developed the Hutchinson-Barnsley theory on complete metric space endowed with a graph G for iterated function systems of single-valued G-contractions.

Different extensions of the concept of single-valued G contractions on complete metric spaces endowed with a graph to multivalued maps were presented by Dinevari and Frigon [10] and by Nicolae et al. [11]. Those extensions led to generalizations of Jachymski's fixed point results and of the Nadler fixed point theorem for multivalued contractions.

In 1988, Mauldin and Williams [12] introduced the notion of geometric graph-directed construction.

Definition 1. A *geometric graph-directed construction* in $\mathbb{R}^m$ consists of

(i) a collection of p nonoverlapping, compact, nonempty subsets of $\mathbb{R}^m$, $J_1, \ldots, J_p$ with nonempty interior;

(ii) a directed-graph $H = (V(H), E(H))$ such that $V(H) = \{1, \ldots, p\}$ is the set of its vertices, and, for each $i \in V(H)$, there exists some edge $(i, j) \in E(H)$;

(iii) for each $(i, j) \in E(H)$, there is a similarity map $T_{i,j} : \mathbb{R}^m \to \mathbb{R}^m$ with similarity ratios $r_{i,j}$ such that

$$\bigcup_{(i,j)\in E(H)} T_{i,j}\left(J_j\right) \subset J_i; \tag{4}$$

(iv) for each i, $\{T_{i,j}(J_j) : (i, j) \in E(H)\}$ is a nonoverlapping family of sets;

(v) if $[i_1, \ldots, i_{q-1}, i_q = i_1]$ is a cycle in H, then

$$\prod_{k=1}^{q} r_{i_{k-1},i_k} < 1. \tag{5}$$

They showed that a geometric graph-directed construction has an attractor.

Theorem 2 (Mauldin and Williams [12]). *For a geometric graph-directed construction as above, there exists $K_1, \ldots, K_p$ a unique collection of nonempty compact sets such that*

$$\forall i \in \{1, \ldots, p\}, \; K_i \subset J_i, \quad K_i = \bigcup_{(i,j)\in E(H)} T_{i,j}\left(K_j\right). \tag{6}$$

The set

$$K = \bigcup_{i=1}^{p} K_i \tag{7}$$

is called the attractor of this geometric graph-directed construction.

Geometric graph-directed constructions have been studied and generalized by many authors; see [13–16]. In particular, it was shown in [13] that with an appropriate rescaling, condition (v) can be replaced by

(v)$'$ for each $(i, j) \in H$, $r_{i,j} < 1$.

Also, in some of those generalizations, similarities on $\mathbb{R}^m$ were replaced by contractions on complete metric spaces and the terminology of graph-directed iterated function system was used. Again, the existence of an attractor K was established.

In this paper, we take into account the graph H to obtain more information on the attractor K of a graph-directed iterated function system. To do so, we apply a fixed point result obtained by the authors [10] for multivalued contractions on complete metric spaces endowed with a graph.

The paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we present some notations and we recall some results. In Section 3, we consider a space X such that $K \in X$ and on which we define a suitable graph G and a suitable metric. In Section 4, we define an appropriate multivalued G-contraction F. In the last three sections, taking into account the maximal connected component of the graph H, we obtain more information on the attractor K from some fixed points of F.

2. H-Iterated Function System

First of all, we introduce the notion of MW-directed graph and we consider iterated function systems which takes into account the structure of an MW-directed graph.

Definition 3. A directed-graph $H = (V(H), E(H))$ is called an *MW-directed graph* if $V(H) = \{1, \ldots, p\}$, H has no parallel edges, and for every $i \in V(H)$, there exists $j \in V(H)$ such that $(i, j) \in E(H)$.

Definition 4. Let $H = (V(H), E(H))$ be an MW-directed graph. A *graph-directed iterated function system over the graph* H (H-IFS) is a collection of p nonempty, bounded, complete metric spaces, $(X_1, d_1), \ldots, (X_p, d_p)$, and, for each $(i, j) \in E(H)$, a contraction $T_{i,j} : X_j \to X_i$ with constant of contraction $\lambda_{i,j}$. An H-IFS is denoted $\{T_{i,j}\}_H$.

Definition 5. Let $\{T_{i,j}\}_H$ be an H-IFS. An *attractor* K of the H-IFS is a collection of nonempty compact sets $K = \{K_i\}_H$ such that $K_i \subset X_i$ and

$$K_i = \bigcup_{(i,j)\in E(H)} T_{i,j}\left(K_j\right) \quad \forall i \in \{1, \ldots, p\}. \tag{8}$$

The Banach contraction principle insures the existence of an attractor of an H-IFS. We present the proof for sake of completeness. For more information on graph-directed iterated function systems, the reader is referred to [12, 15].

Theorem 6. *An H-IFS, $\{T_{i,j}\}_H$, has a unique attractor K.*

Proof. Consider

$$Y = \left\{\left(S_1, \ldots, S_p\right) \subset \prod_{i=1}^{p} X_i : S_i \text{ is a compact nonempty subset of } X_i\right\} \tag{9}$$

endowed with the metric

$$\rho\left(S, \widehat{S}\right) = \max\left\{D_i\left(S_i, \widehat{S}_i\right) : i = 1, \ldots, p\right\}, \tag{10}$$

where D_i is the Hausdorff metric on X_i; that is,

$$D_i\left(S_i, \widehat{S}_i\right) = \inf\left\{\varepsilon > 0 : S_i \subset B\left(\widehat{S}_i, \varepsilon\right), \; \widehat{S}_i \subset B\left(S_i, \varepsilon\right)\right\}, \tag{11}$$

where

$$B\left(S_i, \varepsilon\right) = \left\{y \in X_i : \exists x \in S_i \text{ such that } d_i\left(x, y\right) < \varepsilon\right\}. \tag{12}$$

Let us define $f : Y \to Y$ by

$$f_i\left(S\right) = \bigcup_{(i,j)\in E(H)} T_{i,j}\left(S_j\right). \tag{13}$$

Using the fact that every $T_{i,j}$ is a contraction, one verifies that f is a contraction with constant of contraction

$$\theta = \max \left\{ \lambda_{i,j} : (i,j) \in E(H) \right\}. \quad (14)$$

The Banach contraction principle insures the existence of $K \in Y$ a unique fixed point of f. Thus, K is the unique attractor of $\{T_{i,j}\}_H$. □

More information on K will be obtained by applying a fixed point result for multivalued contractions on complete metric spaces endowed with a graph. We recall the notion of G-contraction introduced in [10].

For (X, d) a complete metric space, we consider $G = (V(G), E(G))$ a directed graph such that $X = V(G)$, the diagonal in $X \times X$ is contained in $E(G)$, and G has no parallel edges.

Definition 7. Let $F : X \to X$ be a multivalued map with nonempty values. We say that F is a *G-contraction* if there exists $\alpha \in]0,1[$ such that

(C_G) for all $(x, y) \in E(G)$ and all $u \in F(x)$, there exists $v \in F(y)$ such that $(u, v) \in E(G)$ and $d(u, v) \le \alpha d(x, y)$.

We consider suitable trajectories in X.

Definition 8. Let $F : X \to X$ be a multivalued mapping and $x_0 \in X$. We say that a sequence $\{x_n\}$ is a *G_1-Picard trajectory from x_0* if $x_n \in F(x_{n-1})$ and $(x_{n-1}, x_n) \in E(G)$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$. The set of all such G_1-Picard trajectories from x_0 is denoted by $T_1(F, G, x_0)$.

The reader is referred to [10] for the proof of the following fixed point result for multivalued G-contractions.

Theorem 9. *Let $F : X \to X$ be a multivalued G-contraction such that there exists $(x_0, x_1) \in E(G)$ such that $x_1 \in F(x_0)$. In addition, assume that one of the following conditions holds.*

(i) *F is G_1-Picard continuous from x_0; that is, the limit of any convergent sequence $\{x_n\} \in T_1(F, G, x_0)$ is a fixed point of F.*

(ii) *F has closed values and, for every $\{x_n\}$ in $T_1(F, G, x_0)$ converging to some $x \in X$, there exists a subsequence $\{n_k\}$ such that $(x_{n_k}, x) \in E(G)$ for all $k \in \mathbb{N}$.*

Then, there exists a G_1-Picard trajectory from x_0, $\{x_n\}$, converging to x a fixed point of F. Moreover, every converging G_1-Picard trajectory from x_0 converges to a fixed point of F.

In what follows, we consider H an MW-directed graph. We will use the following definitions and notations.

A *path from i to j* in H is denoted by $[i_k]_0^N = [i_0, \ldots, i_N]$, where $i = i_0$, $j = i_N$, and $(i_{k-1}, i_k) \in E(H)$ for every $k = 1, \ldots, N$.

We say that a subgraph $C = (V(C), E(C))$ of H is *connected* if for every $i, j \in V(C)$ there exists a path from i to j in C. A *connected component* of H is a maximal connected subgraph of H. We denote

$$C(H) = \{C : C \text{ is a connected component of } H\}. \quad (15)$$

It follows from the definition of MW-directed graph that

$$\emptyset \ne C(H) = \{C_\alpha : \alpha \in \Lambda\}, \quad \text{where } \Lambda \text{ has finite cardinality.} \quad (16)$$

We can define a partial order on $C(H)$ as follows:

$$C_\alpha \preceq C_\beta \Longleftrightarrow \exists\, [i_k]_0^N \text{ a path in } H \text{ such that } i_0 \in C_\alpha,\ i_N \in C_\beta. \quad (17)$$

We write $C_\alpha \prec C_\beta$ to mean $C_\alpha \preceq C_\beta$ and $C_\alpha \ne C_\beta$. We say that C_α and C_β are *incomparable* if $C_\alpha \npreceq C_\beta$ and $C_\beta \npreceq C_\alpha$.

We denote the set of vertices from which there is a path in H reaching $i \in H$ by

$$[i]_\leftarrow = \{j \in V(H) : \text{there is a path from } j \text{ to } i \text{ in } H\}. \quad (18)$$

Similarly, for $C \in C(H)$, we denote the set of vertices from which there is a path in H reaching $V(C)$ by

$$[C]_\leftarrow = \bigcup_{i \in V(C)} [i]_\leftarrow. \quad (19)$$

3. A Suitable Metric Space Endowed with a Directed Graph

Let H be an MW-directed graph with $V(H) = \{1, \ldots, p\}$. For $i \in V(H)$, let (X_i, d_i) be a bounded complete metric space.

In this section, using H and the spaces X_i, we define a complete metric space endowed with a suitable directed graph. Let us recall that

$$C(H) = \{C : C \text{ is a connected component of } H\}. \quad (20)$$

We consider the space X of p-tuples $A = (A_1, \ldots, A_p)$ satisfying the following properties:

(Xi) $A_i \subset X_i$ is compact for every $i = 1, \ldots, p$;

(Xii) if $A_i \ne \emptyset$ for some $i \in V(C)$ and $C \in C(H)$, then $A_j \ne \emptyset$ for all $j \in V(C)$;

(Xiii) there exists $C \in C(H)$ and $i \in V(C)$ such that $A_i \ne \emptyset$.

It is important to point out that, for $A = (A_1, \ldots, A_p) \in X$, some A_i can be empty.

We endow X with the metric

$$d(A, B) = \max_{i \in \{1, \ldots, p\}} \overline{D}_i(A_i, B_i), \quad (21)$$

where

$$\overline{D}_i(A_i, B_i) = \begin{cases} D_i(A_i, B_i), & \text{if } A_i \ne \emptyset,\ B_i \ne \emptyset, \\ 0, & \text{if } A_i = \emptyset = B_i, \\ R_i, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \quad (22)$$

where D_i is the Hausdorff metric in X_i and $R_i > R$ is a constant which will be fixed later, with

$$R = \max\{\operatorname{diam}(X_i) : i = 1, \ldots, p\}. \tag{23}$$

It is clear that (X, d) is a complete metric space.

Taking into account the graph H, we want to endow X with a directed graph. To do so, we distinguish vertices of H which are in a connected component from the others. We set

$$V^c = \bigcup_{C \in C(H)} V(C), \tag{24}$$

$$V^e = V(H) \setminus V^c. \tag{25}$$

We define the graph G as follows: $V(G) = X$, and for $A, B \in X$, $(A, B) \in E(G)$ if and only if

(G) for every $i \in \{1, \ldots, p\}$, one of the following properties holds:

(i) $A_i = B_i = \emptyset$, or $A_i \neq \emptyset$ and $B_i \neq \emptyset$;

(ii) $A_i = \emptyset$, $B_i \neq \emptyset$, and one of the following statements is true:

(a) $i \in V^e$ and there exists $j \in V(H)$ such that $(i, j) \in E(H)$ and $A_j \neq \emptyset$;

(b) $i \in V(C)$ for some $C \in C(H)$ and there exist $k \in V(C)$ and $j \in V(H)$ such that $(k, j) \in E(H)$ and $A_j \neq \emptyset$;

(iii) $A_i \neq \emptyset$, $B_i = \emptyset$, $i \in V^e$, and one of the following properties is satisfied:

(a) there is no $j \in V(H)$ such that $(j, i) \in E(H)$;

(b) for every $j \in V(H)$ such that $(j, i) \in E(H)$, one has $B_j \neq \emptyset$.

Example 10. Let H be the MW-graph of Figure 1. We consider X the associated metric space satisfying (Xi)–(Xiii) endowed with the graph G satisfying the condition (G). Let A_i^k be nonempty compact subsets of X_i for all $i \in \{1, \ldots, 9\}$ and $k \in \{1, \ldots, 7\}$. We consider the following elements of X:

$$\begin{aligned}
A^1 &= (\emptyset, \emptyset, A_3^1, A_4^1, A_5^1, \emptyset, \emptyset, \emptyset, \emptyset), \\
A^2 &= (\emptyset, \emptyset, A_3^2, A_4^2, A_5^2, A_6^2, \emptyset, \emptyset, \emptyset), \\
A^3 &= (\emptyset, \emptyset, \emptyset, \emptyset, \emptyset, \emptyset, A_7^3, A_8^3, A_9^3), \\
A^4 &= (\emptyset, \emptyset, \emptyset, \emptyset, \emptyset, A_6^4, A_7^4, A_8^4, A_9^4), \\
A^5 &= (\emptyset, \emptyset, A_3^5, A_4^5, A_5^5, \emptyset, A_7^5, A_8^5, A_9^5), \\
A^6 &= (A_1^6, \emptyset, A_3^6, A_4^6, A_5^6, \emptyset, \emptyset, \emptyset, \emptyset), \\
A^7 &= (\emptyset, A_2^7, A_3^7, A_4^7, A_5^7, \emptyset, \emptyset, \emptyset, \emptyset).
\end{aligned} \tag{26}$$

Here is the list of all edges of G between them:

$$\begin{aligned}
&\{(A^1, A^7), (A^2, A^1), (A^2, A^7), (A^3, A^4), (A^3, A^4), \\
&(A^4, A^5), (A^6, A^1), (A^6, A^7), (A^7, A^6)\} \subset E(G).
\end{aligned} \tag{27}$$

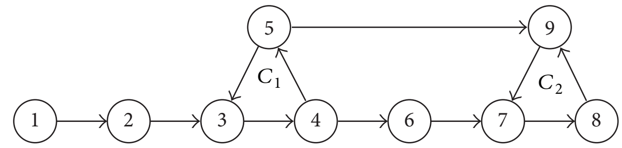

Figure 1: An MW-graph H.

Now, we want to fix R_i in (22) in such a way that we will be able to define a suitable multivalued G-contraction on X in the next section. To this aim, we decompose $V(H)$ in appropriate subsets V_μ with $\mu \in I$ a totally ordered set.

Lemma 11. *Let H be an MW-directed graph. Then there exist I a totally ordered set and $\{V_\mu : \mu \in I\}$ a family of nonempty disjoint subsets, and, for every $i \in \{1, \ldots, p\}$, there exists $R_i > R$ such that*

(1) *$V(H) = \cup_{\mu \in I} V_\mu$;*

(2) *if $V(C) \cap V_\mu \neq \emptyset$ for some $\mu \in I$ and some $C \in C(H)$, then $V(C) \subset V_\mu$;*

(3) *if $\mu < \nu$ in I, for all $i \in V_\mu$, and $j \in V_\nu$, then $j \notin [i]_{\leftarrow}$;*

(4) *for every $\mu \in I$, one has $R_i = R_j$ for every $i, j \in V_\mu$;*

(5) *for every $\mu < \nu \in I$, one has $R_i < R_j$ for every $i \in V_\mu$, $j \in V_\nu$.*

Proof. We want to separate vertices of H in suitable subsets. Let us recall that some vertices are in a connected component, and some others are not:

$$V(H) = V^c \cup V^e, \tag{28}$$

where V^c and V^e are defined in (24) and (25), respectively.

First of all, we examine vertices in V^c. Let

$$L = \max\{n \in \mathbb{N} : \text{there exists a chain } C_{\alpha_1} \prec \cdots \prec C_{\alpha_n} \text{ in } C(H)\}. \tag{29}$$

We denote

$$\begin{aligned}
C(H)_1 &= \{C \in C(H) : \nexists \widehat{C} \in C(H) \text{ such that } \widehat{C} \prec C\}, \\
C(H)_2 &= \{C \in C(H) \setminus C(H)_1 : \nexists \widehat{C} \in C(H) \setminus C(H)_1 \\
&\qquad \text{such that } \widehat{C} \prec C\}, \\
&\vdots \\
C(H)_L &= \Big\{C \in C(H) \setminus \bigcup_{k=1}^{L-1} C(H)_k : \nexists \widehat{C} \in C(H) \setminus \bigcup_{k=1}^{L-1} C(H)_k \\
&\qquad \text{such that } \widehat{C} \prec C\Big\}.
\end{aligned} \tag{30}$$

We define

$$V_{k,0} = \bigcup_{C \in C(H)_k} V(C) \quad \text{for } k = 1, \ldots, L. \tag{31}$$

Observe that

$$V^c = \bigcup_{k=1}^{L} V_{k,0}, \quad V_{k,0} \cap V_{j,0} = \emptyset \quad \text{if } k \neq j. \tag{32}$$

Now, we separate vertices in V^e in suitable subsets. We first separate them in two sets: those which can be reached by a path starting from a vertex in a connected component, and those which cannot. This last set is denoted:

$$V^0 = \{j \in V^e : V^c \cap [j]_{\leftarrow} = \emptyset\}. \quad (33)$$

If $V^0 \neq \emptyset$, let

$$N_0 = \max\{n : \text{there is a path } [i_k]_1^n \text{ such that } i_k \in V^0 \text{ for every } k = 1, \dots, N_0\}. \quad (34)$$

We define

$$V_{0,1} = \{i \in V^0 : \nexists j \in V^0 \text{ such that } (j,i) \in E(H)\},$$
$$V_{0,2} = \{i \in V^0 \setminus V_{0,1} : \nexists j \in V^0 \setminus V_{0,1} \text{ such that } (j,i) \in E(H)\},$$
$$\vdots$$
$$V_{0,N_0} = \left\{i \in V^0 \setminus \bigcup_{k=1}^{N_0-1} V_{0,k} : \nexists j \in V^0 \setminus \bigcup_{k=1}^{N_0-1} V_{0,k} \text{ such that } (j,i) \in E(H)\right\}. \quad (35)$$

Observe that

$$V^0 = \bigcup_{k=1}^{N_0} V_{0,k}, \quad V_{0,k} \cap V_{0,j} = \emptyset \quad \text{if } k \neq j. \quad (36)$$

If $V^e \setminus V^0 \neq \emptyset$, it follows from Definition 3 that, for every $j \in V^e \setminus V^0$, there exist $C_\alpha, C_\beta \in C(H)$ such that

$$C_\alpha \prec C_\beta, \quad V(C_\alpha) \subset [j]_{\leftarrow}, \quad j \in [C_\beta]_{\leftarrow}. \quad (37)$$

In other words, j is on a path from C_α to C_β. Hence, $L > 1$, where L is defined in (29).

If $L \geq 2$, we first examine vertices on a path from some $i \in V_{1,0}$ to some $j \in V_{2,0}$. Let

$$N_1 = \max\{n : \text{there is a path } [i_k]_0^{1+n} \text{ such that } i_0 \in V_{1,0},\ i_{1+n} \in V_{2,0} \text{ and } i_k \in V^e\ \forall k = 1, \dots, n\}. \quad (38)$$

If $N_1 \geq 1$, we define

$$V_{1,1} = \{i \in V^e : \exists [i_k]_0^{1+N_1} \text{ with } i = i_1,\ i_0 \in V_{1,0},\ i_{1+N_1} \in V_{2,0},\ i_k \in V^e \text{ for } k = 1, \dots, N_1\}. \quad (39)$$

If $N_1 \geq 2$, we define

$$V_{1,2} = \{i \in V^e \setminus V_{1,1} : \exists [i_k]_1^{1+N_1} \text{ with } i = i_2,\ i_1 \in V_{1,0} \cup V_{1,1},\ i_{1+N_1} \in V_{2,0},\ i_k \in V^e \setminus V_{1,1} \text{ for } k = 2, \dots, N_1\}. \quad (40)$$

We define inductively $V_{1,1}, \dots, V_{1,N_1}$.

We denote the set of vertices on a path from $V_{1,0}$ to $V_{2,0}$ by

$$V^1 = V_{1,0} \cup V_{2,0} \cup \bigcup_{k=1}^{N_1} V_{1,k}. \quad (41)$$

If $L \geq 3$, we examine vertices on a path from some $i \in V^1$ to some $j \in V_{3,0}$. Let

$$N_2 = \max\{n : \text{there is a path } [i_k]_0^{1+n} \text{ such that } i_0 \in V^1,\ i_{1+n} \in V_{3,0} \text{ and } i_k \in V^e \setminus V^1\ \forall k = 1, \dots, n\}. \quad (42)$$

If $N_2 \geq 1$, we define

$$V_{2,1} = \{i \in V^e \setminus V^1 : \exists [i_k]_0^{1+N_2} \text{ with } i = i_1, i_0 \in V^1,\ i_{1+N_2} \in V_{3,0},\ i_k \in V^e \setminus V^1 \text{ for } k = 1, \dots, N_2\}. \quad (43)$$

If $N_2 \geq 2$, we define

$$V_{2,2} = \{i \in V^e \setminus (V^1 \cup V_{2,1}) : \exists [i_k]_1^{1+N_2} \text{ with } i = i_2,\ i_1 \in V^1 \cup V_{2,1},\ i_{1+N_2} \in V_{3,0}, \text{ and } i_k \in V^e \setminus (V^1 \cup V_{2,1}) \text{ for } k = 2, \dots, N_2\}. \quad (44)$$

Similarly, we define $V_{2,j}$ for $j \leq N_2$.

So, inductively, we define the following subsets of $V^e \setminus V^0$:

$$V_{1,1}, \dots, V_{1,N_1}, V_{2,1}, \dots, V_{2,N_2}, \dots, V_{L-1,1}, \dots, V_{L-1,N_{L-1}}. \quad (45)$$

Each vertex in one of those sets is on a path from one connected component to another.

We have decomposed $V(H)$ in a collection of disjoint sets:

$$V_{0,1}, \dots, V_{0,N_0}, V_{1,0}, V_{1,1}, \dots, V_{1,N_1}, V_{2,0}, \dots, V_{L-1,N_{L-1}}, V_{L,0}. \quad (46)$$

We denote

$$I = \{(k,0) : 1 \leq k \leq L\} \cup \{(k,l) : 0 \leq k \leq L-1, 1 \leq l \leq N_k\}. \quad (47)$$

We endow I with the order

$$(k_1, l_1) \leq (k_2, l_2) \Longleftrightarrow k_1 < k_2, \text{ or } k_1 = k_2,\ l_1 \leq l_2. \quad (48)$$

By construction,

$$V(H) = \bigcup_{\mu \in I} V_\mu, \quad V_\mu \cap V_\nu = \emptyset \quad \text{if } \mu \neq \nu. \quad (49)$$

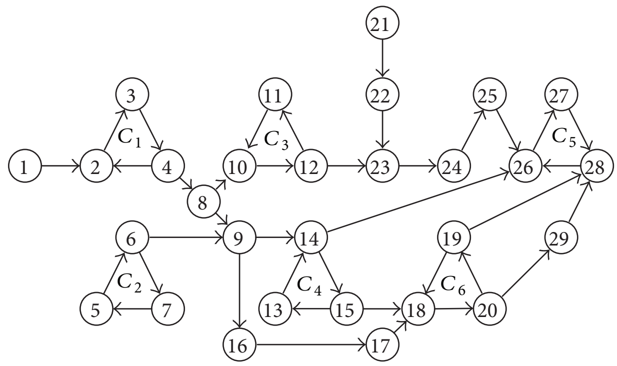

FIGURE 2: An MW-graph H with $C(H) = \{C_1, \ldots, C_6\}$.

Also, for every $C \in C(H)$, there exists $\mu \in I$ such that $V(C) \subset V_\mu$. Moreover, for $\mu, \nu \in I$ such that $\mu < \nu$, one has $j \notin [i]_{\leftarrow}$ for every $i \in V_\mu$, and $j \in V_\nu$.

Finally, we choose $\sigma : I \to]1, \infty[$ a strictly increasing map. We define

$$R_i = \sigma(\mu) R \quad \text{for } i \in \{1, \ldots, p\} \cap V_\mu,\ \mu \in I. \tag{50}$$

By construction, statements (4) and (5) are satisfied. □

Remark 12. Let $(A, B) \in E(G)$. From the definition of the graph G and Lemma 11, we can make the following observations.

(1) If for some $i \in V(H)$, (G)(ii) holds with some $j \in V(H)$ such that $A_j \neq \emptyset$; let $\mu_i, \mu_j \in I$ be such that $i \in V_{\mu_i}$ and $j \in V_{\mu_j}$. Then, $\mu_i < \mu_j$.

(2) If for some $i \in V(H)$, (G)(iii)(b) holds, let $\mu_i \in I$ be such that $i \in V_{\mu_i}$. Then, for all $j \in V(H)$ such that $(j, i) \in E(H)$, there is $\mu_j \in I$ such that $j \in V_{\mu_j}$ and one has $\mu_j < \mu_i$.

Example 13. We consider H the MW-graph of Figure 2 for which we describe the collection of subsets V_μ constructed as in the proof of Lemma 11. In this graph,

$$\begin{gathered} C(H) = \{C_1, \ldots, C_6\}, \\ V^c = \{2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, \\ 18, 19, 20, 26, 27, 28\}, \\ V^e = \{1, 8, 9, 16, 17, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 29\}. \end{gathered} \tag{51}$$

Since $C_2 \prec C_4 \prec C_6 \prec C_5$, one has $L = 4$, and

$$\begin{aligned} V_{1,0} &= \{2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7\}, \\ V_{2,0} &= \{10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15\}, \\ V_{3,0} &= \{18, 19, 20\}, \\ V_{4,0} &= \{26, 27, 28\}. \end{aligned} \tag{52}$$

By considering the paths from $V_{1,0}$ to $V_{2,0}$, one sees that $N_1 = 2$, and

$$V_{1,1} = \{8\}, \qquad V_{1,2} = \{9\}. \tag{53}$$

By considering the paths from $V_{1,0} \cup V_{1,1} \cup V_{1,2} \cup V_{2,0}$ to $V_{3,0}$, one sees that $N_2 = 2$, and

$$V_{2,1} = \{16\}, \qquad V_{2,2} = \{17\}. \tag{54}$$

Similarly, one has $N_3 = 3$, and

$$V_{3,1} = \{23\}, \qquad V_{3,2} = \{24\}, \qquad V_{3,3} = \{25, 29\}. \tag{55}$$

So, the vertices which are not in one of the previous sets are in $V^0 = \{1, 21, 22\}$. Similarly, $N_0 = 2$, and

$$V_{0,1} = \{1, 21\}, \qquad V_{0,2} = \{22\}. \tag{56}$$

So, I is the totally ordered set:

$$\begin{gathered} (0,1) < (0,2) < (1,0) < (1,1) < (1,2) < (2,0) < (2,1) \\ < (2,2) < (3,0) < (3,1) < (3,2) < (3,3) < (4,0), \\ V(H) = \{1, \ldots, 29\} = \bigcup_{\mu \in I} V_\mu. \end{gathered} \tag{57}$$

4. A G-Contraction

In this section, we consider a graph-directed iterated function system over the graph H, $\{T_{i,j}\}_H$. We will define an appropriate multivalued G-contraction on X, where G and X are, respectively, the graph and the metric space endowed with this graph and defined in the previous section. This G-contraction will be used to get more information on the attractor of this H-IFS.

Let $A \in X$. For each j such that $A_j \neq \emptyset$, $T_{i,j}(A_j) \neq \emptyset$ for all i such that $(i, j) \in E(H)$. So, it is important to distinguish all those edges. To this aim, we introduce the following notations.

Let V^e be the subset of vertices in $V(H)$ which are not in connected components of H and defined in (25). So, for $i \in V^e$, we denote

$$E_i(A) = \{(i, j) \in E(H) : A_j \neq \emptyset\}. \tag{58}$$

For $\emptyset \neq P \subset E_i(A)$, we define

$$U_i^e(A, P) = \bigcup_{(i,j) \in P} T_{i,j}(A_j). \tag{59}$$

Let V^c be the subset of vertices in $V(H)$ which are in connected components of H and defined in (24). So, for $i \in V^c$, there exists $C \in C(H)$ such that $i \in V(C)$. We consider the set of edges from a vertex of C to a vertex outside of C for which the component of A is nonempty:

$$E_C(A) = \{(k, j) \in E(H) : k \in V(C), j \notin V(C), A_j \neq \emptyset\}. \tag{60}$$

For $k \in V(C)$, we denote

$$\begin{aligned} \left\{ i \xrightarrow{C} k \right\} = \Big\{ [i_k]_0^N \ &\text{which is a path in } C \text{ from } i = i_0 \\ &\text{to } k = i_N \text{ and containing no cycle} \Big\}, \end{aligned} \tag{61}$$

and we define $T_{i\to k}: X_k \to X_i$ by

$$T_{i\to k}(x) = \bigcup_{[i_k]_0^N \in \{i \overset{C}{\longrightarrow} k\}} T_{i_0,i_1} \circ \cdots \circ T_{i_{N-1},i_N}(x). \tag{62}$$

We define

$$U_i^c(A,P) = \begin{cases} \emptyset, & \text{if } P = \emptyset, \\ \bigcup_{(k,j)\in P} T_{i\to k} \circ T_{k,j}(A_j), & \text{if } \emptyset \neq P \subset E_C(A). \end{cases} \tag{63}$$

We also define

$$W_i(A) = \begin{cases} \emptyset, & \text{if } A_i = \emptyset, \\ \bigcup_{(i,j)\in E(C)} T_{i,j}(A_j), & \text{if } A_i \neq \emptyset, \end{cases} \tag{64}$$

where $E(C) = \{(k,j) \in E(H) : k, j \in V(C)\}$.

We have all the ingredients to define the multivalued map $F : X \to X$. For $A \in X$,

$$U = (U_1, \ldots, U_p) \in F(A) \Longleftrightarrow U_i \in F_i(A), \tag{65}$$

where $F_i(A)$ is defined as follows.

For $i \in V^e$,

$$F_i(A) = \begin{cases} \emptyset, & \text{if } E_i(A) = \emptyset, \\ \{U_i^e(A,P) : \emptyset \neq P \subset E_i(A)\}, & \text{if } E_i(A) \neq \emptyset. \end{cases} \tag{66}$$

For $i \in V(C)$ for some $C \in C(H)$,

$$F_i(A) = \begin{cases} \emptyset, & \text{if } A_i = \emptyset, \\ & E_C(A) = \emptyset, \\ \{U_i^c(A,P) : \emptyset \neq P \subset E_C(A)\}, & \text{if } A_i = \emptyset, \\ & E_C(A) \neq \emptyset, \\ \{W_i(A) \cup U_i^c(A,P) : P \subset E_C(A)\}, & \text{if } A_i \neq \emptyset. \end{cases} \tag{67}$$

Observe that F is well defined. Indeed, if $U \in F(A)$ is such that $U_i \neq \emptyset$ for i in some $V(C)$, then $U_j \neq \emptyset$ for all $j \in V(C)$. Also, there exists $C \in C(H)$ such that $U_i \neq \emptyset$ for all $i \in V(C)$. Moreover, the values of F are finite and hence closed.

We show that F is a multivalued G-contraction.

Proposition 14. *Let $F : X \to X$ be the multivalued map defined above. Then F is a G-contraction.*

Proof. We want to show that F is a G-contraction with constant of contraction:

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda = \max \Bigg\{ & \max\{\lambda_{i,j} : (i,j) \in E(H)\}, \\ & \max\left\{\frac{R}{R_i} : i \in \{1,\ldots,p\}\right\}, \\ & \max\Bigg\{\frac{R_i}{R_j} : i \in V_{\mu_i}, j \in V_{\mu_j} \text{ for } \mu_i, \mu_j \in I \\ & \qquad \text{such that } \mu_i < \mu_j\Bigg\}\Bigg\}, \end{aligned} \tag{68}$$

where R_i, I, and V_μ for $\mu \in I$ are given in Lemma 11. For $i, k \in V(C)$ for some $C \in C(H)$, we denote

$$\lambda_{i\to k} = \max\left\{\lambda_{i_0,i_1} \cdots \lambda_{i_{N-1},i_N} : [i_k]_0^N \in \left\{i \overset{C}{\longrightarrow} k\right\}\right\}, \tag{69}$$

where $\{i \overset{C}{\longrightarrow} k\}$ is given in (61). Observe that $\lambda_{i\to k} \leq \lambda$.

Let $A, B \in X$ be such that $(A,B) \in E(G)$ and $U \in F(A)$. We look for $\widehat{U} \in F(B)$ such that $(U,\widehat{U}) \in E(G)$ and $d(U,\widehat{U}) \leq \lambda d(A,B)$.

Step 1 ($i \in V^e$). Let $\mu \in I$ be such that $i \in V_\mu$.

Case 1 ($U_i = \emptyset$ and $\widetilde{U}_i \neq \emptyset$ for every $\widetilde{U} \in F(B)$). In this case, $E_i(A) = \emptyset$ and $E_i(B) \neq \emptyset$ by (66). Choose some $(i,j) \in E_i(B)$. Therefore, $A_j = \emptyset$, $B_j \neq \emptyset$, and for $\nu \in I$ such that $j \in V_\nu$, one has $\mu < \nu$.

By condition (G)(ii)(a), if $j \in V^e$, there exists $l \in V(H)$ such that $(j,l) \in E(H)$ and $A_l \neq \emptyset$. So, $(j,l) \in E_j(A)$.

On the other hand, if $j \in V(C)$ for some $C \in C(H)$, by condition (G)(ii)(b), there exist $k \in V(C)$ and $l \in V(H)$ such that $(k,l) \in E(H)$ and $A_l \neq \emptyset$. So, $(k,l) \in E_C(A)$ and $j,k \in V(C)$.

So, for the case $j \in V^e$ and the case $j \in V^c$, we obtain by (66) and (67),

$$U_i = \emptyset, \quad \widetilde{U}_i \neq \emptyset, \quad U_j \neq \emptyset \quad \text{for some } (i,j) \in V(H). \tag{70}$$

Moreover, by (21), (22), and (68),

$$\begin{aligned} &\overline{D}_i(U_i, \widetilde{U}_i) \\ &\quad = R_i = \frac{R_i}{R_j}\overline{D}_j(A_j, B_j) \leq \lambda d(A,B) \quad \forall \widetilde{U} \in F(B). \end{aligned} \tag{71}$$

Case 2 ($U_i \neq \emptyset$ and $\widetilde{U}_i = \emptyset$ for every $\widetilde{U} \in F(B)$). In this case, $E_i(A) \neq \emptyset$ and $E_i(B) = \emptyset$ by (66). Choose some $(i,j) \in E_i(A)$. Therefore, $A_j \neq \emptyset$, $B_j = \emptyset$, and for $\nu \in I$ such that $j \in V_\nu$, one has $\mu < \nu$. By conditions (G)(i) and (G)(iii), one has $j \in V^e$ and $B_i \neq \emptyset$. By (66), (67) and since $B_i \neq \emptyset$, one has

$$\begin{aligned} &U_i \neq \emptyset, \quad \widetilde{U}_i = \emptyset \text{ and one of the following situations hold:} \\ &\quad \text{(i) there is no } k \in V(H) \text{ such that } (k,i) \in E(H); \\ &\quad \text{(ii) } \forall k \in V(H) \text{ such that } (k,i) \in E(H), \\ &\qquad \widetilde{U}_k \neq \emptyset \quad \forall \widetilde{U} \in F(B). \end{aligned} \tag{72}$$

Also, by (21), (22), and (68),

$$\begin{aligned} &\overline{D}_i(U_i, \widetilde{U}_i) \\ &\quad = R_i = \frac{R_i}{R_j}\overline{D}_j(A_j, B_j) \leq \lambda d(A,B) \quad \forall \widetilde{U} \in F(B). \end{aligned} \tag{73}$$

Case 3 ($U_i \neq \emptyset$ and $\widetilde{U}_i \neq \emptyset$ for every $\widetilde{U} \in F(B)$). In this case, $U_i = U_i^e(A,P)$ for some $\emptyset \neq P \subset E_i(A)$, and $E_i(B) \neq \emptyset$ by (66).

If $P \subset E_i(B)$, one has by (21), (59), and (68),

$$\begin{aligned} &D_i\left(U_i^e(A,P), U_i^e(B,P)\right) \\ &\quad = D_i\left(\bigcup_{(i,j)\in P} T_{i,j}\left(A_j\right), \bigcup_{(i,j)\in P} T_{i,j}\left(B_j\right)\right) \\ &\quad \leq \max_{(i,j)\in P} D_i\left(T_{i,j}\left(A_j\right), T_{i,j}\left(B_j\right)\right) \\ &\quad \leq \max_{(i,j)\in P} \lambda_{i,j} D_j\left(A_j, B_j\right) \leq \lambda d(A,B). \end{aligned} \tag{74}$$

If $P \not\subset E_i(B)$, choose some $(i,j) \in P \setminus E_i(B)$. So, $A_j \neq \emptyset$, $B_j = \emptyset$, and, for $\nu \in I$ such that $j \in V_\nu$, one has $\mu < \nu$. Thus, by (21), (22), and (68),

$$\overline{D}_i\left(U_i, \widetilde{U}_i\right) \leq R = \frac{R}{R_j}\overline{D}_j\left(A_j, B_j\right) \leq \lambda d(A,B) \quad \forall \widetilde{U} \in F(B). \tag{75}$$

Combining (74) and (75), for $U_i = U_i^e(A,P)$ for some $P \subset E_i(A)$, we choose $\widetilde{U}_i \in F_i(B)$ such that

$$\widetilde{U}_i = \begin{cases} U_i^e(B,P), & \text{if } P \subset E_C(A) \cap E_C(B), \\ \widetilde{U}_i, & \text{otherwise, with some } \widetilde{U}_i \in F_i(B); \end{cases} \tag{76}$$

and we get

$$\overline{D}_i\left(U_i, \widetilde{U}_i\right) \leq \lambda d(A,B). \tag{77}$$

Step 2 ($i \in V(C)$ for some $C \in C(H)$). Let $\mu \in I$ be such that $i \in V_\mu$.

Case 4 ($U_i = \emptyset$ and $\widetilde{U}_i \neq \emptyset$ for every $\widetilde{U} \in F(B)$). In this case, $A_i = E_C(A) = \emptyset$ and $B_i \cup E_C(B) \neq \emptyset$ by (67).

If $B_i \neq \emptyset$, by condition (G)(ii)(b), there exist $k \in V(C)$ and $j \in V(H)$ such that $(k,j) \in E(H)$ and $A_j \neq \emptyset$. So, $(k,j) \in E_C(A)$. This contradicts the fact that $E_C(A) = \emptyset$.

If $E_C(B) \neq \emptyset$, by (60), there exist $k \in V(C)$ and $j \in V(H) \setminus V(C)$ such that $(k,j) \in E(H)$ and $B_j \neq \emptyset$ and, for $\nu \in I$ such that $j \in V_\nu$, one has $\mu < \nu$. Since $E_C(A) = \emptyset$, $A_j = \emptyset$. If $j \in V^e$, by condition (G)(ii)(a), there exists $l \in V(H)$ such that $(j,l) \in E(H)$ and $A_l \neq \emptyset$. So, $E_j(A) \neq \emptyset$, and $U_j \neq \emptyset$ by (66). On the other hand, if $j \in V(\widehat{C})$ for some $\widehat{C} \in C(H)$, by condition (G)(ii)(b), there exist $m \in V(\widehat{C})$, $l \in V(H)$ such that $(m,l) \in E(H)$ and $A_l \neq \emptyset$. So, $E_{\widehat{C}}(A) \neq \emptyset$ and $U_j \neq \emptyset$ by (67). Thus, for the case $j \in V^e$ and the case $j \in V^c$, we obtain

$$U_i = \emptyset, \quad \widetilde{U}_i \neq \emptyset, \quad U_j \neq \emptyset \quad \text{for some } (k,j) \in E_C(B). \tag{78}$$

Moreover, by (21), (22), and (68),

$$\begin{aligned} &\overline{D}_i\left(U_i, \widetilde{U}_i\right) \\ &\quad = R_i = \frac{R_i}{R_j}\overline{D}_j\left(A_j, B_j\right) \leq \lambda d(A,B) \quad \forall \widetilde{U} \in F(B). \end{aligned} \tag{79}$$

Case 5 ($U_i \neq \emptyset$ and $\widetilde{U}_i = \emptyset$ for every $\widetilde{U} \in F(B)$). In this case, $A_i \cup E_C(A) \neq \emptyset$ and $B_i \cup E_C(B) = \emptyset$ by (67). From condition (G)(iii), we deduce that $A_i = B_i = \emptyset$. Let $(k,j) \in E_C(A)$. One has $A_j \neq \emptyset$ and $B_j = \emptyset$ since $(k,j) \notin E_C(B)$. By condition (G)(iii), $j \in V^e$ and $B_k \neq \emptyset$ since $(k,j) \in E(H)$. This implies that $B_i \neq \emptyset$ by condition (Xii) since $i,k \in V(C)$. This is a contradiction. Thus,

$$U_i \neq \emptyset, \quad \widetilde{U}_i = \emptyset \quad \forall \widetilde{U} \in F(B) \text{ is impossible.} \tag{80}$$

Case 6 ($U_i \neq \emptyset$ and $\widetilde{U}_i \neq \emptyset$ for every $\widetilde{U} \in F(B)$). In this case, $A_i \cup E_C(A) \neq \emptyset$ and $B_i \cup E_C(B) \neq \emptyset$ by (67).

If $A_i \neq \emptyset$, by condition (G)(iii), $B_i \neq \emptyset$. So $W_i(A) \neq \emptyset$, $W_i(B) \neq \emptyset$, and, by (21), (64), and (68),

$$\begin{aligned} &D_i\left(W_i(A), W_i(B)\right) \\ &\quad = D_i\left(\bigcup_{(i,j)\in E(C)} T_{i,j}\left(A_j\right), \bigcup_{(i,j)\in E(C)} T_{i,j}\left(B_j\right)\right) \\ &\quad \leq \max_{(i,j)\in E(C)} D_i\left(T_{i,j}\left(A_j\right), T_{i,j}\left(B_j\right)\right) \\ &\quad \leq \max_{(i,j)\in E(C)} \lambda_{i,j} D_j\left(A_j, B_j\right) \\ &\quad \leq \lambda \max_{(i,j)\in E(C)} D_j\left(A_j, B_j\right) \leq \lambda d(A,B). \end{aligned} \tag{81}$$

If $E_C(A) \neq \emptyset$, for $\emptyset \neq P \subset E_C(A)$ such that $P \subset E_C(B)$, one has by (21), (62), (63), (68), and (69),

$$\begin{aligned} &D_i\left(U_i^c(A,P), U_i^c(B,P)\right) \\ &\quad = D_i\left(\bigcup_{(k,j)\in P} T_{i\to k} \circ T_{k,j}\left(A_j\right), \bigcup_{(k,j)\in P} T_{i\to k} \circ T_{k,j}\left(B_j\right)\right) \\ &\quad \leq \max_{(k,j)\in P} \lambda_{i\to k} D_k\left(T_{k,j}\left(A_j\right), T_{k,j}\left(B_j\right)\right) \\ &\quad \leq \max_{(k,j)\in P} \lambda_{i\to k}\lambda_{k,j} D_j\left(A_j, B_j\right) \\ &\quad \leq \lambda \max_{(k,j)\in P} D_j\left(A_j, B_j\right) \leq \lambda d(A,B). \end{aligned} \tag{82}$$

If $P \subset E_C(A)$ and $P \not\subset E_C(B)$, there exists $(k,j) \in P$ such that $A_j \neq \emptyset$, $B_j = \emptyset$ and, for $\nu \in I$ such that $j \in V_\nu$, one has $\mu < \nu$. Hence, by (21), (22), and (68),

$$\overline{D}_i\left(U_i, \widetilde{U}_i\right) \leq R = \frac{R}{R_j}\overline{D}_j\left(A_j, B_j\right) \leq \lambda d(A,B) \quad \forall \widetilde{U} \in F(B). \tag{83}$$

Combining (67), (81), (82), and (83), we choose $\widetilde{U}_i \in F_i(B)$ such that

$$\widetilde{U}_i = \begin{cases} W_i(B), & \text{if } U_i = W_i(A), \\ U_i^c(B,P), & \text{if } U_i = U_i^c(A,P) \\ & \text{for } \emptyset \neq P \subset E_C(A) \cap E_C(B), \\ W_i(B) \cup U_i^c(B,P), & \text{if } U_i = W_i(A) \cup U_i^c(A,P) \\ & \text{for } \emptyset \neq P \subset E_C(A) \cap E_C(B), \\ \widetilde{U}_i, & \text{otherwise,} \\ & \text{with some } \widetilde{U}_i \in F_i(B); \end{cases} \tag{84}$$

and we get

$$\overline{D}_i\left(U_i, \widetilde{U}_i\right) \leq \lambda d(A,B). \tag{85}$$

Step 3 (choice of an appropriate $\widetilde{U} \in F(B)$). Finally, we choose $\widetilde{U} \in F(B)$ as follows:

$$\widetilde{U}_i = \begin{cases} \emptyset, & \text{if } i \in V^e, E_i(B) = \emptyset, \\ \text{some } \widetilde{U}_i \in F_i(B), & \text{if } i \in V^e, U_i = \emptyset, \\ & E_i(B) \neq \emptyset, \\ \widetilde{U}_i \text{ given by } (76), & \text{if } i \in V^e, U_i \neq \emptyset, \\ & E_i(B) \neq \emptyset, \\ \emptyset, & \text{if } i \in V(C), \\ & B_i \cup E_C(B) = \emptyset, \\ \text{some } \widetilde{U}_i \in F_i(B), & \text{if } i \in V(C), U_i = \emptyset, \\ \widetilde{U}_i \text{ given by } (84), & \text{if } i \in V(C), U_i \neq \emptyset, \\ & B_i \cup E_C(B) \neq \emptyset. \end{cases} \tag{86}$$

It follows from (70), (72), (78), and (80) that

$$\left(U, \widetilde{U}\right) \in E(G). \tag{87}$$

Finally, from (71), (73), (77), (79), and (85), we deduce that

$$d\left(U, \widetilde{U}\right) \leq \lambda d(A,B). \tag{88}$$

Therefore, F is a G-contraction. □

Here is another property satisfied by the multivalued map F.

Lemma 15. *Let $F : X \to X$ be the multivalued map defined above. Then, for every $A^0 \in X$ and every $\{A^n\}$ G_1-Picard trajectory from A^0 converging to some $A \in X$, there exists $N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $(A^n, A) \in E(G)$ for all $n > N$.*

Proof. Let $A^0 \in X$ and $\{A^n\}$ a G_1-Picard trajectory from A^0 such that $A^n \to A$. Thus, there exists $N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $d(A^n, A) < R$ for all $n > N$. So, by (21) and (22), $A^n = (A_1^n, \dots, A_p^n)$ and $A = (A_1, \dots, A_p)$ are such that, for all $n > N$ and all $i \in V(H)$, $A_i^n = \emptyset$ if and only if $A_i = \emptyset$. Thus, (G)(i) is satisfied and $(A^n, A) \in E(G)$ for all $n > N$. □

5. Attractor of an H-IFS and Elements of $C(H)$

For $H = (V(H), E(H))$ an MW-directed graph, and $\{T_{i,j}\}_H$ a graph-directed iterated function system over the graph H, we consider K the attractor of this H-IFS insured by Theorem 6. We want to get more information on K by taking into account the connected components of H.

Theorem 16. *Let $H = (V(H), E(H))$ be an MW-directed graph. Let $\{T_{i,j}\}_H$ be an H-IFS and K its attractor. Then the following statements hold.*

(1) *For every $C \in C(H)$, there exists $K^+(C) \subset K$ such that*

  (a) *$K_i^+(C) \neq \emptyset$ for every $i \in V(C)$;*

  (b) *$K_i^+(C) \neq \emptyset$ for every $i \in [C]_{\leftarrow}$, where $[C]_{\leftarrow}$ is defined in (19).*

  (c) *$K_i^+(C) = \emptyset$ for every $i \notin [C]_{\leftarrow}$.*

(2) *If $C_1, C_2 \in C(H)$ are such that $C_1 \preceq C_2$, then $K^+(C_1) \subset K^+(C_2)$.*

(3) *If $C_1, C_2 \in C(H)$ are incomparable, then*

$$K_i^+(C_1) \cap K_i^+(C_2) = \emptyset \quad \forall i \notin \left([C_1]_{\leftarrow}\right) \cap \left([C_2]_{\leftarrow}\right). \tag{89}$$

(4) *There exists $K^- \in X$ such that $K^- \subset K$ and*

  (a) *for every $C \in C(H)$, $K_i^- = K_i^+(C)$ for every $i \in V(C)$ and $K_i^- \subset K_i^+(C)$ for every $i \in [C]_{\leftarrow}$;*

  (b) *if $C_1, C_2 \in C(H)$ are such that $C_1 \preceq C_2$, then*

$$K_i^- \subset K_i^+(C_1) \subset K_i^+(C_2) \quad \forall i \in [C_1]_{\leftarrow}; \tag{90}$$

  (c) *if $C_1, C_2 \in C(H)$ are incomparable, then,*

$$K_i^- \subset K_i^+(C_1) \cap K_i^+(C_2) \quad \forall i \in \left([C_1]_{\leftarrow}\right) \cap \left([C_2]_{\leftarrow}\right). \tag{91}$$

Proof. (1) Let $F : X \to X$ be the multivalued map defined in (65), (66), and (67). We know that F is a G-contraction by Proposition 14. Also, it follows from Lemma 15 that F satisfies condition (ii) of Theorem 9.

Theorem 6 and the definition of F imply that fixed points of F are included in K.

Let $C \in C(H)$. We want to show that there exists $K^+(C)$ a fixed point of F satisfying the required properties. Fix

$$A^0 = \left(A_1^0, \dots, A_p^0\right) \in X \quad \text{such that } A_i^0 \neq \emptyset \Longleftrightarrow i \in V(C). \tag{92}$$

For $n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$, we choose inductively

$$A^{n+1} \in F\left(A^n\right) \text{ the biggest element of } F\left(A^n\right). \tag{93}$$

That is, by (66) and (67), $A^{n+1} = (A_1^{n+1}, \dots, A_p^{n+1}) \in F(A^n)$ is chosen as follows.

For $i \in V^e$,

$$A_i^{n+1} = \begin{cases} \emptyset, & \text{if } E_i(A^n) = \emptyset; \\ U_i^e(A^n, E_i(A^n)), & \text{if } E_i(A^n) \neq \emptyset, \end{cases} \quad (94)$$

where E_i^e and U_i^e are defined in (58) and (59), respectively.

For $i \in V(\widehat{C})$ for some $\widehat{C} \in C(H)$,

$$A_i^{n+1} = \begin{cases} \emptyset, & \text{if } A_i^n = E_{\widehat{C}}(A^n) = \emptyset; \\ U_i^c(A^n, E_{\widehat{C}}(A^n)), & \text{if } A_i^n = \emptyset, E_{\widehat{C}}(A^n) \neq \emptyset; \\ W_i(A^n) \cup U_i^c(A^n, E_{\widehat{C}}(A^n)), & \text{if } A_i^n \neq \emptyset, \end{cases} \quad (95)$$

where $E_{\widehat{C}}$, U_i^c, and W_i are defined in (60), (63), and (64), respectively.

Arguing as in the proof of Proposition 14, one has that $(A^{n-1}, A^n) \in E(G)$ and

$$d(A^n, A^{n+1}) \leq \lambda d(A^{n-1}, A^n) \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}. \quad (96)$$

By Theorem 9, $\{A^n\}$ is a G_1-Picard trajectory converging to some $K^+(C) \in X$ a fixed point of F.

Observe that, for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and every $i \in V(C)$, $A_i^n \neq \emptyset$. Therefore,

$$K_i^+(C) \neq \emptyset \quad \forall i \in V(C). \quad (97)$$

Similarly, observe that, by construction, $A_i^n = \emptyset$ for every $i \notin [C]_{\leftarrow}$. Indeed, for such i, $E_i(A^{n-1}) = \emptyset$ if $i \in V^e$, and $A_i^{n-1} = E_{\widehat{C}}(A^{n-1}) = \emptyset$ if $i \in V(\widehat{C})$ for some $\widehat{C} \in V(C)$. Thus,

$$K_i^+(C) = \emptyset \quad \forall i \notin [C]_{\leftarrow}. \quad (98)$$

On the other hand, let

$$N_C = \max_{i \in [C]_{\leftarrow}} \left\{ \min \left\{ N : i = i_0, i_N \in V(C), \ [i_k]_0^N \text{ is a path in } H \text{ from } i \text{ to } i_N \right\} \right\}. \quad (99)$$

Again by construction, $A_i^n \neq \emptyset$ for all $n > N_C$, for all $i \in [C]_{\leftarrow}$. So,

$$K_i^+(C) \neq \emptyset \quad \forall i \in [C]_{\leftarrow}. \quad (100)$$

Finally, observe that $K^+(C)$ is independent of $A^0 \subset X$ chosen as in (92). Indeed, for

$$\widetilde{A}^0 = (\widetilde{A}_1^0, \ldots, \widetilde{A}_p^0) \in X \quad \text{such that } \widetilde{A}_i^0 \neq \emptyset \Longleftrightarrow i \in V(C), \quad (101)$$

we define inductively $\widetilde{A}^{n+1} \in F(\widetilde{A}^n)$ as in (93). Observe that $(A^n, \widetilde{A}^n) \in E(G)$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$. Arguing as in Proposition 14, one has

$$d(A^{n+1}, \widetilde{A}^{n+1}) \leq \lambda d(A^n, \widetilde{A}^n) \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}. \quad (102)$$

This inequality combined with the fact that $A^n \to K^+(C)$ implies that $\widetilde{A}^n \to K^+(C)$.

(2) Let $C_1, C_2 \in C(H)$ be such that $C_1 \preceq C_2$. One has

$$\{i \in [C_1]_{\leftarrow}\} \subset \{i \in [C_2]_{\leftarrow}\}. \quad (103)$$

Let $B^0 = (B_1^0, \ldots, B_p^0) \in X$ be such that

$$B_j^0 = \begin{cases} K_j^+(C_2), & \text{if } j \in [C_1]_{\leftarrow}, \\ \emptyset, & \text{if } j \notin [C_1]_{\leftarrow}. \end{cases} \quad (104)$$

By (1) and (G)(i), one has $(K^+(C_1), B^0) \in E(G)$ and $K^+(C_1) \in F(K^+(C_1))$. Let B^1 be the biggest element in $F(B^0)$; that is, B^1 is chosen similarly to (94) and (95). Observe that $B^1 \subset K^+(C_2)$, since $B^0 \subset K^+(C_2)$, $K^+(C_2) \in F(K^+(C_2))$, and by the definitions of F and $K^+(C_2)$. Arguing as in the proof of Proposition 14, one has $(K^+(C_1), B^1) \in E(G)$ and

$$d(K^+(C_1), B^1) \leq \lambda d(K^+(C_1), B^0). \quad (105)$$

Repeating this argument, we obtain $\{B^n\}$ a G_1-Picard trajectory from B^0 such that

$$B^n \subset K^+(C_2), \qquad d(K^+(C_1), B^n) \leq \lambda^n d(K^+(C_1), B^0) \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}. \quad (106)$$

Therefore, $B^n \to K^+(C_1)$ and

$$K^+(C_1) \subset K^+(C_2). \quad (107)$$

(3) If $C_1, C_2 \in C(H)$ are incomparable, it follows directly from (1)(c) that

$$K_i^+(C_1) \cap K_i^+(C_2) = \emptyset \quad \forall i \notin ([C_1]_{\leftarrow}) \cap ([C_2]_{\leftarrow}). \quad (108)$$

(4) For every $C \in C(H)$, $C = (V(C), E(C))$ is an MW-directed graph and

$$\{T_{i,j} : (i,j) \in E(C)\} \quad (109)$$

is a graph-directed iterated function system over the graph C. Let

$$K^-(C) = (K_i^-)_{i \in V(C)} \quad (110)$$

be the attractor of this graph-directed iterated system insured by Theorem 6.

We define $K^- \in X$ by

$$K^- = (K_1^-, \ldots, K_p^-), \text{ where} \quad K_i^- = \begin{cases} K_i^-(C), & \text{if } i \in V(C) \text{ for some } C \in C(H), \\ \emptyset, & \text{if } i \in V^e. \end{cases} \quad (111)$$

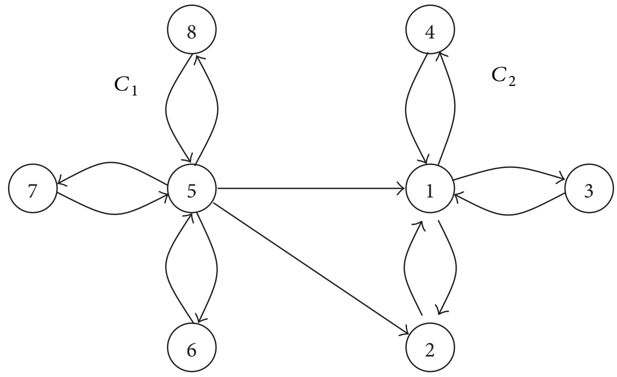

FIGURE 3: An MW-graph H with $C(H) = \{C_1, C_2\}$.

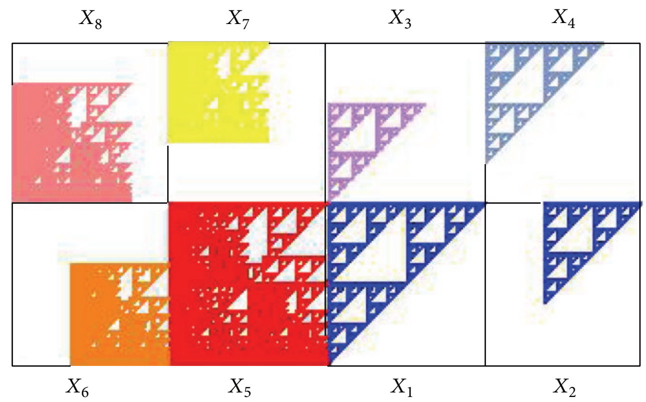

FIGURE 4: The set $K^+(C_2)$.

Let $C \in C(H)$ and $\{A^n\}$ the G_1-Picard trajectory from A^0 defined in (92) and (93). By (95), for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $E_C(A^{n-1}) = \emptyset$ and $A_i^n = W_i(A^{n-1})$ for all $i \in V(C)$. So, using (64) and (67) and the fact that $A_i^n \to K_i^+(C) \in F_i(K^+(C))$ for every $i \in V(C)$, we deduce that

$$K_i^+(C) = \bigcup_{(i,j)\in E(C)} T_{i,j}\left(K_j^+(C)\right) \quad \forall i \in V(C). \tag{112}$$

By definition of K^-,

$$K_i^- = \bigcup_{(i,j)\in E(C)} T_{i,j}\left(K_j^-\right) \quad \forall i \in V(C). \tag{113}$$

The uniqueness of the fixed point of this operator implies that

$$K_i^+(C) = K_i^- \quad \forall i \in V(C). \tag{114}$$

On the other hand, if $i \in V^e \cap [C]_{\leftarrow}$, one has $\emptyset = K_i^- \subset K_i^+(C)$. If $i \in V(\widehat{C}) \cap [C]_{\leftarrow}$ for some $C \neq \widehat{C} \in C(H)$, then $\widehat{C} \preceq C$. It follows from (114) and (2) that $K_i^- = K_i^+(\widehat{C}) \subset K_i^+(C)$.

The properties (4)(b) and (4)(c) follow directly from (2) and (4)(a). □

Example 17. Let H be the MW-graph of Figure 3.

We consider the H-IFS, $\{T_{i,j}\}_H$, with the metric spaces:

$$\begin{aligned} X_1 &= [1,2]\times[0,1], & X_2 &= [2,3]\times[0,1],\\ X_3 &= [1,2]\times[1,2], & X_4 &= [2,3]\times[1,2],\\ X_5 &= [0,1]\times[0,1], & X_6 &= [-1,0]\times[0,1],\\ X_7 &= [0,1]\times[1,2], & X_8 &= [-1,0]\times[1,2], \end{aligned} \tag{115}$$

and the contractions:

$$\begin{aligned} T_{1,2}(x) &= M_1x + \left(\frac{-2}{5}, \frac{1}{5}\right), & T_{1,3}(x) &= M_1x + \left(\frac{1}{5}, \frac{-4}{5}\right),\\ T_{1,4}(x) &= M_3x + \left(\frac{-1}{3}, \frac{-1}{3}\right), & T_{2,1}(x) &= M_2x + \left(\frac{14}{8}, \frac{3}{8}\right),\\ T_{3,1}(x) &= M_2x + \left(\frac{3}{8}, 1\right), & T_{4,1}(x) &= M_4x + \left(\frac{5}{4}, \frac{5}{4}\right),\\ T_{5,1}(x) &= M_4x + \left(\frac{-2}{4}, \frac{1}{4}\right), & T_{5,2}(x) &= M_3x + (-1,0),\\ T_{5,6}(x) &= M_1x + (1,0), & T_{5,7}(x) &= M_1x + \left(0, \frac{-3}{5}\right),\\ T_{5,8}(x) &= M_3x + \left(\frac{2}{3}, \frac{-2}{3}\right), & T_{6,5}(x) &= M_2x + \left(\frac{-5}{8}, 0\right),\\ T_{7,5}(x) &= M_2x + \left(0, \frac{11}{8}\right), & T_{8,5}(x) &= M_4x + (-1,1), \end{aligned} \tag{116}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} M_1 &= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{4}{5} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{4}{5} \end{pmatrix}, & M_2 &= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{5}{8} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{5}{8} \end{pmatrix},\\ M_3 &= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2}{3} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{2}{3} \end{pmatrix}, & M_4 &= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{3}{4} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{3}{4} \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned} \tag{117}$$

Figures 4 and 5 present $K^+(C_2)$ and K^-, respectively.

6. Attractor of an H-IFS and Subsets of $C(H)$

We obtain other pieces of information on the attractor of the graph-directed iterated function system by considering subsets of $C(H)$.

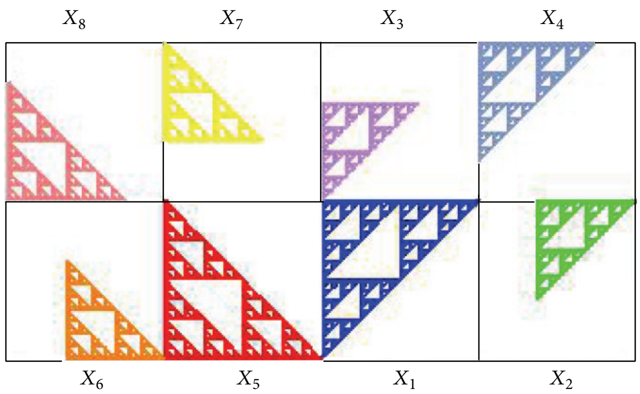

FIGURE 5: The set K^-.

Theorem 18. *Let $H = (V(H), E(H))$ be an MW-directed graph. Let $\{T_{i,j}\}_H$ be an H-IFS and K its attractor. Then the following statements hold:*

(1) *for every $\mathcal{S} \subset C(H)$, there exists $K^+(\mathcal{S}) \subset K$ such that*

(a) *$K^+(C) \subset K^+(\mathcal{S})$ for every $C \in \mathcal{S}$;*

(b) *$K_i^+(C) = K_i^+(\mathcal{S})$ for every $i \in V(C)$ and every maximal element $C \in \mathcal{S}$;*

(c) *$K_i^+(\mathcal{S}) \neq \emptyset$ if and only if $i \in \bigcup_{C\in\mathcal{S}}[C]_{\leftarrow}$*

(2) *if $\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2 \subset C(H)$ are such that, for every $C_1 \in \mathcal{S}_1$, there exists $C_2 \in \mathcal{S}_2$ such that $C_1 \preceq C_2$, then $K^+(\mathcal{S}_1) \subset K^+(\mathcal{S}_2)$,*

(3) *for $\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2 \subset C(H)$, one has*

$$K^+(\mathcal{S}_1) \cap K^+(\mathcal{S}_2) = \emptyset \quad \text{if} \quad \left(\bigcup_{C\in\mathcal{S}_1}[C]_{\leftarrow}\right) \cap \left(\bigcup_{C\in\mathcal{S}_2}[C]_{\leftarrow}\right) = \emptyset \tag{118}$$

(4) *the attractor K is such that $K = K^+(C(H))$.*

Proof. (1) By Proposition 14 and Lemma 15, the map $F : X \to X$ defined in (65), (66), and (67) is a G-contraction satisfying condition (ii) of Theorem 9. Also, from the proof of Theorem 16, we know that fixed points of F are included in K.

Let $\mathcal{S} \subset C(H)$. We want to show that there exists $K^+(\mathcal{S})$ a fixed point of F satisfying the required properties. Fix

$$\widehat{A}^0 = \left(\widehat{A}_1^0, \ldots, \widehat{A}_p^0\right) \in X \text{ such that } \widehat{A}_i^0 \neq \emptyset \Longleftrightarrow i \in \bigcup_{C\in\mathcal{S}} V(C),$$
$$\widehat{A}_i^0 = A_i^0 \text{ if } i \in V(C) \text{ for } C \in \mathcal{S}, \text{ where}$$
$$A^0 \text{ is defined in (92)}. \tag{119}$$

For $n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$, we choose inductively

$$\widehat{A}^{n+1} \in F\left(\widehat{A}^n\right) \quad \text{the biggest element of } F\left(\widehat{A}^n\right). \tag{120}$$

Arguing as in the proof of Theorem 16, one deduces that $\{\widehat{A}^n\}$ is a G_1-Picard trajectory converging to some $K^+(\mathcal{S}) \in X$ a fixed point of F. Also, $K^+(\mathcal{S})$ is independent of $\widehat{A}^0$ chosen as in (119).

For $C \in \mathcal{S}$, observe that $A^n \subset \widehat{A}^n$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$, where A^n is defined in (92) and (93). Since $\widehat{A}^n \to K^+(\mathcal{S})$ and $A^n \to K^+(C)$, we deduce that

$$K^+(C) \subset K^+(\mathcal{S}). \tag{121}$$

It follows from this inclusion and Theorem 16(1)(b) that

$$K_i^+(\mathcal{S}) \neq \emptyset \quad \forall i \in \bigcup_{C\in\mathcal{S}}[C]_{\leftarrow}. \tag{122}$$

On the other hand,

$$\widehat{A}_i^n = \emptyset \quad \forall i \notin \bigcup_{C\in\mathcal{S}}[C]_{\leftarrow}, \ \forall n \in \mathbb{N}. \tag{123}$$

Thus, (1)(c) holds.

In the particular case where $C \in \mathcal{S}$ is maximal, one has

$$A_i^n = \widehat{A}_i^n \quad \forall i \in V(C), \ \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}, \tag{124}$$

where A^n is defined in (93). Since

$$A_i^n \longrightarrow K_i^+(C), \qquad \widehat{A}_i^n \longrightarrow K_i^+(\mathcal{S}), \tag{125}$$

one has

$$K_i^+(C) = K_i^+(\mathcal{S}) \quad \forall i \in V(C). \tag{126}$$

((2) and (3)) The proofs are, respectively, analogous to those of (2) and (3) in Theorem 16.

(4) Let $\mathcal{S} = C(H)$. Since $K^+(C(H))$ is independent of the choice of $\widehat{A}^0$ in (119), we can fix

$$\widehat{A}^0 = \left(\widehat{A}_1^0, \ldots, \widehat{A}_p^0\right) \in X \text{ such that}$$
$$\widehat{A}_i^0 = \begin{cases} K_i, & \text{if } i \in V^c, \\ \emptyset, & \text{if } i \in V^e, \end{cases} \tag{127}$$

where V^c and V^e are defined in (24) and (25), respectively. Let $\widehat{A}^n$ be defined as in (120). We know that $\widehat{A}^n \to K^+(C(H))$. On the other hand, since K is the unique attractor of this H-IFS obtained in Theorem 6, we deduce that $K = K^+(C(H))$. □

In the following result, we see that the maximal elements of $C(H)$ play a key role.

Corollary 19. *Let $H = (V(H), E(H))$ be an MW-directed graph and $\{T_{i,j}\}_H$ an H-IFS. Then, for every $\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2 \subset C(H)$ such that*

$$\{C \in \mathcal{S}_1 : C \text{ is a maximal element of } \mathcal{S}_1\} = \{C \in \mathcal{S}_2 : C \text{ is a maximal element of } \mathcal{S}_2\}, \tag{128}$$

one has

$$K^+(\mathcal{S}_1) = K^+(\mathcal{S}_2). \tag{129}$$

Proof. Let $\mathcal{S} \subset C(H)$ and let

$$\mathcal{S}_m = \{C \in \mathcal{S} : C \text{ is a maximal element of } \mathcal{S}\}. \quad (130)$$

To conclude, it is sufficient to show that

$$K^+(\mathcal{S}) = K^+(\mathcal{S}_m). \quad (131)$$

It follows from Theorem 18(2) that

$$K^+(\mathcal{S}) \subset K^+(\mathcal{S}_m), \qquad K^+(\mathcal{S}_m) \subset K^+(\mathcal{S}). \quad (132)$$

□

7. Other Fixed Points of Our G-Contraction

In the proofs of Theorems 16 and 18, $K^+(C)$ and $K^+(\mathcal{S})$ were obtained as fixed points of the multivalued G-contraction F. In fact, much more fixed points of F can be obtained in order to get more information on the attractor K.

Let $\mathcal{S} \subset C(H)$. For a vertex $i \in V^e$, we consider the set of edges from i on a path to some vertex in $\mathcal{S}$:

$$\mathcal{E}_i(\mathcal{S}) = \begin{cases} \emptyset, & \text{if } i \notin \bigcup_{C\in\mathcal{S}} [C]_{\leftarrow}, \\ \left\{(i,j) \in E(H) : i, j \in \bigcup_{C\in\mathcal{S}} [C]_{\leftarrow}\right\}, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad (133)$$

Similarly, for $\widehat{C} \in C(H)$, we consider

$$\mathcal{E}_{\widehat{C}}(\mathcal{S}) = \begin{cases} \emptyset, & \text{if } V(\widehat{C}) \not\subset \bigcup_{C\in\mathcal{S}} [C]_{\leftarrow}, \\ \left\{(i,j) \in E(H) : i \in V(\widehat{C}), \right. \\ \left. j \notin V(\widehat{C}), j \in \bigcup_{C\in\mathcal{S}} [C]_{\leftarrow}\right\}, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad (134)$$

Finally, we consider suitable subsets of edges on paths in H reaching $\mathcal{S}$, that is, subsets of $\mathcal{E}_i(\mathcal{S})$ and $\mathcal{E}_{\widehat{C}}(\mathcal{S})$,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{Q}(\mathcal{S}) = \Big\{ & Q = (Q_i)_{i\in V^e} \times (Q_{\widehat{C}})_{\widehat{C}\in C(H)} : Q_{\widehat{C}} \subset \mathcal{E}_{\widehat{C}}(\mathcal{S}) \\ & \forall \widehat{C} \in C(H), \ \forall i \in V^e, \\ & Q_i \subset \mathcal{E}_i(\mathcal{S}), \ Q_i \neq \emptyset \text{ if } \mathcal{E}_i(\mathcal{S}) \neq \emptyset \Big\}. \end{aligned} \quad (135)$$

Using $\mathcal{Q}(\mathcal{S})$, we can obtain more information on $K^+(\mathcal{S})$.

Theorem 20. *Let $H = (V(H), E(H))$ be an MW-directed graph and $\{T_{i,j}\}_H$ an H-IFS. Then, the following statements hold.*

(1) *For every $\mathcal{S} \subset C(H)$ and every $Q \in \mathcal{Q}(\mathcal{S})$, there exists $K(\mathcal{S}, Q) \in X$ such that*

 (a) *$K(\mathcal{S}, Q) \subset K^+(\mathcal{S})$;*
 (b) *$K_i(\mathcal{S}, Q) \neq \emptyset$ if and only if $i \in \bigcup_{C\in\mathcal{S}}[C]_{\leftarrow}$;*
 (c) *$K_i(\mathcal{S}, Q) = K_i^+(\mathcal{S})$ for every $i \in V(C)$ and every $C \in \mathcal{S}$ maximal element in $\mathcal{S}$.*

(2) *For every $\mathcal{S} \subset C(H)$, if $Q, \widehat{Q} \in \mathcal{Q}(\mathcal{S})$ are such that $Q \subset \widehat{Q}$, then $K(\mathcal{S}, Q) \subset K(\mathcal{S}, \widehat{Q})$.*

(3) *Let $\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2 \subset C(H)$ be such that $\mathcal{S}_1 \subset \mathcal{S}_2$. If $Q \in \mathcal{Q}(\mathcal{S}_1) \cap \mathcal{Q}(\mathcal{S}_2)$, then $K(\mathcal{S}_1, Q) \subset K(\mathcal{S}_2, Q)$.*

(4) *Let $\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2 \subset C(H)$ be such that, for every $C_1 \in \mathcal{S}_1$, there exists $C_2 \in \mathcal{S}_2$ such that $C_1 \preceq C_2$. If $Q^1 \in \mathcal{Q}(\mathcal{S}_1)$ and $Q^2 \in \mathcal{Q}(\mathcal{S}_2)$ are such that $Q^1 \subset Q^2$, then $K(\mathcal{S}_1, Q^1) \subset K(\mathcal{S}_2, Q^2)$.*

(5) *For every $\mathcal{S} \subset C(H)$ and every $Q \in \mathcal{Q}(\mathcal{S})$, $K_i^- \subset K_i(\mathcal{S}, Q)$ for every $i \in V(\widehat{C})$ and every $\widehat{C} \in C(H)$ such that $V(\widehat{C}) \subset \bigcup_{C\in\mathcal{S}}[C]_{\leftarrow}$.*

Proof. (1) Let $Q \in \mathcal{Q}(\mathcal{S})$. From Proposition 14 and Lemma 15, $F : X \to X$ the multivalued map defined in (65), (66), and (67) is a G-contraction satisfying condition (ii) of Theorem 9. We want to show that there exists $K(\mathcal{S}, Q)$ a fixed point of F satisfying the required properties.

Fix

$$A^n(\mathcal{S}, Q) = \widehat{A}^n \in X \quad \forall n = 0, \dots, p, \quad (136)$$

where $\widehat{A}^n$ is defined in (119) and (120). From the definition of F, we can observe that

$$A^p(\mathcal{S}, Q) = \left(A_1^p(\mathcal{S}, Q), \dots, A_p^p(\mathcal{S}, Q)\right) \in X \quad (137)$$

is such that

$$A_i^p(\mathcal{S}, Q) \neq \emptyset \Longleftrightarrow i \in \bigcup_{C\in\mathcal{S}} [C]_{\leftarrow}. \quad (138)$$

Moreover, for every $i \in V^e$,

$$\begin{aligned} & Q_i \subset E_i(A^p(\mathcal{S}, Q)) \quad \forall i \in \bigcup_{C\in\mathcal{S}} [C]_{\leftarrow}, \\ & Q_i = E_i(A^p(\mathcal{S}, Q)) = \emptyset \quad \forall i \notin \bigcup_{C\in\mathcal{S}} [C]_{\leftarrow}, \end{aligned} \quad (139)$$

where $E_i(A^p(\mathcal{S}, Q))$ is defined in (58). Similarly, for every $\widehat{C} \in C(H)$,

$$\begin{aligned} & Q_{\widehat{C}} \subset E_{\widehat{C}}(A^p(\mathcal{S}, Q)) \quad \text{if } V(\widehat{C}) \subset \bigcup_{C\in\mathcal{S}} [C]_{\leftarrow}, \\ & Q_{\widehat{C}} = E_{\widehat{C}}(A^p(\mathcal{S}, Q)) = \emptyset \quad \text{if } V(\widehat{C}) \not\subset \bigcup_{C\in\mathcal{S}} [C]_{\leftarrow}, \end{aligned} \quad (140)$$

where $E_{\widehat{C}}(A^p(\mathcal{S}, Q))$ is defined in (60).

For $n > p$, we choose inductively

$$A^n(\mathcal{S}, Q) = \left(A_1^n(\mathcal{S}, Q), \dots, A_p^n(\mathcal{S}, Q)\right) \in F\left(A^{n-1}(\mathcal{S}, Q)\right) \quad (141)$$

with

$$A_i^n(\mathcal{S},Q) = \begin{cases} \emptyset, & \text{if } i \notin \bigcup_{C\in\mathcal{S}} [C]_{\leftarrow}, \\ U_i^e\left(A^{n-1}(\mathcal{S},Q), Q_i\right), & \text{if } i \in V^e \cap \bigcup_{C\in\mathcal{S}} [C]_{\leftarrow}, \\ W_i\left(A^{n-1}(\mathcal{S},Q)\right) & \\ \cup U_i^c\left(A^{n-1}(\mathcal{S},Q), Q_{\widehat{C}}\right), & \text{if } \widehat{C} \in C(H), \\ & i \in V(\widehat{C}) \cap \bigcup_{C\in\mathcal{S}} [C]_{\leftarrow}, \end{cases} \tag{142}$$

where U_i^e, U_i^c, and W_i are defined in (59), (63), and (64), respectively.

Arguing as in the proof of Theorem 16, one deduces that $\{A^n(\mathcal{S},Q)\}$ is a G_1-Picard trajectory converging to some $K(\mathcal{S},Q) \in X$ a fixed point of F. So, $K(\mathcal{S},Q)$ satisfies (1)(b). Again, it can be shown that $K(\mathcal{S},Q)$ is independent of $A^0(\mathcal{S},Q)$ chosen as in (136).

Observe that

$$A^n(\mathcal{S},Q) = \left(A_1^n(\mathcal{S},Q), \ldots, A_p^n(\mathcal{S},Q)\right) \subset \widehat{A}^n = \left(\widehat{A}_1^n, \ldots, \widehat{A}_p^n\right) \quad \forall n, \tag{143}$$

where $\widehat{A}^n$ is defined in (120) and $\widehat{A}^n \to K^+(\mathcal{S})$. Moreover, for every C maximal element in $\mathcal{S}$, $\mathcal{E}_C(\mathcal{S}) = \emptyset$ and

$$A_i^n(\mathcal{S},Q) = \widehat{A}_i^n \quad \forall i \in V(C). \tag{144}$$

Therefore, $K(\mathcal{S},Q)$ satisfies (1)(a),(c).

(2) Let $Q, \widehat{Q} \in \mathcal{Q}(\mathcal{S})$ be such that $Q \subset \widehat{Q}$. From (141) and (142), one sees that

$$A^n(\mathcal{S},Q) \subset A^n\left(\mathcal{S},\widehat{Q}\right) \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}. \tag{145}$$

Since $A^n(\mathcal{S},Q) \to K(\mathcal{S},Q)$ and $A^n(\mathcal{S},\widehat{Q}) \to K(\mathcal{S},\widehat{Q})$, one has that

$$K(\mathcal{S},Q) \subset K\left(\mathcal{S},\widehat{Q}\right). \tag{146}$$

(3) Let $\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2 \subset C(H)$ be such that $\mathcal{S}_1 \subset \mathcal{S}_2$ and let $Q \in \mathcal{Q}(\mathcal{S}_1) \cap \mathcal{Q}(\mathcal{S}_2)$. From (141) and (142), one sees that

$$A^n(\mathcal{S}_1,Q) \subset A^n(\mathcal{S}_2,Q) \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}. \tag{147}$$

Since $A^n(\mathcal{S}_1,Q) \to K(\mathcal{S}_1,Q)$ and $A^n(\mathcal{S}_2,Q) \to K(\mathcal{S}_2,Q)$, one has that

$$K(\mathcal{S}_1,Q) \subset K(\mathcal{S}_2,Q). \tag{148}$$

(4) Let $\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2 \subset C(H)$ be such that, for every $C_1 \in \mathcal{S}_1$, there exists $C_2 \in \mathcal{S}_2$ such that $C_1 \preceq C_2$. One has

$$\left\{ i \in \bigcup_{C_1\in\mathcal{S}_1} [C_1]_{\leftarrow} \right\} \subset \left\{ i \in \bigcup_{C_2\in\mathcal{S}_2} [C_2]_{\leftarrow} \right\}. \tag{149}$$

Let $Q^1 \in \mathcal{Q}(\mathcal{S}_1)$ and $Q^2 \in \mathcal{Q}(\mathcal{S}_2)$ be such that $Q^1 \subset Q^2$. Fix

$$B^p\left(\mathcal{S}_1,Q^1\right) = \left(B_1^p\left(\mathcal{S}_1,Q^1\right), \ldots, B_p^p\left(\mathcal{S}_1,Q^1\right)\right) \in X \tag{150}$$

to be such that

$$B_j^p\left(\mathcal{S}_1,Q^1\right) = \begin{cases} K_j\left(\mathcal{S}_2,Q^2\right), & \text{if } j \in \bigcup_{C_1\in\mathcal{S}_1} [C_1]_{\leftarrow}, \\ \emptyset, & \text{if } j \notin \bigcup_{C_1\in\mathcal{S}_1} [C_1]_{\leftarrow}. \end{cases} \tag{151}$$

One has $(K(\mathcal{S}_1,Q^1), B^p(\mathcal{S}_1,Q^1)) \in E(G)$ and $K(\mathcal{S}_1,Q^1) \in F(K(\mathcal{S}_1,Q^1))$. For $n = p+1$, we define

$$B^n\left(\mathcal{S}_1,Q^1\right) = \left(B_1^n\left(\mathcal{S}_1,Q^1\right), \ldots, B_p^n\left(\mathcal{S}_1,Q^1\right)\right) \in F\left(B^p\left(\mathcal{S}_1,Q^1\right)\right) \tag{152}$$

by

$$B_i^n\left(\mathcal{S}_1,Q^1\right) = \begin{cases} \emptyset, & \text{if } i \notin \bigcup_{C\in\mathcal{S}_1} [C]_{\leftarrow}, \\ U_i^e\left(B^p\left(\mathcal{S}_1,Q^1\right), Q_i^1\right), & \text{if } i \in V^e \cap \bigcup_{C\in\mathcal{S}_1} [C]_{\leftarrow}, \\ W_i\left(B^p\left(\mathcal{S}_1,Q^1\right)\right) & \\ \cup U_i^c\left(B^p\left(\mathcal{S}_1,Q^1\right), Q_{\widehat{C}}^1\right), & \text{if } \widehat{C} \in C(H), \\ & i \in V(\widehat{C}) \cap \bigcup_{C\in\mathcal{S}_1} [C]_{\leftarrow}. \end{cases} \tag{153}$$

Since $B^p(\mathcal{S}_1,Q^1) \subset K(\mathcal{S}_2,Q^2)$, $K(\mathcal{S}_2,Q^2) \in F(K(\mathcal{S}_2,Q^2))$, $Q^1 \subset Q^2$ and using the definitions of F and $K(\mathcal{S}_2,Q^2)$, we deduce that $B^{p+1}(\mathcal{S}_1,Q^1) \subset K(\mathcal{S}_2,Q^2)$. Also, $(K(\mathcal{S}_1,Q^1), B^{p+1}(\mathcal{S}_1,Q^1)) \in E(G)$. Arguing as in the proof of Proposition 14, one has

$$\begin{aligned} &d\left(K\left(\mathcal{S}_1,Q^1\right), B^{p+1}\left(\mathcal{S}_1,Q^1\right)\right) \\ &\quad \le \lambda d\left(K\left(\mathcal{S}_1,Q^1\right), B^p\left(\mathcal{S}_1,Q^1\right)\right). \end{aligned} \tag{154}$$

Repeating this argument, we obtain for every $n \ge p$, $B^n(\mathcal{S}_1,Q^1) \in K(\mathcal{S}_2,Q^2)$ such that $B^n(\mathcal{S}_1,Q^1) \to K(\mathcal{S}_1,Q^1)$. Therefore,

$$K\left(\mathcal{S}_1,Q^1\right) \subset K\left(\mathcal{S}_2,Q^2\right). \tag{155}$$

(5) Let $\mathcal{S} \subset C(H)$ and $\widehat{C} \in C(H)$ be such that $V(\widehat{C}) \subset \bigcup_{C\in\mathcal{S}} [C]_{\leftarrow}$. Let

$$Q = (Q_i)_{i\in V^e} \times (Q_C)_{C\in C(H)} \in \mathcal{Q}(\mathcal{S}). \tag{156}$$

We define

$$\widehat{Q} = \left(\widehat{Q}_i\right)_{i\in V^e} \times \left(\widehat{Q}_C\right)_{C\in C(H)} \tag{157}$$

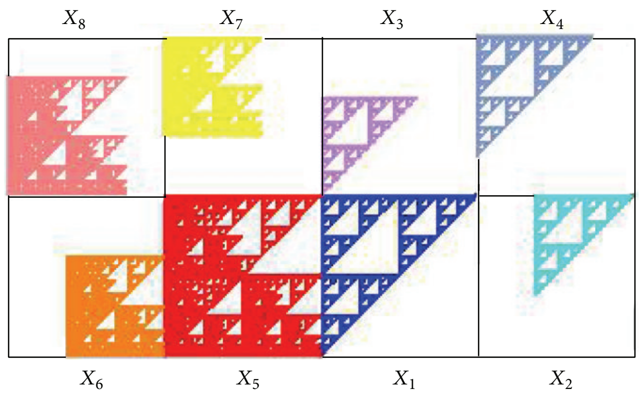

FIGURE 6: The set $K(C_2, Q^1)$.

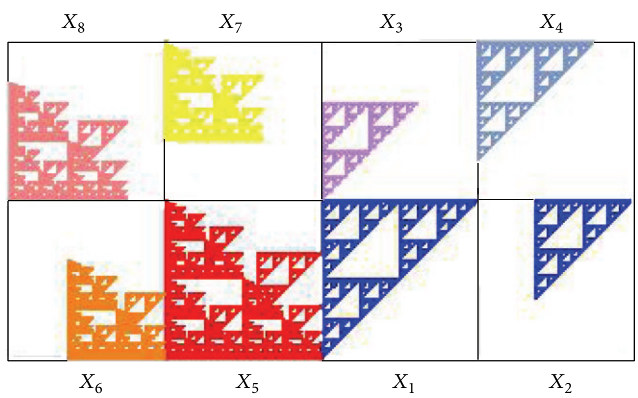

FIGURE 7: The set $K(C_2, Q^2)$.

by

$$\widehat{Q}_i = \begin{cases} Q_i, & \text{if } i \in V^e, \mathscr{E}_i(\widehat{C}) \neq \emptyset, \\ \emptyset, & \text{if } i \in V^e, \mathscr{E}_i(\widehat{C}) = \emptyset; \end{cases} \qquad (158)$$

$$\widehat{Q}_C = \emptyset, \quad \text{for } C \in C(H).$$

Clearly, $\widehat{Q} \in \mathscr{Q}(\widehat{C})$ and $\widehat{Q} \subset Q$. It follows from (2), (4), and Theorem 16(4) that

$$K(\widehat{C}, \widehat{Q}) \subset K(\mathscr{S}, Q),$$
$$K_i(\widehat{C}, \widehat{Q}) = K_i^+(\widehat{C}) = K_i^- \quad \forall i \in V(\widehat{C}). \qquad (159)$$

□

Example 21. Let $\{T_{i,j}\}_H$ be the H-IFS considered in Example 17. One has $C(H) = \{C_1, C_2\}$, $V^e = \emptyset$, $\mathscr{E}_{C_2}(C_2) = \emptyset$, and $\mathscr{E}_{C_1}(C_2) = \{(5,1),(5,2)\}$. For $k = 1, 2$ let $Q^k = Q^k_{C_1} \times Q^k_{C_2} \in \mathscr{Q}(C_2)$ be given by

$$Q^1_{C_1} = \{(5,1)\}, \qquad Q^2_{C_1} = \{(5,2)\}, \qquad Q^1_{C_2} = Q^2_{C_2} = \emptyset. \qquad (160)$$

Figures 6 and 7 present $K(C_2, Q^1)$ and $K(C_2, Q^2)$, respectively. Observe that

$$K(C_2, Q^1) \neq K(C_2, Q^2), \qquad K(C_2, Q^1) \subsetneq K^+(C_2),$$
$$K(C_2, Q^2) \subsetneq K^+(C_2), \qquad (161)$$

where $K^+(C_2)$ is presented in Figure 4.

Conflict of Interests

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interests regarding the publication of this paper.

Acknowledgment

This work was partially supported by CRSNG Canada.

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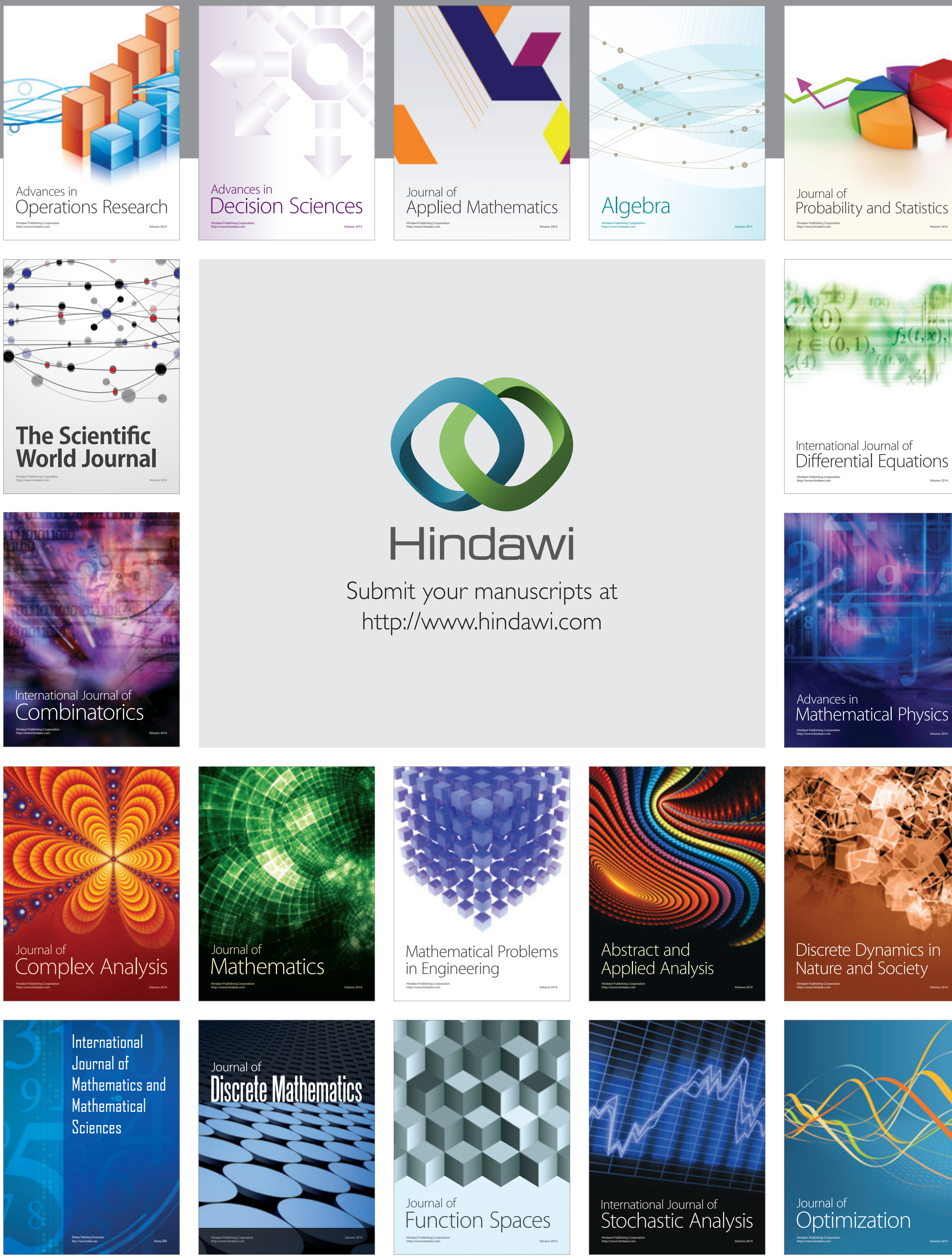
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