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December  
2016

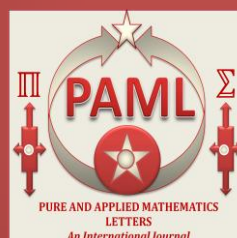
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*An International Journal*

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by

*G. A. Okeke and H. Akewe*

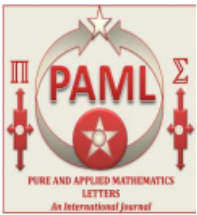


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P A M L December 2016

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Contents list available at HCTM TECHNICAL CAMPUS  
**PURE AND APPLIED MATHEMATICS LETTERS**

ISSN NO 2349-4956 (journal home page: [www.pamletters.org](http://www.pamletters.org))



## Some new coupled fixed point theorems on partial metric spaces

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### ARTICLE INFORMATION

Manuscript No: 2701062014  
 Received: 27<sup>th</sup> June 2014  
 Revised: 12<sup>th</sup> January 2016  
 Accepted: 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2016  
 Communicated by Prof. V. K. Kaushik

**Mathematical Classification:**  
 47H10; 54H25.

### ABSTRACT

In this paper, we obtain some new coupled fixed point theorems for mappings satisfying some contractive conditions on complete partial metric space. Our results unify, extend and generalize the results of [3] and [12].

**Keywords:** Metric spaces, partial metric spaces, complete partial metric space, coupled fixed point, unique coupled fixed point.

### 1. Introduction

The concept of coupled fixed point for a partially ordered set  $X$  was introduced in [4] by Bhaskar and Lakshmikantham. Several other authors such as Ćirić and Lakshmikantham [5], Sabetghadam *et al.* [12] have proved some coupled fixed point results in metric spaces. The concept of a partial metric space (PMS) was introduced in 1992 by Matthews [7]. The PMS is a generalization of the usual metric spaces in which  $d(x, x)$  need not be zero. Recently, many authors have contributed much to the literature (see [1-3,6-7,8-11]). Recently, Hassen Aydi [3] proved some coupled fixed point results on PMS. Our new results are unification, an extension and a generalization of [3] and [12]. In the sequel, we give some definitions of some applicable concepts.

**Definition 1.1 [3].** An element  $(x, y) \in X \times X$  is said to be a coupled fixed point of the mapping  $F: X \times X \rightarrow X$  if  $F(x, y) = x$  and  $F(y, x) = y$ .

**Definition 1.2 [3].** A partial metric on a nonempty set  $X$  is a function  $p: X \times X \rightarrow \mathfrak{R}^+$  such that for all  $x, y, z \in X$ :

$$(p1) \quad x = y \Leftrightarrow p(x, x) = p(x, y) = p(y, y)$$

$$(p2) \quad p(x, y) \leq p(x, x)$$

$$(p3) \quad p(x, y) = p(y, x)$$

$$(p4) \quad p(x, y) \leq p(x, z) + p(z, y) - p(z, z).$$

A partial metric space is a pair  $(X, p)$  such that  $X$  is a nonempty set and  $p$  is a partial metric on  $X$ .

**Remark 1.1.** Observe that if  $p(x, y) = 0$ , then by (p1), (p2) and (p3)  $x = y$ . But  $x = y$  does not imply that  $p(x, y)$  is zero.

If  $p$  is a partial metric on a nonempty set  $X$ , then the function  $p^s: X \times X \rightarrow \mathfrak{R}_+$  given by  $p^s(x, y) = 2p(x, y) - p(x, x) - p(y, y)$ , is a metric on  $X$ .

**Example 1.1 [6].** If  $X = \mathfrak{R}^{N_0} \cup \bigcup_{n \geq 1} \mathfrak{R}^{\{0,1,\dots,n-1\}}$ , where  $N_0$  is the set of nonnegative integers. By  $L(x)$  denote the set  $\{0,1,\dots,n\}$  if  $x \in \mathfrak{R}^{\{0,1,\dots,n-1\}}$  for some  $n \in N$ , and the set  $N_0$  if  $x \in \mathfrak{R}^{N_0}$ . Then a partial metric is defined on  $X$  by

$$p(x, y) = \inf\{2^{-i} \mid i \in L(x) \cap L(y) \text{ and } \forall j \in N_0 (j < i \Rightarrow x(j) = y(j))\}.$$

Set  $\rho_p := \inf\{p(x, y) : x, y \in X\} = \inf\{p(x, x) : x \in X\}$ . Notice that  $X_p$  may be empty.

**Example 1.2 [6].** If  $X = \{[a, b] \mid a, b \in \mathfrak{R}, a \leq b\}$  then  $p([a, b], [c, d]) = \max\{b, d\} - \min\{a, c\}$  defines a partial metric  $p$  on  $X$ .

**Definition 1.3 [3].** Let  $(X, p)$  be a partial metric space, then

- (i) a sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in a partial metric space  $(X, p)$  converges to a point  $x \in X$  if and only if  $p(x, x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} p(x, x_n)$ ;
- (ii) a sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in a partial metric space  $(X, P)$  is called a Cauchy sequence if there exists (and is finite)  $\lim_{n, m \rightarrow +\infty} p(x_n, x_m)$ ;
- (iii) a partial metric space  $(X, p)$  is said to be complete if every Cauchy sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in  $X$  converges to a point  $x \in X$ , that is,

$$p(x, x) = \lim_{n, m \rightarrow +\infty} p(x_n, x_m).$$

**Lemma 1.1 [3].** Let  $(X, p)$  be a partial metric space;

- (a)  $\{x_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $(X, p)$  if and only if it is a Cauchy sequence in the metric space  $(X, p^s)$ .
- (b) a partial metric space  $(X, p)$  is complete if and only if the metric space  $(X, p^s)$  is complete; furthermore,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} p^s(x_n, x) = 0$  if and only if  $p(x, x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} p(x_n, x) = \lim_{n, m \rightarrow +\infty} p(x_n, x_m)$ .

Hassen Aydi [3] proved the following coupled fixed point results on PMS.

$$p(F(x, y), F(u, v)) \leq kp(x, u) + lp(y, v) \quad (1)$$

$$p(F(x, y), F(u, v)) \leq kp(F(x, y), x) + lp(F(u, v), u) \quad (2)$$

$$p(F(x, y), F(u, v)) \leq kp(F(x, y), u) + lp(F(u, v), x) \quad (3)$$

with  $k + l < 1$  in (1.1) - (1.2) and  $k + 2l < 1$  in (3).

## 2. Main Results

**Theorem 2.1.** Let  $(X, p)$  be a complete partial metric space. Suppose that the mapping  $F: X \times X \rightarrow X$  satisfies the following contractive condition for all  $x, y, u, v \in X$

$$\begin{aligned} p(F(x, y), F(u, v)) \leq & a_1p(x, u) + a_2p(y, v) + a_3p(F(x, y), x) \\ & + a_4p(F(u, v), u) + a_5p(F(x, y), u) \\ & + a_6p(F(u, v), x) \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

where  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_6$  are nonnegative constants with  $a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + a_4 + a_5 + 2a_6 < 1$ . Then,  $F$  has a unique coupled fixed point.

**Proof.** Choose  $x_0, y_0 \in X$  and set  $x_1 = F(x_0, y_0)$  and  $y_1 = F(y_0, x_0)$ . Continuing this process, set  $x_{n+1} = F(x_n, y_n)$  and  $y_{n+1} = F(y_n, x_n)$ . Then by (4), we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} p(x_n, x_{n+1}) &= p(F(x_{n-1}, y_{n-1}), F(x_n, y_n)) \\ &\leq a_1p(x_{n-1}, x_n) + a_2p(y_{n-1}, y_n) + a_3p(F(x_{n-1}, y_{n-1}), x_{n-1}) \\ &\quad + a_4p(F(x_n, y_n), x_n) + a_5p(F(x_{n-1}, y_{n-1}), x_n) \\ &\quad + a_6p(F(x_n, y_n), x_{n-1}) \\ &= a_1p(x_{n-1}, x_n) + a_2p(y_{n-1}, y_n) + a_3p(x_n, x_{n-1}) \\ &\quad + a_4p(x_{n+1}, x_n) + a_5p(x_n, x_n) + a_6p(x_{n+1}, x_{n-1}) \\ &\leq a_1p(x_{n-1}, x_n) + a_2p(y_{n-1}, y_n) + a_3p(x_n, x_{n-1}) \\ &\quad + a_4p(x_{n+1}, x_n) + a_5p(x_n, x_{n+1}) + a_6p(x_{n+1}, x_{n-1}) \\ &\leq a_1p(x_{n-1}, x_n) + a_2p(y_{n-1}, y_n) + a_3p(x_n, x_{n-1}) \\ &\quad + a_4p(x_{n+1}, x_n) + a_5p(x_n, x_{n+1}) \\ &\quad + a_6p(x_{n+1}, x_n) + a_6p(x_n, x_{n-1}). \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned} p(y_n, y_{n+1}) &\leq a_1p(y_{n-1}, y_n) + a_2p(x_{n-1}, x_n) + a_3p(y_n, y_{n-1}) \\ &\quad + a_4p(y_{n+1}, y_n) + a_5p(y_n, y_{n+1}) + a_6p(y_{n+1}, y_n) \\ &\quad + a_6p(y_n, y_{n-1}). \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

Set

$$\begin{aligned} d_n &= p(x_n, x_{n+1}) + p(y_n, y_{n+1}) \\ &\leq a_1p(x_{n-1}, x_n) + a_2p(y_{n-1}, y_n) + a_3p(x_n, x_{n-1}) \\ &\quad + a_4p(x_{n+1}, x_n) + a_5p(x_n, x_{n+1}) + a_6p(x_{n+1}, x_n) + \\ &\quad a_6p(x_n, x_{n-1}) + a_1p(y_{n-1}, y_n) + a_2p(x_{n-1}, x_n) \\ &\quad + a_3p(y_n, y_{n-1}) + a_4p(y_{n+1}, y_n) + a_5p(y_n, y_{n+1}) \\ &\quad + a_6p(y_{n+1}, y_n) + a_6p(y_n, y_{n-1}) \\ &= (a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + a_6)p(x_n, x_{n-1}) \\ &\quad + (a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + a_6)p(y_n, y_{n-1}) \\ &\quad + (a_4 + a_5 + a_6)p(x_n, x_{n+1}) \\ &\quad + (a_4 + a_5 + a_6)p(y_n, y_{n+1}). \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

Hence:

$$\begin{aligned}
(1 - a_4 - a_5 - a_6)[p(x_n, x_{n+1}) + p(y_n, y_{n+1})] & \leq (a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + a_6) \\
& p(x_n, x_{n-1}) + (a_1 + a_2 \\
& + a_3 + a_6)p(y_n, y_{n-1}).
\end{aligned} \tag{8}$$

This implies that

$$p(x_n, x_{n+1}) + p(y_n, y_{n+1}) \leq \frac{a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + a_6}{1 - a_4 - a_5 - a_6} [p(x_n, x_{n-1}) + p(y_n, y_{n-1})]. \tag{9}$$

i.e  $d_n \leq \lambda d_{n-1}$ , where  $\lambda = \frac{a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + a_6}{1 - a_4 - a_5 - a_6} < 1$ . Consequently, for all  $n \in N$ , we obtain:

$$d_n \leq \lambda d_{n-1} + \lambda^2 d_{n-2} \leq \dots \leq \lambda^n d_0. \tag{10}$$

$d_0 = 0$  implies that  $p(x_0, x_1) + p(y_0, y_1) = 0$ . Hence, from Remark 1.1, we obtain  $x_0 = x_1 = F(x_0, y_0)$  and  $y_0 = y_1 = F(y_0, x_0)$ , meaning that  $(x_0, y_0)$  is a coupled fixed point of  $F$ . If  $d_0 > 0$ , for all  $n \geq m$ , we obtain, in view of (p4)

$$\begin{aligned}
p(x_n, x_m) & \leq p(x_n, x_{n-1}) + p(x_{n-1}, x_{n-2}) - p(x_{n-1}, x_{n-1}) \\
& + p(x_{n-2}, x_{n-3}) + p(x_{n-3}, x_{n-4}) - p(x_{n-3}, x_{n-3}) \\
& + \dots + p(x_{m+2}, x_{m+1}) + p(x_{m+1}, x_m) - p(x_{m+1}, x_{m+1}) \\
& \leq p(x_n, x_{n-1}) + p(x_{n-1}, x_{n-2}) + \dots + p(x_{m+1}, x_m).
\end{aligned} \tag{11}$$

Similarly, we obtain

$$p(y_n, y_m) \leq p(y_n, y_{n-1}) + p(y_{n-1}, y_{n-2}) + \dots + p(y_{m+1}, y_m). \tag{12}$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned}
p(x_n, x_m) + p(y_n, y_m) & \leq d_{n-1} + d_{n-2} + \dots + d_m \\
& \leq (\lambda^{n-2} + \lambda^{n-3} + \dots + \lambda^m) d_0 \leq \frac{\lambda^m}{1 - \lambda} d_0.
\end{aligned} \tag{13}$$

Using the definition of  $p^s$ , we obtain  $p^s(x, y) \leq 2p(x, y)$ , hence for each  $n \geq m$

$$p^s(x_n, x_m) + p^s(y_n, y_m) \leq 2p(x_n, x_m) + 2p(y_n, y_m) \leq 2 \frac{\lambda^m}{1 - \lambda} d_0, \tag{14}$$

this implies that  $\{x_n\}$  and  $\{y_n\}$  are Cauchy sequences in  $(X, p^s)$ , since  $\lambda = \frac{a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + a_6}{1 - a_4 - a_5 - a_6} < 1$ . But the PMS  $(X, p)$  is complete, and by Lemma 1.1, the metric space  $(X, p^s)$  is complete, so there exists  $u^*, v^* \in X$  such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} p^s(x_n, u^*) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} p^s(y_n, v^*) = 0, \tag{15}$$

using Lemma 1.1, we obtain:

$$p(u^*, u^*) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} p(x_n, u^*) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} p(x_n, x_n), \tag{16}$$

$$p(v^*, v^*) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} p(y_n, v^*) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} p(y_n, y_n). \tag{17}$$

Using condition (p2) and (10), we obtain:

$$p(x_n, x_n) \leq p(x_n, x_{n+1}) \leq d_n \leq \lambda^n d_0. \tag{18}$$

But  $\lambda \in [0, 1)$ , by letting  $n \rightarrow +\infty$ , we obtain  $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} p(x_n, x_n) = 0$ . Hence,

$$p(u^*, u^*) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} p(x_n, u^*) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} p(x_n, x_n) = 0. \tag{19}$$

Similarly, we obtain:

$$p(v^*, v^*) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} p(y_n, v^*) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} p(y_n, y_n) = 0. \tag{20}$$

Consequently, by (p4) and (4),

$$\begin{aligned}
p(F(u^*, v^*), u^*) & \leq p(F(u^*, v^*), x_{n+1}) + p(x_{n+1}, u^*) - p(x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) \\
& \leq p(F(u^*, v^*), F(x_n, y_n)) + p(x_{n+1}, u^*) \\
& \leq a_1 p(u^*, x_n) + a_2 p(v^*, y_n) + a_3 p(F(u^*, v^*), u^*) \\
& \quad + a_4 p(F(x_n, y_n), x_n) + a_5 p(F(u^*, v^*), x_n) \\
& \quad + a_6 p(F(x_n, y_n), u^*) + p(x_{n+1}, u^*) \\
& = a_1 p(u^*, x_n) + a_2 p(v^*, y_n) + a_3 p(F(u^*, v^*), u^*) \\
& \quad + a_4 p(x_{n+1}, x_n) + a_5 p(F(u^*, v^*), x_n) \\
& \quad + a_6 p(x_{n+1}, u^*) + p(x_{n+1}, u^*) \\
& \leq a_1 p(u^*, x_n) + a_2 p(v^*, y_n) + a_3 p(F(u^*, v^*), u^*) \\
& \quad + a_4 p(x_{n+1}, x_n) + a_4 p(u^*, x_n) + a_5 p(F(u^*, v^*), u^*) \\
& \quad + a_5 p(u^*, x_n) + a_6 p(x_{n+1}, u^*) + p(x_{n+1}, u^*).
\end{aligned} \tag{21}$$

Now letting  $n \rightarrow +\infty$ , and using (16)-(17), we have:

$$p(F(u^*, v^*), u^*) \leq a_3 p(F(u^*, v^*), u^*) + a_5 p(F(u^*, v^*), u^*) + (a_3 + a_5) p(F(u^*, v^*), u^*). \quad (22)$$

From (22), suppose that  $p(F(u^*, v^*), u^*) \neq 0$ , so that we can conclude that  $1 \leq (a_3 + a_5)$  which is a contradiction. Hence  $p(F(u^*, v^*), u^*) = 0$ , i.e  $F(v^*, u^*) = v^*$ . Hence  $(u^*, v^*)$  is a coupled fixed point of  $F$ . Next, we prove the uniqueness of the coupled fixed point of  $F$ . Suppose that  $(u', v')$  is another coupled fixed point of  $F$ , then, by using (4),

$$\begin{aligned} p(u', u^*) &= p(F(u', v'), F(u^*, v^*)) \\ &\leq a_1 p(u', u^*) + a_2 p(v', v^*) + a_3 p(F(u', v'), u') \\ &\quad + a_4 p(F(u^*, v^*), u^*) + a_5 p(F(u', v'), u^*) \\ &\quad + a_6 p(F(u^*, v^*), u') \\ &= a_1 p(u', u^*) + a_2 p(v', v^*) + a_3 p(u', u') + a_4 p(u^*, u^*) + \\ &\quad a_5 p(u', u^*) + a_6 p(u^*, u') \\ &\leq a_1 p(u', u^*) + a_2 p(v', v^*) + a_3 p(u', u^*) + a_4 p(u', u^*) \\ &\quad + a_5 p(u', u^*) + a_6 p(u^*, u') \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

Similarly,

$$p(v', v^*) \leq a_1 p(v', v^*) + a_2 p(u', u^*) + a_3 p(v', v^*) + a_4 p(v', v^*) + a_5 p(v', v^*) + a_6 p(v^*, v'). \quad (24)$$

Hence,

$$p(u', u^*) + p(v', v^*) \leq (a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + a_4 + a_5 + a_6)[p(u', u^*) + p(v', v^*)] \quad (25)$$

But  $a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + a_4 + a_5 + 2a_6 < 1$  implies that  $a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + a_4 + a_5 + a_6 < 1$ . This implies that  $p(u', u^*) + p(v', v^*) = 0$ , hence  $u^* = u'$  and  $v^* = v'$ . Hence,  $F$  has a unique coupled fixed point. ■

Theorem 2.1 lead to the following Corollary:

**Corollary 2.1.** Let  $(X, p)$  be a complete partial metric space. Suppose that the mapping  $F: X \times X \rightarrow X$  satisfies the following contractive condition for all  $x, y, u, v \in X$

$$p(F(x, y), F(u, v)) \leq \frac{a_1}{6} [p(x, u) + p(y, v) + p(F(x, y), x) + p(F(u, v), u) + p(F(x, y), u) + p(F(u, v), x)] \quad (26)$$

where  $0 \leq a_1 < 1$ . Then,  $F$  has a unique coupled fixed point.

**Example 2.1.** Let  $X = [0, +\infty)$  endowed with the usual partial metric  $\rho$  defined by  $p: X \times X \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$  with  $p(x, y) = \max\{x, y\}$ . The partial metric space  $(X, p)$  is complete because  $(X, p^s)$  is complete. Indeed, for any  $x, y \in X$ ,

$$p^s(x, y) = 2p(x, y) - p(x, x) - p(y, y) = 2\max\{x, y\} - (x + y) = |x - y|, \quad (27)$$

Thus,  $(X, p^s)$  is the Euclidean metric space which is complete. Consider the mapping  $F: X \times X \rightarrow X$  defined by  $F(x, y) = \frac{x+y}{12}$ . For any  $x, y, u, v \in X$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} p(F(x, y), F(u, v)) &= \frac{1}{12} \max\{x + y, u + v, F(x, y) + F(u, v), x + u, \\ &\quad F(x, y) + F(u, v), u + x\} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{12} [\max\{x, u\} + \max\{y, v\} + \max\{F(x, y), x\} \\ &\quad + \max\{F(u, v), u\} + \max\{F(x, y), u\} \\ &\quad + \max\{F(u, v), x\}] \\ &= \frac{1}{12} [p(x, u) + p(y, v) + p(F(x, y), x) \\ &\quad + p(F(u, v), u) + p(F(x, y), u) + p(F(u, v), x)]. \end{aligned} \quad (28)$$

Observe that (28) is the contractive condition (26) with  $a_1 = \frac{1}{2}$ . Hence by Corollary 2.1,  $F$  has a unique coupled fixed point, which is  $(0, 0)$ .

Observe that if the mapping  $F: X \times X \rightarrow X$  is given by  $F(x, y) = \frac{(x+y)}{6}$ , then  $F$  satisfies the contractive condition (26) for  $a_1 = 1$ , i.e

$$\begin{aligned} p(F(x, y), F(u, v)) &= \frac{1}{6} \max\{x + y, u + v, F(x, y) + F(u, v), x + u, F(x, y) + F(u, v), u + x\} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{6} [\max\{x, u\} + \max\{y, v\} + \max\{F(x, y), x\} + \max\{F(u, v), u\} + \max\{F(x, y), u\} + \max\{F(u, v), x\}] \\ &= \frac{1}{6} [p(x, u) + p(y, v) + p(F(x, y), x) + p(F(u, v), u) + p(F(x, y), u) + p(F(u, v), x)] \end{aligned}$$

However,  $(0,0)$  and  $(1,1)$  are both coupled fixed points of  $F$  under this condition that  $a_1 = 1$ . This shows that the condition  $a_1 < 1$  is essential in Corollary 2.1 and Theorem 2.1 to obtain a unique coupled fixed point of  $F$ .

**Remark 2.1.** Theorem 2.1 is a unification, an extension and a generalization of Theorem 2.1 [3], Theorem 2.4 [3] and Theorem 2.5 [3]. If  $a_3 = a_4 = a_5 = a_6 = 0$ , then we obtain the results of Theorem 2.1 [3]. If  $a_1 = a_2 = a_5 = a_6 = 0$ , then we obtain Theorem 2.4 [3]. If  $a_1 = a_2 = a_3 = a_4 = 0$ , then we obtain Theorem 2.5 [3]. Similarly, Corollary 2.1 extends, unifies and generalizes Corollary 2.2 [3], Corollary 2.6 [3] and Corollary 2.7 [3].

**Theorem 2.2.** Let  $(X, p)$  be a complete partial metric space. Suppose that the mapping  $F: X \times X \rightarrow X$  satisfies the following contractive condition for all  $x, y, u, v \in X$

$$p(F(x, y), F(u, v)) \leq k\ell_{x,y,u,v} \quad (29)$$

where

$$\ell_{x,y,u,v} \in \left\{ p(x, u), p(y, v), p(F(x, y), x), p(F(u, v), u), \frac{p(F(x, y), u) + p(F(u, v), x)}{2} \right\} \quad (30)$$

and  $k \in [0, 1)$ . Then  $F$  has a unique coupled fixed point.

**Proof.** Choose  $x_0, y_0 \in X$  and set  $x_1 = F(x_0, y_0)$  and  $y_1 = F(y_0, x_0)$ . Continuing this process, set  $x_{n+1} = F(x_n, y_n)$  and  $y_{n+1} = F(y_n, x_n)$ . Then by (29) and (p2) we obtain:

$$p(x_n, x_{n+1}) = p(F(x_{n-1}, y_{n-1}), F(x_n, y_n)) \leq k\ell_{x,y,u,v}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \ell_{x,y,u,v} &\in \left\{ p(x_{n-1}, x_n), p(y_{n-1}, y_n), p(F(x_{n-1}, y_{n-1}), x_{n-1}), \right. \\ &\quad \left. p(F(x_n, y_n), x_n), \frac{p(F(x_{n-1}, y_{n-1}), x_n) + p(F(x_n, y_n), x_{n-1})}{2} \right\} \\ &= \left\{ p(x_{n-1}, x_n), p(y_{n-1}, y_n), p(x_n, x_{n-1}), p(x_{n+1}, x_n), \right. \\ &\quad \left. \frac{p(x_n, x_n) + p(x_{n+1}, x_{n-1})}{2} \right\} \\ &\leq \left\{ p(x_{n-1}, x_n), p(y_{n-1}, y_n), p(x_n, x_{n-1}), p(x_{n+1}, x_n), \right. \\ &\quad \left. \frac{p(x_n, x_{n+1}) + p(x_{n+1}, x_{n-1})}{2} \right\} \\ &\leq \left\{ p(x_{n-1}, x_n), p(y_{n-1}, y_n), p(x_n, x_{n-1}), p(x_{n+1}, x_n), \right. \\ &\quad \left. \frac{p(x_n, x_{n+1}) + p(x_{n+1}, x_n) + p(x_n, x_{n-1})}{2} \right\} \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

Similarly,

$$p(y_n, y_{n+1}) = p(F(y_{n-1}, x_{n-1}), F(y_n, x_n)) \leq k\ell_{x,y,u,v} \quad (32)$$

where

$$\ell_{x,y,u,v} \in \left\{ p(y_{n-1}, y_n), p(x_{n-1}, x_n), p(y_n, y_{n-1}), p(y_{n+1}, y_n), \right. \\ \left. \frac{p(y_n, y_{n+1}) + p(y_{n+1}, y_n) + p(y_n, y_{n-1})}{2} \right\} \quad (33)$$

Set  $d_n = p(x_n, x_{n+1}) + p(y_n, y_{n+1})$ .

**Case 1.** If  $\ell_{x,y,u,v} = p(x_{n-1}, x_n) + p(y_{n-1}, y_n)$ , then  $d_n \leq p(x_{n-1}, x_n) + p(y_{n-1}, y_n) = d_{n-1} \leq kd_{n-1}$ . Hence, (29) is satisfied.

**Case 2.** If  $\ell_{x,y,u,v} = p(x_{n+1}, x_n) + p(y_{n+1}, y_n)$ , then  $d_n = p(x_{n+1}, x_n) + p(y_{n+1}, y_n) \leq kd_n$ . Hence, (29) is satisfied.

**Case 3.** If  $\ell_{x,y,u,v} = \frac{p(x_n, x_{n+1}) + p(x_{n+1}, x_n) + p(x_n, x_{n-1})}{2} + \frac{p(y_n, y_{n+1}) + p(y_{n+1}, y_n) + p(y_n, y_{n-1})}{2}$  then

$$\begin{aligned} d_n &\leq \frac{p(x_n, x_{n+1}) + p(x_{n+1}, x_n) + p(x_n, x_{n-1})}{2} + \frac{p(y_n, y_{n+1}) + p(y_{n+1}, y_n) + p(y_n, y_{n-1})}{2} \\ &= \frac{2p(x_{n+1}, x_n) + p(x_n, x_{n-1})}{2} + \frac{2p(y_{n+1}, y_n) + p(y_n, y_{n-1})}{2} \\ &\leq p(x_n, x_{n+1}) + \frac{p(x_n, x_{n-1})}{2} + p(y_n, y_{n+1}) + \frac{p(y_n, y_{n-1})}{2}. \end{aligned} \quad (34)$$

Hence, from (34) we obtain  $0 \leq \frac{p(x_n, x_{n-1})}{2} + \frac{p(y_n, y_{n-1})}{2}$ , this implies that  $0 \leq p(x_n, x_{n-1}) + p(y_n, y_{n-1}) = d_{n-1}$ . Hence (29) is satisfied in all cases.

Consequently, for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we obtain:

$$d_n \leq kd_{n-1} + k^2d_{n-2} \leq \dots \leq k^nd_0. \quad (35)$$



$d_0 = 0$  implies that  $p(x_0, x_1) + p(y_0, y_1) = 0$ . Hence, from Remark 1.1, we obtain  $x_0 = x_1 = F(x_0, y_0)$  and  $y_0 = y_1 = F(y_0, x_0)$ , meaning that  $(x_0, y_0)$  is a coupled fixed point of  $F$ . If  $d_0 > 0$ , for all  $n \geq m$ , we obtain, in view of (p4)

$$\begin{aligned} p(x_n, x_m) &\leq p(x_n, x_{n-1}) + p(x_{n-1}, x_{n-2}) - p(x_{n-1}, x_{n-1}) \\ &\quad + p(x_{n-2}, x_{n-3}) + p(x_{n-3}, x_{n-4}) - p(x_{n-3}, x_{n-3}) \\ &\quad + \cdots + p(x_{m+2}, x_{m+1}) + p(x_{m+1}, x_m) - p(x_{m+1}, x_{m+1}) \\ &\leq p(x_n, x_{n-1}) + p(x_{n-1}, x_{n-2}) + \cdots + p(x_{m+1}, x_m). \end{aligned} \quad (36)$$

Similarly, we obtain:

$$p(y_n, y_m) \leq p(y_n, y_{n-1}) + p(y_{n-1}, y_{n-2}) + \cdots + p(y_{m+1}, y_m). \quad (37)$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} p(x_n, x_m) + p(y_n, y_m) &\leq d_{n-1} + d_{n-2} + \cdots + d_m \\ &\leq (k^{n-2} + k^{n-3} + \cdots + k^m) d_0 \\ &\leq \frac{k^m}{1-k} d_0. \end{aligned} \quad (38)$$

Using the definition of  $p^s$ , we obtain  $p^s(x, y) \leq 2p(x, y)$ , hence for each  $n \geq m$

$$p^s(x_n, x_m) + p^s(y_n, y_m) \leq 2p(x_n, x_m) + 2p(y_n, y_m) \leq 2 \frac{k^m}{1-k} d_0, \quad (39)$$

this implies that  $\{x_n\}$  and  $\{y_n\}$  are Cauchy sequences in  $(X, p^s)$ , since  $k \in [0, 1)$ .

But the PMS  $(X, p)$  is complete, and by Lemma 1.1, the metric space  $(X, p^s)$  is complete, so there exists  $u^*, v^* \in X$  such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} p^s(x_n, u^*) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} p^s(y_n, v^*) = 0, \quad (40)$$

using Lemma 1.1, we obtain:

$$p(u^*, u^*) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} p(x_n, u^*) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} p(x_n, x_n), \quad (41)$$

$$p(v^*, v^*) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} p(y_n, v^*) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} p(y_n, y_n). \quad (42)$$

Using condition (p2) and (35), we obtain:

$$p(x_n, x_n) \leq p(x_n, x_{n+1}) \leq d_n \leq \lambda^n d_0. \quad (43)$$

But  $\lambda \in [0, 1)$ , by letting  $n \rightarrow +\infty$ , we obtain  $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} p(x_n, x_n) = 0$ . Hence,

$$p(u^*, u^*) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} p(x_n, u^*) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} p(x_n, x_n) = 0. \quad (44)$$

Similarly, we obtain:

$$p(v^*, v^*) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} p(y_n, v^*) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} p(y_n, y_n) = 0. \quad (45)$$

Hence, by using (29) and (p4), we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} p(F(u^*, v^*), u^*) &\leq p(F(u^*, v^*), x_{n+1}) + p(x_{n+1}, u^*) - p(x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) \\ &\leq p(F(u^*, v^*), F(x_n, y_n)) + p(x_{n+1}, u^*) \\ &\leq k \ell_{x_n, y_n, u^*, v^*} + p(x_{n+1}, u^*), \end{aligned} \quad (46)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \ell_{x_n, y_n, u^*, v^*} &\in \left\{ p(u^*, x_n), p(v^*, y_n), p(F(u^*, v^*), u^*), \right. \\ &\quad \left. p(F(x_n, y_n), x_n), \frac{p(F(u^*, v^*), x_n) + p(F(x_n, y_n), u^*)}{2} \right\} \\ &= \left\{ p(u^*, x_n), p(v^*, y_n), p(F(u^*, v^*), u^*), \right. \\ &\quad \left. p(x_{n+1}, x_n), \frac{p(F(u^*, v^*), x_n) + p(x_{n+1}, u^*)}{2} \right\}. \end{aligned} \quad (47)$$

We now consider the following cases:

*Case 1<sup>0</sup>.* If  $\ell_{x_n, y_n, u^*, v^*} = p(u^*, x_n)$ , then from (46) we obtain:

$$p(F(u^*, v^*), u^*) \leq kp(u^*, x_n) + p(x_{n+1}, u^*). \quad (48)$$

By letting  $n \rightarrow +\infty$  and using (44)-(45), we obtain  $p(F(u^*, v^*), u^*) = 0$ .

*Case 2<sup>0</sup>.* If  $\ell_{x_n, y_n, u^*, v^*} = p(v^*, y_n)$ , then from (46), we obtain:

$$p(F(u^*, v^*), u^*) \leq kp(v^*, y_n) + p(x_{n+1}, u^*). \quad (49)$$

By letting  $n \rightarrow +\infty$  and using (44)-(45), we obtain  $p(F(u^*, v^*), u^*) = 0$ .

Case 3<sup>0</sup>. If  $\ell_{x_n, y_n, u^*, v^*} = p(F(u^*, v^*), u^*)$ , then from (46), we obtain:

$$p(F(u^*, v^*), u^*) \leq kp(F(u^*, v^*), u^*) + p(x_{n+1}, u^*). \quad (50)$$

By letting  $n \rightarrow +\infty$  and using (44), we obtain:

$$p(F(u^*, v^*), u^*) \leq kp(F(u^*, v^*), u^*). \quad (51)$$

From (51), we can obtain a contradiction if we assume that  $p(F(u^*, v^*), u^*) \neq 0$ , this implies that  $1 \leq k$  which ultimately gives a contradiction, hence  $p(F(u^*, v^*), u^*) = 0$ .

Case 4<sup>0</sup>. If  $\ell_{x_n, y_n, u^*, v^*} = p(x_{n+1}, x_n)$ , then from (46), we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} p(F(u^*, v^*), u^*) &\leq kp(x_{n+1}, x_n) + p(x_{n+1}, u^*) \\ &\leq kp(x_{n+1}, u^*) + kp(u^*, x_n) + p(x_{n+1}, u^*). \end{aligned} \quad (52)$$

By letting  $n \rightarrow +\infty$  and using (44)-(45), we obtain  $p(F(u^*, v^*), u^*) = 0$ .

Case 5<sup>0</sup>. If  $\ell_{x_n, y_n, u^*, v^*} = \frac{p(F(u^*, v^*), x_n) + p(x_{n+1}, u^*)}{2}$ , then from (46), we have:

$$\begin{aligned} p(F(u^*, v^*), u^*) &\leq k\left[\frac{p(F(u^*, v^*), x_n) + p(x_{n+1}, u^*)}{2}\right] + p(x_{n+1}, u^*) \\ &\leq k\left(\frac{p(F(u^*, v^*), u^*)}{2}\right) + k\left(\frac{p(u^*, x_n)}{2}\right) + k\left(\frac{p(x_{n+1}, u^*)}{2}\right) \\ &\quad + p(x_{n+1}, u^*). \end{aligned} \quad (53)$$

By letting  $n \rightarrow +\infty$  and using (44)-(45), we obtain

$$p(F(u^*, v^*), u^*) \leq k\left(\frac{p(F(u^*, v^*), u^*)}{2}\right). \quad (54)$$

Thus, by Case 3<sup>0</sup>, we have  $p(F(u^*, v^*), u^*) = 0$  since  $k < 1$  implies that  $\frac{k}{2} < 1$ .

Hence in all cases, we have  $p(F(u^*, v^*), u^*) = 0$ , that is  $F(u^*, v^*) = u^*$ .

Similarly, we obtain  $F(v^*, u^*) = v^*$ , this means that  $(u^*, v^*)$  is a coupled fixed point of  $F$ . Next, we prove that the coupled fixed point of  $F$  is unique. Suppose that  $(u', v')$  is another coupled fixed point of  $F$ , then, in view of (29), we have:

$$\begin{aligned} p(u', u^*) &= p(F(u', v'), F(u^*, v^*)) \\ &\leq k\ell_{u', u^*}. \end{aligned} \quad (55)$$

where,

$$\ell_{u', u^*} \in \left\{ p(u', u^*), p(v', v^*), p(F(u', v'), u'), p(F(u^*, v^*), u^*), \frac{p(F(u', v'), u^*) + p(F(u^*, v^*), u')}{2} \right\}. \quad (56)$$

Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned} p(v', v^*) &= p(F(v', u'), F(v^*, u^*)) \\ &\leq k\ell_{v', v^*} \end{aligned} \quad (57)$$

where,

$$\ell_{v', v^*} \in \left\{ p(v', v^*), p(u', u^*), p(F(v', u'), v'), p(F(v^*, u^*), v^*), \frac{p(F(v', u'), v^*) + p(F(v^*, u^*), v')}{2} \right\}. \quad (58)$$

Adding (55) and (57), we obtain  $p(u', u^*) + p(v', v^*)$ .

We now consider the following cases:

Case 1<sup>1</sup>. If  $\ell_{u', u^*} = p(u', u^*)$ ,  $\ell_{v', v^*} = p(v', v^*)$  then from (55) and (57), we obtain:

$$p(u', u^*) + p(v', v^*) \leq k[p(u', u^*) + p(v', v^*)]. \quad (59)$$

But  $k \in [0, 1)$ , implies that  $p(u', u^*) + p(v', v^*) = 0$ . Hence,  $u^* = u'$  and  $v^* = v'$ .

Case 2<sup>1</sup>. If  $\ell_{u', u^*} = p(v', v^*)$ ,  $\ell_{v', v^*} = p(u', u^*)$ , then from (55) and (57), we obtain:

$$p(u', u^*) + p(v', v^*) \leq k[p(v', v^*) + p(u', u^*)]. \quad (60)$$

But  $k \in [0, 1)$ , implies that  $p(u', u^*) + p(v', v^*) = 0$ . Hence,  $u^* = u'$  and  $v^* = v'$ .

Case 3<sup>1</sup>. If  $\ell_{u', u^*} = p(F(u', v'), u')$ ,  $\ell_{v', v^*} = p(F(v', u'), v')$ , then we have

$$\begin{aligned} p(u', u^*) + p(v', v^*) &\leq k[p(F(u', v'), u') + p(F(v', u'), v')] \\ &= k[p(u', u') + p(v', v')] \\ &\leq k[p(u', u^*) + p(v', v^*)]. \end{aligned} \quad (61)$$



But  $k \in [0,1)$ , implies that  $p(u', u^*) + p(v', v^*) = 0$ . Hence,  $u^* = u'$  and  $v^* = v'$ .

Case 4<sup>1</sup>. If  $\ell_{u', u^*} = p(F(u^*, v^*), u^*)$ ,  $\ell_{v', v^*} = p(F(v^*, u^*), v^*)$ , then we have

$$\begin{aligned} p(u', u^*) + p(v', v^*) &\leq k[p(F(u^*, v^*), u^*) + p(F(v^*, u^*), v^*)] \\ &= k[p(u^*, u^*) + p(v^*, v^*)] \\ &\leq k[p(u', u^*) + p(v', v^*)]. \end{aligned} \tag{62}$$

But  $k \in [0,1)$ , implies that  $p(u', u^*) + p(v', v^*) = 0$ . Hence,  $u^* = u'$  and  $v^* = v'$ .

Case 5<sup>1</sup>. If

$\ell_{u', u^*} = \frac{p(F(u', v'), u^*) + p(F(u^*, v^*), u')}{2}$ ,  $\ell_{v', v^*} = \frac{p(F(v', u'), v^*) + p(F(v^*, u^*), v')}{2}$ , then we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} p(u', u^*) + p(v', v^*) &\leq k \left[ \frac{p(F(u', v'), u^*) + p(F(u^*, v^*), u')}{2} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{p(F(v', u'), v^*) + p(F(v^*, u^*), v')}{2} \right] \\ &= k \left[ \frac{p(u', u^*) + p(u^*, u')}{2} + \frac{p(v', v^*) + p(v^*, v')}{2} \right] \\ &= k[p(u', u^*) + p(v', v^*)] \end{aligned} \tag{63}$$

But  $k \in [0,1)$ , implies that  $p(u', u^*) + p(v', v^*) = 0$ . Hence,  $u^* = u'$  and  $v^* = v'$ .

Hence, in all cases, we have established that  $u^* = u'$  and  $v^* = v'$ . Hence  $(u^*, v^*)$  is a unique coupled fixed point of  $F$ .

**Remark 2.2.** Theorem 2.2 is a unification, an extension and a generalization of the results of [12]. Since [12, Theorem 2.2], [12, Corollary 2.3], [12, Theorem 2.6], [12, Corollary 2.7] and [12, Corollary 2.8] are all special cases of Theorem 2.2.

## Acknowledgements

The authors are grateful to the anonymous referees for their comments. The authors are grateful to J. O. Olaleru for his useful comments leading to the improvement of this paper and the first author is thankful to M. O. Osilike who first introduced him to Functional Analysis.

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