



## Ordered cone metric spaces and fixed point results

Ishak Altun<sup>a</sup>, Vladimir Rakočević<sup>b,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Science and Arts, Kirikkale University, 71450-Yahsihan, Kirikkale, Turkey

<sup>b</sup> Faculty of Mathematics and Sciences, University of Nis, Visegradska 33, 18000 Nis, Serbia

### ARTICLE INFO

#### Article history:

Received 1 April 2009

Received in revised form 23 April 2010

Accepted 22 May 2010

#### Keywords:

Banach spaces

Cone metric space

Fixed point

Partial order

### ABSTRACT

In this paper, we introduce a partial order on a cone metric space and prove a Caristi-type theorem. Furthermore, we prove fixed point theorems for single-valued nondecreasing and weakly increasing mappings, and multi-valued mappings on an ordered cone metric space.

© 2010 Elsevier Ltd. All rights reserved.

### 1. Introduction

Non-convex analysis, especially ordered normed spaces, normal cones and Topical functions [1–7], has several applications in optimization theory. In these cases an order is introduced by using vector space cones. Huang and Zang [5] used this approach, and they replaced the real numbers by ordering Banach space and defined a cone metric space. Also, they proved some fixed point theorems of contractive mappings on this new setting.

After the definition of the concept of cone metric space in [5], fixed point theory on these spaces has been developing (see, e.g., [1,8–14,6,15–24,7,25–29]). Generally, this theory on cone metric space is used for contractive-type or contractive-type mappings (see the related references [1–29]). On the other hand, fixed point theory on partially ordered sets has also been developing recently [10,11,30–32].

In this paper, we introduce a partial order on a cone metric space and prove a Caristi-type theorem. Furthermore, we prove fixed point theorems for single-valued nondecreasing and weakly increasing mappings, and multi-valued mappings on an ordered cone metric space.

We recall the definition of cone metric spaces and some of their properties [5]. Let  $E$  be a real Banach space and  $P$  be a subset of  $E$ . By  $\theta$  we denote the zero element of  $E$  and by  $\text{Int } P$  the interior of  $P$ . The subset  $P$  is called a cone if and only if

- (i)  $P$  is closed, nonempty and  $P \neq \{\theta\}$ ,
- (ii)  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}, a, b \geq 0, x, y \in P \implies ax + by \in P$ ,
- (iii)  $x \in P$  and  $-x \in P \implies x = \theta$ .

Given a cone  $P \subset E$ , we define a partial ordering  $\leq$  with respect to  $P$  by  $x \leq y$  if and only if  $y - x \in P$ . We shall write  $x < y$  if  $x \leq y$  and  $x \neq y$ , and we shall write  $x \ll y$  if  $y - x \in \text{Int } P$ .

The cone  $P$  is called normal if there is a number  $M > 0$  such that, for all  $x, y \in E$ ,  $\theta \leq x \leq y$  implies that  $\|x\| \leq M \|y\|$ .

The least positive number satisfying the above is called the normal constant of  $P$ .

\* Corresponding author.

E-mail addresses: [ishakaltun@yahoo.com](mailto:ishakaltun@yahoo.com) (I. Altun), [vrakoc@bankerinter.net](mailto:vrakoc@bankerinter.net) (V. Rakočević).

The cone  $P$  is called regular if every increasing sequence which is bounded from above is convergent. That is, if  $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  is a sequence such that  $x_1 \leq x_2 \leq \dots \leq y$  for some  $y \in E$ , then there is  $x \in E$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|x_n - x\| = 0$ . Equivalently, the cone  $P$  is regular if and only if every decreasing sequence which is bounded from below is convergent. It has been proved in Lemma 1.1 in [25] that every regular cone is normal.

In the following, we always suppose that  $E$  is a Banach space,  $P$  is a cone in  $E$  with  $\text{Int } P \neq \emptyset$  and  $\leq$  is partial ordering with respect to  $P$ .

**Definition 1** ([5]). Let  $X$  be a nonempty set. Suppose the mapping  $d : X \times X \rightarrow E$  satisfies

- (d<sub>1</sub>)  $\theta < d(x, y)$  for all  $x, y \in X$  with  $x \neq y$  and  $d(x, y) = \theta$  if  $x = y$ ,
- (d<sub>2</sub>)  $d(x, y) = d(y, x)$  for all  $x, y \in X$ ,
- (d<sub>3</sub>)  $d(x, y) \leq d(x, z) + d(z, y)$  for all  $x, y, z \in X$ .

Then  $d$  is called a cone metric on  $X$  and  $(X, d)$  is called a cone metric space.

It is obvious that the cone metric spaces generalize metric spaces.

**Example 1** ([5]). Let  $E = \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $P = \{(x, y) \in E \mid x, y \geq 0\}$ ,  $X = \mathbb{R}$  and  $d : X \times X \rightarrow E$  such that  $d(x, y) = (|x - y|, \alpha |x - y|)$ , where  $\alpha \geq 0$  is a constant. Then  $(X, d)$  is a cone metric space.

**Definition 2** ([5]). Let  $(X, d)$  be a cone metric space. Let  $\{x_n\}$  be a sequence in  $X$  and  $x \in X$ . If for every  $c \in E$  with  $\theta \ll c$  there is  $N$  such that, for all  $n > N$ ,  $d(x_n, x) \ll c$ , then  $\{x_n\}$  is said to be convergent and  $\{x_n\}$  converges to  $x$  and  $x$  is the limit of  $\{x_n\}$ . We denote this by  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x$  or  $x_n \rightarrow x$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . If for every  $c \in E$  with  $\theta \ll c$  there is  $N$  such that, for all  $n, m > N$ ,  $d(x_n, x_m) \ll c$ , then  $\{x_n\}$  is called a Cauchy sequence in  $X$ .  $(X, d)$  is a complete cone metric space if every Cauchy sequence is convergent.

**Lemma 1** ([5]). Let  $(X, d)$  be a cone metric space,  $P$  be a normal cone and let  $\{x_n\}$  be a sequence in  $X$ . Then

- (i)  $\{x_n\}$  converges to  $x$  if and only if  $d(x_n, x) \rightarrow \theta$  ( $n \rightarrow \infty$ ),
- (ii)  $\{x_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence if and only if  $d(x_n, x_m) \rightarrow \theta$  ( $n, m \rightarrow \infty$ ).

Let  $(X, d)$  be a cone metric space,  $f : X \rightarrow X$  and  $x_0 \in X$ . Then the function  $f$  is continuous at  $x_0$  if for any sequence  $x_n \rightarrow x_0$  we have  $fx_n \rightarrow fx_0$  [6].

## 2. Fixed point theorems for nondecreasing mappings

We begin by proving the following lemma. We can find the metric version of it in [33].

**Lemma 2.** Let  $(X, d)$  be a cone metric space with the Banach space  $E$ ,  $P$  be a cone in  $E$ , " $\leq$ " be a partial ordering with respect to  $P$  and  $\phi : X \rightarrow E$ . Define the relation " $\preceq$ " on  $X$  as follows:

$$x \preceq y \iff d(x, y) \leq \phi(x) - \phi(y).$$

Then " $\preceq$ " is a (partial) order on  $X$ , named the partial order induced by  $\phi$ .

**Proof.** For all  $x \in X$ ,  $d(x, x) = \theta = \phi(x) - \phi(x)$ ; that is, " $\preceq$ " is reflexive. Again, for  $x, y \in X$ , let  $x \preceq y$  and  $y \preceq x$ . Then,

$$d(x, y) \leq \phi(x) - \phi(y)$$

and

$$d(y, x) \leq \phi(y) - \phi(x).$$

This shows that  $d(x, y) = \theta$ ; that is,  $x = y$ . Thus " $\preceq$ " is antisymmetric. Now for  $x, y, z \in X$ , let  $x \preceq y$  and  $y \preceq z$ . Then,

$$d(x, y) \leq \phi(x) - \phi(y) \tag{2.1}$$

and

$$d(y, z) \leq \phi(y) - \phi(z). \tag{2.2}$$

Then, using (2.1) and (2.2) we have

$$\begin{aligned} d(x, z) &\leq d(x, y) + d(y, z) \\ &\leq \phi(x) - \phi(y) + \phi(y) - \phi(z) \\ &= \phi(x) - \phi(z). \end{aligned}$$

This shows that  $x \preceq z$ .  $\square$

Now we give some examples.

**Example 2.** Let  $E = \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $P = \{(x, y) \in E \mid x, y \geq 0\}$ ,  $X = \{a, b, c\}$  and  $d : X \times X \rightarrow E$  such that  $d(x, x) = (0, 0)$  for all  $x \in X$ ,  $d(a, b) = d(b, a) = (1, 2)$ ,  $d(a, c) = d(c, a) = (1, 3)$  and  $d(b, c) = d(c, b) = (2, 3)$ . Then it is obvious

that  $(X, d)$  is a cone metric space. Now let  $\phi : X \rightarrow E, \phi(a) = (3, 4), \phi(b) = (2, 2)$  and  $\phi(c) = (2, 1)$ . Now, since  $d(a, b) = (1, 2) \leq (1, 2) = \phi(a) - \phi(b)$ , then  $a \leq b$ . Again, since  $d(a, c) = (1, 3) \leq (1, 3) = \phi(a) - \phi(c)$ , then  $a \leq c$ . Since  $d(b, c) = (2, 3) \not\leq (0, 1) = \phi(b) - \phi(c)$  and  $d(c, b) = (2, 3) \not\leq (0, -1) = \phi(c) - \phi(b)$ ,  $b \not\leq c$  and  $c \not\leq b$ . Therefore, by using Lemma 2, “ $\leq$ ” is a partially order induced by  $\phi$ .

**Example 3.** Let  $E, P, X$  and  $d$  be as in Example 1. Let  $\phi : X \rightarrow E, \phi(x) = (-x, -\alpha x)$  for all  $x \in X$ . Then we have the usual order on  $X$ .

Our main result for single-valued nondecreasing mappings is as follows.

**Theorem 1.** Let  $(X, d)$  be a complete cone metric space with the Banach space  $E, P$  be a regular cone in  $E, “\leq”$  be a partial ordering with respect to  $P$  and  $\phi : X \rightarrow E$  be a bounded below function and “ $\leq$ ” be the partial order induced by  $\phi$ . If  $f : X \rightarrow X$  is a continuous nondecreasing function with  $x_0 \leq fx_0$  for some  $x_0 \in X$ , then  $f$  has a fixed point in  $X$ .

**Proof.** Consider a point  $x_0 \in X$  satisfying  $x_0 \leq fx_0$ . Now we define a sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in  $X$  such that  $x_n = fx_{n-1}$  for  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ . Then, since  $f$  is nondecreasing we have  $x_0 \leq x_1 \leq x_2 \leq \dots$ ; that is, the sequence  $\{x_n\}$  is nondecreasing. By the definition of “ $\leq$ ” we have  $\dots \leq \phi(x_2) \leq \phi(x_1) \leq \phi(x_0)$ ; that is, the sequence  $\{\phi(x_n)\}$  is a nonincreasing sequence in  $E$ . Since  $P$  is regular and  $\phi$  is bounded from below,  $\{\phi(x_n)\}$  is convergent, and hence it is Cauchy. That is, for all  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that, for all  $m > n > n_0$ , we have  $\|\phi(x_m) - \phi(x_n)\| < \varepsilon$ . On the other hand, since  $x_n \leq x_m$ , we have  $d(x_n, x_m) \leq \phi(x_n) - \phi(x_m)$ . Therefore, since  $P$  is regular and so normal, there exists  $M > 0$  such that

$$\|d(x_n, x_m)\| \leq M \|\phi(x_n) - \phi(x_m)\| < M\varepsilon.$$

This implies that  $d(x_n, x_m) \rightarrow \theta$  ( $n, m \rightarrow \infty$ ). Hence  $\{x_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence. By the completeness of  $X$ , there is  $z \in X$  such that  $x_n \rightarrow z$  ( $n \rightarrow \infty$ ). Consequently, by the continuity of  $f$ , we have  $fx = z$ . □

If we assume that  $\phi(X)$  is compact in  $E$ , then we can remove the boundedness of  $\phi$  and regularity of  $P$  in Theorem 1, and we can have the following theorem.

**Theorem 2.** Let  $(X, d)$  be a complete cone metric space with the Banach space  $E, P$  be a normal cone in  $E, “\leq”$  the partial ordering with respect to  $P, \phi : X \rightarrow E$  a function such that  $\phi(X)$  is compact and “ $\leq$ ” the partial order induced by  $\phi$ . If  $f : X \rightarrow X$  is a continuous nondecreasing function with  $x_0 \leq fx_0$  for some  $x_0 \in X$ , then  $f$  has a fixed point in  $X$ .

**Example 4.** Let  $E, P, X, d$  and  $\phi$  be as in Example 2. Let  $f : X \rightarrow X, f(a) = b, f(b) = b$  and  $f(c) = c$ ; then it is obvious that all conditions of Theorem 1 or Theorem 2 are satisfied. Therefore  $f$  has a fixed point. But since  $f$  is not contractive, the result of [5] is not applicable to this example.

Now we prove a Caristi-type theorem on cone metric spaces.

Let  $(X, d)$  be a cone metric space,  $C \subset X$  and  $\phi : C \rightarrow E$  a function; then  $\phi$  is called a lower semicontinuous on  $C$  whenever  $x_n \rightarrow x$  implies that  $\phi(x) \leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \phi(x_n)$  [9].

**Theorem 3.** Let  $(X, d)$  be a complete cone metric space with the Banach space  $E, P$  be a regular cone in  $E, “\leq”$  the partial ordering with respect to  $P$  and  $\phi : X \rightarrow E$  a lower semicontinuous and bounded below function. Now, if  $f : X \rightarrow X$  satisfies

$$d(x, fx) \leq \phi(x) - \phi(fx) \tag{2.3}$$

for all  $x \in X$ , then  $f$  has a fixed point in  $X$ .

**Proof.** We define a partial order on  $X$  in the following way:

$$x \leq y \iff d(x, y) \leq \phi(x) - \phi(y).$$

We wish to show that  $X$  has a maximal element. Let  $\{x_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$  be a nondecreasing chain; then  $\{\phi(x_\alpha)\}_{\alpha \in I}$  is a nonincreasing net in  $E$ . Let  $\{\alpha_n\}$  be an increasing sequence of element from  $I$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \phi(x_{\alpha_n}) = r$  (This is possible, since  $\phi$  is bounded from below and  $P$  is a regular cone). Using the definition of “ $\leq$ ”, one can show that  $\{x_{\alpha_n}\}$  is Cauchy and therefore converges to  $z \in X$ . By the lower semicontinuity of  $\phi$ , we have  $\phi(z) \leq r$ . Now, for  $x_{\alpha_n} \leq x_{\alpha_m}$ , we have

$$d(x_{\alpha_n}, x_{\alpha_m}) \leq \phi(x_{\alpha_n}) - \phi(x_{\alpha_m}),$$

and letting  $m \rightarrow \infty$ , we have

$$d(x_{\alpha_n}, z) \leq \phi(x_{\alpha_n}) - \phi(z).$$

This shows that  $x_{\alpha_n} \leq z$  for all  $n \geq 1$ , which means that  $z$  is an upper bound for  $\{x_{\alpha_n}\}_{n \geq 1}$ . In order to see that  $z$  is also an upper bound for  $\{x_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$ , let  $\beta \in I$  be such that  $x_{\alpha_n} \leq x_\beta$  for all  $n \geq 1$ . Then we have  $\phi(x_\beta) \leq \phi(x_{\alpha_n})$  for all  $n \geq 1$ , which implies that  $\phi(x_\beta) = r$ . Since  $d(x_\beta, x_{\alpha_n}) \leq \phi(x_\beta) - \phi(x_{\alpha_n})$ , we get  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_{\alpha_n} = x_\beta$ , which implies that  $x_\beta = z$ . Therefore, for any  $\alpha \in I$ , there exists  $n \geq 1$  such that  $x_\alpha \leq x_{\alpha_n}$ , which implies that  $x_\alpha \leq z$ ; that is,  $z$  is an upper bound of  $\{x_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in I}$ .

Thus, by Zorn's lemma,  $X$  has a maximal element  $v$ . Finally, we prove that  $v$  is the desired point. In fact, we have from (2.3)

$$d(v, fv) \leq \phi(v) - \phi(fv);$$

that is,  $v \leq fv$ , and again by the maximality of  $v$  we have  $f(v) \leq v$ . Thus  $f(v) = v$ .  $\square$

In the following we provide multi-valued versions of the preceding theorem. The results are related to those in [34]. Let  $X$  be a topological space and  $\leq$  be a partial order on  $X$ . Let  $2^X$  denote the family of all nonempty subsets of  $X$ .

**Definition 3** ([34]). Let  $A, B$  be two nonempty subsets of  $X$ ; the relations between  $A$  and  $B$  are defined as follows:

(r<sub>1</sub>) If, for every  $a \in A$ , there exists  $b \in B$  such that  $a \leq b$ , then  $A <_1 B$ .

(r<sub>2</sub>) If, for every  $b \in B$ , there exists  $a \in A$  such that  $a \leq b$ , then  $A <_2 B$ .

(r<sub>3</sub>) If  $A <_1 B$  and  $A <_2 B$ , then  $A < B$ .

**Remark 1** ([34]).  $<_1$  and  $<_2$  are different relations between  $A$  and  $B$ . For example, let  $X = \mathbb{R}$ ,  $A = [\frac{1}{2}, 1]$ ,  $B = [0, 1]$ ,  $\leq$  be the usual order on  $X$ ; then  $A <_1 B$  but  $A \not<_2 B$ ; if  $A = [0, 1]$ ,  $B = [0, \frac{1}{2}]$ , then  $A <_2 B$  while  $A \not<_1 B$ .

**Remark 2** ([34]).  $<_1$ ,  $<_2$  and  $<$  are reflexive and transitive, but are not antisymmetric. For instance, let  $X = \mathbb{R}$ ,  $A = [0, 3]$ ,  $B = [0, 1] \cup [2, 3]$ ,  $\leq$  be the usual order on  $X$ ; then  $A < B$  and  $B < A$ , but  $A \neq B$ . Hence, they are not partial orders on  $2^X$ .

**Definition 4** ([34]). A multi-valued operator  $T : X \rightarrow 2^X$  is called order closed if for monotone sequences  $\{u_n\}, \{v_n\} \subset X$ ,  $u_n \rightarrow u_0$ ,  $v_n \rightarrow v_0$  and  $v_n \in Tu_n$  imply that  $v_0 \in Tu_0$ .

The multi-valued version of the preceding theorem is as follows.

**Theorem 4.** Let  $(X, d)$  be a complete cone metric space with the Banach space  $E$ ,  $P$  be a regular cone in  $E$ , " $\leq$ " the partial ordering with respect to  $P$ ,  $\phi : X \rightarrow E$  a bounded below function and " $\leq$ " the partial order induced by  $\phi$ .  $F : X \rightarrow 2^X$  is an order closed operator with  $\{x_0\} <_1 Fx_0$  for some  $x_0 \in X$ . If  $\forall x, y \in X, x \leq y \implies Fx <_1 Fy$  (that is,  $F$  is nondecreasing with respect to  $<_1$ ), then  $F$  has a fixed point in  $X$ .

**Proof.** Since  $Fx$  is nonempty for all  $x \in X$ , there exists  $x_1 \in Fx_0$  such that  $x_0 \leq x_1$ . Now, since  $Fx_0 <_1 Fx_1$ , there exists  $x_2 \in Fx_1$  such that  $x_1 \leq x_2$ . Continuing this process, we will get a nondecreasing sequence  $\{x_n\}$ , which satisfies  $x_{n+1} \in Fx_n$ . By the definition of " $\leq$ ", we have  $\dots \leq \phi(x_2) \leq \phi(x_1) \leq \phi(x_0)$ ; that is, the sequence  $\{\phi(x_n)\}$  is a nonincreasing sequence in  $E$ . Since  $P$  is regular and  $\phi$  is bounded from below,  $\{\phi(x_n)\}$  is convergent and hence it is Cauchy. By the same argumentation as in the proof of Theorem 1, it follows that  $\{x_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence. By the completeness of  $X$ , there is  $z \in X$  such that  $x_n \rightarrow z$  ( $n \rightarrow \infty$ ). Consequently, we have  $z \in Fz$  since  $F$  is order closed and  $x_{n+1} \in Fx_n$ .  $\square$

Similarly, we can prove the following theorem.

**Theorem 5.** Let  $(X, d)$  be a complete cone metric space with the Banach space  $E$ ,  $P$  be a regular cone in  $E$ , " $\leq$ " the partial ordering with respect to  $P$ ,  $\phi : X \rightarrow E$  a bounded above function and " $\leq$ " the partial order induced by  $\phi$ .  $F : X \rightarrow 2^X$  is an order closed operator with  $Fx_0 <_2 \{x_0\}$  for some  $x_0 \in X$ . If  $\forall x, y \in X, x \leq y \implies Fx <_2 Fy$  (that is,  $F$  is nondecreasing with respect to  $<_2$ ), then  $F$  has a fixed point in  $X$ .

### 3. Fixed point theorems for weakly increasing mappings

**Definition 5** ([35,36]). Let  $(X, \leq)$  be a partially ordered set. Two mappings  $f, g : X \rightarrow X$  are said to be weakly increasing if  $fx \leq gfx$  and  $gx \leq fgx$  hold for all  $x \in X$ .

Note that two weakly increasing mappings need not be nondecreasing. We can find the following examples in [30].

**Example 5.** Let  $X = \mathbb{R}_+$  be endowed with the usual ordering. Let  $f, g : X \rightarrow X$  be defined by

$$fx = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } 0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 0 & \text{if } 1 < x < \infty \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad gx = \begin{cases} \sqrt{x} & \text{if } 0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 0 & \text{if } 1 < x < \infty \end{cases};$$

then it is obvious that  $fx \leq gfx$  and  $gx \leq fgx$  for all  $x \in X$ . Thus  $f$  and  $g$  are weakly increasing mappings. Note that both  $f$  and  $g$  are not nondecreasing.

**Example 6.** Let  $X = [1, \infty) \times [1, \infty)$  be endowed with coordinate-wise ordering; that is,  $(x, y) \leq (z, w) \iff x \leq z$  and  $y \leq w$ . Let  $f, g : X \rightarrow X$  be defined by  $f(x, y) = (2x, 3y)$  and  $g(x, y) = (x^2, y^2)$ ; then  $f(x, y) = (2x, 3y) \leq gf(x, y) = g(2x, 3y) = (4x^2, 9y^2)$  and  $g(x, y) = (x^2, y^2) \leq fg(x, y) = f(x^2, y^2) = (2x^2, 3y^2)$ . Thus  $f$  and  $g$  are weakly increasing mappings.

**Example 7.** Let  $X = \mathbb{R}^2$  be endowed with lexicographical ordering; that is,  $(x, y) \leq (z, w)$  if and only if  $x < z$  or ( $x = z$  and  $y \leq w$ ). Let  $f, g : X \rightarrow X$  be defined by

$$f(x, y) = (\max\{x, y\}, \min\{x, y\})$$

and

$$g(x, y) = \left( \max\{x, y\}, \frac{x+y}{2} \right);$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} f(x, y) &= (\max\{x, y\}, \min\{x, y\}) \\ &\leq gf(x, y) \\ &= g(\max\{x, y\}, \min\{x, y\}) \\ &= \left( \max\{\max\{x, y\}, \min\{x, y\}\}, \frac{\max\{x, y\} + \min\{x, y\}}{2} \right) \\ &= \left( \max\{x, y\}, \frac{x+y}{2} \right) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} g(x, y) &= \left( \max\{x, y\}, \frac{x+y}{2} \right) \\ &\leq fg(x, y) \\ &= f\left(\max\{x, y\}, \frac{x+y}{2}\right) \\ &= \left( \max\left\{\max\{x, y\}, \frac{x+y}{2}\right\}, \min\left\{\max\{x, y\}, \frac{x+y}{2}\right\} \right) \\ &= \left( \max\{x, y\}, \frac{x+y}{2} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $f$  and  $g$  are weakly increasing mappings. Note that, since  $(1, 4) \leq (2, 3)$  but  $f(1, 4) = (4, 1) \not\leq (3, 2) = f(2, 3)$ , then  $f$  is not nondecreasing. Similarly  $g$  is not nondecreasing.

Let us remark that in the next theorem we remove the condition “there exists an  $x_0 \in X$  with  $x_0 \leq f(x_0)$ ” of [Theorem 1](#).

**Theorem 6.** Let  $(X, d)$  be a complete cone metric space with the Banach space  $E, P$  be a regular cone in  $E, “\leq”$  the partial ordering with respect to  $P, \phi : X \rightarrow E$  a bounded below function and “ $\leq$ ” the partial order induced by  $\phi$ . If  $f, g : X \rightarrow X$  are two continuous weakly increasing functions, then  $f$  and  $g$  have a common fixed point in  $X$ .

**Proof.** Let  $x_0$  be an arbitrary point of  $X$  and let us define a sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in  $X$  as follows:

$$x_{2n+1} = fx_{2n} \quad \text{and} \quad x_{2n+2} = gx_{2n+1} \quad \text{for } n \in \{0, 1, \dots\}.$$

Note that, since  $f$  and  $g$  are weakly increasing, we have

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 &= fx_0 \leq gfx_0 = gx_1 = x_2, \\ x_2 &= gx_1 \leq fgx_1 = fx_2 = x_3, \end{aligned}$$

and continuing this process, we have

$$x_1 \leq x_2 \leq \dots \leq x_n \leq x_{n+1} \leq \dots$$

That is, the sequence  $\{x_n\}$  is nondecreasing. By the definition of “ $\leq$ ”, we have  $\dots \phi(x_2) \leq \phi(x_1) \leq \phi(x_0)$ ; that is, the sequence  $\{\phi(x_n)\}$  is a nonincreasing sequence in  $E$ . Since  $P$  is regular and  $\phi$  is bounded from below,  $\{\phi(x_n)\}$  is convergent, and hence it is Cauchy. By the same argumentation as in the proof of [Theorem 1](#), it follows that  $\{x_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence. By the completeness of  $X$ , there is  $z \in X$  such that  $x_n \rightarrow z (n \rightarrow \infty)$ . Therefore,  $x_{2n+1} \rightarrow z$  and  $x_{2n+2} \rightarrow z$ . Consequently, by the continuity of  $f$  and  $g$ , we have  $fx = gx = z$ .  $\square$

Now we introduce the following definition.

**Definition 6.** Let  $(X, \leq)$  be a partially ordered set. Two mappings  $F, G : X \rightarrow 2^X$  are said to be weakly increasing with respect to  $<_1$  if for any  $x \in X$  we have  $Fx <_1 Gy$  for all  $y \in Fx$  and  $Gx <_1 Fy$  for all  $y \in Gx$ . Similarly, two maps  $F, G : X \rightarrow 2^X$  are said to be weakly increasing with respect to  $<_2$  if for any  $x \in X$  we have  $Gy <_2 Fx$  for all  $y \in Fx$  and  $Fy <_2 Gx$  for all  $y \in Gx$ .

Now we give some examples.

**Example 8.** Let  $X = [1, \infty)$  and  $\leq$  be the usual order on  $X$ . Consider two mappings  $F, G : X \rightarrow 2^X$  defined by  $Fx = [1, x^2]$  and  $Gx = [1, 2x]$  for all  $x \in X$ . Then the pair of mappings  $F$  and  $G$  are weakly increasing with respect to  $<_2$  but not  $<_1$ . Indeed, since

$$Gy = [1, 2y] \prec_2 [1, x^2] = Fx \quad \text{for all } y \in Fx$$

and

$$Fy = [1, y^2] \prec_2 [1, 2x] = Gx \quad \text{for all } y \in Gx,$$

$F$  and  $G$  are weakly increasing with respect to  $\prec_2$  but  $F2 = [1, 4] \not\prec_1 [1, 2] = G1$  for  $1 \in F2$ , so  $F$  and  $G$  are not weakly increasing with respect to  $\prec_1$ .

**Example 9.** Let  $X = [0, 1]$  and  $\leq$  be the usual order on  $X$ . Consider two mappings  $F, G : X \rightarrow 2^X$  defined by  $Fx = \{0, 1\}$  and  $Gx = [x, 1]$  for all  $x \in X$ . Then the pair of mappings  $F$  and  $G$  are weakly increasing with respect to  $\prec_1$  but not  $\prec_2$ . Indeed, since

$$Fx = \{0, 1\} \prec_1 [y, 1] = Gy \quad \text{for all } y \in Fx$$

and

$$Gx = [x, 1] \prec_1 \{0, 1\} = Fy \quad \text{for all } y \in Gx,$$

$F$  and  $G$  are weakly increasing with respect to  $\prec_1$  but  $G1 = \{1\} \not\prec_2 \{0, 1\} = F1$  for  $1 \in F1$ , so  $F$  and  $G$  are not weakly increasing with respect to  $\prec_2$ .

**Theorem 7.** Let  $(X, d)$  be a complete cone metric space with the Banach space  $E$ ,  $P$  be a regular cone in  $E$ , " $\leq$ " the partial ordering with respect to  $P$ ,  $\phi : X \rightarrow E$  a bounded below function and " $\leq$ " the partial order induced by  $\phi$ . If  $F, G : X \rightarrow 2^X$  are two order closed and weakly increasing mappings with respect to  $\prec_1$ , then  $F$  and  $G$  have a common fixed point in  $X$ .

**Proof.** Let  $x_0 \in X$  be an arbitrary point. Since  $Fx_0 \neq \emptyset$ , we can choose  $x_1 \in Fx_0$ . Now, since  $F$  and  $G$  are weakly increasing with respect to  $\prec_1$ , we have  $x_1 \in Fx_0 \prec_1 Gx_1$ . Thus there exists some  $x_2 \in Gx_1$  such that  $x_1 \leq x_2$ . Again, since  $F$  and  $G$  are weakly increasing with respect to  $\prec_1$ , we have  $x_2 \in Gx_1 \prec_1 Fx_2$ . Thus there exists some  $x_3 \in Fx_2$  such that  $x_2 \leq x_3$ . Continuing this process, we will get a nondecreasing sequence  $\{x_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  which satisfies  $x_{2n+1} \in Fx_{2n}$ ,  $x_{2n+2} \in Gx_{2n+1}$ ,  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ . By the definition of " $\leq$ ", we have

$$\dots \leq \phi(x_3) \leq \phi(x_2) \leq \phi(x_1);$$

that is, the sequence  $\{\phi(x_n)\}$  is a nonincreasing sequence in  $E$ . Since  $P$  is regular and  $\phi$  is bounded from below,  $\{\phi(x_n)\}$  is convergent and hence it is Cauchy. By the same argumentation as in the proof of Theorem 1, it follows that  $\{x_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence. By the completeness of  $X$ , there is  $z \in X$  such that  $x_n \rightarrow z$  ( $n \rightarrow \infty$ ). Therefore,  $x_{2n+1} \rightarrow z$  and  $x_{2n+2} \rightarrow z$ . Consequently, since  $F$  and  $G$  are order closed,  $\{x_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  monotone and  $x_{2n+1} \in Fx_{2n}$ ,  $x_{2n+2} \in Gx_{2n+1}$ , we deduce that  $z \in Fz$  and  $z \in Gz$ ; i.e.,  $z$  is a common fixed point of  $F$  and  $G$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 8.** Let  $(X, d)$  be a complete cone metric space with the Banach space  $E$ ,  $P$  be a regular cone in  $E$ , " $\leq$ " the partial ordering with respect to  $P$ ,  $\phi : X \rightarrow E$  a bounded above function and " $\leq$ " the partial order induced by  $\phi$ . If  $F, G : X \rightarrow 2^X$  are two order closed and weakly increasing mappings with respect to  $\prec_2$ , then  $F$  and  $G$  have a common fixed point in  $X$ .

**Proof.** Let  $x_0 \in X$  be arbitrary point. Since  $Fx_0 \neq \emptyset$ , we can choose  $x_1 \in Fx_0$ . Now since  $F$  and  $G$  are weakly increasing with respect to  $\prec_2$ , we have  $Gx_1 \prec_2 Fx_0$ . Thus there exists some  $x_2 \in Gx_1$  such that  $x_2 \leq x_1$ . Again, since  $F$  and  $G$  are weakly increasing with respect to  $\prec_2$ , we have  $Fx_2 \prec_2 Gx_1$ . Thus there exists some  $x_3 \in Fx_2$  such that  $x_3 \leq x_2$ . Continue this process, we will get a nonincreasing sequence  $\{x_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  which satisfies  $x_{2n+1} \in Fx_{2n}$ ,  $x_{2n+2} \in Gx_{2n+1}$ ,  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ . By the definition of " $\leq$ ", we have

$$\varphi(x_1) \leq \varphi(x_2) \leq \varphi(x_3) \leq \dots$$

Since  $P$  is regular and  $\phi$  is bounded from above,  $\{\phi(x_n)\}$  is convergent and hence it is Cauchy. By the same argumentation as in the proof of Theorem 1, it follows that  $\{x_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence. By the completeness of  $X$ , there is  $z \in X$  such that  $x_n \rightarrow z$  ( $n \rightarrow \infty$ ). Therefore,  $x_{2n+1} \rightarrow z$  and  $x_{2n+2} \rightarrow z$ . Consequently, since  $F$  and  $G$  are order closed,  $\{x_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  monotone and  $x_{2n+1} \in Fx_{2n}$ ,  $x_{2n+2} \in Gx_{2n+1}$ , we deduce that  $z \in Fz$  and  $z \in Gz$ ; i.e.,  $z$  is a common fixed point of  $F$  and  $G$ .  $\square$

## Acknowledgements

The authors thank the referees for their valuable comments and suggestions. The second author was supported by the Ministry of Science, Technology and Development, Republic of Serbia.

## References

- [1] M. Abbas, G. Jungck, Common fixed point results for noncommuting mappings without continuity in cone metric spaces, *J. Math. Anal. Appl.* 341 (2008) 416–420.
- [2] C. Di Bari, P. Vetro,  $\varphi$ -pairs and common fixed points in cone metric spaces, *Rend. Circ. Mat. Palermo* 57 (2008) 279–285.
- [3] C. Di Bari, P. Vetro, Weakly  $\varphi$ -pairs and common fixed points in cone metric spaces, *Rend. Circ. Mat. Palermo* 58 (2009) 125–132.
- [4] R.H. Haghi, Sh. Rezapour, Fixed points of multifunctions on regular cone metric spaces, *Expo. Math.* 28 (2010) 71–77.
- [5] L.G. Huang, X. Zhang, Cone metric spaces and fixed point theorems of contractive mappings, *J. Math. Anal. Appl.* 332 (2007) 1468–1476.
- [6] D. Ilić, V. Rakočević, Common fixed points for maps on cone metric space, *J. Math. Anal. Appl.* 341 (2008) 876–882.
- [7] Sh. Rezapour, R.H. Haghi, Fixed point of multifunctions on cone metric spaces, *Numer. Funct. Anal. Optim.* 30 (7–8) (2009) 825–832.

- [8] M. Abbas, B.E. Rhoades, Fixed and periodic point results in cone metric spaces, *Appl. Math. Lett.* 22 (2009) 511–515.
- [9] T. Abdeljawad, E. Karapinar, Quasicone metric spaces and generalizations of Caristi Kirk's theorem, *Fixed Point Theory Appl.* (2009) Article ID 574387, 9 pages.
- [10] I. Altun, B. Damjanović, D. Djorić, Fixed point and common fixed point theorems on ordered cone metric spaces, *Appl. Math. Lett.* 23 (2010) 310–316.
- [11] I. Altun, G. Durmaz, Some fixed point theorems on ordered cone metric spaces, *Rend. Circ. Mat. Palermo* 58 (2009) 319–325.
- [12] M. Arshad, A. Azam, I. Beg, Common fixed points of two maps in cone metric spaces, *Rend. Circ. Mat. Palermo* 57 (2008) 433–441.
- [13] M. Arshad, A. Azam, P. Vetro, Some common fixed point results in cone metric spaces, *Fixed Point Theory Appl.* (2009) Article ID 493965, 11 pages.
- [14] A. Azam, M. Arshad, Common fixed points of generalized contractive maps in cone metric spaces, *Bull. Iranian Math. Soc.* 35 (2) (2009) 255–264.
- [15] D. Ilić, V. Rakočević, Quasi-contraction on cone metric spaces, *Appl. Math. Lett.* 22 (2009) 728–731.
- [16] S. Janković, Z. Kadelburg, S. Radenović, B.E. Rhoades, Assad–Kirk-type fixed point theorems for a pair of nonself mappings on cone metric spaces, *Fixed Point Theory Appl.* (2009) Article ID 761086, 16 pages.
- [17] Z. Kadelburg, M. Pavlović, S. Radenović, Common fixed point theorems for ordered contractions and quasi-contractions in ordered cone metric spaces, *Comput. Math. Appl.* 59 (2010) 3148–3159.
- [18] Z. Kadelburg, S. Radenović, V. Rakočević, Remarks on “quasi-contraction on a cone metric space”, *Appl. Math. Lett.* 22 (2009) 1674–1679.
- [19] Z. Kadelburg, S. Radenović, B. Rosić, Strict contractive conditions and common fixed point theorems in cone metric spaces, *Fixed Point Theory Appl.* (2009) Article ID 173838, 14 Pages.
- [20] D. Kilm, D. Wardowski, Dynamic processes and fixed points of set-valued nonlinear contractions in cone metric spaces, *Nonlinear Anal.* 71 (2009) 5170–5175.
- [21] S. Radenović, Common fixed points under contractive conditions in cone metric spaces, *Comput. Math. Appl.* 58 (2009) 1273–1278.
- [22] S. Radenović, B.E. Rhoades, Fixed point theorem for two non-self mappings in cone metric spaces, *Comput. Math. Appl.* 57 (2009) 1701–1707.
- [23] Sh. Rezapour, M. Derafshpour, N. Shahzad, Best proximity points of cyclic  $\varphi$ -contractions on reflexive Banach spaces, *Fixed Point Theory Appl.* (2010) Article ID 946178, 7 Pages.
- [24] Sh. Rezapour, R.H. Haghi, N. Shahzad, Some notes on fixed points of quasicontraction maps, *Appl. Math. Lett.* 23 (2010) 498–502.
- [25] Sh. Rezapour, R. Hambarani, Some notes on the paper “Cone metric spaces and fixed point theorems of contractive mappings”, *J. Math. Anal. Appl.* 345 (2008) 719–724.
- [26] Sh. Rezapour, H. Khandani, S.M. Vaezpour, Efficacy of cones on topological vector spaces and application to common fixed points of multifunctions, *Rend. Circ. Mat. Palermo* 59 (2010) 185–197.
- [27] D. Wardowski, Endpoints and fixed points of set-valued contractions in cone metric spaces, *Nonlinear Anal.* 71 (2009) 512–516.
- [28] D. Wei-Shih, A note on cone metric fixed point theory and its equivalence, *Nonlinear Anal.* 72 (2010) 2259–2261.
- [29] K. Włodarczyk, R. Plebaniak, C. Obczynski, Convergence theorems, best approximation and best proximity for set-valued dynamic systems of relatively quasi-asymptotic contractions in cone uniform spaces, *Nonlinear Anal.* 72 (2010) 794–805.
- [30] I. Altun, H. Simsek, Some fixed point theorems on ordered metric spaces and application, *Fixed Point Theory Appl.* (2010) Article ID 621469, 17 pages.
- [31] J. Harjani, K. Sadarangani, Generalized contractions in partially ordered metric spaces and applications to ordinary differential equations, *Nonlinear Anal.* 72 (2010) 1188–1197.
- [32] Z. Zhao, X. Chen, Fixed points of decreasing operators in ordered Banach spaces and applications to nonlinear second order elliptic equations, *Comput. Math. Appl.* 58 (2009) 1223–1229.
- [33] A. Brøndsted, On a lemma of Bishop and Phelps, *Pacific J. Math.* 55 (1974) 335–341.
- [34] Y. Feng, S. Liu, Fixed point theorems for multi-valued increasing operators in partially ordered spaces, *Soochow J. Math.* 30 (4) (2004) 461–469.
- [35] B.C. Dhage, Condensing mappings and applications to existence theorems for common solution of differential equations, *Bull. Korean Math. Soc.* 36 (3) (1999) 565–578.
- [36] B.C. Dhage, D. O'Regan, R.P. Agarwal, Common fixed point theorems for a pair of countably condensing mappings in ordered Banach spaces, *J. Appl. Math. Stoch. Anal.* 16 (3) (2003) 243–248.