

A PAIR OF COMMUTING MAPPINGS WITH A COMMON
FIXED POINT

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ABSTRACT

Two common fixed point theorems for two commuting mappings of a complete metric space into itself are given. These theorems generalize some earlier of Ćirić and the first author.

The first author [3], generalizing a result of Ćirić [1], defines a mapping T of a metric space (X, d) into itself to be a quasi-contraction if

$$(1) \quad d(T^p x, T^q y) \leq c \cdot \max\{d(T^r x, T^s y), d(T^{r'} x, T^{r'} x), d(T^s y, T^{s'} y)\} \\ 0 \leq r, r' \leq p; 0 \leq s, s' \leq q$$

for all x, y in X , where $0 \leq c < 1$ and p, q are some fixed positive integers.

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The following result holds, see [3].

Theorem 1. *Let T be a continuous quasi-contracti-
on of a complete metric space (X,d) into itself. Then T has a
unique fixed point in X .*

An interesting generalization of this theorem was proved by Park and Rhoades [7] using a generalized version of a contractive condition of Hegedüs and Szilágyi [6].

Theorem 1 was also extended in [5] for a pair of continuous and commuting mappings S and T of a bounded, complete metric space into itself.

Here we give a further generalization of Theorem 1 for a pair of commuting mappings without requiring necessarily the simultaneous continuity of both S and T and by replacing the condition that X is bounded by the following condition

$$(2) \quad \sup\{d(S^{r+i}T^j x, S^r T^{j'} x), d(T^{r+j}S^i x, T^r S^{i'} x) : r \geq 0, \\ 0 \leq i, i' \leq p, 0 \leq j, j' < q\} = L < \infty,$$

for some particular x in X , p and q being fixed positive integers.

It is well known in the literature that the common fixed point of two mappings S and T is deduced as a limit of the sequence

$$(3) \quad \{x, Tx, STx, \dots, (ST)^n x, T(ST)^n x, \dots\}.$$

Usually one first of all shows that the sequence (3) is bounded. As pointed out in [4], inequality (2) is certainly satisfied if X is bounded, but generally (2) does not imply that (3) is bounded if X is unbounded. To see this, consider $X = [0, \infty)$ with the euclidean metric and $Sx = x + 1$, $Tx = x + 2$ for all x in X . Then inequality (2), is satisfied, since $L = p + 2q - 3$, but the sequence (3) is unbounded.

Given a mapping T of (X,d) into itself, we now defi-

ne the function $D_T(x)$ by

$$D_T(x) = d(x, Tx)$$

for all x in X . Motivated by a paper of Ćirić [2], we say that T has the property (α) in X if for any x_0 in X and for any sequence $\{x_n\}$ converging to x_0 , we have

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} D_T(x_n) \geq D_T(x_0).$$

Of course, any continuous mapping T has the property (α) .

Theorem 2. *Let S and T be commuting mappings of a complete metric space (X, d) into itself, with S or T having property (α) , satisfying the inequality*

$$(4) \quad d(S^p x, T^q y) \leq c \cdot \max\{d(S^i x, S^{i'} x), d(T^j y, T^{j'} y), d(S^i x, T^j y)\} \\ 0 \leq i, i' \leq p; \quad 0 \leq j, j' \leq q$$

for all x, y in X , where $0 \leq c < 1$ and p, q are fixed positive integers. Suppose further that (2) holds for some particular x in X . Then S and T have a unique common fixed point z . Further, z is the unique fixed point of S and T .

Proof. Using inequality (4) we have for $r \geq p$ and $0 \leq j < q$

$$d(S^r T^j x, T^q x) \leq c \cdot \max\{d(S^{r-i} T^j x, S^{r-i'} T^j x), d(T^{j'} x, T^j x)\}, \\ d(S^{r-i} T^j x, T^{j'} x) : 0 \leq i, i' \leq p; \quad 0 \leq j', j'' \leq q \\ \leq c \cdot \max\{L, L, d(S^{r-i} T^j x, S^r T^j x) + d(S^r T^j x, T^q x) + d(T^q x, T^{j'} x)\} \\ 0 \leq i \leq p; \quad 0 \leq j' \leq q \\ \leq c[2L + d(S^r T^j x, T^q x)]$$

on using (2). Thus

$$d(S^r T^j x, T^q x) \leq 2Lc/(1 - c)$$

for $r \geq p$ and $0 \leq j < q$. It follows that the set

$$\{S^r T^j x : r \geq 0; 0 \leq j < q\}$$

is bounded. We can prove similarly that the set

$$\{T^r S^i x : r \geq 0; 0 \leq i < p\}$$

is also bounded and it follows that

$$(5) \quad \sup\{d(S^r T^j x, S^n T^{j'} x), d(T^r S^i x, T^n S^{i'} x) : r, n \geq 0; \\ 0 \leq i, i' < p; 0 \leq j, j' < q\} = K < \infty.$$

Let us now suppose that the set

$$A = \{S^{n-r} T^r x : n \geq 0; 0 \leq r \leq n\}$$

is unbounded. Then there exist integers r and n , with $n-r \geq p$, such that

$$(6) \quad d(S^{n-r} T^r x, T^q x) > \max\{Kc/(1-c), K\}$$

and

$$(7) \quad d(S^{n-r} T^r x, T^q x) > \max\{d(S^{m-i} T^i x, T^q x), d(S^{n-j} T^j x, T^q x) : \\ 0 \leq i \leq m; 0 \leq m < n; 0 \leq j < r\}.$$

Now choose an integer k such that

$$(8) \quad d(S^{n-r} T^r x, T^q x) > c^k \cdot \max\{d(S^i T^j x, S^{i'} T^{j'} x) : \\ 0 \leq i, i', j, j' < n\}.$$

Using inequality (4) we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 d(S^{n-r}T^r_x, T^q) &\leq c \cdot \max\{d(S^{n-r-i}T^r_x, S^{n-r-i'}T^r_x), \\
 &d(T^j_x, T^{j'}_x), d(S^{n-r-i}T^r_x, T^j_x) : \\
 &0 \leq i, i' \leq p; 0 \leq j, j' \leq q\} \\
 &\leq c \cdot \max\{d(S^{n-r-i}T^r_x, S^{n-r-i'}T^r_x), K, d(S^{n-r-i}T^r_x, T^q_x) + \\
 &+ d(T^q_x, T^j_x) : 0 \leq i, i' \leq p; 0 \leq j \leq q\} \\
 &\leq c \cdot \max\{d(S^{n-r-i}T^r_x, S^{n-r-i'}T^r_x), \\
 &d(S^{n-r}T^r_x, T^q_x) + K : 0 \leq i, i' \leq p\}
 \end{aligned}$$

because of (5) and (7).

Now

$$d(S^{n-r}T^r_x, T^q_x) \leq c[d(S^{n-r}T^r_x, T^q_x) + K]$$

implies

$$d(S^{n-r}T^r_x, T^q_x) \leq Kc/(1 - c),$$

contradicting inequality (6). We must therefore have

$$\begin{aligned}
 (9) \quad d(S^{n-r}T^r_x, T^q_x) &\leq c \cdot \max\{d(S^{n-r-i}T^r_x, S^{n-r-i'}T^r_x) : \\
 &0 \leq i, i' \leq p\},
 \end{aligned}$$

where $r \geq q$, otherwise inequality (6) would again be contradicted. We can also omit all terms on the right-hand side of inequality (9) where $n-r-i < p$ and $n-r-i' < p$ because of (5) and inequality (6). Inequality (4) can therefore be applied to the remaining terms on the right-hand side of inequality (9) to give terms of the form

$$d(S^{i_T j_x}, S^{i'_{T'} j'_{x'}})$$

where $0 \leq i, i' \leq n-r$ and $0 \leq j, j' \leq r$. Inequality (4) can be applied to these resulting terms either indefinitely or until terms of the form

$$(10) \quad \{d(S^{i_T j_x}, S^{i'_{T'} j'_{x'}}) : 0 \leq i, i' \leq n-r; 0 \leq j, j' < q\}$$

or

$$(11) \quad \{d(S^{i_T j_x}, S^{i'_{T'} j'_{x'}}) : 0 \leq i, i' < p; 0 \leq j, j' \leq r\}$$

or

$$(12) \quad \{d(S^{i_T j_x}, S^{i'_{T'} j'_{x'}}) : 0 \leq i \leq n-r; 0 \leq i' < p; \\ 0 \leq j \leq r; 0 \leq j' < q\}$$

are obtained. Terms obtained after k applications of inequality (4) can be omitted because of inequality (8) and terms of the form (10) or (11) can be omitted because of (5). We must therefore have

$$\begin{aligned} d(S^{n-r_T r_x}, T^q_x) &\leq c \cdot \max\{d(S^{i_T j_x}, S^{i'_{T'} j'_{x'}}) : \\ &0 \leq i \leq n-r; 0 \leq i' < p; 0 \leq j \leq r; 0 \leq j' < q\} \\ &\leq c \cdot \max\{d(S^{i_T j_x}, T^q_x) + d(T^q_x, S^{i'_{T'} j'_{x'}}) : 0 \leq i \leq n-r; \\ &0 \leq i' < p; 0 \leq j \leq r; 0 \leq j' < q\} \\ &\leq c[d(S^{n-r_T r_x}, T^q_x) + K] \end{aligned}$$

because of (5) and (7), again leading to a contradiction of inequality (6).

The set A therefore must be bounded and so

$$\sup\{d(S^n T^r x, S^{n'} T^{r'} x) : n, n', r, r' = 0, 1, 2, \dots\} = M < \infty.$$

Without loss of generality, we will now suppose that $p \geq q$ and claim that

$$(13) \quad d((ST)^{np} u, (ST)^{np} v) \leq c^n \cdot \max\{d(S^i T^j u, S^{i'} T^{j'} u), \\ d(S^i T^j u, S^{i'} T^{j'} v), d(S^i T^j v, S^{i'} T^{j'} v) : \\ 0 \leq i, i', j, j' \leq np\}$$

for $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ and all u, v in X . This is certainly true when $n = 0$. Assume true for some n . Then

$$\begin{aligned} d((ST)^{(n+1)p} u, (ST)^{(n+1)p} v) &= \\ &= d((ST)^{np} (ST)^p u, (ST)^{np} (ST)^p v) \\ &\leq c^n \cdot \max\{d(S^i T^j (ST)^p u, S^{i'} T^{j'} (ST)^p u), \\ &\quad d(S^i T^j (ST)^p u, S^{i'} T^{j'} (ST)^p v), d(S^i T^j (ST)^p v, S^{i'} T^{j'} (ST)^p v) \\ &\quad 0 \leq i, i', j, j' \leq np\} \\ &\leq c^{n+1} \cdot \max\{d(S^i T^j u, S^{i'} T^{j'} u), d(S^i T^j u, S^{i'} T^{j'} v), \\ &\quad d(S^i T^j v, S^{i'} T^{j'} v) : 0 \leq i, i', j, j' \leq (n+1)p\}, \end{aligned}$$

on using inequality (4). Inequality (13) follows by unduction.

Putting $u = (ST)^i x$ and $v = T(ST)^i x$ in inequality (13), we have

$$d((ST)^{np+i} x, T(ST)^{np+i} x) \leq c^n \max\{d(S^i T^j x, S^{i'} T^{j'} x) : \\ 0 \leq i, i', j, j' \leq (n+1)p\}$$

$$\leq c^n M$$

for $i = 1, 2, \dots, p$ and $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$. We can prove similarly

$$d((ST)^{np+i-1}x, (ST)^{np+i}x) \leq c^n M$$

for $i = 1, 2, \dots, p$ and $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$. It follows that the sequence (3) is a Cauchy sequence in the complete metric space X and so has a limit z in X .

Now suppose that T has the property (α) . Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} D_T((ST)^n x) &= \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} d((ST)^n x, T(ST)^n x) \\ &= d(z, z) = 0 \\ &\geq D_T(z) = d(z, Tz) \end{aligned}$$

and hence $Tz = z$.

Putting $u = S^i x$ and $v = x$ in inequality (13), it follows that

$$d((ST)^{np} S^i x, (ST)^{np} x) \leq c^n M$$

for $i = 0, 1, \dots, p$ and so the sequence

$$(14) \quad \{(ST)^{np} S^i x : n = 1, 2, \dots\}$$

also converges to z for $i = 0, 1, \dots, p$.

Further,

$$\begin{aligned} d((ST)^{np} S^p x, Sz) &= d(S^p (ST)^{np} x, S^p z) = d(S^p (ST)^{np} x, T^q Sz) \\ &\leq c \cdot \max\{d((ST)^{np} S^i x, (ST)^{np} S^{i'} x), d(T^j Sz, T^{j'} Sz), \\ &\quad d((ST)^{np} S^i x, T^j Sz) : 0 \leq i, i' \leq p; 0 \leq j, j' \leq q\} \\ &= c \cdot \max\{d((ST)^{np} S^i x, (ST)^{np} S^{i'} x), d(Sz, Sz), \\ &\quad d((ST)^{np} S^i x, Sz) : 0 \leq i, i' \leq p\}, \end{aligned}$$

since T commutes with S . Letting n tend to infinity, it follows that

$$d(z, Sz) \leq cd(z, Sz)$$

and so z is also a fixed point of S . A similar proof can of course be given if one assumes that S has the property (α) instead of T . The uniqueness of z follows easily. This completes the proof of the theorem.

Remark 1. The example given [4] shows that the commutativity of S and T is necessary in Theorem 2.

Remark 2. Note that Theorem 2 is false if neither S nor T have the property (α) . Indeed, let $X = [0, 1]$ with the euclidean metric, let $S0 = 1/2$, $Sx = x/4$ if $x \neq 0$ and let $T0 = 1$, $Tx = x/2$ if $x \neq 0$. Then S and T commute and inequality (2) holds since X is bounded. Further, an easy calculation shows that inequality (4) is satisfied with $c = 1/4$, $p = 2$ and $q = 4$. Neither S nor T has the property (α) because for any sequence $\{x_n\}$, with $x_n \neq 0$ for any integer n , converging to 0

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} D_S(x_n) = \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3}{4} x_n = 0 < \frac{1}{2} = D_S(0)$$

and

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} D_T(x_n) = \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2} x_n = 0 < 1 = D_T(0).$$

In the particular case that either $p = 1$ or $q = 1$, the condition that S or T has the property (α) is not necessary in Theorem 2. Indeed the following result holds.

Theorem 3. *Let S and T be commuting mappings of a complete metric space (X, d) into itself satisfying the inequality*

$$(15) \quad d(S^p x, Ty) \leq c \cdot \max\{d(S^i x, S^j x), d(y, Ty), d(S^i x, y), \\ d(S^i x, Ty) : 0 \leq i, j \leq p\}$$

for all x, y in X , where $0 \leq c < 1$ and p is a fixed positive integer. Suppose further that for some particular x in X ,

$$(16) \quad \sup\{d(S^{r+i} x, S^r x), d(T^r S^i x, T^r S^j x) : \\ r \geq 0; 0 \leq i, j < p\} < \infty .$$

Then S and T have a unique common fixed point z . Further, z is the unique fixed point of S and T .

Proof. It follows as in the proof of Theorem 2 that the sequence (14) converges to a point z in X for $i = 0, 1, \dots, p$. Then using inequality (15) we have

$$d((ST)^{np} S^p x, Tz) \leq c \cdot \max\{d((ST)^{np} S^i x, (ST)^{np} S^i x), d(z, Tz), \\ d((ST)^{np} S^i x, z), d((ST)^{np} S^i x, Tz) : \\ 0 \leq i, j \leq p\}$$

and letting n tend to infinity it follows that

$$d(z, Tz) \leq cd(z, Tz).$$

Thus $Tz = z$ and we then have $Sz = z$ as in the proof of Theorem 2.

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REZIME

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