

## **Strong Common Coupled Fixed Point Result in Fuzzy Metric Spaces**

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### **ABSTRACT**

Coupled fixed point problems have attracted large attention in recent times. In this paper we have proved a fuzzy coupled fixed point result. Precisely, we have defined the concept of strong coupled fixed point and have established the existence of a unique common strong coupled fixed point for two mappings on fuzzy metric spaces which satisfy certain contractive inequality. The main theorem has a corollary and is supported with an example. The example demonstrates that the theorem properly contains its corollary.

**Keywords:** fuzzy metric space, completeness, t-norm, strong coupled fixed point, common fixed point.

### **1. Introduction**

The concept of fuzzy sets was introduced by Zadeh [24] in 1965. Afterwards, fuzzy concepts made headways in almost all branches of mathematics. In particular, fuzzy metric space was introduced by Kramosil and Michalek [10]. George and Veeramani modified the definition of Kramosil and Michalek in [7]. The topology in such spaces is a Hausdroff topology. There are several fixed point results for mappings defined on fuzzy metric spaces in the sense of George and Veeramani. We have noted some of these works in [2, 5, 13, 14, 16] and [22].

**Definition 1.1.** [20] A binary operation  $*$ :  $[0, 1]^2 \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is called a  $t$ -norm if the following properties are satisfied:

- (i)  $*$  is associative and commutative,
- (ii)  $a * 1 = 1$  for all  $a \in [0, 1]$ ,
- (iii)  $a * b \leq c * d$  whenever  $a \leq c$  and  $b \leq d$ , for each  $a, b, c, d \in [0, 1]$ .

Examples of continuous  $t$ -norms are  $a *_1 b = \min \{a, b\}$ ,  $a *_2 b = \frac{ab}{\max\{a, b, \lambda\}}$  for  $a < \lambda < 1$  and  $a *_3 b = ab$ .

Kramosil and Michalek defined fuzzy metric space in the following way.

**Definition 1.2. [10]** The 3-tuple  $(X, M, *)$  is called a fuzzy metric space if  $X$  is an arbitrary non-empty set,  $*$  is a  $t$ -norm and  $M$  is a fuzzy set on  $X^2 \times [0, \infty)$  satisfying the following conditions:

- (i)  $M(x, y, 0) = 0$ ,
- (ii)  $M(x, y, t) = 1$  for all  $t > 0$  if and only if  $x = y$ ,
- (iii)  $M(x, y, t) = M(y, x, t)$ ,
- (iv)  $M(x, y, t) * M(y, z, s) \leq M(x, z, t + s)$  and
- (v)  $M(x, y, \cdot) : (0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is left-continuous, where  $t, s > 0$  and  $x, y, z \in X$ .

George and Veeramani in their paper [7] introduced a modification of the above definition. The motivation was to make the corresponding induced topology into a Hausdroff topology. Following Mihet [13], we call such spaces GV-fuzzy metric space.

**Definition 1.3.[7]** The 3-tuple  $(X, M, *)$  is called a GV-fuzzy metric space if  $X$  is an arbitrary non-empty set,  $*$  is a continuous  $t$ -norm and  $M$  is a fuzzy set on  $X^2 \times [0, \infty)$  satisfying the following conditions for each  $x, y, z \in X$  and  $t, s > 0$ :

- (i)  $M(x, y, t) = 0$ ,
- (ii)  $M(x, y, t) = 1$  if and only if  $x = y$ ,
- (iii)  $M(x, y, t) = M(y, x, t)$ ,
- (iv)  $M(x, y, t) * M(y, z, s) \leq M(x, z, t + s)$  and
- (v)  $M(x, y, \cdot) : (0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is continuous.

Let  $(X, M, *)$  be a GV-fuzzy metric space. For  $t > 0$ ,  $0 < r < 1$ , the open ball  $B(x, t, r)$  with center  $x \in X$  is defined by

$$B(x, t, r) = \{y \in X : M(x, y, t) > 1 - r\}.$$

A subset  $A \subset X$  is called open if for each  $x \in A$ , there exist  $t > 0$  and  $0 < r < 1$  such that  $B(x, t, r) \subset A$ . Let  $\tau$  denote the family of all open subsets of  $X$ . Then  $\tau$  is called the topology on  $X$  induced by the fuzzy metric  $M$ . This topology is Hausdorff and first countable [7].

**Example 1.4. [7]** Let  $X = \mathbb{R}$ . Let  $a * b = a \cdot b$  for all  $a, b \in [0, 1]$ . For each  $t \in (0, \infty)$ , let

$$M(x, y, t) = \frac{t}{t + |x - y|}$$

for all  $x, y \in X$ . Then  $(\mathbb{R}, M, *)$  is a GV-fuzzy metric space.

**Example 1.5.** Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space and  $\psi$  be an increasing and a continuous function of  $\mathbb{R}_+$  into  $(0, 1)$  such that  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \psi(t) = 1$ . Three generic examples of these functions are  $\psi(t) = \frac{t}{t+1}$ ,  $\psi(t) = \sin(\frac{\pi t}{2t+1})$  and  $\psi(t) = 1 - e^{-t}$ . Let  $*$  be any continuous  $t$ -norm. For each  $t \in (0, \infty)$ , let  $M(x, y, t) = \psi(t)^{d(x, y)}$  for all  $x, y \in X$ . Then  $(X, M, *)$  is a fuzzy metric space.

**Definition 1.6. [10]** Let  $(X, M, *)$  be a GV-fuzzy metric space.

- (i) A sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in  $X$  is said to be convergent to a point  $x \in X$  if  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} M(x_n, x, t) = 1$  for all  $t > 0$ .
- (ii) A sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in  $X$  is called a Cauchy sequence if for each  $0 < \varepsilon < 1$  and  $t > 0$ , there exists  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $M(x_n, x_m, t) > 1 - \varepsilon$  for each  $n, m \geq n_0$ .

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(iii) A GV-fuzzy metric space in which every Cauchy sequence is convergent, is said to be complete.

**Lemma 1.7.** [17]  $M$  is a continuous function on  $X^2 \times (0, \infty)$ .

Our purpose in this paper is to prove a strong coupled common fixed point theorem in complete GV-fuzzy metric spaces. Coupled fixed point problems belong to a category of problems in fixed point theory in which much interest has been generated recently after the publication of a coupled contraction mapping theorem by Bhaskar and Lakshmikantham [1]. The result proved by Bhaskar and Lakshmikantham in [1] was generalised to coupled coincidence point results in [3] and [11] under two separate sets of conditions. Some other works in this line of research are noted in [6, 12, 15, 19]. Coupled fixed point problems have also been studied in probabilistic metric spaces [23], in cone metric spaces [9, 18] and in  $G$ - metric spaces [4]. One of the reasons of this widespread interest in coupled fixed point problems is their potential applicability [1].

**Definition 1.8.** [1] An element  $x, y \in X \times X$  is called a coupled fixed point of the mapping  $F: X \times X \rightarrow X$  if  $F(x, y) = x, F(y, x) = y$ .

Further Lakshmikantham and Ćirić have introduced the concept of coupled coincidence point.

**Definition 1.9.** [1] An element  $x, y \in X \times X$  is called a coupled coincidence point of a mapping  $F: X \times X \rightarrow X$  and  $g: X \rightarrow X$  if  $F(x, y) = g(x), F(y, x) = g(y)$ .

If, in particular,  $x = g(x) = F(x, y)$  and  $y = g(y) = F(y, x)$ , then  $(x, y)$  is a coupled common fixed point of  $g$  and  $F$ .

Here we define strong coupled fixed point in the following.

**Definition 1.10.** In particular, if  $x = y$  in the coupled common fixed point of  $g$  and we call  $(x, x)$  or simply  $x$  a strong coupled common fixed point of  $g$  and  $F$ . If further  $g = I$ , the identity map, then we call  $(x, x)$  or simply  $x$  a strong coupled fixed point of  $F$ .

Coupled fixed point results were established in fuzzy metric spaces by Sedghi et al [21] in which they had established a fuzzy version of the result of Bhaskar et al [1]. After that, common coupled fixed point results in fuzzy metric spaces were established by Hu [8].

**Definition 1.11.** [3, 11] Let  $X$  be a non-empty set and  $F: X \times X \rightarrow X$  and  $g: X \rightarrow X$ . We say that  $F$  and  $g$  commute if  $g(F(x, y)) = F(g(x), g(y))$  for all  $x, y \in X$ .

In this paper we have established that for two mappings  $F: X \times X \rightarrow X$  and  $g: X \rightarrow X$ , where  $(X, M, *)$  is a GV-fuzzy metric space, under certain conditions, there exists a unique strongly coupled common fixed point for  $g$  and  $F$ . The theorem has a corollary and is supported with an example.

## 2. Main Results

**Theorem 2.1.** Let  $(X, M, *)$  be a complete GV-fuzzy metric space where  $*$  is any continuous t-norm satisfying  $a * b \geq a.b$  for all  $a, b \in [0, 1]$ . Let there be functions  $F: X \times X \rightarrow X$  and  $g: X \rightarrow X$  such that

$$M(F(x, y), F(u, v), t) \geq \gamma(M(g(x), g(u), t) * M(g(y), g(v), t)) \quad (2.1)$$

for all  $x, y, u, v \in X$ ,  $t > 0$  where  $\gamma : [0,1] \rightarrow [0,1]$  is a monotone increasing continuous function such that  $\gamma(a) > \sqrt{a}$  for each  $a \in (0,1)$ . Let  $g$  be continuous, commute with  $F$  and is such that  $F(X \times X) \subseteq g(X)$ . Then  $g$  and  $F$  have a unique strongly coupled common fixed point.

**Proof.** Let  $x_0, y_0 \in X$ . Since  $F(X \times X) \subseteq g(X)$ , we can choose  $x_1, y_1 \in X$  such that  $g(x_1) = F(x_0, y_0)$  and that  $g(y_1) = F(y_0, x_0)$  for some  $x_0, y_0 \in X$ . Again we can choose  $x_2, y_2 \in X$  such that  $g(x_2) = F(x_1, y_1)$  and  $g(y_2) = F(y_1, x_1)$ . Continuing this process, we construct two sequences  $\{x_n\}$  and  $\{y_n\}$  in  $X$  such that  $g(x_{n+1}) = F(x_n, y_n)$  and  $g(y_{n+1}) = F(y_n, x_n)$  for all  $n \geq 0$ . (2.2)

Let, for all  $t > 0, n \geq 0$ ,

$$\delta_n(t) = M(g(x_n), (g(x_{n+1}), t) * M(g(y_n), (g(y_{n+1}), t)). \quad (2.3)$$

From (2.1) and (2.2), for all  $t > 0, n \geq 0$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} M(g(x_n), (g(x_{n+1}), t) &= M(F(x_{n-1}, y_{n-1}), F(x_n, y_n), t) \\ &\geq \gamma(M(g(x_{n-1}), (g(x_n), t) * M(g(y_{n-1}), (g(y_n), t))) \\ &= \gamma(\delta_{n-1}(t)). \end{aligned} \quad (2.4)$$

Similarly, from (2.1) and (2.2) for all  $t > 0, n \geq 0$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} M(g(y_n), (g(y_{n+1}), t) &= M(F(y_{n-1}, x_{n-1}), F(y_n, x_n), t) \\ &\geq \gamma(M(g(y_{n-1}), (g(y_n), t) * M(g(x_{n-1}), (g(x_n), t))) \\ &= \gamma(\delta_{n-1}(t)). \end{aligned} \quad (2.5)$$

From (2.4) and (2.5), for all  $t > 0, n \geq 0$ , we have

$$\delta_n(t) \geq \gamma(\delta_{n-1}(t)) * \gamma(\delta_{n-1}(t)) \geq (\gamma(\delta_{n-1}(t)))^2 \quad (\text{Since } a * b \geq ab). \quad (2.6)$$

From (2.6), by a property of  $\gamma$ , we have  $\delta_n(t) \geq \gamma(\delta_{n-1}(t))$  for all  $t > 0$ .

Thus for each  $t > 0, \{\delta_n(t); n \geq 0\}$  is an increasing sequence in  $[0,1]$  and hence tends to a limit  $a(t) \leq 1$ . We claim that  $a(t) = 1$  for all  $t > 0$ . If there exists  $t_0 > 0$  such that  $a(t_0) < 1$ , then taking limit as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  for  $t = t_0$  in (2.6), and using the properties of  $\gamma$ , we get  $a(t_0) \geq (\gamma(a(t_0)))^2 > a(t_0)$ , which is a contradiction. Hence  $a(t) = 1$  for every  $t > 0$ , that is, for all  $t > 0$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \delta_n(t) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} M(g(x_n), (g(x_{n+1}), t) * M(g(y_n), (g(y_{n+1}), t)) \quad (2.7)$$

Now we prove that  $\{g(x_n)\}$  and  $\{g(y_n)\}$  are Cauchy sequences. Let, to the contrary, at least one of  $\{g(x_n)\}$  and  $\{g(y_n)\}$  be not a Cauchy sequence. Then there exist  $\epsilon, \lambda \in (0,1)$  such that for each integer  $k$ , there are two integers  $l(k)$  and  $m(k)$  such that  $m(k) > l(k) \geq k$  and

either  $M(g(x_{l(k)}), g(x_{m(k)}), \epsilon) \leq 1 - \lambda$  for all  $k \geq 1$

or  $M(g(y_{l(k)}), g(y_{m(k)}), \epsilon) \leq 1 - \lambda$  for all  $k \geq 1$

Let us write, for all  $t > 0, k \geq 0$ ,

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$$r_k(t) = M(g(x_{l(k)}), g(x_{m(k)}), t) * M(g(y_{l(k)}), g(y_{m(k)}), t).$$

Then, from the above, for all  $k \geq 0$ ,

$$r_k(\epsilon) = M(g(x_{l(k)}), g(x_{m(k)}), \epsilon) * M(g(y_{l(k)}), g(y_{m(k)}), \epsilon) \leq 1 - \lambda \quad (2.8)$$

By choosing  $m(k)$  to be the smallest integer exceeding  $l(k)$  for which (2.8) holds, for all  $k > 0$ , we have

$$M(g(x_{l(k)}), g(x_{m(k)-1}), \epsilon) * M(g(y_{l(k)}), g(y_{m(k)-1}), \epsilon) > 1 - \lambda.$$

From the above inequality, by the continuity of  $M$ , we can have some  $\alpha$  with  $0 < 2\alpha < \epsilon$  such that, for all  $k \geq 1$ ,

$$M(g(x_{l(k)}), g(x_{m(k)-1}), \epsilon - 2\alpha) * M(g(y_{l(k)}), g(y_{m(k)-1}), \epsilon - 2\alpha) > 1 - \lambda \quad (2.9)$$

From (2.8) and (2.9), for all  $k > 0$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} 1 - \lambda \geq r_k(\epsilon) &\geq M(g(x_{l(k)}), g(x_{m(k)-1}), \epsilon - \alpha) * M(g(x_{m(k)-1}), g(x_{m(k)}), \alpha) \\ &\quad * M(g(y_{l(k)}), g(y_{m(k)-1}), \epsilon - \alpha) * M(g(y_{m(k)-1}), g(y_{m(k)}), \alpha) \\ &= M(g(x_{l(k)}), g(x_{m(k)-1}), \epsilon - \alpha) * M(g(y_{l(k)}), g(y_{m(k)-1}), \epsilon - \alpha) * \delta_{m(k)-1}(\alpha) \\ &> (1 - \lambda) * \delta_{m(k)-1}(\alpha). \end{aligned}$$

Taking the limit as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ , and using (2.7), we get

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} r_k(\epsilon) = 1 - \lambda.$$

Since  $M(x, y, t_1) \geq M(x, y, t_2)$  whenever  $t_1 \geq t_2$ , it follows that  $M(x, y, \epsilon) \leq 1 - \lambda$  implies

$$M(x, y, \epsilon_1) \leq 1 - \lambda, \text{ for all } x, y \in X \text{ whenever } \epsilon_1 \leq \epsilon.$$

Hence the above derivation is valid if  $\epsilon$  is replaced by any smaller value. Thus we conclude that

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} r_k(\epsilon) = 1 - \lambda \text{ for all } 0 < \epsilon_1 \leq \epsilon. \quad (2.10)$$

Again, for all  $k > 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} r_k(\epsilon) &= M(g(x_{l(k)}), g(x_{m(k)}), \epsilon) * M(g(y_{l(k)}), g(y_{m(k)}), \epsilon) \\ &\geq M(g(x_{l(k)}), g(x_{l(k)+1}), \alpha) * M(g(x_{l(k)+1}), g(x_{m(k)+1}), \epsilon - 2\alpha) \\ &\quad * M(g(x_{m(k)+1}), g(x_{m(k)}), \alpha) * M(g(y_{l(k)}), g(y_{l(k)+1}), \alpha) \\ &\quad * M(g(y_{l(k)+1}), g(y_{m(k)+1}), \epsilon - 2\alpha) * M(g(y_{m(k)+1}), g(y_{m(k)}), \alpha) \end{aligned}$$

Using the notation of (2.3), for all  $k > 0$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} r_k(\epsilon) &\geq \delta_{l(k)}(\alpha) * \delta_{m(k)}(\alpha) * M(g(x_{l(k)+1}), g(x_{m(k)+1}), \epsilon - 2\alpha) \\ &\quad * M(g(y_{l(k)+1}), g(y_{m(k)+1}), \epsilon - 2\alpha) \end{aligned} \quad (2.11)$$

From (2.1) and (2.2), for all  $k > 0$ , it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} M(g(x_{l(k)+1}), g(x_{m(k)+1}), \epsilon - 2\alpha) &= M(F(x_{l(k)}, y_{l(k)}), F(x_{m(k)}, y_{m(k)}), \epsilon - 2\alpha) \\ &\geq \gamma(M(g(x_{l(k)}), g(x_{m(k)}), \epsilon - 2\alpha) * M(g(y_{l(k)}), g(y_{m(k)}), \epsilon - 2\alpha)) \\ &= \gamma(r_k(\epsilon - 2\alpha)) \end{aligned} \quad (2.12)$$

Also from (2.1) and (2.2) we have, for all  $k > 0$ ,

$$M(g(y_{m(k)+1}), g(y_{m(k)+1}), \epsilon - 2\alpha) = M(F(y_{m(k)}, x_{m(k)}), F(y_{l(k)}, x_{l(k)}), \epsilon - 2\alpha)$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
M(g(y_{m(k)+1}), g(y_{m(k)+1}), \epsilon - 2\alpha) &= M(F(y_{m(k)}, x_{m(k)}), F(y_{l(k)}, x_{l(k)}), \epsilon - 2\alpha) \\
&\geq \gamma(M(g(x_{l(k)}), g(x_{m(k)}), \epsilon - 2\alpha) * M(g(y_{l(k)}), g(y_{m(k)}), \epsilon - 2\alpha)) \\
&= \gamma(r_k(\epsilon - 2\alpha))
\end{aligned} \tag{2.13}$$

Inserting (2.12) and (2.13) in (2.11) we obtain, for all  $k > 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
r_k(\epsilon) &\geq \delta_{l(k)}(\alpha) * \delta_{m(k)}(\alpha) * \gamma(r_k(\epsilon - 2\alpha)) * \gamma(r_k(\epsilon - 2\alpha)) \\
&\geq \delta_{l(k)}(\alpha) * \delta_{m(k)}(\alpha) * (\gamma(r_k(\epsilon - 2\alpha)))^2 \\
&\quad (\text{Since } a * b \geq a \cdot b).
\end{aligned}$$

$$1 - \lambda \geq (\gamma(1 - \lambda))^2 > (1 - \lambda), \tag{2.14}$$

which is a contradiction. Therefore,  $\{g(x_n)\}$  and  $\{g(y_n)\}$  are Cauchy sequences.

Since  $X$  complete, there exist  $x, y \in X$  such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} g(x_n) = x \text{ and } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} g(y_n) = y. \tag{2.15}$$

From (2.15), and the continuity of  $g$ , we obtain

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} g(g(x_n)) = g(x) \text{ and } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} g(g(y_n)) = g(y) \tag{2.16}$$

From (2.2), and the commutativity of  $g$  and  $F$ , for all  $n \geq 0$ , we have

$$g(g(x_{n+1})) = g(F(x_n, y_n)) = F(g(x_n), g(y_n)), \tag{2.17}$$

and

$$g(g(y_{n+1})) = g(F(y_n, x_n)) = F(g(y_n), g(x_n)), \tag{2.18}$$

We now show that  $g(x) = F(x, y)$  and  $g(y) = F(y, x)$

From (2.1) and (2.17), for all  $t > 0, n \geq 0$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
M(g(g(x_{n+1})), F(x, y), t) &= M(g(F(x_n, y_n)), F(x, y), t) \\
&= M(F(g(x_n), g(y_n)), F(x, y), t) \\
&\geq \gamma(M(g(g(x_n)), g(x), t) * (M(g(g(y_n)), g(y), t)).
\end{aligned}$$

Letting  $n \rightarrow \infty$  in the above inequality, by (2.16), the continuity of  $\gamma$  and lemma 1.7, for all  $t > 0$ , we have

$$M(g(x), F(x, y), t) \geq \gamma(1) = 1,$$

$$\text{that is, } g(x) = F(x, y) \tag{2.19}$$

Again from (2.1) and (2.18) we get, for all  $t > 0, n \geq 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
M(g(g(y_{n+1})), F(y, x), t) &= M(g(F(y_n, x_n)), F(y, x), t) \\
&\geq \gamma(M(g(g(y_n)), g(y), t) * (M(g(g(x_n)), g(x), t)
\end{aligned}$$

Letting  $n \rightarrow \infty$  in the above inequality, by (2.16), the continuity of  $\gamma$  and lemma 1.7, for all  $t > 0$ , we have  $M(g(y), F(y, x), t) \geq \gamma(1) = 1$  for all  $t > 0$ , that is

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$$G(y) = F(y, x). \tag{2.20}$$

Thus  $(x, y)$  is a coupled coincidence point of  $g$  and  $F$ .

Now we prove that  $x = y$ . Let, to the contrary,  $x \neq y$ . Then,  $M(x, y, s) < 1$  for  $s > 0$ . Then, from (2.1) and (2.2), we get

$$\begin{aligned} M(g(x_{n+1}), g(y_{n+1}), s) &= M(F(x_n, y_n), F(x_n, y_n), s) \\ &\geq \gamma(M(g(x_n)), g(y_n), s) * M(g(y_n), g(x_n), s). \end{aligned}$$

Letting  $n \rightarrow \infty$  in the above inequality, by (2.15), lemma 1.7, the continuity of  $*$  and the properties of  $\gamma$ , we have

$$M(x, y, s) \geq \gamma(M(x, y, s) * M(y, x, s) \geq \lambda(M(x, y, s)^2) > M(x, y, s),$$

which is a contraction.

Thus we have proved that  $x = y$ . From (2.19) and (2.20) we have that

$$g(x) = F(x, y). \tag{2.21}$$

Next we prove that  $g(x) = x$ . If otherwise, then  $0 < M(x, y, s) < 1$  for  $s > 0$ .

From (2.1), (2.2) and (2.21), we have that

$$\begin{aligned} M(g(y_n), g(x), s) &= M(F(y_n, x_n), F(x, x), s) \\ &\geq \gamma(M(g(x_n)), g(x), s) * M(g(x_n), g(x), s). \end{aligned}$$

Letting  $n \rightarrow \infty$  in the above inequality, by (2.15), lemma 1.7, the properties  $\gamma$ , and the fact that  $x = y$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} M(x, g(x), s) &\geq \gamma(M(x, g(x), s) * M(y, g(y), s)) \\ &= \gamma(M(x, g(x), s) * M(x, g(x), s)) \\ &= \gamma(M(x, g(x), s)^2) \\ &> M(x, g(x), s), \end{aligned}$$

which is contraction. Hence we have established that  $x = g(x) = F(x, x)$ , that is,  $g$  and  $F$  have a strongly coupled common fixed point. Next we prove the uniqueness of the fixed point.

If  $x$  and  $u$  are such that,  $x = g(x) = F(x, x)$  and  $u = g(u) = F(u, u)$ , then, by (2.1) and a property of  $\gamma$ , for all  $t > 0$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} M(g(x), g(u), t) &= \gamma(M(F(x, x), F(u, u), t) \\ &\geq \gamma(M(g(x), g(u), t) * M(g(x), g(u), t)) \quad (\text{by (2.1)}) \\ &> M(g(x), g(u), t), \end{aligned}$$

which is a contradiction.

Hence the strongly coupled x common fixed point is unique.

This completes the proof of the theorem.

**Corollary 2.2.** Let  $(X, M, *)$  be a complete GV-fuzzy metric space such that  $a * b \geq a \cdot b$  for all  $a, b \in [0,1]$ . Let there be a function  $F: X \times X \rightarrow X$  such that

$$M(F(x, y), F(u, v), t) \geq \gamma(M(x, u, t) * M(y, v, t)) \quad (2.22)$$

for all  $x, y, u, v \in X$ , where  $\gamma: [0,1] \rightarrow [0,1]$  is a continuous function such that  $\gamma(a) > \sqrt{a}$  for each  $a \in (0,1)$ . Then there exists a unique strongly coupled fixed point of  $F$ , that is, a unique  $x \in X$  such that  $x = F(x, x)$ .

**Proof.** If we take  $g = I$ , the identity map, in theorem 2.1, then there exists a unique  $x \in X$  such that  $x = F(x, x)$ .

**Example 2.3.** Let  $(X, M, *)$  be a fuzzy metric space, where  $X = [-2,2]$ ,  $a * b = a \cdot b$  for all  $a, b \in [0, 1]$  and, for  $x, y \in X, t > 0$ ,

$$M(x, y, t) = \varphi(t)^{|x-y|}$$

where  $\varphi$  is an increasing and continuous function of  $\mathbb{R}_+$  into  $(0, 1)$  given by

$\varphi(t) = \frac{t}{t+1}$  for each  $t \in (0, \infty)$ . We define the map  $F: X \times X \rightarrow X$  as:

$$F(x, y) = \frac{x^2}{24} + \frac{y^2}{24} - 2, \text{ for all } x, y \in X.$$

Let  $g: X \rightarrow X$  be given by  $g(x) = -|x|$  for all  $x \in X$ .

$$F(X \times X) = [-2, -\frac{5}{3}] \subset g(X) = [-2, 0]$$

Then

Let  $\gamma: [0,1] \rightarrow [0,1]$  be defined as  $\gamma(a) = a^{\frac{1}{6}}$  for each  $a \in (0,1)$ ,  $\gamma(0) = 0$  and  $\gamma(1) = 1$ . Then, for all  $x, y, u, v \in X, t > 0$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} M(F(x,y), F(u,v), t) &= \left(\frac{t}{t+1}\right)^{\frac{|x^2-u^2+y^2-v^2|}{24}} \geq \left(\frac{t}{t+1}\right)^{\frac{|x-u|+|y-v|}{6}} \\ &= \left(\frac{t}{t+1}\right)^{\frac{|x-u|}{6}} \left(\frac{t}{t+1}\right)^{\frac{|y-v|}{6}} = M(g(x), g(y), t)^{\frac{1}{6}} \cdot M(g(y), g(v), t)^{\frac{1}{6}} \\ &= \gamma(M(g(x), g(u), t) * M(g(y), g(v), t)). \end{aligned}$$

Thus all the conditions of theorem 2.1 hold. Here  $(6-2\sqrt{15}, 6-2\sqrt{15})$  is the unique strong common coupled fixed point of  $F$ .

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