

# Common Fixed Point Theorems in $b$ -Metric Spaces

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**Abstract** In this paper, we prove some common fixed point results for two mappings satisfying contraction conditions in complete  $b$ -metric spaces. Meanwhile, two examples are presented to support our results.

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## 1. Introduction

In 1922, Banach [1] proved the Banach contraction principle. Since then, several works have been done about fixed point theory regarding different classes of contractive conditions in some spaces such as: quasi-metric spaces [2,3], cone metric spaces [4,5], partially order metric spaces [6,7,8],  $G$ -metric spaces [9].

The concept of  $b$ -metric space was introduced by Czerwik in [10]. After that, several papers have been published on the fixed point theory of various classes of single-valued and multi-valued operators in  $b$ -metric spaces (see [2,11,12]). Aydi et al. in [13] proved common fixed point results for single-valued and multi-valued mappings satisfying a weak  $\phi$ -contraction in  $b$ -metric spaces. Starting from the results of Berinde [14], Pacurar [15] proved the existence and uniqueness of fixed point of  $\phi$ -contractions on  $b$ -metric spaces. Using a contraction condition defined by means of a comparison function, [16] established results regarding the common fixed points of two mappings. Hussain and Shah in [17] introduced the notion of a cone  $b$ -metric spaces, generalizing both the notions of  $b$ -metric spaces and cone metric spaces, they considered topological properties of cone  $b$ -metric spaces and results on KKM mappings in the setting of cone  $b$ -metric spaces.

The aim of this paper is to consider and establish some common fixed point results for two mappings satisfying contraction conditions in complete  $b$ -metric spaces. Meanwhile, two examples are presented to support our results.

## 2. Preliminaries

Let  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $\mathbb{R}^+$  denote the sets of all real numbers and nonnegative numbers respectively.  $N$  denotes the

set of positive integers and  $N_0 = N \cup \{0\}$ . Suppose

$\Phi = \{ \phi \mid \phi : (\mathbb{R}^+)^7 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+ \text{ is upper semicontinuous and nondecreasing in each coordinate variable satisfying condition } \phi(t, t, t, t, t, t, t) = \bar{\phi}(t) < t \}$  and

$\Psi = \{ \psi \mid \psi : (\mathbb{R}^+)^9 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+ \text{ is upper semicontinuous and nondecreasing in each coordinate variable satisfying condition } \psi(t, t, t, t, t, t, t, t, t) = \bar{\psi}(t) < t \}$ .

In order to obtain our main results, we need to introduce some definitions and lemmas.

**Definition.** Let  $X$  be a nonempty set and  $d : X \times X \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$ . A function  $d$  is called a  $b$ -metric with constant  $s \geq 1$  if

- (1)  $d(x, y) = 0$  if and only if  $x = y$ ;
- (2)  $d(x, y) = d(y, x)$  for all  $x, y \in X$ ;
- (3)  $d(x, y) \leq s(d(x, z) + d(y, z))$  for all  $x, y, z \in X$ .

The pair  $(X, d)$  is called a  $b$ -metric space.

It is obvious a  $b$ -metric space with  $s=1$  is a metric space. There are examples of  $b$ -metric spaces which are not metric spaces. (see [18])

**Definition.** Let  $\{x_n\}$  be a sequence in a  $b$ -metric space  $(X, d)$ .

(1) A sequence  $\{x_n\}$  is called convergent if and only if there is  $x \in X$  such that  $d(x_n, x) \rightarrow 0$  when  $n \rightarrow +\infty$ ;

(2)  $\{x_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence if and only if  $d(x_n, x_m) \rightarrow 0$  when  $n, m \rightarrow +\infty$ .

As usual, a  $b$ -metric space is said to be complete if and only if each Cauchy sequence in this space is convergent.

**Lemma 2.1.** [19] Let  $\psi : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  be nondecreasing and upper semicontinuous. Then for each  $t > 0$ ,  $\psi(t) < t$  if and only if  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \psi^n(t) = 0$ .

### 3. Main Results

Now we are ready to prove our main results.

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $(X, d)$  be a complete  $b$ -metric space with constant  $s \geq 1$ . Suppose  $A$  and  $B : X \rightarrow X$  are two mappings and one of them is continuous. If there exists  $\phi \in \Phi$  such that*

$$s^4 d(Ax, By) \leq \phi \left( \begin{array}{l} d(Ax, x), d(By, y), d(x, y), \\ \frac{d(Ax, x) + d(By, y)}{2}, \frac{d(Ax, x) + d(x, y)}{2}, \\ \frac{d(By, y) + d(x, y)}{2}, \frac{d(Ax, y) + d(By, x)}{2} \end{array} \right), \tag{1}$$

for all  $x, y \in X$ , then  $A$  and  $B$  have a unique common fixed point  $x^* \in X$ .

Proof. Let  $x_0 \in X$  be arbitrary. We define a sequence  $\{x_n\}$  as follows:

$$x_{2n+1} = Ax_{2n}, x_{2n+2} = Bx_{2n+1}, n \in N.$$

We now suppose that  $d(x_n, x_{n+1}) > 0$  for every  $n$ . If not, there exists some  $n \in N$  such that  $x_n = x_{n+1}$ . If  $n = 2k$ , then  $x_{2k} = x_{2k+1}$  and from the contraction condition (1) with  $x = x_{2k}$  and  $y = x_{2k+1}$ , we have

$$s^4 d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+2}) = s^4 d(Ax_{2k}, Bx_{2k+1}) \leq \phi \left( \begin{array}{l} d(Ax_{2k}, x_{2k}), d(Bx_{2k+1}, x_{2k+1}), \\ d(x_{2k}, x_{2k+1}), \\ \frac{d(Ax_{2k}, x_{2k}) + d(Bx_{2k+1}, x_{2k+1})}{2}, \\ \frac{d(Ax_{2k}, x_{2k}) + d(x_{2k}, x_{2k+1})}{2}, \\ \frac{d(Bx_{2k+1}, x_{2k+1}) + d(x_{2k}, x_{2k+1})}{2}, \\ \frac{d(Ax_{2k}, x_{2k+1}) + d(Bx_{2k+1}, x_{2k})}{2} \end{array} \right) = \phi \left( \begin{array}{l} d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k}), d(x_{2k+2}, x_{2k+1}), \\ d(x_{2k}, x_{2k+1}), \\ \frac{d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k}) + d(x_{2k+2}, x_{2k+1})}{2}, \\ \frac{d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k}) + d(x_{2k}, x_{2k+1})}{2}, \\ \frac{d(x_{2k+2}, x_{2k+1}) + d(x_{2k}, x_{2k+1})}{2}, \\ \frac{d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+1}) + d(x_{2k+2}, x_{2k})}{2} \end{array} \right).$$

Suppose that  $d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+2}) > d(x_{2k}, x_{2k+1}) = 0$ . It follows from the definition of  $\phi$  that

$$s^4 d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+2}) \leq \phi \left( \begin{array}{l} d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+2}), d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+2}), \\ d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+2}), \\ d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+2}), d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+2}), \\ d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+2}), sd(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+2}) \end{array} \right) \leq \phi \left( \begin{array}{l} s^4 d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+2}), s^4 d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+2}), \\ s^4 d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+2}), \\ s^4 d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+2}), s^4 d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+2}), \\ s^4 d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+2}), s^4 d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+2}) \end{array} \right) = \bar{\phi}(s^4 d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+2})) < s^4 d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+2}),$$

which is a contradiction. Therefore,  $d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+2}) = 0$ . By the definition of the sequence  $\{x_n\}$ , it means that  $x_{2k} = Ax_{2k} = Bx_{2k}$ . That is,  $x_{2k}$  is a common fixed point of  $A$  and  $B$ .

If  $n = 2k + 1$ , then using the same arguments in the case  $x_{2k} = x_{2k+1}$ , it can be shown that  $x_{2k+1}$  is a common fixed point of  $A$  and  $B$ .

From now on, we suppose that  $x_n \neq x_{n+1}$  for all  $n \in N_0$ . Now we shall prove that

$$s^4 d(x_n, x_{n+1}) \leq \bar{\phi}(s^4 d(x_n, x_{n+1})), \text{ for each } n \in N_0. \tag{2}$$

We consider two cases:

Case I:  $n = 2k, k \in N$ . From the contraction condition (1) with  $x = x_{2k}$  and  $y = x_{2k-1}$ , we get

$$s^4 d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k}) = s^4 d(Ax_{2k}, Bx_{2k-1}) \leq \phi \left( \begin{array}{l} d(Ax_{2k}, x_{2k}), d(Bx_{2k-1}, x_{2k-1}), \\ d(x_{2k}, x_{2k-1}), \frac{d(Ax_{2k}, x_{2k}) + d(Bx_{2k-1}, x_{2k-1})}{2}, \\ \frac{d(Ax_{2k}, x_{2k}) + d(x_{2k}, x_{2k-1})}{2}, \\ \frac{d(Bx_{2k-1}, x_{2k-1}) + d(x_{2k}, x_{2k-1})}{2}, \\ \frac{d(Ax_{2k}, x_{2k-1}) + d(Bx_{2k-1}, x_{2k})}{2} \end{array} \right) = \phi \left( \begin{array}{l} d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k}), d(x_{2k}, x_{2k-1}), d(x_{2k}, x_{2k-1}), \\ \frac{d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k}) + d(x_{2k}, x_{2k-1})}{2}, \\ \frac{d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k}) + d(x_{2k}, x_{2k-1})}{2}, \\ \frac{d(x_{2k}, x_{2k-1}) + d(x_{2k}, x_{2k-1})}{2}, \\ \frac{d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k-1}) + d(x_{2k}, x_{2k})}{2} \end{array} \right).$$

If  $d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k}) > d(x_{2k}, x_{2k-1})$ , by virtue of the definition of  $\phi$ , one can obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 & s^4 d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k}) \\
 & \leq \phi \left( \begin{array}{l} d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k}), d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k}), d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k}), \\ d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k}), d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k}), \\ d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k}), sd(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k}) \end{array} \right) \\
 & \leq \phi \left( \begin{array}{l} s^4 d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k}), s^4 d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k}), \\ s^4 d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k}), \\ s^4 d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k}), s^4 d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k}), \\ s^4 d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k}), s^4 d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k}) \end{array} \right) \\
 & = \bar{\phi}(s^4 d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k})) < s^4 d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k}),
 \end{aligned}$$

a contradiction. It follows that

$$d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k}) \leq d(x_{2k}, x_{2k-1}).$$

Hence,

$$s^4 d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k}) \leq \bar{\phi}(s^4 d(x_{2k}, x_{2k-1})), \text{ for each } k \in N. \quad (3)$$

Case II:  $n = 2k + 1, k \in N_0$ . Using the same technique in proving the case I, it can be proved that (2) holds for  $n = 2k + 1$ . That is,

$$\begin{aligned}
 & s^4 d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+2}) \leq \bar{\phi}(s^4 d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k})), \quad (4) \\
 & \text{for each } k \in N_0.
 \end{aligned}$$

From (3) and (4), we conclude that (2) holds for all  $n \in N_0$ .

Since  $\bar{\phi}(t) < t$  for all  $t > 0$ , using Lemma 2.3, we obtain that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \bar{\phi}^n(t) = 0$  for all  $t > 0$ . It follows that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} d(x_n, x_{n+1}) = 0. \quad (5)$$

Now we prove that  $\{x_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence. To do this, it is sufficient to show that the subsequence  $\{x_{2n}\}$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $X$ . Assume on the contrary that  $\{x_{2n}\}$  is not a Cauchy sequence. Then there exists  $\varepsilon > 0$  for which we can find subsequence  $\{x_{2m_k}\}$  and  $\{x_{2n_k}\}$  so that  $2m_k$  is the smallest index for which  $2m_k > 2n_k > k$ ,

$$d(x_{2m_k}, x_{2n_k}) \geq \varepsilon \quad (6)$$

and

$$d(x_{2m_k-2}, x_{2n_k}) < \varepsilon. \quad (7)$$

Using the triangle inequality in  $b$ -metric space and (6), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \varepsilon & \leq d(x_{2m_k}, x_{2n_k}) \\
 & \leq sd(x_{2m_k-2}, x_{2n_k}) + s^2 d(x_{2m_k-2}, x_{2m_k-1}) \\
 & \quad + s^2 d(x_{2m_k-1}, x_{2m_k}) \\
 & \leq \varepsilon s + s^2 d(x_{2m_k-2}, x_{2m_k-1}) + s^2 d(x_{2m_k-1}, x_{2m_k}).
 \end{aligned}$$

Taking the upper limit as  $k \rightarrow +\infty$ , one can obtain

$$\varepsilon \leq \limsup_{k \rightarrow +\infty} d(x_{2m_k}, x_{2n_k}) \leq \varepsilon s. \quad (8)$$

Also,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \varepsilon & \leq \limsup_{k \rightarrow +\infty} d(x_{2m_k}, x_{2n_k}) \\
 & \leq sd(x_{2m_k}, x_{2m_k-1}) + sd(x_{2m_k-1}, x_{2n_k}),
 \end{aligned}$$

hence,

$$\frac{\varepsilon}{s} \leq \limsup_{k \rightarrow +\infty} d(x_{2m_k-1}, x_{2n_k}).$$

On the other hand, we get

$$d(x_{2m_k-1}, x_{2n_k}) \leq sd(x_{2m_k-1}, x_{2m_k}) + sd(x_{2m_k}, x_{2n_k}).$$

It follows from (5) and (8) that

$$\limsup_{k \rightarrow +\infty} d(x_{2m_k-1}, x_{2n_k}) \leq s \limsup_{k \rightarrow +\infty} d(x_{2m_k}, x_{2n_k}) \leq s^2 \varepsilon.$$

Consequently,

$$\frac{\varepsilon}{s} \leq \limsup_{k \rightarrow +\infty} d(x_{2m_k-1}, x_{2n_k}) \leq s^2 \varepsilon. \quad (9)$$

Similarly, we deduce that

$$\frac{\varepsilon}{s^2} \leq \limsup_{k \rightarrow +\infty} d(x_{2m_k-1}, x_{2n_k+1}) \leq s^3 \varepsilon. \quad (10)$$

Using the triangle inequality in  $b$ -metric space and contraction condition (1), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & d(x_{2n_k}, x_{2m_k}) \\
 & \leq sd(x_{2n_k}, x_{2n_k+1}) + sd(x_{2n_k+1}, x_{2m_k}) \\
 & \leq sd(x_{2n_k}, x_{2n_k+1}) + sd(Ax_{2n_k}, Bx_{2m_k-1}) \\
 & \leq sd(x_{2n_k}, x_{2n_k+1}) \\
 & + \frac{1}{s^3} \phi \left( \begin{array}{l} d(Ax_{2n_k}, x_{2n_k}), d(Bx_{2m_k-1}, x_{2m_k-1}), d(x_{2n_k}, x_{2m_k-1}), \\ d(Ax_{2n_k}, x_{2n_k}) + d(Bx_{2m_k-1}, x_{2m_k-1}), \\ \frac{d(Ax_{2n_k}, x_{2n_k}) + d(x_{2n_k}, x_{2m_k-1})}{2}, \\ d(Bx_{2m_k-1}, x_{2m_k-1}) + d(x_{2n_k}, x_{2m_k-1}), \\ \frac{d(Ax_{2n_k}, x_{2m_k-1}) + d(Bx_{2m_k-1}, x_{2n_k})}{2} \end{array} \right) \\
 & = sd(x_{2n_k}, x_{2n_k+1}) \\
 & + \frac{1}{s^3} \phi \left( \begin{array}{l} d(x_{2n_k+1}, x_{2n_k}), d(x_{2m_k}, x_{2m_k-1}), d(x_{2n_k}, x_{2m_k-1}), \\ d(x_{2n_k+1}, x_{2n_k}) + d(x_{2m_k}, x_{2m_k-1}), \\ \frac{d(x_{2n_k+1}, x_{2n_k}) + d(x_{2n_k}, x_{2m_k-1})}{2}, \\ d(x_{2m_k}, x_{2m_k-1}) + d(x_{2n_k}, x_{2m_k-1}), \\ \frac{d(x_{2n_k+1}, x_{2m_k-1}) + d(x_{2m_k}, x_{2n_k})}{2} \end{array} \right).
 \end{aligned}$$

In view of above inequality and (5), (9), (10), one can obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon &\leq \limsup_{k \rightarrow +\infty} d(x_{2n_k}, x_{2m_k}) \\ &\leq 0 + \frac{1}{s^3} \phi(0, 0, \varepsilon s^2, 0, \varepsilon s^2, \frac{\varepsilon s^2}{2}, \frac{\varepsilon s^3 + \varepsilon s}{2}) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{s^3} \phi(\varepsilon s^3, \varepsilon s^3, \varepsilon s^3, \varepsilon s^3, \varepsilon s^3, \varepsilon s^3, \varepsilon s^3) \\ &= \frac{1}{s^3} \bar{\phi}(\varepsilon s^3) \\ &< \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

It is a contradiction and it follows that  $\{x_{2n}\}$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $X$ . Since  $X$  is complete, there exists  $x^*$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} x_{2n+1} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} Ax_{2n} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} x_{2n+2} = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} Bx_{2n+1} = x^*. \end{aligned}$$

Without loss of generality, we suppose  $A$  is continuous. It follows that

$$x^* = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} x_{2n+1} = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} Ax_{2n} = A \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} x_{2n} = Ax^*.$$

This implies that  $x^*$  is a fixed point of  $A$ .

Next, we show that  $x^*$  is a fixed point of  $B$ . In view of the contraction condition (1), we get that

$$\begin{aligned} &s^4 d(Bx^*, x^*) \\ &= s^4 d(Bx^*, Ax^*) \\ &\leq \phi \left( \begin{array}{c} d(Ax^*, x^*), d(Bx^*, x^*), d(x^*, x^*), \\ \frac{d(Ax^*, x^*) + d(Bx^*, x^*)}{2}, \\ \frac{d(Ax^*, x^*) + d(x^*, x^*)}{2}, \\ \frac{d(Bx^*, x^*) + d(x^*, x^*)}{2}, \\ \frac{d(Ax^*, x^*) + d(Bx^*, x^*)}{2} \end{array} \right), \\ &= \phi(0, d(Bx^*, x^*), 0, \frac{d(Bx^*, x^*)}{2}, 0, \frac{d(Bx^*, x^*)}{2}, \frac{d(Bx^*, x^*)}{2}). \end{aligned}$$

If suppose that  $d(Bx^*, x^*) > 0$ , then we have

$$\begin{aligned} &s^4 d(Bx^*, x^*) \\ &\leq \phi \left( \begin{array}{c} d(Bx^*, x^*), d(Bx^*, x^*), \\ d(Bx^*, x^*), d(Bx^*, x^*), \\ d(Bx^*, x^*), d(Bx^*, x^*), d(Bx^*, x^*) \end{array} \right) \\ &= \bar{\phi}(d(Bx^*, x^*)) < d(Bx^*, x^*), \end{aligned}$$

a contradiction. It follows that  $d(Bx^*, x^*) = 0$ . That is,  $x^*$  is also a fixed point of  $B$ .

Assume that  $y^*$  is another common fixed point of  $A$  and  $B$ , that is,  $d(x^*, y^*) > 0$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} &s^4 d(x^*, y^*) \\ &= s^4 d(Ax^*, By^*) \\ &\leq \phi \left( \begin{array}{c} d(Ax^*, x^*), d(By^*, y^*), d(x^*, y^*), \\ \frac{d(Ax^*, x^*) + d(By^*, y^*)}{2}, \\ \frac{d(Ax^*, x^*) + d(x^*, y^*)}{2}, \\ \frac{d(By^*, y^*) + d(x^*, y^*)}{2}, \\ \frac{d(Ax^*, y^*) + d(By^*, x^*)}{2} \end{array} \right), \\ &= \phi(0, 0, d(x^*, y^*), 0, \frac{d(x^*, y^*)}{2}, \frac{d(x^*, y^*)}{2}, d(x^*, y^*)) \\ &\leq \bar{\phi}(d(x^*, y^*)) < d(x^*, y^*), \end{aligned}$$

which is a contradiction. It follows that  $x^*$  is a unique common fixed point in  $X$ . This completes the proof.

If  $A = B$  in Theorem 1, then we get that:

**Corollary 3.2.** Let  $(X, d)$  be a complete  $b$ -metric space with constant  $s \geq 1$  and  $A: X \rightarrow X$  be a continuous mapping. If there exists  $\phi \in \Phi$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} &s^4 d(Ax, Ay) \\ &\leq \phi \left( \begin{array}{c} d(Ax, x), d(Ay, y), d(x, y), \\ \frac{d(Ax, x) + d(Ay, y)}{2}, \frac{d(Ax, x) + d(x, y)}{2}, \\ \frac{d(Ay, y) + d(x, y)}{2}, \frac{d(Ax, y) + d(Ay, x)}{2} \end{array} \right) \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x, y \in X$ , then  $A$  has a unique fixed point  $x^* \in X$ .

**Theorem 3.3.** Let  $(X, d)$  be a complete  $b$ -metric space with constant  $s \geq 1$ . Suppose  $A$  and  $B: X \rightarrow X$  are two mappings and one of them is continuous. If there exists  $\psi \in \Psi$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} &s^6 d^2(Ax, By) \\ &\leq \psi \left( \begin{array}{c} d(Ax, x)d(By, y), d(Ax, x)d(x, y), \\ d(By, y)d(x, y), d(Ax, By)d(x, y), \\ d(Ax, By)d(Ax, x), d(Ax, By)d(By, y), \\ d^2(Ax, x), d^2(By, y), d^2(x, y) \end{array} \right) \end{aligned} \tag{11}$$

for all  $x, y \in X$ , then  $A$  and  $B$  have a unique common fixed point  $x^* \in X$ .

Proof. Let  $x_0 \in X$  be arbitrary. We define a sequence  $\{x_n\}$  as follows:

$$x_{2n+1} = Ax_{2n}, x_{2n+2} = Bx_{2n+1}, n \in N_0.$$

We now suppose that  $d(x_n, x_{n+1}) > 0$  for every  $n \in N_0$ . Otherwise, there exists some  $n \in N_0$  such that  $x_n = x_{n+1}$ . If  $n = 2k$ , from the contraction condition (11) with  $x = x_{2k}$  and  $y = x_{2k+1}$ , one can obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & s^6 d^2(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+2}) \\ &= s^6 d^2(Ax_{2k}, Bx_{2k+1}) \\ &\leq \psi \left( \begin{array}{l} d(Ax_{2k}, x_{2k})d(Bx_{2k+1}, x_{2k+1}), \\ d(Ax_{2k}, x_{2k})d(x_{2k}, x_{2k+1}), \\ d(Bx_{2k+1}, x_{2k+1})d(x_{2k}, x_{2k+1}), \\ d(Ax_{2k}, Bx_{2k+1})d(x_{2k}, x_{2k+1}), \\ d(Ax_{2k}, Bx_{2k+1})d(Ax_{2k}, x_{2k}), \\ d(Ax_{2k}, Bx_{2k+1})d(Bx_{2k+1}, x_{2k+1}), \\ d^2(Ax_{2k}, x_{2k}), d^2(Bx_{2k+1}, x_{2k+1}), d^2(x_{2k}, x_{2k+1}) \end{array} \right) \\ &= \psi \left( \begin{array}{l} d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k})d(x_{2k+2}, x_{2k+1}), \\ d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k})d(x_{2k}, x_{2k+1}), \\ d(x_{2k+2}, x_{2k+1})d(x_{2k}, x_{2k+1}), \\ d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+2})d(x_{2k}, x_{2k+1}), \\ d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+2})d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k}), \\ d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+2})d(x_{2k+2}, x_{2k+1}), \\ d^2(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k}), d^2(x_{2k+2}, x_{2k+1}), \\ d^2(x_{2k}, x_{2k+1}). \end{array} \right) \end{aligned}$$

We suppose that  $d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+2}) > d(x_{2k}, x_{2k+1}) = 0$ . By the definition of  $\psi$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & s^6 d^2(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+2}) \\ &\leq \psi(0, 0, 0, 0, 0, d^2(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+2}), 0, d^2(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+2}), 0) \\ &\leq \psi \left( \begin{array}{l} d^2(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+2}), d^2(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+2}), \\ d^2(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+2}), d^2(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+2}), \\ d^2(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+2}), d^2(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+2}), \\ d^2(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+2}) \end{array} \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$= \bar{\psi}(d^2(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+2})) < d^2(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+2}),$$

a contradiction. Hence,  $d(x_{2k+1}, x_{2k+2}) = 0$ . It follows from the definition of the sequence  $\{x_n\}$  that

$$x_{2k} = Ax_{2k} = Bx_{2k}.$$

That is,  $x_{2k}$  is a common fixed point of  $A$  and  $B$ .

Similarly, if  $n = 2k + 1$ , we can prove that  $x_{2k+1}$  is a common fixed point of  $A$  and  $B$ .

From now on, we suppose that  $x_n \neq x_{n+1}$  for all  $n \in N_0$ . Using the similar argument in the proof of Theorem 3.1, one can deduce that

$$d^2(x_n, x_{n+1}) \leq \bar{\psi}(d^2(x_n, x_{n-1})), \text{ for each } n \in N. \quad (12)$$

It follows from Lemma 2.3 that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \bar{\psi}^n(t) = 0$  for all  $t > 0$ , which implies that

$$S \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} d(x_n, x_{n+1}) = 0. \quad (13)$$

Next we prove that  $\{x_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence. Obviously, it is sufficient to show that the subsequence  $\{x_{2n}\}$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $X$ . As in the proof of Theorem 3.1, we obtain that inequalities (9),(10) hold, and

$$\frac{\varepsilon}{s} \leq \limsup_{k \rightarrow +\infty} d(x_{2m_k}, x_{2n_k+1}) \leq s^2 \varepsilon. \quad (14)$$

The triangle inequality in  $b$ -metric space and contraction condition (11) ensure that

$$\begin{aligned} & d^2(x_{2n_k}, x_{2m_k}) \\ &\leq (sd(x_{2n_k}, x_{2n_k+1}) + sd(x_{2n_k+1}, x_{2m_k}))^2 \\ &= s^2 d(x_{2n_k}, x_{2n_k+1}) + 2s^2 d(x_{2n_k}, x_{2n_k+1})d(x_{2n_k+1}, x_{2m_k}) \\ &\quad + s^2 d(Ax_{2n_k}, Bx_{2m_k-1}) \\ &\leq s^2 d(x_{2n_k}, x_{2n_k+1}) \\ &\quad + 2s^2 d(x_{2n_k}, x_{2n_k+1})d(x_{2n_k+1}, x_{2m_k}) \end{aligned}$$

$$+ \frac{1}{s^4} \psi \left( \begin{array}{l} d(Ax_{2n_k}, x_{2n_k})d(Bx_{2m_k-1}, x_{2m_k-1}), \\ d(Ax_{2n_k}, x_{2n_k})d(x_{2n_k}, x_{2m_k-1}), \\ d(Bx_{2m_k-1}, x_{2m_k-1})d(x_{2n_k}, x_{2m_k-1}), \\ d(Ax_{2n_k}, Bx_{2m_k-1})d(x_{2n_k}, x_{2m_k-1}), \\ d(Ax_{2n_k}, Bx_{2m_k-1})d(Ax_{2n_k}, x_{2n_k}), \\ d(Ax_{2n_k}, Bx_{2m_k-1})d(Bx_{2m_k-1}, x_{2m_k-1}), \\ d^2(Ax_{2n_k}, x_{2n_k}), d^2(Bx_{2m_k-1}, x_{2m_k-1}), \\ d^2(x_{2n_k}, x_{2m_k-1}) \end{array} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\leq s^2 d(x_{2n_k}, x_{2n_k+1}) \\ &\quad + 2s^2 d(x_{2n_k}, x_{2n_k+1})d(x_{2n_k+1}, x_{2m_k}) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{s^4} \psi \left( \begin{array}{l} d(x_{2n_k+1}, x_{2n_k})d(x_{2m_k}, x_{2m_k-1}), \\ d(x_{2n_k+1}, x_{2n_k})d(x_{2n_k}, x_{2m_k-1}), \\ d(x_{2m_k}, x_{2m_k-1})d(x_{2n_k}, x_{2m_k-1}), \\ d(x_{2n_k+1}, x_{2m_k})d(x_{2n_k}, x_{2m_k-1}), \\ d(x_{2n_k+1}, x_{2m_k})d(x_{2n_k+1}, x_{2n_k}), \\ d(x_{2n_k+1}, x_{2m_k})d(x_{2m_k}, x_{2m_k-1}), \\ d^2(x_{2n_k+1}, x_{2n_k}), d^2(x_{2m_k}, x_{2m_k+1}), \\ d^2(x_{2n_k}, x_{2m_k-1}). \end{array} \right) \end{aligned}$$

In light of above inequality and (9), (10), (13) and (14), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon^2 &\leq \limsup_{k \rightarrow +\infty} d^2(x_{2m_k}, x_{2n_k}) \\ &\leq 0 + 0 + \frac{1}{s^4} \psi(0, 0, 0, \varepsilon^2 s^4, 0, 0, 0, 0, \varepsilon^2 s^4) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{s^4} \psi \left( \begin{array}{c} \varepsilon^2 s^4, \varepsilon^2 s^4, \varepsilon^2 s^4, \varepsilon^2 s^4, \\ \varepsilon^2 s^4, \varepsilon^2 s^4, \varepsilon^2 s^4, \varepsilon^2 s^4, \varepsilon^2 s^4 \end{array} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{s^4} \bar{\psi}(\varepsilon^2 s^4) \\ &< \varepsilon^2. \end{aligned}$$

It is a contradiction. Hence,  $\{x_{2n}\}$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $X$ . The completeness of  $X$  ensures that there exists  $x^*$  such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} x_{2n+1} = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} Ax_{2n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} x_{2n+2} = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} Bx_{2n+1} = x^*.$$

Without loss of generality, we suppose  $A$  is continuous. It follows that

$$x^* = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} x_{2n+1} = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} Ax_{2n} = A \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} x_{2n} = Ax^*.$$

That is,  $x^*$  is a fixed point of  $A$ .

Next, we shall prove that  $x^*$  is a fixed point of  $B$ . By the contraction condition (11), we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} s^6 d^2(x^*, Bx^*) &= s^6 d^2(Ax^*, Bx^*) \\ &\leq \psi \left( \begin{array}{c} d(Ax^*, x^*)d(Bx^*, x^*), d(Ax^*, x^*)d(x^*, x^*), \\ d(Bx^*, x^*)d(x^*, x^*), d(Ax^*, Bx^*)d(x^*, x^*), \\ d(Ax^*, Bx^*)d(Ax^*, x^*), \\ d(Ax^*, Bx^*)d(Bx^*, x^*), \\ d^2(Ax^*, x^*), d^2(Bx^*, x^*), d^2(x^*, x^*) \end{array} \right) \\ &= \psi(0, 0, 0, 0, 0, d^2(Bx^*, x^*), 0, d^2(Bx^*, x^*), 0). \end{aligned}$$

If we suppose that  $d(Bx^*, x^*) > 0$ , then one can get

$$s^6 d^2(Bx^*, x^*) \leq \bar{\psi}(d^2(Bx^*, x^*)) < d^2(Bx^*, x^*),$$

which is a contradiction. Hence, we deduce that  $x^*$  is also a fixed point of  $B$ .

Suppose that  $x^*$  and  $y^*$  are different common fixed points of  $A$  and  $B$ , then we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} s^6 d^2(x^*, y^*) &= s^6 d^2(Ax^*, By^*) \\ &\leq \psi \left( \begin{array}{c} d(Ax^*, x^*)d(By^*, y^*), d(Ax^*, x^*)d(x^*, y^*), \\ d(By^*, y^*)d(x^*, y^*), d(Ax^*, By^*)d(x^*, y^*), \\ d(Ax^*, By^*)d(Ax^*, x^*), d(Ax^*, By^*)d(By^*, y^*), \\ d^2(Ax^*, x^*), d^2(By^*, y^*), d^2(x^*, y^*) \end{array} \right) \\ &= \psi(0, 0, 0, d^2(x^*, y^*), 0, 0, 0, 0, d^2(x^*, y^*)) \\ &\leq \bar{\psi}(d^2(x^*, y^*)) < d^2(x^*, y^*), \end{aligned}$$

a contradiction. Consequently,  $x^*$  is a unique common fixed point in  $X$ . This completes the proof.

If  $A = B$  in Theorem 3, we have the following result.

**Corollary 3.4.** Let  $(X, d)$  be a complete  $b$ -metric space with constant  $s \geq 1$ . Suppose  $A : X \rightarrow X$  be a continuous mapping. If there exists  $\psi \in \Psi$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} &s^6 d^2(Ax, Ay) \\ &\leq \psi \left( \begin{array}{c} d(Ax, x)d(Ay, y), d(Ax, x)d(x, y), \\ d(Ay, y)d(x, y), d(Ax, Ay)d(x, y), \\ d(Ax, Ay)d(Ax, x), d(Ax, Ay)d(Ay, y), \\ d^2(Ax, x), d^2(Ay, y), d^2(x, y) \end{array} \right) \end{aligned} \tag{15}$$

for all  $x, y \in X$ , then  $A$  has a unique common fixed point  $x^* \in X$ .

### 4. Examples

**Example 4.1.** Let  $X = [0, 1]$  endowed with the  $b$ -metric:

$$d : X \times X \rightarrow [0, +\infty), d(x, y) = |x - y|^2$$

with constant  $s = 2$ . Consider mappings  $A, B : X \times X$

by  $Ax = \frac{x}{16}$  and  $Bx = \frac{x}{32}$ . Define the mapping

$\phi : (\mathbb{R}^+)^7 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  by

$$\phi(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5, x_6, x_7) = \frac{1}{7} \left( \sum_{i=1}^7 \frac{x_i}{1 + x_i} \right).$$

Clearly,  $(X, d)$  is a complete  $b$ -metric space and  $A$  is continuous with respect to  $d$ . So we verify the contraction condition (1).

By calculus, we have

$$\begin{aligned} s^4 d(Ax, By) &= 16 \left| \frac{x}{16} - \frac{y}{32} \right|^2 \\ &\leq \frac{x^2}{16} + \frac{y^2}{64} < \frac{1}{7} \left( \frac{225x^2}{512} + \frac{961y^2}{2048} \right) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{7} \left( \frac{d(Ax, x)}{1 + d(Ax, x)} + \frac{d(By, y)}{1 + d(By, y)} \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\leq \phi \left( \begin{array}{c} d(Ax, x), d(By, y), d(x, y), \frac{d(Ax, x) + d(By, y)}{2}, \\ \frac{d(Ax, x) + d(x, y)}{2}, \frac{d(By, y) + d(x, y)}{2}, \\ \frac{d(Ax, y) + d(By, x)}{2} \end{array} \right).$$

Therefore, we show that the contraction condition (1) is satisfied. It follows that we can apply Theorem 3.1 and  $A$  and  $B$  have a unique common fixed point  $x^* = 0$ .

**Example 4.2.** Let  $X = [0, 1]$  endowed with the  $b$ -metric:

$$d : X \times X \rightarrow [0, +\infty), d(x, y) = |x - y|^2$$

with constant  $s = 2$ . Define mappings  $A, B : X \times X$  by

$Ax = \frac{x}{16}$  and  $Bx = \frac{x}{8}$ . Consider the mapping  $\psi : (\mathbb{R}^+)^9 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  by

$$\phi(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5, x_6, x_7, x_8, x_9) = \frac{1}{9} \left( \sum_{i=1}^9 \frac{x_i}{1+x_i} \right).$$

It is easy to verify that  $(X, d)$  is a complete  $b$ -metric space and  $A$  is continuous with respect to  $d$ . By calculus, we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} s^6 d^2(Ax, By) &= 64 \left( \left| \frac{x}{16} - \frac{y}{8} \right|^2 \right)^2 \\ &\leq 64 \left( \frac{x^2}{256} + \frac{y^2}{64} \right)^2 \\ &\leq \frac{7x^4}{1536} + \frac{7y^4}{256} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{9} \left( \frac{d^2(Ax, x)}{1+d^2(Ax, x)} + \frac{d^2(By, y)}{1+d^2(By, y)} \right) \\ &\leq \psi \left( \begin{array}{l} d(Ax, x)d(By, y), d(Ax, x)d(x, y), \\ d(By, y)d(x, y), d(Ax, By)d(x, y), \\ d(Ax, By)d(Ax, x), \\ d(Ax, By)d(By, y), \\ d^2(Ax, x), d^2(By, y), d^2(x, y) \end{array} \right). \end{aligned}$$

That is, the contraction condition (11) holds. Theorem 3.3 ensures that  $A$  and  $B$  have a unique common fixed point  $x^* = 0$ .

### Data Availability

No data were used to support this study.

### Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest regarding the publication of this paper.

### Authors Contributions

All authors contributed equally and significantly in writing this article. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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