

## On $\varphi$ -contractions and fixed point results in fuzzy metric spaces

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### ABSTRACT

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*In this paper,  $\varphi$ -contractions are defined and then, some new fixed point theorems are established for certain nonlinear mappings associated with one-dimensional (c)-comparison functions in fuzzy metric spaces. Next, generalized  $\varphi$ -contractions are defined by using five-dimensional (c)-comparison functions, and the existence of fixed points for nonlinear maps on fuzzy metric spaces is studied. Moreover, some examples are given to illustrate our results.*

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### 1. INTRODUCTION

Fixed point theory plays an essential role in various fields of mathematics. In this regard, Banach's contraction principle [1] has been an inspiration to many researchers during last few decades. It is a key result in the investigation of solutions to various problems in mathematical physics, game theory, and dynamic programming (see [6, 19]). Nieto and Rodríguez-López [18] applied it

to boundary value problems involving nonlinear first-order ordinary differential equations and matrix equations to obtain existence results under certain monotonic conditions.

The concept of fuzzy metric space was first proposed by Kramosil and Michalek [15] in 1975. Later, in [7], George and Veeramani improved the idea by strengthening of some requirements. Recently, Gregori, Miana, and Miravet [12] introduced and investigated the concept of extended fuzzy metric, providing a topology to represent convergent sequences.

The fixed point theory of mappings in fuzzy metric spaces, pioneered by Grabiec [8], was one of the most fascinating motives, in which a variant of Banach’s contraction principle was established. Following that, some fuzzy contractive mapping theorems were proved in fuzzy metric spaces (see [9, 10, 14]). Also, Mihet [16, 17] introduced weak Banach contractions, established fixed point theorems in W-complete fuzzy metric spaces, and extended prior findings including additional types of contractions. We refer the reader to [11] for further details. Other contraction principles in fuzzy metric spaces were recently found in [11, 21]. Vasile Berinde [4] extended some of the results of [2] from weak contractions to the more general class of weak  $\varphi$ -contractions.

The aim of this paper is to discuss  $\varphi$ -contractions and weak  $\varphi$ -contractions, and to generalize  $\varphi$ -contractions to extended fuzzy metric spaces in the sense of Vasile Berinde, using the concept of Picard iteration and comparison functions.

## 2. PRELIMINARIES

In this section, we present some preliminaries which are necessary for the rest of this paper. First, we recall the notion of extended fuzzy metric space, defined in [12].

**Definition 2.1** ([12]). An *extended fuzzy metric space* is a triple  $(X, M_0, *)$ , where  $X$  is a non-empty set,  $*$  is a continuous t-norm, and  $M_0$  is a fuzzy set on  $X^2 \times [0, +\infty[$  that satisfies the following axioms, for all  $x, y, z \in X$  and  $t, s \geq 0$ .

- (EFM1)  $M_0(x, y, t) > 0$ .
- (EFM2) When  $t > 0$ ,  $M_0(x, y, t) = 1$  if and only if  $x = y$ .
- (EFM3)  $M_0(x, y, t) = M_0(y, x, t)$ .
- (EFM4)  $M_0(x, y, \cdot) : [0, +\infty[ \rightarrow ]0, 1]$  is continuous.
- (EFM5)  $M_0(x, y, t) * M_0(y, z, s) \leq M_0(x, z, t + s)$ .

**Theorem 2.2** ([12]). Let  $M$  be a fuzzy set on  $X^2 \times ]0, +\infty[$ . Moreover, let  $M_0$  be a fuzzy set on  $X^2 \times [0, +\infty[$  given by

$$M_0(x, y, t) = \begin{cases} M(x, y, t), & x, y \in X, t > 0, \\ \inf_{t>0} M(x, y, t), & x, y \in X, t = 0. \end{cases}$$

Then,  $(X, M_0, *)$  is an extended fuzzy metric space if and only if  $(X, M, *)$  is a fuzzy metric space satisfying  $\inf_{t>0} M(x, y, t) > 0$  for all  $x, y \in X$ .

We assume that

- (FM6)  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} M(x, y, t) = 1$  for all  $x, y \in X$ .

**Definition 2.3** ([12]). Let  $(X, M, *)$  be an extended fuzzy metric space.

(i) A sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in  $X$  is said to be *Cauchy* if for each  $\epsilon \in (0, 1)$  and  $t > 0$ , there exists  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for all  $m > n \geq N$ ,

$$M(x_n, x_m, t) > 1 - \epsilon.$$

(ii) The sequence  $\{x_n\}$  is *convergent* in  $X$  if there exists  $x \in X$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} M(x_n, x, t) = 1$  for all  $t > 0$ .

Similar to fuzzy metric spaces, we obtain some properties of extended fuzzy metric spaces as follows.

**Lemma 2.4.** Let  $(X, M, *)$  be an extended fuzzy metric space. Then,  $M(x, y, \cdot)$  is non-decreasing for all  $x, y \in X$ .

**Lemma 2.5.** Let  $(X, M, *)$  be an extended fuzzy metric space and,  $\{x_n\}$  and  $\{y_n\}$  be sequences in  $X$ . If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_n = y$ , then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} M(x_n, y_n, t) = M(x, y, t), \text{ for all } t > 0.$$

In what follows, we collect some relevant definitions, results, and examples that will be used later.

**Definition 2.6** ([4]). Let  $X$  be a set,  $x_0 \in X$  and  $f : X \rightarrow X$  be a map. The sequence  $\{x_n\} \subseteq X$ , given by  $x_n = f(x_{n-1})$  for all  $n \geq 1$ , is called the *sequence of successive approximations* with initial value  $x_0$ . It is also known as the *Picard iteration* starting at  $x_0$ .

**Definition 2.7** ([4]). A map  $\varphi : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  is said to be a *comparison function* if

- (i)  $\varphi$  is an increasing function, and
- (ii) the sequence  $\{\varphi^n(t)\}$  converges to zero for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}^+$ , where

$$\varphi^n = \varphi \circ \varphi \circ \dots \circ \varphi \text{ (} n \text{ copies of } \varphi \text{)}.$$

**Definition 2.8** ([4]). A map  $\varphi : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  is said to be a (c)-comparison function if

- (i)  $\varphi$  is monotone increasing, and
- (ii)  $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \varphi^k(t)$  converges for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}^+$ .

**Example 2.9** ([4]). In each of the following items, we consider a function  $\varphi$  from  $\mathbb{R}^+$  into  $\mathbb{R}^+$ .

- (1) If  $a \in [0, 1)$  is fixed, the function  $\varphi$  defined by  $\varphi(t) = at$  for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}^+$  is a (strict) comparison function.
- (2) The function  $\varphi$  defined by  $\varphi(t) = t/(1+t)$  for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}^+$  is a comparison function, but not a (c)-comparison function.
- (3) The function  $\varphi$  defined by

$$\varphi(t) = \begin{cases} t/2, & 0 \leq t \leq 1, \\ t - 1/2, & t > 1, \end{cases}$$

is a (c)-comparison function, but not a strict comparison function.

**Lemma 2.10** ([4]). Any (c)-comparison function is a comparison function.

**Lemma 2.11** ([4]). Let  $\varphi : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  be a comparison function. Then,

- (i)  $\varphi(t) < t$  for all  $t > 0$ , and
- (ii)  $\varphi(0) = 0$ .

In what follows, we consider 5-dimensional comparison functions defined in [4], and present some examples.

**Definition 2.12** ([4]). A map  $\varphi : (\mathbb{R}^+)^5 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  is said to be a (5-dimensional) comparison function whenever the following conditions are satisfied.

- (i) If  $0 \leq u_i \leq v_i$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, 5$ , then  $\varphi(u_1, \dots, u_5) \leq \varphi(v_1, \dots, v_5)$ .
- (ii) The sequence  $\{\psi^n(t)\}_{n=0}^\infty$  converges to zero for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}^+$ , where

$$\psi(t) = \varphi(t, t, t, t, t) \text{ for all } t \in \mathbb{R}^+.$$

**Definition 2.13** ([4]). A map  $\varphi : (\mathbb{R}^+)^5 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  is said to be a (5-dimensional) (c)-comparison function if the following conditions are satisfied.

- (i) If  $0 \leq u_i \leq v_i$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, 5$ , then  $\varphi(u_1, \dots, u_5) \leq \varphi(v_1, \dots, v_5)$ .
- (ii)  $\sum_{k=0}^\infty \psi^k(t)$  converges for every  $t \in \mathbb{R}^+$ , where  $\psi(t) = \varphi(t, t, t, t, t)$  for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}^+$ .

**Example 2.14** ([4]). The following functions are (5-dimensional) comparison functions.

- (1)  $\varphi(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_5) = a \cdot \max\{t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4, t_5\}$ , for all  $(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_5) \in (\mathbb{R}^+)^5$  and a fixed  $a \in [0, 1)$ .
- (2)  $\varphi(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_5) = a \cdot \max\{t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4, (t_4+t_5)/2\}$ , for all  $(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_5) \in (\mathbb{R}^+)^5$  and a fixed  $a \in [0, 1)$ .
- (3)  $\varphi(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_5) = a(t_2 + t_3)$ , for all  $(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_5) \in (\mathbb{R}^+)^5$  and a fixed  $a \in [0, 1/2)$ .
- (4)  $\varphi(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_5) = at_1 + b(t_2 + t_3)$  for all  $(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_5) \in (\mathbb{R}^+)^5$ , where  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}^+$  are such that  $a + 2b < 1$ .
- (5)  $\varphi(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_5) = a \cdot \max\{t_2, t_3\}$ , for all  $(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_5) \in (\mathbb{R}^+)^5$  and a fixed  $a \in (0, 1)$ .
- (6)  $\varphi(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_5) = (\sum_{i=1}^5 a_i t_i^p)^{1/p}$  for all  $(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_5) \in (\mathbb{R}^+)^5$ , where  $p \geq 1$  and the numbers  $a_i \in \mathbb{R}^+$  are such that  $\sum_{i=1}^5 a_i < 1$ .
- (7)  $\varphi(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_5) = \max\{at_1, b(t_2 + t_4), c(t_3 + t_5)\}$  for all  $(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_5) \in (\mathbb{R}^+)^5$ , where  $a \in [0, 1)$  and  $b, c \in [0, 1/2)$  are fixed.

### 3. THE MAIN RESULT

In this section, we first define weak contractions on extended fuzzy metric spaces and then, using an example, we show that every weak contraction function on a metric space is weak on some fuzzy normed linear space.

**Definition 3.1.** Let  $(X, M, \min)$  be an extended fuzzy metric space. A map  $f : X \rightarrow X$  is said to be a weak  $\varphi$ -contraction, or a  $(\varphi, L)$ -weak contraction,

if there exist a comparison function  $\varphi$  and some  $L > 0$  such that for every  $x, y \in X$ ,  $s, t \geq 0$  and  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ ,  $M(f(x), f(y), \varphi(t) + Ls) \geq \alpha$ , where

$$M(x, y, t) \geq \alpha \text{ and } M(f(x), y, s) \geq \alpha.$$

**Example 3.2.** Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space,  $L > 0$  and  $\varphi : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  be a comparison function such that  $\varphi(ct) \leq c\varphi(t)$  for all  $t \geq 0$  and all  $c \geq 1$ . Moreover, let  $f : X \rightarrow X$  be a function such that

$$d(f(x), f(y)) \leq \varphi(d(x, y)) + Ld(y, f(x)), \text{ for all } x, y \in X.$$

We define an extended fuzzy metric  $M$  on  $X$  by

$$M(x, y, t) = \begin{cases} t/2d(x, y) + 1/2, & t < d(x, y), \\ 1, & d(x, y) \leq t, \end{cases}$$

where  $x, y \in X$  and  $t \geq 0$ .

Now, we show that  $f$  is a weak  $\varphi$ -contraction. Suppose that  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ ,  $M(x, y, t) \geq \alpha$  and  $M(f(x), y, s) \geq \alpha$ , for  $x, y \in X$ ,  $s, t > 0$ .

If  $\alpha \in (1/2, 1)$ , then

$$t/2d(x, y) + 1/2 \geq \alpha, \quad s/2d(f(x), y) + 1/2 \geq \alpha.$$

Therefore,

$$t/(2\alpha - 1) \geq d(x, y), \quad s/(2\alpha - 1) \geq d(f(x), y).$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} d(f(x), f(y)) &\leq \varphi(d(x, y)) + Ld(y, f(x)) \\ &\leq \varphi(t/(2\alpha - 1)) + Ls/(2\alpha - 1) \\ &\leq (1/(2\alpha - 1))\varphi(t) + Ls/(2\alpha - 1) \\ &= (\varphi(t) + Ls)/(2\alpha - 1). \end{aligned}$$

So,  $(\varphi(t) + Ls)/d(f(x), f(y)) \geq (2\alpha - 1)$ . This implies that

$$M(f(x), f(y), \varphi(t) + Ls) \geq \alpha.$$

If  $\alpha \in (0, 1/2]$ , then  $M(f(x), f(y), \varphi(t) + Ls) \geq 1/2 \geq \alpha$ .

Hence,  $f : X \rightarrow X$  is a weak  $\varphi$ -contraction.

**Example 3.3.** Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space,  $L > 0$  and  $\varphi : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  be a comparison function such that  $\varphi(ct) \leq c\varphi(t)$  for all  $t \geq 0$  and all  $c \geq 0$ . Moreover, let  $f : X \rightarrow X$  be a function such that

$$d(f(x), f(y)) \leq \varphi(d(x, y)) + Ld(y, f(x)), \text{ for all } x, y \in X.$$

We define an extended fuzzy metric  $M$  on  $X$  by

$$M(x, y, t) = \begin{cases} t/2(t + d(x, y)) + 1/2, & t > 0, \\ 1/2, & t = 0, \end{cases}$$

where  $x, y \in X$  and  $t \geq 0$ .

Now, we show that  $f$  is a weak  $\varphi$ -contraction. Suppose that  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ ,  $M(x, y, t) \geq \alpha$  and  $M(f(x), y, s) \geq \alpha$ , for  $x, y \in X$ ,  $s, t > 0$ .

If  $\alpha \in (1/2, 1)$ , then

$$t/2(t + d(x, y)) + 1/2 \geq \alpha, \quad s/2(s + d(f(x), y)) + 1/2 \geq \alpha.$$

Hence,

$$t/(t + d(x, y)) \geq 2\alpha - 1, \quad s/(s + d(f(x), y)) \geq 2\alpha - 1.$$

Therefore,

$$(2 - 2\alpha)t/(2\alpha - 1) \geq d(x, y), \quad (2 - 2\alpha)s/(2\alpha - 1) \geq d(f(x), y).$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} d(f(x), f(y)) &\leq \varphi(d(x, y)) + Ld(y, f(x)) \\ &\leq \varphi((2 - 2\alpha)t/(2\alpha - 1)) + L((2 - 2\alpha)s/(2\alpha - 1)) \\ &\leq ((2 - 2\alpha)/(2\alpha - 1))\varphi(t) + (2 - 2\alpha)Ls/(2\alpha - 1) \\ &= (2 - 2\alpha)(\varphi(t) + Ls)/(2\alpha - 1). \end{aligned}$$

So,  $(\varphi(t) + Ls)/((\varphi(t) + Ls) + d(f(x), f(y))) \geq 2\alpha - 1$ . This implies that  $M(f(x), f(y), \varphi(t) + Ls) \geq \alpha$ .

If  $\alpha \in (0, 1/1]$ , then  $M(f(x), f(y), \varphi(t) + Ls) \geq 1/2 \geq \alpha$ .

Hence,  $f : X \rightarrow X$  is a weak  $\varphi$ -contraction.

In the sequel, we show that every weak  $\varphi$ -contraction map on an extended fuzzy metric space has a fixed point.

**Theorem 3.4.** *Let  $(X, M, \min)$  be a complete extended fuzzy metric space with  $M$  satisfying (FM6), and  $f : X \rightarrow X$  be a weak  $\varphi$ -contraction with a (c)-comparison function  $\varphi$ . Then,  $f$  has a fixed point in  $X$ . Moreover, for every  $x_0 \in X$ , the Picard iteration  $\{x_n\}$  starting at  $x_0$  converges to a fixed point  $u$  of  $f$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $f : X \rightarrow X$  be a weak  $\varphi$ -contraction function with a (c)-comparison function  $\varphi$ ,  $x_0 \in X$ , and  $x_n = f(x_{n-1})$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

We show that  $\{x_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence. By (FM6), there exists  $s > 0$  such that  $M(x_0, x_1, s) \geq \alpha$ . We have  $M(x_1, x_1, \epsilon) = 1 \geq \alpha$  for all  $\epsilon > 0$ . Since  $f$  is a weak  $\varphi$ -contraction,  $M(x_1, x_2, \varphi(s) + L\epsilon) \geq \alpha$  for all  $\epsilon > 0$ , and using (FM4) we obtain

$$M(x_1, x_2, \varphi(s)) = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} M(x_1, x_2, \varphi(s) + L\epsilon) \geq \alpha.$$

Hence, induction allows us to write

$$M(x_n, x_{n+1}, \varphi^n(s)) \geq \alpha, \quad \text{for all } n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} M(x_n, x_m, \sum_{k=n}^{m-1} \varphi^k(s)) &\geq \min\{M(x_n, x_{n+1}, \varphi^n(s)), M(x_{n+1}, x_{n+2}, \varphi^{n+1}(s)), \\ &\quad \dots, M(x_{m-1}, x_m, \varphi^{m-1}(s))\} \geq \alpha, \end{aligned}$$

for all  $m > n > 0$ .

Since  $\varphi$  is a (c)-comparison function,  $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \varphi^k(s)$  converges. Hence, there exists  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\sum_{k=n}^{m-1} \varphi^k(s) \leq t$ , for all  $m > n \geq N$  and  $t > 0$ . Thus,

$$M(x_n, x_m, t) \geq M(x_n, x_m, \sum_{k=n}^{m-1} \varphi^k(s)) \geq \alpha, \text{ for all } m > n \geq N.$$

This implies that  $\{x_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence. Since  $X$  is complete, there exists  $u \in X$  such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = u.$$

Now, we show that  $f(u) = u$ . Let  $t > 0$ . Let  $s > 0$  and  $t \geq 2(1 + L)s$ . Since  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = u$ , there exists  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $M(x_n, u, s) \geq \alpha$  for all  $n > N$ . Since  $f$  is a weak  $\varphi$ -contraction,

$$M(x_{n+1}, f(u), \varphi(s) + Ls) \geq \alpha, \text{ for all } n > N.$$

Now, by Lemma 2.11 we obtain

$$M(x_{n+1}, f(u), (1 + L)s) \geq M(x_{n+1}, f(u), \varphi(s) + Ls) \geq \alpha, \text{ for all } n > N.$$

Thus, (FM5) allows us to conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} M(u, f(u), t) &\geq \min\{M(x_{n+1}, f(u), t/2), M(u, x_{n+1}, t/2)\} \\ &\geq \min\{M(x_{n+1}, f(u), (1 + L)s), M(u, x_{n+1}, s)\} \\ &\geq \alpha, \text{ for all } n > N. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $M(u, f(u), t) \geq \alpha$  for all  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ . Therefore,  $M(u, f(u), t) = 1$  for all  $t > 0$ . This implies  $f(u) = u$ , and completes the proof.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.5.** *Let  $(X, M, \min)$  be a complete extended fuzzy metric space with  $M$  satisfying (FM6), and  $f : X \rightarrow X$  be a weak  $\varphi$ -contraction with a (c)-comparison function  $\varphi$ . Moreover, let  $x_0 \in X$ ,  $\{x_n\}$  be the Picard iteration starting at  $x_0$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  and  $M(x_n, x_{n+1}, t) \geq \alpha$  for some  $t > 0$ . Then,*

$$M(x_n, u, \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \varphi^k(t)) \geq \alpha, \text{ where } u = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n.$$

*Proof.* Let  $f : X \rightarrow X$  be a weak  $\varphi$ -contraction function with a (c)-comparison function  $\varphi$ ,  $x_0 \in X$ , and  $x_n = f(x_{n-1})$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

We have  $M(x_n, x_{n+1}, t) \geq \alpha$ . By (FM2), we obtain

$$M(x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}, \epsilon) = 1 \geq \alpha \text{ for all } \epsilon > 0.$$

Since  $f$  is a weak  $\varphi$ -contraction,  $M(x_{n+1}, x_{n+2}, \varphi(t) + L\epsilon) \geq \alpha$  for all  $\epsilon > 0$ . Using (FM4) we find that

$$M(x_{n+1}, x_{n+2}, \varphi(t)) = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} M(x_{n+1}, x_{n+2}, \varphi(t) + L\epsilon) \geq \alpha.$$

Therefore, induction allows us to write

$$M(x_{n+m}, x_{n+m+1}, \varphi^m(t)) \geq \alpha, \text{ for all } m \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} M(x_n, x_{n+m}, \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \varphi^k(t)) &\geq M(x_n, x_{n+m}, \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} \varphi^k(t)) \\ &\geq \min\{M(x_n, x_{n+1}, t), M(x_{n+1}, x_{n+2}, \varphi(t)), \\ &\quad \dots, M(x_{n+m-1}, x_{n+m}, \varphi^{m-1}(t))\} \\ &\geq \alpha, \end{aligned}$$

for all  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ . Now, by Lemma 2.5 we conclude that

$$M(x_n, u, \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \varphi^k(t)) = \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} M(x_n, x_{n+m}, \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \varphi^k(t)) \geq \alpha.$$

□

In what follows, we define  $\varphi$ -contractions in extended fuzzy metric spaces, and then we show that every  $\varphi$ -contraction is a weak  $\varphi$ -contraction. Moreover, we prove that every  $\varphi$ -contraction has a unique fixed point.

**Definition 3.6.** Let  $(X, M, \min)$  be an extended fuzzy metric space. A map  $f : X \rightarrow X$  is said to be a  $\varphi$ -contraction if there exists a comparison function  $\varphi$  such that for every  $x, y \in X, t \geq 0$  and  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ ,  $M(f(x), f(y), \varphi(t)) \geq \alpha$ , where  $M(x, y, t) \geq \alpha$ .

**Theorem 3.7.** Let  $(X, M, \min)$  be a complete extended fuzzy metric space with  $M$  satisfying (FM6), and  $f : X \rightarrow X$  be a  $\varphi$ -contraction function with a (c)-comparison function  $\varphi$ . Then,  $f$  has a unique fixed point in  $X$ . Moreover, for every  $x_0 \in X$ , the Picard iteration  $\{x_n\}$  starting at  $x_0$  converges to the fixed point  $u$  of  $f$ .

*Proof.* Let  $f : X \rightarrow X$  be a  $\varphi$ -contraction function. We show that  $f$  is a weak  $\varphi$ -contraction function.

Assume that  $L = 1, x, y \in X, s, t \geq 0$  and  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ . Now, suppose that  $M(x, y, t) \geq \alpha$  and  $M(f(x), y, s) \geq \alpha$ . Since  $f$  is a  $\varphi$ -contraction,

$$M(f(x), f(y), \varphi(t)) \geq \alpha.$$

Therefore,

$$M(f(x), f(y), \varphi(t) + Ls) \geq M(f(x), f(y), \varphi(t)) \geq \alpha.$$

Thus,  $f$  is a weak  $\varphi$ -contraction. By Theorem 3.4,  $f$  has a fixed point in  $X$  and for every  $x_0 \in X$ , the Picard iteration  $\{x_n\}$  starting at  $x_0$  converges to a fixed point of  $f$ .

Now, we show that  $f$  has a unique fixed point in  $X$ . Let  $u, v \in X$  be fixed points of  $f$ . Assume that  $t > 0$ . By (FM6), there exists  $s > 0$  such that  $M(u, v, s) \geq \alpha$ . Since  $f$  is a  $\varphi$ -contraction,

$$M(u, v, \varphi(s)) = M(f(u), f(v), \varphi(s)) \geq \alpha.$$



Hence, induction allows us to write

$$M(u, v, \varphi^n(s)) \geq \alpha, \text{ for all } n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Since the sequence  $\{\varphi^n(s)\}$  converges to zero, there exists  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$\varphi^n(s) \leq t, \text{ for all } n \geq N.$$

Therefore,

$$M(u, v, t) \geq M(u, v, \varphi^n(s)) \geq \alpha, \text{ for all } n \geq N.$$

So,  $M(u, v, t) \geq \alpha$  for all  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ . Then,  $M(u, v, t) = 1$  for all  $t > 0$ . Hence,  $u = v$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 3.8.** *Let  $(X, M, \min)$  be a complete extended fuzzy metric space with  $M$  satisfying (FM6), and  $f : X \rightarrow X$  be a  $\varphi$ -contraction with a (c)-comparison function  $\varphi$ . Moreover, let  $x_0 \in X$ ,  $\{x_n\}$  be the Picard iteration starting at  $x_0$ , and  $M(x_n, x_{n+1}, t) \geq \alpha$  for some  $t > 0$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ . Then,*

$$M(x_n, u, \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \varphi^k(t)) \geq \alpha, \text{ where } u = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n.$$

Now, we use 5-dimensional comparison functions to define generalized  $\varphi$ -contraction maps on extended fuzzy metric spaces, and then, we present an example. Moreover, we prove some lemmas to show that every generalized  $\varphi$ -contraction has a unique fixed point.

**Definition 3.9.** Let  $(X, M, \min)$  be an extended fuzzy metric space. A map  $f : X \rightarrow X$  is said to be a *generalized  $\varphi$ -contraction* if there exists a comparison function  $\varphi$  such that for every  $x, y \in X$ ,  $t_1, \dots, t_5 \geq 0$  and  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ ,  $M(f(x), f(y), \varphi(t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4, t_5)) \geq \alpha$ , where

$$M(x, y, t_1) \geq \alpha, M(x, f(x), t_2) \geq \alpha, M(f(y), y, t_3) \geq \alpha, M(x, f(y), t_4) \geq \alpha, \\ \text{and } M(f(x), y, t_5) \geq \alpha.$$

**Example 3.10.** Let  $(X, d)$  be an extended metric space, and  $\varphi : (\mathbb{R}^+)^5 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  be a comparison function such that  $\varphi(ct_1, ct_2, ct_3, ct_4, ct_5) \leq c\varphi(t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4, t_5)$  for all  $t \geq 0$  and all  $c \geq 1$ . Moreover, let  $f : X \rightarrow X$  be a function such that

$$d(f(x), f(y)) \leq \varphi(d(x, y), d(x, f(x)), d(y, f(y)), d(x, f(y)), d(y, f(x))),$$

for all  $x, y \in X$ .

Define an extended fuzzy metric  $M$  by

$$M(x, y, t) = \begin{cases} t/2d(x, y) + 1/2, & t < d(x, y), \\ 1, & d(x, y) \leq t, \end{cases}$$

where  $x, y \in X$  and  $t \geq 0$ .

Now, we show that  $f$  is a generalized  $\varphi$ -contraction. Suppose that  $x, y \in X$ ,  $t_1, \dots, t_5 > 0$ ,  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ ,

$$M(x, y, t_1) \geq \alpha, M(x, f(x), t_2) \geq \alpha, M(y, f(y), t_3) \geq \alpha, M(y, f(x), t_4) \geq \alpha, \\ \text{and } M(x, f(y), t_5) \geq \alpha.$$

If  $\alpha \in (1/2, 1)$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} t_1/2d(x, y) + 1/2 &\geq \alpha, \quad t_2/2d(f(x), x) + 1/2 \geq \alpha, \\ t_3/2d(f(y), y) + 1/2 &\geq \alpha, \quad t_4/2d(f(x), y) + 1/2 \geq \alpha, \\ t_5/2d(f(y), x) + 1/2 &\geq \alpha. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} t_1/(2\alpha - 1) &\geq d(x, y), \quad t_2/(2\alpha - 1) \geq d(f(x), x), \\ t_3/(2\alpha - 1) &\geq d(f(y), y), \quad t_4/(2\alpha - 1) \geq d(f(x), y), \\ t_5/(2\alpha - 1) &\geq d(f(y), x). \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} d(f(x), f(y)) &\leq \varphi(d(x, y), d(x, f(x)), d(y, f(y)), d(x, f(y)), d(y, f(x))) \\ &\leq \varphi(t_1/(2\alpha - 1), t_2/(2\alpha - 1), t_3/(2\alpha - 1), \\ &\quad t_4/(2\alpha - 1), t_5/(2\alpha - 1)) \\ &\leq \varphi(t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4, t_5)/(2\alpha - 1). \end{aligned}$$

This implies that

$$M(f(x), f(y), \varphi(t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4, t_5)) \geq \alpha.$$

If  $\alpha \in (0, 1/2]$ , then  $M(f(x), f(y), \varphi(t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4, t_5)) \geq 1/2 \geq \alpha$ .

Then,  $f : X \rightarrow X$  is a generalized  $\varphi$ -contraction.

**Lemma 3.11.** *Let  $(X, M, \min)$  be an extended fuzzy metric space,  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ , and  $x_0 \in X$ . Moreover, let  $f : X \rightarrow X$  be a generalized  $\varphi$ -contraction. Then, there exists  $k \leq N$  such that*

$$\begin{aligned} \max\{\inf\{t \geq 0 : M(x_n, x_m, t) \geq \alpha\} : 0 \leq n, m \leq N\} = \\ \inf\{t \geq 0 : M(x_0, x_k, t) \geq \alpha\}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $x_n = f^n(x_0)$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $f : X \rightarrow X$  be a generalized  $\varphi$ -contraction,  $x_0 \in X$ , and  $x_n = f(x_{n-1})$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Assume that

$$t_{n,m} = \inf\{t \geq 0 : M(x_n, x_m, t) \geq \alpha\}, \text{ for all } 0 \leq n, m \leq N.$$

Now, we show that  $\max\{t_{n,m} : 0 \leq n, m \leq N\} = t_{0,k}$  for some  $k \leq N$ .

If  $\max\{t_{n,m} : 0 \leq n < m \leq N\} = 0$ , then

$$\max\{t_{n,m} : 0 \leq n < m \leq N\} = t_{0,k} \text{ for all } k \leq N.$$

If  $\max\{t_{n,m} : 0 \leq n, m \leq N\} = t_{i,j} > 0$  for some  $0 < i, j$ , then  $t_{n,m} \leq t_{i,j}$  for all  $0 \leq n, m \leq N$ . Thus,  $M(x_n, x_m, t_{i,j}) \geq \alpha$  for all  $0 \leq n, m \leq N$ . Since  $f$  is a generalized  $\varphi$ -contraction,

$$\begin{aligned} M(x_i, x_j, \psi(t_{i,j})) &= M(f(x_{i-1}), f(x_{j-1}), \psi(t_{i,j})) \\ &= M(f(x_{i-1}), f(x_{j-1}), \varphi(t_{i,j}, t_{i,j}, t_{i,j}, t_{i,j}, t_{i,j})) \\ &\geq \alpha. \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $t_{i,j} \leq \psi(t_{i,j}) < t_{i,j}$ , which is a contradiction. Thus,

$$\max\{t_{n,m} : 0 \leq n, m \leq N\} = t_{0,k}, \text{ for some } k \leq N.$$

□

**Lemma 3.12.** *Let  $(X, M, \min)$  be an extended fuzzy metric space,  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ , and  $x_0 \in X$ . Moreover, let  $f : X \rightarrow X$  be a generalized  $\varphi$ -contraction. Then for every  $1 \leq i, j \leq N$ ,*

$$\inf\{t \geq 0 : M(x_i, x_j, t) \geq \alpha\} \leq \psi(\max\{\inf\{t \geq 0 : M(x_n, x_m, t) \geq \alpha\} : 0 \leq n, m \leq N\}),$$

where  $x_n = f^n(x_0)$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $f : X \rightarrow X$  be a generalized  $\varphi$ -contraction,  $x_0 \in X$ , and  $x_n = f(x_{n-1})$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Assume that

$$t_{n,m} = \inf\{t \geq 0 : M(x_n, x_m, t) \geq \alpha\}, \text{ for all } 0 \leq n, m \leq N.$$

By Lemma 3.11, there exists  $k \leq N$  such that

$$\max\{t_{n,m} : 0 \leq n, m \leq N\} = t_{0,k}.$$

Now, we show that  $t_{i,j} \leq \psi(t_{0,k})$  for all  $1 \leq i, j \leq N$ .

If  $\max\{t_{n,m} : 0 \leq n, m \leq N\} = t_{0,k} = 0$ , then  $t_{i,j} = 0 \leq 0 = \psi(t_{0,k})$  for all  $1 \leq i, j \leq N$ .

If  $\max\{t_{n,m} : 0 \leq n, m \leq N\} = t_{0,k} > 0$ , then  $t_{n,m} \leq t_{0,k}$  for all  $1 \leq n, m \leq N$ . Therefore,  $M(x_n, x_m, t_{0,k}) \geq \alpha$  for all  $0 \leq n, m \leq N$ . Suppose that  $1 \leq i, j \leq N$ . Since  $f$  is a generalized  $\varphi$ -contraction,

$$\begin{aligned} M(x_i, x_j, \psi(t_{0,k})) &= M(f(x_{i-1}), f(x_{j-1}), \psi(t_{0,k})) \\ &= M(f(x_{i-1}), f(x_{j-1}), \varphi(t_{0,k}, t_{0,k}, t_{0,k}, t_{0,k}, t_{0,k})) \\ &\geq \alpha. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $t_{i,j} \leq \psi(t_{0,k})$ . □

**Lemma 3.13.** *Let  $(X, M, \min)$  be an extended fuzzy metric space,  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ , and  $x_0 \in X$ . Moreover, let  $f : X \rightarrow X$  be a generalized  $\varphi$ -contraction such that the function  $\xi$ , defined by  $\xi(t) = t - \varphi(t, t, t, t, t)$  for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}^+$ , is increasing, bijective and continuous. Then,*

$$\max\{\inf\{t \geq 0 : M(x_n, x_m, t) \geq \alpha\} : 0 \leq n, m \leq N\} \leq \xi^{-1}(\inf\{t \geq 0 : M(x_0, x_1, t) \geq \alpha\}),$$

where  $x_n = f^n(x_0)$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $f : X \rightarrow X$  be a generalized  $\varphi$ -contraction,  $x_0 \in X$ , and  $x_n = f(x_{n-1})$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Assume that

$$t_{n,m} = \inf\{t \geq 0 : M(x_n, x_m, t) \geq \alpha\}, \text{ for all } 0 \leq n, m \leq N.$$

By Lemma 3.11, there exists  $0 < k \leq N$  such that

$$\max\{t_{n,m} : 0 \leq n, m \leq N\} = t_{0,k}.$$

Now, we show that  $\max\{t_{n,m} : 0 \leq n, m \leq N\} = t_{0,k} \leq \xi^{-1}(t_{0,1})$ .

If  $t_{0,k} = 0$ , then  $t_{0,k} = 0 \leq \xi^{-1}(t_{0,1})$ .

If  $t_{0,k} > 0$ , then  $t_{n,m} \leq t_{0,k}$  for all  $0 \leq m, n \leq N$ . Therefore,

$$M(x_n, x_m, t_{0,k}) \geq \alpha, \text{ for all } 0 \leq m, n \leq N.$$

Since  $f$  is a generalized  $\varphi$ -contraction,

$$\begin{aligned} M(x_0, x_k, t_{0,1} + \epsilon + \psi(t_{0,k})) &\geq \min\{M(x_0, x_1, t_{0,1} + \epsilon), M(x_1, x_k, \psi(t_{0,k}))\} \\ &= \min\{M(x_0, x_1, t_{0,1} + \epsilon), \\ &\quad M(x_1, x_k, \varphi(t_{0,k}, t_{0,k}, t_{0,k}, t_{0,k}, t_{0,k}))\} \\ &\geq \alpha, \text{ for all } \epsilon > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $t_{0,k} \leq t_{0,1} + \epsilon + \psi(t_{0,k})$  for all  $\epsilon > 0$ . Hence,  $\xi(t_{0,k}) \leq t_{0,1} + \epsilon$  for all  $\epsilon > 0$ . As  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ , we obtain  $\xi(t_{0,k}) \leq t_{0,1}$ . Since  $\xi$  is increasing, bijective and continuous,  $\xi^{-1}$  is increasing. Thus,  $t_{0,k} \leq \xi^{-1}(t_{0,1})$ .  $\square$

Finally, we show that every generalized  $\varphi$ -contraction has a unique fixed point.

**Theorem 3.14.** *Let  $(X, M, \min)$  be a complete extended fuzzy metric space with  $M$  satisfying (FM6), and  $f : X \rightarrow X$  be a generalized  $\varphi$ -contraction. Moreover, let the function  $\psi$ , given by  $\psi(t) = \varphi(t, t, t, t, t)$  for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}^+$ , be continuous, and the function  $\xi$ , given by  $\xi(t) = t - \varphi(t, t, t, t, t)$  for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}^+$ , be an increasing bijection. Then,  $f$  has a unique fixed point in  $X$ . Moreover, for each  $x_0 \in X$ , the Picard iteration  $\{x_n\}$  starting at  $x_0$  converges to the fixed point  $u$  of  $f$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $f : X \rightarrow X$  be a generalized  $\varphi$ -contraction,  $x_0 \in X$ , and  $x_n = f(x_{n-1})$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

We show that  $\{x_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence. Let  $s > 0$  and  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ . Assume that  $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $n < m$  and

$$t_{n,m} = \inf\{t \geq 0 : M(x_n, x_m, t) \geq \alpha\}.$$

By Lemma 3.12,  $t_{n,m} \leq \psi(\max\{t_{i,j} : n-1 \leq i, j \leq m-n+1\})$ . By Lemma 3.11, there exists  $k \leq m-n+1$  such that

$$\max\{t_{i,j} : n-1 \leq i, j \leq m-n+1\} = t_{n-1, k+n-1}.$$

Thus,  $t_{n,m} \leq \psi(t_{n-1, k+n-1})$ . Similarly, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} t_{n,m} &\leq \psi(t_{n-1, k+n-1}) \\ &\leq \psi^2(\max\{t_{i,j} : n-2 \leq i, j \leq k+1\}) \\ &\leq \psi^2(\max\{t_{i,j} : n-2 \leq i, j \leq m-n+2\}). \end{aligned}$$

By induction, we can write  $t_{n,m} \leq \psi^n(\max\{t_{i,j} : 0 \leq i, j \leq m\})$ . By Lemma 3.13, we obtain

$$t_{n,m} \leq \psi^n(\max\{t_{i,j} : 0 \leq i, j \leq m\}) \leq \psi^n(\xi^{-1}(t_{0,1})).$$

Since the sequence  $\{\psi^n(\xi^{-1}(t_{0,1}))\}$  converges to zero, there exists  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$t_{n,m} \leq \psi^n(\xi^{-1}(t_{0,1})) < s, \text{ for all } m \geq n \geq N.$$

Therefore,

$$M(x_n, x_m, s) \geq \alpha, \text{ for all } m \geq n \geq N.$$

This implies that  $\{x_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence. Since  $(X, M, \min)$  is a complete extended fuzzy metric space, there exists  $u \in X$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = u$ .

Now, we show that  $f(u) = u$ . Let  $t' > 0$  and  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ . Since  $\psi$  is continuous at zero and  $\psi(0) = 0$ , the function  $\xi$  is continuous at zero. Thus,  $\xi^{-1}$  is an increasing bijection which is continuous at zero. Then, there exists  $t'' > 0$  such that  $\xi^{-1}(t'') \leq t'/2$ . Suppose that  $t_3 = \inf\{t > 0 : M(u, f(u), t) \geq \alpha\}$ . Since  $\psi$  is continuous at  $t_3$ , there exists  $\epsilon > 0$  such that  $\psi(s) - \psi(t_3) < t''/2$  for all  $t_3 \leq s \leq t_3 + \epsilon$ . Assume that  $\tilde{t} = \min\{t''/2, t'/2, \epsilon/2\}$ . Since  $\{x_n\}$  is Cauchy and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = u$ , there exists  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$M(x_n, u, \tilde{t}) \geq \alpha \text{ and } M(x_n, x_{n+1}, \tilde{t}) \geq \alpha, \text{ for all } n \geq n_0.$$

Let

$$\begin{aligned} t_1 &= \inf\{t > 0 : M(x_{n_0}, u, t) \geq \alpha\}, \\ t_2 &= \inf\{t > 0 : M(x_{n_0}, x_{n_0+1}, t) \geq \alpha\}, \\ t_4 &= \inf\{t > 0 : M(x_{n_0}, f(u), t) \geq \alpha\}, \\ t_5 &= \inf\{t > 0 : M(x_{n_0+1}, u, t) \geq \alpha\}. \end{aligned}$$

Suppose that  $t_0 = \max\{t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4, t_5\}$ .

Case 1: Let  $t_0 = 0$ . Hence  $t_3 = 0$ . Thus,  $M(u, f(u), t') \geq \alpha$ .

Case 2: Let  $t_0 > 0$ . Then  $t_i \leq t_0$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, 5$ .

$$\begin{aligned} M(x_{n_0}, u, t_0) &\geq \alpha, & M(x_{n_0}, x_{n_0+1}, t_0) &\geq \alpha, \\ M(f(u), u, t_0) &\geq \alpha, & M(x_{n_0}, f(u), t_0) &\geq \alpha, \end{aligned}$$

$$M(x_{n_0+1}, u, t_0) \geq \alpha.$$

Since  $f$  is a generalized  $\varphi$ -contraction,

$$\begin{aligned} M(u, f(u), \psi(t_0) + \tilde{t}) &= M(u, f(u), \varphi(t_0, t_0, t_0, t_0, t_0) + \tilde{t}) \geq \\ &\min\{M(x_{n_0+1}, f(u), \varphi(t_0, t_0, t_0, t_0, t_0)), M(u, x_{n_0+1}, \tilde{t})\} = \\ &\min\{M(f(x_{n_0}), f(u), \varphi(t_0, t_0, t_0, t_0, t_0)), M(u, x_{n_0+1}, \tilde{t})\} \geq \alpha. \end{aligned}$$

If  $t_0 = \max\{t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4, t_5\} = t_1$ , since

$$M(x_{n_0}, u, t'/2) \geq M(x_{n_0}, u, \tilde{t}) \geq \alpha,$$

it follows that  $t_0 = t_1 \leq t'/2$ . Then,  $\psi(t_0) \leq t_0 \leq t'/2$ . Therefore,

$$M(u, f(u), t') \geq M(u, f(u), \psi(t_0) + t'/2) \geq M(u, f(u), \psi(t_0) + \tilde{t}) \geq \alpha.$$

Similarly, if  $t_0 = \max\{t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4, t_5\} = t_2$  or  $t_0 = \max\{t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4, t_5\} = t_5$ , then we obtain  $M(u, f(u), t') \geq \alpha$ . If  $t_0 = \max\{t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4, t_5\} = t_3$ , then  $t_0 = t_3 \leq \psi(t_0) + \tilde{t}$ . Thus,

$$t_0 \leq \xi^{-1}(\tilde{t}) \leq \xi^{-1}(t'') \leq t'/2.$$

Hence,  $\psi(t_0) \leq t_0 \leq t'/2$ . Therefore,

$$M(u, f(u), t') \geq M(u, f(u), \psi(t_0) + t'/2) \geq M(u, f(u), \psi(t_0) + \tilde{t}) \geq \alpha.$$

If  $t_0 = \max\{t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4, t_5\} = t_4$ , then  $t_3 \leq \psi(t_0) + \tilde{t} = \psi(t_4) + \tilde{t}$ . Using (FM5) we obtain

$$M(x_{n_0}, f(u), t_3 + \epsilon/2 + \tilde{t}) \geq \min\{M(u, f(u), t_3 + \epsilon/2), M(u, x_{n_0}, \tilde{t})\} \geq \alpha.$$

Hence,  $t_4 \leq t_3 + \epsilon/2 + \tilde{t}$ . Thus,  $t_3 \leq t_4 \leq t_3 + \epsilon$ . Therefore,

$$\psi(t_4) - \psi(t_3) \leq t''/2.$$

This implies that

$$\xi(t_3) = t_3 - \psi(t_3) \leq \psi(t_4) - \psi(t_3) + \tilde{t} \leq t''/2 + \tilde{t} \leq t''.$$

So  $t_3 \leq \xi(t'') \leq t'$ . Then,  $M(u, f(u), t') \geq \alpha$ .

Therefore,  $M(u, f(u), t') \geq \alpha$  for all  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ . As  $\alpha \rightarrow 1$ , we obtain  $M(u, f(u), t') = 1$  for all  $t' > 0$ . Therefore,  $f(u) = u$ .

Now, we show that  $f$  has a unique fixed point. Let  $u, v \in X$  be fixed points of  $f$  and  $u \neq v$ . Assume that  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  and

$$0 < s_0 = \inf\{t > 0 : M(u, v, t) \geq \alpha\}.$$

By (FM4) we obtain  $M(u, v, s_0) \geq \alpha$ . Since  $f$  is a generalized  $\varphi$ -contraction,

$$M(u, v, \psi(s_0)) = M(f(u), f(v), \psi(s_0)) \geq \alpha.$$

Therefore,  $0 < s_0 \leq \psi(s_0)$ . This is a contradiction. Thus,  $f$  has a unique fixed point.  $\square$

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