# COMMON FIXED POINT THEOREM FOR SIX MAPPINGS ON FUZZY METRIC SPACES

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ABSTRACT. In this paper we extend the result of Turkoglu et al [29] and prove a common fixed point theorem for compatible maps of type ( $\alpha$ ) on fuzzy metric spaces. We also give an example to validate our result.

Keywords: coincidence point, common fixed point, compatible maps, weak commutativity of type (KB).

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#### 1. INTRODUCTION

The concept of fuzzy sets was introduced by Zadeh [31]. Since then, many authors have tried to use this concept in topology and analysis and developed the theory of fuzzy sets and applications. Especially, Deng [7], Erceg [8], Kaleva & Seikkala [17], Kramosil & Michalek [18] have introduced the concept of fuzzy metric spaces in different ways. Grabiec [11] followed Kramosil & Michalek [18] and obtained the fuzzy version of Banach's fixed point theorem. Many authors have studied the fixed point theory in fuzzy metric spaces. The most interesting references are [2], [5], [9], [11], [12], [19], [23]-[25].

Sessa [22] generalized the concept of commutativity and introduced weak commutativity of mappings. Further, more generalized commutativity called compatibility was introduced by Jungck [13]. Mishra et al [19] introduced the concept of compatibility in fuzzy metric spaces and obtained common fixed point theorems for compatible maps.

Jungck et al [15] introduced the concept of compatible maps of type (A) in metric spaces and proved common fixed point theorems in metric spaces. Cho [6] introduced the notion of compatible maps of type ( $\alpha$ ) in fuzzy metric spaces.

Many generalizations of metric spaces have appeared (see [16], [30]). Several others ([1], [3], [4], [20]) studied common fixed point theorems in various spaces under different conditions.

In this paper, we extend the result of Turkoglu et al [29] and prove a common fixed point theorem for compatible maps of type ( $\alpha$ ) on fuzzy metric spaces. We also give an example to validate our result.

### 2. Preliminaries

**Definition 2.1.** [21] A binary operation  $*: [0,1] \times [0,1] \rightarrow [0,1]$  is called a continuous t-norm if ([0,1],\*) is an Abelian topological monoid with the unit 1 such that  $a * b \le c * d$  whenever  $a \le c$  and  $b \le d$  for all  $a, b, c, d \in [0,1]$ . Examples of t-norms are a \* b = ab and  $a * b = \min\{a,b\}$ .

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**Definition 2.2.** [10] The 3-tuple (X, M, \*) is called a fuzzy metric space (Shortly FM-space) if X is an arbitrary set, \* is a continuous t-norm and M is a fuzzy set in  $X^2 \times [0, \infty)$  satisfying the following conditions:

 $\begin{array}{ll} \mbox{for all } x,y,z \in X \ \ and \ t,s > 0, \\ \mbox{(fm-1)} & M(x,y,t) > 0, \\ \mbox{(fm-2)} & M(x,y,t) = 1 \ \ for \ \ all \ t > 0 \ \ iff \ x = y, \\ \mbox{(fm-3)} & M(x,y,t) = M(y,x,t), \\ \mbox{(fm-4)} & M(x,y,t) * M(y,z,s) \leq M(x,y,t+s), \\ \mbox{(fm-5)} & M(x,y,.) : X^2 \times [0,\infty) \to [0,1] \ \ is \ \ continuous. \end{array}$ 

Note that M(x, y, t) can be thought as the degree of nearness between x and y with respect to t. We identify x = y with M(x, y, t) = 1 for all t > 0 and M(x, y, t) = 0 with  $\infty$  and we can find some topological properties and examples of fuzzy metric spaces in [10].

**Lemma 2.1.** [11] For all  $x, y \in X$ , M(x, y, .) is nondecreasing.

**Definition 2.3.** [11] Let (X, M, \*) be a FM-Space:

1. A sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in X is said to be convergent to a point  $x \in X$  i.e.  $\lim_{n \to \infty} x_n = x$  if  $\lim_{n \to \infty} M(x_n, y, t) = 1$  for all t > 0.

2. A sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in X is said to be a Cauchy sequence if

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} M(x_{n+p}, x_n, t) = 1$$

for all t > 0 and p > 0.

3. A FM-space in which every Cauchy sequence is convergent is said to be complete.

**Remark 2.1.** Since \* is continuous, it follows from (fm-4) that the limit of sequence in FM-space is uniquely determined.

Throughout this paper (X, M, \*) will denote the fuzzy metric space with the following condition:

(fm-6)  $\lim_{n \to \infty} M(x_n, y, t) = 1$  for all  $x, y \in X$  and t > 0.

**Lemma 2.2.** [6] Let  $\{y_n\}$  be a sequence in an FM-space (X, M, \*) with t \* t > t for all  $t \in [0, 1]$ . If there exists a number  $k \in (0, 1)$  such that

$$M(y_{n+2}, y_{n+1}, kt)M(y_{n+1}, y_n, t)$$

for all t > 0 and n = 1, 2, 3..., then  $\{y_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence in X.

3. Compatible maps of type  $(\alpha)$ 

In this section, we give the concept of compatible maps of type ( $\alpha$ ) in FM-spaces and some properties of these maps.

**Definition 3.1.** [19] Let A and B be maps from an FM-space (X, M, \*) into itself. The maps A and B are said to be compatible if

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} M(ABx_n, BAx_n, t) = 1$$

for all t > 0, whenever  $\{x_n\}$  is a sequence in X such that

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} Ax_n = \lim_{n \to \infty} Bx_n = z$$

for some  $z \in X$ .

**Definition 3.2.** [6] Let A and B be maps from an FM-space (X, M, \*) into itself. The maps A and B are said to be compatible of type ( $\alpha$ ) if

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} M(ABx_n, BBx_n, t) = 1$$

and

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} M(BAx_n, AAx_n, t) = 1$$

for all t > 0, whenever  $\{x_n\}$  is a sequence in X such that

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} Ax_n = \lim_{n \to \infty} Bx_n = z$$

for some  $z \in X$ .

**Remark 3.1.** In [14], [15] we can find the equivalent formulations of Definitions 4 and 5 and their examples in metric spaces. Such maps are independent of each other and more general then commuting and weakly commuting maps ([13], [22]).

**Proposition 3.1.** [6] Let (X, M, \*) be an FM-space with t \* t > t for all  $t \in [0, 1]$  and A, Bbe continuous maps from X into itself. Then A and B are compatible if and only if they are compatible of type ( $\alpha$ ).

**Proposition 3.2.** [10] Let (X, M, \*) be an FM-space with  $t * t \ge t$  for all  $t \in [0, 1]$  and A, Bbe continuous maps from X into itself. If A and B are compatible of type ( $\alpha$ ) and Az = Bz for some  $z \in X$ , then

$$ABz = BBz = BAz = AAz.$$

**Proposition 3.3.** [6] Let (X, M, \*) be an FM-space with  $t * t \ge t$  for all  $t \in [0, 1]$  and A, Bbe compatible maps of type ( $\alpha$ ) from X into itself. Let  $\{x_n\}$  be a sequence in X such that  $\lim_{n \to \infty} Ax_n = \lim_{n \to \infty} Bx_n = z \text{ for some } z \in X. \text{ Then we have the following:}$ (i)  $\lim_{n \to \infty} Bx_n = Az \text{ if } A \text{ is continuous at } z,$ (ii) ABz = BAz and Az = Bz if A and B are continuous at z.

**Example 3.1.** Let  $X = [0, \infty)$  with the metric d defined by d(x, y) = |x - y| and for each t > 0define

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

for all  $x, y \in X$ . Clearly (X, M, \*) is a fuzzy metric space where \* is defined by a \* b = ab. Define  $A, B: X \to X$  by

$$Ax = \begin{cases} x^2 & 0 \le x < 1\\ 2 & x \ge 1 \end{cases}, Bx = \begin{cases} 2 - x^2 & 0 \le x < 1\\ 2 & x \ge 1 \end{cases}$$

Clearly A and B are discontinuous at x = 1. Consider the sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in X defined by  $x_n = 1 - \frac{1}{n}$ . Then

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} Ax_n = \lim_{n \to \infty} Bx_n = 1 \in X.$$

Also

$$ABx_n \to 2, BBx_n \to 2 \text{ as } n \to \infty$$

and

$$BAx_n = 1 - \frac{4}{n^2} - \frac{1}{n^4} + \frac{4}{n} + \frac{2}{n^3} - \frac{2}{n^2},$$
  
$$AAx_n = 1 + \frac{4}{n^2} + \frac{1}{n^4} - \frac{4}{n} - \frac{4}{n^3} + \frac{2}{n^2}.$$

Then

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} M(ABx_n, BAx_n, t) \neq 1$$

but

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} M(ABx_n, BBx_n, t) = 1$$

and

 $\lim_{n \to \infty} M(BAx_n, AAx_n, t) = 1$ 

as  $n \to \infty$ . Thus A and B are compatible of type ( $\alpha$ ) but they are not compatible. **Example 3.2.** Let  $X = [0, \infty)$  with the metric d defined by d(x, y) = |x - y| and for each t > 0 define

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

for all  $x, y \in X$ . Clearly (X, M, \*) is a fuzzy metric space where \* is defined by a \* b = ab. Define  $A, B : X \to X$  by

$$Ax = \begin{cases} 1+x & 0 \le x < 1 \\ x & x \ge 1 \end{cases}, Bx = \begin{cases} 1-x & 0 \le x < 1 \\ 2x & x \ge 1 \end{cases}$$

Clearly A and B are discontinuous at x = 1. Consider the sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in X defined by  $x_n = \frac{1}{n}$ . Then

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} Ax_n = \lim_{n \to \infty} Bx_n = 1 \in X.$$

Further

$$ABx_n = 2 - \frac{1}{n}, BAx_n = 2 + \frac{2}{n},$$
  
 $AAx_n = 1 + \frac{1}{n}, BBx_n = \frac{1}{n}.$ 

Therefore

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} M(ABx_n, BAx_n, t) = 1,$$
  
$$\lim_{n \to \infty} M(ABx_n, BBx_n, t) \neq 1$$

and

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} M(BAx_n, AAx_n, t) \neq 1$$

as  $n \to \infty$ . Thus A and B are compatible but they are not compatible of type ( $\alpha$ ).

4. Main results

**Theorem 4.1.** Let (X, M, \*) be a complete FM-space with  $t * t \ge t$  for all  $t \in [0, 1]$  and let A, B, P, Q, S and T be maps from X into itself such that-

(i)  $P(ST)(X) \subseteq AB(ST)(X), Q(AB)(X) \subseteq AB(ST)(X),$ 

(ii) there exists a constant  $k \in [0, 1)$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} M^{2}(Px,Qy,kt) &* [M(ABx,Px,kt)M(STy,Qy,kt)] \\ &* M^{2}(STy,Qy,kt) \geq \\ \geq & [pM(ABx,Px,t) + qM(ABx,STy,t)]M(ABx,Qy,2kt) \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x, y \in X$  and t > 0, where 0 < p, q < 1 such that p + q = 1, (iii) A, B, S and T are continuous, (iv) AB = BA, ST = TS, PB = BP, TQ = QT, AB(ST) = ST(AB), (v) the pairs (P, AB) and (Q, ST) are compatible of type  $(\alpha)$ .

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Then A, B, P, Q, S and T have a unique common fixed point in X.

*Proof.* Let  $x_0 \in X$  be arbitrary. By (i) we can construct a sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in X as follows-

$$P(ST)x_{2n} = AB(ST)x_{2n+1},$$
  
$$Q(AB)x_{2n+1} = AB(ST)x_{2n+2},$$

n = 0, 1, 2, 3....Let  $z_n = AB(ST)$ 

$$\begin{aligned} z_n &= AB(ST)x_n, \text{ then by } (ii), \\ & M^2(P(ST)x_{2n}, Q(AB)x_{2n+1}, kt) * \\ & [M(AB(ST)x_{2n}, P(ST)x_{2n}, kt)M(ST(AB)x_{2n+1}, Q(AB)x_{2n+1}, kt)] * \\ & M^2(ST(AB)x_{2n+1}, Q(AB)x_{2n+1}, kt) \geq \\ & \geq & [pM(AB(ST)x_{2n}, P(ST)x_{2n}, t) + qM(AB(ST)x_{2n}, ST(AB)x_{2n+1}, t)] \\ & M(AB(ST)x_{2n}, Q(AB)x_{2n+1}, 2kt) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} &M^{2}(AB(ST)x_{2n+1}, AB(ST)x_{2n+2}, kt) * \\ &[M(z_{2n}, AB(ST)x_{2n+1}, kt)M(z_{2n+1}, AB(ST)x_{2n+2}, kt)] * \\ &M^{2}(z_{2n+1}, AB(ST)x_{2n+2}, kt) \geq \\ &\geq [pM(z_{2n}, AB(ST)x_{2n+1}, t) + qM(z_{2n}, z_{2n+1}, t)]M(z_{2n}, AB(ST)x_{2n+2}, 2kt), \end{aligned}$$

then

$$M^{2}(z_{2n+1}, z_{2n+2}, kt) * [M(z_{2n}, z_{2n+1}, kt)M(z_{2n+1}, z_{2n+2}, kt)] *$$
  

$$M^{2}(z_{2n+1}, z_{2n+2}, kt) \geq$$
  

$$\geq [pM(z_{2n}, z_{2n+1}, t) + qM(z_{2n}, z_{2n+1}, t)]M(z_{2n}, z_{2n+2}, 2kt),$$

 $\mathbf{SO}$ 

$$M^{2}(z_{2n+1}, z_{2n+2}, kt) * [M(z_{2n}, z_{2n+1}, kt)M(z_{2n+1}, z_{2n+2}, kt)] \geq$$
  
 
$$\geq (p+q)M(z_{2n}, z_{2n+1}, t)M(z_{2n}, z_{2n+2}, 2kt)$$

and

$$M^{2}(z_{2n+1}, z_{2n+2}, kt)[M(z_{2n}, z_{2n+1}, kt) * M(z_{2n+1}, z_{2n+2}, kt)] \geq$$
  
 
$$\geq (p+q)M(z_{2n}, z_{2n+1}, t)M(z_{2n}, z_{2n+2}, 2kt)$$

and

$$M(z_{2n+1}, z_{2n+2}, kt)M(z_{2n}, z_{2n+2}, 2kt) \ge$$
  

$$\geq (p+q)M(z_{2n}, z_{2n+1}, t)M(z_{2n}, z_{2n+2}, 2kt)$$

Then it follows that

 $M(z_{2n+1}, z_{2n+2}, kt) \ge M(z_{2n}, z_{2n+1}, t),$ 

for 0 < k < 1 and for all t > 0.

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Similarly, we also have

$$M(z_{2n+1}, z_{2n+3}, kt) \ge M(z_{2n+1}, z_{2n+2}, t),$$

for 0 < k < 1 and for all t > 0.

In general,

$$M(z_{m+1}, z_{m+2}, kt) \ge M(z_m, z_{m+1}, t), 2n+1 = m = 1, 2, 3....$$

for 0 < k < 1 and for all t > 0.

Therefore by Lemma 2,  $\{z_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence in X. Since (X, M, \*) is complete,  $\{z_n\}$  converges to a point  $x \in X$  and since

$$\{P(ST)x_{2n}\}$$
 and  $\{Q(AB)x_{2n+1}\}$ 

are subsequences of  $\{z_n\}$ ,  $P(ST)x_{2n} \to z$  and  $Q(AB)x_{2n+1} \to z$  as  $n \to \infty$ . Let  $y_n = STx_n$  and  $w_n = ABx_n$  for n = 1, 2, 3..., then we have

$$Py_{2n} \rightarrow z, ABy_{2n} \rightarrow z, STw_{2n+1} \rightarrow z \text{ and } Qw_{2n+1} \rightarrow z$$

as  $n \to \infty$ .

Since the pairs (P, AB) and (Q, ST) are compatible of type  $(\alpha)$ , we have as  $n \to \infty$ 

$$M(P(AB)y_{2n}, AB(AB)y_{2n}, t) \rightarrow 1,$$
  

$$M((AB)Py_{2n}, PPy_{2n}, t) \rightarrow 1,$$
  

$$M((ST)Qw_{2n+1}, QQy_{2n+1}, t) \rightarrow 1,$$
  

$$M(Q(ST)w_{2n+1}, ST(ST)w_{2n+1}, t) \rightarrow 1.$$

Moreover, by the continuity of A, B, S and T and Proposition 3, we have

$$Q(ST)w_{2n+1} \rightarrow STz, ST(ST)w_{2n+1} \rightarrow STz,$$
  
$$P(AB)y_{2n} \rightarrow ABy_{2n}, AB(AB)y_{2n} \rightarrow ABy_{2n}$$

as  $n \to \infty$ . Now taking  $x = y_{2n}$  and  $y = STw_{2n+1}$  in (ii), we have

$$M^{2}(Py_{2n}, Q(ST)w_{2n+1}, kt) *$$

$$[M(ABy_{2n}, Py_{2n}, kt)M(ST(ST)w_{2n+1}, Q(ST)w_{2n+1}, kt)] *$$

$$M^{2}(ST(ST)w_{2n+1}, Q(ST)w_{2n+1}, kt) \geq$$

$$\geq [pM(ABy_{2n}, Py_{2n}, t) + qM(ABy_{2n}, ST(ST)w_{2n+1}, t)]$$

$$M(ABy_{2n}, Q(ST)w_{2n+1}, 2kt).$$

This implies as  $n \to \infty$ 

$$\begin{split} M^2(z,STz,kt) * & [M(z,z,kt)M(STz,STz,kt)] * \\ M^2(STz,STz,kt) \geq \\ \geq & [pM(z,z,t) + qM(z,STz,t)]M(z,STz,2kt). \end{split}$$

Then it follows that

$$M^{2}(z, STz, kt) \ge [p + qM(z, STz, t)]M(z, STz, 2kt)$$

and since M(x, y, .) is non decreasing for all  $x, y \in X$ , we have

$$M(z, STz, 2kt)M(z, STz, t) \ge [p + qM(z, STz, t)]M(z, STz, 2kt).$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} M(z,STz,t) &\geq p + qM(z,STz,t) \\ &\Rightarrow M(z,STz,t) \geq \frac{p}{1-q} = 1 \end{aligned}$$

for all t > 0.

So z = STz. Similarly z = ABz.

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Now taking  $x = y_{2n}$  and y = z in (*ii*), we have

$$M^{2}(Py_{2n}, Qz, kt) * [M(ABy_{2n}, Py_{2n}, kt)M(STz, Qz, kt)] *$$
$$M^{2}(STz, Qz, kt) \geq [pM(ABy_{2n}, Py_{2n}, t) + qM(ABy_{2n}, STz, t)]M(ABy_{2n}, Qz, 2kt)$$

This implies as  $n \to \infty$ 

$$M^2(z,Qz,kt) * M(z,Qz,kt) \ge (p+q)M(z,Qz,2kt),$$

 $\mathbf{SO}$ 

$$M(z, Qz, kt)[M(z, Qz, kt) * 1] \ge M(z, Qz, 2kt)$$

and since M(x, y, .) is non decreasing for all  $x, y \in X$ , we have

$$M(z, Qz, 2kt)M(z, Qz, t) \ge M(z, Qz, 2kt).$$

Then it follows that M(z, Qz, t) = 1 for all t > 0. So z = Qz. Similarly we have z = Pz. Now we show Bz = z and Tz = z. Taking x = Bz and y = z in (ii), we get

$$\begin{aligned} &M^2(P(Bz),Qz,kt)*[M(AB(Bz),P(Bz),kt)M(STz,Qz,kt)]*\\ &M^2(STz,Qz,kt) \ge\\ &\ge \quad [pM(AB(Bz),P(Bz),t)+qM(AB(Bz),STz,t)]M(AB(Bz),Qz,2kt). \end{aligned}$$

which gives

$$\begin{split} &M^2(Bz,z,kt)*[M(Bz,Bz,kt)M(z,z,kt)]*M^2(z,z,kt) \geq \\ &\geq \quad [pM(Bz,Bz,t)+qM(Bz,z,t)]M(Bz,z,2kt) \\ &\Rightarrow M^2(Bz,z,kt) \geq [p+qM(Bz,z,t)]M(Bz,z,2kt) \end{split}$$

and since M(x, y, .) is non decreasing for all  $x, y \in X$ , we have

$$M(Bz, z, 2kt)M(Bz, z, t) \ge [p + qM(Bz, z, t)]M(Bz, z, 2kt)$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} M(Bz,z,t) &\geq p + qM(Bz,z,t) \\ &\Rightarrow M(Bz,z,t) \geq \frac{p}{1-q} = 1 \end{aligned}$$

for all t > 0.

So Bz = z.Similarly we have Tz = z.

Since z = ABz, therefore Az = z and since Tz = z therefore Sz = z. By combining the above results, we have

$$Az = Bz = Sz = Tz = Pz = Qz = z,$$

that is, z is the common fixed point of A, B, P, Q, S and T.

To prove uniqueness, let  $v \neq z$  be another fixed point of A, B, P, Q, S and T. Then using (*ii*),

$$\begin{split} &M^2(Pz,Qv,kt)*[M(ABz,Pz,kt)M(STv,Qv,kt)]*\\ &M^2(STv,Qv,kt)\geq\\ \geq & [pM(ABz,Pz,t)+qM(ABz,STv,t)]M(ABz,Qv,2kt)\\ &\Rightarrow & M^2(z,v,kt)*[M(z,z,kt)M(v,v,kt)]*\\ && M^2(v,v,kt)\geq\\ &\geq & [pM(z,z,t)+qM(z,v,t)]M(z,v,2kt) \end{split}$$

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$$\Rightarrow M^2(z, v, kt) * [M(z, z, kt)M(v, v, kt)] *$$

$$M^2(v, v, kt) \ge$$

$$\ge [pM(z, z, t) + qM(z, v, t)]M(z, v, 2kt)$$

$$\Rightarrow M^2(z, v, kt) \ge [p + qM(z, v, t)]M(z, v, 2kt)$$

and since M(x, y, .) is non decreasing for all  $x, y \in X$ , we have

$$M(z,v,kt)M(z,v,2kt) \ge [p+qM(z,v,t)]M(z,v,2kt).$$

Thus it follows that  $M(z, v, t) \ge \frac{p}{1-q} = 1$  for all t > 0. So v = z. Hence A, B, P, Q, S and T have a unique common fixed point.

**Remark 4.1.** The above theorem extends the result of Turkoglu et al [29].

If we put B = T = I, (the identity map on X) in the Theorem 4.1, we have the following result due to Turkoglu et al [29].

**Corollary 4.1.** Let (X, M, \*) be a complete FM-space with  $t * t \ge t$  for all  $t \in [0, 1]$  and let A, P, S and Q be maps from X into itself such that-

(i)  $PS(X) \subseteq AS(X), QA(X) \subseteq AS(X),$ 

(ii) there exists a constant  $k \in (0, 1)$  such that

$$\begin{split} &M^2(Px,Qy,kt)*[M(Ax,Px,kt)M(Sy,Qy,kt)]\\ &*M^2(Sy,Qy,kt)\geq\\ &\geq \quad [pM(Ax,Px,t)+qM(Ax,Sy,t)]M(Ax,Qy,2kt) \end{split}$$

for all  $x, y \in X$  and t > 0, where 0 < p, q < 1 such that p + q = 1,

- (iii) A and S are continuous,
- (iv) AS = SA,

(v) the pairs (P, A) and (Q, S) are compatible of type  $(\alpha)$ .

Then A, P, S and Q have a unique common fixed point in X.

If we put A = S, B = T and P = Q in the Theorem 4.1, we have the following:

**Corollary 4.2.** Let (X, M, \*) be a complete FM-space with  $t * t \ge t$  for all  $t \in [0, 1]$  and let A, B and P be maps from X into itself such that-

(i)  $P(AB)(X) \subseteq AB$ ,

(ii) there exists a constant  $k \in (0, 1)$  such that

$$M^{2}(Px, Py, kt) * [M(ABx, Px, kt)M(ABy, Py, kt)]$$
$$*M^{2}(ABy, Py, kt) \geq [pM(ABx, Px, t) + qM(ABx, ABy, t)]M(ABx, Py, 2kt)]$$

for all  $x, y \in X$  and t > 0, where 0 < p, q < 1 such that p + q = 1,

- (*iii*) A and B are continuous,
- (iv) AB = BA, PB = BP,

(v) the pair (P, AB) is compatible of type  $(\alpha)$ .

Then A, B and P have a unique common fixed point in X.

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The following example illustrates our main theorem.

**Example 4.1.** Let X = [-1, 1] with the metric *d* defined by d(x, y) = |x - y| and for each t > 0 define

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

for all  $x, y \in X$ . Clearly (X, M, \*) is a complete fuzzy metric space where \* is defined by a \* b = ab. Let A, B, P, Q, S and T be maps from X into itself defined as

$$Ax = \frac{x}{2}, Bx = \frac{x}{8}, Sx = \frac{x}{3}, Tx = \frac{x}{5}, Px = \frac{x}{16}, Qx = \frac{x}{15}.$$

Then

$$P(ST)(X) = \left[\frac{-1}{240}, \frac{1}{240}\right] \subseteq AB(ST)(X) = \left[\frac{-1}{240}, \frac{1}{240}\right]$$

and

$$Q(AB)(X) = \left[\frac{-1}{240}, \frac{1}{240}\right] \subseteq AB(ST)(X) = \left[\frac{-1}{240}, \frac{1}{240}\right]$$

Thus (i) is satisfied. Also (*iii*) and (*iv*) are satisfied. Now define a sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in X such that  $x_n = \frac{n}{n+1}$ . Then

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} Px_n = \lim_{n \to \infty} ABx_n = \frac{1}{16},$$

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} M(P(AB)x_n, AB(AB)x_n, t) = 1$$

and

$$\lim M((AB)Px_n, PPx_n, t) = 1.$$

Thus the pair (P, AB) is compatible of type  $(\alpha)$ . Similarly,

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} Qx_n = \lim_{n \to \infty} STx_n = \frac{1}{15},$$
$$\lim_{n \to \infty} M(Q(ST)x_n, ST(ST)x_n, t) = 1$$

and

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} M((ST)Qx_n, QQx_n, t) = 1.$$

Therefore the pair (Q, ST) is also compatible of type  $(\alpha)$ . For  $p = \frac{7}{8}, q = \frac{1}{8}, k = \frac{1}{4}$  we can see that the condition (ii) is satisfied. Hence all the conditions of our main Theorem 1 are satisfied and the unique common fixed point is x = 0.

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