# RESEARCH

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# Coupled coincidence points for monotone operators in partially ordered metric spaces

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## Abstract

Using the notion of compatible mappings in the setting of a partially ordered metric space, we prove the existence and uniqueness of coupled coincidence points involving a ( $\varphi$ ,  $\psi$ )-contractive condition for a mappings having the mixed *q*-monotone property. We illustrate our results with the help of an example.

**Keywords:** coupled coincidence point, partially ordered metric space, mixed *g*-monotone property

## **1** Introduction

The Banach contraction principle is the most celebrated fixed point theorem. Afterward many authors obtained many important extensions of this principle (cf. [1-16]). Recently Bhaskar and Lakshmikantham [5], Nieto and Lopez [12,13], Ran and Reurings [14] and Agarwal et al. [3] presented some new results for contractions in partially ordered metric spaces. Bhaskar and Lakshmikantham [5] noted that their theorem can be used to investigate a large class of problems and have discussed the existence and uniqueness of solution for a periodic boundary value problem.

Recently, Luong and Thuan [11] presented some coupled fixed point theorems for a mixed monotone mapping in a partially ordered metric space which are generalizations of the results of Bhaskar and Lakshmikantham [5]. In this paper, we establish the existence and uniqueness of coupled coincidence point involving a  $(\varphi, \psi)$ -contractive condition for mappings having the mixed *g*-monotone property. We also illustrate our results with the help of an example.

## 2 Preliminaries

A partial order is a binary relation  $\leq$  over a set *X* which is reflexive, antisymmetric, and transitive. Now, let us recall the definition of the monotonic function  $f: X \to X$  in the partially order set  $(X, \leq)$ . We say that *f* is non-decreasing if for *x*,  $y \in X$ ,  $x \leq y$ , we have  $fx \leq fy$ . Similarly, we say that *f* is non-increasing if for *x*,  $y \in X$ ,  $x \leq y$ , we have  $fx \leq fy$ . Any one could read on [9] for more details on fixed point theory.

**Definition 2.1** [10](Mixed g-Monotone Property)

Let  $(X, \leq)$  be a partially ordered set and  $F: X \times X \to X$ . We say that the mapping F has the mixed g-monotone property if F is monotone g-non-decreasing in its first argument and is monotone g-non-increasing in its second argument. That is, for any  $x, y \in X$ ,



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and

$$\gamma_1, \gamma_2 \in X, g\gamma_1 \preccurlyeq g\gamma_2 \Rightarrow F(x, \gamma_1) \succcurlyeq F(x, \gamma_2). \tag{2}$$

Definition 2.2 [10](Coupled Coincidence Point)

Let  $(x, y) \in X \times X$ ,  $F : X \times X \to X$  and  $g : X \to X$ . We say that (x, y) is a coupled coincidence point of F and g if F(x, y) = gx and F(y, x) = gy for  $x, y \in X$ .

**Definition 2.3** [10]*Let* X *be a non-empty set and let*  $F : X \times X \rightarrow X$  *and*  $g : X \rightarrow X$ . *We say* F *and* g *are commutative if, for all*  $x, y \in X$ ,

$$g(F(x, y)) = F(g(x), g(y))$$

**Definition 2.4** [6]*The mapping F and g where F* :  $X \times X \rightarrow X$  *and g* :  $X \rightarrow X$ *, are said to be compatible if* 

 $\lim_{n\to\infty} d(g(F(x_n, y_n)), F(gx_n, gy_n)) = 0$ 

and

$$\lim_{n\to\infty}d(g(F(y_n,x_n)),F(gy_n,gx_n))=0,$$

whenever  $\{x_n\}$  and  $\{y_n\}$  are sequences in X, such that  $\lim_{n\to\infty} F(x_n, y_n) = \lim_{n\to\infty} gx_n = x$  and  $\lim_{n\to\infty} F(y_n, x_n) = \lim_{n\to\infty} gy_n = y$ , for all  $x, y \in X$  are satisfied.

### 3 Existence of coupled coincidence points

As in [11], let  $\varphi$  denote all functions  $\varphi : [0, \infty) \to [0, \infty)$  which satisfy

*φ* is continuous and non-decreasing,
 *φ* (*t*) = 0 if and only if *t* = 0,
 *φ* (*t* + *s*) ≤ *φ* (*t*) + *φ* (*s*), ∀*t*, *s* ∈ [0, ∞)

and let  $\psi$  denote all the functions  $\psi : [0, \infty) \to (0, \infty)$  which satisfy  $\lim_{t\to r} \psi(t) > 0$  for all r > 0 and  $\lim_{t\to 0^+} \psi(t) = 0$ .

For example [11], functions  $\varphi_1(t) = kt$  where k > 0,  $\phi_2(t) = \frac{t}{t+1}$ ,  $\varphi_3(t) = \ln(t+1)$ , and  $\varphi_4(t) = \min\{t, 1\}$  are in  $\Phi$ ;  $\psi_1(t) = kt$  where k > 0,  $\psi_2(t) = \frac{\ln(2t+1)}{2}$ , and

$$\psi_{3}(t) = \begin{cases} 1, & t = 0\\ \frac{t}{t+1}, & 0 < t < 1\\ 1, & t = 1\\ \frac{1}{2}t, & t > 1 \end{cases}$$

are in Ψ,

Now, let us start proving our main results.

**Theorem 3.1** Let  $(X, \preccurlyeq)$  be a partially ordered set and suppose there is a metric d on X such that (X, d) is a complete metric space. Let  $F : X \times X \to X$  be a mapping having the mixed g-monotone property on X such that there exist two elements  $x_0, y_0 \in X$  with

$$gx_0 \preccurlyeq F(x_0, y_0)$$
 and  $gy_0 \succcurlyeq F(y_0, x_0)$ .

Suppose there exist  $\varphi \in \Phi$  and  $\psi \in \Psi$  such that

$$\phi(d(F(x,y),F(u,v))) \le \frac{1}{2}\phi(d(gx,gu) + d(gy,gv)) - \psi\left(\frac{d(gx,gu) + d(gy,gv)}{2}\right)$$
(3)

for all  $x, y, u, v \in X$  with  $gx \ge gu$  and  $gy \le gv$ . Suppose  $F(X \times X) \subseteq g(X)$ , g is continuous and compatible with F and also suppose either

- (a) F is continuous or
- *(b) X* has the following property:
  - (i) if a non-decreasing sequence {x<sub>n</sub>} → x, then x<sub>n</sub> ≤ x, for all n,
    (ii) if a non-increasing sequence {y<sub>n</sub>} → y, then y ≤ y<sub>n</sub>, for all n.

Then there exists  $x, y \in X$  such that

gx = F(x, y) and gy = F(y, x),

i.e., F and g have a coupled coincidence point in X.

**Proof.** Let  $x_0, y_0 \in X$  be such that  $gx_0 \leq F(x_0, y_0)$  and  $gy_0 \geq F(y_0, x_0)$ . Using  $F(X \times X) \subseteq g(X)$ , we construct sequences  $\{x_n\}$  and  $\{y_n\}$  in X as

$$gx_{n+1} = F(x_n, y_n)$$
 and  $gy_{n+1} = F(y_n, x_n)$  for all  $n \ge 0$ . (4)

We are going to prove that

$$gx_n \preccurlyeq gx_{n+1} \quad \text{for all } n \ge 0$$
(5)

and

$$gy_n \succcurlyeq gy_{n+1} \quad \text{for all } n \ge 0.$$
 (6)

To prove these, we are going to use the mathematical induction.

Let n = 0. Since  $gx_0 \leq F(x_0, y_0)$  and  $gy_0 \geq F(y_0, x_0)$  and as  $gx_1 = F(x_0, y_0)$  and  $gy_1 = F(y_0, x_0)$ , we have  $gx_0 \leq gx_1$  and  $gy_0 \geq gy_1$ . Thus (5) and (6) hold for n = 0.

Suppose now that (5) and (6) hold for some fixed  $n \ge 0$ , Then, since  $gx_n \le gx_{n+1}$  and  $gy_n \ge gy_{n+1}$ , and by mixed *g*-monotone property of *F*, we have

$$gx_{n+2} = F(x_{n+1}, y_{n+1}) \succcurlyeq F(x_n, y_{n+1}) \succcurlyeq F(x_n, y_n) = gx_{n+1}$$
(7)

and

$$gy_{n+2} = F(y_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) \preccurlyeq F(y_n, x_{n+1}) \preccurlyeq F(y_n, x_n) = gy_{n+1}.$$
(8)

Using (7) and (8), we get

$$gx_{n+1} \preccurlyeq gx_{n+2}$$
 and  $gy_{n+1} \succeq gy_{n+2}$ .

Hence by the mathematical induction we conclude that (5) and (6) hold for all  $n \ge 0$ . Therefore,

$$gx_0 \preccurlyeq gx_1 \preccurlyeq gx_2 \preccurlyeq \cdots \preccurlyeq gx_n \preccurlyeq gx_{n+1} \preccurlyeq \cdots \tag{9}$$

and

$$g\gamma_0 \succcurlyeq g\gamma_1 \succcurlyeq g\gamma_2 \succcurlyeq \cdots \succcurlyeq g\gamma_n \succcurlyeq g\gamma_{n+1} \succcurlyeq \cdots$$
 (10)

Since  $gx_n \ge gx_{n-1}$  and  $gy_n \le gy_{n-1}$ , using (3) and (4), we have

$$\phi(d(gx_{n+1}, gx_n)) = \phi(d(F(x_n, y_n), F(x_{n-1}, y_{n-1}))) 
\leq \frac{1}{2}\phi(d(gx_n, gx_{n-1}) + d(gy_n, gy_{n-1})) 
- \psi\left(\frac{d(gx_n, gx_{n-1}) + d(gy_n, gy_{n-1})}{2}\right).$$
(11)

Similarly, since  $gy_{n-1} \ge gy_n$  and  $gx_{n-1} \le gx_n$ , using (3) and (4), we also have

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(d(gy_{n}, gy_{n+1})) &= \phi(d(F(y_{n-1}, x_{n-1}), F(y_{n}, x_{n}))) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} \phi(d(gy_{n-1}, gy_{n}) + d(gx_{n-1}, gx_{n})) \\ &- \psi\left(\frac{d((gy_{n-1}, gy_{n}) + d(gx_{n-1}, gx_{n})}{2}\right). \end{aligned}$$
(12)

Using (11) and (12), we have

$$\phi(d(gx_{n+1}, gx_n)) + \phi(d(gy_{n+1}, gy_n)) \le \phi(d(gx_n, gx_{n-1}) + d(gy_n, gy_{n-1})) - 2\psi\left(\frac{d(gx_n, gx_{n-1}) + d(gy_n, gy_{n-1})}{2}\right).$$
(13)

By property (iii) of  $\varphi$ , we have

$$\phi(d(gx_{n+1}, gx_n) + d(gy_{n+1}, gy_n)) \le \phi(d(gx_{n+1}, gx_n)) + \phi(d(gy_{n+1}, gy_n)).$$
(14)

Using (13) and (14), we have

$$\phi(d(gx_{n+1}, gx_n) + d(gy_{n+1}, gy_n)) \le \phi(d(gx_n, gx_{n-1}) + d(gy_n, gy_{n-1})) - 2\psi\left(\frac{d(gx_n, gx_{n-1}) + d(gy_n, gy_{n-1})}{2}\right)$$
(15)

which implies, since  $\psi$  is a non-negative function,

$$\phi(d(gx_{n+1}, gx_n) + d(gy_{n+1}, gy_n)) \le \phi(d(gx_n, gx_{n-1}) + d(gy_n, gy_{n-1})).$$

Using the fact that  $\varphi$  is non-decreasing, we get

$$d(gx_{n+1}, gx_n) + d(gy_{n+1}, gy_n) \le d(gx_n, gx_{n-1}) + d(gy_n, gy_{n-1})$$

Set

$$\delta_n = d(gx_{n+1}, gx_n) + d(gy_{n+1}, gy_n).$$

Now we would like to show that  $\delta_n \to 0$  as  $n \to \infty$ . It is clear that the sequence  $\{\delta_n\}$  is decreasing. Therefore, there is some  $\delta \ge 0$  such that

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \delta_n = \lim_{n \to \infty} \left[ d(g x_{n+1}, g x_n) + d(g y_{n+1}, g y_n) \right] = \delta.$$
(16)

We shall show that  $\delta = 0$ . Suppose, to the contrary, that  $\delta > 0$ . Then taking the limit as  $n \to \infty$  (equivalently,  $\delta_n \to \delta$ ) of both sides of (15) and remembering  $\lim_{t\to r} \psi(t) > 0$  for all r > 0 and  $\varphi$  is continuous, we have

$$egin{aligned} \phi(\delta) &= \lim_{n o \infty} \phi(\delta_n) \leq \lim_{n o \infty} \left[ \phi(\delta_{n-1}) - 2\psi\left(rac{\delta_{n-1}}{2}
ight) 
ight] \ &= \phi(\delta) - 2\lim_{\delta_{n-1} o \delta} \psi\left(rac{\delta_{n-1}}{2}
ight) < \phi(\delta) \end{aligned}$$

a contradiction. Thus  $\delta = 0$ , that is

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \delta_n = \lim_{n \to \infty} \left[ d(gx_{n+1}, gx_n) + d(g\gamma_{n+1}, g\gamma_n) \right] = 0.$$
(17)

Now, we will prove that  $\{gx_n\}$  and  $\{gy_n\}$  are Cauchy sequences. Suppose, to the contrary, that at least one of  $\{gx_n\}$  or  $\{gy_n\}$  is not Cauchy sequence. Then there exists an  $\varepsilon > 0$  for which we can find subsequences  $\{gx_n(k)\}, \{gx_m(k)\}$  of  $\{gx_n\}$  and  $\{gy_n(k)\}, \{gy_m(k)\}$  of  $\{gy_n\}$  with  $n(k) > m(k) \ge k$  such that

$$d(gx_{n(k)}, gx_{m(k)}) + d(gy_{n(k)}, gy_{m(k)}) \ge \varepsilon.$$
(18)

Further, corresponding to m(k), we can choose n(k) in such a way that it is the smallest integer with n(k) > m(k) and satisfying (18). Then

$$d(gx_{n(k)-1},gx_{m(k)}) + d(g\gamma_{n(k)-1},g\gamma_{m(k)}) < \varepsilon.$$

$$\tag{19}$$

Using (18), (19) and the triangle inequality, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon &\leq r_k := d(gx_{n(k)}, gx_{m(k)}) + d(gy_{n(k)}, gy_{m(k)}) \\ &\leq d(gx_{n(k)}, gx_{n(k)-1}) + d(gx_{n(k)-1}, gx_{m(k)}) + d(gy_{n(k)}, gy_{n(k)-1}) + d(gy_{n(k)-1}, gy_{m(k)}) \\ &\leq d(gx_{n(k)}, gx_{n(k)-1}) + d(gy_{n(k)}, gy_{n(k)-1}) + \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Letting  $k \rightarrow \infty$  and using (17), we get

$$\lim_{k \to \infty} r_k = \lim_{k \to \infty} \left[ d(gx_{n(k)}, gx_{m(k)}) + d(gy_{n(k)}, gy_{m(k)}) \right] = \varepsilon.$$
<sup>(20)</sup>

By the triangle inequality

$$\begin{aligned} r_k &= d(gx_{n(k)}, gx_{m(k)}) + d(gy_{n(k)}, gy_{m(k)}) \\ &\leq d(gx_{n(k)}, gx_{n(k)+1}) + d(gx_{n(k)+1}, gx_{m(k)+1}) + d(gx_{m(k)+1}, gx_{m(k)}) \\ &+ d(gy_{n(k)}, gy_{n(k)+1}) + d(gy_{n(k)+1}, gy_{m(k)+1}) + d(gy_{m(k)+1}, gy_{m(k)}) \\ &= \delta_{n(k)} + \delta_{m(k)} + d(gx_{n(k)+1}, gx_{m(k)+1}) + d(gy_{n(k)+1}, gy_{m(k)+1}). \end{aligned}$$

Using the property of  $\varphi$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\phi(r_k) &= \phi(\delta_{n(k)} + \delta_{m(k)} + d(gx_{n(k)+1}, gx_{m(k)+1}) + d(gy_{n(k)+1}, gy_{m(k)+1})) \\
&\leq \phi(\delta_{n(k)} + \delta_{m(k)}) + \phi(d(gx_{n(k)+1}, gx_{m(k)+1})) \\
&+ \phi(d(gy_{n(k)+1}, gy_{m(k)+1})).
\end{aligned}$$
(21)

Since n(k) > m(k), hence  $gx_n(k) \ge gx_m(k)$  and  $gy_n(k) \ge gy_m(k)$ . Using (3) and (4), we get

$$\phi(d(gx_{n(k)+1}, gx_{m(k)+1})) = \phi(d(F(x_{n(k)}, y_{n(k)}), F(x_{m(k)}, y_{m(k)}))) 
\leq \frac{1}{2}\phi(d(gx_{n(k)}, gx_{m(k)}) + d(gy_{n(k)}, gy_{m(k)})) 
- \psi\left(\frac{d(gx_{n(k)}, gx_{m(k)}) + d(gy_{n(k)}, gy_{m(k)})}{2}\right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}\phi(r_k) - \psi\left(\frac{r_k}{2}\right).$$
(22)

By the same way, we also have

$$\phi(d(gy_{m(k)+1}, gy_{n(k)+1})) = \phi(d(F(y_{m(k)}, x_{m(k)}), F(y_{n(k)}, x_{n(k)})))) \\
\leq \frac{1}{2}\phi(d(gy_{m(k)}, gy_{n(k)}) + d(gx_{m(k)}, gx_{n(k)}))) \\
- \psi\left(\frac{d(gy_{m(k)}, gy_{n(k)}) + d(gx_{m(k)}, gx_{n(k)})}{2}\right) \\
= \frac{1}{2}\phi(r_k) - \psi\left(\frac{r_k}{2}\right).$$
(23)

Inserting (22) and (23) in (21), we have

$$\phi(r_k) \leq \phi(\delta_{n(k)} + \delta_{m(k)}) + \phi(r_k) - 2\psi\left(\frac{r_k}{2}\right).$$

Letting  $k \rightarrow \infty$  and using (17) and (20), we get

$$\phi(\varepsilon) \leq \phi(0) + \phi(\varepsilon) - 2\lim_{k \to \infty} \psi\left(\frac{r_k}{2}\right) = \phi(\varepsilon) - 2\lim_{r_k \to \varepsilon} \psi\left(\frac{r_k}{2}\right) < \phi(\varepsilon)$$

a contradiction. This shows that  $\{gx_n\}$  and  $\{gy_n\}$  are Cauchy sequences. Since *X* is a complete metric space, there exist  $x, y \in X$  such that

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} F(x_n, y_n) = \lim_{n \to \infty} gx_n = x \quad and \quad \lim_{n \to \infty} F(y_n, x_n) = \lim_{n \to \infty} gy_n = y.$$
(24)

Since F and g are compatible mappings, we have

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} d(g(F(x_n, y_n)), F(gx_n, gy_n)) = 0$$
<sup>(25)</sup>

and

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} d(g(F(y_n, x_n)), F(gy_n, gx_n)) = 0$$
(26)

We now show that gx = F(x, y) and gy = F(y, x). Suppose that the assumption (a) holds. For all  $n \ge 0$ , we have,

$$d(gx, F(gx_n, gy_n)) \leq d(gx, g(F(x_n, y_n))) + d(g(F(x_n, y_n)), F(gx_n, gy_n)).$$

Taking the limit as  $n \to \infty$ , using (4), (24), (25) and the fact that *F* and *g* are continuous, we have d(gx, F(x, y)) = 0.

Similarly, using (4), (24), (26) and the fact that *F* and *g* are continuous, we have d(gy, F(y, x)) = 0.

Combining the above two results we get

$$gx = F(x, y)$$
 and  $gy = F(y, x)$ .

Finally, suppose that (b) holds. By (5), (6) and (24), we have  $\{gx_n\}$  is a non-decreasing sequence,  $gx_n \to x$  and  $\{gy_n\}$  is a non-increasing sequence,  $gy_n \to y$  as  $n \to \infty$ . Hence, by assumption (b), we have for all  $n \ge 0$ ,

$$gx_n \preccurlyeq x \quad and \quad gy_n \preccurlyeq y.$$
 (27)

Since F and g are compatible mappings and g is continuous, by (25) and (26)

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} g(gx_n) = gx = \lim_{n \to \infty} g(F(x_n, y_n)) = \lim_{n \to \infty} F(gx_n, gy_n)$$
(28)

and,

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} g(gy_n) = gy = \lim_{n \to \infty} g(F(y_n, x_n)) = \lim_{n \to \infty} F(gy_n, gx_n).$$
(29)

Now we have

$$d(gx, F(x, y)) \leq d(gx, g(gx_{n+1})) + d(g(gx_{n+1}), F(x, y)).$$

Taking  $n \rightarrow \infty$  in the above inequality, using (4) and (21) we have,

$$d(gx, F(x, \gamma)) \leq \lim_{n \to \infty} d(gx, g(gx_{n+1})) + \lim_{n \to \infty} d(g(F(x_n, \gamma_n)), F(x, \gamma))$$
  
$$\leq \lim_{n \to \infty} d(F(gx_n, g\gamma_n)), F(x, \gamma))$$
(30)

Using the property of  $\varphi$ , we get

$$\phi(d(gx, F(x, y))) \leq \lim_{n \to \infty} \phi(d(F(gx_n, gy_n)), F(x, y)))$$

Since the mapping g is monotone increasing, using (3), (27) and (30), we have for all  $n \ge 0$ ,

$$\phi(d(gx, F(x, y))) \leq \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{1}{2} \phi(d(ggx_n, gx) + d(gy_n, ggy)) - \lim_{n \to \infty} \psi\left(\frac{d(ggx_n, gx) + d(ggy_n, gy)}{2}\right)$$

Using the above inequality, using (24) and the property of  $\psi$ , we get  $\varphi(d(gx, F(x, y))) = 0$ , thus d(gx, F(x, y)) = 0. Hence gx = F(x, y).

Similarly, we can show that gy = F(y, x). Thus we proved that *F* and *g* have a coupled coincidence point.

**Corollary 3.1** [11]Let  $(X, \preccurlyeq)$  be a partially ordered set and suppose there is a metric d on X such that (X, d) is a complete metric space. Let  $F : X \times X \to X$  be a mapping having the mixed monotone property on X such that there exist two elements  $x_0, y_0 \in X$  with

$$x_0 \preccurlyeq F(x_0, y_0)$$
 and  $y_0 \succcurlyeq F(y_0, x_0)$ .

Suppose there exist  $\varphi \in \Phi$  and  $\psi \in \Psi$  such that

$$\phi(d(F(x,y),F(u,v))) \leq \frac{1}{2}\phi(d(x,u)+d(y,v)) - \psi\left(\frac{d(x,u)+d(y,v)}{2}\right)$$

for all  $x, y, u, v \in X$  with  $x \ge u$  and  $y \le v$ . Suppose either (a) F is continuous or

(b) X has the following property.

(i) if a non-decreasing sequence {x<sub>n</sub>} → x, then x<sub>n</sub> ≤ x, for all n,
(ii) if a non-increasing sequence {y<sub>n</sub>} → y, then y ≤ y<sub>n</sub>, for all n,

then there exist  $x, y \in X$  such that

$$x = F(x, y)$$
 and  $y = F(y, x)$ 

that is, F has a coupled fixed point in X.

**Corollary 3.2** [11] Let  $(X, \leq)$  be a partially ordered set and suppose there is a metric d on X such that (X, d) is a complete metric space. Let  $F : X \times X \to X$  be a mapping having the mixed monotone property on X such that there exist two elements  $x_0, y_0 \in X$  with

 $x_0 \preccurlyeq F(x_0, y_0)$  and  $y_0 \succeq F(y_0, x_0)$ .

Suppose there exists  $\psi \in \Psi$  such that

$$d(F(x,y),F(u,v)) \leq \frac{d(x,u)+d(y,v)}{2} - \psi\left(\frac{d(x,u)+d(y,v)}{2}\right)$$

for all  $x, y, u, v \in X$  with  $x \ge u$  and  $y \le v$ . Suppose either

(a) F is continuous or

(b) X has the following property:

(i) if a non-decreasing sequence {x<sub>n</sub>} → x, then x<sub>n</sub> ≤ x, for all n,
(ii) if a non-increasing sequence {y<sub>n</sub>} → y, then y ≤ y<sub>n</sub>, for all n,

then there exist  $x, y \in X$  such that

x = F(x, y) and y = F(y, x)

that is, F has a coupled fixed point in X.

**Proof**. Take  $\varphi(t) = t$  in Corollary 3.1, we get Corollary 3.2.

**Corollary 3.3** [5] eses of Corollary 3.1, suppose that for Let  $(X, \preccurlyeq)$  be a partially ordered set and suppose there is a metric d on X such that (X, d) is a complete metric space. Let  $F : X \times X \rightarrow X$  be a mapping having the mixed monotone property on X such that there exist two elements  $x_0, y_0 \in X$  with

 $x_0 \preccurlyeq F(x_0, y_0)$  and  $y_0 \succeq F(y_0, x_0)$ .

Suppose there exists a real number  $k \in [0, 1)$  such that

$$d(F(x, y), F(u, v)) \leq \frac{k}{2}[d(x, u) + d(y, v)]$$

for all  $x, y, u, v \in X$  with  $x \ge u$  and  $y \ge v$ . Suppose either (a) F is continuous or

(b) X has the following property.

(i) if a non-decreasing sequence {x<sub>n</sub>} → x, then x<sub>n</sub> ≤ x, for all n,
(ii) if a non-increasing sequence {y<sub>n</sub>} → y, then y ≤ y<sub>n</sub>, for all n,

then there exist  $x, y \in X$  such that

x = F(x, y) and y = F(y, x)

that is, F has a coupled fixed point in X.

**Proof.** Taking  $\psi(t) = \frac{1-k}{2}t$  in Corollary 3.2.

## 4 Uniqueness of coupled coincidence point

In this section, we will prove the uniqueness of the coupled coincidence point. Note that if  $(X, \preccurlyeq)$  is a partially ordered set, then we endow the product  $X \times X$  with the following partial order relation, for all (x, y),  $(u, v) \in X \times X$ ,

 $(x, y) \preccurlyeq (u, v) \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad x \preccurlyeq u, y \succ v.$ 

**Theorem 4.1** In addition to hypotheses of Theorem 3.1, suppose that for every (x, y), (z, t) in  $X \times X$ , if there exists a (u, v) in  $X \times X$  that is comparable to (x, y) and (z, t), then F has a unique coupled coincidence point.

**Proof.** From Theorem 3.1, the set of coupled coincidence points of *F* and *g* is nonempty. Suppose (x, y) and (z, t) are coupled coincidence points of *F* and *g*, that is gx = F(x, y), gy = F(y, x), gz = F(z, t) and gt = F(t, z). We are going to show that gx = gz and gy = gt. By assumption, there exists  $(u, v) \subset X \times X$  that is comparable to (x, y) and (z, t). We define sequences  $\{gu_n\}$ ,  $\{gv_n\}$  as follows

$$u_0 = u \quad v_0 = v.$$
  $gu_{u+1} = F(u_n, v_n)$  and  $gv_{n+1} = F(v_n, u_n)$  for all  $n$ 

Since (u, v) is comparable with (x, y), we may assume that  $(x, y) \ge (u, v) = (u_0, v_0)$ . Using the mathematical induction, it is easy to prove that

$$(x, y) \succ (u_n, v_n) \quad \text{for all } n.$$
 (31)

Using (3) and (31), we have

$$\varphi(d(gx, gu_{n+1})) = \varphi(d(F(x, y), F(u_n, v_n))) < \frac{1}{2}\varphi(d(x, u_n) + d(y, v_n)) - \psi\left(\frac{d(x, u_n) + d(y, v_n)}{2}\right)$$
(32)

Similarly

$$\varphi(d(gv_{n+1}, g\gamma)) = \varphi(d(F(v_n, u_n), F(\gamma, x))) < \frac{1}{2}\varphi(d(v_n, \gamma) + d(u_n, x)) - \psi\left(\frac{d(v_n, \gamma) + d(u_n, x)}{2}\right)$$
(33)

Using (32), (33) and the property of  $\phi$ , we have

$$\varphi(d(gx, gu_{n+1}) + d(gy, gv_{n+1})) \leq \varphi(d(gx, gu_{n+1})) + \varphi(d(gy, gv_{n+1}))$$

$$\leq \varphi(d(gx, gu_n) + d(gy, gv_n))$$

$$-2\psi\left(\frac{d(gx, gu_n) + d(gy, gv_n)}{2}\right).$$
(34)

which implies, using the property of  $\psi$ ,

$$\varphi(d(gx,gu_{n+1})+d(gy,gv_{n+1})) \leq \varphi(d(gx,gu_n)+d(gy,gv_n))$$

Thus, using the property of  $\varphi$ ,

$$d(gx,gu_{n+1})+d(gy,gv_{n+1}) \leq d(gx,gu_n)+d(gy,gv_n).$$

That is the sequence  $\{d(gx, gu_n) + d(gy, gv_n)\}$  is decreasing. Therefore, there exists  $\alpha \ge 0$  such that

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} [d(gx, gu_n) + d(gy, gv_n)] = \alpha.$$
(35)

We will show that  $\alpha = 0$ . Suppose, to the contrary, that  $\alpha > 0$ . Taking the limit as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  in (34), we have, using the property of  $\psi$ ,

$$\varphi(\alpha) \leq \varphi(\alpha) - 2 \lim_{n \to \infty} \psi\left(\frac{d(gx, gu_n) + d(gy, gv_n)}{2}\right) < \varphi(\alpha)$$

a contradiction. Thus.  $\alpha$  = 0, that is,

 $\lim_{n\to\infty} [d(gx,gu_n)+d(gy,gv_n)]=0.$ 

It implies

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} d(gx, gu_n) = \lim_{n \to \infty} d(gy, gv_n) = 0.$$
(36)

Similarly, we show that

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} d(gz, gu_n) = \lim_{n \to \infty} d(gt, gv_n) = 0.$$
(37)

Using (36) and (37) we have gx = gz and gy = gt.

**Corollary 4.1** [11]*In addition to hypotheses of Corollary 3.1, suppose that for every* (x, y), (z, t) in  $X \times X$ , if there exists a (u, v) in  $X \times X$  that is comparable to (x, y) and (z, t), then F has a unique coupled fixed point.

### 5 Example

**Example 5.1** Let X = [0, 1]. Then  $(X, \le)$  is a partially ordered set with the natural ordering of real numbers. Let

d(x, y) = |x - y| for  $x, y \in [0, 1]$ .

Then (X, d) is a complete metric space. Let  $g: X \to X$  be defined as

 $gx = x^2$ , for all  $x \in X$ ,

and let  $F: X \times X \rightarrow X$  be defined as

$$F(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^2 - y^2}{3}, & \text{if } x \ge y, \\ 0, & \text{if } x < y. \end{cases}$$

*F* obeys the mixed g-monotone property. Let  $\varphi : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  be defined as

$$\phi(t)=\frac{3}{4}t, \quad for \quad t\in [0,\infty).$$

and let  $\psi : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  be defined as

$$\psi(t) = \frac{1}{4}t, \quad for \quad t \in [0, \infty).$$

$$gx_n = x_{n'}^2 gy_n = y_{n'}^2$$

$$F(x_n, y_n) = \begin{cases} \frac{x_n^2 - y_n^2}{3}, & \text{if } x_n \ge y_n, \\ 0, & \text{if } x_n < y_n. \end{cases}$$

and

$$F(y_n, x_n) = \begin{cases} \frac{y_n^2 - x_n^2}{3}, & \text{if } y_n \ge x_n, \\ 0, & \text{if } y_n < x_n. \end{cases}$$

Then it follows that,

$$\lim_{n\to\infty} d(g(F(x_n,y_n)),F(gx_n,gy_n))=0$$

and

$$\lim_{n\to\infty}d(g(F(y_n,x_n)),F(gy_n,gx_n))=0,$$

Hence, the mappings F and g are compatible in X. Also,  $x_0 = 0$  and  $y_0 = c(>0)$  are two points in X such that

$$gx_0 = g(0) = 0 = F(0, c) = F(x_0, y_0)$$

and

$$gy_0 = g(c) = c^2 \ge \frac{c^2}{3} = F(c, 0) = F(y_0, x_0).$$

We next verify the contraction (3). We take  $x, y, u, v \in X$ , such that  $gx \ge gu$  and  $gy \le gv$ , that is,  $x^2 \ge u^2$  and  $y^2 \le v^2$ .

We consider the following cases:

**Case 1.**  $x \ge y$ ,  $u \ge v$ . Then,

$$\begin{split} \phi(d(F(x, y), F(u, v))) &= \frac{3}{4} \left[ d(F(x, y), F(u, v)) \right] \\ &= \frac{3}{4} \left[ d\left(\frac{x^2 - y^2}{3}, \frac{u^2 - v^2}{3}\right) \right] \\ &= \frac{3}{4} \left| \frac{(x^2 - y^2) - (u^2 - v^2)}{3} \right| \\ &= \frac{3}{4} \left| \frac{x^2 - u^2 |+|y^2 - v^2|}{3} \right| \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{d(gx, gu) + d(gy, gv)}{2} \right) \\ &= \frac{3}{4} \left( \frac{d(gx, gu) + d(gy, gv)}{2} \right) \\ &= \frac{3}{4} \left( \frac{d(gx, gu) + d(gy, gv)}{2} \right) \\ &= \frac{3}{8} (d(gx, gu) + d(gy, gv)) \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \left( \frac{d(gx, gu) + d(gy, gv)}{2} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \phi(d(gx, gu) + d(gy, gv)) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \phi(d(gx, gu) + d(gy, gv)) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \phi(d(gx, gu) + d(gy, gv)) \\ &= \psi \left( \frac{d(gx, gu) + d(gy, gv)}{2} \right) \end{split}$$

## **Case 2.** $x \ge y$ , u < v. Then

$$\begin{split} \phi(d(F(x,y),F(u,v)) &= \frac{3}{4} [d(F(x,y),F(u,v)] \\ &= \frac{3}{4} \left[ d(\frac{x^2 - y^2}{3},0) \right] \\ &= \frac{3}{4} \frac{|x^2 - y^2|}{3} \\ &= \frac{3}{4} \frac{|v^2 + x^2 - y^2 - u^2|}{3} \\ &= \frac{3}{4} \frac{|v^2 - y^2| + |u^2 - x^2||}{3} \\ &= \frac{3}{4} \left( \frac{|u^2 - x^2| + |y^2 - v^2|}{3} \right) \\ &= \frac{3}{4} \left( \frac{|u^2 - x^2| + |y^2 - v^2|}{2} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{d(gx,gu) + d(gy,gv)}{2} \right) \\ &= \frac{3}{4} \left( \frac{d(gx,gu) + d(gy,gv)}{2} \right) \\ &= \frac{3}{8} (d(gx,gu) + d(gy,gv)) \\ &= \frac{3}{8} (d(gx,gu) + d(gy,gv)) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{d(gx,gu) + d(gy,gv)}{2} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \phi(d(gx,gu) + d(gy,gv)) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \phi(d(gx,gu) + d(gy,gv)) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \phi(d(gx,gu) + d(gy,gv)) \\ &= \psi \left( \frac{d(gx,gu) + d(gy,gv)}{2} \right) \end{split}$$

**Case 3.** x < y and  $u \ge v$ . Then

$$\begin{split} \phi(d(F(x, y), F(u, v))) &= \frac{3}{4} \left[ d(0, \frac{u^2 - v^2}{3}) \right] \\ &= \frac{3}{4} \frac{|u^2 - v^2|}{3} \\ &= \frac{3}{4} \frac{|u^2 + x^2 - v^2 - x^2|}{3} \\ &= \frac{3}{4} \frac{|(x^2 - v^2) + (u^2 - x^2)|}{3} (since \, y > x) \\ &\leq \frac{3}{4} \frac{|y^2 - v^2| + |u^2 - x^2|}{3} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{|u^2 - x^2| + |y^2 - v^2|}{2} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{d(gx, gu) + d(gy, gv)}{2} \right) \\ &= \frac{3}{4} \left( \frac{d(gx, gu) + d(gy, gv)}{2} \right) \\ &= \frac{3}{8} (d(gx, gu) + d(gy, gv)) \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \left( \frac{d(gx, gu) + d(gy, gv)}{2} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \phi(d(gx, gu) + d(gy, gv)) \\ &= \psi \left( \frac{d(gx, gu) + d(gy, gv)}{2} \right) \end{split}$$

**Case 4.** 
$$x < y$$
 and  $u < v$  with  $x^2 \le u^2$  and  $y^2 \ge v^2$ . Then,  $F(x, y) = 0$  and  $F(u, v) = 0$ ,

that is,

$$\phi(d(F(x, \gamma), F(u, \nu))) = \phi(d(0, 0)) = \phi(0) = 0.$$

Therefore all conditions of Theorem 3.1 are satisfied. Thus the conclusion follows.

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#### Authors' contributions

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#### **Competing interests**

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

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