



## COMMON FIXED POINT THEOREM FOR $R$ -WEAKLY COMMUTING MAPS IN $b$ -FUZZY METRIC SPACES

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**Abstract.** In this paper, we consider complete  $b$ -fuzzy metric space and prove common fixed point theorem for  $R$ -weakly commuting maps in this spaces. Our results generalize the recent result many other known results.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

The concept of fuzzy sets was introduced initially by Zadeh [15] in 1965. Since then, to use this concept in topology and analysis, many authors have expansively developed the theory of fuzzy sets and application. George and Veeramani [5], Kramosil and Michalek [7] have introduced the concept of fuzzy topological spaces induced by fuzzy metric which have very important applications in quantum particle physics, particularly in connections with both string and  $E$ -infinity theory which were given and studied by El Naschie [1, 2, 3, 4]. Many authors [6, 8, 10, 12, 13] have proved fixed point theorem in fuzzy (probabilistic) metric spaces.

**Definition 1.1.** A binary operation  $*$  :  $[0, 1] \times [0, 1] \longrightarrow [0, 1]$  is a continuous  $t$ -norm if it satisfies the following conditions:

- (1)  $*$  is associative and commutative,
- (2)  $*$  is continuous,

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- (3)  $a * 1 = a$  for all  $a \in [0, 1]$ ,
- (4)  $a * b \leq c * d$  whenever  $a \leq c$  and  $b \leq d$ , for each  $a, b, c, d \in [0, 1]$ .

Two typical examples of a continuous  $t$ -norm are  $a * b = ab$  and  $a * b = \min(a, b)$ .

**Definition 1.2.** A 3-tuple  $(X, M, *)$  is called a *fuzzy metric space* if  $X$  is an arbitrary (non-empty) set,  $*$  is a continuous  $t$ -norm and  $M$  is a fuzzy set on  $X^2 \times (0, \infty)$ , satisfying the following conditions for each  $x, y, z \in X$  and  $t, s > 0$ ,

- (1)  $M(x, y, t) > 0$ ,
- (2)  $M(x, y, t) = 1$  if and only if  $x = y$ ,
- (3)  $M(x, y, t) = M(y, x, t)$ ,
- (4)  $M(x, y, t) * M(y, z, s) \leq M(x, z, t + s)$ ,
- (5)  $M(x, y, \cdot) : (0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is continuous.

**Definition 1.3.** A 3-tuple  $(X, M, *)$  is called a  $b$ -fuzzy metric space if  $X$  is an arbitrary (non-empty) set,  $*$  is a continuous  $t$ -norm and  $M$  is a fuzzy set on  $X^2 \times (0, \infty)$ , satisfying the following conditions for each  $x, y, z \in X$ ,  $t, s > 0$  and  $b \geq 1$  be a given real number,

- (1)  $M(x, y, t) > 0$ ,
- (2)  $M(x, y, t) = 1$  if and only if  $x = y$ ,
- (3)  $M(x, y, t) = M(y, x, t)$ ,
- (4)  $M(x, y, \frac{t}{b}) * M(y, z, \frac{s}{b}) \leq M(x, z, t + s)$ ,
- (5)  $M(x, y, \cdot) : (0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is continuous.

It should be noted that, the class of  $b$ -fuzzy metric spaces is effectively larger than that of fuzzy metric spaces, since a  $b$ -fuzzy metric is a fuzzy metric when  $b = 1$ .

We present an example shows that a  $b$ -fuzzy metric on  $X$  need not be a fuzzy metric on  $X$ .

**Example 1.4.** Let  $M(x, y, t) = e^{-\frac{|x-y|^p}{t}}$ , where  $p > 1$  is a real number. We show that  $M$  is a  $b$ -fuzzy metric with  $b = 2^{p-1}$ .

Obviously conditions (1), (2), (3) and (5) of Definition 1.3 are satisfied.

If  $1 < p < \infty$ , then the convexity of the function  $f(x) = x^p$  ( $x > 0$ ) implies

$$\left(\frac{a+c}{2}\right)^p \leq \frac{1}{2}(a^p + c^p),$$

and hence,  $(a+c)^p \leq 2^{p-1}(a^p + c^p)$  holds. Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{|x-y|^p}{t+s} &\leq 2^{p-1} \frac{|x-z|^p}{t+s} + 2^{p-1} \frac{|z-y|^p}{t+s} \\
&\leq 2^{p-1} \frac{|x-z|^p}{t} + 2^{p-1} \frac{|z-y|^p}{s} \\
&= \frac{|x-z|^p}{t/2^{p-1}} + \frac{|z-y|^p}{s/2^{p-1}}.
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, for each  $x, y, z \in X$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
M(x, y, t+s) &= e^{-\frac{|x-y|^p}{t+s}} \\
&\geq M(x, z, \frac{t}{2^{p-1}}) * M(z, y, \frac{s}{2^{p-1}}),
\end{aligned}$$

where  $a * b = a.b$ . So condition (4) of Definition 1.3 is hold and  $M$  is a  $b$ -fuzzy metric.

It should be noted that in preceding example, for  $p = 2$  it is easy to see that  $(X, M, *)$  is not a fuzzy metric space.

**Example 1.5.** Let  $M(x, y, t) = e^{-\frac{d(x,y)}{t}}$  or  $M(x, y, t) = \frac{t}{t+d(x,y)}$ , where  $d$  is a  $b$ -metric on  $X$  and  $a * b = a.b$ . Then it is easy to show that  $M$  is a  $b$ -fuzzy metric.

Obviously conditions (1), (2), (3) and (5) of Definition 1.3 are satisfied. For each  $x, y, z \in X$  we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
M(x, y, t+s) &= e^{-\frac{d(x,y)}{t+s}} \\
&\geq e^{-b \frac{d(x,z)+d(z,y)}{t+s}} \\
&= e^{-b \frac{d(x,z)}{t+s}} . e^{-b \frac{d(z,y)}{t+s}} \\
&\geq e^{-\frac{d(x,z)}{t/b}} . e^{-\frac{d(z,y)}{s/b}} \\
&= M(x, z, \frac{t}{b}) * M(z, y, \frac{s}{b}).
\end{aligned}$$

So condition (4) of Definition 1.3 is hold and  $M$  is a  $b$ -fuzzy metric.

Before stating and proving our results, we present some definition and proposition in  $b$ -metric space.

**Definition 1.6.** Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function. Then  $f$  is called  $b$ -nondecreasing, if  $x > by$  this implies  $f(x) \geq f(y)$  for each  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ .

**Lemma 1.7.** ([11]) *Let  $(X, M, *)$  be a  $b$ -fuzzy metric space. Then  $M(x, y, t)$  is  $b$ -nondecreasing with respect to  $t$ , for all  $x, y$  in  $X$ . Also,*

$$M(x, y, b^n t) \geq M(x, y, t), \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

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

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

We recall the notions of convergence and completeness in a  $b$ -fuzzy metric space. Let  $(X, M, *)$  be a  $b$ -fuzzy metric space. Let  $\tau$  be the set of all  $A \subset X$  with  $x \in A$  if and only if there exists  $t > 0$  and  $0 < r < 1$  such that  $B(x, r, t) \subset A$ . Then  $\tau$  is a topology on  $X$  (induced by the  $b$ -fuzzy metric  $M$ ). A sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in  $X$  converges to  $x$  if and only if  $M(x_n, x, t) \rightarrow 1$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , for each  $t > 0$ . It is called a Cauchy sequence if for each  $0 < \varepsilon < 1$  and  $t > 0$ , there exists  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $M(x_n, x_m, t) > 1 - \varepsilon$  for each  $n, m \geq n_0$ . The  $b$ -fuzzy metric space  $(X, M, *)$  is said to be complete if every Cauchy sequence is convergent. A subset  $A$  of  $X$  is said to be F-bounded if there exists  $t > 0$  and  $0 < r < 1$  such that  $M(x, y, t) > 1 - r$  for all  $x, y \in A$ .

**Lemma 1.8.** ([11]) *In a  $b$ -fuzzy metric space  $(X, M, *)$  the following assertions hold:*

- (i) *If sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in  $X$  converges to  $x$ , then  $x$  is unique.*
- (ii) *If sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in  $X$  is converges to  $x$ , then sequence  $\{x_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence.*

In  $b$ -fuzzy metric space we have the following propositions.

**Proposition 1.9.** ([11] Prop. 1.8) *Let  $(X, M, *)$  be a  $b$ -fuzzy metric space and suppose that  $\{x_n\}$  and  $\{y_n\}$  are  $b$ -convergent to  $x, y$  respectively then we have*

$$M(x, y, \frac{t}{b^2}) \leq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} M(x_n, y_n, t) \leq M(x, y, b^2 t),$$

$$M(x, y, \frac{t}{b^2}) \leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} M(x_n, y_n, t) \leq M(x, y, b^2 t).$$

**Proposition 1.10.** *Let  $(X, M, *)$  be a  $b$ -fuzzy metric space and suppose that  $\{x_n\}$  is  $b$ -convergent to  $x$  then we have*

$$M(x, y, \frac{t}{b}) \leq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} M(x_n, y, t) \leq M(x, y, bt),$$

$$M(x, y, \frac{t}{b}) \leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} M(x_n, y, t) \leq M(x, y, bt).$$

*Proof.* By condition (4) of Definition 1.3 we have:

$$M(x, y, t) \geq M(x, x_n, \frac{\delta}{b}) * M(x_n, y, \frac{t - \delta}{b}),$$

taking the upper limit as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  we get

$$\begin{aligned} M(x, y, t) &\geq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} M(x, x_n, \frac{\delta}{b}) * \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} M(x_n, y, \frac{t - \delta}{b}) \\ &= \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} M(x_n, y, \frac{t - \delta}{b}), \end{aligned}$$

as  $\delta \rightarrow 0$  we have

$$M(x, y, bt) \geq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} M(x_n, y, t).$$

Also, by condition (4) of Definition 1.3 we have:

$$M(x_n, y, t) \geq M(x_n, x, \frac{\delta}{b}) * M(x, y, \frac{t - \delta}{b}),$$

taking the upper limit as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  we get

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} M(x_n, y, t) \geq M(x, y, \frac{t - \delta}{b}),$$

as  $\delta \rightarrow 0$  we have

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} M(x_n, y, t) \geq M(x, y, \frac{t}{b}).$$

It follows that

$$M(x, y, \frac{t}{b}) \leq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} M(x_n, y, t) \leq M(x, y, bt).$$

Similarly, we can show that

$$M(x, y, \frac{t}{b}) \leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} M(x_n, y, t) \leq M(x, y, bt).$$

□

**Remark 1.11.** In general, a  $b$ -fuzzy metric is not continuous.

## 2. THE MAIN RESULTS

**Definition 2.1.** ([9], Definition 1.2) Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space and  $F : X \rightarrow X$  be a map.  $F$  is called sequentially convergent if  $\{y_n\}$  is convergent provided  $\{Fy_n\}$  is convergent.

We start our work by proving the following crucial theorem.

**Definition 2.2.** Let  $f$  and  $g$  be maps from a  $b$ -fuzzy metric space  $(X, M, *)$  into itself. The maps  $f$  and  $g$  are said to be weakly commuting if

$$M(fgx, gfx, t) \geq M(fx, gx, t)$$

for each  $x \in X$  and  $t > 0$ .

**Definition 2.3.** Let  $f$  and  $g$  be maps from a  $b$ -fuzzy metric space  $(X, M, *)$  into itself. The maps  $f$  and  $g$  are said to be  $R$ -weakly commuting if there exists some positive real number  $R$  such that

$$M(fgx, gfx, t) \geq M(fx, gx, t/R)$$

for each  $x \in X$  and  $t > 0$ .

Weak commutativity implies  $R$ -weak commutativity in  $b$ -fuzzy metric space. However,  $R$ -weak commutativity implies weak commutativity only when  $R \leq 1$ .

**Example 2.4.** Let  $X = \mathbb{R}$ . Let  $a * b = ab$  for all  $a, b \in [0, 1]$  and let  $M$  be the  $b$ -fuzzy set on  $X \times X \times ]0, +\infty[$  defined as follows:

$$M(x, y, t) = e^{-\frac{(x-y)^2}{t}},$$

for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}^+$ . Then  $(X, M, *)$  is a  $b$ -fuzzy metric space. Define  $f(x) = 2x - 1$  and  $g(x) = x^2$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} M(fgx, gfx, t) &= e^{-\frac{4(x-1)^4}{t}} \\ &= e^{-\frac{(x-1)^4}{t/4}} = M(fx, gx, t/4) \\ &< e^{-\frac{(x-1)^4}{t}} = M(fx, gx, t). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, for  $R = 4$ ,  $f$  and  $g$  are  $R$ -weakly commuting. But  $f$  and  $g$  are not weakly commuting since exponential function is strictly increasing.

**Theorem 2.5.** Let  $F, f$  and  $g$  be maps from a complete  $b$ -fuzzy metric space  $(X, M, *)$  into itself. Let  $f$  and  $g$  be  $R$ -weakly commuting self-mappings of  $X$  satisfying the following conditions:

- (a)  $f(X) \subseteq g(X)$ ;
- (b)  $f$  or  $g$  is continuous;
- (c)  $M(Ffx, Ffy, t) \geq \gamma(M(Fgx, Fgy, b^4t))$ , where  $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is a continuous function such that  $\gamma(a) > a$  for each  $a \in ]0, 1[$ .

Also, if  $F$  is one to one, continuous and sequentially convergent. Then we have

- (i)  $f$  and  $g$  have a unique common fixed point  $a \in X$ .
- (ii) If  $Ff = fF$  and  $Fg = gF$ , then  $F, f$  and  $g$  have a unique common fixed point.

*Proof.* Let  $x_0$  be an arbitrary point in  $X$ . By (a), choose a point  $x_1$  in  $X$  such that  $fx_0 = gx_1$ . In general choose  $x_{n+1}$  such that  $fx_n = gx_{n+1}$  and

$y_n = Ffx_n = Fgx_{n+1}$ . Then, for  $t > 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} M(y_n, y_{n+1}, t) &= M(Ffx_n, Ffx_{n+1}, t) \\ &\geq \gamma(M(Fgx_n, Fgx_{n+1}, b^4t)) = \gamma(M(Ffx_{n-1}, Ffx_n, b^4t)) \\ &\geq M(Ffx_{n-1}, Ffx_n, b^4t) \\ &\geq M(Ffx_{n-1}, Ffx_n, t). \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $\{M(Ffx_n, Ffx_{n+1}, t); n \geq 0\}$  is increasing sequence in  $[0, 1]$ . Therefore, tends to a limit  $a(t) \leq 1$ . We claim that  $a(t) = 1$ . For if  $a(t) < 1$  on making  $n \rightarrow \infty$  in the above inequality we get  $a(t) \geq \gamma(a(t)) > a(t)$ , a contradiction. Hence  $a(t) = 1$ , i.e.,

$$\lim_n M(Ffx_n, Ffx_{n+1}, t) = 1.$$

If we define

$$c_n(t) = M(Ffx_n, Ffx_{n+1}, t), \tag{2.1}$$

then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} c_n(t) = 1$ . Now, we prove that  $\{y_n = Ffx_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $f(X)$  for  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ . Suppose that  $\{y_n\}$  is not a Cauchy sequence in  $f(X)$ . Then there is an  $\epsilon \in ]0, 1[$  such that for each integer  $k$ , there exist integers  $m(k)$  and  $n(k)$  with  $m(k) > n(k) \geq k$  such that

$$d_k(t) = M(y_{n(k)}, y_{m(k)}, t) \leq 1 - \epsilon \text{ for } k = 1, 2, \dots \tag{2.2}$$

We may assume that

$$M(y_{n(k)}, y_{m(k)-1}, t) > 1 - \epsilon, \tag{2.3}$$

by choosing  $m(k)$  be the smallest number exceeding  $n(k)$  for which (2.2) holds. Using (2.1), we have

$$\begin{aligned} 1 - \epsilon \geq d_k(t) &\geq M\left(y_{n(k)}, y_{m(k)-1}, \frac{t}{2b}\right) * M\left(y_{m(k)-1}, y_{m(k)}, \frac{t}{2b}\right) \\ &\geq c_k\left(\frac{t}{2b}\right) * (1 - \epsilon) \end{aligned} \tag{2.4}$$

Hence,  $d_k(t) \rightarrow 1 - \epsilon$  for every  $t > 0$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ .

Also notice

$$\begin{aligned} d_k(t) &= M(y_{n(k)}, y_{m(k)}, t) \\ &\geq M\left(y_{n(k)}, y_{n(k)+1}, \frac{t}{3b}\right) * M\left(y_{n(k)+1}, y_{m(k)+1}, \frac{t}{3b}\right) * M\left(y_{m(k)+1}, y_{m(k)}, \frac{t}{3b}\right) \\ &\geq c_k\left(\frac{t}{3b}\right) * \gamma\left(M\left(y_{n(k)}, y_{m(k)}, \frac{tb^3}{3}\right)\right) * c_k\left(\frac{t}{3b}\right) \\ &= c_k\left(\frac{t}{3b}\right) * \gamma\left(d_k\left(\frac{tb^3}{3}\right)\right) * c_k\left(\frac{t}{3b}\right). \end{aligned}$$

Thus, as  $k \rightarrow \infty$  in the above inequality we have

$$1 - \epsilon \geq \gamma(1 - \epsilon) > 1 - \epsilon$$

which is a contradiction. Thus,  $\{Ffx_n\}_n$  is Cauchy and by the completeness of  $X$ ,  $\{Ffx_n\}_n$  converges to  $z$  in  $X$ . Also  $\{Fgx_n\}_n$  converges to  $z$  in  $X$ . Since  $F$  is sequentially convergent,  $\{fx_n\}$  and  $\{gx_n\}$  converges to some  $a \in X$  and also from the continuity of  $F$ ,  $\{Ffx_n\}$  converges to  $Fa$ . That is, since  $\{y_n\}$  converges to  $z$ , then  $y_n = Ffx_n = Fgx_{n+1} \rightarrow Fa = z$ . Let us suppose that the mapping  $f$  is continuous. Then  $\lim_n ffx_n = fa$  and  $\lim_n fgx_n = fa$ . Further we have since  $f$  and  $g$  are  $R$ -weakly commuting

$$M(fgx_n, gfx_n, t) \geq M(fx_n, gx_n, t/R).$$

Taking the lower limit as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  in the above inequality

$$\begin{aligned} M(fa, \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} gfx_n, b^2t) &\geq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} M(fgx_n, gfx_n, t) \\ &\geq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} M(fx_n, gx_n, \frac{t}{R}) \geq M(a, a, \frac{t}{Rb^2}) = 1. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly,

$$M(fa, \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} gfx_n, b^2t) = 1,$$

hence we get  $\lim_n gfx_n = fa$ . We now prove that  $a = fa$ . Suppose  $a \neq fa$ , since  $F$  is one to one we get  $Ffa \neq Fa = z$ . then  $M(Fa, Ffa, t) < 1$ . By (c)

$$\begin{aligned} M(Ffa, Fa, b^2t) &\geq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} M(Fffx_n, Ffx_n, t) \\ &\geq \gamma(\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} M(Fgfx_n, Fgx_n, b^4t)) \\ &\geq \gamma(M(Ffa, Fa, b^2t)) \\ &> M(Ffa, Fa, b^2t), \end{aligned}$$

a contradiction. Therefore,  $Ffa = Fa$ , this implies that  $fa = a$ . Since  $f(X) \subseteq g(X)$  we can find  $a_1$  in  $X$  such that  $a = fa = ga_1$ . Now,

$$M(Fffx_n, Ffa_1, t) \geq \gamma(M(Fgfx_n, Fga_1, b^4t)).$$

Taking limit inf as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  we get

$$\begin{aligned} M(Ffa, Ffa_1, bt) &\geq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} M(Fffx_n, Ffa_1, t) \\ &\geq \gamma(\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} M(Fgfx_n, Fga_1, b^4t)) \\ &\geq \gamma(M(Ffa, Fga_1, b^3t)) \\ &= \gamma(M(Ffa, Ffa, b^3t)) = 1, \end{aligned}$$



since  $\gamma(1) = 1$ , which implies that  $Ffa = Ffa_1$ . Since  $F$  is one to one, then  $a = fa = fa_1 = ga_1$ . Also for any  $t > 0$ ,

$$M(fa, ga, t) = M(fga_1, gfa_1, t) \geq M(fa_1, ga_1, t/R) = 1$$

which again implies that  $fa = ga$ . Thus  $a$  is a common fixed point of  $f$  and  $g$ .

Now to prove uniqueness let if possible  $a' \neq a$  be another common fixed point of  $f$  and  $g$ , hence  $Fa \neq Fa'$ . Then there exists  $t > 0$  such that  $M(Fa, Fa', t) < 1$ , and

$$\begin{aligned} M(Fa, Fa', t) &= M(Ffa, Ffa', t) \\ &\geq \gamma(M(Fga, Fga', b^4t)) = \gamma(M(Fa, Fa', b^4t)) \\ &> M(Fa, Fa', b^4t) \geq M(Fa, Fa', t) \end{aligned}$$

which is contradiction. Therefore,  $Fa = Fa'$ , since  $F$  is one to one this implies that  $a = a'$  is a unique common fixed point of  $f$  and  $g$ . Now, we need only prove  $f, g$  and  $F$  have a unique common fixed point. Let  $a$  be the unique fixed point of  $f$ . Suppose to the contrary that  $Fa \neq a$ . Since  $F$  is one to one,  $F^2a \neq Fa$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} M(Fa, F^2a, t) &= M(Ffa, FFfa, t) = M(Ffa, FfFa, t) \\ &\geq \gamma(M(Fga, FgFa, b^4t)) \\ &= \gamma(M(Fga, FFga, b^4t)) \\ &= \gamma(M(Fa, F^2a, b^4t)) \\ &> M(Fa, F^2a, t) \end{aligned}$$

which is contradiction. Therefore,  $Fa = F^2a$  implies that  $Fa = a$ . This proves that  $a$  is a unique common fixed point of  $f, g$  and  $F$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 2.6.** *Let  $f$  and  $g$  be maps from a complete  $b$ -fuzzy metric space  $(X, M, *)$  into itself. Let  $f$  and  $g$  be  $R$ -weakly commuting self-mappings of  $X$  satisfying the following conditions:*

- (a)  $f(X) \subseteq g(X)$ ;
- (b)  $f$  or  $g$  is continuous;
- (c)  $M(fx, fy, t) \geq \gamma(M(gx, gy, b^4t))$ , where  $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is a continuous function such that  $\gamma(a) > a$  for each  $a \in ]0, 1[$ .

*Then  $f$  and  $g$  have a unique common fixed point  $a \in X$ .*

*Proof.* If we take  $F$  as identity map on  $X$ , then Theorem 2.5 follows that  $f$  and  $g$  have a unique common fixed point.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.7.** *Let  $F, f$  and  $g$  be maps from a complete  $b$ -fuzzy metric space  $(X, M, *)$  into itself. Let  $Ff$  and  $Fg$  be  $R$ -weakly commuting self-mappings of  $X$  satisfying the following conditions:*

- (a)  $Ff(X) \subseteq Fg(X)$ ;
- (b)  $Ff$  or  $Fg$  is continuous;
- (c)  $M(Ffx, Ffy, t) \geq \gamma(M(Fgx, Fgy, b^4t))$ , where  $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is a continuous function such that  $\gamma(a) > a$  for each  $a \in ]0, 1[$ .

If  $Ff = fF$  and  $Fg = gF$ , then  $F, f$  and  $g$  have a unique common fixed point.

*Proof.* By Corollary 2.6 follows that  $Ff$  and  $Fg$  have a unique common fixed point  $a \in X$ , i.e.  $Ffa = Fga = a$ . Now, we show that  $Fa = a$ .

$$\begin{aligned} M(Fa, a, t) &= M(FFfa, Ffa, t) = M(FfFa, Ffa, t) \\ &\geq \gamma(M(FgFa, Fga, b^4t)) \\ &= \gamma(M(FFga, Fga, b^4t)) \\ &= \gamma(M(Fa, a, b^4t)) \\ &> M(Fa, a, t) \end{aligned}$$

which is contradiction. Therefore,  $Fa = a$ . Hence,  $Ffa = Fga = a = Fa$ , also  $fa = fFa = Ffa = a$  and  $ga = gFa = Fga = a$  it follows that  $fa = ga = a$ .  $\square$

Now we give an example to support our Theorem 2.5.

**Example 2.8.** Consider Example 1.4 in which  $X = [0, 1]$ . Let  $a * c = ac$  for all  $a, c \in [0, 1]$  and let  $M$  be the  $b$ -fuzzy set on  $X \times X \times ]0, +\infty[$  defined as follows:

$$M(x, y, t) = e^{-\frac{(x-y)^2}{t}},$$

for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}^+$ . Then  $(X, M, *)$  is a  $b$ -fuzzy metric space for  $b = 2$ . Define  $f(x) = \frac{x}{12}$ ,  $g(x) = \frac{x}{2}$  and  $F(x) = \frac{x}{2}$ . It is evident that  $f(X) \subseteq g(X)$ ,  $f$  is continuous. Define  $\gamma : (0, 1) \rightarrow (0, 1)$  by  $\gamma(a) = \sqrt{a}$ , for  $0 < a < 1$ . Since

$$\left(\frac{x}{24} - \frac{y}{24}\right)^2 \leq \left(\frac{1}{24}\right)^2(x-y)^2 \leq \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{16}(x-y)^2 = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{x}{4} - \frac{y}{4}\right)^2,$$

hence it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} M(Ffx, Ffy, t) &= e^{-\frac{(\frac{x}{24} - \frac{y}{24})^2}{t}} \\ &\geq e^{-\frac{(\frac{x}{4} - \frac{y}{4})^2}{2t}} = \gamma(M(Fgx, Fgy, b^4t)) \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x, y$  in  $X$ ,  $f$  and  $g$  are  $R$ -weakly commuting. Thus all the conditions of last theorem are satisfied and  $0$  is a common fixed point of  $f$  and  $g$ .

**Corollary 2.9.** *Let  $(X, M, *)$  be a complete fuzzy metric space and let  $Ff$  and  $Fg$  be  $R$ -weakly commuting self-mappings of  $X$  satisfying the following conditions:*

- (a)  $Ff(X) \subseteq Fg(X)$ ;
- (b)  $Ff$  or  $Fg$  is continuous;
- (c)  $M(Ffx, Ffy, t) \geq \gamma(M(Fgx, Fgy, t))$ , where  $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is a continuous function such that  $\gamma(a) > a$  for each  $a \in ]0, 1[$ .

*Also, if  $Ff = fF$  and  $Fg = gF$ , then  $F, f$  and  $g$  have a unique common fixed point.*

*Proof.* If we take  $b = 1$ , then Corollary 2.7 follows that  $F, f$  and  $g$  have a unique common fixed point.  $\square$

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