

A COMMON FIXED POINT THEOREM FOR FOUR SELF MAPS ON
A FUZZY METRIC SPACE WITH HADZIC TYPE t – NORM UNDER S-B PROPERTYK. P. R. Sastry¹, G. A. Naidu², N. Umadevi^{3*} and R. V. Bhaskar⁴¹8-28-8/1, Tamil Street, Chinna Waltair, Visakhapatnam-530017, India²Department of Mathematics, Andhra university, Visakhapatnam-530003, India³Department of Mathematics, Raghu Engineering College, Visakhapatnam-531 162, India⁴Department of Mathematics, Raghu Engineering College, Visakhapatnam-531 162, India

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ABSTRACT

In this paper the concept of weak compatibility in a fuzzy metric space with Hadzic type t – norm and S-B property has been applied to obtain a common fixed point theorem for four self maps on a fuzzy metric space.

Keywords: Fuzzy metric space, weak compatible maps, S-B property and Hadzic type t – norm.

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1. INTRODUCTION

The concept of fuzzy sets was introduced by Zadeh [13] in 1965. Since then, to use this concept in topology and analysis, many authors have extensively developed the theory of fuzzy sets and its applications. Kramosil and Michalek [6] have introduced the concept of fuzzy metric spaces in different ways. In 1988, Grabiec [4] extended the fixed point theorem of Banach [1] to fuzzy metric spaces. George and Veeramani [3] have modified the concept of fuzzy metric space introduced by Kramosil and Michalek [6]. They have also shown that every metric induces a fuzzy metric. Singh *et. al.* [12] proved various fixed point theorems using the concepts of semi-compatibility, compatibility and implicit relations in fuzzy metric spaces. Rajinder Sharma [8] obtained a common fixed point theorem for four self maps on a fuzzy metric space with $\min t$ -norm under S-B property. Sastry *et.al.* [9] proved a fixed point theorem in fuzzy metric spaces with $\min t$ -norm and obtained the result in [8] as a corollary. Further, in [9] an open problem is raised regarding the validity of their result in fuzzy metric spaces with general continuous t -norm (not necessary $\min t$ -norm). In this paper, we partially answer the open problem in the affirmative by proving their common fixed point theorem in fuzzy metric spaces with Hadzic type t – norm under S-B property. However, the general solution to the open problem is still open.

Definition 1.1: (Zadeh.L.A. [13]) A fuzzy set A in a nonempty set X is a function with domain X and values in $[0,1]$.

Definition 1.2: (Schweizer.B. and Sklar. A. [10]) A function $*$: $[0,1] \times [0,1] \rightarrow [0,1]$ is said to be a continuous t -norm if $*$ satisfies the following conditions:

For $a, b, c, d \in [0,1]$,

- (i) $*$ is commutative and associative
- (ii) $*$ is continuous
- (iii) $a * 1 = a$ for all $a \in [0,1]$
- (iv) $a * b \leq c * d$ whenever $a \leq c$ and $b \leq d$

We observe that $a * b = \min\{a, b\}$ is a t -norm.

Note: $a * b = \min\{a, b\}$ is a t – norm $\Leftrightarrow t * t \geq t, \forall t \in [0,1]$.

Different types of t -norms: (Schweizer.B. and Sklar. A. [10])

- (1) $a * b = a \cdot b$ (product t -norm T_p)
- (2) $a * b = \max\{a + b - 1, 0\}$ Lukasieswict t -norm
- (3) $T(x, y) = \begin{cases} \min\{x, y\}, & \text{if } \max\{x, y\} = 1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

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$$(4) T(x, y) = \begin{cases} \min\{x, y\}, & \text{if } x + y > 1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$(5) T^\Delta(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{xy}{2}, & \text{if } \max\{x, y\} < 1 \\ xy, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Definition 1.3: (Kramosil. I. and Michalek. J. [6]) A triple $(X, M, *)$ is said to be a fuzzy metric space (FM space, briefly) if X is a nonempty set, $*$ is a continuous t –norm and M is a fuzzy set on $X^2 \times [0, \infty)$ satisfying the following conditions:

For $x, y, z \in X$ and $s, t > 0$.

- (i) $M(x, y, 0) = 0$
- (ii) $M(x, y, t) = 1$ if and only if $x = y$.
- (iii) $M(x, y, t) = M(y, x, t)$
- (iv) $M(x, y, t) * M(y, z, s) \leq M(x, z, t + s)$
- (v) $M(x, y, \cdot): [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, 1]$ is left continuous.

Then M is called a fuzzy metric on X .

The function $M(x, y, t)$ denotes the degree of nearness between x and y with respect to t .

Definition 1.4: (George.A. and Veeramani.P. [3]) Let $(X, M, *)$ be a fuzzy metric space. Then,

- (i) A sequence $\{x_n\}$ in X is said to be convergent to a point $x \in X$ if $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} M(x_n, x, t) = 1 \forall t > 0$.
- (ii) A sequence $\{x_n\}$ in X is called a Cauchy sequence if

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} M(x_{n+p}, x_n, t) = 1 \forall t > 0 \text{ and } p = 1, 2, \dots$$

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

Definition 1.5: (Singh,B. and Jain,S. [12]) Two self maps S and T of a fuzzy metric space $(X, M, *)$ are said to be weakly compatible if they commute at their coincidence points, that is, $Sx = Tx$ implies $STx = TSx$.

Definition 1.6: ([11]) Let S and T be two self mappings of a fuzzy metric space $(X, M, *)$.

We say that S and T satisfy the property S-B if there exists a sequence $\{x_n\}$ in X such that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Sx_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Tx_n = z$ for some $z \in X$.

In the rest of the paper, we assume that a fuzzy metric space $(X, M, *)$ satisfies the following condition:

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

Definition 1.7: (Hadzic[5]) Let $*$ be a t –norm. For any $a \in [0, 1]$, write $*^0(a) = 1$ and

$$*^1(a) = *(*^0(a), a) = *(1, a) = a. \text{ In general, define } *^{n+1}(a) = *(*^n(a), a) \text{ for } n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

If $\{ *^n \}$ is equicontinuous at 1, that is, given $\varepsilon > 0 \exists \delta > 0$ such that $x > 1 - \delta$ implies $*^n(x) > 1 - \varepsilon \forall n \in N$, then we say that $*$ is a Hadzic type t –norm.

We observe that min t –norm is of Hadzic type.

Rajinder Sharma [8] proved the following:

Theorem 1.8: Let $(X, M, *)$ be a fuzzy metric space with $t * t \geq t$ for all $t \in [0, 1]$ and condition (I). Let A, B, S and T be mappings of X into itself such that

- (1.8.1) $A(X) \subset T(X)$ and $B(X) \subset S(X)$,
- (1.8.2) (A, S) or (B, T) satisfies the property $(S - B)$,
- (1.8.3) there exists a constant $k \in (0, 1)$ such that

$$M^{2p}(Ax, By, kt) \geq \min \{ M^{2p}(Sx, Ty, t), M^q(Sx, Ax, t), M^{q'}(Ty, By, t), M^r(Sx, By, t), M^{r'}(Ty, Ax, (2 - \alpha)t), M^s(Sx, Ax, t), M^{s'}(Ty, Ax, (2 - \alpha)t), M^l(Sx, By, t), M^{l'}(Ty, By, t) \}$$

for all $x, y \in X, \alpha \geq 0, \alpha \in (0,2), t > 0$ and $0 < p, q, q', r, r', s, s', l, l' \leq 1$ such that

$$2p = q + q' = r + r' = s + s' = l + l'.$$

(1.8.4) the pairs (A, S) and (B, T) are weakly compatible

(1.8.5) one of $A(X), B(X), S(X)$ or $T(X)$ is a closed subset of X .

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

Sastry *et.al.* [9] proved the following theorem 1.9 and corollary 1.10 and obtained theorem 1.8 as a corollary to corollary 1.10.

Theorem 1.9: Let $(X, M, *)$ be a fuzzy metric space and $*$ be min t – norm with condition (I). Let A, B, S and T be mappings of X into itself such that

(1.9.1) $A(X) \subset T(X)$ and $B(X) \subset S(X)$, and one of $A(X), B(X), S(X)$ or $T(X)$ is a closed subset of X .

(1.9.2) (B, T) satisfies the property $(S - B)$,

(1.9.3) there exists a constant $k \in (0,1)$ and $\alpha \in (0,2)$, such that $k < \alpha, k + \alpha < 2$ and satisfies

$$M(Ax, By, kt) \geq \min \{M(Sx, Ty, t), M(Sx, Ax, t), M(Ty, By, t), M(Sx, By, \alpha t), M(Ty, Ax, (2 - \alpha)t)\} \quad \forall t > 0$$

(1.9.4) (A, S) and (B, T) are weakly compatible.

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

Corollary 1.10: Let $(X, M, *)$ be a fuzzy metric space and $*$ be min t – norm with condition (I). Let A, B, S and T be mappings of X into itself such that

(1.10.1) $A(X) \subset T(X)$ and $B(X) \subset S(X)$, and one of $A(X), B(X), S(X)$ or $T(X)$ is a closed subset of X .

(1.10.2) (B, T) satisfies the property $(S - B)$,

(1.10.3) there exists a constant $k \in (0,1), \mu > 0$ and $\alpha \in (0,2)$, such that $k < \alpha, k + \alpha < 2$, satisfying

$$M^\mu(Ax, By, kt) \geq \min \{M^\mu(Sx, Ty, t), M^\mu(Sx, Ax, t), M^\mu(Ty, By, t), M^\mu(Sx, By, \alpha t), M^\mu(Ty, Ax, (2 - \alpha)t)\}$$

(1.10.4) (A, S) and (B, T) are weakly compatible.

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

Further, in [9], the following open problem is raised.

Open problem 1.11: Is theorem 1.9 true if min t – norm is replaced by any continuous t – norm?

2. MAIN RESULT

In this section we present our main result and obtain theorem 1.9 (and consequently corollary 1.10). This answers the open problem 1.11 partially, in the affirmative.

Theorem 2.1: Let $(X, M, *)$ be a fuzzy metric space and $*$ be Hadzic type t – norm with condition (I). Let A, B, S and T be mappings of X into itself such that

(2.1.1) $A(X) \subset T(X)$ and $B(X) \subset S(X)$, and one of $A(X), B(X), S(X)$ or $T(X)$ is a closed subset of X .

(2.1.2) (A, S) or (B, T) satisfies the property $(S - B)$,

(2.1.3) there exists a constant $k \in (0,1)$ and $\alpha \in (0,2)$, such that $k < \alpha, k + \alpha < 2$ and satisfies

$$M(Ax, By, kt) \geq * \{M(Sx, Ty, t), M(Sx, Ax, t), M(Ty, By, t), M(Sx, By, \alpha t), M(Ty, Ax, (2 - \alpha)t)\}$$

(2.1.4) (A, S) and (B, T) are weakly compatible.

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

Proof: Without loss of generality we suppose that $T(X)$ is a closed and (B, T) satisfies the S-B property. Then there exists a sequence $\{x_n\}$ in X such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Bx_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Tx_n = z \text{ for some } z \in X. \quad (J)$$

Since $B(X) \subset S(X)$ there exists a sequence $\{y_n\}$ in X such that $Bx_n = Sy_n$.

Hence $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Sy_n = z$. Now we prove that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Ay_n = z$. By (2.1.3),

$$\begin{aligned} M(Ay_n, Bx_n, kt) &\geq * \{M(Sy_n, Tx_n, t), M(Sy_n, Ay_n, t), M(Tx_n, Bx_n, t), M(Sy_n, Bx_n, \alpha t), M(Tx_n, Ay_n, (2 - \alpha)t)\} \\ &= * \{M(Bx_n, Tx_n, t), M(Bx_n, Ay_n, t), M(Tx_n, Bx_n, t), M(Bx_n, Bx_n, \alpha t), M(Tx_n, Ay_n, (2 - \alpha)t)\} \\ &= * \{M(Tx_n, Bx_n, t), M(Bx_n, Ay_n, t), 1, M(Tx_n, Ay_n, (2 - \alpha)t)\} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf(M(Ay_n, Bx_n, kt)) &\geq * \{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf(M(Tx_n, Bx_n, t)), (Bx_n, Ay_n, t)\} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf(M(Tx_n, Ay_n, (2 - \alpha)t))\} \\ &= * \{1, \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf(M(z, Ay_n, t)), \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf(M(z, Ay_n, (2 - \alpha)t))\} \text{ (by (J))} \\ &\geq * \{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf(M(z, Ay_n, \lambda t)), \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf(M(z, Ay_n, \lambda t))\} \end{aligned}$$

where $\lambda = \min\{1, (2 - \alpha)\}$

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf(M(Ay_n, z, t)) &\geq * \{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf\left(M\left(z, Ay_n, \left(\frac{\lambda}{k}\right)t\right)\right), \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf\left(M\left(z, Ay_n, \left(\frac{\lambda}{k}\right)t\right)\right)\} \\ &\geq * \{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf\left(M\left(z, Ay_n, \left(\frac{\lambda}{k}\right)^2 t\right)\right), \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf\left(M\left(z, Ay_n, \left(\frac{\lambda}{k}\right)^2 t\right)\right), \\ &\quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf\left(M\left(z, Ay_n, \left(\frac{\lambda}{k}\right)^2 t\right)\right), \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf\left(M\left(z, Ay_n, \left(\frac{\lambda}{k}\right)^2 t\right)\right)\} \\ &= *^4 \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf\left(M\left(z, Ay_n, \left(\frac{\lambda}{k}\right)^2 t\right)\right) \\ &\dots \dots \dots \dots \dots \dots \dots \dots \dots \dots \dots \dots \dots \dots \dots \dots \\ &\geq *^{2^m} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf\left(M\left(z, Ay_n, \left(\frac{\lambda}{k}\right)^m t\right)\right) \end{aligned}$$

Since $*$ is of Hadzic type t – norm to $\varepsilon > 0 \exists \delta > 0 \ni x > 1 - \delta \Rightarrow *^p(x) > 1 - \varepsilon$ for $p \in \mathbb{N}$

$$*^{2^m} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf\left(M\left(z, Ay_n, \left(\frac{\lambda}{k}\right)^m t\right)\right) > 1 - \varepsilon$$

Whenever $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf\left(M\left(z, Ay_n, \left(\frac{\lambda}{k}\right)^m t\right)\right) > 1 - \delta$

To δ corresponds a $q \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \ni \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf\left(M\left(z, Ay_n, \left(\frac{\lambda}{k}\right)^m t\right)\right) > 1 - \delta$ if $m \geq q$ by (I)

$$\therefore *^{2^m} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf\left(M\left(z, Ay_n, \left(\frac{\lambda}{k}\right)^m t\right)\right) > 1 - \varepsilon \text{ if } m \geq q$$

$$\therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf(M(Ay_n, z, t)) \geq *^{2^m} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf\left(M\left(z, Ay_n, \left(\frac{\lambda}{k}\right)^m t\right)\right) > 1 - \varepsilon \text{ whenever } m \geq q \forall t > 0$$

$$\therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf(M(Ay_n, z, t)) \geq 1$$

$$\therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf(M(Ay_n, z, t)) = 1$$

$$\therefore Ay_n \rightarrow z$$

Since $T(X)$ is a closed subset of X , $\exists v \in X \ni Tv = z \in X$.

We have $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Ay_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Tx_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Sy_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Bx_n = Tv$.

By (2.1.3), $M(Ay_n, Bv, kt) \geq * \{M(Sy_n, Tv, t), M(Sy_n, Ay_n, t), M(Tv, Bv, t), M(Sy_n, Bv, \alpha t), M(Tv, Ay_n, (2 - \alpha)t)\}$

\therefore On letting $n \rightarrow \infty$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} M(z, Bv, kt) &\geq * \{M(z, Tv, t), M(z, z, t) M(z, Bv, t) M(z, Bv, \alpha t), M(z, z, (2 - \alpha)t)\} \\ &\geq * \{1, 1, M(z, Bv, t) M(z, Bv, \alpha t), 1\} \\ &= * \{M(z, Bv, t), M(z, Bv, \alpha t)\} \\ &\geq * \{M(z, Bv, \lambda t), M(z, Bv, \lambda t)\} \text{ where } \lambda = \min \{1, \alpha\} \end{aligned}$$

$$M(z, Bv, t) \geq *^2 M(z, Bv, (\frac{\lambda}{k})t) \geq *^{2^2} M(z, Bv, (\frac{\lambda}{k})^2 t) \geq \dots \geq *^{2^m} M(z, Bv, (\frac{\lambda}{k})^m t)$$

To $\varepsilon > 0 \exists \delta > 0 \ni *^{2^m} M(z, Bv, (\frac{\lambda}{k})^m t) > 1 - \varepsilon$ if $M(z, Bv, (\frac{\lambda}{k})^m t) > 1 - \delta$

To δ corresponds a $q \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \ni M(z, Bv, (\frac{\lambda}{k})^m t) > 1 - \delta$ if $m \geq q$

$\therefore m \geq q \Rightarrow *^{2^m} M(z, Bv, (\frac{\lambda}{k})^m t) > 1 - \varepsilon \forall t > 0$

$\therefore M(z, Bv, t) \geq 1 - \varepsilon$. This is true for every $t > 0$.

$\therefore M(z, Bv, t) \geq 1$.

$\therefore M(z, Bv, t) = 1$.

$\therefore Bv = z$.

$\therefore Tv = Bv = z$.

Since (B, T) is weakly compatible, $BTv = TBv \Rightarrow Bz = Tz$.

Since $B(X) \subset S(X)$, $\exists u \in X \ni Su = Bv$. By (2.1.3)

$$M(Au, Bv, kt) \geq * \{M(Su, Tv, t), M(Su, Au, t), M(Tv, Bv, t), M(Su, Bv, \alpha t), M(Tv, Au, (2 - \alpha)t)\}$$

$$M(Au, Tv, kt) \geq * \{M(Bv, Tv, t), M(Tv, Au, t), M(Tv, Bv, t), M(Tv, Bv, \alpha t), M(Tv, Au, (2 - \alpha)t)\}$$

$$= * \{1, M(Tv, Au, t), 1, 1, M(Tv, Au, (2 - \alpha)t)\}$$

$$\geq * \{M(Au, Tv, \lambda t), M(Au, Tv, \lambda t)\} \text{ where } \lambda = \min\{1, 2 - \alpha\}$$

$$M(Au, Tv, t) \geq *^2 M(Au, Tv, (\frac{\lambda}{k})t) \geq *^{2^2} M(Au, Tv, (\frac{\lambda}{k})^2 t) \geq \dots \geq *^{2^m} M(Au, Tv, (\frac{\lambda}{k})^m t)$$

To $\varepsilon > 0 \exists \delta > 0 \ni *^{2^m} M(Au, Tv, (\frac{\lambda}{k})^m t) > 1 - \varepsilon$ if $M(Au, Tv, (\frac{\lambda}{k})^m t) > 1 - \delta$

To δ corresponds a $q \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \ni M(Au, Tv, (\frac{\lambda}{k})^m t) > 1 - \delta$ if $m \geq q$

$\therefore m \geq q \Rightarrow *^{2^m} M(Au, Tv, (\frac{\lambda}{k})^m t) > 1 - \varepsilon \forall t > 0$

$\therefore M(Au, Tv, kt) \geq 1 - \varepsilon$. This is true for every $t > 0$.

$\therefore M(Au, Tv, t) \geq 1$.

$\therefore M(Au, Tv, t) = 1$.

$$\therefore Au = Tv.$$

Since (A, S) is weakly compatible, we have $ASu = SAu \Rightarrow Az = Sz$.

$$\text{By (2.1.3), } M(Au, Bz, kt) \geq * \{M(Su, Tz, t), M(Su, Au, t), M(Tz, Bz, t), M(Su, Bz, \alpha t), M(Tz, Au, (2 - \alpha)t)\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore M(z, Tz, kt) &\geq * \{M(z, Tz, t), M(Au, Au, t), M(Tz, Tz, t), M(z, Tz, \alpha t), M(Tv, Au, (2 - \alpha)t)\} \\ &= * M(z, Tz, t), 1, 1, M(z, Tz, \alpha t), M(Tz, z, (2 - \alpha)t) \\ &= * \{M(z, Tz, t), M(z, Tz, \alpha t), M(Tz, z, (2 - \alpha)t)\} \\ &\geq * \{M(z, Tz, \lambda t), M(z, Tz, \lambda t), M(z, Tz, \lambda t)\} \text{ where } \lambda = \min \{1, \alpha, (2 - \alpha)\} \\ &= *^3 M(z, Tz, \lambda t) \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore M(z, Tz, t) \geq *^3 M(z, Tz, (\frac{\lambda}{k})t) \geq *^{3^2} M(z, Tz, (\frac{\lambda}{k})^2 t) \geq \dots \geq *^{3^m} M(z, Tz, (\frac{\lambda}{k})^m t)$$

$$\text{To } \varepsilon > 0 \exists \delta > 0 \exists *^{3^m} M(z, Tz, (\frac{\lambda}{k})^m t) > 1 - \varepsilon \text{ if } M(z, Tz, (\frac{\lambda}{k})^m t) > 1 - \delta$$

$$\text{To } \delta \text{ corresponds a } q \in z^+ \ni M(z, Tz, (\frac{\lambda}{k})^m t) > 1 - \delta \text{ if } m \geq q$$

$$\therefore m \geq q \Rightarrow *^{3^m} M(z, Tz, (\frac{\lambda}{k})^m t) > 1 - \varepsilon \forall t > 0$$

$$\therefore M(z, Tz, t) \geq 1 - \varepsilon$$

$$\therefore M(z, Tz, t) \geq 1$$

$$\therefore M(z, Tz, t) = 1$$

$$\therefore z = Tz.$$

Now, in a similar way we can show that $Az = z$.

$$\therefore z = Tz = Bz = Sz = Az.$$

$\Rightarrow z$ is a common fixed point of A, B, S and T .

Uniqueness: Let p, q be two common fixed points of A, B, S and T .

$$\text{Then by (2.1.3), } M(Ap, Bq, kt) \geq * \{M(Sp, Tq, t), M(Sp, Ap, t), M(Tq, Bq, t), M(Sp, Bq, \alpha t), M(Tq, Ap, (2 - \alpha)t)\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\geq * \{M(p, q, t), M(p, p, t), M(q, q, t), M(p, q, \alpha t), M(q, p, (2 - \alpha)t)\} \\ &\geq * \{M(p, q, t), 1, 1, M(p, q, \alpha t), M(q, p, (2 - \alpha)t)\} \\ &\geq * \{M(p, q, t), M(p, q, \alpha t), M(q, p, (2 - \alpha)t)\} \\ &\geq * \{M(p, q, \lambda t), M(p, q, \lambda t), M(p, q, \lambda t)\} \text{ where } \lambda = \min\{1, \alpha, (2 - \alpha)\} \end{aligned}$$

$$M(p, q, t) \geq *^3 M(p, q, (\frac{\lambda}{k})t) \geq *^{3^2} M(p, q, (\frac{\lambda}{k})^2 t) \geq \dots \geq *^{3^m} M(p, q, (\frac{\lambda}{k})^m t)$$

$$\text{To } \varepsilon > 0 \exists \delta > 0 \exists *^{3^m} M(p, q, (\frac{\lambda}{k})^m t) > 1 - \varepsilon \text{ if } M(p, q, (\frac{\lambda}{k})^m t) > 1 - \delta$$

$$\text{To } \delta \text{ corresponds a } q \in z^+ \ni M(p, q, (\frac{\lambda}{k})^m t) > 1 - \delta \text{ if } m \geq q$$

$$\therefore m \geq q \Rightarrow *^{3^m} M(p, q, (\frac{\lambda}{k})^m t) > 1 - \varepsilon \forall t > 0$$

$$\therefore M(p, q, t) \geq 1 - \varepsilon$$

$$\therefore M(p, q, t) \geq 1$$

$$\therefore M(p, q, t) = 1$$

$\therefore p = q$. This completes the proof of the theorem.

Note: Theorem 1.9 follows as a corollary to theorem (2.1), if $k < \alpha < 1$ and $k + \alpha < 2$, since $t * t \geq t$ for all $t > 0 \Rightarrow *$ is the *mint – norm*.

We conclude the paper with two open problems.

Open problem1: Is theorem 2.1 true if either $k < \alpha$ or $k + \alpha < 2$ is violated.

Open problem2: Is theorem 2.1 true if $*$ is continuous t –norm (not necessarily Hadzic type t – norm)?

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