

## Research Article

# Existence Theorems for Generalized Distance on Complete Metric Spaces

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We first introduce the new concept of a distance called  $u$ -distance, which generalizes  $w$ -distance, Tataru's distance, and  $\tau$ -distance. Then we prove a new minimization theorem and a new fixed point theorem by using a  $u$ -distance on a complete metric space. Our results extend and unify many known results due to Caristi, Ćirić, Ekeland, Kada-Suzuki-Takahashi, Kannan, Ume, and others.

## 1. Introduction

The Banach contraction principle [1], Ekeland's  $\varepsilon$ -variational principle [2], and Caristi's fixed point theorem [3] are very useful tools in nonlinear analysis, control theory, economic theory, and global analysis. These theorems are extended by several authors in different directions.

Takahashi [4] proved the following minimization theorem. Let  $X$  be a complete metric space and let  $f : X \rightarrow (-\infty, \infty]$  be a proper lower semicontinuous function, bounded from below. Suppose that, for each  $u \in X$  with  $f(u) > \inf_{x \in X} f(x)$ , there exists  $v \in X$  such that  $v \neq u$  and  $f(v) + d(u, v) \leq f(u)$ . Then there exists  $x_0 \in X$  such that  $f(x_0) = \inf_{x \in X} f(x)$ . Some authors [5–7] have generalized and extended this minimization theorem in complete metric spaces.

In 1996, Kada et al. [5] introduced the concept of  $w$ -distance on a metric space as follows. Let  $X$  be a metric space with metric  $d$ . Then a function  $p : X \times X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  is called a  $w$ -distance on  $X$  if the followings are satisfied.

- (1)  $p(x, z) \leq p(x, y) + p(y, z)$  for any  $x, y, z \in X$ .
- (2) For any  $x \in X$ ,  $p(x, \cdot) : X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  is lower semicontinuous.
- (3) For any  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that  $p(z, x) \leq \delta$  and  $p(z, y) \leq \delta$  imply  $d(x, y) \leq \varepsilon$ .

They gave some examples of  $w$ -distance and improved Caristi's fixed point theorem [3], Ekeland's variational principle [2], and Takahashi's nonconvex minimization theorem [4]. The fixed point theorems with respect to a  $w$ -distance were proved in [8–12].

Throughout this paper we denote by  $\mathbb{N}$  the set of all positive integers, by  $\mathbb{R}$  the set of all real numbers, and by  $\mathbb{R}_+$  the set of all nonnegative real numbers.

Recently, Suzuki [6] introduced the concept of  $\tau$ -distance on a metric space, which generalizes Tataru's distance [13] as follows. Let  $X$  be a metric space with metric  $d$ .

Then a function  $p$  from  $X \times X$  into  $\mathbb{R}_+$  is called  $\tau$ -distance on  $X$  if there exists a function  $\eta$  from  $X \times \mathbb{R}_+$  into  $\mathbb{R}_+$  and the followings are satisfied:

- ( $\tau 1$ )  $p(x, z) \leq p(x, y) + p(y, z)$  for all  $x, y, z \in X$ ;
- ( $\tau 2$ )  $\eta(x, 0) = 0$  and  $\eta(x, t) \geq t$  for all  $x \in X$  and  $t \in \mathbb{R}_+$ , and  $\eta$  is concave and continuous in its second variable;
- ( $\tau 3$ )  $\lim_n x_n = x$  and  $\lim_n \sup\{\eta(z_n, p(z_n, x_m)) : m \geq n\} = 0$  imply  $p(w, x) \leq \lim_n \inf_n p(w, x_n)$  for all  $w \in X$ ;
- ( $\tau 4$ )  $\lim_n \sup\{p(x_n, y_m) : m \geq n\} = 0$  and  $\lim_n \eta(x_n, t_n) = 0$  imply  $\lim_n \eta(y_n, t_n) = 0$ ;
- ( $\tau 5$ )  $\lim_n \eta(z_n, p(z_n, x_n)) = 0$  and  $\lim_n \eta(z_n, p(z_n, y_n)) = 0$  imply  $\lim_n d(x_n, y_n) = 0$ .

In this paper, we first introduce the new concept of a distance called  $u$ -distance, which generalizes  $w$ -distance, Tataru's distance, and  $\tau$ -distance. Then we prove a new minimization theorem and a new fixed point theorem by using  $u$ -distance on a complete metric space. Our results extend and unify many known results due to Caristi [3], Ćirić [14], Ekeland [2], Takahashi [4], Kada et al. [5], Kannan [15], Suzuki [6], and Ume [7, 12] and others.

## 2. Preliminaries

*Definition 2.1.* Let  $X$  be metric space with metric  $d$ . Then a function  $p$  from  $X \times X$  into  $\mathbb{R}_+$  is called  $u$ -distance on  $X$  if there exists a function  $\theta$  from  $X \times X \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}_+$  into  $\mathbb{R}_+$  such that

- (u1)  $p(x, z) \leq p(x, y) + p(y, z)$  for all  $x, y, z \in X$ ;
- (u2)  $\theta(x, y, 0, 0) = 0$  and  $\theta(x, y, s, t) \geq \min\{s, t\}$  for all  $x, y \in X$  and  $s, t \in \mathbb{R}_+$ , and for any  $x \in X$  and for every  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that  $|s - s_0| < \delta$ ,  $|t - t_0| < \delta$ ,  $s, s_0, t, t_0 \in \mathbb{R}_+$  and  $y \in X$  imply

$$|\theta(x, y, s, t) - \theta(x, y, s_0, t_0)| < \varepsilon; \quad (2.1)$$

(u3)

$$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x, \\ & \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup\{\theta(w_n, z_n, p(w_n, x_m), p(z_n, x_m)) : m \geq n\} = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (2.2)$$

imply

$$p(y, x) \leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \inf p(y, x_n) \quad (2.3)$$

for all  $y \in X$ ;

(u4)

$$\begin{aligned}
\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \{p(x_n, w_m) : m \geq n\} &= 0, \\
\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \{p(y_n, z_m) : m \geq n\} &= 0, \\
\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \theta(x_n, w_n, s_n, t_n) &= 0, \\
\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \theta(y_n, z_n, s_n, t_n) &= 0
\end{aligned} \tag{2.4}$$

imply

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \theta(w_n, z_n, s_n, t_n) = 0 \tag{2.5}$$

or

$$\begin{aligned}
\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \{p(w_m, x_n) : m \geq n\} &= 0, \\
\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \{p(z_m, y_n) : m \geq n\} &= 0, \\
\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \theta(x_n, w_n, s_n, t_n) &= 0, \\
\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \theta(y_n, z_n, s_n, t_n) &= 0
\end{aligned} \tag{2.6}$$

imply

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \theta(w_n, z_n, s_n, t_n) = 0; \tag{2.7}$$

(u5)

$$\begin{aligned}
\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \theta(w_n, z_n, p(w_n, x_n), p(z_n, x_n)) &= 0, \\
\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \theta(w_n, z_n, p(w_n, y_n), p(z_n, y_n)) &= 0
\end{aligned} \tag{2.8}$$

imply

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d(x_n, y_n) = 0 \tag{2.9}$$

or

$$\begin{aligned}
\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \theta(a_n, b_n, p(x_n, a_n), p(x_n, b_n)) &= 0, \\
\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \theta(a_n, b_n, p(y_n, a_n), p(y_n, b_n)) &= 0
\end{aligned} \tag{2.10}$$

imply

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d(x_n, y_n) = 0. \tag{2.11}$$

*Remark 2.2.* Suppose that  $\theta : X \times X \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  is a mapping satisfying (u2)~(u5). Then there exists a mapping  $\eta$  from  $X \times X \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}_+$  into  $\mathbb{R}_+$  such that  $\eta$  is nondecreasing in its third and fourth variable, respectively, satisfying  $(u2)\eta \sim (u5)\eta$ , where  $(u2)\eta \sim (u5)\eta$  stand for substituting  $\eta$  for  $\theta$  in (u2)~(u5), respectively.

*Proof.* Suppose that  $\theta : X \times X \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  is a mapping satisfying (u2)~(u5). Define a function  $\eta : X \times X \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  by

$$\eta(x, y, s, t) = s + t + \sup\{\theta(x, y, \alpha, \beta) : 0 \leq \alpha \leq s, 0 \leq \beta \leq t\} \quad (2.12)$$

for all  $x, y \in X$  and  $s, t \in \mathbb{R}_+$ .

By (2.12), we have  $\eta(x, y, 0, 0) = 0$  and  $\eta(x, y, s, t) \geq \min\{s, t\}$  for all  $x, y \in X$  and  $s, t \in \mathbb{R}_+$ . Also it follows from (2.12) that  $\eta$  is nondecreasing in its third and fourth variable, respectively.

We shall prove the following:

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{for any } x \in X \text{ and for every } \varepsilon > 0, \text{ there exists } \delta > 0 \text{ such that} \\ &|s - s'| < \delta, |t - t'| < \delta, s, s', t, t' \in \mathbb{R}_+ \text{ and } y \in X \text{ imply} \quad (2.13) \\ &|\eta(x, y, s, t) - \eta(x, y, s', t')| < \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Suppose that (2.13) does not hold. Then

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{there exists } x' \in X, \varepsilon' > 0, \text{ sequences } \{s_n\}, \{s'_n\}, \{t_n\}, \text{ and } \{t'_n\} \\ &\text{of } \mathbb{R}_+, \text{ and sequence } \{y_n\} \text{ of } X \text{ such that } |s_n - s'_n| < \frac{1}{n}, \quad (2.14) \\ &|t_n - t'_n| < \frac{1}{n}, \text{ and } |\eta(x', y_n, s_n, t_n) - \eta(x', y_n, s'_n, t'_n)| \\ &\geq \varepsilon' \text{ for all } n \in \mathbb{N}. \end{aligned}$$

By virtue of (2.12) and (2.14), we have

$$\begin{aligned} 0 < \varepsilon' &\leq |\eta(x', y_n, s_n, t_n) - \eta(x', y_n, s'_n, t'_n)| \\ &= | \{ (s_n + t_n) + \sup[\theta(x', y_n, \alpha, \beta) \mid 0 \leq \alpha \leq s_n, 0 \leq \beta \leq t_n] \} \\ &\quad - \{ (s'_n + t'_n) + \sup[\theta(x', y_n, \alpha, \beta) \mid 0 \leq \alpha \leq s'_n, 0 \leq \beta \leq t'_n] \} | \\ &\leq |s_n - s'_n| + |t_n - t'_n| \\ &\quad + |\sup[\theta(x', y_n, \alpha, \beta) \mid 0 \leq \alpha \leq s_n, 0 \leq \beta \leq t_n] \\ &\quad - \sup[\theta(x', y_n, \alpha, \beta) \mid 0 \leq \alpha \leq s'_n, 0 \leq \beta \leq t'_n]| \quad (2.15) \\ &< \frac{2}{n} + \sup \left[ \theta(x', y_n, \alpha, \beta) \mid 0 \leq \alpha \leq s_n + \frac{1}{n}, 0 \leq \beta \leq t_n + \frac{1}{n} \right] \\ &\quad - \sup \left[ \theta(x', y_n, \alpha, \beta) \mid 0 \leq \alpha \leq s_n - \frac{1}{n}, 0 \leq \beta \leq t_n - \frac{1}{n} \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Combining (u2) and (2.14), we have the following:

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{for some } x' \in X \text{ and for every } \varepsilon > 0, \text{ there exists } \delta > 0, \text{ such that} \\ &|s - s'| < \delta, |t - t'| < \delta, s, s', t, t' \in \mathbb{R}_+ \text{ and } y \in X \text{ imply} \\ &|\theta(x', y, s, t) - \theta(x', y, s', t')| < \frac{\varepsilon}{4}. \end{aligned} \quad (2.16)$$

Due to (2.16), we get that

$$\text{for this } \delta > 0, \text{ there exists } M \in \mathbb{N} \text{ such that } n \geq M \text{ implies } \frac{2}{n} < \delta. \quad (2.17)$$

From (2.16) and (2.17), we obtain the following.

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{for every } \varepsilon > 0, \text{ there exists } M \in \mathbb{N} \text{ such that } n \geq M \text{ implies} \\ &s_n - \frac{\delta}{2} < s_n - \frac{1}{n} < s_n < s_n + \frac{1}{n} < s_n + \frac{\delta}{2}, \\ &t_n - \frac{\delta}{2} < t_n - \frac{1}{n} < t_n < t_n + \frac{1}{n} < t_n + \frac{\delta}{2}. \end{aligned} \quad (2.18)$$

For each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , let

$$l_{1,n} = \sup \left[ \theta(x', y_n, \alpha, \beta) \mid 0 \leq \alpha \leq s_n - \frac{1}{n}, 0 \leq \beta \leq t_n - \frac{1}{n} \right]. \quad (2.19)$$

For each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , let

$$l_{2,n} = \sup \left[ \theta(x', y_n, \alpha, \beta) \mid 0 \leq \alpha \leq s_n + \frac{1}{n}, 0 \leq \beta \leq t_n + \frac{1}{n} \right]. \quad (2.20)$$

In terms of (2.19) and (2.20), we deduce that

$$l_{1,n} \leq l_{2,n} \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}. \quad (2.21)$$

In view of (2.21), we get that

$$\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} l_{1,n} \leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} l_{2,n}. \quad (2.22)$$

On account of (2.20), we know the following:

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{for each } n \in \mathbb{N} \text{ and for every } \varepsilon > 0, \text{ there exists} \\ &\alpha_n \in \left[ 0, s_n + \frac{1}{n} \right] \text{ and } \beta_n \in \left[ 0, t_n + \frac{1}{n} \right] \text{ such that} \\ &l_{2,n} - \varepsilon < \theta(x', y_n, \alpha_n, \beta_n). \end{aligned} \quad (2.23)$$

Using (2.16), (2.18), (2.19), and (2.23), we have the following:

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{for every } \varepsilon > 0, \text{ there exists } M \in \mathbb{N} \text{ such that} \\ &l_{2,n} - \varepsilon < l_{1,n} + \frac{\varepsilon}{2}, \quad \text{for all } n \in \mathbb{N} \text{ with } M \leq n. \end{aligned} \quad (2.24)$$

By (2.24), we have

$$\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} l_{2,n} \leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} l_{1,n}. \quad (2.25)$$

By virtue of (2.15), (2.19), (2.20), (2.22), and (2.25), we have  $0 < \varepsilon' \leq 0$  which is a contradiction. Hence (u2) $_{\eta}$  holds. From (2.12) and (u2)~(u5), it follows that (u3) $_{\eta}$ ~(u5) $_{\eta}$  are satisfied.  $\square$

*Remark 2.3.* From Remark 2.2, we may assume that  $\theta$  is nondecreasing in its third and fourth variables, respectively, for a function  $\theta : X \times X \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  satisfying (u2)~(u5).

We give some examples of  $u$ -distance.

*Example 2.4.* Let  $X = [0, \infty)$  be the set of real numbers with the usual metric and let  $p : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  be defined by  $p(x, y) = (1/4)x^2$ . Then  $p$  is a  $u$ -distance on  $X$  but not a  $\tau$ -distance on  $X$ .

*Proof.* Define  $\theta : X \times X \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  by  $\theta(x, y, s, t) = s$  for all  $x, y \in X$  and  $s, t \in \mathbb{R}_+$ . Then  $p$  and  $\theta$  satisfy (u1)~(u5). But for an arbitrary function  $\eta : X \times \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  and for all sequences  $\{z_n\}$ ,  $\{x_n\}$ , and  $\{y_n\}$  of  $X$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \eta(z_n, p(z_n, x_n)) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \eta\left(z_n, \frac{1}{4}(z_n)^2\right), \\ 0 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \eta(z_n, p(z_n, y_n)) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \eta\left(z_n, \frac{1}{4}(z_n)^2\right), \end{aligned} \quad (2.26)$$

since the limit of the sequence  $\{\eta(z_n, p(z_n, x_n))\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  and the limit of the sequence  $\{\eta(z_n, p(z_n, y_n))\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  do not depend on  $\{x_n\}$  and  $\{y_n\}$ , the limit of the sequence  $\{d(x_n, y_n)\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  may not be 0. This does not satisfy ( $\tau$ 5). Hence  $p$  is not a  $\tau$ -distance on  $X$ . Therefore  $p$  is a  $u$ -distance on  $X$  but not a  $\tau$ -distance on  $X$ .  $\square$

*Example 2.5.* Let  $p$  be a  $\tau$ -distance on a metric space  $(X, d)$ . Then  $p$  is also a  $u$ -distance on  $X$ .

*Proof.* Since  $p$  is a  $\tau$ -distance, there exists a function  $\eta : X \times \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  satisfying ( $\tau$ 1)~( $\tau$ 5). Define  $\theta : X \times X \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  by

$$\theta(x, y, s, t) = \left[ \frac{2 + \eta(x, p(x, y))}{1 + \eta(x, p(x, y))} \right] \cdot s \quad \forall x, y \in X, s, t \in \mathbb{R}_+. \quad (2.27)$$

Then it is easy to see that  $p$  and  $\theta$  satisfy (u2)~(u5). Thus  $p$  is a  $u$ -distance on  $X$ .  $\square$

*Example 2.6.* Let  $X$  be a normed space with norm  $\|\cdot\|$ . Then a function  $p : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  defined by  $p(x, y) = \|x\|$  for every  $x, y \in X$  is a  $u$ -distance on  $X$  but not a  $\tau$ -distance.

*Proof.* Let  $\theta : X \times X \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  be as in the proof of Example 2.4. Then it is clear that  $p$  satisfies (u1) and  $\theta$  satisfies (u2)~(u5) on  $X$  but  $p$  does not satisfy ( $\tau$ 5). Thus  $p$  is a  $u$ -distance on  $X$  but not a  $\tau$ -distance.  $\square$

*Example 2.7.* Let  $X$  be a normed space with norm  $\|\cdot\|$ . Then a function  $p : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  defined by  $p(x, y) = \|y\|$  for every  $x, y \in X$  is a  $u$ -distance on  $X$ .

*Proof.* Define  $\theta : X \times X \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  by  $\theta(x, y, s, t) = s + t$  for all  $x, y \in X$  and  $s, t \in \mathbb{R}_+$ . Then  $p$  satisfies (u1) and  $\theta$  satisfies (u2)~(u5). Thus  $p$  is a  $u$ -distance on  $X$ .  $\square$

*Example 2.8.* Let  $p$  be a  $u$ -distance on a metric space  $(X, d)$  and let  $c$  be a positive real number. Then a function  $q$  from  $X \times X$  into  $\mathbb{R}_+$  defined by  $q(x, y) = c \cdot p(x, y)$  for every  $x, y \in X$  is also a  $u$ -distance on  $X$ .

*Proof.* Since  $p$  is a  $u$ -distance on  $X$ , there exists a function  $\eta : X \times X \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  satisfying (u2) $_{\eta}$ ~(u5) $_{\eta}$  and  $p$  satisfies (u1). Define  $\theta : X \times X \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  by  $\theta(x, y, s, t) = c \cdot \eta(x, y, s, t)$  for all  $x, y \in X$  and  $s, t \in \mathbb{R}_+$ . Then it is clear that  $q$  satisfies (u1) and  $\theta$  satisfies (u2)~(u5). Thus  $q$  is a  $u$ -distance on  $X$ .  $\square$

The following examples can be easily obtained from Remark 2.3.

*Example 2.9.* Let  $X$  be a metric space with metric  $d$  and let  $p$  be a  $u$ -distance on  $X$  such that  $p$  is a lower semicontinuous in its first variable. Then a function  $q : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  defined by  $q(x, y) = \max\{p(x, y), p(y, x)\}$  for all  $x, y \in X$  is a  $u$ -distance on  $X$ .

*Example 2.10.* Let  $X$  be a metric space with metric  $d$ . Let  $p$  be a  $u$ -distance on  $X$  and let  $\alpha$  be a function from  $X$  into  $\mathbb{R}_+$ . Then a function  $q : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  defined by

$$q(x, y) = \max\{\alpha(x), p(x, y)\}, \quad \text{for every } x, y \in X \quad (2.28)$$

is a  $u$ -distance on  $X$ .

*Remark 2.11.* It follows from Example 2.4 to Example 2.10 that  $u$ -distance is a proper extension of  $\tau$ -distance.

*Definition 2.12.* Let  $X$  be a metric space with a metric  $d$  and let  $p$  be a  $u$ -distance on  $X$ . Then a sequence  $\{x_n\}$  of  $X$  is called  $p$ -Cauchy if there exists a function  $\theta : X \times X \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  satisfying (u2)~(u5) and a sequence  $\{z_n\}$  of  $X$  such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup \{\theta(z_n, z_n, p(z_n, x_m), p(z_n, x_m)) : m \geq n\} = 0, \quad (2.29)$$

or

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup \{\theta(z_n, z_n, p(x_m, z_n), p(x_m, z_n)) : m \geq n\} = 0. \quad (2.30)$$

The following lemmas play an important role in proving our theorems.

**Lemma 2.13.** *Let  $X$  be a metric space with a metric  $d$  and let  $p$  be a  $u$ -distance on  $X$ . If  $\{x_n\}$  is a  $p$ -Cauchy sequence, then  $\{x_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence.*

*Proof.* By assumption, there exists a function  $\theta$  from  $X \times X \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}_+$  into  $\mathbb{R}_+$  satisfying (u2)~(u5) and a sequence  $\{z_n\}$  of  $X$  such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup \{ \theta(z_n, z_n, p(z_n, x_m), p(z_n, x_m)) : m \geq n \} = 0, \quad (2.31)$$

or

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup \{ \theta(z_n, z_n, p(x_m, z_n), p(x_m, z_n)) : m \geq n \} = 0. \quad (2.32)$$

Then from (u5), we have  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup \{ d(x_i, x_j) : j > i \geq n \} = 0$ . This means that  $\{x_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.14.** *Let  $X$  be a metric space with a metric  $d$  and let  $p$  be a  $u$ -distance on  $X$ .*

- (1) *If sequences  $\{x_n\}$  and  $\{y_n\}$  of  $X$  satisfy  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p(z, x_n) = 0$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p(z, y_n) = 0$  for some  $z \in X$ , then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d(x_n, y_n) = 0$ .*
- (2) *If  $p(z, x) = 0$  and  $p(z, y) = 0$ , then  $x = y$ .*
- (3) *Suppose that sequences  $\{x_n\}$  and  $\{y_n\}$  of  $X$  satisfy  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p(x_n, z) = 0$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p(y_n, z) = 0$  for some  $z \in X$ , then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d(x_n, y_n) = 0$ .*
- (4) *If  $p(x, z) = 0$  and  $p(y, z) = 0$ , then  $x = y$ .*

*Proof.* (1) Let  $\theta$  be a function from  $X \times X \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}_+$  into  $\mathbb{R}_+$  satisfying (u2)~(u5). From Remark 2.3 and hypotheses,

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \theta(z, z, p(z, x_n), p(z, x_n)) &= 0, \\ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \theta(z, z, p(z, y_n), p(z, y_n)) &= 0. \end{aligned} \quad (2.33)$$

By (u5),  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d(x_n, y_n) = 0$ .

(2) In (1), putting  $x_n = x$  and  $y_n = y$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , (2) holds.

By method similar to (1) and (2), results of (3) and (4) follow.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.15.** *Let  $X$  be a metric space with a metric  $d$  and let  $p$  be a  $u$ -distance on  $X$ . Suppose that a sequence  $\{x_n\}$  of  $X$  satisfies*

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup \{ p(x_n, x_m) : m > n \} = 0 \quad (2.34)$$

or

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup \{ p(x_m, x_n) : m > n \} = 0. \quad (2.35)$$

*Then  $\{x_n\}$  is a  $p$ -Cauchy sequence and  $\{x_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence.*

*Proof.* Since  $p$  is a  $u$ -distance on  $X$ , there exists a function  $\theta : X \times X \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  satisfying (u2)~(u5). Suppose  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup\{p(x_n, x_m) : m > n\} = 0$ . Let  $\alpha_n = \sup\{p(x_i, x_j) : j > i \geq n\}$ . Then we have  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \alpha_n = 0$ . Let  $\{x_{f(n)}\}$  be an arbitrary subsequence of  $\{x_n\}$ . By assumption and (u2), there exists a subsequence  $\{x_{f(g(n))}\}$  of  $\{x_{f(n)}\}$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \theta(x_{f(g(n))}, x_{f(g(n+1))}, \alpha_{f(g(n+1))}, \alpha_{f(g(n+1))}) &= 0, \\ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup \left\{ \sup_{m \geq n} p(x_{f(g(n))}, x_{f(g(m+1))}) \right\} &\leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \alpha_{f(g(n))} = 0. \end{aligned} \quad (2.36)$$

From (u4), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \theta(x_{f(g(n))}, x_{f(g(n))}, \alpha_{f(g(n))}, \alpha_{f(g(n))}) \\ = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \theta(x_{f(g(n+1))}, x_{f(g(n+1))}, \alpha_{f(g(n+1))}, \alpha_{f(g(n+1))}) &= 0. \end{aligned} \quad (2.37)$$

Since  $\{x_{f(n)}\}$  is an arbitrary sequence of  $\{x_n\}$ ,  $\{x_{f(g(n))}\}$  is also an arbitrary sequence of  $\{x_n\}$ . Hence

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \theta(x_n, x_n, \alpha_n, \alpha_n) = 0. \quad (2.38)$$

Therefore we get

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{m \geq n} \theta(x_{n-1}, x_{n-1}, p(x_{n-1}, x_m), p(x_{n-1}, x_m)) \\ \leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \theta(x_{n-1}, x_{n-1}, \alpha_{n-1}, \alpha_{n-1}) = 0. \end{aligned} \quad (2.39)$$

This implies that  $\{x_n\}$  is a  $p$ -Cauchy sequence. By Lemma 2.13,  $\{x_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence. Similarly, if  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup\{p(x_m, x_n) : m > n\} = 0$ , we can prove that  $\{x_n\}$  is also a Cauchy sequence.  $\square$

### 3. Minimization Theorems and Fixed Point Theorems

The following theorem is a generalization of Takahashi's minimization theorem [4].

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $X$  be a metric space with metric  $d$ , let  $f : X \rightarrow (-\infty, \infty]$  be a proper function which is bounded from below, and let  $L : X \times X \times X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  be a function such that,*

one has the following.

- (i)  $L(x, y, y, x) \leq L(x, z, z, x) + L(z, y, y, z)$  for all  $x, y, z \in X$ .  
(ii) For any sequence  $\{v_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  in  $X$  satisfying

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup \{L(v_n, v_m, v_m, v_n) : m > n\} = 0, \quad (3.1)$$

there exists  $x_0 \in X$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} v_n = x_0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} f(x_0) &\leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup f(v_n), \\ L(v_n, x_0, x_0, v_n) &\leq \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \inf L(v_n, v_m, v_m, v_n). \end{aligned} \quad (3.2)$$

- (iii)  $L(x, y, y, x) = L(x, z, z, x) = 0$  imply  $y = z$ .  
(iv) For every  $x \in X$  with  $\inf_{v \in X} f(v) < f(x)$ , there exists  $y \in X - \{x\}$  such that

$$h(x, y) \leq f(x) - f(y), \quad (3.3)$$

where a function  $h : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  is defined by

$$h(v, w) = L(v, w, w, v) \quad (3.4)$$

for all  $v, w \in X$ . Then, there exists  $x_0 \in X$  such that

$$f(x_0) = \inf_{v \in X} f(v). \quad (3.5)$$

*Proof.* Suppose  $\inf_{v \in X} f(v) < f(x)$  for all  $x \in X$ . For each  $x \in X$ , let

$$S(x) = \{v \in X \mid h(x, v) \leq f(x) - f(v)\}. \quad (3.6)$$

Then, by condition (iv) and (3.6),  $S(x)$  is nonempty for each  $x \in X$ . From condition (i) and (3.6), we obtain

$$S(v) \subseteq S(x), \quad \text{for each } v \in S(x). \quad (3.7)$$

For each  $x \in X$ , let

$$c(x) = \inf\{f(v) \mid v \in S(x)\}. \quad (3.8)$$

Choose  $x \in X$  with  $f(x) < \infty$ . Then, from (3.7) and (3.8), there exists a sequence  $\{x_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  in  $X$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 = x, \quad x_{n+1} \in S(x_n), \quad S(x_n) \subseteq S(x), \\ f(x_{n+1}) < c(x_n) + \frac{1}{n} \end{aligned} \tag{3.9}$$

for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

From (3.6), (3.8) and (3.9), we have

$$h(x_n, x_{n+1}) \leq f(x_n) - f(x_{n+1}), \tag{3.10}$$

$$f(x_{n+1}) - \frac{1}{n} < c(x_n) \leq f(x_{n+1}). \tag{3.11}$$

By (3.10),  $\{f(x_n)\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  is a nonincreasing sequence of real numbers and so it converges. Therefore, from (3.11) there is some  $\beta \in \mathbb{R}$  such that

$$\beta = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} c(x_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n). \tag{3.12}$$

From condition (i) and (3.10), we get

$$h(x_n, x_m) \leq f(x_n) - f(x_m) \tag{3.13}$$

for all  $m > n$ . From (3.12) and (3.13), we have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup \{L(x_n, x_m, x_m, x_n) : m > n\} = 0. \tag{3.14}$$

Thus, by condition (ii), (3.12), and (3.13), there exists  $x_0 \in X$  such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x_0, \tag{3.15}$$

$$f(x_0) \leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) = \beta, \tag{3.16}$$

$$h(x_n, x_0) \leq \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \inf h(x_n, x_m). \tag{3.17}$$

From (3.13), (3.16), and (3.17), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 f(x_0) &\leq \beta = \limsup_{m \rightarrow \infty} f(x_m) \\
 &\leq \limsup_{m \rightarrow \infty} \{f(x_n) - h(x_n, x_m)\} \\
 &= f(x_n) + \limsup_{m \rightarrow \infty} \{-h(x_n, x_m)\} \\
 &= f(x_n) - \liminf_{m \rightarrow \infty} h(x_n, x_m) \\
 &\leq f(x_n) - h(x_n, x_0).
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.18}$$

From (3.6), (3.8), and (3.18), it follows that

$$x_0 \in S(x_n) \text{ and hence } c(x_n) \leq f(x_0), \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}. \tag{3.19}$$

Taking the limit in inequality (3.19) when  $n$  tends to infinity, we have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} c(x_n) \leq f(x_0). \tag{3.20}$$

From (3.12), (3.16), and (3.20), we have

$$\beta = f(x_0). \tag{3.21}$$

On the other hand, by condition (iv) and (3.6), we have the following property:

$$\text{there exists } v_1 \in X - \{x_0\}, \text{ satisfying } v_1 \in S(x_0). \tag{3.22}$$

From (3.7), (3.8), (3.19), and (3.22), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 v_1 &\in S(x_n), \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, \\
 c(x_n) &\leq f(v_1).
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.23}$$

From (3.6), (3.12), (3.21), (3.22), (3.23), it follows that

$$\beta = f(v_1). \tag{3.24}$$

From (3.21), (3.22), and (3.24), we have

$$L(x_0, v_1, v_1, x_0) = 0. \tag{3.25}$$

By method similar to (3.22)~(3.25),

$$\text{there exists } v_2 \in X - \{v_1\}, \text{ such that } L(v_1, v_2, v_2, v_1) = 0. \tag{3.26}$$

From (3.25), (3.26), and condition (i), we obtain

$$L(x_0, v_2, v_2, x_0) = 0. \quad (3.27)$$

From (3.25), (3.27), and condition (iii), we obtain

$$v_1 = v_2. \quad (3.28)$$

This is a contradiction from (3.26).  $\square$

**Corollary 3.2.** *Let  $X$  be a complete metric space with metric  $d$ , and let  $f : X \rightarrow (-\infty, \infty]$  be a proper lower semicontinuous function which is bounded from below. Assume that there exists a  $u$ -distance  $p$  on  $X$  such that for each  $u \in X$  with  $f(u) > \inf\{f(x) \mid x \in X\}$ , there exists  $v \in X$  with  $v \neq u$  and  $f(v) + p(u, v) \leq f(u)$ . Then there exists  $x_0 \in X$  such that  $f(x_0) = \inf\{f(x) \mid x \in X\}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $L : X \times X \times X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  be a mapping such that

$$L(x, y, v, w) = \max\{p(x, v), p(w, y)\} \quad (3.29)$$

for all  $x, y, v, w \in X$ . It follows easily from Definition 2.12, Lemmas 2.13, 2.14, and 2.15, and (u3) that conditions of Corollary 3.2 satisfy all conditions of Theorem 3.1. Thus, we obtain result of Corollary 3.2.  $\square$

*Remark 3.3.* Corollary 3.2 is a generalization of Kadaet al. [5, Theorem 1] and Suzuki [6, Theorem 5].

From Lemmas 2.13, 2.14, and 2.15, we have the following fixed point theorem.

**Theorem 3.4.** *Let  $X$  be a complete metric space with metric  $d$ , let  $p$  be a  $u$ -distance on  $X$ , and let  $T$  be a selfmapping of  $X$ . Suppose that there exists  $r \in [0, 1)$  such that*

$$\begin{aligned} p(Tx, Ty) \leq r \cdot \max\{p(x, y), p(x, Tx), p(y, Ty), p(x, Ty), p(y, Tx), \\ p(y, x), p(Tx, x), p(Ty, y), p(Ty, x), p(Tx, y)\} \end{aligned} \quad (3.30)$$

for all  $x, y \in X$  and

$$\inf\{p(x, y) + p(x, Tx) : x \in X\} > 0 \quad (3.31)$$

for every  $y \in X$  with  $y \neq Ty$ . Then there exists  $x_0 \in X$  such that  $Tx_0 = x_0$  and  $p(x_0, x_0) = 0$ . Moreover, if  $v = Tv$ , then  $x_0 = v$ ,  $p(v, v) = 0$ .

*Proof.* By method similar to [12, Lemma 2.4], for every  $x \in X$ ,

$$\alpha(x) := \sup\{p(T^i x, T^j x) \mid i, j \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}\} < \infty. \quad (3.32)$$

Define  $q : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  by

$$q(x, y) = \max\{\alpha(x), p(x, y)\} \quad (3.33)$$

for every  $x, y \in X$ . By Example 2.10,  $q$  is a  $u$ -distance on  $X$ . Then we get

$$\begin{aligned} q(Tx, T^2x) &= \max\{\alpha(Tx), p(Tx, T^2x)\} \\ &= \alpha(Tx) \leq r \cdot \alpha(x) = r \cdot q(x, Tx), \\ q(T^2x, Tx) &= \max\{\alpha(T^2x), p(T^2x, Tx)\} \\ &\leq \alpha(Tx) \leq r \cdot \alpha(x) = r \cdot q(x, Tx), \\ q(Tx, Tx) &= \max\{\alpha(Tx), p(Tx, Tx)\} \\ &= \alpha(Tx) \leq r \cdot \alpha(x) = r \cdot q(x, x) \end{aligned} \quad (3.34)$$

for all  $x \in X$ . Thus we have

$$\begin{aligned} q(T^n x, T^m x) &\leq \sum_{k=n}^{m-1} q(T^k x, T^{k+1} x) \\ &\leq \sum_{k=n}^{m-1} r^k \cdot q(x, Tx) \leq \frac{r^n}{1-r} q(x, Tx) \end{aligned} \quad (3.35)$$

for all  $m > n$ . Now we have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup\{q(T^n x, T^m x) : m > n\} \leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{r^n}{1-r} q(x, Tx) = 0. \quad (3.36)$$

Thus

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup\{q(T^n x, T^m x) : m > n\} = 0. \quad (3.37)$$

By Lemma 2.15,  $\{T^n x\}$  is a  $q$ -Cauchy and hence  $\{T^n x\}$  is a Cauchy from Lemma 2.13. Since  $X$  is complete and  $\{T^n x\}$  is a  $q$ -Cauchy, there exists  $x_0 \in X$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} T^n x &= x_0, \\ q(T^n x, x_0) &\leq \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \inf q(T^n x, T^m x) \leq \frac{r^n}{1-r} q(x, Tx). \end{aligned} \quad (3.38)$$

Suppose  $x_0 \neq Tx_0$ . Then, by hypothesis, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
0 &< \inf\{p(x, x_0) + p(x, Tx) : x \in X\} \\
&\leq \inf\{q(x, x_0) + q(x, Tx) : x \in X\} \\
&\leq \inf\{q(T^n x, x_0) + q(T^n x, T^{n+1} x) : n \in \mathbb{N}\} \\
&\leq \inf\left\{\frac{2r^n}{1-r}q(x, Tx) : n \in \mathbb{N}\right\} \\
&= 0.
\end{aligned} \tag{3.39}$$

This is a contradiction. Therefore we have  $x_0 = Tx_0$ . If  $v = Tv$ , we have  $p(v, v) = p(Tv, Tv) \leq rp(v, v)$  and hence  $p(v, v) = 0$ . To prove unique fixed point of  $T$ , let  $x_0 = Tx_0$  and  $v = Tv$ . Then, by hypothesis, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
p(x_0, v) &= p(Tx_0, Tv) \leq r \cdot \max\{p(x_0, v), p(v, x_0), p(x_0, x_0), p(v, v)\}, \\
p(v, x_0) &= p(Tv, Tx_0) \leq r \cdot \max\{p(x_0, v), p(v, x_0), p(x_0, x_0), p(v, v)\}, \\
p(x_0, x_0) &= p(Tx_0, Tx_0) \leq r \cdot \max\{p(x_0, v), p(v, x_0), p(x_0, x_0), p(v, v)\}, \\
p(v, v) &= p(Tv, Tv) \leq r \cdot \max\{p(x_0, v), p(v, x_0), p(x_0, x_0), p(v, v)\}.
\end{aligned} \tag{3.40}$$

Thus

$$p(x_0, v) = p(v, x_0) = p(x_0, x_0) = p(v, v) = 0. \tag{3.41}$$

By Lemma 2.14, we have  $x_0 = v$ . □

From Theorem 3.4, we have the following corollary which generalizes the results of Ćirić [14], Kannan [15], and Ume [12].

**Corollary 3.5.** *Let  $X$  be a complete metric space with metric  $d$ , let  $p$  be a  $\tau$ -distance on  $X$ , and let  $T$  be a selfmapping of  $X$ . Suppose that there exists  $r \in [0, 1)$  such that*

$$\begin{aligned}
p(Tx, Ty) &\leq r \cdot \max\{p(x, y), p(x, Tx), p(y, Ty), p(x, Ty), p(y, Tx), \\
&\quad p(y, x), p(Tx, x), p(Ty, y), p(Ty, x), p(Tx, y)\}
\end{aligned} \tag{3.42}$$

for all  $x, y \in X$  and

$$\inf\{p(x, y) + p(x, Tx) : x \in X\} > 0 \tag{3.43}$$

for every  $y \in X$  with  $y \neq Ty$ . Then there exists  $x_0 \in X$  such that  $Tx_0 = x_0$  and  $p(x_0, x_0) = 0$ . Moreover, if  $v = Tv$ , then  $v = x_0$  and  $p(v, v) = 0$ .

*Proof.* Since a  $\tau$ -distance is a  $u$ -distance, Corollary 3.5 follows from Theorem 3.4.  $\square$

The following corollary is a generalization of Suzuki's fixed point theorem [6].

**Corollary 3.6.** *Let  $X, T$ , and  $p$  be as in Corollary 3.5. Suppose that there exists  $r \in [0, 1)$  such that*

$$p(Tx, T^2x) \leq r \cdot \max\{p(x, x), p(x, Tx), p(Tx, x)\} \quad (3.44)$$

for all  $x, y \in X$ . Assume that if

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup\{p(x_n, x_m) : m > n\} &= 0, \\ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p(x_n, Tx_n) &= 0, \\ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p(x_n, z) &= 0, \end{aligned} \quad (3.45)$$

then  $Tz = z$ . Then there exists  $x_0 \in X$  such that  $Tx_0 = x_0$  and  $p(x_0, x_0) = 0$ . Moreover, if  $Tv = v$ , then  $v = x_0$  and  $p(v, v) = 0$ .

*Proof.* Let  $q$  and  $T$  be as in Theorem 3.4. Then from Theorem 3.4 and hypotheses of Corollary 3.6, we have the following properties.

- (1)  $\{T^n x\}$  is a Cauchy sequence.
- (2) There exists  $x_0 \in X$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} T^n x = x_0$ .
- (3) One has

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p(T^n x, x_0) &\leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} q(T^n x, x_0) \\ &\leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{r^n}{1-r} \max\{q(x, Tx), q(x, x)\}. \end{aligned} \quad (3.46)$$

- (4) There exists

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p(T^n x, T^{n+1} x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p(T^{n+1} x, T^n x) = 0. \quad (3.47)$$

- (5) One has

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup\{p(T^n x, T^m x) : m > n\} = 0. \quad (3.48)$$

By (1)~(5) and hypotheses, we have  $Tx_0 = x_0$ . The remainders are same as Theorem 3.4.  $\square$

The following theorem is a generalization of Caristi's fixed point theorem [3].

**Theorem 3.7.** *Let  $X$  be a metric space with metric  $d$ , let  $f : X \rightarrow (-\infty, \infty]$  be a proper function which is bounded from below, and let  $L : X \times X \times X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  be a function satisfying (i), (ii), and (iii) of Theorem 3.1. Let  $T$  be a selfmapping of  $X$  such that*

$$f(Tx) + h(x, Tx) \leq f(x), \quad \forall x \in X, \quad (3.49)$$

where a function  $h : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  is defined by

$$h(v, w) = L(v, w, w, v) \quad (3.50)$$

for all  $v, w \in X$ . Then, there exists  $x_0 \in X$  such that

$$Tx_0 = x_0, \quad L(x_0, Tx_0, Tx_0, x_0) = 0. \quad (3.51)$$

*Proof.* Suppose  $x \neq Tx$  for all  $x \in X$ . Then, by Theorem 3.1, there exists  $x_0 \in X$  such that

$$f(x_0) = \inf_{v \in X} f(v). \quad (3.52)$$

Since

$$f(Tx_0) + h(x_0, Tx_0) \leq f(x_0), \quad (3.53)$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} f(Tx_0) &= f(x_0) = \inf_{v \in X} f(v), \\ L(x_0, Tx_0, Tx_0, x_0) &= 0. \end{aligned} \quad (3.54)$$

By hypothesis, we obtain

$$f(T^2x_0) + h(Tx_0, T^2x_0) \leq f(Tx_0). \quad (3.55)$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} f(T^2x_0) &= f(Tx_0), \\ L(Tx_0, T^2x_0, T^2x_0, Tx_0) &= 0. \end{aligned} \quad (3.56)$$

By conditions (i) and (iii) of Theorem 3.1, it follows that

$$Tx_0 = T^2x_0. \quad (3.57)$$

This is a contradiction.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.8.** *Let  $X$  be a complete metric space with metric  $d$  and let  $f : X \rightarrow (-\infty, \infty]$  be a proper lower semicontinuous function which is bounded from below. Let  $p$  be a  $u$ -distance on  $X$ . Suppose that  $T$  is a selfmapping of  $X$  such that*

$$f(Tx) + p(x, Tx) \leq f(x) \quad (3.58)$$

for all  $x \in X$ . Then there exists  $x_0 \in X$  such that

$$Tx_0 = x_0, \quad p(x_0, x_0) = 0. \quad (3.59)$$

*Proof.* Define  $L : X \times X \times X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  by

$$L(v, w, x, y) = \max\{p(v, x), p(y, w)\} \quad (3.60)$$

for all  $v, w, x, y \in X$ . Then, by Definition 2.12 and Lemmas 2.13, 2.14, and 2.15, we can easily show that conditions of Corollary 3.8 satisfy all conditions of Theorem 3.7. Thus, Corollary 3.8 follows from Theorem 3.7.  $\square$

*Remark 3.9.* Since a  $w$ -distance and a  $\tau$ -distance are a  $u$ -distance, Corollary 3.8 is a generalization of Kada-Suzuki-Takahashi [5, Theorem 2] and Suzuki [6, Theorem 3].

The following theorem is a generalization of Ekeland's  $\varepsilon$ -variational principle [2].

**Theorem 3.10.** *Let  $X$  be a complete metric space with metric  $d$ , let  $f : X \rightarrow (-\infty, \infty]$  be a proper lower semicontinuous function which is bounded from below, and let  $L : X \times X \times X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  be a function satisfying (i), (ii), and (iii) of Theorem 3.1. Then the following (1) and (2) hold.*

(1) *For each  $x \in X$  with  $f(x) < \infty$ , there exists  $v \in X$  such that  $f(v) \leq f(x)$  and*

$$f(m) > f(v) - h(v, m) \quad (3.61)$$

for all  $m \in X$  with  $m \neq v$ , where a function  $h : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  is defined by

$$h(v, w) = L(v, w, w, v) \quad (3.62)$$

for all  $v, w \in X$ .

(2) *For each  $\varepsilon > 0$  and  $x \in X$  with  $h(x, x) = 0$ , and*

$$f(x) < \inf_{a \in X} f(a) + \varepsilon, \quad (3.63)$$

there exists  $v \in X$  such that  $f(v) \leq f(x)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} h(x, v) &\leq 1, \\ f(m) &> f(v) - \varepsilon \cdot h(v, m) \end{aligned} \quad (3.64)$$

for all  $m \in X$  with  $m \neq v$ .

*Proof.* (1) Let  $x \in X$  be such that  $f(x) < \infty$ , and let

$$Z = \{s \in X \mid f(s) \leq f(x)\}. \quad (3.65)$$

Then, by hypotheses,  $Z$  is nonempty and closed. Thus  $Z$  is a complete metric space. Hence we may prove that there exists an element  $v \in Z$  such that  $f(m) > f(v) - h(v, m)$  for all  $m \in X$  with  $m \neq v$ . Suppose not. Then, for every  $v \in Z$ , there exists  $m \in Z$  such that  $m \neq v$  and  $f(m) + h(v, m) \leq f(v)$ . By Theorem 3.1, there exists  $x_0 \in Z$  such that

$$f(x_0) = \inf_{a \in Z} f(a). \quad (3.66)$$

Again for  $x_0 \in Z$ , there exists  $x_1 \in Z$  such that  $x_1 \neq x_0$  and

$$f(x_1) + h(x_0, x_1) \leq f(x_0). \quad (3.67)$$

Hence we have  $f(x_1) = f(x_0)$  and  $L(x_0, x_1, x_1, x_0) = 0$ . Similarly, there exists  $x_2 \in Z$  such that  $x_2 \neq x_1$  and

$$f(x_2) + h(x_1, x_2) \leq f(x_1). \quad (3.68)$$

Thus we have  $f(x_2) = f(x_1)$  and  $L(x_1, x_2, x_2, x_1) = 0$ . From conditions (i) and (iii) of Theorem 3.1, we obtain

$$x_1 = x_2. \quad (3.69)$$

This is a contradiction. The proof of (1) is complete.

(2) Let

$$Y = \{a \in X \mid f(a) \leq f(x) - \varepsilon \cdot h(x, a)\}. \quad (3.70)$$

Then  $Y$  is nonempty and closed. Hence  $Y$  is complete. As in the proof of (1), we have that there exists  $v \in Y$  such that

$$f(m) > f(v) - \varepsilon \cdot h(v, m) \quad (3.71)$$

for every  $m \in X$  with  $m \neq v$ . On the other hand, since  $v \in Y$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} f(v) &\leq f(x) - \varepsilon \cdot h(x, v) \leq f(x), \\ h(x, v) &\leq \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \{f(x) - f(v)\} \leq \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \left\{ f(x) - \inf_{a \in X} f(a) \right\} \leq \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \cdot \varepsilon = 1. \end{aligned} \quad (3.72)$$

This completes the proof of (2). □

**Corollary 3.11.** *Let  $X$ ,  $f$ , and  $p$  be as in Corollary 3.8. Then the following (1) and (2) hold.*

(1) *For each  $x \in X$  with  $f(x) < \infty$ , there exists  $v \in X$  such that  $f(v) \leq f(x)$  and*

$$f(m) > f(v) - p(v, m) \quad (3.73)$$

*for all  $m \in X$  with  $m \neq v$ .*

(2) *For each  $\varepsilon > 0$  and  $x \in X$  with  $p(x, x) = 0$ , and*

$$f(x) < \inf_{a \in X} f(a) + \varepsilon, \quad (3.74)$$

*there exists  $v \in X$  such that  $f(v) \leq f(x)$ ,*

$$p(x, v) \leq 1, \quad f(m) > f(v) - \varepsilon \cdot p(v, m) \quad (3.75)$$

*for all  $m \in X$  with  $m \neq v$ .*

*Proof.* By method similar to Corollary 3.8, Corollary 3.11 follows from Theorem 3.10. □

*Remark 3.12.* Corollary 3.11 is a generalization of Suzuki [6, Theorem 4].

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