

## Research Article

# Ordered Non-Archimedean Fuzzy Metric Spaces and Some Fixed Point Results

Ishak Altun<sup>1</sup> and Dorel Mihet<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Science and Arts, Kirikkale University, 71450 Yahsihan, Kirikkale, Turkey

<sup>2</sup> Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science, West University of Timișoara, Bv. V. Parvan 4, 300223 Timișoara, Romania

Correspondence should be addressed to Ishak Altun, [ishakaltun@yahoo.com](mailto:ishakaltun@yahoo.com)

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In the present paper we provide two different kinds of fixed point theorems on ordered non-Archimedean fuzzy metric spaces. First, two fixed point theorems are proved for fuzzy order  $\psi$ -contractive type mappings. Then a common fixed point theorem is given for noncontractive type mappings. Kirk's problem on an extension of Caristi's theorem is also discussed.

## 1. Introduction and Preliminaries

After the definition of the concept of fuzzy metric space by some authors [1–3], the fixed point theory on these spaces has been developing (see, e.g., [4–9]). Generally, this theory on fuzzy metric space is done for contractive or contractive-type mappings (see [2, 10–13] and references therein). In this paper we introduce the concept of fuzzy order  $\psi$ -contractive mappings and give two fixed point theorems on ordered non-Archimedean fuzzy metric spaces for fuzzy order  $\psi$ -contractive type mappings. Then, using an idea in [14], we will provide a common fixed point theorem for weakly increasing single-valued mappings in a complete fuzzy metric space endowed with a partial order induced by an appropriate function. Some fixed point results on ordered probabilistic metric spaces can be found in [15].

For the sake of completeness, we briefly recall some notions from the theory of fuzzy metric spaces used in this paper.

*Definition 1.1* (see [16]). A binary operation  $*$  :  $[0, 1] \times [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is called a continuous  $t$ -norm if  $([0, 1], *)$  is an Abelian topological monoid with the unit 1 such that  $a * b \leq c * d$  whenever  $a \leq c$  and  $b \leq d$  for all  $a, b, c, d \in [0, 1]$ .

A continuous  $t$ -norm  $*$  is of *Hadžić-type* if there exists a strictly increasing sequence  $\{b_n\} \subset (0, 1)$  such that  $b_n * b_n = b_n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

*Definition 1.2* (see [3]). A fuzzy metric space (in the sense of Kramosil and Michálek) is a triple  $(X, M, *)$ , where  $X$  is a nonempty set,  $*$  is a continuous  $t$ -norm and  $M$  is a fuzzy set on  $X^2 \times [0, \infty)$ , satisfying the following properties:

$$(KM-1) \quad M(x, y, 0) = 0, \text{ for all } x, y \in X,$$

$$(KM-2) \quad M(x, y, t) = 1, \text{ for all } t > 0 \text{ if and only if } x = y,$$

$$(KM-3) \quad M(x, y, t) = M(y, x, t), \text{ for all } x, y \in X \text{ and } t > 0,$$

$$(KM-4) \quad M(x, y, \cdot) : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, 1] \text{ is left continuous, for all } x, y \in X,$$

$$(KM-5) \quad M(x, z, t + s) \geq M(x, y, t) * M(y, z, s), \text{ for all } x, y, z \in X, \text{ for all } t, s > 0.$$

If, in the above definition, the triangular inequality (KM-5) is replaced by

$$M(x, z, \max\{t, s\}) \geq M(x, y, t) * M(y, z, s), \quad \forall x, y, z \in X, \forall t, s > 0, \quad (NA)$$

then the triple  $(X, M, *)$  is called a *non-Archimedean fuzzy metric space*. It is easy to check that the triangular inequality (NA) implies (KM-5), that is, every non-Archimedean fuzzy metric space is itself a fuzzy metric space.

*Example 1.3.* Let  $(X, d)$  be an ordinary metric space and let  $\theta$  be a nondecreasing and continuous function from  $(0, \infty)$  into  $(0, 1)$  such that  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \theta(t) = 1$ . Some examples of these functions are  $\theta(t) = t/(t+1)$ ,  $\theta(t) = 1 - e^{-t}$  and  $\theta(t) = e^{-1/t}$ . Let  $a * b \leq ab$  for all  $a, b \in [0, 1]$ . For each  $t \in (0, \infty)$ , define

$$M(x, y, t) = [\theta(t)]^{d(x,y)} \quad (1.1)$$

for all  $x, y \in X$ . It is easy to see that  $(X, M, *)$  is a non-Archimedean fuzzy metric space.

*Definition 1.4* (see [1, 16]). Let  $(X, M, *)$  be a fuzzy metric space. A sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in  $X$  is called an  $M$ -Cauchy sequence, if for each  $\varepsilon \in (0, 1)$  and  $t > 0$  there exists  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $M(x_n, x_m, t) > 1 - \varepsilon$  for all  $m, n \geq n_0$ . A sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in a fuzzy metric space  $(X, M, *)$  is said to be convergent to  $x \in X$  if  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} M(x_n, x, t) = 1$  for all  $t > 0$ . A fuzzy metric space  $(X, M, *)$  is called  $M$ -complete if every  $M$ -Cauchy sequence is convergent.

*Definition 1.5* (see [7]). Let  $(X, M, *)$  be a fuzzy metric space. A sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in  $X$  is called  $G$ -Cauchy if

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} M(x_n, x_{n+1}, t) = 1 \quad (1.2)$$

for all  $t > 0$ . The space  $(X, M, *)$  is called  $G$ -complete if every  $G$ -Cauchy sequence is convergent.

**Lemma 1.6** (see [11]). *Each  $M$ -complete non-Archimedean fuzzy metric space  $(X, M, T)$  with  $T$  of Hadžić-type is  $G$ -complete.*

Theorem 2.10 in the next section is related to a partial order on a fuzzy metric space under the Łukasiewicz  $t$ -norm. We will refer to [14].

**Lemma 1.7** (see [14]). *Let  $(X, M, *)$  be a non-Archimedean fuzzy metric space with  $a*b \geq \max\{a+b-1, 0\}$  and  $\phi : X \times [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . Define the relation " $\leq$ " on  $X$  as follows:*

$$x \leq y \iff M(x, y, t) \geq 1 + \phi(x, t) - \phi(y, t), \quad \forall t > 0. \quad (1.3)$$

Then  $\leq$  is a (partial) order on  $X$ , named the partial order induced by  $\phi$ .

## 2. Main Results

The first two theorems in this section are related to Theorem 2.1 in [17]. We begin by giving the following definitions.

*Definition 2.1.* Let  $\leq$  be an order relation on  $X$ . A mapping  $f : X \rightarrow X$  is called nondecreasing w.r.t  $\leq$  if  $x \leq y$  implies  $fx \leq fy$ .

*Definition 2.2.* Let  $(X, \leq)$  be a partially ordered set, let  $(X, M, *)$  be a fuzzy metric space, and let  $\psi$  be a function from  $[0, 1]$  to  $[0, 1]$ . A mapping  $f : X \rightarrow X$  is called a fuzzy order  $\psi$ -contractive mapping if the following implication holds:

$$x, y \in X, \quad x \leq y \implies [M(fx, fy, t) \geq \psi(M(x, y, t)) \quad \forall t > 0]. \quad (2.1)$$

**Theorem 2.3.** *Let  $(X, \leq)$  be a partially ordered set and  $(X, M, *)$  be an  $M$ -complete non-Archimedean fuzzy metric space with  $*$  of Hadžić-type. Let  $\psi : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  be a continuous, nondecreasing function and let  $f : X \rightarrow X$  be a fuzzy order  $\psi$ -contractive and nondecreasing mapping w.r.t  $\leq$ . Suppose that either*

$$f \text{ is continuous}, \quad (2.2)$$

or

$$\begin{aligned} & x_n \leq x \quad \forall n, \text{ whenever} \\ & \{x_n\} \subset X \text{ is nondecreasing sequence with } x_n \rightarrow x \in X \end{aligned} \quad (2.3)$$

hold. If there exists  $x_0 \in X$  such that

$$x_0 \leq fx_0, \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \psi^n(M(x_0, fx_0, t)) = 1 \quad (2.4)$$

for each  $t > 0$ , then  $f$  has a fixed point.

*Proof.* Let  $x_n = fx_{n-1}$  for  $n \in \{1, 2, \dots\}$ . Since  $x_0 \leq fx_0$  and  $f$  is nondecreasing w.r.t  $\leq$ , we have

$$x_0 \leq x_1 \leq x_2 \leq \dots \leq x_n \leq x_{n+1} \leq \dots \quad (2.5)$$

Then, it immediately follows by induction that

$$M(x_{n+1}, x_{n+2}, t) \geq \psi(M(x_n, x_{n+1}, t)), \quad (n \in \mathbb{N}, t > 0), \quad (2.6)$$

hence

$$M(x_n, x_{n+1}, t) \geq \psi^n(M(x_0, fx_0, t)), \quad (n \in \mathbb{N}, t > 0). \quad (2.7)$$

By taking the limit as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  we obtain

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} M(x_n, x_{n+1}, t) = 1 \quad (2.8)$$

for all  $t > 0$ , that is,  $\{x_n\}$  is  $G$ -Cauchy. Since  $X$  is  $G$ -complete (Lemma 1.6), then there exists  $x \in X$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x$ .

Now, if  $f$  is continuous then it is clear that  $fx = x$ , while if the condition (2.3) hold then, for all  $t > 0$ ,

$$M(x_{n+1}, fx, t) = M(fx_n, fx, t) \geq \psi(M(x_n, x, t)) \quad (2.9)$$

and letting  $n \rightarrow \infty$  it follows

$$M(x, fx, t) \geq \psi(1) = 1, \quad (2.10)$$

hence  $fx = x$ . □

**Theorem 2.4.** Let  $(X, \leq)$  be a partially ordered set, let  $(X, M, *)$  be an  $M$ -complete non-Archimedean fuzzy metric space, and let  $\psi : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  be a continuous mapping such that  $\psi(t) > t$  for all  $t \in (0, 1)$ . Also, let  $f : X \rightarrow X$  be a nondecreasing mapping w.r.t  $\leq$ , with the property

$$M(fx, fy, t) \geq \psi(M(x, y, t)) \quad \forall t > 0, \text{ whenever } x \leq y. \quad (2.11)$$

Suppose that either (2.2) or (2.3) holds. If there exists  $x_0 \in X$  such that

$$x_0 \leq fx_0, \quad M(x_0, fx_0, t) > 0 \quad (2.12)$$

for all  $t > 0$ , then  $f$  has a fixed point.

*Proof.* Let  $x_n = fx_{n-1}$  for  $n \in \{1, 2, \dots\}$ . Then, as in the proof of the preceding theorem we can prove that

$$M(x_{n+1}, x_{n+2}, t) \geq \psi(M(x_n, x_{n+1}, t)) \geq M(x_n, x_{n+1}, t), \quad (n \in \mathbb{N}, t > 0). \quad (2.13)$$

Therefore, for every  $t > 0$ ,  $\{M(x_n, x_{n+1}, t)\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is a nondecreasing sequence of numbers in  $(0, 1]$ . Let, for fixed  $t > 0$ ,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} M(x_n, x_{n+1}, t) = l$ . Then we have  $l \in (0, 1]$ , since  $M(x_0, x_1, t) > 0$ . Also, since

$$M(x_{n+1}, x_{n+2}, t) \geq \psi(M(x_n, x_{n+1}, t)) \quad (2.14)$$

and  $\psi$  is continuous, we have  $l \geq \psi(l)$ . This implies  $l = 1$  and therefore, for all  $t > 0$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} M(x_n, x_{n+1}, t) = 1. \quad (2.15)$$

Now we show that  $\{x_n\}$  is an  $M$ -Cauchy sequence. Supposing this is not true, then there are  $\varepsilon \in (0, 1)$  and  $t > 0$  such that for each  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  there exist  $m(k), n(k) \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $m(k) > n(k) \geq k$  and

$$M(x_{m(k)}, x_{n(k)}, t) \leq 1 - \varepsilon. \quad (2.16)$$

Let, for each  $k$ ,  $m(k)$  be the least integer exceeding  $n(k)$  satisfying the inequality (2.16), that is,

$$M(x_{m(k)-1}, x_{n(k)}, t) > 1 - \varepsilon. \quad (2.17)$$

Then, for each  $k$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} 1 - \varepsilon &\geq M(x_{m(k)}, x_{n(k)}, t) \\ &\geq M(x_{m(k)-1}, x_{n(k)}, t) * M(x_{m(k)-1}, x_{m(k)}, t) \\ &\geq (1 - \varepsilon) * M(x_{m(k)-1}, x_{m(k)}, t). \end{aligned} \quad (2.18)$$

Letting  $k \rightarrow \infty$  and using (2.15), we have, for  $t > 0$ ,

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} M(x_{m(k)}, x_{n(k)}, t) = 1 - \varepsilon. \quad (2.19)$$

Then, since  $x_{n(k)} \leq x_{m(k)}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} M(x_{m(k)}, x_{n(k)}, t) &\geq M(x_{m(k)}, x_{m(k)+1}, t) * M(x_{m(k)+1}, x_{n(k)+1}, t) * M(x_{n(k)+1}, x_{n(k)}, t) \\ &\geq M(x_{m(k)}, x_{m(k)+1}, t) * \psi(M(x_{m(k)}, x_{n(k)}, t)) * M(x_{n(k)+1}, x_{n(k)}, t). \end{aligned} \quad (2.20)$$

Letting  $k \rightarrow \infty$  and using (2.15) and (2.19), we obtain

$$1 - \varepsilon \geq 1 * \psi(1 - \varepsilon) * 1 = \psi(1 - \varepsilon) > 1 - \varepsilon, \quad (2.21)$$

which is a contradiction. Thus  $\{x_n\}$  is an  $M$ -Cauchy sequence. Since  $X$  is  $M$ -complete, then there exists  $x \in X$  such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x. \quad (2.22)$$

If  $f$  is continuous, then from  $x_n = fx_{n-1}$  ( $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ) it follows that  $fx = x$ . Also, if (2.3) holds, then (since  $x_n \leq x$ ) we have

$$M(x_{n+1}, fx, t) = M(fx_n, fx, t) \geq \varphi(M(x_n, x, t)), \quad (n \in \mathbb{N}, t > 0). \quad (2.23)$$

Letting  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , we obtain that

$$M(x, fx, t) = 1 \quad \forall t > 0, \quad (2.24)$$

hence  $fx = x$ . □

*Example 2.5.* Let  $X = (0, \infty)$ . Consider the following relation on  $X$ :

$$x \leq y \iff (x = y \text{ or } x, y \in [1, 4], x \leq y). \quad (2.25)$$

It is easy to see that  $\leq$  is a partial order on  $X$ . Let  $a * b = ab$  and

$$M(x, y, t) = \frac{\min\{x, y\}}{\max\{x, y\}}, \quad \forall t > 0. \quad (2.26)$$

Then  $(X, M, *)$  is an  $M$ -complete non-Archimedean fuzzy metric space (see [18]) satisfying  $M(x, y, t) > 0$  for all  $t > 0$ . Define a self map  $f$  of  $X$  as follows:

$$fx = \begin{cases} 2x, & 0 < x < 1 \\ \frac{x+5}{3}, & 1 \leq x \leq 4 \\ 2x-5, & x > 4. \end{cases} \quad (2.27)$$

Now, it is easy to see that  $f$  is continuous and nondecreasing w.r.t  $\leq$ . Also, for  $x_0 = 1$  we have  $1 = x_0 \leq fx_0 = 2$ . Now we can see that  $f$  is fuzzy order  $\varphi$ -contractive with  $\varphi(t) = \sqrt{t}$ .

Indeed, let  $x, y \in X$  with  $x \leq y$ . Now if  $x = y$ , then

$$M(fx, fy, t) = 1 \geq \varphi(1) = \varphi(M(x, y, t)). \quad (2.28)$$

If  $x, y \in [1, 4]$  with  $x \leq y$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}
M(fx, fy, t) &= \frac{\min\{fx, fy\}}{\max\{fx, fy\}} \\
&= \frac{\min\{(x+5)/3, (y+5)/3\}}{\max\{(x+5)/3, (y+5)/3\}} \\
&= \frac{x+5}{y+5} \\
&\geq \sqrt{\frac{x}{y}} \\
&= \psi(M(x, y, t)).
\end{aligned} \tag{2.29}$$

Therefore  $f$  is fuzzy order  $\psi$ -contractive with  $\psi(t) = \sqrt{t}$ . Hence all conditions of Theorem 2.4 are satisfied and so  $f$  has a fixed point on  $X$ .

In order to state our next theorem, we give the concept of weakly comparable mappings on an ordered space.

*Definition 2.6.* Let  $(X, \leq)$  be an ordered space. Two mappings  $f, g : X \rightarrow X$  are said to be weakly comparable if  $fx \leq gfx$  and  $gx \leq fgx$  for all  $x \in X$ .

Note that two weakly comparable mappings need not to be nondecreasing.

*Example 2.7.* Let  $X = [0, \infty)$  and  $\leq$  be usual ordering. Let  $f, g : X \rightarrow X$  defined by

$$fx = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } 0 \leq x \leq 1, \\ 0 & \text{if } 1 < x < \infty, \end{cases} \quad gx = \begin{cases} \sqrt{x} & \text{if } 0 \leq x \leq 1, \\ 0 & \text{if } 1 < x < \infty. \end{cases} \tag{2.30}$$

Then it is obvious that  $fx \leq gfx$  and  $gx \leq fgx$  for all  $x \in X$ . Thus  $f$  and  $g$  are weakly comparable mappings. Note that both  $f$  and  $g$  are not nondecreasing.

*Example 2.8.* Let  $X = [1, \infty) \times [1, \infty)$  and  $\leq$  be coordinate-wise ordering, that is,  $(x, y) \leq (z, w) \Leftrightarrow x \leq z$  and  $y \leq w$ . Let  $f, g : X \rightarrow X$  be defined by  $f(x, y) = (2x, 3y)$  and  $g(x, y) = (x^2, y^2)$ , then  $f(x, y) = (2x, 3y) \leq gf(x, y) = g(2x, 3y) = (4x^2, 9y^2)$  and  $g(x, y) = (x^2, y^2) \leq fg(x, y) = f(x^2, y^2) = (2x^2, 3y^2)$ . Thus  $f$  and  $g$  are weakly comparable mappings.

*Example 2.9.* Let  $X = \mathbb{R}^2$  and  $\leq$  be lexicographical ordering, that is,  $(x, y) \leq (z, w) \Leftrightarrow (x < z)$  or (if  $x = z$ , then  $y \leq w$ ). Let  $f, g : X \rightarrow X$  be defined by

$$\begin{aligned}
f(x, y) &= (\max\{x, y\}, \min\{x, y\}), \\
g(x, y) &= \left(\max\{x, y\}, \frac{x+y}{2}\right),
\end{aligned} \tag{2.31}$$

then  $f(x, y) \leq gf(x, y)$  and  $g(x, y) \leq fg(x, y)$  for all  $(x, y) \in X$ . Thus  $f$  and  $g$  are weakly comparable mappings. Note that,  $(1, 4) \leq (2, 3)$  but  $f(1, 4) = (4, 1)(3, 2) = f(2, 3)$ , then  $f$  is not nondecreasing. Similarly  $g$  is not nondecreasing.

**Theorem 2.10.** *Let  $(X, M, *)$  be an  $M$ -complete non-Archimedean fuzzy metric space with  $a * b \geq \max\{a + b - 1, 0\}$ ,  $\phi : X \times [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a bounded-from-above function, and let  $\leq$  be the partial order induced by  $\phi$ . If  $f, g : X \rightarrow X$  are two continuous and weakly comparable mappings, then  $f$  and  $g$  have a common fixed point in  $X$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $x_0$  be an arbitrary point of  $X$  and let us define a sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in  $X$  as follows:

$$x_{2n+1} = fx_{2n}, \quad x_{2n+2} = gx_{2n+1} \quad \text{for } n \in \{0, 1, \dots\}. \quad (2.32)$$

Note that, since  $f$  and  $g$  are weakly comparable, we have

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 &= fx_0 \leq gfx_0 = gx_1 = x_2, \\ x_2 &= gx_1 \leq fgx_1 = fx_2 = x_3. \end{aligned} \quad (2.33)$$

By continuing this process we get

$$x_1 \leq x_2 \leq \dots \leq x_n \leq x_{n+1} \leq \dots, \quad (2.34)$$

that is, the sequence  $\{x_n\}$  is nondecreasing. By the definition of  $\leq$  we have  $\phi(x_0, t) \leq \phi(x_1, t) \leq \phi(x_2, t) \leq \dots$  for all  $t > 0$ , that is, for even  $t > 0$ , the sequence  $\{\phi(x_n, t)\}$  is a nondecreasing sequence in  $\mathbb{R}$ . Since  $\phi$  is bounded from above,  $\{\phi(x_n, t)\}$  is convergent and hence it is Cauchy. Then, for all  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for all  $m > n > n_0$  and  $t > 0$  we have  $|\phi(x_m, t) - \phi(x_n, t)| = \phi(x_m, t) - \phi(x_n, t) < \varepsilon$ . Therefore, since  $x_n \leq x_m$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} M(x_n, x_m, t) &\geq 1 + \phi(x_n, t) - \phi(x_m, t) \\ &= 1 - [\phi(x_m, t) - \phi(x_n, t)] \\ &> 1 - \varepsilon. \end{aligned} \quad (2.35)$$

This shows that the sequence  $\{x_n\}$  is  $M$ -Cauchy. Since  $X$  is  $M$ -complete, it converges to a point  $z \in X$ . As  $x_{2n+1} \rightarrow z$  and  $x_{2n+2} \rightarrow z$ , by the continuity of  $f$  and  $g$  we get  $fx = gx = z$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 2.11** ([Caristi fixed point theorem in non-Archimedean fuzzy metric spaces]). *Let  $(X, M, *)$  be an  $M$ -complete non-Archimedean fuzzy metric space with  $a * b \geq \max\{a + b - 1, 0\}$ , let  $\phi : X \times [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a bounded-from-above function and  $f : X \rightarrow X$  be a continuous mapping, such that*

$$M(x, fx, t) \geq 1 + \phi(x, t) - \phi(fx, t) \quad (2.36)$$

for all  $x \in X$  and  $t > 0$ . Then  $f$  has a fixed point in  $X$ .

*Proof.* We take in the above theorem  $g = 1_X$  and note that the weak comparability of  $f$  and  $g$  reduces to (2.36).  $\square$

The generalization suggested by Kirk of Caristi's fixed point theorem [19] is well known. A similar theorem in the setting of non-Archimedean fuzzy metric spaces is stated in the final part of our paper.

In what follows  $\nu : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is nondecreasing, subadditive mapping (i.e.,  $\nu(a + b) \leq \nu(a) + \nu(b)$  for all  $a, b \in [0, 1]$ ), with  $\nu(0) = 0$ .

**Theorem 2.12.** *Let  $(X, M, *)$  be a non-Archimedean fuzzy metric space with  $a*b \geq \max\{a+b-1, 0\}$  and  $\phi : X \times [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . Define the relation " $\leq$ " on  $X$  through*

$$x \leq y \iff \phi(y, t) - \phi(x, t) \geq \nu(1 - M(x, y, t)), \quad \forall t > 0. \quad (2.37)$$

Then " $\leq$ " is a (partial) order on  $X$ .

*Proof.* Since  $\nu(0) = 0$ , then for all  $x \in X$  and  $t > 0$ ,

$$0 = \phi(x, t) - \phi(x, t) \geq \nu(1 - M(x, x, t)) = 0, \quad (2.38)$$

that is, " $\leq$ " is reflexive.

Let  $x, y \in X$  be such that  $x \leq y$  and  $y \leq x$ . Then for all  $t > 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(y, t) - \phi(x, t) &\geq \nu(1 - M(x, y, t)), \\ \phi(x, t) - \phi(y, t) &\geq \nu(1 - M(x, y, t)), \end{aligned} \quad (2.39)$$

implying that  $M(x, y, t) = 1$  for all  $t > 0$ , that is,  $x = y$ . Thus " $\leq$ " is antisymmetric.

Now for  $x, y, z \in X$ , let  $x \leq y$  and  $y \leq z$ . Then, for given  $t > 0$ ,

$$\phi(y, t) - \phi(x, t) \geq \nu(1 - M(x, y, t)), \quad (2.40)$$

$$\phi(z, t) - \phi(y, t) \geq \nu(1 - M(y, z, t)). \quad (2.41)$$

By using (2.40) and (2.41) we get

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(z, t) - \phi(x, t) &\geq \nu(1 - M(x, y, t)) + \nu(1 - M(y, z, t)) \\ &\geq \nu(1 - M(x, y, t) + 1 - M(y, z, t)). \end{aligned} \quad (2.42)$$

On the other hand, from the triangular inequality (NA), the inequality

$$M(x, z, t) \geq M(x, y, t) + M(y, z, t) - 1 \quad (2.43)$$

holds. This implies

$$1 - M(x, y, t) + 1 - M(y, z, t) \geq 1 - M(x, z, t). \quad (2.44)$$

As  $\nu$  is nondecreasing, it follows that

$$\nu(1 - M(x, y, t) + 1 - M(y, z, t)) \geq \nu(1 - M(x, z, t)) \quad (2.45)$$

and therefore

$$\phi(z, t) - \phi(x, t) \geq \nu(1 - M(x, z, t)). \quad (2.46)$$

This shows that  $x \preceq z$ , that is, " $\preceq$ " is transitive.  $\square$

From the above theorem we can immediately obtain the following generalization of Corollary 2.11.

**Corollary 2.13.** *Let  $(X, M, *)$  be an  $M$ -complete non-Archimedean fuzzy metric space with  $a * b \geq \max\{a + b - 1, 0\}$ , let  $\phi : X \times [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a bounded-from-above function and  $f : X \rightarrow X$  be a continuous mapping, such that*

$$\phi(fx, t) - \phi(x, t) \geq \nu(1 - M(x, fx, t)) \quad (2.47)$$

for all  $x \in X$  and  $t > 0$ . If  $\nu$  satisfies the property

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0 \quad \exists \delta > 0 : \nu(x) < \delta \implies x < \varepsilon, \quad (2.48)$$

then  $f$  has a fixed point in  $X$ .

The reader is referred to the nice paper [20] for some discussion of Kirk's problem on an extension of Caristi's fixed point theorem.

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