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## FIXED POINTS OF ALMOST SUZUKI TYPE $\mathcal{Z}_s\text{-}\text{CONTRACTIONS}$ IN S-METRIC SPACES

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Abstract. In this paper, we introduce almost Suzuki type  $Z_s$ -contractions and prove the existence and uniqueness of fixed points of such mappings in complete S-metric spaces. Our results generalize Theorem 1 from [N. Mlaiki, N. Yılmaz Özgür, Nihal Taş, Mathematics, 7 (583) 2019, 12 pages] and Theorem 3.1 from [S. Sedghi, N. Shobe, A. Aliouche, Mat. Vesnik, 64 (3) (2012), 258-266]. We give illustrative examples in support of our result.

## 1. Introduction and preliminaries

In 2008, Suzuki [19] defined a new generalized Banach contraction and proved the existence and uniqueness of fixed points for this contraction in compact metric spaces. After this several authors have extended and generalized the result of Suzuki [19] in different directions [1, 5, 13]. In 2015, Khojasteh, Shukla and Radenović [12] introduced simulation functions and  $\mathcal{Z}$ -contractions which generalize the Banach contraction. Following this domain of research, many authors introduced  $\mathcal{Z}$ -contractions involving simulation functions and proved fixed point results on various types of metric spaces. For more works on this, we refer to [2, 4, 7, 11, 16, 20].

DEFINITION 1.1 ([12]). A mapping  $\zeta : [0, +\infty) \times [0, +\infty) \to \mathbb{R}$  is called a simulation function if it satisfies the following conditions:

 $(\zeta_1) \ \zeta(0,0) = 0;$ 

 $(\zeta_2) \zeta(t,s) < s-t$  for all t,s > 0;

 $(\zeta_3)$  if  $\{t_n\}$ ,  $\{s_n\}$  are sequences in  $(0, +\infty)$  such that  $\lim_{n \to +\infty} t_n = \lim_{n \to +\infty} s_n > 0$ , then  $\limsup_{n \to +\infty} \zeta(t_n, s_n) < 0$ .

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We denote the set of all simulation functions by  $\mathcal{Z}$ . The following are examples of simulation functions.

EXAMPLE 1.2 ([4,12]). Let  $\zeta : [0, +\infty) \times [0, +\infty) \to \mathbb{R}$  be defined by: (i)  $\zeta(t, s) = \lambda s - t$  for all  $t, s \in [0, +\infty)$ , where  $\lambda \in [0, 1)$ .

- (ii)  $\zeta(t,s) = \frac{s}{1+s} t$  for all  $t,s \in [0,+\infty)$ .
- (iii)  $\zeta(t,s) = s kt$  for all  $t, s \in [0, +\infty)$ , where k > 1.
- (iv)  $\zeta(t,s) = \frac{s}{1+s} te^t$  for all  $t, s \in [0, +\infty)$ .

(v)  $\zeta(t,s) = s - \varphi(s) - t$  for all  $s, t \in [0, +\infty)$  where  $\varphi : [0, +\infty) \to [0, +\infty)$  is a lower semi continuous function such that  $\varphi(t) = 0$  if and only if t = 0.

In 2012, Sedghi, Shobe and Aliouche [17] introduced S-metric spaced and studied their properties. The following are preliminaries on S-metric spaces.

DEFINITION 1.3 ([17]). Let X be a nonempty set. An S-metric on X is a function  $S: X^3 \to [0, +\infty)$  that satisfies the following conditions: for each  $x, y, z, a \in X$  (S1) S(x, y, z) = 0 if and only if x = y = z and

(S2)  $S(x, y, z) \leq S(x, x, a) + S(y, y, a) + S(z, z, a)$ . The pair (X, S) is called an S-metric space.

Throughout this paper, we denote the set of all real numbers by  $\mathbb{R}$ , the set of all natural numbers by  $\mathbb{N}$ .

EXAMPLE 1.4 ([17]). Let (X, d) be a metric space. We define  $S : X^3 \to [0, +\infty)$  by S(x, y, z) = d(x, y) + d(x, z) + d(y, z) for all  $x, y, z \in X$ . Then S is an S-metric on X and S is called the S-metric induced by the metric d.

EXAMPLE 1.5 ([9]). Let  $X = \mathbb{R}$  and S(x, y, z) = |y+z-2x|+|y-z| for all  $x, y, z \in X$ . Then (X, S) is an S-metric space.

EXAMPLE 1.6 ([18]). Let  $X = \mathbb{R}$ . Then S(x, y, z) = |x - z| + |y - z| for all  $x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}$  is an S-metric on  $\mathbb{R}$ . This S-metric is called the usual S-metric on  $\mathbb{R}$ .

LEMMA 1.7 ([17]). In an S-metric space, we have S(x, x, y) = S(y, y, x).

LEMMA 1.8 ([9]). Let (X, S) be an S-metric space. Then  $S(x, x, z) \leq 2S(x, x, y) + S(y, y, z)$ .

DEFINITION 1.9 ([17]). Let (X, S) be an S-metric space.

(i) A sequence  $\{x_n\} \subseteq X$  is said to converge to a point  $x \in X$  if  $S(x_n, x_n, x) \to 0$ as  $n \to +\infty$ . That is, for each  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for all  $n \ge n_0$ ,  $S(x_n, x_n, x) < \epsilon$  and we denote it by  $\lim_{n \to +\infty} x_n = x$ .

(ii) A sequence  $\{x_n\} \subseteq X$  is called a Cauchy sequence if for each  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $S(x_n, x_n, x_m) < \epsilon$  for all  $n, m \ge n_0$ .

(iii) An S-metric space (X, S) is said to be complete if each Cauchy sequence in X is convergent.

LEMMA 1.10 ([17]). Let (X, S) be an S-metric space. If  $\{x_n\}$  is a sequence in X that converges to x, then x is unique.

LEMMA 1.11 ([6]). Let (X, S) be an S-metric space. Let  $\{x_n\}$  and  $\{y_n\}$  be two sequences in X and  $\{x_n\}$  converges to x in X. Then  $\lim_{n \to +\infty} S(x_n, x_n, y_n) = \lim_{n \to +\infty} S(x, x, y_n)$ .

DEFINITION 1.12 ([17]). Let (X, S) be an S-metric space. A map  $F : X \to X$  is said to be a contraction if there exists a constant  $0 \le K < 1$  such that

$$S(Fx, Fx, Fy) \le KS(x, x, y), \quad \text{for all } x, y \in X.$$
(1)

THEOREM 1.13 ([17]). Let (X, S) be a complete S-metric space and let a map  $F : X \to X$  be a contraction. Then F has a unique fixed point u in X.

LEMMA 1.14 ([8]). Let (X, S) be an S-metric space and  $\{x_n\}$  be a sequence in X such that  $\lim_{n\to+\infty} S(x_n, x_n, x_{n+1}) = 0$ .

If  $\{x_n\}$  is not a Cauchy sequence, then there exist an  $\epsilon > 0$  and two sequences  $\{m_k\}$  and  $\{n_k\}$  of positive integers with  $m_k > n_k > k$  such that  $S(x_{m_k}, x_{m_k}, x_{n_k}) \ge \epsilon$  with  $S(x_{m_k-1}, x_{m_k-1}, x_{n_k}) < \epsilon$ . Also, we have the following:

$$(i) \lim_{k \to +\infty} S(x_{m_k}, x_{m_k}, x_{n_k}) = \epsilon \qquad (ii) \lim_{k \to +\infty} S(x_{m_k-1}, x_{m_k-1}, x_{n_k}) = \epsilon$$

(*iii*) 
$$\lim_{k \to +\infty} S(x_{m_k}, x_{m_k}, x_{n_k-1}) = \epsilon$$
 (*iv*)  $\lim_{k \to +\infty} S(x_{m_k-1}, x_{m_k-1}, x_{n_k-1}) = \epsilon$ .

For more works on S-metric spaces we refer to [3, 6, 8, 9, 17, 18].

In 2019, Mlaiki, Yılmaz Ozgür and Nihal Taş [14] introduced  $\mathcal{Z}_s$ -contraction by using simulation functions and proved the existence and uniqueness of fixed points of such mapping in complete S-metric spaces.

DEFINITION 1.15 ([14]). Let (X, S) be an S-metric space and  $T: X \to X$ . If there exists a  $\zeta \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that

$$\zeta(S(Tx, Tx, Ty), S(x, x, y)) \ge 0 \tag{2}$$

for all  $x, y \in X$ , then T is called a  $\mathcal{Z}_s$ -contraction with respect to  $\zeta$ .

THEOREM 1.16 ([14]). Let (X, S) be a complete S-metric space and  $T : X \to X$ . If T is a  $\mathcal{Z}_s$ -contraction with respect to  $\zeta$ , then T has a unique fixed point  $a \in X$ , and for every  $x_0 \in X$  the sequence  $\{x_n\}$  converges to a, where  $x_n = Tx_{n-1}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Motivated by the works of [10, 13–15], in Section 2 of this paper, we introduce almost Suzuki type  $Z_s$ -contraction mappings and prove the existence and uniqueness of fixed points of such mappings in complete *S*-metric spaces. Our results generalize the fixed point theorems of Mlaiki, Yılmaz Özgür and Nihal Taş [14] and Sedghi, Shobe and Aliouche [17]. We draw some corollaries and give examples in support of our results.

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## 2. Main results

In the following we define almost Suzuki type  $\mathcal{Z}_s$ -contraction with respect to a simulation function.

DEFINITION 2.1. Let (X, S) be an S-metric space and  $T : X \to X$ . If there exist a  $\zeta \in \mathcal{Z}$  and  $L \ge 0$  such that

$$\frac{1}{3}S(x, x, Tx) < S(x, y, z) \text{ implies } \zeta(S(Tx, Ty, Tz), S(x, y, z) + LN(x, y, z)) \ge 0, \quad (3)$$

for all  $x, y, z \in X$ , where  $N(x, y, z) = \min\{S(Tx, Tx, x), S(Tx, Tx, y), S(Tx, Tx, z), S(Tx, y, z)\}$ , then T is called an almost Suzuki type  $\mathcal{Z}_s$ -contraction with respect to  $\zeta$ .

The following theorem is the main result of this paper.

THEOREM 2.2. Let (X, S) be a complete S-metric space and  $T : X \to X$  be an almost Suzuki type  $\mathcal{Z}_s$ -contraction with respect to  $\zeta \in \mathcal{Z}$ . Then for any  $x_0 \in X$ , the sequence  $\{x_n\}$  defined by  $x_n = Tx_{n-1}$  for all n = 1, 2, ... is Cauchy in X,  $\lim_{n \to +\infty} x_n = u$  (say) in X and u is a unique fixed point in X.

*Proof.* Let  $x_0 \in X$  and the sequence  $\{x_n\}$  be defined as  $x_n = Tx_{n-1}$  for all  $n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$ . If  $x_{n_0} = x_{n_0+1} = Tx_{n_0}$  for some  $n_0$ , then  $x_{n_0}$  is a fixed point of T.

Therefore, we assume that  $x_n \neq x_{n+1}$ , i.e.,  $S(x_n, x_n, x_{n+1}) > 0$ , for all  $n \ge 0$ . STEP 1: We prove that  $\lim_{n \to +\infty} S(x_n, x_n, x_{n+1}) = 0$ .

We have  $\frac{1}{3}S(x_n, x_n, Tx_n) < S(x_n, x_n, Tx_n) = S(x_n, x_n, x_{n+1})$ , hence from the inequality (3), we have

$$0 \le \zeta(S(Tx_n, Tx_n, Tx_{n+1}), S(x_n, x_n, x_{n+1}) + LN(x_n, x_n, x_{n+1})).$$
(4)

Here

 $N(x_n, x_n, x_{n+1}) = \min\{S(Tx_n, Tx_n, x_n), S(Tx_n, Tx_n, x_{n+1}), S(Tx_n, x_n, x_{n+1})\} = \min\{S(x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}, x_n), S(x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}), S(x_{n+1}, x_n, x_{n+1})\} = 0$ 

 $0 \leq \zeta(S(x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}, x_{n+2}), S(x_n, x_n, x_{n+1})) < S(x_n, x_n, x_{n+1}) - S(x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}, x_{n+2})$  which implies that

$$S(x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}, x_{n+2}) < S(x_n, x_n, x_{n+1}), \text{ for all } n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$
(5)

Therefore, the sequence  $\{S(x_n, x_n, x_{n+1})\}$  is decreasing and converges to some  $r \ge 0$ . Assume that r > 0.

Let  $t_n = S(x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}, x_{n+2})$  and  $s_n = S(x_n, x_n, x_{n+1})$ . Since  $\lim_{n \to +\infty} t_n = \lim_{n \to +\infty} s_n = r > 0$ , by using the inequality (3) and the condition  $(\zeta_3)$ , we get that

$$0 \le \limsup_{n \to +\infty} \zeta(S(x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}, x_{n+2}), S(x_n, x_n, x_{n+1})) < 0,$$

a contradiction. Therefore r = 0, i.e.

$$\lim_{n \to +\infty} S(x_n, x_n, x_{n+1}) = 0.$$
(6)

STEP 2: We prove that  $\{x_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence.

If  $\{x_n\}$  is not Cauchy, by Lemma 1.14 there exist an  $\epsilon > 0$  and sequences of positive integers  $\{m_k\}$  and  $\{n_k\}$  such that  $m_k > n_k \ge k$  such that  $S(x_{m_k}, x_{m_k}, x_{n_k}) \ge \epsilon$  and  $S(x_{m_k-1}, x_{m_k-1}, x_{n_k}) < \epsilon$  satisfying (i)-(iv) of Lemma 1.14.

Now suppose, if possible, there exists a  $k \ge k_1$  such that

$$\frac{1}{3}S(x_{m_k-1}, x_{m_k-1}, x_{m_k}) \ge S(x_{m_k-1}, x_{m_k-1}, x_{n_k-1}).$$
(7)

On letting  $k \to +\infty$  in the inequality (7) and using Lemma 1.14 (iv), we get that  $\epsilon \leq 0$ , which is a contraction. Therefore  $\frac{1}{3}S(x_{m_k-1}, x_{m_k-1}, x_{m_k}) < S(x_{m_k-1}, x_{m_k-1}, x_{n_k-1})$ , for all  $k \geq k_1$ . Now, we have

$$N(x_{m_k-1}, x_{m_k-1}, x_{n_k-1})$$
  
= min{S(Tx\_{m\_k-1}, Tx\_{m\_k-1}, x\_{m\_k-1}), S(Tx\_{m\_k-1}, Tx\_{m\_k-1}, x\_{n\_k-1}),  
= min{S(x\_{m\_k}, x\_{m\_k}, x\_{m\_k-1}), S(x\_{m\_k}, x\_{m\_k}, x\_{n\_k-1}), S(x\_{m\_k}, x\_{m\_k-1}, x\_{n\_k-1})}.

By letting  $k \to +\infty$  and by using the inequality (6), we get

$$\lim_{k \to +\infty} N(x_{m_k-1}, x_{m_k-1}, x_{n_k-1}) = 0.$$
(8)

Let  $t'_k = S(x_{m_k}, x_{m_k}, x_{n_k})$  and  $s'_k = S(x_{m_k-1}, x_{m_k-1}, x_{n_k-1}) + LN(x_{m_k-1}, x_{m_k-1}, x_{n_k-1})$ . By using Lemma 1.14 and the inequality (8), we obtain that  $\lim_{k \to +\infty} t'_k = \lim_{k \to +\infty} s'_k = \epsilon > 0$ .

Now, by the inequality (3) and by  $(\zeta_3)$ , we have

 $0 \le \limsup_{k \to +\infty} \zeta(S(x_{m_k}, x_{m_k}, x_{n_k}), S(x_{m_k-1}, x_{m_k-1}, x_{n_k-1}) + LN(x_{m_k-1}, x_{m_k-1}, x_{n_k-1})) < 0,$ 

a contradiction.

Therefore,  $\{x_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence. Since (X, S) is a complete S-metric space, there exists a  $u \in X$ , such that  $\lim_{n \to +\infty} x_n = u$ .

STEP 3: We now prove that u is a fixed point of T.

Suppose that  $Tu \neq u$ . Then S(u, u, Tu) > 0. We now prove that either

(a) 
$$\frac{1}{3}S(x_n, x_n, x_{n+1}) < S(x_n, x_n, u),$$
 or

(b) 
$$\frac{1}{3}S(x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}, x_{n+2}) < S(x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}, u)$$
 (9)

hold for each n = 0, 1, 2, ... On the contrary, suppose that  $\frac{1}{3}S(x_n, x_n, x_{n+1}) \ge S(x_n, x_n, u)$  and  $\frac{1}{3}S(x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}, x_{n+2}) \ge S(x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}, u)$  hold for some n. Therefore,  $3S(x_n, x_n, u) \le S(x_n, x_n, x_{n+1}) = S(x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}, x_n) \le 2S(x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}, u) + S(x_n, x_n, u)$ , which implies that  $S(x_n, x_n, u) \le S(x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}, u)$ . From the inequality (5), we have

$$S(x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}, x_{n+2}) < S(x_n, x_n, x_{n+1})$$

 $\leq 2S(x_n, x_n, u) + S(x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}, u) \leq S(x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}, x_{n+2}),$ 

a contradiction. Therefore (9) holds.

Suppose that (a) holds, i.e. 
$$\frac{1}{3}S(x_n, x_n, Tx_n) < S(x_n, x_n, u)$$
 and from (3) we have  
 $0 \le \zeta(S(Tx_n, Tx_n, Tu), S(x_n, x_n, u) + LN(x_n, x_n, u)).$  (10)

Here

$$N(x_n, x_n, u) = \min\{S(Tx_n, Tx_n, x_n), S(Tx_n, Tx_n, u), S(Tx_n, x_n, u)\}\$$
  
= min{S(x\_{n+1}, x\_{n+1}, x\_n), S(x\_{n+1}, x\_{n+1}, u), S(x\_{n+1}, x\_n, u)}.

On letting  $n \to +\infty$ , we have  $\lim_{n \to +\infty} N(x_n, x_n, u) = 0$ . From (10), we have

 $0 \le \limsup_{n \to +\infty} \zeta(S(x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}, Tu), S(x_n, x_n, u) + LN(x_n, x_n, u))$  $\le \limsup_{n \to +\infty} (S(x_n, x_n, u) + LN(x_n, x_n, u) - S(x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}, Tu))$ 

$$= \limsup_{n \to +\infty} (S(x_n, x_n, u) + LN(x_n, x_n, u)) - \liminf_{n \to +\infty} S(x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}, Tu) = -S(u, u, Tu),$$

Hence S(u, u, Tu) = 0, i.e., u = Tu.

Now suppose (b) holds, i.e.  $\frac{1}{3}S(x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}, Tx_{n+1}) < S(x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}, u)$  and from the inequality (3) we have

$$0 \le \zeta(S(Tx_{n+1}, Tx_{n+1}, Tu), S(x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}, u) + LN(x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}, u)), \quad (11)$$
ere

where

$$N(x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}, u) = \min\{S(Tx_{n+1}, Tx_{n+1}, x_{n+1}), S(Tx_{n+1}, Tx_{n+1}, u), S(Tx_{n+1}, x_{n+1}, u)\}$$
  
= min{S(x\_{n+2}, x\_{n+2}, x\_{n+1}), S(x\_{n+2}, x\_{n+2}, u), S(x\_{n+2}, x\_{n+1}, u)}.

On letting  $n \to +\infty$ , we have  $\lim_{n \to +\infty} N(x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}, u) = 0$ . From the inequality (11), we have

$$0 \leq \limsup_{n \to +\infty} \zeta(S(x_{n+2}, x_{n+2}, Tu), S(x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}, u) + LN(x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}, u))$$
  
$$\leq \limsup_{n \to +\infty} (S(x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}, u) + LN(x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}, u) - S(x_{n+2}, x_{n+2}, Tu)) = -S(u, u, Tu).$$

Hence S(u, u, Tu) = 0, i.e., u = Tu. Thus, u is a fixed point of T.

STEP 4: We now prove the uniqueness. Suppose that  $x, y \in X$  are two fixed points of T such that  $x \neq y$ . Clearly,  $\frac{1}{3}S(x, x, Tx) < S(x, x, y)$ . Then by using the inequality (3), we get

$$0 \le \zeta(S(Tx, Tx, Ty), S(x, x, y) + LN(x, x, y)), \tag{12}$$

where  $N(x, x, y) = \min\{S(Tx, Tx, x), S(Tx, Tx, y), S(Tx, x, y)\} = 0$ . Now, from the inequality (12), we get

$$0 \leq \zeta(S(x, x, y), S(x, x, y)) < S(x, x, y) - S(x, x, y) = 0 \qquad (by (\zeta_2)),$$
  
a contradiction. Therefore  $x = y$ .

THEOREM 2.3. Let (X, S) be a complete S-metric space. Suppose that there exist  $\zeta \in \mathcal{Z}$  and  $L \geq 0$  such that

$$\frac{1}{3}S(x,x,Tx) < S(x,x,y) \quad implies \quad \zeta(S(Tx,Tx,Ty),S(x,x,y) + LN(x,x,y)) \ge 0, \quad (13)$$
  
for all  $x,y \in X$ , where  $N(x,x,y) = \min\{S(Tx,Tx,x),S(Tx,Tx,y),S(Tx,x,y)\}.$ 

Then T has a unique fixed point in X.

Proof. Similar to the proof of Theorem 2.2

COROLLARY 2.4. Let (X, S) be a complete S-metric space. Suppose that there exist  $\zeta \in \mathcal{Z}$  and  $L \geq 0$  and such that

$$\zeta(S(Tx,Tx,Ty),S(x,x,y) + LN(x,x,y)) \ge 0, \tag{14}$$

for all  $x, y \in X$ , where N(x, x, y) is defined as in the inequality (13). Then T has a unique fixed point in X.

REMARK 2.5. If L = 0 in the inequality (13), then Theorem 1.16 follows as a corollary of Corollary 2.4.

COROLLARY 2.6. Let (X, S) be a complete S-metric space and  $T: X \times X \to X$  be a mapping satisfying the following condition: there exists  $\lambda \in [0, 1)$  such that

$$\frac{1}{3}S(x,x,Tx) < S(x,x,y) \text{ implies } S(Tx,Tx,Ty) \le \lambda S(x,x,y),$$
(15)

for all  $x, y \in X$ . Then T has a unique fixed point in X.

*Proof.* If we choose simulation function  $\zeta$  as  $\zeta(t, s) = \lambda s - t$ , for all  $s, t \ge 0$ , where  $\lambda \in [0, 1)$  and if L = 0 in the inequality (13) then the inequality (15) is a special case of the inequality (13) so that, the conclusion of this corollary follows from Theorem 2.3.  $\Box$ 

REMARK 2.7. Theorem 1.13 follows as a corollary of Corollary 2.6.

COROLLARY 2.8. Let (X, S) be a complete S-metric space and  $T: X \times X \to X$  be a mapping satisfying

$$\frac{1}{3}S(x,x,Tx) < S(x,y,z) \text{ implies } S(Tx,Ty,Tz) \le S(x,y,z) - \varphi(S(x,y,z)), \quad (16)$$

for all  $x, y, z \in X$ , where  $\varphi : [0, +\infty) \to [0, +\infty)$  is a lower semi continuous function with  $\varphi(t) = 0$  if and only if t = 0. Then T has a unique fixed point in X.

*Proof.* We choose  $\zeta(t, s)$  as in the Example 1.2 (v) and if L = 0 in the inequality (3), it follows that the conclusion of this corollary holds by applying Theorem 2.2.

The following example is in support of Theorem 2.2.

EXAMPLE 2.9. Let  $X = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{4}, 1 \end{bmatrix}$ . We define  $S : X^3 \to [0, +\infty)$  by

$$S(x, y, z) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } x = y = z \\ \max\{x, y, z\}, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

We define  $T: X \to X$  by

$$Tx = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2}, & \text{if } x \in [\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{2}) \\ 1, & \text{if } x \in [\frac{1}{2}, 1] \end{cases}$$

We define  $\zeta : [0, +\infty) \times [0, +\infty) \to \mathbb{R}$  by  $\zeta(t, s) = \frac{1}{2}s - t$ ,  $s, t \ge 0$ . Then  $\zeta$  is a simulation function. Let  $x, y, z \in X$ . We now verify that  $\zeta(S(Tx, Ty, Tz), S(x, y, z) + LN(x, y, z)) \ge 0$  whenever  $\frac{1}{3}S(x, x, Tx) < S(x, y, z)$ .

Case (i) Let  $x, y, z \in [\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{2})$ . We assume without loss of generality that x < y < z. We have  $\frac{1}{3}S(x, x, Tx) = \frac{1}{3}S(x, x, \frac{1}{2}) = \frac{1}{6} < z = S(x, y, z)$ . In this case S(Tx, Ty, Tz) = 0 so that the inequality (3) holds trivially for any  $L \ge 0$ .

Case (ii) Let  $x, y, z \in [\frac{1}{2}, 1]$ . We assume that x < y < z. We have  $\frac{1}{3}S(x, x, Tx) = \frac{1}{3}S(x, x, 1) = \frac{1}{3} < z = S(x, y, z)$ . In this case S(Tx, Ty, Tz) = 0 so that the inequality (3) holds trivially for any  $L \ge 0$ .

Case (iii) Let  $x \in [\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{2})$  and  $y, z \in [\frac{1}{2}, 1]$ . We assume that y < z. We have  $\frac{1}{3}S(x, x, Tx) = \frac{1}{3}S(x, x, \frac{1}{2}) = \frac{1}{6} < z = S(x, y, z)$ .

$$\begin{split} S(Tx,Tx,x) = &S(\frac{1}{2},\frac{1}{2},x) = \frac{1}{2}; \\ S(Tx,Tx,z) = &S(\frac{1}{2},\frac{1}{2},z) = z; \\ N(x,y,z) = &\min\{\frac{1}{2},y,z\} = \frac{1}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad S(Tx,Ty,Tz) = &S(\frac{1}{2},1,1) = 1 \end{split}$$

We consider

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta(S(Tx,Ty,Tz),S(x,y,z) + LN(x,y,z)) &= \frac{1}{2}(S(x,y,z) + LN(x,y,z)) - S(Tx,Ty,Tz) \\ &\geq \frac{1}{2}(LN(x,y,z)) - S(Tx,Ty,Tz) = \frac{1}{2}(L(\frac{1}{2})) - 1 \ge 0, \text{ for any } L \ge 4. \end{aligned}$$

In this case, the inequality (3) holds for any  $L \ge 4$ .

Case (iv) Let  $x, y \in [\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{2})$  and  $z \in [\frac{1}{2}, 1]$ . We assume that x < y. We have  $\frac{1}{3}S(x, x, Tx) = \frac{1}{3}S(x, x, \frac{1}{2}) = \frac{1}{6} < z = S(x, y, z)$ .  $S(Tx, Tx, x) = S(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, x) = \frac{1}{2}$   $S(Tx, Tx, z) = S(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, z) = z$   $S(Tx, Tx, z) = S(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, z) = z$   $S(Tx, y, z) = S(\frac{1}{2}, y, z) = z$   $N(x, y, z) = \min\{\frac{1}{2}, z\} = \frac{1}{2}$  and  $S(Tx, Ty, Tz) = S(\frac{1}{2}, 1, 1) = 1$ .

In this case, we have  $\zeta(S(Tx, Ty, Tz), S(x, y, z) + LN(x, y, z)) \ge 0$  for any  $L \ge 4$  (similarly as in Case (iii)). The inequality (3) holds for any  $L \ge 4$ .

 $\begin{array}{ll} \text{Case (v) Let } x,z \ \in \ [\frac{1}{4},\frac{1}{2}) \ \text{and} \ y \ \in \ [\frac{1}{2},1]. \\ \text{We assume that} \ x \ < \ z. \\ \text{We have } \frac{1}{3}S(x,x,Tx) = \frac{1}{3}S(x,x,\frac{1}{2}) = \frac{1}{6} < y = S(x,y,z). \\ S(Tx,Tx,x) = S(\frac{1}{2},\frac{1}{2},x) = \frac{1}{2}; \\ S(Tx,Tx,z) = S(\frac{1}{2},\frac{1}{2},z) = \frac{1}{2}; \\ S(Tx,Tx,z) = S(\frac{1}{2},\frac{1}{2},z) = \frac{1}{2}; \\ N(x,y,z) = \min\{\frac{1}{2},y\} = \frac{1}{2} \\ \text{and} \\ S(Tx,Ty,Tz) = 1. \end{array}$ 

Similarly as in Case (iii), the inequality (3) holds for any  $L \ge 4$ .

Case (vi) Let  $z \in [\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{2})$  and  $x, y \in [\frac{1}{2}, 1]$ . We assume that x < y. We have

$$\begin{split} &\frac{1}{3}S(x,x,Tx) = \frac{1}{3}S(x,x,1) = \frac{1}{3} < y = S(x,y,z).\\ &S(Tx,Tx,x) = S(1,1,x) = 1;\\ &S(Tx,Tx,z) = S(1,1,z) = 1;\\ &N(x,y,z) = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad S(Tx,Ty,Tz) = S(1,y,z) \text{ so that}\\ \end{split}$$

We consider

$$\begin{split} &\zeta(S(Tx,Ty,Tz),S(x,y,z) + LN(x,y,z)) = \frac{1}{2}(S(x,y,z) + LN(x,y,z)) - S(Tx,Ty,Tz) \\ &\geq \frac{1}{2}(LN(x,y,z)) - S(Tx,Ty,Tz) = \frac{1}{2}(L(1)) - 1 \geq 0, \text{ for any } L \geq 2. \end{split}$$
 In this case, the inequality (3) holds for any  $L \geq 2.$ 

Case (vii) Let  $y \in [\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{2})$  and  $x, z \in [\frac{1}{2}, 1]$ . We assume that x < z. We have  $\frac{1}{3}S(x, x, Tx) = \frac{1}{3}S(x, x, 1) = \frac{1}{3} < z = S(x, y, z)$ . S(Tx, Tx, x) = S(1, 1, x) = 1;S(Tx, Tx, y) = S(1, 1, y) = 1;S(Tx, Tx, z) = S(1, 1, z) = 1;S(Tx, y, z) = S(1, y, z) = 1 so that N(x, y, z) = 1.

In this case, we have  $\zeta(S(Tx,Ty,Tz),S(x,y,z)+LN(x,y,z)) \geq 0$ , for any  $L \geq 2$ (similarly as in Case (vi)).

Case (viii) Let  $z, y \in [\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{2})$  and  $x \in [\frac{1}{2}, 1]$ . We assume that y < z. We have  $\frac{1}{3}S(x, x, Tx) = \frac{1}{3}S(x, x, 1) = \frac{1}{3} < S(x, y, z)$ . Here N(x, y, z) = 1. In this case, we have  $\zeta(S(Tx, Ty, Tz), S(x, y, z) + LN(x, y, z)) \ge \frac{1}{2}(L(1)) - 1 \ge 0$ , for any  $L \ge 2$ . Therefore T satisfies all the hypotheses of Theorem 2.2, with L = 4, and 1 is the unique fixed point of T.

The following example is in support of Theorem 2.3.

EXAMPLE 2.10. Let  $X = [\frac{1}{2}, 2]$ . We define  $S : X^3 \to [0, \infty)$  by

$$S(x, y, z) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } x = y = z \\ \max\{x, y, z\}, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then (X, S) is a complete S-metric space. We define  $T: X \to X$  by

$$Tx = \begin{cases} \frac{2x+1}{3}, & \text{if } x \in [\frac{1}{2}, 1) \\ 2, & \text{if } x \in [1, 2]. \end{cases}$$

We define  $\zeta : [0,\infty) \times [0,\infty) \to \mathbb{R}$  by  $\zeta(t,s) = s - 3t, s,t \ge 0$ . Then  $\zeta$  is a simulation function. Let  $x, y \in X$ . We now verify that  $\zeta(S(Tx, Tx, Ty), S(x, x, y) +$ 

 $\begin{array}{l} \text{ Latter function. Let } x,y \in X. \text{ We now verify that } \zeta(S(Tx,Tx,Ty),S(x,x,y)+LN(x,x,y)) \geq 0 \text{ whenever } \frac{1}{3}S(x,x,Tx) < S(x,x,y).\\ \text{Case (i) Let } x,y \in [\frac{1}{2},1) \text{ with } x < y. \text{ Here } S(x,x,Tx) = \frac{2x+1}{3} \text{ and } S(x,x,y) = y.\\ \text{Clearly, } \frac{1}{3}S(x,x,Tx) < S(x,x,y). \text{ In this case, } S(Tx,Tx,Ty) = \frac{2y+1}{3} \text{ and } N(x,y,z) = \frac{2x+1}{3}. \text{ Then } Y(x,y,z) =$ 

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta(S(Tx,Tx,Ty),S(x,x,y) + LN(x,x,y)) &= S(x,x,y) + LN(x,x,y) - 3S(Tx,Tx,Ty) \\ &= y + L(\frac{2x+1}{3}) - 3(\frac{2y+1}{3}) > 0 \quad \text{ for any } L \ge 4. \end{aligned}$$

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Therefore, in this case, the inequality (13) holds for any  $L \ge 4$ .

Case (ii) Let  $x, y \in [1,2]$ . We have  $\frac{1}{3}S(x, x, Tx) = \frac{1}{3}S(x, x, 2) = \frac{2}{3} < S(x, x, y)$ . In this case S(Tx, Tx, Ty) = 0 so that the inequality (13) holds trivially for any  $L \ge 0$ . Case (iii) Let  $x \in [\frac{1}{2}, 1)$  and  $y \in [1,2]$ . We have  $\frac{1}{3}S(x, x, Tx) = \frac{1}{3}\max\{\frac{2x+1}{3}, x\} < S(x, x, y)$ . Here S(Tx, Tx, Ty) = 2;  $S(Tx, Tx, x) = \frac{2x+1}{3}$ ; S(Tx, Tx, y) = y; S(Tx, x, y) = y and  $N(x, x, y) = \min\{\frac{2x+1}{3}, y\} = \frac{2x+1}{3}$ . We consider

$$\zeta(S(Tx, Tx, Ty), S(x, x, y) + LN(x, x, y)) = y + L(\frac{2x+1}{3}) - 3(2) > 0$$

for any  $L \ge 9$ . Therefore, in this case, the inequality (13) holds for any  $L \ge 9$ .

Case (iv) Let  $x \in [1,2]$  and  $y \in [\frac{1}{2},1)$ . We have  $\frac{1}{3}S(x,x,Tx) = \frac{2}{3} < S(x,x,y)$  and N(x,x,y) = 2; We consider  $\zeta(S(Tx,Tx,Ty),S(x,x,y) + LN(x,x,y)) = x + L(2) - 3(2) > 0$  for any  $L \ge 3$ . In this case, the inequality (13) holds for any  $L \ge 3$ .

Therefore T satisfies all the hypotheses of Theorem 2.3 with respect to  $\zeta$  with L = 9 and 2 is the unique fixed point of T.

Here we observe that T does not satisfy the inequality (1). For example, choose  $x = \frac{3}{2}, y = \frac{3}{4}$ , we have  $S(x, x, y) = \frac{3}{2}$ . Now,  $S(Tx, Tx, Ty) = 2 \leq KS(x, x, y)$  for any K < 1. Hence T does not satisfy the inequality (1). So we conclude from Remark 2.7 that Theorem 2.3 generalizes Theorem 1.13.

Further, we observe that T does not satisfy the inequality (2) for any  $\zeta$ . If we choose  $x = \frac{1}{2}, y = \frac{1}{4}$  in the inequality (2), then we have  $\zeta(S(Tx, Tx, Ty), S(x, x, y)) = \zeta(\frac{2}{3}, \frac{1}{2}) < \frac{1}{2} - \frac{2}{3} < -\frac{1}{6}$ , a contradiction.

Thus the inequality (2) fails to hold for any  $\zeta$ . Hence by Remark 2.5, it follows that Theorem 2.3 is a generalization of Theorem 1.16.

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