

## Fixed point theorems for $\lambda$ -generalized contractions in $D^*$ -metric spaces

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**Abstract.** The fixed point theorems for  $D^*$ -metric spaces were obtained by several authors. The notion of a  $D^*$ -metric space and  $\lambda$ -generalized contractions are presented in this paper and a fixed point theorem on a  $\lambda$ -generalized contraction of an  $f$ -orbitally complete  $D^*$ -metric space is obtained. Further, some consequences of this fixed point theorem are presented in this paper.

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### 1. Introduction

In 1992 B. C. Dhage [2] initiated a study of general metric spaces called  $D$ -metric spaces. Later several researchers made significant contributions to the study of fixed point theorems of  $D$ -metric spaces, in [1], [3] and [9]. Unfortunately, almost all fixed point theorems proved on  $D$ -metric spaces are not valid, in view of papers [7], [6] and [8]. R. Kannan introduced the concept of  $K$ -contraction in metric spaces and obtained fixed point results in metric spaces.

### 2. Definitions

As a modification of  $D$ -metric spaces, Shaban Sedghi, Nabi Shobe and Haiyun Zhou [10] have introduced  $D^*$ -metric spaces as follows:

**Definition 2.1.** [10] Let  $X$  be a non-empty set. A function  $D^* : X^3 \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  is said to be a generalized metric or  $D^*$ -metric on  $X$ , if it satisfies the following properties:

- (i)  $D^*(x, y, z) \geq 0$  for all  $x, y, z \in X$ ,

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- (ii)  $D^*(x, y, z) = 0$  if and only if  $x=y=z$ ,
- (iii)  $D^*(x, y, z) = D^*(\sigma(x, y, z))$  for all  $x, y, z \in X$ , where  $\sigma(x, y, z)$  is a permutation of the set  $\{x, y, z\}$ ,
- (iv)  $D^*(x, y, z) \leq D^*(x, y, w) + D^*(w, z, z)$  for all  $x, y, z, w \in X$ .

The pair  $(X, D^*)$ , where  $D^*$  is a generalized metric on  $X$  is called a  $D^*$ -metric space, or a generalized metric space.

**Example 2.2.** [10] Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space. Define  $D_1^* : X^3 \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  by  $D_1^*(x, y, z) = \max\{d(x, y), d(y, z)d(z, x)\}$  for  $x, y, z \in X$ . Then  $(X, D_1^*)$  is a generalized metric space.

**Note 2.3.** [11] Using (ii) and inequality (iv) of Definition 2.1, one can prove that, if  $(X, D^*)$  is a  $D^*$ -metric space, then

$$(2.1) \quad D^*(x, x, y) = D^*(x, y, y)$$

for all  $x, y \in X$ . In fact,  $D^*(x, x, y) \leq D^*(x, x, x) + D^*(x, y, y) = D^*(x, y, y)$  and  $D^*(x, y, y) = D^*(y, y, x) \leq D^*(y, y, y) + D^*(y, x, x) = D^*(x, x, y)$  for all  $x, y \in X$ , proving (2.1).

**Definition 2.4.** Let  $(X, D^*)$  be a  $D^*$ -metric space. A sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in  $X$  is said to

- (i) Converge to some point  $x$  of  $X$ , if  $D^*(x_n, x_n, x) = D^*(x_n, x, x) \rightarrow D^*(x, x, x)$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$
- (ii) be Cauchy if, for every  $\epsilon > 0$ , there is a natural number  $n_0$  such that  $D^*(x_n, x_n, x_m) < \epsilon$  for all  $m, n \geq n_0$ .

It is easy to see (A fact proved in [10]; Lemma 1.8 and Lemma 1.9) that, if  $\{x_n\}$  converges to  $x$  in  $(X, D^*)$ , then  $x$  is unique, and that  $\{x_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $(X, D^*)$ .

**Definition 2.5.** A  $D^*$ -metric space  $(X, D^*)$  is said to be complete, if every Cauchy sequence in it converges in it.

**Note 2.6.** As noted in Example 2.2, given any metric space  $(X, d)$  it is possible to define a  $D^*$ -metric  $D_1^*$  by using the metric  $d$ . We shall call  $D_1^*$  as  $D^*$ -metric induced by the metric  $d$ . Thus, every metric space gives rise to at least one  $D^*$ -metric space  $(X, D_1^*)$ . Also, if  $(X, D^*)$  is a  $D^*$ -metric space, then defining  $d_0(x, y) = D^*(x, y, y)$  for  $x, y \in X$ , we can easily show that  $(X, d_0)$  is a metric space, and we shall call  $d_0$  as metric induced by  $D^*$ .

**Theorem 2.7.** Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space and  $D_1^*$  the  $D^*$ -metric induced by  $d$  (as given in Example 2.2). A sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in  $(X, D_1^*)$  is a Cauchy sequence if and only if  $\{x_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $(X, d)$ .

*Proof.* First note that we have  $d(x, y) \leq D_1^*(x, y, y) \leq 2d(x, y)$  for all  $x, y \in X$ . The theorem follows immediately from the above inequality. In fact, if  $\{x_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $(X, d)$ , then, for any given  $\epsilon > 0$ , choose a natural number  $n_0$  such that  $m, n \geq n_0$  implies  $d(x_m, x_n) < \epsilon/2$ ; and note that, for the same  $n_0, m, n \geq n_0$  implies that  $D^*(x_m, x_n, x_n) \leq 2d(x_m, x_n) < \epsilon$ , proving that  $\{x_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $(X, D_1^*)$ . The other part of the theorem can be proved by using the left one among the two inequalities noted at the beginning of the proof.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.8.** *Suppose that  $(X, d)$  is a metric space, and let  $D_1^*$  be a  $D^*$ -metric induced by the metric  $d$ . Then the  $D^*$ -metric space  $(X, D_1^*)$  is complete if and only if  $(X, d)$  is complete.*

*Proof.* Follows from Theorem 2.7.  $\square$

It has been proved in ([10]; Lemma 1.7) that, if  $(X, D^*)$  is a  $D^*$ -metric space, then  $D^*$  is a continuous function on  $X^3$ , in the sense that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} D^*(x_n, y_n, z_n) = D^*(x, y, z)$ , whenever  $\{(x_n, y_n, z_n)\}$  is a sequence in  $X^3$  converging to  $(x, y, z) \in X^3$ . Equivalently,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x$ ,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_n = y$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} z_n = z$  imply that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} D^*(x_n, y_n, z_n) = D^*(x, y, z)$ .

The purpose of this paper is to define certain types of contractions among self-maps of  $D^*$ -metric spaces, and to establish fixed point theorems for such self-maps.

**Definition 2.9.** Let  $f$  be a self map of a  $D^*$ -metric space  $(X, D^*)$ . For any  $x \in X$ , the set  $O_f(x : \infty) = \{f^n x : n \geq 0\} = \{x, fx, f^2x, \dots\}$  is called the orbit of  $x$  under  $f$ .

**Definition 2.10.** Let  $f$  be a self-map of a  $D^*$ -metric space  $(X, D^*)$ . If, for some  $x \in X$ , every Cauchy sequence in  $O_f(x : \infty)$  converges a point in  $X$ , then  $(X, D^*)$  is said to be an  $f$ -orbitally complete  $D^*$ -metric space.

*Remark 2.11.* Trivially, a complete  $D^*$ -metric space is  $f$ -orbitally complete for any self-map  $f$  of  $X$ . However, the converse is not true. A self-map  $f$  of a  $D^*$ -metric space  $(X, D^*)$  is called a contraction, if there is a  $q$  with  $0 \leq q < 1$  such that

$$(2.2) \quad D^*(fx, fy, fz) \leq q.D^*(x, y, z)$$

for all  $x, y, z \in X$ .

R. Kannan [4] defined a contraction for metric spaces in a different way, which we shall call a  $K$ -contraction. Analogously we define  $K$ -contraction for  $D^*$ -metric spaces as follows:

**Definition 2.12.** A self-map  $f$  of a  $D^*$ -metric space  $(X, D^*)$  is called a  $K$ -contraction, if there is a  $q$  with  $0 \leq q < 1/3$  such that

$$(2.3) \quad D^*(fx, fy, fz) \leq q.\{D^*(x, fx, fx) + D^*(y, fy, fy) + D^*(z, fz, fz)\}$$

for all  $x, y, z \in X$ .

The concepts of contraction and  $K$ -contraction are independent. We now define a special type of contraction, called a  $\lambda$ -generalized contraction for  $D^*$ -metric spaces as follows:

**Definition 2.13.** A self-map  $f$  of a  $D^*$ -metric space  $(X, D^*)$  is called a  $\lambda$ -generalized contraction if, for every  $x, y, z \in X$ , there exist non-negative numbers  $q, r, s, t$  and  $v$  (depending on  $x, y$  and  $z$ ) such that

$$(2.4) \quad \sup_{x, y, z \in X} \{q + r + s + t + 10v\} = \lambda < 1$$

and

$$(2.5) \quad \begin{aligned} D^*(fx, fy, fz) &\leq q(x, y, z)D^*(x, y, z) + r(x, y, z)D^*(x, fx, fx) \\ &\quad + s(x, y, z)D^*(y, fy, fy) + t(x, y, z)D^*(z, fz, fz) \\ &\quad + v(x, y, z)\{D^*(x, fy, fy) + D^*(y, fz, fz) \\ &\quad + D^*(z, fx, fx) + D^*(x, fz, fz) + D^*(y, fx, fx) \\ &\quad + D^*(z, fy, fy) + D^*(x, fy, fz) \\ &\quad + D^*(y, fz, fx) + D^*(z, fx, fy)\}, \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x, y, z \in X$ . From the definition it is clear that every contraction and  $K$ -contraction are  $\lambda$ -generalized contractions.

### 3. Main results

#### Fixed point theorem for $\lambda$ -generalized contraction of $D^*$ -metric spaces

**Theorem 3.1.** Suppose  $f$  is a self-map of a  $D^*$ -metric space  $(X, D^*)$  and  $X$  is  $f$ -orbitally complete. If  $f$  is a  $\lambda$ -generalized contraction, then it has a unique fixed point  $u \in X$ . In fact,

$$(3.1) \quad u = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f^n x$$

for any  $x \in X$  and

$$(3.2) \quad D^*(f^n x, u, u) \leq \frac{\lambda^n}{1 - \lambda} D^*(x, fx, fx)$$

for any  $x \in X$  and  $n \geq 1$ .

*Proof.* Let  $x \in X$  be an arbitrary element of  $X$ . Define the sequence  $\{x_n\}$  by  $x_0 = x$ ,  $x_1 = fx_0$ ,  $x_2 = fx_1 = f^2x$ , ...,  $x_n = fx_{n-1} = f^n x$ , ...and denote the orbit of  $x$  under  $f$  by  $O_f(x : \infty) = \{x_n : n = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ .

Consider

$$\begin{aligned}
 D^*(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) &= D^*(fx_{n-1}, fx_n, fx_n) \\
 &\leq q(x_{n-1}, x_n, x_n)D^*(x_{n-1}, x_n, x_n) \\
 &\quad + r(x_{n-1}, x_n, x_n)D^*(x_{n-1}, x_n, x_n) \\
 &\quad + s(x_{n-1}, x_n, x_n)D^*(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) \\
 &\quad + t(x_{n-1}, x_n, x_n)D^*(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) \\
 &\quad + v(x_{n-1}, x_n, x_n)\{D^*(x_{n-1}, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) \\
 &\quad + D^*(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) + D^*(x_n, x_n, x_n) \\
 &\quad + D^*(x_{n-1}, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) + D^*(x_n, x_n, x_n) \\
 &\quad + D^*(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) + D^*(x_{n-1}, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) \\
 &\quad + D^*(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_n) + D^*(x_n, x_n, x_{n+1})\}
 \end{aligned}$$

writing

$q_{n-1} = q(x_{n-1}, x_n, x_n)$ ,  $r_{n-1} = r(x_{n-1}, x_n, x_n)$ ,  $s_{n-1} = s(x_{n-1}, x_n, x_n)$ ,  $t_{n-1} = t(x_{n-1}, x_n, x_n)$  and  $v_{n-1} = v(x_{n-1}, x_n, x_n)$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 D^*(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) &\leq q_{n-1}D^*(x_{n-1}, x_n, x_n) + r_{n-1}D^*(x_{n-1}, x_n, x_n) \\
 &\quad + s_{n-1}D^*(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) + t_{n-1}D^*(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) \\
 &\quad + v_{n-1}\{3D^*(x_{n-1}, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) + 2D^*(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) \\
 &\quad + 2D^*(x_n, x_n, x_{n+1})\}
 \end{aligned}$$

since  $D^*(x, x, y) = D^*(x, y, y)$  [Note 2.3], so we write

$D^*(x_{n-1}, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) = D^*(x_{n-1}, x_{n-1}, x_{n+1})$  and  $D^*(x_n, x_n, x_{n+1}) = D^*(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1})$ . Therefore

$$\begin{aligned}
 D^*(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) &\leq q_{n-1}D^*(x_{n-1}, x_n, x_n) + r_{n-1}D^*(x_{n-1}, x_n, x_n) \\
 &\quad + s_{n-1}D^*(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) + t_{n-1}D^*(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) \\
 &\quad + v_{n-1}\{3D^*(x_{n-1}, x_{n-1}, x_{n+1}) + 4D^*(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1})\}
 \end{aligned}$$

By using property (iv) of a  $D^*$ -metric space, we write

$$\begin{aligned}
 D^*(x_{n-1}, x_{n-1}, x_{n+1}) &\leq D^*(x_{n-1}, x_{n-1}, x_n) + D^*(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) \\
 &\leq D^*(x_{n-1}, x_n, x_n) + D^*(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1})
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 D^*(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) &\leq q_{n-1}D^*(x_{n-1}, x_n, x_n) + r_{n-1}D^*(x_{n-1}, x_n, x_n) \\
 &\quad + s_{n-1}D^*(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) + t_{n-1}D^*(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) \\
 &\quad + v_{n-1}\{3D^*(x_{n-1}, x_n, x_n) + 7D^*(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1})\} \\
 &\leq (q_{n-1} + r_{n-1} + 3v_{n-1})D^*(x_{n-1}, x_n, x_n) \\
 &\quad + (s_{n-1} + t_{n-1} + 7v_{n-1})D^*(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1})
 \end{aligned}$$

This implies that

$$\begin{aligned}
 (1 - s_{n-1} - t_{n-1} - 7v_{n-1})D^*(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) \\
 \leq (q_{n-1} + r_{n-1} + 3v_{n-1})D^*(x_{n-1}, x_n, x_n).
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $D^*(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) \leq (\frac{q_{n-1}+r_{n-1}+3v_{n-1}}{1-s_{n-1}-t_{n-1}-7v_{n-1}})D^*(x_{n-1}, x_n, x_n)$

$D^*(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) \leq \lambda D^*(x_{n-1}, x_n, x_n)$ , where  $\lambda = \frac{q_{n-1}+r_{n-1}+3v_{n-1}}{1-s_{n-1}-t_{n-1}-7v_{n-1}}$ .

Assume that  $\lambda < 1$ , which implies  $\lambda = \frac{q_{n-1}+r_{n-1}+3v_{n-1}}{1-s_{n-1}-t_{n-1}-7v_{n-1}} < 1$

$q_{n-1} + r_{n-1} + 3v_{n-1} < 1 - s_{n-1} - t_{n-1} - 7v_{n-1}$

$q_{n-1} + r_{n-1} + s_{n-1} + t_{n-1} + 10v_{n-1} < 1$  since

$\sup_{x,y,z \in X} \{q + r + s + t + 10v\} = \lambda = q_{n-1} + r_{n-1} + s_{n-1} + t_{n-1} + 10v_{n-1} < 1$ .

Thus by iteration, we get

$$(3.3) \quad D^*(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) \leq \lambda^n D^*(x_0, x_1, x_1) = \lambda^n D^*(x_0, f x_0, f x_0)$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} D^*(x_n, x_{n+p}, x_{n+p}) &\leq D^*(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) + D^*(x_{n+1}, x_{n+2}, x_{n+2}) \\ &\quad + D^*(x_{n+2}, x_{n+3}, x_{n+3}) + \dots + D^*(x_{n+p-1}, x_{n+p}, x_{n+p}) \\ &\leq \lambda^n D^*(x_0, x_1, x_1) + \lambda^{n+1} D^*(x_0, x_1, x_1) \\ &\quad + \lambda^{n+2} D^*(x_0, x_1, x_1) + \dots + \lambda^{n+p-1} D^*(x_0, x_1, x_1) \\ &\leq (\lambda^n + \lambda^{n+1} + \lambda^{n+2} + \dots + \lambda^{n+p-1} + \dots) D^*(x_0, x_1, x_1) \\ &\leq \frac{\lambda^n}{1-\lambda} D^*(x_0, x_1, x_1) \end{aligned}$$

$$(3.4) \quad D^*(x_n, x_{n+p}, x_{n+p}) \leq \frac{\lambda^n}{1-\lambda} D^*(x_0, x_1, x_1)$$

Hence  $D^*(x_n, x_{n+p}, x_{n+p}) \leq \lambda^n D^*(x_0, x_1, x_1)/(1-\lambda) \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , since  $0 \leq \lambda < 1$ , and  $\{x_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $O_f(x : \infty)$ . Since  $X$  is  $f$ -orbitally complete, there exists a  $u \in X$  such that

$$u = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f^n x_0 = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f^n x.$$

To show that  $u$  is a fixed point of  $f$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} D^*(f u, f x_n, f x_n) &\leq q D^*(u, x_n, x_n) + r D^*(u, f u, f u) \\ &\quad + s D^*(x_n, f x_n, f x_n) + t D^*(x_n, f x_n, f x_n) \\ &\quad + v \{ D^*(u, f x_n, f x_n) + D^*(x_n, f x_n, f x_n) \\ &\quad + D^*(x_n, f u, f u) + D^*(u, f x_n, f x_n) \\ &\quad + D^*(x_n, f u, f u) + D^*(x_n, f x_n, f x_n) \\ &\quad + D^*(u, f x_n, f x_n) + D^*(x_n, f x_n, f u) \\ &\quad + D^*(x_n, f u, f x_n) \} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
D^*(fu, fx_n, fx_n) &\leq qD^*(u, x_n, x_n) + rD^*(u, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) \\
&\quad + rD^*(x_{n+1}, fu, fu) + sD^*(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) \\
&\quad + tD^*(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) + v\{D^*(u, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) \\
&\quad + D^*(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) + D^*(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) \\
&\quad + D^*(x_{n+1}, fu, fu) + D^*(u, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) \\
&\quad + D^*(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) + D^*(x_{n+1}, fu, fu) \\
&\quad + D^*(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) + D^*(u, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) \\
&\quad + D^*(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) + D^*(x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}, fu) \\
&\quad + D^*(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) + D^*(x_{n+1}, fu, x_{n+1})\} \\
&\leq qD^*(u, x_n, x_n) + (r + 3v)D^*(u, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) \\
&\quad + (r + 4v)D^*(fx_n, fu, fu) \\
&\quad + (s + t + 6v)D^*(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1})
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
D^*(fu, fx_n, fx_n) &\leq \lambda D^*(u, x_n, x_n) + \lambda D^*(u, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) \\
&\quad + \lambda D^*(fx_n, fu, fu) + \lambda D^*(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}).
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned}
(1 - \lambda)D^*(fu, fx_n, fx_n) &\leq \lambda(D^*(u, x_n, x_n) \\
&\quad + D^*(u, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) + D^*(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}))
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
D^*(fu, fx_n, fx_n) &\leq \left(\frac{\lambda}{1 - \lambda}\right)(D^*(u, x_n, x_n) \\
&\quad + D^*(u, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}) + D^*(x_n, x_{n+1}, x_{n+1}))
\end{aligned}$$

which implies that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} D^*(fu, fx_n, fx_n) = 0$ . Hence  $fu = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} fx_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_{n+1} = u$ , and  $u$  is a fixed point of  $f$ .

To prove that  $f$  has unique fixed point, suppose that  $fu = u$  and  $fw = w$  for some  $u, w \in X$ . Then, by the definition of  $\lambda$ -generalized contraction, it follows that

$$\begin{aligned}
D^*(u, w, w) &= D^*(fu, fw, fw) \leq qD^*(u, w, w) + rD^*(u, fu, fu) \\
&\quad + sD^*(w, fw, fw) + tD^*(w, fw, fw) + v\{D^*(u, fw, fw) \\
&\quad + D^*(w, fw, fw) + D^*(w, fu, fu) + D^*(u, fu, fu) \\
&\quad + D^*(w, fu, fu) + D^*(w, fw, fw) + D^*(u, fw, fw) \\
&\quad + D^*(w, fw, fu) + D^*(w, fu, fw)\} \\
&\leq (q + 6v)D^*(u, w, w) \leq \lambda D^*(u, w, w)
\end{aligned}$$

Which implies that  $(1 - \lambda)D^*(u, w, w) = 0$ , since  $\lambda < 1$ ,  $D^*(u, w, w) = 0$ . That implies  $u = w$ . Thus  $f$  has unique fixed point. Since  $x$  is arbitrary in the above

discussion, it follows that  $u = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f^n x$  for any  $x \in X$  and hence equation 3.1 is proved. Finally, since  $D^*(x_n, x_{n+p}, x_{n+p}) \leq \lambda^n D^*(x, fx, fx)/(1 - \lambda)$  (by 3.4), on letting  $p \rightarrow \infty$ , we obtain  $D^*(x_n, u, u) \leq \lambda^n D^*(x, fx, fx)/(1 - \lambda)$ , proving equation 3.2.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.2.** *Let  $f$  be a self-map of a  $D^*$ -metric space  $(X, D^*)$ , and  $X$  be  $f$ -orbitally complete. If  $f$  is a contraction of  $(X, D^*)$ , then it has a unique fixed point  $u \in X$ . In fact,*

$$(3.5) \quad u = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f^n x \text{ for any } x \in X \text{ and}$$

for any  $x \in X$  and

$$(3.6) \quad D^*(f^n x, u, u) \leq \frac{\lambda^n}{1 - \lambda} D^*(x, fx, fx)$$

for any  $x \in X$  and  $n \geq 1$ .

*Proof.* Since every contraction is  $\lambda$ -generalized contraction, the Corollary follows from Theorem 3.1.  $\square$

*Remark 3.3.* The Banach contraction principle is a particular case of Corollary 3.2. For, if  $(X, d)$  is a complete metric space, then, by Corollary 2.8,  $(X, D_1^*)$  is a complete  $D^*$ -metric space, and hence  $f$ -orbitally complete for any selfmap  $f$  of  $X$ . Also, if  $f$  is a contraction of  $(X, d)$ , then the contractive condition can be written as

$$D_1^*(fx, fy, fy) \leq q \cdot D_1^*(x, y, y)$$

for all  $x, y \in X$ , since  $D_1^*(x, y, y) = d(x, y)$ ; so that  $f$  is a contraction on  $(X, D_1^*)$ . Thus  $f$  is a contraction on the  $f$ -orbitally complete  $D^*$ -metric space  $(X, D_1^*)$ , and the conclusions of Corollary 3.2 hold for  $f$ , and  $f$  satisfies the Banach contraction principle.

**Corollary 3.4.** *Suppose that  $f$  is a self-map of a  $D^*$ -metric space  $(X, D^*)$  and  $X$  is  $f$ -orbitally complete. If  $f$  is a  $K$ -contraction of  $(X, D^*)$ , with constant  $q$ , then it has a unique fixed point  $u \in X$ . In fact,*

$$(3.7) \quad u = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f^n x$$

for any  $x \in X$  and

$$(3.8) \quad D^*(f^n x, u, u) \leq \frac{2q^n}{1 - 2q} D^*(x, fx, fx)$$

for all  $x \in X$  and  $n \geq 1$ .

*Proof.* Since every contraction is a  $\lambda$ -generalized contraction, the Corollary follows from Theorem 3.1 by taking  $\lambda = 2q$ .  $\square$



*Remark 3.5.* Kannan's result ([5]; p. 406) is a particular case of the Corollary 3.4. In fact, if  $(X, d)$  is a complete metric space, then, by Corollary 2.8,  $(X, D_1^*)$  is a complete  $D^*$ -metric space, and hence  $f$ -orbitally complete for any selfmap  $f$  of  $X$ . Also, if  $f$  is a  $K$ -contraction, with constant  $q$ , of  $(X, d)$ , then the condition of  $K$ -contraction can be written as

$$(3.9) \quad D_1^*(fx, fy, fy) \leq q\{D_1^*(x, fx, fx) + D_1^*(y, fy, fy)\}$$

for all  $x, y \in X$ . Since  $D_1^*(x, y, y) = d(x, y)$ . Thus  $f$  is a  $K$ -contraction on  $(X, D_1^*)$ , and  $f$  is a  $K$ -contraction on the  $f$ -orbitally complete  $D^*$ -metric space  $(X, D_1^*)$ . Therefore the conclusions of Corollary 3.4 hold for  $f$ , which are the conclusions of Kannan's result.

#### 4. Consequences of Theorem 3.1

**Theorem 4.1.** *Let  $f$  be a self-map of a  $D^*$ -metric space  $(X, D^*)$  and  $X$  be  $f$ -orbitally complete. If there is a positive integer  $k$  such that  $f^k$  is a  $\lambda$ -generalized contraction, then it has a unique fixed point  $u \in X$ . In fact,*

$$(4.1) \quad u = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f^n x,$$

for any  $x \in X$  and

$$(4.2) \quad D^*(f^n x, u, u) \leq \lambda^{n/k} \cdot \rho(x, fx, fx)$$

for any  $x \in X$  and  $n \geq 1$ ,

where  $\rho(x, fx, fx) = \max\{\lambda^{-1}D^*(f^r x, f^{r+k} x, f^{r+k} x) : r = 0, 1, 2, \dots, k-1\}$ .

*Proof.* Suppose that  $f^k$  is a  $\lambda$ -generalized contraction of an  $f$ -orbitally complete  $D^*$ -metric space  $(X, D^*)$ . By Theorem 3.1,  $f^k$  has unique fixed point. Let  $u$  be the fixed point of  $f^k$ . Then we claim that  $fu$  is also a fixed point of  $f^k$ . In fact,  $f^k(fu) = f^{k+1}u = f(f^k u) = fu$ . By the uniqueness of fixed point of  $f^k$ ,  $fu = u$ , showing that  $u$  is a fixed point of  $f$ . To prove the uniqueness of fixed point of  $f$ , let  $u, v \in X$  be such that  $fu = u$  and  $fv = v$ . Then  $f^k u = u$  and  $f^k v = v$  and hence  $u$  and  $v$  are fixed points of  $f^k$ , which has unique fixed point. Hence  $u = v$ . To prove equation 4.1, let  $n$  be any integer. Then by the division algorithm,  $n = mk + j$ ,  $0 \leq j < k$ ,  $m \geq 0$  and, for any  $x \in X$ ,  $f^n x = (f^k)^m f^j x$ . Since  $f^k$  is a  $\lambda$ -generalized contraction, by equation 3.2 we have

$$\begin{aligned} D^*(f^n x, u, u) &= D^*((f^k)^m f^j x, u, u) \\ &\leq \frac{\lambda^m}{1-\lambda} D^*(f^j x, f^k f^j x, f^k f^j x) \\ &= \frac{\lambda^m}{1-\lambda} D^*(f^j x, f^{k+j} x, f^{k+j} x) \end{aligned}$$

$D^*(f^n x, u, u) \leq \frac{\lambda^m}{1-\lambda} \max\{D^*(f^i x, f^{i+j} x, f^{i+j} x) : i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, k-1\} \rightarrow 0$  as  $m = m(n) \rightarrow \infty$ . Thus  $u = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f^n x$  for any  $x \in X$ . To prove equation

4.2, let  $n$  be any positive integer. Since  $f^k$  is a  $\lambda$ -generalized contraction and  $n = mk + j$ ,  $0 \leq j < k$ ,  $m \geq 0$  with  $m = [n/k]$ , from equation 3.2 we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 D^*(f^n x, u, u) &= D^*(f^{mk} f^j x, u, u) \\
 &\leq \frac{\lambda^m}{1 - \lambda} D^*(f^j x, f^{k+j} x, f^{k+j} x) \\
 &= \frac{(\lambda^{1/k})^{mk+j-j}}{1 - \lambda} D^*(f^j x, f^{k+j} x, f^{k+j} x) \\
 &\leq (\lambda^{1/k})^{mk+j-k} D^*(f^j x, f^{k+j} x, f^{k+j} x) \\
 &\leq (\lambda^{1/k})^n \lambda^{-1} D^*(f^j x, f^{k+j} x, f^{k+j} x)
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$D^*(f^n x, u, u) \leq \lambda^{n/k} \max\{\lambda^{-1} D^*(f^i x, f^{i+k} x, f^{i+k} x) : i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, k-1\}.$$

□

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