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SOME FIXED POINT THEOREMS IN MENGER PROBABILISTIC PARTIAL METRIC SPACES WITH APPLICATION TO VOLTERRA TYPE INTEGRAL EQUATION

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ABSTRACT. In this paper, we introduce the notion of Menger probabilistic partial metric space and prove some fixed point theorems in the framework of such spaces. Some examples and an application to Volterra type integral equation are given to support the obtained results. Finally, we apply successive approximations method to find a solution for a Volterra type integral equation with high accuracy.

1. INTRODUCTION

The concept of a Menger probabilistic metric space (briefly, Menger PM-space) was initiated by Menger [15]. The idea of Menger was to use a distribution function instead of a nonnegative number for the value of a metric.

The study of this space was expanded rapidly with the pioneering works of Schweizer and Sklar [20], Stevens [25] and some of their coworkers. In 1972, Sehgal and Bharucha-Reid [23] obtained a generalization of the Banach contraction principle on a complete Menger space. Since then, a number of mathematicians have made a substantial contribution to the theoretical development of Menger PM-spaces (see [4,6–10,12,17,26]).

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On the other hand, Matthews [14] introduced the notion of partial metric space as a part of the study of denotational semantics of dataflow networks. In recent years, some scholars have investigated the topological properties of partial metric spaces and have established some fixed point results in these spaces (see [1,3,5, 16, 19, 22]).

In this work, using the concepts of Menger probabilistic metric space and partial metric space, we establish a new concept of Menger probabilistic partial metric space. We present some fixed point theorems in these spaces. Some examples and an application to Volterra type integral equation are given to illustrate the usability of our results. Finally, we apply successive approximations method to find an approximate solution for a Volterra type integral equation with high accuracy.

First, we recall some basic definitions and facts which will be used further on. We denote by \mathbb{R} the set of real numbers and \mathbb{R}^+ the set of nonnegative real numbers.

Definition 1.1. [14] A partial metric on a nonempty set X is a mapping $p: X \times X \to \mathbb{R}^+$ such that for all $x, y, z \in X$:

- (p1) x = y if and only if p(x, x) = p(x, y) = p(y, y),
- $(p2) \ p(x,x) \le p(x,y),$
- (p3) p(x, y) = p(y, x),
- (p4) $p(x,y) \le p(x,z) + p(z,y) p(z,z).$

A pair (X, p) is called a partial metric space, if X is a nonempty set and p is a partial metric on X.

It is clear that if p(x, y) = 0, then from (p1) and (p2), x = y. But if x = y, p(x, y) may not be 0. A basic example of a partial metric space is the pair (\mathbb{R}^+, p) , where $p(x, y) = \max\{x, y\}$ for all $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^+$ (see [16]).

Each partial metric p on a nonempty set X generates a T_0 topology τ_p on X whose base is the family of open p-balls $\{B_p(x,\varepsilon) : x \in X, \varepsilon > 0\}$, where $B_p(x,\varepsilon) = \{y \in X : p(x,y) < \varepsilon + p(x,x)\}$ for all $x \in X$ and $\varepsilon > 0$.

Definition 1.2. [14] Let (X, p) be a partial metric space, $\{x_n\}$ be any sequence in X and $x \in X$. Then:

- (i) The sequence $\{x_n\}$ is said to be convergent to x with respect to τ_p if $\lim_{n \to \infty} p(x_n, x) = p(x, x).$
- (ii) The sequence $\{x_n\}$ is said to be a Cauchy sequence in (X, p), if $\lim_{n,m\to\infty} p(x_n, x_m)$ exists and is finite.
- (iii) (X,p) is said to be a complete partial metric space if for every Cauchy sequence $\{x_n\}$ in $X, x \in X$ exists such that

$$\lim_{n,m\to\infty} p(x_n, x_m) = \lim_{n\to\infty} p(x_n, x) = p(x, x).$$

Notice that in a partial metric space the limit of a convergent sequence may not be unique.

In the sequel, we recall the definition of n-th order t-norm. Shi *et al.* [24] gave the following definition of n-th order t-norm.

Definition 1.3. A mapping $T : \prod_{i=1}^{n} [0,1] \to [0,1]$ is called an n-th order t-norm if the following conditions are satisfied:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{(i)} \ T(0,0,\ldots,0) = 0, \ T(a,1,1,\ldots,1) = a \ for \ all \ a \in [0,1], \\ \text{(ii)} \ T(a_1,a_2,a_3,\ldots,a_n) = T(a_2,a_1,a_3,\ldots,a_n) = T(a_2,a_3,a_1,\ldots,a_n) \\ = \ldots = T(a_2,a_3,a_4,\ldots,a_n,a_1), \\ \text{(iii)} \ a_i \geq b_i, \ i = 1,2,3,\ldots,n \ imply \ T(a_1,a_2,a_3,\ldots,a_n) \geq T(b_1,b_2,b_3,\ldots,b_n), \\ \text{(iv)} \ T(T(a_1,a_2,a_3,\ldots,a_n),b_2,b_3,\ldots,b_n) \\ = \ T(a_1,T(a_2,a_3,\ldots,a_n,b_2),b_3,\ldots,b_n) \\ = \ T(a_1,a_2,T(a_3,a_4,\ldots,a_n,b_2,b_3),b_4,\ldots,b_n) \\ = \ \ldots \\ = \ T(a_1,a_2,a_3,\ldots,a_{n-1},T(a_n,b_2,b_3,\ldots,b_n)). \end{array}$$

When n = 2, we have a binary t-norm, which is commonly known as t-norm.

The following are three basic continuous 3-th order *t*-norms:

- (1) The minimum 3-th order t-norm, say T_M , defined by $T_M(a, b, c) = \min\{a, b, c\}$.
- (2) The product 3-th order t-norm, say T_P , defined by $T_P(a, b, c) = abc$.
- (3) The Lukasiewicz 3-th order t-norm, say T_L , defined by $T_L(a, b, c) = \max\{a + b + c 2, 0\}$.

These *t*-norms are related in the following way: $T_L \leq T_P \leq T_M$.

Definition 1.4. [21] A function $F : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}^+$ is called a distribution if it is increasing left-continuous with $\inf_{t \in \mathbb{R}} F(t) = 0$ and $\sup_{t \in \mathbb{R}} F(t) = 1$.

The set of all distribution functions is denoted by \mathcal{D}^+ . A special distribution function is given by

$$H(t) = \begin{cases} 0, & t \le 0, \\ 1, & t > 0. \end{cases}$$

Definition 1.5. [21] A Menger probabilistic metric space (briefly, Menger PM-space) is a triple (X, F, T)where X is a nonempty set, T is a continuous t-norm, and F is a mapping from $X \times X$ into \mathcal{D}^+ such that, if $F_{x,y}$ denotes the value of F at the pair (x, y), the following conditions hold:

- (PM1) $F_{x,y}(t) = H(t)$ if and only if x = y,
- (PM2) $F_{x,y}(t) = F_{y,x}(t),$
- (PM3) $F_{x,y}(t+s) \ge T(F_{x,z}(t), F_{z,y}(s))$ for all $x, y, z \in X$ and $s, t \ge 0$.

According to [21], the (ε, λ) -topology in a Menger PM-space (X, F, T) is a family of neighborhoods N_x of a point $x \in X$ given by $N_x = \{N_x(\varepsilon, \lambda) : \varepsilon > 0, \lambda \in (0, 1)\}$, where $N_x(\varepsilon, \lambda) = \{y \in X : F_{x,y}(\varepsilon) > 1 - \lambda\}$. The (ε, λ) -topology is a Hausdorff topology.

Definition 1.6. [21] Let (X, F, T) be a Menger PM-space. Then:

- (i) A sequence {x_n} in X is said to be convergent to x in X if, for every ε > 0 and λ > 0, a positive integer N exists such that for each n ≥ N, F_{x_n,x}(ε) > 1 − λ.
- (ii) A sequence $\{x_n\}$ in X is called a Cauchy sequence if, for every $\varepsilon > 0$ and $\lambda > 0$, a positive integer N exists such that for each $n, m \ge N$, $F_{x_n, x_m}(\varepsilon) > 1 \lambda$.
- (iii) A Menger PM-space is said to be complete if every Cauchy sequence in X is convergent to a point in X.

Example 1.1. Let $X = \mathbb{R}^+$, $T(a,b) = \frac{ab}{a+b-ab}$ if $a, b \in (0,1]$ and T(a,b) = 0, if a = 0 or b = 0. Define $F: X \times X \to \mathcal{D}^+$ by

$$F_{x,y}(t) = \begin{cases} \frac{t}{t+|x-y|}, & if \ t > 0, \\ 0, & if \ t \le 0 \end{cases}$$

for all $x, y \in X$. Then (X, F, T) is a complete Menger PM-space.

Definition 1.7. [10] A function $\phi : \mathbb{R}^+ \to \mathbb{R}^+$ is said to be a Φ -function if it satisfies the following conditions:

- (i) $\phi(t) = 0$ if and only if t = 0,
- (ii) $\phi(t)$ is strictly monotone increasing and $\phi(t) \to \infty$ as $t \to \infty$,
- (iii) ϕ is left-continuous in $(0, \infty)$,
- (iv) ϕ is continuous at 0.

From now on, we mean by Φ the class of all ϕ -functions and by Ψ the class of continuous functions $\psi : \mathbb{R}^+ \to \mathbb{R}^+$ such that $\psi(0) = 0$ and $\psi^n(a_n) \to 0$, whenever $a_n \to 0$ as $n \to \infty$.

2. Main result

In this section, first we describe the new concept of Menger probabilistic partial metric space. Then we improve some fixed point results of Gopal *et al.* [10], in the setup of Menger probabilistic partial metric spaces.

Definition 2.1. A probabilistic partial metric space is an ordered pair (X, F) where X is a nonempty set, $F: X \times X \to D^+$ is given by $(x, y) \mapsto F_{x,y}$, such that the following conditions are satisfied for all $x, y, z \in X$ and $t \in \mathbb{R}^+$: (PPM1) $F_{x,y}(t) = F_{x,x}(t) = F_{y,y}(t)$ if and only if x = y, (PPM2) $F_{x,y}(t) = F_{y,x}(t)$, (PPM3) $F_{x,x}(t) \ge F_{x,y}(t)$, (PPM4) If $F_{x,z}(t_1) = 1$, $F_{z,y}(t_2) = 1$ and $F_{z,z}(t_3) = 1$ for $t_1, t_2, t_3 \in \mathbb{R}^+$, then $F_{x,y}(t_1 + t_2 + t_3) = 1$.

It is clear that every probabilistic metric space is a probabilistic partial metric space. However, the converse of this fact needs not hold. For example, x = y does not imply $F_{x,y}(t) = H(t)$. See the following example.

Example 2.1. Let (X,p) be a partial metric space. If $F: X \times X \to \mathcal{D}^+$ is a mapping defined by

$$F_{x,y}(t) = H(t - p(x,y)), \quad \forall x, y \in X, t \in \mathbb{R},$$

then (X, F) is a probabilistic partial metric space. Obviously, x = y does not imply $F_{x,y}(t) = H(t)$.

Definition 2.2. A Menger probabilistic partial metric space is a triple (X, F, T), where (X, F) is a probabilistic partial metric space, T is a continuous 3-th order t-norm and the following inequality holds:

$$F_{x,y}(t_1 + t_2 + t_3) \ge T(F_{x,z}(t_1), F_{z,y}(t_2), F_{z,z}(t_3))$$

$$(2.1)$$

for all $x, y, z \in X$ and all $t_1, t_2, t_3 \in \mathbb{R}^+$.

Remark 2.1. Let (X, F) be as Example 2.1. Then (X, F, T_M) is a Menger probabilistic partial metric space induced by (X, p).

Example 2.2. Let (X, p) be a partial metric space. Define a mapping $F : X \times X \to \mathcal{D}^+$ by

$$F_{x,y}(t) = \begin{cases} \frac{t}{t+p(x,y)}, & if \ t > 0, \\ 0, & if \ t \le 0 \end{cases}$$

for all $x, y \in X$. Then (X, F, T_M) is a Menger probabilistic partial metric space.

Definition 2.3. Let (X, F, T) be a Menger probabilistic partial metric space. Then:

- (i) A sequence $\{x_n\}$ in X is said to be convergent to x in X if, for each t > 0, $\lim_{x_n, x} F_{x_n, x}(t) = F_{x, x}(t)$.
- (ii) A sequence $\{x_n\}$ in X is called a Cauchy sequence if, for each t > 0, $\lim_{m,n\to\infty} F_{x_m,x_n}(t) \text{ exists.}$
- (iii) A Menger probabilistic partial metric space is said to be complete if for every Cauchy sequence $\{x_n\}$ in X, a point $x \in X$ exists such that $\lim_{m,n\to\infty} F_{x_m,x_n}(t) = \lim_{n\to\infty} F_{x_n,x}(t) = F_{x,x}(t)$.
- (iv) A sequence $\{x_n\}$ is called G-Cauchy if for each $p \in \mathbb{N}$ and t > 0, $\lim_{n \to \infty} F_{x_n, x_{n+p}}(t)$ exists.

(v) The space (X, F, T) is called G-complete if for every G-Cauchy sequence $\{x_n\}$ in X, a point $x \in X$ exists such that $\lim_{n \to \infty} F_{x_n, x_{n+p}}(t) = \lim_{n \to \infty} F_{x_n, x}(t) = F_{x, x}(t).$

Definition 2.4. (see also [10]) Let X be a nonempty set, $f : X \to X$ be a mapping and $\beta, \gamma : X \times X \times (0, \infty) \to (0, \infty)$ be two functions. Then f is said to be (β, γ) -admissible if for all $x, y \in X$ and all t > 0 we have

$$\beta(x, y, t) \le 1$$
 implies $\beta(fx, fy, t) \le 1$

and

$$\gamma(x, y, t) \ge 1$$
 implies $\gamma(fx, fy, t) \ge 1$.

Definition 2.5. Let (X, F, T) be a Menger probabilistic partial metric space, $f : X \to X$ be a given mapping and $\beta, \gamma : X \times X \times (0, \infty) \to (0, \infty)$ be two functions. We say that f is a (β, γ) -admissible ψ -type contractive mapping if f is a (β, γ) -admissible mapping, satisfying in the following inequality

$$\gamma(fx, fy, t) \left(\frac{1}{F_{fx, fy}(\phi(ct))} - 1\right) \le \beta(x, y, t) \psi \left(\frac{1}{F_{x, y}(\phi(t))} - 1\right)$$
(2.2)

for all $x, y \in X$ and all t > 0 such that $F_{x,y}(\phi(t)) > 0$, where $c \in (0,1)$, $\phi \in \Phi$ and $\psi \in \Psi$.

According to Gopal et al. [10, Theorem 2.1], we present a new fixed point theorem in the Menger probabilistic partial metric spaces.

Theorem 2.1. Let (X, F, T) be a G-complete Menger probabilistic partial metric space and $f : X \to X$ be a (β, γ) -admissible ψ -type contractive mapping satisfying the following conditions: (i) $x_0 \in X$ exists such that $\beta(x_0, fx_0, t) \leq 1$ and $\gamma(x_0, fx_0, t) \geq 1$ for all t > 0,

(ii) if $\{x_n\}$ is a sequence in X such that $\beta(x_{n-1}, x_n, t) \leq 1$ and $\gamma(x_n, x_{n+1}, t) \geq 1$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, and for all t > 0 and $x_n \to x$ as $n \to \infty$, then $\beta(x_n, x, t) \leq 1$ and $\gamma(x_n, fx, t) \geq 1$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and for all t > 0. Then f has a fixed point.

Proof. Let $x_0 \in X$ be such that condition (i) holds. We define inductively the sequence $\{x_n\}$ in X by $x_{n+1} = fx_n$, for n = 0, 1, 2, ... We may suppose that $x_{n+1} \neq x_n$ for each n, otherwise f has obviously a fixed point. We conclude from (β, γ) -admissibility of the mapping f, the condition (i), and by induction that $\beta(x_{n-1}, x_n, t) \leq 1$ and $\gamma(x_n, x_{n+1}, t) \geq 1$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and all t > 0. From properties of the function ϕ , it is possible to find some t > 0 such that $F_{x_0, x_1}(\phi(t)) > 0$. It implies that $F_{x_0, x_1}(\phi(\frac{t}{c})) > 0$, too. From (2.2), we have that

$$\begin{split} \frac{1}{F_{x_1,x_2}(\phi(ct))} &-1 &\leq & \gamma(fx_0,fx_1,t)\Big(\frac{1}{F_{fx_0,fx_1}(\phi(ct))}-1\Big) \\ &\leq & \beta(x_0,x_1,t)\psi\Big(\frac{1}{F_{x_0,x_1}(\phi(t))}-1\Big) \\ &\leq & \psi\Big(\frac{1}{F_{x_0,x_1}(\phi(t))}-1\Big). \end{split}$$

Repeating the above procedure successively r times (r < n), we obtain

$$\frac{1}{F_{x_n,x_{n+1}}(\phi(c^r t))} - 1 \le \psi^{n-r} \Big(\frac{1}{F_{x_r,x_{r+1}}(\phi(\frac{c^r t}{c^{n-r}}))} - 1\Big).$$
(2.3)

Since $\psi^n(a_n) \to 0$, whenever $a_n \to 0$, then from (2.3), for any positive real number r we have

$$F_{x_n,x_{n+1}}(\phi(c^r t)) \to 1, \text{ as } n \to \infty.$$
 (2.4)

Now, let $\varepsilon > 0$ be given and choose r > 0 so that $\phi(c^r t) < \varepsilon$. Regarding (2.4) we deduce

$$F_{x_n,x_{n+1}}(\varepsilon) \to 1$$
, as $n \to \infty$, for every $\varepsilon > 0$. (2.5)

On the other hand, we can write

$$\begin{aligned} F_{x_{n},x_{n+p}}(\varepsilon) &\geq T\left(F_{x_{n},x_{n+1}}(\frac{\varepsilon}{3}),F_{x_{n+1},x_{n+1}}(\frac{\varepsilon}{3}),F_{x_{n+1},x_{n+p}}(\frac{\varepsilon}{3})\right) \\ &\geq \dots \\ &\geq T\left(F_{x_{n},x_{n+1}}(\frac{\varepsilon}{3}),F_{x_{n},x_{n+1}}(\frac{\varepsilon}{3}),T(F_{x_{n+1},x_{n+2}}(\frac{\varepsilon}{9}),F_{x_{n+1},x_{n+2}}(\frac{\varepsilon}{9}),\\ T(\dots,T(F_{x_{n+p-2},x_{n+p-1}}(\frac{\varepsilon}{3^{p-1}}),F_{x_{n+p-2},x_{n+p-1}}(\frac{\varepsilon}{3^{p-1}}),F_{x_{n+p-1},x_{n+p}}(\frac{\varepsilon}{3^{p-1}})))\right).\end{aligned}$$

On making $n \to \infty$ and in view of (2.5), for any positive integer p, we have

$$F_{x_n,x_{n+p}}(\varepsilon) \to 1$$
, as $n \to \infty$, for every $\varepsilon > 0$.

It follows that $\{x_n\}$ is a G-Cauchy sequence. Since (X, F, T) is G-complete, $\{x_n\}$ is convergent and

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} F_{x_n, x_{n+p}}(t) = \lim_{n \to \infty} F_{x_n, u}(t) = F_{u, u}(t)$$

$$(2.6)$$

for some $u \in X$. Furthermore, we get

$$F_{fu,u}(\varepsilon) \ge T\left(F_{fu,x_{n+1}}(\frac{\varepsilon}{3}), F_{u,x_{n+1}}(\frac{\varepsilon}{3}), F_{x_{n+1},x_{n+1}}(\frac{\varepsilon}{3})\right).$$

$$(2.7)$$

Taking into account the continuity of ϕ at zero, $t_1 > 0$ exists such that $\phi(t_1) < \frac{\varepsilon}{3}$. From (2.6), $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ exists such that $F_{x_n,u}(\phi(t_1)) > 0$ for all $n \ge n_0$. Hence, applying (*ii*) we derive that

$$\frac{1}{F_{x_{n+1},fu}(\frac{\varepsilon}{3})} - 1 \le \gamma(fx_n, fu, t_1) \left(\frac{1}{F_{fx_n,fu}(\phi(t_1))} - 1\right) \le \beta(x_n, u, t_1)\psi\left(\frac{1}{F_{x_n,u}(\phi(\frac{t_1}{c}))} - 1\right)$$

for all $n \ge n_0$. Now, letting $n \to \infty$, since $\psi(0) = 0$ and by the continuity of function ψ , we obtain

$$F_{x_{n+1},fu}(\frac{\varepsilon}{3})\to 1, \quad \text{as} \quad n\to\infty.$$

From (2.1) and (2.6) $F_{x_{n+1},x_{n+1}}(\frac{\varepsilon}{3}) \to 1$ as $n \to \infty$, too. Passing *n* to infinity in the relation (2.7) it follows that $F_{fu,u}(\varepsilon) = 1$, for each $\varepsilon > 0$. Thus fu = u. This completes the proof.

Example 2.3. Let $X = \mathbb{R}^+$. Define $F : X \times X \to \mathcal{D}^+$ by

$$F_{x,y}(t) = \frac{t}{t + \max\{x, y\}}$$

for all $x, y \in X$ and for all t > 0. Define the mapping $f : X \to X$ by

$$fx = \begin{cases} \frac{x}{2}, & \text{if } x \in [0, 1), \\ 2x, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

and the functions β and γ from $X \times X \times (0, \infty)$ into $(0, \infty)$ by

$$\beta(x, y, t) = \frac{t}{t + |x - y|},$$

$$\gamma(x, y, t) = \begin{cases} \frac{t}{t + 2(x + y)}, & \text{if } x, y \in [0, 1), \\\\ \frac{1}{4}(\frac{t}{t + x + y}), & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

for all t > 0. Now, consider self-mappings ϕ and ψ on \mathbb{R}^+ defined by $\phi(t) = \psi(t) = t$ and let $c = \frac{1}{2}$. Obviously, f is (β, γ) -admissible. To show that f is a (β, γ) -admissible ψ -type contractive mapping, we have to check the condition (2.2).

To do this, we distinguish three cases:

case I: If $0 \le x \le y < 1$, then

$$\begin{split} \gamma(fx, fy, t) \Big(\frac{1}{F_{fx, fy}(\phi(ct))} - 1 \Big) &= \frac{y}{t + |x + y|} \\ &\leq \beta(x, y, t) \psi \Big(\frac{1}{F_{x, y}(\phi(t))} - 1 \Big) \\ &= \frac{y}{t + |x - y|}. \end{split}$$

case II: If $x \in [0, 1)$ and $y \notin [0, 1]$, then

$$\gamma(fx, fy, t) \Big(\frac{1}{F_{fx, fy}(\phi(ct))} - 1\Big) = \frac{2y}{2t + |x + 4y|} \le \beta(x, y, t)\psi\Big(\frac{1}{F_{x, y}(\phi(t))} - 1\Big) = \frac{y}{t + |x - y|} + \frac{y}{2t + |x - y|} + \frac$$

case III: If $x, y \notin [0, 1)$, then

$$\gamma(fx, fy, t) \Big(\frac{1}{F_{fx, fy}(\phi(ct))} - 1\Big) = \frac{y}{t + |2x + 2y|} \le \beta(x, y, t) \psi\Big(\frac{1}{F_{x, y}(\phi(t))} - 1\Big) = \frac{y}{t + |x - y|}.$$

It can be easily verified that all conditions of Theorem 2.1 hold, and therefore f has a fixed point.

We denote by Fix(f) the set of fixed points of f. In what follows, we give a sufficient condition for the uniqueness of the fixed point in Theorem 2.1.

(H): For all $u, v \in Fix(f)$ and for all t > 0 there exists $z \in X$ such that

$$\beta(z, fz, t) \leq 1$$
 with $\beta(u, z, t) \leq 1$ and $\beta(v, z, t) \leq 1$,

and

$$\gamma(z, fz, t) \ge 1$$
 with $\gamma(u, z, t) \ge 1$ and $\gamma(v, z, t) \ge 1$

Similar to this condition was already considered in the paper [10].

Theorem 2.2. Adding condition (H) to the hypotheses of Theorem 2.1, we obtain that f has a unique fixed point.

Proof. Let $u, v \in Fix(f)$. From condition (H), $z \in X$ exists such that

$$\beta(z, fz, t) \le 1$$
 with $\beta(u, z, t) \le 1$ and $\beta(v, z, t) \le 1$

and

$$\gamma(z, fz, t) \ge 1$$
 with $\gamma(u, z, t) \ge 1$ and $\gamma(v, z, t) \ge 1$

Taking into account (β, γ) -admissibility of f, we obtain

$$\beta(fz, f^2z, t) \le 1, \quad \beta(u, fz, t) \le 1, \quad \beta(v, fz, t) \le 1$$

and

$$\gamma(fz, f^2z, t) \ge 1, \quad \gamma(u, fz, t) \ge 1, \quad \gamma(v, fz, t) \ge 1.$$

Consequently, by induction, we get

$$\beta(z_n, z_{n+1}, t) \le 1, \quad \beta(u, z_n, t) \le 1, \quad \beta(v, z_n, t) \le 1$$

and

$$\gamma(z_{n+1}, z_{n+2}, t) \ge 1, \quad \gamma(u, z_{n+1}, t) \ge 1, \quad \gamma(v, z_{n+1}, t) \ge 1$$

for all t > 0, where $z_n = f^n z$. Then, using (2.2) we derive

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{F_{u,f^n z}(\phi(ct))} &-1 &\leq & \gamma(u, z_n, t) \Big(\frac{1}{F_{fu,f(f^{n-1}z)}(\phi(ct))} - 1 \Big) \\ &\leq & \beta(u, z_{n-1}, t) \psi \Big(\frac{1}{F_{u,f^{n-1}z}(\phi(t))} - 1 \Big) \\ &\leq & \psi \Big(\frac{1}{F_{u,f^{n-1}z}(\phi(t))} - 1 \Big). \end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$\frac{1}{F_{u,f^n z}(\phi(ct))} - 1 \le \psi^n \left(\frac{1}{F_{u,z}(\phi(\frac{t}{c^{n-1}}))} - 1\right) \quad \text{for all} \quad n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Letting $n \to \infty$, we obtain $\lim_{n \to \infty} F_{u,z_{n+1}} = 1$. A similar argument shows that $\lim_{n \to \infty} F_{v,z_{n+1}} = 1$. Using these facts, it is easily can be shown that $F_{u,v}(t) = 1$ for any t > 0. It implies that u = v, and the proof is complete.

Example 2.4. Let $X = \mathbb{R}^+$ and $F_{x,y}(t) = H(t - \max\{x, y\})$ for all $x, y \in X$ and for all t > 0. Clearly, (X, F, T_p) is a G-complete Menger probabilistic partial metric space. Define the mapping $f : X \to X$ by

$$f(x) = \frac{x}{2}$$

and the functions γ and β from $X \times X \times (0, \infty)$ into $(0, \infty)$ by

$$\beta(x, y, t) = \begin{cases} 2, & \text{if } x, y \in (2, \infty), \\ \frac{t}{t + |x - y|}, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
$$\gamma(x, y, t) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{3}, & \text{if } x, y \in (5, \infty), \\ 5, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

for all t > 0. Also suppose that $\phi, \psi : \mathbb{R}^+ \to \mathbb{R}^+$ defined by $\phi(t) = \psi(t) = t$ and let $c = \frac{1}{2}$. Now, it can be easily shown that all the hypotheses of Theorem 2.2 are satisfied and so f has a unique fixed point.

In the sequel, we first introduce the concept of (β, γ) -contractive mapping of type (I) and then we describe a fixed point theorem concerned with these kinds of contractions in the framework of Menger probabilistic partial metric spaces.

Definition 2.6. Let (X, F, T) be a Menger probabilistic partial metric space and $f : X \to X$ be a given mapping. We say that f is a (β, γ) -contractive mapping of type (I), if functions $\beta : X \times X \times (0, \infty) \to (0, \infty)$ and $\gamma : X \times X \times (0, \infty) \to (0, \infty)$ exist such that

$$\beta(x,y,t)F_{fx,fy}(\phi(t)) \ge \gamma(fx,fy,\frac{t}{c})\min\left\{F_{x,y}(\phi(\frac{t}{c})),F_{y,fy}(\phi(\frac{t}{c})),F_{y,fx}(\phi(\frac{t}{c}))\right\}$$
(2.8)

for all $x, y \in X$ and all t > 0, where $\phi \in \Phi$ and $c \in (0, 1)$.

Example 2.5. Let $X = \{0, 2, 4\}$ and F be as in Example 2.3. Clearly, (X, F, T_M) is a complete Menger probabilistic partial metric space. Define the mapping $f : X \to X$ by f(0) = 0, f(2) = 4 and f(4) = 2. Also, define two functions β and γ from $X \times X \times (0, \infty)$ into $(0, \infty)$ by

$$\beta(x, y, t) = \begin{cases} 2, & \text{if } x = y, \\ \\ \frac{1}{2}, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\gamma(x, y, t) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } x = y = 2, \text{ or } x = y = 4\\ 2, & \text{if } x = y = 0, \\ \frac{1}{x + y + 1}, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Now, consider $\phi : \mathbb{R}^+ \to \mathbb{R}^+$ defined by $\phi(t) = t$ and let $c = \frac{1}{2}$. Then f is a (β, γ) -contractive mapping of type (I).

Two useful following lemmas help us to prove Theorem 2.3.

Lemma 2.1. Let (X, F, T) be a Menger probabilistic partial metric space and ϕ be a Φ -function. Then the following statement holds.

If for $x, y \in X$ and $c \in (0, 1)$ we have $F_{x,y}(\phi(t)) \ge F_{x,y}(\phi(\frac{t}{c}))$ for all t > 0, then x = y.

Proof. The proof is similar to [4, Lemma 2.9].

Lemma 2.2. Let (X, F, T) be a Menger probabilistic partial metric space. Then the function F is a lower semi-continuous function of points, i.e., for every fixed t > 0 and every two sequences $\{x_n\}$, $\{y_n\}$ in X such that $\lim_{n \to \infty} F_{x_n,x}(t) = F_{x,x}(t) = 1$ and $\lim_{n \to \infty} F_{y_n,y}(t) = F_{y,y}(t) = 1$ it follows that $\liminf_{n \to \infty} F_{x_n,y_n}(t) = F_{x,y}(t)$.

Proof. Let t > 0 and $\varepsilon > 0$ be given. Since $F_{x,y}$ is left-continuous at t, so h exists such that 0 < 2h < t and $F_{x,y}(t) - F_{x,y}(t-2h) < \varepsilon$. Put $F_{x,y}(t-2h) = a$. Taking into account continuity of T and T(a, 1, 1) = a, there is a real number l in (0, 1), fulfills

$$T(a,l,l) > a - \frac{\varepsilon}{3}$$
 and $T(a - \frac{\varepsilon}{3}, l, l) > a - \frac{2\varepsilon}{3}$.

On the other hand, by our assumptions, an integer $M_{h,l}$ exists such that

$$F_{x_n,x}(rac{h}{2})>l$$
 and $F_{y_n,y}(rac{h}{2})>l,$

whenever $n > M_{h,l}$. Now, by (2.1) and (PPM3)

$$F_{x_n,y_n}(t) \ge T(F_{x_n,y}(t-h), F_{y,y_n}(\frac{h}{2}), F_{y,y_n}(\frac{h}{2}))$$
(2.9)

and

$$F_{x_n,y}(t-h) \ge T(F_{x_n,x}(\frac{h}{2}), F_{x,y}(t-2h), F_{x,x}(\frac{h}{2})) > T(a,l,l) > a - \frac{\varepsilon}{3}.$$
(2.10)

Thus, on combining (2.9) and (2.10), we have

$$F_{x_n,y_n}(t) \ge T(a - \frac{\varepsilon}{3}, l, l) > a - \frac{2\varepsilon}{3} > F_{x,y}(t) - \varepsilon.$$

This completes the proof.

Now, we present a new version of [10, Theorem 3.2] due to Gopal et al. in the Menger probabilistic partial metric spaces.

Theorem 2.3. Let (X, F, T) be a complete Menger probabilistic partial metric space, which satisfies $T(a, a, a) \ge a$ with $a \in [0, 1]$. Let $f : X \to X$ be a (β, γ) -contractive mapping of type (I) satisfying the following conditions:

- (i) f is (β, γ) -admissible,
- (ii) there exists $x_0 \in X$ such that $\beta(x_0, fx_0, t) \leq 1$ and $\gamma(x_0, fx_0, t) \geq 1$ for all t > 0,

(iii) if $\{x_n\}$ is a sequence in X such that $\beta(x_{n-1}, x_n, t) \leq 1$ and $\gamma(x_n, x_{n+1}, t) \geq 1$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, and all t > 0 and $x_n \to x$ as $n \to \infty$, then $\beta(x_{n-1}, x, t) \leq 1$ and $\gamma(x_n, fx, t) \geq 1$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and all t > 0. Then f has a fixed point.

Proof. Since $T(a, a, a) \ge a$ for all $a \in [0, 1]$, then $T \ge T_M$. Let $x_0 \in X$ be such that (*ii*) holds and define a sequence $\{x_n\}$ in X so that $x_{n+1} = fx_n$, for $n = 0, 1, \ldots$. We suppose $x_{n+1} \ne x_n$ for all $n = 0, 1, \ldots$, otherwise f has trivially a fixed point. From (*i*), (*ii*) and by induction, we get $\beta(x_{n-1}, x_n, t) \le 1$ and $\gamma(x_n, x_{n+1}, t) \ge 1$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and all t > 0. By continuity of ϕ at zero, for each t > 0 we can find r > 0such that $t > \phi(r)$ and therefore using (2.8) and (PPM3) we have

$$\begin{aligned} F_{x_n,x_{n+1}}(t) &\geq & \beta(x_{n-1},x_n,r)F_{fx_{n-1},fx_n}(\phi(r)) \\ &\geq & \gamma(x_n,x_{n+1},\frac{r}{c})\min\left\{F_{x_{n-1},x_n}(\phi(\frac{r}{c})),F_{x_n,fx_n}(\phi(\frac{r}{c})),F_{x_n,fx_{n-1}}(\phi(\frac{r}{c}))\right\} \\ &\geq & \min\left\{F_{x_{n-1},x_n}(\phi(\frac{r}{c})),F_{x_n,x_{n+1}}(\phi(\frac{r}{c}))\right\}. \end{aligned}$$

We will show that

$$F_{x_n,x_{n+1}}(\phi(r)) \ge F_{x_{n-1},x_n}(\phi(\frac{r}{c})).$$
(2.11)

If we assume that $F_{x_n,x_{n+1}}(\phi(\frac{r}{c}))$ is the minimum, then from Lemma 2.1, we deduce that $x_n = x_{n+1}$. This is in contradiction with the assumption $x_n \neq x_{n+1}$ and so $F_{x_{n-1},x_n}(\phi(\frac{r}{c}))$ is the minimum *i.e.*, inequality (2.11) holds. Now, from (2.11), it follows that

$$F_{x_n,x_{n+1}}(t) \ge F_{x_n,x_{n+1}}(\phi(r)) \ge F_{x_{n-1},x_n}(\phi(\frac{r}{c})) \ge \dots \ge F_{x_0,x_1}(\phi(\frac{r}{c^n}))$$

that is,

$$F_{x_n,x_{n+1}}(t) \ge F_{x_0,x_1}(\phi(\frac{r}{c^n})), \tag{2.12}$$

for arbitrary $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Next, let $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$ with m > n, then by (2.1) and (PPM3) we get

$$F_{x_n,x_m}((2(m-n)-1)t) \geq T(F_{x_n,x_{n+1}}(t),F_{x_n,x_{n+1}}(t),F_{x_{n+1},x_m}((2(m-n)-3)t)).$$

By strictly increasing of ϕ and also making use of (2.12) we have

$$F_{x_n,x_m}((2(m-n)-1)t) \geq \min\left\{F_{x_n,x_{n+1}}(t),\ldots,F_{x_{m-1},x_{m-2}}(t),F_{x_{m-1},x_m}(t)\right\}$$
$$\geq \min\left\{F_{x_0,x_1}(\phi(\frac{r}{c^n})),\ldots,F_{x_0,x_1}(\phi(\frac{r}{c^{m-2}})),F_{x_0,x_1}(\phi(\frac{r}{c^{m-1}}))\right\}$$
$$= F_{x_0,x_1}(\phi(\frac{r}{c^n})).$$

Since $\phi(\frac{r}{c^n}) \to \infty$ as $n \to \infty$, for fixed $\varepsilon \in (0, 1)$, $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ exists such that for each $n \ge n_0$, $F_{x_0, x_1}(\phi(\frac{r}{c^n})) > 1 - \varepsilon$. This implies that, for every $m > n \ge n_0$,

$$F_{x_n, x_m}((2(m-n)-1)t) > 1-\varepsilon.$$

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By the arbitrariness of t > 0 and $\varepsilon \in (0, 1)$, we deduce that $\{x_n\}$ is a Cauchy sequence in the complete Menger probabilistic partial metric space (X, F, T). Thus, $u \in X$ exists such that

$$\lim_{m,n \to \infty} F_{x_m,x_n}(t) = \lim_{n \to \infty} F_{x_n,u}(t) = F_{u,u}(t).$$
(2.13)

We are going to show that $u \in Fix(f)$. Indeed, we have

$$F_{fu,u}(2t) \geq T\Big(F_{fu,x_n}(\phi(r)), F_{x_n,u}(2t - 2\phi(r)), F_{x_n,x_n}(\phi(r))\Big) \\ \geq \min\Big\{F_{fu,x_n}(\phi(r)), F_{x_n,u}(2t - 2\phi(r))\Big\}.$$

We may assume that $x_n \neq fu$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, since otherwise if $x_n = fu$ for infinitely many values of n, then u = fu and hence the proof is finished. Now, from (2.13), for any arbitrary $\varepsilon \in (0, 1)$ and n large enough, we get $F_{x_n,u}(2t - 2\phi(r)) > 1 - \varepsilon$. Hence, $F_{fu,u}(2t) \geq \min\{F_{fu,x_n}(\phi(r)), 1 - \varepsilon\}$. Since $\varepsilon > 0$ is arbitrary, it yields that $F_{fu,u}(2t) \geq F_{fu,x_n}(\phi(r))$. Next, using (2.8) we deduce

$$\begin{aligned} F_{u,fu}(2t) &\geq F_{x_n,fu}(\phi(r)) \\ &\geq \beta(x_{n-1}, u, r) F_{fx_{n-1},fu}(\phi(r)) \\ &\geq \gamma(fx_{n-1}, fu, \frac{r}{c}) \min\left\{F_{x_{n-1},u}(\phi(\frac{r}{c})), F_{u,fu}(\phi(\frac{r}{c})), F_{u,fx_{n-1}}(\phi(\frac{r}{c}))\right\} \\ &\geq \min\left\{F_{x_{n-1},u}(\phi(\frac{r}{c})), F_{u,fu}(\phi(\frac{r}{c})), F_{u,x_n}(\phi(\frac{r}{c}))\right\}. \end{aligned}$$

By taking the limit infimum on both sides of the above inequality and applying Lemma 2.2, we have

$$\begin{aligned} F_{u,fu}(2t) &\geq \lim_{n \to \infty} \inf F_{x_n,fu}(\phi(r)) \\ &\geq \lim_{n \to \infty} \inf \min \left\{ F_{x_{n-1},u}(\phi(\frac{r}{c})), F_{u,fu}(\phi(\frac{r}{c})), F_{u,x_n}(\phi(\frac{r}{c})) \right\} \\ &\geq \min \left\{ 1 - \varepsilon, F_{u,fu}(\phi(\frac{r}{c})), 1 - \varepsilon \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Finally, since $\varepsilon \in (0,1)$ is arbitrary, then $F_{fu,u}(\phi(r)) \geq F_{u,fu}(\phi(\frac{r}{c}))$. From Lemma 2.1, we conclude that u = fu and so we achieve our desired goal.

Example 2.6. Let X = [0,1], $p(x,y) = \max\{x,y\}$ and (X,F,T) be as in Example 2.1. Then (X,F,T) is a complete Menger probabilistic partial metric space. Define the mapping $f : X \to X$ by

$$fx = \begin{cases} \frac{x}{4}, & if \quad x \in [0, \frac{1}{2}) \cup (\frac{1}{2}, 1], \\ 0, & if \quad x = \frac{1}{2}, \end{cases}$$

and the functions β and γ from $X \times X \times (0, \infty)$ into $(0, \infty)$ by

$$\beta(x, y, t) = \frac{t + \max\{x, y\}}{t + \min\{x, y\}}$$

$$\gamma(x, y, t) = \frac{t}{x + y + t}.$$

We consider $\phi : \mathbb{R}^+ \to \mathbb{R}^+$ defined by $\phi(t) = t$ and let $c = \frac{1}{2}$. It is routine to see that all the hypotheses of Theorem 2.3 are satisfied, and therefore f has a fixed point.

Theorem 2.4. Adding condition (H) to the hypotheses of Theorem 2.3, we obtain that f has a unique fixed point.

Proof. Let $u, v \in X$ be such that u = fu and v = fv. From condition (H), $z \in X$ exists such that $\beta(z, fz, t) \leq 1$ with $\beta(u, z, t) \leq 1$ and $\beta(v, z, t) \leq 1$, and $\gamma(z, fz, t) \geq 1$ with $\gamma(u, z, t) \geq 1$ and $\gamma(v, z, t) \geq 1$. By virtue of the fact that f is (β, γ) -admissible and using induction, we derive

$$\beta(z_n, z_{n+1}, t) \le 1, \quad \beta(u, z_n, t) \le 1, \quad \beta(v, z_n, t) \le 1,$$

and

$$\gamma(z_{n+1}, z_{n+2}, t) \ge 1, \quad \gamma(u, z_{n+1}, t) \ge 1, \quad \gamma(v, z_{n+1}, t) \ge 1$$

for all t > 0, where $z_n = f^n z$ $(n \in \mathbb{N})$. By continuity of ϕ , r > 0 exists such that $t > \phi(r)$ and therefore we have

$$\begin{aligned} F_{u,z_{n+1}}(t) &\geq F_{u,z_{n+1}}(\phi(r)) \\ &\geq \beta(u,z_n,r)F_{fu,fz_n}(\phi(r)) \\ &\geq \gamma(fu,fz_n,\frac{r}{c})\min\left\{F_{u,z_n}(\phi(\frac{r}{c})),F_{z_n,z_{n+1}}(\phi(\frac{r}{c})),F_{z_n,fu}(\phi(\frac{r}{c}))\right\} \\ &\geq \min\left\{F_{u,z_n}(\phi(\frac{r}{c})),F_{z_n,z_{n+1}}(\phi(\frac{r}{c}))\right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Now, we consider following cases:

case I. If $F_{z_n,z_{n+1}}(\phi(\frac{r}{c}))$ is the minimum, then by (2.8) and (PPM3), it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} F_{u,z_{n+1}}(\phi(r)) &\geq F_{z_n,z_{n+1}}(\phi(\frac{r}{c})) \\ &\geq \beta(z_{n-1},z_n,\frac{r}{c})F_{fz_{n-1},fz_n}(\phi(\frac{r}{c})) \\ &\geq \gamma(z_n,z_{n+1},\frac{r}{c^2})\min\left\{F_{z_{n-1},z_n}(\phi(\frac{r}{c^2})),F_{z_n,fz_n}(\phi(\frac{r}{c^2})),F_{z_n,z_n}(\phi(\frac{r}{c^2}))\right\} \\ &\geq \min\left\{F_{z_{n-1},z_n}(\phi(\frac{r}{c^2})),F_{z_n,z_{n+1}}(\phi(\frac{r}{c^2}))\right\}.\end{aligned}$$

Now, if $F_{z_n,z_{n+1}}(\phi(\frac{r}{c^2}))$ is the minimum for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$, then by Lemma 2.1, we deduce that $z_n = z_{n+1}$. Applying (PPM3), we get $F_{u,z_{n+1}}(\phi(r)) \ge F_{z_n,z_{n+1}}(\phi(\frac{r}{c^2})) \ge F_{u,z_{n+1}}(\phi(\frac{r}{c^2}))$, then $u = z_{n+1}$. Consequently $\beta(v, u, t) \leq 1$ and $\gamma(fv, fu, t) \geq 1$ for all t > 0 and thus we have

$$\begin{aligned} F_{v,u}(\phi(t)) &\geq & \beta(v,u,t)F_{fv,fu}(\phi(t)) \\ &\geq & \gamma(fv,fu,\frac{t}{c})\min\left\{F_{v,u}(\phi(\frac{t}{c})),F_{u,fu}(\phi(\frac{t}{c})),F_{u,fv}(\phi(\frac{t}{c}))\right\} \\ &\geq & F_{v,u}(\phi(\frac{t}{c})). \end{aligned}$$

Again, by Lemma 2.1, we have u = v.

On the other hand, if $F_{z_{n-1},z_n}(\phi(\frac{r}{c^2}))$ is the minimum, then

$$F_{z_n,z_{n+1}}(\phi(\frac{r}{c})) \ge F_{z_{n-1},z_n}(\phi(\frac{r}{c^2})) \ge \ldots \ge F_{z_0,z_1}(\phi(\frac{r}{c^{n+1}})),$$

and, letting $n \to \infty$, we get $F_{z_n, z_{n+1}}(\phi(\frac{r}{c})) \to 1$. Therefore $\lim_{n \to \infty} F_{u, z_{n+1}}(t) = 1$. A similar method shows that $\lim_{n \to \infty} F_{v, z_{n+1}}(t) = 1$. By virtue of these facts, we get $F_{u,v}(t) = 1$ for each t > 0. Hence, u = v. **case** II. Suppose that $F_{u, z_n}(\phi(\frac{r}{c}))$ is the minimum, then we get

$$F_{u,z_{n+1}}(\phi(r)) \ge F_{u,z_n}(\phi(\frac{r}{c})) \ge F_{u,z_{n-1}}(\phi(\frac{r}{c^2})) \ge \ldots \ge F_{u,z_0}(\phi(\frac{r}{c^{n+1}})).$$

A similar argument as above shows that u = v, and the proof is complete.

In the sequel, we first introduce the concept of (β, γ) -contractive mapping of type (II) and then we describe a fixed point theorem concerned with these kinds of contractions in the setup Menger probabilistic partial metric spaces.

Definition 2.7. Let (X, F, T) be a Menger probabilistic partial metric space and $f : X \to X$ be a given mapping. We say that f is a (β, γ) -contractive mapping of type (II), if functions $\beta : X \times X \times (0, \infty) \to (0, \infty)$ and $\gamma : X \times X \times (0, \infty) \to (0, \infty)$ exist such that

$$\beta(x,y,t)F_{fx,fy}(\phi(t)) \ge \gamma(fx,fy,\frac{t}{c})\min\left\{F_{x,fx}(\phi(\frac{t}{c})),F_{y,fy}(\phi(\frac{t}{c}))\right\}$$
(2.14)

for all $x, y \in X$, for all t > 0, where $c \in (0, 1)$ and $\phi \in \Phi$.

Now, we present a new version of [10, Theorem 3.4] due to Gopal et al. in the Menger probabilistic partial metric spaces.

Theorem 2.5. Let (X, F, T) be a complete Menger probabilistic partial metric space and $f : X \to X$ be a (β, γ) -contractive mapping of type (II). Suppose that the following conditions hold: (i) f is (β, γ) -admissible,

(ii) $x_0 \in X$ exists such that $\beta(x_0, fx_0, t) \leq 1$ and $\gamma(x_0, fx_0, t) \geq 1$ for all t > 0,

(iii) for each sequence $\{x_n\}$ in X such that $\beta(x_{n-1}, x_n, t) \leq 1$ and $\gamma(x_n, x_{n+1}, t) \geq 1$, for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and all t > 0, $k_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ exists such that $\beta(x_{m-1}, x_{n-1}, t) \leq 1$ and $\gamma(x_m, x_n, t) \geq 1$, for all $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$ with $m > n \geq k_0$ and for all t > 0,

(iv) if $\{x_n\}$ is a sequence in X such that $\beta(x_{n-1}, x_n, t) \leq 1$ and $\gamma(x_n, x_{n+1}, t) \geq 1$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and all t > 0 and $x_n \to x$ as $n \to \infty$, then $\beta(x_{n-1}, x, t) \leq 1$ and $\gamma(x_n, fx, t) \geq 1$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and all t > 0. Then f has a fixed point. In addition, if condition (H) holds, then f has a unique fixed point.

Proof. Let $x_0 \in X$ be such that (*ii*) holds. Define a sequence $\{x_n\}$ in X such that $x_{n+1} = fx_n$ for all $n = 0, 1, \ldots$. We may suppose that $x_{n+1} \neq x_n$ for all $n = 0, 1, \ldots$, otherwise f has trivially a fixed point. By (*i*) and (*ii*), and applying induction, we get $\beta(x_{n-1}, x_n, t) \leq 1$ and $\gamma(x_n, x_{n+1}, t) \geq 1$ for all n and all t > 0. By continuity of ϕ at zero, for each t > 0, r > 0 exists such that $t > \phi(r)$, thus $\beta(x_{n-1}, x_n, r) \leq 1$ and $\gamma(x_n, x_{n+1}, \frac{r}{c}) \geq 1$. It follows from condition (2.14) and (PPM1) that

$$F_{x_n,x_{n+1}}(t)) \geq F_{fx_{n-1},fx_n}(\phi(r))$$

$$\geq \beta(x_{n-1},x_n,r)F_{fx_{n-1},fx_n}(\phi(r))$$

$$\geq \gamma(x_n,x_{n+1},\frac{r}{c})\min\left\{F_{x_{n-1},x_n}(\phi(\frac{r}{c})),F_{x_n,x_{n+1}}(\phi(\frac{r}{c})),\right\}$$

$$\geq \min\left\{F_{x_{n-1},x_n}(\phi(\frac{r}{c})),F_{x_n,x_{n+1}}((\frac{r}{c}))\right\}.$$

Now, if $F_{x_n,x_{n+1}}(\phi(\frac{r}{c}))$ is the minimum, then $F_{x_n,x_{n+1}}(\phi(r)) \ge F_{x_n,x_{n+1}}(\phi(\frac{r}{c}))$ and so by Lemma 2.1, $x_n = x_{n+1}$, which contradicts the assumption $x_n \ne x_{n+1}$. Thus $F_{x_{n-1},x_n}(\phi(\frac{r}{c}))$ is the minimum, and so

$$F_{x_n,x_{n+1}}(t) \ge F_{x_{n-1},x_n}(\phi(\frac{r}{c})) \ge \ldots \ge F_{x_0,x_1}(\phi(\frac{r}{c^n})).$$

Letting $n \to \infty$, then

$$F_{x_n, x_{n+1}}(t) \to 1.$$
 (2.15)

We claim that $\{x_n\}$ is a Cauchy sequence. Suppose the contrary. Then there exist $\varepsilon > 0$, $\lambda \in (0, 1)$ for which we can find subsequences $\{x_{m(s)}\}$ and $\{x_{n(s)}\}$ of $\{x_n\}$ such that n(s) is the smallest index for which

$$s < m(s) < n(s), \quad F_{x_{m(s)}, x_{n(s)}}(\varepsilon) \le 1 - \lambda, \quad F_{x_{m(s)}, x_{n(s)-1}}(\varepsilon) > 1 - \lambda.$$

By the properties of ϕ , $\varepsilon_1 > 0$ exists such that

 $\phi(\varepsilon_1) < \varepsilon.$

We deduce that $F_{x_{m(s)},x_{n(s)}}(\phi(\varepsilon_1)) \leq 1 - \lambda$, so $\{x_n\}$ is not Cauchy sequence with respect to $\phi(\varepsilon_1)$ and λ . Thus, increasing sequences of integers m(s) and n(s) exist such that n(s) is the smallest index for which

$$s < m(s) < n(s), \quad F_{x_{m(s)}, x_{n(s)}}(\phi(\varepsilon_1)) \le 1 - \lambda, \quad F_{x_{m(s)}, x_{n(s)-1}}(\phi(\varepsilon_1)) > 1 - \lambda.$$
 (2.16)

Take a real number η such that $0 < \eta < \phi(\frac{\varepsilon_1}{c}) - \phi(\varepsilon_1)$. From (2.16) it follows that

$$F_{x_{m(s)},x_{n(s)-1}}(\phi(\frac{\varepsilon_1}{c})-\eta) > 1-\lambda$$

Then, for any $0 < \lambda_1 < \lambda < 1$, by (2.15) it is possible to find a positive integer N_1 such that for all $s > N_1$, we have

$$F_{x_{m(s)-1},x_{m(s)}}(\eta) > 1 - \lambda_1, \quad F_{x_{n(s)-1},x_{n(s)}}(\eta) > 1 - \lambda_1.$$
(2.17)

From (2.17) it follows that

$$F_{x_{m(s)-1},x_{m(s)}}(\phi(\frac{\varepsilon_1}{c})) \ge F_{x_{m(s)-1},x_{m(s)}}(\eta) > 1 - \lambda_1 > 1 - \lambda.$$
(2.18)

A similar relation holds when one substitutes $x_{m(s)-1}$ and $x_{m(s)}$ with $x_{n(s)-1}$ and $x_{n(s)}$, respectively. On the other hand, from (2.18) we observe that

$$\begin{aligned} 1-\lambda &\geq F_{x_{m(s)},x_{n(s)}}(\phi(\varepsilon_{1})) = F_{fx_{m(s)-1},fx_{n(s)-1}}(\phi(\varepsilon_{1})) \\ &\geq \beta(x_{m(s)-1},x_{n(s)-1},\varepsilon_{1})F_{fx_{m(s)-1},fx_{n(s)-1}}(\phi(\varepsilon_{1})) \\ &\geq \gamma(fx_{m(s)-1},fx_{n(s)-1},\frac{\varepsilon_{1}}{c})\min\left\{F_{x_{m(s)-1},x_{m(s)}}(\phi(\frac{\varepsilon_{1}}{c}))F_{x_{n(s)-1},x_{n(s)}}(\phi(\frac{\varepsilon_{1}}{c}))\right\} \\ &> \gamma(fx_{m(s)-1},fx_{n(s)-1},\frac{\varepsilon_{1}}{c})\min\{1-\lambda,1-\lambda\} \\ &\geq 1-\lambda. \end{aligned}$$

This is a contradiction, therefore $\{x_n\}$ is a Cauchy sequence in the complete Menger probabilistic partial metric space. Hence, $u \in X$ exists such that $\lim_{m,n\to\infty} F_{x_m,x_n}(t) = \lim_{n\to\infty} F_{x_n,u}(t) = F_{u,u}(t)$. Now, we show that u is a fixed point of f. We have

$$F_{fu,u}(2t) \ge T(F_{fu,x_n}(\phi(r)), F_{x_n,u}(2t - 2\phi(r)), F_{x_n,x_n}(\phi(r)).$$
(2.19)

By continuity of ϕ , r > 0 exists such that $t > \phi(r)$. Furthermore, for arbitrary $\delta \in (0, 1)$, $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ exists such that for all $n \ge n_0$, we get

$$F_{x_n,u}(2t - 2\phi(r)) > 1 - \delta.$$
(2.20)

Hence, from (2.15), (2.19) and (2.20), we obtain that

$$F_{fu,u}(2t) \ge T(F_{fu,x_n}(\phi(r)), 1-\delta, 1-\delta).$$

Since $\delta > 0$ is arbitrary and T is continuous, we can write $F_{fu,u}(2t) \ge F_{fu,x_n}(\phi(r))$. Without loss of generality we may assume that $x_n \ne fu$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, otherwise if for infinitely many values of $n, x_n = fu$, then u = fu, and hence the proof is finished. Applying (2.14) and (iv), we derive

$$\begin{aligned} F_{u,fu}(2t) &\geq F_{x_n,fu}(\phi(r)) \\ &\geq &\beta(x_{n-1}, u, r)F_{fx_{n-1},fu}(\phi(r)) \\ &\geq &\gamma(fx_{n-1}, fu, \frac{r}{c})\min\Big\{F_{x_{n-1},fx_{n-1}}(\phi(\frac{r}{c})), F_{u,fu}(\phi(\frac{r}{c}))\Big\}. \end{aligned}$$

Letting $n \to \infty$ in the above inequality, we get $F_{fu,u}(\phi(r)) \ge F_{u,fu}(\phi(\frac{r}{c}))$. Thus u = fu by Lemma 2.1. Hence f has a fixed point. Moreover, if (H) holds, then by using a similar technique as in the proof of Theorem 2.4 one can see that u is a unique fixed point of f.

3. Application to integral equation

Here, in this section, we wish to study the existence of a solution to a Volterra type integral equation, as an application of our results.

Let k > 0 be an arbitrary fixed number. Consider the following Volterra type integral equation:

$$x(t) = g(x(t)) + \int_0^t \Omega(t, s, x(s)) ds, \ t \in [0, k]$$
(3.1)

where $g \in C(\mathbb{R})$ and $\Omega \in C([0,k] \times [0,k] \times \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R})$. Equip $C([0,k], \mathbb{R})$ with the partial metric

$$p(x,y) = \max_{t \in [0,k]} \{ |x(t)|, |y(t)| \}, \quad x,y \in C([0,k],\mathbb{R})$$

Now, we define the mapping $F: C([0,k],\mathbb{R}) \times C([0,k],\mathbb{R}) \to \mathcal{D}^+$ by

$$F_{x,y}(t) = H(t - p(x, y)), \quad t > 0, \quad x, y \in C([0, k], \mathbb{R}).$$
(3.2)

We know that $(C([0, k], \mathbb{R}), F, T_M)$ is a complete Menger probabilistic partial metric space.

Theorem 3.1. Let k > 0, $g \in C(\mathbb{R})$, and $\Omega \in C([0, k] \times [0, k] \times \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R})$, satisfying the following conditions: (i) $\|\Omega\|_{\infty} = \sup_{\substack{t,s \in [0,k], x \in C([0,k], \mathbb{R})}} |\Omega(t, s, x(s))| < \infty$, (ii) $c_1, c_2 \in (0, 1)$ exist such that for all $x \in C([0, k], \mathbb{R})$, all $r \in \mathbb{R}$, and all $t, s \in [0, k]$ we have

$$|g(r)| \le c_1 |r|, \ |\Omega(t, s, x(s))| \le \frac{c_2}{k} |x(s)|,$$

and $c = c_1 + c_2 < 1$. Then, the Volterra type integral equation (3.1) has a solution $x^* \in C([0, k], \mathbb{R})$.

Proof. Consider the complete Menger probabilistic partial metric space $(C([0,k],\mathbb{R}), F, T_M)$ defined as (3.2). Now, we define the mapping $f : C([0,k],\mathbb{R}) \to C([0,k],\mathbb{R})$ by

$$f(x)(t) = g(x(t)) + \int_0^t \Omega(t, s, x(s)) ds.$$

For each $x, y \in C([0, k], \mathbb{R})$ we have

$$\begin{split} p(f(x), f(y)) &= & \max_{t \in [0, k]} \{ |f(x)(t), |f(y)(t)| \} \\ &\leq & \max_{t \in [0, k]} \{ |g(x(t))| + \int_0^t |\Omega(t, s, x(s))| ds, |g(y(t))| + \int_0^t |\Omega(t, s, y(s))| ds \} \\ &\leq & c(\max_{t \in [0, k]} \{ |x(t)|, |y(t)| \}) \\ &= & cp(x, y) \\ &\leq & c \max\{ p(x, y), p(y, f(y)), p(y, f(x)) \}. \end{split}$$

Applying (3.2), for any r > 0, we derive

$$F_{f(x),f(y)}(r) = H\left(r - p(f(x), f(y))\right)$$

$$\geq H\left(\frac{r}{c} - \max\{p(x, y), p(y, f(y)), p(y, f(x))\}\right)$$

$$= \min\left\{F_{x,y}(\frac{r}{c}), F_{y,f(y)}(\frac{r}{c}), F_{y,f(x)}(\frac{r}{c})\right\}$$

for all $x, y \in C([0, k], \mathbb{R})$. Thus all conditions of Theorem 2.3 are satisfied, when $\phi(r) = r$ for all r > 0 and $\beta(x, y, t) = \gamma(x, y, t) = 1$ for all $x, y \in C([0, k], \mathbb{R})$ and t > 0. Therefore, f has a fixed point $x^* \in C([0, k], \mathbb{R})$, which is the solution of the integral equation (3.1).

Example 3.1. Consider the following Volterra type integral equation

$$x(t) = \frac{1}{3}\cos(x(t)) + \int_0^t \frac{\ln(t+s+\frac{1}{2})\sin(e^{-3t}x(s))}{3\cosh\sqrt[5]{2s+1}} ds.$$
(3.3)

Observe that Eq. (3.3) is a special case of the Eq. (3.1) when $g(r) = \frac{1}{3}\cos(r)$ $(r \in \mathbb{R})$, and $\Omega(t, s, x(s)) = \frac{\ln(t+s+\frac{1}{2})\sin(e^{-3t}x(s))}{3\cosh\sqrt[5]{2s+1}}$ $(t, s \in [0, 1])$. Obviously, all the conditions of Theorem 3.1 are satisfied. Then the Volterra type integral equation (3.3) has at least one solution which belongs to the space $C([0, 1], \mathbb{R})$.

4. NUMERICAL RESULTS

Numerical methods can help us to investigate the solutions of differential and integral equations (see for instance [2, 11, 18]). In this section, we use a numerical method to find an approximate solution for a Volterra type integral equation. For this purpose, we use successive approximations method (SAM) [2] to find a solution for the Example 3.1.

The SAM, also called the Picard iteration method provides a scheme that can be used for solving initial value problems or integral equations. This method solves any problem by finding successive approximations to the solution by starting with an initial guess as $x_0(t)$, called the zeroth approximation. As will be seen, the zeroth approximation is any selective real-valued function that will be used in a recurrence relation to determine the other approximations. The most commonly used values for the zeroth approximations are 0, 1, or t. Of course, other real values can be selected as well.

Given the nonlinear Volterra type integral equation

$$x(t) = f(x(t)) + \lambda \int_a^t K(t, s, x(s)) ds$$

where x is the unknown function to be determined, K(t, s, x(s)) is the kernel, and λ is a parameter. The successive approximation method introduces the recurrence relation

$$\widetilde{x_0}(t) =$$
any selective real valued function, (4.1)

$$\widetilde{x_{n+1}}(t) = f(\widetilde{x_n}(t)) + \lambda \int_a^t K(t, s, \widetilde{x_n}(s)) ds, \ n \ge 0.$$

The solution is determined by using the limit

$$\widetilde{x}(t) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \widetilde{x_{n+1}}(t).$$

Now, we discuss on the solutions of Example 3.1. To this end, consider the following nonlinear equation

$$x(t) = F(x(t)) + G(x(t)),$$
(4.2)

where

$$F(x(t)) = \frac{1}{3}\cos(x(t)),$$
(4.3)

and

$$G(x(t)) = \int_0^t \frac{\ln(t+s+\frac{1}{2})\sin(e^{-3t}x(s))}{3\cosh\sqrt[5]{2s+1}} ds.$$
(4.4)

Applying SAM, we solve the nonlinear Volterra type integral equation (3.3). To this aim, put t = 0 in equation (3.3). We get $x(0) = \frac{1}{3}\cos(x(0))$ or equivalently $\alpha = \frac{1}{3}\cos(\alpha)$. It gives us $\alpha = 0.3176508287$. Now, we choose $\widetilde{x_0}(t) = 0.3176508287$ in (4.1), by doing two steps of successive approximations method we find $\widetilde{x_2}(t)$ and consider it as an approximation for x(t) (see Fig. 1). Since equation (3.3) is nonlinear, it is difficult to proceed this method further. In order to see how good is this approximation, we put $\widetilde{x_2}(t)$ in the left and right hand sides of equation (3.3) instead of x(t), and consider the difference of these values as error. we define

$$err_{SAM}(t) := |\widetilde{x_2}(t) - (F(\widetilde{x_2}(t)) + G(\widetilde{x_2}(t)))|.$$

In table (1), we have calculated $\widetilde{x}_2(t)$ and $err_{SAM}(t)$ at different values of t. The error graph of $err_{SAM}(t)$ is also plotted in Figure (2) in the interval [0, 1].

TABLE 1. The values of $\widetilde{x_2}(t)$	and error related to SAM for different values of t
= ()	

t	$\widetilde{u_2}(t)$	$err_{SAM}(t)$
0	3.17e-1	e-10
0.1	3.14e-1	2.93e-5
0.2	3.15e-1	2.86e-5
0.3	3.16e-1	1.23e-5
0.4	3.17e-1	1.1e-5
0.5	3.19e-1	3.66e-5
0.6	3.21e-1	6.22e-5
0.7	3.23e-1	8.66e-5
0.8	3.24e-1	1.09e-4
0.9	3.25e-1	1.31e-4
1	3.27e-1	1.51e-4

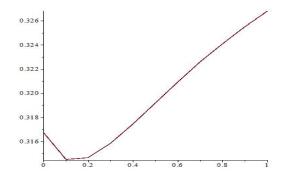


FIGURE 1. graph of approximate solution \tilde{x} in [0,1]

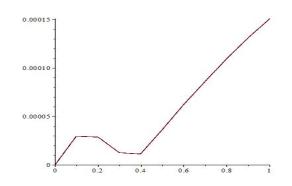


FIGURE 2. absolute error graph of approximate solution \tilde{x} in [0,1]

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