



## Fixed Point Theorems for $g$ -Monotone Maps on Partially Ordered $S$ -Metric Spaces

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**Abstract.** In this paper, we prove some fixed point theorems for  $g$ -monotone maps on partially ordered  $S$ -metric spaces. Our results generalize fixed point theorems in [1] and [7] for maps on metric spaces to the structure of  $S$ -metric spaces. Also, we give examples to demonstrate the validity of the results.

### 1. Introduction and Preliminaries

The fixed point theory in generalized metric spaces were investigated by many authors. In 2012, Sedghi *et al.* [23] introduced the notion of an  $S$ -metric space and proved that this notion is a generalization of a metric space. Also, they proved some properties of  $S$ -metric spaces and stated some fixed point theorems on such spaces. An interesting work naturally rises is to transport certain results in metric spaces and known generalized metric spaces to  $S$ -metric spaces. After that, Sedghi and Dung [22] proved a general fixed point theorem in  $S$ -metric spaces which is a generalization of [23, Theorem 3.1] and obtained many analogues of fixed point theorems in metric spaces for  $S$ -metric spaces. In 2013, Dung [8] used the notion of a mixed weakly monotone pair of maps to state a coupled common fixed point theorem for maps on partially ordered  $S$ -metric spaces and generalized the main results of [6], [10], [15] into the structure of  $S$ -metric spaces. In recent times, Hieu *et al.* [11] proved a fixed point theorem for a class of maps depending on another map on  $S$ -metric spaces and obtained the fixed point theorems in [16] and [23]. Very recent, An *et al.* [4] showed some relations between  $S$ -metric spaces and metric-type space in the sense of Khamsi [17].

In 2008, Ćirić *et al.* [7] introduced the concept of a  $g$ -monotone map and proved some common fixed point theorems for  $g$ -monotone generalized nonlinear contractions in partially ordered complete metric spaces. These results give rise to stating analogous fixed point theorems for maps on partially ordered  $S$ -metric spaces.

In this paper, we prove some fixed point theorems for  $g$ -monotone maps on partially ordered  $S$ -metric spaces and generalize fixed point theorems in [1] and [7] on metric spaces to the structure of  $S$ -metric spaces. Also, we give examples to demonstrate the validity of the results.

First, we recall some notions and lemmas which will be useful in what follows.

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**Definition 1.1 ([23], Definition 2.1).** Let  $X$  be a non-empty set and  $S : X \times X \times X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  be a function such that for all  $x, y, z, a \in X$ ,

1.  $S(x, y, z) = 0$  if and only if  $x = y = z$ .
2.  $S(x, y, z) \leq S(x, x, a) + S(y, y, a) + S(z, z, a)$ .

Then  $S$  is called an  $S$ -metric on  $X$  and  $(X, S)$  is called an  $S$ -metric space.

The following is the intuitive geometric example for  $S$ -metric spaces.

**Example 1.2 ([23], Example 2.4).** Let  $X = \mathbb{R}^2$  and  $d$  be the ordinary metric on  $X$ . Put

$$S(x, y, z) = d(x, y) + d(x, z) + d(y, z)$$

for all  $x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}^2$ , that is,  $S$  is the perimeter of the triangle given by  $x, y, z$ . Then  $S$  is an  $S$ -metric on  $X$ .

**Lemma 1.3 ([23], Lemma 2.5).** Let  $(X, S)$  be an  $S$ -metric space. Then  $S(x, x, y) = S(y, y, x)$  for all  $x, y \in X$ .

**Lemma 1.4 ([8], Lemma 1.6).** Let  $(X, S)$  be an  $S$ -metric space. Then

$$S(x, x, z) \leq 2S(x, x, y) + S(y, y, z) \text{ and } S(x, x, z) \leq 2S(x, x, y) + S(z, z, y)$$

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

*Proof.* It is a direct consequence of Definition 1.1 and Lemma 1.3.  $\square$

**Definition 1.5 ([23]).** Let  $(X, S)$  be an  $S$ -metric space.

1. A sequence  $\{x_n\}$  is called convergent to  $x$  in  $(X, S)$ , written  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x$ , if  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S(x_n, x_n, x) = 0$ .
2. A sequence  $\{x_n\}$  is called Cauchy in  $(X, S)$  if  $\lim_{n, m \rightarrow \infty} S(x_n, x_n, x_m) = 0$ .
3.  $(X, S)$  is called complete if every Cauchy sequence in  $(X, S)$  is a convergent sequence in  $(X, S)$ .

From [23, Examples in page 260], we have the following.

**Example 1.6.** 1. Let  $\mathbb{R}$  be the real line. 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  $\mathbb{R}$ . Furthermore, the usual  $S$ -metric space  $\mathbb{R}$  is complete.

2. Let  $Y$  be a non-empty set of  $\mathbb{R}$ . Then  $S(x, y, z) = |x - z| + |y - z|$  for all  $x, y, z \in Y$ , is an  $S$ -metric on  $Y$ . If  $Y$  is a closed subset of the usual metric space  $\mathbb{R}$ , then the  $S$ -metric space  $Y$  is complete.

**Lemma 1.7 ([23], Lemma 2.12).** Let  $(X, S)$  be an  $S$ -metric space. If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_n = y$  then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S(x_n, x_n, y_n) = S(x, x, y)$ .

The following lemma shows that every metric space is an  $S$ -metric space.

**Lemma 1.8 ([8], Lemma 1.10).** Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space. Then we have

1.  $S_d(x, y, z) = d(x, z) + d(y, z)$  for all  $x, y, z \in X$  is an  $S$ -metric on  $X$ .
2.  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x$  in  $(X, d)$  if and only if  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x$  in  $(X, S_d)$ .
3.  $\{x_n\}$  is Cauchy in  $(X, d)$  if and only if  $\{x_n\}$  is Cauchy in  $(X, S_d)$ .
4.  $(X, d)$  is complete if and only if  $(X, S_d)$  is complete.

The following example proves that the inversion of Lemma 1.8 does not hold.

**Example 1.9 ([8], Example 1.10).** Let  $X = \mathbb{R}$  and let  $S(x, y, z) = |y + z - 2x| + |y - z|$  for all  $x, y, z \in X$ . By [23, Example (1), page 260],  $(X, S)$  is an  $S$ -metric space. We prove that there does not exist any metric  $d$  such that  $S(x, y, z) = d(x, z) + d(y, z)$  for all  $x, y, z \in X$ . Indeed, suppose to the contrary that there exists a metric  $d$  with  $S(x, y, z) = d(x, z) + d(y, z)$  for all  $x, y, z \in X$ . Then  $d(x, z) = \frac{1}{2}S(x, x, z) = |x - z|$  and  $d(x, y) = S(x, y, y) = 2|x - y|$  for all  $x, y, z \in X$ . It is a contradiction.

**Definition 1.10 ([7], Definition 2.1).** Let  $(X, \leq)$  be a partially ordered set and let  $F, g : X \rightarrow X$  be two maps.

1.  $F$  is called  $g$ -non-decreasing if  $gx \leq gy$  implies  $Fx \leq Fy$  for all  $x, y \in X$ .
2.  $F$  is called  $g$ -non-increasing if  $gx \leq gy$  implies  $Fy \leq Fx$  for all  $x, y \in X$ .

**Definition 1.11.** Let  $X$  be a non-empty set and let  $f, g : X \rightarrow X$  be two maps.

1.  $f$  and  $g$  are called to commute at  $x \in X$  if  $f(gx) = g(fx)$ .
2.  $f$  and  $g$  are called to commute [14] if  $f(gx) = g(fx)$  for all  $x \in X$ .

In 2006, Mustafa and Sims [18] introduced the notion of a  $G$ -metric. Then, fixed point theory in  $G$ -metric spaces were investigated by many authors [2], [5], [9], [19], [20].

**Definition 1.12 ([18], Definition 3).** Let  $X$  be a non-empty set and  $G : X \times X \times X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  be a function such that for all  $x, y, z, a \in X$ ,

- (G1)  $G(x, y, z) = 0$  if  $x = y = z$ .
- (G2)  $0 < G(x, x, y)$  if  $x \neq y$ .
- (G3)  $G(x, x, y) \leq G(x, y, z)$  if  $y \neq z$ .
- (G4) The symmetry on three variables

$$G(x, y, z) = G(x, z, y) = G(y, x, z) = G(y, z, x) = G(z, x, y) = G(z, y, x).$$

- (G5) The rectangle inequality  $G(x, y, z) \leq G(x, a, a) + G(a, y, z)$ .

Then  $G$  is called a  $G$ -metric on  $X$  and the pair  $(X, G)$  is called a  $G$ -metric space.

## 2. Main Results

In 2012, Sedghi et al. [23] asserted that an  $S$ -metric is a generalization of a  $G$ -metric, that is, every  $G$ -metric is an  $S$ -metric, see [23, Remarks 1.3] and [23, Remarks 2.2]. The following Example 2.1 and Example 2.2 show that this assertion is not correct. Moreover, the class of all  $S$ -metrics and the class of all  $G$ -metrics are distinct.

**Example 2.1.** There exists a  $G$ -metric which is not an  $S$ -metric.

*Proof.* Let  $X$  be the  $G$ -metric space in [18, Example 1]. Then we have

$$2 = G(a, b, b) > 1 = G(a, a, b) + G(b, b, b) + G(b, b, b).$$

This proves that  $G$  is not an  $S$ -metric on  $X$ .  $\square$

**Example 2.2.** There exists an  $S$ -metric which is not a  $G$ -metric.

*Proof.* Let  $(X, S)$  be the  $S$ -metric space in Example 1.9. We have

$$S(1, 0, 2) = |0 + 2 - 2| + |0 - 2| = 2$$

$$S(2, 0, 1) = |0 + 1 - 4| + |0 - 1| = 4.$$

Then  $S(1, 0, 2) \neq S(2, 0, 1)$ . This proves that  $S$  is not a  $G$ -metric.  $\square$

Also in 2012, Jeli and Samet [12] showed that a G-metric is not a real generalization of a metric. Further, they proved that the fixed point theorems proved in G-metric spaces can be obtained by usual metric arguments. The similar approach may be found in [3]. The key of that approach is the following lemma.

**Lemma 2.3 ([12]).** *Let  $(X, G)$  be a G-metric space. Then we have*

1.  $d(x, y) = \max\{G(x, y, y), G(y, x, x)\}$  for all  $x, y \in X$  is a metric on  $X$ .
2.  $d(x, y) = G(x, y, y)$  for all  $x, y \in X$  is a quasi-metric on  $X$ .

The following example shows that Lemma 2.3 does not hold if the G-metric is replaced by an S-metric space. Then, in general, arguments in [3], [12] are not applicable to S-metric spaces.

**Example 2.4.** 1. *There exists an S-metric space  $(X, S)$  such that*

$$d(x, y) = \max\{S(x, y, y), S(y, x, x)\}$$

*for all  $x, y \in X$  is not a metric on  $X$ .*

2. *There exists an S-metric space  $(X, S)$  such that  $d(x, y) = S(x, y, y)$  for all  $x, y \in X$  is not a quasi-metric on  $X$ .*

*Proof.* (1). Let  $X = \{1, 2, 3\}$  and let  $S$  be defined as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} S(1, 1, 1) &= S(2, 2, 2) = S(3, 3, 3) = 0, \\ S(1, 2, 3) &= S(1, 3, 2) = S(2, 1, 3) = S(3, 1, 2) = 4, \\ S(2, 3, 1) &= S(3, 2, 1) = S(1, 1, 2) = S(1, 1, 3) = S(2, 2, 1) = S(3, 3, 1) = 2, \\ S(2, 2, 3) &= S(3, 3, 2) = 6, \\ S(2, 3, 2) &= S(3, 2, 2) = S(3, 2, 3) = S(2, 3, 3) = 3, \\ S(1, 2, 1) &= S(2, 1, 1) = S(1, 3, 1) = S(3, 1, 1) = S(2, 1, 2) = S(1, 2, 2) = S(3, 1, 3) = S(1, 3, 3) = 1. \end{aligned}$$

We have  $S(x, y, z) \geq 0$  for all  $x, y, z \in X$  and  $S(x, y, z) = 0$  if and only if  $x = y = z$ . By simple calculations as in Table 1, we see that the inequality

$$S(x, y, z) \leq S(x, x, a) + S(y, y, a) + S(z, z, a)$$

holds for all  $x, y, z, a \in X$ . Then  $S$  is an S-metric on  $X$ .

$S(x, y, z)$	$a$	$S(x, x, a) + S(y, y, a) + S(z, z, a)$
$S(1, 2, 3) = 4$	1	$S(1, 1, 1) + S(2, 2, 1) + S(3, 3, 1) = 0 + 2 + 2 = 4$
	2	$S(1, 1, 2) + S(2, 2, 2) + S(3, 3, 2) = 2 + 0 + 6 = 8$
	3	$S(1, 1, 3) + S(2, 2, 3) + S(3, 3, 3) = 2 + 6 + 0 = 8$
$S(1, 3, 2) = 4$	1	$S(1, 1, 1) + S(3, 3, 1) + S(2, 2, 1) = 0 + 2 + 2 = 4$
	2	$S(1, 1, 2) + S(3, 3, 2) + S(2, 2, 2) = 2 + 6 + 0 = 8$
	3	$S(1, 1, 3) + S(3, 3, 3) + S(2, 2, 3) = 2 + 0 + 6 = 8$
$S(2, 1, 3) = 4$	1	$S(2, 2, 1) + S(1, 1, 1) + S(3, 3, 1) = 2 + 0 + 2 = 4$
	2	$S(2, 2, 2) + S(1, 1, 2) + S(3, 3, 2) = 0 + 2 + 6 = 8$
	3	$S(2, 2, 3) + S(1, 1, 3) + S(3, 3, 3) = 6 + 2 + 0 = 8$
$S(2, 3, 1) = 2$	1	$S(2, 2, 1) + S(3, 3, 1) + S(1, 1, 1) = 2 + 2 + 0 = 4$
	2	$S(2, 2, 2) + S(3, 3, 2) + S(1, 1, 2) = 0 + 6 + 2 = 8$
	3	$S(2, 2, 3) + S(3, 3, 3) + S(1, 1, 3) = 6 + 0 + 2 = 8$
$S(3, 1, 2) = 4$	1	$S(3, 3, 1) + S(1, 1, 1) + S(2, 2, 1) = 2 + 0 + 2 = 4$
	2	$S(3, 3, 2) + S(1, 1, 2) + S(2, 2, 2) = 6 + 2 + 0 = 8$
	3	$S(3, 3, 3) + S(1, 1, 3) + S(2, 2, 3) = 0 + 2 + 6 = 8$

$S(3,2,1) = 2$	1	$S(3,3,1) + S(2,2,1) + S(1,1,1) = 2 + 2 + 0 = 4$
	2	$S(3,3,2) + S(2,2,2) + S(1,1,2) = 6 + 0 + 2 = 8$
	3	$S(3,3,3) + S(2,2,3) + S(1,1,3) = 0 + 6 + 2 = 8$
$S(1,1,2) = 2$	1	$S(1,1,1) + S(1,1,1) + S(2,2,1) = 0 + 0 + 2 = 2$
	2	$S(1,1,2) + S(1,1,2) + S(2,2,2) = 2 + 2 + 0 = 4$
	3	$S(1,1,3) + S(1,1,3) + S(2,2,3) = 2 + 2 + 6 = 10$
$S(1,2,1) = 1$	1	$S(1,1,1) + S(2,2,1) + S(1,1,1) = 0 + 2 + 0 = 2$
	2	$S(1,1,2) + S(2,2,2) + S(1,1,2) = 2 + 0 + 2 = 4$
	3	$S(1,1,3) + S(2,2,3) + S(1,1,3) = 2 + 6 + 2 = 10$
$S(2,1,1) = 1$	1	$S(2,2,1) + S(1,1,1) + S(1,1,1) = 2 + 0 + 0 = 2$
	2	$S(2,2,2) + S(1,1,2) + S(1,1,2) = 0 + 2 + 2 = 4$
	3	$S(2,2,3) + S(1,1,3) + S(1,1,3) = 6 + 2 + 2 = 10$
$S(1,1,3) = 2$	1	$S(1,1,1) + S(1,1,1) + S(3,3,1) = 0 + 0 + 2 = 2$
	2	$S(1,1,2) + S(1,1,2) + S(3,3,2) = 2 + 2 + 6 = 10$
	3	$S(1,1,3) + S(1,1,3) + S(3,3,3) = 2 + 2 + 0 = 4$
$S(1,3,1) = 1$	1	$S(1,1,1) + S(3,3,1) + S(1,1,1) = 0 + 2 + 0 = 2$
	2	$S(1,1,2) + S(3,3,2) + S(1,1,2) = 2 + 6 + 2 = 10$
	3	$S(1,1,3) + S(3,3,3) + S(1,1,3) = 2 + 0 + 2 = 4$
$S(3,1,1) = 1$	1	$S(3,3,1) + S(1,1,1) + S(1,1,1) = 2 + 0 + 0 = 2$
	2	$S(3,3,2) + S(1,1,2) + S(1,1,2) = 6 + 2 + 2 = 10$
	3	$S(3,3,3) + S(1,1,3) + S(1,1,3) = 0 + 2 + 2 = 4$
$S(2,2,1) = 2$	1	$S(2,2,1) + S(2,2,1) + S(1,1,1) = 2 + 2 + 0 = 4$
	2	$S(2,2,2) + S(2,2,2) + S(1,1,2) = 0 + 0 + 2 = 4$
	3	$S(2,2,3) + S(2,2,3) + S(1,1,3) = 6 + 6 + 2 = 14$
$S(2,1,2) = 1$	1	$S(2,2,1) + S(1,1,1) + S(2,2,1) = 2 + 0 + 2 = 4$
	2	$S(2,2,2) + S(1,1,2) + S(2,2,2) = 0 + 2 + 0 = 2$
	3	$S(2,2,3) + S(1,1,3) + S(2,2,3) = 6 + 2 + 6 = 14$
$S(1,2,2) = 1$	1	$S(1,1,1) + S(2,2,1) + S(2,2,1) = 0 + 2 + 2 = 4$
	2	$S(1,1,2) + S(2,2,2) + S(2,2,2) = 2 + 0 + 0 = 2$
	3	$S(1,1,3) + S(2,2,3) + S(2,2,3) = 2 + 6 + 6 = 14$
$S(1,3,3) = 1$	1	$S(1,1,1) + S(3,3,1) + S(3,3,1) = 0 + 2 + 2 = 4$
	2	$S(1,1,2) + S(3,3,2) + S(3,3,2) = 2 + 6 + 6 = 14$
	3	$S(1,1,3) + S(3,3,3) + S(3,3,3) = 2 + 0 + 0 = 2$
$S(3,1,3) = 1$	1	$S(3,3,1) + S(1,1,1) + S(3,3,1) = 2 + 0 + 2 = 4$
	2	$S(3,3,2) + S(1,1,2) + S(3,3,2) = 6 + 2 + 6 = 14$
	3	$S(3,3,3) + S(1,1,3) + S(3,3,3) = 0 + 2 + 0 = 2$
$S(3,3,1) = 2$	1	$S(3,3,1) + S(3,3,1) + S(1,1,1) = 2 + 2 + 0 = 4$
	2	$S(3,3,2) + S(3,3,2) + S(1,1,2) = 6 + 6 + 2 = 14$
	3	$S(3,3,3) + S(3,3,3) + S(1,1,3) = 0 + 0 + 2 = 2$
$S(2,2,3) = 6$	1	$S(2,2,1) + S(2,2,1) + S(3,3,1) = 2 + 2 + 2 = 6$
	2	$S(2,2,2) + S(2,2,2) + S(3,3,2) = 0 + 0 + 6 = 6$
	3	$S(2,2,3) + S(2,2,3) + S(3,3,3) = 6 + 6 + 0 = 12$
$S(2,3,2) = 3$	1	$S(2,2,1) + S(3,3,1) + S(2,2,1) = 2 + 2 + 2 = 6$
	2	$S(2,2,2) + S(3,3,2) + S(2,2,2) = 0 + 6 + 0 = 6$
	3	$S(2,2,3) + S(3,3,3) + S(2,2,3) = 6 + 0 + 6 = 12$
$S(3,2,2) = 3$	1	$S(3,3,1) + S(2,2,1) + S(2,2,1) = 2 + 2 + 2 = 6$
	2	$S(3,3,2) + S(2,2,2) + S(2,2,2) = 6 + 0 + 0 = 6$
	3	$S(3,3,3) + S(2,2,3) + S(2,2,3) = 0 + 6 + 6 = 12$
$S(3,3,2) = 6$	1	$S(3,3,1) + S(3,3,1) + S(2,2,1) = 2 + 2 + 2 = 6$
	2	$S(3,3,2) + S(3,3,2) + S(2,2,2) = 6 + 6 + 0 = 12$

	3	$S(3, 3, 3) + S(3, 3, 3) + S(2, 2, 3) = 0 + 0 + 6 = 6$
$S(3, 2, 3) = 3$	1	$S(3, 3, 1) + S(2, 2, 1) + S(3, 3, 1) = 2 + 2 + 2 = 6$
	2	$S(3, 3, 2) + S(2, 2, 2) + S(3, 3, 2) = 6 + 0 + 6 = 12$
	3	$S(3, 3, 3) + S(2, 2, 3) + S(3, 3, 3) = 0 + 6 + 0 = 6$
$S(2, 3, 3) = 3$	1	$S(2, 2, 1) + S(3, 3, 1) + S(3, 3, 1) = 2 + 2 + 2 = 6$
	2	$S(2, 2, 2) + S(3, 3, 2) + S(3, 3, 2) = 0 + 6 + 6 = 12$
	3	$S(2, 2, 3) + S(3, 3, 3) + S(3, 3, 3) = 6 + 0 + 0 = 6$
$S(1, 1, 1) = 0$	1	$S(1, 1, 1) + S(1, 1, 1) + S(1, 1, 1) = 0 + 0 + 0 = 0$
	2	$S(1, 1, 2) + S(1, 1, 2) + S(1, 1, 2) = 2 + 2 + 2 = 6$
	3	$S(1, 1, 3) + S(1, 1, 3) + S(1, 1, 3) = 2 + 2 + 2 = 6$
$S(2, 2, 2) = 0$	1	$S(2, 2, 1) + S(2, 2, 1) + S(2, 2, 1) = 2 + 2 + 2 = 6$
	2	$S(2, 2, 2) + S(2, 2, 2) + S(2, 2, 2) = 0 + 0 + 0 = 0$
	3	$S(2, 2, 3) + S(2, 2, 3) + S(2, 2, 3) = 6 + 6 + 6 = 18$
$S(3, 3, 3) = 0$	1	$S(3, 3, 1) + S(3, 3, 1) + S(3, 3, 1) = 2 + 2 + 2 = 6$
	2	$S(3, 3, 2) + S(3, 3, 2) + S(3, 3, 2) = 6 + 6 + 6 = 18$
	3	$S(3, 3, 3) + S(3, 3, 3) + S(3, 3, 3) = 0 + 0 + 0 = 0$

Table 1: Calculations on  $S$

On the other hand, if  $d(x, y) = \max \{S(x, y, y), S(y, x, x)\}$  for all  $x, y \in X$ , then we have

$$\begin{aligned} d(1, 1) &= d(2, 2) = d(3, 3) = 0, \\ d(1, 2) &= d(2, 1) = d(1, 3) = d(3, 1) = 1, \\ d(2, 3) &= d(3, 2) = 3. \end{aligned}$$

It implies that  $3 = d(2, 3) \geq d(2, 1) + d(1, 3) = 1 + 1 = 2$ . Then  $d$  is not a metric on  $X$ .

(2). We consider the  $S$ -metric as in (1). If  $d(x, y) = S(x, y, y)$  for all  $x, y \in X$ , then we have

$$\begin{aligned} d(1, 1) &= d(2, 2) = d(3, 3) = 0, \\ d(1, 2) &= d(2, 1) = d(1, 3) = d(3, 1) = 1, \\ d(2, 3) &= d(3, 2) = 3. \end{aligned}$$

It implies that  $3 = d(2, 3) \geq d(2, 1) + d(1, 3) = 1 + 1 = 2$ . Then  $d$  is not a quasi-metric on  $X$ .  $\square$

Now, we investigate the fixed point problem on  $S$ -metric spaces. The following result states the existence of a common fixed point of two maps  $F$  and  $g$  on partially ordered  $S$ -metric spaces. For the existence of a common fixed point of two maps  $F$  and  $g$  on partially ordered metric spaces, see [1, Theorem 2.2], [1, Theorem 2.3] and [7, Theorem 2.2].

**Theorem 2.5.** Let  $(X, \leq, S)$  be a partially ordered  $S$ -metric space,  $F, g : X \rightarrow X$  be two maps and  $\varphi : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  be a function such that

1.  $X$  is complete.
2.  $\varphi$  is continuous and  $\varphi(t) < t$  for all  $t > 0$ .
3.  $F(X) \subset g(X)$ ,  $F$  is a  $g$ -non-decreasing map,  $g(X)$  is closed and  $gx_0 \leq Fx_0$  for some  $x_0 \in X$ .
4. For all  $x, y \in X$  with  $gx \leq gy$ ,

$$S(Fx, Fx, Fy) \leq \max \left\{ \varphi(S(gx, gx, gy)), \varphi(S(gx, gx, Fx)), \varphi(S(gy, gy, Fy)), \varphi \left( \frac{S(gx, gx, Fy) + S(gy, gy, Fx)}{3} \right) \right\}.$$

5. If  $\{gx_n\}$  is a non-decreasing sequence with  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} gx_n = gz$  in  $g(X)$ , then  $gx_n \leq gz \leq g(gz)$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Then  $F$  and  $g$  have a coincidence point. Furthermore, if  $F$  and  $g$  commute at the coincidence point, then  $F$  and  $g$  have a common fixed point.

*Proof.* Since  $F(X) \subset g(X)$ , we can choose  $x_1 \in X$  such that  $gx_1 = Fx_0$ . Again, from  $F(X) \subset g(X)$  we can choose  $x_2 \in X$  such that  $gx_2 = Fx_1$ . Continuing this process, we can choose a sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in  $X$  such that

$$gx_{n+1} = Fx_n \tag{1}$$

for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Since  $gx_0 \leq Fx_0$  and  $Fx_0 = gx_1$ , we have  $gx_0 \leq gx_1$ . Since  $F$  is  $g$ -non-decreasing, we get  $Fx_0 \leq Fx_1$ . By using (1), we have  $gx_1 \leq gx_2$ . Again, since  $F$  is  $g$ -non-decreasing, we get  $Fx_1 \leq Fx_2$ , that is,  $gx_2 \leq gx_3$ . Continuing this process, we obtain

$$Fx_n \leq Fx_{n+1}, gx_n \leq gx_{n+1} \tag{2}$$

for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . To prove that  $F$  and  $g$  have a coincidence point, we consider two following cases.

**Case 1.** There exists  $n_0$  such that  $S(Fx_{n_0}, Fx_{n_0}, Fx_{n_0+1}) = 0$ . It implies that  $Fx_{n_0+1} = Fx_{n_0}$ . By (1), we get

$$Fx_{n_0+1} = gx_{n_0+1}. \tag{3}$$

Therefore,  $x_{n_0+1}$  is a coincidence point of  $F$  and  $g$ .

**Case 2.**  $S(Fx_n, Fx_n, Fx_{n+1}) > 0$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . We will show that

$$S(Fx_n, Fx_n, Fx_{n+1}) < S(Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n-1}, Fx_n) \tag{4}$$

for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . It follows from the assumption (4) and (2) that

$$S(Fx_n, Fx_n, Fx_{n+1}) \leq \max \left\{ \varphi(S(gx_n, gx_n, gx_{n+1})), \varphi(S(gx_n, gx_n, Fx_n)), \varphi(S(gx_{n+1}, gx_{n+1}, Fx_{n+1})), \varphi \left( \frac{S(gx_n, gx_n, Fx_{n+1}) + S(gx_{n+1}, gx_{n+1}, Fx_n)}{3} \right) \right\}.$$

Thus by (1), we get

$$\begin{aligned} S(Fx_n, Fx_n, Fx_{n+1}) &\leq \max \left\{ \varphi(S(Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n-1}, Fx_n)), \varphi(S(Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n-1}, Fx_n)), \right. \\ &\quad \left. \varphi(S(Fx_n, Fx_n, Fx_{n+1})), \varphi \left( \frac{S(Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n+1}) + S(Fx_n, Fx_n, Fx_n)}{3} \right) \right\} \\ &= \max \left\{ \varphi(S(Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n-1}, Fx_n)), \varphi(S(Fx_n, Fx_n, Fx_{n+1})), \varphi \left( \frac{S(Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n+1})}{3} \right) \right\}. \end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

We consider three following subcases.

**Subcase 2.1.**

$$\max \left\{ \varphi(S(Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n-1}, Fx_n)), \varphi(S(Fx_n, Fx_n, Fx_{n+1})), \varphi \left( \frac{S(Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n+1})}{3} \right) \right\} = \varphi(S(Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n-1}, Fx_n)).$$

By (5), we have  $S(Fx_n, Fx_n, Fx_{n+1}) \leq \varphi(S(Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n-1}, Fx_n))$ . Therefore, (4) holds since  $\varphi(t) < t$  for  $t > 0$ .

**Subcase 2.2.**

$$\max \left\{ \varphi(S(Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n-1}, Fx_n)), \varphi(S(Fx_n, Fx_n, Fx_{n+1})), \varphi \left( \frac{S(Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n+1})}{3} \right) \right\} = \varphi(S(Fx_n, Fx_n, Fx_{n+1})).$$

By (5), we have  $S(Fx_n, Fx_n, Fx_{n+1}) \leq \varphi(S(Fx_n, Fx_n, Fx_{n+1}))$ . Since  $\varphi(t) < t$  for  $t > 0$ , we get  $S(Fx_n, Fx_n, Fx_{n+1}) = 0$ . It is a contradiction.

**Subcase 2.3.**

$$\max \left\{ \varphi(S(Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n-1}, Fx_n)), \varphi(S(Fx_n, Fx_n, Fx_{n+1})), \varphi \left( \frac{S(Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n+1})}{3} \right) \right\} = \varphi \left( \frac{S(Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n+1})}{3} \right).$$

Note that  $\varphi(0) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \varphi(1/n) \leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 1/n = 0$ , then  $\varphi(0) = 0$ .

If  $\frac{S(Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n+1})}{3} = 0$ , then by (5), we have  $S(Fx_n, Fx_n, Fx_{n+1}) = 0$ . It is a contradiction.

If  $\frac{S(Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n+1})}{3} > 0$ , it follows from (5), Lemma 1.4 and the fact  $\varphi(t) < t$  for  $t > 0$  that

$$\begin{aligned} S(Fx_n, Fx_n, Fx_{n+1}) &\leq \varphi\left(\frac{S(Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n+1})}{3}\right) \\ &< \frac{1}{3}S(Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n+1}) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{3}(2S(Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n-1}, Fx_n) + S(Fx_n, Fx_n, Fx_{n+1})) \end{aligned}$$

Then we have  $S(Fx_n, Fx_n, Fx_{n+1}) < S(Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n-1}, Fx_n)$ . By the conclusions of three above subcases that (4) holds.

It follows from (4) that the sequence  $\{S(Fx_n, Fx_n, Fx_{n+1})\}$  of real numbers is monotone decreasing. Then there exists  $\delta \geq 0$  such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S(Fx_n, Fx_n, Fx_{n+1}) = \delta. \tag{6}$$

Now we shall prove that  $\delta = 0$ . It follows from Lemma 1.4 and (4) that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{3}S(Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n+1}) &\leq \frac{1}{3}(2S(Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n-1}, Fx_n) + S(Fx_n, Fx_n, Fx_{n+1})) \\ &< \frac{1}{3}(2S(Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n-1}, Fx_n) + S(Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n-1}, Fx_n)) \\ &= S(Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n-1}, Fx_n). \end{aligned} \tag{7}$$

Taking the upper limit as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  in (7), we get

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{3}S(Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n+1}) \leq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} S(Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n-1}, Fx_n).$$

Put

$$b = \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{3}S(Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n+1}) \tag{8}$$

then  $0 \leq b \leq \delta$ . Now taking the upper limit as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  in (5) and note that  $\varphi(t)$  is continuous, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S(Fx_n, Fx_n, Fx_{n+1}) &\leq \max\left\{\varphi\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S(Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n-1}, Fx_n)\right), \varphi\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S(Fx_n, Fx_n, Fx_{n+1})\right), \right. \\ &\quad \left. \varphi\left(\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{S(Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n-1}, Fx_{n+1})}{3}\right)\right\}. \end{aligned} \tag{9}$$

Using (6), (8) and (9), we have  $\delta \leq \max\{\varphi(\delta), \varphi(b)\}$ . If  $\delta > 0$ , then

$$\delta \leq \max\{\varphi(\delta), \varphi(b)\} < \max\{\delta, b\} = \delta. \tag{10}$$

It is a contradiction. Therefore,  $\delta = 0$ . It follows from (6) that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S(Fx_n, Fx_n, Fx_{n+1}) = 0. \tag{11}$$

Now we shall prove that  $\{Fx_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence. Suppose to the contrary that  $\{Fx_n\}$  is not a Cauchy sequence. Then there exists  $\varepsilon > 0$  and two sequences of integers  $\{n_k\}$  and  $\{m_k\}$  with  $m_k > n_k > k$  and

$$r_k = S(Fx_{n_k}, Fx_{n_k}, Fx_{m_k}) \geq \varepsilon \tag{12}$$

for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . We can choose  $m_k$  that is the smallest number with  $m_k > n_k > k$  and (12) holds. Then

$$S(Fx_{n_k}, Fx_{n_k}, Fx_{m_k-1}) < \varepsilon. \tag{13}$$

From Lemma 1.4, Lemma 1.3 and (12), (13), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon &\leq r_k \\ &= S(Fx_{n_k}, Fx_{n_k}, Fx_{m_k}) \\ &= S(Fx_{m_k}, Fx_{m_k}, Fx_{n_k}) \\ &\leq 2S(Fx_{m_k}, Fx_{m_k}, Fx_{m_k-1}) + S(Fx_{n_k}, Fx_{n_k}, Fx_{m_k-1}) \\ &< 2S(Fx_{m_k}, Fx_{m_k}, Fx_{m_k-1}) + \varepsilon. \end{aligned} \tag{14}$$

Taking the limit as  $k \rightarrow \infty$  in (14) and using (11), we obtain

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} r_k = \varepsilon. \tag{15}$$

It follows from (1) and (2) that  $gx_{n_k+1} = Fx_{n_k} \leq Fx_{m_k} = gx_{m_k+1}$ . Now, by using the assumptions (4) and (1), we have

$$\begin{aligned} S(Fx_{n_k+1}, Fx_{n_k+1}, Fx_{m_k+1}) &\leq \max \left\{ \varphi(S(gx_{n_k+1}, gx_{n_k+1}, gx_{m_k+1})), \varphi(S(gx_{n_k+1}, gx_{n_k+1}, Fx_{n_k+1})), \right. \\ &\quad \varphi(S(gx_{m_k+1}, gx_{m_k+1}, Fx_{m_k+1})), \\ &\quad \left. \varphi \left( \frac{S(gx_{n_k+1}, gx_{n_k+1}, Fx_{m_k+1}) + S(gx_{m_k+1}, gx_{m_k+1}, Fx_{n_k+1})}{3} \right) \right\} \\ &= \max \left\{ \varphi(S(Fx_{n_k}, Fx_{n_k}, Fx_{m_k})), \varphi(S(Fx_{n_k}, Fx_{n_k}, Fx_{n_k+1})), \varphi(S(Fx_{m_k}, Fx_{m_k}, Fx_{m_k+1})), \right. \\ &\quad \left. \varphi \left( \frac{S(Fx_{n_k}, Fx_{n_k}, Fx_{m_k+1}) + S(Fx_{m_k}, Fx_{m_k}, Fx_{n_k+1})}{3} \right) \right\}. \end{aligned} \tag{16}$$

Denoting  $\delta_n = S(Fx_n, Fx_n, Fx_{n+1})$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \delta_n = 0$  by (11). From (16), Lemma 1.3 and (12), we have

$$S(Fx_{n_k+1}, Fx_{n_k+1}, Fx_{m_k+1}) \leq \max \left\{ \varphi(r_k), \varphi(\delta_{n_k}), \varphi(\delta_{m_k}), \varphi \left( \frac{S(Fx_{n_k}, Fx_{n_k}, Fx_{m_k+1}) + S(Fx_{m_k}, Fx_{m_k}, Fx_{n_k+1})}{3} \right) \right\}. \tag{17}$$

Using Lemma 1.4 again, we get

$$\begin{aligned} r_k &\leq 2S(Fx_{n_k}, Fx_{n_k}, Fx_{n_k+1}) + S(Fx_{m_k}, Fx_{m_k}, Fx_{n_k+1}) \\ &\leq 2S(Fx_{n_k}, Fx_{n_k}, Fx_{n_k+1}) + 2S(Fx_{m_k}, Fx_{m_k}, Fx_{m_k+1}) + S(Fx_{n_k+1}, Fx_{n_k+1}, Fx_{m_k+1}) \\ &= 2\delta_{n_k} + 2\delta_{m_k} + S(Fx_{n_k+1}, Fx_{n_k+1}, Fx_{m_k+1}). \end{aligned} \tag{18}$$

From (12), (17) and (18), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon &\leq r_k \\ &\leq 2\delta_{n_k} + 2\delta_{m_k} + \max \left\{ \varphi(r_k), \varphi(\delta_{n_k}), \varphi(\delta_{m_k}), \varphi \left( \frac{S(Fx_{n_k}, Fx_{n_k}, Fx_{m_k+1}) + S(Fx_{m_k}, Fx_{m_k}, Fx_{n_k+1})}{3} \right) \right\}. \end{aligned} \tag{19}$$

Next, we will show that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{S(Fx_{n_k}, Fx_{n_k}, Fx_{m_k+1}) + S(Fx_{m_k}, Fx_{m_k}, Fx_{n_k+1})}{3} = \frac{2}{3}\varepsilon. \tag{20}$$

Indeed, by using Lemma 1.4, (12) and (13), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon &\leq r_k \\ &= S(Fx_{m_k}, Fx_{m_k}, Fx_{n_k}) \\ &\leq 2\delta_{m_k} + S(Fx_{n_k}, Fx_{n_k}, Fx_{m_k+1}) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} S(Fx_{n_k}, Fx_{n_k}, Fx_{m_k+1}) &= S(Fx_{m_k+1}, Fx_{m_k+1}, Fx_{n_k}) \\ &\leq 2S(Fx_{m_k+1}, Fx_{m_k+1}, Fx_{m_k-1}) + S(Fx_{n_k}, Fx_{n_k}, Fx_{m_k-1}) \\ &\leq 4S(Fx_{m_k+1}, Fx_{m_k+1}, Fx_{m_k}) + 2S(Fx_{m_k-1}, Fx_{m_k-1}, Fx_{m_k}) + S(Fx_{n_k}, Fx_{n_k}, Fx_{m_k-1}) \\ &< 4\delta_{m_k} + 2\delta_{m_k-1} + \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

It implies that

$$\varepsilon - 2\delta_{m_k} \leq S(Fx_{n_k}, Fx_{n_k}, Fx_{m_k+1}) < \varepsilon + 4\delta_{m_k} + 2\delta_{m_k-1}. \tag{21}$$

Similarly to (21), we obtain

$$\varepsilon - 2\delta_{n_k} \leq S(Fx_{m_k}, Fx_{m_k}, Fx_{n_k+1}) < \varepsilon + 4\delta_{n_k} + 2\delta_{n_k-1}. \tag{22}$$

It follows from (21) and (22) that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{2}{3}(\varepsilon - (\delta_{m_k} + \delta_{n_k})) &\leq \frac{S(Fx_{n_k}, Fx_{n_k}, Fx_{m_k+1}) + S(Fx_{m_k}, Fx_{m_k}, Fx_{n_k+1})}{3} \\ &\leq \frac{2}{3}(\varepsilon + 2(\delta_{m_k} + \delta_{n_k}) + \delta_{m_k-1} + \delta_{n_k-1}). \end{aligned} \tag{23}$$

Using (11) and taking the limit as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  in (23), we get that (20) holds.

Using (11), (15), (20) and taking the limit as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  in (19) and keeping in mind properties of  $\varphi$ , we get

$$\varepsilon \leq \max\{\varphi(\varepsilon), 0, 0, \varphi(2\varepsilon/3)\} < \max\{\varepsilon, 0, 0, 2\varepsilon/3\} = \varepsilon.$$

It is a contradiction. Therefore, the assumption (12) is not true, that is,  $\{Fx_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence. From (1), we have  $\{gx_{n+1}\}$  is also a Cauchy sequence. Since  $g(X)$  is closed, there exists  $z \in X$  such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} gx_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Fx_n = gz. \tag{24}$$

Now we will show that  $z$  is a coincidence point of  $F$  and  $g$ . By (2), (24) and the assumption (5), we have  $gx_n \leq gz$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . By using Lemma 1.4 and the assumption (4), we get

$$\begin{aligned} S(gz, gz, Fz) &\leq 2S(gz, gz, Fx_n) + S(Fx_n, Fx_n, Fz) \\ &\leq 2S(gz, gz, Fx_n) + \max\left\{\varphi(S(gx_n, gx_n, gz)), \varphi(S(gx_n, gx_n, Fx_n)), \varphi(S(gz, gz, Fz)), \right. \\ &\quad \left. \varphi\left(\frac{S(gx_n, gx_n, Fz) + S(gz, gz, Fx_n)}{3}\right)\right\}. \end{aligned} \tag{25}$$

By using (24), the continuity of  $\varphi$ , Lemma 1.7 and taking the limit as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  in (25), we have

$$S(gz, gz, Fz) \leq \max\{\varphi(S(gz, gz, Fz)), \varphi(S(gz, gz, Fz)/3)\}.$$

If  $S(gz, gz, Fz) > 0$ , then by the assumption (2),

$$S(gz, gz, Fz) < \max\{S(gz, gz, Fz), S(gz, gz, Fz)/3\} = S(gz, gz, Fz).$$

It is a contradiction. Then  $S(gz, gz, Fz) = 0$ , that is,  $Fz = gz$ . Therefore,  $F$  and  $g$  have a coincidence point  $z$ .

Furthermore, we will show that  $gz$  is a common fixed point of  $F$  and  $g$  if  $F$  and  $g$  are commutative at the coincidence point. Indeed, we have  $F(gz) = g(Fz) = g(gz)$ . By (2), (24) and the assumption (5), we obtain  $gz \leq g(gz)$ . It follows from the assumption (4) and Lemma 1.3 that

$$\begin{aligned} S(Fz, Fz, F(gz)) &\leq \max \left\{ \varphi(S(gz, gz, g(gz))), \varphi(S(gz, gz, Fz)), \varphi(S(g(gz), g(gz), F(gz))), \right. \\ &\quad \left. \varphi \left( \frac{S(gz, gz, F(gz)) + S(g(gz), g(gz), Fz)}{3} \right) \right\} \\ &= \max \left\{ \varphi(S(gz, gz, g(gz))), 0, 0, \varphi \left( \frac{S(gz, gz, g(gz)) + S(g(gz), g(gz), gz)}{3} \right) \right\} \\ &= \max \left\{ \varphi(S(gz, gz, g(gz))), 0, 0, \varphi \left( \frac{2S(gz, gz, g(gz))}{3} \right) \right\} \\ &= \max \left\{ \varphi(S(Fz, Fz, g(gz))), \varphi \left( \frac{2S(Fz, Fz, g(gz))}{3} \right) \right\}. \end{aligned} \tag{26}$$

If  $S(Fz, Fz, F(gz)) > 0$ , then from (26) and the assumption (2), we have

$$S(Fz, Fz, F(gz)) < \max \left\{ S(Fz, Fz, g(gz)), \frac{2S(Fz, Fz, g(gz))}{3} \right\} = S(Fz, Fz, F(gz)).$$

It is a contradiction. Then  $S(Fz, Fz, F(gz)) = 0$ , that is,  $F(gz) = g(gz) = Fz = gz$ . This proves that  $gz$  is a common fixed point of  $F$  and  $g$ .  $\square$

**Remark 2.6.** The assumption ‘ $F$  is  $g$ -non-decreasing’ in Theorem 2.5 can be replaced by ‘ $F$  is  $g$ -non-increasing’ provided that ‘ $gx_0 \leq Fx_0$ ’ is replaced by ‘ $gx_0 \geq Fx_0$ ’.

From Theorem 2.5, we get following corollaries.

**Corollary 2.7.** Let  $(X, \leq, S)$  be a partially ordered  $S$ -metric space,  $F : X \rightarrow X$  be a map and  $\varphi : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  be a function such that

1.  $X$  is complete.
2.  $\varphi$  is continuous and  $\varphi(t) < t$  for all  $t > 0$ .
3.  $F$  is a non-decreasing map and  $x_0 \leq Fx_0$  for some  $x_0 \in X$ .
4. For all  $x, y \in X$  with  $x \leq y$ ,

$$S(Fx, Fx, Fy) \leq \max \left\{ \varphi(S(x, x, y)), \varphi(S(x, x, Fx)), \varphi(S(y, y, Fy)), \varphi \left( \frac{S(x, x, Fy) + S(y, y, Fx)}{3} \right) \right\}.$$

5. If  $\{x_n\}$  is a non-decreasing sequence with  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = z$  in  $g(X)$ , then  $x_n \leq z$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Then  $F$  has a fixed point. Furthermore, the assumption (5) can be replaced by ‘ $F$  is continuous’.

*Proof.* By taking  $g$  is the identity map in Theorem 2.5, we get  $F$  has a fixed point  $z$ . Furthermore, if  $F$  is continuous, then by (24), we have

$$z = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_{n+1} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F(x_n) = F(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n) = Fz.$$

This proves that  $z$  is a fixed point of  $F$ .  $\square$

The following corollary is an analogue of [1, Theorem 2.3] for maps on partially ordered  $S$ -metric spaces.

**Corollary 2.8.** Let  $(X, \leq, S)$  be a partially ordered  $S$ -metric space,  $F : X \rightarrow X$  be a map and  $\varphi : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  be a function such that

1.  $X$  is complete.
2.  $\varphi$  is continuous and  $\varphi(t) < t$  for all  $t > 0$ .
3.  $F$  is a non-decreasing map and  $x_0 \leq Fx_0$  for some  $x_0 \in X$ .
4. For all  $x, y \in X$  with  $x \leq y$ ,

$$S(Fx, Fx, Fy) \leq \max \{ \varphi(S(x, x, y)), \varphi(S(x, x, Fx)), \varphi(S(y, y, Fy)) \}.$$

5. If  $\{x_n\}$  is a non-decreasing sequence with  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = z$ , then  $x_n \leq z$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Then  $F$  has a fixed point. Furthermore, the assumption (5) can be replaced by ‘ $F$  is continuous’.

By choosing  $\varphi(t) = k.t$  for all  $t \in [0, \infty)$  and some  $k \in (0, 1)$  in Corollary 2.7, we get the following corollary which is an analogue of results in [13], [21].

**Corollary 2.9.** Let  $(X, \leq, S)$  be a partially ordered  $S$ -metric space and  $F : X \rightarrow X$  be a map such that

1.  $X$  is complete.
2.  $F$  is a non-decreasing map and  $x_0 \leq Fx_0$  for some  $x_0 \in X$ .
3. For all  $x, y \in X$  with  $x \leq y$ , there exists  $k \in (0, 1)$  satisfying

$$S(Fx, Fx, Fy) \leq k \max \left\{ S(x, x, y), S(x, x, Fx), S(y, y, Fy), \frac{S(x, x, Fy) + S(y, y, Fx)}{3} \right\}.$$

4. If  $\{x_n\}$  is a non-decreasing sequence with  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = z$ , then  $x_n \leq z$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Then  $F$  has a fixed point. Furthermore, the assumption (4) can be replaced by ‘ $F$  is continuous’.

Finally, we give examples to demonstrate the validity of the above results. The following example shows that Corollary 2.9 is a proper generalization of [23, Theorem 3.1].

**Example 2.10.** Let  $X = \{-3, -1, 0, 2, 4\}$  be a complete  $S$ -metric space with the  $S$ -metric in Example 1.6 and let  $F(-3) = F(-1) = F0 = 0, F2 = -1, F4 = -3$ . We have

$$S(F2, F2, F4) = S(-1, -1, -3) = 2|-1 + 3| = 4 = S(2, 2, 4) = 2|2 - 4|.$$

Then [23, Theorem 3.1] is not applicable to  $F$ .

On the other hand, define the partial order on  $X$  as follows

$$x \leq y \text{ if and only if } x, y \in \{-3, -1, 0\} \text{ and } x \leq y.$$

Then  $F$  is non-decreasing,  $x_0 = 0 \leq Fx_0 = F0$  and if  $\{x_n\}$  is non-decreasing and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = z$ , then  $x_n \leq z$ . We also have  $S(Fx, Fx, Fy) = 0$  for all  $x, y \in \{-3, -1, 0\}$ . Then, Corollary 2.9 is applicable to  $F$ .

The following example shows that Corollary 2.8 is a proper generalization of Corollary 2.9.

**Example 2.11.** Let  $X = [0, \pi/4]$  with the  $S$ -metric defined by  $S(x, y, z) = \frac{1}{2}(|x - z| + |y - z|)$  for all  $x, y, z \in X$ . Define the partial order on  $X$  by  $x \leq y$  if and only if  $x \geq y$ , where  $\leq$  is the usual order on  $\mathbb{R}$ . Then  $(X, \leq, S)$  is a complete, partially ordered  $S$ -metric space. For each  $x \in X$ , put  $Fx = \sin x$ . For all  $x \neq y$  and any  $k \in (0, 1)$ , we have

$$S(Fx, Fx, Fy) = S(\sin x, \sin x, \sin y) = |\sin x - \sin y|$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} & k \max \left\{ S(x, x, y), S(x, x, Fx), S(y, y, Fy), \frac{S(x, x, Fy) + S(y, y, Fx)}{3} \right\} \\ &= k \max \left\{ S(x, x, y), S(x, x, \sin x), S(y, y, \sin y), \frac{S(x, x, \sin y) + S(y, y, \sin x)}{3} \right\} \\ &= k \max \left\{ |x - y|, x - \sin x, y - \sin y, \frac{|x - \sin y| + |y - \sin x|}{3} \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

For  $y = 0 \geq x$ , we have  $S(Fx, Fx, Fy) = \sin x$  and

$$k \max \left\{ S(x, x, y), S(x, x, Fx), S(y, y, Fy), \frac{S(x, x, Fy) + S(y, y, Fx)}{3} \right\} = kx.$$

Since  $\sin x \leq kx$  is not true for all  $x \in X$  and  $k \in (0, 1)$ , Corollary 2.9 is not applicable to  $F$ .

On the other hand, put  $\varphi(t) = \sin t$  for all  $t \in [0, \infty)$ , then  $\varphi(t) < t$  for all  $t > 0$ . We have that for all  $x \leq y$ ,

$$S(Fx, Fx, Fy) = \sin x - \sin y \leq \sin(x - y) = \varphi(S(x, x, y)) \leq \max \{ \varphi(S(x, x, y)), \varphi(S(x, x, Fx)), \varphi(S(y, y, Fy)) \}. \quad (27)$$

Note that  $x_0 = 0 \leq F0 = Fx_0$  and if  $\{x_n\}$  is non-decreasing and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = z$ , then  $x_n \leq z$ . Moreover,  $F$  is also continuous. Therefore, Corollary 2.8 is applicable to  $F$ .

The following example shows that our results can not be derived from the techniques used in [12], see Lemma 2.3, even for trivial maps.

**Example 2.12.** Let  $(X, S)$  be an  $S$ -metric space in the proof of Example 2.4 with the usual order and let  $F, g : X \rightarrow X$  be defined by  $Fx = gx = 1$  for all  $x \in X$ . Then all assumptions of Theorem 2.5 are satisfied. Then Theorem 2.5 is applicable to  $F$  and  $g$  on  $(X, S)$ .

It follows from Example 2.4 that the techniques used in [12] are not applicable to  $F$  and  $g$  on  $(X, S)$ .

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