A Meir-Keeler type fixed point theorem in fuzzy metric spaces.

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Abstract: In this paper we introduce a new definition of Meir-Keeler type contractions and prove a fixed point theorem for them in fuzzy metric space.

Keywords: Fuzzy metric space; fixed point theorem; Meir-Keeler type contraction.

Academic Discipline and Sub-Disciplines
Mathematics, Functional Analysis.

SUBJECT CLASSIFICATION
Functional Analysis

1. Introduction.

The introduction of the notion of a fuzzy set, is a new way to represent the vagueness in everyday life, by Zadeh [8] in 1965 and proves a turning point in the development of fuzzy mathematics. In 1975, Kramosil and Michalek [4] gave the notion of fuzzy metric spaces, which could be considered as a reformulation, in the fuzzy context, of the notion of probabilistic metric space due to Menger [7].

The Banach contraction principle is the most celebrated fixed point theorem. It is very useful, simple, and classical tool in nonlinear analysis. This principle has many generalizations. For example, in 1969 [2] Meir and Keeler proved a fixed point theorem for the mappings satisfying a ($\varepsilon$-$\delta$) contractive condition. Some generalizations of Meir-Keeler fixed point theorem (see [9, 5, 6]) established a class of the contractions called the Mier-Keeler type contraction.

Fixed point theory in fuzzy metric spaces has been developed starting with the work of Heilpern [12]. In [1] George and Veeramani introduced and studied the notion of fuzzy metric spaces which constitutes a modification of the one due Kramosil and Michalek. From now on, by fuzzy metric we mean a fuzzy metric in the sense of George and Veeramani. Many authors have contributed to the development of this theory.

In this paper we will introduce a new Meir-Keeler type contractive condition in fuzzy metric spaces and establish a fixed point theorem in fuzzy metric spaces by using this Meir-Keeler type contractive condition. Our theorem generalize, unify and extend many results in literature.

2. Preliminaries.

For convenience we start with the following definitions, lemmas, and theorems.

Definition 1. [1] A binary operation $*: [0, 1] \times [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$ is a continuous $t$-norm if it satisfies the following conditions:

(i) $*$ is commutative and associative;
(ii) $*$ is continuous;
(iii) $a * 1 = a$ for all $a \in [0, 1]$;
(iv) $a * b \leq c * d$ whenever $a \leq c$ and $b \leq d$ for all $a, b, c, d \in [0, 1]$.

Examples of $t$-norms are $a * b = ab$, $a * b = \min\{a, b\}$ and $a * b = \max\{a + b - 1, 0\}$.

Definition 2. [1] The 3-tuple $(X, M, *)$ is said to be a fuzzy metric space if $X$ is an arbitrary set, $*$ is a continuous $t$-norm and $M$ is a fuzzy set on $X^2 \times [0, \infty[$ satisfying the following conditions for all $x, y, z \in X$ and $s, t > 0$:

i) $M(x, y, 0) = 0$
ii) $M(x, y, t) = 1$ for all $t > 0$ if and only if $x = y$,
iii) $M(x, y, t) = M(y, x, t)$
iv) $M(x, y, t) * M(y, z, s) \leq M(x, z, t + s)$,
v) \( M(x, y, \cdot)[0, \infty] \rightarrow [0, 1] \) is left continuous.

The function \( M(x, y, t) \) denotes the degree of nearness between \( x \) and \( y \) with respect to \( t \). So, we identify \( M(x, y, t) = 1 \) with \( x = y \) and \( M(x, y, t) = 0 \) with \( \infty \).

Lemma 3. [11]. \( M(x, y, *) \) is nondecreasing for all \( x, y \) in \( X \).

Remarks 4. [1].

(1) In a fuzzy metric space \((X, M, *)\), whenever \( M(x, y, t) > 1 - r \) for \( x, y \in X, t > 0 \), \( 0 < r < 1 \), we can find a \( 0 < t_0 < t \) such that \( M(x, y, t_0) > 1 - r \).

(2) For any \( n > r_2 \), we can find a \( r_3 \) such that \( n * r_3 \geq r_2 \) and for any \( r_4 \), we can find a \( r_5 \) such that \( r_5 * r_5 \geq r_4 \) for all \( t \in (0,1) \).

Example 5. [1]. Let \( X = \mathbb{R} \). Define \( a * b = ab \) and \( M(x, y, t) = \left[ \exp \left( \frac{|x - y|}{t} \right) \right]^{-1} \) for all \( x, y \in X, t > 0 \). Then \((X, M, *)\) is a fuzzy metric space.

Each fuzzy metric \((X, M, *)\) on \( X \) generates a \( T_2 \)-topology on \( X \), which has as base the family of open balls \( \{B(x, r, t) : x \in X, r \in (0,1), t > 0\} \), where \( B(x, r, t) = \{y \in X : M(x, y, t) > 1 - r\} \).

Definition 6. [11]. A sequence \( \{x_n\} \) in a fuzzy metric space \((X, M, *)\) is said to be:

(i) a Cauchy sequence if for all \( t > 0 \) and \( p > 0 \), \( \lim_{n \to \infty} M(x_{n+p}, x_n, t) = 1 \);

(ii) convergent to a point \( x \in X \) if for all \( t > 0 \), \( \lim_{n \to \infty} M(x_n, x, t) = 1 \).

Notice that the limit of sequence in fuzzy metric space is unique.

Definition 7. [11]. A fuzzy metric space \((X, M, *)\) is complete if and only if every Cauchy sequence in \( X \) is convergent.

Example 8. [10]. Let \( X = \{\frac{1}{n} : n \in \mathbb{N}\} \) and let \(*\) be the continuous \( t\)-norm defined by \( a * b = ab \) for all \( a, b \in [0,1] \). For each \( t > 0 \) and \( x, y \in X \), define \((X, M, *)\) by \( M(x, y, t) = \frac{t}{t + |x - y|} \) and \( M(x, y, 0) = 0 \).

Clearly, \((X, M, *)\) is a complete fuzzy metric space.

Theorem 9. [2]. (Fixed point theorem of Meir-Keeler) Let \((X, d)\) be a metric space and let \( T \) be a mapping from \( X \) into itself satisfying the following condition:

\[ \forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists \delta(\varepsilon) > 0 \text{ such that } \varepsilon \leq d(x, y) < \varepsilon + \delta(\varepsilon) \Rightarrow d(Tx, Ty) < \varepsilon \]

Then \( T \) has a unique fixed point \( z \in X \). Moreover, for all \( x \in X \), the sequence \( \{T^n x\} \) converges to \( z \).

A. Razani in [3] defined fuzzy \( \varepsilon \)-contractive mapping.

Definition 10. [3]. Let \((X, M, *)\) be a fuzzy metric space and \( 0 < \varepsilon < 1 \). A mapping \( T : X \to X \) is called fuzzy \( \varepsilon \)-contractive if \( 1 - \varepsilon < M(x, y, t) < 1 \) for all \( x, y \in X \).

The following theorem has been proved by Razani in [3 (5)].

Theorem 11. [3]. Let \((X, M, *)\) be a complete fuzzy metric space, where the continuous \( t\)-norm is defined as \( a * b = \min\{a, b\} \). Suppose \( T : X \to X \) is a fuzzy \( \varepsilon \)-contractive, such that there exists a point \( x \in X \) whose
sequence of iterates \((T^nx)\) contains a convergent subsequence \((T^nx)\). Then \(\xi = \lim_{i \to \infty} T^nx\) is a periodic point, that is, there is a positive integer \(k\) such that \(T^k\xi = \xi\)

3. MAIN RESULTS.

**Definition 3.1.**[1] Let \((X,M,*)\) be a fuzzy metric space. A subset \(A\) of \(X\) is said to be \(F\)-bounded if and only if there exist \(t > 0\) and \(0 < r < 1\) such that \(M(x,y,t) > 1 - r\) for all \(x, y \in A\).

**Definition 3.2.** Let \((X,M,*)\) be a fuzzy metric space. For \(A \subseteq X\) we denote the diameter of \(A\) by \(\delta(A)\) and

\[
\delta(A) = \inf \{M(x,y,t) : x, y \in A, t > 0\}
\]

If \(A\) is \(F\)-bounded then \(\delta(A) > r\) for some \(0 < r < 1\).

**Proposition 3.3.** Let \((X,M,*)\) be a fuzzy metric space. If for \(A, B \subseteq X\), we have \(A \subseteq B \subseteq X\) then \(\delta(A) \geq \delta(B)\).

Let \((x_n)\) be a sequence in a fuzzy metric space.

Define \(\delta_{ij}(\{x_n\}) = \inf \{M(x_m,x_k,t) : m \geq i, k \geq j, t > 0\} \forall (i,j) \in N^2\). \(\quad (1)\)

**Proposition 3.4.** Let \((X,M,*)\) be a fuzzy metric space and \((x_n)\) a sequence in it. If one \(\delta_{ij}(\{x_n\}) > r_0\) for \(0 < r_0 < 1\) than for all \(\delta_{ij}(\{x_n\})\) exist some \(r\), \(0 < r < 1\) such that \(\delta_{ij}(\{x_n\}) > r\).

**Proof.** Denote \(A = \inf \{M(x_m,x_{i_0},t) : 1 \leq m \leq i_0, t > 0\}\) and \(B = \inf \{M(x_k,x_{j_0},t) : 1 \leq k \leq j_0, t > 0\}\)

Since the sets \(\{M(x_m,x_{i_0},t) : 1 \leq m \leq i_0, t > 0\}\), \(\{M(x_k,x_{j_0},t) : 1 \leq k \leq j_0, t > 0\}\) are finite, than \(0 < A, B < 1\)

Let us prove the preposition for \(\delta_{ij}(\{x_n\})\).

For \(m \geq i_0\) and \(k \geq j_0\), by (1) we have \(M(x_m,x_{i_0},t) \geq \delta_{ij}(\{x_n\}) > r_0\).

For \(m \geq i_0, k \leq j_0\) we have

\[
M(x_m,x_k,t) > M(x_m,x_{i_0},t) \cdot M(x_k,x_{j_0},t) \geq \delta_{ij}(\{x_n\}) \cdot M(x_k,x_{j_0},t) > r_0 \cdot B > 0
\]

For \(m \leq i_0, k \geq j_0\) we have

\[
M(x_m,x_k,t) > M(x_m,x_{i_0},t) \cdot M(x_k,x_{j_0},t) \geq M(x_k,x_{j_0},t) \cdot \delta_{ij}(\{x_n\}) > A \cdot r_0 > 0
\]

For \(m \leq i_0, k \leq j_0\) we have

\[
M(x_m,x_k,t) > M(x_m,x_{i_0},t) \cdot M(x_k,x_{j_0},t) \geq M(x_k,x_{j_0},t) \cdot r_0 \cdot B > 0
\]

So, we can give \(r \in (0,1)\) where \(r \leq \min\{r_0, A \cdot r_0 \cdot B, r_0 \cdot A \cdot B\}\) and we have \(\delta_{ij}(\{x_n\}) > r\).

But \(\delta_{ij}(\{x_n\}) \geq \delta_{ij}(\{x_n\}) > r\) for \(i, j \in N\) and \(0 < r < 1\).

**Corollary 3.5.** Let \((X,M,*)\) be a fuzzy metric space and \((x_n)\) a sequence in it. The sequences \((x_n)\) is bounded if and only if exists a \(r \in (0,1)\) such that \(\delta_{ij}(\{x_n\}) > r\).
Theorem 3.6. Let \((X, M, \ast)\) be a fuzzy metric space and \((x_n)\) a sequence in it. If the sequences \((x_n)\) satisfies the following condition, then it is Cauchy in \((X, M, \ast)\).

(1) The sequences \((x_n)\) is bounded in \((X, M, \ast)\) and

\[
\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists r \in N, \exists \delta \in (0, \varepsilon), \exists \epsilon < \epsilon_0 \text{ such that } \varepsilon - \delta < \delta_0 ((x_n)) \leq \varepsilon \Rightarrow M(x_i, x_j, t) \geq \epsilon_0 \quad \text{whenever } i, j \in N, t > 0
\]

Proof. Let \((x_n)\) be a sequence in \((X, M, \ast)\) satisfying (1). Define

\[
\alpha_n = \inf \{M(x_i, x_j, t), i \geq n, j \geq n, t > 0\}
\]

For \(n < m\), \(\{M(x_i, x_j, t), i \geq m, j \geq m, t > 0\} \subseteq \{M(x_i, x_j, t), i \geq n, j \geq n, t > 0\}\), so \(\alpha_n \leq \alpha_m\) and the sequence \((\alpha_n)\) is increasing in \([0, 1]\). Hence it converges and \(\lim a_n = \sup \{\alpha_n : n \in N\} = a \leq 1\)

Suppose that \(a < 1\). Then exist \(\delta \in (0, a)\) and \(n_0 \in N\), such that for \(n \geq n_0\)

\[
a - \delta < \alpha_n = \alpha_{n_0} \leq a
\]

For \(i \geq n_0, j \geq n_0\) denote \(k = \max\{i, j\}\) and we have \(k \geq n_0\) and

\[
a - \delta < \alpha_{n_0}((x_n)) = \alpha_k((x_k)) \leq \delta_k((x_k)) = \alpha_k \leq a.
\]

From the condition (1) for \(\varepsilon = a > 0\) there are \(r \in N, \delta \in (0, \varepsilon), \epsilon_0 > \varepsilon = a\)

such that \(a - \delta < \delta_{ij}((x_k)) \leq a \Rightarrow M(x_i, x_j, t) \geq \epsilon_0\), whenever \(i \geq n_0, j \geq n_0, t > 0\)  \(\text{(2)}\)

So

\[
\delta_{n_0 + r, n_0 + r}((x_n)) = \inf \{M(x_i, x_j, t), i \geq n_0, j \geq n_0, t > 0\} \geq \epsilon_0 > \varepsilon = a
\]

This is a contradiction. So \(a = 1\).

The inequality \(1 = \lim \alpha_n = \lim \delta_{n_0} \leq \lim M(x_n, x_{n+r}, t) \leq 1\) implies \(\lim M(x_n, x_{n+r}, t) = 1\)

So the sequence \((x_n)\) is Cauchy.

Let \((x_n)\) and \((y_n)\) be the sequences in a fuzzy metric space. Define \(\delta_j ((x_n), (y_n)) = \inf \{M(x_m, y_k, t), m \geq i, k \geq j, t > 0\}\)

Theorem 3.7. Let \((X, M, \ast)\) be a complete fuzzy metric space and \(T\) a continuous self-mapping define on \(X\). If \(T\) satisfies the following condition, than \(T\) has a fixed point \(u \in X\).

(1) For all \(x, y \in X\), the sequences \((T^n x)\) and \((T^n y)\) are bounded in \((X, M, \ast)\) and

\[
\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists r \in N, \exists \delta \in (0, \varepsilon), \exists \epsilon_0 > \epsilon, \text{ such that } \varepsilon - \delta < \delta_0 ((T^n x), (T^n y)) \leq \epsilon \Rightarrow M(T^{m+i} x, T^{j+i} x, t) \geq \epsilon_0 \quad \text{whenever } i, j \in N, t > 0.
\]

Proof. Let \(x \in X\). We define the iterative sequence \((x_n)\) as follows \(x_{n+1} = Tx_n\), for \(n \in N\).

If there exists \(n \in N\) such that \(x_n = x_{n+1}\) than \(x_n\) is a fixed point of \(T\). Assume then that \(x_n \neq x_{n+1}\) for each \(n \in N\).

We first shall prove that if \(T\) satisfy the conditions (1) the sequence \((x_n)\) is a Cauchy sequence.

Substituting \(x = x_n\) and \(y = x_{n+1}\) in (1) we obtain:

the sequence \((x_n)\) is bounded in \((X, M, \ast)\) and

\[
\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists r \in N, \exists \delta \in (0, \varepsilon), \exists \epsilon_0 > \epsilon, \text{ such that } \epsilon - \delta < \delta_0 ((x_n)) \leq \epsilon \Rightarrow M(T^{m+i} x, T^{j+i} x, t) \geq \epsilon_0 \quad \text{whenever } i, j \in N, t > 0.
\]

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So the sequence \( \{x_n\} \) satisfies condition (1) in theorem 3.5, so it is a Cauchy sequence in \((X, M, \ast)\).

By completeness of space \((X, M, \ast)\), there exists \(u \in X\) such that \(\{x_n\}\) converges to \(u\) and \(\lim_{n \to \infty} M(x_n, u, t) = 1\).

We will show that \(u\) is the fixed point of \(T\), i.e., \(M(u, Tu, t) = 1\). By the continuity of \(T\), we can have

\[
\lim_{n \to \infty} M(x_n, u, t) = \lim_{n \to \infty} M(Tx_{n-1}, u, t) = \lim_{n \to \infty} M(Tu, u, t) = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad u \text{ is a fixed point of } T.
\]

**Theorem 3.8.** Let \((X, M, \ast)\) be a complete fuzzy metric space, where the continuous \(t\)-norm is defined as \(a \ast b = ab\) (\(a \ast b = \min\{a, b\}\)). Let \(T : X \to X\) be a self mapping satisfying the following condition

(1) given \(\varepsilon > 0\), there exists a \(\delta \in (0, \varepsilon)\) such that for all \(x, y \in X\),

\[
\varepsilon - \delta < m(x, y, t) < \varepsilon \quad \Rightarrow \quad M(Tx, Ty, t) \geq \varepsilon
\]

where \(m(x, y, t) = \min \left\{ M(x, y, t), M(x, Tx, t), M(y, Ty, t), M(x, Ty, 2t), M(y, Tx, 2t), \frac{M(x, Ty, t)M(y, Tx, t)}{M(x, y, t)} \right\}\)

Then \(T\) has a unique fixed point.

**Proof.** Let \(x_0 \in X\) be an arbitrary point. Consider the sequence \(\{x_n\} = \{T^n x_0\}\). We will prove that \(\{x_n\}\) is a Cauchy sequence in \(X\). Let \(M_n = M(x_n, x_{n+1}, t)\), \(t > 0\).

If for some \(n\), \(M_n \neq 1\), then \(M_n = M(x_n, x_{n+1}, t) = 1\) implies that \(x_n = x_{n+1} = Tx_n\) so \(T\) has a fixed point.

Now suppose that \(M_n \neq 1\) for all \(n\).

If \(m(x, y, t) = 1\) for some \(x, y \in X\) we have that \(M(x, Tx, t) = 1\) and \(x = Tx\). Hence \(x\) is a fixed point for \(T\).

If \(m(x, y, t) < 1\) for all \(x, y \in X\), then by (1) we have

\[
m(x, y, t) < \varepsilon < M(Tx, Ty, t).
\]

For any \(n \in N\)

\[
M_n = M(x_n, x_{n+1}, t) = M(Tx_{n-1}, Tx_n, t) > m(x_{n-1}, x_n, t)
\]

\[
= \min \left\{ M(x_{n-1}, x_n, t), M(x_{n-1}, Tx_{n-1}, t), M(x_n, Tx_{n-1}, t), M(x_{n-1}, Tx_n, 2t) \right\}\]

\[
\geq \min \left\{ M(x_{n-1}, x_n, t), M(x_{n-1}, x_n, t), M(x_n, x_{n+1}, t), M(x_{n-1}, x_{n+1}, 2t) \right\}\]

\[
= \min \left\{ M(x_{n-1}, x_n, t), M(x_{n-1}, x_n, t), M(x_n, x_{n+1}, t) \right\}
\]

Since \(M(x_{n-1}, x_n, t)M(x_n, x_{n+1}, 2t) < M(x_{n-1}, x_{n+1}, 2t)\) than

\[
M_n = M(x_n, x_{n+1}, t) > m(x_{n-1}, x_n, t) = \min \left\{ M(x_{n-1}, x_n, t), M(x_n, x_{n+1}, t), M(x_{n-1}, x_{n+1}, 2t) \right\} > \]

\[
\min \left\{ M(x_{n-1}, x_n, t), M(x_n, x_{n+1}, t)M(x_{n-1}, x_{n+1}, t) \right\} = \min\{M(x_{n-1}, x_n, t), M(x_n, x_{n+1}, t)\} =
\]

\[
\min\{M_n, M_{n+1}\} = M_{n+1}.
\]

Thus the sequence \(\{M_n\}\) is strictly increasing. Since \(\{M_n\} \subseteq [0,1]\) then \(\{M_n\}\) converges to some \(s \in [0,1]\), where \(s = \sup\{M_n\}\).

If \(s < 1\) than exists \(\delta > 0\) and \(m \in N\) such that for \(n > m\), \(s - \delta < M_{n-1} = M(x_{n-1}, x_n, t) \leq s\). By the condition (1) and (2), we have
s - \delta < M_{n-1} = m(x_{n-1}, x_n) \leq s \implies M(Tx_{n-1}, Tx_n, t) \geq s

But M(Tx_{n-1}, Tx_n, t) = M(x_n, x_{n+1}, t) = M \geq s, that is a contradiction. So s = 1 = \lim_{n \to \infty} M(x_n, x_{n+1}, t).

For k \in \mathbb{N}, M(x_n, x_{n+k}, t) > M(x_n, x_{n+1}, t) \frac{t}{k)M(x_{n+1}, x_{n+2}, t \frac{t}{k})M(x_{n+k-1}, x_{n+k}, t)} \text{ and}

\lim_{n \to \infty} M(x_n, x_{n+k}, t) = 1. So the sequence \{x_n\} is a Cauchy sequence in \((X, M, \ast)\).

By completeness of space \((X, M, \ast)\), there exists \(u \in X\) such that \(\{x_n\}\) converges to \(u\) and \(\lim_{n \to \infty} M(x_n, u, t) = 1\).

We will show that \(u\) is the fixed point of \(T\) i.e. \(M(u, Tu, t) = 1\).

\(M(Tx_n, Tu, t) \geq m(x_n, u) = \min \left\{ \frac{M(x_n, u, t), M(x_n, Tx_n, t), M(Tu, u, t), M(x_n, Tu, 2t), M(x_n, u, t)}{M(x_n, u, t)} \right\}

Taking the limit as \(n \to \infty\), we have \(M(u, Tu, t) > M(u, Tu, t)\), a contradiction. Therefore \(M(u, Tu, t) = 1\) and \(u = Tu\).

To show the uniqueness, we assume that \(z\) is another fixed point of \(T\). If \(M(z, u, t) < 1\), from (2) it follows that

\(M(z, u, t) = M(Tz, Tu, t) > m(z, u, t) = \min \left\{ \frac{M(z, u, t), M(z, Tz, t), M(Tu, u, t), M(z, Tu, 2t), M(z, u, t)}{M(z, u, t)} \right\}

\(= \min \left\{ \frac{M(z, u, t), M(z, Tz, t), M(Tu, u, t), M(z, Tu, 2t), M(z, u, t)}{M(z, u, t)} \right\} = M(z, u, t)

which is a contradiction. Then \(M(z, u, t) = 1\) and \(z = u\). This proves the uniqueness of the fixed point and completes the proof of the theorem.

Remark 3.9. The mapping in the theorem is not necessary to be continuous.

Reference

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Completed her M.Sc. in Mathematics at Tirana University in 2011, she is a Ph. D student. She works as a lecturer at Shkodra University, in the Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Natural Science, Albania for more than 5 years. Her subject of teaching is Mathematical Analysis and Functional Analysis. Her research field is Functional Analysis.

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