



# Coincidence point results for graph preserving hybrid pair of mappings

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## Abstract

We analyze the existence of coincidence points for hybrid pair of mappings defined on  $b$ -metric spaces endowed with a digraph  $G$ . Our main result is an extension of the well-known Nadler's fixed point theorem. Finally, we present a coincidence point theorem for mappings satisfying a general contractive condition of integral type. We include some examples to examine the validity of our results.

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## 1. Introduction

Banach contraction principle [7] is a very popular tool of mathematics in solving many problems in several branches of mathematics. Because of its importance, it has been extended and generalized in many ways (see [1, 2, 6, 14, 22, 23, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30] and references therein). Among all these, an interesting generalization was given by Nadler [28]. In fact, Nadler extended the Banach contraction principle from the single-valued mappings to the multi-valued mappings. Later on, hybrid fixed point theory for nonlinear single-valued and multi-valued mappings takes a vital role in many aspects. In 1989, Bakhtin [4] introduced the concept of  $b$ -metric spaces as a generalization of metric spaces and generalized the famous Banach contraction principle in metric spaces to  $b$ -metric spaces.

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In recent investigations, the study of fixed point theory combining a graph is a new development in the domain of contractive type multi-valued theory. Starting from these considerations, the study of fixed points and common fixed points of mappings satisfying a certain contractive type condition endowed with a graph attracted many researchers, see for examples [9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 21, 31]. Inspired and motivated by the results in [5, 14, 18], we introduce the concept of  $(g, T, G)$ -lower semicontinuous functions in  $b$ -metric spaces and obtain some coincidence point results for hybrid pair of single-valued and multi-valued mappings in  $b$ -metric spaces with a digraph. Our results extend, unify and generalize several well-known comparable results in the literature. Finally, some examples are provided to justify the validity of our results.

## 2. Some Basic Concepts

In this section, we collect some basic notations, definitions and results in  $b$ -metric spaces which will be used throughout the paper.

**Definition 2.1.** [13] Let  $X$  be a nonempty set and  $s \geq 1$  be a given real number. A function  $d : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  is said to be a  $b$ -metric on  $X$  if the following conditions hold:

- (i)  $d(x, y) = 0$  if and only if  $x = y$ ;
- (ii)  $d(x, y) = d(y, x)$  for all  $x, y \in X$ ;
- (iii)  $d(x, y) \leq s(d(x, z) + d(z, y))$  for all  $x, y, z \in X$ .

The pair  $(X, d)$  is called a  $b$ -metric space.

It is to be noted that the class of  $b$ -metric spaces is effectively larger than that of the ordinary metric spaces. The following example illustrates the above fact.

**Example 2.2.** [24] Let  $X = \{-1, 0, 1\}$ . Define  $d : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  by  $d(x, y) = d(y, x)$  for all  $x, y \in X$ ,  $d(x, x) = 0$ ,  $x \in X$  and  $d(-1, 0) = 3$ ,  $d(-1, 1) = d(0, 1) = 1$ . Then  $(X, d)$  is a  $b$ -metric space, but not a metric space since the triangle inequality is not satisfied. Indeed, we have that

$$d(-1, 1) + d(1, 0) = 1 + 1 = 2 < 3 = d(-1, 0).$$

It is easy to verify that  $s = \frac{3}{2}$ .

**Example 2.3.** [3] Let  $p \in (0, 1)$ . Then the space  $L^p([0, 1])$  of all real functions  $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that  $\int_0^1 |f(t)|^p dt < \infty$  endowed with the functional  $d : L^p([0, 1]) \times L^p([0, 1]) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  given by

$$d(f, g) = \left( \int_0^1 |f(t) - g(t)|^p dt \right)^{\frac{1}{p}}$$

for all  $f, g \in L^p([0, 1])$  is a  $b$ -metric space with  $s = 2^{\frac{1}{p}}$ .

**Definition 2.4.** [12] Let  $(X, d)$  be a  $b$ -metric space,  $x \in X$  and  $(x_n)$  be a sequence in  $X$ . Then

- (i)  $(x_n)$  converges to  $x$  if and only if  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d(x_n, x) = 0$ . We denote this by  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x$  or  $x_n \rightarrow x (n \rightarrow \infty)$ .

(ii)  $(x_n)$  is Cauchy if and only if  $\lim_{n,m \rightarrow \infty} d(x_n, x_m) = 0$ .

(iii)  $(X, d)$  is complete if and only if every Cauchy sequence in  $X$  is convergent.

**Remark 2.5.** [12] In a  $b$ -metric space  $(X, d)$ , the following assertions hold:

(i) A convergent sequence has a unique limit.

(ii) Each convergent sequence is Cauchy.

(iii) In general, a  $b$ -metric is not continuous.

**Definition 2.6.** [20] Let  $(X, d)$  be a  $b$ -metric space. A subset  $A \subseteq X$  is said to be open if and only if for any  $a \in A$ , there exists  $\epsilon > 0$  such that the open ball  $B(a, \epsilon) \subseteq A$ . The family of all open subsets of  $X$  will be denoted by  $\tau$ .

**Theorem 2.7.** [20]  $\tau$  defines a topology on  $(X, d)$ .

**Theorem 2.8.** [20] Let  $(X, d)$  be a  $b$ -metric space and  $\tau$  be the topology defined above. Then for any nonempty subset  $A \subseteq X$  we have

(i)  $A$  is closed if and only if for any sequence  $(x_n)$  in  $A$  which converges to  $x$ , we have  $x \in A$ ;

(ii) if we define  $\bar{A}$  to be the intersection of all closed subsets of  $X$  which contains  $A$ , then for any  $x \in \bar{A}$  and for any  $\epsilon > 0$ , we have  $B(x, \epsilon) \cap A \neq \emptyset$ .

**Definition 2.9.** [26] Let  $(X, d)$  be a  $b$ -metric space and  $A$  be a nonempty subset of  $X$ . The diameter of  $A$ , denoted by  $\delta(A)$ , is defined by  $\delta(A) = \sup\{d(x, y) : x, y \in A\}$ . The subset  $A$  is said to be bounded if  $\delta(A)$  is finite.

Let  $(X, d)$  be a  $b$ -metric space. Let  $CB(X)$  be the set of all nonempty closed bounded subsets of  $X$  and  $CL(X)$  be the set of all nonempty closed subsets of  $X$ . An element  $x \in X$  is said to be a fixed point of a multi-valued mapping  $T : X \rightarrow 2^X$  if  $x \in Tx$ , where  $2^X$  denotes the collection of all nonempty subsets of  $X$ . For  $A, B \in CL(X)$ , define

$$\begin{aligned} H(A, B) &= \max\{\sup_{x \in A} d(x, B), \sup_{y \in B} d(y, A)\}, \text{ if the maximum exists;} \\ &= \infty, \text{ otherwise} \end{aligned}$$

where  $d(x, B) = \inf\{d(x, y) : y \in B\}$ . Such a map  $H$  is called the generalized Hausdorff  $b$ -distance induced by  $d$ .

**Definition 2.10.** Let  $(X, d)$  be a  $b$ -metric space and  $T : X \rightarrow CL(X)$  and  $g : X \rightarrow X$  be two mappings. If  $y = gx \in Tx$  for some  $x$  in  $X$ , then  $x$  is called a coincidence point of  $T$  and  $g$  and  $y$  is called a point of coincidence of  $T$  and  $g$ .

We next review some basic notions in graph theory.

Let  $(X, d)$  be a  $b$ -metric space. We assume that  $G$  is a digraph with the set of vertices  $V(G) = X$  and the set  $E(G)$  of its edges contains all the loops, i.e.,  $\Delta \subseteq E(G)$  where  $\Delta = \{(x, x) : x \in X\}$ . We also assume that  $G$  has no parallel edges. So we can identify  $G$  with the pair  $(V(G), E(G))$ .  $G$  may be considered as a weighted graph by assigning to each edge the distance between its vertices. By  $G^{-1}$  we denote the graph obtained from  $G$  by reversing the direction of edges i.e.,  $E(G^{-1}) = \{(x, y) \in X \times X : (y, x) \in E(G)\}$ . Let  $\tilde{G}$  denote the undirected graph obtained from  $G$  by ignoring the direction of edges. Actually, it will be more convenient for us to treat  $\tilde{G}$  as a digraph for which the set of its edges is symmetric. Under this convention,

$$E(\tilde{G}) = E(G) \cup E(G^{-1}).$$

Our graph theory notations and terminology are standard and can be found in all graph theory books, like [8, 15, 19]. If  $x, y$  are vertices of the digraph  $G$ , then a path in  $G$  from  $x$  to  $y$  of length  $n$  ( $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ) is a sequence  $(x_i)_{i=0}^n$  of  $n + 1$  vertices such that  $x_0 = x$ ,  $x_n = y$  and  $(x_{i-1}, x_i) \in E(G)$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . A graph  $G$  is connected if there is a path between any two vertices of  $G$ .  $G$  is weakly connected if  $\tilde{G}$  is connected.

**Definition 2.11.** Let  $(X, d)$  be a  $b$ -metric space with the coefficient  $s \geq 1$  and let  $G = (V(G), E(G))$  be a graph. Then the mapping  $f : X \rightarrow X$  is called edge preserving if

$$x, y \in X, (x, y) \in E(\tilde{G}) \Rightarrow (fx, fy) \in E(\tilde{G}).$$

**Definition 2.12.** Let  $(X, d)$  be a  $b$ -metric space with a graph  $G = (V(G), E(G))$  and let  $f, g : X \rightarrow X$  be two mappings. Then  $f$  is called edge preserving w.r.t.  $g$  if

$$x, y \in X, (gx, gy) \in E(\tilde{G}) \Rightarrow (fx, fy) \in E(\tilde{G}).$$

**Definition 2.13.** Let  $(X, d)$  be a  $b$ -metric space with a graph  $G = (V(G), E(G))$ . Then the mapping  $T : X \rightarrow CL(X)$  is called edge preserving if

$$x, y \in X, x \neq y, (x, y) \in E(\tilde{G}) \Rightarrow (z_1, z_2) \in E(\tilde{G}), \text{ for all } z_1 \in Tx, z_2 \in Ty.$$

**Definition 2.14.** Let  $(X, d)$  be a  $b$ -metric space with a graph  $G = (V(G), E(G))$ . Let  $T : X \rightarrow CL(X)$  be a multi-valued mapping and  $g : X \rightarrow X$  be a single-valued mapping. Then  $T$  is called edge preserving w.r.t.  $g$  if

$$x, y \in X, x \neq y, (gx, gy) \in E(\tilde{G}) \Rightarrow (z_1, z_2) \in E(\tilde{G}), \text{ for all } z_1 \in Tx, z_2 \in Ty.$$

### 3. Main Results

Let  $(X, d)$  be a  $b$ -metric space with the coefficient  $s \geq 1$ . Let  $T : X \rightarrow CL(X)$  be a multi-valued mapping and  $g : X \rightarrow X$  be a single-valued mapping. We define the function  $f_{gT} : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  as  $f_{gT}(x) = d(gx, Tx)$ . If  $g = I$ , the identity map on  $X$ , then  $f_{gT}$  reduces to  $f_T$  where  $f_T(x) = d(x, Tx)$  for all  $x \in X$ . For a positive constant  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  and each  $x \in X$ , we define the set

$${}^g I_\alpha^x = \{y \in Tx : \alpha d(gx, y) \leq d(gx, Tx)\}.$$

If  $g = I$ , the identity map on  $X$ , then  ${}^g I_\alpha^x$  reduces to  $I_\alpha^x$  which is given by

$$I_\alpha^x = \{y \in Tx : \alpha d(x, y) \leq d(x, Tx)\}.$$

**Definition 3.1.** Let  $(X, d)$  be a  $b$ -metric space with the coefficient  $s \geq 1$  and let  $T : X \rightarrow CL(X)$  be a multi-valued mapping. A function  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is called  $T$ -lower semicontinuous if, for each  $(x_n) \subseteq X$  with  $x_{n+1} \in Tx_n$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x \in X$ , we have

$$fx \leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} sfx_n.$$

**Definition 3.2.** Let  $(X, d)$  be a  $b$ -metric space with the coefficient  $s \geq 1$  and let  $T : X \rightarrow CL(X)$  be a multi-valued mapping. Let  $\rho$  be a binary relation over  $X$  and let  $S = \rho \cup \rho^{-1}$ . A function  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is called  $(T, S)$ -lower semicontinuous if, for each  $(x_n) \subseteq X$  with  $x_{n+1} \in Tx_n$ ,  $x_n S x_{n+1}$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x \in X$ , we have

$$fx \leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} sfx_n.$$

**Definition 3.3.** Let  $(X, d)$  be a  $b$ -metric space with the coefficient  $s \geq 1$ . Let  $T : X \rightarrow CL(X)$  be a multi-valued mapping and  $g : X \rightarrow X$  be a single-valued mapping. A function  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is called  $(g, T)$ -lower semicontinuous if, for each  $(gx_n) \subseteq g(X)$  with  $gx_{n+1} \in Tx_n$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} gx_n = x (= gt, \text{ for some } t \in X) \in g(X)$ , we have

$$ft \leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} sfx_n.$$

**Definition 3.4.** Let  $(X, d, \preceq)$  be a partially ordered  $b$ -metric space with the coefficient  $s \geq 1$ . Let  $T : X \rightarrow CL(X)$  be a multi-valued mapping and  $g : X \rightarrow X$  be a single-valued mapping. A function  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is called  $(g, T, \preceq)$ -lower semicontinuous if, for each  $(gx_n) \subseteq g(X)$  with  $gx_{n+1} \in Tx_n$ ,  $gx_n, gx_{n+1}$  are comparable and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} gx_n = x (= gt, \text{ for some } t \in X) \in g(X)$ , we have

$$ft \leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} sfx_n.$$

**Definition 3.5.** Let  $(X, d)$  be a  $b$ -metric space with the coefficient  $s \geq 1$  and let  $G = (V(G), E(G))$  be a graph. Let  $T : X \rightarrow CL(X)$  be a multi-valued mapping and  $g : X \rightarrow X$  be a single-valued mapping. A function  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is called  $(g, T, G)$ -lower semicontinuous if, for each  $(gx_n) \subseteq g(X)$  with  $gx_{n+1} \in Tx_n$ ,  $(gx_n, gx_{n+1}) \in E(\tilde{G})$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} gx_n = x (= gt, \text{ for some } t \in X) \in g(X)$ , we have

$$ft \leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} sfx_n.$$

It is valuable to note that if  $G = G_0$ , where  $G_0$  is the complete graph  $(X, X \times X)$ , then  $(g, T, G)$ -lower semicontinuity reduces to  $(g, T)$ -lower semicontinuity.

We now assume that  $(X, d)$  is a  $b$ -metric space endowed with a reflexive digraph  $G$  such that  $V(G) = X$  and  $G$  has no parallel edges. Let  $g : X \rightarrow X$  and  $T : X \rightarrow CL(X)$  be such that  $T(X) \subseteq g(X)$ . Let  $x_0 \in X$  be arbitrary. Since  $T(x_0) \subseteq g(x_0)$ , there exists an element  $x_1 \in X$  such that  $gx_1 \in Tx_0$ . Continuing in this way, we can construct a sequence  $(gx_n)$  such that  $gx_n \in Tx_{n-1}$ ,  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ .

**Theorem 3.6.** Let  $(X, d)$  be a  $b$ -metric space with the coefficient  $s \geq 1$  and let  $G = (V(G), E(G))$  be a graph. Let  $T : X \rightarrow CL(X)$  and  $g : X \rightarrow X$  be such that  $T(X) \subseteq g(X)$  and  $g(X)$  a complete subspace of  $X$ . Assume that  $T$  is edge preserving w.r.t.  $g$  and there exists  $r \in (0, s^{-1}\alpha)$  with  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  such that for any  $x \in X$ , there is  $gy \in {}^gI_\alpha^x$  satisfying

$$d(gy, Ty) \leq rd(gx, gy). \quad (3.1)$$

If  $f_{gT}$  is  $(g, T, G)$ -lower semicontinuous and there exists  $x_0 \in X$  such that  $(gx_0, z) \in E(\tilde{G})$  for all  $z \in Tx_0$ , then  $g$  and  $T$  have a point of coincidence in  $g(X)$ .

**Proof .** We first note that  ${}^gI_\alpha^x$  is nonempty for any constant  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  because  $Tx$  is a nonempty closed set for any  $x \in X$ . Suppose there exists  $x_0 \in X$  such that  $(gx_0, z) \in E(\tilde{G})$  for all  $z \in Tx_0$ . If  $gx_0 \in Tx_0$ , then there is nothing to prove. So, we assume that  $gx_0 \notin Tx_0$ . Then, by using condition (3.1), for  $x_0 \in X$ , there exists  $gx_1 \in {}^gI_\alpha^{x_0}$  such that

$$d(gx_1, Tx_1) \leq rd(gx_0, gx_1).$$

As  $gx_1 \in Tx_0$ , it follows that  $(gx_0, gx_1) \in E(\tilde{G})$  and  $gx_0 \neq gx_1$  which implies that  $x_0 \neq x_1$ .  $T$  being edge preserving w.r.t.  $g$ , it must be the case that  $(z_1, z_2) \in E(\tilde{G})$  for all  $z_1 \in Tx_0, z_2 \in Tx_1$ . If  $gx_1 \in Tx_1$ , then the theorem is proved. So, we assume that  $gx_1 \notin Tx_1$ . By an argument similar to that used above, for  $x_1 \in X$ , there exists  $gx_2 \in {}^gI_\alpha^{x_1}$  such that

$$d(gx_2, Tx_2) \leq rd(gx_1, gx_2),$$

$(gx_1, gx_2) \in E(\tilde{G})$  and  $gx_1 \neq gx_2$ . Continuing this process, we can construct a sequence  $(gx_n)$  in  $g(X)$  such that  $gx_{n+1} \in {}^gI_\alpha^{x_n}, gx_n \neq gx_{n+1}, (gx_n, gx_{n+1}) \in E(\tilde{G})$  for  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$  and

$$d(gx_{n+1}, Tx_{n+1}) \leq rd(gx_n, gx_{n+1}) \tag{3.2}$$

for all  $n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ .

On the other hand  $gx_{n+1} \in {}^gI_\alpha^{x_n}$  implies that

$$\alpha d(gx_n, gx_{n+1}) \leq d(gx_n, Tx_n) \tag{3.3}$$

for all  $n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ .

Using conditions (3.2) and (3.3), we obtain

$$d(gx_{n+1}, gx_{n+2}) \leq \frac{1}{\alpha}d(gx_{n+1}, Tx_{n+1}) \leq \frac{r}{\alpha}d(gx_n, gx_{n+1}) = kd(gx_n, gx_{n+1}) \tag{3.4}$$

for all  $n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ , where  $k = \frac{r}{\alpha} < s^{-1}$ .

We now show that  $(gx_n)$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $g(X)$ .

For  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $m > n$ , we obtain by repeated use of condition (3.4) that

$$\begin{aligned} d(gx_n, gx_m) &\leq sd(gx_n, gx_{n+1}) + s^2d(gx_{n+1}, gx_{n+2}) + \dots \\ &\quad + s^{m-n-1}d(gx_{m-2}, gx_{m-1}) + s^{m-n-1}d(gx_{m-1}, gx_m) \\ &\leq [sk^n + s^2k^{n+1} + \dots + s^{m-n-1}k^{m-2} + s^{m-n-1}k^{m-1}]d(gx_0, gx_1) \\ &\leq [sk^n + s^2k^{n+1} + \dots + s^{m-n-1}k^{m-2} + s^{m-n}k^{m-1}]d(gx_0, gx_1) \\ &= sk^n[1 + (ks) + (ks)^2 + \dots + (ks)^{m-n-1}]d(gx_0, gx_1) \\ &< sk^n[1 + (ks) + (ks)^2 + \dots]d(gx_0, gx_1) \\ &= \frac{sk^n}{1 - ks}d(gx_0, gx_1) \\ &\rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty. \end{aligned}$$

This gives that  $(gx_n)$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $g(X)$ . As  $g(X)$  is complete, there exists  $u \in g(X)$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} gx_n = u = gt$  for some  $t \in X$ .

Again, using conditions (3.2) and (3.3), we get

$$d(gx_{n+1}, Tx_{n+1}) \leq \frac{r}{\alpha} d(gx_n, Tx_n) \text{ for all } n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}.$$

This implies that

$$d(gx_n, Tx_n) \leq \left(\frac{r}{\alpha}\right)^n d(gx_0, Tx_0) \text{ for all } n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}.$$

Therefore,

$$\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} sf_{gT}(x_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} sf_{gT}(x_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} sd(gx_n, Tx_n) = 0.$$

Since  $gx_{n+1} \in Tx_n$ ,  $(gx_n, gx_{n+1}) \in E(\tilde{G})$ ,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} gx_n = gt$  and  $f_{gT}$  is  $(g, T, G)$ -lower semicontinuous, we get

$$f_{gT}(t) = d(gt, Tt) = 0.$$

Since  $Tt$  is closed, it follows that  $u = gt \in Tt$ , i.e.,  $u$  is a point of coincidence of  $g$  and  $T$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 3.7.** *Let  $(X, d)$  be a  $b$ -metric space with the coefficient  $s \geq 1$ . Let  $T : X \rightarrow CL(X)$  and  $g : X \rightarrow X$  be such that  $T(X) \subseteq g(X)$  and  $g(X)$  a complete subspace of  $X$ . Assume that there exists  $r \in (0, s^{-1}\alpha)$  with  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  such that for any  $x \in X$ , there is  $gy \in {}^gI_\alpha^x$  satisfying*

$$d(gy, Ty) \leq rd(gx, gy).$$

*If  $f_{gT}$  is  $(g, T)$ -lower semicontinuous, then  $g$  and  $T$  have a point of coincidence in  $g(X)$ .*

**Proof .** The proof follows from Theorem 3.6 by taking  $G = G_0$ , where  $G_0$  is the complete graph  $(X, X \times X)$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 3.8.** *Let  $(X, d)$  be a complete  $b$ -metric space with the coefficient  $s \geq 1$  and let  $G = (V(G), E(G))$  be a graph. Assume that  $T : X \rightarrow CL(X)$  is edge preserving and there exists  $r \in (0, s^{-1}\alpha)$  with  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  such that for any  $x \in X$ , there is  $y \in I_\alpha^x$  satisfying*

$$d(y, Ty) \leq rd(x, y).$$

*If  $f_T$  is  $(T, G)$ -lower semicontinuous and there exists  $x_0 \in X$  such that  $(x_0, z) \in E(\tilde{G})$  for all  $z \in Tx_0$ , then  $T$  has a fixed point in  $X$ .*

**Proof .** The proof follows from Theorem 3.6 by taking  $g = I$ , the identity map on  $X$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 3.9.** *Let  $(X, d)$  be a complete  $b$ -metric space with the coefficient  $s \geq 1$  and let  $T : X \rightarrow CL(X)$  be a multivalued mapping. Assume that there exists  $r \in (0, s^{-1}\alpha)$  with  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  such that for any  $x \in X$ , there is  $y \in I_\alpha^x$  satisfying*

$$d(y, Ty) \leq rd(x, y).$$

*If  $f_T$  is  $T$ -lower semicontinuous, then  $T$  has a fixed point in  $X$ .*

**Proof .** The proof follows from Theorem 3.6 by taking  $g = I$  and  $G = G_0$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 3.10.** *Let  $(X, d, \preceq)$  be a partially ordered  $b$ -metric space with the coefficient  $s \geq 1$ . Let  $T : X \rightarrow CL(X)$  and  $g : X \rightarrow X$  be such that  $T(X) \subseteq g(X)$  and  $g(X)$  a complete subspace of  $X$ . Assume that if  $x, y \in X$ ,  $x \neq y$  and  $gx, gy$  are comparable, then  $z_1, z_2$  are comparable for all  $z_1 \in Tx, z_2 \in Ty$ . Suppose also that there exists  $r \in (0, s^{-1}\alpha)$  with  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  such that for any  $x \in X$ , there is  $gy \in {}^9I_\alpha^x$  satisfying*

$$d(gy, Ty) \leq rd(gx, gy).$$

*If  $f_{gT}$  is  $(g, T, \preceq)$ -lower semicontinuous and there exists  $x_0 \in X$  such that  $gx_0, z$  are comparable for all  $z \in Tx_0$ , then  $g$  and  $T$  have a point of coincidence in  $g(X)$ .*

**Proof .** The proof can be obtained from Theorem 3.6 by taking  $G = G_2$ , where the graph  $G_2$  is defined by  $E(G_2) = \{(x, y) \in X \times X : x \preceq y \text{ or } y \preceq x\}$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 3.11.** *Let  $(X, d)$  be a complete  $b$ -metric space with the coefficient  $s \geq 1$ . Let  $\rho$  be a binary relation over  $X$  and let  $S = \rho \cup \rho^{-1}$ . Suppose  $T : X \rightarrow CL(X)$  is such that if  $x, y \in X$ ,  $x \neq y$  and  $xSy$ , then  $z_1Sz_2$  for all  $z_1 \in Tx, z_2 \in Ty$ . Suppose also that there exists  $r \in (0, s^{-1}\alpha)$  with  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  such that for any  $x \in X$ , there is  $y \in I_\alpha^x$  satisfying*

$$d(y, Ty) \leq rd(x, y).$$

*If  $f_T$  is  $(T, S)$ -lower semicontinuous and there exists  $x_0 \in X$  such that  $x_0Sz$  for all  $z \in Tx_0$ , then  $T$  has a fixed point in  $X$ .*

**Proof .** The proof follows from Theorem 3.6 by taking  $g = I$  and  $G = (V(G), E(G))$ , where  $V(G) = X$ ,  $E(G) = \{(x, y) \in X \times X : xSy\} \cup \Delta$ .  $\square$

As an application of Theorem 3.6, we obtain the following theorems.

**Theorem 3.12.** *Let  $(X, d)$  be a  $b$ -metric space with the coefficient  $s \geq 1$  and let  $T : X \rightarrow CL(X)$  and  $g : X \rightarrow X$  be a hybrid pair of mappings such that  $T(X) \subseteq g(X)$  and  $g(X)$  a complete subspace of  $X$ . Assume that there exists  $r \in (0, s^{-1})$  such that*

$$H(Tx, Ty) \leq rd(gx, gy) \tag{3.5}$$

*for all  $x, y \in X$ . Then  $g$  and  $T$  have a point of coincidence in  $g(X)$ .*

**Proof .** We take  $G = G_0 = (X, X \times X)$ . By using condition (3.5), we obtain

$$d(gy, Ty) \leq H(Tx, Ty) \leq rd(gx, gy)$$

for all  $x \in X$  and  $gy \in Tx$ . Hence condition (3.1) of Theorem 3.6 holds trivially for each  $x \in X$  and  $gy \in {}^9I_\alpha^x$  with  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  such that  $r < \alpha s^{-1}$ . We now show that  $f_{gT} : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defined by  $f_{gT}(x) = d(gx, Tx)$  is  $(g, T, G_0)$ -lower semicontinuous. In fact, if  $(gx_n) \subseteq g(X)$  with  $gx_{n+1} \in Tx_n$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} gx_n = x (= gt, \text{ for some } t \in X) \in g(X)$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} d(gt, Tt) &\leq s[d(gt, gx_{n+1}) + d(gx_{n+1}, Tt)] \\ &\leq s[d(gt, gx_{n+1}) + H(Tx_n, Tt)] \\ &\leq s[d(gt, gx_{n+1}) + rd(gx_n, gt)]. \end{aligned}$$



Taking limit as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , we get  $f_{gT}(t) = 0$ . Consequently, it follows that

$$f_{gT}(t) \leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} s f_{gT}(x_n).$$

Thus, all the hypotheses of Theorem 3.6 hold true and the conclusion of Theorem 3.12 can be obtained from Theorem 3.6.  $\square$

The following is the Nadler's fixed point theorem in  $b$ -metric spaces.

**Corollary 3.13.** *Let  $(X, d)$  be a complete  $b$ -metric space with the coefficient  $s \geq 1$  and let  $T : X \rightarrow CL(X)$  be a multivalued mapping. Assume that there exists  $r \in (0, s^{-1})$  such that*

$$H(Tx, Ty) \leq rd(x, y)$$

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

**Proof .** The proof follows from Theorem 3.12 by taking  $g = I$ .  $\square$

**Remark 3.14.** *It is worth mentioning that Theorem 3.6 is a generalization of the above version of Nadler's fixed point theorem in the setting of  $b$ -metric spaces.*

The theorem stated below is a generalization Nadler's fixed point theorem in metric spaces which can be obtained from Theorem 3.12 by taking  $s = 1$ .

**Theorem 3.15.** *Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space and let  $T : X \rightarrow CL(X)$  and  $g : X \rightarrow X$  be a hybrid pair of mappings such that  $T(X) \subseteq g(X)$  and  $g(X)$  a complete subspace of  $X$ . Assume that there exists  $r \in (0, 1)$  such that*

$$H(Tx, Ty) \leq rd(gx, gy) \tag{3.6}$$

for all  $x, y \in X$ . Then  $g$  and  $T$  have a point of coincidence in  $g(X)$ .

**Theorem 3.16.** *Let  $(X, d)$  be a  $b$ -metric space with the coefficient  $s \geq 1$ . Let  $T : X \rightarrow CL(X)$  and  $g : X \rightarrow X$  be such that  $T(X) \subseteq g(X)$  and  $g(X)$  a complete subspace of  $X$ . Assume that there exists  $r \in (0, s^{-1})$  such that for any  $x \in X, gy \in Tx$ ,*

$$d(gy, Ty) \leq rd(gx, gy).$$

If  $f_{gT}$  is  $(g, T)$ -lower semicontinuous, then  $g$  and  $T$  have a point of coincidence in  $g(X)$ .

**Proof .** As  ${}^gI_\alpha^x \subseteq Tx$ , the proof follows from Theorem 3.6 by taking  $G = G_0$ .  $\square$

Now, we present the following theorem which can be seen as an extension of Theorem 3.3 of [18]. The proof is based on an argument similar to that used by Branciari in Theorem 2.1 of [5].

**Theorem 3.17.** *Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space and let  $G = (V(G), E(G))$  be a graph. Let  $T : X \rightarrow CL(X)$  and  $g : X \rightarrow X$  be such that  $T(X) \subseteq g(X)$  and  $g(X)$  a complete subspace of  $X$ . Assume that  $T$  is edge preserving w.r.t.  $g$  and there exists a constant  $r \in (0, 1)$  such that for any  $x \in X, gy \in Tx$  with  $(gx, gy) \in E(G)$ , there is  $gz \in Ty$  satisfying*

$$\int_0^{d(gy, gz)} \varphi(t) dt \leq r \int_0^{d(gx, gy)} \varphi(t) dt, \tag{3.7}$$

where  $\varphi : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  is a Lebesgue-integrable mapping which is summable (i.e., with finite integral) on each compact subset of  $[0, \infty)$ , and such that for each  $\epsilon > 0, \int_0^\epsilon \varphi(t) dt > 0$ . If  $f_{gT}$  is  $(g, T, G)$ -lower semicontinuous and there exists  $x_0 \in X$  such that  $(gx_0, z) \in E(\tilde{G})$  for all  $z \in Tx_0$ , then  $g$  and  $T$  have a point of coincidence in  $g(X)$ .

**Proof .** Suppose there exists  $x_0 \in X$  such that  $(gx_0, z) \in E(\tilde{G})$  for all  $z \in Tx_0$ . If  $gx_0 \in Tx_0$ , then there is nothing to prove. So, we assume that  $gx_0 \notin Tx_0$ . Now, by using condition (3.7), for  $x_0 \in X$ ,  $gx_1 \in Tx_0$  with  $(gx_0, gx_1) \in E(\tilde{G})$ , there exists  $gx_2 \in Tx_1$  such that

$$\int_0^{d(gx_1, gx_2)} \varphi(t)dt \leq r \int_0^{d(gx_0, gx_1)} \varphi(t)dt.$$

As  $gx_1 \in Tx_0$ , it follows that  $gx_1 \neq gx_0$  and so  $x_0 \neq x_1$ . Since  $T$  is edge preserving w.r.t.  $g$ , it must be the case that  $(z_1, z_2) \in E(\tilde{G})$  for all  $z_1 \in Tx_0$ ,  $z_2 \in Tx_1$ . This gives that  $(gx_1, gx_2) \in E(\tilde{G})$ . If  $gx_1 \in Tx_1$ , then the theorem is proved. So, we assume that  $gx_1 \notin Tx_1$ .

Again, by using condition (3.7), for  $x_1 \in X$ ,  $gx_2 \in Tx_1$  with  $(gx_1, gx_2) \in E(\tilde{G})$ , there exists  $gx_3 \in Tx_2$  such that

$$\int_0^{d(gx_2, gx_3)} \varphi(t)dt \leq r \int_0^{d(gx_1, gx_2)} \varphi(t)dt.$$

As  $gx_2 \in Tx_1$ , it follows that  $gx_2 \neq gx_1$  and so  $x_1 \neq x_2$ . Continuing this process, we can construct a sequence  $(gx_n)$  in  $g(X)$  such that  $gx_{n+1} \in Tx_n$ ,  $gx_n \neq gx_{n+1}$ ,  $(gx_n, gx_{n+1}) \in E(\tilde{G})$  for  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$  and

$$\int_0^{d(gx_{n+1}, gx_{n+2})} \varphi(t)dt \leq r \int_0^{d(gx_n, gx_{n+1})} \varphi(t)dt, \tag{3.8}$$

for  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ .

We now prove that  $(gx_n)$  converges to a point of coincidence of  $g$  and  $T$  in three steps.

**Step 1.**  $f_{gT}(x_n) \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

Let us put  $u_n = d(gx_n, gx_{n+1})$ ,  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ . Then, it is easy to verify that  $(u_n)_{n=0}^\infty$  is decreasing. By repeated use of condition (3.8), we obtain

$$\int_0^{d(gx_n, gx_{n+1})} \varphi(t)dt \leq r^n \int_0^{d(gx_0, gx_1)} \varphi(t)dt, \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

Therefore,

$$\int_0^{u_n} \varphi(t)dt \leq r^n \int_0^{u_0} \varphi(t)dt, \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

As a consequence, we have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^{u_n} \varphi(t)dt = 0.$$

As  $(u_n)_{n=0}^\infty$  is a decreasing sequence of positive real numbers, it is convergent. We shall show that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = 0$ . If possible, suppose that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = c$ , where  $c > 0$ . This implies that the sequence  $(u_n)_{n=0}^\infty$  is eventually in every neighbourhood of  $c$ . So, there exists  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $u_n \geq \frac{c}{2}$  for all  $n \geq n_0$ . Therefore,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^{u_n} \varphi(t)dt \geq \int_0^{\frac{c}{2}} \varphi(t)dt > 0,$$

which contradicts the fact that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^{u_n} \varphi(t)dt = 0.$$

Thus,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = 0$ .

As  $0 \leq f_{gT}(x_n) = d(gx_n, Tx_n) \leq d(gx_n, gx_{n+1}) = u_n$ , we have  $f_{gT}(x_n) \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

**Step 2.**  $(gx_n)$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $g(X)$ .

If possible, suppose  $(gx_n)$  is not a Cauchy sequence in  $g(X)$ . Then there exists an  $\epsilon > 0$  such that for each  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ , there are  $m_i, n_i \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $m_i > n_i > i$  such that

$$d(gx_{n_i}, gx_{m_i}) \geq \epsilon.$$

Therefore, we can choose the sequences  $(m_i), (n_i)$  in  $\mathbb{N}$  such that for each  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $m_i$  is the smallest positive integer in the sense that  $d(gx_{n_i}, gx_{m_i}) \geq \epsilon$  but  $d(gx_{n_i}, gx_p) < \epsilon$  for each  $p \in \{n_i + 1, \dots, m_i - 1\}$ .

We now show that  $d(gx_{n_i}, gx_{m_i}) \rightarrow \epsilon+$  as  $i \rightarrow \infty$ . As  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n = 0$ , by the triangular inequality, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon &\leq d(gx_{n_i}, gx_{m_i}) \\ &\leq d(gx_{n_i}, gx_{m_i-1}) + d(gx_{m_i-1}, gx_{m_i}) \\ &< \epsilon + d(gx_{m_i-1}, gx_{m_i}) \\ &\rightarrow \epsilon+, \text{ as } i \rightarrow \infty. \end{aligned}$$

Next we shall show that there exists  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for each natural number  $i > n_0$ , we have  $d(gx_{n_i+1}, gx_{m_i+1}) < \epsilon$ . If possible, suppose there exists a subsequence  $(i_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \subseteq \mathbb{N}$  such that  $d(gx_{n_{i_k}+1}, gx_{m_{i_k}+1}) \geq \epsilon$ . Then, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon &\leq d(gx_{n_{i_k}+1}, gx_{m_{i_k}+1}) \\ &\leq d(gx_{n_{i_k}+1}, gx_{n_{i_k}}) + d(gx_{n_{i_k}}, gx_{m_{i_k}}) + d(gx_{m_{i_k}}, gx_{m_{i_k}+1}) \\ &\rightarrow \epsilon, \text{ as } k \rightarrow \infty. \end{aligned}$$

By using condition (3.8), we get

$$\int_0^{d(gx_{n_{i_k}+1}, gx_{m_{i_k}+1})} \varphi(t) dt \leq r \int_0^{d(gx_{n_{i_k}}, gx_{m_{i_k}})} \varphi(t) dt.$$

Taking limit as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ , we obtain

$$\int_0^\epsilon \varphi(t) dt \leq r \int_0^\epsilon \varphi(t) dt,$$

which is a contradiction since  $r \in (0, 1)$  and  $\int_0^\epsilon \varphi(t) dt > 0$ . This ensures that for a certain  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have  $d(gx_{n_i+1}, gx_{m_i+1}) < \epsilon$  for all  $i > n_0$ . We now prove that there exist a  $\sigma_\epsilon \in (0, \epsilon)$  and an  $i_\epsilon \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for each natural number  $i > i_\epsilon$ , we have  $d(gx_{n_i+1}, gx_{m_i+1}) < \epsilon - \sigma_\epsilon$ . In fact, if there exists a subsequence  $(i_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \subseteq \mathbb{N}$  such that  $d(gx_{n_{i_k}+1}, gx_{m_{i_k}+1}) \rightarrow \epsilon-$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ , then by using condition (3.8), we get

$$\int_0^{d(gx_{n_{i_k}+1}, gx_{m_{i_k}+1})} \varphi(t) dt \leq r \int_0^{d(gx_{n_{i_k}}, gx_{m_{i_k}})} \varphi(t) dt.$$

Taking limit as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ , we obtain

$$\int_0^\epsilon \varphi(t) dt \leq r \int_0^\epsilon \varphi(t) dt,$$

which is again a contradiction. Therefore, for each natural number  $i > i_\epsilon$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon &\leq d(gx_{n_i}, gx_{m_i}) \\ &\leq d(gx_{n_i}, gx_{n_i+1}) + d(gx_{n_i+1}, gx_{m_i+1}) + d(gx_{m_i+1}, gx_{m_i}) \\ &< d(gx_{n_i}, gx_{n_i+1}) + (\epsilon - \sigma_\epsilon) + d(gx_{m_i+1}, gx_{m_i}) \\ &\rightarrow \epsilon - \sigma_\epsilon, \text{ as } i \rightarrow \infty. \end{aligned}$$

This gives that  $\epsilon \leq \epsilon - \sigma_\epsilon$ , a contradiction. Therefore,  $(gx_n)$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $g(X)$ .

**Step 3.** Existence of a coincidence point.

Since  $(gx_n)$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $g(X)$  and  $g(X)$  is complete, there exists  $u \in g(X)$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} gx_n = u (= gt, \text{ for some } t \in X)$ . By using  $(g, T, G)$ -lower semicontinuity of  $f_{gT}$ , we have

$$0 \leq f_{gT}(t) \leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_{gT}(x_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_{gT}(x_n) = 0,$$

which implies that  $f_{gT}(t) = 0$  and so  $d(gt, Tt) = 0$ . As  $Tt$  is closed, it follows that  $u = gt \in Tt$ . Therefore,  $u$  is a point of coincidence of  $g$  and  $T$  in  $g(X)$ .  $\square$

The following corollary is the Theorem 3.3 of [18].

**Corollary 3.18.** *Let  $(X, d)$  be a complete metric space and  $T : X \rightarrow CL(X)$  be a multi-valued mapping. Assume that there exists a constant  $r \in (0, 1)$  such that for any  $x \in X, y \in Tx$ , there is  $z \in Ty$  satisfying*

$$\int_0^{d(y,z)} \varphi(t)dt \leq r \int_0^{d(x,y)} \varphi(t)dt,$$

where  $\varphi : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  is a Lebesgue-integrable mapping which is summable (i.e., with finite integral) on each compact subset of  $[0, \infty)$ , and such that for each  $\epsilon > 0, \int_0^\epsilon \varphi(t)dt > 0$ . If  $f_T$  is  $T$ -lower semicontinuous, then  $T$  has a fixed point in  $X$ .

**Proof .** The proof follows from Theorem 3.17 by taking  $g = I$  and  $G = G_0$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 3.19.** *Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space. Let  $T : X \rightarrow CL(X)$  and  $g : X \rightarrow X$  be such that  $T(X) \subseteq g(X)$  and  $g(X)$  a complete subspace of  $X$ . Assume that there exists a constant  $r \in (0, 1)$  such that for any  $x \in X, gy \in Tx$ , there is  $gz \in Ty$  satisfying*

$$d(gy, gz) \leq rd(gx, gy).$$

If  $f_{gT}$  is  $(g, T)$ -lower semicontinuous, then  $g$  and  $T$  have a point of coincidence in  $g(X)$ .

**Proof .** The proof follows from Theorem 3.17 by taking  $G = G_0$  and  $\varphi(t) = 1$  for each  $t \geq 0$ .  $\square$

**Remark 3.20.** *Several special cases of Theorem 3.17 can be obtained by restricting  $T : X \rightarrow X$  and taking different  $\varphi$  and  $G$ .*

The following example shows that Theorem 3.6 is an extension of Theorem 3.12.

**Example 3.21.** Let  $X = \{\frac{1}{2^n} : n \in \mathbb{N}\} \cup \{0, 1\}$  with  $d(x, y) = |x - y|^2$  for all  $x, y \in X$ . Then  $(X, d)$  is a complete  $b$ -metric space with  $s = 2$ . Let  $G$  be a digraph such that  $V(G) = X$  and  $E(G) = \Delta \cup \{(0, \frac{1}{2^n}) : n = 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ . Let  $T : X \rightarrow CL(X)$  be defined by

$$Tx = \begin{cases} \{0, \frac{1}{2^{n+1}}\}, & x = \frac{1}{2^n}, n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}, \\ \{0\}, & x = 0 \end{cases}$$

and  $gx = \frac{x}{2}$  for all  $x \in X$ . Obviously,  $T(X) = g(X) = X \setminus \{1\}$  and  $g(X)$  is a complete subspace of  $(X, d)$ .

For  $x = 1, y = 0$ , we have  $gx = \frac{1}{2}, gy = 0, Tx = \{0, \frac{1}{2}\}, Ty = \{0\}$ . Therefore,

$$H(Tx, Ty) = \frac{1}{4} = d(gx, gy) > rd(gx, gy)$$

for any  $r \in (0, s^{-1})$  and hence condition (3.5) of Theorem 3.12 does not hold.

For  $x = \frac{1}{2^n}, n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}, y = 0$ , we have  $gx = \frac{1}{2^{n+1}}, gy = 0, Tx = \{0, \frac{1}{2^{n+1}}\}, Ty = \{0\}$  and so  $(gx, gy) \in E(\tilde{G})$  which implies that  $(z_1, z_2) \in E(\tilde{G})$  for all  $z_1 \in Tx, z_2 \in Ty$ . Therefore,  $T$  is edge preserving w.r.t.  $g$ . Obviously,  $x_0 = 0 \in X$  such that  $(gx_0, z) \in E(\tilde{G})$  for all  $z \in Tx_0$ .

Moreover, for  $x = \frac{1}{2^n}, n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ , we have  $Tx = \{0, \frac{1}{2^{n+1}}\}$  and so there exists  $gy = \frac{1}{2^{n+1}} \in {}^gI_\alpha^x$  for any  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  such that

$$d(gy, Ty) = d(\frac{1}{2^{n+1}}, \{0, \frac{1}{2^{n+1}}\}) = 0 = rd(gx, gy)$$

for any  $r \in (0, \alpha s^{-1})$ .

Also, for  $x = 0$ , there exists  $gy = 0 \in {}^gI_\alpha^x$  for any  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  such that

$$d(gy, Ty) = 0 = rd(gx, gy)$$

for any  $r \in (0, \alpha s^{-1})$ .

Thus, condition (3.1) of Theorem 3.6 holds. Now, it is easy to compute that  $f_{gT}(x) = 0$  for all  $x \in X$ . Hence, it is obvious that  $f_{gT}$  is  $(g, T, G)$ -lower semicontinuous. Then the existence of a point of coincidence of  $g$  and  $T$  follows from Theorem 3.6.

It should be noticed that Theorem 3.6 can not assure the uniqueness of a point of coincidence. It is obvious that  $g$  and  $T$  have infinitely many points of coincidence in  $g(X)$ . In fact, if  $x \in X$ , then  $gx \in Tx$ . So, every element of  $X$  except 1 is a point of coincidence of  $g$  and  $T$ .

We now examine the necessity of  $(g, T, G)$ -lower semicontinuity of  $f_{gT}$  in Theorem 3.6.

**Example 3.22.** Let  $X = \{\frac{1}{2^n} : n \in \mathbb{N}\} \cup \{0, 1\}$  with  $d(x, y) = |x - y|^2$  for all  $x, y \in X$ . Then  $(X, d)$  is a complete  $b$ -metric space with  $s = 2$ . Let  $G$  be a digraph such that  $V(G) = X$  and  $E(G) = \{(\frac{1}{2^n}, \frac{1}{2^m}) : m \leq n, m, n = 0, 1, 2, \dots\} \cup \{(0, 0), (0, 1)\}$ . Let  $T : X \rightarrow CL(X)$  be defined by

$$Tx = \begin{cases} \{\frac{1}{2^{n+1}}, \frac{1}{2^{n+2}}\}, & x = \frac{1}{2^n}, n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}, \\ \{1\}, & x = 0 \end{cases}$$

and  $gx = x$  for all  $x \in X$ . Obviously,  $T(X) \subseteq g(X) = X$ .

For  $x = \frac{1}{2^n}$ ,  $y = \frac{1}{2^m}$   $m \neq n$ ,  $m, n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ , we have  $(gx, gy) \in E(\tilde{G})$  which implies that  $(z_1, z_2) \in E(\tilde{G})$  for all  $z_1 \in Tx$ ,  $z_2 \in Ty$ .

Again, for  $x = 1$ ,  $y = 0$ , we have  $(gx, gy) \in E(\tilde{G})$  which gives that  $(z_1, z_2) \in E(\tilde{G})$  for all  $z_1 \in Tx$ ,  $z_2 \in Ty$ . Therefore,  $T$  is edge preserving w.r.t.  $g$ . Obviously,  $x_0 = 0 \in X$  such that  $(gx_0, z) \in E(\tilde{G})$  for all  $z \in Tx_0$ .

Further, for  $x = \frac{1}{2^n}$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ , we have  $Tx = \{\frac{1}{2^{n+1}}, \frac{1}{2^{n+2}}\}$  and so there exists  $gy = y = \frac{1}{2^{n+1}} \in {}^gI_\alpha^x$  for any  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} d(gy, Ty) &= d\left(\frac{1}{2^{n+1}}, \left\{\frac{1}{2^{n+2}}, \frac{1}{2^{n+3}}\right\}\right) \\ &= d\left(\frac{1}{2^{n+1}}, \frac{1}{2^{n+2}}\right) \\ &= \left| \frac{1}{2^{n+1}} - \frac{1}{2^{n+2}} \right|^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{4} d(gx, gy). \end{aligned}$$

Also, for  $x = 0$ , there exists  $gy = y = 1 \in {}^gI_\alpha^x$  for any  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  such that

$$d(gy, Ty) = d\left(1, \left\{\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2^2}\right\}\right) = d\left(1, \frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{4} d(gx, gy).$$

Therefore, for any  $x \in X$ , there is  $gy \in {}^gI_\alpha^x$  for  $\alpha = \frac{2}{3}$  such that

$$d(gy, Ty) = r d(gx, gy)$$

where  $r = \frac{1}{4} < \alpha s^{-1}$ .

Thus, condition (3.1) of Theorem 3.6 holds. But, it is easy to compute that

$$f_{gT}(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2^{2n+2}}, & x = \frac{1}{2^n}, n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}, \\ 1, & x = 0. \end{cases}$$

This shows that  $f_{gT}$  is not  $(g, T, G)$ -lower semicontinuous. Thus,  $g$  and  $T$  have no point of coincidence in  $X$  due to lack of the  $(g, T, G)$ -lower semicontinuity of  $f_{gT}$ .

The following example shows that Theorem 3.17 is an extension of Theorem 3.15.

**Example 3.23.** Let  $X = \{\frac{1}{n} : n \in \mathbb{N}\} \cup \{0\}$  with  $d(x, y) = |x - y|$  for all  $x, y \in X$ . Then  $(X, d)$  is a complete metric space. Let  $G$  be a digraph such that  $V(G) = X$  and  $E(G) = \Delta \cup \{(0, \frac{1}{n}) : n = 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ . Let  $T : X \rightarrow CL(X)$  be defined by

$$Tx = \begin{cases} \{0, \frac{1}{n+1}\}, & x = \frac{1}{n}, n \in \mathbb{N}, \\ \{0\}, & x = 0 \end{cases}$$

and  $gx = \frac{x}{x+1}$  for all  $x \in X$ . Obviously,  $T(X) = g(X) = X \setminus \{1\}$  and  $g(X)$  is a complete subspace of  $(X, d)$ .

For  $x = 1$ ,  $y = 0$ , we have  $gx = \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $gy = 0$ ,  $Tx = \{0, \frac{1}{2}\}$ ,  $Ty = \{0\}$ . Therefore,

$$H(Tx, Ty) = \frac{1}{2} = d(gx, gy) > rd(gx, gy)$$

for any  $r \in (0, 1)$  and hence condition (3.6) of Theorem 3.15 does not hold.

For  $x = \frac{1}{n}$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $y = 0$ , we have  $gx = \frac{1}{n+1}$ ,  $gy = 0$ ,  $Tx = \{0, \frac{1}{n+1}\}$ ,  $Ty = \{0\}$  and so  $(gx, gy) \in E(\tilde{G})$  which implies that  $(z_1, z_2) \in E(\tilde{G})$  for all  $z_1 \in Tx$ ,  $z_2 \in Ty$ . Therefore,  $T$  is edge preserving w.r.t.  $g$ . Obviously,  $x_0 = 0 \in X$  is such that  $(gx_0, z) \in E(\tilde{G})$  for all  $z \in Tx_0$ .

We note that, for  $x = \frac{1}{n}$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have  $Tx = \{0, \frac{1}{n+1}\}$  and  $gy = 0 = g0 \in Tx$  with  $(gx, gy) \in E(\tilde{G})$ . So, for  $x \in X$ ,  $gy = 0 = g0 \in Tx$  with  $(gx, gy) \in E(\tilde{G})$ , there exists  $gz = g0 = 0 \in Ty$  such that condition (3.7) of Theorem 3.17 holds for any  $r \in (0, 1)$  and any Lebesgue-integrable mapping  $\varphi : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  which is summable (i.e., with finite integral) on each compact subset of  $[0, \infty)$ , and such that for each  $\epsilon > 0$ ,  $\int_0^\epsilon \varphi(t)dt > 0$ . Now, it is easy to compute that  $f_{gT}(x) = 0$  for all  $x \in X$ . Hence, it is obvious that  $f_{gT}$  is  $(g, T, G)$ -lower semicontinuous. Then the existence of a point of coincidence of  $g$  and  $T$  follows from Theorem 3.17.

It should be noticed that  $g$  and  $T$  have infinitely many points of coincidence in  $g(X)$ . In fact, if  $x \in X$ , then  $gx \in Tx$ . So, every element of  $X$  except 1 is a point of coincidence of  $g$  and  $T$ .

**Remark 3.24.** It is valuable to note that  $g$  is not a Banach contraction. In fact, for  $x = \frac{1}{n}$ ,  $y = \frac{1}{m}$ ,  $n \neq m$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d(gx, gy)}{d(x, y)} &= \frac{\left| \frac{1}{n+1} - \frac{1}{m+1} \right|}{\left| \frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{m} \right|} \\ &= \frac{mn}{(n+1)(m+1)}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $\sup\left\{\frac{d(gx, gy)}{d(x, y)} : x, y \in X, x \neq y\right\} = 1$ .

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