



Common best proximity results for multivalued proximal contractions in metric space with applications

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Abstract

The study of the best proximity points is an interesting topic of optimization theory. We introduce the notion of α_* -proximal contractions for multivalued mappings on a complete metric space and establish the existence of common best proximity point for these mappings in the context of multivalued and single-valued mappings. As an application, we derive some best proximity point and fixed point results for multivalued and single-valued mappings on partially ordered metric spaces. Our results generalize and extend many known results in the literature. Some examples are provided to illustrate the results obtained herein. ©2016 All rights reserved.

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1. Introduction and preliminaries

Fixed point theory concerns with some techniques to find a solution of the pattern $\mathcal{T}x = x$, where \mathcal{T} is a self-mapping defined on a subset \mathcal{A} of a metric space (X, d) . A well-known principle that guarantees a unique fixed point solution is the Banach contraction principle [9]. Over the years, this principle has been generalized

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in many ways (see [5, 7–15, 28, 29]). An interesting generalization of the Banach contraction principle is for multivalued mappings and is known as Nadler’s fixed point theorem [24]. In 1982, Sessa [31] defined the concept of weakly commuting mappings to obtain common fixed point for pair of such mappings. Jungck generalized this idea, first to compatible mappings [18] and then to weakly compatible mappings [19]. A mapping $\mathcal{T} : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$ does not necessarily have a fixed point, where \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} are nonempty subsets of a metric space \mathcal{X} . One can proceed to find an element $x \in \mathcal{A}$ in the sense that the distance $d(x, \mathcal{T}x)$ is minimum. Fan’s best approximation theorem [13] asserts that if K is a nonempty, compact, and convex subset of a normed space X and $\mathcal{T} : K \rightarrow X$ is a continuous mapping, then there exists an element x satisfying the condition $d(x, \mathcal{T}x) = \inf \|y - \mathcal{T}x\|, y \in K$. A best approximation theorem guarantees the existence of an approximate solution, while a best proximity point theorem provides an approximate solution which is optimal in the sense that there exists an element x such that $d(x, \mathcal{T}x) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}) = \inf\{d(x, y) : x \in \mathcal{A} \text{ and } y \in \mathcal{B}\}$; the element x is called a best proximity point of \mathcal{T} . Moreover, if the mapping under consideration is a self-mapping, then a best proximity point is reduced to a fixed point. The existence of best proximity points is an interesting aspect of optimization theory and it has attracted the attention of many authors (see [1, 6–8, 12, 15, 16, 20–22] and references therein). Moreover, the best proximity point theorems for several classes of multivalued mappings have been probed in [4, 14, 30].

For non-empty subsets \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} of the metric space \mathcal{X} , the following notions will be used:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}) &= \inf\{d(a, b) : a \in \mathcal{A}, b \in \mathcal{B}\}, \quad D(x, \mathcal{B}) = \inf\{d(x, b) : b \in \mathcal{B}\}, \\ \mathcal{A}_0 &= \{a \in \mathcal{A} : d(a, b) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}) \text{ for some } b \in \mathcal{B}\}, \\ \mathcal{B}_0 &= \{b \in \mathcal{B} : d(a, b) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}) \text{ for some } a \in \mathcal{A}\}, \end{aligned}$$

$2^{\mathcal{X}}$ is the set of all nonempty subsets of \mathcal{X} , $CL(\mathcal{X})$ is the set of all nonempty closed subsets of \mathcal{X} , $K(\mathcal{X})$ is the set of all compact subsets of \mathcal{X} for every $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B} \in CL(\mathcal{X})$, $H(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}) = \max\{\sup_{x \in \mathcal{A}} D(x, \mathcal{B}), \sup_{y \in \mathcal{B}} D(y, \mathcal{A})\}$ if the maximum exists and $H(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}) = 0$ otherwise, and let Ψ be the collection of all non-decreasing functions $\psi : [0, +\infty) \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$ such that $\sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} \psi^n(t) < +\infty$ for each $t > 0$, where ψ^n is the n th iterate of ψ .

We present now the necessary definitions and results which will be useful in the sequel.

Definition 1.1 ([23]). Let \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} be nonempty subsets of a metric space (X, d) . A point x is called a common best proximity point of mappings $\mathcal{T}_i : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}, (i = 1, 2, \dots, n)$ if

$$D(x, \mathcal{T}_i x) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}).$$

Lemma 1.2 ([5]). Let (X, d) be a metric space and $B \in CL(X)$. Then for each $x \in X$ with $d(x, B) > 0$ and $q > 1$, there exists an element $b \in B$ such that

$$d(x, b) < qd(x, B).$$

Definition 1.3 ([6]). Let $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ be a pair of nonempty subsets of a metric space (X, d) with $\mathcal{A}_0 \neq \emptyset$. Then the pair $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ is said to have the weak P -property if and only if for any $x_1, x_2 \in \mathcal{A}$ and $y_1, y_2 \in \mathcal{B}$,

$$\left. \begin{aligned} d(x_1, y_1) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}) \\ d(x_2, y_2) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}) \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow d(x_1, x_2) \leq d(y_1, y_2).$$

Definition 1.4 ([6]). Let \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} be two nonempty subsets of a metric space (\mathcal{X}, d) . A mapping $\mathcal{T} : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow 2^{\mathcal{B}} \setminus \emptyset$ is called α -proximal admissible if there exists a mapping $\alpha : \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{A} \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ such that

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \alpha(x_1, x_2) \geq 1 \\ d(u_1, y_1) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}) \\ d(u_2, y_2) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}) \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow \alpha(u_1, u_2) \geq 1,$$

where $x_1, x_2, u_1, u_2 \in \mathcal{A}, y_1 \in \mathcal{T}x_1$ and $y_2 \in \mathcal{T}x_2$.

Definition 1.5 ([6]). Let \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} be two nonempty subsets of a metric space (\mathcal{X}, d) . A mapping $\mathcal{T} : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow CL(\mathcal{B})$ is said to be an α - ψ -proximal contraction, if there exist $\psi \in \Psi$ and $\alpha : \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{A} \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ such that

$$\alpha(x, y)H(Tx, Ty) \leq \psi(d(x, y)), \quad \forall x, y \in \mathcal{A}. \tag{1.1}$$

In this paper, we generalize the above mentioned notions for a pair of multivalued and single-valued mappings and define α_* -proximal admissible with respect to $\eta : \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{A} \rightarrow [0, \infty)$, α -proximal admissible with respect to $\eta : \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{A} \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ and prove common best proximity point theorems as well as fixed point theorems for these mappings. Our results generalize and improve the results of Ali et al. [6], Jungck ([18], [19]), Samet et al. [29], and Hussain et al. [17].

2. Common best proximity points for multivalued mappings

We begin this section with a definition.

Definition 2.1. Let \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} be nonempty subsets of a metric space (X, d) and $\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_2 : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow 2^{\mathcal{B}} \setminus \emptyset$ be multivalued mappings. The pair $(\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_2)$ is α_* -proximal admissible with respect to η if there exist $\alpha, \eta : \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{A} \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ such that for $z_1, z_2, u_1, u_2 \in \mathcal{A}$,

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \alpha(z_1, z_2) &\geq \eta(z_1, z_2) \\ d(u_1, y_1) &= \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}) \\ d(u_2, y_2) &= \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}) \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow \alpha(u_1, u_2) \geq \eta(u_1, u_2)$$

for all $y_1 \in \mathcal{T}_i z_1$ and $y_2 \in \mathcal{T}_j z_2$, $i, j \in \{1, 2\}$. When $\alpha(z_1, z_2) = 1$ for all $z_1, z_2 \in \mathcal{A}$, the pair $(\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_2)$ is called η_* -proximal sub-admissible, and when $\eta(z_1, z_2) = 1$ for all $z_1, z_2 \in \mathcal{A}$, the pair $(\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_2)$ is called α_* -proximal admissible.

Example 2.2. Consider $X = \mathbb{R}^2$ with the usual metric. Suppose $\mathcal{A} = \{(1, x) : 0 \leq x \leq 1\}$ and $\mathcal{B} = \{(0, x) : 0 \leq x \leq 1\}$. Define $\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_2 : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow 2^{\mathcal{B}} \setminus \emptyset$ by

$$\mathcal{T}_1(1, x) = \begin{cases} \{(0, 1)\} & x = 1, \\ \{(0, \frac{a}{2}) : 0 \leq a \leq x\} & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

$$\mathcal{T}_2(1, x) = \begin{cases} \{(0, \frac{a}{2}) : 0 \leq a \leq x\} & x \in [0, \frac{1}{2}], \\ \{(0, a^2) : 0 \leq a \leq x\} & x \in (\frac{1}{2}, 1] \end{cases}$$

and $\alpha, \eta : \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{A} \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ by

$$\alpha((1, x), (1, y)) = \begin{cases} 4/5 & x, y \in [0, \frac{1}{2}], \\ 1/2 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

$$\eta((1, x), (1, y)) = \frac{3}{4}$$

for all $(1, x), (1, y) \in \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{A}$. If $z_1 = (1, x_1)$ and $z_2 = (1, x_2)$ in \mathcal{A} , then $\alpha(z_1, z_2) \geq \eta(z_1, z_2)$ if $x_1, x_2 \in [0, \frac{1}{2}]$. So, $\mathcal{T}_1 z_1 = \{(0, \frac{a}{2}) : 0 \leq a \leq x_1\}$ and $\mathcal{T}_2 z_2 = \{(0, \frac{a}{2}) : 0 \leq a \leq x_2\}$. This shows that $d(u_1, y_1) = 1 = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ and $d(u_2, y_2) = 1 = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ for all $y_1 \in \mathcal{T}_i z_1$ and $y_2 \in \mathcal{T}_j z_2$, $i, j \in \{1, 2\}$ if and only if $u_1, u_2 \in \{(1, \frac{x}{2}) : 0 \leq x \leq \frac{1}{2}\}$. Hence $\alpha(u_1, u_2) = \frac{4}{5} > \frac{3}{4} = \eta(u_1, u_2)$. Thus the pair $(\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_2)$ is α_* -proximal admissible with respect to η .

Theorem 2.3. Let \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} be two nonempty closed subsets of a complete metric space (X, d) such that \mathcal{A}_0 is non-empty and $\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{S} : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow CL(\mathcal{B})$ be continuous multivalued mappings satisfying the following assertions:

1. $\alpha(z_1, z_2) \geq \eta(z_1, z_2) \Rightarrow H(\mathcal{T}z_1, \mathcal{S}z_2) \leq \psi(d(z_1, z_2))$;
2. $\mathcal{T}z, \mathcal{S}z \subseteq \mathcal{B}_0$ for each $z \in \mathcal{A}_0$ and $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ satisfies the weak P-property;

- 3. $(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{S})$ is α_* -proximal admissible with respect to η ;
- 4. there exists $z_0, z_1, z_2 \in \mathcal{A}_0$, $y_1 \in \mathcal{T}z_0$ and $y_2 \in \mathcal{S}z_0$ such that

$$d(z_1, y_1) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}), \quad \alpha(z_0, z_1) \geq \eta(z_0, z_1)$$

and

$$d(z_2, y_2) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}), \quad \alpha(z_0, z_2) \geq \eta(z_0, z_2).$$

Then the mappings \mathcal{T} and \mathcal{S} have a common best proximity point.

Proof. By the hypothesis, there exists $z_0, z_1 \in \mathcal{A}_0$ and $y_1 \in \mathcal{T}z_0$ such that

$$d(z_1, y_1) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}), \quad \alpha(z_0, z_1) \geq \eta(z_0, z_1). \tag{2.1}$$

If $y_1 \in \mathcal{T}z_1 \cap \mathcal{S}z_1$, then z_1 is the common best proximity point of \mathcal{T} and \mathcal{S} . If $y_1 \notin \mathcal{S}z_1$, then from condition 1, we have

$$0 < d(y_1, \mathcal{S}z_1) \leq H(\mathcal{T}z_0, \mathcal{S}z_1) \leq \psi(d(z_0, z_1)).$$

For $q > 1$, it follows from Lemma 1.2 that there exists $y_2 \in \mathcal{S}z_1$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} 0 < d(y_1, y_2) &< qd(y_1, \mathcal{S}z_1) \\ &\leq qH(\mathcal{T}z_0, \mathcal{S}z_1) \\ &\leq q\psi(d(z_0, z_1)). \end{aligned} \tag{2.2}$$

As $y_2 \in \mathcal{S}z_1 \subseteq \mathcal{B}_0$, there exists $z_2 \neq z_1 \in \mathcal{A}_0$ such that

$$d(z_2, y_2) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}), \tag{2.3}$$

otherwise, z_1 is the common best proximity point of \mathcal{T} and \mathcal{S} . As $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ satisfies the weak P-property, (2.1) and (2.3) imply that

$$0 < d(z_1, z_2) \leq d(y_1, y_2). \tag{2.4}$$

From (2.2) and (2.4), we have

$$0 < d(z_1, z_2) \leq q\psi(d(z_0, z_1)).$$

Since ψ is non-decreasing, from the above inequality, we have

$$\psi(d(z_1, z_2)) \leq \psi(q\psi(d(z_0, z_1))).$$

Put $q_1 = \frac{\psi(q\psi(d(z_0, z_1)))}{\psi(d(z_1, z_2))}$. As the pair $(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{S})$ is α_* -proximal admissible with respect to η , so, $\alpha(z_1, z_2) \geq \eta(z_1, z_2)$. Thus, we have

$$d(z_2, y_2) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}), \quad \alpha(z_1, z_2) \geq \eta(z_1, z_2). \tag{2.5}$$

Now, if $y_2 \in \mathcal{T}z_2 \cap \mathcal{S}z_2$, then z_2 is the common best proximity point of \mathcal{T} and \mathcal{S} . If $y_2 \notin \mathcal{T}z_2$, then from condition 1, we have

$$0 < d(\mathcal{T}z_2, y_2) \leq H(\mathcal{T}z_2, \mathcal{S}z_1) \leq \psi(d(z_1, z_2)).$$

For $q_1 > 1$, it follows from Lemma 1.2 that there exists $y_3 \in \mathcal{T}z_2$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} 0 < d(y_2, y_3) &< q_1 d(y_2, \mathcal{T}z_2) \\ &\leq q_1 H(\mathcal{S}z_1, \mathcal{T}z_2) \\ &\leq q_1 \psi(d(z_1, z_2)) \\ &= \psi(q\psi(d(z_0, z_1))). \end{aligned} \tag{2.6}$$

As $y_3 \in \mathcal{T}z_2 \subseteq \mathcal{B}_0$, so there exists $z_3 \neq z_2 \in \mathcal{A}_0$ such that

$$d(z_3, y_3) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}), \tag{2.7}$$

otherwise, z_2 is the common best proximity point of \mathcal{T} and \mathcal{S} . As $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ satisfies the weak P-property, (2.5) and (2.7) imply that

$$0 < d(z_2, z_3) \leq d(y_2, y_3). \tag{2.8}$$

From (2.6) and (2.8), we have

$$0 < d(z_2, z_3) \leq \psi(q\psi(d(z_0, z_1))).$$

Since ψ is strictly increasing, from the above inequality, we have

$$\psi(d(z_2, z_3)) < \psi^2(q\psi(d(z_0, z_1))).$$

Put $q_2 = \frac{\psi^2(q\psi(d(z_0, z_1)))}{\psi(d(z_2, z_3))}$. As the pair $(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{S})$ is α_* -proximal admissible with respect to η , so, $\alpha(z_2, z_3) \geq \eta(z_2, z_3)$. Thus, we have

$$d(z_3, y_3) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}), \quad \alpha(z_2, z_3) \geq \eta(z_2, z_3).$$

Now proceeding in the manner described above, we get a sequence $\{z_n\}$ in \mathcal{A}_0 and $\{y_n\}$ in \mathcal{B}_0 such that for $n \in \mathbb{N}$

$$y_{2n+1} \in \mathcal{T}z_{2n} \quad \text{and} \quad y_{2n} \in \mathcal{T}z_{2n-1}, \tag{2.9}$$

where

$$d(z_{n+1}, y_{n+1}) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}), \quad \alpha(z_n, z_{n+1}) \geq \eta(z_n, z_{n+1}), \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \tag{2.10}$$

and

$$d(y_{n+1}, y_{n+2}) < \psi^n(q\psi(d(z_0, z_1))), \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}. \tag{2.11}$$

As $y_{n+2} \in \mathcal{T}z_{n+1} \cup \mathcal{S}z_{n+1}$ and $\mathcal{T}z_{n+1}, \mathcal{S}z_{n+1} \subseteq \mathcal{B}_0$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, so there exists $z_{n+2} \neq z_{n+1} \in \mathcal{A}_0$ such that

$$d(z_{n+2}, y_{n+2}) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}), \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}. \tag{2.12}$$

Since $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ satisfies the weak P-property, from (2.10) and (2.12), we have

$$d(z_{n+1}, z_{n+2}) \leq d(y_{n+1}, y_{n+2}), \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}. \tag{2.13}$$

From (2.11) and (2.13), we get

$$d(z_{n+1}, z_{n+2}) < \psi^n(q\psi(d(z_0, z_1))), \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Now for $n > m$, we have

$$d(z_n, z_m) \leq \sum_{i=n}^{m-1} d(z_i, z_{i+1}) < \sum_{i=n}^{m-1} \psi^{i-1}(q\psi(d(z_0, z_1))).$$

Hence $\{z_n\}$ is a Cauchy sequence in \mathcal{A} . Similarly, $\{y_n\}$ is a Cauchy sequence in \mathcal{B} . Since \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} are closed subsets of a complete metric space (X, d) , there exist $z^* \in \mathcal{A}$ and $y^* \in \mathcal{B}$ such that $z_n \rightarrow z^*$ and $y_n \rightarrow y^*$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. By taking limit as $n \rightarrow \infty$ in equation (2.12), we get that

$$d(z^*, y^*) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}).$$

Since \mathcal{T} and \mathcal{S} are continuous, therefore from (2.9), we get that $y^* \in \mathcal{T}z^* \cap \mathcal{S}z^*$. Hence

$$\text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}) \leq D(z^*, \mathcal{T}z^*) \leq d(z^*, y^*) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$$

and

$$\text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}) \leq D(z^*, \mathcal{S}z^*) \leq d(z^*, y^*) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}).$$

This implies that $D(z^*, \mathcal{T}z^*) = D(z^*, \mathcal{S}z^*) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$, that is, z^* is a common best proximity point of \mathcal{T} and \mathcal{S} . □

Example 2.4. Consider $X, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_2 : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow 2^{\mathcal{B}} \setminus \emptyset$ and $\alpha, \eta : \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{A} \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ as in Example 2.2. Then $\mathcal{A}_0 = \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}_0 = \mathcal{B}, \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}) = 1$ and $\mathcal{T}_1z, \mathcal{T}_2z \subseteq \mathcal{B}_0$ for each $z \in \mathcal{A}_0$. As $\mathcal{A}_0 = \mathcal{A}$ and $\mathcal{B}_0 = \mathcal{B}$, so for $z_1 = (1, x_1), z_2 = (1, x_2) \in \mathcal{A}$, there exist $y_1 = (0, x_1), y_2 = (0, x_2) \in \mathcal{B}$ such that $d(z_1, y_1) = d(z_2, y_2) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ and $d(z_1, z_2) = |x_1 - x_2| = d(y_1, y_2)$. Hence the pair $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ satisfies the weak P-property and the pair $(\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_2)$ is α_* -proximal admissible map with respect to η (see Example 2.2). Let $\psi(t) = \frac{t}{2}$ for all $t \geq 0$. Note that $\alpha(z_1, z_2) \geq \eta(z_1, z_2)$ if $x_1, x_2 \in [0, \frac{1}{2}]$. Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} H(\mathcal{T}_1z_1, \mathcal{T}_2z_2) &= \left| \frac{x_1}{2} - \frac{x_2}{2} \right| \\ &= \frac{1}{2}|x_1 - x_2| \\ &= \psi(d(z_1, z_2)). \end{aligned}$$

Also, for $z_0 = (1, \frac{1}{2}) \in \mathcal{A}_0, y_1 = (0, \frac{1}{4}) \in \mathcal{T}_1x_0$ and $y_2 = (0, \frac{1}{8}) \in \mathcal{T}_2x_0$, we have $z_1 = (1, \frac{1}{4}), z_2 = (1, \frac{1}{8}) \in \mathcal{A}_0$ such that $d(z_1, y_1) = d(z_2, y_2) = 1 = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}), \alpha(z_0, z_1) = \frac{4}{5} \geq \frac{3}{4} = \eta(z_0, z_1)$ and $\alpha(z_0, z_2) = \frac{4}{5} \geq \frac{3}{4} = \eta(z_0, z_2)$. Thus all the conditions of Theorem 2.3 are satisfied and $(1, 1)$ is a common best proximity point of \mathcal{T}_1 and \mathcal{T}_2 .

The case $\eta(z_1, z_2) = 1$, reduces Theorem 2.3 to the following:

Corollary 2.5. *Let \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} be two nonempty closed subsets of a complete metric space (X, d) such that \mathcal{A}_0 is non-empty and $\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{S} : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow CL(\mathcal{B})$ be continuous multivalued mappings satisfying the following assertions:*

1. $\alpha(z_1, z_2) \geq 1 \Rightarrow H(\mathcal{T}z_1, \mathcal{S}z_2) \leq \psi(d(z_1, z_2))$;
2. $\mathcal{T}z, \mathcal{S}z \subseteq \mathcal{B}_0$ for each $z \in \mathcal{A}_0$ and $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ satisfies the weak P-property;
3. $(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{S})$ is α_* -proximal admissible;
4. there exist $z_0, z_1, z_2 \in \mathcal{A}_0, y_1 \in \mathcal{T}z_0$ and $y_2 \in \mathcal{S}z_0$ such that

$$d(z_1, y_1) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}), \quad \alpha(z_0, z_1) \geq 1$$

and

$$d(z_2, y_2) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}), \quad \alpha(z_0, z_2) \geq 1.$$

Then the mappings \mathcal{T} and \mathcal{S} have a common best proximity point.

If we take $\alpha(z_1, z_2) = 1$ in Theorem 2.3, then we have the following:

Corollary 2.6. *Let \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} be two nonempty closed subsets of a complete metric space (X, d) such that \mathcal{A}_0 is non-empty and $\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{S} : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow CL(\mathcal{B})$ be continuous multivalued mappings satisfying the following assertions:*

1. $\eta(z_1, z_2) \leq 1 \Rightarrow H(\mathcal{T}z_1, \mathcal{S}z_2) \leq \psi(d(z_1, z_2))$;
2. $\mathcal{T}z, \mathcal{S}z \subseteq \mathcal{B}_0$ for each $z \in \mathcal{A}_0$ and $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ satisfies the weak P-property;
3. $(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{S})$ is η_* -proximal subadmissible;
4. there exist $z_0, z_1, z_2 \in \mathcal{A}_0, y_1 \in \mathcal{T}z_0$ and $y_2 \in \mathcal{S}z_0$ such that

$$d(z_1, y_1) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}), \quad \eta(z_0, z_1) < 1$$

and

$$d(z_2, y_2) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}), \quad \eta(z_0, z_2) < 1.$$

Then the mappings \mathcal{T} and \mathcal{S} have a common best proximity point.

In case, $\mathcal{T}_1 = \mathcal{T}_2$, Definition 2.1 and Theorem 2.3 is reduced to the following:

Definition 2.7. Let \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} be two nonempty subsets of a metric space (X, d) and $\mathcal{T} : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow 2^{\mathcal{B}} \setminus \emptyset$ be a multivalued mapping. We say that \mathcal{T} is α_* -proximal admissible with respect to η if there exist two functions $\alpha, \eta : \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{A} \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ such that for $z_1, z_2, u_1, u_2 \in \mathcal{A}$,

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \alpha(z_1, z_2) &\geq \eta(z_1, z_2) \\ d(u_1, y_1) &= \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}) \\ d(u_2, y_2) &= \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}) \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow \alpha(u_1, u_2) \geq \eta(u_1, u_2)$$

for all $y_1 \in \mathcal{T}z_1$ and $y_2 \in \mathcal{T}z_2$. When $\alpha(z_1, z_2) = 1$ for all $z_1, z_2 \in \mathcal{A}$, \mathcal{T} is called η -proximal sub-admissible.

Theorem 2.8. Let \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} be two nonempty closed subsets of a complete metric space (X, d) such that \mathcal{A}_0 is nonempty and $\mathcal{T} : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow CL(\mathcal{B})$ be a continuous multivalued mapping satisfying the following assertions:

1. $\alpha(z_1, z_2) \geq \eta(z_1, z_2) \Rightarrow H(\mathcal{T}z_1, \mathcal{T}z_2) \leq \psi(d(z_1, z_2))$;
2. $\mathcal{T}z \subseteq \mathcal{B}_0$ for each $z \in \mathcal{A}_0$ and $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ satisfies the weak P-property;
3. \mathcal{T} is α_* -proximal admissible with respect to η ;
4. there exist $z_0, z_1 \in \mathcal{A}_0, y_1 \in \mathcal{T}z_0$ such that

$$d(z_1, y_1) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}), \quad \alpha(z_0, z_1) \geq \eta(z_0, z_1).$$

Then the mapping \mathcal{T} has a best proximity point.

If we take $\eta(z_1, z_2) = 1$ in Theorem 2.8, then we have the following:

Corollary 2.9. Let \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} be two nonempty closed subsets of a complete metric space (X, d) such that \mathcal{A}_0 is nonempty and $\mathcal{T} : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow CL(\mathcal{B})$ be a continuous multivalued mapping satisfying the following assertions:

1. $\alpha(z_1, z_2) \geq 1 \Rightarrow H(\mathcal{T}z_1, \mathcal{T}z_2) \leq \psi(d(z_1, z_2))$;
2. $\mathcal{T}z \subseteq \mathcal{B}_0$ for each $z \in \mathcal{A}_0$ and $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ satisfies the weak P-property;
3. \mathcal{T} is α -proximal admissible;
4. there exist $z_0, z_1 \in \mathcal{A}_0, y_1 \in \mathcal{T}z_0$ such that

$$d(z_1, y_1) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}), \quad \alpha(z_0, z_1) \geq 1.$$

Then the mapping \mathcal{T} has a best proximity point.

Remark 2.10. The special case of Theorem 2.8 for $\alpha(z_1, z_2) = 1$ can be obtained as in Corollary 2.6.

Remark 2.11. When $\eta(z_1, z_2) = 1$ for all $z_1, z_2 \in \mathcal{A}$, Definition 2.7 reduces to Definition 10 in [6]. As the condition 1 is more general than the inequality (1.1) (see Remark 3.5 in [5]), so Corollary 2.9 extends Theorem 13 in [6].

Remark 2.12. When $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{B}$, Theorem 2.8 is reduced to the Theorem 3.3 in [5].

Remark 2.13. Note that the uniqueness of the common best proximity points of multivalued mappings \mathcal{T} and \mathcal{S} is not given in Theorem 2.3. Thus, we can present the following problem: Let (\mathcal{X}, d) be a complete metric space and $\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{S} : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow CL(\mathcal{B})$ be continuous multivalued mappings satisfying all the assertions of Theorem 2.3. Does \mathcal{T} and \mathcal{S} have a unique common best proximity point? By adding a condition and taking mappings $\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{S} : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow K(\mathcal{B})$, we can give a partial answer of this problem as follows:

Theorem 2.14. Let \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} be two nonempty closed subsets of a complete metric space (X, d) such that \mathcal{A}_0 is non-empty and $\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{S} : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow K(\mathcal{B})$ be continuous multivalued mappings satisfying all the assertions of Theorem 2.3 and also satisfy

H. $\alpha(z_1, z_2) \geq \eta(z_1, z_2)$ for all common best proximity points of \mathcal{T} and \mathcal{S} .

Then the mappings \mathcal{T} and \mathcal{S} have a unique common best proximity point.

Proof. We will only prove the part of uniqueness. Let z_1, z_2 be two common best proximity points of \mathcal{T} and \mathcal{S} such that $z_1 \neq z_2$, then by hypothesis H we have $\alpha(z_1, z_2) \geq \eta(z_1, z_2)$ and $D(z_1, \mathcal{T}z_1) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}) = D(z_1, \mathcal{S}z_1) = D(z_2, \mathcal{T}z_2) = D(z_2, \mathcal{S}z_2)$. Since $\mathcal{T}z_1$ and $\mathcal{S}z_2$ are compact, so there exist an element $u_1 \in \mathcal{T}z_1$ and $u_2 \in \mathcal{S}z_2$ such that

$$d(z_1, u_1) = D(z_1, \mathcal{T}z_1)$$

and

$$d(z_2, u_2) = D(z_2, \mathcal{S}z_2).$$

Since the pair $(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{S})$ satisfies the weak P -property, so we have

$$d(z_1, z_2) = d(u_1, u_2).$$

So by using condition 1 and Lemma 1.2 there exists $q > 1$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} d(z_1, z_2) &= d(u_1, u_2) < qD(u_1, \mathcal{S}z_2) \\ &< qH(\mathcal{T}z_1, \mathcal{S}z_2) \\ &< q\psi(d(z_1, z_2)) \\ &< qd(z_1, z_2), \end{aligned}$$

which is a contradiction. This implies that $d(z_1, z_2) = 0$, consequently, \mathcal{T} and \mathcal{S} have a unique common best proximity point. □

By similar arguments as in Theorem 2.14, we state the following:

Theorem 2.15. *Let \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} be two nonempty closed subsets of a complete metric space (X, d) such that \mathcal{A}_0 is nonempty and $\mathcal{T} : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow K(\mathcal{B})$ be a continuous multivalued mapping satisfying all the assertions of Theorem 2.8 with condition H, then \mathcal{T} has a unique common best proximity point.*

3. Common best proximity points for single-valued mappings

We start with the following definition:

Definition 3.1. Let \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} be two nonempty subsets of a metric space (X, d) and $\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_2 : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$ be mappings. The pair $(\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_2)$ is α -proximal admissible with respect to η if there exist two functions $\alpha, \eta : \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{A} \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ such that for $z_1, z_2, u_1, u_2 \in \mathcal{A}$,

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \alpha(z_1, z_2) &\geq \eta(z_1, z_2) \\ d(u_1, \mathcal{T}_1 z_1) &= \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}) \\ d(u_2, \mathcal{T}_2 z_2) &= \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}) \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow \alpha(u_1, u_2) \geq \eta(u_1, u_2).$$

When $\alpha(z_1, z_2) = 1$ for all $z_1, z_2 \in \mathcal{A}$, the pair $(\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_2)$ is called η -proximal subadmissible and when $\eta(z_1, z_2) = 1$ for all $z_1, z_2 \in \mathcal{A}$, the pair $(\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_2)$ is called α -proximal admissible.

Example 3.2. Consider $\mathcal{X} = \mathbb{R}^2$ with the usual metric. Let $\mathcal{A} = \{(-6, 0), (0, -6), (0, 5)\}$ and $\mathcal{B} = \{(-1, 0), (0, -1), (0, 0), (-1, 1), (1, 1)\}$ be closed subsets of (X, d) . Then $d(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}) = 5$, $\mathcal{A}_0 = \mathcal{A}$ and $\mathcal{B}_0 = \mathcal{B}$. Define $\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_2 : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$ by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{T}_1(-6, 0) &= (-1, 0), & \mathcal{T}_2(-6, 0) &= (0, 0), \\ \mathcal{T}_1(0, -6) &= (0, -1), & \mathcal{T}_2(0, -6) &= (-1, 1), \\ \mathcal{T}_1(0, 5) &= (1, 1), & \mathcal{T}_2(0, 5) &= (1, 1), \end{aligned}$$

and $\alpha, \eta : \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{A} \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ by

$$\alpha(z_1, z_2) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } y_1, y_2 \neq 0, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \quad \eta(z_1, z_2) = \frac{1}{2},$$

for all $z_1 = (x_1, y_1), z_2 = (x_2, y_2) \in \mathcal{A}$.

Note that $\alpha(z_1, z_2) \geq \eta(z_1, z_2)$ if $z_1, z_2 \in \{(0, -6), (0, 5)\}$. For $z_1 = (0, -6)$, $d(u_1, \mathcal{T}_1 z_1) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ if $u_1 \in \{(0, -6)\}$ and $d(u_2, \mathcal{T}_2 z_1) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ if $u_2 \in \{(0, 5)\}$. This implies that $\alpha(u_1, u_2) = 1 > \frac{1}{2} = \eta(u_1, u_2)$. For $z_2 = (0, 5)$, $d(u_1, \mathcal{T}_1 z_1) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}) = d(u_2, \mathcal{T}_2 z_1)$ if $u_1, u_2 \in \{(0, 5)\}$. This shows that $\alpha(u_1, u_2) = 1 > \frac{1}{2} = \eta(u_1, u_2)$. Thus the pair $(\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_2)$ is α -proximal admissible with respect to η .

By Theorem 2.3, we immediately obtain the following result.

Theorem 3.3. *Let \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} be two nonempty closed subsets of a complete metric space (X, d) such that \mathcal{A}_0 is nonempty and let $\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{S} : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$ be continuous mappings satisfying the following assertions for all $z_1, z_2 \in \mathcal{A}$:*

1. $\alpha(z_1, z_2) \geq \eta(z_1, z_2) \Rightarrow d(\mathcal{T}z_1, \mathcal{S}z_2) \leq \psi(d(z_1, z_2))$;
2. $\mathcal{T}(\mathcal{A}_0), \mathcal{S}(\mathcal{A}_0) \subseteq \mathcal{B}_0$ and $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ satisfies the weak P-property;
3. $(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{S})$ is α -proximal admissible with respect to η ;
4. there exist $z_0, z_1, z_2 \in \mathcal{A}_0$ such that

$$d(z_1, \mathcal{T}z_0) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}), \quad \alpha(z_0, z_1) \geq \eta(z_0, z_1)$$

and

$$d(z_2, \mathcal{S}z_0) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}), \quad \alpha(z_0, z_2) \geq \eta(z_0, z_2).$$

Then the mappings \mathcal{T} and \mathcal{S} have a common best proximity point.

The case $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{B} = X$ reduces Definition 3.1 and Theorem 3.3 into the following:

Definition 3.4. Let (X, d) be a metric space and $\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_2 : X \rightarrow X$ be mappings. The pair $(\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_2)$ is α -admissible with respect to η if there exist functions $\alpha, \eta : X \times X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ such that for $z_1, z_2 \in X$,

$$\alpha(z_1, z_2) \geq \eta(z_1, z_2) \Rightarrow \alpha(\mathcal{T}_1 z_1, \mathcal{T}_2 z_2) \geq \eta(\mathcal{T}_1 z_1, \mathcal{T}_2 z_2).$$

When $\alpha(z_1, z_2) = 1$ for all $z_1, z_2 \in X$, the pair $(\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_2)$ is called η -subadmissible and when $\eta(z_1, z_2) = 1$ for all $z_1, z_2 \in X$, the pair $(\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_2)$ is called α -admissible.

Remark 3.5. Definition 3.4 generalizes the concepts of compatibility and weak compatibility by Jungck ([18] and [19]). Every weakly compatible pair is α -admissible with respect to η . Indeed, let $(\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_2)$ be weakly compatible pair. Then $\mathcal{T}_1(\mathcal{T}_2 z) = \mathcal{T}_2(\mathcal{T}_1 z)$ for all z belonging to $C(\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_2)$ as the set of all coincidence points of mappings \mathcal{T}_1 and \mathcal{T}_2 . Define

$$\alpha(z_1, z_2) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } z_1, z_2 \in C(\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_2), \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad \eta(z_1, z_2) = \frac{1}{2} \text{ for all } z_1, z_2 \in X.$$

Then $\alpha(z_1, z_2) > \eta(z_1, z_2)$ if $z_1, z_2 \in C(\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_2)$. Since $(\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_2)$ is weakly compatible pair, so for all $z_1, z_2 \in C(\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_2)$, we have $\mathcal{T}_1(\mathcal{T}_1 z_1) = \mathcal{T}_1(\mathcal{T}_2 z_1) = \mathcal{T}_2(\mathcal{T}_1 z_1)$ and $\mathcal{T}_1(\mathcal{T}_2 z_2) = \mathcal{T}_2(\mathcal{T}_1 z_2) = \mathcal{T}_2(\mathcal{T}_2 z_2)$. This implies that $\mathcal{T}_1 z_1, \mathcal{T}_2 z_2 \in C(\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_2)$. Hence $\alpha(\mathcal{T}_1 z_1, \mathcal{T}_2 z_2) = 1 > \frac{1}{2} = \eta(\mathcal{T}_1 z_1, \mathcal{T}_2 z_2)$, that is, the pair $(\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_2)$ is α -admissible with respect to η . But the converse is not true which is clear from the following:

Example 3.6. Consider $X = \mathbb{R}$ with the usual metric. Define $\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_2 : X \rightarrow X$ by

$$\mathcal{T}_1(z) = z^3, \quad \mathcal{T}_2(z) = \frac{z^2}{4}$$

and $\alpha, \eta : X \times X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ by

$$\alpha(z_1, z_2) = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{if } z_1, z_2 \geq 0, \\ 0 & \text{if } z_1, z_2 < 0, \end{cases} \quad \eta(z_1, z_1) = \frac{1}{4}$$

for all $z_1, z_2 \in X$. Note that $\alpha(z_1, z_2) \geq \eta(z_1, z_2)$ when $z_1, z_2 \geq 0$. This implies that $\alpha(\mathcal{T}_1 z_1, \mathcal{T}_2 z_2) = 2 > \frac{1}{4} = \eta(\mathcal{T}_1 z_1, \mathcal{T}_2 z_2)$. Hence the pair $(\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_2)$ is α -admissible with respect to η . On the other hand, the coincidence points of \mathcal{T}_1 and \mathcal{T}_2 are 0 and $\frac{1}{4}$ such that $\mathcal{T}_1(\mathcal{T}_2(\frac{1}{4})) = \frac{1}{(64)^3} \neq \mathcal{T}_2(\mathcal{T}_1(\frac{1}{4})) = \frac{1}{4}(\frac{1}{64})^2$. Thus, the pair $(\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_2)$ is not weakly compatible.

Theorem 3.7. Let (X, d) be a complete metric space and $\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{S} : X \rightarrow X$ be continuous mappings satisfying the following assertions for all $z_1, z_2 \in X$:

1. $\alpha(z_1, z_2) \geq \eta(z_1, z_2) \Rightarrow d(\mathcal{T}z_1, \mathcal{S}z_2) \leq \psi(d(z_1, z_2))$;
2. $(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{S})$ is α -admissible with respect to η ;
3. there exist $z_0, z_1 \in X$ such that $\alpha(z_0, \mathcal{T}z_0) \geq \eta(z_0, \mathcal{T}z_0)$ and $\alpha(z_1, \mathcal{S}z_1) \geq \eta(z_1, \mathcal{S}z_1)$.

Then the mappings \mathcal{T} and \mathcal{S} have a common fixed point.

Taking $\eta(z_1, z_2) = 1$ in Theorem 3.7, we get the following:

Corollary 3.8. Let (X, d) be a complete metric space and $\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{S} : X \rightarrow X$ be continuous mappings satisfying the following assertions for all $z_1, z_2 \in X$:

1. $\alpha(z_1, z_2) \geq 1 \Rightarrow d(\mathcal{T}z_1, \mathcal{S}z_2) \leq \psi(d(z_1, z_2))$;
2. $(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{S})$ is α -admissible;
3. there exist $z_0, z_1 \in X$ such that $\alpha(z_0, \mathcal{T}z_0) \geq 1$ and $\alpha(z_1, \mathcal{S}z_1) \geq 1$.

Then the mappings \mathcal{T} and \mathcal{S} have a common fixed point.

Remark 3.9. When $\mathcal{T}_1 = \mathcal{T}_2 = \mathcal{T}$ in Definition 3.4, we get Definition 2.1 in [28] and in case $\mathcal{T} = \mathcal{S}$, (with the help of Remark 3.5 in [5]), Corollary 3.8 generalizes Theorem 2.1 in [29].

When $\mathcal{T}_1 = \mathcal{T}_2 = \mathcal{T}$, Definition 3.1 and Theorem 3.3 are reduced to Definition 8 in [15] and the following result, respectively.

Theorem 3.10. Let \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} be two nonempty closed subsets of a complete metric space (X, d) such that \mathcal{A}_0 is nonempty and $\mathcal{T} : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$ be a continuous mapping satisfying the following assertions for all $z_1, z_2 \in \mathcal{A}$:

1. $\alpha(z_1, z_2) \geq \eta(z_1, z_2) \Rightarrow d(\mathcal{T}z_1, \mathcal{T}z_2) \leq \psi(d(z_1, z_2))$;
2. $\mathcal{T}(\mathcal{A}_0) \subseteq \mathcal{B}_0$ and $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ satisfies the weak P-property;
3. \mathcal{T} is α -proximal admissible with respect to η ;
4. there exist $z_0, z_1 \in \mathcal{A}_0$ such that

$$d(z_1, \mathcal{T}z_0) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}), \quad \alpha(z_0, z_1) \geq \eta(z_0, z_1).$$

Then \mathcal{T} has a best proximity point.

Remark 3.11. The special cases of Theorems 3.3 and 3.10 for $\eta(z_1, z_2) = 1$ and $\alpha(z_1, z_2) = 1$ can be obtained as in Corollaries 2.5 and 2.6.

4. Generalization

In this section we generalize the results of Sections 2 and 3 for a sequence of mappings.

Definition 4.1. Let \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} be two nonempty subsets of a metric space (X, d) and $\{\mathcal{T}_i : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow 2^{\mathcal{B}} \setminus \emptyset\}_{i=1}^{\infty}$ be a sequence of multivalued mappings. The sequence $\{\mathcal{T}_i\}$ is α_* -proximal admissible with respect to η if there exist functions $\alpha, \eta : \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{A} \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ such that for $z_1, z_2, u_1, u_2 \in \mathcal{A}$,

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \alpha(z_1, z_2) \geq \eta(z_1, z_2) \\ d(u_1, y_1) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}) \\ d(u_2, y_2) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}) \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow \alpha(u_1, u_2) \geq \eta(u_1, u_2)$$

for all $y_1 \in \mathcal{T}_i z_1$ and $y_2 \in \mathcal{T}_j z_2$, and for all $i, j \in \mathbb{N}$. When $\alpha(z_1, z_2) = 1$ for all $z_1, z_2 \in \mathcal{A}$, the sequence $\{\mathcal{T}_i\}$ is called η_* -proximal sub-admissible and when $\eta(z_1, z_2) = 1$ for all $z_1, z_2 \in \mathcal{A}$, the sequence $\{\mathcal{T}_i\}$ is called α_* -proximal admissible.

Theorem 4.2. *Let \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} be two nonempty closed subsets of a complete metric space (X, d) such that \mathcal{A}_0 is nonempty and $\{\mathcal{T}_i : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow CL(\mathcal{B})\}_{i=1}^\infty$ be a sequence of continuous multivalued mappings satisfying the following assertions:*

1. $\alpha(z_1, z_2) \geq \eta(z_1, z_2) \Rightarrow H(\mathcal{T}_i z_1, \mathcal{T}_j z_2) \leq \psi(d(z_1, z_2))$ for each $i, j \in \mathbb{N}$;
2. $\mathcal{T}_i z \subseteq \mathcal{B}_0$ for each $z \in \mathcal{A}_0, i \in \mathbb{N}$ and $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ satisfies the weak P-property;
3. $\{\mathcal{T}_i\}$ is α_* -proximal admissible with respect to η ;
4. there exist $z_0, z_i \in \mathcal{A}$, and $y_i \in \mathcal{T}_i z_0$ for each $i \in \mathbb{N}$ such that

$$d(z_i, y_i) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}), \quad \alpha(z_0, z_i) \geq \eta(z_0, z_i).$$

Then the mappings \mathcal{T}_i have a common best proximity point.

Proof. It is similar to the proof of Theorem 2.3 and is omitted. □

Taking $\eta(z_1, z_2) = 1$ in Theorem 4.2, we get the following:

Corollary 4.3. *Let \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} be two nonempty closed subsets of a complete metric space (X, d) such that \mathcal{A}_0 is nonempty and $\{\mathcal{T}_i : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow CL(\mathcal{B})\}_{i=1}^\infty$ be a sequence of continuous multivalued mappings satisfying the following assertions:*

1. $\alpha(z_1, z_2) \geq 1 \Rightarrow H(\mathcal{T}_i z_1, \mathcal{T}_j z_2) \leq \psi(d(z_1, z_2))$ for each $i, j \in \mathbb{N}$;
2. $\mathcal{T}_i z \subseteq \mathcal{B}_0$, for each $z \in \mathcal{A}_0, i \in \mathbb{N}$ and $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ satisfies the weak P-property;
3. $\{\mathcal{T}_i\}$ is α_* -proximal admissible;
4. there exists $z_0, z_i \in \mathcal{A}$, and $y_i \in \mathcal{T}_i z_0$ for each $i \in \mathbb{N}$ such that

$$d(z_i, y_i) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}), \quad \alpha(z_0, z_i) \geq 1.$$

Then the mappings \mathcal{T}_i have a common best proximity point.

Taking $\alpha(z_1, z_2) = 1$ in Theorem 4.2, we get the following:

Corollary 4.4. *Let \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} be two nonempty closed subsets of a complete metric space (X, d) such that \mathcal{A}_0 is nonempty and $\{\mathcal{T}_i : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow CL(\mathcal{B})\}_{i=1}^\infty$ be a sequence of continuous multivalued mappings satisfying the following assertions:*

1. $\eta(z_1, z_2) \leq 1 \Rightarrow H(\mathcal{T}_i z_1, \mathcal{T}_j z_2) \leq \psi(d(z_1, z_2))$ for each $i, j \in \mathbb{N}$;
2. $\mathcal{T}_i z \subseteq \mathcal{B}_0$ for each $z \in \mathcal{A}_0, i \in \mathbb{N}$ and $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ satisfies the weak P-property;
3. $\{\mathcal{T}_i\}$ is η_* -proximal subadmissible;
4. there exist $z_0, z_i \in \mathcal{A}$, and $y_i \in \mathcal{T}_i z_0$ for each $i \in \mathbb{N}$ such that

$$d(z_i, y_i) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}), \quad \eta(z_0, z_i) \leq 1.$$

Then the mappings \mathcal{T}_i have a common best proximity point.

Remark 4.5. The choice $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{B} = X$ reduces Definition 4.1 and Theorem 4.2 into the Definition 3.1 and Theorem 3.2 in [5], respectively, and generalizes Theorem 4.1 in [17]. When $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{B} = X$, Corollaries 4.3 and 4.4 generalize Corollaries 4.1 and 4.2 in [17], respectively.

Theorem 4.6. *Let \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} be two nonempty closed subsets of a complete metric space (X, d) such that \mathcal{A}_0 is nonempty and $\{\mathcal{T}_i : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow K(\mathcal{B})\}_{i=1}^\infty$ be a sequence of continuous multivalued mappings satisfying all assertions of Theorem 4.2 with condition H. Then the mappings \mathcal{T}_i have a unique common best proximity.*

Definition 4.7. Let \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} be two nonempty subsets of a metric space (X, d) and $\{\mathcal{T}_i : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}\}_{i=1}^\infty$ be a sequence of mappings. The sequence $\{\mathcal{T}_i\}$ is α_* -proximal admissible with respect to η if there exists two functions $\alpha, \eta : \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{A} \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ such that for $z_1, z_2, u_1, u_2 \in \mathcal{A}$,

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \alpha(z_1, z_2) &\geq \eta(z_1, z_2) \\ d(u_1, \mathcal{T}_i z_1) &= \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}) \\ d(u_2, \mathcal{T}_j z_2) &= \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}) \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow \alpha(u_1, u_2) \geq \eta(u_1, u_2)$$

for each $i, j \in \mathbb{N}$. When $\alpha(z_1, z_2) = 1$ for all $z_1, z_2 \in \mathcal{A}$, the sequence $\{\mathcal{T}_i\}$ is called η_* -proximal subadmissible and when $\eta(z_1, z_2) = 1$ for all $z_1, z_2 \in \mathcal{A}$, the sequence $\{\mathcal{T}_i\}$ is called α_* -proximal admissible.

From Definition 4.1 and Theorem 4.2, we obtain the following result for a sequence of single-valued mappings.

Theorem 4.8. Let \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} be two nonempty closed subsets of a complete metric space (X, d) such that \mathcal{A}_0 is nonempty and $\{\mathcal{T}_i : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}\}_{i=1}^\infty$ be a sequence of continuous mappings satisfying the following assertions:

1. $\alpha(z_1, z_2) \geq \eta(z_1, z_2) \Rightarrow d(\mathcal{T}_i z_1, \mathcal{T}_j z_2) \leq \psi(d(z_1, z_2))$ for each $i, j \in \mathbb{N}$;
2. $\mathcal{T}_i z \subseteq \mathcal{B}_0$ for each $z \in \mathcal{A}_0, i \in \mathbb{N}$ and $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ satisfies the weak P-property;
3. $\{\mathcal{T}_i\}$ is α_* -proximal admissible with respect to η ;
4. there exist $z_0, z_i \in \mathcal{A}_0$ such that for each $i \in \mathbb{N}$

$$d(z_i, \mathcal{T}_i z_0) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}), \quad \alpha(z_0, z_i) \geq \eta(z_0, z_i).$$

Then the mappings \mathcal{T}_i have a common best proximity point.

5. Common best proximity point results in partially ordered metric space

Let $(\mathcal{X}, d, \preceq)$ be a partially ordered metric space and \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} be two nonempty subsets of \mathcal{X} . The existence of best proximity point in the setting of a partially order metric space has been established in [2, 3, 10, 11, 25–27]. In this section, we derive new results in partially order metric spaces as an application of our results in Sections 2, and 3. Recall that a mapping $\mathcal{T} : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$ is said to be proximally increasing if it satisfies the condition

$$\left. \begin{aligned} z_1 &\preceq z_2 \\ d(u_1, \mathcal{T} z_1) &= \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}) \\ d(u_2, \mathcal{T} z_2) &= \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}) \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow u_1 \preceq u_2,$$

where $z_1, z_2, u_1, u_2 \in \mathcal{A}$ (see [10]). Very recently, Pragadeeswarar et al. [27] defined the notion of proximal relation between two subsets of \mathcal{X} as follows:

Definition 5.1 ([27]). Let \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} be two nonempty subsets of a partially ordered metric space $(\mathcal{X}, d, \preceq)$ such that $\mathcal{A}_0 \neq \emptyset$. Let \mathcal{B}_1 and \mathcal{B}_2 be two nonempty subsets of \mathcal{B}_0 . The proximal relation between \mathcal{B}_1 and \mathcal{B}_2 is denoted and defined by $\mathcal{B}_1 \preceq_{(1)} \mathcal{B}_2$, if for every $b_1 \in \mathcal{B}_1$ with $d(a_1, b_1) = d(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$, there exists $b_2 \in \mathcal{B}_2$ with $d(a_2, b_2) = d(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ such that $a_1 \preceq a_2$.

Now we present our main results of this section.

Theorem 5.2. Let \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} be two nonempty closed subsets of a partially ordered complete metric space $(\mathcal{X}, d, \preceq)$ such that \mathcal{A}_0 is nonempty and $\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{S} : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow CL(\mathcal{B})$ be continuous mappings satisfying the following assertions for all $z_1, z_2 \in \mathcal{A}$ with $z_1 \preceq z_2$:

1. $H(\mathcal{T} z_1, \mathcal{S} z_2) \leq \psi(d(z_1, z_2))$;
2. $\mathcal{T} z, \mathcal{S} z \subseteq \mathcal{B}_0$ for each $z \in \mathcal{A}_0$ and $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ satisfies the weak P-property;
3. $z_1, z_2 \in \mathcal{A}_0, z_1 \preceq z_2$ implies $\mathcal{T} z_1 \preceq_{(1)} \mathcal{S} z_2$;

4. there exist $z_0, z_1, z_2 \in \mathcal{A}_0, y_1 \in \mathcal{T}z_0$ and $y_2 \in \mathcal{S}z_0$ such that

$$d(z_1, y_1) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}), \quad z_0 \preceq z_1$$

and

$$d(z_2, y_2) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}), \quad z_0 \preceq z_2.$$

Then \mathcal{T} and \mathcal{S} have a common best proximity point.

Proof. Define $\alpha, \eta : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ by

$$\alpha(z_1, z_2) = \begin{cases} 1 & z_1 \preceq z_2, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \quad \eta(z_1, z_2) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} & z_1 \preceq z_2, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Since $\mathcal{T}z_1 \preceq_{(1)} \mathcal{S}z_2$, therefore for $z_1, z_2, u_1, u_2 \in \mathcal{X}, y_1 \in \mathcal{T}z_1, y_2 \in \mathcal{S}z_2$ with

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \alpha(z_1, z_2) &\geq \eta(z_1, z_2) \\ d(u_1, y_1) &= \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}) \\ d(u_2, y_2) &= \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}) \end{aligned} \right\},$$

we have $u_1 \preceq u_2$. This implies that $\alpha(u_1, u_2) = 1 > \frac{1}{2} = \eta(u_1, u_2)$ for $z_1 \preceq z_2$ and $\alpha(u_1, u_2) = 0 = \eta(u_1, u_2)$ otherwise. Thus, all the conditions of Theorem 2.3 are satisfied and hence mappings \mathcal{T} and \mathcal{S} have a common best proximity point. \square

By considering $\mathcal{T} = \mathcal{S}$, Theorem 5.2 is reduced to the following:

Theorem 5.3. Let \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} be two nonempty closed subsets of a partially ordered complete metric space $(\mathcal{X}, d, \preceq)$ such that \mathcal{A}_0 is non-empty and $\mathcal{T} : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow CL(\mathcal{B})$ be a continuous mapping satisfying the following assertions for all $z_1, z_2 \in \mathcal{A}$ with $z_1 \preceq z_2$:

1. $H(\mathcal{T}z_1, \mathcal{T}z_2) \leq \psi(d(z_1, z_2))$;
2. $\mathcal{T}z \subseteq \mathcal{B}_0$ for each $z \in \mathcal{A}_0$ and $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ satisfies the weak P-property;
3. $z_1, z_2 \in \mathcal{A}_0, z_1 \preceq z_2$ implies $\mathcal{T}z_1 \preceq_{(1)} \mathcal{T}z_2$;
4. there exist $z_0, z_1 \in \mathcal{A}_0, y_1 \in \mathcal{T}z_0$ such that

$$d(z_1, y_1) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}), \quad z_0 \preceq z_1.$$

Then the mapping \mathcal{T} has a best proximity point.

Following the arguments in the proof of Theorem 5.2, we obtain the following result.

Theorem 5.4. Let \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} be two nonempty closed subsets of a partially ordered complete metric space $(\mathcal{X}, d, \preceq)$ such that \mathcal{A}_0 is nonempty and $\{\mathcal{T}_i : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow CL(\mathcal{B})\}_1^\infty$ be sequence of continuous mappings satisfying the following assertions for all $z_1, z_2 \in \mathcal{A}$ with $z_1 \preceq z_2$:

1. $H(\mathcal{T}_i z_1, \mathcal{T}_j z_2) \leq \psi(d(z_1, z_2))$ for each $i, j \in \mathbb{N}$;
2. $\mathcal{T}_i z \subseteq \mathcal{B}_0$ for each $z \in \mathcal{A}_0, i \in \mathbb{N}$ and $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ satisfies the weak P-property;
3. $z_1, z_2 \in \mathcal{A}_0, z_1 \preceq z_2$ implies $\mathcal{T}_i z_1 \preceq_{(1)} \mathcal{T}_j z_2$ for each $i, j \in \mathbb{N}$;
4. there exist $z_0, z_i \in \mathcal{A}_0$ and $y_i \in \mathcal{T}_i z_0$ for each $i \in \mathbb{N}$ such that

$$d(z_i, y_i) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}), \quad z_0 \preceq z_i.$$

Then the mappings \mathcal{T}_i have a common best proximity point.

For single valued mappings, from Theorems 5.2-5.4 we obtain the following results.

Theorem 5.5. Let \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} be two nonempty closed subsets of a partially ordered complete metric space $(\mathcal{X}, d, \preceq)$ such that \mathcal{A}_0 is nonempty and $\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{S} : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$ be continuous mappings satisfying the following assertions for all $z_1, z_2 \in \mathcal{A}$ with $z_1 \preceq z_2$:

1. $d(\mathcal{T}z_1, \mathcal{S}z_2) \leq \psi(d(z_1, z_2))$;
2. $\mathcal{T}z, \mathcal{S}z \subseteq \mathcal{B}_0$ for each $z \in \mathcal{A}_0$ and $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ satisfies the weak P -property;
3. $z_1, z_2 \in \mathcal{A}_0$ $z_1 \preceq z_2$ implies $\mathcal{T}z_1 \preceq \mathcal{S}z_2$;
4. there exist $z_0, z_1, z_2 \in \mathcal{A}_0$ such that

$$d(z_1, \mathcal{T}z_0) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}), \quad z_0 \preceq z_1$$

and

$$d(z_2, \mathcal{T}z_0) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}), \quad z_0 \preceq z_2.$$

Then \mathcal{T} and \mathcal{S} have a common best proximity point.

Theorem 5.6. Let \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} be two nonempty closed subsets of a partially ordered complete metric space $(\mathcal{X}, d, \preceq)$ such that \mathcal{A}_0 is non-empty and $\mathcal{T} : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$ be a continuous mapping satisfying the following assertions for all $z_1, z_2 \in \mathcal{A}$ with $z_1 \preceq z_2$:

1. $d(\mathcal{T}z_1, \mathcal{T}z_2) \leq \psi(d(z_1, z_2))$;
2. $\mathcal{T}z \subseteq \mathcal{B}_0$ for each $z \in \mathcal{A}_0$ and $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ satisfies the weak P -property;
3. $z_1, z_2 \in \mathcal{A}_0$, $z_1 \preceq z_2$ implies $\mathcal{T}z_1 \preceq \mathcal{T}z_2$;
4. there exist $z_0, z_1 \in \mathcal{A}_0$ such that

$$d(z_1, \mathcal{T}z_0) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}), \quad z_0 \preceq z_1.$$

Then \mathcal{T} has a best proximity point.

Theorem 5.7. Let \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} be two nonempty closed subsets of a partially ordered complete metric space $(\mathcal{X}, d, \preceq)$ such that \mathcal{A}_0 is nonempty and $\{\mathcal{T}_i : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}\}_1^\infty$ be sequence of continuous mappings satisfying the following assertions for all $z_1, z_2 \in \mathcal{A}$ with $z_1 \preceq z_2$:

1. $d(\mathcal{T}_i z_1, \mathcal{T}_j z_2) \leq \psi(d(z_1, z_2))$ for each $i, j \in \mathbb{N}$;
2. $\mathcal{T}_i z \subseteq \mathcal{B}_0$ for each $z \in \mathcal{A}_0$, $i \in \mathbb{N}$ and $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ satisfies the weak P -property;
3. $z_1, z_2 \in \mathcal{A}_0$, $z_1 \preceq z_2$ implies $\mathcal{T}_i z_1 \preceq \mathcal{T}_j z_2$ for each $i, j \in \mathbb{N}$;
4. there exist $z_0, z_i \in \mathcal{A}_0$ for each $i \in \mathbb{N}$ such that

$$d(z_i, \mathcal{T}_i z_0) = \text{dist}(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}), \quad z_0 \preceq z_i.$$

Then the mappings \mathcal{T}_i have a common best proximity point.

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