

## ON SOME FIXED POINT RESULTS FOR $(\alpha, \beta, \mathcal{Z})$ -CONTRACTION MAPPINGS IN PARTIAL $b$ -METRIC SPACES VIA SIMULATION FUNCTIONS

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**ABSTRACT.** In the present work, our aim is to examine some fixed point theorems using  $(\alpha, \beta, \mathcal{Z})$ -contraction mappings in the framework of complete partial  $b$ -metric spaces under cyclic  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -admissible mapping imbedded in simulation function. Some consequences of main results are also deduced. We present some examples to illustrate and support our results. The results obtained in this work provide extension as well as substantial generalization and improvement of several well-known fixed point results from the existing literature.

### 1. Introduction

*Bakhtin* [5] and *Czerwik* [9] introduced  $b$ -metric spaces as a generalization of metric spaces (see, also [10]). They proved the contraction mapping principle in  $b$ -metric spaces that generalized the well-known Banach contraction principle in such spaces. *Matthews* (see, [14, 15]) introduced the notion of partial metric spaces as a part of the study of denotational semantics of data flow networks. In this space, the usual metric is replaced by partial metric with an interesting property that the self-distance of any point of space may not be zero. Further, *Matthews* showed that the Banach contraction principle [6] is valid in partial metric space. *Shukla* [26] generalized both the notions of  $b$ -metric and partial metric spaces by introducing partial  $b$ -metric spaces. He proved Banach contraction principle as well as the Kannan type fixed point theorem in partial  $b$ -metric spaces. Also some examples are given which illustrate the results obtained in this new space.

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Recently, *Samet et al.* [24] proved a generalization of Banach contraction principle by introducing the concept of  $(\alpha - \psi)$  contractive type mappings and  $\alpha$ -admissible mappings. The notion of cyclic  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -admissible mapping was introduced by *Alizadeh et al.* [1] by generalizing the concept of  $\alpha$ -admissible mapping of *Samet et al.* [24]. They proved various fixed point theorems in the framework of metric spaces. Also, *Khojasteh et al.* [12] introduced the notion of  $\mathcal{Z}$ -contraction by defining the concept of simulation function. Consequently, they proved the existence and uniqueness of fixed point for  $\mathcal{Z}$ -contractive mappings (see [12], Theorem 2.8). The concept of *Khojasteh et al.* [12] is further modified by *Argoubi et al.* [2]. They proved the existence of common fixed point results of a pair of nonlinear operators satisfying a certain contractive condition involving simulation functions in the setting of ordered metric spaces. Later on, several authors studied the existence of fixed point by using the simulation function, for example see [2–4, 7, 8, 11, 13, 17–23, 25, 27] and many others).

In this work, we consider  $(\alpha, \beta, \mathcal{Z})$ -contraction mappings under simulation functions involving cyclic  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -admissibility in partial  $b$ -metric space. Using the above said contractions, we establish some fixed point results. The results obtained in this work generalize and extend the corresponding results of [8] and [19] from metric space to the setting of partial  $b$ -metric space.

## 2. Preliminaries

In this section, we need the following concepts to prove our main results.

DEFINITION 2.1. ([5]) Let  $\Lambda_b \neq \emptyset$  be a set and the mapping  $\rho_b: \Lambda_b \times \Lambda_b \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  ( $\mathbb{R}^+$  stands for nonnegative reals) satisfies:

( $\rho_{b1}$ )  $\rho_b(\lambda_b, \mu_b) = 0$  if and only if  $\lambda_b = \mu_b$  for all  $\lambda_b, \mu_b \in \Lambda_b$ ;

( $\rho_{b2}$ )  $\rho_b(\lambda_b, \mu_b) = \rho_b(\mu_b, \lambda_b)$  for all  $\lambda_b, \mu_b \in \Lambda_b$ ;

( $\rho_{b3}$ ) there exists a real number  $s \geq 1$  such that  $\rho_b(\lambda_b, \mu_b) \leq s[\rho_b(\lambda_b, \nu_b) + \rho_b(\nu_b, \mu_b)]$  for all  $\lambda_b, \mu_b, \nu_b \in \Lambda_b$ .

Then  $\rho_b$  is called a  $b$ -metric on  $\Lambda_b$  and the pair  $(\Lambda_b, \rho_b)$  is called a  $b$ -metric space with coefficient  $s$ .

DEFINITION 2.2. ([15]) A partial metric on a nonempty set  $\Upsilon_p$  is a function  $p: \Upsilon_p \times \Upsilon_p \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  ( $\mathbb{R}^+$  stands for nonnegative reals), such that for all  $\lambda_p, \mu_p, \nu_p \in \Upsilon_p$ :

( $p_1$ )  $\lambda_p = \mu_p$  if and only if  $p(\lambda_p, \lambda_p) = p(\lambda_p, \mu_p) = p(\mu_p, \mu_p)$ ;

( $p_2$ )  $p(\lambda_p, \lambda_p) \leq p(\lambda_p, \mu_p)$ ;

( $p_3$ )  $p(\lambda_p, \mu_p) = p(\mu_p, \lambda_p)$ ;

( $p_4$ )  $p(\lambda_p, \mu_p) \leq p(\lambda_p, \nu_p) + p(\nu_p, \mu_p) - p(\nu_p, \nu_p)$ .

A partial metric space is a pair  $(\Upsilon_p, p)$  such that  $\Upsilon_p$  is a nonempty set and  $p$  is a partial metric on  $\Upsilon_p$ .

DEFINITION 2.3. ([26]) A partial  $b$ -metric on a nonempty set  $\Phi_{p_b}$  is a function  $p_b: \Phi_{p_b} \times \Phi_{p_b} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  such that for all  $\zeta, \eta, \theta \in \Phi_{p_b}$ :

( $p_{b1}$ )  $\zeta = \eta$  if and only if  $p_b(\zeta, \zeta) = p_b(\zeta, \eta) = p_b(\eta, \eta)$ ;

( $p_{b2}$ )  $p_b(\zeta, \zeta) \leq p_b(\zeta, \eta)$ ;

$(p_{b3}) p_b(\zeta, \eta) = p_b(\eta, \zeta);$

$(p_{b4})$  there exists a real number  $s \geq 1$  such that  $p_b(\zeta, \eta) \leq s[p_b(\zeta, \theta) + p_b(\theta, \eta)] - p_b(\theta, \theta).$

A partial  $b$ -metric space is a pair  $(\Phi_{p_b}, p_b)$  such that  $\Phi_{p_b}$  is a nonempty set and  $p_b$  is a partial  $b$ -metric on  $\Phi_{p_b}$ . The number  $s$  is called the coefficient of  $(\Phi_{p_b}, p_b)$ .

REMARK 2.1. In a partial  $b$ -metric space  $(\Phi_{p_b}, p_b)$  if  $\zeta, \eta \in \Phi_{p_b}$  and  $p_b(\zeta, \eta) = 0$ , then  $\zeta = \eta$ , but the converse may not be true.

REMARK 2.2. It is clear that every partial metric space is a partial  $b$ -metric space with coefficient  $s = 1$  and every  $b$ -metric space is a partial  $b$ -metric space with the same coefficient and zero self-distance. However, the converse of this fact need not hold.

EXAMPLE 2.1. ([26]) Let  $\Phi_{p_b} = \mathbb{R}^+$ , where  $\mathbb{R}^+ = [0, +\infty)$ ,  $m > 1$  a constant and  $p_b: \Phi_{p_b} \times \Phi_{p_b} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  be defined by

$$p_b(\zeta, \eta) = [\max\{\zeta, \eta\}]^m + |\zeta - \eta|^m \quad \text{for all } \zeta, \eta \in \Phi_{p_b}.$$

Then  $(\Phi_{p_b}, p_b)$  is a partial  $b$ -metric space with coefficient  $s = 2^m > 1$ , but it is neither a  $b$ -metric nor a partial metric space. Indeed, for any  $\zeta > 0$ , we have  $p_b(\zeta, \zeta) = \zeta^m \neq 0$ ; therefore,  $p_b$  is not a  $b$ -metric on  $\Phi_{p_b}$ . Also, for  $\zeta = 5$ ,  $\eta = 1$ ,  $\theta = 4$  we have  $p_b(\zeta, \eta) = 5^m + 4^m$  and  $p_b(\zeta, \theta) + p_b(\theta, \eta) - p_b(\theta, \theta) = 5^m + 1 + 4^m + 3^m - 4^m = 5^m + 1 + 3^m$ , so  $p_b(\zeta, \eta) > p_b(\zeta, \theta) + p_b(\theta, \eta) - p_b(\theta, \theta)$  for all  $m > 1$ ; therefore,  $p_b$  is not a partial metric on  $\Phi_{p_b}$ .

Every partial  $b$ -metric "  $p_b$  " on a nonempty set  $\Phi_{p_b}$  generates a topology  $\tau_{p_b}$  on  $\Phi_{p_b}$  whose base is the family of open  $p_b$ -balls where  $\tau_{p_b} = \{B_{p_b}(\zeta, \varepsilon) : \zeta \in \Phi_{p_b}, \varepsilon > 0\}$  and

$$B_{p_b}(\zeta, \varepsilon) = \{\eta \in \Phi_{p_b} : p_b(\zeta, \eta) < p_b(\zeta, \zeta) + \varepsilon\},$$

for all  $\zeta \in \Phi_{p_b}$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Obviously, the topological space  $(\Phi_{p_b}, \tau_{p_b})$  is  $T_0$ , but need not be  $T_1$ .

Now we recall the definition of Cauchy sequence and convergent sequence in partial  $b$ -metric spaces.

DEFINITION 2.4. ([26]) Let  $(\Phi_{p_b}, p_b)$  be a partial  $b$ -metric space with coefficient  $s$ . Then:

(1) a sequence  $\{\zeta_n\}$  in  $(\Phi_{p_b}, p_b)$  is said to be convergent with respect to  $\tau_{p_b}$  and converges to a point  $\zeta \in \Phi_{p_b}$ , if  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p_b(\zeta_n, \zeta) = p_b(\zeta, \zeta);$

(2) a sequence  $\{\zeta_n\}$  is said to be Cauchy sequence in  $(\Phi_{p_b}, p_b)$  if  $\lim_{n, m \rightarrow \infty} p_b(\zeta_n, \zeta_m)$  exists and is finite.

(3)  $(\Phi_{p_b}, p_b)$  is said to be a complete partial  $b$ -metric space if for every Cauchy sequence  $\{\zeta_n\}$  in  $\Phi_{p_b}$  there exists  $\zeta \in \Phi_{p_b}$  such that

$$\lim_{n, m \rightarrow \infty} p_b(\zeta_n, \zeta_m) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p_b(\zeta_n, \zeta) = p_b(\zeta, \zeta).$$

(4) A mapping  $\mathcal{F}: \Phi_{p_b} \rightarrow \Phi_{p_b}$  is said to be continuous at  $\zeta_0 \in \Phi_{p_b}$  if for every  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that  $\mathcal{F}(B_{p_b}(\zeta_0, \delta)) \subset B_{p_b}(\mathcal{F}(\zeta_0), \varepsilon).$

**Note:** In a partial  $b$ -metric space the limit of convergent sequence may not be unique.

EXAMPLE 2.2. ([26]) Let  $\Phi_{p_b} = \mathbb{R}^+$ , where  $\mathbb{R}^+ = [0, +\infty)$ ,  $k > 0$  be any constant and define  $p_b: \Phi_{p_b} \times \Phi_{p_b} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  by

$$p_b(\zeta, \eta) = \max\{\zeta, \eta\} + k \quad \text{for all } \zeta, \eta \in \Phi_{p_b}.$$

Then  $(\Phi_{p_b}, p_b)$  is a partial  $b$ -metric space with arbitrary coefficient  $s \geq 1$ . Now, define a sequence  $\{\zeta_n\}$  in  $\Phi_{p_b}$  by  $\zeta_n = 1$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Note that, if  $\eta \geq 1$ , we have  $p_b(\zeta_n, \eta) = \eta + k = p_b(\eta, \eta)$ ; therefore,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p_b(\zeta_n, \eta) = p_b(\eta, \eta)$  for all  $\eta \geq 1$ . Thus, the limit of convergent sequence in partial  $b$ -metric space need not be unique.

Samet et al. [24] introduced the concept of  $\alpha$ -admissible mappings.

DEFINITION 2.5. ([24]) Let  $\Phi \neq \emptyset$  be a set. Let  $T: \Phi \rightarrow \Phi$  and  $\alpha: \Phi \times \Phi \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$  be given mappings. We say that  $T$  is  $\alpha$ -admissible if for all  $\zeta, \eta \in \Phi$ , we have

$$(2.1) \quad \alpha(\zeta, \eta) \geq 1 \Rightarrow \alpha(T(\zeta), T(\eta)) \geq 1.$$

Alizadeh et al. [1] introduced the concept of cyclic  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -admissible mappings.

DEFINITION 2.6. ([1]) Let  $\Phi \neq \emptyset$  be a set, let  $T: \Phi \rightarrow \Phi$  be a mapping and  $\alpha, \beta: \Phi \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$  be given mappings. We say that  $T$  is a cyclic  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -admissible mapping if for all  $\zeta \in \Phi$ , we have

$$\alpha(\zeta) \geq 1 \Rightarrow \beta(T(\zeta)) \geq 1,$$

and

$$(2.2) \quad \beta(\zeta) \geq 1 \Rightarrow \alpha(T(\zeta)) \geq 1.$$

In 2015, Khojasteh et al. [12] introduced simulation functions and defined  $\mathcal{Z}$ -contraction with respect to simulation function and it includes large class of contractive conditions as follows.

DEFINITION 2.7. ([12]) A simulation function is a mapping  $\Omega: [0, \infty) \times [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  satisfying the following conditions:

$$(\Omega_1) \quad \Omega(0, 0) = 0;$$

$$(\Omega_2) \quad \Omega(t, s) < s - t \text{ for all } t, s > 0;$$

( $\Omega_3$ ) if  $\{t_n\}$  and  $\{s_n\}$  are sequences in  $(0, \infty)$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} t_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = l > 0$ , then

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \Omega(t_n, s_n) < 0.$$

The following are examples of simulation functions.

EXAMPLE 2.3. Let  $\Omega: [0, \infty) \times [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be defined by:

$$(1) \quad \Omega(t, s) = \frac{s}{1+s} - t \text{ for all } s, t \in [0, \infty).$$

$$(2) \quad \Omega(t, s) = \lambda s - t \text{ for all } s, t \in [0, \infty), \text{ where } \lambda \in [0, 1).$$

$$(3) \quad \Omega(t, s) = s - \lambda t \text{ for all } s, t \in [0, \infty), \text{ where } \lambda > 1.$$

$$(4) \quad \Omega(t, s) = \frac{1}{s+1} - (t+1) \text{ for all } s, t \in [0, \infty).$$

$$(5) \quad \Omega(t, s) = \frac{s}{s+1} - te^t \text{ for all } s, t \in [0, \infty).$$

(6)  $\Omega(t, s) = \frac{k}{r}s - t$  for all  $s, t \in [0, \infty)$  where  $k \in [0, 1)$  and  $r \in (1, \infty)$ .

(7)  $\Omega(t, s) = \psi(s) - \phi(t)$  for all  $t, s \in [0, \infty)$  where  $\psi, \phi: [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  such that  $\psi(r) = \phi(r) = 0$  if and only if  $r = 0$  and  $\psi(t) < t < \phi(t)$  for all  $t > 0$ .

DEFINITION 2.8. ([12]) Let  $(\Phi, \sigma)$  be a metric space and let  $\mathcal{T}: \Phi \rightarrow \Phi$  be a self-mapping of  $\Phi$ . We say that  $\mathcal{T}$  is a  $\mathcal{Z}$ -contraction with respect to  $\Omega$ , if there exists a simulation function  $\mathcal{Z}$  such that

$$(2.3) \quad \Omega\left(\sigma(\mathcal{T}\zeta, \mathcal{T}\eta), \sigma(\zeta, \eta)\right) \geq 0,$$

for all  $\zeta, \eta \in \Phi$ .

REMARK 2.3. ([12]) Every  $\mathcal{Z}$ -contraction mapping is contractive and therefore it is continuous.

It is worth mentioning that the Banach contraction is an example of  $\mathcal{Z}$ -contraction by defining  $\zeta: [0, \infty) \times [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  via  $\zeta(t, s) = \lambda s - t$  for all  $t, s \in [0, \infty)$ , where  $\lambda \in [0, 1)$ .

Argoubi et al. [2] slightly modified the definition of [12] as follows.

DEFINITION 2.9. ([2]) A simulation function is a mapping  $\Omega: [0, \infty) \times [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  satisfying the following conditions:

( $\Omega 1$ )  $\Omega(t, s) < s - t$  for all  $t, s > 0$ ;

( $\Omega 2$ ) if  $\{t_n\}$  and  $\{s_n\}$  are sequences in  $(0, \infty)$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} t_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = l > 0$ , then

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \Omega(t_n, s_n) < 0.$$

It is clear that any simulation function in the sense of Khojasteh et al. [12] is also a simulation function in the sense of Argoubi et al. [2]. The following example is a simulation function in the sense of Argoubi et al. [2].

EXAMPLE 2.4. Let  $\Omega_\lambda: [0, \infty) \times [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be the function defined by

$$\Omega_\lambda(t, s) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } (t, s) = (0, 0), \\ \lambda s - t, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

where  $\lambda \in (0, 1)$ . Then  $\Omega_\lambda$  is a simulation function.

LEMMA 2.1. ([12], Lemma 2.5) Let  $(\Phi, \sigma)$  be a metric space and  $\mathcal{T}: \Phi \rightarrow \Phi$  be a  $\mathcal{Z}$ -contraction with respect to  $\Omega \in \mathcal{Z}$ . Then the fixed point of  $\mathcal{T}$  is unique, if it exists.

LEMMA 2.2. ([16], Lemma 1)

(1) A sequence  $\{\zeta_n\}$  is a  $p_b$ -Cauchy sequence in a partial  $b$ -metric space  $(\Phi_{p_b}, p_b)$  if and only if it is a  $b$ -Cauchy sequence in the  $b$ -metric space  $(\Phi_{p_b}, \sigma_{p_b})$ .

(2) A partial  $b$ -metric space  $(\Phi_{p_b}, p_b)$  is complete if and only if the  $b$ -metric space  $(\Phi_{p_b}, \sigma_{p_b})$  is  $b$ -complete. Moreover,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sigma_{p_b}(\zeta, \zeta_n) = 0$  if and only if

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p_b(\zeta, \zeta_n) = \lim_{n, m \rightarrow \infty} p_b(\zeta_n, \zeta_m) = p_b(\zeta, \zeta).$$

PROPOSITION 2.1. ([16], Proposition 3) Every partial  $b$ -metric space  $(\Phi_{p_b}, p_b)$  defines a  $b$ -metric  $\sigma_{p_b}$ , where

$$\sigma_{p_b}(\zeta, \eta) = 2p_b(\zeta, \eta) - p_b(\zeta, \zeta) - p_b(\eta, \eta),$$

for all  $\zeta, \eta \in \Phi_{p_b}$ .

### 3. Main results

Firstly, we introduce the following definition.

DEFINITION 3.1. Let  $(\Phi_{p_b}, p_b)$  be a complete partial  $b$ -metric space with arbitrary coefficient  $s \geq 1$ , let  $\mathcal{K}: \Phi_{p_b} \rightarrow \Phi_{p_b}$  be a mapping and  $\alpha, \beta: \Phi_{p_b} \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$  be two functions. Then  $\mathcal{K}$  is said to be a  $(\alpha, \beta, \mathcal{Z})$ -contraction mapping, if it satisfies the following conditions:

- (1)  $\mathcal{K}$  is cyclic  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -admissible,
- (2) there exists a simulation function  $\Omega \in \mathcal{Z}$  such that

$$(3.1) \quad \Omega\left(p_b(\mathcal{K}(\zeta), \mathcal{K}(\eta)), \Delta_p^b(\zeta, \eta)\right) \geq 0,$$

for all  $\zeta, \eta \in \Phi_{p_b}$ , where

$$\Delta_p^b(\zeta, \eta) = \max \left\{ p_b(\zeta, \eta), p_b(\zeta, \mathcal{K}\zeta), p_b(\eta, \mathcal{K}\eta), \frac{p_b(\zeta, \mathcal{K}\zeta) + p_b(\eta, \mathcal{K}\eta)}{2s} \right\}.$$

Now, we are ready to prove our main result.

THEOREM 3.1. Let  $(\Phi_{p_b}, p_b)$  be a complete partial  $b$ -metric space with coefficient  $s \geq 1$ ,  $\mathcal{K}: \Phi_{p_b} \rightarrow \Phi_{p_b}$  be a mapping and  $\alpha, \beta: \Phi_{p_b} \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$  be two functions. Suppose that the following conditions hold:

- (1)  $\mathcal{K}$  is a  $(\alpha, \beta, \mathcal{Z})$ -contraction mapping.
- (2) There exists an element  $\zeta_0 \in \Phi_{p_b}$  such that  $\alpha(\zeta_0) \geq 1$  and  $\beta(\zeta_0) \geq 1$ .
- (3)  $\mathcal{K}$  is continuous.

Then  $\mathcal{K}$  has a fixed point  $\tau \in \Phi_{p_b}$  and  $p_b(\tau, \tau) = 0$ .

PROOF. Assume that there exists  $\zeta_0 \in \Phi_{p_b}$  such that  $\alpha(\zeta_0) \geq 1$ . We divide the proof of Theorem 3.1 into the following three steps:

**Step 1.** Define a sequence  $\{\zeta_n\}$  in  $\Phi_{p_b}$  such that  $\zeta_{n+1} = \mathcal{K}\zeta_n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ . If  $\zeta_n = \zeta_{n+1}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ , then  $\mathcal{K}$  has a fixed point and the proof is finished. So, we assume that  $\zeta_n \neq \zeta_{n+1}$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ , that is,  $p_b(\zeta_n, \zeta_{n+1}) \neq 0$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ . Since  $\mathcal{K}$  is cyclic  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -admissible mapping,  $\alpha(\zeta_0) \geq 1$  and  $\beta(\zeta_0) \geq 1$ ,

$$\beta(\zeta_1) = \beta(\mathcal{K}\zeta_0) \geq 1.$$

It implies that

$$\alpha(\zeta_2) = \alpha(\mathcal{K}\zeta_1) \geq 1.$$

And also, we have

$$\alpha(\zeta_1) = \alpha(\mathcal{K}\zeta_0) \geq 1.$$

It implies that

$$\beta(\zeta_2) = \beta(\mathcal{K}\zeta_1) \geq 1.$$

By continuing the same process as above, we have  $\alpha(\zeta_n) \geq 1$  and  $\beta(\zeta_n) \geq 1$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ . Thus  $\alpha(\zeta_n)\beta(\zeta_{n+1}) \geq 1$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ . Therefore, we obtain

$$(3.2) \quad \Omega\left(p_b(\mathcal{K}(\zeta_n), \mathcal{K}(\zeta_{n+1})), \Delta_p^b(\zeta_n, \zeta_{n+1})\right) \geq 0,$$

for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , where

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_p^b(\zeta_n, \zeta_{n+1}) &= \max \left\{ p_b(\zeta_n, \zeta_{n+1}), p_b(\zeta_n, \mathcal{K}\zeta_n), p_b(\zeta_{n+1}, \mathcal{K}\zeta_{n+1}), \right. \\ &\quad \left. \frac{p_b(\zeta_n, \mathcal{K}\zeta_n) + p_b(\zeta_{n+1}, \mathcal{K}\zeta_n)}{2s} \right\} \\ &= \max \left\{ p_b(\zeta_n, \zeta_{n+1}), p_b(\zeta_n, \zeta_{n+1}), p_b(\zeta_{n+1}, \zeta_{n+2}), \right. \\ &\quad \left. \frac{p_b(\zeta_n, \zeta_{n+1}) + p_b(\zeta_{n+1}, \zeta_{n+1})}{2s} \right\} \\ &= \max \left\{ p_b(\zeta_n, \zeta_{n+1}), p_b(\zeta_n, \zeta_{n+1}), p_b(\zeta_{n+1}, \zeta_{n+2}), \right. \\ &\quad \left. \frac{p_b(\zeta_n, \zeta_{n+1}) + p_b(\zeta_{n+1}, \zeta_{n+1})}{2s} \right\} \\ &= \max \left\{ p_b(\zeta_n, \zeta_{n+1}), p_b(\zeta_{n+1}, \zeta_{n+2}) \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$(3.3) \quad \Omega\left(p_b(\zeta_{n+1}, \zeta_{n+2}), \max \left\{ p_b(\zeta_n, \zeta_{n+1}), p_b(\zeta_{n+1}, \zeta_{n+2}) \right\}\right) \geq 0.$$

Condition  $(\Omega_2)$  of Definition 2.7 implies that

$$(3.4) \quad \begin{aligned} 0 &\leq \Omega\left(p_b(\zeta_{n+1}, \zeta_{n+2}), \max \left\{ p_b(\zeta_n, \zeta_{n+1}), p_b(\zeta_{n+1}, \zeta_{n+2}) \right\}\right) \\ &< \max \left\{ p_b(\zeta_n, \zeta_{n+1}), p_b(\zeta_{n+1}, \zeta_{n+2}) \right\} - p_b(\zeta_{n+1}, \zeta_{n+2}). \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we conclude that

$$(3.5) \quad p_b(\zeta_{n+1}, \zeta_{n+2}) < \max \left\{ p_b(\zeta_n, \zeta_{n+1}), p_b(\zeta_{n+1}, \zeta_{n+2}) \right\},$$

for all  $n \geq 1$ . From equation (3.5), we have

$$(3.6) \quad p_b(\zeta_{n+1}, \zeta_{n+2}) < p_b(\zeta_n, \zeta_{n+1}) \quad \text{for all } n \geq 1.$$

It follows that the sequence  $\{p_b(\zeta_n, \zeta_{n+1})\}$  is non-increasing. Therefore, there exists a constant  $c \geq 0$  such that

$$(3.7) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p_b(\zeta_n, \zeta_{n+1}) = c.$$

If  $c \neq 0$ , that is, if  $c > 0$ , then by condition  $(\Omega_2)$  of Definition 2.7, we obtain

$$(3.8) \quad 0 \leq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \Omega\left(p_b(\zeta_n, \zeta_{n+1}), p_b(\zeta_{n+1}, \zeta_{n+2})\right) < 0,$$

which is a contradiction. This implies that  $c = 0$ , that is,

$$(3.9) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p_b(\zeta_n, \zeta_{n+1}) = 0.$$

**Step 2.** Now, we show that  $\{\zeta_n\}$  is a partial  $b$ -Cauchy sequence in  $\Phi_{p_b}$ . For this, we have to show that  $\{\zeta_n\}$  is a  $b$ -Cauchy sequence in  $(\Phi_{p_b}, \sigma_{p_b})$ . Suppose the contrary; that is,  $\{\zeta_n\}$  is not a  $b$ -Cauchy sequence. Then there exists  $\varepsilon > 0$  for which we can find two subsequences  $\{\zeta_{n(k)}\}$  and  $\{\zeta_{m(k)}\}$  of  $\{\zeta_n\}$  such that  $m(k)$  is the smallest index for which

$$(3.10) \quad m(k) > n(k) > k, \quad \sigma_{p_b}(\zeta_{n(k)}, \zeta_{m(k)}) \geq \varepsilon.$$

This means that

$$(3.11) \quad \sigma_{p_b}(\zeta_{n(k)}, \zeta_{m(k)-1}) < \varepsilon.$$

From equation (3.10) and using the triangular inequality, we have

$$(3.12) \quad \begin{aligned} \varepsilon &\leq \sigma_{p_b}(\zeta_{n(k)}, \zeta_{m(k)}) \\ &\leq s[\sigma_{p_b}(\zeta_{n(k)}, \zeta_{m(k)-1}) + \sigma_{p_b}(\zeta_{m(k)-1}, \zeta_{m(k)})] \\ &\quad - \sigma_{p_b}(\zeta_{m(k)-1}, \zeta_{m(k)-1}) \\ &\leq s[\sigma_{p_b}(\zeta_{n(k)}, \zeta_{m(k)-1}) + \sigma_{p_b}(\zeta_{m(k)-1}, \zeta_{m(k)})]. \end{aligned}$$

Taking the limit as  $k \rightarrow \infty$  in the above inequality and using equations (3.9) and (3.12), we get

$$(3.13) \quad \frac{\varepsilon}{s} \leq \liminf_{k \rightarrow \infty} \sigma_{p_b}(\zeta_{n(k)}, \zeta_{m(k)-1}) \leq \limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} \sigma_{p_b}(\zeta_{n(k)}, \zeta_{m(k)-1}) \leq \varepsilon.$$

Also from (3.12) and (3.13), we have

$$(3.14) \quad \varepsilon \leq \limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} \sigma_{p_b}(\zeta_{n(k)}, \zeta_{m(k)}) \leq s\varepsilon.$$

Further,

$$\sigma_{p_b}(\zeta_{n(k)}, \zeta_{m(k)+1}) \leq s\sigma_{p_b}(\zeta_{n(k)}, \zeta_{m(k)}) + s\sigma_{p_b}(\zeta_{m(k)}, \zeta_{m(k)+1}),$$

and hence

$$(3.15) \quad \limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} \sigma_{p_b}(\zeta_{n(k)}, \zeta_{m(k)+1}) \leq s^2\varepsilon.$$

Again,

$$\sigma_{p_b}(\zeta_{n(k)-1}, \zeta_{m(k)+1}) \leq s\sigma_{p_b}(\zeta_{n(k)-1}, \zeta_{m(k)}) + s\sigma_{p_b}(\zeta_{m(k)}, \zeta_{m(k)+1}),$$

and hence

$$(3.16) \quad \limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} \sigma_{p_b}(\zeta_{n(k)-1}, \zeta_{m(k)+1}) \leq s\varepsilon.$$

Again, we have

$$\sigma_{p_b}(\zeta_{n(k)-1}, \zeta_{m(k)-1}) \leq s\sigma_{p_b}(\zeta_{n(k)-1}, \zeta_{n(k)}) + s\sigma_{p_b}(\zeta_{n(k)}, \zeta_{m(k)-1}),$$

and hence

$$(3.17) \quad \limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} \sigma_{p_b}(\zeta_{n(k)-1}, \zeta_{m(k)-1}) \leq s\varepsilon.$$



Finally, we have

$$\sigma_{p_b}(\zeta_{n(k)}, \zeta_{m(k)-1}) \leq s\sigma_{p_b}(\zeta_{n(k)}, \zeta_{n(k)-1}) + s\sigma_{p_b}(\zeta_{n(k)-1}, \zeta_{m(k)-1}),$$

and hence

$$(3.18) \quad \limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} \sigma_{p_b}(\zeta_{n(k)}, \zeta_{m(k)-1}) \leq s^2\varepsilon.$$

On the other hand, by the definition of  $\sigma_{p_b}$  and (3.9),

$$\limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} \sigma_{p_b}(\zeta_{n(k)-1}, \zeta_{m(k)}) = 2 \limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} p_b(\zeta_{n(k)-1}, \zeta_{m(k)}).$$

Hence by equation (3.13), we have

$$(3.19) \quad \frac{\varepsilon}{2s} \leq \liminf_{k \rightarrow \infty} p_b(\zeta_{n(k)-1}, \zeta_{m(k)}) \leq \limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} p_b(\zeta_{n(k)-1}, \zeta_{m(k)}) \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{2}.$$

Likewise,

$$(3.20) \quad \limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} p_b(\zeta_{n(k)}, \zeta_{m(k)}) \leq \frac{s\varepsilon}{2},$$

$$(3.21) \quad \frac{\varepsilon}{2s} \leq \limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} p_b(\zeta_{n(k)}, \zeta_{m(k)+1}),$$

$$(3.22) \quad \limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} p_b(\zeta_{n(k)-1}, \zeta_{m(k)+1}) \leq \frac{s\varepsilon}{2},$$

$$(3.23) \quad \limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} p_b(\zeta_{n(k)-1}, \zeta_{m(k)-1}) \leq \frac{s\varepsilon}{2},$$

$$(3.24) \quad \limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} p_b(\zeta_{n(k)}, \zeta_{m(k)-1}) \leq \frac{s^2\varepsilon}{2}.$$

Since  $\alpha(\zeta_n) \geq 1$  and  $\beta(\zeta_n) \geq 1$  for all  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ , we conclude that

$$(3.25) \quad \alpha(\zeta_{n(k)-1})\beta(\zeta_{m(k)-1}) \geq 1.$$

Since  $\mathcal{K}$  is a  $(\alpha, \beta, \mathcal{Z})$ -contraction. Hence from equation (3.1), we have

$$(3.26) \quad \Omega\left(p_b(\mathcal{K}(\zeta_{n(k)-1}), \mathcal{K}(\zeta_{m(k)-1})), \Delta_p^b(\zeta_{n(k)-1}, \zeta_{m(k)-1})\right) \geq 0,$$

where

$$(3.27) \quad \begin{aligned} \Delta_p^b(\zeta_{n(k)-1}, \zeta_{m(k)-1}) &= \max \left\{ p_b(\zeta_{n(k)-1}, \zeta_{m(k)-1}), p_b(\zeta_{n(k)-1}, \mathcal{K}\zeta_{n(k)-1}), \right. \\ &\quad p_b(\zeta_{m(k)-1}, \mathcal{K}\zeta_{m(k)-1}), \\ &\quad \left. \frac{p_b(\zeta_{n(k)-1}, \mathcal{K}\zeta_{n(k)-1}) + p_b(\zeta_{m(k)-1}, \mathcal{K}\zeta_{m(k)-1})}{2s} \right\} \\ &= \max \left\{ p_b(\zeta_{n(k)-1}, \zeta_{m(k)-1}), p_b(\zeta_{n(k)-1}, \zeta_{n(k)}), \right. \\ &\quad p_b(\zeta_{m(k)-1}, \zeta_{m(k)}), \\ &\quad \left. \frac{p_b(\zeta_{n(k)-1}, \zeta_{n(k)}) + p_b(\zeta_{m(k)-1}, \zeta_{m(k)})}{2s} \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Taking the upper limit as  $k \rightarrow \infty$  in equation (3.27) and using equations (3.9), (3.23) and (3.24), we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 \limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} \Delta_p^b(\zeta_{n(k)-1}, \zeta_{m(k)-1}) &= \max \left\{ \limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} p_b(\zeta_{n(k)-1}, \zeta_{m(k)-1}), 0, 0, \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \frac{0 + \limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} p_b(\zeta_{m(k)-1}, \zeta_{n(k)})}{2s} \right\} \\
 &\leq \max \left\{ \frac{s\varepsilon}{2}, 0, 0, \frac{\frac{s^2\varepsilon}{2}}{2s} \right\} \\
 (3.28) \qquad \qquad \qquad &= \max \left\{ \frac{s\varepsilon}{2}, 0, 0, \frac{s\varepsilon}{4} \right\} = \frac{s\varepsilon}{2}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Now taking the upper limit as  $k \rightarrow \infty$  in equation (3.26) and by conditions  $(\Omega_2)$ ,  $(\Omega_3)$  of Definition 2.7 and using equations (3.20) and (3.28), we get

$$0 \leq \limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} \zeta \left( p_b(\zeta_{n(k)}, \zeta_{m(k)}), \Delta_p^b(\zeta_{n(k)-1}, \zeta_{m(k)-1}) \right) < 0,$$

which is a contradiction. Thus we have proved that  $\{\zeta_n\}$  is a  $b$ -Cauchy sequence in  $b$ -metric space  $(\Phi_{p_b}, \sigma_{p_b})$ .

**Step 3.** Finally, we prove that  $\mathcal{K}$  has a fixed point. Since  $(\Phi_{p_b}, p_b)$  is a complete partial  $b$ -metric space, then from Lemma 2.2,  $(\Phi_{p_b}, \sigma_{p_b})$  is complete  $b$ -metric space. Therefore, the sequence converges to some  $\tau \in \Phi_{p_b}$ , that is,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sigma_{p_b}(\zeta_n, \tau) = 0$ . Again, from Lemma 2.2,

$$(3.29) \qquad \qquad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p_b(\tau, \zeta_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p_b(\zeta_n, \zeta_n) = p_b(\tau, \tau).$$

On the other hand, from equation (3.9) and  $(p_{b2})$ ,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p_b(\zeta_n, \zeta_n) = 0$ , which yields that

$$(3.30) \qquad \qquad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p_b(\tau, \zeta_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p_b(\zeta_n, \zeta_n) = p_b(\tau, \tau) = 0.$$

Now, since  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p_b(\tau, \zeta_n) = 0$  or  $\zeta_n \rightarrow \tau$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , the continuity of  $\mathcal{K}$  implies that  $\mathcal{K}\zeta_{2n} \rightarrow \mathcal{K}\tau$ . Since  $\zeta_{2n+1} = \mathcal{K}\zeta_{2n}$  and  $\zeta_{2n+1} \rightarrow \tau$ , by uniqueness of limit, we get  $\mathcal{K}\tau = \tau$ . So,  $\tau$  is a fixed point of  $\mathcal{K}$  and  $p_b(\tau, \tau) = 0$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

### 4. Consequences of Theorem 3.1

In this section, we give some very interesting fixed point results which can be derived from the condition (3.1) of Theorem 3.1, on several form of functions  $\Omega \in \mathcal{Z}$ . We give a few examples as corollaries which extend and unify the existing results of the literature.

**COROLLARY 4.1.** *Let  $(\Phi_{p_b}, p_b)$  be a complete partial  $b$ -metric space with coefficient  $s \geq 1$ ,  $\mathcal{K}: \Phi_{p_b} \rightarrow \Phi_{p_b}$  be a mapping and  $\alpha, \beta: \Phi_{p_b} \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$  be two functions. Suppose that the following conditions hold:*

(1)

$$(4.1) \qquad \qquad p_b(\mathcal{K}(\zeta), \mathcal{K}(\eta)) \leq \gamma \Delta_p^b(\zeta, \eta),$$

for all  $\zeta, \eta \in \Phi_{p_b}$ , where  $\gamma \in [0, 1)$  and

$$\Delta_p^b(\zeta, \eta) = \max \left\{ p_b(\zeta, \eta), p_b(\zeta, \mathcal{K}\zeta), p_b(\eta, \mathcal{K}\eta), \frac{p_b(\zeta, \mathcal{K}\zeta) + p_b(\eta, \mathcal{K}\eta)}{2s} \right\}.$$

(2) There exists an element  $\zeta_0 \in \Phi_{p_b}$  such that  $\alpha(\zeta_0) \geq 1$  and  $\beta(\zeta_0) \geq 1$ .

(3)  $\mathcal{K}$  is continuous.

Then  $\mathcal{K}$  has a fixed point  $\tau \in \Phi_{p_b}$  and  $p_b(\tau, \tau) = 0$ .

PROOF. The result follows from Theorem 3.1, by taking as  $\Omega$ -simulation function

$$\Omega(t, s) = \gamma s - t,$$

for all  $t, s \geq 0$  with  $0 \leq \gamma < 1$  in (4.1), we have the conclusion.  $\square$

The following result is a particular case of Corollary 4.1.

COROLLARY 4.2. ([26], Theorem 1) Let  $(\Phi_{p_b}, p_b)$  be a complete partial  $b$ -metric space with coefficient  $s \geq 1$ . Suppose that the mapping  $\mathcal{K}: \Phi_{p_b} \rightarrow \Phi_{p_b}$  satisfying the following contractive condition:

$$(4.2) \quad p_b(\mathcal{K}(\zeta), \mathcal{K}(\eta)) \leq \gamma p_b(\zeta, \eta),$$

for all  $\zeta, \eta \in \Phi_{p_b}$ , where  $\gamma \in [0, 1)$  is a constant. Then  $\mathcal{K}$  has a unique fixed point  $\tau \in \Phi_{p_b}$  and  $p_b(\tau, \tau) = 0$ .

COROLLARY 4.3. Let  $(\Phi_{p_b}, p_b)$  be a complete partial  $b$ -metric space with coefficient  $s \geq 1$  such that for some positive integer  $n$ ,  $\mathcal{K}^n$  satisfies the contraction condition (4.2) for all  $\zeta, \eta \in \Phi_{p_b}$ , where  $\gamma$  is as in Corollary 4.2. Then  $\mathcal{K}$  has a unique fixed point  $u \in \Phi_{p_b}$  and  $p_b(u, u) = 0$ .

PROOF. From Corollary 4.2, let  $p_0$  be the unique fixed point of  $\mathcal{K}^n$ , that is,  $\mathcal{K}^n(p_0) = p_0$ . Then

$$\mathcal{K}(\mathcal{K}^n p_0) = \mathcal{K}p_0 \quad \text{or} \quad \mathcal{K}^n(\mathcal{K}p_0) = \mathcal{K}p_0.$$

This gives  $\mathcal{K}p_0 = p_0$ . This shows that  $p_0$  is a unique fixed point of  $\mathcal{K}$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

REMARK 4.1. Corollary 4.2 extends the well-known Banach fixed point theorem [6] from complete metric space to the setting of complete partial  $b$ -metric space.

REMARK 4.2. Corollary 4.2 is a special case of Corollary 4.3 for  $n = 1$ .

Note that the continuity of the mapping  $\mathcal{K}$  in Theorem 3.1 can be dropped if we replace condition (3) by a suitable one as in the following result.

COROLLARY 4.4. Let  $(\Phi_{p_b}, p_b)$  be a complete partial  $b$ -metric space with coefficient  $s \geq 1$ ,  $\mathcal{K}: \Phi_{p_b} \rightarrow \Phi_{p_b}$  be a mapping and  $\alpha, \beta: \Phi_{p_b} \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$  be two functions. Suppose that the following conditions hold:

(1)  $\mathcal{K}$  is a  $(\alpha, \beta, \mathcal{Z})$ -contraction mapping.

(2) There exists an element  $\zeta_0 \in \Phi_{p_b}$  such that  $\alpha(\zeta_0) \geq 1$  and  $\beta(\zeta_0) \geq 1$ .

(3) If  $\{\zeta_n\}$  is a sequence in  $\Phi_{p_b}$  converges to  $v \in \Phi_{p_b}$  with  $\alpha(\zeta_n) \geq 1$  (or  $\beta(\zeta_n) \geq 1$ ) for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $\alpha(v) \geq 1$  (or  $\beta(v) \geq 1$ ).

Then  $\mathcal{K}$  has a fixed point  $v \in \Phi_{p_b}$  and  $p_b(v, v) = 0$ .

By setting the function  $\beta: \Phi_{p_b} \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$  to be  $\alpha$  in Theorem 3.1, then we obtain the following result.

**COROLLARY 4.5.** Let  $(\Phi_{p_b}, p_b)$  be a complete partial  $b$ -metric space with coefficient  $s \geq 1$ ,  $\mathcal{K}: \Phi_{p_b} \rightarrow \Phi_{p_b}$  be a mapping and  $\alpha: \Phi_{p_b} \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$  be a function. Suppose that the following conditions hold:

(1) There exists  $\Omega \in \mathcal{Z}$  such that if  $\zeta, \eta \in \Phi_{p_b}$  with  $\alpha(\zeta) \geq 1$ , then

$$(4.3) \quad \Omega\left(p_b(\mathcal{K}(\zeta), \mathcal{K}(\eta)), \Delta_p^b(\zeta, \eta)\right) \geq 0,$$

where

$$\Delta_p^b(\zeta, \eta) = \max\left\{p_b(\zeta, \eta), p_b(\zeta, \mathcal{K}\zeta), p_b(\eta, \mathcal{K}\eta), \frac{p_b(\zeta, \mathcal{K}\zeta) + p_b(\eta, \mathcal{K}\zeta)}{2s}\right\}.$$

(2) If  $\zeta \in \Phi_{p_b}$  with  $\alpha(\zeta) \geq 1$ , then  $\alpha(\mathcal{K}(\zeta)) \geq 1$ .

(3) There exists an element  $\zeta_0 \in \Phi_{p_b}$  such that  $\alpha(\zeta_0) \geq 1$ .

(4) If  $\{\zeta_n\}$  is a sequence in  $\Phi_{p_b}$  converges to  $q \in \Phi_{p_b}$  with  $\alpha(\zeta_n) \geq 1$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $\alpha(q) \geq 1$ .

Then  $\mathcal{K}$  has a fixed point  $q \in \Phi_{p_b}$  and  $p_b(q, q) = 0$ .

Now, we give an example in support of Corollary 4.2.

**EXAMPLE 4.1.** Let  $\Phi_{p_b} = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  and  $p_b: \Phi_{p_b} \times \Phi_{p_b} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be defined by

$$p_b(\zeta, \eta) = \begin{cases} |\zeta - \eta|^2 + \max\{\zeta, \eta\}, & \text{if } \zeta \neq \eta, \\ \zeta, & \text{if } \zeta = \eta \neq 1, \\ 0, & \text{if } \zeta = \eta = 1, \end{cases}$$

for all  $\zeta, \eta \in \Phi_{p_b}$ . Then  $(\Phi_{p_b}, p_b)$  is a complete partial  $b$ -metric space with the coefficient  $s = 4 > 1$ .

Define the mapping  $\mathcal{K}: \Phi_{p_b} \rightarrow \Phi_{p_b}$  by

$$\mathcal{K}(1) = 1, \mathcal{K}(2) = 1, \mathcal{K}(3) = 2, \mathcal{K}(4) = 2.$$

Now, we have

$$p_b(\mathcal{K}(1), \mathcal{K}(2)) = p_b(1, 1) = 0 \leq \frac{3}{4} \cdot 3 = \frac{3}{4} p_b(1, 2),$$

$$p_b(\mathcal{K}(1), \mathcal{K}(3)) = p_b(1, 2) = 3 \leq \frac{3}{4} \cdot 7 = \frac{3}{4} p_b(1, 3),$$

$$p_b(\mathcal{K}(1), \mathcal{K}(4)) = p_b(1, 2) = 3 \leq \frac{3}{4} \cdot 13 = \frac{3}{4} p_b(1, 4),$$

$$p_b(\mathcal{K}(2), \mathcal{K}(3)) = p_b(1, 2) = 3 \leq \frac{3}{4} \cdot 4 = \frac{3}{4} p_b(2, 3),$$

$$p_b(\mathcal{K}(2), \mathcal{K}(4)) = p_b(1, 2) = 3 \leq \frac{3}{4} \cdot 8 = \frac{3}{4} p_b(2, 4),$$

$$p_b(\mathcal{K}(3), \mathcal{K}(4)) = p_b(2, 2) = 2 \leq \frac{3}{4} \cdot 5 = \frac{3}{4} p_b(3, 4).$$

Thus,  $\mathcal{K}$  satisfies all the conditions of Corollary 4.2 with  $\gamma = \frac{3}{4} < 1$ . Now by applying Corollary 4.2,  $\mathcal{K}$  has a unique fixed point namely 1 is the unique fixed point of  $\mathcal{K}$ . We note that, since  $p_b(2, 2) = 2 \neq 0$  it follows that  $p_b$  is not a  $b$ -metric. Also  $p_b$  is not a partial metric. Indeed,  $p_b(4, 1) = 13 > 9 = p_b(4, 3) + p_b(3, 1) - p_b(3, 3)$ . Therefore, results from [9] and [15] are not applicable while Corollary 4.2 is applicable.

The following example is in the support of Theorem 3.1.

EXAMPLE 4.2. Let  $\Phi_{p_b} = [-1, 1]$  and  $p_b: \Phi_{p_b} \times \Phi_{p_b} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be defined by

$$p_b(\zeta, \eta) = \begin{cases} |\zeta - \eta|^2 + \max\{\zeta, \eta\}, & \text{if } \zeta \neq \eta, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

for all  $\zeta, \eta \in \Phi_{p_b}$ .

Also, define the mapping  $\mathcal{K}: \Phi_{p_b} \rightarrow \Phi_{p_b}$ , the two functions  $\alpha, \beta: \Phi_{p_b} \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$  and the function  $\Omega: [0, +\infty) \times [0, +\infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{K}(\zeta) &= \begin{cases} \frac{\zeta}{4}, & \text{if } \zeta \in [0, 1], \\ \frac{1}{4}, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} & \alpha(\zeta) &= \begin{cases} \frac{\zeta+3}{2}, & \text{if } \zeta \in [0, 1], \\ 0, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \\ \beta(\zeta) &= \begin{cases} \frac{\zeta+5}{4}, & \text{if } \zeta \in [0, 1], \\ 0, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} & \Omega(t, s) &= \frac{s}{s+1} - t. \end{aligned}$$

Then, we have the following

- (1)  $(\Phi_{p_b}, p_b)$  is a complete partial  $b$ -metric space with the coefficient  $s = 4 > 1$ .
- (2)  $\Omega$  is a simulation function.
- (3) There exists  $\zeta_0 \in \Phi_{p_b}$  such that  $\alpha(\zeta_0) \geq 1$  and  $\beta(\zeta_0) \geq 1$ .
- (4)  $\mathcal{K}$  is continuous.
- (5)  $\mathcal{K}$  is cyclic  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -admissible mapping.
- (6) For  $\zeta, \eta \in \Phi_{p_b}$  with  $\alpha(\zeta)\beta(\eta) \geq 1$ , we have

$$\Omega\left(p_b(\mathcal{K}(\zeta), \mathcal{K}(\eta)), \Delta_p^b(\zeta, \eta)\right) \geq 0,$$

where

$$\Delta_p^b(\zeta, \eta) = \max \left\{ p_b(\zeta, \eta), p_b(\zeta, \mathcal{K}\zeta), p_b(\eta, \mathcal{K}\eta), \frac{p_b(\zeta, \mathcal{K}\zeta) + p_b(\eta, \mathcal{K}\eta)}{2s} \right\}.$$

It is easy to check that, the proof of (1), (2), (3) and (4) are clear.

To prove (5), let  $\zeta \in \Phi_{p_b}$ . If  $\alpha(\zeta) \geq 1$ , then  $\zeta \in [0, 1]$ . So,

$$\beta(\mathcal{K}\zeta) = \beta\left(\frac{\zeta}{4}\right) = \frac{\frac{\zeta}{4} + 5}{4} = \frac{\zeta + 20}{16} \geq 1.$$

If  $\beta(\zeta) \geq 1$ , then  $\zeta \in [0, 1]$ . So,

$$\alpha(\mathcal{K}\zeta) = \alpha\left(\frac{\zeta}{4}\right) = \frac{\frac{\zeta}{4} + 3}{2} = \frac{\zeta + 12}{8} \geq 1.$$

Thus,  $\mathcal{K}$  is cyclic  $(\alpha, \beta)$ -admissible.

To prove (6), let  $\zeta, \eta \in \Phi_{p_b}$  with  $\alpha(\zeta)\beta(\eta) \geq 1$ . Then  $\zeta, \eta \in [0, 1]$ . Thus, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \Omega\left(p_b(\mathcal{K}(\zeta), \mathcal{K}(\eta)), \Delta_p^b(\zeta, \eta)\right) \\ &= \frac{\Delta_p^b(\zeta, \eta)}{1 + \Delta_p^b(\zeta, \eta)} - p_b(\mathcal{K}(\zeta), \mathcal{K}(\eta)) \\ &\geq \frac{p_b(\zeta, \eta)}{1 + p_b(\zeta, \eta)} - p_b(\mathcal{K}(\zeta), \mathcal{K}(\eta)) \\ &= \frac{p_b(\zeta, \eta)}{1 + p_b(\zeta, \eta)} - |\mathcal{K}\zeta - \mathcal{K}\eta|^2 - \max\{\mathcal{K}\zeta, \mathcal{K}\eta\} \\ &= \frac{|\zeta - \eta|^2 + \max\{\zeta, \eta\}}{1 + |\zeta - \eta|^2 + \max\{\zeta, \eta\}} - \left|\frac{\zeta}{4} - \frac{\eta}{4}\right|^2 - \max\left\{\frac{\zeta}{4}, \frac{\eta}{4}\right\} \\ &= \frac{15|\zeta - \eta|^2 + 12\max\{\zeta, \eta\}}{16\left(1 + |\zeta - \eta|^2 + \max\{\zeta, \eta\}\right)} \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Consequently,  $\mathcal{K}$  is  $(\alpha, \beta, \mathcal{Z})$ -contraction mapping. Hence this satisfies all the conditions of Theorem 3.1. So,  $\mathcal{K}$  has a fixed point in  $\Phi_{p_b}$ . Here, 0 is the required fixed point of  $\mathcal{K}$ .

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