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## STATIONARY POINTS FOR MULTIFUNCTIONS ON THREE METRIC SPACES

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**Abstract.** In this paper we prove a general unique fixed point theorem for multifunctions on three metric spaces which generalize the main results from [3] and [4].

### 1. Introduction

Let  $(X, d)$  be a complete metric space and  $B(X)$  be the set of all nonempty bounded subsets of  $X$ .

As in [1] we define the function  $\delta(A, B)$  with  $A$  and  $B$  in  $B(X)$  by  $\delta(A, B) = \sup\{d(a, b) : a \in A, b \in B\}$ .

If  $A$  consists of a single point  $a$  we write  $\delta(A, B) = \delta(a, B)$ . If  $B$  also consists of a single point  $b$ , then  $\delta(A, B) = d(a, b)$ . It follows immediately that  $\delta(A, B) = \delta(B, A) \geq 0$  and  $\delta(A, B) \leq \delta(A, C) + \delta(C, B)$  for all sets  $A, B, C$  in  $B(X)$ .

If  $\delta(A, B) = 0$ , then  $A = B = \{a\}$ .

Now if  $\{A_n\}, n = 1, 2, \dots$  is a sequence in  $B(X)$ , we say that it converges to the set  $A$  in  $B(X)$  if:

(i) each point  $a \in A$  is limit of some convergent sequence  $\{a_n\}$ , where  $a_n \in A_n, n = 1, 2, \dots$ ;

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(ii) for arbitrary  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists an integer  $N$  such that  $A_n \subset A_\varepsilon$  for all  $n > N$ , where  $A_\varepsilon$  is the union of all open spheres with centers in  $A$  of radius  $\varepsilon$ .

The following Lemma was proved in [1].

**Lemma.** *If  $\{A_n\}$  and  $\{B_n\}$  are sequences of bounded subsets of a complete metric space  $(X, d)$ , which converge to the bounded subsets  $A$  and  $B$ , respectively, then the sequence  $\{\delta(A_n, B_n)\}$  converges to  $\delta(A, B)$ .*

If  $T$  is a multifunction of  $X$  into  $B(X)$ , a point  $z \in X$  is called a *stationary point* of  $T$  if  $Tz = \{z\}$ .

Recently, Jain and Fisher [2] initiated the study of fixed points for multifunctions in three metric spaces. The present author [4] proved a general fixed point theorem for functions on three metric space satisfying implicit relations.

The following theorem is proved in [3].

**Theorem 1** [3]. *Let  $(X, d_1), (Y, d_2)$  and  $(Z, d_3)$  be complete metric spaces and suppose  $F$  is a mapping of  $X$  into  $B(Y)$ ,  $G$  is a mapping of  $Y$  into  $B(Z)$  and  $H$  is a mapping of  $Z$  into  $B(X)$  satisfying the following inequalities:*

$$\delta_1^2(HGy, HGFx) \leq c \max \left\{ \begin{array}{l} d_1(x, HGy)d_2(y, Fx), \delta_2(y, Fx), \delta_1(x, HGFx), \\ \delta_1(x, HGFx)\delta_3(Gy, GFx), \delta_3(Gy, GFx)d_1(x, HGy) \end{array} \right\},$$

$$\delta_2^2(FHz, FHGy) \leq c \max \left\{ \begin{array}{l} d_2(y, FHz)\delta_3(z, Gy), \delta_3(z, Gy)\delta_2(y, FHGy), \\ \delta_2(y, FHGy)\delta_1(Hz, HGY), \delta_1(Hz, HGY)d_2(y, FHz) \end{array} \right\},$$

and

$$\delta_3^2(GFx, GFHz) \leq c \max \left\{ \begin{array}{l} d_3(z, GFx)\delta_1(x, Hz), \delta_1(x, Hz)\delta_3(z, GFHz), \\ \delta_3(z, GFHz)\delta_2(Fx, FHz), \delta_2(Fx, FHz)d_3(z, GFx) \end{array} \right\}$$

for all  $x$  in  $X$ ,  $y$  in  $Y$  and  $z$  in  $Z$ , where  $0 \leq c < 1$ .

If at least one of the mappings  $F, G, H$  is continuous, then  $HGF$  has a unique fixed point  $u$  in  $X$ ,  $FHG$  has a unique fixed point  $v$  in  $Y$  and  $GFH$  has a unique fixed point  $w$  in  $Z$ . Further,  $Fu = \{v\}$ ,  $Gv = \{w\}$  and  $Hw = \{u\}$ .

In [4], it is denoted by  $\mathcal{F}_5$  the set of all continuous functions  $F : R_+^5 \rightarrow R$  such that there exists  $h \in [0, 1)$  having the following property: for every  $u \geq 0, v \geq 0$  with

$$(a) F(u, v, 0, u, w) \leq 0 \text{ or } (b) F(u, v, u, 0, w) \leq 0,$$

we have  $u \leq h \max\{v, w\}$ .

**Example 1** [4].  $F(t_1, \dots, t_5) = t_1 - c \max\{t_2, \dots, t_5\}$ , where  $c \in [0, 1)$ .

**Example 2** [4].  $F(t_1, \dots, t_5) = t_1^2 - c \max\{t_3 t_2, t_2 t_4, t_4 t_5, t_5 t_3\}$ , where  $c \in [0, 1)$ .

**Example 3** [4].  $F(t_1, \dots, t_5) = t_1^3 + t_1^2 - (at_1 t_2 + bt_1 t_3 + ct_1 t_4 + dt_5^2)$ , where  $0 \leq a + b + c + d < 1$ .

The following theorem is proved in [4].

**Theorem 2** [4]. Let  $(X, d)$ ,  $(Y, \rho)$  and  $(Z, \sigma)$  be complete metric spaces. Assume that  $T$  is a mapping of  $X$  into  $Y$ ,  $S$  is a mapping of  $Y$  into  $Z$  and  $R$  is a mapping of  $Z$  into  $X$ , satisfying the inequalities  $F(d(RSy, RSTx), \rho(y, Tx), d(x, RSTx), d(x, RSy), \sigma(Sy, STx)) \leq 0$ ,  $F(\rho(TRz, TRSy), \sigma(z, Sy), \rho(y, TRSy), \rho(y, TRz), d(Rz, RSy)) \leq 0$ , and

$$F(\sigma(STx, STRz), d(x, Rz), \sigma(z, STRz), \sigma(z, STx), \rho(Tx, TRz)) \leq 0$$

for all  $x$  in  $X$ ,  $y$  in  $Y$ ,  $z$  in  $Z$ , where  $F \in \mathcal{F}_5$ .

If at least one of the mappings  $R, S, T$  is continuous, then  $RST$  has a unique fixed point  $u$  in  $X$ ,  $TRS$  has a unique fixed point  $v$  in  $Y$  and  $STR$  has a unique fixed point  $w$  in  $Z$ . Further,  $Tu = v$ ,  $Sv = w$  and  $Rw = u$ .

In this paper we prove a generalization of Theorem 1 which extends Theorem 2 to multivalued mappings.

## 2. Main result

**Theorem 3.** Let  $(X, d_1)$ ,  $(Y, d_2)$  and  $(Z, d_3)$  be complete metric spaces and suppose that  $F$  is a mapping of  $X$  into  $B(Y)$ ,  $G$  is a mapping of  $Y$  into  $B(Z)$ , and  $H$  is a mapping of  $Z$  into  $B(X)$  satisfying the inequalities

$$(1) \Phi(\delta_1(HGy, HGFx), \delta_2(y, Fx), d_1(x, HGy), \delta_1(x, HGFx), \delta_3(Gy, GFx)) \leq 0,$$

$$(2) \Phi(\delta_2(FHz, FHGy), \delta_3(z, Gy), d_2(y, FHz), \delta_2(y, FHGy), \delta_1(Hz, HGy)) \leq 0,$$

$$(3) \Phi(\delta_3(GFx, GFHz), \delta_1(x, Hz), d_3(z, GFx), \delta_3(z, GFHz), \delta_2(Fx, FHx)) \leq 0,$$

for all  $x$  in  $X$ ,  $y$  in  $Y$  and  $z$  in  $Z$  where  $\Phi \in \mathcal{F}_5$  and is nonincreasing in each of the variables  $t_2, \dots, t_5$ .

If at least one of the mappings  $F, G, H$  is continuous, then  $HGF$  has a stationary point  $u$  in  $X$ ,  $FHG$  has a stationary point  $v$  in  $Y$  and  $GFH$  has a stationary point  $w$  in  $Z$ . Further,  $Fu = \{v\}$ ,  $Gv = \{w\}$  and  $Hw = \{u\}$ . If in addition

(c)  $\Phi$  is increasing in variable  $t_1$ ,

then  $u$  is the unique fixed point of  $HGF$ ,  $v$  is the unique fixed point of  $FHG$  and  $w$  is the unique fixed point of  $GFH$ .

**Proof.** Let  $x = x_1$  be an arbitrary point in  $X$ . We define the sequences  $\{x_n\}$  in  $X$ ,  $\{y_n\}$  in  $Y$  and  $\{z_n\}$  in  $Z$ , inductively, as follows. Choose a point  $y_1$  in  $Fx_1$  and a point  $z_1$  in  $Gy_1$ . In general, having chosen  $x_n$  in  $X$ ,  $y_n$  in  $Y$  and  $z_n$  in  $M$ , choose  $x_{n+1} \in Hz_n$ ,  $y_{n+1} \in Fx_{n+1}$ ,  $z_{n+1} \in Gy_{n+1}$  for  $n = 1, 2, \dots$

Applying the inequality (1) for  $y = y_n$  and  $x = x_{n+1}$  we have successively

$$\Phi \left( \begin{array}{c} \delta_1(HGy_n, HGFx_{n+1}), \delta_2(y_n, Fx_{n+1}), d_1(x_{n+1}, HGy_n), \\ \delta_1(x_{n+1}, HGFx_{n+1}), \delta_3(Gy_n, GFx_{n+1}) \end{array} \right) \leq 0,$$

$$\Phi \left( \begin{array}{c} \delta_1(HGy_n, HGFx_{n+1}), \delta_2(Fx_n, Fx_{n+1}), 0, \\ \delta_1(HGy_n, HGFx_{n+1}), \delta_3(GFx_n, GFx_{n+1}) \end{array} \right) \leq 0,$$

which implies by (a)

$$\delta_1(HGy_n, HGFx_{n+1}) \leq h \max\{\delta_2(Fx_n, Fx_{n+1}), \delta_3(GFx_n, GFx_{n+1})\}.$$

Since  $d(x_{n+1}, x_{n+2}) \leq \delta_1(HGy_n, HGy_{n+1}) \leq \delta_1(HGy_n, HGFx_{n+1})$ , we obtain

$$(4) \ d(x_{n+1}, x_{n+2}) \leq h \max\{\delta_2(Fx_n, Fx_{n+1}), \delta_3(GFx_n, GFx_{n+1})\}$$

But, from (2) we have successively for  $z = z_{n-1}$  and  $y = y_n$

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi \left( \begin{array}{c} \delta_2(FHz_{n-1}, FHGy_n), \delta_3(z_{n-1}, Gy_n), d_2(y_n, FH z_{n-1}), \\ \delta_2(y_n, FHGy_n), \delta_1(Hz_{n-1}, HGy_n) \end{array} \right) &\leq 0, \\ \Phi \left( \begin{array}{c} \delta_2(FHz_{n-1}, FHGy_n), \delta_3(Gy_{n-1}, Gy_n), 0, \\ \delta_2(FHz_{n-1}, FGH y_n), \delta_1(HGy_{n-1}, HGy_n) \end{array} \right) &\leq 0, \end{aligned}$$

which implies by (a) that

$$\delta_2(FHz_{n-1}, FHGy_n) \leq h \max\{\delta_3(Gy_{n-1}, Gy_n), \delta_2(HGy_{n-1}, HGy_n)\}.$$

Since  $\delta_2(Fx_n, Fx_{n+1}) \leq \delta_2(FHz_{n-1}, FHGy_n)$  we have

$$(5) \quad \delta_2(Fx_n, Fx_{n+1}) \leq h \max\{\delta_3(Gy_{n-1}, Gy_n), \delta_1(HGy_{n-1}, HGy_n)\}.$$

Similarly, from (3) we have successively for  $x = x_n$  and  $z = z_n$

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi \left( \begin{array}{c} \delta_3(GFx_n, GFHz_n), \delta_1(x_n, Hz_n), d_3(z_n, GFx_n), \\ \delta_3(z_n, GFHz_n), \delta_2(Fx_n, FH z_n) \end{array} \right) &\leq 0, \\ \Phi \left( \begin{array}{c} \delta_3(GFx_n, GFHz_n), \delta_1(Hz_{n-1}, HGy_n), 0, \\ \delta_3(GFx_n, GFz_n), \delta_2(FHz_{n-1}, FHGy_n) \end{array} \right) &\leq 0, \end{aligned}$$

which implies by (a) that

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_3(GFx_n, GFHz_n) &\leq \\ h \max\{\delta_1(Hz_{n-1}, HGy_n), \delta_2(FHz_{n-1}, FHGy_n)\}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\delta_3(GFx_n, GFx_{n+1}) \leq \delta_3(GFx_n, GFHz_n)$ , we have

$$(6) \quad \delta_3(GFx_n, GFx_{n+1}) \leq h \max\{\delta_1(Hz_{n-1}, HGy_n), \delta_2(FHz_{n-1}, FHGy_n)\}.$$

On the other hand, by (2) for  $z = z_{n-1}$  and  $y = y_n$  we have successively

$$\Phi \left( \begin{array}{c} \delta_2(FHz_{n-1}, FHGy_n), \delta_3(z_{n-1}, Gy_n), d_2(y_n, FH z_{n-1}), \\ \delta_2(y_n, FGH y_n), \delta_1(Hz_{n-1}, HGy_n) \end{array} \right) \leq 0,$$

$$\Phi \left( \begin{array}{c} \delta_2(FHz_{n-1}, FHGy_n), \delta_3(Gy_{n-1}, Gy_n), 0, \\ \delta_2(FHz_{n-1}, FHGy_n), \delta_1(HGy_{n-1}, HGy_n) \end{array} \right) \leq 0$$

which implies by (a) that

$$(7) \quad \delta_2(FHz_{n-1}, FHGy_n) \leq h \max\{\delta_3(Gy_{n-1}, Gy_n), \delta_1(HGy_{n-1}, HGy_n)\}$$

Then by (4),(5),(6) and (7) it follows that

$$(8) \quad \begin{aligned} d_1(x_{n+1}, x_{n+2}) &\leq \delta_1(HGy_n, HGy_{n+1}) \\ &\leq h^2 \max\{\delta_1(HGFx_{n-1}, HGFx_n), \delta_3(GFH z_{n-2}, GFH z_{n-1})\}. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, we have

$$(9) \quad d_2(y_{n+1}, y_{n+2}) \leq h^2 \max\{\delta_1(HGFx_{n-1}, HGFx_n), \delta_3(GFH z_{n-2}, GFH z_{n-1})\}$$

and

$$(10) \quad d_3(z_{n+1}, z_{n+2}) \leq h^2 \max\{\delta_1(HGFx_{n-1}, HGFx_n), \delta_3(GFH z_{n-2}, GFH z_{n-1})\}.$$

It now follows easily by induction on using (8), (9) and (10) that

$$\begin{aligned} d_1(x_{n+1}, x_{n+2}) &\leq \\ h^{2(n-2)} \max\{\delta_1(HGFx_2, HGFx_3), \delta_3(GFH z_1, GFH z_2)\}, \\ d_2(y_{n+1}, y_{n+2}) &\leq \\ h^{2(n-2)} \max\{\delta_1(HGFx_2, HGFx_3), \delta_3(GFH z_1, GFH z_2)\}, \\ d_3(z_{n+1}, z_{n+2}) &\leq \\ h^{2(n-2)} \max\{\delta_1(HGFx_2, HGFx_3), \delta_3(GFH z_1, GFH z_2)\}. \end{aligned}$$

Then for  $r = 1, 2, \dots$  and arbitrary  $\varepsilon > 0$ , we have by (8)

$$(11) \quad d(x_{n+1}, x_{n+r+1}) \leq \delta_1(HGy_n, HGFx_{n+r})$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\leq \delta_1(HGy_n, HGy_{n+1}) + \delta_1(HGy_{n+1}, HGy_{n+2}) + \dots \delta_1(HGy_{n+r-1}, HGFx_{n+r}) \\ &\leq (h^{2(n-2)} + h^{2(n-1)} + \dots + h^{2(n+r-3)}) \max\{\delta_1(HGFx_2, HGFx_3), \delta_3(GFH z_1, GFH z_2)\} \\ &< \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

for  $n$  greater than some  $N$ , since  $0 \leq h < 1$ . Therefore,  $\{x_n\}$  is a Cauchy sequence in the complete metric space  $(X, d_1)$  and so has a limit  $u$  in  $X$ . Similarly, the sequences  $\{y_n\}$  and  $\{z_n\}$  are also Cauchy sequences with limits  $v$  and  $w$  in complete metric spaces  $(Y, d_2)$  and  $(Z, d_3)$ , respectively. Further, the inequality (11) gives

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_1(u, HGFx_n) &\leq d_1(u, x_{m+1}) + \delta_1(x_{m+1}, HGFx_n) \leq \\ d_1(u, x_{m+1}) + \delta_1(HGFx_m, HGFx_n) &< d_1(u, x_{m+1}) + \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

for  $m, n > N$ . Letting  $m$  tend to infinity in the above inequality, it follows that  $\delta_1(u, GFx_n) \leq \varepsilon$  for  $n > N$  and therefore

$$(12) \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} HGFx_n = \{u\} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} HGy_n,$$

since  $\varepsilon > 0$  is arbitrary. Similarly,

$$(13) \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} FHGy_n = \{v\} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} FHx_n$$

and

$$(14) \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} GFHz_n = \{w\} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} GFx_n.$$

Suppose that  $F$  is continuous. Then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Fx_n = Fu = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_n = v$ . Hence,  $Fu = \{v\}$ .

By (3) for  $x = u$  and  $z = z_n$  we have successively

$$\Phi \left( \begin{array}{c} \delta_3(GFu, GFHz_n), \delta_1(u, Hz_n), d_3(z_n, GFu), \\ \delta_3(z_n, GFHz_n), \delta_2(Fu, FHx_n) \end{array} \right) \leq 0,$$

$$\Phi \left( \begin{array}{c} \delta_3(Gv, GFHz_n), \delta_1(u, HGy_n), \delta_3(z_n, Gv), \\ \delta_3(z_n, GFHz_n), \delta_2(v, FHx_n) \end{array} \right) \leq 0.$$

Letting  $n$  tend to infinity we obtain  $\Phi(\delta_3(Gv, w), 0, \delta_3(Gv, w), 0, 0) \leq 0$ .

By (b) it follows that  $\delta_3(Gv, w) = 0$ , which implies  $Gv = \{w\}$ .

By (1) for  $y = v$  and  $x = x_n$  we have successively

$$\Phi \left( \begin{array}{c} \delta_1(HGv, HGFx_n), \delta_2(v, Fx_n), d_1(x_n, HGv), \\ \delta_1(x_n, HGFx_n), \delta_3(Gv, GFx_n) \end{array} \right) \leq 0,$$

$$\Phi \left( \begin{array}{c} \delta_1(Hw, HGFx_n), \delta_2(v, Fx_n), \delta_1(x_n, Hw), \\ \delta_1(x_n, HGFx_n), \delta_3(Gv, GFx_n) \end{array} \right) \leq 0.$$

Letting  $n$  tend to infinity we have  $\Phi(\delta_1(Hw, u), 0, \delta_1(u, Hw), 0, 0) \leq 0$ , which implies by (b) that  $\{u\} = Hw$ .

By (1) for  $y = y_n$  and  $x = u$  we have successively

$$\Phi \left( \begin{array}{c} \delta_1(HGy_n, HGFu), \delta_2(y_n, Fu), \delta_1(u, HGy_n), \\ \delta_1(u, HGFu), \delta_3(Gy_n, GFu) \end{array} \right) \leq 0,$$

$$\Phi \left( \begin{array}{c} \delta_1(HGy_n, HGFu), \delta_2(y_n, v), \delta_1(u, HGy_n), \\ \delta_1(u, HGFu), \delta_3(GFx_n, Gv) \end{array} \right) \leq 0$$

Letting  $n$  tend to infinity we have

$$\Phi(\delta_1(u, HGFu), 0, 0, \delta_1(u, HGFu), 0) \leq 0,$$

which implies by (a) that  $HGFu = \{u\}$ .

Similarly, by (2) for  $z = z_n$  and  $y = v$  we obtain  $\{v\} = FHGv$ .

By (3) for  $x = x_n$  and  $z = w$  we obtain that  $GFHw = \{w\}$ .

To prove uniqueness, we will suppose that  $HGF$  has a second fixed point  $u'$  so that  $u' \in HGFu'$ . Then there exist  $v' \in Fu$  and  $u' \in Hw'$ . Using inequality (2), we have successively

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi \left( \begin{array}{c} \delta_2(FHw', FHGv'), \delta_3(w', Gv'), d_2(v', FHw'), \\ \delta_2(v', FHGv'), \delta_1(Hw', HGv') \end{array} \right) &\leq 0, \\ \Phi \left( \begin{array}{c} \delta_2(FHw', FHGv'), \delta_3(GFu', GFu'), 0, \\ \delta_2(FHw', FHGv'), \delta_1(HGv', HGv') \end{array} \right) &\leq 0, \end{aligned}$$

which implies by (a) that

$$\delta_2(FHw', FHGv') \leq h \max\{\delta_3(GFu', GFu'), \delta_1(HGv', HGv')\}.$$

Since  $\delta_2(FHw', FHw') \leq \delta_3(FHw', FHGv')$  it follows that

$$(15) \quad \delta_2(FHw', FHw') \leq h \max\{\delta_3(GFu', GFu'), \delta_1(HGv', HGv')\}.$$

Similarly, applying (3), we get

$$(16) \quad \delta_3(GFu', GFu') \leq h \max\{\delta_1(HGv', HGv'), \delta_2(FHw', FHw')\}$$

and using (1), we have

$$(17) \quad \delta_1(HGv', HGv') \leq h \max\{\delta_2(FHw', FHw'), \delta_3(GFu', GFu')\}.$$

From (15) and (16) we obtain

$$(18) \quad \delta_2(FHw', FHw') \leq h \delta_1(HGv', HGv').$$

Similarly, (16) and (17) give

$$(19) \quad \delta_3(GFu', GFu') \leq h \delta_2(FHw', FHw')$$



and (15) and (17) yield

$$(20) \quad \delta_1(HGv', HGv') \leq h \delta_3(GFu', GFu').$$

Now, it follows from (20), (19) and (18) that

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_1(HGv', HGv') &\leq h \delta_3(GFu', GFu') \leq \\ &h^2 \delta_2(FHw', FHw') \delta_1(HGv', HGv'), \end{aligned}$$

which implies that  $\delta_1(HGv', HGv') = 0$ .

Similarly,  $\delta_2(FHw', FHw') = 0$  and  $\delta_3(GFu', GFu') = 0$ .

Since  $\delta_1(u', Hw') \leq \delta_1(HGv', HGv')$ ,  $\delta_2(v', Fu') \leq \delta_2(FHw', FHw')$  and  $\delta_3(w', Gv') \leq \delta_3(GFu', GFu')$ , it follows that  $Fu' = \{v'\}$ ,  $Gv' = \{w'\}$  and  $Hw' = \{u'\}$ . Further,  $HGFu' = HGv' = Hw' = \{u'\}$ ,  $FHGv' = FHw' = Fu' = \{v'\}$ ,  $GFHw' = GFu' = Gv' = \{w'\}$ .

Using (1) and (c) we have successively

$$\Phi \left( \begin{array}{c} \delta_1(HGv, HGFu'), \delta_2(v, Fu'), d_1(u', HGv), \\ \delta_1(u', HGFu'), \delta_3(Gv, GFu') \end{array} \right) \leq 0,$$

$$\Phi(d_1(u, u'), d_2(v, v'), d_1(u, u'), 0, d_3(w, w')) \leq 0,$$

which implies by (b) that

$$(21) \quad d_1(u, u') \leq h \max\{d_2(v, v'), d_3(w, w')\}.$$

Similarly, applying (2), we have

$$(22) \quad d_2(v, v') \leq h \max\{d_3(w, w'), d_1(u, u')\}$$

and using (3), we obtain

$$(23) \quad d_3(w, w') \leq h \max\{d_1(u, u'), d_2(v, v')\}.$$

Now (21) and (22) yield

$$(24) \quad d_1(u, u') \leq h d_3(w, w').$$

Similarly, (22) and (23) imply

$$(25) \quad d_2(v, v') \leq h d_1(u, u'),$$

while (21) and (23) imply

$$(26) \quad d_3(w, w') \leq h d_2(v, v').$$

From (24), (25) and (26) it follows that

$$d_1(u, u') \leq h^3 d_1(u, u'),$$

hence  $d_1(u, u') = 0$ , i.e.  $u = u'$ .

Similarly  $d_2(v, v') = 0$ , i.e.  $v = v'$  and  $d_3(w, w') = 0$ , i.e.  $w = w'$ . This completes the proof of Theorem 3.

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