

## Continuation Method for Contractive Maps on Spaces Endowed with Vector-valued Metrics

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**ABSTRACT.** A continuation result for contractive maps on spaces endowed with vector-valued metrics is established.

**KEY WORDS:** Contraction, Generalized metric space, Continuation, Iterative approximation, Fixed point

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### 1 Introduction

The Banach contraction principle was generalized by Perov (see [3] and [5]) for contractive maps on spaces endowed with vector-valued metrics. Also, Granas [1] proved that the property of having a fixed point is invariant by homotopy for contractions on complete metric spaces. This result was completed in [4] by an iterative procedure of discrete continuation along the fixed points curve. The goal of this paper is to extend this result to contractive maps on spaces endowed with vector-valued metrics.

Let  $X$  be a nonempty set. By a *vector-valued metric* on  $X$  we mean a map  $d : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^m$  with the following properties:

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(i)  $d(x, y) \geq 0 \forall x, y \in X; d(x, y) = 0 \iff x = y$

(ii)  $d(x, y) = d(y, x) \forall x, y \in X$

(iii)  $d(x, y) \leq d(x, z) + d(z, y) \forall x, y, z \in X.$

Here, if  $u, v \in \mathbf{R}^m$ ,  $u = (u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m)$  and  $v = (v_1, v_2, \dots, v_m)$ , by  $u \leq v$  we mean that  $u_i \leq v_i$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ .

A set  $X$  endowed with a vector-valued metric  $d$  is said to be a *generalized metric space*. For the generalized metric spaces, the notions of a convergent sequence, Cauchy sequence, completeness, open subset and closed subset are similar to those for usual metric spaces.

**Definition 1.1** Let  $(X, d)$  be a generalized metric space. A map  $T : X \rightarrow X$  is said to be *contractive* if there exists a matrix  $A \in M_{m \times m}(\mathbf{R}_+)$  such that

$$(1.1) \quad A^k \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } k \rightarrow \infty$$

and

$$d(T(x), T(y)) \leq Ad(x, y) \forall x, y \in X.$$

The matrix  $A$  is said to be a *Lipschitz matrix* for  $T$ .

Recall that for a matrix  $A \in M_{m \times m}(\mathbf{R}_+)$  the property (1.1) is equivalent to the fact that  $I - A$  is nonsingular and

$$(1.2) \quad (I - A)^{-1} = I + A + A^2 + \dots$$

(see [5], Theorem 4.1.1). From (1.2) we see that  $\rho \leq (I - A)^{-1} \rho$  for every  $\rho \in [0, \infty)^m$ .

**Theorem 1.1 (Perov)** Let  $(X, d)$  be a complete generalized metric space and  $T : X \rightarrow X$  be contractive with the Lipschitz matrix  $A$ . Then  $T$  has a unique fixed point  $x^*$  and for each  $x_0 \in X$  one has

$$d(T^k(x_0), x^*) \leq A^k (I - A)^{-1} d(x_0, T(x_0))$$

for every  $k \in \mathbf{N}$ .

## 2 Main result

**Theorem 2.1** Let  $(X, d)$  be a complete generalized metric space

with  $d : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^m$  and  $U$  be an open set of  $X$ . Let  $H : \bar{U} \times [0, 1] \rightarrow X$  and assume that the following conditions are satisfied:

(a1) there is  $A \in M_{m \times m}(\mathbf{R}_+)$  such that  $A^k \rightarrow 0$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$(1.1) \quad (I - A) \rho \in (0, \infty)^m \text{ for every } \rho \in (0, \infty)^m$$

and

$$(1.2) \quad d(H(x, \lambda), H(y, \lambda)) \leq Ad(x, y)$$

for all  $x, y \in \bar{U}$  and  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ ;

(a2)  $H(x, \lambda) \neq x$  for all  $x \in \partial U$  and  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ ;

(a3)  $H$  is continuous in  $\lambda$ , uniformly for  $x \in \bar{U}$ , i.e. for each  $\varepsilon \in (0, \infty)^m$  and  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ , there is  $\rho \in (0, \infty)$  such that  $d(H(x, \lambda), H(x, \mu)) < \varepsilon$  whenever  $x \in \bar{U}$  and  $|\lambda - \mu| < \rho$ .

In addition suppose that  $H_0 := H(\cdot, 0)$  has a fixed point. Then, for each  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ , there exists a unique fixed point  $x(\lambda)$  of  $H_\lambda := H(\cdot, \lambda)$ . Moreover,  $x(\lambda)$  depends continuously on  $\lambda$  and there exists  $r \in (0, \infty]^m$ , integers  $m, n_1, n_2, \dots, n_{m-1}$  and numbers  $0 < \lambda_1 < \lambda_2 < \dots < \lambda_{m-1} < \lambda_m = 1$  such that for any  $x_0 \in X$  satisfying  $d(x_0, x(0)) \leq r$ , the sequences  $(x_{j,k})_{k \geq 0}$ ,  $j = 1, 2, \dots, m$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} x_{1,0} &= x_0 \\ x_{j,k+1} &= H_{\lambda_j}(x_{j,k}), \quad k = 0, 1, \dots \\ x_{j+1,0} &= x_{j,n_j}, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, m-1 \end{aligned}$$

are well defined and satisfy

$$(2.3) \quad d(x_{j,k}, x(\lambda_j)) \leq A^k (I - A)^{-1} d(x_{j,0}, H_{\lambda_j}(x_{j,0})) \quad (k \in \mathbf{N}).$$

**Proof.**

1) First we prove that for each  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ ,  $H_\lambda$  has a fixed point.

Let

$$\Lambda = \{\lambda \in [0, 1]; H(x, \lambda) = x \text{ for some } x \in U\}.$$

We have  $0 \in \Lambda$  by the assumption that  $H_0$  has a fixed point. Hence  $\Lambda$  is nonempty. We will show that  $\Lambda$  is both closed and open in  $[0, 1]$  and so, by the connectedness of  $[0, 1]$ ,  $\Lambda = [0, 1]$ .

To prove that  $\Lambda$  is closed, let  $\lambda_k \in \Lambda$  with  $\lambda_k \rightarrow \lambda$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ . Since  $\lambda_k \in \Lambda$ , there is  $x_k \in U$  so that  $H(x_k, \lambda_k) = x_k$ . Then, by

), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} d(x_k, x_j) &= d(H(x_k, \lambda_k), H(x_j, \lambda_j)) \leq d(H(x_k, \lambda_k), H(x_k, \lambda)) \\ &\quad + d(H(x_k, \lambda), H(x_j, \lambda)) + d(H(x_j, \lambda), H(x_j, \lambda_j)) \\ &\leq d(H(x_k, \lambda_k), H(x_k, \lambda)) + Ad(x_k, x_j) + d(H(x_j, \lambda), H(x_j, \lambda_j)). \end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} &d(x_k, x_j) \\ &\leq (I - A)^{-1} [d(H(x_k, \lambda_k), H(x_k, \lambda)) + d(H(x_j, \lambda), H(x_j, \lambda_j))]. \end{aligned}$$

This, by (a3), shows that  $(x_k)$  is a Cauchy sequence. Then, since  $X$  is complete, there is  $x \in X$  with  $d(x_k, x) \rightarrow 0$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ . Clearly,  $x \in \bar{U}$ . Then

$$d(x_k, H(x, \lambda)) \rightarrow d(x, H(x, \lambda))$$

and, by (2.2) and (a3),

$$d(x_k, H(x, \lambda)) = d(H(x_k, \lambda_k), H(x, \lambda)) \rightarrow 0.$$

Hence  $d(x, H(x, \lambda)) = 0$ , that is  $H(x, \lambda) = x$ . By (a2),  $x \in U$  and so  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ . To prove that  $\Lambda$  is open in  $[0, 1]$ , let  $\mu \in \Lambda$  and  $z \in U$  such that  $H(z, \mu) = z$ . Since  $U$  is open, there exists  $\rho \in (0, \infty)^m$  such that

$$d(x, z) \leq \rho \quad \text{implies} \quad x \in U.$$

Also, by (a3), there is  $\eta = \eta(\rho) \in (0, \infty)$  such that

$$(2.4) \quad d(z, H(z, \lambda)) = d(H(z, \mu), H(z, \lambda)) \leq (I - A)\rho$$

for  $|\lambda - \mu| \leq \eta$ . Notice  $(I - A)\rho \in (0, \infty)^m$  according to (2.1). Consequently,

$$\begin{aligned} d(z, H(x, \lambda)) &\leq d(z, H(z, \lambda)) + d(H(z, \lambda), H(x, \lambda)) \\ &\leq (I - A)\rho + Ad(z, x) \leq \rho \end{aligned}$$

whenever  $d(z, x) \leq \rho$  and  $|\lambda - \mu| \leq \eta$ . This shows that for  $|\lambda - \mu| \leq \eta$ ,  $H_\lambda$  sends  $B$  into itself, where  $B = \{x \in X; d(z, x) \leq \rho\}$ . Now we may apply Theorem 1.1 to  $T = H_\lambda$ . Consequently, there is  $x(\lambda) \in \bar{B} \subset \bar{U}$  a fixed point of  $H_\lambda$  for  $|\lambda - \mu| \leq \eta$ .

This shows that  $\mu$  is an interior point of  $\Lambda$  and hence  $\Lambda$  is open in  $[0, 1]$ . Notice that for every  $x \in B$  and  $|\lambda - \mu| \leq \eta$ , we also have by Theorem 1.1, that the sequence  $(H_\lambda^k(x))_{k \geq 0}$  is well defined and

$$d(H_\lambda^k(x), x(\lambda)) \leq A^k (I - A)^{-1} d(x, H_\lambda(x)) \quad (k \in \mathbf{N}).$$

2) The uniqueness of  $x(\lambda)$  is a simple consequence of (2.2).

3)  $x(\lambda)$  is continuous on  $[0, 1]$ .

Indeed,

$$\begin{aligned} d(x(\lambda), x(\mu)) &= d(H(x(\lambda), \lambda), H(x(\mu), \mu)) \\ &\leq d(H(x(\lambda), \lambda), H(x(\mu), \lambda)) + d(H(x(\mu), \lambda), H(x(\mu), \mu)) \\ &\leq Ad(x(\lambda), x(\mu)) + d(H(x(\mu), \lambda), H(x(\mu), \mu)). \end{aligned}$$

This, by (a3), implies

$$d(x(\lambda), x(\mu)) \leq (I - A)^{-1} d(H(x(\mu), \lambda), H(x(\mu), \mu)) \rightarrow 0$$

as  $\lambda \rightarrow \mu$ .

4) Obtention of  $r$ . For any  $\mu \in [0, 1]$  and each  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, m\}$  denote

$$r_i(\mu) = \inf \{d_i(x, x(\mu)); x \in X \setminus U\}.$$

Here  $d = (d_1, d_2, \dots, d_m)$ . Since  $x(\mu) \in U$  and  $U$  is open,  $r_i(\mu) > 0$ . We claim that

$$(2.5) \quad \inf \{r_i(\mu); \mu \in [0, 1]\} > 0.$$

To prove this, assume the contrary. Then, there are  $\mu_k \in [0, 1]$  such that  $r_i(\mu_k) \rightarrow 0$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ . Clearly, we may assume that  $\mu_k \rightarrow \mu$  for some  $\mu \in [0, 1]$ . Then, from the continuity of  $x(\lambda)$ , we have

$$(2.6) \quad d_i(x(\mu_k), x(\mu)) < r_i(\mu)/2 \quad \text{for } k \geq k_1.$$

On the other hand, since  $r_i(\mu_k) \rightarrow 0$ ,

$$(2.7) \quad r_i(\mu_k) < r_i(\mu)/2 \quad \text{for } k \geq k_2.$$

Let  $k_0 = \max \{k_1, k_2\}$ . By (2.7) and the definition of  $r_i(\mu_{k_0})$  as

infimum, there is  $x \in X \setminus U$  with

$$(2.8) \quad d_i(x, x(\mu_{k_0})) < r_i(\mu)/2.$$

Then, by (2.6) and (2.8), we obtain

$$d_i(x, x(\mu)) \leq d_i(x, x(\mu_{k_0})) + d_i(x(\mu_{k_0}), x(\mu)) < 2r_i(\mu)/2 = r_i(\mu)$$

a contradiction. Thus (2.5) holds as claimed. Now we choose any  $r_i > 0$  less than the infimum in (2.5), with the convention that  $r_i = \infty$  if the infimum equals infinity. Then take  $r = (r_1, r_2, \dots, r_m)$ .

5) Obtention of  $m$  and  $0 < \lambda_1 < \lambda_2 < \dots, \lambda_{m-1} < 1$ . Let  $h = \eta(r)$ , where  $r$  was fixed at the anterior step and  $\eta(r)$  is chosen as in (2.4). Then, by what was shown at the end of step 1), for each  $\mu \in [0, 1]$ ,

$$(2.9) \quad d(x, x(\mu)) \leq r \quad \text{and} \quad |\lambda - \mu| \leq h \quad \text{imply}$$

$(H_\lambda^k(x))_{k \geq 0}$  is well defined and

$$d(H_\lambda^k(x), x(\lambda)) \leq A^k(I - A)^{-1}d(x, H_\lambda(x)) \quad (k \in \mathbb{N})$$

Now we choose any partition  $0 = \lambda_0 < \lambda_1 < \dots < \lambda_{m-1} < \lambda_m = 1$  of  $[0, 1]$  such that  $\lambda_{j+1} - \lambda_j \leq h$ ,  $j = 0, 1, \dots, m-1$ .

6) Finding of integers  $n_1, n_2, \dots, n_{m-1}$ . From  $d(x_{1,0}, x(0)) = d(x_0, x(0)) \leq r$  and  $\lambda_1 - \lambda_0 \leq h$ , by (2.9), we have that  $(x_{1,k})_{k \geq 0}$  is well defined and satisfies (2.3). By (2.3), we may choose  $n_1 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $d(x_{1,n_1}, x(\lambda_1)) \leq r$ . Now

$$d(x_{2,0}, x(\lambda_1)) = d(x_{1,n_1}, x(\lambda_1)) \leq r \quad \text{and} \quad \lambda_2 - \lambda_1 \leq h$$

and we repeat the above argument in order to show that  $(x_{2,k})_{k \geq 0}$  is well defined and satisfies (2.3). In general, at step  $j$  ( $1 \leq j \leq m-1$ ) we choose  $n_j \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $d(x_{j,n_j}, x(\lambda_j)) \leq r$ . Then

$$d(x_{j+1,0}, x(\lambda_j)) = d(x_{j,n_j}, x(\lambda_j)) \leq r \quad \text{and} \quad \lambda_{j+1} - \lambda_j \leq h,$$

by (2.9), imply that sequence  $(x_{j+1,k})_{k \geq 0}$  is well defined and satisfies (2.3). ■

The above proof yields the following algorithm for the approximation of  $x(1)$  under the assumptions of Theorem 2.1:

Suppose we know  $r$  and  $h$  and we wish to obtain an approximation  $\bar{x}_1$  of  $x(1)$  with  $d(\bar{x}_1, x(1)) \leq \varepsilon$  for some  $\varepsilon \in (0, \infty)^m$ . Then we choose any partition  $0 = \lambda_0 < \lambda_1 < \lambda_2 < \dots < \lambda_{m-1} < \lambda_m = 1$  of  $[0, 1]$  with  $\lambda_{j+1} - \lambda_j \leq h$ ,  $j = 0, 1, \dots, m-1$ , any element  $x_0$  with  $d(x_0, x(0)) \leq r$  and we follow the next

#### Iterative procedure:

Set  $n_0 := 0$  and  $x_{0,n_0} := x_0$ ;

For  $j := 1$  to  $m-1$  do

$$x_{j,0} := x_{j-1,n_{j-1}}$$

$$k := 0$$

While  $A^k(I - A)^{-1}d(x_{j,0}, H_{\lambda_j}(x_{j,0})) \not\leq r$

$$x_{j,k+1} := H_{\lambda_j}(x_{j,k})$$

$$k := k + 1$$

$$n_j = k$$

Set  $k := 0$

While  $A^k(I - A)^{-1}d(x_{m,0}, H_1(x_{m,0})) \not\leq \varepsilon$

$$x_{m,k+1} = H_1(x_{m,k})$$

$$k := k + 1$$

Finally take  $\bar{x}_1 = x_{m,k}$ .

Notice for  $m = 1$ , Theorem 2.1 reduces to Corollary 2.5 in [4].

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