

# Pacific Journal of Mathematics

## **FIXED-POINT THEOREMS FOR FAMILIES OF CONTRACTION MAPPINGS**

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## FIXED-POINT THEOREMS FOR FAMILIES OF CONTRACTION MAPPINGS

L. P. BELLUCE AND W. A. KIRK

Let  $X$  be a nonempty, bounded, closed and convex subset of a Banach space  $B$ . A mapping  $f: X \rightarrow X$  is called a *contraction mapping* if  $\|f(x) - f(y)\| \leq \|x - y\|$  for all  $x, y \in X$ . Let  $\mathfrak{F}$  be a nonempty commutative family of contraction mappings of  $X$  into itself. The following results are obtained.

(i) Suppose there is a compact subset  $M$  of  $X$  and a mapping  $f_1 \in \mathfrak{F}$  such that for each  $x \in X$  the closure of the set  $\{f_1^n(x): n = 1, 2, \dots\}$  contains a point of  $M$  (where  $f_1^n$  denotes the  $n^{\text{th}}$  iterate, under composition, of  $f_1$ ). Then there is a point  $x \in M$  such that  $f(x) = x$  for each  $f \in \mathfrak{F}$ .

(ii) If  $X$  is weakly compact and the norm of  $B$  strictly convex, and if for each  $f \in \mathfrak{F}$  the  $f$ -closure of  $X$  is nonempty, then there is a point  $x \in X$  which is fixed under each  $f \in \mathfrak{F}$ . A third theorem, for finite families, is given where the hypotheses are in terms of weak compactness and a concept of Brodskii and Milman called normal structure.

Fixed-point theorems for families of continuous linear (or affine) transformations have been obtained by Kakutani [6], Markov [8], Day [2], and others. Recently De Marr [3] proved the following fixed-point theorem: If  $X$  is a nonempty, compact, convex subset of a Banach space  $B$  and if  $\mathfrak{F}$  is a nonempty family of commuting contraction mappings of  $X$  into itself, then the family  $\mathfrak{F}$  has a common fixed point in  $X$ . In Theorem 1 of this paper hypotheses of a type considered by Göhde in [5] are used to obtain a generalization of De Marr's result.

Throughout this paper we shall denote the *diameter* of a subset  $A \subseteq B$  by  $\delta(A)$ , i.e.,

$$\delta(A) = \sup \{\|x - y\|: x, y \in A\}.$$

**THEOREM 1.** *Let  $X$  be a nonempty, bounded, closed, convex subset of a Banach space  $B$ ; let  $M$  be a compact subset of  $X$ . Let  $\mathfrak{F}$  be a nonempty commutative family of contraction mappings of  $X$  into itself with the property that for some  $f_1 \in \mathfrak{F}$  and for each  $x \in X$  the closure of the set  $\{f_1^n(x): n = 1, 2, \dots\}$  contains a point of  $M$ . Then there is a point  $x \in M$  such that  $f(x) = x$  for each  $f \in \mathfrak{F}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $K$  be a nonempty closed convex subset of  $X$  such that  $f(K) \subseteq K$  for each  $f \in \mathfrak{F}$ . Select a point  $x \in K$ . Since  $f(K) \subseteq K$ , we have  $\{f_1^n(x)\} \subseteq K$ . Hence it follows that

$$K \cap M \supseteq \overline{\{f_1^n(x)\}} \cap M \neq \emptyset .$$

Thus we may apply Zorn's Lemma to obtain subset  $X^*$  of  $X$  which is minimal with respect to being nonempty, closed, convex and mapped into itself by each  $f \in \mathfrak{F}$ . Let  $M^* = X^* \cap M$ ; from the above remarks we know  $M^* \neq \emptyset$ . By a theorem of Göhde [5, p. 54],  $f_1$  has a non-empty fixed-point set  $H$  in  $M^*$ . Since  $H$  is the set of all fixed-points of  $f_1$ , it is closed. Let  $x \in H$  and  $y = f(x)$ . Then we have

$$f_1(y) = f_1[f(x)] = f[f_1(x)] = f(x) = y$$

since the set  $\mathfrak{F}$  is commutative and  $x$  is a fixed-point of  $f_1$ . Hence  $y \in H$  and  $f(H) \subseteq H$  for each  $f \in \mathfrak{F}$ . We are therefore able to find a subset  $H^*$  of  $H$  which is minimal with respect to being nonempty, closed and mapped into itself by each  $f \in \mathfrak{F}$ .

Let  $g \in \mathfrak{F}$ . Since  $H^*$  is compact and  $g$  continuous,  $g(H^*)$  is closed. For each  $f \in \mathfrak{F}$ ,  $f[g(H^*)] = g[f(H^*)] \subseteq g(H^*)$ . Thus if  $g(H^*)$  is a proper subset of  $H^*$  for some  $g \in \mathfrak{F}$ , then the minimality of  $H^*$  is contradicted. Hence  $H^*$  is mapped *onto* itself by each member of  $\mathfrak{F}$ . Let  $W$  denote the convex closure of  $H^*$ . Since  $H^*$  is compact, so is  $W$ . If  $\delta(W) > 0$  it follows (see De Marr [3; Lemma 1]) that there is a point  $x \in W$  such that

$$\sup \{\|x - z\| : z \in W\} = r < \delta(W) .$$

We shall show that this leads to a contradiction and thereby conclude that  $\delta(W) = 0$ . Thus, let

$$\begin{aligned} C_1 &= \{w \in W : \|w - z\| \leq r \text{ for all } z \in H^*\} , \\ C_2 &= \{w \in X^* : \|w - z\| \leq r \text{ for all } z \in H^*\} . \end{aligned}$$

Clearly  $C_1 = C_2 \cap W$ . Since  $H^*$  is mapped onto itself by each member of  $\mathfrak{F}$ , it is easily seen  $f(C_2) \subseteq C_2$  for each  $f \in \mathfrak{F}$ . Since  $C_2$  is a non-empty closed convex subset of  $X^*$ , the minimality of  $X^*$  implies  $C_2 = X^*$ . Therefore  $C_1 = W$ . But since  $\delta(H^*) = \delta(W)$  there are points  $x, y \in H^*$  such that  $\|x - y\| > r$ . However  $H^* \subseteq W = C_1$  implies  $\|x - y\| \leq r$ . This contradiction shows  $\delta(W) = 0$  and  $H^*$  (hence  $X^*$ ) consists of a single point which must be fixed under each mapping in  $\mathfrak{F}$ .

That De Marr's theorem follows from the above is evident.

The following definition may be found in [4].

DEFINITION. Let  $X$  be a nonempty subset of a Banach space  $B$  and let  $f: X \rightarrow X$  be a contraction. The *f-closure* of  $X$ , denoted by  $X'$ , is the set of points  $y \in B$  such that for some  $x \in X$  a subsequence of  $\{f^n(x)\}$  converges to  $y$ .

**THEOREM 2.** *Suppose  $X$  is a nonempty, weakly compact, convex subset of a Banach space  $B$  whose norm is strictly convex. Suppose  $\mathfrak{F}$  is a nonempty commutative family of contraction mappings of  $X$  into itself such that for each  $f \in \mathfrak{F}$ ,  $X^f \neq \emptyset$ . Then there is an  $x \in X$  such that  $f(x) = x$  for each  $f \in \mathfrak{F}$ .*

*Proof.* It follows from a result of Edelstein [4; p. 441, II] that each member of  $\mathfrak{F}$  has a nonempty fixed point set in  $X$ . (Although the mappings in [4] are defined on the entire Banach space the same results can be obtained when the domain is restricted as in this theorem.) Because the norm of  $B$  is strictly convex, and the mappings considered are contractions, it is easily seen that each of these fixed-point sets is convex (and closed). As closed convex subsets of the weakly compact set  $X$ , they are themselves weakly compact. Thus we need only show that these fixed-point sets have the finite intersection property to conclude that there is a point common to all of them.

We make the inductive assumption that each  $n$  members of  $\mathfrak{F}$  have a common fixed-point in  $X$ . Let  $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_{n+1} \in \mathfrak{F}$ . Let  $M$  be the set of common fixed points of  $f_1, \dots, f_n$ . Then  $M$  is weakly compact and if  $y \in M$ ,  $f_i[f_{n+1}(y)] = f_{n+1}[f_i(y)] = f_{n+1}(y)$  for each  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . Hence  $f_{n+1}(y) \in M$  and  $f_{n+1}(M) \subseteq M$ . Let  $y$  be a point of  $X$  fixed under  $f_{n+1}$ . The strict convexity of the norm together with the weak compactness of  $M$  enable us to obtain a unique point  $x \in M$  nearest to  $y$ . Since  $f_{n+1}$  is a contraction it then follows that  $f_{n+1}(x) = x$ . Thus  $x$  is a common fixed point of  $f_1, \dots, f_{n+1}$ . The proof is now complete.

The concept defined below was first introduced by Brodskii and Milman in [1].

**DEFINITION.** A bounded convex set  $K$  in a Banach space  $B$  is said to have *normal structure* if for each convex subset  $H$  of  $K$  which contains more than one point there is a point  $x \in H$  which is not a diametral point of  $H$ , (i.e.  $\sup \{\|x - y\| : y \in H\} < \delta(H)$ ).

By replacing strict convexity of the norm by normal structure and removing the requirement that  $X^f \neq \emptyset$  we obtain the following theorem for weakly compact sets  $X$ . Unfortunately, we have only been able to establish this theorem for finite families (or, of course, finitely generated families) of commuting contractions.

**THEOREM 3.** *Suppose  $X$  is a nonempty, weakly compact, convex subset of a Banach space  $B$  and suppose that  $X$  has normal structure. If  $\mathfrak{F}$  is a finite family of commuting contraction mappings of  $X$  into itself then there is an  $x \in X$  such that  $f(x) = x$  for each  $f \in \mathfrak{F}$ .*

That this theorem holds if  $\mathfrak{F}$  consists of a single mapping follows from [7]. However, we take this opportunity to establish a slightly more general result which also serves our purpose.

**THEOREM 4.** *Let  $X$  be a bounded, closed, convex subset of a Banach space  $B$  and suppose that  $X$  has normal structure. Let  $M$  be a weakly compact subset of  $X$ . Assume  $f$  is a contraction mapping of  $X$  into itself with the property that for each  $x \in X$ , the closure of  $\{f^n(x); n = 1, 2, \dots\}$  contains a point of  $M$ . Then there is an  $x \in M$  such that  $f(x) = x$ .*

*Proof of Theorem 4.* Since closed and convex subsets of  $X$  are weakly closed and since  $M$  is weakly compact, Zorn's lemma gives us a subset  $X^*$  of  $X$  which is minimal with respect to being nonempty, closed, convex, mapped into itself by  $f$ , and having points in common with  $M$ . By normal structure, if  $\delta(X^*) > 0$  then there is a point  $x \in X^*$  such that

$$\sup \{\|x - z\| : z \in X^*\} = r < \delta(X^*).$$

Assume, then, that  $\delta(X^*) > 0$ . Let

$$C = \{z \in X^* : \|z - y\| \leq r \text{ for each } y \in X^*\}.$$

Then  $C$  is nonempty. Let  $K$  denote the convex closure of  $f(X^*)$ . Since  $K \subseteq X^*$ , then  $f(K) \subseteq f(X^*)$ . The closure of  $f(X^*)$  is contained in  $K$  and the hypotheses on  $f$  imply that this set intersects  $M$ . Hence  $M \cap K \neq \emptyset$ . By the minimality of  $X^*$  we conclude that  $K = X^*$ . Let

$$C_1 = \{z \in X^* : \|z - y\| \leq r \text{ for all } y \in f(X^*)\}.$$

Clearly  $C \subseteq C_1$ . But if  $z \in C_1$ , then any spherical ball of radius  $r$  centered at  $z$  must contain  $f(X^*)$ , and hence it must contain  $K = X^*$ . Consequently  $C_1 \subseteq C$ , and therefore  $C_1 = C$ .

Let  $z \in C$  and  $y \in f(X^*)$ . Then  $y = f(x)$  for some  $x \in X^*$  and we have

$$\|f(z) - y\| = \|f(z) - f(x)\| \leq \|z - x\| \leq r.$$

Therefore  $f(C) \subseteq C$ . This implies, by the minimality of  $X^*$ , that  $C = X^*$ . But  $\delta(C) \leq r < \delta(X^*)$ . This contradiction shows that  $\delta(X^*) = 0$ . Therefore  $X$  consists of a single point which must be fixed under  $f$ .

We now return to Theorem 3.

*Proof of Theorem 3.* Suppose  $\mathfrak{F} = \{f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n\}$ . Since  $X$  is

weakly compact we can find a subset  $X^*$  of  $X$  minimal with respect to being nonempty, closed, convex and mapped into itself by each element of  $\mathfrak{F}$ . Let  $W$  denote the set of points of  $X^*$  fixed under  $f_1 f_2 \cdots f_n$ . By Theorem 4,  $W \neq \emptyset$ . Furthermore  $f_i(W) = W$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . Let  $H$  be the convex closure of  $W$ . By normal structure  $H$  contains a point  $x$  such that

$$\sup \{ \|x - z\| : z \in H \} = r < \delta(H)$$

provided  $\delta(H) > 0$ . As before, we assume  $\delta(H) > 0$  and obtain a contradiction. Let

$$C = \{x \in X^* : \|x - z\| \leq r \text{ for all } z \in H\}.$$

Then  $C$  is a nonempty closed convex subset of  $X^*$  and, moreover,

$$C = \{x \in X^* : \|x - z\| \leq r \text{ for each } z \in W\}.$$

Thus  $f_i(C) \subseteq C$  and  $C = X^*$ , which is impossible since  $\delta(C \cap H) \leq r < \delta(H)$ . Hence  $\delta(H) = 0$ , so  $H$  consists of the desired fixed point.

Several questions remain unanswered, the most notable perhaps being:

- (1) Is Theorem 2 true with strict convexity deleted?
- (2) Is Theorem 3 true with the hypothesis of normal structure deleted?

The answers to these questions are not even known in the case that  $\mathfrak{F}$  consists of a single mapping (cf. [4], [7]).

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# Pacific Journal of Mathematics

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April, 1966

Alexander V. Arhangel'skii, <i>On closed mappings, bicomact spaces, and a problem of P. Aleksandrov</i> . . . . .	201
A. K. Austin, <i>A note on loops</i> . . . . .	209
Lawrence Peter Belluce and William A. Kirk, <i>Fixed-point theorems for families of contraction mappings</i> . . . . .	213
Luther Elic Claborn, <i>Every abelian group is a class group</i> . . . . .	219
Luther Elic Claborn, <i>A note on the class group</i> . . . . .	223
Robert Stephen De Zur, <i>Point-determining homomorphisms on multiplicative semi-groups of continuous functions</i> . . . . .	227
Raymond William Freese, <i>A convexity property</i> . . . . .	237
Frederick Paul Greenleaf, <i>Characterization of group algebras in terms of their translation operators</i> . . . . .	243
Andrzej Hulanicki, <i>On the spectral radius of hermitian elements in group algebras</i> . . . . .	277
Michael Bahir Maschler and Bezalel Peleg, <i>A characterization, existence proof and dimension bounds for the kernel of a game</i> . . . . .	289
Yiannis (John) Nicolas Moschovakis, <i>Many-one degrees of the predicates <math>H_a(x)</math></i> . . . . .	329
G. O. Okikiolu, <i><math>n</math>th order integral operators associated with Hilbert transforms</i> . . . . .	343
C. E. Rickart, <i>Analytic phenomena in general function algebras</i> . . . . .	361
K. N. Srivastava, <i>On an entire function of an entire function defined by Dirichlet series</i> . . . . .	379
Paul Elvis Waltman, <i>Oscillation criteria for third order nonlinear differential equations</i> . . . . .	385