

Article

# New Versions of Some Results on Fixed Points in $b$ -Metric Spaces

Zoran D.  Mitrović <sup>1</sup> , Abasalt Bodaghi <sup>2</sup> , Ahmad Aloqaily <sup>3,4</sup> , Nabil Mlaiki <sup>3</sup>  and Reny George <sup>5,\*</sup> 

<sup>1</sup> Faculty of Electrical Engineering, University of Banja Luka, Patre 5, 78000 Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina

<sup>2</sup> Department of Mathematics, Garmsar Branch, Islamic Azad University, Garmsar, Iran

<sup>3</sup> Department of Mathematics and Sciences, Prince Sultan University, Riyadh 11586, Saudi Arabia

<sup>4</sup> School of Computer, Data and Mathematical Sciences, Western Sydney University, Sydney 2150, Australia

<sup>5</sup> Department of Mathematics, College of Science and Humanities in Al-Kharj, Prince Sattam Bin Abdulaziz University, Al-Kharj 11942, Saudi Arabia

\* Correspondence: r.kunnelchacko@psau.edu.sa

**Abstract:** The main and the most important objective of this paper is to nominate some new versions of several well-known results about fixed-point theorems such as Caristi's theorem, Pant et al.'s theorem and Karapınar et al.'s theorem in the case of  $b$ -metric spaces. We use a new technique provided by Miculescu and Mihail in order to prove our theorems. Some illustrative applications and examples are given to strengthen our new findings and the main results.

**Keywords:** iterative methods; fixed point;  $b$ -metric; Caristi theorem; orbitally continuous;  $k$ -continuous

**MSC:** 47H10; 54H25



**Citation:** Mitrović, Z.D.; Bodaghi, A.; Aloqaily, A.; Mlaiki, N.; George, R. New Versions of Some Results on Fixed Points in  $b$ -Metric Spaces. *Mathematics* **2023**, *11*, 1118. <https://doi.org/10.3390/math11051118>

Academic Editor: Timilehin Opeyemi Alakoya

Received: 29 January 2023

Revised: 11 February 2023

Accepted: 15 February 2023

Published: 23 February 2023



**Copyright:** © 2023 by the authors. Licensee MDPI, Basel, Switzerland. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>).

## 1. Introduction and Preliminaries

Banach's theorem for fixed point theory is known to be a very useful tool in nonlinear analysis. The Banach result has been generalized in various ways and many applications have been presented. In the past thirty years, a lot of results have been obtained on fixed points of different classes of mappings defined on generalized metric spaces, for example, see [1–27] and references therein. Note that iterative methods and contraction mapping plays a key role in metric fixed-point theory. In addition, fractals can be generated via contraction mappings (Hutchinson's iterated function system) [28]. Some of the topics include  $b$ -metric space and the corresponding results about fixed point. Bakhtin [3] and Czerwik [6] introduced the notion about  $b$ -metric space and proved the number of fixed-point theorems in both single-valued and multi-valued mappings upon  $b$ -metric spaces.

Throughout this manuscript, we use the terms fixed point (FP), metric space (MS),  $b$ -metric space (bMS), and complete  $b$ -metric space (CbMS).

First, we look back on some background definitions, notations, and results in the bMS setting.

**Definition 1.** Suppose  $s \geq 1$  and  $Y$  is a nonempty set. A function  $\mathcal{D} : Y \times Y \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$  denotes a  $b$ -metric if  $x, \eta, z \in Y$  are valid:

- (1)  $\mathcal{D}(x, \eta) = 0$  if and only if  $x = \eta$ ;
- (2)  $\mathcal{D}(x, \eta) = \mathcal{D}(\eta, x)$ ;
- (3)  $\mathcal{D}(x, z) \leq s[\mathcal{D}(x, \eta) + \mathcal{D}(\eta, z)]$ .

A triplet  $(Y, \mathcal{D}, s)$  is a bMS.

For bMS, the examples are the spaces  $l^p(\mathbb{R})$  and  $L^p[0, 1]$ ,  $p \in (0, 1)$ .

Recall that the convergence in bMS is defined as in metric spaces as follows.

**Definition 2.** Suppose  $(Y, \mathcal{D}, s)$  is a bMS,  $x \in Y$  and  $\{x_n\}$  is a sequence in  $Y$ .

(a)  $\{x_n\}$  is convergent in  $(Y, \mathcal{D}, s)$  and converges to  $x$ , if for each  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists  $n_\varepsilon \in \mathbb{N}$  where  $\mathcal{D}(x_n, x) < \varepsilon$  for all  $n > n_\varepsilon$ , we denote this as  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x$  or  $x_n \rightarrow x$  where  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

(b)  $\{x_n\}$  is the Cauchy sequence in  $(Y, \mathcal{D}, s)$ , if for each  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists  $n_\varepsilon \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\mathcal{D}(x_n, x_m) < \varepsilon$  for all  $n, m > n_\varepsilon$ .

(c)  $(Y, \mathcal{D}, s)$  is a CbMS if every Cauchy sequence in  $Y$  converges to some  $x \in Y$ .

Next, the lemma for Miculescu and Mihail is a crucial result for achieving our aims.

**Lemma 1** ([19], Lemma 2.6). Suppose  $(Y, \mathcal{D}, s)$  is a bMS and  $\{x_n\}$  is a sequence in  $Y$ . If there exists  $\alpha > \log_2 s$  where the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} n^\alpha \mathcal{D}(x_n, x_{n+1})$  converges, then the sequence  $\{x_n\}$  is Cauchy.

**Remark 1.** If  $\alpha \geq \log_2 s$ , then Lemma 1 is not valid. Let  $Y = \mathbb{R}, \mathcal{D}(x, \eta) = (x - \eta)^2, x_n = \sum_{k=2}^n \frac{1}{k \ln k}, n = 2, 3, \dots$ . Then,  $s = 2$  and

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=2}^{+\infty} n \mathcal{D}(x_n, x_{n+1}) &= \sum_{n=2}^{+\infty} \frac{n}{(n+1)^2 \ln^2(n+1)} \\ &\leq \sum_{n=2}^{+\infty} \frac{1}{(n+1) \ln^2(n+1)}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $\sum_{n=2}^{+\infty} n \mathcal{D}(x_n, x_{n+1})$  converges but this sequence  $\{x_n\}$  is not Cauchy (using the integral criterion for series convergence, we see that  $\sum_{k=2}^{+\infty} \frac{1}{k \ln^p k}$  converges for  $p > 1$  and diverges for  $p \leq 1$ ).

The next two results are the consequences of Lemma 1.

**Lemma 2** ([18], Lemma 2.2). Suppose  $(Y, \mathcal{D}, s)$  is a bMS and  $\{x_n\}$  is a sequence in  $Y$ . If there exists  $k \in (0, 1)$  such that

$$\mathcal{D}(x_{n+1}, x_{n+2}) \leq k \mathcal{D}(x_n, x_{n+1}), \tag{1}$$

for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , this leads to the sequence  $\{x_n\}$  being Cauchy.

**Lemma 3** ([19], Corollary 2.8). Suppose  $(Y, \mathcal{D}, s)$  is a bMS and  $\{x_n\}$  is a sequence in  $Y$ . If there exists  $h > 1$  where the series

$$\sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} h^n \mathcal{D}(x_n, x_{n+1}) \tag{2}$$

converges, then the sequence  $\{x_n\}$  is Cauchy.

**Remark 2.** Note that if condition (2) is replaced by

$$\sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} h^{(s-1)n} \mathcal{D}(x_n, x_{n+1}), \tag{3}$$

then in this case, we get the appropriate condition for MS as well.

In [4], Caristi presented the next theorem.

**Theorem 1** ([4]). Suppose  $(Y, \mathcal{D})$  is a CMS,  $\mathcal{T} : Y \rightarrow Y$  is a mapping such that

$$\mathcal{D}(x, \mathcal{T}x) \leq \varphi(x) - \varphi(\mathcal{T}x), \tag{4}$$

for all  $x \in Y$ , where  $\varphi : Y \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$  is a lower semicontinuous mapping. This leads to  $\mathcal{T}$  having FP.

Dung and Hang [8] showed that Caristi’s theorem does not fully extend to *bMS*. It is a negative answer to the latter Kirk-Shahzad’s question ([17], Remark 12.6). One year later, Miculescu and Mihail [19] obtained the version of Caristi’s theorem in *bMS*. One of the aims of the current work is to improve the mentioned result ([19], Theorem 3.1). Khojasteh et al. [16] gave a light version of Caristi’s theorem as follows.

**Theorem 2.** ([16], Corollary 2.1) Let  $(Y, \mathcal{D})$  be a CMS. Assume that  $\mathcal{T} : Y \rightarrow Y$  and  $\psi : Y \times Y \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$  are mappings such that  $x \mapsto \psi(x, \eta)$  is lower semicontinuous for each  $\eta \in Y$ . If

$$\mathcal{D}(x, \eta) \leq \psi(x, \eta) - \psi(\mathcal{T}x, \mathcal{T}\eta), \tag{5}$$

for all  $x, \eta \in Y$ , then  $\mathcal{T}$  has a unique FP.

The second objective of this paper is to present an alternative of the above theorem in *bMS* (Theorem 5).

**Remark 3.** Note that in [16], The partial answers were given by Khojasteh et al. to Reich, Mizoguchi and Takahashi’s and Amini-Harandi’s conjectures by using a light version of Caristi’s FP theorem. In addition, they have shown that some known FP theorems can be obtained from the previously mentioned theorem.

**Definition 3.** Let  $(Y, \mathcal{D})$  be an MS and  $\mathcal{T} : Y \rightarrow Y$  be a mapping.

- (i) (See [7]) The set  $O(x, \mathcal{T}) = \{\mathcal{T}^n x : n = 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$  is called the orbit of  $\mathcal{T}$  at  $x$ . A map  $\mathcal{T}$  is said to be orbitally continuous if  $u \in Y$  and such that  $u = \lim_{i \rightarrow +\infty} \mathcal{T}^{n_i} x$  for some  $x \in Y$ , then  $\mathcal{T}u = \lim_{i \rightarrow +\infty} \mathcal{T}\mathcal{T}^{n_i} x$ , where  $\{n_i\}$  is a subsequence of the sequence  $\{n\}$ ;
- (ii) (See [27]) A mapping  $\mathcal{T}$  is called weakly orbitally continuous if the set  $\{\eta \in Y : \lim_{i \rightarrow +\infty} \mathcal{T}^{n_i} \eta = u \text{ implies } \lim_{i \rightarrow +\infty} \mathcal{T}\mathcal{T}^{n_i} \eta = \mathcal{T}u\}$  is nonempty, whenever the set  $\{x \in Y : \lim_{i \rightarrow +\infty} \mathcal{T}^{n_i} x = u\}$  is nonempty;
- (iii) (See [26]) A mapping  $\mathcal{T}$  is called *k*-continuous,  $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$  if  $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \mathcal{T}^k x = \mathcal{T}u$  whenever  $\{x_n\}$  is a sequence in  $Y$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \mathcal{T}^{k-1} x_n = u$ .

Here, we recall the next theorem of Pant et al. [25].

**Theorem 3.** ([25], Theorem 2.1) Let  $(Y, \mathcal{D})$  be the CMS and the mappings  $\mathcal{T} : Y \rightarrow Y$ ,  $\varphi : Y \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$ . If

$$\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{T}x, \mathcal{T}\eta) \leq \varphi(x) - \varphi(\mathcal{T}x) + \varphi(\eta) - \varphi(\mathcal{T}\eta). \tag{6}$$

for all  $x, \eta \in Y$ , then  $\mathcal{T}$  has a unique fixed point, under one of the following conditions:

- (i)  $\mathcal{T}$  is weakly orbitally continuous;
- (ii)  $\mathcal{T}$  is orbitally continuous;
- (iii)  $\mathcal{T}$  is *k*-continuous.

**Remark 4.** Note that from condition (6), we obtain

$$\varphi(\mathcal{T}x) \leq \varphi(x). \tag{7}$$

for all  $x \in Y$ .

The third goal of this paper is to bring a new version of Theorem 3 in *bMS*.

**Remark 5.** Pant et al. [25] have shown that Theorem 3 contains results of Banach, Kannan, Chatterjea, Ćirić and Suzuki on fixed points as particular cases. In addition, Theorem 3 is independent of the result of Caristi on fixed point. Note that, Theorem 3 is a new solution to the Rhoades problem about discontinuity at the FP.

The main and the most important objective of this paper is to nominate some new versions of several well-known results about FP such as Caristi’s theorem, Pant et al.’s theorem and Karapınar et al.’s theorem in the case of *bMS*. We use a new technique given by Miculescu and Mihail in [19] in order to prove our theorems. Some illustrative applications and examples are given to strengthen our new findings and the main results.

## 2. Main Results

In this part, we indicate the various known fixed-point theorems in *b*-metric space settings.

### 2.1. A New Version of the Theorem by Caristi

In this subsection, we afford a new version of Caristi’s theorem in *bMS*. The terms orbit, orbitally continuous, weakly orbitally continuous and *k*-continuous in *bMS* are introduced analogously to metric space, see Definition 3.

**Lemma 4.** Let  $(Y, \mathcal{D}, s)$  be a *bcMS* and  $\mathcal{T} : Y \rightarrow Y$  be weakly orbitally continuous mapping. If there exist  $u \in Y$  and  $x_0 \in Y$  such that  $u = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \mathcal{T}^n x_0$ , then  $u = \mathcal{T}u$ .

**Proof.** Let  $u = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \mathcal{T}^n x_0$ . Then,  $u = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \mathcal{T} \mathcal{T}^n x_0$ . The weak orbital continuity of  $\mathcal{T}$  leads to  $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \mathcal{T}^n x_0 = u = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \mathcal{T} \mathcal{T}^n x_0 = \mathcal{T}u$ . So,  $u = \mathcal{T}u$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 4.** Let  $(Y, \mathcal{D}, s)$  be a *bcMS* and  $\mathcal{T} : Y \rightarrow Y$  be weakly orbitally continuous mapping such that

$$\mathcal{D}(x, \mathcal{T}x) \leq \varphi(x) - h^{s-1} \varphi(\mathcal{T}^r x), \tag{8}$$

for all  $x \in Y$ , where  $r \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $h > 1$  and  $\varphi : Y \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$ . Then,  $\mathcal{T}$  has at least an FP.

**Proof.** Let  $x_0 \in Y$  and  $x_n = \mathcal{T}^n x_0, n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Put  $\lambda = h^{\frac{s-1}{r}}$ . From (8), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{D}(x_0, x_1) &\leq \varphi(x_0) - \lambda^r \varphi(x_r) \\ \lambda \mathcal{D}(x_1, x_2) &\leq \lambda \varphi(x_1) - \lambda^{r+1} \varphi(x_{r+1}) \\ &\vdots \\ \lambda^r \mathcal{D}(x_r, x_{r+1}) &\leq \lambda^r \varphi(x_r) - \lambda^{2r} \varphi(x_{2r}) \\ &\vdots \\ \lambda^n \mathcal{D}(x_n, x_{n+1}) &\leq \lambda^n \varphi(x_n) - \lambda^{n+r} \varphi(x_{n+r}). \end{aligned}$$

The previous inequalities necessitate that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^n \lambda^k \mathcal{D}(x_k, x_{k+1}) &\leq \varphi(x_0) + \lambda \varphi(x_1) + \dots + \lambda^{r-1} \varphi(x_{r-1}) \\ &\quad - (\lambda^{r+1} \varphi(x_{r+1}) + \lambda^{r+2} \varphi(x_{r+2}) + \dots + \lambda^{r+n} \varphi(x_{r+n})) \\ &\leq \varphi(x_0) + \lambda \varphi(x_1) + \dots + \lambda^{r-1} \varphi(x_{r-1}). \end{aligned}$$

We now conclude from Lemma 3 that  $\{\mathcal{T}^n x_0\}$  is Cauchy. Since  $Y$  is complete, this means there is  $u \in Y$  where  $u = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \mathcal{T}^n x_0$ . Therefore, we find that  $u$  is an FP of the mapping  $\mathcal{T}$  by Lemma 4.  $\square$

**Remark 6.** One should remember that by putting  $r = 1$  in Theorem 4, we obtain Theorem 3.1. from [19]. Moreover, by setting  $r = 1$  and  $s = 1$ , we reach the classical Caristi theorem in MS (refer also to [27], Theorem 2.10).

**Example 1.** Let  $Y = [0, 1]$  and the functions  $\mathcal{T} : Y \rightarrow Y$ ,  $\varphi : Y \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$  and  $\mathcal{D} : Y \times Y \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$  defined by  $\mathcal{T}x = x^2$ ,  $\varphi(x) = \sqrt{x}$ ,  $\mathcal{D}(x, \eta) = |x - \eta|$ . Then,  $(Y, \mathcal{D})$  is a metric space and we have

$$\mathcal{D}(x, \mathcal{T}x) = |x - x^2| = (\sqrt{x} - x)(\sqrt{x} + x) \geq 2x(\sqrt{x} - x) > \sqrt{x} - x = \varphi(x) - \varphi(\mathcal{T}x),$$

for all  $x \in (\frac{1}{2}, 1]$ . Therefore, condition (4) is not fulfilled and we cannot apply Theorem 1. On the other hand, by putting  $r = 2, s = 1$  in Theorem 4, we arrive at

$$\varphi(x) - \varphi(\mathcal{T}^2x) = \sqrt{x} - x^2 \geq x - x^2 = \mathcal{D}(x, \mathcal{T}x).$$

### 2.2. Light Version of Caristi’s Theorem

Another version from Caristi’s theorem in bMS, namely, the light version of Caristi’s theorem, is the goal of this subsection.

**Theorem 5.** Let  $(Y, \mathcal{D}, s)$  be a CbMS and  $\mathcal{T} : Y \rightarrow Y$ ,  $\psi : Y \times Y \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$  be mappings and  $\mathcal{T}$  weakly orbitally continuous mapping. If

$$\mathcal{D}(x, \eta) \leq \psi(x, \eta) - h^{s-1}\psi(\mathcal{T}^r x, \mathcal{T}^r \eta), \tag{9}$$

for every  $x, \eta \in Y$ , where  $r \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $h > 1$ , then  $\mathcal{T}$  has a unique FP.

**Proof.** Suppose  $\eta = \mathcal{T}x$  and  $\varphi(x) = \psi(x, \mathcal{T}x)$ , for all  $x \in Y$ . It follows from Theorem 4 that  $\mathcal{T}$  has a FP  $u \in Y$ . If  $\mathcal{T}v = v$  where  $v \in Y$ , then from (9), we attain

$$\mathcal{D}(u, v) \leq \psi(u, v) - h^{s-1}\psi(u, v) \leq 0,$$

which shows that  $u = v$ .  $\square$

**Example 2.** Let  $Y = \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\mathcal{D} : Y \times Y \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$  be a b-metric on  $Y$ , defined by  $\mathcal{D}(x, \eta) = |x - \eta|^2$ .  $\mathcal{T} : Y \rightarrow Y$  is a weakly orbitally continuous contraction defined by  $\mathcal{T}x = \frac{x}{2}$  and  $\psi : Y \times Y \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$  defined by  $\psi(x, \eta) = 2|x - \eta|^2$ . Then  $(Y, \mathcal{D})$  is a CbMS when  $s = 2$ . Next, let us consider  $h = 2$  and  $r \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then, we have

$$\psi(x, \eta) - h^{s-1}\psi(\mathcal{T}^r x, \mathcal{T}^r \eta) = |x - \eta|^2(2 - \frac{1}{2^{2(r-1)}}) \geq \mathcal{D}(x, \eta).$$

Therefore, the conditions of Theorem 5 are fulfilled.

**Remark 7.** Note that for the case  $s = 1$  and  $r = 1$  from Theorem 5, we obtain the results from Khojasteh et al. [16].

### 2.3. On the Result of Pant et al. [25]

In this part, we will introduce the next theorem, as a version of Theorem 3 from [25]. We will not state the proof because it has the same proof as Theorem 4.

**Theorem 6.** Let  $(Y, \mathcal{D}, s)$  be a CbMS. Let  $\mathcal{T} : Y \rightarrow Y$  and  $\psi : Y \times Y \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$  be mappings. If

$$\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{T}x, \mathcal{T}\eta) \leq \psi(x, \eta) - h^{s-1}\psi(\mathcal{T}x, \mathcal{T}\eta). \tag{10}$$

for all  $x, \eta \in Y$ , where  $h > 1$ , this implies  $\mathcal{T}$  has a unique FP, under one of the following conditions:

- (i)  $\mathcal{T}$  is weakly orbitally continuous;
- (ii)  $\mathcal{T}$  is orbitally continuous;
- (iii)  $\mathcal{T}$  is  $k$ -continuous.

Here, we present a concrete example for the above Theorem, and we show that the conditions for Theorem 6 are satisfied.

**Example 3.** Let  $Y = [0, 1]$  and  $\mathcal{D} : Y \times Y \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$  be a  $b$ -metric on  $Y$ , defined by  $\mathcal{D}(x, \eta) = |x - \eta|^2$ ,  $\mathcal{T} : Y \rightarrow Y$  is a contraction, defined by  $\mathcal{T}x = \frac{x}{3}$ ,  $\psi : Y \times Y \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$  is a function defined by  $\psi(x, \eta) = \frac{(x+\eta)^2}{2}$ . Obviously,  $(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{D}, 2)$  is a complete  $b$ -metric space. Let  $h = 2$ . We obtain

$$(\mathcal{T}x, \mathcal{T}\eta) = |\mathcal{T}x - \mathcal{T}\eta|^2 = \frac{|x - \eta|^2}{9}.$$

On the other side,

$$\psi(x, \eta) - h^{s-1}\psi(\mathcal{T}x, \mathcal{T}\eta) = \frac{7(x + \eta)^2}{18}.$$

When

$$\frac{|x - \eta|^2}{9} \leq \frac{7(x + \eta)^2}{18},$$

for all  $x, \eta \in [0, 1]$ , we deduce that the conditions for Theorem 6 are met.

From Theorem 6, we realize following corollary.

**Corollary 1.** Let  $(Y, \mathcal{D}, s)$  be a complete  $b$ -metric space and  $\mathcal{T} : Y \rightarrow Y$ , and let  $\varphi_i : Y \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$ ,  $i = 1, 2$  be mappings such that  $\mathcal{T}$  is weakly orbitally continuous. If

$$\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{T}x, \mathcal{T}\eta) \leq \varphi_1(x) - h^{s-1}\varphi_1(\mathcal{T}x) + \varphi_2(\eta) - h^{s-1}\varphi_2(\mathcal{T}\eta). \tag{11}$$

for each  $x, \eta \in Y$ , such that  $h > 1$ , then  $\mathcal{T}$  has a unique FP.

**Proof.** Putting  $\psi(x, \eta) = \varphi_1(x) + \varphi_2(\eta)$ ,  $x, \eta \in Y$  in Theorem 6, we obtain the proof.  $\square$

**Remark 8.** If  $\varphi_1 = \varphi_2$  and  $s = 1$  from Corollary 1, we obtain Theorem 3.

2.4. On the Result of Karapınar et al. [15]

We first modify Theorem 1 given by Karapınar et al. [15] in the  $b$ MS setting as follows.

**Theorem 7.** Let  $(Y, \mathcal{D}, s)$  be a complete  $b$ MS,  $\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{I} : Y \rightarrow Y$ , and let  $\psi : Y \times Y \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be mappings such that:

- (a)  $\inf_{x,y \in X} \psi(x, y) > -\infty$ ;
- (b)  $\mathcal{T}(\mathcal{I}x) = \mathcal{I}(\mathcal{T}x)$ , for all  $x \in Y$ ;
- (c) the range of  $\mathcal{I}$  contains the range of  $\mathcal{T}$ ;
- (d)  $\mathcal{I}$  is continuous;
- (e)

$$\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{I}x, \mathcal{T}x) > 0 \text{ implies } d(\mathcal{T}x, \mathcal{T}\eta) \leq (\psi(\mathcal{I}x, \mathcal{I}\eta) - \psi(\mathcal{T}x, \mathcal{T}\eta))\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{I}x, \mathcal{I}\eta), \tag{12}$$

for all  $x, \eta \in Y$ .

Then,  $\mathcal{T}$  and  $\mathcal{I}$  have a coincidence point, which means there exists  $u \in Y$  where  $\mathcal{T}u = \mathcal{I}u$ .

**Proof.** Let  $x_0 \in Y$ . Since  $\mathcal{T}x_0 \in \mathcal{I}(Y)$ , there is an  $x_1 \in Y$  such that  $\mathcal{I}x_1 = \mathcal{T}x_0$ . Similarly, for any given  $x_n \in Y$ , there is  $x_{n+1} \in Y$  such that  $\mathcal{I}x_{n+1} = \mathcal{T}x_n$ . If  $\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{I}x_n, \mathcal{T}x_n) = 0$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $x_n$  is a coincidence point. Suppose that

$$\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{I}x_n, \mathcal{T}x_n) > 0, \tag{13}$$

for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . From (12), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{T}x_{n+1}, \mathcal{T}x_n) &\leq (\psi(\mathcal{I}x_{n+1}, \mathcal{I}x_n) - \psi(\mathcal{T}x_{n+1}, \mathcal{T}x_n))\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{I}x_{n+1}, \mathcal{I}x_n) \\ &= (\psi(\mathcal{I}x_{n+1}, \mathcal{I}x_n) - \psi(\mathcal{I}x_{n+2}, \mathcal{I}x_{n+1}))\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{I}x_{n+1}, \mathcal{I}x_n). \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{I}x_{n+2}, \mathcal{I}x_{n+1}) \leq (\psi(\mathcal{I}x_{n+1}, \mathcal{I}x_n) - \psi(\mathcal{I}x_{n+2}, \mathcal{I}x_{n+1}))\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{I}x_{n+1}, \mathcal{I}x_n), \tag{14}$$

for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Recalling condition (13), from (14) we have

$$\frac{\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{I}x_{n+2}, \mathcal{I}x_{n+1})}{\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{I}x_{n+1}, \mathcal{I}x_n)} \leq \psi(\mathcal{I}x_{n+1}, \mathcal{I}x_n) - \psi(\mathcal{I}x_{n+2}, \mathcal{I}x_{n+1}), \tag{15}$$

for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . From inequality (15) and condition (a), we obtain

$$\sum_{j=1}^n \frac{\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{I}x_{j+2}, \mathcal{I}x_{j+1})}{\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{I}x_{j+1}, \mathcal{I}x_j)} < +\infty. \tag{16}$$

Therefore, the series  $\sum_{j=1}^{+\infty} \frac{\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{I}x_{j+2}, \mathcal{I}x_{j+1})}{\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{I}x_{j+1}, \mathcal{I}x_j)}$  converges and

$$\lim_{j \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{I}x_{j+2}, \mathcal{I}x_{j+1})}{\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{I}x_{j+1}, \mathcal{I}x_j)} = 0. \tag{17}$$

From (17), we conclude that for  $k \in (0, 1)$ , there exists  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  where

$$\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{I}x_{j+2}, \mathcal{I}x_{j+1}) \leq k\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{I}x_{j+1}, \mathcal{I}x_j), \tag{18}$$

for all  $j \geq n_0$ . Now, by applying Lemma 2, the sequence  $\mathcal{I}x_n$  is Cauchy. Let

$$u = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \mathcal{I}x_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \mathcal{T}x_{n-1}. \tag{19}$$

While  $\mathcal{I}$  is continuous, (12) leads to both  $\mathcal{I}$  and  $\mathcal{T}$  being continuous. On the other hand,  $\mathcal{T}$  and  $\mathcal{I}$  commute and thus

$$\mathcal{I}u = \mathcal{I}(\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \mathcal{T}x_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \mathcal{I}\mathcal{T}x_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \mathcal{T}\mathcal{I}x_n = \mathcal{T}(\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \mathcal{I}x_n) = \mathcal{T}u. \tag{20}$$

As a result,  $u$  is a coincidence point for  $\mathcal{T}$  and  $\mathcal{I}$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 2.** Suppose  $(Y, \mathcal{D}, s)$  is a CbMS. Let  $\mathcal{T} : Y \rightarrow Y$  and  $\varphi : Y \times Y \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be mappings where  $\inf_{x \in Y} \varphi(x) > -\infty$ . If

$$d(x, \mathcal{T}x) > 0 \text{ reveals } d(\mathcal{T}x, \mathcal{T}y) \leq (\varphi(x) - \varphi(\mathcal{T}x))d(x, y), \tag{21}$$

this means that  $\mathcal{T}$  has an FP.

**Proof.** Put  $\mathcal{I}x = x$  and  $\psi(x, y) = \varphi(x)$  by Theorem 7.  $\square$

**Remark 9.** Note that Corollary 2 improves Theorem 1 from [15] to the class of  $bMS$ .

### 3. Conclusions

The importance of the results obtained here is reflected in the fact that we have improved some known results in the fixed-point theory and demonstrated this validated by the examples presented. On the other hand, the results obtained in metric spaces were obtained in the broad class of spaces in  $b$ -metric spaces. A natural question is whether these results can be obtained for some wider classes of spaces such as rectangular  $b$ -metric spaces [10],  $b_v(s)$ -metric spaces [20], orthogonal  $b$ -metric-like spaces [29] and modular spaces [30].

**Author Contributions:** Conceptualization, Z.D.M., A.B., A.A., N.M. and R.G.; formal analysis, Z.D.M., A.B. and A.A.; writing—original draft preparation, Z.D.M., A.B., A.A., N.M. and R.G.; writing—review and editing, Z.D.M., A.B., A.A., N.M. and R.G.; funding acquisition, R.G. All authors have read and agreed to the published version of the manuscript.

**Funding:** This research received no external funding.

**Institutional Review Board Statement:** Not applicable.

**Informed Consent Statement:** Not applicable.

**Data Availability Statement:** Not applicable.

**Acknowledgments:** This study is supported via funding from Prince Sattam bin Abdulaziz University project number (PSAU/2023/R/1444). The authors would like to thank the reviewers for their valuable remarks and recommendations.

**Conflicts of Interest:** The authors declare no conflict of interest.

### References

1. Aleksić, S.; Mitrović, Z.D.; Radenović, S. A fixed point theorem of Jungck in  $b_v(s)$ -metric spaces. *Period. Math. Hung.* **2018**, *77*, 224–231. [\[CrossRef\]](#)
2. Aleksić, S.; Mitrović, Z.D.; Radenović, S. Picard sequences in  $b$ -metric spaces. *Fixed Point Theory* **2020**, *21*, 35–46. [\[CrossRef\]](#)
3. Bakhtin, I.A. The contraction mapping principle in almost metric space. (*Russ.*) *Funct. Anal. Unianowsk Gos. Ped. Inst.* **1989**, *30*, 26–37.
4. Caristi, J. Fixed point theorems for mappings satisfying inwardness conditions. *Trans. Am. Math. Soc.* **1976**, *215*, 241–251. [\[CrossRef\]](#)
5. Carić, B.; Došenović, T.; George, R.; Mitrović, Z.D.; Radenović, S. On Jungck-Branciari-Wardowski type fixed point results. *Mathematics* **2021**, *9*, 161. [\[CrossRef\]](#)
6. Czerwik, S. Contraction mappings in  $b$ -metric spaces. *Acta Math. Inform. Univ. Ostrav.* **1993**, *1*, 5–11.
7. Ćirić, Lj, B. Generalised contractions and fixed point theorems. *Publ. Inst. Math.* **1971**, *12*, 19–26.
8. Dung, N.V.; Hang, V.T.L. On relaxations of contraction constants and Caristi's theorem in  $b$ -metric spaces. *J. Fixed Point Theory Appl.* **2016**, *18*, 267–284. [\[CrossRef\]](#)
9. Fisher, B. Four mappings with a common fixed point. *Kuwait J. Sci.* **1981**, *8*, 131–139.
10. George, R.; Radenović, S.; Reshma, K.P.; Shukla, S. Rectangular  $b$ -metric space and contraction principles. *J. Nonlinear Sci. Appl.* **2015**, *8*, 1005–1013. [\[CrossRef\]](#)
11. Hussain, N.; Mitrović, Z.D.; Radenović, S. A common fixed point theorem of Fisher in  $b$ -metric spaces. *Rev. R. Acad. Cienc. Exactas Fís. Nat. Ser. A Mat. RACSAM* **2019**, *113*, 949–956. [\[CrossRef\]](#)
12. Jovanović, M.; Kadelburg, Z.; Radenović, S. Common Fixed Point Results in Metric-Type Spaces. *Fixed Point Theory Appl.* **2010**, *2010*, 978121. [\[CrossRef\]](#)
13. Jungck, G. Commuting mappings and fixed points. *Am. Math. Mon.* **1976**, *83*, 261–263. [\[CrossRef\]](#)
14. Jungck, G. Compatible mappings and common fixed points. *Int. J. Math. Math. Sci.* **1986**, *9*, 771–779. [\[CrossRef\]](#)
15. Karapinar, E.; Khojasteh, F.; Mitrović, Z.D. A proposal for revisiting Banach and Caristi type theorems in  $b$ -metric spaces. *Mathematics* **2019**, *7*, 308. [\[CrossRef\]](#)
16. Khojasteh, F.; Karapinar, E.; Khandani, H. Some applications of Caristi's fixed point theorem in metric spaces. *Fixed Point Theory Appl.* **2016**, *2016*, 16. [\[CrossRef\]](#)
17. Kirk, W.; Shahzad, N. *Fixed Point Theory in Distance Spaces*; Springer: Cham, Switzerland, 2014. [\[CrossRef\]](#)
18. Miculescu, R.; Mihail, A. New fixed point theorems for set-valued contractions in  $b$ -metric spaces. *J. Fixed Point Theory Appl.* **2017**, *19*, 2153–2163. [\[CrossRef\]](#)



19. Miculescu, R.; Mihail, A. Caristi-Kirk type and Boyd-Wong-Browder-Matkowski-Rus type fixed point results in  $b$ -metric spaces. *Filomat* **2017**, *31*, 4331–4340. [[CrossRef](#)]
20. Mitrović, Z.D.; Radenović, S.; Reich, S.; Zaslavski, A. Iterating nonlinear contractive mappings in Banach spaces. *Carpathian J. Math.* **2020**, *36*, 286–293. [[CrossRef](#)]
21. Mitrović, Z.D.; Radenović, S. The Banach and Reich contractions in  $b_\nu(s)$ -metric spaces. *J. Fixed Point Theory Appl.* **2017**, *19*, 3087–3095. [[CrossRef](#)]
22. Mitrović, Z.D.; Radenović, S. A common fixed point theorem of Jungck in rectangular  $b$ -metric spaces. *Acta Math. Hungar.* **2017**, *153*, 401–407. [[CrossRef](#)]
23. Mitrović, Z.D. A note on a Banach's fixed point theorem in  $b$ -rectangular metric space and  $b$ -metric space. *Math. Slovaca* **2018**, *68*, 1113–1116. [[CrossRef](#)]
24. Mitrović, Z.D.; Hussain, N. On results of Hardy-Rogers and Reich in cone  $b$ -metric space over Banach algebra and applications. *U.P.B. Sci. Bull. Ser. A* **2019**, *81*, 147–154.
25. Pant, R.P.; Rakočević, V.; Gopal, D.; Pant, A.; Ram, M. A General Fixed Point Theorem. *Filomat* **2021**, *35*, 4061–4072. [[CrossRef](#)]
26. Pant, A.; Pant, R.P. Fixed points and continuity of contractive maps. *Filomat* **2017**, *31*, 3501–3506. [[CrossRef](#)]
27. Pant, A.; Pant, R.P.; Joshi, M.C. Caristi type and Meir-Keeler type fixed point theorems. *Filomat* **2019**, *33*, 3711–3721. [[CrossRef](#)]
28. Hutchinson, J. Fractals and Self-Similarity. *Indiana Univ. Math. J.* **1981**, *30*, 713–747. [[CrossRef](#)]
29. Gardašević-Filipović, M.; Kukić, K.; Gardašević, D.; Mitrović, Z.D. Some best proximity point results in the orthogonal 0-complete  $b$ -metric like spaces. *J. Contemp. Math. Anal. Armen. Acad.* **2023**, *58*, 1–14. *in press*.
30. Nakano, H. Modular semi-ordered spaces. *Tokyo Math. Book Series*; Maruzen. I: Tokyo, Japan, 1950; Volume 1, p. 288.

**Disclaimer/Publisher's Note:** The statements, opinions and data contained in all publications are solely those of the individual author(s) and contributor(s) and not of MDPI and/or the editor(s). MDPI and/or the editor(s) disclaim responsibility for any injury to people or property resulting from any ideas, methods, instructions or products referred to in the content.