



Some Remarks on Contraction Mappings in Rectangular b-metric Spaces

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ABSTRACT: In this paper, we give a short proof for Reich contraction in rectangular b-metric spaces and almost rectangular b-metric spaces with increased range of the Lipschitzian constants and illustrate this with a suitable example. Our results generalize, improve and complement several ones in the existing literature.

Key Words: Fixed points, b-metric space, Rectangular metric space, Rectangular b-metric space.

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1. Introduction and Preliminaries

In the paper [5] George *et al.* introduced the concept of rectangular b-metric space, (see also [3,4,9]) which is not necessarily Hausdorff and which generalizes the concept of metric space, rectangular metric space and b-metric space (some results in b-metric spaces can be seen in [1,2]). Later many fixed point results were proved in a rectangular b-metric space (see [3,4,9]).

Definition 1.1. [5] Let X be a nonempty set and the mapping $d : X \times X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ satisfies:

(RbM1) $d(x, y) = 0$ if and only if $x = y$;

(RbM2) $d(x, y) = d(y, x)$ for all $x, y \in X$;

(RbM3) there exists a real number $s \geq 1$ such that $d(x, y) \leq s[d(x, u) + d(u, v) + d(v, y)]$ for all $x, y \in X$ and all distinct points $u, v \in X \setminus \{x, y\}$.

Then d is called a rectangular b-metric on X and (X, d) is called a rectangular b-metric space (in short RbMS) with coefficient s .

Definition 1.2. [5] Let (X, d) be a rectangular b-metric space, $\{x_n\}$ be a sequence in X and $x \in X$. Then

(a) The sequence $\{x_n\}$ is said to be convergent in (X, d) and converges to x , if for every $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $d(x_n, x) < \varepsilon$ for all $n > n_0$ and this fact is represented by $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x$ or $x_n \rightarrow x$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

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- (b) The sequence $\{x_n\}$ is said to be Cauchy sequence in (X, d) if for every $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $d(x_n, x_{n+p}) < \varepsilon$ for all $n > n_0, p > 0$.
- (c) (X, d) is said to be a complete rectangular b-metric space if every Cauchy sequence in X converges to some $x \in X$.

The main result in the paper [5] is the following theorem (analogue of Banach contraction principle in rectangular b-metric space).

Theorem 1.3. *Let (X, d) be a complete rectangular b-metric space with coefficient $s > 1$ and $T : X \rightarrow X$ be a mapping satisfying:*

$$d(Tx, Ty) \leq \lambda d(x, y) \quad (1.1)$$

for all $x, y \in X$, where $\lambda \in [0, \frac{1}{s}]$. Then T has a unique fixed point.

George *et al.* (Open problems on page 1012 in [5]) raised the following problems.

Problem 1. (Open Question 1) In Theorem 1.3, can we extent the range of λ to the case $\frac{1}{s} < \lambda < 1$?

Problem 2. (Open Question 2) Prove analogue of Chatterjee contraction, Reich contraction, Ćirić contraction and Hardy-Rogers contraction in RbMS.

In [7], the author has given a positive answer to the Open Question 1 of [5]. The purpose of this paper is to obtain analogue of Reich's contraction principle (see [8]) in RbMS and thus give a partial solution to the Open Question 2 of [5]. We have also obtained an analogue of Reich's contraction principle and Banach contraction principle in an almost rectangular b-metric space, which is possibly a more generalised version of rectangular b-metric space. Our results improve the results of [4], [5] and [7] in the sense that the range of Lipschitzian constants used have been significantly increased in our results and also we have proved the results in a more generalised concept of almost rectangular b-metric space..

2. Main Result

The following theorem is the analogue of Reich's contraction principle in rectangular b-metric space.

Theorem 2.1. *Let (X, d) be a complete rectangular b-metric space with coefficient $s > 1$ and $T : X \rightarrow X$ be a mapping satisfying:*

$$d(Tx, Ty) \leq \alpha d(x, y) + \beta d(x, Tx) + \gamma d(y, Ty) \quad (2.1)$$

for all $x, y \in X$, where α, β, γ are nonnegative constants with $\alpha + \beta + \gamma < 1$ and $\min\{\beta, \gamma\} < \frac{1}{s}$. Then T has a unique fixed point x^* and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} T^n x = x^*$, for all $x \in X$.

Proof: Let $x_0 \in X$ be arbitrary. Define the sequence $\{x_n\}$ by $x_{n+1} = Tx_n$ for all $n \geq 0$. From condition (2.1) we have that

$$d(x_{n+1}, x_n) \leq \alpha d(x_n, x_{n-1}) + \beta d(x_n, x_{n+1}) + \gamma d(x_{n-1}, x_n).$$

Therefore,

$$d(x_{n+1}, x_n) \leq \frac{\alpha + \gamma}{1 - \beta} d(x_n, x_{n-1}). \quad (2.2)$$

Put $\lambda = \frac{\alpha + \gamma}{1 - \beta}$. We have that $\lambda \in [0, 1)$. It follows from (2.2) that

$$d(x_{n+1}, x_n) \leq \lambda^n d(x_1, x_0) \text{ for all } n \geq 1. \quad (2.3)$$

If $x_n = x_{n+1}$ then x_n is fixed point of T . So, suppose that $x_n \neq x_{n+1}$ for all $n \geq 0$. Then $x_n \neq x_{n+k}$ for $n \geq 0, k \geq 1$. Namely, if $x_n = x_{n+k}$ for some $n \geq 0$ and $k \geq 1$ we have that $x_{n+1} = x_{n+k+1}$. Then (2.2) implies

$$d(x_{n+1}, x_n) = d(x_{n+k+1}, x_{n+k}) \leq \lambda^k d(x_{n+1}, x_n) < d(x_{n+1}, x_n),$$

a contradiction.

From conditions (2.1) and (2.3) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} d(x_m, x_n) &\leq \alpha d(x_{m-1}, x_{n-1}) + \beta d(x_{m-1}, x_m) + \gamma d(x_{n-1}, x_n) \\ &\leq \alpha d(x_{m-1}, x_{n-1}) + \beta \lambda^{m-1} d(x_0, x_1) + \gamma \lambda^{n-1} d(x_0, x_1) \\ &= \alpha d(x_{m-1}, x_{n-1}) + (\beta \lambda^{m-1} + \gamma \lambda^{n-1}) d(x_0, x_1) \end{aligned}$$

From this, we have

$$d(x_m, x_n) \leq k d(x_{m-1}, x_{n-1}) + (k^m + k^n) d(x_0, x_1), \quad (2.4)$$

where, $k = \max\{\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \lambda\}$. From (2.4) we further obtain

$$d(x_m, x_n) \leq k^r d(x_{m-r}, x_{n-r}) + r(k^m + k^n) d(x_0, x_1), \quad (2.5)$$

for all $r \in \{1, \dots, \min\{m, n\}\}$.

Since $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} k^n = 0$, there exists a natural number n_0 such that

$$0 < k^{n_0} \cdot s < 1. \quad (2.6)$$

So, from (2.5) we obtain the following inequalities

$$d(x_m, x_{m+n_0}) \leq k^m d(x_0, x_{n_0}) + m(k^m + k^{m+n_0}) d(x_0, x_1), \quad (2.7)$$

$$d(x_{n+n_0}, x_n) \leq k^n d(x_{n_0}, x_0) + n(k^{n+n_0} + k^n) d(x_0, x_1), \quad (2.8)$$

$$d(x_{m+n_0}, x_{n+n_0}) \leq k^{n_0} d(x_m, x_n) + n_0(k^{m+n_0} + k^{n+n_0}) d(x_0, x_1). \quad (2.9)$$

Since (X, d) is rectangular b-metric space, from condition (RbM3) we have

$$d(x_m, x_n) \leq s[d(x_m, x_{m+n_0}) + d(x_{m+n_0}, x_{n+n_0}) + d(x_{n+n_0}, x_n)]. \quad (2.10)$$

From (2.10), together with (2.6), (2.7), (2.8) and (2.9) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} d(x_m, x_n) &\leq s \frac{(k^m + k^n) d(x_0, x_{n_0})}{1 - k^{n_0} s} \\ &+ s \frac{[k^m(m + (m + n_0)k^{n_0}) + k^n(n + (n + n_0)k^{n_0})] d(x_0, x_1)}{1 - k^{n_0} s}. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} k^n = 0$ and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} nk^n = 0$, we have that $\{x_n\}$ is a Cauchy sequence in (X, d) . By completeness of (X, d) there exists $x^* \in X$ such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x^*. \quad (2.11)$$

Now we obtain that x^* is the unique fixed point of T . Namely, there exists $k \in \mathbb{N}$ such that for all $n > k$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} d(x^*, Tx^*) &\leq s[d(x^*, x_n) + d(x_n, x_{n+1}) + d(x_{n+1}, Tx^*)] \\ &= s[d(x^*, x_n) + d(x_n, x_{n+1}) + d(Tx_n, Tx^*)] \\ &\leq s[d(x^*, x_n) + d(x_n, x_{n+1}) + \alpha d(x_n, x^*) \\ &\quad + \beta d(x_n, x_{n+1}) + \gamma d(x^*, Tx^*)]. \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} d(Tx^*, x^*) &\leq s[d(Tx^*, x_{n+1}) + d(x_{n+1}, x_n) + d(x_n, x^*)] \\ &= s[d(Tx^*, Tx_n) + d(x_{n+1}, x_n) + d(x_n, x^*)] \\ &\leq s[\alpha d(x^*, x_n) + \beta d(x^*, Tx^*) + \gamma d(x_n, x_{n+1}) \\ &\quad + d(x_{n+1}, x_n) + d(x_n, x^*)]. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d(x^*, x_n) = 0$, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d(x_n, x_{n+1}) = 0$ and $\min\{\beta, \gamma\} < \frac{1}{s}$, we have $d(x^*, Tx^*) = 0$ i. e., $Tx^* = x^*$.

For uniqueness, let y^* be another fixed point of T . Then it follows from (2.1) that

$$\begin{aligned} d(x^*, y^*) &= d(Tx^*, Ty^*) \leq \alpha d(x^*, y^*) + \beta d(x^*, Tx^*) + \gamma d(y^*, Ty^*) \\ &= \alpha d(x^*, y^*) < d(x^*, y^*) \end{aligned}$$

is a contradiction. Therefore, we must have $d(x^*, y^*) = 0$, i.e., $x^* = y^*$. \square

Remark 2.2. Every metric space is a rectangular b-metric space, but the converse is not true in general (see [5]). We obtain that Theorem 2.1 provides a generalization of Reich Principle Contraction.

Remark 2.3. Additionally, if for each $y \in X$ the function $x \mapsto d(x, y)$ is lower semicontinuous from Theorem 2.1 then for x^* for which $x^* = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} T^n x_0$ the next estimate holds

$$d(x^*, x_n) \leq \frac{sk^n}{1 - k^{n_0}s} [d(x_0, x_{n_0}) + (n + (n + n_0)k^{n_0})d(x_0, x_1)], \quad (2.12)$$

where $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $0 < \lambda^{n_0} \cdot b^2 < 1$ and $k = \max\{\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \frac{\alpha + \gamma}{1 - \beta}\}$.

Example 2.4. Let $X = [0, 2]$, $d(x, y) = (x - y)^2$ for all $x, y \in X$ and $T : X \rightarrow X$ be defined by

$$Tx = \begin{cases} \frac{x}{2} & x \in [0, 1], \\ \frac{x}{3} & x \in (1, 2]. \end{cases}$$

Then

1. From inequality

$$\left(\frac{a+b+c}{3}\right)^2 \leq \frac{a^2+b^2+c^2}{3},$$

for all $a, b, c \in [0, \infty)$, we obtain that (X, d) is a complete rectangular b -metric space with coefficient $s = 3$.

2. There exist $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \geq 0$, $\frac{1}{3} < \alpha + \beta + \gamma < 1$, $\min\{\beta, \gamma\} < \frac{1}{3}$ ($\alpha = \beta = \gamma = \frac{2}{7}$) such that T satisfies the contraction condition (2.1) in Theorem 2.1.

From Theorem 2.1 we obtain the following variant of Banach contraction principle in b -rectangular metric spaces.

Theorem 2.5. [7] Let (X, d) be a complete rectangular b -metric space with coefficient $s > 1$ and $T : X \rightarrow X$ be a mapping satisfying:

$$d(Tx, Ty) \leq \alpha d(x, y) \quad (2.13)$$

for all $x, y \in X$, where $\alpha \in (0, 1)$. Then T has a unique fixed point x^* and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} T^n x = x^*$, for all $x \in X$.

In the next Theorem we show inequality

$$d(x^*, x_0) \leq \frac{s}{1-\lambda s} [d(x_0, Tx_0) + d(Tx_0, T^2x_0)], \quad (2.14)$$

if $\lambda < \frac{1}{s}$.

In the rectangular b -metric space (X, d) , let $B[x, r]$ denote the closed ball with centre x and radius r .

Theorem 2.6. If (X, d) is a complete rectangular b -metric space with coefficient $s > 1$ and $T : X \rightarrow X$ is a contraction mapping, then T has a unique fixed point x^* , and for any $x_0 \in X$ the sequence $T^n x_0$ converges to x^* . If $0 < \lambda s < 1$, then $x^* \in B[x_0, r]$, where $r = \frac{s}{1-\lambda s} [d(x_0, Tx_0) + d(Tx_0, T^2x_0)]$.

Proof: We show that $T : B[x_0, r] \rightarrow B[x_0, r]$. Let $x \in B[x_0, r]$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} d(Tx, x_0) &\leq s[d(Tx, Tx_0) + d(Tx_0, T^2x_0) + d(Tx_0, x_0)] \\ &\leq s[\lambda d(x, x_0) + d(Tx_0, T^2x_0) + d(Tx_0, x_0)] \\ &\leq s\left[\frac{\lambda s}{1-\lambda s} [d(x_0, Tx_0) + d(Tx_0, T^2x_0)]\right] \\ &\quad + d(x_0, Tx_0) + d(Tx_0, x_0) \\ &= \frac{s}{1-\lambda s} [d(x_0, Tx_0) + d(Tx_0, T^2x_0)] = r. \end{aligned}$$

By the Theorem 2.5, the result follows. \square

Example 2.7. Let $X = \mathbb{R}$, $d(x, y) = (x - y)^2$ for all $x, y \in X$ and $T : X \rightarrow X$ be defined by $Tx = \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}x$. Then (X, d) is a complete rectangular b-metric space with coefficient $s = 3$. Corollary 2.5 is applicable taking $\lambda = \frac{2}{3}$. On the other hand, Theorem 1.3 is not applicable since condition (1.1) implies $\frac{2}{3} \leq \lambda$ and $\lambda \in [0, \frac{1}{s}]$ implies $\lambda \leq \frac{1}{3}$.

Remark 2.8. Theorem 2.5 provides a complete solution to an open problem 1 raised by George et al. in [5].

Also, from Theorem 2.1 we obtain the Kannan theorem [6] in b-rectangular metric spaces.

Corollary 2.9. Let (X, d) be a complete rectangular b-metric space with coefficient $s > 1$ and $T : X \rightarrow X$ be a mapping satisfying:

$$d(Tx, Ty) \leq \beta d(x, Tx) + \gamma d(y, Ty) \quad (2.15)$$

for all $x, y \in X$, where β, γ nonnegative constants with $\beta + \gamma < 1$ and $\min\{\beta, \gamma\} < \frac{1}{s}$. Then T has a unique fixed point.

From Corollary 2.9 we obtain the next generalization of Theorem 3.2 in [5].

Corollary 2.10. Let (X, d) be a complete rectangular b-metric space with coefficient $s > 1$ and $T : X \rightarrow X$ be a mapping satisfying:

$$d(Tx, Ty) \leq \lambda[d(x, Tx) + d(y, Ty)] \quad (2.16)$$

for all $x, y \in X$, where $\lambda \in [0, \min\{\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{s}\})$. Then T has a unique fixed point.

From Theorem 2.1 we obtain the following variant of Reich-theorem in rectangular b-metric spaces.

Corollary 2.11. Let (X, d) be a complete rectangular b-metric space with coefficient $s > 1$ and $T : X \rightarrow X$ be a mapping satisfying:

$$d(Tx, Ty) \leq ad(x, y) + b[d(x, Tx) + d(y, Ty)] \quad (2.17)$$

for all $x, y \in X$, where a, b are nonnegative constants with $a + 2b < 1$ and $b < \frac{1}{s}$. Then T has a unique fixed point x^* and for each $x \in X$ the Picard sequence $\{T^n x\}$ converges to x^* in (X, d) .

Example 2.12. Let $X = \{0, 1, \frac{5}{2}, 3\}$, $d(x, y) = (x - y)^2$ for all $x, y \in X$ and $T : X \rightarrow X$ be defined by $T(0) = \frac{5}{2}, T(1) = T(\frac{5}{2}) = 1, T(3) = 0$. Then (X, d) is a complete rectangular b-metric space with coefficient $s = 3$. Corollary 2.11 is applicable with $a = 0.4$ and $b = 0.299$ and 1 is the unique fixed point of T . However, Corollary 2.4 of Ding et al [4] is not applicable as $d(T0, T3) > ad(x, y) + b[d(x, Tx) + d(y, Ty)]$ for any $a + 2b < \frac{1}{3}$.

Remark 2.13. In view of above example we see that Theorem 2.1 and Corollary 2.4 are generalized versions of Corollary 2.11 of [4] in the setting of rectangular b-metric spaces.

3. A possibly more general theorem

In this section we prove Theorem 2.1 without assumption (RbM2).

Definition 3.1. Let X be a nonempty set. A mapping $d : X \times X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ is called an almost-rectangular b -metric on X if d satisfies the conditions (RbM1) and (RbM3) stated in Definition 1.1 and, in addition, satisfies (RbM2') $d(x_n, x) \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow d(x, x_n) \rightarrow 0$.

Theorem 3.2. Let (X, d) be a complete almost-rectangular b -metric space with coefficient $s > 1$ and $T : X \rightarrow X$ be a mapping satisfying:

$$d(Tx, Ty) \leq \alpha d(x, y) + \beta d(x, Tx) + \gamma d(Ty, y) \quad (3.1)$$

for all $x, y \in X$, where α, β, γ are nonnegative constants with

$$\alpha + 2 \max\{\beta, \gamma\} < 1 \text{ and } \max\{\beta, \gamma\} < \frac{1}{s}. \quad (3.2)$$

Then T has a unique fixed point x^* and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} T^n x = x^*$, for all $x \in X$.

Proof: Define a new rectangular b -metric on X by

$$\rho(x, y) = \frac{d(x, y) + d(y, x)}{2}.$$

It is easy to check that ρ is a rectangular b -metric on X with coefficient s . Indeed, the less obvious task is the verification of (RbM3). To check it, pick any $x, y \in X$ and fixe distinct points $u, v \in X \setminus \{x, y\}$. Then, from

$$d(x, y) \leq s[d(x, u) + d(u, v) + d(v, y)]$$

and

$$d(y, x) \leq s[d(y, v) + d(v, u) + d(u, x)]$$

one has

$$\begin{aligned} \rho(x, y) &= \frac{d(x, y) + d(y, x)}{2} \\ &\leq s \left[\frac{d(x, u) + d(u, x)}{2} + \frac{d(u, v) + d(v, u)}{2} + \frac{d(v, y) + d(y, v)}{2} \right] \\ &= s[\rho(x, u) + \rho(u, v) + \rho(v, y)]. \end{aligned}$$

In addition, direct calculation shows

$$\rho(Tx, Ty) \leq \alpha \rho(x, y) + \max\{\beta, \gamma\} \rho(x, Tx) + \max\{\beta, \gamma\} \rho(y, Ty)$$

for all $x, y \in X$. Notice further that 3.2 implies

$$\min\{\max\{\beta, \gamma\}, \max\{\beta, \gamma\}\} = \max\{\beta, \gamma\} < \frac{1}{s}$$

and

$$\alpha + \max\{\beta, \gamma\} + \max\{\beta, \gamma\} < 1.$$

A direct calculation using property (RbM2') shows that (X, ρ) is complete. Therefore, by Theorem 2.1 T has a unique fixed point $x^* \in X$ such that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} T^n x = x^*$ for all $x \in X$. \square

From Theorem 3.2 above, one obtains the following more general form of Theorem 2.5.

Theorem 3.3. *Let (X, d) be a complete almost-rectangular b -metric space with coefficient $s > 1$ and $T : X \rightarrow X$ be a mapping satisfying:*

$$d(Tx, Ty) \leq \alpha d(x, y) \tag{3.3}$$

for all $x, y \in X$, where $\alpha \in (0, 1)$. Then T has a unique fixed point x^ and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} T^n x = x^*$, for all $x \in X$.*

Remark 3.4. *Observe the curious fact in these results: the function d does not need to satisfy the symmetry condition (RbM2).*

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