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BRIAN FISHER

**Constant mappings and common fixed points**

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**Geometria differenziale.** — *Constant mappings and common fixed points.* Nota di BRIAN FISHER, presentata (\*) dal Socio B. SEGRE.

RIASSUNTO. — Si dimostra che, se  $S$  e  $T$  sono applicazioni di uno spazio metrico  $X$  in sè tali che o

$$d(Sx, Ty) \leq bd(y, Sx) + cd(y, Ty), \quad (0 \leq b, c < 1)$$

oppure

$$\{d(Sx, Ty)\}^2 \leq cd(y, Sx)d(y, Ty), \quad (0 \leq c)$$

per tutti gli  $x, y$  di  $X$ , allora  $S$  e  $T$  hanno un unico punto fisso comune,  $z$ , ed inoltre  $Sx = z$  per tutti gli  $x$  di  $X$ .

We first of all prove the following theorem:

**THEOREM 1.** *If  $S$  and  $T$  are mappings of the metric space  $X$  into itself satisfying the inequality*

$$d(Sx, Ty) \leq bd(y, Sx) + cd(y, Ty)$$

*for all  $x, y$  in  $X$ , where  $0 \leq b, c < 1$ , then  $S$  and  $T$  have a unique common fixed point  $z$ . Further,  $S$  is a constant mapping with  $Sx = z$  for all  $x$  in  $X$ .*

*Proof.* If  $x$  is an arbitrary point in  $X$ , we have

$$d(Sx, TSx) \leq bd(Sx, Sx) + cd(Sx, TSx) = cd(Sx, TSx)$$

and, since  $c < 1$ , it follows that

$$TSx = Sx.$$

Thus the point  $Sx = z$  is a fixed point of  $T$ . Further

$$d(Sz, z) = d(Sz, Tz) \leq bd(z, Sz) + cd(z, Tz) = bd(Sz, z)$$

and, since  $b < 1$ , it follows that

$$Sz = z.$$

Thus the point  $z$  is a common fixed point of  $S$  and  $T$ .

Now suppose that  $S$  and  $T$  have a second common fixed point  $w$ . Then

$$d(z, w) = d(Sz, Tw) \leq bd(w, Sz) + cd(w, Tw) = bd(z, w)$$

and, since  $b < 1$ , it follows that the common fixed point  $z$  must be unique.

(\*) Nella seduta del 14 maggio 1977.

We now note that, since the point  $z$  is unique and since the arbitrary point  $x$  was mapped into  $z$ ,  $S$  must map every point  $x$  in  $X$  into  $z$ . This completes the proof of the theorem.

Although we have proved that  $S$  is a constant mapping,  $T$  is not necessarily a constant mapping. To see this, let  $X$  be the set  $\{0, 1, 3\}$  with metric

$$d(r, n) = |r - n| : \quad r, n = 0, 1, 3.$$

Define mappings  $S$  and  $T$  on  $X$  by

$$S(0) = S(1) = S(3) = T(0) = T(1) = 0, \quad T(3) = 1.$$

It is easily seen that the inequality of the theorem is satisfied with  $b = c = \frac{1}{2}$ , but  $T$  is not a constant mapping.

The inequality is also satisfied when  $b = 0, c = \frac{1}{2}$  or when  $b = \frac{1}{2}, c = 0$  and so  $T$  is not necessarily a constant mapping even if either  $b = 0$  or  $c = 0$ .

In the particular case  $S = T$ , we of course have the following corollary:

**COROLLARY.** *If  $T$  is a mapping of the metric space  $X$  into itself satisfying the inequality*

$$d(Tx, Ty) \leq bd(y, Tx) + cd(y, Ty)$$

*for all  $x, y$  in  $X$ , where  $0 \leq b, c < 1$ , then  $T$  is a constant mapping.*

We now prove the following

**THEOREM 2.** *If  $S$  and  $T$  are mappings of the metric space  $X$  into itself satisfying the inequality*

$$\{d(Sx, Ty)\}^2 \leq cd(y, Sx)d(y, Ty)$$

*for all  $x, y$  in  $X$ , where  $0 \leq c$ , then  $S$  and  $T$  have a unique common fixed point  $z$ . Further,  $S$  is a constant mapping with  $Sx = z$  for all  $x$  in  $X$ .*

*Proof.* If  $x$  is an arbitrary point in  $X$ , we have

$$\{d(Sx, TSx)\}^2 \leq cd(Sx, Sx)d(Sx, TSx) = 0$$

and it follows that

$$TSx = Sx.$$

Thus the point  $Sx = z$  is a fixed point of  $T$ .

Further

$$\{d(Sz, z)\}^2 = \{d(Sz, Tz)\}^2 \leq cd(z, Sz)d(z, Tz) = 0.$$

It follows that the point  $z$  is a common fixed point of  $S$  and  $T$ .

Now suppose that  $S$  and  $T$  have a second common fixed point  $w$ . Then

$$\{d(z, w)\}^2 = \{d(Sz, Tw)\}^2 \leq cd(w, Sz)d(w, Tw) = 0.$$

It follows that the common fixed point  $z$  is unique and then that  $S$  maps every point  $x$  in  $X$  into  $z$ . This completes the proof of the theorem.

The example given above, with  $c = 1$ , again shows us that  $T$  is not necessarily a constant mapping.

In the particular case  $S = T$ , we have the following:

**COROLLARY.** *If  $T$  is a mapping of the metric space  $X$  into itself satisfying the inequality*

$$\{d(Tx, Ty)\}^2 \leq cd(y, Tx)d(y, Ty)$$

*for all  $x, y$  in  $X$ , where  $0 \leq c$ , then  $T$  is a constant mapping.*

We finally prove the following

**THEOREM 3.** *If  $S$  and  $T$  are mappings of the metric space  $X$  into itself satisfying the inequality*

$$d(Sx, Ty) < d(y, Sx) + d(y, Ty)$$

*for all  $x, y$  in  $X$ , with  $Sx \neq Ty$ , then  $S$  and  $T$  have a unique common fixed point  $z$ . Further,  $S$  is a constant mapping with  $Sx = z$  for all  $x$  in  $X$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $x$  be an arbitrary point in  $X$ . Then if  $Sx = TSx$ , we have

$$d(Sx, TSx) < d(Sx, Sx) + d(Sx, TSx) = d(Sx, TSx),$$

giving a contradiction. It follows that the point  $Sx = z$  is a fixed point of  $T$ .

Now suppose that  $Sz \neq z$ . Then

$$d(Sz, z) = d(Sz, Tz) < d(z, Sz) + d(z, Tz) = d(Sz, z),$$

giving a contradiction. It follows that the point  $z$  is a common fixed point of  $S$  and  $T$ .

If we now suppose that  $w$  is a second distinct common fixed point of  $S$  and  $T$ , then

$$d(z, w) = d(Sz, Tw) < d(w, Sz) + d(w, Tw) = d(z, w),$$

giving a contradiction. It follows that the common fixed point  $z$  is unique and then that  $S$  maps every point  $x$  in  $X$  into  $z$ . This completes the proof of the theorem.

In the particular case  $S = T$ , we have the following

**COROLLARY.** *If  $T$  is a mapping of the metric space  $X$  into itself satisfying the inequality*

$$d(Tx, Ty) < d(y, Tx) + d(y, Ty)$$

*for all  $x, y$  in  $X$ , with  $Tx \neq Ty$ , then  $T$  is a constant mapping.*