

# On fixed point theorems in modular spaces characterized by $C^*$ -class functions

Supama<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Department of Mathematics, Universitas Gadjah Mada, Yogyakarta 55281, Indonesia*  
e-mail: [supama@ugm.ac.id](mailto:supama@ugm.ac.id)

**Abstract** Generally, finding a solution to a theoretical mathematical modelling problem is equivalent to finding a fixed point for a suitable operator. Accordingly, fixed point theory is therefore very important and crucial in many areas, such as mathematics, sciences, and engineering. A very popular and important fixed point theory is that formulated by Stefan Banach in 1922. The theory is related to a complete normed space and known as the Banach fixed point theory.

Recently there have been numerous generalizations of the Banach fixed point theory. One of them is a fixed point theory in modular spaces. In this paper, we will formulate some fixed point theorems in modular spaces by using  $C^*$ -class functions. The obtained results generalize and improve some results in [21].

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## 1. Introduction

In a wide range of mathematical modelling problems, finding a solution of real or theoretical problem is equivalent to finding a fixed point for a suitable operator or mapping. Accordingly, a fixed point theory is therefore a very important and crucial in many areas, such as mathematics, sciences, economics, and engineering. A very popular and important fixed point theory is those formulated by Stefan Banach in 1922 [4]. The theory is related to a complete normed space and known as the Banach fixed point theory [14, 19]. Due to its importance, many researchers then extended and generalized those theory via some various ways, such as by replacing normed spaces by modular spaces (See for e.g. [1, 2, 7, 8, 10–13, 15, 20–22]).

The theory of modular spaces was firstly initiated by H. Nakano in 1950 [17]. Initially, Nakano defined a modular function on an order vector space, that is a vector space equipped with an order relation such that the order and the vector space structure are compatible. Later on, the Nakano's definition was generalized by Orlicz and Musielak in



1959 by omitting the order structure in the order vector space in the Nakano's version [16, 18]. Based on the definition from Orlicz and Musielak, a modular is therefore a general case of a norm. Modular metric spaces are a natural generalization of classical modulars over linear spaces like Lebesgue spaces, Orlicz spaces, Musielak-Orlicz spaces, and many others [5, 6, 9].

Over time, many results in fixed point theory generalize those of Banach for modular spaces (See for e.g. [1, 2, 7, 8, 10–13, 15, 20–22]). In this paper, we formulate some fixed point theorems in modular spaces by using  $C^*$ -type functions. The results generalize the theory in [21].

## 2. Some Basic Notion and Preliminaries

In this section, we recall some essential definitions and fundamental results [21].

As usual,  $\mathbb{N}$  and  $\mathbb{R}$  denote the set of all positive integers and real numbers system, respectively. The extended real numbers system will be denoted by  $\mathbb{R}^*$ .

Let  $X$  be a linear space over  $\mathbb{R}$ . A non-negative function  $\rho : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^*$  is called a *modular* if for every  $f, g \in X$  the following conditions hold.

- (i)  $\rho(f) = 0$  iff  $f = 0$ .
- (ii)  $\rho(-f) = \rho(f)$ .
- (iii)  $\rho(\alpha f + \beta g) \leq \rho(f) + \rho(g)$  for every  $\alpha, \beta \geq 0$  such that  $\alpha + \beta = 1$ .

If we change the axiom (iii) by

- (iii')  $\rho(\alpha f + \beta g) \leq \alpha\rho(f) + \beta\rho(g)$  for every  $\alpha, \beta \geq 0$  such that  $\alpha + \beta = 1$ ,

then we say that the modular  $\rho$  is a convex modular. A linear space  $X$  equipped with a modular  $\rho$ , written by  $(X, \rho)$ , is called a modular space. We shall also denote a modular space by the single character  $X$ , when the modular  $\rho$  is explicitly understood.

By considering the definition of the modular, then we can easily prove the following theorems.

**Theorem 2.1.** *Let  $(X, \rho)$  be a modular space.*

- (i) *If  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $0 \leq \alpha \leq \beta$  then  $\rho(\alpha f) \leq \rho(\beta f)$  for every  $f \in X$ .*
- (ii) *If  $\rho(f) < \epsilon$  for every  $\epsilon > 0$  then  $f = 0$ .*

**Theorem 2.2.** *Let  $(X, \rho)$  be a modular space. If  $f_1, f_2, f_3, \dots, f_n \in X$ , and  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \dots, \alpha_n$  are non-negative real numbers such that  $\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i = 1$ , then  $\rho(\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i f_i) \leq \sum_{i=1}^n \rho(f_i)$ .*

**Theorem 2.3.** *Let  $(X, \rho)$  be a modular space. If the modular  $\rho$  is convex, then for any  $f_1, f_2, f_3, \dots, f_n \in X$  and any non-negative real numbers  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \dots, \alpha_n$  satisfying  $\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i = 1$  we have  $\rho(\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i f_i) = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i \rho(f_i)$ .*

**Definition 2.4.** The modular function  $\rho$  on  $X_\rho$  is said to satisfy the  $\Delta_2$ -condition if there exists  $K > 0$  such that  $\rho(2x) \leq K\rho(x)$  for any  $x \in X_\rho$ .

*Throughout this paper, we assume that the modular  $\rho$  is always convex and satisfying the  $\Delta_2$ -condition, unless otherwise stated.*

Let  $(X, \rho)$  be a modular space. We can show that the set

$$X_\rho = \{f \in X : \rho(f) < \infty\} \quad (2.1)$$

is a linear space, modulated by  $\rho$ . It can be also verified that  $\rho(f) < \infty$  for every  $f \in X_\rho$ . In this paper, we always mean that the modular space  $X_\rho$  is as given in (2.1).

Let  $(X, \rho)$  be a modular space. A sequence  $(f^{(n)})$  in  $X_\rho$  is said to be  $\rho$ -convergent (modular convergent) to  $f \in X_\rho$  if for every real number  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists a positive integer  $N$  such that for every  $n \geq N$ , we have:

$$\rho(f^{(n)} - f) < \epsilon.$$

In this case,  $f$  is called a modular limit ( $\rho$ -limit) of  $(f^{(n)})$ , and we write

$$\rho\text{-}\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f^{(n)} = f.$$

If the sequence  $(f^{(n)})$  in  $X_\rho$  is  $\rho$ -convergent, then its  $\rho$ -limit is unique. A sequence  $(f^{(n)})$  in  $X_\rho$  is called a  $\rho$ -Cauchy (modular Cauchy) sequence if for every real number  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists a positive integer  $N$  such that for every  $m, n \geq N$ , we have:

$$\rho(f^{(n)} - f^{(m)}) < \epsilon.$$

It is easy to check that in every modular space, every  $\rho$ -convergent sequence is  $\rho$ -Cauchy sequence. The modular space  $X_\rho$  is said to be  $\rho$ -complete if every  $\rho$ -Cauchy sequence in  $X_\rho$  is  $\rho$ -convergent.

**Definition 2.5.** Any set  $E \subset X_\rho$  is said to be modular close ( $\rho$ -closed) if for any sequence  $(f_n)$  in  $E$  which is  $\rho$ -convergent to  $f \in X_\rho$  implies  $f \in E$ .

**Definition 2.6.** Any set  $B \subset X_\rho$  is said to be modular bounded ( $\rho$ -bounded) if there exists an  $M > 0$  such that  $\rho(f - g) < M$  for every  $f, g \in X_\rho$ . It is equivalent to say that  $B \subset X_\rho$  is modular bounded iff  $\sup\{\rho(f - g) : f, g \in B\} < \infty$ .

In 2014, A.H. Ansari [3] proved the existence of  $C$ -class functions that cover a large class of contractive conditions. We revise the definition of A.H. Ansari to get the more general one, as given in the following definition.

**Definition 2.7.** A function  $f : [0, \infty) \times [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is said to be  $C^*$ -type, if the following conditions hold.

- (i) If  $(s_n)$  and  $(t_n)$  are any convergent sequences in  $[0, \infty)$ , then  $\lim f(s_n, t_n) = f(\lim s_n, \lim t_n)$ .
- (ii)  $f(s, t) \leq s$  for any  $s, t \in [0, \infty)$ .
- (iii) If  $f(s, t) = s$ , then  $s = 0$  or  $t = 0$ .

It is clear that condition (ii) in Definition 2.7 implies  $f(0, 0) = 0$ . We can also see that any  $C$ -class function is of  $C^*$ -type.

**Example 2.8.** A function  $f(s, t) = s - t$ ,  $s, t \in [0, \infty)$ , is  $C^*$ -type. However, a function  $g(s, t) = s + t$ ,  $s, t \in [0, \infty)$ , is not  $C^*$ -type.

### 3. Some Fixed Point Theorems Characterized by $C^*$ -Type Functions

The collection of all continuous functions  $\varphi : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  such that  $\varphi(t) > 0$  for every  $t > 0$  and  $\varphi(0) \geq 0$  will be denoted by  $C^+[0, \infty)$ . For any operators  $S, T : X \rightarrow X$ , a product  $ST$  is meant as a composition of  $T$  and  $S$ , i.e.

$$(ST)(f) = S(T(f)),$$

for any  $f \in X$ . Further, we will present some results related to fixed points, which are formulated using a function of  $C^*$ -type. The first one is formulated in the following theorem.

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $(X_\rho, \rho)$  be a  $\rho$ -complete modular space and  $B \subset X_\rho$  be a  $\rho$ -closed and  $\rho$ -bounded set. If  $S, T : B \rightarrow B$  are operators satisfying  $ST = TS$ ,  $F$  is a function of  $C^*$ -type, and  $\varphi \in C^+[0, \infty)$ , such that*

$$\rho(T(f) - T(g)) \leq F(\rho(S(f) - S(g)), \varphi(\rho(S(f) - S(g)))) \quad (3.1)$$

for every  $f, g \in B$ , then  $S$  and  $T$  have a unique common fixed point.

*Proof.* Let  $f_0 \in B$ . For any integer  $n \geq 0$ , we define

$$S(f_{n+1}) = T(f_n).$$

Let  $\alpha_0 = \rho(S(f_0))$  and  $\alpha_{n+1} = \rho(S(f_{n+1}) - S(f_n))$  for every  $n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ . Since,  $F$  is  $C^*$ -type, then for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_{n+1} &= \rho(T(f_n) - T(f_{n-1})) \\ &\leq F(\rho(S(f_n) - S(f_{n-1})), \varphi(\rho(S(f_n) - S(f_{n-1})))) \\ &\leq \rho(S(f_n) - S(f_{n-1})) = \alpha_n \end{aligned}$$

This implies that the sequence  $(\alpha_n)$  converges to some  $r \geq 0$ . Hence,

$$r = F(r, \varphi(r)).$$

Following the assumption of  $F$ , then  $r = 0$  or  $\varphi(r) = 0$ , which yields  $r = 0$  or

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \rho(S(f_{n+1}) - S(f_n)) = 0. \quad (3.2)$$

The next step, we will show that  $(T(f_n))$  is a  $\rho$ -Cauchy sequence. By assuming the contrary and by noticing equation (3.2), then there exists  $\varepsilon > 0$  such that we can find two sequences  $(m_k)$  and  $(n_k)$  of positive integers satisfying  $n_k > m_k \geq k$  such that

$$\rho(T(f_{n_k}) - T(f_{m_k})) \geq \varepsilon \quad \text{and} \quad \rho(2(T(f_{n_{k-1}}) - T(f_{m_k}))) < \varepsilon. \quad (3.3)$$

Following (3.3) and Theorem 2.2, then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon &\leq \rho(T(f_{n_k}) - T(f_{m_k})) \\ &\leq \rho(2(T(f_{n_k}) - T(f_{n_{k-1}}))) + \rho(2(T(f_{n_{k-1}}) - T(f_{m_k}))) \\ &< \rho(2(T(f_{n_k}) - T(f_{n_{k-1}}))) + \varepsilon. \end{aligned} \quad (3.4)$$

So, by taking the limit as  $k \rightarrow \infty$  for each side of (3.4), we obtain that

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \rho(T(f_{n_k}) - T(f_{m_k})) = \varepsilon. \quad (3.5)$$

Take  $f = f_{n_k}$  and  $g = f_{m_{k-1}}$ , then from (3.1) we get

$$\begin{aligned} \rho(T(f_{n_k}) - T(f_{m_k})) &\leq F(\rho(S(f_{n_k}) - S(f_{m_k})), \varphi(\rho(S(f_{n_k}) - S(f_{m_k})))) \\ &\leq F(\rho(T(f_{n_{k-1}}) - T(f_{m_{k-1}})), \varphi(\rho(T(f_{n_{k-1}}) - T(f_{m_{k-1}}))))). \end{aligned} \quad (3.6)$$

Hence, by taking the limit as  $k \rightarrow \infty$  on each side of (3.6) and following (3.5) and Definition 2.7, we get

$$\varepsilon \leq F(\varepsilon, \varphi(\varepsilon)).$$

This contradicts to the assumption that  $F$  is a  $C^*$ -type function. Thus,  $(T(f_n))$  is a  $\rho$ -Cauchy sequence. Following the definition of  $S(f_n)$ , then  $(S(f_n))$  is a  $\rho$ -Cauchy sequence

as well. Furthermore, following the  $\rho$ -completeness of  $X_\rho$ , then  $(S(f_n))$  and  $(T(f_n))$  are  $\rho$ -convergent in  $X_\rho$ , and by considering the construction of  $(f_n)$ , then we have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} T(f_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S(f_n) = g$$

for some  $g \in X_\rho$ . Since,  $B$  is  $\rho$ -closed, then  $g \in B$ . As the consequence, there exists an  $f \in B$  such that

$$T(f) = g = S(f). \tag{3.7}$$

Since  $ST = TS$ , then (3.7) implies that  $T(T(f)) = S(S(f))$ . Furthermore,

$$\begin{aligned} \rho(T(f) - T^2(f)) &\leq F(\rho(S(f) - S(S(f))), \varphi(\rho(S(f) - S(S(f)))) \\ &= F(\rho(T(f) - T^2(f)), \varphi(\rho(T(f) - T^2(f)))) \end{aligned}$$

So,  $\rho(T(f) - T^2(f)) = 0$  or  $\varphi(\rho(T(f) - T^2(f))) = 0$ , which yields  $\rho(T(f) - T^2(f)) = 0$ . This implies

$$T(f) = T(T(f)) = S(T(f))$$

i.e.  $T(f) = g \in B$  is a common fixed point of  $T$  and  $S$ . The uniqueness of the fixed point follows from the convexity of the modular  $\rho$ . ■

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $(X_\rho, \rho)$  be a  $\rho$ -complete modular space and  $B \subset X_\rho$  be a  $\rho$ -closed and  $\rho$ -bounded set. If operators  $S, T : B \rightarrow B$  satisfy  $ST = TS$ ,  $\varphi \in C^+[0, \infty)$ , and  $F$  is a function of  $C^*$ -type, such that*

$$\rho(2(T(f) - T(g))) \leq 2F(\rho(S(f) - S(g)), \varphi(\rho(S(f) - S(g)))) \tag{3.8}$$

for every  $f, g \in B$ , then  $S$  and  $T$  have a unique common fixed point.

*Proof.* Let  $f_0 \in B$ . For any integer  $n \geq 0$ , we define

$$S(f_{n+1}) = T(f_n)$$

Let  $\alpha_0 = \rho(S(f_0))$  and  $\alpha_{n+1} = \rho(S(f_{n+1}) - S(f_n))$  for every  $n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ . Since  $\rho$  is convex, then for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have

$$\alpha_{n+1} \leq \frac{1}{2}\rho(2(T(f_n) - T(f_{n-1}))).$$

So, by following the hypothesis, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_{n+1} &\leq F(\rho(S(f_n) - S(f_{n-1})), \varphi(\rho(S(f_n) - S(f_{n-1})))) \\ &\leq \rho(S(f_n) - S(f_{n-1})) = \rho(T(f_{n-1}) - T(f_{n-2})) = \alpha_n. \end{aligned} \tag{3.9}$$

This implies  $\alpha_n \rightarrow r$  for some  $r \geq 0$ . So, by letting  $n \rightarrow \infty$  for (3.9), we obtain

$$r = F(r, \varphi(r)).$$

Since  $F$  is  $C^*$ -type, then  $r = 0$  or  $\varphi(r) = 0$ , which yields  $r = 0$  or

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \rho(S(f_{n+1}) - S(f_n)) = 0 \tag{3.10}$$

Next, we will prove that  $(T(f_n))$  is a  $\rho$ -Cauchy sequence. Assume on the contrary. By noticing (3.10), then there exists  $\varepsilon > 0$  such that we can find two sequences  $(m_k)$  and  $(n_k)$  of positive integers satisfying  $n_k > m_k \geq k$  such that the following inequalities hold.

$$\rho(T(f_{n_k}) - T(f_{m_k})) \geq \varepsilon \quad \text{and} \quad \rho(2(T(f_{n_k-1}) - T(f_{m_k}))) < \varepsilon. \tag{3.11}$$

Following (3.11) and Theorem 2.2, then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon &\leq \rho(T(f_{n_k}) - T(f_{m_k})) \\ &= \rho(T(f_{n_k}) - T(f_{n_k-1}) + T(f_{n_k-1}) - T(f_{m_k})) \\ &\leq \rho(2(T(f_{n_k}) - T(f_{n_k-1}))) + \rho(2(T(f_{n_k-1}) - T(f_{m_k}))) \\ &< \varepsilon + M\rho(T(f_{n_k}) - T(f_{n_k-1})), \end{aligned}$$

for some  $M > 0$ . So, by taking the limit as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ , we obtain that

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \rho(T(f_{n_k}) - T(f_{m_k})) = \varepsilon$$

Further, take  $f = f_{n_k}$  and  $g = f_{m_k-1}$  in (3.8), then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \rho(T(f_{n_k}) - T(f_{m_k})) &\leq \frac{1}{2}\rho(2(T(f_{n_k}) - T(f_{m_k}))) \\ &\leq F(\rho(S(f_{n_k}) - S(f_{m_k})), \varphi(\rho(S(f_{n_k}) - S(f_{m_k})))) \\ &= F(\rho(T(f_{n_k-1}) - T(f_{m_k-1})), \varphi(\rho(T(f_{n_k-1}) - T(f_{m_k-1})))) \end{aligned} \quad (3.12)$$

By taking the limit as  $k \rightarrow \infty$  on each side of (3.12) and by using (3.10) and Definition 2.7, we get

$$\varepsilon \leq F(\varepsilon, \varphi(\varepsilon)).$$

This contradicts to the assumption of  $F$ . Thus,  $(T(f_n))$  is a  $\rho$ -Cauchy sequence. As a consequence,  $(S(f_n))$  is also a  $\rho$ -Cauchy sequence. Hence, because of the  $\rho$ -completeness of  $X_\rho$ , then  $(S(f_n))$  and  $(T(f_n))$  are  $\rho$ -convergent in  $X_\rho$ . And by considering the construction of  $(f_n)$ , then we have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} T(f_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S(f_n) = g$$

for some  $g \in X_\rho$ . Since,  $B$  is  $\rho$ -closed, then  $g \in B$ . Further, there exists an  $f \in B$  such that

$$T(f) = g = S(f).$$

And since  $ST = TS$ , then  $T(T(f)) = S(S(f))$ . Furthermore,

$$\begin{aligned} \rho(T(f) - T^2(f)) &\leq \frac{1}{2}\rho(2(T(f) - T^2(f))) \\ &\leq F(\rho(S(f) - S(S(f))), \varphi(\rho(S(f) - S(S(f)))) \\ &= F(\rho(T(f) - T^2(f)), \varphi(\rho(T(f) - T^2(f)))). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, by the hypothesis,

$$\rho(T(f) - T^2(f)) = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad \varphi(\rho(T(f) - T^2(f))) = 0,$$

which yields  $\rho(T(f) - T^2(f)) = 0$ . So, we have

$$T(f) = T(T(f)) = S(T(f)),$$

i.e.  $T(f) = g \in B$  is a common fixed point of  $T$  and  $S$ . The uniqueness of  $T(f)$  follows from the convexity of the modular  $\rho$ .  $\blacksquare$

Following the Theorem 3.1 and Theorem 3.2, we have the following corollaries.

**Corollary 3.3.** [21] Let  $(X_\rho, \rho)$  be a  $\rho$ -complete modular space, where the modular  $\rho$  is convex,  $B \subset X_\rho$   $\rho$ -closed and  $\rho$ -bounded set. If the operators  $S, T : B \rightarrow B$  satisfying  $ST = TS$  and

$$\rho(T(f) - T(g)) \leq k\rho(S(f) - S(g))$$

for every  $f, g \in B$  and for some  $k \in (0, 1)$ , then  $S$  and  $T$  have a unique common fixed point.

*Proof.* By taking  $F(s, t) = ks, k \in (0, 1)$  in Theorem 3.1, then the assertion follows. ■

**Corollary 3.4.** [21] Let  $(X_\rho, \rho)$  be a  $\rho$ -complete modular space, where the modular  $\rho$  is convex,  $B \subset X_\rho$   $\rho$ -closed and  $\rho$ -bounded set. If operators  $S, T : B \rightarrow B$  satisfying  $ST = TS$  and

$$\rho(2(T(f) - T(g))) \leq k\rho(S(f) - S(g))$$

for every  $f, g \in B$  and for some  $k \in (0, 2)$ , then  $S$  and  $T$  have a unique common fixed point.

*Proof.* Take  $F(s, t) = ks, k \in (0, 1)$  in Theorem 3.2, then the assertion follows. ■

**Corollary 3.5.** [21] Let  $(X_\rho, \rho)$  be a  $\rho$ -complete modular space, where the modular  $\rho$  is convex,  $B \subset X_\rho$   $\rho$ -closed and  $\rho$ -bounded set, and  $\phi \in C^+[0, \infty)$ . If operators  $S, T : B \rightarrow B$  satisfying  $ST = TS$  and

$$\rho(T(f) - T(g)) \leq \phi(\rho(S(f) - S(g)))$$

for every  $f, g \in B$ , then  $S$  and  $T$  have a unique common fixed point..

*Proof.* Apply Theorem 3.1 by choosing  $F(s, t) = \phi(s)$ , where  $\phi \in C^+[0, \infty)$ , then the assertion follows. ■

**Corollary 3.6.** Let  $(X_\rho, \rho)$  be a  $\rho$ -complete modular space, where the modular  $\rho$  is convex,  $B \subset X_\rho$   $\rho$ -closed and  $\rho$ -bounded set, and  $\phi \in C^+[0, \infty)$ . If operators  $S, T : B \rightarrow B$  satisfying  $ST = TS$  and

$$\rho(2(T(f) - T(g))) \leq 2\phi(\rho(S(f) - S(g)))$$

for every  $f, g \in B$ , then  $S$  and  $T$  have a unique common fixed point.

*Proof.* Take  $F(s, t) = \phi(s)$ , where  $\phi \in C^+[0, \infty)$  and apply Theorem 3.2, then the assertion follows. ■

## 4. Concluding Remarks

Some fixed point theorems in modular spaces have been able to be formulated by using  $C^*$ -type functions. The results generalize the theorems in [21].

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