ANOTHER PROOF OF THE BROWDER–GÖHDE–KIRK THEOREM VIA ORDERING ARGUMENT

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Using the Zermelo Principle, we establish a common fixed point theorem for two progressive mappings on a partially ordered set. This result yields the Browder–Göhde–Kirk fixed point theorem for nonexpansive mappings.

Assume that is a nonempty, closed and convex subset of a linear topological space and is a selfmap of . Our purpose is to indicate a possibility of solving a problem of the existence of fixed points of with a help of the following result which is known in a literature as the Zermelo fixed point theorem (see Dunford and Schwartz [2, p. 5]). Its formulation given below is due to Bourbaki [1], who proved this theorem using Zermelo’s ([7]) ideas of the proof of the well-ordering principle.

**Theorem 1. (Zermelo)** Let be a partially ordered set in which every chain has a supremum. Assume that is progressive, that is, for all . Then has a fixed point. Moreover, given , an element

is well-defined, is a fixed point of and .

Let us define the family and the operator by

\[ M_f := \{ L \subseteq K : L \neq \emptyset, L = \text{cl } (\text{conv } L) \text{ and } f(L) \subseteq L \} \]

\[ F(L) := \text{cl } (\text{conv } f(L)) \text{ for } L \subseteq K, \]

where cl stands for the closure operator and conv is the convex hull of . (Note is nonempty since ) Then it is obvious that has a fixed point if and only if has a singleton as its fixed point. It is easily seen that for all . If, furthermore, is compact, then every chain in a partially ordered set has a supremum—the intersection of all its members. Since is progressive on , Zermelo’s theorem yields the following result (see also Kirk [6]).
**Proposition 1.** Let $K$ be a nonempty, compact, convex subset of a linear topological space and $f$ be a selfmap of $K$ (not necessarily continuous). Then there exists a nonempty, compact, convex set $K_\ast \subseteq K$ such that
\[
\text{cl}\left(\text{conv}\left(f(K_\ast)\right)\right) = K_\ast,
\]
that is, $K_\ast$ is a fixed point of $F$.

However, we are more interested in the following question. When does the family $\mathcal{F}$ of all fixed points of $F$ contain a singleton? In particular, this is the case if $\mathcal{F}$ has a common fixed point with an operator having the property that every fixed point of it is a singleton. The following common fixed point theorem may be helpful here.

**Theorem 2.** Let $(P, \leq)$ be a partially ordered set and $P_0 \subseteq P$ be nonempty and such that every chain in $P_0$ has a supremum in $P_0$. Let $F : P_0 \to P_0$ and $G : P \to P$ be progressive mappings. If
\[
G(\text{Fix} \, F) \subseteq P_0,
\]
then $F$ and $G$ have a common fixed point.

**Proof:** By Theorem 1, there exists a progressive mapping $H : P_0 \to \text{Fix} \, F$. Then the mapping $G \circ H$ is also progressive and
\[
(G \circ H)(P_0) \subseteq G(\text{Fix} \, F) \subseteq P_0.
\]
By Theorem 1, $G \circ H$ has a fixed point $p_\ast$. Then
\[
p_\ast \leq H p_\ast \leq G(H p_\ast) = p_\ast,
\]
which gives $p_\ast = H p_\ast$. Hence
\[
G p_\ast = G(H p_\ast) = p_\ast,
\]
so $p_\ast$ is fixed under $G$. (Actually, $\text{Fix} \, (G \circ H) = \text{Fix} \, G \cap \text{Fix} \, H$ for any progressive mappings $G$ and $H$.) Since $F \circ H = H$, $p_\ast$ is a fixed point of $F \circ H$. Repeating the above argument yields $p_\ast = F p_\ast$. Thus $p_\ast$ is a common fixed point of $F$ and $G$.

As an application, we shall give another proof of the Browder–Göhde–Kirk theorem—in the version of Kirk [5]—which is a fundamental result in the theory of nonexpansive mappings. We refer the reader to Goebel and Kirk [4, Chapter 4] for the terminology used below.

**Theorem 3.** (Kirk) Let $K$ be a nonempty, weakly compact, convex subset of a Banach space and assume $K$ has normal structure. Then every nonexpansive mapping $f : K \to K$ has a fixed point.

**Proof:** We apply Theorem 2 taking the family of all nonempty, closed and convex subsets of $K$ for $P$ and setting (see (1)) $P_0 := \mathcal{M}_f$, $F := \mathcal{F}$ and $\leq := \supseteq$. Further, $G$
is the Chebyshev operator assigning to each set of $P$ its Chebyshev centre. It is easily seen that $G$ is a selfmap of $P$ (see [4, p. 38]). Clearly, $G$ is $\geq$-progressive. Moreover, if $L \in \mathcal{M}_f$ and $L = \text{cl} (\text{conv} f(L))$, then the nonexpansivity of $f$ implies that $G(L)$ is $f$-invariant (see [4, proof of Theorem 4.1]), that is, the condition $G(\text{Fix} F) \subseteq P_0$ holds. By Theorem 2, $F$ and $G$ have a common fixed point $K_*$, $M_{kj}.$ Since $K_*$ has normal structure, the equality $K_* = G(K_*)$ implies that $K_*$ is a singleton and thus $f$ has a fixed point.

Finally we emphasise that Fuchssteiner [3] was the first person who used Zermelo's theorem in the context of nonexpansive mappings. However, our approach seems to be quicker and more direct. Both these proofs are independent of the Axiom of Choice, whereas Kirk's [5] original proof relies on Zorn's Lemma.

**References**


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