TOPOLOGICAL SEQUENCE ENTROPY
FOR MAPS OF THE INTERVAL

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Abstract. A result by Franzová and Smítal shows that a continuous map of the interval into itself is chaotic if and only if its topological sequence entropy relative to a suitable increasing sequence of nonnegative integers is positive. In the present paper we prove that for any increasing sequence of nonnegative integers there exists a chaotic continuous map with zero topological sequence entropy relative to this sequence.

1. Introduction

We will be concerned with the space $C(I, I)$ of continuous maps of the interval $I = [0, 1]$ into itself. Any map from $C(I, I)$ with positive topological entropy is chaotic, but the converse is not true [S]. Contrary to this topological sequence entropy is a suitable tool for characterizing chaos. In fact, Franzová and Smítal proved the following result.

**Theorem 1** ([FS]). A map $f \in C(I, I)$ is chaotic in the sense of Li and Yorke if and only if there is an increasing sequence $T$ of nonnegative integers such that $h^T(f)$, the topological sequence entropy of $f$ with respect to $T$, is positive.

There has appeared a natural question whether there is some universal sequence which can be taken in the theorem above. Franzová and Smítal in [FS] conjectured that the sequence $(2^i)_{i=0}^{\infty}$ played the role of this universal sequence. However, the answer to the question is negative. In fact, in the last section we prove

**Theorem 6.** Let $T$ be an arbitrary increasing sequence of nonnegative integers. Then there is a chaotic map $f \in C(I, I)$ such that $h^T(f) = 0$.

The paper is organized as follows.

In Preliminaries we present basic notation and terminology and recall the notion of topological sequence entropy. In Theorem 2 we state one known result which will be needed in the sequel. In Section 3 we recall the definition of the adding machine on the Cantor set and consider the map $g$ obtained from the adding machine by the linear extension to the intervals contiguous to the Cantor set. Applying the technique of blowing up orbits to the map $g$ we get a special chaotic map $f$ (depending
on the point $q$ whose orbit is blown up), and we study the properties of this map with respect to topological sequence entropy (see Theorem 3 and Corollary 4). In Section 4, for any increasing sequence $T$ of nonnegative integers we choose the point $q$ in a special way, and in Lemma 5 we find an upper bound for the span of the map $f$ relative to the sequence $T$. Using this upper bound we finally prove Theorem 6.

2. Preliminaries

Let $\mathbb{Z}$ denote the set of all integers, $\mathbb{N}$ the set of all positive integers. For $f \in C(I,I)$, $f^n$ denotes the $n$-th iterate of $f$ and $\omega_f(x)$ denotes the $\omega$-limit set of the trajectory $(f^n x)_{n=0}^\infty$ of $x$. For $f(x) = \{y \in I; \exists i, j \in \mathbb{N} \text{ with } f^j y = f^i x\}$ is called the full orbit of $x$ and for an interval $J \subseteq I$, $\text{Orb}_f(J) = \{f^n J; n = 0, 1, \ldots\}$ is called the orbit of $J$. A periodic point of $f$ is any $x \in I$ such that $f^n x = x$ for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$, the smallest such $n$ is called the period of $x$; analogously for an interval $J \subseteq I$ satisfying $f^n J = J$ for some $n$. The set of all periodic points of $f$ is denoted by $\text{Per}(f)$. A map $f$ is chaotic (in the sense of Li and Yorke, see [LY]), if there is an uncountable set $S$ such that for any $x, y \in S$, $x \neq y$, and for any $p \in \text{Per}(f)$

$$
\limsup_{n \to -\infty} |f^n x - f^n y| > 0,
$$

$$
\liminf_{n \to -\infty} |f^n x - f^n y| = 0,
$$

$$
\limsup_{n \to -\infty} |f^n x - f^n p| > 0.
$$

An extensive list of equivalent conditions can be found in [FŠS]. A map is called nonchaotic if it is not chaotic. If $T = (t(i))_{i=1}^\infty$ is an arbitrary increasing sequence of nonnegative integers define the $T$-trajectory of $x$ to be the sequence $(f^{t(i)} x)_{i=1}^\infty$.

**Definition** ([G]). Let $f \in C(I,I)$ and $T$ be an arbitrary sequence of nonnegative integers.

A set $E \subseteq I$ is said to be $(T, f, \varepsilon, n)$-separated if for any $x, y \in E$, $x \neq y$ there is an index $i$, $1 \leq i \leq n$ such that $|f^{t(i)} x - f^{t(i)} y| > \varepsilon$. Let $\text{Sep}(T, f, \varepsilon, n)$ denote the largest of cardinalities of all $(T, f, \varepsilon, n)$-separated sets. Put $\text{Sep}(T, f) = \lim_{\varepsilon \to 0} \limsup_{n \to \infty} \frac{1}{n} \log \text{Sep}(T, f, \varepsilon, n)$.

A set $F \subseteq I$ is said to be a $(T, f, \varepsilon, n)$-span if for any $x \in I$ there is some $y \in F$ such that $|f^{t(i)} x - f^{t(i)} y| < \varepsilon$ for $1 \leq i \leq n$. Let $\text{Span}(T, f, \varepsilon, n)$ denote the smallest of cardinalities of all $(T, f, \varepsilon, n)$-spans. Put

$$
\text{Span}(T, f) = \lim_{\varepsilon \to 0} \limsup_{n \to \infty} \frac{1}{n} \log \text{Span}(T, f, \varepsilon, n).
$$

Then $\text{Sep}(T, f) = \text{Span}(T, f)$ (see [G]) and we define the topological sequence entropy of $f$ relative to $T$, $h_T(f)$, to be $\text{Sep}(T, f)$. If $t(i) = i - 1$, $i = 1, 2, \ldots$ then $h_T(f)$ is the topological entropy $h(f)$ of $f$.

**Remark.** Analogously we can define topological sequence entropy for continuous maps of any compact metric space $X$ into itself. Topological sequence entropy can be viewed as the topological entropy of the nonautonomous dynamical system given on the space $X$ by the sequence of maps $f^{t(1)}$, $f^{t(2) - t(1)}$, $f^{t(3) - t(2)}$, $\ldots$ (see [KS]).

**Theorem 2** (see [S, Theorem 3.5]). Let $f \in C(I, I)$, $h(f) = 0$ and $\omega$ be an infinite $\omega$-limit set of $f$. Then there is a sequence $(J(i))_{i=1}^\infty$ of periodic intervals of $f$ with the following properties:
(i) $J(i)$ has period $2^i$,
(ii) $J(i + 1) \cup f^2 J(i + 1) \subseteq J(i)$,
(iii) $\omega \subseteq \text{Orb}_f(J(i))$.

When using this theorem we will always assume the intervals $J(i)$ to be minimal.

3. Blowing up the adding machine

In the sequel we will use the concept of the adding machine (see [GH], [M], cf. also [BS]).

Define $X = \{0, 1\}^\mathbb{N}$ to be the set of all sequences of two symbols and $X|m = \{0, 1\}^{[1, \ldots, m]}$ for $m \in \mathbb{N}$. For $\alpha \in X$ and $m \in \mathbb{N}$ we put $\alpha|m = (\alpha(1), \ldots, \alpha(m)) \in X|m$. Put $CS(0) = \left[0, \frac{1}{3}\right)$, $CS(1) = \left[\frac{2}{3}, 1\right)$ and $CS(00) = \left[0, \frac{1}{9}\right)$, $CS(01) = \left[\frac{2}{9}, \frac{1}{3}\right)$, $CS(10) = \left[\frac{2}{3}, \frac{7}{9}\right)$, $CS(11) = \left[\frac{8}{9}, 1\right)$, etc. Then we have for the Cantor set $CS$

$$CS = \bigcap_{m=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{\alpha \in X|m} CS(\alpha).$$

This determines in a natural way the bijection $\nu$ between $CS$ and $X$: assign to $q \in CS$ the element $\nu(q) \in X$ for which $q \in CS(\nu(q)|m)$ for every $m \in \mathbb{N}$. We call $\nu(q)$ the code of $q$ and we also write $\nu(q) = (q(i))_{i=1}^{\infty}$. Now we can define the adding machine $\text{Add}: CS \to CS$ by

$$\text{Add}(q) = \nu^{-1}(\nu(q) + 1),$$

where the addition is modulo 2 from the left to the right. The map $\text{Add}$ is a bijection.

Completing the adding machine linearly on each interval contiguous to $CS$ we get the continuous function $g : I \to I$ which then satisfies the following properties (see [BS, Section 4]):

(g1) $CS$ is the unique infinite $\omega$-limit set of $g$,
(g2) $g$ is nonchaotic (and so $h(g) = 0$),
(g3) $\forall x \in I: \text{Card } g^{-1}(x) \leq 3$.

Now fix an arbitrary $q \in CS$ such that both symbols 0 and 1 occur in its code $\nu(q)$ infinitely many times. Due to (g3) we can use the technique of blowing up orbits (see [H], cf. also [BS]).

$\text{Forb}_g(q)$ is countable and in the following we take its enumeration in the form $\text{Forb}_g(q) = \{q_k; k \in K\}$ where $q_i = \text{Add}^i(q)$ for every $i \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $K \supseteq \mathbb{Z}$ is a suitable countable index set. Let $\{Q_k; k \in K\}$ be a system of compact pairwise disjoint subintervals of $I$ with similar ordering as the set $\{q_k; k \in K\}$ (i.e., $Q_k < Q_l$ iff $q_k < q_l$). Now replace every $q_k$ by $Q_k$ and compress the rest of the interval $I$ in such a way that we again receive $I$. Formally, apply to $I$ the blowing up morphism $\varphi$, which is an increasing set-valued function assigning to any $q_k$ the interval $Q_k$ and to any $x \in I \setminus \text{Forb}_g(q)$ a point such that $\varphi(I) = I$ and $\varphi$ is linear on every interval contiguous to $\text{Forb}_g(q)$. The map $\varphi$ has an inverse $\varphi^{-1}$ which is a continuous real-valued nondecreasing function in $C(I, I)$, constant on every $Q_k$. 

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Define $f \in C(I, I)$ by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 
\varphi(g(\varphi^{-1}(x))) & \text{for } x \in I \setminus \bigcup_{k \in K} Q_k, \\
\text{linearly extended} & \text{on } \bigcup_{k \in K} Q_k.
\end{cases}$$

Then $f$ has the following properties (see [BS, Theorem 6.2]):

1. $f$ has the unique infinite $\omega$-limit set $\omega = \varphi(\text{CS}) \setminus \bigcup_{k \in K} \text{Int } Q_k$.
2. $\omega \subseteq \bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} \text{Orb } J(i)$
3. $h(f) = 0$.

Associate with $q$ the increasing sequence $A(q) = (a(i))_{i=1}^{\infty}$ of all indices in which the code of $q$ “changes” the symbols, i.e., $q(a(i) + 1) = 1 - q(a(i))$. Using this sequence, define another one $B(q) = (b(i))_{i=1}^{\infty}$ by putting $b(i) = 2^{a(1)} + \cdots + 2^{a(i)}$ for every $i \in \mathbb{N}$.

**Theorem 3.** For $f$ and $B$ defined above we have $h_B(f) > 0$.

**Proof.** Let $(J(i))_{i=1}^{\infty}$ be the sequence of periodic intervals of $f$ from Theorem 2 applied to $f$ and $\omega$, such that $Q_0 \subseteq J(i)$ for every $i \in \mathbb{N}$. In the interval $J(i)$ there is the unique fixed point of $f^2$, denote it by $\text{fix}(i)$. Let $\text{fix}(0)$ be the unique fixed point of $f$. Define $L(i)$ ($R(i)$, respectively) to be the left (right, respectively) component of $\text{Conv}(J(a(i)), \text{fix}(a(i) - 1)) \setminus \text{Int } Q_0$ for every $i \in \mathbb{N}$ (here $\text{Conv } A$ denotes the convex hull of $A$).

First we prove that

$$\begin{align*}
(1) & \quad f^{2^{a(i)}} L(i) \supseteq L(i + 1) \cup R(i + 1), \\
(2) & \quad f^{2^{a(i)}} R(i) \supseteq L(i + 1) \cup R(i + 1).
\end{align*}$$

To this end we first realize that

$$\text{Conv}(J(a(i) + 1), \text{fix}(a(i))) \supseteq \text{Conv}(J(a(i) + 1), \text{fix}(a(i) + 1) - 1)) \supseteq L(i + 1) \cup R(i + 1).$$

Without loss of generality we can assume that $q(a(i)) = 0$. Then $\text{fix}(a(i)) \in L(i)$ and $f^{2^{a(i)}} J(a(i) + 1) \subseteq L(i)$. To prove (1) it suffices to use $f^{2^{a(i)}} \text{fix}(a(i)) = \text{fix}(a(i))$, $f^{2^{a(i)}} J(a(i) + 1) = J(a(i) + 1)$ and (3).

From $J(a(i) + 1) \cap R(i) \neq \emptyset$ we have $f^{2^{a(i)}} J(a(i) + 1) \cap f^{2^{a(i)}} R(i) \neq \emptyset$. To prove (2) it is sufficient to realize that $f^{2^{a(i)}} \text{fix}(a(i) - 1) = \text{fix}(a(i) - 1) \in R(i)$, $f^{2^{a(i)}} J(a(i) + 1)$ lies to the left from $\text{fix}(a(i))$ and to use (3).

Now fix $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $0 < \varepsilon < \text{diam } Q_0$. We are going to show that $\text{Sep}(B, f, \varepsilon, n) \geq 2^n$. To see this, take any sequence $(S(1), \ldots, S(n))$ where $S(i)$ is either $L(i + 1)$ or $R(i + 1)$, $i = 1, \ldots, n$. By (1) and (2) there is a point $x \in I$ such that $f^{b(i)} x \in S(i)$ for $i = 1, \ldots, n$. There are $2^n$ such sequences and so we have $2^n$ different points forming an $(B, f, \varepsilon, n)$-separated set (note that $\text{dist}(L(i), R(i)) > \varepsilon$ for any $i$). Hence $\text{Sep}(B, f, \varepsilon, n) \geq 2^n$. Since $0 < \varepsilon < \text{diam } Q_0$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$ were arbitrary, we get $h_B(f) \geq \log 2$.

**Corollary 4.** The map $f$ defined above is chaotic.

**Remark.** If we take $q$ with $\nu(q)$ almost stationary we obtain a nonchaotic map which has the unique infinite $\omega$-limit set, and satisfies (2) and (3) but not (1).
4. The main result

Let $T = (t(i))_{i=1}^{\infty}$ be an arbitrary increasing sequence of nonnegative integers. Take any point $q \in CS$ such that for the sequence $A(q) = (a(i))_{i=1}^{\infty}$ (defined in the previous section) it holds that

$$2^{a(i)} > t(2^i) \quad \text{for} \quad i = 1, 2, \ldots.$$  

Let $f$ be the function in $C(I, I)$ obtained from $g$ by blowing up the full orbit $\text{FOrb}_g(q)$ as in the previous section.

If $m \in \mathbb{N}$ and $S = \{S_1, \ldots, S_k\}$ is a nonempty finite family of pairwise disjoint nonempty subsets of $I$ then $\text{Code}(m, S)$ will denote the set of all sequences $(A_1, \ldots, A_m) \in S^m$ with the property that there exists a point $x \in I$ such that $f^{t(i)}x \in A_i$, $i = 1, \ldots, m$. In such a case we will say that $(A_1, \ldots, A_m)$ is the code of $x$ (or, more precisely, the code of $x$ of length $m$ with symbols from $S$).

Lemma 5. For any $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists a periodic interval $J(a(p))$ of $f$ such that $\text{Span}(T, f) \cup \text{Orb}_f J(a(p)), \varepsilon, 2^n) = O\left(2^{n^2}\right)$.

Proof. In the sequel $J_j(i)$, where $-2^{i-1} + 1 \leq j \leq 2^i - 1$, will denote that interval in $\text{Orb}_f J(i)$ which contains $Q_j$. Let $\varepsilon$ be an arbitrary positive number. There is a $p \in \mathbb{N}$ such that the periodic interval $J(a(p))$ satisfies

$$\text{diam} J_j(a(p)) - \text{diam} Q_j < \varepsilon \quad \text{for} \quad j = -2^{a(p)-1} + 1, \ldots, -1, 0, 1, \ldots, 2^{a(p)-1}.$$

To see this, suppose this is not the case. Then there is a nested sequence $(A(n))_{n=0}^{\infty}$ of periodic intervals $A(n) \in \text{Orb} J(n)$ such that $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A(n)$ is an interval with diameter larger than the diameter of that of the intervals $Q_k$, $k \in K$, which is contained in it. But then the map $g$ has a nested sequence $(g^{-1} A(n))_{n=1}^{\infty}$ of periodic intervals whose intersection is not a point which is impossible.

Let $n$ be an arbitrary positive integer. Put

$$M_j(i) = J_j(a(p + i - 1)) \setminus J_j(a(p + i)) \quad \text{for} \quad i = 1, \ldots, n,$$

$$j = -2^{a(p)-1} + 1, \ldots, -1, 0, 1, \ldots, 2^{a(p)-1}.$$

It is easy to see that the defined intervals have the following property:

any periodic interval from $\text{Orb}_f J(a(p + r))$, $1 \leq r \leq n$

(5) either is one of the intervals $J_{-2^{a(p)-1}+1}(a(p + r)), \ldots, J_{2^{a(p)-1}}(a(p + r))$

or is contained in some $M_j(s)$, $1 \leq s \leq r$.

Put

$$J = \{J_{-2^{a(p)-1}+1}(a(p + n)), \ldots, J_{2^{a(p)-1}}(a(p + n))\}, \quad M = \bigcup_j \{M_j(1), \ldots, M_j(n)\}$$

and consider the decomposition $D = M \cup J$ of the set $\bigcup \text{Orb}_f J(a(p))$. To each $x \in \bigcup \text{Orb}_f J(a(p))$ assign its code $(c(1), \ldots, c(2^n)) \in \text{Code}(2^n, D)$. From (4) it follows that any such code can contain at most $2^{a(p)}$ symbols from $J$. Suppose that a code $c$ contains a symbol from $J$ and let $k$ be the first number such that $c(k)$ belongs to $J$. Then the rest of the code $c$, i.e. $(c(k+1), \ldots, c(2^n))$ is uniquely determined. This straightforwardly follows from (5). Thus

$$\text{Card} \text{Code}(2^n, D) \leq \sum_{m=0}^{2^n} \text{Card} \text{Code}(m, M) \cdot \text{Card} J.$$

We claim that if $c = (M_{k_1}(c_1), \ldots, M_{k_m}(c_m)) \in \text{Code}(m, M)$ and $c_i > c_j$ for some $1 \leq i < j \leq m$ then $M_{k_i}(c_i)$ is uniquely determined by $(M_{k_i}(c_1), \ldots, M_{k_i}(c_i))$. 


In fact, the existence of a point with code $c$ shows that $f^{t(j)−t(i)}M_{k_i}(c_i) \cap M_{k_j}(c_j) \neq \emptyset$. Further, $M_{k_i}(c_i) \subseteq J_k(a(p + c_i - 1))$. Using $c_i - 1 \geq c_j$, (5) then implies $f^{t(j)−t(i)}M_{k_i}(c_i) \subseteq M_{k_j}(c_j)$.

Note that the indices $k_2, \ldots, k_m$ are uniquely determined by $k_1$. Now fix an index $k_1$ and to each code $c = (M_{k_1}(c_1), \ldots, M_{k_m}(c_m)) \in \text{Code}(m, \mathcal{M})$ assign a nondecreasing sequence $\text{ris}(c)$, the rising sun sequence of $c$, defined by $\text{ris}(c)(i) = \max\{c(1), \ldots, c(i)\}$, $i = 1, \ldots, m$. By what we showed above, if $(M_{k_1}(c_1), \ldots, M_{k_{i−1}}(c_{i−1}), M_{k_i}(c_i))$ and $(M_{k_1}(c_1), \ldots, M_{k_{i−1}}(c_{i−1}), M_{k_i}(d_i))$ are two codes with $c_i \neq d_i$ then $c_i, d_i \geq c_1, \ldots, c_{i−1}$. This implies that $\text{ris}(c) \neq \text{ris}(d)$ whenever $c, d$ are two different codes from $\text{Code}(m, \mathcal{M})$ with the same index $k_1$. When we realize that there are $2^{2m}$ possible values for $k_1$ we can bound above $\text{CardCode}(m, \mathcal{M})$ by the number of all nondecreasing sequences $\{1, \ldots, m\} \rightarrow \{1, \ldots, n\}$, which equals $(m+n−1) \leq (2n−1)$, multiplied by $2^{2m}$. Hence, by (6)

$$\text{Card Code}(2^n, \mathcal{D}) \leq \sum_{m=0}^{2^n} \binom{m+n−1}{m} 2^{2m} \cdot 2^n$$

$$\leq (2^n + 1) \cdot \binom{2^n + n−1}{2^n} \cdot 2^{2n} = O \left(4^n \right).$$

Finally, fix an $N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $1/N < \varepsilon$ and cut each $J_j(a(p+n))$ to $N$ equally long intervals $K_j(1), \ldots, K_j(N)$ and put $\mathcal{E} = \bigcup_j \{K_j(1), \ldots, K_j(N)\} \cup \mathcal{M}$. Since any code from $\text{Code}(2^n, \mathcal{D})$ contains at most $2^{2m}$ symbols from $\mathcal{J}$ we have

$$\text{Card Code}(2^n, \mathcal{E}) \leq \text{Card Code}(2^n, \mathcal{D}) \cdot N^{2^{2m}} = O \left(2^{n^2} \right).$$

It is obvious that $\text{Span}(T, f|\cup \text{Orb}_f J(a(p)), \varepsilon, 2^n) \leq \text{Card Code}(2^n, \mathcal{E})$. In fact, if for each code from $\text{Code}(2^n, \mathcal{E})$ we choose one point having this code then the set of all chosen points is an $(T, f|\cup \text{Orb}_f J(a(p)), \varepsilon, 2^n)$-span.

**Theorem 6.** Let $T$ be an arbitrary increasing sequence of nonnegative integers. Then there is a chaotic map $f \in C(I, I)$ such that $b_T(f) = 0$.

**Proof.** For $T$ define $f$ as in the beginning of this section. Fix $\varepsilon > 0$. We will show that $\limsup_{n \to \infty} n \log \text{Span}(T, f, \varepsilon, n) = 0$.

Let $J(a(p))$ be the interval from Lemma 5. To bound above $\text{Span}(T, f, \varepsilon, 2^n)$ we use Lemma 5 but we have to take into account also $T$-trajectories starting in intervals contiguous to $\text{Orb}_f J(a(p))$, i.e. in intervals from the family $\mathcal{C} = \{C(1), C_1(2), C_2(2), \ldots, C_1(a(p)), \ldots, C_{2^{2m−1}}(a(p))\}$. Here $C(1)$ is contiguous to $\text{Orb}_f J(1)$, then intervals $C_1(2), C_2(2)$ are remaining two contiguous intervals to $\text{Orb}_f J(2)$, etc. Evidently, $i > j$ implies $f^k C_i(i) \cap C_s(j) = \emptyset$ for any $k \in \mathbb{N}$, $1 \leq r \leq 2^{i−1}$ and $1 \leq s \leq 2^{i−1}$. A code from $\text{Code}(m, \mathcal{C})$ is a finite sequence of the form

$$\{C_{r(i_1,1)}(i_1), \ldots, C_{r(i_1,m_i)}(i_1), C_{r(i_2,1)}(i_2), \ldots, C_{r(i_2,m_2)}(i_2), \ldots, C_{r(i_k,1)}(i_k), \ldots, C_{r(i_k,m_k)}(i_k)\}$$

where $m_1 + \cdots + m_k = m$ and $i_1 < \cdots < i_k$. We are going to estimate $\text{Card Code}(m, \mathcal{C})$.

Obviously, $k \leq m$ and $i_1 < \cdots < i_k \leq a(p)$. Hence $k \leq \min\{m, a(p)\}$. Fix $k, m_1, \ldots, m_k, i_1, \ldots, i_k$. First, realize that each subsequence $(C_{r(i_1,1)}(i_1), \ldots, C_{r(i_j,1)}(i_j))$ is uniquely determined by $C_{r(i_j,1)}(i_j)$. This follows from the fact that for any $t \in \mathbb{N}$, $1 \leq i \leq a(p)$, $1 \leq r \leq 2^{i−1}$ there is exactly one $s$, $1 \leq s \leq 2^{i−1}$,
such that \( f^i C_r(i) \cap C_s(i) \neq \emptyset \). Since there are \( 2^{i-1} \) possibilities for the choice of \( C_{r(i,j)}(i_j) \), for fixed \( k, m_1, \ldots, m_k, i_1, \ldots, i_k \) we obtain at most \( 2^{i_1-1} \cdots 2^{i_k-1} = 2^{i_1+\cdots+i_k-k} \leq 2^{a(p)^2} \) sequences of the form (8).

There are \( \binom{m-1}{k-1} \) ways how to write \( m \) in the form \( m_1 + \cdots + m_k \) and \( \binom{a(p)}{k} \) ways of choosing \( k \) positive integers \( i_1 < \cdots < i_k \leq a(p) \). From all this we obtain that

\[
\text{Card Code}(m, C) \leq \sum_{k=1}^{\min(m,a(p))} \binom{m-1}{k-1} \cdot \binom{a(p)}{k} \cdot 2^{a(p)^2} = \frac{2^a \cdot 2^{a(p)^2-1} \cdot a(p)! \cdot 2^{a(p)^2}}{O(2^{a(p)-n})}.
\]

Cut each interval from the family \( C \) into \( N \) equally long intervals and denote by \( C_{\text{cut}} \) the family of all intervals obtained in such a way. We are going to estimate \( \text{Card Code}(m, C_{\text{cut}}) \). Take any \( j \in \{1, \ldots, k\} \) and consider all points having the code \( (C_{r(i,j)}(i_j), \ldots, C_{r(i,m_j)}(i_j)) \), a subcode of (8). The number of different codes from \( C_{m_j, C_{\text{cut}}} \) belonging to the considered points is at most \( N(m_j-1) \cdot (N-1) \leq m_j \cdot N \). This follows from the fact that \( f \) is strictly monotone on each \( C_r(i) \) which implies that \( f^{-1} C_r(i) \cap C_s(i) \) is either an interval or the empty set and in the former case \( f^j \) is strictly monotone on this interval. Therefore the number of different codes from \( C_{m, C_{\text{cut}}} \) belonging to all points whose code from \( C_{m, C} \) is the sequence (8) is at most \( m_1 \cdot N \cdot \cdots \cdot m_k \cdot N \leq 2^{a(p)^2-1} \cdot N^{a(p)} \). Since this upper bound does not depend on the integers \( k, m_1, \ldots, m_k, i_1, \ldots, i_k \), from (8) we have, by (9),

\[
\text{Card Code}(m, C_{\text{cut}}) \leq 2^{a(p)^2-1} \cdot N^{a(p)} \cdot \text{Card Code}(m, C) = O \left( 2^{a(p)^2-1} \right).
\]

Now we can bound above the number of all codes from \( \text{Code}(2^n, E \cup C_{\text{cut}}) \). Each such a code consists of a (possibly empty) block of symbols from \( C_{\text{cut}} \) followed by a (possibly empty) block of symbols from \( E \). Therefore

\[
\text{Card Code}(2^n, E \cup C_{\text{cut}}) \leq \sum_{m=0}^{2^n} \text{Card Code}(m, C_{\text{cut}}) \cdot \text{Card Code}(2^n - m, E).
\]

By (7) and (10),

\[
\text{Card Code}(2^n, E \cup C_{\text{cut}}) = (2^n + 1) \cdot O \left( 2^{a(p)^2-1} \right) \cdot O \left( 2^{a(p)^2} \right) = O \left( 2^{n^2 + (2a(p) + 1)n} \right).
\]

Then, since \( \text{Span}(T, f, \varepsilon, 2^n) \leq \text{Card Code}(2^n, E \cup C_{\text{cut}}) \)

\[
\limsup_{n \to \infty} \frac{1}{n} \log \text{Span}(T, f, \varepsilon, 2^n) \leq \limsup_{n \to \infty} \frac{1}{2^n - 1} \log \text{Span}(T, f, \varepsilon, 2^n) \leq \limsup_{n \to \infty} \frac{1}{2^n - 1} \log O \left( 2^{n^2 + (2a(p) + 1)n} \right) = 0.
\]

\[\square\]

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