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Constancy Levels of Increasing Mappings of Some Kinds of Ordered Sets

Duro R. Kurepa

0. At some occasions I had the opportunity to ask whether there exists a strictly increasing function from the tree σQ of some bounded well-ordered non empty subsets of (Q, \leq) into (Q, \leq) (see D. Kurepa, References \leq 1951).

0 : 1. Finally, I succeeded to answer the question by the negative. The proof was quite complicated and was backed on the proof that the tree σQ was the union of Al_1 antichains but not of Al_0 antichains (see [8 T. 3.1 ; 9 TR. 1, 10 Th. 3.1]).

0 : 2. A remarkable statement. Afterwards, I found a nice statement that whenever

(0 : 3) (E, \leq) be an ordered set, then the tree

(0 : 4) $(w(E, =), <_k)$ of all well-ordered subsets of (0 : 3) (including the empty set v as well) is such that there is no strictly increasing mapping of (0 : 4) into the starting set (0 : 3). The proof of this fundamental fact is unthinkingly simple (see D. Kurepa [11]).

0 : 5. In this note we shall exhibit a proof of a statement published in D. Kurepa [10, Théorème 3.1]¹ in a generalized version (see Theorem 1 : 0).

0 : 6. Number $\Gamma(E, \leq)$. For an ordered set (E, \leq) we denote by $\Gamma(E, \leq)$ the least ordinal number n which is strictly greater than the order type of every well-ordered subset of (0 : 3).

0 : 7. We denote by $w(E, \leq)$ (resp. $\sigma(E, \leq)$) the system of all well-ordered (and bounded and non empty) subsets of (0 : 3) ordered by the relation \leq_k "to be an initial segment of".

0.8. In $n^{\circ 2}$ we shall prove an interesting theorem concerning strictly increasing functions on union of Al_γ antichains into a subchain of $(P\omega, \subset)$ (see Theorem 2 : 1).

¹ Todorčević Stevo reminded me that no proof of this theorem was published.

1. Statement of theorem

1:0. Theorem. *Let α be any ordinal number and (E, \leq) any subset of the power set $(P\omega_\alpha, \subset)$ such that*

$$(1:1) \quad \Gamma(E, \leq) = \Gamma P\omega_\alpha = \omega_{\alpha+1}.$$

If f is any increasing mapping of $(\sigma E, \leq)$ into (E, \leq) , then the system S of all pairs $\{x, y\}_\neq$ of points of $\sigma(E, \leq)$ for which $fx = fy$ has a power $> Al_\alpha$ (Al stands for the Hebrew "alef").

PROOF. Assume, contrarily, that the statement 1:0 does not hold and that for some ordinal α and some subset (E, \leq) of $P\omega_\alpha$ satisfying (1:1) the system S of all 2-point-subsets of (E, \leq) in each of which an increasing function $f: \sigma(E, \leq)$ into (E, \leq) is constant, has a power $\leq Al_\alpha$. Because of the condition (1:1) we infer that the tree $\sigma(E, \leq)$ has a rank (=height) equal to $\omega_{\alpha+1}$. Therefore, there would be an ordinal n of second kind such that

$$(1:2) \quad \cup S \subset (\cdot, n]_\sigma = \cup R_i \quad (i \leq n)$$

and that, consequently, in the remaining right section

$$(1:3) \quad (n, \cdot)_\sigma = \cup R_i \sigma, \quad (n < i < \omega_{\alpha+1})$$

the mapping f is strictly increasing.

Obviously, $\gamma(1:3) = \omega_{\alpha+1} = \Gamma(E, \leq)$; therefore there exists an ordinal r between n and $\omega_{\alpha+1}$ and such that $n+r=r$. If we consider a point $a \in R_r$ (1:3), then we have well-defined r -sequence of points $b_i = fa_i$ ($i < r$), where $a_i <_k a$ and $a_i \in R_i$ (1:3). The points b_i constitute a well-ordered subset of $f(1:3)$. Now let us consider a following function g on

$$(1:4) \quad \{v\} \cup \sigma(E, \leq):$$

we set $gv := b_0$ and $\{gR_i(\cdot, n)\}_\sigma = b_{i+1}$ ($i \leq n$); then g would be strictly increasing from $\{v\} \cup \sigma$ to (E, \leq) . In such circumstances, (E, \leq) has no last member, because in the opposite case the tree (1:4) would be identical to the tree $w(E, \leq)$ and g would be a strictly increasing mapping of $w(E, \leq)$ into (E, \leq) , contrarily to our statement 0:2.

Thus (E, \leq) has no last element; in this case let us consider a new point p and let us join p to (E, \leq) and convene that p follows all points of (E, \leq) ; let $(F, \leq) := (E, \leq) + \{p\}$; then we would be able to exhibit a function $j|w(F, \leq) \rightarrow (F, \leq)$, which would be strictly increasing, in contradiction with the statement 0:2. As a matter of fact, it would be sufficient to set, by definition,

$$jx = gx \quad \text{for } x = v \text{ and for } x \in \sigma(E, \leq)$$

$$jx = p \quad \text{for every well-ordered subset}$$

x of (F, \leq) such that p be the last point of X . Q. E. D. 1 : 5. Since every linear set (E, \leq) is order-imbeddable into (PQ, \subset) , it is sufficient to consider the embedding

$$e \in E \rightarrow (Q, \leq) (*, e),$$

(Q, \leq) denoting the ordered set of rational numbers, the theorem 1 : 0 implies

1:6 Theorem. *Let (E, \leq) be any set of real numbers such that $\Gamma(E, \leq) = \omega_1$; if f is any increasing mapping of the tree*

$$(1 : 7) \quad (\sigma(E, \leq) \leq_k) \text{ into } (E, \leq),$$

then the system S of all 2-point-subsets $\{x, y\}$ of (1 : 7) such that $fx = fy$ has a power $pS > Al_0$ (see D. Kurepa [10 Theor. 3]); $pS :=$ power of S .

1:8. Theorem. *The tree*

$$(1 : 9) \quad (w(Q, \leq) \leq_k)$$

is the union of Al_1 of its antichains, but is not a union of $= Al_0$ of its antichains (see D. Kurepa [8 Theorem 2 : 1, 9 Theorem 2 : 1]).

Proof. If (1 : 9) were a union of Al_0 of its antichains, then there would exist a strictly increasing mapping f of (1 : 9) into (Q, \leq) (Theor. 1 p. 837 in D. Kurepa [4]), contradicting the above main theorem 1 : 0 for the case $E = Q$ (the condition $\Gamma(Q, \leq) = \omega_1$ is satisfied).

2. A theorem concerning strictly increasing mappings of unions of antichains

2 : 0 Every ordered set is union of various systems of antichains ; e. g., every tree T is union of rows $R_i T (i < \gamma T)$ and each point $t \in T$ belongs to a unique row $R_{\gamma t} T$; the mapping $t \in T \rightarrow \gamma t$ is strictly increasing on T and its range is the chain of all ordinals $< \gamma T (=$ the height of $T)$. It is rather surprising that a very general theorem holds like the following one.

2:1. Theorem. *If an ordered set (1) (E, \leq) is union of Al_j antichains ; (2) $A_j (j < \omega_\nu)$, then there is a strictly increasing mapping g of (1) onto a subchain of $(P\omega_\nu, \subset)$; the mapping*

$$(3) \quad g : (E, \leq) \rightarrow (P\omega_\nu, \subset)$$

is strictly increasing and the range gE is a chain; shortly speaking, g is a chain embedding of $(3)_1$ into $(3)_2$.

First one has

2:2. Lemma. *Any ordered set (E, \leq) of power $< Al_\nu$ is orderrisomorphic with a subset of $(P\omega_\nu, \subset)$.*

In fact, since $pE < Al_\nu$, there is a bijection b of E onto a subset F of numbers $< \omega_\nu$: The mapping $e \in E \rightarrow he := (E, \leq) (\cdot, e]$ is such an isomorphism ; in particular, $hE = F$ and obviously, b carries PE onto PF ; consequently, the composed mapping bh carries isomorphically (1) onto a subset of $(3)_2$.

2 : 3. Proof of Theorem 2 : 1. For a representative of Al_ν we shall take any ω_ν -sequence of pairwise disjoint sets M_i , each of power Al_ν ; let

$$(4) \quad M := \cup_j M_j, M^j := \cup_i M_i \quad (i \leq j), M^{<j} := \cup_i M_i (i < j < \omega_\nu).$$

Let

$$(5) \quad w_j (j < \omega_\nu, \beta := (P\omega_\nu)) \text{ be a normal well-order of } PM.$$

Of course, since $pM_j = pM$, the power set PM_j is a cofinal subset in (5). Let us now prove the theorem; the proof will be carried out by transfinite induction argument. Put

$$(6) \quad A^j := \cup_i A_i (0 \leq i \leq j < \omega_\nu), A^{<j} := \cup_i A_i (i < j).$$

Let us define also an ω_ν -sequence

$$(7) \quad s_j \leq j (j < \omega_\nu)$$

of ordinals $< \omega_\nu$ and an ω_ν -sequence

$$(8) \quad f_j (j < \omega_\nu)$$

of strictly \subset -increasing mappings with strictly increasing domains. To start with, let $s_0 = 0$ and let $f_0 A_0 := \{w_{i_0}\}$, i. e. for every $x \in A_{s_0}$ let $fx := w_{i_0}$, where i_0 is the first member of PM_{s_0} in the well-order (5). Suppose that $0 < j < \omega_\nu$ and that the left j -segment $s_i (i < j)$ of (7) is defined such that

- (a) for every $i < j$ the set A^i is mapped by a strictly increasing mapping f_i onto a subchain $f_i A^i$ of (PM^i, \subset) ;
- (b) if $e < i < j$, then $f_e \subsetneq f_i$;
- (c) every pseudo-cut in $f_i A^i$ is of a power $< Al_\nu$.

2 : 4. Definition. A pseudo-cut in a chain L is an ordered pair (A, B) of subsets of L such that $\cup_{a \in A} L(\cdot, a] \cup_{b \in B} L[b, \cdot)$ is a cut of L . A (pseudo-) cut is said to be of power $< Al_\nu$ if each of its components A, B is of power Al_ν .

Let us define f_i : On $A^{<j}$ let f_j be $f^{<j} := \sum_i f_i (i < j)$; $f_j | A_j$ will be defined in the following way. Every $x \in A_j$ induces a cut

$$(9) \quad A(x) | B(x)$$

in the set

$$(10) \quad f_j A^{<j};$$

by induction hypothesis (c) the cut (9) is equivalent to a pseudo-cut $C(x)|D(x)$ of power $< Al_\nu$; we define $f_j x$ as the first number of (5) which belongs to $P(\cup_\alpha M^i) (i < j)$ such that $C(x) \subsetneq f_j x \subsetneq D(x)$, thus also $A(x) \subsetneq f_j x \subsetneq B(x)$; if such a $f_j x$ exists for all $x \in A_j$, we put $s_j := \sup s_i (i < j)$; we do so also if j is limit. If there is some $x \in A_j$ such that $f_j x$ does not exist as was just described, we define s_j as $\sup (s_i + 1) (i < j)$ and $f_j x$ as the first member y of (5) which belongs to $PM^s j$ and such that $y \cap M_{s_j}$ be singleton.

The existence of such a y for $x \in A_j$ follows from the Lemma 2 : 2 and from the fact that the cut $A(x)|B(x)$ is equivalent to some pseudo-cut, which is of power $< Al_\nu$ (see condition (c)). Thus the induction procedure is going on for every $j < \omega_\nu$, and the function $f|E := \cup_j f_j|A^j (j < \omega_\nu)$ is a strictly increasing mapping of (1) onto a subchain of (PM, \subsetneq) . If h is any isomorphism of (PM, \subsetneq) onto $(P\omega_\nu, \subsetneq)$, then hf is a requested strictly increasing mapping of (1) into a subchain of $(3)_2$. Q. E. D.

2 : 5. Historical remark. For the particular case when $\nu = 0$, the theorem 2 : 1 was found in 1937 (see D. Kurepa [3 ; 4, Theorem]). To be sure, this result concerned (Q, \leq) instead of $(P\omega_0, \subsetneq)$, but the present formulation of Theorem 2 : 1 for $\nu = 0$ is easily implied from the fact that if (E, \leq) is union of Al_0 antichains, then there exists a strictly increasing mapping f of (E, \leq) into (Q, \leq) (see D. Kurepa [4, Theorem]). As a matter of fact there is an isomorphism s between (Q, \leq) and a subset of $(P\omega_0, \subsetneq)$: it is sufficient to consider any well-order $q_0, q_1, \dots, q_i, \dots (i < \omega_0)$ of Q and for any $q \in Q$ to consider the infinite set $Q(\cdot, q)$ of all elements $q_i \leq q$ and the corresponding set $sq \in P_{\omega_0}$ of all indices i such that $q_i \leq q$; the mapping $q \in Q \rightarrow sq \in P_{\omega_0}$ is an isomorphism. Therefore, the compound mapping sf is a strictly increasing mapping of the countable union of antichains into the subchain sQ of $(P\omega_0, \subsetneq)$.

2 : 6. Remark. We stress the fact that the range of the mapping g in the wording of Theorem 2 : 1 is a subchain in the lattice $(P\omega_\nu, \subsetneq)$. As stated in n^0 3 : 4, if $\nu = 0$, one can assume that the subchain (gE, \subsetneq) is a part of some subchain of type η in $(P\omega_0, \subsetneq)$.

How is the matter if $\nu > 0$ (e.g., if $\nu = 1$? (cf. Problem 2 : 7 : 12).

2 : 7. Chain $(D_\nu, <)$, tree T_ν . Chain (Q_ν, \leq) .

2 : 7 : 0. We are going to define, for any ordinal ν , a chain (Q_ν, \leq) which for $\nu = 0$ becomes a chain similar to (Q, \leq) . We formulate 2 problems concerning (Q_ν, \leq) .

We denote by ν any ordinal number.

2 : 7 : 1. Ordered chain D_ν (ν ordinal).

Definition. $D_\nu := W(\omega_\nu)^* + W\omega_\nu$, where for any ordinal α we convene that $W\alpha := \{x : x \text{ is ordinal number } < \alpha\}$.

Thus (D_0, \leq) is a chain similar to the chain (D, \leq) of rational integers.

2 : 7 : 2. Tree T_ν .

Definition. The set of all non empty sequences of length $< \omega_\nu$, of terms of D_ν is denoted by T_ν ; this set is supposed to be ordered by the relation \leq_k "to be initial part of"; we get a well-defined tree $(T_\nu, \leq_k) := T_\nu$ of power $\Sigma_{\alpha < \omega_\nu} A_\nu^{\alpha} := A_\nu^{A_\nu} \leq 2^{A_\nu}$.

2:7:3. Chain $(Q_\nu, \leq) := Q_\nu$ is the set T_ν ordered by a relation \leq which extends \leq_k as well as the total ordering of every left node of the tree T_ν ; in other words, if $a, b \in T$, we put $a \leq b$ if and only if either $a \leq_k b$ or if $a \parallel_k b$ and $a_e < b_e$, where $e := e(a, b)$ is the least ordinal such that $a_e \neq b_e$ and $a_i = b_i$ for every $i < e$.

2:7:4. **Lemma.** (Q_ν, \leq) is order-dense. In fact, if $a, b \in Q_\nu$ and $a <_k b$, then $a <_k c <_k b$ for any c such that $c_{\gamma a} < b_{\gamma a}$. If $a \parallel_k b$, then we have a determined first node N such that $a', b' \in N$, $a' \parallel_k b'$ and $a' \leq_k a$, $b' \leq_k b$. Then any c such that $a' <_k c$ is located between a', b' and a fortiori between a, b .

2:7:5. **Lemma.** Right character of any q is ω_ν^* , because the set $R_0 q$ of immediate \leq_k -successors of q is coinital with $(q, \cdot)_{Q_\nu}$ and thus is coinital with ω_ν^* , irrespective whether q is a left limit point in a node of T or whether q is isolated in the node $Q|q|$ to which q belongs; e.g., $(-\omega)$ is right nodal limit of $(-n)$ ($n=1, 2, \dots$) but $R_0(-\omega, \cdot)_{T_\nu}$ is located between $(-\omega)$ and $(-n)$ for positive integers n .

2:7:6. Left character of $q \in Q$. If the original height γ_q in T_ν is a limit ordinal, so is q a limit point in Q_ν , of the same left character. If q is isolated and if the last component of q is isolated in D_ν , then $(Q_\nu, \leq)(\cdot, q)$ is cofinal with ω_ν ; if the last component of q is a left limit point of character ω_σ in D_ν , then so is q in (Q_ν, \leq) .

2:7:7. Let $s := s_0, s_1, \dots, s_j, \dots (j < \gamma s)$ be a maximal sequence of elements of D_ν , such that $(s_0, s_1, \dots, s_i, \dots)_{i < j} D_\nu$ intersects both A and $B := CA$ of a given cut $A|B$ of (Q_ν, \leq) . Then $0 < \gamma s \leq \omega_\nu$ (γs denotes the ordinal length or height of s).

2:7:8. First case $\gamma s < \omega_\nu$. If γs is of the first kind, in particular if $\gamma s = 1$, i.e. $s = (s_0)$, then sD_ν intersects both A and B ; this implies a cut $M|N$ of D_ν , where $M := \{x \in D_\nu, sxD_\nu \subset A\}$; thus $s(x+1)D_\nu \subset B$; sxD_ν and $s(x+1)D_\nu$ are contiguous; thus $A|B$ is a gap of character $(\omega_\nu, \omega_\nu^*)$.

If γs is of second kind, we have two subcases: First subcase: sD_ν intersects both A, B ; then again $A|B$ is a gap of character $(\omega_\nu, \omega_\nu^*)$. Second subcase: sD_ν is either in A or in B .

If sD_ν is in A , then sD_ν is cofinal with A , thus A is cofinal with ω_ν ; in this case we have $(s_0 + 1)D_\nu, (s_0, s_1 + 1)D_\nu, \dots, (s_0, s_1, \dots, s_j + 1)D_\nu, \dots \subset B$; this is a decreasing sequence of sets the union of which is coinital with B ; thus the character of $A|B$ is the gap of $(\omega_\nu, \tau s)$; τs denotes the type of s .

Dually, if sD_ν is in B , one has a gap of character $(\tau s, \omega_\nu^*)$ because sD_ν is coinital with B and the set $(1) \{x : x \in D_\nu, x <_k s\}$ is cofinal with A .

2:7:9. Second case: $\gamma s = \omega_\nu$.

First subcase: s has no final part composed of 0's; thus $s \notin Q_\nu$; in this case, s represents the gap $A|B$, and the set (1) is well-ordered of type ω_ν and is cofinal with A . The sequence

$$h(s_0 + 1)D_\nu, \dots, s_0, s_1, \dots, h(s_j + 1)D_\nu \quad (j < \omega_\nu)$$

of strictly decreasing parts of B is cointial with B ; thus the gap $A|B$ has a symmetric character $(\omega_\nu, \omega_\nu^*)$; here $h(x+1)$ means $:x+1$ for $x \in W\omega_\nu$, and $1+x$ for $x \in W\omega_\nu^*$.

Second subcase: The sequence s terminates with a right constant section composed of 0's; thus $s \in Q_\nu$ (let us remark that every member of Q_ν could be obtained in this way on varying cut $A|B$); the right and the left character of s were determined in $n^0 2:6:5$ and $2:6:6$ respectively.

2:7:10. Briefly, every cut $A|B$ of (Q_ν, \leq) has at least one component of character of power Al_ν .

2:7:11. Problem. Is the ordered chain (Q_ν, \leq) similar to a subchain of $(P\omega_\nu, \subset)$?

The answer is in affirmative for $\nu=0$, and for any strongly inaccessible ω_ν (a proof runs like the one for $\nu=0$ in $n^0 2:5$) and similarly, for any regular ω_ν , under the General Continuum Hypothesis.

2:7:12. Problem. If (E, \leq) is union of Al_ν antichains, does there exist a strictly increasing mapping of (E, \leq) into (Q_ν, \leq) .

The answer is in affirmative at least for $\nu=0$ (see D. Kurepa [4]).

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