

ON HEREDITARILY JUST INFINITE PROFINITE GROUPS WITH COMPLETE HAUSDORFF DIMENSION SPECTRUM

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ABSTRACT. We prove that the inverse limit of certain iterated wreath products in product action have complete Hausdorff dimension spectrum with respect to their unique maximal filtration of open normal subgroups. Moreover we can produce explicitly subgroups with a specified Hausdorff dimension.

1. INTRODUCTION AND RESULTS

1.1. Introduction. The study of Hausdorff dimension in profinite groups was initiated by Abercrombie [Ab] and it has received considerable attention in recent times. For instance, the set of possible Hausdorff dimensions of closed subgroups, the *Hausdorff dimension spectrum*, has been widely studied in pro- p groups (see Section 2.1 for the definition). For example, it is proved in [BS, Theorem 1.1] that a p -adic analytic pro- p group has finite Hausdorff dimension spectrum, consisting only of rational numbers, with respect to its p -power filtration. One of the main open questions about Hausdorff dimension asks whether the converse of [BS, Theorem 1.1] holds. This has been recently confirmed for solvable pro- p groups [KTZ].

Another natural question is: which groups have complete spectrum ([BS, Problem 5])? Some examples are $(t\mathbb{F}_p[[t]], +)$ and $(1 + t\mathbb{F}_p[[t]], \cdot)$ with respect to their t -power filtrations, see [BS, Lemma 4.1] and [BS, Lemma 4.2], but these are not finitely generated. In fact, it is not even known whether the Hausdorff dimension spectrum of a finitely generated free pro- p group is complete (see [Sh, Theorem 4.10] and [BS, Problem 4]).

One of the very few families of examples of profinite groups with complete spectrum is given by automorphism groups of rooted trees with respect to the filtration of the level-stabilisers. In [AV, Theorem 2] the authors prove that the Hausdorff dimension spectrum of the full automorphism group of a rooted tree is complete, nevertheless the proof relies on probabilistic methods and does not give explicit subgroups with a fixed Hausdorff dimension. Later various authors eventually found explicitly subgroups of automorphisms groups of rooted trees with interesting properties (see [Su] and [Si]). On the other hand, in the special class of profinite *branch* groups it is possible to construct explicitly subgroups of each given dimension as observed by Klopsch and Röver [Kl, Chapter 8] and their construction is similar in spirit to the proof of our Theorem A below.

Observe that the automorphism group of a rooted tree can be seen as an infinitely iterated permutational wreath product. The goal of this work is to generalize [AV, Theorem 2] to *infinitely iterated wreath products in product action*. These groups arise as follows; see Section 2.2 for a more detailed description. Let $\mathcal{S} = (S_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$, with $S_k \leq \text{Sym}(\Omega_k)$, be a sequence of finite transitive permutation groups. The

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inverse limit

$$W^{\text{pa}}(\mathcal{S}) = \varprojlim W_n^{\text{pa}}$$

of the inverse system $W_1^{\text{pa}} \leftarrow W_2^{\text{pa}} \leftarrow \dots$ of finite iterated wreath products

$$W_n^{\text{pa}} = S_n \circledast (S_{n-1} \circledast (\dots \circledast S_0)) \leq \text{Sym}(\tilde{\Omega}_n) \quad \text{for } \tilde{\Omega}_n = \Omega_n^{\left(\binom{\dots \Omega_1}{n-1}\right)}.$$

is called the *infinitely iterated wreath product of type \mathcal{S} w.r.t. product actions*.

By [Re, Theorem 6.2] and [Va15], every infinitely iterated wreath product w.r.t. product actions $W^{\text{pa}}(\mathcal{S})$, based on a sequence \mathcal{S} of finite non-abelian simple permutation groups, is a finitely generated hereditarily just infinite profinite group that is not virtually pro- p for any prime p . In [Wi, Va15, Va16, KV] some embedding, generation and presentation properties of such groups have been established, but many of their features are not yet fully understood.

1.2. Results. The main result of this paper is that certain infinitely iterated wreath products in product action have complete Hausdorff dimension spectrum with respect to their unique maximal descending chain of open normal subgroups. We start with some notation, let $\mathcal{S} = (S_k \leq \text{Sym}(\Omega_k))_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a sequence of finite permutation groups. We say that \mathcal{S} is *good* if there exists a constant $A > 0$ and a natural number M_0 such that $|S_k| \leq |S_{k+1}|^A$ for all $k \geq M_0$.

Theorem A. *Let $\mathcal{S} = (S_k \leq \text{Sym}(\Omega_k))_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a good sequence of finite transitive permutation groups and let G be the infinitely iterated wreath product in product action of type \mathcal{S} . Set $N_k = \ker(G \rightarrow \tilde{S}_k)$ for $k \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\mathcal{G} = \{N_k\}_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$. Then, for every $\alpha \in [0, 1]$ there is a closed subgroup H^α of G such that $\dim_{\mathbb{H}, \mathcal{G}}(H^\alpha) = \alpha$. In particular $\text{Spec}_{\mathbb{H}, \mathcal{G}}(G) = [0, 1]$.*

- Remark.*
- (1) We do not know if Theorem A still holds for non-good sequences.
 - (2) We would like to point out that in the proof of the Theorem A we explicitly construct the subgroup H^α of the given Hausdorff dimension. In fact, our arguments are purely combinatorial.
 - (3) In general, the Hausdorff dimension of a profinite group might depend on the chosen filtration. On the other hand, it is easy to see that the filtration \mathcal{G} considered above is the unique maximal filtration of open normal subgroups of G .
 - (4) We also point out that, in general, the closed subgroups constructed in Theorem A are not finitely generated.

As already mentioned, infinitely iterated wreath products in product action associated to sequences of finite non-abelian transitive permutation groups are hereditarily just infinite. So we readily obtain the following Corollary.

Corollary B. *There are hereditarily just infinite profinite groups with complete Hausdorff dimension spectrum.*

2. PRELIMINARIES

2.1. Hausdorff dimension of profinite groups. Let G be a profinite group. A *filtration* of G is a chain $(G_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ of open subgroups G_i of G such that $\bigcap_{i \in \mathbb{N}} G_i = 1$.

Definition 1. Let G be a countably based profinite group and let H be a closed subgroup of G . Fix a filtration $\mathcal{G} = (G_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ of open normal subgroups G_n of G . The *Hausdorff dimension* of H (with respect to \mathcal{G}) is the real number

$$\dim_{\mathbb{H}, \mathcal{G}}(H) = \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log |HG_n : G_n|}{\log |G : G_n|}.$$

In [BS] it is proved that the previous definition coincides with the usual definition of Hausdorff dimension of a profinite group seen as a metric space with the metric induced by the filtration \mathcal{G} . See [BS] for more details on Hausdorff dimension of pro- p groups.

Definition 2. Let G , H and \mathcal{G} be as above. The *spectrum* of G (with respect to \mathcal{G}) is the set

$$\text{Spec}_{\mathcal{H},\mathcal{G}}(G) = \{\dim_{\mathcal{H},\mathcal{G}}(H) \mid H \leq_c G\}$$

It is clear that $\{0, 1\} \subseteq \text{Spec}_{\mathcal{H},\mathcal{G}}(G) \subseteq [0, 1]$. We will say that a profinite group G has *complete spectrum* (with respect to \mathcal{G}) if $\text{Spec}_{\mathcal{H},\mathcal{G}}(G) = [0, 1]$.

2.2. Infinitely iterated iterated wreath products in product action. This section is devoted to the definition of the family of hereditarily just infinite groups introduced in [Va16]. All the actions considered will be *right* actions. A *permutation group* is a subgroup of the symmetric group $\text{Sym}(\Omega)$ on some set Ω . For two permutation groups $A \leq \text{Sym}(\Omega)$ and $B \leq \text{Sym}(\Lambda)$, we denote by $A \circledast B \leq \text{Sym}(\Omega^{|\Lambda|})$ the wreath product of A by B with respect to the product action.¹

Definition 3. Let $\mathcal{S} = (S_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a sequence of finite permutation groups $S_k \leq \text{Sym}(\Omega_k)$. Define inductively $\tilde{\Omega}_1 = \Omega_1$ and $\tilde{\Omega}_{n+1} = \Omega_{n+1}^{|\tilde{\Omega}_n|}$ for $n \geq 1$. The *n*th iterated wreath product $W_n^{\text{pa}} \leq \text{Sym}(\tilde{\Omega}_n)$ of type $\mathcal{S}_n = (S_1, \dots, S_n)$ with respect to product actions is given by

$$W_1^{\text{pa}} = W^{\text{pa}}(\mathcal{S}_1) = S_1 \leq \text{Sym}(\tilde{\Omega}_1),$$

$$W_{n+1}^{\text{pa}} = W^{\text{pa}}(\mathcal{S}_{n+1}) = S_{n+1} \circledast W_n^{\text{pa}} \leq \text{Sym}(\tilde{\Omega}_{n+1}) \quad \text{for } n \geq 1.$$

The *infinitely iterated wreath product of type \mathcal{S} with respect to product actions* is the inverse limit $W^{\text{pa}}(\mathcal{S}) = \varprojlim W_n^{\text{pa}}$ of the natural inverse system $W_1^{\text{pa}} \leftarrow W_2^{\text{pa}} \leftarrow \dots$

A profinite group G is said to be *just infinite* if it is infinite and every non-trivial closed normal subgroup is open. By [Gr, Theorem 3], a just infinite profinite group is either a *branch group* or it is virtually a direct power of a *hereditarily just infinite* profinite group. A just infinite group G is hereditarily just infinite if every open subgroup of G is just infinite. While branch groups received a considerable amount of attention in the past, comparatively little is known about hereditarily just infinite groups. In particular, the only known examples of non-(virtually pro- p) hereditarily just infinite groups are the groups defined above and the family of examples described in [Lu]. Both these families of examples are obtained via inverse limits of iterated wreath products.

3. NOTATION AND SOME LEMMATA

We start this section by fixing some notation.

Notation 1. For a number $x \in \mathbb{R}$ we will write

$$\lfloor x \rfloor = \max \{n \in \mathbb{Z} \mid n \leq x\} \quad \text{and} \quad \{x\} = x - \lfloor x \rfloor.$$

for the integer part and the fractional part of x , respectively.

Notation 2. Let T be a group, $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $1 \leq i \leq n$ be an index. We will write

$$T_i = \{(t_1, \dots, t_n) \in T^n \mid t_j = e \text{ for } j \neq i\} \leq T^n,$$

that is the i -th coordinate subgroup of T^n .

¹The product action of the wreath product can also be defined on functions Ω^Λ , but identifying a function $f : \Lambda = \{\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n\} \rightarrow \Omega$ with the $|\Lambda|$ -tuple $(f(\lambda_1), \dots, f(\lambda_n))$ gives an equivalence of permutation groups.

Before the proof of Theorem A we give a few ancillary lemmas. The following lemma is straightforward.

Lemma 1. *Let $G \leq \text{Sym}(\Omega)$ be a permutation group and set S be a subset of Ω . Then S is G -invariant if and only if the complement of S in Ω is G -invariant.*

The next lemmas are of analytical flavour.

Lemma 2. *Let $(m_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a sequence of positive integers with $m_k \geq 2$ for every k . Let $\tilde{m}_1 = m_1$ and $\tilde{m}_{k+1} = m_{k+1}^{\tilde{m}_k}$ for $k \geq 1$. Then*

- (1) *for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $\tilde{m}_n \geq n$. In particular, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \tilde{m}_n = \infty$;*
- (2) *$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \tilde{m}_{n-1}/\tilde{m}_n = 0$;*
- (3) *for every positive constant C there exists $M = M(C) \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $C\tilde{m}_{n-1} \leq \tilde{m}_n$ for every $n \geq M$.*

Proof. (1) By induction on n . We have $m_1 \geq 2 \geq 1$. Suppose $\tilde{m}_{n-1} \geq n-1$ for $n \geq 2$, then $m_n^{\tilde{m}_{n-1}} \geq 2^{\tilde{m}_{n-1}} \geq 2^{n-1} \geq n$.

- (2) Let $x = \tilde{m}_{n-1}$, then $0 \leq x/m_n^x \leq x/2^x$ for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Passing to the limits we obtain the claim.
- (3) Clear from the above. \square

The previous lemma describes the very fast growth of the function $k \mapsto \tilde{m}_k$. The next lemma is a standard result and it can be found in any basic text of Calculus.

Lemma 3. *Let $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ and $(b_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ two bounded real sequences. Suppose that $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ converges to 0, then*

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n b_n = 0.$$

4. PROOF OF THEOREM A

Set $N_k = \ker(G \rightarrow \tilde{S}_k)$ for $k \in \mathbb{N}$, then $\mathcal{G} = (N_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ be the unique maximal descending chain of open normal subgroups of G . Set $\dim_{\mathbb{H}} = \dim_{\mathbb{H}, \mathcal{G}}$. Clearly, $\dim_{\mathbb{H}}(\{1\}) = 0$ and $\dim_{\mathbb{H}}(G) = 1$. To prove the theorem it will be sufficient to build subgroups H_n^α of W_n^{pa} , for $n \in \mathbb{N}$, such that H_{n+1}^α projects onto H_n^α and

$$(1) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log |H_n^\alpha|}{\log |G : N_n|} = \alpha$$

for every $\alpha \in (0, 1)$.

For ease of notation, set $m_k = |\Omega_k|$, $\tilde{m}_0 = 1$ and $\tilde{m}_k = |\tilde{\Omega}_k|$. Observe that the equality $\tilde{m}_{k+1} = m_{k+1}^{\tilde{m}_k}$ holds for every $k \geq 1$.

Fix $\alpha \in (0, 1)$. We are going to define subgroups H_n^α “layer by layer”, i.e., we will define subgroups $K_j^\alpha \leq S_j^{\tilde{m}_j-1}$, for $j = 2, \dots, n$, and then we will set $H_n^\alpha = \prod_{j=2}^n K_j^\alpha$. Remembering Notation 2, define $c_1 = m_1$, $o_1 = 1$ and

$$K_2^\alpha = \prod_{i=1}^{\lfloor \alpha \cdot m_1 \rfloor} (S_2)_i \leq W_2^{\text{pa}} \leq \text{Sym}(\tilde{\Omega}_2).$$

By the definition of the product action, it is clear that K_2^α has $c_2 = m_2^{m_1 - \lfloor \alpha \cdot c_1 \rfloor \cdot o_1} = m_2^{m_1 - \lfloor \alpha \cdot m_1 \rfloor}$ orbits on $\tilde{\Omega}_2$ and each orbit of K_2^α has the same cardinality $o_2 = m_2^{\lfloor \alpha \cdot c_1 \rfloor \cdot o_1}$.

Let $n \geq 2$ and assume that we defined subgroups K_j^α of $S_j^{\tilde{m}_j-1}$, for $j = 2, \dots, n$, such that:

- (a) K_j^α has exactly c_j orbits $\{O_j(1), \dots, O_j(c_j)\}$ for its action on $\tilde{\Omega}_j$ and each orbit has cardinality o_j ;
- (b) $\tilde{m}_j = c_j \cdot o_j$ and

(c) the subset $\mathcal{O}_n = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\lfloor \alpha \cdot c_n \rfloor} \mathcal{O}_n(i) \subset \tilde{\Omega}_n$ is K_j^α -invariant.

Define a new subgroup K_{n+1}^α of $S_{n+1}^{\tilde{m}_n}$ by

$$K_{n+1}^\alpha = \prod_{i \in \mathcal{O}_n} (S_{n+1})_i \leq W_{n+1}^{\text{pa}} \leq \text{Sym}(\tilde{\Omega}_{n+1}),$$

By definition of product action, the number of orbits of K_{n+1}^α on $\tilde{\Omega}_{n+1}$ corresponds to the number of possible choices for the coordinates of $\Omega_{n+1}^{\tilde{m}_n}$ that are not moved by K_{n+1}^α , that is $(m_{n+1})^{\tilde{m}_n - \lfloor \alpha \cdot c_n \rfloor \cdot o_n}$. Furthermore, the size of an orbit of K_{n+1}^α on $\tilde{\Omega}_{n+1}$ will simply be

$$o_{n+1} = \frac{\tilde{m}_{n+1}}{(m_{n+1})^{\tilde{m}_n - \lfloor \alpha \cdot c_n \rfloor \cdot o_n}} = (m_{n+1})^{\lfloor \alpha \cdot c_n \rfloor \cdot o_n}.$$

Therefore K_{n+1}^α satisfies properties (a) and (b), we will prove that K_{n+1}^α and \mathcal{O}_{n+1} also satisfy property (c). It is clear that \mathcal{O}_{n+1} is K_{n+1}^α -invariant. Set $C = \tilde{\Omega}_n \setminus \mathcal{O}_n$. By definition of K_{n+1}^α , for any orbit O of K_{n+1}^α on $\tilde{\Omega}_{n+1}$ and for any $c \in C$ there exist $f_c \in \Omega_{n+1}$ such that

$$O = \left\{ (x_1, \dots, x_{\tilde{m}_n}) \in \tilde{\Omega}_{n+1} \mid x_c = f_c \text{ for } c \in C \right\}.$$

It follows that there is a bijection between orbits of K_{n+1}^α on $\tilde{\Omega}_{n+1}$ and the set Ω_{n+1}^C . By Lemma 1, property (c) yields that C is K_j^α -invariant for every $j = 2, \dots, n-1$ and this implies that \mathcal{O}_{n+1} is K_j^α -invariant. Therefore, K_{n+1}^α satisfies (c).

Set $H_2^\alpha = K_2^\alpha$ and $H_{n+1}^\alpha = H_n^\alpha \cdot K_{n+1}^\alpha$ for $n \geq 2$. By property (c), it follows readily that H_n^α is a subgroup of W_n^{pa} . Also, by construction, H_{n+1}^α projects onto H_n^α . Set $H^\alpha = \varprojlim H_n^\alpha$.

The closed subgroup H^α of G is our candidate to have Hausdorff dimension α in G (with respect to \mathcal{G}). In the rest of the proof we will prove that this is indeed the case. An algebraic manipulation yields that

$$\log |H_n^\alpha| = \log \left(\prod_{k=2}^n |S_k|^{\lfloor \alpha \cdot c_{k-1} \rfloor \cdot o_{k-1}} \right) = \sum_{k=2}^n \lfloor \alpha \cdot c_{k-1} \rfloor \cdot o_{k-1} \log |S_k|$$

and, defining $\tilde{m}_0 = 1$,

$$\log |G : N_n| = \log \left(\prod_{k=1}^n |S_k|^{\tilde{m}_{k-1}} \right) = \sum_{k=1}^n \tilde{m}_{k-1} \log |S_k|.$$

We have to carefully study the asymptotics of the previous sequences. First we determine the asymptotic behaviour of the sequence $(\lfloor \alpha c_n \rfloor o_n / \tilde{m}_n)_{n \geq 1}$. Observe that

$$\frac{\lfloor \alpha \cdot c_n \rfloor \cdot o_n}{\tilde{m}_n} = \frac{\alpha \cdot c_n \cdot o_n - \{ \alpha \cdot c_n \} \cdot o_n}{\tilde{m}_n} = \alpha - \frac{\{ \alpha \cdot c_n \} \cdot o_n}{\tilde{m}_n}$$

and, by definition of c_n and Lemma 2, $c_n \geq \tilde{m}_n^{(1-\alpha)} \geq n^{(1-\alpha)}$ which tends to infinity as n does. Moreover, remember that $o_n / \tilde{m}_n = 1 / c_n$. Therefore

$$(2) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\lfloor \alpha \cdot c_n \rfloor \cdot o_n}{\tilde{m}_n} = \alpha.$$

We are going to show next that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sum_{k=2}^n \lfloor \alpha \cdot c_{k-1} \rfloor \cdot o_{k-1} \log |S_k|}{\lfloor \alpha \cdot c_{n-1} \rfloor \cdot o_{n-1} \log |S_n|} = 1.$$

For the sake of brevity, set

$$a_k = (\alpha \tilde{m}_{k-1} \log |S_k|)_{k \geq 2} \quad \text{and} \quad b_k = (\lfloor \alpha c_{k-1} \rfloor o_{k-1} \log |S_k|)_{k \geq 2},$$

then it is clear that $b_k \leq a_k$, for every $k \geq 2$. By (2), the sequence $(b_n/a_n)_{n \geq 2}$ tends to 1 as n tends to infinity.

In the next series of claims we will show that $(\sum_{k=2}^n a_k)_{n \geq 2}$ “behaves asymptotically” like $(a_n)_{n \geq 2}$. Recall that we are assuming that there are $M_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ and $A > 0$ such that, for all $k \geq M_0$, $\log |S_k| \leq A \log |S_{k+1}|$.

Claim 1. *For every real constant $C > 0$ there exists $M(C) \in \mathbb{N}$ such that*

$$(3) \quad Ca_{k-1} \leq a_k \quad \text{for every } k \geq M(C).$$

Proof. By Lemma 2, there exists a natural number $L = L(CA)$ such that $CA\tilde{m}_{k-2} \leq \tilde{m}_{k-1}$ for every $k \geq L$. Thus,

$$Ca_{k-1} \leq CA\alpha\tilde{m}_{k-2} \log |S_k| \leq a_k,$$

for every $k \geq M(C) = \max\{L, M_0 + 1\}$. \square

Claim 2. *For all $n \geq M(2)$,*

$$(4) \quad \sum_{k=M(2)}^n a_k \leq 2a_n.$$

Proof. This will be proved by induction on n . It is clear that $a_{M(2)} \leq 2a_{M(2)}$. Suppose by inductive hypothesis that $\sum_{k=M(2)}^{n-1} a_k \leq 2a_{n-1}$, then (3) yields

$$\sum_{k=M(2)}^n a_k \leq 2a_{n-1} + a_n \leq 2a_n,$$

for $n \geq M(2)$. \square

Claim 3. *For all $n \geq \widehat{M} = \max\{M(2) + 1, M(M(2))\}$,*

$$(5) \quad \sum_{k=2}^n a_k \leq 3a_n.$$

Proof. By (3), $M(2)a_{M(2)} \leq M(2)a_{n-1} \leq a_n$ for all $n \geq \widehat{M}$. Using (4), we conclude that

$$\sum_{k=2}^n a_k \leq M(2)a_{M(2)} + 2a_n \leq 3a_n,$$

for every $n \geq \widehat{M}$. \square

Finally, we use inequality (5) to see that

$$(6) \quad 0 \leq \frac{1}{a_n} \cdot \sum_{k=2}^{n-1} a_k \leq \frac{3a_{n-1}}{a_n}$$

for every n large enough. Since the sequence $(\log |S_{n-1}| / \log |S_n|)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is positive and bounded above by the constant A , it follows from Lemma 2 and Lemma 3 that

$$(7) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_{n-1}}{a_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\tilde{m}_{n-2}}{\tilde{m}_{n-1}} \cdot \frac{\log |S_{n-1}|}{\log |S_n|} = 0$$

and from (6) we deduce that,

$$(8) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=2}^n \frac{a_k}{a_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=2}^n \frac{\tilde{m}_{k-1} \log |S_k|}{\tilde{m}_{n-1} \log |S_n|} = 1.$$

We will use equation (8) at the end of the proof.

We now look at the asymptotics of the sequence $(b_k)_{k \geq 2}$. Again using (6) and the fact that $b_k \leq a_k$ for all $k \geq 2$, we have

$$0 \leq \left(\sum_{k=2}^{n-1} \frac{b_k}{b_n} \right) \cdot \frac{b_n}{a_n} \leq \sum_{k=2}^{n-1} \frac{a_k}{a_n} \leq \frac{3a_{n-1}}{a_n}$$

and, since $(b_n/a_n)_{n \geq 2}$ tends to 1 for n that tends to infinity, it follows that

$$(9) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=2}^n \frac{b_k}{b_n} = 1.$$

Let us now summarize everything in the proof of (1). As previously observed, we can write the Hausdorff dimension of H_n^α as:

$$(10) \quad \dim_{\mathbb{H}}(H^\alpha) = \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log |H_n^\alpha|}{\log |G : N_n|} = \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sum_{k=2}^n b_k}{\sum_{k=1}^n \tilde{m}_{k-1} \log |S_k|}.$$

Define $a_1 = \alpha \tilde{m}_0 \log |S_1|$ and observe that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_1/a_n = 0$. Collecting the highest terms in the top and in the bottom of the fraction in (10), we get

$$\dim_{\mathbb{H}}(H^\alpha) = \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sum_{k=2}^n \frac{b_k}{b_n}}{\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{a_k}{a_n}} \cdot \frac{\lfloor \alpha \cdot c_{n-1} \rfloor \cdot o_{n-1}}{\tilde{m}_{n-1}}.$$

By (9) and (8), the *limit* of the first factor of the above product is 1 and, by (2), the *limit* of second factor is α . Therefore $\dim_{\mathbb{H}}(H^\alpha) = \alpha$, as claimed. This concludes the proof. \square

Remark. We would like to point out that in the proof of Theorem A all the limits considered are actual limits and not inferior limits.

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