

Expansiveness of homeomorphisms and dimension

Dedicated to Professor Akihiro Okuyama on his 60th birthday

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0. Introduction.

In [8], Mañé proved that if a compact metric space X admits an expansive homeomorphism, then X is finite dimensional. In [6, 7], we introduced the notion of continuum-wise (fully) expansive homeomorphism and investigated the several properties. The class of continuum-wise expansive homeomorphisms is much larger than the class of expansive homeomorphisms. In relation to dimension theory, the following results were proved; (1) if a compact metric space X admits a continuum-wise expansive homeomorphism, then X is finite dimensional [6], and (2) if a continuum X admits a positively continuum-wise fully expansive map, then X is 1-dimensional [7]. In this paper, we define the notion of barriers of a homeomorphism $f: X \rightarrow X$ and an index $B(f)$. We are interested in the relation between the index $B(f)$ and the dimension of X . The following theorem is proved; if $f: X \rightarrow X$ is a continuum-wise expansive homeomorphism of a compact metric space X , then $\dim X \leq B(f) \leq 2 \cdot \dim X < \infty$. As a corollary, if $f: X \rightarrow X$ is a continuum-wise fully expansive homeomorphism, then $\dim X \leq B(f) \leq 2$.

1. Definitions and preliminaries.

By a *continuum*, we mean a compact metric connected nondegenerate space. A homeomorphism $f: X \rightarrow X$ of a compact metric space X with metric d is *expansive* (e. g., see [1] and [2]) if there is a positive number $c > 0$ such that if $x, y \in X$ and $x \neq y$, then there is an integer $n = n(x, y) \in \mathbf{Z}$ such that

$$d(f^n(x), f^n(y)) > c.$$

A homeomorphism $f: X \rightarrow X$ is *continuum-wise expansive* [6] if there is a positive number $c > 0$ such that if A is a nondegenerate subcontinuum of X , then there is an integer $n = n(A) \in \mathbf{Z}$ such that

$$\text{diam } f^n(A) > c,$$

where $\text{diam } B$ denotes the diameter of a set B . Clearly, every expansive homeomorphism is continuum-wise expansive, but the converse assertion is not true. There are many important continuum-wise expansive homeomorphisms which are not expansive (see [6, 7]). Those homeomorphisms have frequent applications in topological dynamics, ergodic theory and continuum theory (e. g., see the references).

Note that if $f: X \rightarrow X$ and $g: Y \rightarrow Y$ are (resp. continuum-wise) expansive homeomorphisms, then the product $f \times g: X \times Y \rightarrow X \times Y$ is also (resp. continuum-wise) expansive. Hence this implies that for each natural number n , there is an expansive homeomorphism $f: X \rightarrow X$ of a compact metric space X with $\dim X = n$. In [7], we introduced the notion of (positively) continuum-wise fully expansive and study several properties of continuum-wise fully expansive homeomorphisms, which are contained in the class of continuum-wise expansive homeomorphisms. A homeomorphism $f: X \rightarrow X$ of a continuum X is *continuum-wise fully expansive* [7] if for each $\varepsilon > 0$ and $\delta > 0$, there is a natural number $N = N(\varepsilon, \delta) > 0$ such that if A is a subcontinuum of X with $\text{diam } A \geq \delta$, then either (i) $d_H(f^n(A), X) < \varepsilon$ for each $n \geq N$, or (ii) $d_H(f^{-n}(A), X) < \varepsilon$ for each $n \geq N$, where

$$d_H(A_1, A_2) = \inf \{ \eta > 0 \mid U(A_1, \eta) \supset A_2 \text{ and } U(A_2, \eta) \supset A_1 \},$$

for each closed subsets A_1, A_2 of X and $U(A_1, \eta)$ denotes the η -neighborhood of A_1 in X . The distance d_H is called the *Hausdorff metric*. A map $f: X \rightarrow X$ is *positively continuum-wise fully expansive* if for each $\varepsilon > 0$ and $\delta > 0$, there is a natural number $N = N(\varepsilon, \delta) > 0$ such that if A is a subcontinuum of X with $\text{diam } A \geq \delta$, then the above condition (i) is satisfied.

Note that there is a 2-dimensional continuum X which admits a continuum-wise fully expansive homeomorphism. In fact, each hyperbolic toral automorphism $f: T \rightarrow T$ of the torus T is (continuum-wise fully) expansive. Note that $\dim T = 2$.

For a compact metric space X , put $C(X) = \{A \mid A \text{ is a nonempty subcontinuum of } X\}$. Then it is well known that $C(X)$ is a compact metric space with the Hausdorff metric d_H .

2. Barriers of a homeomorphism.

Let $f: X \rightarrow X$ be a homeomorphism of a compact metric space X . Then $B = \{B^+; B^-\}$, where $B^+ = \{B_1^+, \dots, B_k^+\}$ and $B^- = \{B_{k+1}^-, \dots, B_m^-\}$ are families of closed subsets of X , is said to be a *family of barriers of f* provided that for each $\eta > 0$ there is a natural number $N = N(\eta) > 0$ such that if $A \in C(X)$ and $\text{diam } A \geq \eta$, then one of the following two conditions holds:

- (+) For some $1 \leq i \leq k$, $f^N(A) \cap B_i^+ \neq \emptyset \neq f^N(A) \cap (X - B_i^+)$.
- (-) For some $k+1 \leq i \leq m$, $f^{-N}(A) \cap B_i^- \neq \emptyset \neq f^{-N}(A) \cap (X - B_i^-)$.

Briefly, we write $B = \{B^+; B^-\} = \{B_1^+, \dots, B_k^+; B_{k+1}^-, \dots, B_m^-\}$. Each B_i^+ ($1 \leq i \leq k$) is said to be a *positive barrier of f* and each B_i^- ($k+1 \leq i \leq m$) is said to be a *negative barrier of f*. Put $B(f) = \min\{m \mid \text{there is a family } B = \{B^+; B^-\} \text{ of barriers of } f \text{ such that } |B| = |B^+| + |B^-| = m\}$, where $|A|$ denotes the cardinality of a set A . If there is no finite family of barriers of f , we define $B(f) = \infty$.

3. Dimension and families of barriers of continuum-wise expansive homeomorphisms.

Let X be a compact metric space. Then X has *dimension* $\leq n$, denoted by $\dim X \leq n$, if for any $\eta > 0$ there is a covering \mathcal{U} of X by open sets with diameter $< \eta$ such that $\text{ord } \mathcal{U} \leq n+1$, i.e., every point of X belongs to at most $n+1$ sets of \mathcal{U} . If $\dim X \leq n$ and $\dim X \leq n-1$ is not true, then $\dim X = n$. Let $f: X \rightarrow X$ be a homeomorphism of a continuum X . Put $V^s = \{A \mid A \text{ is a subcontinuum of } X \text{ such that } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{diam } f^n(A) = 0\}$ and $V^u = \{A \mid A \text{ is a subcontinuum of } X \text{ such that } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{diam } f^{-n}(A) = 0\}$.

(3.1) PROPOSITION. *Let $f: X \rightarrow X$ and $g: Y \rightarrow Y$ be homeomorphisms of compact metric spaces, respectively, and let $f \times g: X \times Y \rightarrow X \times Y$ be a product of f and g , i.e., $(f \times g)(x, y) = (f(x), g(y))$ for each $x \in X$ and $y \in Y$. Then $B(f \times g) \leq B(f) + B(g)$.*

PROOF. Let $\{B_1^+, \dots, B_k^+; B_{k+1}^-, \dots, B_m^-\}$ and $\{C_1^+, \dots, C_j^+; C_{j+1}^-, \dots, C_n^-\}$ be families of barriers of f and g , respectively. Then $\{B_1^+ \times Y, \dots, B_k^+ \times Y, X \times C_1^+, \dots, X \times C_j^+; B_{k+1}^- \times Y, \dots, B_m^- \times Y, X \times C_{j+1}^-, \dots, X \times C_n^-\}$ is a family of barriers of $f \times g$. By this fact, we see that $B(f \times g) \leq B(f) + B(g)$.

(3.2) LEMMA ([6, Corollary (2.4)]). *Let $f: X \rightarrow X$ be a continuum-wise expansive homeomorphism of a compact metric space X . Then there is a positive number $\delta > 0$ such that for each $\eta > 0$ there is a natural number $N = N(\eta) > 0$ such that if $A \in C(X)$ and $\text{diam } A \geq \eta$, then $\text{diam } f^n(A) \geq \delta$ for each $n \geq N$, or $\text{diam } f^{-n}(A) \geq \delta$ for each $n \geq N$.*

(3.3) PROPOSITION. *Let $f: X \rightarrow X$ be a continuum-wise expansive homeomorphism of a compact metric space X and let $\delta > 0$ be a positive number as in (3.2). Then $B(f) \leq 2 \cdot i(\delta) < \infty$, where for each $\epsilon > 0$,*

$i(\epsilon) = \min\{m \mid \text{there is a finite family } F = \{F_1, \dots, F_m\} \text{ of closed subsets of } X \text{ such that for each component } C \text{ of } F_i \text{ (} 1 \leq i \leq m \text{), } \text{diam } C < \epsilon, \text{ and for each component } D \text{ of } X - \bigcup_{i=1}^m F_i, \text{diam } D < \epsilon\}$.

PROOF. Let $i(\delta)=m$ and let F be a family of closed subsets of X as in the statement of (3.3). Put $B_i^+=F_i$ ($1 \leq i \leq m$) and $B_j^-=F_j$ ($1 \leq j \leq m$). Then the family $\{B_1^+, \dots, B_m^+; B_1^-, \dots, B_m^-\}$ is a family of barriers of f (see (3.2)). Hence $B(f) \leq 2 \cdot i(\delta) < \infty$.

(3.4) PROPOSITION. *Let X be a compact metric space with $\dim X=n$. Then $\sup\{i(\epsilon) \mid \epsilon > 0\} = n$.*

PROOF. Note that if $\epsilon_1 \geq \epsilon_2 > 0$, then $i(\epsilon_1) \leq i(\epsilon_2)$. For each $\epsilon > 0$, there is a finite open cover \mathcal{U} of X with $\text{mesh } \mathcal{U} < \epsilon$ and $\text{ord } \mathcal{U} \leq n+1$. By [9, p. 213], there are families $\mathcal{V}_1, \dots, \mathcal{V}_{n+1}$ of pairwise disjoint open sets of X , i.e., $\text{ord } \mathcal{V}_i \leq 1$, such that each \mathcal{V}_i shrinks \mathcal{U} ($1 \leq i \leq n+1$) and $\bigcup_{i=1}^{n+1} \mathcal{V}_i$ is a cover of X . Taking a shrinking \mathcal{V}'_i of \mathcal{V}_i ($1 \leq i \leq n+1$) such that $\bigcup_{i=1}^{n+1} \mathcal{V}'_i = X$ and each element of \mathcal{V}'_i is a closed subset of X . Put $F_i = \bigcup \mathcal{V}'_i$ ($1 \leq i \leq n$). Consider the family $\{F_1, \dots, F_n\}$. Then the family satisfies the desired condition. Hence $i(\epsilon) \leq n = \dim X$. Next, we shall show that $\sup\{i(\epsilon) \mid \epsilon > 0\} \geq \dim X$. Suppose, on the contrary, that for each $\epsilon > 0$, $i(\epsilon) < \dim X = n$. Let $\epsilon > 0$ be a given positive number. Then there is a family $F = \{F_1, \dots, F_m\}$ of closed sets of X such that $m < n$, for each component C of F_i , $\text{diam } C < \epsilon$ and for each component D of $X - \bigcup_{i=1}^m F_i$, $\text{diam } D < \epsilon$. By considering small neighborhoods of components of $F_i \in F$, we can easily see that there is an open cover \mathcal{U} of X with $\text{mesh } \mathcal{U} < \epsilon$ and $\text{ord } \mathcal{U} \leq m+1$. Hence $\dim X \leq m < n$. This is a contradiction.

(3.5) REMARK. In [8], Mañé proved that if $f: X \rightarrow X$ is an expansive homeomorphism of a compact metric space X , then $\dim X < \infty$. In fact, from his proof, we can see (by [6, Proposition 2.2]) that $\dim X \leq (j(\delta))^2 - 1$, where $j(\epsilon) = \min\{n \mid \text{there is a finite closed cover } F = \{F_1, \dots, F_n\} \text{ of } X \text{ with } \text{mesh } F < \epsilon\}$. Clearly $i(\epsilon) < j(\epsilon)$.

(3.6) EXAMPLE. Let A be a 2×2 matrix satisfying (i) all entries of A are integers, (ii) $\det(A) = \pm 1$ and (iii) A is hyperbolic, i.e., none of its eigenvalues have absolute one. Then the eigenvalues λ_1, λ_2 are real and we may assume that $|\lambda_1| > 1, |\lambda_2| < 1$. For example, let $A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$. Let $p: \mathbf{R}^2 \rightarrow T$ be the natural covering projection from the plane \mathbf{R}^2 to the torus $T = S^1 \times S^1$, and let $L_A: T \rightarrow T$ be the homeomorphism of T induced by A , i.e., $p \cdot A = L_A \cdot p$. Then L_A is called a hyperbolic toral automorphism. The dynamical properties of L_A is well known. By [7, (2.4)], L_A is continuum-wise fully expansive. Let V_i ($i=1, 2$) be the eigenvector space corresponding to λ_i in \mathbf{R}^2 . Consider the subset D in \mathbf{R}^2 as in the Figure 1. Put $B = p(D) \subset T$, and $B^+ = B$ and $B^- = B$. Since $T \supseteq B \supset \text{Int } B \neq \emptyset$ and L_A is continuum-wise fully expansive, $\{B^+; B^-\}$ is

a family of barriers of L_A . Then $B(L_A)=2$ (see (3.7) below).

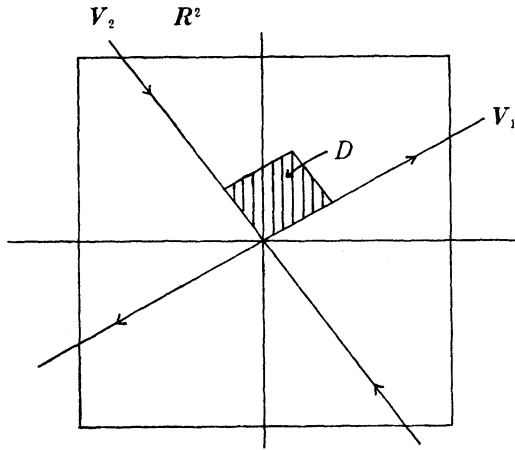


Figure 1.

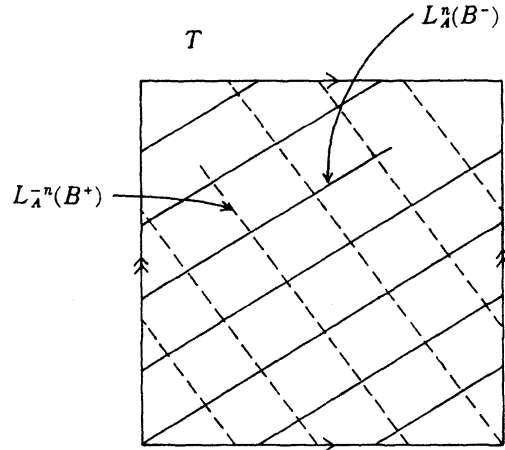


Figure 2.

The following is the main theorem of this paper.

(3.7) THEOREM. *If $f: X \rightarrow X$ is a homeomorphism of a compact metric space X , then $\dim X \leq B(f)$. In particular, if f is a continuum-wise expansive homeomorphism, then $\dim X \leq B(f) \leq 2 \cdot i(\delta) \leq 2 \cdot \dim X < \infty$, where δ is a positive number as in (3.2).*

PROOF. We may assume that $B(f)=m < \infty$. Let $\{B^+; B^-\} = \{B_1^+, \dots, B_k^+; B_{k+1}^-, \dots, B_m^-\}$ be a family of barriers of f . For each $n=0, 1, \dots$, and $i=1, 2, \dots, m$, consider the following subsets of X ;

$$M(i, n) = f^{-n}(B_i^+), \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq k, \quad \text{and}$$

$$M(i, n) = f^n(B_i^-), \quad \text{for } k+1 \leq i \leq m.$$

Let $\eta > 0$ be a given positive number. Since $\{B^+; B^-\}$ is a family of barriers of f , we can choose a natural number $N=N(\eta)$ such that if $A \in C(X)$ and $\text{diam } A \geq \eta$, then one of the following two conditions is satisfied;

- (+) $f^N(A) \cap B_i^+ \neq \emptyset \neq f^N(A) \cap (X - B_i^+)$ for some $1 \leq i \leq k$, or
- (-) $f^{-N}(A) \cap B_i^- \neq \emptyset \neq f^{-N}(A) \cap (X - B_i^-)$ for some $k+1 \leq i \leq m$.

For each $i=1, 2, \dots, m$, put $A_i = \{E \mid E \subset \{1, 2, \dots, m\} \text{ and } |E|=i\}$. For each $j=1, 2, \dots, m$, put

$$L_j = \bigcup_{E \in A_j} (\bigcap \{M(i, N) \mid i \in E\}).$$

Note that $L_m \subset L_{m-1} \subset \dots \subset L_1$ and $L_m = \bigcap_{i=1}^m M(i, N)$, and $L_1 = \bigcup_{i=1}^m M(i, N)$. Now, we shall show that there is a family \mathcal{U}' of open sets of X such that \mathcal{U}'

covers L_1 , i. e., $\cup \mathcal{U}' \supset L_1$, and $\text{ord } \mathcal{U}' \leq m$. First, consider the set L_m . If C is a component of L_m , we see that $f^N(C) \subset B_i^+$ for each $1 \leq i \leq k$, and $f^{-N}(C) \subset B_i^-$ for each $k+1 \leq i \leq m$. Since $\{B^+; B^-\}$ is a family of barriers of f , by the choice of N we see that $\text{diam } C < \eta$ (see Figure 2). By considering small neighborhoods of components of L_m , we can choose a family \mathcal{U}_m of open sets of X such that \mathcal{U}_m covers L_m , $\text{ord } \mathcal{U}_m \leq 1$ and $\text{mesh } \mathcal{U}_m < \eta$. Next, consider the set; $P_{m-1} = L_{m-1} - \cup \mathcal{U}_m$. If C is a component of P_{m-1} , we see that $\text{diam } C < \eta$, because that $\{B^+; B^-\}$ is a family of barriers of f . By considering small neighborhoods of components of P_{m-1} , we can choose a family \mathcal{U}_{m-1} of open sets of X such that \mathcal{U}_{m-1} covers P_{m-1} , $\text{ord } \mathcal{U}_{m-1} \leq 1$ and $\text{mesh } \mathcal{U}_{m-1} < \eta$. If we continue this procedure, we obtain a sequence $\mathcal{U}_m, \mathcal{U}_{m-1}, \dots, \mathcal{U}_1$ of families of open sets of X , and a sequence $P_m = L_m, P_{m-1}, \dots, P_1$ of closed sets of X such that $P_{i-1} = L_{i-1} - \cup (\mathcal{U}_m \cup \mathcal{U}_{m-1} \cup \dots \cup \mathcal{U}_i)$, $\cup \mathcal{U}_{i-1} \supset P_{i-1}$, and $\text{ord } \mathcal{U}_{i-1} \leq 1$ and $\text{mesh } \mathcal{U}_{i-1} < \eta$ ($i = m+1, \dots, 2$). Put $\mathcal{U}' = \mathcal{U}_m \cup \mathcal{U}_{m-1} \cup \dots \cup \mathcal{U}_1$. Then \mathcal{U}' covers L_1 , $\text{mesh } \mathcal{U}' < \eta$ and $\text{ord } \mathcal{U}' \leq m$. Finally, consider the set $Y = X - \cup \mathcal{U}'$. If C is a component of Y , then $\text{diam } C < \eta$. Hence we can choose a family \mathcal{U}'' of open sets of X such that $\text{ord } \mathcal{U}'' \leq 1$, $\text{mesh } \mathcal{U}'' < \eta$ and \mathcal{U}'' covers Y . Put $\mathcal{U} = \mathcal{U}' \cup \mathcal{U}''$. Then \mathcal{U} is an open cover of X such that $\text{ord } \mathcal{U} \leq m+1$ and $\text{mesh } \mathcal{U} < \eta$. Hence we can conclude that $\dim X \leq m = B(f)$. If $f: X \rightarrow X$ is a continuum-wise expansive homeomorphism, by (3.3) and (3.4) $B(f) \leq 2 \cdot i(\delta) \leq 2 \cdot \dim X < \infty$. This completes the proof.

(3.8) COROLLARY. *If a continuum X admits a continuum-wise fully expansive homeomorphism $f: X \rightarrow X$, then*

- (a) $B(f) \leq 2$, and hence X is at most 2-dimensional, and
- (b) if $A \in V^\sigma$ ($\sigma = s$ and u), then $\dim A \leq 1$.

PROOF. (a): Choose a proper closed subset B of X with $\text{Int } B \neq \emptyset$. Put $B^+ = B$, $B^- = B$. Then the family $\{B^+; B^-\}$ is a family of barriers of f . Hence $\dim X \leq B(f) \leq 2$. (b): We prove the case $\sigma = u$. The family $\{B^+; \emptyset\}$ is a family of "barriers" of $f|_A$, where the notion of barriers of the restriction $f|_A: A \rightarrow X$ of f to A is similarly defined. Hence $\dim A \leq 1$ (see the proof of (3.7)).

In case of a map $f: X \rightarrow X$, we can define the index $B^+(f)$ as follows: Let $f: X \rightarrow X$ be a map of a compact metric space X . Suppose that there is a family $B^+ = \{B_1^+, \dots, B_m^+\}$ of positive barriers of f , i. e., for each $\eta > 0$ there is a natural number N such that if $A \in C(X)$ and $\text{diam } A \geq \eta$, then there is $1 \leq i \leq m$ such that

$$(+)\quad f^N(A) \cap B_i^+ \neq \emptyset \neq f^N(A) \cap (X - B_i^+).$$

Put $B^+(f) = \min \{m \mid \text{there is a family } B^+ \text{ of positive barriers of } f \text{ such that } |B^+| = m\}$. If there is no finite family of positive barriers of f , we define

$B^+(f)=\infty$.

(3.9) COROLLARY ([7, (4.3)]). *If a continuum X admits a positively continuum-wise fully expansive map, then $\dim X=B^+(f)=1$.*

PROOF. Let B be a proper closed subset of X with $\text{Int } B \neq \emptyset$. Then $\{B^+=B\}$ is a family of positive barriers of f . Hence $\dim X \leq 1$ (see the proof of (3.7)).

(3.10) COROLLARY. *If $f: X \rightarrow X$ is a positively continuum-wise expansive map of a compact metric space X , then $\dim X=B^+(f)$.*

PROOF. Let $m=\dim X$. By (3.4), we can choose a family $\{B_1, B_2, \dots, B_m\}$ of positive barriers of f . Hence $\dim X=B^+(f)$ (see the proof of (3.7)).

We have the following problems.

PROBLEM 1. Is it true that if $f: X \rightarrow X$ is a continuum-wise fully expansive homeomorphism of a 1-dimensional continuum X , then f or f^{-1} is positively continuum-wise fully expansive?

PROBLEM 2. Is it true that for each continuum-wise expansive homeomorphism $f: X \rightarrow X$ of a compact metric space X , $\dim X=B(f)$?

In relation to the above problems, we have the following fact.

(3.11) PROPOSITION ([7, (3.3)]). *Let $f: X \rightarrow X$ be a continuum-wise fully expansive homeomorphism of a continuum. Then neither f nor f^{-1} is positively continuum-wise fully expansive if and only if for each $x \in X$, there are two non-degenerate subcontinua A, B of X such that $x \in A \cap B$, $A \in V^s$ and $B \in V^u$. In particular, $\dim(A \cap B)=0$ and $\dim A=1=\dim B$.*

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