

# ON THE DYNAMICAL ASYMPTOTIC DIMENSION OF A FREE $\mathbb{Z}^d$ -ACTION ON THE CANTOR SET

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ABSTRACT. Consider an arbitrary extension of a free  $\mathbb{Z}^d$ -action on the Cantor set. It is shown that it has dynamical asymptotic dimension at most  $3^d - 1$ .

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Dynamical Asymptotical Dimension is introduced by Guentner, Willett, and Yu in [2] to describe the complexity of a topological dynamical system:

**Definition 1.1.** Consider a group action  $X \curvearrowright \Gamma$ , where  $X$  is a compact Hausdorff space and  $\Gamma$  is a discrete group. Its dynamical asymptotic dimension (DAD) is the smallest non-negative integer  $d$  such that for any finite subset  $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \Gamma$ , there is an open cover  $U_0 \cup U_1 \cup \cdots \cup U_d$  of  $X$  such that for each  $U_i$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq d$ , each  $x \in U_i$ , the cardinality of the set

$$\mathcal{O}_x := \{y \in U_i : \exists \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_K \in \mathcal{F}, y = x\gamma_1 \cdots \gamma_K, x\gamma_1 \cdots \gamma_k \in U_i, 1 \leq k \leq K, K \in \mathbb{N}\}$$

is finite and uniformly bounded (with respect to  $x$ ).

It is shown in [2] that the dynamical asymptotical dimension of any free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -action is at most 1, regardless of the space  $X$ . It is also shown in [2] that for any discrete group  $\Gamma$  with asymptotic dimension at most  $d$ , there is a  $\Gamma$ -action on the Cantor set which has dynamical asymptotical dimension at most  $d$ . In this note, we estimate the dynamical asymptotical dimension of an arbitrary  $\mathbb{Z}^d$ -action on the Cantor set. In fact, we have the following theorem:

**Theorem** (Theorem 2.8 and Corollary 2.10). *Any extension of a free  $\mathbb{Z}^d$ -action on the Cantor set has dynamical asymptotic dimension at most  $3^d - 1$ .*

## 2. MAIN RESULT AND ITS PROOF

2.1. **Quasi-tilings of  $\mathbb{Z}^d$ .** Let us start with certain quasi-tilings (see [3]) of  $\mathbb{Z}^d$  by cubes:

**Definition 2.1.** Consider  $\mathbb{Z}^d$ . For any natural number  $l$ , denote by  $\square_l$  the cube

$$\square_l = \{-l, -l+1, \dots, l-1, l\}^d \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^d.$$

Let  $r, D, E$  be natural numbers. An  $(r, D, E)$ -tiling of  $\mathbb{Z}^d$ , denoted by  $\mathcal{T}$ , is a collection of  $c_i \in \mathbb{Z}^d$  such that with

$$\text{Dom}(\mathcal{T}) = \bigcup_i (c_i + \square_D),$$

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then,

- (1)  $(c_i + \square_D) \cap (c_j + \square_D) = \emptyset$ ,  $i \neq j$ ,
- (2) The (Euclidean) distance between  $c_i + \square_D$  and  $c_j + \square_D$  is at least  $r$  if  $i \neq j$ , and
- (3)  $\square_E \cap \text{Dom}(\mathcal{T}) \neq \emptyset$ .

In other words, an  $(r, D, E)$ -tiling of  $\mathbb{Z}^d$  is a quasi-tiling by cubes of size  $2D + 1$ , such that tiles are  $r$ -separated, but they almost cover 0 up to  $E$ .

It turns out that if  $D \leq E \leq 2D$ , then there are  $e_0 = 0, e_1, e_2, \dots, e_{3^d-1} \in \mathbb{Z}^d$  such that for any  $(r, D, E)$ -tiling  $\mathcal{T}$ , one of  $\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{T} + e_1, \dots, \mathcal{T} + e_{3^d-1}$  actually covers 0:

**Lemma 2.2.** *For any natural number  $E$ , then there are  $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_s \in \mathbb{Z}^d$ , where  $s = 3^d - 1$ , such that if  $\mathcal{T}$  is an  $(r, D, E)$ -tiling of  $\mathbb{Z}^d$  for some natural numbers  $r$  and  $D$  with  $D \leq E \leq 2D$ , then*

$$0 \in \text{Dom}(\mathcal{T}) \cup \text{Dom}(\mathcal{T} + e_1) \cup \dots \cup \text{Dom}(\mathcal{T} + e_s),$$

where  $s = 3^d - 1$ .

*Proof.* Set

$$\{e_0, e_1, \dots, e_{3^d-1}\} = \{(n_1, n_2, \dots, n_d) \in \mathbb{Z}^d : n_i \in \{0, \pm E\}\},$$

with  $e_0 = (0, \dots, 0)$ . In order to prove the lemma, it is enough to show that if  $0 \notin \text{Dom}(\mathcal{T})$ , then, at least one of

$$e_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, 3^d - 1,$$

is in  $\text{Dom}(\mathcal{T})$ .

Assume none of  $e_i$  was inside  $\text{Dom}(\mathcal{T})$ . Then one asserts that

$$\square_E \cap \text{Dom}(\mathcal{T}) = \emptyset.$$

This contradicts Condition (3) and hence proves the lemma.

For the assertion, assume there is  $c \in \mathbb{Z}^d$  with

$$c + \square_D \subseteq \text{Dom}(\mathcal{T}) \quad \text{and} \quad \square_E \cap (c + \square_D) \neq \emptyset.$$

Then there exist

$$-E \leq n_i \leq E, \quad 1 \leq i \leq d,$$

such that

$$(n_1, \dots, n_d) \in c + \square_D.$$

Note that  $\square_E \cap (c + \square_D) \neq \emptyset$  implies

$$-D - E \leq c_i \leq D + E, \quad 1 \leq i \leq d, \quad c = (c_1, c_2, \dots, c_d);$$

and also note

$$c + \square_D = \{(c_1 + s_1, c_2 + s_2, \dots, c_d + s_d) : -D \leq s_i \leq D\}.$$

For each  $c_i$ , if  $|c_i| \geq E$ , then choose  $s_i \in [-D, D]$  such that  $|c_i + s_i| = E$ ; if  $|c_i| \leq D$ , then choose  $s_i = -c_i$  so that  $c_i + s_i = 0$ ; if  $D \leq |c_i| \leq E$ , then choose  $s_i \in [-D, D]$  such that  $|c_i + s_i| = E$  (note that one assumes  $E \leq 2D$ ). With this choice of  $s_i$ , one has that  $c + \square_D$  contains at least one of  $e_i$ , and so such  $e_i$  is inside  $\text{Dom}(\mathcal{T})$ . This contradicts the assumption, and proves the assertion.  $\square$

## 2.2. Group actions and equivariant quasi-tilings. Recall

**Definition 2.3.** Let  $X$  be a topological space and let  $\Gamma$  be a discrete group. By a (right)  $\Gamma$ -action on  $X$ , denoted by  $X \curvearrowright \Gamma$ , we mean a continuous map

$$X \times \Gamma \ni (x, \gamma) \rightarrow x\gamma \in X$$

such that

$$xe = x \quad \text{and} \quad (x\gamma_1)\gamma_2 = x(\gamma_1\gamma_2), \quad x \in X, \gamma_1\gamma_2 \in \Gamma.$$

We say a  $\Gamma$ -action on  $X$  is free if  $x\gamma = x$  for some  $x \in X$  and  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  implies  $\gamma = e$ .

Consider actions  $X \curvearrowright \Gamma$  and  $Y \curvearrowright \Gamma$ . We say that  $X \curvearrowright \Gamma$  is an extension of  $Y \curvearrowright \Gamma$  (or  $Y \curvearrowright \Gamma$  is a factor of  $X \curvearrowright \Gamma$ ) if there is a quotient map  $\pi : X \rightarrow Y$  such that

$$\pi(x\gamma) = \pi(x)\gamma, \quad x \in X, \gamma \in \Gamma.$$

**Definition 2.4.** Consider an  $\mathbb{Z}^d$ -action on topological space  $X$ . A set-valued map

$$X \ni x \mapsto \mathcal{T}(x) \in 2^{\mathbb{Z}^d}$$

is said to be equivariant if

$$\mathcal{T}(xn) = \mathcal{T}(x) - n,$$

where  $\mathcal{T}(x) - n$  is the translation of  $\mathcal{T}(x)$  by  $-n$ .

The map  $x \mapsto \mathcal{T}(x)$  is said to be continuous if for any  $R > 0$  and any  $x \in X$ , there is an open set  $U \ni x$  such that

$$\mathcal{T}(y) \cap B_R = \mathcal{T}(x) \cap B_R, \quad y \in U,$$

where  $B_R$  is the ball in  $\mathbb{Z}^d$  with center 0 and radius  $R$ .

**Lemma 2.5.** Consider an  $\mathbb{Z}^d$ -action on a topological space  $X$ . Let  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ , and let  $x \mapsto \mathcal{T}(x)$  be a continuous equivariant map with value  $(r, D, E)$ -tilings of  $\mathbb{Z}^d$  with  $r > N\sqrt{d}$ . Put

$$\Omega = \{x \in X : 0 \in \text{Dom}(\mathcal{T}(x))\}.$$

Then,  $\Omega$  is open. Moreover, for any  $x \in X$ , one has

$$(2.1) \quad \begin{aligned} & |\{n \in \mathbb{Z}^d : n = n_1 + \cdots + n_K, x(n_1 + \cdots + n_K) \in \Omega, \|n_k\|_\infty \leq N, \\ & \quad 1 \leq k \leq K, K \in \mathbb{N}\}| \\ & \leq (2D + 1)^d. \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* The openness of  $\Omega$  follows directly from the continuity of the map  $x \mapsto \mathcal{T}(x)$ . Let us show the estimate (2.1).

Pick  $x_0 \in \Omega$ , and write  $c + \square_D$  to be the tile of  $\mathcal{T}(x_0)$  containing 0. Since the function  $x \mapsto \mathcal{T}(x)$  is equivariant, one has that  $\mathcal{T}(xn) = \mathcal{T}(x) - n$ ; hence, by Condition (2), for any  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^d$  with  $\|n\|_\infty \leq N$ , one has that either 0 is in the tile  $c + \square_D - n$  (therefore  $x_0n \in \Omega$  and  $c - n \in \square_D$ ) or  $0 \notin \text{Dom}(\mathcal{T}(x_0n))$  (therefore  $x_0n \notin \Omega$ ).

Thus, if there are  $n_1, n_2, \dots, n_K \in \mathbb{Z}^d$  with  $\|n_k\|_\infty \leq N$  and

$$n_1x_0 \in \Omega, x_0(n_1 + n_2) \in \Omega, \dots, x_0(n_1 + \cdots + n_K) \in \Omega,$$

one has

$$c - n_1 \in \square_D, c - n_1 - n_2 \in \square_D, \dots, c - n_1 - \dots - n_K \in \square_D,$$

and hence

$$n = n_1 + \dots + n_K \in c + \square_D.$$

Since  $|c + \square_D| = |\square_D| = (2D + 1)^d$ , this proves the lemma.  $\square$

**2.3. Cantor systems and an estimate of dynamical asymptotic dimension.** Let us focus on extensions of a free  $\mathbb{Z}^d$ -action on the Cantor set, which is the unique compact separable Hausdorff space that is totally disconnected and perfect.

First, for any free  $\mathbb{Z}^d$ -action on the Cantor set, equivariant continuous  $(r, D, E)$ -tiling-valued functions always exist:

**Proposition 2.6.** *Consider a free  $\mathbb{Z}^d$ -action on  $X$  where  $X$  is the Cantor set, and let  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  be arbitrary. Then, there are natural numbers  $r, D, E$  with  $r > N\sqrt{d}$  and  $D \leq E \leq 2D$ , and a continuous equivariant map  $x \mapsto \mathcal{T}(x)$  on  $X$  such that each  $\mathcal{T}(x)$  a  $(r, D, E)$ -tiling of  $\mathbb{Z}^d$ .*

*Proof.* The construction is similar to that of Lemma 3.4 of [1].

Pick a natural number  $r > N\sqrt{d}$ , and then pick a natural number  $L > 2r$ . Since the action is free and  $X$  is the Cantor set, by a compactness argument, one obtains mutually disjoint clopen sets  $U_1, U_2, \dots, U_s$ , such that

$$X = U_1 \cup U_2 \cup \dots \cup U_s,$$

and for each  $U_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq s$ , the open sets

$$U_i n, \quad n \in \square_{2L},$$

are mutually disjoint.

Start with  $U_1$ . For each  $x \in X$ , put

$$\begin{cases} \mathcal{C}_1(x) &= \{n \in \mathbb{Z}^d : xn \in U_1\}, \\ \dots & \dots \dots \\ \mathcal{C}_i(x) &= \mathcal{C}_{i-1}(x) \cup \{n \in \mathbb{Z}^d : xn \in U_i, (n + \square_L) \cap (\mathcal{C}_{i-1}(x) + \square_L) = \emptyset\}, \\ \dots & \dots \dots \\ \mathcal{C}_s(x) &= \mathcal{C}_{s-1}(x) \cup \{n \in \mathbb{Z}^d : xn \in U_s, (n + \square_L) \cap (\mathcal{C}_{s-1}(x) + \square_L) = \emptyset\}. \end{cases}$$

Since  $U_1$  is clopen, the map  $x \mapsto \mathcal{C}_1(x)$  is continuous in the sense that for any  $x$  and any  $R > 0$ , there is a neighbourhood  $W$  of  $x$  such that

$$\mathcal{C}_1(y) \cap B_R = \mathcal{C}_1(x) \cap B_R, \quad y \in W.$$

Consider the map  $x \mapsto \mathcal{C}_2(x)$ . Fix  $x \in X$ ,  $R > 0$ . Since  $U_2$  is clopen, there is a neighbourhood  $W$  of  $x$  such that

$$\{n \in \mathbb{Z}^d : xn \in U_2\} \cap B_R = \{n \in \mathbb{Z}^d : yn \in U_2\} \cap B_R, \quad y \in W.$$

Note that  $x \mapsto \mathcal{C}_1(x)$  is continuous, then the neighbourhood  $W$  can be chosen so that

$$(\mathcal{C}_1(x) + \square_L) \cap B_R = (\mathcal{C}_1(x) + \square_L) \cap B_R, \quad y \in W,$$

and therefore for any  $y \in W$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & \{xn \in U_2, (n + \square_L) \cap (\mathcal{C}_1(x) + \square_L) = \emptyset\} \cap B_R \\ &= \{yn \in U_2, (n + \square_L) \cap (\mathcal{C}_1(y) + \square_L) = \emptyset\} \cap B_R. \end{aligned}$$

Together with the continuity of  $x \mapsto \mathcal{C}_1(x)$ , this shows that  $x \mapsto \mathcal{C}_2(x)$  is continuous.

Repeat this argument, one shows that the map  $x \mapsto \mathcal{C}_s(x)$  is continuous.

Let us show that the map  $x \mapsto \mathcal{C}_s(x)$  is equivariant. Start with  $x \mapsto \mathcal{C}_1(x)$ . Let  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^d$  and consider  $xn$ . Since  $xm \in U_1$  if and only if  $x(n + m - n) \in U_1$ , one has

$$\mathcal{C}_1(xn) = \mathcal{C}_1(x) - n.$$

A similar argument shows that  $\mathcal{C}_2(x), \dots, \mathcal{C}_s(x)$  are equivariant.

One asserts that

$$(c_1 + \square_L) \cap (c_2 + \square_L) = \emptyset, \quad c_1 \neq c_2, \quad c_1, c_2 \in \mathcal{C}_s(x).$$

Indeed, since  $U_1n, n \in \square_{2L}$ , are mutually disjoint, one has that

$$(c + \square_{2L}) \cap \mathcal{C}_1(x) = c, \quad c \in \mathcal{C}_1(x),$$

and thus

$$(c_1 + \square_L) \cap (c_2 + \square_L) = \emptyset, \quad c_1 \neq c_2, \quad c_1, c_2 \in \mathcal{C}_1(x).$$

Now, pick

$$c_1, c_2 \in \mathcal{C}_2(x) = \mathcal{C}_1(x) \cup \{n \in \mathbb{Z}^d : xn \in U_2, (n + \square_L) \cap (\mathcal{C}_1(x) + \square_L) = \emptyset\}.$$

If  $c_1, c_2 \in \mathcal{C}_1(x)$ , then as shown above,

$$(c_1 + \square_L) \cap (c_2 + \square_L) = \emptyset.$$

Assume that

$$c_1, c_2 \in \{n \in \mathbb{Z}^d : xn \in U_2, (n + \square_L) \cap (\mathcal{C}_1(x) + \square_L) = \emptyset\} \subseteq \{n \in \mathbb{Z}^d : xn \in U_2\}.$$

Then, since  $U_2n, n \in \square_{2L}$ , are mutually disjoint, the same argument as that of  $\mathcal{C}_1(x)$  shows that

$$(c_1 + \square_L) \cap (c_2 + \square_L) = \emptyset.$$

Assume that  $c_1 \in \mathcal{C}_1$  and  $c_2 \in \{n \in \mathbb{Z}^d : xn \in U_2, (n + \square_L) \cap (\mathcal{C}_1(x) + \square_L) = \emptyset\}$ . Then the equation

$$(c_1 + \square_L) \cap (c_2 + \square_L) = \emptyset$$

just follows from the definition.

Repeat this argument for  $\mathcal{C}_3(x), \dots, \mathcal{C}_s(x)$ , and this proves the assertion.

Note that for the given  $x$ , there exists a  $U_i$  containing  $x$ . Therefore, either

$$\square_L \cap (\mathcal{C}_{i-1}(x) + \square_L) \neq \emptyset \quad \text{or} \quad 0 \in \mathcal{C}_i(x).$$

In particular, one always has that  $\square_L \cap (\mathcal{C}_i(x) + \square_L) \neq \emptyset$ , and hence

$$\square_L \cap (\mathcal{C}_s(x) + \square_L) \neq \emptyset.$$

To summarize, setting  $\mathcal{C}(x) = \mathcal{C}_s(x)$ , one obtains a continuous equivariant map  $x \mapsto \mathcal{C}(x)$  satisfying

- (1)  $(c_i + \square_L) \cap (c_j + \square_L) = \emptyset$ ,  $c_i \neq c_j$ ,  $c_i, c_j \in \mathcal{C}_s(x)$  and
- (2)  $\square_L \cap (\mathcal{C}_s(x) + \square_L) \neq \emptyset$ ;

hence it satisfies

- (3)  $(c_i + \square_{L-r}) \cap (c_j + \square_{L-r}) = \emptyset$ ,  $c_i \neq c_j$ ,  $c_i, c_j \in \mathcal{C}_s(x)$ ,
- (4)  $\square_{L+r} \cap (\mathcal{C}_s(x) + \square_{L-r}) \neq \emptyset$ ;

and, moreover

- (5) the (Euclidean) distance between  $c_i + \square_{L-r}$  and  $c_j + \square_{L-r}$  is at least  $r$  if  $c_i \neq c_j$ .

Thus, each  $\mathcal{C}(x)$  is an  $(r, L-r, L+r)$  tiling. Since  $L > 2r$ , one has  $L+r < 2(L-r)$ , and this proves the statement of the proposition.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.7.** *Consider a free  $\mathbb{Z}^d$ -action on  $X$  where  $X$  is the Cantor set, and let  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  be arbitrary. Then, there exist continuous equivariant maps*

$$x \mapsto \mathcal{T}_i(x), \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, 3^d - 1,$$

with each  $\mathcal{T}_i(x)$  a  $(r, D, E)$ -tilings of  $\mathbb{Z}^d$  for some  $r, D, E \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $r > N\sqrt{d}$ , such that, if put

$$\Omega_i = \{x \in X : 0 \in \text{Dom}(\mathcal{T}_i(x))\}, \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, 3^d - 1,$$

then

$$\Omega_0 \cup \Omega_1 \cup \dots \cup \Omega_{3^d-1} = X.$$

*Proof.* It follows from Proposition 2.6 that there are natural numbers  $r, D, E$  with

$$r > N\sqrt{d} \quad \text{and} \quad D \leq E \leq 2D,$$

and a continuous equivariant map  $x \mapsto \mathcal{T}_0(x)$  on  $X$  such that each  $\mathcal{T}_0(x)$  a  $(r, D, E)$ -tiling of  $\mathbb{Z}^d$ .

Consider the translations of the function  $\mathcal{T}_0$ :

$$\mathcal{T}_1 = \mathcal{T}_0 + e_1, \quad \mathcal{T}_2 = \mathcal{T}_0 + e_2, \quad \dots, \quad \mathcal{T}_{3^d-1} = \mathcal{T}_0 + e_{3^d-1},$$

where  $e_1, \dots, e_{3^d-1}$  are the vectors (with respect to  $E$ ) obtained from Lemma 2.2. Since  $D \leq E \leq 2D$ , it follows from Lemma 2.2 that for any  $x \in X$ , one has

$$0 \in \text{Dom}(\mathcal{T}_0(x)) \cup \text{Dom}(\mathcal{T}_1(x)) \cup \dots \cup \text{Dom}(\mathcal{T}_{3^d-1}(x)),$$

and thus

$$\Omega_0 \cup \Omega_1 \cup \dots \cup \Omega_{3^d-1} = X,$$

as desired.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.8.** *The dynamical asymptotic dimension of any free  $\mathbb{Z}^d$ -action on the Cantor set is at most  $3^d - 1$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  be arbitrary. It follows from Corollary 2.7 that there exist continuous equivariant maps

$$x \mapsto \mathcal{T}_i(x), \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, 3^d - 1,$$

with each  $\mathcal{T}_i(x)$  a  $(r, D, E)$ -tilings of  $\mathbb{Z}^d$  for some  $r, D, E$  with  $r > N\sqrt{d}$  with

$$\Omega_0 \cup \Omega_1 \cup \dots \cup \Omega_{3^d-1} = X,$$

where

$$\Omega_i = \{x \in X : 0 \in \text{Dom}(\mathcal{T}_i(x))\}, \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, 3^d - 1,$$

which is open.

Since  $r > N\sqrt{d}$ , by Lemma 2.5, for any  $i = 0, 1, \dots, 3^d$ , one has

$$\begin{aligned} & |\{n \in \mathbb{Z}^d : n = n_1 + \dots + n_K, \ x(n_1 + \dots + n_k) \in \Omega_i, \ \|n_k\|_\infty \leq N, \\ & \quad 1 \leq k \leq K, \ K \in \mathbb{N}\}| \\ & \leq (2D + 1)^d < +\infty. \end{aligned}$$

That is, the dynamical asymptotic dimension of  $X \curvearrowright \mathbb{Z}^d$  is at most  $3^d - 1$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.9.** *Let  $X \curvearrowright \Gamma$  be an extension of a free action  $Y \curvearrowright \Gamma$ . Then the dynamical asymptotic dimension of  $X \curvearrowright \Gamma$  is at most the dynamical asymptotic dimension of  $Y \curvearrowright \Gamma$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $d \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that the dynamical asymptotic dimension of  $Y \curvearrowright \Gamma$  is at most  $d$ . Let  $\Gamma_0 \subseteq \Gamma$  be finite. Then, together with the freeness of  $Y \curvearrowright \Gamma$ , there exist an open cover  $U_0 \cup U_1 \cup \dots \cup U_d$  of  $Y$  and  $M > 0$  such that for each  $U_i$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq d$ ,  $y_0 \in U_i$ , one has that

$$(2.2) \quad |\{\gamma_1 \cdots \gamma_K : \exists \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_K \in \Gamma_0, \ y_0 \gamma_1 \cdots \gamma_k \in U_i, \ 1 \leq k \leq K, \ K \in \mathbb{N}\}| \leq M.$$

Consider the open sets

$$\pi^{-1}(U_0), \pi^{-1}(U_1), \dots, \pi^{-1}(U_d),$$

where  $\pi : X \rightarrow Y$  is the quotient map, and note that they form an open cover of  $X$ . For each  $0 \leq i \leq d$ , pick an arbitrary  $x_0 \in \pi^{-1}(U_i)$  and assume there are  $\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_K \in \Gamma_0$  for some  $K \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$x_0 \in \pi^{-1}(U_i), \ x_0 \gamma_1 \in \pi^{-1}(U_i), \ \dots, \ x_0 \gamma_1 \gamma_2 \cdots \gamma_K \in \pi^{-1}(U_i).$$

Applying the quotient map  $\pi$ , one has

$$\pi(x_0) \in U_i, \ \pi(x_0) \gamma_1 \in U_i, \ \dots, \ \pi(x_0) \gamma_1 \gamma_2 \cdots \gamma_K \in U_i,$$

and, by (2.2), this implies

$$|\{\gamma_1 \cdots \gamma_K : \exists \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_K \in \Gamma_0, \ x_0 \gamma_1 \cdots \gamma_k \in \pi^{-1}(U_i), \ 1 \leq k \leq K, \ K \in \mathbb{N}\}| \leq M.$$

Thus, the dynamical asymptotic dimension of  $X \curvearrowright \Gamma$  is at most  $d$ .  $\square$

Then, the following is a straightforward corollary of Theorem 2.8:

**Corollary 2.10.** *The dynamical asymptotic dimension of any extension of a free  $\mathbb{Z}^d$ -action on the Cantor set is at most  $3^d - 1$ .*

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