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EXPANSIONS IN MULTIPLE BASES

YAO-QIANG LI

ABSTRACT. Expansion of real numbers is a basic research topic in number theory. Usually we expand real numbers in one given base. In this paper, we begin to systematically study expansions in multiple given bases in a reasonable way, which is a generalization in the sense that if all the bases are taken to be the same, we return to the classical expansions in one base. In particular, we focus on greedy, quasi-greedy, lazy, quasi-lazy and unique expansions in multiple bases.

1. INTRODUCTION

As is well known, expansion in a given base is the most common way to represent a real number. For example, expansions in base 10 are used in our daily lives and expansions in base 2 are used in computer systems. Expansions of real numbers in integer bases have been widely used. As a natural generalization, in 1957, Rényi [32] introduced expansions in non-integer bases, which attracted a lot of attention in the following decades. Until Neunhäuserer [29] began the study of expansions in two bases recently in 2019, all expansions studied were in one base. In this paper, we begin the study of expansions in multiple bases.

Let \mathbb{N} be the set of positive integers $\{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ and \mathbb{R} be the set of real numbers. We recall the concept of expansions in one base first. Let $m \in \mathbb{N}$, $\beta \in (1, m+1]$ and $x \in \mathbb{R}$. A sequence $w = (w_i)_{i \geq 1} \in \{0, 1, \dots, m\}^{\mathbb{N}}$ is called a β -expansion of x if

$$x = \pi_{\beta}(w) := \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{w_i}{\beta^i}.$$

It is known that x has a β -expansion if and only if $x \in [0, \frac{m}{\beta-1}]$ (see for examples [3, 4, 5, 32]).

The following question is natural to be thought of: Given $m \in \mathbb{N}$, $\beta_0, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_m > 1$, $x \in \mathbb{R}$ and $(w_i)_{i \geq 1} \in \{0, 1, \dots, m\}^{\mathbb{N}}$, in which case should we say that $(w_i)_{i \geq 1}$ is a $(\beta_0, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_m)$ -expansion of x , such that when $\beta_0, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_m$ are taken to be the same β , we have $x = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{w_i}{\beta^i}$? Proposition 1.1 may answer this question.

Let us give some notations first. For all $m \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\beta_0, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_m > 1$, we define

$$a_k := \frac{k}{\beta_k} \quad \text{and} \quad b_k := \frac{k}{\beta_k} + \frac{m}{\beta_k(\beta_m - 1)} \quad \text{for all } k \in \{0, \dots, m\}.$$

Note that $a_0 = 0$ and $b_m = \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1}$. For all $m \in \mathbb{N}$, let

$$D_m := \left\{ (\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m) : \beta_0, \dots, \beta_m > 1 \text{ and } a_k < a_{k+1} \leq b_k < b_{k+1} \text{ for all } k, 0 \leq k \leq m-1 \right\}.$$

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It is worth to note that D_m is large enough to ensure that $(\underbrace{\beta, \dots, \beta}_{m+1}) \in D_m$ for all $\beta \in (1, m+1]$ and $m \in \mathbb{N}$, and $(\beta_0, \beta_1) \in D_1$ for all $\beta_0, \beta_1 \in (1, 2]$.

Proposition 1.1. *Let $m \in \mathbb{N}$, $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m) \in D_m$ and $x \in \mathbb{R}$. Then $x \in [0, \frac{m}{\beta_m-1}]$ if and only if there exists a sequence $w \in \{0, \dots, m\}^{\mathbb{N}}$ such that*

$$x = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{w_i}{\beta_{w_1} \beta_{w_2} \cdots \beta_{w_i}}.$$

Thus we give the following.

Definition 1.2 (Expansions in multiple bases). Let $m \in \mathbb{N}$, $\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m > 1$ and $x \in \mathbb{R}$. We say that the sequence $w \in \{0, \dots, m\}^{\mathbb{N}}$ is a $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ -*expansion* of x if

$$x = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{w_i}{\beta_{w_1} \beta_{w_2} \cdots \beta_{w_i}}.$$

On the one hand, it is straightforward to see that when β_0, \dots, β_m are taken to be the same β , $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ -expansions are just β -expansions. On the other hand, we will see in Section 2 that many properties of β -expansions can be generalized to $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ -expansions. This further confirms that our definition of expansions in multiple bases is reasonable.

Let σ be the *shift map* defined by $\sigma(w_1 w_2 \cdots) := w_2 w_3 \cdots$ for any sequence $(w_i)_{i \geq 1}$. Given $\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m > 1$, for every integer $k \in \{0, \dots, m\}$, we define the linear map T_k by

$$T_k(x) := \beta_k x - k \quad \text{for } x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

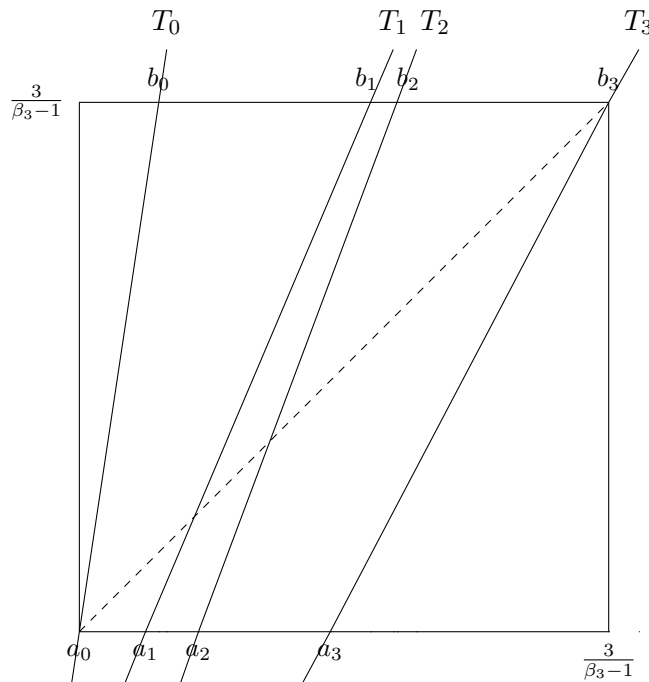


FIGURE 1. The graph of T_0, T_1, T_2 and T_3 for some $(\beta_0, \beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3) \in D_3$.

The main results in this paper are the following theorem and corollaries, in which g^* and l^* denote the quasi-greedy and quasi-lazy expansion maps respectively (see Definition 2.1 (2) and (4)), and $\prec, \preceq, \succ, \succeq$ denote the lexicographic order. These results focus on determining greedy, lazy and unique expansions in multiple bases (see Definition 2.1 (1) and (3)), and generalize some classical results on expansions in one base in some former well known papers.

Theorem 1.3. *Let $m \in \mathbb{N}$, $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m) \in D_m$, $x \in [0, \frac{m}{\beta_m-1}]$, $w \in \{0, \dots, m\}^{\mathbb{N}}$ be a $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ -expansion of x and*

$$\xi_+ := \max_{0 \leq k \leq m-1} T_k(a_{k+1}), \quad \xi_- := \min_{0 \leq k \leq m-1} T_k(a_{k+1}),$$

$$\eta_+ := \max_{1 \leq k \leq m} T_k(b_{k-1}), \quad \eta_- := \min_{1 \leq k \leq m} T_k(b_{k-1}).$$

- (1) ① *If w is a greedy expansion, then $\sigma^n w \prec g^*(\xi_+)$ whenever $w_n < m$.*
 ② *If $\sigma^n w \prec g^*(\xi_-)$ whenever $w_n < m$, then w is a greedy expansion.*
- (2) ① *If w is a lazy expansion, then $\sigma^n w \succ l^*(\eta_-)$ whenever $w_n > 0$.*
 ② *If $\sigma^n w \succ l^*(\eta_+)$ whenever $w_n > 0$, then w is a lazy expansion.*
- (3) ① *If w is a unique expansion, then*

$$\sigma^n w \prec g^*(\xi_+) \text{ whenever } w_n < m \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma^n w \succ l^*(\eta_-) \text{ whenever } w_n > 0.$$
 ② *If*

$$\sigma^n w \prec g^*(\xi_-) \text{ whenever } w_n < m \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma^n w \succ l^*(\eta_+) \text{ whenever } w_n > 0,$$
then w is a unique expansion.

For the case that there are at most two different bases, we get the following criteria directly from Theorem 1.3.

Corollary 1.4. *Let $\beta_0, \beta_1 \in (1, 2]$, $x \in [0, \frac{1}{\beta_1-1}]$ and $w \in \{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}}$ be a (β_0, β_1) -expansion of x . Then*

- (1) *w is a greedy expansion if and only if $\sigma^n w \prec g^*(\frac{\beta_0}{\beta_1})$ whenever $w_n = 0$;*
- (2) *w is a lazy expansion if and only if $\sigma^n w \succ l^*(\frac{\beta_1}{\beta_0(\beta_1-1)} - 1)$ whenever $w_n = 1$;*
- (3) *w is a unique expansion if and only if*

$$\sigma^n w \prec g^*(\frac{\beta_0}{\beta_1}) \text{ whenever } w_n = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma^n w \succ l^*(\frac{\beta_1}{\beta_0(\beta_1-1)} - 1) \text{ whenever } w_n = 1.$$

The following corollary provide some ways to determine whether an expansion is greedy, lazy or unique by the quasi-greedy expansion of 1 and the quasi-lazy expansion of $\frac{m}{\beta_m-1} - 1$.

Corollary 1.5. *Let $m \in \mathbb{N}$, $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m) \in D_m$, $x \in [0, \frac{m}{\beta_m-1}]$ and $w \in \{0, \dots, m\}^{\mathbb{N}}$ be a $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ -expansion of x .*

- (1) ① *Suppose $\beta_0 \leq \beta_1 \leq \dots \leq \beta_m$. If w is a greedy expansion, then $\sigma^n w \prec g^*(1)$ whenever $w_n < m$.*
 ② *Suppose $\beta_0 \geq \beta_1 \geq \dots \geq \beta_m$. If $\sigma^n w \prec g^*(1)$ whenever $w_n < m$, then w is a greedy expansion.*
- (2) ① *Suppose $\beta_0 \leq \beta_1 \leq \dots \leq \beta_m$. If w is a lazy expansion, then $\sigma^n w \succ l^*(\frac{m}{\beta_m-1} - 1)$ whenever $w_n > 0$.*
 ② *Suppose $\beta_0 \geq \beta_1 \geq \dots \geq \beta_m$. If $\sigma^n w \succ l^*(\frac{m}{\beta_m-1} - 1)$ whenever $w_n > 0$, then w is a lazy expansion.*

(3) ① Suppose $\beta_0 \leq \beta_1 \leq \cdots \leq \beta_m$. If w is a unique expansion, then

$$\sigma^n w \prec g^*(1) \quad \text{whenever } w_n < m \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma^n w \succ l^*\left(\frac{m}{\beta_m - 1} - 1\right) \quad \text{whenever } w_n > 0.$$

② Suppose $\beta_0 \geq \beta_1 \geq \cdots \geq \beta_m$. If

$$\sigma^n w \prec g^*(1) \quad \text{whenever } w_n < m \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma^n w \succ l^*\left(\frac{m}{\beta_m - 1} - 1\right) \quad \text{whenever } w_n > 0,$$

then w is a unique expansion.

Take β_0, \dots, β_m to be the same β . By Corollary 1.5, Proposition 2.12, Lemma 3.1 and Proposition 2.8, we get the following corollary, in which $\bar{k} := m - k$ for all $k \in \{0, \dots, m\}$ and $\bar{w} := (\bar{w}_i)_{i \geq 1}$ for all $w = (w_i)_{i \geq 1} \in \{0, \dots, m\}^{\mathbb{N}}$.

Corollary 1.6. Let $m \in \mathbb{N}$, $\beta \in (1, m + 1]$, $x \in [0, \frac{m}{\beta-1}]$ and $w \in \{0, \dots, m\}^{\mathbb{N}}$ be a β -expansion of x . Then:

(1) ① w is a greedy expansion if and only if $\sigma^n w \prec g^*(1)$ whenever $w_n < m$;

② w is a lazy expansion if and only if $\sigma^n w \succ \overline{g^*(1)}$ whenever $w_n > 0$;

③ w is a unique expansion if and only if

$$\sigma^n w \prec g^*(1) \quad \text{whenever } w_n < m \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma^n w \succ \overline{g^*(1)} \quad \text{whenever } w_n > 0.$$

(2) ① $0 \leq x < 1$ and w is a greedy expansion if and only if $\sigma^n w \prec g^*(1)$ for all $n \geq 0$;

② $\frac{m}{\beta-1} - 1 < x \leq \frac{m}{\beta-1}$ and w is a lazy expansion if and only if $\sigma^n w \succ \overline{g^*(1)}$ for all $n \geq 0$;

③ $\frac{m}{\beta-1} - 1 < x < 1$ and w is a unique expansion if and only if

$$\overline{g^*(1)} \prec \sigma^n w \prec g^*(1) \quad \text{for all } n \geq 0.$$

This corollary recovers some classical results. See for examples [13, Theorem 1.1], [20, Lemma 4] and [30, Theorem 3]. See also [1, Theorem 2.1] and [36, Lemma 2.11]).

Many former papers on β -expansions are restricted to bases belonging to $(m, m + 1]$ or expansion sequences belonging to $\{0, 1, \dots, \lceil \beta \rceil - 1\}^{\mathbb{N}}$ (see for examples [12, 13, 24]), where $\lceil \beta \rceil$ denotes the smallest integer no less than β . Even if all β_0, \dots, β_m are taken to be the same β throughout this paper, we are working under a more general framework: bases belonging to $(1, m + 1]$ and expansion sequences belonging to $\{0, 1, \dots, m\}^{\mathbb{N}}$ (for examples Corollary 1.6 and Proposition 2.12. See also [3, 15, 21]).

This paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we give some notations and study some basic properties of greedy, quasi-greedy, lazy and quasi-lazy expansions in multiple-bases. Section 3 is devoted to the proof our main results. In the last section, we present some further questions.

2. GREEDY, QUASI-GREEDY, LAZY AND QUASI-LAZY EXPANSIONS IN MULTIPLE BASES

Let $m \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m > 1$. We define the *projection* $\pi_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}$ by

$$\pi_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}(w_1 \cdots w_n) := \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{w_i}{\beta_{w_1} \beta_{w_2} \cdots \beta_{w_i}}$$

for $w_1 \cdots w_n \in \{0, \dots, m\}^n$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$, and

$$\pi_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}(w) = \pi_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}(w_1 w_2 \cdots) := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \pi_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}(w_1 \cdots w_n) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{w_i}{\beta_{w_1} \beta_{w_2} \cdots \beta_{w_i}}$$

for $w = (w_i)_{i \geq 1} \in \{0, \dots, m\}^{\mathbb{N}}$. When β_0, \dots, β_m are understood from the context, we usually use π instead of $\pi_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}$ for simplification.

Definition 2.1 (Transformations and expansions). Let $m \in \mathbb{N}$ and $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m) \in D_m$.

(1) The *greedy* $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ -transformation $G_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m} : [0, \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1}] \rightarrow [0, \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1}]$ is defined by

$$x \mapsto G_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m} x := \begin{cases} T_k x & \text{if } x \in [a_k, a_{k+1}) \text{ for some } k \in \{0, \dots, m-1\}; \\ T_m x & \text{if } x \in [a_m, b_m]. \end{cases}$$

For all $x \in [0, \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1}]$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$, let

$$g_n(x; \beta_0, \dots, \beta_m) := \begin{cases} k & \text{if } G_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}^{n-1} x \in [a_k, a_{k+1}) \text{ for some } k \in \{0, \dots, m-1\}; \\ m & \text{if } G_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}^{n-1} x \in [a_m, b_m]. \end{cases}$$

We call the sequence $g(x; \beta_0, \dots, \beta_m) := (g_n(x; \beta_0, \dots, \beta_m))_{n \geq 1}$ the *greedy* $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ -expansion of x .

(2) The *quasi-greedy* $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ -transformation $G_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}^* : [0, \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1}] \rightarrow [0, \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1}]$ is defined by

$$x \mapsto G_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}^* x := \begin{cases} T_0 x & \text{if } x \in [0, a_1]; \\ T_k x & \text{if } x \in (a_k, a_{k+1}] \text{ for some } k \in \{1, \dots, m-1\}; \\ T_m x & \text{if } x \in (a_m, b_m]. \end{cases}$$

For all $x \in [0, \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1}]$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$, let

$$g_n^*(x; \beta_0, \dots, \beta_m) := \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } (G_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}^*)^{n-1} x \in [0, a_1]; \\ k & \text{if } (G_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}^*)^{n-1} x \in (a_k, a_{k+1}] \text{ for some } k \in \{1, \dots, m-1\}; \\ m & \text{if } (G_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}^*)^{n-1} x \in (a_m, b_m]. \end{cases}$$

We call the sequence $g^*(x; \beta_0, \dots, \beta_m) := (g_n^*(x; \beta_0, \dots, \beta_m))_{n \geq 1}$ the *quasi-greedy* $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ -expansion of x .

(3) The *lazy* $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ -transformation $L_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m} : [0, \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1}] \rightarrow [0, \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1}]$ is defined by

$$x \mapsto L_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m} x := \begin{cases} T_0 x & \text{if } x \in [0, b_0]; \\ T_k x & \text{if } x \in (b_{k-1}, b_k] \text{ for some } k \in \{1, \dots, m\}. \end{cases}$$

For all $x \in [0, \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1}]$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$, let

$$l_n(x; \beta_0, \dots, \beta_m) := \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } L_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}^{n-1} x \in [0, b_0]; \\ k & \text{if } L_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}^{n-1} x \in (b_{k-1}, b_k] \text{ for some } k \in \{1, \dots, m\}. \end{cases}$$

We call the sequence $l(x; \beta_0, \dots, \beta_m) := (l_n(x; \beta_0, \dots, \beta_m))_{n \geq 1}$ the *lazy* $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ -expansion of x .

(4) The *quasi-lazy* $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ -transformation $L_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}^* : [0, \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1}] \rightarrow [0, \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1}]$ is defined by

$$x \mapsto L_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}^* x := \begin{cases} T_0 x & \text{if } x \in [0, b_0); \\ T_k x & \text{if } x \in [b_{k-1}, b_k) \text{ for some } k \in \{1, \dots, m-1\}; \\ T_m x & \text{if } x \in [b_{m-1}, b_m]. \end{cases}$$

For all $x \in [0, \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1}]$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$, let

$$l_n^*(x; \beta_0, \dots, \beta_m) := \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } (L_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}^*)^{n-1} x \in [0, b_0); \\ k & \text{if } (L_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}^*)^{n-1} x \in [b_{k-1}, b_k) \text{ for some } k \in \{1, \dots, m-1\}; \\ m & \text{if } (L_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}^*)^{n-1} x \in [b_{m-1}, b_m]. \end{cases}$$

We call the sequence $l^*(x; \beta_0, \dots, \beta_m) := (l_n^*(x; \beta_0, \dots, \beta_m))_{n \geq 1}$ the *quasi-lazy* $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ -expansion of x .

Generally, let $\mathcal{I}_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}$ be the set of tuples (I_0, \dots, I_m) which satisfy

$$I_0 \in \left\{ [0, c_1], [0, c_1) \right\},$$

$$I_k \in \left\{ [c_k, c_{k+1}], [c_k, c_{k+1}), (c_k, c_{k+1}], (c_k, c_{k+1}) \right\}$$

for all $k \in \{1, \dots, m-1\}$, and

$$I_m \in \left\{ \left[c_m, \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1} \right], \left(c_m, \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1} \right) \right\},$$

where

$$c_k \in [a_k, b_{k-1}] \quad \text{for all } k \in \{1, \dots, m\}$$

such that $c_1 < c_2 < \dots < c_m$, $I_0 \cup I_1 \cup \dots \cup I_m = [0, \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1}]$ and I_0, I_1, \dots, I_m are all disjoint.

For any $(I_0, \dots, I_m) \in \mathcal{I}_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}$, we define the (I_0, \dots, I_m) - $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ -transformation $T_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}^{I_0, \dots, I_m} : [0, \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1}] \rightarrow [0, \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1}]$ by

$$T_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}^{I_0, \dots, I_m}(x) := T_k(x) \quad \text{for } x \in I_k \text{ where } k \in \{0, \dots, m\}.$$

For all $x \in [0, \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1}]$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$, let

$$t_n(x; \beta_0, \dots, \beta_m; I_0, \dots, I_m) := k \quad \text{if } (T_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}^{I_0, \dots, I_m})^{n-1} x \in I_k \text{ where } k \in \{0, \dots, m\}.$$

We call the sequence $t(x; \beta_0, \dots, \beta_m; I_0, \dots, I_m) := (t_n(x; \beta_0, \dots, \beta_m; I_0, \dots, I_m))_{n \geq 1}$ the (I_0, \dots, I_m) - $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ -expansion of x .

It is straightforward to see that greedy, quasi-greedy, lazy and quasi-lazy $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ -transformations/expansions are special cases of some (I_0, \dots, I_m) - $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ -transformations/expansions. For simplification, on the one hand, if β_0, \dots, β_m are understood from the context, we use $G, G^*, L, L^*, g(x), g^*(x), l(x)$ and $l^*(x)$ instead of $G_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}, G_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}^*, L_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}, L_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}^*, g(x; \beta_0, \dots, \beta_m), g^*(x; \beta_0, \dots, \beta_m), l(x; \beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ and $l^*(x; \beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ respectively, and if x is also understood, we use g_n, g_n^*, l_n and l_n^* instead of $g_n(x; \beta_0, \dots, \beta_m), g_n^*(x; \beta_0, \dots, \beta_m), l_n(x; \beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ and $l_n^*(x; \beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ respectively for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$; on the other hand, if β_0, \dots, β_m and I_0, \dots, I_m are understood, we use T and $t(x)$ instead of $T_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}^{I_0, \dots, I_m}$ and $t(x; \beta_0, \dots, \beta_m; I_0, \dots, I_m)$ respectively, and if x is also understood, we use t_n instead of $t_n(x; \beta_0, \dots, \beta_m; I_0, \dots, I_m)$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

For the case of a single base, greedy β -transformations and expansions were studied in many former papers [6, 7, 8, 18, 19, 33, 34]), lazy β -transformations and expansions can be found in [9, 10, 14, 17, 22], and quasi-greedy β -expansions were introduced in [25, 26, 31].

In Proposition 2.3, we will see that the above definition really give $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ -expansions coincide with Definition 1.2. First we prove the following useful lemma.

Lemma 2.2. *Let $m \in \mathbb{N}$, $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m) \in D_m$ and $x \in [0, \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1}]$. If $(I_0, \dots, I_m) \in \mathcal{I}_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}$, then for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we have*

$$x = \pi(t_1 \cdots t_n) + \frac{T^n x}{\beta_{t_1} \cdots \beta_{t_n}}.$$

In particular, for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} x &= \pi(g_1 \cdots g_n) + \frac{G^n x}{\beta_{g_1} \cdots \beta_{g_n}} = \pi(g_1^* \cdots g_n^*) + \frac{(G^*)^n x}{\beta_{g_1^*} \cdots \beta_{g_n^*}} \\ &= \pi(l_1 \cdots l_n) + \frac{L^n x}{\beta_{l_1} \cdots \beta_{l_n}} = \pi(l_1^* \cdots l_n^*) + \frac{(L^*)^n x}{\beta_{l_1^*} \cdots \beta_{l_n^*}}. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. (By induction) Let $k \in \{0, \dots, m\}$ such that $x \in I_k$. Then $t_1 = k, Tx = T_k x = \beta_k x - k$ and we have

$$\pi(t_1) + \frac{Tx}{\beta_{t_1}} = \frac{t_1 + Tx}{\beta_{t_1}} = \frac{\beta_k x}{\beta_k} = x.$$

Suppose that the conclusion is true for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we prove that it is also true for $n + 1$ as follows. In fact, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \pi(t_1 \cdots t_{n+1}) + \frac{T^{n+1} x}{\beta_{t_1} \cdots \beta_{t_{n+1}}} &= \pi(t_1 \cdots t_n) + \frac{t_{n+1} + T^{n+1} x}{\beta_{t_1} \cdots \beta_{t_{n+1}}} \\ &\stackrel{(*)}{=} \pi(t_1 \cdots t_n) + \frac{\beta_{t_{n+1}} T^n x}{\beta_{t_1} \cdots \beta_{t_{n+1}}} \\ &= x, \end{aligned}$$

where the last equality follows from the inductive hypothesis and $(*)$ can be proved as follows. Let $k \in \{0, \dots, m\}$ such that $T^n x \in I_k$. Then $t_{n+1} = k$ and

$$t_{n+1} + T^{n+1} x = t_{n+1} + T_k(T^n x) = k + (\beta_k T^n x - k) = \beta_{t_{n+1}} T^n x.$$

□

Proposition 2.3. Let $m \in \mathbb{N}$, $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m) \in D_m$ and $x \in [0, \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1}]$. If $(I_0, \dots, I_m) \in \mathcal{I}_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}$, then the (I_0, \dots, I_m) - $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ -expansion of x is a $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ -expansion of x , i.e.,

$$x = \pi(t(x)),$$

and for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ we have

$$T^n x = \pi(t_{n+1} t_{n+2} \cdots).$$

In particular, greedy, quasi-greedy, lazy and quasi-lazy $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ -expansions of x are all $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ -expansions of x , i.e.,

$$x = \pi(g(x)) = \pi(g^*(x)) = \pi(l(x)) = \pi(l^*(x)),$$

and for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} G^n x &= \pi(g_{n+1} g_{n+2} \cdots), & (G^*)^n x &= \pi(g_{n+1}^* g_{n+2}^* \cdots), \\ L^n x &= \pi(l_{n+1} l_{n+2} \cdots), & (L^*)^n x &= \pi(l_{n+1}^* l_{n+2}^* \cdots). \end{aligned}$$

Proof. By Lemma 2.2 and

$$\frac{T^n x}{\beta_{t_1} \cdots \beta_{t_n}} \leq \frac{\frac{m}{\beta_m - 1}}{(\min\{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m\})^n} \rightarrow 0$$

as $n \rightarrow \infty$, we get $x = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \pi(t_1 \cdots t_n) = \pi(t(x))$. That is,

$$x = \pi(t_1 \cdots t_n) + \frac{\pi(t_{n+1} t_{n+2} \cdots)}{\beta_{t_1} \cdots \beta_{t_n}}.$$

It follows from Lemma 2.2 that $T^n x = \pi(t_{n+1} t_{n+2} \cdots)$. □

Greedy, quasi-greedy, lazy and quasi-lazy expansions are not necessarily identical. A real number may have many different expansions even in one given base (see for examples [16, 17, 35]).

Proof of Proposition 1.1. \Rightarrow follows from Proposition 2.3.

\Leftarrow Let $w \in \{0, \dots, m\}^{\mathbb{N}}$ and $x = \pi(w)$. It suffices to prove $x \leq \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1}$ in the following. (By contradiction) We assume $x > \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1}$.

(1) Prove that for all $v \in \{0, \dots, m\}^{\mathbb{N}}$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we have

$$T_{v_n} \circ \dots \circ T_{v_1} x > \dots > T_{v_2} \circ T_{v_1} x > T_{v_1} x > x.$$

Let $k \in \{0, \dots, m-1\}$, by $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m) \in D_m$, we get

$$\frac{k}{\beta_k} + \frac{m}{\beta_k(\beta_m - 1)} = b_k < b_{k+1} < \dots < b_m = \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1},$$

which implies $\frac{k}{\beta_k - 1} < \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1}$. Thus for all $y > \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1}$ and $k \in \{0, \dots, m\}$, we have $y > \frac{k}{\beta_k - 1}$, i.e., $T_k y > y$. Then we perform the maps T_{v_1}, \dots, T_{v_n} to x one by one to get the conclusion.

(2) Let $s \in \{0, \dots, m\}$ such that $T_s x = \min_{0 \leq k \leq m} T_k x$. For all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we prove

$$T_{w_{n+1}} \circ \dots \circ T_{w_1} x - T_{w_n} \circ \dots \circ T_{w_1} x > T_s x - x.$$

In fact, it suffices to prove

$$T_{w_{n+1}} \circ \dots \circ T_{w_1} x - T_{w_n} \circ \dots \circ T_{w_1} x > T_{w_{n+1}} x - x.$$

This follows from

$$\begin{aligned} T_{w_{n+1}} \circ T_{w_n} \circ \dots \circ T_{w_1} x - T_{w_{n+1}} x &= (\beta_{w_{n+1}} T_{w_n} \circ \dots \circ T_{w_1} x - w_{n+1}) - (\beta_{w_{n+1}} x - w_{n+1}) \\ &= \beta_{w_{n+1}} (T_{w_n} \circ \dots \circ T_{w_1} x - x) \\ &> T_{w_n} \circ \dots \circ T_{w_1} x - x \end{aligned}$$

where the last inequality follows from $\beta_{w_{n+1}} > 1$ and $T_{w_n} \circ \dots \circ T_{w_1} x - x > 0$ (by (1)).

(3) Deduce a contradiction.

On the one hand, for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} T_{w_n} \circ \dots \circ T_{w_1} x &= (T_{w_n} \circ \dots \circ T_{w_1} x - T_{w_{n-1}} \circ \dots \circ T_{w_1} x) \\ &\quad + (T_{w_{n-1}} \circ \dots \circ T_{w_1} x - T_{w_{n-2}} \circ \dots \circ T_{w_1} x) \\ &\quad + \dots \\ &\quad + (T_{w_2} \circ T_{w_1} x - T_{w_1} x) \\ &\quad + (T_{w_1} x - x) + x \\ &\stackrel{\text{by (2)}}{\geq} n(T_s x - x) + x, \end{aligned}$$

where $T_s x - x > 0$ by (1). This implies $T_{w_n} \circ \dots \circ T_{w_1} x \rightarrow \infty$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

On the other hand, by

$$x = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{w_i}{\beta_{w_1} \cdots \beta_{w_i}},$$

we get

$$T_{w_1} x = \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} \frac{w_i}{\beta_{w_2} \cdots \beta_{w_i}},$$

$$T_{w_2} \circ T_{w_1} x = \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} \frac{w_i}{\beta_{w_3} \cdots \beta_{w_i}},$$

\dots ,

and then for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$,

$$\begin{aligned} T_{w_n} \circ \cdots \circ T_{w_1} x &= \sum_{i=n+1}^{\infty} \frac{w_i}{\beta_{w_{n+1}} \cdots \beta_{w_i}} \\ &\leq \sum_{i=n+1}^{\infty} \frac{m}{(\min\{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m\})^{i-n}} \\ &= \frac{m}{\min\{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m\} - 1} < \infty, \end{aligned}$$

which contradicts $T_{w_n} \circ \cdots \circ T_{w_1} x \rightarrow \infty$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

□

We should keep the following lemma in mind.

Lemma 2.4. *Let $m \in \mathbb{N}$, $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m) \in D_m$ and $w \in \{0, \dots, m\}^{\mathbb{N}}$. Then $w = m^\infty$ if and only if $\pi(w) = \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1}$.*

Proof. \Rightarrow is obvious.

\Leftarrow (By contradiction) Suppose $w \neq m^\infty$ and

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{w_i}{\beta_{w_1} \cdots \beta_{w_i}} = \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1}. \quad (2.1)$$

Then there exists $k \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $w_1 \cdots w_{k-1} = m^{k-1}$ and $w_k < m$. By applying T_m^{k-1} to (2.1), we get

$$\frac{w_k}{\beta_{w_k}} + \sum_{i=k+1}^{\infty} \frac{w_i}{\beta_{w_k} \cdots \beta_{w_i}} = \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1}.$$

It follows from applying T_{w_k} to the above equality that

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{w_{k+i}}{\beta_{w_{k+1}} \cdots \beta_{w_{k+i}}} = \frac{m\beta_{w_k}}{\beta_m - 1} - w_k. \quad (2.2)$$

On the one hand, by Proposition 1.1 we know

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{w_{k+i}}{\beta_{w_{k+1}} \cdots \beta_{w_{k+i}}} \leq \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1}. \quad (2.3)$$

On the other hand, by $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m) \in D_m$ and $w_k < m$, we get

$$\frac{w_k}{\beta_{w_k}} + \frac{m}{\beta_{w_k}(\beta_m - 1)} = b_{w_k} < b_{w_k+1} < \cdots < b_m = \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1},$$

which implies

$$\frac{m\beta_{w_k}}{\beta_m - 1} - w_k > \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1}.$$

This contradicts (2.2) and (2.3).

□

The following useful criteria generalize [17, Lemma 1].

Proposition 2.5 (Basic criteria of greedy, quasi-greedy, lazy and quasi-lazy expansions).
Let $m \in \mathbb{N}$, $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m) \in D_m$, $x \in [0, \frac{m}{\beta_{m-1}}]$ and $w \in \{0, \dots, m\}^{\mathbb{N}}$ be a $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ -expansion of x .

(1) w is the greedy expansion if and only if

$$\pi(w_n w_{n+1} \dots) < a_{w_{n+1}} \quad \text{whenever } w_n < m.$$

(2) When $x \neq 0$, w is the quasi-greedy expansion if and only if it does not end with 0^∞ and

$$\pi(w_n w_{n+1} \dots) \leq a_{w_{n+1}} \quad \text{whenever } w_n < m.$$

(3) w is the lazy expansion if and only if

$$\pi(w_n w_{n+1} \dots) > b_{w_{n-1}} \quad \text{whenever } w_n > 0.$$

(4) When $x \neq \frac{m}{\beta_{m-1}}$, w is the quasi-lazy expansion if and only if it does not end with m^∞ and

$$\pi(w_n w_{n+1} \dots) \geq b_{w_{n-1}} \quad \text{whenever } w_n > 0.$$

Proof. (1) \Rightarrow Suppose that w is the greedy $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ -expansion of x , i.e., $(w_i)_{i \geq 1} = (g_i)_{i \geq 1}$, and suppose $w_n < m$. By $g_n = w_n$ and the definition of g_n , we get $G^{n-1}x < a_{w_{n+1}}$. It follows from Proposition 2.3 that $\pi(g_n g_{n+1} \dots) < a_{w_{n+1}}$. Thus $\pi(w_n w_{n+1} \dots) < a_{w_{n+1}}$.

\Leftarrow We prove $(w_i)_{i \geq 1} = (g_i)_{i \geq 1}$ by induction. Recall that

$$g_1 := \begin{cases} k & \text{if } x \in [a_k, a_{k+1}) \text{ for some } k \in \{0, \dots, m-1\} \\ m & \text{if } x \in [a_m, b_m] \end{cases}$$

and $(w_i)_{i \geq 1}$ is a $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ -expansion of x , which implies $x \geq a_{w_1}$.

i) If $w_1 = m$, then $x \geq a_m$, which implies $g_1 = m = w_1$.

ii) If $w_1 < m$, by condition $\pi(w_1 w_2 \dots) < a_{w_{1+1}}$ we get $x < a_{w_{1+1}}$. It follows from $x \geq a_{w_1}$ that $g_1 = w_1$.

Suppose $w_1 \dots w_{n-1} = g_1 \dots g_{n-1}$ for some $n \geq 2$. We need to prove $w_n = g_n$ in the following. Recall

$$g_n := \begin{cases} k & \text{if } G^{n-1}x \in [a_k, a_{k+1}) \text{ for some } k \in \{0, \dots, m-1\}; \\ m & \text{if } G^{n-1}x \in [a_m, b_m]. \end{cases}$$

Since the fact that $(w_i)_{i \geq 1}$ is a $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ -expansion of x implies

$$x = \pi(w_1 \dots w_{n-1}) + \frac{\pi(w_n w_{n+1} \dots)}{\beta_{w_1} \dots \beta_{w_{n-1}}},$$

by Lemma 2.2 we know $G^{n-1}x = \pi(w_n w_{n+1} \dots)$. This implies $G^{n-1}x \geq a_{w_n}$.

i) If $w_n = m$, then $G^{n-1}x \geq a_m$, which implies $g_n = m = w_n$.

ii) If $w_n < m$, by condition $\pi(w_n w_{n+1} \dots) < a_{w_{n+1}}$ we get $G^{n-1}x < a_{w_{n+1}}$. It follows from $G^{n-1}x \geq a_{w_n}$ that $g_n = w_n$.

(2) \Rightarrow Suppose that w is the quasi-greedy $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ -expansion of x , i.e., $(w_i)_{i \geq 1} = (g_i^*)_{i \geq 1}$.

i) Prove that w does not end with 0^∞ .

(By contradiction) Assume that there exists $n \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $w_{n+1} w_{n+2} \dots = 0^\infty$. By Proposition 2.3, we get $(G^*)^n x = \pi(0^\infty) = 0$. It follows from the definition of G^* that $(G^*)^{n-1}x = 0$, $(G^*)^{n-2}x = 0$, \dots , $G^*x = 0$ and $x = 0$, which contradicts $x \neq 0$.

ii) Suppose $w_n < m$. Similarly to (1) \Rightarrow , we get $\pi(w_n w_{n+1} \dots) \leq a_{w_{n+1}}$.

\Leftarrow follows in a way similar to (1) \Leftarrow .

(3) and (4) follow in a way similar to (1) and (2) noting Lemma 2.4. \square

Proposition 2.6 (Lexicographic order on greedy, quasi-greedy, lazy and quasi-lazy expansions). *Let $m \in \mathbb{N}$, $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m) \in D_m$ and $x \in [0, \frac{m}{\beta_{m-1}}]$.*

- (1) *Among all the $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ -expansions of x , the greedy expansion and the lazy expansion are maximal and minimal respectively in lexicographic order.*
- (2) *Among all the $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ -expansions of x which do not end with 0^∞ , the quasi-greedy expansion is maximal in lexicographic order.*
- (3) *Among all the $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ -expansions of x which do not end with m^∞ , the quasi-lazy expansion is minimal in lexicographic order.*

Proof. (1) Let $v \in \{0, \dots, m\}^\mathbb{N}$ be a $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ -expansion of x .

① Prove $v \preceq g(x)$.

(By contradiction) Assume $v \succ g(x)$. Then there exists $n \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $v_1 \cdots v_{n-1} = g_1 \cdots g_{n-1}$ and $v_n > g_n$. Since Proposition 2.5 (1) implies $\pi(g_n g_{n+1} \cdots) < a_{g_{n+1}}$ and $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m) \in D_m$ implies $a_{g_{n+1}} \leq a_{g_{n+2}} \leq \cdots \leq a_{v_n} = \frac{v_n}{\beta_{v_n}}$, we get $\pi(g_n g_{n+1} \cdots) < \frac{v_n}{\beta_{v_n}}$ and then

$$\begin{aligned} x = \pi(g(x)) &= \pi(g_1 \cdots g_{n-1}) + \frac{\pi(g_n g_{n+1} \cdots)}{\beta_{g_1} \cdots \beta_{g_{n-1}}} \\ &< \pi(v_1 \cdots v_{n-1}) + \frac{v_n}{\beta_{v_1} \cdots \beta_{v_{n-1}} \beta_{v_n}} \\ &= \pi(v_1 \cdots v_n) \\ &\leq \pi(v). \end{aligned}$$

This contradicts $x = \pi(v)$.

② We can prove $v \succeq l(x)$ in a way similar to ① noting that Proposition 1.1 implies $\frac{m}{\beta_{m-1}} \geq \pi(v_{n+1} v_{n+2} \cdots)$.

(2) and (3) follow in the same way as (1), noting that v does not end with 0^∞ implies $\pi(v_1 \cdots v_n) < \pi(v)$, and v does not end with m^∞ implies $\frac{m}{\beta_{m-1}} > \pi(v_{n+1} v_{n+2} \cdots)$ by Proposition 1.1 and Lemma 2.2 for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$. \square

The following definition on admissibility is a natural generalization of [28, Definition 2.1 (2)] (see also [27, Definition 2.1]).

Definition 2.7 (Admissibility). Let $m \in \mathbb{N}$ and $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m) \in D_m$. For fixed $(I_0, \dots, I_m) \in \mathcal{I}_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}$, a sequence $w \in \{0, \dots, m\}^\mathbb{N}$ is called (I_0, \dots, I_m) -admissible if there exists $x \in [0, \frac{m}{\beta_{m-1}}]$ such that $w = t(x)$. We let $\mathcal{T} = \mathcal{T}(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m; I_0, \dots, I_m)$ denote the set of (I_0, \dots, I_m) -admissible sequences. In particular, a sequence $w \in \{0, \dots, m\}^\mathbb{N}$ is called greedy, quasi-greedy, lazy and quasi-lazy (admissible) if there exists $x \in [0, \frac{m}{\beta_{m-1}}]$ such that $w = g(x)$, $g^*(x)$, $l(x)$ and $l^*(x)$ respectively. The sets of greedy, quasi-greedy, lazy and quasi-lazy sequences are denoted respectively by $\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{G}(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$, $\mathcal{G}^* = \mathcal{G}^*(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$, $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ and $\mathcal{L}^* = \mathcal{L}^*(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$.

Proposition 2.8 (Commutativity). *Let $m \in \mathbb{N}$, $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m) \in D_m$ and $(I_0, \dots, I_m) \in \mathcal{I}_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}$. Then*

- (1) $\pi \circ \sigma(w) = T \circ \pi(w)$ for all $w \in \mathcal{T}$ and $t \circ T(x) = \sigma \circ t(x)$ for all $x \in [0, \frac{m}{\beta_{m-1}}]$;
- (2) $\sigma(\mathcal{T}) = \mathcal{T}$ and $T([0, \frac{m}{\beta_{m-1}}]) = [0, \frac{m}{\beta_{m-1}}]$;
- (3) $t \circ \pi(w) = w$ for all $w \in \mathcal{T}$ and $\pi \circ t(x) = x$ for all $x \in [0, \frac{m}{\beta_{m-1}}]$;
- (4) $\pi|_{\mathcal{T}} : \mathcal{T} \rightarrow [0, \frac{m}{\beta_{m-1}}]$ and $t : [0, \frac{m}{\beta_{m-1}}] \rightarrow \mathcal{T}$ are both increasing bijections.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
\mathcal{T} & \xrightarrow{\sigma} & \mathcal{T} \\
\pi \downarrow \uparrow t & & \pi \downarrow \uparrow t \\
[0, \frac{m}{\beta_{m-1}}] & \xrightarrow{T} & [0, \frac{m}{\beta_{m-1}}]
\end{array}$$

In particular, the above properties hold for the greedy, quasi-greedy, lazy and quasi-lazy cases.

Proof. (1) ① Let $w \in \mathcal{T}$. We need to prove $\pi \circ \sigma(w) = T \circ \pi(w)$. In fact, there exists $x \in [0, \frac{m}{\beta_{m-1}}]$ such that $w = t(x)$, and then $\pi(w) = x$ by Proposition 2.3. On the one hand,

$$\pi \circ \sigma(w) = \pi(w_2 w_3 \cdots) = \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} \frac{w_i}{\beta_{w_2} \cdots \beta_{w_i}}.$$

On the other hand,

$$T \circ \pi(w) = Tx \stackrel{(\star)}{=} T_{w_1} x = \beta_{w_1} x - w_1 = \beta_{w_1} \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{w_i}{\beta_{w_1} \cdots \beta_{w_i}} - w_1 = \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} \frac{w_i}{\beta_{w_2} \cdots \beta_{w_i}},$$

where (\star) follows from the fact that $t_1(x) = w_1$ implies $x \in I_{w_1}$.

② Let $x \in [0, \frac{m}{\beta_{m-1}}]$. We need to prove $t \circ T(x) = \sigma \circ t(x)$. In fact, it follows immediately from the definition of t that $t_n(Tx) = t_1(T^{n-1}(Tx)) = t_1(T^n x) = t_{n+1}(x)$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

(2) $T([0, \frac{m}{\beta_{m-1}}]) = [0, \frac{m}{\beta_{m-1}}]$ follows from the definition of T . We prove $\sigma(\mathcal{T}) = \mathcal{T}$ as follows.

\square Let $w \in \mathcal{T}$. Then there exists $x \in [0, \frac{m}{\beta_{m-1}}]$ such that $w = t(x)$. Thus $\sigma w = \sigma \circ t(x) \stackrel{\text{by (1)}}{=} t \circ T(x) \in \mathcal{T}$.

\square Let $w \in \mathcal{T}$. Then there exists $y \in [0, \frac{m}{\beta_{m-1}}]$ such that $w = t(y)$ and there exists $x \in [0, \frac{m}{\beta_{m-1}}]$ such that $y = Tx$. It follows from $w = t(y) = t(Tx) \stackrel{\text{by (1)}}{=} \sigma(t(x))$ and $t(x) \in \mathcal{T}$ that $w \in \sigma(\mathcal{T})$.

(3) ① For any $w \in \mathcal{T}$, there exists $x \in [0, \frac{m}{\beta_{m-1}}]$ such that $w = t(x)$ and $\pi(w) = x$, which implies $t \circ \pi(w) = t(x) = w$.

② For any $x \in [0, \frac{m}{\beta_{m-1}}]$, $\pi(t(x)) = x$ follows from Proposition 2.3.

(4) By (3), it suffices to prove that $\pi|_{\mathcal{T}}$ is increasing.

Let $w, v \in \mathcal{T}$ such that $w \prec v$. Then there exists $n \geq 0$ such that $w_1 \cdots w_n = v_1 \cdots v_n$ and $w_{n+1} < v_{n+1}$. Let $x, y \in [0, \frac{m}{\beta_{m-1}}]$ such that $w = t(x)$ and $v = t(y)$. We need to prove $x < y$. In fact, by Lemma 2.2 we get

$$x = \pi(w_1 \cdots w_n) + \frac{T^n x}{\beta_{w_1} \cdots \beta_{w_n}} \quad \text{and} \quad y = \pi(v_1 \cdots v_n) + \frac{T^n y}{\beta_{v_1} \cdots \beta_{v_n}}. \quad (2.4)$$

Since $t_{n+1}(x) = w_{n+1}$ and $t_{n+1}(y) = v_{n+1}$ imply $T^n x \in I_{w_{n+1}}$ and $T^n y \in I_{v_{n+1}}$, by $w_{n+1} < v_{n+1}$ we get $T^n x < T^n y$. It follows from (2.4) and $w_1 \cdots w_n = v_1 \cdots v_n$ that $x < y$. \square

The following is a generalization of [2, Proposition 3.4].

Proposition 2.9 (Relations between greedy/lazy and quasi-greedy/quasi-lazy expansions). *Let $m \in \mathbb{N}$, $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m) \in D_m$ and $x \in [0, \frac{m}{\beta_{m-1}}]$.*

(1) Suppose $x \neq 0$.

① $g(x)$ does not end with 0^∞ if and only if $g^*(x) = g(x)$.

② If $g(x)$ ends with 0^∞ , then

$$\begin{aligned} g^*(x) &= g_1(x) \cdots g_{n-1}(x) g^*(a_{g_n(x)}) \\ &= g_1(x) \cdots g_{n-1}(x) (g_n(x) - 1) g^*(T_{g_n(x)-1}(a_{g_n(x)})) \end{aligned}$$

where n is the greatest integer such that $g_n(x) > 0$.

(2) Suppose $x \neq \frac{m}{\beta_{m-1}}$.

① $l(x)$ does not end with m^∞ if and only if $l^*(x) = l(x)$.

② If $l(x)$ ends with m^∞ , then

$$\begin{aligned} l^*(x) &= l_1(x) \cdots l_{n-1}(x) l^*(b_{l_n(x)}) \\ &= l_1(x) \cdots l_{n-1}(x) (l_n(x) + 1) l^*(T_{l_n(x)+1}(b_{l_n(x)})) \end{aligned}$$

where n is the greatest integer such that $l_n(x) < m$.

Proof. (1) ① \Leftarrow follows from Proposition 2.5 (2).

\Rightarrow (By contradiction) Assume $(g_i)_{i \geq 1} \neq (g_i^*)_{i \geq 1}$. Then there exists $n \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $g_1 \cdots g_{n-1} = g_1^* \cdots g_{n-1}^*$ and $g_n \neq g_n^*$. Recall the definitions of g, g^*, G and G^* . By $x \neq 0$ and $g_1 = g_1^*$, we get $x \notin \{a_0, \dots, a_m\}$, and then $Gx = G^*x \neq 0$. By $g_2 = g_2^*$, we get $Gx = G^*x \notin \{a_0, \dots, a_m\}$, and then $G^2x = (G^*)^2x \neq 0 \cdots$. By repeating the above process, we get $G^{n-1}x = (G^*)^{n-1}x \neq 0$. It follows from

$$G^{n-1}x \in \begin{cases} [a_{g_n}, a_{g_{n+1}}] & \text{if } 0 \leq g_n \leq m-1, \\ [a_m, \frac{m}{\beta_{m-1}}] & \text{if } g_n = m, \end{cases}$$

and $g_n \neq g_n^*$ that $G^{n-1}x = a_{g_n}$. This implies $G^n x = 0$, and then for all $i \geq n$, $G^i x = 0$. Thus $g_{n+1}g_{n+2} \cdots = 0^\infty$, which contradicts that $(g_i)_{i \geq 1}$ does not end with 0^∞ .

② Suppose that $g(x)$ ends with 0^∞ and n is the greatest integer such that $g_n > 0$. We need to consider the following i), ii) and iii).

i) Prove $g_1^* \cdots g_{n-1}^* = g_1 \cdots g_{n-1}$.

(By contradiction) Assume $g_1^* \cdots g_{n-1}^* \neq g_1 \cdots g_{n-1}$. Then there exists $k \in \{1, \dots, n-1\}$ such that $g_1^* \cdots g_{k-1}^* = g_1 \cdots g_{k-1}$ but $g_k^* \neq g_k$. By Lemma 2.2 we get $(G^*)^{k-1}x = G^{k-1}x$. Since $g_k^* \neq g_k$, there must exist $j \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ such that $G^{k-1}x = a_j$. This implies $G^k x = 0$, and then for all $i \geq k$ we have $G^i x = 0$. Thus $g_{k+1}g_{k+2} \cdots = 0^\infty$, which contradicts $g_n > 0$.

ii) Prove $g_n^* g_{n+1}^* \cdots = g^*(a_{g_n})$. In fact, we have

$$\sigma^{n-1}(g^*(x)) \stackrel{(\star)}{=} g^*((G^*)^{n-1}x) \stackrel{(\star\star)}{=} g^*(a_{g_n}),$$

where (\star) follows from Proposition 2.8 (1), and $(\star\star)$ follows from $(G^*)^{n-1}x = a_{g_n}$, which is a consequence of i), Lemma 2.2 and

$$x = \pi(g_1 \cdots g_n) = \pi(g_1 \cdots g_{n-1}) + \frac{a_{g_n}}{\beta_{g_1} \cdots \beta_{g_{n-1}}}.$$

iii) Prove $g^*(a_{g_n}) = (g_n - 1)g^*(T_{g_n-1}(a_{g_n}))$.

In fact, on the one hand, $g_1^*(a_{g_n}) = g_n - 1$ follows directly from the definition of g_1^* . On the other hand, we have

$$\sigma(g^*(a_{g_n})) \stackrel{(\star)}{=} g^*(G^*(a_{g_n})) \stackrel{(\star\star)}{=} g^*(T_{g_n-1}(a_{g_n})),$$

where (\star) follows from Proposition 2.8 (1), and $(\star\star)$ follows from $g_n > 0$ and the definition of G^* .

(2) follows in a way similar to (1). \square

In the proof of our main results, we need the following.

Proposition 2.10 (Interactive increase). *Let $m \in \mathbb{N}$, $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m) \in D_m$ and $x, y \in [0, \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1}]$.*

- (1) *Let $(I_0, \dots, I_m), (I'_0, \dots, I'_m) \in \mathcal{I}_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}$ such that for all $k \in \{0, \dots, m\}$, the intervals I_k and I'_k are at most different at the end points (i.e., they have the same closure), $t(x)$ be the (I_0, \dots, I_m) - $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ -expansion of x and $t'(y)$ be the (I'_0, \dots, I'_m) - $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ -expansion of y . If $x < y$, then $t(x) \prec t'(y)$.*
- (2) *In particular, if $x < y$, we have $g(x) \prec g^*(y)$ and $l^*(x) \prec l(y)$.*

Proof. We only need to prove (1). Suppose $0 \leq x < y \leq \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1}$. Since $t(x) = t'(y)$ will imply $x = \pi(t(x)) = \pi(t'(y)) = y$ which contradicts $x < y$, we must have $t(x) \neq t'(y)$. Thus there exists $n \geq 0$ such that $t_1(x) \cdots t_n(x) = t'_1(y) \cdots t'_n(y)$ and $t_{n+1}(x) \neq t'_{n+1}(y)$. It suffices to prove $t_{n+1}(x) < t'_{n+1}(y)$ by contradiction.

In fact, by $x < y$ and Lemma 2.2, we get $T^n x < (T')^n y$, where T is the (I_0, \dots, I_m) - $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ -transformation and T' is the (I'_0, \dots, I'_m) - $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ -transformation. If $t_{n+1}(x) > t'_{n+1}(y)$, by $T^n x \in I_{t_{n+1}(x)}$ and $(T')^n y \in I'_{t'_{n+1}(y)}$ we get

$$T^n x \geq \inf I_{t_{n+1}(x)} \geq \sup I'_{t'_{n+1}(y)} \geq (T')^n y,$$

which contradicts $T^n x < (T')^n y$. □

Given $x \in [0, \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1}]$, let

$$\Sigma_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}(x) := \left\{ (w_i)_{i \geq 1} \in \{0, \dots, m\}^{\mathbb{N}} : (w_i)_{i \geq 1} \text{ is a } (\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)\text{-expansion of } x \right\}$$

and

$$\Omega_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}(x) := \left\{ (S_i)_{i \geq 1} \in \{T_0, \dots, T_m\}^{\mathbb{N}} : (S_n \circ \dots \circ S_1)(x) \in \left[0, \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1}\right] \text{ for all } n \in \mathbb{N} \right\}.$$

As a generalization of [4, Lemma 3.1] and [5, Lemma 2.1] (see also [3]), the following is a dynamical interpretation of $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ -expansions.

Proposition 2.11 (Dynamical interpretation). *Let $m \in \mathbb{N}$ and $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m) \in D_m$. For all $x \in [0, \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1}]$, the map which sends $(w_i)_{i \geq 1}$ to $(T_{w_i})_{i \geq 1}$ is a bijection from $\Sigma_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}(x)$ to $\Omega_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}(x)$.*

Proof. (1) Prove that the mentioned map is well-defined.

Let $(w_i)_{i \geq 1} \in \{0, \dots, m\}^{\mathbb{N}}$ be a $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ -expansion of x and $n \in \mathbb{N}$. It suffices to prove $T_{w_n} \circ \dots \circ T_{w_1} x \in [0, \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1}]$. In fact, by a simple calculation as in (3) in the proof of Proposition 1.1, we get

$$T_{w_n} \circ \dots \circ T_{w_1} x = \sum_{i=n+1}^{\infty} \frac{w_i}{\beta_{w_{n+1}} \cdots \beta_{w_i}}.$$

Thus

$$T_{w_n} \circ \dots \circ T_{w_1} x = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{w_{n+i}}{\beta_{w_{n+1}} \cdots \beta_{w_{n+i}}} = \pi(w_{n+1} w_{n+2} \cdots) \in [0, \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1}]$$

by Proposition 1.1.

(2) The mentioned map is obviously injective. We prove that it is surjective as follows.

Let $(w_i)_{i \geq 1} \in \{0, \dots, m\}^{\mathbb{N}}$ such that $T_{w_n} \circ \dots \circ T_{w_1} x \in [0, \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1}]$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$. By

$$0 \leq T_{w_n} \circ \dots \circ T_{w_1} x \leq \frac{m}{\beta_m - 1},$$

we get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{w_n}{\beta_{w_n}} &\leq T_{w_{n-1}} \circ \cdots \circ T_{w_1} x \leq \frac{w_n}{\beta_{w_n}} + \frac{m}{\beta_{w_n}(\beta_m - 1)}, \\ \frac{w_{n-1}}{\beta_{w_{n-1}}} + \frac{w_n}{\beta_{w_{n-1}}\beta_{w_n}} &\leq T_{w_{n-2}} \circ \cdots \circ T_{w_1} x \leq \frac{w_{n-1}}{\beta_{w_{n-1}}} + \frac{w_n}{\beta_{w_{n-1}}\beta_{w_n}} + \frac{m}{\beta_{w_{n-1}}\beta_{w_n}(\beta_m - 1)}, \\ &\quad \dots, \\ \frac{w_1}{\beta_{w_1}} + \frac{w_2}{\beta_{w_1}\beta_{w_2}} + \cdots + \frac{w_n}{\beta_{w_1}\cdots\beta_{w_n}} &\leq x \leq \frac{w_1}{\beta_{w_1}} + \frac{w_2}{\beta_{w_1}\beta_{w_2}} + \cdots + \frac{w_n}{\beta_{w_1}\cdots\beta_{w_n}} + \frac{m}{\beta_{w_1}\cdots\beta_{w_n}(\beta_m - 1)}, \end{aligned}$$

which implies

$$\pi(w_1 \cdots w_n) \leq x \leq \pi(w_1 \cdots w_n) + \frac{m}{(\beta_m - 1)(\min\{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m\})^n}$$

for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Let $n \rightarrow \infty$, we get $x = \pi(w_1 w_2 \cdots)$. Thus $(w_i)_{i \geq 1} \in \Sigma_{\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m}(x)$. \square

The following proposition on expansions in one base, which will be used in the proof of Corollary 1.6, implies that w is lazy if and only if \bar{w} is greedy (recall Definition 2.7) for all $w = (w_i)_{i \geq 1} \in \{0, \dots, m\}^{\mathbb{N}}$, where $\bar{w} := (\bar{w}_i)_{i \geq 1}$ and $\bar{k} := m - k$ for all $k \in \{0, \dots, m\}$. By Proposition 2.6 (1), we recover [11, Theorem 2.1] and [23, Lemma 1].

Proposition 2.12 (Reflection principle in one base). *Let $m \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\beta \in (1, m + 1]$. For all $x \in [0, \frac{m}{\beta-1}]$, we have*

$$l\left(\frac{m}{\beta-1} - x\right) = \overline{g(x)} \quad \text{and} \quad l^*\left(\frac{m}{\beta-1} - x\right) = \overline{g^*(x)}.$$

Proof. (1) Prove $l(\frac{m}{\beta-1} - x) = \overline{g(x)}$. Let $w = g(x)$. By Proposition 2.5 (1) we get

$$\pi(w_n w_{n+1} \cdots) < a_{w_{n+1}} \quad \text{whenever } w_n < m.$$

It follows from $\pi(w_n w_{n+1} \cdots) + \pi(\bar{w}_n \bar{w}_{n+1} \cdots) = \frac{m}{\beta-1}$ and $a_{w_{n+1}} + b_{\bar{w}_{n+1}} = \frac{m}{\beta-1}$ that

$$\pi(\bar{w}_n \bar{w}_{n+1} \cdots) > b_{\bar{w}_{n+1}} \quad \text{whenever } \bar{w}_n > 0. \quad (2.5)$$

Since $w = g(x)$ implies $\pi(\bar{w}) = \frac{m}{\beta-1} - x$, by Proposition 2.5 (3) and (2.5) we get $\bar{w} = l(\frac{m}{\beta-1} - x)$.

(2) $l^*(\frac{m}{\beta-1} - x) = \overline{g^*(x)}$ follows in a way similar to (1) by applying Proposition 2.5 (2) and (4). \square

3. PROOFS OF THE MAIN RESULTS

First we give the following lemma, which is essentially stronger than Theorem 1.3 (1) ①, (2) ① and (3) ①.

Lemma 3.1. *Let $m \in \mathbb{N}$, $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m) \in D_m$, $x \in [0, \frac{m}{\beta_m-1}]$ and $w \in \{0, \dots, m\}^{\mathbb{N}}$ be a $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ -expansion of x .*

(1) *If w is the greedy expansion and $w \neq m^\infty$, then*

$$\sigma^n w \prec g^*(\xi_+) \quad \text{for all } n \geq p,$$

where $p := \min\{i \geq 0 : G^i x < \xi_+\}$ exists, and $\xi_+ := \max_{0 \leq k \leq m-1} T_k(a_{k+1})$.

(2) *If w is the lazy expansion and $w \neq 0^\infty$, then*

$$\sigma^n w \succ l^*(\eta_-) \quad \text{for all } n \geq q,$$

where $q := \min\{i \geq 0 : L^i x > \eta_-\}$ exists, and $\eta_- := \min_{1 \leq k \leq m} T_k(b_{k-1})$.

Proof. (1) By $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m) \in D_m$, we get

$$a_k < a_{k+1} \leq b_k$$

for all $k \in \{0, \dots, m-1\}$. This implies $0 < \xi_+ \leq \frac{m}{\beta_{m-1}}$.

① Prove that there exists $i \geq 0$ such that $G^i x < \xi_+$.

(By contradiction) Assume $G^i x \geq \xi_+$ for all $i \geq 0$. Let r be the greatest integer in $\{0, \dots, m\}$ such that $a_r \leq \xi_+$ and

$$c = c(x) := \begin{cases} x - \beta_m x + m & \text{if } r = m; \\ \min\{x - \beta_m x + m, a_{r+1} - \xi_+\} & \text{if } r \leq m-1. \end{cases}$$

It follows from $w \neq m^\infty$ (which implies $x < \frac{m}{\beta_{m-1}}$ by Lemma 2.4) and the definition of r that $c > 0$.

i) Prove that for all $y \in [\xi_+, x]$, we have $y - Gy \geq c$.

In fact, if $y \geq a_m$, then $y - Gy = y - \beta_m y + m \geq x - \beta_m x + m \geq c$. We only need to consider $\xi_+ \leq y < a_m$ in the following. By $\xi_+ < a_m$, we know $r \leq m-1$ and

$$[\xi_+, a_m) \subset [a_r, a_{r+1}) \cup [a_{r+1}, a_{r+2}) \cup \dots \cup [a_{m-1}, a_m).$$

There exists $k \in \{r, r+1, \dots, m-1\}$ such that $y \in [a_k, a_{k+1})$. Thus

$$y - Gy = y - (\beta_k y - k) = (1 - \beta_k)y + k > (1 - \beta_k)a_{k+1} + k = a_{k+1} - T_k(a_{k+1}) \geq a_{r+1} - \xi_+ \geq c.$$

ii) Deduce a contradiction.

Recall that we have assumed $G^i x \geq \xi_+$ for all $i \geq 0$. First by $x \geq \xi_+$ and i), we get $x - Gx \geq c$. Then by $\xi_+ \leq Gx \leq x$ and i) again, we get $Gx - G^2x \geq c$. \dots For all $n \geq 1$, we can get $G^{n-1}x - G^n x \geq c$. It follows from the summation of the above inequalities that $x - G^n x \geq nc$, where $nc \rightarrow +\infty$ as $n \rightarrow +\infty$. This contradicts $G^i x \geq \xi_+$ for all $i \geq 0$.

② For all $n \geq p$, $\sigma^n w \prec g^*(\xi_+)$ follows from

$$\sigma^n w = \sigma^n(g(x)) \stackrel{(*)}{=} g(G^n x) \stackrel{(**)}{\prec} g^*(\xi_+),$$

where $(*)$ follows from Proposition 2.8 (1), and $(**)$ follows from Proposition 2.10 and $G^n x < \xi_+$, which can be proved as follows. First we have $G^p x < \xi_+$ by the definition of p . It suffices to prove that for all $y \in [0, \xi_+)$, we have $Gy < \xi_+$. In fact, let $y \in [0, \xi_+) \subset [0, \frac{m}{\beta_{m-1}})$. If $y \geq a_m$, then

$$Gy = T_m y = \beta_m y - m < y < \xi_+.$$

If $y < a_m$, then there exists $k \in \{0, \dots, m-1\}$ such that $y \in [a_k, a_{k+1})$ and we have

$$Gy = T_k y < T_k(a_{k+1}) \leq \xi_+.$$

(2) follows in a way similar to (1) by using $a_k \leq b_{k-1} < b_k$ instead of $a_k < a_{k+1} \leq b_k$ for all $k \in \{1, \dots, m\}$. \square

Proof of Theorem 1.3. (1) ① Suppose that w is the greedy $(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m)$ -expansion of x and $w_n < m$. Then $G^{n-1}x \in [a_{w_n}, a_{w_n+1})$ and

$$G^n x = G(G^{n-1}x) = T_{w_n}(G^{n-1}x) < T_{w_n}(a_{w_n+1}) \leq \xi_+.$$

It follows from Lemma 3.1 (1) that $\sigma^n w \prec g^*(\xi_+)$.

② Suppose $w_n < m$. By Proposition 2.5 (1), we only need to prove $\pi(w_n w_{n+1} \dots) < a_{w_n+1}$, which is equivalent to $\pi(w_{n+1} w_{n+2} \dots) < T_{w_n}(a_{w_n+1})$.

For simplification, we use g_i^* to denote $g_i^*(\xi_-)$ for all $i \in \mathbb{N}$ in the following.

First by condition $\sigma^n w \prec g^*(\xi_-)$, we get $w_{n+1}w_{n+2}\cdots \prec g_1^*g_2^*\cdots$. Then there exist $s_1 \in \mathbb{N}$ and $n_1 = n + s_1$ such that

$$w_{n+1}\cdots w_{n_1-1} = g_1^*\cdots g_{s_1-1}^* \quad \text{and} \quad w_{n_1} < g_{s_1}^*.$$

By condition $\sigma^{n_1} w \prec g^*(\xi_-)$, we get $w_{n_1+1}w_{n_1+2}\cdots \prec g_1^*g_2^*\cdots$. Then there exist $s_2 \in \mathbb{N}$ and $n_2 = n_1 + s_2$ such that

$$w_{n_1+1}\cdots w_{n_2-1} = g_1^*\cdots g_{s_2-1}^* \quad \text{and} \quad w_{n_2} < g_{s_2}^*.$$

For general $j \geq 2$, if there already exist $s_j \in \mathbb{N}$ and $n_j = n_{j-1} + s_j$ such that

$$w_{n_{j-1}+1}\cdots w_{n_j-1} = g_1^*\cdots g_{s_j-1}^* \quad \text{and} \quad w_{n_j} < g_{s_j}^*,$$

by condition $\sigma^{n_j} w \prec g^*(\xi_-)$ we get $w_{n_j+1}w_{n_j+2}\cdots \prec g_1^*g_2^*\cdots$. Then there exist $s_{j+1} \in \mathbb{N}$ and $n_{j+1} = n_j + s_{j+1}$ such that

$$w_{n_j+1}\cdots w_{n_{j+1}-1} = g_1^*\cdots g_{s_{j+1}-1}^* \quad \text{and} \quad w_{n_{j+1}} < g_{s_{j+1}}^*.$$

For all $i \geq 1$, s_i and n_i are well defined by the above process. Since

$$\pi(w_{n+1}w_{n+2}\cdots) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{\pi(w_{n_i+1}\cdots w_{n_{i+1}})}{\beta_{w_{n+1}}\beta_{w_{n+2}}\cdots\beta_{w_{n_i}}}$$

and

$$T_{w_n}(a_{w_{n+1}}) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{T_{w_{n_i}}(a_{w_{n_i+1}})}{\beta_{w_{n+1}}\beta_{w_{n+2}}\cdots\beta_{w_{n_i}}} - \frac{T_{w_{n_{i+1}}}(a_{w_{n_{i+1}+1}})}{\beta_{w_{n+1}}\beta_{w_{n+2}}\cdots\beta_{w_{n_{i+1}}}} \right)$$

where $n_0 := n$ and $\beta_{w_{n+1}}\beta_{w_{n+2}}\cdots\beta_{w_{n_0}} := 1$, we only need to prove

$$\pi(w_{n_i+1}\cdots w_{n_{i+1}}) < T_{w_{n_i}}(a_{w_{n_i+1}}) - \frac{T_{w_{n_{i+1}}}(a_{w_{n_{i+1}+1}})}{\beta_{w_{n_{i+1}}}\beta_{w_{n_{i+2}}}\cdots\beta_{w_{n_{i+1}}}},$$

$$\text{i.e., } \pi(w_{n_i+1}\cdots w_{n_{i+1}-1}) + \frac{a_{w_{n_i+1}}}{\beta_{w_{n_i+1}}\beta_{w_{n_i+2}}\cdots\beta_{w_{n_{i+1}-1}}} < T_{w_{n_i}}(a_{w_{n_i+1}}) - \frac{a_{w_{n_{i+1}+1}} - a_{w_{n_i+1}}}{\beta_{w_{n_{i+1}}}\beta_{w_{n_{i+2}}}\cdots\beta_{w_{n_{i+1}-1}}},$$

$$\text{i.e., } \pi(w_{n_i+1}\cdots w_{n_{i+1}-1}) + \frac{a_{w_{n_i+1}+1}}{\beta_{w_{n_i+1}}\beta_{w_{n_i+2}}\cdots\beta_{w_{n_{i+1}-1}}} < T_{w_{n_i}}(a_{w_{n_i+1}}) \quad \text{for all } i \geq 0.$$

In fact, for all $i \geq 0$, by $w_{n_i+1}\cdots w_{n_{i+1}-1} = g_1^*\cdots g_{s_{i+1}-1}^*$ and $w_{n_{i+1}} + 1 \leq g_{s_{i+1}}^*$ (which implies $a_{w_{n_{i+1}+1}} \leq a_{g_{s_{i+1}}^*}$), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \pi(w_{n_i+1}\cdots w_{n_{i+1}-1}) + \frac{a_{w_{n_i+1}+1}}{\beta_{w_{n_i+1}}\beta_{w_{n_i+2}}\cdots\beta_{w_{n_{i+1}-1}}} &\leq \pi(g_1^*\cdots g_{s_{i+1}-1}^*) + \frac{a_{g_{s_{i+1}}^*}}{\beta_{g_1^*}\beta_{g_2^*}\cdots\beta_{g_{s_{i+1}-1}^*}} \\ &= \pi(g_1^*\cdots g_{s_{i+1}}^*) \\ &\stackrel{(\star)}{<} \pi(g^*(\xi_-)) = \xi_- \leq T_{w_{n_i}}(a_{w_{n_i+1}}), \end{aligned}$$

where (\star) follows from the fact that $g^*(\xi_-)$ does not end with 0^∞ (by Proposition 2.5 (2)).

(2) follows in a way similar to (1).

(3) follows immediately from (1), (2) and Proposition 2.6 (1). \square

Corollary 1.4 follows directly from Theorem 1.3.

Corollary 1.5 follows from Theorem 1.3, the facts that $\beta_0 \leq \beta_1 \leq \cdots \leq \beta_m$ implies $\xi_+ \leq 1$ and $\eta_- \geq \frac{m}{\beta_m-1} - 1$, $\beta_0 \geq \beta_1 \geq \cdots \geq \beta_m$ implies $\xi_- \geq 1$ and $\eta_+ \leq \frac{m}{\beta_m-1} - 1$, and the increase of g^* and l^* (by Proposition 2.8 (4)).

Proof of Corollary 1.6. (1) follows immediately from Corollary 1.5 and Proposition 2.12.

(2) ① \Rightarrow follows from Lemma 3.1 (1), in which $\xi_+ = 1$ and $p = 0$.

\Leftarrow First by (1) ①, we know that w is the greedy expansion $g(x)$. Then it follows from $g(x) = w < g^*(1) \leq g(1)$ and the strictly increase of g (by Proposition 2.8 (4)) that $x < 1$.

② \Rightarrow follows from Proposition 2.12 and Lemma 3.1 (2), in which $\eta_- = \frac{m}{\beta-1} - 1$ and $q = 0$.

\Leftarrow First by (1) ②, we know that w is the lazy expansion $l(x)$. Then it follows from $l(x) = w > \overline{g^*(1)} = l^*(\frac{m}{\beta-1} - 1) \geq l(\frac{m}{\beta-1} - 1)$ and the strictly increase of l (by Proposition 2.8 (4)) that $x > \frac{m}{\beta-1} - 1$.

③ follows from ①, ② and Proposition 2.6 (1). \square

4. FURTHER QUESTIONS

On the one hand, although necessary and sufficient conditions for sequences to be greedy, lazy and unique expansions in two bases and one base are obtained in Corollary 1.4 and 1.6 respectively, for general cases, i.e., in more than two bases, Theorem 1.3 and Corollary 1.5 can only give necessary conditions and sufficient conditions separately. We look forward to getting necessary and sufficient conditions for general cases.

On the other hand, in our main results, including Theorem 1.3, Corollary 1.4, 1.5 and 1.6, we can see that some special expansions of $\xi_+, \xi_-, \eta_+, \eta_-, 1$ and $\frac{m}{\beta_{m-1}} - 1$ play important roles in determining greedy, lazy and unique expansions of general x . Thus we think that it is meaningful to characterize the greedy, quasi-greedy, lazy, quasi-lazy and unique expansions of $\xi_+, \xi_-, \eta_+, \eta_-, 1$ and $\frac{m}{\beta_{m-1}} - 1$ in multiple bases, especially in combinatorial ways. See [17] for combinatorial characterizations of greedy, lazy and unique expansions of 1 in one base.

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