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ALGEBRABILITY AND NOWHERE GEVREY DIFFERENTIABILITY

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ABSTRACT. We show that there exist \mathfrak{c} -generated algebras (and dense in $C^\infty([0, 1])$) every nonzero element of which is a nowhere Gevrey differentiable function. This leads to results of dense algebrability (and, therefore, lineability) of functions enjoying this property. In the process of proving these results we also provide a new construction of nowhere Gevrey differentiable functions.

1. INTRODUCTION AND PRELIMINARIES

The work presented here is a contribution to the ongoing search for large algebraic structures of functions on $[0, 1]$ or \mathbb{R} enjoying *special* properties. Given such a property, we say that the subset M of functions which satisfies it is *lineable* if $M \cup \{0\}$ contains an infinite dimensional linear (not necessarily closed) space. The concept of lineability was coined by V. I. Gurariy and it first appeared in [1]. In a more general framework we have the following.

Definition 1.1 (Lineability, [1]). *Let X be a topological vector space, M a subset of X , and κ a cardinal number.*

- (1) *M is said to be κ -lineable if $M \cup \{0\}$ contains a vector space of dimension κ . At times, we shall be referring to the set M as simply lineable if the existing subspace is infinite dimensional.*
- (2) *We also let $\lambda(M)$ be the maximum cardinality (if it exists) of such a vector space.*
- (3) *When the above linear space can be chosen to be dense in X we shall say that M is κ -dense-lineable (or, simply, dense-lineable if κ is infinite).*

Let us recall that (keeping the same notation as in the previous definition) we shall also say that M is *spaceable* ([1]) if $M \cup \{0\}$ contains an infinite dimensional closed subspace of X .

Remark 1.2. (a.) *Let us recall that the $\lambda(M)$ from Definition 1.1 might actually not exist. It is not difficult to provide natural examples of sets which are n -lineable for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$ but which are not lineable. For instance, let $j_1 \leq k_1 < j_2 \leq \dots \leq k_m < j_{m+1} \leq \dots$ be positive integers and let $M = \cup_m \{ \sum_{i=j_m}^{k_m} a_i x^i : a_i \in \mathbb{R} \}$. Since*

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the sets $\{\sum_{i=j_m}^{k_m} a_i x^i : a_i \in \mathbb{R}\}$ ($m \in \mathbb{N}$) are pairwise disjoint, M is finitely (but not infinitely) lineable in $\mathcal{C}([0, 1])$, the set of continuous functions in $[0, 1]$.

(b.) Let us recall that, in [8], the authors introduced the lineability number of a set M as follows

$$L(M) = \min\{\kappa : M \text{ is not } \kappa\text{-lineable}\}.$$

This number always exists and $L(M) = \lambda(M)^+$ (the successor cardinal of $\lambda(M)$).

Since this concept appeared, it has attracted the attention of many authors, who became interested in the study of subsets of $\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{R}}$ enjoying certain special or, as they sometimes are called, “*pathological*” properties (see, e.g., [1, 11, 13–15, 19] and references therein). Before the publication of [1], several authors (when working with infinite dimensional spaces) already found large linear structures enjoying these type of special properties (even though they did not explicitly use the word lineability). We believe that the earliest result in this direction (although negative!) was due to Levine and Milman (1940, [27]):

Theorem 1.3. *The subset of $\mathcal{C}([0, 1])$ of all functions of bounded variation is not spaceable.*

On the other hand, in 1966, Gurariy [23] obtained the following (positive) result within the framework of continuous nowhere differentiable functions (Weierstrass’ *monsters*).

Theorem 1.4. *The set of continuous nowhere differentiable functions on $[0, 1]$ is lineable.*

Afterwards, Fonf, Gurariy, and Kadeč [20] showed that the infinite dimensional subspace from Theorem 1.4 can be chosen to be closed in $\mathcal{C}([0, 1])$. As a matter of fact, Rodríguez-Piazza [29] showed that the space constructed in [20] can also be chosen to be isometrically isomorphic to any separable Banach space. More recently, Hencl [25] showed that any separable Banach space is isometrically isomorphic to a subspace of $\mathcal{C}([0, 1])$ whose nonzero elements are nowhere approximately differentiable and nowhere Hölder. We refer the interested reader to the recent expository paper [13] where many more examples can be found and the state of the art of this trend is presented.

Let us also recall that, recently, Bernal [12] introduced the notion of *maximal lineable* (and that of *maximal dense-lineable*) meaning that, when keeping the above notation, the dimension of the existing linear space is equal to $\dim(X)$. Besides asking for linear spaces one could also study other structures, such as algebras, which motivated the following concept.

Definition 1.5 (Algebrability and Strong-algebrability, [3, 4] and [7]). *Given an algebra \mathcal{A} and a subset $\mathcal{B} \subset \mathcal{A}$, we say that:*

- (1) \mathcal{B} is algebrable if there is a subalgebra \mathcal{C} of \mathcal{A} so that $\mathcal{C} \subset \mathcal{B} \cup \{0\}$ and the cardinality of any system of generators of \mathcal{C} is infinite.
- (2) When having \mathcal{A} endowed with a topology, we would say that \mathcal{B} is dense-algebrable if (in addition) \mathcal{C} can be taken dense in \mathcal{A} .
- (3) At times we shall say that \mathcal{B} is, simply, κ -algebrable if there exists a κ -generated subalgebra \mathcal{C} of \mathcal{A} with $\mathcal{C} \subset \mathcal{B} \cup \{0\}$ (where κ is some cardinal number).
- (4) We also say that \mathcal{B} is strongly κ -algebrable if there exists a κ -generated free algebra \mathcal{C} contained in $\mathcal{B} \cup \{0\}$.

Of course, any algebrable set is, automatically, lineable as well. In general, the converse is false. An example of this can be the set of (improper) Riemann integrable functions on \mathbb{R} (see, e.g., [30]) that are not Lebesgue integrable, denoted $\mathcal{R}(\mathbb{R}) \setminus \mathcal{L}(\mathbb{R})$. This set is lineable (see [22]) but it is also clearly not algebrable. Indeed, for every $f \in \mathcal{R}(\mathbb{R})$, either $f^2 \notin \mathcal{R}(\mathbb{R})$ or $f^2 = |f^2| \in \mathcal{R}(\mathbb{R})$ and, therefore, $f^2 \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbb{R})$. Some of the first examples of algebrable sets appeared in [4, 10].

Remark 1.6. *As we did in Remark 1.2, (b.), one could also define the following algebrability number:*

$$\min\{\kappa : M \text{ is not } \kappa\text{-algebrable}\}.$$

Of course, the same definition can also be used for strong-algebrability.

Here we shall focus on a very particular class of functions, the so called nowhere Gevrey differentiable functions. In what follows, $\mathcal{C}^\infty([0, 1])$ denotes the Fréchet space of the functions of class \mathcal{C}^∞ on $[0, 1]$, endowed with the sequence $(p_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}_0}$ of semi-norms defined by

$$p_k(f) = \sup_{j \leq k} \sup_{x \in [0, 1]} |f^{(j)}(x)|$$

or, equivalently, with the distance d defined by

$$d(f, g) = \sum_{k=0}^{+\infty} 2^{-k} \frac{p_k(f - g)}{1 + p_k(f - g)}.$$

Following [17] we have:

Definition 1.7 (Gevrey differentiable function). *For a real number $s > 0$ and an open subset Ω of \mathbb{R} an infinitely differentiable function f in Ω is said to be Gevrey differentiable of order s at $x_0 \in \Omega$ if there exist a compact neighborhood I of x_0 and constants $C, h > 0$ such that*

$$\sup_{x \in I} |f^{(n)}(x)| \leq Ch^n (n!)^s, \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}.$$

Clearly, if a function is Gevrey differentiable of order s at x_0 , it is also Gevrey differentiable of any order $s' > s$ at x_0 (the case $s = 1$ corresponds to analyticity). On the other hand:

Definition 1.8 (nowhere Gevrey differentiable function). *A function f is said to be nowhere Gevrey differentiable (NG from now on) on \mathbb{R} if f is not Gevrey differentiable of order s at x_0 , for every $s > 1$ and every $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}$.*

Recall that (following [26]) a Borel set B in a complete metric linear space E is said to be *shy* if there exists a Borel probability measure μ on E with compact support such that $\mu(B + x) = 0$ for any $x \in E$. A set is said to be *prevalent* if it is the complement of a shy set. Also, if X is a Baire space, then a subset $A \subset X$ is called *residual* (or *comeager*) if A contains some dense G_δ subset of X .

Any nowhere Gevrey differentiable function is, in particular, nowhere analytic. The set of nowhere analytic functions in $\mathcal{C}^\infty([0, 1])$ is known to be prevalent ([9]), residual ([28]), lineable ([11]), and even algebrable ([18]). In [9] it was also shown that the set of nowhere Gevrey differentiable functions in $\mathcal{C}^\infty([0, 1])$ is

- (i) a prevalent subset of $\mathcal{C}^\infty([0, 1])$ and
- (ii) a residual subset of $\mathcal{C}^\infty([0, 1])$.

Thus (in [9]) the authors obtained “genericity” in both the measure-theoretical and the topological senses. On the other hand nothing is known about the algebraic structure of the set NG. One might think that since NG enjoys such a rich Borel structure, it might also contains large algebraic structures (linear spaces, algebras, etc.) This is, in general, not true. For instance, in [24] it was proved that if $\widehat{\mathcal{C}}([0, 1])$ denotes the subset of $\mathcal{C}([0, 1])$ composed by the functions that attain the maximum exactly once in $[0, 1]$, then $\lambda(\widehat{\mathcal{C}}([0, 1])) = 1$ and, contrary to what one might expect, $\widehat{\mathcal{C}}([0, 1])$ is a dense G_δ subset of $\mathcal{C}([0, 1])$ (see [16, Proposition A]). Thus, there is no immediate implication between being residual and containing large subspaces.

In this paper we shall settle this question for the set of nowhere Gevrey differentiable functions. First of all, we give a direct proof of the maximal-dense-lineability of NG in $\mathcal{C}^\infty([0, 1])$ (Section 2). To achieve this result we use *any* nowhere Gevrey differentiable function (see for example [9] for an explicit construction). However, to tackle the problem of algebrability, a more precise knowledge of a very particular “key” function in NG is needed. Following some ideas from [17, 18] we are able construct a (real valued) infinitely differentiable nowhere Gevrey differentiable function. This construction allows us to prove the maximal-dense-algebrability of the set of nowhere Gevrey differentiable functions in $\mathcal{C}^\infty([0, 1])$ (Section 3). We also obtain that $\lambda(\text{NG}) = \mathfrak{c}$ (the continuum), which is the best possible result in terms of dimension since the set of continuous functions has cardinality \mathfrak{c} .

Throughout this paper C_j^k denotes the binomial coefficient $\frac{j!}{k!(j-k)!}$, \mathbb{N} is the set of strictly positive natural numbers and $\mathbb{N}_0 = \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$. Also, $\lfloor x \rfloor$ stands for the largest integer smaller than x . The rest of the notation shall be rather usual.

2. ALGEBRABILITY OF NG

The aim of this section is to prove that the set NG is, both, strongly-algebrable and dense-lineable in $\mathcal{C}^\infty([0, 1])$ and that $\lambda(\text{NG}) = \mathfrak{c}$. This result is, of course, a consequence of the dense-algebrability of NG in $\mathcal{C}^\infty([0, 1])$ (section 3). Nevertheless, the dense-lineability is here directly obtained, using *any* function belonging to NG; this is the reason why we show it here as well, to illustrate the differences that one might encounter when dealing with dense-lineability and dense-algebrability.

Proposition 2.1. *For every $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$, let $e_\alpha(x) = \exp(\alpha x)$, $x \in \mathbb{R}$. If f is nowhere Gevrey differentiable on \mathbb{R} , if $a_1, \dots, a_N \in \mathbb{C}$ are not all equal to 0 and if $\alpha_1 < \dots < \alpha_N$ are real numbers, then the function*

$$g = \sum_{j=1}^N a_j f e_{\alpha_j}$$

is nowhere Gevrey differentiable on \mathbb{R} . It follows that NG is strongly-algebrable.

The proof of this previous result employs the so-called *exponential-like function method*. This method was used in [21], rediscovered in [5] and, recently, studied in depth in [6]. Using the fact that the composition of Gevrey functions is still Gevrey (see [31]) and following the lines of the proof of [6, Theorem 5.10], as well as the functions given in the statement of the Theorem, the result follows (we spare the details of its proof to the interested reader, since in Section 3 we shall give an improvement of this result).

Of course, as an immediate corollary, we have:

Corollary 2.2. *NG is lineable in $C^\infty([0, 1])$.*

Lemma 2.3. *If \mathcal{P} denotes the set of polynomials, then $\mathcal{P} + \text{NG} \subset \text{NG}$.*

Proof. Let us consider $g \in \text{NG}$ and P a polynomial. We proceed by contradiction. Assume that $g + P$ is Gevrey differentiable of order $s > 0$ at $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}$. Since P is analytic at x_0 , P is also Gevrey differentiable of order s at x_0 and the same holds for $g = (g + P) - P$ hence a contradiction. \square

In order to obtain the dense-lineability of NG in $C^\infty([0, 1])$ let us recall the following result.

Proposition 2.4 (Theorem 2.2 and Remark 2.5, [2]). *Let X be a metrizable topological vector space and consider two subsets A, B of X such that A is lineable and B is dense-lineable in X . If $A + B \subset A$, then A is dense-lineable in X .*

With this result at hand, we can now infer the following.

Proposition 2.5. *The set NG is dense-lineable in $C^\infty([0, 1])$.*

Proof. It follows directly from Corollary 2.2, Lemma 2.3, and Proposition 2.4. \square

Next, let us show that the lineability dimension of NG is the largest possible one.

Proposition 2.6. $\lambda(\text{NG}) = \mathfrak{c}$.

Proof. Let us fix a function $f \in \text{NG}$. As before, we consider

$$\mathcal{D} = \text{span}\{fe_\alpha : \alpha \in [0, 1]\},$$

where $e_\alpha(x) = \exp(\alpha x)$. From Proposition 2.1, we just have to show that $\dim \mathcal{D} = \mathfrak{c}$. For this, it suffices to show that the functions fe_α , $\alpha \in [0, 1]$, are linearly independent. Let us assume that it is not the case. Then there exist $c_1, \dots, c_N \in \mathbb{C}$ not all zero, and $\alpha_1 < \dots < \alpha_N$ in $[0, 1]$ such that $c_1 fe_{\alpha_1} + \dots + c_N fe_{\alpha_N} = 0$ on $[0, 1]$, i.e., $f(c_1 e_{\alpha_1} + \dots + c_N e_{\alpha_N}) = 0$ on $[0, 1]$. Since the functions $e_{\alpha_1}, \dots, e_{\alpha_N}$ are linearly independent ([11, Theorem 3.1]), there exists $x \in [0, 1]$ such that $c_1 e_{\alpha_1}(x) + \dots + c_N e_{\alpha_N}(x) \neq 0$. By continuity, there exists a subinterval $J \subset [0, 1]$ such that $c_1 e_{\alpha_1} + \dots + c_N e_{\alpha_N} \neq 0$ on $[0, 1]$. It follows that $f = 0$ on J , which is impossible since f is nowhere Gevrey differentiable. \square

3. DENSE-ALGEBRABILITY OF NG

The strategy to tackle the algebrability problem will be different from that of the previous section. Here, we shall need a very particular NG function. We can achieve this (see Proposition 3.1) by means of a function defined as a series, in which the n^{th} term is built via a special function which is Gevrey differentiable of order n on \mathbb{R} .

For any $s > 1$, let f_s denotes the function defined on \mathbb{R} by

$$f_s(x) = \begin{cases} \exp\left(-x^{-\frac{1}{s-1}}\right) & \text{if } x > 0, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

In [17], it is proved that f_s is Gevrey differentiable of order s on \mathbb{R} . Let us consider the function ψ_s defined on \mathbb{R} by

$$\psi_s(x) = f_s(x)f_s(1-x).$$

The function ψ_s is Gevrey differentiable of order s on \mathbb{R} , analytic on $]0, 1[$, the support of ψ_s is $[0, 1]$ and $D^p\psi_s(0) = D^p\psi_s(1) = 0$ for every $p \in \mathbb{N}_0$ (i.e. ψ is flat at 0 and 1). Consequently, for every $n \geq 2$, there exist $D_n > 0$ and $h_n > 0$ such that

$$\sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}} |D^p \psi_n(x)| \leq D_n (h_n)^p (p!)^n \quad \forall p \in \mathbb{N}_0.$$

Keeping the previous notation, we have:

Proposition 3.1. *The function ρ defined by*

$$\rho(x) = \sum_{n=2}^{+\infty} C_n \psi_n(2^n x - \lfloor 2^n x \rfloor)$$

for every $x \in \mathbb{R}$, where $C_n = (D_n (h_n 2^n n!)^n)^{-1}$, is nowhere Gevrey differentiable on \mathbb{R} .

Proof. Due to the flatness of ψ_n at 0 and 1, the function $x \mapsto \psi_n(2^n x - \lfloor 2^n x \rfloor)$ belongs to $\mathcal{C}^\infty(\mathbb{R})$ for every $n \geq 2$. Moreover, for every p , from the choice of the coefficients C_n , the series $\sum_{n=2}^{+\infty} C_n 2^{np} \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}} |D^p \psi_n(x)|$ converges. Therefore, we obtain that the function ρ belongs to $\mathcal{C}^\infty(\mathbb{R})$.

Let us show that ρ is nowhere Gevrey differentiable. The set Q of all points of the form $2^{-m}k$, where $m \geq 3$ is a natural number and k is an odd number, is dense in \mathbb{R} . Therefore, it suffices to show that ρ is not Gevrey differentiable of any order at each point of Q . On the contrary, assume that ρ is Gevrey differentiable of order $s > 1$ at some point $x_0 \in Q$. Let $x_0 = 2^{-m_0}k_0$. Then for $n \in \{2, \dots, m_0 - 1\}$, the function $\psi_n(2^n x - \lfloor 2^n x \rfloor)$ is analytic at x_0 and hence Gevrey differentiable of order s at x_0 . Consequently, the function

$$\Theta_{m_0}(x) := \sum_{n=m_0}^{+\infty} C_n \psi_n(2^n x - \lfloor 2^n x \rfloor) = \rho(x) - \sum_{n=2}^{m_0-1} C_n \psi_n(2^n x - \lfloor 2^n x \rfloor)$$

is also Gevrey differentiable of order s at x_0 . Since Θ_{m_0} is periodic of period 2^{-m_0} , we can assume that $x_0 = 0$. Then, there exist $\varepsilon > 0$, $C > 0$ and $h > 0$ such that

$$\sup_{|x| \leq \varepsilon} |D^p \Theta_{m_0}(x)| \leq Ch^p (p!)^s \quad \forall p \in \mathbb{N}_0.$$

Since each derivative of Θ_{m_0} at 0 is equal to 0, Taylor's formula gives that for every $x \in \mathbb{R}$ and every $p \in \mathbb{N}$, there exists a real number ξ between 0 and x such that

$$\Theta_{m_0}(x) = \frac{D^p \Theta_{m_0}(\xi)}{p!} x^p.$$

Then, we have

$$0 \leq \Theta_{m_0}(x) \leq Cx^p h^p (p!)^{s-1} \quad \forall p \in \mathbb{N}, \quad \forall 0 < x \leq \varepsilon,$$

and it follows that

$$0 \leq C_n \psi_n(2^n x - \lfloor 2^n x \rfloor) \leq Cx^p h^p (p!)^{s-1}$$

for every $p \in \mathbb{N}$, $n \geq m_0$ and $0 < x \leq \varepsilon$. Let us fix n large enough such that $n \geq s$, $n \geq m_0$ and $h2^{-n}e < 1$. For every $p \in \mathbb{N}$, we define then $x_p := 2^{-n}p^{-(n-1)}$. For p sufficiently large, we have $0 < x_p < \varepsilon$ and we obtain then

$$0 \leq C_n \psi_n(p^{-(n-1)}) \leq Ch^p 2^{-np} p^{-p(n-1)} (p!)^{s-1},$$

where $\psi_n(p^{-(n-1)}) = e^{-p} f_n(1 - p^{-(n-1)})$. Consequently, we have

$$C_n f_n(1 - p^{-(n-1)}) \leq Ch^p 2^{-np} e^p (p^{-p} p!)^{s-1}.$$

for every p large enough. The left-hand side converges to $C_n f_n(1) = C_n e^{-1} > 0$ and the right-hand side converges to 0 when $p \rightarrow +\infty$. This leads to a contradiction. \square

The following proposition improves Proposition 2.1. It is the second key of the main result in this section.

Proposition 3.2. *If F_1, \dots, F_N are analytic on \mathbb{R} and not all identically equal to 0, and if ρ is the function from Proposition 3.1, then the function*

$$g = \sum_{i=1}^N F_i \rho^i$$

is nowhere Gevrey differentiable on \mathbb{R} .

Proof. As previously, consider the set Q of all points of the form $2^{-m}k$, where $m \geq 3$ is a natural number and k is an odd number. Since Q is dense in \mathbb{R} , we just have to show that g is not Gevrey differentiable of any order at each point of Q . On the contrary, assume that g is Gevrey differentiable of order $s > 1$ at some point $x_0 = 2^{-m_0}k_0$.

Recall that we do not necessarily have flatness of ρ at x_0 . This is the reason why we set

$$A_{m_0}(x) := \sum_{n=2}^{m_0-1} C_n \psi_n(2^n x - \lfloor 2^n x \rfloor) \quad \text{and} \quad \Theta_{m_0}(x) := \sum_{n=m_0}^{+\infty} C_n \psi_n(2^n x - \lfloor 2^n x \rfloor)$$

for every $x \in \mathbb{R}$. Then, A_{m_0} is analytic at x_0 and that Θ_{m_0} is flat at x_0 . Of course, we also have

$$\rho = A_{m_0} + \Theta_{m_0}$$

and it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} g(x) &= \sum_{i=1}^N F_i(x) (A_{m_0}(x) + \Theta_{m_0}(x))^i = \sum_{i=1}^N F_i(x) \sum_{j=0}^i C_i^j (A_{m_0}(x))^{i-j} (\Theta_{m_0}(x))^j \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^N F_i(x) (A_{m_0}(x))^i + \sum_{i=1}^N F_i(x) \sum_{j=1}^i C_i^j (A_{m_0}(x))^{i-j} (\Theta_{m_0}(x))^j \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^N F_i(x) (A_{m_0}(x))^i + \sum_{j=1}^N \left(\sum_{i=j}^N F_i(x) C_i^j (A_{m_0}(x))^{i-j} \right) (\Theta_{m_0}(x))^j \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^N F_i(x) (A_{m_0}(x))^i + \sum_{j=1}^N c_j(x) (\Theta_{m_0}(x))^j, \end{aligned}$$

where for every $j \in \{1, \dots, N\}$

$$c_j(x) := \sum_{i=j}^N F_i(x) C_i^j (A_{m_0}(x))^{i-j}.$$

Let us fix a neighborhood V of x_0 and let us show that there exists $j \in \{1, \dots, N\}$ such that c_j is not identically 0 in V . We proceed by contradiction. Assume that $c_j(x) = 0$ for every $j \in \{1, \dots, N\}$ and $x \in V$. This would mean that

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & C_2^1 A_{m_0}(x) & \cdots & C_N^1 (A_{m_0}(x))^{N-1} \\ 0 & 1 & \cdots & C_N^2 (A_{m_0}(x))^{N-2} \\ 0 & 0 & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & C_N^{N-1} A_{m_0}(x) \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} F_1(x) \\ F_2(x) \\ \vdots \\ F_N(x) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

for every $x \in V$. Since F_1, \dots, F_N are not all identically equal to 0, there is $x \in V$ and $j \in \{1, \dots, N\}$ such that $F_j(x) \neq 0$, which gives a contradiction since the matrix is invertible. Let k be the smallest element of $\{1, \dots, N\}$ for which c_k is not identically equal to 0 on V . Then, in this neighborhood, we have

$$g(x) = \sum_{i=1}^N F_i(x) (A_{m_0}(x))^i + \sum_{j=k}^N c_j(x) (\Theta_{m_0}(x))^j.$$

Since $\sum_{i=1}^N F_i(x)(A_{m_0}(x))^i$ is analytic at x_0 and since g is Gevrey differentiable of order s at x_0 , we have that the function

$$\Phi_{m_0}(x) := \sum_{j=k}^N c_j(x)(\Theta_{m_0}(x))^j$$

is also Gevrey differentiable of order s at x_0 . Then, there exist $\varepsilon > 0$, $C > 0$, and $h > 0$ such that

$$\sup_{|x-x_0| \leq \varepsilon} |D^p \Phi_{m_0}(x)| \leq Ch^p(p!)^s \quad \forall p \in \mathbb{N}_0.$$

From the flatness of Θ_{m_0} at x_0 , we also get that Φ_{m_0} is flat at x_0 . Then, by Taylor's formula, for every $x \in \mathbb{R}$ and every $p \in \mathbb{N}$, there is ξ between x and x_0 such that

$$\Phi_{m_0}(x) = \frac{D^p \Phi_{m_0}(\xi)}{p!} (x - x_0)^p.$$

Consequently, we have

$$|\Phi_{m_0}(x)| \leq Ch^p(p!)^{s-1} |x - x_0|^p$$

for every x such that $|x - x_0| \leq \varepsilon$ and for every $p \in \mathbb{N}$.

Recall that the function c_k is analytic at x_0 and not identically equal to 0 in a neighborhood of x_0 . Thus, there exists $J \in \mathbb{N}_0$ and d_k analytic at x_0 with $d_k(x_0) \neq 0$ and such that

$$c_k(x) = (x - x_0)^J d_k(x)$$

in a neighborhood of x_0 . Let us fix $n \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $n > s$, $n \geq m_0$ and $he^k 2^{-n} < 1$.

As before, we consider $x_p := x_0 + 2^{-n} p^{-(s_0-1)}$ for every $p \in \mathbb{N}$. Then, on one hand, we have

$$\frac{\Phi_{m_0}(x_p)}{(\Theta_{m_0}(x_p))^k (x_p - x_0)^J} = d_k(x_p) + \sum_{j=k+1}^N c_j(x_p) \frac{(\Theta_{m_0}(x_p))^{j-k}}{(x_p - x_0)^J}$$

which converges to $d_k(x_0) \neq 0$ as p goes to infinity (the second term of the sum converges to 0 since Θ_{m_0} is flat at x_0). On the other hand, for p large enough, we have $|x_p - x_0| \leq \varepsilon$ and it follows that

$$|\Phi_{m_0}(x_p)| \leq Ch^p(p!)^{s-1} |x_p - x_0|^p.$$

Moreover, for p large enough, we have $2^n x_p - \lfloor 2^n x_p \rfloor = p^{-(n-1)}$ and $f_n(1 - p^{-(n-1)})$ converges to $f_n(1) = e^{-1} > 0$ if p goes to infinity. Therefore, we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{\Phi_{m_0}(x_p)}{(\Theta_{m_0}(x_p))^k (x_p - x_0)^J} \right| &\leq \frac{Ch^p(p!)^{s-1} |x_p - x_0|^p}{\left(C_n \psi_n(2^n x_p - \lfloor 2^n x_p \rfloor) \right)^k |x_p - x_0|^J} \\ &= \frac{Ch^p(p!)^{s-1} 2^{-n(p-J)} p^{-(p-J)(n-1)}}{\left(C_n e^{-p} f_n(1 - p^{-(n-1)}) \right)^k} \\ &\leq \frac{C2^{nJ}}{\left(C_n f_n(1 - p^{-(n-1)}) \right)^k} \left(\frac{p!}{p^p} \right)^{n-1} p^{J(n-1)} \left(h e^k 2^{-n} \right)^p, \end{aligned}$$

which converges to 0 as p goes to infinity. This contradiction gives the conclusion. \square

Let \mathcal{H} denote a Hamel basis of \mathbb{R} , let \mathcal{A} be an algebra generated by the functions ρe_α with $\alpha \in \mathcal{H}$ and $e_\alpha(x) = \exp(\alpha x)$. Then f of \mathcal{A} if and only if f is of the form

$$f = \sum_{l=1}^L a_l \rho^{n_l} e_{\beta_l}$$

where $L \in \mathbb{N}$, $a_l \in \mathbb{R}$ for all $l \in \{1, \dots, L\}$, and $\beta_l \neq \beta_{l'}$ if $l \neq l'$.

Proposition 3.3. *\mathcal{A} is a \mathfrak{c} -generated free algebra contained in $\text{NG} \cup \{0\}$.*

Proof. By Proposition 3.2, $\mathcal{A} \subset \text{NG} \cup \{0\}$. Using the periodicity of ρ and the properties of Vandermonde determinants, we obtain that the functions $\rho^{n_l} e_{\beta_l}$ are linearly independent. \square

In order to obtain strongly dense-algebraability of NG , we are now going to modify a little bit the definition of the previous algebra as explained in what follows. First we need some additional notations and a lemma.

Let $\alpha_m \in \mathbb{R}$ ($m \in \mathbb{N}$). Using the continuity of the multiplication by scalars, for every m , we take $k_m > 0$ such that $d(0, k_m e_{\alpha_m} \rho) < \frac{1}{m}$. Let also P_m ($m \in \mathbb{N}$) be a dense sequence of polynomials in $\mathcal{C}^\infty([0, 1])$.

Lemma 3.4. *The family $\mathcal{G}_0 := \{P_m + k_m \rho e_{\alpha_m} : m \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is dense in $\mathcal{C}^\infty([0, 1])$.*

Proof. For every $f \in \mathcal{C}^\infty([0, 1])$ and for every m , we have

$$d(f, P_m + k_m e_{\alpha_m} \rho) \leq d(f, P_m) + d(0, k_m e_{\alpha_m} \rho) \leq d(f, P_m) + \frac{1}{m}.$$

Since there is a subsequence $M(k) \in \mathbb{N}$ ($k \in \mathbb{N}$) such that $\lim_k d(f, P_{M(k)}) = 0$, we conclude. \square

Now, take a sequence of different elements $\alpha_m \in \mathcal{H}$ ($m \in \mathbb{N}$) and define $k_\alpha = 1$, $P_\alpha = 0$ for $\alpha \in \mathcal{H} \setminus \{\alpha_m : m \in \mathbb{N}\}$. The ‘‘candidate’’ we are looking for is the algebra \mathcal{A}_d generated by

$$\mathcal{G} := \{P_\alpha + k_\alpha \rho e_\alpha : \alpha \in \mathcal{H}\}.$$

Theorem 3.5. \mathcal{A}_d is a \mathfrak{c} -generated free dense-algebra (in $C^\infty([0, 1])$) and contained in $\text{NG} \cup \{0\}$.

Proof. On the one hand, since the set of generators \mathcal{G} contains \mathcal{G}_0 , Lemma 3.4 provides the density. On the other hand, the functions ρe_α ($\alpha \in \mathcal{H} \setminus \{\alpha_m : m \in \mathbb{N}\}$) are generators; using Proposition 3.3 we obtain the fact that \mathcal{A}_d is \mathfrak{c} -generated. It remains then to show that $\mathcal{A}_d \subset \text{NG} \cup \{0\}$. An element $f \neq 0$ of \mathcal{A}_d can be written as

$$f = \sum_{l=1}^L a_l \prod_{j=1}^J \left(P_{\gamma_j} + k_{\gamma_j} e_{\gamma_j} \rho \right)^{n(l,j)}$$

where $J, L \in \mathbb{N}$, $a_l \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$ for all $l \in \{1, \dots, L\}$, $\gamma_j \in \mathcal{H}$ for all $j \in \{1, \dots, J\}$ (with $\gamma_j \neq \gamma_{j'}$ if $j \neq j'$) and where $n(l, j) \in \mathbb{N}_0$ are such that $n(l, j) \neq n(l', j)$ for at least one j in case $l \neq l'$. As before, we set $\beta_l := \sum_{j=1}^J n(l, j) \gamma_j$ ($l \in \{1, \dots, L\}$) and we have $\beta_l \neq \beta_{l'}$ if $l \neq l'$.

For each $l \in \{1, \dots, L\}$, the term

$$\prod_{j=1}^J \left(P_{\gamma_j} + k_{\gamma_j} e_{\gamma_j} \rho \right)^{n(l,j)}$$

is a “polynomial” (with coefficients which are analytic functions) in the “variable” ρ ; the “degree” of this polynomial is $n_l = \sum_{j=1}^J n(l, j) \in \mathbb{N}$ and the coefficient of ρ^{n_l} is

$$c_l = \left(\prod_{j=1}^J k_{\gamma_j}^{n(l,j)} \right) e_{\beta_l}.$$

Let $N = \sup\{n_1, \dots, n_L\}$. The function f also appears as a “polynomial” (with coefficients which are analytic functions) in the “variable” ρ and the coefficient of the term with the highest power N is

$$F_N := \sum_{1 \leq l \leq L, n_l = N} a_l c_l = \sum_{1 \leq l \leq L, n_l = N} a_l \left(\prod_{j=1}^J k_{\gamma_j}^{n(l,j)} \right) e_{\beta_l}.$$

Since the coefficients a_l are not zero and since the β_l are different, F_N is not identically 0. Hence the conclusion using Proposition 3.2 and the fact that the sum of a polynomial and a NG function is still a NG function. \square

We would like to finish by pointing out some remarks. In the existing literature, many examples of continuous functions (enjoying certain pathological properties) were constructed within the framework of $\mathcal{C}([0, 1])$.

Of course, when it comes to spaceability, the results may differ very much from one another depending on which subspace of continuous functions we are considering. For instance, in 1966, a classical result by Gurariy [23] states the following.

Theorem. The set of everywhere differentiable functions on $[0, 1]$ is not spaceable in $\mathcal{C}([0, 1])$.

On the other hand, Gurariy also proved in [23] that there actually exist closed infinite dimensional subspaces of $\mathcal{C}([0, 1])$ all of whose members are differentiable on $]0, 1[$. However, Bernal [11, Theorem 4.4] showed that $\mathcal{C}^\infty(]0, 1[)$ is, indeed, spaceable in $\mathcal{C}(]0, 1[)$.

Next, we would like to recall that Proposition 2.5 and Theorem 3.5 in this paper can be easily adapted to the case of nowhere Gevrey differentiable functions in $\mathcal{C}^\infty(\mathbb{R})$ (and not just $[0, 1]$), since $\mathcal{C}^\infty(\mathbb{R})$ is also a Fréchet space and the polynomials are also dense in it (and, also, employing Theorem 2.2 and Remark 2.5 from [2] as well).

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