

Chains and antichains in the Weihrauch lattice

Steffen Lempp

University of Wisconsin-Madison

May 14, 2025

(joint work with Alberto Marcone and Manlio Valenti)

Fix a set \mathcal{O} of “computational objects” (e.g., $\mathcal{P}(\omega)$).

Fix a set \mathcal{O} of “computational objects” (e.g., $\mathcal{P}(\omega)$).

On \mathcal{O} , define a “reducibility”: a reflexive, transitive relation \leq_r , saying that an object can be “computed” from another (e.g., \leq_T).

Fix a set \mathcal{O} of “computational objects” (e.g., $\mathcal{P}(\omega)$).

On \mathcal{O} , define a “reducibility”: a reflexive, transitive relation \leq_r , saying that an object can be “computed” from another (e.g., \leq_T).

This induces an equivalence relation \equiv_r on \mathcal{O} .

The \equiv_r -equivalence classes are called *r-degrees*.

Fix a set \mathcal{O} of “computational objects” (e.g., $\mathcal{P}(\omega)$).

On \mathcal{O} , define a “reducibility”: a reflexive, transitive relation \leq_r , saying that an object can be “computed” from another (e.g., \leq_T).

This induces an equivalence relation \equiv_r on \mathcal{O} .

The \equiv_r -equivalence classes are called *r-degrees*.

A *degree structure* is a quotient \mathcal{O}/\equiv_r , partially ordered by the ordering induced by \leq_r . We study them as algebraic objects (i.e., as partial orders, possibly in an expanded language).

Fix a set \mathcal{O} of “computational objects” (e.g., $\mathcal{P}(\omega)$).

On \mathcal{O} , define a “reducibility”: a reflexive, transitive relation \leq_r , saying that an object can be “computed” from another (e.g., \leq_T).

This induces an equivalence relation \equiv_r on \mathcal{O} .

The \equiv_r -equivalence classes are called *r-degrees*.

A *degree structure* is a quotient \mathcal{O}/\equiv_r , partially ordered by the ordering induced by \leq_r . We study them as algebraic objects (i.e., as partial orders, possibly in an expanded language).

“Classical” degree structures (e.g., Turing degrees, enumeration degrees, *m*-degrees) are

- quotients of $\mathcal{P}(\omega)$ (or of subsets of $\mathcal{P}(\omega)$)

Fix a set \mathcal{O} of “computational objects” (e.g., $\mathcal{P}(\omega)$).

On \mathcal{O} , define a “reducibility”: a reflexive, transitive relation \leq_r , saying that an object can be “computed” from another (e.g., \leq_T).

This induces an equivalence relation \equiv_r on \mathcal{O} .

The \equiv_r -equivalence classes are called *r-degrees*.

A *degree structure* is a quotient \mathcal{O}/\equiv_r , partially ordered by the ordering induced by \leq_r . We study them as algebraic objects (i.e., as partial orders, possibly in an expanded language).

“Classical” degree structures (e.g., Turing degrees, enumeration degrees, *m*-degrees) are

- quotients of $\mathcal{P}(\omega)$ (or of subsets of $\mathcal{P}(\omega)$) and
- *locally countable* (each degree bounds at most countable many degrees), since there are only countably many reductions.

Fix a set \mathcal{O} of “computational objects” (e.g., $\mathcal{P}(\omega)$).

On \mathcal{O} , define a “reducibility”: a reflexive, transitive relation \leq_r , saying that an object can be “computed” from another (e.g., \leq_T).

This induces an equivalence relation \equiv_r on \mathcal{O} .

The \equiv_r -equivalence classes are called *r-degrees*.

A *degree structure* is a quotient \mathcal{O}/\equiv_r , partially ordered by the ordering induced by \leq_r . We study them as algebraic objects (i.e., as partial orders, possibly in an expanded language).

“Classical” degree structures (e.g., Turing degrees, enumeration degrees, *m*-degrees) are

- quotients of $\mathcal{P}(\omega)$ (or of subsets of $\mathcal{P}(\omega)$) and
- *locally countable* (each degree bounds at most countable many degrees), since there are only countably many reductions.

So these degree structures are at most size continuum ($= \mathfrak{c}$), and chains in them at most size \aleph_1 .

Fix a set \mathcal{O} of “computational objects” (e.g., $\mathcal{P}(\omega)$).

On \mathcal{O} , define a “reducibility”: a reflexive, transitive relation \leq_r , saying that an object can be “computed” from another (e.g., \leq_T).

This induces an equivalence relation \equiv_r on \mathcal{O} .

The \equiv_r -equivalence classes are called *r-degrees*.

A *degree structure* is a quotient \mathcal{O}/\equiv_r , partially ordered by the ordering induced by \leq_r . We study them as algebraic objects (i.e., as partial orders, possibly in an expanded language).

“Classical” degree structures (e.g., Turing degrees, enumeration degrees, *m*-degrees) are

- quotients of $\mathcal{P}(\omega)$ (or of subsets of $\mathcal{P}(\omega)$) and
- *locally countable* (each degree bounds at most countable many degrees), since there are only countably many reductions.

So these degree structures are at most size continuum ($= \mathfrak{c}$), and chains in them at most size \aleph_1 . (But antichains can have size \mathfrak{c} .)

Other degree structures have been studied:

- $\mathcal{O} = \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{P}(\omega))$, i.e., \mathcal{O} is the set of “mass problems”:

Other degree structures have been studied:

- $\mathcal{O} = \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{P}(\omega))$, i.e., \mathcal{O} is the set of “mass problems”:
 - *Medvedev reducibility*: $\mathcal{A} \leq_s \mathcal{B}$ if there is a Turing functional Φ such that $\forall B \in \mathcal{B} (\Phi(B) \in \mathcal{A})$.

Other degree structures have been studied:

- $\mathcal{O} = \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{P}(\omega))$, i.e., \mathcal{O} is the set of “mass problems”:
- *Medvedev reducibility*: $\mathcal{A} \leq_s \mathcal{B}$ if there is a Turing functional Φ such that $\forall B \in \mathcal{B} (\Phi(B) \in \mathcal{A})$.
- *Muchnik reducibility*: $\mathcal{A} \leq_w \mathcal{B}$ if $\forall B \in \mathcal{B} \exists A \in \mathcal{A} (A \leq_T B)$.

Other degree structures have been studied:

- $\mathcal{O} = \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{P}(\omega))$, i.e., \mathcal{O} is the set of “mass problems”:
 - *Medvedev reducibility*: $\mathcal{A} \leq_s \mathcal{B}$ if there is a Turing functional Φ such that $\forall B \in \mathcal{B} (\Phi(B) \in \mathcal{A})$.
 - *Muchnik reducibility*: $\mathcal{A} \leq_w \mathcal{B}$ if $\forall B \in \mathcal{B} \exists A \in \mathcal{A} (A \leq_T B)$.
- \mathcal{O} is the set of partial multi-valued functions $f : \subseteq \omega^\omega \rightrightarrows \omega^\omega$:

Other degree structures have been studied:

- $\mathcal{O} = \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{P}(\omega))$, i.e., \mathcal{O} is the set of “mass problems”:
 - *Medvedev reducibility*: $\mathcal{A} \leq_s \mathcal{B}$ if there is a Turing functional Φ such that $\forall B \in \mathcal{B} (\Phi(B) \in \mathcal{A})$.
 - *Muchnik reducibility*: $\mathcal{A} \leq_w \mathcal{B}$ if $\forall B \in \mathcal{B} \exists A \in \mathcal{A} (A \leq_T B)$.
- \mathcal{O} is the set of partial multi-valued functions $f : \subseteq \omega^\omega \rightrightarrows \omega^\omega$:
 - *Weihrauch reducibility*: $f \leq_W g$ iff there are Turing functionals Φ and Ψ such that
 - for all $p \in \text{dom}(f)$, we have $\Phi(p) \in \text{dom}(g)$

Other degree structures have been studied:

- $\mathcal{O} = \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{P}(\omega))$, i.e., \mathcal{O} is the set of “mass problems”:
 - *Medvedev reducibility*: $\mathcal{A} \leq_s \mathcal{B}$ if there is a Turing functional Φ such that $\forall B \in \mathcal{B} (\Phi(B) \in \mathcal{A})$.
 - *Muchnik reducibility*: $\mathcal{A} \leq_w \mathcal{B}$ if $\forall B \in \mathcal{B} \exists A \in \mathcal{A} (A \leq_T B)$.
- \mathcal{O} is the set of partial multi-valued functions $f : \subseteq \omega^\omega \rightrightarrows \omega^\omega$:
 - *Weihrauch reducibility*: $f \leq_W g$ iff there are Turing functionals Φ and Ψ such that
 - for all $p \in \text{dom}(f)$, we have $\Phi(p) \in \text{dom}(g)$ and
 - for all $q \in g(\Phi(p))$, we have $\Psi(p \oplus q) \in f(p)$.

Other degree structures have been studied:

- $\mathcal{O} = \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{P}(\omega))$, i.e., \mathcal{O} is the set of “mass problems”:
 - *Medvedev reducibility*: $\mathcal{A} \leq_s \mathcal{B}$ if there is a Turing functional Φ such that $\forall B \in \mathcal{B} (\Phi(B) \in \mathcal{A})$.
 - *Muchnik reducibility*: $\mathcal{A} \leq_w \mathcal{B}$ if $\forall B \in \mathcal{B} \exists A \in \mathcal{A} (A \leq_T B)$.
- \mathcal{O} is the set of partial multi-valued functions $f : \subseteq \omega^\omega \rightrightarrows \omega^\omega$:
 - *Weihrauch reducibility*: $f \leq_W g$ iff there are Turing functionals Φ and Ψ such that
 - for all $p \in \text{dom}(f)$, we have $\Phi(p) \in \text{dom}(g)$ and
 - for all $q \in g(\Phi(p))$, we have $\Psi(p \oplus q) \in f(p)$.
 - *strong Weihrauch reducibility*: $f \leq_{sW} g$ iff there are Turing functionals Φ and Ψ such that
 - for all $p \in \text{dom}(f)$, we have $\Phi(p) \in \text{dom}(g)$ and
 - for all $q \in g(\Phi(p))$, we have $\Psi(q) \in f(p)$.

Other degree structures have been studied:

- $\mathcal{O} = \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{P}(\omega))$, i.e., \mathcal{O} is the set of “mass problems”:
 - *Medvedev reducibility*: $\mathcal{A} \leq_s \mathcal{B}$ if there is a Turing functional Φ such that $\forall B \in \mathcal{B} (\Phi(B) \in \mathcal{A})$.
 - *Muchnik reducibility*: $\mathcal{A} \leq_w \mathcal{B}$ if $\forall B \in \mathcal{B} \exists A \in \mathcal{A} (A \leq_T B)$.
- \mathcal{O} is the set of partial multi-valued functions $f : \subseteq \omega^\omega \rightrightarrows \omega^\omega$:
 - *Weihrauch reducibility*: $f \leq_W g$ iff there are Turing functionals Φ and Ψ such that
 - for all $p \in \text{dom}(f)$, we have $\Phi(p) \in \text{dom}(g)$ and
 - for all $q \in g(\Phi(p))$, we have $\Psi(p \oplus q) \in f(p)$.
 - *strong Weihrauch reducibility*: $f \leq_{sW} g$ iff there are Turing functionals Φ and Ψ such that
 - for all $p \in \text{dom}(f)$, we have $\Phi(p) \in \text{dom}(g)$ and
 - for all $q \in g(\Phi(p))$, we have $\Psi(q) \in f(p)$.

So in particular, each of the above degree structures has size 2^{\aleph} .

These four degree structures (Medvedev, Muchnik, and (strong) Weihrauch) all form distributive lattices.

These four degree structures (Medvedev, Muchnik, and (strong) Weihrauch) all form distributive lattices.

The Medvedev and Muchnik degrees have a least element $\deg(\{\emptyset\})$ and a largest element $\deg(\emptyset)$.

These four degree structures (Medvedev, Muchnik, and (strong) Weihrauch) all form distributive lattices.

The Medvedev and Muchnik degrees have a least element $\deg(\{\emptyset\})$ and a largest element $\deg(\emptyset)$.

The (strong) Weihrauch degrees have a least element $\deg(\emptyset)$ but no greatest element.

These four degree structures (Medvedev, Muchnik, and (strong) Weihrauch) all form distributive lattices.

The Medvedev and Muchnik degrees have a least element $\deg(\{\emptyset\})$ and a largest element $\deg(\emptyset)$.

The (strong) Weihrauch degrees have a least element $\deg(\emptyset)$ but no greatest element.

The “forward” functional Φ for $f \leq_W g$ gives a Medvedev reduction for $\text{dom}(g) \leq_s \text{dom}(f)$.

These four degree structures (Medvedev, Muchnik, and (strong) Weihrauch) all form distributive lattices.

The Medvedev and Muchnik degrees have a least element $\deg(\{\emptyset\})$ and a largest element $\deg(\emptyset)$.

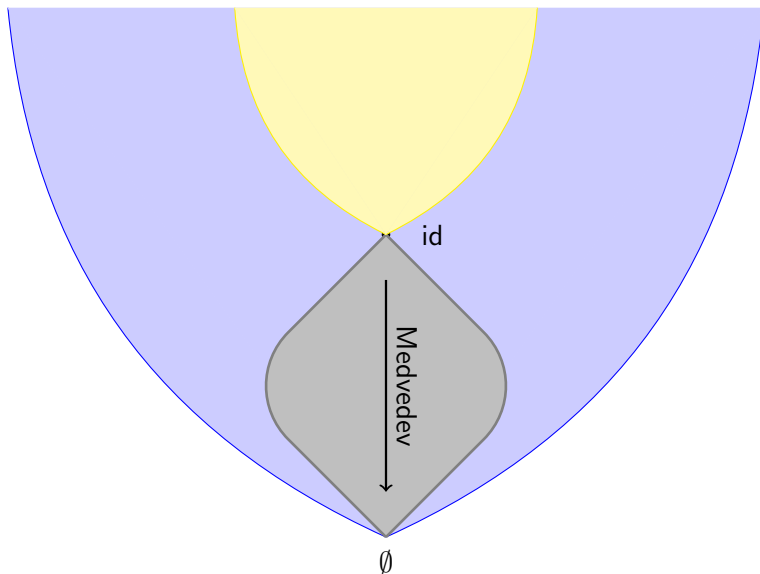
The (strong) Weihrauch degrees have a least element $\deg(\emptyset)$ but no greatest element.

The “forward” functional Φ for $f \leq_W g$ gives a Medvedev reduction for $\text{dom}(g) \leq_s \text{dom}(f)$.

So the Medvedev degrees embed onto the initial segment $[\mathbf{0}, \deg(\text{id})]$ of the Weihrauch degrees under the *order-reversing* map

$$\mathcal{A} \mapsto \text{id} \upharpoonright \mathcal{A}.$$

The (upside down) Medvedev degrees inside the Weihrauch degrees



Some facts about the Weihrauch degrees

- Every nontrivial Weihrauch degree has 2^c many degrees above and below it.

Some facts about the Weihrauch degrees

- Every nontrivial Weihrauch degree has 2^{\aleph_0} many degrees above and below it.
- (Higuchi, Pauly, 2013)
No nontrivial countable joins in the Weihrauch degrees:
For every $\{f_n\}_{n \in \omega}$, there is N such that $\{f_n\}_{n \in \omega}$ and $\{f_n\}_{n < N}$ have the same least upper bound (if the former has one).

Some facts about the Weihrauch degrees

- Every nontrivial Weihrauch degree has 2^{\aleph_0} many degrees above and below it.
- (Higuchi, Pauly, 2013)
No nontrivial countable joins in the Weihrauch degrees:
For every $\{f_n\}_{n \in \omega}$, there is N such that $\{f_n\}_{n \in \omega}$ and $\{f_n\}_{n < N}$ have the same least upper bound (if the former has one).
So the Weihrauch degrees do not form an \aleph_0 -complete lattice.

Some facts about the Weihrauch degrees

- Every nontrivial Weihrauch degree has $2^{\mathfrak{c}}$ many degrees above and below it.
- (Higuchi, Pauly, 2013)
No nontrivial countable joins in the Weihrauch degrees:
For every $\{f_n\}_{n \in \omega}$, there is N such that $\{f_n\}_{n \in \omega}$ and $\{f_n\}_{n < N}$ have the same least upper bound (if the former has one).
So the Weihrauch degrees do not form an \aleph_0 -complete lattice.

However, using Medvedev degrees, we can show:

Theorem (Lempp, Marcone, Valenti)

For every $\kappa \leq \mathfrak{c}$ of uncountable cofinality, there is a chain of Weihrauch degrees of order type κ with a least upper bound.

Let's sketch the proof:

Fix a \leq_T -antichain $\{p_\alpha\}_{\alpha \leq \kappa}$ and set $\mathcal{A}_\alpha = \{p_\gamma \mid \gamma < \alpha\}$.

Let's sketch the proof:

Fix a $\leq_{\mathcal{T}}$ -antichain $\{p_\alpha\}_{\alpha \leq \kappa}$ and set $\mathcal{A}_\alpha = \{p_\gamma \mid \gamma < \alpha\}$.

Then $\{\mathcal{A}_\alpha\}_{\alpha \leq \kappa}$ has type $(\kappa + 1)^*$ in the Medvedev degrees.

Let's sketch the proof:

Fix a \leq_T -antichain $\{p_\alpha\}_{\alpha \leq \kappa}$ and set $\mathcal{A}_\alpha = \{p_\gamma \mid \gamma < \alpha\}$.

Then $\{\mathcal{A}_\alpha\}_{\alpha \leq \kappa}$ has type $(\kappa + 1)^*$ in the Medvedev degrees.

Clearly \mathcal{A}_κ is a lower bound for $\{\mathcal{A}_\alpha\}_{\alpha < \kappa}$.

Let's sketch the proof:

Fix a \leq_T -antichain $\{p_\alpha\}_{\alpha \leq \kappa}$ and set $\mathcal{A}_\alpha = \{p_\gamma \mid \gamma < \alpha\}$.

Then $\{\mathcal{A}_\alpha\}_{\alpha \leq \kappa}$ has type $(\kappa + 1)^*$ in the Medvedev degrees.

Clearly \mathcal{A}_κ is a lower bound for $\{\mathcal{A}_\alpha\}_{\alpha < \kappa}$.

Suppose $\mathcal{B} \leq_s \mathcal{A}_\alpha$ for all $\alpha < \kappa$.

Let's sketch the proof:

Fix a \leq_T -antichain $\{p_\alpha\}_{\alpha \leq \kappa}$ and set $\mathcal{A}_\alpha = \{p_\gamma \mid \gamma < \alpha\}$.

Then $\{\mathcal{A}_\alpha\}_{\alpha \leq \kappa}$ has type $(\kappa + 1)^*$ in the Medvedev degrees.

Clearly \mathcal{A}_κ is a lower bound for $\{\mathcal{A}_\alpha\}_{\alpha < \kappa}$.

Suppose $\mathcal{B} \leq_s \mathcal{A}_\alpha$ for all $\alpha < \kappa$.

Since $\text{cof}(\kappa) > \omega$, there is a cofinal subset $C \subset \kappa$ such that

$\mathcal{B} \leq_s \mathcal{A}_\alpha$ for all $\alpha \in C$ via the same Φ_e ; so $\mathcal{B} \leq_s \mathcal{A}_\kappa$.

So \mathcal{A}_κ is the greatest lower bound for $\{\mathcal{A}_\alpha\}_{\alpha < \kappa}$.

Let's sketch the proof:

Fix a \leq_T -antichain $\{p_\alpha\}_{\alpha \leq \kappa}$ and set $\mathcal{A}_\alpha = \{p_\gamma \mid \gamma < \alpha\}$.

Then $\{\mathcal{A}_\alpha\}_{\alpha \leq \kappa}$ has type $(\kappa + 1)^*$ in the Medvedev degrees.

Clearly \mathcal{A}_κ is a lower bound for $\{\mathcal{A}_\alpha\}_{\alpha < \kappa}$.

Suppose $\mathcal{B} \leq_s \mathcal{A}_\alpha$ for all $\alpha < \kappa$.

Since $\text{cof}(\kappa) > \omega$, there is a cofinal subset $C \subset \kappa$ such that

$\mathcal{B} \leq_s \mathcal{A}_\alpha$ for all $\alpha \in C$ via the same Φ_e ; so $\mathcal{B} \leq_s \mathcal{A}_\kappa$.

So \mathcal{A}_κ is the greatest lower bound for $\{\mathcal{A}_\alpha\}_{\alpha < \kappa}$.

Now define $f_\alpha : \mathcal{A}_\alpha \rightrightarrows \omega^\omega, p \mapsto \{p_\delta \mid \delta \geq \alpha\}$.

Let's sketch the proof:

Fix a \leq_T -antichain $\{p_\alpha\}_{\alpha \leq \kappa}$ and set $\mathcal{A}_\alpha = \{p_\gamma \mid \gamma < \alpha\}$.

Then $\{\mathcal{A}_\alpha\}_{\alpha \leq \kappa}$ has type $(\kappa + 1)^*$ in the Medvedev degrees.

Clearly \mathcal{A}_κ is a lower bound for $\{\mathcal{A}_\alpha\}_{\alpha < \kappa}$.

Suppose $\mathcal{B} \leq_s \mathcal{A}_\alpha$ for all $\alpha < \kappa$.

Since $\text{cof}(\kappa) > \omega$, there is a cofinal subset $C \subset \kappa$ such that

$\mathcal{B} \leq_s \mathcal{A}_\alpha$ for all $\alpha \in C$ via the same Φ_e ; so $\mathcal{B} \leq_s \mathcal{A}_\kappa$.

So \mathcal{A}_κ is the greatest lower bound for $\{\mathcal{A}_\alpha\}_{\alpha < \kappa}$.

Now define $f_\alpha : \mathcal{A}_\alpha \rightrightarrows \omega^\omega, p \mapsto \{p_\delta \mid \delta \geq \alpha\}$.

So $\{f_\alpha\}_{\alpha \leq \kappa}$ has type $\kappa + 1$ in the Weihrauch degrees.

Let's sketch the proof:

Fix a \leq_T -antichain $\{p_\alpha\}_{\alpha \leq \kappa}$ and set $\mathcal{A}_\alpha = \{p_\gamma \mid \gamma < \alpha\}$.

Then $\{\mathcal{A}_\alpha\}_{\alpha \leq \kappa}$ has type $(\kappa + 1)^*$ in the Medvedev degrees.

Clearly \mathcal{A}_κ is a lower bound for $\{\mathcal{A}_\alpha\}_{\alpha < \kappa}$.

Suppose $\mathcal{B} \leq_s \mathcal{A}_\alpha$ for all $\alpha < \kappa$.

Since $\text{cof}(\kappa) > \omega$, there is a cofinal subset $C \subset \kappa$ such that

$\mathcal{B} \leq_s \mathcal{A}_\alpha$ for all $\alpha \in C$ via the same Φ_e ; so $\mathcal{B} \leq_s \mathcal{A}_\kappa$.

So \mathcal{A}_κ is the greatest lower bound for $\{\mathcal{A}_\alpha\}_{\alpha < \kappa}$.

Now define $f_\alpha : \mathcal{A}_\alpha \rightrightarrows \omega^\omega, p \mapsto \{p_\delta \mid \delta \geq \alpha\}$.

So $\{f_\alpha\}_{\alpha \leq \kappa}$ has type $\kappa + 1$ in the Weihrauch degrees.

And as with \mathcal{A}_κ above, f_κ is a least upper bound for $\{f_\alpha\}_{\alpha < \kappa}$.

We study chains in the Weihrauch degrees in more detail:

We study chains in the Weihrauch degrees in more detail:

Corollary (of Terwijn, 2008, for the Medvedev degrees)

Under $\text{ZFC} + 2^{<\mathfrak{c}} = \mathfrak{c}$, there is a chain of size $2^{\mathfrak{c}}$ in the Weihrauch degrees.

We study chains in the Weihrauch degrees in more detail:

Corollary (of Terwijn, 2008, for the Medvedev degrees)

Under $\text{ZFC} + 2^{<\mathfrak{c}} = \mathfrak{c}$, there is a chain of size $2^{\mathfrak{c}}$ in the Weihrauch degrees.

It is open if $\text{ZFC} + 2^{<\mathfrak{c}} = \mathfrak{c}$ is needed to ensure a chain of size $2^{\mathfrak{c}}$.
It is also open whether every chain of size $< 2^{\mathfrak{c}}$ can be extended.

We study chains in the Weihrauch degrees in more detail:

Corollary (of Terwijn, 2008, for the Medvedev degrees)

Under $\text{ZFC} + 2^{<\mathfrak{c}} = \mathfrak{c}$, there is a chain of size $2^{\mathfrak{c}}$ in the Weihrauch degrees.

It is open if $\text{ZFC} + 2^{<\mathfrak{c}} = \mathfrak{c}$ is needed to ensure a chain of size $2^{\mathfrak{c}}$.
It is also open whether every chain of size $< 2^{\mathfrak{c}}$ can be extended.
But not every chain of size $< 2^{\mathfrak{c}}$ can be extended above or below:

Theorem (Lempp, Marcone, Valenti)

Let $\kappa \leq \mathfrak{c}$ be a cardinal of uncountable cofinality. Then:

- There is a chain of order type κ in the Weihrauch degrees which has no upper bound.

We study chains in the Weihrauch degrees in more detail:

Corollary (of Terwijn, 2008, for the Medvedev degrees)

Under $\text{ZFC} + 2^{<\mathfrak{c}} = \mathfrak{c}$, there is a chain of size $2^{\mathfrak{c}}$ in the Weihrauch degrees.

It is open if $\text{ZFC} + 2^{<\mathfrak{c}} = \mathfrak{c}$ is needed to ensure a chain of size $2^{\mathfrak{c}}$.
It is also open whether every chain of size $< 2^{\mathfrak{c}}$ can be extended.
But not every chain of size $< 2^{\mathfrak{c}}$ can be extended above or below:

Theorem (Lempp, Marcone, Valenti)

Let $\kappa \leq \mathfrak{c}$ be an cardinal of uncountable cofinality. Then:

- There is a chain of order type κ in the Weihrauch degrees which has no upper bound.
- (essentially Shafer, 2011, for the Medvedev degrees)
There is a chain of order type κ^* in the nonzero Weihrauch degrees which has no lower bound $> \mathbf{0}$.

In a poset \mathcal{P} , we call $S \subseteq P$ *cofinal in \mathcal{P}* if $\forall p \in P \exists q \in S (p \leq q)$.

In a poset \mathcal{P} , we call $S \subseteq P$ *cofinal in \mathcal{P}* if $\forall p \in P \exists q \in S (p \leq q)$.
The *set-cofinality* of \mathcal{P} is the smallest size of a cofinal set $S \subseteq P$.
The *cofinality* of \mathcal{P} is the smallest size of a cofinal chain $S \subseteq P$ (if any).

In a poset \mathcal{P} , we call $S \subseteq P$ *cofinal in \mathcal{P}* if $\forall p \in P \exists q \in S (p \leq q)$.
The *set-cofinality* of \mathcal{P} is the smallest size of a cofinal set $S \subseteq P$.
The *cofinality* of \mathcal{P} is the smallest size of a cofinal chain $S \subseteq P$ (if any). (Similar definitions define *set-coinitiality* and *coinitiality*.)

In a poset \mathcal{P} , we call $S \subseteq P$ *cofinal in \mathcal{P}* if $\forall p \in P \exists q \in S (p \leq q)$. The *set-cofinality* of \mathcal{P} is the smallest size of a cofinal set $S \subseteq P$. The *cofinality* of \mathcal{P} is the smallest size of a cofinal chain $S \subseteq P$ (if any). (Similar definitions define *set-coinitiality* and *coinitiality*.)

Theorem (Lempp, Marcone, Valenti)

- The set-cofinality of the Weihrauch degrees is $> \aleph_1$.
- There are no cofinal chains in the Weihrauch degrees.

In a poset \mathcal{P} , we call $S \subseteq P$ *cofinal in \mathcal{P}* if $\forall p \in P \exists q \in S (p \leq q)$. The *set-cofinality* of \mathcal{P} is the smallest size of a cofinal set $S \subseteq P$. The *cofinality* of \mathcal{P} is the smallest size of a cofinal chain $S \subseteq P$ (if any). (Similar definitions define *set-coinitiality* and *coinitiality*.)

Theorem (Lempp, Marcone, Valenti)

- The set-cofinality of the Weihrauch degrees is $> \mathfrak{c}$.
- There are no cofinal chains in the Weihrauch degrees.

Using known results about the Medvedev degrees (under the reverse order), we also obtain:

Theorem (Lempp, Marcone, Valenti)

- The set-coinitiality of the nonzero Weihrauch degrees is \mathfrak{c} .

In a poset \mathcal{P} , we call $S \subseteq P$ *cofinal in \mathcal{P}* if $\forall p \in P \exists q \in S (p \leq q)$. The *set-cofinality* of \mathcal{P} is the smallest size of a cofinal set $S \subseteq P$. The *cofinality* of \mathcal{P} is the smallest size of a cofinal chain $S \subseteq P$ (if any). (Similar definitions define *set-coinitiality* and *coinitiality*.)

Theorem (Lempp, Marcone, Valenti)

- The set-cofinality of the Weihrauch degrees is $> \mathfrak{c}$.
- There are no cofinal chains in the Weihrauch degrees.

Using known results about the Medvedev degrees (under the reverse order), we also obtain:

Theorem (Lempp, Marcone, Valenti)

- The set-coinitiality of the nonzero Weihrauch degrees is \mathfrak{c} .
- The existence of coinital chains in the nonzero Weihrauch degrees is equivalent to the Continuum Hypothesis.

Combining arguments for increasing and decreasing chains in the Weihrauch degrees, we also obtain:

Theorem (Lempp, Marcone, Valenti)

Every interval in the Weihrauch degrees is finite or uncountable.

(And there are finite intervals.)

Combining arguments for increasing and decreasing chains in the Weihrauch degrees, we also obtain:

Theorem (Lempp, Marcone, Valenti)

Every interval in the Weihrauch degrees is finite or uncountable.

(And there are finite intervals.)

Turning to antichains, we have:

Theorem (Lempp, Marcone, Valenti)

- Every nonzero Weihrauch degree is contained in an antichain of size $2^{\mathfrak{c}}$.

Combining arguments for increasing and decreasing chains in the Weihrauch degrees, we also obtain:

Theorem (Lempp, Marcone, Valenti)

Every interval in the Weihrauch degrees is finite or uncountable.

(And there are finite intervals.)

Turning to antichains, we have:

Theorem (Lempp, Marcone, Valenti)

- Every nonzero Weihrauch degree is contained in an antichain of size $2^{\mathfrak{c}}$.
- No antichain in the nonzero Weihrauch degrees of size $< \mathfrak{c}$ is maximal.

Combining arguments for increasing and decreasing chains in the Weihrauch degrees, we also obtain:

Theorem (Lempp, Marcone, Valenti)

Every interval in the Weihrauch degrees is finite or uncountable.

(And there are finite intervals.)

Turning to antichains, we have:

Theorem (Lempp, Marcone, Valenti)

- Every nonzero Weihrauch degree is contained in an antichain of size $2^{\mathfrak{c}}$.
- No antichain in the nonzero Weihrauch degrees of size $< \mathfrak{c}$ is maximal.

We do not know if an antichain of size $< 2^{\mathfrak{c}}$ can be maximal.

Thanks!