

Arithmetics on beta-expansions*

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Abstract

In this paper we consider representation of numbers in an irrational basis $\beta > 1$. We study the arithmetic operations on β -expansions and provide bounds on the number of fractional digits arising in addition and multiplication, $L_{\oplus}(\beta)$ and $L_{\odot}(\beta)$, respectively. We determine these bounds for irrational numbers β which are algebraic with at least one conjugate in modulus smaller than 1. In the case of a Pisot number β we derive the relation between β -integers and cut-and-project sequences and then use the properties of cut-and-project sequences to estimate $L_{\oplus}(\beta)$ and $L_{\odot}(\beta)$. We generalize the results known for quadratic Pisot units to other quadratic Pisot numbers.

1 Beta-expansions

Let β be a real number strictly greater than 1. A real number $x \geq 0$ can be represented using a sequence $(x_i)_{k \geq i > -\infty}$, $x_i \in \mathbb{Z}$, $0 \leq x_i < \beta$, such that

$$x = x_k \beta^k + x_{k-1} \beta^{k-1} + \cdots + x_a \beta + x_0 + x_{-1} \beta^{-1} + x_{-2} \beta^{-2} + \cdots$$

for certain $k \in \mathbb{Z}$. It is denoted by

$$(x)_{\beta} = x_k x_{k-1} \dots x_1 x_0 \bullet x_{-1} x_{-2} \dots$$

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A particular representation is the β -expansion of x , see [7]. The digits x_i of the β -expansion are computed by the ‘greedy’ algorithm: Let $[y]$ denote the largest integer smaller or equal to y . Find $k \in \mathbb{Z}$, for which $\beta^k \leq x < \beta^{k+1}$. Put $x_k = [x/\beta^k]$ and $r_k = x/\beta^k \bmod 1$. For $i \in \mathbb{Z}$, $i < k$ put $x_i = [\beta r_{i+1}]$ and $r_i = \beta r_{i+1} \bmod 1$. If $k < 0$, i.e. $0 < x < 1$ we put $x_0, x_1, \dots, x_{k+1} = 0$ and write $(x)_\beta = 0 \bullet 00 \dots 0x_k x_{k-1} \dots$. If an expansion ends in infinitely many zeros, it is said to be finite and the ending zeros are omitted.

We denote by $\text{Fin}(\beta)$ the set of all x for which $|x|$ has a finite β -expansion. The β -expansion of every $x \in \text{Fin}(\beta)$ has therefore the form

$$(x)_\beta = x_k x_{k-1} \dots x_1 x_0 \bullet x_{-1} x_{-2} \dots x_{-\ell},$$

where $x_k x_{k-1} \dots x_1 x_0 \bullet$ is the β -integer part and $\bullet x_{-1} x_{-2} \dots x_{-\ell}$ is the β -fractional part of x . We usually call it simply the integer and the fractional part of x . The length of the fractional part of x is denoted by $\text{fp}_\beta(x)$. Elements of $\text{Fin}(\beta)$ with vanishing fractional part (i.e. $\text{fp}_\beta(x) = 0$) are called β -integers. The set of β -integers is denoted by \mathbb{Z}_β .

The sets \mathbb{Z}_β and $\text{Fin}(\beta)$ are generally not closed under addition and multiplication. In spite of that it is sometimes useful in computer science to consider these operations in β -arithmetics. That is why it is important to study what fractional parts may appear as a result of addition and multiplication of β -integers.

Definition 1.1. Let $\beta > 1$. We denote

$$\begin{aligned} L_\oplus(\beta) &:= \min\{L \in \mathbb{N}_0 \mid \forall x, y \in \mathbb{Z}_\beta, x + y \in \text{Fin}(\beta) \Rightarrow \text{fp}_\beta(x + y) \leq L\}, \\ L_\odot(\beta) &:= \min\{L \in \mathbb{N}_0 \mid \forall x, y \in \mathbb{Z}_\beta, xy \in \text{Fin}(\beta) \Rightarrow \text{fp}_\beta(xy) \leq L\}. \end{aligned}$$

Minimum of an empty set is defined to be $+\infty$.

The aim of this paper is to give some quantitative results for $L_\oplus(\beta)$ and $L_\odot(\beta)$. Let us mention some of the known results. Frougny and Solomyak in [4] showed that $L_\oplus(\beta)$ is finite if β is a Pisot number. A Pisot number β is an algebraic integer such that $\beta > 1$ and all its algebraic conjugates are in modulus smaller than 1. Let us mention that to our knowledge no example is known of a β such that $L_\oplus(\beta)$ or $L_\odot(\beta)$ is infinite.

Results for the special case of quadratic Pisot units are found in [3]. The authors gave exact values for $L_\oplus(\beta)$ and $L_\odot(\beta)$, when $\beta > 1$ is a solution either of equation $x^2 = mx - 1$, $m \in \mathbb{N}$, $m \geq 3$ or of equation $x^2 = mx + 1$, $m \in \mathbb{N}$. In the first case $L_\oplus(\beta) = L_\odot(\beta) = 1$; in the second case $L_\oplus(\beta) = L_\odot(\beta) = 2$.

In this article we provide estimates on $L_\oplus(\beta)$ and $L_\odot(\beta)$ for those algebraic numbers $\beta > 1$ that have at least one of the conjugates in modulus smaller than 1. Other results are valid for Pisot numbers β . The last part of the paper is devoted to quadratic Pisot numbers. We reproduce the results of [3] as a special case.

2 Beta-integers and cut-and-project sequences

The Rényi development of unity plays an important role in the description of properties of sets \mathbb{Z}_β and $\text{Fin}(\beta)$. For its definition we introduce the transformation $T_\beta(x) := \{\beta x\}$, for $x \in [0, 1]$. The Rényi development of unity is defined as

$$d(1, \beta) := t_1 t_2 \dots t_i \dots, \quad \text{where } t_i := [\beta T_\beta^{i-1}(1)].$$

Parry in [6] has showed that $x = x_k x_{k-1} \dots x_1 x_0 \bullet x_{-1} \dots x_{-p}$ is a β -expansion if and only if $x_i x_{i-1} \dots x_{-p}$ is lexicographically smaller than $t_1 t_2 \dots t_i \dots$ for every $-p \leq i \leq k$.

$\text{Fin}(\beta)$ and \mathbb{Z}_β are centrally symmetric sets. While $\text{Fin}(\beta)$ is dense in \mathbb{R} , \mathbb{Z}_β has no accumulation points. Distances between consecutive points in \mathbb{Z}_β take values $\{0 \bullet t_i t_{i+1} \dots \mid i \in \mathbb{N}\}$. It is obvious that if $d(1, \beta)$ is eventually periodic, then \mathbb{Z}_β has a finite number of distances between consecutive points. Numbers β with this property are called beta-numbers. Some results and conjectures on beta-numbers are given in [2, 9]; a description of beta-numbers is provided in [8]. Note that every Pisot number β is a beta-number.

The set \mathbb{Z}_β of β -integers forms a ring only in the case that β is a rational integer, $\beta > 1$. If β is an algebraic integer of order $q \geq 2$, then \mathbb{Z}_β can be naturally embedded into the ring $\mathbb{Z}[\beta]$ defined as

$$\mathbb{Z}[\beta] := \{n_0 + n_1 \beta + \dots + n_{q-1} \beta^{q-1} \mid n_i \in \mathbb{Z}\}.$$

Note that the ring $\mathbb{Z}[\beta]$ is dense in \mathbb{R} . In certain cases $\mathbb{Z}[\beta]$ coincides with $\text{Fin}(\beta)$, i.e. $\text{Fin}(\beta)$ is a ring, see [4]. Let us show that for β an algebraic integer, the ring $\mathbb{Z}[\beta]$ is a projection of an integer lattice $\mathbb{Z}^q \subset \mathbb{R}^q$ on a one-dimensional subspace V_1 for a suitable decomposition $V_1 \oplus V_2$ of the space \mathbb{R}^q . A similar construction can be found in [1].

Denote $\beta^{(1)} = \beta, \beta^{(2)}, \dots, \beta^{(s)}$, the real roots of the minimal polynomial of β and by $\beta^{(s+1)}, \beta^{(s+2)}, \dots, \beta^{(q-1)}, \beta^{(q)}$ the non real conjugates of β . We have ordered the complex roots in such a way that $\overline{\beta^{(s+1)}} = \beta^{(s+2)}, \dots, \overline{\beta^{(q-1)}} = \beta^{(q)}$.

At first we have to find (possibly) complex vectors

$$(\vec{x}^{(1)})^T = (x_0^{(1)}, x_1^{(1)}, \dots, x_{q-1}^{(1)}), \quad \dots, \quad (\vec{x}^{(q)})^T = (x_0^{(q)}, x_1^{(q)}, \dots, x_{q-1}^{(q)}),$$

such that for any $\vec{x} = (n_0, n_1, \dots, n_{q-1}) \in \mathbb{R}^q$ we have

$$(1) \quad \vec{x} = \left(\sum_{i=0}^{q-1} n_i (\beta^{(1)})^i \right) \vec{x}^{(1)} + \left(\sum_{i=0}^{q-1} n_i (\beta^{(2)})^i \right) \vec{x}^{(2)} + \dots + \left(\sum_{i=0}^{q-1} n_i (\beta^{(q)})^i \right) \vec{x}^{(q)}.$$

Denote by \mathbb{X} the $q \times q$ matrix with $(\mathbb{X})_{ij} = x_j^{(i)}$. Then (1) holds for each \vec{x} if and only if

$$I_q = \mathbb{V}(\beta^{(1)}, \dots, \beta^{(q)}) \cdot \mathbb{X},$$

where $\mathbb{V}(\beta^{(1)}, \dots, \beta^{(q)})$ is the Vandermonde matrix in variables $\beta^{(1)}, \dots, \beta^{(q)}$,

$$\mathbb{V}(\beta^{(1)}, \dots, \beta^{(q)}) := \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ \beta^{(1)} & \beta^{(2)} & \dots & \beta^{(q)} \\ (\beta^{(1)})^2 & (\beta^{(2)})^2 & \dots & (\beta^{(q)})^2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ (\beta^{(1)})^{q-1} & (\beta^{(2)})^{q-1} & \dots & (\beta^{(q)})^{q-1} \end{pmatrix}.$$

The determinant of $\mathbb{V}(\beta^{(1)}, \dots, \beta^{(q)})$ is equal to $\prod_{q \geq i > j \geq 1} (\beta^{(i)} - \beta^{(j)})$. Since all conjugates are distinct, the determinant is non zero.

Using the Cramer rule to compute $x_j^{(i)}$, we obtain that $\bar{x}^{(i)}$ is real if $\beta^{(i)}$ is real, and if $\beta^{(j)}$ and $\beta^{(j+1)}$ are mutually complex conjugated roots then $\bar{x}^{(j)} = \overline{x^{(j+1)}}$.

Thus we can define a real basis $\bar{y}^{(1)}, \dots, \bar{y}^{(q)}$ of \mathbb{R}^q in such a way that $\bar{y}^{(i)} = \bar{x}^{(i)}$ if $\bar{x}^{(i)}$ is a real vector, and $\bar{y}^{(j)} = \bar{x}^{(j)} + \overline{\bar{x}^{(j)}}$, $\bar{y}^{(j+1)} = i(\bar{x}^{(j)} - \overline{\bar{x}^{(j)}})$, if $\bar{x}^{(j)}$ and $\bar{x}^{(j+1)} = \overline{\bar{x}^{(j)}}$ are mutually complex conjugated vectors.

Note that the coordinates of a vector $\bar{x} = (n_0, n_1, \dots, n_{q-1}) \in \mathbb{R}^q$ with respect to the basis $\bar{y}^{(1)}, \dots, \bar{y}^{(q)}$ are

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{p=0}^{q-1} n_p (\beta^{(i)})^p, & \text{if } \bar{y}^{(i)} = \bar{x}^{(i)}, \\ \Re \left[\sum_{p=0}^{q-1} n_p (\beta^{(j)})^p \right], & \text{if } \bar{y}^{(j)} = \bar{x}^{(j)} + \overline{\bar{x}^{(j)}}, \\ \Im \left[\sum_{p=0}^{q-1} n_p (\beta^{(j)})^p \right], & \text{if } \bar{y}^{(j)} = i(\bar{x}^{(j)} - \overline{\bar{x}^{(j)}}). \end{aligned}$$

If we put $V_1 = \mathbb{R}\bar{y}^{(1)}$ and $V_2 = \mathbb{R}\bar{y}^{(2)} + \mathbb{R}\bar{y}^{(3)} + \dots + \mathbb{R}\bar{y}^{(q)}$, the set $\mathbb{Z}[\beta]$ is the projection of \mathbb{Z}^q on V_1 along V_2 .

Projections of crystallographic and non-crystallographic lattices are studied by the theory of cut-and-project sets. Let us recall here a special case of their definition, which will be used here.

Definition 2.1. Let U_1, U_2 be linear subspaces of \mathbb{R}^d such that $\dim U_1 = 1$, $\dim U_2 = d - 1$ and $U_1 \oplus U_2 = \mathbb{R}^d$. Denote by π_1 the projection on U_1 along U_2 and by π_2 the projection on U_2 along U_1 . Let $\Omega \subset U_2$ be a bounded set with non-empty interior Ω° , such that the closures of Ω and Ω° coincide. If the mapping $\pi_1 : \mathbb{Z}^d \rightarrow \pi_1(\mathbb{Z}^d)$ is one-to-one and $\pi_2(\mathbb{Z}^d)$ is dense in V_2 , then the set $\Sigma(\Omega) = \{\pi_1(x) \mid x \in \mathbb{Z}^d, \pi_2(x) \in \Omega\}$ is called a cut-and-project set with acceptance window Ω .

Basic properties of cut-and-project sets can be found in [5]. For us the most important property is that the set $\Sigma(\Omega)$ is relatively dense and uniformly discrete, i.e. there exists a real increasing sequence $(\alpha_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$ and constants $r, R > 0$, such that $\Sigma(\Omega) = \{\alpha_n \bar{y} \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ and $r \leq \alpha_{n+1} - \alpha_n \leq R$

for all $n \in \mathbb{Z}$. In particular, the distances between consecutive points of $\Sigma(\Omega)$ take only finitely many values, i.e. the set $\{\alpha_{n+1} - \alpha_n \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ is finite.

Let us consider again β to be an algebraic integer of order q and the decomposition $\mathbb{R}^q = V_1 \oplus V_2$ as described above. As shown by Akiyama [1], the projection $\pi_1(\mathbb{Z}^2) = \mathbb{Z}[\beta]$ of \mathbb{Z}^2 on V_1 is one-to-one and the projection $\pi_1(\mathbb{Z}^2)$ on V_2 is dense in V_2 . For $\alpha \in \mathbb{Q}[\beta]$ we denote $\alpha^{(k)}$ the image of α under the k -th Galois isomorphism $\mathbb{Q}[\beta] \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}[\beta^{(k)}]$ induced by the assignment $\beta \rightarrow \beta^{(k)}$, i.e. if $\alpha = \sum_{i=0}^{q-1} n_i \beta^i$ for $n_i \in \mathbb{Q}$, then $\alpha^{(k)} = \sum_{i=0}^{q-1} n_i (\beta^{(k)})^i$.

We shall focus on specific acceptance windows $\Omega(h) \subset V_2$, for $h > 0$. As the acceptance window $\Omega(h) \subset V_2$ we choose the cartesian product of one-dimensional line-segments $\{t\bar{y}^{(i)} \mid |t| < h\}$ if $\beta^{(i)}$ is real and two-dimensional ellipses $\{t\bar{y}^{(j)} + s\bar{y}^{(j+1)} \mid t^2 + s^2 < h^2\}$ if $\beta^{(j)}$ and $\beta^{(j+1)}$ are complex conjugated. Such an acceptance window $\Omega(h)$ satisfies the assumptions of Definition 2.1.

The point $\alpha\bar{y}^{(1)}$ belongs to $\Sigma(\Omega(h))$ if and only if $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}[\beta]$ and $|\alpha^{(k)}| < h$ for $k = 2, 3, \dots, q$. In other words, we have the following proposition.

Proposition 2.2. *Let β be an algebraic integer of order q . If $h > 0$, then the set*

$$\Sigma(h) = \{\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}[\beta] \mid |\alpha^{(k)}| < h, k = 2, \dots, q\}$$

is relatively dense and uniformly discrete and the distances in $\Sigma(h)$ take only finitely many values.

In the following sets $\Sigma(h)$ are called the cut-and-project sequences. In the case that β is a Pisot number, we show the relation between cut-and-project sequences and β -integers \mathbb{Z}_β .

Proposition 2.3. *Let β is a Pisot number of order q . Denote by $\ell = [\beta] \max\{(1 - |\beta^{(i)}|)^{-1} \mid i = 2, 3, \dots, q\}$. Then*

$$\mathbb{Z}_\beta \subset \Sigma(\ell), \quad \mathbb{Z}_\beta + \mathbb{Z}_\beta \subset \Sigma(2\ell), \quad \mathbb{Z}_\beta \mathbb{Z}_\beta \subset \Sigma(\ell^2).$$

Proof. Let $x \in \mathbb{Z}_\beta$, i.e. $x = \pm \sum_{i=0}^n x_i \beta^i$, for some n , then

$$|x^{(j)}| \leq \sum_{i=0}^n [\beta] |\beta^{(j)}|^i < [\beta] \frac{1}{1 - |\beta^{(j)}|} \leq \ell, \quad \text{for } j = 2, \dots, q.$$

The statement follows easily. □

3 Sufficient conditions for finiteness of L_\oplus and L_\odot

In this section we provide sufficient conditions on β so that $L_\oplus(\beta)$ and $L_\odot(\beta)$ are finite. First we demonstrate Theorem 3.1 stating that $L_\oplus(\beta)$ and

$L_{\odot}(\beta)$ are finite for a Pisot β . The statement for L_{\oplus} has been proven in [4], however, we provide a different and simpler proof. We further show that this condition is not necessary. Theorem 3.3 provides a different sufficient condition together with bounds $L_{\oplus}(\beta)$ and $L_{\odot}(\beta)$. In the next section we apply Theorem 3.3 to the case of quadratic Pisot numbers.

Theorem 3.1. *Let β be a Pisot number. Then $L_{\oplus}(\beta)$ and $L_{\odot}(\beta)$ are finite.*

Proof. Let $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}_{\beta}$. For determination of $L_{\odot}(\beta)$ it suffices to consider $x, y > 0$. Let us denote $z_0 = \max\{z \in \mathbb{Z}_{\beta} \mid z \leq xy\}$ and $r := xy - z_0$. Since distances in \mathbb{Z}_{β} are bounded by 1, we have $0 \leq r < 1$. Therefore obviously the remainder r is the fractional part of the β -expansion of xy , i.e. $xy \in \text{Fin}(\beta)$ if and only if $r \in \text{Fin}(\beta)$. Since $\ell > 1$, we have $\Sigma(\ell) \subset \Sigma(\ell^2)$ and according to Proposition 2.3 both xy and z_0 belong to $\Sigma(\ell^2)$.

According to Proposition 2.2 distances in $\Sigma(\ell^2)$ take only finitely many values, say f_1, \dots, f_T . The gap r between z_0 and xy must be composed from these distances. Therefore $1 > r = xy - z_0 = \sum h_i f_i$, where $h_i \in \mathbb{N}_0$. Fractional parts of all results of multiplication xy belong to the set

$$F := \left\{ \sum_i h_i f_i < 1 \mid h_i \in \mathbb{N}_0 \right\},$$

which is finite and therefore

$$L_{\odot}(\beta) \leq \max\{\text{fp}_{\beta}(r) \mid r \in F \cap \text{Fin}(\beta)\}.$$

To derive the finiteness of $L_{\oplus}(\beta)$ one uses an analogous argument. □

A simple consequence of the above proof is that \mathbb{Z}_{β} is a Meyer set.

Corollary 3.2. *Let β be a Pisot number. Then there exists a finite set F such that*

$$\mathbb{Z}_{\beta} + \mathbb{Z}_{\beta} \subset \mathbb{Z}_{\beta} + F, \quad \mathbb{Z}_{\beta}\mathbb{Z}_{\beta} \subset \mathbb{Z}_{\beta} + F.$$

Theorem 3.1 gives a sufficient condition for finiteness of $L_{\oplus}(\beta)$ and $L_{\odot}(\beta)$. An upper bound on the value of $L_{\oplus}(\beta)$ is determined in [10] using some complicated techniques. However, their result applies only to a class of Pisot numbers. The condition that β is Pisot is however not necessary. In the following theorem we provide a similar estimate on $L_{\oplus}(\beta)$ with less restrictive criteria for β . Moreover, we determine the upper bound for $L_{\odot}(\beta)$.

Theorem 3.3. *Let $\beta > 1$ be an irrational algebraic number such that at least one among its conjugates, say β' , is in modulus smaller than 1. Denote*

$$\begin{aligned} H &= \sup\{|z'| \mid z \in \mathbb{Z}_{\beta}\} \\ K &= \inf\{|z'| \mid z \in \mathbb{Z}_{\beta}, z \notin \beta\mathbb{Z}_{\beta}\} \end{aligned}$$

If $K > 0$, then $L_{\oplus}(\beta)$ and $L_{\odot}(\beta)$ are finite and

$$(2) \quad \left(\frac{1}{|\beta'|} \right)^{L_{\oplus}(\beta)} < \frac{2H}{K}$$

$$(3) \quad \left(\frac{1}{|\beta'|} \right)^{L_{\odot}(\beta)} < \frac{H^2}{K}$$

Proof. Let $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}_{\beta}$ and $x + y \in \text{Fin}(\beta)$, $x + y = \sum_{i=-L}^k a_i \beta^i$, $a_{-L} \geq 1$. Then $\beta^L(x + y) \in \mathbb{Z}_{\beta}$ and $\beta^L(x + y) \notin \beta \mathbb{Z}_{\beta}$. Thus

$$K \leq |\beta'|^L |x' + y'| \leq |\beta'|^L (|x'| + |y'|) < 2H |\beta'|^L,$$

which implies (2). Note that the supremum H is never attained, i.e. $|z'| < H$ for all $z \in \mathbb{Z}_{\beta}$. The proof is similar for multiplication. \square

Remark 3.4.

1. Using the same inequalities as in the proof of Proposition 2.3 we obtain

$$H \leq [\beta] \frac{1}{1 - |\beta'|}.$$

2. If $\beta' \in (0, 1)$, then $K = 1$. Indeed, for $z = \sum_{i=0}^n z_i \beta^i$, $z_0 \neq 0$, one has

$$z' = \sum_{i=0}^n z_i (\beta')^i \geq z_0 \geq 1.$$

Corollary 3.5. *Let $\beta > 1$ be an algebraic integer such that at least one of its conjugates, say β' , belongs to $(0, 1)$. Then*

$$\left(\frac{1}{|\beta'|} \right)^{L_{\oplus}(\beta)} < \frac{2[\beta]}{1 - \beta'} \quad \text{and} \quad \left(\frac{1}{|\beta'|} \right)^{L_{\odot}(\beta)} < \frac{[\beta]^2}{(1 - \beta')^2}.$$

4 Theorem 3.3 for quadratic Pisot numbers

So far we have been interested in results for $L_{\oplus}(\beta)$ and $L_{\odot}(\beta)$ for general algebraic integers β . From now on we shall focus on quadratic Pisot numbers. In the quadratic case the Pisot condition implies that β is a solution of an equation

$$\begin{aligned} x^2 &= mx - n, & m, n \in \mathbb{N}, & \quad m \geq n + 2, \\ x^2 &= mx + n, & m, n \in \mathbb{N}, & \quad m \geq n. \end{aligned}$$

We shall try to apply Theorem 3.3 on such β and derive the corresponding bounds on $L_{\oplus}(\beta)$ and $L_{\odot}(\beta)$. It will be seen that the situation drastically differs for the two types of quadratic equations.

Note that for $n = 1$, the root β is a quadratic Pisot unit. For such β the values of $L_{\oplus}(\beta)$ and $L_{\odot}(\beta)$ have been determined in [3].

Let us now study the case $\beta > 1$ being the solution of the equation $x^2 = mx - n$, $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$, $m \geq n + 2$. Note that $[\beta] = m - 1$, thus the digits in β -expansions are $0, 1, 2, \dots, m - 1$. The conjugate β' of β satisfies $\beta' \in (0, 1)$, and the β -development of unity is $d(1, \beta) = (m - 1)(m - n - 1)^\omega$. For $z \in \mathbb{Z}_\beta$, $z = \sum_{i=0}^n z_i \beta^i$ we have

$$(4) \quad \begin{aligned} z' &= \sum_{i=0}^n z_i (\beta')^i < (m - 1) + (m - 2)\beta' + (m - 2)\beta'^2 + \dots = \\ &= 1 + (m - 2) \frac{1}{1 - \beta'} = \frac{\beta(\beta - 1)}{\beta - n} = H. \end{aligned}$$

Clearly, $\frac{\beta(\beta-1)}{\beta-n}$ above is the desired supremum H of Theorem 3.3, since we can construct a sequence of numbers

$$z_n = (m - 1)\beta^0 + \sum_{i=1}^n (m - 2)\beta^i \in \mathbb{Z}_\beta \setminus \beta\mathbb{Z}_\beta,$$

such that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |z'_n| = H$. For the relation (4) we have considered the admissibility of sequences of digits in β -expansions. According to Remark 3.4 we have $K = 1$, and hence we can use Theorem 3.3 to derive results for $L_{\oplus}(\beta)$ and $L_{\odot}(\beta)$.

Proposition 4.1. *Let $\beta^2 = m\beta - n$, $m \geq n + 2$. Then*

$$L_{\oplus}(\beta) \leq 3m \ln m \quad \text{and} \quad L_{\odot}(\beta) \leq 4m \ln m.$$

In particular, if $n = 1$, then $L_{\oplus}(\beta) = L_{\odot}(\beta) = 1$.

Proof. Since $K = 1$ and $H = \frac{\beta(\beta-1)}{\beta-n} = \frac{(\beta-1)^2}{m-n-1}$ we can estimate

$$\left(\frac{m-1}{n}\right)^{L_{\oplus}} < \left(\frac{\beta}{n}\right)^{L_{\oplus}} = \left(\frac{1}{\beta'}\right)^{L_{\oplus}} < 2 \frac{(\beta-1)^2}{m-n-1} < 2 \frac{(m-1)^2}{m-n-1}.$$

For $n = 1$ we obtain directly $L_{\oplus} \leq 1$. For general $n \leq m - 2$ we estimate the left hand side of the inequality by

$$\left(\frac{m-1}{n}\right)^{L_{\oplus}} \geq \left(\frac{m-1}{m-2}\right)^{L_{\oplus}} > e^{\frac{1}{m}L_{\oplus}},$$

where we have used $(1 + \frac{1}{k})^{k+1} > e$ for $k \in \mathbb{N}$. The right hand side of the inequality is estimated by m^3 . Altogether we get $L_{\oplus}(\beta) \leq 3m \ln m$. The estimate for $L_{\odot}(\beta)$ is derived analogically, the first step for $n = 1$ being

$$\beta^{L_{\odot}} = \left(\frac{1}{\beta'}\right)^{L_{\odot}} < \left(\frac{\beta(\beta-1)}{\beta-1}\right)^2 = \beta^2 \quad \implies \quad L_{\odot} \leq 1.$$

In order to show that for $n = 1$ we have $L_{\oplus}(\beta) = L_{\odot}(\beta) = 1$ it suffices to realize that

$$\left((m-1) + (m-1) \right)_{\beta} = \left(2 \cdot (m-1) \right)_{\beta} = \left(\beta + (m-2) + \frac{1}{\beta} \right)_{\beta} = 1(m-2) \bullet 1$$

□

Let us now study the case of $\beta > 1$ solution of the equation $x^2 = mx + n$, $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$, $m \geq n$. Note that $[\beta] = m$, therefore the digits in the β -expansion are $0, 1, 2, \dots, m$. The β -development of unity is $d(1, \beta) = mn$. Now the conjugate β' of β satisfies $\beta' \in (-1, 0)$. If $w \in \mathbb{Z}_{\beta}$, $w = \sum_{i=0}^n w_i \beta^i$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \dots + m\beta^3 + m\beta' &< w' < m + m\beta^2 + m\beta'^4 + \dots \\ -1 < w' < \frac{m}{1 - \beta'^2} &= \frac{\beta^2 m}{m\beta + n - n^2} = H. \end{aligned}$$

Unfortunately, in this case $K = 0$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ except $n = 1$. Therefore only for $n = 1$ can we use Theorem 3.3 to find values of $L_{\oplus}(\beta)$ and $L_{\odot}(\beta)$. In this case for $z \in \mathbb{Z}_{\beta}$, $z = \sum_{i=0}^n z_i \beta^i$ with $z_0 \neq 0$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} z' &\geq z_0 + z_1 \beta' + z_3 \beta'^3 + z_5 \beta'^5 + \dots \geq \\ &\geq 1 + (m-1)\beta' + m\beta'^3 + m\beta'^5 + \dots = \\ &= 1 - \beta' + \frac{m\beta'}{1 - \beta'} = -\beta' = \frac{1}{\beta} = K. \end{aligned}$$

Note that H is equal to β for $n = 1$. Using (2) and (3) we obtain for $m \geq 2$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \beta^{L_{\oplus}} < 2\beta^2 < \beta^3 \\ \beta_{L_{\odot}} < \beta^3 \end{array} \right\} \implies \begin{array}{l} L_{\oplus}(\beta) \leq 2 \\ L_{\odot}(\beta) \leq 2 \end{array}$$

To prove that $L_{\oplus}(\beta) = L_{\odot}(\beta) = 2$ we calculate

$$(m+m)_{\beta} = (2 \cdot m)_{\beta} = \left(\beta + (m-1) + \frac{m-1}{\beta} + \frac{1}{\beta^2} \right)_{\beta} = 1(m-1) \bullet (m-1) 1$$

For $m = 1$, i.e. β the golden ratio, it does not hold that $2\beta^2 < \beta^3$. A slightly finer discussion is necessary to obtain the exact bound on the number of fractional digits of the addition $x + y$.

In the above considerations we are not able to derive any estimates on $L_{\oplus}(\beta)$ and $L_{\odot}(\beta)$ if β is a solution of $x^2 = mx + n$, $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$, $m \geq n \geq 2$. Therefore in the rest of the paper we focus on such quadratic Pisot numbers. At first we give an estimate on $L_{\odot}(\beta)$ using $L_{\oplus}(\beta)$ and then we determine the value of $L_{\oplus}(\beta)$.

5 Relation of L_{\oplus} and L_{\odot} for quadratic Pisot numbers

In Section 2 we have shown that \mathbb{Z}_{β} can be embedded into a cut-and-project sequence with a suitably chosen window. In our case β is a solution of $x^2 = mx + n$, $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$, $m \geq n \geq 2$. Therefore we chose $\Sigma(H)$, where $H = \frac{m}{1-\beta'^2}$. We show that a cut-and-project set with arbitrary window can be embedded into a finite union of shifted copies of \mathbb{Z}_{β} where the shifts belong to $\mathbb{Z}[\beta]$. In fact, a product xy of $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}_{\beta}$ can be expressed as a sum of a β -integer and a small rational integer and therefore we can find an upper estimate of $L_{\odot}(\beta)$ using $L_{\oplus}(\beta)$. Similar result can be proven also for non quadratic Pisot β . The demonstration is however rather technical.

Theorem 5.1. *Let $\beta > 1$ be a solution of $x^2 = mx + n$, $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$, $m \geq n$, and let $h > 0$. Then there exists $p \in \mathbb{N}$, such that*

$$\Sigma(h) \subset \mathbb{Z}_{\beta} + \{-p, -p+1, \dots, -1, 0, 1, \dots, p-1, p\},$$

where

$$p \leq h - \beta'H = h - \beta' \frac{m}{1 - \beta'^2}.$$

Proof. Since β is a quadratic integer, we can rewrite every power β^k as a integer combination of 1 and β . Let us define F_k, G_k by

$$\beta^k = F_k\beta + G_k.$$

Since $\beta^{k+1} = \beta(F_k\beta + G_k) = F_k m\beta + F_k n + G_k\beta$, the sequences $(F_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}_0}$, $(G_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}_0}$ satisfy $F_{k+1} = mF_k + G_k$, $G_{k+1} = nF_k$, which gives a recurrence relation

$$F_{k+2} = mF_{k+1} + nF_k, \quad \text{where } F_0 = 0, \quad F_1 = 1.$$

It is easy to see that every $x \in \mathbb{N}$ can be written in the form $x = \sum_{i=1}^j c_i F_i$, where $c_i \in \{0, 1, \dots, m\}$ and $c_i c_{i-1}$ is lexicographically smaller than mn . The coefficients $c_j c_{j-1} \dots c_1$ can be found by the so-called ‘greedy algorithm’. Thus j is a number for which $F_j \leq x < F_{j+1}$ and $c_j := \lfloor x F_j^{-1} \rfloor$. We obtain coefficients c_i , $i < j$, by applying the same steps to the integer $\tilde{x} = x - c_j F_j$.

Let $z \in \Sigma(h)$, i.e. $z = a + b\beta$ and $|z'| < h$. Since both $\Sigma(h)$ and \mathbb{Z}_{β} are symmetric with respect to the origin, it suffices to show the statement for $b \geq 0$. Let us express $b = \sum_{i=1}^j c_i F_i$. Then

$$(5) \quad z = \sum_{i=1}^j c_i (F_i \beta + G_i) - \sum_{i=1}^j c_i G_i + a = z_1 + z_2,$$

where $z_2 := a - \sum_{i=1}^j c_i G_i \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $z_1 := \sum_{i=1}^j c_i \beta^i \in \beta\mathbb{Z}_{\beta} \subset \mathbb{Z}_{\beta}$. Applying the Galois automorphism to the equality $z = z_1 + z_2$ gives $z_2 = z' - z'_1$. Since $|z'| < h$ and $|z'_1| < -\beta'H$, the integer z_2 belongs to the interval $(-h + \beta'H, h - \beta'H)$. \square

Corollary 5.2.

$$\mathbb{Z}_\beta \mathbb{Z}_\beta \subset \mathbb{Z}_\beta + \{-p, \dots, p\}, \quad \text{where } p \leq \frac{(m+2)^4}{4}.$$

Proof. Since $\mathbb{Z}_\beta \subset \Sigma(H)$, we have $\mathbb{Z}_\beta \mathbb{Z}_\beta \subset \Sigma(H^2)$. The proof will be completed if we verify that $H^2 - \beta' H \leq \frac{1}{4}(m+2)^4$. Let us first show that

$$(6) \quad \frac{1}{1 - \beta'^2} < \frac{m+3}{2}.$$

We have $-\beta' = \frac{n}{\beta}$, thus for $n \leq m-1$

$$1 - \beta'^2 = 1 - \frac{n^2}{\beta^2} > 1 - \frac{n^2}{m^2} \geq 1 - \frac{(m-1)^2}{m^2} = \frac{2m-1}{m^2} \geq \frac{2}{m+3}.$$

For $n = m$ the inequality (6) is verified directly using $\beta' = \frac{1}{2}(m - \sqrt{m^2 + 4m})$. Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} H^2 - \beta' H &\leq H^2 + H = \frac{m^2}{(1 - \beta'^2)^2} + \frac{m}{1 - \beta'^2} < \\ &< \frac{m^2(m+3)^2}{4} + \frac{m(m+3)}{2} = \\ &= \frac{1}{4}m(m+1)(m+2)(m+3) \leq \frac{1}{4}(m+2)^4. \end{aligned}$$

□

The above corollary states that a product of two β -integers can be written as a sum of a β -integer and a rational integer. Let us derive the number of fractional digits of the β -expansion of a rational integer p .

Lemma 5.3. *Let $p \in \mathbb{N}$. Then*

$$\text{fp}_\beta(p) \leq (1 + \log_2 p)L_\oplus(\beta).$$

Proof. The proof is based on a simple observation that

$$(7) \quad \text{fp}_\beta(x + y) \leq \max\{\text{fp}_\beta(x), \text{fp}_\beta(y)\} + L_\oplus(\beta),$$

which in particular gives $\text{fp}_\beta(2x) \leq \text{fp}_\beta(x) + L_\oplus(\beta)$. Applying the latter k -times we obtain $\text{fp}_\beta(2^k) \leq kL_\oplus(\beta)$. We use mathematical induction on j to prove that if p has a binary expansion $p = \sum_{i=0}^j a_i 2^i$ then $\text{fp}_\beta(p) \leq (j+1)L_\oplus(\beta)$. Using the hypothesis for $p = \sum_{i=0}^j a_i 2^i = 2^j + \sum_{i=0}^{j-1} a_i 2^i$ we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \text{fp}_\beta(p) &\leq \max\left\{\text{fp}_\beta(2^j), \text{fp}_\beta\left(\sum_{i=0}^{j-1} a_i 2^i\right)\right\} + L_\oplus(\beta) \leq \\ &\leq \max\{jL_\oplus(\beta), jL_\oplus(\beta)\} + L_\oplus(\beta) = (j+1)L_\oplus(\beta). \end{aligned}$$

The statement of the lemma follows easily from the fact that $j \leq \log_2 p$. □

The following theorem is a simple consequence of Corollary 5.2 and Lemma 5.3.

Theorem 5.4. *Let $\beta > 1$ be a solution of $x^2 = mx + n$, $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$, $m \geq n$. Then*

$$L_{\odot}(\beta) \leq 4L_{\oplus}(\beta) \log_2(m+2).$$

Proof. Let $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}_{\beta}$. Using Corollary 5.2, we have $\text{fp}_{\beta}(xy) = \text{fp}_{\beta}(z+p)$ for some $z \in \mathbb{Z}_{\beta}$ and $p \in \mathbb{N}$, $p \leq \frac{1}{4}(m+2)^4$. Now due to (7)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{fp}_{\beta}(z+p) &\leq \text{fp}_{\beta}(p) + L_{\oplus}(\beta) \leq (2 + \log_2 p)L_{\oplus}(\beta) \leq \\ &\leq \left(2 + \log_2 \frac{(m+2)^4}{4}\right) L_{\oplus}(\beta). \end{aligned}$$

The statement of the theorem follows easily. □

6 L_{\oplus} for quadratic β

In this section we obtain an upper bound to $L_{\oplus}(\beta)$. This is done in two steps: first we find an upper bound to $\text{fp}(x+y)$ where x is an arbitrary β -integer and y is a β -integer of a specific form. Then we show that any β -integer can be written as a finite sum of numbers in this specific form. An upper bound to $L_{\oplus}(\beta)$ is obtained by combining both results.

Let $\beta > 1$ be a solution of $x^2 = mx + n$, $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$, $m \geq n$. Let $(x)_{\beta} = x_k x_{k-1} \dots x_1 x_0 \bullet x_{-1} x_{-2} \dots x_{-p}$ be a β -representation of x , i.e. $0 \leq x_i \leq m$. The β -representation $(x)_{\beta}$ is a β -expansion of x if and only if $x_i x_{i-1}$ is lexicographically smaller than $mn = d(1, \beta)$ for every i .

The following lemma is an easy consequence of the result of Frougny and Solomyak in [4]. It is mentioned here in order to make the article self-contained.

Lemma 6.1. *Let $(x)_{\beta} = x_k x_{k-1} \dots x_1 x_0 \bullet x_{-1} x_{-2} \dots x_{-p}$ be a β -representation of x . Then $\text{fp}_{\beta}(x) \leq p$.*

Proof. If the representation is already in the form of a β -expansion, then $\text{fp}_{\beta}(x) = p$. Otherwise we can find the largest j such that $x_j x_{j-1}$ is lexicographically bigger or equal to mn . Since $x_i \leq m$ for all i , necessarily $x_j = m$ and $x_{j-1} \geq n$. Since j was the largest index with this property, $x_{j+1} < m$. Therefore we can define a new representation of x as $(x)_{\beta} = \tilde{x}_k \tilde{x}_{k-1} \dots \tilde{x}_1 \tilde{x}_0 \bullet \tilde{x}_{-1} \tilde{x}_{-2} \dots \tilde{x}_{-p}$ where $\tilde{x}_j := x_j - m$, $\tilde{x}_{j-1} := x_{j-1} - n$, $\tilde{x}_{j+1} := x_{j+1} + 1$, and $\tilde{x}_i = x_i$ otherwise. In the new representation the sum of digits is strictly smaller than in the previous one. This procedure can be repeated and in finitely many steps we obtain the β -expansion of x . The result follows easily, since in each step the number of digits in the fractional part of the representation does not increase. □

Let us first determine a lower bound to $L_{\oplus}(\beta)$. It suffices to find a single example of addition with specified fractional part length. We use the following example.

Example 6.2. Consider $x = m \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \beta^{2i}$. Then it can be shown by induction on k that

$$x + x = \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} (A_{k-i}\beta + B_{k-i}) \beta^{2i} + \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \left(\frac{a_{k-i}}{\beta} + \frac{b_{k-i}}{\beta^2} \right) \beta^{-2i},$$

where the coefficients A_i, B_i, a_i and $b_i, i \in \mathbb{N}$, are defined by

$$\begin{aligned} A_i &= i(m - n + 1) - m + n \\ B_i &= 2m - n - i(m - n + 1) \\ a_i &= i(m - n + 1) - 1 \\ b_i &= m + 1 - i(m - n + 1) \end{aligned}$$

Formally written, we have

$$x + x = A_1 B_1 A_2 B_2 \dots A_k B_k \bullet a_k b_k \dots a_2 b_2 a_1 b_1$$

The above expression is a β -expansion if and only if all the coefficients A_i, B_i, a_i and b_i take values in $\{0, 1, \dots, m\}$, for $i = 1, \dots, k$. This implies the following conditions on k ,

$$\begin{aligned} k(m - n + 1) &\leq m + 1 \\ (k - 1)(m - n + 1) &\leq m - 1 \end{aligned}$$

For $m = n$ the latter condition is stronger and the maximal k satisfying it is $k = m$. If on the other hand $m > n$, the first condition is stronger and the maximal $k \in \mathbb{N}$ satisfying it is

$$k_0 := \left\lceil \frac{m + 1}{m - n + 1} \right\rceil.$$

Corollary 6.3. Let β be the larger solution of $x^2 = mx + n$, $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$, $m \geq n > 0$. Then

$$L_{\oplus}(\beta) \geq \begin{cases} 2m & \text{if } m = n \\ 2k_0 & \text{if } m > n. \end{cases}$$

From now on we focus on determining the upper bound for $L_{\oplus}(\beta)$.

Lemma 6.4. Let $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}_{\beta}$, $x, y \geq 0$, with β -expansions

$$\begin{aligned} (x)_{\beta} &= x_{\ell} x_{\ell-1} \dots x_1 x_0 \bullet \\ (y)_{\beta} &= y_k y_{k-1} \dots y_1 y_0 \bullet \end{aligned}$$

where $y_i \leq m - n + 1$ for $i = 0, 1, \dots, k-2, k-1$. Then the β -expansion of $x + y$ is equal to

$$(x + y)_\beta = z_r z_{r-1} \dots z_1 z_0 \bullet z_{-1} z_{-2}$$

where

$$\frac{z_{-1}}{\beta} + \frac{z_{-2}}{\beta^2} \in \left\{ 0, \frac{n}{\beta}, \frac{m-n}{\beta} + \frac{n}{\beta^2} \left(= 1 - \frac{n}{\beta} \right) \right\}.$$

Proof. We make use of the relation $m + p = \beta + p - 1 + (m - n)\beta^{-1} + n\beta^{-2}$, for $p \leq m$, i.e. $(m + p)_\beta = 1(p - 1) \bullet (m - n)n$. Symbolically it may be rewritten as

$$(8) \quad \begin{array}{c|c} m & \\ + & \\ p & \\ \hline 1 & (p-1) \mid (m-n) \quad n \end{array}$$

In the proof of the lemma we proceed by induction on the values of y . Let $y = y_0 \leq m - n + 1$. Then according to (8), the β -representation of $x + y$ is

$$(x + y)_\beta = \begin{cases} x_\ell \dots x_1 (x_0 + y_0) \bullet, & \text{if } x_0 + y_0 \leq m \\ x_\ell \dots (x_1 + 1)(x_0 + y_0 - m - 1) \bullet (m - n)n, & \text{if } x_0 + y_0 > m \end{cases}$$

Note that $x_1 + 1 \leq m$ in the second case, since $x_1 = m$ implies $x_0 \leq n - 1$, and thus $x_0 + y_0 \leq n - 1 + m - n + 1 = m$, which is a contradiction.

Now assume that the statement holds for all $\tilde{y} < y$ satisfying the conditions of the lemma. Suppose that there exists an index i such that $y_i > 0$ and $x_i < m$. Then $x + y = \tilde{x} + \tilde{y}$, where according to Lemma 6.1 $\tilde{x} = x + \beta^i \in \mathbb{Z}_\beta$ and $\tilde{y} = y - \beta^i$ satisfies the conditions of the lemma. We may thus use the induction hypothesis.

Suppose that $y_i > 0$ implies $x_i = m$ for all $i \leq k$. Since $x_\ell x_{\ell-1} \dots x_1 x_0$ is an expansion, $x_i = m$ implies $x_{i-1} \leq n - 1 < m$. Thus $y_i > 0$ implies $y_{i-1} = 0$. Since $y_k > 0$, we have $x_k = m$ and $x_{k+1} < m$. Without loss of generality we can consider only the case when $l \leq k + 1$. Therefore we have the following situation

$$\begin{array}{c|c} x_{k+1} & m & x_{k-1} & x_{k-2} & \dots & x_1 & x_0 \\ \hline y_k & 0 & y_{k-2} & \dots & y_1 & y_0 \end{array}$$

Let j be the smallest integer among $\{1, 2, \dots, [k/2]\}$ such that $y_{k-2j} < m - n + 1$. Then

$$\begin{array}{c|c} x_{k+1} & m & x_{k-1} & m & \dots & x_{k-2j+3} & m & x_{k-2j+1} & x_{k-2j} & x_{k-2j-1} & \dots & x_0 \\ \hline y_k & 0 & m-n+1 & \dots & 0 & m-n+1 & 0 & y_{k-2j} & y_{k-2j-1} & \dots & y_0 \end{array}$$

We may check by elementary algebra using the relation $\beta^2 = m\beta + n$ that

$$(9) \quad \begin{aligned} & m\beta^k + (m - n + 1) \sum_{i=1}^{j-1} \beta^{k-2i} = \\ & = \beta^{k+1} - \beta^k + (m - n + 1)\beta \sum_{i=1}^{j-1} \beta^{k-2i} + (m - n)\beta^{k-2j+1} + n\beta^{k-2j}. \end{aligned}$$

Using this relation, we may write the sum $x + y = \tilde{x} + \tilde{y}$ as

$$\begin{array}{cccccccccccc} (x_{k+1}+1) & (y_k-1) & \tilde{x}_{k-1} & m & \dots & \tilde{x}_{k-2j+3} & m & \tilde{x}_{k-2j+1} & x_{k-2j} & x_{k-2j-1} & \dots & x_0 \\ \hline & & & & & & & & (y_{k-2j}+n) & y_{k-2j-1} & \dots & y_0 \end{array}$$

where $\tilde{x}_{k-2i+1} = x_{k-2i+1} + m - n + 1$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, j - 1$ and $\tilde{x}_{k-2j+1} = x_{k-2j+1} + m - n$. The first row represents the summand \tilde{x} , the second row the summand \tilde{y} . Due to (9) we have $x + y = \tilde{x} + \tilde{y}$. Obviously $\tilde{x}, \tilde{y} \in \mathbb{Z}_\beta$, the digits of \tilde{y} are $\leq m - n + 1$, except its first non zero digit from the left. We have $\tilde{y} < y$ and thus we may use the induction hypothesis.

There remains to solve the case where $y_{k-2i} = m - n + 1$ for all $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, [k/2]\}$. Then either

$$y = y_k \ 0 \ (m - n + 1) \ 0 \ (m - n + 1) \ \dots \ 0 \ (m - n + 1),$$

or

$$y = y_k \ 0 \ (m - n + 1) \ 0 \ (m - n + 1) \ \dots \ 0 \ (m - n + 1) \ 0,$$

i.e.

$$y = y_k \beta^k + (m - n + 1) \sum_{i=1}^{[k/2]} \beta^{k-2i}$$

for k even or odd. We may deduce from the relation (9) that the results of the addition $x + y$ has fractional part $1 - \frac{n}{\beta}$ and $\frac{n}{\beta}$ respectively. This completes the proof. \square

Lemma 6.5. *Let $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}_\beta$, $x > y \geq 0$. Then*

$$x - y = \begin{cases} z \\ z + (n - 1) \sum_{i=0}^k \beta^{2i} + 1 \\ z + (n - 1) \sum_{i=1}^k \beta^{2i-1} + \frac{n}{\beta} \end{cases} \quad \text{with } z \in \mathbb{Z}_\beta, \ z \geq 0, \ k \geq 0.$$

Proof. First note that for every $x \in \mathbb{Z}_\beta$ there exists a β -representation $(x)_\beta = x_\ell \dots x_1 x_0 \bullet$ such that $x_i + x_{i-1} > 0$ for all $0 < i \leq \ell$, i.e. the β -representation is ‘dense’. The dense form can be found by the following procedure: Find the first pair of zeros from the left, say $x_i = x_{i-1} = 0$,

$x_{i+1} > 0$. Put $\tilde{x}_{i+1} = x_{i+1} - 1$, $\tilde{x}_i = m$, $\tilde{x}_{i-1} = n$, and $\tilde{x}_j = x_j$ for all other $0 \leq j \leq \ell$. The new β -representation $(x)_\beta = \tilde{x}_\ell \dots \tilde{x}_1 \tilde{x}_0 \bullet$, has strictly lower number of vanishing coefficients. Thus the procedure is finite.

The proof of the lemma is done by induction on the value of y . Without loss of generality we may assume that both $(x)_\beta = x_\ell \dots x_1 x_0 \bullet$ and $(y)_\beta = y_k \dots y_1 y_0 \bullet$ are written in their dense form.

Assume that there is an index i such that both x_i and y_i are non-zero. Then $x - y = \tilde{x} - \tilde{y}$, where $\tilde{x} = x - \beta^i$ and $\tilde{y} = y - \beta^i$. Clearly, $\tilde{x}, \tilde{y} \in \mathbb{Z}_\beta$ and $\tilde{y} < y$, thus we may use the induction hypothesis.

Assume that $y_i > 0$ implies $x_i = 0$ for all indices i . Since $x_i + x_{i-1} > 0$, we have $y_{i-1} = 0$. Since $y_k > 0$, we have $x_k = 0$ and $x_{k+1} > 0$. Without loss of generality we consider $l = k + 1$ and $x_{k+1} = 1$. Since both x and y are in their dense form, the remaining cases are as follows. First assume that the maximal index k such that y_k is non-zero, is even. We have $x - y$ equal to

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----|-------------|-----------|-----------------|-----------|-----|---------|-------------|-----|
| 1 | 0 | x_{k-1} | 0 | x_{k-3} | ... | x_1 | 0 | |
| - | y_k | 0 | y_{k-2} | 0 | ... | 0 | y_0 | |
| 1 | 0 | x_{k-1} | 0 | x_{k-3} | ... | x_1 | 0 | |
| - 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ... | 0 | 0 | |
| + | m | $(n-1)$ | m | $(n-1)$ | ... | $(n-1)$ | m | n |
| - | y_k | 0 | y_{k-2} | 0 | ... | 0 | y_0 | |
| | $(m - y_k)$ | x_{k-1} | $(m - y_{k-2})$ | x_{k-3} | ... | x_1 | $(m - y_0)$ | |
| + | | $(n-1)$ | 0 | $(n-1)$ | ... | $(n-1)$ | 0 | n |

which corresponds to the statement of the lemma. For k odd we may write similarly that $x - y$ equals to

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------|-----------|-----------------|-----------|-----|---------|-------------|-------|
| 1 | 0 | x_{k-1} | 0 | x_{k-3} | ... | x_2 | 0 | x_0 |
| - | y_k | 0 | y_{k-2} | 0 | ... | 0 | y_1 | 0 |
| | $(m - y_k)$ | x_{k-1} | $(m - y_{k-2})$ | x_{k-3} | ... | x_2 | $(m - y_1)$ | x_0 |
| + | | $(n-1)$ | 0 | $(n-1)$ | ... | $(n-1)$ | 0 | n |

which is of the desired form. □

Theorem 6.6. *Let β be the larger solution of $x^2 = mx + n$, $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$, $m \geq n > 0$. Then*

$$L_{\oplus}(\beta) = 2m \quad \text{if} \quad m = n$$

and

$$2 \left\lfloor \frac{m+1}{m-n+1} \right\rfloor \leq L_{\oplus}(\beta) \leq 2 \left\lceil \frac{m}{m-n+1} \right\rceil \quad \text{if} \quad m > n.$$

Proof. Let $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}_\beta$, $xy > 0$. Every y may be splitted into a sum $y = y_{(1)} + \dots + y_{(s)}$, for some s , where the summands $y_{(i)}$ have digits $\leq m - n + 1$,

and thus satisfy the assumptions of Lemma 6.4. We can always choose $y_{(i)}$ in such a way that the sum has at most

$$s_0 := \left\lceil \frac{m}{m-n+1} \right\rceil,$$

non-vanishing summands. Lemma 6.4 then implies that $\text{fp}_\beta(x+y) \leq 2s_0$.

Now let $xy < 0$, without loss of generality $x > -y$. Then according to Lemma 6.5 $x+y$ can be written either as $z+w$ for some $0 \leq z, w \in \mathbb{Z}_\beta$, or $x+y = z + (n-1) \sum_{i=1}^k \beta^{2i-1} + \frac{n}{\beta}$ for $0 \leq z \in \mathbb{Z}_\beta$. The sum $(n-1) \sum_{i=1}^k \beta^{2i-1}$ can be written as addition of $\lceil \frac{n-1}{m-n+1} \rceil = s_0 - 1$ summands with digits $\leq m-n+1$. Therefore

$$\text{fp}_\beta \left(z + (n-1) \sum_{i=1}^k \beta^{2i-1} \right) \leq 2(s_0 - 1).$$

Adding $\frac{n}{\beta}$ to the result only two more fractional digits may arise, cf. Lemma 6.4.

Thus the proof for the upper bound to $L_\oplus(\beta)$ is finished. The lower bound to $L_\oplus(\beta)$ is given by Corollary 6.3. \square

Last two sections were devoted to the study of arithmetics on β -expansions for $\beta > 1$, a solution of $x^2 = mx + n$, $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$, $m \geq n$. This is the case where Theorem 3.3 does not provide us with any results, since $K = 0$. Let us comment on the results obtained in Sections 5 and 6:

1. The lower and upper bound for $L_\oplus(\beta)$ found in Theorem 6.6 differ at most by 2. They coincide if and only if

$$m-n+1 \text{ divides } m \text{ or } m+1.$$

Based on observation, we conjecture that for $m > n$ we actually have $L_\oplus(\beta) = 2k_0$. We also note that for $m > n$ the results of subtraction $x-y$, where $x, y > 0$, has lower number of fractional digits than addition, more precisely, $\text{fp}_\beta(x-y) \leq 2k_0 - 1$.

2. According to Theorem 5.4 we may use the bound to $L_\oplus(\beta)$ to derive an upper estimate to $L_\odot(\beta)$. For example for $m = n$ this gives

$$L_\odot(\beta) \leq 8m(\log_2(m+2)).$$

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