Tree sets from Combinatorics on Words to Symbolic Dynamics

$Francesco \ Dolce$





Séminaire CANA

Marseille, March 15th, 2018

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Fibonacci



 $x = abaababaabaababa \cdots$

$$x = \lim_{n \to \infty} \varphi^n(a) \qquad \text{where} \qquad \varphi : \left\{ \begin{array}{l} a \mapsto ab \\ b \mapsto a \end{array} \right.$$





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Fibonacci



$x = abaababaabaababa \cdots$

The Fibonacci set (set of factors of x) is a Sturmian set.

A Sturmian set $S \subset A^*$ is a factorial set such that $p_n = \text{Card}(S \cap A^n) = n + 1$.



 $x = ab aa ba ba ab aa ba ba \cdots$

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 $x = ab aa ba ba ab aa ba ba \cdots$

$$f:\left\{\begin{array}{ccc} u & \mapsto & aa \\ v & \mapsto & ab \\ w & \mapsto & ba \end{array}\right.$$

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 $x = ab aa ba ba ab aa ba ba \cdots$ $f^{-1}(x) = v u w w v u w w \cdots$

ſ	и	\mapsto	aa
f : {	V	\mapsto	ab
l	w	\mapsto	ba

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Arnoux-Rauzy sets



Definition

An Arnoux-Rauzy set is a factorial set closed by reversal with $p_n = (Card (A) - 1)n + 1$ having a unique right special factor for each length.

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Arnoux-Rauzy sets



Definition

An Arnoux-Rauzy set is a factorial set closed by reversal with $p_n = (Card (A) - 1)n + 1$ having a unique right special factor for each length.

Example (Tribonacci)



 $f^{-1}(x) = v u w w v u w w \cdots$

Is the set of factors of $f^{-1}(S)$ an Arnoux-Rauzy set?

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Is the set of factors of $f^{-1}(S)$ an Arnoux-Rauzy set?



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 $f^{-1}(x) = v u w w v u w w \cdots$

Is the set of factors of $f^{-1}(S)$ an Arnoux-Rauzy set? No!



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Let $(I_{\alpha})_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}}$ and $(J_{\alpha})_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}}$ be two partitions of [0, 1[. An interval exchange transformation (IET) is a map $T : [0, 1[\rightarrow [0, 1[$ defined by

 $T(z) = z + y_{\alpha}$ if $z \in I_{\alpha}$.



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T is said to be minimal if for any point $z \in [0, 1[$ the orbit $\mathcal{O}(z) = \{T^n(z) \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ is dense in [0, 1[.

T is said *regular* if the orbits of the non-zero separation points are infinite and disjoint.

Theorem [M. Keane (1975)]

A regular interval exchange transformation is minimal.

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The natural coding of T relative to $z \in [0, 1[$ is the infinite word $\Sigma_T(z) = a_0 a_1 \cdots \in \mathcal{A}^{\omega}$ defined by

 $a_n = \alpha$ if $T^n(z) \in I_{\alpha}$.



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The set $\mathcal{L}(T) = \bigcup_{z \in [0,1[} \operatorname{Fac}(\Sigma_T(z)) \text{ is said a (minimal, regular) interval exchange set.}$

<u>Remark</u>. If T is minimal, $Fac(\Sigma_T(z))$ does not depend on the point z.



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<u>Remark</u>. If T is minimal, $Fac(\Sigma_T(z))$ does not depend on the point z.



Proposition

Regular interval exchange sets have factor complexity $p_n = (Card (A) - 1)n + 1$.

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Arnoux-Rauzy and Interval exchanges



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Arnoux-Rauzy and Interval exchanges



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Extension graphs

The extension graph of a word $w \in S$ is the undirected bipartite graph $\mathcal{E}(w)$ with vertices $L(w) \sqcup R(w)$ and edges B(w), where

$$\begin{array}{lll} L(w) &=& \{a \in \mathcal{A} \mid aw \in S\}, \\ R(w) &=& \{a \in \mathcal{A} \mid wa \in S\}, \\ B(w) &=& \{(a,b) \in \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{A} \mid awb \in S.\} \end{array}$$



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$$B(w) = \{(a, b) \in \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{A} \mid awb \in S.\}$$

The multiplicity of a word w is the quantity

$$m(w) = \operatorname{Card} \left(B(w) \right) - \operatorname{Card} \left(L(w) \right) - \operatorname{Card} \left(R(w) \right) + 1.$$



Definition

A factorial set S is called a *tree set* if the graph $\mathcal{E}(w)$ is a tree for any nonempty $w \in S$ and $\mathcal{E}(\varepsilon)$ a forest.



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Definition

A factorial set S is called a *tree set* if the graph $\mathcal{E}(w)$ is a tree for any nonempty $w \in S$ and $\mathcal{E}(\varepsilon)$ a forest. It is called *neutral* if every nonempty word has multiplicity m(w) = 0.



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The *characteristic* of a neutral/tree set S is the quantity $\chi(S) = 1 - m(\varepsilon)$.



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Definition

A factorial set S is *recurrent* if for every $u, v \in S$ there is a $w \in S$ such that uwv is in S.

Example (Fibonacci)

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Definition

A factorial set S is recurrent if for every $u, v \in S$ there is a $w \in S$ such that uwv is in S.

It is uniformly recurrent (or minimal) if for every $u \in S$ there exists an $n \in \mathbb{N}$ such that u is a factor of every word of length n in S.



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- A factorial set S is *recurrent* if for every $u, v \in S$ there is a $w \in S$ such that uwv is in S.
- It is uniformly recurrent (or minimal) if for every $u \in S$ there exists an $n \in \mathbb{N}$ such that u is a factor of every word of length n in S.
 - Arnoux-Rauzy
 - regular Interval Exchanges

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Proposition

Uniform recurrence \implies recurrence.

Theorem [D., Perrin (2016)]

A recurrent neutral (tree) set is uniformly recurrent.

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Let $<_{L}$ and $<_{R}$ be two orders on \mathcal{A} . For a set S and a word $w \in S$, the graph $\mathcal{E}(w)$ is *compatible* with $<_{L}$ and $<_{R}$ if for any $(a, b), (c, d) \in B(w)$, one has

$$a <_{L} c \implies b \leq_{R} d.$$



A biextendable set *S* is a *planar tree set* w.r.t. $<_{L}$ and $<_{R}$ on A if for any nonempty $w \in S$ (resp. ε) the graph $\mathcal{E}(w)$ is a tree (resp. forest) compatible with $<_{L}$ and $<_{R}$.

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Example

The *Tribonacci set* is **not** a planar tree set.

Indeed, let us consider the extension graphs of the bispecial words ε , a and aba.



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a <_L c <_L **b**



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• $\underline{a <_L c <_L b} \implies b <_R c <_R a$ or $c <_R b <_R a$



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Theorem [S. Ferenczi, L. Zamboni (2008)]

A set S is a regular interval exchange set on A if and only if it is a recurrent planar tree set of characteristic 1.





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• Fibonacci

- ? 2-coded Fibonacci
- Tribonacci
- ? 2-coded Tribonacci
- regular IE
- ? 2-coded regular IE

Definition

A *bifix code* is a set $B \subset A^+$ of nonempty words that does not contain any proper prefix or suffix of its elements.

Example

- \checkmark {aa, ab, ba}
- ✓ {aa, ab, bba, bbb}
- ✓ {ac, bcc, bcbca}

- X { avril, mars, Marseille }
- X { cap, calanque, que }
- X { CANA, nada, Canada }

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Definition

A *bifix code* is a set $B \subset A^+$ of nonempty words that does not contain any proper prefix or suffix of its elements.

A bifix code $B \subset S$ is S-maximal if it is not properly contained in a bifix code $C \subset S$.

Example (Fibonacci)

The set $B = \{aa, ab, ba\}$ is an *S*-maximal bifix code. It is not an \mathcal{A}^* -maximal bifix code, since $B \subset B \cup \{bb\}$.





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Definition

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A bifix code $B \subset S$ is S-maximal if it is not properly contained in a bifix code $C \subset S$.

A coding morphism for a bifix code $B \subset A^+$ is a morphism $f : \mathcal{B}^* \to \mathcal{A}^*$ which maps bijectively \mathcal{B} onto B.

Example

The map $f : \{u, v, w\}^* \to \{a, b\}^*$ is a coding morphism for $B = \{aa, ab, ba\}$.

$$f: \left\{ \begin{array}{c} u \mapsto aa \\ v \mapsto ab \\ w \mapsto ba \end{array} \right.$$

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When S is factorial and B is an S-maximal bifix code, the set $f^{-1}(S)$ is called a maximal bifix decoding of S.

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Theorem [Berthé, De Felice, D., Leroy, Perrin, Reutenauer, Rindone (2014)]

The family of recurrent planar tree sets of characteristic 1 (i.e. regular interval exchange sets) is closed under maximal bifix decoding.



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Theorem Berthé, De Felice, D., Leroy, Perrin, Reutenauer, Rindone (2014, 2015); D., Perrin (2016)

The family of recurrent neutral sets (resp. tree sets) of characteristic c is closed under maximal bifix decoding.



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Tree sets of characteristic ≥ 1



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Tree sets of characteristic ≥ 1





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The shift transformation is the function

$$\sigma: \mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{Z}} \to \mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{Z}} (x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \mapsto (x_{n+1})_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$$

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Example (Fibonacci)

 $\mathbf{x} = \cdots a b. a b a a b a b a a b$

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$egin{array}{c} \mathbf{x} & \sigma (\mathbf{x}) \ \sigma^2 (\mathbf{x}) \end{array}$	=	···· ab.abaababaabaababaabaabaabaab ···· ··· ba.baababaabaabaabaabaabaabaaba ··· ab.aababaabaababaababaababab ···

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$egin{array}{c} \mathbf{x} & \sigma(\mathbf{x}) \ \sigma^2(\mathbf{x}) & \sigma^3(\mathbf{x}) \end{array}$	= = =	···· ab.abaababaababaababaabaabaab ···· ··· ba.baababaabaababaabaabaaba ··· ab.aababaabaababaabaabaabababa ··· ··· ba.ababaabaababaabaabaabaabaabaabaaba

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The shift transformation is the function

$$\sigma: \mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{Z}} \longrightarrow \mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{Z}} \\ (x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \longmapsto (x_{n+1})_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$$

The pair (X, σ) , with X a closed σ -invariant subset of $\mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{Z}}$ is called a *subshift*.

Example (Fibonacci)

The Fibonacci subshift is the set $X = \overline{\mathcal{O}(\mathbf{x})} = \overline{\{\sigma^n(\mathbf{x}) \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}\}} \subset \mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{Z}}$, with

 $\mathbf{x} = \cdots ab.abaabaabaabaabaabaabaabaabaab \cdots$

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 (X, σ) is a tree subshift if its language $\mathcal{L}(X) = \bigcup_{\mathbf{x} \in X} Fac(\mathbf{x})$ is a tree set.

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Entropy of tree subshifts

The *entropy* of a shift (X, σ) having language $\mathcal{L}(X) \subset \mathcal{A}^*$ is defined as

$$h(X) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{1}{n} \log(\mathcal{L}(X) \cap \mathcal{A}^n)$$

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Proposition

All tree subshifts have entropy zero.

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A probability measure μ on (X, σ) is said to be *invariant* if $\mu(\sigma^{-1}(U)) = \mu(U)$ for every Borel subset U of X.

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A probability measure μ on (X, σ) is said to be *invariant* if $\mu(\sigma^{-1}(U)) = \mu(U)$ for every Borel subset U of X.

A subshift having only one invariant probability measure is said to be uniquely ergodic.

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A probability measure μ on (X, σ) is said to be *invariant* if $\mu(\sigma^{-1}(U)) = \mu(U)$ for every Borel subset U of X.

A subshift having only one invariant probability measure is said to be uniquely ergodic.

Theorem [P. Arnoux, G. Rauzy (1991)]

Subshifts associated to Arnoux-Rauzy sets are uniquely ergodic.

Example (Fibonacci, $\rho = (\sqrt{5} - 1)/2$)



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Given an interval exchange transformation T and a word $w = a_0 a_1 \cdots a_{m-1} \in \mathcal{A}^*$, let

$$I_w = I_{a_0} \cap T^{-1}(I_{a_1}) \cap \ldots \cap T^{-m+1}(I_{a_{m-1}})$$



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The map λ defined by $\lambda([w]) = |I_w|$ is an invariant probability measure.

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The map λ defined by $\lambda([w]) = |I_w|$ is an invariant probability measure.

QUESTION : Is it the only one?

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Conjecture [M. Keane (1975)]

Every regular IE is uniquely ergodic.

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Conjecture [M. Keane (1975)]

Every regular IE is uniquely ergodic.

Theorem [H. Masur (1982), W. Veech (1982)]

Almost all regular IE are uniquely ergodic.

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Conjecture [M. Keane (1975)]

Every regular IE is uniquely ergodic. False !

Theorem [H. Masur (1982), W. Veech (1982)]

Almost all regular IE are uniquely ergodic.

Theorem [H.B. Keynes, D. Newton (1976)]

There exist regular IE not uniquely ergodic.

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Conjecture [M. Keane (1975)]

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Almost all regular IE are uniquely ergodic.

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There exist regular IE not uniquely ergodic.

Corollary

Tree subshift are **not** in general uniquely ergodic (even when minimal).

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Ergodicity of a tree subshiftTheorem [M. Boshernitzan (1984)]A minimal symbolic system such that $\limsup_{n \to \infty} \left(\frac{p_n}{n}\right) < 3$ is uniquely ergodic.

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Corollary

Minimal tree subshift over an alphabet of size ≤ 3 are uniquely ergodic.

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Corollary

Minimal tree subshift over an alphabet of size ≤ 3 are uniquely ergodic.



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Minimal tree subshifts on a 3-letter alphabet

Two subshifts $(X, \sigma), (Y, \sigma)$ are *orbit equivalent* if there exists a homeomorphism $\eta : X \to Y$ such that for all $x \in X$ one has

 $\eta\left(\mathcal{O}(\mathbf{x})\right) = \mathcal{O}\left(\eta(\mathbf{x})\right).$

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Minimal tree subshifts on a 3-letter alphabet

Two subshifts $(X, \sigma), (Y, \sigma)$ are orbit equivalent if there exists a homeomorphism $\eta: X \to Y$ such that for all $\mathbf{x} \in X$ one has

 $\eta \left(\mathcal{O}(\mathbf{x}) \right) = \mathcal{O} \left(\eta(\mathbf{x}) \right).$

Theorem V. Berthé, P. Cecchi, F.D., F. Durand, J. Leroy, D. Perrin, S. Petite (2018+)

All minimal tree subshifts on a 3 letter alphabet having the same letter frequency are orbit equivalent.



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