

S-adic tiles

Wolfgang Steiner

(joint work with Valérie Berthé and Jörg Thuswaldner)

LIAFA (CNRS, Université Paris Diderot – Paris 7)

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S-adic words

Let S be a finite set of substitutions on the alphabet $A = \{1, \dots, d\}$.
An infinite word $\omega \in A^{\mathbb{N}}$ is an *S-adic word* if

$$\omega = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sigma_0 \sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_{n-1}(a_n)$$

for sequences $(\sigma_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \in S^{\mathbb{N}}$ and $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \in A^{\mathbb{N}}$.

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Example

Arnoux-Rauzy sequences on $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$: $S = \{\tau_1, \tau_2, \tau_3\}$,

$$\begin{array}{lll} \tau_1 : & 1 \mapsto 1 & \tau_2 : 1 \mapsto 21 & \tau_3 : 1 \mapsto 31 \\ & 2 \mapsto 12 & 2 \mapsto 2 & 2 \mapsto 32 \\ & 3 \mapsto 13 & 3 \mapsto 23 & 3 \mapsto 3 \end{array}$$

e.g.

$$\begin{aligned} \omega &= 1121131121112113112111211311211211311211121131121 \cdots \\ &= \tau_1(1213121121312112131212131211213121 \cdots) \\ &= \tau_1 \tau_1(2321232123223212321 \cdots) \\ &= \tau_1 \tau_1 \tau_2(3131323131 \cdots) \\ &= \tau_1 \tau_1 \tau_2 \tau_3(11211 \cdots) \end{aligned}$$

Periodic case (fixed point of a substitution)

If $(\sigma_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \in S^{\mathbb{N}}$ and $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \in A^{\mathbb{N}}$ are periodic with period p , then

$$\omega = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\sigma_0 \sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_{p-1})^n(a_0)$$

Example

Tribonacci sequence

$$\omega = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\tau_1 \tau_2 \tau_3)^n(1) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \tau^n(1)$$

$$\begin{array}{lcl} \tau_1 \tau_2 \tau_3 : & 1 \mapsto & 1213121 \\ & 2 \mapsto & 121312 \\ & 3 \mapsto & 1213 \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{lcl} \tau : & 1 \mapsto & 12 \\ & 2 \mapsto & 13 \\ & 3 \mapsto & 1 \end{array}$$

$$\tau_1 \tau_2 \tau_3 = \tau^3$$

Broken line

The *abelianisation map* on A^* is

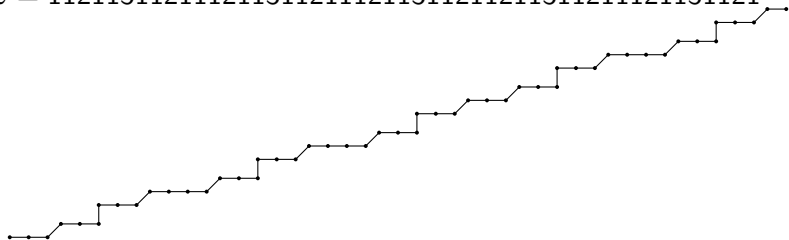
$$\mathbf{l}: A^* \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^d, \quad w \mapsto (|w|_1, |w|_2, \dots, |w|_d)^t,$$

where $|w|_j$ denotes the number of occurrences of the letter j in w .
The *broken line* associated with $\omega = \omega_0\omega_1 \cdots \in A^{\mathbb{N}}$ has vertex set

$$\{\mathbf{l}(\omega_{[0,n]}) : n \in \mathbb{N}\}, \quad \text{where } \omega_{[0,n]} = \omega_0\omega_1 \cdots \omega_{n-1}.$$

Example

$\omega = 1121131121112113112111211311211211311211121131121 \dots$



Rauzy fractal

If the letter frequencies $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|\omega_{[0,n]}|_i}{n}$ exist, let

$$\mathbf{u} = (f_1, f_2, \dots, f_d)^t$$

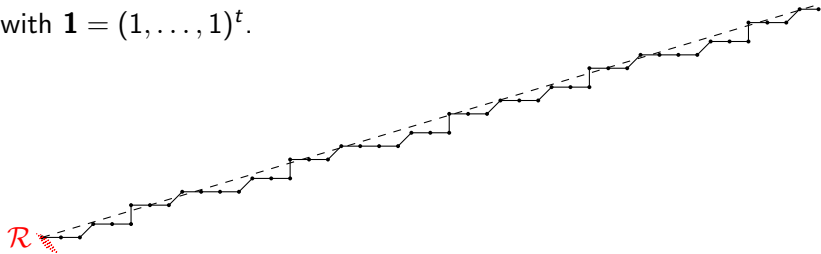
be the *frequency vector* of ω . For $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^d \setminus \{\mathbf{0}\}$, let

$$\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{v}) = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d : \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v} \rangle = 0\},$$

$\pi_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}}$ the projection onto the hyperplane $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{v})$ in the direction of \mathbf{u} .
The *Rauzy fractal* corresponding to ω is defined by

$$\mathcal{R} = \overline{\{\pi_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{1}} \mathbf{l}(\omega_{[0,n]}) : n \in \mathbb{N}\}} \subset \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{1}),$$

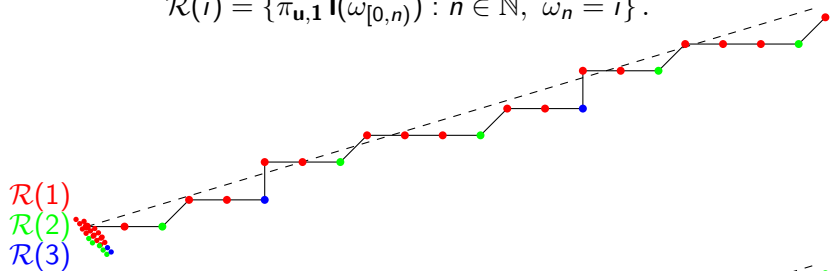
with $\mathbf{1} = (1, \dots, 1)^t$.



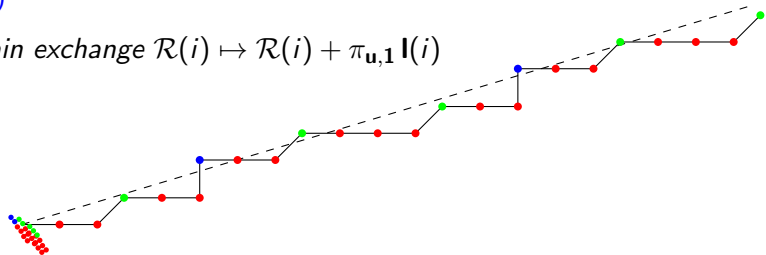
Subtiles and domain exchange

The Rauzy fractal has *subtiles* defined by

$$\mathcal{R}(i) = \overline{\{\pi_{\mathbf{u},1} \mathbf{l}(\omega_{[0,n)}) : n \in \mathbb{N}, \omega_n = i\}}.$$



domain exchange $\mathcal{R}(i) \mapsto \mathcal{R}(i) + \pi_{\mathbf{u},1} \mathbf{l}(i)$



$$\mathbf{l}(i) - \mathbf{l}(j) \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{1}) \cap \mathbb{Z}^d \quad \Rightarrow \quad \pi_{\mathbf{u},1} \mathbf{l}(i) \equiv \pi_{\mathbf{u},1} \mathbf{l}(j) \pmod{\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{1}) \cap \mathbb{Z}^d}$$

Covering and tiling of $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{1})$

Lemma

We have

$$(\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{1}) \cap \mathbb{Z}^d) + \mathcal{R} = \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{1})$$

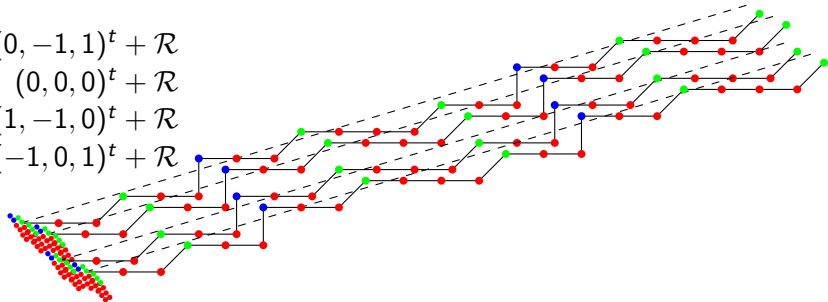
if and only if f_1, f_2, \dots, f_d are rationally independent.

$$(0, -1, 1)^t + \mathcal{R}$$

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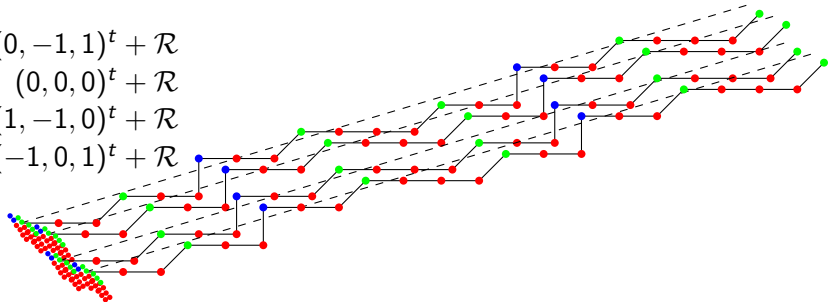
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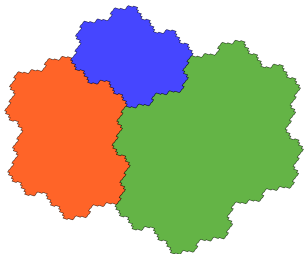
When does

$$\mathcal{C} = \{\mathbf{x} + \mathcal{R} : \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{1}) \cap \mathbb{Z}^d\}$$

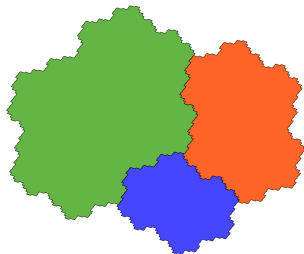
form a *tiling* of $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{1})$, with $\lambda(\mathcal{R}(i) \cap \mathcal{R}(j)) = 0$ for $i \neq j$?

(λ denotes the Lebesgue measure on $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{1})$)

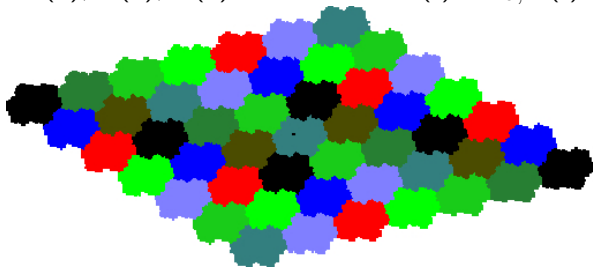
Domain exchange and tiling for the Tribonacci sequence



$\mathcal{R}(1), \mathcal{R}(2), \mathcal{R}(3)$



$\mathcal{R}(i) + \pi_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{1}} \mathbf{l}(i)$



$\{\mathbf{x} + \mathcal{R} : \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{1}) \cap \mathbb{Z}^d\}$

Symbolic dynamical system and translation on \mathbb{T}^{d-1}

The *symbolic dynamical system* generated by $\omega \in A^{\mathbb{N}}$ is (X_ω, Σ) , with Σ the *shift* on $A^{\mathbb{N}}$, i.e., $\Sigma((\omega_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}) = (\omega_{n+1})_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$, and

$$X_\omega = \overline{\{\Sigma^n(\omega) \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\}}$$

(closure w.r.t. product topology of discrete topology on A).
For most S -adic sequences, (X_ω, Σ) is uniquely ergodic.

If \mathcal{C} forms a tiling of $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{1})$, $\lambda(\mathcal{R}(i) \cap \mathcal{R}(j)) = 0$ for $i \neq j$ (and possibly other conditions), then (X_ω, Σ) is metrically conjugate to the translation by $\pi_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{1}} \mathbf{l}(i)$ on $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{1}) / (\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{1}) \cap \mathbb{Z}^d) \simeq \mathbb{T}^{d-1}$, hence (X_ω, Σ) has purely discrete spectrum.

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Pisot conjecture: pure discrete spectrum in the periodic unimodular Pisot case. (Barge–Diamond '02: $d = 2$, Berthé–Jolivet–Siegel '12: periodic Arnoux–Rauzy case, Nakaishi '13, ...)

Finite balances

A pair of words $u, v \in A^*$ with $|u| = |v|$ is *C-balanced* if

$$-C \leq |u|_j - |v|_j \leq C \quad \forall j \in A.$$

$\omega \in A^{\mathbb{N}}$ is *C-balanced* if each pair of factors u, v of ω with $|u| = |v|$ is *C-balanced*; ω is *finitely balanced* if it is *C-balanced* for some C .

Lemma

The Rauzy fractal \mathcal{R} is compact if and only if ω is finitely balanced.

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Examples (Berthé–Cassaigne–St '13)

Let ω be an Arnoux-Rauzy sequence on $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$, $\sigma_n = \tau_{t_n}$.

- ▶ If $\nexists m \in \mathbb{N}$ with $t_m = t_{m+1} = \dots = t_{m+h}$ (i.e., weak partial quotients are bounded by h), then ω is $(2h+1)$ -balanced.
- ▶ Let X be the set $\{1121, 1122, 12121, 12122\}$ together with the words obtained by permutations of letters.
If $t_0 t_1 t_2 \dots$ has no factor in X , then ω is 2-balanced.
- ▶ Cassaigne–Ferenczi–Zamboni '00 construct Arnoux-Rauzy sequences on 3 letters that are not finitely balanced, hence they are not natural codings of rotations on \mathbb{T}^2 .

Generalised Perron-Frobenius eigenvectors

Let M_n be the incidence matrix of σ_n . An S -adic word is

- ▶ *primitive* if $\forall j \in \mathbb{N} \exists k > j$ such that $M_{[j,k)}$ is strictly positive,
- ▶ *S -recurrent* if the sequence $(\sigma_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is recurrent.

If ω is primitive and S -recurrent, then by Furstenberg '60

$$\bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} M_{[0,n)} \mathbb{R}_+^d = \mathbb{R}_+ \mathbf{u} \quad \text{for some } \mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}_+^d;$$

\mathbf{u} is called *generalised right eigenvector*. If ω is finitely balanced, then frequencies exist and \mathbf{u} is the frequency vector of ω .

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Let $(n_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ be an increasing subsequence of \mathbb{N} with $\sigma_{[n_k, n_k+k]} = \sigma_{[0,k]}$ (which exists if ω is S -recurrent). We can choose $(n_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ such that

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\mathbf{v} is called *generalised left eigenvector*.

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$$\mathbf{u}_n = (M_{[0,n]})^{-1} \mathbf{u}, \quad \mathbf{v}_n = \mathbf{v} M_{[0,n]}.$$

Then

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\mathbf{u}_{n_k}}{\|\mathbf{u}_{n_k}\|} = \frac{\mathbf{u}}{\|\mathbf{u}\|}, \quad \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\mathbf{v}_{n_k}}{\|\mathbf{v}_{n_k}\|} = \frac{\mathbf{v}}{\|\mathbf{v}\|}.$$

Rauzy fractals in $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{v}_k)$ and set equations

Let

$$\omega^{(k)} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sigma_{[k,n]}(a_n), \quad (\omega = \omega^{(0)})$$

$$\mathcal{R}_k(i) = \overline{\left\{ \pi_{\mathbf{u}_k, \mathbf{v}_k} \mathbf{l}(\omega_{[0,n]}^{(k)}) : n \in \mathbb{N}, \omega_n^{(k)} = i \right\}}.$$

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Then $\mathcal{R}_0(i) = \pi_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}} \mathcal{R}(i)$, and we have the set equations

$$\mathcal{R}_k(i) = \bigcup_{j \in A, p, s \in A^* : \sigma_k(j) = pis} (\pi_{\mathbf{u}_k, \mathbf{v}_k} \mathbf{I}(p) + M_k \mathcal{R}_{k+1}(j)),$$

(note that $M_k \pi_{\mathbf{u}_{k+1}, \mathbf{v}_{k+1}} = \pi_{\mathbf{u}_k, \mathbf{v}_k} M_k$), i.e.,

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The *discrete hyperplane* approximating $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{v}_k)$ is

$$\Gamma(\mathbf{v}_k) = \{[\mathbf{x}, i] \in \mathbb{Z}^d \times A : 0 \leq \langle \mathbf{v}_k, \mathbf{x} \rangle < \langle \mathbf{v}_k, \mathbf{l}(i) \rangle\}.$$

Let

$$\mathcal{C}_k = \{\pi_{\mathbf{u}_k, \mathbf{v}_k}(\mathbf{x}) + \mathcal{R}_k(i) : [\mathbf{x}, i] \in \Gamma(\mathbf{v}_k)\}.$$

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If M_k is unimodular, i.e., $|\det M_k| = 1$, then

$$\Gamma(\mathbf{v}_{k+1}) = \{[M_k^{-1}(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{I}(p)), j] : [\mathbf{x}, i] \in \Gamma(\mathbf{v}_k), \sigma_k(j) = pis\}.$$

Contractions and convergence

Lemma

In the Arnoux-Rauzy case (and most other cases), finite balancedness implies

$$(*) \quad \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|\pi_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u}}(M_{[0, n_k]} \mathbf{x})\| = 0 \quad \forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d.$$

If M_n is regular $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$, $()$ implies that f_1, f_2, \dots, f_d are rationally independent.*

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If M_n is regular $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$, $()$ implies that f_1, f_2, \dots, f_d are rationally independent.*

Recall $\sigma_{[n_k, n_k+k]} = \sigma_{[0, k]}$, $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\mathbf{u}_{n_k}}{\|\mathbf{u}_{n_k}\|} = \frac{\mathbf{u}}{\|\mathbf{u}\|}$, $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\mathbf{v}_{n_k}}{\|\mathbf{v}_{n_k}\|} = \frac{\mathbf{v}}{\|\mathbf{v}\|}$.

Lemma

If $()$ holds and $\exists C$ such that $\omega^{(n_k)}$ is C -balanced $\forall k \in \mathbb{N}$, then*

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \mathcal{R}_{n_k}(i) = \mathcal{R}_0(i)$$

w.r.t. Hausdorff metric.

Results

Let ω be a finitely balanced, unimodular, S -recurrent, and primitive S -adic word. Assume that \exists increasing subsequence $(n_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ of \mathbb{N} with $\sigma_{[n_k, n_k+k)} = \sigma_{[0, k)}$ such that $\omega^{(n_k)}$ is C -balanced $\forall k \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|\pi_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u}}(M_{[0, n_k)} \mathbf{x})\| = 0 \forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d$. Then

- ▶ \mathcal{R} is a compact set that is the closure of its interior.
- ▶ The boundary of \mathcal{R} has zero measure.
- ▶ The collections \mathcal{C} and \mathcal{C}_n , $n \in \mathbb{N}$, form multiple tilings with same covering degree.
- ▶ (X_ω, Σ) is minimal and uniquely ergodic.

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On examples, we can show:

- ▶ The subtiles $\mathcal{R}(i)$, $i \in A$, are mutually disjoint in measure, and \mathcal{C} forms a tiling of $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{1})$, i.e., the covering degree is 1.
- ▶ (X_ω, Σ) is metrically conjugate to a translation on \mathbb{T}^{d-1} ; in particular, its spectrum is purely discrete.

Results

Let ω be a finitely balanced, unimodular, S -recurrent, and primitive S -adic word. Assume that \exists increasing subsequence $(n_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ of \mathbb{N} with $\sigma_{[n_k, n_k+k)} = \sigma_{[0, k)}$ such that $\omega^{(n_k)}$ is C -balanced $\forall k \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|\pi_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u}}(M_{[0, n_k)} \mathbf{x})\| = 0 \forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d$. Then

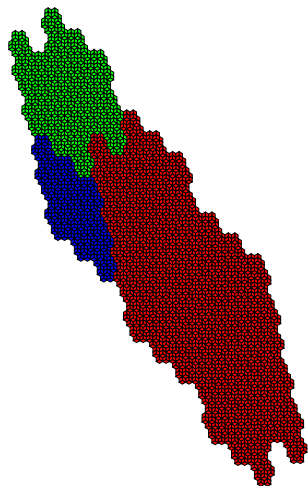
- ▶ \mathcal{R} is a compact set that is the closure of its interior.
- ▶ The boundary of \mathcal{R} has zero measure.
- ▶ The collections \mathcal{C} and \mathcal{C}_n , $n \in \mathbb{N}$, form multiple tilings with same covering degree.
- ▶ (X_ω, Σ) is minimal and uniquely ergodic.

On examples, we can show:

- ▶ The subtiles $\mathcal{R}(i)$, $i \in A$, are mutually disjoint in measure, and \mathcal{C} forms a tiling of $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{1})$, i.e., the covering degree is 1.
- ▶ (X_ω, Σ) is metrically conjugate to a translation on \mathbb{T}^{d-1} ; in particular, its spectrum is purely discrete.

Proof of tiling property: find an exclusive point of \mathcal{C}_0 by showing for some $i \in A$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$, that $\{[(M_{[0, n)})^{-1} \mathbf{l}(p)], j] : \sigma_{[0, n)}(j) = pis\}$ contains all elements of $\Gamma(\mathbf{v}_n)$ in a sufficiently large neighbourhood.

An example



Arnoux-Rauzy on $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$ with
 $\sigma_n = \tau_{t_n}$, $t_0 t_1 \cdots = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \varphi^k(1)$
 $\varphi : 1 \mapsto 1123, 2 \mapsto 23, 3 \mapsto 123$ (Chacon)

Berthé–Cassaigne–St '13:
 $\omega^{(n)}$ is 2-balanced $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$

$\{[(M_{[0,13]})^{-1}\mathbf{1}(p)], j] : \sigma_{[0,13]}(j) = pis\}$ ($= E_1^*(\sigma_{[0,13]})([\mathbf{0}, i])$)
for $i = 1$ (red), $i = 2$ (green), $i = 3$ (blue)