

Rational numbers with purely periodic beta-expansion

Boris Adamczeswki, C. Frougny, A. Siegel, W.Steiner

Fractals,

Tilings,

and Things?

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Number theory :
expansions in
several bases

Fractals,

Rauzy
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Goal : **using fractal geometry to prove irrationality**

(Easy) questions from number theory

Who has a regular expansion in base 10?

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Greedy algorithm :

$$x = \frac{1}{10} (\underbrace{[10x]}_{=a_1} + \underbrace{\{10x\}}_{=x_1})$$

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- ▶ Who has an eventually periodic expansion?
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- ▶ What are the expansions in $[0, 1[$?

Sequences in $\{0, 1 \dots 9\}^{\mathbb{N}}$ except those ending with 9999.....

$$\text{Since } 1 = \frac{9}{10} + \frac{9}{10^2} + \cdots + \frac{9}{10^n} + \cdots$$

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Rational numbers with denominator 10^n .
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Remark : Numbers with a regular expansion are **uniformly spread in $[0, 1]$**
(similar results hold for any integer base b)

Regular expansions in the golden ratio basis ?

$$\text{Golden ratio : } \phi = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}$$

Greedy algorithm : ϕ -expansions

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All $x \in \mathbb{Q} \cap [0, 1]$ (Schmidt :80)

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Still uniformly spread in $[0, 1]$

Regular expansions in the golden-ratio quadratic unit basis?

Golden-ratio Base $\beta : \beta^2 = a\beta + b \quad b = \pm 1 \quad \beta > 1$

Greedy algorithm : ϕ -expansions β -expansions

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- ▶ What are the expansions in $[0, 1[$?

Sequences in $\{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}}$ ~~with no two consecutive 1~~ and not ending with ~~01010101....~~
Strictly smaller than the infinite expansion of 1.

(since $1 = \frac{a_1}{\beta} + \frac{a_2}{\beta} + \frac{a_3}{\beta^3} + \dots$)

- ▶ Who has an eventually periodic expansion?

All $x \in \mathbb{Q}(\phi)$ (Bertrand :77) **Always true**

- ▶ Who has a finite expansion?

All $x \in \mathbb{Z}[\phi]$ **def := β satisfies the property (F); depends on $b = \pm 1$**

- ▶ Which **rational numbers** have a purely periodic expansion?

All $x \in \mathbb{Q} \cap [0, 1]$ (Schmidt :80) **all or none depending on (F)**

Still uniformly spread in $[0, 1]$ (OK) + Dichotomy according to (F)

Regular expansions in any unit Pisot basis?

Base β : $\beta^n = a_{n-1}\beta^{n-1} + \dots + \pm 1$ $\beta > 1$

Pisot hypothesis : $\beta > 1$ and its Galois conjugates $\beta^{(i)}$ are all strictly smaller than one.

Greedy algorithm : β -**expansions**

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OK from Pisot assumption

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All $x \in \mathbb{Q}(\phi)$ (Bertrand :77) ?? OK from Pisot assumption

- ▶ Who has a finite expansion?

All $x \in \mathbb{Z}[\phi]$ (def := β satisfies the property (F)) ??

Conditions for (F) (Frougny&Solomyak :02, Akiyama :02...)

- ▶ Which rational numbers have a purely periodic expansion?

All $x \in \mathbb{Q} \cap [0, 1]$?? **NO!**

Still uniformly spread in $[0, 1]$?? NO!

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Which rational numbers have a purely periodic expansion?

Theorem (Akiyama :02)

If $\beta^3 = \beta + 1$, there exists $\gamma(\beta) = 0.666\ 666\ 666\ 086 \dots$ such that

- ▶ all $x \in \mathbb{Q} \cap [0, \gamma(\beta)[$ have a purely periodic β -expansion
- ▶ a sequence $x_n \in \mathbb{Q}$, $\lim x_n = \gamma(\beta)$ does not have a periodic β -expansion.

Purely periodic expansions are NOT uniformly spread in $[0, 1]$

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Three new questions.

- ▶ Is there still a dichotomy according to (F)?
- ▶ What can be said on $\gamma(\beta)$?
- ▶ Is it the good conference : *Tilings and fractals*?????

Fractal in beta-numeration ?

Expand any positive real in base β

$$x = \underbrace{a_{-k+1}\beta^{k-1} + \cdots + a_{-1}\beta + a_0}_{\beta\text{-integral part}} + \underbrace{a_1\beta^{-1} + a_2\beta^{-2} + \cdots}_{\beta\text{-fractional part}}.$$

Compact representation of number with no fractional part ?

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Compact representation of number with no fractional part ?

- ▶ Galois conjugates of β $r - 1$ real conjugates and $2s$ complex conjugates.

Pisot assumption : $|\beta^{(i)}| < 1$

Example : smallest Pisot number $\beta^3 = \beta + 1$. Two complex conjugates $\beta^{(2)}, \overline{\beta^{(2)}}$.

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- ▶ **Canonical embedding** : **replace every polynomial in β by its conjugates**

$$\xi : \mathbb{Q}(\beta) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{r-1} \times \mathbb{C}^s$$

$$x \mapsto (\sigma_2(x), \dots, \sigma_{r+s}(x)).$$

Smallest Pisot number : $\xi : P(\beta) \in \mathbb{R} \mapsto P(\beta^{(2)}) \in \mathbb{C}$

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Smallest Pisot number : $\xi : P(\beta) \in \mathbb{R} \mapsto P(\beta^{(2)}) \in \mathbb{C}$

- ▶ **Central tile** (Rauzy :81, Thurston :89, Akiyama :98)

$$\mathcal{T} := \overline{\{\xi(\text{integral part of a positive number})\}}$$

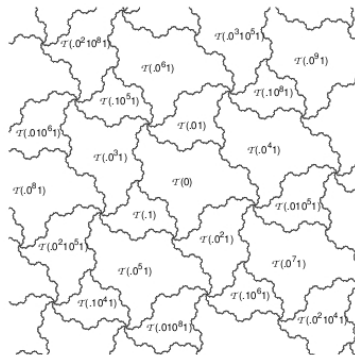
Smallest PP : $\xi(\beta^n) = (\beta^{(2)})^n \in \mathcal{T}$, $\xi(\beta^5 + 1) = \beta^{(2)5} + 1 \in \mathcal{T}$
 but $\beta^2 + 1$ is not an integer part : $(\beta^{(2)2} + 1) \notin \mathcal{T}$?

Replace polynomials in β by polynomials in its conjugates and take the closure of reals with no fractional part



Tilings!

$$x \in \mathbb{Z}[\beta] \quad \mathcal{T}(x) := \overline{\{\xi(\text{reals with the same fractional part as } x)\}}$$



- ▶ Finite number of tiles (admissibility condition)
- ▶ Covering of the space

Theorem (Akiyama&Rao&Steiner :06)

Let β be a unit cubic Pisot number. Then the covering by central tiles is a tiling.

Fractals and things?

Strong relation between periodicity and the central tile



- ▶ Property (F) iff 0 is an inner point (Akiyama :02).

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- ▶ Property (F) iff 0 is an inner point (*Akiyama :02*).
- ▶ Purely periodic expansions : searching for a natural extension
 - ▶ subdivide the central tile according to the admissibility condition
 - ▶ build a suspension

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Ito&Rao :04 $x \in \mathbb{Q}(\beta)$ **purely periodic roughly means that $-\xi(x)$ lies in the central tile.**

Theorem (Ito&Rao :04)

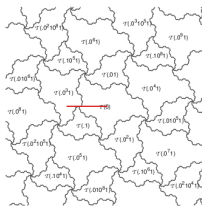
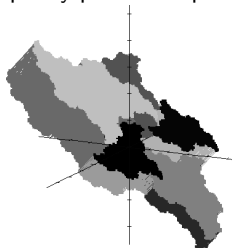
Let β be a Pisot unit and $x \in [0, 1)$. The β -expansion of x is purely periodic if and only if $x \in \mathbb{Q}(\beta)$ and

$$(-\xi(x), x) \in \mathcal{E}_\beta := \bigcup_{i=0}^{n+m-1} \mathcal{T}_i \times [0, T_\beta^i(1)).$$

Back to purely periodic expansions

Reminder 1 $x \in \mathbb{Q}(\beta)$ purely periodic means that $-\xi(x)$ lies in the central tile.

Reminder 2 $\gamma(\beta)$ is the length of the largest interval issued from 0 that contains only purely periodic expansions

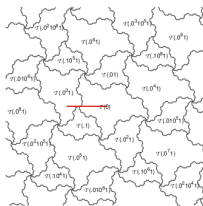
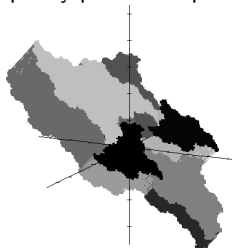


New question : **What is the largest diagonal contained in the suspension ?**

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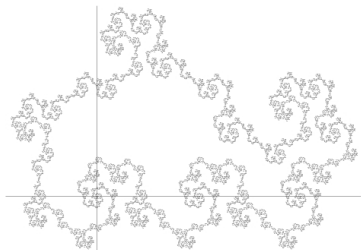
Corollary

When the tiling property holds, $\gamma(\beta)$ lies **at the intersection of two tiles and a rational line** in the tiling.

Self-similar properties

Definition (Spiral point)

A point $z \in \mathcal{T}$ is a *spiral point* if for all ε and θ , both $\text{Int}(\mathcal{T})$ and the complement $\mathcal{C}(\mathcal{T})$ meet the ray $z + [0, \varepsilon)e^{i\theta} := \{z + \rho e^{i\theta} \mid \rho \in [0, \varepsilon)\}$.



Admissibility condition yields self-similar IFS and then spiral properties

Lemma

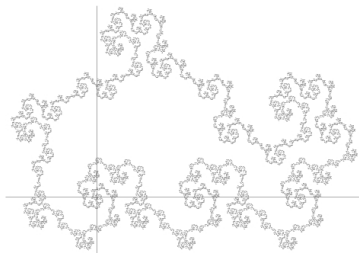
Let β be a *cubic Pisot number with a complex Galois conjugate α* .
Then every point in $\mathbb{Q}(\alpha)$ that belongs to the boundary of \mathcal{T} is a spiral point with respect to this tile.

Dichotomy with respect to (F)

If 0 is on the boundary :

- ▶ The boundary has a spiral shape on 0
- ▶ Points on the horizontal line out of the central tile.

Small rationals with non purely periodic expansion

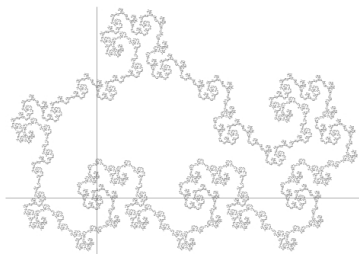


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Small rationals with non purely periodic expansion



There is still a dichotomy in the cubic case

Theorem

Let β be a cubic Pisot unit. Then, one of the following holds :

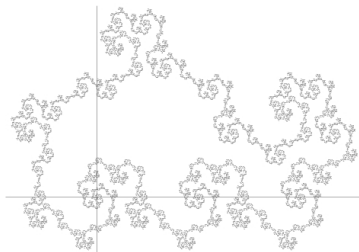
- β satisfies (F) and $\gamma(\beta) > 0$,*
- β does not satisfy (F) and $\gamma(\beta) = 0$.*

Irrationality

If $\gamma(\beta)$ is rational :

- ▶ The boundary has a spiral shape on $-\gamma(\beta)$
- ▶ **Points smaller than $\gamma(\beta)$ out of the central tile.**

The interval $-[0, \gamma(\beta)[$ cannot be fully included in the tile

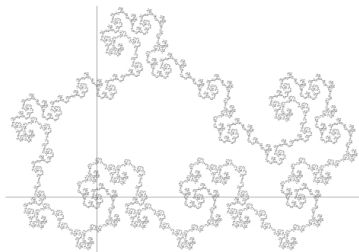


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The “086” in $\gamma(\beta)$ was not a computational error
Purely periodic expansion are definitively not randomly spread in $[0, 1[$

Theorem

Let β be a cubic Pisot unit satisfying (F) and such that the number field $\mathbb{Q}(\beta)$ is *not totally real*. Then, $\gamma(\beta)$ is *irrational*. In particular, $0 < \gamma(\beta) < 1$.

The beginning of a long history ?

Fractal and tilings bring unexpected proofs of irrationality

- ▶ Non cubic case **self-affine structure** instead of self-similar.
Intersection of a line with a the tile ? Shape of the boundary ?
- ▶ Non unit case. Suspension with p -adic representations.
No more dichotomy with respect to (F) .
- ▶ Fractals and numeration
 - ▶ Best simultaneous approximations : *largest ball in the fractal.*
 - ▶ Radix expansions : hierarchy of IFS. *Which property remains ?*
 - ▶ Tiling condition ?