

# *Bifix codes and interval exchanges*

Francesco Dolce



Amiens, 25<sup>th</sup> November 2014

Joint work with :

V. Berthé, C. De Felice, J. Leroy, D. Perrin, C. Reutenauer and G. Rindone

# Motivation

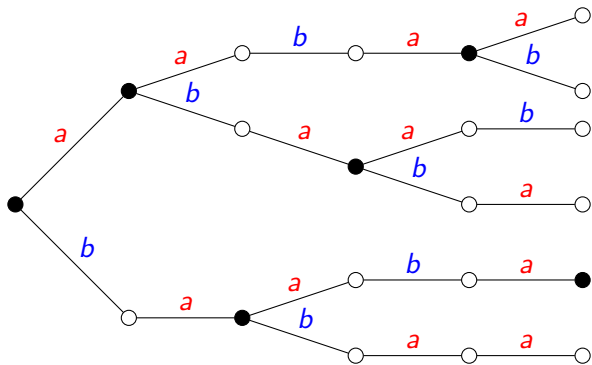
$$x = \mathit{abaababaabaababa} \dots$$

$$x = \varphi^\omega(a)$$

$$\varphi : \begin{cases} a \mapsto ab \\ b \mapsto a \end{cases}$$

# Motivation

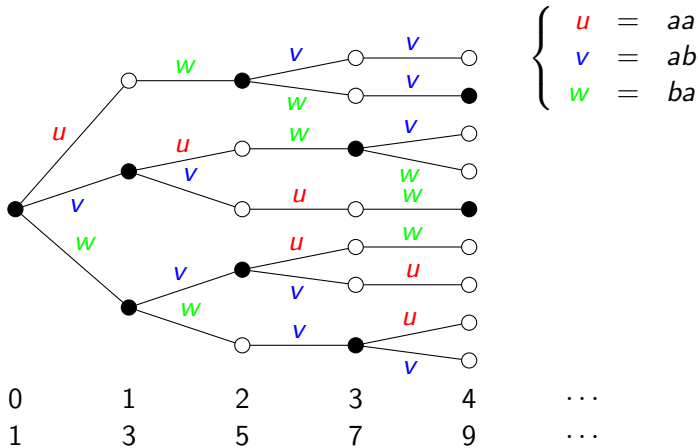
$x = \mathit{abaababaabaababa} \dots$



$n$	0	1	2	3	4	5	...
$(2-1)n+1$	1	2	3	4	5	6	...

# Motivation

$x = \underline{ab} \underline{aa} \underline{ba} \underline{ba} \underline{ab} \underline{aa} \underline{ba} \underline{ba} \dots$



# Motivation

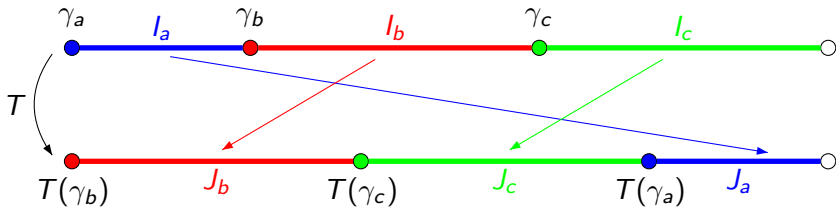
$$x = v u w w v u w w \dots$$



## Interval exchange transformations

Let  $A$  be a finite set ordered by  $<_1$  and  $<_2$ . An *interval exchange transformation* (IET) is a map  $T : [0, 1[ \rightarrow [0, 1[$  defined by

$$T(z) = z + \alpha_z \quad \text{if } z \in I_a.$$



$$a <_1 b <_1 c$$

$$b <_2 c <_2 a$$

## Regular interval exchange transformations

A IET  $T$  is said to be *minimal* if for any  $z \in [0, 1[$  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 separation points  $\neq 0$  are infinite and disjoint.

Theorem [Keane, 1975]

A regular interval exchange transformation is minimal.

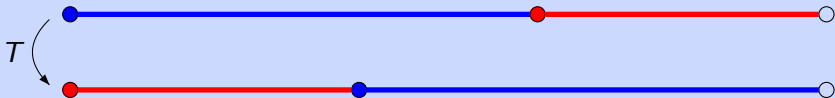
## Natural coding

Let  $T$  be an IET relative to  $(I_a)_{a \in A}$ . The *natural coding* of  $T$  relative to  $z \in [0, 1[$  is the infinite word  $\Sigma_T(z) = a_0 a_1 \cdots \in A^\omega$  defined by

$$a_n = a \quad \text{si} \quad T^n(z) \in I_a.$$

### Example

The *Fibonacci word* is the natural coding of the rotation of angle  $\alpha = (3 - \sqrt{5})/2$  relative to the point  $\alpha$ , i.e.  $T(z) = z + \alpha \bmod 1$ .





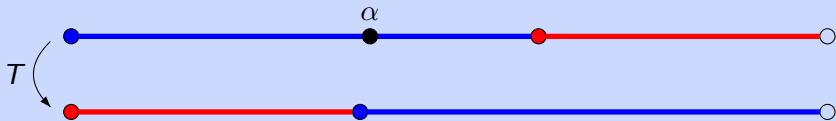
## Natural coding

Let  $T$  be an IET relative to  $(I_a)_{a \in A}$ . The *natural coding* of  $T$  relative to  $z \in [0, 1[$  is the infinite word  $\Sigma_T(z) = a_0 a_1 \cdots \in A^\omega$  defined by

$$a_n = a \quad \text{si } T^n(z) \in I_a.$$

### Example

The *Fibonacci word* is the natural coding of the rotation of angle  $\alpha = (3 - \sqrt{5})/2$  relative to the point  $\alpha$ , i.e.  $T(z) = z + \alpha \bmod 1$ .



$$\Sigma_T(\alpha) = a$$

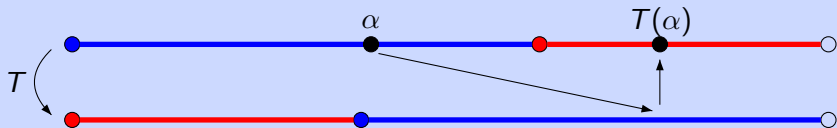
## Natural coding

Let  $T$  be an IET relative to  $(I_a)_{a \in A}$ . The *natural coding* of  $T$  relative to  $z \in [0, 1[$  is the infinite word  $\Sigma_T(z) = a_0 a_1 \cdots \in A^\omega$  defined by

$$a_n = a \quad \text{si } T^n(z) \in I_a.$$

### Example

The *Fibonacci word* is the natural coding of the rotation of angle  $\alpha = (3 - \sqrt{5})/2$  relative to the point  $\alpha$ , i.e.  $T(z) = z + \alpha \bmod 1$ .



$$\Sigma_T(\alpha) = a b$$

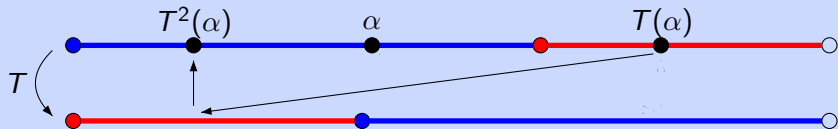
## Natural coding

Let  $T$  be an IET relative to  $(I_a)_{a \in A}$ . The *natural coding* of  $T$  relative to  $z \in [0, 1[$  is the infinite word  $\Sigma_T(z) = a_0 a_1 \cdots \in A^\omega$  defined by

$$a_n = a \quad \text{si} \quad T^n(z) \in I_a.$$

### Example

The *Fibonacci word* is the natural coding of the rotation of angle  $\alpha = (3 - \sqrt{5})/2$  relative to the point  $\alpha$ , i.e.  $T(z) = z + \alpha \text{ mod } 1$ .



$$\Sigma_T(\alpha) = a b a$$

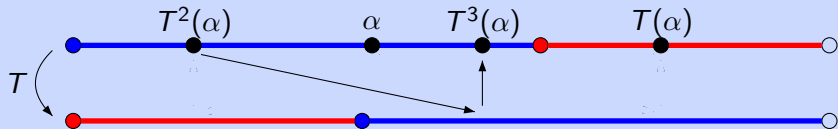
## Natural coding

Let  $T$  be an IET relative to  $(I_a)_{a \in A}$ . The *natural coding* of  $T$  relative to  $z \in [0, 1[$  is the infinite word  $\Sigma_T(z) = a_0 a_1 \cdots \in A^\omega$  defined by

$$a_n = a \quad \text{si} \quad T^n(z) \in I_a.$$

### Example

The *Fibonacci word* is the natural coding of the rotation of angle  $\alpha = (3 - \sqrt{5})/2$  relative to the point  $\alpha$ , i.e.  $T(z) = z + \alpha \text{ mod } 1$ .



$$\Sigma_T(\alpha) = a b a a$$

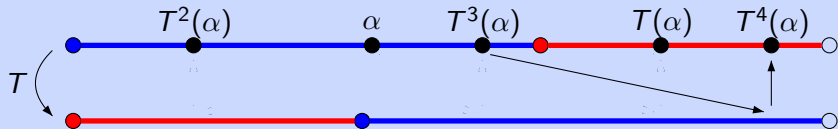
## Natural coding

Let  $T$  be an IET relative to  $(I_a)_{a \in A}$ . The *natural coding* of  $T$  relative to  $z \in [0, 1[$  is the infinite word  $\Sigma_T(z) = a_0 a_1 \cdots \in A^\omega$  defined by

$$a_n = a \quad \text{si} \quad T^n(z) \in I_a.$$

### Example

The *Fibonacci word* is the natural coding of the rotation of angle  $\alpha = (3 - \sqrt{5})/2$  relative to the point  $\alpha$ , i.e.  $T(z) = z + \alpha \text{ mod } 1$ .



$$\Sigma_T(\alpha) = a b a a b$$

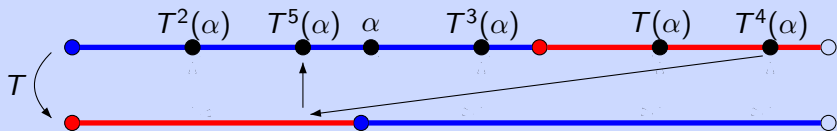
## Natural coding

Let  $T$  be an IET relative to  $(I_a)_{a \in A}$ . The *natural coding* of  $T$  relative to  $z \in [0, 1[$  is the infinite word  $\Sigma_T(z) = a_0 a_1 \dots \in A^\omega$  defined by

$$a_n = a \quad \text{si} \quad T^n(z) \in I_a.$$

### Example

The *Fibonacci word* is the natural coding of the rotation of angle  $\alpha = (3 - \sqrt{5})/2$  relative to the point  $\alpha$ , i.e.  $T(z) = z + \alpha \text{ mod } 1$ .



$$\Sigma_T(\alpha) = a b a a b a \dots$$

## Regular interval exchange sets

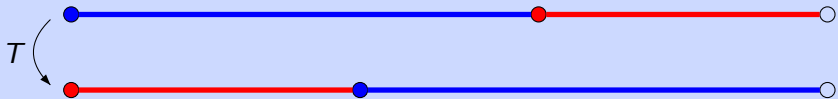
### Proposition

If  $T$  is minimal,  $F(\Sigma_T(z))$  does not depend on  $z$ .

When  $T$  is regular (minimal),  $F(T) = F(\Sigma_T(z))$  is said a *regular (minimal) interval exchange set*.

### Example

The *Fibonacci set* is the set of factors of a natural coding of the rotation of angle  $\alpha = (3 - \sqrt{5})/2$ .



$$F(T) = \left\{ \varepsilon, a, b, aa, ab, ba, aab, aba, baa, \dots \right\}$$

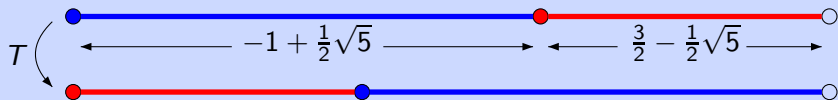
# Regular interval exchange sets over a quadratic field

## Theorem

Let  $T$  be a regular IET defined over a quadratic field. Then the interval exchange set  $F(T)$  is primitive morphic.

## Example

$$|I_a|, |I_b| \in \mathbb{Q}[\sqrt{5}]$$



$$F(T) = F(x) \quad \text{with } x = id. \circ f^\omega(a)$$

$$f : \begin{cases} a \mapsto ab \\ b \mapsto a \end{cases}$$



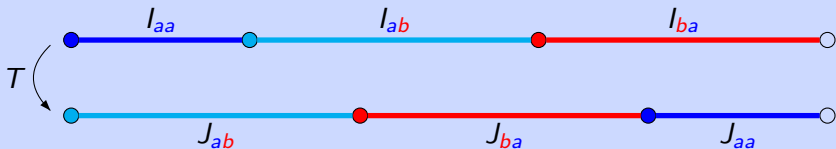
# Cylinders

For a word  $w = b_0 b_1 \cdots b_{m-1}$ , let's define

$$I_w = I_{b_0} \cap T^{-1}(I_{b_1}) \cap \dots \cap T^{-m+1}(I_{b_{m-1}})$$

and  $J_w = T^m(I_w)$ .

## Example



$$I_{aa} = I_a \cap T^{-1}(I_a), \quad I_{ab} = I_a \cap T^{-1}(I_b), \quad I_{ba} = I_b \cap T^{-1}(I_a), \quad I_{bb} = I_b \cap T^{-1}(I_b);$$

$$J_{aa} = T^2(I_a) \cap T(I_a), \quad J_{ab} = T^2(I_a) \cap T(I_b), \quad J_{ba} = T^2(I_b) \cap T(I_a), \quad J_{bb} = T^2(I_b) \cap T(I_b).$$

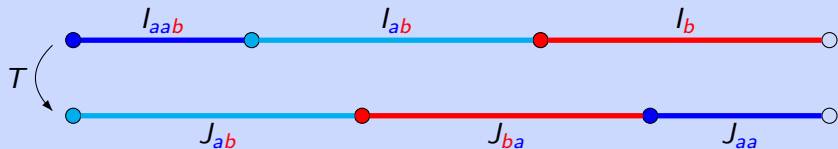
# Cylinders

We denote by  $<_1$  the lexicographic order on  $A^*$  induced by  $<_1$  and by  $<_2$  the lexicographic order on the reversal of the words induced by  $<_2$ .

## Proposition

- $l_u < l_v$  if and only if  $u <_1 v$  and  $u$  is not a prefix of  $v$ .
- $J_u < J_v$  if and only if  $u <_2 v$  and  $u$  is not a suffix of  $v$ .

## Example



$aab <_1 ab <_1 b$  while  $ab <_2 ba <_2 aa$ .

# Codes

A set  $X \subset A^+$  of nonempty words over an alphabet  $A$  is a *code* if for every  $m, n \geq 1$  and  $x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_m$ ,

$$x_1 \cdots x_n = y_1 \cdots y_m \implies n = m \text{ and } x_i = y_i \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, n$$

A *prefix code* is a set of nonempty words which does not contain any proper prefix of its elements. A *suffix code* is defined symmetrically. A *bifix code* is a set which is both a prefix code and a suffix code.

## Example

- $\{a, ab, ba\}$  is not a code.
- $\{aabb, ababb, abb\}$  is a prefix code but it's not a suffix code.
- $\{aa, ab, ba\}$  is a bifix code.

# Codes

A set  $X \subset A^+$  of nonempty words over an alphabet  $A$  is a *code* if for every  $m, n \geq 1$  and  $x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_m$ ,

$$x_1 \cdots x_n = y_1 \cdots y_m \implies n = m \text{ and } x_i = y_i \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, n$$

A *prefix code* is a set of nonempty words which does not contain any proper prefix of its elements. A *suffix code* is defined symmetrically. A *bifix code* is a set which is both a prefix code and a suffix code.

## Example

- $\{a, ab, ba\}$  is not a code.
- $\{aabb, ababb, abb\}$  is a prefix code but it's not a suffix code.
- $\{aa, ab, ba\}$  is a bifix code.

A bifix code  $X \subset S$  is *S-maximal* if it is not properly contained in a bifix code  $Y \subset S$ .

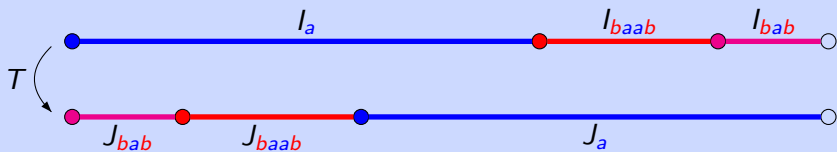
## Bifix codes and IETs

### Proposition

Let  $T$  a minimal IET and  $S = F(T)$ . If  $X$  is a finite  $S$ -maximal bifix code, the families  $(I_w)_{w \in X}$  and  $(J_w)_{w \in X}$  are ordered partitions of  $[0, 1[$ , relatively to the orders  $<_1$  and  $<_2$ .

### Example

Let  $S$  be the Fibonacci set. The set  $X = \{a, baab, bab\}$  is an  $S$ -maximal bifix code.



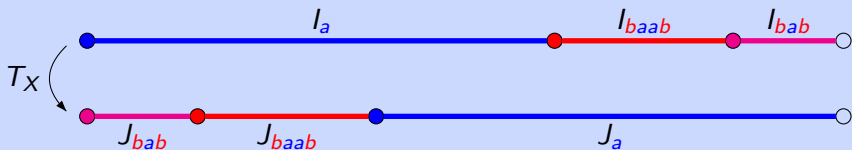
$$a <_1 baab <_1 bab \quad \text{and} \quad bab <_2 baab <_2 a.$$

## Transformation associated with a bifix code

Let  $T$  be a regular IET and  $S = F(T)$ . Let  $X$  be a finite  $S$ -maximal bifix code on the alphabet  $A$ . Let's define the transformation

$$T_X(z) = T^{|u|}(z) \quad \text{if } z \in I_u.$$

### Example

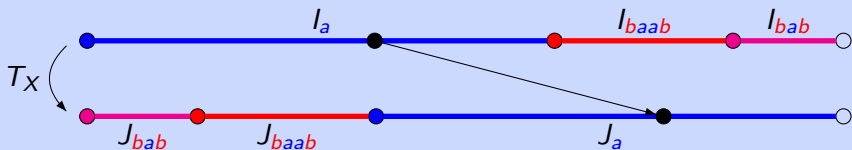


## Transformation associated with a bifix code

Let  $T$  be a regular IET and  $S = F(T)$ . Let  $X$  be a finite  $S$ -maximal bifix code on the alphabet  $A$ . Let's define the transformation

$$T_X(z) = T^{|u|}(z) \quad \text{if } z \in I_u.$$

### Example

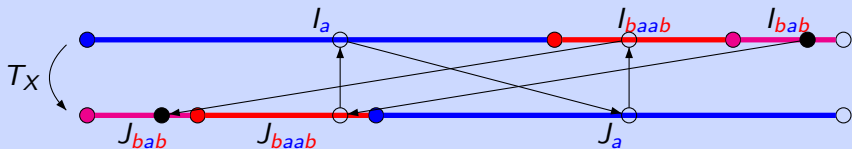


## Transformation associated with a bifix code

Let  $T$  be a regular IET and  $S = F(T)$ . Let  $X$  be a finite  $S$ -maximal bifix code on the alphabet  $A$ . Let's define the transformation

$$T_X(z) = T^{|u|}(z) \quad \text{if } z \in I_u.$$

### Example



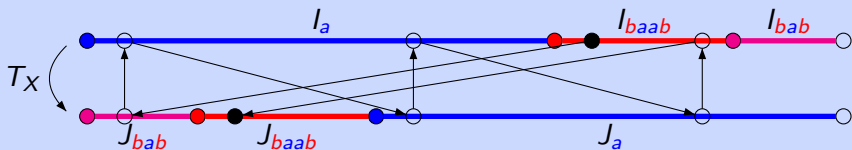


## Transformation associated with a bifix code

Let  $T$  be a regular IET and  $S = F(T)$ . Let  $X$  be a finite  $S$ -maximal bifix code on the alphabet  $A$ . Let's define the transformation

$$T_X(z) = T^{|u|}(z) \quad \text{if } z \in I_u.$$

### Example



## Coding morphism

A *coding morphism* for a prefix code  $X \subset A^+$  is a morphism  $f : B^* \rightarrow A^*$  which maps bijectively  $B$  onto  $X$ .

### Example

Let's consider the bifix code  $X = \{aa, ab, ba\}$  on  $A = \{a, b\}$  and let  $B = \{u, v, w\}$ .

The map

$$f : \begin{cases} u \mapsto aa \\ v \mapsto ab \\ w \mapsto ba \end{cases}$$

is a coding morphism for  $X$ .

## Transformation associated with a coding morphism

Let  $f : B^* \rightarrow A^*$  be a coding morphism for  $X$ . Let  $(K_b)_{b \in B}$ , with  $K_b = I_{f(b)}$ . Let  $T_f$  be the IET relative to  $(K_b)_{b \in B}$ .

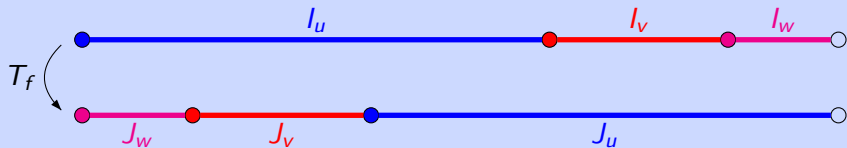
### Proposition

If  $X$  is a finite  $S$ -maximal bifix code, one has  $T_f = T_X$ .

### Example

Let  $X = \{a, baab, bab\}$ ,  $B = \{u, v, w\}$  and

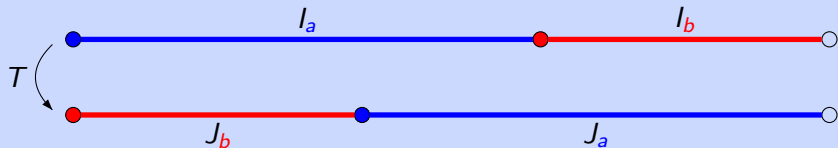
$$f : u \mapsto a, \quad v \mapsto baab, \quad w \mapsto bab.$$



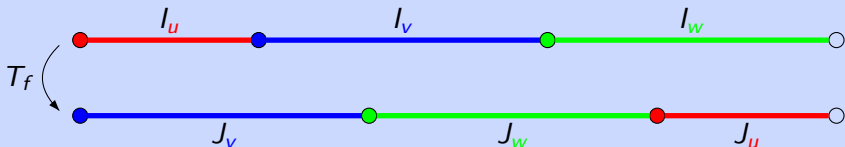
## Theorem [2014]

Let  $T$  a regular IET and  $S = F(T)$ . For any finite  $S$ -maximal bifix code  $X$  with coding morphism  $f$ , the transformation  $T_f$  is regular

## Example



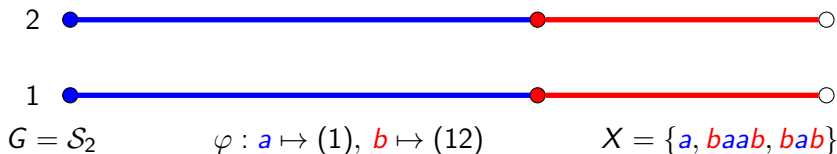
$X = \{aa, ab, ba\}$  and  $f : u \mapsto aa, v \mapsto ab, w \mapsto ba$ .



## *IET on a stack*

Let  $T$  a IET and  $G$  a transitive permutation group on a finite set  $Q$ . Let  $\varphi : A^* \rightarrow G$  be a morphism and let  $\psi : I \rightarrow G$  defined by  $\psi(z) = \varphi(a)$  if  $z \in I_a$ . The *skew product* of  $T$  and  $G$  is the transformation  $U$  on  $I \times Q$  defined by

$$U(z, q) = (T(z), q\psi(z))$$



### Theorem [2014]

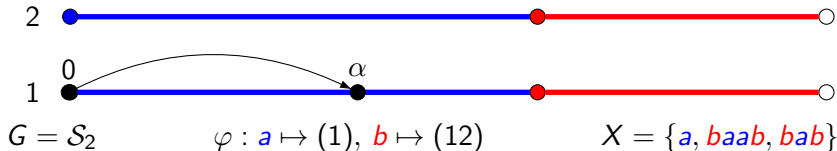
A regular interval exchange set has the finite index basis property<sup>a</sup>.

a. A finite bifix code  $X \subset S$  is an  $S$ -maximal bifix code of  $S$ -degree  $d$  if and only if it is a basis of a subgroup of index  $d$  of  $F_A$ .

## *IET on a stack*

Let  $T$  a IET and  $G$  a transitive permutation group on a finite set  $Q$ . Let  $\varphi : A^* \rightarrow G$  be a morphism and let  $\psi : I \rightarrow G$  defined by  $\psi(z) = \varphi(a)$  if  $z \in I_a$ . The *skew product* of  $T$  and  $G$  is the transformation  $U$  on  $I \times Q$  defined by

$$U(z, q) = (T(z), q\psi(z))$$



### Theorem [2014]

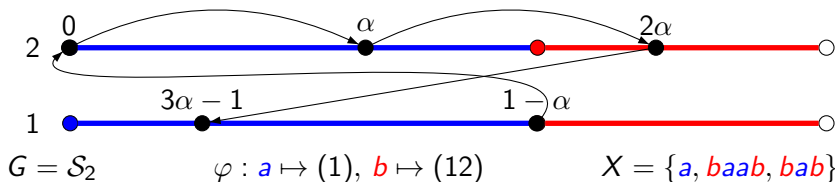
A regular interval exchange set has the finite index basis property <sup>a</sup>.

a. A finite bifix code  $X \subset S$  is an  $S$ -maximal bifix code of  $S$ -degree  $d$  if and only if it is a basis of a subgroup of index  $d$  of  $F_A$ .

## *IET on a stack*

Let  $T$  a IET and  $G$  a transitive permutation group on a finite set  $Q$ . Let  $\varphi : A^* \rightarrow G$  be a morphism and let  $\psi : I \rightarrow G$  defined by  $\psi(z) = \varphi(a)$  if  $z \in I_a$ . The *skew product* of  $T$  and  $G$  is the transformation  $U$  on  $I \times Q$  defined by

$$U(z, q) = (T(z), q\psi(z))$$



### Theorem [2014]

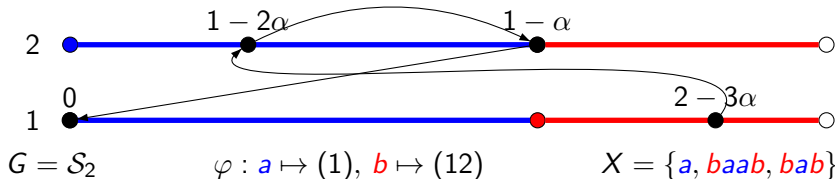
A regular interval exchange set has the finite index basis property <sup>a</sup>.

a. A finite bifix code  $X \subset S$  is an  $S$ -maximal bifix code of  $S$ -degree  $d$  if and only if it is a basis of a subgroup of index  $d$  of  $F_A$ .

## *IET on a stack*

Let  $T$  a IET and  $G$  a transitive permutation group on a finite set  $Q$ . Let  $\varphi : A^* \rightarrow G$  be a morphism and let  $\psi : I \rightarrow G$  defined by  $\psi(z) = \varphi(a)$  if  $z \in I_a$ . The *skew product* of  $T$  and  $G$  is the transformation  $U$  on  $I \times Q$  defined by

$$U(z, q) = (T(z), q\psi(z))$$



### Theorem [2014]

A regular interval exchange set has the finite index basis property <sup>a</sup>.

a. A finite bifix code  $X \subset S$  is an  $S$ -maximal bifix code of  $S$ -degree  $d$  if and only if it is a basis of a subgroup of index  $d$  of  $F_A$ .



## Decoding

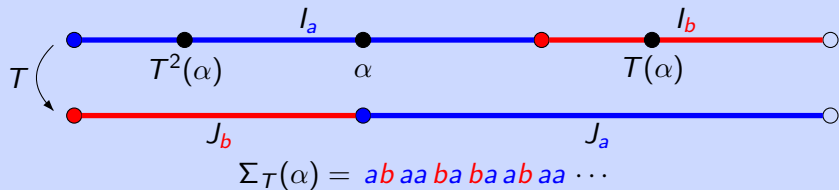
Let  $f$  be a coding morphism for a  $S$ -maximal prefix code. The *decoding* of  $x$  is the infinite word  $y$  s.t.  $x = f(y)$ .

### Proposition

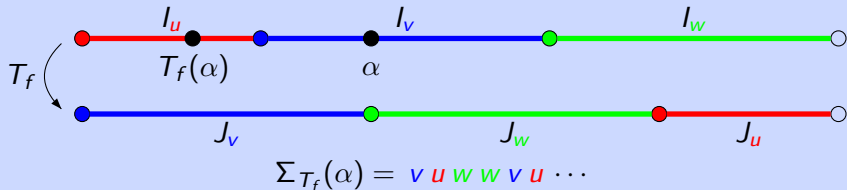
Let  $T$  be a minimal IET,  $S = F(T)$ ,  $X$  a finite  $S$ -maximal prefix code and  $f : B^* \rightarrow A^*$  a coding morphism.

Then, for all  $z \in [0, 1[$ , one has  $\Sigma_T(z) = f(\Sigma_{T_f}(z))$ .

## Example



$X = \{aa, ab, ba\}$  and  $f : u \mapsto aa, v \mapsto ab, w \mapsto ba$ .



$$f(v\,u\,w\,w\,v\,u \dots) = \underline{ab}\,\underline{aa}\,\underline{ba}\,\underline{ba}\,\underline{ab}\,\underline{aa}\,\underline{ba}\,\underline{ba} \dots$$

## Maximal bifix decoding

Let  $f$  be a coding morphism for a finite  $S$ -maximal bifix code  $X \subset S$ . The set  $f^{-1}(S)$  is called a *maximal bifix decoding* of  $S$ .

### Theorem [2014]

The family of regular interval exchange sets is closed under maximal bifix decoding.

Proof.  $f^{-1}(S) = F(T_f)$ .

Actually, this property is true for a larger class of sets...

## Extension graphs

Let  $S$  be a biextendable set of words. For  $w \in S$ , we denote

$$L(w) = \{a \in A \mid aw \in S\}, \quad R(w) = \{a \in A \mid wa \in S\}$$

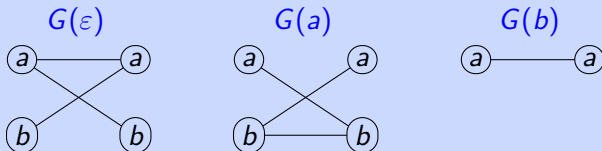
and

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

The *extension graph* of  $w$  is the undirected bipartite graph  $G(w)$  with vertices  $L(w) \sqcup R(w)$  and edges  $E(w)$ .

### Example

Let  $S$  be the Fibonacci set.

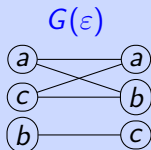


## Tree sets

We say that a biextendable set  $S$  is a *tree set* if the graph  $G(w)$  is a tree (connected and acyclic) for all  $w \in S$ .

### Example

Let  $A = \{a, b, c\}$ . The set  $S$  of factors of  $a^*\{bc, bcbc\}a^*$  is not a tree set.



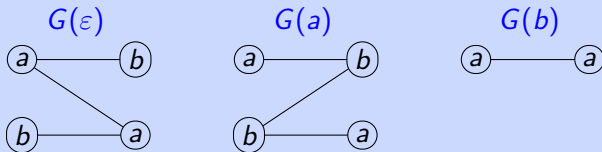
## Planar tree sets

Let  $<_1$  and  $<_2$  be two orders on  $A$ . For a set  $S$  and a word  $w \in S$ , the graph  $G(w)$  is *compatible* with  $<_1$  and  $<_2$  if for any  $(a, b), (c, d) \in E(w)$ , one has

$$a <_1 b \implies b \leq_2 d$$

### Example

Let  $S$  be the Fibonacci set. Set  $a <_1 b$  and  $b <_2 a$ .

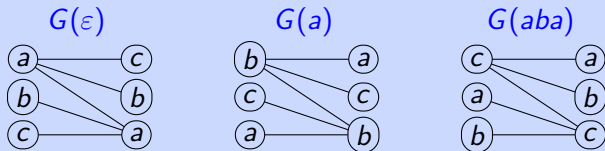


We say that a biextendable set  $S$  is a *planar tree set* w.r.t.  $<_1$  and  $<_2$  on  $A$  if for any  $w \in S$ , the graph  $G(w)$  is a tree compatible with  $<_1$  and  $<_2$ .

## Example

Let  $A = \{a, b, c\}$ . The *Tribonacci set* is the set of factors of the Tribonacci word, i.e. is the fixpoint  $x = f^\omega(a) = abacaba \dots$  of the morphism

$$f : a \mapsto ab, \quad b \mapsto ac, \quad c \mapsto a.$$

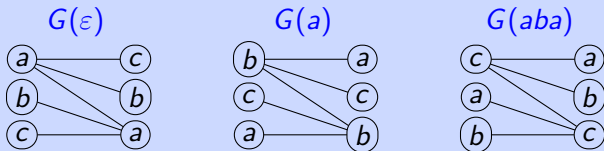


It is not possible to find two orders on  $A$  making the three graphs planar.

## Example

Let  $A = \{a, b, c\}$ . The *Tribonacci set* is the set of factors of the Tribonacci word, i.e. is the fixpoint  $x = f^\omega(a) = abacaba \cdots$  of the morphism

$$f : a \mapsto ab, \quad b \mapsto ac, \quad c \mapsto a.$$



It is not possible to find two orders on  $A$  making the three graphs planar.

## Theorem [Ferenczi, Zamboni, 2008]

A set  $S$  is a regular interval exchange set on  $A$  if and only if it is a uniformly recurrent planar tree set containing  $A$ .



## Theorem [2014]

The family of uniformly recurrent tree set is closed under maximal bifix decoding.

