

# Balancedness of Arnoux-Rauzy and Brun Words

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# Outline

- 1 Introduction:  $S$ -adic words and continued fractions
- 2 Results
- 3 Proof ideas

## S-adic systems

### Example: Sturmian Words

- ▶ Two substitutions:  $\phi_1 : \begin{array}{l} 1 \mapsto 1 \\ 2 \mapsto 12 \end{array}$        $\phi_2 : \begin{array}{l} 1 \mapsto 21 \\ 2 \mapsto 2 \end{array}$

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- ▶ Prefixes of S-adic word:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \phi_1(1) & = 1 \\ \phi_1 \phi_2(1) & = 121 \\ \phi_1 \phi_2 \phi_1(1) & = 121 \\ \phi_1 \phi_2 \phi_1 \phi_2(1) & = 12112121 \\ \phi_1 \phi_2 \phi_1 \phi_2 \phi_1(1) & = 12112121 \\ \phi_1 \phi_2 \phi_1 \phi_2 \phi_1 \phi_2(1) & = 1211212112112121 \\ \vdots & \vdots \end{array}$$

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- ▶ This way we can get all (standard) Sturmian words

## Arnoux-Rauzy words on $d$ letters

- ▶ **Arnoux-Rauzy substitutions** for  $d = 3$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} 1 \mapsto 1 & 1 \mapsto 21 & 1 \mapsto 31 \\ \alpha_1 : 2 \mapsto 12 & \alpha_2 : 2 \mapsto 2 & \alpha_3 : 2 \mapsto 32 \\ 3 \mapsto 13 & 3 \mapsto 23 & 3 \mapsto 3 \end{array}$$

- ▶ **standard Arnoux-Rauzy word:** S-adic word with  $S = \{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_d\}$  s.t. all  $\alpha_i$  appear  $\infty$  many times



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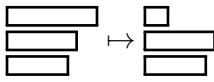
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- ▶ Characteristics:  $\#\mathcal{L}\mathcal{S}(n) = 1$  and  $\mathcal{C}(n) = (d - 1)n + 1$
- ▶ Letter frequencies form a set of measure zero [Arnoux, Starosta]

## Multi-dimensional continued fractions — Brun algorithm

**Brun algorithm:** for  $\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}_+^3$

$$B_{12} : \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} x_1 - x_2 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{for } x_1 > x_2 > x_3$$


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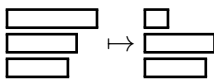
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- ▶ Forbidden sequences:  $B_{12}B_{13}$ ,  $B_{12}B_{32}$ , ...
- ▶ Works for a.e.  $(x_1, x_2, x_3) \in \mathbb{R}_+^3$

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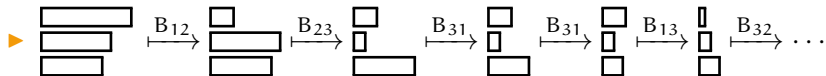
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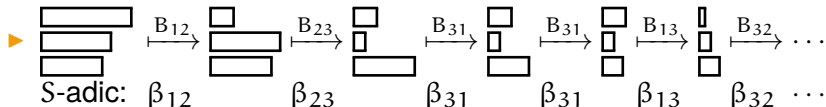


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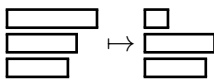
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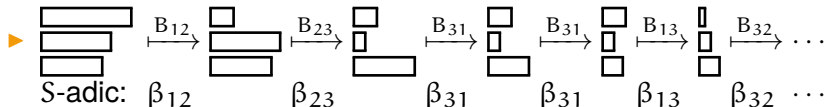


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► Letter frequencies:  $\begin{pmatrix} f_1 \\ f_2 \\ f_3 \end{pmatrix} \sim \begin{pmatrix} \text{long bar} \\ \text{medium bar} \\ \text{short bar} \end{pmatrix}$

## Balance

A word  $\omega$  is **C-balanced** if

$$-C \leq |u|_i - |v|_i \leq C$$

for all pairs of factors  $u, v$  of the same length and for all letters  $i$

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- ▶ **Finite balances** if  $\omega$  is C-balanced for some C
- ▶ **Infinite balances** otherwise

## Main results

### Theorem

*For almost every  $\mathbf{f} \in \mathbb{R}_+^3$  the Brun word with frequency vector  $\mathbf{f}$  is finitely balanced.*

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### Theorem (Cassaigne, Ferenczi, Zamboni)

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## Bounded partial quotients: Brun algorithm

$$\beta_{i_1 j_1} \beta_{i_2 j_2} \cdots \beta_{i_h j_h}$$

Proposition (Avila, Delecroix)

*If  $\{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_{n+h-1}\} = \{1, 2, 3\}$ , then  $\beta_{i_1 j_1} \beta_{i_2 j_2} \cdots \beta_{i_h j_h}$  is Pisot and primitive*

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### Proposition

*Let*

$$\beta_{i_1 j_1} \beta_{i_2 j_2} \beta_{i_3 j_3} \beta_{i_4 j_4} \beta_{i_5 j_5} \beta_{i_6 j_6} \beta_{i_7 j_7} \beta_{i_8 j_8} \cdots$$

*have partial quotients bounded by  $h$ . Then the resulting Brun word is  $(4h + 7)$ -balanced.*

## Bounded partial quotients: Matrix manipulations

- ▶ Given frequency vector  $\mathbf{f} \in \mathbb{R}_+^3$
- ▶ Directive sequence:  $\beta_{i_1 j_1} \beta_{i_2 j_2} \beta_{i_3 j_3} \beta_{i_4 j_4} \cdots$
- ▶ Matrices:  $M_1, M_2, M_3, M_4, \dots$

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### Lemma

Let  $N_1, N_2, \dots$  be matrices such that





$${}^t(M_1 M_2 \cdots M_n) \mathbf{x} = {}^t(N_1 N_2 \cdots N_n) \mathbf{x} \quad \text{for all } \mathbf{x} \perp \mathbf{f}, \text{ for all } n.$$

Then

$$\text{Balance}(\omega) \leq 4 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \| {}^t(N_1 N_2 \cdots N_n) \|_{\infty}$$

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	$\xrightarrow{B_{12}}$		$\xrightarrow{B_{23}}$		$\xrightarrow{B_{31}}$		$\cdots$
	$\beta_{12}$		$\beta_{23}$		$\beta_{31}$		$\cdots$
$M_1 \cdots M_n$	$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$		$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$		$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$		$\cdots$
					(grows exponentially)		
$N_1 \cdots N_n$	$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0.23 & -0.67 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$		$\begin{pmatrix} -0.07 & 0 & -0.64 \\ -0.3 & 0 & 0.13 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$		$\begin{pmatrix} -0.48 & 0.1 & 0 \\ -0.22 & -0.02 & 0 \\ 0.65 & -0.15 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$		$\cdots$
					(decays as $\phi^{-n}$ )		

## Bounded partial quotients: Matrix manipulations

Proof:

$$\text{Balance}(\omega) \leq 4 \text{Discrepancy}(\omega) \leq 4 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left\| {}^t(N_1 N_2 \cdots N_n) \right\|_{\infty}$$

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- ▶ **Dumont-Thomas representation:** For every prefix of  $\omega$ :

$$p = \phi_1 \phi_2 \cdots \phi_n(u_n) \cdot \phi_1 \phi_2 \cdots \phi_{n-1}(u_{n-1}) \cdot \cdots \cdot \phi_1(u_1) \cdot u_0$$

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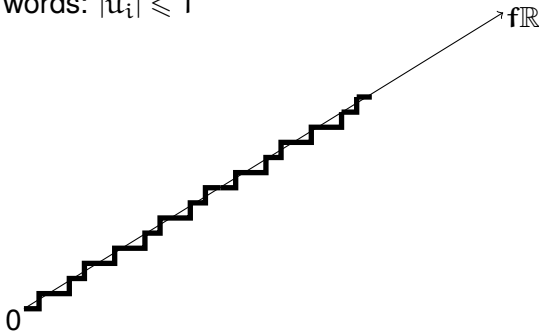
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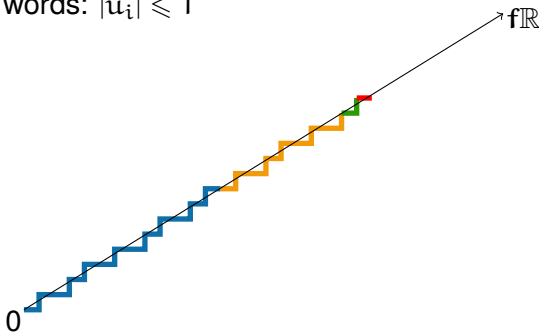
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## Bounded partial quotients $\rightarrow$ 'Almost all'

- ▶ Direction  $\mathbf{f} \in \mathbb{R}_+^3 \rightarrow$  cocycle  $(M_1 M_2 \dots M_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$

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- ▶ [Avila, Delecroix]  $\implies \theta_1 > 0 > \theta_2$  for a.e.  $\mathbf{f}$   
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- ▶ We have  $\|{}^t(M_1 \dots M_n)\mathbf{v}\| = \mathcal{O}(\exp(\theta_2 n))$  for a.e.  $\mathbf{v} \perp \mathbf{f}$

$$\text{Balance}(\omega) \leq 4 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \|{}^t(N_1 N_2 \dots N_n)\|_{\infty}$$

## Imbalances in Brun words: $\text{Balance}(\omega) > C$

- ▶  $\Delta(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) = \Psi(\mathbf{u}) - \Psi(\mathbf{v})$
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$$\text{▶ } \begin{pmatrix} -q \\ -1 \\ q+1 \end{pmatrix} \xleftarrow{\beta_{12}^q \beta_{21}^2} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ +1 \\ q+1 \end{pmatrix} \xleftarrow{*} \begin{pmatrix} +1 \\ +1 \\ q+1 \end{pmatrix} \xleftarrow{\beta_{13} \beta_{32} \beta_{32}} \begin{pmatrix} -q \\ +1 \\ q-1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{▶ } \dots 123 \dots \xrightarrow{\beta_{13} \beta_{32} \beta_{32}} \dots \underline{1}13132\underline{1}3\underline{1} \dots$$



## Imbalances in Brun words: $\text{Balance}(\omega) > C$

- ▶  $\Delta(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) = \Psi(\mathbf{u}) - \Psi(\mathbf{v})$
- ▶  $\Delta(\phi(\mathbf{u}), \phi(\mathbf{v})) = M_\phi \Delta(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v})$

$$\text{▶ } \begin{pmatrix} -q \\ -1 \\ q+1 \end{pmatrix} \xleftarrow{\beta_{12}^q \beta_{21}^2} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ +1 \\ q+1 \end{pmatrix} \xleftarrow{*} \begin{pmatrix} +1 \\ +1 \\ q+1 \end{pmatrix} \xleftarrow{\beta_{13} \beta_{32} \beta_{32}} \begin{pmatrix} -q \\ +1 \\ q-1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{▶ } \dots \underline{1} \underline{2} \underline{3} \dots \xrightarrow{\beta_{13} \beta_{32} \beta_{32}} \dots \underline{1} \underline{1} \underline{3} \underline{1} \underline{3} \underline{2} \underline{1} \underline{3} \underline{1} \dots$$

$$\text{▶ } \pm \begin{pmatrix} C \\ 1 \\ C+1 \end{pmatrix} \xleftarrow{\dots} \dots \xleftarrow{\dots} \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} \xleftarrow{\dots} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} \xleftarrow{\dots} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Imbalances in Brun words: $\text{Balance}(\omega) = +\infty$

### Lemma

*There exists a function  $F$  such that:*

*Let  $\phi = \beta_1\beta_2 \cdots \beta_n$ . Then*

$$\text{Balance}(\omega) > F(n, C) \quad \implies \quad \text{Balance}(\phi(\omega)) > C.$$

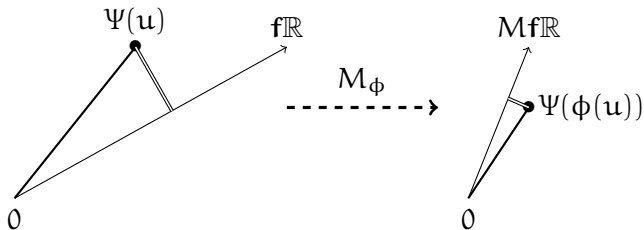
## Imbalances in Brun words: $\text{Balance}(\omega) = +\infty$

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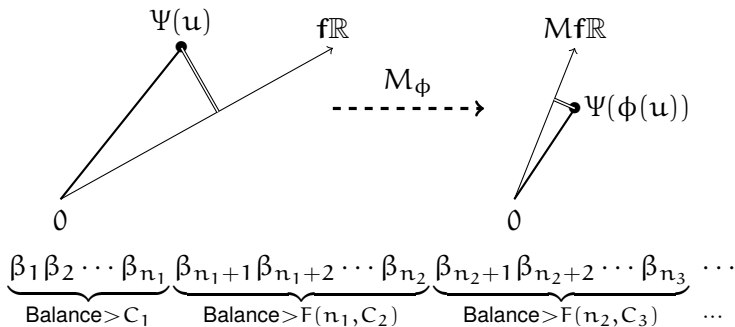
## Imbalances in Brun words: $\text{Balance}(\omega) = +\infty$

### Lemma

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$$\text{Balance}(\omega) > F(n, C) \implies \text{Balance}(\phi(\omega)) > C.$$



## Conclusions

- + Almost all Brun and AR words are finitely balanced.
- + But not all of them.
- i Tools:
  - i Dumont-Thomas representation
  - i Ergodic theory
  - i Linear algebra
- ? Can we characterize them?
- ? Do Brun words have a nice combinatorial description?
- ? What about other continued fraction algorithms?
  - ? Jacobi-Perron ( $\infty$  many substitutions)
  - ? Poincaré / Fully subtractive
- ? Algorithms to precisely compute  $\text{Balance}(\omega)$
- ? ...

## Most notable References

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