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ON UNIVERSAL AND PERIODIC β -EXPANSIONS, AND THE HAUSDORFF DIMENSION OF THE SET OF ALL EXPANSIONS

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ABSTRACT. In this paper we study the topology of a set naturally arising from the study of β -expansions. After proving several elementary results for this set we study the case when our base is Pisot. In this case we give necessary and sufficient conditions for this set to be finite. This finiteness property will allow us to generalise a theorem due to Schmidt and will provide the motivation for sufficient conditions under which the growth rate and Hausdorff dimension of the set of β -expansions are equal and explicitly calculable.

1. INTRODUCTION

Let $m \in \mathbb{N}$, $\beta \in (1, m + 1]$ and $I_{\beta, m} = [0, \frac{m}{\beta-1}]$. We call a sequence $(\epsilon_i)_{i=1}^{\infty} \in \{0, \dots, m\}^{\mathbb{N}}$ a β -expansion for x if

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{\epsilon_i}{\beta^i} = x.$$

It is a simple exercise to show that x has a β -expansion if and only if $x \in I_{\beta, m}$. For $x \in I_{\beta, m}$ we denote the set of β -expansions for x by $\Sigma_{\beta, m}(x)$, i.e.,

$$\Sigma_{\beta, m}(x) = \left\{ (\epsilon_i)_{i=1}^{\infty} \in \{0, \dots, m\}^{\mathbb{N}} : \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{\epsilon_i}{\beta^i} = x \right\}.$$

It is a well known property that for $\beta \in (1, m + 1)$ a point $x \in (0, \frac{m}{\beta-1})$ will typically have a non-unique β -expansion, see [2, 4, 10, 13, 15, 17]. The following set was introduced in [8]

$$\mathcal{E}_{\beta, m, n}(x) = \left\{ (\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_n) \in \{0, \dots, m\}^n \mid \exists (\epsilon_{n+1}, \epsilon_{n+2}, \dots) \in \{0, \dots, m\}^{\mathbb{N}} : \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{\epsilon_i}{\beta^i} = x \right\},$$

we refer to an element of $\mathcal{E}_{\beta, m, n}(x)$ as an n -prefix for x . In what follows we fix the map $T_{\beta, i}(x) = \beta x - i$ for $i \in \{0, \dots, m\}$. Moreover, we let

$$\Omega_{\beta, m}(x) = \left\{ (a_i)_{i=1}^{\infty} \in \{T_{\beta, 0}, \dots, T_{\beta, m}\}^{\mathbb{N}} : (a_n \circ a_{n-1} \circ \dots \circ a_1)(x) \in I_{\beta, m} \text{ for all } n \in \mathbb{N} \right\}$$

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and

$$\Omega_{\beta,m,n}(x) = \left\{ (a_i)_{i=1}^n \in \{T_{\beta,0}, \dots, T_{\beta,m}\}^n : (a_n \circ a_{n-1} \circ \dots \circ a_1)(x) \in I_{\beta,m} \right\},$$

for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$. For our purposes it is also useful to define $\Omega_{\beta,m,0}(x)$ to be the set consisting of the identity map. Typically we will denote an element of $\Omega_{\beta,m,n}(x)$ or any finite sequence of maps by a . When we want to emphasise the length of a we will use the notation $a^{(n)}$. We also adopt the notation $a^{(n)}(x)$ to mean $(a_n \circ a_{n-1} \circ \dots \circ a_1)(x)$. The following technical lemma will be useful.

- Lemma 1.1.** (1) $\text{Card}(\mathcal{E}_{\beta,m,n}(x)) = \text{Card}(\Omega_{\beta,m,n}(x))$, where our bijection identifies $(\epsilon_i)_{i=1}^n$ with $(T_{\beta,\epsilon_i})_{i=1}^n$.
(2) $\text{Card}(\Sigma_{\beta,m}(x)) = \text{Card}(\Omega_{\beta,m}(x))$, where our bijection identifies $(\epsilon_i)_{i=1}^\infty$ with $(T_{\beta,\epsilon_i})_{i=1}^\infty$.
(3) A finite block $(\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_n)$ of elements from $\{0, \dots, m\}$ appears in a β -expansion for x if and only if there exists a finite sequence of maps a , such that $(T_{\beta,\epsilon_n} \circ \dots \circ T_{\beta,\epsilon_1} \circ a)(x) \in I_{\beta,m}$.

Proof. The proofs of statements 1 and 2 are contained in [2]. To prove statement 3 we replicate an argument given in [8]. Suppose $(\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_n)$ appears in a β -expansion for x , then there exists $N \in \mathbb{N}$ and $(\delta_1, \dots, \delta_N) \in \{0, \dots, m\}^N$ such that

$$x - \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\delta_i}{\beta^i} - \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\epsilon_i}{\beta^{N+i}} \in \left[0, \frac{m}{\beta^{N+n}(\beta-1)}\right].$$

A simple manipulation yields that this is equivalent to

$$\beta^{N+n}x - \sum_{i=1}^N \delta_i \beta^{N+n-i} - \sum_{i=1}^n \epsilon_i \beta^{n-i} \in I_{\beta,m}.$$

However

$$\beta^{N+n}x - \sum_{i=1}^N \delta_i \beta^{N+n-i} - \sum_{i=1}^n \epsilon_i \beta^{n-i} = (T_{\beta,\epsilon_n} \circ \dots \circ T_{\beta,\epsilon_1} \circ T_{\beta,\delta_N} \circ \dots \circ T_{\beta,\delta_1})(x).$$

Our result follows immediately. □

With Lemma 1.1 in mind we also refer to an element of $\Omega_{\beta,m,n}(x)$ as an n -prefix for x . Naturally arising from Lemma 1.1 are the sets

$$S_{\beta,m,n}(x) = \left\{ a(x) : a \in \Omega_{\beta,m,n}(x) \right\}$$

and

$$S_{\beta,m}(x) = \bigcup_{n=0}^{\infty} S_{\beta,m,n}(x).$$

After proving several elementary results for $S_{\beta,m}(x)$ we will study the case when β is Pisot. Our main result will be the following.

Theorem 1.2. *Let β be a Pisot number, then $S_{\beta,m}(x)$ is finite if and only if $x \in \mathbb{Q}(\beta)$.*

Recall that a Pisot number is a real algebraic integer greater than 1 whose other Galois conjugates are of modulus strictly less than 1. Using Theorem 1.2 we will show that for a general method of producing β -expansions the β -expansion generated for x is eventually periodic if and only if $x \in \mathbb{Q}(\beta)$, generalising a theorem due to Schmidt [14]. Theorem 1.2 will also provide the motivation for sufficient conditions under which the growth rate of β -expansions equals the Hausdorff dimension of the set of β -expansions, partially answering a question posed in [3], moreover our method allows us to explicitly calculate these quantities.

Before beginning our study of the sets $S_{\beta,m,n}(x)$ and $S_{\beta,m}(x)$ it is useful to recall the following, as we will see the subsequent theory will be important in understanding the topology of these sets.

To each $m \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\beta \in (1, m+1]$ we associate the set

$$Y^m(\beta) = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n \epsilon_i \beta^i \mid \epsilon_i \in \{0, \dots, m\}, n = 0, 1, \dots \right\}.$$

The elements of $Y^m(\beta)$ can be arranged into a strictly increasing sequence $y_0^m(\beta) < y_1^m(\beta) < y_2^m(\beta) < \dots$, tending to infinity. We define the quantities

$$l^m(\beta) = \liminf_{k \rightarrow \infty} (y_{k+1}^m(\beta) - y_k^m(\beta)) \text{ and } L^m(\beta) = \limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} (y_{k+1}^m(\beta) - y_k^m(\beta)).$$

These limits have been studied in great depth, to name but a few references we refer the reader to [1, 5, 7, 19]. As we will see the quantities $l^m(\beta)$ and $L^m(\beta)$ will be intimately related to the topology of the sets $S_{\beta,m,n}(x)$ and $S_{\beta,m}(x)$.

2. ELEMENTARY PROPERTIES

In this section we prove several elementary results relating the topology of $S_{\beta,m}(x)$ to the set of β -expansions. Following [5] we say that a β -expansion for x is *universal* if it contains all finite blocks of digits from $\{0, \dots, m\}$. Similarly, we say that a point $x \in I_{\beta,m}$ is *universal* if for any finite block of digits from $\{0, \dots, m\}$ there exists a β -expansion for x containing this block. The following propositions are immediate.

Proposition 2.1. *$x \in I_{\beta,m}$ is universal if and only if $S_{\beta,m}(x)$ is dense in $I_{\beta,m}$.*

Proof. Assume x is universal and let \mathcal{I} be a nontrivial subinterval of $I_{\beta,m}$. Let $z \in \text{int}(\mathcal{I})$ and $(\delta_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}$ be a β -expansion for z , we consider the set

$$\Gamma((\delta_i)_{i=1}^N) = \left\{ y \in I_{\beta,m} \mid (T_{\beta,\delta_N} \circ \dots \circ T_{\beta,\delta_1})(y) \in I_{\beta,m} \right\}.$$

This set is an interval of diameter $\frac{m}{\beta^N(\beta-1)}$ containing z , since $z \in \text{int}(\mathcal{I})$ we have $\Gamma((\delta_i)_{i=1}^N) \subset \mathcal{I}$ for N sufficiently large. As x is universal there exists a β -expansion for x containing the digits $(\delta_1, \dots, \delta_N)$, by an application of Lemma 1.1 there must exist a finite sequence of maps a such that $a(x) \in \Gamma((\delta_i)_{i=1}^N)$. Therefore $S_{\beta,m}(x) \cap \mathcal{I} \neq \emptyset$, as \mathcal{I} was arbitrary we may conclude that $S_{\beta,m}(x)$ is dense in $I_{\beta,m}$.

We now prove the opposite implication. Suppose $S_{\beta,m}(x)$ is dense and let $\epsilon = (\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_n)$ be a finite block of digits from $\{0, \dots, m\}$. Let

$$I_\epsilon = \left\{ y \in I_{\beta,m} \mid (T_{\beta,\epsilon_n} \circ \dots \circ T_{\beta,\epsilon_1})(y) \in I_{\beta,m} \right\}.$$

As $S_{\beta,m}(x)$ is dense there exists a finite sequence of maps a such that $a(x) \in I_\epsilon$, therefore $(T_{\beta,\epsilon_n} \circ \dots \circ T_{\beta,\epsilon_1} \circ a)(x) \in I_{\beta,m}$, our result follows from Lemma 1.1. \square

Proposition 2.2. *If $x \in I_{\beta,m}$ has a universal β -expansion then there exists $a \in \Omega_{\beta,m}(x)$ such that $\{(a_n \circ \dots \circ a_1)(x) \mid n = 1, 2, \dots\}$ is dense in $I_{\beta,m}$.*

The proof of this statement follows by a similar argument to the first part of Proposition 2.1 and is therefore omitted.

Proposition 2.3. *Every $x \in (0, \frac{m}{\beta-1})$ has a universal β -expansion if and only if $S_{\beta,m}(x)$ is dense in $I_{\beta,m}$ for all $x \in (0, \frac{m}{\beta-1})$.*

Proof. The rightwards implication is an immediate consequence of Proposition 2.2. Let us suppose $S_{\beta,m}(x)$ is dense in $I_{\beta,m}$ for every $x \in (0, \frac{m}{\beta-1})$. Let $\{B_i\}_{i=1}^\infty$ be an enumeration of all finite blocks of transformations from $\{T_{\beta,0}, \dots, T_{\beta,m}\}$. For each B_i there exists an interval I_{B_i} such that, $B_i(y) \in I_{\beta,m}$ if and only if $y \in I_{B_i}$. As $S_{\beta,m}(x)$ is dense in $I_{\beta,m}$ there exists a finite sequence of maps a , such that $a(x) \in \text{int}(I_{B_1})$, therefore $B_1 \circ a(x) \in (0, \frac{m}{\beta-1})$. Applying our hypothesis to $B_1 \circ a(x)$ we can assert that there exists a finite sequence of maps a_1 , such that $(B_2 \circ a_1 \circ B_1 \circ a)(x) \in (0, \frac{m}{\beta-1})$. Repeating this process arbitrarily many times we may construct an infinite sequence of maps containing all finite blocks from $\{T_{\beta,0}, \dots, T_{\beta,m}\}$, by Lemma 1.1 our result follows. \square

In [5] the following result was shown to hold.

Theorem 2.4. *If $L^m(\beta) = 0$ then every $x \in (0, \frac{m}{\beta-1})$ has a universal β -expansion.*

By Theorem 2.4 and the results presented in [1], [7] and [18] the following theorem is immediate.

Theorem 2.5.

- *Let $\beta \in (1, 2^{1/3}]$ and assume β is not a Pisot number, then $S_{\beta,1}(x)$ is dense in $I_{\beta,1}$ for every $x \in (0, \frac{1}{\beta-1})$.*
- *Let $\beta \in (2^{1/3}, 2^{1/2})$ and assume that β^2 is not a Pisot number, then $S_{\beta,1}(x)$ is dense in $I_{\beta,1}$ for every $x \in (0, \frac{1}{\beta-1})$.*
- *Let $\beta \in (1, 2)$, then for almost every $x \in I_{\beta,1}$ there exists $a \in \Omega_{\beta,1}(x)$ such that $\{a_n \circ \dots \circ a_1(x) \mid n = 1, 2, \dots\}$ is dense in $I_{\beta,1}$.*

3. THE PISOT CASE

In this section we study the case when β is Pisot. As well as proving Theorem 1.2 we will show that the following result holds.

Proposition 3.1. *Let β be a Pisot number and $x \in I_{\beta,m}$, then $\text{Card}(S_{\beta,m,n}(x))$ can be bounded above by some constant depending only on β and m .*

To prove Theorem 1.2 and Proposition 3.1 we require the following theorem due to Garsia [9].

Theorem 3.2. *Let $m \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\beta \in (1, m + 1]$ be a Pisot number, then $Y^m(\beta)$ is uniformly discrete, i.e., there exists $\Delta(\beta, m) > 0$ such that $|x - y| \geq \Delta(\beta, m)$ for all $x, y \in Y^m(\beta)$ such that $x \neq y$.*

Proof of Theorem 1.2. Suppose $S_{\beta,m}(x)$ is finite, in this case there exists $n < n'$, $a \in \Omega_{\beta,m,n}(x)$ and $a' \in \Omega_{\beta,m,n'}(x)$ such that $a(x) = a'(x)$. It follows that there exists $(\epsilon_i)_{i=0}^{n-1} \in \{0, \dots, m\}^n$ and $(\epsilon'_i)_{i=0}^{n'-1} \in \{0, \dots, m\}^{n'}$ satisfying

$$\beta^n x - \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \epsilon_i \beta^i = \beta^{n'} x - \sum_{i=0}^{n'-1} \epsilon'_i \beta^i,$$

from which it is a simple consequence that $x \in \mathbb{Q}(\beta)$. It remains to show that the opposite implication holds. Let $x \in \mathbb{Q}(\beta)$, then $x = p(\beta)/n_1$ for some $n_1 \in \mathbb{N}$ and $p(\beta) = \sum_{i=0}^d \delta_i \beta^i$ where $\delta_i \in \mathbb{Z}$. Let $\epsilon > 0$, we assume for a contradiction that $S_{\beta,m}(x)$ is infinite. If $S_{\beta,m}(x)$ is infinite then there exists $j, j' \in \mathbb{N}$ such that

$$(3.1) \quad 0 < \left| \left(\frac{\beta^j p(\beta)}{n_1} - \sum_{i=0}^{j-1} \epsilon_i \beta^i \right) - \left(\frac{\beta^{j'} p(\beta)}{n_1} - \sum_{i=0}^{j'-1} \epsilon'_i \beta^i \right) \right| < \frac{\epsilon}{n_1},$$

for some $(\epsilon_i)_{i=0}^{j-1} \in \{0, \dots, m\}^j$ and $(\epsilon'_i)_{i=0}^{j'-1} \in \{0, \dots, m\}^{j'}$. By an abuse of notation we can rewrite (3.1) as

$$(3.2) \quad \left| \frac{\beta^j p(\beta) - \beta^{j'} p(\beta)}{n_1} - \sum_{i=0}^k \epsilon_i \beta^i \right| < \frac{\epsilon}{n_1},$$

where $k = \max\{j - 1, j' - 1\}$ and $(\epsilon_i)_{i=0}^k \in \{-m, \dots, m\}^{k+1}$. Multiplying through by n_1 we can rewrite (3.2) as

$$(3.3) \quad \left| \beta^j p(\beta) - \beta^{j'} p(\beta) - n_1 \sum_{i=0}^k \epsilon_i \beta^i \right| < \epsilon.$$

Let $n_2 = \max\{|\delta_i|\}$ and $L = \max\{d + j, d + j'\}$, collecting positive and negative terms we can rewrite (3.3) as

$$(3.4) \quad \left| \sum_{i=0}^L \omega_i \beta^i - \sum_{i=0}^L \omega'_i \beta^i \right| < \epsilon,$$

for some $(\omega_i)_{i=0}^L, (\omega'_i)_{i=0}^L \in \{0, \dots, n_1 m + n_2\}^{L+1}$. We remark that $n_1 m + n_2$ has no dependence on j and j' and if we take $\epsilon = \Delta(\beta, n_1 m + n_2)$, then by Theorem 3.2 we have a contradiction. \square

Proof of Proposition 3.1. Let $m \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\beta \in (1, m+1]$ be a Pisot number, for each $x \in I_{\beta, m}$ we can rewrite $S_{\beta, m, n}(x)$ as

$$S_{\beta, m, n}(x) = \left\{ y \in I_{\beta, m} \mid y = \beta^n x - \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \epsilon_i \beta^i \text{ where } \epsilon_i \in \{0, \dots, m\} \right\}.$$

Let $z, z' \in S_{\beta, m, n}(x)$ and $z \neq z'$, then $|z - z'| = \left| \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \epsilon_i \beta^i - \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \epsilon'_i \beta^i \right|$ for some $(\epsilon_i)_{i=0}^{n-1}, (\epsilon'_i)_{i=0}^{n-1} \in \{0, \dots, m\}^n$. By Theorem 3.2 $|z - z'| \geq \Delta(\beta, m)$ and therefore

$$\text{Card}(S_{\beta, m, n}(x)) \leq \left\lceil \frac{\frac{m}{\beta-1}}{\Delta(\beta, m)} \right\rceil + 1.$$

□

Remark 3.3. In [18] it was shown that for $\beta \in (1, 2)$ almost every $x \in I_{\beta, 1}$ has a universal β -expansion. By Proposition 2.2 it follows that $S_{\beta, 1}(x)$ is dense in $I_{\beta, m}$ for almost every $x \in I_{\beta, 1}$. We might expect $\text{Card}(S_{\beta, 1, n}(x)) \rightarrow \infty$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$ for almost every x . However, by Proposition 3.1 $\text{Card}(S_{\beta, 1, n}(x))$ can be bounded above when β is Pisot for all $x \in I_{\beta, m}$.

The following corollary is an immediate consequence of Theorem 1.2 and Propositions 2.1 and 2.2.

Corollary 3.4. *Let β be Pisot, if $x \in \mathbb{Q}(\beta)$ then x cannot be universal or have a universal β -expansion.*

This generalises a result in [5] where it was shown that if β is Pisot then 1 cannot have a universal β -expansion.

4. GENERALISATION OF SCHMIDT'S THEOREM

In this section we generalise a theorem due to Schmidt [14]. Before stating our theorem and Schmidt's it is necessary to establish the following. Let $\mathcal{A} = \{B_k\}_{k=1}^{2^{m+1}-1} = \mathcal{P}(\{0, \dots, m\}) \setminus \{\emptyset\}$, where $\mathcal{P}(\{0, \dots, m\})$ denotes the powerset of $\{0, \dots, m\}$. We set

$$B(x) := \left\{ i \in \{0, \dots, m\} : T_{\beta, i}(x) \in I_{\beta, m} \right\},$$

and to each $B_k \in \mathcal{A}$ we associate the set

$$I_{k, \beta, m} = \left\{ x \in I_{\beta, m} : B(x) = B_k \right\}.$$

We remark that for many B_k the corresponding set $I_{k, \beta, m}$ will be empty, however for our purposes this will not be important. We also remark that the set $\{I_{k, \beta, m}\}_{k=1}^{2^{m+1}-1}$ forms a partition of $I_{\beta, m}$. When $I_{k, \beta, m}$ is non-empty it will be an interval; possibly open, closed or neither.

Example 4.1. Let $m = 1$ and $\beta \in (1, 2]$, in this case $\mathcal{A} = \{B_k\}_{k=1}^3 = \{\{0\}, \{1\}, \{0, 1\}\}$ and $I_{1, \beta, m} = [0, \frac{1}{\beta}]$, $I_{2, \beta, m} = (\frac{1}{\beta(\beta-1)}, \frac{1}{\beta-1}]$ and $I_{3, \beta, m} = [\frac{1}{\beta}, \frac{1}{\beta(\beta-1)}]$.



FIGURE 1. A typical expansion generating function for $m = 1$ and $\beta \in (1, 2)$

Suppose $B_k = \{\delta_{k,l}\}_{l=1}^{p(k)}$, we let $\{A_{k,l}\}_{l=1}^{p(k)}$ be a partition of $I_{k,\beta,m}$. As $\{I_{k,\beta,m}\}_{k=1}^{2^{m+1}-1}$ is a partition of $I_{\beta,m}$ then $\{A_{k,l}\}_{k,l}$ is also a partition of $I_{\beta,m}$. We define the *expansion generating function associated to $\{A_{k,l}\}_{k,l}$* to be the function $F : I_{\beta,m} \rightarrow I_{\beta,m}$, where $F(x) = T_{\beta,\delta_{k,l}}(x)$ if $x \in A_{k,l}$. As $\{A_{k,l}\}_{k,l}$ is a partition of $I_{\beta,m}$ the function F is well defined. We refer to F as the expansion generating function associated to $\{A_{k,l}\}_{k,l}$ because by repeatedly iterating our map F it associates to each $x \in I_{\beta,m}$ a unique element of $\Omega_{\beta,m}(x)$, by Lemma 1.1 this corresponds to a unique β -expansion for x . We define this unique β -expansion to be the *β -expansion generated by F* . Intuitively we think of the partition $\{A_{k,l}\}_{k,l}$ as a collection of rules under which whenever we have a choice of maps from $\{T_{\beta,0}, \dots, T_{\beta,m}\}$ satisfying $T_{\beta,i}(x) \in I_{\beta,m}$, our rules decide which of these maps we perform. We remark that the elements of $\{A_{k,l}\}_{k,l}$ may have an exotic structure, they need not be intervals or even measurable sets. We refer the reader to Figure 1 for a diagram illustrating a typical expansion generating function in the case where $m = 1$ and $\beta \in (1, 2)$.

Remark 4.2. If $A_{k,\max\{\delta_{k,l}\}} = I_{k,\beta,m}$ for each $1 \leq k \leq 2^{m+1} - 1$, then

$$F(x) = \begin{cases} \beta x \pmod{1} & \text{if } x \in [0, \frac{m}{\beta}] \\ \beta x - m & \text{if } x \in (\frac{m}{\beta}, \frac{m}{\beta-1}]. \end{cases}$$

The β -expansion generated by this function is the greedy expansion. If $A_{k,\min\{\delta_{k,l}\}} = I_{k,\beta,m}$ then the β -expansion generated by F is the lazy expansion. We refer the reader to [16] for the relevant details regarding greedy and lazy expansions.

When $A_{k, \max\{\delta_{k,l}\}} = I_{k, \beta, m}$ as in Remark 4.2 we denote the *expansion generating function associated to* $\{A_{k,l}\}_{k,l}$ by F_{greedy} , moreover we let $Pre(F_{greedy})$ denote the set of pre-periodic points of F_{greedy} . In [14] the following theorem was shown to hold.

Theorem 4.3. *Let β be a Pisot number, consider $F_{greedy} : [0, 1) \rightarrow [0, 1)$, then $Pre(F_{greedy}) = \mathbb{Q}(\beta) \cap [0, 1)$.*

It is not difficult to show that this result can be extended to the case when $F_{greedy} : I_{\beta, m} \rightarrow I_{\beta, m}$. We generalise this result as follows.

Theorem 4.4. *Let β be a Pisot number, then $Pre(F) = \mathbb{Q}(\beta) \cap I_{\beta, m}$ for any expansion generating function F .*

Proof. Let $x \in Pre(F)$, by Lemma 1.1 there exists an eventually periodic β -expansion for x , manipulating this expansion using standard techniques for geometric series we can conclude that $Pre(F) \subset \mathbb{Q}(\beta) \cap I_{\beta, m}$. We now show the opposite inclusion, let $x \in \mathbb{Q}(\beta) \cap I_{\beta, m}$ and F be an expansion generating function corresponding to some $\{A_{k,l}\}_{k,l}$. Each successive iterate of the map F is an element of $S_{\beta, m}(x)$. By Theorem 1.2 we have that $S_{\beta, m}(x)$ is finite and therefore there exists $N, N' \in \mathbb{N}$, such that $F^N(x) = F^{N'}(x)$, therefore $x \in Pre(F)$. \square

In [11] a version of Theorem 4.4 was shown to hold for a more general class of β -expansion, however, this was under the weaker assumption that the elements of $\{A_{k,l}\}_{k,l}$ were intervals.

The following corollary is an immediate consequence of Theorem 4.4 and Lemma 1.1.

Corollary 4.5. *Let β be a Pisot number, then for any expansion generating function F the β -expansion generated by F is eventually periodic if and only if $x \in \mathbb{Q}(\beta) \cap I_{\beta, m}$.*

5. THE GROWTH RATE AND HAUSDORFF DIMENSION OF $\Sigma_{\beta, m}(x)$

In this section we study the growth rate and Hausdorff dimension of the set of β -expansions. Let $\beta \in (1, m + 1]$ be some arbitrary number not necessarily Pisot, we assume that $x \in I_{\beta, m}$ satisfies $S_{\beta, m}(x) = \{\gamma_j\}_{j=1}^k$. Our motivation for this finiteness condition comes from Theorem 1.2 but as we will see the following results do not require any assumptions on the algebraic properties of β or x . However, we remark that we are unaware of any non-trivial examples where β is not Pisot and there exists $x \in I_{\beta, m}$ such that $S_{\beta, m}(x)$ is finite. In what follows we assume that our enumeration of the set $\{\gamma_j\}_{j=1}^k$ is such that $\gamma_1 = x$.

Recall the following from [3], let

$$\mathcal{N}_{\beta, m, n}(x) = Card(\mathcal{E}_{\beta, m, n}(x))$$

and define the *growth rate of β -expansions* to be

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log_{m+1} \mathcal{N}_{\beta, m, n}(x)}{n},$$

when this limit exists. When this limit does not exist we can consider the *lower and upper growth rates of β -expansions*, these are defined to be

$$\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log_{m+1} \mathcal{N}_{\beta, m, n}(x)}{n} \quad \text{and} \quad \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log_{m+1} \mathcal{N}_{\beta, m, n}(x)}{n}$$

respectively. We endow $\{0, \dots, m\}^{\mathbb{N}}$ with the metric $d(\cdot, \cdot)$ defined as follows:

$$d(x, y) = \begin{cases} (m+1)^{-n(x,y)} & \text{if } x \neq y, \text{ where } n(x, y) = \inf\{i : x_i \neq y_i\} \\ 0 & \text{if } x = y. \end{cases}$$

We can consider the Hausdorff dimension of $\Sigma_{\beta, m}(x)$ with respect to this metric. It is a simple exercise to show that following inequalities hold:

$$(5.1) \quad \dim_H(\Sigma_{\beta, m}(x)) \leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log_{m+1} \mathcal{N}_{\beta, m, n}(x)}{n} \leq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log_{m+1} \mathcal{N}_{\beta, m, n}(x)}{n}.$$

These quantities were studied in [2, 3, 8, 12]. In [2] it was shown that for each $m \in \mathbb{N}$ there exists $\mathcal{G}(m) \in \mathbb{R}$ such that, for $\beta \in (1, \mathcal{G}(m))$ and $x \in (0, \frac{m}{\beta-1})$ the Hausdorff dimension of $\Sigma_{\beta, m}(x)$ can be bounded below by some strictly positive function depending only on β and m .

We define the *transition matrix associated to x* to be the $k \times k$ matrix A , where A satisfies

$$(A)_{q,j} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if there exists } i \in \{0, \dots, m\} \text{ such that } T_{\beta, i}(\gamma_q) = \gamma_j \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Let $N(\gamma_q, \gamma_j, n) = \text{Card}(\{a \in \Omega_{\beta, m, n}(x) \text{ such that } a(\gamma_q) = \gamma_j\})$. The following proposition is immediate.

Proposition 5.1. *Let e_j denote the $(k \times 1)$ column vector that is 1 in the j -th entry and 0 in all other entries. Then $N(\gamma_q, \gamma_j, n) = (A^n e_j)_q$ and $\mathcal{N}_{\beta, m, n}(\gamma_q) = \sum_{j=1}^k (A^n e_j)_q$.*

Proof. As $\mathcal{N}_{\beta, m, n}(\gamma_q) = \sum_{j=1}^k N(\gamma_q, \gamma_j, n)$ it suffices to show that the first statement holds. It is a standard inductive argument to show that

$$N(\gamma_q, \gamma_j, n) = (A^n)_{q,j},$$

our result then follows from the observation that $(A^n)_{q,j} = (A^n e_j)_q$ □

We now give conditions under which we have equality in (5.1) and can explicitly compute $\dim_H(\Sigma_{\beta, m}(x))$ and the growth rate of β -expansions. Let A be the transition matrix associated to $\{\gamma_j\}_{j=1}^k$ as above. As A is a non-negative matrix with non-zero entries it has a positive real eigenvalue α with non-negative eigenvector v_α , such that $\text{Spec}(A) = \alpha$. It maybe the case that there exists other possibly complex eigenvalues α_i such that $|\alpha_i| = \alpha$. This is the case we want to avoid, as such we introduce the following condition. We say that A satisfies *condition 1* if A has a positive real eigenvalue α with non-negative eigenvector v_α such that $|\alpha_i| < \alpha$ for all other eigenvalues. Condition 1 is satisfied if for every $\gamma_i, \gamma_j \in S_{\beta, m}(x)$ there exists a finite sequence of maps $a_{i,j}$ such that $a_{i,j}(\gamma_i) = \gamma_j$, and if p_i is the minimum number of transformations required to map γ_i to γ_i , then $\gcd(\{p_i\}) = 1$. This is a consequence of the Perron-Frobenius theorem for primitive matrices.

Theorem 5.2. *Let $m \in \mathbb{N}$, $\beta \in (1, m+1]$ and $x \in I_{\beta, m}$. Assume $S_{\beta, m}(x) = \{\gamma_j\}_{j=1}^k$ and the transition matrix A associated to x satisfies condition 1, then*

$$\dim_H(\Sigma_{\beta, m}(x)) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log_{m+1} \mathcal{N}_{\beta, m, n}(x)}{n} = \log_{m+1} \alpha.$$

Before proving Theorem 5.2 we require the following lemma.

Lemma 5.3. *Under the hypothesis of Theorem 5.2 there exists $C_x > 0$ and $D > 0$ such that*

$$C_x \alpha^n \leq \mathcal{N}_{\beta, m, n}(x)$$

and

$$\mathcal{N}_{\beta, m, n}(\gamma_j) \leq D \alpha^n$$

for all $\gamma_j \in S_{\beta, m}(x)$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Proof. The existence of D follows by a simple linear algebra argument and Proposition 5.1. It remains to show the existence of C_x . Let $i \in \{1, \dots, k\}$ be such that $(v_\alpha)_i > 0$. By Proposition 5.1 we have that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{N}_{\beta, m, n}(\gamma_i) &\geq (A^n e_i)_i = (A^n(\text{proj}_{v_\alpha}(e_i)) + A^n(e_i - \text{proj}_{v_\alpha}(e_i)))_i \\ &= (\alpha^n(\text{proj}_{v_\alpha}(e_i)) + A^n(e_i - \text{proj}_{v_\alpha}(e_i)))_i \\ &= (\alpha^n(\text{proj}_{v_\alpha}(e_i)))_i + (A^n(e_i - \text{proj}_{v_\alpha}(e_i)))_i. \end{aligned}$$

Here proj_{v_α} denotes the projection onto the eigenvector v_α , since $(v_\alpha)_i > 0$ it follows that $\text{proj}_{v_\alpha}(e_i)$ is nonzero and by condition 1 there exists $C > 0$ such that

$$(5.2) \quad \mathcal{N}_{\beta, m, n}(\gamma_i) \geq C \alpha^n.$$

There exists a sequence of transformations a of length n_i such that $a(x) = \gamma_i$, therefore $\mathcal{N}_{\beta, m, n+n_i}(x) \geq \mathcal{N}_{\beta, m, n}(\gamma_i)$. By (5.2) we can conclude that $\mathcal{N}_{\beta, m, n+n_i}(x) \geq C \alpha^n$, for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, our result follows. \square

Applying Lemma 5.3 we can conclude that $\frac{\log_{m+1} \mathcal{N}_{\beta, m, n}(x)}{n} = \alpha$. By (5.1) to prove Theorem 5.2 it suffices to show that $\dim_H(\Sigma_{\beta, m}(x)) \geq \alpha$. Our method of proof is analogous to that given in [2], which is based upon Example 2.7 of [6].

Proof of Theorem 5.2. As $\Sigma_{\beta, m}(x)$ is a compact set we may restrict to finite covers. Let $\{U_n\}_{n=1}^N$ be a finite cover of $\Sigma_{\beta, m}(x)$, without loss of generality we may assume that $\text{Diam}(U_n) < \frac{1}{m+1}$, as such for each U_n there exists $l(n) \in \mathbb{N}$ such that

$$(m+1)^{-(l(n)+1)} \leq \text{Diam}(U_n) < (m+1)^{-l(n)}.$$

It follows that there exists $z^{(n)} \in \{0, \dots, m\}^{l(n)}$ such that, $y_i = z_i^{(n)}$ for $1 \leq i \leq l(n)$, for all $y \in U_n$. We may assume that $z^{(n)} \in \mathcal{E}_{\beta, m, l(n)}(x)$, if we supposed otherwise then $\Sigma_{\beta, m}(x) \cap U_n = \emptyset$ and we can remove U_n from our cover. We denote by C_n the set of sequences in $\{0, \dots, m\}^{\mathbb{N}}$ whose first $l(n)$ entries agree with $z^{(n)}$, i.e.

$$C_n = \left\{ (\epsilon_i)_{i=1}^{\infty} \in \{0, \dots, m\}^{\mathbb{N}} : \epsilon_i = z_i^{(n)} \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq l(n) \right\}.$$

Clearly $U_n \subset C_n$ and therefore the set $\{C_n\}_{n=1}^N$ is a cover of $\Sigma_{\beta, m}(x)$.

Since there are only finitely many elements in our cover there exists $J \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $(m+1)^{-J} \leq \text{Diam}(U_n)$ for all n . We consider the set $\mathcal{E}_{\beta, m, J}(x)$. Since $\{C_n\}_{n=1}^N$ is a cover of $\Sigma_{\beta, m}(x)$

each $a \in \mathcal{E}_{\beta,m,J}(x)$ satisfies $a_i = z_i^{(n)}$ for $1 \leq i \leq l(n)$, for some n . Therefore

$$\mathcal{N}_{\beta,m,J}(x) \leq \sum_{n=1}^N \text{Card}(\{a \in \mathcal{E}_{\beta,m,J}(x) : a_i = z_i^{(n)} \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq l(n)\}).$$

Applying Lemma 5.3 the following inequality is immediate;

$$(5.3) \quad C_x \alpha^J \leq \sum_{n=1}^N \text{Card}(\{a \in \mathcal{E}_{\beta,m,J}(x) : a_i = z_i^{(n)} \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq l(n)\}).$$

Each element of the set $\{a \in \mathcal{E}_{\beta,m,J}(x) : a_i = z_i^{(n)} \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq l(n)\}$ can be identified with a prefix of length $J - l(n)$ for some element of $\{\gamma_j\}_{j=1}^k$, this is a simple consequence of Lemma 1.1. We may therefore apply the second bound from Lemma 5.3,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=1}^N \text{Card}(\{a \in \mathcal{E}_{\beta,m,J}(x) : a_i = z_i^{(n)} \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq l(n)\}) &\leq \sum_{n=1}^N D \alpha^{J-l(n)} \\ &= D \alpha^{J+1} \sum_{n=1}^N (m+1)^{-(l(n)+1) \log_{m+1} \alpha} \\ &\leq D \alpha^{J+1} \sum_{n=1}^N \text{Diam}(U_n)^{\log_{m+1} \alpha}. \end{aligned}$$

Combining the above with (5.3) we have that the following inequality holds;

$$C_x \alpha^J \leq D \alpha^{J+1} \sum_{n=1}^N \text{Diam}(U_n)^{\log_{m+1} \alpha}.$$

Dividing through by $D \alpha^{J+1}$ yields

$$\sum_{n=1}^N \text{Diam}(U_n)^{\log_{m+1} \alpha} \geq \frac{C_x}{D \alpha},$$

the right hand side is a constant greater than zero that does not depend on our choice of cover. It follows that $\dim_H(\Sigma_{\beta,m}(x)) \geq \log_{m+1} \alpha$. \square

6. EXPLICIT CALCULATION

In this section we show how we can explicitly compute $\dim_H(\Sigma_{\beta,m}(x))$ and the growth rate of β expansions for some x, β and m . In what follows we assume $\beta \approx 1.53416$ is the Pisot number whose minimal polynomial is given by $z^5 - z^3 - z^2 - z - 1$, $x = \frac{1}{\beta^2 - 1}$ and $m = 1$. It is a simple

computation to show that

$$S_{\beta,1}\left(\frac{1}{\beta^2-1}\right) = \{\gamma_j\}_{j=1}^{10} = \left\{ \frac{1}{\beta^2-1}, \frac{\beta}{\beta^2-1}, \frac{1+\beta-\beta^2}{\beta^2-1}, \frac{\beta+\beta^2-\beta^3}{\beta^2-1}, \frac{\beta^2+\beta^3-\beta^4}{\beta^2-1}, \right. \\ \left. \frac{\beta^3+\beta^4-\beta^5}{\beta^2-1}, \frac{\beta^2}{\beta^2-1}, \frac{\beta^3-\beta^2+1}{\beta^2-1}, \frac{\beta^4-\beta^3-\beta^2+\beta+1}{\beta^2-1}, \right. \\ \left. \frac{\beta^5-\beta^4-\beta^3+\beta+1}{\beta^2-1} \right\}$$

and the matrix A is the 10×10 matrix of the form

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

This matrix has maximal eigenvalue $\kappa \approx 1.325$ with strictly positive eigenvector

$$v_\kappa \approx (0.478, 0.478, 0.155, 0.206, 0.273, 0.361, 0.155, 0.206, 0.273, 0.361).$$

By Theorem 5.2 it follows that

$$\dim_H(\Sigma_{\beta,1}(x)) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log_2 \mathcal{N}_{\beta,1,n}(x)}{n} \approx \log_2 1.325 \approx 0.40599 \dots$$

This result in fact holds for all $\gamma_j \in S_{\beta,1}\left(\frac{1}{\beta^2-1}\right)$.

Remark 6.1. In [8] the authors show that if $\beta \in (1, 2)$ is a Pisot number, almost every $x \in I_{\beta,1}$ satisfies

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log_2 \mathcal{N}_{\beta,1,n}(x)}{n} = \gamma,$$

where $\gamma < \log_2\left(\frac{2}{\beta}\right)$. However, when β is as above and $x = \frac{1}{\beta^2-1}$ we have that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log_2 \mathcal{N}_{\beta,1,n}\left(\frac{1}{\beta^2-1}\right)}{n} = \log_2 1.325 > \log_2\left(\frac{2}{\beta}\right).$$

Their bound cannot therefore be extended to all $x \in (0, \frac{1}{\beta-1})$.

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