

## A way to extend Pascal's triangle to words

Joint work with Julien Leroy and Michel Rigo (ULiège)

Manon Stipulanti (Hofstra University)

BAEF Fellow

Hofstra Math. Seminar  
Long Island (NY, USA)  
November 6, 2019

# A little about me

Manon



Stipulanti



Born in



- Kingdom of Belgium  
(we have a King!)
- Three official languages:  
Dutch, French and German  
(and many dialects)
- Capital: Brussels  
Capital of the European Union

# What is Belgium famous for?

Chocolate



Liège waffle



Brussels waffle



Beers



French fries



Comics





THE UNIVERSITY OF  
WINNIPEG



HOFSTRA  
UNIVERSITY®



Scientific interests:

- combinatorics on words
- numeration systems
- formal language theory
- automata theory



## A way to extend Pascal's triangle to words

Joint work with Julien Leroy and Michel Rigo (ULiège)

Manon Stipulanti (Hofstra University)

BAEF Fellow

Hofstra Math. Seminar  
Long Island (NY, USA)  
November 6, 2019

# Pascal's triangle

$$P: (m, k) \in \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \mapsto \binom{m}{k} \in \mathbb{N}$$

$\binom{m}{k}$	$k$								
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	...
0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	
2	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	
$m$	3	1	3	3	1	0	0	0	0
4	1	4	6	4	1	0	0	0	
5	1	5	10	10	5	1	0	0	
6	1	6	15	20	15	6	1	0	
7	1	7	21	35	35	21	7	1	
$\vdots$									$\ddots$

Binomial coefficients:

$$\binom{m}{k} = \frac{m!}{(m-k)!k!}$$

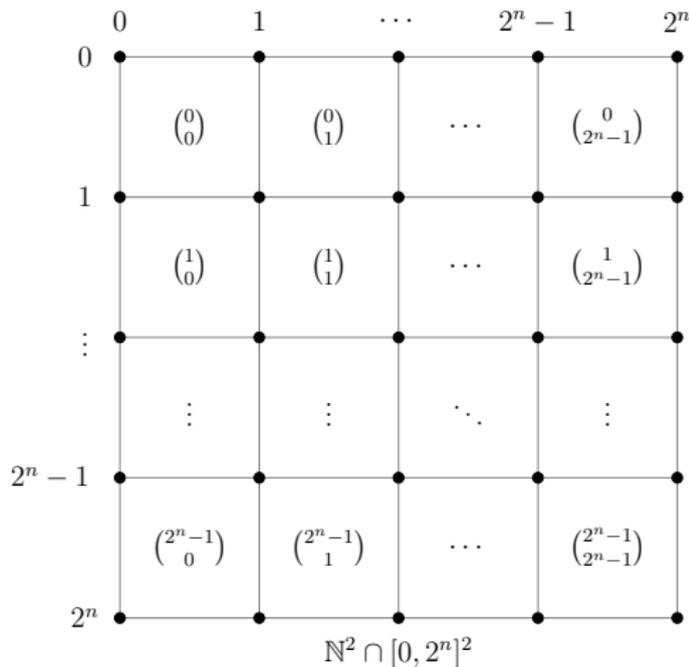
Pascal's rule:

$$\binom{m}{k} = \binom{m-1}{k} + \binom{m-1}{k-1}$$

# A specific construction

- Grid: first  $2^n$  rows and columns of the Pascal's triangle

$$\left( \binom{m}{k} \right)_{0 \leq m, k < 2^n}$$

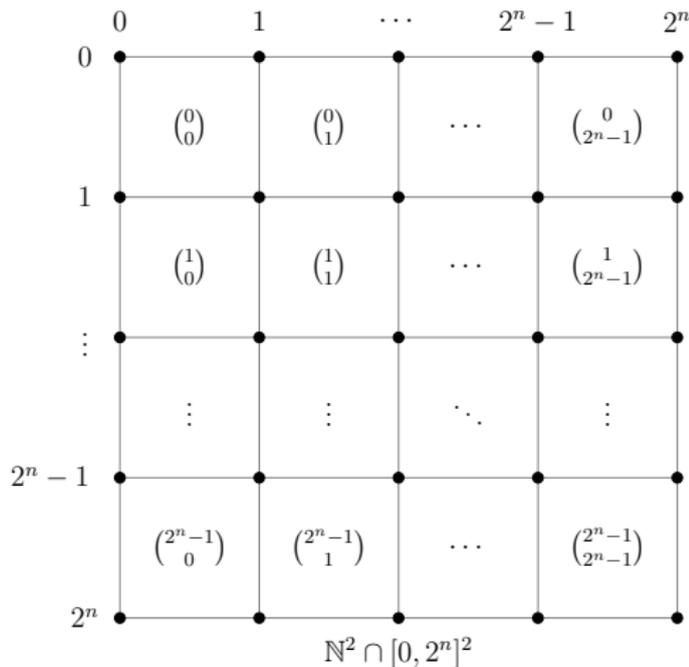


# A specific construction

- Grid: first  $2^n$  rows and columns of the Pascal's triangle

$$\left( \binom{m}{k} \right)_{0 \leq m, k < 2^n}$$

- Color each square in
  - white if  $\binom{m}{k} \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$
  - black if  $\binom{m}{k} \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$

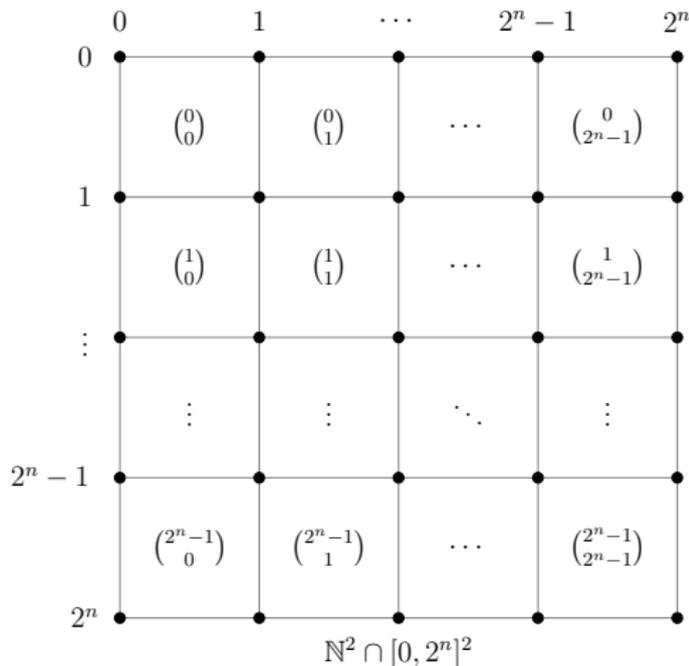


# A specific construction

- Grid: first  $2^n$  rows and columns of the Pascal's triangle

$$\left( \binom{m}{k} \right)_{0 \leq m, k < 2^n}$$

- Color each square in
  - white if  $\binom{m}{k} \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$
  - black if  $\binom{m}{k} \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$
- Normalize by a homothety of ratio  $1/2^n$   
(bring into  $[0, 1]^2$ )

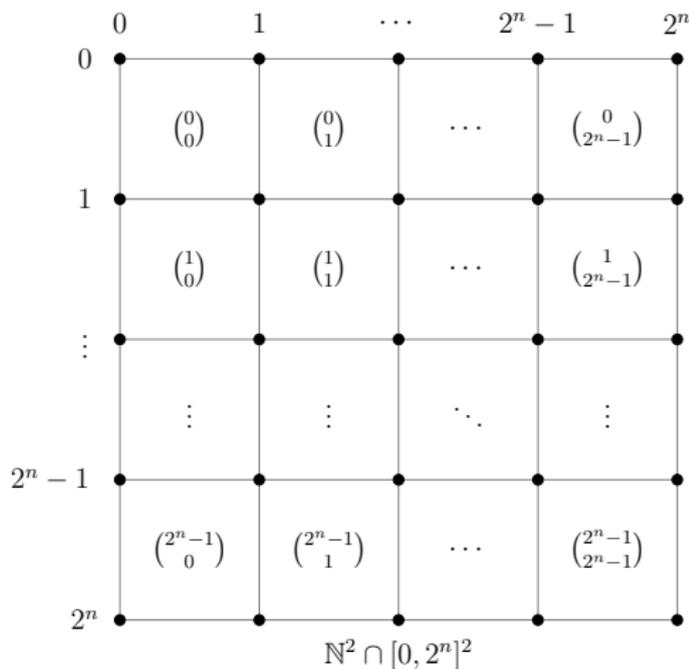


# A specific construction

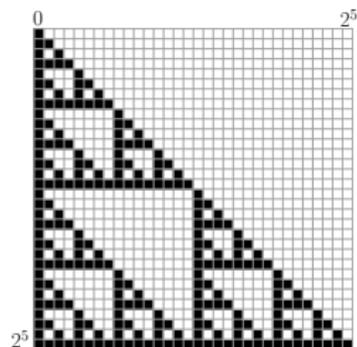
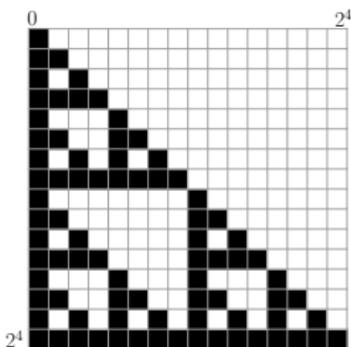
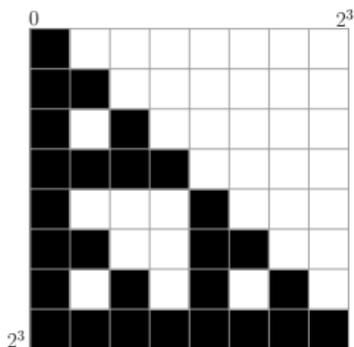
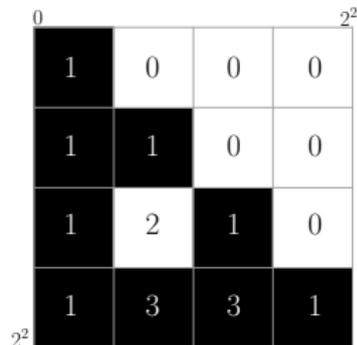
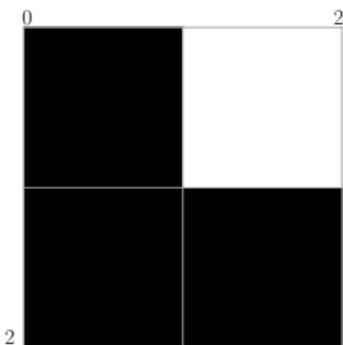
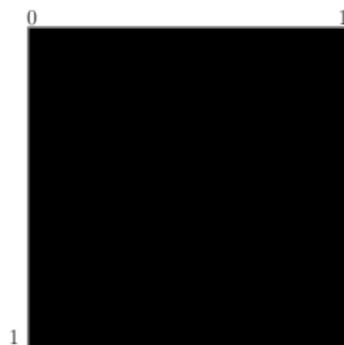
- Grid: first  $2^n$  rows and columns of the Pascal's triangle

$$\left( \binom{m}{k} \right)_{0 \leq m, k < 2^n}$$

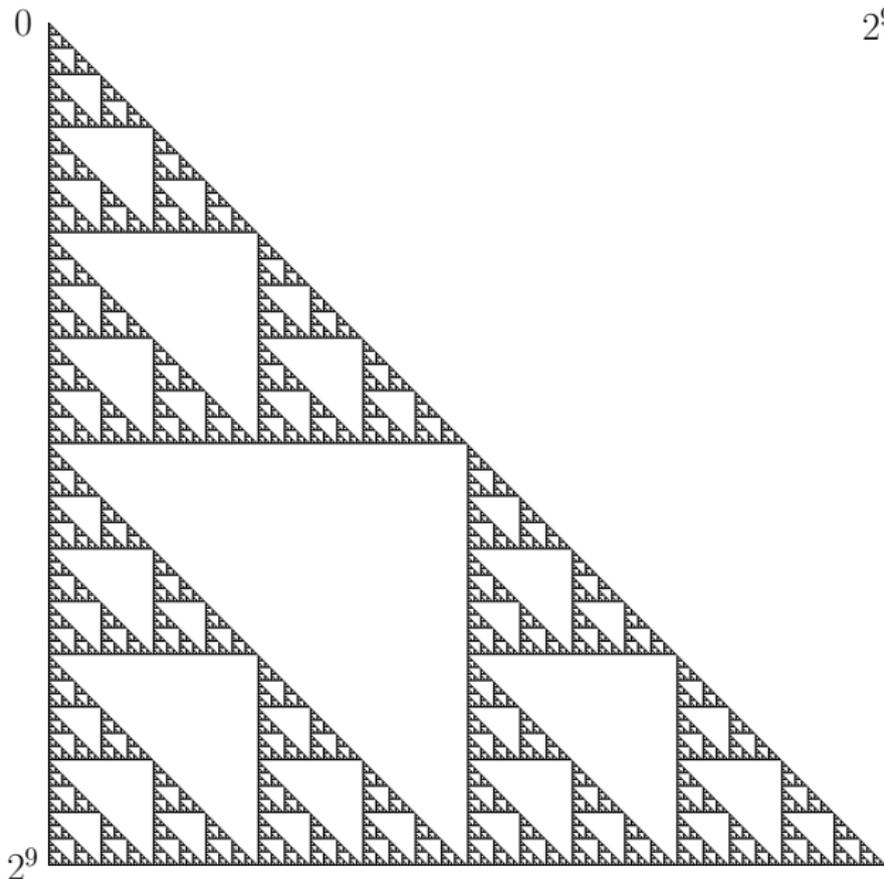
- Color each square in
  - white if  $\binom{m}{k} \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$
  - black if  $\binom{m}{k} \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$
- Normalize by a homothety of ratio  $1/2^n$  (bring into  $[0, 1]^2$ )  
 $\rightsquigarrow$  sequence of compact sets belonging to  $[0, 1]^2$



# The first six elements of the sequence



# The tenth element of the sequence



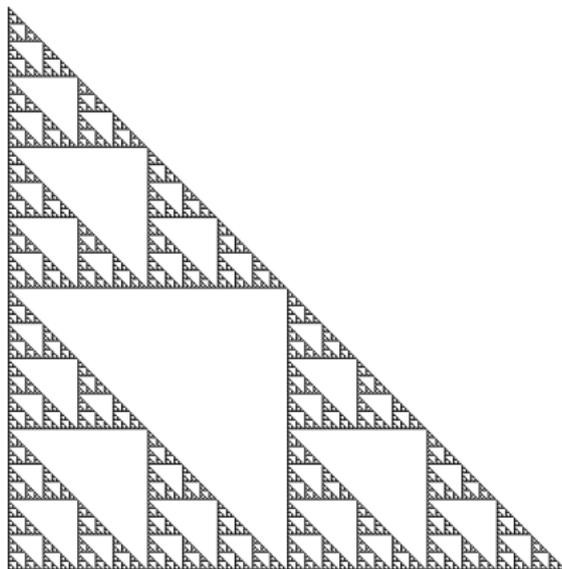
# Sierpiński's triangle



# Sierpiński's triangle

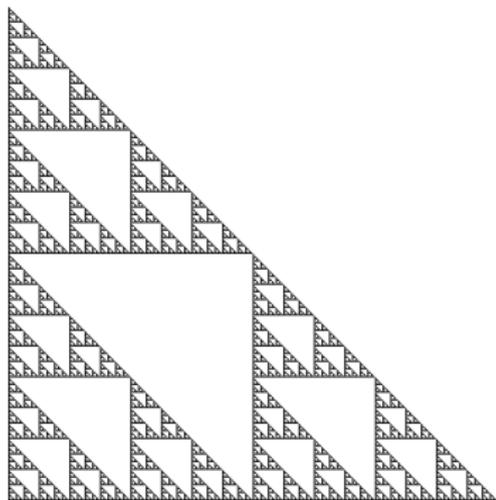


# Sierpiński's triangle



## Folklore fact

The latter sequence of compact sets converges to Sierpiński's triangle (w.r.t. the Hausdorff distance).



## Definitions:

- $\epsilon$ -fattening of a subset  $S \subset \mathbb{R}^2$

$$[S]_\epsilon = \bigcup_{x \in S} B(x, \epsilon)$$

- $(\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{R}^2), d_h)$  complete space of the non-empty compact subsets of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  equipped with the Hausdorff distance  $d_h$

$$d_h(S, S') = \inf\{\epsilon \in \mathbb{R}_{>0} \mid S \subset [S']_\epsilon \text{ and } S' \subset [S]_\epsilon\}$$

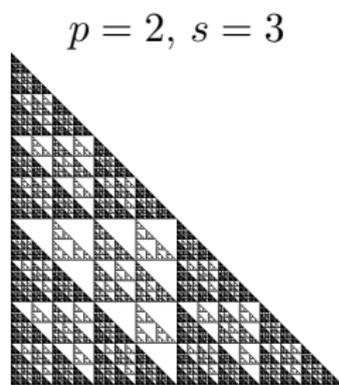
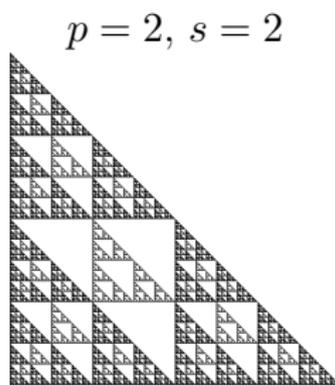
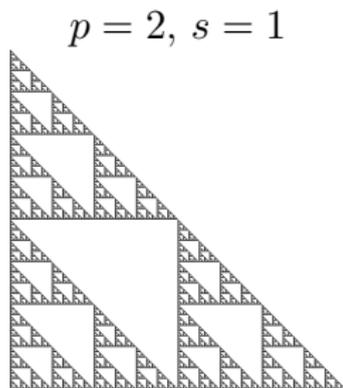
## Theorem (von Haeseler, Peitgen, and Skordev, 1992)

Let  $p$  be a prime and  $s > 0$ .

The sequence of compact sets corresponding to

$$\left( \binom{m}{k} \bmod p^s \right)_{0 \leq m, k < p^n}$$

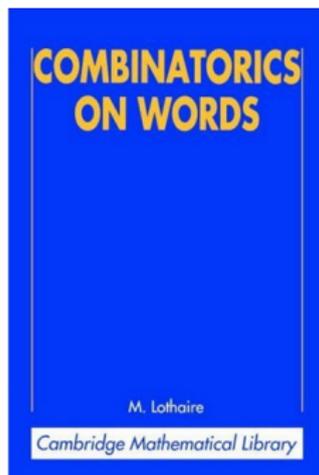
converges when  $n$  tends to infinity (w.r.t. the Hausdorff distance).



Replace integers by **finite words**.

## Combinatorics on words (CoW)

- new area of discrete mathematics ( $\pm 1900$ )
- study sequences of symbols (called letters)
- topics include:
  - ◇ regularities and patterns in words
  - ◇ important types of words (e.g. automatic, regular, de Bruijn, Lyndon, Sturmian)
  - ◇ coding of structures (e.g. paths, trees or curves in the plane)



M. Lothaire, 1983.

Definition: A *finite word* is a finite sequence of letters belonging to a finite set called the *alphabet*.

Example:  $101, 101001 \in \{0, 1\}^*$

## Binomial coefficient of words

Let  $u, v$  be two finite words.

The *binomial coefficient*  $\binom{u}{v}$  of  $u$  and  $v$  is the number of times  $v$  occurs as a subsequence of  $u$  (meaning as a “scattered” subword).

Definition: A *finite word* is a finite sequence of letters belonging to a finite set called the *alphabet*.

Example:  $101, 101001 \in \{0, 1\}^*$

## Binomial coefficient of words

Let  $u, v$  be two finite words.

The *binomial coefficient*  $\binom{u}{v}$  of  $u$  and  $v$  is the number of times  $v$  occurs as a subsequence of  $u$  (meaning as a “scattered” subword).

Example:  $u = 101001$        $v = 101$

Definition: A *finite word* is a finite sequence of letters belonging to a finite set called the *alphabet*.

Example:  $101, 101001 \in \{0, 1\}^*$

## Binomial coefficient of words

Let  $u, v$  be two finite words.

The *binomial coefficient*  $\binom{u}{v}$  of  $u$  and  $v$  is the number of times  $v$  occurs as a subsequence of  $u$  (meaning as a “scattered” subword).

Example:  $u = 101001$        $v = 101$       1 occurrence

Definition: A *finite word* is a finite sequence of letters belonging to a finite set called the *alphabet*.

Example:  $101, 101001 \in \{0, 1\}^*$

## Binomial coefficient of words

Let  $u, v$  be two finite words.

The *binomial coefficient*  $\binom{u}{v}$  of  $u$  and  $v$  is the number of times  $v$  occurs as a subsequence of  $u$  (meaning as a “scattered” subword).

Example:  $u = 101001$        $v = 101$       2 occurrences

Definition: A *finite word* is a finite sequence of letters belonging to a finite set called the *alphabet*.

Example:  $101, 101001 \in \{0, 1\}^*$

## Binomial coefficient of words

Let  $u, v$  be two finite words.

The *binomial coefficient*  $\binom{u}{v}$  of  $u$  and  $v$  is the number of times  $v$  occurs as a subsequence of  $u$  (meaning as a “scattered” subword).

Example:  $u = 101001$        $v = 101$       3 occurrences

Definition: A *finite word* is a finite sequence of letters belonging to a finite set called the *alphabet*.

Example:  $101, 101001 \in \{0, 1\}^*$

## Binomial coefficient of words

Let  $u, v$  be two finite words.

The *binomial coefficient*  $\binom{u}{v}$  of  $u$  and  $v$  is the number of times  $v$  occurs as a subsequence of  $u$  (meaning as a “scattered” subword).

Example:  $u = 101001$        $v = 101$       4 occurrences

Definition: A *finite word* is a finite sequence of letters belonging to a finite set called the *alphabet*.

Example:  $101, 101001 \in \{0, 1\}^*$

## Binomial coefficient of words

Let  $u, v$  be two finite words.

The *binomial coefficient*  $\binom{u}{v}$  of  $u$  and  $v$  is the number of times  $v$  occurs as a subsequence of  $u$  (meaning as a “scattered” subword).

Example:  $u = 101001$        $v = 101$       5 occurrences

Definition: A *finite word* is a finite sequence of letters belonging to a finite set called the *alphabet*.

Example:  $101, 101001 \in \{0, 1\}^*$

## Binomial coefficient of words

Let  $u, v$  be two finite words.

The *binomial coefficient*  $\binom{u}{v}$  of  $u$  and  $v$  is the number of times  $v$  occurs as a subsequence of  $u$  (meaning as a “scattered” subword).

Example:  $u = 101001$        $v = 101$       6 occurrences

Definition: A *finite word* is a finite sequence of letters belonging to a finite set called the *alphabet*.

Example:  $101, 101001 \in \{0, 1\}^*$

## Binomial coefficient of words

Let  $u, v$  be two finite words.

The *binomial coefficient*  $\binom{u}{v}$  of  $u$  and  $v$  is the number of times  $v$  occurs as a subsequence of  $u$  (meaning as a “scattered” subword).

Example:  $u = 101001$                        $v = 101$

$$\Rightarrow \binom{101001}{101} = 6$$

Remark:

Natural generalization of binomial coefficients of integers

If  $a$  is a letter

$$\binom{a^m}{a^k} = \binom{\overbrace{a \cdots a}^{m \text{ times}}}{\underbrace{a \cdots a}_{k \text{ times}}} = \binom{m}{k} \quad \forall m, k \in \mathbb{N}$$

# Generalized Pascal's triangles

Let  $(A, <)$  be a totally ordered alphabet.

Let  $L \subset A^*$  be an infinite language (set of words) over  $A$ .

The words in  $L$  are genealogically ordered

$$w_0 <_{\text{gen}} w_1 <_{\text{gen}} w_2 <_{\text{gen}} \dots$$

The *generalized Pascal's triangle*  $P_L$  associated with  $L$  is defined by

$$P_L: (m, k) \in \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \mapsto \binom{w_m}{w_k} \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Questions:

- With a similar construction, can we expect the convergence to an analogue of Sierpiński's triangle?
- In particular, where should we cut to normalize a given generalized Pascal's triangle?
- Could we describe this limit object?

## Definitions:

- $\text{rep}_2(n)$  greedy base-2 representation of  $n \in \mathbb{N}_{>0}$  starting with 1
- $\text{rep}_2(0) = \varepsilon$  where  $\varepsilon$  is the empty word

$n$	$n = \sum_{i=0}^{\ell} c_i 2^i$ with $c_i \in \{0, 1\}$	$\text{rep}_2(n) = c_{\ell} \cdots c_0$
0		$\varepsilon$
1	$1 \times 2^0$	1
2	$1 \times 2^1 + 0 \times 2^0$	10
3	$1 \times 2^1 + 1 \times 2^0$	11
4	$1 \times 2^2 + 0 \times 2^1 + 0 \times 2^0$	100
5	$1 \times 2^2 + 0 \times 2^1 + 1 \times 2^0$	101
6	$1 \times 2^2 + 1 \times 2^1 + 0 \times 2^0$	110
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$
		$L_2 = 1\{0, 1\}^* \cup \{\varepsilon\}$

# Generalized Pascal's triangle $P_2$ in base 2

$\binom{\text{rep}_2(m)}{\text{rep}_2(k)}$	$\text{rep}_2(k)$								
	$\varepsilon$	1	10	11	100	101	110	111	...
$\varepsilon$	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	
10	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	
11	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	
100	1	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	
101	1	2	1	1	0	1	0	0	
110	1	2	2	1	0	0	1	0	
111	1	3	0	3	0	0	0	1	
$\vdots$									$\ddots$

Rule (not local):

$$\binom{ua}{vb} = \binom{u}{vb} + \delta_{a,b} \binom{u}{v}$$

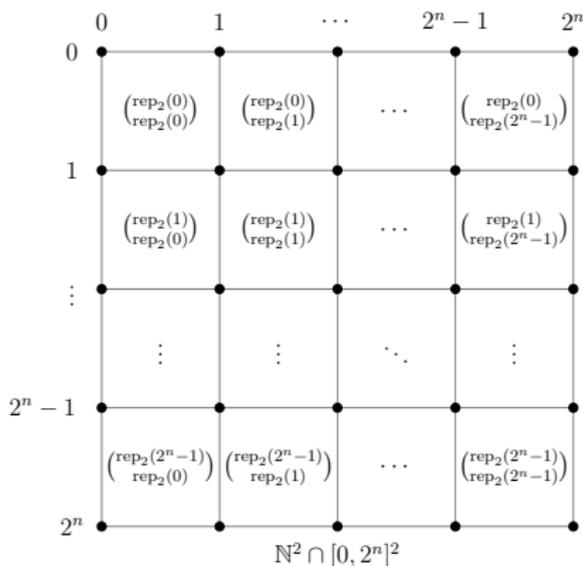
$(\text{rep}_2(m))$   
 $(\text{rep}_2(k))$  $\text{rep}_2(k)$  $\varepsilon$    **1**   10   **11**   100   101   110   **111**   ...

$\varepsilon$	<b>1</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
<b>11</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	0	<b>1</b>	0	0	0	0
100	1	1	2	0	1	0	0	0
101	1	2	1	1	0	1	0	0
110	1	2	2	1	0	0	1	0
<b>111</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	0	<b>3</b>	0	0	0	<b>1</b>
$\vdots$								$\ddots$

The usual Pascal's triangle

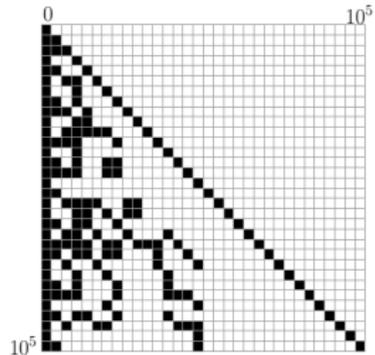
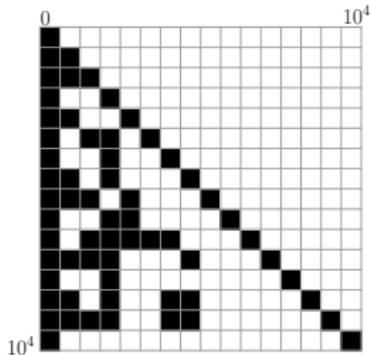
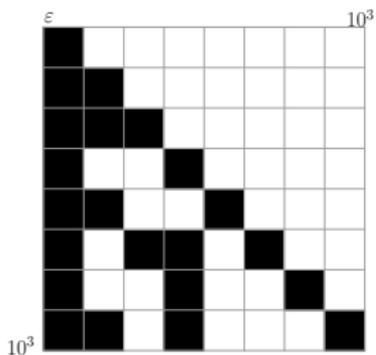
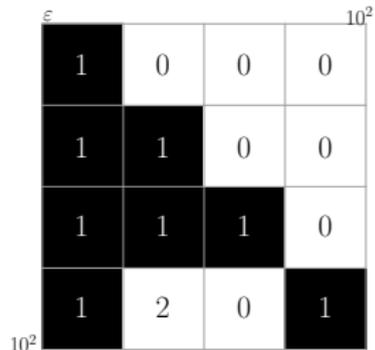
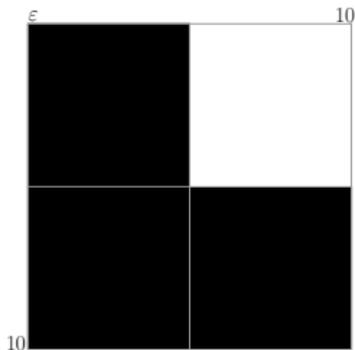
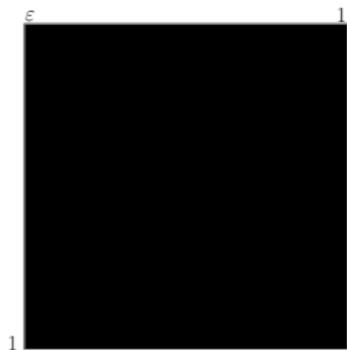
# Same construction

- Grid: first  $2^n$  rows and columns of  $\mathbb{P}_2$
- Color each square in
  - white if  $\binom{\text{rep}_2(m)}{\text{rep}_2(k)} \equiv 0 \pmod 2$
  - black if  $\binom{\text{rep}_2(m)}{\text{rep}_2(k)} \equiv 1 \pmod 2$
- Normalize by a homothety of ratio  $1/2^n$  (bring into  $[0, 1]^2$ )  
 $\rightsquigarrow$  sequence of compact sets belonging to  $[0, 1]^2$

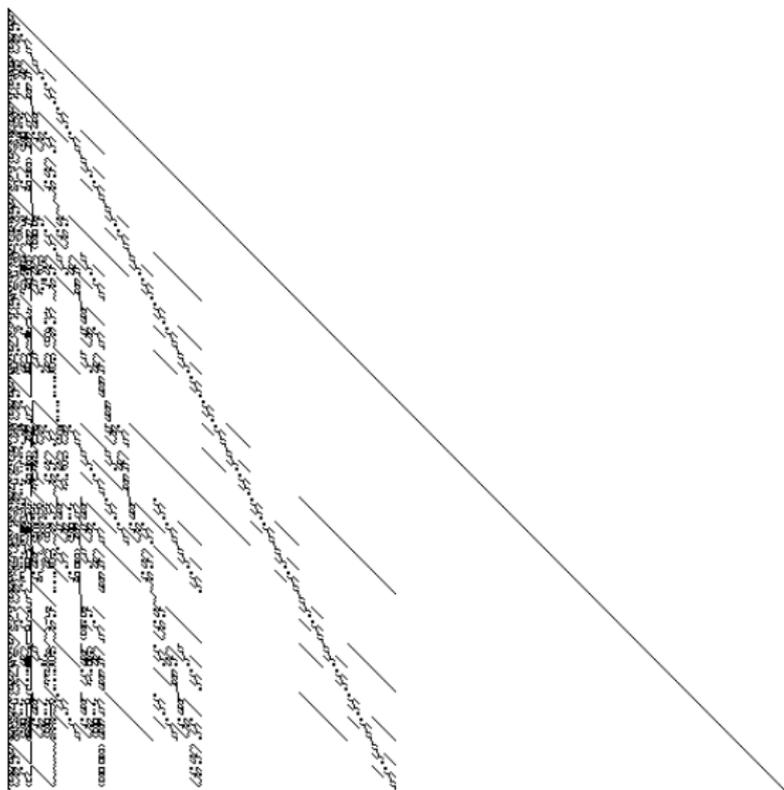


$$\mathcal{U}_n = \frac{1}{2^n} \bigcup_{\substack{u, v \in L_2, |u|, |v| \leq n \\ \binom{u}{v} \equiv 1 \pmod 2}} \text{val}_2(v, u) + [0, 1]^2$$

# The elements $\mathcal{U}_0, \dots, \mathcal{U}_5$



# The element $U_9$



Lines of different slopes: 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, ...

$(\star)$

$$(u, v) \text{ satisfies } (\star) \text{ iff } \begin{cases} u, v \neq \varepsilon \\ \binom{u}{v} \equiv 1 \pmod{2} \\ \binom{u}{v0} = 0 = \binom{u}{v1} \end{cases}$$

Example:  $(u, v) = (101, 11)$  satisfies  $(\star)$

$$\binom{101}{11} = 1 \qquad \binom{101}{110} = 0 \qquad \binom{101}{111} = 0$$

## Lemma: Completion

$(u, v)$  satisfies  $(\star) \Rightarrow (u_0, v_0), (u_1, v_1)$  satisfy  $(\star)$

Proof: Since  $(u, v)$  satisfies  $(\star)$

$$\begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \end{pmatrix} \equiv 1 \pmod{2}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} u \\ v_0 \end{pmatrix} = 0 = \begin{pmatrix} u \\ v_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

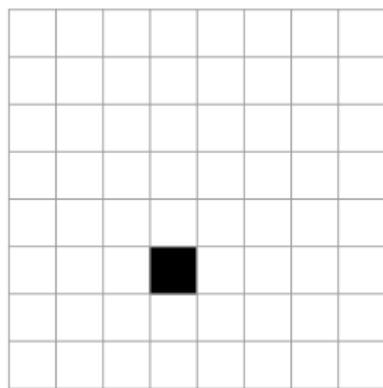
Proof for  $(u_0, v_0)$ :

$$\begin{pmatrix} u_0 \\ v_0 \end{pmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} u \\ v_0 \end{pmatrix}}_{=0 \text{ since } (\star)} + \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \end{pmatrix}}_{\equiv 1 \pmod{2}} \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$$

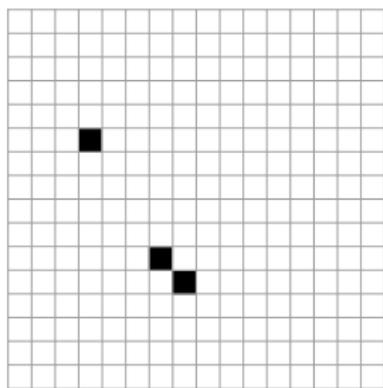
If  $\binom{u_0}{v_0} > 0$  or  $\binom{u_0}{v_0} > 0$ , then  $v_0$  is a subsequence of  $u$ .  
This contradicts  $(\star)$ .

Same proof for  $(u_1, v_1)$ . □

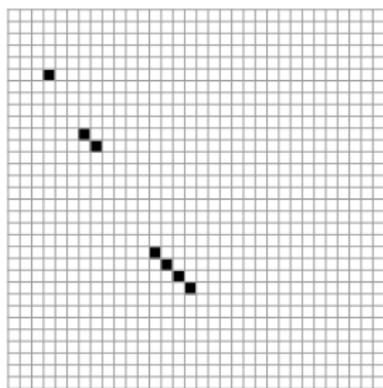
Example:  $(u, v) = (101, 11)$  satisfies  $(\star) \Rightarrow \binom{u}{v} \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$



$\mathcal{U}_3$



$\mathcal{U}_4$



$\mathcal{U}_5$

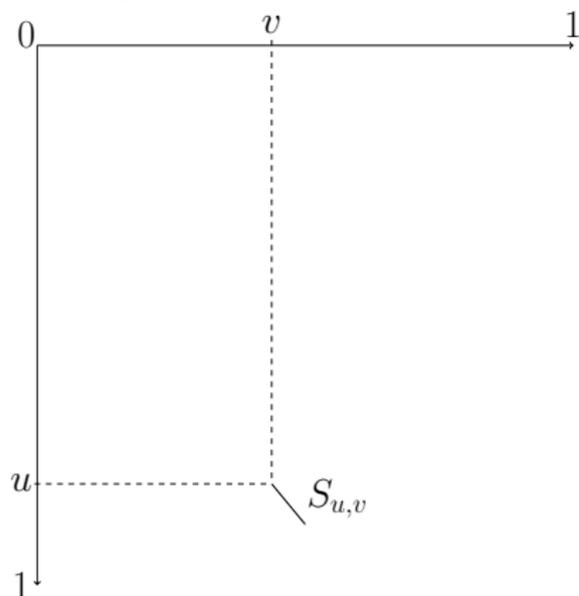
$\rightsquigarrow$  Creation of a segment of slope 1

Endpoint  $(3/8, 5/8) = (\text{val}_2(11)/2^3, \text{val}_2(101)/2^3)$

Length  $\sqrt{2} \cdot 2^{-3}$

# Segments of slope 1

The  $(\star)$  condition describes lines of slope 1 in  $[0, 1]^2$ .



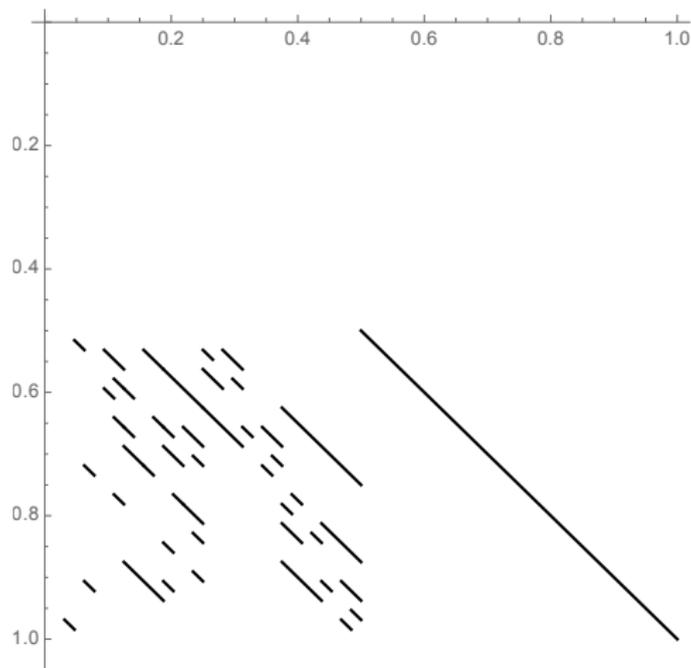
$(u, v) \in L_2 \times L_2$  satisfying  $(\star)$   
 $\rightsquigarrow$  closed segment  $S_{u,v}$

- slope 1
- length  $\sqrt{2} \cdot 2^{-|u|}$
- origin

$$\begin{aligned} A_{u,v} &= \text{val}_2(v, u) / 2^{|u|} \\ &= (0.0^{|u|-|v|}v, 0.u) \end{aligned}$$

Definition: New compact set containing those lines

$$\mathcal{A}_0 = \overline{\bigcup_{\substack{(u,v) \\ \text{satisfying } (\star)}} S_{u,v}} \subset [0, 1]^2$$

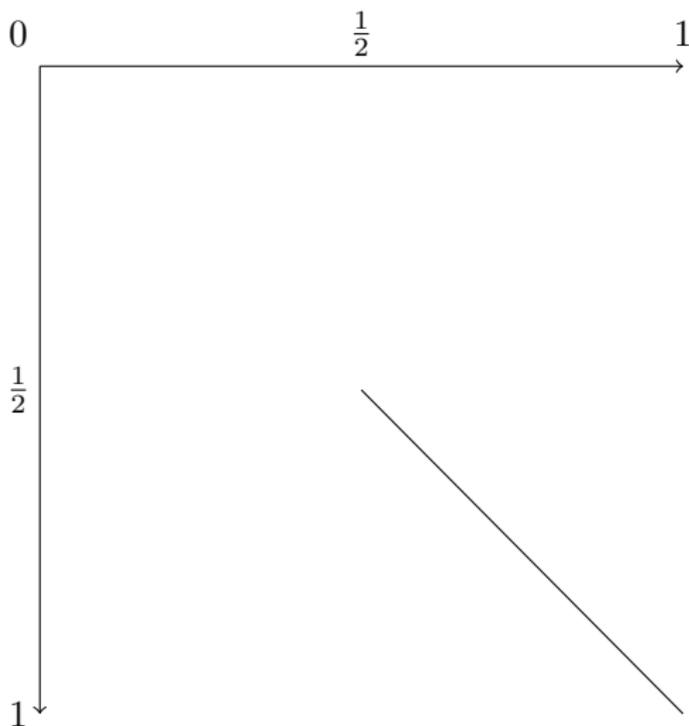


# Modifying the slope

Two maps  $c: (x, y) \mapsto (x/2, y/2)$  and  $h: (x, y) \mapsto (x, 2y)$

Example:  $(1, 1)$  satisfies  $(\star)$

Segment  $S_{1,1}$   
endpoint  $(1/2, 1/2)$   
length  $\sqrt{2} \cdot 2^{-1}$

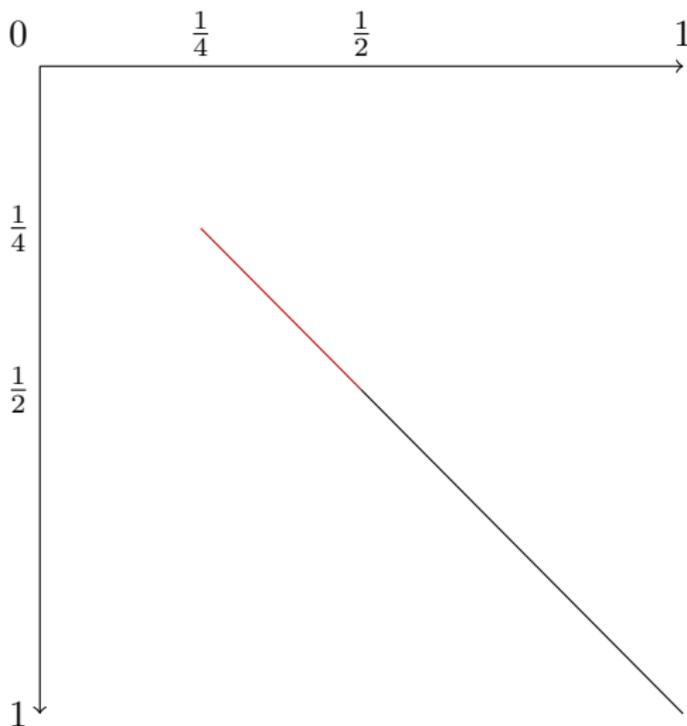


# Modifying the slope

Two maps  $c: (x, y) \mapsto (x/2, y/2)$  and  $h: (x, y) \mapsto (x, 2y)$

Example:  $(1, 1)$  satisfies  $(\star)$

Segment  $S_{1,1}$   
endpoint  $(1/2, 1/2)$   
length  $\sqrt{2} \cdot 2^{-1}$

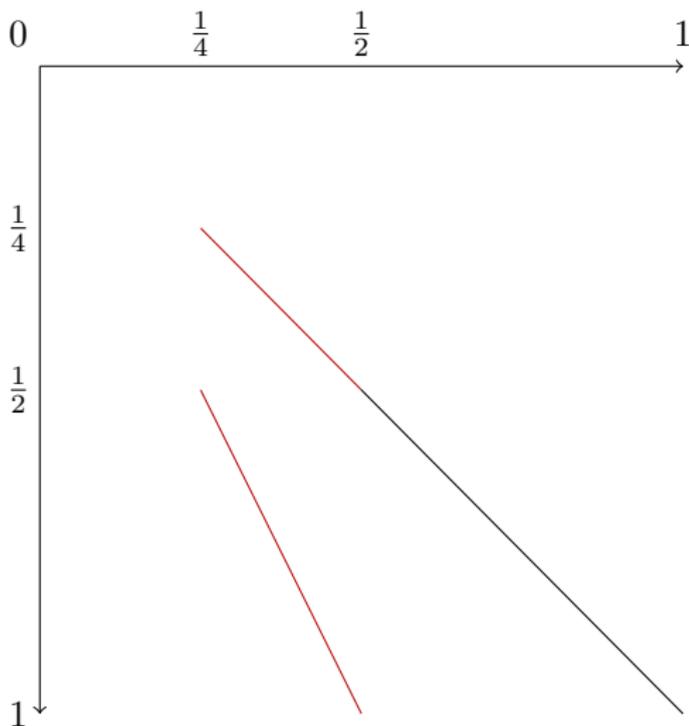


# Modifying the slope

Two maps  $c: (x, y) \mapsto (x/2, y/2)$  and  $h: (x, y) \mapsto (x, 2y)$

Example:  $(1, 1)$  satisfies  $(\star)$

Segment  $S_{1,1}$   
endpoint  $(1/2, 1/2)$   
length  $\sqrt{2} \cdot 2^{-1}$

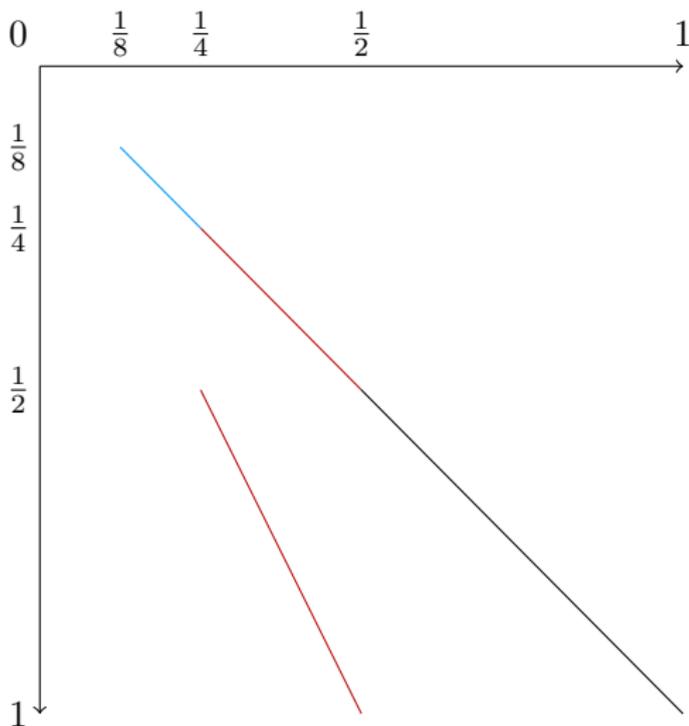


# Modifying the slope

Two maps  $c: (x, y) \mapsto (x/2, y/2)$  and  $h: (x, y) \mapsto (x, 2y)$

Example:  $(1, 1)$  satisfies  $(\star)$

Segment  $S_{1,1}$   
endpoint  $(1/2, 1/2)$   
length  $\sqrt{2} \cdot 2^{-1}$

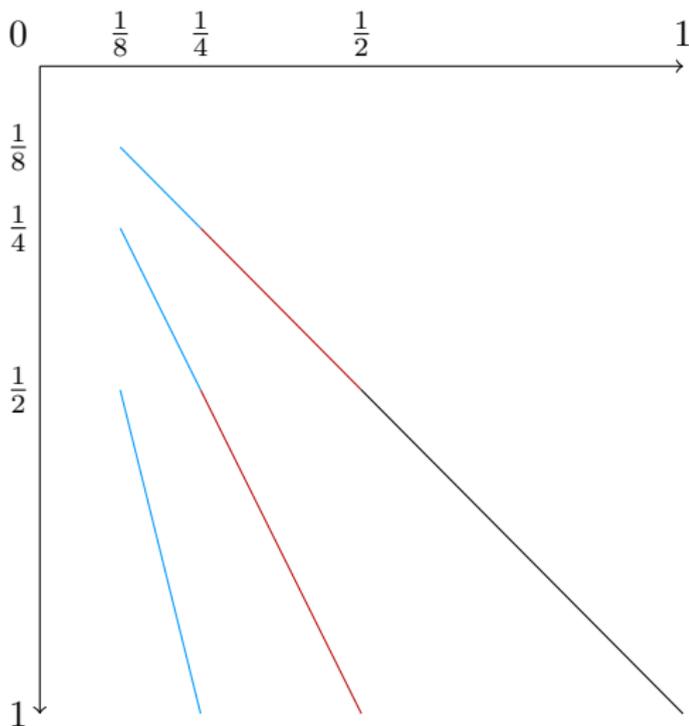


# Modifying the slope

Two maps  $c: (x, y) \mapsto (x/2, y/2)$  and  $h: (x, y) \mapsto (x, 2y)$

Example:  $(1, 1)$  satisfies  $(\star)$

Segment  $S_{1,1}$   
endpoint  $(1/2, 1/2)$   
length  $\sqrt{2} \cdot 2^{-1}$

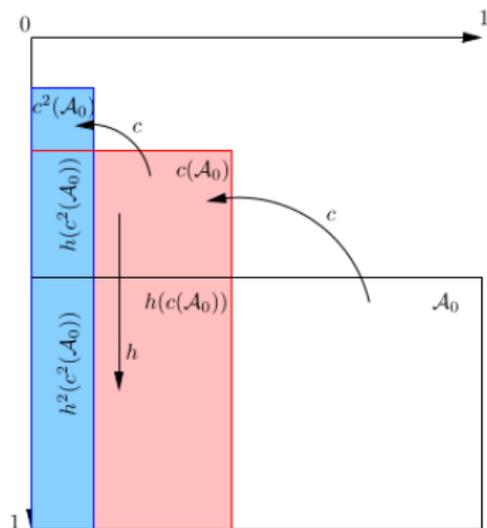


Definition: New compact set containing lines of slopes 1, 2,  $2^2$ ,  $\dots$ ,  $2^n$

$$c: (x, y) \mapsto (x/2, y/2)$$

$$h: (x, y) \mapsto (x, 2y)$$

$$\mathcal{A}_n = \bigcup_{0 \leq j \leq i \leq n} h^j(c^i(\mathcal{A}_0))$$



The compact sets  $(\mathcal{A}_n)_{n \geq 0}$  are increasingly nested and their union is bounded.

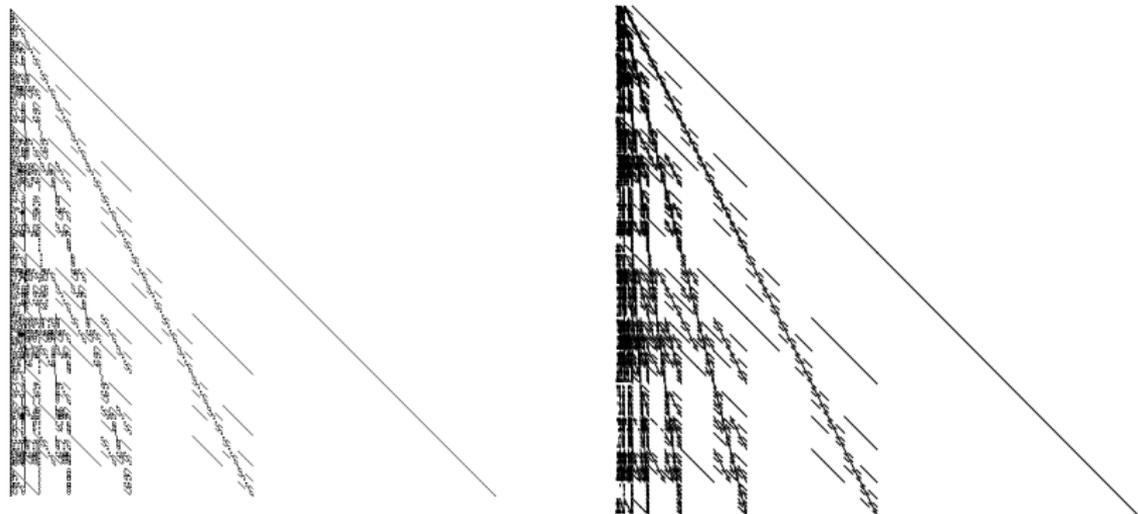
Thus  $(\mathcal{A}_n)_{n \geq 0}$  converges to

$$\mathcal{L} = \overline{\bigcup_{n \geq 0} \mathcal{A}_n}$$

(w.r.t. the Hausdorff distance).

## Theorem (Leroy, Rigo, S., 2016)

The sequence  $(\mathcal{U}_n)_{n \geq 0}$  of compact sets converges to the compact set  $\mathcal{L}$  when  $n$  tends to infinity (w.r.t. the Hausdorff distance).



“Simple” characterization of  $\mathcal{L}$ :  $(\star)$  condition

Previous result: even and odd coefficients

## Theorem (Lucas, 1878)

Let  $p$  be a prime number.

If  $m = m_k p^k + \dots + m_1 p + m_0$  and  $n = n_k p^k + \dots + n_1 p + n_0$  then

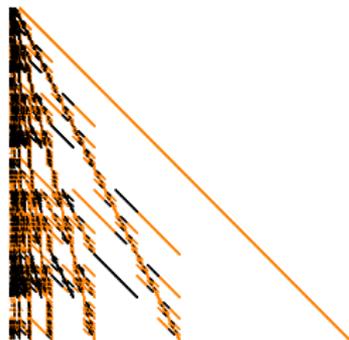
$$\binom{m}{n} \equiv \prod_{i=0}^k \binom{m_i}{n_i} \pmod{p}.$$

## Theorem (Leroy, Rigo, S., 2016)

Let  $p$  be a prime and  $0 < r < p$ .

When considering binomial coefficients congruent to  $r \pmod{p}$ , the sequence  $(\mathcal{U}_{n,p,r})_{n \geq 0}$  converges to a well-defined compact set  $\mathcal{L}_{p,r}$  (w.r.t. the Hausdorff distance).

Example:  $\mathcal{L}_{3,1} \cup \mathcal{L}_{3,2}$

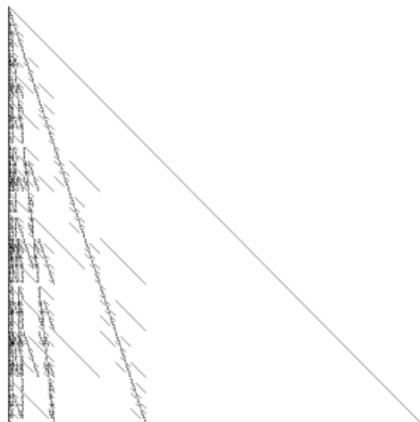


## Extension to any integer base

Everything still holds for binomial coefficients  $\equiv r \pmod{p}$  with

- integer base  $b \geq 2$
- language  $L_b$  of greedy base- $b$  representations of integers
- $p$  a prime
- $r \in \{1, \dots, p-1\}$

Example: base 3,  $\equiv 1 \pmod{2}$



# Fibonacci numeration system

## Definitions:

- Fibonacci numbers  $(F(n))_{n \geq 0}$   
 $F(0) = 1, F(1) = 2, F(n+2) = F(n+1) + F(n) \quad \forall n \geq 0$   
1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34, 55, 89, 144, 233, 377, 610, 987, 1597, ...
- $\text{rep}_F(n)$  greedy Fibonacci representation of  $n \in \mathbb{N}_{>0}$  starting with 1
- $\text{rep}_F(0) = \varepsilon$  where  $\varepsilon$  is the empty word

$n$	$n = \sum_{i=0}^{\ell} c_i F(i)$ with $c_i \in \{0, 1\}$	$\text{rep}_F(n) = c_{\ell} \cdots c_0$
0		$\varepsilon$
1	$1 \times F(0)$	1
2	$1 \times F(1) + 0 \times F(0)$	10
3	$1 \times F(2) + 0 \times F(1) + 0 \times F(0)$	100
4	$1 \times F(2) + 0 \times F(1) + 1 \times F(0)$	101
5	$1 \times F(3) + 0 \times F(2) + 0 \times F(1) + 0 \times F(0)$	1000
6	$1 \times F(3) + 0 \times F(2) + 0 \times F(1) + 1 \times F(0)$	1001
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$
		$L_F = 1\{0, 01\}^* \cup \{\varepsilon\}$

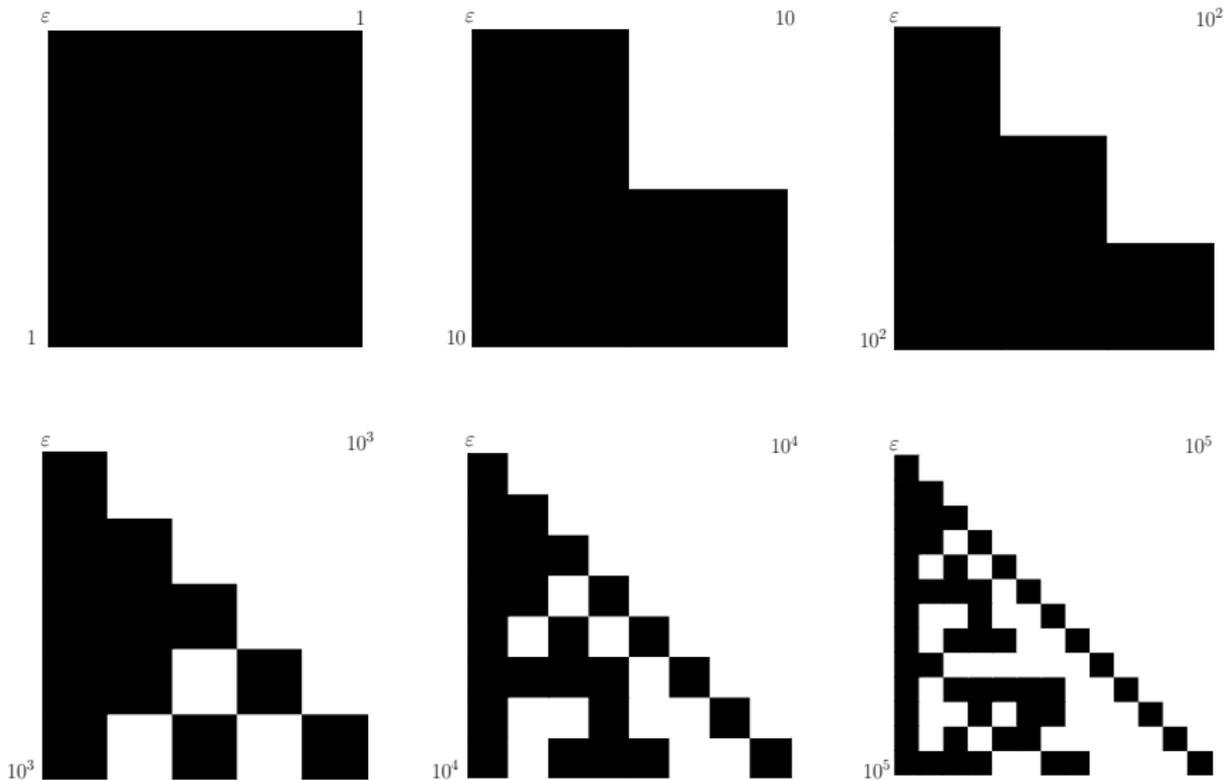
# Generalized Pascal's triangle $P_F$ in Fibonacci base

$\begin{pmatrix} \text{rep}_F(m) \\ \text{rep}_F(k) \end{pmatrix}$	$\text{rep}_F(k)$								
	$\varepsilon$	1	10	100	101	1000	1001	1010	...
$\varepsilon$	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	
10	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	
100	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	
$\text{rep}_F(m)$ 101	1	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	
1000	1	1	3	3	0	1	0	0	
1001	1	2	2	1	2	0	1	0	
1010	1	2	3	1	1	0	0	1	
$\vdots$									$\ddots$

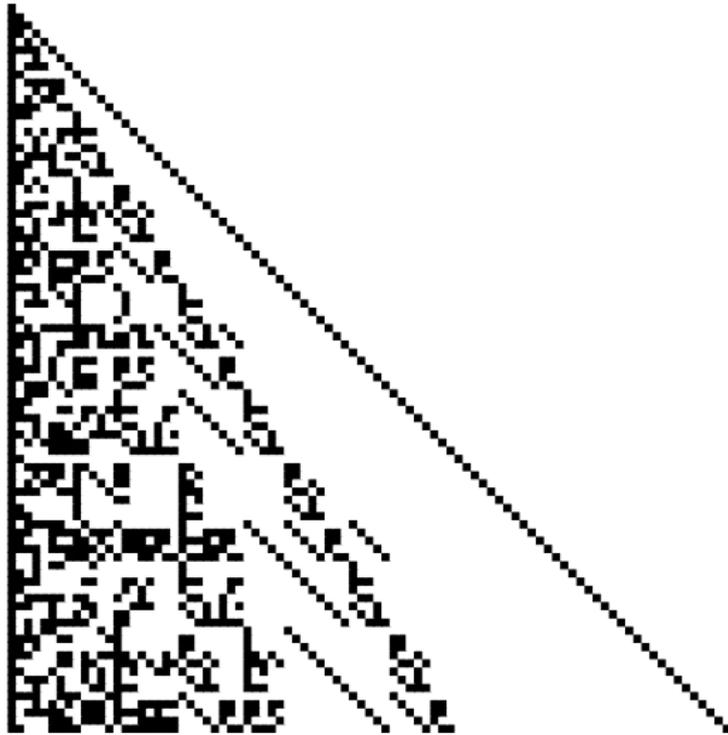
Rule (not local):

$$\begin{pmatrix} ua \\ vb \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} u \\ vb \end{pmatrix} + \delta_{a,b} \begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \end{pmatrix}$$

# The first six elements of the sequence $(\mathcal{U}'_n)_{n \geq 0}$

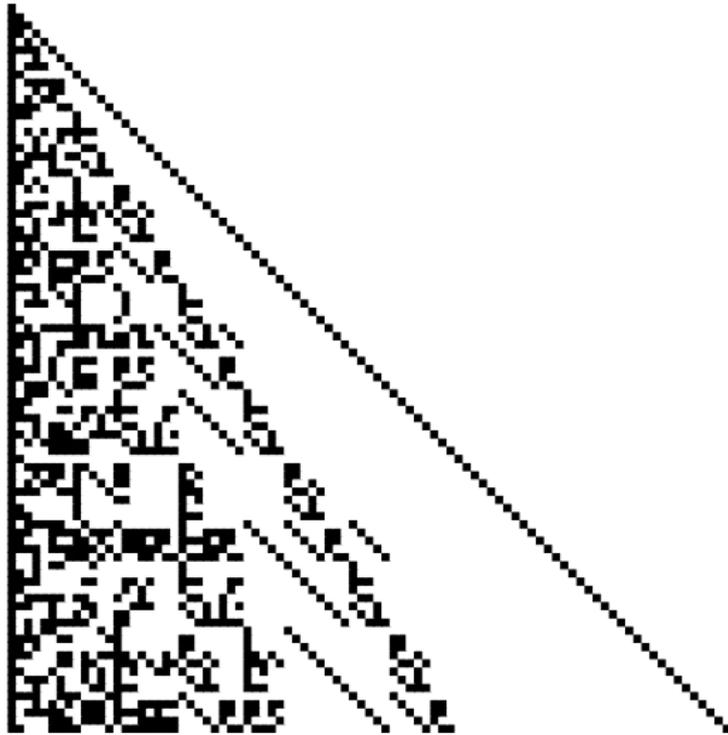


# The tenth element



Lines of different slopes:

# The tenth element



Lines of different slopes:  $\varphi^n$ ,  $n \geq 0$ , with  $\varphi = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}$  (Golden Ratio)

# The $(\star')$ condition

Recall

- $(u, v)$  satisfies  $(\star)$  iff  $\binom{u}{v} \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ , and  $\binom{u}{v0} = 0 = \binom{u}{v1}$ .
- Completion:  $(u, v)$  satisfies  $(\star) \Rightarrow (u0, v0), (u1, v1)$  satisfy  $(\star)$

Problem: we cannot **always** add a letter 1 as a **suffix** in  $L_F$ .

Solution: add a 0 if necessary

$$p(u, v) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } u \text{ or } v \text{ ends with } 1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

So  $u0^{p(u,v)}w, v0^{p(u,v)}w \in L_F$  for all  $w \in 0^*L_F$ .

$(\star')$

$$(u, v) \text{ satisfies } (\star') \text{ iff } u = v = \varepsilon \text{ or } \begin{cases} u, v \neq \varepsilon \\ \binom{u0^{p(u,v)}}{v0^{p(u,v)}} \equiv 1 \pmod{2} \\ \binom{u0^{p(u,v)}}{v0^{p(u,v)}a} = 0 \quad \forall a \in \{0, 1\}. \end{cases}$$

- Completion lemma with the  $(\star')$  condition
- Creation of segments of slope 1
- New compact set  $\mathcal{A}'_0$  containing those lines

$$\mathcal{A}'_0 = \overline{\bigcup_{\substack{(u,v) \\ \text{satisfying } (\star')}} S_{u,v}} \subset [0, 1]^2$$

- Modification of the slopes with  $c: (x, y) \mapsto (x/\varphi, y/\varphi)$  and  $h: (x, y) \mapsto (x, \varphi y)$
- New compact set  $\mathcal{A}'_n$  containing lines of slopes  $1, \varphi, \varphi^2, \dots, \varphi^n$

$$\mathcal{A}'_n = \bigcup_{0 \leq j \leq i \leq n} h^j(c^i(\mathcal{A}'_0))$$

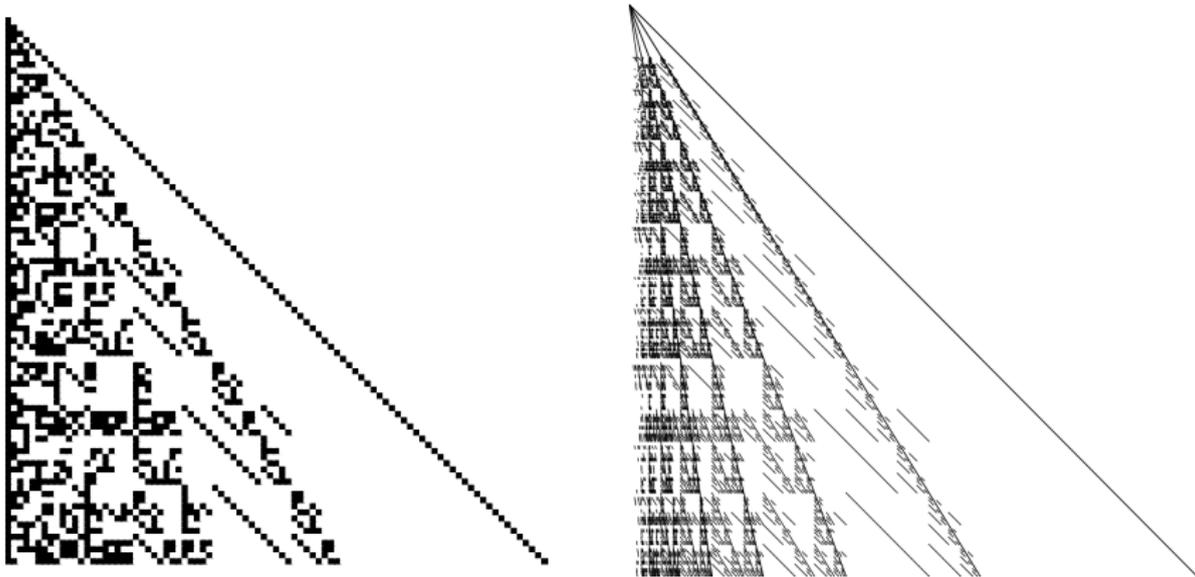
- $(\mathcal{A}'_n)_{n \geq 0}$  converges to

$$\mathcal{L}' = \overline{\bigcup_{n \geq 0} \mathcal{A}'_n}$$

(w.r.t. the Hausdorff distance).

## Theorem (S., 2018)

The sequence  $(\mathcal{U}'_n)_{n \geq 0}$  of compact sets converges to the compact set  $\mathcal{L}'$  when  $n$  tends to infinity (w.r.t. the Hausdorff distance).



“Simple” characterization of  $\mathcal{L}'$ :  $(\star')$  condition

## Definition

A *numeration system* is a sequence  $U = (U(n))_{n \geq 0}$  of integers s.t.

- $U$  increasing
- $U(0) = 1$
- $\sup_{n \geq 0} \frac{U(n+1)}{U(n)}$  bounded by a constant  $\rightsquigarrow$  finite alphabet.

A numeration system  $U$  is *linear* if  $\exists k \geq 1, \exists a_0, \dots, a_{k-1} \in \mathbb{Z}$  s.t.

$$U(n+k) = a_{k-1}U(n+k-1) + \dots + a_0U(n) \quad \forall n \geq 0.$$

Greedy representation in  $(U(n))_{n \geq 0}$ :

$$n = \sum_{i=0}^{\ell} c_i U(i) \quad \text{with} \quad \sum_{i=0}^{j-1} c_i U(i) < U(j)$$

$$\text{rep}_U(n) = c_\ell \cdots c_0 \in \underbrace{L_U = \text{rep}_U(\mathbb{N})}_{\text{numeration language}}$$

Example: integer base  $(b^n)_{n \geq 0}$  with  $b \in \mathbb{N}_{>1}$

Fibonacci numeration system  $(F(n))_{n > 0}$

$$\beta \in \mathbb{R}_{>1} \quad A_\beta = \{0, 1, \dots, \lceil \beta \rceil - 1\}$$

$$x \in [0, 1] \rightsquigarrow x = \sum_{j=1}^{+\infty} c_j \beta^{-j}, \quad c_j \in A_\beta$$

Greedy way:  $c_j \beta^{-j} + c_{j+1} \beta^{-j-1} + \dots < \beta^{-(j-1)}$

$\beta$ -expansion of  $x$ :  $d_\beta(x) = c_1 c_2 c_3 \dots$

## Definition

$\beta \in \mathbb{R}_{>1}$  is a *Parry number* if  $d_\beta(1)$  is ultimately periodic.

Example:  $b \in \mathbb{N}_{>1}$ :  $d_b(1) = (b-1)^\omega$

Golden ratio  $\varphi$ :  $d_\varphi(1) = 110^\omega$

Parry number  $\beta \in \mathbb{R}_{>1} \rightsquigarrow$  linear numeration system  $(U_\beta(n))_{n \geq 0}$

- $d_\beta(1) = t_1 \cdots t_m 0^\omega$

$$\begin{aligned}U_\beta(0) &= 1 \\U_\beta(i) &= t_1 U_\beta(i-1) + \cdots + t_i U_\beta(0) + 1 & \forall 1 \leq i \leq m-1 \\U_\beta(n) &= t_1 U_\beta(n-1) + \cdots + t_m U_\beta(n-m) & \forall n \geq m\end{aligned}$$

- $d_\beta(1) = t_1 \cdots t_m (t_{m+1} \cdots t_{m+k})^\omega$

$$\begin{aligned}U_\beta(0) &= 1 \\U_\beta(i) &= t_1 U_\beta(i-1) + \cdots + t_i U_\beta(0) + 1 & \forall 1 \leq i \leq m+k-1 \\U_\beta(n) &= t_1 U_\beta(n-1) + \cdots + t_{m+k} U_\beta(n-m-k) & \forall n \geq m+k \\&+ U_\beta(n-k) \\&- t_1 U_\beta(n-k-1) - \cdots - t_m U_\beta(n-m-k)\end{aligned}$$

Examples:

$\bar{b} \in \mathbb{N}_{>1} \rightsquigarrow (b^n)_{n \geq 0}$  base  $b$

Golden ratio  $\varphi \rightsquigarrow (F(n))_{n \geq 0}$  Fibonacci numeration system

# Extension to Parry numeration systems

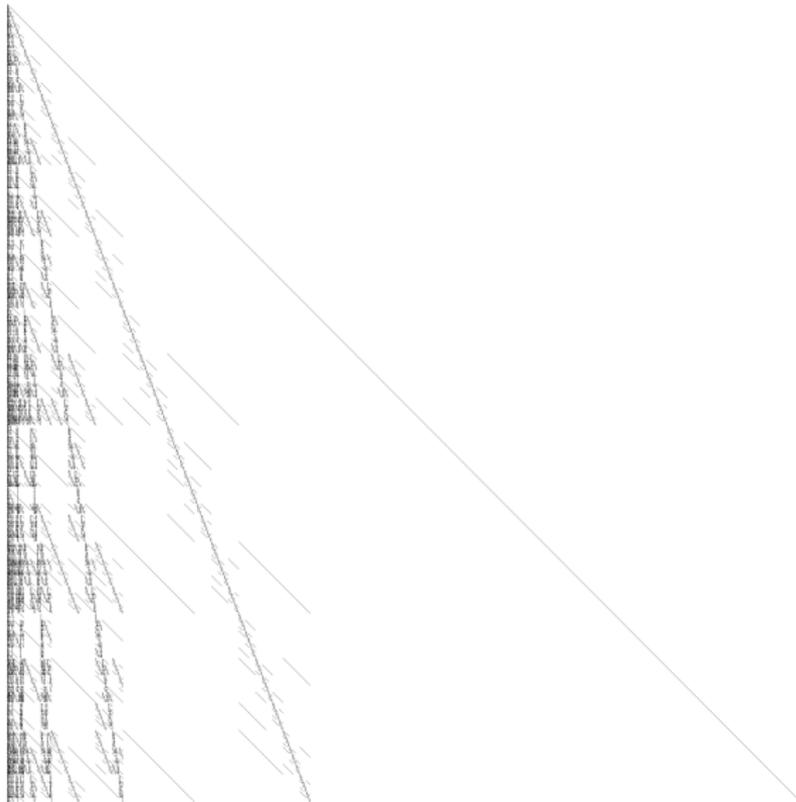
- Parry number  $\beta \in \mathbb{R}_{>1}$
- Parry numeration system  $(U_\beta(n))_{n \geq 0}$
- Numeration language  $L_{U_\beta}$
- Generalized Pascal's triangle  $P_\beta$  in  $(U_\beta(n))_{n \geq 0}$  indexed by words of  $L_{U_\beta}$
- Sequence of compact sets extracted from  $P_\beta$  (first  $U_\beta(n)$  rows and columns of  $P_\beta$ )
- Convergence to a limit object (same technique)
  - Lines of different slopes:  $\beta^n$ ,  $n \geq 0$
  - $(\star')$  condition and description of segments of slope 1
  - Two maps  $c: (x, y) \mapsto (x/\beta, y/\beta)$  and  $h: (x, y) \mapsto (x, \beta y)$
  - Sequence of sets  $\mathcal{A}_n^\beta$  containing lines of slopes  $1, \beta, \beta^2, \dots, \beta^n$
  - $\mathcal{A}_n^\beta$  converges to

$$\mathcal{L}^\beta = \overline{\bigcup_{n \geq 0} \mathcal{A}_n^\beta}$$

- Works modulo any prime number

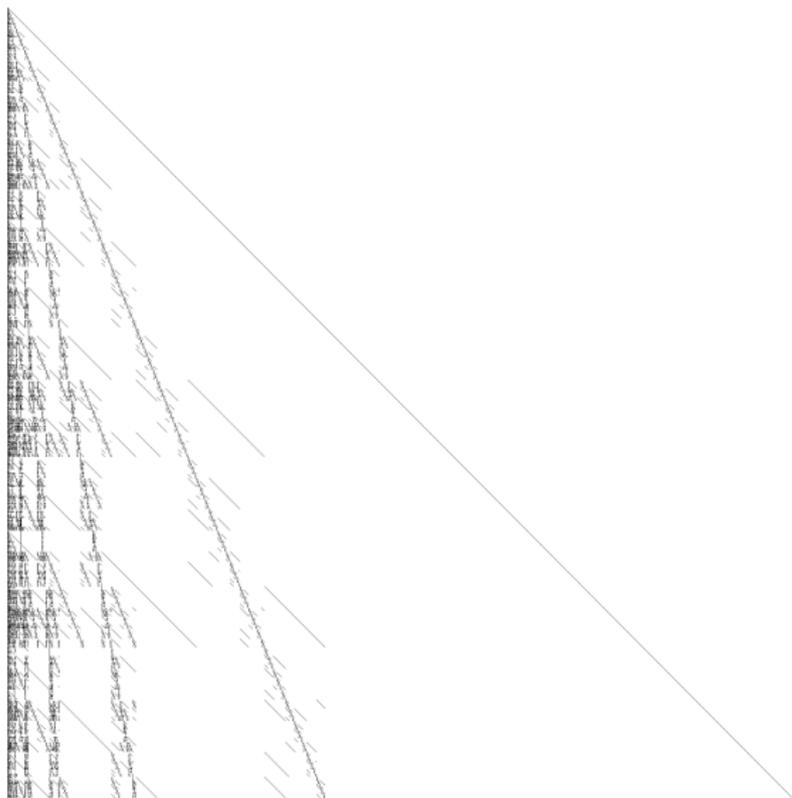
# Example 1

$\varphi^2$



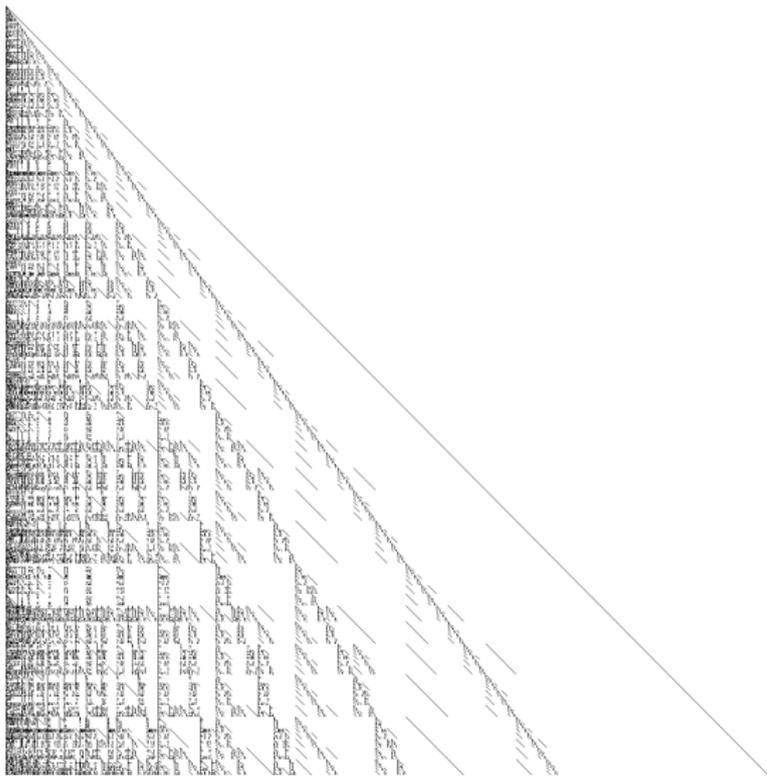
## Example 2

$\beta_1 \approx 2.47098$  dominant root of  $P(X) = X^4 - 2X^3 - X^2 - 1$



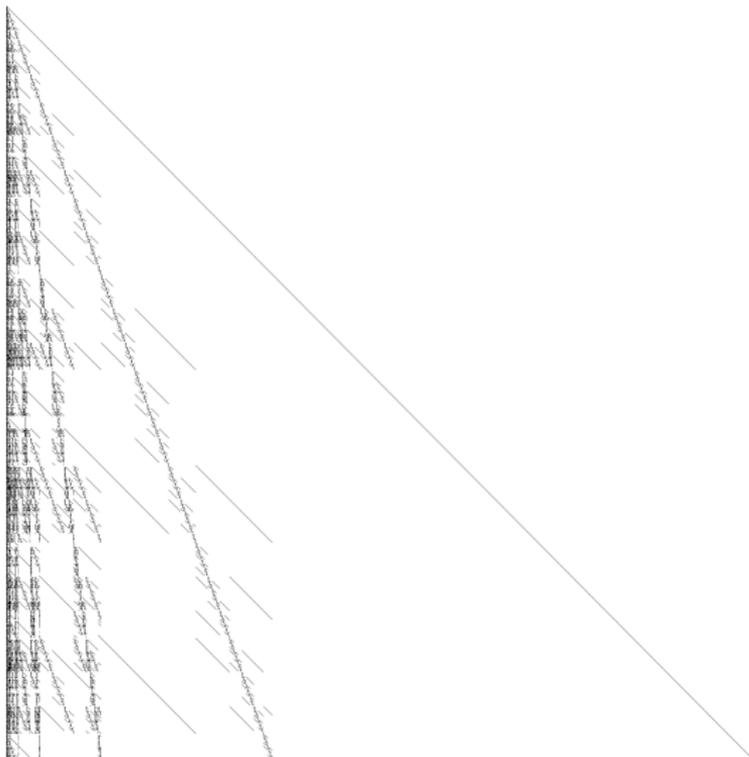
## Example 3

$\beta_2 \approx 1.38028$  dominant root of  $P(X) = X^4 - X^3 - 1$



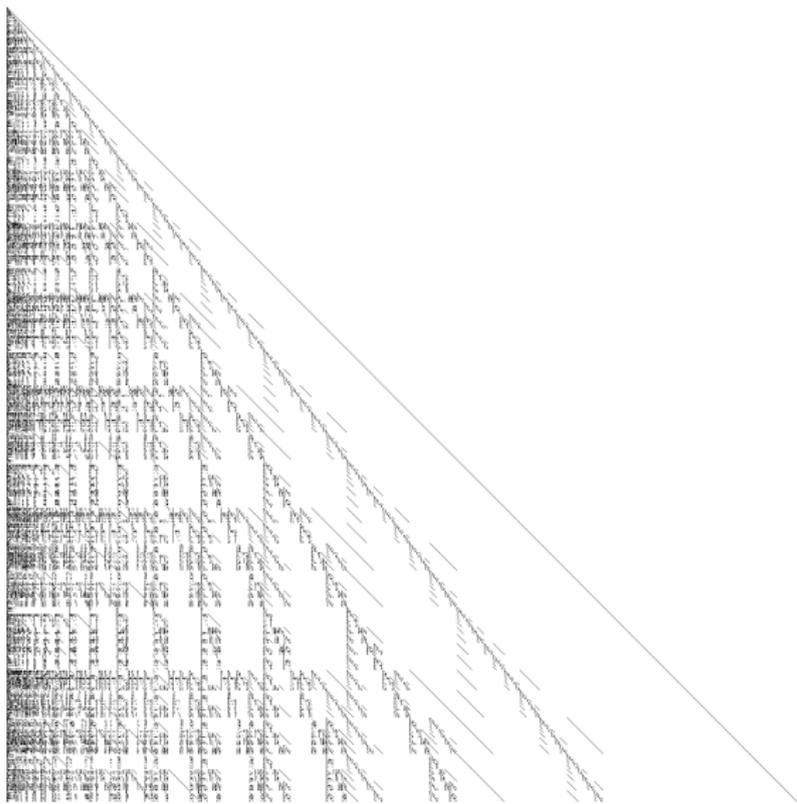
## Example 4

$\beta_3 \approx 2.80399$  dominant root of  $P(X) = X^4 - 2X^3 - 2X^2 - 2$



## Example 5

$\beta_4 \approx 1.32472$  dominant root of polynomial  $P(X) = X^5 - X^4 - 1$



In this talk:

Numeration system	Generalized Pascal's triangle	Convergence modulo a prime
Base 2	✓	✓
Integer base	✓	✓
Fibonacci	✓	✓
Parry	✓	✓

- Regularity of the sequence counting subword occurrences: result for any integer base  $b$  and the Fibonacci numeration system
- Behavior of the summatory function: result for any integer base  $b$  (exact behavior) and the Fibonacci numeration system (asymptotics)

- J. Berstel, D. Perrin, The origins of combinatorics on words, *European J. Combin.* **28** (2007), 996–1022.
- F. von Haeseler, H.-O. Peitgen, G. Skordev, Pascal's triangle, dynamical systems and attractors, *Ergod. Th. & Dynam. Sys.* **12** (1992), 479–486.
- J. Leroy, M. Rigo, M. Stipulanti, Generalized Pascal triangle for binomial coefficients of words, *Adv. in Appl. Math.* **80** (2016), 24–47.
- J. Leroy, M. Rigo, M. Stipulanti, Counting the number of non-zero coefficients in rows of generalized Pascal triangles, *Discrete Math.* **340** (2017), 862–881.
- J. Leroy, M. Rigo, M. Stipulanti, Behavior of digital sequences through exotic numeration systems, *Electron. J. Combin.* **24** (2017), no. 1, Paper 1.44, 36 pp.
- J. Leroy, M. Rigo, M. Stipulanti, Counting Subword Occurrences in Base- $b$  Expansions, *Integers* **18A** (2018), Paper No. A13, 32 pp.
- M. Lothaire, *Combinatorics On Words*, Cambridge Mathematical Library, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1997. Corrected reprint of the 1983 original.
- É. Lucas, Théorie des fonctions numériques simplement périodiques, *Amer. J. Math.* **1** (1878), 197–240.
- M. Stipulanti, Convergence of Pascal-Like Triangles in Parry–Bertrand Numeration Systems, *Theoret. Comput. Sci.* **758** (2019), 42–60.