

# String attractors of Rote sequences

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Czech Technical University in Prague

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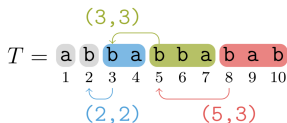
- 1 Motivation
- 2 String attractors overview
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- 4 Pseudopalindromic closures and Rote sequences
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# Motivation: Unifying repetitiveness measures

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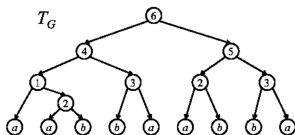
## Dictionary compressors



## Lempel-Ziv methods



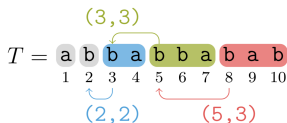
## Pointer macro scheme



## Grammars

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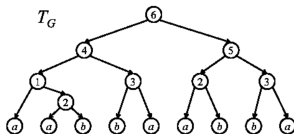
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## Induced repetitiveness measures

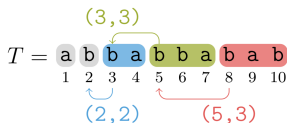
→  $z$  = size of the parsing

→  $b$  = size of the scheme

→  $g$  = size of the straight-line program

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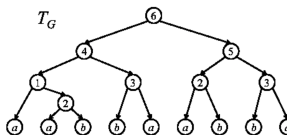
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Grammars

## Induced repetitiveness measures

$\rightarrow z =$  size of the parsing

$\rightarrow b =$  size of the scheme

$\rightarrow g =$  size of the straight-line program

## Bounds via the smallest string attractors

$$z^* \in \mathcal{O}(\gamma^* \log^2(\frac{n}{\gamma^*}))$$

$$b^* \in \mathcal{O}(\gamma^* \log(\frac{n}{\gamma^*}))$$

$$g^* \in \mathcal{O}(\gamma^* \log^2(\frac{n}{\gamma^*}))$$

[Kempa & Prezza, 2018]

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- Repetitiveness measures also upper bounds for the smallest string attractor

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Dictionary compressors can be interpreted as approximation algorithms for the smallest string attractor.

- Minimum size of an attractor gives us
  - lower and upper bounds for dictionary compression methods
  - direct stringological measure instead of the result of a specific compression method



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- Minimum size of an attractor gives us
  - lower and upper bounds for dictionary compression methods
  - direct stringological measure instead of the result of a specific compression method
- Finding the smallest attractor size is NP-hard
  - → CoW approach:  
structural assumption (e.g., special classes of words) may make the computation tractable

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- 2 String attractors overview
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# String attractors: definition and example

Definition: Let  $w = w_0w_1 \dots w_n$  be a word, let  $u = w_iw_{i+1} \dots w_j$  be its factor. Then  $\{i, i + 1, \dots, j\}$  is an *occurrence* of  $u$  in  $w$ .

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## Definition of a string attractor [Prezza, ICTCS 2017]

Let  $w = w_0w_1 \dots w_n$  be a finite word over alphabet  $\mathcal{A}$ . A *string attractor* of  $w$  is a set of positions  $\Gamma \subseteq \{0, \dots, n\}$  such that every substring of  $w$  has an occurrence containing an element of  $\Gamma$ .

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### Example:

$$w = 012300123012$$

$$\Gamma = \{2, 3, 4, 8, 10\} \leftrightarrow w = 01\mathbf{230}012\mathbf{30}12$$

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$$\Gamma^* = \{3, 5, 7, 10\} \leftrightarrow w = 012\mathbf{30}0\mathbf{1}2\mathbf{30}12$$

$\Gamma^* =$  some attractor with the minimum length

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- for factors
  - of episturmian sequences by Dvořáková, 2022
  - of the Thue-Morse sequence by Dolce, 2023

# Overview of attractors in CoW

- Schaeffer & Shallit, 2021: study of attractors in linearly recurrent and in automatic sequences
- Restivo, Romana, Sciortino, 2022: combinatorial properties of attractors (relation to factor complexity, recurrence function, etc.), study of attractors in fixed points of morphisms
- Romana: String Attractor: a Combinatorial Object from Data Compression, 2022
- Gheeraert, Romana, Stipulanti, 2023: study of attractors in fixed points of  $k$ -bonacci-like morphisms

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# Way to generate Sturmian sequences: Palindromic closures

## Palindromes:

Word  $u$  is a *palindrome* if it reads the same forward and backward.

e.g. 1001, 11011, 10101

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[X. Droubay, J. Justin, G. Pirillo, 2001]

## Algorithm for generating Sturmian sequences

- Take any binary sequence (= directive sequence)
- Add letters from directive sequence one by one to generated word
- After each letter addition, make a palindromic closure



## Example: Fibonacci sequence

Directive sequence  $\Delta = (01)^\omega = 0\ 1\ 0\ 1\ 0\ 1\ \dots$

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$$u_3 = 0100$$

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$$u_4 = 01001010010$$

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# Attractors of Sturmian sequences via palindromic closures

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Highlights mark the *longest palindromic prefixes* followed by 0 and 1

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Highlights mark the *longest palindromic prefixes* followed by 0 and 1  
**Longest palindromic prefixes followed by distinct letters** mark  
attractors for all palindromic prefixes of standard Sturmian words [L.  
Dvořáková, 2022]

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$$u_2 = 010$$

$$u_3 = 0102010$$

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## Example: Tribonacci sequence

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$u_1 = 0$   
 $u_2 = 010$   
 $u_3 = 0102010$   
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 $u_2 = 010$   
 $u_3 = 0102010$   
 $u_4 = 01020100102010$   
 $u_5 = 010201001020101020100102010$   
 $\vdots$

The *longest palindromic prefixes* followed by distinct letters form attractors for episturmian words.

[L. Dvořáková, 2022]

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# Our interest: Rote sequences

## Definition

*Complementary-symmetric (CS) Rote sequences* are binary sequences having complexity  $2n$  and such that their language is closed under letter exchange.

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**Definition:** Let  $w = w_0 \dots w_n$  be a binary word. Its *sum* is defined as  $S(w) = u = u_0 \dots u_{n-1}$ , where  $u_i = w_i + w_{i+1} \pmod{2}$ .

$$\begin{array}{r} w = 0011100 \\ \quad \quad \quad \vee \vee \vee \vee \vee \vee \\ S(w) = 010010 \end{array}$$

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$$\begin{array}{r} w = 0011100 \quad \text{Rote} \\ \quad \quad \quad \text{VVVVV} \\ S(w) = 010010 \quad \text{Sturmian} \end{array}$$

## Structural theorem [G. Rote, 1994]

A binary sequence  $w$  is a CS Rote sequence if and only if the sequence  $S(w)$  is a Sturmian sequence.

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Currently known Sturmian attractors:

$$u = 0\underline{1}0010\underline{0}10$$

$$u = 010010\underline{0}10$$

No straightforward way how to obtain the necessary position from these.

## Antipalindromes (on binary alphabet):

Word  $w$  is an *antipalindrome* if it reads forward and backward the same, only with letter exchange ( $\bar{1} = 0$ ,  $\bar{0} = 1$ ).

e.g. 1010, 110100, 10110010

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## Antipalindromic closure

Antipalindromic closure of  $w$  is the shortest antipalindrome having  $w$  as a prefix.

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## Algorithm for generating generalized pseudostandard sequences

- Take any binary bisequence (= directive bisequence) specifying letters  $\{0, 1\}$  and closures  $\{R, E\}$
- Add letters from directive bisequence one by one to generated word
- After each letter addition, make an (anti)palindromic closure

# Rote sequences are subset of generalized pseudostandard sequences

## Theorem [Blondin-Massé A. et al., 2013]

Let  $(\Delta, \Theta)$  be a directive bisequence. Then  $w$  generated by this bisequence is a standard CS Rote sequence if and only if  $w$  is aperiodic and no factor of the directive bisequence is in the following sets:

$$\{(ab, EE) : a, b \in \{0, 1\},$$

$$\{(aa, RR) : a \in \{0, 1\},$$

$$\{(aa, RE) : a \in \{0, 1\}.$$

Omitting these pairs in the bisequence, we can generate Rote sequences using pseudopalindromic closures!

# Rote sequences via closures

CS Rote sequences generated by pseudopalindromic closures omitting the following patterns:

$$\{(ab, EE) : a, b \in \{0, 1\}\} \cup \{(a\bar{a}, RR) : a \in \{0, 1\}\} \cup \{(aa, RE) : a \in \{0, 1\}\}$$

## Example:

$\Delta =$  0 0 1 1 0 0 ....

$\Theta =$  R R E R E R ....

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## Example:

$$\Delta = 001100 \dots$$

$$\Theta = RRE RER \dots$$

$$w_1 = 0$$

$$w_2 = 00$$

$$w_3 = 0011$$

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$$w_6 = 001110001100011100$$

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## Example:

$$\Delta = 0 \ 0 \ 1 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0 \ \dots$$

$$\Theta = R \ R \ E \ R \ E \ R \ \dots$$

$$w_1 = 0$$

$$w_2 = 00$$

$$w_3 = 0011$$

$$w_4 = 0011100$$

$$w_5 = 0011100011$$

$$w_6 = 001110001100011100$$

Can we use the longest  
pseudopalindromic prefixes  
followed by distinct letters  
to obtain attractors  
of pseudopalindromic prefixes  
of Rote sequences?

# Result: Attractors of Rote sequences

## Theorem [Dvořáková L., Hendrychová V., 2023]

Assume  $(\Delta, \Theta)$  is the directive bisequence of a standard CS Rote sequence  $w$ , and  $w_n$  contains both letters. Then

- 1 If  $w_n$  is antipalindromic,  $w_n$  has an attractor  $\Gamma = \{|w_i|, |w_{n-1}|\}$ , where  $w_i$  is the longest antipalindromic prefix followed by  $\overline{\Delta[n]}$  in  $w$ .

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Assume  $(\Delta, \Theta)$  is the directive bisequence of a standard CS Rote sequence  $w$ , and  $w_n$  contains both letters. Then

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- 2 If  $w_n$  is palindromic and  $w_{n-1}$  is antipalindromic,  $w_n$  has an attractor  $\Gamma = \{|w_j|, |w_{n-1}|\}$ , where  $w_j$  is the longest palindromic prefix followed by  $\overline{\Delta[n]}$  in  $w$ .

# Result: Attractors of Rote sequences

## Theorem [Dvořáková L., Hendrychová V., 2023]

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- 3 If  $w_n$  is palindromic and  $w_{n-1}$  is palindromic,  $w_n$  has the same attractor as  $w_{n-1}$ .

→ The form of attractor depends not only on the current closure, but also on the preceding one.



# Example: Attractor of Rote sequence

"LPP $n$ " = longest palindromic prefix followed by  $n$

"LAP $n$ " = longest antipalindromic prefix followed by  $n$

**Example:**

$\Delta = 0\ 0\ 1\ 1\ 0\ 0\ 0\ \dots$

$\Theta = R\ R\ E\ R\ E\ R\ R\ \dots$

$w_i$	attractor
$w_1 = 0$	-
$w_2 = 00$	-
$w_3 = 00\underline{1}1$	$ LAP\ 0 ,  w_2 $

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$w_i$	attractor
$w_1 = 0$	-
$w_2 = 00$	-
$w_3 = \underline{00}\underline{1}1$	$ \text{LAP } 0 ,  w_2 $
$w_4 = 0\underline{0}11\underline{1}00$	$ \text{LPP } 0 ,  w_3 $

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**Example:**

$\Delta = 0011000 \dots$

$\Theta = RRE RER R \dots$

$w_i$	attractor
$w_1 = 0$	-
$w_2 = 00$	-
$w_3 = 00\underline{1}1$	LAP 0 ,   $w_2$
$w_4 = 00\underline{0}11\underline{1}00$	LPP 0 ,   $w_3$
$w_5 = 0011\underline{1}00\underline{0}11$	LAP 1 ,   $w_4$
$w_6 = 00\underline{1}1100011\underline{0}0011100$	LPP 1 ,   $w_5$
$w_7 = 00\underline{1}1100011\underline{0}0011100\underline{0}1100011100$	same as previous

# Outline

- 1 Motivation
- 2 String attractors overview
- 3 Palindromic closures and Sturmian sequences
- 4 Pseudopalindromic closures and Rote sequences
- 5 Open questions

- What are the attractors of prefixes of **generalized pseudostandard sequences**?
  - i.e. what if we don't omit any (anti)palindromic combinations in the generating bisequence?

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- What about attractors of (generalized) pseudostandard sequences over **larger alphabets**?
- How does the minimum attractor size affect the **form of examined words compressed** by dictionary compressors? Do they also remain constant?



Thank you for your attention!