

## PARAMETRIZATION FOR A CLASS OF RAUZY FRACTALS

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### Abstract

In this paper, we study a class of Rauzy fractals  $\mathcal{R}_a$  given by the polynomial  $x^3 - ax^2 + x - 1$  where  $a \geq 2$  is an integer. In particular, we give explicitly an automaton that generates the boundary of  $\mathcal{R}_a$  and using an unusual numeration system we prove that  $\mathcal{R}_a$  is homeomorphic to a topological disk.

### 1. Introduction

The Rauzy fractal is a compact subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $n \geq 1$ . It was studied by many mathematicians and is connected to many topics such as: numeration systems [8, 11, 22, 19], geometrical representation of symbolic dynamical systems [6, 20], multidimensional continued fractions and simultaneous approximations [5, 14], auto-similar tilings [6, 22], substitutions and tilings [12] and Markov partitions of Hyperbolic automorphisms of Torus [20, 22].

Let  $\beta > 1$  be a fixed real number. Any positive real number  $x$  can be expanded as

$$x = \sum_{i=N_0}^{\infty} a_{-i}\beta^{-i} = a_{-N_0}\beta^{-N_0} + a_{-N_0-1}\beta^{-N_0-1} + \dots$$

with  $a_i \in \mathbb{Z} \cap [0, \beta)$  and we are assuming the greedy condition

$$\left| x - \sum_{i=N_0}^N a_{-i}\beta^{-i} \right| < \beta^{-N},$$

for all  $N \geq N_0$ . We call this expansion a beta expansion of  $x$  in base  $\beta$ . A Pisot number is an algebraic integer whose conjugates other than itself have modulus less than one. Let  $Fin(\beta)$  be a set consisting of all finite beta expansions and consider the condition

$$(F) \quad Fin(\beta) = \mathbb{Z}[\beta^{-1}]_{\geq 0}.$$

Consider the beta expansion of the positive number

$$0 < 1 - [\beta]\beta^{-1} = c_{-2}\beta^{-2} + c_{-3}\beta^{-3} + \dots = .0c_{-2}c_{-3}\dots$$

If we put  $c_{-1} = [\beta]$ , we can write

$$1 = .c_{-1}c_{-2}c_{-3}\dots$$

This expansion  $.c_{-1}c_{-2}c_{-3}\dots$  is called the expansion of 1 and denoted by  $d(1, \beta)$ . We can identify this expression with the word  $c_{-1}c_{-2}c_{-3}\dots$  generated by  $\mathbb{A} = \mathbb{Z} \cap [0, \beta)$ . Every

finite word generated by  $\mathbb{A}$  represents a beta expansion in base  $\beta$  if and only if the word is lexicographically less than  $d(1, \beta)$  at any starting point. This fact can be generalized to infinite words apart from certain exceptions (see [21]).

In [16] they proved that if  $\beta > 1$  is an integer then (F) holds and, conversely, the condition (F) implies that  $\beta$  is a Pisot number. A Pisot number  $\beta$  is called a Pisot unit if it is also a unit of the integer ring of  $\mathbb{Q}[\beta]$ . In [2] we have the following results :

**Theorem 1.1.** *Let  $\beta$  be a cubic Pisot number. Then  $\beta > 1$  has property (F) if and only if  $\beta$  is a root of the following polynomial with integer coefficients:*

$$x^3 - ax^2 - bx - 1, a \geq 0, \text{ and } -1 \leq b \leq a + 1.$$

**Lemma 1.2.** *Let  $\beta > 1$  be a cubic Pisot number with  $\text{Irr}(\beta) = x^3 - ax^2 - bx - 1$ . Then the expansion of 1 in base  $\beta$  is given by:*

- i)  $d(1, \beta) = .(a - 1)(a + b - 1)(\widetilde{a + b})$ , if  $-a + 1 \leq b \leq -2$ ;
- ii)  $d(1, \beta) = .ab1$ , if  $0 \leq b \leq a$ ;
- iii)  $d(1, \beta) = .(a - 1)(a - 1)01$ , if  $b = -1$ ;
- iv)  $d(1, \beta) = .(a + 1)00a1$ , if  $b = a + 1$ .

Here  $\widetilde{w}$  is the periodic expansion  $www\dots$

**Theorem 1.3.** *A cubic Pisot unit  $\beta$  has property (F) if and only if  $d(1, \beta)$  is finite.*

To each cubic Pisot unit satisfying (F), we can associate a Rauzy fractal. In the case where  $\beta$  is a Pisot number satisfying condition (ii) of Lemma 1.2, the Rauzy fractal was studied in [17] and [18]. In [17] the authors proved that if  $2b > a - 3$ , then the boundary of the Rauzy fractal is not homeomorphic to a circle. If  $\beta$  is a cubic Pisot unit satisfying (iii) of Lemma 1.2 and  $\alpha, \bar{\alpha}$  its Galois conjugates the fractal associated is given by

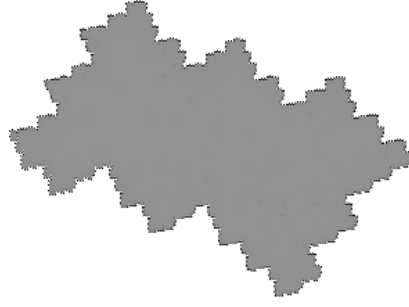
$$\mathcal{R}_a = \left\{ \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} a_i \alpha^i, a_i a_{i-1} a_{i-2} a_{i-3} <_{lex} (a - 1)(a - 1)01, \forall i \geq 5 \right\},$$

where  $<_{lex}$  is the lexicographic order on finite words. In [9] the authors proved the topological and arithmetical properties of  $\mathcal{R}_a$ . In particular, they proved there exists an explicit finite state automaton  $\mathcal{A}$  such that the boundary of  $\mathcal{R}_a$  is recognized by  $\mathcal{A}$ . With this automaton they proved that for  $a = 2$ , the boundary of  $\mathcal{R}_2$  is homeomorphic to a circle. Their proof cannot be extended to the case  $a \geq 3$ . The parametrization of the boundary of  $\mathcal{R}_a$ ,  $a \geq 3$  is different from the case  $a = 2$ . It uses an unusual numeration system.

In this paper we will study the fractal associated to a number  $\beta$  satisfying the condition (iii) of Lemma 1.2 with  $a \geq 3, b = -1$ . In this case the polynomial  $p(x) = x^3 - ax^2 + x - 1 = (x - \beta)(x - \alpha)(x - \bar{\alpha})$ , where  $\beta > 1$  and  $\alpha, \bar{\alpha} \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \mathbb{R}$ .

The purpose of this work is to present a complete description of the boundary of  $\mathcal{R}_a$ ,  $a \geq 3$ . Our main result is the following.

**Theorem 1.4.**  *$\partial \mathcal{R}_a$  is homeomorphic to  $S^1$ .*

Fig. 1.  $\mathcal{R}_3$ 

## 2. Background, notations and definitions

In this section we will give more informations about  $\beta$ -numeration, Rauzy fractal, automaton and we will present some notations that will be used in the next sections.

Assume that  $\beta$  is a Pisot number of degree  $d \geq 3$ . We denote by  $\beta_2, \beta_3, \dots, \beta_r$  the real Galois conjugate of  $\beta$  and by  $\beta_{r+1}, \dots, \beta_{r+s}, \beta_{r+s+1} = \overline{\beta_{r+1}}, \dots, \beta_{r+2s} = \overline{\beta_{r+s}}$  its complex Galois conjugates. Let

$$\psi = (\beta_2, \dots, \beta_r, \beta_{r+1}, \dots, \beta_{r+s}) \in \mathbb{R}^{r-1} \times \mathbb{C}^s$$

and put  $\psi^i = (\beta_2^i, \dots, \beta_r^i, \beta_{r+1}^i, \dots, \beta_{r+s}^i), \forall i \in \mathbb{Z}$ . The Rauzy fractal is by definition the set

$$\mathcal{R} = \left\{ \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} a_i \psi^i, (a_i)_{i \geq 0} \in E_\beta \right\}$$

where  $E_\beta = \{(x_i)_{i \geq k}, k \in \mathbb{Z} | \forall n \geq k, (x_i)_{k \leq i \leq n} \text{ is a finite } \beta \text{ expansion}\}$ .

An important class of Pisot numbers are those such that the associated Rauzy fractal has 0 as an interior point. This numbers were characterized by Akiyama ([3]), and they are exactly the Pisot numbers satisfying condition (F).

In this paper we will work with sequences  $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  belonging to  $\{0, 1, \dots, a-1\}^{\mathbb{Z}}$  and the following set

$$\mathcal{N} = \{(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}, \exists k \in \mathbb{Z}, a_k > 0, a_i = 0 \text{ for all } i < k, a_i a_{i-1} a_{i-2} a_{i-3} <_{lex} (a-1)(a-1)01, \forall i \geq k\}.$$

If  $(a_n) \in \mathcal{N}$  we will call it an admissible sequence.

Take  $(a_n, b_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$  an infinite path on the automaton  $\mathcal{A}$  starting in the initial state. If  $(a_n), (b_n) \in \mathcal{N}$  we will call it an admissible path.

In [9] the following results were proved.

(1) Let  $z = \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} a_i \alpha^i \in \mathcal{R}_a$ . Then  $z \in \partial \mathcal{R}_a$  if and only if there exists  $(b_i)_{i \geq l} \in \mathcal{N}, l < 1,$

$$b_l \neq 0 \text{ such that } \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} a_i \alpha^i = \sum_{i=l}^{\infty} b_i \alpha^i.$$

(2) There exists an explicit finite state automaton  $\mathcal{A}$  (see figure 2 below) such that

$$\sum_{i=l}^{\infty} \epsilon_i \alpha^i = \sum_{i=l}^{\infty} \epsilon'_i \alpha^i, (\epsilon_i), (\epsilon'_i) \in \mathcal{N} \text{ if and only if } (\epsilon_i, \epsilon'_i)_{i \geq l} \text{ is an admissible path.}$$

Let us explain the behavior of this automaton. Let  $\epsilon = (\epsilon_i)_{i \geq l}$  and  $\epsilon' = (\epsilon'_i)_{i \geq l}$  belonging to  $\mathcal{N}$ ,  $x = \sum_{i=l}^{\infty} \epsilon_i \alpha^i$  and  $y = \sum_{i=l}^{\infty} \epsilon'_i \alpha^i$ . Suppose  $x = y$ . For all  $k \geq l$  we put

$$(2.1) \quad A_k(\varepsilon, \varepsilon') = \alpha^{-k+2} \sum_{i=l}^k (\varepsilon_i - \varepsilon'_i) \alpha^i.$$

In [9] the authors proved that  $A_k(\varepsilon, \varepsilon') \in S = \{0, \pm\alpha, \pm\alpha^2, \pm(\alpha - \alpha^2), \pm(1 + (a-1)\alpha^2), \pm(1 + (a-2)\alpha^2), \pm(1 - \alpha + (a-1)\alpha^2), \pm(1 - 2\alpha + a\alpha^2)\}$ . We can see that for all  $k \geq l$ ,

$$(2.2) \quad A_{k+1}(\varepsilon, \varepsilon') = \frac{A_k(\varepsilon, \varepsilon')}{\alpha} + (\varepsilon_{k+1} - \varepsilon'_{k+1})\alpha^2.$$

Let  $s$  be the smallest integer such that  $\varepsilon_s \neq \varepsilon'_s$ . Hence  $A_i(\varepsilon, \varepsilon') = 0$  for  $i \in \{l, \dots, s-1\}$ . Suppose  $\varepsilon_s > \varepsilon'_s$ . Then,  $A_s = (\varepsilon_s - \varepsilon'_s)\alpha^2 = \alpha^2$ . From (2.2) we deduce  $A_{s+1}(\varepsilon, \varepsilon') = \alpha + (\varepsilon_{s+1} - \varepsilon'_{s+1})\alpha^2$  which should belong to  $S$ . Hence  $A_{s+1}(\varepsilon, \varepsilon') = \alpha$  if  $\varepsilon_{s+1} = \varepsilon'_{s+1}$  or  $A_{s+1}(\varepsilon, \varepsilon') = \alpha - \alpha^2$  if  $(\varepsilon_{s+1}, \varepsilon'_{s+1}) = (t_1, t_1 + 1)$ , where  $0 \leq t_1 \leq a-2$ . Continuing by the same way and using the fact that the set of states  $S$  is finite, we obtain the following finite state automaton shown in Figure 2.

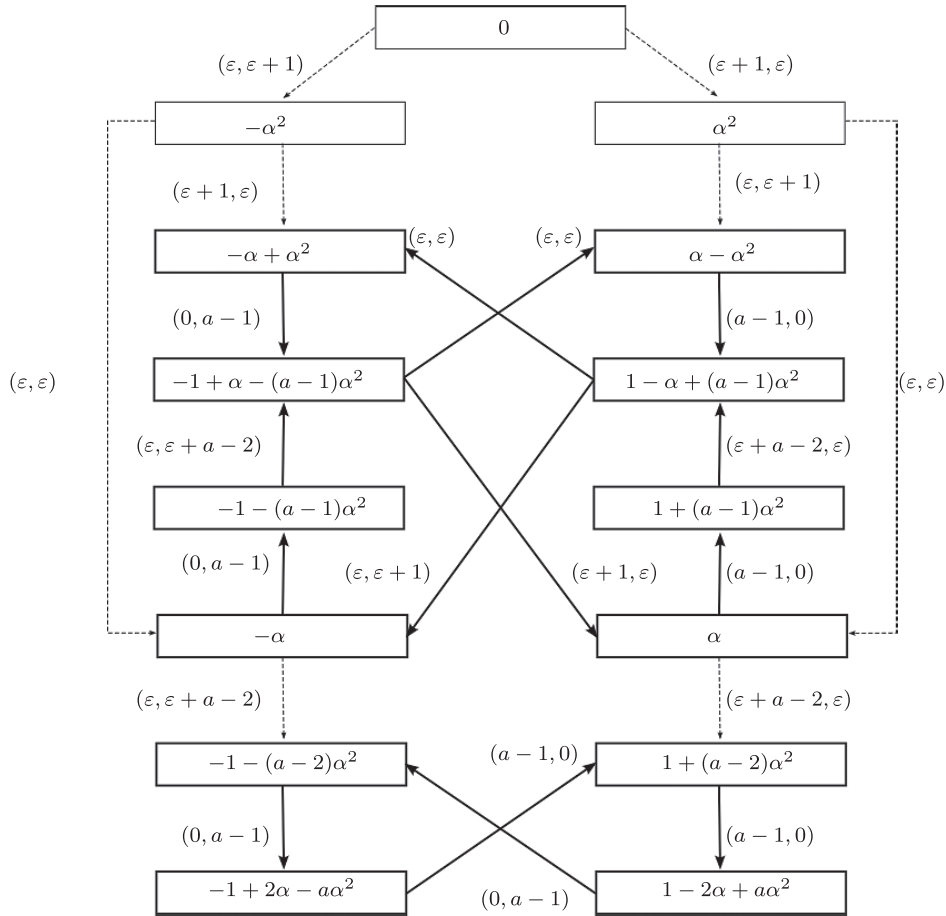


Fig.2. Automaton  $\mathcal{A}$

Another result proved in [9] is the following.

**Proposition 2.1.**  $\mathcal{R}_a$  induces a periodic tiling of the plane  $\mathbb{C}$  modulo  $\mathbb{Z}u + \mathbb{Z}\alpha u$  where  $u = \alpha - 1$ . Moreover  $\partial\mathcal{R}_a = \bigcup_{v \in B} \mathcal{R}_a \cap (\mathcal{R}_a + v)$ , where  $B = \{\pm u, \pm \alpha u, \pm(1 + \alpha)u, \pm(\alpha - 1)u\}$  and  $\mathcal{R}_a \cap (\mathcal{R}_a + (1 + \alpha)u) = \{-1\}$ ,  $\mathcal{R}_a \cap (\mathcal{R}_a + (\alpha - 1)u) = \{-\alpha\}$ .

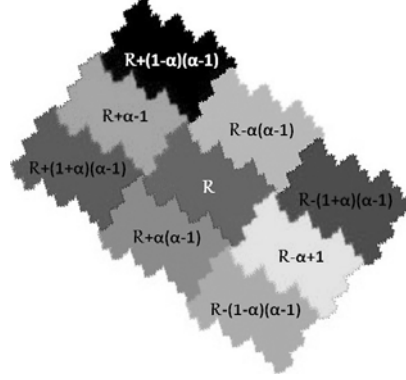


Fig.3. Tiling induced by  $\mathcal{R}_3$

REMARK 2.2. In this paper we will use the following relations:

$$(2.3) \quad \alpha^n - a\alpha^{n-1} + \alpha^{n-2} - \alpha^{n-3} = 0, \quad \alpha^n = (a-1)\alpha^{n-1} + (a-1)\alpha^{n-2} + \alpha^{n-4}, \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

**Lemma 2.3.** Let  $z \in \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}$ . Then  $z = (\alpha - 1) + \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} a_i \alpha^i$  and  $z = \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} b_i \alpha^i$  with  $a_2 = 0$ ,  $b_2 = a - 1$  and  $b_4 = 0$ .

Proof. Take  $z \in \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}$ . Using relation (2.3) we have  $z = \alpha^{-3} + (a-1)\alpha^{-1} + (a-2) + \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} a_i \alpha^i$  and  $z = \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} b_i \alpha^i$ . Then the admissible path, starting from 0, in the automaton associated to  $z$  is

$$(1, 0)(0, 0)(a-1, 0)(a-2, 0)(0, 0)(a_2, b_2)(a_3, b_3) \dots$$

Using the automaton we have that  $a_2 = 0$ ,  $b_2 = a - 1$  and then we can write  $z = \alpha^{-3} + (a-1)\alpha^{-1} + (a-2) + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} a_i \alpha^i = \alpha - 1 + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} a_i \alpha^i$  and  $z = (a-1)\alpha^2 + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} b_i \alpha^i$ . We also have that  $b_4 = 0$ . □

### 3. Parametrization of $\partial\mathcal{R}_a$ , $a \geq 3$

In this section we give a complete description of  $\partial\mathcal{R}_a$ ,  $a \geq 3$ . By Proposition (2.1) we have that  $\partial\mathcal{R}_a = \bigcup_{v \in B} \mathcal{R}_a \cap (\mathcal{R}_a + v)$  where  $B = \{\pm(\alpha^{-3} + \alpha^{-1}) = \pm(\alpha - 1), \pm(\alpha^2 - \alpha), \pm(\alpha^2 - 1), \pm(\alpha - 1)^2\}$ . Since  $\mathcal{R}_a \cap (\mathcal{R}_a \pm v)$  is a point if  $v = \alpha^2 - 1$  or  $v = (\alpha - 1)^2$ , we will study the others four regions  $\mathcal{B}_v = \mathcal{R}_a \cap (\mathcal{R}_a + v)$  where  $v \in \{\pm(\alpha - 1), \pm(\alpha^2 - \alpha)\}$ . For this we will use the set  $\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1} = \mathcal{R}_a \cap (\mathcal{R}_a + \alpha - 1)$  described by

$$\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1} = \left\{ z \in \mathbb{C}, z = \alpha - 1 + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} a_i \alpha^i = (a-1)\alpha^2 + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} b_i \alpha^i \right\}.$$

In particular, we will prove the following results.

**Proposition 3.1.** *Let  $f_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3$ , be the functions defined by  $f_1(z) = \alpha^{-1} - 1 + \alpha^{-1}z$ ,  $f_2(z) = -(a-1)\alpha + \alpha^{-1}z$  and  $f_3(z) = 1 - \alpha + z$ . Then we have the following properties:*

- (1)  $\mathcal{B}_{\alpha^2-\alpha} = f_1(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1})$ ,
- (2)  $\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-\alpha^2} = f_2(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1})$ ,
- (3)  $\mathcal{B}_{1-\alpha} = f_3(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1})$ .
- (4)  $\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1} \cap f_1(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}) = \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1} \cap \mathcal{B}_{\alpha^2-\alpha} = \{-1\}$ .
- (5)  $f_1(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}) \cap f_3(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}) = \mathcal{B}_{\alpha^2-\alpha} \cap \mathcal{B}_{1-\alpha} = \{-\alpha\}$ .
- (6)  $f_2(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}) \cap f_3(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}) = \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-\alpha^2} \cap \mathcal{B}_{1-\alpha} = \{-\alpha^2\}$ .
- (7)  $\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1} \cap f_2(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}) = \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1} \cap \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-\alpha^2} = \{-(a-1)\alpha - \alpha^{-1}\}$ .
- (8)  $\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1} \cap f_3(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}) = \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1} \cap \mathcal{B}_{1-\alpha} = \emptyset$ .
- (9)  $f_1(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}) \cap f_2(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}) = \mathcal{B}_{\alpha^2-\alpha} \cap \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-\alpha^2} = \emptyset$ .

**Proposition 3.2.** *Let  $g_i$ ,  $i = 0, 1, \dots, 2(a-1)$ , be the functions defined by  $g_{2k+1}(z) = -1 - k\alpha^3 + \alpha^3 z$  for  $k = 0, \dots, a-2$ , and  $g_{2k}(z) = \alpha - 1 + (a-1-k)\alpha^3 + \alpha^2 z$  for  $k = 0, \dots, a-1$ . Then*

$$\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1} = \bigcup_{i=0}^{2(a-1)} g_i(X_i),$$

where  $X_i = \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}$  if  $i$  is an odd number or  $i = 2(a-1)$  and  $X_i = \mathcal{B}'_{\alpha-1} = \{z \in \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}; a_3 \neq a-1\}$  if  $i$  is an even number.

**REMARK 3.3.** Using Proposition 3.2 we will construct an explicit continuous and bijective application from  $[0, 1]$  to  $\mathcal{R}_{\alpha-1}$ . Using this fact and Proposition 3.1 we obtain an explicit homeomorphism between the circle and the boundary of  $\mathcal{R}_a$ .

**Proof of Proposition 3.1.** According to (2.3) we have  $\alpha^2 - \alpha = \alpha^{-2} + (a-1) + (a-2)\alpha$ .

- (1) Take  $z \in \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}$ . According to Lemma 2.3  $z = \alpha - 1 + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} a_i \alpha^i = (a-1)\alpha^2 + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} b_i \alpha^i$ .

Then

$$f_1(z) = \alpha^{-1} - 1 + \alpha^{-1}((a-1)\alpha^2 + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} b_i \alpha^i) = \alpha^{-2} + (a-1) + (a-2)\alpha + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} b_i \alpha^{i-1}$$

$$\in \mathcal{R}_a + \alpha^2 - \alpha.$$

We also have

$$f_1(z) = \alpha^{-1} - 1 + \alpha^{-1}(\alpha - 1 + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} a_i \alpha^i) = \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} a_i \alpha^{i-1} \in \mathcal{R}_a.$$

Therefore  $f_1(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}) \subseteq \mathcal{B}_{\alpha^2-\alpha}$ .

Take  $z \in \mathcal{B}_{\alpha^2-\alpha}$ ,  $z = \alpha^{-2} + (a-1) + (a-2)\alpha + \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} a_i \alpha^i = \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} b_i \alpha^i$ . Then

$$f_1^{-1}(z) = \alpha - 1 + \alpha(\alpha^{-2} + (a-1) + (a-2)\alpha + \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} a_i \alpha^i) = (a-1)\alpha^2 + \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} a_i \alpha^{i+1} \in \mathcal{R}_a.$$

We also have

$$f_1^{-1}(z) = \alpha - 1 + \alpha \left( \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} b_i \alpha^i \right) = \alpha - 1 + \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} b_i \alpha^{i+1} \in \mathcal{R}_a + \alpha - 1.$$

Therefore  $f_1^{-1}(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha^2-\alpha}) \subseteq \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}$  and then

$$f_1(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}) = \mathcal{B}_{\alpha^2-\alpha}.$$

- (2) Take  $z \in \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-\alpha^2}$ . Then  $z + \alpha^2 - \alpha$  belongs to  $\mathcal{B}_{\alpha^2-\alpha}$  and according to what was done before there exists  $w \in \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}$  such that  $z + \alpha^2 - \alpha = g_1(w)$ . Then  $z + \alpha^2 - \alpha = \alpha^{-1} - 1 + \alpha^{-1}(w) \Rightarrow z = \alpha^{-1} - 1 + \alpha - \alpha^2 + \alpha^{-1}(w) = -(a-1)\alpha + \alpha^{-1}(w)$ . Therefore

$$f_2(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}) = \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-\alpha^2}.$$

We also know that  $f_1^{-1}(z + \alpha^2 - \alpha) = \alpha - 1 + \alpha(z + \alpha^2 - \alpha) = (a-1)\alpha^2 + \alpha z = f_2^{-1}(z) \in \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}$  and then  $f_2^{-1}(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-\alpha^2}) \subseteq \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}$ . Therefore  $f_2(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}) = \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-\alpha^2}$ .

- (3) This item can be done by the same manner of item (2).  
(4) Take  $z \in \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1} \cap \mathcal{B}_{\alpha^2-\alpha} = \mathcal{R} \cap (\mathcal{R} + \alpha - 1) \cap (\mathcal{R} + \alpha^2 - \alpha)$ . Then  $z - \alpha + 1 \in \mathcal{R} \cap (\mathcal{R} - \alpha + 1) \cap (\mathcal{R} + (\alpha - 1)^2) \subseteq \mathcal{R} \cap (\mathcal{R} + (\alpha - 1)^2) = \{-1\}$ . Therefore,  $z - \alpha + 1 = -\alpha$ , and  $z = -1$ .  
(8) Take  $z \in \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1} \cap f_3(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1})$ . Then there is  $z_1 \in \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}$  such that  $z = 1 - \alpha + z_1$ . Then

$$\alpha + z = 1 + z_1.$$

Since  $z, z_1 \in \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}$  we know that  $z = (a-1)\alpha^2 + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} a_i \alpha^i$  and  $z_1 = (a-1)\alpha^2 + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} b_i \alpha^i$ .

Then the equality above becomes

$$1 + (a-1)\alpha^2 + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} a_i \alpha^i = \alpha + (a-1)\alpha^2 + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} b_i \alpha^i.$$

So, we conclude that  $(1,0)(0,1)(a-1,a-1)\dots$  is an admissible path on the automaton  $\mathcal{A}$  starting from 0. But there is no such path on the automaton and then

$$\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1} \cap f_3(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}) = \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1} \cap \mathcal{B}_{1-\alpha} = \emptyset.$$

Following the ideas of items (4) and (8) we can prove (5), (6), (7) and (9). For more details see [10] □

$\mathcal{R} + \alpha^2 - 1$	$\mathcal{R} + \alpha - 1$	$\mathcal{R} - (\alpha - 1)^2$
$\mathcal{R} + \alpha^2 - \alpha$	$\begin{matrix} -1 & & -(a-1)\alpha - \alpha^{-1} \\ & \mathcal{R} & \end{matrix}$	$\mathcal{R} + \alpha - \alpha^2$
$\mathcal{R} + (\alpha - 1)^2$	$\begin{matrix} -\alpha & & -\alpha^2 \\ & \mathcal{R} + 1 - \alpha & \end{matrix}$	$\mathcal{R} + 1 - \alpha^2$

Fig.4. Boundary of  $\mathcal{R}_a$

Proof of Proposition 3.2. Let  $z$  be an element of  $\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}$ . Using the automaton  $\mathcal{A}$  we can write  $z = \alpha - 1 + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} a_i \alpha^i = (a-1)\alpha^2 + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} b_i \alpha^i$  where  $(a_3, b_3) = (t, t)$ ,  $t = 0, 1, \dots, a-1$  or

$(a_3, b_3) = (t, t - 1)$ ,  $t = 1, \dots, a - 1$ . Let  $\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}^{1,t}$ ,  $\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}^{2,t}$  be the following sets:

$$\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}^{1,t} = \{z \in \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}; (a_3, b_3) = (t, t), t = 0, 1, \dots, a - 1\},$$

$$\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}^{2,t} = \{z \in \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}; (a_3, b_3) = (t, t - 1), t = 1, 2, \dots, a - 1\}. \text{ Since}$$

$$\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1} = \left[ \bigcup_{t=0}^{a-1} \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}^{1,t} \right] \cup \left[ \bigcup_{t=1}^{a-1} \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}^{2,t} \right],$$

in order to prove this theorem we need to show that  $g_{2k+1}(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}) = \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}^{2,a-1-k}$ ,  $k = 0, \dots, a - 2$ ,  $g_{2(a-1)}(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}) = \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}^{1,0}$  and  $g_{2k}(\mathcal{B}'_{\alpha-1}) = \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}^{1,a-1-k}$ ,  $k = 0, \dots, a - 2$ .

1)- Indeed since  $z \in \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}$  then:

$$g_{2k+1}(z) = -1 - k\alpha^3 + \alpha^3(\alpha - 1 + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} a_i \alpha^i) = (a - 1)\alpha^2 + (a - 2 - k)\alpha^3 + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} a_i \alpha^{i+3} \text{ and}$$

$$g_{2k+1}(z) = -1 - k\alpha^3 + \alpha^3((a - 1)\alpha^2 + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} b_i \alpha^i) = \alpha - 1 + (a - 1 - k)\alpha^3 + (a - 1)\alpha^4 + (a -$$

$$2)\alpha^5 + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} b_i \alpha^{i+3}, \text{ that is } g_{2k+1}(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}) \subseteq \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}^{2,a-1-k}. \text{ On the other hand if we take } w \in \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}^{2,a-1-k},$$

$$w = \alpha - 1 + (a - 1 - k)\alpha^3 + (a - 1)\alpha^4 + (a - 2)\alpha^5 + \sum_{i=6}^{\infty} u_i \alpha^i = (a - 1)\alpha^2 + (a - 2 - k)\alpha^3 + \sum_{i=6}^{\infty} v_i \alpha^i \text{ then}$$

$$z = \alpha - 1 + \sum_{i=6}^{\infty} v_i \alpha^{i-3} = (a - 1)\alpha^2 + \sum_{i=6}^{\infty} u_i \alpha^{i-3} \text{ is an element of } \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1} \text{ such that } g_{2k+1}(z) = w.$$

Therefore we conclude that

$$g_{2k+1}(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}) = \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}^{2,a-1-k}, k = 0, \dots, a - 2.$$

$$g_{2(a-1)}(z) = \alpha - 1 + \alpha^2(\alpha - 1 + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} a_i \alpha^i) = (a - 1)\alpha^2 + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} a_i \alpha^{i+2} \text{ and}$$

$$g_{2(a-1)}(z) = \alpha - 1 + \alpha^2((a - 1)\alpha^2 + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} b_i \alpha^i) = \alpha - 1 + (a - 1)\alpha^4 + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} b_i \alpha^{i+2}, \text{ that is}$$

$$g_{2(a-1)}(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}) \subseteq \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}^{1,0}. \text{ On the other hand if we take } w \in \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}^{1,0}, w = \alpha - 1 + (a - 1)\alpha^4 + \sum_{i=5}^{\infty} u_i \alpha^i =$$

$$(a - 1)\alpha^2 + \sum_{i=5}^{\infty} v_i \alpha^i \text{ then } z = \alpha - 1 + \sum_{i=5}^{\infty} v_i \alpha^{i-2} = (a - 1)\alpha^2 + \sum_{i=5}^{\infty} u_i \alpha^{i-2} \text{ is an element of } \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}$$

such that  $g_{2(a-1)}(z) = w$ . Therefore

$$g_{2(a-1)}(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}) = \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}^{1,0}.$$

2)- Let  $z \in \mathcal{B}'_{\alpha-1}$  given by  $z = \alpha - 1 + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} a_i \alpha^i = (a - 1)\alpha^2 + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} b_i \alpha^i$ . Since  $a_3 \neq a - 1$  then using the automaton we have  $b_3 \neq a - 1$ . Then

$$g_{2k}(z) = \alpha - 1 + (a - 1 - k)\alpha^3 + \alpha^2(\alpha - 1 + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} a_i \alpha^i) = (a - 1)\alpha^2 + (a - 1 - k)\alpha^3 + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} a_i \alpha^{i+2} \text{ and}$$

$$g_{2k}(z) = \alpha - 1 + (a - 1 - k)\alpha^3 + \alpha^2((a - 1)\alpha^2 + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} b_i \alpha^i) = \alpha - 1 + (a - 1 - k)\alpha^3 + (a - 1)\alpha^4 +$$



$\sum_{i=3}^{\infty} b_i \alpha^{i+2}$ . So we have  $g_{2k}(\mathcal{B}'_{\alpha-1}) \subseteq \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}^{1, a-1-k}$ . On the other hand if we take  $w \in \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}^{1, a-1-k}$ ,  $w = \alpha - 1 + (a-1-k)\alpha^3 + (a-1)\alpha^4 + \sum_{i=5}^{\infty} u_i \alpha^i = (a-1)\alpha^2 + (a-1-k)\alpha^3 + \sum_{i=5}^{\infty} v_i \alpha^i$  then we have  $u_5, v_5 \neq a-1$  (again use the automaton) and  $z = \alpha - 1 + \sum_{i=5}^{\infty} v_i \alpha^{i-2} = (a-1)\alpha^2 + \sum_{i=5}^{\infty} u_i \alpha^{i-2}$  is an element of  $\mathcal{B}'_{\alpha-1}$  such that  $g_{2k}(z) = w$ . Therefore

$$g_{2k}(\mathcal{B}'_{\alpha-1}) = \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}^{1, a-1-k}, k = 0, \dots, a-2.$$

□

Using the previous notation and taking  $u = -1, v = -(a-1)\alpha - \alpha^{-1}, w = -1 - \alpha^3$ , we have the following lemmas.

**Lemma 3.4.**

(1) Take  $k_1 \leq k_2$ . Then

$$g_{2k_1}(\mathcal{B}'_{\alpha-1}) \cap g_{2k_2+1}(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}) = \begin{cases} \emptyset, & \text{if } k_2 > k_1 \\ -1 - \alpha^2 - k\alpha^3 - (a-1)\alpha^4, & \text{if } k_2 = k_1. \end{cases}$$

Therefore  $-1 - \alpha^2 - k\alpha^3 - (a-1)\alpha^4 = g_{2k}(w) = g_{2k+1}(v)$ .

(2) Take  $k_1 < k_2$ . Then

$$g_{2k_1+1}(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}) \cap g_{2k_2}(\mathcal{B}'_{\alpha-1}) = \begin{cases} \emptyset, & \text{if } k_2 > k_1 + 1 \\ -1 - (k_1 + 1)\alpha^3, & \text{if } k_2 = k_1 + 1. \end{cases}$$

Therefore  $-1 - (k_1 + 1)\alpha^3 = g_{2k_1+1}(u) = g_{2(k_1+1)}(v)$ .

(3)  $g_{2k_1}(\mathcal{B}'_{\alpha-1}) \cap g_{2k_2}(\mathcal{B}'_{\alpha-1}) = \emptyset$ , if  $k_1 \neq k_2$ .

(4)  $g_{2k_1+1}(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}) \cap g_{2k_2+1}(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}) = \emptyset$ , if  $k_1 \neq k_2$ .

(5)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (g_0 \circ g_{2(a-1)})^n(z) = u = -1, \forall z \in \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}$ .

(6)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (g_{2(a-1)} \circ g_0)^n(z) = v = -(a-1)\alpha - \alpha^{-1}, \forall z \in \mathcal{B}'_{\alpha-1}$ .

**Proof.** 1)– Take  $z \in g_{2k_1}(\mathcal{B}'_{\alpha-1}) \cap g_{2k_2+1}(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}), k_1 \leq k_2$ .

Then  $z = g_{2k_1}(z_1) = g_{2k_2+1}(z_2), z_1 \in \mathcal{B}'_{\alpha-1}, z_2 \in \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}$  and

$$\alpha - 1 + (a-1-k_1)\alpha^3 + \alpha^2 z_1 = -1 - k_2 \alpha^3 + \alpha^3 z_2.$$

If we suppose  $k_2 = k_1 + k$  we have

$$\alpha + (a-1)\alpha^3 + \alpha^2 z_1 = -k\alpha^3 + \alpha^3 z_2,$$

and multiplying by  $\alpha^{-3}$

$$\alpha^{-2} + (a-1) + \alpha^{-1} z_1 = -k + z_2.$$

Since  $z_1 \in \mathcal{B}'_{\alpha-1}, z_2 \in \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}$  we know that  $z_1 = \alpha - 1 + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} a_i \alpha^i, a_3 \neq a-1$  and  $z_2 = \alpha - 1 + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} b_i \alpha^i$ . Then the equality above becomes

$$\alpha^{-2} + a - \alpha^{-1} + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} a_i \alpha^{i-1} = -k + \alpha - 1 + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} b_i \alpha^i,$$

and since  $\alpha^{-2} + a - 1 = \alpha$  then

$$(k+1) + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} a_i \alpha^{i-1} = \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} b_i \alpha^i.$$

So we conclude that  $(k+1, 0)(0, 0)(a_3, 0)(a_4, b_3)(a_5, b_4)\dots$  is an admissible path on the automaton  $\mathcal{A}$  starting from 0. Using the automaton, since  $a_3 \neq a - 1$ , we see that the only possibility is

$$(1, 0)(0, 0)(a-2, 0)(a-1, 0)(0, a-1)(0, a-1)(a-1, 0)(a-1, 0)\dots$$

Then  $k = 0$ ,

$$z_1 = \alpha - 1 + (a-2)\alpha^3 + (a-1)\alpha^4 + \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} [(a-1)\alpha^{4i-1} + (a-1)\alpha^{4i}] = -1 - \alpha^3,$$

and

$$z_2 = \alpha - 1 + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} [(a-1)\alpha^{4i} + (a-1)\alpha^{4i+1}] = -(a-1)\alpha - \alpha^{-1}.$$

2)– Take  $z \in g_{2k_1+1}(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}) \cap g_{2k_2}(\mathcal{B}'_{\alpha-1})$ ,  $k_1 < k_2$ .

Then  $z = g_{2k_1+1}(z_1) = g_{2k_2}(z_2)$ ,  $z_1 \in \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}$ ,  $z_2 \in \mathcal{B}'_{\alpha-1}$  and

$$-1 - k_1\alpha^3 + \alpha^3 z_1 = \alpha - 1 + (a-1-k_2)\alpha^3 + \alpha^2 z_2.$$

If we suppose  $k_2 = k_1 + k$  we have

$$\alpha^3 z_1 = \alpha + (a-1-k)\alpha^3 + \alpha^2 z_2,$$

and multiplying by  $\alpha^{-3}$

$$z_1 = \alpha^{-2} + (a-1-k) + \alpha^{-1} z_2.$$

Since  $z_1 \in \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}$ ,  $z_2 \in \mathcal{B}'_{\alpha-1}$  we know that  $z_1 = (a-1)\alpha^2 + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} a_i \alpha^i$  and  $z_2 = (a-1)\alpha^2 + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} b_i \alpha^i$ . Then the equality above becomes

$$(a-1)\alpha^2 + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} a_i \alpha^i = \alpha^{-2} + (a-1-k) + (a-1)\alpha + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} b_i \alpha^{i-1}.$$

So we conclude that  $(1, 0)(0, 0)(a-1-k, 0)(a-1, 0)(b_3, a-1)(b_4, a_3)(b_5, a_4)\dots$  is an admissible path on the automaton  $\mathcal{A}$  starting from 0. Using the automaton, we see that the only possibility is

$$(1, 0)(0, 0)(a-2, 0)(a-1, 0)(0, a-1)(0, a-1)(a-1, 0)(a-1, 0)\dots$$

Then  $k = 1$ ,

$$z_2 = (a-1)\alpha^2 + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} [(a-1)\alpha^{4i+1} + (a-1)\alpha^{4i+2}] = -(a-1)\alpha - \alpha^{-1},$$

and

$$z_1 = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} [(a-1)\alpha^{4i-2} + (a-1)\alpha^{4i-1}] = -1.$$

3)–Take  $z \in g_{2k_1}(\mathcal{B}'_{\alpha-1}) \cap g_{2k_2}(\mathcal{B}'_{\alpha-1})$ ,  $k_1 < k_2$ .

Then  $z = g_{2k_1}(z_1) = g_{2k_2}(z_2)$ ,  $z_1 \in \mathcal{B}'_{\alpha-1}$ ,  $z_2 \in \mathcal{B}'_{\alpha-1}$  and

$$\alpha - 1 + (a - 1 - k_1)\alpha^3 + \alpha^2 z_1 = \alpha - 1 + (a - 1 - k_2)\alpha^3 + \alpha^2 z_2.$$

If we suppose  $k_2 = k_1 + k$  we have

$$k\alpha^3 + \alpha^2 z_1 = \alpha^2 z_2,$$

and multiplying by  $\alpha^{-2}$

$$k\alpha + z_1 = z_2.$$

Since  $z_1 \in \mathcal{B}'_{\alpha-1}$ ,  $z_2 \in \mathcal{B}'_{\alpha-1}$  we know that  $z_1 = (a-1)\alpha^2 + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} a_i \alpha^i$ ,  $z_2 = (a-1)\alpha^2 + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} b_i \alpha^i$ , and, by Example 2.3,  $a_4 = b_4 = 0$ . Then the equality above becomes

$$k\alpha + (a-1)\alpha^2 + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} a_i \alpha^i = (a-1)\alpha^2 + \sum_{i=3}^{\infty} b_i \alpha^i.$$

So we conclude that if the intersection is not empty,  $(k, 0)(a-1, a-1)(a_3, b_3)(0, 0)(a_5, b_5) \dots$  is an admissible path on the automaton  $\mathcal{A}$  starting from 0. But there is no such path on the automaton and then

$$g_{2k_1}(\mathcal{B}'_{\alpha-1}) \cap g_{2k_2}(\mathcal{B}'_{\alpha-1}) = \emptyset.$$

Using the same ideas we can prove that  $g_{2k_1+1}(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}) \cap g_{2k_2+1}(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}) = \emptyset$ .

5)- Using induction we can prove that

$$(g_0 \circ g_{r-1})^n(z) = \sum_{i=1}^n [(a-1)\alpha^{4i-2} + (a-1)\alpha^{4i-1}] + \alpha^{4n}z.$$

Then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (g_0 \circ g_{r-1})^n(z) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} [(a-1)\alpha^{4i-2} + (a-1)\alpha^{4i-1}] = -1$ .

Indeed for  $n = 1$  and  $z \in \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}$  by proposition 3.2 we have  $g_{r-1}(z) = \alpha - 1 + \alpha^2 z \in \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}^{1,0}$ . By definition we have

$$\begin{aligned} g_0(g_{r-1}(z)) &= \alpha - 1 + (a-1)\alpha^3 + \alpha^2(\alpha - 1 + \alpha^2 z) = \alpha - 1 + (a-1)\alpha^3 + \alpha^3 - \alpha^2 + \alpha^4 z \\ &= (a-1)\alpha^2 + (a-1)\alpha^3 + \alpha^4 z. \end{aligned}$$

Suppose the formula is true for  $k \geq 1$ , that is

$$(g_0 \circ g_{r-1})^k(z) = \sum_{i=1}^k [(a-1)\alpha^{4i-2} + (a-1)\alpha^{4i-1}] + \alpha^{4k}z. \quad (*)$$

We have to prove the formula for  $n = k+1$ . Since  $(g_0 \circ g_{r-1})^{k+1}(z) = (g_0 \circ g_{r-1}) \circ (g_0 \circ g_{r-1})^k(z)$  using (\*) we have to prove that

$$g_0(g_{r-1}\left(\sum_{i=1}^k [(a-1)\alpha^{4i-2} + (a-1)\alpha^{4i-1}] + \alpha^{4k}z\right)) = \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} [(a-1)\alpha^{4i-2} + (a-1)\alpha^{4i-1}] + \alpha^{4(k+1)}z.$$

Indeed

$$\begin{aligned} & g_{r-1}\left(\sum_{i=1}^k [(a-1)\alpha^{4i-2} + (a-1)\alpha^{4i-1}] + \alpha^{4k}z\right) \\ &= \alpha - 1 + \alpha^2\left(\sum_{i=1}^k [(a-1)\alpha^{4i-2} + (a-1)\alpha^{4i-1}] + \alpha^{4k}z\right) \\ &= \alpha - 1 + \sum_{i=1}^k [(a-1)\alpha^{4i} + (a-1)\alpha^{4i+1}] + \alpha^{4k+2}z, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} & g_0(g_{r-1}\left(\sum_{i=1}^k [(a-1)\alpha^{4i-2} + (a-1)\alpha^{4i-1}] + \alpha^{4k}z\right)) \\ &= g_0\left(\alpha - 1 + \sum_{i=1}^k [(a-1)\alpha^{4i} + (a-1)\alpha^{4i+1}] + \alpha^{4k+2}z\right) \\ &= \alpha - 1 + (a-1)\alpha^3 + \alpha^2\left(\alpha - 1 + \sum_{i=1}^k [(a-1)\alpha^{4i} + (a-1)\alpha^{4i+1}] + \alpha^{4k+2}z\right) \\ &= (a-1)\alpha^2 + (a-1)\alpha^3 + \sum_{i=1}^k [(a-1)\alpha^{4i+2} + (a-1)\alpha^{4i+3}] + \alpha^{4(k+1)}z \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} [(a-1)\alpha^{4i-2} + (a-1)\alpha^{4i-1}] + \alpha^{4(k+1)}z. \end{aligned}$$

6)– Using induction we can prove that

$$(g_{r-1} \circ g_0)^n(z) = (a-1)\alpha^2 + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} [(a-1)\alpha^{4i+1} + (a-1)\alpha^{4i+2}] + (a-1)\alpha^{4n+1} + \alpha^{4n}z,$$

$$\text{and then } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (g_{r-1} \circ g_0)^n(z) = (a-1)\alpha^2 + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} [(a-1)\alpha^{4i+1} + (a-1)\alpha^{4i+2}] = -(a-1)\alpha - \alpha^{-1}.$$

□

**Proposition 3.5.** *Let  $t \in [0, 1]$ ,  $a \geq 3$ ,  $r = 2a - 1$ . Then there exists an unusual expansion  $(a_i)_{i \geq 1} \in \{0, 1, \dots, r-1\}^{\mathbb{N}}$ ,  $n_i, m_i \in \mathbb{N}$  such that we can write*

$$t = \frac{a_1}{r} + \sum_{\substack{i=2 \\ m_i+n_i=k}}^{\infty} \frac{a_i}{r^{n_i}(r-2)^{m_i}},$$

where the digits  $a_i$  and the numbers  $n_i, m_i$  satisfy the following properties:

- (1) if  $a_1 \in \{1, 3, 5, \dots, r-2, r-1\}$  then  $a_2 \in \{0, 1, \dots, r-1\}$ ,  $n_2 = 2$ ,  $m_2 = 0$ ;
  - (2) if  $a_1 \in \{0, 2, 4, \dots, r-3\}$  then  $a_2 \in \{0, 1, \dots, r-3\}$ ,  $n_2 = 1$ ,  $m_2 = 1$ ;
- and for  $i \geq 3$  we have:

- (3)  $a_i \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots, r-1\}$ ,  $m_i = m_{i-1}$ ,  $n_i = n_{i-1} + 1$  if one of the following conditions are satisfied
- (a)  $a_{i-1} = 0$  and  $i-1$  even;
  - (b)  $a_{i-1} = r-1$  and  $i-1$  odd;
  - (c)  $a_{i-1} = 2n-1$ ,  $n = 1, \dots, a-1$ ;
  - (d)  $a_{i-1} = r-3$ ,  $i-1$  odd,  $n_{i-1} = n_{i-2}$  and  $m_{i-1} = m_{i-2} + 1$
- (4)  $a_i \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots, r-3\}$ ,  $m_i = m_{i-1} + 1$ ,  $n_i = n_{i-1}$  if one of the following conditions are satisfied
- (a)  $a_{i-1} = 0$  and  $i-1$  odd;
  - (b)  $a_{i-1} = r-1$  and  $i-1$  even;
  - (c)  $a_{i-1} = 2n$ ,  $n = 1, \dots, a-3$  or  $a_{i-1} = r-3$ ,  $i-1$  even or odd,  $n_{i-1} = n_{i-2} + 1$  and  $m_{i-1} = m_{i-2}$ ;
  - (d)  $a_{i-1} = r-3$ ,  $i-1$  even,  $n_{i-1} = n_{i-2}$  and  $m_{i-1} = m_{i-2} + 1$

Proof. We can write

$$1 = \frac{r-1}{r} + \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{r-1}{r^{2+i}(r-2)^i} + \frac{r-3}{r^{2+i}(r-2)^{1+i}}.$$

Given  $t \in [0, 1)$ , we can prove by induction that for each  $k \geq 1$  we can write

$$t = \frac{a_1}{r} + \sum_{\substack{i=2 \\ m_i+n_i=i}}^k \frac{a_k}{r^{n_i}(r-2)^{m_i}} + c_k, \quad 0 \leq c_k < \frac{1}{r^{n_k}(r-2)^{m_k}}.$$

Indeed if  $t \in [0, 1)$ , then there exist  $a_1 \in \{0, 1, \dots, r-1\}$  such that  $rt = a_1 + t_1$ , with  $0 \leq t_1 < 1$ .

Then  $t = \frac{a_1}{r} + \frac{t_1}{r} = \frac{a_1}{r} + c_1$  with  $c_1 < \frac{1}{r}$ .

If  $a_1 \in \{1, 3, \dots, r-2, r-1\}$  then there exist  $a_2 \in \{0, 1, \dots, r-1\}$  such that  $rc_1 = \frac{a_2}{r} + t_2$ , with  $0 \leq t_2 < \frac{1}{r}$  and then

$$t = \frac{a_1}{r} + c_1 = \frac{a_1}{r} + \frac{a_2}{r^2} + \frac{t_2}{r} = \frac{a_1}{r} + \frac{a_2}{r^2} + c_2, \quad 0 < c_2 < \frac{1}{r^2}.$$

If  $a_1 \in \{0, 2, \dots, r-3\}$  then there exist  $a_2 \in \{0, 1, \dots, r-3\}$  such that  $rc_1 = \frac{a_2}{r-2} + t_2$ , with  $0 \leq t_2 < \frac{1}{r-2}$  and then

$$t = \frac{a_1}{r} + c_1 = \frac{a_1}{r} + \frac{a_2}{r(r-2)} + \frac{t_2}{r} = \frac{a_1}{r} + \frac{a_2}{r(r-2)} + c_2, \quad 0 < c_2 < \frac{1}{r(r-2)}.$$

Then the result is true for  $k = 1, 2$ . Suppose that it is true for  $2 < k$ , that is

$$t = \frac{a_1}{r} + \sum_{\substack{i=2 \\ m_i+n_i=i}}^k \frac{a_k}{r^{n_i}(r-2)^{m_i}} + c_k,$$

where  $0 \leq c_k < \frac{1}{r^{n_k}(r-2)^{m_k}}$ .

If  $a_k$  and  $k$  satisfy condition (3a) or (3b) or (3c) or (3d) then there exist  $a_{k+1} \in \{0, 1, \dots, r-1\}$  such that

$r^{n_k}(r-2)^{m_k}c_k = \frac{a_{k+1}}{r} + t_{k+1}$ ,  $0 \leq t_{k+1} < \frac{1}{r}$  and then

$$t = \frac{a_1}{r} + \sum_{\substack{i=2 \\ m_i+n_i=i}}^k \frac{a_k}{r^{n_i}(r-2)^{m_i}} + c_k = \frac{a_1}{r} + \sum_{\substack{i=2 \\ m_i+n_i=i}}^k \frac{a_k}{r^{n_i}(r-2)^{m_i}} + \frac{a_{k+1}}{r^{n_{k+1}}(r-2)^{m_k}} + c_{k+1},$$

where  $0 \leq c_{k+1} = \frac{t_{k+1}}{r^{n_k}(r-2)^{m_k}} < \frac{1}{r^{n_{k+1}}(r-2)^{m_k}}$ . Then the result is true for  $k+1$ .

If  $a_k$  and  $k$  satisfy condition (4a) or (4b) or (4c) or (4d) then there exist  $a_{k+1} \in \{0, 1, \dots, r-3\}$  such that

$r^{n_k}(r-2)^{m_k}c_k = \frac{a_{k+1}}{r-2} + t_{k+1}$ ,  $0 \leq t_{k+1} < \frac{1}{r-2}$  and then

$$t = \frac{a_1}{r} + \sum_{\substack{i=2 \\ m_i+n_i=i}}^k \frac{a_k}{r^{n_i}(r-2)^{m_i}} + c_k = \frac{a_1}{r} + \sum_{\substack{i=2 \\ m_i+n_i=i}}^k \frac{a_k}{r^{n_i}(r-2)^{m_i}} + \frac{a_{k+1}}{r^{n_k}(r-2)^{m_{k+1}}} + c_{k+1},$$

where  $0 \leq c_{k+1} = \frac{t_{k+1}}{r^{n_k}(r-2)^{m_k}} < \frac{1}{r^{n_k}(r-2)^{m_{k+1}}}$ . Then the result is true for  $k+1$ . Therefore the result is true for every  $k \geq 1$ .  $\square$

REMARK 3.6. Let  $t \in [0, 1]$  written as  $t = \frac{a_1}{r} + \sum_{\substack{i=2 \\ m_i+n_i=i}}^k \frac{a_k}{r^{n_i}(r-2)^{m_i}}$ . In order to simplify the

demonstration of some of the results in this paper, a simpler notation will be used, i.e.,  $t$  will be represented as

$$t = \frac{a_1}{r} + \sum_{\substack{i=2 \\ m_i+n_i=i}}^{\infty} \frac{a_i}{(n_i, m_i)}.$$

**Proposition 3.7.** Let  $t, t'$  be elements in  $[0, 1]$ ,  $t = \frac{a_1}{r} + \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} \frac{a_i}{(n_i, m_i)}$ ,  $t' = \frac{a'_1}{r} + \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} \frac{a'_i}{(n'_i, m'_i)}$ ,  $a_i$  and  $a'_i$  as in Proposition (3.4). Suppose that  $a_i = a'_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, k-1$  and  $a_k < a'_k$ .

If  $|t' - t| < r^{-N}$  with  $k < N$  then  $t = T_1 + T_2 + T_3$ ,  $t' = T_1 + T'_2 + T'_3$  where

$$T_1 = \frac{a_1}{r} + \sum_{\substack{i=2 \\ m_i+n_i=i}}^{k-1} \frac{a_i}{(n_i, m_i)}, \quad T_3 = \sum_{\substack{i \geq N+1 \\ m_i+n_i=i}}^{\infty} \frac{a_i}{(n_i, m_i)}, \quad T'_3 = \sum_{\substack{i \geq N+1 \\ m_i+n_i=i}}^{\infty} \frac{a'_i}{(n'_i, m'_i)} \text{ and}$$

1) if  $k$  is even and  $a_k$  satisfies items (3a) or (3b) or (3c) of Proposition 3.5 then

$$T_2 = \frac{a_k}{(n_k, m_k)} + \frac{r-1}{(n_{k+1}, m_k)} + \frac{r-1}{(n_{k+2}, m_k)} + \frac{r-3}{(n_{k+2}, m_{k+1})} + \frac{r-1}{(n_{k+3}, m_{k+1})} + \frac{r-3}{(n_{k+3}, m_{k+2})} + \dots + \frac{a_N}{(n_N, m_N)},$$

$$T'_2 = \frac{a_k+1}{(n_k, m_k)} + \frac{0}{(n'_{k+1}, m'_{k+1})} + \frac{0}{(n'_{k+2}, m'_{k+2})} + \frac{0}{(n'_{k+3}, m'_{k+3})} + \frac{0}{(n'_{k+4}, m'_{k+4})} + \frac{0}{(n'_{k+5}, m'_{k+5})} + \dots + \frac{0}{(n'_N, m'_N)},$$

Moreover we have  $t = t'$  if and only if

$$t = T_1 + \frac{a_k}{(n_k, m_k)} + \frac{r-1}{(n_{k+1}, m_k)} + \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{r-1}{(n_{k+2+i}, m_{k+i})} + \frac{(r-3)}{(n_{k+2+i}, m_{k+1+i})} \right) \text{ and}$$

$$t' = T_1 + \frac{a_k+1}{(n_k, m_k)} + \sum_{i>k+1}^{\infty} \frac{0}{(n'_i, m'_i)}.$$

2) if  $k$  is odd and  $a_k$  satisfies item (3c) of Proposition 3.5 then

$$T_2 = \frac{a_k}{(n_k, m_k)} + \frac{r-1}{(n_{k+1}, m_k)} + \frac{r-3}{(n_{k+1}, m_{k+1})} + \frac{r-1}{(n_{k+2}, m_{k+1})} + \frac{r-3}{(n_{k+2}, m_{k+2})} + \dots + \frac{a_N}{(n_N, m_N)},$$

$$T'_2 = \frac{a_k+1}{(n_k, m_k)} + \frac{0}{(n'_{k+1}, m'_{k+1})} + \frac{0}{(n'_{k+2}, m'_{k+2})} + \frac{0}{(n'_{k+3}, m'_{k+3})} + \frac{0}{(n'_{k+4}, m'_{k+4})} + \dots + \frac{0}{(n'_N, m'_N)},$$

Moreover we have  $t = t'$  if and only if

$$t = T_1 + \frac{a_k}{(n_k, m_k)} + \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{r-1}{(n_k+1+i, m_k+i)} + \frac{(r-3)}{(n_k+1+i, m_k+1+i)} \right) \text{ and}$$

$$t' = T_1 + \frac{a_k+1}{(n_k, m_k)} + \sum_{i>k+1}^{\infty} \frac{0}{(n'_i, m'_i)}.$$

3) if  $k$  is odd and  $a_k$  satisfies items (4a) or (4b) of Proposition 3.5 then

$$T_2 = \frac{a_k}{(n_k, m_k)} + \frac{r-3}{(n_k, m_k+1)} + \frac{r-3}{(n_k, m_k+2)} + \frac{r-1}{(n_k+1, m_k+2)} + \frac{r-3}{(n_k+1, m_k+3)} + \frac{r-1}{(n_k+2, m_k+3)} + \dots + \frac{a_N}{(n_N, m_N)},$$

$$T'_2 = \frac{a_k+1}{(n_k, m_k)} + \frac{0}{(n'_{k+1}, m'_{k+1})} + \frac{0}{(n'_{k+2}, m'_{k+2})} + \frac{0}{(n'_{k+3}, m'_{k+3})} + \frac{0}{(n'_{k+4}, m'_{k+4})} + \frac{0}{(n'_{k+5}, m'_{k+5})} + \dots + \frac{0}{(n'_N, m'_N)},$$

Moreover we have  $t = t'$  if and only if

$$t = T_1 + \frac{a_k}{(n_k, m_k)} + \frac{r-3}{(n_k, m_k+1)} + \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{r-3}{(n_k+i, m_k+2+i)} + \frac{(r-1)}{(n_k+1+i, m_k+2+i)} \right) \text{ and}$$

$$t' = T_1 + \frac{a_k+1}{(n_k, m_k)} + \sum_{i>k+1}^{\infty} \frac{0}{(n'_i, m'_i)}.$$

4) if  $k$  is even and  $a_k$  satisfies item (4c) of Proposition 3.5 then

$$T_2 = \frac{a_k}{(n_k, m_k)} + \frac{r-3}{(n_k, m_k+1)} + \frac{r-1}{(n_k+1, m_k+1)} + \frac{r-3}{(n_k+1, m_k+2)} + \frac{r-1}{(n_k+2, m_k+2)} + \dots + \frac{a_N}{(n_N, m_N)},$$

$$T'_2 = \frac{a_k+1}{(n_k, m_k)} + \frac{0}{(n'_{k+1}, m'_{k+1})} + \frac{0}{(n'_{k+2}, m'_{k+2})} + \frac{0}{(n'_{k+3}, m'_{k+3})} + \frac{0}{(n'_{k+4}, m'_{k+4})} + \dots + \frac{0}{(n'_N, m'_N)},$$

Moreover we have  $t = t'$  if and only if

$$t = T_1 + \frac{a_k}{(n_k, m_k)} + \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{r-3}{(n_k+i, m_k+1+i)} + \frac{(r-1)}{(n_k+1+i, m_k+1+i)} \right) \text{ and}$$

$$t' = T_1 + \frac{a_k+1}{(n_k, m_k)} + \sum_{i>k+1}^{\infty} \frac{0}{(n'_i, m'_i)}.$$

Proof. Take  $t, t' \in [0, 1]$  such that  $|t' - t| < r^{-N}$ ,  $t = \frac{a_1}{r} + \sum_{\substack{k=2 \\ m_k+n_k=k}}^{\infty} \frac{a_k}{(n_k, m_k)}$ ,  $t' = \frac{a'_1}{r} +$

$\sum_{\substack{k=2 \\ m'_k+n'_k=k}}^{\infty} \frac{a'_k}{(n'_k, m'_k)}$ ,  $a_i = a'_i$ ,  $\forall i = 1, 2, \dots, k-1$  and  $a_k < a'_k$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} t' - t &= \frac{(a'_k - a_k)}{(n_k, m_k)} + \sum_{i>k}^{\infty} \left[ \frac{a'_i}{(n'_i, m'_i)} - \frac{a_i}{(n_i, m_i)} \right] \\ &= \frac{(a'_k - a_k - 1)}{(n_k, m_k)} + \frac{1}{(n_k, m_k)} + \sum_{i>k}^{\infty} \left[ \frac{a'_i}{(n'_i, m'_i)} - \frac{a_i}{(n_i, m_i)} \right], \end{aligned}$$

and since  $m_k + n_k = k$ ,  $|t' - t| < r^{-N}$  then  $a'_k - a_k - 1 = 0$ , that is,  $a'_k = a_k + 1$ .

(1) Let  $k$  be an even number and  $a_k = 0$  or  $2n - 1$ ,  $n = 1, \dots, a - 1$ . Then  $a_{k+1} \in \{0, 1, \dots, r - 1\}$  and we can write

$$\frac{1}{(n_k, m_k)} = \frac{r-1}{(n_k+1, m_k)} + \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{r-1}{(n_k+2+i, m_k+i)} + \frac{(r-3)}{(n_k+2+i, m_k+1+i)} \right).$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} t' - t &= \frac{a'_{k+1}}{(n'_{k+1}, m'_{k+1})} - \frac{a_{k+1}}{(n_k+1, m_k)} + \frac{(r-1)}{(n_k+1, m_k)} + \dots \\ &= \frac{a'_{k+1}}{(n'_{k+1}, m'_{k+1})} + \frac{r-1-a_{k+1}}{(n_k+1, m_k)} + \dots, \end{aligned}$$

where  $m'_{k+1} + n'_{k+1} = m_k + n_k + 1 = k + 1$ . As  $|t' - t| < r^{-N} < (r - 2)^{-m} r^{-n}$ ,  $m + n = N \geq k + 1$  then  $\frac{a'_{k+1}}{(n'_{k+1}, m'_{k+1})} + \frac{r-1-a_{k+1}}{(n_{k+1}, m_k)} = 0$  and it is possible only with  $a'_{k+1} = 0$  and  $a_{k+1} = r - 1$ .

As  $a_{k+1} = r - 1$  and  $k + 1$  is an odd number, then  $a_{k+2} \in \{0, 1, \dots, r - 1\}$  and we have

$$\begin{aligned} t' - t &= \frac{a'_{k+2}}{(n'_{k+2}, m'_{k+2})} - \frac{a_{k+2}}{(n_k + 2, m_k)} + \frac{r - 1}{(n_k + 2, m_k)} + \dots \\ &= \frac{a'_{k+2}}{(n'_{k+2}, m'_{k+2})} + \frac{r - 1 - a_{k+2}}{(n_k + 2, m_k)} + \dots \end{aligned}$$

with  $m'_{k+2} + n'_{k+2} = m_k + n_k + 2 = k + 2$ . Again we have  $a'_{k+2} = 0$  and  $a_{k+2} = r - 1$ . Now  $a_{k+2} = r - 1$  and  $k + 2$  is an even number. Then  $a_{k+3} \in \{0, 1, \dots, (r - 3)\}$  and

$$\begin{aligned} t' - t &= \frac{a'_{k+3}}{(n'_{k+3}, m'_{k+3})} - \frac{a_{k+3}}{(n_k + 2, m_k + 1)} + \frac{(r - 3)}{(n_k + 2, m_k + 1)} + \dots \\ &= \frac{a'_{k+3}}{(n'_{k+3}, m'_{k+3})} + \frac{(r - 3) - a_{k+3}}{(n_k + 2, m_k + 1)} + \dots \end{aligned}$$

with  $m'_{k+3} + n'_{k+3} = m_k + n_k + 3 = k + 3$ . Therefore  $a'_{k+3} = 0$  and  $a_{k+3} = (r - 3)$ . Following this idea we have the result.

(2) To prove this part we use the same ideas of (1) and the equality

$$\frac{1}{(n_k, m_k)} = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{(r - 1)}{(n_k + 1 + i, m_k + i)} + \frac{(r - 3)}{(n_k + 1 + i, m_k + 1 + i)} \right).$$

(3) To prove this part we use the same ideas of (1) and the equality

$$\frac{1}{(n_k, m_k)} = \frac{(r - 3)}{(n_k, m_k + 1)} + \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{(r - 3)}{(n_k + i, m_k + 2 + i)} + \frac{r - 1}{(n_k + 1 + i, m_k + 2 + i)} \right).$$

(4) To prove this part we use the same ideas of (1) and the equality

$$\frac{1}{(n_k, m_k)} = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{(r - 3)}{(n_k + i, m_k + 1 + i)} + \frac{r - 1}{(n_k + 1 + i, m_k + 1 + i)} \right).$$

□

Now we will give an explicit parametrization of  $\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}$  and hence for the boundary  $\partial\mathcal{R}_\alpha$ . Let  $z$  be an element of  $\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}$ . Using Proposition 3.2, there exists a sequence  $(z_n)_{n \geq 1}$  in  $\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}$ , such that

$$z = g_{a_1} \circ g_{a_2} \circ \dots \circ g_{a_n}(z_n), \forall n \geq 1.$$

If  $x$  is an element of  $\mathcal{B}'_{\alpha-1}$ , the sequence  $y_n = g_{a_1} \circ g_{a_2} \circ \dots \circ g_{a_n}(x)$  converges to  $z$  because the functions  $g_i, i = 0, 1, \dots, r - 1$  are contractions.

Let  $A = \{0, 1, \dots, r - 1\}$  be a subset of  $\mathbb{N}$  and consider the function

$$\begin{aligned} \psi : A^{\mathbb{N}} &\longrightarrow A^{\mathbb{N}} \\ (a_i) &\longmapsto \psi((a_i)) = (b_i) \end{aligned}$$



given by:

$$b_1 = a_1;$$

$$b_{2k} = r - 1 - a_{2k};$$

$$b_{2k+1} = a_{2k+1} \text{ if } a_{2k} \in \{0\} \cup \{2n - 1 : n = 1, \dots, a - 1\};$$

$$b_{2k+1} = a_{2k+1} + 2 \text{ if } a_{2k} \in \{2n : n = 1, \dots, a - 1\}.$$

Take  $x_0 \in \mathcal{B}'_{\alpha-1}$  and consider  $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}$  defined as follows:

$$\text{if } t = \frac{a_1}{r} + \sum_{\substack{k=2 \\ m_k+n_k=k}}^{\infty} \frac{a_k}{r^{n_k}(r-2)^{m_k}}, (a_i) \in A^{\mathbb{N}}, \text{ then } f(t) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} g_{b_1} \circ g_{b_2} \circ \dots \circ g_{b_n}(x_0) \text{ where } \psi((a_i)) = (b_i).$$

**Theorem 3.8.**  $f$  is a continuous, bijective function satisfying  $f(0) = u = -1$  and  $f(1) = v$ .

Proof. (1)–  $f$  is a well defined function.

We are going to use the following notation:

$$g_{b_1} \circ g_{b_2} \circ \dots \circ g_{b_{k-1}} \circ g_{b_k}(x_0) = g_{b_1 \dots b_k}(x_0).$$

According Lemma 3.4 we have

$$\begin{aligned} u &= -1 = g_{0(r-1)0(r-1)\dots}(x_0) = g_{\overline{0(r-1)}}(x_0). \\ v &= -(a-1)\alpha - \alpha^{-1} = g_{(r-1)0(r-1)0\dots}(x_0) = g_{\overline{(r-1)0}}(x_0). \\ w &= -1 - \alpha^3 = g_{2(r-1)0(r-1)0\dots}(x_0) = g_{\overline{2(r-1)0}}(x_0). \end{aligned}$$

Taking  $t, t' \in [0, 1]$  such that  $t = t'$ . We have to prove that  $f(t) = f(t')$  and for this we use Proposition 3.7 and the definition of  $\psi$ . We have to consider some cases.

-  $k$  be an even number and  $a_k = 0$  or  $2n - 1$ ,  $n = 1, \dots, a - 1$ .

Then  $a_k + 1 = 1$  or  $2n$  and by Proposition 3.7 we have

$$t = \frac{a_1}{r} + \dots + \frac{a_{k-1}}{(n_{k-1}, m_{k-1})} + \frac{a_k}{(n_k, m_k)} + \frac{r-1}{(n_k+1, m_k)} + \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{r-1}{(n_k+2+i, m_k+i)} + \frac{r-3}{(n_k+2+i, m_k+1+i)} \right)$$

and

$$t' = \frac{a_1}{r} + \dots + \frac{a_{k-1}}{(n_{k-1}, m_{k-1})} + \frac{a_k+1}{(n_k, m_k)} + \sum_{i=k+1}^{\infty} \frac{0}{(n'_i, m'_i)}. \text{ Using the definition of } \psi \text{ we have}$$

$$f(t) = g_{b_1 \dots b_{k-1}(r-1)\overline{(r-1)0}}(x_0) = g_{b_1 \dots b_{k-1}(r-1)}(v),$$

$$f(t') = g_{b_1 \dots b_{k-1}(r-2)\overline{0(r-1)}}(x_0) = g_{b_1 \dots b_{k-1}(r-2)}(u),$$

if  $a_k = 0$  or

$$f(t) = g_{b_1 \dots b_{k-1}(r-2n)\overline{(r-1)0}}(x_0) = g_{b_1 \dots b_{k-1}(r-2n)}(v)$$

$$f(t') = g_{b_1 \dots b_{k-1}(r-2n-1)\overline{2(r-1)0}}(x_0) = g_{b_1 \dots b_{k-1}(r-2n)}(w) \text{ if } a_k = 2n - 1, n = 1, \dots, a - 1.$$

By Lemma 3.4  $f(t) = f(t')$ .

Using the same ideas we can prove the following cases (see [10]).

-  $k$  be an odd number and  $a_k = 2n - 1$ ,  $n = 1, \dots, a - 1$ ,

-  $k$  be an odd number and  $a_k = 0$  or  $2n$ ,  $n = 1, \dots, a - 2$ ,

-  $k$  be an even number and  $a_k = 2n$ ,  $n = 1, \dots, a - 2$ .

(2)–  $f$  is injective.

Suppose that  $f(t) = f(t')$ . According to Lemma 3.4 we have two possibilities:

$$- f(t) = g_{b_1 \dots b_{k-1}b_k}(u), b_k \in \{1, 3, 5, \dots, r - 2\} \text{ and } f(t') = g_{b_1 \dots b_{k-1}(b_k+1)}(v).$$

Using the above notations we have

$$f(t) = g_{b_1 \dots b_{k-1}b_k\overline{0(r-1)}}(x_0) \text{ and } f(t') = g_{b_1 \dots b_{k-1}(b_k+1)\overline{(r-1)0}}(x_0). \text{ We need to consider the following cases:}$$

- $k$  is an even number,  $b_k \neq r-2$ . In this case  $b_k = r-1-a_k$  and then  $a_k = r-1-b_k$  is an odd number. By the definition of  $\psi$  we have:

- $a_{k+1} = 0$  because  $b_{k+1} = 0$ ,  $a_k$  odd number,
- $a_{k+2} = 0$  because  $b_{k+2} = r-1$ ,  $k+2$  even number.

Following this idea is easy to see that  $a_i = 0$ ,  $\forall i \geq k+1$ .

Therefore  $t = \frac{a_1}{r} + \dots + \frac{a_{k-1}}{(n_{k-1}, m_{k-1})} + \frac{r-1-b_k}{(n_k, m_k)} + \sum_{i=k+1}^{\infty} \frac{0}{(n_i, m_i)}$ .

We also have  $b'_k = b_k + 1 = r-1-a'_k$  and then  $a'_k = r-2-b_k \neq 0$  is an even number. By the definition of  $\psi$  and Proposition 3.5 we have:

- $a'_{k+1} = r-3$ ,  $n'_{k+1} = n'_k$ ,  $m'_{k+1} = m'_k + 1$  because  $b'_{k+1} = r-1$ ,  $a'_k$  even,
- $a'_{k+2} = r-1$  because  $b'_{k+2} = 0$ ,  $k+2$  even,
- $a_{k+3} = r-3$ ,  $n'_{k+3} = n'_{k+2}$ ,  $m'_{k+3} = m'_{k+2} + 1$ .

Following this idea we have

$$t' = \frac{a_1}{r} + \dots + \frac{a_{k-1}}{(n_{k-1}, m_{k-1})} + \frac{r-2-b_k}{(n_k, m_k)} + \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{r-3}{(n'_k+i, m'_k+1+i)} + \frac{r-1}{(n'_k+1+i, m'_k+1+i)} \right) \text{ and then } t = t'.$$

Using the same ideas we can prove the following cases (see [10]).

- $k$  is an even number,  $b_k = r-2$ ,
- $k$  is an odd number.

-  $f(t) = g_{b_1 \dots b_{k-1} b_k}(-1 - \alpha^3)$ ,  $b_k \in \{0, 2, \dots, r-3\}$  and  $f(t') = g_{b_1 \dots b_{k-1} (b_k+1)}(v)$ . Using the above notations we have  $f(t) = g_{b_1 \dots b_{k-1} b_k \overline{(r-1)0}}(x_0)$  and  $f(t') = g_{b_1 \dots b_{k-1} (b_k+1) \overline{(r-1)0}}(x_0)$ .

We have to consider the following cases:

- $k$  is an even number. In this case  $b_k = r-1-a_k$  and  $a_k = r-1-b_k$  is an even number too and we can prove that

$$t = \frac{a_1}{r} + \dots + \frac{a_{k-1}}{(n_{k-1}, m_{k-1})} + \frac{r-1-b_k}{(n_k, m_k)} + \sum_{i=k+1}^{\infty} \frac{0}{(n_i, m_i)}$$

and

$$t' = \frac{a_1}{r} + \dots + \frac{a_{k-1}}{(n_{k-1}, m_{k-1})} + \frac{r-2-b_k}{(n_k, m_k)} + \frac{r-1}{(n'_k+1, m'_k)} + \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{r-1}{(n'_k+2+i, m'_k+i)} + \frac{r-3}{(n'_k+2+i, m'_k+1+i)} \right).$$

Then  $t = t'$ .

- $k$  is an odd number. In this case  $b_k = a_k$  or  $b_k = a_k + 2$  and then  $a_k = b_k$  or  $a_k = b_k - 2$ . We can prove that

$$t = \frac{a_1}{r} + \dots + \frac{a_{k-1}}{(n_{k-1}, m_{k-1})} + \frac{a_k}{(n_k, m_k)} + \frac{r-3}{(n_k, m_k+1)} + \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{r-3}{(n_k+i, m_k+2+i)} + \frac{r-1}{(n_k+1+i, m_k+2+i)} \right)$$

and

$$t' = \frac{a_1}{r} + \dots + \frac{a_{k-1}}{(n_{k-1}, m_{k-1})} + \frac{a_k+1}{(n_k, m_k)} + \sum_{i=k+1}^{\infty} \frac{0}{(n'_i, m'_i)}.$$

Then  $t = t'$ .

(3)-  $f$  is a continuous function.

Let us consider  $t, t' \in [0, 1]$ ,  $|t' - t| < r^{-N}$  as in Proposition 3.7. We have to consider the following cases:

- $t$  and  $t'$  satisfying (1) of Proposition 3.7.

Here we have:

- (1)  $f(t) = g_{b_1 \dots b_{k-1} (r-1) (r-1) 0 (r-1) 0 \dots b_{N+1} \dots}(x_0)$  and  $f(t') = g_{b_1 \dots b_{k-1} (r-2) 0 (r-1) 0 (r-1) \dots b'_{N+1} \dots}(x_0)$  if  $a_k = 0$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} |f(t) - f(t')| &= |g_{b_1 b_2 \dots b_{k-1} r-1}(z_1) - g_{b_1 b_2 \dots b_{k-1} r-2}(z_2)| \\ &\leq |\alpha|^{2(k-1)} |g_{r-1}(z_1) - g_{r-2}(z_2)|. \end{aligned}$$

As  $g_{r-2}(u) = g_{r-1}(v)$  then

$$\begin{aligned} |f(t) - f(t')| &\leq |\alpha|^{2(k-1)} (|g_{r-1}(z_1) - g_{r-1}(v)| + |g_{r-2}(z_2) - g_{r-2}(u)|) \\ &\leq |\alpha|^{2(k-1)} (|\alpha|^2 + |\alpha|^3) \text{diam}(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}) = |\alpha|^{2k} (1 + |\alpha|) \text{diam}(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\text{diam}(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1})$  is the diameter of  $\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}$ .

- (2)  $f(t) = g_{b_1 \dots b_{k-1}(r-2n)(r-1)0(r-1)0 \dots b_{N+1} \dots}(x_0)$  and  
 $f(t') = g_{b_1 \dots b_{k-1}(r-2n-1)2(r-1)0(r-1)0 \dots b'_{N+1} \dots}(x_0)$  if  $a_k = 2n - 1$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} |f(t) - f(t')| &= |g_{b_1 b_2 \dots b_{k-1}(r-2n)}(z_1) - g_{b_1 b_2 \dots b_{k-1}(r-2n-1)}(z_2)| \\ &\leq |\alpha|^{2(k-1)} |g_{r-2n}(z_1) - g_{r-2n-1}(z_2)|. \end{aligned}$$

As  $g_{r-2n-1}(w) = g_{r-2n}(v)$  then

$$\begin{aligned} |f(t) - f(t')| &\leq |\alpha|^{2(k-1)} (|g_{r-2n}(z_1) - g_{r-2n}(v)| + |g_{r-2n-1}(z_2) - g_{r-2n-1}(w)|) \\ &\leq |\alpha|^{2(k-1)} (|\alpha|^2 + |\alpha|^3) \text{diam}(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}) = |\alpha|^{2k} (1 + |\alpha|) \text{diam}(\mathcal{B}_{\alpha-1}). \end{aligned}$$

Using the same ideas we can prove the next cases (see [10]).

- $t$  and  $t'$  satisfying item (2) of Proposition 3.7.
- $t$  and  $t'$  satisfying item (3) of Proposition 3.7.
- $t$  and  $t'$  satisfying item (4) of Proposition 3.7.

In all that cases we conclude that  $f$  is a continuous function. □

Now we can finally prove Theorem 1.4.

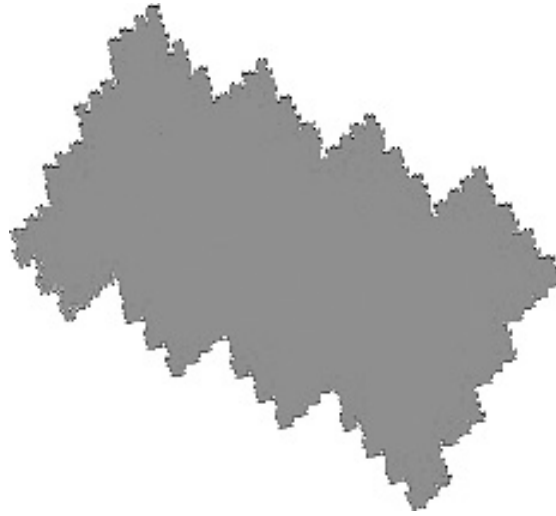
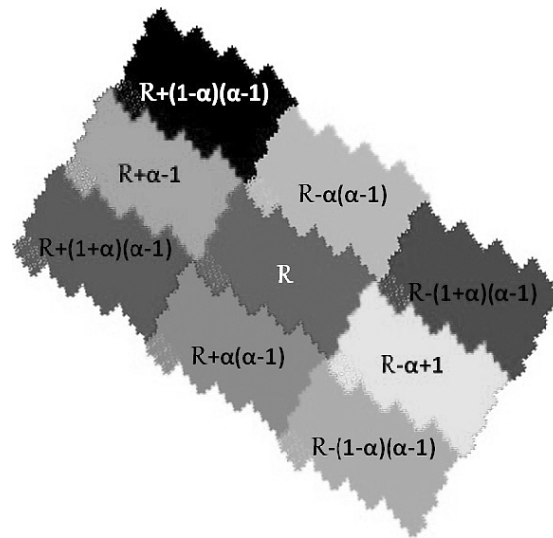
Proof. Let  $\mathcal{Q} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$  be the set

$$\mathcal{Q} = \{(0, y), 0 \leq y \leq 1\} \cup \{(x, 1), 0 \leq x \leq 1\} \cup \{(1, y), 0 \leq y \leq 1\} \cup \{(x, 0), 0 \leq x \leq 1\}.$$

Using Proposition 3.1, Theorem 3.8 and Figure 4 we can prove that  $F : \mathcal{Q} \rightarrow \partial \mathcal{R}_a$  given by

$$F(x, y) = \begin{cases} f(y), & \text{if } (x, y) = (0, y), 0 \leq y \leq 1 \\ (f_2 \circ f)(x), & \text{if } (x, y) = (x, 1), 0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ (f_3 \circ f)(y), & \text{if } (x, y) = (1, y), 0 \leq y \leq 1 \\ (f_1 \circ f)(x), & \text{if } (x, y) = (x, 0), 0 \leq x \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

is an homeomorphism. □

Fig.5.  $\mathcal{R}_4$ Fig.6. Tiling induced by  $\mathcal{R}_4$ 


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