

# Tuning and plateaux for the entropy of $\alpha$ -continued fraction transformations

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# Credits

Joint work with C. Carminati (Pisa)

# Summary

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6. Local monotonicity of the entropy



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INFINITE EXPANSION

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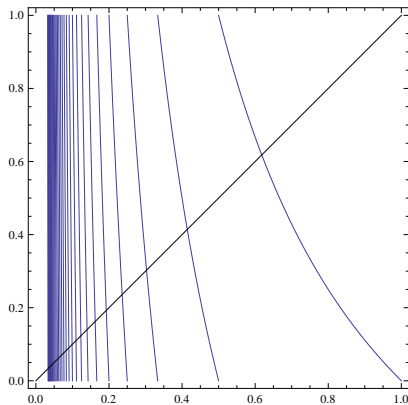
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# Nakada's $\alpha$ -continued fraction transformations

For each  $\alpha \in [0, 1]$ , we can define a  $\alpha$ -euclidean algorithm, where we take the remainder to be in  $[\alpha - 1, \alpha]$ .

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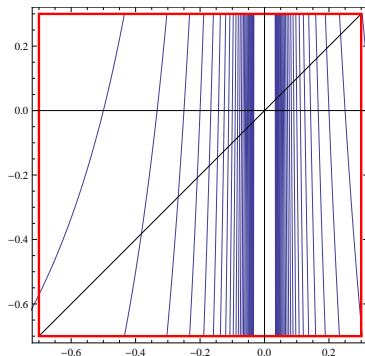
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and associated to the  $\alpha$ -continued fraction expansion:

$$x = \frac{\epsilon_{1,\alpha}}{c_{1,\alpha} + \frac{\epsilon_{2,\alpha}}{c_{2,\alpha} + \dots}} \quad c_{n,\alpha} \in \mathbb{N}^+, \epsilon_{n,\alpha} \in \{\pm 1\}$$

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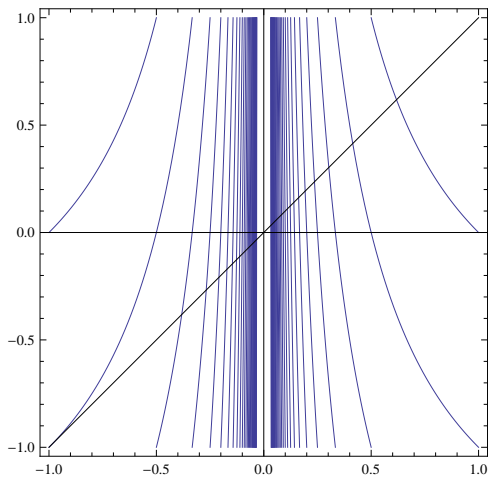
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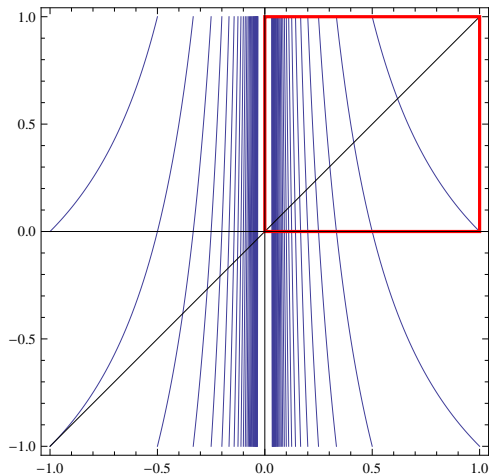
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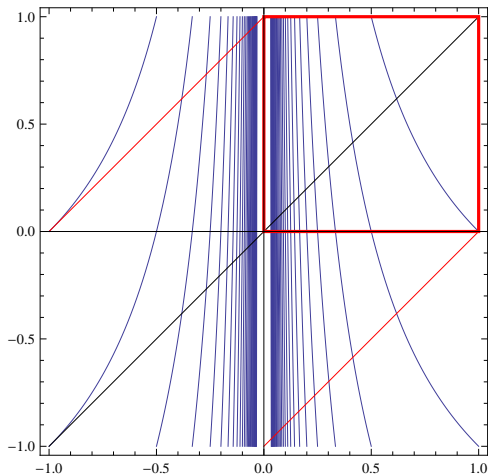




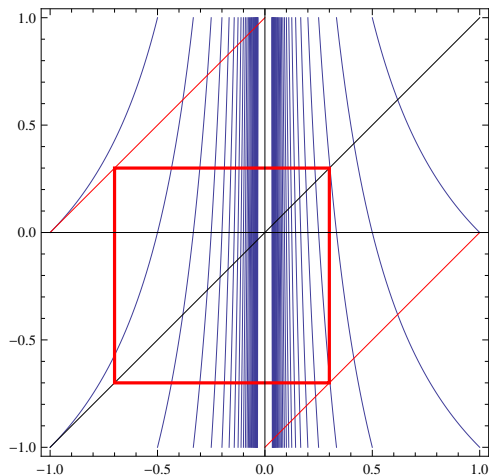
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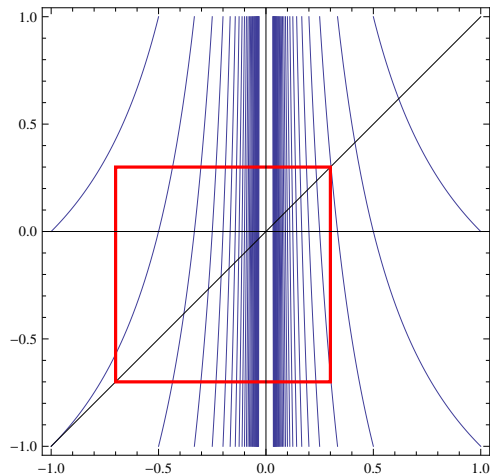
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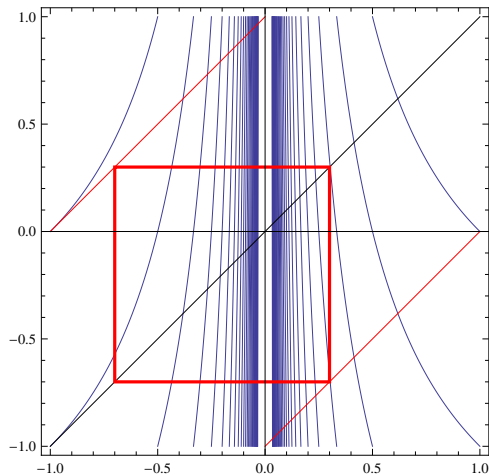
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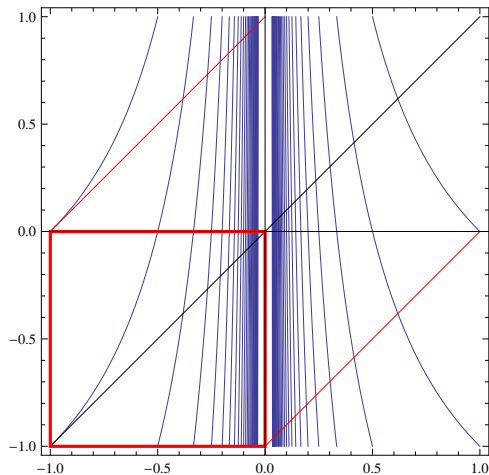
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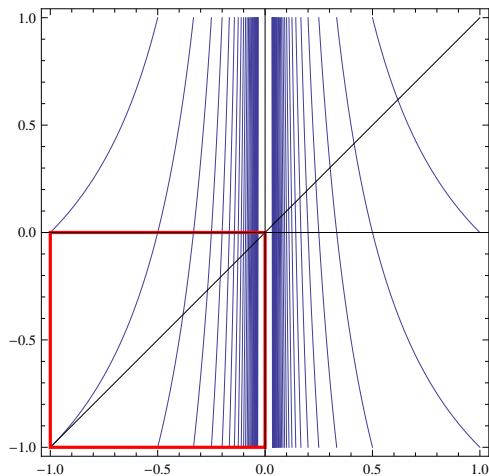
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The average number of steps over all rationals of denominator less than  $N$  is

$$P_N(\alpha) \cong \frac{2}{h(\alpha)} \log N$$

[Bourdon-Daireaux-Vallée]

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It measures:

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- ▶ the **growth rate** of the denominators : For almost every  $x \in [0, 1]$

$$h(\alpha) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{2}{n} \log q_{n,\alpha}(x)$$

where  $p_{n,\alpha}(x)/q_{n,\alpha}(x)$  is the  $n$ -th convergent of the  $\alpha$ -expansion of  $x$

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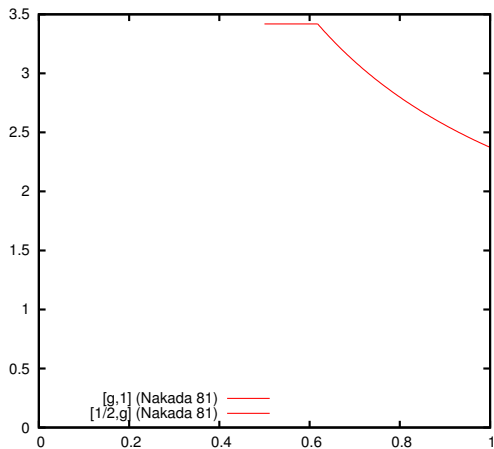
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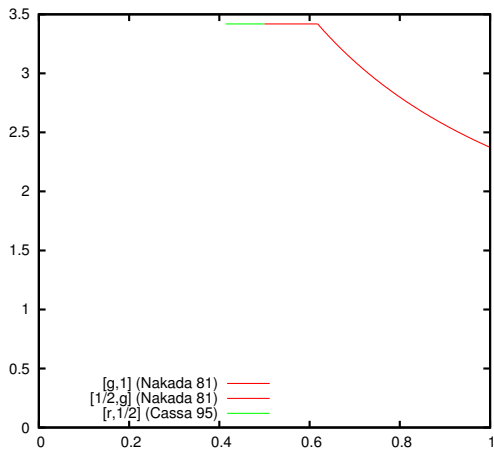
- ▶ the **speed of convergence** of the  $\alpha$ -euclidean algorithm
- ▶ the **growth rate** of the denominators
- ▶ how **chaotic** the map  $T_\alpha$  is



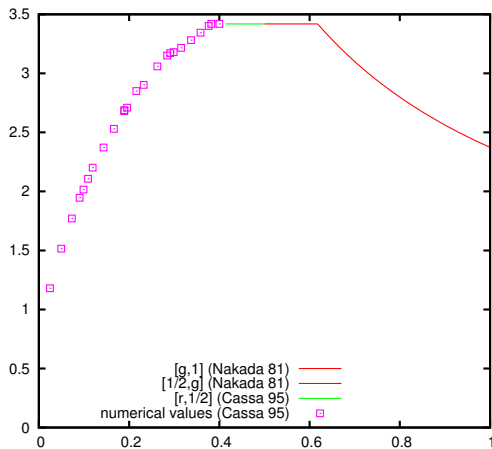
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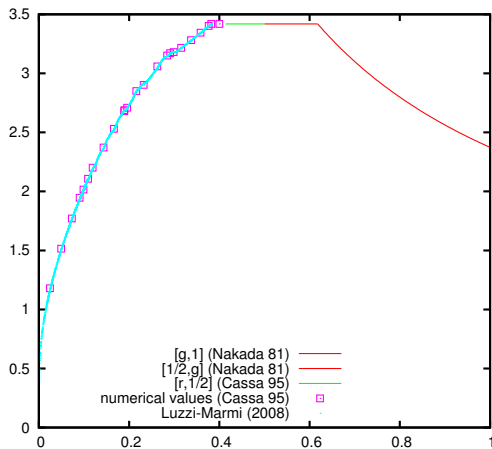
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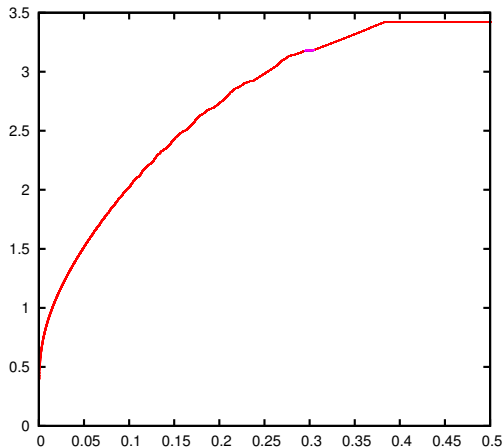
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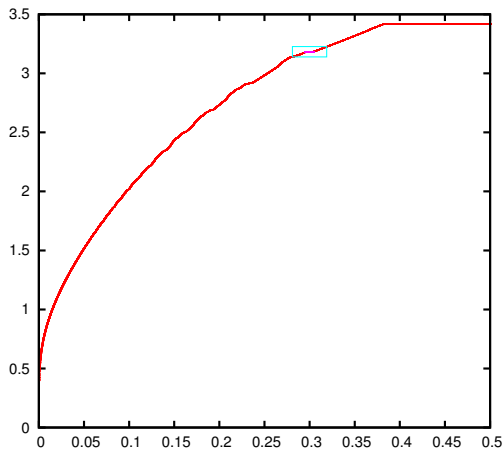


## Zooming in

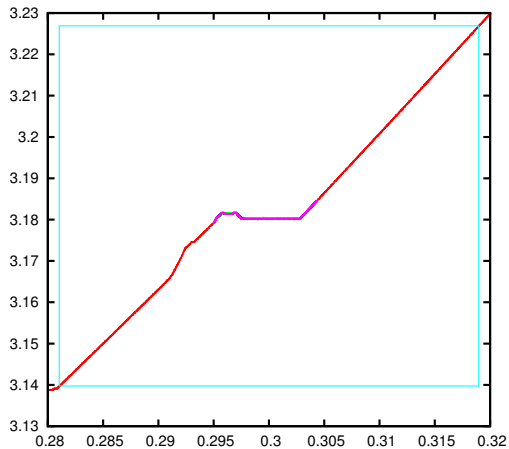


Is entropy monotone increasing for  $\alpha < \frac{1}{2}$ ?

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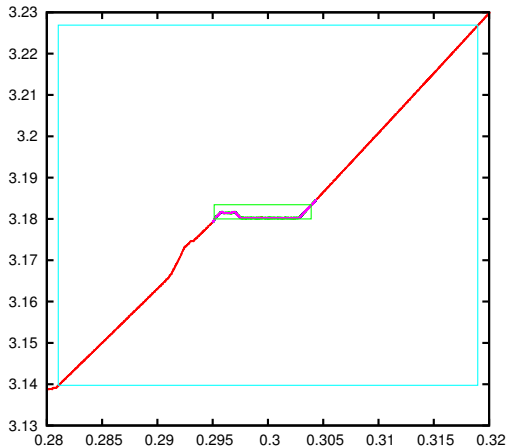


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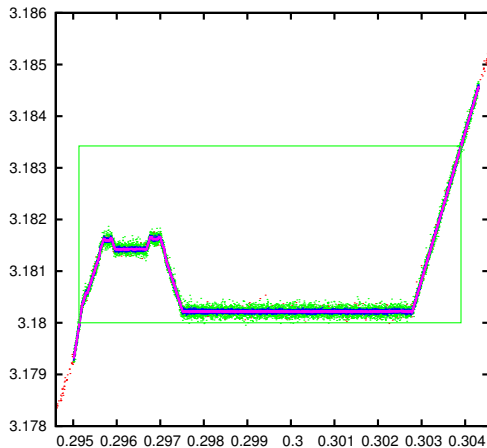
No, it is not monotone!

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It seems like entropy displays a fractal structure

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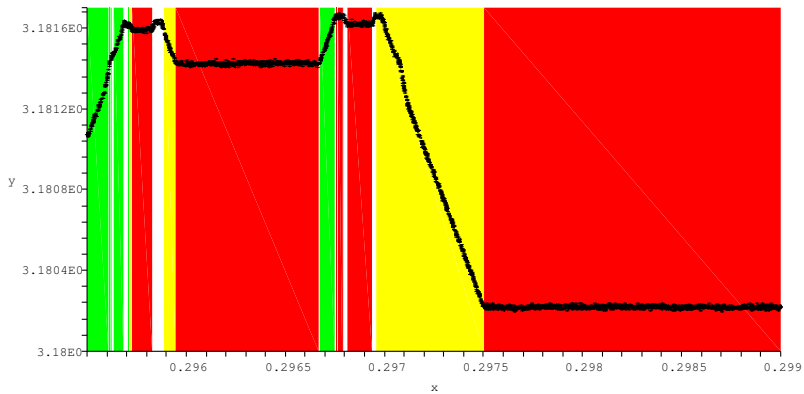
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How to describe and explain the **fractal structure**?



# Matching, a dynamical source of monotonicity

Nakada and Natsui defined *matching intervals* as intervals on which the orbits of the two endpoints collide:

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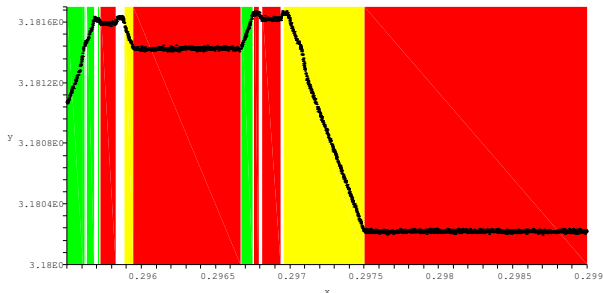
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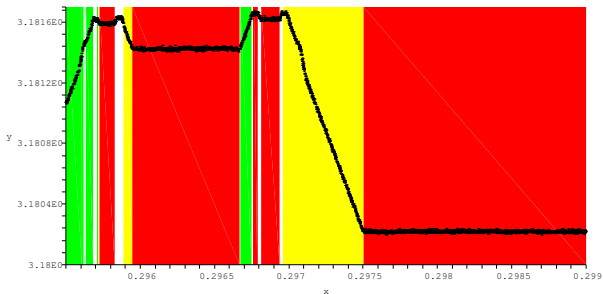
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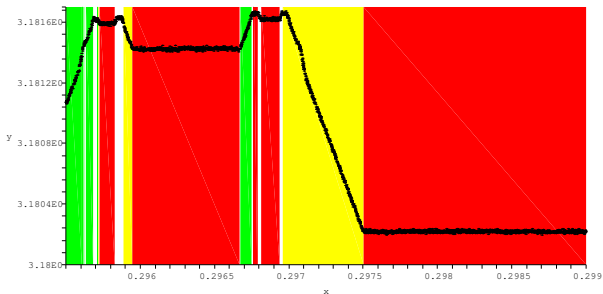
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## Conjecture

*The union of all matching intervals is dense and has full measure in parameter space.*

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So any  $a \in \mathbb{Q} \cap (0, 1)$  will have two C.F. expansions of the type

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Using such strings we can construct the two quadratic irrationals

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## Quadratic intervals

FACT: Every rational value admits exactly two C.F. expansions.

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# Quadratic intervals are matching intervals

## Theorem (Carminati-T., 2010)

*Let  $I_r$  be a maximal quadratic interval, and  $r = [0; a_1, \dots, a_n]$  with  $n$  even. Let*

$$N = \sum_{i \text{ even}} a_i \quad M = \sum_{i \text{ odd}} a_i \quad (1)$$

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## Corollary

*The union of all matching intervals is dense of full measure.*

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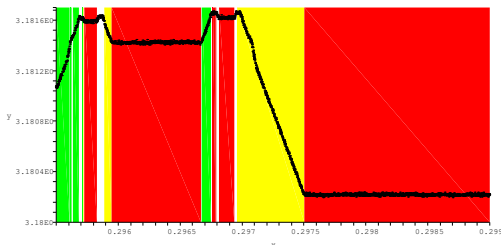
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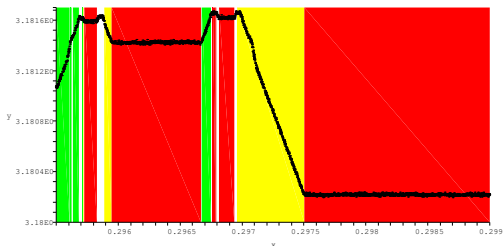
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How about the fractal structure?

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**Idea:**  $\tau_r$  maps the large scale structure to a smaller scale structure, thus creating the fractal self-similarity.

# Results: self-similarity of parameter space

## Theorem

If  $h$  is increasing on a maximal interval  $I_r$ , then the monotonicity of  $h$  on the tuning window  $W_r$  reproduces the behaviour on the interval  $[0, 1]$ , but with reversed sign.

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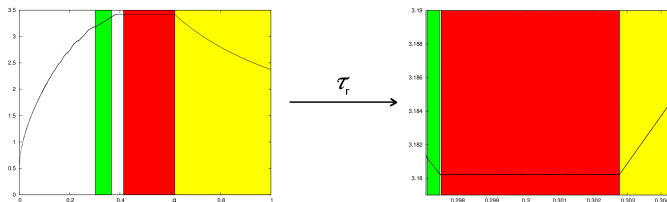
1.  $h$  is increasing on  $I_{\tau_r(p)}$  iff it is decreasing on  $I_p$ ;
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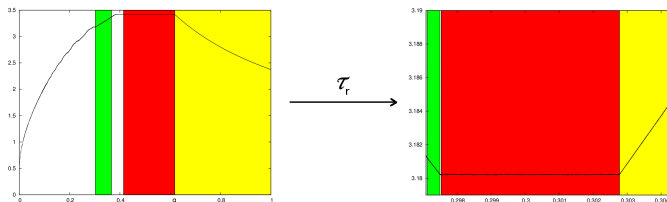
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If, instead,  $h$  is decreasing on  $I_r$ , then the monotonicity of  $I_p$  and  $I_{\tau_r(p)}$  is the same.



# Results: plateaux

A **plateau** of a real-valued function is a maximal open interval on which the function is constant.

**Theorem (Kraaikamp-Schmidt-Steiner)**

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*Every plateau of  $h$  is the interior of a neutral tuning window  $W_r$ .*

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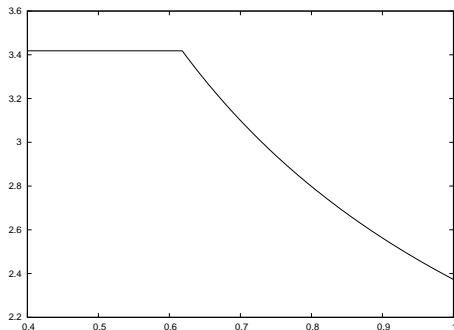
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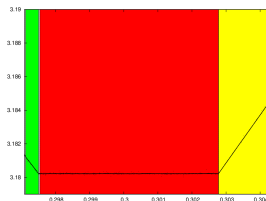
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  - (iii) otherwise,  $h$  has **mixed monotonic behaviour** at  $\alpha$ , i.e. in every neighbourhood of  $\alpha$  there are infinitely many intervals on which  $h$  is increasing, infinitely many on which it is decreasing and infinitely many on which it is constant.



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- ▶ 2.(iii) for a set of parameters of **Hausdorff dimension 1**!
- ▶ there is an explicit algorithm to decide which case occurs, given the usual continued fraction expansion of  $\alpha$ .

# The end

Thank you!

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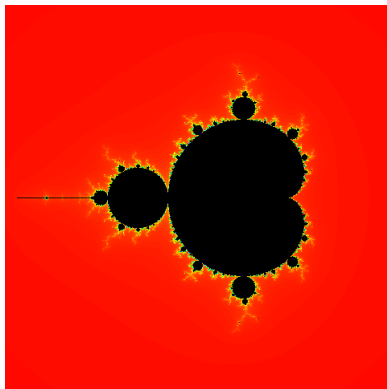
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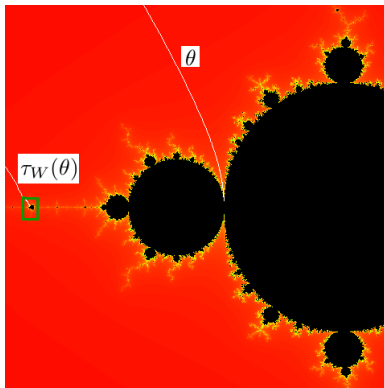
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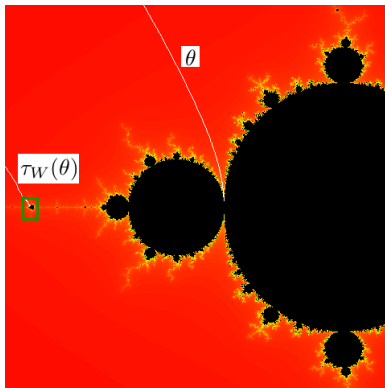
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The Mandelbrot set has a self-similar structure. More precisely, there are baby copies of  $\mathcal{M}$  everywhere near its boundary.



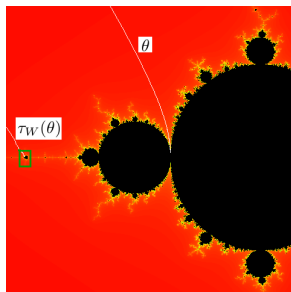
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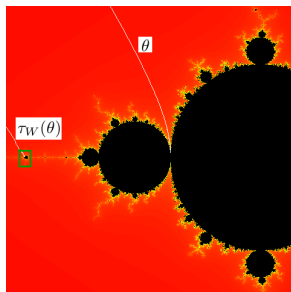
Baby copies are images of  $\mathcal{M}$  via the [Douady-Hubbard tuning](#) maps  $\tau_W$ .

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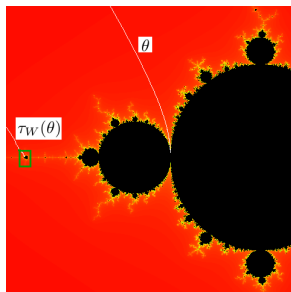
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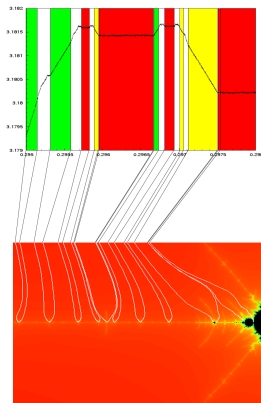


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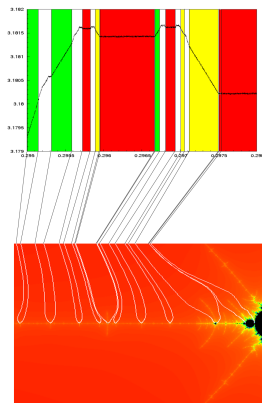
E.g.: **Feigenbaum** parameter  $\Leftrightarrow$  **Thue-Morse** sequence!

# Dictionary



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# The end

Thank you!