## Exponential growth of norms in semigroups of linear automorphisms and Hausdorff dimension of self-projective iterated function systems

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## The Levitt-Yoccoz gasket



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## The Semigroup $C$

The self-projective automorphisms $\psi_{1}, \psi_{2}, \psi_{3}$ are induced, $\mathrm{w} /$ resp to the frame $\left\{e_{1}, e_{2}, e_{3}\right\}$, by the linear maps

$$
C=\left\langle\left(\begin{array}{ccc}
C_{1} & C_{2} & C_{3} \\
1 & 0 & 0 \\
1 & 1 & 0 \\
1 & 0 & 1
\end{array}\right),\left(\begin{array}{lll}
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Note that $\sigma\left(C_{i}\right)=\{1\}$,
so $\left\|C_{i}^{k}\right\|$ grows polynomially

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\text { e.g. } C_{1}^{k}=\left(\begin{array}{lll}
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While, for $i \neq j, \max _{\lambda \in \sigma\left(C_{i} C_{j}\right)}|\lambda|>1$, so $\left\|C_{i} C_{j}\right\|^{k}$ grows exponentially

$$
\text { e.g. } C_{1} C_{2}=\left(\begin{array}{lll}
1 & 1 & 0 \\
1 & 2 & 0 \\
1 & 2 & 1
\end{array}\right)
$$

## Norm Asymptotics in $C$ - lexicographic order

Log-log plot of norms of elements of $C$ in lexicographic order:


## Norm Asymptotics in $C$ - non-decreasing order

Log-log plot of norms of elements of $C$ in non-decreasing order:


## Radii Asymptotics in the Apollonian Gasket $\boldsymbol{A}$

This behaviour is not uncommon, for example it is shared by the celebrated Apollonian gasket $A$ :


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## The Semigroup $H$

The radii ${ }^{-1}$ of circles in $A$ grow like the norms of the Hirst matrices

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\boldsymbol{H}=\left\langle\left(\begin{array}{llll}
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0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
1 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\
1 & 1 & 0 & 1
\end{array}\right),\left(\begin{array}{llll}
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${ }^{1}$ e.g. see D. Boyd, The sequence of radii of the Apollonian packing, Mathematics of Computation 29, 1982
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$\boldsymbol{H}=\left\langle\left(\begin{array}{llll}1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1\end{array}\right),\left(\begin{array}{llll}1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1\end{array}\right),\left(\begin{array}{llll}0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1\end{array}\right)\right\rangle \subset S L_{4}(\mathbb{N})$
In a series of papers in 70 s D. Boyd ${ }^{1}$ proved (geometrically) that

$$
\lim _{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log N_{\boldsymbol{H}}(r)}{\log r}=d<\infty \text { and } d=\operatorname{dim}_{H} A
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In 2011 Kontorovich \& $\mathrm{Oh}^{2}$ proved (again geometrically) the stronger result $N_{\boldsymbol{H}}(r) \asymp r^{d}$.

[^1] hyperbolic 3-manifolds, J. of AMS 24, 2011

## Natural Questions

- Do really the norms in $C$ grow exponentially as suggested by the numerics? Namely, does $\lim _{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log N_{C}(r)}{\log r}$ really converges to some $s_{C} \in \mathbb{R}^{+}$?


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- If so, is there any simple/natural condition that grants that $\lim _{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log N_{S}(r)}{\log r}$ converges to some $s_{S} \in \mathbb{R}^{+}$for semigroups $S$ of real or complex matrices (and that is satisfied by $C$ )?


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- If so, is there any way to evaluate analytical bounds on $s_{S}$ ?
- Is this asymptotic behaviour somehow related to the Hausdorff dimension of the attractor of the real/complex self-projective IFS induced by $S$ ?
- Is it true in general that $N_{S}(r) \asymp r^{s_{s}}$ ?


## Main Results

## Definition

A finitely generated semigroup $S=\left\langle A_{1}, \ldots, A_{m}\right\rangle \subset S L_{n}(K)$, $K=\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}$, is fast if there is a $c>0$ s.t.

$$
\left\|A_{I J K}\right\| \geq c\left\|A_{I}\right\|\left\|A_{J K}\right\|
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for all multi-indices $I, J, K$, with $J=j_{1} \ldots j_{k}$ s.t. $j_{1} \neq j_{2}=\cdots=j_{k}$.

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## Theorem (RdL, 2012)

Let $S=\left\langle A_{i}\right\rangle$ be a free fast subsemigroup of $S L_{n}(K), K=\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}$.
Then $\lim _{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log N_{S}(r)}{\log r}$ converges to a finite $s_{S}>0$. Moreover,

$$
s_{S}=\sup _{s \geq 0}\left\{s \mid \sum_{I}\left\|A_{I}\right\|^{-s}=\infty\right\}=\inf _{s \geq 0}\left\{s \mid \sum_{I}\left\|A_{I}\right\|^{-s}<\infty\right\}
$$

## Example

$$
S=\left\langle A_{1}=\left(\begin{array}{ll}
1 & 0 \\
1 & 1
\end{array}\right), A_{2}=\left(\begin{array}{ll}
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Then $A_{J} A_{K}=A_{1} A_{2}^{k}\left(\begin{array}{ll}a & b \\ c & d\end{array}\right)=\left(\begin{array}{cc}a+k c & b+k d \\ a+(k+1) c & b+(k+1) d\end{array}\right)$

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so that $\left\|A_{J K}\right\|=\max \{a+(k+1) c, b+(k+1) d\}$ and

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so that $\left\|A_{J K}\right\|=\max \{a+(k+1) c, b+(k+1) d\}$ and
$\left\|A_{I J K}\right\| \geq\left\|A_{I}\right\| \max \{a+k c, b+k d\} \geq \frac{k}{k+1}\left\|A_{I}\right\|\left\|A_{J K}\right\| \geq \frac{1}{2}\left\|A_{I}\right\|\left\|A_{J K}\right\|$

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\text { so that }\left\|A_{J K}\right\|=\max \{a+(k+1) c, b+(k+1) d\} \text { and } \\
\left\|A_{I K K}\right\| \geq\left\|A_{I}\right\| \max \{a+k c, b+k d\} \geq \frac{k}{k+1}\left\|A_{I}\right\|\left\|A_{J K}\right\| \geq \frac{1}{2}\left\|A_{I}\right\|\left\|A_{I K}\right\| \\
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Hence $S$ is fast with $c=\frac{1}{2}$.
It can be proved similarly that $\boldsymbol{C}$ and $\boldsymbol{H}$ are parabolic fast gaskets.

## Norms growth and Hausdorff dimension of IFS attractors

## Theorem (RdL, 2012)

Let $\left\{A_{1}, \ldots, A_{m}\right\} \subset S L_{2}(K), K=\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}$, and denote by $\psi_{i} \in P S L_{2}(K)$ the projective automorphism associated to $f_{i}$. Assume that the $A_{i}$ are all hyperbolic and that there exists some proper open set $V \subset \mathbb{R} P^{1}$ (resp. $V \subset \mathbb{C} P^{1}$ ) invariant under the $\psi_{i}$ such that, for some affine chart $\varphi: \mathbb{R} P^{1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ (resp. some complex affine chart $\varphi: \mathbb{C} P^{1} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ ), the $\psi_{i}$ :
(1) are contractions on $\varphi(\bar{V})$ with respect to the Euclidean distance;
(2) satisfy $0<a \leq\left|\psi_{i}^{\prime}(v)\right| \leq c<1$ for all $1 \leq i \leq m, v \in V$ and some constants $a, c$;
(3) satisfy the open set condition $i \neq j \Longrightarrow \psi_{i}(V) \cap \psi_{j}(V)=\varnothing$. Let $R_{\mathbf{A}}=\cap_{k=1}^{\infty}\left(\cup_{|I|=k} \psi_{I}(V)\right)$ be the corresponding attractor. Then $2 \operatorname{dim}_{H} R_{\mathbf{A}}=s_{\mathbf{A}}$.

## Example


a


C

b

d

## State of the art

- The property of a free semigroup $S \subset S L_{n}(K), K=\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}$ of being fast is sufficient to grant that $\lim _{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log N_{S}(r)}{\log r}=s_{S}<\infty$.


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- We provided a constructive iterative algorithm to evaluate analytical upper and lower bounds for $s_{S}$ with any degree of accuracy (logarithmic speed).
- The exponent $s_{S}$ completely determines the Hausdorff dimension of the attractor of the self-projective IFS induced by $S$ for $n=2$.


## Open Questions

- Under which conditions does $N_{S}(r) \asymp r^{s_{s}}$ ?


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## Conjecture (RdL, 2012)

$(n+1) \operatorname{dim}_{H} R_{S} \geq n s_{S}$

## References

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