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DECOMPOSITION THEOREM ON INVERTIBLE SUBSTITUTIONS

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0. Introduction

The decomposition theorem of automorphisms of free group is well known, and we mention the statement in the case of rank 2.

Theorem ([1]). *Let $G\{1, 2\}$ be a free group generated by symbols 1 and 2. Then any automorphism of $G\{1, 2\}$ is decomposed by three automorphisms:*

$$\alpha : \begin{cases} 1 \rightarrow 2 \\ 2 \rightarrow 1 \end{cases}, \quad \beta : \begin{cases} 1 \rightarrow 12 \\ 2 \rightarrow 1 \end{cases}, \quad \gamma : \begin{cases} 1 \rightarrow 1 \\ 2 \rightarrow 2^{-1} \end{cases}.$$

Recently Zhi-Xiong Wen and Zhi-Ying Wen give the decomposition theorem of invertible substitutions of rank 2, where we say an automorphism σ is an invertible substitution if words $\sigma(1)$ and $\sigma(2)$ consist of the symbols 1 or 2.

Theorem ([2]). *Any invertible substitution is generated by three invertible substitutions:*

$$\alpha : \begin{cases} 1 \rightarrow 2 \\ 2 \rightarrow 1 \end{cases}, \quad \beta : \begin{cases} 1 \rightarrow 12 \\ 2 \rightarrow 1 \end{cases}, \quad \delta : \begin{cases} 1 \rightarrow 21 \\ 2 \rightarrow 1 \end{cases}.$$

In this paper we give a simple proof of the theorem and a geometrical characterization of invertible substitutions.

1. Proof of the theorem

Let us introduce the canonical homomorphism $\mathbf{f} : G\{1, 2\} \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}^2$ as follows:

$$\mathbf{f}(i^{\pm 1}) := \pm e_i, \quad i = 1, 2$$

$$\mathbf{f}(W) := \mathbf{f}(s_1) + \mathbf{f}(s_2) + \cdots + \mathbf{f}(s_k) \quad \text{for } W = s_1 s_2 \cdots s_k \in G\{1, 2\}$$

where $\{e_1, e_2\}$ be canonical basis in \mathbf{R}^2 . Then we know the following property.

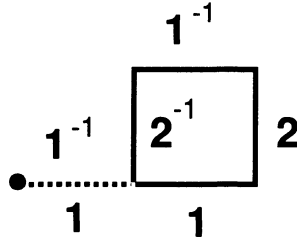


Fig. 1. $\mathcal{K}[W]$, $W = 1121^{-1}2^{-1}1^{-1}$

PROPERTY. Let us define the linear representation L_σ of σ by

$$L_\sigma = (\mathbf{f}(\sigma(1)), \mathbf{f}(\sigma(2))).$$

Then the following commutative relation holds:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} G\{1, 2\} & \xrightarrow{\sigma} & G\{1, 2\} \\ \mathbf{f} \downarrow & & \downarrow \mathbf{f} \\ \mathbf{Z}^2 & \xrightarrow{L_\sigma} & \mathbf{Z}^2 \end{array}$$

A word $W \in G\{1, 2\}$ is said to be closed if $\mathbf{f}(W) = 0$. Let \mathcal{P} be the family of polygon curve with integer vertices on \mathbf{R}^2 , and let us define the geometrical realization map $\mathcal{K} : G\{1, 2\} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}$ by

$$\mathcal{K}[i^{\pm 1}] := \{\pm \lambda e_i \mid 0 \leq \lambda \leq 1\}, \quad i = 1, 2$$

and for $W = w_1 w_2 \cdots w_k \in G\{1, 2\}$

$$\mathcal{K}[w_1 w_2 \cdots w_k] := \bigcup_{i=1}^k \{\mathbf{f}(w_1 w_2 \cdots w_{i-1}) + \mathcal{K}[w_i]\}$$

where $x + \mathbf{S} = \{x + s \mid s \in \mathbf{S}\}$.

If the word W be a closed word, then the definition of $\mathcal{K}[W]$ is modified slightly as follows:

$$\mathcal{K}[W] := \mathbf{f}(U) + \mathcal{K}[W_1]$$

where U is the longest word satisfying $W = UW_1U^{-1}$.(See Fig. 1.)

Lemma 1. For any automorphism θ , we have

$$(*) \quad \mathcal{K}[\theta(121^{-1}2^{-1})] = x + \mathcal{K}[121^{-1}2^{-1}] \text{ for some } x \in \mathbf{Z}^2.$$

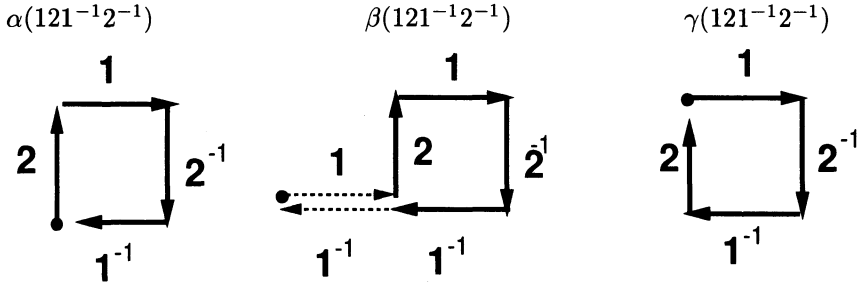


Fig. 2. $\mathcal{K}[\sigma(121^{-1}2^{-1})]$, $\sigma = \alpha, \beta, \gamma$

Proof. From Nielsen's theorem, any automorphism σ is decomposed by generators α, β and γ . On the other hand, it is easy to see that each generator of automorphisms satisfies (*) property. Therefore any composition of generators also has (*) property. (See Fig. 2.) □

Sublemma 1. *Let σ be an invertible substitution and let a linear representation L_σ of σ be*

$$L_\sigma = \begin{pmatrix} a & c \\ b & d \end{pmatrix}.$$

Assume that $\det L_\sigma = \pm 1$ and $\max\{a, b, c, d\} = 1$. Then the invertible substitution σ is determined by the composition of α, β and δ as follows:

list of L_σ	list of σ	
$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow$	$\alpha\alpha : \begin{cases} 1 \rightarrow 1 \\ 2 \rightarrow 2 \end{cases}$	
$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow$	$\alpha : \begin{cases} 1 \rightarrow 2 \\ 2 \rightarrow 1 \end{cases}$	
$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow$	$\beta : \begin{cases} 1 \rightarrow 12 \\ 2 \rightarrow 1 \end{cases}$	or
	$\delta : \begin{cases} 1 \rightarrow 21 \\ 2 \rightarrow 1 \end{cases}$	
$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow$	$\alpha\delta : \begin{cases} 1 \rightarrow 12 \\ 2 \rightarrow 2 \end{cases}$	or
	$\alpha\beta : \begin{cases} 1 \rightarrow 21 \\ 2 \rightarrow 2 \end{cases}$	
$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow$	$\beta\alpha : \begin{cases} 1 \rightarrow 1 \\ 2 \rightarrow 12 \end{cases}$	or
	$\delta\alpha : \begin{cases} 1 \rightarrow 1 \\ 2 \rightarrow 21 \end{cases}$	
$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow$	$\alpha\delta\alpha : \begin{cases} 1 \rightarrow 2 \\ 2 \rightarrow 12 \end{cases}$	or
	$\alpha\beta\alpha : \begin{cases} 1 \rightarrow 2 \\ 2 \rightarrow 21 \end{cases}$	

The following sublemma is easily obtained from $\det L_\sigma = \pm 1$.

Sublemma 2. Let $\begin{pmatrix} a & c \\ b & d \end{pmatrix}$ be a linear representation of substitution σ . Assume that $\det L_\sigma = \pm 1$ and $\max\{a, b, c, d\} \geq 2$ then we have

$$\max\{a, b, c, d\} > \max\{\{a, b, c, d\} \setminus \max\{a, b, c, d\}\}.$$

Lemma 2. Let σ be a substitution and let $\sigma(1)$ and $\sigma(2)$ be $\sigma(1) = W_1$ and $\sigma(2) = W_2$. Assume that

- (1) a linear representation L_σ of σ satisfies $a > b \geq d \geq 0$ and $a > c \geq d \geq 0$
- (2) $\det L_\sigma = \pm 1$
- (3) $\mathcal{K}[\sigma(121^{-1}2^{-1})] = \mathbf{x} + \mathcal{K}[121^{-1}2^{-1}]$, $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{Z}^2$

then there exists non empty word U such that

$$W_1 = W_2U \quad \text{or} \quad UW_2.$$

Before the proof of the lemma, we give a remark of the assumption (3). The word $\sigma(121^{-1}2^{-1})$ is a closed word, therefore $\mathcal{K}[\sigma(121^{-1}2^{-1})]$ is a closed curve in general. And the assumption (3) says that the closed curve consists only of the boundary of unit square.

Proof. We can introduce the orientation of $\mathcal{K}[\sigma(121^{-1}2^{-1})]$ naturally by using the order of symbols in the word. And assume $\det L_\sigma = 1$, then the orientation of $\mathcal{K}[\sigma(121^{-1}2^{-1})]$ does not change from the orientation of $\mathcal{K}[121^{-1}2^{-1}]$.

- (1) The case of $W_1 = 1W'_1$ and $W_2 = 2W'_2$.

Suppose $|W_1| \leq 2$, where $|W_1|$ is the length of the word W_1 , then we can determine the substitution σ by

$$\sigma : \begin{cases} 1 \rightarrow 1 \\ 2 \rightarrow 2 \end{cases} \quad \text{or} \quad \sigma : \begin{cases} 1 \rightarrow 12 \\ 2 \rightarrow 2 \end{cases},$$

and these linear representations:

$$L_\sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{or} \quad L_\sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

This is contradictory to the condition (1).

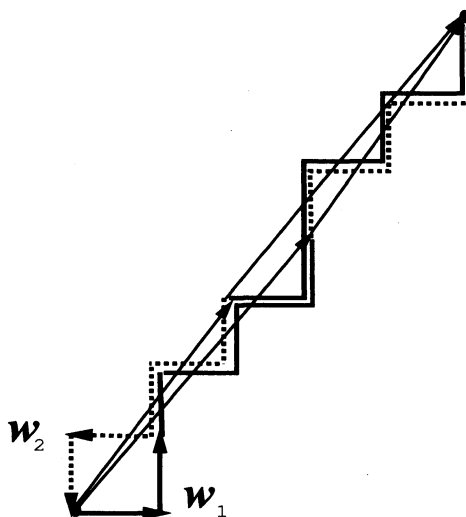
Let us assume that $|W_1| \geq 3$, then W_1 and W_2 must be decomposed as $W_1 = 12W'_1$ and $W_2 = 21W'_2$. By the condition (3) we can easily see from the figure of $\mathcal{K}[\sigma(121^{-1}2^{-1})]$ that W_1 is decomposed as $W_1 = UW_2$. (See Fig. 3.)

- (2) The case of $W_1 = VW'_1$ and $W_2 = VW'_2$, $V \neq \emptyset$.

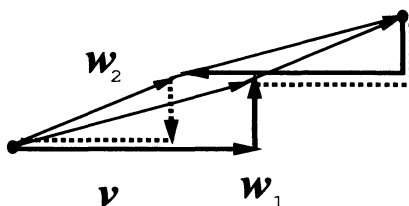
Assume that $W'_2 = \emptyset$ then W_1 is decomposed as $W_1 = W_2U$.

Assume that $W'_2 \neq \emptyset$, then we can find V such that $W_1 = V1W''_1$ and $W_2 = V2W''_2$,

(1)



(2)



(3)

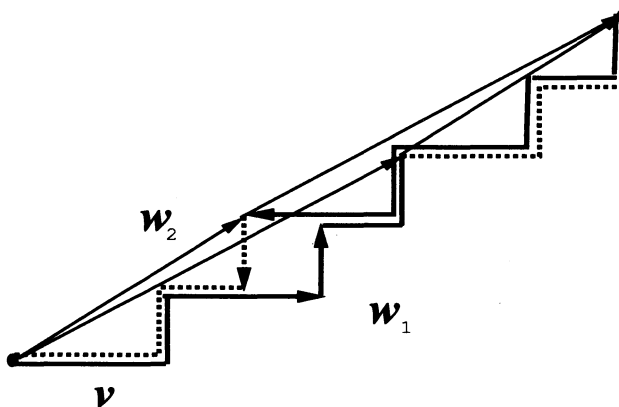


Fig. 3. $\mathcal{K}[\sigma(121^{-1}2^{-1})]$

and moreover we see that W_1'' is not empty by the condition (1). Therefore by analogous discussion of case (1) we see that there exist U such that $W_1 = UW_2$. (See Fig. 3.)

We can consider the case of $\det L_\sigma = -1$ by the same manner. \square

Lemma 3. *Let σ is an invertible substitution which satisfies the condition (1) of Lemma 2. Then σ can be decomposed by $\sigma = \tau \circ \theta_i$ ($i \in \{1, 2\}$) with some invertible substitution τ , where θ_i is given by*

$$\theta_1 = \beta : \begin{cases} 1 \rightarrow 12 \\ 2 \rightarrow 1 \end{cases}, \quad \theta_2 = \delta : \begin{cases} 1 \rightarrow 21 \\ 2 \rightarrow 1 \end{cases}.$$

Proof. By Lemma 1, the invertible substitution σ satisfies the condition (3) of Lemma 2 and σ also satisfies the condition (2) from invertibility. So the word W_1 is decomposed as $W_1 = W_2U$ or UW_2 by Lemma 2.

Let us assume that $W_1 = W_2U$. Define the substitution τ as follows:

$$\tau : \begin{cases} 1 \rightarrow W_2 \\ 2 \rightarrow U \end{cases},$$

then we see that σ is decomposed as $\sigma = \tau \circ \theta_1$. Both σ and θ_1 are invertible, therefore τ is also invertible.

The case of $W_1 = UW_2$ is discussed analogously. \square

Notice that in the case of Lemma 3 the linear representation L_τ of τ satisfies

$$L_\tau = \begin{pmatrix} c & a-c \\ d & b-d \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad a-c < a.$$

Therefore the following relation holds:

$$\max(\text{elements of } L_\sigma) > \max(\text{elements of } L_\tau).$$

Theorem 1. *Any invertible substitution of rank 2 is decomposed by three invertible substitutions:*

$$\alpha : \begin{cases} 1 \rightarrow 2 \\ 2 \rightarrow 1 \end{cases}, \quad \beta : \begin{cases} 1 \rightarrow 12 \\ 2 \rightarrow 1 \end{cases}, \quad \delta : \begin{cases} 1 \rightarrow 21 \\ 2 \rightarrow 1 \end{cases}.$$

Proof. Take any invertible substitution σ . By Sublemma 1 if $\max(\text{elements of } L_\sigma) = 1$ then σ is decomposed by α , β and δ . Consider the case of $\max(\text{elements of } L_\sigma) \geq 2$. By Sublemma 2 we take $i_1, j_1 \in \{0, 1\}$ satisfying

$$L_{\alpha^{i_1} \circ \sigma \circ \alpha^{j_1}} = \begin{pmatrix} a & c \\ b & d \end{pmatrix}, \quad a > b \geq d \geq 0 \text{ and } a > c \geq d \geq 0.$$

By Lemma 3 there exist substitutions τ'_1 and θ_{p_1} such that

$$\alpha^{i_1} \circ \sigma \circ \alpha^{j_1} = \tau'_1 \circ \theta_{p_1}.$$

Therefore the substitution σ is decomposed as

$$\sigma = \alpha^{i_1} \circ \tau'_1 \circ \theta_{p_1} \circ \alpha^{j_1}.$$

For $\tau_1 := \alpha^{i_1} \circ \tau'_1$ let us continue the same procedure. Then there exists τ_n such that $\max(\text{elements of } L_{\tau_n}) = 1$, and the substitution σ is decomposed as

$$\sigma = \tau_n \circ \theta_{p_n} \circ \alpha^{j_n} \circ \dots \circ \theta_{p_2} \circ \alpha^{j_2} \circ \theta_{p_1} \circ \alpha^{j_1}.$$

where $p_k \in \{1, 2\}$ and $j_k \in \{0, 1\}$. □

Let us give a remark related to the uniqueness of decompositions. Define the invertible substitution Θ by

$$\Theta = \beta \circ \alpha \circ \delta (= \delta \circ \alpha \circ \beta).$$

and replace every substitutions $\beta \circ \alpha \circ \delta$ and $\delta \circ \alpha \circ \beta$ in the decomposition of σ by Θ . Then the substitution σ is decomposed uniquely by α , β , δ and Θ in our procedure. In fact, except the case of $W_1 = W_2 U W_2$ we can determine which we take $\sigma = \tau \circ \theta_1$ or $\sigma = \tau \circ \theta_2$. In the case of $W_1 = W_2 U W_2$, σ can be decomposed as

$$\sigma = \tau \circ \delta \circ \alpha \circ \beta = \tau \circ \beta \circ \alpha \circ \delta.$$

Using the same discussion, we have the following result.

Theorem 2 (geometrical characterization of invertible substitutions). *Let σ be a substitution. Then σ is invertible if and only if*

$$\mathcal{K}[\sigma(121^{-1}2^{-1})] = \mathbf{x} + \mathcal{K}[121^{-1}2^{-1}] \text{ for some } \mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{Z}^2$$

Proof. If σ is invertible then by Lemma 1

$$\mathcal{K}[\sigma(121^{-1}2^{-1})] = \mathbf{x} + \mathcal{K}[121^{-1}2^{-1}] \text{ for some } \mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{Z}^2.$$

Oppositely, assume that

$$(**) \quad \mathcal{K}[\sigma(121^{-1}2^{-1})] = \mathbf{x} + \mathcal{K}[121^{-1}2^{-1}] \text{ for } \mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{Z}^2$$

then we know $W_1 = W_2U$ or UW_2 by Lemma 2. In the case of $W_1 = W_2U$ (resp. $W_1 = UW_2$) determine the substitution τ (resp. τ') such that

$$\tau : \begin{cases} 1 \rightarrow W_2 \\ 2 \rightarrow U \end{cases} \quad \left(\text{resp. } \tau' : \begin{cases} 1 \rightarrow W_2 \\ 2 \rightarrow U \end{cases} \right)$$

then $\sigma = \tau \circ \theta_1$ (resp. $\sigma = \tau' \circ \theta_2$) and τ satisfies (**) property. Continue the procedure, the substitution σ is decomposed by α , β and δ . So σ is invertible. □

2. Interval exchange transformations and invertible substitutions

In this section, we discuss about the dynamical system called an interval exchange transformation associated with a substitution.

ASSUMPTION. Let us assume that the substitution σ satisfies the following properties:

- (1) $\det L_\sigma = \pm 1$
- (2) the characteristic polynomial is irreducible.

Let μ be the maximum eigenvalue of L_σ and $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \alpha \end{pmatrix}$ and $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \beta \end{pmatrix}$ be column and row eigenvectors of μ , that is,

$$L_\sigma \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \alpha \end{pmatrix} = \mu \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \alpha \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad {}^t L_\sigma \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \beta \end{pmatrix} = \mu \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \beta \end{pmatrix}.$$

Let l be the contracting invariant line of L_σ , then l is given by

$$l = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \mid \left(\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \beta \end{pmatrix} \right) = 0 \right\}.$$

Let \mathbf{l}_1 and \mathbf{l}_2 be unit segments spanned by e_1 and e_2 , that is,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{l}_1 &:= \{ \lambda e_2 \mid 0 \leq \lambda \leq 1 \} \\ \mathbf{l}_2 &:= \{ \lambda e_1 \mid 0 \leq \lambda \leq 1 \}. \end{aligned}$$

Let us consider a set of unit segments on lattice points:

$$S_\beta := \left\{ (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{l}) \in \mathbb{Z}^2 \times \{ \mathbf{l}_1, \mathbf{l}_2 \} \mid \begin{cases} (\mathbf{x}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \beta \end{pmatrix}) \geq 0 \\ (\mathbf{x} - e_i, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \beta \end{pmatrix}) < 0 \text{ if } \mathbf{l} = \mathbf{l}_i \end{cases} \right\}.$$

We call the union of elements of S_β the stepped curve of the line l and it is denoted by

$$S_\beta := \bigcup_{(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{l}) \in S_\beta} (\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{l}).$$

Let us consider the finite union of S_β as follows:

$$\mathcal{G} := \left\{ \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda} (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{l})_\lambda \mid \begin{array}{l} \#\Lambda < +\infty, (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{l})_\lambda \in S_\beta \\ (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{l})_\lambda \neq (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{l})_{\lambda'}, \text{ if } \lambda \neq \lambda' \end{array} \right\}.$$

DEFINITION. On the notation of

$$\sigma(1) = s_1 s_2 \cdots s_k,$$

$$\sigma(2) = t_1 t_2 \cdots t_l$$

and

$$L_\sigma^{-1} = (\mathbf{f}_1, \mathbf{f}_2)$$

let us define a map Σ_σ on \mathcal{G} as follows:

for $r = 1, 2$

$$\Sigma_\sigma : (\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{l}_r) \mapsto \left\{ \left\{ \sum_{j; s_j=r} \left(\sum_{i=j+1}^k \mathbf{f}_{s_i}, \mathbf{l}_1 \right) \right\} + \left\{ \sum_{j'; t_{j'}=r} \left(\sum_{i=j'+1}^l \mathbf{f}_{t_i}, \mathbf{l}_2 \right) \right\} \right\}$$

$$\Sigma_\sigma(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{l}_r) := L_\sigma^{-1}(\mathbf{x}) + \Sigma_\sigma(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{l}_r), \mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{Z}^2$$

and

$$\Sigma_\sigma\left(\sum_p (\mathbf{x}_p, \mathbf{l}_{r_p})\right) := \sum_p \Sigma_\sigma(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{l}_{r_p}).$$

The map Σ_σ is called the canonical form of σ .

REMARK. The canonical form of σ has another expression, which is for $r = 1, 2$

$$\Sigma_\sigma(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{l}_r) = \left\{ \left\{ \sum_{j; s_j=r} \left(-\sum_{i=1}^j \mathbf{f}_{s_i} + \mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{l}_1 \right) \right\} + \left\{ \sum_{j'; t_{j'}=r} \left(-\sum_{i=1}^{j'} \mathbf{f}_{t_i} + \mathbf{e}_2, \mathbf{l}_2 \right) \right\} \right\}$$

By the definition of canonical form, Arnoux-Ito ([3]) gives following propositions.

Let \mathcal{U} and \mathcal{U}' be $\mathcal{U} = (\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{l}_1) + (\mathbf{e}_2, \mathbf{l}_2)$ and $\mathcal{U}' = (\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{l}_1) + (\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{l}_2)$. We define the geometrical realization map $\mathbf{K} : \mathcal{G} \rightarrow \{\text{polygons on } \mathbf{R}^2\}$ as follows:

$$\mathbf{K} : (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{l}_r) \mapsto \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{l}_r \text{ for } r = 1, 2$$

$$\mathbf{K}[\sum_i (\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{l}_{r_i})] := \bigcup_i (\mathbf{x}_i + \mathbf{l}_{r_i}),$$

and let $\Pi_{\alpha,\beta}$ be a projection from \mathbf{R}^2 to the line l along $\binom{1}{\alpha}$.
 Let us define domains, which is finite union of intervals on l in general, as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \Pi_{\alpha,\beta}[\mathbf{K}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{l}_i)] &= \mathbf{D}_i^{(0)'} \\ \Pi_{\alpha,\beta}[\mathbf{K}(e_i, \mathbf{l}_i)] &= \mathbf{D}_i^{(0)} \\ \mathbf{D}^{(0)} &:= \bigcup_{i=1,2} \mathbf{D}_i^{(0)} = \bigcup_{i=1,2} \mathbf{D}_i^{(0)'} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \Pi_{\alpha,\beta}[\mathbf{K}(\Sigma_\sigma(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{l}_i))] &= \mathbf{D}_i^{(1)'} \\ \Pi_{\alpha,\beta}[\mathbf{K}(\Sigma_\sigma(e_i, \mathbf{l}_i))] &= \mathbf{D}_i^{(1)} \\ \mathbf{D}^{(1)} &:= \bigcup_{i=1,2} \mathbf{D}_i^{(1)} = \bigcup_{i=1,2} \mathbf{D}_i^{(1)'} \end{aligned}$$

Then the following general interval exchange transformation on $\mathbf{D}^{(0)}$ and $\mathbf{D}^{(1)}$ are well-defined:

$$\begin{aligned} W_{(0)} : \mathbf{D}^{(0)} &\longrightarrow \mathbf{D}^{(0)} \\ x &\longmapsto x - \Pi_{\alpha,\beta} e_i \quad \text{if } x \in \mathbf{D}_i^{(0)} \\ W_{(1)} : \mathbf{D}^{(1)} &\longrightarrow \mathbf{D}^{(1)} \\ x &\longmapsto x - \Pi_{\alpha,\beta} f_i \quad \text{if } x \in \mathbf{D}_i^{(1)}, \end{aligned}$$

and the following propositions hold.

Proposition 1 ([3]).

- (1) $\Sigma_\sigma \mathcal{U} \supset \mathcal{U}$ and $\Sigma_\sigma \mathcal{U}' \supset \mathcal{U}'$

$$\text{Moreover, } \Sigma_\sigma \mathcal{U} - \mathcal{U} = \Sigma_\sigma \mathcal{U}' - \mathcal{U}'.$$

- (2) Assume that $(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{l}_i) \in \mathcal{S}_\beta$ then we have $\Sigma_\sigma(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{l}_i) \in \mathcal{G}$.
 (3) Assume that $(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{l}_i) \neq (\mathbf{x}', \mathbf{l}_j)$ then we have

$$\Sigma_\sigma(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{l}_i) \cap \Sigma_\sigma(\mathbf{x}', \mathbf{l}_j) = \emptyset.$$

Proposition 2 ([3]). Let $W_{(1)}|_{\mathbf{D}^{(0)}}$ be the induced transformation of $W_{(1)}$ to the set $\mathbf{D}^{(0)}$. Then we have

- (1) $W_{(1)}|_{\mathbf{D}^{(0)}} = W_{(0)}$
 (2) $W_{(1)}|_{\mathbf{D}^{(0)}}$ has σ -structure, that is, for $i = 1, 2$

$$\begin{aligned} W_{(1)}^{j-1} \mathbf{D}_1^{(0)} &\subset \mathbf{D}_{s_j}^{(1)} \text{ for } 1 \leq j \leq k \text{ and } W_{(1)}^k \mathbf{D}_1^{(0)} = \mathbf{D}_1^{(0)'} \\ W_{(1)}^{j'-1} \mathbf{D}_2^{(0)} &\subset \mathbf{D}_{t_{j'}}^{(1)} \text{ for } 1 \leq j' \leq l \text{ and } W_{(1)}^l \mathbf{D}_2^{(0)} = \mathbf{D}_2^{(0)'} \end{aligned}$$

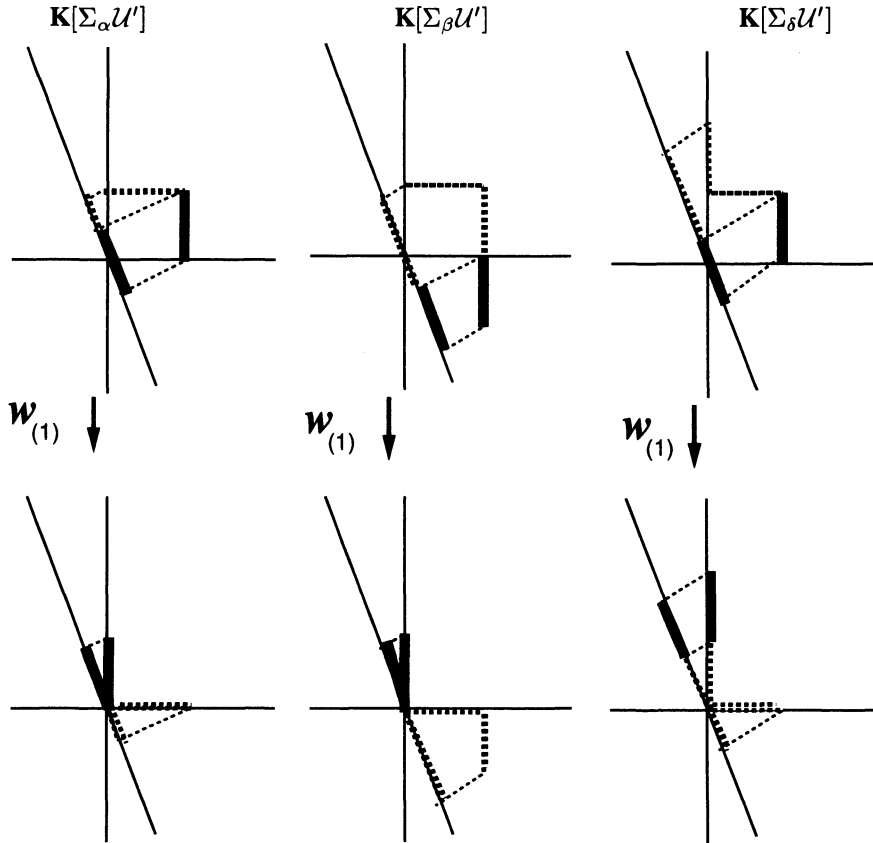


Fig. 4. $W_{(1)}$

Using the decomposition theorem in section one, we obtain the following other characterization of invertible substitutions.

Theorem 3. *A substitution σ is an invertible substitution if and only if the interval exchange transformation $W_{(1)}$ associated with σ is 2-state interval exchange transformation.*

Proof. If σ is an invertible substitution then from the decomposition theorem the substitution σ is decomposed by the generators α , β and δ . So it is enough to show that the interval exchange transformations associated with α , β and δ are 2-state interval exchange transformations. (See Fig. 4.)

Oppositely, assume the interval exchange transformation $W_{(1)}$ associated with σ is 2-state interval exchange transformation. Without the loss of a generality, we assume that $L_\sigma = \begin{pmatrix} a & c \\ b & d \end{pmatrix}$ satisfies $a > b \geq d$ and $a > c \geq d$ by taking $\alpha^i \circ \sigma \circ \alpha^j$ if necessary

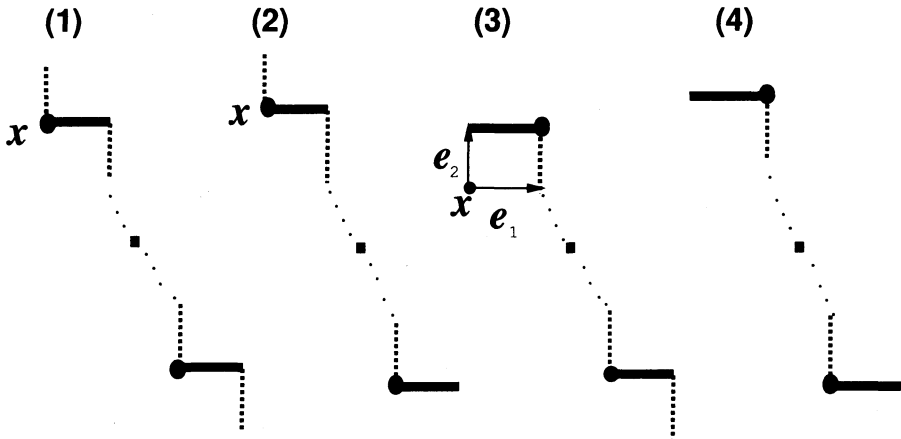


Fig. 5. $\mathbf{K}[\Sigma_\sigma \mathcal{U}']$

where $i, j \in \{0, 1\}$.

From the fact that $a + b > c + d$, that is,

the number of \mathbf{l}_1 in $\mathbf{K}[\Sigma_\sigma \mathcal{U}'] >$ the number of \mathbf{l}_2 in $\mathbf{K}[\Sigma_\sigma \mathcal{U}']$

and $\mathbf{K}[\Sigma_\sigma \mathcal{U}']$ belongs in the stepped curve S_β from Proposition 1 (2), we see that there are no $(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{l}_2)$ such that $(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{l}_2)$ and $(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{l}_2) \in \Sigma_\sigma \mathcal{U}'$, and $\Sigma_\sigma \mathcal{U}$ has the same property by Proposition 1 (1). Let us consider 4 cases;

- The ends of $\mathbf{K}[\Sigma_\sigma \mathcal{U}']$ are not constructed by $\mathbf{l}_2 \cdots \cdots$ (1)
- One of the ends of $\mathbf{K}[\Sigma_\sigma \mathcal{U}']$ is constructed by $\mathbf{l}_2 \cdots \cdots$ (2) (3)
- Both of the ends of $\mathbf{K}[\Sigma_\sigma \mathcal{U}']$ are constructed by $\mathbf{l}_2 \cdots \cdots$ (4)

(See Fig. 5.)

The case of (4) is impossible since $\Sigma_\sigma \mathcal{U}$ does not contain both $(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{l}_2)$ and $(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{l}_2)$ for any \mathbf{x} .

For the case of (1) and (2), if $(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{l}_2)$ is in $\Sigma_\sigma \mathcal{U}'$ then $(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{l}_1)$ is also in $\Sigma_\sigma \mathcal{U}'$ from the connectedness of $\mathbf{K}[\Sigma_\sigma \mathcal{U}']$. So by the definition of Σ_σ we have

$$\{f_{s_k}, f_{s_k} + f_{s_{k-1}}, \dots, \sum_{i=1}^k f_{s_i}\} \supset \{f_{t_l}, f_{t_l} + f_{t_{l-1}}, \dots, \sum_{i=1}^l f_{t_i}\}.$$

Then there exists $\sum_{i=j}^k f_{s_i}$ such that $f_{t_l} = \sum_{i=j}^k f_{s_i}$ and by operating L_σ we have

$$\mathbf{f}(t_l) = \sum_{i=j}^k \mathbf{f}(s_i), \quad \mathbf{f}(t_l), \mathbf{f}(s_i) \in \{e_1, e_2\}.$$

Therefore we have

$$f(t_l) = f(s_k) \quad \text{and} \quad t_l = s_k.$$

Continue the same procedure, we obtain

$$t_l = s_k, t_{l-1} = s_{k-1}, \dots, t_1 = s_{k-l+1}.$$

This means that W_1 is decomposed as $W_1 = UW_2$.

For the case of (3), if $(x + e_2, l_2)$ is in $\Sigma_\sigma U'$ then $(x + e_1, l_1)$ is also in $\Sigma_\sigma U'$ from the connectedness of $\mathbb{K}[\Sigma_\sigma U']$. So by the remark we have

$$\{f_{s_1}, f_{s_1} + f_{s_2}, \dots, \sum_{i=1}^k f_{s_i}\} \supset \{f_{t_1}, f_{t_1} + f_{t_2}, \dots, \sum_{i=1}^l f_{t_i}\}.$$

Then by the same procedure as the case of (1) and (2), W_1 is decomposed as $W_1 = W_2U$. Using same discussion as Lemma 3 in section one, there exists θ_i and τ which decompose σ as $\sigma = \tau \circ \theta_i$. And notice that

$$\Sigma_\sigma = \Sigma_{\theta_i} \circ \Sigma_\tau$$

we can say the substitution τ also has 2-state interval exchange transformation, since the interval exchange transformations associated with σ and θ_i are 2-state interval exchange transformations. Continue the same procedure, there exists τ_n which satisfies that

$$\max(\text{elements of } L_{\tau_n}) = 1$$

and we obtain that

$$\sigma = \tau_n \circ \theta_{p_n} \circ \alpha^{j_n} \circ \dots \circ \theta_{p_2} \circ \alpha^{j_2} \circ \theta_{p_1} \circ \alpha^{j_1}$$

where $p_k \in \{1, 2\}$ and $j_k \in \{0, 1\}$.

So the substitution σ is invertible. □

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