# Non-Convex Words

## Xavier Provençal

## September 17, 2009







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## **Discrete Geometry**



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## **Discrete Geometry**



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# **Digital Convexity**

### Definition

A *polyomino* is the interior of a closed non-intersecting grid path.

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#### Definition

A polyomino is *hv*-convex if all of its columns and all of its rows are connected.

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#### Definition

A polyomino is hv-convex if all of its columns and all of its rows are connected.

### Definition

A polyomino is *digitally convex* if it corresponds to the discretization of some convex set.

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## Freeman chain code

$$\Sigma = ig\{0, \overline{0}, 1, \overline{1}ig\} egin{array}{ccc} 0 o & 1 \uparrow \ \overline{0} \leftarrow & \overline{1} \downarrow \ \end{array}$$



### Notation

The word w is a *boundary word* of the polyomino P.

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# Quadrant words

#### Definition

Given w a boundary word of the hv-convex polyomino P, a non-extendable factor of ww over two letters is called a *quadrant* word.

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All hv-convex polyominoes admits four quadrant words :



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All *hv*-convex polyominoes admits four quadrant words : North-West, over the alphabet  $\{0, 1\}$ , North-East, over the alphabet  $\{\overline{1}, 0\}$ ,



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Given w a boundary word of the hv-convex polyomino P, a non-extendable factor of ww over two letters is called a *quadrant* word.

All hv-convex polyominoes admits four quadrant words :

North-West, over the alphabet  $\{0, 1\}$ ,

North-East, over the alphabet  $\{1, 0\}$ ,

South-East, over the alphabet  $\{\overline{0},\overline{1}\}$ ,



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# Lyndon Words

### Definition

A word w over an ordered alphabet is a Lyndon word if for all non-empty words u and v :

$$w = uv \implies w < vu.$$

(where < denotes the lexicographic order.)

#### Theorem (Lyndon, 1950)

Any word w over an ordered alphabet admits a unique factorization as decreasing Lyndon words.

#### Notation

Given a word w, its unique factorization as decreasing Lyndon words  $w = l_1 \cdot l_2 \cdots l_m$  is noted :  $w = (l_1, l_2, \dots, l_m)_{Lyn}$ .

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# Christoffel Words

## Definition (Borel et Laubie, 1993)



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## Some Properties of Christoffel Words

## Definition

A word  $w \in A^*$  is *balanced* if for all  $a \in A$  and all pair of factors u, v of w,

$$|u| = |v| \implies ||u|_{a} - |v|_{a}| \le 1.$$

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#### Theorem (Berstel, de Luca, 1997)

Over an ordered two letter alphabet, the set of Christoffel words is exactly the set of balanced Lyndon words.

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## Some Properties of Christoffel Words

## Theorem (Borel, Laubie, 1993)

Each non-trivial Christoffel word w has a unique factorization as two Christoffel w = uv.

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## Theorem (Borel, Laubie, 1993)

Each non-trivial Christoffel word w has a unique factorization as two Christoffel w = uv.

This is called the *standard factorization* of a Christoffel word and is noted  $w = (u, v)_{C}$ .

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#### Lemma

Let 
$$w = (u, v)_{C}$$
,  
•  $u = (x, y)_{C} \implies x < u < w < v \le y$ .  
•  $v = (x, y)_{C} \implies x \le u < w < v < y$ .

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## Left and Right Factorization

Consider the Christoffel word  $\mathcal{C}_{5/8}=0010010100101.$ 

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 $\begin{array}{r} 0010010100101\\ 00100101 \ \cdot \ 00101 \end{array}$ 

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 $\begin{array}{r} 0010010100101\\ 00100101 & 00101\\ 001 & 00101 & 00101 \end{array}$ 

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 $\begin{array}{cccc} 0010010100101 & 0010010100101\\ 00100101 & 00101\\ 001 & 00101 & 00101\\ 0 & 01 & 00101 & 00101\\ (0, 01, 00101, 00101)_{l\,eft}\end{array}$ 

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Consider the Christoffel word  $C_{5/8} = 0010010100101$ .

0010010100101	0010010100101
00100101 · 00101	00100101 · 00101
$001 \ \cdot \ 00101 \ \cdot \ 00101$	00100101 · 001 · 01
0 · 01 · 00101 · 00101	
$(0, 01, 00101, 00101)_{Left}$	

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0010010100101	0010010100101
00100101 · 00101	00100101 · 00101
$001 \ \cdot \ 00101 \ \cdot \ 00101$	$00100101 \ \cdot \ 001 \ \cdot \ 01$
$0 \cdot 01 \cdot 00101 \cdot 00101$	00100101 · 001 · 0 · 1
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$001 \ \cdot \ 00101 \ \cdot \ 00101$	$00100101 \ \cdot \ 001 \ \cdot \ 01$
$0 \cdot 01 \cdot 00101 \cdot 00101$	00100101 · 001 · 0 · 1
$(0, 01, 00101, 00101)_{Left}$	(00100101,001,0,1) <sub>Right</sub>

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## Left and Right Factorization

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0010010100101	0010010100101
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$001 \ \cdot \ 00101 \ \cdot \ 00101$	$00100101 \ \cdot \ 001 \ \cdot \ 01$
$0 \ \cdot \ 01 \ \cdot \ 00101 \ \cdot \ 00101$	$00100101 \ \cdot \ 001 \ \cdot \ 0 \ \cdot \ 1$
$(0, 01, 00101, 00101)_{Left}$	(00100101,001,0,1) <sub>Right</sub>

#### Proposition

Given a Chritoffel word  $w = 0 \times 1$  with the factorizations

$$w=(0,\mathit{l}_1,\mathit{l}_2,\ldots,\mathit{l}_m)_{Left}=(\mathit{r}_1,\mathit{r}_2,\ldots,\mathit{r}_n,1)_{Right}$$

then

$$x1=(\mathit{I}_1,\mathit{I}_2,\ldots,\mathit{I}_m)_{\mathsf{Lyn}}$$
 and  $0x=(\mathit{r}_1,\mathit{r}_2,\ldots,\mathit{r}_n)_{\mathsf{Lyn}}$ 

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Theorem (Brlek, Lachaud, Provençal, Reutenauer, 2009)

A polyomino is digitally convex if and only if each one of its quadrant words w is such that  $w = (l_1, l_2, ..., l_m)_{Lyn}$  where each  $l_i$  is a Christoffel words.

Theorem (Brlek, Lachaud, Provençal, Reutenauer, 2009)

A polyomino is digitally convex if and only if each one of its quadrant words w is such that  $w = (l_1, l_2, ..., l_m)_{Lyn}$  where each  $l_i$  is a Christoffel words.

Example :



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Example :



 $\begin{array}{c} 1\,1\,0\,0\,1\,0\,0\,1\,0\,1\,0\,0\,0\,1\,0\\ (1,\,1,\,00100101,\,0001,\,0)_{\text{Lyn}} \end{array}$ 



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A polyomino is digitally convex if and only if each one of its quadrant words w is such that  $w = (l_1, l_2, ..., l_m)_{Lyn}$  where each  $l_i$  is a Christoffel words.

#### Remark

An optimal algorithm to test digital convexity is deduced from this theorem.

Definitions Characterization of NCM

# Convex Words

## Definition

Let **CV** be the set of all convex words on A, that is the set  $CV = \{(l_1, l_2, ..., l_m)_{Lyn} \in A^* | all \ l_i are Christoffel words\}.$ 

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#### Definition

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## Property (Reutenauer, 2008)

The language **CV** is factorial.

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## Property (Reutenauer, 2008)

The language **CV** is factorial.

#### Definition

Let NC be the set of all non-convex words on  $\mathcal{A},$  that is  $NC=\mathcal{A}^*\setminus CV.$ 

#### Property

The language **NC** forms a monoidal ideal of  $\mathcal{A}^*$ .

#### Definition

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Definitions Characterization of NCM

## Non-Convex Minimal

#### Definition

Let NCM be the set :

 $\mathsf{NCM} = \{ w \in \mathsf{NC} \, | \, \forall x \in \operatorname{Factor}(w) \setminus \{ w \}, x \in \mathsf{CV} \}.$ 

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## Non-Convex Minimal

#### Definition

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$$\mathsf{NCM} = \{ w \in \mathsf{NC} \, | \, \forall x \in \operatorname{Factor}(w) \setminus \{ w \}, x \in \mathsf{CV} \}.$$

#### Proposition

The language **NC** is a monoidal ideal of  $A^*$  generated by **NCM**.

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Definitions Characterization of NCM

# Example



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Definitions Characterization of NCM

# Example



## $101001001001011100010 \in \textbf{NC}$

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Definitions Characterization of NCM

# Example



## $\texttt{0010010010111} \in \textbf{NC}$

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Definitions Characterization of NCM

# Example



## $\texttt{0010010111} \in \textbf{NC}$

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Definitions Characterization of NCM

# Example



 $\texttt{0010111} \in \textbf{NC}$ 

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Definitions Characterization of NCM

# Example



 $\texttt{001011} \in \textbf{NCM}$ 

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Convex and Non-Convex Words

Definitions

# Shortest Elements of NCM



Definitions Characterization of **NCM** 

# Main Result

### Theorem

The set 
$$\mathbf{NCM} = \{uw^k v | w = (u, v)_{\mathsf{C}} \text{ and } k \ge 1\}.$$

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Definitions Characterization of **NCM** 

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Definitions Characterization of **NCM** 

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Definitions Characterization of **NCM** 

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## Proof

Let w be a Christoffel word with standard factorization  $w = (u, v)_{C}$  and  $k \ge 1$ . Let us see that  $uw^{k}v \in NCM$ .

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# Proof

Let w be a Christoffel word with standard factorization  $w = (u, v)_{C}$  and  $k \ge 1$ . Let us see that  $uw^{k}v \in NCM$ .

Let  $0X1 = uw^k v$ , it suffices to see that (a)  $0X1 \notin \mathbf{CV}$ , (b)  $0X, X1 \in \mathbf{CV}$ .

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# Proof

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$$0X1 = uw^k v$$
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(a)  $0X1 \notin \mathbf{CV}$ ,  
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$$0X1 = (uw^k) \cdot (v) = (u) \cdot (w^k v)$$

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$$0X1 = (uw^k) \cdot (v) = (u) \cdot (w^k v)$$

 $u, v, uw^k, w^k v$  are Christoffel words so

- 0X1 is a Lyndon word since it is the concatenation of increasing Lyndon words.
- 0X1 is not a Christoffel word since it admits two factorizations as Christoffel words.

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#### Proof



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Definitions Characterization of **NCM** 

## Proof

#### ● 0*X* ∈ **CV** :

Consider the right factorization of  $v = (r_1, r_2, ..., r_n, 1)_{Right}$ ,

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● 0*X* ∈ **CV** :

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Consider the right factorization of  $v = (r_1, r_2, ..., r_n, 1)_{Right}$ ,  $0X1 = uw^k v = uw^k r_1 r_2 \cdots r_n \cdot 1$ .  $w = (u, v)_{\mathbf{C}}$  and  $v = (r_1, r_2 \cdots r_n 1)_{\mathbf{C}} \implies u \ge r_1$ .

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● 0*X* ∈ **CV** :

Consider the right factorization of  $v = (r_1, r_2, ..., r_n, 1)_{Right}$ ,  $0X1 = uw^k v = uw^k r_1 r_2 \cdots r_n \cdot 1$ .  $w = (u, v)_{\mathbf{C}}$  and  $v = (r_1, r_2 \cdots r_n 1)_{\mathbf{C}} \implies u \ge r_1$ .  $0X = (uw^k, r_1, r_2, ..., r_n)_{\mathbf{Lyn}} \in \mathbf{CV}$ .

● 0*X* ∈ **CV** :

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•  $X1 \in \mathbf{CV}$  is shown in a similar way.

Definitions Characterization of **NCM** 

#### Proof

Let  $0x1 \in \mathbf{NCM}$ , does there exist  $w = (u, v)_{\mathbf{C}}$  and  $k \ge 1$  such that  $0x1 = uw^{k}v$ ?

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## Proof

Let  $0x1 \in \mathbf{NCM}$ , does there exist  $w = (u, v)_{\mathbf{C}}$  and  $k \ge 1$  such that  $0x1 = uw^{k}v$ ? By the definition,  $x \in \mathbf{CV}$  so  $x = (l_1, l_2, \dots, l_m)_{\mathbf{Lyn}}$  where each  $l_i$  is a Christoffel word.

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Image: A = A

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where  $w = (u, v)_{C}$ 

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#### Without *hv*-convexity

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#### Without *hv*-convexity



Let w be a contour word, if w is not digitally convex, it must admit as a factor at least one word of **NCM** or a word of the form  $ab^k\overline{a}$  where  $(a, b) \in \{(0, 1), (\overline{1}, 0), (\overline{0}, \overline{1}), (1, \overline{0})\}.$ 

NCM over general polyominoes Limit case of equilibrate Lyndon words Not a local property

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#### Limit case of balanced Lyndon words

Let  $z = uw^k v \in \mathbf{NCM}$ , then :

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## Limit case of balanced Lyndon words

Let 
$$z = uw^k v \in \mathbf{NCM}$$
, then :

• z is a Lyndon word.

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## Limit case of balanced Lyndon words

Let 
$$z = uw^k v \in \mathbf{NCM}$$
, then :

- z is a Lyndon word.
- For all  $x, y \in Factor(z)$ ,

$$|x| = |y| \implies ||x|_a - |y|_a| = 1,$$

Except for the cases where x is a prefix of z, y is a suffix of z and |x| = |y| = n|w|, where  $n \in \{1, 2, ..., k\}$ . In these cases  $||x|_a - |y|_a| = 2$ .

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In Euclidean geometry, Tietze's theorem proves that in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  convexity is a local property.

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In Euclidean geometry, Tietze's theorem proves that in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ convexity is a local property. Since max  $\{|w| : w \in \mathbf{NCM}\} = \infty$ , it is not the case in

discrete geometry.

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Convex and Non-Convex Words	Limit case of equilibrate Lyndon words
Conclusion	Not a local property

# **GRAZIE**!

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