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## BOUNDARY OF THE RAUZY FRACTAL SETS IN $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{C}$ GENERATED BY $P(x) = x^4 - x^3 - x^2 - x - 1$

#### F. DURAND AND A. MESSAOUDI

ABSTRACT. We study the boundary of the 3-dimensional Rauzy fractal  $\mathcal{E} \subset \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{C}$  generated by the polynomial  $P(x) = x^4 - x^3 - x^2 - x - 1$ . The finite automaton characterizing the boundary of  $\mathcal{E}$  is given explicitly. As a consequence we prove that the set  $\mathcal{E}$  has 18 neighborhoods where 6 of them intersect the central tile  $\mathcal{E}$  in a point. Our construction shows that the boundary is generated by an iterated function system starting with 2 compact sets.

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#### 1. Introduction

Consider  $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$  as an alphabet. Let  $A^*$  be the set of finite words on A and  $\sigma: A \to A^*$  be the map (called Tribonacci substitution) defined by

$$\sigma(1) = 12, \ \sigma(2) = 13, \ \sigma(3) = 1.$$

We extend  $\sigma$  to  $A^{\mathbb{N}}$  by concatenation :  $\sigma(a_0 \cdots a_n \ldots) = \sigma(a_0) \cdots \sigma(a_n) \ldots$  It is clear that  $\sigma$  has a unique fixed point  $u: \sigma(u) = u \in A^{\mathbb{N}}$ . The dynamical system associated to  $\sigma$  is the couple  $(\Omega, S)$  where  $S: A^{\mathbb{N}} \to A^{\mathbb{N}}$  is the shift map  $(S((x_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}) = (x_{n+1})_{n \in \mathbb{N}})$  and  $\Omega$  is the S-orbit closure of  $u: \Omega = \overline{\{S^n u | n \in \mathbb{N}\}}$ . It is well known that  $(\Omega, S)$  is minimal, uniquely ergodic and of zero entropy (see [Q87, F02] for more details).

In 1982, G. Rauzy [R82] studied the Tribonacci substitution  $\sigma$ . He proved that the dynamical system generated by  $\sigma$  is measure theoretically conjugate to an exchange of domains  $X_1, X_2, X_3$  in a compact tile  $X = X_1 \cup X_2 \cup X_3$ . The set X is the classical two-dimensional Rauzy fractal. It has been extensively studied and is related to many topics: numeration systems [M00, M06, M05], geometrical representation of symbolic dynamical systems [AI01, AIS01, CS01, HZ98, M98, T06, S96], multidimensional continued fractions and simultaneous approximations [ABI02, CHM01, C02, HM06], self-similar tilings [A99, A00, AI01, P99] and Markov partitions of Hyperbolic automorphisms of the torus [KV98, M98, P99].

Among the main properties of the set X, let us recall it is compact, connected, its interior is simply connected, its boundary is fractal and it induces a periodic tiling of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  ([R82]).

It is possible to associate such a fractal set to a large class of substitutions over an alphabet with d letters (called unimodular Pisot substitutions). Let us call them Rauzy fractals. P. Arnoux and S. Ito [AI01] (see also [CS01]) proved that the dynamical system associated to such a substitution  $\sigma$  is measure theoretically conjugate to an exchange of domains  $X_1, \ldots, X_d$  in the Rauzy fractal  $X_{\sigma} = X_1 \cup \ldots \cup X_d \subset \mathbb{R}^{d-1}$  provided that a certain combinatorial condition is true. All these sets  $X_{\sigma}$  are compact and generate a periodic tiling of  $\mathbb{R}^{d-1}$ .

There are different ways to define the Rauzy fractal associated to a given substitution  $\sigma$  over an alphabet of d+1 letters. One is through numeration systems. Let  $d \geq 2$  and  $a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_d$  be integers such that  $a_1 \geq a_2 \geq \ldots \geq a_d \geq 1$ . Consider  $A = \{1, 2, \dots, d+1\}$  as an alphabet. Let  $\sigma_d$  be the substitution defined by

$$\sigma_d(i) = \underbrace{11\dots 1}_{a_i} (i+1) \text{ if } i \leq d \text{ and } \sigma_d(d+1) = 1.$$

We define the Rauzy fractal associated to  $\sigma_d$  as follows. Consider the sequence  $(F_n)_{n>0}$  defined by

$$F_{n+d+1} = a_1 F_{n+d} + a_2 F_{n+d-1} + \dots + a_d F_{n+1} + F_n, \ \forall n \ge 0,$$

with initial conditions (called Parry conditions)

$$F_0 = 1, F_n = a_1 F_{n-1} + \dots + a_n F_0 + 1, \forall 1 \le n \le d.$$

It is well-known (using the greedy algorithm) that for every integer n we have  $n = \sum_{i=0}^{N} c_i F_i$  with  $(c_i)_{0 \leq i \leq N} \in \mathcal{D}_{a_1,\dots,a_d}$ , where  $\mathcal{D}_{a_1,\dots,a_d}$  is the set of sequences  $(\varepsilon_i)_{1 \leq i \leq k}, l, k \in \mathbb{Z}$ , such that for all  $l \leq i \leq k$ :

- (1)  $\varepsilon_i \in \{0, 1, \dots, a_1\}$ ;
- (2)  $\varepsilon_i \varepsilon_{i-1} \dots \varepsilon_{i-d} <_{lex} a_1 a_2 \dots a_d 1$  when  $i \ge l+d$ . (3)  $\varepsilon_i \varepsilon_{i-1} \dots \varepsilon_l 0^{d-i+l} <_{lex} a_1 a_2 \dots a_d 1$  when  $l \le i \le l+d$ ,

where  $<_{lex}$  is the usual lexicographic ordering. We set

$$\mathcal{D}_{a_1,\ldots,a_d}^{\infty} = \left\{ (\varepsilon_i)_{i \geq l}; l \in \mathbb{Z}, (\varepsilon_i)_{l \leq i \leq n} \in \mathcal{D}_{a_1,\ldots,a_d}, \forall n \geq l \right\}.$$

Now, consider the following polynomial

$$P_{a_1,\dots a_d}(x) = x^{d+1} - a_1 x^d - a_2 x^{d-1} - \dots - a_d x - 1.$$

It can be checked that P has a root  $\beta = \beta_1 \in ]1, +\infty[$  and d roots with modulus less than 1. Let  $\beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3, \dots, \beta_r$  be the roots of P belonging to  $\mathbb R$  and  $\beta_{r+1}, \ldots, \beta_{r+s}, \overline{\beta_{r+1}}, \ldots, \overline{\beta_{r+s}}$  its complex roots. For all  $i \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we set

$$\alpha^i = (\beta_2^i, \dots, \beta_r^i, \beta_{r+1}^i, \dots, \beta_{r+s}^i).$$

We also put  $\alpha^0 = 1 = (1, ..., 1)$ . Then, the Rauzy fractal associated to  $\sigma$  is the set  $\mathcal{E}_{a_1,\dots a_d} \subset \mathbb{R}^{r-1} \times \mathbb{C}^s \approx \mathbb{R}^d$  defined by

$$\mathcal{E}_{a_1,\dots a_d} = \left\{ \sum_{i=d+1}^{+\infty} \varepsilon_i \alpha^i; (\varepsilon_i)_{i \ge d+1} \in \mathcal{D}_{a_1,\dots,a_d}^{\infty} \right\}.$$

The set  $\mathcal{E}_{1,1} = X$  is the classical two-dimensional Rauzy fractal.

The structure of the boundary of Rauzy fractals has been first investigated by Ito and M. Kimura in [IK91]. They showed that the boundary of  $\mathcal{E}_{1,1}$  is a Jordan curve generated by the Dekking method [D82] and they calculated its Hausdorff dimension. Relating the boundary of  $\mathcal{E}_{a_1,1}$  to the complex numbers having at least two expansions in base  $\alpha$ , A. Messaoudi [M00, M05] constructed a finite automaton characterizing and generating this boundary. As a consequence it permitted to parameterize the boundary of  $\mathcal{E}_{a_1,1}$ , to compute its the Hausdorff dimension and to show it is a quasi circle.

In [T06], J. M. Thuswaldner studied the set  $\mathcal{E}_{a_1,a_2}$ . In particular, he gave an explicit formula for the fractal dimension of the boundary of this set.

In this paper we propose to study the boundary of the Rauzy fractal set  $\mathcal{E}_{1,1,1} \subset \mathbb{R} \times$ C. We construct a finite automaton characterizing its boundary. As a consequence we prove that  $\mathcal{E}_{1,1,1}$  has 18 neighborhoods where 6 of them intersect the central tile  $\mathcal{E}_{1,1,1}$  in a point. We also prove that the boundary can be generated by two subregions. More precisely, the boundary of  $\mathcal{E}_{1,1,1}$  is  $\bigcup_{i=1}^{18} X_i$  where  $X_i$ ,  $i=1,\ldots,6$  are singletons, and for all  $i \in [7,18]$ , there exist affine functions  $f_{ij}$ ,  $j=1,\ldots,m_i$ and  $g_{ij}$ ,  $j = 1, ..., n_i$  from  $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{C}$  to itself such that

$$X_i = \bigcup_{j=1}^{m_i} f_{ij}(X_7) \bigcup \bigcup_{j=1}^{n_i} g_{ij}(X_8).$$

## 2. Notations, definitions and background

2.1.  $\beta$ -expansions. Let  $\beta > 1$  be a real number. A  $\beta$ -representation of a nonnegative real number x is an infinite sequence  $(x_i)_{i \le k}$ ,  $x_i \in \mathbb{Z}^+ = [0, +\infty[$ , such that

$$x = x_k \beta^k + x_{k-1} \beta^{k-1} + \dots + x_1 \beta + x_0 + x_{-1} \beta^{-1} + x_{-2} \beta^{-2} + \dots$$

where k is an integer. It is denoted by

$$x = x_k x_{k-1} \dots x_1 x_0 . x_{-1} x_{-2} \dots$$

A particular  $\beta$ -representation, called the  $\beta$ -expansion, is computed by the "greedy algorithm" (see [P60]): denote by |y| and  $\{y\}$  respectively the integer part and the fractional part of a number y. There exists  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $\beta^k \leq x < \beta^{k+1}$ . Let  $x_k = |x/\beta^k|$  and  $r_k = \{x/\beta^k\}$ . Then for i < k, put  $x_i = |\beta r_{i+1}|$  and  $r_i = \{\beta r_{i+1}\}$ . We get

$$x = x_k \beta^k + x_{k-1} \beta^{k-1} + \cdots$$

If k < 0 (x < 1), we put  $x_0 = x_{-1} = \cdots = x_{k+1} = 0$ . If an expansion ends by infinitely many zeros, it is said to be finite, and the ending zeros are omitted. The digits  $x_i$  belong to the set  $A = \{0, \dots, \beta - 1\}$  if  $\beta$  is an integer, or to the set  $A = \{0, \dots, |\beta|\}$  if  $\beta$  is not an integer. The  $\beta$ -expansion of every positive real number x is the lexicographically greatest among all  $\beta$ -representations of x. We denote by  $Fin(\beta)$  the set of numbers which have finite greedy  $\beta$ -expansion. Let  $N \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we denote by  $\operatorname{Fin}_N(\beta)$  the set of numbers x such that in their  $\beta$ expansion  $(x_i)_{i \le k}$ ,  $x_i = 0$  for all i < N. We will sometimes denote a  $\beta$ -expansion  $x_n \cdots x_k, \ n \ge k$  by  $(x_i)_{k \le i \le n}$ . We put

$$E_{\beta} = \{(x_i)_{i>k}; k \in \mathbb{Z}, \ \forall n \geq k, \ (x_i)_{k < i < n} \ \text{is a finite } \beta\text{-expansion}\}.$$

In the case where  $\beta$  is the dominant root of the polynomial  $P_{a_1,...a_d}$ , it is known (see [FS92]) that  $E_{\beta} = \mathcal{D}_{a_1,\dots,a_d}^{\infty}$ . We will need the two following classical lemmas.

**Lemma 1** ([P60]). Let  $x_n \cdots x_0$  and  $y_m \cdots y_0$  be two  $\beta$ -expansions. Then, the following are equivalent

- $\begin{array}{ll} \bullet & \sum_{i=0}^n x_i \beta^i < \sum_{i=0}^m y_i \beta^i, \\ \bullet & x_n \cdots x_0 <_{lex} y_m \cdots y_0, \end{array}$

where  $<_{lex}$  is the lexicographical order.

**Lemma 2** ([FS92]). If  $\beta = \beta_1$ , then  $\mathbb{Z}[\beta] \cap [0, +\infty[\subset \operatorname{Fin}(\beta)]$ .

2.2. Boundary of  $\mathcal{E}_{a_1,\dots,a_d}$ . The coordinates of  $\alpha$  have modulus strictly less than 1. Moreover, 0 belongs to the interior of  $\mathcal{E}_{a_1,\dots,a_d}$  ([A00], see also [R82] for  $\mathcal{E}_{1,1}$ ). Hence, for all  $z \in \mathbb{R}^{r-1} \times \mathbb{C}^s$  there exists  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\alpha^k z \in \mathcal{E}_{a_1,\dots,a_d}$ . Then, all  $z \in \mathbb{R}^{r-1} \times \mathbb{C}^s$  can be written as follows  $z = \sum_{i=l}^{\infty} \varepsilon_i \alpha^i$ , where  $l \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $(\varepsilon_i)_{i \geq l} \in \mathcal{D}_{a_1,\dots,a_d}^{\infty}$ . The sequence  $(\varepsilon_i)_{i \geq l}$  is called  $\alpha$ -expansion of z. We should remark that these  $\alpha$ -expansions are not unique: some z can have many different  $\alpha$ -expansions. In [M05] it is proven that the points belonging to the boundary of  $\mathcal{E}_{a_1,\dots,a_d}$  have at least two different  $\alpha$ -expansions. These points are characterized by the following theorem which is a straightforward consequence of a result due to W. Thurston [T90] (see also [M05]).

**Theorem 3.** There exists a finite automaton B such that for all distinct elements of  $\mathcal{D}_{a_1,\ldots,a_d}^{\infty}$ ,  $(b_i)_{i\geq l}$  and  $(c_i)_{i\geq l}$ , the following are equivalent:

- $\sum_{i=l}^{\infty} b_i \alpha^i = \sum_{i=l}^{\infty} c_i \alpha^i$
- $\overline{((b_i, c_i))_{i \geq l}}$  is recognizable by B (i.e an infinite path in B beginning in the initial state).

The proof of this result does not give explicitly the states of the automaton. In [M98] is given an algorithm that gives these states for  $\mathcal{E}_{1,1}$ . In [M06], they were given for  $\mathcal{E}_{a_1,1}$  where  $a_1 \geq 2$ .

### 3. Characterization of the boundary of $\mathcal{E}_{1,1,1}$

In the sequel we suppose d=3 and  $a_1=a_2=a_3=1$ , and  $P(x)=P_{1,1,1}(x)=x^4-x^3-x^2-x-1=(x-\beta_1)(x-\beta_2)(x-\beta_3)(x-\overline{\beta_3})$  where  $\beta_1,\beta_2,\beta_3$  are defined in Section 1. Approximations of these numbers are  $\beta=\beta_1=1.9275\ldots,\ \beta_2=-0.7748\ldots$  and  $\beta_3=-0.0763\cdots+i0.8147\ldots$  We recall that we defined for all  $i\in\mathbb{Z},\ \alpha^i=(\beta_2^i,\beta_3^i)$ .

In this situation

$$\mathcal{D} = \mathcal{D}_{1,1,1} = \left\{ (\varepsilon_i)_{l \le i \le n}; l, n \in \mathbb{Z}, \varepsilon_i \in \{0, 1\}, \varepsilon_i \varepsilon_{i-1} \varepsilon_{i-2} \varepsilon_{i-3} \neq 1111, l \le i \le n \right\},$$

$$\mathcal{D}^{\infty} = \mathcal{D}_{1,1,1}^{\infty} = \left\{ (\varepsilon_i)_{i \ge l}; l \in \mathbb{Z}, (\varepsilon_i)_{l \le i \le n} \in \mathcal{D}_{1,1,1}, n \ge l \right\} \text{ and}$$

$$\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{E}_{1,1,1} = \left\{ \sum_{i=4}^{+\infty} \varepsilon_i \alpha^i; (\varepsilon_i)_{i \ge 4} \in \mathcal{D}^{\infty} \right\}$$

$$= \left\{ \sum_{i=4}^{+\infty} \varepsilon_i \alpha^i; \varepsilon_i \in \{0, 1\}, \varepsilon_i \varepsilon_{i-1} \varepsilon_{i-2} \varepsilon_{i-3} \neq 1111, i \ge 4 \right\}.$$

An important and known result is:

**Proposition 4.** The set  $\mathcal{E}$  is compact, connected and generates a periodic tiling of  $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{C}$  with group periods  $G = \mathbb{Z}\alpha^0 + \mathbb{Z}\alpha + \mathbb{Z}\alpha^2$ :

$$\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{C} = \bigcup_{p \in G} (\mathcal{E} + p),$$

and the Lebesgue measure of  $(\mathcal{E} + p) \cap (\mathcal{E} + q)$  is zero whenever  $p \neq q$ ,  $p, q \in G$ .

*Proof.* The proof can easily be deduced from [R82] or [AI01].

3.1. Definition of the automaton recognizing the points with at least two expansions. In the sequel we proceed to the construction of the automaton  $\mathcal{A}$  that characterize the boundary of  $\mathcal{E}$ . This characterization will be proven in Section 3.2. The set of states of the automaton  $\mathcal{A}$  is

$$S = \left\{ \pm \sum_{i=0}^{3} c_i \alpha^i; c_0 c_1 c_2 c_3 \neq 1111, c_i \in \{0, 1\}, 0 \leq i \leq 3 \right\}$$

$$\left\{ \pm (\alpha^{-1} + 1 + \alpha^2), \pm (\alpha^{-2} + \alpha^{-1} + \alpha), \pm (\alpha^{-3} + \alpha^{-2} + 1 + \alpha^3) \right\}.$$

Let s and t be two states. The set of edges is the set of  $(s, (a, b), t) \in S \times \{0, 1\}^2 \times S$  satisfying  $t = \frac{s}{\alpha} + (a - b)\alpha^3$ . The set of initial states is  $\{0\}$  and the set of states is S. A path (resp. infinite path) of A is a sequence  $(a_n, b_n)_{k \le n \le l}$  (resp.  $(a_n, b_n)_{n \ge k}$ ) such that there exists a sequence  $(e_n)_{k \le n \le l+1}$  (resp.  $(e_n)_{n \ge k}$ ) of elements of S for which  $(e_n, (a_n, b_n), e_{n+1})$  belongs to S for all  $n \in \{k, k+1, \ldots, l+1\}$  (resp.  $n \ge k$ ). We say it starts in the initial state when  $e_k = 0$ . The automaton is explicitly defined in the Annexe at the end of this paper.

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

(1) 
$$A_k(\varepsilon, \varepsilon') = \alpha^{-k+3} \sum_{i=l}^k (\varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_i') \alpha^i$$

In Subsection 3.2 we will prove that x = y if and only if all the  $A_k$ ,  $k \ge l$ , belong to S. But as, for all  $k \ge l$ , we have

(2) 
$$A_{k+1}(\varepsilon, \varepsilon') = \frac{A_k(\varepsilon, \varepsilon')}{\alpha} + (\varepsilon_{k+1} - \varepsilon'_{k+1})\alpha^3,$$

this means that x = y if and only if

$$(0, (\varepsilon_l, \varepsilon_l'), A_l(\varepsilon, \varepsilon')) ((A_k(\varepsilon, \varepsilon'), (\varepsilon_{k+1}, \varepsilon_{k+1}'), A_{k+1}(\varepsilon, \varepsilon')))_{k>l}$$

is an infinite sequence of edges of S starting in the initial state. And, this is equivalent to say that  $(\varepsilon_i, \varepsilon_i')_{i \geq l}$  is an infinite path of  $\mathcal A$  starting in the initial state. Let us give an example on how we can use this automaton to obtain information about the digits of x and y. Let s be the smallest integer such that  $\varepsilon_s \neq \varepsilon_s'$ . Hence  $A_i(\varepsilon, \varepsilon') = 0$  for  $i \in \{l, \cdots, s-1\}$ . Suppose  $\varepsilon_s > \varepsilon_s'$ , that is  $\varepsilon_s = 1$  and  $\varepsilon_s' = 0$ . Then,  $A_s = \alpha^3$ . From (2) we deduce  $A_{s+1}(\varepsilon, \varepsilon') = \alpha^2 + (\varepsilon_{s+1} - \varepsilon_{s+1}')\alpha^3$  which should belong to S. Hence  $A_{s+1}(\varepsilon, \varepsilon') = \alpha^2 \in S$  if  $\varepsilon_{s+1} = \varepsilon_{s+1}'$ , and,  $A_{s+1}(\varepsilon, \varepsilon') = \alpha^2 + \alpha^3 \in S$  if  $(\varepsilon_{s+1}, \varepsilon_{s+1}') = (1, 0)$ . Hence,  $(\alpha^3, (1, 0), \alpha^2 + \alpha^3)$ ,  $(\alpha^3, (0, 0), \alpha^2)$  and  $(\alpha^3, (1, 1), \alpha^2)$  are edges coming from the state  $\alpha^3$ . Let us explain why  $(\alpha^3, (0, 1), \alpha^2 - \alpha^3)$  is not an edge, and hence why we cannot have  $(\varepsilon_{s+1}, \varepsilon_{s+1}') = (0, 1)$ . We should have that  $\alpha^2 - \alpha^3 = -\alpha^{-1} - 1 - \alpha$  belongs to S. Then  $\beta$  should satisfies the same equality. Hence  $\beta^{-1} + 1 + \beta$  should belong to

$$\left\{ \sum_{i=0}^{3} c_{i} \beta^{i}; c_{0} c_{1} c_{2} c_{3} \neq 1111, c_{i} \in \{0, 1\}, 0 \leq i \leq 3 \right\}$$

$$\bigcup \left\{ (\beta^{-1} + 1 + \beta^{2}), (\beta^{-2} + \beta^{-1} + \beta), (\beta^{-3} + \beta^{-2} + 1 + \beta^{3}) \right\},$$

which is not possible by Lemma 1.

#### 3.2. Characterization of the points with at least two expansions.

**Lemma 5.** Let  $(\varepsilon_i)_{i>0}, (\varepsilon_i')_{i>0} \in \mathcal{D}^{\infty}$ . Then,

$$\left| \sum_{i=0}^{+\infty} (\varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_i') \beta_2^i \right| \le \frac{1}{1 + \beta_2}, \quad \left| \sum_{i=0}^{+\infty} (\varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_i') \beta_3^i \right| \le \frac{C}{1 - |\beta_3|^6}.$$

where 
$$C = \max \left\{ \left| \sum_{i=0}^{5} (c_i - d_i) \beta_3^i \right| ; (c_i)_{0 \le i \le 5} \in \mathcal{D}, (d_i)_{0 \le i \le 5} \in \mathcal{D} \right\}.$$

*Proof.* The second inequality is easy to establish. For the first inequality, as  $-1 < \beta_2 < 0$ , all sequences  $(c_i)_{i \geq 0}$  which terms are 0 or 1 satisfy the following inequality:

$$\frac{\beta_2}{1-\beta_2^2} = \sum_{i=0}^{+\infty} \beta_2^{2i+1} \le \sum_{i=0}^{+\infty} c_i \beta_2^i \le \sum_{i=0}^{+\infty} \beta_2^{2i} = \frac{1}{1-\beta_2^2}.$$

This achieves the proof.

For all  $\varepsilon = (\varepsilon_i)_{i \geq l}$  and  $\varepsilon' = (\varepsilon'_i)_{i \geq l}$  belonging to  $\mathcal{D}^{\infty}$ , we set

$$S(\varepsilon,\varepsilon') = \{A_k(\varepsilon,\varepsilon'); k \ge l\} = \left\{\alpha^{-k+3} \sum_{i=l}^k (\varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_i') \alpha^i; k \ge l\right\}.$$

**Proposition 6.** Let  $x = \sum_{i=l}^{\infty} \varepsilon_i \alpha^i$ ,  $y = \sum_{i=l}^{\infty} \varepsilon_i' \alpha^i$ , where  $\varepsilon = (\varepsilon_i)_{i \geq l}$  and  $\varepsilon' = (\varepsilon_i')_{i \geq l}$  belong to  $\mathcal{D}^{\infty}$ . Then, x = y if and only if the set  $S(\varepsilon, \varepsilon')$  is finite. Moreover

$$S(\varepsilon, \varepsilon') \subset S = \left\{ \pm \sum_{i=0}^{3} c_i \alpha^i; (c_i)_{0 \le i \le 3} \in \mathcal{D} \right\}$$

$$\bigcup \left\{ \pm (\alpha^{-1} + 1 + \alpha^2), \pm (\alpha^{-2} + \alpha^{-1} + \alpha), \pm (\alpha^{-3} + \alpha^{-2} + 1 + \alpha^3) \right\}$$

and

$$S = \bigcup_{(\varepsilon, \varepsilon') \in \Delta} S(\varepsilon, \varepsilon'),$$

where 
$$\Delta = \{((\varepsilon_i)_{i \geq l}, (\varepsilon_i')_{i \geq l}) \in \mathcal{D}^{\infty} \times \mathcal{D}^{\infty}; \sum_{i=l}^{\infty} \varepsilon_i \alpha^i = \sum_{i=l}^{\infty} \varepsilon_i' \alpha^i \}$$

*Proof.* It is easy to establish that if  $S(\varepsilon, \varepsilon')$  is finite then x = y. Let us prove the reciprocal. Let  $x = \sum_{i=l}^{\infty} \varepsilon_i \alpha^i = \sum_{i=l}^{\infty} \varepsilon_i' \alpha^i = y$  with  $\varepsilon = (\varepsilon_i)_{i \geq l}$  and  $\varepsilon' = (\varepsilon_i')_{i \geq l}$  belonging to  $\mathcal{D}^{\infty}$ . Let us prove that  $A_k = A_k(\varepsilon, \varepsilon')$  belongs to S for all  $k \geq l$ . As x = y, for all  $k \geq l$ , we have

(3) 
$$A_k = \sum_{i=k+1}^{\infty} (\varepsilon_i' - \varepsilon_i) \alpha^{i-k+3} = \sum_{i=4}^{\infty} (\varepsilon_{i+k-3}' - \varepsilon_{i+k-3}) \alpha^i.$$

Let us fix  $k \geq l$  and assume  $A_k \neq 0$ . From (1), we deduce there exist  $n, p, q, r \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that

(4) 
$$A_k = n\alpha^3 + p\alpha^2 + q\alpha + r.$$

But  $n\beta^3 + p\beta^2 + q\beta + r$  or  $-(n\beta^3 + p\beta^2 + q\beta + r)$  belongs to  $\mathbb{Z}[\beta] \cap \mathbb{R}^+$ , which is contained in Fin( $\beta$ ) (see Lemma 2). We deduce there exists  $(c_i)_{s \leq i \leq m} \in \mathcal{D}$  such that  $c_m = 1$  and

(5) 
$$n\beta^3 + p\beta^2 + q\beta + r = \pm \sum_{i=s}^m c_i \beta^i.$$

We suppose it is equal to  $\sum_{i=s}^{m} c_i \beta^i$ . The other case can be treated in the same way. As  $\beta$ ,  $\beta_2$  and  $\beta_3$  are algebraically conjugate, from (1), (4) and (5) we have

(6) 
$$\beta^{-k+3} \sum_{i=l}^{k} \varepsilon_i \beta^i = \beta^{-k+3} \sum_{i=l}^{k} \varepsilon_i' \beta^i + \sum_{i=s}^{m} c_i \beta^i.$$

From Lemma 1,  $\beta^{-k+3} \sum_{i=l}^k \varepsilon_i \beta^i < \beta^4$ , consequently  $m \leq 3$ . Setting  $c_i = 0$  for i > m, we have

(7) 
$$A_k = \sum_{i=s}^3 c_i \alpha^i.$$

Remark that if  $s \ge 0$  then  $A_k$  belongs to S. Hence we suppose  $s \le -1$ . Suppose s = -1 and  $c_{-1} = 1$ . Let us show that  $A_k$  is equal to  $\alpha^{-1} + 1 + \alpha^2$  and consequently belongs to S. In order to do so, we show that the other cases are not possible. Using Lemma 5 and (3), the first entry of  $(A_k)$ ,  $(A_k)_1$ , should satisfy  $|(A_k)_1| \le \beta_2^4 (1 + \beta_2)^{-1}$  which is less than a = 1.6004. This excludes the following points:  $\alpha^{-1} + \alpha + \alpha^2 + \alpha^3$ ,  $\alpha^{-1} + \alpha + \alpha^3 + \alpha^3 + \alpha^{-1} + \alpha + \alpha^3 + \alpha^{-1} + \alpha^3 + \alpha^{-1} + \alpha^3 + \alpha^{-1} + \alpha^3 + \alpha^{-1} + \alpha^2 + \alpha^3 + \alpha^{-1} + \alpha^2 + \alpha^3 + \alpha^{-1} + \alpha^2 + \alpha^3 + \alpha^2 + \alpha^2$ 

$\beta_2^{-1} + \beta_2 + \beta_2^2 + \beta_2^3$	$\beta_2^{-1} + \beta_2 + \beta_2^3$	$\beta_2^{-1} + \beta_2$	$\beta_2^{-1} + \beta_2^3$
1.9	2.5	2.0	1.7

In the same way we should have  $|(A_k)_2| \leq C|\beta_3|^4(1-|\beta_3|^6)^{-1}$  which is less than b=1,8120. This excludes the following points:  $\alpha^{-1}+1+\alpha^3$ ,  $\alpha^{-1}+\alpha^2+\alpha^3$  and  $\alpha^{-1}+1+\alpha^2+\alpha^3$ , because the absolute value of their second entries is greater than the value below it in the following array:

In order to exclude the other cases, except  $\frac{1}{\alpha}+1+\alpha^2$ , we used (2) to compute  $A_{k+i}$ ,  $i\geq 1$ . Let us explain the strategy. Suppose neither  $(A_k)_1$  nor  $(A_k)_2$  is greater than respectively a and b. Then, we compute  $A_{k+1}$  using (2). We have three possible values :  $\frac{A_k}{\alpha}$ ,  $\frac{A_k}{\alpha}+\alpha^3$  and  $\frac{A_k}{\alpha}-\alpha^3$ . To check that  $A_k$  does not belong to S, it suffices to show that for all these values, either the first entry or the second is respectively greater than a or b. If it is not the case, for each value that does not satisfy this (both entries are less than, respectively, a and b) we apply again this strategy. Applying this just once we show that  $\frac{1}{\alpha}+1+\alpha+\alpha^3$  does not belong to S. The values of the relevant entries are in the following array and should be read in the following way : The value (1.9 for example) below a relevant entry of  $A_{k+1}$  (resp.  $\frac{1}{\beta_2^2}+\frac{1}{\beta_2}+1+\beta_2^2$ ) is greater than the absolute value of the relevant entry :  $|\frac{1}{\beta_2^2}+\frac{1}{\beta_2}+1+\beta_2^2| > 1.9$ .

$A_k$	$\frac{1}{\alpha} + 1 + \alpha + \alpha^3$		
$A_{k+1}$	$\frac{1}{\beta_2^2} + \frac{1}{\beta_2} + 1 + \beta_2^2$	$\frac{1}{\beta_3^2} + \frac{1}{\beta_3} + 1 + \beta_3^2 + \beta_3^3$	$\frac{1}{\beta_2^2} + \frac{1}{\beta_2} + 1 + \beta_2^2 - \beta_2^3$
	1.9	1.9	2.4

For the following case,  $\frac{1}{\alpha} + 1$ , we need to apply the strategy twice because for  $A_{k+1} = \frac{1}{\beta_3^2} + \frac{1}{\beta_3} - \beta_3^3$  both entries are respectively less than a and b.

$A_k$	$\frac{1}{\alpha}+1$		
$A_{k+1}$	$\frac{1}{\beta_3^2} + \frac{1}{\beta_3}$	$\frac{1}{\beta_3^2} + \frac{1}{\beta_3} + \beta_3^3$	
	1.83	2.0	
$A_{k+2}$	$\frac{1}{\beta_3^3} + \frac{1}{\beta_3^2} - \beta_3^2$	$\frac{1}{\beta_3^3} + \frac{1}{\beta_3^2} - \beta_3^2 + \beta_3^3$	$\frac{1}{\beta_3^3} + \frac{1}{\beta_3^2} - \beta_3^2 - \beta_3^3$
	2.1	1.63	2.7

For the case  $A_k = \frac{1}{\alpha} + 1 + \alpha$  we need two steps because at the first one both  $\frac{1}{\beta_2^2} + \frac{1}{\beta_2} + 1$  and  $\frac{1}{\beta_2^2} + \frac{1}{\beta_2} + 1 + \beta_3^3$  have entries less than, respectively, a and b.

$A_k$	$\frac{1}{\alpha} + 1 + \alpha$		
$A_{k+1}$			$\frac{1}{\beta_2^2} + \frac{1}{\beta_2} + 1 - \beta_2^3$
			1.84
$A_{k+2}$	$\frac{1}{\beta_2^3} + \frac{1}{\beta_2^2} + \frac{1}{\beta_2}$	$\frac{1}{\beta_2^3} + \frac{1}{\beta_2^2} + \frac{1}{\beta_2} + \beta_2^3$	$\frac{1}{\beta_3^3} + \frac{1}{\beta_3^2} + \frac{1}{\beta_3} - \beta_3^3$
	1.77	2.23	1.818
	$\frac{1}{\beta_3^3} + \frac{1}{\beta_3^2} + \frac{1}{\beta_3} + \beta_3^2$	$\frac{1}{\beta_2^3} + \frac{1}{\beta_2^2} + \frac{1}{\beta_2} + \beta_2^2 + \beta_2^3$	$\frac{1}{\beta_3^3} + \frac{1}{\beta_3^2} + \frac{1}{\beta_3} + \beta_3^2 - \beta_3^3$
	1.86	1.63	2.24

For the three following cases,  $\frac{1}{\alpha} + \alpha^2$ ,  $\frac{1}{\alpha}$  and  $\frac{1}{\alpha} + \alpha + \alpha^2$ , we need three steps.

$A_k$	$\frac{1}{\alpha} + \alpha^2$		
$A_{k+1}$	$\frac{1}{\beta_3^2} + \beta_3$		$\frac{1}{\beta_3^2} + \beta_3 - \beta_3^3$
	1.89		2.34
$A_{k+2}$	$\frac{1}{\beta_3^3} + 1 + \beta_3^2$		$\frac{1}{\beta_3^3} + 1 + \beta_3^2 - \beta_3^3$
	1.83		2.26
$A_{k+3}$	$\frac{1}{\beta_3^4} + \frac{1}{\beta_3} + \beta_3 + \beta_3^2$	$\frac{1}{\beta_3^4} + \frac{1}{\beta_3} + \beta_3 + \beta_3^2 + \beta_3^3$	$\frac{1}{\beta_2^4} + \frac{1}{\beta_2} + \beta_2 + \beta_2^2 - \beta_2^3$
	1.818	2.32	1.77

$A_k$	$\frac{1}{\alpha}$		
$A_{k+1}$	$\frac{1}{\beta_2^2}$		$\frac{1}{\beta_2^2} - \beta_2^3$
	1.66		2.13
$A_{k+2}$		$\frac{1}{\beta_2^3} + \beta_2^2 + \beta_2^3$	$\frac{1}{\beta_3^3} + \beta_3^2 - \beta_3^3$
		2.01	2.17
$A_{k+3}$	$\frac{1}{\beta_3^4} + \beta_3$	$\frac{1}{\beta_3^4} + \beta_3 + \beta_3^3$	$\frac{1}{\beta_3^4} + \beta_3 - \beta_3^3$
	2.00	2.21	1.92

$A_k$	$\frac{1}{\alpha} + \alpha + \alpha^2$		
$A_{k+1}$	$\frac{1}{\beta_2^2} + 1 + \beta_2$		$\frac{1}{\beta_2^2} + 1 + \beta_2 - \beta_2^3$
	1.89		2.35
$A_{k+2}$	$\frac{1}{\beta_2^3} + \frac{1}{\beta_2} + 1 + \beta_2^2$	$\frac{1}{\beta_2^3} + \frac{1}{\beta_2} + 1 + \beta_2^2 + \beta_2^3$	
	1.84	2.30	
$A_{k+3}$	$\frac{\frac{1}{\beta_2^4} + \frac{1}{\beta_2^2} + \frac{1}{\beta_2} + \beta_2}{-\beta_2^2}$	$\frac{\frac{1}{\beta_3^4} + \frac{1}{\beta_3^2} + \frac{1}{\beta_3} + \beta_3}{-\beta_3^2 + \beta_3^3}$	$\frac{\frac{1}{\beta_2^4} + \frac{1}{\beta_2^2} + \frac{1}{\beta_2} + \beta_2}{-\beta_3^3 - \beta_3^3}$
	1.77	1.818	2.23

Hence the only possible  $A_k$  (with  $c_{-1} = 1$ ) is  $\frac{1}{\alpha} + 1 + \alpha^2$ .

Suppose now  $s \leq -2$  and  $c_s = 1$ . It is useful for the sequel to remark that  $U = (u_i)_{i \geq s} = (c_s, c_{s+1}, \dots, c_2, c_3, \varepsilon_{k+1}, \varepsilon_{k+2}, \varepsilon_{k+3}, \dots)$  belongs to  $\mathcal{D}^{\infty}$ . Indeed, if  $c_3 = 0$ , it is clear. If  $c_3 = 1$  and  $c_2 = 0$  then by (6),  $\varepsilon_k = 1$ . Hence  $\varepsilon_{k+1}\varepsilon_{k+2}\varepsilon_{k+3} \neq 111$  and U belongs to  $\mathcal{D}^{\infty}$ . The other cases can be treated in the same way. Using (3) and (7) we obtain

$$u = \sum_{i=s}^{3} c_i \alpha^i + \sum_{i=4}^{\infty} \varepsilon_{i+k-3} \alpha^i = \sum_{i=4}^{\infty} \varepsilon'_{i+k-3} \alpha^i = v.$$

We set  $V=(\varepsilon'_{i+k-3})_{i\geq s}$  where  $\varepsilon'_{i+k-3}=0$  when  $s\leq i\leq 3$ . Then (U,V) belongs to  $\Delta, \, A_{s+4}(U,V)=c_s\alpha^{-1}+c_{s+1}+c_{s+2}\alpha+c_{s+3}\alpha^2+c_{s+4}\alpha^3$  and  $A_3(U,V)=\sum_{i=s}^3 c_i\alpha^i$ . Doing what we did for x and y to u and v we obtain that  $A_{s+4}(U,V)=\alpha^{-1}+1+\alpha^2$ . Let us show that for all  $n\geq s+5,\, A_n(U,V)$  belongs to

$$\mathcal{C} = \{ \pm (\alpha^{-2} + \alpha^{-1} + \alpha), \pm (\alpha^{-3} + \alpha^{-2} + 1 + \alpha^{3}) \}.$$

This will imply that  $A_k$  belongs to S for all  $k \geq l$ . We have that  $A_{s+5}(U, V)$  belongs to

$$\left\{\frac{1}{\alpha^2} + \frac{1}{\alpha} + \alpha, \frac{1}{\alpha^2} + \frac{1}{\alpha} + \alpha + \alpha^3, \frac{1}{\alpha^2} + \frac{1}{\alpha} + \alpha - \alpha^3\right\}.$$

The third one can be excluded because  $\frac{1}{\beta_3^2} + \frac{1}{\beta_3} + \beta_3 - \beta_3^3 \ge 1.85$ . We proceed as before to exclude the second element:

$A_k$	$\frac{1}{\alpha^2} + \frac{1}{\alpha} + \alpha + \alpha^3$		
$A_{k+1}$	$\frac{1}{\beta_3^3} + \frac{1}{\beta_3^2} + 1 + \beta_3^2$		$\frac{1}{\beta_3^3} + \frac{1}{\beta_3^2} + 1 + \beta_3^2 - \beta_3^3$
	2.00		2.55
$A_{k+2}$	$\frac{1}{\beta_3^4} + \frac{1}{\beta_3^3} + \frac{1}{\beta_3} + \beta_3$	$\frac{1}{\beta_3^4} + \frac{1}{\beta_3^3} + \frac{1}{\beta_3} + \beta_3 + \beta_3^3$	$\frac{1}{\beta_3^4} + \frac{1}{\beta_3^3} + \frac{1}{\beta_3} + \beta_3 - \beta_3^3$
	2.45	2.54	2.47

Consequently,  $A_{s+5}(U,V) = \frac{1}{\alpha^2} + \frac{1}{\alpha} + \alpha$ . We deduce  $A_{s+6}(U,V) = \frac{1}{\alpha^3} + \frac{1}{\alpha^2} + 1 + \alpha^3$  because  $\frac{1}{\beta_3^3} + \frac{1}{\beta_3^2} + 1 > 2.03$  and  $\frac{1}{\beta_3^3} + \frac{1}{\beta_3^2} + 1 - \beta_3^3 > 2.56$ . Once again,  $A_{s+7}(U,V) = \frac{1}{\alpha^4} + \frac{1}{\alpha^3} + \frac{1}{\alpha} + \alpha^2 - \alpha^3$  because  $\frac{1}{\beta_3^4} + \frac{1}{\beta_3^3} + \frac{1}{\beta_3} + \beta_3^2 > 1.85$  and  $\frac{1}{\beta_3^4} + \frac{1}{\beta_3^3} + \frac{1}{\beta_3} + \beta_3^2 + \beta_3^3 > 2.16$ . But an easy computation leads to  $\frac{1}{\alpha^4} + \frac{1}{\alpha^3} + \frac{1}{\alpha} + \alpha^2 - \alpha^3 = -(\frac{1}{\alpha^2} + \frac{1}{\alpha} + \alpha) = -A_{s+5}(U,V)$ . Then continuing in the same way we can check  $A_n(U,V) = -A_{n+2}(U,V)$  and  $A_n \in \mathcal{C}$  for  $n \geq s+5$ . As  $3 \geq s+5$ , we obtain that  $A_k(\varepsilon,\varepsilon') = A_3(U,V)$  belongs to  $\mathcal{C}$ . Thus  $S(\varepsilon,\varepsilon')$  is included in S.

To complete the proof we should show that each element of S belongs to  $\Gamma$  $\cup_{(\varepsilon,\varepsilon')\in\Delta}S(\varepsilon,\varepsilon').$ 

Remark that if  $A_k$  belongs to  $\Gamma$  then  $-A_k$  also belongs to  $\Gamma$ . Consequently it is sufficient to consider the cases where  $A_k = \sum_{i=0}^3 c_i \alpha^i$  with  $(c_i)_{0 \le i \le 3} \in \mathcal{D}$  or  $A_k = \alpha^{-1} + 1 + \alpha^2$ ,  $\alpha^{-2} + \alpha^{-1} + \alpha$  or  $\alpha^{-3} + \alpha^{-2} + 1 + \alpha^3$ . Notice that we have

$$-\alpha^{3} = \sum_{i=1}^{+\infty} (\alpha^{4i} + \alpha^{4i+1} + \alpha^{4i+2}) = 1 + \alpha + \alpha^{2} + \sum_{i=1}^{+\infty} (\alpha^{4i+1} + \alpha^{4i+2} + \alpha^{4i+3})$$

$$= \alpha + \alpha^{2} + \alpha^{4} + \sum_{i=1}^{+\infty} (\alpha^{4i+2} + \alpha^{4i+3} + \alpha^{4i+4})$$

$$= \alpha^{2} + \alpha^{4} + \alpha^{5} + \sum_{i=1}^{+\infty} (\alpha^{4i+3} + \alpha^{4i+4} + \alpha^{4i+5}).$$

Hence,  $1+\alpha+\alpha^2$ ,  $\alpha+\alpha^2$  and  $\alpha^2$  belong to  $\Gamma$ . Multiplying by  $\alpha$  we deduce  $\alpha+\alpha^2+\alpha^3$ ,  $\alpha^2 + \alpha^3$  and  $\alpha^3$  belong to  $\Gamma$ . Now subtracting  $-\alpha^2$  we obtain  $1 + \alpha$  and  $\alpha$  belong to  $\Gamma$ . We have that 1 belongs to  $\Gamma$  because  $\sum_{i=1}^{+\infty} \alpha^{4i} = 1 + \sum_{i=1}^{+\infty} \alpha^{4i+1}$ . Now,  $1 + \alpha^2$ belongs to  $\Gamma$  because

$$\sum_{i=2}^{\infty} \alpha^{2i} = 1 + \alpha^2 + \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} \alpha^{2i+1}.$$

Multiplying by  $\alpha$  we deduce  $\alpha + \alpha^3$  belongs to  $\Gamma$ . Because

(8) 
$$\alpha^{-3} + \alpha^{-2} + 1 + \alpha^{3} + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} (\alpha^{4i+2} + \alpha^{4i+3}) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} (\alpha^{4i} + \alpha^{4i+1}),$$

we obtain that  $\alpha^{-3} + \alpha^{-2} + 1 + \alpha^3$  belongs to  $\Gamma$ . Multiplying (8) by, respectively,  $\alpha$  and  $\alpha^2$  we obtain, respectively, that  $\alpha^{-2} + \alpha^{-1} + \alpha$  and  $\alpha^{-1} + 1 + \alpha^2$  belong to  $\Gamma$ . From

$$\alpha^4 + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \alpha^{4i+3} = 1 + \alpha^3 + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \alpha^{4i+1} = 1 + \alpha + \alpha^3 + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \alpha^{4i+2}$$

it is clear  $1 + \alpha^3$  and  $1 + \alpha + \alpha^3$  belong to  $\Gamma$ . The equality

$$\alpha^4 + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \alpha^{4i+2} = 1 + \alpha^2 + \alpha^3 + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \alpha^{4i+1}$$

implies that  $1 + \alpha^2 + \alpha^3$  belongs to  $\Gamma$  and achieves the proof.

Corollary 7. Let A be the automaton defined in Subsection 3.1. Then, for all  $(\varepsilon_i)_{i>l}$  and  $(\varepsilon_i')_{i>l}$  belonging to  $\mathcal{D}^{\infty}$  the following assertions are equivalent:

- $\sum_{i\geq l} \varepsilon_i \alpha^i = \sum_{i\geq l} \varepsilon_i' \alpha^i$ ;  $(\varepsilon_i, \varepsilon_i')_{i\geq l}$  is an infinite path in  $\mathcal A$  beginning in the initial state.

3.3. Neighbors of  $\mathcal{E}$ . Here we prove that the set  $\mathcal{E}$  has 18 neighbors where 6 of them have an intersection with  $\mathcal{E}$  reduced to a singleton, and that the boundary can be generated by just 2 subregions.

**Lemma 8.** Let  $(\varepsilon_i)_{i\geq 4}$  and  $(\varepsilon_i')_{i\geq l}$  be two elements of  $\mathcal{D}^{\infty}$  such that  $\sum_{i=4}^{\infty} \varepsilon_i \alpha^i = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \varepsilon_i' \alpha^i$ , where l < 4 and  $\varepsilon_l' = 1$ , then  $\varepsilon_l' \alpha^l + \varepsilon_{l+1}' \alpha^{l+1} \cdots + \varepsilon_3' \alpha^3$  belongs to S. In particular  $l \geq -3$  and

$$\varepsilon_l'\alpha^l + \dots + \varepsilon_3'\alpha^3 = \alpha^{-3} + \alpha^{-2} + 1 + \alpha^3 \qquad if \ l = -3, 
\varepsilon_l'\alpha^l + \dots + \varepsilon_3'\alpha^3 = \alpha^{-2} + \alpha^{-1} + \alpha \qquad if \ l = -2, 
\varepsilon_l'\alpha^l + \dots + \varepsilon_3'\alpha^3 = \alpha^{-1} + 1 + \alpha^2 \qquad if \ l = -1.$$

*Proof.* Let  $(\varepsilon_i)_{i\geq 4}$  and  $(\varepsilon_i')_{i\geq l}$  be two elements of  $\mathcal{D}^{\infty}$  such that  $\sum_{i=4}^{\infty} \varepsilon_i \alpha^i = \sum_{i=l}^{\infty} \varepsilon_i' \alpha^i$  where l < 4 and  $\varepsilon_l' = 1$ . From Proposition 6, for all  $l \leq i \leq 3$ ,  $\varepsilon_l' \alpha^i + \varepsilon_{l+1}' \alpha^{i+1} \cdots + \varepsilon_{l-i+3}' \alpha^3$  belongs to S. In particular, for i = l, we obtain the result.

**Lemma 9.** Let  $u \in S$ . Then, there exists  $(\varepsilon_i)_{i \geq 4}$  and  $(\varepsilon'_i)_{i \geq 4}$  belonging to  $\mathcal{D}^{\infty}$  such that  $\sum_{i=4}^{\infty} \varepsilon_i \alpha^i = u + \sum_{i=4}^{\infty} \varepsilon'_i \alpha^i$ .

*Proof.* This comes from Proposition 6 and the identity (3).

In our context, Lemma 2 in [M05] can be formulated in the following way.

**Lemma 10.** Let  $x \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{C}$ , then x belongs to the boundary of  $\mathcal{E}$  if and only if there exists  $l \leq 3$  such that  $x = \sum_{i=4}^{+\infty} \epsilon_i \alpha^i = \sum_{i=l}^{+\infty} \epsilon_i' \alpha^i$ , where  $(\epsilon_i)_{i \geq 4}$  and  $(\epsilon_i')_{i \geq l}$  belong to  $\mathcal{D}^{\infty}$ , and,  $\epsilon_l' \neq 0$ .

**Proposition 11.** The boundary of  $\mathcal{E}$  is the union of the 18 non empty regions  $\mathcal{E}(u)$ ,  $u \in \{a, -a; a \in A\}$ , whose pairwise intersections have measure zero, where

$$\mathcal{E}(u) = \mathcal{E} \cap (\mathcal{E} + u)$$
 and

$$A = \{1, 1 + \alpha, 1 + \alpha^2, 1 + \alpha + \alpha^2, \alpha^{-3} + \alpha^{-2} + 1 + \alpha^3, \alpha, \alpha + \alpha^2, \alpha^2, \alpha^{-2} + \alpha^{-1} + \alpha\}.$$

*Proof.* Let u be an element of A, then u is a state of the automaton  $\mathcal{A}$ . From Lemma 9, there exist  $(\varepsilon_i)_{i\geq 4}$  and  $(\varepsilon_i')_{i\geq 4}$  belonging to  $\mathcal{D}^{\infty}$  such that  $\sum_{i=4}^{\infty} \varepsilon_i \alpha^i = u + \sum_{i=4}^{\infty} \varepsilon_i' \alpha^i$ . Thus, from Proposition 4,  $\mathcal{E} \cap (\mathcal{E} + u)$  is not empty and with measure zero. It will be useful to check that

$$\alpha^{-3} + \alpha^{-2} + 1 + \alpha^{3} = 1 + 2\alpha + \alpha^{2}$$
 and  $\alpha^{-2} + \alpha^{-1} + \alpha = -1 + \alpha^{2}$ .

Consequently, Proposition 4 implies  $\bigcup_{u \in A} \mathcal{E}(u) \cup \mathcal{E}(-u)$  is contained in the boundary of  $\mathcal{E}$ .

Now, let z be an element of the boundary of  $\mathcal{E}$ , then by Lemma 10 there exist two elements of  $\mathcal{D}^{\infty}$ ,  $(\varepsilon_i)_{i\geq 4}$  and  $(\varepsilon_i')_{i\geq l}$ ,  $l\in\mathbb{Z}$ , l<4 such that  $z=\sum_{i=4}^{+\infty}\varepsilon_i\alpha^i=\sum_{i=1}^{+\infty}\varepsilon_i'\alpha^i$ . We can suppose  $\varepsilon_l=1$ . Let us consider the following four cases.

Suppose l = -3. From Lemma 8, we deduce that  $z \in \mathcal{E}(\alpha^{-3} + \alpha^{-2} + 1 + \alpha^3)$ .

Suppose l = -2. From Lemma 8, we deduce that  $z \in \mathcal{E}(\alpha^{-2} + \alpha^{-1} + \alpha)$ .

Suppose l=-1. From Lemma 8, we deduce that  $z=\sum_{i=4}^{+\infty}\varepsilon_i\alpha^i=\alpha^{-1}+1+$  $\alpha^2 + \sum_{i=4}^{+\infty} \varepsilon_i' \alpha^i$ . Corollary 7 implies that  $t = (0,1)(0,1)(0,0)(0,1)(0,0)(\varepsilon_4,\varepsilon_4')\dots$ is an infinite path of the automaton  $\mathcal{A}$  starting at the initial state. Using the automaton, we see that t = (0,1)(0,1), (0,0)(0,1)(0,0)awww..., where a = (1,1)or (0,0) and w=(0,1)(1,0)(1,0)(0,1). Consequently,  $z=\alpha^{-1}+1+\alpha^2+\alpha^4+\alpha^5+\sum_{i=2}^{\infty}(\alpha^{4i}+\alpha^{4i+1})$  or  $z=\alpha^{-1}+1+\alpha^2+\alpha^5+\sum_{i=2}^{\infty}(\alpha^{4i}+\alpha^{4i+1})$ . Thus,  $z=-\alpha-\alpha^2+\alpha^6+\sum_{i=2}^{\infty}(\alpha^{4i}+\alpha^{4i+1})$  or  $z=-1-2\alpha-\alpha^2+\sum_{i=1}^{\infty}(\alpha^{4i}+\alpha^{4i+1})$ , and,  $z\in\mathcal{E}(-\alpha-\alpha^2)\cup\mathcal{E}(-1-2\alpha-\alpha^2)$ .

Suppose  $l \geq 0$ . Then  $z = \sum_{i=4}^{+\infty} \varepsilon_i \alpha^i = \varepsilon_0' + \varepsilon_1' \alpha + \varepsilon_2' \alpha^2 + \varepsilon_3' \alpha^3 + \sum_{i=4}^{+\infty} \varepsilon_i' \alpha^i$ . If  $\varepsilon_3' = 0$ , then  $z \in \mathcal{E}(u)$  where  $u = \varepsilon_0' + \varepsilon_1' \alpha + \varepsilon_2' \alpha^2$ . If  $\varepsilon_3' = 1$  and  $\varepsilon_4' = 0$ , then  $z = (\varepsilon_0' - 1) + (\varepsilon_1' - 1) \alpha + (\varepsilon_2' - 1) \alpha^2 + \alpha^4 + \sum_{i=5}^{+\infty} \varepsilon_i' \alpha^i \in \mathcal{E}(u)$  where  $u = (\varepsilon_0' - 1) + (\varepsilon_1' - 1) \alpha + (\varepsilon_2' - 1) \alpha^2$ . Now suppose  $\varepsilon_3' = \varepsilon_4' = 1$  and  $\varepsilon_5' = 0$ . Then  $\varepsilon_1' = 0$  or  $\varepsilon_2' = 0$ , and,  $z = \varepsilon_0' + (\varepsilon_1' - 1) \alpha + (\varepsilon_2' - 1) \alpha^2 + \alpha^5 + \sum_{i=6}^{+\infty} \varepsilon_i' \alpha^i$ . Hence :

- If  $\varepsilon_0' = 0$ , then  $z \in \mathcal{E}(u)$  where  $u = (\varepsilon_1' 1)\alpha + (\varepsilon_2' 1)\alpha^2$ . If  $\varepsilon_0' = 1$ , then  $t = (0,1)(0,\varepsilon_1')(0,\varepsilon_2')(0,1)(\varepsilon_4,1)(\varepsilon_5,0)\dots$  is an infinite path in the automaton beginning in the initial state. This implies that  $t = (0,1)(0,1)(0,0)(0,1)(1,1)(0,0)ww\dots$  where w = (0,1)(1,0)(1,0)(0,1). Hence  $z = 1 + \alpha + \alpha^3 + \alpha^4 + \alpha^6 + \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} (\alpha^{4i+1} + \alpha^{4i+2})$ . Thus  $z + \alpha^{-2} + \alpha^{-1} + \alpha = \alpha^5 + \alpha^6 + \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} (\alpha^{4i+1} + \alpha^{4i+2})$  and z belongs to  $\mathcal{E}(-\alpha^{-2} - \alpha^{-1} - \alpha)$ .

If  $\varepsilon_3' = \varepsilon_4' = \varepsilon_5' = 1$ , then  $\varepsilon_2' = \varepsilon_6' = 0$ . Hence  $z = \varepsilon_0' + \varepsilon_1' \alpha - \alpha^2 + \alpha^6 + \sum_{i=7}^{+\infty} \varepsilon_i' \alpha^i$ .

- If  $\varepsilon'_0 = \varepsilon'_1 = 0$ , then  $z \in \mathcal{E}(-\alpha^2)$ .
- When  $\varepsilon'_0 + \varepsilon'_1 = 1$ , there is no infinite path in the automaton starting in the initial state and beginning with  $(0, \varepsilon_0')(0, \varepsilon_1')(0, 0)(0, 1)(\varepsilon_4, 1)(\varepsilon_5, 1)$ .
- Hence it remains to consider the case :  $\varepsilon'_0 + \varepsilon'_1 = 2$ . But it is easy to check that this implies  $\varepsilon_6' = 1$  which is not possible.

This ends the proof.

Using the automaton given in the Annexe, we deduce the following result.

**Proposition 12.** Let  $X = \mathcal{E}(1 + \alpha + \alpha^2)$  and  $Y = \mathcal{E}(1 + \alpha)$ . Then,

a) 
$$\mathcal{E}(1) = 1 + \alpha X$$
, b)  $\mathcal{E}(\alpha^2) = -\frac{1}{\alpha} - 1 - \alpha + \frac{X}{\alpha}$ , c)  $\mathcal{E}(1 + \alpha^2) = \left\{\frac{\alpha^4}{1 - \alpha^2}\right\}$ , d)  $\mathcal{E}(\alpha^{-2} + \alpha^{-1} + \alpha) = \left\{\frac{\alpha^5 + \alpha^6}{1 - \alpha^4}\right\}$ , e)  $\mathcal{E}(\alpha^{-3} + \alpha^{-2} + 1 + \alpha^3) = \left\{\frac{\alpha^4 + \alpha^5}{1 - \alpha^4}\right\}$  f)  $\mathcal{E}(\alpha) = f_0(X) \cup f_1(X) \cup f_1(Y)$ 

$$g(x) \mathcal{E}(\alpha + \alpha^2) = g_0(X) \cup g_1(X) \cup g_1(Y) \cup g_2(Y) \cup g_3(Y), \text{ where } g(X) \cup g_1(Y) \cup g_2(Y) \cup g_3(Y)$$

$$f_0(z) = \alpha + \alpha^2 z,$$
  $f_1(z) = \alpha + \alpha^4 + \alpha^2 z,$   $g_0(z) = \alpha^5 + \alpha^4 z,$   $g_1(z) = \alpha^5 + \alpha^6 + \alpha^4 z,$   $g_2(z) = \alpha z,$   $g_3(z) = \alpha^4 + \alpha z,$ 

h) 
$$X = \bigcup_{i=0}^{4} h_i(X) \cup h_1(Y) \cup h_3(Y)$$
 and i)  $Y = \bigcup_{i=5}^{11} h_i(Y) \cup \bigcup_{i=12}^{17} h_i(X)$ , where

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\begin{array}{ll} h_0(z) = \alpha^4 + \alpha^4 z, \\ h_2(z) = \alpha^4 + \alpha^5 + \alpha^4 z, \\ h_4(z) = 1 + \alpha + \alpha^2 + \alpha^7 + \alpha^5 z, \\ h_6(z) = \alpha^4 + \alpha^7 + \alpha^4 z, \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{ll} h_3(z) = \alpha \\ h_5(z) = h_2(z) \\ h_7(z) = \alpha^4 + \alpha^8 + \alpha^9 + \alpha^7 z, \\ h_9(z) = \alpha^4 + \alpha^5 + \alpha^7 + \alpha^4 z, \\ \vdots \\ h_9(z) = \alpha^4 + \alpha^6 + \alpha^7 + \alpha^4 z, \end{array}
  h_{10}(z) = \alpha^4 + \alpha^5 + \alpha^8 + \alpha^9 + \alpha^7 z, \quad h_{11}(z) = 1 + \alpha + \alpha^6 + \alpha^7 + \alpha^5 z
 h_{12}(z) = \alpha^4 + \alpha^8 + \alpha^7 z,
                                                                                                                 h_{13}(z) = h_7(z),
  h_{14}(z) = \alpha^4 + \alpha^5 + \alpha^8 + \alpha^7 z,
                                                                                                                 h_{15}(z) = h_{10}(z)
  h_{16}(z) = 1 + \alpha + \alpha^6 + \alpha^5 z,
                                                                                                                 h_{17}(z) = h_{11}(z),
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*Proof.* a) The set  $1 + \alpha X$  is clearly included in  $1 + \alpha \mathcal{E}$ . Moreover it is easy to check that  $1 + \alpha X$  is a subset of  $\alpha^4 + \alpha \mathcal{E}$  which is included in  $\mathcal{E}$ . Hence  $1 + \alpha X \subset \mathcal{E}(1)$ . On the other hand, let  $z \in \mathcal{E}(1)$ . Then, there exist  $(\varepsilon_i)_{i \geq 4}$  and  $(\varepsilon'_i)_{i \geq 4}$  in  $\mathcal{D}^{\infty}$  such that  $z = 1 + \sum_{i \geq 4} \varepsilon_i \alpha^i = \sum_{i \geq 4} \varepsilon_i' \alpha^i$ . From Corollary 7,  $(1,0)(0,0)(0,0)(0,0)(\varepsilon_4,\varepsilon_4')$  $(\varepsilon_5, \varepsilon_5')$  is a finite path in the automaton  $\mathcal{A}$  starting at the initial state. Following this path in the automaton we deduce  $(\varepsilon_4, \varepsilon_4') = (0, 1)$  and  $(\varepsilon_5, \varepsilon_5') = (1, 0)$ . It gives  $z = 1 + \alpha^5 + \alpha^2 w = \alpha^4 + \alpha^2 w'$  where  $w, w' \in \mathcal{E}$ . Consequently  $\mathcal{E}(1) \subset$  $(1 + \alpha \mathcal{E}) \cap (\alpha^4 + \alpha \mathcal{E}) = 1 + \alpha (\mathcal{E} \cap (1 + \alpha + \alpha^2 + \mathcal{E})) = 1 + \alpha X.$ b) We have  $1+\alpha+\alpha^2+\alpha\mathcal{E}(\alpha^2)=(\alpha^4+\alpha\mathcal{E})\cap(1+\alpha+\alpha^2+\alpha\mathcal{E})\subset\mathcal{E}\cap(1+\alpha+\alpha^2+\mathcal{E})=$ X. Hence  $\mathcal{E}(\alpha^2) \subset -\frac{1}{\alpha} - 1 - \alpha + \frac{X}{\alpha}$ . To prove the other inclusion, let  $z \in X$ . Then by the automaton we deduce that  $z = 1 + \alpha + \alpha^2 + \alpha w = \alpha^4 + \alpha w'$ ,  $w, w' \in \mathcal{E}$ . Hence  $-\frac{1}{\alpha} - 1 - \alpha + \frac{z}{\alpha} = w = \alpha^2 + w'$  and  $-\frac{1}{\alpha} - 1 - \alpha + \frac{X}{\alpha} \subset \mathcal{E}(\alpha^2)$ .

c) Let  $z \in \mathcal{E}(1 + \alpha^2)$ :  $z = \sum_{i \geq 4} \varepsilon_i \alpha^i = 1 + \alpha^2 + \sum_{i \geq 4} \varepsilon_i' \alpha^i$ ,  $(\varepsilon_i)_{i \geq 4}$ ,  $(\varepsilon_i')_{i \geq 4} \in \mathcal{E}(\alpha^2)$ .  $\mathcal{D}^{\infty}$ . Corollary 7 and the automaton show that  $(0,1)(0,0)(0,1)(0,0)(\varepsilon_4,\varepsilon_4)\dots$  is a infinite path starting in the initial state and  $(\varepsilon_i, \varepsilon_i')_{i\geq 4}$  is equal to  $uuu\dots$  where u=(1,0)(0,1). Then,  $z=\alpha^4+\alpha^6+\alpha^8+\cdots=1+\alpha^2+\alpha^5+\alpha^7+\alpha^9+\ldots$  and  $\mathcal{E}(1+\alpha^2) = \alpha^4(1-\alpha^2)^{-1}$ .

- d) Let  $z \in \mathcal{E}(\alpha^{-2} + \alpha^{-1} + \alpha)$ . From Corollary 7 and using the automaton we deduce that  $z = \alpha^{-2} + \alpha^{-1} + \alpha + \alpha^4 + \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} (\alpha^{4i-1} + \alpha^{4i}) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} (\alpha^{4i+1} + \alpha^{4i+2})$ . Hence  $\mathcal{E}(\alpha^{-2} + \alpha^{-1} + \alpha) = (\alpha^5 + \alpha^6)(1 - \alpha^4)^{-1}.$
- e) Corollary 7 and the automaton give the result.
- f) Let  $z \in \mathcal{E}(\alpha)$ . Then, there exist  $(\varepsilon_i)_{i\geq 4}$  and  $(\varepsilon_i')_{i\geq 4}$  in  $\mathcal{D}^{\infty}$  such that z= $\sum_{i>4} \varepsilon_i \alpha^i = \alpha + \sum_{i>4} \varepsilon_i' \alpha^i.$  From Corollary 7,  $(0,0)(0,1)(0,0)(0,0)(\varepsilon_4,\varepsilon_4')...$  is a path in the automaton starting in the initial state. Hence,  $(\varepsilon_4, \varepsilon_4')(\varepsilon_5, \varepsilon_5')(\varepsilon_6, \varepsilon_6')$ belongs to  $\{(0,0),(1,1),(0,1)\}(1,0)(0,1)$ . Consequently, z belongs to the union of  $(\alpha^5 + \alpha^2 \mathcal{E}) \cap (\alpha + \alpha^2 \mathcal{E}), (\alpha^4 + \alpha^5 + \alpha^2 \mathcal{E}) \cap (\alpha + \alpha^4 + \alpha^2 \mathcal{E}) \text{ and } (\alpha^5 + \alpha^2 \mathcal{E}) \cap (\alpha + \alpha^4 + \alpha^2 \mathcal{E})$ which is equal to  $f_0(X) \cup f_1(X) \cup f_1(Y)$ . Hence  $\mathcal{E}(\alpha) = f_0(X) \cup f_1(X) \cup f_1(Y)$ . g) Let  $z \in \mathcal{E}(\alpha + \alpha^2)$ . Then, there exist  $(\varepsilon_i)_{i \geq 4}$  and  $(\varepsilon_i')_{i \geq 4}$  in  $\mathcal{D}^{\infty}$  such that  $z = \sum_{i \geq 4} \varepsilon_i \alpha^i = \alpha + \alpha^2 + \sum_{i \geq 4} \varepsilon_i' \alpha^i$ . From Corollary 7,  $(0,0)(0,1)(0,1)(0,0)(\varepsilon_4,\varepsilon_4')\dots$ is a path in the automaton starting in the initial state. Hence, we either have
  - $(1) ((\varepsilon_i, \varepsilon_i'))_{4 \le i \le 7} \in (0, 1)(1, 0)\{(0, 0), (1, 1), (1, 0)\}(0, 1),$
  - (2)  $(\varepsilon_4, \varepsilon_4') \in \{(0,0), (1,1)\}, \text{ or }$
  - (3)  $((\varepsilon_i, \varepsilon_i'))_{i \ge 4} \in (0, 1)\{(0, 0)(0, 0), (0, 0)(1, 1), (1, 1)(0, 0)\}ww\dots,$

where w = (0,1)(1,0)(1,0)(0,1). This means that z belongs to

$$\begin{array}{c} \left((\alpha^{5}+\alpha^{4}\mathcal{E})\cap(\alpha+\alpha^{2}+\alpha^{4}+\alpha^{7}+\alpha^{4}\mathcal{E})\right) \\ \cup \left((\alpha^{5}+\alpha^{6}+\alpha^{4}\mathcal{E})\cap(\alpha+\alpha^{2}+\alpha^{4}+\alpha^{6}+\alpha^{7}+\alpha^{4}\mathcal{E})\right) \\ \cup \left((\alpha^{5}+\alpha^{6}+\alpha^{4}\mathcal{E})\cap(\alpha+\alpha^{2}+\alpha^{4}+\alpha^{7}+\alpha^{4}\mathcal{E})\right) \\ \cup \left((\alpha\mathcal{E}\cap(\alpha+\alpha^{2}+\alpha\mathcal{E}))\cup\left((\alpha^{4}+\alpha\mathcal{E})\cap(\alpha+\alpha^{2}+\alpha^{4}+\alpha\mathcal{E})\right) \\ \cup \left\{z_{1},z_{2},z_{3}\right\} \\ = g_{0}(X)\cup g_{1}(X)\cup g_{1}(Y)\cup g_{2}(Y)\cup g_{3}(Y)\cup \left\{z_{1},z_{2},z_{3}\right\} \end{array}$$

where  $z_1 = \sum_{i=2}^{+\infty} (\alpha^{4i} + \alpha^{4i+1}) = \alpha + \alpha^2 + \alpha^4 + \alpha^7 + \sum_{i=2}^{+\infty} (\alpha^{4i+2} + \alpha^{4i+3}), z_2 = \alpha^6 + z_1$  and  $z_3 = \alpha^5 + z_1$ . We can also check that (1,0)(1,0)(0,0)(0,0)uuu..., where u = (0,1)(1,1)(1,0)(1,0), is an infinite path of the automaton starting in the initial state. Consequently,  $z_1 = \alpha^4 + \alpha^5 + \sum_{i=2}^{+\infty} (\alpha^{4i+1} + \alpha^{4i+2})$  and

$$z_1 \in ((\alpha^4 + \alpha \mathcal{E}) \cap (\alpha + \alpha^2 + \alpha^4 + \alpha \mathcal{E})) = g_3(Y).$$

Moreover, it shows that  $z_2$  belongs to  $g_3(Y)$ . In the same way,  $z_1 = \alpha^5 + \alpha^6 + \alpha^8 + \sum_{i=2}^{+\infty} (\alpha^{4i+3} + \alpha^{4i+4})$ . Thus,  $z_3 = 2\alpha^5 + \alpha^6 + \alpha^8 + \sum_{i=2}^{+\infty} (\alpha^{4i+3} + \alpha^{4i+4}) = \alpha^5 + \sum_{i=2}^{+\infty} (\alpha^{4i} + \alpha^{4i+1})$ . But  $2\alpha^5 + \alpha^6 = \alpha + \alpha^2 + \alpha^7$ , consequently  $z_3$  belongs to  $(\alpha \mathcal{E}) \cap (\alpha + \alpha^2 + \alpha \mathcal{E})) = g_2(Y)$ .

h) Let  $z \in X = \mathcal{E}(1 + \alpha + \alpha^2)$ . Then, there exist  $(\varepsilon_i)_{i \geq 4}$  and  $(\varepsilon_i')_{i \geq 4}$  in  $\mathcal{D}^{\infty}$  such that  $z = \sum_{i \geq 4} \varepsilon_i \alpha^i = 1 + \alpha + \alpha^2 + \sum_{i \geq 4} \varepsilon_i' \alpha^i$ . From Corollary 7, we necessarily have  $(\varepsilon_4, \varepsilon_4') = (1, 0)$  and one of the following situations:

- (1)  $((\varepsilon_i, \varepsilon_i'))_{i>5} \in (1,0)\{(0,0),(1,1)\}ww\dots$  where w=(0,1)(1,0);
- (2)  $((\varepsilon_i, \varepsilon_i'))_{i>5} \in (0,1)\{(0,0),(1,1)\}ww\dots$  where w=(0,1)(1,0)(1,0)(0,1);
- (3)  $(\varepsilon_i, \varepsilon_i')_{5 \le i \le 8} \in \{(0,0), (1,1)\}^2(0,1)(1,0);$
- (4)  $(\varepsilon_i, \varepsilon_i')_{5 \le i \le 9} = (1, 0)(1, 0)(0, 1)(1, 0)(0, 1);$
- (5)  $(\varepsilon_i, \varepsilon_i')_{5 \le i \le 8} \in \{(0,0), (1,1)\}(1,0)(0,1)(1,0).$

This means z belongs to  $\bigcup_{i=0}^4 h_i(X) \cup h_1(Y) \cup h_3(Y) \cup \{x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4\}$  where

$$\begin{split} x_1 = &\alpha^4 + \alpha^5 + \sum_{i=4}^{+\infty} \alpha^{2i} = 1 + \alpha + \alpha^2 + \sum_{i=3}^{+\infty} \alpha^{2i+1}, \\ x_2 = &x_1 + \alpha^6, \\ x_3 = &\alpha^4 + \sum_{i=2}^{+\infty} (\alpha^{4i} + \alpha^{4i+1}) = 1 + \alpha + \alpha^2 + \alpha^5 + \alpha^7 + \sum_{i=2}^{+\infty} (\alpha^{4i+2} + \alpha^{4i+3}), \\ x_4 = &x_3 + \alpha^6, \\ h_0(X) = &(\alpha^4 + \alpha^4 \mathcal{E}) \cap (1 + \alpha + \alpha^2 + \alpha^7 + \alpha^4 \mathcal{E}), \\ h_1(X) = &(\alpha^4 + \alpha^6 + \alpha^4 \mathcal{E}) \cap (1 + \alpha + \alpha^2 + \alpha^6 + \alpha^7 + \alpha^4 \mathcal{E}), \\ h_2(X) = &(\alpha^4 + \alpha^5 + \alpha^4 \mathcal{E}) \cap (1 + \alpha + \alpha^2 + \alpha^5 + \alpha^7 + \alpha^4 \mathcal{E}), \\ h_3(X) = &(\alpha^4 + \alpha^5 + \alpha^6 + \alpha^4 \mathcal{E}) \cap (1 + \alpha + \alpha^2 + \alpha^5 + \alpha^6 + \alpha^7 + \alpha^4 \mathcal{E}), \\ h_4(X) = &(\alpha^4 + \alpha^5 + \alpha^6 + \alpha^8 + \alpha^5 \mathcal{E}) \cap (1 + \alpha + \alpha^2 + \alpha^7 + \alpha^5 \mathcal{E}), \\ h_1(Y) = &(\alpha^4 + \alpha^6 + \alpha^4 \mathcal{E}) \cap (1 + \alpha + \alpha^2 + \alpha^7 + \alpha^4 \mathcal{E}) \text{ and} \\ h_3(Y) = &(\alpha^4 + \alpha^5 + \alpha^6 + \alpha^4 \mathcal{E}) \cap (1 + \alpha + \alpha^2 + \alpha^5 + \alpha^7 + \alpha^4 \mathcal{E}). \end{split}$$

We easily can check (using Corollary 7 and the automaton) that

$$x_1 = x_3 = \alpha^4 + \sum_{i=2}^{+\infty} (\alpha^{4i} + \alpha^{4i+1}),$$

and thus  $x_1 \in h_0(X)$ ,  $x_2 \in h_1(X)$ , and  $x_2 = x_4$ , which concludes the proof of h). i) Let  $z \in X = \mathcal{E}(1 + \alpha)$ . Then, there exist  $(\varepsilon_i)_{i \geq 4}$  and  $(\varepsilon'_i)_{i \geq 4}$  in  $\mathcal{D}^{\infty}$  such that  $z = \sum_{i \geq 4} \varepsilon_i \alpha^i = 1 + \alpha + \sum_{i \geq 4} \varepsilon'_i \alpha^i$ . From Corollary 7, we necessarily have  $(\varepsilon_4, \varepsilon'_4) = (1, 0)$  and one of the following situations:

- (1)  $((\varepsilon_i, \varepsilon_i'))_{i>5} \in \{(0,0), (1,1)\}(0,1)^2\{(0,0), (1,1)\}^2 ww \dots;$
- (2)  $((\varepsilon_i, \varepsilon_i'))_{i\geq 5}^- \in (1,0)\{(0,0),(1,1)\}^2(1,0)(0,1)ww\dots;$
- (3)  $((\varepsilon_i, \varepsilon_i'))_{5 < i < 7} \in \{(0,0), (1,1)\}(0,1)\{(0,0), (1,1)\};$
- $(4) ((\varepsilon_i, \varepsilon_i'))_{5 \le i \le 8} \in \{(0, 0), (1, 1)\}(0, 1)^2(1, 0)\{(0, 0), (1, 1), (1, 0)\}(0, 1)(1, 0);$
- (5)  $((\varepsilon_i, \varepsilon_i'))_{5 \le i \ge 8} \in (1, 0)(0, 1)\{(0, 0), (1, 1), (0, 1)\}\{(1, 0)(0, 1).$

where w = (0,1)(1,0)(1,0)(0,1). Hence z belongs to

$$\left(\bigcup_{i=5}^{11}h_i(Y)\right)\cup\left(\bigcup_{i=12}^{17}h_i(X)\right)\cup\{y_i;1\leq i\leq 8\},$$

where

$$y_{1} = \alpha^{4} + \sum_{i=2}^{+\infty} (\alpha^{4i+3} + \alpha^{4i+4}) = 1 + \alpha + \alpha^{6} + \alpha^{7} + \alpha^{10} + \sum_{i=3}^{+\infty} (\alpha^{4i+1} + \alpha^{4i+2}),$$

$$y_{2} = y_{1} + \alpha^{9}, y_{3} = y_{1} + \alpha^{8}, y_{4} = y_{1} + \alpha^{5}, y_{5} = y_{1} + \alpha^{5} + \alpha^{9}.$$

$$y_{6} = y_{1} + \alpha^{5} + \alpha^{8} = 1 + \alpha + \sum_{i=2}^{+\infty} (\alpha^{4i+1} + \alpha^{4i+2}), y_{7} = y_{6} + \alpha^{7}, y_{8} = y_{6} + \alpha^{6},$$

$$h_{5}(Y) = (\alpha^{4} + \alpha^{5} + \alpha^{4}\mathcal{E}) \cap (1 + \alpha + \alpha^{5} + \alpha^{6} + \alpha^{4}\mathcal{E}),$$

$$h_{6}(Y) = (\alpha^{4} + \alpha^{7} + \alpha^{4}\mathcal{E}) \cap (1 + \alpha + \alpha^{6} + \alpha^{7} + \alpha^{4}\mathcal{E}),$$

$$h_{7}(Y) = (\alpha^{4} + \alpha^{8} + \alpha^{9} + \alpha^{7}\mathcal{E}) \cap (1 + \alpha + \alpha^{6} + \alpha^{7} + \alpha^{10} + \alpha^{7}\mathcal{E}),$$

$$h_{8}(Y) = (\alpha^{4} + \alpha^{4}\mathcal{E}) \cap (1 + \alpha + \alpha^{6} + \alpha^{4}\mathcal{E}),$$

$$h_{9}(Y) = (\alpha^{4} + \alpha^{5} + \alpha^{7} + \alpha^{4}\mathcal{E}) \cap (1 + \alpha + \alpha^{5} + \alpha^{6} + \alpha^{7} + \alpha^{4}\mathcal{E}),$$

$$h_{10}(Y) = (\alpha^{4} + \alpha^{5} + \alpha^{8} + \alpha^{9} + \alpha^{7}\mathcal{E}) \cap (1 + \alpha + \alpha^{5} + \alpha^{6} + \alpha^{7} + \alpha^{10} + \alpha^{7}\mathcal{E}),$$

$$h_{11}(Y) = (\alpha^{4} + \alpha^{5} + \alpha^{8} + \alpha^{5}\mathcal{E}) \cap (1 + \alpha + \alpha^{6} + \alpha^{7} + \alpha^{5}\mathcal{E}),$$

$$h_{12}(Y) = (\alpha^{4} + \alpha^{8} + \alpha^{7}\mathcal{E}) \cap (1 + \alpha + \alpha^{6} + \alpha^{7} + \alpha^{10} + \alpha^{7}\mathcal{E}),$$

$$h_{13}(X) = (\alpha^{4} + \alpha^{8} + \alpha^{9} + \alpha^{7}\mathcal{E}) \cap (1 + \alpha + \alpha^{6} + \alpha^{7} + \alpha^{9} + \alpha^{10} + \alpha^{7}\mathcal{E}),$$

$$h_{14}(X) = (\alpha^{4} + \alpha^{5} + \alpha^{8} + \alpha^{9} \mathcal{E}) \cap (1 + \alpha + \alpha^{5} + \alpha^{6} + \alpha^{7} + \alpha^{10} + \alpha^{7}\mathcal{E}),$$

$$h_{15}(X) = (\alpha^{4} + \alpha^{5} + \alpha^{8} + \alpha^{9} + \alpha^{7}\mathcal{E}) \cap (1 + \alpha + \alpha^{5} + \alpha^{6} + \alpha^{7} + \alpha^{9} + \alpha^{10} + \alpha^{7}\mathcal{E}),$$

$$h_{17}(X) = (\alpha^{4} + \alpha^{5} + \alpha^{8} + \alpha^{9} + \alpha^{7}\mathcal{E}) \cap (1 + \alpha + \alpha^{6} + \alpha^{7} + \alpha^{9} + \alpha^{10} + \alpha^{7}\mathcal{E}),$$

Let us prove that for each integer  $i \in \{1, ..., 8\}$ , there exists  $j \in \{5, ..., 11\}$  or  $k \in \{12, ..., 17\}$  such that  $y_i$  belongs to  $h_j(X)$  or to  $h_k(Y)$ .

Indeed, since  $y_1 = \alpha^4 + \alpha^3 z_1$  (see case g)), then  $y_1 \in (\alpha^4 + \alpha^7 + \alpha^4 \mathcal{E}) \cap (2\alpha^4 + \alpha^5 + \alpha^7 + \alpha^4 \mathcal{E}) = h_6(Y)$ . We deduce that  $y_2$  and  $y_3$  belong also to  $h_6(Y)$ , and,  $y_4$  and  $y_5$  belong to  $h_9(Y)$ .

Using the automaton we can verify that  $y_6 = 1 + \alpha + \alpha^5 + \alpha^6 + \sum_{i=2}^{+\infty} (\alpha^{4i+2} + \alpha^{4i+3})$ . Hence,  $y_6$  belongs to  $1 + \alpha + \alpha^5 + \alpha^6 + \alpha^4 \mathcal{E}$ . But it also belongs to  $\alpha^4 + \alpha^5 + \alpha^4 \mathcal{E}$ . Thus  $y_6 \in h_5(Y)$  and  $y_7 \in h_9(Y)$ .

We have  $y_8 = y_6 + \alpha^6 \in (1 + \alpha + \alpha^6 + \alpha^5 \mathcal{E})$ . On the other hand we can check using the automaton that  $y_8 = \alpha^4 + \alpha^5 + \alpha^8 + \sum_{i=5}^{+\infty} \alpha^{2i}$ , hence  $y_8 \in (\alpha^4 + \alpha^5 + \alpha^8 + \alpha^5 \mathcal{E})$  and  $y_8$  belongs to  $h_{16}(X)$ .

**Remarks and comments.** There are points which has at least 6 expansions in base  $\alpha$ . For example:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \alpha + \sum_{i=2}^{+\infty} \alpha^{2i} &= \sum_{i=1}^{+\infty} (\alpha^{4i} + \alpha^{4i+1}) \\ &= 1 + \alpha + \alpha^2 + \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} \alpha^{2i+1} \\ &= 1 + \alpha + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} (\alpha^{4i+1} + \alpha^{4i+2})) \\ &= \alpha + \alpha^2 + \alpha^4 + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} (\alpha^{4i+3} + \alpha^{4i+4}) \\ &= \alpha^{-3} + \alpha^{-2} + 1 + \alpha^3 + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} (\alpha^{4i+2} + \alpha^{4i+3}). \end{array}$$

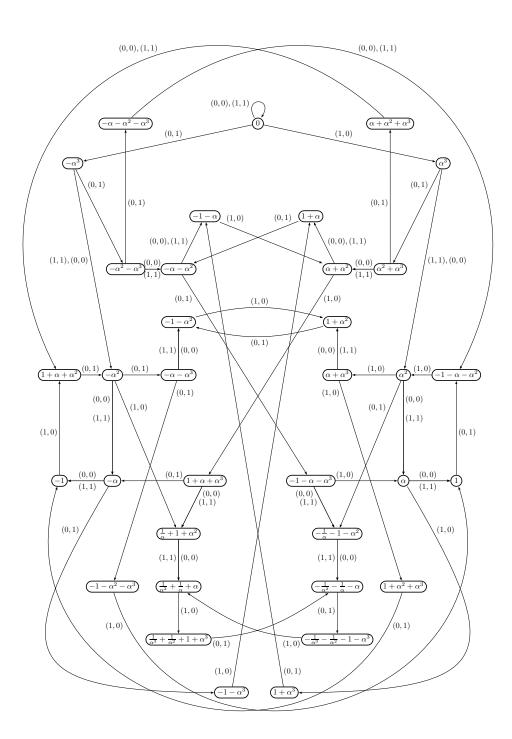
We address the two following questions:

- (1) Can you parameterize the boundary of  $\mathcal{E}_{1,1,1}$ ?
- (2) Does this boundary be homeomorphic to the sphere?

The technics used in this work can be used to study  $\mathcal{E}_{a_1,a_2,...,a_d}$  with the assumption that  $a_1 \geq a_2 \geq \cdots \geq a_d \geq 1$ .

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### Annexe.



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