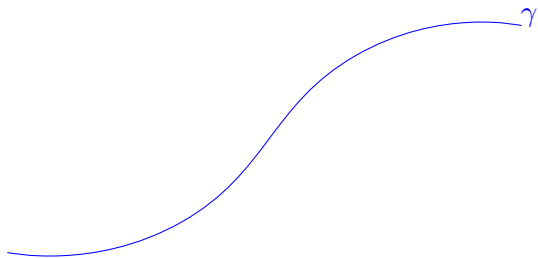


# Another definition for digital tangents

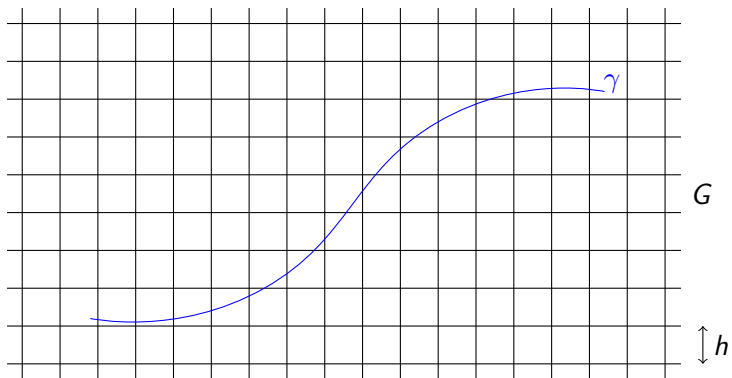
Thierry Monteil

DGCI 2011

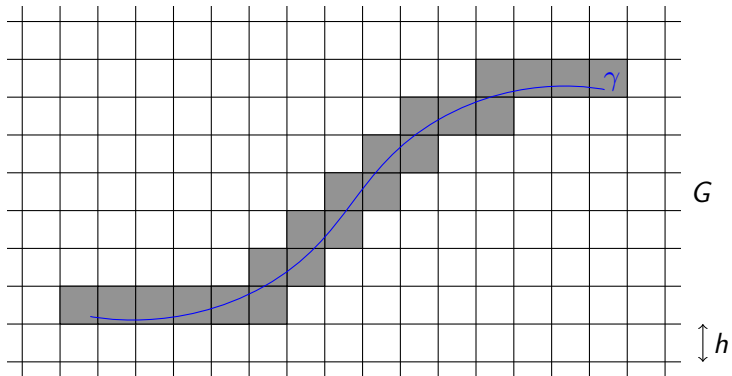
## Coding of a smooth curve



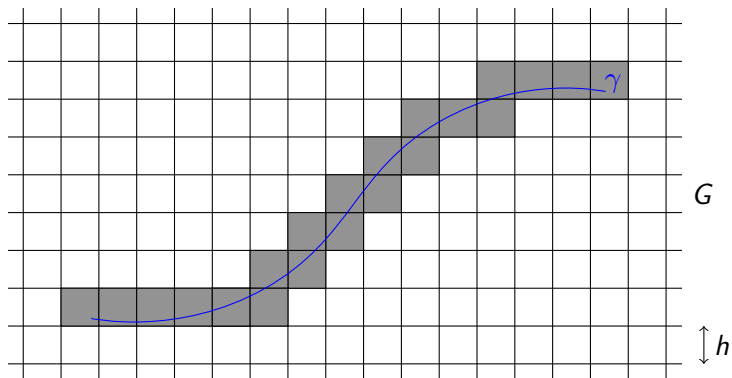
## Coding of a smooth curve



# Coding of a smooth curve

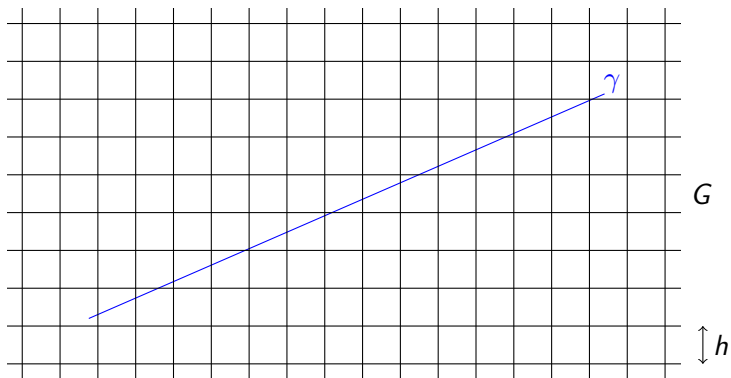


## Coding of a smooth curve



$$F(\gamma, G) = 000001010101001000$$

## The case of digital straight segments



$$w = F(\gamma, G) = 00100100010010010001$$

# The case of digital straight segments

There are three types of characterisations of the codings of digital straight segments, corresponding to three properties of the lines:

- ▶ *Lines are the curves of constant slope*

A word  $w$  is *1-balanced* if

$$\forall u, v \in \text{Fact}(w) \quad |u| = |v| \Rightarrow ||u|_1 - |v|_1| \leq 1$$

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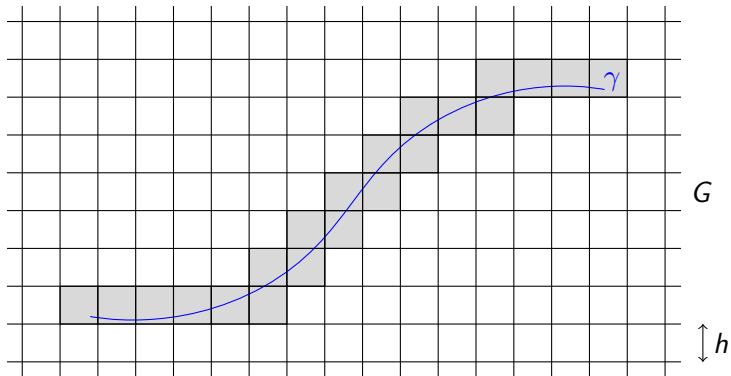
$$w = 00100100010010010001 \mapsto 11011101 \mapsto 00 \mapsto \varepsilon$$

- ▶ *Lines are the most predictable curves*

A word  $w$  is a *Sturmian factor* if

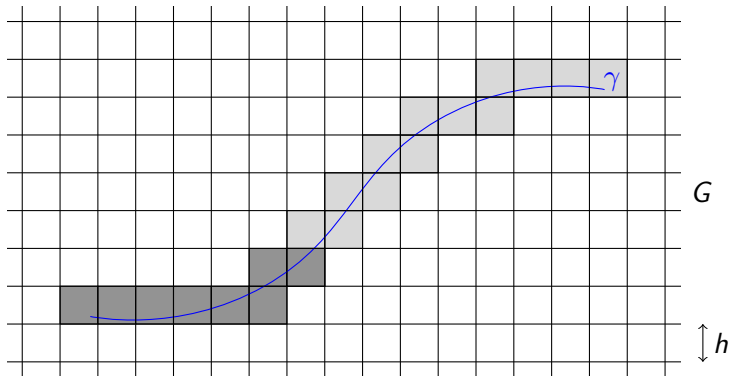
$w$  is a factor of an infinite word with complexity  $n + 1$

# Segmentation



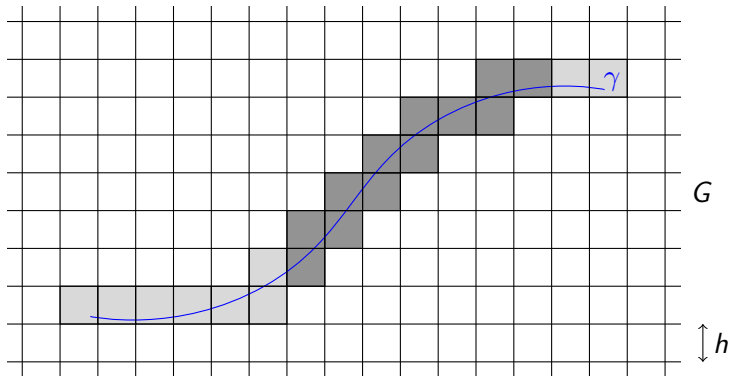
$$F(\gamma, G) = 0000010.10101010010.00$$

# Segmentation



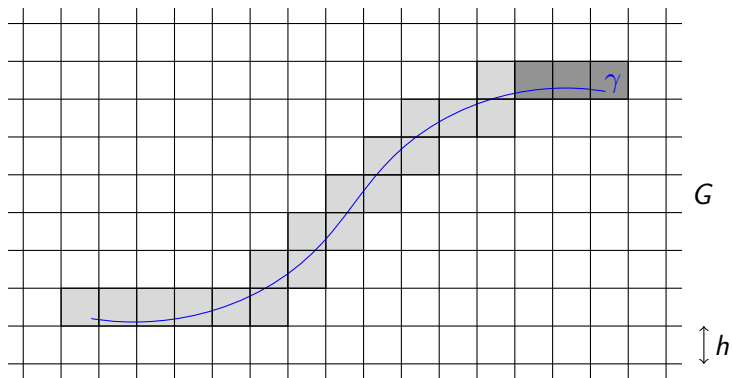
$$F(\gamma, G) = 0000010.10101010010.00$$

# Segmentation



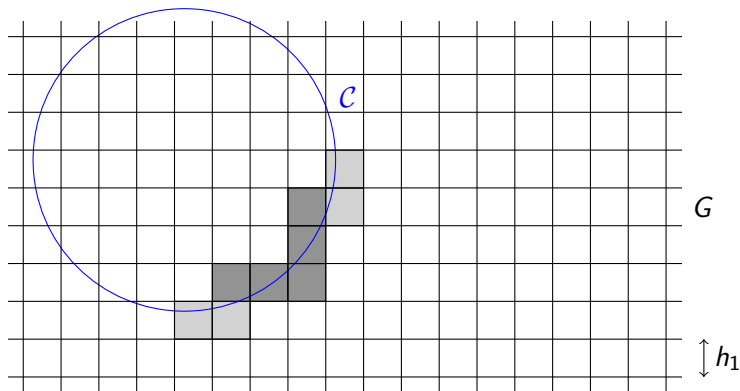
$$F(\gamma, G) = 0000010.10101010010.00$$

# Segmentation



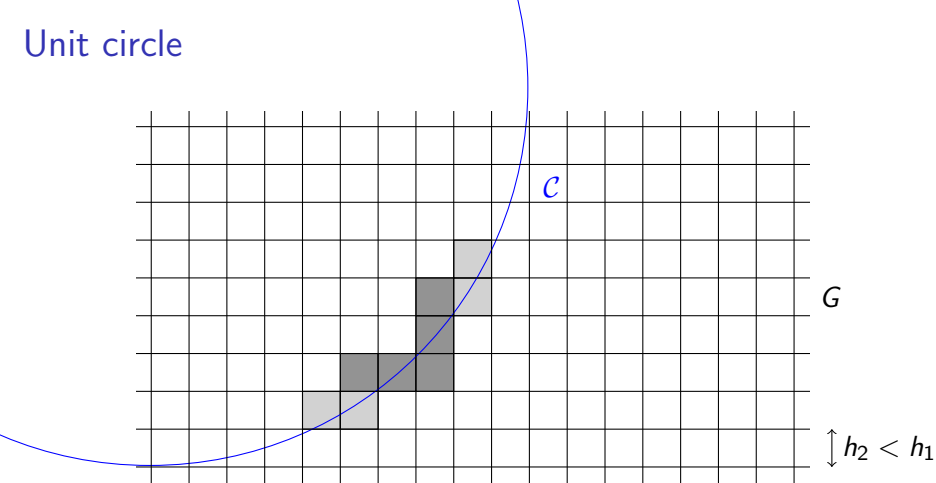
$$F(\gamma, G) = 0000010.10101010010.00$$

## Unit circle



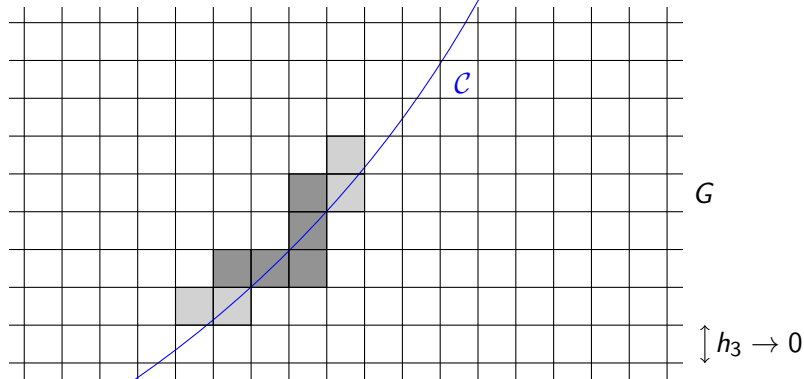
The word **01001101** appears in the coding of a circle for arbitrary small scales but does not correspond to a digital straight segment.

## Unit circle



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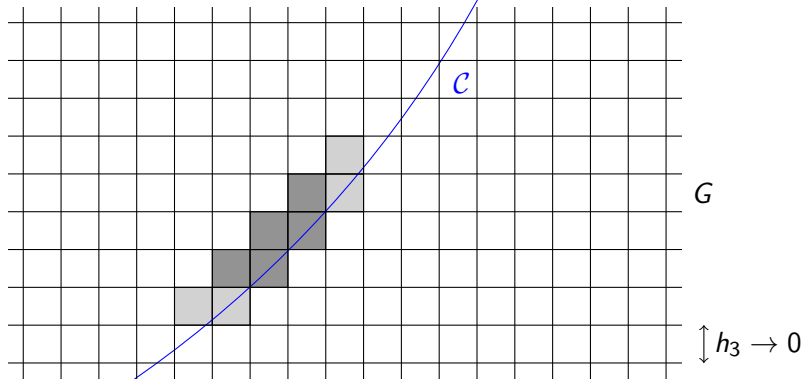
## Unit circle



The word **01001101** appears in the coding of a circle for arbitrary small scales but does not correspond to a digital straight segment.



## Unit circle



It can be understood as an error on the word  $01\mathbf{0101}01$ , which corresponds to a digital straight segment.

## Tangent words

The aim of this talk is to introduce and describe those words that survive in the coding of a smooth curve when the mesh of the grid goes to 0.

If  $\gamma$  is a smooth curve, we define the tangent words to  $\gamma$  as

$$T(\gamma) = \limsup_{\text{mesh}(G) \rightarrow 0} L(\gamma, G) = \bigcap_{\varepsilon > 0} \bigcup_{\text{mesh}(G) \leq \varepsilon} L(\gamma, G),$$

where  $L(G, \gamma)$  denotes the set of words appearing in the coding of  $\gamma$  by the grid  $G$ .

We denote by  $T$  the set of all tangent words obtained for all smooth curves and call them *tangent words*.

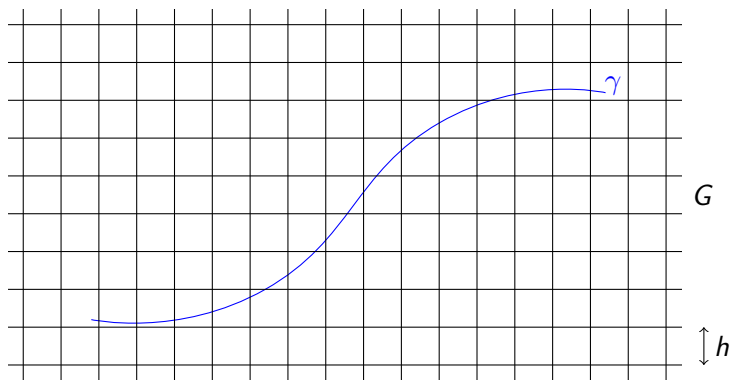
## First examples

Any coding of a digital straight segment is tangent.

We just saw that the word 0011 is tangent.

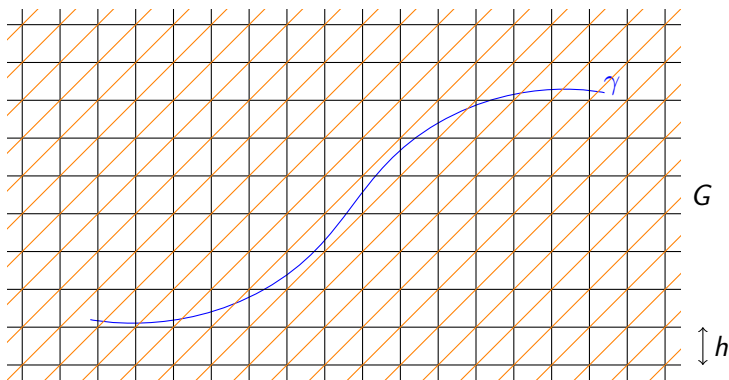
The word 00011 is not tangent.

## Combinatorial characterisation: recoding



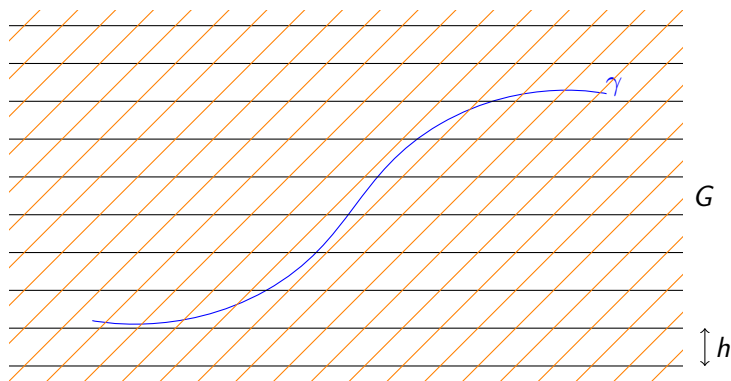
$w = 000001010101001000$

## Combinatorial characterisation: recoding



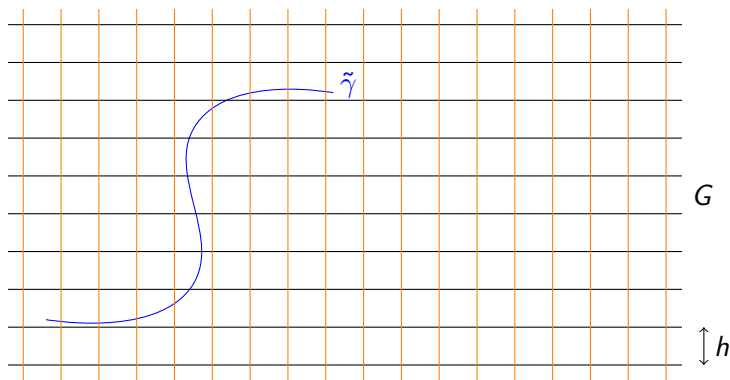
$w = 00000101010101001000$   
 $020202020101010101020102020$

## Combinatorial characterisation: recoding



$w = 00000101010101001000$   
02020202010101010101020102020  
2222111112122

## Combinatorial characterisation: recoding



$w = 00000101010101001000$   
02020202010101010101020102020  
2222111112122

$\tilde{w} = 0000111110100$

We removed one letter to each run of the non-isolated letter.

## Combinatorial characterisation: multi-scale structure

A word  $w$  is a coding of a curve  $\gamma$  if, and only if,  $\tilde{w}$  is a coding of

$$\tilde{\gamma} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \circ \gamma \text{ (resp. } \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \circ \gamma \text{ if } 0 \text{ is isolated).}$$

Hence, a word  $w$  is tangent if, and only if,  $\tilde{w}$  is tangent.

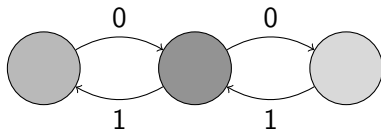
Since  $\tilde{w}$  is shorter than  $w$ , we can repeat the process until we are stuck: we get a word  $d(w)$ .

- ▶  $d(w)$  is empty if, and only if,  $w$  is a coding of a digital straight segment.
- ▶ Otherwise,  $d(w)$  contains 00 and 11: we have to characterize tangent words whose slope is 1.

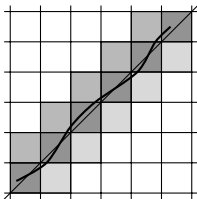


## Combinatorial characterisation: slope 1

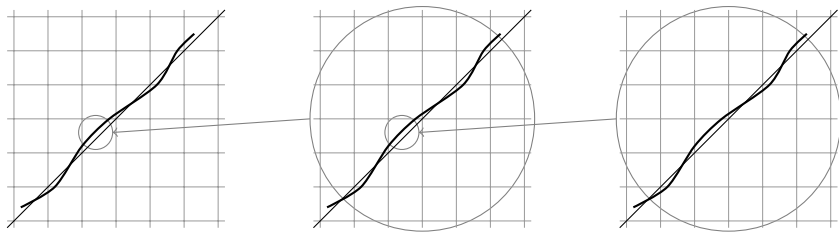
A word  $w$  is tangent if, and only if,  $d(w)$  is recognised by the following automaton with three states, which are all considered as initial and accepting:



For example, the word 0110100110 (which is not balanced) is diagonal:



Slope 1: how to produce such oscillations ?



## An example

100100010010010010001001000100 =  $w$

## An example

100100010010010010001001000100 =  $w$

~~100100010010010010001001000100~~

## An example

100100010010010010001001000100 =  $w$

~~100100010010010010001001000100~~

110111101101

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100100010010010010001001000100 =  $w$

~~100100010010010010001001000100~~

110111101101

~~110111101101~~

01100 =  $d(w)$

## An example

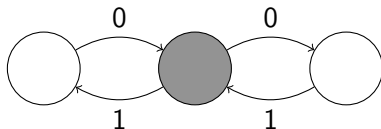
100100010010010010001001000100 =  $w$

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110111101101

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## An example

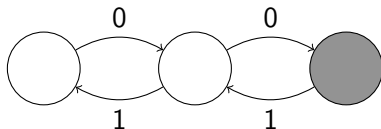
100100010010010010001001000100 =  $w$

~~100100010010010010001001000100~~

110111101101

~~110111101101~~

01100 =  $d(w)$



## An example

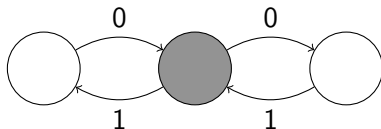
100100010010010010001001000100 =  $w$

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110111101101

~~110111101101~~

01100 =  $d(w)$



## An example

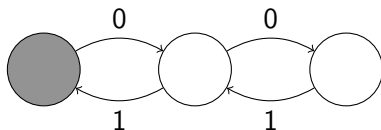
100100010010010010001001000100 =  $w$

~~100100010010010010001001000100~~

110111101101

~~110111101101~~

01100 =  $d(w)$



## An example

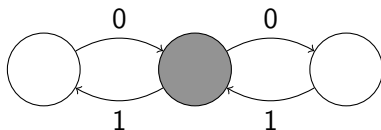
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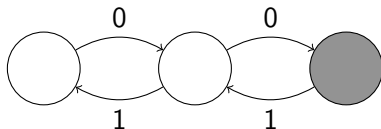
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~~100100010010010010001001000100~~

110111101101

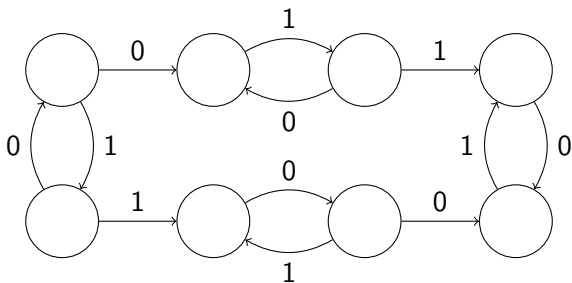
~~110111101101~~

01100 =  $d(w)$



## No bad vibration: analytic curves

A word  $w$  is a tangent word of an analytic curve if, and only if,  $d(w)$  is recognised by the following automaton with eight states, which are all considered as initial and accepting:



The tangent analytic curves also correspond to the tangent words of the smooth curves with nowhere zero curvature,  
For example, 001100 is tangent but not tangent analytic.

# Balance and complexity

Each class of words is strictly included in the next one:

- ▶ 1-balanced words (digital straight segments)
- ▶ tangent analytic words
- ▶ tangent (smooth) words
- ▶ 2-balanced words

For the first two classes, the complexity is cubical whereas for the last two classes, the complexity is exponential.

Recall:

- ▶ a word is  $k$ -balanced if  $\forall u, v \in \text{Fact}(w) \quad |u| = |v| \Rightarrow ||u|_1 - |v|_1| \leq k$
- ▶ the complexity of a set of words maps each integer  $n$  to the number of words of length  $n$ .

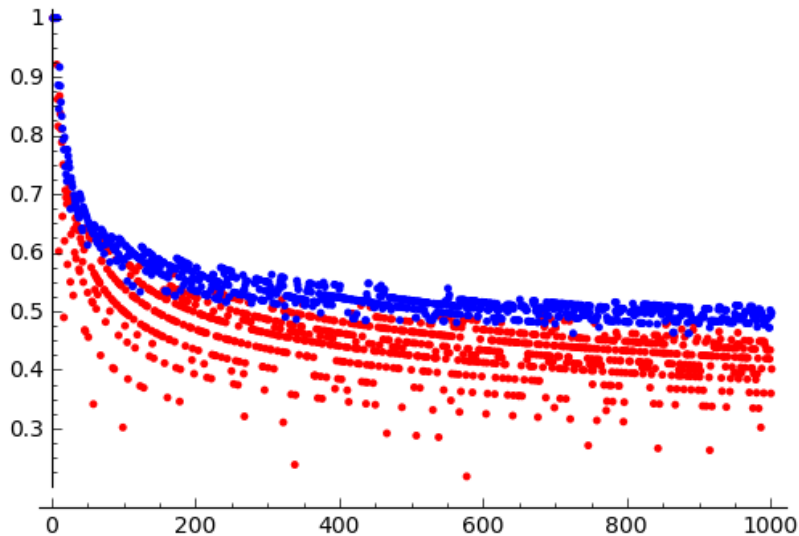
## Using tangent words for curve segmentation

The length of the smallest word appearing in the decomposition of a smooth curve into maximal digital straight segments does not necessarily goes to infinity when the mesh of the grid goes to zero (it is the case for strictly convex curves [ref]).

However it becomes the case if we replace digital straight segments by tangent words.



## Using tangent words for curve segmentation



## PhD proposal

A lot of open questions around the notion of tangent words are still open.

There is a grant for a PhD in Montpellier about this topic for the period 2011–2014. Please contact us if some good student could be interested.

<http://www.lirmm.fr/~monteil/proposition-de-these/>