

# Absolutely continuous invariant measure for complex continued fraction maps

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**Aim**

## Hurwitz complex continued fraction transformation

Define the domain  $U$  and the map  $T$  on  $U$  as follows:

$$U = \{z = x + iy : -1/2 < x, y < 1/2\}$$

$$T(z) = \frac{1}{z} - \left[ \frac{1}{z} \right] \text{ for } z \in U,$$

where  $[x]_2$  for  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  means the nearest integer of  $x$ , and  $[x + iy] = [x]_2 + i[y]_2$  for  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Define the map  $a$  on  $U$  and determine  $a_n$  ( $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ) as follows:

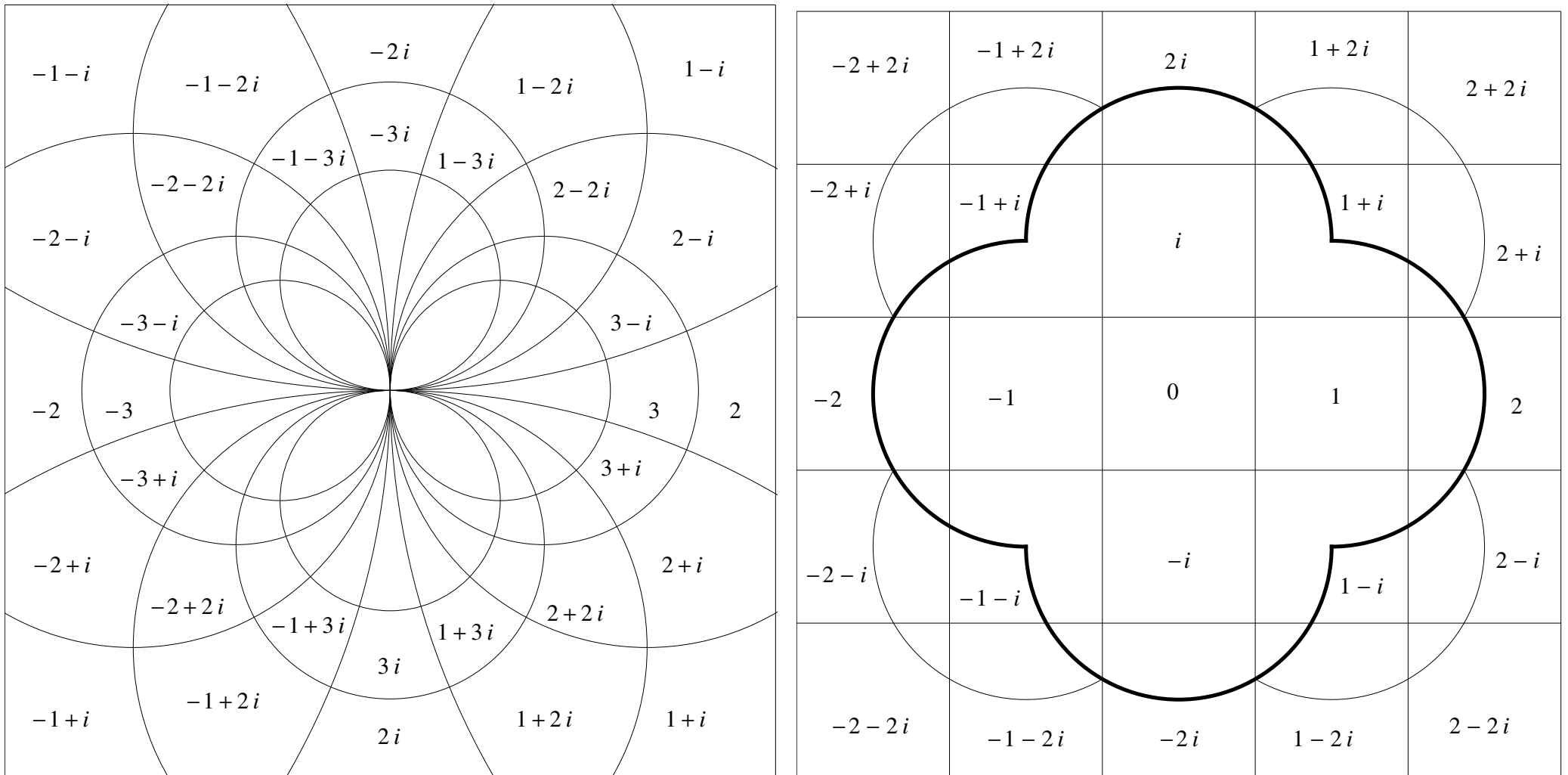
$$a(z) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ - \\ z \end{bmatrix},$$

$$a_n(z) (= a_n) = a(T^{n-1}(z))$$

for  $z \in U$ , then we get the continued fraction expansion of  $z \in U$ :

$$z = \frac{1}{|a_1|} + \frac{1}{|a_2|} + \frac{1}{|a_3|} + \dots .$$

Obviously,  $|a_n| \geq \sqrt{2}$ .



**Fig. 1:** The cylinder sets  $\langle a \rangle = \{z \in U : [1/z] = a\}$  and  $\{1/z : z \in \langle a \rangle\}$

**Aim**

**Construct the natural extension of  $(U, T, \mu)$  to determine the density function of the absolutely continuous invariant measure  $\mu$ .**

In the case of regular continued fraction transformation of  $\mathbb{R}$

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Define the map  $G$  on  $I := [0, 1)$  by

$$G(x) = \frac{1}{x} - \left[ \frac{1}{x} \right].$$

Then it is known that an invariant measure is given by

$$\frac{1}{\log 2} \frac{1}{1+x} dx.$$

How do we get it?

→ We construct a two dimensional map which is the natural extension of  $G$ .



Define

$$\hat{I} = [0, 1) \times (-\infty, -1],$$

$$\hat{G}(x, y) = \left( \frac{1}{x} - \left[ \frac{1}{x} \right], \frac{1}{y} - \left[ \frac{1}{x} \right] \right) \text{ for } (x, y) \in \hat{I}.$$

Then  $\hat{G}$  on  $\hat{I}$  is 1-1 and onto except for a set of Lebesgue measure 0 and

$$\frac{1}{\log 2} \frac{dx dy}{(x - y)^2}$$

gives an invariant measure for  $(\hat{I}, \hat{G})$ . Then we get

$$\frac{1}{\log 2} \frac{1}{1+x} dx = \left( \int_{-\infty}^{-1} \frac{1}{\log 2} \frac{1}{(x-y)^2} dy \right) dx.$$

How do we determine  $\hat{I} = [0, 1) \times \underline{(-\infty, -1]}$ ?

Take  $(x, -\infty) \in [0, 1) \times [-\infty, -1]$  and let

$$x = \frac{1}{|a_1|} + \frac{1}{|a_2|} + \frac{1}{|a_3|} + \dots$$

Then,

$$\hat{G}(x, -\infty) = \left( \frac{1}{|a_2|} + \frac{1}{|a_3|} + \frac{1}{|a_4|} + \dots, -a_1 \right)$$

$$\hat{G}^2(x, -\infty) = \left( \frac{1}{|a_3|} + \frac{1}{|a_4|} + \dots, - \left( a_2 + \frac{1}{|a_1|} \right) \right)$$

By induction, we have

$$\hat{G}^n(x, -\infty) = \left( \frac{1}{|a_{n+1}|} + \frac{1}{|a_{n+2}|} + \cdots, -\left(a_n + \frac{1}{|a_{n-1}|} + \cdots + \frac{1}{|a_1|}\right) \right).$$

By the set of the reversed sequences of  $\{a_n(x)\}$ ,  
we obtain the domain

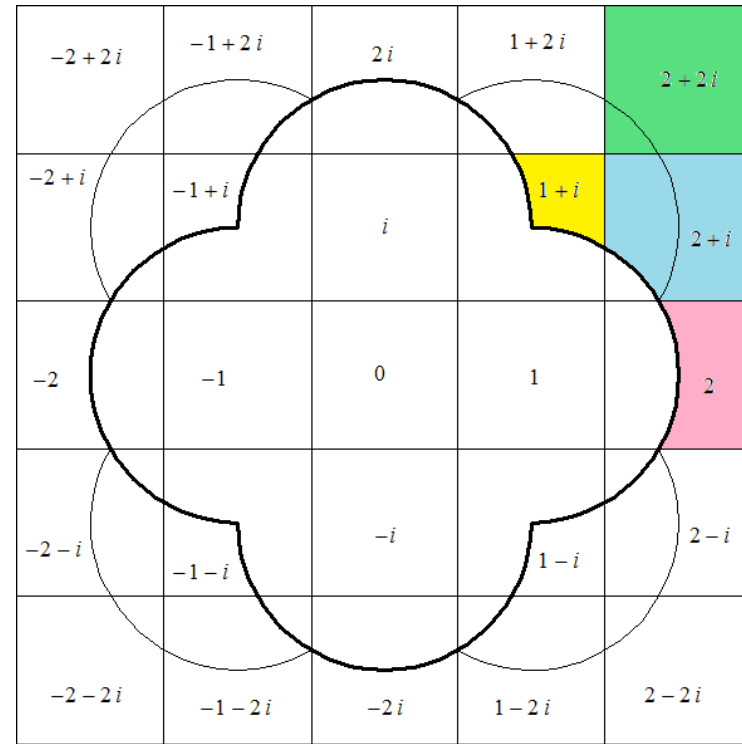
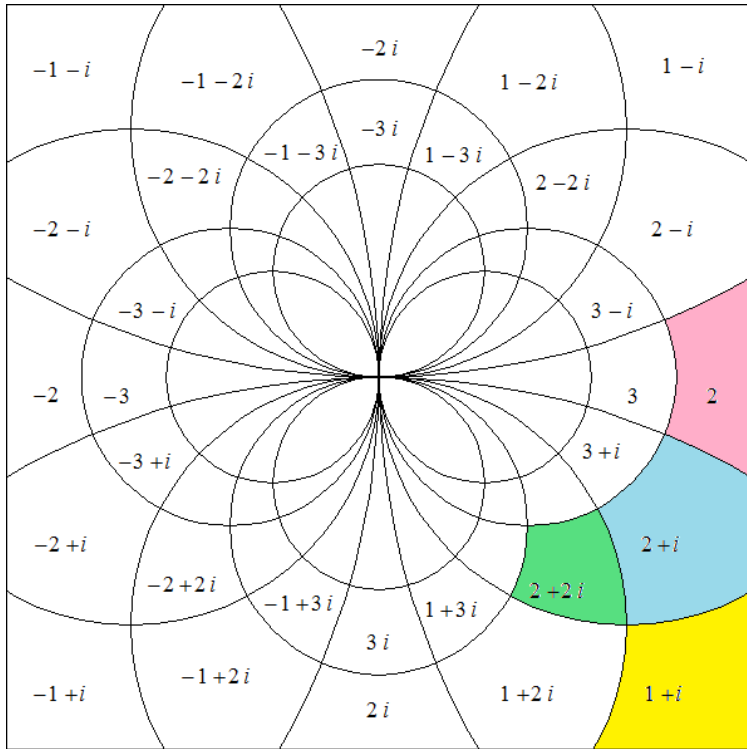
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$$\left\{ -\left(a_n(x) + \frac{1}{|a_{n-1}(x)|} + \cdots + \frac{1}{|a_1(x)|}\right) : \begin{array}{l} x \in (0, 1) \\ n \in \mathbb{N} \end{array} \right\}.$$

$$= (-\infty, -1].$$

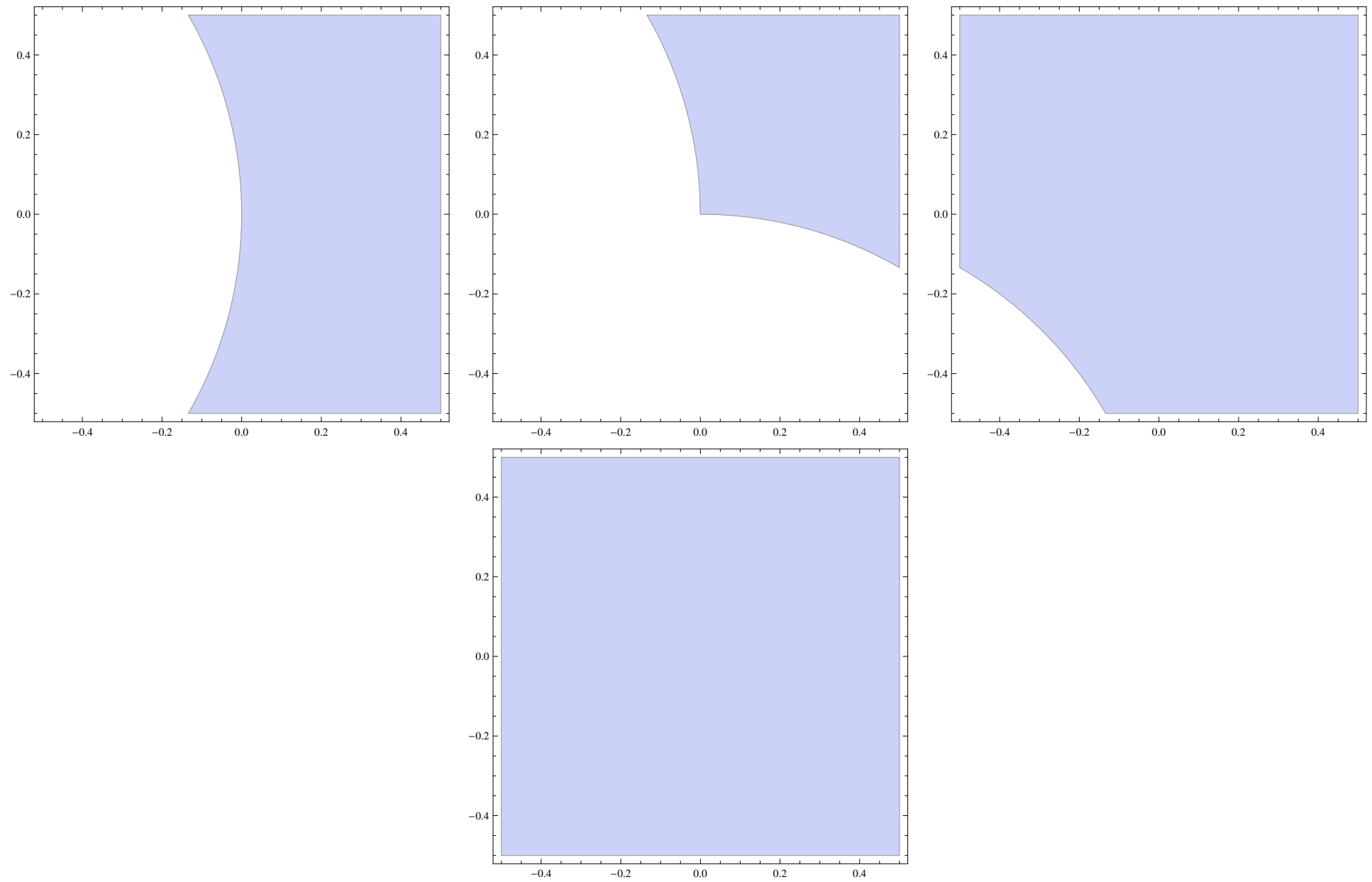
In the case of Hurwitz complex continued fraction transformation

# In the case of Hurwitz complex continued fraction transformation



↪

$\frac{1}{z}$



**Fig. 2: 13 domains by  $T\langle a \rangle$**

In the case of regular continued fraction of real number

→  $a_n$  (resp.  $a_{n+1}$ ) is not restricted from  $a_{n+1}$  (resp.  $a_n$ ).

In the case of Hurwitz continued fraction of complex number

→  $a_n$  (resp.  $a_{n+1}$ ) is restricted from  $a_{n+1}$  (resp.  $a_n$ ).

→ We decompose  $U$  and get the following partition  $\{V_{k,\ell}\}$

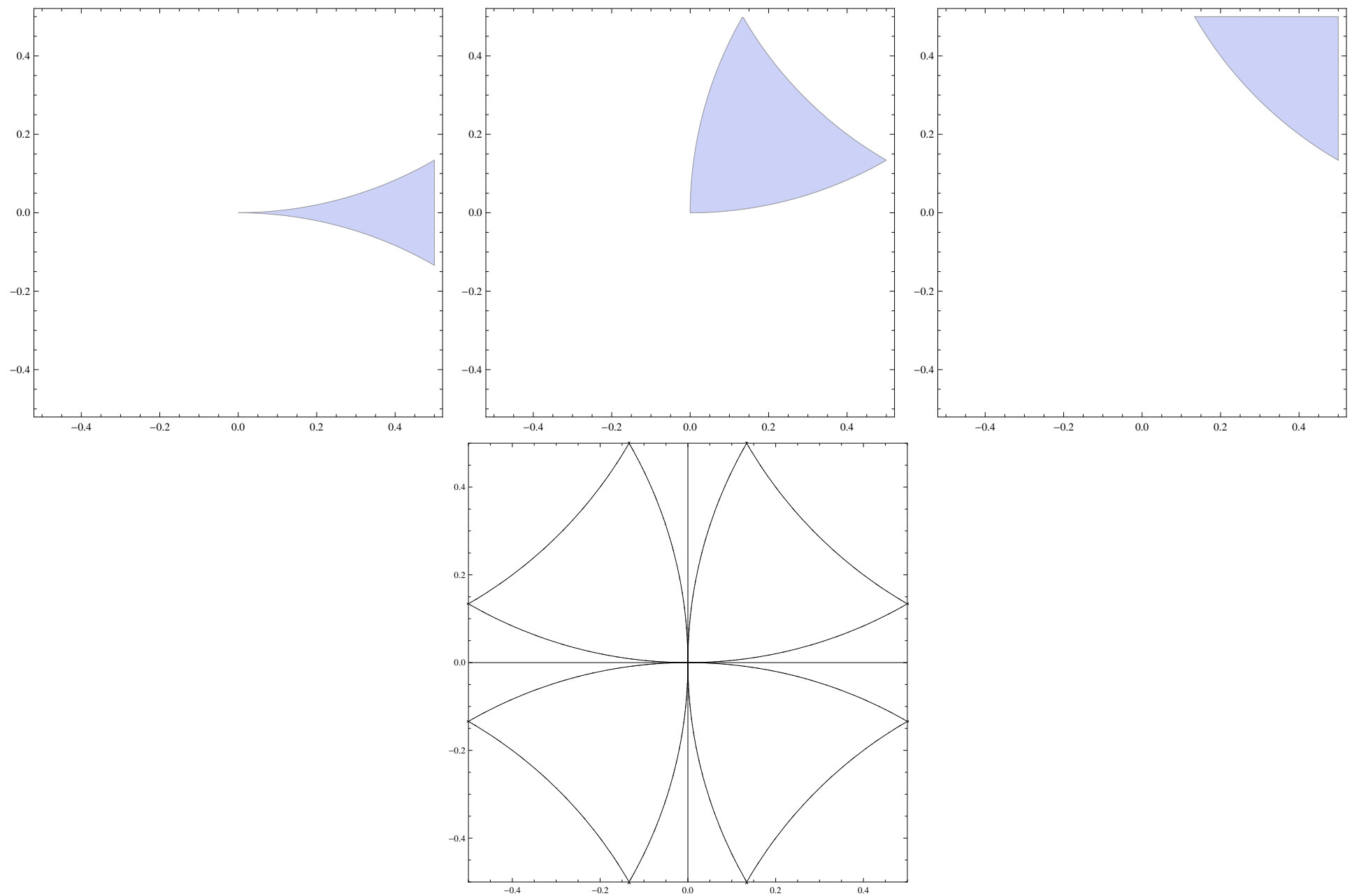
which is a Markov partition of  $T$ :

$$V_{1,\ell} = (i)^{\ell-1} \cdot \{z \in U : |z + i| > 1, |z - i| > 1, \operatorname{Re} z > 0\}$$

$$V_{2,\ell} = (i)^{\ell-1} \cdot \{z \in U : |z - 1| < 1, |z - i| < 1, |z - (1 + i)| > 1\}$$

$$V_{3,\ell} = (i)^{\ell-1} \cdot \{z \in U : |z - (1 + i)| < 1\}$$

$$1 \leq \underline{\ell} \leq 4.$$



**Fig. 3:**  $V_{1,1}$ ,  $V_{2,1}$ ,  $V_{3,1}$  and the partition of  $U$



## Construction of the natural extension in Hurwitz case

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Computer experience by Shunji ITO (Kokyuroku 496 (1983).)

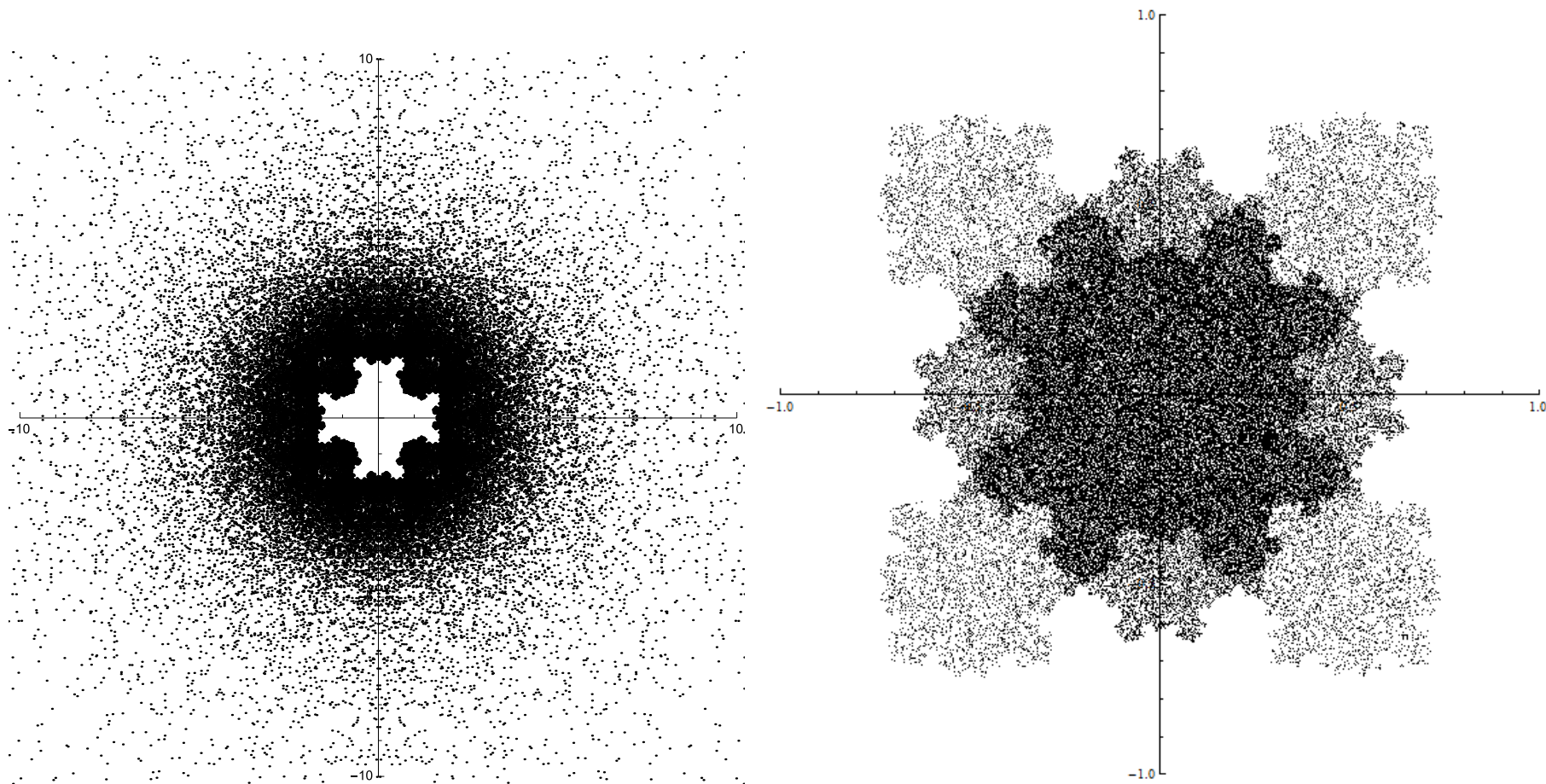


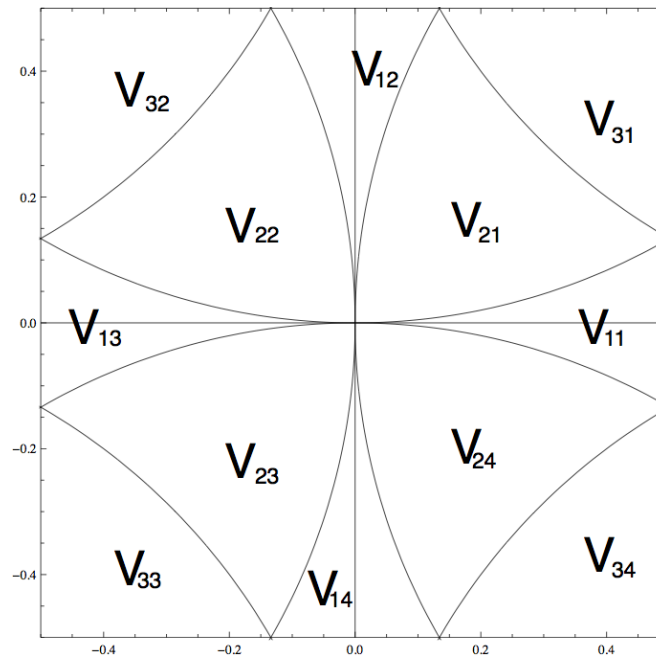
Fig. 4:  $\left\{ - \left( a_n(z) + \frac{1}{|a_{n-1}(z)|} + \dots + \frac{1}{|a_1(z)|} \right) : \begin{array}{l} z \in U, \\ n \in \mathbb{N} \end{array} \right\}$

We define

$$V_{k,\ell}^* = \overline{\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \left\{ - \left( a_n(z) + \frac{1}{|a_{n-1}(z)|} + \dots + \frac{1}{|a_1(z)|} \right) : \begin{array}{l} z \in U, \\ T^n(z) \in V_{k,\ell} \end{array} \right\}}$$

$$X_{k,\ell} = \left\{ \frac{1}{w} : w \in V_{k,\ell}^* \right\}$$

for  $1 \leq k \leq 3, 1 \leq \ell \leq 4$ .



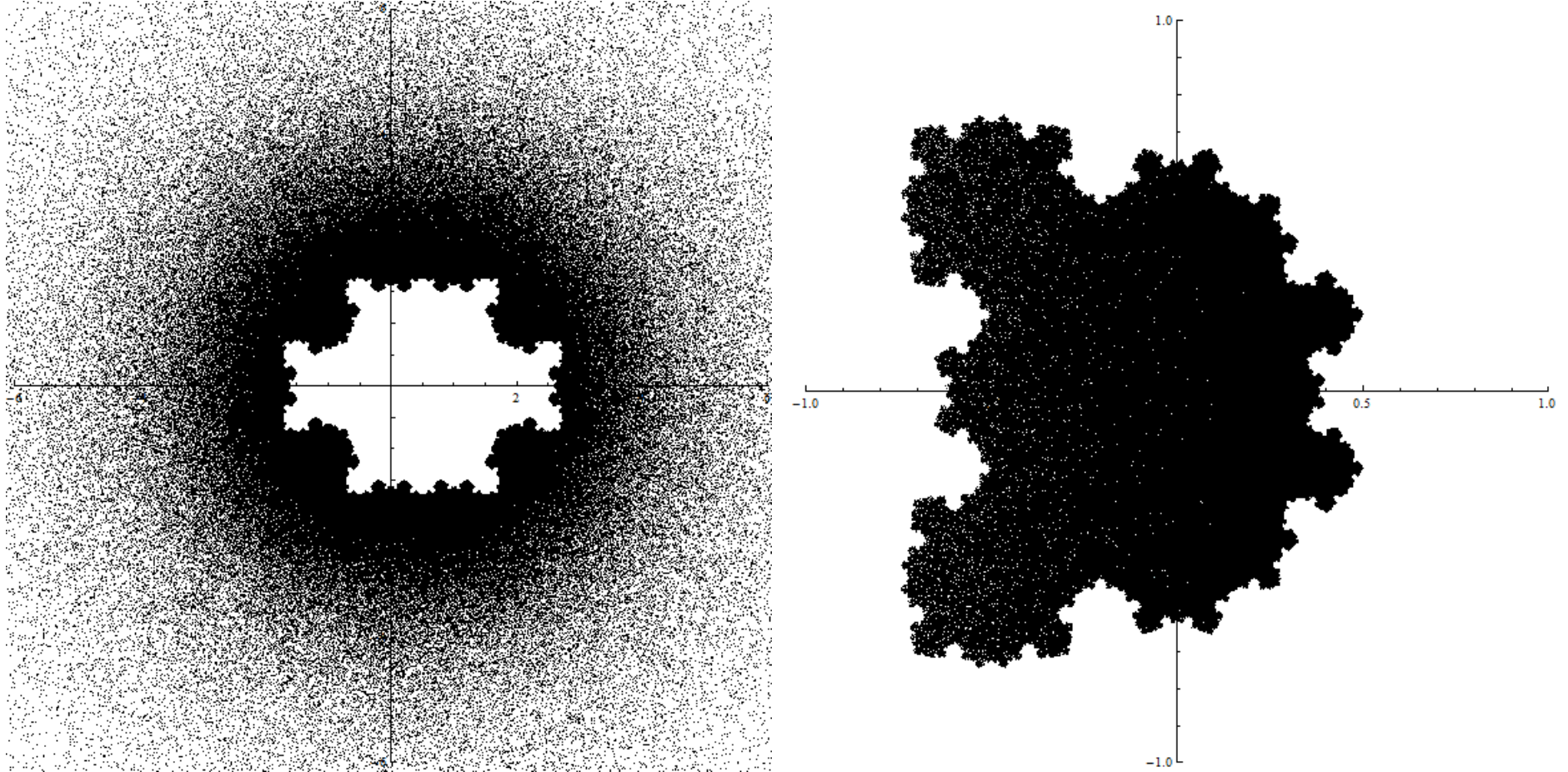


Fig. 5:  $V_{1,1}^*$  and  $X_{1,1}$  (Gremlin)

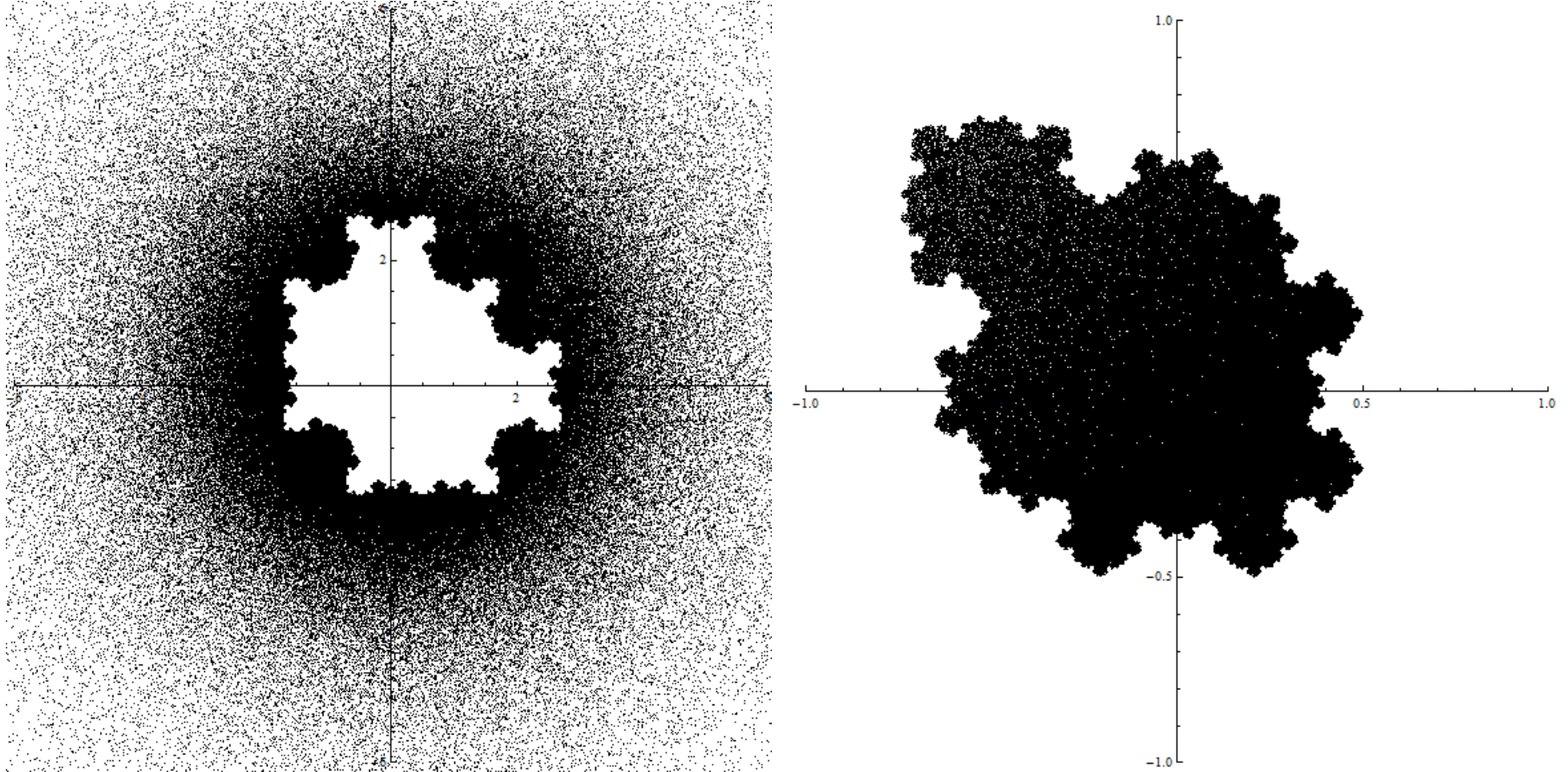


Fig. 6:  $V_{2,1}^*$  and  $X_{2,1}$  (Suppon)



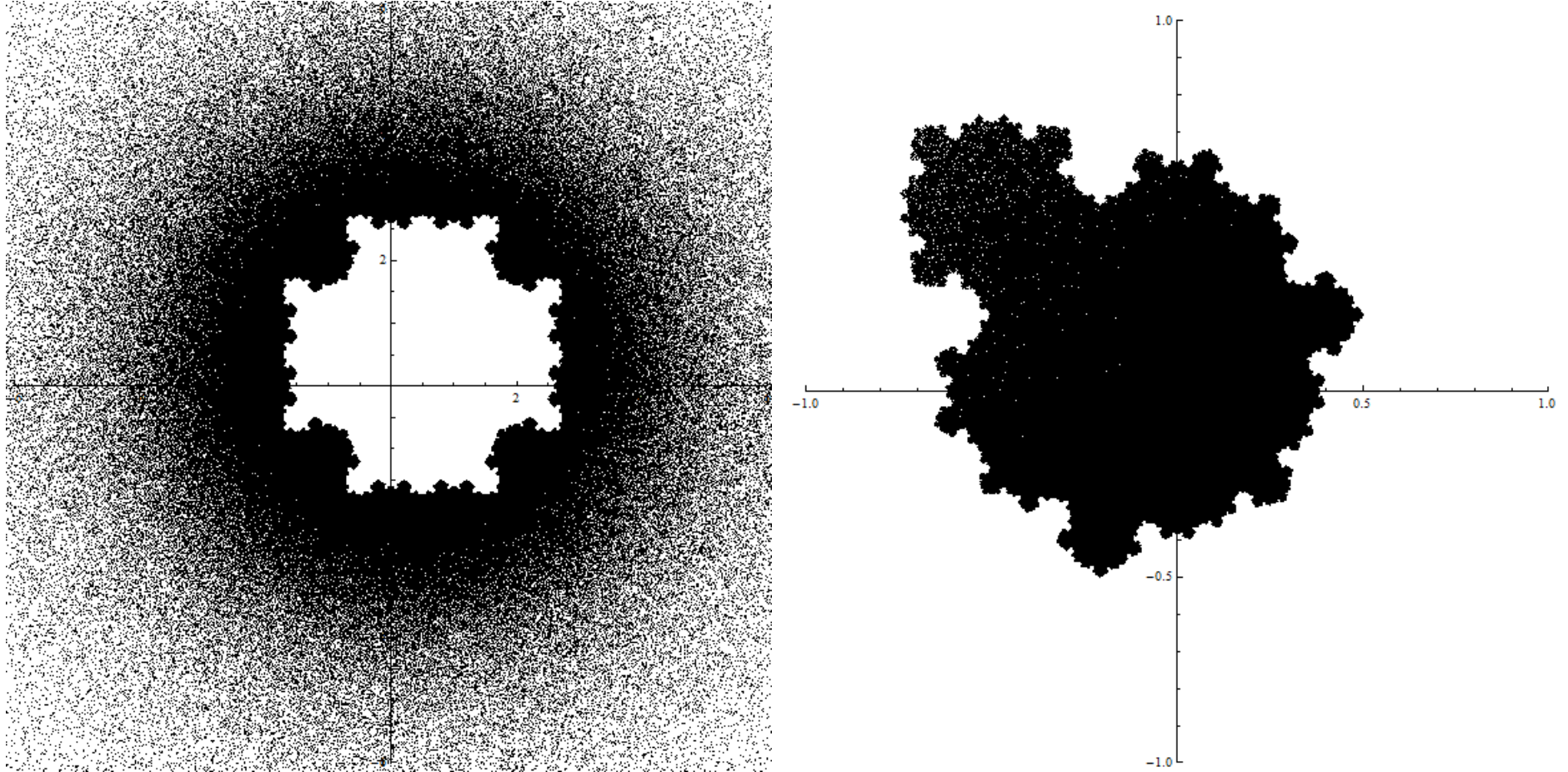


Fig. 7:  $V_{3,1}^*$  and  $X_{3,1}$  (Turtle)

We put

$$\hat{U} = \bigcup_{k=1}^3 \bigcup_{\ell=1}^4 V_{k,\ell} \times V_{k,\ell}^*$$

and define

$$\hat{T}(z, w) = \left( \frac{1}{z} - a, \frac{1}{w} - a \right) = \left( \frac{-aiz + i}{iz}, \frac{-aiw + i}{iw} \right)$$

for  $(z, w) \in \hat{U}$  where  $a = [1/z]$ .

We define a measure  $\hat{\mu}$  on  $\mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{C}$  as follows

$$d\hat{\mu} = \frac{dx_1 dx_2 dw_1 dw_2}{|z - w|^4}$$

for  $(z, w) \in \mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{C}$  with  $z = x_1 + ix_2$  and  $w = w_1 + iw_2$ .

## Theorem 1 (Ei-Nakada-Natsui)

1.  $\hat{U}$  has positive 4-dimensional Lebesgue measure.
2.  $\hat{T}$  is 1-1 and onto except for a set of 4-dimensional Lebesgue measure 0.
3.  $\hat{\mu}$  is  $\hat{T}$ -invariant measure.
  - i. e.  $(\hat{U}, \hat{T}, \hat{\mu})$  is a natural extension of  $(U, T, \mu)$  where  $\mu$  is an absolutely continuous invariant measure which is unique.



**Corollary**

$$d\mu(z) = \left( \int_{V_{k,\ell}^*} \frac{1}{|z - w|^4} dw_1 dw_2 \right) dx_1 dx_2$$

for  $z \in V_{k,\ell}$ .

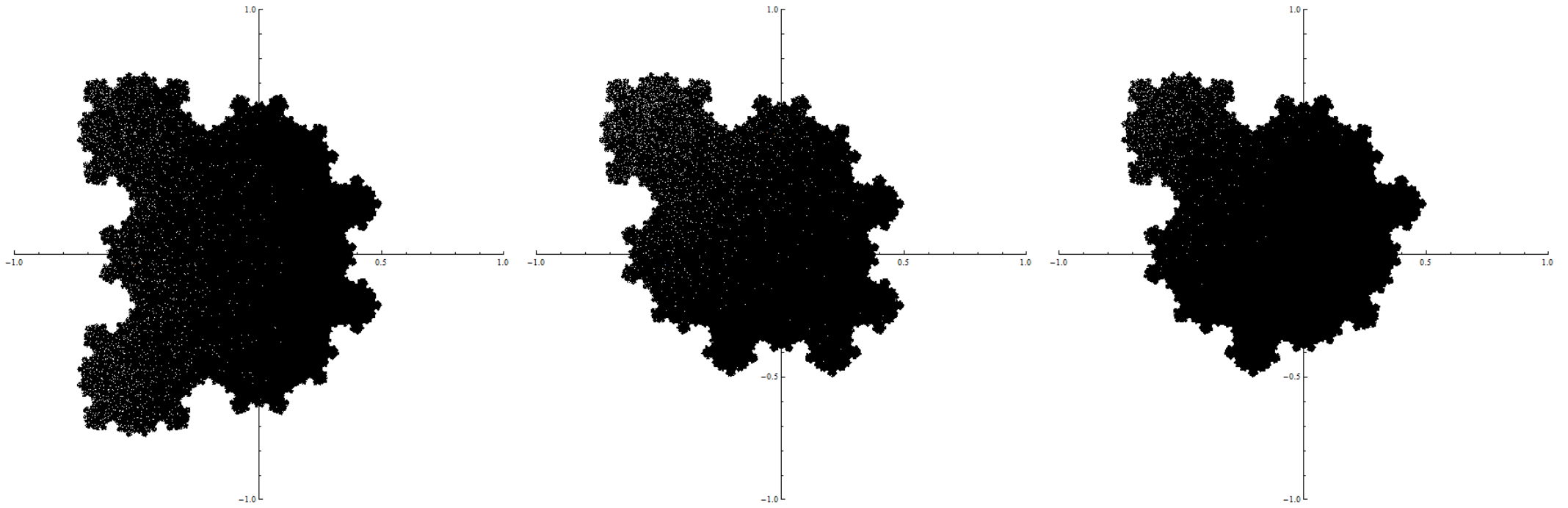


Fig. 8: Tiles  $X_{1,1}$ ,  $X_{2,1}$ ,  $X_{3,1}$

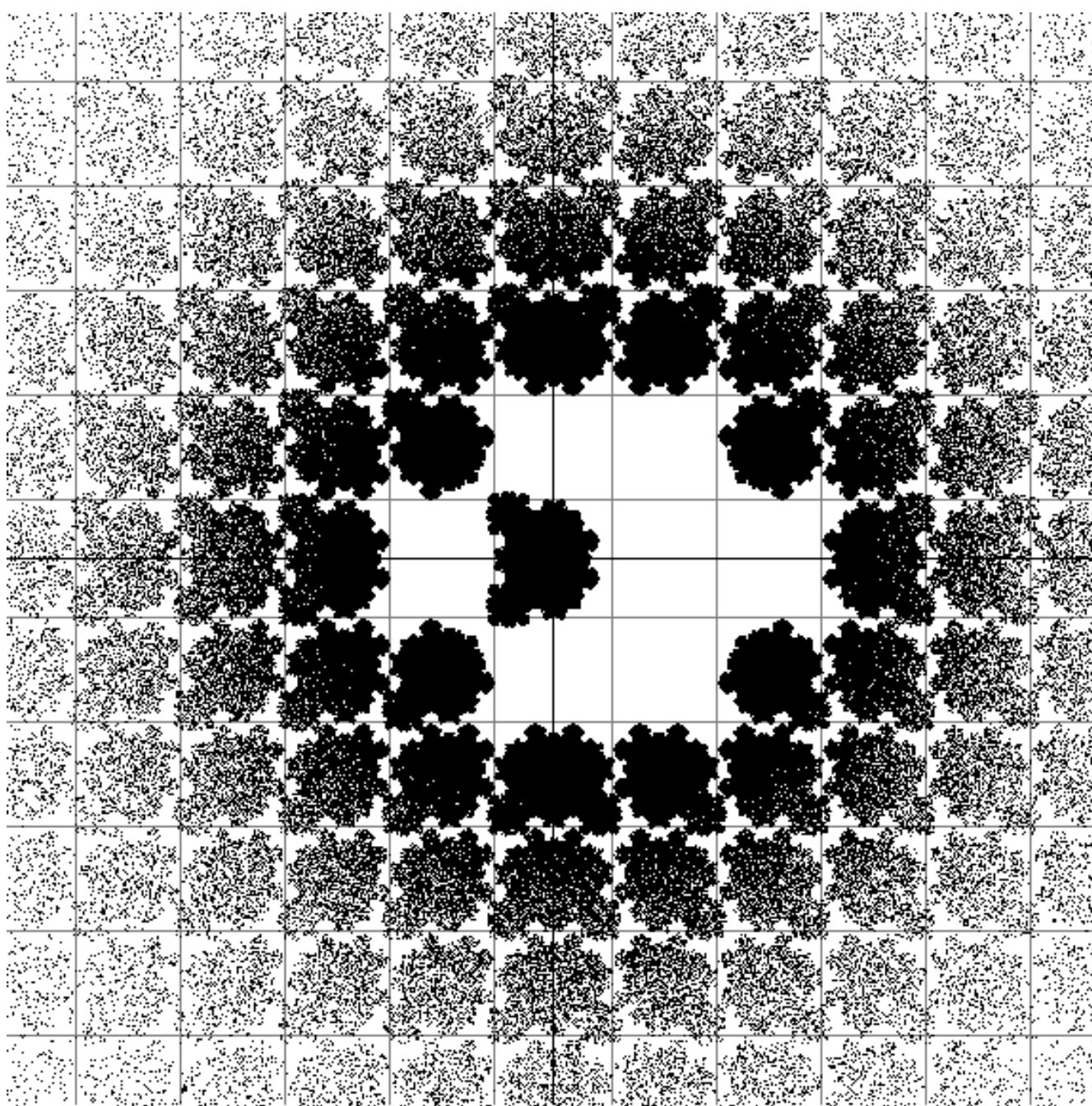


Fig. 9: Tiling of  $V_{1,1}^*$  (The original picture was found by S. Ito.)

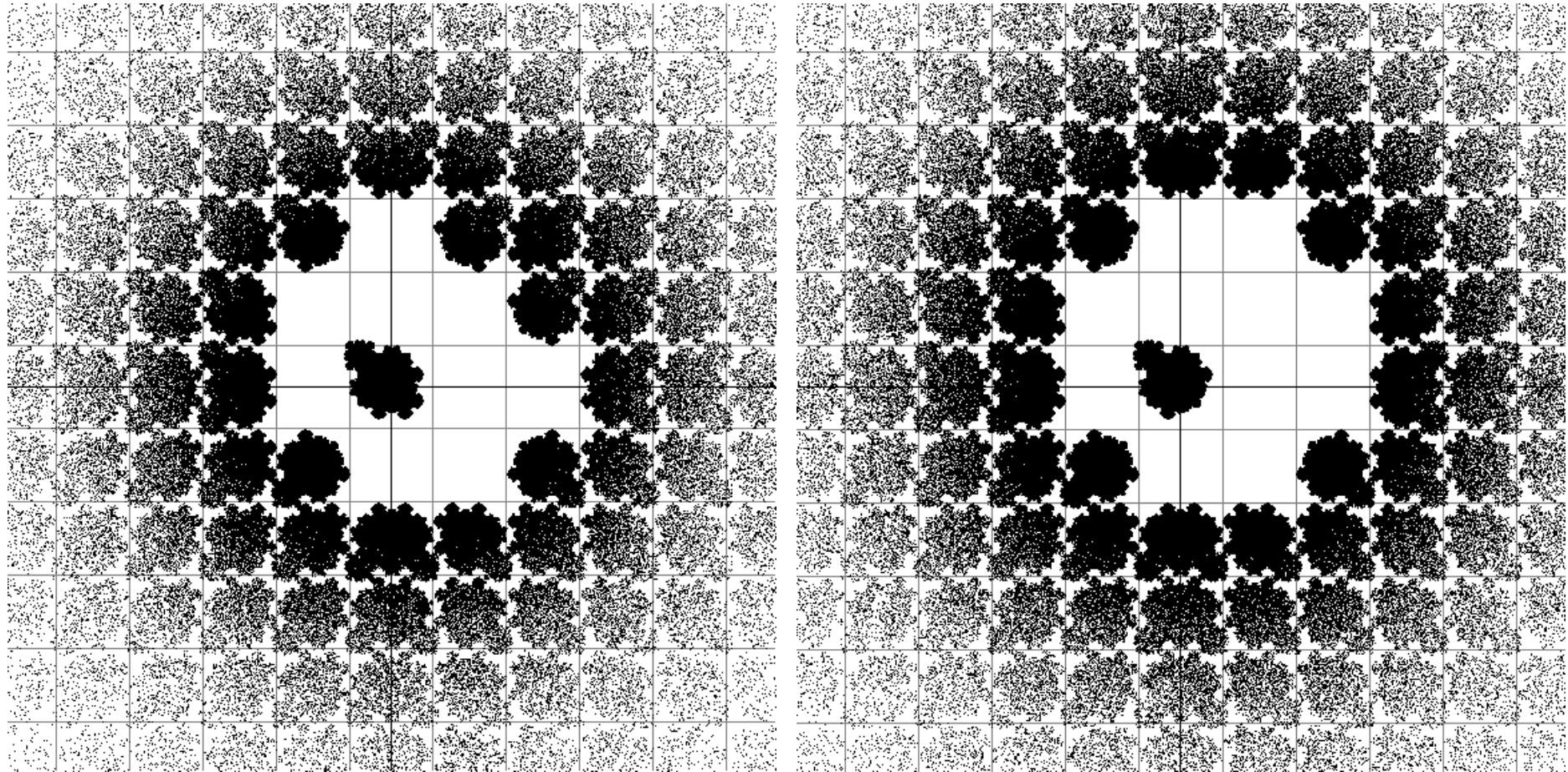


Fig. 10: Tiling of  $V_{2,1}^*$  and  $V_{3,1}^*$

## Theorem 2 (Ei-Nakada-Natsui)

1.  $V_{k,\ell}^*$  is tiled by  $\{X_{k,\ell} : k = 1, 2, 3, \ell = 1, 2, 3, 4\}$ .  
 Concretely for any  $1 \leq k_0 \leq 3$  and  $1 \leq \ell_0 \leq 4$ ,

$$V_{k_0,\ell_0}^* = \bigcup_{k=1}^3 \bigcup_{\ell=1}^4 \bigcup_{a \in D_{k_0,\ell_0,k,\ell}} (X_{k,\ell} - a)$$

where

$$D_{k_0,\ell_0,k,\ell} = \left\{ a \in \mathbb{Z}[i] : \begin{array}{l} \text{there exists } w \in \langle a \rangle \cap V_{k,\ell} \\ \text{such that } Tw \in V_{k_0,\ell_0} \end{array} \right\}.$$

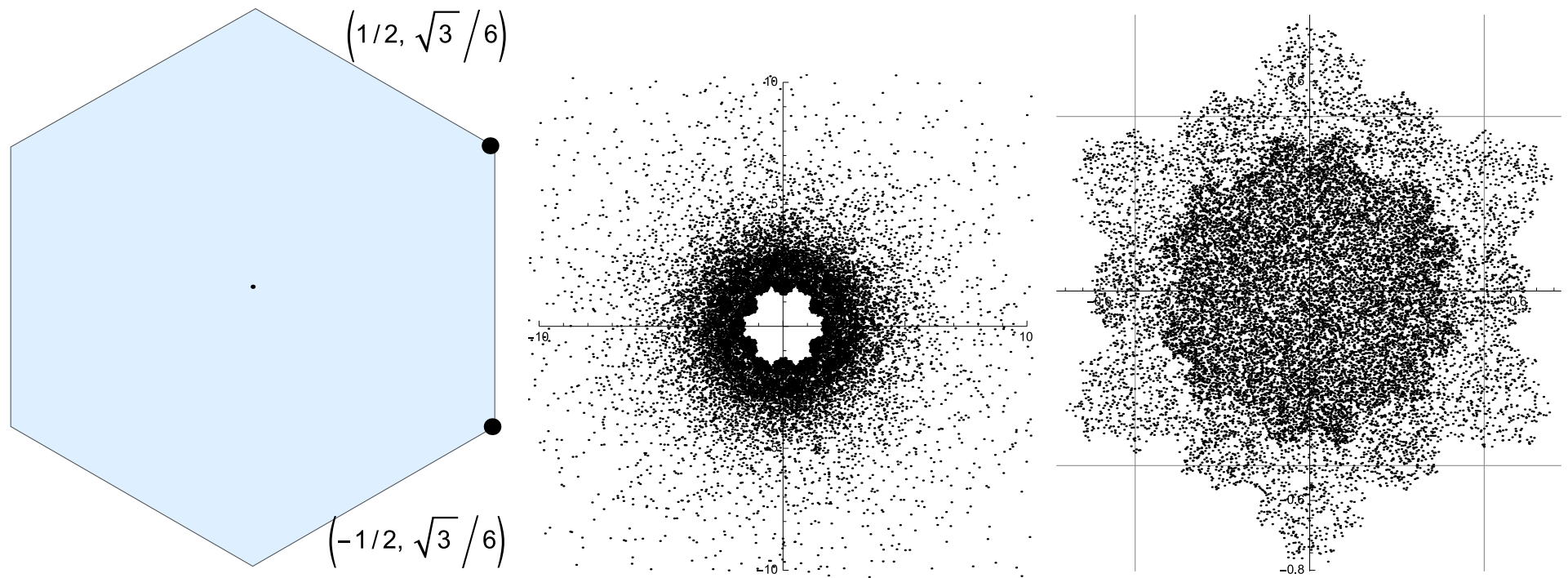
2. The boundary of  $X_{k,\ell}$  is a Jordan curve and has 2-dimensional Lebesgue measure 0.  
 $\rightarrow X_{k,\ell}$  is a topological disk.

## The other cases

There are some other nearest type complex continued fractions for  $-2$ ,  $-7$  and  $-11$ . However, they do not have the best approximation property.

The best approximation property:  $p/q$  is a best approximation to  $x$  if

$$|q'| < |q| \implies |q'x - p'| > |qx - p|.$$



**Fig. 11: In the case of  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-3})$**

**Thank you very much.**