MICHAEL COONS, University of Newcastle, Australia
Algebraic independence results related to an automatic sequence

We will survey some recent results on a specific automatic sequence related to Stern's diatomic sequence. After this survey, we present a method for determining the radial asymptotics of Mahler functions, and show how this information can be used to give algebraic independence results for automatic sequences and possibly their generalisations. (This is joint work with Wadim Zudilin and Richard Brent.)