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Celebrating the 60th birthday of Jorge Almeida and Garcinda Gomes

University of Lisbon

Ranks of Finite Semigroups of Cellular Automata

Alonso Castillo-Ramirez

Joint work with Maximilien Gadouleau

Durham University

Notation

- Let A be **any set** and let G be **any group**.
- Right multiplication map: for $g \in G$, define $R_g : G \rightarrow G$ by $(h)R_g := hg$.
- A map $x : G \rightarrow A$ is called a **configuration** over G and A .
- Denote by

$$A^G := \{x : G \rightarrow A\}$$

the set of **all configurations** over G and A .

Definition of Cellular Automata

Definition (von Neumann, Ceccherini-Silberstein, Coornaert, et al)

Let G be a group and A a set. A **cellular automaton** (CA) over G and A is a **transformation**

$$\tau : A^G \rightarrow A^G$$

such that:

- (★) There is a **finite subset** $S \subseteq G$ and a **local map** $\mu : A^S \rightarrow A$ satisfying

$$(g)(x)\tau = ((R_g \circ x)|_S) \mu, \quad \forall g \in G, x \in A^G.$$

Example: Rule 110

- Let $G = \mathbb{Z}$, and $A = \{0, 1\}$.

- Let $S = \{-1, 0, 1\} \subseteq G$ and define $\mu : A^S \rightarrow A$ by

$x \in A^S$	111	110	101	100	011	010	001	000
$(x)\mu$	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0

- The CA $\tau : A^{\mathbb{Z}} \rightarrow A^{\mathbb{Z}}$ defined by S and μ is called **Rule 110**.
- E.g., $(\dots 0001000 \dots)\tau = \dots 0011000 \dots$.
- It is known that Rule 110 is **Turing complete** (Cook '04).

Classical Results

- Another example: John Conway's **Game of Life** is a CA over $G = \mathbb{Z}^2$ and $A = \{0, 1\}$.

- **Classical setting:** $G = \mathbb{Z}^d$, $d \in \mathbb{N}$, and A is finite.

- Classical lines of research on CA include:
 - 1 Universality of CA (e.g. Game of Life and Rule 110 are Turing complete).
 - 2 Characterisation of surjective and injective CA (e.g. Garden of Eden theorems).
 - 3 Dynamical behaviour (e.g. orbits, fixed points).
 - 4 Linear CA over vector spaces or abelian groups.

Classical Results: Curtis-Hedlund Theorem

The group G **acts** on the configuration space as follows: for any $g \in G$, $x \in A^G$, define the map $x \cdot g : G \rightarrow A$ by

$$(h)(x \cdot g) = (hg^{-1})x, \quad \forall h \in G.$$

Theorem (Curtis-Hedlund)

Let G be a group and A a **finite** set. A transformation $\tau : A^G \rightarrow A^G$ is a cellular automaton if and only if

- 1 τ is **G -equivariant** (i.e. commutes with the action of G on A^G); and,
- 2 τ is **continuous** in the prodiscrete topology of A^G .

Semigroups of Cellular Automata

- Consider the set of all CA over G and A :

$$\text{CA}(G; A) := \left\{ \tau : A^G \rightarrow A^G \mid \tau \text{ is a cellular automaton} \right\}.$$

- Consider the set of all invertible CA over G and A :

$$\text{ICA}(G; A) := \left\{ \tau \in \text{CA}(G; A) \cap \text{Sym}(A^G) \mid \tau^{-1} \in \text{CA}(G; A) \right\}$$

- Equipped with the composition of transformations,

- 1 $\text{CA}(G; A)$ is a **monoid**, and

- 2 $\text{ICA}(G; A)$ is its **group of units**.

Finite Semigroups of Cellular Automata

- **Idea:** Let G and A be both finite, and study the finite semigroup $\text{CA}(G; A)$.
- If $|G| = n$ and $|A| = q$, then $|\text{CA}(G; A)| = q^{q^n}$.
- The **rank** of a finite semigroup S is

$$\text{Rank}(S) := \min \{ |H| : H \subseteq S \text{ and } \langle H \rangle = S \}.$$

- **Problem:** Determine $\text{Rank}(\text{CA}(G; A))$.

Ranks of Semigroups of Transformations

Let X be a finite set with $|X| = m$.

- $\text{Rank}(\text{Tran}(X)) = \text{Rank}(\text{Sym}(X)) + 1 = 3$.
- $\text{Rank}(\text{Sing}(X)) = \binom{m}{2}$ (Gomes-Howie '87).
- $\text{Rank}(\{f \in \text{Tran}(X) : |f(X)| \leq r\}) = S(m, r)$, the Stirling number of the second kind (Howie-McFadden '90).
- $\text{Rank}(\text{Tran}(X, \mathcal{O})) = 4$, where \mathcal{O} is a uniform partition of X (Araújo-Schneider '09).
- $\text{Rank}(\text{Tran}(X, \mathcal{O}))$ is known, where \mathcal{O} is an arbitrary partition of X (Araújo-Bentz-Mitchell-Schneider '15).

Cellular Automata over Cyclic Groups \mathbb{Z}_n

Lemma

Let $\sigma : A^n \rightarrow A^n$ be defined by $(x_1, \dots, x_n)\sigma = (x_n, x_1, \dots, x_{n-1})$.

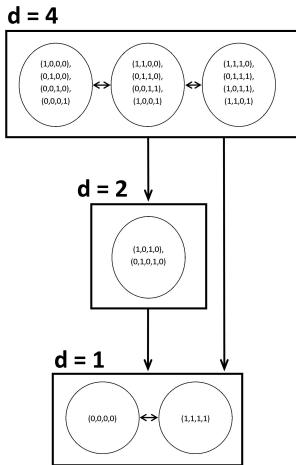
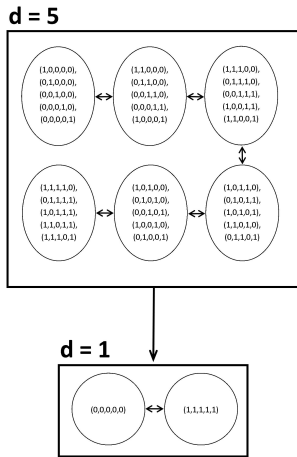
Then,

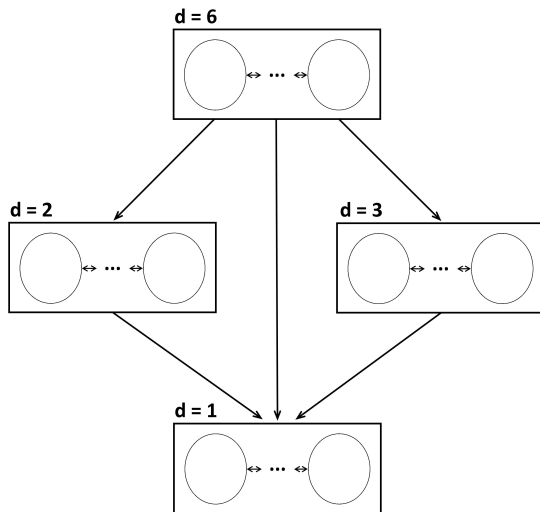
$$\text{CA}(\mathbb{Z}_n; A) = \{\tau \in \text{Tran}(A^n) : \tau\sigma = \sigma\tau\}.$$

Let \mathcal{O} be the set of \mathbb{Z}_n -orbits on A^n .

- For every $\tau \in \text{CA}(\mathbb{Z}_n; A)$ and $P \in \mathcal{O}$, we have $(P)\tau \in \mathcal{O}$ and $|(P)\tau|$ divides $|P|$.
- The number of orbits in \mathcal{O} of size $d \mid n$, denoted $\alpha(d, q)$, is given by **Moreau's necklace-counting function**.

Examples

(a) Case $n = 4$, $q = 2$ (b) Case $n = 5$, $q = 2$

Examples: Case $n = 6$, $q \geq 2$ 

Relative Rank

The **relative rank** of $U \subseteq S$ is

$$\text{Rank}(S : U) = \min\{|V| : V \subseteq S \text{ and } \langle U, V \rangle = S\}.$$

Lemma

- (i) $\text{Rank}(\text{CA}) = \text{Rank}(\text{CA} : \text{ICA}) + \text{Rank}(\text{ICA})$.
- (ii) If $E(n)$ is the number of edges in the **divisibility graph** of n ,

$$\text{Rank}(\text{CA}(\mathbb{Z}_n; A) : \text{ICA}(\mathbb{Z}_n; A)) = \begin{cases} E(n) - 1 & q = 2, n \in 2\mathbb{Z}; \\ E(n) & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Invertible Cellular Automata

Lemma

If d_1, d_2, \dots, d_ℓ are the non-one divisors of n , then:

$$\text{ICA}(\mathbb{Z}_n; A) \cong (\mathbb{Z}_{d_1} \wr \text{Sym}_{\alpha(d_1, q)}) \times \cdots \times (\mathbb{Z}_{d_\ell} \wr \text{Sym}_{\alpha(d_\ell, q)}) \times \text{Sym}_q,$$

Representation theory helps to calculate $\text{Rank}(\text{ICA}(\mathbb{Z}_n; A))$
when $n = p$ is prime ([Araújo-Schneider '09](#)).

Lemma

The only proper nonzero Sym_α -invariant submodules of $(\mathbb{Z}_p)^\alpha$ are:

$$U_1 := \{(a, \dots, a) : a \in \mathbb{Z}_p\},$$

$$U_2 := \{(a_1, \dots, a_\alpha) \in (\mathbb{Z}_p)^\alpha : \sum_{i=1}^\alpha a_i = 0\}.$$

Main Result 1

Theorem (CR, Gadouleau '16)

Let $k \geq 1$ be an integer, p an odd prime, and A a finite set of size $q \geq 2$. Then:

$$\text{Rank}(\text{CA}(\mathbb{Z}_p; A)) = 5;$$

$$\text{Rank}(\text{CA}(\mathbb{Z}_{2^k}; A)) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2}k(k+7), & \text{if } q = 2; \\ \frac{1}{2}k(k+7) + 2, & \text{if } q \geq 3; \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Rank}(\text{CA}(\mathbb{Z}_{2^k p}; A)) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2}k(3k+17) + 3, & \text{if } q = 2; \\ \frac{1}{2}k(3k+17) + 5, & \text{if } q \geq 3. \end{cases}$$

Main Result 2

- $d(n)$ is the number of **divisors** of n (including 1 and n),
- $d_+(n)$ is the number of **even divisors** of n ,
- $S(n) := d(n) + d_+(n) + E(n)$.

Theorem (CR, Gadouleau '16)

Let A be a finite set of size $q \geq 2$ and $n \geq 2$. Then:

$$\text{Rank}(\text{CA}(\mathbb{Z}_n; A)) = \begin{cases} S(n) - 2 + \epsilon_{n,2}, & (q = 2) \wedge (n \in 2\mathbb{Z}); \\ S(n) + \epsilon_{n,q}, & \text{otherwise;} \end{cases}$$

where $0 \leq \epsilon_{n,q} \leq \max\{0, d(n) - d_+(n) - 2\}$.

Thanks for listening!

A. Castillo-Ramirez and M. Gadouleau,
*Ranks of finite semigroups of
one-dimensional cellular automata,*
Semigroup Forum (Online First, 2016).