# An efficient algorithm to decide periodicity of $b$-recognisable sets using MSDF convention 

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2 Key notions

3 Purely periodic case: the automaton $\mathcal{A}_{(p, R)}$ and its minimisation

4 Purely periodic case: characterisation

5 Purely periodic case: execution on an example

6 A word on the impurely periodic case

## Integer base numeration systems

- $b>1$
- Alphabet used to represent numbers: $\{0,1, \ldots, b-1\}$
- VAL $:\{0,1, \ldots, b-1\}^{*} \longrightarrow \mathbb{N}$

$$
d_{n} \cdots d_{1} d_{0} \quad \longmapsto d_{n} b^{n}+\cdots+d_{1} b^{1}+d_{0} b^{0}
$$

In base $b=2, \operatorname{VAL}(010011)=0+2^{3}+0+0+2^{1}+2^{0}=19$.

- REP $: \mathbb{N} \longrightarrow\{0,1, \ldots, b-1\}^{*}$
$0 \longmapsto \varepsilon$
$n>0 \longmapsto \operatorname{REP}(m) d, \quad$ where $(m, d)$ is the Eucl. div of $n$ by $b$.

In base $b=2, \operatorname{REP}(19)=\operatorname{REP}(9) 1=\operatorname{REP}(4) 11=\cdots=10011$.

## $b$-recognisable sets

## Definition

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$X$ is b-recognisable if $\operatorname{REP}(X)$ is a regular language.

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## Theorem (folklore)

- Each eventually-periodic set is b-recognisable.


Automaton accepting
$\longrightarrow$ Final/Initial
$\longrightarrow$ Labelled by 0
$\longrightarrow$ Labelled by 1
Legend

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0^{*} \operatorname{REP}(2+3 \mathbb{N})
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## Theorem (folklore)

- Each eventually-periodic set is b-recognisable.
- Some sets are 2-recognisable but not 3-recognisable.


Automaton accepting $0^{*} \operatorname{REP}(2+3 \mathbb{N})$


Automaton accepting $0^{*} \operatorname{REP}\left(\left\{2^{i} \mid i \in \mathbb{N}\right\}\right)$
$\longrightarrow$ Final/Initial
$\longrightarrow$ Labelled by 0
$\longrightarrow$ Labelled by 1
Legend

## b-recognisable sets (2)

Theorem (Cobham, 1969)
$b, c$ : two integer bases, multiplicatively independent ${ }^{\dagger}$.
$X$ : a set of integers.
$\left.\begin{array}{l}X \text { is } b \text {-recognisable } \\ X \text { is } c \text {-recognisable }\end{array}\right\} \Longrightarrow X$ is eventually periodic
${ }^{\dagger}$ such that $b^{i} \neq c^{j}$ for all $i, j>0$.

Corollary
$\{$ Eventually periodic sets $\}=\{$ Sets $b$-recognisable for all $b\}$

## The Periodicity problem

## Periodicity

- Parameter: an integer base $b>1$.
- Input: a deterministic finite automaton $\mathcal{A}$
(hence the b-recognisable set $X$ accepted by $\mathcal{A}$ ).
- Question: is $X$ eventually periodic?

Theorem (Honkala, 1986)
Periodicity is decidable.

Theorem (Muchnik, 1991)
A generalisation of Periodicity is decidable in triple-exponential time.

First efficient algorithms uses LSDF convention

Least Significant Digit First (LSDF) : the input automaton reads its entry from right to left.

Theorem (Leroux, 2005)
With LSDF convention, a generalisation of PERIODICITY is decidable in polynomial time.

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## Remark

Making an automaton reads from right to left requires a transposition and a determinisation
$\Rightarrow$ Exponential blow-up

Note (Allouche Rampersad Shallit, 2009)
Periodicity is decidable in exponential time.

Theorem (M.-Sakarovitch, 2013)
With LSDF convention, Periodicity is decidable in linear time if the input automaton is minimal.

## The Periodicity problem (4)

Our contribution

## Theorem

Periodicity is decidable in $O(b n \log (n))$ time (where $n$ is the state-set cardinal.)

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## Pseudo-morphism (1) - Definition \& Example

## Definition

$\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{M}$ : two complete DFA
$\varphi$ : a function $\{$ states of $\mathcal{A}\} \rightarrow\{$ states of $\mathcal{M}\}$
$\varphi$ is a pseudo-morphism $\mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ if

- $\varphi$ maps the initial state of $\mathcal{A}$ to the initial state of $\mathcal{M}$
- $s \xrightarrow{d} s^{\prime}$ in $\mathcal{A} \Longrightarrow \varphi(s) \xrightarrow{d} \varphi\left(s^{\prime}\right)$ in $\mathcal{M}$
(A pseudo-morphism is a morphism with no condition on final states.)



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## Pseudo-morphism (2) - Computation

## Lemma

$\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{M}$ : two complete DFA
$n$ : the number of state of $\mathcal{A}$
The pseudo-morphism $\varphi: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$, if it exists, can be computed in $O(b n)$ time.


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## Ultimate equivalence (1) - Definition

## Definition

$\mathcal{A}$ : a complete DFA.
$s, t$ : states of $\mathcal{A}$.
$m$ : an integer.
$s$ and $t$ are m-ultimately-equivalent (w.r.t. $\mathcal{A}$ ) if,
$\forall$ word $u$ of length $m,\left[s \xrightarrow{u} s^{\prime}\right.$ and $t \xrightarrow{u} t^{\prime}$ implies $\left.s^{\prime}=t^{\prime}\right]$.

## Remarks

- $s$ and $t$ are not $m$-ult-equiv

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { ult-equiv } \\
& \Longleftrightarrow \exists \text { word } u \text { of length } m,\left\{\begin{array}{l}
s \xrightarrow{s} s^{\prime} \\
t \xrightarrow{u} t^{\prime} \\
s^{\prime} \neq t^{\prime}
\end{array}\right.
\end{aligned}
$$

- $s$ and $t$ are $m$-ult-equiv $\Longrightarrow s$ and $t$ are $(m+1)$-ult-equiv.


## Ultimate equivalence (2) - Example

- $B_{1}$ and $B_{2}$ are 1-ult-equiv.

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## Lemma

$\mathcal{A}$ : a complete DFA. $s, t$ : states of $\mathcal{A}$. $m$ : an integer.
$\forall$ digit $d, \quad s_{d}$ : state such that $s \xrightarrow{d} s_{d}$.
$t_{d}$ : state such that $t \xrightarrow{d} t_{d}$.
$s$ and $t$ are $m$-ult-equiv
$\Longleftrightarrow \forall$ digit $d, s_{d}$ and $t_{d}$ are $(m-1)$-ult-equiv.


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- $B_{1}$ and $B_{2}$ are 1-ult-equiv.
- $B_{2}$ and $B_{3}$ are 2-ult-equiv.
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- $B_{1}$ and $B_{2}$ are 1-ult-equiv.
- $B_{2}$ and $B_{3}$ are 2-ult-equiv.
- $B_{3}$ and $B_{1}$ are 2-ult-equiv.
- $A_{1}$ and $A_{2}$ are 3-ult-equiv.
- All others pairs are not ult-equiv, as witnessed by the family $0^{*}$.


## Ultimate equivalence (3) - Computation

$\mathcal{A}:$ a DFA.
$n$ : the number of states in $\mathcal{A}$.
$b$ : the size of the alphabet.

Using the automaton product $\mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{A}$, it is known that:
Lemma (folklore)
Ultimate-equivalence w.r.t. $\mathcal{A}$ can be computed in $O\left(b n^{2}\right)$ time.

There exists a better algorithm:
Theorem (Béal-Crochemore, 2007)
Ultimate-equivalence w.r.t. $\mathcal{A}$ can be computed in $O(b n \log (n))$ time.
$111 \geqslant$

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## Purely periodic set

## Definition

A purely periodic set is a set of the form $R+p \mathbb{N}$ with
$p$ : an integer
$R$ : a set of remainders modulo $p$

## Convention

In the following, $p$ is assumed to be the smallest period of $R+p \mathbb{N}$.

The naive automaton $\mathcal{A}_{(p, R)}$ accepting $R+p \mathbb{N}$
b: the base.
$p$ : the period.
$R$ : remainder set $\bmod p$.
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$p$ : the period.
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Example 1: $p=3, \quad R=\{2\}$

## Definition

$\mathcal{A}_{(p, R)}$ :

- State set: $\mathbb{Z} / p \mathbb{Z}$
- Initial state: 0
- Transitions:
$\forall$ state $s, \quad \forall$ digit $d$

$$
s \xrightarrow{d} s b+d
$$

- Final-state set: $R$
b: the base.
$p$ : the period.
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Example 1: $p=3, ~ R=\{2\}$

## Definition

$\mathcal{A}_{(p, R)}$ :

- State set: $\mathbb{Z} / p \mathbb{Z}$
- Initial state: 0


Example 2: $p=4, \quad R=\{2,3\}$

- Transitions: $\forall$ state $s, \quad \forall$ digit $d$

$$
s \xrightarrow{d} s b+d
$$

- Final-state set: $R$
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- Final-state set: $R$


Example 2: $p=4, \quad R=\{2,3\}$


Example 3: $p=5, \quad R=\{1\}$

## Property of $\mathcal{A}_{(p, R)}$ in special cases

b: the base.
$p$ : the period.
$R$ : remainder set $\bmod p$.

## Lemma <br> $p$ and $b$ are coprime $\Longrightarrow \mathcal{A}_{(p, R)}$ is a group automaton.

( $\forall$ digit $d$, "reading $d$ " is permutation of the states of $\mathcal{A}_{(p, R)}$ )

## Lemma

$p$ divides a power of $b \Longrightarrow$ all states of $\mathcal{A}_{(p, R)}$ are ult-equiv.

## $\mathcal{A}_{(p, R)}$ as the product $\mathcal{A}_{(k, ?)} \times \mathcal{A}_{(d, ?)}$

## Notation

$b$ : the base
$p$ : the period
$k, d, j$ : integers s. $t$.

- $p=k d$
- $k$ coprime with $b$
- $d$ divides $b^{j}$
- $k$ coprime with $d$

Ex.: with $p=12$,

- $12=4 \times 3$
- 4 divides $2^{2}$
- 3 is coprime with 2


The "vertical" pseudo-morphism $\mathcal{A}_{(p, R)} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_{(k, ?)}$
$b$ : the base
$p=k d$ : the period
$k$ is coprime with $b$ $d$ divides $b^{j}$

## Lemma

$\exists$ a pseudo-morphism

$$
\psi: \mathcal{A}_{(p, R)} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_{(k, ?)}
$$

## Lemma

$s, t$ : states
If $\psi(s)=\psi(t)$, then
$s$ and $t$ are ult-equiv.


## Transition labelled by 0 in $\mathcal{A}_{(p, R)}$

(111)

## $b$ : the base <br> $p=k d$ : the period <br> $k$ is coprime with $b$ $d$ divides $b^{j}$

## Lemma

- In $\mathcal{A}_{(k, ?)}$, all states belong to a O-circuit;



## Transition labelled by 0 in $\mathcal{A}_{(p, R)}$

$b$ : the base
$p=k d$ : the period
$k$ is coprime with $b$ $d$ divides $b^{j}$


## Lemma

- In $\mathcal{A}_{(k, ?)}$, all states belong to a O-circuit;
- In $\mathcal{A}_{(d, ?)}$, only the initial state is part of a 0 -circuit.
b: the base
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$k$ is coprime with $b$ $d$ divides $b^{j}$

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## Lemma

States in different columns are never merged by minimisation.

Ex., Ab absurdo: $0 \sim 4$
$\Longrightarrow 0 \sim 4 \sim 8$
$\Longrightarrow 9 \sim 1 \sim 5$
$\Longrightarrow 6 \sim 10 \sim 2$
$\Longrightarrow 4$ is a period $<12$
$\Longrightarrow$ Contradiction

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$\mathcal{M}_{(p, R)}$, the minimisation of $\mathcal{A}_{(p, R)}$
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## Extracting information from $\mathcal{M}_{(p, R)}$.

$b$ : the base
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## Proposition

$\mathcal{M}_{(p, R)}$ : minim. of $\mathcal{A}_{(p, R)}$

- $k$ states of $\mathcal{M}_{(p, R)}$ are part of a 0 -circuit



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- If $\theta(s)=\theta(t)$, then $s$ and $t$ are ult-equiv.



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## Characterisation theorem

## Theorem

A: a minimal DFA.
$X$ : the b-recognisable set accepted by $\mathcal{A}$.
$\ell$ : the total number of states in 0 -circuits.
$X$ is purely periodic if and only if

- $\exists$ a pseudo-morphism $\varphi: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_{(\ell, ?)}$;
- states $s, t$ such that $\varphi(s)=\varphi(t)$, are ultimately equivalent;
- the initial state of $\mathcal{A}$ bears a 0 -loop.


## Forward direction

$\mathcal{A}$ : a minimal DFA.
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## Sketch

- Hypothesis: $\exists p, R, \quad X=R+p \mathbb{N}$


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- Notation: $k, \quad d, \quad j, \quad \theta: \mathcal{M}_{(p, R)} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}(k, ?)$


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- Notation: $k, \quad d, \quad j, \quad \theta: \mathcal{M}_{(p, R)} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}(k, ?)$
- Prop. of $\mathcal{M}_{(p, R)} \Rightarrow\left\{\begin{array}{l}\text { It holds } k=\ell \\ \text { Let } \varphi=\theta \\ \text { states } s, t \text { such that } \theta(s)=\theta(t) \\ \text { are ultimately-equivalent. }\end{array}\right.$


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## Sketch

- Hypothesis: $\left\{\begin{array}{l}\exists \varphi, \text { pseudo-morphism } \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}(\ell, ?) \\ \text { states } s, t \text { such that } \varphi(s)=\varphi(t) \text { are ult-equiv. }\end{array}\right.$


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- Notation: $m$ the maximal bound for ultimate-equivalence.
- Claim: $X$ is purely periodic of period $b^{m} \ell$


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- Hypothesis: $\left\{\begin{array}{l}\exists \varphi, \text { pseudo-morphism } \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}(\ell, ?) \\ \text { states } s, t \text { such that } \varphi(s)=\varphi(t) \text { are ult-equiv. }\end{array}\right.$
- Notation: $m$ the maximal bound for ultimate-equivalence.
- Claim: $X$ is purely periodic of period $b^{m} \ell$
- Let $u, u^{\prime}$ two words such that $\operatorname{VAL}(u)=\operatorname{vaL}\left(u^{\prime}\right)\left[b^{m} \ell\right]$.


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$\mathcal{A}$ : a minimal DFA.
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1 Introduction

2 Key notions

3 Purely periodic case: the automaton $\mathcal{A}_{(p, R)}$ and its minimisation

4 Purely periodic case: characterisation

5 Purely periodic case: execution on an example

6 A word on the impurely periodic case

## Execution on an example

0 Start from a minimal complete DFA $\mathcal{A}$.

1 Count the number $\ell$ of states in 0-circuits.

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$\binom{$ Then, the period is }{$b^{m} \times \ell=2^{3} \times 5=40}$
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Definition

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## Theorem

A: a minimal DFA.
$S$ : the b-recognisable set accepted by $\mathcal{A}$.
$\ell$ : the total number of states in 0 -circuits minus one.
$S$ is impurely periodic if and only if

- $\exists$ a pseudo-morphism $\varphi: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_{(\ell, ?)}$;
- every non-initial states $s, s^{\prime}$ such that $\varphi(s)=\varphi\left(s^{\prime}\right)$, are ultimately equivalent;
- the initial state of $\mathcal{A}$ bears a 0 -loop and has no other incoming transitions.


## Conclusion

Eventually periodic sets are either purely or impurely periodic, hence:

## Theorem

Periodicity is decidable in $O(b n \log (n))$ time (where $n$ is the state-set cardinal.)

## Future work

- Extension to multi-dimensional sets.
- Extension to non-standard numeration systems.

