

# A NOTE ON THE PROPERTY OF LINEAR CELLULAR AUTOMATA

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## Abstract

For a  $p^r$ -state linear cellular automaton  $L$ , we give a systematic set which has one-to-one, onto correspondence with the set  $\{0, 1, 2, \dots, p^r - 1\}$ . This set may play an important role in examining the limit set of space-time patterns as a  $\mathbb{Z}_{p^r}$ -valued upper semi continuous function.

## 1 Introduction

Cellular automata are discrete dynamical systems with simple construction. We define a cellular automaton as follows.

Put  $\mathbb{Z}_n = \{0, 1, \dots, n - 1\}$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Let  $p$  be a prime number,  $r$  a natural number and  $\mathcal{P}$  the set of all configurations  $w : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{p^r}$  with compact support. Let a linear transition rule  $L : \mathcal{P} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{p^r}$  be defined as follows:

$$Lw(x) \equiv \sum_{k \in G} c_k w(x + k) \pmod{p^r} \quad \text{for } w \in \mathcal{P}, \quad (1.1)$$

where the set  $G$  is a finite subset of  $\mathbb{Z}$  with  $\#G \geq 2$  and  $c_k \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Patterns of linear cellular automata were studied by some people. Existence of the limit of a series of space-time patterns is proved [1, 3, 5, 6]. E. Jen showed that a series  $\{L^t w(x) \mid t \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is aperiodic for some  $L$  with  $p = 2$  in [2]. In [5], S. Takahashi considered the case where  $L$  is  $p^r$ -state linear cellular automata with the initial state  $\delta_0$  which is 1 at the origin and 0 at others. He examined the limit set with respect to each non-zero state, by using the fact that every state appears in the set  $\{L^t \delta_0(-(t-1)r_1 - r_2) \mid t = 1, \dots, p^{r+1}\}$ . However, when we consider the limit set as a multi-valued function, the set  $\{L^t \delta_0(-(t-1)r_1 - r_2) \mid t = 1, \dots, p^{r+1}\}$  does not work well. Hence we need another set which includes every state and plays a useful role in examining the limit set. So we give a systematic set which has one-to-one, onto correspondence with the set  $\{0, 1, 2, \dots, p^r - 1\}$ . This set may play an important role in examining the limit set of space-time patterns as a  $\mathbb{Z}_{p^r}$ -valued upper semi continuous function [4].

## 2 The result

We deal with the specified transition rule, which  $L$  satisfies some condition. We say that  $L$  satisfies the condition (A) if there exists  $r_1, r_2 \in G$  satisfying

- (I)  $c_{r_1}/p, c_{r_2}/p \notin \mathbb{N}$ ,
- (II)  $r_1$  is an either maximum or minimum element of the set  $G$ ,
- (III)  $r_2$  is extreme or  $r_2 = \sum_{k \in G, r_2 \neq k} \beta_k k$  with  $0 \leq \beta_k < 1$  such that  $\sum_{k \in G, r_2 \neq k} \beta_k = 1$  and  $p^{r-1} \beta_k \notin \mathbb{N}$ ,
- (IV) if  $r_1$  is maximum [resp. minimum], then for  $s \in \{1, 2, \dots, p-1\}$ ,  $l \in \{1, 2, \dots, |r_1 - r_2| - 1\}$  there does not exist a path from  $-r_1 s(p^r - p^{r-1}) + l$  [resp.  $-r_1 s(p^r - p^{r-1}) - l$ ] to the origin, that is, we have

$$-\sum_{k \in G} \alpha_k k \notin \{-r_1 s(p^r - p^{r-1}) + l \mid l \in \{1, 2, \dots, |r_1 - r_2| - 1\}\}$$

$$[\text{resp. } - \sum_{k \in G} \alpha_k k \notin \{-r_1 s(p^r - p^{r-1}) - l \mid l \in \{1, 2, \dots, |r_1 - r_2| - 1\}\}],$$

for the set  $\{\alpha_k\}_{k \in G} \subset \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$  such that  $\sum_{k \in G} \alpha_k = s(p^r - p^{r-1})$  with  $s \in \{1, 2, \dots, p - 1\}$ .

Here, an element  $k \in G$  is *extreme* if an element  $k$  is not expressed as a convex linear combination of other elements of  $G$ . We note that a maximum or minimum element of the set  $G$  is extreme.

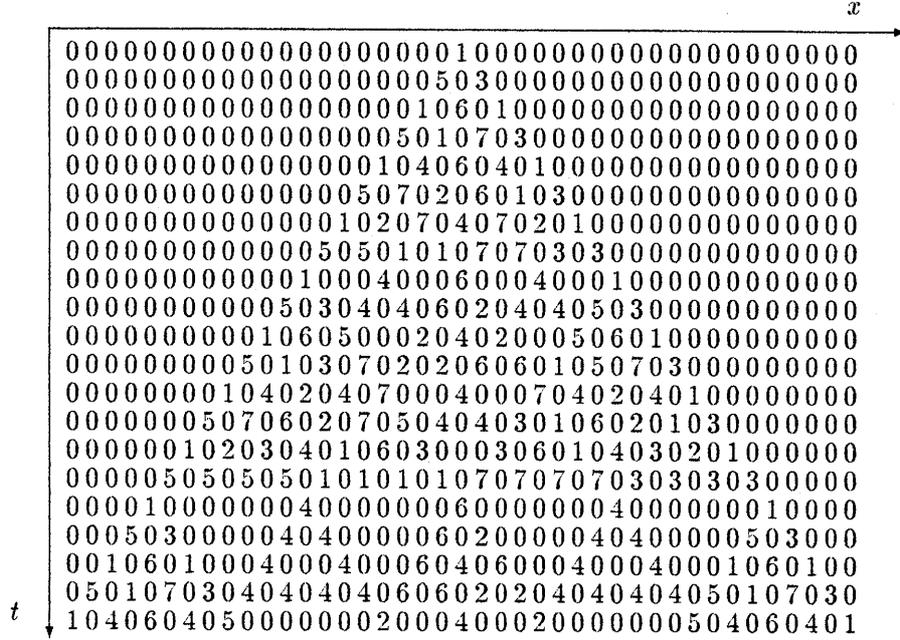


Figure 1: Space-time pattern of  $L_3 \delta_0(x) \equiv 3\delta_0(x - 1) + 5\delta_0(x + 1) \pmod{2^3}$

By using  $r_1, r_2 \in G$  which satisfy (I),(II),(III) and (IV), put

$$t(r, j) = j(p^r - p^{r-1}) \tag{2.1}$$

and

$$i(r, j) = -(t(r, j) - p^{r-1})r_1 - p^{r-1}r_2 \tag{2.2}$$

for  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ . We define  $\delta_0 \in \mathcal{P}$  as

$$\delta_0(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & x = 0 \\ 0 & x \neq 0. \end{cases}$$

We shall prove that the set  $\{L^{t(r,j)} \delta_0(i(r, j)) \mid 1 \leq j \leq p^r\}$  has one-to-one, onto correspondence with the set  $\{0, 1, 2, \dots, p^r - 1\}$ . We shall call the set  $\{a_n \mid n = 1, \dots, k\}$  a *k-set*, if the set has one-to-one, onto correspondence with the set  $\{0, 1, \dots, k - 1\}$ .

We need the following lemmas later.

**Lemma 1.** [5] Suppose  $L$  is defined as (1.1). For  $j, l \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have

$$L^{p^{l+r-1}j} \delta_0(x) = \begin{cases} L^{jp^{r-1}} \delta_0(y) & \text{if there exists } y \text{ such that } p^l y = x \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

**Lemma 2.** Let  $q \in \{1, 2, \dots, p - 1\}$  and  $t = jp^{r-1}$  with  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ . If  $v = p^l q$  for  $l$  ( $0 \leq l \leq r - 2$ ), then  $t - v = p^l q'$  for some  $q' \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $q'/p \notin \mathbb{N}$ .

*Proof.* We have  $t - v = p^l(jp^{r-l-1} - q)$ . Put  $q' = jp^{r-l-1} - q$ . So we obtain  $q'/p \notin \mathbb{N}$  by  $q \in \{1, 2, \dots, p-1\}$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 3.** Let  $L$  be defined as (1.1) and satisfy the condition (A). Suppose  $r \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $r \geq 2$  and  $j \in \{1, 2, \dots, p^r\}$ . Let  $r_1, r_2 \in G$  satisfy (I),(II),(III) and (IV) of the condition (A). Then the following assertions hold:

- (i)  $L^{t(r,1)}\delta_0(i(r,1))/p \notin \mathbb{N}$ .
- (ii) The set  $\{nL^{t(1,1)}\delta_0(i(1,1)) \bmod p \mid 1 \leq n \leq p\}$  is a  $p$ -set.
- (iii) Suppose  $|r_1 - r_2| \geq 2$ . If  $r_1 > r_2$  [resp.  $r_1 < r_2$ ], then

$$\begin{aligned} L^{t(r,j)}\delta_0(-t(r,j)r_1 + l) &= 0 \\ \text{[resp. } L^{t(r,j)}\delta_0(-t(r,j)r_1 - l) &= 0] \end{aligned} \quad (2.3)$$

holds for  $l \in \{1, 2, \dots, |r_1 - r_2| - 1\}$  and

$$\begin{aligned} L^{t(r,sp^{r-1})}\delta_0(-t(r,sp^{r-1})r_1 + l) &= 0 \\ \text{[resp. } L^{t(r,sp^{r-1})}\delta_0(-t(r,sp^{r-1})r_1 - l) &= 0] \end{aligned}$$

holds for  $l \in \{1, 2, \dots, p^{r-1}|r_1 - r_2| - 1\}$  and  $s \in \{1, 2, \dots, p-1\}$ .

*Proof.* (i) For  $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$  put  ${}_{a+b}C_b = (a+b)!/(ab!)$ . We have

$$L^{t(r,1)}\delta_0(i(r,1)) \equiv {}_{p^r-p^{r-1}}C_{p^{r-1}}c_{r_1}^{p^r-p^{r-1}-p^{r-1}}c_{r_2}^{p^{r-1}} \pmod{p^r}$$

by (II) and (III) of the condition (A). Since

$${}_{p^r-p^{r-1}}C_{p^{r-1}} = \frac{(p^r - p^{r-1})(p^r - p^{r-1} - 1) \cdots (p^r - p^{r-1} - p^{r-1} + 1)}{p^{r-1}!},$$

$p$  does not divide  ${}_{p^r-p^{r-1}}C_{p^{r-1}}$  by Lemma 2. Then  $p$  does not divide  $L^{t(r,1)}\delta_0(i(r,1))$  by (I) of the condition (A).

- (ii) We shall show that  $nL^{t(1,1)}\delta_0(i(1,1)) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  holds for all  $n \in \{1, 2, \dots, p-1\}$ . The proof is by contradiction. Assume that there exists  $n_0 \in \{1, 2, \dots, p-1\}$  such that  $n_0L^{t(1,1)}\delta_0(i(1,1)) = s_0p$  holds with some  $s_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then we have  $L^{t(1,1)}\delta_0(i(1,1)) = s_0p/n_0$ . Since  $n_0 \leq p-1$ ,  $s_0/n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  holds. Therefore  $p$  divide  $L^{t(1,1)}\delta_0(i(1,1))$ , which contradicts assumption.
- (iii) We only show the case where  $r_1 > r_2$ . Since  $1 \leq l \leq r_1 - r_2 - 1$ , there does not exist the path from the origin to the point  $-t(r, j)r_1 + l$  by (IV) of the condition (A). So we have  $L^{t(r,j)}\delta_0(-t(r, j)r_1 + l) = 0$ . Since  $t(r, sp^{r-1}) = p^{r-1}t(r, s)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} L^{t(r,sp^{r-1})}\delta_0(-t(r,sp^{r-1})r_1) &= L^{t(r,s)}\delta_0(-t(r,s)r_1) \\ L^{t(r,sp^{r-1})}\delta_0(-t(r,sp^{r-1})r_1 + p^{r-1}(r_1 - r_2)) &= L^{t(r,s)}\delta_0(-t(r,s)r_1 + (r_1 - r_2)) \\ L^{t(r,sp^{r-1})}\delta_0(-t(r,sp^{r-1})r_1 + l) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

for  $l \in \{1, 2, \dots, p^{r-1}(r_1 - r_2) - 1\}$  and  $s \in \{1, 2, \dots, p-1\}$  by Lemma 1 and the equation (2.3).

In case  $r_1 < r_2$ , we can prove it in the same way as above.  $\square$

**Lemma 4.** Suppose  $r \geq 2$  and  $L$  satisfies the condition (A). Then

$$L^{t(r,j)}\delta_0(i(r, j)) \equiv L^{t(r,m)}\delta_0(i(r, m)) + sL^{t(r,p^{r-1})}\delta_0(i(r, p^{r-1})) \pmod{p^r}$$

holds for  $j = sp^{r-1} + m$  with  $s \in \{0, 1, \dots, p-1\}$  and  $m \in \{1, 2, \dots, p^{r-1}\}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $r_1, r_2 \in G$  satisfy (I),(II),(III) and (IV) of the condition (A). We first consider the case where  $r_1 > r_2$ . We compute  $L^{t(r,j)}\delta_0(i(r,j))$  from the values at time  $t(r, j-1)$ . By the property of  $L$  there exists  $B(r, k) \in \mathbb{N}$  for  $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, p^{r-1}(r_1 - r_2) - 1\}$  such that  $B(r, k)$  does not depend on  $j$  and

$$\begin{aligned} L^{t(r,j)}\delta_0(i(r,j)) &\equiv c_{p^{r-1}}^{p^r-2p^{r-1}} c_{r_1}^{p^r-2p^{r-1}} c_{r_2}^{p^r-1} \\ &\quad + \sum_{k=1}^{p^{r-1}(r_1-r_2)-1} B(r, k)b(r, j-1, k) \\ &\quad + c_{r_1}^{p^r-2p^{r-1}} L^{t(r,j-1)}\delta_0(i(r, j-1)) \pmod{p^r}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $b(r, j, k) = L^{t(r,j)}\delta_0(-t(r, j)r_1 + k)$  for  $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, p^{r-1}(r_1 - r_2) - 1\}$ . Put

$$d(j) = \sum_{k=1}^{p^{r-1}(r_1-r_2)-1} B(r, k)b(r, j, k),$$

and we rewrite the equation above as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} L^{t(r,j)}\delta_0(i(r,j)) &\equiv L^{t(r,1)}\delta_0(i(r,1)) + d(j-1) + L^{t(r,j-1)}\delta_0(i(r, j-1)) \\ &\equiv jL^{t(r,1)}\delta_0(i(r,1)) + \sum_{l=1}^{j-1} d(l) \pmod{p^r} \end{aligned}$$

from Euler's theorem ( $n^{p^r-p^{r-1}} \equiv 1 \pmod{p^r}$ ).

We have  $b(r, sp^{r-1}, k) = 0$  for all  $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, p^{r-1}(r_1 - r_2) - 1\}$  and all  $s \in \{1, 2, \dots, p-1\}$  by Lemma 3(iii) and  $L^{t(r,sp^{r-1})}\delta_0(-t(r, sp^{r-1})r_1) \equiv 1 \pmod{p^r}$ . Since  $B(r, k)$  does not depend  $j$ , we have

$$d(m + sp^{r-1}) \equiv d(m) \pmod{p^r} \quad (2.4)$$

for  $m \in \{1, 2, \dots, p^{r-1}\}$  and  $s \in \{1, 2, \dots, p-1\}$  by (II) of the condition (A).

For  $j = sp^{r-1} + m$  with  $m \in \{1, 2, \dots, p^{r-1}\}$  and  $s \in \{0, 1, \dots, p-1\}$

$$\begin{aligned} L^{t(r,j)}\delta_0(i(r,j)) &\equiv jL^{t(r,1)}\delta_0(i(r,1)) + \sum_{l=1}^{j-1} d(l) \\ &\equiv sp^{r-1}L^{t(r,1)}\delta_0(i(r,1)) + s \sum_{l=1}^{p^{r-1}-1} d(l) + mL^{t(r,1)}\delta_0(i(r,1)) + \sum_{l=1}^{m-1} d(l) \\ &\equiv L^{t(r,m)}\delta_0(i(r, m)) + sL^{t(r,p^{r-1})}\delta_0(i(r, p^{r-1})) \pmod{p^r} \end{aligned}$$

by (2.4). In case  $r_1 < r_2$ , putting  $b(r, j, k) = L^{t(r,j)}\delta_0(-t(r, j)r_1 - k)$ , we can prove in the same way.  $\square$

Put

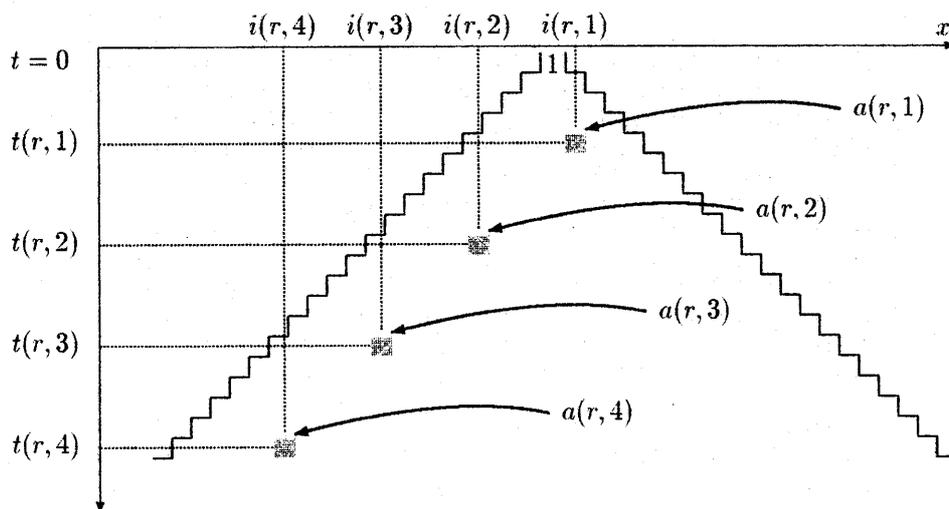
$$a(r, j) = L^{t(r,j)}\delta_0(i(r, j)) \quad (2.5)$$

for convenience. We will prove the set  $\{a(r, j) \mid 1 \leq j \leq p^r\}$  is a  $p^r$ -set. In order to prove the following lemma, we define a map  $\mathcal{L} : \mathcal{P} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  as follows:

$$\mathcal{L}w(x) = \sum_{k \in G} c_k w(x + k), \quad (2.6)$$

where the set  $G$  and  $c_k$  are as in the definition of  $L$ . We note that there exists  $k(r, j) \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$\mathcal{L}^{t(r,j)}\delta_0(i(r, j)) = k(r, j)p^r + a(r, j). \quad (2.7)$$

Figure 2: The relation among  $t(r, j)$ ,  $i(r, j)$  and  $a(r, j)$ .

**Lemma 5.** Suppose  $a(r, j)$  is defined as (2.5) and the set  $\{a(r, j) \mid 1 \leq j \leq p^r\}$  is a  $p^r$ -set. Then the following assertions hold:

- (i)  $a(r+1, j) \neq a(r+1, l)$  holds for  $j, l \in \{1, 2, \dots, p^r\}$  with  $j \neq l$ .
- (ii) There exists  $k_0 \in \mathbb{N} (0 \leq k_0 \leq p-1)$  such that  $a(r, p^{r-1}) = p^{r-1}k_0$ .
- (iii)  $a(r+1, j) \not\equiv a(r+1, l) + ka(r+1, p^r) \pmod{p^{r+1}}$  holds for any  $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, p-1\}$  and  $j, l \in \{1, 2, \dots, p^r\}$  with  $j \neq l$ .
- (iv)  $a(r+1, j) + k_1 a(r+1, p^r) \not\equiv a(r+1, j) + k_2 a(r+1, p^r) \pmod{p^{r+1}}$  holds for any  $k_1, k_2 \in \{1, 2, \dots, p-1\}$  with  $k_1 \neq k_2$  and  $j \in \{1, 2, \dots, p^r\}$ .

*Proof.* We have

$$a(r, j) \equiv \mathcal{L}^{t(r, j)} \delta_0(i(r, j)) \equiv \mathcal{L}^{t(r+1, j)} \delta_0(i(r+1, j)) \pmod{p^r} \quad (2.8)$$

for  $j \in \{1, 2, \dots, p^r\}$  by Lemma 4, since

$$\mathcal{L}^{p^t(r, j)} \delta_0(pi(r, j)) = \mathcal{L}^{t(r+1, j)} \delta_0(i(r+1, j)) \quad (2.9)$$

by Lemma 1 and

$$\mathcal{L}^{t(r, j)} \delta_0(i(r, j)) \equiv \mathcal{L}^{p^t(r, j)} \delta_0(pi(r, j)) \pmod{p^r}. \quad (2.10)$$

Therefore by (2.8) there exists  $k'(r, j) \in \mathbb{N}$  for  $j \in \{1, 2, \dots, p^r\}$  such that

$$\mathcal{L}^{t(r+1, j)} \delta_0(i(r+1, j)) = k'(r, j)p^r + a(r, j). \quad (2.11)$$

So we obtain by (2.7) and (2.11)

$$k(r+1, j)p^{r+1} + a(r+1, j) = k'(r, j)p^r + a(r, j) \quad (2.12)$$

$$k(r+1, l)p^{r+1} + a(r+1, l) = k'(r, l)p^r + a(r, l). \quad (2.13)$$

for  $j, l \in \{1, 2, \dots, p^r\}$ .

- (i) Assume  $a(r+1, j) = a(r+1, l)$  holds for  $j, l \in \{1, 2, \dots, p^r\}$  with  $j \neq l$ . By (2.12) and (2.13)  $a(r, j) - a(r, l) = (k(r+1, j) - k(r+1, l))p^{r+1} - (k'(r, j) - k'(r, l))p^r$ , which contradicts the assumption.

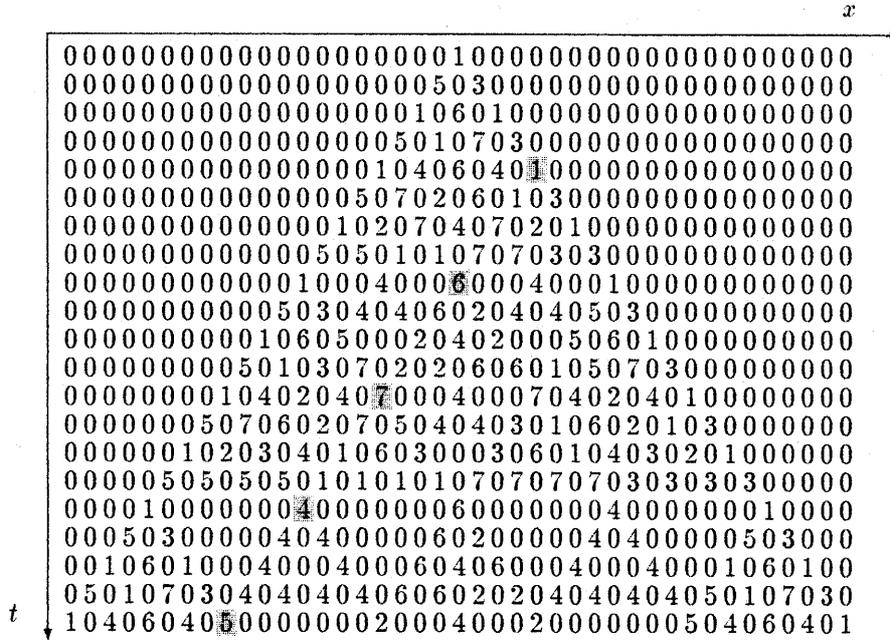


Figure 3: Example of  $L_3\delta_0(x) \equiv 3\delta_0(x-1) + 5\delta_0(x+1) \pmod{2^3}$ . The values in the dotted regions are  $a(3,1), a(3,2), \dots, a(3,5)$ .

(ii) We will prove it by induction on  $r$ .

(a) In case  $r = 1$ , it is clear by definition.

(b) In case  $r > 1$ , assume that it is true for  $r = r'$ . Then we have  $a(r', p^{r'}) \equiv pa(r', p^{r'-1}) \equiv pp^{r'-1}k_0 \equiv p^{r'}k_0 \pmod{p^{r'}}$  by Lemma 4 and the assumption of induction. So there exists  $k'_0 \in \mathbb{N}(0 \leq k'_0 \leq p-1)$  such that  $a(r'+1, p^{r'}) = p^{r'}k'_0$  by (2.12).

(iii) The proof is by contradiction. Assume that there exists  $k_1 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $a(r+1, j) \equiv a(r+1, l) + k_1a(r+1, p^r) \pmod{p^{r+1}}$ . Then there exists  $s_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $a(r+1, j) - a(r+1, l) - k_1a(r+1, p^r) = s_0p^{r+1}$ . There exists  $k_0 \in \{0, 1, \dots, p-1\}$  such that  $a(r+1, p^r) = p^rk_0$  by the assertion (ii). By the equations (2.12) and (2.13), we have

$$\begin{aligned} a(r, j) - a(r, l) &= (k(r+1, j) - k(r+1, l))p^{r+1} - (k'(r, j) - k'(r, l))p^r \\ &\quad + a(r+1, j) - a(r+1, l) \\ &= (k(r+1, j) - k(r+1, l))p^{r+1} - (k'(r, j) - k'(r, l))p^r \\ &\quad + s_0p^{r+1} + k_0k_1p^r \\ &= p^r\{(k(r+1, j) - k(r+1, l))p - (k'(r, j) - k'(r, l)) + s_0p + k_0k_1\}, \end{aligned}$$

which contradicts  $a(r, j) \neq a(r, l)$  by  $0 \leq a(r, j) - a(r, l) \leq p^r - 1$ .

(iv) It is clear by the property of modulus. □

**Proposition.** Suppose  $r \in \mathbb{N}$ . If the set  $\{a(r, j) \mid 1 \leq j \leq p^r\}$  is a  $p^r$ -set, then the set  $\{a(r+1, j) \mid 1 \leq j \leq p^{r+1}\}$  is a  $p^{r+1}$ -set.

*Proof.* We obtain the conclusion by the assertion (i), (iii) and (iv) of Lemma 4 and Lemma 5. □

**Theorem.** For a prime number  $p$  and  $r \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $L$  be defined as (1.1) and satisfy the condition (A). Put  $t(r, j) = j(p^r - p^{r-1})$  and  $i(r, j) = -(t(r, j) - p^{r-1})r_1 - p^{r-1}r_2$ , where  $r_1, r_2 \in G$  satisfy (I),(II),(III) and (IV) of the condition (A).

Then the set  $\{L^{t(r,j)}\delta_0(i(r,j)) \mid 1 \leq j \leq p^r\}$  is a  $p^r$ -set.

*Proof.* The proof is by induction on  $r$ .

(i) In case  $r = 1$ , from Lemma 3(iii),

$$\begin{aligned} L^{t(1,j)}\delta_0(i(1,j)) &\equiv {}_{t(1,1)}C_p c_{r_1}^{t(1,1)-1} c_{r_2} + c_{r_1}^{t(1,1)} L^{t(1,j-1)}\delta_0(i(1,j-1)) \\ &\equiv L^{t(1,1)}\delta_0(i(1,1)) + L^{t(1,j-1)}\delta_0(i(1,j-1)) \\ &\equiv jL^{t(1,1)}\delta_0(i(1,1)) \pmod{p} \end{aligned}$$

for  $1 \leq j \leq p$  by Euler's theorem ( $n^{p^r - p^{r-1}} \equiv 1 \pmod{p^r}$  for any  $r \in \mathbb{N}$ ) and  $L^{t(1,1)}\delta_0(i(1,1)) \equiv {}_{t(1,1)}C_p c_{r_1}^{t(1,1)-1} c_{r_2} \pmod{p}$ . So the assertion holds for  $r = 1$  from Lemma 3(ii).

(ii) In case  $r \geq 2$ , we get the conclusion by the proposition above and the assumption of induction. □

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