# Complexité syntaxique et numérations 

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An example first



The set $2 \mathbb{N}$ of even integers is $F$-recognizable or $F$-automatic, i.e., the language $\operatorname{rep}_{F}(2 \mathbb{N})=\{\varepsilon, 10,101,1001,10000, \ldots\}$ is accepted by some finite automaton.

Remark (in terms of the Chomsky hierarchy)
With respect to the Zeckendorf system, any $F$-recognizable set can be considered as a "particularly simple" set of integers.

We get a similar definition for other numeration systems.

## Numeration systems

- A numeration system (NS) is an increasing sequence of integers $U=\left(U_{n}\right)_{n \geq 0}$ such that
- $U_{0}=1$ and
- $C_{U}:=\sup _{n \geq 0}\left\lceil U_{n+1} / U_{n}\right\rceil<+\infty$.
- $U$ is linear if it satisfies a linear recurrence relation over $\mathbb{Z}$.
- Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$. A word $w=w_{\ell-1} \cdots w_{0}$ over $\mathbb{N}$ represents $n$ if

$$
\sum_{i=0}^{\ell-1} w_{i} U_{i}=n
$$

- In this case, we write $\operatorname{val}_{U}(w)=n$.


## Greedy representations

- A representation $w=w_{\ell-1} \cdots w_{0}$ of an integer is greedy if

$$
\forall j, \sum_{i=0}^{j-1} w_{i} U_{i}<U_{j}
$$

- In that case, $w \in\left\{0,1, \ldots, C_{U}-1\right\}^{*}$.
- $\operatorname{rep}_{U}(n)$ is the greedy representation of $n$ with $w_{\ell-1} \neq 0$.
- $X \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ is $U$-recognizable $\stackrel{\Delta}{\Leftrightarrow} \operatorname{rep}_{U}(X)$ is accepted by a finite automaton.
- $\operatorname{rep}_{U}(\mathbb{N})$ is the numeration language.


## Zeckendorf (or Fibonacci) numeration system



- $F_{n+2}=F_{n+1}+F_{n}$
- $F_{0}=1, F_{1}=2$
- $\mathcal{A}_{F}$ accepts all words that do not contain 11 .

The $\ell$-bonacci numeration system


- $U_{n+\ell}=U_{n+\ell-1}+U_{n+\ell-2}+\cdots+U_{n}$
- $U_{i}=2^{i}, i \in\{0, \ldots, \ell-1\}$
- $\mathcal{A}_{U}$ accepts all words that do not contain $1^{\ell}$.


## $U$-recognizability of arithmetic progressions

Theorem
Let $U=\left(U_{i}\right)_{i \geq 0}$ be a $N S$ such that $\mathbb{N}$ is $U$-recognizable.
Then $m \mathbb{N}+r$ is $U$-recognizable for all $m, r \in \mathbb{N}$, and, given a DFA accepting $\operatorname{rep}_{U}(\mathbb{N})$, a DFA accepting $\operatorname{rep}_{U}(m \mathbb{N}+r)$ can be obtained effectively.
Consequently, any ultimately periodic set is $U$-recognizable.

Theorem
Let $U$ be a PNS. If $\mathbb{N}$ is $U$-recognizable, then $U$ is linear, i.e., it satisfies a linear recurrence relation over $\mathbb{Z}$.

## Motivations

What is the "best automaton" we can get?


DFAs accepting the binary representations of $4 \mathbb{N}+3$.

## Question

The general algorithm doesn't provide a minimal automaton. What is the state complexity of $\operatorname{rep}_{U}(m \mathbb{N}+r)$ ?

## Related questions

Suppose that $\operatorname{rep}_{U}(\mathbb{N})$ is regular and let $\mathcal{A}_{U}$ be the trim minimal automaton recognizing $\mathbb{N}$.

- What does $\mathcal{A}_{U}$ look like?

Suppose we are interested in a certain property $\mathcal{P}$ on sets of integers (like being ultimately periodic) that is $U$-recognizable.

- Describe the state complexity of a set $X \in \mathcal{P}$ w.r.t $U$.
- Describe the syntactic complexity of a set $X \in \mathcal{P}$ w.r.t $U$.


## Honkala's decision procedure 1986

Given any finite automaton recognizing a set $X$ of integers written in base $b$, it is decidable whether $X$ is ultimately periodic.

Main ideas for an automata-resolution of this problem:

- If $X \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ is ultimately periodic, then the state complexity of the associated minimal DFA should grow with the period and preperiod of $X$.
- Analyse the inner structure of DFAs accepting the $U$-representations of $m \mathbb{N}+r$.


## Information we are looking for

Consider a NS $U$ such that $\mathbb{N}$ is $U$-recognizable.
How many states does the trim minimal automaton $\mathcal{A}_{U, m}$ recognizing $m \mathbb{N}$ contain?

1. Give upper/lower bounds?
2. Study special cases, e.g., Zeckendorf numeration system.

All these questions could be reformulated using the syntactic monoid instead of the minimal automaton.

## State complexity

## A general upper bound

Theorem (Krieger et al. 2009, Angrand-Sakarovitch 2010)
Let $m, r \in \mathbb{N}$ with $m \geq 2$ and $r<m$.
If $\mathrm{rep}_{U}(\mathbb{N})$ is accepted by a $n$-state DFA, then the minimal automaton of $\operatorname{rep}_{U}(m \mathbb{N}+r)$ has at most $n m^{n}$ states.

NB: This result remains true for the larger class of abstract numeration systems.

## An exact result for the integer bases

Theorem (Alexeev 2004)
Let $b, m \geq 2$. Let $N, M$ be such that $b^{N}<m \leq b^{N+1}$ and $(m, 1)<(m, b)<\cdots<\left(m, b^{M}\right)=\left(m, b^{M+1}\right)$.
The minimal automaton recognizing $m \mathbb{N}$ in base $b$ has exactly

$$
\frac{m}{\left(m, b^{N+1}\right)}+\sum_{t=0}^{\min \{N, M-1\}} \frac{b^{t}}{\left(m, b^{t}\right)} \text { states. }
$$

In particular, if $m$ and $b$ are coprime, then this number is just $m$.
Further, if $m=b^{n}$, then this number is $n+1$.

## A lower bound

Theorem (C-Rampersad-Rigo-Waxweiler 2011)
Let $U$ be any numeration system (not necessarily linear). The number of states of $\mathcal{A}_{U, m}$ is at least $\left|\operatorname{rep}_{U}(m)\right|$.

## The Hankel matrix

- Let $U=\left(U_{n}\right)_{n \geq 0}$ be a linear numeration system.
- Let $k=k_{U, m}$ be the length of the shortest linear recurrence relation satisfied by $\left(U_{i} \bmod m\right)_{i \geq 0}$.
- For $t \geq 1$ define

$$
H_{t}:=\left(\begin{array}{cccc}
U_{0} & U_{1} & \cdots & U_{t-1} \\
U_{1} & U_{2} & \cdots & U_{t} \\
\vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\
U_{t-1} & U_{t} & \cdots & U_{2 t-2}
\end{array}\right)
$$

- For $m \geq 2, k_{U, m}$ is also the largest $t$ such that $\operatorname{det} H_{t} \not \equiv 0$ $(\bmod m)$.


## A system of linear congruences

- Let $S_{U, m}$ denote the number of $k$-tuples $\mathbf{b}$ in $\{0, \ldots, m-1\}^{k}$ such that the system

$$
H_{k} \mathbf{x} \equiv \mathbf{b} \quad(\bmod m)
$$

has at least one solution $\mathbf{x}=\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{k}\right)$.

- $S_{U, m} \leq m^{k}$.


## Calculating $S_{U, m}$

- $U_{n+2}=2 U_{n+1}+U_{n},\left(U_{0}, U_{1}\right)=(1,3)$
- $\left(U_{n}\right)_{n \geq 0}=1,3,7,17,41,99,239, \ldots$
- Consider the system

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{rlr}
1 x_{1}+3 x_{2} & \equiv b_{1} & (\bmod 4) \\
3 x_{1}+7 x_{2} & \equiv b_{2} & (\bmod 4)
\end{array}\right.
$$

- $2 x_{1} \equiv b_{2}-b_{1}(\bmod 4)$
- For each value of $b_{1}$ there are at most 2 values for $b_{2}$.
- Hence $S_{U, 4}=8$.


## General state complexity result

Theorem
Let $m \geq 2$ and let $U=\left(U_{n}\right)_{n \geq 0}$ be a numeration system s.t.
(a) $\mathbb{N}$ is $U$-recognizable;
(b) $\mathcal{A}_{U}$ has a single strongly connected component $\mathcal{C}_{U}$;
(c) for all states $p, q$ in $\mathcal{C}_{U}$ with $p \neq q$, there exists a word $x_{p q}$ such that $p \cdot x_{p q} \in \mathcal{C}_{U}$ and $q \cdot x_{p q} \notin \mathcal{C}_{U}$, or vice-versa;
(d) $\left(U_{n} \bmod m\right)_{n \geq 0}$ is purely periodic.

Then the number of states of $\mathcal{A}_{U, m}$ from which infinitely many words are accepted is

$$
\left|\mathcal{C}_{U}\right| S_{U, m} .
$$

## Idea of the proof

Let $L$ be a language over the alphabet $\Sigma$.
The Myhill-Nerode equivalence relation for $L: u \sim_{L} v$ means that for all $y \in \Sigma^{*}, u y \in L \Leftrightarrow v y \in L$.

The number of states of $\mathcal{A}_{U, m}$ from which infinitely many words are accepted is the number of sets $u^{-1} 0^{*} \operatorname{rep}_{U}(m \mathbb{N})$ where $u$ is s.t. $q_{0} \cdot u$ belongs to $\mathcal{C}_{U}$ (where $q_{0}$ is the initial state of $\mathcal{A}_{U}$ ).

For all $u, v \in A_{U}^{*}$ s.t. $q_{0} \cdot u$ and $q_{0} \cdot v$ belong to $\mathcal{C}_{U}$, we have $u \sim_{0^{*} \operatorname{rep}_{U}(m \mathbb{N})} v$ iff

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{l}
u \sim_{0^{*}} \operatorname{rep}_{U}(\mathbb{N}) v \quad \text { and } \\
\forall i \in\{0, \ldots, k-1\}, \operatorname{val}_{U}\left(u 0^{i}\right) \equiv \operatorname{val}_{U}\left(v 0^{i}\right) \quad(\bmod m)
\end{array}\right.
$$

## Result for strongly connected automata

## Corollary

If $U$ satisfies the conditions of the previous theorem and $\mathcal{A}_{U}$ is strongly connected, then the number of states of $\mathcal{A}_{U, m}$ is

$$
\left|\mathcal{A}_{U}\right| S_{U, m}
$$

Further, we get an automatic procedure to obtain directly the minimal automaton $\mathcal{A}_{U, m}$ of $0^{*} \operatorname{rep}_{U}(m \mathbb{N})$.

## Bertrand numeration systems

- Bertrand numeration system: $w$ is in $\operatorname{rep}_{U}(\mathbb{N})$ if and only if $w 0$ is in $\operatorname{rep}_{U}(\mathbb{N})$.
- E.g., the $\ell$-bonacci system is Bertrand.



## A non-Bertrand system



- $U_{n+2}=U_{n+1}+U_{n}, U_{0}=1, U_{1}=3$
- $\left(U_{n}\right)_{n \geq 0}=1,3,4,7,11,18,29,47, \ldots$
- 2 is a greedy representation but 20 is not.


## Theorem (Bertrand)

A numeration system $U$ is Bertrand iff there is a $\beta>1$ s.t.

$$
0^{*} \operatorname{rep}_{U}(\mathbb{N})=L(\beta)
$$

In that case, if $d_{\beta}^{*}(1)=\left(t_{i}\right)_{i \geq 1}$, then

$$
U_{n}=t_{1} U_{n-1}+\cdots+t_{n} U_{0}+1
$$

- If $\beta$ is a Parry number, the system is linear and we have a finite trim minimal automaton $\mathcal{A}_{\beta}$ accepting $L(\beta)$.
- Consequently, $\operatorname{rep}_{U}(\mathbb{N})$ is regular and $\mathcal{A}_{U}=\mathcal{A}_{\beta}$.


## Applying our state complexity result to the Bertrand systems

## Proposition

Let $U$ be the Bertrand numeration system associated with a non-integral Parry number $\beta>1$. The set $\mathbb{N}$ is $U$-recognizable and the trim minimal automaton $\mathcal{A}_{U}$ of $0^{*} \operatorname{rep}_{U}(\mathbb{N})$ fulfills the hypotheses of the theorem.

Consequently the previous state complexity result applies to the class of Bertrand numeration systems.

## Result for the $\ell$-bonacci system



## Corollary

For $U$ the $\ell$-bonacci system, the number of states of $\mathcal{A}_{U, m}$ is $\ell m^{\ell}$.


| 13 | 8 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 1 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | 1 | 0 | 2 |
|  |  |  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 4 |
|  |  | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 6 |
|  | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 |
|  | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 10 |
|  | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 12 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | $\vdots$ |

## Further work for state complexity

- Analyze the structure of $\mathcal{A}_{U}$ for systems with no dominant root.
- Remove the assumption that $\left(U_{n} \bmod m\right)_{n \geq 0}$ is purely periodic in the state complexity result.
- Look at any arithmetic progressions $X=m \mathbb{N}+r$.

Transition to syntactic complexity

## Transition to syntactic complexity

Let $N_{U}(m) \in\{1, \ldots, m\}$ denote the number of values that are taken infinitely often by the sequence $\left(U_{i} \bmod m\right)_{i \geq 0}$.

Example (Zeckendorf system)
$\left(F_{i} \bmod 4\right)=(1,2,3,1,0,1,1,2,3, \ldots)$, so $N_{F}(4)=4$.
$\left(F_{i} \bmod 11\right)=(1,2,3,5,8,2,10,1,0,1,1,2,3, \ldots)$, so $N_{F}(11)=7$.
Theorem (C-Rigo 2008)
Let $U=\left(U_{i}\right)_{i \geq 0}$ be a $N S$ s.t. $\lim _{i \rightarrow+\infty} U_{i+1}-U_{i}=+\infty$.
If $X \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ is an ultimately periodic $U$-recognizable set of period $p$, then any DFA accepting $\operatorname{rep}_{U}(X)$ has at least $N_{U}(p)$ states.

- If $N_{U}(m) \rightarrow+\infty$ as $m \rightarrow+\infty$, then we obtain a decision procedure to the periodicity problem.
- If $U$ satisfies

$$
U_{i+k}=a_{1} U_{i+k-1}+\cdots+a_{k} U_{i}, i \geq 0, \text { with } a_{k}= \pm 1
$$

then $\lim _{m \rightarrow+\infty} N_{U}(m)=+\infty$.

- Works for the Zeckendorf system.
- Not true for integer base b: $N\left(b^{n}\right)=1$ for all $n \geq 0$.
- The formula for the state complexity of $m \mathbb{N}$ for the Zeckendorf system is much simpler than the formula for integer base $b$ systems.
- In this point of view, state complexity is not completely satisfying.
- Hope: Find a complexity that would handle all these systems in a kind of uniform way.


# Syntactic complexity 

## Syntactic complexity

- Let $L$ be a language over the alphabet $\Sigma$.
- Myhill-Nerode equivalence relation for $L: u \sim_{L} v$ means that for all $y \in \Sigma^{*}, u y \in L \Leftrightarrow v y \in L$.
- Leads to the minimal automaton of $L:\left|\mathcal{A}_{L}\right|=\left|\Sigma^{*} / \sim_{L}\right|$ is the state complexity of $L$.
- Syntactic congruence for $L: u \equiv_{L} v$ means that for all $x, y \in \Sigma^{*}, x u y \in L \Leftrightarrow x v y \in L$.
- Leads to the syntactic monoid of $L:\left(\Sigma^{*} / \equiv_{L}, \circ\right)$ where $[u] \circ[v]=[u v]$.
- $\left|\Sigma^{*} / \equiv_{L}\right|$ is the syntactic complexity of $L$.

Theorem
A language $L$ is regular iff $\Sigma^{*} / \equiv_{L}$ is finite.
Theorem
Let $L$ be a language over $\Sigma$. Two words $u, v \in \Sigma^{*}$ are s.t. $u \equiv_{L} v$ iff they perform the same transformation on the set of states of the minimal automaton $\mathcal{A}_{L}: q \cdot u=q \cdot v$ for all states $q$.

An example: $L=a^{*} b^{*}$

Minimal automaton:


Representation of the syntactic monoid:


## An example: $L=a^{*} b^{*}$

Minimal automaton:


Representation of the syntactic monoid:


## Syntactic complexity for integer bases

The syntactic complexity of $X \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ is the syntactic complexity of the language $0^{*} \operatorname{rep}_{U}(X)$.

For $x, y$ coprime, $\operatorname{ord}_{y}(x)=\min \left\{j \in \mathbb{N}_{0}: x^{j} \equiv 1(\bmod y)\right\}$.
Theorem (Rigo-Vandomme 2011)

- Let $m, b \geq 2$ be coprime integers. If $X \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ is periodic of minimal period $m$, then the syntactic complexity of $X$ is equal to $m \operatorname{ord}_{m}(b)$.

Main idea: For all $u, v \in A_{U}^{*}$, we have $u \equiv_{0^{*} \operatorname{rep}_{b}(X)} v$ iff

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{l}
|u| \equiv|v| \quad\left(\bmod \operatorname{ord}_{m}(b)\right) \quad \text { and } \\
\operatorname{val}_{b}(u) \equiv \operatorname{val}_{b}(v) \quad(\bmod m)
\end{array}\right.
$$

Theorem (continued)

- Let $b \geq 2$ and $m=b^{n}$ with $n \geq 1$.
(a) The syntactic complexity of $m \mathbb{N}$ is equal to $2 n+1$.
(b) If $X \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ is periodic of minimal period $m$, then the syntactic complexity of $X$ is $\geq n+1$.
- Let $b \geq 2$ and $m=b^{n} q$ with $n \geq 1$ and $(b, q)=1$.

Then the syntactic complexity of $m \mathbb{N}$ is equal to $(n+1) q \operatorname{ord}_{q}(b)+n$.

## A general lower bound for the integer base case

Theorem (Lacroix-Rampersad-Rigo-Vandomme 2012)
Let $b \geq 2$ and $m=d b^{n} q$ with $n \geq 1$ and $(b, q)=1$ and where $n$ and $q$ are chosen to be maximal.
If $X \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ is periodic of minimal period $m$, then the syntactic complexity of $X$ is

$$
\geq \max \left(q \operatorname{ord}_{q}(b), \frac{\gamma+1}{q \operatorname{ord}_{q}(b)}\right)
$$

where $\gamma \rightarrow+\infty$ as $n$ or $d \rightarrow+\infty$.

## Zeckendorf numeration system and further work

Theorem
The syntactic complexity of $m \mathbb{N}$ is

$$
4 m^{2} p_{F}(m)+2
$$

where $p_{F}(m)$ is the minimal period of $\left(F_{i} \bmod m\right)_{i \geq 0}$.

So far, we can show that this result extends to the Bertrand systems s.t. $\left(U_{n} \bmod m\right)_{n \geq 0}$ is purely periodic.

## Further work and conclusion

Further work for syntactic complexity:

- Try to estimate the syntactic complexity of periodic sets for a larger class of numeration systems.


## Conclusion

Syntactic complexity seems to allow us to handle integer bases and the Zeckendorf system at once.

