



## The Matrix Representation of A Rule of Cellular Automata and An Application to Coding Theory

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### Abstract

In this paper we studied the behavior of a family of three dimensional cellular automata under periodic boundary condition by using matrix algebra. We obtained representation matrix of the this family with the help of polinomal algebra. We gave an application of obtained block matrices to coding theory over the ternary field.

*Keywords:* Three dimensional cellular automata, Rule matrix, Error correcting codes

### Hücresel Dönüşümlerin Bir Kuralının Matris Temsili ve Kodlama Teorisinde Bir Uygulaması

#### Öz

Bu çalışmada, matris cebiri yardımıyla üç boyutlu bir hücresel dönüşüm ailesinin periyodik sınır şartı altında davranışını inceledik. Polinom cebiri yardımıyla bu ailenin temsil matrisini elde ettik. Elde edilen blok matrislerin üçlü cisimler üzerinde bir kodlama teorisi uygulamasını verdik.

*Anahtar Kelimeler:* Üç boyutlu hücresel dönüşüm, Kural matris, Hata düzelten kodlar

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## 1. Introduction and Basics

Three dimensional cellular automata (3D-CA) have been studied a lot recently for their applications in many areas. The state space of these works are mainly binary field with two elements 0, 1 and so called as binary 3D-CA. One dimensional cellular automata (1D-CA) originally was introduced by Ulam and von Neumann in [1] and Wolfram investigated the complex behavior of 1D-CA rules (see [2]).

For a particular step of time, which we call  $t$ , each cell of cellular grid has a state value and synchronously updates its state at the next time step  $t + 1$  depending on its neighbors and local rule. If this dependence is formulated by a relation amongst the neighbors of the cell that is applied to all cells at each time step then these CA are called regular. Regular CA is model of different physical events or applications. Besides all these applications, the reversibility problem of CA is studied as a crucial research topic due to its important role in many applications.

The study of reversibility of CAs have received remarkable attention in the last few years due to its several applications in many disciplines (e.g., mathematics, physics, computer science, biology (see [3]), chemistry and so on) with different purposes (e.g., simulation of natural phenomena, pseudo-random number generation, image processing, analysis of universal model of computations, cryptography) (see [4]). For some of these applications, the inverse of CA are computed (see [5-10]). Most of these works done over one and two dimensional cellular automata (see [10-16]).

However, lately three dimensional cellular automata hasn't just much investigated, Hemmingson studied behavior of 3D-CA in [17]. Tsalides et al. studied the characterization of 3D-CA with the help of matrix algebra in [18]. They obtained matrix algebraic formulas concerning some exceptional rules of 3D-CA. Youbin et al. investigated 3D-CA model for HIV dynamics. in [19].

In this work, we define 3D-CA and then we obtain representation matrix for characterizing via matrix algebra. Finally we make an application about with coding theory over the ternary field.

## 2. Three Dimensional Cellular Automata

In this section ,we describe of 3D-CAs over the field  $\mathbb{Z}_m$  with the aid of some local rules. Let  $\mathbb{Z}_m$  be states set and  $\mathbb{Z}_m^3$  is cells spaces.  $\mathcal{E}$  is local rule and  $F$  is global transition function

$$\mathcal{E}: \mathbb{Z}_m^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_m, F: \mathbb{Z}_m^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_m^3.$$

For 3D-CA there is some classical type of neighborhoods. In this work, we only restrict ourselves to the adjacent neighbors which have found in more applications and they are very common cases. So, we define the  $(t + 1)^{th}$  state of the  $(i, j, k)^{th}$  cell as the following.

$$x_{(i,j,k)}^{t+1} = \mathcal{E} \left( \begin{array}{l} x_{(i-1,j-1,k-1)}^{(t)}, x_{(i-1,j,k-1)}^{(t)}, x_{(i-1,j,k+1)}^{(t)}, x_{(i-1,j-1,k)}^{(t)}, \\ x_{(i-1,j-1,k+1)}^{(t)}, x_{(i-1,j,k)}^{(t)}, x_{(i-1,j+1,k)}^{(t)}, x_{(i-1,j+1,k-1)}^{(t)}, \\ x_{(i-1,j+1,k+1)}^{(t)}, x_{(i,j-1,k-1)}^{(t)}, x_{(i,j,k-1)}^{(t)}, x_{(i,j,k+1)}^{(t)}, \\ x_{(i,j-1,k)}^{(t)}, x_{(i,j-1,k+1)}^{(t)}, x_{(i,j,k)}^{(t)}, x_{(i,j+1,k)}^{(t)}, \\ x_{(i,j+1,k-1)}^{(t)}, x_{(i,j+1,k+1)}^{(t)}, x_{(i+1,j-1,k-1)}^{(t)}, x_{(i+1,j,k-1)}^{(t)}, \\ x_{(i+1,j,k+1)}^{(t)}, x_{(i+1,j-1,k)}^{(t)}, x_{(i+1,j-1,k+1)}^{(t)}, x_{(i+1,j,k)}^{(t)}, \\ x_{(i+1,j+1,k)}^{(t)}, x_{(i+1,j+1,k-1)}^{(t)}, x_{(i+1,j+1,k+1)}^{(t)} \end{array} \right) \quad (1)$$

$$= a_0 x_{(i-1,j-1,k-1)}^{(t+1)} + a_1 x_{(i-1,j,k-1)}^{(t+1)} + \dots + a_{26} x_{(i+1,j+1,k+1)}^{(t+1)} \pmod{m}.$$

The value of each cell for the next state may not depend upon all 27 neighbors. The linear combination of the neighboring cells on which each cell value determines the rule number of the 3D-CA. Regarding the neighborhood of the extreme cells, there exist some approaches (for details see [20]). we can use periodic boundary condition. Now we can define it as follows:

**A Periodic Boundary CA** is the one in which the extreme cells are adjacent to each other.

In this paper, in order to obtain representation matrix for characterizing 3D-CA, we can use the following local rule, which help of defining the rule matrix:

$$x_{(i,j,k)}^{t+1} = a. x_{(i,j,k+1)}^{(t+1)} + b. x_{(i,j+1,k)}^{(t+1)} + c. x_{(i,j-1,k)}^{(t+1)} \quad (2)$$

$$+d \cdot x_{(i,j,k-1)}^{(t+1)} + e \cdot x_{(i-1,j,k)}^{(t+1)} + f \cdot x_{(i+1,j,k)}^{(t+1)}$$

where  $a, b, c, d, e, f \in \mathbb{Z}_m - \{0\}$ .

In order to characterize 3-D PBCA with the local rules in Eq. (2), we get rule matrix for  $m, n, s \geq 3$  ( $m, n, s \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ ) as follows:

$$(T_{RP})_{mns \times mns} = \begin{pmatrix} K_s & E_s & O_s & O_s & \dots & O_s & O_s & F_s \\ F_s & K_s & E_s & O_s & \dots & O_s & O_s & O_s \\ O_s & F_s & K_s & E_s & \dots & O_s & O_s & O_s \\ O_s & O_s & F_s & K_s & \dots & O_s & O_s & O_s \\ \dots & \dots \\ O_s & O_s & O_s & O_s & \dots & K_s & E_s & O_s \\ O_s & O_s & O_s & O_s & \dots & F_s & K_s & E_s \\ E_s & O_s & O_s & O_s & \dots & O_s & F_s & K_s \end{pmatrix},$$

$K_s, E_s, O_s, F_s$  are  $s \times s$  block matrices where  $s = m \times n$ .

Their sub matrices are as follows:

$$K_s = \begin{pmatrix} S_n(c, b) & d \cdot I_n & O_n & \dots & O_n & a \cdot I_n \\ a \cdot I_n & S_n(c, b) & d \cdot I_n & \dots & O_n & O_n \\ O_n & a \cdot I_n & S_n(c, b) & \dots & O_n & O_n \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ O_n & O_n & O_n & \dots & S_n(c, b) & d \cdot I_n \\ d \cdot I_n & O_n & O_n & \dots & a \cdot I_n & S_n(c, b) \end{pmatrix}_{ns \times ns},$$

$$E_s = \begin{pmatrix} e \cdot I_n & O_n & O_n & \dots & O_n & O_n \\ O_n & e \cdot I_n & O_n & \dots & O_n & O_n \\ O_n & O_n & e \cdot I_n & \dots & O_n & O_n \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ O_n & O_n & O_n & \dots & e \cdot I_n & O_n \\ O_n & O_n & O_n & \dots & O_n & e \cdot I_n \end{pmatrix}_{ns \times ns},$$

$$F_s = \begin{pmatrix} f \cdot I_n & O_n & O_n & \dots & O_n & O_n \\ O_n & f \cdot I_n & O_n & \dots & O_n & O_n \\ O_n & O_n & f \cdot I_n & \dots & O_n & O_n \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ O_n & O_n & O_n & \dots & f \cdot I_n & O_n \\ O_n & O_n & O_n & \dots & O_n & f \cdot I_n \end{pmatrix}_{ns \times ns},$$

$$O_s = \begin{pmatrix} O_n & O_n & O_n & \dots & O_n & O_n \\ O_n & O_n & O_n & \dots & O_n & O_n \\ O_n & O_n & O_n & \dots & O_n & O_n \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ O_n & O_n & O_n & \dots & O_n & O_n \\ O_n & O_n & O_n & \dots & O_n & O_n \end{pmatrix}_{ns \times ns}.$$

$I_n$  is  $n \times n$  identity matrix.  $O_n$  is  $n \times n$  zero matrix and then  $S_n(c, b)$  is as follow:

$$S_n(c, b) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & b & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & c \\ c & 0 & b & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c & 0 & b & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \dots & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & b & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & c & 0 & b \\ b & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & c & 0 \end{pmatrix}_{n \times n}.$$

**Example 1.** If we take  $m = 3, n = 3, s = 3$ , then we get the rule matrix  $T_{RP}$  of order  $27 \times 27$ . In this situation we have 5 configurations and then we consider a configuration of size  $3 \times 3 \times 3$  with periodic boundary condition.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} x_{131} & x_{111} & x_{121} & x_{131} & x_{111} \\ x_{133} & x_{113} & x_{123} & x_{133} & x_{113} \\ x_{132} & x_{112} & x_{122} & x_{132} & x_{112}, \\ x_{131} & x_{111} & x_{121} & x_{131} & x_{111} \\ x_{133} & x_{113} & x_{123} & x_{133} & x_{113} \\ \\ x_{331} & x_{311} & x_{321} & x_{331} & x_{311} \\ x_{333} & x_{313} & x_{323} & x_{333} & x_{313} \\ x_{332} & x_{312} & x_{322} & x_{332} & x_{312}, \\ x_{331} & x_{311} & x_{321} & x_{331} & x_{311} \\ x_{333} & x_{313} & x_{323} & x_{333} & x_{313} \\ \\ x_{231} & x_{211} & x_{221} & x_{231} & x_{211} \\ x_{233} & x_{213} & x_{223} & x_{233} & x_{213} \\ x_{232} & x_{212} & x_{222} & x_{232} & x_{212}, \\ x_{231} & x_{211} & x_{221} & x_{231} & x_{211} \\ x_{233} & x_{213} & x_{223} & x_{233} & x_{213} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
x_{131} & x_{111} & x_{121} & x_{131} & x_{111} \\
x_{133} & x_{113} & x_{123} & x_{133} & x_{113} \\
x_{132} & x_{112} & x_{122} & x_{132} & x_{112}, \\
x_{131} & x_{111} & x_{121} & x_{131} & x_{111} \\
x_{133} & x_{113} & x_{123} & x_{133} & x_{113} \\
\\
x_{331} & x_{311} & x_{321} & x_{331} & x_{311} \\
x_{333} & x_{313} & x_{323} & x_{333} & x_{313} \\
x_{332} & x_{312} & x_{322} & x_{332} & x_{312}, \\
x_{331} & x_{311} & x_{321} & x_{331} & x_{311} \\
x_{333} & x_{313} & x_{323} & x_{333} & x_{313}
\end{array}$$

we apply local rule all the cells and than we obtain new configurations is as follow:

$$\begin{aligned}
b \cdot x_{323} + d \cdot x_{312} + c \cdot x_{333} + a \cdot x_{311} + e \cdot x_{213} + f \cdot x_{113} &= y_{313} \\
b \cdot x_{333} + d \cdot x_{322} + c \cdot x_{313} + a \cdot x_{321} + e \cdot x_{223} + f \cdot x_{123} &= y_{323} \\
b \cdot x_{313} + d \cdot x_{332} + c \cdot x_{323} + a \cdot x_{331} + e \cdot x_{233} + f \cdot x_{113} &= y_{333} \\
b \cdot x_{322} + d \cdot x_{311} + c \cdot x_{332} + a \cdot x_{313} + e \cdot x_{212} + f \cdot x_{112} &= y_{312} \\
b \cdot x_{332} + d \cdot x_{321} + c \cdot x_{312} + a \cdot x_{323} + e \cdot x_{222} + f \cdot x_{122} &= y_{322} \\
b \cdot x_{312} + d \cdot x_{331} + c \cdot x_{322} + a \cdot x_{333} + e \cdot x_{232} + f \cdot x_{132} &= y_{332} \\
b \cdot x_{321} + d \cdot x_{313} + c \cdot x_{331} + a \cdot x_{312} + e \cdot x_{211} + f \cdot x_{111} &= y_{311} \\
b \cdot x_{331} + d \cdot x_{323} + c \cdot x_{311} + a \cdot x_{322} + e \cdot x_{221} + f \cdot x_{121} &= y_{321} \\
b \cdot x_{311} + d \cdot x_{333} + c \cdot x_{321} + a \cdot x_{332} + e \cdot x_{231} + f \cdot x_{131} &= y_{331} \\
b \cdot x_{223} + d \cdot x_{212} + c \cdot x_{233} + a \cdot x_{211} + e \cdot x_{113} + f \cdot x_{313} &= y_{213} \\
b \cdot x_{233} + d \cdot x_{222} + c \cdot x_{213} + a \cdot x_{221} + e \cdot x_{123} + f \cdot x_{323} &= y_{223} \\
b \cdot x_{213} + d \cdot x_{232} + c \cdot x_{223} + a \cdot x_{231} + e \cdot x_{133} + f \cdot x_{333} &= y_{233} \\
b \cdot x_{222} + d \cdot x_{211} + c \cdot x_{232} + a \cdot x_{213} + e \cdot x_{112} + f \cdot x_{312} &= y_{212} \\
b \cdot x_{232} + d \cdot x_{221} + c \cdot x_{212} + a \cdot x_{223} + e \cdot x_{122} + f \cdot x_{322} &= y_{222} \\
b \cdot x_{212} + d \cdot x_{231} + c \cdot x_{222} + a \cdot x_{233} + e \cdot x_{132} + f \cdot x_{332} &= y_{232}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
b. x_{221} + d. x_{213} + c. x_{231} + a. x_{212} + e. x_{111} + f. x_{311} &= y_{211} \\
b. x_{231} + d. x_{223} + c. x_{211} + a. x_{222} + e. x_{121} + f. x_{321} &= y_{221} \\
b. x_{211} + d. x_{233} + c. x_{221} + a. x_{232} + e. x_{131} + f. x_{331} &= y_{231} \\
b. x_{123} + d. x_{112} + c. x_{133} + a. x_{111} + e. x_{313} + f. x_{213} &= y_{113} \\
b. x_{133} + d. x_{122} + c. x_{113} + a. x_{121} + e. x_{323} + f. x_{223} &= y_{123} \\
b. x_{113} + d. x_{132} + c. x_{123} + a. x_{131} + e. x_{333} + f. x_{233} &= y_{133} \\
b. x_{122} + d. x_{111} + c. x_{132} + a. x_{113} + e. x_{312} + f. x_{212} &= y_{112} \\
b. x_{132} + d. x_{121} + c. x_{112} + a. x_{123} + e. x_{322} + f. x_{222} &= y_{122} \\
b. x_{112} + d. x_{131} + c. x_{122} + a. x_{133} + e. x_{332} + f. x_{232} &= y_{132} \\
b. x_{121} + d. x_{113} + c. x_{131} + a. x_{112} + e. x_{311} + f. x_{211} &= y_{111} \\
b. x_{131} + d. x_{123} + c. x_{111} + a. x_{122} + e. x_{321} + f. x_{221} &= y_{121} \\
b. x_{111} + d. x_{133} + c. x_{121} + a. x_{132} + e. x_{331} + f. x_{231} &= y_{131}.
\end{aligned}$$

In order to obtain representation matrix  $T_{RP}$  corresponding to the local rule applied over all the cells , we evaluate the basis vector as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
T_{RP}(E_1) &= T_{RP}(10000000000000000000000000)^T \\
&= (0 \ c \ b \ a \ 0 \ 0 \ d \ 0 \ 0 \ f \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ e \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0)^T, \\
T_{RP}(E_2) &= T_{RP}(01000000000000000000000000)^T \\
&= (b \ 0 \ c \ 0 \ a \ 0 \ 0 \ d \ 0 \ 0 \ f \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ e \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0)^T.
\end{aligned}$$

Transpose of  $T_{RP}(E_1)$  and  $T_{RP}(E_2)$  compose first and second columns of representation matrix  $T_{RP}$ .we can similarly obtain the rest of the columns and we get representation matrix  $(T_{RP})_{27 \times 27}$  as follow:



section, we present an application of CA based bit error correcting codes by applying reversible CA which fall into a 3D-CA family with periodic boundary condition. First we present the encoding and decoding process that is given in [5]:

Let  $T$  be a  $n \times n$  nonsingular transition matrix. Assume that there exists  $1 \leq k \leq n$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  such that  $G = [I_n | T^k]$  ( $I_n$ ,  $n \times n$  identity matrix) generates a linear code that corrects up to  $t$  errors.

**Encoding:**

Let  $I = (i_1, i_2, \dots, i_n) \in \mathbb{Z}_3^n$  be an information vector, where  $n$  is the rank of the nonsingular transition matrix. Then, the encoded codeword is as follow:

$$CW = (I, T^k[I]) = (i_1, i_2, \dots, i_n, c_{n+1}, c_{n+2}, \dots, c_{2n}),$$

i.e.,

$$C = T^k[I] = (c_{n+1}, c_{n+2}, \dots, c_{2n})$$

is the check vector.

Now, we present a decoding scheme for ternary CA based error correcting codes.

**Decoding:**

Now suppose that the codeword  $CW = (I, T^k[I])$  is sent and  $CW' = (I', T^k[I']) = (i'_1, i'_2, \dots, i'_n, c'_{n+1}, c'_{n+2}, \dots, c'_{2n}) = (I \oplus I_e, T^k[I] \oplus C_e)$  (where the operator  $\oplus$  represent modulo 3 addition) is the received word. Here,  $I_e$  and  $C_e$  represent the errors that have occurred in information and check bits respectively. We assume that the sum of the Hamming weight of  $I_e$  and  $C_e$  are less or equal to  $t$  i.e. if  $w_H(I_e) \leq i$  and  $w_H(C_e) \leq t - i$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, t$ ), then  $w_H(I_e) + w_H(C_e) \leq t$ . The syndrome vector is defined by:

$$S = 2T^k[I'] \oplus C' = 2T^k[I_e] \oplus C_e. \quad (3)$$

The syndrome of both the information and check vectors is defined by

$$S_n = 2T^k[I'] \oplus C' \quad (4)$$

and





#### 4. Conclusion

In this paper, the author studied a family of three dimensional cellular automata. The algebraic representation of such 3D-CA is established. The author obtained representation matrices via matrix algebra and then author gave an important application about coding theory over the ternary field and we conclude by presenting an application to error correcting codes where reversibility of cellular automata is crucial.

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