A Cellular Automata Approach for Discrete-Time Distributed Parameter Systems

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Introduction to systems theory

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- Discrete-time DPS statement by means of CA formalism

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 - Cellular Automata models
 - The new state equation
 - Control in cellular automata

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- Concluding remarks

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In the case of distributed parameter systems (DPS), f and h as well as all components (state, inputs, outputs, coefficients, etc) are dependent on time and space variables.

Usual steps in Distributed Systems Theory :

Modelling → Analysis → Control

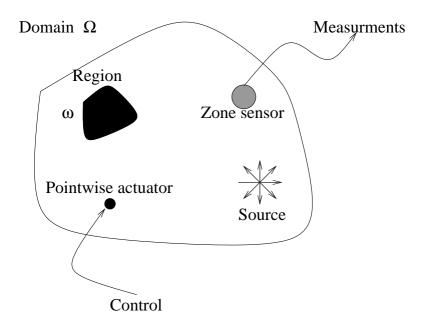
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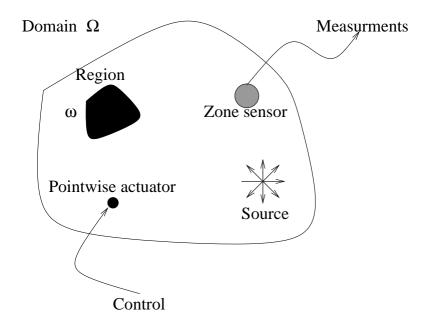
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- It is related to a set of interdisciplinary activities: Control theory, applied mathematics, engineering, physics, etc.
- Its applications ranging from life sciences to industrial processes.

In DPS, we may have:

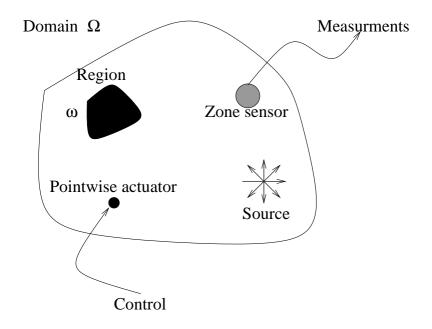


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- Conventional models for DPS: Partial differential or integro-differential equations, continuous or discrete version
- Proposed models: Cellular Automata can be considered as a possible alternative for modelling and analysing DPS.

Cellular Automata models (CA)

A CA is classically defined by a quadruple $\mathcal{A} = (\mathcal{L}, \mathcal{S}, N, f)$ where

- \mathcal{L} is a d-dimensional lattice of cells c which are arranged depending on space dimension and cell shape. In the infinite case, $\mathcal{L} = \mathbb{Z}^d$.
- S denotes a discrete state set. It's a finite commutative ring given by $S = \{0, 1, \dots, k-1\}$ in which the usual operations use modular arithmetics.
- N is a mapping which defines the cell's neighborhood. It's usually given by:

$$N: \mathcal{L} \longrightarrow \mathcal{L}^n$$

$$c \longrightarrow N(c) = \{c' \in \mathcal{L} \mid ||c' - c||_i \leq r\}$$

where $||c||_i$, $i \in \{1, \infty\}$ indicate the sum and the maximum respectively, of the absolute value of the components of cell c.

ullet f is a transition function which can be defined by :

$$f: \mathcal{S}^n \longrightarrow \mathcal{S}$$

$$s_t(N(c)) \longrightarrow s_{t+1}(c) = f(s_t(N(c)))$$

where $s_t(c)$ designates the c cell state at time t and $s_t(N(c)) = \{s_t(c'), c' \in N(c)\}$ is the neighborhood state.



The new state equation

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$$X = \mathcal{S}^{\mathbb{Z}^d} \text{ as : } d_{\delta}(x,y) = \sum_{c \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \frac{\delta(x(c),y(c))}{2^{||c||_{\infty}}} \text{ where } \delta: \mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{S} \to \{0,1\}$$
 is defined by :
$$\delta(i,j) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if} \quad i=j\\ 1 & \text{if} \quad i \neq j \end{cases}$$

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- The set $X=\mathcal{S}^{\mathcal{L}}$ equipped with the distance d_{δ} is a compact metric space and the global dynamics $F: \begin{matrix} X & \to & X \\ s & \to & F(s) \end{matrix}$ is continuous according to the topology induced by d_{δ} .

Result: In the context of DPS,

- the compact configurations set X defines the state space of the autonomous CA.
- the sequence of continuous global maps F^i defined as the i^{th} iteration under F, plays the same role than the semi-group, usually denoted by (Φ_t) generated by the operator A.

In a similar way to linear discrete-time DPS, the evolution of an autonomous CA starting from a given initial configuration s_0 can be defined in terms of the global dynamics by the state equation:

$$\begin{cases} s_{t+1} &= Fs_t \\ s_0 &\in X \end{cases}$$

whose solution given by : $s_t = F^t(s_0), t \in I$ has the same form than the solution of discrete-time DPS in the autonomous case, given by

$$x(t) = \Phi_t(x_0), \ t \ge 0$$

where $(\Phi_t)_{t\geq 0}$ is the semi-group generated by an operator defining the system dynamics A:

$$Ax = \lim_{t \to 0^+} \frac{\Phi_t(x) - x}{t}$$

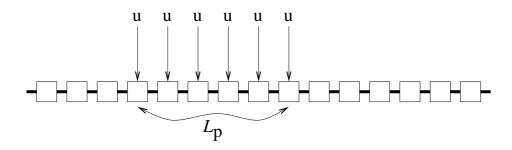
where this limit exists.

Control in cellular automata

The CA model will be completed by control and measurement functions. For the control aspects, it is done via inputs (actuators) which have a spatial structure (number, spatial location and distribution).

Let us consider for a 1-D CA:

- $I_T = \{0, 1, \dots, T\}$ is a discrete time horizon.
- \mathcal{L}_p is a sub-domain which defines the region of the lattice \mathcal{L} where the CA is excited. It contains p cells which may be connected or not.



- The study of CA in terms of DPS needs the introduction of some specific spaces and operators related to the control and observation.
- The Control space is defined by

$$\mathcal{U}=\ell^2(\mathcal{L}_p,\mathbb{R})$$
 where $\ell^2(\mathcal{L}_p,\mathbb{R})=\{u\ : \mathcal{L}_p\longrightarrow \mathbb{R}\ |\ \sum_{c\in\mathcal{L}_p}u^2(c)<\infty\}.$

The inner product in ℓ^2 is defined by :

$$< u_1, u_2 >_{\ell^2} = \sum_{c \in \mathcal{L}_p} u_1(c) u_2(c)$$

with the associated norm $||u||_{\ell_2} = \sqrt{\langle u, u \rangle_{\ell^2}}$

■ The control operator G which defines the way how the control excites the CA through the cells of \mathcal{L}_p , is given by :

$$G: \quad \mathcal{U} \longrightarrow \quad \mathcal{S}^{\mathbb{Z}^d}$$
 $u \longrightarrow Gu$

■ The CA is then considered as a controlled system denoted by A_c defined by the local transition function:

$$s_{t+1}(c) = f_c(s_t(N(c)), u_t(c)\chi_{\mathcal{L}_p})$$

The corresponding state equation is:

$$\begin{cases} s_t = \mathcal{F}(s_{t-1}, u_{t-1}), t \in I_T \\ s_0 \in X \end{cases}$$

where \mathcal{F} is defined according to the global dynamics F and the global control operator G.

- The observation problem can be considered by duality where an observation space and a global observation operator have to be defined.
- This leads to a complete description of CA in terms of inputs and outputs where the state equation is augmented with

$$\theta_t = Hs_t , \ t \in I_m$$

and then defines the so-called distributed CA (DCA).

The obtained CA statement is very close to the usual discrete-time distributed parameter systems formulation augmented by the output function.

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The rules are as follows: An ant sits on a bit of graph paper where all the squares are initially empty. It moves into a neighbouring square and does one of two things, based on the colour of the square;

- If the square is white, it turns to the left and colours the square black.
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The interesting thing is that after a fixed number of steps, the ant builds a highway and goes very quickly to infinity.

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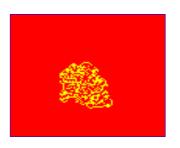
After 6000 iterations

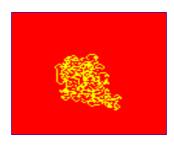
After 9000 iterations

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A simple example

With a control applied on cells $c_{i,j}$ such that |i-j|=2:







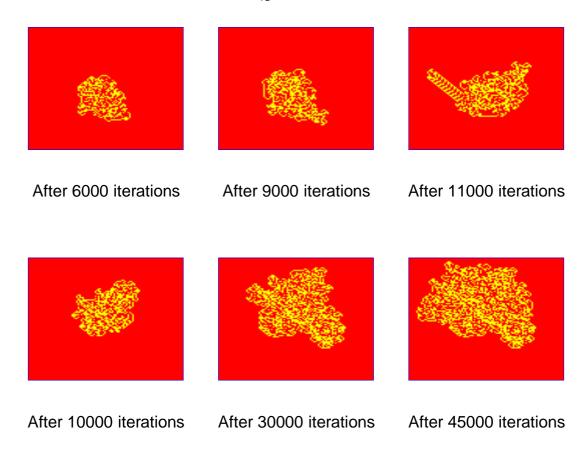
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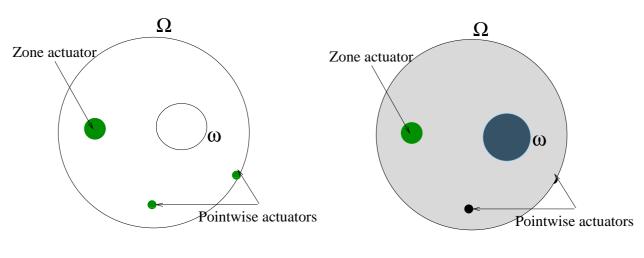


Important result: The ant stays much longer in a bounded area with the control.

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System (S) at t = T

For the statement by means of CA formalism:

- a DCA defined on a discrete lattice \mathcal{L} with state set \mathcal{S} and described by the state equation above given.
- ullet $\omega \subset \mathcal{L}$
- s_{ω} the restriction to ω of the CA configuration s.

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- a DCA defined on a discrete lattice \mathcal{L} with state set \mathcal{S} and described by the state equation above given.
- ullet $\omega \subset \mathcal{L}$
- s_{ω} the restriction to ω of the CA configuration s.

The DCA is said to be regionally controllable if for a given $s_d \in \mathcal{S}^{\omega}$ there exists a control $u = (u_0, \cdots, u_{T-1})$ with $u_i \in \mathcal{U}$ such that

$$s_T = s_d$$
 on ω

where s_T is the final configuration at time T and \mathcal{U} is the control space.

A weak regional controllability is achieved if for $s_d \in S^{\omega}$ and $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists a control $u = (u_0, u_1, \dots, u_{T-1})$ such that

$$d_{\delta}(s_T, s_d) \leq \varepsilon$$
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where d_{δ} is the distance defined on X.

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where d_{δ} is the distance defined on X.

The main characterization is based on:

- lacksquare The target region ω and its geometry
- ullet The space location of the region ω
- The actuators exciting the system, number, location, etc.

A characterization result

Let K be the operator defined by

$$K: \mathcal{U}^{I_T} \longrightarrow \mathcal{S}^{\mathcal{L}}$$
 $u \longrightarrow s_T$

where s_T is the configuration of the CA at time T.

A characterization result

Let K be the operator defined by

$$K: \mathcal{U}^{I_T} \longrightarrow \mathcal{S}^{\mathcal{L}}$$
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where s_T is the configuration of the CA at time T.

The problem of regional controllability consists in finding a control $u \in \mathcal{U}^{I_T}$ such that $\chi_{\omega}K(u) = s_d$ where χ_{ω} from $\mathcal{S}^{\mathcal{L}} \longrightarrow \mathcal{S}^{\omega}$ defines the restriction mapping.

$$\Leftrightarrow \mathcal{I}m(\chi_{\omega}K) = \mathcal{S}^{\omega}$$

We obtain the following necessary and sufficient condition for exact regional controllability:

Proposition:

The DCA is exactly regionally controllable if and only if

$$Ker\chi_{\omega} + \mathcal{I}mK = \mathcal{S}^{\mathcal{L}}$$

where $Ker\chi_{\omega} = \{s \in \mathcal{S}^{\mathcal{L}} \mid s_{\omega} = \underline{0}\}$ denotes the kernel of χ_{ω} and $\underline{0}$ indicates the null configuration. The operation + in the rank condition is interpreted as follows:

$$\forall s \in \mathcal{S}^{\mathcal{L}}$$
, $\exists s_1 \in Ker\chi_{\omega}$ and $s_2 \in \mathcal{I}mK$ such that

$$s = s_1 + s_2$$

Proof:

(1)
$$Ker\chi_{\omega} + \mathcal{I}mK = \mathcal{S}^{\mathcal{L}} \Rightarrow \mathcal{I}m(\chi_{\omega}K) = \mathcal{S}^{\omega}$$
.

The inclusion $\mathcal{I}m(\chi_{\omega}K)\subseteq\mathcal{S}^{\omega}$ is immediate.

Let
$$s \in \mathcal{S}^\omega$$
 and consider $s' \in \mathcal{S}^\mathcal{L}$ given by : $s' = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} s \ \ \text{on} \ \ \omega \\ 0 \ \ \text{on} \ \ \omega^c \end{array} \right.$

Due to relation (1), we can write $s' = s_1 + s_2$ where :

- $s_1 \in ker\chi_\omega \Rightarrow s_1|_\omega = 0$
- $s_2 \in \mathcal{I}mK \Rightarrow \exists u \in \mathcal{U}^{I_T}$ such that $K(u) = s_2 \Rightarrow \chi_{\omega}K(u) = s_2|_{\omega}$ = $s_2|_{\omega} + s_1|_{\omega} = s'|_{\omega} = s \Rightarrow s \in \mathcal{I}m(\chi_{\omega}K)$ and then $\mathcal{S}^{\omega} \subseteq \mathcal{I}m(\chi_{\omega}K)$.

(⇐)

 $Ker\chi_{\omega} + \mathcal{I}mK \subset \mathcal{S}^{\mathcal{L}}$ is obvious since $ker\chi_{\omega} \subset \mathcal{S}^{\mathcal{L}}$ and $\mathcal{I}mK \subset \mathcal{S}^{\mathcal{L}}$. $Ker\chi_{\omega} + \mathcal{I}mK \supset \mathcal{S}^{\mathcal{L}}$. Let us introduce the quotient space $\frac{\mathcal{S}^{\mathcal{L}}}{Ker\chi_{\omega}}$ and the canonical projection π of $\mathcal{S}^{\mathcal{L}}$ onto $\frac{\mathcal{S}^{\mathcal{L}}}{Ker\chi_{\omega}}$ and consider $\overline{\chi}_{\omega}$ defined

by the commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{S}^{\mathcal{L}} & \xrightarrow{\chi_{\omega}} & \mathcal{S}^{\omega} \\ \pi \downarrow & & \downarrow I \\ \underline{\mathcal{S}^{\mathcal{L}}} & \overline{\chi}_{\omega} & \underline{\overline{\chi}_{\omega}} & \underline{\mathcal{S}^{\omega}} \\ \hline Ker\chi_{\omega} & \xrightarrow{Ker\chi_{\omega}} & \end{array}$$

Let $s \in \mathcal{S}^{\mathcal{L}} \Rightarrow \chi_{\omega}(s) \in \mathcal{S}^{\omega} = \mathcal{I}m(\chi_{\omega}K) \Rightarrow \exists u \in \mathcal{U}^{I_T}$ such that $\chi_{\omega}(s) = \chi_{\omega}(K(u)) \Rightarrow s - K(u) \in Ker\chi_{\omega} \Rightarrow s = s_1 + s_2$ with $s_1 = s - K(u)$ and $s_2 = K(u) \in \mathcal{I}mK$.

Case of additive cellular automata

For additive CA, the global dynamics F satisfies

$$F(s_1 + s_2) = F(s_1) + F(s_2) ; s_1, s_2 \in \mathcal{S}^{\mathcal{L}}$$

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The state equation can be expressed in terms of F and the global control operator G by:

$$\begin{cases} s_t = F(s_{t-1}) + G(u_{t-1}), t \in I_T \\ s_0 \in X \end{cases}$$

where F and G are linear bounded operators with state space $X = \mathcal{S}^{\mathcal{L}}$ and input-value space $\mathcal{U} = \ell^2(\mathcal{L}_p, \mathbb{R})$. Moreover, F is the generator of a discrete-time semi-group $\{F^t\}_{t>0} \subset \mathbf{L}(X)$ (linear bounded operators).

With the above hypothesis, we can express the solution s_t for $t \ge 0$ in the following compact form :

$$s_t = F^t(s_0) + \sum_{\tau=0}^{t-1} F^{t-\tau-1}G(u_\tau)$$

which is similar to the linear continuous case where the system is given by

$$\begin{cases} \dot{z}(t) = Az(t) + Bu(t), & t \in]0, T[\\ z(0) = z_0 \in \mathcal{D}(A) \end{cases}$$

and its solution

$$z(t,u) = \Phi(t)z_0 + \int_0^t \Phi(t-\tau)Bu(\tau)d\tau$$

where $(\Phi(t))_{t\geq 0}$ is a strongly continuous semi-group generated by the operator A.

• In 1-D CA, the state transition may be expressed in terms of a characteristic matrix M of order $(N_{\mathcal{L}} \times N_{\mathcal{L}})$ given by :

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ullet The matrix M is then constructed as follows:

$$M_{ij} = \begin{cases} a_{j-i} & \text{if } j \in [i-r, i+r] \\ 0 & \text{elsewhere} \end{cases}$$

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- Suppose that the system is excited only on one cell c_{i_p} . The control action at time t is equivalent to adding to s_t , the following vector

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• Let M be the transition matrix corresponding to the additive CA. We can easily show that the CA state is given at time T by :

$$s_T = M^T s_0 + \sum_{i=0}^{T-1} M^{T-i} V_i$$

Let s_d be a desired state on ω . The problem of regional controllability in terms of characteristic matrix, consists in finding a vector V_t , $t=0,\cdots,T-1$, such that $s_T|_{\omega}=s_d$ or

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This problem can be formulated as a system of n_{ω} equations with T unknowns $(u_0, u_1, \dots, u_{T-1})$:

$$\begin{cases} M_{\alpha,i_p}^T k_0 & +M_{\alpha,i_p}^{T-1} k_1 & +\cdots & +M_{\alpha,i_p}) k_{T-1} & = & s_d(\alpha) - (M^T s_0)_{\alpha} \\ M_{\alpha+1,i_p}^T k_0 & +M_{\alpha+1,i_p}^{T-1} k_1 & +\cdots & +M_{\alpha+1,i_p} k_{T-1} & = & s_d(\alpha+1) - (M^T s_0)_{\alpha+1} \\ & \vdots & & & \vdots \\ M_{\beta,i_p}^T k_0 & +M_{\beta,i_p}^{T-1} k_1 & +\cdots & +M_{\beta,i_p} k_{T-1} & = & s_d(\beta) - (M^T s_0)_{\beta} \end{cases}$$

where $\beta = \alpha + n_{\omega} - 1$, $s_d(i) = s_d(c - i)$.

The system's solution which is not unique, gives the control (V_0,V_1,\cdots,V_{T-1}) which steers the CA to the state s_d at time T on ω . This will be illustrated through the following numerical example. With $n_{\mathcal{L}}=100$, $\mathcal{S}=\{0,1,2\}$, $N(c_i)=\{c_{i-1},c_i,c_{i+1}\}$ with an additive rule defined by :

$$s_{t+1}(c_i) = s_t(c_{i-1}) + 2s_t(c_{i+1}) \mod 3$$

Let s_0 be an arbitrary initial configuration and suppose that the control is active only in the cells c_{23} . We will determine the appropriate action which is able to steer the system from the initial configuration s_0 to a desired configuration s_d , on the region $\omega = \{c_{21}, \cdots, c_{25}\}$ at time T = 5 where s_d is defined by :

$$s_d(c_i) = 0 , \ 21 \le i \le 25$$

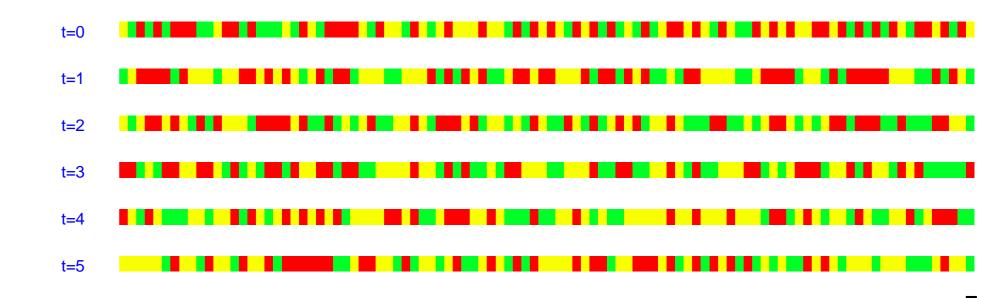
The regional controllability problem is equivalent to find u_0, u_1, \dots, u_4 solutions of the system :

$$\begin{cases} M_{21,23}^5 u_0 + M_{21,23}^4 u_1 + M_{21,23}^3 u_2 + M_{21,23}^2 u_3 + M_{21,23} u_4 = s_d(21) - (M^5 s_0)_{21} \\ M_{22,23}^5 u_0 + M_{22,23}^4 u_1 + M_{22,23}^3 u_2 + M_{22,23}^2 u_3 + M_{22,23} u_4 = s_d(22) - (M^5 s_0)_{22} \\ M_{23,23}^5 u_0 + M_{23,23}^4 u_1 + M_{23,23}^3 u_2 + M_{23,23}^2 u_3 + M_{23,23} u_4 = s_d(23) - (M^5 s_0)_{23} \\ M_{24,23}^5 u_0 + M_{24,23}^4 u_1 + M_{24,23}^3 u_2 + M_{24,23}^2 u_3 + M_{24,23} u_4 = s_d(24) - (M^5 s_0)_{24} \\ M_{25,23}^5 u_0 + M_{25,23}^4 u_1 + M_{25,23}^3 u_2 + M_{25,23}^2 u_3 + M_{25,23} u_4 = s_d(25) - (M^5 s_0)_{25} \end{cases}$$

where M is a sparse transition matrix given by :

Using the congruence modulo 3, a solution of this problem is given by:

$$(u_0, u_1, u_2, u_3, u_4) = (2, 0, 1, 2, 0)$$



Particular 2-D Additive case

Let us consider a square lattice $\mathcal{L} = \{c_{i,j}, i, j = 1, \dots, N_{\mathcal{L}}\}$, a discrete set $\mathcal{S} = \{0, 1, \dots, k-1\}$ and the following transition rule :

$$s_{t+1}(c_{i,j}) = \sum_{c' \in \dot{N}(c_{i,j})} s_t(c') \bmod k$$

where N(c) is the von Neumann neighbourhood of radius r and $\dot{N}=N-\{c\}$. The corresponding transition matrix M is constructed as follows :

$$M_{i,j} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } c_{j,k} \in N(c_{i,j}) & \text{for every } k = 1, \cdots, N_{\mathcal{L}} \\ 0 & \text{elsewhere} \end{cases}$$

We can easily give the following relation between s_{t+1} and s_t by means of the transition matrix M:

$$s_{t+1} = Ms_t + s_t M$$

By stacking the columns of the matrix s_t in a vector and using the Kronecker product, i.e. using

$$\sigma_t := Vec(s_t) \in \mathcal{S}^{(n_{\mathcal{L}})^2}$$
 and $\mathcal{M} := (I \otimes M) + (M^* \otimes I) \in \mathcal{S}^{(n_{\mathcal{L}})^2 \times (n_{\mathcal{L}})^2}$

The equation can be made to read:

$$\sigma_{t+1} = \mathcal{M}\sigma_t$$

which leads to the final state in terms of \mathcal{M} and σ_0 : $\sigma_T = \mathcal{M}^T \sigma_0$

If the control is active only on c_{i_p,i_p} , its effect may be expressed by :

$$W_t = \left(egin{array}{ccccc} 0 & \cdots & 0 & \cdots & 0 \ & dots & & dots \ & 0 & \cdots & u_t & \cdots & 0 \ & dots & & dots \ & dots \ & dots & & dots \ & dots \ & dots & & dots \ & dots \ & dots & & dots \ & dots \ & dots \ & dots & & dots \ &$$

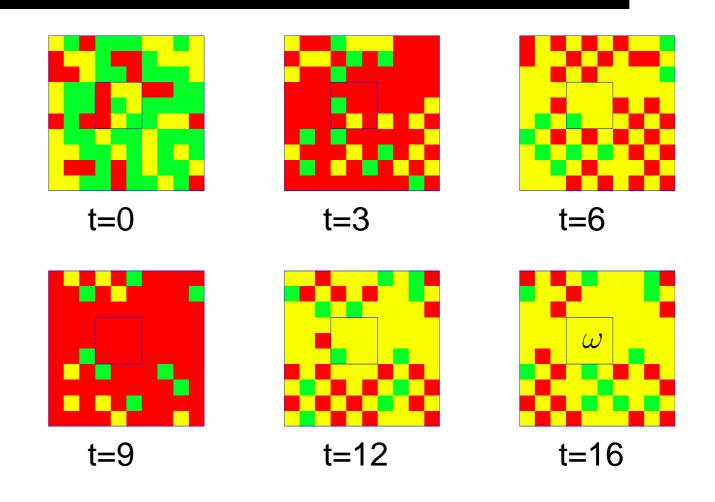
A similar result as for the 1-D case is then obtained.

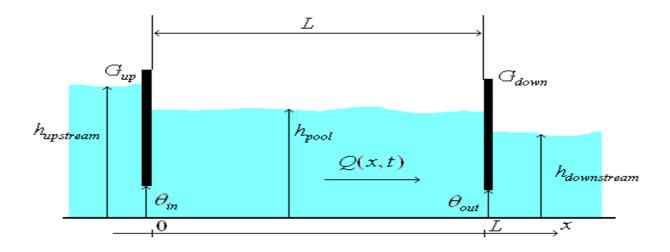
$$\mathcal{W}_t := Vec(W_t) \in \mathcal{S}^{(n_{\mathcal{L}})^2}$$

and the CA state at time T is

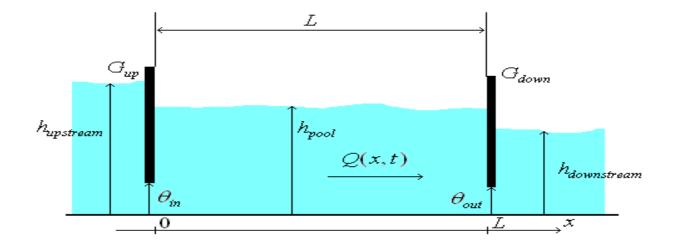
$$\sigma_T = \mathcal{M}^T \sigma_0 + \sum_{i=0}^{T-1} \mathcal{M}^{T-i} \mathcal{W}_i$$

Regional Controllability in a 2-D example

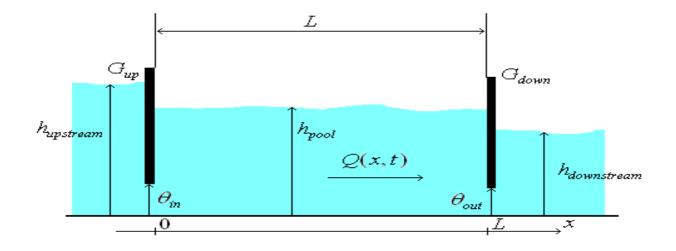




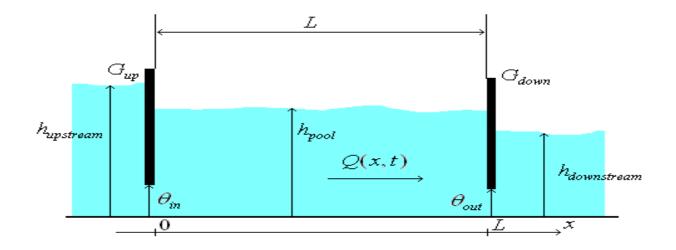
Modelling and control of irrigation channels



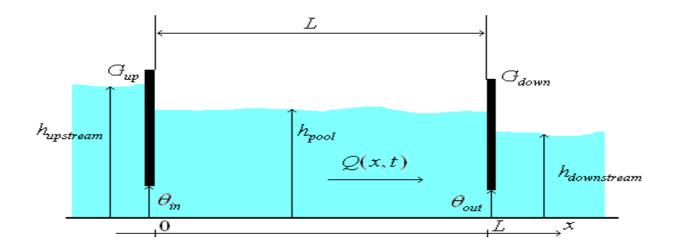
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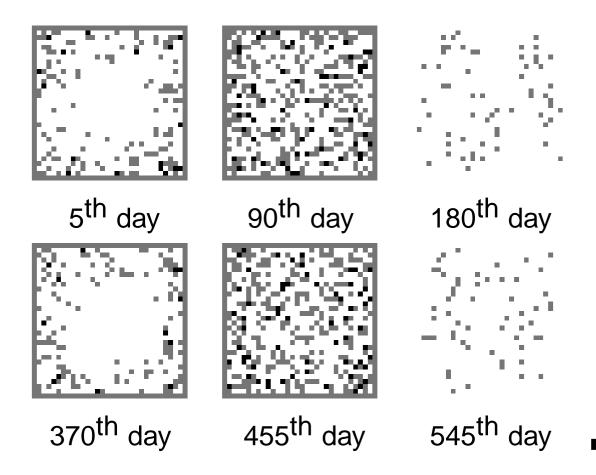


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- Parameter identification has been done using experimental data provided by the micro-canal of Valence (ESISAR).

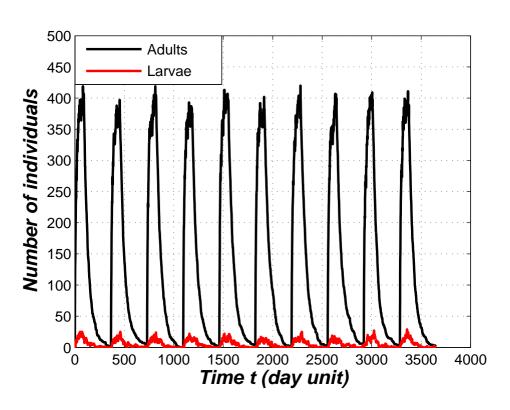
Modelling and control of the population dynamics of the insect vectors, responsible of Chagas disease in a village of the Yucatan peninsula.

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The proposed CA model gives the following evolution:



The variations in abundance and proportion of adults at the village scale did reproduce the patterns observed in several villages of Yucatan.



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- This will be performed within the framework of control theory. It will be a kind of boundary control which will act on the border of the village in order to prevent the invasion and then the insects spread.

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- The so-called intelligent control which uses artificial intelligence computing approaches: neural networks, machine learning, evolutionary computation, etc, would be considered.