

Generating Lamplighter-like Groups with Bireversible Automata

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Regular rooted trees

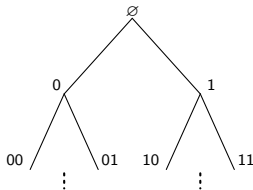
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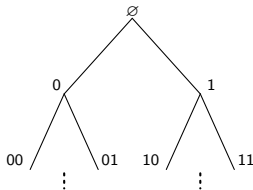
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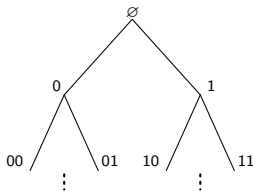


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Any such function on the finite words uniquely determines a function on X^ω , the set of infinite words. Likewise, any “prefix relation preserving” function on X^ω defines an automorphism of the tree.

Finite State (Mealy) Automata

Definition

A finite state (*Mealy*) automaton is \mathcal{A} is a 4-tuple $\mathcal{A} = (Q, X, \delta, \lambda)$ where Q is finite a set of states, X is a finite alphabet, $\delta: Q \times X \rightarrow Q$ is the *transition function*, and $\lambda: Q \times X \rightarrow X$ is the *output function*. For each $q \in Q$ and $x \in X$, we will use the notation $\lambda_q(x)$ to mean $\lambda(q, x)$.

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λ_q extends to a function X^* and X^ω :

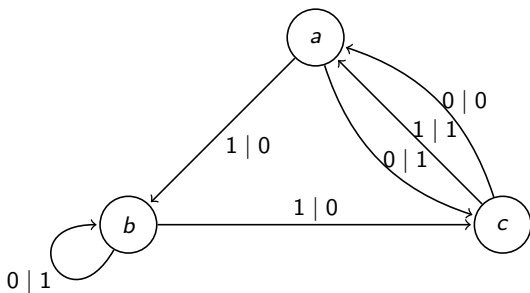
$$\lambda_q(x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n) = \lambda_q(x_0) \lambda_{\delta(q, x_0)}(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

and

$$\lambda_q(x_0, x_1, \dots) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \lambda_q(x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n).$$

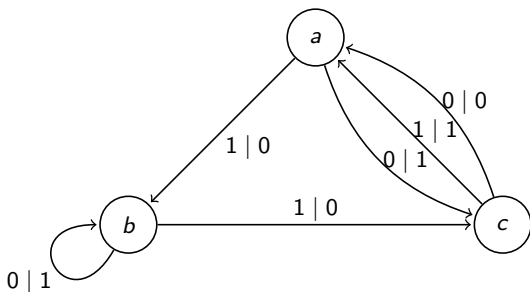
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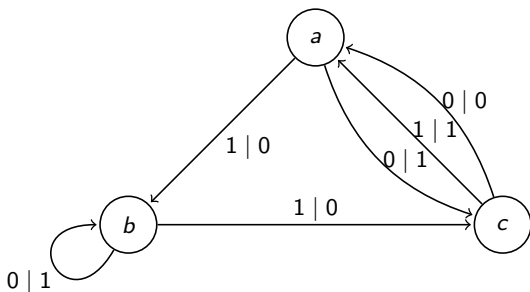
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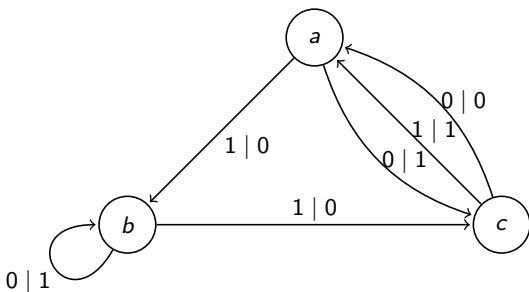
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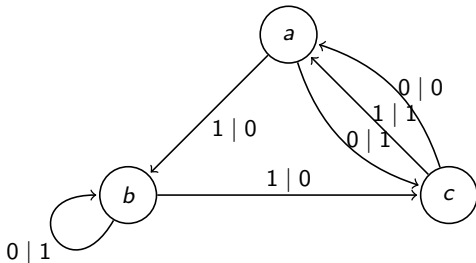
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The group generated by the states of \mathcal{A} is called the automaton group for \mathcal{A} and denoted $\mathcal{G}(\mathcal{A})$.

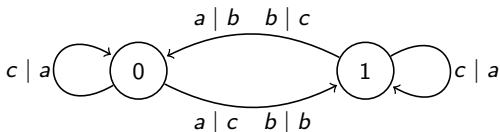
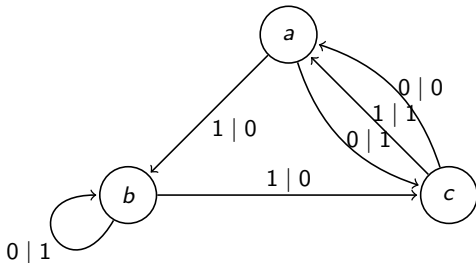
Duals and inverses

For an $\mathcal{A} = (Q, X, \delta, \lambda)$, its *dual automaton* $\partial\mathcal{A}$ is given by (X, Q, λ, δ) , i.e., the alphabet and states are interchanged and the output and transition functions are interchanged.



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Taking the dual and inverse iteratively produces up to 8 unique automata. If \mathcal{A} and $\partial\mathcal{A}$ are invertible, \mathcal{A} is called *reversible*.

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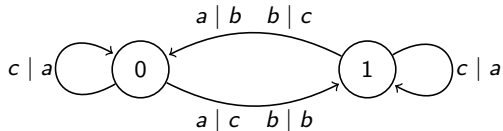
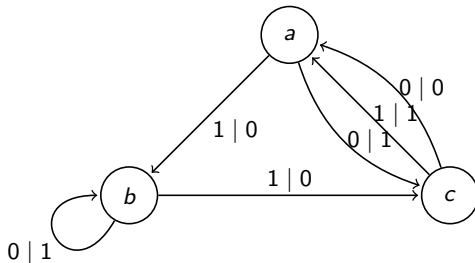
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If \mathcal{A} , $\partial\mathcal{A}$, and $\partial\mathcal{A}^{-1}$ are invertible, \mathcal{A} is called *bireversible*. In this case, all 8 possible automata are invertible.

Duals and inverses



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First examples of free groups and virtually free groups as automaton groups were bireversible

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Bireversible automaton groups act essentially freely on the boundary of the rooted tree hence, one can potentially compute spectral measures for their random walks via the action on the tree.

Lamplighter like groups

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Bondarenko, D'Angeli, and Rodaro constructed $(\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}) \wr \mathbb{Z}$ as a bireversible automaton group (2016).

Likewise, Ahmed and Savchuk realized $(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^2 \wr \mathbb{Z}$ as a bireversible automaton group (2018).

Rational power series approach

Let R be a finite commutative ring with 1, used as our alphabet.

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Then for any $f \in R[[t]]$ define two functions μ_f and α_f on R^ω given by

$$\mu_f : g(t) \mapsto f(t)g(t)$$

$$\alpha_f : g(t) \mapsto f(t) + g(t)$$

Exercise: For f invertible, these define automorphisms of T_R and for $\mu_f \alpha_h \mu_{f^{-1}} = \alpha_{fh}$.

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Proposition (S, Steinberg)

Let $f(t) = r \left(\frac{1-at}{1-bt} \right)$ where $r \in R^\times$ and $a, b \in R$. Then μ_f is finite state with set of states $\{\alpha_{-sra} \mu_f \alpha_{sb} : s \in R\}$. Moreover, for any $s \in R$, the state $\alpha_{-sra} \mu_f \alpha_{sb}$ permutes the degree zero terms via:

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We can associate to f a finite state automaton \mathcal{A}_f with states $\{\alpha_{-sra}\mu_f\alpha_{sb} : s \in R\}$. Transition and output functions are

$$\delta(\alpha_{-sra}\mu_f\alpha_{sb}, \tilde{s}) = \alpha_{-(sb+\tilde{s})ra}\mu_f\alpha_{(sb+\tilde{s})b}$$

and

$$\lambda(\alpha_{-sra}\mu_f\alpha_{sb}, \tilde{s}) = r(\tilde{s} + (b-a)s)$$

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Theorem (S, Steinberg)

Let

$$f(t) = r \left(\frac{1 - at}{1 - bt} \right)$$

where $r \in R^\times$ and $a, b \in R$. If $a - b \in R^\times$, then

$$\mathbb{G}(\mathcal{A}_f) = \langle \alpha_{-sra} \mu_f \alpha_{sb} : s \in R \rangle \cong R^+ \wr \mathbb{Z}.$$

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(Sketch) $\alpha_{-sra} \mu_f \alpha_{sb} = \alpha_{-sra+sbf} \mu_f = \alpha_{s(-ar+bf)} \mu_f$ so we can consider the generating set $\{\alpha_{s(-ar+bf)}, \mu_f : s \in R\}$.

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If $b - a$ a unit, then $(-ar + bf) f^m$ is linearly independent over R (in fact if and only if). And so,

$$N = \langle \alpha_{s(-ar+bf)} f^m : m \in \mathbb{Z} \rangle \cong \bigoplus_{\mathbb{Z}} R^+.$$

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N is normal and torsion and so intersects $\langle \mu_f \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}$ trivially and so $\mathbb{G}(\mathcal{A}_f) \cong R^+ \wr \mathbb{Z}$. □

Theorem (S, Steinberg)

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where $r \in R^\times$, $a, b \in R$ and $a - b$ is a unit. Then \mathcal{A}_f has $|R|$ states. Moreover,

- 1 \mathcal{A}_f is reversible if and only if b is a unit.
- 2 $(\mathcal{A}_f)^{-1}$ is reversible if and only if a is a unit.
- 3 \mathcal{A}_f is bireversible if and only if both a and b are units.

Theorem (S, Steinberg)

Let A be a finite abelian group. Then there is a finite commutative ring R with $R^+ \cong A$ and two elements $a, b \in R^\times$ with $a - b \in R^\times$ if and only if $A \cong A_1 \oplus A_2$ where A_1 has odd order and $A_2 \cong (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^{a_1} \oplus (\mathbb{Z}/2^2\mathbb{Z})^{a_2} \oplus \dots \oplus (\mathbb{Z}/2^t\mathbb{Z})^{a_t}$ with $a_i \neq 1$ for all $1 \leq i \leq t$.

Commutative rings with a , b and $a-b$ units

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Corollary

For any finite abelian group described in the last theorem, there exists a bireversible automaton generating $A \setminus \mathbb{Z}$.

Examples

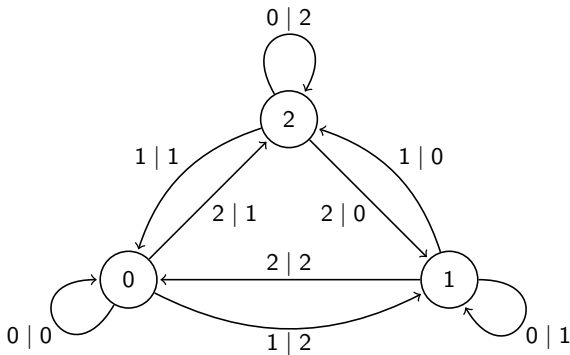


Figure: The bireversible automaton given by Bodarenko, D'Angeli, Rodaro for $\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \wr \mathbb{Z}$ and corresponding to $f(t) = 2 \left(\frac{1-2t}{1-t} \right)$. (Observed by Bondarenko and Savchuk)

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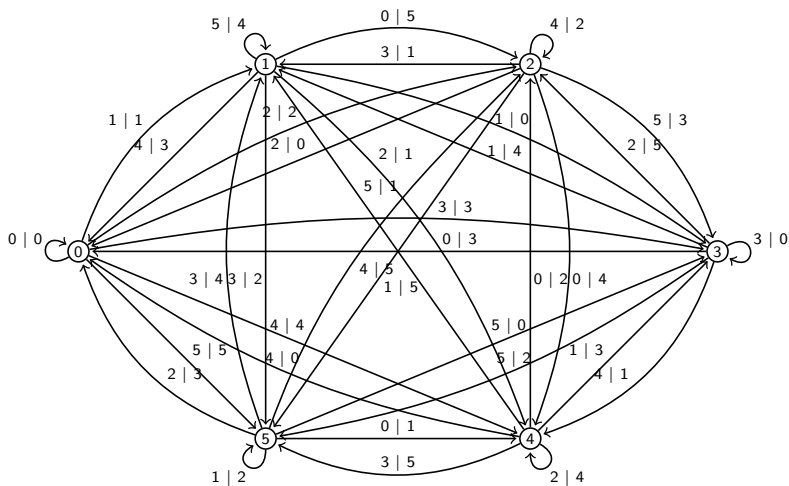


Figure: An automaton which generates $\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z} \wr \mathbb{Z}$ for $f = \frac{1-3t}{1-2t}$ that is not reversible and whose inverse is also not reversible.

Examples

Take $\mathcal{O} = \mathbb{Z}_2[\zeta]$ with ζ a third root of unity and $R = \mathcal{O}/4\mathcal{O} \cong \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}[\zeta]$. Taking $r = 1$, $a = 1$, and $b = 2 + \zeta$, we find that a , b , and $b - a$ are all units with inverses 1 , $3 + \zeta$, and $1 + \zeta$ respectively. $R^+ \cong (\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z})^2$.

state \ letter	0	1	2	3	ζ	$1+\zeta$	$2+\zeta$	$3+\zeta$	2ζ	$1+2\zeta$	$2+2\zeta$	$3+2\zeta$	3ζ	$1+3\zeta$	$2+3\zeta$	$3+3\zeta$
0	0	1	2	3	x	$1+\zeta$	$2+\zeta$	$3+\zeta$	2ζ	$1+2\zeta$	$2+2\zeta$	$3+2\zeta$	3ζ	$1+3\zeta$	$2+3\zeta$	$3+3\zeta$
1	$2+\zeta$	$3+\zeta$	ζ	$1+\zeta$	$2+2\zeta$	$3+2\zeta$	2ζ	$1+2\zeta$	$2+3\zeta$	$3+3\zeta$	3ζ	$1+3\zeta$	2	3	0	1
2	2ζ	$1+2\zeta$	$2+2\zeta$	$3+2\zeta$	3ζ	$1+3\zeta$	$2+3\zeta$	$3+3\zeta$	0	1	2	3	ζ	$1+\zeta$	$2+\zeta$	$3+\zeta$
3	$2+3\zeta$	$3+3\zeta$	3ζ	$1+3\zeta$	2	3	0	1	$2+\zeta$	$3+\zeta$	ζ	$1+\zeta$	$2+2\zeta$	$3+2\zeta$	2ζ	$1+2\zeta$
ζ	$3+\zeta$	ζ	$1+\zeta$	$2+\zeta$	$3+2\zeta$	2ζ	$1+2\zeta$	$2+2\zeta$	$3+3\zeta$	3ζ	$1+3\zeta$	$2+3\zeta$	3	0	1	2
$1+\zeta$	$1+2\zeta$	$2+2\zeta$	$3+2\zeta$	2ζ	$1+3\zeta$	$2+3\zeta$	$3+3\zeta$	3ζ	1	2	3	0	$1+\zeta$	$2+\zeta$	$3+\zeta$	ζ
$2+\zeta$	$3+3\zeta$	3ζ	$1+3\zeta$	$2+3\zeta$	3	0	1	2	$3+\zeta$	ζ	$1+\zeta$	$2+\zeta$	$3+2\zeta$	2ζ	$1+2\zeta$	$2+2\zeta$
$3+\zeta$	1	2	3	0	$1+\zeta$	$2+\zeta$	$3+\zeta$	ζ	$1+2\zeta$	$2+2\zeta$	$3+2\zeta$	2ζ	$1+3\zeta$	$2+3\zeta$	$3+3\zeta$	3ζ
2ζ	$2+2\zeta$	$3+2\zeta$	2ζ	$1+2\zeta$	$2+3\zeta$	$3+3\zeta$	3ζ	$1+3\zeta$	2	3	0	1	$2+\zeta$	$3+\zeta$	ζ	$1+\zeta$
$1+2\zeta$	3ζ	$1+3\zeta$	$2+3\zeta$	$3+3\zeta$	0	1	2	3	ζ	$1+\zeta$	$2+\zeta$	$3+\zeta$	2ζ	$1+2\zeta$	$2+2\zeta$	$3+2\zeta$
$2+2\zeta$	2	3	0	1	$2+\zeta$	$3+\zeta$	ζ	$1+2\zeta$	$2+2\zeta$	$3+2\zeta$	2ζ	$1+2\zeta$	$2+3\zeta$	$3+3\zeta$	0	1
$3+2\zeta$	ζ	$1+\zeta$	$2+\zeta$	$3+\zeta$	2ζ	$1+2\zeta$	$2+2\zeta$	$3+2\zeta$	3ζ	$1+3\zeta$	$2+3\zeta$	$3+3\zeta$	0	1	2	3
3ζ	$1+3\zeta$	$2+3\zeta$	$3+3\zeta$	3ζ	1	2	3	0	$1+\zeta$	$2+\zeta$	$3+\zeta$	ζ	$1+2\zeta$	$2+2\zeta$	$3+2\zeta$	2ζ
$1+3\zeta$	3	0	1	2	$3+\zeta$	ζ	$1+\zeta$	$2+\zeta$	$3+2\zeta$	2ζ	$1+2\zeta$	$2+2\zeta$	$3+3\zeta$	3ζ	$1+3\zeta$	$2+3\zeta$
$2+3\zeta$	$1+\zeta$	$2+\zeta$	$3+\zeta$	ζ	$1+2\zeta$	$2+2\zeta$	$3+2\zeta$	2ζ	$1+3\zeta$	$2+3\zeta$	$3+3\zeta$	3ζ	1	2	3	0
$3+3\zeta$	$3+2\zeta$	2ζ	$1+2\zeta$	$2+2\zeta$	$3+3\zeta$	3ζ	$1+3\zeta$	$2+3\zeta$	3	0	1	2	$3+\zeta$	ζ	$1+\zeta$	$2+\zeta$

Table: The transition table for $f = r \left(\frac{1-at}{1-bt} \right)$ with $r = 1$, $a = 1$, and $b = 2 + \zeta$.

Examples

Take $\mathcal{O} = \mathbb{Z}_2[\zeta]$ with ζ a third root of unity and $R = \mathcal{O}/4\mathcal{O} \cong \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}[\zeta]$. Taking $r = 1$, $a = 1$, and $b = 2 + \zeta$, we find that a , b , and $b - a$ are all units with inverses 1 , $3 + \zeta$, and $1 + \zeta$ respectively. $R^+ \cong (\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z})^2$.

state \ letter	0	1	2	3	ζ	$1+\zeta$	$2+\zeta$	$3+\zeta$	2ζ	$1+2\zeta$	$2+2\zeta$	$3+2\zeta$	3ζ	$1+3\zeta$	$2+3\zeta$	$3+3\zeta$
0	0	1	2	3	ζ	$1+\zeta$	$2+\zeta$	$3+\zeta$	2ζ	$1+2\zeta$	$2+2\zeta$	$3+2\zeta$	3ζ	$1+3\zeta$	$2+3\zeta$	$3+3\zeta$
1	$1+\zeta$	$2+\zeta$	$3+\zeta$	ζ	$1+2\zeta$	$2+2\zeta$	$3+2\zeta$	2ζ	$1+3\zeta$	$2+3\zeta$	$3+3\zeta$	3ζ	1	2	3	0
2	$2+2\zeta$	$3+2\zeta$	2ζ	$1+2\zeta$	$2+3\zeta$	$3+3\zeta$	3ζ	$1+3\zeta$	2	3	0	1	$2+\zeta$	$3+\zeta$	ζ	$1+\zeta$
3	$3+3\zeta$	3ζ	$1+3\zeta$	$2+3\zeta$	3	0	1	2	$3+\zeta$	ζ	$1+\zeta$	$2+\zeta$	$3+2\zeta$	2ζ	$1+2\zeta$	$2+2\zeta$
ζ	3	0	1	2	$3+\zeta$	ζ	$1+\zeta$	$2+\zeta$	$3+2\zeta$	2ζ	$1+2\zeta$	$2+2\zeta$	$3+3\zeta$	3ζ	$1+3\zeta$	$2+3\zeta$
$1+\zeta$	ζ	$1+\zeta$	$2+\zeta$	$3+\zeta$	2ζ	$1+2\zeta$	$2+2\zeta$	$3+2\zeta$	3ζ	$1+3\zeta$	$2+3\zeta$	$3+3\zeta$	0	1	2	3
$2+\zeta$	$1+2\zeta$	$2+2\zeta$	$3+2\zeta$	2ζ	$1+3\zeta$	$2+3\zeta$	$3+3\zeta$	3ζ	1	2	3	0	$1+\zeta$	$2+\zeta$	$3+\zeta$	ζ
$3+\zeta$	$2+3\zeta$	$3+3\zeta$	3ζ	$1+3\zeta$	2	3	0	1	$2+\zeta$	$3+\zeta$	ζ	$1+\zeta$	$2+2\zeta$	$3+2\zeta$	2ζ	$1+2\zeta$
2ζ	2	3	0	1	$2+\zeta$	$3+\zeta$	ζ	$1+\zeta$	$2+2\zeta$	$3+2\zeta$	2ζ	$1+2\zeta$	$2+3\zeta$	$3+3\zeta$	3ζ	$1+3\zeta$
$1+2\zeta$	$3+\zeta$	ζ	$1+\zeta$	$2+\zeta$	$3+2\zeta$	2ζ	$1+2\zeta$	$2+2\zeta$	$3+3\zeta$	3ζ	$1+3\zeta$	$2+3\zeta$	3	0	1	2
$2+2\zeta$	2ζ	$1+2\zeta$	$2+2\zeta$	$3+2\zeta$	3ζ	$1+3\zeta$	$2+3\zeta$	$3+3\zeta$	0	1	2	3	ζ	$1+\zeta$	$2+\zeta$	$3+\zeta$
$3+2\zeta$	$1+3\zeta$	$2+3\zeta$	$3+3\zeta$	3ζ	1	2	3	0	$1+\zeta$	$2+\zeta$	$3+\zeta$	ζ	$1+2\zeta$	$2+2\zeta$	$3+2\zeta$	2ζ
3ζ	1	2	3	0	$1+\zeta$	$2+\zeta$	$3+\zeta$	ζ	$1+2\zeta$	$2+2\zeta$	$3+2\zeta$	2ζ	$1+3\zeta$	$2+3\zeta$	$3+3\zeta$	3ζ
$1+3\zeta$	$2+\zeta$	$3+\zeta$	ζ	$1+\zeta$	$2+2\zeta$	$3+2\zeta$	2ζ	$1+2\zeta$	$2+3\zeta$	$3+3\zeta$	3ζ	$1+3\zeta$	2	3	0	1
$2+3\zeta$	$3+2\zeta$	2ζ	$1+2\zeta$	$2+2\zeta$	$3+3\zeta$	3ζ	$1+3\zeta$	$2+3\zeta$	3	0	1	2	$3+\zeta$	ζ	$1+\zeta$	$2+\zeta$
$3+3\zeta$	3ζ	$1+3\zeta$	$2+3\zeta$	$3+3\zeta$	0	1	2	3	ζ	$1+\zeta$	$2+\zeta$	$3+\zeta$	2ζ	$1+2\zeta$	$2+2\zeta$	$3+2\zeta$

Table: The output table for $f = r \left(\frac{1-at}{1-bt} \right)$ with $r = 1$, $a = 1$, and $b = 2 + \zeta$.

Thank you!

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