

The functional graph of some family of functions over finite fields

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Carleton Finite Fields eSeminar

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- For $a \in \mathbb{F}_q$, there are integers $0 \leq i < j$, minimal, such that $f^{(i)}(a) = f^{(j)}(a)$. We call the list

$$a, f(a), f^{(2)}(a), \dots, f^{(i-1)}(a)$$

the pre-cycle and

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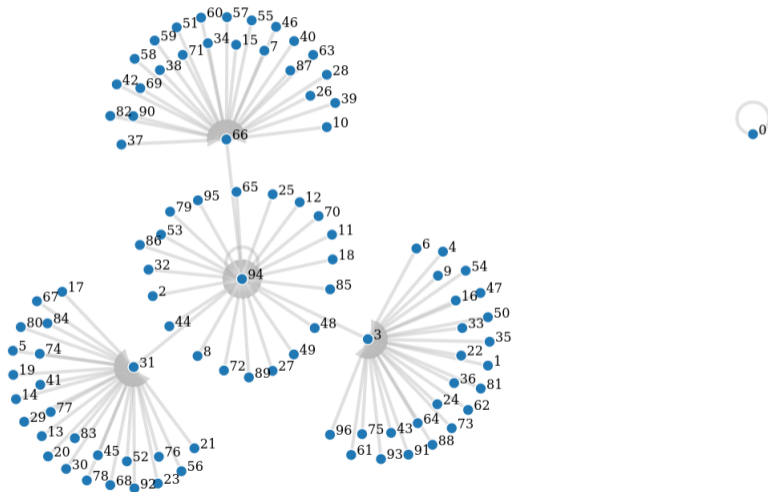
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- If $i = 0$ we say that a is a period point of f .
- If $f(a) = a$, we say it is a fixed point of f .

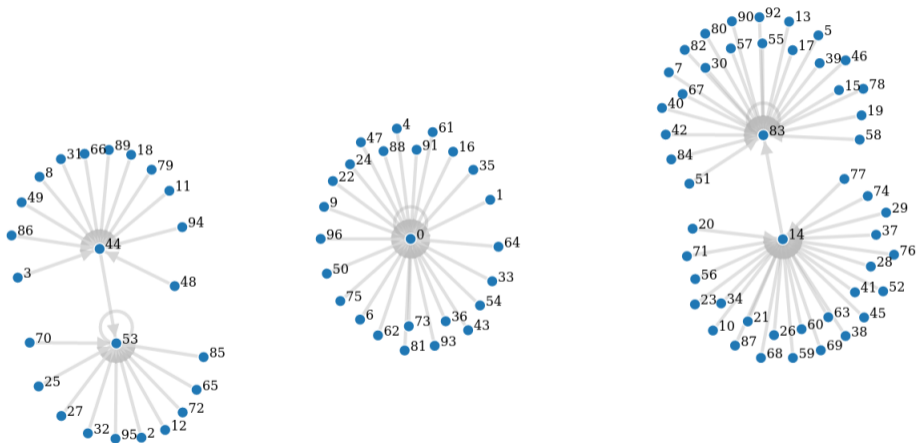
Example

If $f : \mathbb{F}_{97} \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_{97}$ is the function defined by $f(x) = 3x^{72}$, then the functional graph of f is



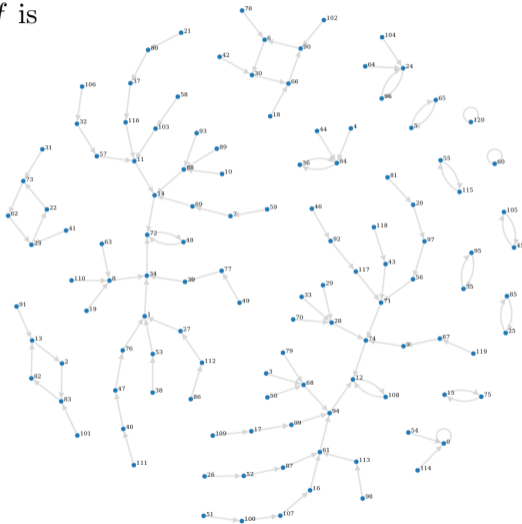
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If $f : \mathbb{F}_{97} \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_{97}$ is the function defined by $f(x) = x^{36} - x^{12}$, then the functional graph of f is



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If $f : \mathbb{F}_{121} \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_{121}$ is the function defined by $f(x) = x^{119} + x^{11} - x$, then the functional graph of f is



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- Linearized Polynomials, Panario & Reis (2019)
- Survey about iteration mappings, Martins, Panario & Qureshi (2019)

Questions about functional graphs

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- Number of connected components

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- Any pre-periodic tree of the graph is the same.

For example for any $n \in \mathbb{N}$, pre-periodic tree of a monomial function $f : \mathbb{F}_q^* \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_q^*$ defines as $x \mapsto x^n$ with root a periodic point is the same.

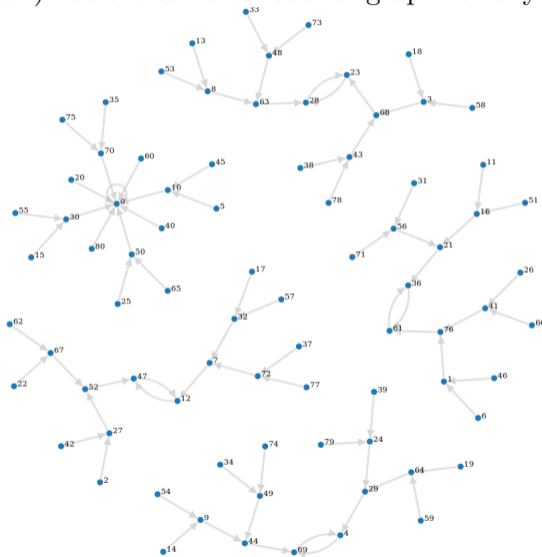
The functional graph of $a(x^{q+1} - x^2)$ over \mathbb{F}_{q^2}

Since $x \mapsto a(x^{q+1} - x^2)$ has the same functional graph for any $a \in \mathbb{F}_{q^2}^*$, we can suppose that $a = 1$.

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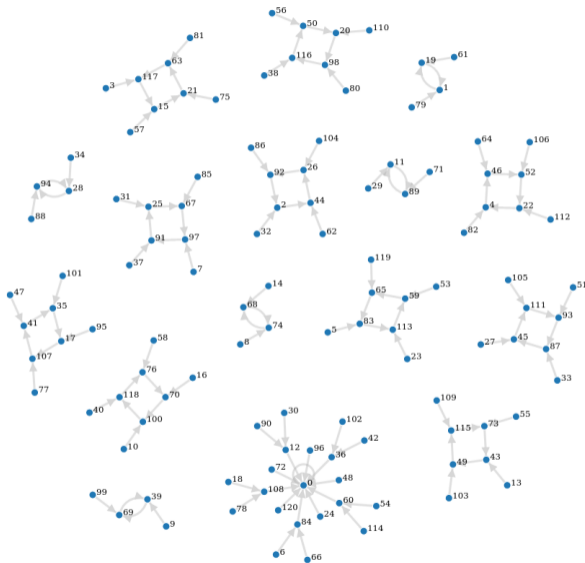
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Case when $q = 9$



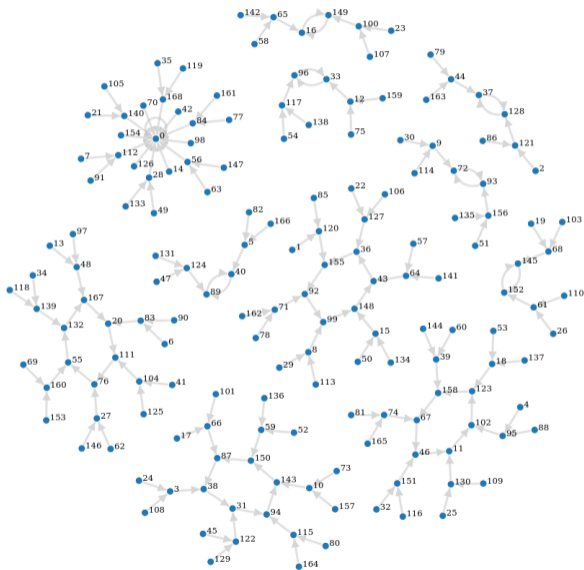
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Case when $q = 11$



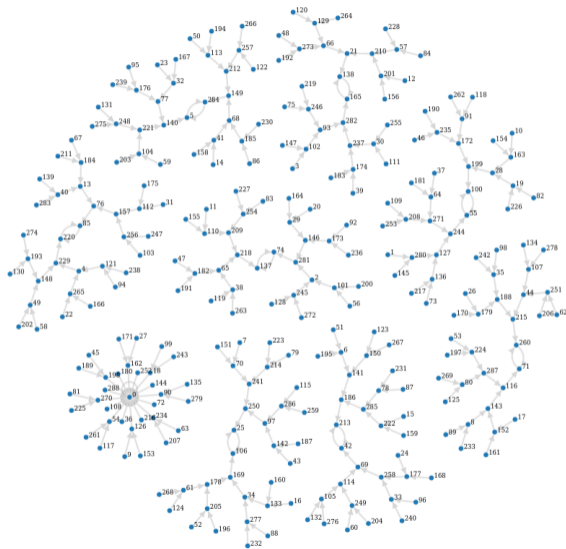
The functional graph of $x^{q+1} - x^2$ over \mathbb{F}_{q^2}

Case when $q = 13$



The functional graph of $x^{q+1} - x^2$ over \mathbb{F}_{q^2}

Case when $q = 17$



Theorem

If $c \in \mathbb{F}_q$, then

- 1 $\#f^{-1}(c) = \begin{cases} q, & \text{if } c = 0 \\ 2, & \text{if } \chi_2(-2c) = -1 \\ 0, & \text{if } \chi_2(-2c) = 1. \end{cases}$
- 2 If $a \in f^{-1}(c)$, then $f^{-1}(a) = \emptyset$.

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$\textcircled{2}$ If $a \in f^{-1}(c)$, then $f^{-1}(a) = \emptyset$.

In particular, the connected component of 0 has $2q - 1$ elements of \mathbb{F}_{q^2} .

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The functional graph of $f(x) = x^{q+1} - x^2$ over \mathbb{F}_{q^2} has the following properties

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- 1 *The unique fixed point of the function is $x = 0$.*
- 2 *Every cycle has even length.*
- 3 *There are $\frac{q-1}{2}$ cycles of length two.*

Theorem

Let $q - 1 = 2^k r$, with r odd. Then for every d divisor of r , there are $\frac{\varphi(d)(q-1)}{2 \operatorname{ord}_{3d}(4)}$ cycles of length $2 \operatorname{ord}_{3d}(4)$, and those are the only cycles.

Definition

- 1) $\mathcal{T}(1)$, the tree composed by two points, P_1 and P , where P_1 is directed to P . For $m \geq 1$, $\mathcal{T}(m+1)$ is the tree obtained after attaching 2 points directed to each point in the last level of $\mathcal{T}(m)$;

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Given the functional graph \mathcal{G} of $f(x) = x^{q+1} - x^2$ over \mathbb{F}_{q^2} , let denote by

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- a) \mathcal{TC}_0 the connected component of zero.
- b) $\text{Cyc}(\mathcal{G})$ the sub-graph of \mathcal{G} of every periodic point different of 0.

Characterization of the pre-cycles

Theorem

Let \mathcal{G} be the functional graph of $f(x) = x^{q+1} - x^2$ over \mathbb{F}_{q^2} . If $q - 1 = 2^k r$, then the graph \mathcal{G} is isomorphic to

$$\mathcal{TC}_0 \oplus (\text{Cyc}(\mathcal{G}), \mathcal{I}(k)).$$

The graph of $f(x) = x^{q+1} + x^2$ over \mathbb{F}_{q^2}

Using the same technique we obtain the following result

Theorem

Let q be a power of a odd prime, such that $q - 1 = 2^s r$ and r is odd. The functional graph of the function $f(x) = a(x^{q+1} + x^2)$ over \mathbb{F}_{q^2} is isomorphic to

$$\mathcal{Z}^*(q) \bigoplus_{d|r} \frac{q \cdot \varphi(d)}{\text{ord}_d(2)} \times (\text{Cyc}(\text{ord}_d(2)), \mathcal{T}(s))$$

where $\mathcal{Z}^(q)$ is the directed graph $\text{Cyc}(1)$ with $q - 1$ trees isomorphic to $\mathcal{T}(1)$ attached to it.*

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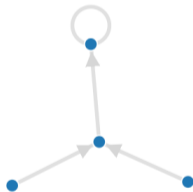


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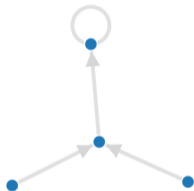


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and, for $d = 3$, we have $\frac{13 \cdot \varphi(3)}{\text{ord}_3(2)} = 13$ components isomorphic to



Idea of the proof

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$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{F}_q \times \mathbb{F}_q &\rightarrow \mathbb{F}_q \times \mathbb{F}_q \\ \langle x, y \rangle &\mapsto \langle (d+1)x^2 + (d-1)by^2, 2dxy \rangle. \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

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and, applying f again,

$$F^{(2)}(x, y) = -8bxy^2\langle x, y \rangle.$$

By induction, we conclude that

$$F^{(2n)}(x, y) = g(x, y) \frac{4^n - 1}{3} \langle x, y \rangle,$$

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Therefore $\langle x, y \rangle$ is a periodic point if and only if $\gcd(4, 3 \cdot \text{ord}_{\mathbb{F}_q}(g(x, y))) = 1$

Suppose that $\langle x_0, y_0 \rangle$ be a periodic element and, for all $i \geq 1$, let $\langle x_i, y_i \rangle$ be a periodic point such that

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Now suppose by induction that $\langle \zeta_{2^{k-1}} x_{k-1}, \zeta_{2^{k-1}} y_{k-1} \rangle$ is a non periodic element that satisfies

$$f^{(k-1)}(\zeta_{2^{k-1}} x_{k-1}, \zeta_{2^{k-1}} y_{k-1}) = \langle x_0, y_0 \rangle.$$

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If $\langle x, y \rangle \in f^{-1}(\zeta_{2^{k-1}} x_{k-1}, \zeta_{2^{k-1}} y_{k-1})$, then

$$y^2 = \zeta_{2^{k-1}} y_k^2$$

and, consequently, $f^{-1}(\zeta_{2^{k-1}} x_{k-1}, \zeta_{2^{k-1}} y_{k-1}) \neq \emptyset$ if, and only if, $\zeta_{2^{k-1}}$ is an square in \mathbb{F}_q , that is equivalent to $q \equiv 1 \pmod{2^k}$.

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- $f(x) = x^{q+1} - x^2$ over \mathbb{F}_{q^3} .

Some partial result for $d \neq \pm 1$

In general, the dynamic of $f(x) = x^{q+1} - dx^2 \in \mathbb{F}_q[x]$ over \mathbb{F}_{q^2} is “quasi-chaotic”.

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In general, the dynamic of $f(x) = x^{q+1} - dx^2 \in \mathbb{F}_q[x]$ over \mathbb{F}_{q^2} is “quasi-chaotic”.
We have some partial results

Theorem

For $a \in \mathbb{F}_q^*$,

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \#f^{-1}(a) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } \chi_2(a(d-1)) = 1 \text{ and } \chi_2(a(d+1)) = -1 \\ 4, & \text{if } \chi_2(a(d-1)) = -1 \text{ and } \chi_2(a(d+1)) = 1 \\ 2, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

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Theorem

For $a \in \mathbb{F}_q^*$,

- $\#f^{-1}(a) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } \chi_2(a(d-1)) = 1 \text{ and } \chi_2(a(d+1)) = -1 \\ 4, & \text{if } \chi_2(a(d-1)) = -1 \text{ and } \chi_2(a(d+1)) = 1 \\ 2, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$
- if $q \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$, then $\#f^{-1}(a\beta) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } \chi_2(-d^2 + 1) = 1 \\ 2, & \text{if } \chi_2(-d^2 + 1) = -1 \end{cases}$

Some partial result for $d \neq \pm 1$

In general, the dynamic of $f(x) = x^{q+1} - dx^2 \in \mathbb{F}_q[x]$ over \mathbb{F}_{q^2} is “quasi-chaotic”. We have some partial results

Theorem

For $a \in \mathbb{F}_q^*$,

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \#f^{-1}(a) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } \chi_2(a(d-1)) = 1 \text{ and } \chi_2(a(d+1)) = -1 \\ 4, & \text{if } \chi_2(a(d-1)) = -1 \text{ and } \chi_2(a(d+1)) = 1 \\ 2, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad \text{if } q \equiv 3 \pmod{4}, \text{ then } \#f^{-1}(a\beta) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } \chi_2(-d^2 + 1) = 1 \\ 2, & \text{if } \chi_2(-d^2 + 1) = -1 \end{cases}$$

$\textcircled{3}$ if $q \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ and $\gamma_d^2 := -\frac{(d-1)b}{d+1}$, then

$$\#f^{-1}(a\beta) = \begin{cases} 4, & \text{if } \chi_2(-d^2 + 1) = -1 \text{ and } \chi_2(2\gamma_d ad) = -1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

Theorem

Let $q - 1 = 2^s r$, with r odd, and $f(X) = X^{q+1} + dX^2$, where $d \neq \{\pm 1\}$. If $\chi_2(1 - d^2) = 1$, then the connected components that contain the elements of \mathbb{F}_q can be obtained by attaching two nodes to every point $a \in \mathcal{G}(f|_{\mathbb{F}_q})$ that satisfies $\chi_2(a(d - 1)) = -1$.

Theorem

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In particular, 0 is an isolated fixed point and $\frac{1}{d+1}$ is a fixed point with connected component isomorphic to

- $\mathcal{L}(4)$, if $s = 1$,
- $(Cyc(1), \mathcal{T}(s + 1))$, if $s \geq 2$.

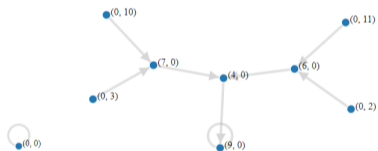
For $q = 13$ and $d = 2$, notice that $s = 2$ and that $\chi_2(1 - 2^2) = \chi_2(10) = 1$.

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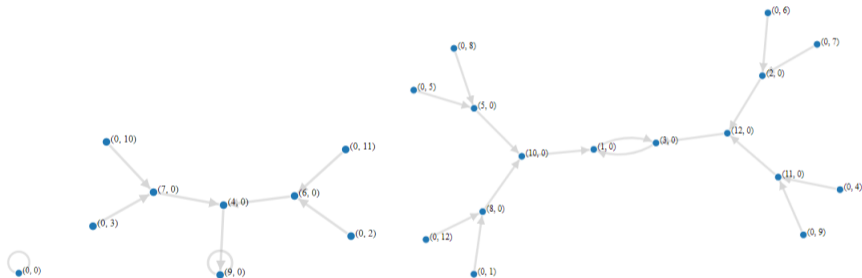








$(0, 0)$

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