# New Results on Periodic Symbolic Sequences of Second Order Digital Filters with Two's Complement Arithmetic

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#### SUMMARY

In this article, the second order digital filter with two's complement arithmetic in [1] is considered. Necessary conditions for the symbolic sequences to be periodic after a number of iterations are given when the filter parameters are at b = a+1 and b = -a+1. Furthermore, for some particular values of a, even when one of the eigenvalues is outside the unit circle, the system may behave as a linear system after a number of iterations and the state vector may toggle between two states or converge to a fixed point at the steady state. The necessary and sufficient conditions for these phenomena are given in this article.

KEY WORDS: second order digital filter; two's complement arithmetic; symbolic sequences; eigenvalues

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

A nonlinear behavior may occur on a second order digital filter when the filter is implemented using a two's complement arithmetic for the addition operation. To analyze such a behavior, a symbolic analysis was proposed and the admissibility of the symbolic sequences was studied for the special case when b=-1 and |a|<2 [1-4, 7]. However, even when the symbolic sequence is admissible, there are many possibilities. In order to study the various possibilities, the set of admissible sequences can be partitioned into three subsets: One set contains periodic symbolic sequences. The second set contains symbolic sequences that are periodic after a number of iterations. The third set contains symbolic sequences that are never periodic. Some results on the first two sets were obtained for b=-1 and |a|<2 [1-4, 7]. These results have been extended for other real values of a, while the value of b is still equal to -1 [5].

However, will those existing results remain valid if the filter parameter  $b \neq -1$ ? Specifically, we are interested in the nonlinear behavior which may occur when b = a+1 and b = -a+1, and the answer to the following questions: Under what conditions will the symbolic sequence be periodic? If the symbolic sequence is periodic, under what conditions will the system behave as a linear system after a number of iterations and the state vector toggles among several states or converges to a fixed point? In this article, we focus on both the cases of b = a+1 and b = -a+1. In section 2, we will present the notations used in the existing literatures [1-7], and this article will also employ the same set of notations. In section 3, some new results on the above problems are presented. Finally, a conclusion is summarized in section 4.

#### 2. NOTATIONS

The notations used in [1-7] are adopted as follows:

The system is defined as:

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1(k+1) \\ x_2(k+1) \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{F}\left(\begin{bmatrix} x_1(k) \\ x_2(k) \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} x_2(k) \\ f(b \cdot x_1(k) + a \cdot x_2(k)) \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{A} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} x_1(k) \\ x_2(k) \end{bmatrix} + \mathbf{B} \cdot s_k$$
(1)

where 
$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1(k) \\ x_2(k) \end{bmatrix} \in I^2 \equiv \{ (x_1, x_2) : -1 \le x_1 < 1, -1 \le x_2 < 1 \}$$
 (2)

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ b & a \end{bmatrix}$$
(3)

$$\mathbf{B} = \begin{bmatrix} 0\\2 \end{bmatrix} \tag{4}$$

 $s_k \in \{-m, \dots, -1, 0, 1, \dots m\}$  where *m* is the minimum integer satisfying  $-2 \cdot m - 1 \le b \cdot x_1 + a \cdot x_2 < 2 \cdot m + 1$ (5)

and 
$$f(x) = x - 2 \cdot n$$
 such that  $2 \cdot n - 1 \le x < 2 \cdot n + 1$  and  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \cup \{0\}$  (6)

Given an initial condition  $\begin{bmatrix} x_1(0) \\ x_2(0) \end{bmatrix} \in I^2$ , a symbolic sequence  $s = (s_0, s_1, \cdots) \in \Sigma$  can

be generated by the map  $S: I^2 \to \Sigma$ , and a sequence s in  $\Sigma$  is admissible if

$$\exists \begin{bmatrix} x_1(0) \\ x_2(0) \end{bmatrix} \in I^2 \text{ such that } S\left( \begin{bmatrix} x_1(0) \\ x_2(0) \end{bmatrix} \right) = s.$$

The set  $\Sigma$  can be partitioned into three subsets:  $\Sigma_{\alpha} = \{s = (s_0 s_1 s_2 \cdots) : s \text{ is periodic}\},\$   $\Sigma_{\beta} = \{s = (s_0 s_1 s_2 \cdots) : s \text{ is periodic after a number of iterations}\}$  and  $\Sigma_{\gamma} = \Sigma \setminus (\Sigma_{\alpha} \bigcup \Sigma_{\beta}).$ 

# 3. NEW RESULTS FOR THE PERIODIC SYMBOLIC SEQUENCES

This section presents several conditions for the state vector to be periodic after a number of iterations. These conditions can be stated in the following lemmas, theorems and remarks, where the stability of these periodic orbits is stated in the observations:

# Lemma 1

For 
$$b = a+1$$
, if  $\exists M \in Z^+$  such that  $\begin{bmatrix} x_1(k) \\ x_2(k) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1(k+M) \\ x_2(k+M) \end{bmatrix}$  for  $k \ge k_0$ , then  
 $(x_1(0) + x_2(0)) \cdot ((a+1)^M - 1) + 2 \cdot (2 \cdot (a+1)^M - 1) \cdot \sum_{j=0}^{k_0-1} \frac{s_j}{(a+1)^{j+1}} + 2 \cdot (a+1)^M \cdot \sum_{j=k_0}^{k_0+M-1} \frac{s_j}{(a+1)^{j+1}} = 0.$ 

# **Proof**

For b = a+1, the nonlinear system in (1) can be represented by the state equation

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_{1}(k+1) \\ x_{2}(k+1) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ a+1 & a \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} x_{1}(k) \\ x_{2}(k) \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \cdot s_{k} \text{ . Hence, the solution of the system is:}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_{1}(k) \\ x_{2}(k) \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{a+2} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} (a+1)^{k} + (a+1) \cdot (-1)^{k} & (a+1)^{k} - (-1)^{k} \\ (a+1)^{k+1} - (a+1) \cdot (-1)^{k} & (a+1)^{k+1} + (-1)^{k} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} x_{1}(0) \\ x_{2}(0) \end{bmatrix} + \frac{2}{a+2} \cdot \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} \begin{bmatrix} (a+1)^{k-1-j} - (-1)^{k-1-j} \\ (a+1)^{k-j} + (-1)^{k-1-j} \end{bmatrix} \cdot s_{j} \quad (7)$$
If  $\exists M \in \mathbb{Z}^{+}$  such that  $\begin{bmatrix} x_{1}(k) \\ x_{2}(k) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_{1}(k+M) \\ x_{2}(k+M) \end{bmatrix}$  for  $k \ge k_{0}$ , then:  

$$1 \quad \begin{bmatrix} (a+1)^{k_{0}} + (a+1) \cdot (-1)^{k_{0}} & (a+1)^{k_{0}} - (-1)^{k_{0}} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_{1}(0) \end{bmatrix} + 2 \quad \sum_{j=0}^{k_{0}-1} \begin{bmatrix} (a+1)^{k_{0}-1-j} - (-1)^{k_{0}-1-j} \end{bmatrix} s_{j} \quad (0)$$

$$\frac{1}{a+2} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} (a+1)^{k_0} + (a+1) \cdot (-1)^{k_0} & (a+1)^{k_0-1} - (-1)^{k_0} \\ (a+1)^{k_0+1} - (a+1) \cdot (-1)^{k_0} & (a+1)^{k_0+1} + (-1)^{k_0} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} x_1(0) \\ x_2(0) \end{bmatrix} + \frac{2}{a+2} \cdot \sum_{j=0}^{k_0-1} \begin{bmatrix} (a+1)^{k_0-j-j} - (-1)^{k_0-j-j} \\ (a+1)^{k_0-j-j} - (-1)^{k_0-j-j} \end{bmatrix} \cdot s_j$$

$$= \frac{1}{a+2} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} (a+1)^{k_0+M} + (a+1) \cdot (-1)^{k_0+M} & (a+1)^{k_0+M} - (-1)^{k_0+M} \\ (a+1)^{k_0+M+1} - (a+1) \cdot (-1)^{k_0+M} & (a+1)^{k_0+M+1} + (-1)^{k_0+M} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} x_1(0) \\ x_2(0) \end{bmatrix} + \frac{2}{a+2} \cdot \sum_{j=0}^{k_0+M-1} \begin{bmatrix} (a+1)^{k_0+M-1-j} - (-1)^{k_0+M-1-j} \\ (a+1)^{k_0+M-1-j} - (-1)^{k_0+M-1-j} \end{bmatrix} \cdot s_j$$
(8)

Hence,

$$\begin{cases} \left((a+1)^{M}-1\right)\cdot\frac{(a+1)^{k_{0}}}{a+2}\cdot\left(x_{1}(0)+x_{2}(0)+2\cdot\sum_{j=0}^{k_{0}-1}\frac{s_{j}}{(a+1)^{j+1}}\right)+\left((-1)^{M}-1\right)\cdot\frac{(-1)^{k_{0}}}{a+2}\cdot\left((a+1)\cdot x_{1}(0)-x_{2}(0)-2\cdot\sum_{j=0}^{k_{0}-1}\frac{s_{j}}{(-1)^{j+1}}\right) (9) \\ +\frac{2}{a+2}\cdot\sum_{j=0}^{k_{0}+M-1}s_{j}\cdot\left((a+1)^{k_{0}+M-1-j}-(-1)^{k_{0}+M-1-j}\right)=0 \\ \\ \left\{\left((a+1)^{M}-1\right)\cdot\frac{(a+1)^{k_{0}+1}}{a+2}\cdot\left(x_{1}(0)+x_{2}(0)+2\cdot\sum_{j=0}^{k_{0}-1}\frac{s_{j}}{(a+1)^{j+1}}\right)+\left((-1)^{M}-1\right)\cdot\frac{(-1)^{k_{0}}}{a+2}\cdot\left(2\cdot\sum_{j=0}^{k_{0}-1}\frac{s_{j}}{(-1)^{j+1}}-\left((a+1)\cdot x_{1}(0)-x_{2}(0)\right)\right)\right) (10) \\ +\frac{2}{a+2}\cdot\sum_{j=0}^{k_{0}+M-1}s_{j}\cdot\left((a+1)^{k_{0}+M-j}+(-1)^{k_{0}+M-1-j}\right)=0 \end{cases}$$

Let

$$t_1 = \left( (a+1)^M - 1 \right) \cdot \frac{(a+1)^{k_0}}{a+2} \cdot \left( x_1(0) + x_2(0) + 2 \cdot \sum_{j=0}^{k_0-1} \frac{s_j}{(a+1)^{j+1}} \right)$$
(11)

$$t_{2} = \left( \left(-1\right)^{M} - 1 \right) \cdot \frac{\left(-1\right)^{k_{0}}}{a+2} \cdot \left( \left(a+1\right) \cdot x_{1}(0) - x_{2}(0) - 2 \cdot \sum_{j=0}^{k_{0}-1} \frac{s_{j}}{\left(-1\right)^{j+1}} \right)$$
(12)

$$t_3 = \frac{2}{a+2} \cdot \sum_{j=0}^{k_0+M-1} s_j \cdot (a+1)^{k_0+M-1-j}$$
(13)

$$t_4 = \frac{2}{a+2} \cdot \sum_{j=0}^{k_0+M-1} s_j \cdot (-1)^{k_0+M-1-j}$$
(14)

Then we have:

$$\begin{cases} t_1 + t_2 + t_3 - t_4 = 0\\ (a+1) \cdot t_1 - t_2 + (a+1) \cdot t_3 + t_4 = 0 \end{cases}$$
(15)

which

$$\Rightarrow a = -2 \quad \text{or} \quad t_1 = -t_3 \tag{16}$$

For  $a \neq -2$ , we have  $t_1 = -t_3$ , that is:

$$\left( (a+1)^{M} - 1 \right) \cdot \frac{(a+1)^{k_{0}}}{a+2} \cdot \left( x_{1}(0) + x_{2}(0) + 2 \cdot \sum_{j=0}^{k_{0}-1} \frac{s_{j}}{(a+1)^{j+1}} \right) = -\frac{2}{a+2} \cdot \sum_{j=0}^{k_{0}+M-1} s_{j} \cdot (a+1)^{k_{0}+M-1-j} (17)$$

$$\Rightarrow \left( x_{1}(0) + x_{2}(0) \right) \cdot \left( (a+1)^{M} - 1 \right) + 2 \cdot \left( 2 \cdot (a+1)^{M} - 1 \right) \cdot \sum_{j=0}^{k_{0}-1} \frac{s_{j}}{(a+1)^{j+1}} + 2 \cdot (a+1)^{M} \cdot \sum_{j=k_{0}}^{k_{0}+M-1} \frac{s_{j}}{(a+1)^{j+1}} = 0$$

#### <u>Remark 1</u>

If, after a number of iterations, the state vector is periodic with period M, then the symbolic sequence will also be periodic with the same period, that is,  $s \in \Sigma_{\beta}$ . Hence, this lemma gives a necessary condition for a symbolic sequence to be periodic after a number of iterations.

However,  $s_k$  is an integer in  $\{-m, \dots, -1, 0, 1, \dots, m\}$  and the periodicity of the symbolic sequence is M. So there are  $(2 \cdot m + 1)^M$  possibilities. In the following

theorem, the case of  $s_k = 0$  for  $k \ge k_0$  is discussed.

#### Theorem 1

For b = a+1 and |a+1| > 1,  $s_k = 0$  for  $k \ge k_0$  if and only if  $\exists k_0 \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \cup \{0\}$  such that  $x_1(k_0) = -x_2(k_0)$ .

#### **Proof**

For the *if* part, since b = a+1 and  $s_k = 0$  for  $k \ge k_0$ , we have:

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1(k) \\ x_2(k) \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{a+2} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} (a+1)^{k-k_0} \cdot (x_1(k_0) + x_2(k_0)) + (-1)^{k-k_0} \cdot ((a+1) \cdot x_1(k_0) - x_2(k_0)) \\ (a+1)^{k-k_0+1} \cdot (x_1(k_0) + x_2(k_0)) - (-1)^{k-k_0} \cdot ((a+1) \cdot x_1(k_0) - x_2(k_0)) \end{bmatrix}$$
(18)

Since |a+1| > 1,  $(a+1)^{k-k_0} \cdot (x_1(k_0) + x_2(k_0))$  diverges as  $k \to +\infty$  if

$$x_1(k_0) + x_2(k_0) \neq 0$$
. However, as  $s_k = 0$  for  $k \ge k_0$ , this implies that  $\begin{bmatrix} x_1(k) \\ x_2(k) \end{bmatrix} \in I^2$ 

and that  $(a+1)^{k-k_0} \cdot (x_1(k_0) + x_2(k_0))$  is bounded for  $k \ge k_0$ . Hence,  $x_1(k_0) + x_2(k_0) = 0$  and this proves the *if* part.

For the only if part, since  $x_1(k_0) = -x_2(k_0)$ , we have:

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1(k_0+1) \\ x_2(k_0+1) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -x_1(k_0) \\ f((a+1) \cdot x_1(k_0) - a \cdot x_1(k_0)) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -x_1(k_0) \\ f(x_1(k_0)) \end{bmatrix}.$$
 Since  $|x_1(k_0)| < 1$ , we have  
$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1(k_0+1) \\ x_2(k_0+1) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -x_1(k_0) \\ x_1(k_0) \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } s_{k_0} = 0.$$

Similarly, we have  $\begin{bmatrix} x_1(k_0+2) \\ x_2(k_0+2) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1(k_0) \\ -x_1(k_0) \end{bmatrix}$  and  $s_{k_0+1} = 0$ . Since

 $\begin{bmatrix} x_1(k_0+2) \\ x_2(k_0+2) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1(k_0) \\ x_2(k_0) \end{bmatrix}, \text{ we have } s_k = 0 \text{ for } k \ge k_0 \text{ and this proves the only if part.} \blacksquare$ 

# Remark 2

The eigenvalues of matrix A is -1 and a+1. Since |a+1| > 1, one of the

eigenvalues is outside the unit circle. However, the system may behave as a linear system when  $s_k = 0$  for  $k \ge k_0$ . Theorem 1 gives the necessary and sufficient condition for the nonlinear system to behave as a linear system after a number of iterations. It is interesting to note that the system may behave as a linear system after a first a number of iterations if and only if the state vector toggles between two points on a particular straight line of the phase portrait.

#### Example 1

Consider the system 
$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1(k+1) \\ x_2(k+1) \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{A} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} x_1(k) \\ x_2(k) \end{bmatrix} + \mathbf{B} \cdot s_k$$
, where  $\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ a+1 & a \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{B} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ .

$$a = 3$$
 and  $\begin{bmatrix} x_1(0) \\ x_2(0) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.9003 \\ -0.5377 \end{bmatrix}$ . Figure 1 shows the phase portrait of the system. It

can be seen from the figure that the state vector toggles between two states at the steady state on a particular straight line  $x_1 = -x_2$  of the phase portrait.



Figure 1. The phase portrait of the second order digital filter with two's complement arithmetic. The points  $\mathbf{x}(0)$ ,  $\mathbf{x}(1)$ ,  $\mathbf{x}(2)$  are as annotated, and the points with '\*' denote the 'steady states' of  $\mathbf{x}$ .

We have discussed the case when  $s_k = 0$  for  $k \ge k_0$  in theorem 1. What happens when  $s_k \ne 0$  for  $k \ge k_0$ ? We will present an interesting result in the following theorem:

#### Theorem 2

For b = a + 1 and a being an odd integer,  $\exists k_0 \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \cup \{0\}$  such that  $x_1(k_0) = x_2(k_0) = -1$  if and only if  $s_k = a$  and  $\begin{bmatrix} x_1(k) \\ x_2(k) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1(k_0) \\ x_2(k_0) \end{bmatrix}$  for  $k \ge k_0$ .

# **Proof**

For the *if* part, since 
$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1(k_0+1) \\ x_2(k_0+1) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_2(k_0) \\ f((a+1) \cdot x_1(k_0) + a \cdot x_2(k_0)) \end{bmatrix}$$
, if  $\exists k_0 \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \cup \{0\}$ 

such that  $x_1(k_0) = x_2(k_0) = -1$ , then we have  $\begin{bmatrix} x_1(k_0+1) \\ x_2(k_0+1) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ f(-(2 \cdot a+1)) \end{bmatrix}$ . Since a

is an odd integer, we have 
$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1(k_0+1) \\ x_2(k_0+1) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$
 and  $s_{k_0} = a$ . As

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1(k_0+1) \\ x_2(k_0+1) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1(k_0) \\ x_2(k_0) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ we have } s_k = a \text{ and } x_1(k) = x_2(k) = -1 \text{ for } k \ge k_0.$$

For the only if part, since 
$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1(k_0+1) \\ x_2(k_0+1) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_2(k_0) \\ f((a+1) \cdot x_1(k_0) + a \cdot x_2(k_0)) \end{bmatrix}$$
, if

$$x_1(k) = x_1(k_0)$$
 and  $x_2(k) = x_2(k_0)$  for  $k \ge k_0$ , then we have

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1(k_0) \\ x_2(k_0) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_2(k_0) \\ f((a+1) \cdot x_1(k_0) + a \cdot x_2(k_0)) \end{bmatrix} , \text{ which implies } x_1(k_0) = x_2(k_0) \text{ and}$$

$$x_2(k_0) = f((a+1) \cdot x_1(k_0) + a \cdot x_2(k_0))$$
. Since  $s_k = a$  for  $k \ge k_0$ , we have  
 $x_1(k_0) = (a+1) \cdot x_1(k_0) + a \cdot x_1(k_0) + 2 \cdot a$ , which implies  $2 \cdot a \cdot (x_1(k_0) + 1) = 0$ . As *a* is an odd integer, so  $a \ne 0$ . As a result, we have  $x_1(k_0) = -1$  and we prove the *only if* part.

#### Remark 3

Theorem 2 states the necessary and sufficient condition for the state vector to stay at a fixed point after a number of iterations when the parameter a is an odd integer. It is interesting to note that this fixed point is (-1,-1).

## Example 2

Consider the system 
$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1(k+1) \\ x_2(k+1) \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{A} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} x_1(k) \\ x_2(k) \end{bmatrix} + \mathbf{B} \cdot s_k$$
, where  $\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ a+1 & a \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{B} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ 

$$a = 3$$
 and  $\begin{bmatrix} x_1(0) \\ x_2(0) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.1875 \\ -0.25 \end{bmatrix}$ . Figure 2 shows the phase portrait of the system. It can

be seen from the figure that the state vector converges to a fixed point





# Remark 4

The above results are obtained when b = a + 1. What happens when b = -a + 1? We can show that results similar to lemma 1 and theorem 1 can be obtained as lemma 2

and theorem 3, while the results of theorem 2 can be modified to that of theorem 4.

#### Remark 5

Since one of the eigenvalues is unstable, one may predict that the periodic orbits are unstable. However, a counter-intuitive result is found that the periodic orbits are stable if a is an odd integer. The result is stated in observation 1 below:

#### **Observation 1**

When b = a+1 and *a* is an odd integer, the state vector toggles between two states at the steady state on a particular straight line  $x_1 = -x_2$  of the phase portrait or converges to a fixed point  $\mathbf{x}^* = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$  for all the initial conditions in  $I^2$ .

To demonstrate this phenomenon, a random initial condition  $\mathbf{x}(0)$  is generated in  $I^2$ , it can be shown in figure 3a that the state converges to a period-2 signal.



Figure 3a. The phase portrait of the second order digital filter with two's complement arithmetic. The initial condition  $\mathbf{x}(0)=[0.7826\ 0.5242]^{T}$  is generated randomly. When *a*=5 and *b*=6, the state converges to a period-2 signal.

However, when *a* deviates from an odd integer a little bit, the state neither converges to a periodic signal nor a fixed point, as shown in figure 3b.



Figure 3b. The phase portrait of the second order digital filter with two's complement arithmetic. The initial condition is  $\mathbf{x}(0)=[0.8 - 0.7999]^{T}$ , a=3.001 and b=4.001, the state neither converges to a periodic signal nor a fixed point.

## Lemma 2

For 
$$b = -a+1$$
, if  $\exists M \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  such that  $\begin{bmatrix} x_1(k) \\ x_2(k) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1(k+M) \\ x_2(k+M) \end{bmatrix}$  for  $k \ge k_0$ , then  
 $(1-(a-1)^M) \cdot (x_1(0)-x_2(0)-2 \cdot \sum_{j=0}^{k_0-1} \frac{s_j}{(a-1)^{j+1}}) + 2 \cdot \sum_{j=k_0}^{k_0+M-1} (a+1)^{M-j-1} \cdot s_j = 0.$ 

## Theorem 3

For b = -a+1 and |a-1| > 1,  $s_k = 0$  for  $k \ge k_0$  if and only if  $\exists k_0 \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \cup \{0\}$  such that  $x_1(k_0) = x_2(k_0)$ .

## Example 3

Consider the system 
$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1(k+1) \\ x_2(k+1) \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{A} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} x_1(k) \\ x_2(k) \end{bmatrix} + \mathbf{B} \cdot s_k$$
, where  $\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -a+1 & a \end{bmatrix}$ .

$$\mathbf{B} = \begin{bmatrix} 0\\2 \end{bmatrix}, \ a = 3 \text{ and } \begin{bmatrix} x_1(0)\\x_2(0) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -0.1875\\-0.1234 \end{bmatrix}.$$
 Figure 4 shows the phase portrait of the

system. It can be seen from the figure that the state vector converges to a fixed point on a particular straight line  $x_1 = x_2$  of the phase portrait.



Figure 4. The phase portrait of the second order digital filter with two's complement arithmetic. The points  $\mathbf{x}(0)$ ,  $\mathbf{x}(1)$ ,  $\mathbf{x}(2)$  are as annotated, and the point with '\*' denotes the 'steady state' of  $\mathbf{x}$ .

#### Theorem 4

For b = -a+1 and a being an odd integer, there does not exist  $k_0 \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  such that

 $s_k = a$  for  $k \ge k_0$ .

#### **Proof**

Since 
$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1(k) \\ x_2(k) \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{A}^{k-k_0} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} x_1(k_0) \\ x_2(k_0) \end{bmatrix} + \sum_{j=k_0}^{k-1} \mathbf{A}^{k-1-j} \cdot \mathbf{B} \cdot s_j$$
 for  $k > k_0$ , if  $s_k = a$  for  $k \ge k_0$ ,

we have:

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1(k) \\ x_2(k) \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{a-2} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} (a-1)^{k-k_0} \cdot \left( x_2(k_0) - x_1(k_0) - \frac{2 \cdot a}{2-a} \right) + (a-1) \cdot x_1(k_0) - x_2(k_0) + \frac{2 \cdot a}{2-a} - 2 \cdot a \cdot (k-k_0) \\ (a-1)^{k-k_0+1} \cdot \left( x_2(k_0) - x_1(k_0) - \frac{2 \cdot a}{2-a} \right) + (a-1) \cdot x_1(k_0) - x_2(k_0) + \frac{2 \cdot a \cdot (a-1)}{2-a} - 2 \cdot a \cdot (k-k_0) \end{bmatrix}$$
(19)

As 
$$k \to +\infty$$
,  $k - k_0 \to +\infty$ , so  $\lim_{k \to +\infty} \begin{bmatrix} x_1(k) \\ x_2(k) \end{bmatrix} \notin I^2$ . Hence, there does not exist

 $k_0 \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  such that  $s_k = a$  for  $k \ge k_0$ , and this proves the theorem.

#### Example 4

Consider the system 
$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1(k+1) \\ x_2(k+1) \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{A} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} x_1(k) \\ x_2(k) \end{bmatrix} + \mathbf{B} \cdot s_k$$
, where  $\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -a+1 & a \end{bmatrix}$ ,

 $\mathbf{B} = \begin{bmatrix} 0\\2 \end{bmatrix}, \ a = 3 \text{ and } \begin{bmatrix} x_1(0)\\x_2(0) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.7826\\0.5242 \end{bmatrix}.$  Figure 5 shows the phase portrait of the

system.



Figure 5. The phase portrait of the second order digital filter with two's complement arithmetic. The points  $\mathbf{x}(0)$ ,  $\mathbf{x}(1)$ ,  $\mathbf{x}(2)$  are as annotated, and the point with '\*' denotes the 'steady state' of  $\mathbf{x}$ .

#### **Observation 2**

When b = -a+1 and *a* is an odd integer, the state vector converges to a fixed point on a particular straight line  $x_1 = x_2$  of the phase portrait for all the initial conditions in  $I^2$ .



To demonstrate this phenomenon, a random initial condition  $\mathbf{x}(0)$  is generated in

 $I^2$ , it can be shown in figure 6a that the state converges to a fixed point.

Figure 6a. The phase portrait of the second order digital filter with two's complement arithmetic. The initial condition is  $\mathbf{x}(0)=[-0.1886\ 0.87909]^{T}$ , a=5 and b=-4, the state converges to a fixed point.

However, when a deviates from an odd integer a little bit, the state does not converge to a fixed point, as shown in figure 6b.



Figure 6b. The phase portrait of the second order digital filter with two's complement arithmetic. The initial condition is  $\mathbf{x}(0)=[0.5\ 0.5001]^{\mathrm{T}}$ , a=5.01 and b=-4.01, the state does not converge to a fixed point.

#### 4. CONCLUSIONS

In this article, some interesting behaviors of second-order digital filters with two's complement arithmetic are explored. The cases of b = a+1 and b = -a+1 are analyzed and some necessary conditions for the symbolic sequences to be periodic after a number of iterations are given. The necessary and sufficient conditions for the system to behave as a linear system after a number of iterations and the state vector to toggle among several states or converge to a fixed point are given.

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