

## ONE-RELATION LANGUAGES AND CODE GENERATORS

VINH DUC TRAN<sup>1,\*</sup> AND IGOR LITOVSKY<sup>2</sup>

**Abstract.** We investigate the open problem to characterize whether the infinite power of a given language is generated by an  $\omega$ -code. In case the given language is a code (*i.e.* zero-relation language), the problem was solved. In this work, we solve the problem for the class of one-relation languages.

**Mathematics Subject Classification.** 68Q45, 68R15.

Received March 9, 2020. Accepted March 19, 2021.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

In this paper, we deal with the infinite power ( $\omega$ -power) of languages. The infinite power of  $L$  denoted by  $L^\omega$ , is the set of infinite concatenations of words in  $L$ . A language  $L$  having the property that any infinite word ( $\omega$ -word) of  $L^\omega$  has a unique infinite factorization in words in  $L$  is called an  $\omega$ -code [12], thus  $\omega$ -codes are for infinite concatenation, like usual codes for concatenation. Of course  $\omega$ -codes are codes, but the converse does not hold. We investigate the open problem to characterize languages  $L$  such that  $L^\omega = G^\omega$  for some code or  $\omega$ -code  $G$ . See [4, 5, 8] for partial answers and various approaches. This question is still open even if the language  $L$  is a finite language.

Given a language  $L$ , there does not always exist a greatest language  $M$  such that  $L^\omega = M^\omega$ , however it is “often” the case, if  $L$  is a finite language, for example. Whenever such a greatest  $\omega$ -generator  $M$  exists,  $M$  is a semigroup. We know [5] that if this greatest  $\omega$ -generator is a free semigroup, that is if  $M = L^+$  for some code  $L$ , then  $L^\omega = C^\omega$  for some  $\omega$ -code  $C$  if and only if the language  $L$  itself is an  $\omega$ -code. This means that whenever the greatest  $\omega$ -generator is a free semigroup, that is for the class of zero-relation languages, the problem is already solved. So we consider in this paper, a new class of languages, called *one-relation languages*.

For each language  $L = \{u_0, u_1, u_2, \dots\} \subseteq A^+$ , we consider the alphabet  $\Sigma = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$  which is a labelling of  $L$ , and two words  $m, m'$  in  $\Sigma^+ \cup \Sigma^\omega$  are *equivalent*, denoted by  $m \cong m'$ , if the corresponding words in  $A^+ \cup A^\omega$  are equal. Thus  $L$  is a code if and only if the previous equivalence relation is the identity in  $\Sigma^+$ , and  $L$  is an  $\omega$ -code if and only if the previous equivalence relation is the identity in  $\Sigma^\omega$ . Here we consider languages  $L$  having *only one* relation  $m \cong m'$  with  $m \neq m'$ . Of course, if  $m \cong m'$ , then  $m_1 m m_2 \cong m_1 m' m_2$ , for any word  $m_1$  and  $m_2$  (more precisely the relation  $\cong$  is a congruence relation), and if  $xu^n z \cong yv^n t$  for each integer  $n$ , then  $xu^\omega \cong yv^\omega$  (more precisely the relation  $\cong$  is closed by adherence). We say that  $L$  is a *one-relation language* where  $m \cong m'$  is the *basic relation*, if there is “not any other” relation, that is all relations are

---

*Keywords and phrases:* Formal languages, infinite words,  $\omega$ -generators, code,  $\omega$ -code.

<sup>1</sup> Hanoi University of Science and Technology, Vietnam.

<sup>2</sup> Université de Nice - Sophia Antipolis, Laboratoire I3S, B.P. 145, 06903 Sophia Antipolis Cedex, France.

\* Corresponding author: [ductv@soict.hust.edu.vn](mailto:ductv@soict.hust.edu.vn)

obtained by finite applications of the rewriting rule  $m \rightarrow m'$  or by closure by adherence. So we can see the class of one-relation languages as the simplest class after the class of codes.

The purpose of this paper is to prove the two following results.

**Theorem 1.1.** *Let  $L$  be a one-relation language such that  $L^+$  is the greatest generator of  $L^\omega$ . Then  $L^\omega$  has no finite code generator.*

**Theorem 1.2.** *Let  $L$  be a one-relation language such that  $L^+$  is the greatest generator of  $L^\omega$ . Then  $L^\omega$  has a code generator if and only if the basic relation  $u \cong v$  of  $L$  is one of the following forms:*

- (i)  $u = 0^n w 2$  and  $v = 10^n$  with  $w \in \Sigma^*$  and  $n \geq 1$ ;
- (ii)  $u = 0^n 2$  and  $v = 10^m 0^n$  with  $m \geq 1$  and  $n \geq 1$ ;
- (iii)  $u = 0 w 2$  and  $v = 1^k 0$  with  $w \in \Sigma^*$  and  $k \geq 2$ ;
- (iv)  $u = 0 2$  and  $v = (10^m)^k 0$  with  $k \geq 2$  and  $m \geq 1$ .

Moreover,  $L^\omega$  has an  $\omega$ -code generator if and only if the basic relation is one of forms (i) or (ii).

The paper is structured as follows. Section 2 contains the preliminaries. In Section 3, we give the definition of one-relation language and useful lemmas. In Section 4, we consider some basic results needed in later proofs. Section 5 is devoted to prove Theorem 1.1. Sections 6 and 7 are devoted to prove Theorem 1.2.

## 2. PRELIMINARIES

Let  $A$  be an alphabet and  $A^*$  (resp.  $A^\omega$ ) is the set of all finite (resp. infinite or  $\omega$ ) words. The empty word is denoted by  $\varepsilon$  and  $A^+$  denotes  $A^* \setminus \{\varepsilon\}$ . Let  $x \in A^*$ , we denote by  $|x|$  the length of  $x$ . The subsets of  $A^*$  (resp.  $A^\omega$ ) are called languages (resp.  $\omega$ -languages).

We denote by  $A^\infty = A^* \cup A^\omega$  the set of finite or infinite words. We make  $A^\infty$  a monoid equipping it with the product defined as:

$$xy = \begin{cases} x, & \text{if } x \in A^\omega, y \in A^\infty \\ xy, & \text{if } x \in A^*, y \in A^\infty \end{cases}$$

for any words  $x, y \in A^\infty$ . Clearly, the empty word  $\varepsilon$  is the identity element of  $A^\infty$ .

A word  $x \in A^\infty$  is called a prefix (resp. factor) of a word  $y \in A^\infty$  if  $y \in xA^\infty$  (resp.  $y \in A^*xA^\infty$ ); and a word  $x \in A^\infty$  is suffix of a word or  $\omega$ -word  $y$  if  $y \in A^*x$ . The language  $\text{Pref}(x)$  is the set of all prefixes of  $x$ . Let  $X \subseteq A^\infty$ , we define  $\text{Pref}(X) = \bigcup_{x \in X} \text{Pref}(x)$ . In a similar manner we define  $\text{Fact}(X)$  and  $\text{Suff}(X)$  for the set of factors and of suffixes.

A word  $x \in A^+$  is called *primitive* if  $x = y^n$  for  $y \in A^+$  implies  $n = 1$ . For a word  $x \in A^+$ , the shortest  $y \in A^+$  such that  $x = y^n$  for some  $n \geq 1$  is called *primitive root* of  $x$  and is denoted by  $\rho(x)$ .

Now we formulate, in the form of lemmas, several facts which are useful in the sequel.

**Lemma 2.1** (see [10]). *Let  $x \in A^+$  and  $y, z \in A^*$ . If we have  $xz = yx$ , then there exist two words  $\alpha, \beta$  and a positive integer  $k$  such that  $x = (\alpha\beta)^k\alpha$ ,  $y = \alpha\beta$  and  $z = \beta\alpha$ .*

**Lemma 2.2** (see [10]). *Two words  $u, v \in A^+$  commute, that is  $uv = vu$ , if and only if they have the same primitive root.*

**Lemma 2.3** (see [1]). *Let  $x, y \in A^+$  and let  $z, t \in \{x, y\}^*$ . If  $xzy$  and  $ytx$  are both prefix or suffix of a same word, then  $x$  and  $y$  commute.*

**Lemma 2.4.** *If two words  $x, y$  satisfy the relation  $xzy = ytx$  for some  $z \in \{x, y\}^*$  and  $t \in A^*$ , then  $x$  and  $y$  commute.*

*Proof.* The proof is by induction on  $|xy|$ . If  $x = \varepsilon$  or  $y = \varepsilon$ , then  $x$  and  $y$  commute. Assume that Lemma is true for all  $x, y$  where  $|xy| < n$ . We prove it for  $|xy| = n$ . If  $|x| = |y|$  then  $x = y$ , so  $x$  and  $y$  commute. Now, as the

role played by  $x$  and  $y$  is symmetric by mirror, we can assume that  $|x| < |y|$ , and then  $x$  is a proper prefix of  $y$ , we write  $y = xx'$  with  $x' \in A^+$ . We have  $xzxx' = xx'tx$ , then  $zxx' = x'tx$ . Since  $zx \in \{x, xx'\}^*x \subset x\{x, x'\}^*$ , it follows that  $x$  is a prefix of  $zx$ . We set  $z' = x^{-1}(zx) \in \{x, x'\}^*$ . We have thus the relation  $xz'x' = x'tx$ . Moreover, if  $x \neq \varepsilon$ , then  $|xx'| < |xy|$ . By the induction hypothesis then  $x$  and  $x'$  commute. Thus  $y = xx'$  and  $x$  commute.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.5.** *Let  $x \in A^*$  and  $y, z \in A^+$ . We have  $y^\omega = xz^\omega$  if and only if there exist two positive integers  $i$  and  $j$  such that  $y^i x = xz^j$ .*

*Proof.* If  $y^\omega = xz^\omega$  then there are a positive integer  $n$  and a word  $t \in A^*$  such that  $y^n = xt$ . Therefore we have  $y^\omega = (xt)^\omega = xz^\omega$ . Thus  $(tx)^\omega = z^\omega$ . Hence there are two positive integers  $k$  and  $j$  such that  $(tx)^k = z^j$ . We have

$$x(tx)^k = xz^j.$$

As  $xt = y^n$ , we have  $y^i x = xz^j$  where  $i = nk$ .

Conversely, if there exist two positive integers  $i$  and  $j$  such that  $y^i x = xz^j$ , then we have  $y^{ni} x = xz^{nj}$  for  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ . Hence two words  $y^\omega$  and  $xz^\omega$  has an infinity of common prefixes. Thus  $y^\omega = xz^\omega$ .  $\square$

Given a language  $L \subseteq A^+$ . We define

$$L^\omega = \{u_0 u_1 \dots \mid \forall i \geq 0, u_i \in L\}$$

the language of  $\omega$ -words generated by  $L$ . An  $\omega$ -language of the form  $L^\omega$  is said to be an  $\omega$ -power. A generator of an  $\omega$ -power  $L^\omega$  is a language  $G \subseteq A^+$  such that  $G^\omega = L^\omega$ .

The following lemma is used frequently to prove the equality of two  $\omega$ -powers.

**Lemma 2.6** (see [9]). *Let  $L$  and  $R$  be languages. If  $L^\omega \subseteq RL^\omega$  then  $L^\omega \subseteq R^\omega$ .*

An  $L$ -factorization of a word  $w \in A^*$  is a finite sequence  $(w_1, \dots, w_n)$  of words of  $L$  such that  $w = w_1 \dots w_n$ . An  $L$ -factorization of an  $\omega$ -word  $w \in A^\omega$  is an infinite sequence  $(w_1, w_2, \dots)$  of words of  $L$  such that  $w = w_1 w_2 \dots$ .

A language  $C \subseteq A^+$  is a *code* (resp.  $\omega$ -code) if any word in  $A^*$  (resp. any  $\omega$ -word in  $A^\omega$ ) has at most one  $C$ -factorization.

We now present a characterization of codes based on the factorizations of infinite periodic words.

**Proposition 2.7** (see [2]). *Let  $C \subseteq A^+$  be a language. Then  $C$  is a code if and only if for every  $u \in C^+$ ,  $u^\omega$  has a single  $C$ -factorization.*

### 3. ONE-RELATION LANGUAGES

Given a language  $L$  in  $A^*$ . Let  $\Sigma$  be an alphabet with the same cardinality as  $L$ . A one-to-one mapping from  $\Sigma$  onto  $L$  is called a labelling of  $L$ , denoted as  $\tilde{\cdot} : \Sigma \rightarrow L$ . This mapping is extended in the canonical morphism from  $(\Sigma^\infty, \cdot)$  over  $(L^\infty, \cdot)$ , where  $\cdot$  denotes the concatenation operation. Thus each  $L$ -factorization of a word in  $A^\infty$  is presented by a word in  $\Sigma^\infty$ . By abuse of language, the subsets of  $\Sigma^\infty$  are called *languages of factorizations*. For a language  $C \subseteq \Sigma^\infty$ , we denote  $\tilde{C} = \{\tilde{x} \mid x \in C\}$ .

Let  $x$  and  $y$  two words in  $\Sigma^\infty$  such that  $\tilde{x} = \tilde{y}$ , we write  $x \cong y$  that is called a relation in  $\Sigma^\infty$ . A relation  $x \cong y$  is called *nontrivial* if  $x \neq y$ . A nontrivial relation  $x \cong y$  is called *minimal* if for all nonempty proper prefix  $x'$  of  $x$  and for all nonempty proper prefix  $y'$  of  $y$ , we have  $x' \not\cong y'$ . We denote by  $E(L)$  and  $E_{\min}(L)$  the set of nontrivial relations and minimal relations, respectively.

When the language  $L$  is finite, the sets  $E_{\min}(L)$  and  $E(L)$  can be easily computed by using domino graphs (see [3]) or finite automata (see [10], page 446). In order to compute easily with the examples, we write a program in Java to construct the domino graph of finite language. Source code is available online<sup>1</sup>.

An equivalence relation  $R$  on  $\Sigma^\infty$  is called a congruence if  $(x, y) \in R$  and  $u, v \in \Sigma^\infty$  imply  $(uxv, uyv) \in R$ .

For a pair  $(u, v) \in \Sigma^\infty \times \Sigma^\infty$ , we denote by  $\text{Pref}(u, v) = \text{Pref}(u) \times \text{Pref}(v)$ . Let  $R \subseteq \Sigma^\infty \times \Sigma^\infty$ , we define  $\text{Pref}(R) = \bigcup_{(u,v) \in R} \text{Pref}(u, v)$  and the *adherence* of  $R$  is defined by (see [11]):

$$\text{Adh}(R) = \{(x, y) \in \Sigma^\omega \times \Sigma^\omega \mid \text{Pref}(x, y) \subseteq \text{Pref}(R)\}$$

A relation  $R$  is *closed* (topologically) if  $\text{Adh}(R) \subseteq R$ .

**Proposition 3.1.** *The relation  $\cong$  is a closed congruence.*

*Proof.* According to definition, the relation  $\cong$  is a congruence. Moreover, if

$$(x, y) = (x_0x_1\dots, y_0y_1\dots) \in \text{Adh}(\cong)$$

with all  $x_i, y_i \in \Sigma$ , then  $\text{Pref}(x, y) \subseteq \text{Pref}(\cong)$ . Therefore, for all integer  $i \geq 0$ , there exist  $u_i, v_i \in \Sigma^\infty$  satisfying

$$x_0\dots x_iu_i \cong y_0\dots y_iv_i \quad \text{for all } i \geq 0.$$

Setting

$$p_i = \begin{cases} \tilde{x}_0\dots\tilde{x}_i & \text{if } |\tilde{x}_0\dots\tilde{x}_i| < |\tilde{y}_0\dots\tilde{y}_i| \\ \tilde{y}_0\dots\tilde{y}_i & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then  $\tilde{x}$  and  $\tilde{y}$  have an infinity of common prefixes:  $p_0, p_1, \dots$ . Hence we have  $\tilde{x} = \tilde{y}$ , that is  $x \cong y$ . Thus the relation  $\cong$  is closed.  $\square$

Motivated by this fact, we introduce the following notion.

**Definition 3.2.** A language  $L = L \setminus LL^+ \subseteq A^+$  is a *one-relation language* if there is a pair  $(u, v) \in \Sigma^+ \times \Sigma^+$ ,  $u \neq v$  such that  $\cong$  is the smallest closed congruence relation on  $\Sigma^\infty$  which contains  $(u, v)$ . The relation  $u \cong v$  is called the *basic* relation of  $L$ .

Regarding the words length, there is only one basic relation up to symmetry, in a given one-relation language. Furthermore, this basic relation must be minimal.

The following examples show the variety of the class of one-relation languages.

**Example 3.3.** Consider the language  $L = \{a, ab, bc, c\}$ , the alphabet  $\Sigma = \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$ , and the labelling  $\{\tilde{0} = a, \tilde{1} = ab, \tilde{2} = bc, \tilde{3} = c\}$ .  $L$  has only one minimal relation  $02 \cong 13$ . Thus the language  $L$  is a one-relation language.

**Example 3.4.** Consider the language  $L = \{a, ab, ba\}$ , the alphabet  $\Sigma = \{0, 1, 2\}$ , and the labelling  $\{\tilde{0} = a, \tilde{1} = ab, \tilde{2} = ba\}$ . The set of minimal relations of  $L$  is exactly the following system:

$$\begin{cases} 02^n \cong 1^n0 & \text{for } n = 1, 2, \dots \\ 02^\omega \cong 1^\omega \end{cases}$$

<sup>1</sup><https://github.com/tranvinhduc/dominograph>

The shortest minimal relation of  $L$  is  $02 \cong 10$ . From this relation, we get  $022 \cong 110$  by applying the rewriting rule

$$022 \cong 102 \cong 110;$$

and by applying the rewriting rule several times, we obtain

$$02^n \cong 1^n 0, \quad \text{for } n = 1, 2, \dots$$

By adherence, we get the infinitary relation  $02^\omega \cong 1^\omega$ . Thus every relations of  $L$  are obtained from this shortest relation by rewriting or by adherence. Thus  $L$  is one-relation language with the basic relation  $02 \cong 10$ .

**Example 3.5.** Consider  $L = \{a, ab, baba\}$  and the alphabet  $\Sigma = \{0, 1, 2\}$ . The set of minimal relations of  $L$  is exactly the following system:

$$\begin{cases} 02^n \cong (11)^n 0 & \text{for } n = 1, 2, \dots \\ 02^\omega \cong 1^\omega \\ 02^\omega \cong 1(11)^m 02^\omega & \text{for } m = 0, 1, \dots \end{cases}$$

We can verify that the relations  $02^n \cong (11)^n 0$  and  $02^\omega \cong 1^\omega$  are obtained from the relation  $02 \cong 110$  by rewriting or by closure by adherence. Moreover, for any  $m \geq 0$ , we have

$$02^\omega \cong 1^\omega = 1(11)^m 1^\omega \cong 1(11)^m 02^\omega.$$

Thus  $L$  is a one-relation language where the basic relation is  $02 \cong 110$ .

It is noticed that a one-relation language is not a code as the basic relation  $u \cong v$  is such that  $u$  and  $v$  are finite words. If the language  $L$  has only one relation  $w \cong w'$  with  $w, w' \in \Sigma^\omega$  such that all relations are obtained from this relation by rewriting, then  $L$  is a code. In this case, the problem was solved (see [5]).

We denote by  $\text{First}(x)$  and  $\text{Last}(x)$ , respectively, the first and the last letter of a nonempty word  $x$ .

**Lemma 3.6.** *Let  $L$  be a one-relation language. Then the basic relation of  $L$  is not in the form  $uv \cong vu$  with  $u, v \in \Sigma^*$ .*

*Proof.* Assume the contrary, that  $L$  is a one-relation language where the basic relation is  $uv \cong vu$ . By Lemma 2.2, two words  $\tilde{u}$  and  $\tilde{v}$  have the same primitive root. Thus there are two positive integers  $p$  and  $q$  such that  $u^p \cong v^q$ . By definition of the one-relation languages, the pair  $(u^p, v^q)$  is in the smallest congruence containing  $(uv, vu)$ . Thus  $u^p$  contains the factor  $uv$  or the factor  $vu$ , this mean that there are two words  $x, y \in \Sigma^*$  such that  $u^p = xvy$  or  $u^p = xvuy$ .

- If  $u^p = xvy$  then  $uu^p = uxvy = u^p u = xvyu$ . Since  $|xu| = |ux|$ , we have  $uvy = vyu$ . It follows that  $\text{First}(u) = \text{First}(v)$ , which conflicts the fact that the relation basic  $uv \cong vu$  is minimal.
- If  $u^p = xvuy$  then  $uu^p = uxvuy = u^p u = xvuy$ . Thus we have  $uxv = xv$ . It follows that  $\text{Last}(u) = \text{Last}(v)$ , which conflicts again the minimality of the basic relation  $uv \cong vu$ .

In both cases we obtain a contradiction. □

**Lemma 3.7.** *A one-relation language can not contain two words which commute.*

*Proof.* Assume the contrary, that there is a one-relation language  $L$  contains two words  $\tilde{0}$  and  $\tilde{1}$  such that  $01 \cong 10$ . Regarding the word length, the basic relation of  $L$  must be  $01 \cong 10$ , which contradicts Lemma 3.6. □

## 4. GENERATORS AND CODES

From this section to the end of this paper, we make the assumption:  $L$  is a language such that  $L^+$  is the greatest generator of  $L^\omega$  and  $L$  is in one-to-one mapping with the alphabet  $\Sigma$ .

Note that this assumption is satisfied by some interesting cases, for example the case where  $L^\omega$  is an  $\omega$ -power of a finite language (see [9] and [7]).

We denote by  $Amb_\Sigma(L)$  the set of  $\omega$ -words in  $\Sigma^\omega$  such that the images of these  $\omega$ -words in  $A^\omega$  have at least two  $L$ -factorizations. That is,

$$\begin{aligned} Amb_\Sigma(L) &= \{x \in \Sigma^\omega \mid \tilde{x} \text{ has at least two } L\text{-factorizations}\} \\ &= \{x \in \Sigma^\omega \mid \exists y \in \Sigma^\omega, x \cong y \text{ and } x \neq y\}. \end{aligned}$$

According to Proposition 2.7, the language  $L$  is a code if and only if the set  $Amb_\Sigma(L)$  has no periodic words.

**Lemma 4.1.** *Let  $C \subseteq \Sigma^+$  such that  $\tilde{C}$  is a generator of  $L^\omega$  and let  $w \in \Sigma^\omega$ . If  $w \notin Amb_\Sigma(L)$ , then  $w \in C^\omega$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $\tilde{C}$  is a generator of  $L^\omega$ , it follows that for each  $w \in \Sigma^\omega$  there is an  $\omega$ -word  $w' \in C^\omega$  such that  $w \cong w'$ . If  $w \notin Amb_\Sigma(L)$  then  $w = w'$ . So  $w \in C^\omega$ .  $\square$

A language  $P \subseteq \Sigma^+$  is a *prefix code* if no word in  $P$  is a proper prefix of another word in  $P$ .

**Lemma 4.2.** *Let  $C \subseteq \Sigma^+$  such that the language  $\tilde{C}$  is a code generator of  $L^\omega$ . Then the language  $C$  is a prefix code over  $\Sigma$ .*

*Proof.* Assume the contrary that there exist two nonempty words  $u, v \in \Sigma^+$  such that  $\{u, uv\} \subseteq C$ . Since  $\tilde{C}$  is a generator of  $L^\omega$ , there exists  $w \in C^\omega$  such that  $(vu)^\omega \cong w$ . Then  $u(vu)^\omega = (uv)^\omega \cong uw$ . As  $\tilde{u}v \neq \tilde{u}$ , the periodic word  $(\tilde{u}v)^\omega$  has two factorizations on  $\tilde{C}$ : one starts by  $\tilde{u}$  and the other by  $\tilde{u}v$ . According to Proposition 2.7,  $\tilde{C}$  is not a code.  $\square$

We say that two words  $u, v \in \Sigma^+$  are *incompatibles* if there exist  $x, y \in \Sigma^+$  such that the relation  $ux \cong vy$  is minimal.

**Remark 4.3.** By the minimality of relation  $ux \cong vy$ , two incompatible words  $u$  and  $v$  must have no common prefix.

Let  $X \subseteq \Sigma^\infty$ . We denote by  $\text{Pref}_*(x) = \text{Pref}(x) \setminus \{\varepsilon\}$ .

**Lemma 4.4.** *Let  $C \subseteq \Sigma^+$  such that  $\tilde{C}$  is a code generator of  $L^\omega$ . Let  $u$  and  $v$  be two incompatible words. Then for all  $m \in \Sigma^*$ , the set  $m\text{Pref}_*(\{u, v\}) \cap C$  is the empty set or a singleton.*

*Proof.* By Lemma 4.2, the language  $C$  is a prefix code. For each  $m \in \Sigma^*$ , each set of  $m\text{Pref}_*(u) \cap C$  and  $m\text{Pref}_*(v) \cap C$  is either the empty set or a singleton. Therefore, it is sufficient to show that  $m\text{Pref}_*(u) = \emptyset$  or  $m\text{Pref}_*(v) = \emptyset$ .

Assume the contrary that there exist  $p \in \text{Pref}_*(u)$  and  $q \in \text{Pref}_*(v)$  such that  $\{mp, mq\} \subseteq C$ . As two words  $u$  and  $v$  are incompatible, there exist  $x, y \in \Sigma^+$  such that  $px \cong qy$  is a minimal. Since  $\tilde{C}$  is a generator of  $L^\omega$ , the infinite words  $(\tilde{x})^\omega$  has a ultimately periodic  $\tilde{C}$ -factorization, that is there exist  $z \in C^*$  and  $t \in C^+$  such that  $x^\omega \cong zt^\omega$ . According to Lemma 2.5, there are  $i, j > 0$  such that  $x^iz \cong zt^j$ . Now we have

$$\begin{aligned} (mpz^j)^\omega &\cong (mpxx^{i-1}z)^\omega \\ &\cong (mqyx^{i-1}z)^\omega = mq(yx^{i-1}zmq)^\omega. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\tilde{C}$  is a generator of  $L^\omega$ , there exists  $w \in C^\omega$  such that

$$(yx^{i-1}zmq)^\omega \cong w.$$

Thus we have

$$(mpz^j)^\omega \cong (mq)w.$$

We recall that  $\tilde{C}$  is a code and that  $\{mp, mq\} \subseteq C$ . If  $\tilde{m}p \neq \tilde{p}q$  then the infinite periodic word  $(\widetilde{mpz^j})^\omega$  has two  $\tilde{C}$ -factorizations, which contradicts Proposition 2.7. If  $mp \cong mq$  then  $p \cong q$ , which contradicts the fact that  $px \cong qy$  is minimal. This completes the proof.  $\square$

Here is a corollary of Lemma 4.4.

**Corollary 4.5.** *Let  $C \subseteq \Sigma^+$  such that  $\tilde{C}$  is a code generator of  $L^\omega$ . Let  $u$  and  $v$  be two incompatible words. Then for all  $m \in \Sigma^*$ , there exists  $z \in \{u, v\}$  such that*

$$m\text{Pref}_*(z) \cap C = \emptyset.$$

*Proof.* By Lemma 4.4, we have  $m\text{Pref}_*(u) \cap C = \emptyset$  or  $m\text{Pref}_*(v) \cap C = \emptyset$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 4.6.** *Let  $(\{u_i, v_i\})_{i \geq 0}$  be an infinite sequence of pairs of incompatible words. If*

$$\text{Amb}_\Sigma(L) \cap \prod_{i=0}^{\infty} \{u_i, v_i\} = \emptyset$$

where  $\prod_{i=0}^{\infty} X_i$  represent the concatenation of languages  $X_i$ , then  $L^\omega$  has no code generator.

*Proof.* Assume that there exists  $C \subseteq \Sigma^+$  such that  $\tilde{C}$  is a code generator of  $L^\omega$ . By induction, we build an infinite sequence  $(z_i)_{i \geq 0}$  of words such that: for all  $i \geq 0$ , we have

$$\begin{cases} z_i \in \{u_i, v_i\} \\ \text{Pref}_*(z_0 \dots z_i) \cap C = \emptyset. \end{cases} \quad (4.1)$$

Indeed, according to Corollary 4.5, there exists  $z_0 \in \{u_0, v_0\}$  such that

$$\text{Pref}_*(z_0) \cap C = \emptyset.$$

Now assume that we have the sequence  $(z_0, \dots, z_{n-1})$  which verifies the condition (4.1). According to Corollary 4.5, there exists  $z_n \in \{u_n, v_n\}$  such that

$$z_0 \dots z_{n-1} \text{Pref}_*(z_n) \cap C = \emptyset$$

and by induction hypothesis we have

$$\text{Pref}_*(z_0 \dots z_{n-1}) \cap C = \emptyset.$$

Then  $z_0, \dots, z_n$  verifies the condition (4.1).

Consider the  $\omega$ -word

$$w = z_0 z_1 \dots z_n \dots \notin \text{Amb}_\Sigma(L),$$

according to Lemma 4.1, we have  $w \in C^\omega$ . However, by above construction we have  $\text{Pref}_*(w) \cap C = \emptyset$ . This is a contradiction.  $\square$

By applying Proposition 4.6 for the infinite sequence of pair of incompatible words  $(\{u, v\}, \{u, v\}, \dots)$ , we have.

**Proposition 4.7.** *Let  $u$  and  $v$  be two incompatible words. If*

$$Amb_{\Sigma}(L) \cap \{u, v\}^{\omega} = \emptyset,$$

*then  $L^{\omega}$  has no code generator.*

**Example 4.8.** Let  $L = \{a, ab, bc, c\}$  and  $\Sigma = \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$ . The language  $L$  has only one minimal relation  $02 \cong 13$ . Then  $Amb_{\Sigma}(L) = \Sigma^* \{02, 13\} \Sigma^{\omega}$ . We have

$$Amb_{\Sigma}(L) \cap \{0, 1\}^{\omega} = \emptyset.$$

As two words  $0, 1$  are incompatibles, according to Proposition 4.7,  $L^{\omega}$  has no code generator.

We say that two words  $u, v \in \Sigma^+$  are  $\infty$ -incompatibles if there exists  $x, y \in \Sigma^+ \cup \Sigma^{\omega}$  such that the relation  $ux \cong vy$  is minimal.

**Remark 4.9.** If two words  $u$  and  $v$  are incompatible, they are  $\infty$ -incompatible.

**Lemma 4.10.** *Let  $C \subseteq \Sigma^+$  such that  $\tilde{C}$  is an  $\omega$ -code generator of  $L^{\omega}$ . Let  $u$  and  $v$  be two  $\infty$ -incompatible words. Then for all  $m \in \Sigma^*$ , the set  $mPref_*(\{u, v\}) \cap C$  is the empty set or a singleton.*

*Proof.* By Lemma 4.2, the language  $C$  is a prefix code. For each  $m \in \Sigma^*$ , each set of  $mPref_*(u) \cap C$  and  $mPref_*(v) \cap C$  is either the empty set or a singleton. Therefore, it is sufficient to show that  $mPref_*(u) = \emptyset$  or  $mPref_*(v) = \emptyset$ .

Assume the contrary that there exist  $p \in Pref_*(u)$  and  $q \in Pref_*(v)$  such that  $\{mp, mq\} \subseteq C$ . As two words  $u$  and  $v$  are  $\infty$ -incompatible, there exist  $x, y \in \Sigma^{\omega}$  such that  $px \cong qy$  is a minimal relation. Then we have  $(mp)x \cong (mq)y$ . There are two cases:

- If  $\tilde{m}p \neq \tilde{m}q$ , then  $\tilde{C}$  is not an  $\omega$ -code generator of  $L^{\omega}$ ;
- If  $\tilde{m}p = \tilde{m}q$ , that is  $mp \cong mq$ , then  $p \cong q$  which contradicts the minimality of the relation  $px \cong qy$ .

In both cases we obtain a contradiction. □

The proof of following results is similar to the case of incompatible words.

**Proposition 4.11.** *Let  $(\{u_i, v_i\})_{i \geq 0}$  be an infinite sequence of pairs of  $\infty$ -incompatible words. If*

$$Amb_{\Sigma}(L) \cap \prod_{i=0}^{\infty} \{u_i, v_i\} = \emptyset$$

*then  $L^{\omega}$  has no  $\omega$ -code generator.*

**Proposition 4.12.** *Let  $u$  and  $v$  be two  $\infty$ -incompatible words. If*

$$Amb_{\Sigma}(L) \cap \{u, v\}^{\omega} = \emptyset,$$

*then  $L^{\omega}$  has no  $\omega$ -code generator.*

**Example 4.13.** Let  $L = \{a, ab, b^2\}$  be a suffix code and  $\Sigma = \{0, 1, 2\}$ . The language  $L$  has only one minimal relation  $02^{\omega} \cong 12^{\omega}$ . Thus  $Amb_{\Sigma}(L) = \Sigma^* \{02^{\omega}, 12^{\omega}\}$ . We have therefore  $Amb_{\Sigma}(L) \cap \{0, 1\}^{\omega} = \emptyset$ . According to Proposition 4.12, the  $\omega$ -language  $L^{\omega}$  has no  $\omega$ -code generator.



## 5. PROOF OF THEOREM 1.1

Recall that  $L$  is a one-relation language with the basic relation  $u \cong v$ . Assume that there exists  $C \subseteq \Sigma^+$  such that  $\tilde{C}$  is an  $\omega$ -code generator of  $L^\omega$ . According to Theorem 1.2, we consider two cases:

*Case 1* (covers forms **i** and **iii** in Thm. 1.2):  $u = 0^n w 2$  and  $v = 1^k 0^n$  where  $w \in \Sigma^*$  and  $k, n \geq 1$ . Since  $0^\omega \notin \text{Amb}_\Sigma(L)$ , there exists an integer  $\ell \geq 0$  such that

$$0^\ell 0 \in C \quad (5.1)$$

It follows from the basic relation  $0^n w 2 \cong 1^k 0^n$  that

$$0^n (w 2)^j \cong 1^{kj} 0^n \quad \text{for } j = 1, 2, \dots$$

Thus for each  $j \geq 1$ , two words  $0$  and  $1^j$  are incompatible. Combining Lemma 4.4 and (5.1) gives

$$0^\ell \text{Pref}_* (\{0, 1^\omega\}) \cap C = 0^\ell 0.$$

Then

$$\text{Pref}_* (0^\ell 1^\omega) \cap C = \emptyset. \quad (5.2)$$

We show that  $1$  is not a prefix of  $w$ . Assume the contrary that  $w = 1w'$  for some  $w' \in \Sigma^*$ . Thus  $\widetilde{0^n 1}$  and  $\widetilde{1^k 0}$  are both prefix of  $\widetilde{1^k 0^n}$ . According to Lemma 2.3, two words  $\tilde{0}$  and  $\tilde{1}$  commute, which contradicts Lemma 3.7. Thus we have

$$0^\ell 1^{+2^\omega} \cap \text{Amb}_\Sigma(L) = \emptyset.$$

It follows from Lemma 4.1 and (5.2) that for each integer  $p > 0$ , there exists an integer  $q > 0$  such that  $0^\ell 1^p 2^q \in C$ . Consequently,  $\tilde{C}$  is infinite.

*Case 2* (covers forms **ii** and **iv** in Thm. 1.2):  $u = 0^n 2$  and  $v = (10^m)^k 0^n$  where  $k, m, n \geq 1$ . Since  $0^\omega \notin \text{Amb}_\Sigma(L)$ , there exists an integer  $\ell \geq 0$  such that

$$0^\ell 0 \in C \quad (5.3)$$

It follows from the basic relation  $0^n 2 \cong (10^m)^k 0^n$  that

$$0^n 2^j \cong (10^m)^{kj} 0^n \quad \text{for } j = 1, 2, \dots$$

Thus for each word  $x \in \text{Pref}_*((10^m)^\omega)$ , the words  $0$  and  $x$  are incompatible. Combining Lemma 4.4 and (5.3), gives

$$0^\ell \text{Pref}_* (\{0, (10^m)^\omega\}) \cap C = 0^\ell 0.$$

Then

$$\text{Pref}_* (0^\ell (10^m)^\omega) \cap C = \emptyset. \quad (5.4)$$

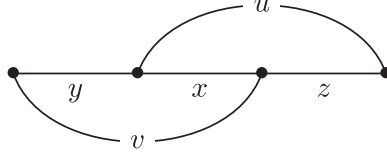


FIGURE 1.  $x \in \text{OVL}(u, v)$  and  $(y, z) \in \text{Border}(u, v)$ .

Since  $m \geq 1$ , we get

$$0^\ell(10^m)^+1^\omega \cap \text{Amb}_\Sigma(L) = \emptyset.$$

It follows from Lemma 4.1 and (5.4) that for each integer  $p > 0$ , there exists an integer  $q > 1$  such that  $0^\ell(10^m)^p1^q \in C$ . Consequently,  $\tilde{C}$  is infinite.

## 6. TECHNICAL LEMMAS

In this section, we establish the technical lemmas which we need to prove Theorem 1.2 in the following section.

Let  $u$  and  $v$  be two non-empty words. We denote by  $\text{OVL}(u, v)$  the set of overlapping words of the words  $u$  with the word  $v$  :

$$\text{OVL}(u, v) = \{x \in \Sigma^+ \mid u = xz, v = yx \text{ for some } y, z \in \Sigma^+\}.$$

A pair  $(y, z) \in \Sigma^+ \times \Sigma^+$  is a *border* of the pair of words  $(u, v)$  if there is a word  $x \in \text{OVL}(u, v)$  such that

$$u = xz \quad \text{and} \quad v = yx.$$

We denote by  $\text{Border}(u, v)$  the set of borders of the pair  $(u, v)$ . This is illustrated in Figure 1.

Note that these notations are not symmetric.

**Example 6.1.** Let  $u = 0102$  and  $v = 1010$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{OVL}(u, v) &= \{010, 0\}, & \text{Border}(u, v) &= \{(1, 2), (101, 102)\}, \\ \text{OVL}(v, u) &= \emptyset, & \text{Border}(v, u) &= \emptyset. \end{aligned}$$

**Lemma 6.2.** *Let  $L$  be a one-relation language where  $u \cong v$  is the basic relation. The set of relations of  $L$  is exactly  $M^\#$  where  $M^\#$  is the smallest congruence containing*

$$M = (\varepsilon, u) \cdot B^* \cdot (v, \varepsilon) \cup (\varepsilon, u) \cdot B^\omega,$$

with

$$B = \bigcup_{(x,y) \in \{u,v\}^2} \text{Border}(x, y).$$

*Proof.* First, we show the inclusion  $M^\# \subseteq \cong$ . If  $B = \emptyset$ , the proof is immediate. Assume that  $B \neq \emptyset$ . We show that for each  $(y, z) \in B$ , we have

$$uz \cong yv. \tag{6.1}$$

We verify (6.1) in four cases:

- (1) If  $(y, z) \in \text{Border}(u, u)$ . By definition, there exists  $x \in \Sigma^+$  such that  $u = yx = xz$ . We have thus  $uz = yxz = yu \cong yv$ .
- (2) If  $(y, z) \in \text{Border}(u, v)$ . By definition, there exists  $x \in \Sigma^+$  such that  $v = yx$  and  $u = xz$ . We have thus  $uz \cong vz = yxz = yu \cong yv$ .
- (3) If  $(y, z) \in \text{Border}(v, u)$ . By definition, there exists  $x \in \Sigma^+$  such that  $u = yx$  and  $v = xz$ . We have thus  $uz = yxz = yv$ .
- (4) If  $(y, z) \in \text{Border}(v, v)$ . By definition, there exists  $x \in \Sigma^+$  such that  $v = yx = xz$ . We have thus  $uz \cong vz = yxz = yv$ .

Now we consider an infinite sequence of borders in  $B$ :

$$(y_1, z_1), (y_2, z_2), \dots$$

By (6.1), we have  $uz_i \cong y_i v$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots$ . Thus for any positive integer  $n$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} (uz_1)z_2 \dots z_n &\cong (y_1 v)z_2 z_3 \dots z_n \\ &\cong (y_1 u)z_2 z_3 \dots z_n = y_1 (uz_2)z_3 \dots z_n \\ &\vdots \\ &\cong y_1 \dots y_{n-1} y_n v. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\cong$  is closed (by adherence), we obtain

$$uz_1 z_2 \dots \cong y_1 y_2 \dots$$

Thus  $M \subseteq \cong$ . Since  $\cong$  is a congruence, we have  $M^\# \subseteq \cong$ .

Now we show  $\cong \subseteq M^\#$ . It is clear that the congruence  $M^\#$  is closed. As  $(u, v) \in M^\#$ , by definition of one-relation language, we have the inclusion.  $\square$

We denote by  $\text{LB}(u, v)$  the first projection of  $\text{Border}(u, v)$ . By Lemma 6.2, we have

**Lemma 6.3.** *Let  $L$  be a one-relation language where the basic relation is  $u \cong v$ . We have*

$$\text{Amb}_\Sigma(L) = \Sigma^* \{u, v\} \Sigma^\omega \cup \Sigma^* \left( \text{LB}(u, u) \cup \text{LB}(v, v) \cup \text{LB}(u, v) \cup \text{LB}(v, u) \right)^\omega.$$

If  $\text{OVL}(u, v) \neq \emptyset$  then  $\text{OVL}(u, v)$  has a unique greatest (by the length) element which will denote by  $O_{u,v}$ , and  $\text{LB}(u, v)$  has a unique smallest element which will denote by  $b_{u,v}$ . We have thus

$$v = b_{u,v} O_{u,v}.$$

**Example 6.4.** Let  $u = 0102$  and  $v = 1010$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{OVL}(u, v) &= \{010, 0\}, & \text{LB}(u, v) &= \{1, 101\}, \\ O_{u,v} &= 010, & b_{u,v} &= 1. \end{aligned}$$

For a word  $u \in \Sigma^\infty$ , we denote by  $\text{Alph}(u)$  the set of letters of  $\Sigma$  appearing in  $u$ .

**Lemma 6.5.** *Let  $u \in \Sigma^+$ . For any  $y \in \text{LB}(u, u)$ , we have  $\text{Alph}(y) = \text{Alph}(u)$ .*

*Proof.* For any  $y \in \text{LB}(u, u)$ , there exist two non-empty word  $x$  and  $z$  such that  $u = xz = yx$ . By Lemma 2.1, there exist two words  $\alpha, \beta$  and an integer  $k$  such that  $x = (\alpha\beta)^k\alpha$ ,  $y = \alpha\beta$ , and  $z = \beta\alpha$ . Thus  $\text{Alph}(u) = \text{Alph}(\alpha\beta) = \text{Alph}(y)$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 6.6.** *For any word  $u \in \Sigma^+$ , we have  $(\text{LB}(u, u))^\omega \subseteq u\Sigma^\omega$ .*

*Proof.* If  $\text{LB}(u, u) = \emptyset$ , the claim is trivial. Assume  $\text{LB}(u, u) \neq \emptyset$ . By 6.1, for any  $y \in \text{LB}(u, u)$ , there exists a word  $z$  such that  $uz = yu$ . By induction, for any sequence  $y_1, y_2, \dots \in \text{LB}(u, u)$ , there are  $z_1, z_2, \dots$  such that

$$y_1 y_2 \dots y_n u = u z_1 z_2 \dots z_n, \quad \text{for } n = 1, 2, \dots$$

By adhrrence, we have

$$y_1 y_2 \dots = u z_1 z_2 \dots$$

Thus  $(\text{LB}(u, u))^\omega \subseteq u\Sigma^\omega$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 6.7.** *Let  $u, v \in \Sigma^+$ . If  $\text{OVL}(u, v) \neq \emptyset$  then for any  $w \in \text{LB}(u, v) \setminus \{b_{u,v}\}$ , we have  $\text{Alph}(w) = \text{Alph}(v)$ .*

*Proof.* By definition, we have

$$\text{OVL}(u, v) = \{O_{u,v}\} \cup \text{OVL}(O_{u,v}, O_{u,v}).$$

Thus

$$\text{LB}(u, v) = \{b_{u,v}\} \cup \{b_{u,v}\}\text{LB}(O_{u,v}, O_{u,v}).$$

By Lemma 6.5, for any  $y \in \text{LB}(O_{u,v}, O_{u,v})$ , we have  $\text{Alph}(y) = \text{Alph}(O_{u,v})$ ; we obtain thus

$$\text{Alph}(b_{u,v}y) = \text{Alph}(b_{u,v}O_{u,v}) = \text{Alph}(u),$$

which completes the proof.  $\square$

**Lemma 6.8.** *Let  $0, 1$  be two distinct letters and let  $x$  be a word. Then*

$$x0 \notin \text{Fact}(\{x1, 1\}^\omega).$$

*Proof.* We denote by  $|x|_1$  the number of letters  $1$  in  $x$ . Let  $y \in \text{Fact}(\{x1, 1\}^\omega)$  and  $|y| = |x| + 1$ , we have  $|y|_1 > |x|_1 = |x0|_1$ . Thus  $x0 \notin \text{Fact}(\{x1, 1\}^\omega)$ .  $\square$

## 7. PROOF OF THEOREM 1.2

Recall that  $L$  is a one-relation language where the basic relation is  $u \cong v$ . We set  $0 = \text{First}(u)$  and  $1 = \text{First}(v)$ . Two letters  $0$  and  $1$  are distinct because the relation  $u \cong v$  is minimal. Since the roles of  $u$  and  $v$  are symmetric, we consider three cases.

### 7.1. When $\text{OVL}(u, v) = \emptyset$ and $\text{OVL}(v, u) = \emptyset$

We prove that  $L^\omega$  has no code generator in this case. Indeed, we have  $\text{LB}(u, v) = \text{LB}(v, u) = \emptyset$ . By Lemma 6.3, we have

$$\text{Amb}_\Sigma(L) = \Sigma^* \{u, v\} \Sigma^\omega \cup \Sigma^* (\text{LB}(u, u) \cup \text{LB}(v, v))^\omega. \quad (7.1)$$

As the roles of  $u$  and  $v$  are symmetric, we consider three cases.

*Case 1:*  $u \notin \{0, 1\}^+$  and  $v \notin \{0, 1\}^+$ .

By Lemma 6.5, we have

$$\text{LB}(u, u) \cap \{0, 1\}^+ = \emptyset \quad \text{and} \quad \text{LB}(v, v) \cap \{0, 1\}^+ = \emptyset.$$

By (7.1), we have  $\text{Amb}_\Sigma(L) \cap \{0, 1\}^\omega = \emptyset$ . Since two words 0 and 1 are incompatible, it follows from Proposition 4.7 that  $L^\omega$  has no code generator.

*Case 2:*  $u \in \{0, 1\}^+$  and  $v \notin \{0, 1\}^+$ .

By (7.1) we have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Amb}_\Sigma(L) \cap \{0, 1\}^\omega &= \{0, 1\}^* u \{0, 1\}^\omega \cup \{0, 1\}^* (\text{LB}(u, u))^\omega \\ &= \{0, 1\}^* u \{0, 1\}^\omega \end{aligned} \quad (\text{by Lem. 6.6})$$

Since  $\text{OVL}(v, u) = \emptyset$  and  $\text{First}(v) = 1$ , we have  $\text{Last}(u) = 0$ . Because  $|u| > 1$ , we can write  $u = 0z0$  with  $z \in \{0, 1\}^*$ . The basic relation becomes  $0z0 \cong v$ . Then we have

$$0zv \cong 0z0z0 \cong vz0.$$

Since  $\text{First}(v) = 1$ , it follows that two words  $0z1$  and  $1$  are incompatible. By Lemma 6.8, we have

$$u = 0z0 \notin \text{Fact}(\{0z1, 1\}^\omega).$$

Thus  $\text{Amb}_\Sigma(L) \cap \{0z1, 1\}^\omega = \emptyset$ . By the Proposition 4.7,  $L^\omega$  has no code generator.

*Case 3:*  $u \in \{0, 1\}^+$  and  $v \in \{0, 1\}^+$ .

By Lemma 2.4, two words  $\tilde{0}$  and  $\tilde{1}$  commute. This contradicts Lemma 3.7.

**Example 7.1.** The following languages show that there exist one-relation languages where their basic relations as in Case 1 and Case 2.

1. Let  $L = \{a, ab, bc, c\}$  and  $\Sigma = \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$ . The language  $L$  is a one-relation language where  $02 \cong 13$  is the basic relation.
2. Let  $H = \{ab, aba, b\}$  and  $\Sigma = \{0, 1, 2\}$ . The language  $H$  is a one-relation language where the basic relation is  $00 \cong 12$ .

## 7.2. When $\text{OVL}(u, v) \neq \emptyset$ and $\text{OVL}(v, u) \neq \emptyset$

We prove that  $L^\omega$  has no code generator in this case. The situations are illustrated in Figure 2.

We first prove that

$$|u| > |O_{u,v}| + |O_{v,u}| \quad \text{and} \quad |v| > |O_{u,v}| + |O_{v,u}|. \quad (7.2)$$

Conversely (to obtain a contradiction), suppose  $|u| \leq |O_{u,v}| + |O_{v,u}|$ . Since  $|\tilde{u}| = |\tilde{v}|$ , it follows that  $|v| \leq |O_{u,v}| + |O_{v,u}|$ . Then the basic relation  $u \cong v$  can be rewritten in the form

$$u_1 u_2 u_3 \cong v_1 v_2 v_3,$$

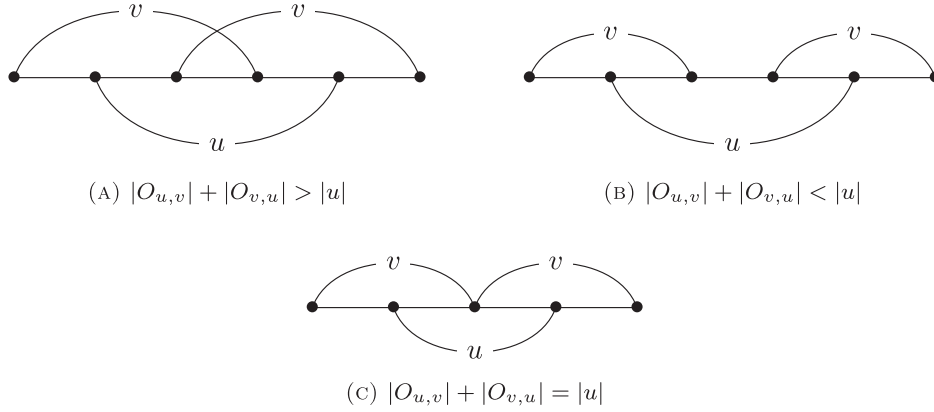


FIGURE 2. Situations occur when  $\text{OVL}(u, v) \neq \emptyset$  and  $\text{OVL}(v, u) \neq \emptyset$ .

where  $u_i, v_i \in \Sigma^*$ ;  $u_1u_2 = v_2v_3 = O_{u,v}$ ; and  $u_2u_3 = v_1v_2 = O_{v,u}$ . Hence

$$u_1v_1v_2 \cong v_1u_1u_2.$$

As  $|\widetilde{u_1v_1}| = |\widetilde{v_1u_1}|$ , we have  $u_1v_1 \cong v_1u_1$  and  $v_2 \cong u_2$ . Since  $u_1v_1v_2 \cong v_1u_1u_2$  is a minimal relation, it follows that  $u_2 = v_2 = \varepsilon$  or  $u_1v_1 = v_1u_1 = \varepsilon$ . However, if  $u_2 = v_2 = \varepsilon$  then the basic relation becomes  $u_1v_1 \cong v_1u_1$  which contradicts Lemma 3.6. If  $u_1v_1 = v_1u_1 = \varepsilon$  then  $O_{u,v} = u_2 = v$ , a contradiction. We get (7.2).

Now the basic relation can be rewritten of the form

$$xzt \cong tyx$$

where  $x, y, z, t \in \Sigma^+$ ;  $x = O_{u,v}$ ; and  $t = O_{v,u}$ . Recall that  $\text{First}(x) = 0$  and  $\text{First}(t) = 1$ . There are three cases:

*Case 1:*  $xz \in \{0, 1\}^+$  and  $ty \in \{0, 1\}^+$ .

It follows from Lemma 2.4 that two words  $\tilde{0}$  and  $\tilde{1}$  commute. This contradicts Lemma 3.7.

*Case 2:*  $xz \notin \{0, 1\}^+$  and  $ty \notin \{0, 1\}^+$ .

By Lemma 6.3, we have

$$\text{Amb}_\Sigma(L) \cap \{0, 1\}^\omega = \emptyset.$$

By Proposition 4.7,  $L^\omega$  has no code generator.

*Case 3:*  $xz \in \{0, 1\}^+$  and  $ty \notin \{0, 1\}^+$ .

We first prove that  $t \notin \{0, 1\}^+$ . Conversely (to obtain a contradiction), suppose  $t \in \{0, 1\}^+$ . If  $\text{Last}(t) = 0$  then by Lemma 2.3, two words  $\tilde{0}$  and  $\tilde{1}$  commute. Otherwise  $\text{Last}(t) = 1$ , by minimality of the basic relation, we have  $\text{Last}(x) = 0$ ; according to Lemma 2.4, two words  $\tilde{0}$  and  $\tilde{1}$  commute. Both cases yield a contradiction with Lemma 3.7.

Now we have  $t \notin \{0, 1\}^+$ , then

$$\text{LB}(xzt, xzt) \cap \{0, 1\}^+ = \emptyset, \quad \text{LB}(tyx, tyx) \cap \{0, 1\}^+ = \emptyset,$$

$$\text{LB}(xzt, tyx) \cap \{0, 1\}^+ = \emptyset$$

and by Lemma 6.7, we have  $\text{LB}(tyx, xzt) \cap \{0, 1\}^+ = xz$ . We have thus

$$\text{Amb}_\Sigma(L) \cap \{0, 1\}^\omega = \{0, 1\}^*(xz)^\omega.$$

By Lemma 6.8, we have  $xz0 \notin \text{Fact}(\{xz1, 1\}^\omega)$ . As  $\text{First}(x) = 0$ , we have  $(xz)^\omega \notin \text{Suff}(\{xz1, 1\}^\omega)$ . Therefore

$$\text{Amb}_\Sigma(L) \cap \{xz1, 1\}^\omega = \emptyset$$

Since  $\text{First}(t) = 1$ , two words  $xz1$  and  $1$  are incompatible. According to Lemma 4.7,  $L^\omega$  has no code generator.

The following example show that there exist languages as in Case 2.

**Example 7.2.** Let  $L = \{a, aba, bac, cab\}$  and let  $\Sigma = \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$ . It can be verified that  $L$  is a one-relation language where the basic relation is  $021 \cong 130$ .

### 7.3. When $\text{OVL}(u, v) \neq \emptyset$ and $\text{OVL}(v, u) = \emptyset$

We deal this case by some claims which are proven later.

**Claim 7.3.** *Assume that the basic relation of  $L$  is of the form*

$$0xz \cong 1y0x \tag{7.3}$$

where  $z \in \Sigma^+$ ;  $x, y \in \Sigma^*$ ; and  $0x = O_{u,v}$  is the greatest (by the length) element of  $\text{OVL}(u, v)$ . If  $x \notin 0^*$  or  $\rho(1y) \notin 10^*$ , then  $L^\omega$  has no code generator.

Now there remain the cases:  $u = 0^n z$  and  $v = (10^m)^k 0^n$  with  $k \geq 1, m \geq 0, n \geq 1$ , and  $0^n = O_{u,v}$ . It is to be noticed that  $\text{Last}(z) \notin \{0, 1\}$  as  $\text{OVL}(v, u) = \emptyset$ .

**Claim 7.4.** *Assume that the basic relation of  $L$  is of the form*

$$0^n z \cong (10^m)^k 0^n$$

with  $0^n = O_{u,v}$  and  $\text{Last}(z) \notin \{0, 1\}$ .

If the parameters  $z, k, m, n$  of the basic relation satisfies one of two following conditions:

1.  $k \geq 2, m \geq 0$ , and  $n \geq 2$ ;
2.  $|z| \geq 2, k \geq 1, m \geq 1$ , and  $n \geq 1$ .

Then  $L^\omega$  has no code generator.

According to Claims 7.3 and 7.4, there remains to prove that  $L^\omega$  has always a code generator in the cases where the basic relation is in the form

$$0^n z \cong (10^m)^k 0^n$$

with

- (i)  $k = 1, m = 0, n \geq 1$ , and  $z \in \Sigma^* 2$ ;
- (ii)  $k = 1, m \geq 1, n \geq 1$ , and  $z = 2$ ;
- (iii)  $k > 1, m = 0, n = 1$ , and  $z \in \Sigma^* 2$ ; or
- (iv)  $k > 1, m \geq 1, n = 1$ , and  $z = 2$ .

**Claim 7.5 (Case i).** *Assume that the basic relation of  $L$  is of the form*

$$0^n z \cong 10^n$$

with  $n \geq 1$  and  $z \in \Sigma^*2$ . Then  $\tilde{C}$  is an infinite  $\omega$ -code generator of  $L^\omega$ , where

$$C = \{0\} \cup \left( \bigcup_{i=0}^{n-1} 10^i \right)^* (\Sigma \setminus \{0, 1\}).$$

**Claim 7.6** (Case ii). Assume that the basic relation of  $L$  is of the form

$$0^n 2 \cong 10^m 0^n$$

with  $m \geq 1$  and  $n \geq 1$ . Then  $\tilde{C}$  is an infinite  $\omega$ -code generator of  $L^\omega$ , where

$$C = \{0, 2\} \cup \left( \bigcup_{i=0}^{n-1} 10^m 0^i \right)^* \left( \bigcup_{i=0}^{m-1} 10^i (\Sigma \setminus \{0, 2\}) \cup \bigcup_{i=0}^{n-1} 10^i 2 \cup \Sigma \setminus \{0, 1, 2\} \right).$$

**Claim 7.7** (Case iii). Assume that the basic relation of  $L$  is of the form

$$0z \cong 1^k 0$$

with  $z \in \Sigma^*2$  and  $k > 1$ . Then  $\tilde{C}$  is an infinite code generator of  $L^\omega$ , where

$$C = \bigcup_{i=0}^{k-1} 1^i 0 \cup 1^* (\Sigma \setminus \{0, 1\}).$$

Moreover,  $L^\omega$  has no  $\omega$ -code generator.

**Claim 7.8** (Case iv). Assume that the basic relation of  $L$  is of the form

$$02 \cong (10^m)^k 0$$

with  $k > 1$  and  $m \geq 1$ . Then  $\tilde{C}$  is an infinite code generator of  $L^\omega$ , where

$$C = \{2\} \cup \bigcup_{i=0}^{k-1} (10^m)^i 0 \cup (10^m)^* \left( \{12\} \cup 1 \left( \bigcup_{i=0}^{m-1} 0^i \right) (\Sigma \setminus \{0, 2\}) \cup \Sigma \setminus \{0, 1, 2\} \right).$$

Moreover,  $L^\omega$  has no  $\omega$ -code generator.

**Example 7.9.** The following languages show that there exist one-relation languages where their basic relations as in Cases i-iv.

- (i) Let  $L = \{a, ab, ba\}$  and  $\Sigma = \{0, 1, 2\}$ . The language  $L$  is a one-relation language where the basic relation is  $02 \cong 10$ . By Claim 7.5, the  $\omega$ -language  $L^\omega$  has an infinite  $\omega$ -code generator  $\tilde{C}$  with  $C = 0 \cup 1^*2$ .
- (ii) Let  $H = \{a, a^2b, ba^4\}$  and  $\Sigma = \{0, 1, 2\}$ . It can be verified that  $H$  is a one-relation language where the basic relation is  $0^22 \cong 10^20^2$ . By Claim 7.6, the  $\omega$ -language  $H^\omega$  has an infinite  $\omega$ -code generator  $\tilde{C}$  with

$$C = \{0, 2\} \cup \{10^2, 10^20\}^* \{11, 101, 12, 102\}.$$



- (iii) Let  $I = \{a, ab, baba\}$  and  $\Sigma = \{0, 1, 2\}$ . It can be verified that  $I$  is a one-relation language where the basic relation is  $02 \cong 110$ . By Claim 7.7, the  $\omega$ -language  $I^\omega$  has an infinite code generator  $\tilde{C}$  with  $C = \{0, 10\} \cup 1^*2$ .
- (iv) Let  $J = \{a, ab, ba^3ba^3\}$  and  $\Sigma = \{0, 1, 2\}$ . It can be verified that  $J$  is a one-relation language where the basic relation is  $02 \cong (100)^20$ . By Claim 7.8, the  $\omega$ -language  $J^\omega$  has an infinite code generator  $\tilde{C}$  with

$$C = \{0, 1000, 2\} \cup (100)^*\{12, 11, 101\}.$$

### 7.3.1. Proof of Claim 7.3

Assume that the basic relation of  $L$  is  $0xz \cong 1y0x$ . First, we prove that

$$xz \notin \{0, 1\}^+. \quad (7.4)$$

Conversely (to obtain a contradiction), suppose  $x \in \{0, 1\}^*$  and  $z \in \{0, 1\}^+$ . By minimality of relation  $0xz \cong 1y0x$ , we have  $\text{Last}(z) \neq \text{Last}(0x)$ .

- If  $\text{Last}(0x) = 0$  and  $\text{Last}(z) = 1$ , then  $1 \in \text{OVL}(v, u)$ , this contradicts  $\text{OVL}(v, u) = \emptyset$ .
- Otherwise  $\text{Last}(0x) = 1$  and  $\text{Last}(z) = 0$ , then we can rewrite the basic relation in the form

$$0x'1z'0 \cong 1y0x'1$$

where  $x'1 = x$  and  $z'0 = z$ . Thus  $\widetilde{1z'0}$  and  $\widetilde{0x'1}$  are both suffix of the word  $\widetilde{0x'1z'0} = \widetilde{1y0x'1}$ . By Lemma 2.3, two words  $\tilde{0}$  and  $\tilde{1}$  commute. This contradicts Lemma 3.7.

Thus, we get (7.4).

Now, we consider three cases:

*Case 1:*  $y \notin \{0, 1\}^*$ .

Since  $xz \notin \{0, 1\}^+$  and by Lemma 6.3, we have

$$\text{Amb}_\Sigma(L) \cap \{0, 1\}^\omega = \emptyset.$$

According to Proposition 4.7,  $L^\omega$  has no code generator.

The following example shows that there exists one-relation languages with the basic relation as in *Case 1*.

**Example 7.10.** Let  $L = \{a, ab, bca, c\}$  and let  $\Sigma = \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$ . The language  $L$  is one-relation language where the basic relation is  $02 \cong 130$ .

*Case 2:*  $y \in \{0, 1\}^*$  and  $x \notin 0^*$ .

First, we show that  $x \notin \{0, 1\}^+$ . Indeed, if  $x \in \{0, 1\}^+$  then, by Lemma 2.3 and the relation  $0xz \cong 1y0x$ , two words  $\tilde{0}$  and  $\tilde{1}$  commute, which contradicts Lemma 3.7.

Now, using Lemma 6.3, we have

$$\text{Amb}_\Sigma(L) \cap \{0, 1\}^\omega = \{0, 1\}^*(1y)^\omega.$$

By Lemma 6.8, we have  $1y1 \notin \text{Fact}(\{0, 1y0\}^\omega)$ . Thus

$$\text{Amb}_\Sigma(L) \cap \{0, 1y0\}^\omega = \emptyset.$$

Two words  $0$  and  $1y0$  are incompatible as  $0xz \cong 1y0x$ . By Proposition 4.7,  $L^\omega$  has no code generator.

The following example shows that there exists one-relation language with the basic relation as in *Case 2*.

**Example 7.11.** Let  $L = \{ab, abc, bcaba, caba\}$  and let  $\Sigma = \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$ . It can be verified that  $L$  is a one-relation language where the basic relation is  $032 \cong 1003$ .

*Case 3:*  $y \in \{0, 1\}^*$ ,  $\rho(1y) \notin 10^*$ , and  $0x = 0^n$  with  $n \geq 1$ .

Because  $xz \notin \{0, 1\}^*$  we can write  $z = z_{01}2z'$  where  $z_{01} \in \{0, 1\}^*$  and  $z' \in \Sigma^*$ . Now the basic relation is in the form  $0^n z_{01} 2z' \cong 1y0^n$ . By Lemma 3.7,  $L$  cannot contain two words commute, and then by Lemma 2.3, we have  $z_{01} \in 0^*$ . Thus the basic relation can be written in the form

$$0^n 0^k 2z' \cong 1y0^n \quad (7.5)$$

with  $k \geq 0$ .

By Lemma 6.3, we have

$$\text{Amb}_\Sigma(L) \cap \{0, 1\}^\omega = \{0, 1\}^* 1y0^n \{0, 1\}^\omega \cup \{0, 1\}^* (\text{LB}(0^n 0^k 2z', 1y0^n) \cup \text{LB}(1y0^n, 1y0^n))^\omega. \quad (7.6)$$

Consider two subcases:

*Subcase 3.1:*  $\text{OVL}(1y0^n, 1y0^n) \neq \emptyset$ .

That is, there are  $f \in \{0, 1\}^*$  and  $p \in \{0, 1\}^*$  such that  $1y0^n = 1pf1p$ . The basic relation (7.5) becomes

$$0^n 0^k 2z' \cong 1pf1p.$$

And we have

$$0^n 0^k 2z' f1p \cong 1pf1pf1p \cong 1pf0^n 0^k 2z'.$$

Thus two words  $0$  and  $1pf0$  are incompatible.

By Lemma 6.8, we have  $1pf1 \notin \text{Fact}(\{0, 1pf0\}^\omega)$ , then  $1y \notin \text{Fact}(\{0, 1pf0\}^\omega)$ . Thus

$$\text{Amb}_\Sigma(L) \cap \{0, 1pf0\}^\omega = \emptyset.$$

By Proposition 4.7,  $L^\omega$  has no code generator.

*Subcase 3.2:*  $\text{OVL}(1y0^n, 1y0^n) = \emptyset$ .

From the equation (7.6), we have

$$\text{Amb}_\Sigma(L) \cap \{0, 1\}^\omega = \{0, 1\}^* 1y0^n \{0, 1\}^\omega \cup \{0, 1\}^* \{1y, 1y0, \dots, 1y0^{n-1}\}^\omega.$$

From the basic relation (7.5), we have

$$0^n 0^k 2z' 0^k 2z' \cong 1y0^n 0^k 2z' \cong 1y1y0^n.$$

Then two words  $0$  and  $1y1$  are incompatible. Now we show that

$$\text{Amb}_\Sigma(L) \cap \{0, 1y1\}^\omega = \emptyset \quad (7.7)$$

and thus, by Proposition 4.7,  $L^\omega$  has no code generator.

To obtain (7.7), it is sufficient to verify that

$$1y0^n \notin \text{Fact}(\{0, 1y1\}^\omega) \quad (7.8)$$

and

$$\left( \bigcup_{i=0}^{n-1} 1y0^i \right)^\omega \cap \text{Suff}(\{0, 1y1\}^\omega) = \emptyset. \quad (7.9)$$

If  $1y0^n \in \text{Fact}(\{0, 1y1\}^\omega)$  then there are a word  $p \in \text{Pref}(1y) \setminus \{1y\}$ , a word  $s \in \text{Suff}(1y)$ , and an integer  $m \geq 0$  such that

$$1y0^n = s10^m p.$$

But since  $\text{OVL}(1y0^n, 1y0^n) = \emptyset$ , it follows that  $p = \varepsilon$ . Hence

$$1y0^n \in \text{Suff}(1y)10^m.$$

But this show that  $\rho(1y) \in 10^*$ , a contradiction. We get (7.8).

If

$$\left( \bigcup_{i=0}^{n-1} 1y0^i \right)^\omega \cap \text{Suff}(\{0, 1y1\}^\omega) = \emptyset$$

then there exists a word  $s \in \text{Suff}(1y1) \setminus \{1y1\}$  and two sequences  $(i_j), (k_j)$  of integers such that

$$1y0^{i_1} 1y0^{i_2} \dots = s0^{k_1} 1y10^{k_2} \dots$$

Let  $\ell = |1y|_1 - |s|_1 \geq 0$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} |s|_1 + |(1y1)^\ell|_1 &= |s|_1 + \ell + |(1y)^\ell|_1 \\ &= |1y|_1 + |(1y)^\ell|_1 = |(1y)^{\ell+1}|_1. \end{aligned}$$

Observe, further, that: if two words  $\alpha 1$  and  $\beta 1$  are both prefix of a same word and  $|\alpha|_1 = |\beta|_1$ , then  $\alpha = \beta$ . We have thus

$$1y0^{i_1} \dots 1y0^{i_{\ell+1}} = s0^{k_1} 1y10^{k_2} \dots 1y10^{k_\ell}.$$

Thus

$$1y0^{i_{\ell+1}} \in \text{Suff}(1y)10^{k_\ell}.$$

But this show that  $\rho(1y) \in 10^*$ , a contradiction. We get (7.9).

**Example 7.12** (for Subcase 3.1). Let  $L = \{a, ab, baaba\}$  and let  $\Sigma = \{0, 1, 2\}$ . It can be verified that  $L$  is a one-relation language where the basic relation is  $02 \cong 1010$ .

**Example 7.13** (for Subcase 3.2). Let  $L = \{a, ab, babaa\}$  and let  $\Sigma = \{0, 1, 2\}$ . It can be verified that  $L$  is a one-relation language where the basic relation is  $02 \cong 1100$ .

### 7.3.2. Proof of Claim 7.4

Assume that the basic relation of  $L$  is of the form

$$0^n z \cong (10^m)^k 0^n \quad (7.10)$$

with  $0^n = O_{u,v}$  and  $\text{Last}(z) \notin \{0, 1\}$ . We will show that  $L^\omega$  has no code generator in both following cases:

*Case 1:*  $k \geq 2, m \geq 0$ , and  $n \geq 2$ .

By Lemma 6.3, we have

$$\text{Amb}_\Sigma(L) \cap \{0, 1\}^\omega = \{0, 1\}^* (10^m)^k 0^n \{0, 1\}^\omega \cup \{0, 1\}^* \left( \bigcup_{i=0}^{n-1} (10^m)^k 0^i \right)^\omega$$

From the relation (7.10), it follows that

$$0^n z 0 z \cong (10^m)^k 0^n 0 z \cong (10^m)^k 0 (10^m)^k 0^n.$$

Hence two words  $0$  and  $(10^m)^k 01$  are incompatible.

Because  $k \geq 2$  and  $n \geq 2$ , we have

$$(10^m)^k 0^n \notin \text{Fact}(\{0, (10^m)^k 01\}^\omega).$$

It can be verified that

$$\text{Suff}(\{0, (10^m)^k 01\}^\omega) \cap \left( \bigcup_{i=0}^{n-1} (10^m)^k 0^i \right)^\omega = \emptyset.$$

Thus we have

$$\text{Amb}_\Sigma(L) \cap \{0, (10^m)^k 01\}^\omega = \emptyset.$$

By Proposition 4.7,  $L^\omega$  has no code generator.

**Example 7.14** (for Case 1). Let  $L = \{a, aab, baabaa\}$  and let  $\Sigma = \{0, 1, 2\}$ . It can be verified that  $L$  is a one-relation language where the basic relation is  $002 \cong 1100$ .

*Case 2:*  $|z| \geq 2, k \geq 1$ , and  $n \geq 1$ .

As  $O_{u,v} = 0^n$ , we have  $\text{First}(z) \neq 0$ . Since  $L$  cannot contains two words commute, it follows from Lemma 2.3 that  $\text{First}(z) \neq 1$ . Thus the basic relation can be written in the form

$$0^n 2 z' \cong (10^m)^k 0^n$$

where  $z' \neq \varepsilon$  and  $\text{Last}(z') \notin \{0, 1\}$ , and  $2 \in \Sigma \setminus \{0, 1\}$ . Then two words  $0^n 2$  and  $1$  are incompatible.

By Lemma 6.3, we have

$$\text{Amb}_\Sigma(L) = \Sigma^* \{0^n 2 z', (10^m)^k 0^n\} \Sigma^\omega \cup \Sigma^* (\text{LB}(0^n 2 z', 0^n 2 z') \cup \text{LB}(0^n 2 z', (10^m)^k 0^n))^\omega. \quad (7.11)$$

Thus we have

$$\text{Amb}_\Sigma(L) \cap \{0^n 2, 1\}^\omega \subseteq \Sigma^* \{0^n 2 z'\} \Sigma^\omega. \quad (7.12)$$

If  $\text{Amb}_\Sigma(L) \cap \{0^n 2, 1\}^\omega = \emptyset$ , then by Proposition 4.7,  $L^\omega$  has no code generator. We now assume that  $\text{Amb}_\Sigma(L) \cap \{0^n 2, 1\}^\omega \neq \emptyset$ . This mean that

$$0^n 2 z' \in \text{Fact}(\{0^n 2, 1\}^\omega).$$

Since  $\text{Last}(z') \notin \{0, 1\}$ , it follows that  $z' \in \Sigma^*0^n2$ . Thus the basic relation can be written in the form

$$0^n2f0^n2 \cong (10^m)^k0^n$$

where  $f \in \text{Pref}(z')$ . We have:

$$0^n2f(10^m)^k0^n \cong 0^n2f0^n2f0^n2 \cong (10^m)^k0^n f0^n2.$$

Thus two words  $0^n2f1$  and  $1$  are incompatible.

By Lemma 6.8, we have  $0^n2f0 \notin \text{Fact}(\{0^n2f1, 1\}^\omega)$ . Therefore

$$0^n2f0^n2 \notin \text{Fact}(\{0^n2f1, 1\}^\omega).$$

Thus

$$\text{Amb}_\Sigma(L) \cap \{0^n2f1, 1\}^\omega = \emptyset.$$

By Proposition 4.7,  $L^\omega$  has no code generator.

**Example 7.15** (for Case 2). 1. Let  $L = \{ab, abc, b, caba\}$  and  $\Sigma = \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$ . It can be verified that  $L$  is a one-relation language where that basic relation is  $032 \cong 100$ .  
2. Let  $L' = \{a, aba^3b, ba^2\}$  and  $\Sigma = \{0, 1, 2\}$ . It can be verified that  $L'$  is a one-relation language where the basic relation is  $0202 \cong 100$ .

### 7.3.3. Proof of Claim 7.5

Assume that the basic relation of  $L$  is of the form

$$0^n z \cong 10^n$$

with  $n \geq 1$  and  $z \in \Sigma^*2$ . We will show that  $\tilde{C}$  is an  $\omega$ -code generator of  $L^\omega$ , where

$$C = \{0\} \cup \left( \bigcup_{i=0}^{n-1} 10^i \right)^* (\Sigma \setminus \{0, 1\}).$$

To prove that  $\tilde{C}$  is a generator of  $L^\omega$ , we show first assertion: for every  $x \in \Sigma^\omega \setminus C\Sigma^\omega$ , there exists  $y \in C\Sigma^\omega$  such that  $x \cong y$ . Indeed, direct computation show that

$$\Sigma^\omega \setminus C\Sigma^\omega = \left( \bigcup_{i=0}^{n-1} 10^i \right)^\omega \cup \left( \bigcup_{i=0}^{n-1} 10^i \right)^* 10^n \Sigma^\omega.$$

For each  $x \in \left( \bigcup_{i=0}^{n-1} 10^i \right)^\omega$ , we write

$$x = 10^{i_1} 10^{i_2} \dots$$

where  $n > i_j \geq 0$ . Then we have

$$10^{i_1} 10^{i_2} \dots \cong 0^n z 0^{i_1} z 0^{i_2} \dots \in C\Sigma^\omega.$$

And for each  $x \in (\bigcup_{i=0}^{n-1} 10^i)^* 10^n \Sigma^\omega$ , we write

$$x = 10^{i_1} \dots 10^{i_p} 10^n w$$

where  $p \geq 0$ ,  $n > i_j \geq 0$  and  $w \in \Sigma^\omega$ . We have thus

$$10^{i_1} \dots 10^{i_p} 10^n w \cong 0^n z 0^{i_1} z \dots z 0^{i_p} w \in C \Sigma^\omega.$$

Thus we have  $L^\omega \subseteq \tilde{C} L^\omega$ . According to Lemma 2.6, we have  $L^\omega \subseteq \tilde{C}^\omega$ . Thus  $\tilde{C}^\omega = L^\omega$ .

Now we show that  $\tilde{C}$  is an  $\omega$ -code. Indeed, it is clear that  $C$  is a prefix code. Observe, further, that

$$10^n \notin \text{Fact}(C^\omega) \quad \text{and} \quad \left( \bigcup_{i=0}^{n-1} 10^i \right)^\omega \cap \text{Suff}(C^\omega) = \emptyset.$$

Hence we have  $R(L) \cap (C^\omega \times C^\omega) = \emptyset$ . Thus each  $\omega$ -word in  $\tilde{C}^\omega$  has only one factorization on  $\tilde{C}$ . The proof is completed.

#### 7.3.4. Proof of Claim 7.6

Assume that the basic relation of  $L$  is of the form

$$0^n 2 \cong 10^m 0^n$$

with  $m \geq 1$  and  $n \geq 1$ . We will show that  $\tilde{C}$  is an  $\omega$ -code generator of  $L^\omega$ , where

$$C = \{0, 2\} \cup \left( \bigcup_{i=0}^{n-1} 10^m 0^i \right)^* \left( \bigcup_{i=0}^{m-1} 10^i (\Sigma \setminus \{0, 2\}) \cup \bigcup_{i=0}^{n-1} 10^{i_2} \cup \Sigma \setminus \{0, 1, 2\} \right).$$

To prove that  $\tilde{C}$  is a generator of  $L^\omega$ , we show first assertion: for each  $x \in \Sigma^\omega \setminus C \Sigma^\omega$ , there exists  $y \in C \Sigma^\omega$  such that  $x \cong y$ . Indeed, direct computation show that

$$\Sigma^\omega \setminus C \Sigma^\omega = \left( \bigcup_{i=0}^{n-1} 10^m 0^i \right)^\omega \cup \left( \bigcup_{i=0}^{n-1} 10^m 0^i \right)^* (10^m 0^n \cup 10^n 0^* 2) \Sigma^\omega.$$

For every  $x \in \left( \bigcup_{i=0}^{n-1} 10^m 0^i \right)^\omega$ , we can write

$$x = 10^m 0^{i_1} 10^m 0^{i_2} \dots$$

where  $n > i_j \geq 0$ , we have

$$10^m 0^{i_1} 10^m 0^{i_2} \dots \cong 0^n 2 0^{i_1} 2 0^{i_2} \dots \in C \Sigma^\omega.$$

For every  $x \in \left( \bigcup_{i=0}^{n-1} 10^m 0^i \right)^* 10^m 0^n \Sigma^\omega$ , we write

$$x = 10^m 0^{i_1} \dots 10^m 0^{i_p} 10^m 0^n w$$

with  $p \geq 0$ ,  $n > i_j \geq 0$ , and  $w \in \Sigma^\omega$ , we have

$$10^m 0^{i_1} \dots 10^m 0^{i_p} 10^m 0^n w \cong 0^n 20^{i_1} 2 \dots 20^{i_p} w \in C\Sigma^\omega.$$

For every  $x \in \left(\bigcup_{i=0}^{n-1} 10^m 0^i\right)^* 10^n 0^* 2\Sigma^\omega$ , we write

$$x = 10^m 0^{i_1} \dots 10^m 0^{i_p} 10^n 0^q 2w$$

where  $q \geq 0$ ,  $p \geq 0$ ,  $n > i_j \geq 0$ , and  $w \in \Sigma^\omega$ . If  $q \geq m$ , we have

$$x = 10^m 0^{i_1} \dots 10^m 0^{i_p} 10^n 0^{m q - m} 2w \cong 0^n 20^{i_1} 2 \dots 20^{i_p} 20^{q-m} 2w \in C\Sigma^\omega,$$

if  $q < m$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} 10^m 0^{i_1} \dots 10^m 0^{i_p} (10^n 0^q) 2w &= 10^m 0^{i_1} \dots 10^m 0^{i_p} (10^q 0^n) 2w \\ &\cong 10^m 0^{i_1} \dots 10^m 0^{i_p} 10^q (10^m 0^n) w \\ &\in (10^m 0^{i_1} \dots 10^m 0^{i_p}) 10^q 1 \Sigma^\omega \subseteq C\Sigma^\omega \end{aligned}$$

that prove the assertion. Thus  $L^\omega \subseteq \tilde{C}L^\omega$ . According to Lemma 2.6, we have a  $L^\omega \subseteq \tilde{C}^\omega$ . Thus  $\tilde{C}^\omega = L^\omega$ .

Now we prove that  $\tilde{C}$  is an  $\omega$ -code. Indeed, it is clear that  $C$  is a prefix code. Observe, further, that

$$\left(\bigcup_{i=0}^{n-1} 10^m 0^i\right)^\omega \cap \text{Suff}(C^\omega) = \emptyset,$$

and if there exists  $u \in \Sigma^*$  and  $w \in \Sigma^\omega$  such that  $u10^m 0^n w \in C^\omega$ , then  $u1 \in C^+$ . We have thus  $R(L) \cap (C^\omega \times C^\omega) = \emptyset$ . Thus each  $\omega$ -word in  $\tilde{C}^\omega$  has only one factorization on  $\tilde{C}$ . The proof is completed.

### 7.3.5. Proof of Claim 7.7

Assume that the basic relation of  $L$  is of the form

$$0z \cong 1^k 0$$

with  $z \in \Sigma^* 2$  and  $k > 1$ . We will show that  $\tilde{C}$  is a code generator of  $L^\omega$ , where

$$C = \bigcup_{i=0}^{k-1} 1^i 0 \cup 1^* (\Sigma \setminus \{0, 1\}).$$

To prove that  $\tilde{C}$  is a generator of  $L^\omega$ , we show first assertion: for every  $x \in \Sigma^\omega \setminus C\Sigma^\omega$ , there exists  $y \in C\Sigma^\omega$  such that  $x \cong y$ . Indeed, direct computation show that

$$\Sigma^\omega \setminus C\Sigma^\omega = 1^\omega \cup 1^* 1^k 0 \Sigma^\omega.$$

For  $x = 1^\omega$ , we have

$$1^\omega \cong 0z^\omega \in C\Sigma^\omega,$$

and for each  $x \in 1^*1^k0\Sigma^\omega$ , we can write

$$x = 1^q1^{pk}0w \quad \text{with } p \geq 0, k > q \geq 0, \text{ and } w \in \Sigma^\omega$$

we have then

$$1^q1^{pk}0w \cong 1^q0z^pw \in C\Sigma^\omega.$$

Thus we have  $L^\omega \subseteq \tilde{C}L^\omega$ . By Lemma 2.6, we have  $L^\omega \subseteq \tilde{C}^\omega$ . Thus  $\tilde{C}^\omega = L^\omega$ .

Now we prove that  $\tilde{C}$  is a code. Indeed, it is clear that  $C$  is a prefix code. Moreover we have  $1^k0 \notin \text{Fact}(C^+)$ , we obtain  $R(L) \cap (C^+ \times C^+) = \emptyset$ . Thus each words in  $\tilde{C}^*$  has only one factorization on  $\tilde{C}$ . The proof is completed.

It is to be noticed that  $\tilde{C}$  is not an  $\omega$ -code because  $10z^\omega \cong 0z^\omega$  and  $\{0, 10\} \subseteq C$ .

Now we show that  $L^\omega$  has no  $\omega$ -code generator. Indeed, for every  $i > 0$ , we have

$$0z^i \cong 1^k0z^{i-1} \cong 1^k1^k0z^{i-2} \cong \dots \cong 1^{ki}0,$$

By passing to adherence, we obtain the relation  $0z^\omega \cong 1^\omega$ . Thus

$$10z^\omega \cong 11^\omega = 1^\omega \cong 0z^\omega.$$

Since  $k > 1$ , it follows that  $10z^\omega \cong 0z^\omega$  is a minimal relation. Thus two words 0 and 10 are  $\infty$ -incompatible. Moreover, it is easy to see that

$$\text{Amb}_\Sigma(L) \cap \{0, 1\}^\omega = \{0, 1\}^* \{1^k0\} \{0, 1\}^\omega \cup \{0, 1\}^* 1^\omega$$

Since  $1^k \notin \text{Fact}(\{10, 0\}^\omega)$  with  $k > 1$ , it follows that  $\text{Amb}_\Sigma(L) \cap \{10, 0\}^\omega = \emptyset$ . By Proposition 4.12,  $L^\omega$  has no  $\omega$ -code generator.

### 7.3.6. Proof of Claim 7.8

Assume that the basic relation of  $L$  is of the form

$$02 \cong (10^m)^k0$$

with  $k > 1$  and  $m \geq 1$ . We will show that  $\tilde{C}$  is a code generator of  $L^\omega$ , where

$$C = \{2\} \cup \bigcup_{i=0}^{k-1} (10^m)^i 0 \cup (10^m)^* \left( \{12\} \cup 1 \left( \bigcup_{i=0}^{m-1} 0^i \right) (\Sigma \setminus \{0, 2\}) \cup \Sigma \setminus \{0, 1, 2\} \right).$$

To prove that  $\tilde{C}$  is a generator of  $L^\omega$ , we show first assertion: for every  $x \in \Sigma^\omega \setminus C\Sigma^\omega$ , there exists  $y \in C\Sigma^\omega$  such that  $x \cong y$ . Indeed, direct computation show that

$$\Sigma^\omega \setminus C\Sigma^\omega = \{(10^m)^\omega\} \cup (10^m)^* (\{(10^m)^k0\} \cup 10^+2) \Sigma^\omega.$$

For  $x = (10^m)^\omega$ , we have

$$(10^m)^\omega \cong 02^\omega \in C\Sigma^\omega.$$



For every  $x \in (10^m)^*(10^m)^k 0 \Sigma^\omega$ , we can write  $x = (10^m)^q (10^m)^{pk} 0 w$  with  $p \geq 0, k > q \geq 0$ , and  $w \in \Sigma^\omega$ , we have therefore

$$(10^m)^q (10^m)^{pk} 0 w' \cong (10^m)^q 0 2^p 0 w' \in C \Sigma^\omega.$$

And for every  $x \in (10^m)^* 10^{+2} \Sigma^\omega$ , we can write

$$x = (10^m)^q 10^p 0 2 w$$

with  $q \geq 0, m > p \geq 0$  and  $w \in \Sigma^\omega$ . We have therefore

$$(10^m)^q 10^p 0 2 w' \cong (10^m)^q 10^p (10^m)^k 0 w' \in (10^m)^q 10^p 1 \Sigma^\omega \subseteq C \Sigma^\omega.$$

Thus  $L^\omega \subseteq \tilde{C} L^\omega$ . By Lemma 2.6, we have  $L^\omega \subseteq \tilde{C}^\omega$ . Thus  $\tilde{C}^\omega = L^\omega$ .

Now we prove that  $\tilde{C}$  is a code. Indeed, it is clear that  $C$  is a prefix code. Moreover, since  $(10^m)^k 0 \notin \text{Fact}(C^+)$ , we obtain  $R(L) \cap (C^+ \times C^+) = \emptyset$ . This means that every words in  $\tilde{C}^*$  has only one factorization on  $\tilde{C}$ . Hence  $\tilde{C}$  is a code.

It is to be noticed that that  $\tilde{C}$  is not an  $\omega$ -code because  $10^m 0 2^\omega \cong 0 2^\omega$  and  $\{0, 10^m 0, 2\} \subseteq C$ .

Now we show that  $L^\omega$  has no  $\omega$ -code generator. Indeed, for every  $i > 0$ , we have

$$0 2^i \cong (10^m)^k 0 2^{i-1} \cong (10^m)^k (10^m)^k 0 2^{i-2} \cong \dots \cong (10^m)^{ki} 0.$$

By passing to adherence, we get  $0 2^\omega \cong (10^m)^\omega$ . So

$$10^m 0 2^\omega \cong 10^m (10^m)^\omega = (10^m)^\omega \cong 0 2^\omega.$$

Because  $k > 1$ , we have  $10^m 0 2^\omega \cong 0 2^\omega$  is a minimal relation. Thus two words  $0$  and  $10^m 0$  are  $\infty$ -incompatible. Moreover, it is easy to see that

$$\text{Amb}_\Sigma(L) \cap \{0, 1\}^\omega = \{0, 1\}^* \{(10^m)^k 0\} \{0, 1\}^\omega \cup \{0, 1\}^* (10^m)^\omega$$

By Lemma 6.8, we have  $10^m 1 \notin \text{Fact}(\{10^m 0, 0\}^\omega)$ . Hence

$$\text{Amb}_\Sigma(L) \cap \{10^m 0, 0\}^\omega = \emptyset.$$

By Proposition 4.12,  $L^\omega$  has no  $\omega$ -code generator.

## REFERENCES

- [1] E. Czeizler and J. Karhumäki, On non-periodic solutions of independent systems of word equations over three unknowns. *Int. J. Found. Computer Sci.* **18** (2007) 873–897.
- [2] J. Devolder, M. Latteux, I. Litovsky and L. Staiger, Codes and infinite words. *Acta Cybern.* **11** (1994) 241–256.
- [3] F. Guzmán, Decipherability of codes. *J. Pure Appl. Algebra* **141** (1999) 13–35.
- [4] S. Julia, On  $\omega$ -generators and codes. In *23<sup>d</sup> ICALP (Int. Coll. on Automata, Languages and Programming)*. Vol. 1099 of *Lecture Notes in Computer Sciences*. Springer, Berlin (1996) 393–402.
- [5] S. Julia, I. Litovsky and B. Patrou, On codes,  $\omega$ -codes and  $\omega$ -generators. *Inf. Process. Lett.* **60** (1996) 1–5.
- [6] S. Julia and T.V. Duc, Families and  $\omega$ -ambiguity removal. In *In Proc. 7<sup>th</sup> Int. Conf. on Words (WORDS)*, Salerno (2009).
- [7] I. Litovsky, *Générateurs des langages rationnels de mots infinis*. Ph.D. thesis, Université de Lille (1988).
- [8] I. Litovsky, Prefix-free languages as  $\omega$ -generators. *Inf. Process. Lett.* **37** (1991) 61–65.
- [9] I. Litovsky and E. Timmerman, On generators of rational  $\omega$ -power languages. *Theor. Comput. Sci.* **53** (1987) 187–200.
- [10] M. Lothaire, *Algebraic Combinatorics on Words*. Cambridge University Press (2002).

- [11] M. Nivat, Infinitary Relations. In *CAAP '81: Proceedings of the 6th Colloquium on Trees in Algebra and Programming*. Springer (1981) 46–75.
- [12] L. Staiger, On infinitary finite length codes. *Theor. Inf. Appl.* **20** (1986) 483–494.
- [13] C. Wrathall, Confluence of One-Rule Thue Systems. Word Equations and Related Topics. Vol. 572 of *Lecture Notes in Computer Sciences*. Springer (1992) 237–246.