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ORIGINAL ARTICLE

### A note on autodense related languages

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**Abstract** In this paper, some algebraic properties of autodense languages and pure autodense languages are studied. We also investigate the algebraic properties concerning anti-autodense languages. The family of anti-autodense languages contains infix codes, comma-free codes, and some subfamilies of new codes which are anti-autodense prefix codes, anti-autodense suffix codes and anti-autodense codes. The relationships among these subfamilies of new codes are investigated. The characterization of  $L^n$ ,  $n \ge 2$ , which are anti-autodense is studied.

#### **1** Introduction

Both regular languages and disjunctive languages are especially important applications in the field of formal languages. Recall that every regular language is accepted by a finite automaton [10]. It is the union of the equivalence classes of a congruence relation of finite index. Moreover, from the definition of disjunctive language, every disjunctive language

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has infinitely many congruence classes. This yields that no disjunctive language is regular. For the definition and properties of disjunctive languages, one is referred to [1,5,11,13] or [20]. To simplify the judgment of disjunctivity of a language immediately, Ries and Shyr [11] indicate that every disjunctive language is dense. The characteristic of dense provides the method to check whether a language is disjunctive. We firstly check whether a language is dense because checking whether it is dense or not is much easier than checking whether it is disjunctive. This study motivates the investigation of denseness property of a language. There are some researches related to dense languages. The definition of dense is given in [7]. In [18] the authors consider the subset of  $X^*$  named dense domain. One has the interesting result that is a language is a dense domain if and only if it is dense. Some characterizations of dense languages have been studied in [15]. Recently, the investigation concerning the classifications of dense languages has been studied in [8]. More properties of dense languages can be found in [14] or [16]. Furthermore, we study algebraic properties of autodense languages and anti-autodense languages in this paper.

This paper is organized into several sections. The first section introduces the overview of this paper. In the second section, we display some well-known definitions and properties applied in this paper. Moreover, the definitions of autodense languages and anti-autodense languages are given. The relationships of the families of languages concerning autodense property are presented in the section. In the third section, we study some algebraic properties concerning autodense languages and pure autodense languages. There is a subset of an autodense language that is not autodense. The union of autodense languages is autodense and the finite union of pure autodense languages is pure autodense. It can be shown that the family of all autodense languages is not closed under catenation. Moreover, we provide a method to construct a union of infinitely many pure autodense languages which is dense. In the meanwhile, a procedure is provided to construct a discrete autodense language contained in a dense language. In the final section, some algebraic properties of anti-autodense languages are studied. Union and catenation of two anti-autodense languages may not be an anti-autodense language. However, the families of all anti-autodense prefix codes and all anti-autodense suffix codes are closed under catenation. Moreover, we also investigate the characterization of  $L^n$ ,  $n \ge 2$  which are anti-autodense languages.

#### 2 Definitions and preliminaries

In this paper the alphabet X containing more than one letter is assumed. Let  $X^*$  be the free monoid generated by X. Every element of  $X^*$  is a *word* and every subset of  $X^*$  is a *language*. Let 1 denote the empty word, and  $X^+ = X^* \setminus \{1\}$ . A language  $L \subseteq X^*$  is *dense* if for any  $w \in X^*$ , there exist  $x, y \in X^*$  such that  $xwy \in L$ . That is, for every  $w \in X^*, X^*wX^* \cap L \neq \emptyset$ . A set  $S \subseteq X^*$  is called *dense domain*, if for any  $D \subseteq X^*$ , the property " $X^*uX^* \cap D \neq \emptyset$ , for all  $u \in S$ " implies that D is dense. A *primitive word* is a word which is not a power of any other word. Let Q be the set of all primitive words over X. Every word  $u \in X^+$ ,  $u = f^n$ for a unique  $f \in Q$  and  $n \ge 1$ . In this manner, f is the primitive root of u and denoted by  $f = \sqrt{u}$ . For a language L, let  $\sqrt{L} = \{\sqrt{u} \mid u \in L\}$ . A language L is a global (coglobal) language if  $\sqrt{L} = Q(\sqrt{L} = Q \setminus F$ , where F is a finite language). A *forest language* [2] is a language L such that  $L = \bigcup_{f \in \Lambda} f^+$  for some  $\Lambda \subseteq Q$ .

Moreover, some classes of codes in this paper are defined as follows. A language  $L \subseteq X^+$  is called a *code* if  $x_1x_2...x_m = y_1y_2...y_n$  and  $x_i, y_j \in X$  for all  $1 \le i \le m, 1 \le j \le n$ 

imply that m = n and  $x_i = y_i$  for all  $1 \le i \le n$ . For any two words  $u, v \in X^*$ ,  $u \le_p v(u \le_s v)$  if v = ux(v = xu) for some  $x \in X^*$ . Meanwhile,  $u <_p v(u <_s v)$  denotes that  $u \le_p v(u \le_s v)$  and  $u \ne v$  for  $u, v \in X^*$ . A language  $L \subseteq X^+$  is an *infix code* if for all  $x, y, u \in X^*$ ,  $u, xuy \in L$  together imply x = y = 1. A language  $L \subseteq X^+$  is a *bifix code* if it is both a prefix code and a suffix code. It follows immediately that an infix code is a bifix code. A language  $L \subseteq X^+$  is an *intercode of index m* if  $L^{m+1} \cap X^+L^mX^+ = \emptyset$ , for  $m \ge 1$ . The family of intercodes is an important subfamily of bifix codes [19]. A *comma-free code* is an intercode of index 1. Some algebraic properties of intercodes and comma-free codes can be found in [4] or [19].

**Definition 2.1** Let  $L \subseteq X^+$ . A language L is autodense if for any  $w \in L$ , there exist  $x, y \in X^+$  such that  $xwy \in L$ .

No infix code is an autodense language. Since a comma-free code is an infix code [4], a comma-free code can never be an autodense language. Remark that every dense language is autodense. Let  $\mathcal{L}_d$  be the family of all dense languages and let  $\mathcal{L}_{au}$  be the family of all autodense languages over X. Therefore  $\mathcal{L}_d \subset \mathcal{L}_{au}$ .

Definition 2.2 A language is *pure autodense* if it is autodense but not dense.

An intercode of index 2 can be a pure autodense language. The well known context-free language  $C = \{a^n b^n | n \ge 1\}$  is an example of pure autodense language.

If the set  $L \subseteq X^+$  is not an autodense language, then there exists  $w \in L$  such that  $xwy \notin L$  for all  $x, y \in X^+$ . Such a language is *non-autodense*. Moreover, we consider a stronger version of this language which will cover all the infix codes and hence cover all of comma-free codes. We have the definition of *anti-autodense language* as follow.

**Definition 2.3** A language *L* is anti-autodense if  $L \cap X^+LX^+ = \emptyset$ . Moreover, if a language *L* satisfies  $L \cap X^+LX^+ = \emptyset$ , then we say that *L* satisfies *anti-autodense condition*.

Every infix code has such property. Since a comma-free code is an infix code, every comma-free code is an anti-autodense language.

In the following, we will investigate some characterization between anti-autodense language and another codes. Firstly, we study some examples as follow.

In Guo et al. [3], it was shown that a maximal prefix code *L* is a right semaphore code if and only if  $L \cap X^+LX^+ = \emptyset$ . However, an anti-autodense language may not be a code. For example, the language  $L = \{ab, aba, bab\}$  over  $X = \{a, b\}$  satisfies the anti-autodense condition  $L \cap X^+LX^+ = \emptyset$ . But *L* is not a code because (ab)(ab)(ab) = (aba)(bab).

Recall that an infix code is a prefix code and also a suffix code. Every infix code satisfies the anti-autodense condition. But a language satisfying the anti-autodense condition may not be an infix code. For example, the language  $L = \{ab, ba^2, ba^2b\}$  satisfies the condition  $L \cap X^+LX^+ = \emptyset$ , but it is neither a prefix code nor a suffix code. By this example, we point out that there is a code L satisfying the condition  $L \cap X^+LX^+ = \emptyset$  but L is not a bifix code.

Let  $X = \{a, b\}$  and  $L_1 = a^+b$ ,  $L_2 = ab^+$ ,  $L_3 = (ba^+b \setminus \{ba^3b\}) \cup \{ab, ba^2\}$ ,  $L_4 = ab^+a \cup \{a\}$ . All  $L_1, L_2, L_3$  and  $L_4$  satisfy the condition  $L \cap X^+LX^+ = \emptyset$ . Here,  $L_1$  is a prefix code but not a suffix code.  $L_2$  is a suffix code but not a prefix code.  $L_3$  and  $L_4$  are anti-autodense codes but neither prefix codes nor suffix codes. It is easy to construct an anti-autodense language which is not a code. The language  $\{a, a^2\}$  is one. One of the same kind of infinite language is  $\{a, a^2\} \cup ab^+$ .

Beside the definition of an anti-autodense language, we give the definitions of codes related to anti-autodense. Let  $L \subseteq X^+$ .

#### **Definition 2.4**

- (i) L is an *anti-autodense prefix code* if L is a prefix code, satisfying the condition  $L \cap X^+LX^+ = \emptyset$ .
- (ii) L is an *anti-autodense suffix code* if L is a suffix code, satisfying the condition  $L \cap X^+LX^+ = \emptyset$ .
- (iii) L is an *anti-autodense bifix code* if L is an anti-autodense prefix code and also an anti-autodense suffix code.
- (iv) *L* is an *anti-autodense code* if *L* is a code, satisfying the condition  $L \cap X^+ L X^+ = \emptyset$ .

From the above definitions, these families of languages exist and all are different families of languages. Let  $\mathcal{L}_{aa}$ ,  $\mathcal{L}_{aab}$ ,  $\mathcal{L}_{aag}$ ,  $\mathcal{L}_{aas}$  and  $\mathcal{L}_{aac}$  represent them, that is,

- $\mathcal{L}_{aab}$ : the family of all anti-autodense bifix codes over X.
- $\mathcal{L}_{aap}$ : the family of all anti-autodense prefix codes over X.
- $\mathcal{L}_{aas}$ : the family of all anti-autodense suffix codes over X.
- $\mathcal{L}_{aac}$ : the family of all anti-autodense codes over X.

For convenience, the following notations are used.

- $\mathcal{L}_{aa}$ : the family of all anti-autodense languages over X.
- $\mathcal{L}_p$ : the family of all prefix codes over *X*.
- $\mathcal{L}_s$ : the family of all suffix codes over X.
- $\mathcal{L}_b$ : the family of all bifix codes over *X*.
- $\mathcal{L}_i$ : the family of all infix codes over X.

Here  $\mathcal{L}_{aab}$  is the family of all infix codes over X, that is,  $\mathcal{L}_{aab} = \mathcal{L}_{aa} \cap \mathcal{L}_b = \mathcal{L}_i$ . And  $\mathcal{L}_{aap} = \mathcal{L}_{aa} \cap \mathcal{L}_p$ ;  $\mathcal{L}_{aas} = \mathcal{L}_{aa} \cap \mathcal{L}_s$ . The relationships of the families of languages are presented as follows.  $\mathcal{L}_{aab} \subset \mathcal{L}_{aap} \subset \mathcal{L}_{aac} \subset \mathcal{L}_{aa}$ ;  $\mathcal{L}_{aab} \subset \mathcal{L}_{aas} \subset \mathcal{L}_{aac} \subset \mathcal{L}_{aa}$ .

Furthermore, there are some results used in the rest of this paper as follow.

**Lemma 2.1** ([18]) Q is a dense domain.

**Lemma 2.2** ([18]) Let  $L \subseteq X^+$ . Then the following are equivalent

- (i) L is dense.
- (ii)  $\sqrt{L}$  is dense.
- (iii) *L* is a dense domain.

From the previous lemma, we have that L is a dense language if and only if L is a dense domain. From now on, we will speak about dense languages instead of dense domains.

**Lemma 2.3** Let  $A, B \subseteq X^*$ . Then  $A \cup B$  is dense if and only if either A or B is dense.

*Proof* Let  $A, B \subseteq X^*$ . If A is dense, then clearly  $A \cup B$  is also dense, for any B. Conversely, if neither A nor B is dense, then there exist  $u, v \in X^+$  such that  $X^*uX^* \cap A = \emptyset$  and  $X^*vX^* \cap B = \emptyset$ . We have  $X^*uvX^* \cap A = \emptyset$  and  $X^*uvX^* \cap B = \emptyset$ . This implies that  $X^*uvX^* \cap (A \cup B) = \emptyset$ ; hence  $A \cup B$  is not dense.

**Lemma 2.4** ([18]) Let L be a dense domain and let F be a finite subset of L. Then  $L \setminus F$  is a dense domain.

**Lemma 2.5** Let  $L \subseteq X^*$ . If L is dense, then  $L^+$  is dense.

*Proof* Let  $L \subseteq X^*$  be a dense language. Note that if A is dense and  $A \subseteq B$  for some  $A, B \in X^*$ , then B is dense. Since  $L \subset L^+$ , it is clear that  $L^+$  is dense.

**Lemma 2.6** ([19]) Let  $L \subseteq X^*$ . If L is an intercode, then  $L \subseteq Q$ .

#### 3 The autodense languages

In this section, we study some algebraic properties of autodense languages. Beside the language is autodense, we also study some languages which are pure autodense or which are not pure autodense.

#### Lemma 3.1 Every autodense language is infinite.

*Proof* Suppose that *L* is a finite autodense language. Let  $u \in L$  be one of the words with maximal length in *L*. By the definition of the autodense language, there exist  $x, y \in X^+$  such that  $xuy \in L$ . This contradicts that  $u \in L$  is one of the words with maximal length in *L*. Thus an autodense language must be infinite.

From the above lemma, we conclude that a subset of an autodense language may not be an autodense language. Since the intersection of two languages can be finite, an intersection of two autodense languages may not be autodense. Furthermore, the following example confirms us in our claim. For instance, an infinite subset of an autodense language may not be autodense. Let  $L = a^*ba^2a^* \cup b^*ab^*$ . Then L is an autodense language because L is the union of two autodense languages. The language  $L' = L \setminus X^+ba^2X^+ = a^*ba^2 \cup ba^2a^* \cup b^*ab^*$ is an infinite subset of L. But L' is not autodense for  $L' \cap X^+ba^2X^+ = \emptyset$ . Beside the union of autodense language is autodense, we prove that  $L^+ = L \cup L^2 \cup L^3 \cup \cdots$  is autodense in the following proposition.

**Proposition 3.1** For any nonempty language  $L \subseteq X^+$ , the language  $L^+$  is autodense.

*Proof* Let  $z \in L^+ = L \cup L^2 \cup L^3 \cup \cdots$ . Then  $z \in L^r$  for some  $r \ge 1$ . This implies that  $z^3 = zzz \in L^{3r} \subset L^+$ . Let  $x = y = z \in X^+$ . It follows that  $xzy = z^3 \in L^{3r}$ . Therefore,  $L^+$  is autodense.

From Proposition 3.1, if  $L = \{f\}, f \in X^+$ , then  $L^+ = f^+$  is autodense.

**Proposition 3.2** *The following are true:* 

(i)  $\mathcal{L}_{au} \cdot \mathcal{L}_d \subset \mathcal{L}_d$ . (ii)  $\mathcal{L}_d \cdot \mathcal{L}_{au} \subset \mathcal{L}_d$ .

Proof Both (i) and (ii) are immediate.

From Proposition 3.2,  $\mathcal{L}_d$  is an ideal of  $\mathcal{L}_{au}$ . But  $\mathcal{L}_{au}$  is not closed under catenation. Indeed, let  $L_1 = \{b^i a b^i | i \ge 1\}$  and  $L_2 = \{a^j b a^j | j \ge 1\}$ . Then  $L_1, L_2$  are both autodense and  $L_1 L_2 = \{b^i a b^i a^j b a^j | i, j \ge 1\}$  is not autodense. It is obviously that  $(bab)(aba) \in L_1 L_2$ , but  $X^+(bab)(aba)X^+ \cap L_1 L_2 = \emptyset$ .

**Lemma 3.2** ([17]) Let  $L \subseteq X^+$ . If L contains a maximal code, then  $L^+$  is dense.

**Corollary 3.1** Let  $L \subseteq X^+$ . If L contains a maximal code, then  $L^+$  is autodense.

*Proof* Since a dense language is an autodense language, by Lemma 3.2, the corollary is clear.

The converse of Corollary 3.1 is not true. For instance, let  $L_1$  be any dense code. If  $L_1$  is not maximal, then let  $L = L_1$ . If  $L_1$  is maximal, then let  $L = L_1 \setminus \{w\}$ , where  $w \in L_1$ . This in conjunction with Lemma 2.4 yields that L is a dense language. Moreover by Lemma 2.5,

we have that the language  $L^+$  is dense. Therefore  $L^+$  is an autodense language, but L does not contain a maximal code.

From the definition of pure autodense language, the pure autodense language is autodense. This implies that the union of pure autodense languages is autodense. Furthermore, it can be derived that the finite union of pure autodense languages is pure autodense.

**Proposition 3.3** Let  $n \ge 1$  and  $L = \bigcup_{i=1}^{n} A_i$ , where  $A_i$  is a pure autodense language. Then *L* is pure autodense.

*Proof* Let  $n \ge 1$  and  $L = \bigcup_{i=1}^{n} A_i$ , where  $A_i$  is a pure autodense language. Then L is autodense. Since a finite union of non-dense language is also not dense, this yields that L is not dense; hence L is pure autodense.

In the following propositions, we study some languages which are not pure autodense. Recall that L is a global (coglobal) language if  $\sqrt{L} = Q (\sqrt{L} = Q \setminus F)$ , where F is a finite language.)

#### **Proposition 3.4** Every coglobal language is dense and hence is not pure autodense.

*Proof* Let  $L \subseteq X^+$  be a coglobal language. Then there exists a finite language  $F \subset X^+$  such that  $\sqrt{L} = Q \setminus F$ . By Lemmata 2.1 and 2.2, Q is dense. These in conjunction with Lemma 2.4 yield that  $\sqrt{L}$  is dense. By Lemma 2.2 again, L is dense and hence is not pure autodense.

**Proposition 3.5** The complement of a pure autodense language in  $X^*$  is dense and hence is not pure autodense.

*Proof* Let L be a pure autodense language and let  $\overline{L} = X^+ \setminus L$ . From the definition of autodense language, L is not dense. Because L is not dense, there is  $w \in X^*$  such that  $X^*wX^* \subseteq \overline{L}$ . Then  $\overline{L}$  is dense; hence  $\overline{L}$  is not pure autodense.

There are some examples of pure autodense languages in the following propositions. For any word  $w = a_1 a_2 \dots a_r$ , where  $a_i \in X$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, r$ , let the mirror image of w be  $w^R = a_r a_{r-1} \dots a_2 a_1$ . For a language L, the mirror image of L is defined as  $L^R = \{w^R \mid w \in L\}$ . It is clear that  $(L^R)^R = L$ .

**Proposition 3.6** For any  $L \subseteq X^+$ , L is pure autodense if and only if its mirror image  $L^R$  is pure autodense.

*Proof* Since  $(L^R)^R = L$ , we need only show the necessary condition. Assume that L is not dense. Let w be a word such that  $xwy \notin L$  for every  $x, y \in X^*$ . Then  $y^R w^R x^R \notin L^R$ . Since  $x, y \in X^*$  are arbitrary, hence  $L^R$  is not dense. Moreover, if L is autodense, then clearly  $L^R$  is autodense. Therefore for a pure autodense language L, the mirror image  $L^R$  is a pure autodense language.

Let  $w \in X^+$  and  $A_w$  be a pure autodense language containing the word w. Then  $X^+ = \bigcup_{w \in X^+} A_w$  is dense. Thus, an infinite union of pure autodense languages may be dense. However, the pure autodense language  $\bigcup_{i \in N} a^+ b^i a^+$  is not dense because  $X^* bab^2 ab X^* \cap \bigcup_{i \in N} a^+ b^i a^+ = \emptyset$ . From this observation, not all infinite unions of pure autodense languages are dense. We will provide a method to construct an infinite union of pure autodense languages which is dense in the following proposition. **Lemma 3.3** Every word  $u \in X^+$  is contained in a pure autodense language  $f^+$  where  $f \in Q$ .

*Proof* Let  $u \in X^+$  be a given word. To find that there exists a pure autodense language L such that  $u \in L$ , we let  $u = f^n$ , where  $f \in Q$  and  $n \ge 1$ . If  $L = f^+$ , then  $u \in L$ . By the definition of autodense language, clearly  $L = f^+$  is an autodense language. Since  $\sqrt{L} = \{f\}$  is not dense, by Lemma 2.2, L is not dense. Therefore, the language  $f^+$  is a pure autodense language containing the word u.

**Proposition 3.7** For a finite subset  $\Lambda \subset Q$ , the forest language  $L = \bigcup_{f \in \Lambda} f^+$  is a pure autodense language.

*Proof* Clearly, this proof follows from Proposition 3.3 and Lemma 3.3.

From the above proposition, the language  $\bigcup_{f \in Q} f^+ = X^+$  is dense where  $f^+$  is pure autodense.

**Corollary 3.2** Let  $L = \bigcup_{i \in I} A_i$ , where *I* is an index set, finite or infinite, and each  $A_i$  be a pure autodense language. Then the language *L* is an autodense language.

*Proof* This result is immediately.

For a given language  $L \subseteq X^*$ , the *principal congruence*  $P_L$  determined by L is defined as follows:

$$u \equiv v(P_L) \iff (xuy \in L \iff xvy \in L, \forall x, y \in X^*).$$

A language  $L \subseteq X^*$  is discrete if for every two words x and y in L,  $\lg(x) \neq \lg(y)$ . It implies that there exists a unique word  $u \in L \cap X^m$  for some m.

**Proposition 3.8** Let L be a discrete autodense language. Then for any  $n \ge 1$ , there exists an integer m > n such that at least two words  $u \ne v \in X^m$  with the property  $u \ne v (P_L)$ .

*Proof* Assume that *L* is an autodense language. By Lemma 3.1, *L* is infinite. Then for any  $n \ge 1$ , there exists an integer m > n such that  $|L \cap X^m| \ne \emptyset$ . Since *L* is discrete, there are two words  $u \ne v \in X^m$  such that  $u \in L$  and  $v \notin L$ . By the assumption that *L* is an autodense language, there exist  $x, y \in X^+$  such that  $xuy \in L$ . Since *L* is discrete, it implies that  $xvy \notin L$ . Therefore  $u \ne v (P_L)$ .

In the following proposition, we provide a procedure to construct a discrete autodense language contained in a dense language. For simplifying our procedure, we need the following lemma.

**Lemma 3.4** Let  $L \subseteq X^*$ . The following are equivalent:

(i) For every  $w \in X^*$ ,  $X^*wX^* \cap L \neq \emptyset$ .

(ii) For every  $w \in X^+$ ,  $X^*wX^* \cap L \neq \emptyset$ .

(iii) For every  $w \in X^+$ ,  $X^+wX^+ \cap L \neq \emptyset$ .

*Proof* (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii) Immediate. (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) Only to show that  $X^*(1)X^* \cap L \neq \emptyset$  holds true, where 1 is the empty word. But this is always true, for  $X^*(1)X^* \cap L = X^*X^* \cap L = X^* \cap L = L$ , which is certainly not empty. (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii) Suppose that (ii) holds. Let  $w \in X^+$  and consider the word  $z_1wz_2$ , where  $z_1, z_2 \in X^+$ . By (ii)  $X^*(z_1wz_2)X^* \cap L \neq \emptyset$ . It is clear that  $X^+wX^+ \cap L \neq \emptyset$  and (iii) holds. (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii) Immediate.

#### **Proposition 3.9** Every dense language contains a discrete autodense language.

*Proof* Let *L* be a dense language. We construct a discrete autodense language *A* contained in *L* inductively in the following way. Start with a word, say,  $u_1 \in L$  and put  $u_1$  into *A*. Since *L* is dense, by Lemma 3.4, there exist  $v_1, v'_1 \in X^+$  such that  $u_2 = v_1 u_1 v'_1 \in L$ . Note that  $\lg (u_1) < \lg (u_2)$ . Put the word  $u_2$  into *A*; hence  $u_2$  is the second word in *A*. Now inductively, suppose that the word  $u_n \in A$ . There exist  $v_n, v'_n \in X^+$  such that  $u_{n+1} = v_n u_n v'_n \in L$ . Then naturally, put  $u_{n+1} = v_n u_n v'_n$  into *A*. Note that  $\lg (u_1) < \lg (u_2) < \cdots < \lg (u_{n+1})$ . Since *L* is a dense language, this procedure can be infinitely continued without any problem. The final set *A* is clearly a discrete autodense language contained in *L*.

#### 4 The anti-autodense languages

We study some algebraic properties of the families of languages related to anti-autodense in this section. Firstly, we deal with the closure property of the union and catenation of two languages on the families of languages  $\mathcal{L}_{aa}$ ,  $\mathcal{L}_{aab}$ ,  $\mathcal{L}_{aap}$ ,  $\mathcal{L}_{aas}$  and  $\mathcal{L}_{aac}$ .

(I) Union of two languages.

Union of two anti-autodense languages may not be an anti-autodense language. For example, let  $a \in X$ . The languages  $L_1 = \{a, a^2\}$  and  $L_2 = \{a^2, a^3\}$  are both in  $\mathcal{L}_{aa}$  while the union  $L_1 \cup L_2 = \{a, a^2, a^3\}$  is not in  $\mathcal{L}_{aa}$ . Since  $\mathcal{L}_p$  and  $\mathcal{L}_s$  are not closed under union, both  $\mathcal{L}_{aap}$  and  $\mathcal{L}_{aas}$  are not closed under union of two languages. Similarly,  $\mathcal{L}_{aab}$  and  $\mathcal{L}_{aac}$  are also not closed under union of two languages.

(II) Catenation of two languages.

It is known that  $\mathcal{L}_p$ ,  $\mathcal{L}_s$ , and  $\mathcal{L}_b$  are closed under catenation. Moreover,  $\langle \mathcal{L}_p, \cdot \rangle$ ,  $\langle \mathcal{L}_s, \cdot \rangle$ and  $\langle \mathcal{L}_b, \cdot \rangle$  are all free semigroups [9,20]. It is also known that  $\mathcal{L}_i$ , the family of all infix codes, is closed under catenation. That is,  $\mathcal{L}_i$  is a semigroup. But  $\langle \mathcal{L}_i, \cdot \rangle$  is not free [6]. In general, catenation of two anti-autodense languages is not an anti-autodense language. For example, let  $a \neq b \in X$ . The languages  $L_1 = \{a, a^2\}$  and  $L_2 = \{b, b^2\}$  are both in  $\mathcal{L}_{aa}$ while  $L_1L_2 = \{ab, ab^2, a^2b, a^2b^2\} \notin \mathcal{L}_{aa}$ . Therefore  $\mathcal{L}_{aa}$  is not closed under catenation. In the following proposition, we will investigate the characterization concerning the catenation of two anti-autodense languages.

**Proposition 4.1** Let  $L_1, L_2$  be two anti-autodense languages. Then  $L_1L_2$  is an antiautodense language if and only if one of the following conditions holds:

- (i)  $L_1$  is a suffix code.
- (ii)  $L_2$  is a prefix code.

*Proof* The necessary condition is clear. Now we prove the sufficient condition. Since both  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  are anti-autodense languages,  $L_1 \cap X^+L_1X^+ = \emptyset$  and  $L_2 \cap X^+L_2X^+ = \emptyset$ . Suppose that  $(L_1L_2) \cap X^+ (L_1L_2) X^+ \neq \emptyset$ . Then there exist  $u_1, u_2 \in L_1, v_1, v_2 \in L_2$  such that  $u_1v_1 = xu_2v_2y$  for some  $x, y \in X^+$ . Since  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  are anti-autodense languages, this yields that  $u_1 = xu_2$  and  $v_1 = v_2y$ . From  $u_1, u_2 \in L_1$  and  $u_1 = xu_2, x \in X^+$ ,  $L_1$  is not a suffix code, a contradiction. Similarly, from  $v_1, v_2 \in L_2$  and  $v_1 = v_2y$ ,  $y \in X^+$ ,  $L_2$  is not a prefix code, a contradiction.

**Corollary 4.1** The families of languages  $\mathcal{L}_{aap}$  and  $\mathcal{L}_{aas}$  are both closed under catenation.

**Corollary 4.2**  $<\mathcal{L}_{aap}$ , > is a subsemigroup of the free semigroup  $<\mathcal{L}_p$ , > and  $<\mathcal{L}_{aas}$ , > is a subsemigroup of the free semigroup  $<\mathcal{L}_s$ , >.

However, neither  $\langle \mathcal{L}_{aap}, \cdot \rangle$  nor  $\langle \mathcal{L}_{aas}, \cdot \rangle$  are free semigroups. These results will be derived in Proposition 4.2. In order to prove Proposition 4.2, the following notations and Lemma 4.1, the well-known result given by Schützenberger [12], are needed. Let *M* be a semigroup. For any two subsets *A* and *B* of *M*, we define

$$A^{-1}B = \{x \in M \mid Ax \cap B \neq \emptyset\};\$$
  
$$BA^{-1} = \{x \in M \mid xA \cap B \neq \emptyset\}.$$

**Lemma 4.1** ([12]) Let S be a subsemigroup of a free semigroup M. Then S is free if and only if  $S^{-1}S \cap SS^{-1} \subseteq S$ .

**Proposition 4.2** Neither the subsemigroup  $<\mathcal{L}_{aap}$ ,  $\cdot >$  of the free semigroup  $<\mathcal{L}_p$ ,  $\cdot >$  nor the subsemigroup  $<\mathcal{L}_{aas}$ ,  $\cdot >$  of the free semigroup  $<\mathcal{L}_s$ ,  $\cdot >$  are free.

*Proof* Since the family of all prefix codes  $\mathcal{L}_p$  and the family of all suffix codes  $\mathcal{L}_s$  are free semigroups, Lemma 4.1 is applicable. Firstly, we show that  $\langle \mathcal{L}_{aap}, \cdot \rangle$  is not free. Let  $L_1 = \{ab, b\}, L_2 = \{b, aba\}$ . Then  $L_1L_2 = \{ab^2, ababa, b^2, baba\}$  and  $L_2L_1 = \{bab, aba^2b, b^2, abab\}$ . Both  $L_1L_2$  and  $L_2L_1$  are in  $\mathcal{L}_{aap}$ . These in conjunction with  $L_1 \in \mathcal{L}_{aap}$  yield that  $L_2 \in \mathcal{L}_{aap}^{-1}\mathcal{L}_{aap} \cap \mathcal{L}_{aap}\mathcal{L}_{aap}^{-1}$ . But  $L_2 = \{b, aba\}$  implies that  $L_2 \cap X^+L_2X^+ \neq \emptyset$ . It follows that  $L_2 \notin \mathcal{L}_{aap}$ . Therefore, by Lemma 4.1,  $\mathcal{L}_{aap}$  is not free. Next,  $\langle \mathcal{L}_{aas}, \cdot \rangle$  is not free either, by symmetry.

By Corollary 4.1, the families of languages  $\mathcal{L}_{aap}$  and  $\mathcal{L}_{aas}$  are closed under catenation. Moreover, the family of infix codes  $\mathcal{L}_i$  is a subfamily of  $\mathcal{L}_{aap}$  and  $\mathcal{L}_{aas}$ , that is,  $\mathcal{L}_i \subset \mathcal{L}_{aap} \cap \mathcal{L}_{aas}$ . It is known that an infix code can never be dense. We would like to generalize this result in the following proposition.

**Proposition 4.3** No anti-autodense language is dense.

**Proof** By Lemma 3.4, we have that a language  $L \subseteq X^*$  is dense if for any  $w \in X^+, L \cap X^+wX^+ \neq \emptyset$ . Thus if there exists a word  $w \in X^+$  such that  $L \cap X^+wX^+ = \emptyset$ , then L is not dense. Hence a language with the condition  $L \cap X^+LX^+ = \emptyset$  certainly ensures that L is not dense. Recall that a language with the condition  $L \cap X^+LX^+ = \emptyset$  is an anti-autodense language. Thus the result is immediate.

**Corollary 4.3** Infix codes, anti-autodense prefix codes, anti-autodense suffix codes, and anti-autodense codes are non-dense languages.

*Proof* The results follow directly from Proposition 4.3 and the facts,  $\mathcal{L}_i \subset \mathcal{L}_{aap} \subset \mathcal{L}_{aac} \subset \mathcal{L}_{aa}$ ,  $\mathcal{L}_i \subset \mathcal{L}_{aas} \subset \mathcal{L}_{aac} \subset \mathcal{L}_{aa}$ .

Corollary 4.4 The complement of an anti-autodense language is autodense.

*Proof* Let  $L \subseteq X^+$  be an anti-autodense language and let  $\overline{L} = X^* \setminus L$  be the complement of L. By Proposition 4.3, L is not dense. Moreover, since  $X^*$  is dense, by Lemmata 2.2 and 2.3,  $\overline{L} = X^* \setminus L$  is dense. Hence, the complement of an anti-autodense language is autodense.

*Remark* Let  $X = \{a, b\}$  and let  $L \subseteq X^+$  be an anti-autodense language. If there exists a word  $z \in \overline{L} = X^+ \setminus L$  such that  $xzy \in L$  for some  $x, y \in X^+$ , then  $|L \cap X^+ zX^+|$  may be infinite. For example, let  $L = ab^+$ . It is clear that  $L \cap X^+ L X^+ = \emptyset$ . Then  $L = ab^+$ is an anti-autodense language. It is also clear that  $z = b \in X^+ \setminus L$ ,  $azb = abb \in L$ , and  $L \cap X^+ b X^+ = L$  is infinite.

In the following propositions, we will study some anti-autodense properties of languages  $L^n, n \geq 1$ . Let  $L \subseteq X^+$  be an anti-autodense language. Then it can be derived that  $X^+L^{n-1}X^+ \subset X^+LX^+$  for every  $n \ge 3$ . This result can be found from the following example. Let  $L = \{a, ab\}$ . Then  $L^{n-1} = \{a^{n-1}, a^{n-2}ab, \dots, (ab)^{n-1}\}$ . Hence the number of a in every word in  $X^+L^{n-1}X^+$  is greater than n-1. Thus  $b^n a b^n \in X^+LX^+ \setminus X^+L^{n-1}X^+$ for n > 3. This implies that  $X^+ L^{n-1} X^+ \subset X^+ L X^+$ .

**Proposition 4.4** Let  $L \subseteq X^+$  be an anti-autodense language. Then  $L^n \not\subset L$  for any  $n \ge 2$ .

*Proof* Let  $L \subseteq X^+$  be an anti-autodense language. Then  $L \cap X^+ L X^+ = \emptyset$ . Suppose that  $L^n \subset L$  for any n > 2. This in conjunction with  $L \cap X^+ L X^+ = \emptyset$  yields that  $L^n \cap X^+ L X^+ = \emptyset$  $\emptyset$ . Since  $X^+L^{n-1}X^+ \subset X^+LX^+$  is true, this implies that  $L^n \cap X^+L^{n-1}X^+ = \emptyset$ . Then L is an intercode of index n-1 with n > 2. But, by Lemma 2.6, any intercode contains only primitive words, the condition  $L^n \subset L$  is impossible. Therefore  $L^n \not\subset L$  for any  $n \ge 2$ .

The converse of Proposition 4.4 is not true. For example, the language  $L = a^+ \cup b^+$ over  $X = \{a, b\}$  has the property  $L^2 \not\subset L$  while L is an autodense language. An autodense language may not have the above property. For example,  $a^+$  is an autodense language over  $X = \{a, b\}$ . Here  $(a^+)^2 \subset a^+$ .

For an anti-autodense language L, by Proposition 4.1, it is clear that  $L^2$  is an anti-autodense language if and only if L is a prefix code or a suffix code. Now we extend this result to  $L^n$  for  $n \ge 3$ .

**Proposition 4.5** Let L be an anti-autodense language. Then for n > 2,  $L^n$  is an anti-autodense language if and only if one of the following conditions hold: L is a prefix code or L is a suffix code.

*Proof* Let *L* be an anti-autodense language. Then  $L \cap X^+ L X^+ = \emptyset$ . Assume that *L* is a prefix code or L is a suffix code. We want to show that  $L^n \cap X^+ L^n X^+ = \emptyset$ . We prove the result by induction on  $n \ge 2$ . It is clear that  $L^n$  is an anti-autodense language by Proposition 4.1. Recall that  $\langle \mathcal{L}_p, \cdot \rangle, \langle \mathcal{L}_s, \cdot \rangle$  are all free semigroups. By assumption,  $L^n, n \geq 2$  is a prefix code or a suffix code. Thus both  $L, L^n$  are prefix codes or suffix codes. By Proposition 4.1 again,  $L^{n+1} = L(L^n)$  is an anti-autodense language. Hence by induction,  $L^n$  is an anti-autodense language. Now we assume that  $L^n$  is an anti-autodense language. If L is neither a prefix code nor a suffix code, then there exist  $u, v, w, z \in L$  such that w = xu, z = vy for some  $x, y \in X^+$ . For  $n \ge 2$ , we consider  $wv^{n-2}z \in L^n$ . Then  $wv^{n-2}z = xuv^{n-2}vy = xuv^{n-1}y$ . This implies that  $wv^{n-2}z \in X^+L^nX^+$ . That is,  $L^n \cap X^+L^nX^+ \neq \emptyset$ . This contradicts that  $L^n$  is an anti-autodense language. Hence L is a prefix code or a suffix code. 

It is easy to split  $X^+$  into a disjoint union of two autodense languages. For example, let  $X = \{a, b\}.$ 

- (i)  $X^+ = a^+ \cup (X^+ \setminus a^+).$
- (ii)
- $\begin{aligned} X^+ &= aX^* \cup bX^*. \\ X^+ &= (a^+ \cup b^+) \cup (X^+ \setminus (a^+ \cup b^+)). \end{aligned}$ (iii)

However, the same situation is not true for the case of anti-autodense languages.

**Proposition 4.6** Let  $X^+ = L_1 \cup L_2 \cup \cdots \cup L_r$ , where  $r \ge 2$  and the union is a disjoint union. It is impossible that all the  $L_i$  are anti-autodense languages.

*Proof* This proof follows by induction from Lemmata 2.2 and 2.3, and Proposition 4.3.

*Remark* For any language  $L \subseteq X^+$ , it is impossible that both L and  $X^+ \setminus L$  are anti-autodense languages.

**Corollary 4.5** Let  $X^+ = L_1 \cup L_2 \cup \cdots \cup L_r$ , where  $r \ge 2$  and the union is a disjoint union. Then at least one of the component  $L_i$  in the decomposition is not an infix code.

*Proof* Since every infix code is an anti-autodense language, the corollary follows directly from the above proposition.

Corollary 4.5 tells us that  $X^+$  is not a finite disjoint union of infix codes. Moreover, there are some other languages with this property. In fact, if L is not a finite disjoint union of infix code, then for any infix code  $L_1 \subset L$ , the language  $L \setminus L_1$  is also not a finite disjoint union of infix codes.

**Corollary 4.6** Let A be a finite disjoint union of infix codes and let  $L = X^+ \setminus A$ . Then L is not a finite disjoint union of infix codes.

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|   | 值 ( 簡要敘述成果所代表之意義、價值、影響或進一步發展之可能性 ) ( 以  |
|   | 500 字為限)                                |
|   | 本研究主要是探究自動稠密言語及純自動稠密言語之代數特性,除此,反自動稠密言語的 |
|   | 相關代數性質也一併加以討論。其中於反自動稠密言語家族中發現包含有中置數碼、自由 |
|   | 逗點數碼等特殊數碼言語,對於密碼科學有學術理論研究上之貢獻。          |