

## Some equivalent depictions of fuzzy codes

Mo Zhi Wen\*

Department of Mathematics, Sichuan Normal  
University, Sichuan, Chengdu 610066, P.R. China

Pen Jia Yin

Department of Mathematics, Neijiang Teacher's  
College, Sichuan Neijiang 641002, P.R. China

### Abstract

In this paper, the algebraic properties of fuzzy codes have been discussed, and several equivalent depictions of fuzzy codes, fuzzy prefix (suffix, biprefix) codes have been given.

### 1. Preliminaries

The notion of the fuzzy language was first introduced by Zadeh in 1969[1]. Since then, in the study of fuzzy formal language, a lot of excellent results have been achieved by researches. Particularly, the study of fuzzy formal language extended the applicable area of fuzzy set theory and reduced the difference between formal language and natural language[2]. J.Z. Shen introduced the concepts of fuzzy base on fuzzy monoid in[4]. Based on[5], Shen introduced the concepts of fuzzy code, fuzzy prefix code and maximal fuzzy prefix code. In this paper, the algebraic properties of fuzzy codes have been discussed, and several equivalent depiction of fuzzy codes, fuzzy prefix (Suffix, biprefix) codes have been given.

In the following text, we suppose that  $X$  ( $Y, Z$ ) is an alphabet with  $1 \leq |X|$  ( $|Y|, |Z| < \infty$ ) and  $X^*$  ( $X^+$ ) ( $Y^*$  ( $Y^+$ ),  $Z^*$  ( $Z^+$ )) is the free monoid (semigroup) generated from  $X$  ( $Y, Z$ )

with the operation of adjoin.  $F$  stand for "fuzzy" and  $F(X)$  denotes the set of all fuzzy subsets of  $X$ ,  $A \in F(X^*)$  is called  $F$ -language on the free monoid  $X^*$ .  $e$  is the identity of  $X^*$ .

**Definition 1.1.** Let  $A, B \in F(X^*)$ , for any  $x \in X^*$ ,  $(A - B)(x) = \begin{cases} A(x), & \text{if } B(x) = 0 \\ 0, & \text{if } B(x) > 0 \end{cases}$

$$(AB)(x) = \sup_{yz=x} \min(A(y), B(z)).$$

**Definition 1.2.** Let  $S$  be a Semigroup,  $B \in F(S)$  is called a  $F$ -subsemigroup of  $S$  if  $B(xy) \geq \min(B(x), B(y))$  for any  $x, y \in S$ .

**Definition 1.3[4].** A  $F$ -subsemigroup  $A$  of  $X^*$  is called a  $F$ -submonoid of  $X^*$  if  $A(e) = 1$

**Definition 1-4[4].** Let  $A \in F(X^*)$  be a  $F$ -submonoid of  $X^*$ ,  $B \subseteq A$  is called a  $F$ -based of  $A$  if  $B(e) = 0$  and

(B<sub>1</sub>) for any  $x \in \text{supp}A - \{e\}$ ,  $B^+(x) \geq A(x)$ ;

(B<sub>2</sub>) for any  $x \in \text{supp}A - \{e\}$ ,  $x_i, y_i \in X^*$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n; j = 1, \dots, m$ ,

\* Corresponding author

and  $x=x_1x_2\dots x_n=y_1y_2\dots y_m$ , imply that  $\min(B(x_1),\dots,B(x_n),B(y_1),\dots,B(y_m)) \infty \min([m=n],[x_1=y_1],\dots,[x_n=y_n]) \geq A(x)$ , where  $a \infty b = 1$  if  $a \leq b$ ;  $a \infty b = b/a$  if  $a > b$ ;  $[m=n]=1$  if  $m=n$ ;  $[m=n]=0$  if  $m \neq n$ .

**Definition 1.5[4].** A F-submonoid A of  $X^*$  is called F-free submonoid if there exists F-based of A such that  $B^*=A$ .

**Definition 1.6[5].**  $\phi \neq A \in F(X^+)$  is called a F-code on X if A is a F-based of  $A^+$ .

**Definition 1.7[5].** A nonempty F-language  $\phi \neq A \in F(X^+)$  is a F-prefix code if  $A \cap AX^+ = \phi$ .

**Definition 1.8.** Let X be an alphabet, A subset A of the free monoid  $X^*$  is a code over X if is for all  $n,m \geq 1$  and  $x_1,\dots,x_n, x'_1,\dots,x'_m \in A, x_1x_2\dots x_n = x'_1x'_2\dots x'_m$  implies  $n=m$  and  $x_i = x'_i$  for  $i = 1,\dots,n$ .

**Proposition 1.9.** (1) A code never contains the empty word e (2) Any subset of a code is a code. Particularly, the empty set is a code.

**Definition 1.10.** Let A be a subset of  $X^*$ , then A is a prefix (suffix) set if no element of A is a proper left (right) factor of another element in A. A is called a biprefix set if it is both prefix and suffix.

**Definition 1.11.** A prefix (suffix, biprefix) code is a prefix (suffix, biprefix) set which is a code, that is distinct from {e}.

**2. Epuivalent depiction of F-code**

**Theorem 2.1.** Let  $A \in F(X^*)$  be a F-subset

of the free monoid  $X^*$ . Then A is a F-code  $\Leftrightarrow$  (I) if for any  $n,m \geq 1$  and  $x_1,\dots,x_n,$

$x'_1,\dots,x'_m \in X^*$ , the condition

$$x_1x_2\dots x_n = x'_1x'_2\dots x'_m = x$$

implies  $\min(A(x_1),\dots,A(x_n),A(x'_1),\dots,A(x'_m))$

$$\infty \min([m=n],[x_1=x'_1],\dots,[x_n=x'_n]) \geq$$

$A^+(x)$ . Where  $a \infty b = 1$ , if  $a \leq b$ ;  $a \infty b = b/a$ ,

if  $a > b$  for any  $a,b \in [0,1]$ ;

$$[x=y] = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } x=y \\ 0, & \text{if } x \neq y \end{cases}$$

**Proof.** " $\Leftarrow$ " Since  $e.e=e$  then  $\min(A(e), A(e), A(e)) \infty$

$$\min([2=1],[e=e]) \geq A^+(e), A(e) \infty$$

$0 \geq A^+(e)$ , so  $A(e)=0$ . And from (I) we

can obtain the following condition easily, for

any  $x \in \text{supp } pA - \{e\}, x_i, y_j \in X^*$ ,

$$i = 1,2,\dots,n, j = 1,2,\dots,m,$$

$x = x_1x_2\dots x_n = y_1y_2\dots y_m$  implies

$$\min(A(x_1),\dots,A(x_n),A(y_1),\dots,A(y_m)) \infty$$

$$\min([m=n],[x_1=y_1],\dots,[x_n=y_n]) \geq A^+(x),$$

So A is a F-code.

" $\Rightarrow$ " For any  $n,m > 1$  and

$$x_1\dots x_n, x'_1,\dots,x'_m \in X^*,$$

$x = x_1x_2\dots x_n = x'_1\dots x'_m$ . If  $A(x_i) > 0$

$i = 1,\dots,n, A(x'_j) > 0, j = 1,\dots,m$ , and

$x \neq e$  then  $A^+(x) > 0, x \in \text{supp } pA^* - \{e\}$ , by

the definition 1.6 we have that

$$\min(A(x_1),\dots,A(x_n),A(x'_1),\dots,A(x'_m)) \infty$$

$$\min([m=n],[x_1=x'_1],\dots,[x_n=x'_n]) \geq A^+(x). \text{ If}$$

$x=e$ , obviously  $x_i = e, i = 1,\dots,n$

$x'_j = e, j = 1,\dots,m$ . as  $A(e) = 0$ , So

$$\min(A(x_1),\dots,A(x_n),A(x'_1),\dots,A(x'_m)) = 0, \text{ and}$$

$$\min(A(x_1),\dots,A(x_n),A(x'_1),\dots,A(x'_m))$$

$$\infty \min([m=n],[x_1=x'_1],\dots,[x_n=x'_n]) \geq A^+(x).$$

If there exists  $x_i$  or  $x'_j$  such that

$$A(x_{i_0}) = 0, 1 \leq i_0 \leq n \quad \text{or} \quad A(x'_{j_0}) = 0, 1 \leq j_0 \leq m$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} \min(A(x_1), \dots, A(x_n), A(x'_1), \dots, A(x'_m)) &= 0, \text{ and} \\ \min(A(x_1), \dots, A(x_n), A(x'_1), \dots, A(x'_m)) &\infty \\ \min([n = n], [x_1 = x'_1], \dots, [x_n = x'_n]) &\geq A^+(x). \end{aligned}$$

**Proposition 2.2** Any subset of a F-code is a F-code. Especially the empty set is a F-code.

**Proof.** Let A be a F-code, and suppose B is a subset of A, for any  $n, m \geq 1$  and  $x_1, \dots, x_n, x'_1, \dots, x'_m \in X^*$ ,

$$x_1 \dots x_n = x'_1 \dots x'_m = x, \text{ since A is a F-code, we have}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \min(A(x_1), \dots, A(x_n), A(x'_1), \dots, A(x'_m)) \\ \infty \min([n = m], [x_1 = x'_1], \dots, [x_n = x'_n]) \geq A^+(x). \end{aligned}$$

If  $A^+(x) > 0$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \min([n = m], [x_1 = x'_1], \dots, [x_n = x'_n]) &= 1 \text{ or} \\ \min([n = m], [x_1 = x'_1], \dots, [x_n = x'_n]) \\ = \min(A(x_1), \dots, A(x_n), A(x'_1), \dots, A(x'_m)) &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $B \subset A$ ,  $B(x_i) \leq A(x_i)$ ,  $B(x'_j) \leq A(x'_j)$ ,

$$i = 1, \dots, n; j = 1, \dots, m. \text{ Thus} \\ \min(B(x_1), \dots, B(x_n), B(x'_1), \dots, B(x'_m)) \infty$$

$$\min([n = m], [x_1 = x'_1], \dots, [x_n = x'_n]) \geq B^+(x). \text{ If}$$

$A^+(x) = 0$ , then  $B(x) = 0$ . The result is obviously. By theorem 2.1, B is a F-code.

**Theorem 2.3.**  $A \in F(X^*)$  is a F-code

$$\Leftrightarrow A_\lambda \subseteq X^* \text{ is a code for any } \lambda \in (0, 1].$$

**Proof.** " $\Rightarrow$ " For any  $n, m \geq 1$  and  $x_1, \dots, x_n, x'_1, \dots, x'_m \in A_\lambda$ ,

$x_1 \dots x_n = x'_1 \dots x'_m = x$  Since A is a F-code then

$$\begin{aligned} \min(A(x_1), \dots, A(x_n), A(x'_1), \dots, A(x'_m)) \\ \min([n = m], [x_1 = x'_1], \dots, [x_n = x'_n]) \geq A^+(x) \\ \geq A^+(x) \geq \lambda > 0, \text{ thus} \end{aligned}$$

$$\min([n = m], [x_1 = x'_1], \dots, [x_n = x'_n]) = 1,$$

i.e.  $n = m$ ,  $x_i = x_j$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , therefore

$A_\lambda$  is a code for  $\lambda \in (0, 1]$ .

" $\Leftarrow$ " If A is not a F-code, then there exists  $w \in X^*$ ,  $w = x_1 \dots x_n = y_1 \dots y_m$  such that

$$\min(A(x_1), \dots, A(x_n), A(y_1), \dots, A(y_m)) \infty$$

$$\min([n = m], [x_1 = y_1], \dots, [x_n = y_n]) < A^+(w).$$

Then

$$\lambda = \min(A(x_1), \dots, A(x_n), A(y_1), \dots, A(y_m)) > 0 \\ \text{and } \min([n = m], [x_1 = y_1], \dots, [x_n = y_n]) = 0, \text{ i.e.}$$

$x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_m \in A_\lambda$ , and  $m \neq n$  or

$x_i \neq y_i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$  so,  $A_\lambda$  is not a code, this is a contradiction, thus A is a F-code.

**Theorem 2.4.** If a F-set A of  $F(X^*)$  is a

F-code, then any morphism  $\beta: Y^* \rightarrow X^*$

which induces a bijection of some alphabet Y onto  $\text{supp} A$  is injective. Conversely, if there

exists an injective morphism  $\beta: Y^* \rightarrow X^*$

such that  $\text{supp } pA = \beta(Y)$ , then A is a F-code.

**Proof.** Let  $\beta: Y^* \rightarrow X^*$  be a morphism

such that  $\beta$  is a bijection of Y onto  $\text{supp} A$ .

Let  $u, v \in Y^*$  be words such that  $\beta(u) = \beta(v)$ .

If  $u = e$ , then  $v = e$ ; indeed  $\beta(y) \neq e$  for

each letter  $y \in Y$ , since A is a F-code.

If  $u \neq e$  and  $v \neq e$ , set

$u = y_1 y_2 \dots y_n, v = y'_1 y'_2 \dots y'_m$  with

$n, m \geq 1, y_1, \dots, y_n, y'_1, \dots, y'_m \in Y$ . Since  $\beta$

is a morphism, we have

$$\beta(y_1) \dots \beta(y_n) = \beta(y'_1) \dots \beta(y'_m). \text{ But A}$$

is a F-code and  $\beta(y_i), \beta(y'_j) \in \text{sup } pA$ , so

$$\begin{aligned} & \min(A(\beta(y_1)), \dots, A(\beta(y_n)), A(\beta(y'_1)), \dots, A(\beta(y'_m))) \\ & \infty \min([m=n], [\beta(y_1) = \beta(y'_1)], \dots, [\beta(y_n) = \beta(y'_n)]) \\ & \geq A^+(\beta(u)) > 0, \end{aligned}$$

$\min([m=n], [\beta(y_1) = \beta(y'_1)], \dots, [\beta(y_n) = \beta(y'_n)]) > 0$   
 Thus  $n=m$  and  $\beta(y_i) = \beta(y'_i)$  for  $i=1, \dots, n$ . Now  $\beta$  is injective on  $Y$ . Thus  $y_i = y'_i$  for  $i=1, \dots, n$ , and  $u=v$ . This shows that  $\beta$  is injective.

Conversely, if  $\beta: Y^* \rightarrow X^*$  is an injective morphism, for any  $n, m \geq 1$ ,  $x_1, \dots, x_n, x'_1, \dots, x'_m \in X^*$  and  $x_1 \dots x_n = x'_1 \dots x'_m = x$  and  $x_1, \dots, x_n, x'_1, \dots, x'_m \in \text{sup } pA = \beta(Y)$ , then we consider the letters  $y_i, y'_i$  in  $Y$  such that

$$\beta(y_i) = x_i, \beta(y'_j) = x'_j, \quad i=1, \dots, n,$$

$j=1, \dots, m$ . Since  $\beta$  is injective morphism,

$$x_1 \dots x_n = x'_1 \dots x'_m \Rightarrow \beta(y_1) \dots \beta(y_n) = \beta(y'_1) \dots \beta(y'_m)$$

$$\Rightarrow \beta(y_1 \dots y_n) = \beta(y'_1 \dots y'_m) \Rightarrow$$

$y_1 \dots y_n = y'_1 \dots y'_m$ . Thus  $n=m$  and  $y_i = y'_i$ , since  $Y$  is code over itself so  $x_i = x'_i$  for  $i=1, \dots, n$ .

$$\begin{aligned} & \min(A(x_1), \dots, A(x_n), A(x'_1), \dots, A(x'_m)) \infty \\ & \min([m=n], [x_1 = x'_1], \dots, [x_n = x'_n]) = \\ & \min(A(x_1), \dots, A(x_n)) \infty 1 \geq A^+(x). \end{aligned}$$

Meanwhile if there exists  $x_i$  or  $x'_j \notin \text{sup } pA$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} & \min(A(x_1), \dots, A(x_n), A(x'_1), \dots, A(x'_m)) \infty \\ & \min([m=n], [x_1 = x'_1], \dots, [x_n = x'_n]) = 0 \infty \\ & \min([n=m], [x_1 = x'_1], \dots, [x_n = x'_n]) = 1 \geq \end{aligned}$$

$A^+(x)$ . Therefore  $A$  is a F-code. Over  $X$ .

**Definitoion2.1.** A morphism  $\beta: Y^* \rightarrow X^*$

which is injective and such that  $\text{sup } pA = \beta(Y)$  is called a F-coding morphism for  $A$ . Where  $A$  is a F-code.

**Corollary2.5.** Let  $\alpha: X^* \rightarrow Y^*$  be an injective morphism. If  $A$  is a F-code over  $X$ , then  $\alpha(A) \in F(Y^*)$  which defined by

$\text{sup } p\alpha(A) = \alpha(\text{sup } pA)$  is a F-code over  $Y$ . If  $B$  is a F-code over  $Y$ , then  $\alpha^{-1}(B)$  which defined by  $\alpha^{-1}(B) \in F(X^*)$  and  $\text{sup } p\alpha^{-1}(B) = \alpha^{-1}(\text{sup } pB)$ , is a F-code over  $X$ .

**Proof.** Let  $\beta: Z^* \rightarrow X^*$  be a F-coding morphism for  $A$ . Then  $\alpha(\beta(Z)) = \alpha(\text{sup } pA)$  and since  $\alpha \cdot \beta: Z^* \rightarrow Y^*$  is an injective morphism. By theorem2.4  $\alpha(A)$  is a F-code.

Conversely, let  $A = \alpha^{-1}(B)$ ,  $n, m \geq 1$ ,

$$x_1, \dots, x_n, x'_1, \dots, x'_m \in X^*, \quad x_1 x_2 \dots x_n =$$

$$x'_1 \dots x'_m = x, \text{ then } \alpha(x_1) \alpha(x_2) \dots \alpha(x_n) =$$

$$\alpha(x'_1) \dots \alpha(x'_m), \text{ as } B \text{ is a F-code, therefore}$$

$$\min(\beta(\alpha(x_1)), \dots, \beta(\alpha(x_n)), \beta(\alpha(x'_1)), \dots,$$

$$\beta(\alpha(x'_m))) \infty$$

$$\min([m=n], [\alpha(x_1) = \alpha(x'_1)], \dots, [\alpha(x_n)$$

$$= \alpha(x'_m)]) \geq B^+(\alpha(x)). \text{ If } A^+(x) > 0, \text{ then}$$

$$x \in \text{sup } pA^+ = [\text{sup } p\alpha^{-1}(B)]^+ = \alpha^{-1}(\text{sup } pB^+) \text{ and}$$

it implies  $\alpha(x) \in \text{sup } p(B)^+$ . So

$$\min([m=n], [\alpha(x_1) = \alpha(x'_1)], \dots, [\alpha(x_n)$$

$$= \alpha(x'_m)]) = 1, \text{ i.e. } m=n, \alpha(x_i) = \alpha(x'_i), \text{ for}$$

$$i=1, \dots, n. \text{ The injectivity of } \alpha \text{ implies that}$$

$$x_i = x'_i \text{ for } i=1, \dots, n, \text{ so}$$

$$\min(A(x_1), \dots, A(x_n), A(x'_1), \dots, A(x'_m)) \infty$$

$$\min([m=n], [x_1 = x'_1], \dots, [x_n = x'_n]) =$$

$$\min(A(x_1), \dots, A(x_n), A(x'_1), \dots, A(x'_m)). \infty$$

$1 = 1 \geq A^+(x)$ . If  $A^+(x) = 0$ , it is obvious. Therefore A is a F-code.

**Corollary 2.6.** If  $A \in F(X^*)$  is a F-code, then  $A^n$  is a F-code for any interger  $n > 0$ .

**Proof.** Let  $\beta: Y^* \rightarrow X^*$  be a F-coding morphism for A, then  $\sup pA^n = \beta(Y^n)$ . But  $Y^n$  is a F-code, Thus the conclusion follows from theoren2.4.

**Definition2.2.** A F-set  $A \in F(X^*)$  is called F-prefix(suffix) if for any  $x, x', u \in X^*$ ,  $x = x'u (x = ux')$  implies  $\min(A(x), A(x')) \leq [x = x']$ . And a F-set is F-biprefix if it is both F-prefix and F-suffix.

**Theorem2.7.** A is F-prefix (suffix, biprefix) set  $\Leftrightarrow A_\lambda$  is ordinary prefix (suffix, biprefix) set for any  $\lambda \in (0, 1]$ .

**Proof.** " $\Rightarrow$ " For any  $x, x', u \in X^*$ ,  $x = x'u$  since A is F-prefix set, we have  $\min(A(x), A(x')) \leq [x = x']$ . If  $x, x' \in A_\lambda$ ,  $\lambda \in (0, 1]$ , then  $A(x) \geq \lambda$ ,  $A(x') \geq \lambda$  and  $[x = x'] \geq \lambda > 0$ , thus  $x = x'$  and  $A_\lambda$  is prefix set.

" $\Leftarrow$ " In order to prove that A is F-prefix set, suppose the contrary, then there exists  $x, x', u \in X^*$  such that  $x = x'u$  and  $\min(A(x), A(x')) > [x = x']$ . So  $0 < \min(A(x), A(x')) \leq 1$  and  $[x = x'] < 1$ . Set  $\lambda = \frac{\min(A(x), A(x'))}{2} \in (0, \frac{1}{2})$ , it implies  $x, x' \in A_\lambda$  and  $x \neq x'$ , i.e.  $A_\lambda$  is not a prefix set, which yields the contradiction. Hence A

is a F-prefix set.

**Proposition2.8.** Any supset of a F-prefix set is a F-prefix set.

**Proposition2.9.** Any F-prefix (suffix, biprefix) set  $A \neq \{(e, 1)\}$  is a F-code.

**Proof.** If A is not a F-code, then there is a word w of minimal length having two factorizations

$$w = x_1 x_2 \cdots x_n = x'_1 x'_2 \cdots x'_m,$$

$x_i, x_j \in X^*$  such that

$$A^+(w) > \min(A(x_1), \cdots, A(x_n), A(x'_1), \cdots, A(x'_m))$$

$$\infty \min([m = n], [x_1 = x'_1], \cdots, [x_n = x'_n]) \text{ it}$$

implies  $A(x_i) > 0, A(x'_j) > 0 \quad i = 1, \cdots, n,$

$j = 1, \cdots, m$  and

$$\min([m = n], [x_1 = x'_1], \cdots, [x_n = x'_n]) = 0. \text{ Both}$$

$x_1, x'_1$  are nonempty, and since w has minimal length, then

$$[x_1 = x'_1] = 0, \text{ i.e. } x_1, x'_1 \text{ are distinct. So}$$

$x = x'u$  or  $x'_1 = x_1 v$  for  $u, v \in X^+$ . Thus

$$\min(A(x_1), A(x'_1)) > 0 = [x_1 = x'_1], \text{ which}$$

contradicts that A is F-prefix. Therefore A is a F-code. The similar argument holds for F-suffixsets.

**Theorem2.10.**  $A \in F(X^*)$  is a F-prefix code (suffix code, biprefix code)  $\Leftrightarrow$  A is a F-prefix set (suffix set, biprefix set) and  $A \neq \{(e, 1)\}$ .

**Proof.** " $\Leftarrow$ " For any  $x \in X^+$ , if  $x = x'u$  for all  $x', u \in X^+$ , then

$$\min(A(x), A(x')) \leq [x = x'] = 0, \text{ so}$$

$$(A \cap AX^+)(x) = \min(A(x) \sup\{A(x') \mid x'u = x$$

for all  $x', u \in X^+\}) = 0, \text{ i.e. } A \cap AX^+ = \phi.$

Thus A is a F-prefix code.

" $\Rightarrow$ " For any  $x, x', u \in X^*$ ,  $x = x'u$ , if  $x = e$ , then  $x' = e$ ,  $\min(A(x), A(x')) \leq [x = x'] = 1$ .

Now suppose that  $(A \cap AX^+)(x) =$

$$\min(A(x), \sup\{A(x') \mid x'u = x, x', u \in X^+\}) = 0,$$

if  $A(x) = 0$ , obviously

$$\min(A(x), A(x')) = 0 \leq [x = x'].$$

If  $\sup\{A(x') \mid x'u = x, x', u \in X^+\} = 0$ . then

$$A(x') = 0 \text{ and } \min(A(x), A(x')) = 0 \leq [x = x'] = 0$$

Therefore A is a F-prefix set and  $A \neq \{(e, 1)\}$ .

**Theorem 2.11.** A is a F-prefix code (suffix code, biprefix code)  $\Leftrightarrow A_\lambda$  is prefix (suffix, biprefix) code for any  $\lambda \in (0, 1]$ .

**Proof.** It can be proved easily by theorem 2.7 and theorem 2.10.

**Definition 2.3** A F-code A is called a maximal F-code over X if A is not properly contained in any other F-code over X, that is, if  $A \subset A'$ ,  $A'$  is F-code, then  $A = A'$ .

**Proposition 2.12.** Any F-code A over X is contained in some maximal F-code over X.

**Proof.** Let  $\bar{F}$  be the set of F-code over X containing A, ordered by set inclusion. To show that  $\bar{F}$  contains a maximal element, it suffices to demonstrate, in view of Zorn's lemma, that any chain  $\bar{G}$  (i.e., any totally ordered F-subset) in  $\bar{F}$  admits a least upper bound in  $\bar{F}$ .

Consider a chain C of F-codes containing A, then  $\hat{B} = \bigcup_{B \in C} B$  is the least upper bound

of C. It remains to show that  $\hat{B}$  is a F-code.

For this, let

$$n, m \geq 1, y_1, \dots, y_n, y'_1, \dots, y'_m$$

$\in X^*$  be such that

$$y_1 y_2 \dots y_n = y'_1 y'_2 \dots y'_m = w.$$

$$y_1, \dots, y_n, y'_1, \dots, y'_m \in \text{supp} \hat{B} = \bigcup_{B \in \bar{G}} \text{supp} B,$$

then each of the  $y_i, y'_j$  belongs to a support

set of F-code of the chain  $\bar{G}$  and this determines  $n+m$  elements of  $\bar{G}$ . One of them, say D, contains all the others. Thus  $y_1, \dots, y_n, y'_1, \dots, y'_m \in \text{supp} D$ , and since D is a F-code, then

$$\min(D(y_1), \dots, D(y_n), D(y'_1), \dots, D(y'_m))$$

$$\propto \min([m = n], [y_1 = y'_1], \dots, [y_n = y'_n])$$

$\geq D^+(w) > 0$ . We have  $n=m$  and  $y_i = y'_i$  for

$i = 1, \dots, n$ . Since  $D \subseteq \hat{B}$ ,

$$\min(\hat{B}(y_1), \dots, \hat{B}(y_n), \hat{B}(y'_1), \dots, \hat{B}(y'_m))$$

$$\propto \min([m = n], [y_1 = y'_1], \dots, [y_n = y'_n]) = 1$$

$\geq \hat{B}(w)$ . .....  $\otimes$  Otherwise for  $\otimes$  is obvious.

Therefore  $\hat{B}$  is a F-code.

### 3. F-codes and F-submonoids

**Proposition 3.1.** Let X be an alphabet. M is a F-submonoid of  $X^*$  and

$$A = M - \{(e, 1)\} - (M - \{(e, 1)\})^2. \text{ Then } A^* \subseteq M$$

and  $\text{supp} A$  is a unique minimal set of generators of  $\text{supp} M$ . (A is called almost minimal set of generators of M).

**Proof.** Set  $Q = M - \{(e, 1)\}$ . First, we verify that  $\text{supp} A$  generates  $\text{supp} M$ , i.e. that  $(\text{sup} pA)^* = \text{sup} pM$ . Since  $A \subset M$ , then for any  $x \in X^*$ ,

$$A^2(x) = \sup_{\substack{y, z \in X^* \\ yz=x}} \min(A(y), A(z))$$

$$\leq \sup_{\substack{y, z \in X^* \\ yz=x}} \min(M(y), M(z))$$

$$\leq \sup_{\substack{y, z \in X^* \\ yz=x}} M(x) = M(x), \text{ i.e. } A^2 \subset M. \text{ Then}$$

we can show that  $A^n \subset M$  by induction on  $n \geq 0$ . Thus  $A^* \subseteq M$  and

$\sup pA^* \subseteq \sup pM$ . We prove that  $\sup pA^* \supseteq \sup pM$  by induction on the length of words. Of course,  $e \in \sup pA^*$ . Let

$m \in \sup pQ$ . If  $m \in \sup pQ^2$ , then  $m \in \sup pA$ . Otherwise  $m = m_1 m_2$  with  $m_1, m_2 \in \sup pQ$  both strictly shorter than  $m$ . Therefore  $m_1, m_2$  belong to  $\sup pA^*$ .

Since  $\sup pA^* = \bigcup_{n=0}^{\infty} \sup pA^n$  then there exist nature numbers  $l, k$  such that

$$A^l(m_1) > 0, A^k(m_2) > 0, \text{ so}$$

$$A^{l+k}(m) = \sup_{\substack{y, z \in X^* \\ yz=m}} \min(A^l(y), A^k(z))$$

$$\geq \min(A^l(m_1), A^k(m_2)) > 0, \text{ and}$$

$$A^*(m) \geq A^{l+k}(m) > 0, \text{ i.e. } m \in \sup pA^*.$$

$$\text{Hence } (\sup pA)^* = \bigcup_{n=0}^{\infty} (\sup pA)^n = \bigcup_{n=0}^{\infty} \sup pA^n = \sup pA^* = \sup pM.$$

Now let  $B$  be F-set such that  $\text{supp}B$  is a set of generators of  $\text{supp}M$ . We may suppose that  $(e, 1) \notin B$ . Then each  $x \in \sup pA$  is in  $\sup pB^*$  and therefore can be written as  $x = y_1 y_2 \cdots y_n$  ( $y_i \in \sup pB, n \geq 0$ ). The

facts that  $x \neq e$  and  $x \neq \sup pQ^2$  force  $n=1$  and  $x \in \sup pB$ . This shows that  $\sup pA \subseteq \sup pB$ . Thus  $\sup pA$  is a minimal set of generators and such a set is unique.

**Proposition 3.3.** If  $M$  is a F-free submonoid of  $X^*$ , then a F-set which support set is a minimal set of  $\sup pM$  is a code.

Conversely, if  $A \in F(X^*)$  is a F-code, then the F-submonoid  $A^*$  of  $X^*$  is F-free and  $A$  is its minimal F-set of generators.

**Proof.** let  $\alpha: Y^* \rightarrow \sup pM$  be an isomorphism. Then  $\alpha$  considered as a morphism from  $Y^*$  into  $X^*$ , is injective. By theorem 2.4, the F-set  $A$  which such that  $\sup pA = \alpha(Y)$  is a F-code. Next

$$\sup pM = \alpha(Y^*) = (\alpha(Y))^* = (\sup pA)^*. \text{ Thus } \sup pA \text{ generates } \sup pM. \text{ Furthermore}$$

$$Y = Y^+ - Y^+ Y^+ \text{ and } \alpha(Y^+) = \sup p(M - \{(e, 1)\}).$$

Consequently

$$\sup pA = \sup p\{(M - \{(e, 1)\}) - (M - \{(e, 1)\})^2\},$$

showing that  $\sup pA$  is the minimal set of generators of  $\sup pM$ .

Conversely, assume that  $A \in F(X^*)$ , is a F-code and consider a F-coding morphism  $\alpha: Y^* \rightarrow X^*$  for  $A$ . Then  $\alpha$  is injective and  $\alpha$  is a bijection from  $Y$  into

$$\sup pA. \text{ Thus } \alpha \text{ is a bijection from } Y^*$$

$$\text{onto } \alpha(Y^*) = (\alpha(Y))^* = (\sup pA)^*. \text{ Since } A \text{ is}$$

a F-code, then  $A^*$  is a F-free. Now  $\alpha$  is a bijection, thus  $Y = Y^+ - Y^+ Y^+$  implies  $A = A^+ - A^+ A^+$ , showing by proposition 3.1 that  $\sup pA$  is the minimal set of generators of  $\sup pA^*$ . Since  $A$  generates  $A^*$ , thus  $A$  is the

minimal F-set of generators of  $A^*$ .

**Corollary 3.3.** Let A and B be F-codes over X. If  $A^* = B^*$ , then  $A = B$ .

**Definition 3.1.** A F-submonoid N of monoid S is F-stable if for all  $u, v, w \in S$ ,  $\min(N(u), N(v), N(uv), N(wu)) > 0$  implies  $N(w) > 0$ .

**Proposition 3.4.** A F-submonoid N of  $X^*$  is F-stable, then

$$A = N - \{(e, 1)\} - (N - \{(e, 1)\})^2 \text{ is a F-code.}$$

**Proof.** To prove that A is a F-code, suppose the contrary. Then there is a word

$z \in \text{sup } pA^+$  of minimal length, having two

distinct factorization in words of  $\text{sup } pA$ .

$$z = x_1 x_2 \cdots x_n = y_1 y_2 \cdots y_m \quad \text{with}$$

$x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_m \in \text{sup } pA$ . We may

suppose  $|x_1| < |y_1|$ . Then  $y_1 = x_1 w$  for

some nonempty word w. Since N is F-stable,

then  $\min(N(x_1), N(y_2 \cdots y_m), N(xu), N(wy_2 \cdots y_m))$

$$= \min(N(x_1), N(y_2 \cdots y_m), N(y_1), N(x_2 \cdots x_n))$$

$$\geq \min(A(x_1), \dots, A(x_n), A(y_1), \dots, A(y_m)) > 0 \text{ (Since}$$

N is F-submonoid,  $N(x_2 \cdots x_n) \geq$

$$\min(N(x_2), \dots, N(x_n)) = \min(A(x_2), \dots, A(x_n)).$$

So

$$N(w) > 0 \text{ and } (N - \{(e, 1)\})^2(x_1 w) = \sup_{\substack{u, v \in X^* \\ uv = x_1 w}}$$

$$\min(N(u), N(v)) \geq \min(N(x_1), N(w)) > 0. \text{Consequ}$$

ently  $y_1 = x_1 w \notin \text{sup } pA$ , which yields the

contradiction. Thus A is a F-code.

**Proposition 3.5.** A F-free submonoid N of  $X^*$  is F-stable.

**Proof.** Since N is F-free, then let B be its

F-base. Let  $u, v, w \in X^*$  and suppose that

$u, v, uw, wv \in \text{sup } pN$ . Set  $u = x_1 \cdots x_k$ ,

$wv = x_{k+1} \cdots x_r, uw = y_1 \cdots y_l, v = y_{l+1} \cdots y_s$ ,

with  $x_i, y_j \in \text{sup } pB$ . The equality

$$u(wv) = (uw)v \text{ implies}$$

$$x_1 \cdots x_k x_{k+1} \cdots x_r = y_1 \cdots y_l y_{l+1} \cdots y_s.$$

Since B is F-based of N and N is a F-submonoid,

$$\min(B(x_1), \dots, B(x_r), B(y_1), \dots, B(y_s)) \propto \min([r = s], [x_1 = y_1], \dots, [x_r = y_s]) \geq N(uwv)$$

$\geq \min(N(u), N(wv)) > 0$ . It implies  $r = s$  and

$x_i = y_i \quad (i = 1, \dots, s)$ . Moreover,  $l \geq k$

because  $|uw| \geq |u|$ . Showing that

$$uw = x_1 \cdots x_k x_{k+1} \cdots x_l = ux_{k+1} \cdots x_l \text{ hence}$$

$$w = x_{k+1} \cdots x_l. \text{ If } w \neq e, N(w) = B^*(w) \geq B^n(w)$$

$$\geq \min(B(x_{k+1}), \dots, B(x_l)) > 0. \text{ If } w = e,$$

$$N(w) = 1, \text{ thus N is stable.}$$

**Definition 3.2.** Let N be a F-submonoid of  $X^*$ . N is F-right (F-left) unitary if for all

$u, v \in X^*$ ,

$$\min(N(u), N(uv)) > 0 \text{ (} \min(N(u), N(uv)) > 0 \text{)}$$

implies  $N(u) > 0$ .

The F-submonoid N of  $X^*$  is F-biunitary

if it is both F-left and F-right unitary.

**Proposition 3.6.** A F-submonoid M of  $X^*$

is F-right (resp., left, bi-)unitary iff its almost

minimal set of generators is a F-prefix(rewp,

suffix, bijsefix) code.

**Proof.** Let  $M - \{(e, 1)\} = Q$  and  $Q - Q^2 = A$

be its almost minimal set of generators.

Suppose M is F-right unitary.

To show that A is F-prefix, let x, xu be in

$\text{sup } pA$  for some  $u \in X^*$ . Then

$$\min(M(x), M(xu)) = \min(A(x), A(xu)) > 0.$$

Since M is F-right unitary,  $M(u) > 0$ . If

$u \neq e$ , then  $u \in \text{sup } pQ$ , but then  $xu \in \text{sup } pQ^2$



contrary to the assumption. Thus  $u = e$  and  $\min(A(x), A(xu)) \leq [x = xu]$ . i.e.  $A$  is F-prefix.

Conversely, suppose  $A$  is F-prefix. Let  $u, v \in X^*$  be such that

$u, uv \in \text{sup } pM = (\text{sup } pA)^*$ . Then

$u = x_1x_2 \cdots x_n, uv = y_1y_2 \cdots y_m$  for some  $x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_m \in \text{sup } pA$ .

Consequently  $x_1x_2 \cdots x_nv = y_1y_2 \cdots y_m$ .

Since  $A$  is F-prefix, neither  $x_1$  nor  $y_1$  is a proper left factor of the other. Thus  $x_1 = y_1$ , and for the some reason  $x_2 = y_2, \dots, x_n = y_n$ . This shows that  $m \geq n$  and  $v = y_{n+1} \cdots y_m$  belongs to  $\text{sup } pM$ . Thus  $M$  is F-right unitary.

**Proposition 3.7.** If  $M$  is a maximal F-free submoniod of  $X^*$ , then its F-base  $A$  is a maximal F-code.

**Proof.** It is obvious that  $A$  is a F-code. Let  $B$  be a F-code on  $X$  with  $A \subset B$  and  $A \neq B$ . Then  $A^* \subset B^*$  and  $A^* \neq B^*$  since otherwise  $A = B$  by corollary 3.3. Now  $A^*$  is maximal. Thus  $B^* = X^*$  and  $B = X$ . Thus  $A \subset X^*$  and  $A \neq X$ . Let  $b \in X - A$ . The F-set  $C = A \cup b^2$  is a F-code and  $M = A^* \subsetneq C^* \subsetneq X^*$  since  $b^2 \in \text{sup } pM$  and  $b \notin \text{sup } pZ^*$ . This contradicts the maximality of  $M$ .

**Theorem 3.8.** The almost minimal set of generators of the intersection of an arbitrary family of F-free submonoids of  $X^*$  is a F-code.

**Proof.** Let  $(M_i)_{i \in I}$  be a family of F-free submonoids of  $X^*$ , and set  $M = \bigcap_{i \in I} M_i$ .

Clearly  $M$  is a F-submonoid, and it suffices to show that  $M$  is F-stable. If for all

$u, v, w \in X^*$ , and  $u, v, uw, vw \in \text{sup } pM$ , then

these four words belong to each of the  $\text{sup } pM_i$ . Since each  $M_i$  is F-free, by proposition 3.5, each  $M_i$  is F-stable,  $w$  is in  $\text{sup } pM_i$  for each  $i \in I$ . Thus  $w \in \text{sup } pM$ . By proposition 3.6, the almost minimal set of generators of  $M$  is a F-code.

**Acknowledgements:** This research has been supported by National Natural Science Foundation of China (No:69803007)

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