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DETERMINISTIC LINDENMAYER LANGUAGES, NONTERMINALS AND HOMOMORPHISMS*

Paul M. B. VITÁNYI

Mathematisch Centrum, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

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Abstract. Lindenmayer systems are a class of parallel rewriting systems originally introduced to model the growth and development of filamentous organisms. Families of languages generated by deterministic Lindenmayer systems (i.e., those in which each string has a unique successor) are investigated. In particular, the use of nonterminals, homomorphisms, and the combination of these are studied for deterministic Lindenmayer systems using one-sided context (D1Ls) and two-sided context (D2Ls). Languages obtained from Lindenmayer systems by the use of nonterminals are called extensions. Typical results are: The closure under letter-to-letter homomorphism of the family of extensions of D1L languages is equal to the family of recursively enumerable languages, although the family of extensions of D1L languages does not even contain all regular languages. Let P denote the restriction that the system does not rewrite a letter as the empty word. The family of extensions of PD2L languages is equal to the family of languages accepted by deterministic linear bounded automata. The closure under nonerasing homomorphism of the family of extensions of PD1L languages does not even contain languages like $\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}^* - \{\lambda\}, n \ge 2$. The closure of the family of PD1L languages under homomorphisms which map a letter either to itself or to the empty word is equal to the family of recursively enumerable languages. Strict inclusion results follow from necessary conditions for a language to be in one of the considered families. By stating the results in their strongest form, the paper contains a systematic classification of the effect of nonterminals, letter-to-letter homomorphisms, nonerasing homomorphisms and homomorphisms for all the basic types of deterministic Lindenmayer systems using context.

1. Introduction

The study of Lindenmayer languages (also called L languages or developmental languages) has been one of the major trends in automata and formal language theory during the past few years. L languages are generated by highly parallel rewriting systems introduced by Lindenmayer [12] to model the growth and development of filamentous biological organisms. These Lindenmayer systems, or L systems for short, have been investigated in a large number of papers both from the language theory and the theoretical biology points of view. (See, for example,

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[9] and the references contained therein.) A Lindenmayer system is called *deterministic* if each string has exactly one successor under the rewriting rules (we do not consider so-called table L systems here). The purpose of this paper is to make a systematic study of languages generated by deterministic L systems and the effect of two essentially different defining mechanisms: the use of nonterminals and the use of homomorphic mappings of different kinds. Both mechanisms are frequently used in formal language theory [19, 20].

An L system consists of an initial string of letters, symbolizing an initial linear array of cells (a filament), and the subsequent strings (stages of development) are obtained by rewriting all letters of a string simultaneously at each time step. When the rewriting of a letter may depend on the m letters to its left and the n letters to its right we talk about an (m, n)L system. If m = n = 0 the L system is said to be context independent or without interactions; if m + n > 0 the L system is said to be context dependent or with interactions. Most of the literature on L systems is concerned with 0L systems (m = n = 0), 1L systems (m + n = 1), and 2L systems (m = n = 1).

From the point of view of developmental biology, the language consisting of the set of all strings generated by the system is of primary interest. Such an L language is taken to correspond to the set of all developmental stages which might be attained by the organism in its development. Here, also, homomorphic mappings (especially those in which a letter is mapped to a letter) are of considerable importance (cf. [14]).

More formal-language-theory oriented investigators, however, divide the set of letters used by the L system into a set of terminals and nonterminals. The language obtained from the L system by this mechanism consists of all the strings over terminals generated by the system. Such languages are called extensions of L languages. (They are obtained by taking the intersection of the "ordinary" L language and the set of all strings over the terminals, an operation which extends considerably the generating power of the type of L system under consideration.) Families of extensions of L languages usually have welcome mathematical properties, such as closure under certain operations.

One of the facts which have made the use of nonterminals interesting within the theory of developmental languages is that it was established in [4, 5] that for basic families of 0L systems the use of nonterminals and the use of letter-to-letter homomorphisms are equivalent as far as the generating capacity is concerned. Thus, the trade-off between the two language-defining mechanisms (i.e., nonterminals versus homomorphisms) has become a very interesting and well motivated problem for L systems. Continuing this train of thought, trade-offs between combinations of one- or two-sided context, restrictions where no letter is rewritten as the empty word, and the use of nonterminals and various kinds of homomorphisms are interesting. The present paper is concerned with this topic, but we restrict our attention to the deterministic L systems.

These systems are particularly relevant in the biological setting, as would also appear to be indicated by the fact that most attempts to provide L systems modeling the development of actual biological organisms use deterministic systems (see [1, 6-10]). The study of the change in pattern, size and weight of a growing organism as

a function of time constitutes a considerable portion of the literature on developmental biology. Usually, genetically identical specimens of a specific organism are investigated in a controlled environment and their changes with respect to time are described. The scientific presupposition is that identical genetical material and identical environment will result in an approximately identical developmental history, i.e., that the experiment is repeatable. This assumes a deterministic (causal) underlying structure, and makes a good case for the biological importance of the study of deterministic L systems.

This paper can be divided in three parts. In Section 2 we formally define L systems and relate them to Turing machines, as in [3]. Sections 3 and 4 are concerned with "ordinary" deterministic L languages, i.e., languages consisting of all strings generated by the systems. In Sections 5 and 6 we deal with extensions of deterministic L languages, i.e., languages, over some terminals generated by the systems.

In Section 3 we are interested in Lindenmayer languages which are not recursive. The existence of such languages is a known fact [3]. We provide a more detailed construction for the deterministic case and develop a simulation technique which will prove useful in the remainder of the paper. In Section 4 we compare families of deterministic L languages with the Chomsky hierarchy. Here our results refine those in [3, 17, 18]. In Section 5 we compare families of extensions of deterministic L languages with the Chomsky hierarchy. Typical results are: the amount of context needed for rewriting makes no difference for families of extensions; the only differences lie in no context, context on one side and context on both sides. Let the capital D denote the deterministic property. The family of extensions of D2L languages is equal to the family of recursively enumerable languages, as is also the closure under letter-to-letter homomorphism of the family of extensions of D1L languages does not even contain all regular languages.

In Section 6 we consider extensions and homomorphisms of languages generated by deterministic L systems with the propagating property: no letter can be rewritten as the empty word. As is well known, such a restriction usually limits drastically the generating capacity of a rewriting system. We show that the family of extensions of PD2L languages (where P stands for propagating) is equal to the family of languages accepted by deterministic linear bounded automata. The closure under nonerasing homomorphism of the family of extensions of PD1L languages is strictly included in the family of extensions of PD2L languages. Indeed, this closure does not even contain languages like $\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}^* - \{\lambda\}, n \ge 2$. (Contrast this with the result for the nonpropagating case in Section 5.) On the other hand, the closure of the family of PD1L languages under homomorphisms which map a letter either to itself or to the empty word is again equal to the family of recursively enumerable languages.

Our strict inclusion results follow from necessary properties of the language families considered rather than by an exhaustive analysis of a particular example.

Essentially, the paper analyzes the trade-offs which are possible between combinations of one- or two-sided context, the property that no letter is rewritten as the empty word, the use of nonterminals and various kinds of homomorphisms By stating results in their strongest form, the paper contains a systematic classification of the effect of these mechanisms on the generating capacity of deterministic L systems using context.

For a treatment of the effect of nonterminals, homomorphisms and letter-toletter homomorphisms in different variations of 0L systems the reader is referred to [14].

2. Lindenmayer systems and Turing machines

We assume that the reader is familiar with the usual terminology of formal language theory, as presented, for instance, in [11] or [19]. Except when otherwise indicated we shall customarily use, with or without indices, the letters *i*, *j*, *k*, *l*, *m*, *n*, *p*, *q*, *r*, *s*, *t* to range over the set of natural numbers $N = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$; *a*, *b*, *c*, *d*, *e* to range over an alphabet *W*; and *u*, *v*, *w*, *z* to range over W^* (i.e., the set of all words (strings) over *W*, including the empty word λ). # *Z* denotes the cardinality of a set *Z*; $\lg(z)$ denotes the length of a word *z* and $\lg(\lambda) = 0$.

A deterministic (m, n)L system (D(m, n)L) is a triple $G = \langle W, \delta, w \rangle$ where W is a finite nonempty alphabet, δ is a total mapping from $\bigcup_{i=0}^{m} W^i \times W \times \bigcup_{i=0}^{n} W^i$ into W^* , and $w \in WW^*$ is called the *axiom*. δ induces a total mapping $\overline{\delta}$ from W^* into W^* as follows: $\overline{\delta}(\lambda) = \lambda$ and for k > 0, $\overline{\delta}(v) = v'$ iff $v = a_1 a_2 \cdots a_k$, $v' = \alpha_1 \alpha_2 \cdots \alpha_k$ and for all $i, i = 1, 2, \cdots, k$,

$$\delta(a_{i-m}a_{i-m+1}\cdots a_{i-1}, a_i, a_{i+1}a_{i+2}\cdots a_{i+n}) = \alpha_i,$$

where we take $a_i = \lambda$ for all j such that j < 1 or j > k. The composition of i copies of $\overline{\delta}$ is inductively defined by $\overline{\delta}^0(v) = v$ and $\overline{\delta}^i(v) = \overline{\delta}(\overline{\delta}^{i-1}(v))$ for i > 0. When no confusion can result we shall write δ for $\overline{\delta}$. The L language produced or generated by G is defined as $L(G) = \{\delta^i(w): i \ge 0\}$.

At this stage we would like to point out that although our definition of an L system varies from the usual one (see, e.g., [9]) in that it dispenses with the environmental letter g, it is exactly equivalent to the previous definitions. It has the additional advantages that proofs become shorter and the notation more transparent. With regard to the amount of context used, the following terminology is standard throughout the literature: a D(0,0)L is called a D0L; a D(0,1)L or D(1,0)L is called a D1L (one-sided context); a D(1,1)L is called a D2L (two-sided context); a D(m,n)L such that m + n > 0 is called a D1L.

It was shown by van Dalen [3] that for a suitable standard definition of *Turing* machines (e.g., the quintuple version), for every Turing machine T with symbol set S and state set ψ we can effectively construct a D2L $G = \langle W, \delta, w \rangle$, with $W = \psi \cup S$, which simulates it in real time, i.e., the *t*th instantaneous description of T is equal to $\delta'(w)$.¹ If we do away with the excess blank symbols on the ends of the Turing machine tape, by letting the letters corresponding to such blank symbols derive the empty word λ in the L system simulation of T, then the following statement clearly holds. Let $G = \langle W, \delta, w \rangle$ be a D2L, let S and ψ be disjoint subsets

¹ See, e.g., Minsky [13] for terminology and results on Turing machines.

of W, and let h_1 be a homomorphism from $S^*\psi S^*$ into S^* defined by $h_1(a) = \lambda$ for all $a \in \psi$ and $h_1(a) = a$ for all $a \in S$. The set of languages of the form $h_1(L(G) \cap S^*\psi S^*)$ is the family of recursively enumerable languages. Since the family of recursive languages is closed under intersection with a regular set and k-limited erasing, and since there exist recursively enumerable languages that are not recursive, there exist D2L languages which are not recursive.² ($S^*\psi S^*$ is regular and h_1 is 1-limited on $S^*\psi S^*$.) That all L languages considered in this paper are recursively enumerable follows by the usual Turing machine simulation argument.

3. Nonrecursive L languages

At the end of the last section we gave the usual proof that there are nonrecursive D2L languages. By an application of a result due to Rabin and Wang [15] we can be slightly more specific and at the same time develop a simulation technique which will be of use in the sequel. Let the *word* at any moment t in the history of a Turing machine be the string consisting of the contents of the minimum block on the tape at t that includes all the marked squares and the square scanned at the initial moment (the origin).

Theorem 3.1 (Rabin and Wang). For any fixed (finite) word at the initial moment we can find a Turing machine T such that the set of words P in its subsequent history is not recursive.

Theorem 3.2. Let G_T be a D2L which simulates (in the sense explained in Section 2) a Turing machine T satisfying the statement of Theorem 3.1. Then $L(G_T)$ is nonrecursive.

Proof. Let h_3 be a homomorphism on $L(G_T)$ defined by $h_3(s) = s$ and $h_3(q) = \lambda$ for all $s \in S$ and all $q \in \psi$, where S and ψ are the symbol set and the state set of T, respectively. Since $L(G_T) \subseteq S^* \psi S^*$, h_3 is 1-limited on $L(G_T)$. $h_3(L(G_T)) = P$ and since P is nonrecursive $L(G_T)$ is nonrecursive. \Box

We use G_{T} to construct a nonrecursive D(0, 1)L language.

Lemma 3.3. Let $G = \langle W, \delta, w \rangle$ be any D2L. There is an algorithm which, given G, produces a D(0, 1)L $G' = \langle W', \delta', w' \rangle$ such that for all $t, \delta'^{2t}(w') = \xi \delta'(w)$ and

² A family of languages is said to be closed under k-limited erasing if, for any language L of the class and any homomorphism h with the property that h never maps more than k consecutive symbols of any sentence x in L to λ , h(L) is in the class. We shall furthermore be concerned with nonerasing homomorphisms, i.e. homomorphisms which map no letter to the empty word λ ; letter-to-letter homomorphisms (also called codings), i.e. homomorphisms which map letters to letters; and homomorphisms which map a letter either to itself or to the empty word λ . (These homomorphisms are a subclass of the weak codings where a letter is mapped either to a letter or to λ .) For further details concerning homomorphisms and other operations on languages and closure under these operations see [11, 19].

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 $\delta'^{2t+1}(w') = \xi'(a_1, a_2)(a_2, a_3) \cdots (a_k, \lambda)$

if $\delta'(w) = a_1 a_2 \cdots a_k$, where φ and φ' are letters not in W.

Proof. Construct $G' = \langle W', \delta', w' \rangle$ as follows.

$$W' = W \cup (W \times (W \cup \{\lambda\})) \cup \{\varphi, \varphi'\},$$

where $\not\in$ and $\not\in'$ are letters not in W,

 $w' = \xi w,$ $\delta'(\lambda, a, c) = (a, c),$ $\delta'(\lambda, \xi, c) = \xi',$ $\delta'(\lambda, (a, b), (b, c)) = \delta(a, b, c),$ $\delta'(\lambda, (a, \lambda), (b, c)) = \xi \delta(\lambda, a, c),$ $\delta'(\lambda, (a, \lambda), \lambda) = \lambda,$

for all $a, b \in W$ and all $c \in W \cup \{\lambda\}$. (The arguments for which δ' is not defined will not occur in our operation of G'.)

For all words $v = a_1 a_2 \cdots a_k \in W^*$ we have

$$k > 1: \quad \overline{\delta}'^{2}(\mathbf{a}_{1}a_{2}\cdots a_{k}) = \overline{\delta}'(\mathbf{b}'(a_{1}, a_{2})(a_{2}, a_{3})\cdots (a_{k}, \lambda))$$

$$= \mathbf{b}\delta(\lambda, a_{1}, a_{2})\delta(a_{1}, a_{2}, a_{3})\cdots \delta(a_{k-1}, a_{k}, \lambda)$$

$$= \mathbf{b}\overline{\delta}(a_{1}a_{2}\cdots a_{k});$$

$$k = 1: \quad \overline{\delta}'^{2}(\mathbf{b}a_{1}) = \overline{\delta}'(\mathbf{b}'(a_{1}, \lambda)) = \mathbf{b}\delta(\lambda, a_{1}, \lambda) = \mathbf{b}\overline{\delta}(a_{1});$$

$$k = 0: \quad \overline{\delta}'^{2}(\mathbf{b}) = \overline{\delta}'(\mathbf{b}') = \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{b}\overline{\delta}(\lambda).$$

Therefore, for all t, $\overline{\delta}^{\prime_{2t}}(\mathbf{k}w) = \mathbf{k}\overline{\delta}^{\prime}(w)$ and

 $\overline{\delta}^{\prime^{2t+1}}(\mathbf{k}w) = \mathbf{k}^{\prime}(a_1, a_2)(a_2, a_3) \cdots (a_k, \lambda)$

if

$$\delta'(w) = a_1 a_2 \cdots a_k. \square$$

From Lemma 3.3 we see that if $L \in \mathscr{L}(D2L)$ then there is an $L' \in \mathscr{L}(D(0, 1)L)$ (respectively $L'' \in \mathscr{L}(D(1, 0)L)$) such that $\{w: \psi \in L'\} = L$ (respectively $\{w: w \notin \in L''\} = L$).

The following two corollaries illustrate some more relations between D1L and D2L languages.

Corollary 3.4. Let $G = \langle W, \delta, w \rangle$ be a D2L. There is an algorithm which, given G, produces a D(0,1)L G' (respectively a D(1,0)L G'') and a letter-to-letter homomorphism h_4 such that $h_4(L(G')) = \{ \varphi \} L(G)$ (respectively $h_4(L(G'')) = L(G) \{ \varphi \}$).

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(Hint: Let h_4 be a letter-to-letter homomorphism defined by $h_4(a) = a$ for all $a \in W \cup \{ \& \}, h_4(\& \downarrow') = \& \&$, and $h_4((a, b)) = a$ for all $(a, b) \in W \times (W \cup \{ \lambda \})$.)

Corollary 3.5. Let $G = \langle W, \delta, w \rangle$ be any D2L. There is an algorithm which, given G, produces a D(0,1)L G' (respectively D(1,0)L G'') and a homomorphism h_s , which maps a letter either to itself or to λ , such that

$$h_{5}(L(G') \cap \{ \mathbf{c} \} W^{*}) = h_{5}(L(G'') \cap W^{*} \{ \mathbf{c} \}) = L(G).$$

(Hint: h_5 is defined by $h_5(a) = a$ for all $a \in W$ and $h_5(\phi) = \lambda$. h_5 is 1-limited on $\{\phi\} W^*$ and $W^*\{\phi\}$.)

Theorem 3.6. We can construct D1Ls whose languages are not recursive.

Proof. Let $G_T = \langle W_T, \delta_T, w_T \rangle$ be a D2L as in Theorem 3.2. By Corollary 3.5 we can construct a D(0, 1)L G' such that $h_s(L(G') \cap \{ \varphi \} W_T^*) = L(G_T)$. Since $\{ \varphi \} W_T^*$ is regular, h_s is a 1-limited homomorphism on $\{ \varphi \} W_T^*$, and $L(G_T)$ is not recursive, it follows that L(G') is not recursive. \Box

4. Deterministic L languages and the Chomsky hierarchy

A natural subclass of the L systems is formed by the propagating L systems. A deterministic L system $G = \langle W, \delta, w \rangle$ is propagating if for all arguments the value of δ is not equal to λ . We indicate this property by prefixing the capital P to the type of L system, e.g. PD(m, n)L, PD0L, PD1L. From the work of van Dalen [3], Rozenberg [17] and Rozenberg and Lee [18] on nondeterministic L systems we can readily deduce several facts about the place in the Chomsky hierarchy of the deterministic L languages: e.g., the PD1L languages are strictly included in the context sensitive languages, the D1L languages are strictly included in the deterministic nature of the systems under consideration we shall refine these results implicit in the above references and fix completely the place of the D(m, n)L and PD(m, n)L languages with respect to the four main classes of the Chomsky hierarchy.

Lemma 4.1. There are regular languages over a one letter alphabet which are not DIL languages.

Proof. $L = \{aaa\}^*\{a, aa\}$ is such a language. To prove this we make use of the following:

Claim. If $G = \langle W, \delta, w \rangle$ is a unary D(m, n)L (i.e. # W = 1) which generates an infinite language then there exist nonnegative integers t_0 , p and x such that for all $t \ge t_0$ the following equation holds:

$$\lg(\bar{\delta}^{i+1}(w)) = p(\lg(\bar{\delta}^{i}(w)) - m - n) + x.$$
⁽¹⁾

Proof of Claim. Let $\delta(a^m, a, a^n) = a^p$ and let

$$x = \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \lg(\delta(a^{i}, a, a^{n})) + \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \lg(\delta(a^{m}, a, a^{j})).$$

If L(G) is infinite then there exists a t_0 such that

 $\lg(\bar{\delta}^{t_0}(w)) \ge 2(m+n) + x + 1.$

Case 1: p = 0. $\lg(\bar{\delta}^{t}(w)) \le y$ for all t > 0 where $y = \max\{\lg(\bar{\delta}(a^{k})): k \le m + n\}$, contrary to the assumption.

Case 2: p > 0. Clearly (1) holds. By observing that $L = \{a^i: i \neq 0 \pmod{3}\}$ we see that for every positive integer k such that $k \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ holds that $a^{k-1}, a^{k+2} \in L$ and $a^k \notin L$. Hence, if L(G) = L it follows that p = 1 in (1). But then the lengths of the subsequent words in L(G), ordered by increasing length, differ by a constant amount x - m - n and hence $L(G) \neq L$. \Box

Let X be any of the restrictions on L systems discussed above. Then $\mathscr{L}(XL)$ denotes the family of XL languages, e.g. $\mathscr{L}(D(m, n)L)$, $\mathscr{L}(DIL)$, $\mathscr{L}(D0L)$. Let $\mathscr{L}(REG)$, $\mathscr{L}(CF)$, $\mathscr{L}(CS)$ and $\mathscr{L}(RE)$ denote the families of the regular, context free, context sensitive and recursively enumerable languages, respectively. Let \subseteq denote inclusion and \subset strict inclusion.

Theorem 4.2. (i) For all $m, n \ge 0$ the intersections of $\mathcal{L}(PD(m, n)L)$ with $\mathcal{L}(REG)$, $\mathcal{L}(CF) - \mathcal{L}(REG)$ and $\mathcal{L}(CS) - \mathcal{L}(CF)$ are nonempty; there are languages in $\mathcal{L}(REG)$, $\mathcal{L}(CF) - \mathcal{L}(REG)$ and $\mathcal{L}(CS) - \mathcal{L}(CF)$ which are not in $\mathcal{L}(PDIL)$; $\mathcal{L}(PDIL) \subset \mathcal{L}(CS)$ (see Fig. 1).

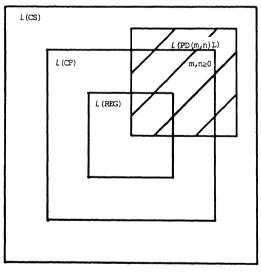


Fig. 1.

(ii) For all $m, n \ge 0$, such that m + n > 0, the intersections of $\mathcal{L}(D(m, n)L)$ with $\mathcal{L}(REG), \mathcal{L}(CF) - \mathcal{L}(REG), \mathcal{L}(CS) - \mathcal{L}(CF)$ and $\mathcal{L}(RE) - \mathcal{L}(CS)$ are nonempty; there are languages in $\mathcal{L}(REG), \mathcal{L}(CF) - \mathcal{L}(REG), \mathcal{L}(CS) - \mathcal{L}(CF)$ and $\mathcal{L}(RE) - \mathcal{L}(CS)$ which are not in $\mathcal{L}(DIL); \mathcal{L}(DIL) \subset \mathcal{L}(RE)$ (see Fig. 2).

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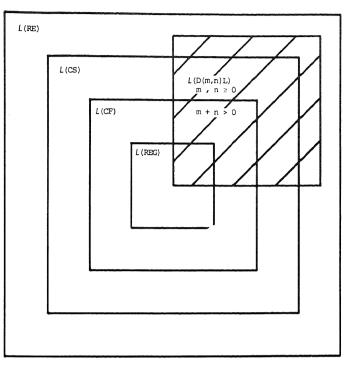


Fig. 2.

(iii) The intersections of $\mathcal{L}(DOL)$ with $\mathcal{L}(REG)$, $\mathcal{L}(CF) - \mathcal{L}(REG)$ and $\mathcal{L}(CS) - \mathcal{L}(CF)$ are nonempty; there are languages in $\mathcal{L}(REG)$, $\mathcal{L}(CF) - \mathcal{L}(REG)$ and $\mathcal{L}(CS) - \mathcal{L}(CF)$ which are not in $\mathcal{L}(DOL)$; $\mathcal{L}(DOL) \subset \mathcal{L}(CS)$ (see Fig. 3). (iv) For all $m, n \ge 0$, $\mathcal{L}(PD(m, n)L) \subset \mathcal{L}(D(m, n)L)$; $\mathcal{L}(PDIL) \subset \mathcal{L}(DIL)$.

Proof. (i) and (ii). Let G_1 , G_2 and G_3 be PD0Ls defined by:

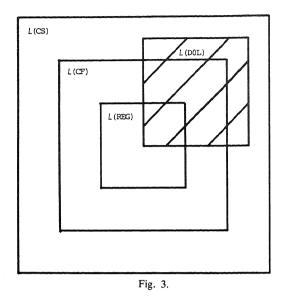
$$G_{1} = \langle \{a\}, \{\delta(\lambda, a, \lambda) = a\}, a \rangle,$$

$$G_{2} = \langle \{a, b, c\}, \{\delta(\lambda, a, \lambda) = a, \delta(\lambda, b, \lambda) = b, \delta(\lambda, c, \lambda) = acb\}, c \rangle,$$

$$G_{3} = \langle \{a\}, \{\delta(\lambda, a, \lambda) = aa\}, a \rangle.$$

 $L(G_1) = \{a\}, L(G_2) = \{a^n c b^n : n \ge 0\}$ and $L(G_3) = \{a^{2^n} : n \ge 0\}$. $L(G_1) \in \mathcal{L}(\text{REG})$; it is well known that $L(G_2) \in \mathcal{L}(\text{CF}) - \mathcal{L}(\text{REG}); L(G_3) \in \mathcal{L}(\text{CS})$ by the working space theorem or the usual linear bounded automaton argument and $L(G_3) \notin \mathcal{L}(\text{CF})$ by the *uvwxy* lemma.³ This proves that all considered families of languages have nonempty intersections with $\mathcal{L}(\text{REG}), \mathcal{L}(\text{CF}) - \mathcal{L}(\text{REG})$ and $\mathcal{L}(\text{CS}) - \mathcal{L}(\text{CF})$. By Theorem 3.6 there is a D1L language L(G) such that

³ For the working space theorem see [19, p. 93]. The working space theorem is a variant of the linear bounded automaton theorem which tells that the family of languages accepted by linear bounded automata is equal to $\mathcal{L}(CS)$. For a definition of linear bounded automata see Section 6, [11] or [19]. For the *uvwxy* lemma (or Bar Hillel's lemma) see [19, p. 56].



 $L(G) \in \mathscr{L}(\operatorname{RE}) - \mathscr{L}(\operatorname{CS})$. The language L of Lemma 4.1 belongs to $\mathscr{L}(\operatorname{REG})$ but not to $\mathscr{L}(\operatorname{DIL})$. $L \cup L(G_2) \in \mathscr{L}(\operatorname{CF}) - \mathscr{L}(\operatorname{REG})$ and it is easy to show that $L \cup L(G_2) \notin \mathscr{L}(\operatorname{DIL})$. $L' = \{a^{2^{2^1}}: t \ge 0\}$ does not belong to $\mathscr{L}(\operatorname{DIL})$ because of eq. (1) but $L' \in \mathscr{L}(\operatorname{CS}) - \mathscr{L}(\operatorname{CF})$ by the working space theorem and the *uvwxy* lemma. Each nonrecursive language $A \subseteq \{1\}^*$ belongs to $\mathscr{L}(\operatorname{RE}) - \mathscr{L}(\operatorname{CS})$ and $A \notin \mathscr{L}(\operatorname{DIL})$ by eq. (1). Hence there are languages in $\mathscr{L}(\operatorname{REG})$, $\mathscr{L}(\operatorname{CF}) - \mathscr{L}(\operatorname{REG})$, $\mathscr{L}(\operatorname{CS}) - \mathscr{L}(\operatorname{CF})$ and $\mathscr{L}(\operatorname{RE}) - \mathscr{L}(\operatorname{CS})$ which are not in $\mathscr{L}(\operatorname{DIL})$. From this it follows that the inclusions of $\mathscr{L}(\operatorname{PDIL})$ in $\mathscr{L}(\operatorname{CS})$ and of $\mathscr{L}(\operatorname{DIL})$ in $\mathscr{L}(\operatorname{RE})$ are strict.

(iii) follows from the proof of (i) and (ii) and the observation that $\mathcal{L}(D0L) \subseteq \mathcal{L}(CS)$, Salomaa [19, p. 245].

(iv) $\mathscr{L}(\mathrm{PD}(m, n)\mathrm{L}) \subseteq \mathscr{L}(\mathrm{D}(m, n)\mathrm{L})$ holds by definition. Strict inclusion follows from the fact that if $\lambda \in L$ and $L \in \mathscr{L}(\mathrm{D}(m, n)\mathrm{L})$ then $L \notin \mathscr{L}(\mathrm{PD}(m, n)\mathrm{L})$. (It is easy to give nontrivial counterexamples of D0L languages which are not PD0L languages; for m + n > 0 there are nonrecursive $\mathrm{D}(m, n)\mathrm{L}$ languages by Theorem 3.6 and all $\mathrm{PD}(m, n)\mathrm{L}$ languages are context sensitive by (i).) Similarly we prove $\mathscr{L}(\mathrm{PD}\mathrm{IL}) \subset \mathscr{L}(\mathrm{D}\mathrm{IL})$. \Box

From eq. (1) it follows immediately that $\mathscr{L}(D(m, n)L) \subset \mathscr{L}(D(m', n')L)$ for $m \leq m'$ and n = n' or m = m' and n < n'. In particular $\mathscr{L}(D0L) \subset \mathscr{L}(D1L) \subset \mathscr{L}(D2L)$. Analogously this holds with the propagating restriction added. For a further discussion of the inclusion relations between families of L languages using different amounts of context see [17, 18].

5. Extensions of deterministic L languages

The usual device in formal language theory for extracting languages from rewriting systems is the use of nonterminals, i.e.^b selecting from the set of produced words

all words over a terminal alphabet. This operation is called intersection with a terminal alphabet. Such an operation considerably contributes to the generating power and therefore a language $E(G, V_T) = L(G) \cap V_T^*$ is called an *extension* of an L language where G is an L system and V_T is some alphabet. We denote the family of extensions of XL languages by $\mathscr{C}(XL)$ where X is one of our usual restrictions. Considering nondeterministic L systems, van Dalen [3] proved that $\mathscr{C}(1L) = \mathscr{L}(RE)$, and $\mathscr{C}(P2L) = \mathscr{L}(CS)$.

Furthermore, $\mathscr{E}(0L) \subset \mathscr{L}(CS)$, see e.g. Herman and Rozenberg [9]. For deterministic L systems it therefore follows that $\mathscr{E}(D1L) \subseteq \mathscr{E}(D2L) \subseteq \mathscr{L}(RE)$; $\mathscr{E}(PD1L) \subseteq \mathscr{E}(PD2L) \subseteq \mathscr{L}(CS)$ (and in general by the working space theorem $\mathscr{E}(PD1L) \subseteq \mathscr{L}(CS)$); and $\mathscr{E}(D0L) \subset \mathscr{L}(CS)$. From the definitions it is immediate that $\mathscr{L}(XL) \subseteq \mathscr{E}(XL)$ for all classes of XL systems.

Theorem 5.1. $\mathscr{E}(D2L) = \mathscr{L}(RE)$.

Proof. Let A be a recursively enumerable language over some alphabet $V_{\rm T}$ which

is enumerated by a 1:1 recursive function $f: \mathbb{N} \to A$; n is recovered from f(n) by f^{-1} . That every infinite recursively enumerable language can be enumerated by a one-one recursive function follows from Rogers [16, Exercise 5.2]; for finite languages clearly an appropriate version of our proof suffices. Let T be a Turing machine with symbol set $S = V_T \cup \{a, b\}$ where $a, b \notin V_T$ and b is the blank symbol. At time t = 0, T is presented with a finitely inscribed tape of which the origin contains a. We assume that the tape is halfway infinite, i.e. the reading head of T never scans a square left of the origin. That this is no restriction on the power of a Turing machine is well known. T starts with erasing the finitely many marks on its tape except the symbol a at the origin, returns to the origin, writes the representation of 0 on the tape and calculates the value of f(0). Subsequently, T erases everything else except the representation of f(0), retrieves the representation of 0 from f(0) by f^{-1} , adds one to this representation and computes f(1), and so on. In particular we can do this in such a way that the specific symbol a is used only to mark the origin and is erased only to indicate $f(0), f(1), \dots$; it is printed again before we calculate f(n + 1) from f(n). If P is the set of all words in the history of T then $P \cap \{b\} V_T^* = \{b\} A$. Let $G_T = \langle W_T, \delta_T, w_T \rangle$ be a D2L which simulates T in the sense of Theorem 3.2. Since T uses a halfway infinite tape the strings of G_{T} always have a letter a at the left end except when f(n) has been computed for some n in which case the string has a letter q_{i_n} (indicating the state of the simulated Turing machine) at the left end. That is, for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$ there is a $t_n \in \mathbb{N}$ and a state $q_{i_n} \in \psi$ (where ψ is the state set of T) such that $\delta_T^{i_n}(w_T) = q_{i_n}af(n)$. We can construct T with two distinguished states q', q'' in ψ such that (eliminating some superfluous intermediate steps of T in the simulating G_T) for all n:

$$\delta_{T}^{i_{n}+1}(w_{T}) = q'f(n), \qquad \delta_{T}^{i_{n}+2}(w_{T}) = aq''f(n)$$

and q', q" never occur in $\delta'_{\mathsf{T}}(w_{\mathsf{T}})$ for $t_n + 2 < t \leq t_{n+1}$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Now we modify G_{T} to $G = \langle W_{\mathsf{T}}, \delta, w_{\mathsf{T}} \rangle$ where δ is defined by: if $\delta_{\mathsf{T}}(\lambda, q, a) = q'$ then $\delta(\lambda, q, a) = \lambda$, $\delta(\lambda, c, d) = aq''c$ for all letters $c \in V_{\mathsf{T}}$ and $d \in V_{\mathsf{T}} \cup \{\lambda\}$, and $\delta(\cdot) = \delta_{\mathsf{T}}(\cdot)$ for all

other arguments. It is easily seen that $\delta^{t_n+1}(w_T) = f(n)$ for all n and $\delta'(w_T) = \delta_T^t(w_T) \in W_T^* \psi W_T^*$ for all t such that $t \neq t_n + 1$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Hence $L(G) \cap V_T^* = A$. (To capture the case where $\lambda \in A$ we could define $\overline{\delta}(\lambda) = aq''$.) \Box

Theorem 5.2. The closure of $\mathscr{C}(D(0,1)L)$ (or $\mathscr{C}(D(1,0)L)$) under letter to letter homomorphism is equal to $\mathscr{L}(RE)$.

Proof. We prove the theorem for D(0, 1)Ls. The case for D(1, 0)Ls is completely analogous. Let $G = \langle W, \delta, w \rangle$ be a D2L constructed as in Theorem 5.1. Let $G' = \langle W', \delta', w' \rangle$ be a D(0, 1)L defined as follows:

 $W' = W \cup (W \times (W \cup \{0, 1, \lambda\})) \cup \{ \mathbf{\xi} \},$

where 0, 1, c are letters not in W,

$$w' = (b_1, 1) (b_2, 0) \cdots (b_n, 0) \text{ if } w = b_1 b_2 \cdots b_n,$$

$$\delta'(\lambda, a, b) = (b, 0),$$

$$\delta'(\lambda, \phi, a) = (a, 1),$$

$$\delta'(\lambda, \phi, \lambda) = \delta'(\lambda, a, \lambda) = \delta'(\lambda, (a, \lambda), \lambda) = \lambda,$$

$$\delta'(\lambda, (a, 0), (b, 0)) = (a, b),$$

$$\delta'(\lambda, (a, 0), (b, 0)) = \phi(a, b),$$

$$\delta'(\lambda, (a, 1), (b, 0)) = \phi(a, b),$$

$$\delta'(\lambda, (a, 1), \lambda) = \phi(a, \lambda),$$

$$\delta'(\lambda, (a, b), (b, c)) = \delta(a, b, c),$$

$$\delta'(\lambda, \phi, (a, c)) = \phi\delta(\lambda, a, c),$$

for all $a, b \in W$ and all $c \in W \cup \{\lambda\}$. (The arguments for which δ' is not defined shall not occur in our operation of G'.) Assume that $\lambda \notin L(G)$.

We see that for all t holds that $h_6(\delta'^{3t}(w')) = \delta'(w)$ where h_6 is a letter-to-letter homomorphism from $(W \times \{1, 0\})^*$ onto W^* defined by $h_6((a, 0)) = h_6((a, 1)) = a$ for all $a \in W$. Since by the synchronicity of the productions $\delta''(w') \in \{c\} W'^*$ for all $t \neq 0 \pmod{3}$ we have $h_6(L(G') \cap (W \times \{0, 1\})^*) = L(G)$ and therefore $h_6(L(G') \cap (V_T \times \{0, 1\})^*) = L(G) \cap V_T^*$. (To capture the case where $\lambda \in L(G)$ we could define $\overline{\delta}'(\lambda) = c \overline{\delta}(\lambda)$, and the proof proceeds analogously.) \Box

Theorem 5.3. If $L \in \mathscr{C}(D2L)$, or equivalently $L \in \mathscr{L}(RE)$, then $\{ \mathbf{e} \} L \in \mathscr{C}(D(0, 1)L)$ (similarly $L\{ \mathbf{e} \} \in \mathscr{C}(D(1, 0)L)$) where \mathbf{e} is a letter not occurring in a word in L.

Proof. Follows immediately from Lemma 3.3.

We shall now prove some properties of D0L and D1L languages which give us criteria to show that certain languages cannot be D0L or D1L languages or their intersections with a terminal alphabet.

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We call a language *permutation free* if no word in the language is a permutation of any other word in the language.

Lemma 5.4. Let $G = \langle W, \delta, w \rangle$ be a DOL. If L(G) is infinite then L(G) is permutation free.

Proof. Suppose L(G) is infinite, $v, v' \in L(G)$, $v \neq v'$, and v' is a permutation of v. Let $\delta^k(v) = v'$ for some k > 0. Since v' is a permutation of v we have for each n > 0, $\delta^{nk}(v)$ is a permutation of v. There are only a finite number of words in W^* which are a permutation of v and therefore there exist $n_2 > n_1 > 0$ such that $\delta^{n_1k}(v) = \delta^{n_2k}(v)$. But $v = \delta^{t_0}(w)$ for some t_0 and therefore $\delta^{t_0+n_1k}(w) = \delta^{t_0+n_2k}(w)$ so L(G) is finite: contradicting the assumption. \Box

The converse of the lemma holds in the following sense. Let $G = \langle W, \delta, w \rangle$ be a D0L. L(G) is infinite iff for no integers *i* and *j*, $i \neq j$, holds that $\delta^{i}(w)$ is a permutation of $\delta^{j}(w)$. (We consider λ to be a permutation of λ .)

Corollary 5.5. Let $G = \langle W, \delta, w \rangle$ be a D0L and V_T a subset of W. If $E(G, V_T)$ is infinite then $E(G, V_T)$ is permutation free, i.e. all infinite languages in $\mathscr{E}(D0L)$ are permutation free.

We call a word v' a prefix (postfix) of a word v if v = v'z (v = zv') for some word z. We call v' a proper prefix (proper postfix) of a word v if v' is a prefix (postfix) of v and $v' \neq v$.

Lemma 5.6. Let $G = \langle W, \delta, w \rangle$ be a D(1,0)L (D(0,1)L).

(i) L(G) is finite iff $\delta'(w) = \delta''(w)$ for some t, t' such that $t \neq t'$.

(ii) Let L(G) be infinite. If $v, v' \in L(G)$ and v' is a proper prefix (proper postfix) of v then, with finitely many exceptions, for each word u in L(G) there is a word u' in L(G) such that u' is a proper prefix (postfix) of u.

Proof. (i) Obvious by the deterministic property of G.

(ii) We prove (ii) only for D(1,0)Ls and prefixes. The proof is completely analogous for D(0, 1)Ls and postfixes.

Case 1: $\delta'(w) = v'$ and $\delta^k(v') = v = v'z$ for some $t \ge 0$ and some k > 0. For each $j \ge 0$ there is a $z' \in W^*$ such that $\delta^{i+k+j}(w) = \delta^j(v) = \delta^j(v'z) = \delta^j(v')z' = \delta^{i+j}(w)z'$, and by (i), $z' \ne \lambda$.

Case 2: $\delta'(w) = v = v'z$ and $\delta^k(v'z) = v'$ for some $t \ge 0$ and some $k \ge 0$. $\delta^k(v'z) = \delta^k(v')z' = v'$ for some $z' \in W^*$ and by (i), $z' \ne \lambda$. Therefore, $\lg(\delta^k(v)) < \lg(v')$. By iterating this argument $\lg(v')+1$ times we obtain either $\lg(\delta^{k(\lg(v')+1)}(v')) < \lg(v') - \lg(v')$ which is impossible or $\delta^{k\lg(v')}(v') = \delta^{k(\lg(v')+1)}(v')$. In the latter case L(G) is finite; contradictory to the assumption. \Box

If we allow $\overline{\delta}(\lambda) \neq \lambda$ then Lemma 5.6(ii) holds under the additional restriction: not both $\lambda \in L(G)$ and $\overline{\delta}(\lambda) \neq \lambda$. **Corollary 5.7.** Let $G = \langle W, \delta, w \rangle$ be a D(1, 0)L (D(0, 1)L) such that $E(G, V_T)$ is infinite for some V_T (and not both $\lambda \in L(G)$ and $\overline{\delta}(\lambda) \neq \lambda$). If $v, v' \in E(G, V_T)$ such that v' is a proper prefix of v (v' is a proper postfix of v) then, with finitely many exceptions, for each word u in $E(G, V_T)$ there is a word u' in $E(G, V_T)$ such that u = u'z (u = zu') for some $z \in V_T V_T^*$.

Clearly, Lemma 5.6 and Corollary 5.7 hold for D(m, 0)Ls with respect to prefixes and for D(0, m)Ls with respect to postfixes, $m \ge 0$.

Theorem 5.8. (i) The intersections of $\mathscr{C}(PD1L)$ with $\mathscr{L}(REG)$, $\mathscr{L}(CF) - \mathscr{L}(REG)$ and $\mathscr{L}(CS) - \mathscr{L}(CF)$ are nonempty. There are languages in $\mathscr{L}(REG)$, $\mathscr{L}(CF) - \mathscr{L}(REG)$ and $\mathscr{L}(CS) - \mathscr{L}(CF)$ which are not in $\mathscr{C}(PD1L)$. $\mathscr{C}(PD1L) \subset \mathscr{L}(CS)$.

(ii) The intersections of $\mathscr{C}(D1L)$ with $\mathscr{L}(REG)$, $\mathscr{L}(CF) - \mathscr{L}(REG)$, $\mathscr{L}(CS) - \mathscr{L}(CF)$ and $\mathscr{L}(RE) - \mathscr{L}(CS)$ are nonempty. There are languages in $\mathscr{L}(REG)$, $\mathscr{L}(CF) - \mathscr{L}(REG)$, $\mathscr{L}(CS) - \mathscr{L}(CF)$ and $\mathscr{L}(RE) - \mathscr{L}(CS)$ which are not in $\mathscr{C}(D1L)$. $\mathscr{C}(D1L) \subset \mathscr{L}(RE)$.

(iii) The intersections of $\mathscr{E}(DOL)$ with $\mathscr{L}(REG)$, $\mathscr{L}(CF) - \mathscr{L}(REG)$ and $\mathscr{L}(CS) - \mathscr{L}(CF)$ are nonempty. There are languages in $\mathscr{L}(REG)$, $\mathscr{L}(CF) - \mathscr{L}(REG)$ and $\mathscr{L}(CS) - \mathscr{L}(CF)$ which are not in $\mathscr{E}(DOL)$. $\mathscr{E}(DOL) \subset \mathscr{L}(CS)$.

Proof. Since $\mathscr{L}(DXL) \subseteq \mathscr{C}(DXL)$, the first sentences of the statements (i)-(iii) are correct by Theorem 4.2. Let $L_1 = \{a, aa\} \cup \{b\}\{c\}^*\{b\}, L_2 = \{a, aa\} \cup \{a^nbc^n: n > 0\}, L_3 = \{a, aa\} \cup \{b^nc^nd^n: n > 0\}$ and $L_4 = \{a, aa\} \cup \{a\}A\{a\}$ where $A \subseteq \{1\}^*$ is the nonrecursive language from Theorem 4.2. By Corollary 5.7, L_1, L_2, L_3 and L_4 do not belong to $\mathscr{C}(D1L)$. But $L_1 \in \mathscr{L}(REG); L_2 \in \mathscr{L}(CF) - \mathscr{L}(REG)$ and $L_3 \in \mathscr{L}(CS) - \mathscr{L}(CF)$, as is well known; $L_4 \in \mathscr{L}(RE) - \mathscr{L}(CS)$. The inclusion in the last sentences of the statements of (i) and (iii) follows by the usual working space theorem and strict inclusion by the foregoing. The inclusion in the last sentence of the statement of (ii) is true by the usual Turing machine simulation argument and strict inclusion follows by the foregoing. \Box

We might note that the existence of languages in $\mathscr{L}(\text{REG})$, $\mathscr{L}(\text{CF}) - \mathscr{L}(\text{REG})$ and $\mathscr{L}(\text{CS}) - \mathscr{L}(\text{CF})$ which are not in $\mathscr{C}(\text{D0L})$ could also have been proven using Corollary 5.5.

That with respect to families of extensions of L languages differences can only lie in no context, one directional context and two directional context, but not in the amount of context, is shown by the next theorem.

Theorem 5.9. (i) $\mathscr{C}(D2L) = \mathscr{C}(DIL)$.

- (ii) $\mathscr{E}(PD2L) = \mathscr{E}(PDIL)$.
- (iii) $\mathscr{C}(D1L) = \bigcup_{i \in \mathbb{N}} (\mathscr{C}(D(i, 0)L) \cup \mathscr{C}(D(0, i)L)).$
- (iv) $\mathscr{C}(PD1L) = \bigcup_{i \in \mathbb{N}} (\mathscr{C}(PD(i, 0)L) \cup \mathscr{C}(PD(0, i)L)).$

Proof. We give the outline of a simulation technique to prove (i). (ii)–(iv) are completely analogous. ((i) follows also from Theorem 5.1 but the present proof is direct.)

Let $G = \langle W, \delta, w \rangle$ be a D(m, n)L, m, n > 0, and let r be the greater one of m and n. We construct a D2L $G' = \langle W', \delta', w' \rangle$ as follows:

$$W' = W \cup \left(\bigcup_{i=0}^{m-1} W^i \times W \times \bigcup_{j=0}^{n-1} W^j\right)$$
 and $w' = w$.

The production rules δ' are defined in such a way that, for each production of G, G' executes r productions. The first r-1 of these r productions serve to gather the necessary context for each letter in the string and the rth production produces the string produced by G.

E.g., if $\delta(a_1a_2\cdots a_k) = \alpha_1\alpha_2\cdots \alpha_k$, then

$$\delta''(a_1a_2\cdots a_k) = \delta''^{-1}((\lambda, a_1, a_2)(a_1, a_2, a_3)\cdots (a_{k-1}, a_k, \lambda))$$

= $\delta''^{-2}((\lambda, a_1, a_2a_3)(a_1, a_2, a_3a_4)\cdots (a_{k-2}a_{k-1}, a_k, \lambda))$
:
= $\delta'((\lambda, a_1, a_2a_3\cdots a_n)(a_1, a_2, a_3a_4\cdots a_{n+1})$
 $\cdots (a_{k-m+1}a_{k-m+2}\cdots a_{k-1}, a_k, \lambda))$

$$= \alpha_1 \alpha_2 \cdots \alpha_k$$

Therefore, $\delta'''(w') = \delta'(w)$ for all t, and $\delta''(w') \notin W^*$ for all $t \neq 0 \pmod{r}$. Hence, for each subset V_T of W, $L(G') \cap V_T^* = L(G) \cap V_T^*$. \Box

Similarly we can prove the analog of Theorem 5.9 for the general case of nondeterministic L systems.

In the next section we study $\mathscr{C}(PD2L)$ and show, among other things, that the closure of $\mathscr{C}(PD1L)$ under nonerasing homomorphism is strictly contained in $\mathscr{C}(PD2L)$.

6. Extensions of propagating deterministic L languages

A linear bounded automaton M is a Turing machine with, say, symbol set S, state set ψ and start state $q_0 \in \psi$, such that M accepts a word v over a subset V_T of Susing at most $c \lg(v)$ tapesquares during its computation, where c is a fixed constant. It is well known that the family of languages accepted by linear bounded automata is equal to $\mathcal{L}(CS)$ (see [11] or [19]). A deterministic linear bounded automaton (DLBA) is a linear bounded automaton such that each instantaneous description has exactly one successor.

We shall show that $\mathscr{C}(PD2L)$ equals the family of languages accepted by DLBAs, i.e. $\mathscr{L}(DLBA)$. Thus the question of whether or not the inclusion of $\mathscr{C}(PD2L)$ in $\mathscr{C}(P2L)$ is strict is shown to be equivalent with one of the more famous open problems in formal language theory, i.e. whether or not the inclusion of $\mathscr{L}(DLBA)$ in $\mathscr{L}(CS)$ is strict (cf. [11] or [19]). That $\mathscr{C}(PD1L) \subset \mathscr{C}(PD2L)$ follows already from the fact that it is easy to construct a PD2L G such that $L(G) = \{a, aa\} \cup \{b\} \{c\}^*\{b\}$ which language is not in $\mathscr{C}(PD1L)$ by Corollary 5.7. However, we shall prove the much stronger result that the closure of $\mathscr{E}(PD1L)$ under nonerasing homomorphisms is strictly contained in $\mathscr{E}(PD2L)$.

Theorem 6.1. $\mathscr{E}(PD2L) = \mathscr{L}(DLBA)$.

Proof. We give an outline since the details would be tedious. Let $G = \langle W, \delta, w \rangle$ be a PD2L and V_T a subset of W. Construct a deterministic linear bounded automaton M as follows. M uses an amount of tape equal to 4(length of input + 1), divided in 4 sections I, II, III, IV of equal length. The input word v is written on I; section II contains the axiom w, section III is blank and section IV contains the representation of 0 in the # W-ary number system. M compares $\delta^i(w)$ with $v, i \ge 0$, and accepts v if $\delta^i(w) = v$. Otherwise, scuttling back and forth between sections II and III, M produces $\delta^{i+1}(w)$ from $\delta^i(w)$ such that $\delta^{i+1}(w)$ is written on III if $\delta^i(w)$ is written on II and vice versa. (If $\lg(\delta^{i+1}(w)) \ge \lg(v) + 1$ then M rejects v.) Subsequently, M increments the number written on IV by 1. If IV contains a number equal to $\# W^{\lg(v)+1} - 1$ then M rejects v. Otherwise, M compares $\delta^{i+1}(w)$ with v, and so on. Since $v \in L(G)$ iff $v = \delta^i(w)$ for some $i < \# W^{\lg(v)+1} - 1$ we see that L(M) = L(G), where L(M) is the language accepted by M. Now construct M' from M where M' is exactly like M except that M' first ascertains that $v \in V_T^*$ and rejects v if $v \notin V_T^*$. Then $L(M') = L(G) \cap V_T^*$.

Let M be a DLBA, which accepts L(M) over S, using no more than cn tapesquares for an input word of length n. Now construct a DLBA M' such that M' generates all words v_0, v_1, \cdots over S in lexicographical order and accepts or rejects them by simulating M. In particular we can do it such that M', started in state q'_0 on a word v_i , $i \ge 0$, written from left to right from the origin with the remaining $(c-1)\lg(v_i)$ tapesquares containing blank symbols, computes the next word v_{i+1} written from left to right from the origin, enters the start state q_0 of M and simulates M. After rejection or acceptance M' erases everything but v_{i+1} from the tape and starts in q'_0 at the origin, i.e. scanning the leftmost letter of v_{i+1} , and so on.

Let V be the set of symbols of M', b the blank symbol, and ψ the state set of M'. Construct $G = \langle W, \delta, w \rangle$ as follows:

$$W = V \cup (V^{c} \times (\psi \cup \{\lambda\}) \times \{0, 1, 2, \cdots, c\}),$$

$$w=(a, b, b, \cdots, b, q_0, 1),$$

where a is the first word of SS^* in the lexicographical order. G simulates M' as follows: if $\delta'(w) = a_1 a_2 \cdots a_n$,

$$a_1a_2\cdots a_n \in (V^c \times \{\lambda\} \times \{0\})^* (V^c \times \psi \times \{1, 2, \cdots, c\}) (V^c \times \{\lambda\} \times \{0\})^*,$$

then the *j*th element of a_i , $1 \le j \le c$ and $1 \le i \le n$, corresponds with the (i + (j - 1)n)th tapesquare of M', the (c + 1)th element of a_i indicates the present state of M' if one of the tapesquares coded in a_i is under scan (and is λ otherwise) and the (c + 2)th element tells which tapesquare (and is 0 otherwise). In particular we can construct G such that if M' enters an accepting state the accepted word v_i

over S is "read out" from right to left, and subsequently is restored (from left to right) to the form

$$(a_1, b, b, \cdots, b, q'_0, 1)(a_2, b, b, \cdots, b, \lambda, 0)\cdots(a_n, b, b, \cdots, b, \lambda, 0)$$

for $v_i = a_1 a_2 \cdots a_n$. Hence $L(G) \cap S^* = L(M)$.

We now proceed to show that the closure of $\mathscr{C}(PD1L)$ under nonerasing homomorphism does not contain $\mathscr{L}(REG)$.

Lemma 6.2. Let $G = \langle W, \delta, w \rangle$ be a PD(1,0)L such that L(G) is infinite. Let r = # W. For each $t \ge r$ there is a prefix v of $\delta'(w)$, $\lg(v) \ge \lfloor \log_r((r-1)t+r) \rfloor$, and a constant $k, 0 < k \le r^{\lg(v)}$, such that v is a prefix of $\delta'^{+nk}(w)$ for all n. For PD(0, 1)Ls this holds with respect to postfixes.

Proof. Denote the *i*th letter of a string $\delta^{j}(w)$, $i, j \in \mathbb{N}$, by a_{ij} . Since L(G) is infinite, the slowest rate of growth G can achieve is by generating all words over W in lexicographical order, i.e. $\lg(\delta^{r}(w)) \ge \lfloor \log_{r}((r-1)t+r) \rfloor$. Therefore, a_{ij} is indeed a letter in W for all *j* such that $j \ge \sum_{i=1}^{i-1} r^{i}$. Since there are only *r* different letters in W, there are natural numbers j_1 and $k_1, j_1, k_1 \le r$ and $k_1 > 0$ such that $a_{1j_1} = a_{1j_1+k_1}$. Since G is a PD(1,0)L, $a_{1j_1+nk_1} = a_{1j_1}$, for all *n*. Therefore, a letter in the second position has a_{1j_1} as its left neighbor at all times, $j_1 + nk_1$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$. There is surely a letter in the second position for all times $t \ge r$. Therefore, there are positive natural numbers j_2 and $k_2, j_2 \ge r$, $k_2 \le r^2$ and $j_2 + k_2 \le r + r^2$, such that $j_2 = j_1 + n_1k_1$, $j_2 + k_2 = j_1 + n_2k_1$ for some $n_1, n_2 \in \mathbb{N}$ and $a_{2j_2} = a_{2j_2+k_2}$. By iteration of this argument, for each $s = 1, 2, \cdots$ there are positive natural numbers j_s and $k_s, j_s \ge \sum_{i=1}^{s-1} r^i$, such that

 $a_{1j_1}a_{2j_2}\cdots a_{sj_s} = a_{1j_{s+nk_s}}a_{2j_{s+nk_s}}\cdots a_{sj_{s+nk_s}},$

for all *n*. Since G is a PD(1,0)L,

 $a_{1j_{s+t}}a_{2j_{s+t}}\cdots a_{sj_{s+t}}=a_{1j_{s+t+nk_s}}a_{2j_{s+t+nk_s}}\cdots a_{sj_{s+t+nk_s}}$

for all t and n. Therefore, for all s and all t such that

$$\sum_{i=1}^{s} r^{i} > t \ge j_{s} \ge \sum_{i=1}^{s-1} r^{i},$$

there is a prefix v of $\delta^{t}(w)$, $\lg(v) \ge \lfloor \log_{r}((r-1)t+r) \rfloor = s$, and a positive constant $k_{s} \le r^{s}$ such that v is a prefix of $\delta^{t+nk_{s}}(w)$ for all n. Hence the lemma. \Box

Contrasting Lemma 6.2 with Lemma 5.6 gives a nice insight in the influence of the propagating restriction with respect to the necessary behavior of pre- and postfixes of the sequence of words generated by D1Ls.

Theorem 6.3. Let V be any alphabet containing at least two letters. No language containing VV^* belongs to the closure under nonerasing homomorphism of $\mathscr{E}(PD1L)$.

Proof. Assume that $\{a, b\} \subseteq V$, and consider the subset $L = \{(a^n b^n)^{f(n)}: n \ge 1\}$ of V^* . Suppose that $L \subseteq h(L(G) \cap V^*_T)$ for some PD(1,0)L $G = \langle W, \delta, w \rangle$, a set V_T and a nonerasing homomorphism h from V^*_T into V^* . Define t_n by

$$t_n = \min\{i \in \mathbb{N}: \delta^i(w) \in V_T^* \text{ and } h(\delta^i(w)) = (a^n b^n)^{f(n)}, n \in \mathbb{N}\}.$$

As is easily seen, $\lg(\delta'(w)) \leq m' \lg(w)$ where *m* is the maximum length of a value of δ . Therefore, $2n \cdot f(n) \leq m'^n \lg(w)c$ where $c = \max\{\lg(h(a)): a \in V_T\}$. Or, $t_n \geq \log_m(f(n)(2n/(\lg(w)c))) > \log_m f(n)$ for all $n \geq n_0$ where n_0 is some fixed natural number. For each $n \geq n_0$, $\delta'^n(w)$ has a prefix v_n such that, for $f(n) > m^{(r^{n+1})}$,

$$\lg(v_n) \ge \lfloor \log_r(t_n(r-1)+r) \rfloor > n, \quad r = \# W,$$

and v_n occurs infinitely often with a constant period k_n by Lemma 6.2. Since for each *n* the prefix v_n of $\delta^{i_n}(w)$ is mapped under *h* to $a^n bz$, $z \in \{a, b\}^*$, v_n cannot be a prefix of $\delta^{i_n}(w)$ for $n \neq n'$ and $n, n' \geq n_0$. We now derive a contradiction by showing that then $k_n = k_{n_0}$ for all $n \geq n_0$. Since *G* is propagating and the prefix v_n $(n \geq n_0)$ occurs with a constant period k_n there is a j_n such that $\delta^{j_n}(v_{n_0}) = v_n z$ for some $z \in W^*$. But then

$$\delta^{i_{n_0}+pk_{n_0}+j_n}(w) = \delta^{j_n}(v_{n_0}z_p) = \delta^{j_n}(v_{n_0})z_p' = v_n z z_p'$$

for all p and some $z, z_p, z'_p \in W^*$. I.e. from time $t_{n_0} + j_n$ the prefix v_n occurs with period k_{n_0} and $k_n = k_{n_0}$ (or k_n divides k_{n_0}) for all $n \ge n_0$. Hence.

$$\#(h(L(G)\cap V_{T}^{*})\cap\{(a^{n}b^{n})^{f(n)}:n\geq n_{0}\})\leq k_{n}$$

and

$$VV^* \not\subseteq h(L(G) \cap V^*_{\mathsf{T}}).$$

(Since $VV^* = (VV^*)^R$, i.e. the language consisting of all words from VV^* reversed, the above proof holds also for PD(0, 1)Ls.) \Box

We see that any language which contains a language like $\{(a^n b^n)^{f(n)}: n \ge 1\}$ cannot be the image under nonerasing homomorphism of a language in $\mathscr{C}(PD1L)$. Hence also e.g. $(\{a\}\{a\}^*\{b\}\{b\}^*)^*$. The idea behind the proof of Theorem 6.3 is roughly the following. If a language L contains a large enough subset L' where each pair of words in L', say v and v', are distinguishable by their respective prefixes (postfixes) u and u' such that lg(u) = O(log log(lg(v))) and lg(u') = O(log log(lg(v'))) then L cannot be in the closure under nonerasing homomorphism of $\mathscr{C}(PD(1,0)L)$ ($\mathscr{C}(PD(0,1)L)$). For example $\{b\}\{b\}^*\{a\}^*\{b\}\{b\}^*$ contains $\{b^n(a^n)^{f(n)}b^n: n \ge 1\}$ for each f and therefore is not contained in a nonerasing homomorphic image of a language in $\mathscr{C}(PD1L)$.

Let us denote the closure of a language family X under nonerasing homomorphism by $h_{\lambda}X$ and under letter-to-letter homomorphism by $h_{1:1}X$.

Theorem 6.4. (i) $\mathscr{E}(PD1L) \subset h_{1:1}\mathscr{E}(PD1L) \subseteq h_{\lambda}\mathscr{E}(PD1L) \subset \mathscr{E}(PD2L) = \mathscr{L}(DLBA)$ = $h_{\lambda}\mathscr{E}(PD2L)$.

(ii) For each $x \in \{\lambda, h_{1:1}, h_{\lambda}\}$ the language family $x \mathscr{C}(PD1L)$ has nonempty

intersection with $\mathcal{L}(\text{REG})$, $\mathcal{L}(\text{CF}) - \mathcal{L}(\text{REG})$ and $\mathcal{L}(\text{CS}) - \mathcal{L}(\text{CF})$; there are languages in $\mathcal{L}(\text{REG})$, $\mathcal{L}(\text{CF}) - \mathcal{L}(\text{REG})$ and $\mathcal{L}(\text{CS}) - \mathcal{L}(\text{CF})$ which are not in $x\mathcal{E}(\text{PD1L})$; $h_{\lambda}\mathcal{E}(\text{PD1L}) \subset \mathcal{L}(\text{DLBA})$.

Proof. (i) Let

$$G = \langle \{a_1, a_2, a_3, b, c\}, \{\delta(\lambda, a_1, \lambda) = a_2 a_3, \delta(\lambda, a_2, \lambda) \\ = \delta(a_2, a_3, \lambda) = \delta(\lambda, b, \lambda) = b, \delta(b, b, \lambda) = \delta(c, b, \lambda) = cb, \\ \delta(b, c, \lambda) = \delta(c, c, \lambda) = c\}, a_1 \rangle$$

be a PD(1,0)L. Let h be a letter to letter homomorphism defined by $h(a_i) = a$ for $i = 1, 2, 3, and h(b) = b, h(c) = c. h(L(G)) = \{a, aa\} \cup \{b\}\{c\}^*\{b\} and by Corollary 5.7, h(L(G)) \notin \mathscr{E}(PD1L)$. Therefore, $\mathscr{E}(PD1L) \subset h_{1:1}\mathscr{E}(PD1L)$. $h_{1:1}\mathscr{E}(PD1L) \subseteq h_{\lambda}\mathscr{E}(PD1L)$ holds by definition. It is easy to show that $\mathscr{L}(DLBA) = h_{\lambda}\mathscr{L}(DLBA)$; together with Theorem 6.1 this gives $\mathscr{E}(PD2L) = h_{\lambda}\mathscr{E}(PD2L) = \mathscr{L}(DLBA)$. Since $\mathscr{E}(PD1L) \subseteq \mathscr{E}(PD2L)$, we have $h_{\lambda}\mathscr{E}(PD1L) \subseteq \mathscr{E}(PD2L)$. $\mathscr{L}(CF) \subset \mathscr{L}(DLBA)$ (see [11, Exercise 3.3]), and therefore $\{a, b\}\{a, b\}^* \in \mathscr{E}(PD2L)$.

(ii) Since $\mathscr{L}(PD1L) \subseteq \mathfrak{X}(PD1L)$, the first sentence follows from Theorem 4.2. The second sentence follows by taking languages from $\mathscr{L}(REG)$, $\mathscr{L}(CF) - \mathscr{L}(REG)$, $\mathscr{L}(CS) - \mathscr{L}(CF)$ forming their union with $\{a, b\}\{a, b\}^*$ and applying Theorem 6.3. The last sentence follows from (i). \Box

In the foregoing we have seen that with deterministic propagating onedirectional L systems, together with nonterminal mechanisms and nonerasing homomorphisms, we stay within the range of the DLBA languages and cannot even obtain all regular languages. We conclude by proving that the closure of $\mathscr{L}(PD1L)$ under homomorphisms, which map a letter either to itself or to λ , is equal to the family of recursively enumerable languages.

The proof method was suggested by a proof of Ehrenfeucht and Rozenberg [5] for the equality of $\mathscr{L}(RE)$ and the closure of $\mathscr{L}(D2L)$ under weak coding. The difficulty lies in the fact that we have to "read out" the whole word in the language in one production since otherwise also subwords of the desired words appear under the homomorphism. This solution makes essential use of the parallelism in L systems by a firing squad simulation. The firing squad synchronization problem, see e.g. [13], can be stated as follows. Suppose we want to synchronize an arbitrary long finite chain of interacting identical finite state automata. All finite state automata are initially in the same state m and stay in that state if both neighbors are in state m. The automata on the ends of the chain are allowed to be different since they sense that they lack one neighbor. Synchronization is achieved if all automata enter the firing state f at the same time and no automaton in the chain is in state f before that time. In the terminology of L systems a firing squad is a PD2L F = $\langle W_F, \delta_F, m^* \rangle$ such that $\delta_F(m, m, m) = \delta_F(m, m, \lambda) = m$. F satisfies the following requirement: there is a function $t: \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$ such that for each $k \in \mathbb{N}$ it holds that $\delta_{F}^{t(k)}(m^{k}) = f^{k}$ and $\delta_F^i(m^k) \notin W_F^*\{f\} W_F^*$ for all $i, 0 \le i < t(k)$. Balzer [2] proved that there is such an F with $\# W_F = 8$ and t(k) = 2k - 2. After these preliminaries we state the theorem.

Theorem 6.5. The closure of $\mathscr{L}(PD1L)$ under homomorphisms, which map a letter either to itself or to λ , is equal to $\mathscr{L}(RE)$.

Proof. Since by now these kinds of proofs are familiar we give only an outline. Let A be an infinite recursively enumerable language enumerated by a 1:1 recursive

function $f: \mathbb{N} \xrightarrow{1:1} A$; *n* is recovered from f(n) by f^{-1} . (The case where A is finite follows by a similar method.) Let T be a Turing machine which starts with the representation of 0 on its tape, say $a_1a_2 \cdots a_{n_0}$, computes f(0), replaces everything except f(0) on its tape by the blank symbol b and returns to the leftmost symbol of f(0). Subsequently T retrieves 0 from f(0) by f^{-1} , increments 0 with 1, and computes f(1), and so on. In particular we can do this in such a way that after the computation of f(n) the instantaneous description of T is b'q'f(n)b' for some $l, r \in \mathbb{N}$ and a distinguished state q' of T. The next instantaneous description of T is $b^1q''f(n)b'$ for another distinguished state q'' of T. Scanning the leftmost symbol of f(n), T starts retrieving n from f(n) by f^{-1} in state q''. We simulate T by a PD2L $G = \langle W, \delta, w \rangle$; hence the blank symbols will not disappear. G is defined as follows:

$$W = (\psi \times S \cup (S - \{b\})) \times W_{\mathsf{F}} \cup S,$$

where ψ is the state set of T, S is the symbol set of T and b is the blank symbol, and W_F is the alphabet of the firing squad F.

$$w = (q_0, a_1, m)(a_2, m) \cdots (a_{n_0}, m),$$

where q_0 is the start state of T, $a_1a_2\cdots a_{n_0}$ is the representation of 0 and m is the initial state of the firing squad F. G simulates T until the situation

$$\delta^{t_0}(w) = b^{t_1}(q', c_1, m)(c_2, m) \cdots (c_{t_0}, m) b^{t_1}$$

occurs where $c_1c_2\cdots c_b$ is f(0). Subsequently, the substring between the b's executes a firing squad and, when the squad fires, maps itself to f(0). I.e

$$\delta^{t_0+2l_0-2}(w) = b^{l}(q', c_1, f)(c_2, f) \cdots (c_{l_0}, f)b^{l},$$

$$\delta^{t_0+2l_0-1}(w) = b^{l}c_1c_2 \cdots c_{l_0}b^{l} = b^{l}f(0)b^{l}.$$

 δ is constructed such that a letter $c \in S - \{b\}$ is rewritten as (c, m), except when it has b or λ as left neighbor in which case it is rewritten as (q'', c, m). Therefore,

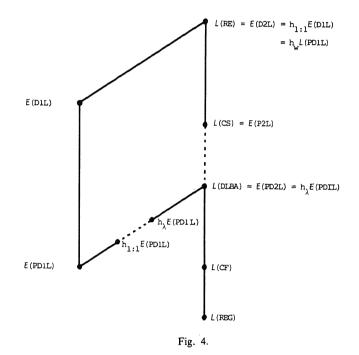
$$\delta^{t_0+2t_0}(w) = b'(q'', c_1, m)(c_2, m) \cdots (c_{t_0}, m)b',$$

and G continues simulating T, retrieves 0, adds 1 and computes the representation of f(1), and so on. Hence h(L(G)) = A where h is a homomorphism defined by h(a) = a if $a \in S - \{b\}$ and $h(a) = \lambda$ otherwise.

We now simulate G by a PD1L $G' = \langle W', \delta', w' \rangle$ which is defined exactly as the D(0,1)L in Lemma 3.3 except that $\delta'(\lambda, (a, \lambda), \lambda) = b$ for all $a \in W$. Then h'(L(G')) = A where h' is a homomorphism defined by h'(a) = a if $a \in S - \{b\}$ and $h'(a) = \lambda$ otherwise. \Box

We see that the simplest form of erasing homomorphism, i.e. all letters which are not mapped to λ are mapped to themselves, adds tremendously to the generating power of PD1L systems.

We summarize the more important results of Sections 5 and 6 in Fig. 4. Connection by a solid line means that the upper language family strictly contains the lower one; connection by a dotted line means that the upper language family contains the lower one and it is not known yet whether the inclusion is strict; if two language families are not connected at all this means that their intersection is nonempty but neither contains the other, i.e. they are *incomparable*.



We denote the closure of $\mathscr{L}(PD1L)$ under homomorphisms which map a letter either to itself or to λ , by $h_{w}\mathscr{L}(PD1L)$. (These homomorphisms are a restricted type of weak codings.)

(1) $\mathscr{L}(\text{RE}) = \mathscr{E}(\text{D2L}) = h_{1:1}\mathscr{E}(\text{D1L}) = h_w \mathscr{L}(\text{PD1L})$; Theorems 5.1, 5.2 and 6.5.

(2) $\mathscr{C}(D1L) \subset \mathscr{L}(RE)$ and $\mathscr{C}(D1L)$ incomparable with $\mathscr{L}(CS)$, $\mathscr{L}(DLBA)$, $\mathscr{L}(CF)$ and $\mathscr{L}(REG)$; Theorem 5.8.

(3) $\mathscr{C}(D1L)$ incomparable with $h_{1:1}\mathscr{C}(PD1L)$ and $h_{\lambda}\mathscr{C}(PD1L)$.

This needs a brief explanation. Let $L = \{a, aa\} \cup \{b\} \{c\}^* \{b\}$. $L \in h_{1:1} \mathscr{E}(PD1L) \subseteq h_{\lambda} \mathscr{E}(PD1L)$ by the proof of Theorem 6.4(i), and $L \notin \mathscr{E}(D1L)$ by the proof of Theorem 5.8. Therefore

(a) $h_{1:1} \mathscr{E}(\text{PD1L}) \not\subseteq \mathscr{E}(\text{D1L})$ and $h_{\lambda} \mathscr{E}(\text{PD1L}) \not\subseteq \mathscr{E}(\text{D1L})$.

Since $\mathscr{E}(D1L)$ contains languages in $\mathscr{L}(RE) - \mathscr{L}(CS)$ by Theorem 5.8(ii) and $h_{1:1}\mathscr{E}(PD1L) \subseteq h_{\lambda}\mathscr{E}(PD1L) \not\subseteq \mathscr{L}(CS)$ by Theorem 6.4(i) we have

(b) $\mathscr{E}(D1L) \not\subseteq h_{1:1} \mathscr{E}(PD1L)$ and $\mathscr{E}(D1L) \not\subseteq h_{\lambda} \mathscr{E}(PD1L)$. Furthermore, by definition:

(c) $\mathscr{E}(PD1L) \subseteq \mathscr{E}(D1L)$ and $\mathscr{E}(PD1L) \subseteq h_{1:1}\mathscr{E}(PD1L) \subseteq h_{\lambda}\mathscr{E}(PD1L)$. From (a), (b) and (c) it follows that $\mathscr{E}(D1L)$ is incomparable with both $h_{1:1}\mathscr{E}(PD1L)$ and $h_{\lambda}\mathscr{E}(PD1L)$.

(4) $\mathscr{L}(CS) = \mathscr{E}(P2L)$; van Dalen [3].

(5) $\mathscr{L}(\text{DLBA}) = \mathscr{E}(\text{PD2L}) = h_{\lambda} \mathscr{E}(\text{PDIL})$; Theorems 5.9 and 6.1.

(6) $\mathscr{E}(PD1L) \subset h_{1:1} \mathscr{E}(PD1L) \subseteq h_{\lambda} \mathscr{E}(PD1L) \subset \mathscr{L}(DLBA)$; Theorem 6.4(i).

(7) $\mathscr{E}(PD1L) \subseteq \mathscr{E}(D1L)$ by definition. Strict inclusion since $\mathscr{E}(PD1L) \subset \mathscr{L}(CS)$ by Theorem 6.4(i) and $\mathscr{E}(D1L) \cap (\mathscr{L}(RE) - \mathscr{L}(CS)) \neq \emptyset$ by Theorem 5.8(ii).

(8) E(PD1L) is incomparable with both L(CF) and L(REG) by Theorem 5.8(i).
(9) (a) L(REG) ∠ h_xE(PD1L) by Theorem 6.3.

(b) $\mathscr{E}(PD1L) \subset h_{1:1}\mathscr{E}(PD1L) \subseteq h_{\lambda}\mathscr{E}(PD1L)$ by Theorem 6.4(i).

(c) $\mathscr{E}(PD1L)$ is incomparable with $\mathscr{L}(REG)$ and $\mathscr{L}(CF)$ by Theorem 5.8(i).

From (a), (b) and (c) it follows that both $h_{1:1} \mathcal{E}(PD1L)$ and $h_{\lambda} \mathcal{E}(PD1L)$ are incomparable with $\mathcal{L}(REG)$ and $\mathcal{L}(CF)$, respectively.

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