

## APPENDIX

**Theorem 6** (Theorem 7 in [14]). *If  $x$  and  $y$  are confusable, then they have to be in one of the following forms.*

(A)  $x = u\alpha\omega\beta v, y = u\bar{\alpha}\omega\bar{\beta}v$ , where  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are alternating sequences of length at least two.

(B)  $x = u\alpha\bar{a}\gamma\bar{b}\beta v, y = u\alpha\bar{a}\gamma\bar{b}\bar{\beta}v$ , where  $\alpha, \beta$  and  $\gamma$  are alternating sequences. Here,  $\alpha$  is of length at least two and ends with  $a$ ,  $\beta$  is of length at least two and starts with  $b$ , and  $\gamma$  starts with  $\bar{a}$  and ends with  $\bar{b}$ .

**Theorem 7** (Theorem 4.1 in [13]). *For two sequences  $x = u\tilde{x}v$  and  $y = u\tilde{y}v$  in  $\Sigma^n$  with  $d_L(x, y) \geq 2$ , if  $|\mathcal{D}_2(x) \cap \mathcal{D}_2(y)| \geq 5$ , then one of the following holds:*

(A)  $\tilde{x} = a\omega b$  and  $\tilde{y} = \bar{a}\omega\bar{b}$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are alternating sequences of length at least two and  $\omega$  is a combination of periodic sequences. More precisely, suppose  $a$  ends with  $\alpha$  and  $b$  starts with  $\beta'$ , then  $\omega = u'\omega'v'$  and one of the following holds:

- $u'$  is a run sequence starting with  $\alpha$ ,  $\omega'$  is an alternating sequence of length at least one starting with  $\bar{\alpha}$  and ending with  $\beta'$ ,  $v'$  is a run sequence starting with  $\bar{\beta}'$
- $u'$  is a run sequence starting with  $\bar{\alpha}$ ,  $\omega'$  is an alternating sequence of length at least one starting with  $\alpha$  and ending with  $\beta'$ ,  $v'$  is a run sequence starting with  $\beta'$ .

(B)  $\tilde{x} = a\bar{\alpha}\omega\bar{\beta}b, \tilde{y} = a\alpha\bar{\omega}\bar{\beta}b$ , where  $a$  is an alternating sequence of length at least two ending with  $\alpha$ ,  $\omega$  is an alternating sequence starting with  $\bar{\alpha}$  and ending with  $\bar{\beta}'$ , and  $b$  is an alternating sequence of length at least two starting with  $\beta'$ .

Particularly,  $|\mathcal{D}_2(x) \cap \mathcal{D}_2(y)| = 6$  if and only if  $\tilde{x} = a\omega b$  and  $\tilde{y} = \bar{a}\omega\bar{b}$ , where  $a$  is an alternating sequence of length at least two ending with  $\alpha$ ,  $b$  is an alternating sequence of length at least two starting with  $\beta'$ , and one of the following holds:

- if  $\omega$  starts with  $\alpha'$  and ends with  $\beta'$ ,  $\omega$  is a alternating sequence of length at least two;
- if  $\omega$  starts with  $\alpha'$  and ends with  $\bar{\beta}'$ ,  $\omega$  is a alternating sequence of length at least three;
- if  $\omega$  starts with  $\bar{\alpha}'$  and ends with  $\beta'$ ,  $\omega$  is a alternating sequence of length at least three;
- if  $\omega$  starts with  $\bar{\alpha}'$  and ends with  $\bar{\beta}'$ ,  $\omega$  is a alternating sequence of length at least two;

**Lemma 10** (Lemma 12(ii) in [14]). *Suppose that  $x = \alpha r\beta$  and  $y = \bar{\alpha} s\bar{\beta}$  and  $d_L(x, y) \geq 2$ . Set  $\mathcal{S} = \mathcal{D}_2(x) \cap \mathcal{D}_2(y)$ . If the first two bits of  $x$  are equal, i.e.  $r = \alpha r'$ , then  $|\mathcal{S}| \leq 4$ . Hence by symmetry, if  $r = r'\beta$  or  $s = \bar{\alpha} s'$  or  $s = s'\bar{\beta}$ , i.e., the first or last two bits of  $x$  or  $y$  are equal, then  $|\mathcal{S}| \leq 4$ .*

**Lemma 7** Let  $x, y$  be two binary sequences of length  $n$  such that  $d_L(x, y) \geq 3$ , if  $\mathcal{D}_3(x) \cap \mathcal{D}_3(y) \geq 18$ , then  $x = uas\omega^1 tbv, y = u\bar{a}\bar{s}\omega^2 \bar{t}\bar{b}v$ , where

- $u, v$  are the longest common prefix and suffix of  $x, y$ ,
- $a, b, s, t$  are maximal alternating sequence of length at least 2.
- $\omega^1 \neq \omega^2$ .

*Proof:* According Lemma 6, if  $\mathcal{D}_3(x) \cap \mathcal{D}_3(y) \geq 18$ , then they are of the form  $x = uaw^1bv, y = u\bar{a}\omega^2\bar{b}v$ , such that

- $u, v$  are the longest common prefix and suffix of  $x, y$ ;
- $a, b$  are maximal alternating sequences with  $|a|, |b| \geq 2$ ;
- $\omega^1$  and  $\omega^2$  are two distinct sequences of length  $\ell$ , where  $\omega_1^1 = \omega_1^2, \omega_\ell^1 = \omega_\ell^2$ .

Suppose  $a$  starts with  $i$ , ends with  $\alpha$ ,  $b$  starts with  $\beta$  ends with  $j$ . For the sequence  $x, y$  satisfying the above requirements, there are four possibilities as follows:

- 1)  $x = u a \alpha \omega_2^1 \cdots \omega_{\ell-1}^1 \beta b v, y = u \bar{a} \alpha \omega_2^2 \cdots \omega_{\ell-1}^2 \bar{\beta} \bar{b} v$ ;
- 2)  $x = u a \alpha \omega_2^1 \cdots \omega_{\ell-1}^1 \bar{\beta} b v, y = u \bar{a} \alpha \omega_2^2 \cdots \omega_{\ell-1}^2 \bar{\beta} \bar{b} v$ ;
- 3)  $x = u a \bar{\alpha} \omega_2^1 \cdots \omega_{\ell-1}^1 \beta b v, y = u \bar{a} \bar{\alpha} \omega_2^2 \cdots \omega_{\ell-1}^2 \bar{\beta} \bar{b} v$ ;
- 4)  $x = u a \bar{\alpha} \omega_2^1 \cdots \omega_{\ell-1}^1 \bar{\beta} b v, y = u \bar{a} \bar{\alpha} \omega_2^2 \cdots \omega_{\ell-1}^2 \bar{\beta} \bar{b} v$ .

where (3)(4) are equivalent to (1)(2), so it is sufficient to discuss only (1)(2).

Denote  $\omega_3^1 \cdots \omega_\ell^1$  as  $c$ ,  $\omega_3^2 \cdots \omega_\ell^2$  as  $d$ ,  $\mathcal{D}_3(a\omega^1 b) \cap \mathcal{D}_3(\bar{a}\omega^2 \bar{b})$  as  $\mathcal{S}$ . Without prejudice to generality, let  $\omega_1^1 = \omega_1^2 = \alpha$ , and We proceed with the following three cases.

Case (A):  $\omega_1^1 = \alpha, \omega_2^1 = \alpha$

$$a\omega^1 b = a \alpha \alpha c b = i \cdots \alpha \alpha c \beta \cdots j$$

$$\bar{a}\omega^2 \bar{b} = \bar{a} \alpha \omega_2^2 d \bar{b} = \bar{i} \cdots \bar{\alpha} \alpha \omega_2^2 d \bar{\beta} \cdots \bar{j}$$

Since  $a, b$  are alternating sequences,  $\mathcal{S}_j^i = (a_1 \cdots \alpha_{|a|-1}) \circ (\mathcal{D}_3(\alpha \alpha c \beta) \cap \mathcal{D}_1(\omega_2^2 d)) \circ (b_2 \cdots b_{|b|})$ . According Lemma 4,  $|\mathcal{S}_j^i| \leq 4$ .

$\mathcal{S}_j^i = (a_1 \cdots \alpha_{|a|-1}) \circ (\mathcal{D}_2(\alpha \alpha c) \cap \mathcal{D}_2(\omega_2^2 d \bar{\beta})) \circ (b_1 \cdots b_{|b|-1})$ . According to Lemma 1,  $|\mathcal{S}_j^i| \leq 6$ .

$\mathcal{S}_j^i = (a_2 \cdots \alpha_{|a|}) \circ (\mathcal{D}_2(\alpha \alpha c \beta) \cap \mathcal{D}_2(\bar{\alpha} \alpha \omega_2^2 d)) \circ (b_2 \cdots b_{|b|})$ . We know that the first bit of the sequence of centers of the two error balls is different, then according to Lemma 10,  $|\mathcal{S}_j^i| \leq 4$ .

$\mathcal{S}_j^i = (a_2 \cdots \alpha_{|a|}) \circ (\mathcal{D}_1(\alpha \alpha c) \cap \mathcal{D}_3(\bar{\alpha} \alpha \omega_2^2 d \bar{\beta})) \circ (b_1 \cdots b_{|b|-1})$ . According Lemma 4,  $|\mathcal{S}_j^i| \leq 4$ .

In this case,  $\mathcal{D}_3(x) \cap \mathcal{D}_3(y) = |\mathcal{S}| \leq 17$ .

Case (B):  $\omega_2^1 = \bar{\alpha}, \omega_2^2 = \alpha$

$$a\omega^1 b = a \alpha \bar{\alpha} \omega_3^1 \cdots \omega_\ell^1 b = i \cdots \alpha \alpha \bar{\alpha} c \beta \cdots j$$

$$\bar{a}\omega^2 \bar{b} = \bar{a} \alpha \alpha \omega_3^2 \cdots \omega_\ell^2 \bar{b} = \bar{i} \cdots \bar{\alpha} \alpha \alpha d \bar{\beta} \cdots \bar{j}$$

Similarly to Case (A),  $|\mathcal{S}_j^i| \leq 4, |\mathcal{S}_j^{\bar{i}}| \leq 4$ .  $\mathcal{S}_j^i = (a_1 \cdots \alpha_{|a|-1}) \alpha \circ (\mathcal{D}_2(\alpha c) \cap \mathcal{D}_2(d \bar{\beta})) \circ (b_1 \cdots b_{|b|-1})$ . According to Lemma 1,  $|\mathcal{S}_j^i| \leq 6$  and according Theorem 6, if  $|\mathcal{S}_j^i| \geq 5$ , then  $\bar{\alpha} c, d \bar{\beta}$  satisfies one of the following two structures

- (i)  $\bar{\alpha} c = s_1 t_1 t_2 t_3 s_2, d \bar{\beta} = s_1 \bar{t}_1 t_2 \bar{t}_3 s_2$ , or
- (ii)  $\bar{\alpha} c = s_1 t_1 \bar{\gamma} t_2 \bar{\lambda} t_3 s_2, d \bar{\beta} = s_1 \bar{t}_1 \bar{\gamma} \bar{t}_2 \bar{\lambda} \bar{t}_3 s_2$

, where  $t_1, t_2, t_3$  are alternating sequences, and their lengths are denoted  $\ell_1, \ell_2, \ell_3$  respectively. In particular, in case (ii),  $t_1$  ends with  $\gamma$ ,  $t_3$  starts with  $\lambda$ . For convenience, we suppose that  $t_3$  ends with  $\theta$ , in case (i),

$$|\mathcal{S}_j^i| = |\mathcal{D}_1(\alpha s_1 t_1 t_2 t_3 s_2) \cap \mathcal{D}_3(\bar{\alpha} \alpha s_1 \bar{t}_1 t_2 \bar{t}_3 s_2)|$$

$$= |\mathcal{D}_1(\alpha s_1 t_1 t_2 t_3) \cap \mathcal{D}_3(\bar{\alpha} \alpha s_1 \bar{t}_1 t_2 \bar{t}_3)|$$

$$= |(s_1 t_1 t_2 t_3) \cap (\bar{\alpha} \circ \mathcal{D}_2(\alpha \alpha s_1 \bar{t}_1 t_2 \bar{t}_3[1, \ell_3 - 2]) \circ \theta)|$$

$$+ |\alpha \circ (\mathcal{D}_1(s_1 t_1 t_2 t_3[1, \ell_3 - 1]) \cap \mathcal{D}_1(\alpha s_1 \bar{t}_1 t_2 \bar{t}_3[1, \ell_3 - 2])) \circ \theta|$$

$$+ |\alpha \circ (\mathcal{D}_0(s_1 t_1 t_2 t_3[1, \ell_3 - 2]) \cap \mathcal{D}_2(\alpha s_1 \bar{t}_1 t_2 \bar{t}_3[1, \ell_3 - 1])) \circ \bar{\theta}|$$

Note that  $(s_1 t_1 t_2 t_3)$  starts with  $\bar{\alpha}'$ , and in particular, we use  $s_1[1]$  to denote the first bit of the sequence  $s_1$  in this section.

Firstly, according Lemma 2,  $|\mathcal{D}_1(s_1 t_1 t_2 t_3[1, \ell_3 - 1]) \cap \mathcal{D}_1(\alpha s_1 \bar{t}_1 \bar{t}_2 \bar{t}_3[1, \ell_3 - 2])| \leq 1$ . Next, we assume that there exists  $|\mathcal{D}_0(s_1 t_1 t_2 t_3[1, \ell_3 - 2]) \cap \mathcal{D}_2(\alpha s_1 \bar{t}_1 \bar{t}_2 \bar{t}_3[1, \ell_3 - 1])| = 1$ , then in order to get the same prefix  $s_1 t_1[1, \ell_1 - 1]$ , it is necessary to delete  $\alpha$  in the beginning and  $\bar{t}_1$ , since  $t_2$  is alternating sequence, it is obviously that at this point  $t_1[\ell]t_2[1] \neq t_2[1]t_2[2]$ , then  $(\alpha \circ (\mathcal{D}_0(s_1 t_1 t_2 t_3[1, \ell_3 - 2]) \cap \mathcal{D}_2(\alpha s_1 \bar{t}_1 \bar{t}_2 \bar{t}_3[1, \ell_3 - 1])) \circ \theta) = 0$ .

Thus,  $|\mathcal{S}_j^i| \leq 2$ . In case (ii), it can be derived similarly. So with all that, we have  $|\mathcal{S}_j^i| + |\mathcal{S}_j^i| \leq 8$ .

$|\mathcal{S}_j^i| = |\mathcal{D}_2(\alpha \bar{\alpha} c \beta) \cap \mathcal{D}_2(\bar{\alpha} \alpha a d)|$ , according Theorem 3, if  $|\mathcal{S}_j^i| = 6$ , then  $\alpha \bar{\alpha} c \beta = t_1 t_2 t_3 s_2$ ,  $\bar{\alpha} \alpha a d = \bar{t}_1 \bar{t}_2 \bar{t}_3 s_2$ , where  $t_1, t_2, t_3$  are alternating sequences. It implies that  $d_L(x, y) = 2$ , a contradiction. Then  $|\mathcal{S}_j^i| \leq 5$ .

Thus, if  $\omega_2^1 = \bar{\alpha}, \omega_2^2 = \alpha$ , then  $\mathcal{D}_3(x) \cap \mathcal{D}_3(y) = |\mathcal{S}| \leq 4 + 8 + 5 = 17$ .

Through (A),(B), we get only when  $\omega_2^1 = \bar{\alpha}, \omega_2^2 = \bar{\alpha}$ , is possible,  $\mathcal{D}_3(x) \cap \mathcal{D}_3(y) \geq 18$ . In this case, if  $\omega_l^1 = \omega_l^2 = \beta, \omega_{l-1}^1 = \omega_l^1$  or  $\omega_l^1 = \omega_l^2 = \bar{\beta}, \omega_{l-1}^1 = \omega_l^2$ , is equivalent to (A), and if  $\omega_l^1 = \omega_l^2 = \beta, \omega_{l-1}^1 = \omega_l^1, \omega_{l-1}^2 = \omega_l^1$  or  $\omega_l^1 = \omega_l^2 = \bar{\beta}, \omega_{l-1}^1 = \omega_l^2, \omega_{l-1}^2 = \omega_l^2$ , is equivalent to (B). Thus, when  $\omega_1^1 = \omega_1^2 = \alpha, |\mathcal{S}| > 17$ , only if  $\omega_2^1 = \omega_2^2 = \bar{\alpha}$  and  $\omega_l^1 = \omega_l^2, \omega_{l-1}^1 = \omega_{l-1}^2, \omega_l^1 = \omega_{l-1}^1$ . There are two possible structures according as follows: then  $x, y$  must holds one of the following two structures:

- (i)  $x = u a \alpha \bar{\alpha} \omega_3^1 \cdots \omega_{\ell-2}^1 \bar{\beta} \bar{\beta} b v$ ,  
 $y = u \bar{a} \alpha \bar{\alpha} \omega_3^2 \cdots \omega_{\ell-2}^2 \bar{\beta} \bar{\beta} b v$
- (ii)  $x = u a \alpha \bar{\alpha} \omega_3^1 \cdots \omega_{\ell-2}^1 \bar{\beta} \bar{\beta} b v$ ,  
 $y = u \bar{a} \alpha \bar{\alpha} \omega_3^2 \cdots \omega_{\ell-2}^2 \bar{\beta} \bar{\beta} b v$

The above is equivalent to  $x = u a s \omega^1 t b v, y = u \bar{a} s \omega^2 t \bar{b} v$ , where

- $u, v$  are the longest common prefix and suffix of  $x, y$ ,
- $a, b, s, t$  are maximal alternating sequence of length at least 2.
- $\omega^1 \neq \omega^2$ .

■

**Lemma 11.** Let  $x, y$  be two binary sequences of length  $n$  such that  $\mathcal{D}_L(x, y) \geq 3$ , if  $\mathcal{D}_2(x) \cap \mathcal{D}_2(y) = 5$ , then  $x, y$  must holds one of the following four structures:

- (i)  $x = u a \omega b v, y = u \bar{a} \omega \bar{b} v$ , where  $\omega = u' \omega' v'$ , and satisfies
  - $u'$  is the run consisting of  $\alpha$ ,  $\omega$  is alternating sequence starts with  $\bar{\alpha}$  and ends with  $\beta$ ,  $v'$  is the run consisting of  $\bar{\beta}$ , or  $u'$  is the run consisting of  $\bar{\alpha}$ ,  $\omega$  is alternating sequence starts with  $\alpha$  and ends with  $\beta$ ,  $v'$  is the run consisting of  $\beta$ .
  - at least one of  $|u'| \geq 2, |v'| \geq 2$  holds
  - $|\omega'| \geq 1$ , and the equality is allowed to hold only if  $|\bar{\alpha}| = \beta$ .
- (ii)  $x = u a \omega b v, y = u \bar{a} \omega \bar{b} v$ ,  $\omega$  is alternating sequence and satisfies  $\omega = \alpha \bar{\beta}$  or  $\omega = \bar{\alpha} \beta$ .

(iii)  $x = u a \omega b v, y = u \bar{a} \omega \bar{b} v$ ,  $\omega = \alpha = \bar{\beta}$  or  $\omega = \bar{\alpha} = \beta$ .

(iv)  $x = u a \alpha \omega \bar{\beta} b v, y = u \bar{a} \alpha \omega \bar{\beta} b v$ , where  $\omega$  is an alternating sequence starts with  $\bar{\alpha}$  and ends with  $\bar{\beta}$ .

In (i)-(iv),  $u, v$  is the longest common prefix and suffix of  $x, y$ ;  $a, b$  is the longest alternating sequence that holds the above structure and  $a$  ends with  $\alpha, b$  starts with  $\beta$ .

*Proof:* This lemma can be deduced from Theorem 3. ■

**Lemma 8.** Let  $x, y$  be two binary sequences of length  $n$  such that  $\mathcal{D}_L(x, y) > 2$  and  $x = u \tilde{x} v, y = u \tilde{y} v$ , where  $u, v$  is the longest common prefix and suffix of  $x, y$ . Denote  $x$  starts with  $i$ , ends with  $j$ ,  $\mathcal{S} = \mathcal{D}_3(\tilde{x}) \cap \mathcal{D}_3(\tilde{y})$ . If  $\mathcal{D}_3(x) \cap \mathcal{D}_3(y) \geq 18$ , then following holds:

- 1) If  $|\mathcal{S}_j^i| = 6$ , then  $|\mathcal{S}_j^i| = 4$ .
- 2) If  $|\mathcal{S}_j^i| = 6$ , then  $|\mathcal{S}_j^i| = 4$ .

*Proof:* According to Lemma 7, if  $\mathcal{D}_3(x) \cap \mathcal{D}_3(y) \geq 18$ ,  $x = u a s \omega^1 t b v, y = u \bar{a} s \omega^2 t \bar{b} v$ , where

- $u, v$  are the longest common prefix and suffix of  $x, y$ ,
- $a, b, s, t$  are maximal alternating sequence of length at least 2.
- $\omega^1 \neq \omega^2$ .

Suppose  $a$  starts with  $i$ , ends with  $\alpha, b$  starts with  $\beta$ , ends with  $j$ .

Let  $\tilde{x} = \alpha s \omega^1 t \beta, \tilde{y} = \bar{\alpha} s \omega^2 t \bar{\beta}$ . Since  $a, b$  are alternating sequences, then  $\mathcal{S}_j^i = \mathcal{D}_2(a s \omega^1 t b_1 b_2 \cdots b_{|b|-1}) \cap \mathcal{D}_2(\bar{a}_2 \cdots \bar{a}_{|b|} s \omega^2 t \bar{b}) = (a_1 a_2 \cdots a_{|a|-1}) \circ (\mathcal{D}_2(a_{|a|} s \omega^1 t) \cap \mathcal{D}_2(s \omega^2 t b_1)) \circ (b_1 b_2 \cdots b_{|b|-1}) = (a_1 a_2 \cdots a_{|a|-1}) \circ (\mathcal{D}_2(\alpha s \omega^1 t) \cap \mathcal{D}_2(s \omega^2 t \beta)) \circ (b_1 b_2 \cdots b_{|b|-1})$ .

$|\mathcal{S}_j^i| = 6$  if and only if  $|\mathcal{D}_2(\alpha s \omega^1 t) \cap \mathcal{D}_2(s \omega^2 t \beta)| = 6$ , according to Theorem 3,  $\alpha s \omega^1 t, s \omega^2 t \beta$  satisfies the following structure in Fig.1 (1), where  $\psi_2, \psi_3, \psi_4$  are alternating sequence of length at least 2, and only when  $\psi_3$  is completely reversed or zero-reversed in  $\tilde{x}, |\psi_3| \geq 2$ , otherwise  $|\psi_3| \geq 3$ . Denote  $|\psi_1|, |\psi_2|, |\psi_3|, |\psi_4|, |\psi_5|$  as  $\ell_1, \ell_2, \ell_3, \ell_4, \ell_5$ .

A categorical discussion of the different values of  $\gamma, \theta$  follows.

(A)  $\gamma = \alpha, \theta = \bar{\beta}$ , refer to Fig.1(2) (The parts marked in yellow and green are  $s \omega^1 t$  and  $\bar{\alpha} s \omega^2 t \bar{\beta}$ , respectively).

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathcal{S}_j^i| &= \mathcal{D}_1(s \omega^1 t) \cap \mathcal{D}_3(\bar{\alpha} s \omega^2 t \bar{\beta}) \\ &= |\alpha \circ (\mathcal{D}_1(\bar{\alpha} \tilde{x}_4 \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell-3} \beta) \cap \mathcal{D}_1(\bar{\alpha} \tilde{y}_4 \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell-3} \bar{\beta})) \circ \beta| \\ &\quad + |\alpha \circ ((\bar{\alpha} \tilde{x}_4 \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell-3}) \cap \mathcal{D}_2(\bar{\alpha} \tilde{y}_4 \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell-3} \bar{\beta})) \circ \bar{\beta}| \\ &\quad + |\bar{\alpha} \circ ((\tilde{x}_4 \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell-3} \bar{\beta}) \cap \mathcal{D}_2(\alpha \tilde{y}_4 \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell-3} \bar{\beta})) \circ \bar{\beta}| \end{aligned}$$

(A1) Since  $\bar{\alpha} \tilde{x}_4 \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell+2} = \bar{\alpha} \tilde{y}_4 \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell+1+\ell_2-1}$ ,  $\tilde{x}_{\ell+2+\ell_3+2} \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell-3} \bar{\theta} = \tilde{y}_{\ell+1+\ell_2+\ell_3+1} \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell-3} \bar{\theta}$ , then  $|\alpha \circ (\mathcal{D}_1(\bar{\alpha} \tilde{x}_4 \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell-3} \beta) \cap \mathcal{D}_1(\bar{\alpha} \tilde{y}_4 \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell-3} \bar{\beta})) \circ \beta| = |\mathcal{D}_1(\tilde{x}_{\ell+2+\ell_3+1} \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell+2+\ell_3+1}) \cap \mathcal{D}_1(\tilde{y}_{\ell+1+\ell_2} \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell+1+\ell_2+\ell_3})|$ , according Theorem 3, we have:

- (i) If  $\tilde{x}_{\ell+2} = \tilde{x}_{\ell+2+\ell_3}, \tilde{x}_{\ell+2+\ell_3} = \tilde{x}_{\ell+2+\ell_3+1}$ , then  $|\psi_3| \geq 2$
- (ii) If  $\tilde{x}_{\ell+2} = \tilde{x}_{\ell+2+\ell_3}, \tilde{x}_{\ell+2+\ell_3} = \tilde{x}_{\ell+2+\ell_3+1}$ , then  $|\psi_3| \geq 3$ ,
- (iii) If  $\tilde{x}_{\ell+2} = \tilde{x}_{\ell+2+\ell_3}, \tilde{x}_{\ell+2+\ell_3} = \tilde{x}_{\ell+2+\ell_3+1}$ , then  $|\psi_3| \geq 3$

$$\begin{aligned}
(1) \quad \tilde{x} &= \overbrace{\tilde{\alpha} \gamma \tilde{\gamma} \tilde{x}_4 \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2-1} \tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2}}^{\psi_2} \overbrace{\tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+1} \tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+2} \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3-1} \tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3}}^{\psi_3} \overbrace{\tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3+1} \tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3+2} \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell-3} \tilde{\theta} \tilde{\theta}}^{\psi_4} \tilde{\beta} \\
\tilde{y} &= \overbrace{\tilde{\alpha}' \gamma \tilde{\gamma} \tilde{y}_4 \cdots \tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2-1} \tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2}}^{\tilde{\psi}_2} \overbrace{\tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+1} \tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+2} \cdots \tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3-1} \tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3}}^{\tilde{\psi}_3} \overbrace{\tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3+1} \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell-3} \tilde{\theta} \tilde{\theta}}^{\tilde{\psi}_4} \tilde{\beta} \\
(2) \quad \tilde{x} &= \overbrace{\tilde{\alpha} \alpha \tilde{\alpha} \tilde{x}_4 \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2-1} \tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2}}^{\psi_2} \overbrace{\tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+1} \tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+2} \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3-1} \tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3}}^{\psi_3} \overbrace{\tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3+1} \tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3+2} \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell-3} \tilde{\beta} \tilde{\beta}}^{\psi_4} \tilde{\beta} \\
\tilde{y} &= \overbrace{\tilde{\alpha} \alpha \tilde{\alpha} \tilde{y}_4 \cdots \tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2-1} \tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2}}^{\tilde{\psi}_2} \overbrace{\tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+1} \tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+2} \cdots \tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3-1} \tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3}}^{\tilde{\psi}_3} \overbrace{\tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3+1} \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell-3} \tilde{\beta} \tilde{\beta}}^{\tilde{\psi}_4} \tilde{\beta}
\end{aligned}$$

Fig. 1. Illustrations of  $\tilde{x}$  and  $\tilde{y}$  when  $|D_2(\alpha s \omega^1 t) \cap D_2(s \omega^2 t \bar{\beta})| = 6$ . (1) General case. (2) Case (A) ( $\gamma = \alpha, \theta = \bar{\beta}$ )

(iv) If  $\tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2} = \tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+1}$ ,  $\tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3} = \tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3+1}$ , then  $|\psi_3| \geq 2$

In case (i),  $\tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+1} = \tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2}$ ,  $\tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3+1} = \tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3}$ ,  $(\tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+1} \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3})$ ,  $(\tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2} \cdots \tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3-1})$  are alternating sequences of length at least 2 and begin with different symbol, then  $|\mathcal{D}_1(\tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+1} \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3+1}) \cap \mathcal{D}_1(\tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2} \cdots \tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3})| = |\mathcal{D}_1(\tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+1} \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3}) \cap \mathcal{D}_1(\tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2} \cdots \tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3-1})| = 2$ .

In case (ii),  $\tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+1} = \tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2}$ ,  $\tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3+1} = \tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3}$ ,  $(\tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+1} \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3+1})$ ,  $(\tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2} \cdots \tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3})$  are alternating sequences of length at least 2 and begin with different symbol, then  $|\mathcal{D}_1(\tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+1} \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3+1}) \cap \mathcal{D}_1(\tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2} \cdots \tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3})| = 2$ .

In case (iii),  $\tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+1} = \tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2}$ ,  $\tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3+1} = \tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3}$ ,  $(\tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+2} \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3})$ ,  $(\tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+1} \cdots \tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3-1})$  are alternating sequences of length at least 2 and begin with different symbol, then  $|\mathcal{D}_1(\tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+1} \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3+1}) \cap \mathcal{D}_1(\tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2} \cdots \tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3})| = |\mathcal{D}_1(\tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+2} \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3}) \cap \mathcal{D}_1(\tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+1} \cdots \tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3-1})| = 2$ .

In case (iv),  $\tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+1} = \tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2}$ ,  $\tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3+1} = \tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3}$ ,  $(\tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+2} \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3+1})$ ,  $(\tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+1} \cdots \tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3})$  are alternating sequences of length at least 2 and begin with different symbol, then  $|\mathcal{D}_1(\tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+1} \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3+1}) \cap \mathcal{D}_1(\tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2} \cdots \tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3})| = |\mathcal{D}_1(\tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+2} \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3+1}) \cap \mathcal{D}_1(\tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+1} \cdots \tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3})| = 2$ .

(A2) Since  $\psi_4$  is alternating sequence, it implies that  $\tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3+1} \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell-3} \tilde{\beta} = \tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3+2} \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell-3} \tilde{\beta} \tilde{\beta}$ , and  $\psi_3 = \tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+1} \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3} = \tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+1} \cdots \tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3}$ , then  $|\alpha \circ ((\tilde{\alpha} \tilde{x}_4 \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell-3}) \cap D_2(\tilde{\alpha} \tilde{y}'_4 \cdots \tilde{y}'_{\ell-3} \tilde{\beta} \tilde{\beta})) \circ \tilde{\beta}| = |\tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+1} \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell-3} \cap D_2(\tilde{y}'_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2} \cdots \tilde{y}'_{\ell-3} \tilde{\beta} \tilde{\beta})| = 1$ .

(A3) Since  $\psi_2, \psi_3$  is alternating sequence, it implies that  $\tilde{x}_4 \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2} = \alpha \tilde{\alpha} \tilde{y}_4 \cdots \tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2-3}$ ,  $\psi_3[3, \ell_3] = \tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+3} \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3} = \tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+1} \cdots \tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3-2}$ , and  $\tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+1} \tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+2} \in \mathcal{D}_1(\tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2-2} \tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2-1} \tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2})$ ,  $\tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3+1} \in \mathcal{D}_1(\tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3-1} \tilde{y}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3})$ , thus  $|\tilde{\alpha} \circ (\tilde{x}_4 \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell-3} \tilde{\beta}) \cap D_2(\alpha \tilde{\alpha} \tilde{y}'_4 \cdots \tilde{y}'_{\ell-3} \tilde{\beta})) \circ \tilde{\beta}| = |(\tilde{x}_4 \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3}) \cap D_2(\alpha \tilde{\alpha} \tilde{y}'_4 \cdots \tilde{y}'_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3})| = 1$ .

The analysis of the rest three cases is similar, and here we only give the expression.

(B)  $\gamma = \alpha, \theta = \bar{\beta}$ .

$$|\mathcal{S}_j^i| = D_1(s \omega^1 t) \cap D_3(\bar{\alpha} s \omega^2 t \bar{\beta})$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= |\alpha \circ (D_1(\bar{\alpha} \tilde{x}_4 \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell-3} \tilde{\beta}) \cap D_1(\tilde{\alpha} \tilde{y}_4 \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell-3})) \circ \tilde{\beta} \tilde{\beta}| \\
&+ |\alpha \circ ((\tilde{\alpha} \tilde{x}_4 \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell-4}) \cap D_2(\tilde{\alpha} \tilde{y}_4 \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell-3} \tilde{\beta})) \circ \tilde{\beta} \tilde{\beta}| \\
&+ |\bar{\alpha} \circ ((\tilde{x}_4 \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell-3} \tilde{\beta}) \cap D_2(\alpha \tilde{\alpha} \tilde{y}'_4 \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell-3})) \circ \tilde{\beta} \tilde{\beta}| \\
&= 2 + 1 + 1 = 4.
\end{aligned}$$

(C)  $\gamma = \bar{\alpha}', \theta = \beta$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
|\mathcal{S}_j^i| &= D_1(s \omega^1 t) \cap D_3(\bar{\alpha} s \omega^2 t \bar{\beta}) \\
&= |\bar{\alpha} \alpha \circ (D_1(\tilde{x}_4 \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell-3} \tilde{\beta}) \cap D_1(\tilde{y}_4 \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell-3} \tilde{\beta})) \circ \beta| \\
&+ |\bar{\alpha} \alpha \circ ((\tilde{x}_4 \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell-3}) \cap D_2(\tilde{\alpha} \tilde{y}_4 \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell-3} \tilde{\beta} \tilde{\beta})) \circ \tilde{\beta}| \\
&+ |\bar{\alpha} \bar{\alpha} \circ ((\tilde{x}_5 \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell-3} \tilde{\beta}) \cap D_2(\alpha \tilde{y}'_4 \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell-3} \tilde{\beta})) \circ \beta| \\
&= 2 + 1 + 1 = 4
\end{aligned}$$

(D)  $\gamma = \bar{\alpha}', \theta = \bar{\beta}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
|\mathcal{S}_j^i| &= D_1(s \omega^1 t) \cap D_3(\bar{\alpha} s \omega^2 t \bar{\beta}) \\
&= |\bar{\alpha} \alpha \circ (D_1(\tilde{x}_4 \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell-3}) \cap D_1(\tilde{y}_4 \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell-3})) \circ \tilde{\beta} \tilde{\beta}| \\
&+ |\bar{\alpha} \alpha \circ ((\tilde{x}_4 \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell-4}) \cap D_2(\tilde{\alpha} \tilde{y}_4 \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell-3} \tilde{\beta})) \circ \tilde{\beta} \tilde{\beta}| \\
&+ |\bar{\alpha} \bar{\alpha} \circ ((\tilde{x}_5 \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell-3}) \cap D_2(\alpha \tilde{y}'_4 \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell-3})) \circ \tilde{\beta} \tilde{\beta}| \\
&= 2 + 1 + 1 = 4
\end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 3.** Let  $x, y$  be two binary sequences of length  $n$  such that  $\mathcal{D}_L(x, y) > 2$ ,  $\mathcal{D}_3(x) \cap \mathcal{D}_3(y) = 19$  if and only if  $x = uabcdev, y = u\bar{a}\bar{b}\bar{c}\bar{d}\bar{e}\bar{v}$ , where  $u, v$  is the longest common prefix and suffix of  $x, y$ , and satisfies (1)  $a, b, c, d, e$  are alternating sequence. (2)  $|a|, |e| \geq 2$ . (3) For  $b, d$ , if  $b$  is completely reversed or zero-reversed in  $x$ , then  $|b| \geq 2$ , otherwise  $|b| \geq 3$ . The same applies to  $d$ . (4) Denote  $b$  ends with  $\alpha, d$  starts with  $\beta$ , then  $\alpha = \bar{\beta}$ . (5)  $|c| = 3$ .

*Proof:*

Let  $x = u\tilde{x}v, y = u\tilde{y}v, |\tilde{x}| = |\tilde{y}| = n$ , then  $\tilde{x}_1 \neq \tilde{y}_1, \tilde{x}_n \neq \tilde{y}_n$ . Denote  $\mathcal{D}_3(\tilde{x}) \cap \mathcal{D}_3(\tilde{y}) = \mathcal{S}$ , then  $|\mathcal{D}_3(x) \cap \mathcal{D}_3(y)| = \mathcal{D}_3(\tilde{x}) \cap \mathcal{D}_3(\tilde{y}) = \mathcal{S}$ .

According to Theorem 7, if  $\mathcal{D}_3(x) \cap \mathcal{D}_3(y) = 19$ , then  $\tilde{x} = a s \omega^1 t b, \tilde{y} = \bar{a} s \omega^2 t \bar{b}$ , where  $a, b, s, t$  are alternating sequences of length at least 2 and  $\omega^1 \neq \omega^2$ . Suppose  $a$  starts with  $i$ , ends with  $\alpha, b$  starts with  $\beta$ , ends with  $j$ , denote  $\tilde{x} = \alpha s \omega^1 t \beta, \tilde{y} = \bar{\alpha} s \omega^2 t \bar{\beta}, |\tilde{x}| = |\tilde{y}| = \ell$ .

According to Lemma 8,  $\mathcal{D}_3(x) \cap \mathcal{D}_3(y) = 19$  holds if and only if:

$$\begin{aligned}
(1) \quad \tilde{x} &= \alpha \overbrace{\tilde{y} \tilde{x}_4 \cdots \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2-1}}^{\phi_1} \overbrace{\tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2} \cdots \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+1}}^{\phi_2} \overbrace{\tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+2} \cdots \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+3}}^{\phi_3} \overbrace{\tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+4} \cdots \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+5}}^{\phi_4} \overbrace{\tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+6} \cdots \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+7}}^{\phi_5} \tilde{\theta} \tilde{\beta} \\
\tilde{y} &= \overline{\alpha} \overbrace{\tilde{y} \tilde{y}_4 \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2-1}}^{\phi_1} \overbrace{\tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2} \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+1}}^{\phi_2} \overbrace{\tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+2} \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+3}}^{\phi_3} \overbrace{\tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+4} \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+5}}^{\phi_4} \overbrace{\tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+6} \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+7}}^{\phi_5} \tilde{\theta} \tilde{\beta} \\
(2) \quad \tilde{x}' &= \alpha \overbrace{\tilde{y} \tilde{x}_4 \cdots \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2-1}}^{\phi_1} \overbrace{\tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2} \cdots \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+1}}^{\phi_2} \overbrace{\tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+2} \cdots \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+3}}^{\phi_3} \overbrace{\tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+4} \cdots \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+5}}^{\phi_4} \overbrace{\tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+6} \cdots \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+7}}^{\phi_5} \tilde{\theta} \tilde{\beta} \\
\tilde{y}' &= \overline{\alpha} \overbrace{\tilde{y} \tilde{y}_4 \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2-1}}^{\phi_1} \overbrace{\tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2} \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+1}}^{\phi_2} \overbrace{\tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+2} \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+3}}^{\phi_3} \overbrace{\tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+4} \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+5}}^{\phi_4} \overbrace{\tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+6} \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+7}}^{\phi_5} \tilde{\theta} \tilde{\beta} \\
(3) \quad \tilde{x}' &= \alpha \overbrace{\tilde{y} \tilde{x}_4 \cdots \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2-1}}^{\phi_1} \overbrace{\tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2} \cdots \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+1}}^{\phi_2} \overbrace{\tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+2} \cdots \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+3}}^{\phi_3} \overbrace{\tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+4} \cdots \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+5}}^{\phi_4} \overbrace{\tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+6} \cdots \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+7}}^{\phi_5} \tilde{\theta} \tilde{\beta} \\
\tilde{y}' &= \overline{\alpha} \overbrace{\tilde{y} \tilde{y}_4 \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2-1}}^{\phi_1} \overbrace{\tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2} \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+1}}^{\phi_2} \overbrace{\tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+2} \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+3}}^{\phi_3} \overbrace{\tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+4} \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+5}}^{\phi_4} \overbrace{\tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+6} \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+7}}^{\phi_5} \tilde{\theta} \tilde{\beta} \\
(4) \quad \tilde{x}' &= \alpha \overbrace{\tilde{y} \tilde{x}_4 \cdots \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2-1}}^{\phi_1} \overbrace{\tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2} \cdots \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+1}}^{\phi_2} \overbrace{\tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+2} \cdots \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+3}}^{\phi_3} \overbrace{\tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+4} \cdots \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+5}}^{\phi_4} \overbrace{\tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+6} \cdots \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+7}}^{\phi_5} \tilde{\theta} \tilde{\beta} \\
\tilde{y}' &= \overline{\alpha} \overbrace{\tilde{y} \tilde{y}_4 \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2-1}}^{\phi_1} \overbrace{\tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2} \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+1}}^{\phi_2} \overbrace{\tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+2} \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+3}}^{\phi_3} \overbrace{\tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+4} \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+5}}^{\phi_4} \overbrace{\tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+6} \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+7}}^{\phi_5} \tilde{\theta} \tilde{\beta}
\end{aligned}$$

Fig. 2. Illustrations of  $\tilde{x}$  and  $\tilde{y}$  when  $|\mathcal{S}_j^{\tilde{x}}| = 6$ ,  $|\mathcal{S}_j^{\tilde{y}}| = 5$ . In the figure, complementary alternating segments and identical alternating segments are represented in red and blue, respectively. Since  $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}$  are alternating sequences,  $\mathcal{S}_j^{\tilde{x}} = a_2 \cdots a_{|a|} \circ (\mathcal{D}_2(\tilde{x}_2 \cdots \tilde{x}_\ell) \cap \mathcal{D}_2(\tilde{y}_1 \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell-1})) \circ (b_2 \cdots b_{|b|})$ , then  $|\mathcal{S}_j^{\tilde{x}}| = 6$  if and only if  $\tilde{x}_2 \cdots \tilde{x}_\ell = \phi_1 \phi_2 \phi_3 \phi_4 \phi_5, \tilde{y}_1 \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell-1} = \phi_1 \phi_2 \phi_3 \phi_4 \phi_5$  as (1). Based on the known sequence features of  $\phi_i, \mathbf{s}, \mathbf{t}$ , we can obtain (2) and if  $\gamma = \alpha, |\psi_1| = 0$ , else  $|\psi_1| = 1$ . (3)(4) are the structures for the cases where  $|\phi| = 4$  and  $\gamma$  takes different values, respectively.

Type (A):  $|\mathcal{S}_j^{\tilde{x}}| = 6, |\mathcal{S}_j^{\tilde{y}}| = 5, |\mathcal{S}_j^{\tilde{x}}| = 4, |\mathcal{S}_j^{\tilde{y}}| = 4$ , or

Type (B):  $|\mathcal{S}_j^{\tilde{x}}| = 5, |\mathcal{S}_j^{\tilde{y}}| = 6, |\mathcal{S}_j^{\tilde{x}}| = 4, |\mathcal{S}_j^{\tilde{y}}| = 4$ .

We begin by discussing the Type (A).  $|\mathcal{S}_j^{\tilde{x}}| = 6$  holds if and only if the structures in Fig. 2 (1) is satisfied. In Fig.2 (1),  $\phi_2, \phi_3, \phi_4$  are alternating sequence of length at least 2, and only when  $\phi_3$  is completely reversed or zero-reversed in  $\tilde{x}, |\phi_3| \geq 2$ , otherwise  $|\phi_3| \geq 3$ . Denote  $|\phi_1|, |\phi_2|, |\phi_3|, |\phi_4|, |\phi_5|$  as  $\ell_1, \ell_2, \ell_3, \ell_4, \ell_5$ .

According to Lemma 11, if  $|\mathcal{S}_j^{\tilde{x}}| = 5$ , holds, there are four possible structures. Next we discuss the likelihood that these four structures hold in the case where  $|\mathcal{S}_j^{\tilde{x}}| = 6$  holds. As before, the discussion is based on the example of  $\gamma = \alpha$

(A)  $\tilde{x}_1 \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell-1} = \psi_1 \psi_2 \psi_3 \psi_4 \psi_5, \tilde{y}_2 \cdots \tilde{y}_\ell = \psi_1 \psi_2 \psi_3 \psi_4 \psi_5$ , where  $\psi_3 = \mathbf{u}' \psi_3' \mathbf{v}'$  and at least one of  $\mathbf{u}', \mathbf{v}'$  is a run of length at least 2. Since  $\phi_2, \phi_3, \phi_4$  are alternating sequences, it is clear that we cannot find a  $k$  such that  $\tilde{x}_k = \tilde{x}_{k+1} = \tilde{x}_{k+2} = \tilde{y}_{k+2}$ .

(B)  $\tilde{x}_1 \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell-1} = \psi_1 \psi_2 \psi_3 \psi_4 \psi_5, \tilde{y}_2 \cdots \tilde{y}_\ell = \psi_1 \psi_2 \psi_3 \psi_4 \psi_5$ , where  $|\psi_3| = 2$ , and  $\psi_3$  is neither zero-reversed nor completely reversed in  $\tilde{x}'$ .

(B1) If  $\tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2-1} \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2} = \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+1} \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+2}$ , then in order to satisfy the condition of  $\psi_3$ , then there must be  $\ell_3 = 2$ , and  $\tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2} = \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+1}$ . Obviously, when  $\phi_2, \phi_3$  are alternating sequence,  $\tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2-1} \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2} = \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+1} \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+2}$  and  $\tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2} = \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+1}$  cannot hold at the same time.

(B2) If  $\tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2-1} \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2} = \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+1} \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+2}$ , There are two possible structures that make the condition of  $\psi_3$  satisfied:

(i)  $\tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+3-1} \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+3} = \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+3+1} \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+3+2}$

and  $\ell_3 = 2$ ,

(ii)  $\tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+3-1} \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+3} = \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+3+1} \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+3+2}$  and  $\ell_3 = 4$ .

In case (i),  $\psi_3$  corresponds to  $\tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+1} \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+3}$  and we have  $\tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2} = \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+2} = \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+1}, \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+1}, \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+3} = \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+3+2} = \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+3+1}$ , i.e.  $\omega$  is completely reversed in  $\tilde{x}$ , a contradiction.

In case (ii),  $\psi_3$  corresponds to  $|\tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+1} \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+2}|$ . We have  $\tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2} = \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+2} = \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+1}$  and  $\tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+2} = \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+3}$ . Thus, under the condition of  $|\mathcal{S}_j^{\tilde{x}}| = 6$ , (B) can hold simultaneously in case (ii).

(C)  $\tilde{x}_1 \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell-1} = \psi_1 \psi_2 \psi_3 \psi_4 \psi_5, \tilde{y}_2 \cdots \tilde{y}_\ell = \psi_1 \psi_2 \psi_3 \psi_4 \psi_5$  where  $|\psi_3| = 1$  and  $\psi_3$  is neither zero-reversed nor completely reversed in  $\tilde{x}$ .

(C1) If  $\tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2-1} \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2} = \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+1} \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+2}$ , it is clear that  $|\psi_3| > 1$ .

(C2) If  $\tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2-1} \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2} = \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+1} \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+2}$ , there are only one possible structures that make the condition of  $\psi_3$  satisfied:  $\ell_3 = 3$  and  $\tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+3-1} \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+3} = \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+3+1} \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+3+2}$  then we have  $\tilde{x}_4 \cdots \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2} = \tilde{y}_4 \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+3}$ ,  $\tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+1} \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell-3} = \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+3+1} \cdots \tilde{y}_{\ell-3} \tilde{\theta} \tilde{\theta}$ , and either  $\tilde{\theta} = \tilde{\beta}$  or  $\tilde{\theta} = \tilde{\beta}$  holds. Thus  $d_L(\tilde{x}, \tilde{y}) = 1$ , then  $d_L(x, y) = 2$ , a contradiction.

(D)  $\tilde{x}_1 \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell-1} = \psi_1 \psi_2 \bar{\mu} \psi_3 \bar{\xi} \psi_4 \psi_5, \tilde{y}_2 \cdots \tilde{y}_\ell = \psi_1 \psi_2 \bar{\mu} \psi_3 \bar{\xi} \psi_4 \psi_5$

(D1) If  $\tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2-1} \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2} = \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+1} \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+2}$ , then  $\tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2-1} \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2}$  corresponds to  $\bar{\mu} \psi_3[1]$  it is clear that  $\bar{\mu} \psi_3[1] \neq \bar{\mu} \psi_3[1]$ , a contradiction.

(D2) If  $\tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2-1} \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2} = \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+1} \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+2}$ . Since the same segment following the complementary segment cor-

responds to  $\bar{\mu}$ , only  $\ell_3 = 3$  can satisfies that the length of the segment equals 1, then neither  $\tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+2} = \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3+1}$  nor  $\tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+2} = \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3+1}$  can satisfies (D).

In sum, if  $|\mathcal{S}_j^i| = 6, |\mathcal{S}_j^i|$  hold simultaneously, then  $\tilde{x}_1 \cdots \tilde{x}_{\ell-1} = \psi_1 \psi_2 \psi_3 \psi_4 \psi_5, \tilde{y}_2 \cdots \tilde{y}_\ell = \psi_1 \bar{\psi}_2 \psi_3 \bar{\psi}_4 \psi_5$ , where  $\psi_1, \psi_2, \psi_3, \psi_4, \psi_5$  are alternating sequences,  $|\psi_3| = 2$  and  $\psi_3$  is neither zero reversed nor completely reversed in  $\tilde{x}$ , i.e.  $\tilde{x}', \tilde{y}'$  satisfies the structures in Fig.2 (3).

Denote  $|\psi_1|, |\psi_2|, |\psi_3|, |\psi_4|, |\psi_5|$  as  $\ell'_1, \ell'_2, \ell'_3, \ell'_4, \ell'_5$ . It is clear that  $\ell'_2 = \ell_2 + 2, \ell'_3 = 2, \ell'_4 = \ell_4 + 2$ . Next, we analyze the structure of  $s, \omega^1, \omega^2, t$  when all the conditions are satisfied simultaneously.

(A) Since we have established that  $\tilde{x} = \alpha s \omega^1 t \beta, \tilde{y} = \alpha s \omega^2 t \bar{\beta}$  and  $s, t$  are alternating sequence. Combined with the structure in Fig.2 (3), it is easy to see that the  $\omega^1 = \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+1} \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+2} \tilde{x}_{1+\ell_1+\ell_2+3}, \omega^2 = \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+2} \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+3} \tilde{y}_{\ell_1+\ell_2+\ell_3}$ , and  $\omega^1 = \omega^2$ , where  $\omega_1^1 = s_{|s|}, \omega_3^1 = t_1$ .

(B) In Fig.2 (3), we assume that  $\gamma = \bar{\alpha}$ , and  $|s| = \ell_1 + \ell_2 = \ell'_2 - 1$ . In order to satisfy  $\ell_2 \geq 2, \ell'_2 \geq 2$ , then  $|s| \geq 3$ . In the other case  $\gamma = \alpha$ , we show in Fig2 (4),  $|s| = \ell_2 + 1 + \ell'_2 - 1$ , and in order to satisfy  $\ell_2 \geq 2, \ell'_2 \geq 2$ ,  $|s| \geq 2$ . In sum, we get  $|s| \geq 2$  if completely reversed in  $\tilde{x}$  and  $|s| \geq 3$  if  $s_1 = \bar{\alpha}, s_{|s|} = \omega_1^1$ .

(C) Due to symmetry, we obtain  $|t| \geq 2$  if zero-reversed in  $\tilde{x}$  and  $|t| \geq 3$  if  $t_1 = \omega_{|s|}^1, t_{|t|} = \beta$ .

In summary, we have obtained a necessary condition for  $|\mathcal{S}_j^i| = 5, |\mathcal{S}_j^i| = 6$ , i.e.  $\tilde{x} = \alpha s \omega t \beta, \tilde{y} = \alpha s \bar{\omega} t \bar{\beta}$ , such that

- $s, t, \omega$  are alternating sequences,
- $|\omega| = 3, \omega_1 = s_{|s|}, \omega_3 = \bar{t}_1$ ,
- if  $|s|$  is completely reversed in  $\tilde{x}, |s| \geq 2$ , else  $|s| \geq 3$
- if  $|t|$  is zero-reversed in  $\tilde{x}, |t| \geq 2$ , else  $|t| \geq 3$

Next we prove that the above condition is also sufficient.

Firstly, it is clear that  $|\mathcal{S}_j^i| = 6$ , then  $|\mathcal{S}_j^i| = 4$  according Lemma 8. Thus, we only need to prove that  $|\mathcal{S}_j^i| = 5$ , and  $|\mathcal{S}_j^i| = 4$ .

Since  $a, b$  are alternating sequences, then  $\mathcal{S}_j^i = a_1 \cdots a_{|a|-1} \circ (\mathcal{D}_2(\alpha s \omega t) \cap \mathcal{D}_2(s \bar{\omega} t \bar{\beta})) \circ b_1 \cdots b_{|b|-1}$ . Since  $s, \omega, t$  are alternating sequences, and  $\omega_1 = s_{|s|}, \omega_3 = \bar{t}_1$ , then  $\alpha s \omega t, s \bar{\omega} t \bar{\beta}$  can be written as  $\alpha s \omega t = \psi_1 \psi_2 \psi_3 \psi_4 \psi_5$ ,  $s \bar{\omega} t \bar{\beta} = \psi_1 \bar{\psi}_2 \psi_3 \bar{\psi}_4 \psi_5$ , where  $\psi_i$  is alternating,  $|\psi_1|, |\psi_5| \leq 2$ , and  $\psi_3$  corresponds to  $\omega_1 \omega_2$ . Denote  $|\psi_1|, |\psi_2|, |\psi_3|, |\psi_4|, |\psi_5|$  as  $\ell_1, \ell_2, \ell_3, \ell_4, \ell_5$

Firstly,  $|\mathcal{D}_2(\alpha s \omega t) \cap \mathcal{D}_2(s \bar{\omega} t \bar{\beta})| < 6$  according to Theorem 3 and we can get the set

$$\begin{aligned} & \{ \\ & \psi_1 \psi_2 [1, \ell_2 - 1] \psi_3 \psi_4 [1, \ell_4 - 1] \psi_5, \\ & \psi_1 \psi_2 [1, \ell_2 - 1] \psi_3 \psi_4 [2, \ell_4] \psi_5, \\ & \psi_1 \psi_2 [2, \ell_2] \psi_3 \psi_4 [1, \ell_4 - 1] \psi_5, \\ & \psi_1 \psi_2 [2, \ell_2] \psi_3 \psi_4 [2, \ell_4] \psi_5, \\ & \psi_1 \bar{\psi}_2 \psi_4 \psi_5 \end{aligned}$$

$$\} \subseteq (\mathcal{D}_2(\alpha s \omega t) \cap \mathcal{D}_2(s \bar{\omega} t \bar{\beta})).$$

$$\text{Thus } |\mathcal{S}_j^i| = |(\mathcal{D}_2(\alpha s \omega t) \cap \mathcal{D}_2(s \bar{\omega} t \bar{\beta}))| = 5.$$

$\mathcal{S}_j^i = a_2 \cdots a_{|a|} \circ (\mathcal{D}_1(s \omega t) \cap \mathcal{D}_3(\bar{\alpha}' s \bar{\omega} t \bar{\beta})) \circ b_1 \cdots b_{|b|-1}$ . Firstly  $|\mathcal{D}_1(s \omega t) \cap \mathcal{D}_3(\bar{\alpha}' s \bar{\omega} t \bar{\beta})| < 4$  according to Lemma 4 and we can get the set

$$\begin{aligned} & \{ \\ & s \omega_1 \omega_2 t, \\ & s \omega_2 \omega_3 t, \\ & \bar{\alpha} s_3 \cdots s_{|s|} \omega t, \\ & s \omega t_1 \cdots t_{|t|-3} \bar{\beta}, \\ & \} \subseteq (\mathcal{D}_1(s \omega t) \cap \mathcal{D}_3(\bar{\alpha}' s \bar{\omega} t \bar{\beta})). \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $|\mathcal{S}_j^i| = |(\mathcal{D}_1(s \omega t) \cap \mathcal{D}_3(\bar{\alpha}' s \bar{\omega} t \bar{\beta}))| = 5$  So far, we have proved the sufficient and necessary condition condition for Type (A).

Symmetrically, we can get the sufficient and necessary condition condition for Type (B) is that  $\tilde{x} = \alpha s \omega t \beta, \tilde{y} = \alpha s \bar{\omega} t \bar{\beta}$  such that

- $s, t, \omega$  are alternating sequences
- $|\omega| = 3, \omega_1 = \bar{s}_{|s|}, \omega_3 = t_1$ ,
- if  $|s|$  is zero-reversed in  $\tilde{x}, |s| \geq 2$ , else  $|s| \geq 3$ .
- if  $|t|$  is completely reversed in  $\tilde{x}, |t| \geq 2$ , else  $|t| \geq 3$ .

Combining the above two types, we obtain Theorem 3. ■