

The Graded Classification Conjecture for graph algebras

context, some progress, current status

Lia Vaš

University of the Sciences, Philadelphia



classification



Everybody has their favorite conjecture

The one we shall talk about today...

The Graded Classification Conjecture



Conceived by Roorbeh.



Contemplated by others...

Grothendieck group of a ring

A ring R

Start with the fin.
gen. projectives.

Look at the monoid
 $\mathcal{V}(R)$ of their iso
classes with

$$[P] + [Q] = [P \oplus Q].$$



Its K_0 -group

Force the
cancellativity,
complete to a
group. Get the
Grothendieck group

$$K_0(R).$$

A general question...

















How well $K_0(R)$ reflects the properties of R ?

$R \cong S$ as rings iff $K_0(R) \cong K_0(S)$ as (pointed) groups?

\Rightarrow always holds.

\Leftarrow “rarely” holds.

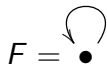
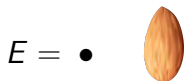
E.g. R, S are matricial algebras over a field.

1. Motorcycles 2 axles, 2 or 3 tires 	3. Passenger Cars 2 axles, can have 1- or 2- axle trailers 	3. Pickups, Panels, Vans 2 axles, 4 tire single units Can have 1- or 2- axle trailers 	4. Buses 2 or 3 axles, full length 3 or 4 axles, single trailer 
5. Single Unit 2-Axle Trucks 2 axles, 6 tires (split rear tires), single unit 	6. Single Unit 3-Axle Trucks 3 axles, single unit 	7. Single Unit 4- or More-Axle Trucks 4 or more axles, single unit 	8. Single Trailer 3- or 4-Axle Trucks 3 or 4 axles, single trailer 
9. Single Trailer 5-Axle Trucks 5 axles, single trailer 	10. Single Trailer 6- or More-Axle Trucks 6 or more axles, single trailer 	 	
11. Multi-Trailer 3- or Less-Axle Trucks 3 or less axles, multiple trailers 		12. Multi-Trailer 6-Axle Trucks 6 axles, multiple trailers  	
13. Multi-Trailer 7- or More-Axle Trucks 7 or more axles, multiple trailers 			

Classification

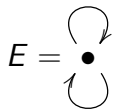
Let us focus on LPAs

For LPAs, \Leftarrow really rarely holds.



$$L_K(E) \not\cong L_K(F) \quad \text{but} \quad K_0(L_K(E)) = K_0(L_K(F)) = \mathbb{Z}$$

Also, for



$$L_K(E) \not\cong 0 \quad \text{but} \quad K_0(L_K(E)) = K_0(0) = 0.$$

How to compute K_0 of a LPA?

Starting from a (row-finite) graph E , define a monoid M_E , called the **graph monoid**, generated by the elements $[v]$ (think the iso class of $L_K(E)v$) where v is a vertex, subject to the relation

$$[v] = \sum_{e \in s^{-1}(v)} [r(e)]$$

if v is regular.

Why? Because left multiplication by e is an iso of fin. gen. proj. $r(e)L_K(E) = e^*eL_K(E)$ and $ee^*L_K(E)$. So, if v is regular, then

$$[v] = \left[\sum_{e \in s^{-1}(v)} ee^* \right] = \sum_{e \in s^{-1}(v)} [e^*e] = \sum_{e \in s^{-1}(v)} [r(e)].$$

M_E and G_E

Then form the Grothendieck group G_E of M_E and we have that

$$\begin{aligned}M_E &\cong \mathcal{V}(L_K(E)) \\ G_E &\cong K_0(L_K(E))\end{aligned}$$

For example, if $E = \begin{array}{c} \circlearrowleft \\ \bullet \\ \circlearrowright \end{array} \begin{array}{l} v \\ \\ v \end{array}$, then



$M_E = \langle v \mid v = v + v \rangle$. Its Grothendieck group is trivial since $v = v + v \Rightarrow 0 = v$.

Enter the grading to the rescue!

Leavitt path algebra is also **graded**.



If Γ is a group, a ring R is Γ -**graded** if

$$R = \bigoplus_{\gamma \in \Gamma} R_{\gamma} \quad \text{such that} \quad R_{\gamma} R_{\delta} \subseteq R_{\gamma\delta}.$$

In the world of graded rings...

... “element” is replaced by “homogeneous element”
($x \in R_\gamma$ for some γ) and “module” by “graded module”.



ring



graded ring

Many rings are **naturally graded**: group rings, LPAs ...

For a LPA, $\Gamma = \mathbb{Z}$ and $L_K(E)_n = \text{span} \{pq^* \mid |p| - |q| = n\}$.

Shifts, graded free modules, graded matrix rings

A module M is **graded** if $M = \bigoplus_{\gamma \in \Gamma} M_\gamma$ such that $R_\gamma M_\delta \subseteq M_{\gamma\delta}$.

Every graded module M can be **shifted** by δ as follows.

$$M(\delta) = \bigoplus_{\gamma \in \Gamma} M_{\gamma\delta} \quad \text{so that} \quad M(\delta)_\gamma = M_{\gamma\delta}.$$

A finitely generated **graded free** R -module is of the form

$$R(\gamma_1) \oplus \dots \oplus R(\gamma_n).$$

$\mathbb{M}_n(R)(\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n)$ is $\mathbb{M}_n(R)$ with a Γ -grading so that

$$\mathbb{M}_n(R)(\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n) \cong_{\text{gr}} \text{End}_R \left(\bigoplus_{i=1}^n R(\gamma_i^{-1}) \right)$$

Finitely generated graded free modules

If $\Gamma = \text{trivial}$, and K is a field, there is **just one one-dimensional free module**: K .



If $\Gamma = \mathbb{Z}$, for example, and R is Γ -graded there can be

many one-dimensional graded free modules:



$\dots R(-3), R(-2), R(-1), R(0), R(1), R(2), R(3), \dots$

Three examples

Let $\Gamma = \langle x \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}$ and $R = K[x, x^{-1}] = K[\mathbb{Z}]$.

1. Let us grade R **trivially**, i.e.

$$\begin{array}{l} K[x, x^{-1}]_0 = K[x, x^{-1}] \\ K[x, x^{-1}]_n = 0 \end{array} \quad n \neq 0 \quad \text{then}$$

$$R(m) \not\cong_{\text{gr}} R(n)$$



$\dots, R(-3), R(-2), R(-1), R(0), R(1), R(2), R(3), R(4), \dots$

The second two examples

2. Same Γ , same R . Let us grade R by

$$K[x, x^{-1}]_n = K\{x^n\} \text{ then}$$

$$R(m) \cong_{\text{gr}} R(n)$$



3. $E =$ $\bullet \longrightarrow \bullet \longrightarrow \bullet$

$$F = \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \downarrow \\ \bullet \longrightarrow \bullet \end{array}$$

$L_K(E) \cong L_K(F) \cong \mathbb{M}_3(K)$ as algebras. However,

$L_K(E) \cong_{\text{gr}} \mathbb{M}_3(K)(0, 1, 2) \not\cong_{\text{gr}} L_K(F) \cong_{\text{gr}} \mathbb{M}_3(K)(0, 1, 1)$
as graded algebras.

“Graded” version of the K_0 -group

If R is Γ -graded, replace “**projective**” by “**graded projective**” and repeat the construction for $\mathcal{V}(R)$, get $\mathcal{V}^\Gamma(R)$ with the Γ -action induced by the shifts.

$$\gamma[P] = [P(\gamma)].$$

Then get the **Grothendieck Γ -group** $K_0^\Gamma(R)$. Roozbeh calls it the graded Grothendieck group and uses $K_0^{\text{gr}}(R)$.



K_0^Γ classifies better

K_0^Γ of a Γ -graded ring is a $\mathbb{Z}[\Gamma]$ -module. Because of this additional structure,

K_0^Γ is **more sensitive** than K_0 .

So, it classifies better.



For LPAs, $\Gamma = \langle x \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}$, $\mathbb{Z}[\Gamma]$ is $\mathbb{Z}[x, x^{-1}]$ ($\mathbb{Z}[\mathbb{Z}]$)

$K_0^\Gamma(L_K(E))$ is a $\mathbb{Z}[x, x^{-1}]$ -module.



Graph-only approach

Recall that M_E is defined using a graph E only and G_E is its Grothendieck completion. We want the Γ -versions.

For a group Γ and a graph E , one wants a monoid M_E^Γ ,

the graph Γ -monoid.

Roosbeh and Huanhuan (Li) call it

the talented monoid.

The Grothendieck group of M_E^Γ is the **the graph Γ -group** G_E^Γ .

$$M_E^\Gamma \cong \mathcal{V}^\Gamma(L_K(E))$$

$$G_E^\Gamma \cong K_0^\Gamma(L_K(E))$$



Computing M_E^Γ and G_E^Γ

Let us concentrate on $\Gamma = \langle x \rangle$.

M_E^Γ has the same generators $[v]$ as M_E but the defining relation is modified by adding just one x in the formula from before. It becomes

$$[v] = \sum_{e \in s^{-1}(v)} x[r(e)]$$

for all regular vertices v .

Why x ?

Because $x = x^1$ is the length of the path e from v to $r(e)$.

Two examples

$$E = \bullet \quad \text{almond}$$

$$F = \bullet \quad \text{loop}$$



$$M_E^\Gamma = \mathbb{Z}^+[x, x^{-1}]$$

$$G_E^\Gamma = \mathbb{Z}[x, x^{-1}]$$

$$M_F^\Gamma = \mathbb{Z}^+ \text{ with trivial } \Gamma\text{-action.}$$

$$G_F^\Gamma = \mathbb{Z} \text{ with trivial } \Gamma\text{-action.}$$

Just like in the examples with



and



One more example

Let us compare M_E and M_E^Γ

for the rose $E = \begin{array}{c} \curvearrowright \\ \bullet^v \\ \curvearrowleft \end{array}$



- ▶ $M_E = \langle v \mid v = v + v \rangle$ so $G_E = 0$.
- ▶ $M_E^\Gamma = \langle v \mid v = xv + xv \rangle$ and G_E^Γ is isomorphic to $\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{2}]$ if we identify v with 1 and the action of x by multiplication by $\frac{1}{2}$.

In general, M_E^Γ is **cancellative**.

All seems so good...

... that Roozbeh formed the following question (circa 2011):

Is for any two graphs E and F ,

$L_K(E) \cong_{\text{gr}} L_K(F)$
as graded algebras

iff

$K_0^\Gamma(L_K(E)) \cong K_0^\Gamma(L_K(F))$
as pointed Γ -groups?



Classification

Let us look into “pointed” next...

Structure of K_0^Γ

- ▶ An abelian group
- ▶ with a Γ -action, and
- ▶ a **pre-order** \leq (from $[P] \leq [Q]$ iff P is isomorphic to a summand of Q).

There is a special element $[R]$ in $K_0(R)$ which is an **order-unit** (because for every $a \in K_0(R)$, there is a positive integer n such that $-n[R] \leq a \leq n[R]$).

$K_0(R)$ considered with an order-unit u is said to be **pointed**.



“Being pointed” and “having Γ -action” matter

$$E = \bullet \longrightarrow \bullet \longrightarrow \bullet$$

$$F = \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \downarrow \\ \bullet \longrightarrow \bullet \end{array}$$

$$L_K(E) \cong_{\text{gr}} \mathbb{M}_3(K)(0, 1, 2) \not\cong_{\text{gr}} L_K(F) \cong_{\text{gr}} \mathbb{M}_3(K)(0, 1, 1).$$

$$\begin{aligned} (G_E^\Gamma, [1]) &\cong (\mathbb{Z}[x, x^{-1}], 1 + x^{-1} + x^{-2}) \not\cong \\ &(G_F^\Gamma, [1]) \cong (\mathbb{Z}[x, x^{-1}], 1 + x^{-1} + x^{-1}). \end{aligned}$$

Also

$$E = \bullet \longrightarrow \bullet \curvearrowright$$

$$F = \bullet \begin{array}{c} \curvearrowright \\ \curvearrowleft \end{array} \bullet$$

$$L_K(E) \cong_{\text{gr}} \mathbb{M}_2(K[x, x^{-1}])(0, 1) \not\cong_{\text{gr}} L_K(F) \cong_{\text{gr}} \mathbb{M}_2(K[x^2, x^{-2}])(0, 1)$$

Γ acts trivially on $(G_E^\Gamma, [1])$ and non-trivially on $(G_F^\Gamma, [1])$.

Known classifications

Roozbeh (circa 2011) – the conjecture holds for finite **polycephaly** graphs (every path leads to a sink, a rose or a cycle with no exits).



Ara and Pardo (2014) – a weaker version of the conjecture holds for finite graphs without sources and sinks.

Eilers, Ruiz, Sims (2020) – the conjecture and its C^* -algebra version hold for countable “amplified” graphs.

Known classifications (continued)

Roosbeh and me (circa 2016) – the involutive version of the conjecture holds for row-finite, no-exit graphs in which every infinite path ends in a sink or a cycle.

The proof relies on representing LPAs as (ultra)matricial algebras and using properties graded fields.



In 2020, Roozbeh and I were looking for...

... a graph-oriented (not matrix-oriented) approach.

So, we went back to the Talented Mr. Monoid and its structure.



In particular, for $a \in M_E^\Gamma$, the relation $a < x^n a$ is not possible for any positive n . So, there are three possibilities:

1. $a = x^n a$ for some positive n . Such a is **periodic**.
2. $a > x^n a$ for some positive n . Such a is **aperiodic**.
3. a and $x^n a$ are not comparable for any positive n . Such a is **incomparable** (periodic or aperiodic = **comparable**).

Comparable and incomparable

Comparable



a

$x^n a$

a is periodic



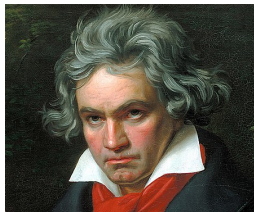
a



$x^n a$

a is aperiodic

Incomparable



a



$x^n a$ for any n

a is incomparable

Examples

To understand examples a bit better: Look at the free Γ -monoid F_E^Γ generated by the vertices and look at a relation \rightarrow “defined by the axioms” (i.e. $v \rightarrow \sum_{e \in \mathcal{S}^{-1}(v)} xr(e)$ if v is regular). Then M_E^Γ is the equivalence closure of \rightarrow .

For example, for

$$\bullet^v \longrightarrow \bullet^w \curvearrowright$$

$$w \rightarrow xw \Rightarrow [w] = x[w] \Rightarrow [w] \text{ is } \mathbf{periodic}.$$

$$v \rightarrow xw \Rightarrow [v] = x[w] = [w] \Rightarrow [v] \text{ is } \mathbf{periodic} \text{ also.}$$

For

$$\bullet^v \longleftarrow \bullet^w \curvearrowright$$

$$w \rightarrow xw + xv \Rightarrow [w] > x[w] \Rightarrow [w] \text{ is } \mathbf{aperiodic}.$$

$$v \rightarrow \text{nothing} \Rightarrow [v] \text{ is } \mathbf{incomparable}.$$

Types of vertices

If v is a sink,

If v is an infinite emitter

$[v]$ is **incomparable**.

$[v]$ is **aperiodic** if v is in a cycle.

$[v]$ is **incomparable** otherwise.

If v is in a cycle,

$[v]$ is **periodic** if the cycle has no exits,

$[v]$ is **aperiodic** otherwise.

$[a]$ is comparable iff $a \rightarrow b$ for some “stationary” element b of F_E^Γ .

b is **stationary** iff all generators are either on cycles or on exits from cycles which contain other generators of b .



A taste of various characterizations

$[a] \in M_E^\Gamma$ is **comparable** iff $a \rightarrow b$ for some stationary b .

$[a] \in M_E^\Gamma$ is **periodic** iff $a \rightarrow b$ for some stationary b with no generators on cycles with exits.

Some $[a] \in M_E^\Gamma$ is **comparable** iff E has a cycle.

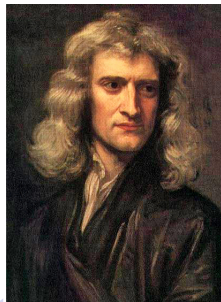
Some $[a] \in M_E^\Gamma$ is **periodic** iff E has a cycle without an exit.

Every $[a] \in M_E^\Gamma$ is **periodic** iff E is row-finite, no-exit, without sinks, with infinite paths ending in cycles.



Some corollaries

1. M_E^Γ recognizes the following properties:
 - ▶ E being acyclic.
 - ▶ E having a cycle with/without an exit.
 - ▶ E being no-exit.
 - ▶ E being row-finite, no-exit, without sinks and with infinite paths ending in cycles.
2. The main results of Roozbeh-Huanhuan paper on the Talented Monoid (J. Algebra, vol 547, 2020) hold **without the requirement that E is row-finite**.



Another corollary...

... related to the characterization of the **cross product LPAs**
and skew group ring LPAs (Roozbeh-Lia, 2020)

Characterization of when $L_K(E)$ is strongly graded via M_E^Γ
(equivalently of G_E^Γ).



graded ring



strongly graded ring

Idea for the future

The three classes match the polycephaly graphs scenario:

periodic ↔ the comet part

aperiodic ↔ the rose part

incomparable ↔ the acyclic part

Not just that every element of M_E^Γ is periodic, aperiodic or incomparable, but it is a sum of a periodic, an aperiodic and an incomparable parts.

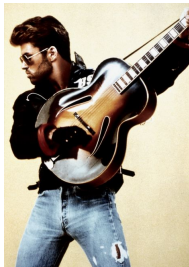
Such representation **exists**, but uniqueness is still a problem.

The strong version of the conjecture

K_0^Γ is a **full** and...



... **faithful** functor.



The strong version, in fact, was shown for polycephaly and row-finite no-exit etc graphs mentioned before.

Relation with another conjecture

The **Isomorphism Conjecture**.

$L_{\mathbb{C}}(E) \cong L_{\mathbb{C}}(F)$ as rings iff $C^*(E) \cong C^*(F)$ as $*$ -algebras.

Formulated by Gene Abrams and Mark Tomforde. Note that

$L_{\mathbb{C}}(E) \cong L_{\mathbb{C}}(F)$ as $*$ -algebras $\Rightarrow C^*(E) \cong C^*(F)$ as $*$ -algebras.



Mark



Gene

The graded (non-involutive) version

The **Graded Isomorphism Conjecture**.

$$\begin{aligned} L_K(E) \cong L_K(F) \text{ as } \underline{\text{graded rings}} & \quad \text{iff} \\ L_K(E) \cong L_K(F) \text{ as } \underline{\text{graded algebras}}. \end{aligned}$$

Graded Classification \Rightarrow Graded Isomorphism



References, slides: liavas.net