Graph algebras, groupoids and shifts of finite type

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(Joint work with Toke Carlsen)

Introduction



A groupoid is a nonempty set \mathcal{G} satisfying the following properties.

G1. There is a distinguished subset $G^{(0)} \subseteq G$, called the unit space. Elements of $\mathcal{G}^{(0)}$ are called **units**.

G2. There are maps $r, s : \mathcal{G} \to \mathcal{G}^{(0)}$ satisfying r(u) = s(u) = u for all $u \in G^{(0)}$. These maps are called the **range** and **source** maps respectively.

G3. Setting $G^{(2)} := \{(\alpha, \beta) : \alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{G}, s(\alpha) = r(\beta)\} \subseteq \mathcal{G} \times \mathcal{G}$, there is a 'law of composition'

$$G^{(2)} \rightarrow G: (\alpha, \beta) \mapsto \alpha\beta$$

that satisfies

(i) For every
$$(\alpha, \beta) \in \mathcal{G}^{(2)}$$
, $r(\alpha\beta) = r(\alpha)$ and $s(\alpha\beta) = s(\beta)$.

(ii) If (α, β) and (β, γ) belong to $\mathcal{G}^{(2)}$, then $(\alpha, \beta\gamma)$ and $(\alpha\beta, \gamma)$ also belong to $\mathcal{G}^{(2)}$ and $(\alpha\beta)\gamma = \alpha(\beta\gamma)$.

(iii) For every
$$\alpha \in \mathcal{G}$$
, $r(\alpha)\alpha = \alpha = \alpha s(\alpha)$.

G4. For every $\alpha \in \mathcal{G}$ there is an **'inverse'** $\alpha^{-1} \in \mathcal{G}$ (necessarily unique) such that (α, α^{-1}) and (α^{-1}, α) belong to $\mathcal{G}^{(2)}$ and such that $\alpha \alpha^{-1} = r(\alpha)$ and $\alpha^{-1} \alpha = s(\alpha)$.

A topological groupoid is a groupoid ${\mathcal G}$ with a topology such that

i. The set of composable pairs $\mathcal{G}^{(2)} \subseteq \mathcal{G} \times \mathcal{G}$ is closed under the relative topology (automatic when \mathcal{G} is Hausdorff).

ii. Composition $\mathcal{G}^{(2)} \to \mathcal{G} : (\alpha, \beta) \mapsto \alpha\beta$ and inversion $\mathcal{G} \to \mathcal{G} : \alpha \mapsto \alpha^{-1}$ are continuous.

A topological groupoid G is called **étale** if the maps $r, s : \mathcal{G} \to \mathcal{G}$ are local homeomorphisms.

Let \mathcal{G} and \mathcal{H} be groupoids. A groupoid homomorphism is a map $\phi : \mathcal{G} \to \mathcal{H}$ such that $(\phi(\alpha), \phi(\beta)) \in \mathcal{H}^{(2)}$ whenever $(\alpha, \beta) \in \mathcal{G}^{(2)}$, and such that $\phi(\alpha\beta) = \phi(\alpha)\phi(\beta)$. A groupoid isomorphism is a groupoid homomorphism that is bijective.

If \mathcal{G} and \mathcal{H} are topological groupoids, then a **topological** groupoid isomorphism is a groupoid isomorphism that is also a homeomorphism.

If \mathcal{G} is a topological groupoid and $\mathcal{H} = \Gamma$ is a discrete group, then a continuous homomorphism $c : \mathcal{G} \to \Gamma$ is called a **continuous cocycle**. That is, $c : \mathcal{G} \to \Gamma$ carries composition in \mathcal{G} to the group operation in Γ . Let \mathcal{G} be a locally compact, Hausdorff, étale groupoid. The space $C_c(\mathcal{G})$ is given the structure of a complex *-algebra with **convolution**

$$f \cdot g(\gamma) = \sum_{\alpha \beta = \gamma} f(\alpha)g(\beta),$$

for $\gamma \in \mathcal{G}$, and **involution**

$$f^*(\alpha) = \overline{f(\alpha^{-1})}$$

for $\alpha \in \mathcal{G}$.

The reduced C^* -algebra of a groupoid

For $u \in \mathcal{G}^{(0)}$, there is a representation $\pi_u : C_c(\mathcal{G}) \to B(\ell^2(s^{-1}(u)))$ such that

$$\pi_u(f)\delta_{\gamma} = \sum_{s(\alpha)=r(\gamma)} f(\alpha)\delta_{\alpha\gamma},$$

for $\gamma \in s^{-1}(u)$.

There is a C^* -norm on $C_c(\mathcal{G})$ defined by

$$||f||_r := \sup\{||\pi_u(f)||_{op} : u \in \mathcal{G}^{(0)}\}.$$

The **reduced** C^* -algebra $C^*_r(\mathcal{G})$ of \mathcal{G} is the completion of $C_c(\mathcal{G})$ under this norm.

Let $E = (E^0, E^1, r, s)$ be a directed graph. Denote by E^* the set of **finite** sequences μ in E and by E^{∞} the set of **infinite** sequences x of edges in E such that $r(x_i) = s(x_{i+1})$ for all i.

The **boundary path space** ∂E of E is the space

$$\partial E := E^{\infty} \cup \{\mu \in E^* : s^{-1}(r(\mu)) \text{ is empty or infinite}\}.$$

For $\mu \in E^*$, define a **cylinder set** $Z(\mu)$ by

 $Z(\mu) := \{\mu x \in \partial E : x \in \partial E, s(x) = r(\mu)\} \subseteq \partial E.$

The boundary path space of a directed graph

For $\mu \in E^*$ and a finite subset $F \subseteq E^1$ such that $s(f) = r(\mu)$ for all $f \in F$, we define

$$Z(\mu \setminus F) := Z(\mu) \setminus \Big(\bigcup_{f \in F} Z(\mu f) \Big).$$

Sam Webster showed that the collection of all such sets forms a basis for a **locally compact**, **Hausdorff** topology on ∂E , and each such set is compact and open.

For $n \in \mathbb{N}$, let $\partial E^{\geq n} := \{x \in \partial E : |x| \geq n\} \subseteq \partial E$. Define the edge shift map $\sigma_E : \partial E^{\geq 1} \to \partial E$ by

$$\sigma_E(x_1x_2x_3\dots)=x_2x_3\dots$$

for $x_1x_2x_3\dots \in \partial E^{\geq 2}$ and $\sigma_E(e) = r(e)$ for $e \in \partial E \cap E^1$.

The groupoid of a directed graph

The graph groupoid \mathcal{G}_E of a directed graph E is given by

 $\mathcal{G}_E := \{ (x, m-n, y) \in \partial E \times \mathbb{Z} \times \partial E : m, n \in \mathbb{N} \text{ and } \sigma_E^m(x) = \sigma_E^n(y) \},\$

with unit space

$$\mathcal{G}_E^{(0)} = \{(x,0,x) : x \in \partial E\} \cong \partial E,$$

range and source maps

$$r(x, m-n, y) := x$$
 and $s(x, m-n, y) := y$,

composition

$$(x, m - n, y)(w, m' - n', z) := (x, m + m' - (n + n'), z)$$

whenever y = w and undefined otherwise, and inverse

$$(x, m - n, y)^{-1} := (y, n - m, x).$$

Let $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$, let U be an open subset of $\partial E^{\geq m}$ such that $\sigma_E^m|_U$ is injective, let V be an open subset of $\partial E^{\geq n}$ such that $\sigma_E^n|_V$ is injective, and such that $\sigma_E^m(U) = \sigma_E^n(V)$. Define

$$Z(U, m, n, V) := \{(x, m-n, y) \in \mathcal{G}_E : x \in U, y \in V, \sigma_E^m(x) = \sigma_E^n(y)\}.$$

The graph groupoid \mathcal{G}_E is a **locally compact**, **Hausdorff**, **étale** groupoid when equipped with the topology generated by subsets of the form Z(U, m, n, V).

Graph C^* -algebras and general gauge actions

Kumjian, Pask, Raeburn and Renault originally used graph groupoids to construct C^* -algebras for a large class of directed graphs. For a directed graph E, the graph C^* -algebra $C^*(E)$ is the groupoid C^* -algebra of \mathcal{G}_E .

For
$$\mu, \nu \in E^*$$
 with $r(\mu) = r(\nu)$, let
 $Z(\mu, \nu) := Z(Z(\mu), |\mu|, |\nu|, Z(\nu)).$

The graph C^* -algebra $C^*(E)$ is

$$C^*(\mathcal{G}_E) = \overline{\operatorname{span}}\{1_{Z(\mu,\nu)} : \mu, \nu \in E^*, r(\mu) = r(\nu)\}.$$

The **diagonal subalgebra** of $C^*(E)$, denoted $\mathcal{D}(E)$, is

$$C_0(\partial E) = \overline{\operatorname{span}}\{1_{Z(\mu)} : \mu \in E^*\}.$$

Cocycles and generalised gauge-actions

Let *E* be a directed graph, and let $k : E^1 \to \mathbb{R}$ be a function. Then k extends to a function $k : E^* \to \mathbb{R}$ given by k(v) = 0 for $v \in E^0$ and $k(e_1 \dots e_n) = k(e_1) + \dots + k(e_n)$ for $e_1 \dots e_n \in E^n$, $n \ge 1$.

We then get a **continuous cocycle** $c_k : \mathcal{G}_E \to \mathbb{R}$ given by

$$c_k((\mu x, |\mu| - |\nu|, \nu x)) = k(\mu) - k(\nu)$$

and a generalised gauge action $\gamma^{E,k} : \mathbb{R} \to \operatorname{Aut}(C^*(E))$ satisfying

$$\gamma_t^{E,k}(1_{Z(\mu,
u)}) = e^{it(k(\mu)-k(
u))}1_{Z(\mu,
u)}$$

for $\mu, \nu \in E^*$ and $t \in \mathbb{R}$.

Define $k_E : E^1 \to \mathbb{R}$ by $k_E(e) = 1$ for all $e \in E^1$. Then c_{k_E} is standard continuous cocycle and γ^{E,k_E} is the standard gauge action.

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Diagonal-preserving gauge-invariant isomorphism

Theorem (Brownlowe–Carlsen–Whittaker, Carlsen–R)

Let E and F be directed graphs and let $k : E^1 \to \mathbb{R}$ and $I : F^1 \to \mathbb{R}$ be functions. TFAE.

1. There is an isomorphism $\Phi:\mathcal{G}_{\mathsf{F}}\to\mathcal{G}_{\mathsf{F}}$ satisfying

$$c_l(\Phi(\eta)) = c_k(\eta)$$

for $\eta \in \mathcal{G}_E$.

2. There is a *-isomorphism $\Psi : C^*(E) \to C^*(F)$ satisfying $\Psi(\mathcal{D}(E)) = \mathcal{D}(F)$ and $\gamma_t^{F,l} \circ \Psi = \Psi \circ \gamma_t^{E,k}$

for $t \in \mathbb{R}$.

Stabilised graphs

Let *E* be a graph. "Adding a head" to a vertex $v \in E^0$ means attaching the following graph to *v*.

$$\cdots \xrightarrow{e_{4,v}} w_{3,v} \xrightarrow{e_{3,v}} w_{2,v} \xrightarrow{e_{2,v}} w_{1,v} \xrightarrow{e_{1,v}} v$$

Form a **"stabilised graph"** *SE* by "adding a head" to each vertex and defining

$$(SE)^0 := E^0 \cup \bigcup_{v \in E^0} \{w_{1,v}, w_{2,v}, \dots\}$$

and

$$(SE)^1 := E^1 \cup \bigcup_{v \in E^0} \{e_{1,v}, e_{2,v}, \dots\}$$

and setting $r(e_{i,v}) := w_{i-1,v}$ and $s(e_{i,v}) := w_{i,v}$ for each $v \in E^0$ and i = 1, 2, ...

Stabilised graph C*-algebras

Denote by \mathcal{K} the **compact operators** on $\ell^2(\mathbb{N})$ which are generated by the rank-one operators $\{\theta_{i,j} : i, j \in \mathbb{N}\}$. Denote by \mathcal{C} the maximal abelian subalgebra of \mathcal{K} consisting of **diagonal operators** which are generated by the rank-one operators $\{\theta_{i,i} : i \in \mathbb{N}\}$.

Mark Tomforde showed that $C^*(SE)$ is isomorphic to $C^*(E) \otimes \mathcal{K}$. In fact, $\mathcal{D}(SE)$ is isomorphic to $\mathcal{D}(E) \otimes \mathcal{C}$.

For a function $k : E^1 \to \mathbb{R}$, we define a function $\bar{k} : (SE)^1 \to \mathbb{R}$ by $\bar{k}(e) = k(e)$ for $e \in E^1$, and $\bar{k}(e_{i,v}) = 0$ for $v \in E^0$ and $i = 1, 2, \ldots$

The isomorphism between $C^*(SE)$ and $C^*(E) \otimes \mathcal{K}$ intertwines the gauge actions $\gamma^{SE,\overline{k}}$ and $\gamma^{E,\mathcal{K}} \otimes Id_{\mathcal{K}}$.

Stable isomorphism of graph C^* -algebras

Corollary

Let E and F be directed graphs and $k : E^1 \to \mathbb{R}$ and $l : F^1 \to \mathbb{R}$ functions. TFAE.

1. There is an isomorphism $\Phi : \mathcal{G}_{SE} \to \mathcal{G}_{SF}$ satisfying $c_{\overline{l}}(\Phi(\eta)) = c_{\overline{l}}(\eta)$

for $\eta \in \mathcal{G}_{SE}$.

2. There is a *-isomorphism $\Psi : C^*(E) \otimes \mathcal{K} \to C^*(F) \otimes \mathcal{K}$ satisfying $\Psi(\mathcal{D}(E) \otimes \mathcal{C}) = \mathcal{D}(F) \otimes \mathcal{C}$ and

$$(\gamma^{{\sf F},{\sf I}}_t\otimes {\sf Id}_{{\cal K}})\circ \Psi=\Psi\circ (\gamma^{{\sf E},k}_t\otimes {\sf Id}_{{\cal K}})$$

for $t \in \mathbb{R}$.

Two-sided edge shifts

Let *E* be a finite directed graph with no sinks or sources. The **two-sided edge shift** \overline{X}_E is the space

$$\overline{X}_{\mathcal{E}}:=\{(x_n)_{n\in\mathbb{Z}}:x_n\in \mathcal{E}^1 ext{ and } r(x_n)=s(x_{n+1}) ext{ for all } n\in\mathbb{Z}\}.$$

The shift map is the homeomorphism $\overline{\sigma}_E : \overline{X}_E \to \overline{X}_E$ given by

$$\overline{\sigma}_E(\ldots x_{-1}x_0x_1\ldots)=\ldots x_0x_1x_2\ldots$$

If *E* and *F* are finite directed graphs with no sinks or sources, then \overline{X}_E and \overline{X}_F are **conjugate** if there is a homeomorphism $\phi: \overline{X}_E \to \overline{X}_F$ such that

$$\overline{\sigma}_{\mathsf{F}} \circ \phi = \phi \circ \overline{\sigma}_{\mathsf{E}}.$$

Theorem

Let E and F are finite graphs with no sinks or sources. TFAE.

- 1. The two-sided edge shifts \overline{X}_E and \overline{X}_F are conjugate.
- 2. There is an isomorphism $\Phi:\mathcal{G}_{SE}\to\mathcal{G}_{SF}$ satisfying

$$c_{\overline{k}_{F}}(\Phi(\gamma)) = c_{\overline{k}_{E}}(\gamma)$$

for $\gamma \in \mathcal{G}_{SE}$.

Corollary (Cuntz–Krieger, Carlsen–R)

Let E and F are finite graphs with no sinks or sources. TFAE.

1. The two-sided edge shifts \overline{X}_E and \overline{X}_F are conjugate.

2. There is a *-isomorphism $\Psi : C^*(E) \otimes \mathcal{K} \to C^*(F) \otimes \mathcal{K}$ satisfying $\Psi(\mathcal{D}(E) \otimes \mathcal{C}) = \mathcal{D}(F) \otimes \mathcal{C}$ and

$$(\gamma_t^{\mathsf{F},k_{\mathsf{F}}}\otimes\mathsf{Id}_{\mathcal{K}})\circ\Psi=\Psi\circ(\gamma_t^{\mathsf{E},k_{\mathsf{E}}}\otimes\mathsf{Id}_{\mathcal{K}})$$

for $t \in \mathbb{R}$

Let *E* be a graph and *R* a commutative integral domain with identity. The **Leavitt path algebra** $L_R(E)$ is the *R*-algebra

$$\mathsf{span}_{\mathsf{R}}\{1_{\mathsf{Z}(\mu,\nu)}:\mu,\nu\in\mathsf{E}^*,\mathsf{r}(\mu)=\mathsf{r}(\nu)\},$$

and the diagonal subalgebra $D_R(E)$ is the *R*-algebra

 $\operatorname{span}_R\{1_{Z(\mu)}: \mu \in E^*\}.$

Let $k : E^1 \to \mathbb{R}$ be a function and write Γ_k for the additive subgroup $\{k(\mu) - k(\nu) : \mu, \nu \in E^*, r(\mu) = r(\nu)\}$ of \mathbb{R} . For $g \in \Gamma_k$, setting

$$L_{R}(E)_{g} := \operatorname{span}_{R}\{1_{Z(\mu,\nu)} : \mu, \nu \in E^{*}, r(\mu) = r(\nu), k(\mu) - k(\nu) = g\},\$$

gives a Γ_k -grading $L_R(E) = \bigoplus_{g \in \Gamma_k} L_R(E)_g$. The standard \mathbb{Z} -grading is obtained when $k = k_E$.

Theorem (Ara–Bosa–Hazrat–Sims, Carlsen–R)

Let E and F be directed graphs and let $k : E^1 \to \mathbb{R}$ and $I : F^1 \to \mathbb{R}$ be functions. TFAE.

1. There is an isomorphism $\Phi:\mathcal{G}_E\to\mathcal{G}_F$ satisfying

 $c_l(\Phi(\eta)) = c_k(\eta)$

for $\eta \in \mathcal{G}_{E}$.

2. There is a ring-isomorphism $\Psi : L_R(E) \to L_R(F)$ satisfying $\Psi(D(E)) = D(F)$ and $\Psi(L_R(E)_g) = L_R(F)_g$

for $g \in c_k(\mathcal{G}_E)$.

Two-sided edge shifts and Leavitt path algebras

Let $M_{\infty}(R)$ denote the ring of finitely supported, countable infinite square matrices over R, and $D_{\infty}(R)$ the abelian subring of $M_{\infty}(R)$ consisting of diagonal matrices.

Corollary

If E and F are finite graphs with no sinks or sources and R is a commutative integral domain with identity, then TFAE.

1. The two-sided edge shifts \overline{X}_E and \overline{X}_F are conjugate.

2. There is a ring-isomorphism $\Psi : L_R(E) \otimes M_{\infty}(R) \rightarrow L_R(F) \otimes M_{\infty}(R)$ such that

$$\Psi(D_R(E)\otimes D_\infty(R))=D_R(F)\otimes D_\infty(R))$$

and

$$\Psi(L_R(E)_n\otimes M_\infty(R))=L_R(F)_n\otimes M_\infty(R)$$

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