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Derivations of Leavitt Path Algebras

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19 February 2019 13:15–14:15 in T112

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Abstract: Given a row-finite directed graph Γ and a field K, G. Abrams and A. Pino in [2], and independently P. Ara, M.A. Moreno, E. Pardo in [5], introduced the *Leavitt path algebra* $L_K(\Gamma)$. This algebra is an algebraic analog of graph Cuntz-Krieger C^* -algebras. These algebras have attracted significant interest and attention, not only from ring theorists, but from analysts working in C^* -algebras, group theorists, and symbolic dynamicists as well [3, 4, 6, 1].

The connections between Leavitt path algebra and C^* -algebras can be described as below. Let Γ be a graph. Very roughly, the process by which a C^* -algebra is associated to Γ consists of decorating the vertices with orthogonal projections on a Hilbert space \mathcal{H} and the edges, with suitable operators. The ensuing C^* subalgebra of the bounded linear operators $B(\mathcal{H})$ is then the graph C^* -algebra $C^*(\Gamma)$. The Leavitt path algebras, denoted as $L(\Gamma)$, are the algebraic siblings of the aforementioned graph C^* -algebras and are constructed over an arbitrary field (whereas here C^* -algebras will always be over the complex numbers). Both classes of algebras, $L(\Gamma)$ and $C^*(\Gamma)$, share a beautiful interplay between highly visual properties of the graph and algebraic/analytical properties of the corresponding underlying graphs. In this talk, we describe the K-module $HH^1(L_K(\Gamma))$ (=the first Hochschild cohomology) of outer derivations of the Leavitt path algebra $L_K(\Gamma)$ of a row-finite graph Γ with coefficients in an associative commutative ring K with unit. We explicitly describe a set of generators of $HH^1(L_K(\Gamma))$ and relations among them. We also describe a Lie algebra structure of outer derivation algebra of the Toeplitz algebra. We prove that every derivation of a Leavitt path algebra can be extended to a derivation of the corresponding C^* -algebra.

References

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