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## A combinatorial discussion on finite dimensional Leavitt path algebras

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### Abstract

Any finite dimensional semisimple algebra  $A$  over a field  $K$  is isomorphic to a direct sum of finite dimensional full matrix rings over suitable division rings. We shall consider the direct sum of finite dimensional full matrix rings over a field  $K$ . All such finite dimensional semisimple algebras arise as finite dimensional Leavitt path algebras. For this specific finite dimensional semisimple algebra  $A$  over a field  $K$ , we define a uniquely determined specific graph - called a truncated tree associated with  $A$  - whose Leavitt path algebra is isomorphic to  $A$ . We define an algebraic invariant  $\kappa(A)$  for  $A$  and count the number of isomorphism classes of Leavitt path algebras with the same fixed value of  $\kappa(A)$ . Moreover, we find the maximum and the minimum  $K$ -dimensions of the Leavitt path algebras of possible trees with a given number of vertices and we also determine the number of distinct Leavitt path algebras of line graphs with a given number of vertices.

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## 1. Introduction

By the well-known Wedderburn-Artin Theorem [4], any finite dimensional semisimple algebra  $A$  over a field  $K$  is isomorphic to a direct sum of finite dimensional full matrix rings over suitable division rings. We shall consider the direct sum of finite dimensional full matrix rings over a field  $K$ . All such finite dimensional semisimple algebras arise as finite dimensional Leavitt path algebras as studied in [2]. The Leavitt path algebras are introduced independently by Abrams-Aranda Pino in [1] and by Ara-Moreno-Pardo in [3] via different approaches.

In general, the Leavitt path algebra  $L_K(E_1)$  can be isomorphic to the Leavitt path algebra  $L_K(E_2)$  for non-isomorphic graphs  $E_1$  and  $E_2$ . In this paper, we introduce a class of specific graphs which we call the class of truncated trees, denoted by  $\mathcal{T}$ , and prove that for any finite acyclic graph  $E$  there exists a unique element  $F$  in  $\mathcal{T}$  such that  $L_K(E)$  is isomorphic to  $L_K(F)$ . Furthermore, for any two acyclic graphs  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  and their corresponding truncated trees  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  we have

$$L_K(E_1) \cong L_K(E_2) \text{ if and only if } F_1 \cong F_2.$$

For a given finite dimensional Leavitt path algebra  $A = \bigoplus_{i=1}^s M_{n_i}(K)$  with  $2 \leq n_1 \leq n_2 \leq \dots \leq n_s = N$ , the number  $s$  is the number of minimal ideals of  $A$  and  $N^2$  is the maximum of the dimensions of the minimal ideals. Therefore, the integer  $s + N - 1$  is an algebraic invariant of  $A$  which we denote by  $\kappa(A)$ .

Then, we prove that the number of isomorphism classes of finite dimensional Leavitt path algebras  $A$ , with the invariant  $\kappa(A) > 1$ , having no ideals isomorphic to  $K$  is equal to the number of distinct truncated trees with  $\kappa(A)$  vertices. The number of distinct truncated trees with  $m$  vertices is computed in Proposition 3.4.

We also compute the best upper and lower bounds of the  $K$ -dimension of possible trees on  $m$  vertices, as a function of  $m$  and the number of sinks.

In the last section, we calculated the number of isomorphism classes of Leavitt path algebras of line graphs with  $m$  vertices as a function of  $m$ .

## 2. Preliminaries

We start by recalling the definitions of a path algebra and a Leavitt path algebra. For a more detailed discussion see [1]. A *directed graph*  $E = (E^0, E^1, r, s)$  consists of two countable sets  $E^0, E^1$  and functions  $r, s : E^1 \rightarrow E^0$ . The elements  $E^0$  and  $E^1$  are called *vertices* and *edges*, respectively. For each  $e \in E^1$ ,  $s(e)$  is the source of  $e$  and  $r(e)$  is the range of  $e$ . If  $s(e) = v$  and  $r(e) = w$ , then  $v$  is said to emit  $e$  and  $w$  is said to receive  $e$ . A vertex which does not receive any edges is called a *source*, and a vertex which emits no edges is called a *sink*. An *isolated* vertex is both a sink and a source. A graph is *row-finite* if  $s^{-1}(v)$  is a finite set for each vertex  $v$ . A row-finite graph is *finite* if  $E^0$  is a finite set.

A *path* in a graph  $E$  is a sequence of edges  $\mu = e_1 \dots e_n$  such that  $r(e_i) = s(e_{i+1})$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n - 1$ . The *source* of  $\mu$  and the *range* of  $\mu$  are defined as  $s(\mu) = s(e_1)$  and  $r(\mu) = r(e_n)$  respectively. The number of edges in a path  $\mu$  is called the *length* of  $\mu$ , denoted by  $l(\mu)$ . If  $s(\mu) = r(\mu)$  and  $s(e_i) \neq s(e_j)$  for every  $i \neq j$ , then  $\mu$  is called a *cycle*. A graph  $E$  is called *acyclic* if  $E$  does not have any cycles.

The *total-degree* of the vertex  $v$  is the number of edges that either have  $v$  as its source or as its range, that is,  $\text{totdeg}(v) = |s^{-1}(v) \cup r^{-1}(v)|$ . A line graph  $E$  is a *line graph* if it is connected, acyclic and  $\text{totdeg}(v) \leq 2$  for every  $v \in E^0$ . A line graph  $E$  is called an *m-line graph* if  $E$  has  $m$  vertices.

For  $n \geq 2$ , define  $E^n$  to be the set of paths of length  $n$ , and  $E^* = \bigcup_{n \geq 0} E^n$  the set of all paths. Given a vertex  $v$  in a graph, the number of all paths ending at  $v$  is denoted by  $n(v)$ .

The path  $K$ -algebra over  $E$ ,  $KE$ , is defined as the free  $K$ -algebra  $K[E^0 \cup E^1]$  with the relations:

- (1)  $v_i v_j = \delta_{ij} v_i$  for every  $v_i, v_j \in E^0$ ,
- (2)  $e_i = e_i r(e_i) = s(e_i) e_i$  for every  $e_i \in E^1$ .

Given a graph  $E$ , define the extended graph of  $E$  as the new graph  $\widehat{E} = (E^0, E^1 \cup (E^1)^*, r', s')$  where  $(E^1)^* = \{e_i^* \mid e_i \in E^1\}$  is a set with the same cardinality as  $E$  and disjoint from  $E$  so that the map assigning  $e^*$  to  $e$  is a one-to-one correspondence; and the functions  $r'$  and  $s'$  are defined as

$$r'|_{E^1} = r, \quad s'|_{E^1} = s, \quad r'(e_i^*) = s(e_i) \quad \text{and} \quad s'(e_i^*) = r(e_i).$$

The Leavitt path algebra of  $E$ ,  $L_K(E)$ , with coefficients in  $K$  is defined as the path algebra over the extended graph  $\widehat{E}$ , which satisfies the additional relations:

- (CK1)  $e_i^* e_j = \delta_{ij} r(e_j)$  for every  $e_j \in E^1$  and  $e_i^* \in (E^1)^*$ ,
- (CK2)  $v_i = \sum_{\{e_j \in E^1 \mid s(e_j) = v_i\}} e_j e_j^*$  for every  $v_i \in E^0$  which is not a sink, and emits only finitely many edges.

The conditions (CK1) and (CK2) are called the Cuntz-Krieger relations. Note that the condition of row-finiteness is needed in order to define the equation (CK2).

Finite dimensional Leavitt path algebras are studied in [2] by Abrams, Aranda Pino and Siles Molina. The authors characterize the structure theorems for finite dimensional Leavitt path algebras. Their results are summarized in the following proposition:

- 2.1. Proposition.**
- (1) *The Leavitt path algebra  $L_K(E)$  is a finite-dimensional  $K$ -algebra if and only if  $E$  is a finite and acyclic graph.*
  - (2) *If  $A = \bigoplus_{i=1}^s M_{n_i}(K)$ , then  $A \cong L_K(E)$  for a graph  $E$  having  $s$  connected components each of which is an oriented line graph with  $n_i$  vertices,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, s$ .*
  - (3) *A finite dimensional  $K$ -algebra  $A$  arises as a  $L_K(E)$  for a graph  $E$  if and only if  $A = \bigoplus_{i=1}^s M_{n_i}(K)$ .*
  - (4) *If  $A = \bigoplus_{i=1}^s M_{n_i}(K)$  and  $A \cong L_K(E)$  for a finite, acyclic graph  $E$ , then the number of sinks of  $E$  is equal to  $s$ , and each sink  $v_i$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, s$ ) has  $n(v_i) = n_i$  with a suitable indexing of the sinks.*

### 3. Truncated Trees

For a finite dimensional Leavitt path algebra  $L_K(E)$  of a graph  $E$ , we construct a distinguished graph  $F$  having the Leavitt path algebra isomorphic to  $L_K(E)$  as follows:

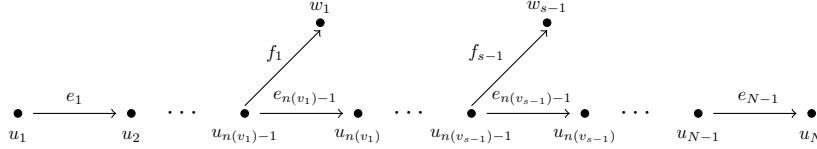
**3.1. Theorem.** *Let  $E$  be a finite, acyclic graph with no isolated vertices. Let  $s = |S(E)|$  where  $S(E)$  is the set of sinks of  $E$  and  $N = \max\{n(v) \mid v \in S(E)\}$ . Then there exists a unique (up to isomorphism) tree  $F$  with exactly one source and  $s + N - 1$  vertices such that  $L_K(E) \cong L_K(F)$ .*

*Proof.* Let the sinks  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_s$  of  $E$  be indexed such that

$$2 \leq n(v_1) \leq n(v_2) \leq \dots \leq n(v_s) = N.$$

Define a graph  $F = (F^0, F^1, r, s)$  as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} F^0 &= \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_N, w_1, w_2, \dots, w_{s-1}\} \\ F^1 &= \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_{N-1}, f_1, f_2, \dots, f_{s-1}\} \\ s(e_i) &= u_i \quad \text{and} \quad r(e_i) = u_{i+1} \quad i = 1, \dots, N-1 \\ s(f_i) &= u_{n(v_i)-1} \quad \text{and} \quad r(f_i) = w_i \quad i = 1, \dots, s-1. \end{aligned}$$



Clearly,  $F$  is a directed tree with unique source  $u_1$  and  $s + N - 1$  vertices. The graph  $F$  has exactly  $s$  sinks, namely  $u_N, w_1, w_2, \dots, w_{s-1}$  with  $n(u_N) = N$ ,  $n(w_i) = n(v_i)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, s - 1$ . Therefore,  $L_K(E) \cong L_K(F)$  by Proposition 2.1.

For the uniqueness part, take a tree  $T$  with exactly one source and  $s + N - 1$  vertices such that  $L_K(E) \cong L_K(T)$ . Now  $N = \max\{n(v) \mid v \in S(E)\}$  is equal to the square root of the maximum of the  $K$ -dimensions of the minimal ideals of  $L_K(E)$  and also of  $L_K(T)$ . So there exists a sink  $v$  in  $T$  with  $|\{\mu_i \in T^* \mid r(\mu_i) = v\}| = N$ . Since, any vertex in  $T$  is connected to the unique source by a uniquely determined path, the unique path joining  $v$  to the source must contain exactly  $N$  vertices, say  $a_1, \dots, a_{N-1}, v$  where  $a_1$  is the unique source and the length of the path joining  $a_k$  to  $a_1$  being equal to  $k - 1$  for any  $k = 1, 2, \dots, N - 1$ . As  $L_K(E) = \bigoplus_{i=1}^s M_{n_i}(K)$  with  $s$  summands, all the remaining  $s - 1$  vertices, say  $b_1, \dots, b_{s-1}$ , must be sinks by Proposition 2.1(4). For any vertex  $a$  different from the unique source, clearly  $n(a) > 1$ . Also, there exists an edge  $g_i$  with  $r(g_i) = b_i$  for each  $i = 1, \dots, s - 1$ . Since  $s(g_i)$  is not a sink, it follows that  $s(g_i) \in \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{N-1}\}$ , more precisely  $s(g_i) = a_{n(b_i)-1}$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, s - 1$ . Thus  $T$  is isomorphic to  $F$ .  $\square$

We name the graph  $F$  constructed in Theorem 3.1 as the *truncated tree associated with  $E$* .

**3.2. Proposition.** *With the above definition of  $F$ , there is no tree  $T$  with  $|T^0| < |F^0|$  such that  $L_K(T) \cong L_K(F)$ .*

*Proof.* Notice that since  $T$  is a tree, any vertex contributing to a sink represents a unique path ending at that sink.

Assume on the contrary there exists a tree  $T$  with  $n$  vertices and  $L_K(T) \cong A = \bigoplus_{i=1}^s M_{n_i}(K)$  such that  $n < s + N - 1$ . Since  $N$  is the maximum of  $n_i$ 's there exists a sink  $v$  with  $n(v) = N$ . But in  $T$  the number  $n - s$  of vertices which are not sinks is less than  $N - 1$ . Hence the maximum contribution to any sink can be at most  $n - s + 1$  which is strictly less than  $N$ . This is the desired contradiction.  $\square$

Remark that the above proposition does not state that it is impossible to find a graph  $G$  with smaller number of vertices having  $L_K(G)$  isomorphic to  $L_K(E)$ . The next example illustrates this point.

**3.3. Example.** Consider the graphs  $G$  and  $F$ .

$$\text{Both } L_K(G) \cong M_3(K) \cong L_K(F) \text{ and } |G^0| = 2 \text{ where as } |F^0| = 3.$$



Given any graphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ ,  $L_K(G_1) \cong L_K(G_2)$  does not necessarily imply  $G_1 \cong G_2$ . However, for truncated trees  $F_1, F_2$  we have  $F_1 \cong F_2$  if and only if  $L_K(F_1) \cong L_K(F_2)$ . So there is a one-to-one correspondence between the Leavitt path algebras and the truncated trees.

Consider a finite dimensional Leavitt path algebra  $A = \bigoplus_{i=1}^s M_{n_i}(K)$  with  $2 \leq n_1 \leq n_2 \leq \dots \leq n_s = N$ . Here, the number  $s$  is the number of minimal ideals of  $A$  and  $N^2$  is the maximum of the dimensions of the minimal ideals. Therefore, the integer  $s + N - 1$  is an algebraic invariant of  $A$  which is denoted by  $\kappa(A)$ . Notice that the number of isomorphism classes of finite dimensional Leavitt path algebras  $A$ , with the invariant  $\kappa(A) > 1$ , having no ideals isomorphic to  $K$  is equal to the number of distinct truncated trees with  $\kappa(A)$  vertices by the previous paragraph. The next proposition computes this number.

**3.4. Proposition.** *The number of distinct truncated trees with  $m$  vertices is  $2^{m-2}$ .*

*Proof.* In a truncated tree,  $n(v_1) \neq n(v_2)$  for any two distinct non-sinks  $v_1$  and  $v_2$ . For every sink  $v$ , there is a unique non-sink  $w$  so that there exists an edge  $e$  with  $s(e) = w$  and  $r(e) = v$ . Namely the non-sink  $w$  is with  $n(w) = n(v) - 1$ . This  $w$  is denoted by  $b(v)$ .

Now, define  $d(u) = |\{v : n(v) \leq n(u)\}|$  for any  $u \in E^0$ . Clearly,  $d(u)$  is equal to the sum of  $n(u)$  and the number of sinks  $v$  with  $n(b(v)) < n(u)$  for any  $u \in E^0$ . Assign an  $m$ -tuple  $\alpha(E) = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_m) \in \{0, 1\}^m$  to a truncated tree  $E$  with  $m$  vertices by letting  $\alpha_j = 1$  if and only if  $j = d(v)$  for some vertex  $v$  which is not a sink. Clearly, there is just one vertex  $v$  with  $n(v) = 1$ , namely the unique source of  $E$  and that vertex is not a sink, so  $\alpha_1 = 1$ . Since there cannot be any non-sink  $v$  with  $d(v) = m$ , it follows that  $\alpha_m = 0$ .

Conversely, for  $\beta = (\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_m) \in \{0, 1\}^m$  with  $\beta_1 = 1$  and  $\beta_m = 0$  there exists a unique truncated tree  $E$  with  $m$  vertices such that  $\alpha(E) = \beta$ : If  $\beta_i = 1$ , then assign a non-sink  $v$  to  $E$  with  $n(v) = |\{k : 1 \leq k < i \text{ and } \beta_k = 1\}|$ . If  $\beta_i = 0$  and  $j = |\{k : 1 \leq k < i \text{ and } \beta_k = 1\}|$  then construct a sink which is joined to the non-sink  $v$  with  $n(v) = j$ . Clearly, the graph  $E$  is a truncated tree with  $m$  vertices and  $\alpha(E) = \beta$ .

Hence the number of distinct truncated trees with  $m$  vertices is equal to  $2^{m-2}$  which is the number of all elements of  $\{0, 1\}^m$  with the first component 1 and the last component 0.  $\square$

Hence, we have the following corollary.

**3.5. Corollary.** *Given  $n \geq 2$ , the number of isomorphism classes of finite dimensional Leavitt path algebras  $A$  with  $\kappa(A) = n$  and which do not have any ideals isomorphic to  $K$  is  $2^{n-2}$ .*

#### 4. Bounds on the $K$ -Dimension of finite dimensional Leavitt Path Algebras

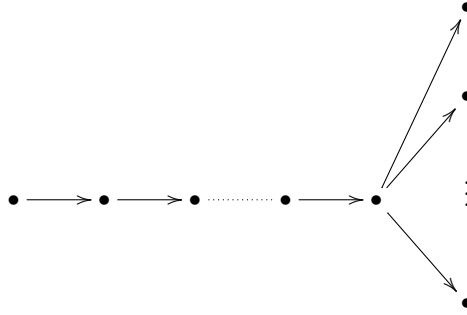
For a tree  $F$  with  $m$  vertices, the  $K$ -dimension of  $L_K(F)$  is not uniquely determined by the number of vertices only. However, we can compute the maximum and the minimum  $K$ -dimensions of  $L_K(F)$  where  $F$  ranges over all possible trees with  $m$  vertices.

**4.1. Lemma.** *The maximum  $K$ -dimension of  $L_K(E)$  where  $E$  ranges over all possible trees with  $m$  vertices and  $s$  sinks is attained at a tree in which  $n(v) = m - s + 1$  for each sink  $v$ . In this case, the value of the dimension is  $s(m - s + 1)^2$ .*

*Proof.* Assume  $E$  is a tree with  $m$  vertices. Then  $L_K(E) \cong \bigoplus_{i=1}^s M_{n_i}(K)$ , by Proposition 2.1 (3) where  $s$  is the number of sinks in  $E$  and  $n_i \leq m - s + 1$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, s$ . Hence

$$\dim L_K(E) = \sum_{i=1}^s n_i^2 \leq s(m - s + 1)^2.$$

Notice that there exists a tree  $E$  as sketched below



with  $m$  vertices and  $s$  sinks such that  $\dim L_K(E) = s(m - s + 1)^2$ . □

**4.2. Theorem.** *The maximum  $K$ -dimension of  $L_K(E)$  where  $E$  ranges over all possible trees with  $m$  vertices is given by  $f(m)$  where*

$$f(m) = \begin{cases} \frac{m(2m+3)^2}{27} & \text{if } m \equiv 0 \pmod{3} \\ \frac{1}{27}(m+2)(2m+1)^2 & \text{if } m \equiv 1 \pmod{3} \\ \frac{4}{27}(m+1)^3 & \text{if } m \equiv 2 \pmod{3} \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* Assume  $E$  is a tree with  $m$  vertices. Then  $L_K(E) \cong \bigoplus_{i=1}^s M_{n_i}$  where  $s$  is the number of sinks in  $E$ . Now, to find the maximum dimension of  $L_K(E)$ , determine the maximum value of the function  $f(s) = s(m - s + 1)^2$  for  $s = 1, 2, \dots, m - 1$ . Extending the domain of  $f(s)$  to real numbers  $1 \leq s \leq m - 1$   $f$  becomes a continuous function, hence its maximum value can be computed.

$$f(s) = s(m - s + 1)^2 \Rightarrow \frac{d}{ds} (s(m - s + 1)^2) = (m - 3s + 1)(m - s + 1)$$

Then  $s = \frac{m+1}{3}$  is the only critical point in the interval  $[1, m-1]$  and since  $\frac{d^2 f}{ds^2}(\frac{m+1}{3}) < 0$ , it is a local maximum. In particular  $f$  is increasing on the interval  $\left[1, \frac{m+1}{3}\right]$  and decreasing on  $\left[\frac{m+1}{3}, m-1\right]$ . There are three cases:

**Case 1:**  $m \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ . In this case  $s = \frac{m+1}{3}$  is an integer and maximum  $K$ -dimension of  $L_K(E)$  is  $f\left(\frac{m+1}{3}\right) = \frac{4}{27}(m+1)^3$  and  $n_i = \frac{2(m+1)}{3}$ , for each  $i = 1, 2, \dots, s$ .

**Case 2:**  $m \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ . Then:  $\frac{m}{3} = t < t + \frac{1}{3} = s < t + 1$  and

$$f\left(\frac{m}{3}\right) = \frac{(2m+3)^2 m}{27} = \alpha_1 \text{ and } f\left(\frac{m}{3} + 1\right) = \frac{4m^2(m+3)}{27} = \alpha_2.$$

Note that,  $\alpha_1 > \alpha_2$ . So  $\alpha_1$  is maximum  $K$ -dimension of  $L_K(E)$  and  $n_i = \frac{2}{3}m + 1$ , for each  $i = 1, 2, \dots, s$ .

**Case 3:**  $m \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ . Then  $\frac{m-1}{3} = t < t + \frac{2}{3} = s < t + 1$  and

$$f\left(\frac{m-1}{3}\right) = \frac{4}{27}(m+2)^2(m-1) = \beta_1$$

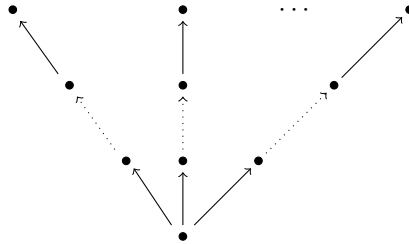
and

$$f\left(\frac{m+2}{3}\right) = \frac{1}{27}(2m+1)^2(m+2) = \beta_2.$$

In this case  $\beta_2 > \beta_1$  and so  $\beta_2$  gives the maximum  $K$ -dimension of  $L_K(E)$  and  $n_i = \frac{2m+1}{3}$ , for each  $i = 1, 2, \dots, s$ .  $\square$

**4.3. Theorem.** *The minimum  $K$ -dimension of  $L_K(E)$  where  $E$  ranges over all possible trees with  $m$  vertices and  $s$  sinks is equal to  $r(q+2)^2 + (s-r)(q+1)^2$ , where  $m-1 = qs+r$ ,  $0 \leq r < s$ .*

*Proof.* We call a graph a *bunch tree* if it is obtained by identifying the unique sources of the finitely many disjoint oriented finite line graphs as seen in the figure.



Let  $\mathcal{E}(m, s)$  be the set of all bunch trees with  $m$  vertices and  $s$  sinks. Every element of  $\mathcal{E}(m, s)$  can be uniquely represented by an  $s$ -tuple  $(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_s)$  where each  $t_i$  is the

number of vertices different from the source contributing to the  $i^{\text{th}}$  sink, with  $1 \leq t_1 \leq t_2 \leq \dots \leq t_s$  and  $t_1 + t_2 + \dots + t_s = m - 1$ .

Let  $E \in \mathcal{E}(m, s)$  with  $t_s - t_1 \leq 1$ . This  $E$  is represented by the  $s$ -tuple  $(q, \dots, q, q + 1, \dots, q + 1)$  where  $m - 1 = sq + r$ ,  $0 \leq r < s$ .

Now, claim that the dimension of  $E$  is the minimum of the set

$$\{\dim L_K(F) : F \text{ tree with } s \text{ sinks and } m \text{ vertices}\}.$$

If we represent  $U \in \mathcal{E}(m, s)$  by the  $s$ -tuple  $(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_s)$  then  $E \neq U$  implies that  $u_s - u_1 \geq 2$ .

Consider the  $s$ -tuple  $(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_s)$  where  $(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_s)$  is obtained from  $(u_1 + 1, u_2, \dots, u_{s-1}, u_s - 1)$  by reordering the components in increasing order.

In this case, the dimension  $d_U$  of  $U$  is

$$d_U = (u_1 + 1)^2 + \dots + (u_s + 1)^2.$$

Similarly, the dimension  $d_T$  of the bunch graph  $T$  represented by the  $s$ -tuple  $(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_s)$ , is

$$d_T = (t_1 + 1)^2 + \dots + (t_s + 1)^2 = (u_1 + 2)^2 + \dots + (u_{s-1} + 1)^2 + u_s^2.$$

Hence

$$d_U - d_T = 2(u_s - u_1) - 2 > 0.$$

Repeating this process sufficiently many times, the process has to end at the exceptional bunch tree  $E$  showing that its dimension is the smallest among the dimensions of all elements of  $\mathcal{E}(m, s)$ .

Now let  $F$  be an arbitrary tree with  $m$  vertices and  $s$  sinks. As above assign to  $F$  the  $s$ -tuple  $(n_1, n_2, \dots, n_s)$  with  $n_i = n(v_i) - 1$  where the sinks  $v_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, s$  are indexed in such a way that  $n_i \leq n_{i+1}$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, s - 1$ . Observe that  $n_1 + n_2 + \dots + n_s \geq m - 1$ . Let  $\beta = \sum_{i=1}^s n_i - (m - 1)$ . Since  $s \leq m - 1$ ,  $\beta \leq \sum_{i=1}^s (n_i - 1)$ . Either  $n_1 - 1 \geq \beta$  or there exists a unique  $k \in \{2, \dots, s\}$  such that  $\sum_{i=1}^{k-1} (n_i - 1) < \beta \leq \sum_{i=1}^k (n_i - 1)$ . If  $n_1 - 1 \geq \beta$ , then let

$$m_i = \begin{cases} n_1 - \beta & , \quad i = 1 \\ n_i & , \quad i > 1 \end{cases}.$$

Otherwise, let

$$m_i = \begin{cases} 1 & , \quad i \leq k - 1 \\ n_k - \left( \beta - \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} (n_i - 1) \right) & , \quad i = k \\ n_i & , \quad i \geq k + 1 \end{cases}.$$

In both cases, the  $s$ -tuple  $(m_1, m_2, \dots, m_s)$  that satisfies  $1 \leq m_i \leq n_i$ ,  $m_1 \leq m_2 \leq \dots \leq m_s$  and  $m_1 + m_2 + \dots + m_s = m - 1$  is obtained. So, there exists a bunch tree  $M$  namely the one corresponding uniquely to  $(m_1, m_2, \dots, m_s)$  which has dimension  $d_M \leq d_F$ . This implies that  $d_F \geq d_E$ .

Hence the result follows.  $\square$

**4.4. Lemma.** *The minimum  $K$ -dimension of  $L_K(E)$  where  $E$  ranges over all possible trees with  $m$  vertices occurs when the number of sinks is  $m - 1$  and is equal to  $4(m - 1)$ .*

*Proof.* By the previous theorem observe that

$$\dim L_K(E) \geq r(q + 2)^2 + (s - r)(q + 1)^2$$

where  $m - 1 = qs + r$ ,  $0 \leq r < s$ . Then

$$r(q + 2)^2 + (s - r)(q + 1)^2 = (m - 1)(q + 2) + qr + r + s.$$

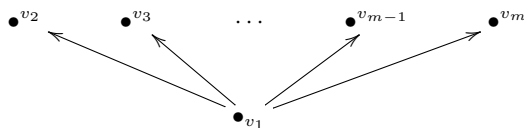


Thus

$$(m-1)(q+2) + qr + r + s - 4(m-1) = (m-1)(q-2) + qr + r + s \geq 0 \text{ if } q \geq 2.$$

If  $q = 1$ , then  $-(m-1) + 2r + s = -(m-1) + r + (m-1) = r \geq 0$ . Hence  $\dim L_K(E) \geq 4(m-1)$ .

Notice that there exists a truncated tree  $E$  with  $m$  vertices and  $\dim L_K(E) = 4(m-1)$  as sketched below :



□

## 5. Line Graphs

In [2], the Proposition 5.7 shows that a semisimple finite dimensional algebra  $A = \bigoplus_{i=1}^s M_{n_i}(K)$  over the field  $K$  can be described as a Leavitt path algebra  $L_K(E)$  defined by a line graph  $E$ , if and only if  $A$  has no ideals of  $K$ -dimension 1 and the number of minimal ideals of  $A$  of  $K$ -dimension  $2^2$  is at most 2. On the other hand, if  $A \cong L_K(E)$  for some  $m$ -line graph  $E$  then  $m-1 = \sum_{i=1}^s (n_i - 1)$ , that is,  $m$  is an algebraic invariant of  $A$ .

Therefore the following proposition answers a reasonable question.

**5.1. Proposition.** *The number  $A_m$  of isomorphism classes of Leavitt path algebras defined by line graphs having exactly  $m$  vertices is*

$$A_m = P(m-1) - P(m-4)$$

where  $P(t)$  is the number of partitions of the natural number  $t$ .

*Proof.* Any  $m$ -line graph has  $m-1$  edges. In a line graph, for any edge  $e$  there exists a unique sink  $v$  so that there exists a path from  $s(e)$  to  $v$ . In this case we say that  $e$  is directed towards  $v$ . The number of edges directed towards  $v$  is clearly equal to  $n(v) - 1$ . Let  $E$  and  $F$  be two  $m$ -line graphs. Then  $L_K(E) \cong L_K(F)$  if and only if there exists a bijection  $\phi : S(E) \rightarrow S(F)$  such that for each  $v$  in  $S(E)$ ,  $n(v) = n(\phi(v))$ . Therefore the number of isomorphism classes of Leavitt path algebras determined by  $m$ -line graphs is the number of partitions of  $m-1$  edges in which the number of parts having exactly one edge is at most two. Since the number of partitions of  $k$  objects having at least three parts each of which containing exactly one element is  $P(k-3)$ , the result  $A_m = P(m-1) - P(m-4)$  follows. □

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