

ON SOME IDEAL STRUCTURE OF LEAVITT PATH ALGEBRAS WITH COEFFICIENTS IN INTEGRAL DOMAINS

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ABSTRACT. In this paper, we present results concerning the structure of the ideals in the Leavitt path algebra of a (countable) directed graph with coefficients in an integral domain, such as, describing the set of generators for an ideal; the necessary and sufficient conditions for an ideal to be prime; the necessary and sufficient conditions for a Leavitt path algebra to be simple. Besides, some other interesting properties of ideal structure in a Leavitt path algebra are also mentioned.

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1. Introduction

The Leavitt path algebras $L_R(E)$ of the (directed) graph E with coefficients in a unital commutative ring R was introduced in 2011 by M. Tomforde [10]. In [10] the author defined basic ideals, and characterized graded basic ideals of $L_R(E)$ by the saturated hereditary subsets of vertices in E in the case that E is a row-finite graph. For non-row finite graphs, the set of admissible pairs in E are considered instead of saturated hereditary subsets of E^0 . However, in this case, basic ideals of $L_R(E)$ are too complicated. In 2015, H. Larki [6] overcame the above complexity by introducing a new definition of basic ideals. In the case when E is row-finite, this definition is equivalent to that in [10].

In this paper, based in the above results and the definition of basic ideals due to H. Larki in [6] and the description of a set of generators for an ideal, the necessary and sufficient conditions for the primeness of ideals, the existence of maximal ideals in Leavitt path algebra with field coefficients (see [2,3,8]), we describe the set of generators for an ideal, the necessary and sufficient conditions for an ideal to be

prime; the necessary and sufficient conditions for $L_R(E)$ to be simple. Besides, some other interesting properties of ideal structure on $L_R(E)$ are also mentioned.

The paper is organized as follows. We begin by Section 2 to provide some basic facts about Leavitt path algebras. Most of our definitions in this section are from [6,10]. For a countable directed graph E and a unital commutative ring R , an R -algebra $L_R(E)$ is associated. These algebras are defined as the definition of graph C^* -algebras $C^*(E)$, and they have natural $\mathbb{Z}$ -grading. In Section 3, we study the structure of generators for an ideal of $L_R(E)$ by replacing some results of K.M. Rangaswamy in [9] on a field with either a unital commutative ring or an integral domain. In Section 4, based on the results of K.M. Rangaswamy in [8] and H. Larki in [6], we give the necessary and sufficient conditions for the primeness of a (graded/non-graded) basic ideal in $L_R(E)$. In Section 5, based on the results of S. Esin and M. Kanuni Er in [3], the necessary and sufficient conditions of the existence of maximal basic ideal of $L_R(E)$ will be discussed.

2. Preliminaries and notation

Throughout this paper, a ring means a unital commutative ring and a graph means a countable directed graph; all graded rings and modules are understood to be $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded.

A (directed) graph $E = (E^0, E^1, r, s)$ consists of a set E^0 of vertices, a set E^1 of edges, a source function $s : E^1 \rightarrow E^0$, and a range function $r : E^1 \rightarrow E^0$. We say that E is *countable* if both E^0 and E^1 are countable. A vertex $v \in E^0$ is called a *sink* if $s^{-1}(v) = \emptyset$, and an *infinite emitter* if $|s^{-1}(v)| = \infty$. A vertex v which is either a sink or an infinite emitter called a *singular vertex*, a vertex v which is not a singular vertex called a *regular vertex*. If $s^{-1}(v)$ is a finite set for every $v \in E^0$, then E is called *row-finite*.

If $e_1, \dots, e_n$ are edges in E such that $r(e_i) = s(e_{i+1})$ for $1 \leq i \leq n-1$, then $p = e_1 \dots e_n$ is called a *path* of length $|p| = n$ with source $s(p) = s(e_1)$ and range $r(p) = r(e_n)$. Note that we consider the vertices in E^0 to be paths of length zero. Set of all finite paths in E is denoted by $\text{Path}(E)$.

An edge e is called an *exit* for a path $p = e_1 \dots e_n$ if there exists $1 \leq i \leq n$ such that $e \neq e_i$ and $s(e) = s(e_i)$. If p is a path such that $p \neq v$ and $s(p) = r(p) = v$, then p is called a *closed path* based at v . If $p = e_1 \dots e_n$ is a closed path such that $s(e_i) \neq s(e_j)$ for every $i \neq j$, then p is called a *cycle*. A graph without any cycles is called *acyclic*.

Two cycles c and c' are called to be *equivalent*, denoted by $c \sim c'$, if c arises from c' by a cyclic permutation of the vertices and edges of c' , that means there are paths p, q in $\text{Path}(E)$ such that $c = pq$ and $c' = qp$.

We say that a graph E satisfies *Condition (L)* if every cycle in E has an exit, a graph E satisfies *Condition (K)* if every vertex that is the base of a closed path c is also the base of another closed path c' different from c . A cycle c in a graph E is called a *cycle without (K)* if no vertex on c is the base of another cycle c' different from c . We write $u \geq v$ if there exists a path p from vertex u to a vertex v (i.e., $s(p) = u, r(p) = v$). For any vertex v , we define $T(v) := \{w \in E^0 : v \geq w\}$ and $M(v) := \{w \in E^0 : w \geq v\}$. A subset M of E^0 is called *downward directed* if it satisfies the following (MT-3) property:

(MT-3) for any $u, v \in M$, there exists $w \in M$ such that $u \geq w$ and $v \geq w$.

A subset H of E^0 is called *hereditary* if, whenever $v \in H$ and $w \in E^0$ satisfy $v \geq w$, then $w \in H$; a subset H of E^0 is called *saturated* if, for any regular vertex $v \in E^0$, $r(s^{-1}(v)) \subseteq H$ implies $v \in H$. The set of all hereditary saturated subsets of E^0 is denoted by $\mathcal{H}_E$.

Let $(E^1)^*$ denote the set of formal symbols $\{e^* : e \in E^1\}$. Then, the elements of E^1 are called *read edges*, and the elements of $(E^1)^*$ are called *ghost edges*. For a path $p = e_1 \dots e_n \in \text{Path}(E)$, we define the ghost path of p by $p^* := e_n^* \dots e_1^*$. Note that $v^* = v$ for all $v \in E^0$.

Let E be a graph and R a ring. A Leavitt E -family is a set $\{v, e, e^* : v \in E^0, e \in E^1\} \subseteq R$ such that the following conditions are satisfied:

- (A1) $uv = \delta_{uv}u$ for all $u, v \in E^0$;
- (A2) $s(e)e = er(e) = e$ and $r(e)e^* = e^*s(e) = e^*$ for all $e \in E^1$;
- (CK1) $e^*f = \delta_{ef}r(e)$ for all $e, f \in E^1$;
- (CK2) $v = \sum_{e \in s^{-1}(v)} ee^*$ for every regular vertex $v \in E^0$.

The *Leavitt path algebra of E with coefficients in R* , denoted by $L_R(E)$, is defined as the universal R -algebra generated by a Leavitt E -family.

The universal property of $L_R(E)$ means that if A is an R -algebra and $\{a_v, b_e, b_{e^*} : v \in E^0, e \in E^1\}$ is a Leavitt E -family in A , then there exists an R -algebra homomorphism $\phi : L_R(E) \rightarrow A$ such that $\phi(v) = a_v, \phi(e) = b_e, \phi(e^*) = b_{e^*}$ for all $v \in E^0$ and $e \in E^1$.

By [10, Proposition 3.4], we see that

$$L_R(E) = \text{span}_R\{pq^* : p, q \in \text{Path}(E), r(p) = r(q)\}$$

and $\lambda v \neq 0$ for all $v \in E^0$ and $\lambda \in R \setminus \{0\}$. This implies that $\lambda pq^* \neq 0$ for all $\lambda \in R \setminus \{0\}$ and $p, q \in \text{Path}(E)$ with $r(p) = r(q)$.

By [10, Proposition 4.7], every Leavitt path algebra $L_R(E)$ is a $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded algebra by setting

$$L_R(E)_n := \left\{ \sum_i \lambda_i p_i q_i^* : \lambda_i \in R; p_i, q_i \in \text{Path}(E), \text{ and } |p_i| - |q_i| = n \text{ for all } i \right\}.$$

An ideal I of $L_R(E)$ is said to be a *graded ideal* if $I = \bigoplus_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} (I \cap L_R(E)_n)$.

3. Generators of ideals of $L_R(E)$

Definition 3.1. [6, Definition 3.5] Let E be a graph, R a unital commutative ring, and I an ideal of $L_R(E)$.

- i) The ideal I is called *basic* if $\lambda x \in I$ implies $x \in I$, where $\lambda \in R \setminus \{0\}$ and either $x \in E^0$ or x is of the form $v - \sum_{i=1}^n e_i e_i^*$ for $v \in E^0$ and $e_i \in s^{-1}(v)$, ($1 \leq i \leq n$).
- ii) The basic ideal I is called a *maximal basic ideal* of $L_R(E)$ if there are no other basic ideals contained between I and $L_R(E)$.

Note that when E is a row-finite graph, the above definition of basic ideal is equivalent to [10, Definition 7.2] (This is obtained by comparing [6, Theorem 3.10 (4)] with [10, Theorem 7.9 (1)]). Also, suppose that I is a basic ideal of a Leavitt path algebra $L_R(E)$, and let $H = I \cap E^0$. If $\lambda v^H \in I$ for some $v \in B_H$ and $\lambda \in R \setminus \{0\}$, then we have $v^H \in I$.

The generating set for any ideal I of a Leavitt path algebra with coefficients in a field was described in [2, Theorem 2.1]. In the case of coefficients in a unital commutative ring, we have the following result. The idea of the proof is the same as in the proof of [2, Theorem 2.1]. However, we also restate it in a more logical way.

Theorem 3.2. *Let E be a countable graph, R a unital commutative ring, and I a nonzero basic ideal of $L_R(E)$. Then, there exists a generating set for I consisting of elements of the form*

$$\left(\lambda_1 v + \sum_{i=2}^n \lambda_i c^{r_i} \right) \left(v - \sum_{e \in S} e e^* \right),$$

where $v \in E^0$, $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n \in R$, $r_1, \dots, r_n$ are positive integers, S is a finite set (possibly empty), $S \subsetneq s^{-1}(v)$, $\lambda_1 \neq 0$, and, whenever $\lambda_i \neq 0$ for some $2 \leq i \leq n$, c is the unique cycle based at v .

Proof. Put $v_S := v - \sum_{e \in S} e e^*$ and let J the ideal of $L_R(E)$ generated by all the elements of I which have the form described in the statement of the theorem, we show that $I = J$.

It is clear that $J \subseteq I$. Conversely, for any $u \in I \cap E^0$, by choosing $\lambda_1 = 1$, $\lambda_i = 0$ and $S = \emptyset$, we get $u \in J$. It follows that $I \cap E^0 \subseteq J$.

Case 1: There exists an element x of $I \setminus J$ of the form

$$x = (\lambda_1 p_1 + \cdots + \lambda_n p_n) \cdot v_S,$$

where $p_1, \dots, p_n \in \text{Path}(E)$, $0 \leq l(p_1) \leq \dots \leq l(p_n)$ and n is minimal. Among all such x , select one for which $(l(p_1), \dots, l(p_n))$ is smallest in the lexicographic order.

Then, $\lambda_i \neq 0$ and $r(p_i) = v$ for all i , $1 \leq i \leq n$. Let $s(x) = \{s(p_i) \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\}$. Then, $wx \in I$ for any $w \in s(x)$. But $x = \sum_{w \in s(x)} wx$ and $x \notin J$, it gives $wx \notin J$ for some $w \in s(x)$. By replacing x by wx if necessary, we may assume that $s(p_i) = w$ for all i .

Subcase 1.1: $l(p_1) > 0$.

Let $p_i = f_i \cdot q_i$, where $f_i \in E^1$ and $q_i \in \text{Path}(E)$, then

$$f_i^* x = (\lambda_1 f_i q_1 + \lambda_2 f_i^* p_2 + \cdots + \lambda_n f_i^* p_n) v_S.$$

Note that $f_i^* x \in I$ and $f_i^* p_j$ is either 0 or belongs to $\text{Path}(E)$, so that $f_i^* x \in J$ by the minimality of the lengths of p_i . It follows that $f_i f_i^* x \in J$ for any $1 \leq i \leq n$. Therefore

$$x = \sum_{f_i \in A} f_i f_i^* x \in J, \text{ where } A = \{f_i \mid f_i^* p_i \neq 0, 1 \leq i \leq n\},$$

a contradiction.

Subcase 1.2: $l(p_1) = 0$ and there exists $f \in S$ such that $f^* p_i \neq 0$ for some $2 \leq i \leq n$.

By $l(p_1) = 0$, we get $p_1 = w = v$ and $l(p_i) > 0$ for $2 \leq i \leq n$. Since $f \in S$, we get $ff^* \cdot v_S = 0$, so we have

$$ff^* x = ff^* \cdot v_S + (\lambda_2 ff^* p_2 + \cdots + \lambda_n ff^* p_n) \cdot v_S = (\lambda_2 ff^* p_2 + \cdots + \lambda_n ff^* p_n) \cdot v_S.$$

Note that $ff^* x \in I$ and $ff^* p_i$ is either 0 or belongs to $\text{Path}(E)$, so that $ff^* x \in J$ by the minimality of n . Furthermore, $f^* p_i \neq 0$ for some $2 \leq i \leq n$ yields that $ff^* p_i = p_i$. Therefore

$$x - ff^* x = (\lambda_1 v + \sum_{i; f^* p_i = 0} \lambda_i p_i) \cdot v_S \in J,$$

by the minimality of n . So we have $x = ff^* x + (x - ff^* x) \in J$, a contradiction.

Subcase 1.3: $l(p_1) = 0$, $e^* p_i = 0$ for all $e \in S$ and $2 \leq i \leq n$.

Note that $w = p_1 = v$, and $x \notin J$, so we have $n \geq 2$ and there are two closed simple path $c \neq c'$ based at v such that $p_i = c^{m_i}.c'.q_i$ for some $q_i \in \text{Path}(E)$ and for some i . Pick an integer m for which $l(c^m) > l(p_n)$ and let $y := (c^m)^*.x.c^m$, we get $y \in I$; and by $e^*c = 0$ for all $e \in S$, this yields that $v_S.c = c$. Therefore

$$y = \lambda_1 v + \lambda_2 (c^m)^*.p_2.c^m + \cdots + (c^m)^*.p_n.c^m \in R[c],$$

where $R[t]$ is the polynomial ring over commutative ring R . By $c \neq c'$ and $y \in I$, we get $\lambda_1 v = (c')^*.y.c' \in I$. Since I is a basic ideal of $L_R(E)$, it follows that $v \in I$. But $I \cap E^0 \subseteq J$, so $v \in J$, so that $x = vx \in J$, a contradiction.

Case 2: There exists an element x of $I \setminus J$ of the form

$$x = (\lambda_1 p_1 q_1^* + \cdots + \lambda_n p_n q_n^*).v_S,$$

where $p_1, q_1, \dots, p_n, q_n \in \text{Path}(E)$, $0 \leq l(q_1) \leq \dots \leq l(q_n)$ and n is minimal. Among all such x , select one for which $(l(q_1), \dots, l(q_n))$ is smallest in the lexicographic order.

Then, $\lambda_i \neq 0$ for all i , $1 \leq i \leq n$; $s(p_1) = \dots = s(p_n)$; $s(q_1) = \dots = s(q_n) = v$.

Subcase 2.1: $l(q_i) \geq 1$ for all i , $1 \leq i \leq n$.

Then, we can write $q_i = e_i q'_i$, where $e_i \in E^1$, $q'_i \in \text{Path}(E)$.

If there exists an element $e_i \in S$, then

$$q_i^*.v_S = q'_i e_i^*.v_S = q'_i (e_i^* - e_i) = 0,$$

so we can remove $\lambda_i p_i q_i^*$ in the expression of x , we get a contradiction with the minimality of n . Therefore $e_i \notin S$ for all i , $1 \leq i \leq n$.

For any $f \in s^{-1}(v) \setminus S$, we have $v_S.f = f$. Therefore

$$xf = (\lambda_1 p_1 q_1^* + \cdots + \lambda_n p_n q_n^*)f = \sum_{e_i=f} \lambda_i p_i q_i^*.$$

But $xf \in I$, $f = f.r(f) = f\left(r(f) - \sum_{e \in \emptyset} ee^*\right)$, and the above expression of xf is equal to zero or is the form of $l(q'_i) < l(q_i)$, so we have $xf \in J$. It follows that $xf f^* \in J$ for all $f \in s^{-1}(v) \setminus S$.

On the other hand, for any $f \in S$,

$$v_S.f f^* = f f^* - f f^* = 0,$$

so $xf f^* = 0$. Then

$$x = xv = x\left(\sum_{f \in S} f f^* + \sum_{f \in s^{-1}(v) \setminus S} f f^*\right) = \sum_{f \in s^{-1}(v) \setminus S} x f f^* \in F,$$

a contradiction.

Subcase 2.2: $l(q_i) = 0$ for some i , $1 \leq i \leq n$.

Suppose that $l(q_1) = \dots = l(q_k) = 0$ and $l(q_i) > 0$ for all $i > k$. Then,

$$x = (\lambda_1 p_1 + \dots + \lambda_k p_k + \lambda_{k+1} p_{k+1} q_{k+1}^* + \dots + \lambda_n p_n q_n^*) \cdot v_S.$$

We write $q_i = e_i q'_i$ for $k+1 \leq i \leq n$ and let $T = \{e_{k+1}, \dots, e_n\}$. Then, $T \subseteq s^{-1}(v)$. According to the minimality of n and according to the above case, we can assume that $T \cap S = \emptyset$ and $xf \in J$ for all $f \in T$. We have again that

$$q_i^* \left(v - \sum_{f \in T} f f^* \right) = q_i'^* (e_i^* - e_i^*) = 0.$$

Therefore,

$$x \left(v - \sum_{f \in T} f f^* \right) = (\lambda_1 p_1 + \dots + \lambda_k p_k) \left(v - \sum_{f \in T} f f^* \right).$$

The right side of the above equation has the same form as Case 1, so

$$x \left(v - \sum_{f \in T} f f^* \right) \in J.$$

Therefore,

$$x = x \left(v - \sum_{f \in T} f f^* \right) + \sum_{f \in T} (x f) f^* \in J,$$

again a contradiction. $\square$

For R is an integral domain and a graph E , the following proposition is an extension of [9, Proposition 2] shows that nonzero basic ideals of $L_R(E)$ containing no vertices are generated by a set of mutually orthogonal polynomials over cycles.

Proposition 3.3. *Let E be a graph, R an integral domain, and N a nonzero basic ideal of $L_R(E)$ which does not contain any vertices of E . Then, N is a nongraded ideal and possesses a generating set of pair-wise mutually orthogonal generator of the form*

$$y = \lambda u + \sum_{i=2}^n \lambda_i c^{r_i},$$

where $\lambda, \lambda_i \in R$, $r_i \in \mathbb{N}$, c is a unique cycle without exits based at a vertex $u \in E^0$, $\lambda \neq 0$ and at least one $\lambda_i \neq 0$.

Proof. Let $H = N \cap E^0$ and $S = \{v \in B_H \mid v^H \in N\}$. Since N does not contain any vertices of E , H and S are both empty sets. If N is a graded ideal of $L_R(E)$, then by [1, Theorem 2.4.8, p.42], $N = I(H; S)$, must then be $\{0\}$, a contradiction. Thus, N is a nongraded ideal.

By Theorem 3.2, N is generated by elements of the form

$$y := \left(\lambda u + \sum_{i=2}^n \lambda_i c^{r_i} \right) \left(u - \sum_{e \in S} e e^* \right),$$

where c is a unique cycle without exits based at a vertex $u \in E^0$, $S \subsetneq s^{-1}(u)$, and $\lambda, \lambda_j \in R$, with $\lambda \neq 0$ and at least one $\lambda_j \neq 0$. Since $S \subsetneq s^{-1}(u)$, there is an $f \in s^{-1}(u) \setminus S$. Let $w = r(f)$.

Suppose that f not be the initial edge of c . Then $f^*c = 0$, so $\lambda w = f^*yf \in N$. By N is a basic ideal of $L_R(E)$, it follows that $w \in N \cap E^0$, a contradiction. Thus, f is the initial edge of c . So, there exists a path $\alpha \in \text{Path}(E)$ such that $c = f\alpha$. Let $c' = \alpha f$, we obtain that c' is a cycle based at w , and

$$f^*yf = \lambda w + \sum_{i=2}^n \lambda_i (c')^{r_i} \in N.$$

Therefore,

$$c^*yc = \alpha^*(f^*yf)\alpha = \lambda u + \sum_{i=2}^n \lambda_i c^{r_i} \in N.$$

If c has an exit at a vertex $v \in E^0$, then there exist $e_1, e_2 \in s^{-1}(v)$ and $\alpha, \beta \in \text{Path}(E)$ such that $e_1 \neq e_2$ and $c = \alpha e_1 \beta$. Then, $e_2^* \alpha^* y \alpha e_2 = \lambda r(e_2) \in N$. By N is a basic ideal of $L_R(E)$, it follows that $r(e_2) \in N$, a contradiction. Then, the cycle c has no exit. In particular, $|s^{-1}(u)| = 1$. Since $S \subsetneq s^{-1}(u)$, this implies that S must be the empty set. Thus,

$$y = \lambda u + \sum_{i=2}^n \lambda_i c^{r_i}.$$

If there is another generator of N of the form $y' = \lambda' u + \sum_{i=2}^{n'} \lambda'_i (c')^{s_i}$ with the same vertex u , then, by the uniqueness of c , $c' = c$ and so

$$y' = \lambda' u + \sum_{i=2}^{n'} \lambda'_i c^{s_i}.$$

For a given vertex u and the unique cycle c based at u , let $d(x) \in R[x]$ be the polynomial of the smallest degree with $d(0) \neq 0$ and $d(c) \in N$ (note that $c^0 = u$). By the Polynomial Pseudo-Division Theorem ([7, Theorem 1.3.6, p.19]), any other polynomial $f(x) \in R[x]$ satisfying $f(0) \neq 0$ and $f(c) \in N$, there exist polynomials $g(x), r(x) \in R[x]$ such that

$$\lambda f(x) = g(x).d(x) + r(x),$$

where $\deg(r) < \deg(d)$ and $\lambda \neq 0$ is a power of the leading coefficient of $d(x)$. Then

$$r(c) = \lambda f(c) - g(c)d(c) \in N.$$

By the smallest degree of d , we have $r(x) = 0$. So all those generators $f(c)$ of N involving the same vertex u can be replaced by $d(c)$. Moreover, if $d_1(c')$ is in the other generating set for N such that $c' \sim c$ and $d_1(x) \in R[x]$ be the polynomial of the smallest degree with $d_1(0) \neq 0$ and $d_1(c') \in N$, then there exist some paths p, q such that $c = pq$, $c' = qp$. Therefore, $q^*d_1(c')q = d_1(c)$ and $d_1(c)$ belongs to $\langle d(c) \rangle$ by the minimality of $d(x)$, so we can remove $d_1(c')$ from the generating set for N .

By replacing/removing the generators for N (when necessary), we can get the set of generators for N of the form

$$y_i = \lambda_i u_i + \sum_{j=2}^{n_i} \lambda_{ij} c_i^{r_{ij}},$$

where $\lambda_i, \lambda_{ij} \in R$, c_i is a unique cycle without exits based at a vertex $u_i \in E^0$, $c_i \not\sim c_k$ for $i \neq k$ (and in particular, $u_i \neq u_k$), and for each i , $\lambda_i \neq 0$ and at least one $\lambda_{ij} \neq 0$. Then clearly $y_i y_k = 0 = y_k y_i$ for $i \neq k$. The proof of the theorem is now complete. $\square$

Corollary 3.4. *Let R be an integral domain and E a graph satisfies Condition (L). If I is a nonzero basic ideal of $L_R(E)$, then $I \cap E^0 \neq \emptyset$.*

Proof. Since Condition (L) on a graph E requires that cycles in E have exits, the result follows immediately from Proposition 3.3. $\square$

The following theorem is an extension of [9, Theorem 4] in which R is an integral domain.

Theorem 3.5. *Let E be a graph, R an integral domain. If I is a non-zero basic ideal of $L_R(E)$ with $I \cap E^0 = H$ and $S = \{v \in B_H \mid v^H \in I\}$, then I is generated by $H \cup S^H \cup Y$, where Y is a set of mutually orthogonal elements of the form $\lambda u + \sum_{j=2}^n \lambda_j c^{r_j}$ in which c is a unique cycle with no exits in $E^0 \setminus H$ based at a vertex u in $E^0 \setminus H$, $\lambda, \lambda_j \in R$ with $\lambda \neq 0$ and at least one $\lambda_j \neq 0$.*

Proof. Let $J = I(H, S)$ be the ideal of $L_R(E)$ generated by H and $S^H := \{v^H \mid v \in S\}$. Then, $J \subseteq I$. For $J = I$ there is nothing to prove, so we may assume that $J \subsetneq I$. Identifying $L_R(E)/J$ with $L_R(E/(H, S))$ via the isomorphism $L_R(E)/J \cong L_R(E/(H, S))$ (see [6, Theorem 3.10]), we note that the non-zero ideal I/J contains no vertices of $L_R(E/(H, S))$, so by Proposition 3.3, I/J is generated by mutually orthogonal elements of the form $y = \lambda u + \sum_{j=2}^n \lambda_j c^{r_j}$, where c is a unique cycle without exits based at a vertex u in $(E/(H, S))^0$, and $\lambda, \lambda_j \in R$ with $\lambda \neq 0$ and at least one $\lambda_j \neq 0$. Observe that

$$(E/(H, S))^0 = E^0 \setminus H \cup \{v' \mid v \in B_H \setminus S\}$$

and that the vertices $v' \in (E/(H, S))^0$ are all sinks, so both u and the vertices on c all belong to $E^0 \setminus H$. Therefore, the ideal I is generated by J and a set Y of mutually orthogonal elements of the form $y = \lambda u + \sum_{j=2}^n \lambda_j c^{r_j}$, where c is a unique cycle without exits in $E^0 \setminus H$, based at $u \in E^0 \setminus H$, and $\lambda, \lambda_j \in R$ with $\lambda \neq 0$ and at least one $\lambda_j \neq 0$. $\square$

4. Prime ideals of $L_R(E)$

Prime ideals of Leavitt path algebras with field coefficients were studied in [8] and the characterization of both graded and nongraded prime ideals were given. In the case of coefficients in a unital commutative ring, due to [8, Theorem 3.12], we give the necessary and sufficient conditions for the primeness of a basic ideal of $L_R(E)$ in both graded and nongraded cases.

For the case of a graded basic ideal, we first prove the following lemma.

Lemma 4.1. *Let E be a graph, R a unital commutative ring. If P is an ideal of $L_R(E)$, $H = P \cap E^0$, $S = \{v \in B_H \mid v^H \in P\}$, then the ideal $I(H, S)$ is the graded basic ideal of $L_R(E)$ contains every other graded basic ideal of $L_R(E)$ inside P .*

Proof. Suppose A is a graded basic ideal of $L_R(E)$. By [6, Theorem 3.10 (4)], there is an admissible pair (H_1, S_1) such that $A = I(H_1, S_1)$ and $A \subseteq P$. Then $A \cap E^0 \subseteq P \cap E^0 = H$, so that $H_1 \subseteq H \subseteq I(H, S)$.

For $v \in S_1$, we have v is a breaking vertex for H_1 , which means $v \in B_{H_1}$, so we have $0 < |s^{-1}(v) \cap r^{-1}(E^0 \setminus H_1)| < \infty$. By re-indexing, we may then assume that

$$s^{-1}(v) \cap r^{-1}(E^0 \setminus H_1) = \{e_1, \dots, e_m, e_{m+1}, \dots, e_n\},$$

where $r(e_i) \notin H$ for $i \leq m$, and $r(e_i) \in H$ for $i > m$. It follows that

$$v^{H_1} = v - \sum_{i=1}^n e_i e_i^* = v^H - \sum_{j=m+1}^n e_j \cdot r(e_j) \cdot e_j^*, \quad r(e_j) \in H \text{ for all } j > m.$$

If $m = n$ then clearly $v^{H_1} = v^H \in I(H, S)$; if $m < n$ then by $r(e_j) \in H$ for all $j > m$, we can get $e_j = e_j \cdot r(e_j) \in I(H, S)$ for all $j > m$, we can also get $v^{H_1} \in I(H, S)$. In both cases, we always have $A \subseteq I(H, S)$. $\square$

It is now the necessary and sufficient conditions for the primeness of a basic ideal of $L_R(E)$ in the graded case.

Theorem 4.2. *Let E be a graph, R a unital commutative ring, and P a basic ideal of $L_R(E)$ with $P \cap E^0 = H$. Then, P is a graded prime ideal of $L_R(E)$ if and only if R is an integral domain and P satisfies one of the following conditions:*

- i) $P = I(H, B_H)$, and $E^0 \setminus H$ is downward directed;

ii) $P = I(H, B_H \setminus \{u\})$ for some $u \in B_H$ and $M(u) = E^0 \setminus H$.

Proof. Let $H = P \cap E^0$, $S = \{w \in B_H : w^H \in P\}$ and $F = E/(H, S)$.

($\Rightarrow$) Suppose P is a graded prime ideal of $L_R(E)$. Then by Lemma 4.1, $P = I(H, S)$. Therefore

$$L_R(E)/P \cong L_R(E)/I(H, S) \cong L_R(F)$$

is a prime ring (By [6, Theorem 3.10 (3)]). Proposition 4.5 in [6] implies that R is an integral domain and F^0 is downward directed.

Let $\text{Sink}(F)$ be the set of sinks in F . If $|\text{Sink}(F)| \geq 2$, then there are $u, v \in \text{Sink}(F)$, $u \neq v$. Since F^0 is downward directed, there exists $y \in F^0$ such that $u \geq y$ and $v \geq y$. Now, both u and v are sinks, so we have $u = y$ and $v = y$. It implies that $u = v$, a contradiction. Thus, $|\text{Sink}(F)| \leq 1$.

If there exists $v' \in F^0$ such that $v' \in B_H \setminus S$, then for all $\alpha \in F^1$ satisfies $s_F(\alpha) \in E^0$, we have $s_F(\alpha) \neq v'$. Hence $v' \in \text{Sink}(F)$. Therefore $B_H \setminus S \subseteq \text{Sink}(F)$. Thus $|B_H \setminus S| \leq 1$.

i) If $B_H \setminus S = \emptyset$, then $S = B_H$, so $E^0 \setminus H = F^0$. Therefore $E^0 \setminus H$ is downward directed;

ii) If $B_H \setminus S = \{u\}$, then $B_H = S \cup \{u\}$, so $u \in B_H$ and $F^0 = (E^0 \setminus H) \cup \{u'\}$.

Clearly, if $v \in M(u)$ then $v \geq u$ and $u \in B_H$, so $v \notin H$, that is $v \in E^0 \setminus H$. Conversely, for all $v \in E^0 \setminus H$, there exists $y \in F^0$ such that $v \geq y$ and $u' \geq y$. By $u' \in \text{Sink}(F)$, it implies $y = u'$, so there is a path $p = p_1 \dots p_n \in \text{Path}(F)$ such that $s_F(p) = v$, $r_F(p) = u'$. Since $r_F(p_n) = u'$, it follows that $p_n = e'_n$, where $r_E(e_n) \in B_H \setminus (B_H \setminus \{u\}) = \{u\}$, that is $r_E(e_n) = u$. By $r_F(p_{n-1}) = s_F(p_n) \in E^0 \setminus H$, we get $p_{n-1} \in E^0$. By induction, we have $p_1 \dots p_{n-1} \in \text{Path}(E)$, so $(p_1 \dots p_{n-1})e_n \in \text{Path}(E)$, that is $v \geq_E u$. Therefore $v \in M(u)$. Thus, $E^0 \setminus H = M(u)$.

($\Leftarrow$) Since Lemma 4.1, in the both cases we always get P is a graded ideal.

i) If $P = I(H, B_H)$ then $(E/(H, B_H))^0 = E^0 \setminus H$, so $(E/(H, B_H))^0$ is downward directed. Therefore

$$L_R(E/(H; B_H)) \cong L_R(E)/I(H; B_H) = L_R(E)/P$$

is a prime ring. It follows that P is a prime ideal.

ii) If $P = I(H, B_H \setminus \{u\})$ then

$$(E/(H, B_H \setminus \{u\}))^0 = (E^0 \setminus H) \cup \{u'\}.$$

For all $v \in (E/(H, B_H \setminus \{u'\}))^0$, we have $v = u'$ or $v \in E^0 \setminus H = M(u)$, that is $v \geq_E u$, so there is a path $p = p_1 \dots p_n \in \text{Path}(E)$ such that $s(p) = v, r(p) = u$. By replacing the edge p_n in E by the edge p'_n in $E/(H; S)$, we obtain

$$q := p_1 \dots p_{n-1} p'_n \in \text{Path}(E/(H; S)) \text{ and } r_{E/(H; S)}(q) = u'.$$

It implies that $v \geq u'$. Similarly, $w \geq u'$. Therefore $(E/(H; B_H \setminus \{u\}))^0$ is downward directed. Thus

$$L_R(E/(H; B_H \setminus \{u\})) \cong L_R(E)/I(H; B_H \setminus \{u\}) = L_R(E)/P$$

is a prime ring. Therefore P is a prime ideal. $\square$

Corollary 4.3. *Let E be a graph and R a unital commutative ring. If $P = I(H, B_H)$ is a maximal ideal of $L_R(E)$, then $E^0 \setminus H$ is downward directed.*

Proof. If $P = I(H, B_H)$ is a maximal ideal of $L_R(E)$, then P is a graded prime ideal of $L_R(E)$. The result now follows from Theorem 4.2. $\square$

Lemma 4.4. *Let E be a graph, R a unital commutative ring, and P a prime basic ideal of $L_R(E)$, $H = P \cap E^0$, $S = \{v \in B_H : v^H \in P\}$. Then the ideal $I(H, S)$ is also a prime basic ideal of $L_R(E)$.*

Proof. Suppose that A, B are two graded basic ideals of $L_R(E)$ with $AB \subseteq I(H, S)$. Since $AB \subseteq P$ and P is prime, it follows that either $A \subseteq P$ or $B \subseteq P$. By Lemma 4.1, we obtain $A \subseteq I(H, S)$ or $B \subseteq I(H, S)$. Therefore $I(H, S)$ is a prime basic ideal of $L_R(E)$. $\square$

Lemma 4.5. *Let R be an integral domain, E a graph such that E^0 is downward directed. If N is a nonzero basic ideal of $L_R(E)$ which does not contain any vertices of E , then there is a unique cycle c without exits in E and N is a non-graded principal ideal generated by $p(c)$, where $p(x) \in R[x]$.*

Proof. By Proposition 3.3, there is a cycle c without exits (based at a vertex $u \in E^0$) and a polynomial $p(x) \in R[x]$ of the smallest degree such that

$$p(c) := \lambda u + \sum_{i=2}^n \lambda_i c^{r_i} \in N.$$

Let $y \in N$, then there exists a cycle c' without exits (based at $w \in E^0$) such that

$$y = \lambda' w + \sum_{i=2}^m \lambda'_i (c')^{r_i}.$$

Since E^0 is downward directed, there is a vertex $v \in E^0$ such that $u \geq v$ and $w \geq v$. By c and c' have no exit, we obtain $v \in c^0 \cap (c')^0$, $c = \alpha.w.\beta$, and $c' = \beta.u.\alpha$ for some $\alpha, \beta \in \text{Path}(E)$. Then,

$$\beta^*y\beta = \lambda'u + \sum_{i=2}^m \lambda'_i c'^{r_i} \in N.$$

Let $f(x) = \lambda' + \sum_{i=2}^m \lambda'_i x^{r_i}$. By the Polynomial Pseudo-Division Theorem ([7, Theorem 1.3.6, p.19]), there exist polynomials $q(x), r(x) \in R[x]$ such that

$$\delta.f(x) = p(x).q(x) + r(x),$$

where $0 \leq \deg r(x) < \deg d(x)$ and $\delta \neq 0$ is a power of the leading coefficient of $p(x)$.

Then, $r(c) = \delta.f(c) - p(c)q(c) \in N$. By the minimality of $p(x)$, we get $r(x) = 0$. It follows that

$$f(c) = p(c)q(c) \in \langle p(c) \rangle.$$

Therefore $y = \alpha^*.f(c).\alpha \in \langle p(c) \rangle$, we then conclude that $N = \langle p(c) \rangle$. $\square$

Recall that a ring R is prime if the zero ideal $\{0\}$ is a prime ideal in R . It is known that a commutative ring is a prime ring if and only if it is an integral domain. The following is the necessary and sufficient conditions for the primeness of a basic ideal of $L_R(E)$ in the non-graded case.

Theorem 4.6. *Let E be a graph, R a unital commutative ring, and P a basic ideal of $L_R(E)$ with $P \cap E^0 = H$. Then, P is a non-graded prime ideal of $L_R(E)$ if and only if R is an integral domain and $P = I(H, B_H) + \langle f(c) \rangle$, where c is a cycle without (K) in E based at a vertex v , $M(v) = E^0 \setminus H$ and $f(x)$ is an irreducible polynomial in $R[x, x^{-1}]$.*

Proof. Let $H = P \cap E^0$, $S = \{w \in B_H : w^H \in P\}$ and $F = E/(H, S)$.

($\Rightarrow$) Suppose P is a non-graded prime ideal of $L_R(E)$. Then by Lemma 4.1, $I(H, S) \subsetneq P$. Since [6, Theorem 3.10(3)], there is an R -isomorphism

$$\phi : L_R(E)/I(H, S) \rightarrow L_R(F).$$

Let $N = \phi(P/I(H, S))$. By P is a prime basic ideal of $L_R(E)$, and by Lemma 4.4, $I(H, S)$ is a graded prime basic ideal of $L_R(E)$. Since $L_R(E)/I(H, S) \cong L_R(F)$, it follows that $L_R(F)$ is a prime ring. By [6, Prop. 4.5], R is an integral domain and F^0 is downward directed. By an argument analogous to the proof of Theorem 4.2, we get $S = B_H$ or $S = B_H \setminus \{u\}$ for some $u \in B_H$ such that $E^0 \setminus H = M(u)$.

- If $S = B_H \setminus \{u\}$ and $E^0 \setminus H = M(u)$ then $F^0 = (E^0 \setminus H) \cup \{u'\}$ and $w \geq u'$ for all $w \in F^0$, where $u' = \phi(u^H + I(H, S))$. Note that $u \notin S$, so $u^H \notin P$, imply $u' \notin N$. If there is $v' \in N \cap F^0$ then $v' \neq u'$, so we have $v' \in (N \cap E^0) \cap (E^0 \setminus H)$. Therefore, there exists $v \in (P \cap E^0) \cap (E^0 \setminus H)$ such that $v' = \phi(v + I(H, S))$. But $(P \cap E^0) \cap (E^0 \setminus H) = H \cap (E^0 \setminus H) = \emptyset$. It follows that v doesn't exist, therefore N contains no vertices of F . By Lemma 4.5, there is a cycle c without exits in F , based at a vertex $v \in F^0$ such that N is the principal ideal generated by $p(c)$, where $p(x) \in R[x]$. But the cycle c without exits and $w \geq u'$ for all $w \in F^0$, so we get a contradiction. Therefore this case is impossible.

- If $S = B_H$ then $F^0 = E^0 \setminus H$, so we have

$$N \cap F^0 = (N \cap E^0) \cap (E^0 \setminus H) = H \cap (E^0 \setminus H) = \emptyset.$$

By Lemma 4.5, there is a cycle c without exits in F , based at a vertex $v \in F^0$ such that N is the principal ideal generated by $p(c)$, where $p(x) \in R[x]$. Clearly, c is a cycle without (K) and $P = I(H, B_H) + \langle f(c) \rangle$. For $w \in F^0$, by $v \in F^0$ and F^0 is downward directed, there is a vertex $w_1 \in F^0$ such that $w \geq w_1$ and $v \geq w_1$. Since the cycle c without exits and v is the base of c , we get $v = w_1$, that is $w \geq v$. It follows that $w \in M(v)$. Therefore $M(v) = F^0$. Since N is a prime ideal in $L_R(F)$, Proposition 10.2 in [5] now yields vNv is a prime ideal in $vL_R(F)v$, generated by $vf(c)v = f(c)$. It is easy to see that $vL_R(F)v \cong R[x, x^{-1}]$ with the isomorphism θ maps v to 1, c to x , and c^* to x^{-1} , it follows that θ maps $f(c)$ to $f(x)$. Since $f(x)$ is a generator of a prime ideal in the Euclidean domain $R[x, x^{-1}]$, $f(x)$ must then be an irreducible polynomial in $R[x, x^{-1}]$.

($\Leftarrow$) Suppose R is an integral domain, and $P = I(H, B_H) + \langle f(c) \rangle$, where

- (a) c is a cycle without (K) in E based at a vertex v ;
- (b) $M(v) = E^0 \setminus H$; and
- (c) $f(x)$ is an irreducible polynomial in $R[x, x^{-1}]$.

Now hypothesis (b) implies $F^0 = E^0 \setminus H = M(v)$. Therefore F is downward directed and contains the cycle c . As c is a cycle without (K) in E , the downward directed property implies that c has no exit in the graph F . By [6, Theorem 3.10 (3)], there is an R -isomorphism

$$\phi : L_R(E)/I(H, S) \rightarrow L_R(F).$$

Let $N = \phi(P/I(H, S))$, then, by the hypothesis (c), the ideal N is generated by $f(c)$. Since $vL_R(F)v \cong R[x, x^{-1}]$ with the isomorphism θ maps v to 1, c to x , and c^* to x^{-1} , it follows that θ maps $f(c)$ to $f(x)$. As the polynomial $f(x)$ is irreducible in $R[x, x^{-1}]$, the ideal vNv , being generated by $vf(c)v = f(c) = \theta^{-1}(f(x))$, is a

maximal ideal of $vL_R(F)v$. Now, if A, B are two ideals of $L_R(F)$ such that $AB \subseteq N$, then $vAv.vBv \subseteq vABv \subseteq vNv$, so either vAv or vBv is included in vNv . Without loss of generality, we can assume that $vAv \subseteq vNv$. If there is $w \in vAv \cap F^0$, then $w \geq v$, imply that $v \in A$. But then $vL_R(F)v \subseteq A$, and so $vL_R(F)v \subseteq vAv \subseteq vNv$, this fact contradicts the maximality of vNv in $vL_R(F)v$. Thus vAv does not contain any vertices of F , hence by Lemma 4.5, A will be generated by a polynomial $q(c)$. Since

$$q(c) = vq(c)v \in vAv \subseteq vNv \subseteq N,$$

we conclude that $A \subseteq N$. Thus N is a prime ideal of $L_R(F)$. It follows that P is a prime ideal of $L_R(E)$. Now, if P is a graded ideal, then by $P \cap E^0 = H$, Lemma 4.1 yields $P = I(H, B_H)$, so we have $N = 0$, hence vNv must be 0. But vNv is generated by $f(c) \neq 0$, so we get a contradiction. Hence, P must be a non-graded prime ideal of $L_R(E)$. $\square$

Recall that the Leavitt path algebra $L_R(E)$ is called *basically simple* if the only basic ideal of $L_R(E)$ are $\{0\}$ and $L_R(E)$. In [10, Theorem 7.20], it is shown the necessary and sufficient condition for the basically simplicity of $L_R(E)$ when E is row-finite. For E is a countable graph, we have the following.

Theorem 4.7. *Let E be a graph and R be a unital commutative ring. Then the Leavitt path algebra $L_R(E)$ is basically simple if and only if E satisfies the following conditions:*

- i) $\mathcal{H}_E = \{\emptyset, E^0\}$;
- ii) *The graph E satisfies Condition (L);*
- iii) *R is a field.*

Proof. Suppose that $L_R(E)$ is basically simple. Then the only basic ideal of $L_R(E)$ are $\{0\}$ and $L_R(E)$, both of which are graded. By [6, Theorem 3.18] we have that E satisfies Condition (K). It then follows from [6, Theorem 3.10 (4)] and the fact that $L_R(E)$ is basically simple, that the only saturated hereditary subsets of E are $\emptyset$ and E^0 . Hence $\mathcal{H}_E = \{\emptyset, E^0\}$ and the graph E satisfies Condition (L). Therefore, it suffices to show that R is a field.

Suppose J is a nonzero ideal of R . Then $J.L_R(E)$ is an ideal of $L_R(E)$, so either

$$L_R(E).J = 0 \text{ or } L_R(E).J = L_R(E).$$

If $L_R(E).J = 0$, then for $0 \neq \lambda \in J$ and $v \in E^0$, $\lambda v \in L_R(E).J = 0$, imply $\lambda v = 0$, which contradicts Proposition 3.4 in [10]. Therefore $L_R(E).J = L_R(E)$.

For $\lambda \in R$ and $v \in E^0$, we have $\lambda v \in L_R(E) = J.L_R(E)$, hence there are $x \in L_R(E)$ and $\lambda' \in J$ such that $\lambda v = \lambda'x$. By [10, Proposition 4.7], $x \in L_R(E)_0$, that

is $x = \lambda_1 v$, where $\lambda_1 \in R$. It implies that $(\lambda - \lambda' \lambda_1)v = 0$, so $\lambda = \lambda' \lambda_1 \in JR \subseteq J$. Thus $R = J$, hence R is a field.

The converse follows from ([1, Theorem 2.9.1, p.68]). $\square$

5. Maximal basic ideals of $L_R(E)$

Recall that any ideal in a unital ring is contained in a maximal ideal, hence maximal ideals always exist. In [3], the author studied when maximal ideals exist and also the conditions on the graph E and the field K for which every ideal of $L_K(E)$ is contained in a maximal ideal. In this section, we discuss the necessary and sufficient conditions of the existence of maximal basic ideal of $L_R(E)$.

We begin with the two following lemmas.

Lemma 5.1. *Let R be an integral domain and E a graph. If $H \in \mathcal{H}_E$, then $I(H, B_H)$ is a maximal ideal in $L_R(E)$ if and only if H is a maximal element in $\mathcal{H}_E$ and the quotient graph $E/(H, B_H)$ satisfies Condition (L).*

Proof. Let $F = E/(H, B_H)$ and assume that $I(H, B_H)$ is a maximal ideal in $L_R(E)$, then $L_R(E)/I(H, B_H) \cong L_R(F)$ is a simple ring. By Theorem 4.7, R is a field, F satisfies Condition (L), and $\mathcal{H}_F = \{\emptyset, F^0\}$. If H is not a maximal element in $\mathcal{H}_E$, then there exists H' in $\mathcal{H}_E$ such that $H \subsetneq H'$. Then $I(H', B_{H'})/I(H, B_H)$ is a proper ideal of $L_R(E)/I(H, B_H)$, which contradicts the simplicity of $L_R(F)$.

Conversely, if H is a maximal element in $\mathcal{H}_E$ such that $F = E/(H, B_H)$ satisfies Condition (L), and there exists a proper ideal N of $L_R(E)$ containing $I(H, B_H)$, then by [6, Theorem 3.10 (4)] there exists an admissible pair (H_1, S_1) such that $\text{gr}(N) = I(H_1, S_1)$, where $H_1 \in \mathcal{H}_E$ and $S_1 \subseteq B_{H_1}$. Hence,

$$I(H, B_H) \subseteq \text{gr}(N) = I(H_1, S_1) \subseteq N.$$

By [1, Proposition 2.5.4, p.46], $H \subseteq H_1$ and $B_H \subseteq S_1 \cup H_1 \subseteq B_{H_1} \cup H_1$. Since H is maximal in $\mathcal{H}_E$, it follows that $H = H_1$, and so $B_H \subseteq S_1 \cup H \subseteq B_H \cup H$, implies $S_1 = B_H$. Hence, $I(H, B_H) = \text{gr}(N)$. On the other hand, by Theorem 3.5, N is generated by $H \cup S^H \cup Y$, where Y is a set of mutually orthogonal elements of the form $\lambda u + \sum_{i=2}^n \lambda_i c^{r_i}$ in which c is a unique cycle without exits in $E^0 \setminus H$, based at a vertex u in $E^0 \setminus H$, $\lambda, \lambda_i \in R$ with $\lambda \neq 0$ and at least one $\lambda_i \neq 0$. As $F = E/(H, B_H)$ satisfies Condition (L), $Y = \emptyset$, that is $N = I(H, B_H)$. Hence, $I(H, B_H)$ is a maximal ideal in $L_R(E)$. $\square$

Lemma 5.2. *Let R be an integral domain, E a graph, and H a maximal element in $\mathcal{H}_E$. Then $E/(H, B_H)$ not satisfying Condition (L) if and only if there is a maximal non-graded basic ideal M containing $I(H, B_H)$ with $H = M \cap E^0$.*

Proof. Suppose H is a maximal element in $\mathcal{H}_E$ and $F := E/(H, B_H)$ not satisfying Condition (L). Then, there exists a cycle c without exits in F , based at $u \in E^0 \setminus H$. Let N be an ideal of $L_R(E)$ generated by $H \cup S^H \cup Y$, where Y is a set of mutually orthogonal elements of the form $\lambda u + \sum_{i=2}^n \lambda_i c^{r_i}$ in which $\lambda, \lambda_i \in R$ with $\lambda \neq 0$ and at least one $\lambda_i \neq 0$. Then clearly N is a non-graded basic ideal of $L_R(E)$.

If M is a graded maximal basic ideal of $L_R(E)$ such that $N \subseteq M$, then there exists an admissible pair (H', S') such that $M = I(H', S')$. Since every maximal ideal in a Leavitt path algebra is prime, M is a graded prime ideal. By Theorem 4.2, $M = I(H', S')$ with either $S' = B_{H'}$ and $E^0 \setminus H'$ is downward directed or $S' = B_{H'} \setminus \{u\}$ with $u \in B_{H'}$ such that $M(u) = E^0 \setminus H'$. However, if the second case happens, then M can not be a maximal ideal, as $M \subsetneq I(H', B_{H'})$. Thus $M = I(H', B_{H'})$. Now, by Lemma 5.1, H' is a maximal element in $\mathcal{H}_E$ and $E \setminus (H', B_{H'})$ satisfies Condition (L). This contradicts the fact that H is a maximal element in $\mathcal{H}_E$ and $I(H, B_H) = \text{gr}(N) \subseteq N \subsetneq I(H', B_{H'}) = M$. Thus, N is not contained in a maximal graded basic ideal of $L_R(E)$.

If N is maximal, then the result will come out. If not, then there exists an ideal N_1 such that $N_0 := N \subsetneq N_1 \subsetneq L_R(E)$. Continuing in this manner, we obtain a chain of proper ideals $\{N_i\}$ with

$$N = N_0 \subsetneq N_1 \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq N_i \subsetneq N_{i+1} \subsetneq \dots$$

If the chain is finite, then we are done; otherwise, by $I(H, B_H) = \text{gr}(N) \subseteq \text{gr}(N_i)$ for all i , and by H is maximal in $\mathcal{H}_E$, we conclude that $\text{gr}(N_i) = I(H, B_H)$ for all i and N_i is generated by $I(H, B_H) \cup \langle f_i(c) \rangle$ for some polynomial $f_i(x) \in R[x]$. By the same argument of proving Theorem 4.6, this yields to a sequence of polynomials $f_i(x)$ with $f_0(x) = f(x)$ and $f_{i+1}(x) \mid f_i(x)$. As there are only finitely many factors of $\lambda + \sum_{i=2}^n \lambda_i x^{r_i}$, the sequence stabilizes at an irreducible polynomial $f(x)$ that divides $\lambda + \sum_{i=2}^n \lambda_i x^{r_i}$. Hence the ideal generated by $I(H, B_H) \cup \langle f(c) \rangle$ is a maximal non-graded basic ideal.

Conversely, if M is a non-graded maximal basic ideal of $L_R(E)$, then by Theorem 4.6, $M = I(H, B_H) + \langle f(c) \rangle$, where c is a cycle without (K), based at a vertex $u \in E^0$, $M(u) = E^0 \setminus H$ and $f(x)$ is an irreducible polynomial in $R[x, x^{-1}]$. If there exists an admissible pair (H', S') such that

$$\text{gr}(M) = I(H, B_H) \subsetneq I(H', S'),$$

then $H \subsetneq H'$, hence there is a vertex v in $H' \setminus H$. Since $v \in M(u)$, $u \geq v$. It implies that c and hence $f(c) \in I(H', S')$. By M is non-graded, $M \subsetneq I(H', S')$. By the maximality of M , we get $I(H', S') = L_R(E)$. Thus, $I(H, B_H)$ is a maximal among

the graded basic ideal of $L_R(E)$. Now, if $H \subseteq H_1$ then $I(H, B_H) \subseteq I(H_1, B_{H_1})$, hence by the non-graded maximality of $I(H, B_H)$, we obtain $I(H, B_H) = I(H_1, B_{H_1})$. In particular, $H = H_1$, it yields H is maximal in $\mathcal{H}_E$. Finally, by Lemma 5.1, it is clear that $E \setminus (H, B_H)$ does not satisfy Condition (L). $\square$

From Lemmas 5.1 and 5.2, we deduce that there is a maximal element in $\mathcal{H}_E$ if and only if there exists a maximal basic ideal in $L_R(E)$.

Theorem 5.3. *Let R be an integral domain, E a graph. Then, $L_R(E)$ has a maximal basic ideal if and only if $\mathcal{H}_E$ has a maximal element.*

Proof. Suppose $L_R(E)$ has a maximal basic ideal M . If M is a graded ideal then the result will come from Lemma 5.1; otherwise, the result will come from Lemma 5.2.

Conversely, suppose $\mathcal{H}_E$ has a maximal element H . If $E \setminus (H, B_H)$ satisfies Condition (L) the result will come from Lemma 5.1; otherwise, the result will come from Lemma 5.2. $\square$

The following is the condition when every basic ideal of a Leavitt path algebra with coefficients in a unital commutative ring is contained in a maximal ideal.

Theorem 5.4. *Let R be an integral domain, E be a graph. Then the following are equivalent:*

- i) *For every element $X \in \mathcal{H}_E$ there exists a maximal element Z in $\mathcal{H}_E$ such that $X \subseteq Z$.*
- ii) *Every basic ideal in $L_R(E)$ is contained in a maximal basic ideal.*

Proof. By Lemmas 5.1, 5.2 and a similar argument as in the proof [3, Theorem 3.5], we obtain the result. $\square$

Let E be a graph and R a unital commutative ring. Recall that for any ideal N of a graded ring $L_R(E)$, $\text{gr}(N)$ denotes the largest graded ideal of $L_R(E)$ contained in N . It was proved in Lemma 4.1 that $\text{gr}(N)$ is the ideal generated by the admissible pair (H, S) , where $H = N \cap E^0$ and $S = \{v \in B_H \mid v^H \in N\}$. Note that if N is a maximal basic ideal of $L_R(E)$ which is a graded ideal, then clearly $N = \text{gr}(N)$ is also maximal graded basic ideal of $L_R(E)$. We now discuss for a non-graded maximal basic ideal of $L_R(E)$.

Now we prove that a unique maximal basic ideal in $L_R(E)$ has to be a graded ideal.

Proposition 5.5. *Let R be an integral domain and E a graph. If $L_R(E)$ has a unique maximal basic ideal M , then M must be a graded ideal.*

Proof. Suppose M is a non-graded maximal basic ideal of $L_R(E)$. Then, M is prime. Let $H = M \cap E^0$, then by Theorem 4.6, $M = I(H, B_H) + \langle p(c) \rangle$, where c is a cycle without (K) , based at a vertex u , $M(u) = E^0 \setminus H$ and $p(x)$ is an irreducible polynomial in $R[x, x^{-1}]$. If there exists an admissible pair (H', S') such that

$$\text{gr}(M) = I(H, B_H) \subsetneq I(H', S'),$$

then $H \subsetneq H'$, hence there is a vertex v in $H' \setminus H$. By $v \in M(u)$, $u \geq v$. It implies that c and hence $p(c) \in I(H', S')$. By M is non-graded, $M \subsetneq I(H', S')$. By the maximality of M , we get $I(H', S') = L_R(E)$. Thus, $I(H, B_H)$ is a maximal among the graded basic ideal of $L_R(E)$. Let $F = E \setminus (H, B_H)$, then $L_R(E)/I(H, B_H) \cong L_R(F)$ has no proper graded maximal basic ideal. So $F^0 = E^0 \setminus H$ has no proper nonempty hereditary saturated subsets and so no proper ideal of $L_R(F)$ contains any vertices. Moreover, since c is a cycle without exits based at $u \in E^0 \setminus H$ and $M(u) = E^0 \setminus H$ implies that c is the only cycle without exits in $E^0 \setminus H$. By Lemma 4.5, every proper ideal of $L_R(F)$ has the form $\langle f(c) \rangle$, where $f(x) \in R[x]$. Therefore, if $q(x) \in R[x]$ is an irreducible polynomial different from $p(x)$, then $\langle q(c) \rangle$ will be a maximal basic ideal of $L_R(F)$ different from $\langle p(c) \rangle$. Then $N = I(H, B_H) + \langle q(c) \rangle$ is a maximal basic ideal of $L_R(E)$ not equal M , this contradicts the uniqueness of M . Hence M must be a graded basic ideal of $L_R(E)$. $\square$

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