

# AMPLIFIED GRAPH $C^*$ -ALGEBRAS II: RECONSTRUCTION

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ABSTRACT. Let  $E$  be a countable directed graph that is amplified in the sense that whenever there is an edge from  $v$  to  $w$ , there are infinitely many edges from  $v$  to  $w$ . We show that  $E$  can be recovered from  $C^*(E)$  together with its canonical gauge-action, and also from  $L_{\mathbb{K}}(E)$  together with its canonical grading.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this paper is to investigate the gauge-equivariant isomorphism question for  $C^*$ -algebras of countable amplified graphs, and the graded isomorphism question for Leavitt path algebras of countable amplified graphs. A directed graph  $E$  is called an *amplified* graph if for any two vertices  $v, w$ , the set of edges from  $v$  to  $w$  is either empty or infinite.

The geometric classification (that is, classification by the underlying graph modulo the equivalence relation generated by a list of allowable graph moves) of the  $C^*$ -algebras of finite-vertex amplified graph  $C^*$ -algebras was completed in [12], and was an important precursor to the eventual geometric classification of all finite graph  $C^*$ -algebras [13]. But there has been increasing recent interest in understanding isomorphisms of graph  $C^*$ -algebras that preserve additional structure: for example the canonical gauge action of the circle; or the canonical diagonal subalgebra isomorphic to the algebra of continuous functions vanishing at infinity on the infinite path space of the graph; or the smaller coefficient algebra generated by the vertex projections; or some combination of these (see, for example, [5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 19]).

A program of geometric classification for these various notions of isomorphism was initiated by the first two authors in [11]. They discuss  $xyz$ -isomorphism of graph  $C^*$ -algebras, where  $x$  is 1 if we require exact isomorphism, and 0 if we require only stable isomorphism;  $y$  is 1 if the isomorphism is required to be gauge-equivariant, and 0 otherwise; and

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$z$  is 1 if the isomorphism is required to preserve the diagonal subalgebra and 0 otherwise. They also identified a set of moves on graphs that preserve various kinds of  $xyz$ -isomorphism, and conjectured that for all  $xyz$  other than  $x10$ , the equivalence relation on graphs with finitely many vertices induced by  $xyz$ -isomorphism of  $C^*$ -algebras is generated by precisely those of their moves that induce  $xyz$ -isomorphisms.

This was an important motivation for the present paper. None of the moves in [11] takes an amplified graph to an amplified graph. And although we know of one important instance where one amplified graph can be transformed into another via a sequence of  $101$ -preserving moves passing through non-amplified graphs (see Diagram (3.1) in Remark 3.5), we had given up on envisioning such a sequence consisting only of  $x1z$ -preserving moves. Based on the main conjecture of [11], this led us to expect that an amplified graph  $C^*$ -algebra together with its gauge action should remember the graph itself.

Our main theorem shows that, indeed, any countable amplified graph  $E$  can be reconstructed from either the circle-equivariant  $K_0$ -group of its  $C^*$ -algebra, or the graded  $K_0$ -group of its Leavitt path algebra over any field. That is:

**Theorem A.** *Let  $E$  and  $F$  be countable amplified graphs and let  $\mathbb{K}$  be a field. Then the following are equivalent:*

- (1)  $E \cong F$ ;
- (2) *there is a  $\mathbb{Z}[x, x^{-1}]$ -module order-isomorphism  $K_0^{\text{gr}}(L_{\mathbb{K}}(E)) \cong K_0^{\text{gr}}(L_{\mathbb{K}}(F))$ ; and*
- (3) *there is a  $\mathbb{Z}[x, x^{-1}]$ -module order-isomorphism  $K_0^{\mathbb{T}}(C^*(E), \gamma) \cong K_0^{\mathbb{T}}(C^*(F), \gamma)$  of  $\mathbb{T}$ -equivariant  $K_0$ -groups.*

We spell out a number of consequences of this theorem in Remark 3.9, Theorem 3.4, and Theorem 3.8. The headline is that for amplified graphs, and for any  $x, z$ , the graph  $C^*$ -algebras  $C^*(E)$  and  $C^*(F)$  are  $x1z$ -isomorphic if and only if  $E$  and  $F$  are isomorphic. Combined with results of [4, 13], this confirms [11, Conjecture 5.1] for amplified graphs (see Remark 3.5).

Another immediate consequence is that, since ordered graded  $K_0$  is an isomorphism invariant of graded rings, and ordered  $\mathbb{T}$ -equivariant  $K_0$  is an isomorphism invariant of  $C^*$ -algebras carrying circle actions, our theorem confirms a special case of Hazrat's conjecture: ordered graded  $K_0$  is a complete graded-isomorphism invariant for amplified Leavitt path algebras; and we also obtain that ordered  $\mathbb{T}$ -equivariant  $K_0$  is a complete gauge-isomorphism invariant of amplified graph  $C^*$ -algebras.

A third consequence is related to different graded stabilisations of Leavitt path algebras (and different equivariant stabilisations of graph  $C^*$ -algebras). Each Leavitt path algebra has a canonical grading, and, as alluded to above, significant work led by Hazrat has been done on

determining when graded  $K$ -theory completely classifies graded Leavitt path algebras. Historically, in the classification program for  $C^*$ -algebras, significant progress has been made by first considering classification up to stable isomorphism; so it is natural to consider the same approach to Hazrat's graded classification question. But almost immediately, there is a difficulty: which grading on  $L_{\mathbb{K}}(E) \otimes M_{\infty}(\mathbb{K})$  should we consider? It seems natural enough to use the grading arising from the graded tensor product of the graded algebras  $L_{\mathbb{K}}(E)$  and  $M_{\infty}(\mathbb{K})$ . But there are many natural gradings on  $M_{\infty}(\mathbb{K})$ : given any  $\bar{\delta} \in \prod_i \mathbb{Z}$ , we obtain a grading of  $M_{\infty}(\mathbb{K})$  in which the  $m, n$  matrix unit is homogeneous of degree  $\bar{\delta}_m - \bar{\delta}_n$ . Different nonzero choices for  $\bar{\delta}$  correspond to different ways of stabilising  $L_{\mathbb{K}}(E)$  by modifying the graph  $E$  (for example by adding heads [23]), while taking  $\bar{\delta} = (0, 0, 0, \dots)$  corresponds to stabilising the associated groupoid by taking its cartesian product with the (trivially graded) full equivalence relation  $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$ .

In Section 3.2, we show that for amplified graphs it doesn't matter what value of  $\bar{\delta}$  we pick. Specifically, using results of Hazrat, we prove that  $K_0^{\text{gr}}(L_{\mathbb{K}}(E) \otimes M_{\infty}(\mathbb{K})(\bar{\delta})) \cong K_0^{\text{gr}}(L_{\mathbb{K}}(E))$  regardless of  $\bar{\delta}$ . Consequently, for any choice of  $\bar{\delta}$  we have  $L_{\mathbb{K}}(E) \otimes M_{\infty}(\mathbb{K})(\bar{\delta}) \cong L_{\mathbb{K}}(F) \otimes M_{\infty}(\mathbb{K})(\bar{\delta})$  if and only if there exists a  $\mathbb{Z}[x, x^{-1}]$ -module order-isomorphism  $K_0^{\text{gr}}(L_{\mathbb{K}}(E)) \cong K_0^{\text{gr}}(L_{\mathbb{K}}(F))$ . A similar result holds for  $C^*$ -algebras with the gradings on Leavitt path algebras replaced by gauge actions on graph  $C^*$ -algebras, and the gradings of  $M_{\infty}(\mathbb{K})$  corresponding to different elements  $\bar{\delta}$  replaced by the circle actions on  $\mathcal{K}(\ell^2)$  implemented by different strongly continuous unitary representations of the circle on  $\ell^2$ .

We prove our main theorem in Section 2. We use general results to see that the graded  $K_0$ -group of  $L_{\mathbb{K}}(E)$  and the equivariant  $K_0$ -group of  $C^*(E)$  are isomorphic as ordered  $\mathbb{Z}[x, x^{-1}]$ -modules to the  $K_0$ -groups of the Leavitt path algebra and the graph  $C^*$ -algebra (respectively) of the skew-product graph  $E \times_1 \mathbb{Z}$ . These are known to coincide, and their lattice of order ideals (with canonical  $\mathbb{Z}$ -action) is isomorphic to the lattice of hereditary subsets of  $(E \times_1 \mathbb{Z})^0$  with the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -action of translation in the second variable. So the bulk of the work in Section 2 goes into showing how to recover  $E$  from this lattice. We then go on in Section 3.2 to establish the consequences of our main theorem for stabilizations. Here the hard work goes into showing that  $K_0^{\text{gr}}(L_{\mathbb{K}}(E) \otimes M_{\infty}(\mathbb{K})(\bar{\delta})) \cong K_0^{\text{gr}}(L_{\mathbb{K}}(E))$  for any  $\bar{\delta} \in \prod_i \mathbb{Z}$  and that  $K_0^{\text{T}}(C^*(E) \otimes \mathcal{K}, \gamma^E \otimes \text{Ad}_u) \cong K_0^{\text{gr}}(L_{\mathbb{K}}(E))$  for any strongly continuous unitary representation  $u$  of  $\mathbb{T}$ .

## 2. GAUGE-INVARIANT CLASSIFICATION OF AMPLIFIED GRAPH $C^*$ -ALGEBRAS

Throughout the paper, a countable directed graph  $E$  is a quadruple  $E = (E^0, E^1, r, s)$  where  $E^0$  is a countable set whose elements are called

vertices,  $E^1$  is a countable set whose elements are called *edges*, and  $r, s: E^1 \rightarrow E^0$  are functions. We think of the elements of  $E^0$  as points or dots, and each element  $e$  of  $E^1$  as an arrow pointing from the vertex  $s(e)$  to the vertex  $r(e)$ . We follow the conventions of, for example [14], where a path is a sequence  $e_1 \dots e_n$  of edges in which  $s(e_{n+1}) = r(e_n)$ . This is not the convention used in Raeburn's monograph [21], but is the convention consistent with all of the Leavitt path algebra literature as well as much of the graph  $C^*$ -algebra literature. In keeping with this, for  $v, w \in E^0$  and  $n \geq 0$ , we define

$$vE^1 = s^{-1}(v), \quad E^1w = r^{-1}(w), \quad \text{and} \quad vE^1w = s^{-1}(v) \cap r^{-1}(w).$$

We will also write  $vE^n$  for the sets of paths of length  $n$  that are emitted by  $v$ ,  $E^nw$  for the set of paths of length  $n$  received by  $w$ , and  $vE^nw$  for the set of paths of length  $n$  pointing from  $v$  to  $w$ .

A vertex  $v$  is *singular* if  $vE^1$  is either empty or infinite, so  $v$  is either a sink or an infinite emitter; and for any edge  $e$ , we have  $s_e^*s_e = p_{r(e)}$  and  $p_{s(e)} \geq s_e s_e^*$  in the graph  $C^*$ -algebra  $C^*(E)$ . We will also consider the Leavitt path algebras,  $L_{\mathbb{K}}(E)$  for any field  $\mathbb{K}$ , the so-called algebraic cousin of graph  $C^*$ -algebras. Leavitt path algebras are defined via generators and relations similar to those for graph  $C^*$ -algebras (see [1]).

Countable directed graphs  $E$  and  $F$  are *isomorphic*, denoted  $E \cong F$ , if there is a bijection  $\phi: E^0 \sqcup E^1 \rightarrow F^0 \sqcup F^1$  that restricts to bijections  $\phi^0: E^0 \rightarrow F^0$  and  $\phi^1: E^1 \rightarrow F^1$  such that

$$\phi^0(r(e)) = r(\phi^1(e)) \quad \text{and} \quad \phi^0(s(e)) = s(\phi^1(e)).$$

In this paper, we consider amplified graphs. The classification of amplified graph  $C^*$ -algebras was the starting point in the classification of unital graph  $C^*$ -algebras via moves (see [12] and [13]).

**Definition 2.1** (Amplified Graph and Amplified graph algebra). A directed graph  $E$  is an *amplified graph* if for all  $v, w \in E^0$ , the set  $vE^1w = s^{-1}(v) \cap r^{-1}(w)$  is either empty or infinite. An *amplified graph  $C^*$ -algebra* is a graph  $C^*$ -algebra of an amplified graph and an *amplified Leavitt path algebra* is a Leavitt path algebra of an amplified graph.

Observe that in an amplified graph, every vertex is singular.

Recall that a set  $H \subseteq E^0$  is *hereditary* if  $s(e) \in H$  implies  $r(e) \in H$  for every  $e \in E^1$ , and is *saturated* if whenever  $v$  is a regular vertex such that  $r(vE^1) \subseteq H$ , we have  $v \in H$ . Again since every vertex in an amplified graph is singular, every set of vertices is saturated.

Recall from [18] that if  $E$  is a directed graph, then the skew-product graph  $E \times_1 \mathbb{Z}$  is the graph with vertices  $E^0 \times \mathbb{Z}$  and edges  $E^1 \times \mathbb{Z}$  with  $s(e, n) = (s(e), n)$  and  $r(e, n) = (r(e), n + 1)$ . If  $E$  is an amplified graph, then so is  $E \times_1 \mathbb{Z}$ .

For a countable amplified graph,  $E$ , we write  $\mathcal{H}(E \times_1 \mathbb{Z})$  for the lattice (under set inclusion) of hereditary subsets of the vertex-set of

the skew-product graph  $E \times_1 \mathbb{Z}$ . The action of  $\mathbb{Z}$  on  $E \times_1 \mathbb{Z}$  by given by  $n \cdot (e, m) = (e, n + m)$  induces an action  $\text{lt}$  of  $\mathbb{Z}$  on  $\mathcal{H}(E \times_1 \mathbb{Z})$ . There is also a distinguished element  $H_0 \in \mathcal{H}(E \times_1 \mathbb{Z})$  given by  $H_0 := \{(v, n) : v \in E^0, n \geq 0\} \subseteq (E \times_1 \mathbb{Z})^0$ .

Throughout this section, given  $v \in E^0$  and  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we write  $H(v, n)$  for the smallest hereditary subset of  $(E \times_1 \mathbb{Z})^0$  containing  $(v, n)$ . So  $H(v, n) = \{(r(\mu), n + |\mu|) : \mu \in vE^*\}$  is the set of vertices that can be reached from  $(v, n)$  in  $E \times_1 \mathbb{Z}$ .

If  $(\mathcal{L}, \preceq)$  is a lattice, we say that  $L \in \mathcal{L}$  has a unique predecessor if there exists  $K \in \mathcal{L}$  such that  $K \prec L$ , and every  $K'$  with  $K' \prec L$  satisfies  $K' \preceq K$ . The next proposition is the engine-room of our main result.

**Proposition 2.2.** *Let  $E$  be a countable amplified graph. Define  $\mathcal{H}_{\text{vert}} \subseteq \mathcal{H}(E \times_1 \mathbb{Z})$  to be the subset*

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{vert}} = \{H \in \mathcal{H}(E \times_1 \mathbb{Z}) : H \text{ has a unique predecessor}\}.$$

Then  $\mathcal{H}_{\text{vert}} = \{H(v, n) : v \in E^0 \text{ and } n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ . Let

$$\overline{E}^0 := \{H \in \mathcal{H}_{\text{vert}} : H \subseteq H_0 \text{ and } H \not\subseteq \text{lt}_1(H_0)\}.$$

Define  $\overline{E}^1 := \{(H, n, K) : H, K \in \overline{E}^0, \text{lt}_1(K) \subseteq H, \text{ and } n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ . Define  $\bar{s}, \bar{r} : \overline{E}^1 \rightarrow \overline{E}^0$  by  $\bar{s}(H, n, K) = H$  and  $\bar{r}(H, n, K) = K$ . Then  $\overline{E} := (\overline{E}^0, \overline{E}^1, \bar{r}, \bar{s})$  is a countable amplified directed graph, and there is an isomorphism  $E \cong \overline{E}$  that carries each  $v \in E^0$  to the hereditary subset of  $(E \times_1 \mathbb{Z})^0$  generated by  $(v, 0)$ .

*Proof.* The argument of [12, Lemma 5.2] shows that  $\mathcal{H}_{\text{vert}} = \{H(v, n) : v \in E^0, n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ .

We clearly have  $H(v, n) \subseteq H_0$  if and only if  $n \geq 0$ , and  $H(v, n) \subseteq \text{lt}_1(H_0)$  if and only if  $n \geq 1$ , so  $\overline{E}^0 = \{H(v, 0) : v \in E^0\}$ . Since  $E \times_1 \mathbb{Z}$  is acyclic, the  $H(v, 0)$  are distinct, and we deduce that  $\theta^0 : v \mapsto H(v, 0)$  is a bijection from  $E^0$  to  $\overline{E}^0$ .

Fix  $v, w \in E^0$ . We have  $\text{lt}_1(H(w, 0)) = H(w, 1)$ , and since  $(w, 1) \in H(v, 0)$  if and only if  $vE^1w \neq \emptyset$ , we have  $H(w, 1) \subseteq H(v, 0)$  if and only if  $vE^1w \neq \emptyset$ , in which case  $vE^1w$  is infinite because  $E$  is amplified. It follows that  $|H(v, 0)\overline{E}^1H(w, 0)| = |vE^1w|$  for all  $v, w$ , so we can choose a bijection  $\theta^1 : E^1 \rightarrow \overline{E}^1$  that restricts to bijections  $vE^1w \rightarrow \theta^0(v)\overline{E}^1\theta^0(w)$  for all  $v, w \in E^0$ . The pair  $(\theta^0, \theta^1)$  is then the desired isomorphism  $E \cong \overline{E}$ .  $\square$

In order to use Proposition 2.2 to prove Theorem A, we need to know that if  $(\mathcal{H}(E \times_1 \mathbb{Z}), \text{lt}^E)$  is order isomorphic to  $(\mathcal{H}(F \times_1 \mathbb{Z}), \text{lt}^F)$  then there is an isomorphism from  $(\mathcal{H}(E \times_1 \mathbb{Z}), \text{lt}^E)$  to  $(\mathcal{H}(F \times_1 \mathbb{Z}), \text{lt}^F)$  that carries  $H_0^E$  to  $H_0^F$ . We do this by showing that if  $E$  is connected, then we can recognise the sets  $\text{lt}_n(H_0)$  amongst all the hereditary subsets of  $(E \times_1 \mathbb{Z})^0$  using just the order-structure and the action  $\text{lt}$ .

Recalling that  $vE^n w$  denotes the set of paths of length  $n$  from  $v$  to  $w$ , we have

$$(2.1) \quad H(w, n) \subseteq H(v, m) \quad \text{if and only if} \quad vE^{n-m}w \neq \emptyset.$$

Recall that a graph  $E$  is said to be *connected* if the smallest equivalence relation on  $E^0$  containing  $\{(s(e), r(e)) : e \in E^1\}$  is all of  $E^0 \times E^0$ .

Let  $E$  be a connected, countable amplified graph. The set  $V_0 := \{H(v, 0) : v \in E^0\}$  is exactly the set of maximal elements of the collection  $\{H \in \mathcal{H}_{\text{vert}} : H \subseteq H_0\}$ . The sets  $H_0$  and  $V_0$  have the following properties:

- for each  $H \in \mathcal{H}_{\text{vert}}$  there is a unique  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $\text{lt}_n(H) \in V_0$ ;
- the smallest equivalence relation on  $V_0$  containing  $\{(H, K) : \text{lt}_1(K) \subseteq H\}$  is all of  $V_0 \times V_0$ ; and
- if  $H, K$  are distinct elements of  $V_0$ , and if  $n \geq 0$ , then  $H \not\subseteq \text{lt}_n(K)$ .

The next lemma shows that for connected graphs, these properties characterise  $H_0$  up to translation.

**Lemma 2.3.** *Suppose that  $E$  is a connected, countable amplified graph. Take  $H \in \mathcal{H}(E \times_1 \mathbb{Z})$ , and let  $V_H$  be the set of maximal elements of  $\{K \in \mathcal{H}_{\text{vert}} : K \subseteq H\}$  with respect to set inclusion. Suppose that*

- (1) *for each  $K \in \mathcal{H}_{\text{vert}}$  there is a unique  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $\text{lt}_n(K) \in V_H$ ;*
- (2) *the smallest equivalence relation on  $V_H$  containing  $\{(H, K) : \text{lt}_1(K) \subseteq H\}$  is all of  $V_H \times V_H$ ; and*
- (3) *if  $K, K'$  are distinct elements of  $V_H$ , and if  $n \geq 0$ , then  $K \not\subseteq \text{lt}_n(K')$ .*

*Then there exists  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $H = \text{lt}_n(H_0)$ .*

*Proof.* For each  $v \in E^0$ , item (1) applied to  $K = H(v, 0)$  shows that there exists a unique  $n_v \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $H(v, n_v) = \text{lt}_{n_v}(K) \in V_H$ . So  $V_H = \{H(v, n_v) : v \in E^0\}$ . We must show that  $n_v = n_w$  for all  $v, w \in E^0$ . To do this, it suffices to show that for any  $u \in E^0$ , we have  $n_w \geq n_u$  for all  $w \in E^0$ .

So fix  $u \in E^0$ . Define

$$L_u := \{v \in E^0 : n_v < n_u\} \quad \text{and} \quad G_u := \{w \in E^0 : n_w \geq n_u\}$$

We prove that if  $v \in L_u$  and  $w \in G_u$ , then

$$(2.2) \quad \text{lt}_1(H(v, n_v)) \not\subseteq H(w, n_w) \quad \text{and} \quad \text{lt}_1(H(w, n_w)) \not\subseteq H(v, n_v).$$

For this, fix  $v \in L_u$  and  $w \in G_u$ ; note that in particular  $v \neq w$ .

To see that  $\text{lt}_1(H(v, n_v)) \not\subseteq H(w, n_w)$ , suppose otherwise for contradiction. Then  $H(v, n_v + 1) \subseteq H(w, n_w)$ . Hence (2.1) shows that  $wE^{n_v+1-n_w}v \neq \emptyset$ , which forces  $n_v \geq n_w - 1$ . Since  $v \in L_u$  and  $w \in G_u$ ,

we also have  $n_v \leq n_w - 1$ , and we conclude that  $n_v + 1 - n_w = 0$ . This forces  $wE^0v \neq \emptyset$ , contradicting that  $v \neq w$ .

To see that  $\text{lt}_1(H(w, n_w)) \not\subseteq H(v, n_v)$ , we first claim that there is no  $e \in E^1$  satisfying  $s(e) \in L_u$  and  $r(e) \in G_u$ . To see this, fix  $x \in L_u$  and  $y \in G_u$ . Then  $n_y > n_x$ , and in particular  $n_y - 1 - n_x \geq 0$ . Hence Item (3) shows that  $H(y, n_y) \not\subseteq \text{lt}_{n_y-1-n_x}(H(x, n_x))$ . Applying  $\text{lt}_{1-n_y}$  on both sides shows that  $\text{lt}_1(H(y, 0)) \not\subseteq H(x, 0)$ , and so  $xE^1y = \emptyset$ . This proves the claim.

Since  $v \in L_u$ , applying the claim  $n_w + 1 - n_v$  times shows that for any path  $\mu \in vE^{n_w+1-n_v}$ , we have  $r(\mu) \in L_u$ . In particular,  $vE^{n_w+1-n_v}w = \emptyset$ . Thus (2.1) implies that  $\text{lt}_1(H(w, n_w)) \not\subseteq H(v, n_v)$ .

We have now established (2.2). Set

$$\overline{L}_u = \{H(v, n_v) : v \in L_u\} \quad \text{and} \quad \overline{G}_u = \{H(w, n_w) : w \in G_u\}.$$

Then (2.2) shows that  $(\overline{L}_u \times \overline{L}_u) \sqcup (\overline{G}_u \times \overline{G}_u)$  is an equivalence relation on  $V_H$  containing  $\{(H, K) : \text{lt}_1(K) \subseteq H\}$ . Thus item (2) implies that either  $\overline{L}_u$  or  $\overline{G}_u$  is empty. Since  $H(u, n_u) \in \overline{G}_u$ , we deduce that  $\overline{L}_u = \emptyset$  which implies that  $L_u = \emptyset$ . Hence  $G_u = E^0$ , and so  $n_w \geq n_u$  for all  $w \in E^0$  as required.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.4.** *Suppose that  $E$  and  $F$  are amplified graphs. If there exists an isomorphism  $\rho : (\mathcal{H}(E \times_1 \mathbb{Z}), \subseteq, \text{lt}^E) \cong (\mathcal{H}(F \times_1 \mathbb{Z}), \subseteq, \text{lt}^F)$ , then there exists an isomorphism  $\overline{\rho} : (\mathcal{H}(E \times_1 \mathbb{Z}), \subseteq, \text{lt}^E) \rightarrow (\mathcal{H}(F \times_1 \mathbb{Z}), \subseteq, \text{lt}^F)$  such that  $\overline{\rho}(H_0^E) = H_0^F$ .*

*Proof.* First suppose that  $E$  and  $F$  are connected as in Lemma 2.3. Since  $H \in \mathcal{H}_{\text{vert}}^E$  if and only if  $H$  has a unique predecessor in  $\mathcal{H}(E \times_1 \mathbb{Z})$  and similarly for  $F$ , the map  $\rho$  restricts to an inclusion-preserving bijection  $\rho : \mathcal{H}_{\text{vert}}^E \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{\text{vert}}^F$ . Since  $H_0^E$  and  $V_0^E$  satisfy (1)–(3) of Lemma 2.3, so do  $\rho(H_0^E)$  and  $\{\rho(H) : H \in V_0^E\}$ . So Lemma 2.3 shows that  $\rho(H_0^E) = \text{lt}_n(H_0^F)$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , and therefore  $\overline{\rho} := \text{lt}_{-n} \circ \rho$  is the desired isomorphism.

Now suppose that  $E$  and  $F$  are not connected. Let  $\mathcal{WC}(E)$  denote the set of equivalence classes for the equivalence relation on  $E^0$  generated by  $\{(s(e), r(e)) : e \in E^1\}$ ; so the elements of  $\mathcal{WC}(E)$  are the weakly connected components of  $E$ . Similarly, let  $\mathcal{WC}(F)$  be the set of weakly connected components of  $F$ .

Using that  $vE^*w$  is nonempty if and only if  $\text{lt}_n(H(w, 0)) \subseteq H(v, 0)$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we see that  $vE^*w \neq \emptyset$  if and only if  $\bigcup_n \text{lt}_n(H(w, i)) \subseteq \bigcup_n \text{lt}_n(H(v, j))$  for some (equivalently for all)  $i, j \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Since the same is true in  $F$ , we see that for  $v, w \in E^0$ , writing  $x, y \in F^0$  for the elements such that  $\rho(H(v, 0)) \in \text{lt}_{\mathbb{Z}}(H(x, 0))$  and  $\rho(H(w, 0)) \in \text{lt}_{\mathbb{Z}}(H(y, 0))$ , we have  $vE^*w \neq \emptyset$  if and only if  $xF^*y \neq \emptyset$ . Now an induction shows that there is a bijection  $\tilde{\rho} : \mathcal{WC}(E) \rightarrow \mathcal{WC}(F)$  such that for each  $C \in \mathcal{WC}(E)$ , we have  $\rho(\{H(v, n) : v \in C, n \in \mathbb{Z}\}) = \{H(w, m) : w \in \tilde{\rho}(C), m \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ . For each  $C \in \mathcal{WC}(E)$ , write  $E_C$  for the subgraph

$(C, CE^1C, r, s)$  of  $E$  and similarly for  $F$ . Then the inclusions  $E_C \hookrightarrow E$  induce inclusions  $(\mathcal{H}(E_C \times_1 \mathbb{Z}), \text{lt}) \hookrightarrow (\mathcal{H}(E \times_1 \mathbb{Z}), \text{lt})$  whose ranges are  $\text{lt}$ -invariant and mutually incomparable with respect to  $\subseteq$ . Hence  $\rho$  induces isomorphisms  $\rho_C : (\mathcal{H}(E_C \times_1 \mathbb{Z}), \text{lt}) \cong (\mathcal{H}(F_{\bar{\rho}(C)} \times_1 \mathbb{Z}), \text{lt})$ . The first paragraph then shows that for each  $C \in \mathcal{WC}(E)$  there is an isomorphism  $\bar{\rho}_C : (\mathcal{H}(E_C \times_1 \mathbb{Z}), \text{lt}) \rightarrow (\mathcal{H}(F_{\bar{\rho}(C)} \times_1 \mathbb{Z}), \text{lt})$  that carries  $H_0^{E_C}$  to  $H_0^{F_{\bar{\rho}(C)}}$ , and these then assemble into an isomorphism  $\bar{\rho} : (\mathcal{H}(E \times_1 \mathbb{Z}), \subseteq, \text{lt}^E) \rightarrow (\mathcal{H}(F \times_1 \mathbb{Z}), \subseteq, \text{lt}^F)$  such that  $\bar{\rho}(H_0^E) = H_0^F$ .  $\square$

We are now ready to prove Theorem A.

*Proof of Theorem A.* That (1) implies (2) and that (1) implies (3) are clear.

By [3, Proposition 5.7] the graded  $\mathcal{V}$ -monoid  $\mathcal{V}^{\text{gr}}(L_{\mathbb{K}}(E))$  is isomorphic to the  $\mathcal{V}$ -monoid  $\mathcal{V}(L_{\mathbb{K}}(E \times_1 \mathbb{Z}))$ , and that this isomorphism is equivariant for the canonical  $\mathbb{Z}[x, x^{-1}]$  actions arising from the grading on  $\mathcal{V}^{\text{gr}}(L_{\mathbb{K}}(E))$  and from the action on  $\mathcal{V}(L_{\mathbb{K}}(E \times_1 \mathbb{Z}))$  induced by translation in the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -coordinate in  $E \times_1 \mathbb{Z}$ . Hence  $K_0^{\text{gr}}(L_{\mathbb{K}}(E))$  is order isomorphic to  $K_0(L_{\mathbb{K}}(E \times_1 \mathbb{Z}))$  as  $\mathbb{Z}[x, x^{-1}]$ -modules. Hence condition (2) holds if and only if  $K_0(L_{\mathbb{K}}(E \times_1 \mathbb{Z})) \cong K_0(L_{\mathbb{K}}(F \times_1 \mathbb{Z}))$  as ordered  $\mathbb{Z}[x, x^{-1}]$ -modules.

Likewise [20, Theorem 2.7.9] shows that the equivariant  $K$ -theory group  $K_0^{\mathbb{T}}(C^*(E))$  is order isomorphic, as a  $\mathbb{Z}[x, x^{-1}]$ -module, to the  $K_0$ -group  $K_0(C^*(E) \times_{\gamma} \mathbb{T})$ . The canonical isomorphism  $C^*(E) \times_{\gamma} \mathbb{T} \cong C^*(E \times_1 \mathbb{Z})$  is equivariant for the dual action  $\hat{\gamma}$  of  $\mathbb{Z}$  on the former and the action of  $\mathbb{Z}$  on the latter induced by translation in  $E \times_1 \mathbb{Z}$ . It therefore induces an isomorphism  $K_0(C^*(E) \times_{\gamma} \mathbb{T}) \cong K_0(C^*(E \times_1 \mathbb{Z}))$  of ordered  $\mathbb{Z}[x, x^{-1}]$ -modules. So condition (3) holds if and only if  $K_0(C^*(E \times_1 \mathbb{Z})) \cong K_0(C^*(F \times_1 \mathbb{Z}))$  as ordered  $\mathbb{Z}[x, x^{-1}]$ -modules.

By [16, Theorem 3.4 and Corollary 3.5] (see also [2]), for any directed graph  $E$  there is an isomorphism  $K_0(L_{\mathbb{K}}(E)) \cong K_0(C^*(E))$  that carries the class of the module  $L_{\mathbb{K}}(E)v$  to the class of the projection  $p_v$  in  $C^*(E)$  for each  $v \in E^0$ . It follows that  $K_0(L_{\mathbb{K}}(E \times_1 \mathbb{Z})) \cong K_0(C^*(E \times_1 \mathbb{Z}))$  as ordered  $\mathbb{Z}[x, x^{-1}]$ -modules. This shows that conditions (2) and (3) are equivalent. So it now suffices to show that (2) implies (1).

So suppose that (2) holds. Since  $E$ , and therefore  $E \times_1 \mathbb{Z}$ , is an amplified graph, it admits no breaking vertices with respect to any saturated hereditary set, and every hereditary subset of  $E \times_1 \mathbb{Z}$  is a saturated hereditary subset. So the lattice  $\mathcal{H}(E \times_1 \mathbb{Z})$  of hereditary sets is identical to the lattice of admissible pairs in the sense of [22] via the map  $H \mapsto (H, \emptyset)$ . By [3, Theorem 5.11], there is a lattice isomorphism from  $\mathcal{H}(E \times_1 \mathbb{Z})$  to the lattice of order ideals of  $K_0(L_{\mathbb{K}}(E \times_1 \mathbb{Z}))$  that carries a hereditary set  $H$  to the class of the module  $L_{\mathbb{K}}(E \times_1 \mathbb{Z})H$ . This isomorphism clearly intertwines the action of  $\mathbb{Z}$  induced by the module structure on  $K_0(L_{\mathbb{K}}(E \times_1 \mathbb{Z}))$  and the action  $\text{lt}^E$  of  $\mathbb{Z}$  on  $\mathcal{H}(E \times_1 \mathbb{Z})$ .

induced by translation. By the same argument applied to  $F$ , we see that  $(\mathcal{H}(E \times_1 \mathbb{Z}), \subseteq, \text{lt}^E) \cong (\mathcal{H}(F \times_1 \mathbb{Z}), \subseteq, \text{lt}^F)$ .

Now Corollary 2.4 implies that  $(\mathcal{H}(E \times_1 \mathbb{Z}), \text{lt}^E, H_0^E) \cong (\mathcal{H}(F \times_1 \mathbb{Z}), \text{lt}^F, H_0^F)$ . This isomorphism induces an isomorphism  $\overline{E} \cong \overline{F}$  of the graphs constructed from these data in Proposition 2.2. Thus two applications of Proposition 2.2 give  $E \cong \overline{E} \cong \overline{F} \cong F$ , which is (1).  $\square$

### 3. EQUIVARIANT $K$ -THEORY AND GRADED $K$ -THEORY ARE STABLE INVARIANTS

In this section, we prove that equivariant  $K$ -theory and graded  $K$ -theory are stable invariants. We suspect that these are well-known results but we have been unable to find a reference in the literature. For the convenience of the reader, we include their proofs here. We use these results to deduce the consequences of Theorem A for graded stable isomorphisms of amplified Leavitt path algebras, and gauge-equivariant stable isomorphisms of amplified graph C\*-algebras.

#### 3.1. Stability of equivariant $K$ -theory.

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $G$  be a compact group and let  $\alpha$  be an action of  $G$  on a C\*-algebra  $A$ . If  $A$  has an increasing approximate identity consisting of  $G$ -invariant projections, then the natural  $R(G)$ -module isomorphism from  $K_0^G(A, \alpha)$  to  $K_0(C^*(G, A, \alpha))$  is an order isomorphism.*

*Proof.* First suppose  $A$  has a unit. Then the theorem follows from the proof of Julg's Theorem [17] (see also [20, Theorem 2.7.9]). The isomorphism is given by the composition of two isomorphisms:

$$\begin{aligned} K_0^G(A, \alpha) &\rightarrow K_0(L^1(G, A, \alpha)) \quad \text{and} \\ K_0(L^1(G, A, \alpha)) &\rightarrow K_0(C^*(G, A, \alpha)). \end{aligned}$$

The proof that these maps are isomorphisms shows that the maps are order isomorphisms (see the proof of [20, Lemma 2.4.2 and Theorem 2.6.1]).

Now suppose  $A$  has an increasing approximate identity  $S$  consisting of  $G$ -invariant projections. Fix  $p \in S$ . Let

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_A: K_0^G(A, \alpha) &\rightarrow K_0(C^*(G, A, \alpha)), \quad \text{and} \\ \lambda_p: K_0^G(pAp, \alpha) &\rightarrow K_0(C^*(G, pAp, \alpha)), \quad p \in S \end{aligned}$$

be the natural  $R(G)$ -isomorphisms given in Julg's Theorem. Note that  $\alpha$  does indeed induce an action on  $pAp$  since  $p$  is  $G$ -invariant. Let  $\iota_p$  be the  $G$ -equivariant inclusion of  $pAp$  into  $A$  and let  $\tilde{\iota}_p$  be the induced \*-homomorphism from  $C^*(G, pAp, \alpha)$  to  $C^*(G, A, \alpha)$ .

Let  $x \in K_0^G(A, \alpha)_+$ . By [20, Corollary 2.5.5], there exist  $p \in S$  and  $x' \in K_0^G(pAp, \alpha)_+$  such that  $(\iota_p)_*(x') = x$ . Naturality of the maps  $\lambda_A$  and  $\lambda_p$  gives  $\lambda_A(x) = (\tilde{\iota}_p)_* \circ \lambda_p(x')$ . Consequently,  $\lambda_A(x) \in K_0(C^*(G, A, \alpha))_+$  since  $(\tilde{\iota}_p)_* \circ \lambda_p(x') \in K_0(C^*(G, A, \alpha))_+$ . Fix  $y \in$

$K_0(C^*(G, A, \alpha))_+$ . For  $f \in L^1(G)$  and  $a \in A$  we write  $f \otimes a : G \rightarrow A$  for the function  $(f \otimes a)(g) = f(g)a$ . Since  $S$  is an approximate identity of  $A$  and since

$$\{f \otimes a : f \in L^1(G), a \in A\}$$

is dense in  $C^*(G, A, \alpha)$ , the set  $\bigcup_{p \in S} \tilde{\iota}_p(C^*(G, pAp, \alpha))$  is dense in  $C^*(G, A, \alpha)$ . Thus, there exists a projection  $p \in S$  and there exists  $y' \in K_0(C^*(G, pAp, \alpha))_+$  such that  $(\tilde{\iota}_p)_*(y') = x$ . Since  $\lambda_p$  is an order isomorphism,  $\lambda_p^{-1}(y') \in K_0^G(pAp, \alpha)_+$ . Then  $(\iota_p)_* \circ \lambda_p^{-1}(y') \in K_0^G(A, \alpha)_+$ . Naturality of the maps  $\lambda_A$  and  $\lambda_p$  implies that  $\lambda_A \circ (\iota_p)_* \circ \lambda_p^{-1}(y') = y$ . We have shown that  $\lambda_A(K_0^G(A, \alpha)_+) = K_0(C^*(G, A, \alpha))_+$  which implies that  $\lambda_A$  is an order isomorphism.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.2.** *Let  $G$  be a compact group and let  $A$  be a separable  $C^*$ -algebra and let  $\alpha$  be an action of  $G$  on  $A$ . If  $B$  is a hereditary subalgebra of  $A$  such that*

- (1)  $B$  has an increasing approximate identity of  $G$ -invariant projections,
- (2)  $A$  has an increasing approximate identity of  $G$ -invariant projections,
- (3)  $\overline{ABA} = A$ , and
- (4)  $\alpha_g(B) \subseteq B$  for all  $g \in G$ ,

then the inclusion  $\iota : B \rightarrow A$  induces an isomorphism  $K_0^G(B) \cong K_0^G(A)$  of ordered  $R(G)$ -modules.

*Proof.* Since  $B$  is  $G$ -invariant,  $\alpha$  is also an action on  $B$  and the inclusion  $\iota$  is  $G$ -equivariant. Let  $\lambda_B : K_0^G(B, \alpha) \rightarrow K_0(C^*(G, B, \alpha))$  and  $\lambda_A : K_0^G(A) \rightarrow K_0(C^*(G, A, \alpha))$  be the natural  $R(G)$ -module order isomorphisms given in Theorem 3.1. Naturality of  $\lambda_B$  and  $\lambda_A$  implies that the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} K_0^G(B) & \xrightarrow{\iota_*} & K_0^G(A) \\ \lambda_B \downarrow & & \downarrow \lambda_A \\ K_0(C^*(G, B, \alpha)) & \xrightarrow{\tilde{\iota}_*} & K_0(C^*(G, A, \alpha)) \end{array}$$

is commutative. As in the proof of [20, Proposition 2.9.1],  $C^*(G, B, \alpha)$  is a hereditary subalgebra of  $C^*(G, A, \alpha)$  such that the closed two-sided ideal of  $C^*(G, A, \alpha)$  generated by  $C^*(G, B, \alpha)$  is  $C^*(G, A, \alpha)$ . This  $\tilde{\iota}_*$  is an order isomorphism, and so  $\iota_*$  is also an order isomorphism.  $\square$

The corollary below implies that the equivariant  $K_0$ -group is a stable invariant.

**Corollary 3.3.** *Let  $G$  be a compact group, let  $\alpha$  be an action of  $G$  on a separable  $C^*$ -algebra  $A$ , and let  $\beta$  be an action of  $G$  on  $\mathcal{K}(\ell^2)$ . If both*

$A$  and  $\mathcal{K}(\ell^2)$  admit increasing approximate identities consisting of  $G$ -invariant projections, then there is a  $R(G)$ -module order isomorphism from  $K_0^G(A, \alpha)$  to  $K_0^G(A \otimes \mathcal{K}(\ell^2), \alpha \otimes \beta)$ .

In particular, if  $u : G \rightarrow \mathcal{U}(\ell^2)$  is a continuous (in the strong operator topology) unitary representation of  $G$  and  $\beta_g = \text{Ad}(u_g)$ , then there is a  $R(G)$ -module order isomorphism from  $K_0^G(A, \alpha)$  and  $K_0^G(A \otimes \mathcal{K}(\ell^2), \alpha \otimes \beta)$

*Proof.* Let  $\{p_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  be an increasing approximate identity consisting of  $G$ -invariant projections in  $\mathcal{K}(\ell^2)$ . We may assume  $p_1 \neq 0$ . Then  $A \otimes p_1$  is a  $G$ -invariant hereditary subalgebra of  $A \otimes \mathcal{K}(\ell^2)$  such that  $\overline{(A \otimes \mathcal{K}(\ell^2))(A \otimes p_1)(A \otimes \mathcal{K}(\ell^2))} = A \otimes \mathcal{K}(\ell^2)$ . From the assumption on  $A$  and  $\mathcal{K}(\ell^2)$ , both  $A \otimes p_1$  and  $A \otimes \mathcal{K}(\ell^2)$  have increasing approximate identities consisting of  $G$ -invariant projections. Lemma 3.2 implies that there is an  $R(G)$ -module order isomorphism from  $K_0^G(A \otimes p_1, \alpha \otimes \beta)$  to  $K_0^G(A \otimes \mathcal{K}(\ell^2), \alpha \otimes \beta)$ . The result now follows since the map  $a \mapsto a \otimes p_1$  is a  $G$ -equivariant  $*$ -isomorphism from  $A$  to  $A \otimes p_1$ .

For the last part of the theorem, since  $G$  is compact,  $u$  is a direct sum of finite dimensional representations. Thus,  $\mathcal{K}(\ell^2)$  has an increasing approximate identity consisting of  $G$ -invariant projections.  $\square$

To finish this subsection, we describe the consequences of Theorem A for equivariant stable isomorphism of amplified graph  $C^*$ -algebras. For the following theorem, given a strong-operator continuous unitary representation  $u : \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}(\ell^2)$  of  $\mathbb{T}$  on a Hilbert space  $H$ , we will write  $\beta^u$  for the action of  $\mathbb{T}$  on  $\mathcal{B}(\ell^2)$  given by  $\beta_z^u = \text{Ad}(u_z)$ .

**Theorem 3.4.** *Let  $E$  and  $F$  be countable amplified graphs. Then the following are equivalent:*

- (1)  $E \cong F$ ;
- (2)  $(C^*(E), \gamma^E) \cong (C^*(F), \gamma^F)$ ;
- (3)  $(C^*(E) \otimes \mathcal{K}, \gamma^E \otimes \beta^u) \cong (C^*(F) \otimes \mathcal{K}, \gamma^F \otimes \beta^u)$ , for every strongly continuous representation  $u : \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}(\ell^2)$ ;
- (4) there exists a strongly continuous unitary representation  $u : \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}(\ell^2)$  such that  $(C^*(E) \otimes \mathcal{K}, \gamma^E \otimes \beta^u) \cong (C^*(F) \otimes \mathcal{K}, \gamma^F \otimes \beta^u)$ ; and
- (5) there exist strongly continuous unitary representations  $u, v : \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}(\ell^2)$  such that  $(C^*(E) \otimes \mathcal{K}, \gamma^E \otimes \beta^u) \cong (C^*(F) \otimes \mathcal{K}, \gamma^F \otimes \beta^v)$ .

*Proof.* If  $\phi : E \rightarrow F$  is an isomorphism, it induces an isomorphism  $C^*(E) \cong C^*(F)$ , which is gauge invariant because it carries generators to generators. This gives (1)  $\implies$  (2).

If (2) holds, say  $\phi : C^*(E) \rightarrow C^*(F)$  is a gauge-equivariant isomorphism, then for any  $u$  the map  $\phi \otimes \text{id}_{\mathcal{K}}$  is an equivariant isomorphism from  $(C^*(E) \otimes \mathcal{K}, \gamma^E \otimes \beta^u)$  to  $(C^*(F) \otimes \mathcal{K}, \gamma^F \otimes \beta^u)$ , giving (3). Clearly (3) implies (4). And if (4) holds for a given  $u : \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(\ell^2)$ ,

then (5) holds with  $u = v$ . Finally, if (5) holds, then two applications of Corollary 3.3 show that

$$\begin{aligned} K_0^{\mathbb{T}}(C^*(E), \gamma^E) &\cong K_0^{\mathbb{T}}(C^*(E) \otimes \mathcal{K}(\ell^2), \gamma^E \otimes \beta^u) \\ &\cong K_0^{\mathbb{T}}(C^*(F) \otimes \mathcal{K}(\ell^2), \gamma^F \otimes \beta^v) \cong K_0^{\mathbb{T}}(C^*(F), \gamma^F) \end{aligned}$$

as ordered  $\mathbb{Z}[x, x^{-1}]$ -modules, and so Theorem A gives (1).  $\square$

*Remark 3.5.* In this remark, we use the notation, moves, and drawing conventions of [11]; we refer the reader there for details.

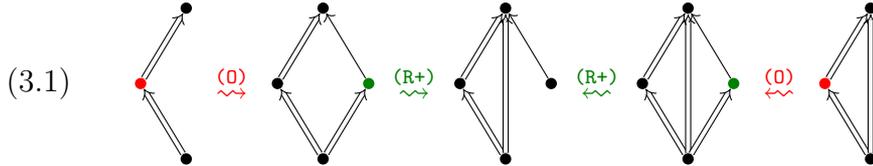
Combined with the results of others, Theorem 3.4 confirms, for the class of amplified graphs, [11, Conjecture 5.1]. The conjecture states that for all  $xyz$  other than  $010$  and  $101$ , the equivalence relation  $\overline{xyz}$  is generated by the moves from  $\{(0), (I-), (I+), (R+), (S), (C+), (P+)\}$  that preserve it.

Theorem 3.4 shows that for amplified graphs,

$$(E, F) \in \overline{010} \implies E \cong F \implies (E, F) \in \overline{111}$$

Since we trivially have  $\overline{111} \subseteq \overline{x1z} \subseteq \overline{010}$  for all  $x, z$ , we deduce that the four equivalence relations  $\overline{x1z}$  are identical and coincide with graph isomorphism. In particular, for amplified graphs, each  $\overline{x1z}$  is trivially contained in the relation generated by the moves that preserve it. For the reverse containment, note that the only moves in the list above that preserve any  $x1z$ -equivalences are  $(0)$ ,  $(I+)$  and  $(I-)$ . Of these, neither  $(I+)$  nor  $(I-)$  can be applied to an amplified graph, and [11, Theorem 3.2] shows that  $\langle (0) \rangle \subseteq \overline{x1z}$  for all  $x, z$ . So we confirm [11, Conjecture 5.1] for amplified graphs for the relations  $\overline{x1z}$ .

We now show that a similar result holds for the relations  $\overline{x0z}$ . Recall from [12] that if  $E$  is an amplified graph then its amplified transitive closure  $tE$  is the amplified graph with  $tE^0 = E^0$  and  $v(tE^1)w \neq \emptyset$  if and only if  $vE^*w \setminus \{v\} \neq \emptyset$ . Theorem 1.1 of [12] shows that for amplified graphs, if  $(E, F) \in \overline{000}$ , then  $tE \cong tF$ . We claim that this forces  $(E, F) \in \overline{101}$ . To see this, first note that by [11, Theorems 3.2 and 3.10], moves  $(0)$  and  $(R+)$  preserve  $\overline{101}$ . So it suffices to show that the graph move  $t$  that, given vertices  $u, v, w$  such that  $uE^1v$  and  $vE^1w$  are infinite, adds infinitely many new edges to  $uE^1w$ , can be obtained using  $(0)$  and  $(R+)$ . This is achieved as follows:



So as above, for amplified graphs, we see that the four equivalence relations  $\overline{x0z}$  are identical, coincide with isomorphism of amplified transitive closures of the underlying graphs, and are generated by  $(0)$  and  $(R+)$ , and in particular by the moves from [11] that are  $x0z$ -invariant.

The results of [11] give the reverse containment, so we have confirmed [11, Conjecture 5.1] for amplified graphs for the relations  $\overline{\mathbf{xQz}}$ .

**3.2. Stability of graded algebraic  $K_0$ .** Next we establish the stable invariance of graded  $K$ -theory. Let  $\Gamma$  be an additive abelian group and let  $A$  be a  $\Gamma$ -graded ring. For  $\bar{\delta} \in \Gamma^n$ , we write  $M_n(A)(\bar{\delta})$  for the  $\Gamma$ -graded ring  $M_n(A)$  with grading given by  $(a_{i,j}) \in M_n(A)_\lambda$  if and only if  $a_{i,j} \in A_{\lambda+\delta_j-\delta_i}$ . Similarly, for  $\bar{\delta} \in \prod_n \Gamma$ , we write  $M_\infty(A)(\bar{\delta})$  for the  $\Gamma$ -graded ring  $M_\infty(A)$  with grading given by  $(a_{i,j}) \in M_\infty(A)(\bar{\delta})_\lambda$  if and only if  $a_{i,j} \in A_{\lambda+\delta_j-\delta_i}$ .

Since the tensor product of two graded modules will be key in the proof, we recall the construct given in [15, Section 1.2.6]. Let  $\Gamma$  be an additive abelian group, let  $A$  be a  $\Gamma$ -graded ring, let  $M$  be a graded right  $A$ -module, and let  $N$  be a graded left  $A$ -module. Then  $M \otimes_A N$  is defined to be  $M \otimes_{A_0} N$  modulo the subgroup generated by

$$\{ma \otimes n - m \otimes an : m \in M, n \in N, \text{ and } a \in A \text{ are homogeneous}\}$$

with grading induced by the grading on  $M \otimes_{A_0} N$  given by

$$(M \otimes_{A_0} N)_\lambda = \left\{ \sum_i m_i \otimes n_i : m_i \in M_{\alpha_i}, n_i \in N_{\beta_i} \text{ with } \alpha_i + \beta_i = \lambda \right\}.$$

**Theorem 3.6.** *Let  $\Gamma$  be an additive abelian group, let  $A$  be a unital  $\Gamma$ -graded ring, and let  $\bar{\delta} = (\delta_1, \delta_2, \dots, \delta_n) \in \Gamma^n$ . Then the inclusion  $\iota: A \rightarrow M_n(A)(\bar{\delta})$  into the  $e_{1,1}$  corner induces a  $\mathbb{Z}[\Gamma]$ -module order isomorphism  $K_0^{\text{gr}}(\iota): K_0^{\text{gr}}(A) \rightarrow K_0^{\text{gr}}(M_n(A)(\bar{\delta}))$  given by  $K_0^{\text{gr}}(\iota)([P]) = [P \otimes_A M_n(A)(\bar{\delta})]$  (the left  $A$ -module structure on  $M_n(A)(\bar{\delta})$  is given by the inclusion  $\iota$ ).*

*Proof.* Let  $\bar{\alpha} = (0, \delta_2 - \delta_1, \dots, \delta_n - \delta_1)$ . By [15, Corollary 2.1.2], there is an equivalence of categories  $\phi: \text{Pgr-}A \rightarrow \text{Pgr-}M_n(A)(\bar{\alpha})$  given by  $\phi(P) = P \otimes_A A^n(\bar{\alpha})$ . Moreover,  $\phi$  commutes with the suspension map. Since

$$\begin{aligned} M_n(A)(\bar{\alpha})_\lambda &= \begin{pmatrix} A_\lambda & A_{\lambda+\alpha_2-\alpha_1} & \cdots & A_{\lambda+\alpha_n-\alpha_1} \\ A_{\lambda+\alpha_1-\alpha_2} & A_\lambda & \cdots & A_{\lambda+\alpha_n-\alpha_2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ A_{\lambda+\alpha_1-\alpha_n} & A_{\lambda+\alpha_2-\alpha_n} & \cdots & A_\lambda \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} A_\lambda & A_{\lambda+\delta_2-\delta_1} & \cdots & A_{\lambda+\delta_n-\delta_1} \\ A_{\lambda+\delta_1-\delta_2} & A_\lambda & \cdots & A_{\lambda+\delta_n-\delta_2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ A_{\lambda+\delta_1-\delta_n} & A_{\lambda+\delta_2-\delta_n} & \cdots & A_\lambda \end{pmatrix} = M_n(A)(\bar{\delta})_\lambda, \end{aligned}$$

we have  $M_n(A)(\bar{\alpha}) = M_n(A)(\bar{\delta})$ . Therefore,  $\phi(P) = P \otimes_A A^n(\bar{\alpha})$  is an equivalence of categories from  $\text{Pgr-}A$  to  $\text{Pgr-}M_n(A)(\bar{\delta})$  and  $\phi$  commutes with the suspension map. Hence,  $\phi$  induces a  $\mathbb{Z}[\Gamma]$ -module order isomorphism from  $K_0^{\text{gr}}(A)$  to  $K_0^{\text{gr}}(M_n(A)(\bar{\delta}))$ .

We claim that  $\phi = K_0^{\text{gr}}(\iota)$ . Let  $M$  be a graded right  $A$ -module. We will show that  $M \otimes_A A^n(\bar{\alpha})$  and  $M \otimes_A M_n(A)(\bar{\delta})$  are isomorphic as graded modules. Since  $1_A \in A_0$  and  $M1_A = M$ ,

$$M \otimes_A M_n(A)(\bar{\delta}) \cong_{\text{gr}} M \otimes_A \iota(1_A)M_n(A)(\bar{\delta}) = M \otimes_A e_{1,1}M_n(A)(\bar{\delta}).$$

By the definitions of the gradings on  $e_{1,1}M_n(A)(\bar{\delta})$  and  $A^n(\alpha)$ , the right  $M_n(A)$ -module isomorphism

$$e_{1,1}X \mapsto (x_{1,1}, x_{1,2}, \dots, x_{1,n})$$

is a graded isomorphism. Hence,

$$M \otimes_A M_n(A)(\bar{\delta}) \cong_{\text{gr}} M \otimes_A e_{1,1}M_n(A)(\bar{\delta}) \cong_{\text{gr}} M \otimes_A A^n(\alpha).$$

Thus,  $\phi = K_0^{\text{gr}}(\iota)$ . Consequently,  $K_0^{\text{gr}}(\iota)$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}[\Gamma]$ -module order isomorphism.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.7.** *Let  $\Gamma$  be an additive abelian group and let  $A$  be a  $\Gamma$ -graded ring with a sequence of idempotents  $\{e_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty} \subseteq A_0$  such that  $e_n e_{n+1} = e_n$  for all  $n$ , and  $\bigcup_n e_n A e_n = A$ . For  $\bar{\delta} \in \prod_i \Gamma$ , the embedding  $\iota: A \rightarrow M_{\infty}(A)(\bar{\delta})$  into the  $e_{1,1}$  corner of  $M_{\infty}(A)(\bar{\delta})$  induces a  $\mathbb{Z}[\Gamma]$ -module order isomorphism  $K_0^{\text{gr}}(\iota): K_0^{\text{gr}}(A) \rightarrow K_0^{\text{gr}}(M_{\infty}(A)(\bar{\delta}))$ .*

*In particular, if  $E$  is a countable directed graph and  $\bar{\delta} \in \prod_i \mathbb{Z}$ , then the inclusion of  $\iota: L_{\mathbb{K}}(E) \rightarrow M_{\infty}(L_{\mathbb{K}}(E))(\bar{\delta})$  of  $L_{\mathbb{K}}(E)$  into the  $e_{1,1}$  corner of  $M_{\infty}(L_{\mathbb{K}}(E))(\bar{\delta})$  induces a  $\mathbb{Z}[x, x^{-1}]$ -module order isomorphism from  $K_0^{\text{gr}}(L_{\mathbb{K}}(E))$  to  $K_0^{\text{gr}}(M_{\infty}(L_{\mathbb{K}}(E))(\bar{\delta}))$  for any field  $\mathbb{K}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\iota_n: e_n A e_n \rightarrow M_{\infty}(e_n A e_n)(\bar{\delta})$  be the inclusion of  $e_n A e_n$  into the  $e_{1,1}$  corner of  $M_{\infty}(e_n A e_n)(\bar{\delta})$ . Observe that  $A = \varinjlim e_n A e_n$ , that  $M_{\infty}(A) = \varinjlim M_{\infty}(e_n A e_n)$ , and that the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} e_n A e_n & \xrightarrow{\subseteq} & A \\ \iota_n \downarrow & & \downarrow \iota \\ M_{\infty}(e_n A e_n)(\bar{\delta}) & \xrightarrow{\subseteq} & M_{\infty}(A)(\bar{\delta}) \end{array}$$

commutes. Therefore, if each  $K_0^{\text{gr}}(\iota_n)$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}[\Gamma]$ -module order isomorphism, then  $K_0^{\text{gr}}(\iota)$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}[\Gamma]$ -module order isomorphism since the graded  $K_0$ -group respects direct limits ([15, Theorem 3.2.4]). Hence, without loss of generality, we may assume that  $A$  is a unital  $\Gamma$ -graded ring.

Let  $\bar{\delta}_n = (\delta_1, \delta_2, \dots, \delta_n)$ . Let  $j_n: A \rightarrow M_n(A)(\bar{\delta}_n)$  be the inclusion of  $A$  into the  $e_{1,1}$  corner of  $M_n(A)(\bar{\delta}_n)$ , and let  $\iota_n: M_n(A)(\bar{\delta}_n) \rightarrow M_{\infty}(A)(\bar{\delta})$  be the inclusion map. Then  $\varinjlim M_n(A)(\bar{\delta}_n) = M_{\infty}(A)(\bar{\delta})$  and the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & & \\ j_n \downarrow & \searrow \iota & \\ M_n(A)(\bar{\delta}_n) & \xrightarrow{\iota_n} & M_{\infty}(A)(\bar{\delta}) \end{array}$$

commutes. By Theorem 3.6,  $K_0^{\text{gr}}(j_n)$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}[\Gamma]$ -module order isomorphism. Since the graded- $K_0$  functor respects direct limits,  $K_0^{\text{gr}}(\iota)$  is  $\mathbb{Z}[\Gamma]$ -module order isomorphism.

For the last part of the corollary, let  $\{X_n\}$  be a sequence of finite subsets of  $E^0$  such that  $X_n \subseteq X_{n+1}$  and  $\bigcup_n X_n = E^0$ . Then  $e_n := \sum_{v \in X_n} v$  defines idempotents of degree zero such that  $\bigcup_n e_n L_{\mathbb{K}}(E) e_n = L_{\mathbb{K}}(E)$ .  $\square$

As in the preceding subsection, we finish by describing the consequences of Theorem A for graded stable isomorphism of amplified Leavitt path algebras.

**Theorem 3.8.** *Let  $E$  and  $F$  be countable amplified graphs and let  $\mathbb{K}$  be a field. Then the following are equivalent:*

- (1)  $E \cong F$
- (2)  $L_{\mathbb{K}}(E) \cong^{\text{gr}} L_{\mathbb{K}}(F)$ ;
- (3)  $L_{\mathbb{K}}(E) \otimes M_{\infty}(\mathbb{K})(\bar{\delta}) \cong^{\text{gr}} L_{\mathbb{K}}(F) \otimes M_{\infty}(\mathbb{K})(\bar{\delta})$  for every  $\bar{\delta} \in \prod_i \mathbb{Z}$ ;
- (4)  $L_{\mathbb{K}}(E) \otimes M_{\infty}(\mathbb{K})(\bar{\delta}) \cong^{\text{gr}} L_{\mathbb{K}}(F) \otimes M_{\infty}(\mathbb{K})(\bar{\delta})$  for some  $\bar{\delta} \in \prod_i \mathbb{Z}$ ;
- and
- (5)  $L_{\mathbb{K}}(E) \otimes M_{\infty}(\mathbb{K})(\bar{\delta}) \cong^{\text{gr}} L_{\mathbb{K}}(F) \otimes M_{\infty}(\mathbb{K})(\bar{\varepsilon})$  for some  $\bar{\delta}, \bar{\varepsilon} \in \prod_i \mathbb{Z}$ .

*Proof.* The argument is very similar to that of Theorem 3.4, so we summarise. Any isomorphism of graphs induces a graded isomorphism of their Leavitt path algebras, and any graded isomorphism  $\phi : L_{\mathbb{K}}(E) \cong L_{\mathbb{K}}(F)$  amplifies to a graded isomorphism  $\phi \otimes \text{id} : L_{\mathbb{K}}(E) \otimes M_{\infty}(\mathbb{K})(\bar{\delta}) \cong L_{\mathbb{K}}(F) \otimes M_{\infty}(\mathbb{K})(\bar{\delta})$ , giving (1)  $\implies$  (2)  $\implies$  (3). The implications (3)  $\implies$  (4)  $\implies$  (5) are trivial. The second statement of Corollary 3.7 shows that if (5) holds then  $K^{\text{gr}}(L_{\mathbb{K}}(E)) \cong K^{\text{gr}}(L_{\mathbb{K}}(F))$  as ordered  $\mathbb{Z}[x, x^{-1}]$ -modules, and then Theorem A gives (1).  $\square$

*Remark 3.9.* Since statement (1) of Theorem 3.8 does not depend on the field  $\mathbb{K}$ , we deduce that each of the other four statements holds for some field  $\mathbb{K}$  if and only if holds for every field  $\mathbb{K}$ . In particular the graded-isomorphism problem for amplified Leavitt path algebras is field independent, so it suffices, for example, to consider the field  $\mathbb{F}_2$ .

*Remark 3.10.* Let  $E$  and  $F$  be amplified graphs. Theorem 3.4 shows that the existence of an isomorphism  $(C^*(E) \otimes \mathcal{K}, \gamma^E \otimes \beta^u) \cong (C^*(F) \otimes \mathcal{K}, \gamma^F \otimes \beta^u)$  for every  $u$  is equivalent to the existence of such an isomorphism for some  $u$ , and indeed to the existence of an isomorphism  $(C^*(E) \otimes \mathcal{K}, \gamma^E \otimes \beta^u) \cong (C^*(F) \otimes \mathcal{K}, \gamma^F \otimes \beta^v)$  for some  $u, v$ . All of these conditions are formally weaker than the existence of isomorphisms  $(C^*(E) \otimes \mathcal{K}, \gamma^E \otimes \beta^u) \cong (C^*(F) \otimes \mathcal{K}, \gamma^F \otimes \beta^v)$  for every pair of strongly continuous representations  $u, v : \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}(\ell^2)$ , and this in turn is clearly equivalent to the existence of an isomorphism  $(C^*(E) \otimes \mathcal{K}, \gamma^E \otimes \beta^u) \cong (C^*(F) \otimes \mathcal{K}, \gamma^F \otimes \text{id})$  for every  $u$ . So it is natural to ask for which

amplified graphs  $E, F$  and which strongly continuous representations  $u : \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}(\ell^2)$  we have  $(C^*(E) \otimes \mathcal{K}, \gamma^E \otimes \beta^u) \cong (C^*(F) \otimes \mathcal{K}, \gamma^F \otimes \text{id})$ .

This is an intriguing question to which we do not know a complete answer, but we can certainly show that the condition that  $(C^*(E) \otimes \mathcal{K}, \gamma^E \otimes \beta^u) \cong (C^*(F) \otimes \mathcal{K}, \gamma^F \otimes \text{id})$  for every  $u$  is in general strictly stronger than the equivalent conditions of Theorem 3.4. Specifically, let  $E = F$  be the directed graph with  $E^0 = \{v, w\}$  and  $E^1 = \{e_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  with  $s(e_n) = v$  and  $r(e_n) = w$  for all  $\mathbb{N}$ . Then the only nonzero spectral subspaces for the gauge action on  $C^*(E)$  are those corresponding to  $-1, 0, -1$ , and so the same is true for the spectral subspaces of  $C^*(E) \otimes \mathcal{K}$  with respect to  $\gamma^E \otimes \text{id}$ . On the other hand, if  $u : \mathbb{T} \rightarrow B(\ell^2(\mathbb{Z}))$  is given by  $u_z e_n = z^n e_n$ , then each spectral subspace of  $C^*(E) \otimes \mathcal{K}$  for  $\gamma^E \otimes \beta^u$  is nonempty, so  $(C^*(E) \otimes \mathcal{K}, \gamma^E \otimes \beta^u) \not\cong (C^*(E) \otimes \mathcal{K}, \gamma^E \otimes \text{id})$ . We do not, however, know of an example in which  $C^*(E)$  is simple.

A similar question can be posed for amplified Leavitt path algebras: for which amplified graphs  $E, F$  and elements  $\bar{\delta} \in \prod_i \mathbb{Z}$  do we have  $L_{\mathbb{K}}(E) \otimes M_{\infty}(\mathbb{K})(\bar{\delta}) \cong^{\text{gr}} L_{\mathbb{K}}(F) \otimes M_{\infty}(\mathbb{K})(\bar{0})$ ? The same example shows that the existence of such an isomorphism for every  $\bar{\delta}$  is in general strictly stronger than the equivalent conditions of Theorem 3.8.

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