

## A TORSION GRAPH DETERMINED BY EQUIVALENCE CLASSES OF TORSION ELEMENTS AND ASSOCIATED PRIME IDEALS

REZA NEKOOEI AND ZAHRA POURSHAFIEY

**ABSTRACT.** In this paper, we define the torsion graph determined by equivalence classes of torsion elements and denote it by  $A_E(M)$ . The vertex set of  $A_E(M)$  is the set of equivalence classes  $\{[x] \mid x \in T(M)^*\}$ , where two torsion elements  $x, y \in T(M)^*$  are equivalent if  $\text{ann}(x) = \text{ann}(y)$ . Also, two distinct classes  $[x]$  and  $[y]$  are adjacent in  $A_E(M)$ , provided that  $\text{ann}(x)\text{ann}(y)M = 0$ . We shall prove that for every torsion finitely generated module  $M$  over a Dedekind domain  $R$ , a vertex of  $A_E(M)$  has degree two if and only if it is an associated prime of  $M$ .

### 1. Introduction

Throughout this paper, all rings are commutative with identity and all modules are unitary. An element  $x$  of an  $R$ -module  $M$  is called a torsion element if it has a non-zero annihilator in  $R$ . Let  $T(M)$  be the set of torsion elements of  $M$ . It is clear that if  $R$  is an integral domain, then  $T(M)$  is a submodule of  $M$ . We call  $T(M)$  the torsion submodule of  $M$ . If  $T(M) = M$ , then  $M$  is called a torsion module. For every subset  $X$  of  $R$  (or  $M$ ), we define  $X^* = X - \{0\}$ . Recall that a prime ideal  $P$  is an associated prime of  $R$  (or  $M$ ) if  $P = \text{ann}(x)$  for some non-zero element  $x \in R$  (or  $x \in M$ ). The set of all associated primes of a ring  $R$  (or  $R$ -module  $M$ ) is denoted by  $\text{Ass}(R)$  (or  $\text{Ass}(M)$ ). It is well known that for a finitely generated module  $M$  over a Noetherian ring  $R$ ,  $\text{Ass}(R)$  and  $\text{Ass}(M)$  are both finite.

A Dedekind domain is a Noetherian integrally closed domain in which every non-zero prime ideal is maximal. If  $R$  is a Dedekind domain, then for every non-zero prime ideal  $P$  of  $R$ ,  $R_P$  is a DVR [2, Theorem 9.3]. Also every non-zero ideal  $I$  of a Dedekind domain  $R$  can be uniquely expressed by  $I = P_1^{n_1} \cdots P_r^{n_r}$ , where  $P_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq r$ ) are prime ideals of  $R$  containing  $I$  [2, Corollary 9.4].

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A graph  $G$  consists of a set of vertices  $V(G)$  and a set of edges  $E(G)$  consisting of pairs of vertices. We consider simple graphs, that is, graphs without loops and parallel edges. Two vertices of a graph are said to be connected if there is a path between them. A graph  $G$  is connected if any two distinct vertices are connected. The distance  $d(x, y)$  between connected vertices  $x$  and  $y$  is the length of a shortest path from  $x$  to  $y$ ; if there is no such a path we write  $d(x, y) = \infty$ . The diameter of a connected graph  $G$  is the supremum of the distances between vertices. The diameter is 0 if the graph consists of a single vertex. For a graph  $G$ , the degree  $\deg(v)$  of a vertex  $v$  in  $G$  is the number of edges incident to  $v$ . We denote the complete graph with  $n$  vertices and a complete bipartite graph with two parts of sizes  $m$  and  $n$ , by  $K_n$  and  $K_{m,n}$ , respectively. The complete bipartite graph  $K_{1,n}$  is called a star graph. A cycle graph  $C_n$  is a path from  $v_1$  to  $v_n$  such that  $v_1 = v_n$ . Two graphs  $G$  and  $H$  are isomorphic if there is a bijection  $f$  from  $V(G)$  onto  $V(H)$  such that two vertices  $x$  and  $y$  of  $G$  are adjacent if and only if the vertices  $f(x)$  and  $f(y)$  of  $H$  are adjacent. A colour-partition of a graph  $G$  is a partition of  $V(G)$  into colour-classes  $V_1, \dots, V_l$  such that no  $V_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq l$ ), contains a pair of adjacent vertices. In other words, the induced subgraphs  $\langle V_i \rangle$  have no edges. The chromatic number of  $G$ , denoted by  $\nu(G)$ , is the least natural number  $l$  for which such a partition is possible. A subset  $X$  of the vertices of  $G$  is called a clique if the induced subgraph on  $X$  is a complete graph. The clique number of  $G$  is  $\chi(G) = n$  if  $G$  contains a clique with  $n$  elements and no clique has more than  $n$  elements. If the sizes of the cliques are not bounded, then  $\chi(G) = \infty$ . We always have  $\chi(G) \leq \nu(G)$ .

The notion of a zero-divisor graph  $G(R)$  of a ring  $R$  was introduced by I. Beck in [3]. The vertices of the graph  $G(R)$  are the elements of  $R$  and two distinct vertices  $r$  and  $s$  are adjacent provided that  $rs = 0$ . The first simplification of Beck's zero-divisor graph  $\Gamma(R)$  was introduced by D. F. Anderson and P. S. Livingston in [1]. This zero-divisor graph helps us study the algebraic properties of rings using graph theoretical tools. S. B. Mulay [8] introduced the zero-divisor graph  $\Gamma_E(R)$  associated with a ring. For a ring  $R$ , two zero-divisors  $r, s \in Z(R)^*$  are said to be equivalent if  $ann(r) = ann(s)$ , where  $Z(R)$  is the set of all zero-divisors of  $R$ . The equivalence class of  $r$  is denoted by  $[r]$ . The set of vertices of the graph  $\Gamma_E(R)$  is the set of equivalence classes  $\{[r] \mid r \in Z(R)^*\}$ . Distinct classes  $[r]$  and  $[s]$  are adjacent in  $\Gamma_E(R)$  provided that  $rs = 0$  in  $R$ .

We follow the ideas from Mulay, Spiroff and Wickham in [9], who studied the graph of equivalence classes of zero-divisors of a ring  $R$ . This graph has some advantages over the earlier zero-divisor graph  $\Gamma(R)$ . In many cases,  $\Gamma_E(R)$  is finite even when  $\Gamma(R)$  is infinite. In addition, there are no complete graphs  $\Gamma_E(R)$  with three or more vertices, since the graph collapses into a single point. Every vertex in this graph either corresponds to an associated prime or is connected to one.

In this paper we extend this concept to modules, i.e., we define a graph and derive relationships between the associated primes of  $M$  and its graph-theoretic properties. In [6], the concept of the zero-divisor graph for a ring has been extended to a module and the authors defined the torsion graph  $\Gamma(M)$  of an  $R$ -module  $M$  as one whose vertices are the non-zero torsion elements of  $M$  and two distinct vertices  $x$  and  $y$  are adjacent if  $[x : M][y : M]M = 0$ . Here we define a graph whose set of vertices is the set of equivalence classes  $\{[x] \mid x \in T(M)^*\}$ , and two distinct torsion elements  $x, y \in T(M)^*$  are equivalent if  $ann(x) = ann(y)$ . Also, two distinct classes  $[x]$  and  $[y]$  are adjacent provided that  $ann(x)ann(y)M = 0$ . This graph will be denoted by  $A_E(M)$ . We say an ideal  $I$  of  $R$  is an annihilating-ideal if there exists a non-zero ideal  $J$  of  $R$  such that  $IJ = (0)$ . We denote the set of annihilating-ideals of  $R$  by  $\mathbb{A}(R)$ . By the annihilating-ideal graph  $\mathbb{AG}(R)$  of  $R$  we mean the graph with vertices  $\mathbb{A}(R)^* = \mathbb{A}(R) - \{0\}$  such that there is an edge between vertices  $I$  and  $J$  if and only if  $I \neq J$  and  $IJ = (0)$  [4, 5]. For an  $R$ -module  $M$  (a ring  $R$ ), we denote the set of all  $ann(x)$  such that  $0 \neq x \in M(R)$ , by  $\Omega_R(M)$  ( $\Omega(R)$ ). There is a natural bijective map from  $\Omega_R(M)$  (or  $\Omega(R)$ ) to the set of vertices of  $A_E(M)$  (or  $A_E(R)$ ) given by  $I \rightarrow [x]$ , where  $I = ann(x)$ . We will slightly abuse terminology and refer to  $[x]$  as an element of  $\Omega_R(M)$  ( $\Omega(R)$ ).

In Section 1, we define the graph  $A_E(M)$ , discuss the relation between the associated primes of  $M$  and the vertices of  $A_E(M)$  and prove some basic results about  $A_E(M)$  and  $A_E(R)$ . In Section 2, we show that a vertex of  $A_E(M)$  has degree two if and only if it is an associated prime of  $M$ . We then determine  $\nu(A_E(M))$ , where  $|V(A_E(M))| > 1$  and prove that the chromatic number of  $A_E(M)$  equals its clique number.

**2. The definition and some results about  $A_E(M)$  and  $A_E(R)$**

Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module. For every  $x, y \in M$ , we say that  $x \sim y$  if  $ann(x) = ann(y)$ . The relation “ $\sim$ ” is an equivalence relation. The equivalence class of  $x$  is denoted by  $[x]$ .

**Definition.** The graph of equivalence classes of torsion elements of an  $R$ -module  $M$ , denoted by  $A_E(M)$ , is the graph whose vertices are the classes of elements in  $T(M)^*$ . Also, each pair of distinct classes  $[x]$  and  $[y]$  are joined by an edge if  $ann(x)ann(y)M = 0$ .

**Proposition 2.1.** (i) *Let  $R$  be a Noetherian ring and  $M$  be an  $R$ -module. If  $V(A_E(M)) = \emptyset$ , then  $R$  is an integral domain.*

(ii) *If  $R$  is an integral domain and  $M$  is a faithful  $R$ -module, then  $E(A_E(M)) = \emptyset$ .*

*Proof.* (i) Since  $R$  is a Noetherian ring,  $Ass(M) \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $P \in Ass(M)$  be such that  $ann(x) = P \neq 0$ . Thus  $x \in T(M)^*$  and  $[x] \in V(A_E(M))$ , which is a contradiction. So we have  $P = 0 \in Spec(R)$  and  $R$  is an integral domain.

(ii) Now let  $[x]$  and  $[y] \in V(A_E(M))$  be adjacent. Then  $\text{ann}(x)\text{ann}(y) = 0$ . Since  $R$  is an integral domain,  $\text{ann}(x) = 0$  or  $\text{ann}(y) = 0$ , which is a contradiction. So  $E(A_E(M)) = \emptyset$ .  $\square$

The converse of the first part of Proposition 2.1 is not true in general. For example for  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ ,  $V(A_E(\mathbb{Z}_n)) \neq \emptyset$ , but  $\mathbb{Z}$  is an integral domain.

In the following we give an example to illustrate the second part of the Proposition 2.1.

**Example 2.2.** The  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module  $\frac{\mathbb{Q}}{\mathbb{Z}}$  is faithful and for every  $\frac{a}{b} + \mathbb{Z} \in \frac{\mathbb{Q}}{\mathbb{Z}}$  such that  $(a, b) = 1$ , we have  $\text{ann}(\frac{a}{b} + \mathbb{Z}) = b\mathbb{Z}$ . Thus  $V(A_E(M)) = \{[\frac{1}{b} + \mathbb{Z}] \mid b \in \mathbb{N}\}$  and we have  $E(A_E(M)) = \emptyset$ . Note that  $|V(A_E(M))| = \infty$  but  $E(A_E(M)) = \emptyset$ .

**Proposition 2.3.** *Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module and  $\text{ann}(M) = P \in \text{Spec}(R)$ . Then  $A_E(M)$  is a star graph or  $E(A_E(M)) = \emptyset$ . Furthermore, if  $P \in \text{Max}(R)$ , then  $|V(A_E(M))| = 1$ .*

*Proof.* Assume that  $E(A_E(M)) \neq \emptyset$ . Then there exist  $[x], [y] \in V(A_E(M))$  such that  $\text{ann}(x)\text{ann}(y) \subseteq P$ . Since  $P$  is a prime ideal, we have  $\text{ann}(x) \subseteq P$  or  $\text{ann}(y) \subseteq P$ . By assumption,  $P \subseteq \text{ann}(x)$  and  $P \subseteq \text{ann}(y)$ , hence  $\text{ann}(x) = P$  or  $\text{ann}(y) = P$ . Now suppose that  $\text{ann}(x) = P$ . For every  $[z] \in V(A_E(M))$ ,  $\text{ann}(x)\text{ann}(z) \subseteq P$  and hence  $A_E(M)$  is a star graph. If  $P \in \text{Max}(R)$ , then for every  $x \in T(M)^*$ ,  $P \subseteq \text{ann}(x) \neq R$ . So  $P = \text{ann}(x)$  and  $|V(A_E(M))| = 1$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 2.4.** *Let  $M$  be a module over a Noetherian ring  $R$  with  $m, m' \in \text{Ass}(M)$  such that  $m$  and  $m'$  are the only maximal elements of  $\Omega_R(M)$ . If  $m$  and  $m'$  are adjacent or there exists  $x \in T(M)^*$  such that  $\text{ann}(x) = \text{ann}(M)$ , then  $A_E(M)$  is connected and  $\text{diam}(A_E(M)) \leq 2$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $R$  is Noetherian, for every  $z \in T(M)^*$  we have  $\text{ann}(z) \subseteq m$  or  $\text{ann}(z) \subseteq m'$ . Since  $mm' \subseteq \text{ann}(M)$ , hence  $[z]$  is adjacent to  $m$  or  $m'$ . Therefore  $A_E(M)$  is connected. Let  $[z]$  be adjacent to  $m$  and  $[w]$  adjacent to  $m'$ . We have  $\text{ann}(z)m \subseteq m'$  and  $\text{ann}(w)m' \subseteq m$ , hence  $\text{ann}(z) \subseteq m'$  and  $\text{ann}(w) \subseteq m$ . So  $\text{ann}(z)\text{ann}(w) \subseteq mm' \subseteq \text{ann}(M)$  and hence  $[z]$  and  $[w]$  are adjacent. Therefore,  $\text{diam}(A_E(M)) \leq 2$ . Now let  $x \in T(M)^*$  be such that  $\text{ann}(x) = \text{ann}(M)$ . Since every vertex  $[y]$  is adjacent to  $[x]$ , hence  $A_E(M)$  is connected and  $\text{diam}(A_E(M)) \leq 2$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 2.5.** *Let  $B = \{P \in \text{Ass}(M) \mid P \text{ is minimal in } \text{Ass}(M)\}$ .*

- (i) *If  $P, Q \in \text{Ass}(M) \setminus B$ , then  $P$  and  $Q$  are not adjacent.*
- (ii) *If  $|B| \geq 3$ , then no two elements of  $\text{Ass}(M)$  are adjacent.*
- (iii) *If  $B = \{P, Q\}$ , then the only elements of  $\text{Ass}(M)$  that can be adjacent are  $P$  and  $Q$ .*
- (iv) *If  $A_E(M)$  is a complete graph, then  $|\text{Ass}(M)| \leq 2$ .*

*Proof.* (i) Case 1:  $B \neq \emptyset$ . Suppose that  $T$  is minimal in  $\text{Ass}(M)$ . If  $P$  and  $Q$  are adjacent, then  $PQ \subseteq T$  and we have  $P \subseteq T$  or  $Q \subseteq T$ , which is a contradiction.

Case 2:  $B = \emptyset$ . Since  $P \notin B$ , there exists  $T \in \text{Ass}(M)$  such that  $T \subset P$ . Suppose  $P$  and  $Q$  are adjacent. Then  $PQ \subseteq T$  and we have  $Q \subseteq T$ . Since  $Q \notin B$ , there exists  $S \in \text{Ass}(M)$  such that  $S \subset Q$  and we have  $PQ \subseteq S$ . Thus  $P \subseteq S$  and hence  $P \subseteq S \subseteq Q \subseteq T$ , which is a contradiction. So  $P$  and  $Q$  are not adjacent.

(ii) Let  $P, Q \in \text{Ass}(M)$ . Since  $|B| \geq 3$ , there exists  $T \in B$  such that  $T \neq P$  and  $T \neq Q$ . Assume that  $P$  and  $Q$  are adjacent. Thus  $PQ \subseteq T$ , hence  $P \subseteq T$  or  $Q \subseteq T$ . So  $P = T$  or  $Q = T$ , which is a contradiction. Therefore  $P$  and  $Q$  are not adjacent.

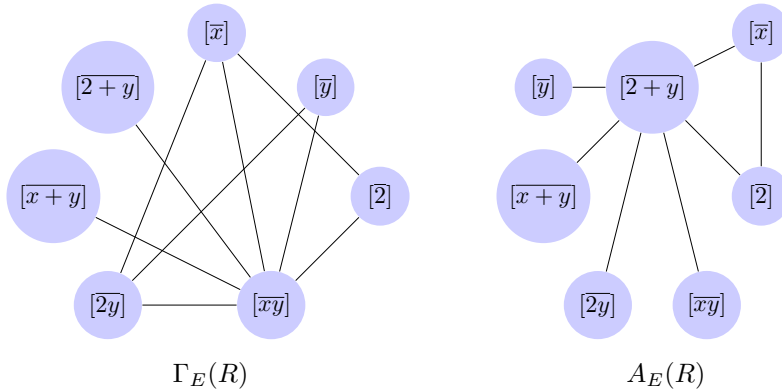
(iii) Suppose  $S, T \in \text{Ass}(M)$  are adjacent. Then we have  $TS \subseteq P$  and  $TS \subseteq Q$ . Hence  $T \subseteq P$  or  $S \subseteq P$  and  $S \subseteq Q$  or  $T \subseteq Q$ . So  $\{T, S\} = \{P, Q\}$ .

(iv) Let  $|\text{Ass}(M)| \geq 3$  and  $P, Q, T \in \text{Ass}(M)$  be distinct three elements. Since  $A_E(M)$  is a complete graph,  $P$  and  $Q$  are adjacent and hence by part (i),  $P \in B$  or  $Q \in B$ . Let  $P \in B$ . Also  $Q$  and  $T$  are adjacent, hence  $Q \in B$  or  $T \in B$ , which is a contradiction by parts (ii) and (iii). □

**Proposition 2.6.** *Let  $R$  be a Noetherian ring and  $|V(A_E(R))| \geq 3$ . Then  $A_E(R)$  is not a complete graph. In particular, for every  $[z]$  such that  $\text{ann}(z)$  is a maximal element of  $\Omega(R)$ ,  $\deg([z]) \leq 1$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $A_E(R)$  is a complete graph and  $[x], [y]$  and  $[z]$  are three distinct vertices such that  $\text{ann}(z)$  is a maximal element of  $\Omega(R)$ . We have  $\text{ann}(x)\text{ann}(z) = 0$  and  $\text{ann}(y)\text{ann}(z) = 0$ . Then for every  $r \in \text{ann}(x)$  and  $s \in \text{ann}(z)$ ,  $rs = 0$  and hence  $\text{ann}(z) \subseteq \text{ann}(r)$ . Now we have  $\text{ann}(z) = \text{ann}(r)$  and so  $[r] = [z]$ . Since  $rx = 0$ ,  $[r][x] = [rx] = 0$  in  $\Gamma_E(R)$ . So  $[z][x] = 0$  and hence  $zx = 0$ . Similarly, we have  $yz = 0$ . It follows that  $x, y \in \text{ann}(z)$  and so  $\text{ann}(x) \subseteq \text{ann}(y)$ , because  $\text{ann}(x)\text{ann}(z) = 0$ . Similarly,  $\text{ann}(y) \subseteq \text{ann}(x)$  and hence  $\text{ann}(x) = \text{ann}(y)$ . Therefore  $[x] = [y]$ , which is a contradiction, so  $A_E(R)$  is not a complete graph. In particular, for every  $[z]$  such that  $\text{ann}(z)$  is a maximal element of  $\Omega(R)$ ,  $\deg([z]) \leq 1$ . □

As the following example shows, for a ring  $R$ , we have always  $V(A_E(R)) = V(\Gamma_E(R))$ , but  $A_E(R)$  and  $\Gamma_E(R)$  are not necessary isomorphic.



**Example 2.7.** Let  $R = \frac{\mathbb{Z}_8[x,y]}{\langle x^2, y^2, 2x \rangle}$ . Clearly,  $R$  is not a quotient of a Dedekind domain. Also  $ann(\bar{x}) = \langle \bar{x}, \bar{2} \rangle$ ,  $ann(\bar{y}) = \langle \bar{y} \rangle$ ,  $ann(\bar{2}) = \langle \bar{x}, \bar{4} \rangle$ ,  $ann(\overline{xy}) = \langle \bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{2} \rangle$ ,  $ann(\overline{2y}) = \langle \bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{4} \rangle$ ,  $ann(\overline{x+y}) = \langle \overline{x-y} \rangle$  and  $ann(\overline{2+y}) = \langle \overline{4y} \rangle$ . Clearly,  $\Gamma_E(R)$  is not isomorphic with  $A_E(R)$ .

**Proposition 2.8.** *Let  $D$  be a Dedekind domain and  $I$  be a non-zero ideal of  $R$ . If  $R = \frac{D}{I}$ , then  $A_E(R) \cong \Gamma_E(R)$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $R$  is a quotient of a Dedekind domain, hence  $R$  is a PIR. If  $x \in Z(R)^*$ , there exists  $a \in Z(R)^*$  such that  $ann(x) = \langle a \rangle$ . We define the map  $f : V(A_E(R)) \rightarrow V(\Gamma_E(R))$  by  $f([x]) = [a]$ . We shall show that  $f$  is one-to-one and onto. Let  $[x], [y] \in V(A_E(R))$ ,  $ann(x) = \langle a \rangle$  and  $ann(y) = \langle b \rangle$ . If  $[x] = [y]$ , then  $ann(x) = ann(y)$  and hence  $\langle a \rangle = \langle b \rangle$ . So  $[a] = [b]$ . Therefore,  $f$  is well-defined. If  $[a] = [b]$ , then  $ann(a) = ann(b)$ . Since  $ann(x) = \langle a \rangle$  and  $ann(y) = \langle b \rangle$ ,  $x \in ann(a) = ann(b)$  and hence  $xb = 0$ . Similarly,  $ya = 0$ , thus  $a \in ann(y)$  and  $b \in ann(x)$ . However,  $b \in \langle a \rangle$  and  $a \in \langle b \rangle$  and hence  $\langle a \rangle = \langle b \rangle$ . Therefore,  $[x] = [y]$ . So  $f$  is one-to-one. Now we show that  $f$  is onto. Let  $[a] \in V(\Gamma_E(R))$ . So there exists  $b \in D$  such that  $a = b + I$ . Let  $I = P_1^{\alpha_1} \dots P_k^{\alpha_k}$  be the decomposition of  $I$  into distinct prime (maximal) ideals of  $D$ . Then there exist  $\{\beta_1, \dots, \beta_k\} \subseteq \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$  and an ideal  $J$  of  $D$  such that  $\langle b \rangle = P_1^{\beta_1} \dots P_k^{\beta_k} J$ . For every  $i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k$ ), let  $T_i = P_i^2 \cup P_1 \cup \dots \cup P_{i-1} \cup P_{i+1} \cup \dots \cup P_k$ . If  $P_i \subset T_i$ , by the prime avoidance theorem, we have  $P_i = P_i^2$  and hence  $P_i R_{P_i} = (P_i R_{P_i})^2$ . By Nakayama's Lemma  $P_i R_{P_i} = 0$ , hence  $P_i = 0$ , which is a contradiction. So  $P_i \not\subset T_i$ . Let  $p_i \in P_i - T_i$  and  $s = p_1^{\gamma_1} \dots p_k^{\gamma_k}$ , where

$$\gamma_i = \begin{cases} \alpha_i - \beta_i & \text{if } \beta_i < \alpha_i, \\ 0 & \text{if } \beta_i \geq \alpha_i. \end{cases}$$

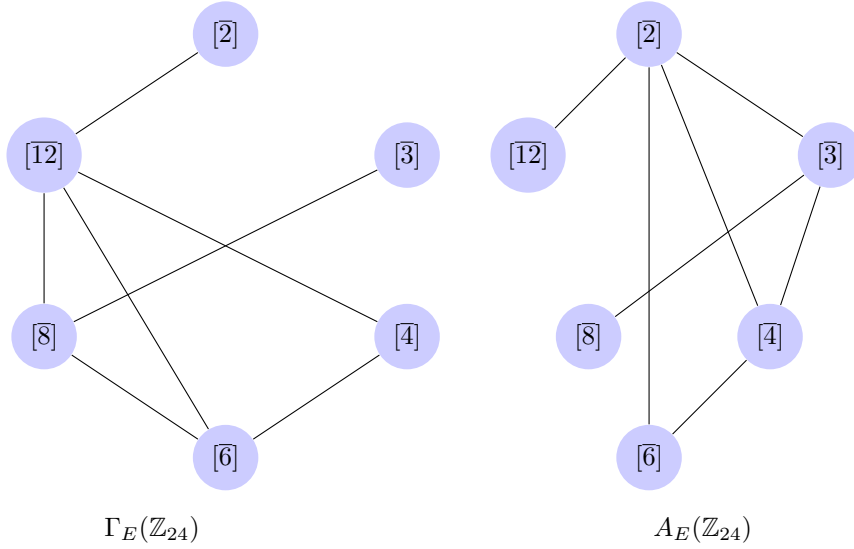
Let  $x = s + I$ . Now we have  $ann(x) = ann(s + I) = P_1^{\alpha_1 - \gamma_1} \dots P_k^{\alpha_k - \gamma_k} + I$ . Let  $t = p_1^{\alpha_1 - \gamma_1} \dots p_k^{\alpha_k - \gamma_k} + I$ . Then  $ann(x) = \langle t \rangle$  and since  $ann(a) = ann(t) = P_1^{\gamma_1} \dots P_k^{\gamma_k} + I$ , we have  $[t] = [a]$ . So  $f([x]) = [a]$  and hence  $f$  is onto. Finally,  $[x]$  and  $[y]$  are adjacent in  $A_E(R)$  if and only if  $ann(x)ann(y) = 0$  if and only if  $\langle a \rangle \langle b \rangle = 0$  if and only if  $ab = 0$  if and only if  $[a]$  and  $[b]$  are adjacent in  $\Gamma_E(R)$ .  $\square$

The following example illustrate Proposition 2.8.

**Example 2.9.** Let  $R = M = \mathbb{Z}_{24}$ . Furthermore,

$$T(\mathbb{Z}_{24})^* = \{\bar{2}, \bar{3}, \bar{4}, \bar{6}, \bar{8}, \bar{9}, \bar{10}, \bar{12}, \bar{14}, \bar{15}, \bar{16}, \bar{18}, \bar{20}, \bar{21}, \bar{22}\}.$$

Now  $V(\Gamma_E(\mathbb{Z}_{24})) = V(A_E(\mathbb{Z}_{24})) = \{\bar{2}, \bar{3}, \bar{4}, \bar{6}, \bar{8}, \bar{12}\}$ . Also,  $ann(\bar{2}) = \langle \bar{12} \rangle$ ,  $ann(\bar{3}) = \langle \bar{8} \rangle$ ,  $ann(\bar{4}) = \langle \bar{6} \rangle$ ,  $ann(\bar{6}) = \langle \bar{4} \rangle$ ,  $ann(\bar{8}) = \langle \bar{3} \rangle$  and  $ann(\bar{12}) = \langle \bar{2} \rangle$ . Therefore by Proposition 2.8,  $\Gamma_E(\mathbb{Z}_{24}) \cong A_E(\mathbb{Z}_{24})$ .



**3. Relationship between graph-theoretic properties and associated prime ideals of a module over a Dedekind domain**

Let  $M$  be a torsion finitely generated module over a Dedekind domain  $R$ . In this section, we prove that, if  $|V(A_E(M))| \geq 5$ , then a vertex of  $A_E(M)$  has degree two if and only if it is an associated prime of  $M$ .

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $M$  be a torsion finitely generated module over a Dedekind domain  $R$ . Suppose that  $\text{ann}(M) = P_1^{\alpha_1} \cdots P_k^{\alpha_k}$  is the decomposition of  $\text{ann}(M)$  into the distinct prime ideals of  $R$ . Then  $|\Omega_R(M)| = (\prod_{i=1}^k (\alpha_i + 1)) - 1$  and  $|\text{Ass}(M)| = k$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $R$  is a Dedekind domain and  $M$  is a torsion finitely generated  $R$ -module, by [7, Theorem 10.15], there exist cyclic submodules of  $M$ ,  $\langle x_i \rangle$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , such that  $M \cong \bigoplus_{i=1}^n \langle x_i \rangle$ . If  $x = x_1 + \cdots + x_n$ , then  $\text{ann}(x) = \text{ann}(M)$ . For every  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq k$ , let  $T_i = P_i^2 \cup P_1 \cup \cdots \cup P_{i-1} \cup P_{i+1} \cup \cdots \cup P_k$ . As in the proof of Proposition 2.8, we have  $P_i \not\subseteq T_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq k$ . Then there exist  $r_i \in P_i - T_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq k$  such that  $P_i R_{P_i} = (\frac{r_i}{1})$ . Let  $r = r_1^{\beta_1} \cdots r_k^{\beta_k} x$ , where  $0 \leq \beta_i \leq \alpha_i$ . We have  $\text{ann}(rx) = \{s \in R \mid sr \in \text{ann}(x)\}$  and so  $P_1^{\gamma_1} \cdots P_k^{\gamma_k} \subseteq \text{ann}(rx)$ , where  $\gamma_i = \alpha_i - \beta_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k$ ). If for some  $i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k$ ),  $P_1^{\gamma_1} \cdots P_{i-1}^{\gamma_{i-1}} P_i^{\gamma_i - 1} P_{i+1}^{\gamma_{i+1}} \cdots P_k^{\gamma_k} \subseteq \text{ann}(rx)$ , we have  $t = r_1^{\alpha_1} \cdots r_{i-1}^{\alpha_{i-1}} r_i^{\alpha_i - 1} r_{i+1}^{\alpha_{i+1}} \cdots r_k^{\alpha_k} \in \text{ann}(x)$ . So  $\frac{t}{1} \in P_i^{\alpha_i} R_{P_i} = (\frac{r_i^{\alpha_i}}{1})$ . We have  $\frac{r_1^{\alpha_1} \cdots r_{i-1}^{\alpha_{i-1}} r_{i+1}^{\alpha_{i+1}} \cdots r_k^{\alpha_k}}{1} \in (\frac{r_i}{1}) = P_i R_{P_i}$  and hence there exists  $s \in R - P_i$  such that  $sr_1^{\alpha_1} \cdots r_{i-1}^{\alpha_{i-1}} r_{i+1}^{\alpha_{i+1}} \cdots r_k^{\alpha_k} \in P_i$ , which is a contradiction. So  $\text{ann}(rx) = P_1^{\gamma_1} \cdots P_k^{\gamma_k}$  and thus  $T = \{P_1^{\gamma_1} \cdots P_k^{\gamma_k} \neq R \mid 0 \leq \gamma_i \leq \alpha_i\} \subseteq \Omega_R(M)$ . Clearly  $\Omega_R(M) \subseteq T$  and so  $|\Omega_R(M)| = (\prod_{i=1}^k (\alpha_i + 1)) - 1$  and  $|\text{Ass}(M)| = k$ .  $\square$

Since  $R$  is a Dedekind domain,  $S = \frac{R}{ann(M)}$  is an Artinian principal ideal ring. So  $\Omega_R(M) = \Omega_R(S)$  and  $A_E(M) = A_E(S)$ , where  $S$  is an  $R$ -module. Also,  $\Omega(S)$  is the set of all non-trivial ideals of  $S$  and hence  $A_E(S) = \mathbb{A}\mathbb{G}(S)$ .

Let  $M$  be a torsion finitely generated module over a Dedekind domain  $R$ . Suppose that  $ann(M) = P_1^{\alpha_1} \cdots P_k^{\alpha_k}$  is the decomposition of  $ann(M)$  into prime ideals of  $R$ . In this section we find  $P_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k$ ),  $k$  and  $\alpha_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k$ ), by the graph  $A_E(M)$ . Recall that there exists a natural bijective map from  $\Omega_R(M)$  to the set of vertices of  $A_E(M)$  given by  $I \rightarrow [x]$ , where  $I = ann(x)$ . By Theorem 3.1, we have  $|Ass(M)| = k$ ,  $|V(A_E(M))| = (\prod_{i=1}^k (\alpha_i + 1)) - 1$  and  $V(A_E(M)) = \{P_1^{\beta_1} \cdots P_k^{\beta_k} \neq R \mid 0 \leq \beta_i \leq \alpha_i\}$ .

**Lemma 3.2.** *Let  $M$  be a torsion finitely generated module over a Dedekind domain  $R$ . Suppose that  $ann(M) = P_1^{\alpha_1} \cdots P_k^{\alpha_k}$  is the decomposition of  $ann(M)$  into the prime ideals of  $R$ . Then  $V(A_E(M)) = \{P_1^{\beta_1} \cdots P_k^{\beta_k} \neq R \mid 0 \leq \beta_i \leq \alpha_i\}$  and*

$$\deg(P_1^{\beta_1} \cdots P_k^{\beta_k}) = \begin{cases} (\prod_{i=1}^k (\beta_i + 1)) - 2 & \text{if } \beta_i = \alpha_i, \forall i, \\ (\prod_{i=1}^k (\beta_i + 1)) - 1 & \text{if } \beta_i \geq \frac{\alpha_i}{2}, \forall i, \\ \prod_{i=1}^k (\beta_i + 1) & \text{if } \exists i, \beta_i < \frac{\alpha_i}{2}. \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* By Definition, two distinct vertices  $P_1^{\beta_1} \cdots P_k^{\beta_k}$  and  $P_1^{\gamma_1} \cdots P_k^{\gamma_k}$  are adjacent if and only if  $\beta_i + \gamma_i \geq \alpha_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k$ ). Hence the neighbourhood of  $P_1^{\beta_1} \cdots P_k^{\beta_k} \in V(A_E(M))$ , is the set  $A = \{P_1^{\gamma_1} \cdots P_k^{\gamma_k} \neq R \mid \alpha_i - \beta_i \leq \gamma_i \leq \alpha_i, \forall i, 1 \leq i \leq k\}$ .

Now we consider the following three cases:

(i) Let for every  $i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k$ ),  $\beta_i = \alpha_i$ . Since  $A_E(M)$  does not have any loop,  $A = \{P_1^{\gamma_1} \cdots P_k^{\gamma_k} \mid 0 \leq \gamma_i \leq \alpha_i\} - \{P_1^{\alpha_1} \cdots P_k^{\alpha_k}, P_1^0 \cdots P_k^0\}$ . So  $\deg(P_1^{\alpha_1} \cdots P_k^{\alpha_k}) = (\prod_{i=1}^k (\alpha_i + 1)) - 2$ .

(ii) Let there exist  $i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k$ ) such that  $\beta_i \neq \alpha_i$  and for every  $i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k$ ),  $\beta_i \geq \frac{\alpha_i}{2}$ . So  $\alpha_i \leq 2\beta_i$  and hence  $P_1^{\beta_1} \cdots P_k^{\beta_k} \in A$ . Since  $A_E(M)$  does not have any loop,  $A = \{P_1^{\gamma_1} \cdots P_k^{\gamma_k} \mid \alpha_i - \beta_i \leq \gamma_i \leq \alpha_i\} - \{P_1^{\beta_1} \cdots P_k^{\beta_k}\}$ . So  $\deg(P_1^{\beta_1} \cdots P_k^{\beta_k}) = (\prod_{i=1}^k (\beta_i + 1)) - 1$ .

(iii) Let there exist  $i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k$ ) such that  $\beta_i < \frac{\alpha_i}{2}$ . So  $A = \{P_1^{\gamma_1} \cdots P_k^{\gamma_k} \mid \alpha_i - \beta_i \leq \gamma_i \leq \alpha_i\}$ , and hence  $\deg(P_1^{\beta_1} \cdots P_k^{\beta_k}) = \prod_{i=1}^k (\beta_i + 1)$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.3.** *Let  $M$  be a torsion finitely generated module over a Dedekind domain  $R$ . If  $|V(A_E(M))| \geq 5$ , then a vertex of  $A_E(M)$  has degree two if and only if it is an associated prime of  $M$ .*

*Proof.* As in Lemma 3.2, we have  $ann(M) = P_1^{\alpha_1} \cdots P_k^{\alpha_k}$ . In the proof of Lemma 3.2, we showed that  $V(A_E(M)) = \{P_1^{\beta_1} \cdots P_k^{\beta_k} \neq R \mid 0 \leq \beta_i \leq \alpha_i\}$



and

$$\deg(P_1^{\beta_1} \cdots P_k^{\beta_k}) = \begin{cases} (\prod_{i=1}^k (\beta_i + 1)) - 2 & \text{if } \beta_i = \alpha_i, \forall i, \\ (\prod_{i=1}^k (\beta_i + 1)) - 1 & \text{if } \beta_i \geq \frac{\alpha_i}{2}, \forall i, \\ \prod_{i=1}^k (\beta_i + 1) & \text{if } \exists i, \beta_i < \frac{\alpha_i}{2}. \end{cases}$$

By Theorem 3.1, we have  $Ass(M) = \{P_1, \dots, P_k\}$  and by Lemma 3.2,  $\deg P_i = 1 + 1 = 2$ . Conversely, let  $\deg(P_1^{\beta_1} \cdots P_k^{\beta_k}) = 2$ . If  $(\prod_{i=1}^k (\beta_i + 1)) - 2 = 2$ , then  $(\prod_{i=1}^k (\beta_i + 1)) = 4$ . We have the following two cases:

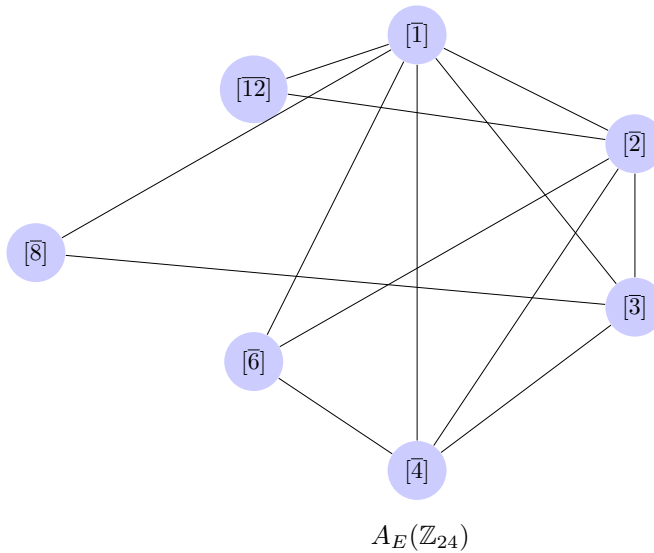
- (i)  $\alpha_1 = 3$  and for every  $i \neq 1, \alpha_i = 0$ .
- (ii)  $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 1$  and for every  $i \neq 1, 2, \alpha_i = 0$ .

In both above cases,  $|V(A_E(M))| \leq 4$ , which is a contradiction.

If  $(\prod_{i=1}^k (\beta_i + 1)) - 1 = 2$ , then  $(\prod_{i=1}^k (\beta_i + 1)) = 3$ . So  $\beta_1 = 2$  and for every  $i \neq 1, \beta_i = 0$ . Hence  $\alpha_1 \leq 4$  and for every  $i \neq 1, \alpha_i = 0$ . Therefore  $|V(A_E(M))| \leq 4$ , which is a contradiction. Now let  $\prod_{i=1}^k (\beta_i + 1) = 2$ . So there exists  $i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k$ ) such that  $\beta_i + 1 = 2$  and for every  $j \neq i$  ( $1 \leq j \leq k$ ),  $\beta_j + 1 = 1$ . So  $\beta_i = 1$  and for every  $j \neq i$  ( $1 \leq j \leq k$ ),  $\beta_j = 0$ . Therefore,  $P_1^{\beta_1} \cdots P_k^{\beta_k} = P_i \in Ass(M)$ .  $\square$

If  $|V(A_E(M))| = 1, 2, 3$  or  $4$ , then Theorem 3.3 is not necessary true. For example for  $\mathbb{Z}$ -modules  $\mathbb{Z}_2, \mathbb{Z}_4, \mathbb{Z}_8$  and  $\mathbb{Z}_{16}$  we have  $A_E(\mathbb{Z}_2) \cong K_1, A_E(\mathbb{Z}_4) \cong K_2, A_E(\mathbb{Z}_8) \cong K_3$  and  $A_E(\mathbb{Z}_{16}) \cong \Theta_{2,2,1}$ , where  $\Theta_{2,2,1}$  is the graph  $K_4$  with one edge deleted. But  $Ass(\mathbb{Z}_2) = Ass(\mathbb{Z}_4) = Ass(\mathbb{Z}_8) = Ass(\mathbb{Z}_{16}) = \{2\mathbb{Z}\}$ .

The following examples illustrate Theorem 3.3, when  $R$  is a PID and  $R$  is a Dedekind domain but it is not a PID, respectively.



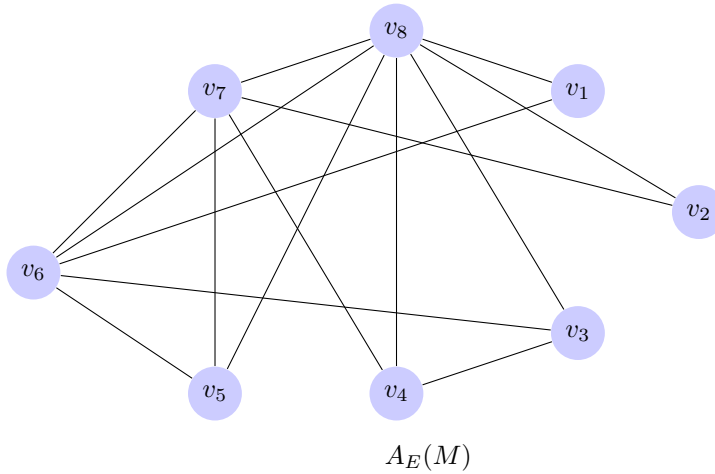
**Example 3.4.** Let  $R = \mathbb{Z}$  and  $M = \mathbb{Z}_{24}$ . We have

$$V(A_E(\mathbb{Z}_{24})) = \{[1], [2], [3], [4], [6], [8], [12]\}.$$

Then  $Ass(\mathbb{Z}_{24}) = \{ann(12) = 2\mathbb{Z}, ann(8) = 3\mathbb{Z}\}$ .

**Example 3.5.** Let  $R = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{10}]$ ,  $I = \langle 10, 10\sqrt{10} \rangle$  and  $M = \frac{R}{I}$ . We know that  $R$  is a Dedekind domain, but it is not a  $PID$ . We have  $ann(5\sqrt{10}+I) = \langle 2, \sqrt{10} \rangle$ ,  $ann(2\sqrt{10}+I) = \langle 5, \sqrt{10} \rangle$ ,  $ann(5+I) = \langle 2, 2\sqrt{10} \rangle$ ,  $ann(2+I) = \langle 5, 5\sqrt{10} \rangle$ ,  $ann(\sqrt{10}+I) = \langle 10, \sqrt{10} \rangle$ ,  $ann(2+5\sqrt{10}+I) = \langle 10, 5\sqrt{10} \rangle$ ,  $ann(5+2\sqrt{10}+I) = \langle 10, 2\sqrt{10} \rangle$  and  $ann(1+I) = \langle 10, 10\sqrt{10} \rangle$ .

Put  $v_1 = [5\sqrt{10}+I]$ ,  $v_2 = [2\sqrt{10}+I]$ ,  $v_3 = [5+I]$ ,  $v_4 = [2+I]$ ,  $v_5 = [\sqrt{10}+I]$ ,  $v_6 = [2+5\sqrt{10}+I]$ ,  $v_7 = [5+2\sqrt{10}+I]$  and  $v_8 = [1+I]$ .



$A_E(M)$

Then  $Ass(M) = \{P_1 = \langle 2, \sqrt{10} \rangle, P_2 = \langle 5, \sqrt{10} \rangle\}$ .

**Corollary 3.6.** Let  $R$  be a Dedekind domain and  $0 \neq I$  be an ideal of  $R$  and  $S = \frac{R}{I}$ . If  $|V(A_E(S))| \geq 4$ , then a vertex of  $A_E(S)$  has degree one if and only if it is an associated prime ideal of  $S$ .

*Proof.* The proof follows from Theorem 3.3 and the observation after Theorem 3.3.  $\square$

In Example 2.9,  $A_E(\mathbb{Z}_{24})$  is an example for Corollary 3.6.

**Corollary 3.7.** Let  $R$  be a Dedekind domain and  $M$  be a torsion finitely generated  $R$ -module. If  $A_E(M) = C_n$ , then  $n = 3$ .

*Proof.* By the proof of Theorem 3.1, there exists  $x \in T(M)^*$  such that  $ann(M) = ann(x)$  and hence  $[x]$  is adjacent to any vertex. So  $deg([x]) = n - 1$ . Since the degree of any vertex in  $C_n$  is two, hence  $n - 1 = 2$  and we have  $n = 3$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 3.8.** Let  $R$  be a Dedekind domain and  $M$  be a torsion finitely generated  $R$ -module. If  $A_E(M) = K_n$ , then  $1 \leq n \leq 3$ .

*Proof.* Since  $A_E(M)$  is complete, by part (iv) of Proposition 2.5, we have  $|Ass(M)| \leq 2$ . Suppose that  $Ass(M) = \{P, Q\}$ . Since  $A_E(M)$  is complete,  $PQ \subseteq ann(M)$ . But  $ann(M) \subseteq P$  and  $ann(M) \subseteq Q$ , hence  $ann(M) \subseteq PQ$  and thus  $ann(M) = PQ$ . So by Theorem 3.1,  $V(A_E(M)) = \{P, Q, PQ\}$  and hence  $A_E(M) = K_3$ . Now suppose that  $|Ass(M)| = 1$  and  $Ass(M) = \{P\}$ . By Theorem 3.1,  $ann(M) = P^\alpha$  for some  $\alpha \in \mathbb{N}$ . Thus  $V(A_E(M)) = \{P, \dots, P^\alpha\}$ . If  $\alpha \geq 4$ , then  $P$  and  $P^2$  are not adjacent, which is a contradiction. Therefore,  $1 \leq \alpha \leq 3$  and we have  $1 \leq n \leq 3$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.9.** *Let  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  be torsion finitely generated modules over a Dedekind domain  $R$  such that  $A_E(M_1) \cong A_E(M_2)$  and  $|V(A_E(M_1))| = |V(A_E(M_2))| \geq 5$ . If  $ann(M_1) = P_1^{\alpha_1} \dots P_k^{\alpha_k}$  and  $ann(M_2) = Q_1^{\beta_1} \dots Q_s^{\beta_s}$  are the decompositions of  $ann(M_i)$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ , into prime ideals of  $R$  such that  $\alpha_1 \geq \dots \geq \alpha_k$  and  $\beta_1 \geq \dots \geq \beta_s$ , then  $k = s$  and  $|Ass(M_1)| = |Ass(M_2)| = k$ . Furthermore, for every  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq k$ ,  $\alpha_i = \beta_i$ .*

*Proof.* By Theorem 3.1,  $k = |Ass(M_1)| = |Ass(M_2)| = s$ . If  $\alpha_1 = 1$ , then it is clear that  $\alpha_i = \beta_i = 1$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k$ ). So let  $\alpha_1 > 1$ . By Lemma 3.2,  $\deg(P_1^{\alpha_1-1} P_2^{\alpha_2} \dots P_k^{\alpha_k}) = \alpha_1(\alpha_2 + 1) \dots (\alpha_k + 1) - 1$  is the second maximum degree of  $A_E(M_1)$ . Then  $\alpha_1(\alpha_2 + 1) \dots (\alpha_k + 1) - 1 = \deg(P_1^{\alpha_1-1} P_2^{\alpha_2} \dots P_k^{\alpha_k}) = \deg(Q_1^{\beta_1-1} Q_2^{\beta_2} \dots Q_k^{\beta_k}) = \beta_1(\beta_2 + 1) \dots (\beta_k + 1) - 1$  and we have  $\prod_{i=1}^k (\alpha_i + 1) = \prod_{i=1}^k (\beta_i + 1)$ . Thus  $\alpha_1 = \beta_1$ . Now for every  $0 \leq s \leq \alpha_1$ , we have  $\deg(P_1^{\alpha_1-s} P_2^{\alpha_2} \dots P_k^{\alpha_k}) = \deg(Q_1^{\alpha_1-s} Q_2^{\beta_2} \dots Q_k^{\beta_k})$  and there exists  $s$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} \deg(P_1^{\alpha_1-s-1} P_2^{\alpha_2} \dots P_k^{\alpha_k}) &< \deg(P_1^{\alpha_1} P_2^{\alpha_2-1} P_3^{\alpha_3} \dots P_k^{\alpha_k}) \\ &\leq \deg(P_1^{\alpha_1-s} P_2^{\alpha_2} \dots P_k^{\alpha_k}). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $\deg(P_1^{\alpha_1} P_2^{\alpha_2-1} P_3^{\alpha_3} \dots P_k^{\alpha_k}) = \deg(Q_1^{\alpha_1} Q_2^{\beta_2-1} Q_3^{\beta_3} \dots Q_k^{\beta_k})$ . So  $\alpha_2 = \beta_2$ . Let  $\alpha_i = \beta_i$ , for every  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq t-1$ . Then there exist  $s_i$ ,  $0 \leq s_i \leq \alpha_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq t-1$ ), such that  $\deg(P_1^{\alpha_1} \dots P_{t-1}^{\alpha_{t-1}-s_{t-1}} P_t^{\alpha_t-1} P_{t+1}^{\alpha_{t+1}} \dots P_k^{\alpha_k}) \leq \deg(P_1^{\alpha_1-s_1} \dots P_{t-1}^{\alpha_{t-1}-s_{t-1}} P_t^{\alpha_t} \dots P_k^{\alpha_k})$ . Also for every  $i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq t-1$ ), we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\deg(P_1^{\alpha_1-s_1} \dots P_{i-1}^{\alpha_{i-1}-s_{i-1}} P_i^{\alpha_i-s_i-1} P_{i+1}^{\alpha_{i+1}-s_{i+1}} \dots P_{t-1}^{\alpha_{t-1}-s_{t-1}} P_t^{\alpha_t} \dots P_k^{\alpha_k}) \\ &< \deg(P_1^{\alpha_1} \dots P_{t-1}^{\alpha_{t-1}} P_t^{\alpha_t-1} P_{t+1}^{\alpha_{t+1}} \dots P_k^{\alpha_k}). \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\deg(P_1^{\alpha_1} \dots P_{t-1}^{\alpha_{t-1}} P_t^{\alpha_t-1} P_{t+1}^{\alpha_{t+1}} \dots P_k^{\alpha_k}) = \deg(Q_1^{\alpha_1} \dots Q_{t-1}^{\alpha_{t-1}} Q_t^{\beta_t-1} Q_{t+1}^{\beta_{t+1}} \dots Q_k^{\beta_k})$$

and it follows that  $\alpha_t = \beta_t$ . Therefore for every  $i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k$ ),  $\alpha_i = \beta_i$ .  $\square$

Note that Theorem 3.9 is true, when  $|V(A_E(M_1))| = |V(A_E(M_2))| = 1, 2$  or  $4$ . Also Theorem 3.9 is not necessarily true, when  $|V(A_E(M_1))| = |V(A_E(M_2))| = 3$ . For example for  $\mathbb{Z}$ -modules  $\mathbb{Z}_6$  and  $\mathbb{Z}_8$ , we have  $A_E(\mathbb{Z}_6) \cong A_E(\mathbb{Z}_8) \cong K_3$ . But  $Ass(\mathbb{Z}_6) = \{2\mathbb{Z}, 3\mathbb{Z}\}$ ,  $Ass(\mathbb{Z}_8) = \{2\mathbb{Z}\}$ ,  $ann(\mathbb{Z}_8) = (2\mathbb{Z})^3$  and  $ann(\mathbb{Z}_6) = (2\mathbb{Z})(3\mathbb{Z})$ .

Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $p$  be a prime number. Then by Theorem 3.1, we have  $|\Omega_{\mathbb{Z}}(\mathbb{Z}_{p^n})| = |V(A_E(\mathbb{Z}_{p^n}))| = n$ . Now for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we shall obtain the number of graphs  $\Gamma$  (up to isomorphism) such that there exist a Dedekind domain  $R$  and a torsion finitely generated  $R$ -module  $M$  with  $|V(A_E(M))| = n$  and  $A_E(M) \cong \Gamma$ . Let  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k\} \subseteq \mathbb{N}$  be such that  $n + 1 = \prod_{i=1}^k (\alpha_i + 1)$ . Also,  $m = p_1^{\alpha_1} \cdots p_k^{\alpha_k}$ , where  $p_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k$ ) are prime numbers and for  $i \neq j$  ( $1 \leq i, j \leq k$ ),  $p_i \neq p_j$ . Then for  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module  $\mathbb{Z}_m$ , we have  $\text{ann}(\mathbb{Z}_m) = (p_1\mathbb{Z})^{\alpha_1} \cdots (p_k\mathbb{Z})^{\alpha_k}$  and  $|V(A_E(\mathbb{Z}_m))| = (\prod_{i=1}^k (\alpha_i + 1)) - 1 = n$ . Conversely, let the graph  $\Gamma$  be such that  $|V(\Gamma)| = n$  and suppose that there exist a Dedekind domain  $R$  and a torsion finitely generated  $R$ -module  $M$  such that  $A_E(M) \cong \Gamma$ . Let  $\text{ann}(M) = P_1^{\alpha_1} \cdots P_k^{\alpha_k}$  be the decomposition of  $\text{ann}(M)$  to prime ideals of  $R$ . Let  $m = p_1^{\alpha_1} \cdots p_k^{\alpha_k}$ , where  $p_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k$ ) are prime numbers and for  $i \neq j$  ( $1 \leq i, j \leq k$ ),  $p_i \neq p_j$ . So for  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module  $\mathbb{Z}_m$ , we have  $A_E(M) \cong A_E(\mathbb{Z}_m)$ . Then the number of graphs  $\Gamma$  such that there exist a Dedekind domain  $R$  and a torsion finitely generated  $R$ -module  $M$  with  $A_E(M) \cong \Gamma$  and  $|V(A_E(M))| = n$ , is equal the number of products  $n + 1 = \prod_{i=1}^k a_i$ , where  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $a_i \geq 2$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k$ ).

**Example 3.10.** Since  $7 + 1 = 8$  and  $8 = 8$ ,  $8 = 4 \times 2$ ,  $8 = 2 \times 2 \times 2$ , there exist three graphs  $\Gamma$  such that there exist a Dedekind domain  $R$  and a torsion finitely generated  $R$ -module  $M$  with  $A_E(M) \cong \Gamma$  and  $|V(A_E(M))| = 7$ . For example,  $\mathbb{Z}_{128}$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}_{30}$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}_{24}$ .

The number 3 is an exception, because  $3 + 1 = 4$  and  $4 = 4$ ,  $4 = 2 \times 2$ . Hence we must have two graphs such that there exist a Dedekind domain  $R$  and a torsion finitely generated  $R$ -module  $M$  with  $|V(A_E(M))| = 3$ , and  $A_E(M) \cong \Gamma$ . But  $A_E(\mathbb{Z}_{p^3}) \cong A_E(\mathbb{Z}_{pq}) \cong K_3$ , where  $p, q$  are prime numbers.

Then for every torsion finitely generated module  $M$  over a Dedekind domain  $R$ , there exists  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $A_E(M) \cong A_E(\mathbb{Z}_m)$ . Now let  $\text{ann}(M) = P_1^{\alpha_1} \cdots P_k^{\alpha_k}$  be the decomposition of  $\text{ann}(M)$  into prime ideals of  $R$  and  $m = p_1^{\beta_1} \cdots p_s^{\beta_s}$  be the decomposition of  $m$  into prime numbers of  $\mathbb{Z}$  such that  $\alpha_1 \geq \cdots \geq \alpha_k$  and  $\beta_1 \geq \cdots \geq \beta_s$ . By Theorem 3.9, we have  $k = s$  and for every  $i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k$ ),  $\alpha_i = \beta_i$ .

**Theorem 3.11.** *Let  $M$  be a finitely generated module over a Dedekind domain  $R$  with  $\text{ann}(M) \notin \text{Spec}(R)$ . Suppose that  $\text{ann}(M) = P_1^{\alpha_1} \cdots P_k^{\alpha_k} Q_1^{\beta_1} \cdots Q_t^{\beta_t}$  is the decomposition of  $\text{ann}(M)$  into prime ideals of  $R$  such that for every  $i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k$ ),  $\alpha_i$  is even and for every  $j$  ( $1 \leq j \leq t$ ),  $\beta_j$  is odd. Then  $\nu(A_E(M)) = (\prod_{i=1}^k (\frac{\alpha_i}{2} + 1) \prod_{j=1}^t (\frac{\beta_j + 1}{2})) + t$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\text{ann}(M) = T_1^{\gamma_1} \cdots T_s^{\gamma_s}$ , where  $\{T_1, \dots, T_s\} = \{P_1, \dots, P_k, Q_1, \dots, Q_t\}$  and  $\{\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_s\} = \{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_t\}$ . We define the function  $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  by

$$f(\gamma) = \begin{cases} \frac{\gamma}{2} + 1 & \text{if } \gamma \text{ is even,} \\ \frac{\gamma+1}{2} & \text{if } \gamma \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$$

Now we consider  $\{(i_1, \dots, i_s) \mid 0 \leq i_j \leq \gamma_j \text{ and } 1 \leq j \leq s\}$  with the following ordering:

$$\begin{aligned} (0, \dots, 0) &< (1, 0, \dots, 0) < \dots < (\gamma_1, 0, \dots, 0) < (0, 1, 0, \dots, ) \\ &< (1, 1, 0, \dots, 0) < (\gamma_1, 1, 0, \dots, 0) < (0, 2, \dots, 0) \\ &< (1, 2, \dots, 0) < \dots < (0, \gamma_2, 0 \dots, 0) < (1, \gamma_2, 0, \dots, 0) \\ &< \dots < (0, \dots, 0, \gamma_s) < (1, 0, \dots, 0, \gamma_s) < \dots < (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_s). \end{aligned}$$

For every  $(i_1, \dots, i_s)$ , we consider the subsets  $V_{(i_1, \dots, i_s)}$  of  $V(A_E(M))$  that satisfy the following conditions:

- (i)  $T_1^{\gamma_1 - i_1} \dots T_s^{\gamma_s - i_s} \in V_{(i_1, \dots, i_s)}$ ;
- (ii) for every  $(l_1, \dots, l_s) < (i_1, \dots, i_s)$ ,  $V_{(i_1, \dots, i_s)} \cap V_{(l_1, \dots, l_s)} = \emptyset$ ;
- (iii) for every  $v \in V(A_E(M))$  such that  $v \notin \bigcup_{(l_1, \dots, l_s) < (i_1, \dots, i_s)} V_{(l_1, \dots, l_s)}$  and  $v$  and  $T_1^{\gamma_1 - i_1} \dots T_s^{\gamma_s - i_s}$  are not adjacent, then  $v \in V_{(i_1, \dots, i_s)}$ .

Now we have  $V_{(i_1, 0, \dots, 0)} \neq \emptyset$ . If  $\gamma_1$  is even, then  $0 \leq i_1 \leq f(\gamma_1) - 1$  and if  $\gamma_1$  is odd, then  $0 \leq i_1 \leq f(\gamma_1)$ . Also,  $V_{(i_1, i_2, 0, \dots, 0)} \neq \emptyset$ , when  $0 \leq i_1 \leq f(\gamma_1) - 1$  and  $0 \leq i_2 \leq f(\gamma_2) - 1$ . Moreover, if  $\gamma_1$  is odd (or  $\gamma_2$  is odd), then  $V_{(\frac{\gamma_1+1}{2}, 0, \dots, 0)} \neq \emptyset$  (or  $V_{(0, \frac{\gamma_2+1}{2}, 0, \dots, 0)} \neq \emptyset$ ). Similarly, we have  $V_{(i_1, \dots, i_s)} \neq \emptyset$ , when  $0 \leq i_j \leq f(\gamma_j) - 1$  and if  $\gamma_j$  is odd, we have  $V_{(0, \dots, 0, \frac{\gamma_j+1}{2}, 0, \dots, 0)} \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $I = \{\gamma_j \mid \gamma_j \text{ is odd, } 1 \leq j \leq s\}$ ,  $|I| = t$ ,  $A = \{V_{(i_1, \dots, i_s)} \mid V_{(i_1, \dots, i_s)} \neq \emptyset\}$  and  $|A| = a$ . Then  $a = \prod_{i=1}^s f(\gamma_i) + t$ . Since  $\bigcup_{(i_1, \dots, i_s)} V_{(i_1, \dots, i_s)} = V(A_E(M))$  and for every  $V_{(i_1, \dots, i_s)}, V_{(l_1, \dots, l_s)} \in A$ ,  $V_{(i_1, \dots, i_s)} \cap V_{(l_1, \dots, l_s)} = \emptyset$  and the vertices of no  $V_{(i_1, \dots, i_s)}$  are adjacent, the set  $A$  is a colour partition of  $A_E(M)$ . Since  $|A| = a$ , hence  $\nu(A_E(M)) \leq a$ . Now let  $T_1^{\gamma_1 - i_1} \dots T_s^{\gamma_s - i_s} \in V_{(i_1, \dots, i_s)}$  and  $T_1^{\gamma_1 - i'_1} \dots T_s^{\gamma_s - i'_s} \in V_{(i'_1, \dots, i'_s)}$ . We consider  $j$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq s$ . Now we have the following two cases:

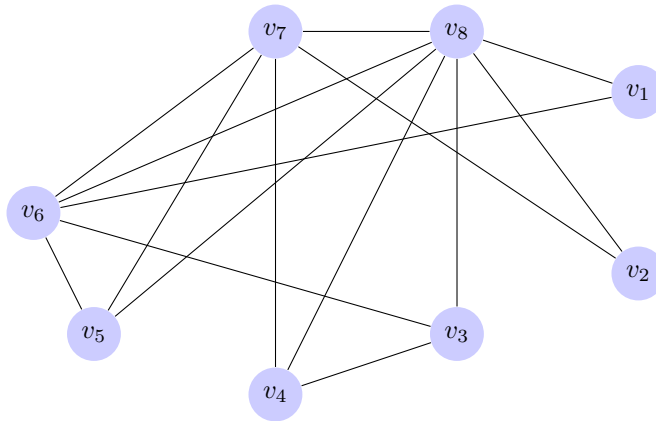
- (i)  $\gamma_j$  is even. If  $0 \leq i_j \leq \frac{\gamma_j}{2}$  and  $0 \leq i'_j \leq \frac{\gamma_j}{2}$ , then  $i_j + i'_j \leq \gamma_j$ . So  $2\gamma_j - (i_j + i'_j) \geq \gamma_j$ .
- (ii)  $\gamma_j$  is odd. If  $0 \leq i_j \leq \frac{\gamma_j-1}{2}$  and  $0 \leq i'_j \leq \frac{\gamma_j-1}{2}$ , then  $i_j + i'_j \leq \gamma_j - 1$ . So  $2\gamma_j - (i_j + i'_j) \geq \gamma_j + 1$ . But if  $i_j = \frac{\gamma_j+1}{2}$  and  $0 \leq i'_j \leq \frac{\gamma_j-1}{2}$ , then  $i_j + i'_j \leq \gamma_j$  and hence  $2\gamma_j - (i_j + i'_j) \geq \gamma_j$ . Therefore, the induced subgraph generated by  $\{T_1^{\gamma_1 - i_1} \dots T_s^{\gamma_s - i_s} \mid T_1^{\gamma_1 - i_1} \dots T_s^{\gamma_s - i_s} \in V_{(i_1, \dots, i_s)}\}$  is the complete graph  $K_a$ . So  $\nu(A_E(M)) \geq a$  and hence

$$\nu(A_E(M)) = a = \left(\prod_{i=1}^s f(\gamma_i)\right) + t = \left(\prod_{i=1}^k \left(\frac{\alpha_i}{2} + 1\right)\right) \prod_{j=1}^t \left(\frac{\beta_j + 1}{2}\right) + t. \quad \square$$

Now suppose  $\text{ann}(M) \in \text{Spec}(R)$ . Since  $|V(A_E(M))| = 1$ , hence  $\nu(A_E(M)) = 1$ . But by Theorem 3.11, we have  $\nu(A_E(M)) = \frac{1+1}{2} + 1 = 2$ . Therefore, Theorem 3.11 is not necessarily valid in the case  $\text{ann}(M) \in \text{Spec}(R)$ .

In Example 3.5, we show that  $|V(A_E(M))| = 8$  and  $|Ass(M)| = 2$ . Then we have  $(\alpha_1 + 1)(\alpha_2 + 1) = 8 + 1 = 9$ , hence  $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 2$ . So  $ann(M) = P_1^2 P_2^2$ . In the following example, we obtain  $\nu(A_E(M))$  for Example 3.5.

**Example 3.12.** Let  $R = \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{10}]$ ,  $I = \langle 10, 10\sqrt{10} \rangle$  and  $M = \frac{R}{I}$ . Since  $ann(M) = P_1^2 P_2^2$ , we have  $\nu(A_E(M)) = (\frac{2}{2} + 1) \times (\frac{2}{2} + 1) = 4$ .



$A_M(R)$

**Corollary 3.13.** *Let  $M$  be a torsion finitely generated module over a Dedekind domain  $R$ . Then the clique number and the chromatic number of  $A_E(M)$  are equal.*

*Proof.* In the notation of Theorem 3.11, we have  $\nu(A_E(M)) = a$ , where  $K_a$  is a subgraph of  $A_E(M)$ . So  $a \leq \chi(A_E(M))$ . Let  $a \neq \chi(A_E(M))$ . Then there exists  $b > a$  such that  $K_b$  is a complete subgraph of  $A_E(M)$  and hence  $\nu(A_E(M)) \geq b > a$ , which is a contradiction. So  $\nu(A_E(M)) = \chi(A_E(M)) = a$ .  $\square$

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REZA NEKOOEI  
DEPARTMENT OF PURE MATHEMATICS  
MAHANI MATHEMATICAL RESEARCH CENTER  
SHAHID BAHONAR UNIVERSITY OF KERMAN  
KERMAN, IRAN  
*Email address:* `rnekoei@uk.ac.ir`

ZAHRA POURSHAFIEY  
DEPARTMENT OF PURE MATHEMATICS  
MAHANI MATHEMATICAL RESEARCH CENTER  
SHAHID BAHONAR UNIVERSITY OF KERMAN  
KERMAN, IRAN  
*Email address:* `zhpoorshafiee@gmail.com`