



# On Homogeneous Co-maximal Graphs of Groupoid-Graded Rings

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## Abstract

Let  $R$  be a ring with unity which is graded by a cancellative partial groupoid (magma)  $S$ . A homogeneous element  $0 \neq x \in R$  is said to be *locally right (left) invertible* if there exist an idempotent element  $e \in S$  and  $x_r \in R$  ( $x_l \in R$ ) such that  $xx_r = 1_e$  ( $x_lx = 1_e$ ) where  $1_e \neq 0$  is a unity of the ring  $R_e$ . Element  $x$  is said to be *locally two-sided invertible* if it is both locally right and locally left invertible. The set of all locally invertible elements (left, right, two-sided) of  $R$  is denoted by  $U_l(R)$ . The *homogeneous co-maximal graph*  $\Gamma^h(R)$  of  $R$  is defined as a graph whose vertex set consists of all homogeneous elements of  $R$  which do not belong to  $U_l(R)$ , and distinct vertices  $x$  and  $y$  are adjacent if and only if  $xR + yR = R$ . If the edge set of  $\Gamma^h(R)$  is nonempty, then  $S$  (with zero) contains a single (nonzero) idempotent element. This condition characterizes the connectedness of  $\Gamma^h(R) \setminus \{0\}$  for a class of groupoid graded rings  $R$  which are graded semisimple, graded right Artinian, and which contain more than one maximal graded modular right ideal. If  $\mathbb{F}_q$  is a finite field and  $n \geq 2$ , then the full matrix ring  $M_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$  is naturally graded by a groupoid  $S$  with a single nonzero idempotent element. We obtain various parameters of  $\Gamma^h(M_n(\mathbb{F}_q)) \setminus \{0_{M_n(\mathbb{F}_q)}\}$ . If  $R$  is  $S$ -graded, with the support equal to  $S \setminus \{0\}$ , and if  $\Gamma^h(R) \cong \Gamma^h(M_n(\mathbb{F}_q))$ , then we prove that  $R$  and  $M_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$  are graded isomorphic as  $S$ -graded rings.

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## 1 Introduction

Assigning graphs to various algebraic structures is widely present in the literature. In particular, many useful properties of the Cayley graphs of groups (see for instance [7]) have motivated the study of the Cayley graphs of semigroups in general, and of some particular classes of semigroups (see [25, 27, 28, 31, 32] and references therein). Also, the power graphs of groups and semigroups have drawn a lot of attention, as it can be seen from [1]. For the more recent results on the Cayley graphs and the power graphs of semigroups, the reader is referred, for example, to the papers [11, 21, 22, 29, 30, 34, 45] and their references. There have also been various graphs assigned to a ring, and in particular, to a matrix ring, like for instance, the zero divisor graph, the annihilator graph, the ideal intersection graph, the ideal inclusion graph, the co-maximal graph, or generalized Cayley graphs, see for instance [3–6, 9, 12, 14, 40, 41, 43, 44] and references therein, as well as [36] for the Cayley graphs of  $\mathbb{Z}$ -graded rings. For graphs associated to lattices, see [39].

Throughout the article, by a graph we mean a simple undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$  with the vertex set  $V = V(G)$  and the edge set  $E = E(G)$ . If  $V' \subseteq V$ , then by  $G \setminus V'$  we denote a subgraph of  $G$  obtained from  $G$  by removing all of the vertices from  $V'$  along with all of the edges incident to those vertices. For the standard notions of the graph theory, we refer the reader to for instance [43].

Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with unity. In [41], a graph, denoted by  $\Gamma(R)$ , is assigned to  $R$ , with the vertex set  $R$  and distinct vertices  $x$  and  $y$  being adjacent if and only if  $xR + yR = R$ . Many properties of the graph  $\Gamma(R)$  have been investigated, like the chromatic number [41], the connectedness and the diameter of  $\Gamma_2(R) \setminus J(R)$  [35], where  $\Gamma_2(R)$  is a subgraph of  $\Gamma(R)$  induced by non-unit elements of  $R$ , and  $J(R)$  is the Jacobson radical of  $R$ . In [42], characterizations of the rings  $R$  for which  $\Gamma_2(R)$  is a forest and for which  $\Gamma_2(R) \setminus J(R)$  is Eulerian, are obtained. If  $R$  is a ring with unity, not necessarily commutative, then the *co-maximal graph of  $R$* , also denoted by  $\Gamma(R)$ , is defined in [43] as a graph whose vertex set consists of non-unit elements of  $R$  and distinct vertices  $x$  and  $y$  are adjacent if and only if  $xR + yR = R$ .

The aim of this article is to study a similar graph, which we call the *homogeneous co-maximal graph*, assigned to a ring with unity, not necessarily commutative, and graded in the following sense.

Let  $R$  be a ring, and  $S$  a partial groupoid, that is, a set with a partial binary operation. Also, let  $\{R_s\}_{s \in S}$  be a family of additive subgroups of  $R$ , called *components*. We say that  $R = \bigoplus_{s \in S} R_s$  is  *$S$ -graded* and  *$R$  induces  $S$*  (or  *$R$  is an  $S$ -graded ring inducing  $S$* ) [23, 24, 26] if the following two conditions hold:

- (i)  $R_s R_t \subseteq R_{st}$  whenever  $st$  is defined;
- (ii)  $R_s R_t \neq 0$  implies that the product  $st$  is defined.

The set  $H_R = \bigcup_{s \in S} R_s$  is called the *homogeneous part of  $R$* . Elements of  $H_R$  are called *homogeneous elements of  $R$* . The *support*  $\text{supp}(R)$  of  $R$  is defined as the set  $\{s \in S \mid R_s \neq 0\}$ .

After preliminaries on graded rings, in Sect. 3 we introduce the *homogeneous co-maximal graph* of an  $S$ -graded ring  $R$  inducing  $S$ , with unity, denoted by  $\Gamma^h(R)$ . Theorem 3.2 in [43] asserts that the graph  $\Gamma(A) \setminus \{0\}$  of a semisimple right Artinian

ring  $A$  with unity, and with more than one maximal right ideal, is connected. Here, under the assumption that  $S$  is cancellative, we find a necessary condition for the edge set of  $\Gamma^h(R)$  to be nonempty:  $S$  cannot have more than one idempotent element, unless  $S$  is with zero, in which case it contains two idempotent elements. It turns out that this condition characterizes the connectedness of  $\Gamma^h(R) \setminus \{0\}$  for a class of graded rings  $R$  with unity, which are graded semisimple, graded right Artinian, and which contain more than one maximal graded modular right ideal.

Inspired by the results obtained for the co-maximal graphs of matrix rings in [43], in Sect. 4, we turn our attention to matrix rings, graded in accordance with the findings from Sect. 3. Let  $\mathbb{F}_q$  be a finite field with  $q$  elements, and  $M_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$  the ring of  $n \times n$  matrices over  $\mathbb{F}_q$  with respect to the usual matrix addition and multiplication, where  $n \geq 2$ . Then  $M_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$  can naturally be regarded as an  $S$ -graded ring inducing  $S$ , where  $S$  is a groupoid with a single nonzero idempotent element, and distinct from a group with zero. With respect to this grading, we obtain various parameters of  $\Gamma^h(M_n(\mathbb{F}_q)) \setminus \{0_{M_n(\mathbb{F}_q)}\}$ , where  $0_{M_n(\mathbb{F}_q)}$  denotes the zero matrix. If  $A$  is a ring with unity, it is known from [43] that  $\Gamma(A) \cong \Gamma(M_n(\mathbb{F}_q))$  implies that  $A \cong M_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . Here we obtain that, if  $R$  is with unity, and graded by the same groupoid  $S$  as  $M_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$  is, such that  $\text{supp}(R) = S \setminus \{0\}$ , and if  $\Gamma^h(R) \cong \Gamma^h(M_n(\mathbb{F}_q))$ , then  $R$  and  $M_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$  are graded isomorphic as  $S$ -graded rings.

## 2 Preliminaries

### 2.1 Graded Rings

Let  $R = \bigoplus_{s \in S} R_s$  be an  $S$ -graded ring inducing  $S$ . The degree  $\text{deg}(x)$  of a nonzero homogeneous element  $x$  of  $R$  is defined to be a unique  $s \in S$  such that  $x \in R_s$ . Let us define  $0 = \text{deg}(0)$ . Since the zero element of  $R$  can be regarded as a component of  $R$ , without loss of generality, we may assume that  $0 \in S$ . We may moreover assume that  $S \setminus \{0\} = \text{supp}(R)$ . Throughout the article, and without further notice, we make  $S$  a groupoid by putting  $st = 0$  for those pairs  $(s, t) \in S \times S$  for which the product  $st$  is not originally defined (in which case  $R_s R_t = 0$ ) and  $s0 = 0s = 0$  for every  $s \in S$ . We also write  $S^* = S \setminus \{0\}$ . Hence  $R_0 = 0$ , the zero subring of  $R$ , and  $R = \bigoplus_{s \in S} R_s = \bigoplus_{s \in S^*} R_s$ . If  $x \in R$ , then  $x$  can be written uniquely as  $\sum_{s \in S} x_s$ , where  $x_s \in R_s$  is called the  $s$ -component of  $x$ . We also denote  $x_s$  by  $(x)_s$ .

Note that for  $s, t, u \in S^*$ , if  $R_s R_t R_u \neq 0$ , then  $(st)u = s(tu)$ . In that case, as usual, we write this element as  $stu$ .

Throughout the article, a groupoid  $S$  with zero  $0$  is said to be *cancellative* if for  $s, t, u \in S$ , each of the equalities  $0 \neq su = tu \in S$  or  $0 \neq us = ut \in S$  implies that  $s = t$ . Also, the set of all idempotent elements of  $S$  is denoted by  $E(S)$ . By  $E(S)^*$  we denote the set  $E(S) \setminus \{0\}$ .

We note that the notions of an  $S$ -graded ring inducing  $S$  and of a graded ring studied in [15–17, 33] are equivalent.

Let  $R = \bigoplus_{s \in S} R_s$  be an  $S$ -graded ring inducing  $S$ . A right (left, two-sided) ideal  $I$  of  $R$  is said to be *homogeneous* if  $I = \bigoplus_{s \in S} R_s \cap I$ . Also recall that if  $I$  is a

homogeneous ideal (two-sided) of  $R$  and  $I_s = R_s \cap I$ , then  $R/I = \bigoplus_{s \in S} R_s/I_s$  is an  $S$ -graded ring inducing  $S$  [17, 24, 33].

An  $S$ -graded ring inducing  $S$  is said to be *graded right Artinian* [15–17, 33] if it satisfies the descending chain condition on its homogeneous right ideals. If  $R$  is graded right Artinian, and if  $S$  is cancellative, it is easy to see that  $R_e$  is right Artinian for every  $e \in E(S)$  [17].

An  $S$ -graded ring inducing  $S$  is said to be a *graded division ring* [33] if its homogeneous part without the zero element forms a group with respect to the ring multiplication.

Let  $R = \bigoplus_{s \in S} R_s$  be an  $S$ -graded ring inducing  $S$ , and let  $(M, +) = (\bigoplus_{d \in D} M_d, +)$  be a commutative group, where  $\{M_d\}_{d \in D}$  is a family of subgroups of  $M$ . Then  $M$  is said to be a *graded right  $R$ -module* [17, 33] if for every  $d \in D$  and every  $s \in S$  there exists  $d' \in D$  such that  $M_d R_s \subseteq M_{d'}$ . If  $0 \neq x \in \bigcup_{d \in D} M_d$ , then  $\deg(x)$  is a unique  $d$  for which  $x \in M_d$ . Of course, every  $S$ -graded ring inducing  $S$  is a graded right module over itself.

Let  $R$  be an  $S$ -graded ring inducing  $S$  and let  $M = \bigoplus_{d \in D} M_d$  and  $M' = \bigoplus_{d' \in D'} M'_{d'}$  be graded right  $R$ -modules. Then an  $R$ -homomorphism  $f : M \rightarrow M'$  is said to be *homogeneous* [15, 17, 33] if  $f(\bigcup_{d \in D} M_d) \subseteq \bigcup_{d' \in D'} M'_{d'}$  and if for  $x, y \in \bigcup_{d \in D} M_d$  such that  $f(x), f(y) \neq 0$ , we have that  $\deg(f(x)) = \deg(f(y))$  implies that  $\deg(x) = \deg(y)$ . If, moreover,  $f$  is bijective, then  $M$  and  $M'$  are said to be *graded isomorphic*.

## 2.2 The Graded Jacobson Radical

Throughout the article, the classical Jacobson radical of a ring  $A$  is denoted as usual by  $J(A)$ .

Let  $R$  be an  $S$ -graded ring inducing  $S$  and let us assume that  $S$  is cancellative. A homogeneous right ideal  $I$  of  $R$  is said to be a *graded modular right ideal* [15, 17] if there exists a homogeneous element  $u \in R$  such that  $ux - x \in I$  for every homogeneous element  $x \in R$ . The cancellativity of  $S$  gives that  $\deg(u)$  is an idempotent element of  $S$ , and that all such elements  $u$  are of the same degree, which is referred to as *the degree of  $I$* .

The *graded Jacobson radical*  $J^g(R)$  of  $R$  [15, 17] is the intersection of all maximal graded modular right ideals of  $R$ . If  $J^g(R) = 0$ , we say that  $R$  is *graded semisimple*. For the study of other graded radicals of  $S$ -graded rings inducing  $S$ , we refer the reader to [18–20, 23, 26] and references therein.

Let  $e$  be an idempotent element in  $S^*$ . There exists a one-to-one correspondence between the set of all maximal graded modular right ideals of  $R$  of degree  $e$  and the set of all maximal modular right ideals of the ring  $R_e$ , given by  $I \mapsto I \cap R_e$ , see [15, 17]. As a corollary, one obtains the following results.

**Theorem 1** ([15, 17]) *Let  $R = \bigoplus_{s \in S} R_s$  be an  $S$ -graded ring inducing  $S$ , where  $S$  is cancellative. Then:*

- (a)  $J^g(R) = \bigoplus_{s \in S} I_s$ , where  $I_s = \{x \in R_s \mid (\forall e \in E(S)) xH_R \cap R_e \subseteq J(R_e)\}$ . In particular,  $J^g(R) \cap R_e = J(R_e)$  for all  $e \in E(S)$ ;

- (b)  $J^g(R) = 0$ , that is,  $R$  is graded semisimple, if and only if the following two conditions are satisfied:
  - (i)  $J(R_e) = 0$  for every  $e \in E(S)$ , that is, each ring component of  $R$  is semisimple;
  - (ii) For every nonzero homogeneous element  $x \in R$  there exists a homogeneous element  $y \in R$  such that  $xy$  is a nonzero homogeneous element of an idempotent degree.

Throughout the article, by  $\max_{rm}^e(R)$  we denote the set of all maximal graded modular right ideals of  $R$  of degree  $e$ , and by  $\max_r^h(R)$  we denote the set of all maximal homogeneous right ideals of  $R$ . Of course, if  $R$  is with a homogeneous unity, say of degree  $e \in E(S)^*$ , then every maximal homogeneous right ideal of  $R$  is a maximal graded modular right ideal of  $R$  of degree  $e$ , in which case  $\max_{rm}^e(R) = \max_r^h(R)$ .

### 2.3 Graded Matrix Rings

Let  $R = \bigoplus_{s \in S} R_s$  be an  $S$ -graded ring inducing  $S$ , and let  $n \geq 2$  be an integer. For each  $s \in S$ , let  $M_n(R_s)$  be the set of  $n \times n$  matrices over the component  $R_s$ . Then the full matrix ring  $M_n(R)$  is  $S$ -graded with the components  $(M_n(R))_s = M_n(R_s)$  ( $s \in S$ ). If  $R$  is trivially graded, then  $M_n(R)$  can be graded by a Brandt semigroup, a rectangular band and by a group. One particular case of grading obtained from a Brandt semigroup grading will be discussed in Sect. 4. We refer the reader to [24] and references therein for more details on the other possible gradings.

If  $R$  is an  $S$ -graded ring inducing  $S$ , then  $R$  is a *direct product of graded rings* if there exists a family of homogeneous ideals  $\{I_\lambda\}_{\lambda \in \Lambda}$  of  $R$  such that  $R = \prod_{\lambda \in \Lambda} I_\lambda$ . The following graded version of the Wedderburn–Artin Theorem holds true.

**Theorem 2** ([16, 17]) *Let  $R$  be an  $S$ -graded ring inducing  $S$  with a cancellative  $S$ . If  $R$  is graded semisimple and graded right Artinian, then there exist positive integers  $p$  and  $n_1, \dots, n_p$  such that  $R$  is graded isomorphic to a direct product  $M_{n_1}(F_1) \times \dots \times M_{n_p}(F_p)$ , where each  $M_{n_i}(F_i)$  is a graded matrix ring over a graded division ring  $F_i$ .*

### 3 Homogeneous Co-maximal Graphs of Groupoid-Graded Rings

Throughout this section, unless stated otherwise,  $R = \bigoplus_{s \in S} R_s$  is an  $S$ -graded ring inducing  $S$  with unity 1, and with  $S$  assumed to be cancellative. Then, as we know from [17], the set of all idempotent elements  $E(S)$  of  $S$  is finite, and the ring  $R$  is *pseudo-unitary*, that is:

- (i) For every  $e \in E(S)$ , the ring  $R_e$  is a ring with unity  $1_e$ ;
- (ii) For every  $x \in H_R$  there exist  $e, f \in E(S)$  such that  $1_e x = x = x 1_f$ .

Moreover,  $1 = \sum_{e \in E(S)} 1_e$ .

For a similar concept, in case ring is graded by an l.i.-semigroup and in case it is graded by a small category all of whose morphisms are invertible, we refer the reader to [2] and [10], respectively.

**Definition 1** Let  $x$  be a nonzero homogeneous element of  $R$  of degree  $s$ . We say that  $x$  is *locally right invertible* if there exist  $e \in E(S)^*$  and  $x^r \in R$  such that  $xx^r = 1_e$ . Element  $x^r$  is called a *right inverse* of  $x$ . Analogously, we say that  $x$  is *locally left invertible* if there exist  $f \in E(S)^*$  and  $x^l \in R$  such that  $x^lx = 1_f$ . Element  $x^l$  is called a *left inverse* of  $x$ . We say that  $x$  is *locally invertible* or *locally two-sided invertible* if it is both locally right and locally left invertible. The set of all locally right, locally left and locally two-sided invertible elements of  $R$  is denoted by  $U_l(R)$ .

Of course, if  $|E(S)^*| = 1$ , then a locally right invertible (locally left invertible, locally invertible) element is a right invertible (left invertible, invertible) homogeneous element in the classical sense and vice-versa.

By the following proposition, the inverses of elements from  $U_l(R)$  may be assumed to be homogeneous.

**Proposition 1** Let  $x$  be a nonzero homogeneous element of  $R$  of degree  $s$ . Then  $x$  is a locally right (locally left) invertible element if and only if there exist  $e \in E(S)^*$  ( $f \in E(S)^*$ ) and a homogeneous element  $x^r$  ( $x^l$ ) of  $R$  of degree  $s^{-1} \in S$  such that  $xx^r = 1_e$  ( $x^lx = 1_f$ ). Moreover,  $s^{-1}$  is a unique element of  $S$  such that  $ss^{-1} = e$ ,  $es = s$ , and  $s^{-1}e = s^{-1}$  ( $s^{-1}s = f$ ,  $sf = s$ , and  $fs^{-1} = s^{-1}$ ). If  $x$  is locally invertible, then  $\deg(x^r) = \deg(x^l)$ .

**Proof** If there exist  $e \in E(S)^*$  and a homogeneous element  $x^r \in R$  such that  $xx^r = 1_e$ , then  $x$  is locally right invertible by the very definition. So, let  $x$  be a locally right invertible element. By the definition of a locally right invertible element, there exist  $e \in E(S)^*$  and  $x^r \in R$  such that  $xx^r = 1_e$ . Let  $x^r = \sum_{t \in S} (x^r)_t$  be a unique homogeneous decomposition of  $x^r$ . Then, since  $S$  is cancellative, there exists a unique  $t \in S$  such that  $x(x^r)_t = 1_e$ . Let  $s^{-1} = t$ . Then,  $ss^{-1} = e$ . Since  $R$  is pseudo-unitary, there exist  $e', e'' \in E(S)^*$  such that  $1_{e'}x = x$  and  $(x^r)_t 1_{e''} = (x^r)_t$ . Moreover, for all distinct  $g, h \in E(S)$ , we have that  $1_g 1_h = 0$ . Since  $1_e x (x^r)_t = x (x^r)_t 1_e = x (x^r)_t = 1_e \neq 0$ , it follows that  $e' = e = e''$ . Therefore,  $es = s$ , and  $s^{-1}e = s^{-1}$ .

The statement regarding a locally left invertible element can be proved analogously.

Now, let  $x$  be a locally invertible element. According to what we have just proved, there exist  $e, f \in E(S)^*$  and  $x^r, x^l \in H_R$ , such that  $xx^r = 1_e$  and  $x^lx = 1_f$ . Then,  $s \deg(x^r) = e$ ,  $\deg(x^l)s = f$ ,  $es = sf = s$ ,  $f \deg(x^l) = \deg(x^l)$ , and  $\deg(x^r)e = \deg(x^r)$ . Since  $es = s = sf$ , we have that  $1_e x = x = x 1_f$ . Hence, we obtain that  $xx^r x = 1_e x = x \neq 0$  and  $xx^l x = x 1_f = x \neq 0$ . It follows that  $s \deg(x^r)s = s$  and  $s \deg(x^l)s = s$ . Therefore, since  $S$  is cancellative,  $\deg(x^r) = \deg(x^l)$ .  $\square$

The following lemma represents a graded version of Remark 1 from [4], and it holds for rings which are not necessarily with unity. By a *graded domain*, we mean a graded ring without nontrivial homogeneous zero divisors (left, right or two-sided).

**Lemma 1** Let  $R = \bigoplus_{s \in S} R_s$  be an  $S$ -graded ring inducing  $S$ , not necessarily with unity, and let  $S$  be cancellative. If the set of all homogeneous zero divisors  $D^h(R)$  of  $R$  is finite, then  $H_R$  is either finite or  $R$  is a graded domain.

**Proof** Let us assume that  $R$  is not a graded domain. Then  $D^h(R)^* = D^h(R) \setminus \{0\}$  is nonempty, and by assumption,  $|D^h(R)| < \infty$ . Let  $x \in D^h(R)^*$  be a right zero

divisor. Since  $S$  is cancellative,  $(0 : x)_r = \{a \in R \mid xa = 0\}$  is a homogeneous right ideal of  $R$ . Clearly,  $H_{(0:x)_r} = \bigcup_{s \in S} (0 : x)_r \cap R_s \subseteq D^h(R)$ , and so,  $H_{(0:x)_r}$  is finite. Now,  $xR$  is a homogeneous right ideal of  $R$  and  $H_{xR} = \bigcup_{s \in S} xR \cap R_s \subseteq D^h(R)$ . Therefore,  $H_{xR}$  is also finite. Since  $(0 : x)_r$  is a homogeneous right ideal,  $R/(0 : x)_r$  is an  $S$ -graded right  $R$ -module. It is known from [17], and easy to verify, that the mapping  $f : R \rightarrow xR$  defined by  $f(a) = xa$  ( $a \in R$ ) is a surjective homogeneous  $R$ -homomorphism, and therefore,  $R/(0 : x)_r$  and  $xR$  are graded isomorphic as graded right  $R$ -modules (see also for instance [18]). It is also easy to verify that the relation  $\sim$  on  $H_R$ , defined by  $a \sim b$  if and only if either both  $a$  and  $b$  belong to  $H_{(0:x)_r}$  or  $\deg(a) = \deg(b)$  and  $a - b \in H_{(0:x)_r}$ , is an equivalence relation on  $H_R$  (see for instance [33]). However, this implies that  $|H_R| = |H_{(0:x)_r}| |H_{xR}| \leq |D^h(R)|^2$ , which completes the proof.  $\square$

**Definition 2** The *homogeneous co-maximal graph* of  $R$ , denoted by  $\Gamma^h(R)$ , is a graph whose vertex set is  $H_R \setminus U_l(R)$  and vertices  $x$  and  $y$  are adjacent if and only if  $xR + yR = R$ .

**Remark 1** It is clear that  $0$  is an isolated vertex in  $\Gamma^h(R)$ . Hence,  $\Gamma^h(R)$  is a disconnected graph. It is also easy to see that the notion of  $\Gamma^h(R)$  cannot be extended to graphs which contain loops. Namely, if  $x \neq 0$  is adjacent to  $x$ , then  $xR = R$ . Since  $R$  is pseudo-unitary, there exists  $e \in E(S)^*$  such that  $1_e x = x$ . Now,  $xR = R$  implies that there exists  $y \in R$  such that  $xy = 1_e$ . Hence,  $x$  is locally right invertible, a contradiction.

**Lemma 2** Let  $s, t \in S^*$  be such that  $st = e \in E(S)^*$ . If  $u \in S^*$  and  $f \in E(S)^*$  are such that  $su = f$ , then  $u = t$  and  $f = e$ .

**Proof** Since  $st = e \in E(S)^*$ , there exist  $x \in R_s$  and  $y \in R_t$  such that  $xy \neq 0$  and  $xy \in R_e$ . Now,  $xy = 1_e xy \neq 0$ . Therefore,  $st = (es)t$ . Since  $S$  is cancellative, this implies that  $es = s$ . Similarly, we obtain that  $fs = s$ . Since  $es = s$  and  $fs = s$ , the cancellativity of  $S$  implies that  $f = e$ . Now, since  $st = e$  and  $su = f = e$ , it follows that  $u = t$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 3** If the edge set of  $\Gamma^h(R)$  is nonempty, then  $|E(S)^*| = 1$ .

**Proof** Let  $x$  and  $y$  be adjacent vertices of  $\Gamma^h(R)$ , and let  $\deg(x) = s$  and  $\deg(y) = t$ . Then  $xR + yR = R$ . Therefore, there exist  $a, b \in R$  such that  $xa + yb = 1$ . Moreover, we know that  $1 = \sum_{e \in E(S)} 1_e$ . We have the following cases.

Case 1  $\deg(x) = \deg(y) = s$ .

Subcase 1a.  $s \notin E(S)$ . Since  $S$  is cancellative and  $\deg(x) = \deg(y)$ , by Lemma 2 we obtain that there exists a unique  $e \in E(S)^*$  such that  $1 = (xa)_e + (yb)_e$ . Note that both  $(xa)_e$  and  $(yb)_e$  are nonzero. Namely, suppose for instance that  $(yb)_e = 0$ . Then  $(xa)_e = 1$ , which implies that  $E(S)^* = \{e\}$  and  $x$  is a locally right invertible element, a contradiction. Therefore,  $1 = u + v$ , where  $u = (xa)_e$ ,  $v = (yb)_e$ , and  $u, v \neq 0$ . It follows that  $1 = 1_e$ , and so,  $|E(S)^*| = 1$ .

Subcase 1b.  $s \in E(S)^*$ . Since  $R$  is pseudo-unitary,  $st = e \in E(S)^*$  implies that  $t = e$ . However, in a pseudo-unitary ring,  $ef = 0$  for all distinct  $e, f \in E(S)$ . Hence,

we obtain that  $1 = (xa)_s + (yb)_s$ . Like in the previous subcase, we conclude that  $1 = 1_s$ . Therefore, again  $|E(S)^*| = 1$ .

Case 2  $\deg(x) \neq \deg(y)$ .

Subcase 2a.  $s, t \notin E(S)$ . By Lemma 2, there exist idempotent elements  $e, f \in S^*$  such that  $1 = (xa)_e + (yb)_f$ . Since  $x, y \notin U_l(R)$ , we have that  $(xa)_e, (yb)_f \neq 0$ . If  $e \neq f$ , this implies that  $(xa)_e = 1_e$  and  $(yb)_f = 1_f$ . Therefore,  $x$  and  $y$  are locally right invertible elements, a contradiction. Hence,  $e = f$ , and so,  $1 = 1_e$ . Thus,  $|E(S)^*| = 1$ .

Subcase 2b. Either  $s$  or  $t$  belongs to  $E(S)^*$ . Assume for instance that  $s \in E(S)^*$  and  $t \notin E(S)$ . By reasoning like in the Subcase 1b, we conclude that the only possible nonzero component of  $xa$  of an idempotent degree is  $(xa)_s$ . Moreover, by Lemma 2, there exists a unique  $e \in E(S)^*$  such that  $1 = (xa)_s + (yb)_e$ . Like in the previous subcase, we must have that  $(xa)_s, (yb)_e \neq 0$  and that  $s = e$ . Hence,  $1 = 1_e$ , and so,  $|E(S)^*| = 1$ .

Subcase 2c.  $s, t \in E(S)^*$ . This case cannot occur. Namely, proceeding as in the previous cases, we obtain that  $1 = (xa)_s + (yb)_t$  and  $(xa)_s, (yb)_t \neq 0$ . Since  $s \neq t$ , it follows that  $(xa)_s = 1_s$  and  $(yb)_t = 1_t$ . However, this is impossible, since  $x$  and  $y$  are not locally right invertible elements of  $R$ .  $\square$

We finish this section with a result that characterizes the connectedness of the graph  $\Gamma^h(R) \setminus J^s(R)$ . We remove the vertices that come from  $J^s(R)$ , since every vertex of  $\Gamma^h(R)$  that belongs to  $J^s(R)$  is isolated. Indeed, let  $x \in J^s(R)$ . Since  $0$  is an isolated vertex in  $\Gamma^h(R)$ , let us assume that  $x \neq 0$ . If  $y$  is a homogeneous element of  $R$  adjacent to  $x$ , then, by Lemma 3, there exists a single nonzero idempotent element  $e \in S$ . Since  $xR + yR = R$ , there exist homogeneous elements  $a, b \in R$  such that  $xa, yb \in R_e$ , and  $xa + yb = 1_e$ . However,  $x \in J^s(R)$ . Therefore, we obtain that  $xa \in J^s(R) \cap R_e$ , and so,  $xa \in J(R_e)$  by Theorem 1a). Hence,  $yb = 1_e - xa$  is a unit in  $R_e$ , a contradiction. Therefore,  $x$  is an isolated vertex in  $\Gamma^h(R)$ . Also, if  $R$  contains a unique maximal graded modular right ideal  $M$ , it coincides with  $J^s(R)$ , and  $\Gamma^h(R)$  is totally disconnected. Hence, taking into account Lemma 3, if  $\Gamma^h(R) \setminus J^s(R)$  is connected,  $R$  must have at least two maximal graded modular right ideals of the same degree.

**Theorem 3** *Let  $R$  be a graded semisimple and a graded right Artinian ring. Also, let  $R$  be such that  $|\max_{r,m}^e(R)| \geq 2$  for every  $e \in E(S)^*$ . Then  $\Gamma^h(R) \setminus \{0\}$  is a connected graph if and only if  $|E(S)^*| = 1$ . Moreover, in that case, the diameter of  $\Gamma^h(R) \setminus \{0\}$  is at most 5.*

**Proof** ( $\Rightarrow$ ) Let  $\Gamma^h(R) \setminus \{0\}$  be connected. Since there are at least two maximal graded modular right ideals of  $R$  of degree  $e$ , for every  $e \in E(S)^*$ , all of them are distinct from  $0$ . Having in mind that there is a one-to-one correspondence between the maximal graded modular right ideals of  $R$  of degree  $e$  and the maximal modular right ideals of  $R_e$ , for every  $e \in E(S)$ , none of the maximal graded modular right ideals of  $R$  contains a locally right invertible element. So, there must be at least two distinct vertices in  $\Gamma^h(R) \setminus \{0\}$ . Since  $\Gamma^h(R) \setminus \{0\}$  is connected, its edge set is nonempty. Hence,  $|E(S)^*| = 1$  by Lemma 3.

( $\Leftarrow$ ) Let  $E(S)^* = \{e\}$ . Let us observe a subgraph  $\Gamma'$  of  $\Gamma^h(R) \setminus \{0\}$  that has only the elements from  $R_e$  as vertices. We claim that  $\Gamma' = \Gamma(R_e) \setminus \{0\}$ . Let  $x, y \in \Gamma'$  be



adjacent in  $\Gamma^h(R) \setminus \{0\}$ . Then  $xR + yR = R$ . Now,  $xR_e + yR_e \subseteq R_e$ . On the other hand,  $R$  is with unity  $1 = 1_e \in R_e \subseteq R = xR + yR$ . Hence, there exist  $a, b \in R$  such that  $1_e = xa + yb$ . Since  $x, y \in R_e$ , we get that  $1_e = xa_e + yb_e \in xR_e + yR_e$ , where  $a_e$  and  $b_e$  are the  $e$ -components of  $a$  and  $b$ , respectively. Therefore, for any  $z \in R_e$ , we have that  $z = 1_e z \in (xR_e + yR_e)z \subseteq xR_e + yR_e$ . Thus,  $xR_e + yR_e = R_e$ , that is,  $x$  and  $y$  are adjacent as vertices of  $\Gamma(R_e) \setminus \{0\}$ . It follows that  $\Gamma' \subseteq \Gamma(R_e) \setminus \{0\}$ . Now, let  $x, y \in \Gamma(R_e) \setminus \{0\}$  be adjacent. Then  $xR_e + yR_e = R_e$ . Hence, for some  $a, b \in R_e$ , we have that  $1_e = xa + yb$ . However,  $1 = 1_e$ . Therefore, for every  $z \in R$ , we get that  $z = 1_e z = (xa + yb)z \subseteq xR + yR$ , and so,  $R \subseteq xR + yR$ . Therefore,  $xR + yR = R$ , that is,  $x$  and  $y$  are adjacent as vertices of  $\Gamma^h(R) \setminus \{0\}$ . Since  $x, y \in R_e$ , they are adjacent as vertices of  $\Gamma'$ . Hence, indeed,  $\Gamma' = \Gamma(R_e) \setminus \{0\}$ . Now, since  $R$  is graded right Artinian, and since  $S$  is cancellative,  $R_e$  is right Artinian. Moreover, there exists a one-to-one correspondence between the set of all maximal graded modular right ideals of  $R$  of degree  $e$  and maximal modular right ideals of  $R_e$ . Since  $R$  is with unity  $1_e$ , every maximal homogeneous right ideal of  $R$  is a maximal graded modular right ideal of  $R$  of degree  $e$ . Hence, by the hypotheses,  $R_e$  contains at least two maximal right ideals. Also, since  $R$  is graded semisimple, the ring  $R_e$  is semisimple by Theorem 1b). Therefore,  $\Gamma(R_e) \setminus \{0\} = \Gamma'$  is a connected graph according to Theorem 3.2 in [43]. By the same theorem, the diameter of  $\Gamma'$  is at most 3. Now, let  $x \in \Gamma^h(R) \setminus \{0\}$  be such that  $\deg(x) = s \neq e$ . Since  $R$  is graded semisimple, by Theorem 1b), there exists a homogeneous element  $a \in R$  such that  $0 \neq xa \in R_e$ . Since  $x$  is not locally right invertible in  $R$ , nor is  $xa$  right invertible in  $R_e$ . However,  $\Gamma'$  is connected. Therefore, for every  $w \in \Gamma(R_e) \setminus \{0\}$ , distinct from  $xa$ , there exists a path between  $xa$  and  $w$ , of length at most 3. Since  $R_e$  contains at least two maximal right ideals, it follows that there exists  $y \in \Gamma(R_e) \setminus \{0\}$ , distinct from  $xa$ , such that  $xaR_e + yR_e = R_e$ . Thus,  $1 = 1_e = xau + yv$ , for some  $u, v \in R_e$ . Hence,  $1 \in xR + yR$ , and therefore,  $xR + yR = R$ . In other words,  $x$  and  $y$  are adjacent in  $\Gamma^h(R) \setminus \{0\}$ . Therefore, for every nonzero  $w \in R_e$ , there exists a path in  $\Gamma^h(R) \setminus \{0\}$  between  $x$  and  $w$  of length at most 4. Since  $x$  was chosen arbitrarily,  $\Gamma^h(R) \setminus \{0\}$  is a connected graph with the diameter at most 5. □

### 4 Homogeneous Co-maximal Graphs of Groupoid-Graded Matrix Rings

Let  $\mathbb{F}_q$  be a finite field with  $q$  elements, with unity 1, and let  $R = M_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$  be the ring of  $n \times n$  matrices over  $\mathbb{F}_q$  under the usual matrix addition and multiplication, where  $n$  is a positive integer.

We know that  $R$  can be graded by a Brandt semigroup, a rectangular band and by a group, see [24]. In accordance with Lemma 3, there is only interest in gradings whose grading sets (with zero) contain a single (nonzero) idempotent element. The case of a trivial grading is covered by the results obtained in [43]. So, there are two interesting options left: a nontrivial group grading and a nontrivial grading obtained from a Brandt semigroup, distinct from a group with zero, with a single nonzero idempotent element.

$R$  can be naturally graded by a groupoid with a single nonzero idempotent element, and which is distinct from a group with zero. In this article, we consider this grading

only, which moreover “encodes” the good group gradings (see [13, 24, 37]). Indeed, let  $R_e$  be the set  $D_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$  of all diagonal matrices of  $R$ . For  $i \neq j$ , let  $R_{(i,j)}$  be the set of all matrices of  $R$  with entries from  $\mathbb{F}_q$  at the  $(i, j)$  position and zeroes elsewhere. Define

$$S := \{(i, j) \mid i, j \in \{1, \dots, n\}, i \neq j\} \cup \{0, e\}$$

and put  $R_0$  to be the zero matrix. Then  $R = \bigoplus_{s \in S} R_s$  is an  $S$ -graded ring inducing  $S$ , and  $S$  is a groupoid with respect to the induced operation  $(i, j)(k, l) = \delta_{jk}(i, l)$ , for  $i \neq l$ , and  $(i, j)(k, i) = \delta_{jk}e$ , where  $\delta_{jk}$  is the Kronecker delta,  $0$  is the zero element of  $S$ , and  $e^2 = e$  is such that  $e(i, j) = (i, j)e = (i, j)$  for all  $(i, j)$ . Moreover,  $R$  is a pseudo-unitary  $S$ -graded ring inducing  $S$  with a homogeneous unity  $1_e = 1_{M_n(\mathbb{F}_q)}$ , where  $1_{M_n(\mathbb{F}_q)}$  is the identity matrix of  $M_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . Hence,  $\max_r^e(R) = \max_r^h(R)$ . Note that  $R = \bigoplus_{s \in S^*} R_s$ , and  $S^* = S \setminus \{0\}$  is a partial groupoid. Of course, if  $n = 1$ , then  $R = R_e = \mathbb{F}_q$  is trivially graded.

Throughout this section, for any full matrix ring  $M_n(F)$  over a finite field  $F$  with unity  $1$ , by  $e_{(i,j)}$  we denote the matrix having  $1$  at the  $(i, j)$  position and zeroes elsewhere. The zero matrix of  $M_n(F)$  is denoted by  $0_{M_n(F)}$ , and the subset of all diagonal matrices of  $M_n(F)$  is denoted by  $D_n(F)$ . Also, when we say that a matrix ring over a finite field is  $S$ -graded, we mean that it is graded in the above described way.

If  $A$  is a ring with unity, the set of all maximal right ideals of  $A$  is denoted by  $\max_r(A)$ .

**Lemma 4** *Let  $\mathbb{F}_q$  be a finite field with  $q$  elements, and let us observe  $R = M_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$  as an  $S$ -graded ring, where  $n$  is a positive integer. Then the following statements hold:*

- (i)  $|\max_r^h(R)| = n$ ;
- (ii) *Every maximal homogeneous right ideal of  $R$  is generated by a homogeneous matrix of rank  $n - 1$ , and the number of such matrices is*

$$\begin{cases} 2(q - 1) & \text{if } n = 2; \\ (q - 1)^{n-1} & \text{if } n \neq 2. \end{cases}$$

**Proof** (i) Since  $R$  is a ring with a homogeneous unity, there exists a one-to-one correspondence between the maximal homogeneous right ideals of  $R$  and the maximal right ideals of  $R_e$ . Now,  $R_e$  is a subset of  $R$  which consists of all diagonal matrices of  $R$ . Hence,  $|\max_r(R_e)| = n$ , which proves the claim.

(ii) Let  $I$  be a maximal homogeneous right ideal of  $R$ . We know that  $I$  is principal, observed as a right ideal of  $R$ , and every matrix of  $I$  of rank  $n - 1$  can serve as a generator of  $I$  (see for instance Lemma 4.2 in [43]).

*Case 1*  $n = 1$ . This is a trivial case when  $R = \mathbb{F}_q$  and  $\{0\}$  is the only maximal right ideal of  $R$ . Hence, the number of homogeneous generators of rank  $0$  is  $1 = (q - 1)^{n-1} = (q - 1)^0$ , namely, the zero element of  $\mathbb{F}_q$ .

*Case 2*  $n = 2$ . There are two maximal homogeneous right ideals of  $R$ , namely,  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ \mathbb{F}_q & \mathbb{F}_q \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{F}_q & \mathbb{F}_q \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . Let, for instance,  $I = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ \mathbb{F}_q & \mathbb{F}_q \end{pmatrix}$ . Then the homogeneous matrices of rank  $n - 1 = 1$  that generate  $I$  are the matrices  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ a_{(2,1)} & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & a_{(2,2)} \end{pmatrix}$ ,

where  $a_{(2,1)}, a_{(2,2)}$  are the arbitrary nonzero elements of  $\mathbb{F}_q$ . Hence,  $I$  has  $2(q - 1)$  homogeneous generators of rank 1. Of course, the number of generators is the same for the other ideal too.

*Case 3*  $n > 2$ . In this case, the only homogeneous matrices of  $R$  of rank  $n - 1$  are matrices that come from  $R_e$ . For  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ , they are of the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{(1,1)} & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & a_{(i-1,i-1)} & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & a_{(i+1,i+1)} & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & a_{(n,n)} \end{pmatrix}, \tag{1}$$

where  $a_{(k,k)} \in \mathbb{F}_q^*$ ,  $k = 1, \dots, i - 1, i + 1, \dots, n$ . Hence, there are  $(q - 1)^{n-1}$  such matrices. □

In what follows, if  $G = (V, E)$  is a graph, the degree of  $v \in V(G)$  is denoted by  $\deg_G(v)$ . As usual, the minimal degree and the maximal degree among the vertices of  $G$  are denoted by  $\delta(G)$  and  $\Delta(G)$ , respectively. Recall that  $G$  is said to be *regular* of degree  $r(G)$  if  $r(G) = \delta(G) = \Delta(G)$ . The connectivity number, the diameter, and the chromatic number of  $G$  are denoted by  $\kappa(G)$ ,  $d(G)$ , and  $\chi(G)$ , respectively. By  $\omega(G)$ , we denote the least upper bound of the cardinal numbers of all the cliques in  $G$ .

**Theorem 4** *Let  $\mathbb{F}_q$  be a finite field with  $q$  elements, and let us observe  $R = M_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$  as an  $S$ -graded ring, where  $n \geq 2$ . Also, let  $G = \Gamma^h(R) \setminus \{0_{M_n(\mathbb{F}_q)}\}$ . Then the following statements hold:*

- (i)  $|V(G)| = q^n - 1 + n(n - 1)(q - 1) - (q - 1)^n$ ;
- (ii)  $G$  is connected and  $d(G) = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{if } n = 2, \\ 3 & \text{if } n > 2; \end{cases}$
- (iii) If  $n \geq 3$ , then  $\delta(G) = (q - 1)^{n-1}$  and  $\Delta(G) = n(q - 1) + \sum_{i=1}^{n-2} \binom{n-1}{i}(q - 1)^{i+1}$ ;
- (iv)  $G$  is regular if and only if  $n = 2$ . In that case,  $r(G) = 2(q - 1)$ ;
- (v)  $\kappa(G) = \delta(G)$  and  $\omega(G) = \chi(G) = |\max_r^h(R)|$ ;
- (vi)  $|\{a \in G \mid \deg_G(a) = \delta(G)\}| = n^2(q - 1)$ .

**Proof** (i) It is clear that  $|R_e| = q^n$ . Also,  $|R_{(i,j)}| = q$  for all  $(i, j) \in S$ . On the other hand, the number of invertible homogeneous elements of  $R$  is equal to the number of invertible elements of  $R_e$ . Hence, there are  $(q - 1)^n$  such elements. Since  $|\{(i, j) \in S\}| = n(n - 1)$ , and since the zero matrix of  $R$  is not a vertex in  $G$ , we therefore obtain that  $|V(G)| = q^n - 1 + n(n - 1)(q - 1) - (q - 1)^n$ .

(ii) According to Lemma 4, the number of maximal homogeneous right ideals of  $R$  is  $n$ , and  $n \geq 2$  by the hypothesis. Theorem 1b) implies that  $R$  is graded semisimple. Moreover,  $R$  is right Artinian. Hence,  $R$  is graded right Artinian. So,  $G$  is connected by Theorem 3. By the same theorem,  $d(G) \leq 5$ .

Let us assume first that  $n = 2$ . Then each homogeneous matrix of  $R$  of rank 1 generates a maximal homogeneous right ideal of  $R$ . Let  $a \in R_e$  be a homogeneous matrix of rank 1 with zero at the  $(2, 2)$  position. Then  $a$  is adjacent to every nonzero matrix from  $R_{(2,1)}$  and to every nonzero matrix from  $R_e$  which has zero at the  $(1, 1)$  position. The same what is said for  $a$  can be said for a nonzero matrix  $b \in R_{(1,2)}$ . Hence,  $a$  and  $b$  are connected by a path of length 2. We analogously conclude that two matrices of rank 1 from the second row, and from distinct columns, are connected by a path of length 2. Hence, if  $n = 2$ , we have that  $d(G) = 2$ .

Let now  $n > 2$ . Take non-invertible  $a, b \in R^*$  such that  $aR + bR \neq R$ . Note that all of the homogeneous elements of  $R$ , which are not of degree  $e$ , are matrices of rank 1.

*Case 1* Both  $a$  and  $b$  are of rank 1.

*Subcase 1a.*  $a, b \in R_e$ . Let us assume first that  $a$  and  $b$  have a nonzero entry at the same position, say  $(i, i)$ . Let  $c \in R_e$  be of rank  $n - 1$ , which is of the form (1). Then  $c$  is adjacent to both  $a$  and  $b$ . So,  $a$  and  $b$  are connected through  $c$ . Now, let us assume that  $a$  and  $b$  have nonzero entries at different positions. Then, there exist  $c \in R_e$  and  $d \in R_e$ , both of rank  $n - 1$ , such that  $aR + cR = R$  and  $bR + dR = R$ . Clearly,  $c \neq d$ , and  $c$  and  $d$  are adjacent. Hence, in that case,  $a$  and  $b$  are connected by a path  $a - c - d - b$ .

*Subcase 1b.*  $a \in R_e$  and  $b \notin R_e$  or  $a \notin R_e$  and  $b \in R_e$ . For instance, let  $a \in R_e$  and  $b \notin R_e$ . Assume that the nonzero entry of  $a$  is at the  $(i, i)$  position. Now, let us suppose first that  $b \in R_{(i,j)}$ , for some  $(i, j) \in S$ . Let  $c \in R_e$  be a matrix of the form (1). Then  $c$  is adjacent to both  $a$  and  $b$ . So,  $a$  and  $b$  are connected by a path  $a - c - b$ . Let us now assume that  $b \in R_{(k,j)}$ , for some  $(k, j) \in S$ , where  $k \neq i$ . Again, take  $c \in R_e$  of the form (1). Then  $a$  and  $c$  are adjacent. However, there exists  $d \in R_e$  of rank  $n - 1$  with the zero entry at the  $(k, k)$  position. Then  $b$  and  $d$  are adjacent. Since  $k \neq i$ , we have that  $c$  and  $d$  are adjacent. Therefore,  $a$  and  $b$  are connected by a path  $a - c - d - b$ .

*Subcase 1c.*  $a, b \notin R_e$ . Assume that  $a \in R_{(i,j)}$  and  $b \in R_{(k,l)}$ , for some  $(i, j), (k, l) \in S$ . By reasoning similarly to the previous subcases, if  $i = k$ , we obtain that  $a$  and  $b$  are connected by a path of length 2, and, if  $i \neq k$ , we obtain that  $a$  and  $b$  are connected by a path of length 3.

*Case 2* One of the matrices is of rank 1 and the other has the rank at least 2 and at most  $n - 1$ . For instance, let the rank of  $a$  be 1. Then  $b \in R_e$ .

*Subcase 2a.*  $a \in R_e$  with the nonzero  $(i, i)$  entry. Let  $c \in R_e$  be a matrix of the form (1). Then  $a$  and  $c$  are adjacent. Of course, if  $b = c$ , then  $a$  and  $b$  are adjacent. So, let  $b \neq c$ . Assume that  $b$  has a zero entry at the  $(i, i)$  position. Let  $d \in R_e$  be of rank  $n - 1$  whose zero entry is not at the  $(i, i)$  position. Then  $b$  and  $d$  are adjacent, and so are  $c$  and  $d$ . Hence,  $a$  and  $b$  are connected by a path  $a - c - d - b$ . Assume now that  $b$  has a nonzero entry at the  $(i, i)$  position. Then  $b$  and  $c$  are adjacent. So,  $a$  and  $b$  are connected by a path  $a - c - b$ .

*Subcase 2b.*  $a \notin R_e$ . Let  $a \in R_{(i,j)}$ , for some  $(i, j) \in S$ . We may proceed as in the previous case and conclude that either  $a$  and  $b$  are adjacent or they are connected by a path of length 2 or they are connected by a path of length 3.

Therefore, taking into account all of the cases, if  $n > 2$ , we have that  $d(G) = 3$ .

- (iii) Every nonzero homogeneous element  $x$  of  $R$ , which is of rank 1, is adjacent to  $y$  only if  $yR$  is a maximal homogeneous right ideal of  $R$ . Therefore, by Lemma 4, if  $x \in R_{(i,j)}$  or if  $x \in R_e$ , but with a nonzero entry at the  $(i, i)$  position, then  $y \in R_e$  is of the form (1), and there are  $(q - 1)^{n-1}$  such elements. It follows that  $\delta(G) = (q - 1)^{n-1}$ . Now, let  $x$  be a homogeneous element of  $R$  that generates a maximal right ideal of  $R$ . Then  $x$  is of the form (1), for some  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ . Hence, as a vertex of  $G$ , it is adjacent to every nonzero matrix from  $R_{(i,j)}$  for all  $j = 1, \dots, i - 1, i + 1, \dots, n$ . There are  $(n - 1)(q - 1)$  such matrices. Element  $x$  is also adjacent to every matrix of rank 1 that belongs to  $R_e$ , but has the only nonzero entry at the  $(i, i)$  position. Of course, there are  $q - 1$  such matrices. Moreover,  $x$  is adjacent to every homogeneous element  $y \in R_e$  of rank greater than 1 and less than  $n$ , which has a nonzero entry at the  $(i, i)$  position. There are  $\sum_{i=1}^{n-2} \binom{n-1}{i} (q - 1)^{i+1}$  such elements. Hence,  $\Delta(G) = n(q - 1) + \sum_{i=1}^{n-2} \binom{n-1}{i} (q - 1)^{i+1}$ .
- (iv) Let  $n = 2$ . As we have already pointed out in the proof of *ii*), every nonzero matrix from  $e_{(1,1)}Re_{(1,1)}$  is adjacent to every nonzero matrix from both  $e_{(2,1)}Re_{(1,1)}$  and  $e_{(2,2)}Re_{(2,2)}$ . The same holds true for every nonzero matrix from  $e_{(1,2)}Re_{(2,2)}$ . Symmetrically, every nonzero matrix from  $e_{(2,1)}Re_{(1,1)}$  and every nonzero matrix from  $e_{(2,2)}Re_{(2,2)}$  is adjacent to every nonzero matrix from both  $e_{(1,1)}Re_{(1,1)}$  and  $e_{(1,2)}Re_{(2,2)}$ . Hence,  $\delta(G) = \Delta(G) = 2(q - 1)$ . If  $n > 2$ , then, clearly by *iii*),

$$\delta(G) = (q - 1)^{n-1} = \deg_G(e_{(1,1)}) < \deg_G(e_{(1,1)} + e_{(2,2)}) \leq \Delta(G).$$

So, indeed,  $G$  is regular if and only if  $n = 2$ .

- (v) These statements are proved analogously to the way the corresponding statements for the non-graded case are proved (cf. statements *v*) and *vii*) of Theorem 4.3 in [43]). For the readers' convenience, we provide a proof for the assertion concerning the chromatic number. We know that  $\omega(G) \leq \chi(G)$ . According to Lemma 4, the number of all maximal homogeneous right ideals of  $R$  is  $n$ . Let  $\{M_1, \dots, M_n\}$  be the set of all homogeneous maximal right ideals of  $R$ . Put  $X_1 = M_1$  and  $X_i = M_i \setminus M_i \cap (M_1 \cup \dots \cup M_{i-1})$  for every  $i = 2, \dots, n$ . Then each  $X_i$  is an independent set,  $G = \bigcup_{i=1}^n X_i$ , and  $X_i \cap X_j = \emptyset$  for all  $i \neq j$ . It follows that  $\chi(G) \leq n$ . Let  $x_i \in G$  be a homogeneous generator of  $M_i$ . By Lemma 4, the set  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  forms a clique of order  $n$ . Hence,  $n \leq \omega(G)$ , which concludes the proof.
- (vi) In order to find the cardinality of  $\{a \in G \mid \deg_G(a) = \delta(G)\}$ , it is enough to count the number of homogeneous elements of  $R$  of rank 1. The number of matrices from  $R_e$  of rank 1 is obviously  $n(q - 1)$ . Also, for every  $(i, j) \in S$ , we have that  $|R_{(i,j)} \setminus \{0_{M_n(\mathbb{F}_q)}\}| = q - 1$ . Therefore,

$$|\{a \in G \mid \deg_G(a) = \delta(G)\}| = n(q - 1) + n(n - 1)(q - 1) = n^2(q - 1),$$

as asserted.

□

Let  $A$  and  $B$  be arbitrary rings, and let  $\Gamma(A)$  and  $\Gamma(B)$  be the co-maximal graphs of  $A$  and  $B$ , respectively. Example 4.4 in [43] shows that the implication  $\Gamma(A) \cong$

$\Gamma(B) \Rightarrow A \cong B$  does not hold true in general. Namely, if  $A = M_n(\mathbb{Z}_4)$  and  $B = M_n(\mathbb{Z}_2[x]/(x^2))$ , then  $\Gamma(A) \cong \Gamma(B)$  but  $A$  is not isomorphic to  $B$ . This particular example also shows that in the case of two  $S$ -graded rings inducing  $S$ , say  $A$  and  $B$ , the graph isomorphism of graphs  $\Gamma^h(A)$  and  $\Gamma^h(B)$  does not in general imply that  $A$  and  $B$  are graded isomorphic as  $S$ -graded rings, by observing  $M_n(\mathbb{Z}_4)$  and  $M_n(\mathbb{Z}_2[x]/(x^2))$  as trivially graded rings. However, by Theorem 4.5 in [43], if  $R$  is a ring with unity and  $n \geq 2$ , then  $\Gamma(R) \cong \Gamma(M_n(\mathbb{F}_q))$  implies that  $R \cong M_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . Here, we obtain an  $S$ -graded version of this result.

Let us recall a few notions first. If  $G = (V, E)$  is a graph and  $V' \subset V$ , then  $\langle V' \rangle$  denotes the *induced subgraph*, whose vertex set is  $V'$  and with vertices being adjacent if and only if they are adjacent in  $G$ . Let  $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$  and  $G_2 = (V_2, E_2)$  be such that  $V_1 \cap V_2 = \emptyset$  and  $E_1 \cap E_2 = \emptyset$ . The *join* of  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  is a graph  $G_1 \cup G_2$  with the edges that join  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  being added.

**Theorem 5** *Let  $\mathbb{F}_q$  be a finite field with  $q$  elements, and let us observe  $M_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$  as an  $S$ -graded ring, where  $n \geq 2$ . Also, let  $R$  be an  $S$ -graded ring with unity, and  $\text{supp}(R) = S^*$ . If  $G' = \Gamma^h(R) \cong \Gamma^h(M_n(\mathbb{F}_q)) = G$ , then  $R$  and  $M_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$  are graded isomorphic as  $S$ -graded rings.*

**Proof** Since  $R$  is  $S$ -graded and  $R$  is with unity 1, let us note that 1 is a homogeneous element  $1_e$ . So,  $\max_{r_m}^e(R) = \max_r^h(R)$ . Every homogeneous zero divisor of  $R$  is a vertex in  $G'$ . On the other hand, the number of homogeneous elements of  $M_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$  is finite. Therefore, since  $G \cong G'$ , the number of homogeneous zero divisors of  $R$  is finite. Hence, by Lemma 1, it follows that the homogeneous part of  $R$  is finite. In particular,  $R$  is graded right Artinian. If  $J^s(R) \neq 0$ , then  $G'$  contains more than one isolated vertex, according to the discussion preceding Theorem 3. This implies that the same holds true for  $G$ , which is a contradiction by Theorem 4*ii*). Therefore,  $R$  is graded semisimple. Then, by Theorem 2, there exist positive integers  $p$  and  $n_1, \dots, n_p$  such that  $R$  is graded isomorphic to a direct product  $M_{n_1}(F_1) \times \dots \times M_{n_p}(F_p)$ , where each  $M_{n_i}(F_i)$  is a graded matrix ring over a graded division ring  $F_i$ . Each  $M_{n_i}(F_i)$  is a homogeneous ideal of  $R$ , that is, an  $S$ -graded ring. Hence, each  $M_{n_i}(F_i)$  is an  $S_i$ -graded ring inducing  $S_i$ , where  $S_i$  is a subgroupoid of  $S$ . On the other hand, we know, and it is easy to check, that a graded division ring is graded by a group, and that its ring component is a division ring (see for instance [33]). Now,  $\{e\}$  is the only nonzero subgroup of  $S$ . Hence, each  $F_i$  is trivially graded, that is, each  $F_i$  is a division ring. Moreover,  $H_R$  is finite, which implies that each  $F_i$  is a finite field, say  $q_i = |F_i|$ . So, each  $M_{n_i}(F_i)$  is an  $S_i$ -graded ring  $M_{n_i}(\mathbb{F}_{q_i})$ . Let  $\phi$  be a graph isomorphism from  $G$  onto  $G'$ . Note that  $\phi$  is also a graph isomorphism between the graphs  $G \setminus \{0_{M_n(\mathbb{F}_q)}\}$  and  $G' \setminus \{0_R\}$ . For every  $i$ , denote by  $M_i$  the set of all maximal right ideals of  $R$  of the form

$$M_{n_1}(F_1) \times \dots \times M_{n_{i-1}}(F_{i-1}) \times M \times M_{n_{i+1}}(F_{i+1}) \times \dots \times M_{n_p}(F_p),$$

where  $M$  is a maximal homogeneous right ideal of  $M_{n_i}(F_i)$ . Then  $\max_r^h(R) = \bigcup_{i=1}^p M_i$ . Since  $\omega(G) = \omega(G')$ , by Theorem 4*v*), we get  $|\max_r^h(M_n(\mathbb{F}_q))| = |\max_r^h(R)|$ . By Lemma 4, we have that  $|\max_r^h(M_n(\mathbb{F}_q))| = n$ . There exists a one-to-one correspondence between the set of all maximal homogeneous right ideals of  $R$

and the set of all maximal right ideals of  $R_e$ . So,  $|\max_r^h(R)| = |\max_r(R_e)|$ . On the other hand,  $R_e \cong D_{n_1}(F_1) \times \cdots \times D_{n_p}(F_p)$ . Therefore, by Lemma 4, we obtain that  $|\max_r^h(R)| = \sum_{i=1}^p n_i$ . Hence,

$$n = \sum_{i=1}^p n_i. \tag{2}$$

Let  $u$  and  $u_i$  be the number of elements that can be generators in any maximal homogeneous right ideal of  $R$  and  $M_i$ , respectively. Then, by reasoning as in the proof of Theorem 4.5 in [43], we get from (2) that  $u = u_i$ . Namely, since

$$\langle \{a \in V(G) \mid \deg_G(a) = \Delta(G)\} \rangle \cong \langle \{a \in V(G') \mid \deg_{G'}(a) = \Delta(G')\} \rangle,$$

we have that  $\langle \{a \in V(G) \mid \deg_G(a) = \Delta(G)\} \rangle$  is the join of  $n$  copies of the complement graph of  $K_u$ , and  $\langle \{a \in V(G') \mid \deg_{G'}(a) = \Delta(G')\} \rangle$  is the join of  $\sum_{i=1}^p n_i$  copies of the complement graph of  $K_{u_i}$ . (Here, as usual,  $K_m$  denotes the complete graph with  $m$  vertices.) According to Lemma 4, note that for every  $i$  we have that

$$u = \begin{cases} 2(q - 1) & \text{if } n = 2; \\ (q - 1)^{n-1} & \text{if } n > 2, \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad u_i = \begin{cases} 2(q_i - 1) & \text{if } n_i = 2; \\ (q_i - 1)^{n_i-1} & \text{if } n_i \neq 2. \end{cases}$$

So, if  $n = 2$ , then  $u > 1$ . Since  $u = u_i$  for every  $i$ , it follows that  $n_i \neq 1$  for every  $i$ . Therefore, by (2), we get that  $p = 1$  and  $n_1 = 2$ . Thus,  $2(q - 1) = 2(q_1 - 1)$ , which implies that  $q = q_1$ . Hence,  $R$  and  $M_2(\mathbb{F}_q)$  are graded isomorphic as  $S$ -graded rings. So, from now on, we assume that  $n > 2$ . Then, since  $\text{supp}(R) = S^*$ , we conclude from (2) that  $n_i > 2$  for every  $i$ .

*Case i*  $q = 2$ . Then  $u_i = (q - 1)^{n-1} = 1$  for every  $i$ . Since  $n_i > 2$ , it follows that  $(q_i - 1)^{n_i-1} = 1$  for every  $i$ . Hence,  $q_i = 2$  for every  $i$ . By Theorem 4(vi), we have that  $n^2 = \sum_{i=1}^p n_i^2$ . However, this, together with (2), implies that  $p = 1$  and  $n_1 = n$ . Therefore,  $R$  and  $M_n(\mathbb{F}_2)$  are graded isomorphic as  $S$ -graded rings.

*Case ii*  $q > 2$ . Then,  $u_i = u = (q - 1)^{n-1} > 1$  for every  $i$ . Now, let  $M$  be a maximal homogeneous right ideal of  $M_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , and  $a$  a generator of  $M$ . It follows that  $\deg_{G'}(\phi(a)) = \Delta(G) = \Delta(G')$  and  $\phi(a)$  generates a maximal homogeneous right ideal  $M'$  of  $R$ . Analogously to the proof of Theorem 4.5 in [43], we conclude that  $\phi$  induces a one-to-one correspondence between the set of all maximal homogeneous right ideals of  $M_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$  and those of  $R$ . Namely,  $M$  is a unique maximal independent set in  $G$  that contains  $a$ , and therefore,  $M'$  is a unique maximal independent set in  $G'$  that contains  $\phi(a)$ . Hence,  $\phi(M)$  is a maximal homogeneous right ideal of  $R$ . Let

$$B_i = 0_{M_{n_1}(F_1)} \times \cdots \times 0_{M_{n_{i-1}}(F_{i-1})} \times e_{(1,1)} \times 0_{M_{n_{i+1}}(F_{i+1})} \times \cdots \times 0_{M_{n_p}(F_p)}.$$

Then  $\deg_G(e_{(1,1)}) = \delta(G) = \delta(G') = \deg_{G'}(B_i)$  for every  $i$ . Since  $n > 2$  and  $n_i > 2$  for every  $i$ , we get that

$$\deg_G(e_{(1,1)}) = (q-1)^{n-1} \quad \text{and} \quad \deg_{G'}(B_i) = \frac{\prod_{j=1}^p (q_j-1)^{n_j}}{q_i-1}. \quad (3)$$

Now,  $\deg_G(e_{(1,1)}) = \deg_{G'}(B_i)$  for every  $i$ , so (3) implies that  $q_1 = \dots = q_p$ . Since  $u_i = (q_i-1)^{n_i-1} = (q-1)^{n-1} > 1$  for every  $i$ , and since  $q_1 = \dots = q_p$ , we get that  $n_1 = \dots = n_p$ . Therefore, from (2) we obtain that  $n = pn_1$ . This, together with  $\deg_G(e_{(1,1)}) = \deg_{G'}(B_i)$  and (3), implies that

$$(q-1)^{n-1} = (q_1-1)^{pn_1-1} = (q_1-1)^{n-1}.$$

Hence,  $q = q_1$ . By Theorem 4vi), we have that  $n^2(q-1) = pn_1^2(q_1-1)$ . Since  $n = pn_1$  and  $q = q_1$ , it follows that  $p = 1$ . Hence,  $n = n_1$ . Thus,  $R$  and  $M_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$  are graded isomorphic as  $S$ -graded rings, which completes the proof.  $\square$

## Declarations

**Conflict of interest** The author has no conflict of interest to declare.

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