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ON THE ANNIHILATOR GRAPH OF A COMMUTATIVE $\Gamma-\text{NEAR}$ – RING

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ABSTRACT

Let *M* be a Commutative Γ – near – ring with non zero identity. Let Z(M) be the set of all zero – divisors of *M*. For $x \in Z(M)$, let $\operatorname{ann}_M(x) = \{y \in M/y\gamma x = 0\}$. We define the annihilator graph of *M*, denoted by AG(M), as the undirected graph whose set of vertices is $Z(M)^* = Z(M) \setminus \{0\}$ and two distinct vertices *x* and *y* are adjacent if and only if $\operatorname{ann}_M(x\gamma y) \neq \operatorname{ann}_M(x) \cup \operatorname{ann}_M(y)$. In this paper we study the ring theoretic properties of *M* and graph theoretic properties of AG(M).

Keywords: Annihilator graph, diameter, girth, zero – divisor graph.

1. INTRODUCTION

The concept of a zero – divisor of a commutative ring was first introduced by I.Beck [4], where all the elements of the ring were taken as the vertices of the graph. In a commutative ring, for $x \in Z(M)$, let $ann_M(x) = \{y \in M/yx = 0\}$. A.Badawi [3] defined and studied the annihilator graph AG(M) of a commutative ring. The concept of a annihilator graph of a near ring was introduced and studied by T.Tamizh Chelvam and R.Rammoorthy [5]. Let M be a commutative Γ – near – ring with non zero identity and Z(M) be its set of all zero – divisors. In this paper, we introduce the annihilator graph AG(M) for a Γ – near – ring M and study the connectivity of the annihilator graph. For a reduced Γ – near – ring, we show that $Ann_G(M)$ is identical to $\Gamma(M)$ if and only if M has exactly two distinct minimal prime ideals (Theorem 2.11). Among other things, we determine when AG(M) is a complete graph K_n , a complete bipartite graph $(K_{m,n})$, or a star graph $(K_{1,n})$. If AG (M) is identical to $\Gamma(M)$, then we write AG (M) = $\Gamma(M)$ otherwise we write $AG(M) \neq \Gamma(M)$ and also show that AG (M) is connected with diameter at most two. If AG (M) $\neq \Gamma(M)$, we show that gr (AG (M)) $\in \{3,4\}$.

2. MAIN RESULTS

Definition 2.1: The annihilator graph AG (M) for a Γ – near – ring M, let $a \in Z(M)$ and let $ann_M(a) = \{m \in M/m\gamma a = 0, \gamma \in \Gamma\}$ The annihilator graph of M is the (undirected) graph AG (M) with vertices $Z(M)^* = Z(M) \setminus \{0\}$ and two distinct vertices x and y are adjacent if and only if $ann_M(x\gamma y) \neq ann_M(x) \cup ann_M(y)$, it follows that each edge (path) of $\Gamma(M)$ is an edge (path) of AG (M).

Lemma 2.2: Let M be a commutative Γ – near – ring. Then the following are hold.

- i) Let x, y be distinct elements of $Z(M)^*$. Then x y is not an edge of AG (M)if and only if $ann_M(x\gamma y) = ann_M(x) \text{ or } ann_M(x\gamma y) = ann_M(y)$
- ii) If x y is an edge of $\Gamma(M)$ for some distinct $x, y \in Z(M)^*$, then x y is an edge of AG (M). In particular if P is a path in $\Gamma(M)$, then P is a path in AG (M).
- iii) If x y is not an edge of AG (M) for some distinct x, $y \in Z(M)^*$ then $ann_M(x) \subseteq ann_M(y)$ or $ann_M(y) \subseteq ann_M(x)$
- iv) If $ann_M(x) \not\subseteq ann_M(y)$ and $ann_M(y) \not\subseteq ann_M(x)$ for some distinct x, $y \in Z(M)^*$ then x y is an edge of AG (M)
- v) If $d_{\Gamma(M)}(x, y) = 3$ for some distinct x, $y \in Z(M)^*$ then x y is an edge of AG (M)
- vi) If x- y is not an edge of AG(M) for some distinct x, $y \in Z(M)^*$, then there is a $w \in Z(M)^* \{x, y\}$ such that x w y is a path in $\Gamma(M)$ and hence x w y ia also a path in AG (M).

Proof:

- i) Suppose that x y is not an edge of AG (M). Then $ann_M(x\gamma y) = ann_M(x) \cup ann_M(y)$ (by Definition 2.1). Since $ann_M(x\gamma y)$ is a union of two ideals, We have, $ann_M(x\gamma y) = ann_M(x)$ or $ann_M(x\gamma y) = ann_M(y)$. Conversely, suppose that $ann_M(x\gamma y) = ann_M(x)$ or $ann_M(x\gamma y) = ann_M(y)$. Then $ann_M(x\gamma y) = ann_M(x) \cup ann_M(y)$ and thus x - y is not an edge of AG (M)
- ii) Suppose x y is an edge of $\Gamma(M)$ for some distinct $x, y \in Z(M)^*$. Then $x\gamma y = 0$ and hence $ann_M(x\gamma y) = M$. Since $x \neq 0$ and $y \neq 0$, $ann_M(x) \neq M$ and $ann_M(y) \neq M$. Thus x - y is an edge of AG (M). The 'in particular' is now clear.
- iii) Suppose x y is not an edge of AG (M) for some distinct $x, y \in Z(M)^*$. Then $ann_M(x) \cup ann_M(y) = ann_M(x\gamma y)$. Since $ann_M(x\gamma y)$ is a union of two ideals, we have $ann_M(x) \subseteq ann_M(y)$ or $ann_M(y) \subseteq ann_M(x)$
- iv) This statement is now clear by (iii)
- v) Suppose that $d_{\Gamma(M)}(x, y) = 3$ for some distinct x, $y \in Z(M)^*$. Then $ann_M(x) \not\subseteq ann_M(y)$ and $ann_M(y) \not\subseteq ann_M(x)$. Hence x y is an edge of AG (M)by (iv)
- vi) Suppose that x- y is not an edge of AG(M) for some distinct x, $y \in Z(M)^*$. Then there is a $w \in ann_M(x) \cup ann_M(y)$ such that $w \neq 0$ by (iii). Since $x\gamma y \neq 0$ we have $w \in Z(M)^* \{x, y\}$. Hence x w y is a path in $\Gamma(M)$ and thus x w y ia also a path in AG (M). by (iii).

In view of lemma 2.2, we have the following result

Theorem 2.3: Let M be a commutative Γ – near – ring with $|Z(M)^*| \ge 2$. Then AG(M) is connected and $diam(AG(M)) \le 2$

Proof: obvious.

Lemma 2.4: Let M be a commutative Γ – near – ring and let x, y be distinct non zero elements. Suppose that x - y is an edge of AG (M) that is not an edge of $\Gamma(M)$ for some distinct x, $y \in Z(M)^*$. If there is a $w \in ann_M(x\gamma y) - \{x, y\}$ such that $w\gamma x \neq 0$ and $w\gamma y \neq 0$, then x – w – y is a path in AG (M) that is not a path in $\Gamma(M)$ and hence C : x – w – y – x is a cycle in AG(M) of length three and each edge of C is not an edge of $\Gamma(M)$

Proof: Suppose that x - y is an edge in AG (M) that is not an edge in $\Gamma(M)$. Then $x\gamma y \neq 0$. Assume there is a $w \in ann_M(x\gamma y) - \{x, y\}$ such that $w\gamma x \neq 0$ and $w\gamma y \neq 0$. Since $y \in ann_M(x\gamma w) - (ann_M(x) \cup ann_M(w))$. We concludes that x - w is an edge of AG (M). Since $x \in ann_M(y\gamma w) - (ann_M(y) \cup ann_M(w))$. We conclude that y - w is an edge of AG(M). Hence x - w - y is a path in AG (M). Since $x\gamma w \neq 0$ and $y\gamma w \neq 0$, we have x - w - y is not a path in $\Gamma(M)$. It is clear that x - w - y - x is a cycle in AG(M) of length three and each edge of C is not an edge of $\Gamma(M)$.

Theorem 2.5: Let M be a commutative Γ – near – ring. Suppose that x – y is an edge of AG (M) that is not an edge of $\Gamma(M)$ for some distinct x, $y \in Z(M)^*$. If $x\gamma y^2 \neq 0$ and $x^2\gamma y \neq 0$, then there is a $w \in Z(M)^*$ such that x - w - y is a path in AG (M)that is not a path in $\Gamma(M)$ and hence C : x - w - y - x is a cycle in AG (M)of length three and each edge of C is not an edge of $\Gamma(M)$.

Proof: Suppose that x - y is an edge of AG (M) that is not an edge of $\Gamma(M)$. Then $x\gamma y \neq 0$ and there is a $w \in ann_M(x\gamma y) - (ann_M(x) \cup ann_M(y))$. We show $w \notin \{x, y\}$. Assume $w \in \{x, y\}$. Then either $x^2\gamma y = 0$ or $y^2\gamma x = 0$, which is a contradiction. Thus $w \notin \{x, y\}$. Hence x - w - y is the desired path in AG(M) by Lemma 2.4

Corollary 2.6: Let M be a reduced commutative Γ – near – ring. Suppose that x – y is an edge of AG (M) that is not an edge of $\Gamma(M)$ for some distinct, $y \in Z(M)^*$. Then there is a $w \in ann_M(x\gamma y) - \{x, y\}$ such that x – w – y is a path in AG (M) that is not a path in $\Gamma(M)$ and AG (M)contains a cycle C of length 3 such that at least two edges C are not the edges of $\Gamma(M)$.

Proof: Suppose that x - y is an edge of AG (M) that is not an edge of $\Gamma(M)$ for some distinct $x, y \in Z(M)^*$. Since M is reduced, we have $(x\gamma y)^2 \neq 0, \gamma \in \Gamma$. This implies $x^2\gamma y \neq 0$ and $x\gamma y^2 \neq 0$. Thus the claim is now clear by Theorem 2.5.

Corollary 2.7: Let M be a reduced commutative Γ – near – ring and suppose that AG (M) $\neq \Gamma(M)$. Then gr(AG(M)) = 3. Moreover, there is a cycle C of length 3 in AG(M) such that at least two edges of C are not the edges of $\Gamma(M)$.

Proof: Since AG (M) $\neq \Gamma(M)$, there are some distinct $x, y \in Z(M)^*$ such that x - y is an edge of AG (M) that is not an edge of $\Gamma(M)$. Since M is reduced, we have $(x\gamma y)^2 \neq 0, \gamma \in \Gamma$. This implies $x^2\gamma y \neq 0$ and $x\gamma y^2 \neq 0$. Thus the claim is now clear by Theorem 2.5.

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Theorem 2.8: Let M be a commutative Γ – near – ring and suppose that $AG(M) \neq \Gamma(M)$ with gr(AG (M)) \neq 3. Then there are some distinct $x, y \in Z(M)^*$ such that x – y is an edge of AG (M) that is not an edge of $\Gamma(M)$ and there is no path of length 2 from x to y in $\Gamma(M)$.

Proof: Since AG (M) $\neq \Gamma(M)$, there are some distinct $x, y \in Z(M)^*$ such that x - y is an edge of AG (M) that is not an edge of $\Gamma(M)$. If possible suppose that x - w - y is a path of length 2 in $\Gamma(M)$. Then x - w - y is a path of length 2 in AG (M) by lemma 2.2(i). Therefore x - w - y - x is a cycle of length 3 in AG (M) and hence gr (AG (M)) = 3, a contradiction. Thus there is no path of length from x to y in $\Gamma(M)$.

Lemma 2.9: Let M be a reduced Γ – near – ring that is not an gamma near- integral domain and let $z \in Z(M)^*$. Then

- i) $ann_M(x) = ann_M(z^n)$ for each positive integer $n \ge 2$
- ii) If $c + z \in Z(M)$ for some $c \in ann_R(z) \setminus \{0\}$ then $ann_R(z + c) \subset ann_R(z)$ ((ie) $ann_M(c + z) \subset ann_M(z)$) In particular if Z(M) is an ideal of M and $c \in ann_M(x) - \{0\}$, then $ann_M(z + c)$ is properly contained in $ann_M(z)$.

Proof:

- i) Let $n \ge 2$. It is clear that $ann_M(z) \subseteq ann_M(z^n)$ let $f \in ann_M(z^n)$. Since $f\gamma z^n = 0$ and M is reduced, we have $f\gamma z = 0$. Thus $ann_M(z^n) = ann_M(z)$.
- ii) Let $c \in ann_M(z) \setminus \{0\}$ and suppose that $c + z \in Z(M)$. Since $z^2 \neq 0$, we have $c + z \neq 0$ and hence $c + z \in Z(M)^*$. Since $c \in ann_M(z)$ and M is reduced, we have $c \notin ann_M(c + z)$. Hence $ann_M(c + z) \neq ann_M(z)$. Since $ann_M(c + z) \subset ann_M(z\gamma(c + z)) = ann_M(z^2)$ and $ann_M(z^2) = ann_M(z)$ by (i) It follows that $ann_M(c + z) \subset ann_M(z)$.

Lemma 2.10: Let M be a commutative Γ – near – ring. Then diam ($\Gamma(M)$) = 2 if and only if either of the following is true:

- i) M is reduced with exactly two minimal primes and at least three non zero zero divisors or
- ii) Z(M) is an ideal whose square is not {0} and each pair of distinct zero divisors has a non zero annihilator.

Theorem 2.11: Let M be a reduced Γ – near – ring with $|Min(M)| \ge 3$. (Possibly Min (M) is infinite) Then AG (M) $\neq \Gamma(M)$ and gr (AG(M)) = 3

Proof: If Z(M) is an ideal of M then AG (M) $\neq \Gamma(M)$ by Theorem 2.3 Hence assume that Z (M) is not an ideal of M. Since $|Min(M)| \geq 3$, we have diam ($\Gamma(M)$) = 3 by lemma 2.10(ii) and thus AG (M) $\neq \Gamma(M)$ by Theorem 2.3.Since M is reduced and AG (M) $\neq \Gamma(M)$, we have gr (AG(M)) = 3.

Theorem 2.12: Let M be a reduced Γ – near – ring that is not an gamma near- integral domain. Then AG (M) = $\Gamma(M)$ if and only if |Min(M)| = 2

Proof: Suppose that AG (M) = $\Gamma(M)$.Since M is a reduced Γ – near – ring that is not an gamma near- integral domain |Min(M)| = 2 by Theorem 2.5.Conversely, suppose that |Min(M)| = 2.Let P_1, P_2 be the minimal prime ideals of M. Since M is reduced, we have Z (M) = $P_1 \cup P_2$ and $P_1 \cap P_2 = \{0\}$. Let a, b $\in Z(M)^*$.Assume that a, b $\in P_1$.Since $P_1 \cap P_2 = \{0\}$ neither a $\in P_2$ nor b $\in P_2$ and thus $a\gamma b \neq 0$.Since $P_1\Gamma P_2 \subseteq P_1 \cap P_2 = \{0\}$, it follows that $ann_M(a\gamma b) = ann_M(a) = ann_M(b) = P_2$. Thus a – b is not an edge of AG(M). Similarly, if a, b $\in P_2$ then a – b is not an edge of AG(M). If a $\in P_1$ b $\in P_2$ then $a\gamma b = 0$ and thus a – b is an edge of AG (M).Hence each edge of AG(M) is an edge of $\Gamma(M)$ and therefore AG (M) = $\Gamma(M)$

For the remainder of this section, we study the case when M is non reduced

Theorem 2.13: Let M be a non reduced Γ – near – ring with $|Nil(M)^*| \ge 2$ and let $AG_N(M)$ be the (induced) sub graph of AG (M) with vertices $Nil(M)^*$. Then $AG_N(M)$ is complete.

Proof: Suppose there are non – zero distinct elements $a, b \in Nil(M)$ such that $a\gamma b \neq 0, \gamma \in \Gamma$. Assume that $ann_M(a\gamma b) = ann_M(a) \cup ann_M(b)$. Hence $ann_M(a\gamma b) = ann_M(a) \circ r ann_M(a\gamma b) = ann_M(b)$. Without loss of generality, we may assume that $ann_M(a\gamma b) = ann_M(a)$. Let n be the least positive integer such that $b^n = 0$. Suppose that $a\gamma b^k \neq 0$ for each k, $1 \leq k \leq n$. Then $b^{n-1} \in ann_M(a\gamma b) \setminus ann_M(a)$, a contradiction. Hence assume that $k, 1 \leq k \leq n$ is the least positive integer such that $a\gamma b^k = 0$. Since $a\gamma b \neq 0, 1 < k < n$. Hence $b^{k-1} \in ann_M(a\gamma b) - ann_M(a)$, a contradiction. Thus a - b is an edge of $AG_N(M)$.

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Theorem 2.14: Let M be a non reduced Γ – near – ring with $|Nil(M)^*| \ge 2$ and let $\Gamma_N(M)$ be the induced sub graph of $\Gamma(M)$ with vertices Nil (M)*. Then $\Gamma_N(M)$ is complete if and only if Nil (M)²={0}.

Proof: If Nil (M)²={0}, then it is clear that $\Gamma_N(M)$ is complete. Hence assume that $\Gamma_N(M)$ is complete. We need only show that $w^2 = 0$ for each $w \in Nil(M)^*$. Let $w \in Nil(M)^*$ and assume that $w^2 \neq 0$. Let n be the least positive integer such that $w^n = 0$. Then $n \ge 3$. Thus $w\gamma(w^{n-1} + w) = 0$ and $w^n = 0$. We have $w^2 = 0 \implies integer$. Thus $w^2 = 0$ for each $w \in Nil(M)$.

Theorem 2.15: Let M be a Γ – near – ring such that AG (M) $\neq \Gamma$ (M). Then the following statements are equivalent

- i. $\Gamma(M)$ is a star graph
- ii. $\Gamma(M) = K_{1,2}$
- iii. AG (M) = K_3

Proof:

(i)=>(ii): Since gr ($\Gamma(M)$) = ∞ and AG (M) $\neq \Gamma(M)$, We have M is non reduced by Theorem 2.11 and $|Z(M)^*| \geq 3$. Since $\Gamma(M)$ is a star graph, there are two sets A, B such that $Z(R)^* = A \cup B$ with $|A| = 1, A \cap B = \emptyset, A\gamma B = \{0\}$ and $b_1\gamma b_2 \neq 0$ for every $b_1, b_2 \in B$. Since |A| = 1, we may assume that $A = \{w\}$ for some $w \in Z(M)^*$. Since each edge of $\Gamma(M)$ is an edge of AG(M) and AG (M) $\neq \Gamma(M)$, there are some x, $y \in B$ such that $x\gamma y$ is an edge of $\Gamma(M)$, but not an edge of $Ann_G(M)$. Since $ann_M(c) = w$ for each $c \in B$ and $ann_M(x\gamma y) \neq ann_M(x) \cup ann_M(y)$

We have $ann_M(x\gamma y) \neq w$. Thus $ann_M(x\gamma y) = B$ and $x\gamma y = w$. Since $A = \{x\gamma y\}$ and $A\gamma B = \{0\}$. We have $(x\gamma y)\gamma x = x^2\gamma y = 0$ and $(x\gamma y)\gamma y = y^2\gamma x = 0$. We show that $B = \{x, y\}$ and hence |B| = 2. Thus assume there is a $c \in B$ such that $c \neq x$ and $c \neq y$. Then $w\gamma c = x\gamma y\gamma c = 0$. We show that $(x\gamma c + x\gamma y) \neq x$ and $(x\gamma c + x\gamma y) \neq x$. Then $(x\gamma c + x\gamma y)\gamma y = x\gamma c\gamma y + x\gamma y^2 = 0$ and $x\gamma y = 0$, a contradiction. Hence $x \neq (x\gamma c + x\gamma y)$. Since $x, c \in B$ we have $x\gamma c \neq 0$ and thus $(x\gamma c + x\gamma y)$, $x\gamma y$ are distinct elements of $Z(M)^*$.

Since $x^2\gamma y = 0$ and $y \in B$ either $x^2 = 0$ or $x^2 = x\gamma y$ or $x^2 = y$. Suppose that $x^2 = y$. Since $x\gamma y = w \neq 0$. We have $x\gamma y = x\gamma(x^2) = x^3 = w \neq 0$. Since $x^2\gamma y = 0$, we have $x^4 = 0$. Since $x^4 = 0$, and $x^3 \neq 0$, we have $x^2, x^3, x^2 + x^3$ are distinct elements of $Z(M)^*$, and thus $x^2 - x^3 - x^2 + x^3 - x^2$ is a cycle of length three in $\Gamma(M) = ><=$. Hence we assume that either $x^2 = 0$ or $x^2 = x\gamma y = w$. In both cases, we have $x^2\gamma c = 0$. Since $x, (x\gamma c + x\gamma y), x\gamma y$ are distinct elements of $Z(M)^*$ and $x\gamma y^2 = \gamma yx^2 = x^2\gamma c = 0$. We have $x - (x\gamma c + x\gamma y) - x\gamma y - x$ is a cycle of length three in $\Gamma(M) = ><=$. Thus $B = \{x, y\}$ and |B| = 2. Hence $\Gamma(M) = K_{1,2}$.

(ii)=>(iii): Since each edge of $\Gamma(M)$ is an edge of AG (M) and AG (M) $\neq \Gamma(M)$, and $\Gamma(M)=K_{1,2}$. It is clear that AG (M) must be K_3 .

(iii)=>(i): Since $|Z(M)^*| = 3$ and $\Gamma(M)$ is connected and AG (M) $\neq \Gamma(M)$ exactly one edge of AG(M) is not an edge of $\Gamma(M)$. Thus $\Gamma(M)$ is a star graph.

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