

## **CORRIGENDUM TO: ZERO DIVISOR GRAPH OF A LATTICE WITH RESPECT TO AN IDEAL**

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### **Abstract**

In this paper, we point out several errors in Afkhami et al. [1]. Moreover, we reform many proofs in Afkhami's article.

### **1. Introduction**

Among the results that Afkhami et al. show in [1], we state the following. For a lattice  $\mathcal{L}$ ,  $\Gamma(\mathcal{L})$  is defined to be the graph associates the following set of vertices:

$$\{\alpha \in \mathcal{L}; \alpha \wedge \beta = 0 \text{ for some non-zero element } \beta \in \mathcal{L}\}.$$

The vertices  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are adjacent provided that  $\alpha \wedge \beta = 0$ .

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Throughout the paper, the symbol  $\mathcal{L}$  stands for a lattice. Also, we denote the set of all ideals in  $\mathcal{L}$  as  $\mathfrak{I}(\mathcal{L})$ .

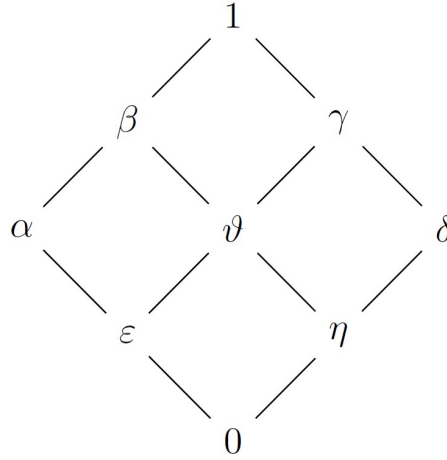
**Definition 1.1** ([1], Definition 3.1). Let  $\kappa \in \mathfrak{I}(\mathcal{L})$ . Define the zero divisor graph of  $\mathcal{L}$  with respect to  $\kappa$  denoted by  $\Gamma_{\kappa}(\mathcal{L})$ , as follows:

$$\{\alpha \in \mathcal{L} \setminus \kappa; \alpha \wedge \beta \in \kappa \text{ for some non-zero element } \beta \in \mathcal{L} \setminus \kappa\}.$$

For distinct  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{L}$ . The vertices  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are adjacent providing that  $\alpha \wedge \beta \in \kappa$ .

Afkhami et al. claim that if  $\kappa = \{0\}$ . Then  $\Gamma_{\kappa}(\mathcal{L})$  is isomorphic to  $\Gamma(\mathcal{L})$ . Regard the next example:

**Example 1.2.** Consider  $\mathcal{L}$  with the Hasse diagram in Figure 1 and  $\kappa = \{0\}$ . Then  $(\mathcal{L}, \vee, \wedge)$  is a bounded lattice. Obviously, the set of vertices of  $\Gamma(\mathcal{L})$  is  $\{0, \alpha, \delta, \epsilon, \eta\}$  as  $0 \wedge \beta = \alpha \wedge \delta = \alpha \wedge \eta = \epsilon \wedge \delta = \epsilon \wedge \eta = 0$ . Also,  $V(\Gamma_{\kappa}(\mathcal{L})) = \{\alpha, \delta, \epsilon, \eta\}$ . Then  $|V(\Gamma(\mathcal{L}))| = 5 \neq |V(\Gamma_{\kappa}(\mathcal{L}))| = 4$ . Hence  $\Gamma_{\kappa}(\mathcal{L})$  is not isomorphic to  $\Gamma(\mathcal{L})$ .



**Figure 1.**

Afkhami presents the following results:

**Proposition 1.3** ([1], Proposition 3.2). *Let  $\kappa \in \mathcal{J}(\mathcal{L})$ ,  $\Gamma_\kappa(\mathcal{L})$  is connected with a diameter less than or equal to 3. Moreover, the girth of  $\Gamma_\kappa(\mathcal{L})$  is less than 7 provided that  $\Gamma_\kappa(\mathcal{L})$  has a cycle.*

For  $\kappa \in \mathcal{J}(\mathcal{L})$  and  $\alpha \in \mathcal{L}$ . We set

$$(\kappa : \alpha) = \{\delta \in \mathcal{L} : \delta \wedge \alpha \in \kappa\}.$$

Obviously, we have that  $(\kappa : \alpha) \in \mathcal{J}(\mathcal{L})$  only if  $\mathcal{L}$  has the distributive property.

**Lemma 1.4** ([1], Lemma 3.3). *For  $\kappa \in \mathcal{J}(\mathcal{L})$  with a distributive  $\mathcal{L}$ . Let  $x - \alpha - y$  is a path in  $\Gamma_\kappa(\mathcal{L})$ . Hence either  $\kappa \cup \{\alpha\} \in \mathcal{J}(\mathcal{L})$ , or  $x - \alpha - y$  is part of a cycle of length does not exceed 4.*

In ([1], Theorem 3.4), Afkhami constructs the proof by cases. In fact, case (4) is impossible to happen and an extra condition ( $|V(\Gamma_\kappa(\mathcal{L}))| \geq 3$ ) is used as a necessary condition. In Theorem 1.5, we present Theorem 3.4 in [1] without this condition and a reformulation of the proof.

**Theorem 1.5** ([1], Theorem 3.4). *Consider a distributive  $\mathcal{L}$ , let  $\kappa \in \mathcal{J}(\mathcal{L})$ . If  $\Gamma_\kappa(\mathcal{L})$  contains a cycle, hence the core  $K$  of  $\Gamma_\kappa(\mathcal{L})$  is a union of 3-cycles or 4-cycles. Furthermore, each element in  $\Gamma_\kappa(\mathcal{L})$  is a member of  $K$  or a vertex of degree 1.*

**Proof.** Suppose that  $x$  is a member of  $K$  and  $x$  is not a member of any 3-cycles or 4-cycles contained in  $\Gamma_\kappa(\mathcal{L})$ . Let  $x$  be in a cycle  $x - y - z - w - \dots - \alpha - x$  whose length exceeds 4. In the virtue of Lemma 1.4,  $\kappa \cup \{x\} \in \mathcal{J}(\mathcal{L})$ . Obviously  $x \wedge w \in \kappa \cup \{x\}$  and  $x \wedge w \notin \kappa$  as  $x$  and  $w$  are not adjacent, then  $x \wedge w = x$ . Similarly,  $x \wedge z = x$ . Thus  $x \wedge (w \wedge z) = x \in \kappa$ . Which is a contradiction. Moreover, we have that  $|V(\Gamma_\kappa(\mathcal{L}))| \geq 3$  as  $\Gamma_\kappa(\mathcal{L})$  contains a cycle. Let  $\alpha$  be an element in  $V(\Gamma_\kappa(\mathcal{L}))$  such that  $x$  does not belong to  $K$  nor a vertex of degree 1.

Suppose that  $\alpha$  is of degree  $n$  for a natural number  $n$ . Hence  $\alpha$  is adjacent to  $n$  distinct vertices  $x, y, \epsilon, f, \dots$ . Since  $\Gamma_\kappa(\mathcal{L})$  contains a cycle and by Proposition 1.3,  $\Gamma_\kappa(\mathcal{L})$  is connected. Thus the path  $x - \alpha - y - z - w - y$  is in  $\Gamma_\kappa(\mathcal{L})$ . By Lemma 1.4,  $\kappa \cup \{\alpha\} \in \mathfrak{I}(\mathcal{L})$  and by using a similar manner we get that  $(z \wedge w) \wedge \alpha = \alpha \in \kappa$ . Which is a contradiction.  $\square$

Afkhami mentions in the proof of the previous theorem that the case (4): the path  $x - \alpha - \beta - y$  is in  $\Gamma_\kappa(\mathcal{L})$ , with  $x$  is of degree 1 and  $y$  in the core. Afkhami et al. said that case (4) can be reduced to the case (3): the path  $x - \alpha - \beta$  is in  $\Gamma_\kappa(\mathcal{L})$ , with  $x$  is of degree 1 and  $\beta \in K$ . This is not true. In fact, case (4) is impossible. Assume case (4), by the first part of Theorem 1.5,  $y$  at least in a cycle of length 3. Then  $x - \alpha - \beta - y - w - e - y$ . Hence the length between  $\alpha$  and  $w$  is more than 3. Which contradicts Proposition 1.3. Afkhami also presents the previous theorem with a trivial condition  $|V(\Gamma_\kappa(\mathcal{L}))| \geq 3$ . Indeed, this condition follows directly from the condition that  $\Gamma_\kappa(\mathcal{L})$  contains a cycle. (As the smallest cycle is the 3-cycle, then we have at least 3 vertices in  $V(\Gamma_\kappa(\mathcal{L}))$ ).

For every  $x \in \mathcal{L}$ , the symbol  $[x]^u$  is defined to be the set  $\{\alpha \in \mathcal{L}; x \leq \alpha\}$ .

**Proposition 1.6** ([1], Proposition 3.6). *Let  $\mathcal{L}$  be distributive and  $\kappa \in \mathfrak{I}(\mathcal{L})$ . If  $\bigcap_{k \in \kappa} [k]^u = \{1\}$ , hence  $\Gamma_\kappa(\mathcal{L})$  contains no cut points.*

Afkhami constructs an example ([1], Example 3.7) to show that the distributivity of  $\mathcal{L}$  is a necessity in the previous proposition. Unfortunately, his example does not satisfy the condition  $\bigcap_{k \in \kappa} [k]^u = \{1\}$ .

**Example 1.7** ([1], Example 3.7). Consider  $\kappa = \{\emptyset, \{4\}, \{4, 5\}, \{4, 5, 6\}, \dots\}$ . Consider  $\mathcal{L} = \kappa \cup \{\{3\}, \emptyset, \{1\}, \mathbb{N}, \{1, 2\}\}$ . We have that  $\mathcal{L}$  is a non-distributive lattice under inclusion with  $\emptyset = 0$  and  $\mathbb{N} = 1$ . However,  $\bigcap_{k \in \kappa} [k]^u = \{\mathbb{N} - \{1, 2, 3\}, \mathbb{N}\}$ .

Moreover, we can show the necessity of  $\mathcal{L}$  to be distributive in Proposition 1.6 by the following example. Take the lattice  $\mathcal{L}$  stated in Example 1.7. Consider the ideal  $J = \{\emptyset, \{1\}, \{3\}\}$  of  $\mathcal{L}$ . Obviously,  $\mathcal{L}$  is not distributive and  $\bigcap_{j \in J} [j]^u = \{\mathbb{N}\}$ . However, the vertex  $\{1, 2\}$  is a cut point of  $\Gamma_J(\mathcal{L})$ .

### References

- [1] M. Afkhami, K. Khashyarmanes and K. Nafar, Zero divisor graph of a lattice with respect to an ideal, *Beiträge zur Algebra und Geometrie* 56(1) (2015), 217-225.

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