

Карпатські матем. публ. 2025, Т.17, №1, С.211–226

## Relative *r*-noncommuting graph of finite rings

### Sharma M., Nath R.K.<sup>™</sup>

Let S be a subring of a finite ring R and  $r \in R$ . The relative r-noncommuting graph of R relative to S, denoted by  $\Gamma_{S,R}^r$ , is a simple undirected graph whose vertex set is R and two vertices x and y are adjacent if and only if  $x \in S$  or  $y \in S$  and  $[x,y] \neq r$ ,  $[x,y] \neq -r$ . In this paper, we determine degree of any vertex in  $\Gamma_{S,R}^r$  and characterize all finite rings such that  $\Gamma_{S,R}^r$  is a star, lollipop or a regular graph. We derive connections between relative r-noncommuting graphs of two isoclinic pairs of rings. We also derive certain relations between the number of edges in  $\Gamma_{S,R}^r$  and various generalized commuting probabilities of R. Finally, we conclude the paper by studying an induced subgraph of  $\Gamma_{S,R}^r$ .

Key words and phrases: finite ring, non-commuting graph, isoclinism.

Department of Mathematical Sciences, Tezpur University, Napaam-784028, Sonitpur, Assam, India  $^{\boxtimes}$  Corresponding author

E-mail: monalishasharma2013@gmail.com(Sharma M.), rajatkantinath@yahoo.com(Nath R.K.)

#### 1 Introduction

Throughout the paper, S denotes a subring of a finite ring R and  $r \in R$ . Let us denote  $Z(S,R) = \{z \in S : zr = rz \text{ for all } r \in R\}$ . Then Z(R,R) = Z(R) is the center of R. For any element  $x \in R$ , we write  $C_S(x)$  to denote the set  $\{y \in S : xy = yx\}$ . Clearly,  $Z(S,R) = \bigcap_{x \in R} C_S(x)$ . Let the additive commutator of  $x,y \in R$  be denoted by [x,y]. Then [x,y] = xy - yx. Let  $K(S,R) = \{[x,y] : x \in S \text{ and } y \in R\}$  and [S,R] be the additive subgroup of (R,+) generated by the set K(S,R).

In [18], R.K. Nath et. al. introduced the notion of r-noncommuting graph of a finite ring motivated by the work of B. Tolue, A. Erfanian and A. Jafarzadeh [23]. Recall that the r-noncommuting graph of R is an undirected graph whose vertex set is R and two distinct vertices x and y are adjacent if and only if  $[x,y] \neq r$  and  $[x,y] \neq -r$ . Note that this graph is a generalization of the non-commuting graph of a finite ring introduced and studied by A. Erfanian, K. Khashyarmanesh and Kh. Nafar [9] in the year 2015. Recent results on noncommuting graph (along with its complement and generalizations) of finite rings can be found in [4,5,10,11,13,15,17,19,21]. Non-commuting graph of finite groups is also well-explored over the years (see [12] and the references therein).

УДК 519.17

2020 Mathematics Subject Classification: 05C25, 16U70.

The authors would like to thank the reviewer for his/her valuable comments and suggestions. The first author expresses gratitude to the Department of Science & Technology for the INSPIRE fellowship.

In this paper, we generalize the notion of r-noncommuting graph of a finite ring. More precisely, we consider a graph called relative r-noncommuting graph of R relative to S, which is denoted by  $\Gamma_{S,R}^r$  and defined as a simple undirected graph with vertex set R and two vertices x and y are adjacent if and only if  $x \in S$  or  $y \in S$  and  $[x,y] \neq r$ ,  $[x,y] \neq -r$ . Clearly,  $\Gamma_{R,R}^r$  is the r-noncommuting graph of R. Further, if r = 0, then the induced subgraph of  $\Gamma_{S,R}^r$  with vertex set  $R \setminus C_R(S)$ , where  $C_R(S) = \{r \in R : sr = rs \text{ for all } s \in S\}$ , is nothing but the relative non-commuting graph of R studied in [2]. Group theoretic analogues of this newly introduced graph were considered in [20,22].

Let  $K_n$  be the complete graph on n vertices and let  $\overline{\mathcal{G}}$  be the complement of any graph  $\mathcal{G}$ . We write  $\mathcal{G} + \mathcal{H}$  to denote the join of the graphs  $\mathcal{G}$  and  $\mathcal{H}$ .

**Observation 1.** Let *S* be a subring of a finite ring *R* and  $r \in R$ . Then we have the following.

(a) If 
$$r \notin K(S, R)$$
, then  $\Gamma_{S,R}^r = K_{|S|} + \overline{K_{|R|-|S|}}$  and so

$$\deg(x) = \begin{cases} |R| - 1, & \text{if } x \in S, \\ |S|, & \text{if } x \in R \setminus S. \end{cases}$$

(b) If 
$$K(S,R) = \{0\}$$
 and  $r = 0$ , then  $\Gamma^r_{S,R} = \overline{K_{|R|}}$ .

It follows that if  $r \notin K(S, R)$ , then

- (i)  $\Gamma_{S,R}^r$  is a tree if and only if  $S = \{0\}$  or |S| = |R| = 2,
- (ii)  $\Gamma_{S,R}^r$  is a star graph if and only if  $S = \{0\}$ ,
- (iii)  $\Gamma_{S,R}^r$  is a complete graph if and only if S = R.

Note that if R is commutative or S = Z(S, R), then  $K(S, R) = \{0\}$ . Therefore, throughout this paper, in view of Observation 1, we shall consider R to be non-commutative, S to be a subring of R such that  $S \neq Z(S, R)$  and  $r \in K(S, R)$ .

In Section 2, we derive formula for degree of any vertex in  $\Gamma^r_{S,R}$  and characterize all finite rings such that  $\Gamma^r_{S,R}$  is a star, lollipop or a regular graph. In Section 3, we show that  $\Gamma^r_{S_1,R_1}$  is isomorphic to  $\Gamma^{\psi(r)}_{S_2,R_2}$  if  $(\phi,\psi)$  is an isoclinism between the pairs of finite rings  $(S_1,R_1)$  and  $(S_2,R_2)$  such that  $|Z(S_1,R_1)|=|Z(S_2,R_2)|$ . In Section 4, we obtain certain relations between the number of edges in  $\Gamma^r_{S,R}$  and  $\Pr_r(S,K)$ . Recall that  $\Pr_r(S,K)$  is the probability that the commutator of a randomly chosen pair of elements  $(x,y)\in S\times K$  equals r, where S and K are two subrings of R. The probability  $\Pr_r(S,K)$  is a generalization of commutativity degree of finite rings and it was introduced in [6]. Finally, we conclude the paper by deriving certain results on the induced subgraph of  $\Gamma^r_{S,R}$  with vertex set  $R\setminus Z(S,R)$ .

## 2 Vertex degree and consequences

We write  $\deg(x)$  to denote the degree of a vertex x in  $\Gamma_{S,R}^r$ . For any two given elements  $x, r \in R$  we write  $C_S^r(x)$  to denote the set  $\{s \in S : [x,s] = r\}$ . Note that  $C_S^r(x)$  is the centralizer of x in R if S = R and r = 0. The following theorem gives degree of any vertex in  $\Gamma_{S,R}^r$ .

**Theorem 1.** Let x be any vertex in  $\Gamma_{S,R}^r$ .

(a) If 
$$r = 0$$
, then  $\deg(x) = \begin{cases} |R| - |C_R(x)|, & \text{if } x \in S, \\ |S| - |C_S(x)|, & \text{if } x \in R \setminus S. \end{cases}$ 

(b) If 
$$r \neq 0$$
 and  $2r = 0$ , then  $\deg(x) = \begin{cases} |R| - |C_R^r(x)| - 1, & \text{if } x \in S, \\ |S| - |C_S^r(x)|, & \text{if } x \in R \setminus S. \end{cases}$ 

(c) If 
$$r \neq 0$$
 and  $2r \neq 0$ , then  $\deg(x) = \begin{cases} |R| - 2|C_R^r(x)| - 1, & \text{if } x \in S, \\ |S| - 2|C_S^r(x)|, & \text{if } x \in R \setminus S. \end{cases}$ 

*Proof.* (a) Let r = 0. If  $x \in S$ , then  $\deg(x)$  is the number of  $s \in R$  such that  $sx \neq xs$ . Hence,  $\deg(x) = |R| - |C_R(x)|$ . If  $x \in R \setminus S$ , then  $\deg(x)$  is the number of  $s \in S$  such that  $sx \neq xs$ . Hence,  $\deg(x) = |S| - |C_S(x)|$ .

- (b) Let  $r \neq 0$  and 2r = 0. In this case, r = -r. If  $x \in S$ , then  $s \in R$  is not adjacent to x if and only if s = x or  $s \in C_R^r(x)$ . Hence,  $\deg(x) = |R| |C_R^r(x)| 1$ . If  $x \in R \setminus S$ , then  $s \in S$  is not adjacent to x if and only if  $s \in C_S^r(x)$ . Hence,  $\deg(x) = |S| |C_S^r(x)|$ .
- (c) Let  $r \neq 0$  and  $2r \neq 0$ . In this case,  $r \neq -r$ . Also,  $C_S^r(x) \cap C_S^{-r}(x) = \emptyset$  and  $s \in C_S^r(x)$  if and only if  $-s \in C_S^{-r}(x)$ . Therefore,  $C_S^r(x)$  and  $C_S^{-r}(x)$  have same cardinality. Further, if  $x \in S$ , then  $s \in R$  is not adjacent to x if and only if s = x,  $s \in C_R^r(x)$  or  $s \in C_R^{-r}(x)$ . Hence,  $\deg(x) = |R| |C_R^r(x)| |C_R^{-r}(x)| 1$ . If  $x \in R \setminus S$ , then  $s \in S$  is not adjacent to x if and only if  $s \in C_S^r(x)$  or  $s \in C_S^{-r}(x)$ . Hence,  $\deg(x) = |S| |C_S^r(x)| |C_S^{-r}(x)|$ . Hence, the result follows.

The next lemma shows that for all  $x, r \in R$  the cardinality of  $C_S^r(x)$  is either zero or  $|C_S(x)|$ .

**Lemma 1.** If  $C_S^r(x)$  is non-empty, then  $|C_S^r(x)| = |C_S(x)|$  for all  $x, r \in R$ .

*Proof.* Let  $t \in C_S^r(x)$  and  $p \in t + C_S(x)$ . Then p = t + m for some  $m \in C_S(x)$ . We have

$$[x, p] = [x, t + m] = x(t + m) - (t + m)x = [x, t] = r$$

and so  $p \in C_S^r(x)$ . Therefore,  $t + C_S(x) \subseteq C_S^r(x)$ . Again, if  $y \in C_S^r(x)$ , then [x, t] = [x, y], which implies (y - t)x = x(y - t). Therefore  $(y - t) \in C_S(x)$  and so  $y \in t + C_S(x)$ . Thus,  $C_S^r(x) \subseteq t + C_S(x)$ . Hence,  $C_S^r(x) = t + C_S(x)$  and the result follows.

By Lemma 1 and Theorem 1, we have the following two corollaries.

**Corollary 1.** Let  $x \in S$  be a vertex in  $\Gamma_{S,R}^r$ .

(a) If 
$$r \neq 0$$
 and  $2r = 0$ , then  $\deg(x) = \begin{cases} |R| - |C_R(x)| - 1, & \text{if } C_R^r(x) \neq \emptyset, \\ |R| - 1, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$ 

(b) If 
$$r \neq 0$$
 and  $2r \neq 0$ , then  $\deg(x) = \begin{cases} |R| - 2 |C_R(x)| - 1, & \text{if } C_R^r(x) \neq \emptyset, \\ |R| - 1, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$ 

**Corollary 2.** Let  $x \in R \setminus S$  be a vertex in  $\Gamma_{S,R}^r$ .

(a) If 
$$r \neq 0$$
 and  $2r = 0$ , then  $\deg(x) = \begin{cases} |S| - |C_S(x)|, & \text{if } C_S^r(x) \neq \emptyset, \\ |S|, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$ 

(b) If 
$$r \neq 0$$
 and  $2r \neq 0$ , then  $\deg(x) = \begin{cases} |S| - 2 |C_S(x)|, & \text{if } C_S^r(x) \neq \emptyset, \\ |S|, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$ 

In the next few results we discuss some properties of  $\Gamma_{S,R}^r$ . The following lemma shows that  $\Gamma_{S,R}^r$  is a disconnected graph if r=0.

**Lemma 2.** If 
$$x \in Z(S, R)$$
, then  $\deg(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } r = 0, \\ |R| - 1, & \text{if } r \neq 0. \end{cases}$ 

*Proof.* The result follows from Theorem 1 noting that  $x \in S$  and

$$C_R^r(x) = \begin{cases} C_R(x) = R, & \text{if } r = 0, \\ \emptyset, & \text{if } r \neq 0. \end{cases}$$

**Lemma 3.** Let *S* be a subring of a non-commutative ring *R* with unity 1 and  $r \neq 0$ . If  $1 \in S$ , then  $deg(x) \geq 2$  for all  $x \in R$ .

*Proof.* The result follows from the fact that  $[x,0] = [x,1] \neq r$  and  $[x,0] = [x,1] \neq -r$  for all  $x \in R$ .

**Proposition 1.** Let *S* be a subring of a non-commutative ring *R* and  $r \in R$ .

- (a) If r = 0, then  $\Gamma_{S,R}^r$  is not a tree, star graph, lollipop graph and complete graph.
- (b) If  $r \neq 0$  and R has unity  $1 \in S$ , then  $\Gamma_{S,R}^r$  is not a tree and a star graph.

*Proof.* The results follow from Lemma 2 and Lemma 3.

**Theorem 2.** Let *S* be a subring of a non-commutative ring *R* and  $r \neq 0$ . Then  $\Gamma_{S,R}^r$  is a star if and only if 2r = 0,  $S \neq \{0\}$  and *R* is isomorphic to

$$\langle a, b : 2a = 2b = 0, a^2 = a, b^2 = b, ab = a, ba = b \rangle$$
 (1)

or

$$\langle x, y : 2x = 2y = 0, x^2 = x, y^2 = y, xy = y, yx = x \rangle.$$
 (2)

*Proof.* If *R* is isomorphic to (1) or (2), then it is easy to see that  $\Gamma_{S,R}^r$  is a star graph for any subring *S*.

Suppose that  $\Gamma_{S,R}^r$  is a star graph. Clearly,  $\deg(0) = |R| - 1$ . Also,  $\deg(x) = 1$  for all  $0 \neq x \in R$ . Since  $r \neq 0$  and  $r \in K(S,R)$ , we have  $S \neq \{0\}$ . Let  $0 \neq y \in R$ . Then consider the following cases.

Case 1:  $y \in S$ .

Note that  $deg(y) \neq |R| - 1$ . Therefore, if 2r = 0, then, by Corollary 1(a), we have  $1 = deg(y) = |R| - |C_R(y)| - 1$ . Thus,  $|R| - |C_R(y)| = 2$ . We have  $0, y \in C_R(y)$ . Since  $C_R(y)$  is a subring of R,  $|C_R(y)|$  divides  $|R| - |C_R(y)|$ . Therefore,  $|C_R(y)| = 2$  and hence |R| = 4.

If  $2r \neq 0$ , then, by Corollary 1(b), we have  $1 = \deg(y) = |R| - 2|C_R(y)| - 1$ . Therefore,  $|C_R(y)| = 2$  and hence |R| = 6, a contradiction since R is non-commutative.

Hence, 2r = 0 and |R| = 4.

Case 2:  $y \in R \setminus S$ .

Note that  $\deg(y) \neq |S|$ , otherwise |S| = 1, a contradiction. Therefore, if 2r = 0, then, by Corollary 2(a), we have  $1 = \deg(y) = |S| - |C_S(y)|$ . Note that  $0 \in C_S(y)$ . Since  $C_S(y)$  is a subring of S,  $|C_S(y)|$  divides  $|S| - |C_S(y)|$ . Therefore,  $|C_S(y)| = 1$  and hence |S| = 2. Thus, S has a non-zero element and so, by Case 1, we have |R| = 4.

If  $2r \neq 0$ , then, by Corollary 2(b), we have  $1 = \deg(y) = |S| - 2|C_S(y)|$ . Therefore,  $|C_S(y)| = 1$  and hence |S| = 3. It follows that S has a non-zero element and so, by Case 1, we have 2r = 0 and |R| = 4, a contradiction.

Hence, 2r = 0 and R is isomorphic to (1) or (2). Thus, the result follows.

**Theorem 3.** Let *S* be a non-commutative subring of *R*. Then  $\Gamma_{S,R}^r$  is not a lollipop graph.

*Proof.* If r = 0, then the result follows from Proposition 1(a). Let  $r \neq 0$  and  $\Gamma_{S,R}^r$  be a lollipop graph. Then there exits an element  $x \in R$  such that  $\deg(x) = 1$ .

Case 1:  $x \in S$ .

By Corollary 1, we have  $\deg(x) = |R| - 1 = 1$  or  $\deg(x) = |R| - |C_R(x)| - 1 = 1$  or  $\deg(x) = |R| - 2|C_R(x)| - 1 = 1$ . Therefore,  $|R| - |C_R(x)| = 2$  or  $|R| - 2|C_R(x)| = 2$  since  $|R| \neq 2$ . Thus,  $|C_R(x)| = 2$  and so |R| = 4 since  $|R| \neq 6$ . Hence, by Theorem 2,  $\Gamma_{S,R}^r$  is a star graph, a contradiction.

Case 2:  $x \in R \setminus S$ .

By Corollary 2, we have  $\deg(x) = |S| - |C_S(x)| = 1$  or  $\deg(x) = |S| - 2|C_S(x)| = 1$  since  $|S| \neq 1$ . Therefore  $|C_S(x)| = 1$  and so |S| = 2 or |S| = 3. Hence, S is commutative, a contradiction.

Note that Theorem 3 is a generalization of [18, Proposition 2.4]. We conclude this section with the following result.

**Theorem 4.** Let *S* be a subring of a non-commutative ring *R*. Then  $\Gamma_{S,R}^r$  is regular if and only if  $K(S,R) = \{0\}$ .

*Proof.* If  $K(S,R) = \{0\}$ , then r = 0. Therefore, by Observation 1(b), it follows that  $\Gamma_{S,R}^r$  is regular.

Suppose that  $\Gamma_{S,R}^r$  is regular. If r=0, then, by Lemma 2, we have  $\deg(0)=0$ . Therefore,  $\Gamma_{S,R}^r=\overline{K_{|R|}}$  and so  $K(S,R)=\{0\}$ . If  $r\neq 0$ , then, by Lemma 2, we obtain  $\deg(0)=|R|-1$ . Therefore,  $\Gamma_{S,R}^r$  is a complete graph and so S=R. That is,  $\Gamma_{R,R}^r$  is regular, which is a contradiction by [18, Proposition 4].

### 3 $\Gamma_{S,R}^r$ of isoclinic pairs

Following P. Hall [14], S.M. Buckley et. al. [1] have defined isoclinism between two rings. Recently, J. Dutta et. al. [3] have generalized the notion of isoclinism between two rings to isoclinism between two pairs of rings. Let  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  be two subrings of the rings  $R_1$  and  $R_2$ . A pair  $(\phi, \psi)$  of additive group isomorphisms  $\phi: \frac{R_1}{Z(S_1,R_1)} \to \frac{R_2}{Z(S_2,R_2)}$  and  $\psi: [S_1,R_1] \to [S_2,R_2]$ , such that  $\phi\left(\frac{S_1}{Z(S_1,R_1)}\right) = \frac{S_2}{Z(S_2,R_2)}$  and  $\psi([x_1,y_1]) = [x_2,y_2]$ , whenever  $x_i \in S_i$ ,  $y_i \in R_i$ , i=1,2, and  $\phi(x_1+Z(S_1,R_1)) = x_2+Z(S_2,R_2)$ ,  $\phi(y_1+Z(S_1,R_1)) = y_2+Z(S_2,R_2)$ , is called an isoclinism between the pairs  $(S_1,R_1)$  and  $(S_2,R_2)$ . Two pairs of rings  $(S_1,R_1)$  and  $(S_2,R_2)$  are called isoclinic if there exists an isoclinism between them. In this section, we mainly prove the following result.

**Theorem 5.** Let  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  be two finite rings. Let  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  be two subrings of  $R_1$  and  $R_2$ , respectively, such that  $|Z(S_1, R_1)| = |Z(S_2, R_2)|$ . If  $r \in [S_1, R_1]$  and  $(\phi, \psi)$  is an isoclinism between the pairs  $(S_1, R_1)$  and  $(S_2, R_2)$ , then  $\Gamma_{S_1, R_1}^r \cong \Gamma_{S_2, R_2}^{\psi(r)}$ .

*Proof.* We have  $\phi: \frac{R_1}{Z(S_1,R_1)} \to \frac{R_2}{Z(S_2,R_2)}$  is an isomorphism such that  $\phi\left(\frac{S_1}{Z(S_1,R_1)}\right) = \frac{S_2}{Z(S_2,R_2)}$ . Therefore,  $\left|\frac{R_1}{Z(S_1,R_1)}\right| = \left|\frac{R_2}{Z(S_2,R_2)}\right|$  and  $\left|\frac{S_1}{Z(S_1,R_1)}\right| = \left|\frac{S_2}{Z(S_2,R_2)}\right|$ . Let  $\left|\frac{S_1}{Z(S_1,R_1)}\right| = m$  and  $\left|\frac{R_1}{Z(S_1,R_1)}\right| = n$ . Let  $\{s_1,\ldots,s_m,r_{m+1},\ldots,r_n\}$  and  $\{s'_1,\ldots,s'_m,r'_{m+1},\ldots,r'_n\}$  be two transversals of  $\frac{R_1}{Z(S_1,R_1)}$  and  $\frac{R_2}{Z(S_2,R_2)}$ , respectively, such that  $\{s_1,\ldots,s_m\}$  and  $\{s'_1,\ldots,s'_m\}$  are transversals of  $\frac{S_1}{Z(S_1,R_1)}$  and  $\frac{S_2}{Z(S_2,R_2)}$ , respectively.

Let  $\phi$  be defined as  $\phi(s_i + Z(S_1, R_1)) = s_i' + Z(S_2, R_2)$ ,  $\phi(r_j + Z(S_1, R_1)) = r_j' + Z(S_2, R_2)$  for  $1 \le i \le m$  and  $m+1 \le j \le n$ . Let  $\theta: Z(S_1, R_1) \to Z(S_2, R_2)$  be a one-to-one correspondence. Let us define a map  $\alpha: R_1 \to R_2$  such that  $\alpha(s_i + z) = s_i' + \theta(z)$ ,  $\alpha(r_j + z) = r_j' + \theta(z)$  for  $z \in Z(S_1, R_1)$ ,  $1 \le i \le m$  and  $m+1 \le j \le n$ . Then  $\alpha$  is a bijection.

Suppose, u,v are adjacent in  $\Gamma^r_{S_1,R_1}$ . Then  $u \in S_1$  or  $v \in S_1$  and  $[u,v] \neq r$ ,  $[u,v] \neq -r$ . Without any loss of generality, let us assume that  $u \in S_1$ . Then  $u = s_i + z$  for  $1 \leq i \leq m$  and  $v = t + z_1$ , where  $z, z_1 \in Z(S_1, R_1)$ ,  $t \in \{s_1, \ldots, s_m, r_{m+1}, \ldots, r_n\}$ . Therefore, for some  $t' \in \{s'_1, \ldots, s'_m, r'_{m+1}, \ldots, r'_n\}$ , we have

$$[s_{i}+z,t+z_{1}] \neq r,-r \Rightarrow \psi([s_{i}+z,t+z_{1}]) \neq \psi(r),-\psi(r)$$

$$\Rightarrow [s'_{i}+\theta(z),t'+\theta(z_{1})] \neq \psi(r),-\psi(r)$$

$$\Rightarrow [\alpha(s_{i}+z),\alpha(t+z_{1})] \neq \psi(r),-\psi(r)$$

$$\Rightarrow [\alpha(u),\alpha(v)] \neq \psi(r),-\psi(r).$$

This shows that  $\alpha(u)$  and  $\alpha(v)$  are adjacent in  $\Gamma_{S_2,R_2}^{\psi(r)}$  noting that  $\alpha(u) \in S_2$ . Hence,  $\alpha$  is an isomorphism between the graphs  $\Gamma_{S_1,R_1}^r$  and  $\Gamma_{S_2,R_2}^{\psi(r)}$ . This completes the proof.

# 4 Connecting $\Gamma_{S,R}^r$ with $Pr_r(S,R)$

The commutativity degree of a finite ring R is the probability that a randomly chosen pair of elements of R commute and it is denoted by Pr(R). The study of this probability was first considered by D. MacHale [16]. Certain generalizations of this notion are also considered in [3,6–8].

One such generalization, introduced in [6], is given by

$$\Pr_r(S,K) := \frac{\left| \{ (x,y) \in S \times K : [x,y] = r \} \right|}{|S||K|},$$

where  $r \in R$  and S, K are two subrings of R. That is,  $\Pr_r(S,K)$  is the probability that the commutator of a randomly chosen pair of elements  $(x,y) \in S \times K$  equals a given element  $r \in R$ . We have

$$\operatorname{Pr}_{r}(S,K) = \begin{cases} \operatorname{Pr}(S,R), & \text{if } r = 0 \text{ and } K = R, \\ \operatorname{Pr}_{r}(S,R), & \text{if } K = R, \\ \operatorname{Pr}_{r}(S), & \text{if } S = K, \\ \operatorname{Pr}(R), & \text{if } r = 0 \text{ and } S = K = R. \end{cases}$$

$$(3)$$

It is worth mentioning that  $\Pr(S,R)$ ,  $\Pr_r(S,R)$  and  $\Pr_r(S)$  are studied in [3,7,8] respectively. In this section, we derive some connections between  $\Gamma^r_{S,R}$  and  $\Pr_r(S,R)$ . Let  $|E(\Gamma^r_{S,R})|$  denotes the number of edges in  $\Gamma^r_{S,R}$ . If  $r \notin K(S,R)$ , then it follows from Observation 1, that

$$|E(\Gamma_{S,R}^r)| = |S||R| - \frac{|S|^2 + |S|}{2}.$$

The following theorem gives the number of edges in  $\Gamma_{S,R}^r$  in terms of  $Pr_r(S,R)$  and  $Pr_r(S)$ .

**Theorem 6.** Let *S* be a subring of a finite ring *R*.

(a) If r = 0, then

$$2|E(\Gamma_{S,R}^r)| = 2|S||R|(1 - \Pr(S,R)) - |S|^2(1 - \Pr(S)).$$

(b) If  $r \neq 0$  and 2r = 0, then

$$2|E(\Gamma_{S,R}^r)| = \begin{cases} 2|S||R| (1 - \Pr_r(S,R)) - |S|^2 (1 - \Pr_r(S)) - |S|, & \text{if } r \in S, \\ 2|S||R| (1 - \Pr_r(S,R)) - |S|^2 - |S|, & \text{if } r \in R \setminus S. \end{cases}$$

(c) If  $r \neq 0$  and  $2r \neq 0$ , then

$$2|E(\Gamma_{S,R}^r)| = \begin{cases} 2|S||R| \left(1 - \sum_{u=r,-r} \Pr_u(S,R)\right) - |S|^2 \left(1 - \sum_{u=r,-r} \Pr_u(S)\right) - |S|, & \text{if } r \in S, \\ 2|S||R| \left(1 - \sum_{u=r,-r} \Pr_u(S,R)\right) - |S|^2 - |S|, & \text{if } r \in R \setminus S. \end{cases}$$

Proof. Let

$$\mathbb{I} = \{(x,y) \in S \times R : x \neq y, [x,y] \neq r \text{ and } [x,y] \neq -r\}$$

and

$$\mathbb{J} = \{(x,y) \in R \times S : x \neq y, [x,y] \neq r \text{ and } [x,y] \neq -r\}.$$

Then  $\mathbb{I} \cap \mathbb{J} = \{(x,y) \in S \times S : x \neq y, [x,y] \neq r \text{ and } [x,y] \neq -r\}$ . It is easy to see that  $(x,y) \mapsto (y,x)$  defines a bijective map from  $\mathbb{I}$  to  $\mathbb{J}$  and so  $|\mathbb{I}| = |\mathbb{J}|$ . Also,  $2|E(\Gamma_{S,R}^r)| = |\mathbb{I} \cup \mathbb{J}|$ . Therefore,

$$2|E(\Gamma_{S,R}^r)| = 2|\mathbb{I}| - |\mathbb{I} \cap \mathbb{J}|. \tag{4}$$

(a) If r = 0, then, by (3), we have

$$|\mathbb{I}| = |\{(x,y) \in S \times R : [x,y] \neq 0\}|$$
  
=  $|S||R| - |\{(x,y) \in S \times R : [x,y] = 0\}| = |S||R|(1 - \Pr(S,R))$ 

and

$$|\mathbb{I} \cap \mathbb{J}| = \left| \{ (x, y) \in S \times S : [x, y] \neq 0 \} \right|$$
  
=  $|S|^2 - |\{ (x, y) \in S \times S : [x, y] = 0 \}| = |S|^2 (1 - \Pr(S)).$ 

Hence, the result follows from (4).

(b) If  $r \neq 0$  and 2r = 0, then r = -r. Therefore, by (3), we have

$$|\mathbb{I}| = \left| \{ (x,y) \in S \times R : x \neq y, [x,y] \neq r \} \right|$$
  
=  $|S||R| - \left| \{ (x,y) \in S \times R : [x,y] = r \} \right| - \left| \{ (x,y) \in S \times S : x = y \} \right|$   
=  $|S||R| (1 - \Pr_r(S,R)) - |S|$ .

If  $r \in S$ , then, by (3), we have

$$|\mathbb{I} \cap \mathbb{J}| = \left| \{ (x, y) \in S \times S : x \neq y, [x, y] \neq r \} \right|$$
  
=  $|S|^2 - \left| \{ (x, y) \in S \times S : [x, y] = r \} \right| - \left| \{ (x, y) \in S \times S : x = y \} \right|$   
=  $|S|^2 (1 - \Pr_r(S)) - |S|$ .

If  $r \in R \setminus S$ , then we have  $|\mathbb{I} \cap \mathbb{J}| = |S|^2 - |S|$ , noting that  $\{(x,y) \in S \times S : [x,y] = r\}$  is empty. Therefore,

$$|\mathbb{I} \cap \mathbb{J}| = \begin{cases} |S|^2 (1 - \Pr_r(S)) - |S|, & \text{if } r \in S, \\ |S|^2 - |S|, & \text{if } r \in R \setminus S. \end{cases}$$

Hence, the result follows from (4).

(c) If  $r \neq 0$  and  $2r \neq 0$ , then, by (3), we have

$$|\mathbb{I}| = \left| \{ (x,y) \in S \times R : x \neq y, [x,y] \neq r \text{ and } [x,y] \neq -r \} \right|$$

$$= |S||R| - \left| \{ (x,y) \in S \times R : [x,y] = r \} \right|$$

$$- \left| \{ (x,y) \in S \times R : [x,y] = -r \} \right| - \left| \{ (x,y) \in S \times S : x = y \} \right|$$

$$= |S||R| \left( 1 - \sum_{u=r-r} \Pr_u(S,R) \right) - |S|.$$

If  $r \in S$ , then, by (3), we have

$$|\mathbb{I} \cap \mathbb{J}| = \left| \{ (x, y) \in S \times S : x \neq y, [x, y] \neq r \text{ and } [x, y] \neq -r \} \right|$$

$$= |S|^2 - \left| \{ (x, y) \in S \times S : [x, y] = r \} \right|$$

$$- \left| \{ (x, y) \in S \times S : [x, y] = -r \} \right| - \left| \{ (x, y) \in S \times S : x = y \} \right|$$

$$= |S|^2 \left( 1 - \sum_{u = r, -r} \Pr_u(S) \right) - |S|.$$

If  $r \in R \setminus S$ , then we have  $|\mathbb{I} \cap \mathbb{J}| = |S|^2 - |S|$ , noting that  $\{(x,y) \in S \times S : [x,y] = r\}$  and  $\{(x,y) \in S \times S : [x,y] = -r\}$  are empty. Therefore,

$$|\mathbb{I} \cap \mathbb{J}| = \begin{cases} |S|^2 \left( 1 - \sum_{u=r,-r} \Pr_u(S) \right) - |S|, & \text{if } r \in S, \\ |S|^2 - |S|, & \text{if } r \in R \setminus S. \end{cases}$$

Hence, the result follows from (4).

As an application of Theorem 6, in the following two propositions, we compute the number of edges in  $\Gamma_{S,R}^r$  if [S,R] has prime order.

**Proposition 2.** Let *S* be a commutative subring of a finite ring *R* such that |[S, R]| = p, where *p* is a prime.

(a) If r = 0, then

$$\left|E(\Gamma_{S,R}^r)\right| = \frac{(p-1)|R|\left(|S|-|Z(S,R)|\right)}{p}.$$

(b) If  $r \neq 0$  and 2r = 0, then

$$|E(\Gamma_{S,R}^r)| = \frac{2|R|((p-1)|S| + |Z(S,R)|) - p|S|^2 - p|S|}{2p}.$$

(c) If  $r \neq 0$  and  $2r \neq 0$ , then

$$|E(\Gamma_{S,R}^r)| = \frac{2|R|((p-2)|S|+2|Z(S,R)|)-p|S|^2-p|S|}{2p}.$$

*Proof.* If |[S, R]| = p, then, by [7, Corollary 2], we have

$$\operatorname{Pr}_r(S,R) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{p} \left( 1 + \frac{p-1}{|S:Z(S,R)|} \right), & \text{if } r = 0, \\ \frac{1}{p} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{|S:Z(S,R)|} \right), & \text{if } r \neq 0. \end{cases}$$

Since *S* is commutative, we have  $[S, S] = \{0\}$ . Therefore, by (3), we have

$$\Pr_r(S) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } r = 0, \\ 0, & \text{if } r \neq 0. \end{cases}$$

Hence, the results follows from Theorem 6.

**Proposition 3.** Let *S* be a non-commutative subring of a finite ring *R* such that |[S,R]| = p, where *p* is a prime.

(a) If r = 0, then

$$\left| E(\Gamma_{S,R}^r) \right| = \frac{(p-1) \left[ 2|R| \left( |S| - |Z(S,R)| \right) - |S| \left( |S| - |Z(S)| \right) \right]}{2p}.$$

(b) If  $r \neq 0$  and 2r = 0, then

$$|E(\Gamma_{S,R}^{r})| = \begin{cases} \frac{2|R|((p-1)|S| + |Z(S,R)|) - |S|((p-1)|S| + |Z(S)|) - p|S|}{2p}, & \text{if } r \in S, \\ \frac{2|R|((p-1)|S| + |Z(S,R)|) - p|S|^{2} - p|S|}{2p}, & \text{if } r \in R \setminus S. \end{cases}$$

(c) If  $r \neq 0$  and  $2r \neq 0$ , then

$$|E(\Gamma_{S,R}^{r})| = \begin{cases} \frac{2|R|((p-2)|S|+2|Z(S,R)|) - |S|((p-2)|S|+2|Z(S)|) - p|S|}{2p}, & \text{if } r \in S, \\ \frac{2|R|((p-2)|S|+2|Z(S,R)|) - p|S|^2 - p|S|}{2p}, & \text{if } r \in R \setminus S. \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* If |[S, R]| = p, then, by [7, Corollary 2], we have

$$\Pr_{r}(S,R) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{p} \left( 1 + \frac{p-1}{|S:Z(S,R)|} \right), & \text{if } r = 0, \\ \frac{1}{p} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{|S:Z(S,R)|} \right), & \text{if } r \neq 0. \end{cases}$$

If *S* is non-commutative, then |[S, S]| = |[S, R]| = p. Therefore, by [8, Lemma 3.2], we have

$$\Pr_r(S) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{p} \left( 1 + \frac{p-1}{|S:Z(S)|} \right), & \text{if } r = 0, \\ \frac{1}{p} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{|S:Z(S)|} \right), & \text{if } r \neq 0. \end{cases}$$

Hence, the results follows from Theorem 6.

**Corollary 3.** Let  $R = E(p^2) = \langle a, b : pa = pb = 0, a^2 = a, b^2 = b, ab = a, ba = b \rangle$  for a prime p. Let S be a subring of R.

(a) If |S| = p, then

$$|E(\Gamma_{S,R}^r)| = \begin{cases} p(p-1)^2, & \text{if } r = 0, \\ \frac{p(p-1)(2p-1)}{2}, & \text{if } r \neq 0 \text{ and } 2r = 0, \\ \frac{p(p-1)(2p-3)}{2}, & \text{if } r \neq 0 \text{ and } 2r \neq 0. \end{cases}$$

(b) If S = R, then

$$|E(\Gamma_{S,R}^r)| = \begin{cases} \frac{p(p-1)^2(p+1)}{2}, & \text{if } r = 0, \\ \frac{p(p-1)^2(p+1)}{2}, & \text{if } r \neq 0 \text{ and } 2r = 0, \\ \frac{p(p-1)(p-2)(p+1)}{2}, & \text{if } r \neq 0 \text{ and } 2r \neq 0. \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* We have  $[S,R] = \{ma + (p-m)b : 1 \le m \le p\}$  and  $Z(S,R) = \{0\}$ . Therefore, |[S,R]| = p and |Z(S,R)| = 1. Hence, the result follows from Propositions 2 and 3 noting that |Z(S)| = 1 if S = R.

The following two corollaries of Theorem 6 give certain lower bounds and upper bounds respectively for the number of edges in  $\Gamma_{S,R}^r$ , if  $r \neq 0$ .

**Corollary 4.** Let p be the smallest prime dividing |R| and  $r \neq 0$ . Then for a non-commutative subring S of R we have the following lower bounds for  $|E(\Gamma_{S,R}^r)|$ .

(a) If 2r = 0, then

$$|E(\Gamma_{S,R}^r)| \ge \begin{cases} \frac{2(p-1)|R||S|+2|R||Z(S,R)|-p|S|^2+6p|Z(S)|^2-p|S|)}{2p}, & \text{if } r \in S, \\ \frac{2(p-1)|R||S|+2|R||Z(S,R)|-p|S|^2-p|S|}{2p}, & \text{if } r \in R \setminus S. \end{cases}$$

(b) If  $2r \neq 0$ , then

$$|E(\Gamma_{S,R}^r)| \ge \begin{cases} \frac{2(p-2)|R||S|+4|R||Z(S,R)|-p|S|^2+12p|Z(S)|^2-p|S|)}{2p}, & \text{if } r \in S, \\ \frac{2(p-2)|R||S|+4|R||Z(S,R)|-p|S|^2-p|S|}{2p}, & \text{if } r \in R \setminus S. \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* By [7, Proposition 3], we have

$$1 - \Pr_r(S, R) \ge \frac{(p-1)|S| + |Z(S, R)|}{p|S|} \tag{5}$$

and

$$1 - \sum_{u=r,-r} \Pr_u(S,R) \ge \frac{(p-2)|S| + 2|Z(S,R)|}{p|S|}.$$
 (6)

By [8, Theorem 2.10], we have

$$\Pr_r(S) \ge \frac{6|Z(S)|^2}{|S|^2}.$$
 (7)

(a) We have 2r = 0. Therefore, if  $r \in S$ , then, using Theorem 6(b), (5) and (7), we get

$$2|E(\Gamma_{S,R}^r)| + |S|^2 + |S| \ge 2|S||R|\left(\frac{(p-1)|S| + |Z(S,R)|}{p|S|}\right) + |S|^2\left(\frac{6|Z(S)|^2}{|S|^2}\right).$$

Hence the result follows.

If  $r \in R \setminus S$ , then, using Theorem 6(*b*) and (5), we get

$$2|E(\Gamma_{S,R}^r)| + |S|^2 + |S| \ge 2|S||R|\left(\frac{(p-1)|S| + |Z(S,R)|}{p|S|}\right).$$

Hence the result follows.

(b) We have  $2r \neq 0$ . Therefore, if  $r \in S$ , then, using Theorem 6(c), (6) and (7), we get

$$2\big|E(\Gamma_{S,R}^r)\big| + |S|^2 + |S| \ge 2|S||R|\left(\frac{(p-2)|S| + 2|Z(S,R)|}{p|S|}\right) + |S|^2\left(\frac{12|Z(S)|^2}{|S|^2}\right).$$

Hence the result follows.

If  $r \in R \setminus S$ , then, using Theorem 6(c) and (6), we get

$$2|E(\Gamma_{S,R}^r)| + |S|^2 + |S| \ge 2|S||R|\left(\frac{(p-2)|S| + 2|Z(S,R)|}{p|S|}\right).$$

Hence the result follows.

**Corollary 5.** Let p be the smallest prime dividing |R| and

$$Z(R,S) = \{t \in R : ts = st \text{ for all } s \in S\}$$

for any non-commutative subring S of R. If  $r \neq 0$ , then we have the following upper bounds for  $|E(\Gamma_{S,R}^r)|$ .

(a) If 2r = 0, then

$$|E(\Gamma_{S,R}^r)| \leq \begin{cases} \frac{2p|R||S| - 4p|Z(S,R)||Z(R,S)| - (p-1)|S|^2 - |S||Z(S)| - p|S|}{2p}, & \text{if } r \in S, \\ \frac{2|R||S| - 4|Z(S,R)||Z(R,S)| - |S|^2 - |S|}{2p}, & \text{if } r \in R \setminus S. \end{cases}$$

(b) If  $2r \neq 0$ , then

$$|E(\Gamma_{S,R}^r)| \leq \begin{cases} \frac{2p|R||S| - 8p|Z(S,R)||Z(R,S)| - (p-2)|S|^2 - 2|S||Z(S)| - p|S|}{2p}, & \text{if } r \in S, \\ \frac{2|R||S| - 8|Z(S,R)||Z(R,S)| - |S|^2 - |S|}{2p}, & \text{if } r \in R \setminus S. \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* By [8, Theorem 2.9], we have

$$\Pr_r(S) \le \frac{|S| - |Z(S)|}{p|S|}.\tag{8}$$

By [6, Proposition 3.1 (2)], we have

$$1 - \Pr_r(S, R) \le \frac{|S||R| - 2|Z(S, R)||Z(R, S)|}{|S||R|} \tag{9}$$

and

$$1 - \sum_{u=r,-r} \Pr_u(S,R) \le \frac{|S||R| - 4|Z(S,R)||Z(R,S)|}{|S||R|}.$$
 (10)

(a) We have 2r = 0. Therefore, if  $r \in S$ , then, using Theorem 6(b), (8) and (9), we get

$$2|E(\Gamma_{S,R}^r)| + |S|^2 + |S| \le 2|S||R| \left(\frac{|S||R| - 2|Z(S,R)||Z(R,S)|}{|S||R|}\right) + |S|^2 \left(\frac{|S| - |Z(S)|}{p|S|}\right).$$

Hence the result follows.

If  $r \in R \setminus S$ , then, using Theorem 6(*b*) and (9), we get

$$2|E(\Gamma_{S,R}^r)| + |S|^2 + |S| \le 2|S||R| \left(\frac{|S||R| - 2|Z(S,R)||Z(R,S)|}{|S||R|}\right).$$

Hence the result follows.

(b) We have  $2r \neq 0$ . Therefore, if  $r \in S$ , then, using Theorem 6(c), (8) and (10), we get

$$2|E(\Gamma_{S,R}^r)| + |S|^2 + |S| \le 2|S||R| \left(\frac{|S||R| - 4|Z(S,R)||Z(R,S)|}{|S||R|}\right) + 2|S|^2 \left(\frac{|S| - |Z(S)|}{p|S|}\right).$$

Hence the result follows.

If  $r \in R \setminus S$ , then, using Theorem 6(*c*) and (10), we get

$$2|E(\Gamma_{S,R}^r)| + |S|^2 + |S| \le 2|S||R| \left(\frac{|S||R| - 4|Z(S,R)||Z(R,S)|}{|S||R|}\right).$$

Hence the result follows.

We conclude the section by noting that if r=0, then using Theorem 6(a) and various bounds for Pr(S,R) and Pr(S) obtained in [3], we may derive several bounds for  $|E(\Gamma_{S,R}^r)|$ .

## 5 An induced subgraph

In this section, we consider the induced subgraph  $\Delta_{S,R}^r$  of  $\Gamma_{S,R}^r$  with vertex set  $R \setminus Z(S,R)$ .

**Theorem 7.** Let x be any vertex in  $\Delta_{S,R}^r$ .

(a) If 
$$r = 0$$
, then  $\deg(x) = \begin{cases} |R| - |C_R(x)|, & \text{if } x \in S \setminus Z(S, R), \\ |S| - |C_S(x)|, & \text{if } x \in R \setminus S. \end{cases}$ 

(b) If  $r \neq 0$  and 2r = 0, then

$$\deg(x) = \begin{cases} |R| - |Z(S, R)| - |C_R^r(x)| - 1, & \text{if } x \in S \setminus Z(S, R), \\ |S| - |Z(S, R)| - |C_S^r(x)|, & \text{if } x \in R \setminus S. \end{cases}$$

(c) If  $r \neq 0$  and  $2r \neq 0$ , then

$$\deg(x) = \begin{cases} |R| - |Z(S,R)| - 2|C_R^r(x)| - 1, & \text{if } x \in S \setminus Z(S,R), \\ |S| - |Z(S,R)| - 2|C_S^r(x)|, & \text{if } x \in R \setminus S. \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* Let x be a vertex in  $\Delta_{S,R}^r$ . If  $x \in S \setminus Z(S,R)$ , then  $\deg(x)$  is the number of  $y \in R \setminus Z(S,R)$  such that  $xy \neq yx$ . Hence,  $\deg(x) = |R| - |Z(S,R)| - \left(|C_R(x)| - |Z(S,R)|\right) = |R| - |C_R(x)|$ . If  $x \in R \setminus S$ , then  $\deg(x)$  is the number of  $s \in S \setminus Z(S,R)$  such that  $sx \neq xs$ . Hence,  $\deg(x) = |S| - |Z(S,R)| - \left(|C_S(x)| - |Z(S,R)|\right) = |S| - |C_S(x)|$ . Hence, part (a) follows.

The proofs of parts (b) and (c) follow from Theorem 1 (parts (b), (c)) noting that the vertex set of  $\Delta_{S,R}^r$  is  $R \setminus Z(S,R)$ .

By Lemma 1 and Theorem 7, we have the following two corollaries.

**Corollary 6.** Let  $x \in S$  be a vertex in  $\Delta_{S,R}^r$ .

(a) If 
$$r \neq 0$$
 and  $2r = 0$ , then  $\deg(x) = \begin{cases} |R| - |Z(S,R)| - |C_R(x)| - 1, & \text{if } C_R^r(x) \neq \emptyset, \\ |R| - |Z(S,R)| - 1, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$ 

(b) If 
$$r \neq 0$$
 and  $2r \neq 0$ , then  $\deg(x) = \begin{cases} |R| - |Z(S,R)| - 2|C_R(x)| - 1, & \text{if } C_R^r(x) \neq \emptyset, \\ |R| - |Z(S,R)| - 1, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$ 

**Corollary 7.** *Let*  $x \in R \setminus S$  *be a vertex in*  $\Delta_{S,R}^r$ .

(a) If 
$$r \neq 0$$
 and  $2r = 0$ , then  $\deg(x) = \begin{cases} |S| - |Z(S,R)| - |C_S(x)|, & \text{if } C_S^r(x) \neq \emptyset, \\ |S| - |Z(S,R)|, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$ 

$$(|S| - |Z(S,R)|, otherwise.$$

$$(b) If  $r \neq 0 and 2r \neq 0$ , then  $deg(x) = \begin{cases} |S| - |Z(S,R)| - 2|C_S(x)|, & \text{if } C_S^r(x) \neq \varnothing, \\ |S| - |Z(S,R)|, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$ 
Theorem 8. Let  $S$  be a subring of a non-commutative ring  $R$  with unity 1 such that$$

**Theorem 8.** Let *S* be a subring of a non-commutative ring *R* with unity 1 such that  $|R| \neq 8$  and  $1 \in S$ . Then  $\Delta_{S,R}^r$  is not a tree.

*Proof.* Suppose that  $\Delta_{S,R}^r$  is a tree. Therefore, there exists  $x \in R \setminus Z(S,R)$  such that  $\deg(x) = 1$ . *Case 1:* r = 0. If  $x \in S \setminus Z(S,R)$ , then, by Theorem 7(a), we have  $\deg(x) = |R| - |C_R(x)| = 1$ . Therefore,  $|C_R(x)| = 1$ , a contradiction.

If  $x \in R \setminus S$ , then, by Theorem 7(a), we also have  $\deg(x) = |S| - |C_S(x)| = 1$ . Therefore,  $|C_S(x)| = 1$ , a contradiction.

*Case 2:*  $r \neq 0$  and 2r = 0.

*Subcase* 2.1. Let  $x \in S \setminus Z(S, R)$ . Then, by Corollary 6(a), we have

$$\deg(x) = |R| - |Z(S,R)| - 1 = 1$$
 or  $\deg(x) = |R| - |Z(S,R)| - |C_R(x)| - 1 = 1$ .

That is,

$$|R| - |Z(S,R)| = 2 (11)$$

or

$$|R| - |Z(S,R)| - |C_R(x)| = 2.$$
 (12)

Note that Z(S,R) is a subring of R as well as  $C_R(x)$  containing 0 and 1. Therefore, |Z(S,R)| divides the left hand sides of (11) and (12). It follows that |Z(S,R)| = 2. Thus (11) gives |R| = 4, which is a contradiction since there is no non-commutative ring with unity having order 4. Again, (12) gives  $|R| - |C_R(x)| = 4$  and so  $|C_R(x)| = 4$ . Therefore, |R| = 8, which contradicts our assumption.

Case 2.2. Let  $x \in R \setminus S$ . Then, by Corollary 7(a), we have  $\deg(x) = |S| - |Z(S,R)| = 1$  or  $\deg(x) = |S| - |Z(S,R)| - |C_S(x)| = 1$ . Note that Z(S,R) is a subring of S as well as  $C_S(x)$  containing 0 and 1. Therefore, |Z(S,R)| divides |S| - |Z(S,R)| and  $|S| - |Z(S,R)| - |C_S(x)|$ . It follows that |Z(S,R)| = 1, a contradiction.

Case 3:  $r \neq 0$  and  $2r \neq 0$ .

*Subcase 3.1.* Let  $x \in S \setminus Z(S, R)$ . Then, by Corollary 6(b), we have

$$\deg(x) = |R| - |Z(S,R)| - 1 = 1$$
 or  $\deg(x) = |R| - |Z(S,R)| - 2|C_R(x)| - 1 = 1$ .

That is,

$$|R| - |Z(S,R)| = 2$$
 (13)

or

$$|R| - |Z(S,R)| - 2|C_R(x)| = 2. (14)$$

Therefore, |Z(S,R)| = 2. Thus, (13) leads to the same contradiction that we get in the first part of Subcase 2.1. By (14), we have  $|R| - 2|C_R(x)| = 4$  and so  $|C_R(x)| = 4$ . Therefore, |R| = 12 and so  $\frac{R}{Z(S,R)}$  is cyclic. Hence, R is commutative, a contradiction.

*Subcase 3.2.* Let 
$$x \in R \setminus S$$
. Then, by Corollary 7(*b*), we have deg( $x$ ) =  $|S| - |Z(S,R)| = 1$  or deg( $x$ ) =  $|S| - |Z(S,R)| - 2|C_S(x)| = 1$ . Therefore,  $|Z(S,R)| = 1$ , a contradiction. □

The proof of Theorem 8 also tells that there is no vertex in the graph  $\Delta_{S,R}^r$  having degree 1 if R is a non-commutative ring with unity 1 such that  $|R| \neq 8$  and S is any subring of R with the same unity. We conclude this paper by obtaining conditions such that  $\Delta_{S,R}^r$  has no vertex having degree 2.

**Theorem 9.** Let *S* be a non-commutative subring of a ring *R* with unity 1 such that  $1 \in S$ . Then  $\Delta_{SR}^r$  has no vertex having degree 2 if  $|R| \neq 12$  and  $|S| \neq 8$ .

*Proof.* Suppose that  $\Delta_{S,R}^r$  has a vertex x such that  $\deg(x) = 2$ .

Case 1: r = 0. If  $x \in S \setminus Z(S, R)$ , then, by Theorem 7(a), we have  $\deg(x) = |R| - |C_R(x)| = 2$ . Therefore,  $|C_R(x)| = 2$ , a contradiction.

If  $x \in R \setminus S$ , then, by Theorem 7(a), we also have  $deg(x) = |S| - |C_S(x)| = 2$ . Therefore,  $|C_S(x)| = 2$  and so |S| = 4, a contradiction since there is no non-commutative ring with unity having order 4.

Case 2:  $r \neq 0$  and 2r = 0.

*Subcase* 2.1. Let  $x \in S \setminus Z(S, R)$ . Then, by Corollary 6(a), we have

$$\deg(x) = |R| - |Z(S, R)| - 1 = 2$$
 or  $\deg(x) = |R| - |Z(S, R)| - |C_R(x)| - 1 = 2$ .

That is,

$$|R| - |Z(S, R)| = 3 (15)$$

or

$$|R| - |Z(S,R)| - |C_R(x)| = 3.$$
 (16)

Therefore, |Z(S,R)| = 3. Thusm (15) gives |R| = 6, which is a contradiction since R is non-commutative. Again, (16) gives  $|R| - |C_R(x)| = 6$  and so  $|C_R(x)| = 6$  since  $|C_R(x)| \neq 3$ . Therefore |R| = 12, which contradicts our assumption.

Subcase 2.2. Let  $x \in R \setminus S$ . Then, by Corollary 7(a), we have  $\deg(x) = |S| - |Z(S,R)| = 2$  or  $\deg(x) = |S| - |Z(S,R)| - |C_S(x)| = 2$ . Therefore, |Z(S,R)| = 2 and so  $|S| - |C_S(x)| = 4$  since  $|S| \neq 4$ . We have  $|C_S(x)| = 4$  since  $|C_S(x)| \neq 2$ . Therefore |S| = 8 which contradicts our assumption.

Case 3:  $r \neq 0$  and  $2r \neq 0$ .

*Subcase 3.1.* Let  $x \in S \setminus Z(S, R)$ . Then, by Corollary 6(b), we have

$$\deg(x) = |R| - |Z(S,R)| - 1 = 2$$
 or  $\deg(x) = |R| - |Z(S,R)| - 2|C_R(x)| - 1 = 2$ .

That is,

$$|R| - |Z(S, R)| = 3 (17)$$

or

$$|R| - |Z(S,R)| - 2|C_R(x)| = 3.$$
 (18)

Therefore, |Z(S,R)| = 3. Thus, (17) leads to the same contradiction that we get in the first part of Subcase 2.1. By (18), we have  $|R| - 2|C_R(x)| = 6$  and so  $|C_R(x)| = 6$  since  $|C_R(x)| \neq 3$ . Therefore, |R| = 18 and so  $\frac{R}{Z(S,R)}$  is cyclic. Hence, R is commutative, a contradiction.

Subcase 3.2. Let  $x \in R \setminus S$ . Then, by Corollary 7(b), we have  $\deg(x) = |S| - |Z(S,R)| = 2$  or  $\deg(x) = |S| - |Z(S,R)| - 2|C_S(x)| = 2$ . Therefore, |Z(S,R)| = 2 and so  $|S| - 2|C_S(x)| = 4$  since  $|S| \neq 4$ . It follows that  $|C_S(x)| = 4$ . Thus |S| = 12 and so  $\frac{S}{Z(S,R)}$  is cyclic. Hence, S is commutative, a contradiction.

#### References

- [1] Buckley S.M., Machale D., Ní Shé Á. Finite rings with many commuting pairs of elements. Preprint.
- [2] Dutta J., Basnet D.K. *Relative non-commuting graph of a finite ring*. In: Proc. of the 50th Symposium on Ring Theory and Representation Theory 2017, 40–46.
- [3] Dutta J., Basnet D.K., Nath R.K. On commuting probability of finite rings. Indag. Math. (N.S.) 2017, 28 (2), 372–382. doi:10.1016/j.indag.2016.10.002
- [4] Dutta J., Basnet D.K., Nath R.K. *On generalized non-commuting graph of a finite ring*. Algebra Colloq. 2018, **25** (1), 1149–160. doi:10.1142/S100538671800010X
- [5] Dutta J., Fasfous W.N.T., Nath R.K. *Spectrum and genus of commuting graphs of some classes of finite rings*. Acta Comment. Univ. Tartu. Math. 2019, **23** (1), 5–12. doi:10.12697/ACUTM.2019.23.01
- [6] Dutta P., Nath R.K. A generalization of commuting probability of finite rings. Asian-Eur. J. Math. 2018, 11 (2), 1850023. doi:10.1142/S1793557118500237
- [7] Dutta P., Nath R.K. *On relative commuting probability of finite rings*. Miskolc Math. Notes 2019, **20** (1), 225–232. doi:10.18514/MMN.2019.2274
- [8] Dutta P., Nath R.K. On r-commuting probability of finite rings. Indian J. Math. 2020, 62 (3), 287–297.
- [9] Erfanian A., Khashyarmanesh K., Nafar Kh. *Non-commuting graphs of rings*. Discrete Math. Algorithms Appl. 2015, **7** (3), 1550027. doi:10.1142/S1793830915500275
- [10] Fasfous W.N.T., Nath R.K. Common neighborhood spectrum and energy of commuting graphs of finite rings. Palest. J. Math. 2024, 13 (1), 66–76.

[11] Fasfous W.N.T., Nath R.K. Genus of commuting graphs of some classes of finite rings. Bol. Soc. Parana. Mat., accepted.

- [12] Fasfous W.N.T., Nath R.K. *Inequalities involving energy and Laplacian energy of non-commuting graphs of finite groups*. Indian J. Pure Appl. Math. 2025, **56**, 791–812. doi:10.1007/s13226-023-00519-7
- [13] Fasfous W.N.T., Nath R.K., Sharafdini R. *Various spectra and energies of commuting graphs of finite rings*. Hacet. J. Math. Stat. 2020, **49** (6), 1915–1925. doi:10.15672/hujms.540309
- [14] Hall P. The classification of prime-power groups. J. Reine Angew. Math. 1940, 182, 130–141.
- [15] Khuhirun B., Jantarakhajorn K., Maneerut W. On the connectivity of non-commuting graph of finite rings. Thai J. Math. 2023, **21** (4), 887–898.
- [16] MacHale D. Commutativity in finite rings. Amer. Math. Monthly 1976, 83 (1), 30-32. doi:10.2307/2318829
- [17] Nath R.K. A note on super integral rings. Bol. Soc. Parana. Mat. (3) 2020, 38 (4), 213–218.
- [18] Nath R.K., Sharma M., Dutta P., Shang Y. On r-noncommuting graph of finite rings. Axioms 2021, 10 (3), 233. doi:10.3390/axioms10030233
- [19] Ruk-u N., Jantarakhajorn K., Khuhirun B. *On line graph associated with a non-commuting graph for finite rings*. Sci. Tech. Asia 2023, **28** (2), 53–62.
- [20] Sharma M., Nath R.K. *Relative g-noncommuting graph of finite groups*. Electron. J. Graph Theory Appl. (EJGTA) 2022, **10** (1), 113–130.
- [21] Sharma M., Nath R.K. Laplacian spectrum and energy of non-commuting graphs of finite rings. J. Algebr. Syst., accepted.
- [22] Sharma M., Nath R. K. and Shang Y. On *g-noncommuting graph of a finite group relative to its subgroups*. Mathematics 2021, **9** (23), 3147. doi:10.3390/math9233147
- [23] Tolue B., Erfanian A., Jafarzadeh A. *A kind of non-commuting graph of finite groups*. J. Sci. Islam. Repub. Iran 2014, **25** (4), 379–384.

Received 20.02.2023

Шарма М., Нат Р.К. Відносний r-некомутативний граф скінченних кілець // Карпатські матем. публ. — 2025. — Т.17, №1. — С. 211–226.

Нехай S — підкільце скінченного кільця R та  $r\in R$ . Відносним r-некомутативним графом кільця R відносно S, що позначається як  $\Gamma^r_{S,R}$ , називають простий неорієнтований граф, множиною вершин якого є R, і дві вершини x та y є суміжними тоді і тільки тоді, коли  $x\in S$  або  $y\in S$  та  $[x,y]\neq r,[x,y]\neq -r$ . У цій статті ми визначаємо степінь будь-якої вершини в графі  $\Gamma^r_{S,R}$  і характеризуємо всі скінченні кільця, для яких  $\Gamma^r_{S,R}$  є зірковим, льодяниковим або регулярним графом. Ми встановлюємо зв'язки між відносними r-некомутативними графами двох ізоклінних пар кілець. Також виводимо певні співвідношення між кількістю ребер у графі  $\Gamma^r_{S,R}$  та різними узагальненими ймовірностями комутативності для R. Нарешті, ми завершуємо статтю вивченням індукованого підграфа  $\Gamma^r_{S,R}$ .

Ключові слова і фрази: скінченне кільце, некомутативний граф, ізоклінізм.