

ON SYMMETRIC ALGEBRAS

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Throughout this note, all algebras and modules are finite dimensional over an algebraically closed field K .

An algebra Λ is said to be symmetric if the regular module Λ is isomorphic to its dual $D(\Lambda)$ as a bi- Λ -module, where $D = \text{Hom}(-, K)$. It is well known that any block ideal of KG , the group algebra of a finite group G , is symmetric. Therefore, it seems interesting to know the way of constructing symmetric algebras from ring theoretical view point.

The trivial extension algebra $A \ltimes D(A)$, for any algebra A , is symmetric. This is also well known and the trivial extension algebras $A \ltimes D(A)$ have been used for studying representation-finite self-injective algebras by many authors. Our construction is given by generalizing trivial extension algebras.

We start by giving the definition of nilpotent Morita context.

We call a linear map $\phi: {}_A N \otimes_A N_A \rightarrow {}_A N_A$ a (generalized) Morita

context if ϕ is associative, i.e., $\phi(\phi(n \otimes n') \otimes n'') = \phi(n \otimes \phi(n' \otimes n''))$.

It is easy to see that $B = A \oplus N$ has an algebra-structure by $(a, n) \cdot (a', n') = (a \cdot a', a \cdot n' + n \cdot a' + \phi(n \otimes n'))$. If $\phi = 0$ then

B is the same with $A \ltimes N$. In the algebra B , N is an ideal.

We call ϕ nilpotent if the ideal N is nilpotent. In this

case we have $J(B) = J(A) \oplus N$.

In the case $A^N_A = A^M_A \oplus A^S_A$ and ϕ is given by

$\phi((m, s) \otimes (m', s')) = (\varphi(m \otimes m'), \psi(m \otimes m'))$, where $\varphi: A^M \otimes A^M_A \rightarrow A^M_A$ and

$\psi: A^M \otimes A^M_A \rightarrow A^S_A$, we denote $\phi = (\varphi, \psi)$. Then we know that (φ, ψ)

is a (nilpotent) Morita context if and only if 1) φ is a

(nilpotent) Morita context and 2) $\psi(\varphi(m \otimes m') \otimes m'') = \psi(m \otimes \varphi(m' \otimes m''))$.

In the case (φ, ψ) is a nilpotent Morita context, we denote the algebra $A \oplus M \oplus S$ with the multiplication $(a, m, s) \cdot (a', m', s') = (a \cdot a', a \cdot m' + m \cdot a' + \varphi(m \otimes m'), a \cdot s' + s \cdot a' + \psi(m \otimes m'))$ by $\Lambda(\varphi, \psi)$.

Now, by using nilpotent Morita contexts, we define QF-systems. We call $(\varphi, \gamma, \theta, f)$ a QF-system if 1) A is an algebra and A^M_A is a bimodule, 2) $\varphi: A^M \otimes A^M_A \rightarrow A^M_A$ is a nilpotent Morita context, 3) $\gamma: M_A \rightarrow D(M)_A$ is an isomorphism with the property $\gamma(m)(\varphi(m' \otimes m'')) = \gamma(\varphi(m \otimes m'))(m'')$ and 4) θ is an algebra automorphism of A and $f \in D(\text{Im } \varphi)$ such that $(\gamma(am) - \theta(a)\gamma(m))(m') = (fa - \theta(a)f)(\varphi(m \otimes m'))$.

Let us denote by ${}_{\theta}D(A)_A$ the bimodule $D(A)$ defined as the

following manner: $(a \cdot q)(a') = q(a' \cdot \theta(a))$, $(q \cdot a)(a') = q(a \cdot a')$ for

$a, a' \in A$ and $q \in D(A)$. Then, by defining $\psi(m \otimes m')(a) =$

$\chi(m)(m' \cdot a) - f(\varphi(m \otimes m' \cdot a))$, we get a nilpotent Morita context

(φ, ψ) on the bimodule ${}_A M_A \oplus \theta D(A)_A$. We will denote the algebra

$\Lambda(\varphi, \psi)$ by $\Lambda(\varphi, \chi, \theta, f)$.

Theorem 1. For any QF-system $(\varphi, \chi, \theta, f)$, the algebra $\Lambda(\varphi, \chi, \theta, f)$ is Frobenius, i.e., $\Lambda(\varphi, \chi, \theta, f)$ is isomorphic to its dual as a one-sided module.

Theorem 2. Assume Λ is basic, indecomposable and self-injective. If Λ is not isomorphic to K , there exists a QF-system $(\varphi, \chi, \theta, f)$ and $\Lambda \cong \Lambda(\varphi, \chi, \theta, f)$.

We call a QF-system $(\varphi, \chi, \text{id}_A, 0)$ a symmetric QF-system (or SQF-system for short) if χ is symmetric, i.e., $\chi(m)(m') = \chi(m')(m)$. Precisely describing, (φ, χ) is an SQF-system if

- 1) A is an algebra and ${}_A M_A$ is a bimodule,
- 2) φ is a nilpotent Morita context defined on ${}_A M_A$ and
- 3) $\chi: {}_A M_A \rightarrow {}_A D(M)_A$ is an isomorphism with the properties $\chi(m)(m') = \chi(m')(m)$ and $\chi(\varphi(m \otimes m'))(m'') = \chi(m)(\varphi(m' \otimes m''))$.

Corresponding to the above results, we have

Theorem 3. For any SQF-system (φ, χ) , the algebra $\Lambda(\varphi, \chi)$ is symmetric.

Theorem 4. Assume Λ is basic, indecomposable and symmetric. If Λ is not isomorphic to K , there exists an SQF-system (φ, γ) and $\Lambda \cong \Lambda(\varphi, \gamma)$.

Now, let (φ, γ) be an SQF-system and P_A a progenerator with $B = \text{End}(P_A)$. Then, it is easy to see that, on the modules ${}_B M {}_B$ $= {}_B P \otimes_A M \otimes_A P^* {}_B$ and ${}_B D(B) {}_B = {}_B P \otimes_A D(A) \otimes_A P^* {}_B$, where ${}_A P^* {}_B = \text{Hom}({}_A P, {}_A A)$, we have an SQF-system (φ^*, γ^*) defined by

$$\varphi^*(p \otimes m \otimes h \otimes p' \otimes m' \otimes h') = p \otimes \varphi(m \otimes h(p') \cdot m') \otimes h'$$

$$\gamma^*(p \otimes m \otimes h)(p' \otimes m' \otimes h') = \gamma(m)(h(p') \cdot m' \cdot h'(p))$$

for $m, m' \in M$, $p, p' \in P$ and $h, h' \in P^*$. Further, it is checked that $\Lambda(\varphi^*, \gamma^*) \cong \text{End}(P \otimes_A \Lambda(\varphi, \gamma) \otimes_A P^*)$. Therefore, we have

Corollary 5. For any symmetric algebra Λ , there exists an SQF-system (φ, γ) and $\Lambda \cong \Lambda(\varphi, \gamma) \times S$, where S is a product of full matrix algebras (= the semi-simple part of Λ).

By the above corollary, we know that we have to study the way of constructing SQF-systems, in order to get symmetric algebras.

Here, we list some constructions of SQF-systems:

(Construction I) Let (φ_i, γ_i) be SQF-systems. Then, the direct sum $\bigoplus_i (\varphi_i, \gamma_i)$ is again an SQF-system.

(Construction II) Let $\phi: {}_A I \otimes_A I {}_A \rightarrow {}_A I {}_A$ be a nilpotent Morita context. Then, by putting ${}_A M {}_A = {}_A I {}_A \oplus {}_A D(I) {}_A$ and

$$\varphi((x, q) \otimes (x', q')) = (\phi(x \otimes x'), q'(\phi(- \otimes x)) + q(\phi(x' \otimes -)))$$

$$\chi((x, q) \otimes (x', q')) = q'(x) + q(x') \quad \text{for } x, x' \in I \text{ and } q, q' \in D(I)$$

we have an SQF-system (φ, χ) . We call this system the trivial extension of ϕ and denote it by $\phi \ltimes_D(\phi)$. If ${}_A I_A$ is a nilpotent ideal of A and ϕ is given by $\phi(x \otimes y) = x \cdot y$, the multiplication in A , we denote more simply by $I \ltimes_D(I)$.

(Construction III) Let (φ_0, χ_0) be an SQF-system defined on a bimodule ${}_A X_A$ and G a finite group. We put ${}_A M_A = \bigoplus_{g \in G} X^{(g)}$, $\varphi = \varphi_0 : {}_A X^{(g)} \otimes_A X^{(h)} \rightarrow {}_A X^{(g \cdot h)}$ and $\chi = \chi_0 : {}_A X^{(g)} \rightarrow {}_A D(X^{(g^{-1})})$. It is easy to see that (φ, χ) is an SQF-system defined on ${}_A M_A$.

(Construction IV) Let E be a symmetric algebra with an isomorphism $d: {}_E E_E \rightarrow {}_E D(E)_E$. Assume there is an algebra map $\zeta: A \rightarrow E$. Then, putting ${}_A M_A = \bigoplus_{i=1}^{k-1} E^{(i)}$, $\varphi: {}_A E^{(i)} \otimes_A E^{(j)} \rightarrow {}_A E^{(i)} \otimes_E E^{(j)} \simeq {}_A E^{(i+j)}$ for $i+j \leq k-1$ and $\chi = d: {}_A E^{(i)} \rightarrow {}_A D(E^{(k-i)})$, we have an SQF-system (φ, χ) . We denote the

algebra $\Lambda(\varphi, \chi)$ by $\Lambda_k(A, \zeta)$. For any module V_A , we may take $\text{End}({}_K V)$ (= a full matrix algebra, and, therefore, symmetric) as E and $\zeta_V =$ the representation of V_A as ζ . In this case, the corresponding algebra will be denoted by $\Lambda_k(A, V_A)$.

(Construction V) Let (φ_X, χ_X) be an SQF-system defined on

a bimodule ${}_A X_A$. Let $B = A \oplus X$ be the algebra defined by the multiplication $(a, x) \cdot (a', x') = (a \cdot a', a \cdot x' + x \cdot a' + \varphi_X(x \otimes x'))$.

Assume (φ_Y, χ_Y) is an SQF-system defined on a bimodule ${}_B Y_B$.

Then, on the bimodule ${}_A X_A \oplus {}_A Y_A$, we can define an SQF-system

(φ, χ) as follows:

$$\varphi((x, y) \otimes (x', y')) = (\varphi_X(x \otimes x') + \chi_X^{-1}(\chi_Y(y)(y' -)), x \cdot y' + y \cdot x' + \varphi_Y(y \otimes y')),$$

$$\chi((x, y)((x', y'))) = \chi_X(x)(x') + \chi_Y(y)(y').$$