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ordinary quiver of an algebra

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Let  $k$  be a field and  $A$  an algebra over  $k$ .

Denote by  $\text{rad}A$  the (Jacobson) radical of  $A$  and  $\text{rad}^2A = (\text{rad}A)^2$  a square of radical.

Since  $A$  is finite-dimensional, then we have a <http://planetmath.org/CompleteSetOfPrimitiveIdempotents> set of primitive orthogonal idempotents  $E = \{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$ .

**Definition.** The **ordinary quiver** of a finite-dimensional algebra  $A$  is defined as follows:

1. The set of vertices is equal to  $Q_0 = \{1, \dots, n\}$  which is in bijective correspondence with  $E$ .
2. If  $a, b \in Q_0$ , then the number of arrows from  $a$  to  $b$  is equal to the dimension of the  $k$ -vector space

$$e_a(\text{rad}A/\text{rad}^2A)e_b.$$

It can be shown that the ordinary quiver is well-defined, i.e. it is independent on the choice of a complete set of primitive orthogonal idempotents. Also finite dimension of  $A$  implies, then the ordinary quiver is finite.