

## Cluster algebras of geometric type (Fomin / Zelevinsky)

- $m \geq n$  positive integers
- ambient field  $\mathcal{F}$  of rational functions over  $\mathbb{Q}(x_{n+1}, \dots, x_m)$  in  $n$  independent variables

**Definition:** A **seed** in  $\mathcal{F}$  is a pair  $(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}, \tilde{B})$  where

1.  $\tilde{\mathbf{x}} = (x_1, \dots, x_m)$  form a free generating set for  $\mathcal{F}$ . ( $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$  is the **extended cluster**.)
2.  $\tilde{B} = (b_{ij})$  is an  $m \times n$  integer matrix such that the submatrix  $B$  consisting of the top  $n$  rows of  $\tilde{B}$  (called the **principal part**) is skew-symmetrizable.

$\tilde{B}$  is the **exchange matrix**,  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  are the **cluster variables** in the seed,  $x_{n+1}, \dots, x_m$  are the **coefficient variables**.

**Definition:**  $(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}, \tilde{B})$  seed,  $\tilde{B} = (b_{ij})$ . For  $k \in [1, n]$ , a **seed mutation** in direction  $k$  transforms  $(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}, \tilde{B})$  into the pair  $(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}', \mu_k(\tilde{B}))$  given by:

1.  $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}' = \tilde{\mathbf{x}} - \{x_k\} \cup \{x'_k\}$ , where

$$x'_k = x_k^{-1} \left( \prod_{\substack{i \in [m] \\ b_{ik} > 0}} x_i^{b_{ik}} + \prod_{\substack{i \in [m] \\ b_{ik} < 0}} x_i^{-b_{ik}} \right)$$

This is an **exchange relation**.

2. (matrix mutation)  $\mu_k(\tilde{B}) = (b'_{ij})$  is an  $m \times n$  matrix, where

$$b'_{ij} = \begin{cases} -b_{ij} & \text{if } i = k \text{ or } j = k \\ b_{ij} + \frac{|b_{ik}|b_{kj} + |b_{kj}|b_{ik}}{2} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Let  $\mathbb{T}_n$  be the  $n$ -regular tree with edges labeled by  $1, \dots, n$  so that the  $n$  edges incident to a vertex receive different labels.

Start with an initial seed  $(\tilde{x}_0, \tilde{B}^0)$  at  $t_0 \in \mathbb{T}_n$ , and mutate to every vertex  $t \in \mathbb{T}_n$ .

Denote the seed at  $t \in \mathbb{T}_n$  by  $(\tilde{x}_t, \tilde{B}^t)$ , where

$$\tilde{x}_t = (x_{1;t}, \dots, x_{n;t}, x_{n+1;t}, \dots, x_{m;t})$$

$$\tilde{B}^t = (b_{ij}^t)$$

The **cluster algebra**  $\mathcal{A}(\tilde{x}_0, \tilde{B}^0) = \mathcal{A}(\tilde{B}^0)$  is the  $\mathbb{Z}[x_{n+1}^{\pm 1}, \dots, x_m^{\pm 1}]$ -subalgebra of  $\mathcal{F}$  generated by all cluster variables.

## Quantum Cluster Algebras (Berenstein / Zelevinsky)

A **quantum cluster algebra** is a certain noncommutative deformation of a cluster algebra using an additional variable  $q$ .

Ambient field is  $\mathcal{F}_q$ , the skew field of fractions of  $\mathbf{Z}[q^{\pm 1}, Y_1, \dots, Y_m]$ , where  $Y_1, \dots, Y_m$  are algebraically independent variables which are quasi-commutative, i.e.  $Y_i Y_j = q^{\lambda_{ij}} Y_j Y_i$  for some integers  $\lambda_{ij}$ .

**Definition:** A **quantum seed** in  $\mathcal{F}_q$  is a pair  $(\tilde{\mathbf{X}}, \tilde{B})$ , where

1.  $\tilde{\mathbf{X}} = (X_1, \dots, X_m)$  is a free generating set such that  $X_i X_j = q^{\lambda_{ij}} X_j X_i$  for some  $\lambda_{ij} \in \mathbb{Z}$ .
2.  $\tilde{B}$  is an  $m \times n$  integer matrix which is compatible with  $\Lambda = (\lambda_{ij})$ , i.e.  $\tilde{B}^T \Lambda = (D|0)$ , where  $D$  is a diagonal matrix with positive diagonal entries.

**Notation:** If  $X_1, \dots, X_m$  satisfy  $X_i X_j = q^{\lambda_{ij}} X_j X_i$ , then for  $\mathbf{c} = (c_1, \dots, c_m) \in \mathbb{Z}^m$ , let

$$X^{\mathbf{c}} = (q^{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i>j} \lambda_{ij} c_i c_j}) X_1^{c_1} \dots X_m^{c_m}$$

**Definition:**  $(\tilde{\mathbf{X}}, \tilde{B})$  quantum seed. For  $k \in [1, n]$ , the **quantum seed mutation** in direction  $k$  transforms  $(\tilde{\mathbf{X}}, \tilde{B})$  into  $(\tilde{\mathbf{X}}', \mu_k(\tilde{B}))$ , where  $\tilde{\mathbf{X}}' = \tilde{\mathbf{X}} - \{X_k\} \cup \{X'_k\}$ , and

$$X'_k = X^{-e_k + \sum_{b_{ik}>0} b_{ik} e_i} + X^{-e_k - \sum_{b_{ik}<0} b_{ik} e_i}$$

The quantum cluster algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  is the  $\mathbb{Z}[q^{\pm \frac{1}{2}}, Y_{n+1}^{\pm 1}, \dots, Y_m^{\pm 1}]$ -subalgebra of  $\mathcal{F}_q$  generated by all cluster variables.

Note: Setting  $q = 1$  in the quantum cluster algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  with initial seed  $(\tilde{\mathbf{X}}^0, \tilde{B}^0)$  yields the cluster algebra  $\mathcal{A}(\tilde{B}^0)$ .

## F-polynomials (Fomin / Zelevinsky)

Fix an  $n \times n$  skew-symmetrizable matrix

$$B^0 = (b_{ij})$$

Assume any cluster algebra below has the property that the exchange matrix  $\tilde{B}^0 = (b_{ij})$  at  $t_0$  has principal part  $B^0$ .

**Definition:** The cluster algebra with **principal coefficients** is the cluster algebra with initial seed

$(\tilde{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_n), \tilde{B}^0)$ , where

$$\tilde{B}^0 = \begin{pmatrix} B^0 \\ I_n \end{pmatrix}$$

This cluster algebra is denoted by

$$\mathcal{A}_\bullet = \mathcal{A}_\bullet(B^0, t_0) \text{ or } \mathcal{A}_\bullet(B^0).$$

**Definition:** In  $\mathcal{A}_\bullet$ , any cluster variable  $x_{j;t}$  can be expressed as a subtraction-free rational function in  $x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_n$ .

Denote this rational expression by

$$X_{j;t} = X_{j;t}^{B^0;t_0} \in \mathbb{Q}_{\text{sf}}(x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_n).$$

Let  $F_{j;t} = F_{j;t}^{B^0;t_0} := X_{j;t}(1, \dots, 1, y_1, \dots, y_n) \in \mathbb{Q}_{\text{sf}}(y_1, \dots, y_n)$ .  $F_{j;t}$  is an  $F$ -**polynomial**.

**Proposition:**  $F_{j;t} \in \mathbb{Z}[y_1, \dots, y_n]$ .

$\mathbb{Z}^n$ -grading on  $\mathcal{A}_\bullet \subset \mathbb{Z}[x_1^{\pm 1}, \dots, x_n^{\pm 1}, y_1, \dots, y_n]$ :

$$\deg(x_i) = \mathbf{e}_i$$

$$\deg(y_i) = -\mathbf{b}_i^0$$

(where  $\mathbf{b}_i^0$  denotes the  $i$ th column of  $B^0$ ).

**Proposition.** Under this grading, all cluster variables in  $\mathcal{A}_\bullet$  are homogeneous elements.

Write  $\mathbf{g}_{j;t}$  for the  $\mathbb{Z}^n$  degree of  $x_{j;t}$ . This is called the **g-vector**.

**Notation:** In any cluster algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  with initial extended cluster  $(x_1, \dots, x_m)$ , write

$$y_j = \prod_{i=n+1}^m x_i^{b_{ij}}.$$

$$\widehat{y}_j = \prod_{i=1}^m x_i^{b_{ij}}.$$

If  $P$  is a subtraction-free polynomial in  $n$  variables, then let

$$P|_{Trop(x_{n+1}, \dots, x_m)}(y_1, \dots, y_n)$$

denote the monomial in  $x_{n+1}, \dots, x_m$  obtained by plugging  $y_1, \dots, y_n$  into  $P$ , and replacing regular addition  $(+)$  by “tropical addition”  $(\oplus)$  defined on pairs of Laurent monomials in the variables  $x_{n+1}, \dots, x_m$ :

$$\left( \prod_{i=n+1}^m x_i^{a_i} \right) \oplus \left( \prod_{i=n+1}^m x_i^{b_i} \right) = \prod_{i=n+1}^m x_i^{\min(a_i, b_i)}$$

**Theorem:** Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a cluster algebra such that the extended cluster in the initial seed at  $t_0$  is given by  $(x_1, \dots, x_m)$ . Then the cluster variable  $x_{j;t} \in \mathcal{A}$  can be given by

$$x_{j;t} = \frac{F_{j;t}(\widehat{y}_1, \dots, \widehat{y}_n)}{F_{j;t|Trop(x_{n+1}, \dots, x_m)}(y_1, \dots, y_n)} x_1^{g_1} \dots x_n^{g_n},$$

where  $\mathbf{g}_{j;t} = (g_1, \dots, g_n)$ .

Remark: If  $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}_\bullet$ , then

$$F_{j;t|Trop(x_{n+1}, \dots, x_m)}(y_1, \dots, y_n) = 1.$$

## Quantum $F$ -polynomials

Fix the following:

- a diagonal matrix  $D$  with positive diagonal entries  $d_1, \dots, d_n$  such that  $DB^0$  is skew-symmetric
- an  $n \times n$  skew-symmetric matrix  $\Lambda_0 = (\lambda_{ij})$

Assume that all quantum cluster algebras below satisfy:

- the exchange matrix  $\tilde{B}^0$  at  $t_0$  has principal part  $B^0$ .
- the initial extended cluster is  $X_1, \dots, X_m$ , and  $X_i X_j = q^{\lambda_{ij}} X_j X_i$  for all  $1 \leq i, j \leq n$

**Proposition:** There exists a unique quantization of  $\mathcal{A}_\bullet = \mathcal{A}_\bullet(B^0, t_0)$  such that the quasi-commutation relations of the initial cluster variables are given by  $\Lambda_0$  and the compatibility condition is satisfied.

Call this quantum cluster algebra  $\mathcal{A}_\bullet = \mathcal{A}_\bullet(B^0, D, \Lambda_0, t_0)$ .

**Notation:** For any quantum cluster algebra, define  $\hat{Y}_j = \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{b}^j}$ , where  $\mathbf{b}^j$  is the  $j$ th column of  $\tilde{B}^0$ . These elements satisfy the following quasi-commutation relations:  $\hat{Y}_i \hat{Y}_j = q^{d_i b_{ij}} \hat{Y}_j \hat{Y}_i$

We will consider rational functions in quasi-commuting variables  $Z_1, \dots, Z_n$ , with the quasi-commutation relations given by:

$$Z_i Z_j = q^{d_i b_{ij}} Z_j Z_i$$

**Theorem / Definition:** For each  $j \in [1, n]$ ,  $t \in \mathbb{T}_n$ , there exists a unique rational function  $F_{j;t}$  in variables  $Z_1, \dots, Z_n$  with coefficients in  $\mathbb{Z}[q^{\pm\frac{1}{2}}]$  such that in  $\mathcal{A}_\bullet$ ,

$$X_{j;t} = F_{j;t}(\widehat{Y}_1, \dots, \widehat{Y}_n) \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{g}_{j;t}}.$$

We call  $F_{j;t}$  the **quantum  $F$ -polynomial**.

**Theorem.** In any quantum cluster algebra  $\mathcal{A}$ , the cluster variables  $X_{j;t}$  can be expressed in the form

$$X_{j;t} = q^{\lambda_{j;t}} F_{j;t}(\widehat{Y}_1, \dots, \widehat{Y}_n) \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{h}_{j;t}},$$

for some  $\mathbf{h}_{j;t} \in \mathbb{Z}^m$ ,  $\lambda_{j;t} \in \frac{1}{2}\mathbb{Z}$ .

## F-polynomials in classical types

Let  $B^0$  be an acyclic  $n \times n$  exchange matrix of type  $A_n$ ,  $B_n$ ,  $C_n$ , or  $D_n$ .

**Theorem** (Fomin, Zelevinsky) The cluster variables not in the initial cluster are in bijective correspondence with the positive roots.

### $\Phi_+$ : Positive roots in classical types

Let  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$  be the simple roots.

**Type  $A_n$ :**  $\alpha_i + \dots + \alpha_j$  ( $1 \leq i \leq j \leq n$ )

**Type  $B_n$ :**  $\alpha_i + \dots + \alpha_j$  ( $1 \leq i \leq j \leq n$ ),  
 $\alpha_i + \dots + \alpha_n + \dots + \alpha_j$  ( $1 \leq i \leq j \leq n$ )

**Type  $C_n$ :**  $\alpha_i + \dots + \alpha_j$  ( $1 \leq i \leq j \leq n$ ),  
 $\alpha_i + \dots + \alpha_{j-1} + 2\alpha_j + \dots + 2\alpha_n$  ( $1 \leq i < j \leq n$ )

**Type  $D_n$ :**

$\alpha_i + \dots + \alpha_j$  ( $1 \leq i \leq j \leq n, (i, j) \neq (n-1, n)$ ),  
 $\alpha_i + \dots + \alpha_{n-2} + \alpha_n$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n-2$ ),  
 $\alpha_i + \dots + \alpha_{j-1} + 2\alpha_j + \dots + 2\alpha_{n-2} + \alpha_{n-1} + \alpha_n$   
( $1 \leq i < j \leq n-2$ )

Fix  $\alpha = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \alpha_i \in \Phi_+$ . Write  $F_\alpha$  for the  $F$ -polynomial corresponding to  $\alpha$ .

Let  $Q^0$  be the quiver on the vertices  $[1, n]$  with  $i \rightarrow j$  iff  $b_{ij} < 0$  (no multiple arrows).

Let  $\mathbf{e} = (e_1, \dots, e_n) \in \mathbb{Z}^n$  such that  $0 \leq e_i \leq a_i$  for all  $i$ .

Say an arrow  $i \rightarrow j$  in  $Q^0$  is **acceptable** if  $e_i - e_j \leq \max(a_i - a_j, 0)$ .

An arrow  $i \rightarrow j$  is **critical** if either  $(a_i, e_i, a_j, e_j) = (2, 1, 1, 0)$  or  $(2, 1, 1, 1)$ .

Let  $S$  be the induced subgraph of  $Q^0$  on the vertices  $\{i : (a_i, e_i) = (2, 1)\}$ .

For a component  $C$  of  $S$ , let  $\nu(C)$  be the number of critical arrows with a vertex in  $C$ .

**Theorem 1** Let  $\mathbf{e} = (e_1, \dots, e_n) \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ . The coefficient of  $u_1^{e_1} \dots u_n^{e_n}$  in  $F_\alpha$  is nonzero if and only if

1.  $0 \leq e_i \leq a_i$  for all  $i$ ;
2. all arrows in  $Q^0$  are acceptable;
3.  $\nu(C) \leq 1$  for all components  $C$  of  $S$ ;
4. If  $B^0$  is of type  $B_n$ , then
  - (a)  $e_n = 1$  and  $n \rightarrow n - 1$  in  $Q^0$  implies  $e_{n-1} = 2$ ;
  - (b)  $e_{n-1} \geq 1$  and  $n - 1 \rightarrow n$  in  $Q^0$  implies  $e_n = 1$ .

In this case, the coefficient of  $u_1^{e_1} \dots u_n^{e_n}$  is  $2^c$ , where  $c$  is the number of components  $C$  of  $S$  such that  $\nu(C) = 0$ .

**Theorem 2** *The  $\mathbf{g}$ -vector corresponding to  $\alpha$  is given by*

$$- \sum_{i \in [1, n]} a_i \mathbf{e}_i + \sum_{i \in [1, n]} \sum_{j \in [1, n]} a_i [-b_{ji}]_+ \mathbf{e}_j.$$

**Notation:** For  $\mathbf{e} = (e_1, \dots, e_n) \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ , define

$$Z^{\mathbf{e}} = q^{\frac{1}{2}(\sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} d_j b_{ji} e_i e_j)} Z_1^{e_1} \dots Z_n^{e_n}.$$

**Theorem 3** *Let  $B^0$  be of type  $A_n$  or  $D_n$ , and let  $D = dI_n$ . Then  $Z^{\mathbf{e}}$  occurs with nonzero coefficient in the quantum  $F$ -polynomial  $F_\alpha$  if and only if conditions (1)-(4) above are satisfied. In this case, the coefficient is*

$$q^{\frac{d}{2}(-\mathbf{g}_\alpha \cdot \mathbf{e})} (q^{\frac{d}{2}} + q^{-\frac{d}{2}})^c = q^{\frac{d}{2}(-\mathbf{g}_\alpha \cdot \mathbf{e} - c)} (1 + q^d)^c,$$

where  $\mathbf{g}_\alpha = \mathbf{g}_\alpha^{B^0; t_0}$  is the  $\mathbf{g}$ -vector corresponding to  $\alpha$ .

*If the  $a_i \in \{0, 1\}$  for all  $i$ , then  $c = 0$  and  $-\mathbf{g}_\alpha \cdot \mathbf{e}$  is equal to the number of components in the subgraph of  $Q^0$  induced by  $\{i \in [1, n] : e_i = 1\}$ .*