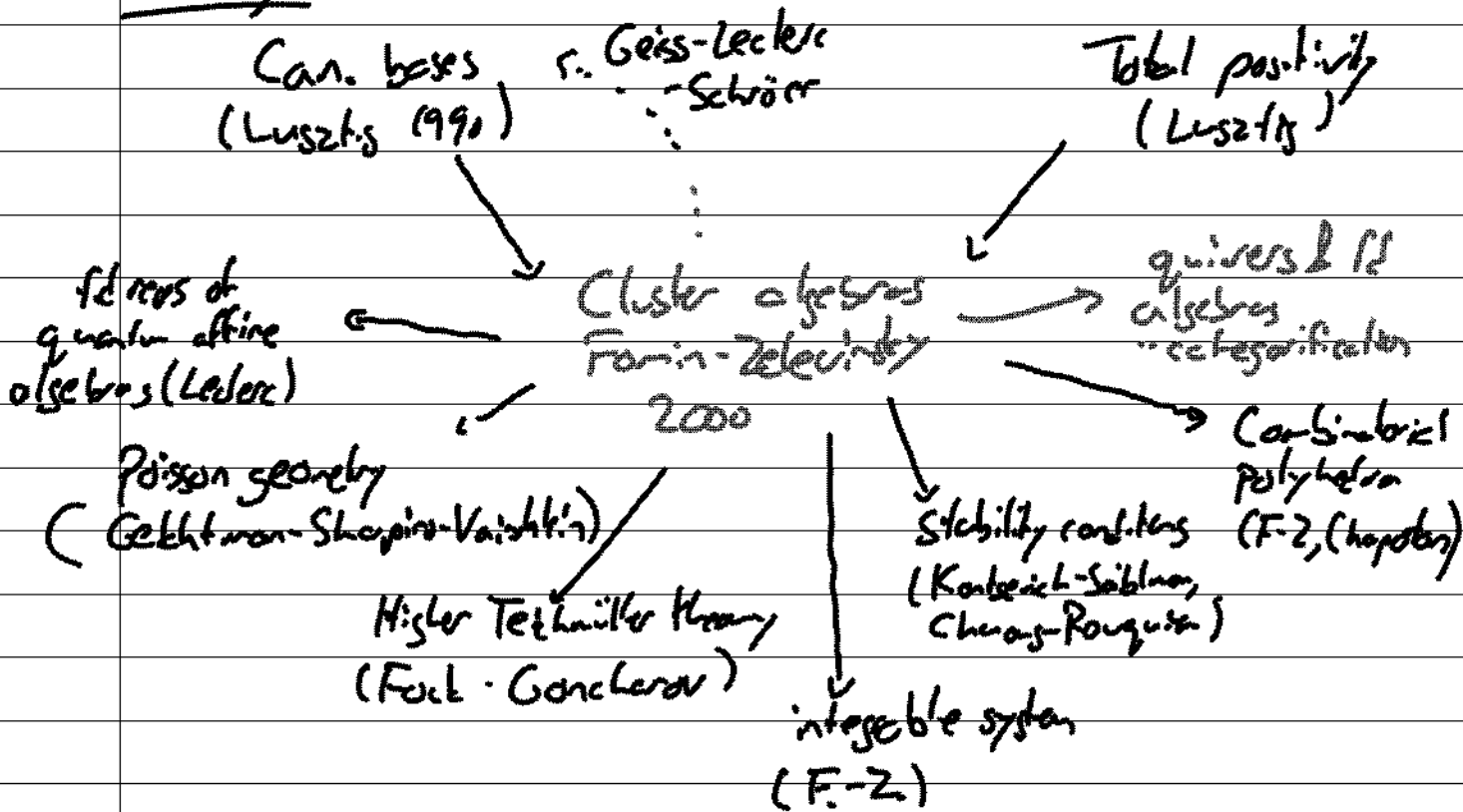


# B. Keller - Cluster algebras & Quiver representations

Note Title

3/25/2008

## History



(original goal: find combinatorial description of canonical bases..)

- Plan:
1. Cluster-finite cluster algebras
  2. categorification
  3. acyclic cluster algebras

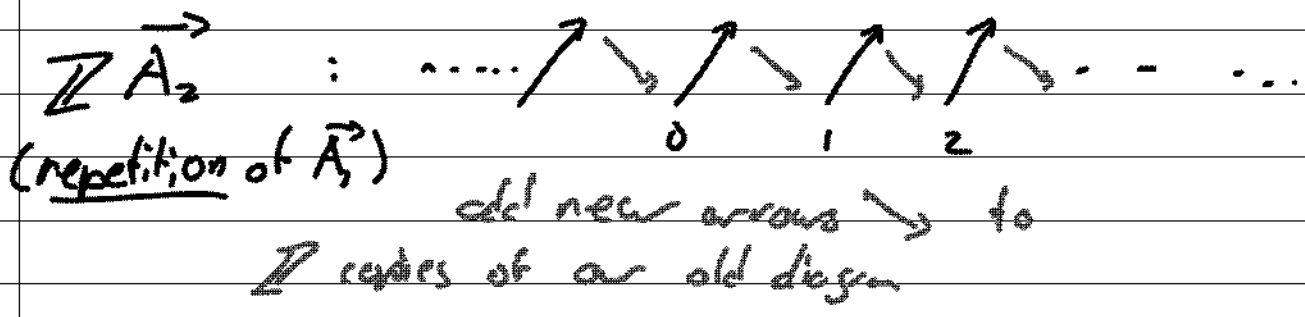
1. Description of cluster algebras:  
 commutative  $\mathbb{Q}$ -algebra endowed with  
 a set of distinguished generators (cluster  
 variables), grouped into (overlapping)  
 subsets of fixed finite cardinality (= clusters)  
 constructed inductively via mutation

Classification theorem (F-Z):  
 Cluster algebras with finitely many  
 cluster variables ( $\equiv$  cluster-finite cluster  
 algebras) are parametrized by the finite  
 root systems

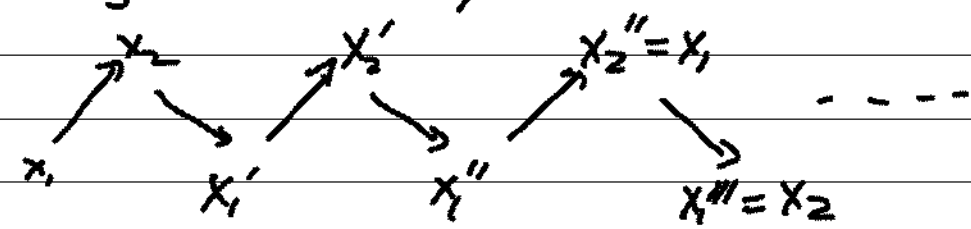
Rk: In particular for each simply-laced Dynkin  
 diagram  $\Delta \Rightarrow$  canonical cluster algebra  
 $A_{\Delta} \subset \mathbb{Q}(x_1, \dots, x_n)$   $n = \text{rank of}$   
 subalgebra  $\text{root system}$

For these algebras, we can directly construct the  
 cluster variables using the knitting algorithm

Examples 1.)  $\Delta = A_2 = \bullet \text{---} \bullet$   
 Choose orientation:  $A_2^{\rightarrow} = 1 \rightarrow 2$



The cluster variables  $\leftrightarrow$  vertices of the repetition, starting from  $0^{th}$  copy



$$x_1' = \frac{1+x_2}{x_1} \text{ simple mutation}$$

$$\frac{1 + \text{predecessor}}{\text{left translate}}$$

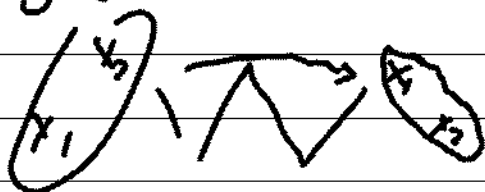
$$x_2' = \frac{1+x_1'}{x_2} = \frac{x_1 + 1+x_2}{x_1 x_2}$$

$$x_1'' = \frac{1+x_2'}{x_1'} = \frac{x_1 x_2 + x_1 + 1+x_2}{x_1 x_2} \bigg/ \frac{1+x_2}{x_1}$$

$$\stackrel{||}{=} \frac{1+x_1}{x_2} : \text{denominator remains a monomial}$$

$$x_2'' = \frac{1+x_1''}{x_2'} = \frac{x_2+1+x_1}{x_2} \Big/ \frac{x_1+1+x_2}{x_1 x_2} = x_1$$

Get period 5 square: periodicity  
is a glide-reflection



5 cluster variables  $x_1, x_2, x_1', x_2', x_1''$

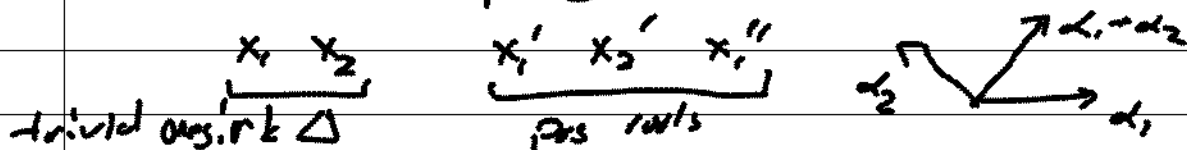
$\Delta_{A_2} = \mathbb{Q}$ -subalgebra of  $\mathbb{Q}(x_1, x_2)$  generated  
by these 5.

Phenomena:

1. All denominators of cluster variables are  
monomials (Laurent phenomenon -  
FZ for all cluster algebras)

2. Periodicity: characterizes Dynkin diagrams

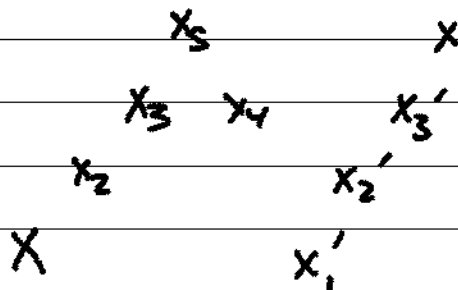
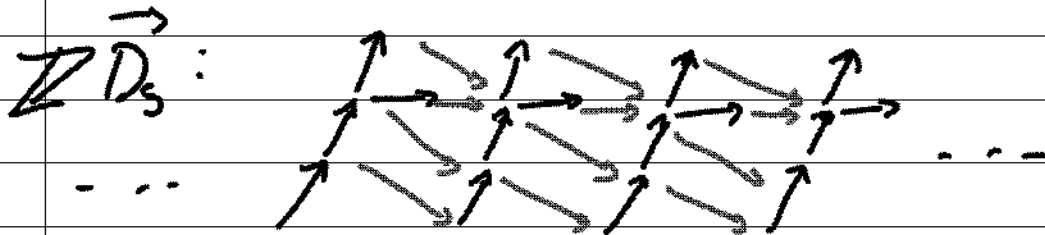
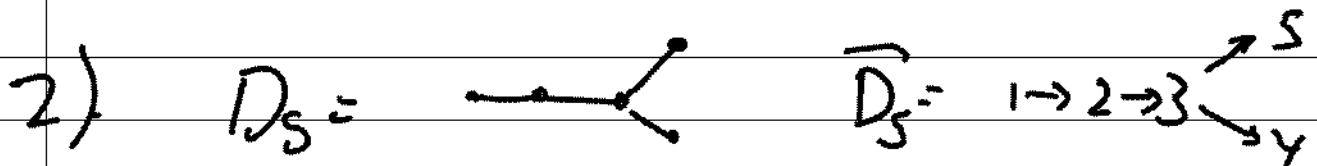
3. Numerosity  $5 = 2 + 3 = \text{rk } \Delta + \#(\text{pos roots})$ :



$$x_1' = \frac{\dots}{x_1} \quad x_2' = \frac{\dots}{x_1 x_2} \quad x_1'' = \frac{\dots}{x_2} \quad \vdots$$

$\uparrow$                        $\uparrow$                        $\uparrow$                        $\vdots$   
 $d_1$                        $d_1 + d_2$                        $d_2$

read off corresponding positive roots from the denominators..



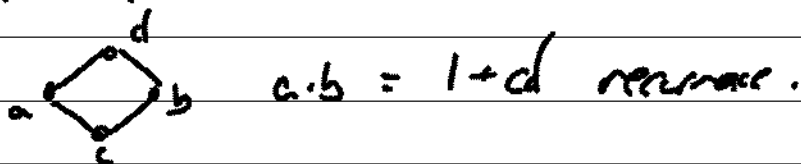
$$x_1' = \frac{1+x_2}{x_1} \quad x_2' = \frac{1+x_3 x_1'}{x_2} \quad x_3' = \frac{1+x_2' x_4 x_5}{x_3}$$

Find  $2S = 5+20$  cluster variables


Coefficients in numerator are all positive integers  
(conjectured for non-Dynkin quivers...)

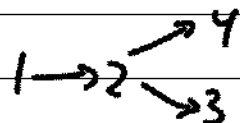
Periodicity here is just a transfer + switch of branches

$A_n$ : always glide reflection, quotient by this  
symmetry is a Möbius strip.



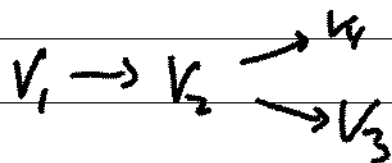
2. Categorification  $\Delta$  a simply laced Dynkin diagram

e.g.  ,  $Q$  a quiver with underlying

graph  $\Delta$  , e.g. 

$k$  an algebra closed field

Representation of  $Q =$  diagram of f.c. vector spaces  
of shape  $Q$  , e.g.



$\text{rep}(Q) =$  category of representations

$D_Q =$  bounded derived category of  $\text{rep}(Q^{\text{op}})$

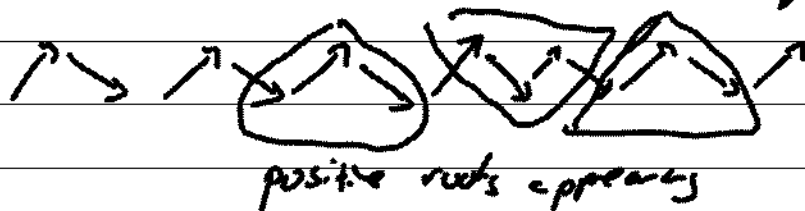
Remark:  $D_Q$  is abelian iff  $Q$  does not have arrows, but is always triangulated-  
 $k$ -linear & endowed with  $\Sigma: V \rightarrow V[1]$   
 & triangles  $U \rightarrow V \rightarrow W \rightarrow \Sigma U$

Theorem (Happel, 1986)

(a) We have a natural bijection

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{indecomp. objects} \\ \text{of } D_Q \end{array} \right\} / \text{isom} \longleftrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{vertices of} \\ \mathbb{Z}Q \end{array} \right\}$$

... repetition is the Auslander-Reiten quiver of  $D_Q$ .



(b)  $D_Q$  has a Serre functor  $S: D_Q \xrightarrow{\sim} D_Q$

st.  $\text{Hom}(X, Y)^* \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{Hom}(Y, SX) \quad \forall X, Y$

— this lifts periodicity automorphism

(Buan-Mark-Reineke-Reiten-Todorov)

$\mathcal{C}_Q$  (cluster category) := orbit category  
of  $S$  on  $\mathcal{D}_Q$ .  $\mathcal{D}_Q / (S^{-1} \circ \Sigma^2)^{\mathbb{Z}}$

Objects - same as for  $\mathcal{D}_Q$

Morphisms:  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}_Q}(X, Y) = \bigoplus_{p \in \mathbb{Z}} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}_Q}(X, (S^{-1} \circ \Sigma^2)^p Y)$

Rks 1.  $\mathcal{C}_Q$  also defined by Caldero-Chapoton-Schiffler in type A.

2.  $\mathcal{C}_Q \cong \text{Perf } \Gamma / \mathcal{D}^b \Gamma$  2-CY category

where  $\Gamma =$  Ginzburg dga associated to  $Q$   
with potential  $W=0$

$\Rightarrow$   $\mathcal{C}_Q$  triangulated

- universal 2CY category under  $\mathcal{D}_Q$ .

Theorem (BMRRT) We have a canonical bijection  
 $M \in \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{indecomp objects} \\ \text{of } \mathcal{C}_Q \end{array} \right\} \leftrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{cluster variables} \\ \text{of } \mathcal{C}_M \end{array} \right\}$



Q: What about the exchange relations?

A: come from triangles in the cluster category

Def For  $L, M, N \in \mathcal{C}_Q$ , let  $\text{Ext}'(L, M) = \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}_Q}(L, \Sigma M)$

$$\text{Ext}'(L, M)_N = \{ \varepsilon: L \rightarrow \Sigma M : \exists \text{ triangle } M \rightarrow N \rightarrow L \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} \Sigma M \}$$

Constructible subset of  $\text{Ext}'(L, M)$ .

Def  $\chi_L := \prod_{i=1}^s \chi_{L_i}$  when  $L = L_1 \oplus \dots \oplus L_s$   
 $L_i$  indecomposable

Theorem ( Caldero-Keller )

$L, M \in \mathcal{C}_Q$  s.t.  $\text{Ext}'(L, M) \neq 0 \Rightarrow$

$$\chi_L \chi_M = \sum_N \frac{\chi(\mathbb{P}\text{Ext}'(L, M)_N) + \chi(\mathbb{P}\text{Ext}'(M, L)_N)}{\dim \text{Ext}'(L, M)} \chi_N$$

( Euler chars. of projectivizations of Ext spaces )

Remarks 1.  $A_Q$  looks like a dual Ringel-hall algebra associated with the triangulated category  $\mathcal{C}_Q$ .

2. Ingredients of proof:

- explicit formula for  $X_m$  (Caldero-London) in terms of Grassmannians of submodules of  $M$
- 2CY property of  $\mathcal{C}_Q$ .

3. Generalization to acyclic cluster algebras  
Fix  $n \geq 1$

Def A seed is a pair  $(R, u)$  where

a)  $R$  is a finite quiver w/o loops or 2-cycles & vertex set  $\{1, \dots, n\}$

b)  $u = \{u_1, \dots, u_n\}$  is a free generating set for  $\mathbb{Q}(x_1, \dots, x_n)$

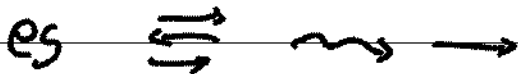
Fix a vertex  $k$ . Then mutation  $\mu_k(R, u)$  is the seed  $(R', u')$  obtained as follows:

a)  $R' = \mu_k(R)$  is obtained in three steps:

1. For each subquiver  $j \xrightarrow{b} k \xrightarrow{a} l$   
add a new arrow  $\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{[ab]}$

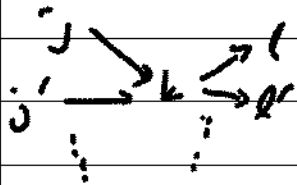
2. Reverse all arrows incident with  $k$

3. Remove a maximal set of 2-cycles



b)  $u' = u \setminus \{u_k\} \cup \{u_k'\}$  where

$$u_k' = \frac{1}{u_k} \left( \prod_{\substack{\text{arrows} \\ j \rightarrow k}} u_j + \prod_{\substack{\text{arrows} \\ k \rightarrow l}} u_l \right)$$



Fix a quiver  $Q$  as above

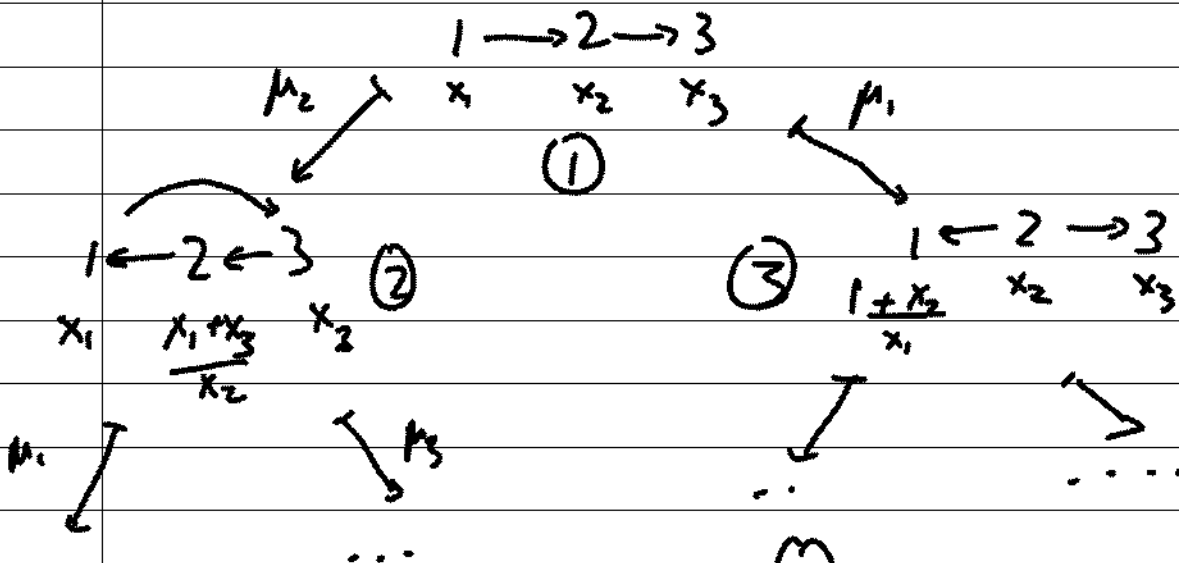
Def The initial seed  $(Q, x) = (Q, \{x_1, \dots, x_n\})$

- clusters w.r.t  $Q$  are all  $u$ 's appearing by mutating  $(Q, x)$  iteratively

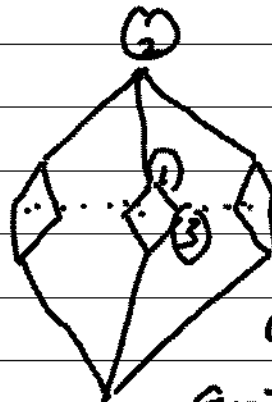
$\leadsto$  cluster algebra  $\mathcal{A}_Q = \mathbb{Q}$ -subalgebra of  $\mathbb{Q}(x_1, x_2)$  generated by the cluster variables.

Exchange graph: vertices  $\leftrightarrow$  seeds up to renumbering  
edges  $\leftrightarrow$  mutations

Example  $Q = \vec{A}_3 = (1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 3)$



Exchange graph:



3<sup>rd</sup> Stasheff  
associahedron  
14 vertices  
 $\leftrightarrow$  14 clusters  
9 faces  $\leftrightarrow$   
 $9 = 3 + 6$  cluster variables

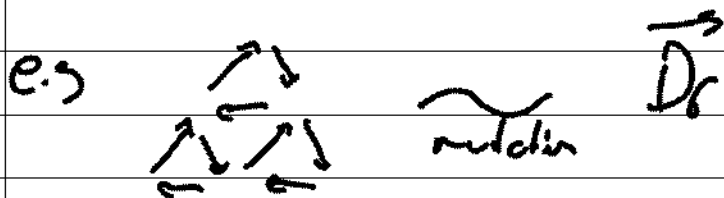
Theorem (FZ)  $Q$  connected, no loops or 2-cycles

$A_Q$  has fin. many cluster variables iff

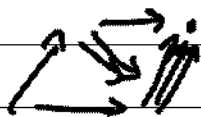
$Q$  is mutation equivalent to an orientation of a Dynkin quiver.

In this case  $\Delta$  is unique = cluster type of  $Q$

& # cluster variables =  $rk \Delta + \# pos \text{ roots}$



Categorification  $Q$  a finite quiver w/o oriented cycles e.g.



$k$  alg. closed field

$D_Q$  bounded derived category of  $\text{rep}(Q^{\text{op}})$

$C_Q = \text{cluster category} = \text{orbit category under } \Sigma^2 \circ S$

Def  $L \in C_Q$  is rigid if  $\text{Ext}^1(L, L) = 0$

Theorem (Aikawa-Keller) a) We have an explicit  
 bijection  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{indecomp.} \\ \text{rigid obj of } \mathcal{C}_Q \end{array} \right\} / \sim \xrightarrow{\sim} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{cluster variety} \\ \text{of } \mathcal{C}_Q \end{array} \right\}$

b. The clusters correspond exactly to the  
 cluster-tilting sets  $\{T_1, \dots, T_n\}$ :

$$\text{Ext}^1(T_i, T_j) = 0 \quad \forall i, j$$

c. (Xiao-Yu) The multiplication formula holds  
 if we replace  $\sum_N$  by  $\int_N dX$   
 - integration against Euler characteristic.

Adjacency of clusters:

$$\{T_1, \dots, T_n\} \sim \{T_1^*, T_2, \dots, T_n\}$$

$$\text{with } \dim \text{Ext}^1(T_1, T_1^*) = 1 \quad :$$

$\exists$  exactly 2 indecomposables  $T_1, T_1^*$  completing  
 a siver  $\{T_2, \dots, T_n\}$

Consequence (Cayley-Klein)

$Q$  without oriented cycles  $\Rightarrow$  all cluster variables  $\in \mathbb{N}[x_1^{\pm 1}, \dots, x_n^{\pm 1}]$

Exchange relations: suppose  $\text{Ext}'(T, T^*) = k$

$\Rightarrow \exists! / \sim \quad T_1^* \rightarrow B \rightarrow T_1 \rightarrow \Sigma T_1^*$

but we have a CY2 so  $\text{Ext}'(T_1^*, T_1) = k$

$\Rightarrow \exists! / \sim \quad T_1 \rightarrow B' \rightarrow T_1^* \rightarrow \Sigma T_1$

Relation:  $X_{T_1} X_{T_1^*} = X_B + X_{B'}$

$\dots B$  may be decomposable  $B = \bigoplus B_i, B' = \bigoplus B'_i$

$\Rightarrow X_{T_1} X_{T_1^*} = \prod X_{B_i} + \prod X_{B'_i}$  rigid intercompleter

For  $M \in \text{rep } Q^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_Q$  rigid & indecomposable

denominator  $(X_M) = \prod X_{B_i}^{d_i}$

$(d_1, \dots, d_n) = \underline{\dim} M, \text{denom}(X) = \frac{1}{X} \Leftrightarrow$  negative simple roots