

# Introduction to cluster algebras and varieties

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Problems for the course Skoltech, fall 2022. There are mistakes here, if you find some please write to mbersht@gmail.com  
Definitions and hints are in slides and references.

## 1 Preliminary examples

**Problem 1.1.** a) Show that  $\mathbb{C}[\mathcal{A}_n]$  is generated (as a vector space) by  $P_T$ , where  $T$  is semi-standard tableau.

b) Show that  $\mathbb{C}[\mathcal{A}_n]$  is generated (as a vector space) by cluster monomials.

**Problem 1.2** (\*). Show equivalence of two more definitions (through composition of maps and monodromy) of cross-ratios  $[u_1, u_2, u_3, u_4]$  to the one given in the lecture.

**Problem 1.3.** Show transformation formula for cross-ratios coordinates under the flip of triangulation.

## 2 Seeds. Mutations. Laurent phenomenon.

**Problem 2.1.** All orientations of tree are mutation equivalent to each other via mutations on sinks or sources.

**Problem 2.2.** a) If  $b_{jk} = 0$  then  $\mu_j \mu_k = \mu_k \mu_j$ .

b) If  $b_{jk} = 1$  then  $(\mu_j \mu_k)^5 = \text{id}$ .

**Problem 2.3** (\*). a) For  $D_4$  quiver find all cluster variables. Establish bijection between them and set  $\Phi_+ \sqcup -\Pi$ . b) Check the same for another finite root system.

**Problem 2.4.** Find quiver for Somos-5 sequence.

**Problem 2.5.** Show that term in Somos-4 sequence with coefficients  $z_{k+4}z_k = az_{k+3}z_{k+1} + bz_{k+2}^2$  are integer, if  $z_1 = z_2 = z_3 = z_4 = 1$  and  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

### 3 Total positivity. Networks.

**Problem 3.1.** *Prove that eigenvalues of totally positive  $n \times n$  matrix are real positive and distinct.*

**Problem 3.2.** *Show that network transformations correspond to cluster mutations.*

**Problem 3.3** (\*). *Show that any minor appears in seed corresponding to some network.*

**Problem 3.4.** a) *Show that for  $n = 3$  unfrozen part of quiver is equivalent to  $D_4$  quiver.*  
b) *Find two cluster variables which are not minors.*

### 4 Double Bruhat cells. $\mathcal{X}$ -varieties

**Problem 4.1.** *Show that minor conditions that determines Bruhat cell.*

**Problem 4.2** (\*). *If  $l(us_i)l(u) + 1$  then  $Bu s_i B = Bu B B s_i B$*

**Problem 4.3.** *For given cluster seed  $(\mathcal{Q}, \vec{A})$  let  $x_j = \prod A_i^{b_{ij}}$ . Show that mutation of seed leads to mutation of  $\mathcal{X}$ -cluster variables.*

**Problem 4.4.** *Show that braid moves in reduced decomposition of the word in double Weyl group corresponds to cluster transformations of  $\mathcal{X}$ -cluster variables.*

### 5 Cluster Poisson structure. Sklyanin bracket

**Problem 5.1.** *Any totally positive matrix can be represented as  $\mathbb{E}$  for the word*

$$(\bar{s}_{n-1} \cdots \bar{s}_1)(\bar{s}_{n-1} \cdots \bar{s}_2) \cdots (\bar{s}_{n-1} \bar{s}_{n-1}) \bar{s}_{n-1}$$

**Problem 5.2.** *The cluster Poisson bracket is preserved by the mutations.*

**Problem 5.3.** a) *The cluster closed 2-form is preserved under mutations.* b)\* *This lifts to well defined element of  $K_2$ .*

**Problem 5.4.** *Compute Sklyanin bracket for  $GL(2) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \right\}$ . Find two algebraically independent Casimir functions.*

**Problem 5.5** (\*). *Compute Poisson bracket on the cell  $C^{s_i, e}$ .*

### 6 Cluster Poisson structure. Integrable systems

**Problem 6.1.** a) *Show that Coxeter element depends only on orientation of Dynkin diagram i.e. for any  $i$  what is earlier  $s_i$  or  $s_{i+1}$ .*

b) *Show that using transformations preserving quiver  $G^{c, c'} / \text{Ad } H$  (i.e. cyclic permutations,  $s_i \bar{s}_2 = \bar{s}_2 s_i$   $i \neq j$ ,  $s_i s_j = s_j s_i$ ,  $\bar{s}_i, \bar{s}_j = \bar{s}_j \bar{s}_i, |i - j| > 1$ ) any word can be reduced to  $\bar{s}_{i_1} \cdots \bar{s}_{i_{n-1}} s_{j_1} \cdots s_{j_{n-1}}$ .*

c) *For  $G = GL_{n+1}$  there are no more then  $3^{n-1}$  different quivers for  $G^{c, c'} / \text{Ad } H$ . All of them are mutation equivalent.*

**Problem 6.2 (\*)**. Consider cell  $G^{c,c}/\text{Ad } H$ . Take decomposition

$$g = H_1(x_1)F_1H_1(y_1)E_1 \cdots H_{n-1}(x_{n-1})F_{n-1}H_{n-1}(y_{n-1})E_{n-1}.$$

- a) Compute Poisson brackets of  $x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, y_1, \dots, y_{n-1}$ .
- b) Compute  $I_1 = \text{tr } g$ .
- c) Let  $\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n, \eta_1, \dots, \eta_n$  exponential Darboux coordinates

$$\{\eta_i, \xi_j\} = \delta_{ij}\eta_i\xi_j, \quad \{\xi_i, \xi_j\} = \{\eta_i, \eta_j\} = 0$$

Show that  $x_i = \eta_i/\eta_{i+1}$   $y_i = \xi_{i+1}/\xi_i$  is a Poisson map.

- d) Let  $L_i = \begin{pmatrix} \mu\xi_i^{1/2}\eta_i^{-1/2} + \xi_i^{-1/2}\eta_i^{1/2} & \mu\xi_i^{-1/2}\eta_i^{-1/2} \\ \xi_i^{1/2}\eta_i^{1/2} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  be a Lax matrix. Denote components of the monodromy matrix  $L_1 \cdot L_2 \cdots L_n = \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix}$ . Let  $A = \sum \tilde{I}_k \mu^{n-k}$ . Show that  $\tilde{I}_1 \sim I_1$  (proportional by monomial commuting with  $x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, y_1, \dots, y_{n-1}$ ).
- s) Show the same for  $\tilde{I}_k$  and  $I_k = \text{Tr } \Lambda^k g$ .

## 7 Upper cluster algebras

**Problem 7.1**. Check that  $b'_{ij} = \langle e'_i, e'_j \rangle$  agrees with mutation of matrix  $B$

**Problem 7.2**. Show that  $R[A_1, A_1^{-1}] \cap R[A'_1, A_1'^{-1}] = R[A_1, A'_1]$

**Problem 7.3**. Show for quiver with  $B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 2 & -2 \\ -2 & 0 & 2 \\ 2 & -2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  that

- a)  $\bar{\mathcal{A}}(S) = U(S)$ ,
- b)  $\mathcal{A}(S) \subsetneq \bar{\mathcal{A}}(S)$ .

**Problem 7.4**. Show that unfrozen quiver for  $\mathbb{C}[N_-]$  for  $SL_3, SL_3, SL_5$  is mutation equivalent to Dynkin diagram  $A_1, A_3, D_6$  correspondingly.

## 8 Starfish lemma. Grassmanian

**Problem 8.1**. Start from the seed  $S_{K,N}$  and mutate at each of the mutable vertices of  $S_{K,N}$  exactly once, in the following order: mutate each row from left to right, starting from the bottom row and ending at the top row. Denote the obtained seed by  $S_{K,N}^1$

- a) Show that quivers  $S_{K,N}$  and  $S_{K,N}^1$  are isomorphic.
- b) Show that corresponding minors are related as  $\Delta_{i_1, \dots, i_k}$  and  $\Delta_{i_1+1, \dots, i_k+1}$ .

**Problem 8.2**. a) Consider a map  $\text{Gr}(K, N) \rightarrow \text{Gr}(N-K, N)$  given  $V \mapsto V^\perp$ . Compute this map in Plucker coordinates.

- b) Show that formula  $\Delta_{J^c} = \Delta_J$  defines well map from  $\text{Gr}(K, N)$  to  $\text{Gr}(N-K, N)$ .
- c) Show that this map agrees with cluster structures on  $\text{Gr}(K, N)$  and  $\text{Gr}(N-K, N)$  up to change of sign in  $B$ .

**Problem 8.3**. Show that  $\det X$  is irreducible polynomial in  $\mathbb{C}[x_{11}, \dots, x_{NN}]$ .

## 9 Plabic graphs. Grassmanians

**Problem 9.1.** *Show that zig-zags starting at different vertices terminate at different vertices.*

**Problem 9.2.** *Show that  $\pi_G$  is invariant under the moves  $M1, M2, M3$ .*

**Problem 9.3.** *a) Moves  $M2, M3$  preserves  $\Delta_I$ . b) Move  $M1$  corresponds to mutation of  $\Delta_I$ .*

**Problem 9.4.** *a) Find plabic graph corresponding to triangular seed. b) Find plabic graph corresponding to square seed.*

## 10 Poisson structures on Grassmanians

**Problem 10.1** (\*). *Show that  $\{y_{i,j}, y_{i',j'}\} = (\text{sgn}(i - i') - \text{sgn}(j - j'))y_{i,j'}y_{i',j}$*

**Problem 10.2.** *Compute  $\{F_{p,q}, F_{p',q'}\}$  from Sklyanin bracket.*

**Problem 10.3** (\*). *Compute  $\{F_{p,q}, F_{p',q'}\}$  from cluster bracket.*

## 11 Geometric approach to cluster varieties

**Problem 11.1** (\*). *Find toric varieties for given fans.*

**Problem 11.2** (\*). *Show that the new definition agrees with formulas for mutation of cluster variables introduced above.*

**Problem 11.3** (\*). *Prove Lemma 1.*

**Problem 11.4** (\*). *Prove Lemma 2.*

## 12 Cluster structures on the moduli space of $PGL_2$ local systems

**Problem 12.1.** *Find monodromy matrices for the 1 punctured torus. Find the corresponding quiver.*

**Problem 12.2.** *Show that monodromy around a puncture is conjugated to  $\begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{pmatrix}$  where  $\lambda_1/\lambda_2 = x_1 \cdots x_k$ .*

## 13 Pinnings

**Problem 13.1.** Let  $G = PGL_m$ ,  $B, B'$  be pair of Borel subgroups in general position,  $F, F'$  — corresponding flags. Let  $L + i = F_i \cap F_{m+1-i}$ . Show is correspondence between  
 1) pinnings over  $B, B'$ , 2) projective bases  $v_i \in L_i$  3) Generic lines  $\langle f \rangle \subset \mathbb{C}^m$ .

**Problem 13.2.** For any two pinnings  $p, p'$  show that there exists and unique  $g \in PGL_m$  such that  $g \cdot p = p'$ .

**Problem 13.3.** Quivers and bipartite graphs for triangulations related by flip are mutation equivalent. (Check for  $PGL_3, PGL_4$ ).

## 14 Cluster structures on the moduli space of $PGL_m$ local systems

**Problem 14.1.** Let

$$F^{(2)} = \{0 \subset \langle e_1 \rangle \subset \langle e_1, e_2 \rangle \subset \dots \subset \langle e_1, \dots, e_{m-1} \rangle \subset \mathbb{C}^m\},$$

$$F^{(4)} = \{0 \subset \langle e_m \rangle \subset \langle e_{m-1}, e_m \rangle \subset \dots \subset \langle e_2, \dots, e_m \rangle \subset \mathbb{C}^m\},$$

and  $p = \langle \alpha_1 e_1 + \dots + \alpha_m e_m \rangle$ . Find  $p'$  such that gluing conditions are satisfied.

**Problem 14.2.** Show that  $v^{A^B C} S = v^{C_B A}$ .

**Problem 14.3.** Show some of the relations

- a)  $v^{A_p C} H_1(x_1) \cdot \dots \cdot H_{m-1}(x_{m-1}) = v^{A^B C}$ .
- b) Gluing conditions are satisfied iff  $v^{A_p C} = v^{A^{p'} C}$ .
- c)  $v^{A_D C} H_1(x_1) \cdot \dots \cdot H_{m-1}(x_{m-1}) = v^{A^B C}$ .

**Problem 14.4 (\*)**. a) For  $m = 2$  we have  $v^{A_q C} H_1(x_1) E_1 H_1(x_2) = v^{A^r B}$ .

b) For  $m = 3$  we have  $v^{A_q C} H_1(x_1) H_2(x_2) E_2 H_1(x_3) H_2(x_4) E_2 H_1(x_5) H_2(x_6) = v^{A^r B}$ .

c) For generic  $m$  we have  $v^{A_q C} \mathbb{E}_{w_0}(\vec{x}) = v^{A^r B}$ .