



AUGMENTATIONS, FILLINGS, AND CLUSTERS

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Abstract. We investigate positive braid Legendrian links via a Floer-theoretic approach and prove that their augmentation varieties are cluster K_2 (aka. $\mathcal{A}$ -) varieties. Using the exact Lagrangian cobordisms of Legendrian links in Ekholm et al. (J. Eur. Math. Soc. 18(11):2627–2689, 2016), we prove that a large family of exact Lagrangian fillings of positive braid Legendrian links correspond to cluster seeds of their augmentation varieties. We solve the infinite-filling problem for positive braid Legendrian links; i.e., whenever a positive braid Legendrian link is not of type ADE, it admits infinitely many exact Lagrangian fillings up to Hamiltonian isotopy.

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1 Introduction

This paper is the first attempt to relate Floer theory and cluster algebras in the context of contact manifolds and Legendrian knots. Starting from [S+19], and together with subsequent [SW19, CZ20], the relations between microlocal sheaf theory and cluster Poisson (aka $\mathcal{X}$)-varieties have been studied for several classes of Legendrian links. It is natural to ask whether the cluster structure exists on the celebrated Floer-theoretic invariant, namely the Chekanov-Eliashberg dga and its augmentations [Che02]. Despite the famous augmentation-sheaf correspondence for Legendrian links [L+15], which suggests a similar cluster structure on the augmentation moduli, it is to our surprise that we obtain an intrinsic cluster K_2 (aka $\mathcal{A}$)-structure on the augmentation variety of any positive braid Legendrian link. This paper further utilizes this new cluster K_2 structure to build invariants for exact Lagrangian fillings. As an application, we prove that positive braids that do not underline finite type quivers admit infinitely many Lagrangian fillings. To our knowledge, this is by far the largest family of Legendrian links satisfying the infinite filling properties.

1.1 Context. In the standard contact three-space $(\mathbb{R}^3, \xi_{st} = \ker \alpha)$ with $\alpha = dz - ydx$, a Legendrian link Λ is a smooth one-dimensional submanifold where $\alpha|_\Lambda = 0$. The Chekanov-Eliashberg differential graded algebra (CE dga) is the first non-classical algebraic invariant for Legendrian links [Che02]. An exact Lagrangian cobordism between Legendrian links functorially induces an algebraic map between the dgas [EHK16]. Following this functoriality, each exact Lagrangian filling L gives rise to an embedding of the decorated GL_1 -character variety¹ on L into the augmentation variety. The images of these morphisms are invariants that distinguish exact Lagrangian fillings.

Cluster algebras are a class of commutative algebras introduced by Fomin and Zelevinsky [FZ02]. Since its inception, the theory of cluster algebras has found tremendous applications in diverse areas of mathematics and physics. Fock and Goncharov [FG09] introduce a pair $(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{A})$ of log Calabi-Yau varieties, which are a geometric enrichment of the cluster algebras. The variety $\mathcal{X}$ carries a natural Poisson structure and is referred to as a *cluster Poisson variety*. The variety $\mathcal{A}$ carries a canonical class in the Milnor K_2 group of its function field and is referred to as a *cluster K_2 variety*. See Sect. 6.2 of *loc.cit.* for the construction of such a canonical class. The duality between $\mathcal{A}$ and $\mathcal{X}$, conjectured by Fock and Goncharov, has been realized by Gross, Hacking, Keel, and Kontsevich [G+18] under the framework of scattering diagrams and mirror symmetry. Despite such a duality, the geometries

¹ Here the decoration means a specific trivialization of the line bundle near the boundary of the surface. See Definition 3.6 for a precise description.

of $\mathcal{X}$ and $\mathcal{A}$ are rather different. For the convenience of the reader, we recall the definition of cluster varieties in Appendix A.

This paper focuses on certain representatives of positive braid Legendrian links with maximum Thurston-Bennequin (tb) numbers. It follows from [EV18, Theorem 3.4] that a positive braid has a unique Legendrian representative with maximal tb. We include a construction of these Legendrian representatives in Sect. 2.1. We prove that their augmentation varieties carry natural cluster K_2 structures. We consider a large family of exact Lagrangian fillings and prove that each filling induces a cluster seed of the augmentation variety. As an application, we prove that all positive braid Legendrian links, except those underlying ADE Dynkin-type quivers, admit infinitely many non-Hamiltonian isotopic exact Lagrangian fillings.

The classification of exact Lagrangian fillings is a central but rather difficult problem. Except for the unique filling for unknot [EP96], most subsequent works focus on giving a lower bound on the number of distinct fillings. The existence of infinitely many exact Lagrangian fillings was not known until the year 2020. Within the year, several methods emerged concurrently and each successfully solved this problem for a certain class. Two proceeding results are:

- Casals-Gao [CG20] proved that any positive torus (n, m) -link, $(n, m) \neq (2, m)$, $(3, 3)$, $(3, 4)$, and $(3, 5)$, admits infinitely many fillings. The proof uses Legendrian loops, microlocal sheaves, and cluster structures on Grassmannians.
- Casals-Zaslow [CZ20] proved that the rainbow closure of a class of 3-strand positive braids admit infinitely many fillings. The proof uses Legendrian weaves and cluster Poisson structures on moduli space of microlocal sheaves.

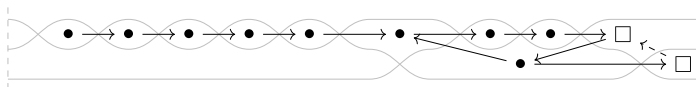
The present paper investigates the infinite-filling problem for all positive braid closures, covering all examples of [CG20, CZ20] as special cases.

This paper is based on a Floer theoretical approach. In particular, our proof uses the Ekholm-Honda-Kálmán (EHK) functor [EHK16] instead of the microlocal sheaves in [CG20, CZ20]. In this paper, we show for the first time that the augmentation varieties are cluster K_2 varieties. It is an interesting direction for future research to compare with cluster structures arising from sheaves.

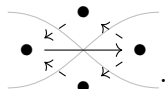
We would like to remark that, shortly after our result, Casals-Ng [CN21] proved the existence of infinitely many fillings for certain Legendrian links that are not positive braid closures. They use holomorphic curves but without cluster theory.

1.2 Cluster K_2 structures on augmentation varieties. For any positive braid word β , we construct a quiver Q_β via the following three-step procedure:

- Step 1 Plot β on $\mathbb{R}^2$ horizontally. Put a vertex in each region of the diagram sandwiched by strands (including the leftmost and the rightmost “half-open” regions).

Figure 1: An E_9 quiver with two frozen vertices.

Step 2 At each crossing, draw the following arrow pattern among neighboring vertices (dashed arrows are of weight $1/2$):



Step 3 Sum up the arrows between each pair of vertices. Freeze the vertices in the rightmost regions. Delete the leftmost vertices and their incident arrows.

EXAMPLE 1.1. Fig. 1 is a positive braid word $\beta = s_1^6 s_2 s_1^3 s_2$ and its quiver Q_β .

Let Λ_β be the positive braid Legendrian link associated to β as in Sect. 2.1. Let $\text{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta)$ be the augmentation variety of Λ_β defined over an algebraically closed field $\mathbb{F}$ of characteristic 2 as in Definition 2.4. Our first main result is as follows.

Theorem 1.2 (Theorem 2.12, Corollary 3.21, and Proposition 3.24). *The augmentation variety $\text{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta)$ is a cluster K_2 variety associated to the quiver Q_β . The degree zero Reeb chords of Λ_β are cluster variables that generate the coordinate ring of $\text{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta)$.*

REMARK 1.3. As defined in Definition A.1, a cluster K_2 variety is the spectrum of an *upper cluster algebra*. Up to codimension 2, each cluster K_2 variety is obtained by gluing a collection of algebraic tori. The transition maps between different algebraic tori are given by particular relations called cluster mutations.

REMARK 1.4. Associated with each quiver is a *cluster algebra* $\mathcal{A}$ generated by cluster variables, and an *upper cluster algebra* $\mathcal{U}$ that is the intersection of the ring of Laurent polynomials for each seed [BFZ05]. The Laurent phenomenon of cluster variables implies that $\mathcal{A} \subset \mathcal{U}$, but in general $\mathcal{A} \neq \mathcal{U}$. The problem when $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{U}$ is a fundamental question in cluster theory. See [GLS11] for its application on the quantization of cluster algebras. As an application of Theorem 1.2, the upper cluster algebra $\mathcal{U}$ associated to the quiver Q_β coincides the coordinate ring $\mathcal{O}(\text{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta))$. Meanwhile, the $\mathcal{O}(\text{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta))$ is generated by the Reeb chords as cluster variables. Therefore we get $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{U}$ for the quiver Q_β .

1.3 From fillings to cluster seeds. Our second main result establishes a natural correspondence between a large family of exact Lagrangian fillings, which we call “admissible fillings”, of positive braid closures and the seeds of the cluster K_2 structure on their augmentation varieties.

DEFINITION 1.5. An exact Lagrangian cobordism L between positive braid Legendrian links is *admissible* if it is a concatenation of the following exact Lagrangian cobordisms:

- (1) saddle cobordism, which resolves a crossing inside the positive braid;
- (2) braid move, also known as a Legendrian Reidemeister III move;
- (3) cyclic rotation, which changes $\Lambda_{\delta s_i} \leftrightarrow \Lambda_{s_i \delta}$ for any positive braid δ and any elementary braid s_i ;
- (4) minimum cobordism, which is the unique filling of a maximal tb unknot.

An *admissible filling* of Λ_β is an admissible cobordism from the empty set to Λ_β .

We refer readers to Sect. 3.1 for the definition of exact Lagrangian cobordisms and fillings. A notable property of exact Lagrangian cobordisms is that they are directed. While a smooth cobordism surface can be reversed to interchange the two end, the same operation does not apply to the exact Lagrangian setting due to the directionality of the Liouville vector field, which is ∂_t in the symplectization $(\mathbb{R}_t \times \mathbb{R}_{xyz}^3, d(e^t \alpha))$. For instance, a Lagrangian cobordism $L: \Lambda_- \rightarrow \Lambda_+$ must satisfy $tb(\Lambda_+) - tb(\Lambda_-) = -\chi(L)$, where $tb(\Lambda)$ is the Thurston-Bennequin number of the Legendrian Λ and $\chi(L)$ is the Euler characteristic of the surface L [Bap10]. Even in the case of Lagrangian concordance, which means the cobordism surface is smoothly a union of cylinders, the relation is still not symmetric [Bap15].

Let L be an exact Lagrangian filling of Λ with a collection $\mathcal{T}$ of marked points on Λ . Following Fock and Goncharov [FG06], we consider the moduli space $\mathcal{A}(L, \mathcal{T})$ of decorated GL_1 -local systems (See Definition 3.6). Applying the Ekholm-Honda-Kálmán functor, we obtain an open embedding

$$\alpha_L: \mathcal{A}(L, \mathcal{T}) \longrightarrow \text{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta).$$

where $\mathcal{A}(L, \mathcal{T})$ is isomorphic to an algebraic torus.

Theorem 1.6 (Theorem 3.20 and Corollary 3.22). *For any admissible filling L of Λ_β , the image of α_L is an open torus which determines a cluster seed of $\text{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta)$. Admissible fillings determining distinct cluster seeds are non-Hamiltonian isotopic.*

Theorem 1.6 gives a new method to distinguish non-Hamiltonian isotopic admissible fillings of positive braid closures via computing their corresponding cluster seeds. This theorem generalizes the methods in [EHK16, Pan17], which use the set of augmentations induced from a filling as an invariant and discovered a Catalan number worth of fillings for torus $(2, n)$ links. A different approach using sheaves can be found in [S+19]. The set of augmentations is the chart in the corresponding cluster seed.

The machinery of cluster theory allows us to develop an efficient method to compute the induced toric chart of augmentations from an admissible filling. Instead of keeping track of holomorphic curves bounded by the filling (following the recipe of [EHK16]), one can compute the sequence of cluster mutations, find the induced

cluster variables, and their non-vanishing loci give the desired result. We summarize the algorithm in Sect. 3.4 and build a program to implement the computation. Every cluster seed admits a complete combinatorial invariant called the g -matrix. Our algorithm presents an efficient method to explicitly compute the g -matrix as an invariant for admissible fillings.

REMARK 1.7. The CE dga is defined over $\mathbb{Z}_2$ with contributions from marked points. Theorems 1.2 and 1.6 can be enhanced to characteristic 0 by including the spin structure as suggested by [ENS02, Kar20]. Nevertheless, by Proposition A.3, the cluster structure in characteristic 0 will *not* distinguish more fillings than characteristic 2. For the purpose of building an invariant for Lagrangian fillings from cluster theory, it is enough to consider characteristic 2. Meanwhile, for Proposition A.3 to apply, augmentations must be defined over an *algebraically closed* field.

1.4 Finite type classifications. Recall that an ADE quiver is a directed graph whose underlying graph is one of the ADE Dynkin diagrams. The quivers Q_β for different words β of $[\beta]$ are mutation equivalent, leading us to the following definition.

DEFINITION 1.8. A positive braid $[\beta]$ is of *finite type* if the unfrozen part of Q_β is mutation equivalent to a disjoint union of ADE quivers for one (equivalently any) word β of $[\beta]$. Otherwise, $[\beta]$ is of *infinite type*.

DEFINITION 1.9. The Legendrian links Λ_β associated with the positive braid words β in the following table are called the *standard ADE links*.

Br_2^+		Br_3^+		
A_r	D_r	E_6	E_7	E_8
s_1^{r+1}	$s_1^{r-2}s_2s_1^2s_2$	$s_1^3s_2s_1^3s_2$	$s_1^4s_2s_1^3s_2$	$s_1^5s_2s_1^3s_2$

REMARK 1.10. The underlying smooth links of the above standard Legendrian ADE links are the same as links of certain plane curves singularities as in [Arn76]. Namely, they coincide with the intersections $B_\epsilon(0,0) \cap V_f$, where V_f is the vanishing locus of $f(x,y) : \mathbb{C}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ given by

$$A_r : x^{r+1} + y^2, \quad D_r : x^2y + y^{r-1}, \quad E_6 : x^3 + y^4, \quad E_7 : x^3 + xy^3, \quad E_8 : x^3 + y^5.$$

Another topological description of this class is prime positive braid links with positive-definite symmetric Seifert forms [Baa13].

The next result provides several characterizations of positive braids of finite type.

Theorem 1.11. *Let Λ_β be the Legendrian link associated with a positive braid β . The following statements are equivalent.*

- (1) $[\beta]$ is of *finite type*.
- (2) $\text{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta)$ has a *finite number of cluster seeds*.

- (3) Λ_β is Legendrian isotopic to a split union of unknots and connect sums of standard ADE links.
- (4) The symmetric Seifert form of Λ_β is positive definite.

Proof. The equivalence “(1) $\Leftrightarrow$ (2)” follows from the finite classification of cluster algebras [FZ03] and Theorem 1.2. The implications “(3) $\Rightarrow$ (4) $\Rightarrow$ (1)” are a result of [Baa13]. We prove “(1) $\Rightarrow$ (3)” in Theorem 4.25. $\square$

1.5 Infinitely many exact Lagrangian fillings. Our last main result is as follows.

Theorem 1.12 (Theorem 4.8). *If $[\beta]$ is of infinite type, then Λ_β admits infinitely many non-Hamiltonian isotopic exact Lagrangian fillings.*

The proof of Theorem 1.12 uses the aperiodicity of some cluster Donaldson-Thomas transformations [SW19] and a trichotomy of the frieze variety [L+20]. The DT transformation is not generally aperiodic (Remark 4.4), and we employ sophisticated combinatorial arguments to solve the problem.

As a topological consequence, this theorem yields that most positive braid links admit infinitely many non-Hamiltonian isotopic Lagrangian fillings. Hence it is reasonable to conjecture that Legendrian links with infinitely many fillings exist more broadly than those with finitely many fillings, whenever fillings are unobstructed. This theorem also motivates and proves a major class in the conjecture of ADE classification of Lagrangian fillings proposed in a later paper by Casals [Cas20]. It also provides interesting examples of concordance monoids, group of Legendrian loops, and Weinstein manifolds, following the framework of [CG20].

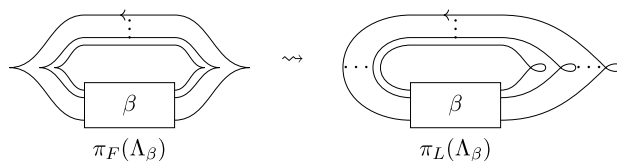
2 Cluster K_2 structure on augmentation varieties

2.1 Positive braid Legendrian links. Artin’s braid group on n strands is

$$\mathrm{Br}_n = \langle s_1^{\pm 1}, \dots, s_{n-1}^{\pm 1} \mid s_i s_{i+1} s_i = s_{i+1} s_i s_{i+1}, \text{ and } s_j s_k = s_k s_j \text{ if } |j - k| \geq 2 \rangle.$$

The *positive braid semigroup* Br_n^+ is the sub-semigroup inside Br_n generated by the s_i ’s. The positive braid $w_0 = (s_1 \cdots s_{n-1})(s_1 \cdots s_{n-2}) \cdots (s_1 s_2)(s_1)$ is called the *half twist*, and its square w_0^2 is the *full twist*. Under the quotient map from Br_n to the symmetric group S_n , w_0 becomes the element of the longest Coxeter length.

We denote a word of a positive braid by β , and its equivalence class by $[\beta]$. Every positive braid word β uniquely determines a Legendrian link Λ_β with maximal Thurston-Bennequin number in its smooth isotopy class [EV18, Theorem 3.4]. The Legendrian Λ_β can be obtained via a satellite construction, that is, the braid closure of $w_0 \beta w_0$ satellited along the standard unknot, $|w_0 \beta w_0| \subset J^1(S^1) \subset \mathbb{R}^3$, produces the Legendrian embedding Λ_β . Alternatively, the front projection of Λ_β is given via the rainbow closure construction [STZ17]. We apply Ng’s resolution [Ng03, Proposition 2.2] to obtain its Lagrangian projection $\pi_L(\Lambda_\beta)$ as follows, where the left cusps are

Figure 2: $\rightsquigarrow$. Ng's resolution.

smoothed out and the right cusps are resolved to a crossing attaching a teardrop loop. Note that the Lagrangian projection is not drawn in scale – the teardrop loop should be drawn much larger, so that the signed area on the left of a resolved crossing equals to the area of the teardrop.

2.2 Augmentation varieties for positive braid Legendrian links. In this section we compute the CE dga $\mathcal{A}(\Lambda_\beta)$ and the augmentation variety $\text{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta)$ for a positive braid word $\beta = s_{i_1} \cdots s_{i_l}$ with n strands. We refer the readers to [EN18] for the definition of CE dga for general Legendrians. For positive braids, Kálmán [Kal05] had explicitly computed the dga with $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -coefficient. We recover the computation with a different method using the boarded dga in [Siv11]. The coefficients are enhanced to include contributions from marked points.

Let $\pi_L(\Lambda_\beta)$ be the Lagrangian projection of Λ_β as in Fig. 2. The Reeb chords of Λ_β correspond to crossings in $\pi_L(\Lambda_\beta)$. We equip Λ_β with a binary Maslov potential $\{0, 1\}$, which determines degrees for the Reeb chords. The crossings in the braid have degree 0 and are denoted by $b_1, \dots, b_l$. The crossings located at resolved right cusps have degree 1 and are denoted by $a_1, \dots, a_n$. We decorate Λ_β by placing a marked point t_i next to each crossing a_i , located on the resolved teardrop loop. Let $\mathcal{T}$ be the set of marked points. The dga $\mathcal{A}(\Lambda_\beta)$ is generated by the Reeb chords and the formal variables $t_i^{\pm 1}$. The non-trivial differentials of $\mathcal{A}(\Lambda_\beta)$ are the ∂a_k 's, which we shall describe.

For any noncommutative formal variable b and $1 \leq i < n$, we define an $n \times n$ matrix

$$Z_i(b) := \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & & & \\ & \ddots & & & \\ & & b & 1 & \\ & & 1 & 0 & \\ & & & & \ddots \\ & & & & & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (2.1)$$

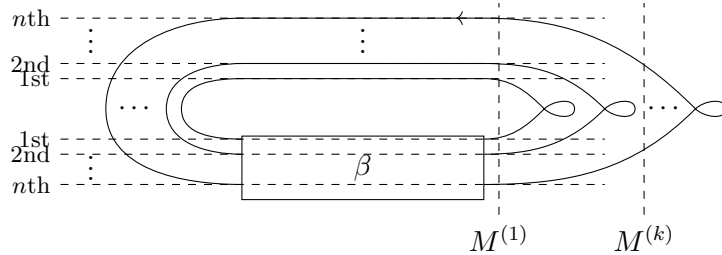
where the 2×2 sub-matrix sits at the i th and $(i+1)$ st rows and columns. For reference, this matrix is called the path matrix in [Kal06]. For $\beta = s_{i_1} \cdots s_{i_l}$, let us set $M^{(1)} := Z_{i_1}(b_1) \cdots Z_{i_l}(b_l)$. Define the matrices $M^{(k)} = \left(M_{ij}^{(k+1)} \right)_{k \leq i, j \leq n}$ recursively by

$$M_{ij}^{(k+1)} = M_{ij}^{(k)} + M_{ik}^{(k)} t_k M_{kj}^{(k)}. \quad (2.2)$$

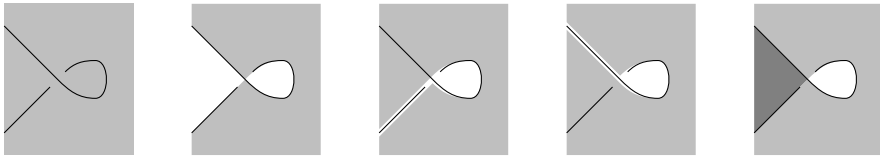
PROPOSITION 2.1. *The differential of the CE-dga $\mathcal{A}(\Lambda_\beta)$ has the following compact form:*

$$\partial a_k = M_{kk}^{(k)} + t_k^{-1}, \quad \forall 1 \leq k \leq n.$$

Proof. Borrowing the idea of the bordered dga [Siv11], we consider the diagram



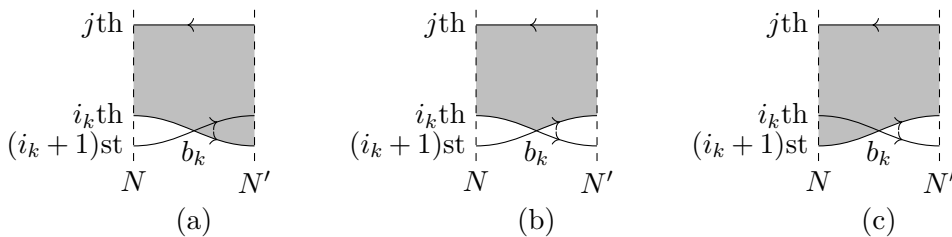
Let us label a dashed line between the braid region and the right cusps so that each disk contributing to the differential can be divided into two parts. On the left, each disk boundary will travel along a strand on the top, making many or no turns in the braid region, and then hit the dashed line. In general, the disk configuration near a resolved right cusp can be one of the following:



In our setup, only the first and the last configurations occur.

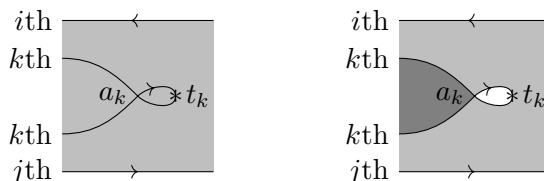
Let us start with the left part. Suppose the (i, j) -th entry of M counts disks that are bounded by top level i and bottom level j near the dashed line. It can be computed inductively on crossings from left to right. Before the braiding region, there is a unique pairing between the strands, giving the identity matrix. For an arbitrary crossing i_k , let N (resp. N') be the disk counting matrix before (resp. after) scanning across i_k . Then

$$- N'_{i_k+1,j} = N_{i_k,j} \text{ due to (a); and } N'_{i_k,j} = N_{i_k,j} b_k + N_{i_k+1,j} \text{ due to (b) and (c).}$$



In other words, $N' = N Z_{i_k}(b_k)$. By induction, we have $M = M^{(1)} = Z_{i_1}(b_1) \cdots Z_{i_l}(b_l)$.

Similarly, we place a dashed line between each pair of right cusps. Let $M^{(k)}$ be the matrix associated to the dashed line between a_{k-1} and a_k . There is no disk between any two top strands or between any two bottom strands near $M^{(1)}$ dashed line, and will be inductively true for any other dashed lines.



Enumerating the two local situations above, we have

$$M_{ij}^{(k+1)} = M_{ij}^{(k)} + M_{ik}^{(k)} t_k M_{kj}^{(k)}.$$

We are ready to compute ∂a_k . It counts two types of disks. One consists of those disks that hit the dashed line labeled by $M^{(k)}$, and the other one consists of only one disk given by the teardrop loop with no negative punctures. Hence, $\partial a_k = M_{kk}^{(k)} + t_k^{-1}$. $\square$

Gelfand and Retakh [GR91] introduced the *quasi-determinant* as a replacement for the determinant for matrices with noncommutative entries. Let $M_{1,2,\dots,k-1,i}^{1,2,\dots,k-1,j}$ be the $k \times k$ submatrix of $M = M^{(1)}$ consisting of rows $1, 2, \dots, k-1, i$ and columns $1, 2, \dots, k-1, j$. The next proposition establishes a connection between $M_{ij}^{(k)}$ and the quasi-determinants.

PROPOSITION 2.2. *If $\partial a_k = 0$ for $1 \leq k \leq n$, then $M_{ij}^{(k)}$ is the quasi-determinant $\left| M_{1,2,\dots,k-1,i}^{1,2,\dots,k-1,j} \right|_{ij}$.*

Proof. The assumption $\partial a_k = 0$ implies that $t_k = -\left(M_{kk}^{(k)}\right)^{-1}$. Then (2.2) becomes

$$M_{ij}^{(k+1)} = M_{ij}^{(k)} - M_{ik}^{(k)} \left(M_{kk}^{(k)}\right)^{-1} M_{kj}^{(k)}.$$

Inductively, the RHS equals $\left| M_{1,\dots,k-1,i}^{1,\dots,k-1,j} \right|_{ij} - \left| M_{1,\dots,k-1,i}^{1,\dots,k-1,k} \right|_{ik} \left| M_{1,\dots,k-1,k}^{1,\dots,k-1,k} \right|_{kk}^{-1} \times \left| M_{1,\dots,k-1,j}^{1,\dots,k-1,k} \right|_{kj}$, which yields $\left| M_{1,\dots,k,i}^{1,\dots,k,j} \right|_{ij}$ by the Sylvester's identity for quasi-determinants (Proposition 1.5 of [GR91]). $\square$

The dga $\mathcal{A}(\Lambda_\beta)$ is concentrated at non-negative degrees. Its homology $H_0(\mathcal{A}(\Lambda_\beta))$ is a non-commutative algebra. Let us write $M_k := M_{kk}^{(k)}$ for short. The following result is a direct consequence of Propositions 2.1 and 2.2.

COROLLARY 2.3. *As non-commutative algebras over $\mathbb{Z}_2$, we have*

$$H_0(\mathcal{A}(\Lambda_\beta)) \cong \frac{\mathbb{Z}_2 \langle b_1, \dots, b_l, t_1^{\pm 1}, \dots, t_n^{\pm 1} \rangle}{(M_k = t_k^{-1})}.$$

Now let us fix an algebraic closed field $\mathbb{F}$ of characteristic 2.

DEFINITION 2.4. An *augmentation* of $\mathcal{A}(\Lambda_\beta)$ is a unital dga homomorphism

$$\varepsilon : (\mathcal{A}(\Lambda_\beta), \partial) \rightarrow (\mathbb{F}, 0).$$

The *augmentation variety* $\text{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta)$ is the moduli space of augmentations of $\mathcal{A}(\Lambda_\beta)$.

REMARK 2.5. The augmentation variety is different from the moduli stack of objects in the unital augmentation category introduced in [L+15]. Therefore it is not isomorphic to the moduli space of microlocal rank one sheaves associated to Λ in general.

LEMMA 2.6. For any positive braid word β , let $\mathcal{A}(\Lambda_\beta)^c$ be the abelianization of $\mathcal{A}(\Lambda_\beta)$. Then $\text{Aug}(\mathcal{A}(\Lambda_\beta))$ is an affine variety whose coordinate ring is $H_0(\mathcal{A}(\Lambda_\beta)^c, \mathbb{F})$.

Proof. By definition, the augmentations ε preserve the degree. In particular, $\varepsilon(a) = 0$ for any generator a of non-zero degree. Hence, ε is uniquely determined by its evaluations at the degree zero Reeb chords and the formal variables, and the evaluations are subject to the conditions $\varepsilon \circ \partial(a) = 0$ for any degree 1 Reeb chord a . As a consequence, the augmentation varieties are affine varieties.

The field $\mathbb{F}$ is commutative. Thus, the augmentations for $\mathcal{A}(\Lambda_\beta)$ and $\mathcal{A}(\Lambda_\beta)^c$ coincide. Let ∂_i be the i -th degree of ∂ . Since $\mathcal{A}(\Lambda_\beta)^c$ is concentrated in non-negative degrees, $\ker \partial_0$ is the free algebra generated by the formal variables and the degree 0 Reeb chords, and $\text{im } \partial_1$ is an ideal generated by (∂a) for all degree 1 Reeb chords a . Hence, $H_0(\mathcal{A}(\Lambda_\beta)^c, \mathbb{F}) = \ker \partial_0 / \text{im } \partial_1$ is the coordinate ring of $\text{Aug}(\mathcal{A}(\Lambda_\beta))$. $\square$

DEFINITION 2.7. Let N be an $n \times n$ matrix over $\mathbb{F}$. The m th *principal minor* of N , denoted by $\Delta_m(N)$, is the determinant of the $m \times m$ submatrix of N formed by the first m rows and columns.

PROPOSITION 2.8. The coordinate ring of $\text{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta)$ is

$$\mathbb{F}[b_1, \dots, b_l, t_1^{\pm 1}, \dots, t_n^{\pm 1}] / \mathcal{I},$$

where the ideal $\mathcal{I}$ is generated by

$$\Delta_m(Z_{i_1}(b_1) \dots Z_{i_l}(b_l)) = \prod_{k=1}^m t_k^{-1}, \quad 1 \leq m \leq n. \quad (2.3)$$

The $\text{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta)$ is the non-vanishing locus of the polynomial $\prod_{m=1}^n \Delta_m(Z_{i_1}(b_1) \dots Z_{i_l}(b_l))$ inside the ambient affine space $\mathbb{F}_{b_1, \dots, b_l}^l$.

REMARK 2.9. Note that the Reeb chords b_i can be regarded as coordinate functions on $\text{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta)$. We call them the *Reeb coordinates*.

Proof. By Lemma 2.6, we have $\text{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta) = \text{Spec } H_0(\mathcal{A}(\Lambda_\beta)^c, \mathbb{F})$, where

$$H_0(\mathcal{A}(\Lambda_\beta)^c, \mathbb{F}) = \mathbb{F}[b_i, t_j^{\pm 1}] / (\partial^c(a_k) = 0).$$

Therefore the defining equations of $\text{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta)$ are $\partial^c(a_k) = 0$ for $k = 1, \dots, n$.

In the commutative setting, the quasi-determinant reduces to ratio of determinants

$$|N|_{ij} = (-1)^{i+j} \frac{\det N}{\det N^{ij}}, \quad (2.4)$$

where N^{ij} is the minor that results from deleting row i and column j from N . We ignore the signs in the setting of characteristic 2. Using Lemma 2.2 and (2.4) inductively, $\partial^c(a_k) = 0$ is equivalent to (2.3), which concludes the proof of the first part.

Note that $t_j^{\pm 1}$ are invertible. Using (2.3) recursively, each t_k can be expressed in terms of principal minors, and hence in terms of the coordinates $b_1, \dots, b_l$. After eliminating all the formal variables $t_k^{\pm 1}$, we end up with the desired equation. $\square$

COROLLARY 2.10. *The augmentation variety $\text{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta)$ is smooth.*

Proof. By Proposition 2.8, it is the non-vanishing locus of a polynomial function. $\square$

COROLLARY 2.11. *Any augmentation ε on $\mathcal{A}(\Lambda_\beta)$ satisfies $\prod_{k=1}^n \varepsilon(t_k) = 1$.*

Proof. Take $m = n$ in (2.3). Then $\prod_{k=1}^n t_k^{-1} = \Delta_n(M) = \det(M)$. Since each commutative $Z_{i_k}(b_k)$ has determinant 1, we have $\det(M) = 1$. Therefore $\prod_{k=1}^n t_k = 1$. $\square$

2.3 Cluster K_2 structures on augmentation varieties. A double Bott-Samelson cell $\text{Conf}_\beta^e(\mathcal{C})$ is a cluster K_2 variety introduced in [SW19]. We recall its definition and cluster structure in Appendix B. In this section, we construct a natural isomorphism between $\text{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta)$ and $\text{Conf}_\beta^e(\mathcal{C})$, which endows $\text{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta)$ with a cluster K_2 structure.

By Proposition B.5, $\text{Conf}_\beta^e(\mathcal{C})$ is a scheme over $\mathbb{Z}$. We have

Theorem 2.12. *Let $G = \text{SL}_n$ and let β be a positive braid word of n strands. After a base-change of $\text{Conf}_\beta^e(\mathcal{C})$ to $\mathbb{F}$, there is a natural isomorphism as $\mathbb{F}$ -varieties:*

$$\text{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta) \xrightarrow{\gamma} \text{Conf}_\beta^e(\mathcal{C}).$$

The pull-back of the cluster K_2 structure on $\text{Conf}_\beta^e(\mathcal{C})$ equips $\text{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta)$ with a cluster K_2 structure.

Proof. Let $(b_1, \dots, b_l)$ be the Reeb coordinates of $\text{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta)$ and let $(q_1, \dots, q_l)$ be the affine coordinates of $\text{Conf}_\beta^e(\mathcal{C})$ as in Proposition B.5. Let γ be the isomorphism of the ambient affine spaces $\mathbb{F}_{b_1, \dots, b_l}^l$ and $\mathbb{F}_{q_1, \dots, q_l}^l$ such that $q_k = b_k$ for $1 \leq k \leq l$. Since $\mathbb{F}$ is of characteristic 2, the matrix $Z_{i_k}(b_k)$ in (2.1) equals $R_{i_k}(q_k)$ in (B.1). Hence the non-vanishing locus of $\prod_{1 \leq i \leq n} \Delta_i(R_{i_1}(q_1) \cdots R_{i_l}(q_l))$ coincides with that of $\prod_{1 \leq i \leq n} \Delta_i(Z_{i_1}(b_1) \cdots Z_{i_l}(b_l))$. By Propositions B.5 and 2.8, these two non-vanishing loci are $\text{Conf}_\beta^e(\mathcal{C})$ and $\text{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta)$ respectively. Therefore γ restricts to an isomorphism between the two $\mathbb{F}$ -varieties. $\square$

3 From fillings to clusters

3.1 Exact Lagrangian cobordisms and enhanced EHK functors. Ekholm, Honda, and Kálmán [EHK16] introduced a contravariant functor from the exact Lagrangian cobordism category of Legendrian links to the category of dga's. In this section, we discuss an enhancement of the EHK functor that includes decorations on exact Lagrangian cobordisms.

Recall the standard contact $\mathbb{R}_{xyz}^3$ with the contact 1-form $\alpha = dz - ydx$. Let $\mathbb{R}_{txyz}^4 := \mathbb{R}_t \times \mathbb{R}_{xyz}^3$ be its symplectization with the symplectic form $\omega = d(e^t \alpha)$.

DEFINITION 3.1. Let Λ_+ and Λ_- be two Legendrian links in $\mathbb{R}_{xyz}^3$. An *exact Lagrangian cobordism* $L : \Lambda_- \rightarrow \Lambda_+$ is an embedded oriented Lagrangian submanifold L of $\mathbb{R}_{txyz}^4$ such that for some $N > 0$,

- (1) $L \cap ((-\infty, -N] \times \mathbb{R}^3) = (-\infty, -N] \times \Lambda_-$ and $L \cap ([N, \infty) \times \mathbb{R}^3) = [N, \infty) \times \Lambda_+$;
- (2) there is a function f of L , constant on $(-\infty, -N] \times \Lambda_-$ and $[N, \infty) \times \Lambda_+$, such that $df = \omega|_L$.

An *exact Lagrangian filling* of Λ is an exact Lagrangian cobordism from $\emptyset$ to Λ . An *exact Lagrangian concordance* is an exact Lagrangian cobordism that is topologically a cylinder.

Exact Lagrangian fillings are central objects in contact and symplectic topology [NZ12, Nad09, Syl19, GPS18, EL17]. These fillings induce augmentations [EGH00, EN18]. Many, but not all, augmentations can be obtained from fillings. Note that the exact fillings of a Legendrian link have the same genus [Bap10]. It is expected that their induced charts of augmentations have the same dimension.

A *t-minimum* on an exact Lagrangian cobordism L is a point which achieves a local minimum for the coordinate function t restricted on L . Denote by $\mathcal{T}_{\min}$ the set of t -minima. Up to a Morse type perturbation, we will always assume that L has finitely many isolated t -minima in the rest of this paper.

DEFINITION 3.2. Let $(\Lambda_+, \mathcal{T}_+)$ and $(\Lambda_-, \mathcal{T}_-)$ be two decorated Legendrian links. A *decorated exact Lagrangian cobordism*

$$(L, \mathcal{P}) : (\Lambda_-, \mathcal{T}_-) \rightarrow (\Lambda_+, \mathcal{T}_+)$$

is an exact Lagrangian cobordism $L : \Lambda_- \rightarrow \Lambda_+$, together with a *decoration* $\mathcal{P}$, that is, a set of generic oriented marked curves $\mathcal{P} = \{p_1, \dots, p_m\}$ on L , such that

- (1) each p_i is either a closed 1-cycle or an oriented curve that begins and ends at $\mathcal{T}_+ \cup \mathcal{T}_- \cup \mathcal{T}_{\min}$;
- (2) intersections between these marked curves are transverse and isolated;
- (3) each marked point in $\mathcal{T}_+ \cup \mathcal{T}_-$ is the restriction of a unique marked curve p_i to $\Lambda_- \sqcup \Lambda_+$.

Recall that the dga $\mathcal{A}(\Lambda)$ of a decorated Legendrian $(\Lambda, \mathcal{T})$ is a non-commutative $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -algebra freely generated by the set of Reeb chords $\mathcal{R}$ and formal variables $\mathcal{T}^{\pm 1}$.

Given a decorated exact Lagrangian cobordism $(L, \mathcal{P}) : (\Lambda_-, \mathcal{T}_-) \rightarrow (\Lambda_+, \mathcal{T}_+)$, we define a pair of non-commutative $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -algebras $\mathcal{A}(\Lambda_\pm, \mathcal{P})$, each of which is generated by the respective set of Reeb chords $\mathcal{R}_\pm$ and the formal variables $\mathcal{P}^{\pm 1}$, modulo the following relations:

- (1) $p_i p_j = p_j p_i$ if p_i and p_j intersect;
- (2) near each t -minimum τ of L , let γ be a small oriented loop around τ , intersecting a collection of oriented marked curves cyclically, say $p_{i_1}, p_{i_2}, \dots, p_{i_l}$; then

$$p_{i_1}^{\langle \gamma, p_{i_1} \rangle} p_{i_2}^{\langle \gamma, p_{i_2} \rangle} \dots p_{i_l}^{\langle \gamma, p_{i_l} \rangle} = 1 \quad (3.1)$$

where $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ denotes the intersection number with respect to the orientation of L .

The degrees of the Reeb chord generators of $\mathcal{A}(\Lambda_\pm, \mathcal{P})$ are the same as those of $\mathcal{A}(\Lambda_\pm)$. The degree of $p_i^{\pm 1}$ is set to be 0. It makes $\mathcal{A}(\Lambda_\pm, \mathcal{P})$ graded $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -algebras.

We further define a pair of graded algebra homomorphisms

$$\phi_\pm^* : \mathcal{A}(\Lambda_\pm) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}(\Lambda_\pm, \mathcal{P}),$$

each of which sends the Reeb chord generators to themselves and sends the marked points t to

$$\phi_\pm^*(t) = \begin{cases} p^{\pm 1} & \text{if } p \text{ starts from } t, \\ p^{\mp 1} & \text{if } p \text{ ends at } t. \end{cases}$$

Let $\partial_\pm$ be the differentials on $\mathcal{A}(\Lambda_\pm)$. By defining the differentials on $\mathcal{A}(\Lambda_\pm, \mathcal{P})$ to be $\phi_\pm^* \circ \partial_\pm$, we make $\mathcal{A}(\Lambda_\pm, \mathcal{P})$ into a pair of dga's over $\mathbb{Z}_2$.

DEFINITION 3.3. We call $\mathcal{A}(\Lambda_\pm, \mathcal{P})$ the *enhanced CE dga's* for $\Lambda_\pm$ with respect to the decorated exact Lagrangian cobordism $(L, \mathcal{P})$.

REMARK 3.4. For an exact Lagrangian concordance $L : \Lambda_- \rightarrow \Lambda_+$ coming from a Legendrian isotopy, with a decoration $\mathcal{P}$ coming from the trace of marked points, the dga homomorphisms $\phi_\pm^*$ are isomorphisms between $\mathcal{A}(\Lambda_\pm)$ and $\mathcal{A}(\Lambda_\pm, \mathcal{P})$.

Two decorations $\mathcal{P}$ and $\mathcal{P}'$ on the same exact Lagrangian cobordism L are *equivalent* if the two sets of oriented marked curves can be related by a sequence of path homotopy and orientation reversing. Note that if $p \in \mathcal{P}$ and $p' \in \mathcal{P}'$ have the same underlying path but opposite orientation, the change of variable $p \leftrightarrow p'^{-1}$ gives rise to a natural dga isomorphism $\mathcal{A}(\Lambda_\pm, \mathcal{P}) \cong \mathcal{A}(\Lambda_\pm, \mathcal{P}')$. Therefore, for the rest of this paper, we no longer distinguish equivalent decorations on the same exact Lagrangian cobordism.

Given two decorated exact Lagrangian cobordisms

$$(\Lambda_0, \mathcal{T}_0) \xrightarrow{(L_{01}, \mathcal{P}_{01})} (\Lambda_1, \mathcal{T}_1) \xrightarrow{(L_{12}, \mathcal{P}_{12})} (\Lambda_2, \mathcal{T}_2),$$

we can compose them by concatenation (possibly with orientation reversing on some elements of the decorations) and get a decorated exact Lagrangian cobordism

$$(L, \mathcal{P}) : (\Lambda_0, \mathcal{T}_0) \rightarrow (\Lambda_2, \mathcal{T}_2).$$

In particular, the resulting decoration $\mathcal{P}$ is unique up to equivalence of decorations.

Let us now describe the enhancement of the EHK functor for the enhanced CE dga.

Let $(L, \mathcal{P}) : (\Lambda_-, \mathcal{T}_-) \rightarrow (\Lambda_+, \mathcal{T}_+)$ be a decorated exact Lagrangian cobordism. Let J be a generic compatible tame almost complex structure on the symplectization $\mathbb{R}_{xyz}^4$. For $a \in \mathcal{R}_+$ and $b_1, \dots, b_n \in \mathcal{R}_-$, we define the moduli space $\mathcal{M}(a; b_1, \dots, b_n)$ to be the set of bi-holomorphic equivalence classes of J -holomorphic curves, each with a positive puncture asymptotic to the strip over the Reeb chord a at $+\infty$ and a negative puncture asymptotic to the strip over the Reeb chord b_i at $-\infty$ for each b_i , appearing in the counterclockwise order along the boundary of the curve. For generic J , the moduli space $\mathcal{M}(a, b_1, \dots, b_n)$ is a manifold of dimension $|a| - \sum_i |b_i|$ (see [EHK16, Lemma 3.7]).

For any $u \in \mathcal{M}(a; b_1, \dots, b_n)$, the image of the disk boundary ∂u is the disjoint union of $n+1$ oriented paths $\eta_0, \dots, \eta_n$ in the Lagrangian surface L . Suppose the path η_i crosses oriented marked curves $p_{j_1}, p_{j_2}, \dots, p_{j_l}$ in this particular order. We define

$$\begin{aligned} p(\eta_i) &:= p_{j_1}^{\langle \eta_i, p_{j_1} \rangle} p_{j_2}^{\langle \eta_i, p_{j_2} \rangle} \dots p_{j_l}^{\langle \eta_i, p_{j_l} \rangle} \quad \text{and} \\ w(u) &:= p(\eta_0) b_1 p(\eta_1) b_2 \dots b_n p(\eta_n). \end{aligned} \tag{3.2}$$

Following [EHK16], we define the dga homomorphism $\Phi_L^* : \mathcal{A}(\Lambda_+, \mathcal{P}) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}(\Lambda_-, \mathcal{P})$ such that

$$\Phi_L^*(a) = \sum_{\substack{b_1, \dots, b_n \in \mathcal{R}_- \\ \dim \mathcal{M}(a; b_1, \dots, b_n) = 0}} \sum_{u \in \mathcal{M}(a; b_1, \dots, b_n)} w(u) \quad \forall a \in \mathcal{R}_+,$$

and

$$\Phi_L^*(p) = p \quad \forall p \in \mathcal{P}$$

If $(L, \mathcal{P}) : (\Lambda_0, \mathcal{T}_0) \rightarrow (\Lambda_2, \mathcal{T}_2)$ is the composition of $(L_{01}, \mathcal{P}_{01}) : (\Lambda_0, \mathcal{T}_0) \rightarrow (\Lambda_1, \mathcal{T}_1)$ and $(L_{12}, \mathcal{P}_{12}) : (\Lambda_1, \mathcal{T}_1) \rightarrow (\Lambda_2, \mathcal{T}_2)$, then the functorial homomorphisms can be composed

via the following commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 \mathcal{A}(\Lambda_2) & & \mathcal{A}(\Lambda_1) & & \mathcal{A}(\Lambda_2) \\
 \downarrow & & \swarrow & \searrow & \downarrow \\
 \mathcal{A}(\Lambda_2, \mathcal{P}_{12}) & \xrightarrow{\Phi_{L_{12}}^*} & \mathcal{A}(\Lambda_1, \mathcal{P}_{12}) & & \mathcal{A}(\Lambda_1, \mathcal{P}_{01}) \xrightarrow{\Phi_{L_{01}}^*} \mathcal{A}(\Lambda_0, \mathcal{P}_{01}) \\
 \downarrow & & \searrow & \swarrow & \downarrow \\
 \mathcal{A}(\Lambda_2, \mathcal{P}) & \xrightarrow{\Phi_{L_{12}}^*} & \mathcal{A}(\Lambda_1, \mathcal{P}) & \xrightarrow{\Phi_{L_{01}}^*} & \mathcal{A}(\Lambda_0, \mathcal{P}) \\
 & \searrow \Phi_L^* & & \swarrow \Phi_L^* & \\
 & & \mathcal{A}(\Lambda_0, \mathcal{P}) & &
 \end{array}$$

The dga homomorphism Φ_L^* satisfies the following important property.

Theorem 3.5 ([EHK16, Lemma 3.13]). *Suppose L and L' are Hamiltonian isotopic exact Lagrangian cobordisms from $(\Lambda_-, \mathcal{T}_-)$ to $(\Lambda_+, \mathcal{T}_+)$ and their decorations can be identified via the underlying isotopy (up to equivalence of decorations). Denote both decorations by $\mathcal{P}$. Then the Hamiltonian isotopy induces a dga homotopy $\Phi_L^* \cong \Phi_{L'}^*$.*

Let $(L, \mathcal{P})$ be a decorated exact Lagrangian filling of Λ . Dualizing the homomorphism

$$\mathcal{A}(\Lambda) \xrightarrow{\phi_+^*} \mathcal{A}(\Lambda, \mathcal{P}) \xrightarrow{\Phi_L^*} \mathcal{A}(\emptyset, \mathcal{P}),$$

we obtain a morphism of algebraic varieties

$$\alpha_{L, \mathcal{P}} = \phi_+ \circ \Phi_L : \text{Aug}(\emptyset, \mathcal{P}) \xrightarrow{\Phi_L} \text{Aug}(\Lambda, \mathcal{P}) \xrightarrow{\phi_+} \text{Aug}(\Lambda). \quad (3.3)$$

A decoration $\mathcal{P}$ is *sufficient* if its complement $L - \mathcal{P}$ is a disjoint union of simply-connected regions. If each component of Λ contains at least one marked point, then such a sufficient decoration $\mathcal{P}$ exists. We study the image of $\alpha_{L, \mathcal{P}}$ for sufficient $\mathcal{P}$.

DEFINITION 3.6. Let L be a compact oriented surface with boundary. Let $\mathcal{T}$ be a collection of marked points on the boundary of L . We assume that each boundary component contains at least one marked point. The decorated character variety $\mathcal{A}(L, \mathcal{T})$ parametrizes the data $(\mathcal{L}, \{v_i\})$, where

- $\mathcal{L}$ is a line bundle over L with flat connection,
- for every boundary interval i in $\partial L - \mathcal{T}$, the data v_i is a nontrivial flat section of $\mathcal{L}$ over i .

The space $\mathcal{A}(L, \mathcal{T})$ is a special case of the moduli space of decorated G-local systems introduced by Fock and Goncharov in [FG06]. Let $[c]$ be the homotopy class of a oriented curve connecting two boundary components j and k . For each

$(\mathcal{L}, \{v_i\}) \in \mathcal{A}(L, \mathcal{T})$, we parallel transport the section v_j along $[c]$, obtaining a flat section v'_j over k . It gives rise to a function $g_{[c]}$ of $\mathcal{A}(L, \mathcal{T})$ such that

$$g_{[c]} = \frac{v_k}{v'_j}.$$

Now suppose L is an exact Lagrangian filling of a Legendrian link Λ . Let $\mathcal{T}$ be a collection of marked points on Λ , with each component of Λ contains at least one marked point.

LEMMA 3.7. *There is natural morphism*

$$\pi : \text{Aug}(\emptyset, \mathcal{P}) \longrightarrow \mathcal{A}(L, \mathcal{T}).$$

If $\mathcal{P}$ is sufficient, then π is surjective.

Proof. Following the proof of Lemma 3.15, $\text{Aug}(\emptyset, \mathcal{P})$ is naturally isomorphic to the moduli space of trivialisations of GL_1 -local systems on L , with a choice of a vector on each connected region of $L - \mathcal{P}$. By forgetting vectors assigned to regions that are not connected to boundaries of L , we obtain a morphism π from $\text{Aug}(\emptyset, \mathcal{P})$ to $\mathcal{A}(L, \mathcal{T})$. By the definition of sufficiency of $\mathcal{P}$, the map π is surjective. $\square$

LEMMA 3.8. *For every exact Lagrangian filling L of Λ , there is a natural morphism*

$$\kappa_L : \mathcal{A}(L, \mathcal{T}) \longrightarrow \text{Aug}(\Lambda).$$

The composition $\kappa_L \circ \pi$ coincides with the morphism $\alpha_{L, \mathcal{P}}$ in (3.3).

Proof. Let a be a Reeb chord of Λ with degree 0. Recall the moduli space $\mathcal{M}(a)$ of J -holomorphic disks such that the boundary of each disk $u \in \mathcal{M}(a)$ is a together with a path $c(u)$ in L . We set

$$\epsilon(a) = \sum_{u \in \mathcal{M}(a)} g_{[c(u)]}. \quad (3.4)$$

For every marked point $t \in \mathcal{T}$, let $c(t)$ be the unique path connecting the neighbored boundary intervals of t such that $c(t)$ can be retracted to t . We set

$$\epsilon(t) = g_{[c(t)]}. \quad (3.5)$$

By definition, for each $(L, \{v_i\}) \in \mathcal{A}(L, \mathcal{T})$, its image under (3.4) and (3.5) is an augmentation of Λ , which gives rise to the morphism κ_L . The identity $\alpha_L \circ \pi = \alpha_{L, \mathcal{P}}$ follows by a comparison of definitions. $\square$

As a consequence of Lemma 3.7 and 3.8, when $\mathcal{P}$ is sufficient, the image of $\alpha_{L, \mathcal{P}}$ coincides with the image of κ_L . In this case, the image, denoted by $\mathbf{Im}(\alpha_L)$, is independent of the sufficient decoration $\mathcal{P}$ chosen. Combining with Theorem 3.5, we get

COROLLARY 3.9. *Suppose the exact Lagrangian fillings L and L' are Hamiltonian isotopic, then $\mathbf{Im}(\alpha_L) = \mathbf{Im}(\alpha_{L'})$.*

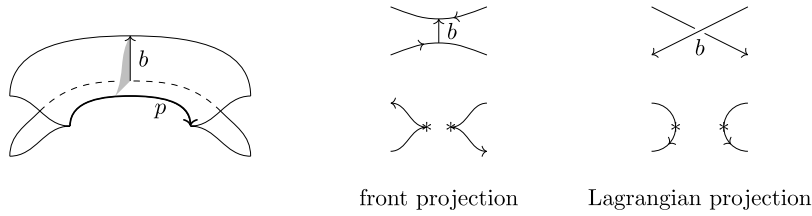


Figure 3: Saddle Cobordism.

3.2 EHK functorial morphisms for admissible cobordisms. In this section, we present explicit computations of the EHK morphisms associated with four basic types of exact Lagrangian cobordisms, i.e., saddle cobordisms, cyclic rotations, braid moves, and minimum cobordisms, for positive braid Legendrian links. Compositions of such cobordisms are called *admissible cobordisms*. An admissible cobordism from $\emptyset$ to Λ is called an *admissible filling*.

(I) Saddle Cobordism. Let $(\Lambda_+, \mathcal{T}_+)$ be a decorated Legendrian link. Let b be a contractible Reeb chord as in Definition 6.12 of [EHK16]. As in Fig. 3, we contract b via a saddle cobordism S , obtaining a new Legendrian link Λ_- . The holomorphic disk, represented by the gradient flow tree traced out by the contraction of b , is called the *basic disk* associated with b and denoted by u_b .

We decorate a saddle cobordism S as follows. First, each marked point on Λ_+ traces out an oriented path that goes from Λ_+ to Λ_- . Second, the unstable manifold of the saddle defines a new path p , both of whose endpoints are on Λ_- , and we orient it so that the homological intersection of ∂u_b and p is 1. The induced decoration on Λ_- is $\mathcal{T}_- := \mathcal{T}_+ \sqcup \{p^{\pm 1}\}$.

When the contractible Reeb chord b is simple ([EHK16, Definition 6.15]), the recipe for the dga homomorphism Φ_S^* stated in *loc. cit.* can be modified slightly to incorporate the enhancement of coefficients. For any Reeb chord $a \neq b$, let $\mathcal{M}(a, b; c_1, \dots, c_n)$ be the moduli space of holomorphic disks that map into $(\mathbb{R}_{xyz}^4, \mathbb{R}_t \times \Lambda_+)$, with one positive puncture at each of a and b , and one negative puncture at each of the c_i 's. We define

$$(\Phi_S^*)^0(d) = \begin{cases} d & \text{if } d \neq b, \\ p & \text{if } d = b, \end{cases}$$

$$(\Phi_S^*)^1(d) = \begin{cases} \sum_{\substack{c_1, \dots, c_n \in \mathcal{R}_+ \\ \dim \mathcal{M}(d, b; c_1, \dots, c_n) = 1}} \sum_{u \in \mathcal{M}(d, b; c_1, \dots, c_n)/\mathbb{R}} w(u) \Big|_{b=p^{-1}} & \text{if } d \neq b, \\ 0 & \text{if } d = b, \end{cases}$$

where $w(u)$ is defined in the same way as (3.2). The homomorphism Φ_S^* is

$$\Phi_S^* = (\Phi_S^*)^0 + (\Phi_S^*)^1. \quad (3.6)$$

REMARK 3.10. In $(\Phi_S^*)^0$, b is mapped to p , whereas in $(\Phi_S^*)^1$, b is substituted by p^{-1} . Their difference can be understood via holomorphic disk degeneration. Note the

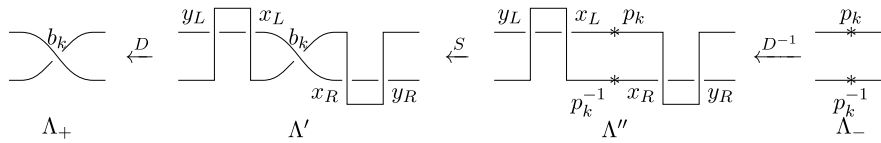


Figure 4: $\xleftarrow{D}$, $\xleftarrow{S}$, $\xleftarrow{D^{-1}}$. Dipping and Saddle Cobordism in the Lagrangian Projection.

cusped edge in Fig. 3. The term in $(\Phi_S^*)^1$ comes from a negative degeneration of an *end* at the cusped edge, and the term in $(\Phi_S^*)^1$ comes from a positive degeneration of a *switch* at the cusped edge.² Their contributions with respect to the marked curve are reciprocal.

Degree 0 Reeb chords in a positive braid Legendrian link are contractible but not necessarily simple in general. For contractible Reeb chords that are not simple, Ekholm, Honda, and Kálmán stated that these cases can be reduced to the simple cases by implementing a collection of “dippings” [EHK16, Fig. 17], a notion introduced in [Fuc03] and also appeared in [Sab05, FR11].

For positive braid Legendrian links, it turns out that two dippings will suffice. Fig. 4 is a depiction of local moves on the Lagrangian projection for a saddle cobordism that pinches a degree 0 Reeb chord b_k of a positive braid Legendrian link Λ_β . Among the three steps, D and D^{-1} are compositions of Legendrian Reidemeister II moves, and hence we can compute Φ_D^* and $\Phi_{D^{-1}}^*$ by following [Che02, §8.4]; S is a simple saddle cobordism, allowing us to employ (3.6) to compute Φ_S^* .

PROPOSITION 3.11. *Let S_k be the saddle cobordism contracting the Reeb chord b_k of Λ_β . The functorial dga homomorphism $\Phi_{S_k}^* : \mathcal{A}(\Lambda_+, \mathcal{P}) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}(\Lambda_-, \mathcal{P})$ maps the degree 0 Reeb chords as follows:*

$$\Phi_{S_k}^*(b_s) = \begin{cases} b_s + \sum_{\partial b_s = \sum u y_L v} u p_k^{-1} \Phi_{S_k}^*(v) & \text{if } s < k, \\ p_k & \text{if } s = k, \\ b_s + \sum_{\partial b_s = \sum u y_R v} \Phi_{S_k}^*(u) p_k^{-1} v & \text{if } s > k. \end{cases} \quad (3.7)$$

Here the summation index $\partial b_s = \sum u y_L v$ and $\partial b_s = \sum u y_R v$ are computed on the Lagrangian projection after the dipping D .

Proof. Chekanov [Che02] constructed a pair of tame dga isomorphisms $\psi_+ : \mathcal{A}(\Lambda') \rightarrow S\mathcal{A}(\Lambda_+)$ and $\psi_- : \mathcal{A}(\Lambda'') \rightarrow S\mathcal{A}(\Lambda_-)$, where S denotes a stabilization of the dga. By [EHK16, Lemma 6.7, 6.8, Remark 6.9], we know that the dga homomorphisms Φ_D^* and $\Phi_{D^{-1}}^*$ are given by

$$\Phi_D^* : \mathcal{A}(\Lambda_+) \hookrightarrow S\mathcal{A}(\Lambda_+) \xrightarrow{\psi_+^{-1}} \mathcal{A}(\Lambda'),$$

² These singular points were first introduced in [Ekh07]. Pictures are available in Fig. 3 of [E+13].

$$\Phi_{D-1}^* : \mathcal{A}(\Lambda'') \xrightarrow{\psi_-} S\mathcal{A}(\Lambda_-) \twoheadrightarrow \mathcal{A}(\Lambda_-)$$

By following Chekanov's recipe, we see that for any degree 0 Reeb chord b_s of Λ_β ,

$$\Phi_D^*(b_s) = \begin{cases} b_s + \sum_{\partial b_s = \sum u y_L v} u x_L \Phi_D^*(v) & \text{if } s < k, \\ b_k & \text{if } s = k, \\ b_s + \sum_{\partial b_s = \sum u y_R v} \Phi_D^*(u) x_R v & \text{if } s > k. \end{cases}$$

and Φ_{D-1}^* annihilates all occurrences of x_L and x_R .

On the other hand, between the dipping and undipping cobordisms, we have a simple saddle cobordism S , and by (3.6) we see that

$$\Phi_S^*(b_k) = p_k, \quad \Phi_S^*(x_L) = x_L + p_k^{-1}, \quad \Phi_S^*(x_R) = x_R + p_k^{-1}.$$

By composing $\Phi_{D-1}^* \circ \Phi_S^* \circ \Phi_D^*$, we get the formula stated in the proposition. $\square$

The recursive nature of Formula (3.7) suggests an algorithm, termed *matrix scanning*, to compute $\Phi_{S_k}^*$ for degree 0 Reeb chords of Λ_β . This algorithm starts at the k th crossing and scans the left and the right portions of the braid using two family of matrices, which keep track of all possible incomplete disks sandwiched between levels.

Let us describe in details the family of matrices $\{U^{(s)}\}_{k+1 \leq s \leq l}$, which we use to scan the braid word $s_{i_{k+1}} s_{i_{k+2}} \cdots s_{i_l}$. Each $U^{(s)}$ is an $n \times n$ upper triangular matrix, and the (i, j) -entry of $U^{(s)}$ counts partial disks between strands $i < j$ right before scanning through the crossing i_s . Following this idea, we see that the initial matrix $U^{(k+1)}$ must have all entries 0 except the $(i_k, i_k + 1)$ -entry, which is p_k^{-1} .

Inductively for $s > k$, we scan through the crossing i_s and perform two actions. First, we record

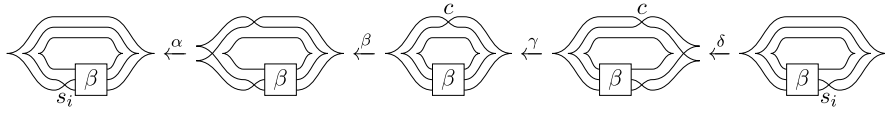
$$\Phi_{S_k}^*(b_s) = b_s + U_{i_s, i_s+1}^{(s)}. \quad (3.8)$$

Second, we define $U^{(s+1)}$ in terms of $U^{(s)}$; note that these two matrices differ only at entries whose rows or columns are equal to i_s or $i_s + 1$:

$$\begin{array}{lll}
 U_{i,i_s}^{(s+1)} = U_{i,i_s+1}^{(s)} + U_{i,i_s}^{(s)} b_s & U_{i,i_s+1}^{(s+1)} = U_{i,i_s}^{(s)} & \text{\scriptsize ith} \\
 U_{i_s,j}^{(s+1)} = U_{i_s+1,j}^{(s)} & U_{i_s+1,j}^{(s+1)} = U_{i_s,j}^{(s)} + \Phi_{S_k}^*(b_s) U_{i_s+1,j}^{(s)} & \begin{array}{c} \text{\scriptsize $i_s th$} \\ \text{\scriptsize (i_s+1)st} \\ \text{\scriptsize jth} \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

To describe this transformation more compactly, we introduce the following *triangular truncations* for matrices:

$$M_{ij}^+ := \begin{cases} M_{ij} & \text{if } i < j, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \quad M_{ij}^- := \begin{cases} M_{ij} & \text{if } i > j, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad (3.9)$$

Figure 5: $\xleftarrow{\alpha}$, $\xleftarrow{\beta}$, $\xleftarrow{\gamma}$, $\xleftarrow{\delta}$. Cyclic Rotation.

Recall the matrix Z_{i_s} from (2.1). Then $U^{(s+1)}$ is defined in terms of $U^{(s)}$ as

$$U^{(s+1)} = \left(Z_{i_s} (\Phi_{S_k}^* (b_s))^{-1} \cdot U^{(s)} \cdot Z_{i_s} (b_s) \right)^+. \quad (3.10)$$

The left-scanning family of matrices $\{L^{(s)}\}_{1 \leq s \leq k-1}$ works similarly. Each matrix $L^{(s)}$ is an $n \times n$ lower triangular matrix and the (i, j) -entry of $L^{(s)}$ counts partial disks between strands $i > j$ right before scanning through the crossing i_s . The initial matrix $L^{(k-1)}$ has all entries 0 except that its $(i_k + 1, i_k)$ -entry is p_k^{-1} . Inductively for $s < k$, we perform the following two actions when scanning through a crossing i_s . First, we record

$$\Phi_{S_k}^* (b_s) = b_s + L_{i_s+1, i_s}^{(s)}. \quad (3.11)$$

Second, we define $L^{(s-1)}$ in terms of $L^{(s)}$ according to

$$L^{(s-1)} := \left(Z_{i_s} (b_s) \cdot L^{(s)} \cdot Z_{i_s} (\Phi_{S_k}^* (b_s))^{-1} \right)^-. \quad (3.12)$$

Note that (3.8) and (3.11), together with $\Phi_{S_k}^* (b_k) = p_k$, completely describe the image of all degree 0 Reeb chords in Λ_β under the functorial homomorphism $\Phi_{S_k}^*$.

REMARK 3.12. For a degree 0 Reeb chord in a positive braid Legendrian link, Proposition 3.11 yields an explicit description $\Phi_{S_k}^* (b_s) := \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} (\Phi_{S_k}^*)^m (b_s)$, where for $m \geq 2$,

$$(\Phi_{S_k}^*)^m (d) := \begin{cases} \sum_{\substack{c_1, \dots, c_n \in \mathcal{R}_+ \\ \dim \mathcal{M}(d, b_k^m; c_1, \dots, c_n) = m-1}} \sum_{u \in \mathcal{M}(d, b_k^m; c_1, \dots, c_n) / \mathbb{R}^{m-1}} w(u) \Big|_{b_k = p_k^{-1}} & \text{if } d \neq b_k, \\ 0 & \text{if } d = b_k, \end{cases} \quad (3.13)$$

where $\mathcal{M}(d, b_k^m; c_1, \dots, c_t)$ is the moduli space of immersed disks in $(\mathbb{R}_{xy}^2, \pi_L(\Lambda_+))$ with positive quadrants at b_s and b_k , and remaining negative quadrants, where a negative quadrant is allowed to be a $(-+-)$ triple quadrant.

(II) Cyclic Rotation. A cyclic rotation is a Legendrian isotopy from $\Lambda_{\beta s_i}$ to $\Lambda_{s_i \beta}$, illustrated by the moves on the front projection of Legendrian links in Fig. 5.

We denote the exact Lagrangian concordance corresponding to a cyclic rotation as

$$\rho : \Lambda_{\beta s_i} \rightarrow \Lambda_{s_i \beta}. \quad (3.14)$$

We decorate ρ with oriented marked curves tracing the marked points on either end.

PROPOSITION 3.13. *Let $\beta = s_{i_1} \cdots s_{i_l}$ be a positive braid word. Set*

$$r(\beta) := s_{i_l} s_{i_1} \cdots s_{i_{l-1}}, \quad l(\beta) := s_{i_2} \cdots s_{i_l} s_{i_1}.$$

Recall $M^{(k)}$ in Proposition 2.1. The dga homomorphism $\Phi_\rho^ : \mathcal{A}(\Lambda_{r(\beta)}) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}(\Lambda_\beta)$ associated with the cyclic rotation $\rho : \Lambda_\beta \rightarrow \Lambda_{r(\beta)}$ maps degree 0 Reeb chords as follows:*

$$\Phi_\rho^*(b_k) = b_{k-1} \quad \forall 1 < k \leq l \quad \text{and} \quad \Phi_\rho^*(b_1) = M_{i_1+1, i_1}^{(i_1)} t_{i_1}.$$

The dga homomorphism $\Phi_{\rho^{-1}}^ : \mathcal{A}(\Lambda_{l(\beta)}) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}(\Lambda_\beta)$ associated with the inverse cyclic rotation $\rho^{-1} : \Lambda_\beta \rightarrow \Lambda_{l(\beta)}$ maps degree 0 Reeb chords as follows:*

$$\Phi_{\rho^{-1}}^*(b_k) = b_{k+1} \quad \forall 1 \leq k < l \quad \text{and} \quad \Phi_{\rho^{-1}}^*(b_l) = t_{i_1} M_{i_1, i_1+1}^{(i_1)}.$$

Proof. We only prove the formula for Φ_ρ^* . The proof for $\Phi_{\rho^{-1}}^*$ is similar.

We break the cyclic rotation ρ into steps according to Fig. 5 and use the bordered dga method [Siv11] to compute the functorial homomorphism for each step. First, by considering the bordered dga on the complement of the right cusps region, we see that

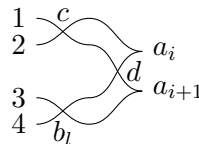
$$\Phi_\beta^* \circ \Phi_\alpha^*(b_k) = \begin{cases} c & \text{if } k = 1, \\ b_{k-1} & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

where c is depicted in Fig. 5.

The Reidemeister II move is performed away from the crossing c and the braid region. Therefore $\Phi_\gamma^*(c) = c$ and $\Phi_\gamma^*(b_k) = b_k$. For the same reason, $\Phi_\delta^*(b_k) = b_k$, which, combined with the formulas of $\Phi_\beta^* \circ \Phi_\alpha^*$ and Φ_γ^* , implies that $\Phi_\rho^*(b_k) = b_{k-1}$ for $1 < k \leq l$.

It remains to compute $\Phi_\delta^*(c)$. Define $i := i_l$. Let us consider the bordered dga of the region on the right of the braid region (including the crossing c). The differentials of the degree 1 Reeb chords of the bordered dga before Φ_δ^* are

$$\begin{aligned} \partial a_i &= t_i^{-1} + x_{24} + x_{23} b_l, \\ \partial a_{i+1} &= t_{i+1}^{-1} + x_{13} + c x_{23}, \\ \partial d &= x_{14} + x_{13} b_l + c x_{24} + c x_{23} b_l. \end{aligned}$$



where t_i denotes the marked point near the Reeb chord a_i . On the other hand, we know that the differentials of the degree 1 Reeb chords of the bordered dga after Φ_δ^* are

$$\partial a_i = t_i^{-1} + x_{24} + x_{23} b_l, \quad \partial a_{i+1} = t_{i+1}^{-1} + x_{13} + x_{14} t_i x_{23} + x_{13} b_l t_i x_{23} + x_{12} a_i t_i x_{23}.$$

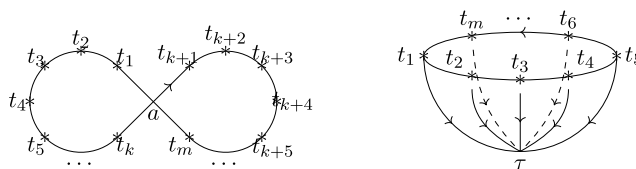


Figure 6: Legendrian unknot and its minimum cobordism.

By comparison, we see that $\Phi_\delta^*(a_i) = a_i$, $\Phi_\delta^*(a_{i+1}) = a_{i+1}$, and most importantly,

$$\Phi_\delta^*(c) = x_{14}t_i + x_{13}b_l t_i + x_{12}a_i t_i.$$

Now if we include the bordered dga of the remaining part of $\Lambda_{(i_1, \dots, i_l)}$, we see that $x_{12} = 0$ and $x_{14} + x_{13}b_l = M_{i+1, i}^{(i)}$. Therefore we conclude that

$$\Phi_\rho^*(b_1) = \Phi_\delta^* \circ \Phi_\gamma^* \circ \Phi_\beta^* \circ \Phi_\alpha^*(b_1) = \Phi_\delta^*(c) = M_{i+1, i}^{(i)} t_i. \quad \square$$

(III) Braid Move. A braid move B is a Reidemeister III move within the braid region, which naturally gives rise to an invertible exact Lagrangian concordance B . We decorate B with oriented marked curves that are the traces of the marked points on either end.

Consider the braid move $B : \Lambda_{(\dots s_i s_j s_i \dots)} \rightarrow \Lambda_{(\dots s_j s_i s_j \dots)}$, where $|i - j| = 1$. Let b_1, b_2, b_3 be the Reeb chords corresponding to the crossings involved in B . By [Che02, §8.2, 8.3],

$$\Phi_B^*(b_1) = b_3, \quad \Phi_B^*(b_2) = b_2 + b_3 b_1, \quad \Phi_B^*(b_3) = b_1. \quad (3.15)$$

The move B is local. Therefore the rest Reeb chords are invariant under Φ_B^* .

(IV) Minimum Cobordism. Let O denote the Legendrian unknot whose Thurston-Bennequin number is -1 . Without loss of generality, we assume that O has only one Reeb chord a . Then $|a| = 1$ in the CE dga $\mathcal{A}(O)$. By [EP96], the unknot O has a unique exact Lagrangian filling M , called the *minimum cobordism*, which topologically is a hemisphere capping off O .

Now suppose O is decorated with m marked points. Let $\mathcal{P}$ be the decoration of M with oriented marked curves that flow from the marked points on O to the unique t -minimum τ on M . Abusing notation, let us label the the marked curves with the same symbol t_i as the marked points they originate from. Then

$$\mathcal{A}(\emptyset, \mathcal{P}) = \frac{\mathbb{Z}_2 \langle t_1^{\pm 1}, t_2^{\pm 1}, \dots, t_m^{\pm 1} \rangle}{t_1 t_2 \cdots t_m = 1}.$$

The functorial homomorphism $\Phi_M^* : \mathcal{A}(O, \mathcal{P}) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}(\emptyset, \mathcal{P})$ maps

$$\Phi_M^*(t_i) = t_i \quad \text{and} \quad \Phi_M^*(a) = 0. \quad (3.16)$$

3.3 Cluster charts from admissible fillings. By (3.3), every decorated admissible filling $(L, \mathcal{P})$ of Λ_β gives rise to a morphism of algebraic varieties

$$\alpha_L = \phi_+ \circ \Phi_L : \text{Aug}(\emptyset, \mathcal{P}) \xrightarrow{\Phi_L} \text{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta, \mathcal{P}) \xrightarrow{\phi_+} \text{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta).$$

In this section, we show that the morphism α_L is an open embedding of an algebraic torus and its image is a cluster chart of $\text{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta)$.

Among the basic exact Lagrangian cobordisms defining admissible cobordisms, the decorated saddle cobordism S_k is the only one that creates new oriented marked curves (and hence marked points) in the decoration. Thus, on any admissible filling L , we have exactly $l + n$ many oriented marked curves in the decoration $\mathcal{P}$ on L , where l is the length of the braid word β and n is the number of strands. There are n many t -minima on L , one for each strand in β , and hence we have n relations (3.1) among the formal variables associated with the marked curves. Moreover, since the original cuspidal marked points t_i of Λ_β end at distinct t -minima on L , we can use these n relations to eliminate t_i , leaving the formal variables p_i formal variables. This proves the following lemma.

LEMMA 3.14. *For any admissible filling L of Λ_β with decoration $\mathcal{P}$, $\text{Aug}(\emptyset, \mathcal{P}) \cong (\mathbb{F}^\times)^l$.*

For any admissible filling L of Λ_β with decoration $\mathcal{P}$, every component of the complement $L - \mathcal{P}$ is simply connected. Thus, we can think of the numerical values of the formal variables p_i and t_i as a recording the transition functions of a trivialization of some rank 1 local system on L (in the normal direction determined by the orientation of the marked curve). From this perspective, the condition (3.1) at t -minima can be viewed as a compatibility condition for the transition functions. As a consequence, we get the following Lemma.

LEMMA 3.15. *For any admissible filling L of Λ_β with decoration $\mathcal{P}$, there is a natural isomorphism $\text{Aug}(\emptyset, \mathcal{P}) \cong \text{Triv}_1(L, \mathcal{P})$, where $\text{Triv}_1(L, \mathcal{P})$ denotes the moduli space of trivializations of rank 1 local systems on L with respect to the family of oriented marked curves $\mathcal{P}$.*

Next, using the isomorphism between $\text{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta)$ and $\text{Conf}_\beta^e(\mathcal{C})$ in Theorem 2.12, we prove that, for the first three types of the basic admissible cobordisms, the corresponding functorial morphism of augmentation varieties is intertwined with a certain quasi-cluster morphism between double Bott-Samelson cells. For the minimum cobordism, we show that the corresponding functorial morphism is an isomorphism of algebraic tori.

(I) Saddle Cobordism. Let $\beta = s_{i_1} \cdots s_{i_l}$ be a positive braid word. Consider the decorated saddle cobordism $(S_k, \mathcal{P})$ that resolves the crossing i_k into a new pair of marked points $p_k^{\pm 1}$. Let Λ_- denote the obtained decorated Legendrian link. The underlying undecorated Legendrian link of Λ_- is Λ_{β_k} , where $\beta_k := s_{i_1} \cdots s_{i_{k-1}} s_{i_{k+1}} \cdots s_{i_l}$. Let us move the marked points $p_k^{\pm 1}$ to the right and absorb them into two of the

cuspidal marked points t_i . This procedure induces an isomorphism

$$\mathrm{Aug}(\Lambda_-, \mathcal{P}) \xrightarrow{\cong} \mathrm{Aug}(\Lambda_{\beta_k}) \times (\mathbb{F}^\times)_{p_k}.$$

Denote by τ the composition

$$\mathrm{Aug}(\Lambda_{\beta_k}) \times (\mathbb{F}^\times)_{p_k} \xrightarrow{\cong} \mathrm{Aug}(\Lambda_-, \mathcal{P}) \xrightarrow{\phi_+ \circ \Phi_{S_k}} \mathrm{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta).$$

PROPOSITION 3.16. *The following diagram commutes:*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathrm{Aug}(\Lambda_{\beta_k}) \times (\mathbb{F}^\times)_{p_k} & \xrightarrow[\cong]{\gamma \times \mathrm{id}} & \mathrm{Conf}_{\beta_k}^e(\mathcal{C}) \times (\mathbb{F}^\times)_{q_k} \\ \tau \downarrow & & \downarrow l^{-1} \circ \psi \circ l \\ \mathrm{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta) & \xrightarrow[\gamma]{\cong} & \mathrm{Conf}_\beta^e(\mathcal{C}) \end{array}$$

where l is the sequence of left reflections on double Bott-Samelson cells that reflects the first $k-1$ flags from the bottom to the top, and ψ is the open embedding in (B.3).

Proof. The left map τ is composed of an isomorphism corresponding to the migration of the new pair of marked points $p_k^{\pm 1}$ and the functorial morphism $\phi_+ \circ \Phi_{S_k}$. We show that the open embedding

$$\psi : \mathrm{Conf}_{s_{i_k+1} \dots s_{i_l}}^{s_{i_k-1} \dots s_{i_1}}(\mathcal{C}) \times (\mathbb{F}^\times)_{q_k} \longrightarrow \mathrm{Conf}_{s_{i_k} \dots s_{i_l}}^{s_{i_k-1} \dots s_{i_1}}(\mathcal{C})$$

admits a similar factorization, and prove that the two factorizations coincide under γ .

Following the proof of Theorem 2.12, γ is defined by setting $b_s = q_s$ for $1 \leq s \leq l$, where b_s are the Reeb coordinates on $\mathrm{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta)$ and q_s are the affine coordinates on $\mathrm{Conf}_\beta^e(\mathcal{C})$. Together with $\Phi_{S_k}^*(p_k) = b_k$, we have

$$p_k = q_k. \quad (3.17)$$

Now consider the standard representative of a point in the image of ψ :

$$\begin{array}{c} \boxed{\begin{array}{c} \mathrm{U}_- \xrightarrow{s_{i_k-1}} \mathrm{U}_- Z_{i_{k-1}}(q_{k-1}) \xrightarrow{s_{i_k-2}} \cdots \xrightarrow{s_{i_1}} \mathrm{U}_- Z_{i_1}(q_1) \cdots Z_{i_{k-1}}(q_{k-1}) \\ \hline \mathrm{U}_+ \xrightarrow{s_{i_k}} Z_{i_k}(q_k) \mathrm{U}_+ \xrightarrow{s_{i_k+1}} \cdots \xrightarrow{s_{i_l}} Z_{i_l}(q_l) \cdots Z_{i_1}(q_1) \mathrm{U}_+ \end{array}} \end{array}, \quad (3.18)$$

where $q_k \neq 0$. We have

$$Z_{i_k}(q_k) = e_{-i_k}(q_k^{-1}) q_k^{\alpha_{i_k}^\vee} e_{i_k}(q_k^{-1}).$$

Let us delete the U_+ at the lower left corner of (3.18), and act by $\left(e_{-i_k}(q_k^{-1})\right)^{-1}$ on the rest decorated flags. It gives rise to the first factor of the preimage of (3.18) under ψ :

$$\begin{array}{c} \boxed{U_- \xrightarrow{s_{i_{k-1}}} U_- Z_{i_{k-1}}(q_{k-1}) e_{-i_k}(q_k^{-1}) \xrightarrow{s_{i_{k-2}}} \cdots \xrightarrow{s_{i_1}} U_- Z_{i_1}(q_1) \cdots Z_{i_{k-1}}(q_{k-1}) e_{-i_k}(q_k^{-1})} \\ \swarrow \\ q_k^{\alpha_{i_k}^\vee} e_{i_k}(q_k^{-1}) B_+ \xrightarrow{s_{i_{k+1}}} \cdots \xrightarrow{s_{i_l}} q_k^{\alpha_{i_k}^\vee} e_{i_k}(q_k^{-1}) Z_{i_{k+1}}(q_{k+1}) \cdots Z_{i_l}(q_l) B_+ \end{array}$$

The following procedure transforms the above configuration to a standard representative.

- Move the unipotent factor $e_{-i_k}(q_k^{-1})$ inside each decorated flag in the top row all the way to the left so that it can be absorbed into U_- .
- Move the unipotent factor $e_{i_k}(q_k^{-1})$ inside each decorated flag in the bottom row all the way to the right so that it can be absorbed into B_+ .
- Move the torus factor $q_k^{\alpha_{i_k}^\vee}$ inside each decorated flag in the bottom row all the way to the right so that it can be absorbed into B_+ .
- Replace every B_+ in the bottom row by U_+ to obtain a standard representative.

Among these operations, we claim that (a) and (b) correspond to the matrix scanning algorithms for $\Phi_{S_k}^*$, and (c) corresponds to moving the new pair of marked points to the far right after the saddle cobordism S_k .

Let us start with (a). Let q' be a collection of $\mathbb{F}$ -valued parameters such that

$$U_- Z_{i_s}(q_s) \cdots Z_{i_{k-1}}(q_{k-1}) e_{-i_k}(q_k^{-1}) = U_- Z_{i_s}(q'_s) \cdots Z_{i_{k-1}}(q'_{k-1}).$$

Note that these q' parameters are part of the affine coordinates for $\text{Conf}_{\beta_k}^e(\mathcal{C})$. Since we would like to compare the pull-back of the Reeb coordinates on the augmentation varieties versus the affine coordinates on the double Bott-Samelson cells, we need to express the q parameters in terms of the q' parameters. To do so, let us multiply the above equation by $e_{i_k}(q_k^{-1})$ on both sides, which yields

$$U_- Z_{i_s}(q_s) \cdots Z_{i_{k-1}}(q_{k-1}) = U_- Z_{i_s}(q'_s) \cdots Z_{i_{k-1}}(q'_{k-1}) e_{-i_k}(q_k^{-1}).$$

We then observe that in order for $Z_i(q)lZ_i(q')$ to hold for $l \in U_-$, we need

$$q = q' + l_{i+1,i}. \quad (3.19)$$

Set $l^{(k-1)} = e_{-i_k}(q_k^{-1})$. For $s < k$, using (3.19) recursively, we obtain

$$q_s = q'_s + l_{i_s+1,i_s}^{(s)}, \quad l^{(s-1)} = Z_{i_s}(q'_s) l^{(s)} Z_{i_s}(q_s)^{-1} \in U_-. \quad (3.20)$$

Now we turn to (b). The identity we need is

$$e_{i_k}(q_k^{-1}) Z_{i_{k+1}}(q_{k+1}) \cdots Z_{i_s}(q_s) B_+ = Z_{i_{k+1}}(q'_{k+1}) \cdots Z_{i_s}(q'_s) B_+,$$

which is equivalent to

$$Z_{i_{k+1}}(q_{k+1}) \cdots Z_{i_s}(q_s) \mathbf{B}_+ = e_{i_k}(q_k^{-1}) Z_{i_{k+1}}(q'_{k+1}) \cdots Z_{i_s}(q'_s) \mathbf{B}_+.$$

To express the q parameters in terms of the q' parameters, we can first set $u^{(k+1)} = e_{i_k}(q_k^{-1})$, and then recursively, we have

$$q_s = q'_s + u_{i_s, i_s+1}^{(s)} \in \mathbb{F}, \quad u^{(s+1)} := Z_{i_s}(q_s)^{-1} u^{(s)} Z_{i_s}(q'_s) \in \mathbf{U}_+. \quad (3.21)$$

Let b' denote the Reeb coordinates on the Legendrian link after the saddle cobordism but before moving the pair of the newly created marked points to the right. We want to show that, under the assumption

$$b'_s = q'_s, \quad (3.22)$$

we have

$$b_s = q_s. \quad (3.23)$$

By comparing (3.20) with (3.11) and (3.21) with (3.8), it suffices to show

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{1} + L^{(s)} &= l^{(s)} \quad \text{for } s < k, \text{ and} \\ \mathbf{1} + U^{(s)} &= u^{(s)} \quad \text{for } s > k, \end{aligned}$$

where $\mathbf{1}$ denotes the identity matrix of the appropriate size.

Let us do a backward induction on s to prove the $s < k$ case; the $s > k$ case is similar. The base case $s = k - 1$ is clear. By a calculation similar to (3.19), for any square matrix M over $\mathbb{F}$ (of characteristic 2) and any element $x \in \mathbb{F}$, we have

$$Z_i(x) (\mathbf{1} + M^-) Z_i(x + M_{i+1,i})^{-1} = \mathbf{1} + \left(Z_i(x) M^- Z_i(x + M_{i+1,i})^{-1} \right)^-.$$

Using this identity, we see that

$$\begin{aligned} l^{(s-1)} &= Z_{i_s}(q'_s) l^{(s)} Z_{i_s}(q_s)^{-1} \\ &= Z_{i_s}(b'_s) l^{(s)} Z_{i_s}(b_s)^{-1} \\ &= Z_{i_s}(b'_s) (\mathbf{1} + L^{(s)}) Z_{i_s}(b'_s + L_{i_s+1, i_s}^{(s)})^{-1} \\ &= \mathbf{1} + \left(Z_{i_s}(b'_s) L^{(s)} Z_{i_s}(b'_s + L_{i_s+1, i_s}^{(s)})^{-1} \right)^- \\ &= \mathbf{1} + L^{(s-1)}. \end{aligned}$$

For step (c), we claim that moving the torus factor $q_k^{\alpha_{i_k}^\vee}$ through the product

$$Z_{i_{k+1}}(q'_{k+1}) Z_{i_{k+2}}(q'_{k+2}) \cdots Z_{i_s}(q'_s)$$

corresponds to moving the new marked points $p_k^{\pm 1}$ to the right through the crossings $s_{i_{k+1}} \cdots s_{i_s}$. To include marked points in the braid region, we modify the algorithm to compute the CE dga in Proposition 2.1 by interpolating diagonal matrices from marked points. Observe that moving the new marked points through the crossings $s_{i_{k+1}} \cdots s_{i_s}$ changes the Reeb coordinates b'_s of Λ_- to b''_s , which are determined by the identity

$$p_k^{\alpha_{i_k}^\vee} Z_{i_{k+1}}(b'_{k+1}) Z_{i_{k+2}}(b'_{k+2}) \cdots Z_{i_s}(b'_s) = Z_{i_{k+1}}(b''_{k+1}) Z_{i_{k+2}}(b''_{k+2}) \cdots Z_{i_s}(b''_s) D,$$

where D is a diagonal matrix recording the strand level of the marked points $p_k^{\pm 1}$. Correspondingly, let q''_s be uniquely chosen such that for all $s > k$,

$$q_k^{\alpha_{i_k}^\vee} Z_{i_{k+1}}(q'_{k+1}) Z_{i_{k+2}}(q'_{k+2}) \cdots Z_{i_s}(q'_s) B_+ = Z_{i_{k+1}}(q''_{k+1}) Z_{i_{k+2}}(q''_{k+2}) \cdots Z_{i_s}(q''_s) B_+.$$

By (3.17) and (3.22), we deduce that

$$b''_s = q''_s, \quad \forall s > k. \quad (3.24)$$

Note that $(b'_1, \dots, b'_{k-1}, b''_{k+1}, \dots, b''_l)$ are the Reeb coordinates on $\text{Aug}(\Lambda_{\beta_k})$, and $(q'_1, \dots, q'_{k-1}, q''_{k+1}, \dots, q''_l)$ are the affine coordinates on $\text{Conf}_{\beta_k}^e(\mathcal{C})$. Therefore, (3.17), (3.22), and (3.24) imply the commutativity of the diagram in the proposition. $\square$

COROLLARY 3.17. *Let $(S_k, \mathcal{P}) : \Lambda_- \rightarrow \Lambda_\beta$ be the decorated saddle cobordism that resolves the crossing i_k into a pair of marked points $p_k^{\pm 1}$. Then the functorial morphism $\phi_+ \circ \Phi_{S_k} : \text{Aug}(\Lambda_-, \mathcal{P}) \rightarrow \text{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta)$ is an open embedding.*

Proof. Note that in the commutative diagram in Proposition 3.16, the top map and the bottom map are both isomorphisms, whereas the map on the right is an open embedding. Therefore the map on the left is also an open embedding. $\square$

(II) Cyclic Rotation. Our next proposition shows that the cyclic rotation morphism between augmentation varieties is equivalent to the composition of a pair of reflections between the double Bott-Samelson varieties. Following [SW19], the reflections on double Bott-Samelson varieties are quasi-cluster isomorphisms.

PROPOSITION 3.18. *The following two diagrams commute:*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Aug}(\Lambda_{\beta s_i}) & \xrightarrow[\cong]{\gamma} & \text{Conf}_{\beta s_i}^e(\mathcal{C}) \\ \Phi_\rho \downarrow \cong & & \cong \downarrow l \circ r \\ \text{Aug}(\Lambda_{s_i \beta}) & \xrightarrow[\gamma]{\cong} & \text{Conf}_{s_i \beta}^e(\mathcal{C}), \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{ccc} \text{Aug}(\Lambda_{s_i \beta}) & \xrightarrow[\cong]{\gamma} & \text{Conf}_{s_i \beta}^e(\mathcal{C}) \\ \Phi_{\rho^{-1}} \downarrow \cong & & \cong \downarrow r^{-1} \circ l^{-1} \\ \text{Aug}(\Lambda_{\beta s_i}) & \xrightarrow[\gamma]{\cong} & \text{Conf}_{\beta s_i}^e(\mathcal{C}), \end{array} \quad (3.25)$$

where $r : \text{Conf}_{\beta s_i}^e(\mathcal{C}) \xrightarrow{\cong} \text{Conf}_{\beta}^{s_i}(\mathcal{C})$ is the right reflection isomorphism and $l : \text{Conf}_{\beta}^{s_i}(\mathcal{C}) \xrightarrow{\cong} \text{Conf}_{s_i \beta}^e(\mathcal{C})$ is the left reflection isomorphism.

Proof. Due to symmetry, it suffices to prove the first commutative diagram.

Suppose that $\beta = s_{i_1} \dots s_{i_{l-1}}$. The right reflection r maps

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \mathbf{U}_- & \\ \swarrow & & \searrow \\ \mathbf{U}_+ \xrightarrow{s_{i_1}} x_1 \mathbf{U}_+ \cdots \xrightarrow{s_{i_{l-1}}} x_{l-1} \mathbf{U}_+ \xrightarrow{s_i} x_{l-1} Z_i(q) \mathbf{U}_+ & \mapsto & \begin{array}{ccc} & \mathbf{U}_- \xrightarrow{s_i} \mathbf{U}_- Z_i(q') & \\ \swarrow & & \searrow \\ \mathbf{U}_+ \xrightarrow{s_{i_1}} x_1 \mathbf{U}_+ \xrightarrow{s_{i_2}} \cdots \xrightarrow{s_{i_l}} x_{l-1} \mathbf{U}_+ & & \end{array} \end{array}$$

Following the definition of r , all affine coordinates on $\text{Conf}_\beta^{s_i}(\mathcal{C})$ are pulled back to the corresponding affine coordinates except for q' .

Now we compute the pull back $r^*(q')$. From the assumption $\mathbf{U}_- \longrightarrow x_{l-1} Z_i(q) \mathbf{U}_+$, we know that $z := x_{l-1} Z_i(q)$ is Gaussian decomposable, i.e., there exists unique matrices $[z]_\pm \in \mathbf{U}_\pm$ and $[z]_0 \in \mathbb{T}$ such that $z = [z]_- [z]_0 [z]_+$. We act on the left configuration by $[z]_-^{-1}$, turning it into the picture on the left below.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{U}_- & & \mathbf{U}_- \xrightarrow{s_i} \mathbf{U}_- \bar{s}_i \\ & \searrow & \downarrow s_i \\ \cdots \xrightarrow{s_i} [z]_0 \mathbf{U}_+ & & \cdots \xrightarrow{s_i} [z]_0 \mathbf{U}_+ \end{array}$$

According to the definition of r , the new flag in the top row is the unique flag that is of Tits distance s_i from $\mathbf{U}_-$ and of Tits codistance s_i from $[z]_0 \mathbf{U}_+$. It is not hard to see that this flag must be $\mathbf{U}_- \bar{s}_i$. To restore to the standard representative for the preimage, we need to act again by $[z]_-$, which implies that

$$\mathbf{U}_- Z_i(q') = \mathbf{U}_- \bar{s}_i [z]_-^{-1}.$$

Following the Gaussian elimination process, one can see that

$$[z]_- = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{\Delta_1(\bar{s}_1^{-1} z)}{\Delta_1(z)} & 1 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ * & * & \cdots & 1 & 0 \\ * & * & \cdots & \frac{\Delta_{n-1}(\bar{s}_{n-1}^{-1} z)}{\Delta_{n-1}(z)} & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

This implies that $Z_i \left(\frac{\Delta_i(\bar{s}_i^{-1} z)}{\Delta_i(z)} \right) [z]_- \bar{s}_i^{-1}$ is still a lower triangular unipotent matrix. Therefore, we get

$$r^*(q') = \frac{\Delta_i(\bar{s}_i^{-1} z)}{\Delta_i(z)}.$$

On the other hand, since the left reflection map l only moves decorated flags within the compatible region, it follows that the pull-back map l^* is the identity

map on affine coordinates. Composing r^* and l^* we get that

$$(l \circ r)^*(q_k) = q_{k-1} \quad \forall 1 < k \leq l \quad \text{and} \quad (l \circ r)^*(q_1) = \frac{\Delta_i(\bar{s}_i^{-1}z)}{\Delta_i(z)}, \quad (3.26)$$

where

$$z = Z_{i_1}(q_1) Z_{i_2}(q_2) \cdots Z_{i_{l-1}}(q_{l-1}) Z_i(q_l).$$

Let us now make use of the natural isomorphism γ . We first observe that $\gamma^*(q_i) = b_i$ and $\gamma^*(z) = M := Z_{i_1}(b_1) \cdots Z_{i_{l-1}}(b_{l-1}) Z_i(b_l)$. Therefore we have

$$\gamma^* \circ (l \circ r)^*(q_1) = \frac{\Delta_i(\bar{s}_i^{-1}M)}{\Delta_i(M)} = \frac{\Delta_{\{1, \dots, i\}}^{\{1, \dots, i\}}(M)}{\Delta_i(M)}, \quad (3.27)$$

where Δ_I^J denotes the determinant of the submatrix formed by the rows in the set I and the columns in the set J . By Propositions 2.2 and 2.8 we can further deduce that

$$\Delta_i(M) = \prod_{k=1}^i t_k^{-1} \quad \text{and} \quad \Delta_{\{1, \dots, i-1, i+1\}}^{\{1, \dots, i\}}(M) = M_{i+1, i}^{(i)} \prod_{k=1}^{i-1} t_k^{-1}. \quad (3.28)$$

Combining (3.27), (3.28), and Proposition 3.13, we obtain the following pull-back image for the affine coordinate q_1 :

$$\gamma^* \circ (l \circ r)^*(q_1) = t_i M_{i+1, i}^{(i)} = \Phi_R^* \circ \gamma^*(q_1).$$

For all other affine coordinates q_k with $1 < k \leq l$, we can deduce from (3.26) and Proposition 3.13 that $\gamma^* \circ (l \circ r)^*(q_k) = \Phi_\rho^* \circ \gamma^*(q_k)$. $\square$

(III) Braid Move. Suppose $|i - j| = 1$ and suppose β' and β are two braid words that only differ at three consecutive crossings by replacing (i, j, i) with (j, i, j) . From the matrix identity

$$Z_i(q_1) Z_j(q_2) Z_i(q_3) = Z_j(q_3) Z_i(q_2 + q_1 q_3) Z_j(q_1)$$

and (3.15) we deduce that the following diagram commutes

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Aug}(\Lambda_{\beta'}) & \xrightarrow[\cong]{\gamma} & \text{Conf}_{\beta'}^e(\mathcal{C}) \\ \Phi_B \downarrow & & \parallel \\ \text{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta) & \xrightarrow[\gamma]{\cong} & \text{Conf}_\beta^e(\mathcal{C}) \end{array} \quad (3.29)$$

where Φ_B is the functorial morphism induced from the braid move Legendrian isotopy $B : \Lambda_{\beta'} \rightarrow \Lambda_\beta$. Note that the two γ maps are not identical because the top one is defined by the braid word β' and the bottom one is defined by the braid word β .

(IV) Minimum Cobordism. Consider a decorated Legendrian unknot O with $\text{tb} = -1$ as drawn in Fig. 6. The differential of the unique degree 1 Reeb chord a is

$$\partial a = t_1 t_2 \cdots t_k + t_m^{-1} t_{m-1}^{-1} \cdots t_{k+1}^{-1}.$$

Therefore $\text{Aug}(O)$ is the vanishing locus of $t_1 t_2 \cdots t_k + t_m^{-1} t_{m-1}^{-1} \cdots t_{k+1}^{-1}$ in $(\mathbb{F}^\times)_{t_1, \dots, t_m}^m$.

Let $(M, \mathcal{P}) : \emptyset \rightarrow O$ be the decorated minimum cobordism that fills O . By definition, $\text{Aug}(\emptyset, \mathcal{P})$ is defined to be the subtorus of $(\mathbb{F}^\times)_{t_1, \dots, t_m}^m$ satisfying $\prod_i t_i = 1$. In characteristic 2, the equation $t_1 t_2 \cdots t_k + t_m^{-1} t_{m-1}^{-1} \cdots t_{k+1}^{-1} = 0$ is equivalent to the equation $\prod_i t_i = 1$. Moreover, recall from (3.16) that $\Phi_M^*(t_i) = t_i$ for all t_i . Therefore we can conclude the following Lemma.

LEMMA 3.19. *The functorial morphism $\Phi_M : \text{Aug}(\emptyset, \mathcal{P}) \rightarrow \text{Aug}(O, \mathcal{P})$ is an isomorphism of algebraic tori.*

We are now ready to prove the main theorem of this section.

Theorem 3.20. *For any admissible filling L of Λ_β with decoration $\mathcal{P}$, the functorial morphism $\phi_+ \circ \Phi_L : \text{Aug}(\emptyset, \mathcal{P}) \rightarrow \text{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta)$ is an open embedding of an algebraic torus, and its image is a cluster chart on $\text{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta)$.*

Proof. Among the four types of building blocks, we know that cyclic rotations and braid moves are Legendrian isotopies, which are invertible exact Lagrangian concordance. This implies that their induced functorial morphisms between Augmentation varieties are always isomorphisms. Moreover, commutative diagrams (3.25) and (3.29) yield that $\Phi_{\rho^{\pm 1}}$ and Φ_B are both quasi-cluster isomorphisms, which map cluster charts to cluster charts. Therefore it suffices to prove the theorem for admissible fillings $L : \emptyset \rightarrow \Lambda_\beta$ that are of the form $S_{k_1} \circ S_{k_2} \circ \cdots \circ S_{k_l} \circ (\bigsqcup_n M)$, where l is the length of β and n is the number of strands in β .

First we observe that $\Phi_{\bigsqcup_n M} = \prod_n \Phi_M$. Let $\bigsqcup_n O$ be the split union of n decorated Legendrian unknots right before the final minimum cobordisms. Then by Lemma 3.19, we know that $\Phi_{\bigsqcup_n M} : \text{Aug}(\emptyset, \mathcal{P}) \rightarrow \text{Aug}(\bigsqcup_n O, \mathcal{P})$ is an isomorphism between algebraic tori. Therefore it remains to show that $\phi_+ \circ \Phi_{S_{k_1}} \circ \cdots \circ \Phi_{S_{k_l}} : \text{Aug}(\bigsqcup_n O, \mathcal{P}) \rightarrow \text{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta)$ is an open embedding from an algebraic torus onto a cluster chart.

Let us do an induction on the length l of β . For the base case with $l = 1$, the statement follows from Proposition 3.16 and Corollary 3.17. For $l > 1$, we consider

the following commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 \text{Aug}(\bigsqcup_n O, \mathcal{P}') \times (\mathbb{F}^\times)_{p_{k_1}} & \xrightarrow{(\phi_+ \circ \Phi_{S_{k_2}} \circ \cdots \circ \Phi_{S_{k_l}}) \times \text{id}} & \text{Aug}(\Lambda_{\beta_{k_1}}) \times (\mathbb{F}^\times)_{p_{k_1}} & & \\
 \cong \downarrow & & \downarrow \cong & \searrow \tau & \\
 \text{Aug}(\bigsqcup_n O, \mathcal{P}) & \xrightarrow{\phi_+ \circ \Phi_{S_{k_2}} \circ \cdots \circ \Phi_{S_{k_l}}} & \text{Aug}(\Lambda_{\beta_{k_1}}, \mathcal{P}_{k_1}) & \xrightarrow{\phi_+ \circ \Phi_{S_{k_1}}} & \text{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta) \\
 \parallel & & & & \parallel \\
 \text{Aug}(\bigsqcup_n O, \mathcal{P}) & \xrightarrow{\phi_+ \circ \Phi_{S_{k_1}} \circ \cdots \circ \Phi_{S_{k_l}}} & & & \text{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta)
 \end{array}$$

where $\mathcal{P}' = \mathcal{P} \setminus \{p_{k_1}\}$, and $\mathcal{P}_{k_1}$ denotes the decoration on the saddle cobordism S_{k_1} . By the inductive hypothesis, we know that the top morphism is an open embedding onto a cluster chart. On the other hand, Proposition 3.16 and Corollary 3.17 implies that $\phi_+ \circ \Phi_{S_{k_1}}$ is an open embedding and a quasi-cluster morphism. Therefore, it follows from the commutative that the bottom morphism is also an open embedding onto a cluster chart. This finishes the proof of the theorem. $\square$

COROLLARY 3.21. *Every degree 0 Reeb chord b_k of Λ_β is a mutable cluster variable of the cluster structure on $\text{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta)$.*

Proof. From the proof of Proposition 3.16 and Theorem 3.20, we see that b_k is a mutable cluster coordinate on the cluster chart corresponding to the admissible filling $L \circ S_k$ where L is any admissible filling of Λ_{β_k} . $\square$

COROLLARY 3.22. *Suppose L and L' are Hamiltonian isotopic admissible fillings of Λ_β , then they give rise to the same cluster seed.*

Proof. By construction, any admissible filling $(L, \mathcal{P})$ has sufficient $\mathcal{P}$. By Corollary 3.9, the cluster charts corresponding to L and L' are equal as open subvarieties. By Proposition A.3, we know that L and L' must correspond to the same cluster seed. $\square$

The theory of cluster algebras gives rise to a computable numerical invariant for each admissible filling. Let α_0 be the cluster seed associated to the admissible filling

$$L_0 := \left(\bigsqcup_n M \right) \circ S_l \circ S_{l-1} \circ \cdots \circ S_2 \circ S_1.$$

We set α_0 as the initial cluster seed. Fomin and Zelevinsky [FZ07, (6.4)] constructed an integer matrix G_α , called the g -matrix, for every cluster seed α . Following [G+18], each α corresponds to a cluster chamber $\mathcal{C}_\alpha$ in the scattering diagram associated with the cluster algebra, and the column vectors of G_α are the primitive vectors spanning $\mathcal{C}_\alpha$. Thus, the sums of the column vectors of the g -matrices are a complete invariant for the cluster seeds. We conclude the following corollary.

COROLLARY 3.23. *For each admissible filling L , let α_L be its corresponding cluster seed and let G_L be the g -matrix of α_L with respect to the initial seed α_0 . Let g_L be the sum of column vectors of G_L . If L and L' are Hamiltonian isotopic, then $g_L = g_{L'}$.*

3.4 Computing cluster seeds associated with admissible fillings. In this section, we present an explicit algorithm to compute the cluster seeds (including their cluster coordinates and quivers) associated with admissible fillings. Throughout this section, we fix an n -stranded braid word $\beta = s_{i_1} \dots s_{i_l}$.

(0) Initial Seed. Let us first consider the cluster chart that is the image of the functorial morphism $\phi_+ \circ \Phi_{L_0}$ with $L_0 = (\sqcup_n M) \circ S_l \circ S_{l-1} \circ \dots \circ S_2 \circ S_1$. The following statement is a direct consequence of Proposition 3.16 and Theorem 3.20.

PROPOSITION 3.24. *Under the isomorphism $\gamma : \text{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta) \rightarrow \text{Conf}_\beta^e(\mathcal{C})$, the cluster seed α_0 is identified with the unique triangulation defined by the braid word β on $\text{Conf}_\beta^e(\mathcal{C})$.*

The cluster coordinates on α_0 are

$$A_k = \Delta_{i_k} (Z_{i_1} (b_1) Z_{i_2} (b_2) \dots Z_{i_k} (b_k)), \quad \forall 1 \leq k \leq l.$$

Comparing Q_β with the quivers associated with triangulations for $\text{Conf}_\beta^e(\mathcal{C})$ in Appendix B, we see that Q_β is precisely the quiver for the initial cluster seed α_0 . Note that the cluster coordinate A_k is associated with the region (quiver vertex) to the immediate right of the k th crossing, and the cluster coordinates that are on the furthest right on each horizontal level are automatically frozen. We call $\alpha_0 = (\{A_k\}_{1 \leq k \leq l}, Q_\beta)$ the *initial seed* and Q_β the *initial quiver* associated with the braid word β . Other cluster seeds can be obtained from the initial seed via a sequence of cluster mutations, and we will describe an explicit cluster mutation sequence for each building block of admissible fillings.

(I) Saddle Cobordism. We make use of Proposition 3.16 to derive the mutation sequence for saddle cobordisms. From this proposition we know that a saddle cobordism $S_k : \Lambda_{\beta_k} \rightarrow \Lambda_\beta$ corresponds an open quasi-cluster morphism. In order to get the image, which is an open cluster subvariety, we need to

- (1) apply a sequence of left reflection maps l that reflects first $k - 1$ flags from the bottom to the top;
- (2) perform the open embedding ψ described in Appendix B.6;
- (3) apply the inverse sequence of left reflection maps l^{-1} .

Our goal is to produce the initial quiver Q_{β_k} for the positive braid Legendrian link Λ_{β_k} (without marked points in the braid region). The mutation sequence to turn Q_β to Q_{β_k} will be a composition of mutation sequences that correspond to the three steps above.

Since (2) involves setting aside a quiver vertex that will no longer be considered as part of the quiver for Λ_{β_k} , we introduce a new concept called active vertices for the quivers associated with admissible fillings.

DEFINITION 3.25. Let $L : \Lambda_- \rightarrow \Lambda_\beta$ be an admissible cobordism. An unfrozen quiver vertex is said to be *active* if it is still considered as part of the quiver for the positive braid Legendrian link Λ_- after disregarding all the marked point in the braid region. A quiver vertex is said to be *inactive* if it is not active.

Note that in the initial quiver Q_β , all unfrozen vertices are active.

Let us now describe the mutation sequences for each of the three steps involved in locating the open cluster subvariety.

- (1) In terms of the triangulation description of cluster seeds in double Bott-Samelson cells, each left reflection in l reflects a flag from the bottom left hand corner to the top left hand corner by turning the left most triangle upside down. But then in order to prepare for the next left reflection, we should move this newly turned triangle to the right of the triangle with base

$$\mathbf{B}^k \xrightarrow{s_{i_k}} \mathbf{B}^{k+1} \quad \text{using cluster mutations.}$$

Let us denote the active quiver vertices on the i th level as

$$\binom{i}{1}, \binom{i}{2}, \dots, \binom{i}{m_i}$$

from left to right. For each level i and two integers a, b satisfying $1 \leq a \leq b \leq m_i$, we define a mutation sequence

$$\eta(i, a, b) := \mu_{\binom{i}{b}} \circ \mu_{\binom{i}{b-1}} \circ \dots \circ \mu_{\binom{i}{a}}. \quad (3.30)$$

For each crossing i_j in the braid β with $1 \leq j < k$, we define

$$t_j := \#\{s \mid j < s \leq k, i_s = i_j\}.$$

The sequence of left reflections l corresponds to the sequence of mutations:

$$E_l := \eta(i_{k-1}, 1, t_{k-1}) \circ \dots \circ \eta(i_2, 1, t_2) \circ \eta(i_1, 1, t_1). \quad (3.31)$$

- (2) In this step, we need to remove the left most triangle, which has base

$\mathbf{B}^k \xrightarrow{s_{i_k}} \mathbf{B}^{k+1}$, from the triangulation. This corresponds to deactivating the left most active vertex on the i_k th level. Due to this deactivation, there will be one fewer active vertex on the i_k th level. To avoid confusion, let us denote the new braid by β' and denote the active quiver vertices on the i th level as $\binom{i}{1}', \binom{i}{2}', \dots, \binom{i}{m_i}'$. Note that

$$\binom{i}{a}' = \begin{cases} \binom{i}{a} & \text{if } i \neq i_k, \\ \binom{i}{a+1} & \text{if } i = i_k. \end{cases}$$

- (3) Note that $\beta' = \beta_k = s_{i_1} \dots s_{i_{k-1}} s_{i_{k+1}} \dots s_{i_l}$. For each i_j with $1 \leq j < k$, we define

$$t'_j := \#\{s \mid j < s < k, i_s = i_j\}.$$

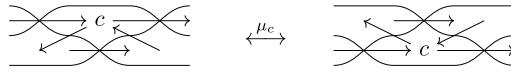


Figure 7: Braid Move.

Define $\eta'(i, a, b)$ similar to (3.30) with each mutation indexed by primed indices $(i_s)'$. The mutation sequence corresponding to the sequence of left reflections l^{-1} is

$$E_{l^{-1}} := \eta'(i_1, 1, t'_1)^{-1} \circ \eta'(i_2, 1, t'_2)^{-1} \circ \cdots \circ \eta'(i_{k-1}, 1, t'_{k-1})^{-1}. \quad (3.32)$$

Combining the three steps, the total mutation sequence for a saddle cobordism S_k is

$$E_{S_k} := E_{l^{-1}} \circ E_l, \quad (3.33)$$

where E_l is defined in (3.31) and $E_{l^{-1}}$ is defined in (3.32).

(II) Cyclic Rotation. Let $\rho_i : \Lambda_{\beta s_i} \rightarrow \Lambda_{s_i \beta}$ be a cyclic rotation cobordism. According to Proposition 3.18, the functorial morphism $\Phi_{\rho_i} : \text{Aug}(\Lambda_{\beta s_i}) \rightarrow \text{Aug}(\Lambda_{s_i \beta})$ corresponds to the composition

$$\text{Conf}_{\beta s_i}^e(\mathcal{C}) \xrightarrow{r} \text{Conf}_{\beta}^{s_i}(\mathcal{C}) \xrightarrow{l} \text{Conf}_{s_i \beta}(\mathcal{C}).$$

The change of initial quiver associated with this composition of reflection maps can be realized via a mutation sequence that mutates every active quiver vertex on the i th level. When we left-compose ρ_i onto an admissible cobordism, we are changing from the initial quiver of $\text{Aug}(\Lambda_{s_i \beta})$ to the initial quiver for $\text{Aug}(\Lambda_{\beta s_i})$. Therefore the corresponding mutation sequence is

$$E_{\rho_i} := \eta(i, 1, m_i), \quad (3.34)$$

where η is defined in (3.30). Consequently,

$$E_{\rho_i^{-1}} := \eta(i, 1, m_i)^{-1}. \quad (3.35)$$

(III) Braid Move. From the commutative diagram (3.29) we know that a braid move cobordism $B : \Lambda'_{\beta} \rightarrow \Lambda_{\beta}$ corresponds to a braid move on the bases of the corresponding double Bott-Samelson cell triangulation. It is known that the latter is a single mutation that takes place at a unique quiver vertex. In terms of the initial quiver Q_{β} , this unique quiver vertex is the unique vertex that is associated with the region completely enclosed by the three strands involved in the braid move. Therefore we conclude that

$$E_B := \mu_c. \quad (3.36)$$

Note that after a braid move, the active vertex c needs to move to the adjacent level, as depicted in Fig. 7.

(IV) Minimum Cobordism. A minimum cobordism M induces an isomorphism Φ_M between algebraic tori. Therefore it corresponds to the empty mutation sequence, i.e.,

$$E_M = \emptyset. \quad (3.37)$$

(V) Summary. For any admissible filling L of Λ_β , the corresponding cluster seed α_L can be computed as follows. First we compute the initial seed α_0 associated with the braid word β ; then we write L as a composition of elementary building blocks $L = L_m \circ \cdots \circ L_2 \circ L_1$, and mutate the initial seed α_0 accordingly, yielding

$$\alpha_L := E_{L_m} \circ \cdots \circ E_{L_2} \circ E_{L_1}(\alpha_0).$$

Each mutation subsequence E_{L_i} is given by one of (3.33), (3.34), (3.35), (3.36), and (3.37). We have implemented a characteristic 0 version of this algorithm in a javascript program.³ For any admissible filling L , this program computes

- the functorial homomorphism images $\Phi_L^*(b_i)$ for all degree 0 Reeb chords;
- the mutation sequence from the initial cluster α_0 to the cluster α_L ;
- the cluster seed of α_L , including both the cluster variables and the associated quiver;
- the seed invariant vector g_L (Corollary 3.23).

4 Infinitely many fillings

In this section, we solve the infinite-filling problem for positive braid Legendrian links. One key ingredient in our proof is the cluster Donaldson-Thomas transformations. Throughout this section, all mentions of the quiver Q_β refer to its unfrozen part. To better visualize the proofs in this section, the color version of the article is given online.

4.1 Full cyclic rotation and Donaldson-Thomas transformation.

DEFINITION 4.1. For a positive braid word β of length l , the *full cyclic rotation* R is the exact Lagrangian concordance $\rho^l : \Lambda_\beta \rightarrow \Lambda_\beta$, where ρ is the cyclic rotation (3.14).

The cluster DT transformation is a unique central element of the cluster modular group acting on the associated cluster varieties (Definition A.9). Combinatorially, the cluster DT transformation can be manifested as a maximal green sequence, or more generally, a reddening sequence of quiver mutations [Kel17].

LEMMA 4.2. *For any positive braid word β , we have $\Phi_R = \text{DT}^2$ on $\text{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta)$.*

Proof. Suppose $\beta = s_{i_1} \cdots s_{i_l}$. By [SW19], the DT transformation on $\text{Conf}_\beta^e(\mathcal{C})$ is

$$\text{DT} = t \circ (r_{i_1} \circ r_{i_2} \circ \cdots \circ r_{i_l}),$$

³ See https://users.math.msu.edu/users/wengdap1/filling_to_cluster.html.

where t is a biregular isomorphism induced by the transposition action on $G = \mathrm{SL}_n$ and r_i are right reflection maps. Let us denote the left reflection of s_i by l^i . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{DT}^2 &= t \circ (r_{i_1} \circ r_{i_2} \circ \cdots \circ r_{i_l}) \circ t \circ (r_{i_1} \circ r_{i_2} \circ \cdots \circ r_{i_l}) \\ &= t \circ t \circ (l^{i_1} \circ l^{i_2} \circ \cdots \circ l^{i_l}) \circ (r_{i_1} \circ r_{i_2} \circ \cdots \circ r_{i_l}) \\ &= (l^{i_1} \circ l^{i_2} \circ \cdots \circ l^{i_l}) \circ (r_{i_1} \circ r_{i_2} \circ \cdots \circ r_{i_l}) \\ &= (l^{i_1} \circ r_{i_1}) \circ (l^{i_2} \circ r_{i_2}) \circ \cdots \circ (l^{i_l} \circ r_{i_l}). \end{aligned}$$

The first commutative diagram in Proposition 3.18 asserts that $l^{i_k} \circ r_{i_k} = \Phi_\rho$. Therefore $\mathrm{DT}^2 = \Phi_{\rho^l} = \Phi_R$. $\square$

Theorem 4.3. *For any positive braid word β , if the DT transformation on $\mathrm{Aug}(\Lambda_\beta)$ is aperiodic, then Λ_β admits infinitely many admissible fillings.*

Proof. Let L_0 be the admissible filling that pinches the crossings in β from left to right and then fills the resulted unlinks with minimum cobordisms. Let $L_m = R^m \circ L_0$. We claim that L_m is not Hamiltonian isotopic to L_k for $m \neq k$. To see this, note that by Lemma 4.2, the cluster seeds of L_m can be computed by mutating the initial seed according to DT^{2m} ; the aperiodicity of DT implies that the cluster seeds of L_m and L_k are distinct for $m \neq k$. The statement follows from Corollary 3.22. $\square$

REMARK 4.4. The full cyclic rotation was observed by Kálmán [Kal05]. For torus links $\Lambda_{(n,m)}$, where $\beta = (s_1 s_2 \cdots s_{n-1})^m$, [Kal05] further defined another Legendrian loop $K = \rho^{n-1}$, with the property $R = K^m$. Kálmán showed that Φ_K has finite order.

The quivers associated to $\mathrm{Aug}(\Lambda_{(n,m)})$ and those associated to the Grassmannian $\mathrm{Gr}_{n,n+m}$ share the same unfrozen parts. Hence, their DT transformations have the same order. The DT on $\mathrm{Gr}_{n,n+m}$ has finite order because it is related to the periodic Zamolodchikov operator by $\mathrm{DT}^2 = \mathrm{Za}^m$ [Kel13, Wen16, SW19]. In fact, Kálmán's loop induces the Zamolodchikov operator. Summarizing,

$$\Phi_R = \Phi_K^m = \mathrm{DT}^2 = \mathrm{Za}^m.$$

Theorem 4.5. *Let Q be an acyclic quiver. Its associated DT transformation is of finite order if and only if Q is of finite type.*

Proof. Combinatorially, the DT transformation arises from a maximal green sequence of quiver mutations [Kel17]. When Q is acyclic, one may label the vertices of Q by $1, \dots, l$ such that $i < j$ if there is an arrow from i to j . The mutation sequence $\mu_n \circ \cdots \circ \mu_1$ is maximal green and therefore gives rise to the DT transformation associated with Q .

The DT transformation acts on the cluster variety $\mathcal{A}_Q$ associated with the quiver Q . Following [L+20], the *frieze variety* $X(Q)$ is defined to be the Zariski closure of the DT-orbit containing the point $P = (1, \dots, 1) \in \mathcal{A}_Q$. Theorem 1.1 of *loc.cit.* states that

- (1) If Q is representation finite (i.e., the underlying graph of Q is a Dynkin diagram of type ADE), then the frieze variety $X(Q)$ is of dimension 0.
- (2) If Q is tame then the frieze variety $X(Q)$ is of dimension 1.
- (3) If Q is wild then the frieze variety $X(Q)$ is of dimension at least 2.

As a direct consequence, if Q is not of finite type, then the DT-orbit of P contains infinitely many points, and therefore DT is not periodic. If Q is of finite type, then its cluster variety is of finite type, and therefore its DT transformation is periodic. $\square$

REMARK 4.6. Keller pointed out to us that the aperiodicity of DT for acyclic quiver Q of infinite type follows from the aperiodicity of the Auslander-Reiten translation functor on the derived category of representations of Q .

COROLLARY 4.7. *For any positive braid word β , if Q_β is acyclic and of infinite type, then Λ_β admits infinitely many admissible fillings.*

Proof. It follows from Theorem 4.3 and Theorem 4.5. $\square$

4.2 Infinitely many fillings for infinite type. This section is devoted to the proof of the following result.

Theorem 4.8. *If $[\beta]$ is a positive braid of infinite type, then the positive braid Legendrian link Λ_β admits infinitely many non-Hamiltonian isotopic exact Lagrangian fillings.*

DEFINITION 4.9. Given two positive braid words β and γ , we say β *dominates* γ if there is an admissible cobordism from Λ_γ to Λ_β . Dominance is a partial order on braid words.

Recall that a quiver is *connected* if its underlying graph is connected. Connectedness of quivers is invariant under mutations. Under the connectedness assumption, Theorem 4.8 is a consequence of Corollary 4.7 and the following Propositions.

PROPOSITION 4.10. *Suppose β dominates γ . If Λ_γ admits infinitely many admissible fillings, then so does Λ_β .*

Proof. Recall from Corollary 3.22 that the cluster seeds can be used to distinguish admissible fillings. Since the functorial morphism between augmentation varieties induced by any admissible cobordism is a cluster morphisms, it must map distinct cluster seeds to distinct cluster seeds. $\square$

PROPOSITION 4.11. *For any braid word β with connected Q_β , either one of the following two scenarios happens:*

- (1) *there is an admissible concordance from Λ_γ to Λ_β and Q_γ is a quiver of finite type.*
- (2) *β dominates a braid word γ and Q_γ is acyclic and of infinite type.*

PROPOSITION 4.12. *If Proposition 4.11 (1) happens, then $[\beta]$ is of finite type.*

If Proposition 4.11 (2) happens, then $[\beta]$ is of infinite type.

Proof. Admissible concordances give rise to sequences of mutations (Sect. 3.4). If Proposition 4.11 (1) happens, then Q_β is mutation equivalent to Q_γ . The latter is of finite type. Therefore $[\beta]$ is of finite type.

If Proposition 4.11 (2) happens, then by Theorem 3.20, Q_β is mutation equivalent to a quiver which contains Q_γ as a full subquiver. Suppose that $[\beta]$ is of finite type. Then Q_γ is mutation equivalent to finite type quiver, which contradicts with the assumption that Q_γ is acyclic and of infinite type. Therefore $[\beta]$ is of infinite type. $\square$

Proposition 4.12 implies the exclusiveness of the two scenarios of Proposition 4.11. To conclude the proof of Proposition 4.11, it remains to prove that the two scenarios cover all braid words with connected quivers. The strategy of our proof is as follows.

- Suppose there is an admissible concordance $\Lambda_\gamma \rightarrow \Lambda_\beta$ such that Q_γ is acyclic. If Q_γ is of finite type, then β satisfies (1); otherwise, β satisfies (2).
- Otherwise, we prove that β satisfies (2).

(I) Preparation. We adopt the following notations for operations on braid words.

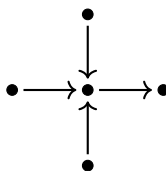
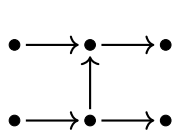
1. $\stackrel{\text{R1}}{=}$ denotes the positive Markov destabilization, which deletes the s_1 (resp. s_{n-1}) if it only occurs once in β .
2. $\stackrel{\text{R3}}{=}$ denotes the braid move R3, which switches $s_i s_{i+1} s_i$ and $s_{i+1} s_i s_{i+1}$.
3. $\stackrel{\rho}{=}$ denotes the cyclic rotation, which turns βs_i into $s_i \beta$ or vice versa.
4. $\stackrel{c}{=}$ denotes the commutation which turns $s_i s_j$ into $s_j s_i$ whenever $|i - j| > 1$.
5. $\succ$ denotes deleting letters; $\beta \succ \gamma$ means that γ can be obtained by deleting letters in β . In particular, when $\beta \succeq \gamma$, we say that γ is a *subword* of β .
6. $\stackrel{\text{oppo}}{\rightsquigarrow}$ denotes taking the opposite word β^{op} . The quiver $Q_{\beta^{\text{op}}}$ alters the orientation of every arrow in Q_β .

Operations 1 - 4 induce Legendrian isotopies between corresponding positive braid Legendrian links, which are building blocks for admissible concordance. Operations 5 induces pinch cobordisms between Legendrian links. Operation 6 is a symmetry that can be used to reduce the number of cases considered in the proof.

LEMMA 4.13. *The quivers for the following braids are acyclic and of infinite type:*

- (1) $s_1^2 s_2^2 s_1^2 s_2^2$, or more generally, $s_i^2 s_{i+1}^2 s_i^2 s_{i+1}^2$;
- (2) $s_1 s_3 s_2^2 s_1 s_3 s_2^2$.

Proof. The quivers for (1) and (2) are $\tilde{D}_5$ and $\tilde{D}_4$ respectively.



$\square$

LEMMA 4.14. *Suppose $w_1, w_2, w_3, w_4 \in \{s_1 s_3, s_1^2, s_3^2\}$. Then $w_1 s_2 w_2 s_2 w_3 s_2 w_4 s_2$ dominates a braid with an acyclic quiver of infinite type.*

Proof. Note that $\beta = w_1 s_2 \textcolor{red}{w_2} s_2 w_3 s_2 \textcolor{red}{w_4} s_2 \succ w_1 s_2^2 w_3 s_2^2$. If $w_1 = w_3$, then the Lemma follows from Lemma 4.13. The same argument applies to $w_2 = w_4$. In the rest of the proof, we assume that $w_1 \neq w_3$ and $w_2 \neq w_4$.

Let k be the size of the set $\{i \mid w_i = s_1 s_3\}$. Here $k \leq 2$; otherwise, $w_1 = w_3$ or $w_2 = w_4$. Using the symmetry between s_1 and s_3 , we further assume that there are more s_1^2 than s_3^2 in $\{w_1, w_2, w_3, w_4\}$. We shall exhaust all the possibilities of k .

Case 1: $k=2$

After taking necessary cyclic rotations and/or the opposite word, we have $w_1 = w_2 = s_1 s_3$, and the values of w_3, w_4 split into two subcases.

If $w_3 = s_1^2$ and $w_4 = s_3^2$, then Λ_β is admissibly concordant to the standard E_9 link:

$$\begin{aligned} \beta &= s_1 s_3 s_2 s_3 s_1 s_2 s_1 s_1 \textcolor{teal}{s_2 s_3 s_3 s_2} \stackrel{\rho}{=} s_2 s_3 s_3 s_2 s_1 \textcolor{blue}{s_3 s_2 s_3} s_1 s_2 s_1 s_1 \\ &\stackrel{\text{R3}}{=} s_2 s_3 s_3 \textcolor{blue}{s_2 s_1 s_2} s_3 s_2 s_1 s_2 s_1 s_1 \stackrel{\text{R3}}{=} s_2 \textcolor{blue}{s_3 s_3 s_1} s_2 s_1 \textcolor{blue}{s_3} s_2 s_1 s_2 s_1 s_1 \\ &\stackrel{c}{=} s_2 s_1 \textcolor{blue}{s_3 s_3 s_2 s_3} s_1 s_2 s_1 s_2 s_1 s_1 \stackrel{\text{R3}}{=} s_2 s_1 s_2 \textcolor{teal}{s_3} s_2 s_2 s_1 s_2 s_1 s_2 s_1 s_1 \\ &\stackrel{\text{R1}}{=} \textcolor{blue}{s_2 s_1 s_2} s_2 s_2 s_1 \textcolor{blue}{s_2 s_1 s_2} s_1 s_1 \stackrel{\text{R3}}{=} s_1 \textcolor{blue}{s_2 s_1 s_2 s_2} s_1 s_1 s_2 s_1 s_1 s_1 \\ &\stackrel{\text{R3}}{=} s_1 s_1 s_1 s_2 s_1 s_1 s_1 s_2 s_1 s_1 s_1 = s_1^3 s_2 s_1^3 s_2 \stackrel{\rho}{=} s_1^6 s_2 s_1^3 s_2 \end{aligned}$$

If $w_3 = w_4 = s_1^2$, we make the following moves and then apply Lemma 4.13 (1):

$$\begin{aligned} \beta &= s_1 \textcolor{blue}{s_3 s_2 s_3} s_1 s_2 s_1^2 s_2 s_1^2 s_2 \stackrel{\text{R3}}{=} s_1 s_2 \textcolor{teal}{s_3} s_2 s_1 s_2 s_1^2 s_2 s_1^2 s_2 \stackrel{\text{R1}}{=} s_1 s_2^2 s_1 s_2 s_1^2 s_2 s_1^2 s_2 \\ &= s_1 s_2^2 s_1 s_2 s_1 s_1 s_2 s_1 \textcolor{teal}{s_1 s_2} \stackrel{\rho}{=} s_1 s_2 s_1 s_2^2 s_1 s_2 s_1 \textcolor{blue}{s_1 s_2 s_1} \stackrel{\text{R3}}{=} s_1 \textcolor{red}{s_2} s_1 s_2^2 s_1 \textcolor{red}{s_2} s_1 s_2 \textcolor{red}{s_1} s_2 \succ s_1^2 s_2^2 s_1^2 s_2^2. \end{aligned}$$

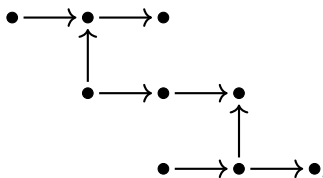
Case 2: $k=1$

We assume that $w_1 = s_1 s_3$ after a necessary cyclic rotation. Then w_2, w_3, w_4 are either s_1^2 or s_3^2 . Note that $w_2 \neq w_4$. By the symmetry between s_1 and s_3 , and taking rotations and the opposite word if necessary, it suffices to consider $w_2 = w_3 = s_1^2$ and $w_4 = s_3^2$. The Λ_β is admissible concordance to the standard E_9 link:

$$\begin{aligned} \beta &= s_3 s_1 s_2 s_1^2 s_2 s_1^2 \textcolor{teal}{s_2 s_3^2 s_2} \stackrel{\rho}{=} s_2 \textcolor{blue}{s_3^2 s_2 s_3} s_1 s_2 s_1^2 s_2 s_1^2 \stackrel{\text{R3}}{=} s_2 s_2^2 \textcolor{teal}{s_3} s_2 s_1 s_2 s_1^2 s_2 s_1^2 \\ &\stackrel{\text{R1}}{=} s_2 s_2^2 s_2 s_1 s_2 s_1^2 s_2 s_1^2 = \textcolor{blue}{s_2^4 s_1 s_2} s_1^2 s_2 s_1^2 \stackrel{\text{R3}}{=} s_1^4 s_2 s_1 s_1^2 s_2 \textcolor{teal}{s_1^2} \stackrel{\rho}{=} s_1^6 s_2 s_3 s_2. \end{aligned}$$

Case 3: $k=0$

Assume that $w_1 = w_2 = s_1^2$ and $w_3 = w_4 = s_3^2$. Then Q_β is of type $\tilde{D}_8$:



□

DEFINITION 4.15. Let β be a braid word of n strands. For $1 \leq i < j \leq n-1$, we define

$$\beta(i, j) := \text{the sub-word of } \beta \text{ that contains } s_i, s_{i+1}, \dots, s_j.$$

For example, if $\beta = s_1 s_2 s_3 s_1^2 s_2 s_5 s_2 s_3 s_4$, then $\beta(2, 3) = s_2 s_3 s_2^2 s_3$.

LEMMA 4.16. Let β be a braid word of n strands.

- (1) If s_i^2 is not a subword of β , then $Q_\beta = Q_{\beta(1, i-1)} \sqcup Q_{\beta(i+1, n-1)}$.
- (2) If $\beta(i, i+1)$ does not contain a sub-word of intertwining pairs, namely neither $s_i s_{i+1} s_i s_{i+1}$ nor $s_{i+1} s_i s_{i+1} s_i$, then $Q_\beta = Q_{\beta(1, i)} \sqcup Q_{\beta(i+1, n-1)}$.

Proof. The brick diagram has an empty level i in case (1) and does not have arrows between level i and level $i+1$ in case (2). $\square$

LEMMA 4.17. Let $n \geq 3$ and let β be an n -strand braid word such that Q_β is connected. If $\beta \succ s_1^2$ and $\beta \succ s_{n-1}^2$, then Q_β is acyclic if and only if for $1 \leq i \leq n-2$, we have

$$\beta(i, i+1) = s_i^{a_1} s_{i+1}^{b_1} s_i^{a_2} s_{i+1}^{b_2} \text{ or } s_{i+1}^{b_1} s_i^{a_1} s_{i+1}^{b_2} s_i^{a_2}, \quad \text{where } a_1, a_2, b_1, b_2 \geq 1$$

Proof. The *if* direction is obvious. To see the *only if* direction, let us assume without loss of generality that $\beta(i, i+1)$ begins with s_i . If $\beta(i, i+1)$ does not end after $s_i^{a_1} s_{i+1}^{b_1} s_i^{a_2} s_{i+1}^{b_2}$, then there is at least one s_i after $s_{i+1}^{b_2}$, giving Q_β an a_2 -cycle between levels i and $i+1$. $\square$

ASSUMPTION 4.18. Note that 2-strand braids correspond to type A quivers. It suffices to consider braid words β of at least 3 strands. Let us single out the generator s_2 . After necessary rotations, we assume that β does not start with s_2 but ends with s_2 , that is,

$$\beta = w_1 s_2^{b_1} w_2 s_2^{b_2} \cdots w_m s_2^{b_m},$$

where each w_i is a word of $s_1, s_3, s_4, \dots, s_{n-1}$.

We assume that every w_i contains at least one s_1 or s_3 ; otherwise, we can move the whole w_i across the s_2 's at either end and merge it with w_{i-1} or w_{i+1} . We further assume that $\sum b_i$ achieves minimum. Under this assumption, the length of every $w_i(1, 3)$ is at least 2. Otherwise, with the letters $s_4 \cdots, s_{n-1}$ migrated away, we have $s_2 w_i s_2 = s_2 s_1 s_2$ or $s_2 s_3 s_2$, and we can use R3 to reduce $\sum b_i$.

We assume that $m \geq 2$; otherwise, Q_β is disconnected by Lemma 4.16. Meanwhile, if $m \geq 4$, then after necessarily deleting letters, we land on the case of Lemma 4.14, and the braid β dominates a braid with an acyclic quiver of infinite type.

In the rest of this section, without loss of generality, we assume that

$$\beta = w_1 s_2^{b_1} w_2 s_2^{b_2} \cdots w_m s_2^{b_m}, \tag{4.1}$$

where $b_i \geq 1$, $m = 2$ or 3 , and $w_i \succeq s_1^2, s_3^2$ or $s_1 s_3$.

We prove Proposition 4.11 by induction on the number of strands of β .

(II) Proof of Proposition 4.11 for 3-strand braids If $m = 2$ in (4.1), then Q_β is acyclic and therefore the proposition follows. It remains to consider $m = 3$. Suppose that at least one of the b_i 's, say b_3 after necessary cyclic rotations, is greater than 1. The proposition follows since

$$\beta \succeq w_1 s_2 \textcolor{red}{w}_2 s_2 w_3 s_2^2 \succ w_1 s_2^2 w_3 s_2^2 \succeq s_1^2 s_2^2 s_1^2 s_2^2.$$

It remains to consider $b_1 = b_2 = b_3 = 1$, i.e.,

$$\beta = s_1^{a_1} s_2 s_1^{a_2} s_2 s_1^{a_3} s_2.$$

If two of a_i 's, say a_1 and a_2 after necessary rotations, are equal to 2, then

$$\begin{aligned} \beta &= s_1 s_1 s_2 s_1 s_1 s_2 s_1^{a_3} s_2 \stackrel{\text{R3}}{=} s_1 s_2 s_1 \textcolor{blue}{s}_2 s_1 \textcolor{blue}{s}_2 s_1^{a_3} s_2 \stackrel{\text{R3}}{=} s_1 s_2 s_1 s_1 s_2 s_1 s_1^{a_3} s_2 \\ &\stackrel{\rho}{=} \textcolor{blue}{s}_2 s_1 \textcolor{blue}{s}_2 s_1 s_1 s_2 s_1 s_1^{a_3} \stackrel{\text{R3}}{=} \textcolor{teal}{s}_1 s_2 s_1 s_1 s_1 s_2 s_1 s_1^{a_3} \stackrel{\rho}{=} s_2 s_1 s_1 s_1 s_2 s_1 s_1^{a_3} s_1 = s_2 s_1^3 s_2 s_1^{a_3+2} \end{aligned}$$

The quiver for the last word is acyclic. The proposition is proved.

Otherwise, at least two of the a_i 's, say a_1 and a_2 after necessary rotations, are greater than 2. The proposition follows since

$$\beta \succ s_1^3 s_2 s_1^3 s_2 s_1^2 s_2 = s_1^2 s_1 \textcolor{blue}{s}_2 s_1 s_1^2 s_2 s_2 \stackrel{\text{R3}}{=} s_1^2 s_2 \textcolor{red}{s}_1 s_2 s_1^2 s_2 \textcolor{red}{s}_1^2 s_2 \succ s_1^2 s_2^2 s_1^2 s_2^2.$$

(III) Proof of Proposition 4.11 for braids of at least 4 strands. Assume that β is expressed as in (4.1). Note that s_1 commutes with all other generators in w_i . Therefore we further assume that

$$- w_i = s_1^{a_i} v_i = v_i s_1^{a_i}, \text{ where } v_i \text{ is a word of } s_3, \dots, s_{n-1}.$$

We shall start with the proof of the following two lemmas.

LEMMA 4.19. *Suppose $\beta \succ s_1$ and $\beta \succ s_2$. If $Q_{\beta(1,2)}$ is of Dynkin type A, then there exists an admissible concordance $\Lambda_\gamma \rightarrow \Lambda_\beta$ such that γ has fewer strands than β .*

Proof. Since $Q_{\beta(1,2)}$ is of Dynkin type A, $\beta(1,2)$ must be of the form $s_1^{a_1} s_2^{b_1} s_1^{a_2} s_2^{b_2}$ with $\min\{a_1, a_2\} = \min\{b_1, b_2\} = 1$. After necessary cyclic rotations and/or taking the opposite word, we assume $a_1 = b_1 = 1$. Then

$$\beta = v_1 s_1 s_2 s_1^{a_2} v_2 s_2^{b_2} \stackrel{\text{R3}}{=} v_1 s_2^{a_2} \textcolor{teal}{s}_1 s_2 v_2 s_2^{b_2} \stackrel{\text{R1}}{=} v_1 s_2^{a_2} s_2 v_2 s_2^{b_2}.$$

The braid reduces to the case of one fewer strand. □

LEMMA 4.20. *Suppose Q_β is connected. If $Q_{\beta(1,3)}$ is acyclic and $Q_{\beta(1,2)}$ is not of type A, then Proposition 4.11 is true for $[\beta]$.*

Proof. Define

$$k := \max\{i \mid Q_{\beta(1,i)} \text{ is acyclic}\}.$$

If $k = n$, then Q_β is acyclic and the Lemma is proved. If $Q_{\beta(1,k)}$ is of infinite type, then the Lemma follows since $\beta \succ \beta(1,k)$. Now we assume $k < n$ and $Q_{\beta(1,k)}$ is of finite type.

Note that $Q_{\beta(1,3)}$ is a subquiver of $Q_{\beta(1,k)}$. By assumption, $Q_{\beta(1,2)}$ is not of type A. Therefore $Q_{\beta(1,k)}$ must be of type D or E. Hence, $Q_{\beta(i,j)}$ is of type A for $1 < i < j \leq k$. In particular, $Q_{\beta(k-1,k)}$ is of type A and Q_β is connected. Therefore we have

$$\beta(k-1, k) = s_{k-1}^{e_1} s_k^{f_1} s_{k-1}^{e_2} s_k^{f_2}, \quad \text{or} \quad \beta(k-1, k) = s_k^{f_1} s_{k-1}^{e_1} s_k^{f_2} s_{k-1}^{e_2},$$

where

$$\min\{e_1, e_2\} = \min\{f_1, f_2\} = 1.$$

Below we consider the first case $\beta(k-1, k) = s_{k-1}^{e_1} s_k^{f_1} s_{k-1}^{e_2} s_k^{f_2}$. The second case follows by taking the opposite word of β . The letters $s_1, \dots, s_{k-2}$ commute with $s_{k+1}, \dots, s_n$. After necessary communications of the letters in β , we can write

$$\beta = \gamma_1 \delta_1 \gamma_2 \delta_2,$$

where γ_i ($i = 1, 2$) is a word of $s_1 \cdots, s_{k-1}$ with e_i many of s_{k-1} , and δ_i is a word of $s_k, \dots, s_n$ with f_i many of s_k . We remark that we have *not* performed cyclic rotations yet and will only do it carefully, so that the quiver for $\beta(1, k-1) = \gamma_1 \gamma_2$ is not distorted.

Recall that $\min\{f_1, f_2\} = 1$. We consider the case $f_1 = 1$. The argument for $f_2 = 1$ is a similar repetition. Let us write $\delta_1 = x s_k y$, where x, y are words of $s_{k+1} \cdots, s_n$ and they commute with γ_1, γ_2 . We pass y through γ_2 , and we pass x through γ_1 and rotation, obtaining $\gamma_1(x s_k y) \gamma_2 \delta_2 \rightsquigarrow \gamma_1 s_k \gamma_2 (y \delta_2 x)$. This move does not change the quiver for $\beta(1, k)$, and is a Legendrian isotopy. Consequently, we can assume $\delta_1 = s_k$ and write $\beta = \gamma_1 s_k \gamma_2 \delta_2$.

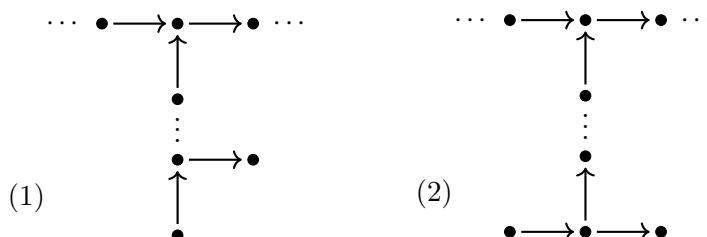
Now we consider

$$\delta_2(k, k+1) = s_k^{g_1} s_{k+1}^{h_1} s_k^{g_2} s_{k+1}^{h_2} \cdots s_k^{g_l},$$

where $g_1, g_l \geq 0$ and all other powers ≥ 1 . The Lemma holds for the following two cases.

- (1) If $\delta_2 \succ s_{k+1} s_k^2 s_{k+1}$, then $\beta \succ \gamma_1 s_k \gamma_2 s_{k+1} s_k^2 s_{k+1} := \beta_1$.
- (2) If $\delta_2 \succ s_{k+1}^2 s_k s_{k+1}^2$, then $\beta \succ \gamma_1 s_k \gamma_2 s_{k+1}^2 s_k s_{k+1}^2 := \beta_2$.

The quivers for β_1 and β_2 are acyclic and of infinite type, as depicted below:



By the definition of k , the quiver for $\beta(k, k+1)$ is not acyclic. Therefore we have $\delta_2 \succeq s_{k+1}s_k s_{k+1}s_k$. We assume that δ_2 does not satisfy the above (1) or (2). Then

$$\delta_2(k, k+1) = s_k^{g_1} s_{k+1}^{h_1} s_k s_{k+1}^{h_2} s_k^{g_3},$$

where $g_1 \geq 0$, $g_3 \geq 1$, and $\min\{h_1, h_2\} = 1$. Depending on whether $h_1 = 1$ or $h_2 = 1$, we have the following two cases:

$$\begin{aligned} \beta(1, k+1) &= \gamma_1 s_k \gamma_2 s_k^{g_1} s_{k+1} s_k^{h_2} s_{k+1}^{g_3} \stackrel{\text{R3}}{=} \gamma_1 s_k \gamma_2 s_{k+1} s_k s_{k+1}^{g_1+h_2} s_k^{g_3} \\ &\stackrel{\rho}{=} s_k s_{k+1}^{g_1+h_2} s_k^{g_3} \gamma_1 s_k \gamma_2 s_{k+1}, \\ \beta(1, k+1) &= \gamma_1 s_k \gamma_2 s_k^{g_1} s_{k+1}^{h_1} s_k s_{k+1}^{g_3} \stackrel{\text{R3}}{=} \gamma_1 s_k \gamma_2 s_k^{g_1} s_{k+1}^{h_1+g_3} s_k s_{k+1}. \end{aligned}$$

In both cases, the only R3 move is $s_k s_{k+1} s_k \rightsquigarrow s_{k+1} s_k s_{k+1}$ (only from left to right) performed in δ_2 , hence the move can be extended from $\beta(1, k+1)$ to β . The cyclic rotations can also be extended to β without changing the quiver for $\beta(1, k)$. In the end, we performed a Legendrian isotopy and get a new braid word β' with acyclic $Q_{\beta'(1, k+1)}$. We repeat the above argument for β' and $k+1$. This completes the case $f_1 = 1$. $\square$

Now we prove the proposition. If $m = 2$ in (4.1), then $Q_{\beta(1,3)}$ is acyclic. If $Q_{\beta(1,3)}$ is not of type A, then the proposition follows directly from Lemma 4.20. Otherwise, we apply Lemma 4.19. It remains to consider the case $m = 3$, in which we have

$$\beta = w_1 s_2^{b_1} w_2 s_2^{b_2} w_3 s_2^{b_3} = v_1 s_1^{a_1} s_2^{b_1} v_2 s_1^{a_2} s_2^{b_2} v_3 s_1^{a_3} s_2^{b_3}. \quad (4.2)$$

Let us set

$$p = \#\{i \mid a_i \neq 0\}, \quad q = \#\{i \mid v_i \succeq s_3\}.$$

Here $p, q \in \{2, 3\}$. We consider cases by (p, q) .

Case 1: $(p, q) = (2, 2)$. After suitable cyclic rotation, we assume $a_3 = 0$. Then $Q_{\beta(1,3)}$ is acyclic. The rest goes through the same line as the above proof for the case $m = 2$.

Case 2: $(p, q) = (2, 3)$. After suitable cyclic rotation, we assume $a_3 = 0$. If $b_1 \geq 2$, then

$$\beta = v_1 s_1^{a_1} s_2^{b_1} v_2 s_1^{a_2} s_2^{b_2} v_3 s_2^{b_3} \succ v_1 s_1 s_2^{b_1} v_2 s_1 s_2^{b_2+b_3} \succeq s_3 s_1 s_2^2 s_3 s_1 s_2^2.$$

The proposition follows. So we assume $b_2 = 1$.

Now if $a_2 = 1$, then using $s_1^{a_1} s_2 s_1 = s_2 s_1 s_2^{a_1}$, we can reduce the number of strands. The same argument works for $a_1 = 1$. It remain to consider $a_1 \geq 2$ and $a_2 \geq 2$. Then

$$\beta \succeq s_1^2 v_1 s_2 v_2 s_1^2 s_2 v_3 s_2 \succ s_1^2 s_3 s_2 s_3 s_1^2 s_2 s_2 \stackrel{\text{R3}}{=} s_1^2 s_2 s_3 s_2 s_1^2 s_2 s_2 \succ s_1^2 s_2^2 s_1^2 s_2^2.$$

Case 3: $(p, q) = (3, 3)$. We have

$$w_i = v_i s_i^{a_i} \succeq s_3 s_1, \quad \forall i = 1, 2, 3.$$

If there is a b_i , say b_1 after necessary cyclic rotation, greater than 1, then

$$\beta \succ s_3 s_1 s_2^{b_1} s_3 s_1 s_2^{b_2+b_3} \succeq s_1 s_3 s_2^2 s_1 s_3 s_2^2.$$

The proposition follows. It remains to consider $b_1 = b_2 = b_3 = 1$.

If there is some w_i with $w_i(1, 3) = s_1 s_3$, after suitable cyclic rotation we can assume $w_2(1, 3) = s_1 s_3$. Note that the rest letters of w_2 are $s_4, \dots, s_n$. They commute with the s_2 at either end and can be merged into w_1 or w_3 . Therefore, we may assume $w_2 = s_1 s_3$ and use identity

$$s_1^{a_1} s_2 s_1 s_3 s_2 s_1^{a_3} = s_3^{a_3} s_2 s_1 s_3 s_2 s_1^{a_1} \quad (4.3)$$

to reduce the number of strands.

If none of the w_i 's has $w_i(1, 3) = s_1 s_3$. Then $w_i(1, 3) \succeq s_1^2 s_3$ or $w_i(1, 3) \succeq s_1 s_3^3$ for $i = 1, 2, 3$. Two of them must be the same kind, and they have adjacent indices after cyclic rotation. For example, if w_1, w_2 are of the same type $s_1 s_1 s_3$, then

$$\beta \succeq s_1 s_3 s_1 s_2 s_1 s_3 s_1 s_2 \textcolor{red}{w_3} s_2 \succ s_1 s_3 \textcolor{blue}{s_1} \textcolor{blue}{s_2} \textcolor{blue}{s_1} s_3 s_1 s_2 s_2 \stackrel{\text{R3}}{=} s_1 s_3 s_2 \textcolor{red}{s_1} s_2 s_3 s_1 s_2 s_2 \succ s_1 s_3 s_2^2 s_3 s_1 s_2^2.$$

Other combinations of w_i are similar.

Case 4: $(p, q) = (3, 2)$. If β is a 4-strand word, then by the symmetry between s_1 and s_3 , it reduces to the case $(p, q) = (2, 3)$. Below we assume β is at least of 5 strands.

After cyclic rotations, we assume that v_3 does not contain s_3 . Then v_3 commutes with s_2 and can be merged into w_2 . By (4.1), we assume that

$$w_1 \succeq s_1 s_3, \quad w_2 \succeq s_1 s_3, \quad w_3 = s_1^{a_3} \text{ with } a_3 \geq 2.$$

If $b_1 \geq 2$, then the proposition follows since

$$\beta \succeq s_1 s_3 s_2^2 s_1 s_3 s_2 \textcolor{red}{w_3} s_2 \succ s_1 s_3 s_2^2 s_1 s_3 s_2^2.$$

Below we consider $b_1 = 1$.

If $w_1 \succeq s_1 s_3^2$ and $w_2 \succeq s_1 s_3^2$, then the proposition follows since

$$\beta \succeq s_1 s_3 \textcolor{blue}{s_3} \textcolor{blue}{s_2} \textcolor{blue}{s_3} s_3 s_1 s_2^2 \stackrel{\text{R3}}{\succ} s_1 s_3 s_2 \textcolor{red}{s_3} s_2 s_3 s_1 s_2^2 \succ s_1 s_3 s_2^2 s_1 s_3 s_2^2.$$

Hence, we assume that one of w_1, w_2 contains a single s_3 . After suitable cyclic rotations and taking the opposite word if necessary, we assume that w_2 contains a single s_3 . Moreover, all the letters $s_4, \dots, s_{n-1}$ in w_2 can be merged to w_1 by moving them

in two directions and taking necessary cyclic rotations. To summarize, it remains to consider

$$\beta = v_1 s_1^{a_1} s_2 s_1^{a_2} s_3 s_2^{b_2} s_1^{a_3} s_2^{b_3}, \quad \text{where } v_1 \succeq s_3, \quad a_3 \geq 2, \quad \text{and } a_1, a_2, b_2, b_3 \geq 1.$$

We split our proof into two cases based on the value of a_2 .

A. If $a_2 = 1$, then $b_2 \geq 2$. Otherwise, $\beta = v_1 s_1^{a_1} s_2 s_1 s_3 s_2 s_1^{a_3} s_2^{b_3}$, and we can apply Identity (4.3) to the purple part to reduce the number of strands. We further assume $b_3 = 1$; otherwise, $b_3 \geq 2$, and together with $a_3, b_2 \geq 2$, we have

$$\beta \succeq s_1^{a_1} s_2 s_1^{a_2} s_2^{b_2} s_1^{a_3} s_2^{b_3} \succ s_1^{a_1+a_2} s_2^{b_2} s_1^{a_3} s_2^{b_3} \succeq s_1^2 s_2^2 s_1^2 s_2^2.$$

To recollect, we have

$$\beta = v_1 s_1^{a_1} s_2 s_1^{a_2} s_3 s_2^{b_2 \geq 2} s_1^{a_3 \geq 2} s_2.$$

If $w_1(1, 3) = s_1 s_3$, then $w_1 = x s_1 s_3 y$. After rotating $s_1^{a_3} s_2$, and moving x, y , we have

$$\beta = x s_1 s_3 y s_2 s_1^{a_2} s_3 s_2^{b_2} s_1^{a_3} s_2 \stackrel{\rho}{=} s_1^{a_3} s_2 x s_1 s_3 y s_2 s_1^{a_2} s_3 s_2^{b_2} \stackrel{c, \rho}{=} s_1^{a_3} s_2 s_1 s_3 s_2 s_1^{a_2} y s_3 s_2^{b_2} x.$$

We apply identity (4.3) to the purple part to reduce the number of strands. Therefore we can assume $w_1(1, 3) \succeq s_1 s_3^2$ or $s_1^2 s_3$.

Now we focus on $w_1(1, 4)$. The connectedness of Q_β implies that $w_1(1, 4)$ has at least two copies of s_4 , with at least one s_3 sandwiched in between. Hence there are four possibilities:

$$w_1(1, 4) \succeq (a) s_1^2 s_4 s_3 s_4, (b) s_1 s_4 s_3 s_3 s_4, (c) s_1 s_4 s_3 s_4 s_3, (d) s_1 s_3 s_4 s_3 s_4.$$

The proposition follows via direct calculations:

(a) $w_1(1, 4) \succeq s_1^2 s_4 s_3 s_4 = s_1^2 s_3 s_4 s_3 \succ s_1^2 s_3^2$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \beta \succ s_1^2 s_3 s_2 s_3 s_1 s_2^2 s_1^2 s_2 &\stackrel{\text{R3}^2}{=} s_1^2 s_2 s_3 s_2 s_2 s_1 s_2 s_2^2 s_1^2 s_2 \\ &\stackrel{\text{R3}}{=} s_1^2 s_2 s_3 s_2 s_1 s_2 s_1 s_2 s_1^2 s_2^2 s_1^2 s_2. \end{aligned}$$

(b) $w_1(1, 4) \succeq s_1 s_4 s_3 s_3 s_4$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \beta \succeq s_1 s_4 s_3^2 s_4 s_2 s_1 s_3 s_2^2 s_1^2 s_2 &\stackrel{c, \rho}{=} s_1 s_3^2 s_2 s_1 s_4 s_3 s_4 s_2^2 s_1^2 s_2 \stackrel{\text{R3}}{=} s_1 s_3^2 s_2 s_1 s_3 s_4 s_3 s_2^2 s_1^2 s_2 \\ &\succ s_1 s_3^2 s_2 s_1 s_3 s_3 s_2^2 s_1^2 s_2 \stackrel{c}{=} s_1 s_3 s_3 s_2 s_3 s_1 s_3 s_2^2 s_1^2 s_2 \stackrel{\text{R3}}{=} s_1 s_3 s_2 s_3 s_2 s_1 s_3 s_2^2 s_1^2 s_2 \\ &\succ s_1 s_3 s_2^2 s_1 s_3 s_2^2. \end{aligned}$$

(c) $w_1(1, 4) \succeq s_1 s_4 s_3 s_4 s_3 = s_1 s_3 s_4 s_3 s_3 \succ s_1 s_3^3$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \beta \succeq s_1 s_3^3 s_2 s_3 s_1 s_2^2 s_1^2 s_2 &\stackrel{\text{R3}}{=} s_1 s_2 s_3 s_2^3 s_1 s_2^2 s_1^2 s_2 \stackrel{\text{R1}}{=} s_1 s_2^4 s_1 s_2^2 s_1^2 s_2 \\ &\stackrel{\rho}{=} s_2^2 s_1 s_2^4 s_1 s_2^2 \stackrel{\text{R3}}{=} s_2 s_1 s_2^2 s_2^4 s_1 s_2^2 \stackrel{\rho}{=} s_1 s_2^6 s_1 s_2^3. \end{aligned}$$

We end up with an E_9 quiver, which is acyclic and of infinite type.

(d) $w_1(1, 4) \succeq s_1 s_3 s_4 s_3 s_4 = s_1 s_3 s_3 s_4 s_3 \succ s_1 s_3^3$. The rest follows from the same calculation as in (c).

B. If $a_2 \geq 2$, then we look at $w_1(1, 3)$.

If $w_1(1, 3) = s_1 s_3$, then $v_1 = x s_3 y$, where x, y are words of $s_4, \dots, s_{n-1}$. Let $\tilde{x}$ and $\tilde{y}$ be the opposite word of x and y respectively. Then

$$\beta = x s_3 y s_1 s_2 s_1^{a_2} s_3 s_2^{b_2} s_1^{a_3} s_2^{b_3} \stackrel{\rho, c}{=} s_2^{b_2} s_1^{a_3} s_2^{b_3} s_3 s_1 s_2 s_1^{a_2} y s_3 x \stackrel{\text{oppo}}{\rightsquigarrow} \tilde{x} s_3 \tilde{y} s_1^{a_2} s_2 s_1 s_3 s_2^{b_3} s_1^{a_3} s_2^{b_2}.$$

It goes back to Case A.

If $w_1(1, 3) \succeq s_1^2 s_3$, then

$$\beta \succeq s_3 s_1 s_1 s_2 s_1 s_1 s_3 s_2^{b_2} s_1^{a_3} s_2^{b_3} \stackrel{R3}{=} s_3 s_1 s_2 s_1 s_2 s_1 s_3 s_2^{b_2} s_1^{a_3} s_2^{b_3} \succ s_1 s_3 s_2^2 s_1 s_3 s_2^2.$$

It remains to consider $w_1(1, 3) \succeq s_1 s_3^2$. There are three possibilities for $w_1(1, 4)$:

$$w_1(1, 4) \succeq (e) s_1 s_4 s_3 s_4 s_3, (f) s_1 s_3 s_4 s_3 s_4, (g) s_1 s_4 s_3 s_3 s_4.$$

For both (e) and (f), after $s_4 s_3 s_4 = s_3 s_4 s_3$, we have $w_1(1, 4) \succ s_1 s_3^3$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \beta &\succ s_1 s_3^3 s_2 s_3 s_1^2 s_2 s_1^2 s_2 \stackrel{R3}{=} s_1 s_2 s_3 s_2^3 s_1^2 s_2 s_1^2 s_2 \stackrel{R1}{=} s_1 s_2^4 s_1^2 s_2 s_1^2 s_2 \\ &\stackrel{\rho}{=} s_2 s_1^2 s_2 s_1 s_2^4 s_1^2 \stackrel{R3}{=} s_2 s_1^2 s_1^4 s_2 s_1 s_1^2 = s_2 s_1^6 s_2 s_1^3 \end{aligned}$$

This is again the E_9 quiver. For (g), we have $w_1(1, 4) \succeq s_1 s_4 s_3 s_3 s_4$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \beta &\succeq s_1 s_4 s_3^2 s_4 s_2 s_1^2 s_3 s_2 s_1^2 s_2 \stackrel{c, \rho}{=} s_1 s_3^2 s_2 s_1^2 s_4 s_3 s_4 s_2 s_1^2 s_2 \stackrel{R3}{=} s_1 s_3^2 s_2 s_1^2 s_3 s_4 s_3 s_2 s_1^2 s_2 \\ &\succ s_1 s_3^2 s_2 s_1^2 s_3 s_3 s_2 s_2 \stackrel{c}{=} s_1 s_3 s_3 s_2 s_3 s_1^2 s_3 s_2 s_2 \stackrel{R3}{=} s_1 s_3 s_2 s_3 s_2 s_1 s_1 s_3 s_2 s_2 \\ &\succ s_1 s_3 s_2^2 s_1 s_3 s_2^2. \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof of Proposition 4.11.

COROLLARY 4.21. *For positive braids $[\beta]$ with connected Q_β , the two cases in Proposition 4.11 coincides with the dichotomy between finite and infinite types for positive braids.*

Proof. It follows from Proposition 4.11 and Proposition 4.12. $\square$

Proof of Theorem 4.8 for disconnected Q_β . Suppose Q_β has two components. Because vertices on the same level are connected, there exists a unique $1 \leq i < n$ such that no arrow appears between level i and $i + 1$. We consider $\beta(1, i)$ and $\beta(i + 1, n - 1)$. Since we can pinch some crossings of β to obtain $\beta(1, i)$ and $\beta(i + 1, n - 1)$, if one of them has infinitely many admissible fillings, so does β by Proposition 4.10. Otherwise by Propositions 4.11 (1) and 4.12, both $Q_{\beta(1, i)}$ and $Q_{\beta(i + 1, n - 1)}$ are mutation equivalent to finite type quivers, and hence $[\beta]$ is of finite type. In general, we can induct on the number of components in the quiver of the braid. $\square$

4.3 Finite type classification. In this section, we focus on positive braid Legendrian links of finite type.

Theorem 4.22. *Let β be a braid word such that Q_β is mutation equivalent to a Dynkin quiver and Λ_β does not contain a split union of knots. Then Λ_β is Legendrian isotopic to a standard link in Definition 1.9.*

Proof. By Proposition 4.11 (1), it suffices to assume that Q_β is a Dynkin quiver.

If Q_β is of type A, we repeatedly utilize Lemma 4.19 to reduce the number of strands of Λ_β until it becomes 2-strand link, which is a standard link of type A.

If Q_β is of type D or E, then it contains a unique trivalent vertex. If $n \geq 4$, we can apply Lemma 4.19 to $\beta(1, 2)$ or $\beta(n-2, n-1)$, whichever does not contain the trivalent vertex, to reduce n until $n = 3$. Note that β can be written as (4.1). Since $[\beta]$ is of finite type, following the discussion in (II) of Sect. 4.2, we may assume $m = 2$ in (4.1). After necessary rotation, we get

$$\beta = s_1^{a_1} s_2^{b_1} s_1^{a_2} s_2^{b_2}, \quad \text{where } a_1 \geq 2, a_2 \geq 2, \min\{b_1, b_2\} = 1.$$

The trivalent vertex in a Dynkin DE quiver has three legs, at least one of which is of length 1. For Q_β , two legs lie in level 1 and one leg stretches to level 2. We show that $b_1 = b_2 = 1$ after suitable Legendrian isotopy. Otherwise, one of the level 1 legs is of length 1. Then up to cyclic rotations, we get $a_2 = 2$. Depending on $b_1 = 1$ or $b_2 = 1$, we have the following Legendrian isotopies:

$$\begin{aligned} \beta &= s_1^{a_1} s_2 s_1^2 s_2^{b_2} = s_1^{a_1-1} s_1 s_2 s_1 s_1 s_2^{b_2} \stackrel{\text{R3}}{=} s_1^{a_1-1} s_2 s_1 s_2 s_1 s_2^{b_2} \stackrel{\text{R3}}{=} s_1^{a_1-1} s_2 s_1^{b_2+1} s_2 s_1 \\ &\stackrel{\rho}{=} s_1^{a_1} s_2 s_1^{b_2+1} s_2, \\ \beta &= s_1^{a_1} s_2^{b_1} s_1^2 s_2 = s_1 s_1^{a_1-1} s_2^{b_1} s_1^2 s_2 \stackrel{\rho}{=} s_1^{a_1-1} s_2^{b_1} s_1 s_1 s_2 s_1 \stackrel{\text{R3}}{=} s_1^{a_1-1} s_2^{b_1} s_1 s_2 s_1 s_2 \\ &\stackrel{\text{R3}}{=} s_1^{a_1} s_2 s_1^{b_1+1} s_2. \end{aligned}$$

Eventually, after necessary cyclic notations, we get the standard links. $\square$

DEFINITION 4.23. Let β be an n -strand braid word and let γ be an m -strand braid word. Denote by $\gamma^{\#j}$ the word obtained from γ via $s_i \mapsto s_{i+j}$.

The *connect sum* of β and γ is the braid word $\beta \# \gamma := \beta \gamma^{\#n-1}$.

The *split union* of β and γ is the braid word $\beta \sqcup \gamma := \beta \gamma^{\#n}$.

Note that $[\beta \# \gamma] \in \text{Br}_{n+m-1}^+$ and $[\beta \sqcup \gamma] \in \text{Br}_{n+m}^+$.

The connect sum of two positive braid links is again a positive braid link. By [EV18], positive braid links attain a unique maximum tb Legendrian representative. The connect sum of two links is well-defined once specifying which components to attach the 1-handle. Once well-defined, the connect sum is associative and commutative.

REMARK 4.24. Here is a list of the numbers of components for the standard ADE links:

knots	2-component links	3-component links
$A_{\text{even}}, E_6, E_8$	$A_{\text{odd}}, D_{\text{odd}}, E_7$	D_{even}

Theorem 4.25. *If $[\beta]$ is of finite type, then Λ_β is Legendrian isotopic to a split union of unknots and connect sums of standard links of ADE types.*

Proof. For an n -strand positive braid β , the vertices of Q_β are separated into $n - 1$ many levels, each of which forms a type A quiver. If Q_β is disconnected, then

- (1) two adjacent levels of Q_β have vertices but no arrows in between; and/or
- (2) a level of Q_β has no vertex.

For (1), after necessary rotation, we get $\beta(i, i + 1) = s_i^a s_{i+1}^b$ for some i . We may further commute $s_1, \dots, s_{i-1}$ with $s_{i+2}, \dots, s_{n-1}$, obtaining

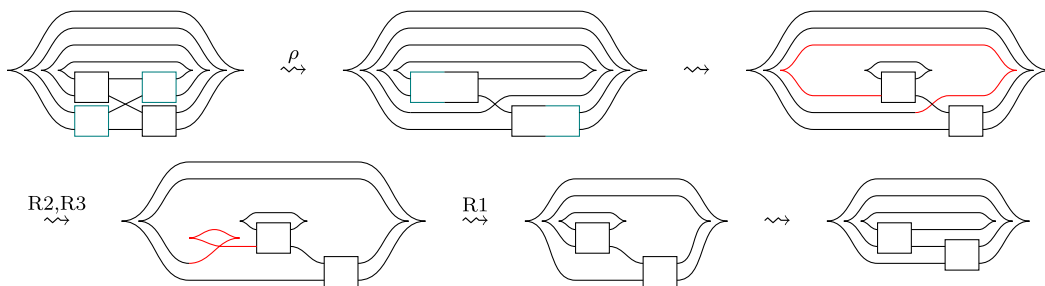
$$\beta = \beta(1, i) \beta(i + 1, n - 1).$$

Hence, β is a connect sum of two braid words.

For (2), we get $\beta(i, i) = s_i$ or empty for some i . If it is empty, then

$$\beta = \beta(1, i - 1) \beta(i + 1, n),$$

which is a split union of two braid words. If $\beta(i, i) = s_i$, then the braid is a connect sum via the following Legendrian isotopy:



Each quiver component is Legendrian isotopic to the standard ADE links. There could also be a split union of unknot for every pair of consecutive levels $\beta(i, i)$ and $\beta(i + 1, i + 1)$ that are both empty. This completes the proof. $\square$

Appendix A: Cluster varieties

We provide a rapid review on cluster varieties in the skew-symmetric cases. Below we set $[n]_+ := \max\{0, n\}$ for $n \in \mathbb{R}$.

A.1: Definitions

A *quiver* is a triple $Q = (I, I^{\text{uf}}, \varepsilon)$, where I is a finite set, I^{uf} is a subset of I , and ε is an $I \times I$ skew-symmetric matrix whose entries ε_{ij} are integers when $i \in I$ and $j \in I^{\text{uf}}$.

Let $k \in I^{\text{uf}}$. The *mutation* in the direction k produces a new quiver $\mu_k Q = (I', I'^{\text{uf}}, \varepsilon')$ where $I' = I$, $I'^{\text{uf}} = I^{\text{uf}}$, and

$$\varepsilon'_{ij} = \begin{cases} -\varepsilon_{ij} & \text{if } k \in \{i, j\}, \\ \varepsilon_{ij} & \text{if } \varepsilon_{ik}\varepsilon_{kj} < 0, \text{ and } k \notin \{i, j\}, \\ \varepsilon_{ij} + |\varepsilon_{ik}|\varepsilon_{kj} & \text{if } \varepsilon_{ik}\varepsilon_{kj} \geq 0, \text{ and } k \notin \{i, j\}. \end{cases}$$

Two quivers are *mutation equivalent* if they are related by a sequence of mutations. Denote by $|Q|$ the class of quivers that are mutation equivalent to Q .

Each Q induces a directed graph with vertex set I . For $i, j \in I$, the number of arrows from i to j is $[\varepsilon_{ij}]_+$. Vertices parametrized by $i \in I - I^{\text{uf}}$ are called *frozen vertices*. In this paper, arrows among frozen vertices are allowed to be of half weight and will be illustrated by dashed arrows.

The *unfrozen part* of Q is the full subquiver Q^{uf} containing the unfrozen vertices.

A quiver Q is said to be *acyclic* if there is no directed cycle inside Q^{uf} .

A quiver Q is said to be *connected* if the underlying graph of Q^{uf} is connected.

A quiver Q is said to have *full-rank* if the submatrix $\varepsilon|_{I^{\text{uf}} \times I}$ is of full-rank.

Connectedness and being full-rank are invariant under mutations and therefore descend to properties of mutation equivalence classes of quivers.

DEFINITION A.1. A *cluster K_2 variety* $\mathcal{A}$ is an affine variety together with a collection $\mathcal{C}$ of triples $\alpha = (Q_\alpha, T_\alpha, \mathbf{A}_\alpha)$, where

- $Q_\alpha = (I, I^{\text{uf}}, \varepsilon)$ is a quiver;
- T_α is a split algebraic torus of rank $|I|$ inside $\mathcal{A}$;
- $\mathbf{A}_\alpha = \{A_{i;\alpha}\}_{i \in I}$ is a coordinate system of T_α .

We require that

- For any unfrozen vertex k of the quiver Q_α , there is an $\alpha' = (Q_{\alpha'}, T_{\alpha'}, \mathbf{A}_{\alpha'}) \in \mathcal{C}$, where $Q_{\alpha'} = \mu_k Q_\alpha$, and the transition map between $\mathbf{A}_{\alpha'}$ and $\mathbf{A}_\alpha$ is

$$A_{i;\alpha'} = \begin{cases} A_{k;\alpha}^{-1} \left(\prod_j A_{j;\alpha}^{[-\varepsilon_{kj}]_+} + \prod_j A_{j;\alpha}^{[\varepsilon_{kj}]_+} \right) & \text{if } i = k, \\ A_{i;\alpha} & \text{if } i \neq k. \end{cases}$$

We say that α' is a *mutation* of α in the direction k and write $\alpha' = \mu_k \alpha$.

- Every pair $\alpha, \alpha' \in \mathcal{C}$ are related by a finite sequence of mutations.
- The complement of the union of T_α for all α is of codimension 2 in $\mathcal{A}$.

Each α is called a *cluster seed*, T_α is called a *cluster chart*, $\mathbf{A}_\alpha$ is called a *cluster*, and $A_{i;\alpha}$ is called a *cluster K_2 coordinate* or a *cluster variable*. Each $A_{i;\alpha}$ for $i \in I - I^{\text{uf}}$ is invariant under mutations and is called a *frozen variable*. We will suppress the subscript α when the context is clear.

REMARK A.2. The coordinate ring of a cluster chart T_α is a Laurent polynomial ring $\mathbb{L}_\alpha$ in the variables $A_{i;\alpha}$. The intersection $\bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathcal{C}} \mathbb{L}_\alpha$ is an *upper cluster algebra* of [BFZ05]. A cluster K_2 variety $\mathcal{A}$ is an affine variety whose coordinate ring is

an upper cluster algebra. It is worth mentioning that our cluster K_2 varieties are different from the cluster $\mathcal{A}$ varieties in [FG09]. The latter is defined to be the union of the tori T_α for $\alpha \in \mathcal{C}$, and is not affine in general.

Each cluster seed α of $\mathcal{A}$ encodes a 2-form on T_α :

$$\Omega_\alpha := \sum \varepsilon_{ij} \frac{dA_{i;\alpha}}{A_{i;\alpha}} \wedge \frac{dA_{j;\alpha}}{A_{j;\alpha}}. \quad (\text{A.1})$$

By Corollary 6.5 of [FG09], this 2-form does not depend on the choice of cluster seeds and therefore defines a global 2-form Ω on $\mathcal{A}$.

Borrowing ideas from mirror symmetry, Gross, Hacking, Keel, and Kontsevich interpreted the cluster structures in terms of wall-crossing structures called scattering diagrams [G+18]. In detail, associated to a quiver Q is a scattering diagram $\mathfrak{D}$. Inside $\mathfrak{D}$ is a simplicial fan consisting of cones called cluster chambers. The paper [G+18] establishes a one-to-one correspondence between the cluster seeds of $\mathcal{A}$ and the cluster chambers of $\mathfrak{D}$. The mutation from α to $\mu_k \alpha$ corresponds to crossing the sharing facet (a.k.a the *wall*) of their corresponding cluster chambers.

The following proposition is crucial for this paper.

PROPOSITION A.3. *Let Q be a quiver of full rank and let $\mathcal{A}$ be its associated cluster K_2 variety over an algebraically closed field (of any characteristic). The cluster charts of distinct cluster seeds of $\mathcal{A}$ do not coincide.*

REMARK A.4. Proposition A.3 may not hold when Q is not of full rank, e.g., if Q contains one vertex and no arrows, then its cluster variety has two cluster seeds but only one cluster chart.

Proof. Let $\mathcal{A}$ be defined over an algebraically closed field of characteristic p . The characteristic 0 case follows by the same argument. Let α and α' be two distinct cluster seeds of $\mathcal{A}$. By Corollary 6.3 of [FZ07], the transition map between $\mathbf{A}_{\alpha'} = \{A'_i\}$ and $\mathbf{A}_\alpha = \{A_i\}$ takes the form

$$A'_i = \left(F_i \Big|_{X_k = \prod_l A_l^{\varepsilon_{kl}}} \right) \prod_{j \in I} A_j^{g_{ij}}, \quad (\text{A.2})$$

where g_{ij} are integers, and each F_i is a polynomial in the variables X_k for $k \in I^{\text{uf}}$. The matrix $G = (g_{ij})$ is called a g -matrix. The polynomials F_i are called F -polynomials.

By [G+18], each F_i is a generating function that counts broken lines in the scattering diagram associated to Q . For distinct α and α' , there is at least one wall between their corresponding chambers. In particular, there is an $i \in I^{\text{uf}}$ such that $F_i \neq 1$. By [LS15] and [G+18], we have

- all coefficients of F_i are positive integers;
- the constant term of F_i is 1;
- the coefficient of the highest term of F_i is 1.

Here the highest term of F_i is the monomial $\prod_j X_j^{a_j}$ such that for any other term $\prod_j X_j^{b_j}$ in F_i , we have $a_j \geq b_j$ for all j . The above last two properties are equivalent due to [FZ07, Prop.5.3].

By the above discussion, there exists an $i \in I^{\text{uf}}$ such that the polynomial F_i has at least two terms even after reducing to a polynomial with coefficients in the finite field $\mathbb{F}_p$. The quiver Q is of full rank. The substitution $X_k = \prod_l A_l^{\varepsilon_{kl}}$ gives rise to an injective homomorphism from the polynomial ring $\mathbb{F}_p[X_i]_{i \in I^{\text{uf}}}$ to the Laurent polynomial ring $\mathbb{F}_p[A_j^{\pm 1}]_{j \in I}$. Therefore A'_i is not a Laurent monomial of A_j for $j \in I$. On the other hand, biregular isomorphisms between algebraic tori over an algebraically closed field are of monomial coordinate transformations. Thus $T_\alpha \neq T_{\alpha'}$. $\square$

A.2: Cluster ensembles

Following [FG09], *cluster Poisson varieties* are the cluster dual of cluster K_2 varieties. Each cluster Poisson variety $\mathcal{X}$ is equipped with a collection of torus charts with coordinate systems $\mathbf{X}_\alpha = \{X_{i;\alpha}^{\pm 1}\}_{i \in I}$. The transition map between $\mathbf{X}_{\alpha'} = \mathbf{X}_{\mu_k \alpha}$ and $\mathbf{X}_\alpha$ is

$$X_{i;\alpha'} = \begin{cases} X_{k;\alpha}^{-1} & \text{if } i = k, \\ X_{i;\alpha} X_{k;\alpha}^{[\varepsilon_{ik}]_+} (1 + X_{k;\alpha})^{-\varepsilon_{ik}} & \text{if } i \neq k. \end{cases}$$

The coordinates $X_{i;\alpha}$ are called *cluster Poisson coordinates*.

Let $\mathcal{A}$ and $\mathcal{X}$ be a pair of cluster varieties associated to a mutation equivalence class $|Q|$. There is a natural one-to-one correspondence between the cluster seeds of $\mathcal{A}$ and the cluster seeds of $\mathcal{X}$. Each pair of corresponding cluster seeds is called a *cluster seed* of $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{X})$. Following [FG09, §1.2], there is a canonical map $p: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$ such that⁴

$$p^*(X_{i;\alpha}) = \prod_j A_{j;\alpha}^{\varepsilon_{ij}}$$

for every cluster seed of $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{X})$. The triple $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{X}, p)$ is called a *cluster ensemble*.

DEFINITION A.5. Suppose $\sigma: I' \rightarrow I$ is an injective map such that

- (1) $\sigma|_{I'^{\text{uf}}}: I'^{\text{uf}} \rightarrow I^{\text{uf}}$ is a bijection,
- (2) $\varepsilon'_{ij} = \varepsilon_{\sigma(i)\sigma(j)}$ for all $i, j \in I'$.

Then σ induces a morphism of algebraic tori $\sigma: \alpha' \rightarrow \alpha$ and $\sigma: \chi \rightarrow \chi'$, which are extended to morphisms of cluster varieties $\sigma: \mathcal{A}' \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ and $\sigma: \mathcal{X}' \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$, called *cluster morphisms*. If σ is bijective, then the induced cluster morphisms are called *cluster isomorphisms*.

⁴ Since ε_{ij} may not be integers when i, j are frozen, the map p is not necessarily algebraic. In Sect. A.3, we consider the unfrozen quotient $\mathcal{X}^{\text{uf}}$ of $\mathcal{X}$. The induced map $p: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}^{\text{uf}}$ is algebraic.

EXAMPLE A.6. Consider the inclusion of the unfrozen part $Q^{\text{uf}} = (I^{\text{uf}}, I^{\text{uf}}, \varepsilon|_{I^{\text{uf}} \times I^{\text{uf}}})$ into Q . This inclusion induces cluster morphisms $\mathcal{A}^{\text{uf}} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ and $\mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}^{\text{uf}}$. More properties about these cluster morphisms can be found in [She14, §3].

DEFINITION A.7. A *cluster automorphism* is a cluster isomorphism from a cluster variety to itself. Cluster automorphisms form a group $\mathcal{G}$ called the *cluster modular group*.

Fix an initial cluster seed of $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{X})$. Every cluster automorphism maps the initial seed to another cluster seed. We can express the obtained new cluster coordinates in terms of the initial ones as in (A.2). As a consequence, one may assign the c -matrix, g -matrix, and F -polynomials of [FZ07] to each cluster automorphism with respect to a fixed initial seed.

PROPOSITION A.8. A cluster automorphism σ is the identity map on $\mathcal{A}$ if and only if it is the identity map on $\mathcal{X}$.

Proof. The separation formula of Fomin-Zelevinsky [FZ07] implies that σ is the identity map on $\mathcal{A}$ (resp. $\mathcal{X}$) if and only if its g -matrix G (resp. c -matrix C) is the identity matrix with respect to one (equivalently any) initial seed. The proposition then follows from the tropical duality theorem [NZ12, Theorem 1.2], which says that $C^{-1} = G^t$. $\square$

DEFINITION A.9 ([GS18]). A *cluster Donaldson-Thomas transformation* on a cluster variety is a cluster automorphism whose c -matrix is equal to minus identity.

For any cluster ensemble, its cluster Donaldson-Thomas transformation, if exists, is a unique central element in the cluster modular group.

A.3: Quasi-cluster morphisms

Define $N := \bigoplus_{i \in I} \mathbb{Z}e_i$ for a quiver $Q = (I, I^{\text{uf}}, \varepsilon)$, and let N^{uf} its the sub-lattice spanned by e_i for $i \in I^{\text{uf}}$. The exchange matrix ε equips N with a skew-symmetric form $\{\cdot, \cdot\} : N \times N \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$ such that $\{e_i, e_j\} = \varepsilon_{ij}$. Let M be the dual lattice of N .

One should think of N as the character lattice of a cluster chart χ and think of M as the character lattice of the cluster chart α dual to χ . For $n \in N$ and $m \in M$ we denote the corresponding character functions as X^n and A^m . In particular, X^{e_i} are precisely the cluster Poisson coordinates X_i , and the map $p : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$ is induced by the linear map $p^* : N \rightarrow M, n \mapsto \{n, \cdot\}$. We will use this set-up to define quasi-cluster morphisms. More detailed discussions can be found in [Fra16, GS19, SW19].

DEFINITION A.10. Let N and N' be the lattices associated to Q and Q' respectively. Suppose $\sigma : N' \rightarrow N$ is an injective linear map such that

- (1) $\sigma|_{N'^{\text{uf}}}$ is an isomorphism onto N^{uf} ;
- (3) for any $i \in I'^{\text{uf}}$, we have $\sigma(e'_i) = e_j$ for some $j \in I^{\text{uf}}$,
- (3) σ preserves the skew-symmetric forms.

Then σ induces a morphism of algebraic tori $\sigma : \chi \rightarrow \chi'$ which extends to a morphism $\sigma : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}'$. On the dual side, σ induces a linear map $\sigma : M \rightarrow M'$, which defines a morphism of algebraic tori $\sigma : \alpha' \rightarrow \alpha$ and extends to a morphism $\sigma : \mathcal{A}' \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$. We call the induced morphisms $\sigma : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}'$ and $\sigma : \mathcal{A}' \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ *quasi-cluster morphisms*.

A *quasi-cluster isomorphism* is a quasi-cluster morphism where $\sigma : N' \rightarrow N$ is an isomorphism. A *quasi-cluster automorphism* is a quasi-cluster isomorphism from a cluster variety to itself. Quasi-cluster automorphisms form a group $\mathcal{QG}$ called the *quasi-cluster modular group*.

The cluster modular group $\mathcal{G}$ is a subgroup of the quasi-cluster modular group $\mathcal{QG}$. There is a natural map $\mathcal{QG} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}^{\text{uf}}$ where $\mathcal{G}^{\text{uf}}$ denotes the cluster modular group for the unfrozen part.

REMARK A.11. Quasi-cluster automorphisms are also known as *(quasi-)cluster transformations*.

The restriction of quasi-cluster morphisms to cluster charts commute with cluster mutations. Consequently, we have the following theorem.

Theorem A.12. *Let $\mathcal{V}$ and $\mathcal{W}$ be two cluster varieties of the same type (either K_2 or Poisson). If $\sigma : \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{W}$ is a quasi-cluster morphism, then there is a one-to-one correspondence between their cluster seeds, and σ restricts to a morphism between the corresponding cluster charts.*

Below we construct two types of quasi-cluster morphisms that are crucial for us.

Changing a frozen vertex. Recall the lattice N associated with a quiver $Q = (I, I^{\text{uf}}, \varepsilon)$. Let k be a frozen vertex of Q . Let $(\delta_j)_{j \in I}$ is an $|I|$ -tuple of integers. We consider a lattice $N' = \bigoplus_{i \in I} \mathbb{Z}e'_i$ and define a linear map $\sigma : N' \rightarrow N$ such that

$$\sigma(e'_i) := \begin{cases} e_i & \text{if } i \neq k, \\ \sum_{j \in I} \delta_j e_j & \text{if } i = k. \end{cases}$$

The exchange matrix ε equips N with a skew-symmetric form $\{\cdot, \cdot\}$, whose pull-back through σ induces a skew-symmetric form $\{\cdot, \cdot\}'$ on N' . Let ε' be an $I \times I$ matrix such that

$$\varepsilon'_{ij} = \{e'_i, e'_j\}' := \{\sigma(e'_i), \sigma(e'_j)\}.$$

Let $\mathcal{A}'$ and $\mathcal{X}'$ be the cluster varieties associated with the quiver $Q' = (I, I^{\text{uf}}, \varepsilon')$. Note that σ satisfies the conditions (1) and (2) of Definition A.10. Therefore it defines quasi-cluster morphisms

$$\sigma : \mathcal{A}' \rightarrow \mathcal{A} \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}'.$$

Let α (resp. α') be the K_2 cluster chart associated with the quiver Q (resp. Q'). Let χ (resp. χ') be the Poisson cluster chart associated with the quiver Q (resp. Q').

Then the pull-back maps of σ can be written in terms of these cluster charts as

$$\sigma^*(A_i) = \begin{cases} A'_i A'_k{}^{\delta_i} & \text{if } i \neq k, \\ A'_k & \text{if } i = k. \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma^*(X'_i) = \begin{cases} X_i & \text{if } i \neq k, \\ \prod_j X_j^{\delta_j} & \text{if } i = k. \end{cases} \quad (\text{A.3})$$

PROPOSITION A.13. *With the above set-up, the following statements are true.*

- (1) *If $\delta_k = 1$, then the quasi-cluster morphisms σ are quasi-cluster isomorphisms.*
- (2) *If $\sum_j \varepsilon_{ij} \delta_j = 0$ for every $i \in I^{\text{uf}}$, then there is no arrow between the vertex k and the unfrozen part of Q' .*

Proof. (1) is obvious. For (2), it suffices to note that for $i \in I^{\text{uf}}$,

$$\varepsilon'_{ik} = \{e'_i, e'_k\}' = \{\sigma(e'_i), \sigma(e'_k)\} = \left\{e_i, \sum_j \delta_j e_j\right\} = \sum_j \delta_j \varepsilon_{ij} = 0.$$

Hence, there is no arrow between the vertex k and the unfrozen part of Q' . $\square$

Merging frozen vertices. Let t_1 and t_2 be frozen vertices in a quiver $Q = (I, I^{\text{uf}}, \varepsilon)$. Define the quiver $Q' = (I', I'^{\text{uf}}, \varepsilon')$, where $I' := (I \setminus \{t_1, t_2\}) \sqcup \{t\}$, $I'^{\text{uf}} := I^{\text{uf}}$, and

$$\varepsilon'_{ij} := \begin{cases} \varepsilon_{ij} & \text{if } i, j \neq t, \\ \varepsilon_{t_1 j} + \varepsilon_{t_2 j} & \text{if } i = t, \\ \varepsilon_{i t_1} + \varepsilon_{i t_2} & \text{if } j = t. \end{cases}$$

We say that Q' is obtained from Q by *merging* the frozen vertices t_1 and t_2 into a single frozen vertex t . Let N and N' be the lattices associated with the quivers Q and Q' respectively. There is an injective linear map

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma: N' &\rightarrow N \\ e'_i &\mapsto e_i \quad \text{for } i \neq t, \\ e'_t &\mapsto e_{t_1} + e_{t_2}. \end{aligned}$$

Note that σ satisfies the conditions in Definition A.10. It defines quasi-cluster morphisms

$$\sigma: \mathcal{A}' \rightarrow \mathcal{A} \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}'.$$

The next proposition is direct consequence of the construction of σ .

PROPOSITION A.14. *The quasi-cluster morphism $\sigma: \mathcal{A}' \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ embeds $\mathcal{A}'$ as a sub-variety of $\mathcal{A}$ determined by the locus $\{A_i = A_j\}$.*

Appendix B: Double Bott-Samelson cells

B.4: Definition and basic properties

Double Bott-Samelson (BS) cells, introduced in [SW19], are moduli spaces of flags with prescribed relative positions encoded by positive braids. In this section we briefly recall their definition and basic properties following *loc. cit.* Theorem 2.12 establishes natural isomorphisms between the augmentation varieties of positive braid closures and the double BS cells associated with SL_n .

Let $B_{\pm}$ be a pair of opposite Borel subgroups of a Kac-Moody group G and let $U_{\pm} := [B_{\pm}, B_{\pm}]$ be the maximal unipotent subgroups. There are flag varieties $\mathcal{B}_+ := G/B_+$ and $\mathcal{B}_- := B_- \backslash G$. By replacing $B_{\pm}$ with $U_{\pm}$ we define *decorated flag varieties* $\mathcal{A}_+ := G/U_+$ and $\mathcal{A}_- := U_- \backslash G$. There are natural projections $\pi : \mathcal{A}_{\pm} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}_{\pm}$. If $\pi(A) = B$ then we say that A is a *decoration* over B .

We denote elements in $\mathcal{B}_+$ as B^i and elements in $\mathcal{B}_-$ as B_i . The same convention is applied to $\mathcal{A}_{\pm}$ with the letter B replaced by A .

Let $T := B_+ \cap B_-$ and let $W := N(T)/T$ be the Weyl group. Consider the Bruhat decompositions and Birkhoff decomposition

$$G = \bigsqcup_{w \in W} B_+ w B_+ = \bigsqcup_{w \in W} B_- w B_- = \bigsqcup_{w \in W} B_- w B_+.$$

We adopt the convention of writing

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} xB_+ \xrightarrow{w} yB_+ & \text{if } x^{-1}y \in B_+ w B_+, \\ B_- x \xrightarrow{w} B_- y & \text{if } xy^{-1} \in B_- w B_-, \\ B_- x \xrightarrow{w} yB_+ & \text{if } xy \in B_- w B_+. \end{array} \right.$$

We often omit w in the notation when it is the identity. Moreover, when decorated flags are involved, the notations only concern the underlying flags; for example,

$$B^i \xrightarrow{w} A^j \text{ means } B^i \xrightarrow{w} \pi(A^j).$$

For a positive braid word $\beta = s_{i_1} \dots s_{i_m}$, a chain $B^0 \xrightarrow{s_{i_1}} \dots \xrightarrow{s_{i_m}} B^m$ will be abbreviated as $B^0 \overset{\beta}{-} B^m$. By Theorem 2.18 of [SW19], the chains of flags associated to different words of the positive braid $[\beta]$ have a natural one-to-one correspondence. In this sense, the chain $B^0 \overset{\beta}{-} B^m$ does not depend on the word β chosen.

DEFINITION B.1. Let β and γ be positive braids. The *half decorated double BS cell* $\text{Conf}_{\beta}^{\gamma}(\mathcal{C})$, viewed as a $\mathbb{Z}$ -scheme, is a moduli space parametrizes G -orbits of the

chains of flags

$$\begin{array}{ccc} B_0 & \overset{\gamma}{\dashrightarrow} & A_m \\ | & & | \\ B^0 & \overset{\beta}{\dashrightarrow} & B^l \end{array}.$$

If one forgets to choose a decoration A_m over B_m , then the resulting space is denoted by $\text{Conf}_\beta^\gamma(\mathcal{B})$. Denote by π the forgetful map from $\text{Conf}_\beta^\gamma(\mathcal{C})$ to $\text{Conf}_\beta^\gamma(\mathcal{B})$.

REMARK B.2. This version of double BS cells is slightly different from those in [SW19]: first, the two chains of flags swap places with the $\mathcal{B}_+$ -chain at the bottom and the $\mathcal{B}_-$ -chain at the top now; second, there is only one decoration A_m over B_m and the flag B^0 is no longer decorated.

For $B_0 \xrightarrow{s_i} B^0 \xrightarrow{s_i} B^1$, there is a unique flag B_{-1} such that $B^0 \xrightarrow{s_i} B_{-1} \xrightarrow{s_i} B_0$. It then follows from $B_{-1} \xrightarrow{s_i} B^0 \xrightarrow{s_i} B^1$ that $B_{-1} \xrightarrow{s_i} B^1$. This construction gives rise to the following reflection maps.

DEFINITION B.3. The left reflection map $l_i : \text{Conf}_{s_i\beta}^\gamma(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \text{Conf}_\beta^{s_i\gamma}(\mathcal{C})$ is an isomorphism mapping

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & B_0 \overset{\gamma}{\dashrightarrow} A_m & \\ & | & \\ B^0 & \xrightarrow{s_i} B^1 \overset{\beta}{\dashrightarrow} B^n & \end{array} \mapsto \begin{array}{ccc} B_{-1} & \xrightarrow{s_i} B_0 \overset{\gamma}{\dashrightarrow} A_m & \\ & | & \\ & B^1 \overset{\beta}{\dashrightarrow} B^n & \end{array}$$

Its inverse map $l^i : \text{Conf}_\beta^{s_i\gamma}(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \text{Conf}_{s_i\beta}^\gamma(\mathcal{C})$ is defined by an analogous process.

Let $\varphi_i : \text{SL}_2 \rightarrow G$ be the group homomorphism associated to the simple root α_i . Define

$$\begin{aligned} e_i(q) &:= \varphi_i \begin{pmatrix} 1 & q \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, & e_{-i}(q) &:= \varphi_i \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ q & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \\ \bar{s}_i &:= \varphi_i \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, & \bar{\bar{s}}_i &:= \varphi_i \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

Consider a reduced expression $w = s_{i_1} \dots s_{i_n}$ in W . Let

$$\overline{w} = \bar{s}_{i_1} \dots \bar{s}_{i_n}, \quad \overline{\overline{w}} = \bar{\bar{s}}_{i_1} \dots \bar{\bar{s}}_{i_n}.$$

The elements $\overline{w}$ and $\overline{\overline{w}}$ in G do not depend on the reduced expression chosen. We set

$$R_i(q) := e_i(q)\overline{s}_i = \varphi_i \begin{pmatrix} q & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (\text{B.1})$$

LEMMA B.4. *Fix a flag B^j . The space of flags B^k such that $B^j \xrightarrow{s_i} B^k$ is isomorphic to $\mathbb{A}^1$. In particular, if $B^j = B_+$, then $B^k = R_i(q)B_+$ for some unique $q \in \mathbb{A}^1$.*

Proof. It suffices to prove the lemma for $B^j = B_+$. Let $U_i := \{e_i(t) \mid t \in \mathbb{A}^1\}$ be the 1-dimensional unipotent subgroup associated to the simple root α_i and let $Q_i := B_+ \cap s_i B_+ s_i$. By [Kum02, Lemma 6.1.3], we know that $B_+ = U_i Q_i$. Therefore

$$B_+ s_i B_+ / B_+ = U_i Q_i s_i B_+ / B_+ = U_i s_i Q_i B_+ / B_+ = U_i s_i B_+ / B_+.$$

Hence $B^k = R_i(q)B_+$ for some unique $q \in \mathbb{A}^1$. $\square$

We prove an important property of the double BS cells, following [SW19, §2.4].

PROPOSITION B.5. *The space $\text{Conf}_\beta^\gamma(\mathcal{C})$ is the non-vanishing locus of a polynomial in $\mathbb{A}^{l(\beta)+l(\gamma)}$. Consequently, it is a smooth affine variety.*

Proof. It suffices to prove the lemma for $\text{Conf}_\beta^e(\mathcal{C})$; the general case will follow by using the reflections to shift the top γ to the bottom. Suppose β is of length l . Every point of $\text{Conf}_\beta^e(\mathcal{C})$ admits a unique representative as follows

$$\begin{array}{c} U_- \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ B_+ \xrightarrow[s_{i_1}]{} B^1 \xrightarrow[s_{i_2}]{} B^2 \xrightarrow[s_{i_3}]{} \cdots \xrightarrow[s_{i_l}]{} B^l \end{array} \quad (\text{B.2})$$

Using Lemma B.4 recursively, we obtain parameters $(q_1, \dots, q_l) \in \mathbb{A}^l$ such that

$$B^k = R_{i_1}(q_1) \cdots R_{i_k}(q_k) B_+, \quad k = 1, \dots, l.$$

By definition, we require that the rightmost pair (U_-, B^l) is in general position.

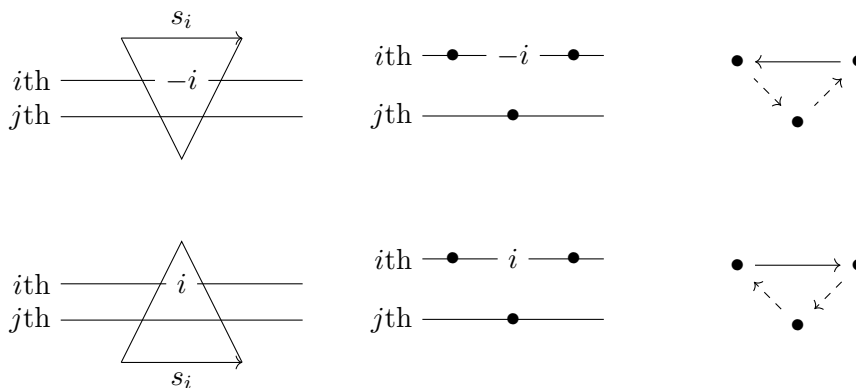
Let ω_i be the i th fundamental weight. The i th principal minor $\Delta_i : G \rightarrow \mathbb{A}$ is a regular function uniquely determined by the following two conditions: (1) $\Delta_i(u_- g u_+) = \Delta_i(g)$, where $u_\pm \in U_\pm$; (2) $\Delta_i(h) = h^{\omega_i}$ for $h \in T$. When $G = \text{SL}_n$, the function Δ_i coincides with (2.7). Note that $g \in B^- B^+$ if and only if $\Delta_i(g) \neq 0$ for all i . Therefore the pair (U_-, B^l) is in general position if and only if

$$f(q_1, \dots, q_l) := \prod_{1 \leq i \leq \text{rk } G} \Delta_i(R_{i_1}(q_1) \cdots R_{i_l}(q_l)) \neq 0. \quad \square$$

B.5: Cluster structures on double Bott-Samelson cells

A pair of positive braids (β, γ) can be regarded as a single braid in the product $\text{Br} \times \text{Br}$. We shall prove that every word of (β, γ) gives rise to a cluster *seed* of $\text{Conf}_\beta^\gamma(\mathcal{C})$. First, each word determines a labeling of arrows and a triangulation on the configuration diagram. Then we require that every pair of flags that are connected by a diagonal in the triangulation are in general position. The subspace of $\text{Conf}_\beta^\gamma(\mathcal{C})$ that satisfy these general position conditions is an algebraic torus. The algebraic tori obtained from all words of (β, γ) form a subset of the atlas of cluster charts.

In detail, let $\mathbf{t}$ be a word of (β, γ) . We label the arrows and draw the triangulation on the configuration diagram according to $\mathbf{t}$ as shown in Example B.8. On top of the triangulation, we draw $\text{rank}(\mathbf{G})$ many parallel lines, each of which represents a simple root of $\mathbf{G}$. Triangles in the triangulation are either upward pointing or downward pointing (as shown below), and depending on the orientation and the labeling of the base, each triangle places a node at one of the lines, cutting it into segments called *strings*. The segments from such cutting become the vertices of the quiver $Q_{\mathbf{t}}$, and the arrows in $Q_{\mathbf{t}}$ are drawn according to the pictures below, where the dashed arrows between different levels $i \neq j$ are weighted by weights that are related to Cartan numbers (see [SW19] for more details). In particular, in the simply-laced cases (which include SL_n), the dashed arrows all have weight $1/2$. In the end, we delete the left most vertices (together with all incident arrows) and freeze the right most vertices on each level.

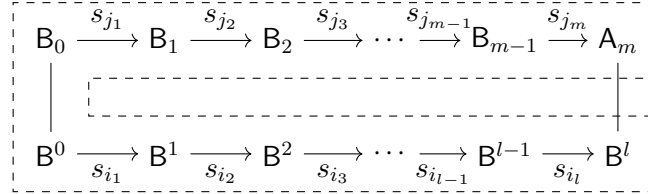


To define the cluster K_2 coordinates, we first need to decorate the flags. Two decorated flags $x\mathbf{U}_+ \xrightarrow{w} y\mathbf{U}_+$ (resp. $\mathbf{U}_-x \xrightarrow{w} \mathbf{U}_-y$) are said to be *compatible* if $x^{-1}y \in \mathbf{U}_+\overline{w}\mathbf{U}_+$ (resp. $xy^{-1} \in \mathbf{U}_-\overline{w}\mathbf{U}_-$). Two decorated flags $\mathbf{U}_-x \xrightarrow{w} y\mathbf{U}_+$ is called a *pinning* if $xy \in \mathbf{U}_-\mathbf{U}_+$.

LEMMA B.6. *Given $\mathbf{B} \xrightarrow{w} \mathbf{B}'$ (resp. $\mathbf{B}' \xrightarrow{w} \mathbf{B}$ or $\mathbf{B} \xrightarrow{w} \mathbf{B}'$), for every decoration $\mathbf{A}$ over $\mathbf{B}$, there exists a unique decoration $\mathbf{A}'$ over $\mathbf{B}'$, such that*

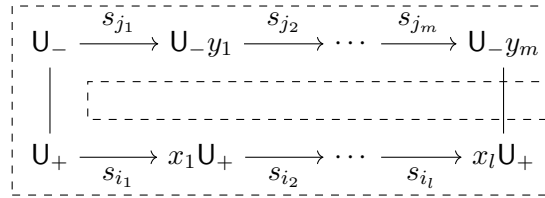
$A \xrightarrow{w} A'$ are compatible (resp. $A' \xrightarrow{w} A$ are compatible or $A \text{ --- } A'$ is a pinning).

Using the above lemma, we can begin with the decoration A_m over B_m and induce decorations one-by-one over the rest flags following the C -shape path illustrated by the dashed circles below



The next proposition presents a *standard representative* for every point in $\text{Conf}_\beta^\gamma(\mathcal{C})$.

PROPOSITION B.7. *Every point in $\text{Conf}_\beta^\gamma(\mathcal{C})$ admits a unique representative in the following form:*



where

$$x_k = R_{i_1}(q_1) R_{i_2}(q_2) \dots R_{i_k}(q_k), \quad y_k = R_{j_k}(p_k) \dots R_{j_2}(p_2) R_{j_1}(p_1).$$

This gives an open embedding $\text{Conf}_\beta^\gamma(\mathcal{C}) \hookrightarrow \mathbb{A}_{p_1, \dots, p_m}^m \times \mathbb{A}_{q_1, \dots, q_l}^l$.

Proof. Let us first verify that adjacent decorated flags along the top chain and the bottom chain are compatible. Let $x_0 = y_0 = e$. Note that

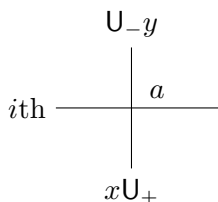
$$U_+ x_{k-1}^{-1} x_k U_+ = U_+ e_{i_k}(q_k) \bar{s}_{i_k} U_+ = U_+ \bar{s}_{i_k} U_+,$$

$$U_- y_{k-1} y_k^{-1} U_- = U_- (e_{j_k}(p_k) \bar{s}_{j_k})^{-1} U_- = U_- e_{-j_k}(-p_k) \bar{\bar{s}}_{j_k} U_- = U_- \bar{\bar{s}}_{j_k} U_-.$$

Since a compatible decoration on one end of any adjacent pair of flags along either of the horizontal chains can be uniquely determined by the decoration on the other end of the pair, the existence of uniqueness of such representative automatically follows from the fact that G acts freely and transitively on the space of pinning. $\square$

Now for a fixed word $\mathbf{t}$ of (β, γ) , we get a quiver $Q_{\mathbf{t}}$ with vertices corresponding to strings, which necessarily cross certain diagonals (possibly more than one) in the

triangulation.

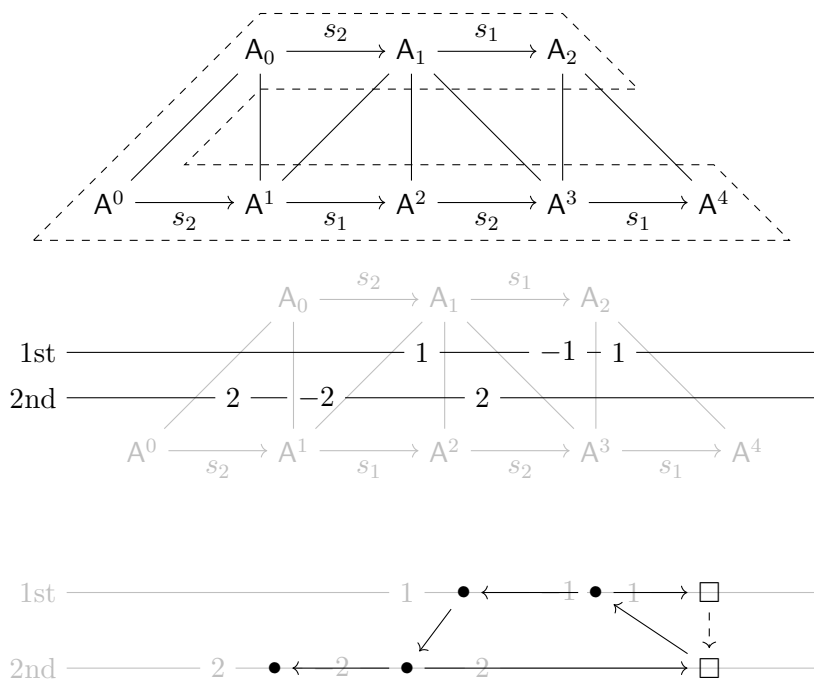


The cluster K_2 coordinate associated to the string a is defined to be the i th principal minor of xy :

$$A_a = \Delta_i(yx).$$

The function A_a is independent of the choice of diagonals if a crosses more than one diagonals.

EXAMPLE B.8. Let $G = \mathrm{SL}_3$, $\beta = s_2 s_1 s_2 s_1$, and $\gamma = s_2 s_1$. For $\mathrm{Br} \times \mathrm{Br}$, we use negative numbers for letters in the second factor. The word $\mathbf{t} = (2, -2, 1, 2, -1, 1)$ for (β, γ) gives rise to the following triangulation, string diagram, and quiver



REMARK B.9. In [SW19] a cluster K_2 structure is constructed on the decorated double BS cell $\mathrm{Conf}_\beta^\gamma(\mathcal{A}_{\mathrm{sc}})$ for a simply-connected group G , which has frozen vertices on both sides of the quiver. The cluster K_2 structure on $\mathrm{Conf}_\beta^\gamma(\mathcal{C})$ is essentially obtained from that of $\mathrm{Conf}_\beta^\gamma(\mathcal{A}_{\mathrm{sc}})$ by setting all the frozen variables on the left to be 1 due to the pinning condition on $A_0 \longrightarrow A^0$.

The next Proposition provides an interpretation of left reflections in terms of standard representatives in Proposition B.7. It implies that the left reflections are cluster transformations.

PROPOSITION B.10. *The left reflection $\text{Conf}_{s_i\beta}^\gamma(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \text{Conf}_\beta^{s_i\gamma}(\mathcal{C})$ can be expressed in terms of standard representatives as*

$$\begin{array}{c}
\begin{array}{c}
\text{U}_- \xrightarrow{s_{j_1}} \text{U}_{-y_1} \xrightarrow{s_{j_2}} \cdots \xrightarrow{s_{j_m}} \text{U}_{-y_m} \\
\text{U}_+ \xrightarrow{s_i} R_i(q)\text{U}_+ \xrightarrow{s_{i_1}} R_i(q)x_1\text{U}_+ \xrightarrow{s_{i_2}} \cdots \xrightarrow{s_{i_l}} R_i(q)x_l\text{U}_+
\end{array} \\
\longmapsto \\
\begin{array}{c}
\text{U}_- \xrightarrow{s_i} \text{U}_-R_i(q) \xrightarrow{s_{j_1}} \text{U}_{-y_1}R_i(q) \xrightarrow{s_{j_2}} \cdots \xrightarrow{s_{j_m}} \text{U}_{-y_m}R_i(q) \\
\text{U}_+ \xrightarrow{s_{i_1}} x_1\text{U}_+ \xrightarrow{s_{i_2}} \cdots \xrightarrow{s_{i_l}} x_l\text{U}_+
\end{array}
\end{array}$$

Proof. The left reflection does the following.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
& & U_- & & U_- \xrightarrow{s_i} U_- \\
& \nearrow & & \nearrow & \\
U_+ & \xrightarrow{s_i} & R_i(q)U_+ & & R_i(q)U_+ \\
& \nwarrow & & \nwarrow & \\
& & U_+ \xrightarrow{s_i} R_i(q)U_+ & &
\end{array}
\quad \rightsquigarrow \quad
\begin{array}{ccc}
U_- \xrightarrow{s_i} U_- & & \\
s_i \downarrow & & \\
U_+ \xrightarrow{s_i} R_i(q)U_+ & &
\end{array}
\quad \rightsquigarrow \quad
\begin{array}{ccc}
U_- \xrightarrow{s_i} U_- & & \\
& \searrow & \\
& & R_i(q)U_+
\end{array}$$

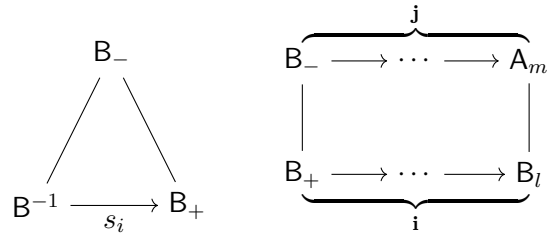
To restore to the standard representative, we need to act on the resulting configuration by $(R_i(q))^{-1}$. Note that under the such action, $x\mathbf{U}_+ \mapsto (R_i(q))^{-1}x\mathbf{U}_+$ and $\mathbf{U}_-y \mapsto \mathbf{U}_-yR_i(q)$. It is not hard to see that such action will give the standard configuration as claimed in the proposition. $\square$

B.6: An open embedding

In this section we construct an open embedding $\psi : \mathrm{Conf}_\beta^\gamma(\mathcal{C}) \times \mathbb{G}_m \hookrightarrow \mathrm{Conf}_{s_i\beta}^\gamma(\mathcal{C})$ whose image is the localization (freezing) at a cluster variable of the latter.

Recall from Lemma B.4 that the moduli space of B^{-1} that fits into the triangle in the picture on the left below is parametrized by the multiplicative group scheme $\mathbb{G}_m$. Note that the base change of $\mathbb{G}_m$ to any field k is isomorphic to $k^\times$ as affine

schemes over $\mathbb{k}$.



On the other hand, consider a standard representative and let us temporarily forget about the decorations on the pinning and the bottom chain, as shown in the picture on the right above. By gluing these two figures along the pinning $B_- \longrightarrow B_+$, we end up with a point in $\text{Conf}_{s_i\beta}^\gamma(\mathcal{C})$, which defines a morphism

$$\psi : \text{Conf}_\beta^\gamma(\mathcal{C}) \times \mathbb{G}_m \rightarrow \text{Conf}_{s_i\beta}^\gamma(\mathcal{C}), \quad (\text{B.3})$$

It is easy to see that ψ is an open embedding.

PROPOSITION B.11. *The image of ψ in $\text{Conf}_{s_i\beta}^\gamma(\mathcal{C})$ is the distinguished open subset corresponding to the localization (freezing) at the leftmost cluster variable A_c in the picture below*

Proof. There is a unique representative of (B.4) such that $B_0 = B_-$, $B^{-1} = B_+$, and $B^0 = R_i(d)B_+$. The principal minors of $R_i(d)$ are

$$\Delta_k(R_i(d)) = \begin{cases} d & \text{if } i = k; \\ 1 & \text{if } i \neq k. \end{cases}$$

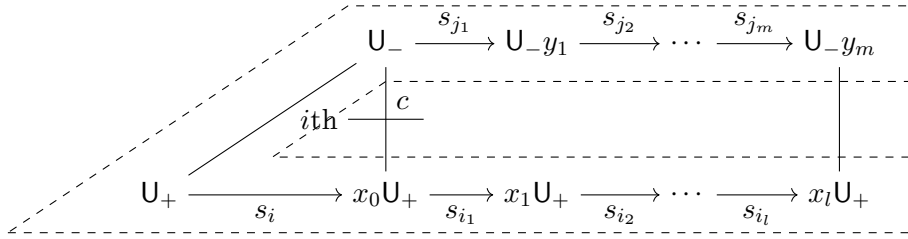
Hence, the left cluster variable $A_c = d$. By definition, (B.4) is in the image of ψ when B_0 and B^0 are in general position, or equivalently when $d \neq 0$. In other words, the image of ψ is precisely the non-vanishing locus of the cluster variable A_c . In cluster theory, localization of a cluster K_2 variety at a cluster variable A_c is again a cluster K_2 variety, which can be obtained by freezing the vertex c . Therefore the image of ψ is also a cluster K_2 variety. $\square$

Now we make $\text{Conf}_\beta^\gamma(\mathcal{C}) \times \mathbb{G}_m$ into a cluster K_2 variety by adding an extra frozen variable d corresponding to the $\mathbb{G}_m$ factor. There should not be no arrows connecting c and the unfrozen variables of $\text{Conf}_\beta^\gamma(\mathcal{C})$ because the extra $\mathbb{G}_m$ factor will not affect their mutations. However, there is freedom of adding arrows connecting c and the

frozen variables of $\text{Conf}_\beta^\gamma(\mathcal{C})$. The next proposition shows that these arrows can be uniquely determined by requiring ψ to be a quasi-cluster isomorphism onto its image.

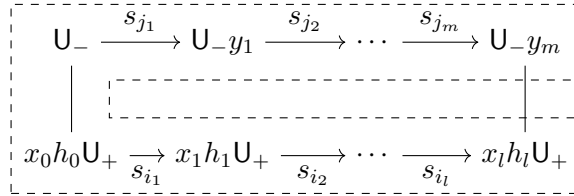
PROPOSITION B.12. *The space $\text{Conf}_\beta^\gamma(\mathcal{C}) \times \mathbb{G}_m$ can be equipped with a unique cluster K_2 structure which extends the cluster K_2 structure on $\text{Conf}_\beta^\gamma(\mathcal{C})$ by adding one extra frozen vertex c and possibly arrows between c and the original frozen part, such that ψ becomes a quasi-cluster isomorphism onto its image.*

Proof. Suppose we start with a standard representative in the image of ψ as follows.



From the last proposition we know that $x_0 U_+ = R_i(d) U_+$ for some non-zero d .

To obtain the preimage of this representative under ψ , we need to delete the flag U_+ at the lower left corner and re-scale the decorations along the bottom chain as follows.



Here $h_k \in \mathbb{T}$ are such that $(U_-, x_0 h_0 U_+)$ is a pinning and $(x_{k-1} h_{k-1} U_+, x_k h_k U_+)$ are compatible.

Set $\lambda_0^\vee = -\alpha_i^\vee$. Define co-characters $\lambda_k^\vee$ of $\mathbb{T}$ for $1 \leq k \leq l$ by the recursive relation

$$\lambda_k^\vee := s_{i_k}(\lambda_{k-1}^\vee).$$

Note that $x_0 = R_i(d)$. An easy calculation shows that $x_0 h_0 \in U_- U_+$ if and only if $h_0 = d^{\lambda_0^\vee}$. Since $(x_{k-1} U_+, x_k U_+)$ is a compatible pair, by definition we get $x_{k-1}^{-1} x_k \in U_+ \bar{s}_{i_k} U_+$. Therefore,

$$U_+ (x_{k-1} h_{k-1})^{-1} \cdot x_k h_k U_+ = U_+ \bar{s}_{i_k} \cdot s_{i_k}(h_{k-1}^{-1}) h_k U_+.$$

The pair $(x_{k-1} h_{k-1} U_+, x_k h_k U_+)$ is compatible if and only if $h_k = s_{i_k}(h_{k-1})$. By induction we get $h_k = d^{\lambda_k^\vee}$ for $0 \leq k \leq l$.

Next we investigate the pull-back of cluster K_2 coordinates of $\text{Conf}_{s_i \beta}^\gamma(\mathcal{C})$ under ψ . Fix a word $\mathbf{t}$ for (β, γ) and consider the word $(i, \mathbf{t})$ for $(s_i \beta, \gamma)$. Let $Q_{\mathbf{t}}$ be the quiver associated to $\mathbf{t}$, and $Q_{i, \mathbf{t}}$ the quiver associated to $(i, \mathbf{t})$ with the leftmost vertex c frozen.

Recall that

$$\psi^*(A_c) = \Delta_i(x_0) = \Delta_i(R_i(d)) = d.$$

We define d to be the cluster variable A'_c for the new frozen vertex c .

For any other string (vertex) a associated to $(i, \mathbf{t})$ as the left picture below, there is a corresponding string (vertex) a associated to $\mathbf{t}$ as the right picture below.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{U-}y_j & & \text{U-}y_j \\ | & & | \\ h\text{th level} \text{---} & a & h\text{th level} \text{---} & a \\ | & & | \\ x_k \text{U}_+ & & x_k d^{\lambda_k^\vee} \text{U}_+ \end{array}$$

Let $\delta_a := -\langle \lambda_k^\vee, \omega_h \rangle \in \mathbb{Z}$; then

$$\psi^*(A_a) = \Delta_h(y_j x_k) = \Delta_h(y_j x_k h_k) d^{-\langle \lambda_k^\vee, \omega_h \rangle} = A'_a A'^{\delta_a}_c.$$

In addition we define $\delta_c := -\langle \lambda_0^\vee, \omega_i \rangle = 1$. Let I denote the vertices of $Q_{i, \mathbf{t}}$ and let ε_{ij} be the exchange matrix encoded by $Q_{i, \mathbf{t}}$. The set $I' = I - \{c\}$ consists of vertices of $Q_{\mathbf{t}}$ and I^{uf} consists of unfrozen vertices of $Q_{\mathbf{t}}$. We claim that for any $a \in I^{\text{uf}}$, we have

$$\sum_{b \in I} \varepsilon_{ab} \delta_b = 0. \quad (\text{B.5})$$

To see this, recall that there is projection map

$$p: \text{Conf}_\beta^\gamma(\mathcal{C}) \times \mathbb{G}_m \longrightarrow \text{Conf}_\beta^\gamma(\mathcal{C}) \xrightarrow{\pi} \text{Conf}_\beta^\gamma(\mathcal{B})$$

As in [SW19, §3], $\text{Conf}_\beta^\gamma(\mathcal{B})$ is equipped with the cluster Poisson variables $\{X'_a\}_{a \in I^{\text{uf}}}$ such that

$$p^*(X'_a) = \prod_{b \in I'} A'_b{}^{\varepsilon_{ab}}. \quad (\text{B.6})$$

Consider the composition

$$p' := \text{Conf}_{s_i \beta}^\gamma(\mathcal{C}) \xrightarrow{\pi} \text{Conf}_{s_i \beta}^\gamma(\mathcal{B}) \longrightarrow \text{Conf}_\beta^\gamma(\mathcal{B})$$

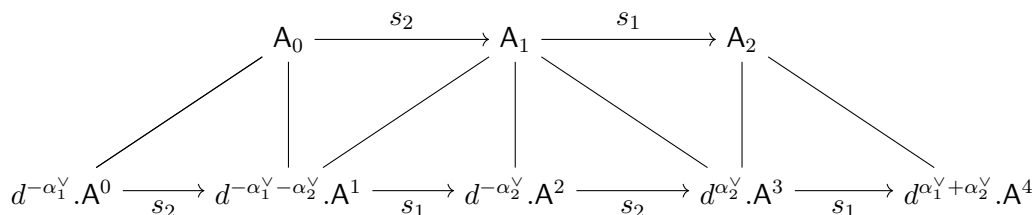
Here the second map is rational, obtained by forgetting the flag B^{-1} . Note that B^{-1} only changes the decorations on the other flags. Therefore we have $p = p' \circ \psi$. Therefore for $a \in I^{\text{uf}}$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} p^*(X'_a) &= \psi^* \circ p'^*(X'_a) = \psi^* \left(\prod_{b \in I} A_b^{\varepsilon_{ab}} \right) = A_c^{\varepsilon_{ac}} \prod_{b \in I'} A_c^{\varepsilon_{ab} \delta_b} A_b^{\varepsilon_{ab}} \\ &= A_c^{\sum_{b \in I} \varepsilon_{ab} \delta_b} \cdot \prod_{b \in I'} A_b^{\varepsilon_{ab}}. \end{aligned}$$

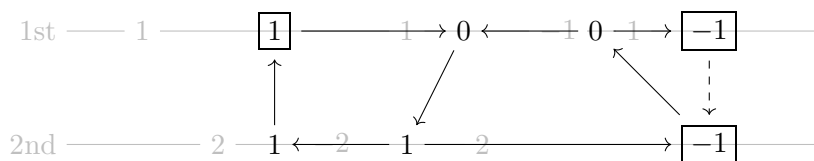
Comparing it with (B.6), we arrive at the identity (B.5).

Note that identity (B.5) satisfies the assumptions stated in Proposition A.13. Therefore we know that there is a unique way to extend the quiver of $\text{Conf}_\beta^\gamma(\mathcal{C})$ so that ψ becomes a quasi-cluster isomorphism onto its image. $\square$

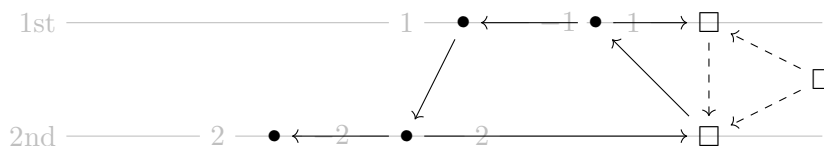
EXAMPLE B.13. We continue from Example B.8. Consider the map $\phi_1 : \text{Conf}_\beta^\gamma(\mathcal{C}) \times \mathbb{G}_m \rightarrow \text{Conf}_{s_1\beta}^\gamma(\mathcal{C})$. Let $d = A'_c$ be the coordinate for the $\mathbb{G}_m$ factor. Then in the preimage,



The change of decorations gives rise to the pull-backs $\phi_1^*(A_c) = A'_c$ and $\phi_1^*(A_a) = A'_a d^{\delta_a} = A'_a A'_c{}^{\delta_a}$ for $a \neq c$. The integers δ_a assigned to the vertices a are as follows.



Using these δ_a we conclude that the cluster structure on $\text{Conf}_\beta^\gamma(\mathcal{C}) \times \mathbb{G}_m$ is given by the following quiver, where the right most vertex is the extra frozen vertex c .



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