CLUSTER ALGEBRAS EXERCISES
$\mathrm{Gr}(3,6)$, $\mathrm{Gr}(3,7)$, $\mathrm{Gr}(3,8)$

Background

The coordinate ring of Grassmannians have a nice cluster algebra structure. A seed which can be built for any $\mathrm{Gr}(k,n)$ is the *rectangle seed*. The following appears in [1, Chapter 6].

Let $Q_{k,n}$ be a quiver with vertices labeled by rectangles contained in a $k \times (n-k)$ rectangle, plus the empty rectangle. We freeze the vertices of $Q_{k,n}$ corresponding to the empty rectangle and to rectangles with one of its sides of maximal size: i.e. of shape $k \times \star$ or $\star \times (n-k)$. In 2 the frozen vertices are the ones in blue. For a rectangle $i \times j$ we draw an arrow to the rectangles of sizes $(i+1)\times j$, $i\times(j+1)$ and $(i-1)\times(j-1)$ as long as these rectangles still fit in a $k\times(n-k)$ rectangle, are non-empty and do not join two frozen vertices.

The fact that the quiver $Q_{k,n}$ gives rise to a cluster algebra structure in $\mathbb{C}[\widehat{\mathrm{Gr}}(k,n)]$ is not a trivial result; the proof can be found in [1, Chapter 6] and [2]. For today we will just explain how to go from a rectangle to a Plücker coordinate. Given a rectangle R we left-top justify it on top of the $k \times (n-k)$ rectangle and consider the n-steps path from the left-bottom corner to the right-top corner traced by where R cuts the bigger rectangle. Labeling all steps of the path from left to right we have that the Plücker coordinate corresponding to R is given by the labels in the vertical steps of the path.

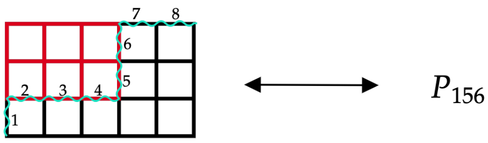


Figure 1. Example: from rectangle to Plücker coordinate

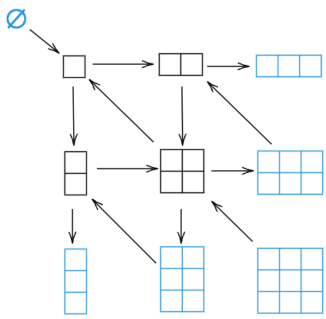
In today's exercises we will explore some special cases of what are known as cluster algebras of *finite type*. These correspond to cluster algebras such that for at least one of its seed the corresponding quiver (removing the frozen vertices) forms a Dynkin diagram.

Exercises

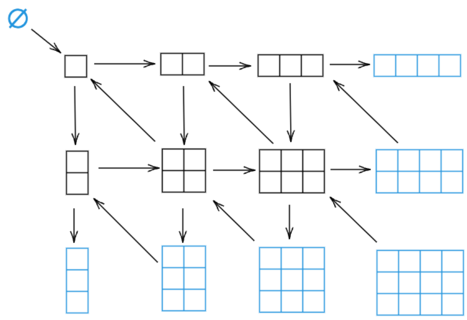
Exercise 1: The three Grassmannians $\mathrm{Gr}(3,n)$ with $n = 6, 7, 8$ correspond to cluster algebras of finite type. Find among the six Dynkin diagrams in Figure 3 the Dynkin diagram to which each Grassmannian corresponds.

For this exercise we have given you in Figure 2 the quiver corresponding to the rectangle seed for each case. You can also use the online resources in:
`public.websites.umich.edu/~fomin/cluster.html`
or `zngzag42.github.io/ClusterLibrary/index.html`.

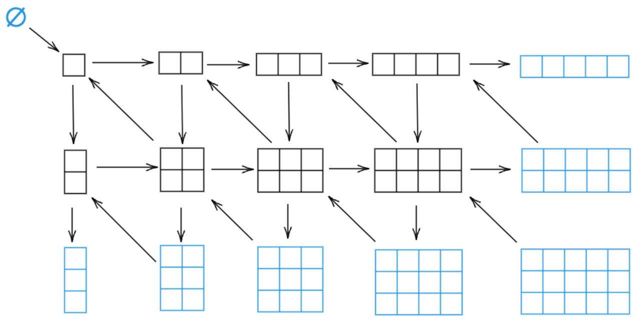
Date: March 3rd 2025.



(A) $\mathrm{Gr}(3,6)$



(B) $\mathrm{Gr}(3,7)$



(C) $\mathrm{Gr}(3,8)$

FIGURE 2. Rectangle seed for $\mathrm{Gr}(3,n)$ with $n = 6, 7, 8$

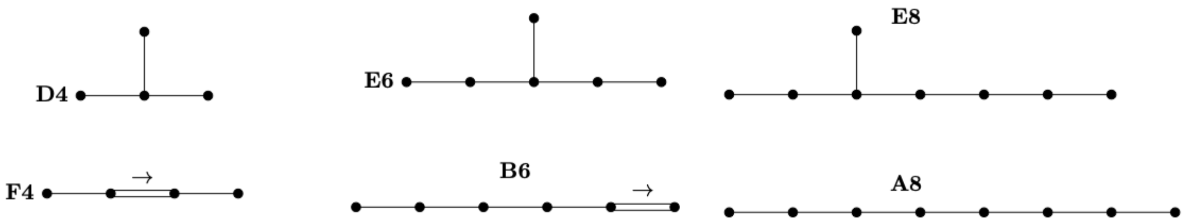


FIGURE 3. Some Dynkin diagrams

Exercise 2: Find among the cluster variables of $\mathrm{Gr}(3,n)$ with $n = 6, 7, 8$ the variables which are not Plücker coordinates. Can you give a geometric interpretation of these cluster variables? (*Hint:* represent a point in $\mathrm{Gr}(3,n)$ as a matrix and look at its columns as points in $\mathbb{P}^2$.)

Exercise 3 (Not a Grassmannian): Consider triangulations of an annulus with 1 marked point in the interior boundary and 2 mark points in the exterior boundary. Compute the exchange graph, given by going from one triangulation to the other, and the set of quiver isomorphism classes.

REFERENCES

[1] Fomin S., Williams L., and Zelevinsky A. (2021) *Introduction to Cluster Algebras*, `arxiv.org/abs/1608.05735`.
[2] Scott J. (2003) *Grassmannians and Cluster Algebras*, `arxiv.org/abs/math/0311148`.