# Grassmannian Cluster Varieties and Their Symmetries

#### Dani Kaufman

(University of Copenhagen)

23 March, 2023

For the Bethe Forum "Geometries and Special Functions for Physics and Mathematics"



- 1. What's the point?
- 2. Cluster Varieties and Ensembles
- 3. Grassmannians
- 4. The Cluster Modular Group
- 5. Special foldings of Grassmannian cluster structures

#### 1. What's the point?

- 2. Cluster Varieties and Ensembles
- 3. Grassmannians
- 4. The Cluster Modular Group
- 5. Special foldings of Grassmannian cluster structures

- A Cluster Variety is an algebraic variety along with a toric atlas generated by some extra combinatorial data.
- The cluster structure also encodes many new/unexpected coordinate functions, and automorphisms of the cluster structure encode exotic automorphisms of the variety.

#### Examples

- The Grassmannian (really some open set in/affine cone of) Gr(k, n) has such a structure, which contains all of the Plücker coordinates as coordinate functions in its cluster atlas.
- The cluster structure gives a convenient way of packaging up all of the Plücker relations, but also gives surprising new symmetries.
- Cluster structure encodes Polylogarithm relations and Scattering amplitude symbol alphabets in interesting ways

#### 1. What's the point?

- 2. Cluster Varieties and Ensembles
- 3. Grassmannians
- 4. The Cluster Modular Group
- 5. Special foldings of Grassmannian cluster structures

# Cluster Varieties (in brief)

Following Fock-Goncharov

- A Cluster Variety is an Algebraic variety built out of seed tori glued along birational morphisms called mutations.
- Each seed comes with some extra combinatorial data which encodes all of the mutation maps from that seed.
- Each mutation produces a new seed, so the entire cluster structure is generated by just one seed.



## Cluster Varieties of Geometric Type

- We will only consider cluster varieties of Geometric type meaning that we use quivers to track the combinatorial data underlying mutation maps.
- Quivers allowed for seeds cannot contain self loops or 2-cycles.
- Quivers are graphical representations of the exchange matrix  $M = [\epsilon_{ij}]$  with entries equal to the number of arrows from node *i* to node *j*.

# Examples $Q = \begin{array}{c} 2 \\ 1 \end{array} \longleftrightarrow M = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 & 2 \\ -1 & -2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

#### Cluster Ensembles of Geometric Type

- Associate variables to the nodes of a quiver to make a Seed;  $A_S$  and  $X_S$ .
- To Mutate a seed at the (non frozen node/variable) *i* we
  - 1. Mutate the quiver at node i
  - 2. Replace all the variables according to the  ${\mathcal A}$  or  ${\mathcal X}$  mutation rule

#### Mutation of quivers/Seeds

- 1. For every pair of arrows  $(k \rightarrow i), (i \rightarrow j)$  add a arrow from node k to node j, cancelling any 2-cycles between nodes k and j.
- 2. Reverse every arrow incident to *i*.



## The ${\mathcal A}$ and ${\mathcal X}$ Cluster Varieties

$$\mathcal{A}\text{-type mutation rule}$$

$$\mu_i^*(a_j') = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{a_i} (\prod_{\epsilon_{ik}>0} a_k^{\epsilon_{ik}} + \prod_{\epsilon_{ik}<0} a_k^{-\epsilon_{ik}}) & i = j \\ a_j & i \neq j \end{cases}$$

$$\mathcal{X}\text{-type mutation rule}$$

$$\mu_i^*(x_j') = \begin{cases} x_i^{-1} & i = j \\ x_j(1 + x_i^{-\operatorname{sgn} \epsilon_{ji}})^{-\epsilon_{ji}} & i \neq j \end{cases}$$

#### Definitions

The Cluster Ensemble associated with Q is the pair of cluster varieties  $(\mathcal{A}_Q, \mathcal{X}_Q)$  along with the map  $\rho : \mathcal{A}_Q \to \mathcal{X}_Q$  defined on coordinates on the same seed by

$$\rho^*(x_i) = \prod_j a_j^{\epsilon_{ij}}$$

There are lots of interesting aspects of these spaces, e.g. Poisson structure, symplectic structure etc. but we wont really need them

#### 1. What's the point?

2. Cluster Varieties and Ensembles

#### 3. Grassmannians

- 4. The Cluster Modular Group
- 5. Special foldings of Grassmannian cluster structures

#### Grassmannian Cluster Ensembles

#### $\mathcal{A} ext{-}\mathsf{Space}$

- Open subset of Affine cone over Gr(k, n) where Plücker Corrdinates are non-zero.
- Cluster variables are Plücker Corrdinates + "Exotic" Variables
- Exotics variables are all polynomials in Plückers
- *A*-variables on Gr(4, *n*) give "Symbol Alphabet" for *n* < 8(10?) particle amplitudes *N* = 4 SYM Theory

#### $\mathcal{X}$ -Space

- Open Subset of Conf<sub>n</sub>(P<sup>k-1</sup>) (Generic configurations)
- Cluster variables are Cross ratios + "Exotic" ratios (e.g. triple ratio)
- *X*-Variables are arguments to "Cluster Polylogarithms" and their relations.

What are the Seeds? What is the combinatorics of these cluster ensembles?

# Example: Gr(2,n)



Seed for Gr(2, 6)

# Example: Gr(2,n)



- Exchange Relation(A):  $a_{13}a_{24} = a_{12}a_{34} + a_{14}a_{23}$
- Exchanges Relation ( $\mathcal{X}$ ):  $x_{1345} = x_{1245}(1 + x_{1234}^{-1})^{-1}$

## Exchange Complexes

Exchange Complexes for Gr(2, n) are the Associahedra:



New things happen starting at Gr(3, 6):

- Not all mutations produce Plücker coordinates
- Exchange Relation:  $a_{246}A = a_{124}a_{346}a_{256} + a_{126}a_{234}a_{456}$
- $A = det(v_1 \times v_2, v_3 \times v_4, v_5 \times v_6)$
- $\mathcal{X}$  coordinate at center is Goncharov's triple ratio.



#### Grassmannian Seeds



# Seeds for General Gr(k,n)

Mutatble portion of seed for Gr(p, p + q):



Use B. Kellers Mutation applet https: //webusers.imj-prg.fr/~bernhard.keller/quivermutation/ Cluster Type of Gr(p, p + q):

- $(p-2)(q-2) < 4 \rightarrow$  finitely many seeds (Finite type)
- (p − 2)(q − 2) = 4 → infinitely many seeds, but finite quivers (Mutation Finite)
- (p-2)(q-2) > 4 → infinitely many seeds and quivers (Infinite Type)



## Finite Type Grassmannians

Finite type Cluster structures are classified by by the ADE Dynkin diagrams



# Mutation Finite Grassmannians

- Gr(4,8) and Gr(3,9) are only "Mutation Finite"
- Their Dynkin types are best described by "Elliptic root systems", defined by Satio.
- Have a Dynkin Diagram given by  $T_{pq2}$  Quiver

• 
$$Gr(4,8) = E_7^{(1,1)} = T_{442},$$
  
 $Gr(3,9) = E_8^{(1,1)} = T_{632}$ 





# Infinite Type Grassmannians

- Singularity theory of Complex Surface:  $x^{p} + y^{q} + (z^{2}) = 0$
- Can be classified by "Modality" (For small *p*, *q*) (V.I Arnold)
- Can be given Dynkin Diagrams; Each is a  $T_{pq2}$  plus (p-2)(q-2) 4 extra nodes.
- Connection through "Cluster Categories" (Jensen, King, Su)



Figure: Gr(3, 10),  $x^3 + v^7 + z^2 = 0$ 

Singularity Types:

- Simple
- Elliptic
- Unimodal
- Bimodal



#### 1. What's the point?

- 2. Cluster Varieties and Ensembles
- 3. Grassmannians
- 4. The Cluster Modular Group
- 5. Special foldings of Grassmannian cluster structures

## The Cluster Modular Group

The Cluster Modular Group,  $\Gamma$ , is the group of automorphisms of a cluster structure. We can think of it as a generalization of a mapping class group.

- 1. The group of automorphisms of the Exchange Complex of the cluster structure.
- 2. The group consisting of pairs  $\{P, \sigma\}$  of mutation sequences and quiver isomorphisms, up to those that do not change the cluster variables.



(a)  $Gr(3,6) = D_4, \Gamma = S_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_4$ 



(b)  $Gr(3,8) = E_8, \Gamma = \mathbb{Z}_{16}$ 

Lets explain this last description.

- *P* is a path of mutations,  $P = \{\mu_{P_1}, \mu_{P_2}, \dots, \mu_{P_k}\}$  and  $\sigma$  is a quiver isomorphism  $\sigma : Q \to P(Q) = \mu_{P_k} \circ \cdots \circ \mu_{P_1}(Q)$ .
- Labeling the nodes of Q by 1 up to n, we can write P as a list of nodes to mutate at and  $\sigma$  as an element of the symmetric group  $S_n$ .
- Pairs {P, σ} can be composed by viewing them as elements of the semidirect product (Z/2Z)\*<sup>n</sup> ⋊ S<sub>n</sub>.
- Explicitly, we have

$$\{P_1, \sigma_1\} \cdot \{P_2, \sigma_2\} = \{P_1\sigma_1(P_2), \sigma_1\sigma_2\}$$

•  $\sigma$  gives a map between the cluster variables on S to those on P(S), and pairs for which this map is the identity are the identity in  $\Gamma$ .

# Cluster Modular Groups of Grassmannians

- C. Fraser gives action of "Affine Braid Group" on d = gcd(n, k) strands on Gr(n, k) by cluster automorphisms.
- This is not faithfull; if n = 2k this gives an action of the "spherical braid group" on k strands
- In joint work with Z. Greenberg we calculate the cluster modular group of all elliptic cluster algebras (e.g Gr(4,8) and Gr(3,9))
- We show all elliptic cluster modular groups have PSL(2, ℤ) as a quotient by a finite normal subgroup.



 $1 \rightarrow N \rightarrow \Gamma \rightarrow \mathsf{PSL}(2,\mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow 1$ 

#### 1. What's the point?

- 2. Cluster Varieties and Ensembles
- 3. Grassmannians
- 4. The Cluster Modular Group
- 5. Special foldings of Grassmannian cluster structures

Idea: The usual Folding of Dynkin diagrams can be extended to cluster structures.



How to make a folded seed:

- 1. Put same cluster variable on each node in a group
- 2. Mutate each group together called Group Mutation

## What do we need to fold?

Folded seeds:

- 1. Put same cluster variable on each node in a group
- 2. Mutate each group together
- A folding is valid if there is a way to do group mutations e.g if the nodes in each group remain disconnected after mutations
- A folding is Cluster if each seed produced by group mutation is a folded seed.



# Cyclic Folding

Folding By a Cyclic quiver automorphism is often valid and cluster



# Cyclic folding of Grassmannian seeds

Many Grassmannians admit special cyclic foldings. Folding that minimics Dynkin Folding does not seem to reduce the complexity:





## Cyclic folding of Grassmannian seeds

Special Folding can actually reduce! the complexity of the algebra!



# Special q - 1 Cyclic foldings of Gr(p, p + q)





# Examples of special foldings





Figure: Gr(3,9)

Figure: Gr(3,10)

# Examples of special foldings





Figure:  $\mathbb{C}[SL_7/N]$ 

Figure: Gr(4,9)