

THE ZERO SET OF SEMI-INVARIANTS FOR EXTENDED DYNKIN QUIVERS

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ABSTRACT. We show that the set of common zeros $\mathcal{Z}_{Q,\mathbf{d}}$ of all semi-invariants vanishing at 0 on the variety $\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})$ of all representations with dimension vector \mathbf{d} of an extended Dynkin quiver Q under the group $\text{GL}(\mathbf{d})$ is a complete intersection if \mathbf{d} is “big enough”. In case $\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})$ does not contain an open $\text{GL}(\mathbf{d})$ -orbit, which is the case not considered so far, the number of irreducible components of $\mathcal{Z}_{Q,\mathbf{d}}$ grows with \mathbf{d} , except if Q is an oriented cycle.

1. INTRODUCTION AND MAIN RESULT

1.1. Let k be an algebraically closed field, and let $Q = (Q_0, Q_1, t, h)$ be a quiver with n vertices and a finite set Q_1 of arrows $\alpha : t\alpha \rightarrow h\alpha$, where $t\alpha$ and $h\alpha$ denote the tail and the head of α , respectively.

A representation of Q over k is a collection $(X(i); i \in Q_0)$ of finite dimensional k -vector spaces together with a collection $(X(\alpha) : X(t\alpha) \rightarrow X(h\alpha); \alpha \in Q_1)$ of k -linear maps. A morphism $f : X \rightarrow Y$ between two representations is a collection $(f(i) : X(i) \rightarrow Y(i))$ of k -linear maps such that

$$f(h\alpha) \circ X(\alpha) = Y(\alpha) \circ f(t\alpha) \quad \text{for all } \alpha \in Q_1.$$

By $\sigma(X)$ we denote the number of pairwise non-isomorphic indecomposable direct summands occurring in a decomposition of X into indecomposables. According to the theorem of Krull-Schmidt, $\sigma(X)$ is well-defined. The dimension vector of a representation X of Q is the vector

$$\mathbf{dim} X = (\dim X(i))_{i \in Q_0} \in \mathbb{N}^{Q_0}.$$

We denote the category of representations of Q by $\text{rep}(Q)$, and for any vector $\mathbf{d} = (d_i)_{i \in Q_0} \in \mathbb{N}^{Q_0}$,

$$\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d}) = \prod_{\alpha \in Q_1} \text{Mat}(d_{h\alpha} \times d_{t\alpha}, k)$$

is the vector space of representations X of Q with $X(i) = k^{d_i}$, $i \in Q_0$. The group

$$\text{GL}(\mathbf{d}) = \prod_{i \in Q_0} \text{GL}(d_i, k)$$

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acts on $\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})$ by

$$((g_i)_{i \in Q_0} \star X)(\alpha) = g_{h\alpha} \circ X(\alpha) \circ g_{t\alpha}^{-1}.$$

Note that the $\text{GL}(\mathbf{d})$ -orbit of X consists of the representations Y in $\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})$ which are isomorphic to X .

A regular function $f \in k[\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})]$ is called a semi-invariant if, for any $g \in \text{GL}(\mathbf{d})$, $g \star f = \chi(g)f$ for some group homomorphism $\chi : \text{GL}(\mathbf{d}) \rightarrow k^*$ which is a regular function on $\text{GL}(\mathbf{d})$, the so-called weight of f . Note that the k -algebra generated by all semi-invariants is just the algebra $k[\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})]^{\text{SL}(\mathbf{d})}$ of polynomial functions which are invariant under the product

$$\text{SL}(\mathbf{d}) = \prod_{i \in Q_0} \text{SL}(d_i, k).$$

Indeed, the algebra $k[\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})]^{\text{SL}(\mathbf{d})}$ is the direct sum of the spaces of $\text{GL}(\mathbf{d})$ -semi-invariants of weight χ , where χ ranges over all characters of $\text{GL}(\mathbf{d})$.

In case \mathbf{d} is a sincere prehomogeneous dimension vector, i.e. if $d_i > 0$ for all i and if the orbit $\text{GL}(\mathbf{d}) \star T$ of some representation T is open and dense, the algebra $k[\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})]^{\text{SL}(\mathbf{d})}$ is a polynomial algebra in $n - \sigma(T)$ generators. In fact, the generators correspond bijectively to the simple objects in the perpendicular category T^\perp , the full subcategory of $\text{rep}(Q)$ whose objects Y satisfy $\text{Hom}_Q(T, Y) = \text{Ext}_Q^1(T, Y) = 0$ [12]. We showed in [8] that the variety of common zeros $\mathcal{Z}_{Q, \mathbf{d}}$ of all non-constant semi-invariants is a complete intersection if each of the pairwise non-isomorphic indecomposable direct summands T_i of

$$T = \bigoplus_{i=1}^{\sigma(T)} T_i^{\lambda_i}$$

arises with a sufficiently large multiplicity λ_i . Choosing λ_i larger still, we obtain that $\mathcal{Z}_{Q, \mathbf{d}}$ is irreducible. By [9], $\mathcal{Z}_{Q, \mathbf{d}}$ is a complete intersection or irreducible, for $\lambda_i \geq 3$ or $\lambda_i \geq 4$, respectively, if Q is a tame quiver, i.e. a disjoint union of Dynkin quivers and extended Dynkin quivers. Chang and Weyman, the first to consider this question, showed in [2] that $\mathcal{Z}_{Q, \mathbf{d}}$ is a complete intersection for any \mathbf{d} if Q is a Dynkin quiver of type \mathbb{A}_n .

The interest in knowing when $k[\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})]^{\text{SL}(\mathbf{d})}$ is non-singular (or equivalently is a polynomial ring), and when $\mathcal{Z}_{Q, \mathbf{d}}$ is a complete intersection comes from the following fact: Assume a reductive algebraic group G acts regularly and linearly on a finite dimensional \mathbb{C} -vector space V . The action of G on V is called

- (i) coregular if the algebraic quotient [5] $V//G$ has no singularities,
- (ii) cofree if $\mathbb{C}[V]$ is a free module over the invariant ring $\mathbb{C}[V]^G$,
- (iii) equidimensional if the dimension of $V//G$ equals the codimension in V of the set of common zeros of all G -invariants which vanish at 0.

G. Schwarz proved in [16] that an action is cofree if and only if it is coregular and equidimensional. He classified all coregular and cofree representations of connected simple algebraic groups ([14], [15]). In [7], P. Littelmann classified all coregular and cofree irreducible representations of semisimple groups.

We have recalled above that in case \mathbf{d} is a prehomogeneous dimension vector the action of $\text{SL}(\mathbf{d})$ on $\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})$ is always coregular, and it is equidimensional if \mathbf{d} is “big enough”.

Unfortunately, most dimension vectors fail to be prehomogeneous, except for Dynkin quivers, in which case they all are. The algebra $k[\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})]^{\text{SL}(\mathbf{d})}$ for an arbitrary pair (Q, \mathbf{d}) is not known. If Q is an extended Dynkin quiver, however, Skowroński and Weyman have obtained in [17] a complete description of $k[\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})]^{\text{SL}(\mathbf{d})}$ by generators and relations for an arbitrary dimension vector \mathbf{d} . It turns out that in most cases the action of $\text{SL}(\mathbf{d})$ on $\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})$ is coregular (compare 1.3).

Our purpose in the present paper is to study $\mathcal{Z}_{Q, \mathbf{d}}$ for an extended Dynkin quiver and an arbitrary dimension vector. We find that, as in the prehomogeneous case, the action of $\text{SL}(\mathbf{d})$ on $\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})$ is equidimensional if \mathbf{d} is “big enough”. But $\mathcal{Z}_{Q, \mathbf{d}}$ does not become irreducible with growing \mathbf{d} . In fact, except for the oriented cycle, the number of its irreducible components increases with \mathbf{d} .

1.2. From now on until the end of Section 4, we assume that Q does not contain oriented cycles. We will usually not repeat this assumption. We will treat the oriented cycle separately in Section 5.

We need to recall a few facts and definitions, mostly from [11], before we can state our results. For a quiver Q , the Euler bilinear form $\langle -, - \rangle : \mathbb{Z}^{Q_0} \times \mathbb{Z}^{Q_0} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ is defined by $\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle = \sum_{i \in Q_0} x_i y_i - \sum_{\alpha \in Q_1} x_{t\alpha} y_{h\alpha}$. The associated quadratic form $q_Q : \mathbb{Z}^{Q_0} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$, given by $q_Q(\mathbf{x}) = \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \rangle$, is the Euler quadratic form. If X and Y are representations of Q , we have

$$\langle \dim X, \dim Y \rangle = [X, Y] - {}^1[X, Y],$$

where we set $[X, Y] = \dim_k \text{Hom}_Q(X, Y)$ and ${}^1[X, Y] = \dim_k \text{Ext}_Q^1(X, Y)$.

Assume that Q is an extended Dynkin quiver. Then the Euler quadratic form is positive semi-definite, and its radical is $\mathbb{Z}\mathbf{h}$ for a unique vector $\mathbf{h} \in \mathbb{N}^{Q_0}$. The defect is the linear form $\partial : \mathbb{Z}^{Q_0} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ given by $\partial(\mathbf{x}) = \langle \mathbf{h}, \mathbf{x} \rangle = -\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{h} \rangle$. A representation X is called preprojective, regular, or preinjective, if $\partial(\dim U) < 0$, $= 0$, or > 0 , respectively, for every indecomposable direct summand U of X . Any representation X has a unique decomposition $X = X_{\mathcal{P}} \oplus X_{\mathcal{R}} \oplus X_{\mathcal{I}}$, where $X_{\mathcal{P}}$, $X_{\mathcal{R}}$, $X_{\mathcal{I}}$ are preprojective, regular, and preinjective, respectively.

The regular representations form an exact abelian subcategory \mathcal{R} of $\text{rep}(Q)$. The category \mathcal{R} decomposes into a $\mathbb{P}^1(k)$ -family $\coprod_{\mu \in \mathbb{P}^1(k)} \mathcal{R}_{\mu}$ of uniserial categories. For each μ , the category \mathcal{R}_{μ} contains a finite number r_{μ} of simple objects; their dimension vectors add up to \mathbf{h} . The set $\mathcal{E} = \{\mu \in \mathbb{P}^1(k); r_{\mu} > 1\}$ has at most three elements. For $\mu \notin \mathcal{E}$, we denote the unique simple representations of \mathcal{R}_{μ} by H_{μ} . A simple regular representation with dimension vector \mathbf{h} is called homogeneous. We have $\sum(r_{\mu} - 1) = \#Q_0 - 2 = n - 2$.

If \mathbf{d} is not a prehomogeneous dimension vector, then representations in $\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})$ are necessarily generically regular. In fact, $\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})$ contains an open subset consisting of representations $H_{\mu_1} \oplus \dots \oplus H_{\mu_p} \oplus V$, where $p \geq 1$ and $\mu_1, \dots, \mu_p \notin \mathcal{E}$ are pairwise different, any indecomposable direct summand of V belongs to \mathcal{R}_{μ} for some $\mu \in \mathcal{E}$, and $\dim V = \mathbf{e}$ is prehomogeneous. We call the decomposition $\mathbf{d} = p \cdot \mathbf{h} + \mathbf{e}$ the canonical decomposition of \mathbf{d} .

1.3. We are now ready to state our results.

As a consequence of the theorem of Skowroński and Weyman [17, Thm.21], we know that the algebra $k[\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})]^{\text{SL}(\mathbf{d})}$ is a polynomial ring if Q is an extended Dynkin quiver, $\mathbf{d} = p \cdot \mathbf{h} + \mathbf{e}$ is not prehomogeneous and $p \geq 2$. If Q is of type

$\tilde{\mathbb{A}}_{n-1}$, this is true even if $p = 1$. Moreover, if the algebra $k[\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})]^{\text{SL}(\mathbf{d})}$ is not a polynomial algebra, the categorical quotient $\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})//\text{SL}(\mathbf{d})$ is singular. Indeed, its coordinate ring is of the form

$$k[X_1, \dots, X_a, Y_1, \dots, Y_b, Z_1, \dots, Z_c]/(f),$$

for some polynomial $f = X_1 \cdots X_{a'} + Y_1 \cdots Y_{b'} + Z_1 \cdots Z_{c'}$ with $a' \leq a, b' \leq b, c' \leq c$, and $a', b', c' \geq 2$, and f has a singularity at 0.

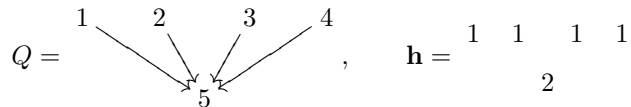
Theorem 1. *Let Q be an extended Dynkin quiver different from the oriented cycle, $\mathbf{d} \in \mathbb{N}^{Q_0}$ a non-prehomogeneous dimension vector with canonical decomposition $\mathbf{d} = p \cdot \mathbf{h} + \mathbf{e}$, and $V = \bigoplus_{i=1}^{\sigma(V)} V_i^{\lambda_i}$ a representation in the open orbit of $\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{e})$ with V_i indecomposable and pairwise non-isomorphic. Assume that either Q is of type $\tilde{\mathbb{A}}_{n-1}$ or else $p \geq 3$ and $\lambda_i \geq 3$ for all i . Then we have:*

- (i) *The action of $\text{SL}(\mathbf{d})$ on $\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})$ is equidimensional.*
- (ii) *Each irreducible component of $\mathcal{Z}_{Q, \mathbf{d}}$ is the closure of a $\text{GL}(\mathbf{d})$ -orbit.*
- (iii) *The number of irreducible components of $\mathcal{Z}_{Q, \mathbf{d}}$ is at least $p - 2$.*

Remark 1.1. Note that the behavior of the number of irreducible components of $\mathcal{Z}_{Q, \mathbf{d}}$ is quite different from what happens for \mathbf{d} prehomogeneous, since in that case $\mathcal{Z}_{Q, N \cdot \mathbf{d}}$ is irreducible for N large.

Remark 1.2. If Q is of type $\tilde{\mathbb{D}}_{n-1}$, it can be shown that the assumption on λ_i may be dropped if $p \geq 4$. We do not know if such a tradeoff is possible if Q is of type $\tilde{\mathbb{E}}_6, \tilde{\mathbb{E}}_7$, or $\tilde{\mathbb{E}}_8$.

Remark 1.3. Our arguments do not extend to the case $\mathbf{d} = 2 \cdot \mathbf{h}$. Indeed, for



the algebra $k[\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})]^{\text{SL}(2 \cdot \mathbf{h})}$ is a polynomial ring in 6 variables by [17, Thm. 17], but $\mathcal{Z}_{Q, \mathbf{d}}$ contains the representation $X = X_1 \oplus X_2$, where X_1 is the one-dimensional representation supported at the vertex 5 and the orbit of the representation X_2 is open in $\text{rep}(Q, 2 \cdot \mathbf{h} - \dim X_1)$, and

$$\text{codim } \overline{\text{GL}(2 \cdot \mathbf{h}) \star X} = {}^1[X, X] = {}^1[X_2, X_1] = 5.$$

The paper is organized as follows: In Section 2 we generalize Schofield’s result relating semi-invariants to objects in some perpendicular category [12] to non-prehomogeneous dimension vectors. In Section 3 we describe these generalized perpendicular categories, and we prove our main result in Section 4. The last section is devoted to the oriented cycle. As in that case there exist non-constant $\text{GL}(\mathbf{d})$ -invariants on $\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})$, and we need to modify the description of $\mathcal{Z}_{Q, \mathbf{d}}$ slightly. We obtain the following corollary.

Corollary 1.4. *If Q is an $\tilde{\mathbb{A}}_{n-1}$ -quiver, then $\mathcal{Z}_{Q, \mathbf{d}}$ is a complete intersection for any dimension vector \mathbf{d} .*

2. SEMI-INVARIANTS AND PERPENDICULAR CATEGORIES

2.1. Let Q be a quiver, $\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{e} \in \mathbb{N}^{Q_0}$, and let X, Y be representations of Q with $\mathbf{dim} X = \mathbf{d}$ and $\mathbf{dim} Y = \mathbf{e}$. Consider the linear map

$$\mathcal{F}_{X,Y} : \bigoplus_{i \in Q_0} \text{Hom}_k(k^{d_i}, k^{e_i}) \rightarrow \bigoplus_{\alpha \in Q_1} \text{Hom}_k(k^{d_{t\alpha}}, k^{e_{h\alpha}})$$

which sends $(g_i; i \in Q_0)$ to $(h_\alpha; \alpha \in Q_1)$ with $h_\alpha = g_{h\alpha} \circ X(\alpha) - Y(\alpha) \circ g_{t\alpha}$. Note that $\text{Ker } \mathcal{F}_{X,Y} = \text{Hom}_Q(X, Y)$ and $\text{Coker } \mathcal{F}_{X,Y} = \text{Ext}_Q^1(X, Y)$, which implies that

$$\langle \mathbf{d}, \mathbf{e} \rangle = [X, Y] - {}^1[X, Y].$$

If we assume that $\langle \mathbf{d}, \mathbf{e} \rangle = 0$, the linear map $\mathcal{F}_{X,Y}$ will be represented by a square matrix $H_{X,Y}$ (with respect to some bases), and the determinant $\det H_{X,Y}$ is a $\text{GL}(\mathbf{d}) \times \text{GL}(\mathbf{e})$ semi-invariant on $\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d}) \times \text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{e})$ by [12]. We denote by $f_Y \in k[\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})]$ the semi-invariant associated to a representation Y . Note that, for a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow Y' \rightarrow Y \rightarrow Y'' \rightarrow 0$$

with $\langle \mathbf{d}, \mathbf{dim} Y' \rangle = \langle \mathbf{d}, \mathbf{dim} Y \rangle = \langle \mathbf{d}, \mathbf{dim} Y'' \rangle = 0$, we have that f_Y is a non-zero multiple of $f_{Y'} \cdot f_{Y''}$ [3].

The semi-invariant f_Y does not vanish identically on $\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})$ if and only if there exists some $T \in \text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})$ with $[T, Y] = {}^1[T, Y] = 0$. We define the perpendicular category \mathbf{d}^\perp to be the full subcategory of $\text{rep}(Q)$ whose objects are the representations Y of Q for which there is a $T \in \text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})$ with $[T, Y] = {}^1[T, Y] = 0$. Note that in this case $[X, Y] = {}^1[X, Y] = 0$ for X in some dense open subset of $\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})$, as $[-, Y] = 0$ and ${}^1[-, Y] = 0$ are open conditions. In case \mathbf{d} is prehomogeneous, \mathbf{d}^\perp is just the category T^\perp introduced by Schofield in [12], where $T \in \text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})$ lies in the open orbit.

The following result from [3], which in characteristic zero also follows from [13], relates \mathbf{d}^\perp to semi-invariants.

Proposition 2.1. *If Q does not contain oriented cycles and $\mathbf{d} \in \mathbb{N}^{Q_0}$, the functions $f_Y, Y \in \mathbf{d}^\perp$, span the space $k[\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})]^{\text{SL}(\mathbf{d})}$.*

2.2. We start with the following lemma.

Lemma 2.2. *\mathbf{d}^\perp is an exact abelian subcategory of $\text{rep}(Q)$.*

Proof. Obviously \mathbf{d}^\perp is closed under taking direct summands. Let Y' and Y'' belong to \mathbf{d}^\perp . Then there is a $T \in \text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})$ for which

$$[T, Y'] = {}^1[T, Y'] = [T, Y''] = {}^1[T, Y''] = 0.$$

Let $f : Y' \rightarrow Y''$ be a homomorphism. Then we get two induced long exact sequences

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}_Q(T, \text{Ker}(f)) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_Q(T, Y') \rightarrow \text{Hom}_Q(T, \text{Im}(f)) \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow \text{Ext}_Q^1(T, \text{Ker}(f)) \rightarrow \text{Ext}_Q^1(T, Y') \rightarrow \text{Ext}_Q^1(T, \text{Im}(f)) \rightarrow 0, \\ 0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}_Q(T, \text{Im}(f)) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_Q(T, Y'') \rightarrow \text{Hom}_Q(T, \text{Coker}(f)) \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow \text{Ext}_Q^1(T, \text{Im}(f)) \rightarrow \text{Ext}_Q^1(T, Y'') \rightarrow \text{Ext}_Q^1(T, \text{Coker}(f)) \rightarrow 0. \end{aligned}$$

This implies that

$$\begin{aligned} [T, \text{Ker}(f)] &= [T, \text{Im}(f)] = {}^1[T, \text{Ker}(f)] = {}^1[T, \text{Im}(f)] \\ &= [T, \text{Coker}(f)] = {}^1[T, \text{Coker}(f)] = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Hence the subcategory \mathbf{d}^\perp is closed under kernels, images and cokernels. If Y is an extension

$$0 \rightarrow Y' \rightarrow Y \rightarrow Y'' \rightarrow 0$$

of Y'' by Y' , considering the long exact sequence obtained from mapping T to this short exact sequence yields $Y \in \mathbf{d}^\perp$. \square

If \mathbf{d} is prehomogeneous, \mathbf{d}^\perp is equivalent to the category of representations of some quiver by [12]. For arbitrary \mathbf{d} , \mathbf{d}^\perp may have infinitely many simple objects, however. We will compute \mathbf{d}^\perp in case Q is an extended Dynkin quiver and \mathbf{d} is not prehomogeneous in Section 3.

2.3. For further reference, we collect a few properties of \mathbf{d}^\perp .

Proposition 2.3. *Let $\mathbf{d} = \mathbf{d}' + \mathbf{d}''$ with $\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{d}', \mathbf{d}'' \in \mathbb{N}^{Q_0}$, and suppose that generically a representation $T \in \text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})$ has a subrepresentation $T' \in \text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d}')$. Then*

$$\mathbf{d}^\perp \cap (\mathbf{d}')^\perp = (\mathbf{d}'')^\perp \cap (\mathbf{d}')^\perp = (\mathbf{d}'')^\perp \cap \mathbf{d}^\perp.$$

Proof. We only prove the first equality. Suppose $Y \in (\mathbf{d}'')^\perp \cap (\mathbf{d}')^\perp$, and choose $T' \in \text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d}')$ with $[T', Y] = {}^1[T', Y] = 0$ and $T'' \in \text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d}'')$ with $[T'', Y] = {}^1[T'', Y] = 0$. Then obviously $[T' \oplus T'', Y] = {}^1[T' \oplus T'', Y] = 0$, which implies $Y \in \mathbf{d}^\perp$. Conversely, if $Y \in \mathbf{d}^\perp \cap (\mathbf{d}')^\perp$, choose $T \in \text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})$ with $[T, Y] = {}^1[T, Y] = 0$ and having a subrepresentation $T' \subseteq T$ with $\mathbf{dim} T' = \mathbf{d}'$. Note that ${}^1[T, Y] = 0$ implies ${}^1[T', Y] = 0$ as the map $\text{Ext}_Q^1(T, Y) \rightarrow \text{Ext}_Q^1(T', Y)$ is surjective. But as $Y \in (\mathbf{d}')^\perp$ we have

$$\langle \mathbf{d}', \mathbf{dim} Y \rangle = [T', Y] - {}^1[T', Y] = 0$$

and thus $[T', Y] = 0$. Applying the functor $\text{Hom}_Q(-, Y)$ we find $[T/T', Y] = {}^1[T/T', Y] = 0$ and thus $Y \in (\mathbf{d}'')^\perp \cap (\mathbf{d}')^\perp$. \square

Corollary 2.4. *Let z be a sink of Q , and denote by $\varepsilon_z \in \mathbb{N}^{Q_0}$ the vector given by $\varepsilon_z(y) = \delta_{z,y}$. For $\mathbf{d} \in \mathbb{N}^{Q_0}$, set $\bar{\mathbf{d}} = \mathbf{d} - d_z \cdot \varepsilon_z$. Then*

$$\{Y \in \mathbf{d}^\perp; Y(z) = 0\} = \{Y \in (\bar{\mathbf{d}})^\perp; Y(z) = 0\}.$$

Proof. We may assume that $d_z > 0$. Apply Proposition 2.3 for $\mathbf{d}' = d_z \cdot \varepsilon_z$, and note that

$$(\mathbf{d}')^\perp = (\varepsilon_z)^\perp = \{Y \in \text{rep}(Q); Y(z) = 0\},$$

as the one dimensional representation E_z supported at z is simple projective, and $\text{Hom}_Q(E_z, Y)$ is isomorphic to $Y(z)$. \square

Proposition 2.5. *Let $\mathbf{d} = \mathbf{d}' + \mathbf{d}''$, and suppose that any T in a dense open set $\mathcal{U} \subseteq \text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})$ decomposes as $T = T' \oplus T''$ for some $T' \in \text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d}')$ and some $T'' \in \text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d}'')$. Then $\mathbf{d}^\perp = (\mathbf{d}')^\perp \cap (\mathbf{d}'')^\perp$.*

Proof. The inclusion $(\mathbf{d}')^\perp \cap (\mathbf{d}'')^\perp \subseteq \mathbf{d}^\perp$ follows from Proposition 2.3. Conversely, let $Y \in \mathbf{d}^\perp$, and choose $T \in \mathcal{U}$ with $[T, Y] = {}^1[T, Y] = 0$. Then clearly

$$[T', Y] = {}^1[T', Y] = [T'', Y] = {}^1[T'', Y] = 0$$

if $T = T' \oplus T''$ is a decomposition with $\mathbf{dim} T' = \mathbf{d}'$ and $\mathbf{dim} T'' = \mathbf{d}''$. \square

2.4. Finally, we wish to study the behavior of \mathbf{d}^\perp under reflection functors. Let z be a sink of Q , and let $\alpha_j : y_j \rightarrow z, j = 1, \dots, s$ be the arrows of Q with head z . Define a new quiver Q' , obtained from Q by deleting z and $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_s$ and by adding a new vertex z' as well as arrows $\beta_j : z' \rightarrow y_j, j = 1, \dots, s$. Let E_z and $E'_{z'}$ be the one-dimensional representations of Q and Q' , supported at z and z' , respectively. Note that E_z is simple projective in $\text{rep}(Q)$ and $E'_{z'}$ is simple injective in $\text{rep}(Q')$.

We consider the reflection functor

$$\mathcal{F} : \text{rep}(Q) \rightarrow \text{rep}(Q')$$

associated with z . Recall that

$$(\mathcal{F}X)(i) = \begin{cases} X(i) & i \neq z', \\ \text{Ker} \left(\bigoplus X(y_j) \xrightarrow{[X(\alpha_1), \dots, X(\alpha_s)]} X(z) \right) & i = z', \end{cases}$$

and that

$$(\mathcal{F}X)(\beta_l) : (\mathcal{F}X)(z') \rightarrow (\mathcal{F}X)(y_l) = X(y_l)$$

is the inclusion of $(\mathcal{F}X)(z')$ into $\bigoplus_{j=1}^s X(y_j)$ followed by the projection to $X(y_l)$ (see [1], [4]). The functor \mathcal{F} restricts to an equivalence

$$\mathcal{F} : (\text{rep}(Q))' \rightarrow (\text{rep}(Q'))'$$

from the full subcategory $(\text{rep}(Q))'$ of $\text{rep}(Q)$ whose objects do not contain E_z as a direct summand, or equivalently have no non-trivial morphisms to E_z , to the full subcategory $(\text{rep}(Q'))'$ of $\text{rep}(Q')$ whose objects do not contain $E'_{z'}$ as a direct summand.

Suppose $\mathbf{d} \in \mathbb{N}^{Q_0}$ satisfies $d_z < \sum_{h\alpha=z} d_{t\alpha}$, and define $\mathbf{d}' \in \mathbb{Z}^{Q'_0}$ by

$$d'_x = \begin{cases} d_x, & x \neq z', \\ \sum_{h\alpha=z} d_{t\alpha} - d_z, & x = z'. \end{cases}$$

Note that $d'_{z'} > 0$. For $T \in (\text{rep}(Q))'$ with $\mathbf{dim} T = \mathbf{d}$, we have $\mathcal{F}T \in (\text{rep}(Q'))'$ with $\mathbf{dim} \mathcal{F}T = \mathbf{d}'$.

Proposition 2.6. *Let Q be a quiver with a sink $z, \mathbf{d} \in \mathbb{N}^{Q_0}$ with $d_z < \sum_{h\alpha=z} d_{t\alpha}$, and let Q', \mathbf{d}' be defined as above. Then $\mathcal{F}(\mathbf{d}^\perp) = (\mathbf{d}')^\perp$.*

Proof. We will prove that $\mathcal{F}Y \in (\mathbf{d}')^\perp$ for $Y \in \mathbf{d}^\perp$; the other inclusion is obtained from using the reflection functor $\mathcal{F}^{-1} : (\text{rep}(Q'))' \rightarrow (\text{rep}(Q))'$. Choose $T \in \text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})$ such that $[T, Y] = {}^1[T, Y] = 0$ and such that E_z is not a direct summand of T . This is possible as generically $[T, E_z] = 0$ on $\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})$. Note that E_z is not a direct summand of Y either as

$$\langle \mathbf{d}, \varepsilon_z \rangle = -d'_{z'} = -{}^1[T, E_z] < 0.$$

But then we have $T, Y \in (\text{rep}(Q))'$, and we know

$$[\mathcal{F}T, \mathcal{F}Y] = [T, Y] = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad {}^1[\mathcal{F}T, \mathcal{F}Y] = {}^1[T, Y] = 0.$$

So $\mathcal{F}Y$ belongs to $(\mathbf{d}')^\perp$. □

3. EXTENDED DYNKIN QUIVERS

3.1. Throughout this section Q is an extended Dynkin quiver. Remember that by \mathcal{E} we denote the set $\mathcal{E} = \{\mu \in \mathbb{P}^1(k); r_\mu > 1\}$, where r_μ is the number of simple objects in the category \mathcal{R}_μ . We need to recall two more results from [11].

Lemma 3.1. *Let $X_{\mathcal{P}}, X_{\mathcal{I}}, X_\mu$ be a non-zero preprojective, preinjective and regular representation in \mathcal{R}_μ , respectively, $\mu \in \mathbb{P}^1(k)$. Then we have*

- (i) $[X_\mu, X_{\mathcal{P}}] = {}^1[X_{\mathcal{P}}, X_\mu] = 0$ for all μ ,
- (ii) $[X_{\mathcal{I}}, X_\mu] = {}^1[X_\mu, X_{\mathcal{I}}] = 0$ for all μ ,
- (iii) $[X_{\mathcal{I}}, X_{\mathcal{P}}] = {}^1[X_{\mathcal{P}}, X_{\mathcal{I}}] = 0$,
- (iv) $[X_\mu, X_\nu] = {}^1[X_\mu, X_\nu] = 0$ for $\mu \neq \nu$,
- (v) $[X_{\mathcal{P}}, X_\mu] > 0$ and $[X_\mu, X_{\mathcal{I}}] > 0$ if $\mu \notin \mathcal{E}$.

3.2. For $r \geq 1$ we denote by C_r the oriented cycle with r vertices:

$$\begin{array}{c} 1 \xrightarrow{\alpha_1} 2 \xrightarrow{\alpha_2} \dots \xrightarrow{\alpha_{r-1}} r \\ \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\alpha_r} \curvearrowleft \end{array}$$

We call a representation X of C_r nilpotent if there is a positive integer N_X such that $X(\pi) = 0$ for any path π of length greater than or equal to N_X .

Lemma 3.2. *For $\mu \in \mathbb{P}^1(k)$, the category \mathcal{R}_μ is equivalent to the category of nilpotent representations of the oriented cycle C_{r_μ} .*

Fix a non-prehomogeneous dimension vector \mathbf{d} with canonical decomposition $\mathbf{d} = p \cdot \mathbf{h} + \mathbf{e}$, $p \geq 1$. We choose $V \in \text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{e})$ such that the $\text{GL}(\mathbf{e})$ -orbit of V is open, and we decompose $V = \bigoplus_{\mu \in \mathcal{E}} V_\mu$, $V_\mu \in \mathcal{R}_\mu$. With this notation we have the following results.

Proposition 3.3. *Let $\mathbf{e}_\mu = \dim V_\mu$ for $\mu \in \mathcal{E}$. Then:*

- (i) $\mathbf{h}^\perp = \prod_{\mu \in \mathbb{P}^1(k)} \mathcal{R}_\mu$.
- (ii) $\mathbf{d}^\perp = \mathbf{h}^\perp \cap \mathbf{e}^\perp$.
- (iii) *An indecomposable representation $Y \in \mathcal{R}_\mu$ belongs to \mathbf{e}^\perp if and only if either $\mu \notin \mathcal{E}$ or, for $\mu \in \mathcal{E}$, $Y \in (\mathbf{e}_\mu)^\perp$.*

Proof. (i) and (iii) follow directly from Lemma 3.1, and (ii) is a consequence of Proposition 2.5. \square

Our next goal is to describe $(\mathbf{e}_\mu)^\perp$ for $\mu \in \mathcal{E}$. Fix $r \geq 1$, and set $C = C_r$. By \mathcal{N} we denote the full subcategory of $\text{rep}(C)$ whose objects are the nilpotent representations. Note that \mathcal{N} is an exact abelian subcategory of $\text{rep}(C)$. Let T be a representation in \mathcal{N} having a dense open orbit in $\text{rep}(C, \mathbf{d})$, where $\mathbf{d} = \mathbf{dim} T$. Up to renumbering the vertices of C , we may suppose that $d_r \leq d_i$ for any vertex i of C . Then the composition $T(\alpha_{r-1}) \circ \dots \circ T(\alpha_1) \circ T(\alpha_r)$ is generically an automorphism. If d_r were positive, then T could not be nilpotent. So we see that $d_r = 0$.

An indecomposable representation Y in \mathcal{N} is uniquely determined by its socle, which is simple and thus corresponds to a vertex i of C , and its dimension l . Let ω be the path in C of length l stopping at i ; it is the shortest path stopping at i with $Y(\omega) = 0$. Note that in this way we obtain a bijection from the set of indecomposable representations in \mathcal{N} , up to isomorphism, to the set of all paths of positive length in C . If ω is such a path, we let Y_ω be the corresponding indecomposable.

The following lemma is not difficult; its proof is left to the reader. By W^* we denote the dual of the vector space W .

Lemma 3.4. *Let ω be a path of positive length in C . Then we have for any representation X of C :*

$$\text{Hom}_C(X, Y_\omega) \simeq (\text{Coker } X(\omega))^* \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Ext}_C^1(X, Y_\omega) \simeq (\text{Ker } X(\omega))^* .$$

We obtain the following consequence.

Corollary 3.5. *Let ω be a path of positive length in C , let T be a representation in \mathcal{N} with ${}^1[T, T] = 0$, and set $\mathbf{d} = \mathbf{dim} T$. Then we have:*

- (i) $Y_\omega \in \mathbf{d}^\perp$ if and only if $d_x \geq d_{h\omega} = d_{t\omega}$ for all vertices of ω ,
- (ii) Y_ω is a simple object in \mathbf{d}^\perp if and only if $d_x > d_{h\omega} = d_{t\omega}$ for all inner vertices of ω .

Here we set $t\omega = t\beta_1$ and $h\omega = h\beta_t$ for $\omega = \beta_t \cdots \beta_1$, and we call x a vertex of ω if x is a tail or a head of some β_i . An inner vertex of ω is a vertex of the form $t\beta_i$, $i > 1$.

Proof. (i) From Lemma 3.4 we see that $Y_\omega \in \mathbf{d}^\perp$ if and only if $T(\omega)$ is an isomorphism and therefore $d_{h\omega} = d_{t\omega}$. As $T(\omega)$ factors through $T(x)$ for any vertex x of ω , we find $d_x \geq d_{t\omega} = d_{h\omega}$. Conversely, this condition implies that $T(\omega)$, which is a composition of generic maps, one for each arrow β_i , is an isomorphism.

(ii) Assume Y_ω is simple and there is an inner vertex x with $d_{t\omega} = d_x = d_{h\omega}$. Denote by ω' the subpath of ω from x to $h\omega$. By (i), $Y_{\omega'}$ belongs to \mathbf{d}^\perp , and clearly $Y_{\omega'}$ is a proper subrepresentation of Y_ω . Conversely, a representation Y_ω with $d_x > d_{h\omega} = d_{t\omega}$ for all inner vertices cannot have any proper subrepresentation in \mathbf{d}^\perp , again by (i). □

Proposition 3.6. *Let T be a representation in \mathcal{N} with ${}^1[T, T] = 0$, and set $\mathbf{d} = \mathbf{dim} T$. Then $\mathbf{d}^{\perp \mathcal{N}}$ is an abelian category with $\#(C)_0 - \sigma(T) = r - \sigma(T)$ simple objects.*

Proof. Let \widehat{C} be the quiver obtained from $C = C_r$ by deleting the arrow α_r ; it is an \mathbb{A}_r -quiver. Recall that T in fact lies in $\text{rep}(\widehat{C}, \mathbf{d})$ as $d_r = 0$. Our strategy is to show that $\mathbf{d}^{\perp \mathcal{N}}$ and $\mathbf{d}^{\perp \widehat{C}}$ have the same simple objects. Then our result follows from Schofield’s result [12, Thm. 2.5], as \widehat{C} is a quiver of finite representation type and thus \mathbf{d} is prehomogeneous when viewed as a dimension vector for \widehat{C} .

For $Y \in \text{rep}(\widehat{C})$, we have

$$\text{Hom}_C(T, Y) = \text{Hom}_{\widehat{C}}(T, Y) \quad \text{and} \quad \langle \mathbf{d}, \mathbf{dim} Y \rangle_C = \langle \mathbf{d}, \mathbf{dim} Y \rangle_{\widehat{C}},$$

as $d_r = 0$. We conclude that $\mathbf{d}^{\perp \widehat{C}} = \mathbf{d}^{\perp \mathcal{N}} \cap \text{rep}(\widehat{C})$. Let Y_ω be a simple object of $\mathbf{d}^{\perp \mathcal{N}}$. By Corollary 3.5, the vertex r cannot be an inner vertex of ω , as $d_r = 0$. Then $Y_\omega(\alpha_r) = 0$ by the definition of Y_ω , and hence $Y_\omega \in \text{rep}(\widehat{C})$. □

Proposition 3.7. *Let Q be an extended Dynkin quiver and $\mathbf{d} \in \mathbb{N}^{Q_0}$ a non-prehomogeneous dimension vector with canonical decomposition $\mathbf{d} = p \cdot \mathbf{h} + \mathbf{e}$, $p \geq 1$. If either $p \geq 2$ or Q is an $\widetilde{\mathbb{A}}_{n-1}$ -quiver, the algebra $k[\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})]^{\text{SL}(\mathbf{d})}$ is a polynomial ring in $n + p - 1 - \sigma(V)$ variables, where $V \in \text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{e})$ has an open orbit.*

Proof. The main theorem of Skowroński and Weyman in [17] says that, under our assumptions, $k[\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})]^{\text{SL}(\mathbf{d})}$ is the quotient of a polynomial ring $k[c_0, \dots, c_p, f_Y]$ by an ideal generated by $\#\mathcal{E}$ relations, each allowing for the cancellation of one of the c_i 's from the list of generators, where Y ranges over the simple non-homogeneous objects in \mathbf{d}^\perp . Indeed, by Lemma 3.2 and Corollary 3.5, the simple objects in \mathcal{R}_μ correspond bijectively to the “admissible arcs” of [17]. The number of simple objects of \mathbf{d}^\perp which belong to \mathcal{R}_μ is $r_\mu - \sigma(V_\mu)$, where $V = \bigoplus_{\mu \in \mathcal{E}} V_\mu$, by Proposition 3.6. So the number of simple non-homogeneous objects in \mathbf{d}^\perp equals

$$\sum_{\mu \in \mathcal{E}} (r_\mu - \sigma(V_\mu)) = \sum_{\mu \in \mathcal{E}} r_\mu - \sigma(V) = n - 2 + \#\mathcal{E} - \sigma(V)$$

as $\sum_{\mu \in \mathcal{E}} (r_\mu - 1) = n - 2$. Taking into account the $\#\mathcal{E}$ relations, we conclude that $k[\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})]^{\text{SL}(\mathbf{d})}$ is a polynomial ring on

$$(p + 1) + (n - 2 + \#\mathcal{E} - \sigma(V)) - \#\mathcal{E} = p + n - 1 - \sigma(V)$$

generators. □

4. PROOF OF THE THEOREM

4.1. We recall the notation and assumptions for our theorem and keep them fixed throughout this section: Q is an extended Dynkin quiver with $\#Q_0 = n$, not an oriented cycle, $\mathbf{d} \in \mathbb{N}^{Q_0}$ is a non-prehomogeneous dimension vector with canonical decomposition $\mathbf{d} = p \cdot \mathbf{h} + \mathbf{e}$, $V = \bigoplus_{i=1}^{\sigma(V)} V_i^{\lambda_i}$ is a representation in the open orbit of $\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{e})$ with V_i indecomposable and pairwise non-isomorphic. We assume that either Q is of type \tilde{A}_{n-1} or else $p \geq 3$ and $\lambda_i \geq 3$ for $i = 1, \dots, \sigma(V)$. Note that by Proposition 2.1, the variety $\mathcal{Z}_{Q, \mathbf{d}}$ of common zeros of all non-constant semi-invariants has the following description:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{Z}_{Q, \mathbf{d}} &= \{X \in \text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d}); [X, Y] \neq 0 \text{ for all } Y \in \mathbf{d}^\perp, Y \neq 0\} \\ &= \{X \in \text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d}); {}^1[X, Y] \neq 0 \text{ for all } Y \in \mathbf{d}^\perp, Y \neq 0\}. \end{aligned}$$

The next result is an immediate consequence of Lemma 3.1 and Proposition 3.3.

Proposition 4.1. *Any representation X in $\mathcal{Z}_{Q, \mathbf{d}}$ has a nonzero preprojective (and a preinjective) direct summand.*

The following corollary implies part (ii) of our theorem.

Corollary 4.2. *Any irreducible component \mathcal{C} of $\mathcal{Z}_{Q, \mathbf{d}}$ is the closure of some orbit $\text{GL}(\mathbf{d}) \star X$.*

We call $X \in \mathcal{Z}_{Q, \mathbf{d}}$ generic if $\overline{\text{GL}(\mathbf{d}) \star X}$ is an irreducible component of $\mathcal{Z}_{Q, \mathbf{d}}$.

Proof. Otherwise, \mathcal{C} contains an infinite number of distinct orbits of maximal dimension, none of which belong to any other irreducible component of $\mathcal{Z}_{Q, \mathbf{d}}$. Some must be given by representations having a direct summand from \mathcal{R}_μ , $\mu \notin \mathcal{E}$. If $X = X_1 \oplus X_2 \oplus X_3$ is one of them with $X_1 \neq 0$ preprojective and $X_2 \in \mathcal{R}_\mu$, $\mu \notin \mathcal{E}$, there exists a non-split extension

$$0 \rightarrow X_1 \rightarrow \tilde{X}_1 \rightarrow X_2 \rightarrow 0,$$

by Lemma 3.1. Note that \tilde{X}_1 still contains a non-zero preprojective summand, as

$$\partial(\dim \tilde{X}_1) = \partial(\dim X_1) + \partial(\dim X_2) < 0.$$

Therefore $[\tilde{X}_1, H_\nu] \neq 0$ for any $\nu \notin \mathcal{E}$. For $Y \in \mathbf{d}^\perp$ simple non-homogeneous, we have ${}^1[X_2, Y] = 0$ by Lemma 3.1. Mapping the short exact sequence above to Y , we conclude that

$$[\tilde{X}_1 \oplus X_3, Y] = [X_1 \oplus X_2 \oplus X_3, Y].$$

Hence $\tilde{X} = \tilde{X}_1 \oplus X_3$ still belongs to $\mathcal{Z}_{Q, \mathbf{d}}$, and even to \mathcal{C} , as X lies in the closure of $\text{GL}(\mathbf{d}) \star \tilde{X}$. This contradicts the maximality of the dimension of $\text{GL}(\mathbf{d}) \star X$. \square

We fix a sink z in Q , and we define Q' as in Section 2.4. Note that generically a representation T in $\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})$ is regular and hence does not contain the simple projective E_z as a direct summand and thus $[T, E_z] = 0$. But E_z does not belong to \mathbf{d}^\perp either. We conclude that

$$\langle \mathbf{d}, \varepsilon_z \rangle = d_z - \sum_{j=1}^s d_{y_j} = [T, E_z] - {}^1[T, E_z] < 0,$$

and therefore we may apply Proposition 2.6. The same arguments yield that either $e_z = 0$ or else $e_z < \sum_{j=1}^s e_{y_j}$. In either case we have $e'_{z'} = \sum_{j=1}^s e_{y_j} - e_z \geq 0$.

Proposition 4.3. *If $X \in \mathcal{Z}_{Q, \mathbf{d}}$ does not contain the simple projective E_z as a direct summand, we have that X is generic in $\mathcal{Z}_{Q, \mathbf{d}}$ if and only if $\mathcal{F}X$ is generic in $\mathcal{Z}_{Q', \mathbf{d}'}$. Moreover,*

$$\text{codim}_{\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})} \overline{\text{GL}(\mathbf{d}) \star X} = \text{codim}_{\text{rep}(Q', \mathbf{d}')} \overline{\text{GL}(\mathbf{d}') \star \mathcal{F}X}.$$

Proof. We know that $X \in (\text{rep}(Q))'$ and $\mathcal{F}X \in (\text{rep}(Q'))'$. The sets

$$\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})' = \text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d}) \cap (\text{rep}(Q))', \quad \text{rep}(Q', \mathbf{d}')' = \text{rep}(Q', \mathbf{d}') \cap (\text{rep}(Q'))'$$

are open as $[-, E_z] = 0$ and $[E'_{z'}, -] = 0$ are open conditions. Moreover, they are related by a fiber bundle construction [6]. In particular, there is a bijection compatible with \mathcal{F} between the $\text{GL}(\mathbf{d})$ -orbits in $\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})'$ and the $\text{GL}(\mathbf{d}')$ -orbits in $\text{rep}(Q', \mathbf{d}')'$, preserving their codimensions, closures and inclusions between closures. Hence the claim follows from Proposition 2.6. \square

4.2. By \overline{Q} we denote the full subquiver of Q with vertex set $Q_0 \setminus \{z\}$, and we set $\overline{\mathbf{d}} = \mathbf{d}|_{\overline{Q_0}}$. For $X \in \text{rep}(Q)$, we denote by $\overline{X} \in \text{rep}(\overline{Q})$ the restriction of X to \overline{Q} . We set

$$\mathcal{Z}''_{Q, \mathbf{d}} = \{X \in \mathcal{Z}_{Q, \mathbf{d}}; E_z \text{ is a direct summand of } X\}.$$

As a generic $X \in \mathcal{Z}_{Q, \mathbf{d}}$ contains a non-zero preprojective direct summand and as any indecomposable preprojective representation becomes simple projective under a suitable series of reflection functors, part (i) of our theorem will follow if we show that

$$\text{codim}_{\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})} \mathcal{Z}''_{Q, \mathbf{d}} = n + p - 1 - \sigma(V).$$

Proposition 4.4. *The map*

$$\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d}) \rightarrow \text{rep}(\overline{Q}, \overline{\mathbf{d}}) \times \text{Mat}(d_z \times (\sum_{j=1}^s d_{y_j}), k)$$

sending X to $(\overline{X}, (X(\alpha_1) \cdots X(\alpha_s)))$ restricts to an isomorphism

$$\mathcal{Z}''_{Q, \mathbf{d}} \simeq \mathcal{Z}_{\overline{Q}, \overline{\mathbf{d}}} \times \mathcal{M},$$

where $\mathcal{M} = \{A \in \text{Mat}(d_z \times (\sum_{j=1}^s d_{y_j}), k); \text{rank } A < d_z\}$.

Proof. Indeed, $X \in \text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})$ belongs to $\mathcal{Z}''_{Q, \mathbf{d}}$ if and only if $X \simeq X' \oplus E_z$ and $[X', Y] \neq 0$ for all non-zero $Y \in \mathbf{d}^\perp$ with $Y(z) = 0$. By Corollary 2.4, these are exactly the objects of $(\mathbf{d})^\perp$ in $\text{rep}(\overline{Q}, \overline{\mathbf{d}})$, extended by 0 to Q . But if $Y(z) = 0$, we have $[X', Y] = [\overline{X}, Y]$. The result follows. \square

Let \overline{H} be a representation in the open orbit of $\text{rep}(\overline{Q}, \overline{\mathbf{h}})$, and note that the image \overline{H}_μ of the simple homogeneous representation H_μ is isomorphic to \overline{H} for any $\mu \notin \mathcal{E}$. We will need the following lemma.

Lemma 4.5. (i) $\sigma(\overline{H}) \leq 3h_z - 2 = 3(h_z - 1) + 1$.
 (ii) If either Q is an $\widetilde{\mathbb{A}}_{n-1}$ -quiver or else $V = \bigoplus V_i^{\lambda_i}$ with $\lambda_i \geq 3$ for all i , then $\sigma(\overline{V}) \leq \sigma(V) + e'_z$.

Proof. (i) Clearly \overline{H} has at most as many pairwise non-isomorphic direct summands as $\sum_{j=1}^s \dim_k H_\mu(y_j)$, $\mu \notin \mathcal{E}$, which implies that

$$\sigma(\overline{H}) \leq \sum_{j=1}^s h_{y_j} = 2h_z.$$

The last equality follows from

$$0 = \langle \varepsilon_z, \mathbf{h} \rangle + \langle \mathbf{h}, \varepsilon_z \rangle = h_z + h_z - \sum_{j=1}^s h_{y_j}.$$

This yields our claim except in the case $h_z = 1$. But in that case, \overline{Q} is a Dynkin quiver, and we have

$$\langle \overline{H}, \overline{H} \rangle = \langle \overline{\mathbf{h}}, \overline{\mathbf{h}} \rangle_{\overline{Q}} = \langle \overline{\mathbf{h}}, \overline{\mathbf{h}} \rangle_Q = \langle \mathbf{h} - \varepsilon_z, \mathbf{h} - \varepsilon_z \rangle = \langle \varepsilon_z, \varepsilon_z \rangle = 1.$$

Recall that ${}^1[\overline{H}, \overline{H}] = 0$ as the orbit of \overline{H} is open. In particular, \overline{H} is indecomposable and $\sigma(\overline{H}) = 1$.

(ii) We restrict V to the support of \mathbf{e} , which is a tame quiver K for which \mathbf{e} is a sincere dimension vector. If $e_z = 0$, i.e. if z is not a vertex of K , we have $\overline{K} = K$, $\overline{V} = V$ and $e'_z \geq 0$. Otherwise, z is a sink of K , and we can apply our results from [9]: $\mathcal{Z}_{K, \mathbf{e}}$ is a complete intersection of codimension $\#K_0 - \sigma(V)$, and $\mathcal{Z}_{\overline{K}, \overline{\mathbf{e}}}$ is a complete intersection of codimension $\#K_0 - 1 - \sigma(\overline{V})$. Note that either every connected component of K is a quiver of \mathbb{A} -type or else the multiplicity λ_i of every indecomposable $V_i|_K$ arising in $V|_K$ is at least 3. Set

$$\mathcal{Z}''_{K, \mathbf{e}} = \{X \in \mathcal{Z}_{K, \mathbf{e}}; [X, E_z] \neq 0\}$$

and remember that, as in Proposition 4.4, $\mathcal{Z}''_{K, \mathbf{e}} \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathcal{Z}_{\overline{K}, \overline{\mathbf{e}}} \times \mathcal{M}'$ with

$$\mathcal{M}' = \{B \in \text{Mat}(e_z \times \sum_{j=1}^s e_{y_j}, k); \text{rank}(B) < e_z\}.$$

We conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} \#K_0 - \sigma(V) &= \text{codim}_{\text{rep}(K, \mathbf{e})} \mathcal{Z}_{K, \mathbf{e}} \leq \text{codim}_{\text{rep}(K, \mathbf{e})} \mathcal{Z}''_{K, \mathbf{e}} \\ &= \#K_0 - 1 - \sigma(\overline{V}) + e'_z + 1, \end{aligned}$$

as $\text{codim } \mathcal{M}' = \sum_{j=1}^s e_{y_j} - e_z + 1 = e'_z + 1$. The result follows. \square

We are now ready to finish the proof of part (i) of our theorem. We need to show that

$$\text{codim}_{\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})} \mathcal{Z}''_{Q, \mathbf{d}} \geq n + p - 1 - \sigma(V).$$

Note that \overline{Q} is a disjoint union of Dynkin quivers; in fact it is an \mathbb{A}_{n-1} -quiver if Q is an $\widetilde{\mathbb{A}}_{n-1}$ -quiver. In the remaining cases, the multiplicity of any indecomposable direct summand in the representation $\overline{H}^p \oplus \overline{V} \in \text{rep}(\overline{Q}, \overline{\mathbf{d}})$, whose $\text{GL}(\overline{\mathbf{d}})$ -orbit is open, is at least 3. Therefore we know from [9] that

$$\text{codim } \mathcal{Z}_{\overline{Q}, \overline{\mathbf{d}}} = n - 1 - \sigma(\overline{V} \oplus \overline{H}^p).$$

We compute, using Proposition 4.4, the preceding lemma, and [9] for $(\overline{Q}, \overline{\mathbf{d}})$:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{codim}_{\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})} \mathcal{Z}''_{Q, \mathbf{d}} - (n + p - 1 - \sigma(V)) \\ &= \text{codim}_{\text{rep}(\overline{Q}, \overline{\mathbf{d}})} \mathcal{Z}_{\overline{Q}, \overline{\mathbf{d}}} + (d'_{z'} + 1) - (n + p - 1 - \sigma(V)) \\ &= (n - 1 - \sigma(\overline{V} \oplus \overline{H}^p)) + (ph_z + e'_{z'} + 1) - (n + p - 1 - \sigma(V)) \\ &= (\sigma(\overline{V}) + \sigma(\overline{H}) - \sigma(\overline{V} \oplus \overline{H})) + (p(h_z - 1) + 1 - \sigma(\overline{H})) \\ & \quad + (\sigma(V) + e'_{z'} - \sigma(\overline{V})) \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

In the last sum, each summand is non-negative. This is obvious for the first one, and it follows from the preceding lemma for the second and the third. Note that either $p \geq 3$ or else Q is an $\widetilde{\mathbb{A}}_{n-1}$ -quiver and $h_z = 1$.

4.3. Finally, we prove part (iii) of the theorem.

Lemma 4.6. *For $\mathbf{d} = p\mathbf{h} + \mathbf{e}$, $p \geq 3$, $\mathcal{Z}_{Q, \mathbf{d}}$ contains a generic representation $X = X_{\mathcal{P}} \oplus X_{\mathcal{R}} \oplus X_{\mathcal{I}}$ with $X_{\mathcal{P}}$ preprojective, $X_{\mathcal{R}}$ regular, and $X_{\mathcal{I}}$ preinjective such that the preprojective part $X_{\mathcal{P}}$ has defect $\partial(X_{\mathcal{P}}) = -1$.*

Note that in particular $X_{\mathcal{P}}$ is indecomposable.

Proof. We assume there is a sink z with $h_z = 1$. If no such sink exists, there is a source y with $h_y = 1$, and applying the dual arguments we find that $\partial(X_{\mathcal{I}}) = 1$, which implies $\partial(X_{\mathcal{P}}) = -1$.

We start from a representation W with dimension vector $p\mathbf{h}$ which is a direct sum of all simple regular non-homogeneous representations and some simple homogeneous representations (if necessary). Obviously there is an exact sequence in $\text{rep}(Q)$ of the form

$$0 \rightarrow E_z \rightarrow W \rightarrow W' \rightarrow 0$$

for some W' . Then no indecomposable direct summand of W' is preprojective, by Lemma 3.1. Let $X' = E_z \oplus W'$. Thus the defect of the preprojective part E_z of X' equals $\langle \mathbf{h}, \varepsilon_z \rangle = -h_z = -1$. Observe that $[X', Y] \neq 0$ for any regular representation $Y \neq 0$. Indeed, if Y is simple homogeneous, then $[X', Y] \geq [E_z, Y] > 0$, and if Y is simple non-homogeneous, then $[X', Y] \geq [W, Y] > 0$. Thus X' lies in $\mathcal{Z}_{Q, \mathbf{d}}$.

X' belongs to $\overline{\text{GL}(\mathbf{d})} \star X$ for some generic X , which we decompose as $X = X_{\mathcal{P}} \oplus X_{\mathcal{R}} \oplus X_{\mathcal{I}}$ with $X_{\mathcal{P}}$ preprojective, $X_{\mathcal{R}}$ regular, and $X_{\mathcal{I}}$ preinjective. By Proposition 4.1, we know that $X_{\mathcal{P}} \neq 0$ and thus $\partial(X_{\mathcal{P}}) \leq -1$. Choose $\nu \in \mathbb{P}^1(k) \setminus \mathcal{E}$ in such a way that H_ν is not a direct summand of X nor of X' , and remember that $[X, H_\nu] \leq [X', H_\nu]$. Using Lemma 3.1 we compute:

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &\leq -\partial(X_{\mathcal{P}}) = \langle \mathbf{dim } X_{\mathcal{P}}, \mathbf{h} \rangle = [X_{\mathcal{P}}, H_\nu] = [X, H_\nu] \\ &\leq [X', H_\nu] = -\partial(X'_{\mathcal{P}}) = 1. \end{aligned} \quad \square$$

For each natural number r , the vector $\mathbf{dim} X_{\mathcal{P}} + r\mathbf{h}$ is the dimension vector of some indecomposable representation $X_{\mathcal{P}}[r]$, which is still preprojective with defect -1 and thus has an open orbit in $\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{dim} X_{\mathcal{P}} + r\mathbf{h})$. For $s \in \mathbb{N}$ we let $X_{\mathcal{I}}[s]$ be an indecomposable representation with $\mathbf{dim} X_{\mathcal{I}}[s] = \mathbf{dim} X_{\mathcal{I}} + s\mathbf{h}$. Set $X[r, s] = X_{\mathcal{P}}[r] \oplus X_{\mathcal{R}} \oplus X_{\mathcal{I}}[s]$. The following result implies part (iii) of our theorem:

Proposition 4.7. *The representations $X[r, s]$ are pairwise non-isomorphic and generic in $\mathcal{Z}_{Q, \mathbf{d}+(r+s)\mathbf{h}}$.*

Proof. Choose $Y \in (\mathbf{d} + (r + s)\mathbf{h})^\perp = \mathbf{d}^\perp$, and remember that Y is regular and has defect 0. Therefore we have

$$[X_{\mathcal{P}}[r], Y] = \langle \mathbf{dim} X_{\mathcal{P}}[r], \mathbf{dim} Y \rangle = \langle \mathbf{dim} X_{\mathcal{P}}, \mathbf{dim} Y \rangle = [X_{\mathcal{P}}, Y],$$

and thus

$$[X[r, s], Y] = [X_{\mathcal{P}}, Y] + [X_{\mathcal{R}}, Y] = [X, Y] > 0$$

and $X[r, s]$ belongs to $\mathcal{Z}_{Q, \mathbf{d}+(r+s)\mathbf{h}}$.

In order to show that $X[r, s]$ is generic, it is enough to prove

$${}^1[X[r, s], X[r, s]] = n + p + r + s - 1 - \sigma(V),$$

which follows if

$${}^1[X[r, s], X[r, s]] = {}^1[X, X] + r + s.$$

As above we have

$${}^1[X_{\mathcal{R}}, X_{\mathcal{P}}[r]] = {}^1[X_{\mathcal{R}}, X_{\mathcal{P}}] \quad \text{and} \quad {}^1[X_{\mathcal{I}}[s], X_{\mathcal{R}}] = {}^1[X_{\mathcal{I}}, X_{\mathcal{R}}].$$

We compute

$$\begin{aligned} {}^1[X_{\mathcal{I}}[s], X_{\mathcal{P}}[r]] &= -\langle \mathbf{dim} X_{\mathcal{I}}[s], \mathbf{dim} X_{\mathcal{P}}[r] \rangle \\ &= -\langle \mathbf{dim} X_{\mathcal{I}} + s\mathbf{h}, \mathbf{dim} X_{\mathcal{P}} + r\mathbf{h} \rangle \\ &= {}^1[X_{\mathcal{I}}, X_{\mathcal{P}}] - s\partial(\mathbf{dim} X_{\mathcal{P}}) + r\partial(\mathbf{dim} X_{\mathcal{I}}) \\ &= {}^1[X_{\mathcal{I}}, X_{\mathcal{P}}] + s + r. \end{aligned}$$

By Lemma 3.1 these are the only terms that do not vanish. □

5. THE ORIENTED CYCLE

5.1. In this section we wish to generalize our results to the only extended Dynkin quiver not considered so far, the oriented cycle, i.e. the quiver Q with $Q_0 = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ and $Q_1 = \{\alpha_i : i \rightarrow (i + 1); i \in Q_0\}$; we view the elements of Q_0 as representatives of $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$. The category $\text{rep}(Q)$ of finite dimensional representations of Q decomposes into a family $\coprod_{\mu \in k} \mathcal{R}_\mu$ of uniserial categories \mathcal{R}_μ parametrized by $\mu \in k$. For $\mu \neq 0$, \mathcal{R}_μ contains a unique simple representation H_μ with $\mathbf{dim} H_\mu = \mathbf{h}$, where $h_i = 1$ for $i \in Q_0$. For $\mu = 0$, \mathcal{R}_0 consists of all nilpotent representations (compare Section 3.2). If $n \geq 2$, its simple objects are just the one-dimensional representations of Q .

We recall the description of the semi-invariants for $\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})$ from [10] and [17]. For $\mathbf{d} \in \mathbb{N}^{Q_0}$, we may assume that $d_1 = p \leq d_i$, $i \in Q_0$, up to renumbering the vertices of Q . For $X \in \text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})$, the coefficients $c_1(X), \dots, c_p(X)$ of the characteristic polynomial

$$\det(T - X(\alpha_n) \cdots X(\alpha_1)) = T^p + c_1(X)T^{p-1} + \cdots + c_p(X)$$

are clearly invariant under $GL(\mathbf{d})$. For two integers $i < j \leq i + n$, the path $\alpha_{j-1} \cdots \alpha_i$ is called an admissible arc $A = [i, j]$ if $d_i = d_j < d_m$ for all m with $i < m < j$. For any admissible arc $A = [i, j]$ the determinant

$$f_A(X) = \det(X(\alpha_{j-1}) \cdots X(\alpha_i))$$

is a semi-invariant. We call an admissible arc $B = [i, j]$ minimal if $d_i = d_j = p$.

Proposition 5.1. *Let Q be the oriented cycle, and let $\mathbf{d} \in \mathbb{N}^{Q_0}$ with $d_1 = p \leq d_i$ for all $i \in Q_0$.*

- (i) *The algebra of semi-invariants is the polynomial algebra*

$$k[\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})]^{\text{SL}(\mathbf{d})} = k[c_1, \dots, c_p; \{f_A\}] / (\prod f_B - c_p),$$

where A ranges over all admissible and B over all minimal admissible arcs of Q .

- (ii) *The algebra $k[\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})]^{\text{GL}(\mathbf{d})}$ of $GL(\mathbf{d})$ -invariants is a polynomial ring in c_1, \dots, c_p .*

Proof. Both statements are essentially contained in [17]: (i) is stated explicitly, and (ii) is the fact that an invariant is a semi-invariant with trivial weight. □

Theorem 2. *Let Q be the oriented cycle, $\mathbf{d} \in \mathbb{N}^{Q_0}$ with $d_1 = p \leq d_i$ for all $i \in Q_0$.*

- (i) *The set $\mathcal{Z}_{Q, \mathbf{d}}$ of common zeros of $c_1, \dots, c_p; \{f_A\}$ is a complete intersection, where A ranges over all admissible arcs of Q .*
- (ii) *The set $\mathcal{N}_{\mathbf{d}}$ of nilpotent representations in $\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})$ is the set of common zeros of c_1, \dots, c_p ; it is a complete intersection.*

As nilpotent representations do not depend on parameters, any irreducible component of $\mathcal{Z}_{Q, \mathbf{d}}$ or $\mathcal{N}_{\mathbf{d}}$ is the closure of an orbit. The number of irreducible components of $\mathcal{Z}_{Q, \mathbf{d}}$ can be shown to be bounded for the oriented cycle. Note that as a consequence of our two theorems, we obtain that $\mathcal{Z}_{Q, \mathbf{d}}$ is a complete intersection for any $\tilde{\mathbb{A}}_{n-1}$ -quiver.

5.2. Our strategy is to compare $\text{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})$ with $\text{rep}(\tilde{Q}, \tilde{\mathbf{d}})$, where

$$\tilde{Q} = \underbrace{1 \xrightarrow{\alpha_1} 2 \cdots \rightarrow n \xrightarrow{\alpha_n} 0}_{\beta}$$

and

$$\tilde{d}_i = \begin{cases} d_i & 1 \leq i \leq n, \\ p = d_1 & i = 0. \end{cases}$$

For $Y \in \text{rep}(\tilde{Q}, \tilde{\mathbf{d}})$ the coefficients $\tilde{c}_0(Y), \dots, \tilde{c}_p(Y)$ of the polynomial

$$\det(Y(\beta)T - Y(\alpha_n) \cdots Y(\alpha_1)) = \tilde{c}_0(Y)T^p + \tilde{c}_1(Y)T^{p-1} + \cdots + \tilde{c}_p(Y)$$

are semi-invariants; note that $\tilde{c}_0(Y) = \det(Y(\beta))$. For every admissible arc $A = [i, j]$ of Q as defined in Section 5.1, there is a semi-invariant \tilde{f}_A given by

$$\tilde{f}_A(Y) = \det(Y(\alpha_{j-1}) \cdots Y(\alpha_i)).$$

From [17] we know that

$$k[\text{rep}(\tilde{Q}, \tilde{\mathbf{d}})]^{\text{SL}(\tilde{\mathbf{d}})} = k[\tilde{c}_1, \dots, \tilde{c}_p; \{\tilde{f}_A\}] / (\prod \tilde{f}_B - \tilde{c}_p),$$

where A ranges over all admissible and B over all minimal admissible arcs for Q .

We leave the proof of the following lemma to the reader.

Lemma 5.2. *The map*

$$\Phi : \mathrm{GL}(p) \times \mathrm{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d}) \rightarrow \mathrm{rep}(\tilde{Q}, \tilde{\mathbf{d}})$$

given by

$$\Phi(s, X)(\gamma) = \begin{cases} X(\alpha_i) & \gamma = \alpha_i, i < n, \\ s \cdot X(\alpha_n) & \gamma = \alpha_n, \\ s & \gamma = \beta \end{cases}$$

is a $\mathrm{GL}(\tilde{\mathbf{d}})$ -equivariant open immersion onto the set

$$\mathrm{rep}(\tilde{Q}, \tilde{\mathbf{d}})' = \left\{ Y \in \mathrm{rep}(\tilde{Q}, \tilde{\mathbf{d}}); \det(Y(\beta)) \neq 0 \right\},$$

where $\mathrm{GL}(\tilde{\mathbf{d}})$ acts on $\mathrm{GL}(p) \times \mathrm{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})$ by

$$h \star (s, X) = (h_0 s h_1^{-1}, \bar{h} \star X)$$

and $\bar{h}_i = h_i$ for $i \in Q_0$.

Note that by definition,

$$\Phi^*(\tilde{c}_i)(s, X) = \begin{cases} \det(s) \cdot c_i(X) & i = 1, \dots, p, \\ \det(s) & i = 0; \end{cases}$$

$$\Phi^*(\tilde{f}_A)(s, X) = \begin{cases} \det(s) \cdot f_A(X) & \text{if } \alpha_n \text{ belongs to } A, \\ f_A(X) & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

We conclude that the zero set $\mathcal{V}(c_1, \dots, c_p, \{f_A\}) = \mathcal{Z}_{Q, \mathbf{d}} \subseteq \mathrm{rep}(Q, \mathbf{d})$ has the same codimension as the zero set $\mathcal{V}(\tilde{c}_1, \dots, \tilde{c}_p, \{\tilde{f}_A\}) = \mathcal{Y}_{\tilde{Q}, \tilde{\mathbf{d}}} \subseteq \mathrm{rep}(\tilde{Q}, \tilde{\mathbf{d}})$. As $\mathcal{Z}_{\tilde{Q}, \tilde{\mathbf{d}}} = \mathcal{V}(\tilde{c}_0) \cap \mathcal{Y}_{\tilde{Q}, \tilde{\mathbf{d}}}$ is a complete intersection by Theorem 1, $\mathcal{Y}_{\tilde{Q}, \tilde{\mathbf{d}}}$ is as well. This proves part (i).

As for part (ii), we need to study the set $\mathcal{V}(c_1, \dots, c_p)$ of common zeros of $c_1, \dots, c_{p-1}, c_p = \prod f_B$, where B ranges over all minimal admissible arcs. As

$$\mathcal{V}(c_1, \dots, c_p) = \bigcup_B \mathcal{V}(c_1, \dots, c_{p-1}, f_B),$$

this is a complete intersection as well. Clearly, a representation X is nilpotent if and only if the characteristic polynomial of $X(\alpha_n) \cdot \dots \cdot X(\alpha_1)$ is T^p .

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