CALDERO-CHAPOTON ALGEBRAS

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ABSTRACT. Motivated by the representation theory of quivers with potential introduced by Derksen, Weyman and Zelevinsky and by work of Caldero and Chapoton, who gave explicit formulae for the cluster variables of cluster algebras of Dynkin type, we associate a Caldero-Chapoton algebra \mathcal{A}_{Λ} to any (possibly infinite-dimensional) basic algebra Λ . By definition, \mathcal{A}_{Λ} is (as a vector space) generated by the Caldero-Chapoton functions $C_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M})$ of the decorated representations \mathcal{M} of Λ . If $\Lambda = \mathcal{P}(Q, W)$ is the Jacobian algebra defined by a 2-acyclic quiver Q with non-degenerate potential W, then we have $\mathcal{A}_Q \subseteq \mathcal{A}_\Lambda \subseteq \mathcal{A}_Q^{\mathrm{up}}$, where \mathcal{A}_Q and $\mathcal{A}_Q^{\mathrm{up}}$ are the cluster algebra and the upper cluster algebra associated to Q. The set \mathcal{B}_{Λ} of generic Caldero-Chapoton functions is parametrized by the strongly reduced components of the varieties of representations of the Jacobian algebra $\mathcal{P}(Q, W)$ and was introduced by Geiss, Leclerc and Schröer. Plamondon parametrized the strongly reduced components for finite-dimensional basic algebras. We generalize this to arbitrary basic algebras. Furthermore, we prove a decomposition theorem for strongly reduced components. We define \mathcal{B}_{Λ} for arbitrary Λ , and we conjecture that \mathcal{B}_{Λ} is a basis of the Caldero-Chapoton algebra $\mathcal{A}_{\Lambda}.$ Thanks to the decomposition theorem, all elements of \mathcal{B}_{Λ} can be seen as generalized cluster monomials. As another application, we obtain a new proof for the sign-coherence of g-vectors.

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Let \mathcal{A}_Q be the Fomin-Zelevinsky cluster algebra [FZ1, FZ2] associated to a finite 2-acyclic quiver Q. By definition \mathcal{A}_Q is generated by an inductively defined set of rational functions, called cluster variables. The cluster variables are contained

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in the set \mathcal{M}_Q of cluster monomials, which are by definition certain monomials in the cluster variables.

Now let W be a non-degenerate potential for Q, and let $\Lambda = \mathcal{P}(Q, W)$ be the associated Jacobian algebra introduced by Derksen, Weyman and Zelevinsky [DWZ1, DWZ2]. The category of decorated representations of Λ is denoted by decrep(Λ). To any $\mathcal{M} \in \text{decrep}(\Lambda)$ one can associate a Laurent polynomial $C_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M})$, the Caldero-Chapoton function of \mathcal{M} . It follows from [DWZ1, DWZ2] that the cluster monomials form a subset of the set \mathcal{C}_{Λ} of Caldero-Chapoton functions.

1.2. The generic basis conjecture. One of the main problems in cluster algebra theory is to find a basis of \mathcal{A}_Q with favourable properties. As an important requirement, this basis should contain the set \mathcal{M}_Q of cluster monomials in a natural way.

The concept of strongly reduced irreducible components of varieties of decorated representations of a Jacobian algebra Λ was introduced in [GLS]. To each strongly reduced component Z one can associate a generic Caldero-Chapoton function $C_{\Lambda}(Z)$; see Sections 4.1 and 6.4. It was conjectured in [GLS] that the set \mathcal{B}_{Λ} of generic Caldero-Chapoton functions forms a \mathbb{C} -basis of \mathcal{A}_Q . Using a non-degenerate potential defined by Labardini [La1, La2], Plamondon [P2] found a counterexample and then conjectured that \mathcal{B}_{Λ} is a basis of the upper cluster algebra $\mathcal{A}_Q^{\text{up}}$. This conjecture should also be wrong in general. We replace it by yet another conjecture.

We study the Caldero-Chapoton algebra

 $\mathcal{A}_{\Lambda} := \langle C_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}) \mid \mathcal{M} \in \operatorname{decrep}(\Lambda) \rangle_{\operatorname{alg}}$

generated by all Caldero-Chapoton functions. We do not restrict ourselves to Jacobian algebras, but work with algebras Λ defined as arbitrary quotients of completed path algebras. In particular, we generalize the notion of a Caldero-Chapoton function to this general setup. One easily checks that the functions $C_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M})$ do not only generate \mathcal{A}_{Λ} as an algebra but also as a vector space over the ground field \mathbb{C} .

Conjecture 1.1. \mathcal{B}_{Λ} is a \mathbb{C} -basis of \mathcal{A}_{Λ} .

We show that the set \mathcal{B}_{Λ} of generic Caldero-Chapoton functions is linearly independent provided the kernel of the skew-symmetric incidence matrix B_Q of Q does not contain any non-zero element in $\mathbb{Q}_{>0}^n$. This generalizes [P2, Proposition 3.19].

For $\Lambda = \mathcal{P}(Q, W)$, a Jacobian algebra associated to a quiver Q with nondegenerate potential W, we have

$$\mathcal{A}_Q \subseteq \mathcal{A}_\Lambda \subseteq \mathcal{A}_Q^{\mathrm{up}}$$

where \mathcal{A}_Q is the cluster algebra and $\mathcal{A}_Q^{\text{up}}$ is the upper cluster algebra associated to Q. (We refer to [BFZ, DWZ1, FZ1] for missing definitions.) For this special case, we give a list of open problems, which hopefully will lead to a better understanding of the rather mysterious relation between \mathcal{A}_Q and $\mathcal{A}_Q^{\text{up}}$.

1.3. **Parametrization of strongly reduced components.** Plamondon [P2, Theorem 1.2] parametrized the strongly reduced components for finite-dimensional basic algebras. (For our (non-standard) definition of a basic algebra we refer to Section 2.1.) We generalize Plamondon's result to arbitrary basic algebras. Let $\Lambda = \mathbb{C}\langle\langle Q \rangle\rangle/I$ be a basic algebra, where the quiver Q has n vertices. Let decIrr(Λ) be the set of irreducible components of all varieties decrep_{d,v}(Λ) of decorated representations of Λ , where (**d**, **v**) runs through $\mathbb{N}^n \times \mathbb{N}^n$. By decIrr^{s.r.}(Λ) we denote

the subset of strongly reduced components. (The definition is in Section 5.) Recall that decIrr^{s.r.}(Λ) parametrizes the elements in \mathcal{B}_{Λ} .

Let

$$G^{\mathrm{s.r.}}_{\Lambda} \colon \operatorname{decIrr}^{\mathrm{s.r.}}(\Lambda) \to \mathbb{Z}^{r}$$

be the map sending $Z \in \operatorname{decIrr}^{\operatorname{s.r.}}(\Lambda)$ to the generic *g*-vector $g_{\Lambda}(Z)$ of *Z*. (The definition of a *g*-vector is in Section 3.) Using Plamondon's result for finite-dimensional algebras and a long-path truncation argument, we get the following parametrization of strongly reduced components for arbitrary Λ .

Theorem 1.2. For a basic algebra $\Lambda = \mathbb{C}\langle\!\langle Q \rangle\!\rangle / I$ the following hold:

(i) The map

$$G^{\text{s.r.}}_{\Lambda} : \operatorname{decIrr}^{\text{s.r.}}(\Lambda) \to \mathbb{Z}^n$$

 $is \ injective.$

Ι.

(ii) The following are equivalent:
(a) G_Λ^{s.r.} is surjective.
(b) Λ̄ := C⟨⟨Q⟩⟩/Ī is finite-dimensional, where Ī is the m-adic closure of

1.4. A decomposition theorem for strongly reduced components. The notion of a direct sum of irreducible components of representation varieties was introduced in [CBS]. The Zariski closure $Z := \overline{Z_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus Z_t}$ of a direct sum of irreducible components Z_1, \ldots, Z_t of varieties of representations of Λ is always irreducible, but in general Z is not an irreducible component. It was shown in [CBS] that Z is an irreducible component provided the dimension of the first extension group between the components is generically zero. The following decomposition theorem is an analogue for strongly reduced components. Instead of extension groups, we work with a generalization $E_{\Lambda}(-,?)$ of the Derksen-Weyman-Zelevinsky *E*-invariant [DWZ2]. (We define $E_{\Lambda}(-,?)$ in Section 3.)

Theorem 1.3. For $Z_1, \ldots, Z_t \in \operatorname{decIrr}(\Lambda)$ the following are equivalent:

- (i) $\overline{Z_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus Z_t}$ is a strongly reduced irreducible component.
- (ii) Each Z_i is strongly reduced and $E_{\Lambda}(Z_i, Z_j) = 0$ for all $i \neq j$.

Based on Theorem 1.3, we show that all elements of \mathcal{B}_{Λ} can be seen as *CC*-cluster monomials. (The *CC*-cluster monomials generalize Fomin and Zelevinsky's notion of cluster monomials.)

1.5. Sign-coherence of *g*-vectors. A subset U of \mathbb{Z}^n is called *sign-coherent* if for each $1 \leq i \leq n$ we have either $a_i \geq 0$ for all $(a_1, \ldots, a_n) \in U$ or $a_i \leq 0$ for all $(a_1, \ldots, a_n) \in U$.

The following theorem generalizes [P2, Theorem 3.7(1)].

Theorem 1.4. Let Λ be a basic algebra, and let $Z_1, \ldots, Z_t \in \operatorname{decIrr}^{\operatorname{s.r.}}(\Lambda)$ be strongly reduced components. Assume that

$$\overline{Z_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus Z_t}$$

is a strongly reduced component. Then $\{g_{\Lambda}(Z_1), \ldots, g_{\Lambda}(Z_t)\}$ is sign-coherent.

1.6. The paper is organized as follows. In Section 2 we recall definitions and basic properties of basic algebras and their (decorated) representations. We also introduce truncations of basic algebras, which play a crucial role in some of our proofs. In Section 3 we introduce and study g-vectors and E-invariants of decorated representations. Caldero-Chapoton functions and Caldero-Chapoton algebras are defined in Section 4. Our main results, Theorems 1.2 and 1.3, are proved in Section 5. In Section 6 we introduce component graphs, component clusters and CC-clusters, and we show that the cardinality of loop-complete subgraphs of a component graph is bounded by the number of simple modules. Section 7 explains the relation between Caldero-Chapoton algebras and cluster algebras. Section 8 contains the proof of Theorem 1.4. Finally, in Section 9 we discuss several examples of Caldero-Chapoton algebras.

1.7. Notation. We denote the composition of maps $f: M \to N$ and $g: N \to L$ by $gf = g \circ f: M \to L$. We write |U| for the cardinality of a set U.

A finite-dimensional module M is *basic* provided it is a direct sum of pairwise non-isomorphic indecomposable modules. For a module M and some $m \ge 1$ let M^m be the direct sum of m copies of M.

For a finite-dimensional algebra Λ let τ_{Λ} be its Auslander-Reiten translation. For an introduction to Auslander-Reiten theory we refer to the books [ARS] and [ASS].

For $n \geq 1$ and a set S, depending on the situation and if no misunderstanding can occur, we identify S^n with the set of $(n \times 1)$ - or $(1 \times n)$ -matrices with entries in S. By \mathbb{N} we denote the natural numbers, including zero. For $\mathbf{d} = (d_1, \ldots, d_n) \in \mathbb{N}^n$ let $|\mathbf{d}| := d_1 + \cdots + d_n$. For $n \in \mathbb{N}$ let $M_n(\mathbb{Z})$ be the set of $(n \times n)$ -matrices with integer entries.

For a ring R let $R[x_1^{\pm}, \ldots, x_n^{\pm}]$ be the algebra of Laurent polynomials over R in n independent variables x_1, \ldots, x_n . For $\mathbf{a} = (a_1, \ldots, a_n) \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ set $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{a}} := x_1^{a_1} \cdots x_n^{a_n}$.

2. Basic algebras and decorated representations

2.1. Basic algebras and quiver representations. Throughout, let \mathbb{C} be the field of complex numbers. A quiver is a quadruple $Q = (Q_0, Q_1, s, t)$, where Q_0 is a finite set of vertices, Q_1 is a finite set of arrows, and $s, t: Q_1 \to Q_0$ are maps. For each arrow $a \in Q_1$ we call s(a) and t(a) the starting and terminal vertex of a, respectively. If not mentioned otherwise, we always assume that $Q_0 = \{1, \ldots, n\}$. Let $B_Q = (b_{ij}) \in M_n(\mathbb{Z})$, where

$$b_{ij} := |\{a \in Q_1 \mid s(a) = j, t(a) = i\}| - |\{a \in Q_1 \mid s(a) = i, t(a) = j\}|.$$

A path in Q is a tuple $p = (a_m, \ldots, a_1)$ of arrows $a_i \in Q_1$ such that $s(a_{i+1}) = t(a_i)$ for all $1 \leq i \leq m-1$. Then length(p) := m is the *length* of p. Additionally, for each vertex $i \in Q_0$ there is a path e_i of length 0. We often just write $a_m \cdots a_1$ instead of (a_m, \ldots, a_1) .

A path $p = (a_m, \ldots, a_1)$ of length $m \ge 1$ is a *cycle* in Q, or more precisely an *m*-*cycle* in Q, if $s(a_1) = t(a_m)$. The quiver Q is *acyclic* if there are no cycles in Q, and for $s \ge 1$ the quiver Q is called *s*-*acyclic* if there are no *m*-cycles for $1 \le m \le s$.

A representation of a quiver $Q = (Q_0, Q_1, s, t)$ is a tuple $M = (M_i, M_a)_{i \in Q_0, a \in Q_1}$, where each M_i is a finite-dimensional \mathbb{C} -vector space, and $M_a : M_{s(a)} \to M_{t(a)}$ is a \mathbb{C} -linear map for each arrow $a \in Q_1$. We call $\underline{\dim}(M) := (\underline{\dim}(M_1), \ldots, \underline{\dim}(M_n))$ the dimension vector of M. Let $\underline{\dim}(M) := \underline{\dim}(M_1) + \cdots + \underline{\dim}(M_n)$ be the dimension of M. For a path $p = (a_m, \ldots, a_1)$ in Q let $M_p := M_{a_m} \circ \cdots \circ M_{a_1}$. The representation M is called *nilpotent* provided there exists some N > 0 such that $M_p = 0$ for all paths p in Q with length(p) > N.

For $i \in Q_0$ let $S_i := (M_i, M_a)_{i,a}$ be the representation of Q with $M_i = \mathbb{C}$, $M_j = 0$ for all $j \neq i$, and $M_a = 0$ for all $a \in Q_1$. For a nilpotent representation M the *i*th entry dim (M_i) of its dimension vector dim(M) equals the Jordan-Hölder multiplicity $[M : S_i]$ of S_i in M.

For $m \in \mathbb{N}$ let $\mathbb{C}Q_m$ be a \mathbb{C} -vector space with a \mathbb{C} -basis labeled by the set Q_m of paths of length m in Q. Note that $\mathbb{C}Q_m$ is finite-dimensional. We do not distinguish between a path p of length m and the corresponding basis vector in $\mathbb{C}Q_m$.

The *completed path algebra* of a quiver Q is denoted by $\mathbb{C}\langle\!\langle Q \rangle\!\rangle$. As a \mathbb{C} -vector space we have

$$\mathbb{C}\langle\!\langle Q \rangle\!\rangle = \prod_{m \ge 0} \mathbb{C}Q_m.$$

We write the elements in $\mathbb{C}\langle\!\langle Q \rangle\!\rangle$ as infinite sums $\sum_{m \ge 0} a_m$ with $a_m \in \mathbb{C}Q_m$. The product in $\mathbb{C}\langle\!\langle Q \rangle\!\rangle$ is then defined as

$$(\sum_{i\geq 0} a_i)(\sum_{j\geq 0} b_j) := \sum_{k\geq 0} \sum_{i+j=k} a_i b_j.$$

A potential of Q is an element $W = \sum_{m \ge 1} w_m$ of $\mathbb{C}\langle\langle Q \rangle\rangle$, where each w_m is a \mathbb{C} -linear combination of *m*-cycles in Q. By definition, W = 0 is also a potential. The definition of a *non-degenerate* potential can be found in [DWZ1, Section 7].

The category $\operatorname{mod}(\mathbb{C}\langle\!\langle Q \rangle\!\rangle)$ of finite-dimensional left $\mathbb{C}\langle\!\langle Q \rangle\!\rangle$ -modules can be identified with the category $\operatorname{nil}(Q)$ of nilpotent representations of Q.

By \mathfrak{m} we denote the *arrow ideal* in $\mathbb{C}\langle\langle Q \rangle\rangle$, which is generated by the arrows of Q. Thus for $p \geq 0$ we have

$$\mathfrak{m}^p = \prod_{m \ge p} \mathbb{C}Q_m.$$

An ideal I of $\mathbb{C}\langle\!\langle Q \rangle\!\rangle$ is *admissible* if $I \subseteq \mathfrak{m}^2$. We call an algebra Λ basic if $\Lambda = \mathbb{C}\langle\!\langle Q \rangle\!\rangle/I$ for some quiver Q and some admissible ideal I of $\mathbb{C}\langle\!\langle Q \rangle\!\rangle$.

A representation of a basic algebra $\Lambda = \mathbb{C}\langle\langle Q \rangle\rangle / I$ is a nilpotent representation of Q, which is annihilated by the ideal I. We identify the category rep (Λ) of representations of Λ with the category mod (Λ) of finite-dimensional left Λ -modules. Up to isomorphism the simple representations of Λ are the 1-dimensional representations S_1, \ldots, S_n .

The category of all (possibly infinite-dimensional) Λ -modules is denoted by $Mod(\Lambda)$. We consider $rep(\Lambda)$ as a subcategory of $Mod(\Lambda)$.

2.2. Decorated representations of quivers. Let $\Lambda = \mathbb{C}\langle\!\langle Q \rangle\!\rangle/I$ be a basic algebra. Following [DWZ1] (and in fact the earlier publication [MRZ]), a *decorated representation* of Λ is a pair $\mathcal{M} = (M, V)$, where M is a representation of Λ and $V = (V_1, \ldots, V_n)$ is a tuple of finite-dimensional \mathbb{C} -vector spaces. Let $\underline{\dim}(V) := (\underline{\dim}(V_1), \ldots, \underline{\dim}(V_n))$ and $\underline{\dim}(V) := \underline{\dim}(V_1) + \cdots + \underline{\dim}(V_n)$. We call $\underline{\dim}(\mathcal{M}) := (\underline{\dim}(M), \underline{\dim}(V))$ the *dimension vector* of \mathcal{M} .

One defines morphisms and direct sums of decorated representations in the obvious way. Let $decrep(\Lambda)$ be the category of decorated representations of Λ .

Let $\mathcal{M} = (M, V) \in \text{decrep}(\Lambda)$. We write M = 0 if all M_i are zero, and V = 0 if all V_i are zero. Furthermore, $\mathcal{M} = 0$ if M = 0 and V = 0.

For $1 \leq i \leq n$ set $S_i := (S_i, 0)$, and let $S_i^- := (0, V)$, where $V_i = \mathbb{C}$ and $V_j = 0$ for all $j \neq i$. The representations S_i^- are the *negative simple* decorated representations of Λ .

2.3. Varieties of representations. For $\mathbf{d} = (d_1, \ldots, d_n) \in \mathbb{N}^n$ let $\operatorname{rep}_{\mathbf{d}}(\Lambda)$ be the affine variety of representations of Λ with dimension vector \mathbf{d} . By definition the closed points of $\operatorname{rep}_{\mathbf{d}}(\Lambda)$ are the representations $M = (M_i, M_a)_{i \in Q_0, a \in Q_1}$ of Λ with $M_i = \mathbb{C}^{d_i}$ for all $i \in Q_0$. One can regard $\operatorname{rep}_{\mathbf{d}}(\Lambda)$ as a Zariski closed subset of the affine space

$$\operatorname{rep}_{\mathbf{d}}(Q) := \prod_{a \in Q_1} \operatorname{Hom}_{\mathbb{C}}(\mathbb{C}^{d_{s(a)}}, \mathbb{C}^{d_{t(a)}}).$$

For $\mathbf{d} = (d_1, \ldots, d_n)$ let $G_{\mathbf{d}} := \prod_{i=1}^n \operatorname{GL}(\mathbb{C}^{d_i})$. The group $G_{\mathbf{d}}$ acts on $\operatorname{rep}_{\mathbf{d}}(\Lambda)$ by conjugation. More precisely, for $g = (g_1, \ldots, g_n) \in G_{\mathbf{d}}$ and $M \in \operatorname{rep}_{\mathbf{d}}(\Lambda)$ let

$$g.M := (M_i, g_{t(a)}^{-1} M_a g_{s(a)})_{i \in Q_0, a \in Q_1}.$$

For $M \in \operatorname{rep}_{\mathbf{d}}(\Lambda)$ let $\mathcal{O}(M)$ be the $G_{\mathbf{d}}$ -orbit of M. The $G_{\mathbf{d}}$ -orbits are in bijection with the isomorphism classes of representations of Λ with dimension vector \mathbf{d} .

For $(\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{v}) \in \mathbb{N}^n \times \mathbb{N}^n$ let $\operatorname{decrep}_{\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{v}}(\Lambda)$ be the affine variety of decorated representations $\mathcal{M} = (M, V)$ with $M \in \operatorname{rep}_{\mathbf{d}}(\Lambda)$ and $V = \mathbb{C}^{\mathbf{v}} := (\mathbb{C}^{v_1}, \ldots, \mathbb{C}^{v_n})$, where $\mathbf{v} = (v_1, \ldots, v_n)$.

For $\mathcal{M} = (M, V) \in \text{decrep}_{\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{v}}(\Lambda)$ define $g.\mathcal{M} := (g.M, V)$. This defines a $G_{\mathbf{d}}$ -action on $\text{decrep}_{\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{v}}(\Lambda)$. The $G_{\mathbf{d}}$ -orbit of \mathcal{M} is denoted by $\mathcal{O}(\mathcal{M})$. We have

(1)
$$\dim \mathcal{O}(\mathcal{M}) = \dim \mathcal{O}(M) = \dim G_{\mathbf{d}} - \dim \operatorname{End}_{\Lambda}(M);$$

see for example [G].

2.4. Quiver Grassmannians. Let $\Lambda = \mathbb{C}\langle\langle Q \rangle\rangle/I$ be a basic algebra. For a representation $M = (M_i, M_a)_{i \in Q_0, a \in Q_1}$ of Λ and $\mathbf{e} \in \mathbb{N}^n$ let $\operatorname{Gr}_{\mathbf{e}}(M)$ be the quiver Grassmannian of subrepresentations U of M with $\underline{\dim}(U) = \mathbf{e}$. (By definition a subrepresentation of M is a tuple $U = (U_i)_{i \in Q_0}$ of subspaces $U_i \subseteq M_i$ such that $M_a(U_{s(a)}) \subseteq U_{t(a)}$ for all $a \in Q_1$.) So $\operatorname{Gr}_{\mathbf{e}}(M)$ is a projective variety, which can be seen as a closed subvariety of the product of the classical Grassmannians $\operatorname{Gr}_{e_i}(M_i)$ of e_i -dimensional subspaces of M_i , where $\mathbf{e} = (e_1, \ldots, e_n)$. Let $\chi(\operatorname{Gr}_{\mathbf{e}}(M))$ be the Euler-Poincaré characteristic of $\operatorname{Gr}_{\mathbf{e}}(M)$.

2.5. Truncations of basic algebras. For a basic algebra $\Lambda = \mathbb{C}\langle\!\langle Q \rangle\!\rangle / I$ and some $p \ge 2$ let

$$\Lambda_p := \mathbb{C}\langle\!\langle Q \rangle\!\rangle / (I + \mathfrak{m}^p)$$

be the *p*-truncation of Λ . Clearly, Λ_p is a finite-dimensional basic algebra. Let

$$\overline{\Lambda} := \mathbb{C}\langle\!\langle Q \rangle\!\rangle / \overline{I}$$

where

$$\overline{I}:=\bigcap_{p\geq 0}(I+\mathfrak{m}^p)$$

is the m-adic closure of I in $\mathbb{C}\langle\langle Q \rangle\rangle$. We obtain the following commutative diagram with exact rows, where all morphisms whose label contains the symbol ι (resp. π)

are the obvious canonical monomorphisms (resp. epimorphisms):



We have

$$\overline{\Lambda} = \underline{\lim}(\Lambda_p);$$

i.e. the algebra $\overline{\Lambda}$ is the inverse limit of the inverse system

$$(\cdots \to \Lambda_p \to \cdots \to \Lambda_3 \to \Lambda_2).$$

The epimorphisms in the third column of the above diagram induce sequences

$$\operatorname{rep}(\Lambda_2) \to \cdots \to \operatorname{rep}(\Lambda_p) \to \cdots \to \operatorname{rep}(\overline{\Lambda}) \to \operatorname{rep}(\Lambda)$$

and

decrep
$$(\Lambda_2) \to \cdots \to decrep(\Lambda_p) \to \cdots \to decrep(\overline{\Lambda}) \to decrep(\overline{\Lambda})$$

of embedding functors. We can consider these as chains of subcategories of rep(Λ) and decrep(Λ), respectively. The following lemma is straightforward.

Lemma 2.1. For any basic algebra Λ we have

$$\operatorname{rep}(\Lambda) = \operatorname{rep}(\overline{\Lambda}) = \bigcup_{p \ge 2} \operatorname{rep}(\Lambda_p) \quad and \quad \operatorname{decrep}(\Lambda) = \operatorname{decrep}(\overline{\Lambda}) = \bigcup_{p \ge 2} \operatorname{decrep}(\Lambda_p).$$

For $1 \leq i \leq n$ and $p \geq 2$ let $I_{i,p} \in \operatorname{rep}(\Lambda_p)$, $\overline{I}_i \in \operatorname{Mod}(\overline{\Lambda})$ and $I_i \in \operatorname{Mod}(\Lambda)$ be the injective envelopes of the simple module S_i . The above embedding functors yield a chain

$$I_{i,2} \subseteq I_{i,3} \subseteq \cdots \subseteq I_{i,p} \subseteq \cdots \subseteq I_i$$

of submodules of \overline{I}_i , and we have

$$\overline{I}_i = \bigcup_{p \ge 2} I_{i,p}.$$

Lemma 2.2. Let $\Lambda = \mathbb{C}\langle\langle Q \rangle\rangle/I$ be a basic algebra. Then the following hold:

- (i) Let $\mathcal{M} = (M, V) \in \text{decrep}(\Lambda)$. If $p \ge \dim(M)$, then \mathcal{M} is in the image of the embedding $\text{decrep}(\Lambda_p) \to \text{decrep}(\Lambda)$.
- (ii) Let $M, N \in \operatorname{rep}(\Lambda)$. If $p \ge \dim(M), \dim(N)$, then

$$\dim \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda_n}(M, N) = \dim \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(M, N).$$

(iii) Let $M, N \in \operatorname{rep}(\Lambda)$. If $p \ge \dim(M) + \dim(N)$, then

$$\dim \operatorname{Ext}^{1}_{\Lambda_{n}}(M, N) = \dim \operatorname{Ext}^{1}_{\Lambda}(M, N).$$

(iv) Let $(\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{v}) \in \mathbb{N}^n \times \mathbb{N}^n$. If $p \ge |\mathbf{d}|$, then $\operatorname{decrep}_{\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{v}}(\Lambda_p) = \operatorname{decrep}_{\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{v}}(\Lambda)$.

Proof. Let $a_m \cdots a_1$ be a path of length m in Q, and let M be a representation of Λ . We can see M as a nilpotent representation of Q. For any non-zero vector $v_0 \in M$ set $v_i := a_i \cdots a_1 v_0$ for $1 \leq i \leq m$. Assume that each of the vectors v_1, \ldots, v_m is non-zero. We claim that v_0, v_1, \ldots, v_m are pairwise different and linearly independent. Let b be a path of maximal length such that $bv_0 \neq 0$. Such a path b exists, because M is nilpotent. By induction v_1, \ldots, v_m are linearly independent. Assume now that

$$v_0 = \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i v_i$$

for some $\lambda_i \in \mathbb{C}$. We have $v_i = a_i \cdots a_1 v_0$. Therefore we get

$$bv_0 = \sum_{i=1}^m \lambda_i b a_i \cdots a_1 v_0.$$

Since $ba_i \cdots a_1$ is either zero or a path of length i+length(b), we have $ba_i \cdots a_1 v_0 = 0$ for all $1 \leq i \leq m$. Since $bv_0 \neq 0$, this is a contradiction. Therefore v_0, v_1, \ldots, v_m are linearly independent. It follows that for any $\mathcal{M} \in \text{decrep}(\Lambda)$ with $\underline{\dim}(\mathcal{M}) = (\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{v})$ and any path b with length $(b) \geq |\mathbf{d}|$ we have $b\mathcal{M} = 0$. This implies (i). Parts (ii) and (iv) are easy consequences of (i). Any extension of representations M and Nof Λ is a representation of Λ of dimension $\dim(M) + \dim(N)$. This implies (iii). \Box

3. E-invariants and g-vectors of decorated representations

3.1. Definition of *E*-invariants and *g*-vectors. Let *Q* be a quiver, and let *W* be a potential of *Q*. Let $\Lambda = \mathcal{P}(Q, W)$ be the associated Jacobian algebra [DWZ1, Section 3]. For decorated representations \mathcal{M} and \mathcal{N} of Λ the *g*-vector $g(\mathcal{M})$ and the invariants $E^{\text{inj}}(\mathcal{M})$ and $E^{\text{inj}}(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{N})$ were defined in [DWZ2], where $E^{\text{inj}}(\mathcal{M})$ is called the *E*-invariant of \mathcal{M} . We define invariants $g_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}), E_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M})$ and $E_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{N})$ of decorated representations \mathcal{M} and \mathcal{N} of an arbitrary basic algebra $\Lambda = \mathbb{C}\langle\langle Q \rangle\rangle/I$ as follows.

For a decorated representation $\mathcal{M} = (M, V)$ of Λ let

$$g_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}) := (g_1, \ldots, g_n)$$

with

$$g_i := g_i(\mathcal{M}) := -\dim \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(S_i, M) + \dim \operatorname{Ext}_{\Lambda}^1(S_i, M) + \dim(V_i)$$

be the *g*-vector of \mathcal{M} .

For decorated representations $\mathcal{M} = (M, V)$ and $\mathcal{N} = (N, W)$ of Λ let

$$E_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M},\mathcal{N}) := \dim \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(M,N) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \dim(M_i)g_i(\mathcal{N}).$$

The *E*-invariant of \mathcal{M} is defined as $E_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}) := E_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{M}).$

Lemma 3.1. Let $\Lambda = \mathcal{P}(Q, W)$, where W is a potential of Q. For $\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{N} \in \text{decrep}(\Lambda)$ the following hold:

(i) $g_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}) = g(\mathcal{M}).$ (ii) $E_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{N}) = E^{\operatorname{inj}}(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{N}).$

Proof. Part (i) follows from [P1, Lemma 4.7, Proposition 4.8]. It can also be shown in a more elementary way by using the exact sequence displayed in [DWZ2, Equation (10.4)]. Part (ii) is a direct consequence of (i) and the definition of $E_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{N})$ and $E^{\text{inj}}(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{N})$.

3.2. Homological interpretation of the *E*-invariant. For $1 \leq i \leq n$ let $I_i \in Mod(\Lambda)$ be the injective envelope of the simple representation S_i of Λ . One easily checks that the socle $soc(I_i)$ of I_i is isomorphic to S_i and that

(2)
$$\dim \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(M, I_i) = \dim(M_i)$$

for all $M \in \operatorname{rep}(\Lambda)$. Note that in general I_i is infinite dimensional. For $M \in \operatorname{rep}(\Lambda)$ let

$$0 \to M \xrightarrow{f} I_0^{\Lambda}(M) \to I_1^{\Lambda}(M)$$

denote a minimal injective presentation of M. The modules $I_0^{\Lambda}(M)$ and $I_1^{\Lambda}(M)$ are up to isomorphism uniquely determined by M.

We will need the following theorem due to Auslander and Reiten.

Theorem 3.2 ([AR, Theorem 1.4 (b)]). Let M and N be representations of a finite-dimensional basic algebra Λ . Then we have

$$\dim \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(\tau_{\Lambda}^{-}(N), M) = \dim \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(M, N) - \dim \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(M, I_{0}^{\Lambda}(N))$$

+ dim Hom_{Λ} $(M, I_1^{\Lambda}(N)).$

Lemma 3.3. Let $\Lambda = \mathbb{C}\langle\!\langle Q \rangle\!\rangle/I$ be a finite-dimensional basic algebra, and let $M \in \operatorname{rep}(\Lambda)$. Let

$$0 \to M \xrightarrow{f} I_0^{\Lambda}(M) \to I_1^{\Lambda}(M)$$

be a minimal injective presentation of M. Then for $1 \leq i \leq n$ we have

(i)
$$[\operatorname{soc}(I_0^{\Lambda}(M)): S_i] = [\operatorname{soc}(M): S_i] = \dim \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(S_i, M)$$
 and

$$I_0^{\Lambda}(M) \cong I_1^{\dim \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(S_1,M)} \oplus \dots \oplus I_n^{\dim \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(S_n,M)}.$$

(ii) $[\operatorname{soc}(I_1^{\Lambda}(M)) : S_i] = [\operatorname{soc}(\operatorname{Coker}(f)) : S_i] = \dim \operatorname{Ext}_{\Lambda}^{\Lambda}(S_i,M) \text{ and}$
 $I_1^{\Lambda}(M) \cong I_1^{\dim \operatorname{Ext}_{\Lambda}^{1}(S_1,M)} \oplus \dots \oplus I_n^{\dim \operatorname{Ext}_{\Lambda}^{1}(S_n,M)}.$

Proof. Since $I_0^{\Lambda}(M)$ is the injective envelope of M, we have $\operatorname{soc}(M) \cong \operatorname{soc}(I_0^{\Lambda}(M))$. This implies (i). By the construction of minimal injective presentations, $I_1^{\Lambda}(M)$ is the injective envelope of $\operatorname{Coker}(f)$. It follows that $\operatorname{soc}(\operatorname{Coker}(f)) \cong \operatorname{soc}(I_1^{\Lambda}(M))$. We apply the functor $\operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(S_i, -)$ to the exact sequence

$$0 \to M \xrightarrow{f} I_0^{\Lambda}(M) \to \operatorname{Coker}(f) \to 0.$$

This yields an exact sequence

$$0 \to \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(S_i, M) \xrightarrow{F} \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(S_i, I_0^{\Lambda}(M))$$
$$\to \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(S_i, \operatorname{Coker}(f)) \xrightarrow{G} \operatorname{Ext}_{\Lambda}^1(S_i, M) \to 0.$$

Here we used that $I_0^{\Lambda}(M)$ is injective, which implies $\operatorname{Ext}_{\Lambda}^1(S_i, I_0^{\Lambda}(M)) = 0$. By (i) we know that F is an isomorphism. Thus G is also an isomorphism. This implies (ii).

Combining Lemma 2.2 and Lemma 3.3 yields the following result.

Lemma 3.4. Let $\mathcal{M} = (M, V)$ be a decorated representation of a basic algebra Λ , and let $g_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}) = (g_1, \ldots, g_n)$ be the g-vector of \mathcal{M} . If $p > \dim(\mathcal{M})$, then

$$g_i = -[\operatorname{soc}(I_0^{\Lambda_p}(M)) : S_i] + [\operatorname{soc}(I_1^{\Lambda_p}(M)) : S_i] + \dim(V_i)$$

for all $1 \leq i \leq n$.

The following result is a homological interpretation of the E-invariant in terms of Auslander-Reiten translations. This can be seen as a generalization of [DWZ2, Corollary 10.9].

Proposition 3.5. Let $\mathcal{M} = (M, V)$ and $\mathcal{N} = (N, W)$ be decorated representations of a basic algebra Λ . If $p > \dim(M)$, $\dim(N)$, then

$$E_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M},\mathcal{N}) = E_{\Lambda_p}(\mathcal{M},\mathcal{N}) = \dim \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda_p}(\tau_{\Lambda_p}^{-}(N),M) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \dim(M_i) \dim(W_i).$$

In particular, we have

$$E_{\Lambda_p}(\mathcal{M},\mathcal{N}) = E_{\Lambda_q}(\mathcal{M},\mathcal{N})$$

and

$$\dim \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda_p}(\tau_{\Lambda_n}(N), M) = \dim \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda_q}(\tau_{\Lambda_q}(N), M)$$

for all $p, q > \dim(M), \dim(N)$.

Proof. Since $p > \dim(M), \dim(N)$ we can apply Lemma 2.2 and get

$$\dim \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda_p}(M, N) = \dim \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(M, N),$$

$$\dim \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda_p}(S_i, N) = \dim \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(S_i, N),$$

$$\dim \operatorname{Ext}^{1}_{\Lambda_p}(S_i, N) = \dim \operatorname{Ext}^{1}_{\Lambda}(S_i, N).$$

Let

$$0 \to N \to I_0^{\Lambda_p}(N) \to I_1^{\Lambda_p}(N)$$

be a minimal injective presentation of N, where we regard N now as a representation of Λ_p . It follows from Lemma 3.3 and equation (2) that

$$\dim \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda_p}(M, I_0^{\Lambda_p}(N)) = \sum_{i=1}^n \dim(M_i) \dim \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda_p}(S_i, N),$$
$$\dim \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda_p}(M, I_1^{\Lambda_p}(N)) = \sum_{i=1}^n \dim(M_i) \dim \operatorname{Ext}_{\Lambda_p}^1(S_i, N).$$

This implies

$$E_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M},\mathcal{N}) = \dim \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(M,N) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \dim(M_{i})(-\dim \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(S_{i},N) \\ + \dim \operatorname{Ext}_{\Lambda}^{1}(S_{i},N)) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \dim(M_{i}) \dim(W_{i}) \\ = \dim \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda_{p}}(M,N) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \dim(M_{i})(-\dim \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda_{p}}(S_{i},N) \\ + \dim \operatorname{Ext}_{\Lambda_{p}}^{1}(S_{i},N)) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \dim(M_{i}) \dim(W_{i}) \\ = \dim \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda_{p}}(M,N) - \dim \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda_{p}}(M,I_{0}^{\Lambda_{p}}(N)) \\ + \dim \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda_{p}}(M,I_{1}^{\Lambda_{p}}(N)) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \dim(M_{i}) \dim(W_{i}).$$

The first equality follows from Lemmas 2.2, 3.3 and 3.4. The second equality says that $E_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{N}) = E_{\Lambda_p}(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{N})$. Applying Theorem 3.2 yields

$$E_{\Lambda_p}(\mathcal{M},\mathcal{N}) = \dim \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda_p}(\tau_{\Lambda_p}^-(N),M) + \sum_{i=1}^n \dim(M_i) \dim(W_i).$$

This finishes the proof.

Corollary 3.6. For decorated representations \mathcal{M} and \mathcal{N} of a basic algebra Λ we have

$$E_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M},\mathcal{N}) \geq 0.$$

4. CALDERO-CHAPOTON ALGEBRAS

4.1. Caldero-Chapoton functions. To any basic algebra $\Lambda = \mathbb{C}\langle\langle Q \rangle\rangle/I$ we associate a set of Laurent polynomials in *n* independent variables x_1, \ldots, x_n as follows. The *Caldero-Chapoton function* associated to a decorated representation $\mathcal{M} = (M, V)$ of Λ is defined as

$$C_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}) := \mathbf{x}^{g_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M})} \sum_{\mathbf{e} \in \mathbb{N}^n} \chi(\operatorname{Gr}_{\mathbf{e}}(M)) \mathbf{x}^{B_Q \mathbf{e}},$$

where B_Q and $g_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M})$ are defined as in Sections 2.1 and 3.1, respectively. Note that $C_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}) \in \mathbb{Z}[x_1^{\pm}, \ldots, x_n^{\pm}]$. Let

$$\mathcal{C}_{\Lambda} := \{ C_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}) \mid \mathcal{M} \in \operatorname{decrep}(\Lambda) \}$$

be the set of Caldero-Chapoton functions associated to Λ . For $\mathcal{M} = (M, 0)$ we sometimes write $C_{\Lambda}(M)$ instead of $C_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M})$.

The definition of $C_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M})$ is motivated by the (different versions of) Caldero-Chapoton functions appearing in the theory of cluster algebras; see for example [Pa, Section 1]. Such functions first appeared in work of Caldero and Chapoton [CC, Section 3], where they show that the cluster variables of a cluster algebra of a Dynkin quiver are Caldero-Chapoton functions.

Lemma 4.1. For decorated representations $\mathcal{M} = (M, V)$ and $\mathcal{N} = (N, W)$ the following hold:

- (i) $g_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M} \oplus \mathcal{N}) = g_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}) + g_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{N}).$
- (ii) $C_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}) = C_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}, 0)C_{\Lambda}(0, V).$
- (iii) $C_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M} \oplus \mathcal{N}) = C_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M})C_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{N}).$

Proof. Part (i) follows directly from the definitions and from the additivity of the functors $\operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(-,?)$ and $\operatorname{Ext}^{1}_{\Lambda}(-,?)$. To prove (ii), let $\mathcal{M} = (M,V)$ be a decorated representation of Λ . For the decorated representation (0, V) we have

$$C_{\Lambda}(0,V) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} x_i^{v_i}$$

where $\underline{\dim}(V) = (v_1, \ldots, v_n)$. For the decorated representation (M, 0) we have

$$C_{\Lambda}(M,0) := \mathbf{x}^{g_{\Lambda}(M,0)} \sum_{\mathbf{e} \in \mathbb{N}^n} \chi(\operatorname{Gr}_{\mathbf{e}}(M)) \mathbf{x}^{B_Q \mathbf{e}}$$

where $g_i(M,0) = -\dim \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(S_i, M) + \dim \operatorname{Ext}^1_{\Lambda}(S_i, M)$ for $1 \leq i \leq n$. Now one easily checks that $C_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}) = C_{\Lambda}(M,0)C_{\Lambda}(0,V)$. Thus (ii) holds. Now (iii) follows from (i), (ii) and the well known formula

$$\chi(\operatorname{Gr}_{\mathbf{e}}(M \oplus N)) = \sum_{(\mathbf{e}',\mathbf{e}'')} \chi(\operatorname{Gr}_{\mathbf{e}'}(M)) \chi(\operatorname{Gr}_{\mathbf{e}''}(N))$$

where the sum runs over all pairs $(\mathbf{e}', \mathbf{e}'') \in \mathbb{N}^n \times \mathbb{N}^n$ such that $\mathbf{e}' + \mathbf{e}'' = \mathbf{e}$; see for example [DWZ2, Proof of Proposition 3.2].

4.2. Definition of a Caldero-Chapoton algebra. In the previous section, we associated to a basic algebra Λ the set

$$\mathcal{C}_{\Lambda} = \{ C_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}) \mid \mathcal{M} \in \operatorname{decrep}(\Lambda) \}$$

of Caldero-Chapoton functions. Clearly, C_{Λ} is a subset of the integer Laurent polynomial ring $\mathbb{Z}[x_1^{\pm}, \ldots, x_n^{\pm}]$ generated by the variables x_1, \ldots, x_n . By definition the *Caldero-Chapoton algebra* \mathcal{A}_{Λ} associated to Λ is the \mathbb{C} -subalgebra of $\mathbb{C}[x_1^{\pm}, \ldots, x_n^{\pm}]$ generated by \mathcal{C}_{Λ} . The following is a direct consequence of Lemma 4.1(iii).

Lemma 4.2. The set C_{Λ} generates A_{Λ} as a \mathbb{C} -vector space.

In this generality, Caldero-Chapoton algebras might not be so useful. (One could generalize even more by replacing the matrix B_Q in the definition of the functions $C_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M})$ by any other matrix in $M_n(\mathbb{Z})$.) But the case where Λ is the Jacobian algebra $\mathcal{P}(Q, W)$ of a quiver Q with non-degenerate potential W (see [DWZ1] for missing definitions) should certainly be of interest. In this case, based on work of Palu [Pa], Plamondon [P1] considered a version of Caldero-Chapoton functions using the Amiot cluster category [A]. In contrast, we follow Derksen, Weyman and Zelevinsky's [DWZ1,DWZ2] approach and define and study Caldero-Chapoton functions purely in terms of the representation theory of the Jacobian algebra without passing to the cluster category.

4.3. Linear independence of Caldero-Chapoton functions. Let $\Lambda = \mathbb{C}\langle\langle Q \rangle\rangle / I$ be a basic algebra. Except in some trivial cases, the set C_{Λ} of Caldero-Chapoton functions associated to decorated representations of Λ is linearly dependent. Often the Caldero-Chapoton functions satisfy beautiful relations, which should be studied more intensively. On the other hand, by Lemma 4.2, there are \mathbb{C} -bases of \mathcal{A}_{Λ} consisting only of Caldero-Chapoton functions. Our aim is to provide a candidate \mathcal{B}_{Λ} for such a basis. Before constructing \mathcal{B}_{Λ} in Section 5, we prove the following criterion for linear independence of certain sets of Caldero-Chapoton functions.

$$\mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0}^{n} := \{ (a_{1}, \dots, a_{n}) \in \mathbb{Q}^{n} \mid a_{i} \geq 0 \text{ for all } i \},\$$
$$\mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0}^{n} := \{ (a_{1}, \dots, a_{n}) \in \mathbb{Q}^{n} \mid a_{i} > 0 \text{ for all } i \}.$$

Proposition 4.3. Let $\Lambda = \mathbb{C}\langle\!\langle Q \rangle\!\rangle/I$ be a basic algebra. Let $\mathcal{M}_j, j \in J$ be decorated representations of Λ . Assume the following:

- (i) $\operatorname{Ker}(B_Q) \cap \mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0}^n = 0.$
- (ii) The g-vectors $g_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}_j), j \in J$ are pairwise different.

Then the Caldero-Chapoton functions $C_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}_j)$, $j \in J$ are pairwise different and linearly independent in \mathcal{A}_{Λ} .

Proof. We treat B_Q as a linear map $\mathbb{Q}^n \to \mathbb{Q}^n$. For $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ define $\mathbf{a} \leq \mathbf{b}$ if there exists some $\mathbf{e} \in \mathbb{Q}_{>0}^n$ such that

$$\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{b} + B_Q \mathbf{e}.$$

We claim that this defines a partial order on \mathbb{Z}^n . Clearly, \leq is reflexive and transitive. Assume that $\mathbf{a} \leq \mathbf{b}$ and $\mathbf{b} \leq \mathbf{a}$. Thus $\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{b} + B_Q \mathbf{f}_1$ and $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{a} + B_Q \mathbf{f}_2$ for some $\mathbf{f}_1, \mathbf{f}_2 \in \mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0}^n$. It follows that $\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{a} + B_Q(\mathbf{f}_1 + \mathbf{f}_2)$. Thus $\mathbf{f}_1 + \mathbf{f}_2 \in \text{Ker}(B_Q)$. Our assumption (i) yields that $\mathbf{f}_1 = \mathbf{f}_2 = 0$. Thus $\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{b}$. This shows that \leq is antisymmetric.

The partial order \leq on \mathbb{Z}^n induces obviously a partial order on the set of Laurent monomials in the variables x_1, \ldots, x_n . Namely, set $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{a}} \leq \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{b}}$ if $\mathbf{a} \leq \mathbf{b}$. Let $\deg(\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{a}}) := \mathbf{a}$ be the *degree* of $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{a}}$.

Among the Laurent monomials $\mathbf{x}^{g_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M})+B_{Q}\mathbf{e}}$ occurring in the expression

$$C_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}) = \mathbf{x}^{g_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M})} \sum_{\mathbf{e} \in \mathbb{N}^{n}} \chi(\operatorname{Gr}_{\mathbf{e}}(M)) \mathbf{x}^{B_{Q}\mathbf{e}} = \sum_{\mathbf{e} \in \mathbb{N}^{n}} \chi(\operatorname{Gr}_{\mathbf{e}}(M)) \mathbf{x}^{g_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}) + B_{Q}\mathbf{e}}$$

the monomial $\mathbf{x}^{g_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M})}$ is the unique monomial of maximal degree.

For $\mathbf{e} = 0$ the Grassmannian $\operatorname{Gr}_{\mathbf{e}}(M)$ is just a point, and $B_Q \mathbf{e} = 0$. Thus, if $\mathbf{e} = 0$, we have $\chi(\operatorname{Gr}_{\mathbf{e}}(M))\mathbf{x}^{B_Q \mathbf{e}} = 1$. This shows that the Laurent monomial $\mathbf{x}^{g_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M})}$ really occurs as a non-trivial summand of $C_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M})$. In particular, we have $C_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}) \neq C_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{N})$ if $g_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}) \neq g_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{N})$.

Now let $\mathcal{M}_1, \ldots, \mathcal{M}_t$ be decorated representations of Λ with pairwise different *g*-vectors. Assume that

$$\lambda_1 C_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}_1) + \dots + \lambda_t C_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}_t) = 0$$

for some $\lambda_j \in \mathbb{C}$. Without loss of generality we assume that $\lambda_j \neq 0$ for all j. There is a (not necessarily unique) index s such that $\mathbf{x}^{g_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}_s)}$ is maximal in the set $\{\mathbf{x}^{g_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}_j)} \mid 1 \leq j \leq t\}$. It follows that the Laurent monomial $\mathbf{x}^{g_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}_s)}$ does not occur as a summand of any of the Laurent polynomials $C_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}_j)$ with $j \neq s$. (Here we use that the g-vectors of the decorated representations \mathcal{M}_j are pairwise different.) This implies $\lambda_s = 0$, a contradiction. Thus $C_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}_1), \ldots, C_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}_t)$ are linearly independent.

For $\mathbf{a} = (a_1, \ldots, a_n)$ and $\mathbf{b} = (b_1, \ldots, b_n)$ in \mathbb{Z}^n set $\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} := a_1 b_1 + \cdots + a_n b_n$. Note that condition (d) in the following lemma coincides with condition (i) in Proposition 4.3.

Lemma 4.4. For the conditions

- (a) $\operatorname{rank}(B_Q) = n;$
- (b) each row of B_Q has at least one non-zero entry, and there are n rank(B_Q) rows of B_Q, which are non-negative linear combinations of the remaining rank(B_Q) rows of B_Q;
- (c) $\operatorname{Im}(B_Q) \cap \mathbb{Q}_{>0}^n \neq \emptyset;$
- (d) $\operatorname{Ker}(B_Q) \cap \mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0}^n = 0$,

the implications

(a)
$$\implies$$
 (b) \implies (c) \implies (d)

hold.

Proof. The implication (a) \implies (b) is trivial. Next, assume (b) holds. Let $m := \operatorname{rank}(B_Q)$. We denote the *j*th row of B_Q by r_j . By assumption there are pairwise different indices $i_1, \ldots, i_m \in \{1, \ldots, n\}$ such that for each $1 \le k \le n$ with $k \notin \{i_1, \ldots, i_m\}$ we have

$$r_k = \lambda_1^{(k)} r_{i_1} + \dots + \lambda_m^{(k)} r_{i_m}$$

for some non-negative rational numbers $\lambda_j^{(k)}$. Since r_k is non-zero, at least one of the $\lambda_j^{(k)}$ is positive. Clearly, there is some $\mathbf{e} \in \mathbb{Q}^n$ such that $r_{i_j} \cdot \mathbf{e} = 1$ for all $1 \leq j \leq m$. (The $(k \times n)$ -matrix with rows r_{i_1}, \ldots, r_{i_m} has rank m. Thus, we can see it as a surjective homomorphism $\mathbb{Q}^n \to \mathbb{Q}^m$.) Now observe that the *k*th entry of $B_Q \mathbf{e}$ is $\lambda_1^{(k)} + \cdots + \lambda_m^{(k)}$ for all $1 \leq k \leq n$ with $k \notin \{i_1, \ldots, i_m\}$ and that this entry is positive. It follows that $\operatorname{Im}(B_Q) \cap \mathbb{Q}_{>0}^n \neq \emptyset$.

Finally, to show (c) \implies (d) let $\mathbf{b} \in \text{Im}(B_Q) \cap \mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0}^n$. Thus there is some $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{Q}^n$ such that $B_Q \mathbf{a} = \mathbf{b}$. Since B_Q is skew-symmetric, we get $-\mathbf{a}B_Q = \mathbf{b}$. Now let $\mathbf{e} \in \text{Ker}(B_Q) \cap \mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0}^n$. We get $B_Q \mathbf{e} = 0$, and therefore $-\mathbf{a}B_Q \mathbf{e} = \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbf{e} = 0$. Since \mathbf{b} has only positive entries and \mathbf{e} has only non-negative entries, we get $\mathbf{e} = 0$. This finishes the proof.

For the example, where Λ is the path algebra of an affine quiver of type \mathbb{A}_2 , the main argument used in the proof of Proposition 4.3 can already be found in [C, Section 6.1]. If we replace condition (i) by condition (a), Proposition 4.3 was first proved by Fu and Keller [FK, Corollary 4.4]. Essentially the same argument was later also used by Plamondon [P1]. That the Fu-Keller argument can be applied under condition (b) was observed by Geiß and Labardini. To any triangulation Tof a punctured Riemann surface with non-empty boundary, one can associate a 2-acyclic quiver Q_T . It is shown in [GLaS] that there is always a triangulation Tsuch that the matrix B_{Q_T} satisfies condition (b).

5. Strongly reduced components of representation varieties

5.1. Strongly reduced components. Let $\Lambda = \mathbb{C}\langle\langle Q \rangle\rangle/I$ be a basic algebra, and let $(\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{v}) \in \mathbb{N}^n \times \mathbb{N}^n$. By $\operatorname{Irr}_{\mathbf{d}}(\Lambda)$ and $\operatorname{decIrr}_{\mathbf{d},\mathbf{v}}(\Lambda)$ we denote the set of irreducible components of $\operatorname{rep}_{\mathbf{d}}(\Lambda)$ and $\operatorname{decrep}_{\mathbf{d},\mathbf{v}}(\Lambda)$, respectively. For $Z \in \operatorname{decIrr}_{\mathbf{d},\mathbf{v}}(\Lambda)$ we write $\operatorname{dim}(Z) := (\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{v})$. Let

$$\operatorname{Irr}(\Lambda) = \bigcup_{\mathbf{d} \in \mathbb{N}^n} \operatorname{Irr}_{\mathbf{d}}(\Lambda) \quad \text{and} \quad \operatorname{decIrr}(\Lambda) = \bigcup_{(\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{v}) \in \mathbb{N}^n \times \mathbb{N}^n} \operatorname{decIrr}_{\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{v}}(\Lambda).$$

Note that any irreducible component $Z \in \operatorname{decIrr}(\Lambda)$ can be seen as an irreducible component in $\operatorname{Irr}(\Lambda_{\operatorname{dec}})$, where $\Lambda_{\operatorname{dec}} := \Lambda \times \mathbb{C} \times \cdots \times \mathbb{C}$ is defined as the product of Λ with *n* copies of \mathbb{C} . In fact, we can identify decrep(Λ) and rep($\Lambda_{\operatorname{dec}}$). Thus statements on varieties of representations can be carried over to varieties of decorated representations.

By definition we have

decrep_{d,v}(
$$\Lambda$$
) = {($M, \mathbb{C}^{\mathbf{v}}$) | $M \in \operatorname{rep}_{\mathbf{d}}(\Lambda)$ }.

We have an isomorphism

 $\operatorname{decrep}_{\mathbf{d},\mathbf{v}}(\Lambda) \to \operatorname{rep}_{\mathbf{d}}(\Lambda)$

of affine varieties mapping $(M, \mathbb{C}^{\mathbf{v}})$ to M. Thus the irreducible components of $\operatorname{decrep}_{\mathbf{d},\mathbf{v}}(\Lambda)$ can be interpreted as irreducible components of $\operatorname{rep}_{\mathbf{d}}(\Lambda)$. For $Z \in \operatorname{decIrr}_{\mathbf{d},\mathbf{v}}(\Lambda)$ let πZ be the corresponding component in $\operatorname{Irr}_{\mathbf{d}}(\Lambda)$.

For $Z, Z_1, Z_2 \in \operatorname{decIrr}(\Lambda)$ define

$$c_{\Lambda}(Z) := \min\{\dim(Z) - \dim \mathcal{O}(\mathcal{M}) \mid \mathcal{M} \in Z\},\$$

$$e_{\Lambda}(Z) := \min\{\dim \operatorname{Ext}^{1}_{\Lambda}(M, M) \mid \mathcal{M} = (M, V) \in Z\},\$$

$$\operatorname{end}_{\Lambda}(Z) := \min\{\dim \operatorname{End}_{\Lambda}(M) \mid \mathcal{M} = (M, V) \in Z\},\$$

$$\operatorname{hom}_{\Lambda}(Z_{1}, Z_{2}) := \min\{\dim \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(M_{1}, M_{2}) \mid \mathcal{M}_{i} = (M_{i}, V_{i}) \in Z_{i}, i = 1, 2\},\$$

$$\operatorname{ext}^{1}_{\Lambda}(Z_{1}, Z_{2}) := \min\{\dim \operatorname{Ext}^{1}_{\Lambda}(M_{1}, M_{2}) \mid \mathcal{M}_{i} = (M_{i}, V_{i}) \in Z_{i}, i = 1, 2\}.$$

For $Z, Z_1, Z_2 \in \text{decIrr}(\Lambda)$ there is a dense open subset U of Z (resp. $Z_1 \times Z_2$) such that $E_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}) = E_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{N})$ for all $\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{N} \in U$ (resp. $E_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}_1, \mathcal{M}_2) = E_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{N}_1, \mathcal{N}_2)$ for all $(\mathcal{M}_1, \mathcal{M}_2), (\mathcal{N}_1, \mathcal{N}_2) \in U$). This follows from the upper semicontinuity of the functions dim $\text{Hom}_{\Lambda}(-,?)$ and dim $\text{Ext}^{1}_{\Lambda}(-,?)$ proved in [CBS, Lemma 4.3]. For $\mathcal{M} \in U$ (resp. $(\mathcal{M}_1, \mathcal{M}_2) \in U$) define $E_{\Lambda}(Z) := E_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M})$ (resp. $E_{\Lambda}(Z_1, Z_2) := E_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}_1, \mathcal{M}_2)$).

Note that for $Z \in \operatorname{decIrr}_{\mathbf{d},\mathbf{v}}(\Lambda)$ we have

$$c_{\Lambda}(Z) = \dim(Z) - \dim(G_{\mathbf{d}}) + \operatorname{end}_{\Lambda}(Z).$$

This follows from equation (1).

It is easy to construct examples of components $Z \in \operatorname{decIrr}(\Lambda)$ such that $\operatorname{end}_{\Lambda}(Z) \neq \operatorname{hom}_{\Lambda}(Z, Z)$, $e_{\Lambda}(Z) \neq \operatorname{ext}^{1}_{\Lambda}(Z, Z)$ and $E_{\Lambda}(Z) \neq E_{\Lambda}(Z, Z)$. Namely, let $\Lambda = \mathbb{C}Q$ be the path algebra of the Kronecker quiver, and let $Z \in \operatorname{decIrr}_{\mathbf{d},\mathbf{v}}(\Lambda)$ with $\mathbf{d} = (1, 1)$ and $\mathbf{v} = (0, 0)$. (Since Λ is a path algebra of an acyclic quiver, decrep_{d,v}(Λ) is irreducible for all \mathbf{d}, \mathbf{v} .) An easy calculation shows that $\operatorname{end}_{\Lambda}(Z) = e_{\Lambda}(Z) = E_{\Lambda}(Z) = 1$ and $\operatorname{hom}_{\Lambda}(Z, Z) = \operatorname{ext}^{1}_{\Lambda}(Z, Z) = E_{\Lambda}(Z, Z) = 0$. A further discussion of this example can be found in Section 9.4.3.

The next lemma follows again from the upper semicontinuity of dim $\operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(-,?)$ and dim $\operatorname{Ext}_{\Lambda}^{1}(-,?)$. **Lemma 5.1.** For $Z, Z_1, Z_2 \in \operatorname{decIrr}(\Lambda)$ the following hold:

(i) The sets

$$\{\mathcal{M} \in Z \mid \dim(Z) - \dim \mathcal{O}(\mathcal{M}) = c_{\Lambda}(Z)\},\\ \{\mathcal{M} = (M, V) \in Z \mid \dim \operatorname{Ext}^{1}_{\Lambda}(M, M) = e_{\Lambda}(Z)\}\\ \{\mathcal{M} = (M, V) \in Z \mid \dim \operatorname{End}_{\Lambda}(M) = \operatorname{end}_{\Lambda}(Z)\}$$

are open in Z.

(ii) The sets

 $\{((M_1, V_1), (M_2, V_2)) \in Z_1 \times Z_2 \mid \dim \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(M_1, M_2) = \hom_{\Lambda}(Z_1, Z_2)\}, \\ \{((M_1, V_1), (M_2, V_2)) \in Z_1 \times Z_2 \mid \dim \operatorname{Ext}^1_{\Lambda}(M_1, M_2) = \operatorname{ext}^1_{\Lambda}(Z_1, Z_2)\}$

are open in $Z_1 \times Z_2$.

(iii) The sets

$$\{\mathcal{M} \in Z \mid E_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}) = E_{\Lambda}(Z)\},\$$

$$\{(\mathcal{M}_1, \mathcal{M}_2) \in Z_1 \times Z_2 \mid E_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}_1, \mathcal{M}_2) = E_{\Lambda}(Z_1, Z_2)\}$$

are dense constructible subsets of Z and $Z_1 \times Z_2$, respectively.

Lemma 5.2. For $Z, Z_1, Z_2 \in \operatorname{decIrr}(\Lambda)$ we have

 $c_{\Lambda}(Z) \le e_{\Lambda}(Z) \le E_{\Lambda}(Z)$ and $\operatorname{ext}^{1}_{\Lambda}(Z_{1}, Z_{2}) \le E_{\Lambda}(Z_{1}, Z_{2}).$

Proof. Let $\mathbf{d} = \underline{\dim}(\pi Z)$ and $\mathbf{d}_i = \underline{\dim}(\pi Z_i)$ for i = 1, 2. Choose some $p \geq 2|\mathbf{d}|, |\mathbf{d}_1| + |\mathbf{d}_2|$. By Lemma 2.2 we can regard all the representations in Z, Z_1 and Z_2 as representations of Λ_p . Thus we can interpret Z, Z_1 and Z_2 as irreducible components in decIrr (Λ_p) . Now Proposition 3.5 allows us to assume without loss of generality that $\Lambda = \Lambda_p$. Voigt's Lemma [G, Proposition 1.1] implies that $c_{\Lambda}(Z) \leq e_{\Lambda}(Z)$. The Auslander-Reiten formula $\operatorname{Ext}^{\Lambda}_{\Lambda}(M, N) \cong \mathrm{D}\operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(\tau^{-}_{\Lambda}(N), M)$ yields

 $\dim \operatorname{Ext}^{1}_{\Lambda}(M, N) \leq \dim \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(\tau_{\Lambda}^{-}(N), M).$

This implies $e_{\Lambda}(Z) \leq E_{\Lambda}(Z)$ and $\operatorname{ext}^{1}_{\Lambda}(Z_{1}, Z_{2}) \leq E_{\Lambda}(Z_{1}, Z_{2})$. (Here we used again Proposition 3.5.)

Following [GLS] we call an irreducible component $Z \in \operatorname{decIrr}(\Lambda)$ strongly reduced provided

$$c_{\Lambda}(Z) = e_{\Lambda}(Z) = E_{\Lambda}(Z).$$

For example, if Λ is finite-dimensional, one can easily check that for any injective Λ module $I \in \operatorname{rep}(\Lambda)$ the closure of the orbit $\mathcal{O}(I,0)$ is a strongly reduced irreducible component. Similarly, it follows directly from the definitions that for all decorated representations of the form $\mathcal{M} = (0, V)$, the closure of $\mathcal{O}(\mathcal{M})$ is a strongly reduced component. (In this case, $\mathcal{O}(\mathcal{M})$ is just a point, and it is equal to its closure.)

Let decIrr^{s.r.}_{\mathbf{d},\mathbf{v}}(Λ) be the set of all strongly reduced components of decrep_{d,v}(Λ), and let

$$\operatorname{decIrr}^{\operatorname{s.r.}}(\Lambda) := \bigcup_{(\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{v}) \in \mathbb{N}^n \times \mathbb{N}^n} \operatorname{decIrr}_{\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{v}}^{\operatorname{s.r.}}(\Lambda).$$

5.2. Decomposition theorems for irreducible components. An irreducible component Z in $\operatorname{Irr}(\Lambda)$ or decIrr(Λ) is called *indecomposable* provided there exists a dense open subset U of Z which contains only indecomposable representations or decorated representations, respectively. In particular, if $Z \in \operatorname{decIrr}_{\mathbf{d},\mathbf{v}}(\Lambda)$ is indecomposable, then either $\mathbf{d} = 0$ or $\mathbf{v} = 0$.

Given irreducible components Z_i of $\operatorname{decrep}_{\mathbf{d}_i,\mathbf{v}_i}(\Lambda)$ for $1 \leq i \leq t$, let $(\mathbf{d},\mathbf{v}) := (\mathbf{d}_1,\mathbf{v}_1) + \cdots + (\mathbf{d}_t,\mathbf{v}_t)$ and let

$$Z_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus Z_t$$

be the points of decrep_{d,v}(Λ) which are isomorphic to $M_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus M_t$ with $M_i \in Z_i$ for $1 \leq i \leq t$. The Zariski closure of $Z_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus Z_t$ in decrep_{d,v}(Λ) is denoted by

$$\overline{Z_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus Z_t}.$$

It is quite easy to show that $\overline{Z_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus Z_t}$ is an irreducible closed subset of decrep_{d.v}(Λ), but in general it is not an irreducible component.

Theorem 5.3 ([CBS]). For $Z_1, \ldots, Z_t \in \text{decIrr}(\Lambda)$ the following are equivalent:

- (i) $\overline{Z_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus Z_t}$ is an irreducible component.
- (ii) $\operatorname{ext}^{1}_{\Lambda}(Z_{i}, Z_{j}) = 0$ for all $i \neq j$.

Furthermore, the following hold:

(iii) Each irreducible component $Z \in \text{decIrr}(\Lambda)$ can be written as $Z = \overline{Z_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus Z_t}$ with Z_1, \ldots, Z_t indecomposable irreducible components in $\text{decIrr}(\Lambda)$. Suppose that

$$\overline{Z_1 \oplus \dots \oplus Z_t} = \overline{Z'_1 \oplus \dots \oplus Z'_s}$$

is an irreducible component with Z_i and Z'_i indecomposable irreducible components in decIrr(Λ) for all *i*. Then s = t and there is a bijection $\sigma : \{1, \ldots, t\}$ $\rightarrow \{1, \ldots, s\}$ such that $Z_i = Z'_{\sigma(i)}$ for all *i*.

The next lemma is an easy exercise.

Lemma 5.4. For $1 \leq i \leq n$ and any decorated representation $\mathcal{M} = (M, V)$ of Λ we have

$$E_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{S}_i^-) = \dim(M_i) \quad and \quad E_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{S}_i^-, \mathcal{M}) = 0.$$

Corollary 5.5. If decIrr^{s.r.}_{d.v}(Λ) $\neq \emptyset$, then we have $d_i v_i = 0$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n$.

Proof. Let $Z \in \operatorname{decIrr}_{\mathbf{d},\mathbf{v}}^{\operatorname{s.r.}}(\Lambda)$ for some \mathbf{d},\mathbf{v} , and let Z' be the corresponding irreducible component of decIrr_{d,0}(Λ). We clearly have $c_{\Lambda}(Z) = c_{\Lambda}(Z')$ and $E_{\Lambda}(Z) = E_{\Lambda}(Z') + d_1v_1 + \cdots + d_nv_n$. Using Lemma 5.2 we obtain $c_{\Lambda}(Z) = c_{\Lambda}(Z') \leq E_{\Lambda}(Z') \leq E_{\Lambda}(Z)$. Since $c_{\Lambda}(Z) = E_{\Lambda}(Z)$, the result follows.

Lemma 5.6. Let $Z \in \operatorname{decIrr}_{\mathbf{d},\mathbf{v}}(\Lambda)$, and assume that $p > |\mathbf{d}|$. Then the following are equivalent:

- (i) $Z \in \operatorname{decIrr}^{\operatorname{s.r.}}(\Lambda)$.
- (ii) $Z \in \operatorname{decIrr}^{\operatorname{s.r.}}(\Lambda_p)$.

Proof. Since $p > |\mathbf{d}|$, we can apply Lemma 2.2 and Proposition 3.5 and get $c_{\Lambda_p}(Z) = c_{\Lambda}(Z)$ and $E_{\Lambda_p}(Z) = E_{\Lambda}(Z)$. This yields the result.

The additivity of the functor $\operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(-,?)$ and upper semicontinuity imply the following lemma.

Lemma 5.7. Let $Z, Z_1, Z_2 \in \text{decIrr}(\Lambda)$. Suppose that $Z = \overline{Z_1 \oplus Z_2}$. Then the following hold:

- (i) $\operatorname{end}_{\Lambda}(Z) = \operatorname{end}_{\Lambda}(Z_1) + \operatorname{end}_{\Lambda}(Z_2) + \operatorname{hom}_{\Lambda}(Z_1, Z_2) + \operatorname{hom}_{\Lambda}(Z_2, Z_1).$
- (ii) $E_{\Lambda}(Z) = E_{\Lambda}(Z_1) + E_{\Lambda}(Z_2) + E_{\Lambda}(Z_1, Z_2) + E_{\Lambda}(Z_2, Z_1).$

Recall that for $\mathbf{a} = (a_1, \ldots, a_n)$ and $\mathbf{b} = (b_1, \ldots, b_n)$ in \mathbb{Z}^n we defined $\mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} := a_1 b_1 + \cdots + a_n b_n$. The following lemma is obvious.

Lemma 5.8. Let $\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{d}_1, \mathbf{d}_2 \in \mathbb{N}^n$ with $\mathbf{d} = \mathbf{d}_1 + \mathbf{d}_2$. Then

$$\dim(G_{\mathbf{d}}) - \dim(G_{\mathbf{d}_1}) - \dim(G_{\mathbf{d}_2}) = 2(\mathbf{d}_1 \cdot \mathbf{d}_2).$$

Lemma 5.9. Let $Z, Z_1, Z_2 \in \operatorname{decIrr}(\Lambda)$ with $Z = \overline{Z_1 \oplus Z_2}$. We have

$$\dim(Z) = \dim(Z_1) + \dim(Z_2) + 2(\underline{\dim}(\pi Z_1) \cdot \underline{\dim}(\pi Z_2))$$
$$- \hom_{\Lambda}(Z_1, Z_2) - \hom_{\Lambda}(Z_2, Z_1).$$

Proof. For i = 1, 2 let $(\mathbf{d}_i, \mathbf{v}_i) := \underline{\dim}(Z_i)$, and let $(\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{v}) := \underline{\dim}(Z)$. We have $\underline{\dim}(Z) = \underline{\dim}(Z_1) + \underline{\dim}(Z_2)$ and $\underline{\dim}(\pi Z_i) = \mathbf{d}_i$. The map

$$f: G_{\mathbf{d}} \times Z_1 \times Z_2 \to Z$$

defined by

$$(g, (M_1, \mathbb{C}^{\mathbf{v}_1}), (M_2, \mathbb{C}^{\mathbf{v}_2})) \mapsto (g. (M_1 \oplus M_2), \mathbb{C}^{\mathbf{v}})$$

is a morphism of affine varieties. For $(\mathcal{M}_1, \mathcal{M}_2) \in Z_1 \times Z_2$ define

$$f_{\mathcal{M}_1,\mathcal{M}_2}: G_{\mathbf{d}} \times \mathcal{O}(\mathcal{M}_1) \times \mathcal{O}(\mathcal{M}_2) \to \mathcal{O}(\mathcal{M}_1 \oplus \mathcal{M}_2)$$

by $(g, \mathcal{N}_1, \mathcal{N}_2) \mapsto f(g, \mathcal{N}_1, \mathcal{N}_2)$. The fibres of $f_{\mathcal{M}_1, \mathcal{M}_2}$ are of dimension

$$d_{\mathcal{M}_1,\mathcal{M}_2} := \dim(G_{\mathbf{d}}) + \dim \mathcal{O}(\mathcal{M}_1) + \dim \mathcal{O}(\mathcal{M}_2) - \dim \mathcal{O}(\mathcal{M}_1 \oplus \mathcal{M}_2).$$

Using equation (1), an easy calculation yields

 $d_{\mathcal{M}_1,\mathcal{M}_2} = \dim(G_{\mathbf{d}_1}) + \dim(G_{\mathbf{d}_2}) + \dim \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(M_1,M_2) + \dim \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(M_2,M_1).$

Let \mathcal{M} be in the image of f. We want to compute the dimension of the fibre $f^{-1}(\mathcal{M})$. Let

$$\mathcal{T} := \{ \mathcal{O}(\mathcal{N}_1) \times \mathcal{O}(\mathcal{N}_2) \subseteq Z_1 \times Z_2 \mid \mathcal{N}_1 \oplus \mathcal{N}_2 \cong \mathcal{M} \}.$$

It follows from the Krull-Remak-Schmidt Theorem that \mathcal{T} is a finite set. Thus the fibre $f^{-1}(\mathcal{M})$ is the disjoint union of the fibres $f^{-1}_{\mathcal{N}_1,\mathcal{N}_2}(\mathcal{M})$, where $\mathcal{O}(\mathcal{N}_1) \times \mathcal{O}(\mathcal{N}_2)$ runs through \mathcal{T} . So we get

$$\dim(f^{-1}(\mathcal{M})) = \max\{d_{\mathcal{N}_1,\mathcal{N}_2} \mid \mathcal{O}(\mathcal{N}_1) \times \mathcal{O}(\mathcal{N}_2) \in \mathcal{T}\}$$

Thus by upper semicontinuity there is a dense open subset $V \subseteq Z$ such that all fibres $f^{-1}(\mathcal{M})$ with $\mathcal{M} \in V$ have dimension

$$d_{Z_1,Z_2} := \dim(G_{\mathbf{d}_1}) + \dim(G_{\mathbf{d}_2}) + \hom_{\Lambda}(Z_1,Z_2) + \hom_{\Lambda}(Z_2,Z_1).$$

We have

$$\dim(Z) + d_{Z_1, Z_2} = \dim(G_{\mathbf{d}}) + \dim(Z_1) + \dim(Z_2)$$

Using Lemma 5.8 we get

$$\dim(Z) = \dim(Z_1) + \dim(Z_2) + 2(\mathbf{d}_1 \cdot \mathbf{d}_2) - \hom_{\Lambda}(Z_1, Z_2) - \hom_{\Lambda}(Z_2, Z_1).$$

This finishes the proof.

Lemma 5.10. For $Z, Z_1, Z_2 \in \text{decIrr}(\Lambda)$ with $Z = \overline{Z_1 \oplus Z_2}$ we have $c_{\Lambda}(Z) = c_{\Lambda}(Z_1) + c_{\Lambda}(Z_2).$

Proof. For i = 1, 2 let $(\mathbf{d}_i, \mathbf{v}_i) := \underline{\dim}(Z_i)$, and let $(\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{v}) := \underline{\dim}(Z)$. We get

$$c_{\Lambda}(Z) = \dim(Z) - \dim(G_{\mathbf{d}}) + \operatorname{end}_{\Lambda}(Z)$$

= dim(Z₁) + dim(Z₂) - dim(G_{d₁}) - dim(G_{d₂}) + end_{\Lambda}(Z₁) + end_{\Lambda}(Z₂)
= c_{\Lambda}(Z_1) + c_{\Lambda}(Z_2).

The first equality follows directly from the definition of $c_{\Lambda}(Z)$. The second equality uses Lemma 5.7(i) and Lemma 5.9.

The following result is a version of Theorem 5.3 for strongly reduced components.

Theorem 5.11. For $Z_1, \ldots, Z_t \in \operatorname{decIrr}(\Lambda)$ the following are equivalent:

- (i) $\overline{Z_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus Z_t}$ is a strongly reduced irreducible component.
- (ii) Each Z_i is strongly reduced and $E_{\Lambda}(Z_i, Z_j) = 0$ for all $i \neq j$.

Proof. Without loss of generality assume that t = 2. The general case follows by induction. Let $Z_1 \in \operatorname{decIrr}_{\mathbf{d}_1,\mathbf{v}_1}(\Lambda)$ and $Z_2 \in \operatorname{decIrr}_{\mathbf{d}_2,\mathbf{v}_2}(\Lambda)$.

Assume that $Z := \overline{Z_1 \oplus Z_2}$ is a strongly reduced component. Thus we have $c_{\Lambda}(Z) = E_{\Lambda}(Z)$. Applying Lemma 5.10 and Lemma 5.7(ii) this implies

$$c_{\Lambda}(Z_1) + c_{\Lambda}(Z_2) = E_{\Lambda}(Z_1) + E_{\Lambda}(Z_2) + E_{\Lambda}(Z_1, Z_2) + E_{\Lambda}(Z_2, Z_1).$$

Since $c_{\Lambda}(Z_i) \leq E_{\Lambda}(Z_i)$ we get $E_{\Lambda}(Z_1, Z_2) = E_{\Lambda}(Z_2, Z_1) = 0$ and $c_{\Lambda}(Z_i) = E_{\Lambda}(Z_i)$. Thus (i) implies (ii).

To show the converse, assume that Z_1 and Z_2 are strongly reduced with $E_{\Lambda}(Z_1, Z_2) = E_{\Lambda}(Z_2, Z_1) = 0$. We claim that

$$c_{\Lambda}(Z) = c_{\Lambda}(Z_1) + c_{\Lambda}(Z_2) = E_{\Lambda}(Z_1) + E_{\Lambda}(Z_2) = E_{\Lambda}(Z).$$

For the first equality we use Lemma 5.10; the second equality is just our assumption that Z_1 and Z_2 are strongly reduced. Finally, the third equality follows from Lemma 5.7 together with our assumption that $E_{\Lambda}(Z_1, Z_2)$ and $E_{\Lambda}(Z_2, Z_1)$ are both zero. Thus Z is strongly reduced.

Note that Theorems 5.3 and 5.11 imply that each $Z \in \operatorname{decIrr}^{\operatorname{s.r.}}(\Lambda)$ is of the form $Z = \overline{Z_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus Z_t}$ with $Z_i \in \operatorname{decIrr}^{\operatorname{s.r.}}(\Lambda)$ and Z_i indecomposable for all *i*.

5.3. Generic g-vectors. For $Z \in \operatorname{decIrr}(\Lambda)$ there is a dense open subset U of Z such that $g_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}) = g_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{N})$ for all $\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{N} \in U$. This follows again by upper semicontinuity. For $\mathcal{M} \in U$ let

$$g_{\Lambda}(Z) := g_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M})$$

be the generic g-vector of Z.

The next lemma follows directly from upper semicontinuity and Lemma 4.1(i).

Lemma 5.12. For $Z, Z_1, Z_2 \in \operatorname{decIrr}(\Lambda)$ with $Z = \overline{Z_1 \oplus Z_2}$ we have

$$g_{\Lambda}(Z) = g_{\Lambda}(Z_1) + g_{\Lambda}(Z_2).$$

Lemma 5.13. For $Z \in \operatorname{decIrr}_{\mathbf{d} \mathbf{v}}^{\mathrm{s.r.}}(\Lambda)$ we have

 $\mathbf{d} \cdot g_{\Lambda}(Z) = \dim(Z) - \dim(G_{\mathbf{d}}).$

Proof. It follows from the definitions that

$$E_{\Lambda}(Z) = \operatorname{end}_{\Lambda}(Z) + \mathbf{d} \cdot g_{\Lambda}(Z),$$

and we have

$$c_{\Lambda}(Z) = \dim(Z) - \dim(G_{\mathbf{d}}) + \operatorname{end}_{\Lambda}(Z).$$

Now the claim follows, since $c_{\Lambda}(Z) = E_{\Lambda}(Z)$.

Corollary 5.14. Let $Z \in \operatorname{decIrr}_{\mathbf{d},\mathbf{v}}^{\mathrm{s.r.}}(\Lambda)$ with $\mathbf{d} \neq 0$. If $E_{\Lambda}(Z) = 0$, then

$$\mathbf{d} \cdot g_{\Lambda}(Z) = -\operatorname{end}_{\Lambda}(Z) < 0.$$

5.4. Parametrization of strongly reduced components. Let $\Lambda = \mathbb{C}\langle\langle Q \rangle\rangle/I$ be a finite-dimensional basic algebra. Plamondon [P2] constructs a map

$$P_{\Lambda}$$
: decIrr(Λ) $\to \mathbb{Z}^n$,

which can be defined as follows: Let $Z \in \text{decIrr}(\Lambda)$. Then there exist injective Λ -modules $I_0^{\Lambda}(Z)$ and $I_1^{\Lambda}(Z)$, which are uniquely determined up to isomorphism, and a dense open subset $U \subseteq \pi Z$ such that for each representation $M \in U$ we have $I_0^{\Lambda}(M) = I_0^{\Lambda}(Z)$ and $I_1^{\Lambda}(M) = I_1^{\Lambda}(Z)$. For $Z \in \text{decIrr}_{\mathbf{d},\mathbf{v}}(\Lambda)$ define

$$P_{\Lambda}(Z) := -\underline{\dim}(\operatorname{soc}(I_0^{\Lambda}(Z))) + \underline{\dim}(\operatorname{soc}(I_1^{\Lambda}(Z))) + \mathbf{v}.$$

Let

$$P^{\mathrm{s.r.}}_{\Lambda} \colon \operatorname{decIrr}^{\mathrm{s.r.}}(\Lambda) \to \mathbb{Z}^n$$

be the restriction of P_{Λ} to decIrr^{s.r.}(Λ).

For a representation M let add(M) be the category of all finite direct sums of direct summands of M. Plamondon [P2] obtains the following striking result.

Theorem 5.15 (Plamondon). For any finite-dimensional basic algebra Λ the following hold:

(i)

$$P^{\mathrm{s.r.}}_{\Lambda} \colon \operatorname{decIrr}^{\mathrm{s.r.}}(\Lambda) \to \mathbb{Z}^n$$

is bijective.

(ii) For every $Z \in \operatorname{decIrr}^{\operatorname{s.r.}}(\Lambda)$ we have

 $\operatorname{add}(I_0^{\Lambda}(Z)) \cap \operatorname{add}(I_1^{\Lambda}(Z)) = 0.$

Note that Plamondon works with irreducible components, and not with decorated irreducible components. But his results translate easily from one concept to the other.

We now generalize Theorem 5.15(i) to arbitrary basic algebras Λ . It turns out that decIrr^{s.r.}(Λ) is in general no longer parametrized by \mathbb{Z}^n but by a subset of \mathbb{Z}^n . Our proof is based on Plamondon's result and additionally uses truncations of basic algebras.

For a basic algebra Λ let

$$G_{\Lambda} \colon \operatorname{decIrr}(\Lambda) \to \mathbb{Z}^n$$

be the map which sends $Z \in \operatorname{decIrr}(\Lambda)$ to the generic g-vector $g_{\Lambda}(Z)$ of Z.

For finite-dimensional Λ , it follows immediately from Lemma 3.3 that $G_{\Lambda} = P_{\Lambda}$. Let

 $G^{\mathrm{s.r.}}_{\Lambda} \colon \operatorname{decIrr}^{\mathrm{s.r.}}(\Lambda) \to \mathbb{Z}^n$

be the restriction of G_{Λ} to decIrr^{s.r.}(Λ).

For a basic algebra Λ let

$$\operatorname{decIrr}_{< p}(\Lambda)$$

be the set of irreducible components $Z \in \operatorname{decIrr}(\Lambda)$ such that $(\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{v}) := \operatorname{\underline{dim}}(Z)$ satisfies $|\mathbf{d}| < p$. Define

$$\operatorname{decIrr}_{< p}^{\mathrm{s.r.}}(\Lambda) := \operatorname{decIrr}_{< p}(\Lambda) \cap \operatorname{decIrr}^{\mathrm{s.r.}}(\Lambda).$$

Lemma 5.16. For a basic algebra $\Lambda = \mathbb{C}\langle\!\langle Q \rangle\!\rangle / I$ the following hold:

(i) For all $p \leq q$ we have

$$\operatorname{decIrr}_{< p}^{\operatorname{s.r.}}(\Lambda_p) \subseteq \operatorname{decIrr}_{< q}^{\operatorname{s.r.}}(\Lambda_q) \subseteq \operatorname{decIrr}^{\operatorname{s.r.}}(\Lambda).$$

(ii) We have

$$\operatorname{decIrr}^{\operatorname{s.r.}}(\Lambda) = \bigcup_{p>0} \operatorname{decIrr}^{\operatorname{s.r.}}_{< p}(\Lambda_p).$$

(iii) We have

$$\operatorname{decIrr}^{\mathrm{s.r.}}(\overline{\Lambda}) = \operatorname{decIrr}^{\mathrm{s.r.}}(\Lambda).$$

Proof. Let $Z \in \operatorname{decIrr}_{\mathbf{d},\mathbf{v}}(\Lambda)$, and let $p > |\mathbf{d}|$. Thus we have $Z \in \operatorname{decIrr}_{\mathbf{d},\mathbf{v}}(\Lambda_p)$ and $Z \in \operatorname{decIrr}_{< p}(\Lambda_p)$. Furthermore, we have $c_{\Lambda_p}(Z) = c_{\Lambda}(Z)$ and $E_{\Lambda_p}(Z) = E_{\Lambda}(Z)$. Thus $Z \in \operatorname{decIrr}^{\operatorname{s.r.}}(\Lambda)$ if and only if $Z \in \operatorname{decIrr}^{\operatorname{s.r.}}(\Lambda_p)$. This yields (i) and (ii). Recall that

$$\overline{I} = \bigcap_{p \ge 0} (I + \mathfrak{m}^p)$$

and $\Lambda_p = \mathbb{C}\langle\!\langle Q \rangle\!\rangle/(I + \mathfrak{m}^p)$. For $p \ge 2$ it is easy to check that

$$\overline{I} + \mathfrak{m}^p = I + \mathfrak{m}^p$$

This implies $\overline{\Lambda}_p = \Lambda_p$. Now (ii) implies (iii).

Theorem 5.17. For a basic algebra Λ the following hold:

(i) The map

 $G^{\mathrm{s.r.}}_{\Lambda} \colon \operatorname{decIrr}^{\mathrm{s.r.}}(\Lambda) \to \mathbb{Z}^n$

is injective.

(ii) The following are equivalent:

(a) $G_{\Lambda}^{\text{s.r.}}$ is surjective.

(b) $\overline{\Lambda}$ is finite-dimensional.

Proof. Since Λ_p is finite-dimensional for all p, we know from Plamondon's Theorem 5.15(i) that

 $G_{\Lambda_n}^{\text{s.r.}}$: decIrr^{s.r.} $(\Lambda_p) \to \mathbb{Z}^n$

is bijective. Now Lemma 5.16 yields that the map

$$G^{\mathrm{s.r.}}_{\Lambda} : \operatorname{decIrr}^{\mathrm{s.r.}}(\Lambda) \to \mathbb{Z}^{n}$$

sends $Z \in \operatorname{decIrr}_{\leq p}^{\operatorname{s.r.}}(\Lambda_p)$ to $G_{\Lambda_p}^{\operatorname{s.r.}}(Z)$, and that $G_{\Lambda}^{\operatorname{s.r.}}$ is injective. This proves (i). Theorem 5.15(i) together with Lemma 5.16(iii) says that (b) implies (a). (Recall that decrep $(\Lambda) = \operatorname{decrep}(\overline{\Lambda})$. This implies that $G_{\Lambda} = G_{\overline{\Lambda}}$ and $G_{\Lambda}^{\operatorname{s.r.}} = G_{\overline{\Lambda}}^{\operatorname{s.r.}}$. Note also that for every $Z \in \operatorname{decIrr}(\Lambda)$ we have $G_{\Lambda}(Z) = G_{\Lambda_p}(Z)$ for some large enough p.)

To show the converse, assume that $\overline{\Lambda}$ is infinite-dimensional. Recall that

$$\Lambda = \underline{\lim}(\Lambda_p)$$

and

$$\overline{I}_i = \bigcup_{p \ge 2} I_{i,p}$$

where \overline{I}_i is the injective envelope of the simple $\overline{\Lambda}$ -module S_i , and $I_{i,p}$ is the injective envelope of S_i considered as a Λ_p -module, and $\Lambda_p = \mathbb{C}\langle\langle Q \rangle\rangle/(I + \mathfrak{m}^p)$. We have $I_{i,p} = D(e_i\Lambda_p)$, where $D = \operatorname{Hom}_K(-, K)$ is the K-dual functor. This implies

$$\dim(\Lambda_p) = \sum_{i=1}^n \dim(I_{i,p}).$$

It follows that there exists some $1 \leq i \leq n$ such that \overline{I}_i is infinite-dimensional.

As a vector space, $e_i \Lambda_p$ is generated by the residue classes $a + (I + \mathfrak{m}^p)$ of all paths a in Q with t(a) = i. We have

$$I_{i,2} = D(e_i \Lambda_2) = D(e_i(\mathbb{C}\langle\!\langle Q \rangle\!\rangle / (I + \mathfrak{m}^2))) = D(e_i(\mathbb{C}\langle\!\langle Q \rangle\!\rangle / \mathfrak{m}^2))$$

This implies dim $(I_{i,2}) \geq 2$. (Otherwise, there is no arrow a with t(a) = i, which implies $I_{i,p} = I_{i,2}$ for all $p \geq 2$, a contradiction since \overline{I}_i is infinite-dimensional.) Now suppose that $I_{i,p-1} = I_{i,p}$ for some $p \geq 3$. This implies $e_i \Lambda_{p-1} = e_i \Lambda_p$. Thus we have $e_i(I + \mathfrak{m}^{p-1}) = e_i(I + \mathfrak{m}^p)$. It follows that

$$e_i(I + \mathfrak{m}^{p+1}) = e_iI + e_i(I + \mathfrak{m}^p)\mathfrak{m} = e_iI + e_i(I + \mathfrak{m}^{p-1})\mathfrak{m} = e_i(I + \mathfrak{m}^p).$$

In other words, we have $I_{i,p+1} = I_{i,p}$. By induction we get $I_{i,q} = I_{i,p-1}$ for all $q \ge p$, a contradiction since \overline{I}_i is infinite-dimensional. Thus we proved that $\dim(I_{i,p}) \ge p$ for all $p \ge 2$.

Now assume that $-\mathbf{e}_i$ is in the image of $G_{\Lambda}^{\mathrm{s.r.}}$. (Here \mathbf{e}_i denotes the *i*th standard basis vector of \mathbb{Z}^n .) In other words, there is some $Z \in \operatorname{decIrr}_{< p}^{\mathrm{s.r.}}(\Lambda)$ such that $G_{\Lambda}^{\mathrm{s.r.}}(Z) = -\mathbf{e}_i$. By Lemma 5.16(ii) we know that $Z \in \operatorname{decIrr}_{< p}^{\mathrm{s.r.}}(\Lambda_p)$ for some $p \geq 1$. Since $g_{\Lambda}(Z) = -\mathbf{e}_i$, we have $I_0^{\Lambda_p}(Z) = I_{i,p}$ and $I_1^{\Lambda_p}(Z) = 0$. (Here we use Theorem 5.15(ii).) This implies that Z is the closure of the orbit of the decorated representation $(I_{i,p}, 0)$. But $\dim(I_{i,p}) \geq p$ and the dimension of all representations in Z are strictly smaller than p, a contradiction.

6. Component graphs and CC-clusters

6.1. The graph of strongly reduced components. Let Λ be a basic algebra. In [CBS] the component graph $\Gamma(\operatorname{Irr}(\Lambda))$ of Λ is defined as follows: The vertices of $\Gamma(\operatorname{Irr}(\Lambda))$ are the indecomposable irreducible components in $\operatorname{Irr}(\Lambda)$. There is an edge between (possibly equal) vertices Z_1 and Z_2 if $\operatorname{ext}^1_{\Lambda}(Z_1, Z_2) = \operatorname{ext}^1_{\Lambda}(Z_2, Z_1) = 0$.

We want to define an analogue of $\Gamma(\operatorname{Irr}(\Lambda))$ for strongly reduced components. The graph $\Gamma(\operatorname{decIrr}^{s.r.}(\Lambda))$ of strongly reduced components has as vertices the indecomposable components in decIrr^{s.r.}(Λ), and there is an edge between (possibly equal) vertices Z_1 and Z_2 if $E_{\Lambda}(Z_1, Z_2) = E_{\Lambda}(Z_2, Z_1) = 0$.

6.2. Component clusters. Let Γ be a graph, and let Γ_0 be the set of vertices of Γ . We allow only single edges, and we allow loops, i.e. edges from a vertex to itself. For a subset $\mathcal{U} \subseteq \Gamma_0$ let $\Gamma_{\mathcal{U}}$ be the full subgraph, whose set of vertices is \mathcal{U} . The subgraph $\Gamma_{\mathcal{U}}$ is *complete* if for each $i, j \in \mathcal{U}$ with $i \neq j$ there is an edge between i and j. A complete subgraph $\Gamma_{\mathcal{U}}$ is *maximal* if for each complete subgraph $\Gamma_{\mathcal{U}'}$ with $\mathcal{U} \subseteq \mathcal{U}'$ we have $\mathcal{U} = \mathcal{U}'$. We call a subgraph $\Gamma_{\mathcal{U}}$ loop-complete if $\Gamma_{\mathcal{U}}$ is complete and there is a loop at each vertex in U.

The set of vertices of a maximal complete subgraph of $\Gamma := \Gamma(\operatorname{decIrr}^{\operatorname{s.r.}}(\Lambda))$ is called a *component cluster* of Λ . A component cluster \mathcal{U} of Λ is *E-rigid* provided $E_{\Lambda}(Z) = 0$ for all $Z \in \mathcal{U}$. (Recall that there is a loop at a vertex Z of Γ if and only if $E_{\Lambda}(Z, Z) = 0$. If $E_{\Lambda}(Z) = 0$, then $E_{\Lambda}(Z, Z) = 0$, but the converse does not hold.) Clearly, each *E*-rigid component cluster is loop-complete.

Theorem 6.1. For each loop-complete subgraph $\Gamma_{\mathcal{U}}$ of $\Gamma := \Gamma(\operatorname{decIrr}^{\text{s.r.}}(\Lambda))$ we have $|\mathcal{U}| \leq n$.

Proof. Assume that Z_1, \ldots, Z_{n+1} are pairwise different vertices of a loop-complete subgraph Γ_J of $\Gamma(\operatorname{decIrr}^{\operatorname{s.r.}}(\Lambda))$. For $1 \leq i \leq n+1$ let $g_{\Lambda}(Z_i)$ be the generic g-vector of Z_i . Since Γ_J is loop-complete we know by Theorem 5.11 that

$$Z_{\mathbf{a}} := \overline{Z_1^{a_1} \oplus \cdots \oplus Z_{n+1}^{a_{n+1}}}$$

is again a strongly reduced component for each $\mathbf{a} = (a_1, \ldots, a_{n+1}) \in \mathbb{N}^{n+1}$. By the additivity of *g*-vectors we get

$$g_{\Lambda}(Z_{\mathbf{a}}) = a_1 g_{\Lambda}(Z_1) + \dots + a_{n+1} g_{\Lambda}(Z_{n+1}).$$

Furthermore, we know from Theorem 5.3 that $Z_{\mathbf{a}} = Z_{\mathbf{b}}$ if and only if $\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{b}$. Now one can essentially copy the proof of [GS, Theorem 1.1] to show that there are $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{N}^{n+1}$ with $g_{\Lambda}(Z_{\mathbf{a}}) = g_{\Lambda}(Z_{\mathbf{b}})$ but $\mathbf{a} \neq \mathbf{b}$. By Theorem 5.17 different strongly reduced components have different g-vectors. Thus we have a contradiction.

Corollary 6.2. Let Λ be a finite-dimensional basic algebra. Let M be a representation of Λ with $\operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(\tau_{\Lambda}^{-}(M), M) = 0$. Then M has at most n isomorphism classes of indecomposable direct summands.

The following conjecture might be a bit too optimistic, but it is true for $\Lambda = \mathbb{C}\langle\langle Q \rangle\rangle$, the path algebra of an acyclic quiver Q; see [DW, Corollary 21] and Section 9.1.

Conjecture 6.3. For any basic algebra Λ the following hold:

- (i) The component clusters of Λ have cardinality at most n.
- (ii) The E-rigid component clusters of Λ are exactly the component clusters of cardinality n.

6.3. *E*-rigid representations. After most of this work was done, we learned that Iyama and Reiten [IR] obtained some beautiful results on so-called τ -rigid modules over finite-dimensional algebras, which fit perfectly into the framework of Caldero-Chapoton algebras.

Adapting their terminology to decorated representations of basic algebras, a decorated representation \mathcal{M} of a basic algebra Λ is called *E*-*rigid* provided $E_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}) = 0$. The following theorem is just a reformulation of Iyama and Reiten's results on τ -rigid modules. Part (i) follows also directly from the more general statement in Theorem 6.1.

For $\mathcal{M} \in \operatorname{decrep}(\Lambda)$ let $\Sigma(\mathcal{M})$ be the number of isomorphism classes of indecomposable direct summands of \mathcal{M} .

Theorem 6.4 ([IR]). Let $\Lambda = \mathbb{C}\langle\langle Q \rangle\rangle/I$ be a finite-dimensional basic algebra. For $\mathcal{M} \in \operatorname{decrep}(\Lambda)$ the following hold:

(i) If \mathcal{M} is E-rigid, then $\Sigma(\mathcal{M}) \leq n$.

- (ii) For each E-rigid $\mathcal{M} \in \operatorname{decrep}(\Lambda)$ there exists some $\mathcal{N} \in \operatorname{decrep}(\Lambda)$ such that $\mathcal{M} \oplus \mathcal{N}$ is E-rigid and $\Sigma(\mathcal{M} \oplus \mathcal{N}) = n$.
- (iii) For each E-rigid $\mathcal{M} \in \text{decrep}(\Lambda)$ with $\Sigma(\mathcal{M}) = n 1$ there are exactly two non-isomorphic indecomposable decorated representations $\mathcal{N}_1, \mathcal{N}_2 \in \text{decrep}(\Lambda)$ such that $\mathcal{M} \oplus \mathcal{N}_i$ is E-rigid and $\Sigma(\mathcal{M} \oplus \mathcal{N}_i) = n$ for i = 1, 2.

It is easy to find examples of infinite-dimensional basic algebras Λ such that Theorem 6.4(iii) does not hold; see Section 9.3.1.

A basic algebra Λ is *representation-finite* if there are only finitely many isomorphism classes of indecomposable representations in rep(Λ). One easily checks that Λ is finite-dimensional in this case.

Corollary 6.5. Assume that Λ is a representation-finite basic algebra. Then the following hold:

- (i) Each component cluster of Λ is E-rigid.
- (ii) Each component cluster of Λ has cardinality n.
- (iii) There is bijection between the set of isomorphism classes of E-rigid representation of Λ to the set decIrr^{s.r.}(Λ) of strongly reduced components. Namely, one maps an E-rigid representation M to the closure of the orbit O(M).

Proof. Since Λ is representation-finite, every irreducible component $Z \in \operatorname{decIrr}(\Lambda)$ is a union of finitely many orbits, and exactly one of these orbits has do be dense in Z. Thus we have $c_{\Lambda}(Z) = 0$. This implies (i) and (iii). Now (ii) follows directly from Theorem 6.4(ii).

6.4. Generic Caldero-Chapoton functions. For each $(\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{v}) \in \mathbb{N}^n \times \mathbb{N}^n$ let

$$C_{\mathbf{d},\mathbf{v}} \colon \operatorname{decrep}_{\mathbf{d},\mathbf{v}}(\Lambda) \to \mathbb{Z}[x_1^{\pm},\ldots,x_n^{\pm}]$$

be the function defined by $\mathcal{M} \mapsto C_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M})$. The map $C_{\mathbf{d},\mathbf{v}}$ is a constructible function. In particular, the image of $C_{\mathbf{d},\mathbf{v}}$ is finite. Thus for an irreducible component $Z \in \text{decIrr}_{\mathbf{d},\mathbf{v}}(\Lambda)$ there exists a dense open subset $U \subseteq Z$ such that $C_{\mathbf{d},\mathbf{v}}$ is constant on U. Define

$$C_{\Lambda}(Z) := C_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M})$$

with \mathcal{M} any representation in U. The element $C_{\Lambda}(Z)$ depends only on Z and not on the choice of U.

Define

$$\mathcal{B}_{\Lambda} := \{ C_{\Lambda}(Z) \mid Z \in \operatorname{decIrr}^{\mathrm{s.r.}}(\Lambda) \}.$$

We refer to the elements of \mathcal{B}_{Λ} as generic Caldero-Chapoton functions.

Proposition 6.6. Let $\Lambda = \mathbb{C}\langle\!\langle Q \rangle\!\rangle / I$ be a basic algebra. If $\operatorname{Ker}(B_Q) \cap \mathbb{Q}_{\geq 0}^n = 0$, then \mathcal{B}_{Λ} is linearly independent in \mathcal{A}_{Λ} .

Proof. For each $Z \in \text{decIrr}^{\text{s.r.}}(\Lambda)$ there is some $\mathcal{M} \in Z$ such that $g_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}) = g_{\Lambda}(Z)$ and $C_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{M}) = C_{\Lambda}(Z)$. By Theorem 5.17(i) the generic g-vectors of the strongly reduced components of decorated representations of Λ are pairwise different. Now Proposition 4.3 yields the result.

If \mathcal{B}_{Λ} is a basis of \mathcal{A}_{Λ} , then we call \mathcal{B}_{Λ} the *generic basis* of \mathcal{A}_{Λ} .

6.5. CC-clusters. For a component cluster \mathcal{U} of a basic algebra Λ let

$$\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{U}} := \{ C_{\Lambda}(Z) \mid Z \in \mathcal{U} \} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{U}} := \{ \prod_{Z \in \mathcal{U}} C_{\Lambda}(Z)^{a_{Z}} \mid a_{Z} \in I_{Z} \}$$

where

$$I_Z := \begin{cases} \mathbb{N} & \text{if } E_\Lambda(Z, Z) = 0, \\ \{0, 1\} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

(In each of the products above we assume that $a_Z = 0$ for all but finitely many $Z \in \mathcal{U}$.) The set $\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{U}}$ is called a *CC-cluster* of Λ , and the elements in $\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{U}}$ are *CC-cluster monomials*. (The letters *CC* just indicate that we deal with sets of Caldero-Chapoton functions.) A *CC*-cluster $\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{U}}$ is *E-rigid* provided $E_{\Lambda}(Z) = 0$ for all $Z \in \mathcal{U}$.

Note that

$$\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{U}} \subseteq \mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{U}} \subseteq \mathcal{A}_{\Lambda}.$$

The following result is a direct consequence of the definition of \mathcal{B}_{Λ} and Theorem 5.11.

Proposition 6.7. Let Λ be a basic algebra. Then

$$\mathcal{B}_{\Lambda} = \bigcup_{\mathcal{U}} \mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{U}}$$

where the union is over all component clusters \mathcal{U} of Λ .

6.6. A change of perspective. The CC-clusters are a generalization of the clusters of a cluster algebra defined by Fomin and Zelevinsky. In general, the Fomin-Zelevinsky cluster monomials form just a small subset of the set of CC-cluster monomials. Recall that the Fomin-Zelevinsky cluster monomials are obtained by the inductive procedure of cluster mutation [FZ1, FZ2], and the relation between neighbouring clusters is described by the exchange relations. One can see the exchange relations as part of the definition of a cluster algebra. On the other hand, the definition of a Caldero-Chapoton algebra does not involve any mutations of CC-clusters. The CC-clusters are given by collections of irreducible components, and they do not have to be constructed inductively. One can find a meaningful notion of neighbouring CC-clusters, and it remains quite a challenge to actually determine an analogue of the exchange relations.

6.7. **Open problems.** In this section let Λ be any basic algebra. The following conjecture is again quite optimistic in this generality.

Conjecture 6.8. \mathcal{B}_{Λ} is a \mathbb{C} -basis of \mathcal{A}_{Λ} .

Conjecture 6.8 is true for every $\Lambda = \mathbb{C}\langle\langle Q \rangle\rangle$ with Q an acyclic quiver and also for numerous other examples; see [GLS].

Problem 6.9. Does the set

$$\{C_{\Lambda}(Z) \mid Z \in \operatorname{decIrr}^{\mathrm{s.r.}}(\Lambda), E_{\Lambda}(Z) = 0\}$$

generate \mathcal{A}_{Λ} as a \mathbb{C} -algebra?

We say that \mathcal{A}_{Λ} has the *Laurent phenomenon property* if for any *E*-rigid component cluster $\{Z_1, \ldots, Z_n\}$ of Λ , we have

$$\mathcal{A}_{\Lambda} \subseteq \mathbb{C}[C_{\Lambda}(Z_1)^{\pm}, \dots, C_{\Lambda}(Z_n)^{\pm}].$$

Problem 6.10. Under which assumptions does \mathcal{A}_{Λ} have the Laurent phenomenon property?

7. Caldero-Chapoton algebras and cluster algebras

7.1. Caldero-Chapoton algebras of Jacobian algebras. Suppose that Q is a 2-acyclic quiver with a non-degenerate potential W, and let $\Lambda := \mathcal{P}(Q, W)$ be the associated Jacobian algebra. Let \mathcal{A}_Q and $\mathcal{A}_Q^{\text{up}}$ be the cluster algebra and upper cluster algebra associated to Q, respectively. Set $\mathcal{A}_{Q,W} := \mathcal{A}_{\Lambda}$, $\mathcal{B}_{Q,W} := \mathcal{B}_{\Lambda}$. Let

$$\mathcal{M}_{Q,W} := \{ C_{\Lambda}(Z) \mid Z \in \operatorname{decIrr}^{\operatorname{s.r.}}(\Lambda), E_{\Lambda}(Z) = 0 \}.$$

The first part of the following proposition is a consequence of [DWZ2, Lemma 5.2]; compare also the calculation at the end of [GLS, Section 6.3]. The rest follows from [DWZ2, Corollary 7.2].

Proposition 7.1. We have

$$\mathcal{A}_Q \subseteq \mathcal{A}_{Q,W} \subseteq \mathcal{A}_Q^{\mathrm{up}}.$$

The set \mathcal{M}_Q of cluster monomials of \mathcal{A}_Q is contained in $\mathcal{B}_{Q,W}$. More precisely, we have

$$\mathcal{M}_Q \subseteq \mathcal{M}_{Q,W} \subseteq \mathcal{B}_{Q,W}.$$

In general, the sets \mathcal{M}_Q , $\mathcal{M}_{Q,W}$ and $\mathcal{B}_{Q,W}$ are pairwise different.

7.2. **Example.** Let Q be the quiver



and define

$$\begin{split} W_1 &:= c_1 b_1 a_1 + c_2 b_2 a_2, \\ W_2 &:= c_1 b_1 a_1 + c_2 b_2 a_2 - c_2 b_1 a_2 c_1 b_2 a_1. \end{split}$$

It is not difficult to check that $\mathcal{P}(Q, W_1)$ is infinite-dimensional and $\mathcal{P}(Q, W_2)$ is finite-dimensional. By [BFZ, Proposition 1.26] the algebras \mathcal{A}_Q and $\mathcal{A}_Q^{\text{up}}$ do not coincide. The potentials W_1 and W_2 are both non-degenerate; see [DWZ1, Example 8.6] and [La2, Example 8.2], respectively. Furthermore, by [P2, Example 4.3] the set \mathcal{B}_{Q,W_2} of generic functions is not contained in \mathcal{A}_Q . In particular, \mathcal{A}_Q and \mathcal{A}_{Q,W_2} do not coincide. We conjecture that $\mathcal{A}_Q = \mathcal{A}_{Q,W_1}$ and $\mathcal{A}_Q^{\text{up}} = \mathcal{A}_{Q,W_2}$.

7.3. Open problems.

Problem 7.2. Are there always non-degenerate potentials W_1 and W_2 of Q such that $\mathcal{A}_Q = \mathcal{A}_{Q,W_1}$ and $\mathcal{A}_Q^{\text{up}} = \mathcal{A}_{Q,W_2}$?

Problem 7.3. For a non-degenerate potential W of Q find a necessary and sufficient condition for $\mathcal{A}_{Q,W} = \mathcal{A}_Q^{\text{up}}$. Is this related to the two conditions

- (i) $\mathcal{P}(Q, W)$ is finite-dimensional,
- (ii) W is rigid (see [DWZ1, Section 6] for the definition)?

Problem 7.4. Suppose that there is only one non-degenerate potential W of Q up to right equivalence. Does it follows that $\mathcal{A}_Q = \mathcal{A}_Q^{\text{up}}$?

8. Sign-coherence of generic g-vectors

The following result implies Theorem 1.4. The special case where $\Lambda = \mathcal{P}(Q, W)$ is a Jacobian algebra with non-degenerate potential W and \mathcal{U} is an *E*-rigid component cluster is proved in [P2, Theorem 3.7(1)].

Theorem 8.1. Let Λ be a basic algebra, and let \mathcal{U} be a component cluster of Λ . Then the set $\{g_{\Lambda}(Z) \mid Z \in \mathcal{U}\}$ is sign-coherent.

Proof. Assume that $\{g_{\Lambda}(Z) \mid Z \in \mathcal{U}\}$ is not sign-coherent. Thus there are $Z_1, Z_2 \in \mathcal{U}$ such that the set $\{g_{\Lambda}(Z_1), g_{\Lambda}(Z_2)\}$ is not sign-coherent. Since \mathcal{U} is a component cluster, we know from Theorem 5.11 that $Z := \overline{Z_1 \oplus Z_2}$ is a strongly reduced component. By Lemma 5.12 we have $g_{\Lambda}(Z) = g_{\Lambda}(Z_1) + g_{\Lambda}(Z_2)$. By Lemma 5.16(ii) there is some p such that $Z, Z_1, Z_2 \in \operatorname{decIrr}_{<p}^{s.r.}(\Lambda_p)$. We also know that $g_{\Lambda_p}(Z) = g_{\Lambda}(Z_i) = g_{\Lambda}(Z_i)$ for i = 1, 2 and that

$$I_0^{\Lambda_p}(Z) = I_0^{\Lambda_p}(Z_1) + I_0^{\Lambda_p}(Z_2)$$
 and $I_1^{\Lambda_p}(Z) = I_1^{\Lambda_p}(Z_1) + I_1^{\Lambda_p}(Z_2).$

For i = 1, 2 let $(\mathbf{d}_i, \mathbf{v}_i) := \underline{\dim}(Z_i)$.

We first assume that $\mathbf{v}_1 = \mathbf{v}_2 = 0$. Since $\{g_{\Lambda}(Z_1), g_{\Lambda}(Z_2)\}$ is not sign-coherent, we get from Lemma 3.4 that

$$\operatorname{add}(I_0^{\Lambda_p}(Z_1)) \cap \operatorname{add}(I_1^{\Lambda_p}(Z_2)) \neq 0 \quad \text{or} \quad \operatorname{add}(I_1^{\Lambda_p}(Z_1)) \cap \operatorname{add}(I_0^{\Lambda_p}(Z_2)) \neq 0,$$

a contradiction to Theorem 5.15(ii).

Next, assume that \mathbf{v}_1 and \mathbf{v}_2 are both non-zero. The components Z_1 and Z_2 are indecomposable. It follows that Z_1 and Z_2 are just the orbits of some negative simple representations. But then $\{g_{\Lambda}(Z_1), g_{\Lambda}(Z_2)\}$ has to be sign-coherent, a contradiction.

Finally, let $\mathbf{v}_1 = 0$ and $\mathbf{v}_2 \neq 0$. Thus we get $Z_2 = \mathcal{O}(\mathcal{S}_i^-)$ for some $1 \leq i \leq n$. This implies $g_{\Lambda}(Z_2) = \mathbf{e}_i$. Since $\{g_{\Lambda}(Z_1), g_{\Lambda}(Z_2)\}$ is not sign-coherent, the *i*th entry of $g_{\Lambda}(Z_1)$ has to be negative. It follows that the socle of each representation in Z_1 has S_i as a composition factor. In particular, the *i*th entry d_i of \mathbf{d}_1 is non-zero. But we also have $E_{\Lambda}(Z_1, Z_2) = 0$. Now Lemma 5.4 implies that $d_i = 0$, a contradiction.

9. Examples

9.1. Strongly reduced components for hereditary algebras.

9.1.1. Assume that $\Lambda = \mathbb{C}\langle\!\langle Q \rangle\!\rangle$ with Q an acyclic quiver. Thus Λ is equal to the ordinary path algebra $\mathbb{C}Q$. Clearly, for each $(\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{v}) \in \mathbb{N}^n \times \mathbb{N}^n$ the variety decrep_{d,v} (Λ) is an affine space. In particular, it has just one irreducible component, namely $Z_{\mathbf{d},\mathbf{v}} := \text{decrep}_{\mathbf{d},\mathbf{v}}(\Lambda)$.

Lemma 9.1. The following hold:

(i) For irreducible components $Z_{\mathbf{d}_1,0}, Z_{\mathbf{d}_2,0} \in \operatorname{decIrr}(\Lambda)$ we have

$$\operatorname{ext}_{\Lambda}^{1}(Z_{\mathbf{d}_{1},0}, Z_{\mathbf{d}_{2},0}) = E_{\Lambda}(Z_{\mathbf{d}_{1},0}, Z_{\mathbf{d}_{2},0}).$$

(ii) $Z_{\mathbf{d},\mathbf{v}}$ is strongly reduced if and only if $d_i v_i = 0$ for all $1 \leq i \leq n$.

Proof. Since Λ is a finite-dimensional hereditary algebra, we have

 $\dim \operatorname{Ext}^{1}_{\Lambda}(M, N) = \dim \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(\tau_{\Lambda}^{-}(N), M)$

for all $M, N \in \operatorname{rep}(\Lambda)$. Now Proposition 3.5 implies (i). In particular, for $Z = Z_{\mathbf{d},0}$ we have $e_{\Lambda}(Z) = E_{\Lambda}(Z)$. Since $Z = \operatorname{decrep}_{\mathbf{d},0}(\Lambda)$ is an affine space, Voigt's Lemma implies that $c_{\Lambda}(Z) = e_{\Lambda}(Z)$. Thus Z is strongly reduced. The components Z_{0,\mathbf{e}_i} are obviously also strongly reduced. Now Corollary 5.5 yields (ii).

The following result is a direct consequence of Lemma 9.1 and Schofield's [Scho] groundbreaking work on general representations of acyclic quivers. For all unexplained terminology we refer to [Scho].

Proposition 9.2. Let $\Lambda = \mathbb{C}\langle\langle Q \rangle\rangle$ with Q an acyclic quiver. Then the indecomposable strongly reduced components are the components $Z_{\mathbf{d},0}$, where \mathbf{d} is a Schur root, and the components $Z_{0,\mathbf{e}_1},\ldots,Z_{0,\mathbf{e}_n}$, where \mathbf{e}_i is the *i*th standard basis vector of \mathbb{Z}^n .

For a finite-dimensional path algebra $\Lambda = \mathbb{C}Q$ one can use Schofield's algorithm [Scho] (see also [DW] for a more efficient version of the algorithm) to determine the canonical decomposition of a dimension vector, and one can also use it to decide if $\operatorname{ext}_{\Lambda}^{1}(Z_{1}, Z_{2})$ is zero or not. So at least in principle, the graph $\Gamma(\operatorname{decIrr}^{\operatorname{s.r.}}(\Lambda))$ can be computed. However, even in this case there are numerous interesting open questions on the structure of the graph $\Gamma(\operatorname{decIrr}^{\operatorname{s.r.}}(\Lambda))$; see [Sche].

9.2. Strongly reduced components for 1-vertex algebras.

Proposition 9.3. Let $\Lambda = \mathbb{C}\langle\langle Q \rangle\rangle/I$ be a basic algebra with n = 1. Then the following hold:

- (i) If Λ is finite-dimensional, then the indecomposable strongly reduced components in decIrr(Λ) are O(S₁⁻) and the closure of O((Ī₁,0)), where Ī₁ is the injective envelope of the simple Λ-module S₁.
- (ii) If Λ is infinite-dimensional, then the only indecomposable strongly reduced component in decIrr(Λ) is O(S₁⁻).

Proof. Assume that $\overline{\Lambda}$ is finite-dimensional. Then Theorem 5.17 implies that $\operatorname{Im}(G_{\Lambda}^{\mathrm{s.r.}}) = \mathbb{Z}$. For $m \geq 0$, we know that the orbit closures of $(\mathcal{S}_1^-)^m$ and $(\overline{I}_1, 0)^m$ are *E*-rigid strongly reduced components with generic *g*-vectors $m\mathbf{e}_1$ and $-m\mathbf{e}_1$, respectively. This implies (i). Part (ii) follows from the proof of Theorem 5.17(ii). \Box

9.3. Strongly reduced components for some representation-finite algebras. By Corollary 6.5 each vertex of the component graph of a representation-finite basic algebra has a loop. In the following examples, for each *E*-rigid indecomposable strongly reduced component, we just display the indecomposable decorated representation whose orbit closure is the component. We describe representations by displaying their socle series and their composition factors. For $1 \le i \le n$ we write *i* and -i instead of S_i and S_i^- , respectively. For a decorated representation of the form $\mathcal{M} = (M, 0)$ we just display M.

9.3.1. Let Q be the quiver

$$1 \stackrel{b}{\longleftarrow} 2 \bigcirc a$$

and let $\Lambda := \mathbb{C}\langle\!\langle Q \rangle\!\rangle / I$, where I is generated by ba. Then $\Gamma(\operatorname{decIrr}^{s.r.}(\Lambda))$ looks as follows:



For p = 2, the component graph $\Gamma(\operatorname{decIrr}^{\operatorname{s.r.}}(\Lambda_p))$ looks as follows:



To repair the somewhat non-symmetric graph $\Gamma(\operatorname{decIrr}^{s.r.}(\Lambda))$ one could insert a vertex for the infinite-dimensional indecomposable injective Λ -module I_2 . Such aspects will be dealt with elsewhere.

9.3.2. Let Q be the quiver

$$1 \stackrel{b}{\longleftarrow} 2 \stackrel{a}{\longleftarrow} 3$$

and let $\Lambda := \mathbb{C}\langle\!\langle Q \rangle\!\rangle / I$, where I is generated by ba. Then $\Gamma(\operatorname{decIrr}^{s.r.}(\Lambda))$ looks as follows:



Note that for $M = \frac{3}{2}$ and N = 1 we have $\operatorname{Ext}_{\Lambda}^{1}(M, N) = 0$, but $E_{\Lambda}((M, 0), (N, 0)) = \operatorname{Hom}_{\Lambda}(\tau^{-}(N), M) \neq 0$.

9.4. Examples of Caldero-Chapoton algebras.

9.4.1. Let Q be the quiver

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and let $\Lambda := \mathbb{C}\langle\!\langle Q \rangle\!\rangle$. The skew-symmetric adjacency matrix B_Q of Q is just (0). Up to isomorphism, for each $d \ge 1$ there is a unique indecomposable representation M_d of Λ with dim $(M_d) = d$, given by a nilpotent Jordan block of size d. One easily checks that

$$C_{\Lambda}(M_d) = d + 1.$$

This implies $\mathcal{A}_{\Lambda} = \mathbb{C}$.

For $p \geq 2$ the indecomposable representations of the *p*-truncation Λ_p are M_1, \ldots, M_p , and we get

$$C_{\Lambda_p}(M_d) = \begin{cases} (d+1)x_1^{-1} & \text{if } d = p, \\ (d+1) & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

This implies $\mathcal{A}_{\Lambda_p} = \mathbb{C}[x_1^{-1}].$

9.4.2. In this section, let Q be the quiver

$$1 \xrightarrow{a} 2 \xrightarrow{b} 3 \bigcirc c$$

and let $\Lambda := \mathbb{C}\langle\langle Q \rangle\rangle / I$, where *I* is the ideal generated by c^2 . (This example is closely related to Zhou and Zhu's [ZZ] study of cluster tubes. We thank the anonymous referee for pointing this out. The considerations in this section also hold for the corresponding more general case of a linear quiver with *n* vertices and a loop *c* with $c^2 = 0$. This and also a comparison with the results in [ZZ] will be carried out in a separate publication.)

The basic algebra Λ is a representation-finite string algebra, and its Auslander-Reiten quiver looks as follows: (Recall that there is an arrow from M to N if and only if there is an irreducible homomorphism from M to N, and for all nonprojective M we draw a dashed arrow from M to its Auslander-Reiten translate $\tau_{\Lambda}(M)$.)



In this quiver the two south-west and the two south-east edges are identified. The framed representations are the indecomposable *E*-rigid representations of Λ . We have

$$I_1 = 1,$$
 $I_2 = \frac{1}{2},$ $I_3 = \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2}.$

We now describe explicitly the Caldero-Chapoton functions associated to the 12 indecomposable *E*-rigid decorated representations of Λ . By definition $C_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{S}_i^-) = x_i$, for i = 1, 2, 3. The remaining 9 functions are

$$C_{\Lambda}(1) = \frac{1+x_2}{x_1}, \qquad C_{\Lambda}(\frac{1}{2}) = \frac{x_1+x_3+x_2x_3}{x_1x_2}, \\C_{\Lambda}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{x_1x_2^2+x_1x_2+x_1+x_3+x_2x_3}{x_1x_2x_3}, \qquad C_{\Lambda}(2) = \frac{x_1+x_3}{x_2}, \\C_{\Lambda}(\frac{1}{3}) = \frac{x_2^2+x_2+1}{x_3}, \qquad C_{\Lambda}(\frac{2}{3}) = \frac{x_1x_2^2+x_1x_2+x_1+x_3}{x_2x_3}, \\C_{\Lambda}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{x_1^2x_2^2+x_1^2x_2+x_1x_2x_3+2x_1x_3+x_1^2+x_1x_2x_3+x_2x_3^2+x_3^2}{x_1x_2^2x_3}, \\C_{\Lambda}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{x_1^2x_2^2+x_1^2x_2+x_1^2+x_1x_2x_3+2x_1x_3+x_3^2+x_1x_2x_3+2x_2x_3^2+x_2x_3^2+x_2x_3^2}{x_1^2x_2^2x_3}, \\C_{\Lambda}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{x_1^2x_2^2+x_1^2x_2+x_1^2+x_1x_2x_3+2x_1x_3+x_3^2+x_1x_2x_3+2x_2x_3+2x_2x_3^2+x_2x_3^2+x_2x_3^2}{x_1^2x_2^2x_3}, \\C_{\Lambda}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{x_1^2x_2^2+x_1^2x_2+x_1^2+x_1x_2x_3+2x_1x_3+x_3^2+x_1x_2x_3+2x_2x_3+2x_2x_3^2+x_2x_3^2}{x_1^2x_2^2x_3}.$$

The Caldero-Chapoton functions associated to the 6 indecomposable non-E-rigid representations of Λ are

$$\begin{split} C_{\Lambda}(3) &= x_{2} + 1, \\ C_{\Lambda}\left(\frac{2}{3}\right) &= \frac{x_{1}x_{2} + x_{1} + x_{3}}{x_{2}}, \\ C_{\Lambda}\left(\frac{3}{3}\right)^{2} &= \frac{x_{1}x_{2}^{2} + x_{1}x_{2} + x_{1} + x_{3} + x_{2}x_{3}}{x_{2}x_{3}}, \\ C_{\Lambda}\left(\frac{1}{3}\right) &= \frac{x_{1}x_{2} + x_{1} + x_{3} + x_{2}x_{3}}{x_{1}x_{2}}, \\ C_{\Lambda}\left(3_{3}\right)^{2} &= \frac{x_{1}x_{2}^{2} + x_{1}x_{2} + x_{1} + x_{2}x_{3} + x_{2}^{2}x_{3} + x_{2}x_{3} + x_{3}}{x_{1}x_{2}x_{3}}, \\ C_{\Lambda}\left(3_{3}\right)^{2} &= \frac{x_{1}^{2}x_{2}^{2} + x_{1}^{2}x_{2} + x_{1}^{2} + x_{1}x_{2}x_{3} + x_{2}x_{3} + x_{3}^{2} + x_{1}x_{2}x_{3} + x_{2}x_{3}^{2} + x_{1}x_{2}x_{3} + x_$$

The following statement says that in our example, there is a positive answer to Problem 6.9.

Proposition 9.4. The set

$$\{C_{\Lambda}(Z) \mid Z \in \operatorname{decIrr}^{\mathrm{s.r.}}(\Lambda), E_{\Lambda}(Z) = 0\}$$

generates the Caldero-Chapoton algebra \mathcal{A}_{Λ} as a \mathbb{C} -algebra.

Proof. It is enough to express the Caldero-Chapoton functions of the 6 indecomposable non-E-rigid representations in terms of Caldero-Chapoton functions of E-rigid decorated representations. An easy calculation yields

$$C_{\Lambda}(3) = x_{2} + 1,$$

$$C_{\Lambda}(\frac{2}{3}) = x_{1} + C_{\Lambda}(2),$$

$$C_{\Lambda}(\frac{3}{3}, 2) = C_{\Lambda}\left(\frac{2}{3}\right) + 1$$

$$C_{\Lambda}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = C_{\Lambda}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + 1,$$

$$C_{\Lambda}\left(3, \frac{1}{2}\right) = C_{\Lambda}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + 1,$$

$$C_{\Lambda}\left(3, \frac{1}{2}\right) = C_{\Lambda}\left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}\right) + C_{\Lambda}(1),$$

$$C_{\Lambda}\left(2, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{2}\right) = C_{\Lambda}\left(\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{2}\right) + 1.$$

All summands of the right hand side of the above equations are Caldero-Chapoton functions of *E*-rigid decorated representations, and the 6 Caldero-Chapoton functions of the indecomposable non-*E*-rigid representations are on the left side. (Note that $x_i = C_{\Lambda}(S_i^-)$ and $1 = C_{\Lambda}(0)$, and S_i^- and 0 are both *E*-rigid.) This finishes the proof.

Since Λ is representation-finite, each strongly reduced component contains an *E*-rigid decorated representation. Each vertex of $\Gamma(\operatorname{decIrr}^{\operatorname{s.r.}}(\Lambda))$ has a loop. Let $\Gamma(\operatorname{decIrr}^{\operatorname{s.r.}}(\Lambda))^{\circ}$ be the graph obtained by deleting these loops. We display $\Gamma(\operatorname{decIrr}^{\operatorname{s.r.}}(\Lambda))^{\circ}$ in the following picture. Note that each component cluster is *E*-rigid and contains exactly three irreducible components.



1

 $\frac{1}{2}$

9.4.3. Let Q be the 2-Kronecker quiver

and let $\Lambda = \mathbb{C}\langle\!\langle Q \rangle\!\rangle$. The following picture describes the quiver $\Gamma(\text{decIrr}^{\text{s.r.}}(\Lambda))$. (For indecomposable strongly reduced components of the form $Z_{\mathbf{d},0}$ or Z_{0,\mathbf{e}_i} we just display the vectors \mathbf{d} or $-\mathbf{e}_i$, respectively.)



Thus there is exactly one component cluster $\{Z\}$ of cardinality one, and there are infinitely many component clusters of cardinality two. One can easily check that $E_{\Lambda}(Z, Z) = 0$, hence the loop at Z, but $E_{\Lambda}(Z) \neq 0$. Thus $\{Z\}$ is not E-rigid. The other component clusters are E-rigid. The CC-cluster monomials are

$$C_{\Lambda}({0 \atop -1})^{a}C_{\Lambda}({-1 \atop 0})^{b}, \quad C_{\Lambda}({i+1 \atop i})^{a}C_{\Lambda}({i \atop i-1})^{b}, \quad C_{\Lambda}({i-1 \atop i})^{a}C_{\Lambda}({i \atop i+1})^{b} \quad \text{and} \quad C_{\Lambda}({1 \atop 1})^{a}$$

where $a, b, i \ge 0$.

The set \mathcal{B}_{Λ} of generic Caldero-Chapoton functions is just the set of *CC*-cluster monomials. Recall from [BFZ] that for any acyclic quiver Q we have $\mathcal{A}_Q = \mathcal{A}_Q^{\text{up}}$. In this case, \mathcal{B}_{Λ} is a \mathbb{C} -basis of \mathcal{A}_Q ; see [GLS].

For acyclic quivers Q of wild representation type and $\Lambda = \mathbb{C}\langle\!\langle Q \rangle\!\rangle$, the component graph $\Gamma(\operatorname{decIrr}^{\mathrm{s.r.}}(\Lambda))$ will have vertices without loops. For example, let Q be the 3-Kronecker quiver

and let $\Lambda = \mathbb{C}\langle\langle Q \rangle\rangle$. Let

$$\phi = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 3\\ -3 & 8 \end{pmatrix}$$

be the Coxeter matrix of Λ . For $k \geq 0$ define

$$\mathbf{p}_{2k} := \phi^k \begin{pmatrix} 0\\1 \end{pmatrix},$$
$$\mathbf{p}_{2k+1} := \phi^k \begin{pmatrix} 1\\3 \end{pmatrix},$$
$$\mathbf{q}_{2k} := \phi^{-k} \begin{pmatrix} 1\\0 \end{pmatrix},$$
$$\mathbf{q}_{2k+1} := \phi^{-k} \begin{pmatrix} 3\\1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Set $\mathbf{p}_{-1} := -\mathbf{e}_1$ and $\mathbf{q}_{-1} := -\mathbf{e}_2$. One connected component of the component graph $\Gamma(\operatorname{decIrr}^{s.r.}(\Lambda))$ looks as follows:



These are precisely the *E*-rigid vertices of $\Gamma(\operatorname{decIrr}^{\mathrm{s.r.}}(\Lambda))$.

The set of Schur roots of Q consists of *real* and *imaginary* Schur roots. The above picture shows the real Schur roots (and the vectors $-\mathbf{e}_1$ and $-\mathbf{e}_2$). The set R_{im}^+ of imaginary Schur roots consists of all dimension vectors $\mathbf{d} = (d_1, d_2) \in \mathbb{N}^2$ with $d_2 \neq 0$ such that

$$(3 - \sqrt{5})/2 \le d_1/d_2 \le (3 + \sqrt{5})/2;$$

see [DW, Section 3] and [K, Section 6]. There is no edge between $Z_{\mathbf{d},0}$ and any other vertex of $\Gamma(\operatorname{decIrr}^{\mathrm{s.r.}}(\Lambda))$. In particular, there is no loop at $Z_{\mathbf{d},0}$.

The CC-cluster monomials are

$$C_{\Lambda}(\mathbf{q}_{-1})^{a}C_{\Lambda}(\mathbf{p}_{-1})^{b}, \quad C_{\Lambda}(\mathbf{p}_{i-1})^{a}C_{\Lambda}(\mathbf{p}_{i})^{b},$$
$$C_{\Lambda}(\mathbf{q}_{i})^{a}C_{\Lambda}(\mathbf{q}_{i-1})^{b} \quad \text{and} \quad C_{\Lambda}(\mathbf{d})$$

where $a, b, i \geq 0$ and $\mathbf{d} \in R_{\text{im}}^+$. Again it follows from [GLS] that these *CC*-cluster monomials form a \mathbb{C} -basis of \mathcal{A}_Q . It remains a challenge to compute the exchange relations between all *neighbouring CC*-clusters. For the *E*-rigid *CC*-clusters, the exchange relations are known from the Fomin-Zelevinsky exchange relations arising from mutations of clusters. But for $\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{d}_1, \mathbf{d}_2 \in R_{\text{im}}^+$ and $i \geq -1$ it remains an open problem to express the products

$$C_{\Lambda}(\mathbf{d})C_{\Lambda}(\mathbf{p}_i), \quad C_{\Lambda}(\mathbf{d})C_{\Lambda}(\mathbf{q}_i) \quad and \quad C_{\Lambda}(\mathbf{d}_1)C_{\Lambda}(\mathbf{d}_2)$$

as linear combinations of elements from the basis \mathcal{B}_{Λ} .

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