

# Snake graphs for generalised cluster algebras

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76th Séminaire Lotharingien de Combinatoire

# Contents

- 1 Cluster algebras from surfaces and snake graphs
- 2 Generalised cluster algebras
- 3 Snake graphs for generalised cluster algebras

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Cluster algebras, snake graphs



Generalised cluster algebras



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- In finite type :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \{\text{almost positive roots}\} & \xrightarrow{\text{bijection}} & \{\text{cluster variables}\} \\ -\alpha_i & \mapsto & x_i \\ \sum n_i \alpha_i \in \Phi^+ & \mapsto & \frac{1}{\prod x_i^{n_i}}(\dots) \end{array}$$

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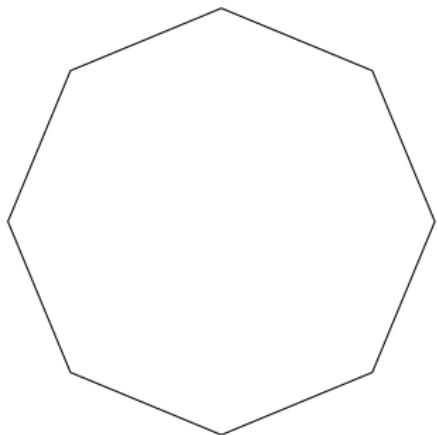
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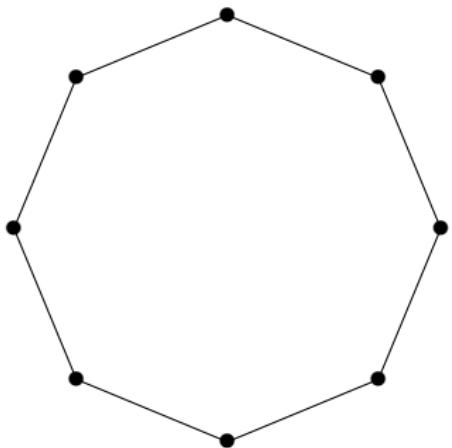
## Theorem (Keller, 2012)

The bijection also exists for cluster algebras of affine/twisted types.

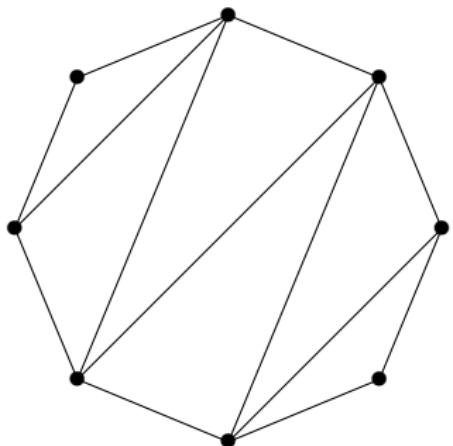
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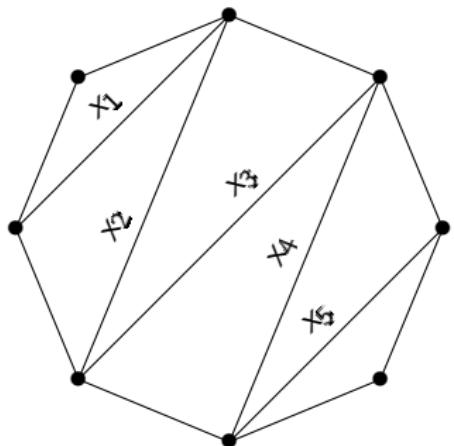


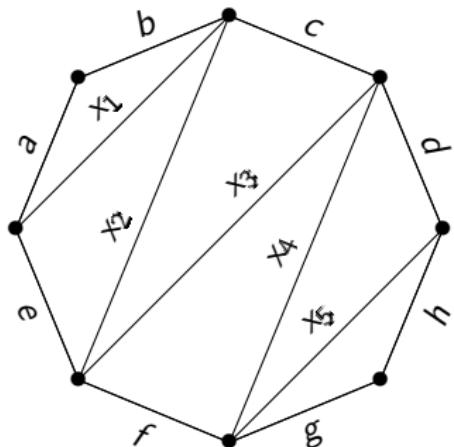
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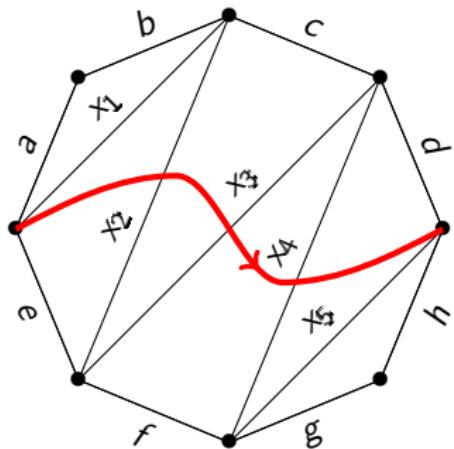


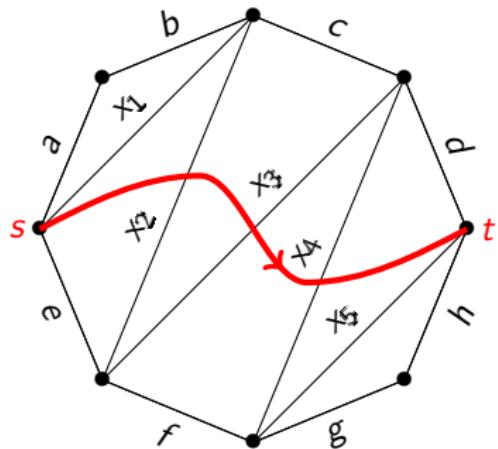
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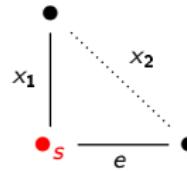
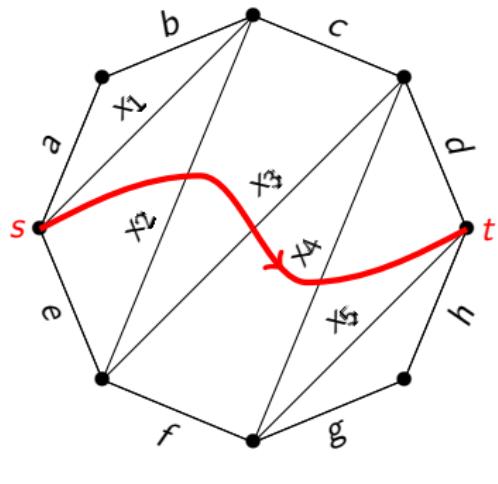


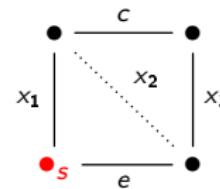
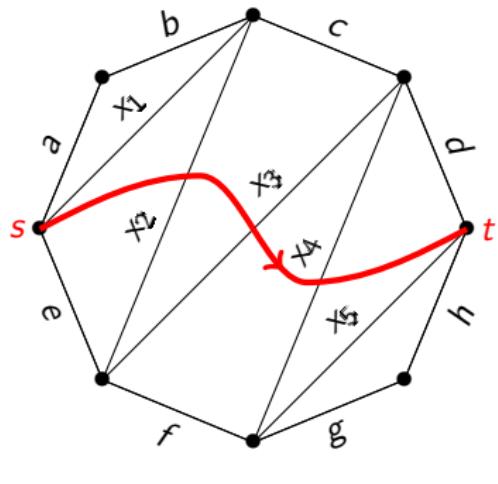
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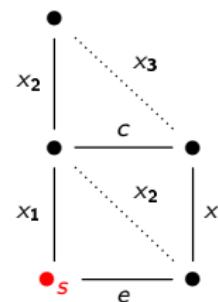
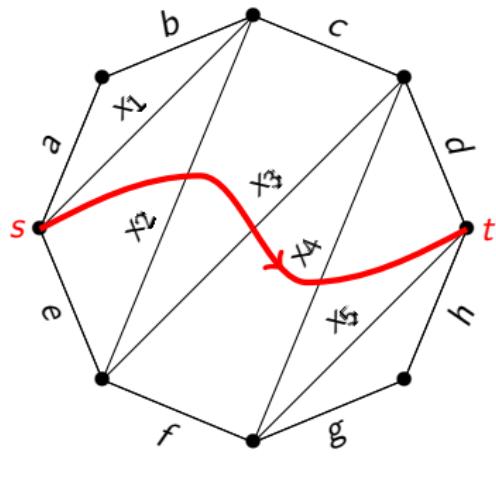
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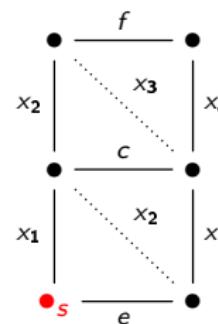
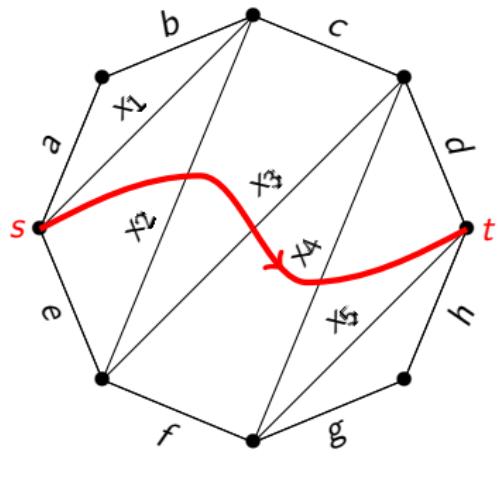
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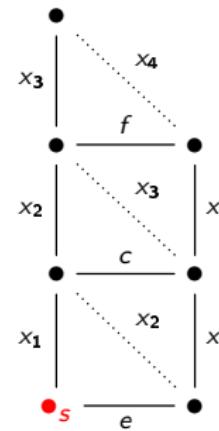
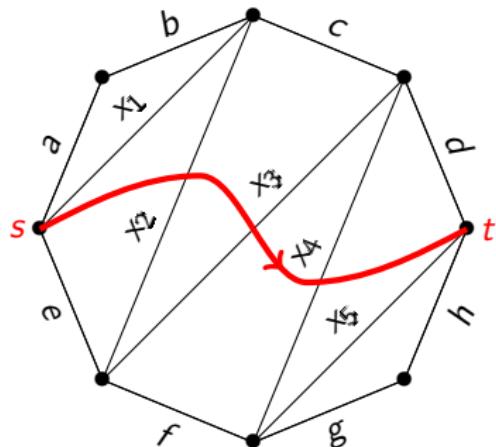
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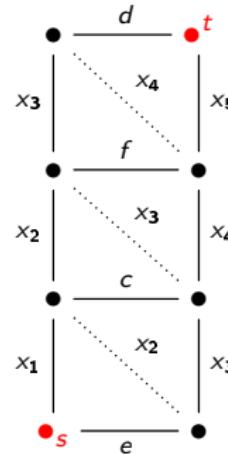
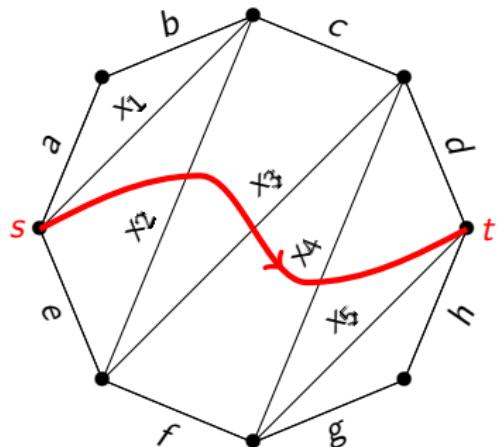
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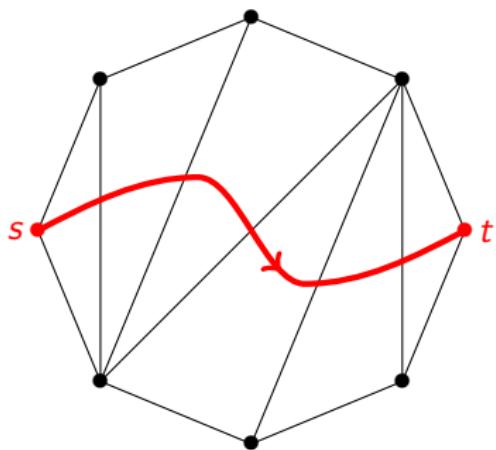
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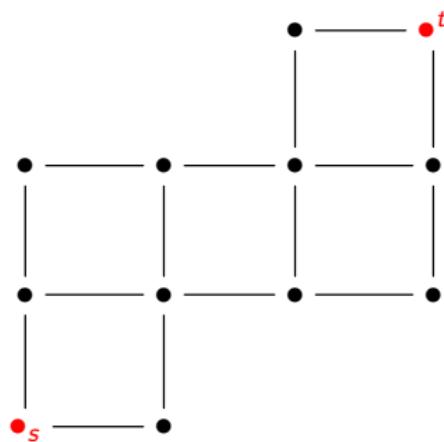
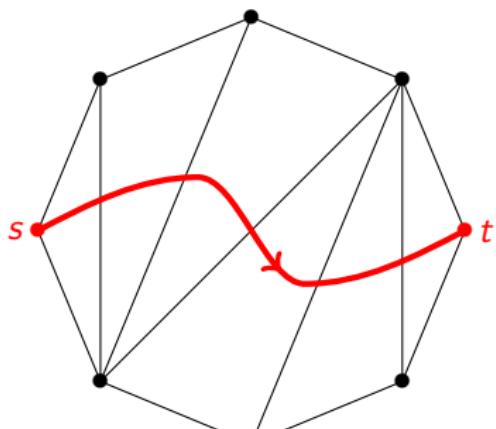
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Type  $A_5$  : another triangulation

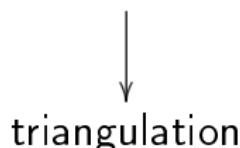
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# Cluster algebras, surfaces, and snake graphs

(S,M) surface with boundary and marked points

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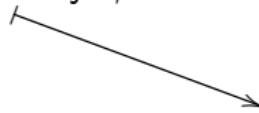
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Laurent expansion of  $x_\gamma$



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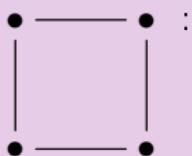
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For a graph  $G = (G_0, G_1)$ , a *perfect matching* of  $G$  is a subgraph  $\Gamma = (G_0, \Gamma_1)$  such that each vertex of  $\Gamma$  is the endpoint of exactly **one** edge.

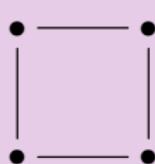
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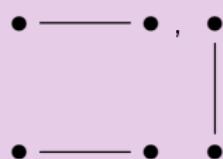


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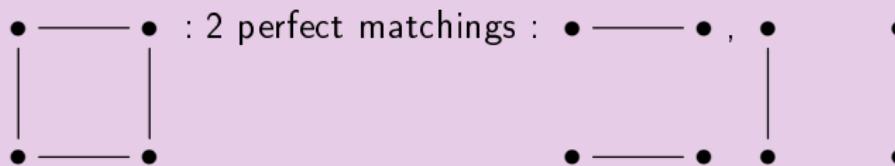


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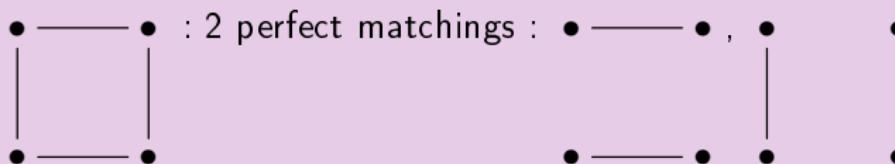
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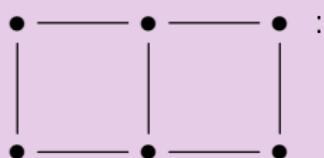
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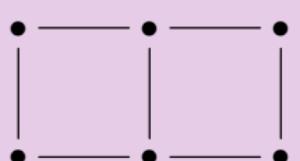
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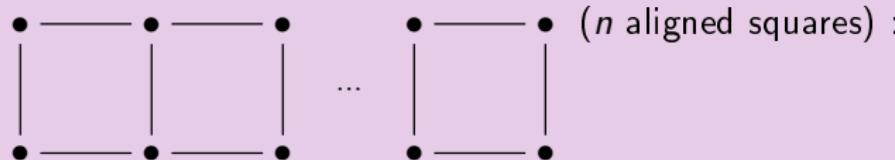


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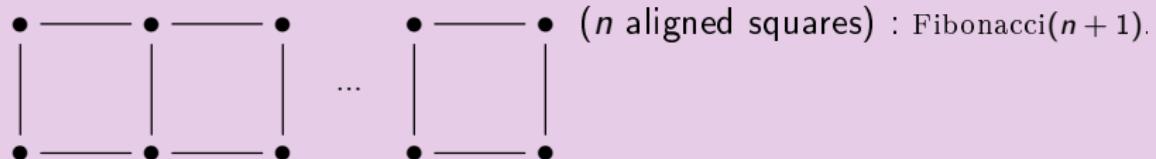
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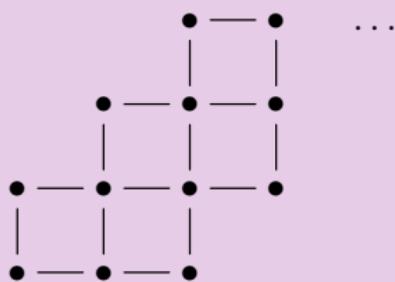
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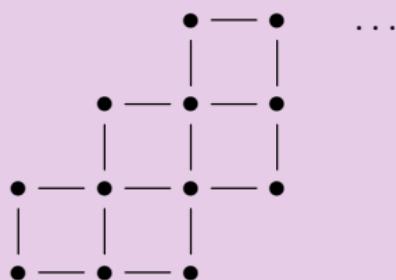
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(a zig-zag of  $n$  squares) :  $n + 1$ .

# Cluster algebras, surfaces, and perfect matchings

Theorem (Musiker-Schiffler-Williams, 2010)

Suppose that the arc  $\gamma$  crosses  $a_i$  times each internal arc  $\tau_i$ , and yields the snake graph  $G$ .

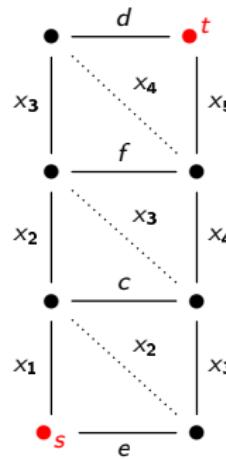
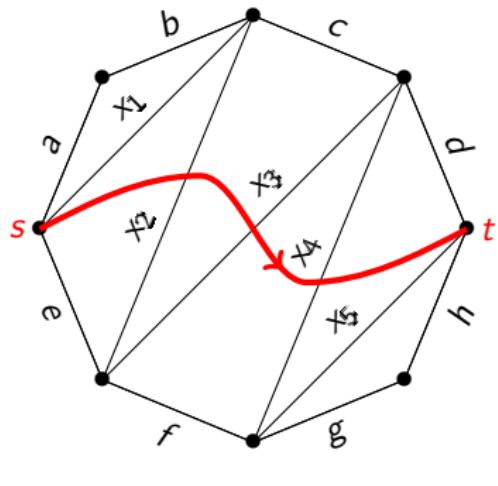
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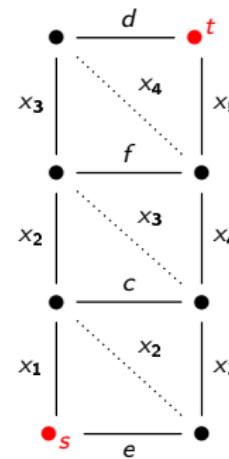
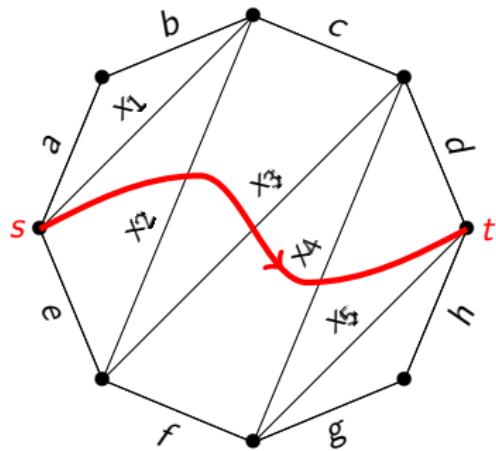
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The cluster variable  $x_\gamma$  can then be written :

$$x_\gamma = \frac{1}{x_1^{a_1} \dots x_n^{a_n}} \sum_{\Gamma \text{ perf. mat. of } G} \left( \prod_{w \in \Gamma_1} \text{label}(w) \right).$$

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$$x_\gamma = \frac{1}{x_2 x_3 x_4} (ecfd + ecx_3 x_5 + edx_2 x_4 + x_1 x_3^2 x_5 + f dx_1 x_3).$$

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$$x_k x'_k = p_k^+ (m_k^+)^n + \lambda_1^{(k)} (m_k^+)^{n-1} m_k^- + \cdots + \lambda_{n-1}^{(k)} m_k^+ (m_k^-)^{n-1} + p_k^- (m_k^-)^n$$

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The *generalised cluster algebra* of *initial seed*  $(\mathbf{x}, B)$  is the subring of  $\mathbb{Q}(\mathbf{x}, (p_k^\pm), (\lambda_i^{(k)}))$  generated by all the cluster variables obtained through every possible sequence of mutations.

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Generalised cluster algebras were initially used by Chekhov and Shapiro to study triangulations of Riemann surfaces with orbifold points, giving us a motivation to find generalised snake graphs !

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Example : type  $C_3$ Initial seed :  $\Pi_0 := (\mathbf{x}^0, B)$ , with

$$\mathbf{x}^0 = (x_1, x_2, x_3), \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

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$$\begin{aligned} x_1 x'_1 &= p_{10} + p_{11} x_2, \\ x_2 x'_2 &= p_{20} x_1 + p_{21} x_3, \end{aligned}$$

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Snake graph tiles :

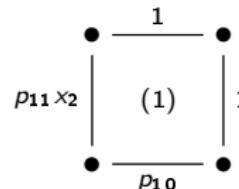
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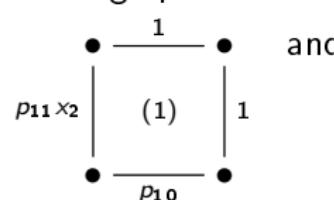
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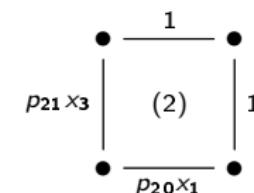
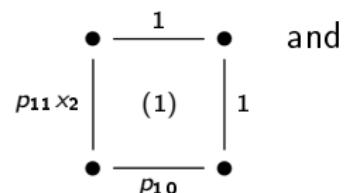
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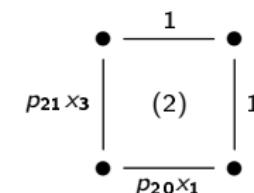
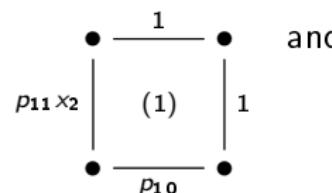
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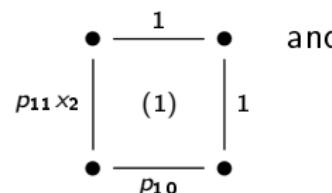
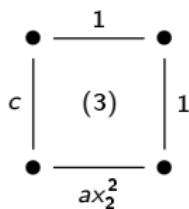
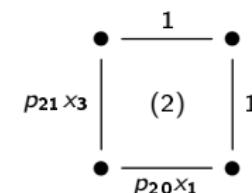
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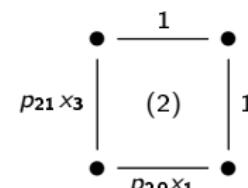
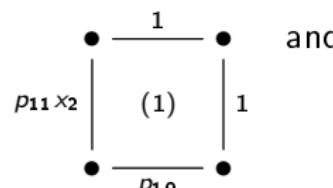
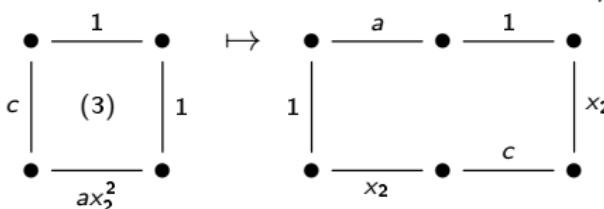
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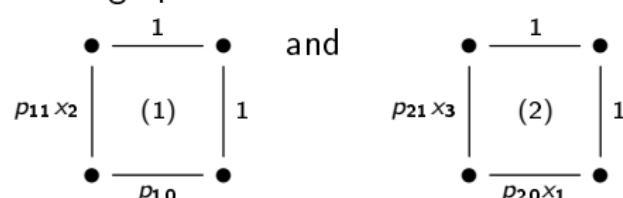
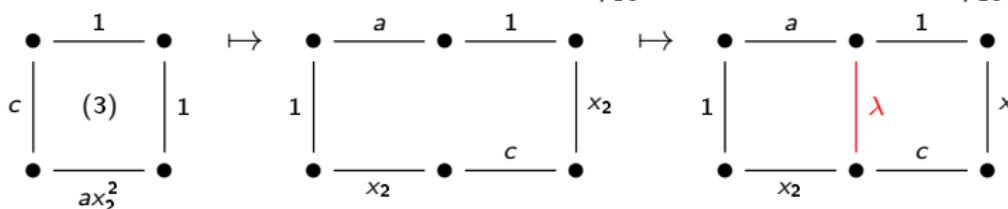
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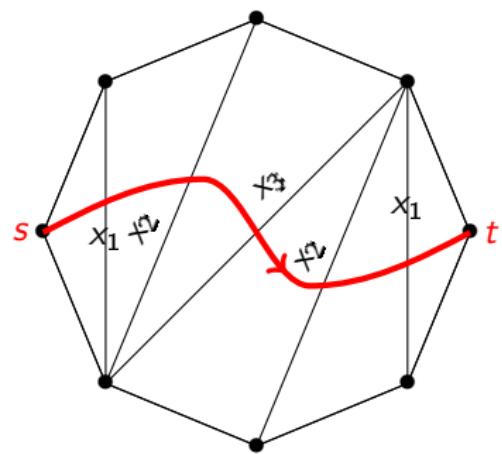
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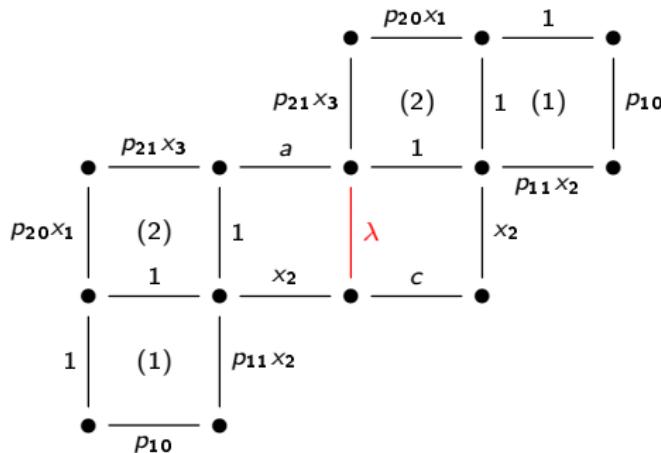
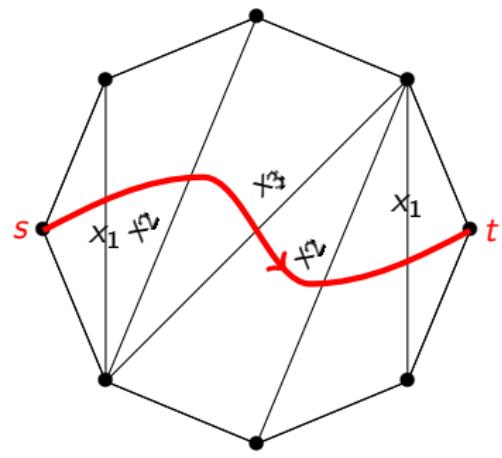
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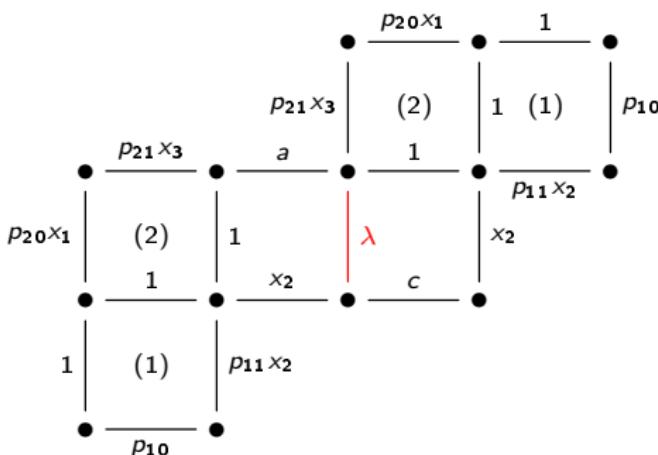
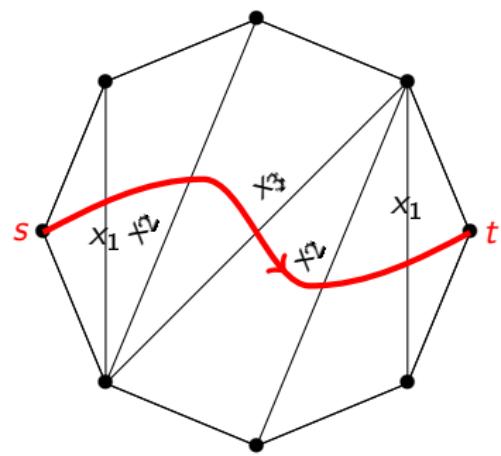
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Corresponding snake graph :



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$$x_\gamma = \frac{1}{x_1^2 x_2^2 x_3} \left( \begin{array}{l} ap_{10}^2 p_{20}^2 x_1^2 x_2^2 + cp_{11}^2 p_{21}^2 x_2^2 x_3^2 + 2cp_{10}p_{11}p_{21}^2 x_2 x_3^2 \\ + 2cp_{10}p_{11}p_{20}p_{21}x_1 x_2 x_3 + cp_{10}^2 p_{21}^2 x_3^2 + 2cp_{10}^2 p_{20}p_{21}x_1 x_3 \\ + cp_{10}^2 p_{20}^2 x_1^2 + \lambda p_{10}^2 p_{20}^2 x_1^2 x_2 + \lambda p_{10}^2 p_{20}p_{21}x_1 x_2 x_3 \\ + \lambda p_{10}p_{11}p_{20}p_{21}x_1 x_2^2 x_3 \end{array} \right).$$

Type  $C_n$ 

## Theorem (G., Musiker)

Let  $\mathcal{A}_n$  be the generalised cluster algebra of type  $C_n$ , with initial cluster  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  and initial exchange polynomials

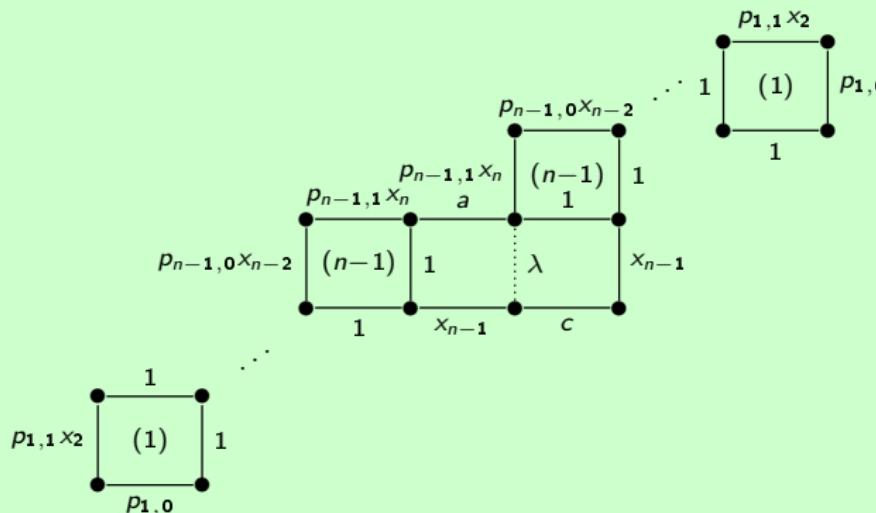
$$\theta_i^0(u, v) = p_{i,0}u + p_{i,1}v \quad (i \in \llbracket 1, n-1 \rrbracket) \quad \text{and} \quad \theta_n^0(u, v) = au^2 + \lambda uv + cv^2,$$

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By recursion : generalised exchange relation after mutating  $k$  times in direction  $n, \dots, 1$  :

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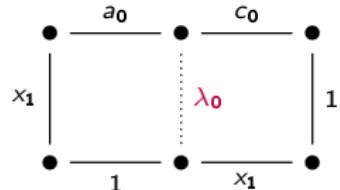
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$$\chi_\varepsilon(W_\varepsilon(n, 1)) \chi_\varepsilon(W_\varepsilon(n, \varepsilon^2)) = \chi_\varepsilon \left( W_\varepsilon(n-1, \varepsilon^2) \right)^2 + \text{Fr}^*(V(\varpi)) \chi_\varepsilon(W_\varepsilon(n-1, \varepsilon^2)) + 1.$$

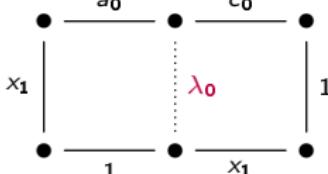
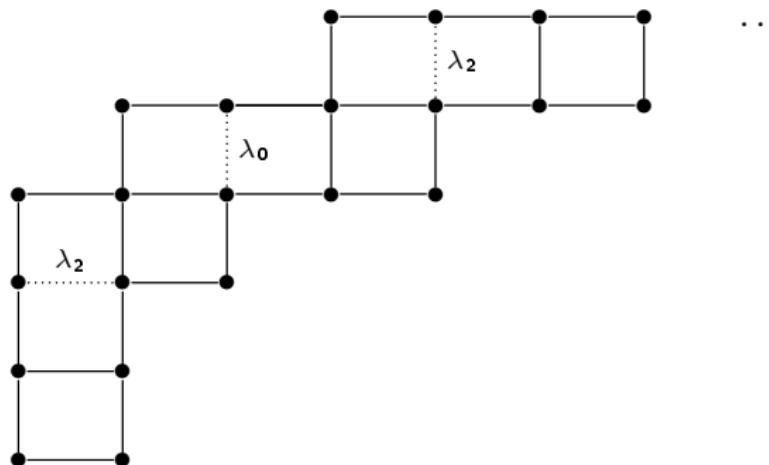
Type  $C_n^{(1)}$ 

Snake graph pattern : periodically alternating the tile

 $T_0 =$  and the longest snake graph from type  $C_n$ .

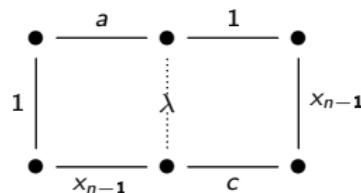
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Type  $CD_n$ 

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Snake graph pattern : periodically alternating the tile

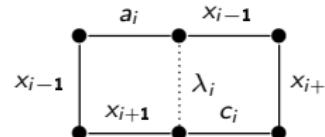
$$T_n = \begin{array}{c} \bullet \xrightarrow{a} \bullet \xrightarrow{1} \bullet \\ | \qquad \downarrow \lambda \qquad | \\ \bullet \xrightarrow{x_{n-1}} \bullet \xrightarrow{c} \bullet \end{array} \quad \text{and the longest type } D_n \text{ snake graph.}$$

For  $CD_4$  :

$$\begin{matrix} & & 1 & 2 & \dots \\ & & / & & \\ & & / & r & \\ & & 2 & 1 & \\ & & (\lambda & ) & 3 \\ & & 2 & 3 & \\ & & / & & \\ & & 1 & & \\ & & 1 & / & r \\ & & 3 & 2 & \\ & & (\lambda) & & \end{matrix}$$

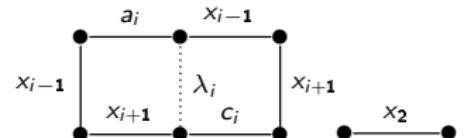
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Tiles : for  $i \in \{0, 1, 2\} \text{ mod } 3$ ,  $T_i =$

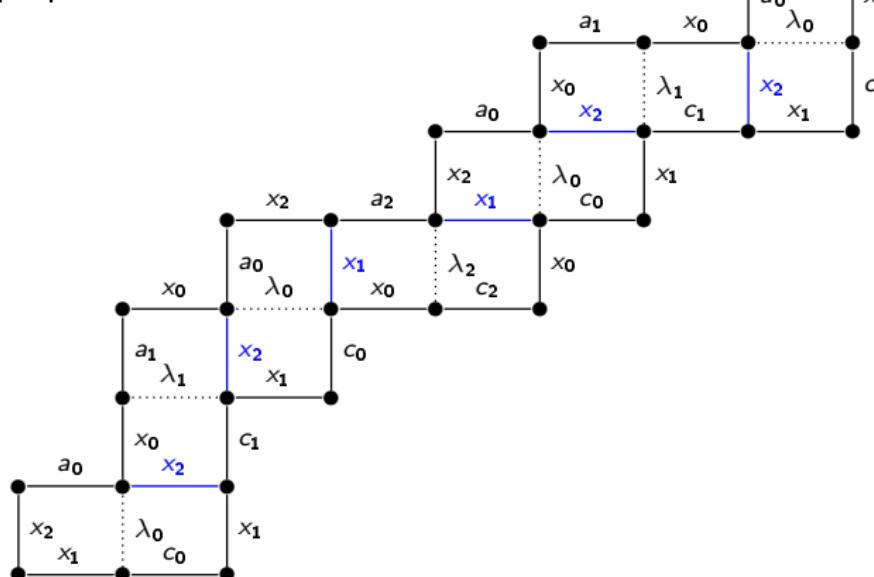


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- Type  $BC_n$  is a folding of type  $CD_n$ , and thus has the same snake graph pattern.
- So far : found patterns for generalised cluster algebras from surfaces with generalised exchange relations of degree  $\leq 2$ .
- What about degree 3 ? degree 4 ? It gets a lot harder, because the number of terms in the Laurent expansion formulas grow exponentially !

: -)

Thank you for your attention !