# A generalization of perfectly clustering words via brick band modules of certain gentle algebras 

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## LACIM <br> Laboratoire d'algèbre, de combinatoire et d'informatique mathématique

## UQÀM

This is a joint work with Mélodie Lapointe, Yann Palu, Pierre-Guy Plamondon, Christophe Reutenauer and Hugh Thomas.

## Underlying story

Word combinatorics
Representation theory of algebras

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| Word combinatorics | Representation theory of algebras |
| :---: | :---: |
| Words | Modules over algebras |

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| UI | UI |
| Perfectly clustering words | Brick band modules over certain algebras |

## Underlying story



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The main point of this talk is to present this link, and how representation theoretic tools can be used for proving a conjecture over perflectly clustering words.

## Plan

1 Word universe

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a Word universe

- Perfectly clustering words
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- Perfectly clustering words
- Gessel-Reutenauer transformations

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- Dyck path model and link with PCWs

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■ Black box : quiver representations

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- Dyck path model and link with PCWs
- Black box : quiver representations
- Using words and modules link


## Perfectly clustering words

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- For any $w \in \Sigma^{*}$, we denote by $|w|$ the number of letters which compose $w$ and $|w|_{\mathrm{i}}$ the number of occurences of the letter $\mathbf{i}$ in $w$. For instance, if $w=\mathbf{1 3 2 1}$, then $|w|=4,|w|_{\mathbf{1}}=2,|w|_{\mathbf{2}}=1$ and $|w|_{\mathbf{3}}=1$.


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- A word $w \in \Sigma^{*}$ is called primitive if it is not the power of another one. For example, $w=1211$ is primitive, but not $u=1212$.
- Let $\leqslant$ be the lexicographical order (extended periodically to infinite words) on primitive words of $\Sigma^{*}$. For instance, $1211212111<12112$.

| 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | $\cdots$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | $\cdots$ |

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| 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 |
| 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 |
| 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 |
| 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 2 |
| 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 |
| 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 |
| 4 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 |
| 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 |
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| 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 |
| 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 |
| 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 |
| 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 2 |
| 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 |
| 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 |
| 4 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 |
| 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 |
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- Then we read the word obtained by taking the last column of this tableau. We get is the Burrows-Wheeler transform of $w: \mathrm{BW}(w)=444332221111$


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(i) The Burrows-Wheeler transform of $w$ only depends on the conjugacy class of $w$; therefore if $w$ is perfectly clustering, so is any conjugate of $w$.
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(i) The Burrows-Wheeler transform of $w$ only depends on the conjugacy class of $w$; therefore if $w$ is perfectly clustering, so is any conjugate of $w$.
(ii) Perfectly clustering words over an alphabet of two letters correspond exactly to Christoffel words.
(iii) The Burrows-Wheeler transform gives an injective map from conjugacy classes of primitive words to words.

## Gessel-Reutenauer transformations

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The Gessel-Reutenauer['93,'12] tranformation gives a bijective map from multisets of conjugacy classes of primitive words over $\Sigma^{*}$ to words over $\Sigma^{*}$. Let us explain how it works with an example. Let us take $s=\{(\mathbf{5 3 5 1 2 1 2 1}),(5343)\}$ :

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- We consider all the conjugates of each word in the multiset and we order them with respect to the (extended version of the) lexicographical order.

| 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 5 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 2 |
| 1 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 1 |
| 2 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
|  |  |  |  | 3 | 4 | 3 | 5 |
| 3 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 5 |
|  |  |  |  | 3 | 5 | 3 | 4 |
|  |  |  |  | 4 | 3 | 5 | 3 |
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| 1 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 1 |
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|  |  |  |  | 3 | 4 | 3 | 5 |
| 3 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 5 |
|  |  |  |  | 3 | 5 | 3 | 4 |
|  |  |  |  | 4 | 3 | 5 | 3 |
| 5 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 5 | 3 |
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- We get $\Psi(s)=522115543331=w$.


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We define $\Phi(w)=\Psi^{-1}(w)=s$ as the Gessel-Reutenauer transformation of $w$. (which could be calculed explicitely - we will explain it later, if time allows).

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## Theorem 3

There exists at most one perfectly clustering word (up to conjugation) with a given number of occurences of each letter in it.

## Dyck path model

## Dyck path model and link with PCWs

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Now we will describe a morphism $\varphi$ from $g$-vector to multiset of conjugacy classes of words.

- Given a $g$ vector we can associate to it a Dyck path in a natural way.


Dyck path associated to $g=(3,-2,3,-1,-3)$.

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- Then we label the Dyck path thanks to the $g$-vector by induction: we label the $\left|g_{1}\right|$ first steps of the Dyck path by $\mathbf{1}$, then the following $\left|g_{2}\right|$ steps by 2 and so on.


Labelling of the Dyck path associated to $g=(3, \square 2,3,-1,-3)$.

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Now we will describe a morphism $\varphi$ from $g$-vector to multiset of conjugacy classes of words.

- We draw curves over the Dyck path as follows : we draw a horizontal line between two opposites steps of the Dyck path, and we draw rainbow arcs between steps with the same label out side of the surface delimited by the Dyck path and the dashed line.


Curves over the Dyck path associated to $g=(3,-2,3,-1,-3)$.

## Dyck path model



Curves over the Dyck path associated to $g=(3,-2,3,-1,-3)$.

- This is what we can call Dyck path model of $g$. To get a multiset of conjugacy classes of words from this model, we proceed as follows :


## Dyck path model



We start at 4.

- This is what we can call Dyck path model of $g$. To get a multiset of conjugacy classes of words from this model, we proceed as follows :

1) We start from an extremity of one of the curves over the Dyck path and we keep in mind the label of this extremity (if there are close curves, we can start from any step of the Dyck path)

## Dyck path model



The recording of our travel : $\mathbf{4 3}$

- This is what we can call Dyck path model of $g$. To get a multiset of conjugacy classes of words from this model, we proceed as follows :

2) Then we follow the curve until we come back to where we start. We keep track of the labels of the Dyck path edge each time we go out of the surface delimited by the Dyck path and the dashed line (the label of the other extremity of the curve is included).

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We ended the travel of this curve, we get (4353).

- This is what we can call Dyck path model of $g$. To get a multiset of conjugacy classes of words from this model, we proceed as follows :

3) Once we end the travel of a curve, we record the conjugacy class of the word we obtained (if we followed a closed curve, we record two copies of it), and we start the traveling of another curve. We continue until we have done this for all the curves.

## Dyck path model and link with PCWs

## Dyck path model



- We give the result as a multiset of all conjugacy classes we got following the process.

$$
\varphi((3,-2,3,-1,-3))=\{(\mathbf{4 3 5 3}),(\mathbf{3 5 1 2 1 2 1 5})\}
$$

Dyck path model and link with PCWs
Correspondance between PCWs and $g$-vectors

## Correspondance between PCWs and $g$-vectors

## Proposition 5 [DLPPRT '22+]

Let $g=\left(g_{1}, \ldots, g_{n}\right)$ be a $g$-vector with $g_{1}>0$ and $g_{i} \leqslant 0$ for $i>1$. Then

$$
f(\varphi(g))=\Phi\left(\mathbf{n}^{\left|g_{n}\right|} \ldots \mathbf{3}^{\left|g_{3}\right|} \mathbf{2}^{\left|g_{2}\right|}\right)
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where $f$ is the erasing morphism of $\mathbf{1}$. Moreover each conjugacy class appearing is a conjugacy class of a perfectly clustering word.

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For $g=(5,-1,-3,-1)$, we get $\varphi(g)=\{(\mathbf{3 1 4 1}),(\mathbf{1 4 1 2 1 4})\}$ and so $f(\varphi(g))=\{(\mathbf{3 4}),(\mathbf{4 2 4})\}$

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| 2 | 4 | 4 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | 3 | 4 |
| 4 | 2 | 4 |
|  | 4 | 3 |
| 4 | 4 | 2 |

We can check that $\Psi(\{(\mathbf{3 4}),(424)\})=44432$.

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Q=\mathbf{1} \underset{\beta_{1}}{\stackrel{\alpha_{1}}{\longrightarrow}} \mathbf{2} \stackrel{\alpha_{2}}{\longrightarrow} \cdots \quad \underset{\beta_{2}}{\stackrel{\alpha_{n-1}}{\longrightarrow}} \mathbf{n}
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- For gentle algebras there exist surface models [Simoes-Baur '18, Opper-Plamondon-Schroll ' $18, \ldots$ ] which allow one to associate some closed curves on the surface to modules over these algebras.


Surface model associated to the above algebra.

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Example of a curve of this surface.

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- The name " $g$-vector" comes from the notion of $g$-vectors which already exists in representation theory and which can be calculated for any module over these kind of algebras. Here we are interested to certain kind of modules that are direct sums of the band ones.


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- In the Dyck path model, each curve can be associated to a (one-parameter family of) band modules. And so to $g$-vector, we can associated a module obtained a direct sum of those band modules. Let us denote it by $M_{g}$.


The Dyck path model simplifying the surface model.

Using words and modules link

## Euler form

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## Definition 6

The Euler form is a bilinear form defined on $\mathbb{R}^{n}$ by : for all $x=\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{n}\right)$ and $y=\left(y_{1}, \ldots, y_{n}\right)$,

$$
\langle x \mid y\rangle=\sum_{i=1}^{n} x_{i} y_{i}+2 \sum_{1 \leqslant i<j \leqslant n} x_{i} y_{j}
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- The name "Euler form" comes from representation theory. In particular, if $g, h$ are two $g$-vectors, and if we denote by $M_{g}$ and $M_{h}$ the modules associated to them respectively, we get :

$$
\langle g, h\rangle=\operatorname{dim} \operatorname{Hom}\left(M_{g}, M_{h}\right)-\operatorname{dim} \operatorname{Hom}\left(M_{h}, M_{g}\right)
$$

## Euler form

## Definition 6

The Euler form is a bilinear form defined on $\mathbb{R}^{n}$ by : for all $x=\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{n}\right)$ and $y=\left(y_{1}, \ldots, y_{n}\right)$,

$$
\langle x \mid y\rangle=\sum_{i=1}^{n} x_{i} y_{i}+2 \sum_{1 \leqslant i<j \leqslant n} x_{i} y_{j}
$$

- The name "Euler form" comes from representation theory. In particular, if $g, h$ are two $g$-vectors, and if we denote by $M_{g}$ and $M_{h}$ the modules associated to them respectively, we get :

$$
\langle g, h\rangle=\operatorname{dim} \operatorname{Hom}\left(M_{g}, M_{h}\right)-\operatorname{dim} \operatorname{Hom}\left(M_{h}, M_{g}\right)
$$

- In particular, we can deduce that The Euler form is skew symmetric over $g$-vectors. We can also check it by calculus :

$$
\langle g, h\rangle+\langle h, g\rangle=2\left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} g_{i}\right)\left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} h_{j}\right)=0
$$

## Lapointe conjecture

## Theorem 7 [DLPPRT '22+]

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- Let $g, h$ two $g$-vectors. To avoid that curves associated to $g$ and to $h$ intersect (to avoid the existence of a non-zero morphisms between $M_{g}$ and $M_{h}$ ), we need that $\langle g, h\rangle=0$.


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- The Euler form is skew symmetric over $g$-vectors : it implies its isotropic subspace is of dimension at most $\lceil(n-1) / 2\rceil$.


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it implies its isotropic subspace is of dimension at most $\lceil(n-1) / 2\rceil$.
- A certain familly of $g$-vectors which gives a basis of this space, and there exist at most $\lceil(n-1) / 2\rceil$ of them.


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- The Euler form is skew symmetric over $g$-vectors : it implies its isotropic subspace is of dimension at most $\lceil(n-1) / 2\rceil$.
- A certain familly of $g$-vectors which gives a basis of this space, and there exist at most $\lceil(n-1) / 2\rceil$ of them.
- Hence the number of conjugacy classes of words is bounded by $\lceil(n-1) / 2\rceil$.


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Note that $\Psi=\Phi^{-1}$ coincides with BW for multisets made of an unique conjugacy class.

