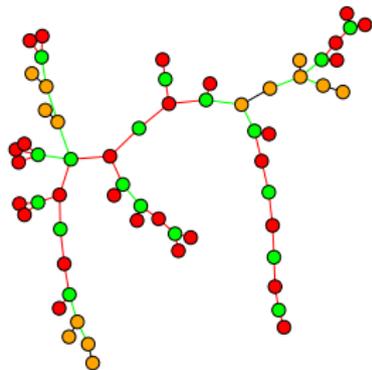


Cluster varieties for tree-shaped quivers and their cohomology

Frédéric Chapoton

CNRS & Université de Strasbourg

Octobre 2016



Cluster algebras and the associated varieties

Cluster algebras are commutative algebras

\implies cluster varieties (their spectrum) are algebraic varieties

Question: can we compute their cohomology rings ?

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Why is this interesting ?

\rightarrow classical way to study algebraic varieties

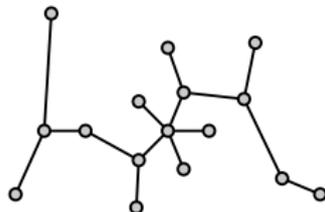
\rightarrow useful (necessary) to understand integration on them

\rightarrow answer is not obvious, and sometimes nice

\rightarrow there are interesting known differential forms

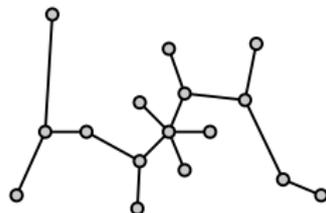
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 \implies restriction to quivers that are **trees**
(general quivers are more complicated)



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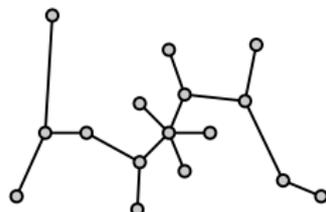
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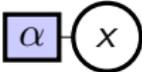
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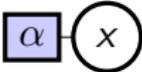
\rightarrow computing number of **points over finite fields** \mathbb{F}_q
can be seen as a first approximation towards determination of
cohomology and is usually much more easy

First example (for babies)

Cluster algebra of type \mathbb{A}_1 :  with one frozen vertex α .
Presentation by the unique relation

$$x x' = 1 + \alpha$$

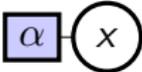
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One can then do **two different things**:

- (1) either let α be a coordinate, solve for α , and get the open sub-variety $xx' \neq 1$ with coordinates x, x' .
- (2) or fix α to a generic invertible value (here $\alpha \neq -1, 0$) and get the variety $x \neq 0$ with coordinate x .

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Note that the fiber at $\alpha = -1$ is singular.

General case of trees

Let us generalize this simple example.

For any tree, there is a well-defined cluster type
(because all orientations of a tree are equivalent by mutation)
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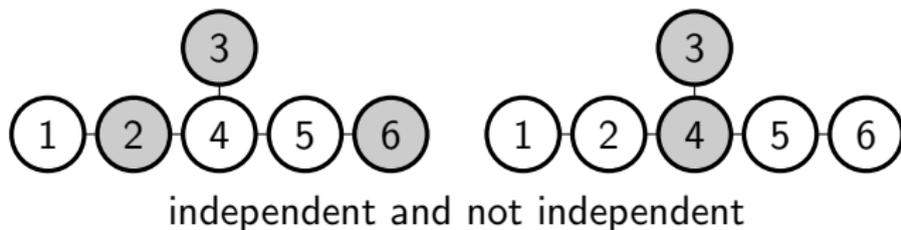
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For any tree T , the aim is to define several varieties
that are a kind of **compound** between cluster varieties and fibers

For that, need first to introduce some combinatorics on trees

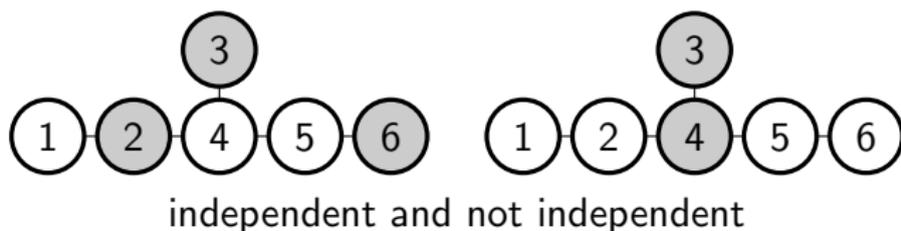
Independent sets in graphs

By definition, an **independent set** in a graph G is a subset S of the set of vertices of G such that every edge contains at most one element of S



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A **maximum independent set** is an independent set of maximal cardinality among all independent sets.
(not the same as being maximal for inclusion)

Independent sets in graphs

Independent sets are a very classical notion in graph theory.

→ NP-complete problem for general graphs (Richard Karp, 1972)

→ polynomial algorithm for bipartite graphs (Jack Edmonds, 1961).

→ a very nice description for trees (Jennifer Zito 1991 ; Michel Bauer and Stéphane Coulomb 2004)

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One has to distinguish three kinds of vertices:

- vertices belonging **to all** maximal independent sets: RED ●

- vertices belonging **to some (not all)** max. independent sets:
ORANGE ●

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Chosen colors are “traffic light colors”

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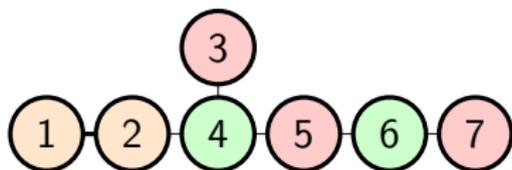
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Nota Bene: this green has nothing to do with *green sequences*

Canonical coloring

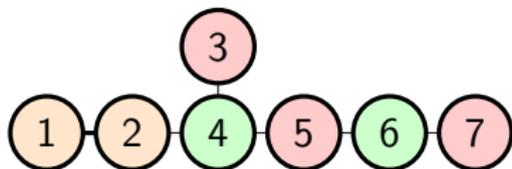
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Here is one example of this coloring:



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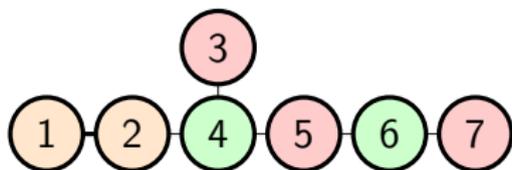
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This coloring can be described by local “Feynman” rules:

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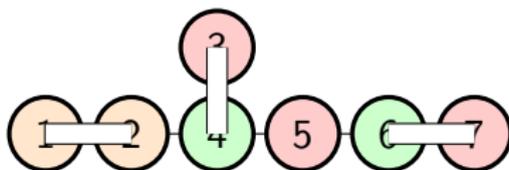
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It turns out that this coloring is also related to **matchings**.

Coloring and matchings

A matching is a set of edges with no common vertices.

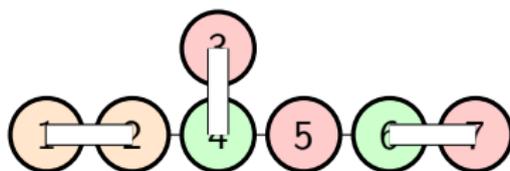
A **maximum matching** is a matching of maximum cardinality among all matchings.



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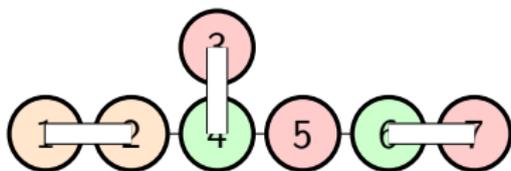
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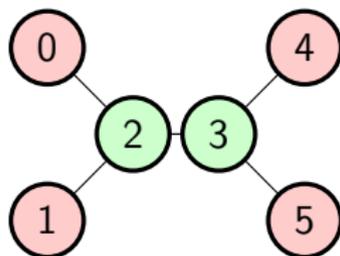
Theorem (Zito ; Bauer-Coulomb)

This coloring is the same as:

- *orange: vertices always in the same domino in all max. matchings*
- *green: vertices always covered by a domino in any max. matching*
- *red: vertices not covered by a domino in some max. matching*

Red-green components

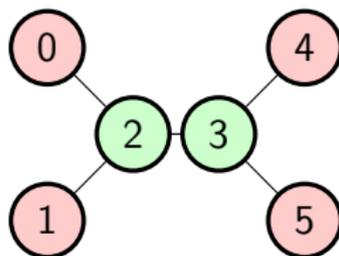
One can then use this coloring to define **red-green components**: keep only the edges linking a red vertex to a green vertex; this defines a forest; take its connected components



An example with two red-green components $\{0, 1, 2\}$ and $\{3, 4, 5\}$

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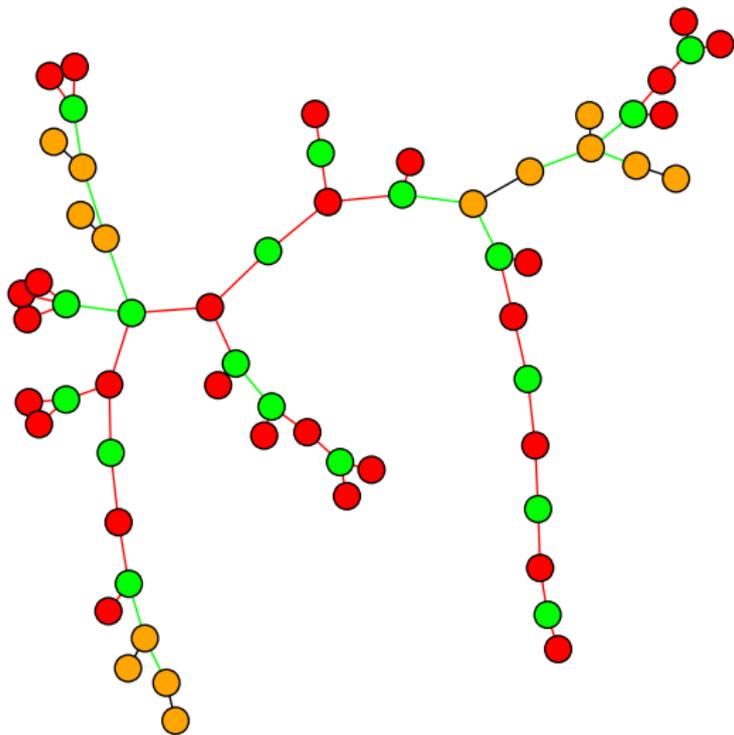


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For a tree T , let us call **dimension** $\dim T = \# \text{ red} \bullet - \# \text{ green} \bullet$.
This is always an integer $\dim(T) \geq 0$.

In the example above, the dimension is $4 - 2 = 2$.

Here is a big random example of tree, with its canonical coloring



So what are the varieties ?

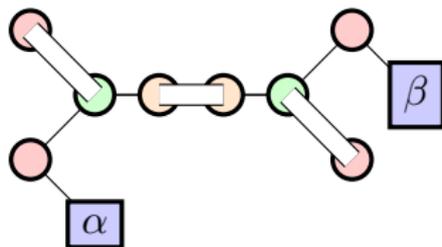
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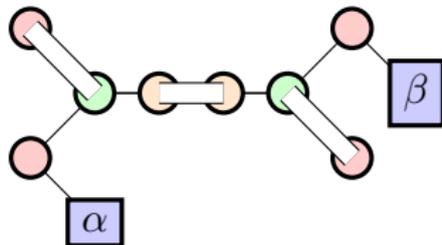
Pick a maximum matching of T and attach one frozen vertex to every vertex not covered by the matching.



(Claim: no loss in generality compared to arbitrary coefficients)

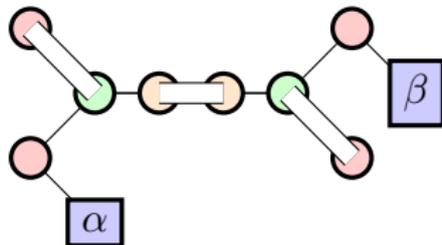
→ every coefficient is attached to a red vertex

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- the number of frozen vertices is $\dim(T)$.

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Then **choose independently** for every red-green component:

- either to let all coefficients vary (but staying invertible)
- or to let all coefficients be fixed at generic (invertible) values

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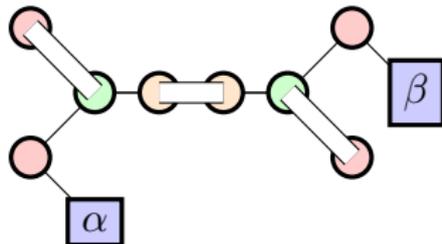
The equations are the cluster exchange relations for the alternating orientation (of the extended tree): $x_i x'_i = 1 + \prod_j x_j$.

One uses here a theorem of Berenstein-Fomin-Zelevinsky (in “Cluster Algebras III”) which gives a presentation by generators and relations of **acyclic** cluster algebras.

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In this example, one can choose to fix β and let α vary. This is really a mixture between the global cluster variety and the fibers of the coefficient morphism.

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Theorem

*This variety does not depend on the matching (up to isomorphism).
All these varieties are smooth.*

Proved using monomial isomorphisms ; smoothness by induction

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Note that the genericity condition can be made very explicit
and is really necessary to ensure smoothness: Counter examples



\mathbb{A}_3 singular when $\alpha = 1$ and \mathbb{A}_1 when $\alpha = -1$
(\mathbb{A}_1 was the baby's example)

Points over finite fields

equations have coefficients in $\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow$ reduction to finite field \mathbb{F}_q .

Theorem

For X any of these varieties, there exists a polynomial P_X such that $\#X(\mathbb{F}_q)$ is given by $P_X(q)$.

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(not true for all algebraic varieties, see elliptic curves)

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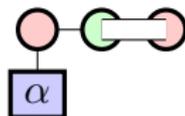
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For \mathbb{A}_3 with α generic, one gets $q^3 - 1$ points.

Free action of a torus

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Consider the variety X_T associated with tree T and a choice for every red-green component of T between “varying” or “generic” coefficients. Let N be the sum of $\dim C$ over all “generic”-type red-green components C .

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There is a free action of $(\mathbb{C}^)^N$ on X_T .*

Moreover the enumerating polynomial P_X can be written as $(q - 1)^N$ times a reciprocal polynomial.

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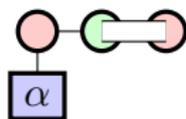
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Reciprocal means $P(1/q) = q^{-d}P(q)$ (palindromic coefficients)

Free action: an example

Let us look at the example of type \mathbb{A}_3 (with $\dim(T) = 1$):



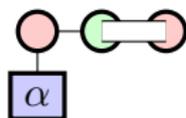
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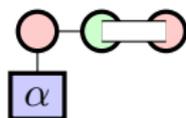
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Free action of \mathbb{C}^* with coordinate λ :

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The enumerating polynomial is $q^3 - 1 = (q - 1)(q^2 - q + 1)$
This variety is not a product, but a non-trivial \mathbb{C}^* -principal bundle.

What about cohomology ?

Tools that can be used to study cohomology :

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can also find coverings by more open sets \rightarrow use spectral sequences.

The Hodge structure sometimes help to prove that the spectral sequence degenerates at step 2.

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$$WP = \sum_{i \rightarrow j} \frac{dx_i dx_j}{x_i x_j}.$$

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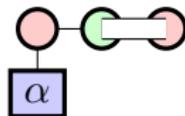
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Not enough

The sub-algebra generated by those forms is **not** the full cohomology ring in general !

There are other classes in cohomology

Example of type \mathbb{A}_3

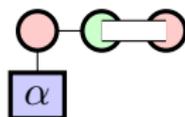


- For α invertible variable, one-form $\frac{d\alpha}{\alpha}$ and 2-form $WP = \frac{dx d\alpha}{x\alpha} + \frac{dx dy}{xy} + \frac{dz dy}{zy}$ do generate all the cohomology

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- For α generic fixed, $WP = \frac{dx dy}{xy} + \frac{dz dy}{zy}$, but cohomology has dimensions

$$H^* = \mathbb{Q}, \quad 0, \quad \mathbb{Q}, \quad \mathbb{Q}^2$$

Mixed Tate-Hodge structures

They form an Abelian category, with a forgetful functor to \mathbb{Q} -vector spaces, and with one simple object $\mathbb{Q}(i)$ for every $i \in \mathbb{Z}$
no morphisms $\mathbb{Q}(i) \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}(j)$ if $i \neq j$.

Some extensions $\mathbb{Q}(i) \rightarrow E \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}(j)$ if $j > i$.

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One can find such structure on the cohomology of all these varieties.

Deligne (and many famous names involved) gives us a mixed Hodge structure on the cohomology of all algebraic varieties.

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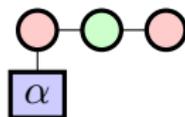
One can find such structure on the cohomology of all these varieties.

Deligne (and many famous names involved) gives us a mixed Hodge structure on the cohomology of all algebraic varieties.

One can prove by induction that it is Hodge-Tate in the varieties under consideration. This means that there are no “more complicated factors”.

Mixed Tate-Hodge structures: one example

Consider the type \mathbb{A}_3 for generic α

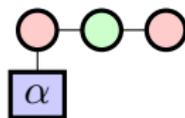


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Knowing this decomposition allows to recover the number of points over finite fields. Essentially every direct summand $\mathbb{Q}(i)$ in the cohomology group H^j gives a summand $(-1)^j q^i$.

(But beware that one must use cohomology with compact support).

The cohomological information above gives back $q^3 - 1$.

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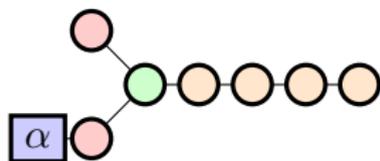
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- Something can also be said about some trees of general shape H , in particular for \mathbb{E}_6 and \mathbb{E}_8
- case \mathbb{E}_7 with generic coefficient not fully understood.

Some details on type \mathbb{D}



One concrete example : \mathbb{D}_n with n odd and generic coefficient α

Theorem

The cohomology is given by

$$\begin{cases} \mathbb{Q}(k) & \text{if } k \equiv 0 \pmod{2} \\ \mathbb{Q}(k-1) & \text{if } k \equiv 1 \pmod{2} \text{ and } k \neq 1, n \\ \mathbb{Q}(n-1) \oplus \mathbb{Q}(n) & \text{if } k = n \end{cases}$$

For $n = 3$, this coincides with the answer for \mathbb{A}_3 , as it should.

Some things being skipped today

- Results on counting points over \mathbb{F}_q (nice formulas)
- Just one tiny example in type \mathbb{E}_n for n even:

$$(q^2 - q + 1) \frac{(q^{n-1} - 1)}{(q - 1)}$$

- cellular decomposition (when coefficients are variables)
- ⇒ formula as a sum for the number of points over \mathbb{F}_q .
- Simple algorithm to compute the coloring.

The mysterious Poincaré duality

and the “curious Lefschetz property of Hausel and Rodriguez-Villegas”

Recall that the enumerating polynomial P_X can be written as $(q - 1)^N$ times a reciprocal polynomial, because there is a free torus action.

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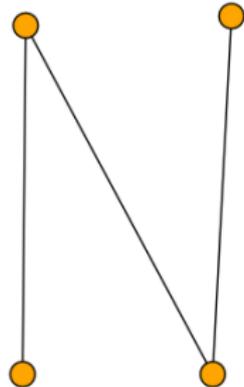
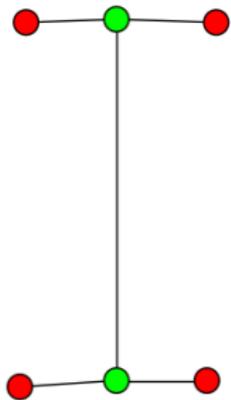
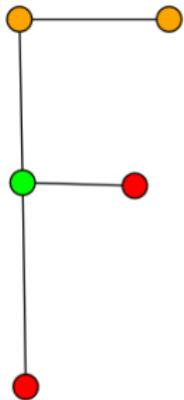
Speyer and Lam (in a more general context) have proved that the palindromy comes from a structural property of the cohomology.

Namely, cup-product by the Weil-Petersson 2-form gives an isomorphism between some subspaces of the cohomology.

This is very similar to the classical statement of algebraic geometry, where the hyperplane class of a projective algebraic variety acts on the cohomology in a way that implies usual Poincaré duality.

Some perspectives (many things to do)

- at least complete the case of type \mathbb{A} and Dynkin diagrams
- go beyond trees to all acyclic quivers and general matrices (see article by David E Speyer and Thomas Lam, arxiv:1604.06843.)
- say something about the integrals ($\zeta(2)$ and $\zeta(3)$ are involved)
- try to organize all the cohomology rings of type \mathbb{A} into some kind of algebraic structure (Hopf algebra, operad ?)
- study the topology of the real points (in relation with $q = -1$)
- topology of the set of non-generic parameters (toric arrangement)
- what about K-theory instead of cohomology ?
- understand the mysterious palindromic/Poincaré/Lefschetz property
- some amusing relations between P_X and Pisot numbers



Grazie