Tropical totally positive cluster varieties

Lara Bossinger

Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Unidad Oaxaca

BIRS-CMO "Bases for cluster algebras" September 26-30 2022

Motivation

In tropical algebraic geometry we have the *Fundamental Theorem* that tells us that three different notions of tropicalization agree.

There is an analogue in Total Positivity stating how two different notions of the *positive part of the tropicalization* agree.

For cluster algebras or cluster varieties we have another notion of (positive) tropicalization: *Fock–Goncharov tropicalization* which does not appear in the Fundamental Theorems.

Question: How is the Fock–Goncharov tropicalization related to the tropicalizations considered in the fundamental theorem?

Tropicalization of an ideal

Given $f \in \mathbb{C}[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$ of the form $f = \sum_{\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^n} c_{\alpha} x^{\alpha}$ and $w \in \mathbb{R}^n$ we define its *initial form with respect to w*

$$\mathsf{in}_{w}(f) = \sum_{\substack{eta: \langleeta, w
angle \geq \langle lpha, w
angle \ orall lpha, eta_{lpha}
eq 0}} c_eta \mathsf{x}^eta$$

For an ideal $I \subset \mathbb{C}[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$ we define its *initial ideal with respect to w* as in $_w(I) = (in_w(f) : f \in I)$. By the fundamental theorem the *tropicalization* of I is

$$\mathsf{Trop}(I) = \overline{\{w \in \mathbb{R}^n : \mathrm{in}_w(I) \not\ni \mathsf{monomials}\}}$$

Trop(*I*) $\subset \mathbb{R}^n$ is a closed subfan of the *Gröbner fan of I*, so $v, w \in \mathbb{R}^n$ lie in the relative interior of the same cone if

$$\operatorname{in}_{v}(I) = \operatorname{in}_{w}(I)$$

Example

Let $J = \langle x_1^2 x_2^2 - x_1^4 + x_2 \rangle \subset \mathbb{C}[x_1, x_2]$. The Gröbner fan is



The tropicalization of J consists of the three rays.

The totally positive part

An ideal $I \subset \mathbb{R}[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$ is called *totally positive* if it does not contain any non-zero element of $\mathbb{R}_{>0}[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$. We define the *totally positive part of the tropicalization of I* as

 $\mathsf{Trop}^+(I) := \{ w \in \mathsf{Trop}(I) : \mathsf{in}_w(I) \mathsf{ totally positive} \}$

Trop $^+(I) \subset$ Trop(I) is a closed subfan.

Let $A(\Gamma)$ be a finitely generated cluster algebra and $\mathcal{B} \subset A(\Gamma)$ a set of cluster variables that are algebra generators. Then the kernel of

$$\pi_{\mathcal{B}}: \mathbb{C}[x_1, \ldots, x_{|\mathcal{B}|}] \to A(\Gamma)$$

is a prime ideal $I_{\mathcal{B}} \subset \mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_{|\mathcal{B}|}]$ and $A(\Gamma) \cong \mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_{|\mathcal{B}|}]/I_{\mathcal{B}}$ [Fomin–Williams–Zelevinsky].

Question: What does $\text{Trop}^+(I_{\mathcal{B}})$ know about the cluster structure?

Fundamental Theorem of Totally Positive Tropical Geometry

Consider $\mathcal{C} = \bigcup_{n \geq 1} \mathbb{C}((t^{1/n}))$ the field of Puiseux series with valuation

 $\mathsf{val}: \mathcal{C} \setminus \{0\} \to \mathbb{Q}, \quad \mathsf{val}(x(t)) = \min\{u: a_u t^u \text{ term in } x(t)\}.$

Let $\mathcal{R}^+ = \{x(t) \in \mathcal{C} : \operatorname{val}(x(t)) = u \text{ then the coefficient } a_u \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}\}.$

Theorem 1 (Speyer–Williams)

Let $I \subset C[x_1, ..., x_n]$ be an ideal. Then the following sets in \mathbb{R}^n coincide: The positive part of the tropicalization of I

 $\mathsf{Trop}^+(I) = \{ w \in \mathsf{Trop}(I) : in_w(I) \text{ totally positive} \}$

2 The closure of the pointwise valuation of $V(I) \cap (\mathcal{R}^+)^n$:

 $\mathsf{val}(X) = \left\{ (\mathsf{val}(x_1), \dots, \mathsf{val}(x_n)) : (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in V(I) \cap (\mathcal{R}^+)^n \right\}.$

Notation for cluster varieties

Given fixed data $\Gamma = (N \supset N^{\circ}, M \subset M^{\circ}, \{, \} : N \times N \to \mathbb{Q})$ and its Langlands dual $\Gamma^{\vee} = (N^{\circ} \supset dN, M^{\circ} \subset d^{-1}M, d^{-1}\{, \} : N^{\circ} \times N^{\circ} \to \mathbb{Q})$ we have cluster varieties

$$\mathcal{A}_{\Gamma} = \bigcup_{s_0 \sim s} T_{N_s^{\circ}} \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad \mathcal{X}_{\Gamma^{\vee}} = \bigcup_{s \sim s_0} T_{M_s^{\circ}}$$
$$\mathcal{X}_{\Gamma} = \bigcup_{s_0 \sim s} T_{M_s} \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad \mathcal{A}_{\Gamma^{\vee}} = \bigcup_{s \sim s_0} T_{N_s}$$

where s_0 is an initial seed, s a seed obtained from s_0 by mutations and $T_{N^\circ} \cong (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$ is a seed torus.

 $A(\Gamma)$ is a cluster algebra of rank *n* with *m* frozen directions whose cluster variables $A_{i:s}$ are the local coordinates of \mathcal{A}_{Γ} :

$$T_{N^\circ_s} = \mathsf{N}^\circ_s \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{C}^* = \operatorname{Spec}(\mathbb{C}[\mathsf{M}^\circ_s]) = \operatorname{Spec}(\mathbb{C}[\mathsf{A}^{\pm 1}_{i;s}, \dots, \mathsf{A}^{\pm 1}_{n+m;s}])$$

 $X_{i;s}$ are the local coordinates of $T_{M_s} \subset \mathcal{X}_{\Gamma}$.

Fock-Goncharov tropicalization

The transition functions gluing $T_{N_s^{\circ}}$ to $T_{N_{s'}^{\circ}}$ are *substraction free* rational maps $\mu_{k;\mathcal{A}}: T_{N_s^{\circ}}T_{N_{c'}^{\circ}}$ given by

$$(t_1,\ldots,t_n)\mapsto \left(t_1,\ldots,\frac{1}{t_k}\left(\prod_{i\in I}t_i^{[b_{ik}]_+}+\prod_{i\in I}t_i^{[-b_{ik}]_+}\right),\ldots,t_n\right)$$

 $\Rightarrow \text{ well-defined over } \underbrace{semifields}_{T_N^\circ} \text{ such as } \mathbb{Z}^T := (\mathbb{Z}, +, \max) \text{ (or } \mathbb{Q}^T, \mathbb{R}^T)$ $T_{N^\circ}(\mathbb{Z}^T) \equiv N^\circ \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Z}^T.$

Then $\mu_{k;\mathcal{A}}^{T}: T_{N_{s}^{\circ}}(\mathbb{Z}^{T}) \to T_{N_{s'}^{\circ}}(\mathbb{Z}^{T})$ is a bijection given by $(a_{1}, \ldots, a_{n}) \mapsto \left(a_{1}, \ldots, -a_{k} + \max\left(\sum_{i \in I} [b_{ik}]_{+}a_{i}, \sum_{i \in I} [-b_{ik}]_{+}a_{i}\right), \ldots, a_{n}\right)$

The Fock–Goncharov tropicalization of \mathcal{A}_{Γ} is

$$\mathcal{A}_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}^{T}) = \bigcup_{s_{0} \sim s} T_{N_{s}^{\circ}}(\mathbb{Z}^{T}) \stackrel{s}{=} N_{s}^{\circ}$$

Duality and g-vectors

The tropical space $\mathcal{A}_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}^{T})$ has a natural dual $\mathcal{X}_{\Gamma^{\vee}}(\mathbb{Z}^{T}) \stackrel{s}{=} M_{s}^{\circ}$ and a duality pairing

$$\langle -, - \rangle : \mathcal{A}_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}^{\mathcal{T}}) \times \mathcal{X}_{\Gamma^{\vee}}(\mathbb{Z}^{\mathcal{T}}) \to \mathbb{Z}$$

In particular, given $\mathbf{g} \in \mathcal{X}_{\Gamma^{\vee}}(\mathbb{Z}^{\mathcal{T}})$ we have $\langle -, \mathbf{g} \rangle : \mathcal{A}_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}^{\mathcal{T}}) \to \mathbb{Z}$.

Assumption 1

The cluster algebra is $\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ -graded and has a ϑ -basis (respecting the grading)

$$A(\Gamma) = \bigoplus_{q \in \Theta \subseteq \mathcal{X}_{\Gamma^{\vee}}(\mathbb{Z}^{T})} \mathbb{C}\vartheta_{q}.$$

If $A(\Gamma)$ is of finite type, ϑ_q is the cluster monomial with **g**-vector q.

g-vectors as a valuation

Proposition 1 (Fujita-Oya, B.-Cheung-Nájera Chávez-Magee)

Let $A(\Gamma)$ be a $\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ -graded cluster algebra with ϑ -basis and s a seed. Then the map $g_s : A(\Gamma) \setminus \{0\} \to M_s^{\circ}$ induced by



is a full rank valuation with finitely generated value semigroup $im(g_s)$.

A generating set $\mathcal{B} \subset A(\Gamma)$ is called a *Khovanskii basis for* g_s if $\{g_s(b) : b \in \mathcal{B}\}$ generates the value semigroup.

Example: If $A(\Gamma)$ is of finite type, then for every seed *s* the set of all cluster variables is a Khovanskii basis for \mathbf{g}_s .

Full rank assumption

Assumption 2

The extended exchange matrix $\tilde{B}_{s} = \begin{bmatrix} B_{s} \\ B_{f;s} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{Z}^{(n+m) \times n}$ of $A(\Gamma)$ is of full rank and can complete it to an invertible square matrix

$$\widetilde{B_s} = \begin{bmatrix} B_s & B'_s \\ B_{f;s} & * \end{bmatrix} \in GL_{n+m}(\mathbb{Z}).$$

where $B'_{s} = -diag(d_{1}, \ldots, d_{n}) B^{T}_{f;s} diag(d_{n+1}, \ldots, d_{n+m})^{-1}$, and * is an integral $(m \times m)$ -matrix.

We obtain induced lattice isomorphisms (cluster ensemble maps)

$$N \xrightarrow{\widetilde{B_s}} M^\circ, \quad N^\circ \xrightarrow{\widetilde{B_s^T}} M, \quad N^\circ \xrightarrow{-\widetilde{B_s^T}} d^{-1}M, \quad dN \xrightarrow{-\widetilde{B_s}} M^\circ$$

In particular, for $m \in M^{\circ}$ then $(-\widetilde{B_s}^{-1}m) \in dN$ defines a map $d^{-1}M \to \mathbb{Z}$.

A piecewise linear map on the cluster complex Fix a generating set \mathcal{B} of $A(\Gamma)$, a seed s and the *cluster complex*

$$\Delta_{s} = \bigcup_{s \sim s'} \sigma_{s';s} \subset \mathcal{X}_{\Gamma^{\vee}}(\mathbb{R}^{T}) \stackrel{s}{\equiv} M^{\circ}_{\mathbb{R};s} \cong M_{\mathbb{R};s}$$

We define a piecewise linear map $\varphi_{\mathcal{B}} : \operatorname{supp}(\Delta_s) \to \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{B}}$ on $\sigma_{s;s}$ by

$$u \mapsto \left(\left\langle u, -\widetilde{B_s}^{-1}\mathbf{g}_s(A)\right\rangle\right)_{A\in\mathcal{B}}$$

For $s' \sim s$ consider $s \stackrel{\mu_{i_1}}{\to} s_1 \stackrel{\mu_{i_2}}{\to} \dots \stackrel{\mu_{i_{\ell-1}}}{\to} s_{\ell-1} \stackrel{\mu_{i_\ell}}{\to} s'$ and define $\varphi_{\mathcal{B}}$ on $\sigma_{s';s}$

$$u \mapsto \left(\left\langle \mu_{i_{\ell};\mathcal{X}}^{\mathsf{T}} \circ \cdots \circ \mu_{i_{1};\mathcal{X}}^{\mathsf{T}}(u), -\widetilde{B_{s'}}^{-1} \mathbf{g}_{s'}(A) \right\rangle \right)_{A \in \mathcal{B}}$$

We write $\varphi_{s';\mathcal{B}}$: supp $(\sigma_{s';s}) \to \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{B}}$ for the linear pieces of $\varphi_{\mathcal{B}}$.

[Kaveh–Manon] tropical geometry over the semifield of PL functions on a fan in a lattice









Consider the exchange matrix $B_{s_0} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$. Then the cluster complex Δ_{s_0} is the following simplicial fan generated by the **g**-vectors of all cluster variables $\mathcal{B} := \{A_1, \ldots, A_5\}$:



The image $\varphi_{\mathcal{B}}(\operatorname{supp}(\Delta_{s_0}))$ is a simplicial fan in \mathbb{R}^5 with five maximal cones whose ray generators are as indicated above.

The positive part of the tropicalization and the cluster complex

Recall, given a seed s the valuations $\mathbf{g}_s : A(\Gamma) \to M_s^\circ$ and given a set of algebra generators \mathcal{B} of $A(\Gamma)$ the presentation $A(\Gamma) \cong \mathbb{C}[x_1, \ldots, x_{|\mathcal{B}|}]/I_{\mathcal{B}}$

Theorem 2 (B., arxiv:2208.01723)

Let s be a seed and fix a Khovanskii basis \mathcal{B} simultaneously for \mathbf{g}_s and $\mathbf{g}_{\mu_k(s)}$ containing all cluster variables $A_{i;s}$ and $A_{i;\mu_k(s)}$. Then for all $s' \in \{\mu_k(s) : k\} \cup \{s\}$ the images of $\sigma_{s';s} \in \Delta_s$ under $\varphi_{\mathcal{B}}$ satisfy

$$arphi_{\mathcal{B}}(\sigma_{s';s}) \subset \operatorname{Trop}^+(I_{\mathcal{B}})$$

are adjacent maximal prime cone whose associated initial ideals $in_{\varphi_{\mathcal{B}}(\sigma_{s':s})}(I_{\mathcal{B}})$ satisfy

$$\mathbb{C}[x_1,\ldots,x_{|\mathcal{B}|}]/\operatorname{in}_{\varphi_{\mathcal{B}}(\sigma_{s':s})}(I_{\mathcal{B}})\cong\mathbb{C}[\operatorname{im}(g_{s'})].$$

We have $\mathcal{B} = \{A_1, \ldots, A_5\}$ and $I_{\mathcal{B}}$ is generated by

$$\begin{array}{rl} A_1A_3-A_2-1, & A_2A_4-A_3-1, & A_3A_5-A_4-1, \\ & A_4A_1-A_5-1, & A_5A_2-A_1-1 \end{array}$$

We choose a point in the interior of $\varphi_{\mathcal{B}}(\sigma_{s_0;s_0})$: $w = [1, -1, -1, 1, 2]^T$ which gives the initial ideal $in_w(I_{\mathcal{B}})$ generated by



→ totally positive binomial prime ideal, so $\varphi_{\mathcal{B}}(\sigma_{s_0;s_0}) \subset \operatorname{Trop}^+(I_{\mathcal{B}})$ maximal cone.

Tropicalizing a positive parametrization

Recall, by the Laurent phenomenen $A(\Gamma) \subset \mathbb{C}[M_s^\circ]$. Given the lattice isomorphism $\widetilde{B_s}: N_s \to M_s^\circ$ due to positivity of the Laurent Phenomenon we get a *positive parametrization*

$$\begin{array}{rcl} \Psi_{s}: \mathbb{C}[A_{1;s}^{\pm 1}, \dots, A_{n+m;s}^{\pm 1}] \cong \mathbb{C}[M_{s}^{\circ}] & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{C}[N_{s}] \cong \mathbb{C}[X_{1;s}^{\pm 1}, \dots, X_{n+m;s}^{\pm 1}] \\ & \text{ cluster variable } A & \mapsto & \Psi_{s}(A) \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}[X_{1;s}^{\pm 1}, \dots, X_{n+m;s}^{\pm 1}] \end{array}$$

A set of cluster variables $\mathcal B$ gives a map of tori

$$T_{M_s} o (\mathbb{C}^*)^{\mathcal{B}}, \quad t \mapsto (\Psi_s(A)(t))_{A \in \mathcal{B}}$$

Tropicalizing yields the piecewise linear function

$$\psi_{s}: \mathcal{X}_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{R}^{T}) \stackrel{s}{=} M_{\mathbb{R};s} \to \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{B}}, \quad u \mapsto \left(\Psi_{s}(A)^{T}(u)\right)_{A \in \mathcal{B}}$$

where $\Psi_s(A)^T(u) = \max_{n \in \text{supp}(\Psi_s(A))} \{ \langle u, n \rangle \}.$

The piecewise linear map $\psi_{\mathcal{B};s_0}$ is given by

$$\begin{pmatrix} (p^*)^{-1}(A_1) \\ (p^*)^{-1}(A_2) \\ (p^*)^{-1}(\frac{A_2+1}{A_1}) \\ (p^*)^{-1}(\frac{A_1+1+A_2}{A_1A_2}) \\ (p^*)^{-1}(\frac{A_1+1}{A_2}) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} X_2^{-1} \\ X_1 \\ X_1X_2+X_2 \\ X_1^{-1}+X_1^{-1}X_2+X_2 \\ X_1^{-1}+X_1^{-1}X_2^{-1} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} -b \\ a \\ \max(b,a+b) \\ \max(-a,-a+b,b) \\ \max(-a,-a-b) \end{pmatrix}$$

and its linear regions are the cones of Δ_{s_0} .



The Fundamental Theorem for Tropical Cluster Varieties in finite type

Theorem 3 (B., in preparation)

Let $A(\Gamma)$ be a $\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ -graded cluster algebra of finite type with full rank exchange matrix and let \mathcal{B} the set of all cluster variables. Then the following three simplicial fans are realizations of the cluster complex Δ_s and agree for every seed s

- The image of the Fock–Goncharov tropicalization $\mathcal{A}_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{R}^{T})$ (the cluster complex) under the piecewise linear map $\varphi_{\mathcal{B}}$ in $\mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{B}}$.
- **2** The image of the tropicalized positive parametrization $\psi_{\mathcal{B};s}(\Delta_s) \subset \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{B}}$.
- **③** The positive part of the tropicalization of $I_{\mathcal{B}}$ Trop⁺ $(I_{\mathcal{B}}) \subset \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{B}}$.

Comments

Corolario (Ilten-Nájera Chávez-Treffinger, arXiv:2111.02566)

The rays of $\operatorname{Trop}^+(I_{\mathcal{B}})$ span a maximal cone C in the Gröbner fan of $I_{\mathcal{B}}$. The Stanley–Reisner complex of the monomial initial ideal of C is the cluster complex.

- Speyer–Williams conjectured that (2) has the fan structure of the cluster complex. It has essentially been solved combinatorially by Jahn–Löwe–Stump and Arkani-Hamed–He–Lam.
- Bendle-Boehm-Ren-Schröter use that (2)=(3).
- Beyond finite type choosing an apropriate B the result generalizes for finite collections of seeds defining finite subfans of (1),(2),(3).

References

- BBRS Bendle, D. Boehm, J. Ren, Y. and Schröter, B. *Parallel Computation of tropical* varieties, their positive part, and tropical Grassmannians. arXiv:2003.13752
- BEW Boretsky, J. Eur, C. and Williams, L. Polyhedral and Tropical Geometry of Flag Positroids. arxiv:2208.09131
 - B Bossinger, L. Tropical totally positive cluster varieties. arxiv:2208.01723
- BCMN Bossinger, L. Cheung, M. Magee, T. and Nájera Chávez, A. *Newton–Okounkov* bodies and minimal models for cluster varieties. In preparation
 - FO Fujita, N. and Hironori Oya, H. *Newton-Okounkov polytopes of Schubert varieties* arising from cluster structures. arXiv:2002.09912
 - FWZ Fomin, S. Williams, L. and Zelevinsky, A. Introduction to Cluster Algebras. Chapter 6. arxiv:2008.09189
 - INT Ilten, N. Nájera Chávez, A. and Treffinger, H. Deformation Theory for Finite Cluster Complexes. arxiv:2111.02566
 - KM Kaveh, K. and Manon, C. *Toric flat families, valuations, and tropical geometry* over the semifield of piecewise linear functions. arxiv:1907.00543
 - SW Speyer, D. and Williams, L. *The tropical totally positive Grassmannian*. J. Algebraic Combin. 22 (2005)