TOWARDS DERIVED EQUIVALENCE CLASSIFICATION OF THE CLUSTER-TILTED
ALGEBRAS OF DYNKIN TYPE D

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Abstract. We provide a far reaching derived equivalence classification of the cluster-tilted algebras of Dynkin type D and suggest standard forms for the derived equivalence classes. We believe that the classification is complete, but some subtle questions remain open. We introduce another notion of equivalence called good mutation equivalence which is slightly stronger than derived equivalence but is algorithmically more tractable, and give a complete classification together with standard forms.

Introduction

Cluster categories have been introduced in [10] (see also [15] for Dynkin type $A$) as a representation-theoretic approach to Fomin and Zelevinsky’s cluster algebras without coefficients having skew-symmetric exchange matrices (so that matrix mutation becomes the combinatorial recipe of mutation of quivers). This approach allows to use deep algebraic and representation-theoretic methods in the context of cluster algebras. A crucial role is played by the cluster tilting objects in the cluster category which model the clusters in the cluster algebra. The endomorphism algebras of these cluster tilting objects are called cluster-tilted algebras.

Cluster-tilted algebras are particularly well-understood if the quiver underlying the cluster algebra, and hence the cluster category, is of Dynkin type. Cluster-tilted algebras of Dynkin type can be described as quivers with relations where the possible quivers are precisely the quivers in the mutation class of the Dynkin quiver, and the relations are uniquely determined by the quiver in an explicit way [12]. Moreover, the quivers in the mutation classes of Dynkin quivers are explicitly known: for type $A_n$ they can be found in [14], for type $D_n$ in [38] and for type $E_{6,7,8}$ they can be enumerated using a computer, for example by the Java applet [24].

However, despite knowing the cluster-tilted algebras of Dynkin type as quivers with relations, many structural properties are not understood yet. In particular, one would want to know when two cluster-tilted algebras have equivalent derived categories. A derived equivalence classification has been achieved so far for the cluster-tilted algebras of Dynkin type $A_n$ by Buan and Vatne [14], and for Dynkin type $E_{6,7,8}$ by the authors [6]. Moreover, a derived equivalence classification has also been given by the first author for the cluster-tilted algebras of extended Dynkin type $\tilde{A}_n$ [5].

Cluster-tilted algebras of types $A_n$, $\tilde{A}_n$ and $D_n$ are naturally associated to triangulations of marked surfaces. To an (ideal) triangulation of a compact, connected, oriented Riemann surface (possibly with boundary) with a set of marked points on it, a quiver with potential has been associated in [26], linking the theory of cluster algebras associated to marked surfaces [19] with the theory of quivers with potentials and their mutations initiated in [17]. Any such triangulation gives rise to an algebra by considering the Jacobian algebra of the associated quiver with potential. In this way, the cluster-tilted algebras of type $A_n$ arise from (triangulations of) a disc with $n+3$ marked points on its boundary [15], those of type $\tilde{A}_n$ arise from an annulus with $n$ marked points on its boundary, whereas those of type $D_n$ arise from a once-punctured disc with $n$ marked points on its boundary [37].

When the marked points lie entirely on the boundary (i.e. there are no punctures), the associated Jacobian algebras are gentle and were studied in [3]. A derived equivalence classification of these algebras has been presented by the third author [31], generalizing the aforementioned classifications in types $A_n$ and $\tilde{A}_n$. On the other hand, when the boundary of the surface is empty (so that all the marked points are punctures), the

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corresponding Jacobian algebras are symmetric [30] and in a forthcoming paper by the third author it will be shown that they are derived equivalent.

In the present paper we address the problem of derived equivalence classification of the cluster-tilted algebras of Dynkin type $D_n$. These algebras form the simplest instance of Jacobian algebras arising from triangulations of a marked surface having punctures as well as non-empty boundary. As one of our main results we obtain a far reaching derived equivalence classification, see Theorem 2.3. This classification is complete for $D_n$ when $n \leq 14$, see Theorem 2.16, but it will turn out to be surprisingly subtle to distinguish certain of the cluster-tilted algebras up to derived equivalence. Nevertheless we believe that our classification is complete also for $n \geq 15$, see Conjecture 2.7 and the remark following it.

There are two natural approaches to address derived equivalence classification problems of a given collection of algebras arising from some combinatorial data. The top-down approach is to divide these algebras into equivalence classes according to some invariants of derived equivalence, so that algebras belonging to different classes are not derived equivalent. The bottom-up approach is to systematically construct, based on the combinatorial data, tilting complexes yielding derived equivalences between pairs of these algebras and then to arrange these algebras into groups where any two algebras are related by a sequence of such derived equivalences. To obtain a complete derived equivalence classification one has to combine these approaches and hope that the two resulting partitions of the entire collection of algebras coincide.

For the bottom-up approach we use constructions that are based on good mutations of quivers with potentials, which correspond to particular kind of derived equivalences between their corresponding Jacobian algebras. The notion of good mutation has been introduced by the third author [28] in relation with assessing the derived equivalence of endomorphism algebras of neighboring cluster-tilting objects in 2-Calabi-Yau categories. We now explain this notion in the more restrictive setup of cluster-tilted algebras which is sufficient for the purposes of the current paper.

Since any two quivers in a mutation class are connected by a sequence of mutations, it is natural to ask when a single mutation of quivers is accompanied by derived equivalence of their corresponding cluster-tilted algebras. The paper [28] presents a procedure to determine when two cluster-tilted algebras whose quivers are related by a single mutation are also related by Brenner-Butler (co-)tilting, which is a particular kind of derived equivalence. We call such quiver mutation good mutation. In other words, a mutation at some vertex is good if the corresponding Brenner-Butler tilting module is defined and moreover its endomorphism algebra is isomorphic to the cluster-tilted algebra of the mutated quiver. Obviously, the cluster-tilted algebras of quivers connected by a sequence of good mutations (i.e. good mutation equivalent) are derived equivalent. The explicit knowledge of the relations for cluster-tilted algebras of Dynkin type together with the procedure in [28] imply that for these algebras there is an algorithm to decide if a mutation is good or not. By utilizing this algorithmic approach we achieve a complete good mutation equivalence classification of the cluster-tilted algebras of Dynkin type $D_n$, see Theorem 2.40, which is another main result of the present paper.

It turns out that in many interesting cases, including the cluster-tilted algebras of Dynkin types, a single mutation at one vertex is good if and only if the corresponding algebras are derived equivalent, see Corollary 2.35. Hence the initial focus on a particular kind of derived equivalence, motivated by K-theoretic considerations, is actually not restrictive.

The top-down and the bottom-up approaches have been successfully combined to give complete derived equivalence classifications for the Jacobian algebras arising from a marked surface without punctures or a marked surface without boundary, as well as for the cluster-tilted algebras of Dynkin type $E_{6,7,8}$. Moreover, for these algebras the notions of derived equivalence and good mutation equivalence coincide (see for example Theorem 2.2 below for type $A_n$ and [6] for type $E_{6,7,8}$), so that any two derived equivalent algebras can be connected by a sequence of good mutations.

However, for the cluster tilted algebras of Dynkin type $D_n$, derived equivalence is strictly weaker than good mutation equivalence which underlines and explains why the situation in this case is much more complicated. The fact that there are cluster-tilted algebras of Dynkin type $D_n$ which are derived equivalent without being connected by a sequence of good mutations occurs already for types $D_6$ and $D_8$, see Examples 2.19 and 2.20. Although we have been able to find further systematic derived equivalences including what we call ‘good double mutations’, one cannot be sure that these are all. Indeed, there are arbitrarily large sets of cluster-tilted algebras of type $D$ such that all computable derived invariants available to us coincide for all the algebras within such a set, but nevertheless we could not determine whether any two of these algebras are derived equivalent or not, see Section 2.5.
The paper is organized as follows. In Section 1 we collect some preliminaries about invariants of derived equivalence, mutations of algebras and fundamental properties of cluster-tilted algebras, particularly of Dynkin types $A$ and $D$. These are needed for the statements of our main results, which are given in Section 2. In particular, Theorem 2.3 gives the far reaching derived equivalence classification of cluster-tilted algebras of type $D$, and Theorem 2.40 the complete classification up to good mutation equivalence. Open questions and some examples are also given in that section. In Section 3 we determine all the good mutations for cluster-tilted algebras of Dynkin types $A$ and $D$, whereas in Section 4 we present further derived equivalences between cluster-tilted algebras of type $D$ which are not given by good mutations. Building on these results we provide in Section 5, which is purely combinatorial, standard forms for derived equivalence as well as ones for good mutation equivalence of cluster-tilted algebras of type $D$, thus proving Theorem 2.3 and Theorem 2.40. We also describe an explicit algorithm which decides on good mutation equivalence. Finally, the appendix contains the proof of the formulae for the determinants of the Cartan matrices of cluster-tilted algebras of type $D$, as given in Theorem 2.9. This invariant is used in the paper to distinguish some cluster-tilted algebras up to derived equivalence.

1. Preliminaries

1.1. Derived equivalences and tilting complexes. Throughout this paper let $K$ be an algebraically closed field. All algebras are assumed to be finite-dimensional $K$-algebras. For a $K$-algebra $A$, we denote the bounded derived category of right $A$-modules by $\mathcal{D}^{b}(A)$. Two algebras $A$ and $B$ are called derived equivalent if $\mathcal{D}^{b}(A)$ and $\mathcal{D}^{b}(B)$ are equivalent as triangulated categories.

A famous theorem of Rickard [35] characterizes derived equivalence in terms of the so-called tilting complexes, which we now recall. Denote by per $A$ the full triangulated subcategory of $\mathcal{D}^{b}(A)$ consisting of the perfect complexes of $A$-modules, that is, complexes (quasi-isomorphic) to bounded complexes of finitely generated projective $A$-modules.

**Definition 1.1.** A tilting complex $T$ over $A$ is a complex $T \in \text{per} A$ with the following two properties:

(i) It is exceptional, i.e. $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}^{b}(A)}(T, T[i]) = 0$ for all $i \neq 0$, where $[1]$ denotes the shift functor in $\mathcal{D}^{b}(A)$;

(ii) It is a compact generator, that is, the minimal triangulated subcategory of per $A$ containing $T$ and closed under taking direct summands, equals per $A$.

**Theorem 1.2** (Rickard [35]). Two algebras $A$ and $B$ are derived equivalent if and only if there exists a tilting complex $T$ over $A$ such that $\text{End}_{\mathcal{D}^{b}(A)}(T) \simeq B$.

Although Rickard’s theorem gives us a criterion for derived equivalence, it does not give a decision process nor a constructive method to produce tilting complexes. Thus, given two algebras $A$ and $B$ in concrete form, it is sometimes still unknown whether they are derived equivalent or not, as we do not know how to construct a suitable tilting complex or to prove the non-existence of such, see Sections 2.4 and 2.5 for some concrete examples.

1.2. Invariants of derived equivalence. Let $P_{1}, \ldots, P_{n}$ be a complete collection of pairwise non-isomorphic indecomposable projective $A$-modules (finite-dimensional over $K$). The **Cartan matrix** of $A$ is then the $n \times n$ matrix $C_{A}$ defined by $(C_{A})_{ij} = \dim_{K} \text{Hom}_{A}(P_{j}, P_{i})$. An important invariant of derived equivalence is given by the following well known proposition. For a proof see the proof of Proposition 1.5 in [7], and also [6, Prop. 2.6].

**Proposition 1.3.** Let $A$ and $B$ be two finite-dimensional, derived equivalent algebras. Then the matrices $C_{A}$ and $C_{B}$ represent equivalent bilinear forms over $\mathbb{Z}$, that is, there exists $P \in \text{GL}_{n}(\mathbb{Z})$ such that $PC_{A}P^{T} = C_{B}$, where $n$ denotes the number of indecomposable projective modules of $A$ and $B$ (up to isomorphism).

In general, to decide whether two integral bilinear forms are equivalent is a very subtle arithmetical problem. Therefore, it is useful to introduce somehow weaker invariants that are computationally easier to handle. In order to do this, assume further that $C_{A}$ is invertible over $\mathbb{Q}$. In this case one can consider the rational matrix $S_{A} = C_{A}C_{A}^{-T}$ (here $C_{A}^{-T}$ denotes the inverse of the transpose of $C_{A}$), known in the theory of non-symmetric bilinear forms as the asymmetry of $C_{A}$.

**Proposition 1.4.** Let $A$ and $B$ be two finite-dimensional, derived equivalent algebras with invertible (over $\mathbb{Q}$) Cartan matrices. Then we have the following assertions, each implied by the preceding one:

(a) There exists $P \in \text{GL}_{n}(\mathbb{Z})$ such that $PC_{A}P^{T} = C_{B}$.
(b) There exists $P \in \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{Z})$ such that $PS_{A}^{-1} = S_{B}$.

c) There exists $P \in \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{Q})$ such that $PS_{A}^{-1} = S_{B}$.

d) The matrices $S_{A}$ and $S_{B}$ have the same characteristic polynomial.

For proofs and discussion, see for example [27, Section 3.3]. Since the determinant of an integral bilinear form is also invariant under equivalence, we obtain the following discrete invariant of derived equivalence.

**Definition 1.5.** For an algebra $A$ with invertible Cartan matrix $C_{A}$ over $\mathbb{Q}$, we define its associated polynomial as $(\det C_{A}) \cdot \chi_{S_{A}}(x)$, where $\chi_{S_{A}}(x)$ is the characteristic polynomial of the asymmetry matrix $S_{A} = C_{A}C_{A}^{-T}$.

**Remark 1.6.** The matrix $S_{A}$ (or better, minus its transpose $-C_{A}^{-1}C_{A}$) is related to the Coxeter transformation which has been widely studied in the case when $A$ has finite global dimension (so that $C_{A}$ is invertible over $\mathbb{Z}$), see [34]. It is the $K$-theoretic shadow of the Serre functor and the related Auslander-Reiten translation in the derived category. The characteristic polynomial is then known as the Coxeter polynomial of the algebra.

**Remark 1.7.** In general, $S_{A}$ might have non-integral entries. However, when the algebra $A$ is Gorenstein, the matrix $S_{A}$ is an incarnation of the fact that the injective modules have finite projective resolutions. By a result of Keller and Reiten [25], this is the case for cluster-tilted algebras.

1.3. **Mutations of algebras.** We recall the notion of mutations of algebras from [28]. These are local operations on an algebra $A$ producing new algebras derived equivalent to $A$.

Let $A = KQ/I$ be an algebra given as a quiver with relations. For any vertex $i$ of $Q$, there is a trivial path $e_{i}$ of length 0; the corresponding indecomposable projective module $P_{i} = e_{i}A$ is spanned by the images of the paths starting at $i$. Thus an arrow $i \xrightarrow{\alpha} j$ gives rise to a map $P_{j} \to P_{i}$ given by left multiplication with $\alpha$.

Let $k$ be a vertex of $Q$ without loops. Consider the following two complexes of projective $A$-modules

$$
T_{k}^{−}(A) = (P_{k} \xleftarrow{j \to k} \bigoplus_{j \neq k} P_{j}) \oplus (\bigoplus_{i \neq k} P_{i}),
$$

$$
T_{k}^{+}(A) = (\bigoplus_{k \to j} P_{j} \xrightarrow{g \to k} P_{k}) \oplus (\bigoplus_{i \neq k} P_{i})
$$

where the map $f$ is induced by all the maps $P_{k} \to P_{j}$ corresponding to the arrows $j \to k$ ending at $k$, the map $g$ is induced by the maps $P_{j} \to P_{k}$ corresponding to the arrows $k \to j$ starting at $k$, the term $P_{k}$ lies in degree $−1$ in $T_{k}^{−}(A)$ and in degree 1 in $T_{k}^{+}(A)$, and all other terms are in degree 0.

**Definition 1.8.** Let $A$ be an algebra given as a quiver with relations and $k$ a vertex without loops.

(a) We say that the negative mutation of $A$ at $k$ is defined if $T_{k}^{−}(A)$ is a tilting complex over $A$. In this case, we call the algebra $\mu_{k}^{-}(A) = \text{End}_{D^{b}(A)}T_{k}^{−}(A)$ the negative mutation of $A$ at the vertex $k$.

(b) We say that the positive mutation of $A$ at $k$ is defined if $T_{k}^{+}(A)$ is a tilting complex over $A$. In this case, we call the algebra $\mu_{k}^{+}(A) = \text{End}_{D^{b}(A)}T_{k}^{+}(A)$ the positive mutation of $A$ at the vertex $k$.

**Remark 1.9.** By Rickard’s Theorem 1.2, the negative and the positive mutations of an algebra $A$ at a vertex, when defined, are always derived equivalent to $A$.

There is a combinatorial criterion to determine whether a mutation at a vertex is defined, see [28, Prop. 2.3]. Since the algebras we will be dealing with in this paper are schurian, we state here the criterion only for this case, as it takes a particularly simple form. Recall that an algebra is schurian if the entries of its Cartan matrix are only 0 or 1.

**Proposition 1.10.** Let $A$ be a schurian algebra.

(a) The negative mutation $\mu_{k}^{-}(A)$ is defined if and only if for any non-zero path $k \to i$ starting at $k$ and ending at some vertex $i$, there exists an arrow $j \to k$ such that the composition $j \to k \to i$ is non-zero.

(b) The positive mutation $\mu_{k}^{+}(A)$ is defined if and only if for any non-zero path $i \to k$ starting at some vertex $i$ and ending at $k$, there exists an arrow $k \to j$ such that the composition $i \to k \to j$ is non-zero.

**Remark 1.11.** It follows from [28, Remark 2.10], that in many cases, and in particular when $A$ is schurian, the negative mutation of $A$ at $k$ is defined if and only if one can associate with $k$ the corresponding Brenner-Butler tilting module. Moreover, in this case, $T_{k}^{-}(A)$ is isomorphic in $D^{b}(A)$ to that Brenner-Butler tilting module.
1.4. Cluster-tilted algebras. In this section we assume that all quivers are without loops and 2-cycles. Given such a quiver $Q$ and a vertex $k$, we denote by $\mu_k(Q)$ the Fomin-Zelevinsky quiver mutation \cite{28} of $Q$ at $k$. Two quivers are called mutation equivalent if one can be reached from the other by a finite sequence of quiver mutations. The mutation class of a quiver $Q$ is the set of all quivers which are mutation equivalent to $Q$.

For a quiver $Q'$ without oriented cycles (i.e. an acyclic quiver), the corresponding cluster category $C_{Q'}$ was introduced in \cite{10}. A cluster-tilted algebra of type $Q'$ is an endomorphism algebra of a cluster-tilting object in $C_{Q'}$, see \cite{11}. It is known by \cite{11} that for any quiver $Q$ mutation equivalent to $Q'$, there is a cluster-tilted algebra whose quiver is $Q$. Moreover, by \cite{9}, it is unique up to isomorphism. Hence, there is a bijection between the quivers in the mutation class of an acyclic quiver $Q'$ and the isomorphism classes of cluster-tilted algebras of type $Q'$. This justifies the following notation.

**Notation 1.12.** Throughout the paper, for a quiver $Q$ which is mutation equivalent to an acyclic quiver, we denote by $\Lambda_Q$ the corresponding cluster-tilted algebra and by $C_Q$ its Cartan matrix $C_{\Lambda_Q}$.

When $Q'$ is a Dynkin quiver of types $A$, $D$ or $E$, the corresponding cluster-tilted algebras are said to be of Dynkin type. These algebras have been investigated in \cite{12}, where it is shown that they are schurian and moreover they can be defined by using only zero and commutativity relations that can be extracted from their quivers in an algorithmic way.

1.5. Good quiver mutations. For cluster-tilted algebras of Dynkin type, the statement of Theorem 5.3 in \cite{28}, linking more generally mutation of cluster-tilting objects in 2-Calabi-Yau categories with mutations of their endomorphism algebras, takes the following form.

**Proposition 1.13.** Let $Q$ be mutation equivalent to a Dynkin quiver and let $k$ be a vertex of $Q$.

(a) $\Lambda_{\mu_k(Q)} \simeq \mu_k^-(\Lambda_Q)$ if and only if the two algebra mutations $\mu_k^+(\Lambda_Q)$ and $\mu_k^+(\Lambda_{\mu_k(Q)})$ are defined.

(b) $\Lambda_{\mu_k(Q)} \simeq \mu_k^+(\Lambda_Q)$ if and only if the two algebra mutations $\mu_k^-(\Lambda_Q)$ and $\mu_k^-(\Lambda_{\mu_k(Q)})$ are defined.

This motivates the following definition.

**Definition 1.14.** When (at least) one of the conditions in the proposition holds, we say that the quiver mutation of $Q$ at $k$, is good, since it implies the derived equivalence of the corresponding cluster-tilted algebras $\Lambda_Q$ and $\Lambda_{\mu_k(Q)}$. When none of the conditions in the proposition hold, we say that the quiver mutation is bad.

**Remark 1.15.** In view of Propositions 1.10 and 1.13, there is an algorithm which decides, given a quiver which is mutation equivalent to a Dynkin quiver, whether a mutation at a vertex is good or not.

Whereas in Dynkin types $A$ and $E$, the quivers of any two derived equivalent cluster-tilted algebras are connected by a sequence of good mutations \cite{6}, this is no longer the case in type $D$. Therefore, we need also to consider mutations of algebras going beyond the family of cluster-tilted algebras (which is not closed under derived equivalence).

**Definition 1.16.** Let $Q$ and $Q'$ be quivers with vertices $k$ and $k'$ such that $\mu_k(Q) = \mu_{k'}(Q')$. We call the sequence of the two mutations from $Q$ to $Q'$ (first at $k$ and then at $k'$) a good double mutation if both algebra mutations $\mu_k^-(\Lambda_Q)$ and $\mu_k^+(\Lambda_Q)$ are defined and moreover, they are isomorphic to each other.

By definition, for quivers $Q$ and $Q'$ related by a good double mutation, the cluster-tilted algebras $\Lambda_Q$ and $\Lambda_{Q'}$ are derived equivalent. Note, however, that we do not require the intermediate algebra $\mu_k^-(\Lambda_Q) \simeq \mu_k^+(\Lambda_{Q'})$ to be a cluster-tilted algebra.

1.6. Cluster-tilted algebras of Dynkin types $A$ and $D$. In this section we recall the explicit description of cluster-tilted algebras of Dynkin types $A$ and $D$, which are our main objects of study, as quivers with relations.

Recall that the quiver $A_n$ is the following directed graph on $n \geq 1$ vertices

$\bullet_1 \longrightarrow \bullet_2 \longrightarrow \ldots \longrightarrow \bullet_n$.

The quivers which are mutation equivalent to $A_n$ have been explicitly determined in \cite{14}. They can be characterized as follows.

**Definition 1.17.** The neighborhood of a vertex $x$ in a quiver $Q$ is the full subquiver of $Q$ on the subset of vertices consisting of $x$ and the vertices which are targets of arrows starting at $x$ or sources of arrows ending at $x$. 
Figure 1. The 9 possible neighborhoods of a vertex $\bullet$ in a quiver which is mutation equivalent to $A_n$, $n \geq 2$. The three at the top row are the possible neighborhoods of a root in a rooted quiver of type $A$.

Proposition 1.18. Let $n \geq 2$. A quiver is mutation equivalent to $A_n$ if and only if it has $n$ vertices, the neighborhood of each vertex is one of the nine depicted in Figure 1, and there are no cycles in its underlying graph apart from those induced by oriented cycles contained in neighborhoods of vertices.

Definition 1.19. Let $Q$ be a quiver mutation equivalent to $A_n$. A triangle is an oriented 3-cycle in $Q$, and a line is an arrow in $Q$ which is not part of a triangle. We denote by $s(Q)$ and $t(Q)$ the number of lines and triangles in $Q$, respectively.

Remark 1.20. We have $n = 1 + s(Q) + 2t(Q)$.

Remark 1.21. Given a quiver $Q$ mutation equivalent to $A_n$, the relations defining the corresponding cluster-tilted algebra $\Lambda_Q$ (which has $Q$ as its quiver) are obtained as follows [12, 15, 16]; any triangle

in $Q$ gives rise to three zero relations $\alpha\beta$, $\beta\gamma$, $\gamma\alpha$, and there are no other relations.

Recall that the quiver $D_n$ is the following quiver

on $n \geq 4$ vertices. We now recall the description by Vatne [38] of the quivers which are mutation equivalent to $D_n$, and the relations defining the corresponding cluster-tilted algebras following [12]. It will be most convenient to use the language of gluing of rooted quivers.

Definition 1.22. A rooted quiver of type $A$ is a pair $(Q, v)$ where $Q$ is a quiver which is mutation equivalent to $A_n$ for some $n \geq 1$, and $v$ is a vertex of $Q$ (the root) whose neighborhood is one of the three appearing in the first row of Figure 1 if $n \geq 2$.

By abuse of notation, we shall sometimes refer to such a rooted quiver $(Q, v)$ just by $Q$.

Definition 1.23. Let $Q_0$ be a quiver, called a skeleton, and let $c_1, c_2, \ldots, c_k$ be $k \geq 0$ distinct vertices of $Q_0$. The gluing of $k$ rooted quivers of type $A$, say $(Q_1, v_1), (Q_2, v_2), \ldots, (Q_k, v_k)$, to $Q_0$ at the vertices $c_1, \ldots, c_k$ is defined as the quiver obtained from the disjoint union $Q_0 \sqcup Q_1 \sqcup \cdots \sqcup Q_k$ by identifying each vertex $c_i$ with the corresponding root $v_i$, for $1 \leq i \leq k$.

Remark 1.24. Given relations (i.e. linear combinations of parallel paths) on the skeleton $Q_0$, they induce relations on the gluing, namely by taking the union of all the relations on $Q_0, Q_1, \ldots, Q_k$, where the relations on the rooted quivers of type $A$ are those stated in Remark 1.21.
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A cluster-tilted algebra of Dynkin type $D$ belongs to one of the following four families, which are called types and are defined as gluing of rooted quivers of type $A$ to certain skeleta. Note that in view of Remark 1.24, it is enough to specify the relations on the skeleton. For each type, we define parameters which will be useful in the sequel when referring to the cluster-tilted algebras of that type.

**Type I.** The gluing of a rooted quiver $Q'$ of type $A$ at the vertex $c$ of one of the three skeleta

![Diagram](image)

as in the following picture:

The parameters are $(s(Q'), t(Q'))$.

**Type II.** The gluing of two rooted quivers $Q'$ and $Q''$ of type $A$ at the vertices $c'$ and $c''$, respectively, of the following skeleton

![Diagram](image)

with the commutativity relation $\alpha \beta - \gamma \delta$ and the zero relations $\varepsilon \alpha, \varepsilon \gamma, \beta \varepsilon, \delta \varepsilon$ as in the following picture:

The parameters are $(s(Q'), t(Q'), s(Q''), t(Q''))$.

**Type III.** The gluing of two rooted quivers $Q'$ and $Q''$ of type $A$ at the vertices $c'$ and $c''$, respectively, of the following skeleton

![Diagram](image)

with the four zero relations $\alpha \beta \gamma, \beta \gamma \delta, \gamma \delta \alpha, \delta \alpha \beta$, as in the following picture:

As in Type II, the parameters are $(s(Q'), t(Q'), s(Q''), t(Q''))$. 
Type IV. The gluing of $r \geq 0$ rooted quivers $Q^{(1)}, \ldots, Q^{(r)}$ of type $A$ at the vertices $c_1, \ldots, c_r$ of a skeleton $Q(m, \{i_1, \ldots, i_r\})$ defined below, see Figure 2.

**Definition 1.25.** Given integers $m \geq 3$, $r \geq 0$ and an increasing sequence $1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < \cdots < i_r \leq m$, we define the following quiver $Q(m, \{i_1, \ldots, i_r\})$ with relations.

(a) $Q(m, \{i_1, \ldots, i_r\})$ has $m + r$ vertices, labeled $1, 2, \ldots, m$ together with $c_1, c_2, \ldots, c_r$, and its arrows are

$$\{ i \to (i + 1) \}_{1 \leq i \leq m} \cup \{ c_j \to i_j, (i_j + 1) \to c_j \}_{1 \leq j \leq r},$$

where $i + 1$ is considered modulo $m$, i.e. 1, if $i = m$.

The full subquiver on the vertices $1, 2, \ldots, m$ is thus an oriented cycle of length $m$, called the central cycle, and for every $1 \leq j \leq r$, the full subquiver on the vertices $i_j, i_j + 1, c_j$ is an oriented 3-cycle, called a spike.

(b) The relations on $Q(m, \{i_1, \ldots, i_r\})$ are as follows:
- The paths $i_j, i_j + 1, c_j$ and $c_j, i_j, i_j + 1$ are zero for all $1 \leq j \leq r$;
- For any $1 \leq j \leq r$, the path $i_j + 1, c_j, i_j$ equals the path $i_j + 1, \ldots, i_j$ of length $m - 1$ along the central cycle;
- For any $i \not\in \{i_1, \ldots, i_r\}$, the path $i + 1, \ldots, i$ of length $m - 1$ along the central cycle is zero.

![Figure 2. A quiver of a cluster-tilted algebra of Type IV.](image)

The parameters are encoded as follows. If $r = 0$, that is, there are no spikes hence no attached rooted quivers of type $A$, the quiver is just an oriented cycle, thus parameterized by its length $m \geq 3$. In all other cases, due to rotational symmetry, we define the distances $d_1, d_2, \ldots, d_r$ by

$$d_1 = i_2 - i_1, d_2 = i_3 - i_2, \ldots, d_r = i_1 + m - i_r$$

so that $m = d_1 + d_2 + \cdots + d_r$, and encode the cluster-tilted algebra by the sequence of triples

$$\{(d_1, s_1, t_1), (d_2, s_2, t_2), \ldots, (d_r, s_r, t_r)\}$$

(1.1)

where $s_j = s(Q^{(j)})$, $t_j = t(Q^{(j)})$ are the numbers of lines and triangles of the rooted quiver $Q^{(j)}$ of type $A$ glued at the vertex $c_j$ of the $j$-th spike.

**Remark 1.26.** Note that the cluster-tilted algebras in Type III can be viewed as a degenerate version of Type IV, namely corresponding to the skeleton $Q(2, \{1, 1\})$ with central cycle of length 2 (hence it is “invisible”) with all spikes present. It turns out that this point of view is consistent with the constructions of good mutations and double mutations as well as with the determinant computations presented later in this paper. However, for simplicity, the proofs that we give for Type III will not rely on this observation.
In this section we describe the main results of the paper.

2.1. **Standard forms for derived equivalence.** We start by providing standard forms for derived equivalence. Since rooted quivers of Dynkin type $A$ are important building blocks of the quivers of cluster-tilted algebras of type $D$, we recall the results on derived equivalence classification of cluster-tilted algebras of type $A$, originally due to Buan and Vatne [14].

**Definition 2.1.** Let $Q$ be a quiver of a cluster-tilted algebra of type $A$. The **standard form** of $Q$ is the following quiver consisting of $s(Q)$ lines and $t(Q)$ triangles arranged as follows:

$$\begin{array}{c}
\bullet & \longrightarrow & \cdots & \longrightarrow & \bullet \\
\bullet & & & & \bullet
\end{array}$$

The **standard form** of a rooted quiver $(Q, v)$ of type $A$ is a rooted quiver of type $A$ as in (2.1) consisting of $s(Q)$ lines and $t(Q)$ triangles with the vertex $v$ as the root.

The name “standard form” is justified by the next theorem which follows from the results of [14], see also Section 3.

**Theorem 2.2.** Let $Q$ be a quiver of a cluster-tilted algebra of Dynkin type $A$. Then $Q$ can be transformed via a sequence of good mutations to its standard form. Moreover, two standard forms are derived equivalent if and only if they coincide.

In Dynkin type $D$, we suggest the following standard forms.

**Theorem 2.3.** A cluster-tilted algebra of type $D_n$ is derived equivalent to one of the cluster-tilted algebras with the following quivers, which we call “standard forms” for derived equivalence:

(a) $D_n$ (i.e. Type I with a linearly oriented $A_{n-2}$ quiver attached);

(b) Type II as in the following figure, where $s,t \geq 0$ and $s + 2t = n - 4$;

(c) Type III as in the following figure, where $s,t \geq 0$ and $s + 2t = n - 4$;

(d$_1$) (only when $n$ is odd) Type IV with a central cycle of length $n$ without spikes, as in the following picture;

(d$_2$) Type IV with parameter sequence $((1,s,t),(1,0,0),\ldots,(1,0,0))$ of length $b \geq 3$, with $s,t \geq 0$ such that $n = 2b + s + 2t$, and the attached rooted quiver of type $A$ is in standard form;
(d₄) Type IV with parameter sequence \(((1, 0, 0), (1, 0, 0), \ldots, (1, 0, 0), (3, s_1, t_1), (3, s_2, t_2), \ldots, (3, s_k, t_k))\) for some \(k > 0\), where the number of triples \((1, 0, 0)\) is \(b \geq 0\), the non-negative integers \(s_1, t_1, \ldots, s_k, t_k\) are considered up to rotation of the sequence \(((s_1, t_1), (s_2, t_2), \ldots, (s_k, t_k))\), the attached rooted quivers of type \(A\) are in standard form and \(n = 4k + 2b + s_1 + 2t_1 + \cdots + s_k + 2t_k > 4\).

Moreover, any two distinct standard forms which are not of the class \((d_3)\) are not derived equivalent.

**Remark 2.4.** There is no known example of two distinct standard forms which are derived equivalent.

**Remark 2.5.** Our proof of Theorem 2.3 actually shows that any cluster-tilted algebra of type \(D\) which is not self-injective can be brought to a standard form by a sequence of good mutations and good double mutations. An algorithm to compute the standard form of a cluster-tilted algebra of type \(D\) given in parametric notation is presented in Section 5.4.

**Remark 2.6.** Moreover, it can be shown that any two distinct standard forms cannot be connected by a sequence of good mutations or good double mutations.

The latter aspect leads us to formulate the following conjecture.

**Conjecture 2.7.** Let \(\Lambda\) and \(\Lambda'\) be two cluster-tilted algebras of Dynkin type \(D\) which are not self-injective. Then \(\Lambda\) and \(\Lambda'\) are derived equivalent if and only if one can connect \(\Lambda'\) to \(\Lambda\) or to its opposite algebra \(\Lambda^{\text{op}}\) by a sequence of good mutations and good double mutations.

The smallest cases in which this conjecture could not be settled occur in types \(D_{17}\) and \(D_{19}\), see Example 2.30 and Example 2.32.

**Remark 2.8.** If Conjecture 2.7 holds, then by Remark 2.6 any two derived equivalent standard forms \(\Lambda\) and \(\Lambda'\) satisfy \(\Lambda' \simeq \Lambda\) or \(\Lambda' \simeq \Lambda^{\text{op}}\). Hence, Conjecture 2.7 together with an affirmative answer to Question 2.23 would imply a complete derived equivalence classification of the cluster-tilted algebras of Dynkin type \(D\).
2.2. Numerical invariants. The main tool for distinguishing the various standard forms appearing in Theorem 2.3 is the computation of their numerical invariants of derived equivalence described in Section 1.2. We start by giving the formulae for the determinants of the Cartan matrices of all cluster-tilted algebras of type $D$.

Theorem 2.9. Let $Q$ be a quiver which is mutation equivalent to $D_n$ for $n \geq 4$. Using the notation from Section 1.6 we have the following formulae for the determinants of the Cartan matrices.

(I) If $Q$ is of Type I, then $\det C_Q = 2^{t(Q')} = \det C_{Q'}$.

(II) If $Q$ is of Type II, then $\det C_Q = 2 \cdot 2^{t(Q') + t(Q'')} = 2 \cdot \det C_{Q'} \cdot \det C_{Q''}$.

(III) If $Q$ is of Type III, then $\det C_Q = 3 \cdot 2^{t(Q') + t(Q'')} = 3 \cdot \det C_{Q'} \cdot \det C_{Q''}$.

(IV) For a quiver $Q$ of Type IV with central cycle of length $m \geq 3$, let $Q^{(1)}, \ldots, Q^{(r)}$ be the rooted quivers of type $A$ glued to the spikes and let $c(Q)$ be the number of vertices on the central cycle which are part of two (consecutive) spikes, i.e. $c(Q) = |\{1 \leq j \leq r : d_j = 1\}|$, cf. (1.1). Then

$$\det C_Q = (m + c(Q) - 1) \cdot \prod_{j=1}^{r} 2^{t(Q^{(j)})} = (m + c(Q) - 1) \cdot \prod_{j=1}^{r} \det C_{Q^{(j)}}.$$ 

After uploading the first version of this paper we have been informed by D. Vatne that he independently also computed these Cartan determinants.

From Theorem 2.9 we immediately obtain the following.

Corollary 2.10.

(a) A cluster-tilted algebra in Type II is not derived equivalent to any cluster-tilted algebra in Type III.

(b) A cluster-tilted algebra in Type II is not derived equivalent to any cluster-tilted algebra in Type IV whose Cartan determinant is not a power of 2.

Note that the determinant alone is not enough to distinguish Types II and IV, the smallest example occurs already in type $D_5$.

Example 2.11. The Cartan matrices of the cluster-tilted algebra in Type II with parameters $(1,0,0,0)$ and the one in Type IV with parameters $((3,1,0))$ whose quivers are given by

have both determinant 2, but the characteristic polynomials of their asymmetries differ, namely $x^5 - x^3 + x^2 - 1$ and $x^5 - 2x^3 + 2x^2 - 1$, respectively.

Since the determinants of the Cartan matrices of all cluster-tilted algebras of type $D$ do not vanish, one can consider their asymmetry matrices and the corresponding characteristic polynomials. We list below the characteristic polynomials of the asymmetry matrices for cluster-tilted algebras of Types I, II and III of Dynkin type $D$ and for certain cases in Type IV. Combining this with Theorem 2.9, we get the corresponding associated polynomials. Using these it is possible to distinguish several further standard forms of Theorem 2.3 up to derived equivalence. However, in the present paper we are not embarking on this aspect, and therefore only list these polynomials for the sake of completeness. For the proofs we refer to the thesis of the first author [4] as well as to the note [32] containing a general method for computing the associated polynomial of an algebra obtained by gluing rooted quivers of type $A$ to a given quiver with relations.

Notation 2.12. For a quiver $Q$ mutation equivalent to a Dynkin quiver, we denote by $\chi_Q(x)$ the characteristic polynomial of the asymmetry matrix of the Cartan matrix $C_Q$ of the cluster-tilted algebra corresponding to $Q$.

Remark 2.13. Let $Q$ be the quiver of a cluster-tilted algebra of type $A$. Then

$$\chi_Q(x) = (x + 1)^{s(t)} \left( x^{s(t)+2} + (-1)^{s(t)+1} \right)$$

where $s = s(Q)$ and $t = t(Q)$.

Remark 2.14. Consider a cluster-tilted algebra in type $D$ with quiver $Q$ of Type I, II, III or IV and parameters as defined in Section 1.6.
(I) If $Q$ is of Type I, then $\chi_Q(x) = (x + 1)^t(x - 1)\left(x^{s+t+2} + (-1)^s\right)$ where $s = s(Q)$ and $t = t(Q)$.

(II/III) If $Q$ is of Type II or Type III, then $\chi_Q(x) = (x + 1)^{t+1}(x - 1)\left(x^{s+t+2} + (-1)^s+1\right)$ where $s = s(Q') + s(Q'')$ and $t = t(Q') + t(Q'')$.

(IV) If $Q$ is of Type IV, then we have the following.

(a) If $Q$ is an oriented cycle of length $n$ without spikes then
$$\chi_Q(x) = \begin{cases} x^n - 1 & \text{if } n \text{ is odd,} \\ (x^{n/2} - 1)^2 & \text{if } n \text{ is even.} \end{cases}$$

(b) If $Q$ has parameters $((1, s, t), (1, 0, 0), \ldots, (1, 0, 0))$ with $b \geq 3$ spikes, then
$$\chi_Q(x) = (x + 1)^t(x^b - 1)\left(x^{s+t+b} + (-1)^{s+b}\right).$$

(c) If $Q$ has parameters $((3, s, t))$ then
$$\chi_Q(x) = (x + 1)^{t-1}(x - 1)\left(x^{s+t+4} + 2 \cdot x^{s+t+3} + (-1)^{s+1} \cdot 2x + (-1)^{s+1}\right).$$

(d) If $Q$ has parameters $((3, s_1, t_1), (3, s_2, t_2))$ then
$$\chi_Q(x) = (x + 1)^{t_1+t_2-2} \cdot (x - 1) \cdot \left(x^{s_1+t_1+s_2+t_2} \cdot (x^9 + 3x^8 + 4x^7 + 4x^6) + \left((-1)^{s_1}x^{s_2+t_2} + (-1)^{s_2}x^{s_1+t_1}\right)(x^5 - x^4) + (-1)^{s_1+s_2+1}(1 + 3x + 4x^2 + 4x^3)\right).$$

**Remark 2.15.** The third author has computed the Hochschild cohomology groups of all the cluster-tilted algebras of Dynkin type [29]. By using these derived invariants it is possible to refine Corollary 2.10 and show that a cluster-tilted algebra in Type II with more than 4 vertices is not derived equivalent to any cluster-tilted algebra in Type IV, and that moreover a standard form in the class (d3) is not derived equivalent to any standard from in one of the classes (a), (b) or (c). However, the use of the Hochschild cohomology groups does not settle any of the subtle questions raised in Section 2.4 and Section 2.5.

### 2.3. Complete derived equivalence classification up to $D_{14}$

Fixing the number $n$ of vertices, it is possible to enumerate over all the standard forms of derived equivalence with $n$ vertices as given in Theorem 2.3, and compute the Cartan matrices of the corresponding cluster-tilted algebras and their associated polynomials. As long as the resulting polynomials (or any other derived invariants) do not coincide for two distinct standard forms, the derived equivalence classification is complete since then we know that any cluster-tilted algebra in type $D$ is derived equivalent to one of the standard forms, and moreover any two distinct such forms are not derived equivalent.

By carrying out this procedure on a computer using the Magma system [8], we have been able to obtain a complete derived equivalence classification of the cluster-tilted algebras of type $D_n$ for $n \leq 14$. Table 1 lists, for $4 \leq n \leq 14$, the number of such algebras (using the formula given in [13]) and the number of their derived equivalence classes.

As a consequence of our methods, we deduce the following characterization of derived equivalence for cluster-tilted algebras of type $D_n$ with $n \leq 14$.

**Theorem 2.16.** Let $\Lambda$ and $\Lambda'$ be two cluster-tilted algebras of type $D_n$ with $n \leq 14$. Then the following conditions are equivalent:

(a) $\Lambda$ and $\Lambda'$ have the same associated polynomials;

(b) The Cartan matrices of $\Lambda$ and $\Lambda'$ represent equivalent bilinear forms over $\mathbb{Z}$;

(c) $\Lambda$ and $\Lambda'$ are derived equivalent;

(d) Either $\Lambda$ and $\Lambda'$ are both self-injective, or none of them is self-injective and they are connected by a sequence of good mutations and good double mutations.

**Remark 2.17.** The implications (d) $\Rightarrow$ (c) $\Rightarrow$ (b) $\Rightarrow$ (a) always hold, regardless of the number of vertices. The implication (a) $\Rightarrow$ (b) does not hold already in type $D_{15}$, see Example 2.31 below. It is unknown whether the implication (b) $\Rightarrow$ (c) holds in general for Dynkin type $D$, see Example 2.21 in type $D_{15}$, Example 2.30 in type...
Table 1. The numbers of cluster-tilted algebras of type $D_n$ and their derived equivalence classes, $n \leq 14$.

| $n$ | Algebras | Classes |
|-----|----------|---------|
| 4   | 6        | 3       |
| 5   | 26       | 5       |
| 6   | 80       | 9       |
| 7   | 246      | 10      |
| 8   | 810      | 17      |
| 9   | 2704     | 18      |
| 10  | 9252     | 29      |
| 11  | 32066    | 31      |
| 12  | 112720   | 49      |
| 13  | 400024   | 53      |
| 14  | 1432860  | 81      |

$D_{19}$ as well as Question 2.28. Moreover, as the latter examples present pairs of cluster-tilted algebras of type $D$ satisfying condition (b) but not (d), it is impossible that both implications (b) $\Rightarrow$ (c) and (c) $\Rightarrow$ (d) would hold in general. Finally, note that Conjecture 2.7 is a slightly weaker version of the implication (c) $\Rightarrow$ (d).

Remark 2.18. It follows from their derived equivalence classification (see [14] for type $A$ and [6] for type $E$) that a statement analogous to Theorem 2.16 is true also for cluster-tilted algebras of Dynkin types $A$ and $E$, replacing the condition (d) by:

(d') $\Lambda$ and $\Lambda'$ are connected by a sequence of good mutations.

However, for Dynkin type $D$ the following two examples in types $D_6$ and $D_8$ demonstrate that one must replace condition (d') by the weaker one (d). Thus, in some sense the derived equivalence classification in type $D_8$ is more complicated than that in type $E_8$.

Example 2.19. For any $b \geq 3$, the cluster-tilted algebra in Type IV with a central cycle of length $2b$ without any spike is derived equivalent to that in Type IV with parameter sequence $((1,0,0),(1,0,0),\ldots,(1,0,0))$ of length $b$ (see Lemma 4.5). There is no sequence of good mutations or good double mutations connecting these two self-injective [36] algebras. Indeed, none of the algebra mutations at any of the vertices is defined. The smallest such pair occurs in type $D_6$ and the corresponding quivers are shown below.

Example 2.20. The two cluster-tilted algebras of type $D_8$ with quivers

of Type III are connected by a good double mutation and hence derived equivalent (see Corollary 4.4), but they cannot be connected by a sequence of good mutations. Indeed, the mutations at all the vertices of the right quiver are bad (see cases II.1, III.3 in Tables 5 and 6 in Section 3).

2.4. Opposite algebras. The smallest example of two distinct standard forms (as in Theorem 2.3) for which it is unknown whether they are derived equivalent or not arises for $n = 15$ vertices. It is related to the question of derived equivalence of an algebra and its opposite which we briefly discuss below.

It follows from the description of the quivers and relations given in Section 1.6 that if $\Lambda$ is a cluster-tilted algebra of Dynkin type $D$, then so is its opposite algebra $\Lambda^{op}$. Moreover, a careful analysis of the classes given
in Theorem 2.3 shows that any cluster-tilted algebra with standard form in the classes (a),(b),(c),(d₁) or (d₂) is derived equivalent to its opposite, and the opposite of a cluster-tilted algebra with standard form in class (d₃) and parameter sequence

\[( (1, 0, 0), (1, 0, 0), \ldots, (1, 0, 0), (3, s₁, t₁), (3, s₂, t₂), \ldots, (3, sₖ, tₖ) ) \]

is derived equivalent to a standard form in the same class, but with parameter sequence

\[( (1, 0, 0), (1, 0, 0), \ldots, (1, 0, 0), (3, s₂, t₂), \ldots, (3, sₖ, tₖ), (3, s₁, t₁) ) \]

which may not be equivalent to the original one when \(k \geq 3\). The smallest such pairs of rotation-inequivalent standard forms occur when \(k = 3\), and the number of vertices is then 15.

The equivalence class of the integral bilinear form defined by the Cartan matrix can be a very tricky derived invariant when it comes to assessing the derived equivalence of an algebra \(Λ\) and its opposite \(Λ^{op}\). Indeed, the Cartan matrix of \(Λ^{op}\) is the transpose of that of \(Λ\). Since the bilinear forms defined by any square matrix (over any field) and its transpose are always equivalent over that field [18, 21, 39], it follows that the bilinear forms defined by the integral matrices \(C_Λ\) and \(C_{Λ^{op}}\) are equivalent over \(\mathbb{Q}\) as well as over all prime fields \(\mathbb{F}_p\). Hence determining their equivalence over \(\mathbb{Z}\) becomes a delicate arithmetical question. Moreover, it follows that the asymmetry matrices (when defined) are similar over any field, and hence the associated polynomials corresponding to \(Λ\) and \(Λ^{op}\) always coincide.

To illustrate these difficulties, we present here the two smallest examples occurring in type \(D_{15}\). In one example, the equivalence of the bilinear forms is known, whereas in the other it is unknown. In both cases, we are not able to tell whether the algebra is derived equivalent to its opposite.

**Example 2.21.** The Cartan matrices of the opposite cluster-tilted algebras of type \(D_{15}\) with standard forms

\[( (3, 1, 0), (3, 0, 1), (3, 0, 0) ) , \quad ( (3, 0, 0), (3, 0, 1), (3, 1, 0) ) \]
define equivalent bilinear forms over the integers. This has been verified by computer search (using Magma [8]).

**Example 2.22.** For the opposite cluster-tilted algebras of type \(D_{15}\) with standard forms

\[( (3, 1, 0), (3, 2, 0), (3, 0, 0) ) , \quad ( (3, 0, 0), (3, 2, 0), (3, 1, 0) ) \]
it is unknown whether their Cartan matrices define equivalent bilinear forms over \(\mathbb{Z}\).

The above discussion motivates the following question.

**Question 2.23.** Let \(Q\) be an acyclic quiver such that its path algebra \(KQ\) is derived equivalent to its opposite, and let \(Λ\) be a cluster-tilted algebra of type \(Q\). Is it true that \(Λ\) is derived equivalent to its opposite \(Λ^{op}\)?

**Remark 2.24.** The answer to the above question is affirmative for cluster-tilted algebras of Dynkin types \(A\), \(E\) and affine type \(\tilde{A}\), as well as for cluster-tilted algebras of type \(D\) with at most 14 simples. This follows from the corresponding derived equivalence classifications.

**Remark 2.25.** If the answer to the question is positive for cluster-tilted algebras of Dynkin type \(D\), then in class \(d₃\) of Theorem 2.3, one has to consider the non-negative integers \(s₁, t₁, \ldots, sₖ, tₖ\) in the \(k\)-term sequence

\[( (s₁, t₁), (s₂, t₂), \ldots, (sₖ, tₖ) ) \]

up to rotation as well as order reversal.

### 2.5. Other open questions for \(Dₙ\), \(n \geq 15\).

An immediate consequence of part (IV)(d) of Remark 2.14 is the following systematic construction of standard forms with the same associated polynomial.

**Remark 2.26.** Let \(s₁, t₁, s₂, t₂ \geq 0\). Then the cluster-tilted algebras with standard forms

\[(3, 2 + s₁, t₁), (3, s₂, 2 + t₂) \]

\[(3, 2 + s₂, t₂), (3, s₁, 2 + t₁) \]

have the same associated polynomial. In other words, for a cluster-tilted algebra with quiver

```
   Q' ← • ← • ← • ← • ← Q
```

\(Q'\) or \(Q\) is a 13-node quiver.

where $Q'$ and $Q''$ are rooted quivers of type $A$, exchanging the rooted quivers $Q'$ and $Q''$ does not change the associated polynomial.

The following proposition, which is a specific case of a statement in the note [33], shows that moreover, in most cases, the Cartan matrices of the corresponding standard forms define equivalent bilinear forms (over $\mathbb{Q}$).

**Proposition 2.27.** Let $s_1, s_2 \geq 0$ and $t_1, t_2 > 0$. Then the bilinear forms defined by the Cartan matrices of the cluster-tilted algebras with standard forms as in (2.2) are equivalent over $\mathbb{Q}$. In other words, for a cluster-tilted algebra with quiver

\[ Q'' \rightarrow \cdot \rightarrow \cdot \rightarrow \cdot \rightarrow Q' \]

where $Q'$ and $Q''$ are rooted quivers of type $A$, exchanging the rooted quivers $Q'$ and $Q''$ does not change the equivalence class of the bilinear form defined by the Cartan matrix.

**Question 2.28.** Are any two cluster-tilted algebras as in Proposition 2.27 derived equivalent?

Let $m \geq 1$. By considering the $m + 1$ standard forms with parameters

\[(3, 2i, 2m + 1 - 2i), (3, 2m + 1 - 2i, 1 + 2i)\]

and invoking Proposition 2.27, we obtain the following.

**Corollary 2.29.** Let $m \geq 1$. Then one can find $m + 1$ distinct standard forms of cluster-tilted algebras of type $D_{6m+13}$ whose Cartan matrices define equivalent bilinear forms.

**Example 2.30.** The smallest case occurs when $m = 1$, giving a pair of cluster-tilted algebras of type $D_{19}$ whose Cartan matrices define equivalent bilinear forms but their derived equivalence is unknown. They correspond to the choice of $Q' = A_1$ and $Q'' = A_2$ in Proposition 2.27.

In some of the remaining cases in Remark 2.26, despite the collision of the associated polynomials, it is still possible to distinguish the standard forms by using the bilinear forms of their Cartan matrices, whereas in other cases this remains unsettled. We illustrate this by two examples.

**Example 2.31.** The two standard forms $((3, 2, 0), (3, 1, 2))$ and $((3, 3, 0), (3, 0, 2))$ in type $D_{15}$ corresponding to the choice of $Q' = A_1$ and $Q'' = A_2$ in Remark 2.26 have the same associated polynomial, namely

\[20 \cdot (x^{15} + 2x^{14} + x^{13} - 4x^{11} + x^9 - 3x^8 + 3x^7 - x^6 + 4x^4 - x^2 - 2x - 1)\]

but their asymmetry matrices are not similar over the finite field $\mathbb{F}_3$ (and hence not over $\mathbb{Z}$). Thus the bilinear forms defined by their Cartan matrices are not equivalent so the two algebras are not derived equivalent.

This is the smallest non-trivial example of Remark 2.26, and it also shows that the implication (a) $\Rightarrow$ (b) in Theorem 2.16 does not hold in general for cluster-tilted algebras of type $D$.

**Example 2.32.** The two standard forms $((3, 2, 0), (3, 3, 2))$ and $((3, 5, 0), (3, 0, 2))$ in type $D_{17}$ corresponding to the choice of $Q' = A_1$ and $Q'' = A_4$ in Remark 2.26 have the same associated polynomials and the asymmetries are similar over $\mathbb{Q}$ as well as over all finite fields $\mathbb{F}_p$, but it is unknown whether the bilinear forms are equivalent over $\mathbb{Z}$ or not.

Table 2 lists for $15 \leq n \leq 20$ the number of cluster-tilted algebras of type $D_n$ (according to the formula in [13]) together with upper and lower bounds on the number of their derived equivalence classes. There are two upper bounds which are obtained by counting the number of standard forms given in Theorem 2.3 with (“max”) or without (“max”) the assumption of affirmative answer to Question 2.23 concerning the derived equivalence of opposite cluster-tilted algebras. The lower bound (“min”) is obtained by considering the number of standard forms with distinct numerical invariants of derived equivalence. It follows that in types $D_{15}$, $D_{16}$ and $D_{18}$ there are no unsettled cases apart from those arising as opposites of algebras.
Let $Q$ be mutation equivalent to a Dynkin quiver. When assessing whether its quiver mutation at a vertex $k$ is good or not, one needs to consider which of the algebra mutations at $k$ of the two cluster-tilted algebras $\Lambda_Q$ and $\Lambda_{\mu_k(Q)}$ corresponding to $Q$ and its mutation $\mu_k(Q)$ are defined. A-priori, there may be 16 possibilities as there are four algebra mutations to consider (negative and positive for $\Lambda_Q$ and $\Lambda_{\mu_k(Q)}$) and each of them can be either defined or not. However, our following result shows that the question which of the algebra mutations of $\Lambda_Q$ at $k$ is defined and the analogous question for $\Lambda_{\mu_k(Q)}$ are not independent of each other, and the number of possibilities that can actually occur is only 5.

**Proposition 2.33.** Let $Q$ be mutation equivalent to a Dynkin quiver and let $k$ be a vertex of $Q$. Consider the two algebra mutations $\mu_k^{-}(\Lambda_Q)$ and $\mu_k^{+}(\Lambda_Q)$ of the cluster-tilted algebra $\Lambda_Q$.

(a) If none of these mutations is defined, then both algebra mutations $\mu_k^{-}(\Lambda_{\mu_k(Q)})$ and $\mu_k^{+}(\Lambda_{\mu_k(Q)})$ are defined. Obviously, the quiver mutation at $k$ is bad.

(b) If $\mu_k^{-}(\Lambda_Q)$ is defined but $\mu_k^{+}(\Lambda_Q)$ is not, then $\mu_k^{+}(\Lambda_{\mu_k(Q)})$ is defined and $\mu_k^{-}(\Lambda_{\mu_k(Q)})$ is not, hence the quiver mutation at $k$ is good.

(c) If $\mu_k^{+}(\Lambda_Q)$ is defined but $\mu_k^{-}(\Lambda_Q)$ is not, then $\mu_k^{-}(\Lambda_{\mu_k(Q)})$ is defined and $\mu_k^{+}(\Lambda_{\mu_k(Q)})$ is not, hence the quiver mutation at $k$ is good.

(d) If both algebra mutations of $\Lambda_Q$ at $k$ are defined, then either both mutations of $\Lambda_{\mu_k(Q)}$ at $k$ are defined or none of them is defined. Accordingly, the quiver mutation at $k$ may be good or bad.

In other words, there are only 5 possible cases which are given in the table below, where $\sqrt{\ }$ indicates that the corresponding algebra mutation is defined and $\times$ indicates that it is not.

| $\mu_k^{-}(\Lambda_Q)$ | $\mu_k^{+}(\Lambda_Q)$ | $\mu_k^{+}(\Lambda_{\mu_k(Q)})$ | $\mu_k^{-}(\Lambda_{\mu_k(Q)})$ | $\mu_k(Q)$ is . . . |
|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|
| $\sqrt{\ }$           | $\times$               | $\sqrt{\ }$                  | $\times$                      | $\text{good}$    |
| $\times$               | $\sqrt{\ }$           | $\times$                      | $\sqrt{\ }$                  | $\text{good}$    |
| $\sqrt{\ }$           | $\sqrt{\ }$           | $\times$                      | $\sqrt{\ }$                  | $\text{bad}$     |
| $\times$               | $\times$               | $\times$                      | $\times$                      | $\text{bad}$     |

Since a good mutation implies the derived equivalence of the corresponding cluster-tilted algebras, it also implies that the determinants of their Cartan matrices are equal. The next proposition shows that in Dynkin types $A$ and $D$, the converse also holds.

**Proposition 2.34.** Let $\Lambda_Q$ be a cluster-tilted algebra of Dynkin type $A$ or $D$. Then the mutation of $Q$ at $k$ is good if and only if $\det C_Q = \det C_{\mu_k(Q)}$.

This can be shown by checking all the cases discussed in Section 3. Note that in type $E$, the statement of the proposition does not hold, as can be verified by a computer. However, the following weaker assertion is true for all Dynkin types including type $E$, see [6, Corollary 1], characterizing good mutations as those mutations whose corresponding cluster-tilted algebras are derived equivalent.

**Corollary 2.35.** Let $\Lambda_Q$ be a cluster-tilted algebra of Dynkin type. Then the mutation of $Q$ at $k$ is good if and only if $\Lambda_Q$ and $\Lambda_{\mu_k(Q)}$ are derived equivalent.
2.7. Good mutation equivalence classification. Whereas the classification according to derived equivalence becomes subtle when the number of vertices grows, leaving some questions still undecided, this does not happen for the stronger, but algorithmically more tractable relation of good mutation equivalence.

**Definition 2.36.** Two cluster-tilted algebras (of Dynkin type) with quivers for the stronger, but algorithmically more tractable relation of good mutation equivalence.

becomes subtle when the number of vertices grows, leaving some questions still undecided, this does not happen

2.7. Good mutation equivalence classification.

and denote by $\Lambda_j$ if one can move from equivalent $k$ $A$ cluster-tilted algebra of type

Theorem 2.40. There is an algorithm which decides for two quivers which are mutation equivalent to $\Lambda_j$ or $\Lambda_j^\circ$.

Remark 2.37. Any two cluster-tilted algebras which are good mutation equivalent are also derived equivalent.

We now present our results concerning good mutations in type $D$.

**Theorem 2.38.** There is an algorithm which decides for two quivers which are mutation equivalent to $D_n$ given in parametric notation (i.e. specified by their Type I,II,III,IV and the parameters), whether the corresponding cluster-tilted algebras are good mutation equivalent or not.

Remark 2.39. It can be shown that the running time of this algorithm is at most quadratic in the number of parameters.

We provide also a list of “standard forms” for good mutation equivalence.

**Theorem 2.40.** A cluster-tilted algebra of type $D_n$ is good mutation equivalent to exactly one of the cluster-tilted algebras with the following quivers:

(a) $D_n$ (i.e. Type I with a linearly oriented $A_{n-2}$ quiver attached);

(b) Type II as in the following figure, where $S, T \geq 0$ and $S + 2T = n - 4$;

(c) Type III as in the following figure, with $S \geq 0$, the non-negative integers $T_1, T_2$ are considered up to rotation of the sequence $(T_1, T_2)$, and $S + 2(T_1 + T_2) = n - 4$;

(d) Type IV with a central cycle of length $n$ without any spikes;

(d) Type IV with parameter sequence $((1, S, 0), (1, 0, 0), \ldots, (1, 0, 0))$ of length $b \geq 3$, with $S \geq 0$ such that $n = 2b + S$ and the attached rooted quiver of type $A$ is linearly oriented $A_{S+1};$
Type IV with parameter sequence 
\(((1, S, T_1), (1, 0, 0), \ldots, (1, 0, 0), (1, 0, T_2), (1, 0, 0), \ldots, (1, 0, 0), \ldots, (1, 0, T_l), (1, 0, 0), \ldots, (1, 0, 0))\)
which is a concatenation of \(l \geq 1\) blocks of positive lengths \(b_1, b_2, \ldots, b_l\) whose sum is not smaller than 3, with \(S \geq 0\) and \(T_1, \ldots, T_l > 0\) considered up to rotation of the sequence \(((b_1, T_1), (b_2, T_2), \ldots, (b_l, T_l))\), 
\(n = 2(b_1 + \cdots + b_l + T_1 + \cdots + T_l) + S\) and the attached quivers of type \(A\) are in standard form;

Type IV with parameter sequence \(((1, 0, 0), \ldots, (1, 0, 0), (3, S_1, 0), \ldots, (3, S_a, 0))\) for some \(a > 0\), where the number of the triples \((1, 0, 0)\) is \(b \geq 0\), the sequence of non-negative integers \((S_1, \ldots, S_a)\) is considered up to a cyclic permutation, 
\(n = 4a + 2b + S_1 + \cdots + S_a\) and the attached rooted quivers of type \(A\) are in standard form (i.e. linearly oriented \(A_{S_1+1}, \ldots, A_{S_a+1}\));

Type IV with parameter sequence which is a concatenation of \(l \geq 1\) sequences of the form 
\(\gamma_j = \begin{cases} 
((1, 0, T_j), (1, 0, 0), \ldots, (1, 0, 0), (3, S_{j,1}, 0), (3, S_{j,2}, 0), \ldots, (3, S_{j,a_j}, 0)) & \text{if } b_j > 0, \\
((3, S_{j,1}, T_j), (3, S_{j,2}, 0), \ldots, (3, S_{j,a_j}, 0)) & \text{otherwise},
\end{cases}\)
where each sequence \(\gamma_j\) for \(1 \leq j \leq l\) is defined by non-negative integers \(a_j, b_j\) not both zero, a sequence of \(a_j\) non-negative integers \(S_{j,1}, \ldots, S_{j,a_j}\) and a positive integer \(T_j\), and not all the \(a_j\) are zero. All these
numbers are considered up to rotation of the l-term sequence
\[
\left( (b_1, (S_{1,1}, \ldots, S_{1,a_1}), T_1), (b_2, (S_{2,1}, \ldots, S_{2,a_2}), T_2), \ldots, (b_l, (S_{l,1}, \ldots, S_{l,a_l}), T_l) \right),
\]
they satisfy
\[
n = \sum_{j=1}^{l} (4a_j + 2b_j + S_{j,1} + \cdots + S_{j,a_j} + 2T_j),
\]
and the attached rooted quivers of type $A$ are in standard form.
In other words, the quiver is a concatenation of $l \geq 1$ quivers $\gamma_j$ of the form
\[
\gamma_j = \begin{cases} 
\text{if } b_j > 0, \\
\text{if } b_j = 0,
\end{cases}
\]
where the last vertex of $\gamma_l$ is glued to the first vertex of $\gamma_1$.

**Remark 2.41.** An algorithm to compute the standard form of a cluster-tilted algebra of type $D$ given in parametric notation is presented in Section 5.3.

The next remark explains how the standard forms for good mutation equivalence can be seen as refinements of the standard forms for derived equivalence appearing in Theorem 2.3.

**Remark 2.42.** The derived equivalence classes of the forms (a) and (b) in Theorem 2.3 are also good mutation equivalence classes (of the corresponding form). However, derived equivalence classes of the form (c) in Theorem 2.3 decompose into (generally, many) good mutation equivalence classes of the form (c) in Theorem 2.40.

For a standard form listed in part (d) of Theorem 2.3, if $t_i = 0$ then the set of cluster-tilted algebras which can be brought to that standard form by a sequence of good mutations and good double mutations comprises a good mutation equivalence class of the form $(d_{2,1})$, otherwise this set decomposes into (usually many) good mutation equivalence classes of the form $(d_{2,2})$. Similarly, for a standard form listed in part (d) of Theorem 2.3, if all the $t_i$ are zero then the corresponding set of cluster-tilted algebras comprises a good mutation equivalence class of the form $(d_{3,1})$, otherwise it decomposes into (usually many) good mutation equivalence classes of the form $(d_{3,2})$.

### 3. Good mutation equivalences

In this section we determine all the good mutations for cluster-tilted algebras of Dynkin types $A$ and $D$.

#### 3.1. Rooted quivers of type $A$

For a rooted quiver $(Q, v)$ of type $A$, we call a mutation at a vertex other than the root $v$ a mutation outside the root.

**Proposition 3.1.** Any two rooted quivers of type $A$ with the same numbers of lines and triangles can be connected by a sequence of good mutations outside the root.

**Remark 3.2.** It is enough to show that a rooted quiver of type $A$ can be transformed to its standard form via good mutations outside the root.
We begin by characterizing the good mutations in Dynkin type $A$.

**Lemma 3.3.** Let $Q$ be a quiver mutation equivalent to $A_n$. Then a mutation of $Q$ is good if and only if it does not change the number of triangles.

**Proof.** Each row of Table 3 displays a pair of neighborhoods of a vertex $\bullet$ in such a quiver related by a mutation (at $\bullet$). Using the description of the relations of the corresponding cluster-tilted algebras as in Remark 1.21, we can use Proposition 1.10 and easily determine, for each entry in the table, which of the negative $\mu^-$ or the positive $\mu^+$ mutations is defined. Then Proposition 1.13 tells us if the quiver mutation is good or not.

By examining the entries in the table, we see that the only bad mutation occurs in row 2b, where a triangle is created (or destroyed). \qed

**Proof of Proposition 3.1.** In view of Remark 3.2, we give an algorithm for the mutation to the standard form above (similar to the procedures in [5] and [14]): Let $Q$ be a rooted quiver of type $A$ which has at least one triangle (otherwise we get the desired orientation of a standard form by sink/source mutations as in 1 and 2a in Table 3). For any triangle $C$ in $Q$ denote by $v_C$ the unique vertex of the triangle having minimal distance to the root $c$. Choose a triangle $C_1$ in $Q$ such that to the vertices of the triangle $\neq v_1 := v_{C_1}$ only linear parts are attached; denote them by $p_1$ and $p_2$, respectively.
Denote by \( C_2, \ldots, C_k \) the (possibly) other triangles along the path \( p \) from \( v_1 \) to \( c \).

Now we move all subquivers \( p_2, Q_2, \ldots, Q_k \) onto the path \( p_1 \alpha p \). For this we use the same mutations as in the steps 1 and 2 in \([5, \text{Lemma 3.10}]\). Note that this can be done with the good mutations presented in Table 3. Thus, we get a new complete set of triangles \( \{C_1, C'_2, \ldots, C'_l\} \) on the path from \( v_1 \) to \( c \):

We move all the triangles along the path to the right side. For this we use the same mutations as in step 4 in \([5, \text{Lemma 3.10}]\). We then obtain a quiver of the form

3.2. Good mutations in Types I and II. The good mutations involving quivers in Types I and II are given in Tables 4 and 5 below. In each row of these tables, we list:

(a) The quiver, where \( Q, Q', Q'' \) and \( Q''' \) are rooted quivers of type \( A \);
(b) Which of the algebra mutations (negative \( -\mu \), or positive \( +\mu \)) at the distinguished vertex \( \bullet \) are defined;
(c) The (Fomin-Zelevinsky) mutation of the quiver at the vertex \( \bullet \); and for the corresponding cluster-tilted algebra:
(d) Which of the algebra mutations at the vertex \( \bullet \) are defined.
(e) Based on these, we determine whether the mutation is good or not, see Proposition 1.13.

To check whether a mutation is defined or not, we use the criterion of Proposition 1.10. Observe that since the gluing process introduces no new relations, it is enough to assume that each rooted quiver of type \( A \) consists of just a single vertex. The finite list of quivers we obtain can thus be examined by using a computer. We illustrate the details of these checks on a few examples. Since there is at most one arrow between any two vertices, we indicate a path by the sequence of vertices it traverses.
Table 4. Mutations involving Type I quivers.
Example 3.4. Consider the case I.4c in Table 4. We look at the two cluster-tilted algebras $\Lambda$ and $\Lambda'$ with the following quivers

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{II.1} & \quad Q'' \rightarrow Q' \quad \mu_{\bullet}^{\pm}, \mu_{\bullet}^{\pm} & \quad Q'' \rightarrow Q' \quad \text{none} & \quad \text{bad} \\
\text{II.2} & \quad Q'' \rightarrow \bullet \rightarrow Q' \quad \mu_{\bullet}^{-} & \quad Q'' \leftarrow \bullet \rightarrow Q' \quad \mu_{\bullet}^{+} & \quad \text{good} \\
\text{II.3} & \quad Q'' \rightarrow \bullet \rightarrow Q' \quad \mu_{\bullet}^{-}, \mu_{\bullet}^{+} & \quad Q'' \leftarrow \bullet \rightarrow Q' \quad \mu_{\bullet}^{-}, \mu_{\bullet}^{+} & \quad \text{good}
\end{align*}
\]

Table 5. Mutations involving Type II quivers.

Example 3.5. Consider the case I.5a in Table 4. We look at the two cluster-tilted algebras $\Lambda$ and $\Lambda'$ with the following quivers

and examine their mutations at the vertex 0.

As in the previous example, since the arrow $1 \rightarrow 0$ (or $2 \rightarrow 0$) does not appear in any relation of $\Lambda$, the negative mutation $\mu_0^-(\Lambda)$ is defined. But $\mu_0^+(\Lambda)$ is not defined since the composition of the arrow $3 \rightarrow 0$ with $0 \rightarrow 4$ vanishes. Similarly for $\Lambda'$, the positive mutation $\mu_0^+(\Lambda')$ is defined since the arrow $0 \rightarrow 3$ does not appear in any relation, and $\mu_0^-(\Lambda')$ is not defined since the composition of the arrow $4 \rightarrow 0$ with the arrow $0 \rightarrow 1$ vanishes.
Example 3.6. Consider the case II.3 in Table 5. We will show that if \( \Lambda \) is one of the cluster-tilted algebras with the quivers given below

then both algebra mutations \( \mu^-_0(\Lambda) \) and \( \mu^+_0(\Lambda) \) are defined.

Indeed, let \( p = \gamma_1 \gamma_2 \ldots \gamma_r \) be a non-zero path starting at 0 written as a sequence of arrows. If \( \gamma_1 \neq \beta \), then the composition \( \alpha \cdot p \) is not zero, whereas otherwise the composition \( \alpha' \cdot p \) is not zero, hence \( \mu^-_0(\Lambda) \) is defined. Similarly, if \( p = \gamma_1 \ldots \gamma_r \) is a non-zero path ending at 0, then composition \( p \cdot \beta \) is not zero if \( \gamma_r \neq \alpha \), and otherwise \( p \cdot \beta' \) is not zero, hence \( \mu^+_0(\Lambda) \) is defined as well.

3.3. Good mutations in Types III and IV. These are given in Tables 6 and 7. Table 6 is computed in a similar way to Tables 4 and 5. In Table 7, the dotted lines indicate the central cycle, and the two vertices at the sides may be identified (for the right quivers in IV.2a and IV.2b, these identifications lead to the left quivers of III.1 and III.2). The proof that all the mutations listed in that table are good relies on the lemmas below.

Mutations at vertices on the central cycle are discussed in Lemmas 3.7, 3.10 and 3.13, whereas mutations at the spikes are discussed in Lemmas 3.8 and 3.11. The moves IV.1a and IV.1b in Table 7 follow from Corollary 3.9. The moves IV.2a and IV.2b follow from Corollary 3.12. Lemma 3.13 implies that there are no additional good mutations involving Type IV quivers.

Lemma 3.7. Let \( m \geq 2 \) and consider a cluster-tilted algebra \( \Lambda \) of Type IV with the quiver

having a central cycle \( 0, 1, \ldots, m \) and optional spikes \( Q_- \) and \( Q_+ \) (which coincide when \( m = 2 \)). Then:

(a) \( \mu^-_0(\Lambda) \) is defined if and only if the spike \( Q_- \) is present.
(b) \( \mu^+_0(\Lambda) \) is defined if and only if the spike \( Q_+ \) is present.
Table 7. Good mutations involving Type IV quivers.

Proof. We prove only the first assertion, as the proof of the second is similar.

We use the criterion of Proposition 1.10. The negative mutation \( \mu_0^-(\Lambda) \) is defined if and only if the composition of the arrow \( m \to 0 \) with any non-zero path starting at 0 is not zero. This holds for all such paths of length smaller than \( m-1 \), so we only need to consider the path \( 0, 1, \ldots, m-1 \). Now, the composition \( m, 0, 1, \ldots, m-1 \) vanishes if \( Q^- \) is not present, and otherwise equals the (non-zero) path \( m, v^-, m-1 \) where \( v^- \) denotes the root of \( Q^- \).

Lemma 3.8. Let \( m \geq 3 \) and consider a cluster-tilted algebra \( \Lambda' \) of Type IV with the quiver

(3.2)

having a central cycle \( 1, 2, \ldots, m \) and optional spikes \( Q^- \) and \( Q^+ \). Then:

(a) \( \mu_0^- (\Lambda') \) is defined if and only if the spike \( Q^- \) is not present.

(b) \( \mu_0^+ (\Lambda') \) is defined if and only if the spike \( Q^+ \) is not present.

Proof. We prove only the first assertion, as the proof of the second is similar.

We use the criterion of Proposition 1.10. The negative mutation \( \mu_0^- (\Lambda') \) is defined if and only if the composition of the arrow \( 1 \to 0 \) with any non-zero path starting at 0 is not zero. For the path \( 0, m \), the composition \( 1, 0, m \) equals the path \( 1, 2, \ldots, m \) and hence it is non-zero. This shows that \( \mu_0^- (\Lambda') \) is defined when \( Q^- \) is not
present. When \( Q_- \) is present, the path \( 0, m, v_- \) to the root \( v_- \) of \( Q_- \) is non-zero, but the composition \( 1, 0, m, v_- \) equals the path \( 1, 2, \ldots, m, v_- \) which is zero since the path \( m = 1, m, v_- \) vanishes.

**Corollary 3.9.** Let \( \Lambda \) be a cluster-tilted algebra corresponding to a quiver as in (3.1) and let \( \Lambda' \) be the one corresponding to its mutation at 0, as in (3.2). The following table lists which of the algebra mutations at 0 are defined for \( \Lambda \) and \( \Lambda' \) depending on whether the optional spikes \( Q_- \) or \( Q_+ \) are present (“yes”) or not (“no”).

| \( Q_- \) | \( Q_+ \) | \( \Lambda \) | \( \Lambda' \) |
|-----------|-----------|-------------|-------------|
| yes       | yes       | \( \mu^-, \mu^+ \) | none        |
| yes       | no        | \( \mu^- \)   | good        |
| no        | yes       | \( \mu^+ \)   | good        |
| no        | no        | none         | \( \mu^-, \mu^+ \) bad |

**Lemma 3.10.** Let \( m \geq 2 \) and consider cluster-tilted algebras \( \Lambda_- \) and \( \Lambda_+ \) of Type IV with the following quivers

\[
(3.3)
\]

having a central cycle \( 0, 1, \ldots, m \) and optional spikes \( Q_- \) or \( Q_+ \). Then:

(a) \( \mu_0^-(\Lambda_-) \) is never defined;
(b) \( \mu_0^-(\Lambda_-) \) is defined if and only if the spike \( Q_- \) is present;
(c) \( \mu_0^+(\Lambda_+) \) is never defined;
(d) \( \mu_0^+(\Lambda_+) \) is defined if and only if the spike \( Q_+ \) is present.

**Proof.** We prove only the first two assertions, the proofs of the others are similar.

(a) Let \( v_0 \) denote the root of \( Q_0 \). Then the path \( v_0, 0 \) is non-zero whereas \( v_0, 0, 1 \) is zero.
(b) Since the path \( v_0, 0, 1 \) is zero, the composition of the arrow \( v_0 \to 0 \) with any non-trivial path starting at 0 is zero. Therefore the negative mutation at 0 is defined if and only if the composition of the arrow \( m \to 0 \) with any non-zero path starting at 0 is not zero, and the proof goes in the same manner as in Lemma 3.7.

**Lemma 3.11.** Let \( m \geq 3 \) and consider cluster-tilted algebras \( \Lambda'_- \) and \( \Lambda'_+ \) of Type IV with the following quivers

\[
(3.4)
\]

having a central cycle \( 1, 2, \ldots, m \) and optional spikes \( Q_- \) or \( Q_+ \). Then:

(a) \( \mu_0^+(\Lambda'_-) \) is always defined;
(b) \( \mu_0^-(\Lambda'_-) \) is defined if and only if the spike \( Q_- \) is not present;
(c) \( \mu_0^+(\Lambda'_+) \) is always defined;
(d) \( \mu_0^+(\Lambda'_+) \) is defined if and only if the spike \( Q_+ \) is not present.

**Proof.** We prove only the first two assertions, the proofs of the others are similar.

(a) Let \( v_0 \) denote the root of \( Q_0 \). Then the composition of any non-zero path ending at 0 with the arrow \( 0 \to v_0 \) is not zero.
(b) Since the composition of the arrow \( 1 \to 0 \) with any non-zero path whose first arrow is \( 0 \to v_0 \) is not zero, we only need to consider paths whose first arrow \( 0 \to m \). The proof is then the same as in Lemma 3.8.
Corollary 3.12. Let $\Lambda_-$ and $\Lambda_+$ be cluster-tilted algebras corresponding to quivers as in (3.3) and let $\Lambda'_-$ and $\Lambda'_+$ be the ones corresponding to their mutations at 0, as in (3.4). The following tables list which of the algebra mutations at 0 are defined for $\Lambda_-$, $\Lambda'_-$, $\Lambda_+$ and $\Lambda'_+$ depending on whether the optional spikes $Q_-$ or $Q_+$ are present (“yes”) or not (“no”).

| $Q_-$ | $\Lambda_-$ | $\Lambda'_-$ | good |
|-------|-------------|------------|------|
| yes   | $\mu^-$    | $\mu^-$   | bad  |
| no    | none       | $\mu^-, \mu^+$ |      |

| $Q_+$ | $\Lambda_+$ | $\Lambda'_+$ | good |
|-------|-------------|------------|------|
| yes   | $\mu^+$    | $\mu^-$   | bad  |
| no    | none       | $\mu^-, \mu^+$ |      |

Lemma 3.13. Let $m \geq 2$ and consider a cluster-tilted algebra $\Lambda$ of Type IV with the following quiver

\[
Q'' \xrightarrow{0} Q' \xrightarrow{m} Q
\]

having a central cycle $0, 1, \ldots, m$. Then the algebra mutations $\mu_0^- (\Lambda)$ and $\mu_0^+ (\Lambda)$ are never defined.

Proof. Denote by $v'$, $v''$ the roots of $Q'$ and $Q''$, respectively, and consider the path $0, v', m$. It is non-zero, since it equals the path $0, v', m$. However, its composition with the arrow $v'' \rightarrow 0$ is zero since the path $v'' 0, 1$ vanishes, and its composition with the arrow $m \rightarrow 0$ is zero as well, since it equals $m, 0, v', m$ and the path $m, 0, v'$ vanishes. By Proposition 1.10, the mutation $\mu_0^- (\Lambda)$ is not defined. The proof for $\mu_0^+ (\Lambda)$ is similar. \qed

4. Further derived equivalences in Types III and IV

4.1. Good double mutations in Types III and IV. The good double mutations we consider in this section consist of two algebra mutations. The first takes a cluster-tilted algebra $\Lambda$ to a derived equivalent algebra which is not cluster-tilted, whereas the second takes that algebra to another cluster-tilted algebra $\Lambda'$, thus obtaining a derived equivalence of $\Lambda$ and $\Lambda'$. As already demonstrated in Example 2.20, these derived equivalences cannot in general be obtained by performing sequences consisting of only good mutations.

Lemma 4.1. Let $m \geq 3$ and consider a cluster-tilted algebra $\Lambda = \Lambda_{\tilde{Q}}$ of Type IV with the quiver $\tilde{Q}$ as in the left picture

\[
Q'' \xrightarrow{0} Q' \xrightarrow{m} Q
\]

having a central cycle $1, \ldots, m$ and optional spikes $Q_-$ and $Q_+$. Let $\mu_0 (\tilde{Q})$ denote the mutation of $\tilde{Q}$ at the vertex 0, as in the right picture. Then:

(a) $\mu_0^+ (\Lambda)$ is always defined and is isomorphic to the quotient of the cluster-tilted algebra $\Lambda_{\mu_0 (\tilde{Q})}$ by the ideal generated by the path $p$ given by

\[
p = \begin{cases} 
1, 2, \ldots, m, 0 & \text{if the spike } Q_- \text{ is present}, \\
2, \ldots, m, 0 & \text{otherwise}.
\end{cases}
\]

(b) $\mu_0^- (\Lambda)$ is always defined and is isomorphic to the quotient of the cluster-tilted algebra $\Lambda_{\mu_0 (\tilde{Q})}$ by the ideal generated by the path $p$ given by

\[
p = \begin{cases} 
0, 1, \ldots, m & \text{if the spike } Q_+ \text{ is present}, \\
0, 1, \ldots, m - 1 & \text{otherwise}.
\end{cases}
\]
Proof. We prove only the first assertion and leave the second to the reader. Let $\Lambda = \Lambda_{\tilde{Q}}$ be the cluster-tilted algebra corresponding to the quiver $\tilde{Q}$ depicted as

![Diagram of quiver $\tilde{Q}$](image)

It is easily seen using Proposition 1.10 that the negative mutation $\mu_{\tilde{Q}}^{-}(\Lambda)$ is defined. In order to describe it explicitly, we recall that $\mu_{\tilde{Q}}^{-}(\Lambda) = \text{End}_{D^b(\Lambda)}(T_{\tilde{Q}}^{-}(\Lambda))$, where

$$T_{\tilde{Q}}^{-}(\Lambda) = (P_0 \xrightarrow{(\alpha_1, \alpha_2)} (P_1 \oplus P_0)) \oplus \bigoplus_{i \neq 0} (P_i) = L_0 \oplus \bigoplus_{i \neq 0} P_i.$$

Using an alternating sum formula of Happel [22] we can compute the Cartan matrix of $\mu_{\tilde{Q}}^{-}(\Lambda)$ to be

$$C_{\mu_{\tilde{Q}}^{-}}(\Lambda) =
\begin{array}{cccccc}
0 & 1 & m & a & b & 2 & (m - 1) & \cdots \\
1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & \cdots \\
m & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & \cdots \\
a & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & \cdots \\
b & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots \\
2 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & \cdots \\
(m - 1) & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & ? & 1 & \cdots \\
\vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\
\end{array}$$

where 1/0 means 1 if $Q_-$ is present and 0 if $Q_-$ is not present.

Now to each arrow of the following quiver we define a homomorphism of complexes between the summands of $T_{\tilde{Q}}^{-}(\Lambda)$.

![Diagram of quiver](image)

First we have the embeddings $\alpha := (\text{id}, 0) : P_1 \to L_0$ and $\beta := (0, \text{id}) : P_3 \to L_0$ (in degree zero). Moreover, we have the homomorphisms $\alpha_1 \alpha_4 : P_3 \to P_1$, $\alpha_2 \alpha_3 : P_m \to P_3$, $(\alpha_6, 0) : L_0 \to P_m$ and $(0, \alpha_5) : L_0 \to P_3$. All the other homomorphisms are as before.

Now we have to show that these homomorphisms satisfy the defining relations of the algebra $\Lambda_{\mu_{\tilde{Q}}^{-}}(\Lambda)/I(\mu_{\tilde{Q}}^{-})$, up to homotopy, where $I(p)$ is the ideal generated by the path $p$ stated in the lemma. Clearly, the concatenation of $(0, \alpha_5)$ and $\alpha$ and the concatenation of $(\alpha_6, 0)$ and $\beta$ are zero-relations. The concatenation of $\alpha_2 \alpha_3$ and $(\alpha_6, 0)$ is zero as before. It is easy to see that the two paths from vertex 0 to vertex $m$ are the same since $(0, \alpha_2 \alpha_3) \sim (\alpha_7 \ldots \alpha_8, 0)$ and $(\alpha_7 \ldots \alpha_8) \sim (\alpha_1 \alpha_4)$ in $\Lambda$. The path from vertex 0 to vertex $a$ is zero since $(\alpha_1 \alpha_3 \alpha_5) = 0 = (\alpha_7 \ldots \alpha_8 \alpha_6, 0)$. This corresponds to the path $p$ in the case if $Q_-$ is present and is marked in the Cartan matrix by a box. If
Q_− is not present then the path from vertex 2 to vertex 0 is already zero since \(\ldots \alpha_8 \alpha_6, 0 = 0\) which is also marked in the Cartan matrix above. Thus, \(\mu_0^- (\Lambda)\) is isomorphic to the quotient of the cluster-tilted algebra \(\Lambda_{\mu_0(\tilde{Q})}\) by the ideal generated by the path \(p\).

\[\square\]

**Corollary 4.2.** The two cluster-tilted algebras with quivers

\[
\begin{array}{c}
Q'' \rightarrow Q' \\
\downarrow \downarrow \\
Q'''' \rightarrow Q'' \\
\downarrow \downarrow \\
\bullet_1 \rightarrow \bullet_0 \rightarrow \bullet_m
\end{array}
\]

(\(Q', Q''\) and \(Q''''\) are rooted quivers of type \(A\)) are related by a good double mutation (at the vertex 0 and then at 1).

**Proof.** Denoting the left algebra by \(\Lambda_L\) and the right one by \(\Lambda_R\), we see that \(\mu_0^- (\Lambda_L) \simeq \mu_0^+ (\Lambda_R)\), as by Lemma 4.1 these algebra mutations are isomorphic to quotient of the cluster-tilted algebra of the quiver

\[
\begin{array}{c}
Q'''' \rightarrow \bullet_1 \rightarrow \bullet_0 \rightarrow Q' \\
\downarrow \downarrow \\
\bullet_2 \rightarrow \bullet_m
\end{array}
\]

by the ideal generated by the path \(1, 2, \ldots, m, 0\).

There is an analogous version of Lemma 4.1 for cluster-tilted algebras in Type III, corresponding to the case where \(m = 2\), and the spikes \(Q_-\) and \(Q_+\) coincide (and are present). That is, there is a central cycle of length \(m = 2\) (hence it is “invisible”) with all spikes present.

**Lemma 4.3.** Consider the cluster-tilted algebra \(\Lambda_{\tilde{Q}}\) of Type III whose quiver \(\tilde{Q}\) is shown in the left picture, where \(Q', Q''\) and \(Q''''\) are rooted quivers of type \(A\).

\[
\begin{array}{c}
Q'''' \rightarrow \bullet_1 \rightarrow \bullet_0 \rightarrow Q' \\
\downarrow \downarrow \\
\bullet_2 \rightarrow \bullet_m
\end{array}
\]

Let \(\mu_0(\tilde{Q})\) denote the mutation of \(\tilde{Q}\) at the vertex 0, as in the right picture. Then:

(a) \(\mu_0^- (\Lambda)\) is always defined and is isomorphic to the quotient of the cluster-tilted algebra \(\Lambda_{\mu_0(\tilde{Q})}\) by the ideal generated by the path \(\beta \gamma\).

(b) \(\mu_0^+ (\Lambda)\) is always defined and is isomorphic to the quotient of the cluster-tilted algebra \(\Lambda_{\mu_0(\tilde{Q})}\) by the ideal generated by the path \(\alpha \beta\).
Corollary 4.4. The cluster-tilted algebras of Type III with quivers

(\text{where } Q', Q'' \text{ and } Q''' \text{ are rooted quivers of type } A) \text{ are related by a good double mutation (at } 0 \text{ and then at } 1).$

4.2. Self-injective cluster-tilted algebras. The self-injective cluster-tilted algebras have been determined by Ringel in [36]. They are all of Dynkin type $D_n$, $n \geq 3$. Fixing the number $n$ of vertices, there are one or two such algebras according to whether $n$ is odd or even. Namely, there is the algebra corresponding to the cycle of length $n$ without spikes, and when $n = 2m$ is even, there is also the one of Type IV with parameter sequence $((1,0,0),(1,0,0),\ldots,(1,0,0))$ of length $m$.

The following lemma shows that these two algebras are in fact derived equivalent. Note that this could also be deduced from the derived equivalence classification of self-injective algebras of finite representation type [2].

Lemma 4.5. Let $m \geq 3$. Then the cluster-tilted algebra of Type IV with a central cycle of length $2m$ without any spike is derived equivalent to that in Type IV with parameter sequence $((1,0,0),(1,0,0),\ldots,(1,0,0))$ of length $m$.

Proof. Let $\Lambda$ be the cluster-tilted algebra corresponding to a cycle of length $2m$ as in the left picture.

We leave it to the reader to verify that the following complex of projective $\Lambda$-modules

$$T = \left( \bigoplus_{i=1}^{m} P_{2i-1} \right) \oplus \left( \bigoplus_{i=1}^{m} P_{2i-1} \right)$$

(where the terms $P_{2i-1}$ are always at degree 0) is a tilting complex whose endomorphism algebra $\text{End}_{D^b(\Lambda)}(T)$ is isomorphic to the cluster-tilted algebra whose quiver is given in the right picture. 

5. Algorithms and standard forms

In this section we provide standard forms for derived equivalence (Theorem 2.3) as well as ones for good mutation equivalence (Theorem 2.40) of cluster-tilted algebras of type $D$. We also describe an explicit algorithm which decides on good mutation equivalence (Theorem 2.38).

5.1. Good mutations and good double mutations in parametric notation. We start by describing all the good mutations determined in Section 3 using the parametric notation of Section 1.6 which will be useful in the sequel. Note that by Proposition 3.1 two quivers with the same type and parameters are indeed equivalent by good mutations so this notation makes sense.

Each row of Table 8 describes a good mutation between two quivers of cluster-tilted algebras of type $D$ given in parametric notation. The numbers $s',s'',s''',t',t'',t'''$ are arbitrary non-negative integers and correspond to the parameters of the rooted quivers $Q', Q'', Q'''$ of type $A$ appearing in the corresponding pictures (referenced by the column “Move”).

By looking at the first four rows of the table we immediately draw the following conclusions.

Lemma 5.1. Consider quivers of Type I or II.

(a) The subset consisting of the quivers of Type I or II is closed under good mutations.
(b) The subset consisting of all the orientations of a $D_n$ diagram is closed under good mutations.
(c) A quiver in Type I with parameters $(s,t+1)$ for some $s,t \geq 0$ is equivalent by good mutations to one in Type II with parameters $(s+1,t,0,0)$.
Proof. The previous lemma shows that in Type III, it is possible to move linear parts in the rooted consecutive spikes. In other words, the two quivers with parameters $(s', t', s''', t''')$ can be moved by good mutations to the next group of consecutive spikes. In other words, the two quivers with parameters $(s', t', s''', t''')$ are equivalent by good mutations to one in Type II with parameters $(s''', t''', 0, 0)$.

Lemma 5.2. Consider quivers of Type III.

(a) A quiver of Type III with parameters $(s' + 1, t', s''', t''')$ is good mutation equivalent to one of Type III with parameters $(s', t', s''', 1, t'')$.

(b) A quiver of Type III with parameters $(s', t', s''', t''')$ is good mutation equivalent to one of Type III with parameters $(s' + s'', t', 0, t''')$.

Proof. (a) We have

\[
\text{III}(s' + 1, t', s''', t''') \xrightarrow{\text{III.1}} \text{IV}((2, s', t'), (s''', t''')) \cong \text{IV}((1, s'', t'''), (2, s', t')) \xrightarrow{\text{III.2}} \text{III}(s'' + 1, t', s''', t''')
\]

where the isomorphisms follow from rotational symmetries.

(b) Follows from the first part.

Remark 5.3. The previous lemma shows that in Type III, it is possible to move linear parts in the rooted quivers of type A from side to side by using good mutations. It is not possible, however, to move triangles by good mutations (see III.3 in Table 6 and Example 2.20).

For the next two lemmas we need the following terminology on spikes in quivers of Type IV. Spikes are consecutive if the distance $d_i$ between them is 1. A spike is free if the attached rooted quiver of type A consists of just a single vertex.

Lemma 5.4. Consider quivers of Type IV. A free spike at the end of a group of at least two consecutive spikes can be moved by good mutations to the next group of consecutive spikes. In other words, the two quivers with parameters $((1, s, t), (d, 0, 0), \ldots)$ and $((d, s, t), (1, 0, 0), \ldots)$ are connected by good mutations.

Proof. We assume $d \geq 2$, otherwise there is nothing to prove. Then

\[
((1, s, t), (d, 0, 0), \ldots) \xrightarrow{\text{IV.1a}} ((d + 2, s, t), \ldots) \xrightarrow{\text{IV.1b}} ((d, s, t), (1, 0, 0), \ldots).
\]

Lemma 5.5. Lines in a rooted quiver of type A attached to a spike in a group of consecutive spikes in a quiver of Type IV can be moved by good mutations to a rooted quiver attached to any spike in that group.

Proof. It suffices to show that the two quivers with parameters

\[
((1, s_1, t_1), (d_2, s_2 + 1, t_2), \ldots) \text{ and } ((1, s_1 + 1, t_1), (d_2, s_2, t_2), \ldots)
\]

are good mutation equivalent. Indeed,

\[
((1, s_1, t_1), (d_2, s_2 + 1, t_2), \ldots) \xrightarrow{\text{IV.2a}} ((2, s_1, t_1), (d_2, s_2, t_2), \ldots) \xrightarrow{\text{IV.2b}} ((1, s_1 + 1, t_1), (d_2, s_2, t_2), \ldots).
\]
In pictures,

\begin{table}[h]
\centering
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|}
\hline
Type & Parameters & Type & Parameters \\
\hline
III & \((s' + s'', t' + t'' + 1, s''' + t''')\) & III & \((s', t', s'' + s''' + t'''' + 1)\) \\
IV & \(((1, s' + s'', t' + t'' + 1), (d_2, s''', t'''))\) & IV & \(((1, s', t'), (d_2, s'' + s''' + t'''' + 1), \ldots)\) \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
\caption{Good double mutations in parametric notation.}
\end{table}

We now turn to good double mutations as determined in Section 4. They are presented in parametric notation in Table 9, based on Corollaries 4.2 and 4.4. Using them, we can achieve the following further transformations of quivers in Types III and IV described in the next lemmas.

**Lemma 5.6.** Consider quivers of Type III.

(a) A quiver of Type III with parameters \((s', t' + 1, s'', t'')\) is equivalent by good double mutations to one of Type III with parameters \((s', t', s'', t'')\).

(b) A quiver of Type III with parameters \((s', t', s'', t'')\) can be transformed using good mutations and good double mutations to one of Type III with parameters \((s' + s'', t' + t'', 0, 0)\).

**Proof.** (a) Follows from the first row in Table 9.

(b) Follows from the first part together with Lemma 5.2.

**Lemma 5.7.** Triangles in a rooted quiver of type A attached to a spike in a group of consecutive spikes in a quiver of Type IV can be moved by good double mutations to a rooted quiver attached to any spike in that group.

**Proof.** It suffices to show that the two quivers with parameters \(((1, s_1, t_1), (d_2, s_2, t_2 + 1), \ldots)\) and \(((1, s_1, t_1 + 1), (d_2, s_2, t_2), \ldots)\) are equivalent by good double mutation. Indeed, setting \((s'', t'') = (0, 0)\) in the second row of Table 9 shows this equivalence.

**Remark 5.8.** A careful look at Tables 8 and 9 shows that one can regard Type III quivers with parameters \((s', t', s'', t'')\) as “formal” Type IV quivers with parameters \(((1, s', t'), (1, s'', t''))\). Indeed, the good mutation moves III.1 and III.2 in Table 8 then become just specific cases of moves IV.2b and IV.2a, respectively, and the first row in Table 9 becomes a specific instance of the second.

### 5.2. Proof of Theorem 2.3.

In this section we prove Theorem 2.3. Namely, given a quiver \(Q\) of a cluster-tilted algebra of Dynkin type \(D\), we show how to find a quiver in one of the standard forms of Theorem 2.3 whose cluster-tilted algebra is derived equivalent to that of \(Q\).

Indeed, if \(Q\) is of Type I or II, then by Lemma 5.1 we can transform it by good mutations to a quiver in the classes (a) or (b) in Theorem 2.3, thus proving the derived equivalence for this case. Similarly, if \(Q\) is of Type III, then by Lemma 5.2 and Lemma 5.6 the corresponding cluster-tilted algebra is derived equivalent to one in class (c) of the theorem.

Let \(Q\) be a quiver of Type IV. If it is a cycle without any spikes, we distinguish two cases. If the number of vertices is even, then by Lemma 4.5 the corresponding cluster-tilted algebra is derived equivalent to another one in Type IV with spikes. Otherwise, it gives rise to the standard form \((d_1)\).

If \(Q\) is of Type IV with some spikes, let \(((d_1, s_1, t_1), (d_2, s_2, t_2), \ldots, (d_r, s_r, t_r))\) be its parameters. By iteratively applying the good mutations IV.1a (or IV.1b) we can repeatedly shorten by 2 all the distances \(d_i \geq 4\).
until they become 2 or 3. By applying the good mutations IV.2a (or IV.2b) we can shorten further any distance
2 to a distance of 1. Thus we get a parameter sequence where all distances \( d_i \) are either 1 or 3.

If all the distances are 1, we are in class \((d_2)\) when they sum up to at least 3 or in class \((c)\) otherwise. The
latter case can be dealt with by Lemma 5.2 and Lemma 5.6 yielding the required standard form, whereas for
the former we note that by Lemma 5.5 and Lemma 5.7 we can successively move all the lines and triangles of
the attached rooted quivers of type \( A \) and concentrate them on a single spike, yielding the standard form of
\((d_2)\).

Otherwise, when there is at least one distance of 3, we observe the following. Consider a group of consecutive
spikes. By Lemma 5.5 and Lemma 5.7, inside such a group one can always concentrate the attached type \( A \)
quivers at one of the spikes in the group, thus creating a free spike at the end of the group. By Lemma 5.4 this
free spike can then be moved to the beginning of the next group. In this way, one can move all spikes of the
group except one to the next group, thus creating a single spike with some rooted quiver of type \( A \) attached.

Continuing in this way, we can eventually merge all groups of at least two consecutive spikes into one large
group, with all the other spikes being single spikes. In other words, the sequence of distances will look like
\((1,1, \ldots, 1,3,3, \ldots, 3)\). At this large group of consecutive spikes, one can concentrate the rooted quivers of type
\( A \) at the last spike, yielding exactly the standard form occurring in \((d_3)\) of Theorem 2.3.

To complete the proof of Theorem 2.3, we show how to distinguish among standard forms which are not of
the class \((d_3)\). First, observe that when the number \( n \) of vertices is odd, the form in the class \((d_1)\) corresponds
to the unique self-injective cluster-tilted algebra with \( n \) vertices [36], hence it is distinguished by the fact that
being self-injective is invariant under derived equivalence [1].

The standard forms in all other classes (except \((d_3)\)) can be distinguished by the determinants of their Cartan
matrices. Indeed, according to Theorem 2.9, these are given in the list below as

\[
\begin{align*}
1 & \quad (a) \\
2^{l+1} & \quad (b) \\
3 \cdot 2^l & \quad (c) \\
(2b - 1) \cdot 2^l & \quad (d_2)
\end{align*}
\]

from which it is clear how to distinguish among the standard forms.

5.3. Algorithm for good mutation equivalence. In this section we prove Theorem 2.38 and Theorem 2.40. We
first observe that by Lemma 5.1 the set of quivers of Types I or II is closed under good mutations, and
moreover that lemma completely characterizes good mutation equivalence among these quivers in terms of their
parameters, leading to the classes \((a)\) and \((b)\) in Theorem 2.40. We observe also that the cyclic quiver of Type
IV without any spikes does not admit any good mutations, thus it falls into a separate equivalence class \((d_1)\)
in that theorem. Therefore we are left to deal only with quivers of Types III and IV (with spikes). Before
describing the algorithm, we introduce a few notations.

Notation 5.9. Given \( r \geq 1 \) and a non-empty subset \( \mathcal{I} \neq \emptyset \subset \{1,2, \ldots, r\} \), we define the following two partitions
of the set \( \{1,2, \ldots, r\} \). Write the elements of \( \mathcal{I} \) in an increasing order \( 1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < \cdots < i_l \leq r \) for \( l = |\mathcal{I}| \), and
define the intervals

\[
\begin{align*}
i_1^+ = \{i_1, i_1 + 1, \ldots, i_l - 1\} & \quad i_1^- = \{i_l + 1, \ldots, r, 1, \ldots, i_1\} \\
i_2^+ = \{i_2, i_2 + 1, \ldots, i_3 - 1\} & \quad i_2^- = \{i_1 + 1, \ldots, i_2 - 1, i_2\} \\
\vdots & \quad \vdots \\
i_l^+ = \{i_l, \ldots, r, 1, \ldots, i_1 - 1\} & \quad i_l^- = \{i_l - 1, \ldots, i_l - 1\}
\end{align*}
\]

We call the partition \( i_1^+ \cup i_2^+ \cup \cdots \cup i_l^+ \) the positive partition defined by \( \mathcal{I} \). Similarly, we call \( i_1^- \cup i_2^- \cup \cdots \cup i_l^- \)
the negative partition defined by \( \mathcal{I} \).

Notation 5.10. We partition the set of positive integers as \( N_1 \cup N_2 \cup N_3 \), where

\[
N_1 = \{1\}, \quad N_2 = \{n \geq 2 : n \text{ is even}\}, \quad N_3 = \{n \geq 3 : n \text{ is odd}\}.
\]
Notation 5.11. Given a sequence \(((d_1, s_1, t_1), (d_2, s_2, t_2), \ldots, (d_r, s_r, t_r))\) of triples of non-negative integers and a subset \(I\) of \(\{1, \ldots, r\}\), we define the quantities
\[
\begin{align*}
a(I) &= |\{i \in I : d_i \in N_3\}|, \\
b(I) &= |\{i \in I : d_i \in N_1\}| + \sum_{i \in I : d_i \in N_2} \frac{d_i}{2} + \sum_{i \in I : d_i \in N_3} \frac{d_i - 3}{2}, \\
s(I) &= |\{i \in I : d_i \in N_2\}| + \sum_{i \in I} s_i.
\end{align*}
\]

Algorithm 5.12 (Good mutation class). Given a non-empty sequence of triples of non-negative integers
\[
((d_1, s_1, t_1), (d_2, s_2, t_2), \ldots, (d_r, s_r, t_r))
\]
such that
\bullet \ d_i \geq 1 and \ s_i, t_i \geq 0 for all \ 1 \leq i \leq r,
\bullet \ d_1 + d_2 + \cdots + d_r \geq 2 and \ (d_1, \ldots, d_r) \neq (2),
parameterizing a quiver of Type III or IV (with spikes), we output its class \((c), (d_{2,1}), (d_{2,2}), (d_{3,1})\) or \((d_{3,2})\) and the parameters in that class as specified in Theorem 2.40 by performing the following operations.

1. Compute the subsets
\[
\mathcal{I}_D = \{1 \leq i \leq r : d_i \in N_3\}, \quad \mathcal{I}_T = \{1 \leq i \leq r : t_i > 0\}.
\]
2. If \(\mathcal{I}_D = \emptyset\) and \(\mathcal{I}_T = \emptyset\), set \(b, S\) as
\[
b = b(\{1, 2, \ldots, r\}), \quad S = s(\{1, 2, \ldots, r\}).
\]
   If \(b \geq 3\), we are in class \((d_{2,1})\), otherwise we are in class \((c)\) with parameters \((S, 0, 0, 0)\).
3. If \(\mathcal{I}_D = \emptyset\) and \(\mathcal{I}_T \neq \emptyset\), enumerate the elements of \(\mathcal{I}_T\) in increasing order as \(\mathcal{I}_T = \{i_1 < i_2 < \cdots < i_l\}\) with \(l = |\mathcal{I}_T|\), and set \(b_j, T_j\) for \(1 \leq j \leq l\) and \(S\) as
\[
b_j = b(i_j^+), \quad T_j = t_i^+, \quad S = s(\{1, 2, \ldots, r\}).
\]
   If \(b_1 + \cdots + b_l \geq 3\), we are in class \((d_{2,2})\). Otherwise, we are in class \((c)\) with parameters \((S + T_1, 0, 0, 0)\) if \(l = 1\) or \((S + T_1, 0, T_2, 0)\) if \(l = 2\).
4. If \(\mathcal{I}_D \neq \emptyset\) and \(\mathcal{I}_T = \emptyset\), enumerate the elements of \(\mathcal{I}_D\) in increasing order as \(\mathcal{I}_D = \{i_{1,1} < i_{1,2} < \cdots < i_{1,a}\}\) and set \(a, b, S_1, \ldots, S_a\) as
\[
a = a(\{1, 2, \ldots, r\}) = |\mathcal{I}_D|, \quad b = b(\{1, 2, \ldots, r\}), \quad S_j = s(i_{1,j}).
\]
   We are in class \((d_{1,1})\).
5. If \(\mathcal{I}_D \neq \emptyset\) and \(\mathcal{I}_T \neq \emptyset\), enumerate the elements of \(\mathcal{I}_T\) in increasing order as \(\mathcal{I}_T = \{i_1 < i_2 < \cdots < i_l\}\) with \(l = |\mathcal{I}_T|\). For any \(1 \leq j \leq l\),
   (i) Enumerate the elements of \(i_j^+ \cap \mathcal{I}_D\) (where the positive partition is taken with respect to the subset \(\mathcal{I}_T\)) in the order they appear within the interval \(i_j^+\) as \(i_{j,1} < i_{j,2} < \cdots < i_{j,a(i_j^+)}\).
   (ii) Set \(a_j, b_j, T_j\) and \(S_{j,1}, \ldots, S_{j,a_j}\) as
\[
a_j = a(i_j^+), \quad b_j = b(i_j^+), \quad T_j = t_{i_j^+}, \quad (S_{j,1}, \ldots, S_{j,a_j}) = (s(i_{j,1}^-), s(i_{j,2}^-), \ldots, s(i_{j,a_j(\mathcal{I}_j^+)}^-))
\]
   with the positive partition taken with respect to \(\mathcal{I}_T\) and the negative one with respect to \(\mathcal{I}_D\).
   We are in class \((d_{1,2})\).

Notation 5.13. We call two sequences \((v_0, v_1, \ldots, v_{m-1})\) and \((w_0, w_1, \ldots, w_{m-1})\) cyclic equivalent if there is some \(0 \leq j \leq m\) such that \(w_i = v_{(i+j) \mod m}\) for all \(0 \leq i < m\).

Definition 5.14. We define the space \(S\) of good mutation parameters as a disjoint union of the following five sets. We also define an equivalence relation \(\sim\) on \(S\) inside each set, and agree that elements from different sets are inequivalent.
\(c\) Triples \((T_1, T_2, S)\) of non-negative integers. \((T_1, T_2, S) \sim (T_1', T_2', S')\) if and only if \(S = S'\) and \((T_1, T_2), (T_1', T_2')\) are cyclic equivalent.
\(d_{2,1}\) Pairs \((b, S)\) with \(b \geq 3\) and \(S \geq 0\). \((b, S) \sim (b', S')\) if and only if \(b = b'\) and \(S = S'\).
(d$_{2,2}$) Pairs 

$$\left(\left((b_1, T_1), (b_2, T_2), \ldots, (b_l, T_l)\right), S\right)$$

for some $l \geq 1$, where the numbers $b_j, T_j$ are positive, $b_1 + \cdots + b_l \geq 3$ and $S \geq 0$. Two such pairs are equivalent if and only if $S = S'$ and $\left((b_1, T_1), (b_2, T_2), \ldots, (b_l, T_l)\right), \left((b'_1, T'_1), (b'_2, T'_2), \ldots, (b'_l, T'_l)\right)$ are cyclic equivalent.

(d$_{3,1}$) Pairs $(b, (S_1, \ldots, S_a))$ where $b \geq 0$ and $(S_1, \ldots, S_a)$ is a sequence of $a > 0$ non-negative integers. Two such pairs are equivalent if and only if $b = b'$ and $(S_1, \ldots, S_a), (S'_1, \ldots, S'_a)$ are cyclic equivalent.

(d$_{3,2}$) Sequences 

$$\left((b_1, (S_{1,1}, \ldots, S_{1,a_1}), T_1), (b_2, (S_{2,1}, \ldots, S_{2,a_2}), T_2), \ldots, (b_l, (S_{l,1}, \ldots, S_{l,a_l}), T_l)\right),$$

of any length $l \geq 1$, where for any $1 \leq j \leq l$ the numbers $a_j$, $b_j$ are non-negative integers not both zero, $(S_{j,1}, \ldots, S_{j,a_j})$ is a (possibly empty) sequence of $a_j$ non-negative integers and $T_j$ is a positive integer. The relation ~ is just cyclic equivalence.

**Remark 5.15.** It is easy to decide whether two good mutation parameters are equivalent or not, because this involves only checking for cyclic equivalence.

Algorithm 5.12 in fact computes a map $\Sigma : Q \to S$ from the set $Q$ of all quivers of Types III or IV (with spikes) to the set $S$ of good mutation parameters. On the other hand, the standard forms stated in Theorem 2.40 can be seen as a map $Q \to S$. We also have two natural equivalence relations on these sets: the equivalence relation ~ defined on $S$ via cyclic equivalence, and the good mutation equivalence on $Q$, which we also denote by ~. The correctness of the algorithm is guaranteed by the following proposition whose proof is long and tedious, building on arguments similar to those presented in Section 5.2; the complete proof can be found in the first author’s thesis [4, Prop. 4.2.47].

**Proposition 5.16.** Let $q, q' \in Q$ and $\sigma, \sigma' \in S$.

(a) If $q \sim q'$, then $\Sigma(q) \sim \Sigma(q')$.

(b) If $\sigma \sim \sigma'$ then $Q(\sigma) \sim Q(\sigma')$.

(c) If $\sigma \in S$ then $\Sigma(Q(\sigma)) = \sigma$. In other words, applying Algorithm 5.12 to a standard form as in Theorem 2.40 recovers the parameters of that form.

(d) If $q \in Q$ then there exists $\sigma \in S$ such that $q \sim \Sigma(q)$. In other words, a quiver can be transformed by good mutations to a quiver in standard form as in Theorem 2.40.

This completes the proof of Theorem 2.38 and Theorem 2.40.

### 5.4. Algorithm for computing standard forms

We now present an algorithm to compute the standard form for a cluster-tilted algebra of type $D$ given in parametric notation. We keep the notations of the previous section.

**Notation 5.17.** Given a sequence $\{(d_1, s_1, t_1), (d_2, s_2, t_2), \ldots, (d_r, s_r, t_r)\}$ of triples of non-negative integers and a subset $I$ of $\{1, \ldots, r\}$, we define $t(I) = \sum_{i \in I} t_i$.

**Algorithm 5.18** (Standard form). Given a non-empty sequence of triples of non-negative integers 

$$\{(d_1, s_1, t_1), (d_2, s_2, t_2), \ldots, (d_r, s_r, t_r)\}$$

such that

- $d_i \geq 1$ and $s_i, t_i \geq 0$ for all $1 \leq i \leq r$,
- $d_1 + d_2 + \cdots + d_r \geq 2$ and $(d_1, \ldots, d_r) \neq (2)$,

parameterizing a quiver of Type III or IV (with spikes), we output its class (c), (d$_2$) or (d$_3$) and the parameters in that class as specified in Theorem 2.3 by performing the following operations.

1. Compute the subset $I_D = \{1 \leq i \leq r : d_i \in N_3\}$.
2. If $I_D = \emptyset$, set $b, s$ and $t$ as

$$b = b(\{1, 2, \ldots, r\}), \quad s = s(\{1, 2, \ldots, r\}), \quad t = t(\{1, 2, \ldots, r\}).$$

If $b \geq 3$, we are in class (d$_2$), otherwise we are in class (c) with parameters $(s, t)$. 

3. If $\mathcal{D} \neq \emptyset$, enumerate the elements of $\mathcal{D}$ in increasing order as $\mathcal{D} = \{i_1 < i_2 < \cdots < i_k\}$ and set $k, b, s_1, \ldots, s_k$ and $t_1, \ldots, t_k$ as

$$
k = |\mathcal{D}|, \quad b = b(\{1, 2, \ldots, r\}), \quad s_j = s(i_j^+), \quad t_j = t(i_j^-).
$$

We are in class (d3).

The proof of correctness of this algorithm is essentially contained in Section 5.2.

**Appendix A. Proofs of Cartan determinants**

As a consequence of Proposition 1.4 the determinant of the Cartan matrix is invariant under derived equivalences. The aim of this section is to provide a proof of the formulae for the determinants of the Cartan matrices of all cluster-tilted algebras of Dynkin type $D$ as given in Theorem 2.9. Recall that the quivers of the cluster-tilted algebras of type $D$ are given by the quivers of Types I, II, III and IV described in Section 1.6.

As these quivers are defined by gluing of rooted quivers of type $A$, it is useful to also have formulae for cluster-tilted algebras of Dynkin type $A$. Since cluster-tilted algebras of type $A$ are gentle, the Cartan determinants can be obtained as a special case of [23] where formulae for the Cartan determinants of arbitrary gentle algebras are given; for a simplified proof for the special case of cluster-tilted algebras of type $A$ see also [14].

**Proposition A.1.** Let $Q$ be a quiver mutation equivalent to a Dynkin quiver of type $A$. Then the Cartan matrix of the cluster-tilted algebra corresponding to $Q$ has determinant $\det C_Q = 2^\ell(Q)$.

For proving Theorem 2.9 we shall first show a useful reduction lemma. We need the following notation: if $Q$ is a quiver and $V$ a set of vertices in $Q$, then $Q \setminus V$ is the quiver obtained from $Q$ by removing all vertices in $V$ from $Q$ and all arrows attached to them.

**Lemma A.2.** Let $Q$ be a quiver in the mutation class of a quiver of Dynkin type $D$, i.e. $Q$ is of one of the Types I, II, III, IV given in Section 1.6.

(i) Suppose $Q$ contains a vertex $a$ of valency 1. Then $\det C_Q = \det C_{Q\setminus \{a\}}$.

(ii) Suppose that $Q$ contains an oriented triangle with vertices $a, b, c$ (in this order; i.e. there is an arrow from $b$ to $c$ etc) where $a$ and $b$ have valency 2 in $Q$ and where the quiver $Q' = Q \setminus \{a, b\}$ is mutation equivalent to a quiver of Dynkin type $A$ or $D$. Then $\det C_Q = 2 \cdot \det C_{Q'\setminus \{a, b\}} = 2 \cdot \det C_{Q'}$.

**Proof.**

(i) Since taking transposes does not change the determinant we can assume that $a$ is a sink. Then the Cartan matrix of the cluster-tilted algebra corresponding to $Q$ has the form

$$
C_Q = \begin{pmatrix}
1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\
* & & & \\
\vdots & & C_{Q\setminus \{a\}} & \\
* & & & 
\end{pmatrix}
$$

from which the desired formula directly follows by Laplace expansion.

(ii) In the cluster-tilted algebra corresponding to $Q$, every product of two consecutive arrows in the triangle $a, b, c$ is zero. Moreover, in the quiver $Q \setminus \{a\}$ there is a one-one correspondence between non-zero paths starting in $c$ and non-zero paths starting in $b$ by extending any of the former paths by the arrow from $b$ to $c$ (in fact, by the unique relations in the cluster-tilted algebra all these extensions remain non-zero). Therefore, the Cartan matrix of the cluster-tilted algebra corresponding to $Q$ has the form

$$
C_Q = \begin{pmatrix}
1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & \cdots & 0 \\
0 & 1 & 1 & *_{1} & \cdots & \cdots & *_{n} \\
1 & 0 & 1 & *_{1} & \cdots & \cdots & *_{n} \\
* & 0 & * & & & & \\
\vdots & \vdots & \vdots & C_{Q'\setminus \{a, b, c\}} & \vdots & \vdots & \\
* & * & * & & & & 
\end{pmatrix}
$$

where the first three rows are labelled by $a, b$ and $c$, respectively. The entries marked by $*_{i}$ are really the same in the rows for $b$ and $c$ because of the one-one correspondence just mentioned. Moreover, note
that in the (first) row for \(a\) and in the (second) column for \(b\) we have 0’s except the two 1’s indicated because of the zero-relations in the triangle with vertices \(a, b, c\).

Denote by \(r_v\) the row in the above matrix corresponding to the vertex \(v\). We now perform an elementary row operation, namely replace the first row \(r_a\) by \(r_a - r_b + r_c\). Then we get

\[
\det C_Q = \det \begin{pmatrix}
2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & \cdots & 0 \\
0 & 1 & 1 & *_1 & \cdots & \cdots & *_n \\
1 & 0 & 1 & *_1 & \cdots & \cdots & *_n \\
\vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\
\vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\
* & 0 & * & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & * \\
\end{pmatrix} = 2 \cdot \det C_Q\setminus\{a,b\}
\]

where the last equality follows directly by Laplace expansion (with respect to the row of \(a\) and then the column of \(b\)).

\[\square\]

We will also need the following three lemmas dealing with skeleta of Type IV, i.e. the rooted quivers of type \(A\) consist of just one vertex.

**Lemma A.3.** Let \(Q\) be a quiver of Type IV which contains no spikes at all, i.e. it is just an oriented cycle of length \(k \geq 3\). Then \(\det C_Q = k - 1\).

**Lemma A.4.** Let \(Q\) be a quiver of Type IV with parameter sequence \(((1,0,0),(1,0,0),\ldots,(1,0,0))\) of length \(k \geq 3\), in other words, it is an oriented cycle of length \(k\) with all spikes present. Then \(\det C_Q = 2k - 1\).

**Lemma A.5.** Let \(Q\) be a quiver of Type IV with oriented cycle of length \(k \geq 3\) and not all spikes are present. Let \(c(Q)\) be the number of vertices on the oriented cycle which are part of two (consecutive) spikes. Then \(\det C_Q = k + c(Q) - 1\).

**Proof of Lemma A.3.** We have

\[
\det C_Q = \det \begin{pmatrix}
1 & \cdots & \cdots & 1 & 0 \\
0 & 1 & \cdots & \cdots & 1 \\
1 & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\
\vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\
\vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\
1 & \cdots & 1 & 0 & 1 \\
\end{pmatrix} = (-1)^{k-1} \det \begin{pmatrix}
0 & 1 & \cdots & 1 \\
1 & 0 & \ddots & \vdots \\
\vdots & \ddots & \ddots & 1 \\
1 & 1 & \cdots & 0 \\
\end{pmatrix} = k - 1,
\]

where for the last equality we have used the following formula whose verification is a standard exercise in linear algebra: for all \(a, b \in \mathbb{R}\) we have

\[
(A.1) \quad \det \begin{pmatrix}
b & a & \cdots & a \\
a & b & \ddots & \vdots \\
\vdots & \ddots & a & \ddots \\
a & \cdots & a & b \\
\end{pmatrix} = (b - a)^{k-1}(b + (k - 1)a).
\]

\[\square\]

**Proof of Lemma A.4.** By Lemma 4.5, the cluster-tilted algebra \(\Lambda_Q\) is derived equivalent to the one corresponding to the cycle of length \(2k\). Since the determinant of the Cartan matrix is invariant under derived equivalence, the result now follows from Lemma A.3.

\[\square\]

**Proof of Lemma A.5.** We shall closely look at one group of \(t \geq 1\) consecutive spikes in \(Q\) and label the vertices as in the following figure
Then the Cartan matrix has the following shape

\[
C_Q = \begin{pmatrix}
1 & 1 & \ldots & 1 & 1 & \ldots & 1 & 0 & 0 & \ldots & 0 & 0 & \ldots & \ldots & 0 \\
1 & 1 & \ldots & 1 & 1 & \ldots & 1 & 1 & 0 & \ldots & 0 & 0 & \ldots & \ldots & 0 \\
\vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\
1 & 1 & \ldots & 1 & 1 & \ldots & 1 & 0 & \ldots & 1 & 0 & 0 & \ldots & 0 & 0 & \ldots & 0 \\
1 & 1 & \ldots & 1 & 1 & \ldots & 1 & 1 & 0 & \ldots & 1 & 0 & 0 & \ldots & \ldots & 0 \\
1 & 1 & \ldots & 1 & 1 & \ldots & 1 & 0 & 0 & \ldots & 1 & 0 & 0 & \ldots & \ldots & 0 \\
\end{pmatrix}
\]

The two highlighted rows correspond to the vertices \( t + 1 \) and \( k + t \), respectively. For each vertex \( j \) let \( r_j \) be the row of \( C_Q \) corresponding to \( j \).

Note that the column \( k + t \) of \( C_Q \) has only two non-zero entries, namely in rows \( t + 1 \) and \( k + t \). We first replace row \( r_{t+1} \) by \( r_{t+1} - r_{k+t} + r_t - r_1 \) (in case \( t = 1 \) this indeed means just \( r_{t+1} - r_{k+t} \)). Then column \( k + t \) has only one non-zero entry, namely on the diagonal; Laplace expansion along this column yields a new matrix \( \tilde{C} \).

We consider the \((t+1)\)-st row in this new matrix which has the form

\[
\begin{pmatrix}
1 & 1 & \ldots & 1 & 0 & 0 & \ldots & 0 & 0 & \ldots & \ldots & 0 \\
1 & 1 & \ldots & 1 & 1 & \ldots & 1 & 1 & 0 & \ldots & 0 & 0 & \ldots & \ldots & 0 \\
\vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\
1 & 1 & \ldots & 1 & 1 & \ldots & 1 & 0 & \ldots & 1 & 0 & 0 & \ldots & \ldots & 0 \\
1 & 1 & \ldots & 1 & 1 & \ldots & 1 & 1 & 0 & \ldots & 1 & 0 & 0 & \ldots & \ldots & 0 \\
\end{pmatrix}
\]

where the number \( N \) at position \((t+1,k)\) is equal to 0 if \( t = 1 \) and equal to 2 if \( t > 1 \).

In case \( t = 1 \) we see that \( \tilde{C} \) is equal to the Cartan matrix of the cluster-tilted algebra corresponding to the quiver \( Q \setminus \{k+t\} \). This means that when computing the Cartan determinant we can remove isolated spikes, i.e. spikes which are not neighboring any other spike.

In this case \( t = 1 \) the statement of the theorem follows immediately by induction on the number of spikes (with the case of no spikes treated earlier as base of the induction). In fact, removing the isolated spike does not change the determinant (as we have just seen), and also the formula given in the theorem is not affected by removing an isolated spike.

Let us turn to the more complicated case \( t > 1 \) (which we shall also show by induction). If \( t > 1 \), the matrix \( \tilde{C} \) is equal to the Cartan matrix of \( Q \setminus \{k+t\} \), except for the \((t+1,k)\)-entry which is 2 in \( \tilde{C} \), but 1 in \( C_Q \setminus \{k+t\} \).
To compare the determinants in this case we use the following easy observation. Let $C = (c_{ij})$ and $\tilde{C} = (\tilde{c}_{ij})$ be two matrices which only differ at the $(m,n)$-entry. Then 
\[
\det \tilde{C} - \det C = (-1)^{m+n}(\tilde{c}_{mn} - c_{mn})C_{mn}
\]
where $C_{mn}$ is the matrix obtained from $C$ (or $\tilde{C}$) by removing row $m$ and column $n$.

Applied to our situation we get 
\[
\det \tilde{C} - \det C_{t\setminus(k+t)} = (-1)^{t+1+k}(2 - 1) \det C_{t+1,k} = (-1)^{t+1+k} \det C_{t+1,k}.
\]
Since $\det \tilde{C} = \det C_{Q}$ we can rephrase this to get 
(A.2) 
\[
\det C_{Q} = \det C_{Q\setminus(k+t)} + (-1)^{t+1+k} \det C_{t+1,k}.
\]
By induction on the number of spikes of $Q$ (with the case of no spikes treated earlier as base of the induction) we can deduce that 
\[
\det C_{Q\setminus(k+t)} = k + c(Q) - 2
\]
and hence 
\[
\det C_{Q} = k + c(Q) - 2 + (-1)^{t+1+k} \det C_{t+1,k}.
\]
For proving the assertion of the theorem we therefore have to show that 
\[
(-1)^{t+1+k} \det C_{t+1,k} = 1.
\]
We keep the labelling of the rows and columns also for $C_{t+1,k}$, all rows and columns corresponding to cycle vertices (not equal to vertex 1) with no spikes attached; for each of these Laplace expansions we get a sign 
\[
(-1)^{s(Q)},
\]
where in the lower left block the crucial 0 on the main diagonal occurs in the column labelled by vertex $t$ (because the row indexed by $k + t$ has been removed).

Now for each cycle vertex $j \neq 1$ with no spike attached we perform the elementary row operation replacing $r_{j}$ by $r_{j} - r_{1}$; this gives a unit vector with $-1$ on the diagonal. Laplace expansion along all these rows removes from $C_{t+1,k}$ all rows and columns corresponding to cycle vertices (not equal to vertex 1) with no spikes attached; for the determinant we thus get a sign $(-1)^{k-s(Q)-1}$ where $s(Q)$ is the total number of spikes of $Q$.

The matrix obtained after this removal process has rows indexed by vertex 1, the cycle vertices with spikes attached except vertex $t + 1$, and the outer vertices except vertex $k + t$. Moreover it has the form
\[
\begin{pmatrix}
1 & 1 & \ldots & \ldots & 1 & 1 & 0 & \ldots & 0 \\
1 & 1 & \ldots & \ldots & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & \ldots \\
\vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots & 0 & 1 & \ddots & \\
1 & 1 & \ldots & \ldots & 1 & 1 & \ddots & \ddots & 0 \\
1 & 1 & \ldots & \ldots & 1 & 1 & 0 & \ldots & 1 \\
\vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & 0 & 1 & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & 0 & 1 & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddOTS
We are left with a $s(Q) \times s(Q)$-matrix of the form

$$
\begin{pmatrix}
1 & 1 & \ldots & 1 & 1 & \ldots & 1 \\
1 & 0 \\
\vdots & \vdots \\
0 & 1 \\
\end{pmatrix}
$$

whose determinant is $(-1)^{t+1}$ (use Laplace expansion along column $t$). Summarizing our arguments we get

$$
det C_{t+1,k} = (-1)^{k-s(Q)-1} \cdot (-1)^{s(Q)-1} \cdot (-1)^{t+1} = (-1)^{k+t-1}.
$$

Substituting this into equation (A.2) we get for the Cartan determinant of $Q$

$$
det C_Q = k + c(Q) - 2 + (-1)^{t+1+k} \det C_{t+1,k}
\quad = k + c(Q) - 2 + (-1)^{t+1+k}(-1)^{k+t-1} = k + c(Q) - 1
$$

which is exactly the formula claimed in Theorem 2.9. \hfill \Box

**Proof of Theorem 2.9.**

(I) Applying part (i) of Lemma A.2 twice gives $\det C_Q = \det C_{Q \setminus \{a,b\}}$. By definition $Q' = Q \setminus \{a,b\}$ is a quiver of Dynkin type $A$, thus $\det C_{Q'} = 2^{t(Q')}$ by Proposition A.1. Clearly, $t(Q) = t(Q')$ for quivers of Type I and hence

$$
det C_Q = det C_{Q \setminus \{a,b\}} = det C_{Q'} = 2^{t(Q')} = 2^{t(Q)}.
$$

(II) Let $Q$ be a quiver of Type II. By applying Lemma A.2 inductively we can shrink each of the quivers $Q'$ and $Q''$ (which are of Dynkin type $A$) to one vertex where for the Cartan determinant of the corresponding cluster-tilted algebra we get a factor 2 for each triangle we remove (see part (ii) of Lemma A.2). Thus we get

$$
(A.3) \quad \det C_Q = 2^{t(Q')} \cdot 2^{t(Q'')} \cdot \det C_{\tilde{Q}}
$$

where $\tilde{Q}$ is the quiver with vertices $a,b,c,d$ obtained after shrinking each of $Q'$ and $Q''$ to one vertex. Labelling the rows and columns in the order $a,b,c,d$ the cluster-tilted algebra corresponding to $\tilde{Q}$ has Cartan matrix $C_{\tilde{Q}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\
0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ whose determinant is easily computed to be 2. This gives the desired formula as

$$
det C_Q = 2^{t(Q')} \cdot 2^{t(Q'')} \cdot \det C_{\tilde{Q}} = 2^{t(Q') + t(Q'')} + 1 = 2 \cdot det C_{Q'} \cdot det C_{Q''}.
$$

(III) Completely analogous to the previous argument in Type II we can shrink the subquivers $Q'$ and $Q''$ of any quiver of Type III to one vertex, ending up with an oriented 4-cycle $\tilde{Q}$. Labelling the rows and columns in the order $a,c,b,d$ the cluster-tilted algebra corresponding to this 4-cycle has Cartan matrix

$$
C_{\tilde{Q}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\
1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\
0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\
1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}
$$

which has determinant 3. As above we then get

$$
det C_Q = 2^{t(Q')} \cdot 2^{t(Q'')} \cdot \det C_{\tilde{Q}} = 3 \cdot 2^{t(Q') + t(Q'')} = 3 \cdot det C_{Q'} \cdot det C_{Q''}.
$$

(IV) If there are no spikes at all, the result follows from Lemma A.3. Otherwise, by Lemma A.2 we can again assume that all the rooted quivers $Q^{(1)}, \ldots, Q^{(r)}$ of type $A$ attached to the spikes have been shrunk to one vertex, yielding a factor

$$
\prod_{j=1}^{r} 2^{t(Q^{(j)})} = \prod_{j=1}^{r} \det C_{Q^{(j)}}
$$

for the Cartan determinant $\det C_{Q}$. The result then follows from Lemma A.4 and Lemma A.5.

\hfill \Box
