## Spherical objects in higher Auslander–Reiten theory

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Let k be a field and  $\delta$  an integer number. Consider the graded algebra  $B_{\delta} := k[\varepsilon]$  of dual numbers with  $\varepsilon$  placed in cohomological degree  $\delta$ . We view  $B_{\delta}$  as a differential graded algebra with vanishing differential. It is known [3] that the perfect derived category perf  $B_{\delta}$  of  $B_{\delta}$  is a  $\delta$ -Calabi–Yau triangulated category in the sense that  $[\delta]$ : perf  $B_{\delta} \to \text{perf } B_{\delta}$  is a Serre functor. Moreover, an elementary application of derived Morita theory of  $A_{\infty}$ -algebras shows that, up to equivalence of triangulated categories, this is the only (algebraic) triangulated category classically generated by an object whose graded endomorphism algebra is isomorphic to  $B_{\delta}$  as a graded algebra [7].

Suppose now that m is an integer greater than or equal to 2. Then, perf  $B_m$  can be realised as the *m*-cluster category  $\mathcal{C}_{\infty,m}$  of the category of finite dimensional representations of the path category

$$A_{\infty} := k(\dots \to -1 \to 0 \to 1 \to \dots),$$

Following [1] and [6], this category is defined as the orbit quotient of the bounded derived category  $D^b \pmod{A_{\infty}}$  which trivialises the action of the autoequivalence

$$\nu[-m]: D^b(\operatorname{mod} A_\infty) \to D^b(\operatorname{mod} A_\infty),$$

where  $\nu := - \bigotimes_{A_{\infty}}^{\mathbb{L}} D(A_{\infty})$  is the Serre functor of  $D^{b} \pmod{A_{\infty}}$ . An elementary calculation shows that the image of any simple  $A_{\infty}$ -module under the canonical projection functor  $D^{b} \pmod{A_{\infty}} \to \mathcal{C}_{\infty,m}$  is an *m*-spherical object which classically generates  $\mathcal{C}_{\infty,m}$ .

Let d be a positive integer and m an integer greater than or equal to 2. In our work in progress we apply a modified version of the above construction to the category  $A_{\infty}^{(d)}$ , a suitable d-dimensional analogue of  $A_{\infty}$  we introduced in [5]. This yields an md-Calabi–Yau triangulated category  $\mathcal{C}_{\infty,m}^{(d)}$  with the following properties:

- If d = 1, then  $\mathcal{C}_{\infty,m}^{(1)} = \mathcal{C}_{\infty,m}$ .
- There exists a canonically defined weakly  $d\mathbb{Z}$ -cluster-tilting subcategory  $\mathcal{O}_{\infty,m}^{(d)}$  of  $\mathcal{C}_{\infty,m}^{(1)}$  (we expect that  $\mathcal{O}_{\infty,m}^{(d)}$  is functorially finite in  $\mathcal{C}_{\infty,m}^{(d)}$  so that the adjective 'weakly' can be removed).
- There exists an objects  $S \in \mathcal{O}_{\infty,m}^{(d)}$  which is *md*-spherical when viewed as an object of  $\mathcal{C}_{\infty,m}^{(d)}$  and which generates  $\mathcal{O}_{\infty,m}^{(d)}$  in a suitable sense.
- In the case m = 2, the mutation combinatorics of 2*d*-cluster-tilting objects in  $\mathcal{C}_{\infty,2}^{(d)}$  which are contained in  $\mathcal{O}_{\infty,2}^{(d)}$  is controlled by the triangulations of the cyclic apeirogon of dimension 2*d* (a higher dimensional analogue of the  $\infty$ -gon considered in [2] where this result is established in the case d = 1).

Our results build on earlier work of Oppermann and Thomas [8]. From the viewpoint of Iyama's higher Auslander–Reiten theory [4] the above properties suggest that  $\mathcal{C}_{\infty,m}^{(d)}$  should be considered as a '*d*-dimensional analogue' of perf  $B_m$ . Note that the differential graded algebra  $B_m$  can be interpreted as the graded singular cohomology algebra of the *m*-dimensional sphere with coefficients in k (we assume that k has characteristic zero for this). We conclude with the following question.

**Question.** Is there a 'nice' differential graded category  $\mathcal{B}_m^{(d)}$  such that  $\mathcal{B}_m^{(1)} = B_m$  (viewing  $B_m$  as a differential graded category having a single object) and perf  $\mathcal{B}_m^{(d)} = \mathcal{C}_{\infty,m}^{(d)}$ ?

Ideally, such a 'nice' differential graded category  $\mathcal{B}_m^{(d)}$  would admit a topological interpretation analogous to that of  $B_m$ .

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# A decomposition theorem for moduli of representations of algebras, with application to moduli of special biserial algebras

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#### 1. Background

This is a report on two very recent projects concerning moduli spaces of representations of finite-dimensional associative algebras. We assume throughout that k is an algebraically closed field of characteristic 0. All algebras are assumed to be basic, finite-dimensional, and associative, thus of the form A = kQ/I for a quiver Q and (admissible) ideal I.

Given a quiver Q and dimension vector  $\mathbf{d} \colon Q_0 \to \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ , we study the representation variety

(1) 
$$\operatorname{rep}_Q(\mathbf{d}) = \prod_{a \in Q_1} \operatorname{Mat}(\mathbf{d}(ta), \mathbf{d}(ha)),$$