

From gentle to string algebras:
a geometric model

jt. work with Karin Baur

§1. String and gentle algebras - background

Definition • $A = kQ/I$ string algebra if:

(S1) $\forall i \in Q_0$, \exists at most two arrows starting at i &
 \exists at most two arrows ending at i .

(S2) $\forall a \in Q_1$, \exists at most one arrow b s.t. $ba \notin I$
& \exists at most one arrow c s.t. $ac \notin I$.

(S3) I generated by paths of length ≥ 2 .

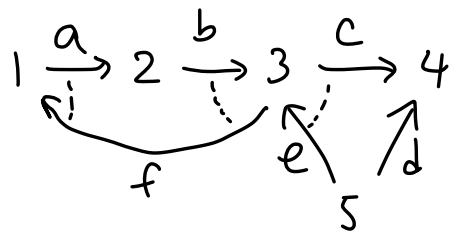
• A gentle algebra if additionally:

(S2') $\forall a \in Q_1$, \exists at most one arrow b' s.t. $b'a \in I$
& \exists at most one arrow c' s.t. $ac' \in I$.

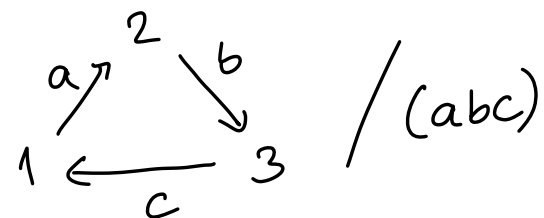
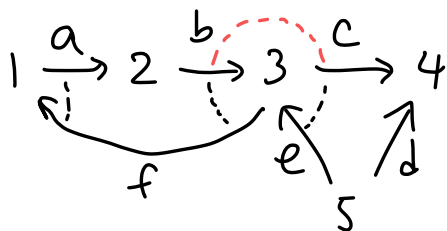
&

(S3') I generated by paths of length 2.

Examples



$$1 \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{a} \\ \xrightarrow{b} \end{matrix} 2$$



Definitions

* Given $a \in Q_1$, define a formal inverse a^{-1} s.t. $s(a^{-1}) = t(a)$ & $t(a^{-1}) = s(a)$.

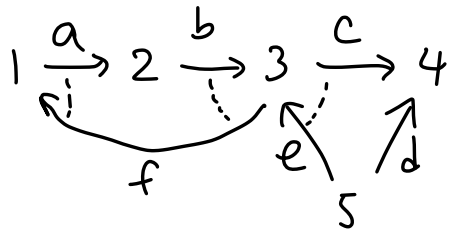
* walk = sequence $w = w_1 \dots w_r$ s.t. $t(w_i) = s(w_{i+1})$, with $w_i \in Q_1^{\pm 1}$

* string = walk with no subwalks of the form aa^{-1} or $a^{-1}a$ ($a \in Q_1$)
or subwalks v with $v \in I$ or $v^{-1} \in I$.

* Trivial strings : e_i , $i \in Q_0$.

* Bands : $b = b_1 \dots b_n$ = cyclic string ($t(b_n) = s(b_1)$) s.t. any power b^m of b is a string but b itself is not a proper power of any string.

Examples



$$1 \xrightleftharpoons[b]{a} 2$$

ab^{-1} band & string
 $ab^{-1}ab^{-1}$ string but not a band.

eb^{-1} string \nexists bands

ec not string

$eb^{-1}b$ not string

Representation theory of string algebras:

— indec. modules — string modules
 \ band modules

Gelfand-Ponomarev

Wald-Waschbüsch

— morphisms Crawley-Boevey; Krause
— AR-sequences Butler-Ringel.

§ Representation theory via surfaces - why?

* Description of extensions between modules [Çanakçı - Schroll,
Çanakçı - Pauksztello - Schroll]

* τ -tilting theory :
[Adachi - Iyama - Reiten]

cf. Palu - Pilaud - Plamondon

Brüstle - Douville - Mousavand - Thomas - Yildirim

He - Zhou - Zhu: classification of support τ -tilting for skew-gentle algs.

- properties of τ -tilting graph in gentle case.
[Fu - Geng - Liu - Zhou]

* Bridgeland/King stability conditions

[Garcia - Garver] - classification of semistable reps when $S = \text{disc}$.

* Link to Fukaya catgs in symplectic geometry [Lekili - Polishchuk]

* \exists geometric model of $\mathcal{D}^b(A)_{\text{gentle}}$ [Opper - Plamondon - Schroll \leadsto used to study derived equivalences
[Amiot - Plamondon - Schroll; Opper].
[Broomhead] DDCs ; Brauer graph algs - [Opper - Zvonareva]).

§2. Representation theory of gentle algs via surfaces

Theorem 1 (Baur-CS)

① Let A be a finite dim ℓ alg. TFAE

see also

[OPS]

(* A is gentle

* A is a tiling algebra associated to (S, M, ρ)
unpunctured surface with ∂S finite set of marked pts on ∂S partial triangulation

* A is the endomorphism algebra of a partial cluster-tilting object of a generalised cluster cat ℓ associated to some unpunctured surface

Particular cases: • P triangulation \rightarrow Jacobian algs. [Brüstle-Zhang]
([Assem-Brüstle-Charbonneau-Plamondon])

• P cut of a triangulation \rightarrow surface algs [David-Roesler-Schiffeler]

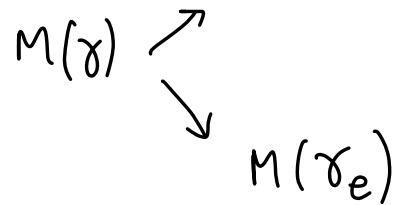
Theorem 1 (Baur-CS)

② A gentle algebra, (S, M, P) corresponding tiling

* indecomposable modules $\begin{cases} \text{string modules} \xleftrightarrow{1-1} \text{equivalence classes of } \underline{\text{permissible}} \\ \text{arcs in } S \\ \text{band modules} \xleftrightarrow{1-1} \text{homotopy classes of certain} \\ \text{permissible closed curves} \\ \text{(intorsection with } P \geq 2 \text{)} \\ \text{number} \end{cases}$

* $M = M(\gamma)$ string module, γ corresponding arc

irreducible
morphisms



γ_s, γ_e obtained from γ by pivot elementary
moves on their endpoints

* AR-sequences are of the form:

$$0 \rightarrow M(\gamma) \rightarrow M(\gamma_s) \oplus M(\gamma_e) \rightarrow M(\gamma_{s,e}) \rightarrow 0.$$

$$\tau^{-1}\gamma = \gamma_{s,e} = (\gamma_s)_e = (\gamma_e)_s.$$

S unpunctured oriented, connected surface with boundary ∂S
 M finite set of marked pts on ∂S .

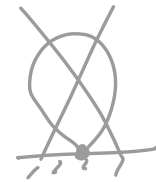
(S, M) marked surface.

Arc in (S, M) : curve $\gamma: [0, 1] \rightarrow S$ s.t.

* $\gamma(0), \gamma(1) \in M$

* $\gamma \cap M$ only at its endpts

* γ does not cut a monogon or digon

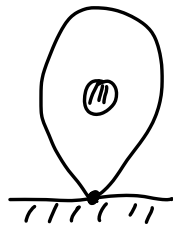


P partial triangulation = collection of arcs that do not intersect themselves or each other in the interior of S .

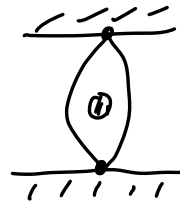
(S, M, P) tiling s.t. P divides S into the following regions/tiles:

* m -gons ($m \geq 3$): edges are arcs in P or boundary segments & \nexists unmarked bdy components in its interior.

* 1-gon



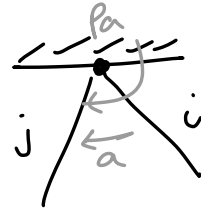
* 2-gon



Definition A_P tiling algebra associated to (S, M, P) $A = kQ_P / I_P$

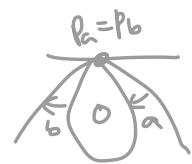
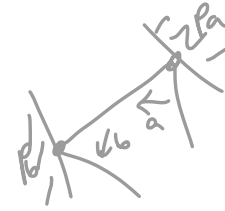
* $(Q_P)_0 \xleftrightarrow{1-1}$ arcs in P

* \exists arrow $i \xrightarrow{a} j$ if

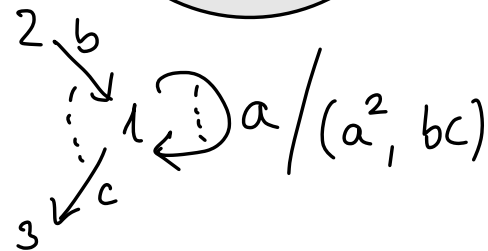
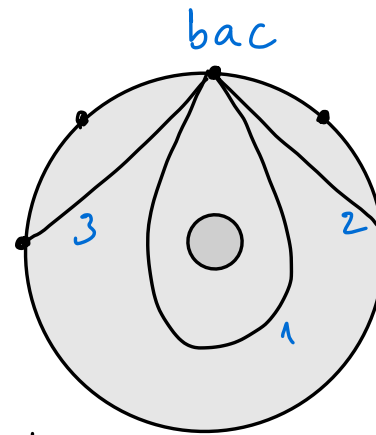
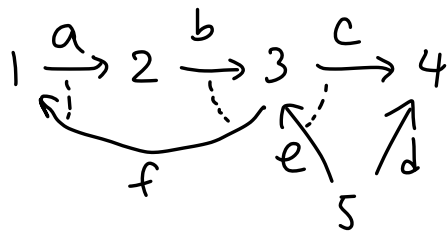
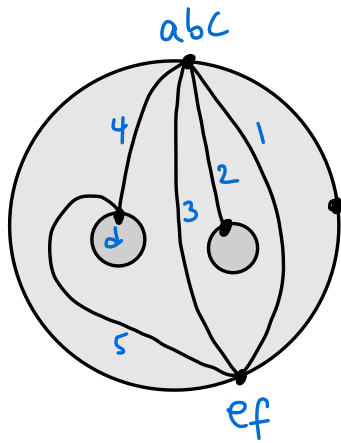


* I_P generated by : * paths ab st $p_a \neq p_b$

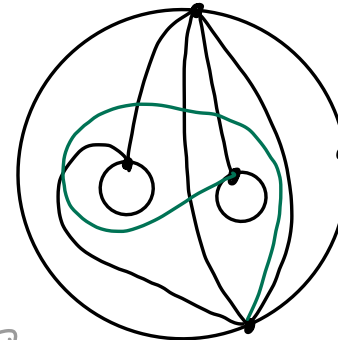
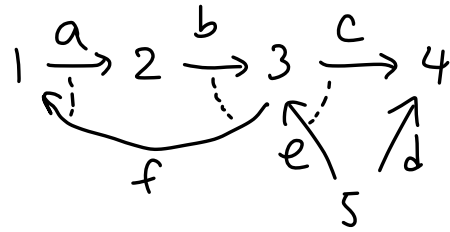
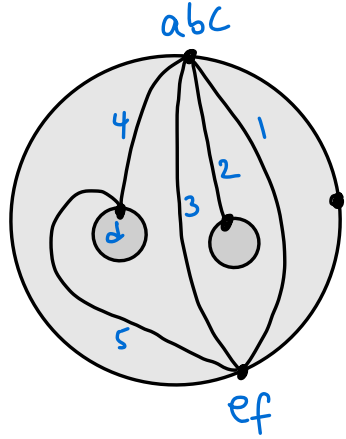
* paths ab st $t(a)=s(b)$ is a loop arc



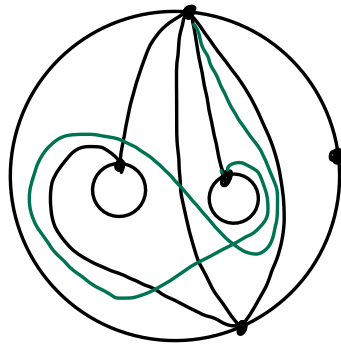
Egs



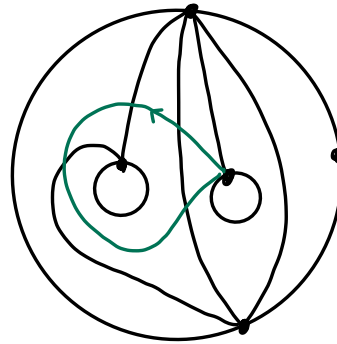
Example : permissible, equivalence of arcs, pivot elementary move, AR-translate



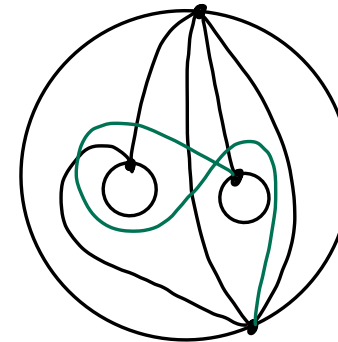
$$\gamma_s = bcd^{-1}e$$



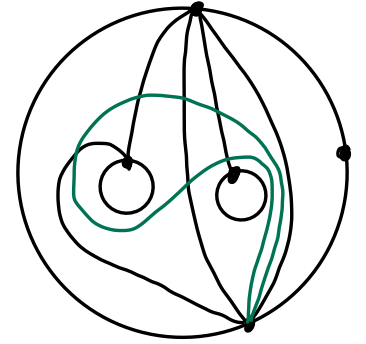
12



$$\gamma = cd^{-1}e$$

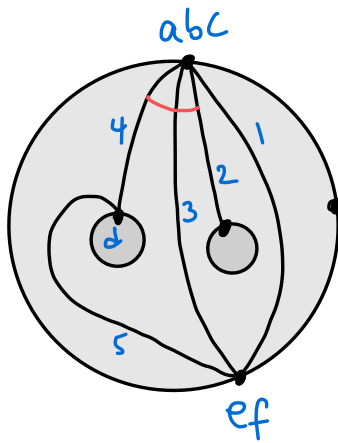
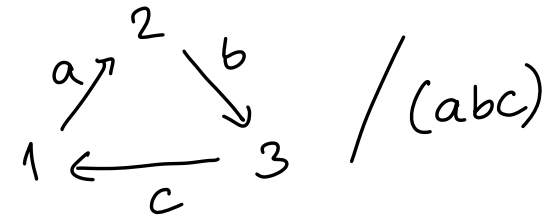
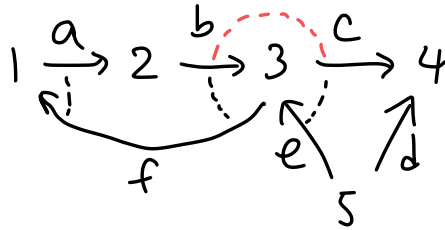


$$\gamma_t = cd^{-1}eb^{-1}$$

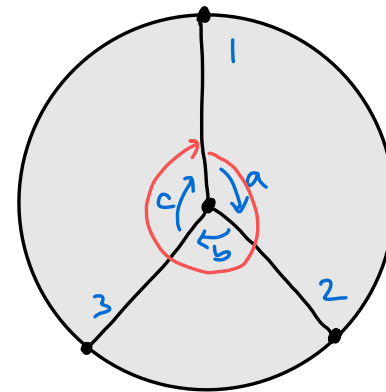


$$\tau^{-1}(\gamma) \\ bcd^{-1}eb^{-1}$$

§3. Representation theory of string algebras via surfaces

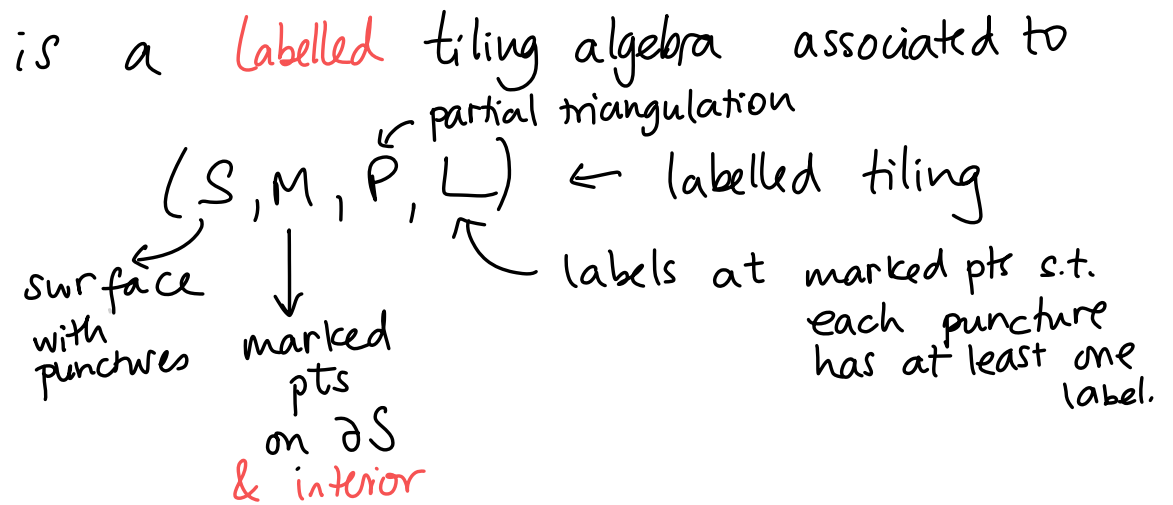


Labelled
tiling algebra



Theorem 2 (Baur-CS)

① A string algebra $\Leftrightarrow A$ is a **labelled** tiling algebra associated to



② A string algebra, (S, M, P, L) corresponding labelled tiling

– indecomposable modules $\begin{cases} \text{string modules} \xleftrightarrow{1-1} \text{equivalence classes of } \underline{\text{permissible arcs in } S} \\ \text{band modules} \xleftrightarrow{1-1} \text{homotopy classes of certain permissible closed curves} \end{cases}$

new condition on permissible: does not cross labels

* $M = M(\gamma)$ string module, γ corresponding arc

irreducible morphisms: $M(\gamma) \begin{matrix} \nearrow M(\gamma_s) \\ \searrow M(\gamma_e) \end{matrix}$

γ_s, γ_e obtained from γ by pivot elementary moves on their endpoints
 \downarrow
 depend on labels

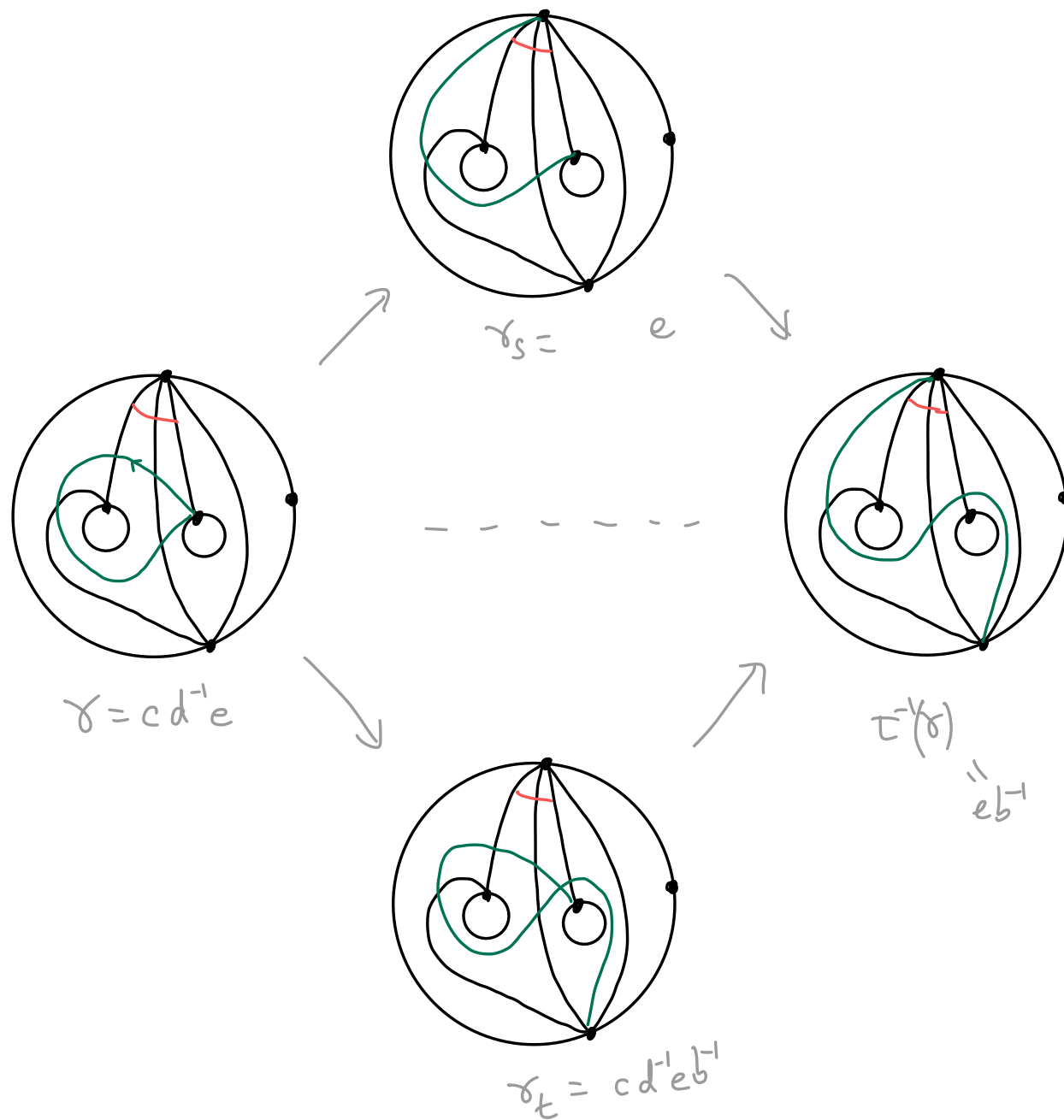
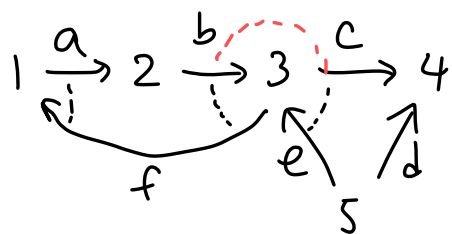
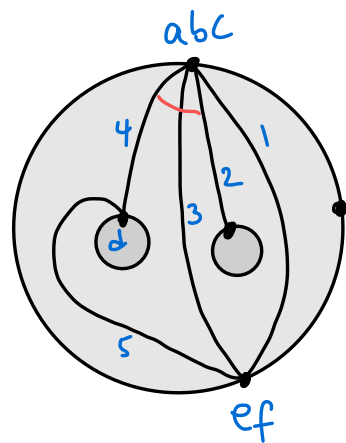
* AR-sequences are of the form:

$$0 \rightarrow M(\gamma) \rightarrow M(\gamma_s) \oplus M(\gamma_e) \rightarrow M(\gamma_{s,e}) \rightarrow 0.$$

$$\gamma_{s,e} = (\gamma_s)_e = (\gamma_e)_s.$$

true if γ not injective

Example



§4. An application: τ -tilting theory

Defⁿ: A finite dim^l alg, $M \in \text{mod } A$.

$|M| = \#$ non-isomorphic indec.
direct summands of M .

* M τ -rigid if $\text{Hom}(M, \tau M) = 0$.

* M τ -tilting if M τ -rigid & $|M| = |A|$.

* M support τ -tilting if \exists idempotent $e \in A$ s.t. M is τ -tilting $(A/\langle e \rangle)$ -module.

* support τ -tilting pair : (P, M) s.t. *

- * $\text{Hom}(P, M) = 0$
- * M τ -rigid
- * $|M| + |P| = |A|$.

Fact [AIR]:

M support τ -tilting $\Leftrightarrow \exists$ proj. P s.t. (P, M) is support τ -tilting pair.

[He-Zhou-Zhu] If A is gentle,

$\{\text{support } \tau\text{-tilting pairs}\} \xleftrightarrow{1-1} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{maximal collections of noncrossing} \\ \text{generalised permissible arcs} \end{array} \right\}$

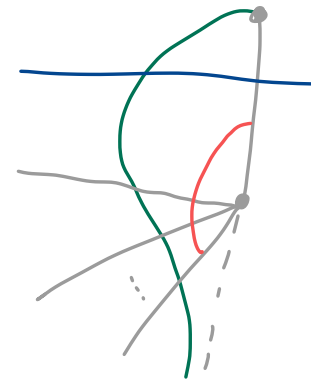
may include arcs in P \rightarrow right choice of representative (clockwise most)

Conjecture (Baur-CS)

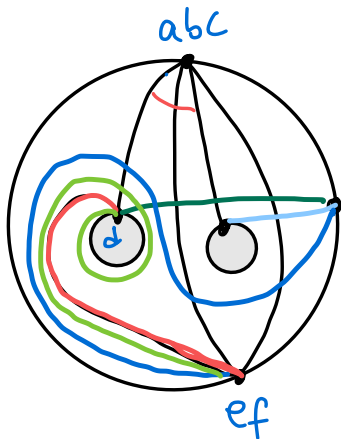
{ support τ -tilting pairs }

A string alg.

\longleftrightarrow { maximal collections of permissible arcs for which each crossing satisfies }



Examples



$(P_5, 4 \oplus 1 \oplus f^*c \oplus ab)$

Support τ -tilting over string algebra (but not the gentle alg.)