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HOLOMORPHIC VECTOR BUNDLES ON  $\mathbb{P}_n$

by Michael SCHNEIDER

The classification of holomorphic (= algebraic) vector bundles on complex projective space  $\mathbb{P}_n$  could be tried along the following lines :

- I) Classify the topological complex vector bundles on  $\mathbb{P}_n$ .
- II) Determine which topological bundles admit an analytic structure.
- III) Classify for fixed topological bundle all possible analytic structures.

This is a survey of some of the main results concerning I) - III) as well as a guide to the literature. We included only a few open problems. But in fact most of the work has still to be done.

Notation. - No distinction will be made between holomorphic vector bundles and locally free coherent analytic sheaves.  $\mathcal{O}(1)$  is the line bundle having a holomorphic section vanishing precisely on a hyperplane.  $E(k) := E \otimes \mathcal{O}(1)^{\otimes k}$ ,

$h^i(\mathbb{P}_n, E) := \dim_{\mathbb{C}} H^i(\mathbb{P}_n, E)$  for a vector bundle  $E$  on  $\mathbb{P}_n$ . The total Chern class of  $E$  will be denoted by  $c(E) = 1 + c_1(E) + \dots + c_r(E)$ . The Chern classes  $c_i(E) \in H^{2i}(\mathbb{P}_n, \mathbb{Z}) \simeq \mathbb{Z}$  will be regarded mostly as integers. The holomorphic tangent bundle of  $\mathbb{P}_n$  will be denoted by  $T_{\mathbb{P}_n}$ .

1. Topological classification

Let  $\text{Vect}_{\text{top}}^r(\mathbb{P}_n)$  be the isomorphism classes of topological complex vector bundles of rank  $r$  on  $\mathbb{P}_n$ . It is well known that  $\text{Vect}_{\text{top}}^r(\mathbb{P}_n) \simeq \text{Vect}_{\text{top}}^n(\mathbb{P}_n)$  for all  $r \geq n$ .

Schwarzenberger [53] noticed that the Chern classes of  $E \in \text{Vect}_{\text{top}}^r(\mathbb{P}_n)$  satisfy the condition

$$(S_n) \quad \sum_{i=1}^r \binom{\delta_i}{k} \in \mathbb{Z} \quad \text{for } 2 \leq k \leq n.$$

Here the  $\delta_i$  are as usual related to the Chern class of  $E$  by

$$c(E) = \prod_{i=1}^r (1 + \delta_i).$$

The conditions  $(S_n)$  for  $r = 2$  are as follows :

(S<sub>2</sub>) no condition

(S<sub>3</sub>)  $c_1 c_2 \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$

(S<sub>4</sub>)  $c_2(c_2 + 1 - 3c_1 - 2c_1^2) \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$  (12)

(S<sub>5</sub>) is equivalent to (S<sub>4</sub>).

For  $r = 3$  one gets for instance (S<sub>3</sub>):  $c_3 \equiv c_1 c_2 \pmod{2}$ .

A. Thomas [60] proved that the Schwarzenberger condition (S<sub>n</sub>) classifies stable bundles on  $\mathbb{P}_n$  i.e.

$$\text{Vect}_{\text{top}}^n(\mathbb{P}_n) \simeq \{(c_1, \dots, c_n) \in \mathbb{Z}^n : (c_1, \dots, c_n) \text{ satisfy } (S_n)\}.$$

For  $\mathbb{P}_2$  this gives

$$\text{Vect}_{\text{top}}^r(\mathbb{P}_2) \simeq \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \quad \text{for } r \geq 2.$$

For  $\mathbb{P}_3$  there remains the classification of 2-bundles. This has been done by Atiyah and Rees [2]. They showed that for  $c_1, c_2$  with  $c_1 c_2 \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$  and  $c_1$  odd there exists exactly one 2-bundle with these  $c_i$  as Chern classes. For  $c_1$  even there are exactly two 2-bundles with these  $c_i$  as Chern classes. These two bundles are distinguished by a certain mod 2 invariant  $\alpha$ .

On  $\mathbb{P}_4$  there remains the classification of bundles of rank 2 and 3. Switzer [55], complementing the results of Atiyah and Rees, showed

$$\text{Vect}_{\text{top}}^2(\mathbb{P}_4) \simeq \{(c_1, c_2) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} : (S_4) \text{ is true}\}.$$

Switzer [55] recently pushed the classification of 2-bundles up to  $\mathbb{P}_6$ . As a sample let us state his results on  $\mathbb{P}_5$  because this is the first case where not all  $c_1, c_2$  satisfying the Schwarzenberger conditions arise as the Chern classes of

a vector bundle of rank 2. Set  $\Delta = \frac{c_1^2 - 4c_2}{4}$ . Then for  $c_1, c_2$  satisfying

(S<sub>5</sub>) there exists at least one 2-bundle with these  $c_i$  as Chern classes if  $c_1$  is odd or if  $c_1$  is even and  $\Delta^2(\Delta - 1) \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$  (24) (if  $c_1$  is even and  $\Delta^2(\Delta - 1) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{2}$  (24) there is no 2-bundle with these  $c_i$  as Chern classes). For  $c_2 \not\equiv c_1^2 \pmod{4}$  (3) there exists exactly one 2-bundle and for  $c_2 \equiv c_1^2 \pmod{4}$  (3) there are exactly three 2-bundles.

## 2. Construction of holomorphic vector bundles on $\mathbb{P}_n$

In this section we will give some general procedures to construct holomorphic bundles. These will be applied to show that all topological vector bundles on  $\mathbb{P}_n$ ,  $n \leq 3$ , admit an analytic structure.

Let us start by recalling that all line bundles on  $\mathbb{P}_n$  are of the form  $\mathcal{O}(k)$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . To convince the reader that the difficulties arise only if rank and dimension are bigger than 1 we include a short proof of the fact that all holomorphic vector bundles on  $\mathbb{P}_1$  split into line bundles (see [19]).

**THEOREM** (Grothendieck [21]).- Any holomorphic vector bundle  $E$  on  $\mathbb{P}_1$  is of the form  $E = \mathcal{O}(a_1) \oplus \dots \oplus \mathcal{O}(a_r)$ .

Proof. The proof is by induction on  $r = \text{rk } E$ . We may assume  $r \geq 2$ . Choose  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$  minimal with  $H^0(E(k)) \neq 0$  ( $k$  exists by Serre's results on the cohomology of coherent sheaves on  $\mathbb{P}_n$ ). We may assume  $k = 0$ . Any nonzero  $\sigma \in H^0(E)$  has zeroes only in codimension 2. Hence a nonzero  $\sigma \in H^0(E)$  gives a trivial line subbundle of  $E$

$$(*) \quad 0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O} \xrightarrow{\sigma} E \rightarrow F \rightarrow 0.$$

By induction we have  $F \simeq \mathcal{O}(a_2) \oplus \dots \oplus \mathcal{O}(a_r)$ . From (\*) one gets the exact sequence

$$\rightarrow H^0(E(-1)) \rightarrow H^0(F(-1)) \rightarrow H^1(\mathcal{O}(-1)) = 0.$$

This shows  $H^0(F(-1)) = 0$  and therefore  $a_i \leq 0$  for all  $i$ . The obstruction to split (\*) lies in  $H^1(F^*) = \bigoplus_i H^1(\mathcal{O}(-a_i)) = 0$ , since  $a_i \leq 0$  for all  $i$ .

Hence (\*) splits and we get

$$E \simeq \mathcal{O} \oplus \mathcal{O}(a_2) \oplus \dots \oplus \mathcal{O}(a_r).$$

### 2.1. Vector bundles of rank $n-1$ on $\mathbb{P}_n$

Tango [58] constructed indecomposable holomorphic  $(n-1)$ -bundles on  $\mathbb{P}_n$  for each  $n \geq 3$  using the following generalization of a general position argument of Serre's.

**PROPOSITION 2.1.**- Let  $E$  be a holomorphic vector bundle on  $\mathbb{P}_n$  generated by global sections. If  $c_i(E) = 0$  for some  $i \leq r = \text{rk } E$  then  $E$  has a trivial subbundle of rank  $r - i + 1$ .

**COROLLARY 1.**- For  $n \geq 3$  there is an indecomposable  $(n-1)$ -bundle on  $\mathbb{P}_n$ .

Proof.  $\Omega^1(2)$  is generated by global sections. Let

$$\varphi : H^0(\mathbb{P}_n, \Omega^1(2)) \times \mathbb{P}_n \rightarrow \Omega^1(2)$$

be the canonical surjection and put  $E = (\ker \varphi)^*$ . One calculates  $c_n(E) = 0$ . Hence  $E$  has a trivial subbundle such that the quotient  $F$  is of rank  $n-1$ . The indecomposa-

bility of  $F$  can be proved by inspecting its cohomology groups.

COROLLARY 2.- For  $n$  odd there is a  $(n-1)$ -bundle  $N$  on  $\mathbb{P}_n$  with Chern class

$$c(N) = 1 + h^2 + h^4 + \dots + h^{n-1} .$$

Here  $h = c_1(\mathcal{O}(1))$  is the canonical generator of  $H^2(\mathbb{P}_n, \mathbb{Z})$ .

Proof.  $\Omega^1(2)$  is generated by global sections and  $c_n(\Omega^1(2)) = 0$  for  $n$  odd. This shows the existence of a trivial line subbundle of  $\Omega^1(2)$ . This gives a surjection

$$T(-1) \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}(1) .$$

Let  $N$  be the kernel of this map. Then

$$\begin{aligned} c(N) &= c(T(-1))(1+h)^{-1} \\ &= (1-h)^{-1}(1+h)^{-1} \\ &= 1 + h^2 + h^4 + \dots + h^{n-1} . \end{aligned}$$

Remarks.- 1)  $N$  is the Null-correlation bundle.

2) The tangent bundle  $T_{\mathbb{P}_n}$  is indecomposable.

3) Maruyama [38] has shown that for each  $r > n$  there exist indecomposable  $r$ -bundles on  $\mathbb{P}_n$  if  $n \geq 2$ .

## 2.2. Subvarieties of $\mathbb{P}_n$ of codimension 2 and holomorphic vector bundles of rank 2

In this section we will explain the connection of locally complete intersection subvarieties of codimension 2 and holomorphic bundles of rank 2. This correspondence essentially goes back to Serre [49] and has been rediscovered and reformulated many times [28], [9], [18], [23], [25]. Here we follow mainly Hartshorne's presentation.

Let  $E$  be a holomorphic 2-bundle on  $\mathbb{P}_n$  and suppose  $E$  has a holomorphic section  $\sigma$  vanishing in codimension 2 only (this can always be achieved by replacing  $E$  by  $E(k)$  with  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$  minimal with respect to  $H^0(E(k)) \neq 0$ ). Then  $Y = \{\sigma = 0\}$  is of codimension 2 and locally a complete intersection.  $Y$  is in general neither reduced nor irreducible. The Koszul complex of  $\sigma$  is

$$0 \longrightarrow \det E^* \longrightarrow E^* \longrightarrow J_Y \longrightarrow 0 .$$

This implies

$$E^*|_Y \simeq J/J^2 .$$

Hence  $E$  is an extension of the normal bundle  $N_{Y|\mathbb{P}_n} = (J/J^2)^*$  of  $Y$  in  $\mathbb{P}_n$  to the whole of  $\mathbb{P}_n$ . Inserting

$$E^* \simeq E \otimes \det E^*$$

into the Koszul complex gives.

$$0 \longrightarrow 0 \xrightarrow{\sigma} E \longrightarrow J_Y \otimes \det E \longrightarrow 0 .$$

It is clear that

$$c_2(E) = \text{dual of } Y .$$

Hence  $c_2(E) = \text{deg } Y .$

The interesting point is the reversal of this procedure. Take a locally complete intersection  $Y \subset \mathbb{P}_n$  of codimension 2 . We would like to construct a 2-bundle  $E$  together with a  $\sigma \in H^0(\mathbb{P}_n, E)$  giving  $Y = \{\sigma = 0\}$  . By what we have seen it is natural to try getting  $E^*$  as extension of  $J_Y$  by some line bundle.

PROPOSITION 2.2.1.- Let  $Y$  be a locally complete intersection of codimension 2 in  $\mathbb{P}_n$  ,  $n \geq 3$  . Assume that  $\det N_Y|_{\mathbb{P}_n} \simeq \mathcal{O}_Y(k)$  . Then there exists a holomorphic 2-bundle  $E$  on  $\mathbb{P}_n$  with a holomorphic section  $\sigma \in H^0(\mathbb{P}_n, E)$  such that

$$Y = \{\sigma = 0\} .$$

In particular  $c_1(E) = k$  ,  $c_2(E) = \text{deg } Y$  .

Proof. The extensions of  $J_Y$  by  $\mathcal{O}(-k)$  are classified by  $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{O}}^1(J_Y, \mathcal{O}(-k))$  . The exact sequence

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \rightarrow H^1(\mathbb{P}_n, \underline{\text{Hom}}(J_Y, \mathcal{O}(-k))) &\rightarrow \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{O}}^1(J_Y, \mathcal{O}(-k)) \rightarrow H^0(\mathbb{P}_n, \underline{\text{Ext}}_{\mathcal{O}}^1(J_Y, \mathcal{O}(-k))) \rightarrow \\ &\rightarrow H^2(\mathbb{P}_n, \underline{\text{Hom}}(J_Y, \mathcal{O}(-k))) \end{aligned}$$

gives for  $n \geq 3$  an isomorphism

$$\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{O}}^1(J_Y, \mathcal{O}(-k)) \xrightarrow{\sim} H^0(\mathbb{P}_n, \underline{\text{Ext}}_{\mathcal{O}}^1(J_Y, \mathcal{O}(-k)))$$

since  $\underline{\text{Hom}}(J_Y, \mathcal{O}(-k)) = \mathcal{O}(-k)$  and  $H^i(\mathbb{P}_n, \mathcal{O}(-k)) = 0$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n-1$  and all  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$  . Using

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{\text{Ext}}_{\mathcal{O}}^1(J_Y, \mathcal{O}(-k)) &\xrightarrow{\sim} \underline{\text{Ext}}_{\mathcal{O}}^2(\mathcal{O}_Y, \mathcal{O}(-k)) \\ &\simeq \underline{\text{Ext}}_{\mathcal{O}_Y}^2(\mathcal{O}_Y, \mathcal{O}(-n-1)) \otimes \mathcal{O}(-k+n+1) \\ &\simeq \omega_Y \otimes \mathcal{O}_Y(-k+n+1) && \text{see [22]} \\ &\simeq \mathcal{O}_Y(-n-1) \otimes \det N \otimes \mathcal{O}_Y(-k+n+1) \\ &\simeq \mathcal{O}_Y , \end{aligned}$$

one finally gets an isomorphism

$$\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{O}}^1(J_Y, \mathcal{O}(-k)) \xrightarrow{\sim} H^0(Y, \mathcal{O}_Y) .$$

The canonical section  $\xi$  in  $H^0(Y, \mathcal{O}_Y)$  therefore gives an extension

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(-k) \rightarrow \mathcal{F} \rightarrow J_Y \rightarrow 0$$

of  $J_Y$  by  $\mathcal{O}(-k)$  through a coherent sheaf. Since  $\xi$  locally generates each stalk of  $\underline{\text{Ext}}_{\mathcal{O}}^1(J_Y, \mathcal{O}(-k))$  it follows from [49] that  $\mathcal{F}$  is locally free.  $E := \mathcal{F}^*$  is the desired bundle.

Remarks. - 1) Barth, Larsen and Ogus [36], [45] have shown that  $\text{Pic}(\mathbb{P}_n) \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{Pic}(Y)$  for  $n \geq 6$  and nonsingular  $Y$ . Thus each nonsingular submanifold  $Y \subset \mathbb{P}_n$ ,  $n \geq 6$ , of codimension 2 gives a holomorphic vector bundle of rank 2 on  $\mathbb{P}_n$ .

2) The above construction does not work without further considerations on  $\mathbb{P}_2$ . But if  $k \leq 2$  the group  $H^2(\mathbb{P}_2, \mathcal{O}(-k))$  still vanishes and the proposition 2.2.1 remains valid in that case. For arbitrary  $k$  see [51], [18].

Let us apply this proposition to produce many holomorphic 2-bundles on  $\mathbb{P}_2$  and  $\mathbb{P}_3$ .

Examples.

1) Take  $Y$  to be the union of  $d$  simple points in  $\mathbb{P}_2$ . Then  $\det N_{Y|\mathbb{P}_2} = \mathcal{O}_Y(2)$  and we get a holomorphic 2-bundle  $E$  on  $\mathbb{P}_2$  with  $c_1 = 2$  and  $c_2 = d$ . This shows the existence of 2-bundles with  $c_1 = 0$ ,  $c_2 \geq 0$ .

2) Take  $Y$  to be the union of  $d$  disjoint lines in  $\mathbb{P}_3$ . Then  $\det N_{Y|\mathbb{P}_3} = \mathcal{O}_Y(2)$  and we get a 2-bundle with  $c_1 = 2$ ,  $c_2 = d$ . Normalizing gives  $c_1 = 0$ ,  $c_2 \geq 0$  arbitrary.

3) Take  $Y$  to be the union of  $r$  disjoint nonsingular conics in  $\mathbb{P}_3$ . Then  $\det N_{Y|\mathbb{P}_3} \simeq \mathcal{O}_Y(3)$  and we get a 2-bundle with  $c_1 = 3$ ,  $c_2 = 2r$ . This shows the existence of 2-bundles with  $c_1 = -1$ ,  $c_2 \geq 0$  even.

4) Horrocks [28]

Let  $p \geq 2$  be an integer and  $m_1, \dots, m_r \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $0 < m_i < p$ . Choose  $r$  disjoint lines  $L_i \subset \mathbb{P}_3$  and give them a nilpotent structure through

$J_{L_i} = (x^{m_i}, y^{p-m_i})$ . Here  $x, y$  are equations for  $L_i$ . Take  $Y$  to be the union

of these fattened lines. Then  $\det N_{Y|\mathbb{P}_3} \simeq \mathcal{O}_Y(p)$  and we get a 2-bundle with

$$c_1 = p, \quad c_2 = \sum_{i=1}^r m_i(p - m_i).$$

A short calculation shows that all  $c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $c_1 c_2 \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$  are of this form (modulo twisting). Therefore all  $c_1, c_2$  with  $c_1 c_2 \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$  are the Chern classes of a holomorphic 2-bundle on  $\mathbb{P}_3$ .

Atiyah and Rees [2] showed that for a holomorphic 2-bundle  $E$  with even  $c_1$  the  $\alpha$ -invariant can be given by

$$\alpha(E) = h^0(E_{\text{norm}}(-2)) + h^2(E_{\text{norm}}(-2)) \pmod{2}.$$

Here  $E_{\text{norm}}$  denotes  $E(-c_1/2)$  for  $c_1$  even and  $E((-c_1+1)/2)$  for  $c_1$  odd.

Note that  $h^2(E_{\text{norm}}(-2)) = h^1(E_{\text{norm}}(-2))$  by Serre-duality.

It takes some arithmetic [2] to show that by the above Horrocks construction one can achieve both values of  $\alpha$ . This implies

$$\text{Vect}_{\text{hol}}^2(\mathbb{P}_3) \longrightarrow \text{Vect}_{\text{top}}^2(\mathbb{P}_3)$$

is surjective.

5) Take  $Y$  to be the disjoint union of a plane nonsingular cubic curve and a nonsingular elliptic space curve of degree  $d$ .  $Y$  gives a 2-bundle on  $\mathbb{P}_3$  with Chern classes  $c_1 = 4$ ,  $c_2 = d + 3$ . A short calculation shows  $\alpha = 1$ . Normalizing one gets the invariants

$$c_1 = 0, \quad c_2 = d + 1, \quad \alpha = 1.$$

Note that in Example 2) one has  $\alpha = 0$ .

6) Horrocks, Mumford [32]

These authors show the existence of a 2-bundle on  $\mathbb{P}_4$  which comes from an abelian surface  $Y \subset \mathbb{P}_4$ . Suppose you have shown the embedding of an abelian surface  $Y$  into  $\mathbb{P}_4$ . The exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}_Y^2 \longrightarrow T_{\mathbb{P}_4}|_Y \longrightarrow N_{Y|\mathbb{P}_4} \longrightarrow 0$$

gives

$$\det N_{Y|\mathbb{P}_4} = \mathcal{O}_Y(5) \quad \text{and} \quad \deg Y = 10.$$

Hence we get a 2-bundle with  $c_1 = 5$ ,  $c_2 = 10$ . This is essentially the only known indecomposable 2-bundle on  $\mathbb{P}_4$ .

Problem 1. Are there any holomorphic 2-bundles on  $\mathbb{P}_n$ ,  $n \geq 5$ , which do not split into line bundles?

Let us close this section by some remarks on the connection of 3-bundles on  $\mathbb{P}_n$  and locally complete intersections  $Y \subset \mathbb{P}_n$  of codimension 2.

PROPOSITION 2.2.2 (Van de Ven, Vogelaar [64]).- Let  $Y$  be a locally complete intersection of codimension 2 in  $\mathbb{P}_n$ ,  $n \geq 3$ . Suppose there is a holomorphic line bundle  $L$  on  $Y$  together with holomorphic sections  $\sigma_1, \sigma_2 \in H^0(Y, L)$  such that  $\{\sigma_1 = 0\} \cap \{\sigma_2 = 0\} = \emptyset$ . If furthermore  $\det N_{Y|\mathbb{P}_n} \otimes L^+ \simeq \mathcal{O}_Y(k)$  then there is a holomorphic 3-bundle  $E$  on  $\mathbb{P}_n$  with

$$c_1(E) = k, \quad c_2(E) = \deg Y, \quad c_3(E) = \deg(\sigma_i = 0).$$

Remark.- One gets  $E$  as an extension

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}^2 \longrightarrow E \longrightarrow J_Y(k) \longrightarrow 0.$$

As an application it is shown that all  $c_1, c_2, c_3 \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $c_3 \equiv c_1 c_2 \pmod{2}$  occur as the Chern classes of a holomorphic 3-bundle on  $\mathbb{P}_3$ . Combining with 4) one obtains the surjectivity of the map



$$\text{Vect}_{\text{hol}}^r(\mathbb{P}_3) \longrightarrow \text{Vect}_{\text{top}}^r(\mathbb{P}_3)$$

for all  $r$ .

### 2.3. Monads

The description of holomorphic vector bundles on  $\mathbb{P}_n$  by monads is due to Horrocks [27], [29], [31] and was recently put into a general frame by Beilinson [11]. In specific cases they have been studied by Barth, Hulek, Drinfeld and Manin [5], [8], [33], [12].

DEFINITION 2.3.1.- A monad is a complex of holomorphic vector bundles

$$0 \longrightarrow A \xrightarrow{a} B \xrightarrow{b} C \longrightarrow 0$$

which is exact except possibly at  $B$ .

Remark.-  $E := \text{Ker } b / \text{im } a$  is a holomorphic vector bundle with

$\text{rk } E = \text{rk } B - \text{rk } A - \text{rk } C$  and Chern class

$$c(E) = c(B) c(A)^{-1} c(C)^{-1}.$$

The following version of the Beilinson construction I learned from Verdier.

THEOREM 2.3.2 (Beilinson [11]).- Let  $E$  be a holomorphic vector bundle on  $\mathbb{P}_n$ . There exists a spectral sequence with

$$\begin{aligned} E_1^{pq} &= H^q(\mathbb{P}_n, E \otimes \Omega^p(-p)) \otimes \mathcal{O}(p), \\ E_\infty^{pq} &= 0 \quad \text{for } p + q \neq 0 \end{aligned}$$

and a filtration of  $E$  whose associated graded module is  $\bigoplus_p E_\infty^{p, -p}$ .

Proof. Let  $\mathbb{P}_n = \mathbb{P}(V)$ ,  $V$  a complex vector space of dimension  $n+1$ . Consider the canonical exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}(-1) \longrightarrow \mathbb{P}(V) \times V \longrightarrow \mathcal{Q} \longrightarrow 0.$$

Here  $\mathcal{Q} = T(-1)$  and  $H^0(\mathbb{P}_n, \mathcal{Q}) = V$ . On  $\mathbb{P}_n \times \mathbb{P}_n$  we look at

$\mathcal{Q} \boxtimes \mathcal{O}(1) := \text{pr}_1^* \mathcal{Q} \otimes \text{pr}_2^* \mathcal{O}(1)$ . There is a canonical section

$\sigma \in H^0(\mathbb{P}_n \times \mathbb{P}_n, \mathcal{Q} \boxtimes \mathcal{O}(1)) = V \otimes V^*$  corresponding to  $\text{id}_V$ . This section vanishes precisely and transversally at the diagonal  $\Delta$  of  $\mathbb{P}_n \times \mathbb{P}_n$ . Hence we have the Koszul complex

$$0 \longrightarrow \Omega^n(n) \boxtimes \mathcal{O}(-n) \longrightarrow \dots \longrightarrow \Omega^1(1) \boxtimes \mathcal{O}(-1) \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}_n \times \mathbb{P}_n} \xrightarrow{\sigma} \mathcal{O}_\Delta \longrightarrow 0.$$

This gives

$$R^i \text{pr}_{2*} (C^\bullet \otimes \text{pr}_1^* E) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } i \neq 0 \\ E & \text{for } i = 0, \end{cases}$$

where  $C^v = \Omega^{-v}(-v) \boxtimes \mathcal{O}(v)$  for  $v \leq 0$  and  $C^v = 0$  for  $v > 0$ . The spectral sequence for the hypercohomology of  $\text{pr}_{2*}$  now gives the result.

Remark.- Interchanging  $pr_1$  with  $pr_2$  in the above proof gives a spectral sequence with

$$E_1^{pq} = H^q(\mathbb{P}_n, E(p)) \otimes \Omega^{-p}(-p)$$

satisfying the same properties as the one in the theorem.

Applications (compare [8] and [31] for a different approach)

1) Let  $E$  be a holomorphic  $r$ -bundle on  $\mathbb{P}_2$  with  $H^0(\mathbb{P}_2, E(-1)) = H^0(\mathbb{P}_2, E^*(-1)) = 0$ . Then  $E$  is the cohomology of a monad

$$H^1(E(-2)) \otimes \mathcal{O}(-1) \rightarrow H^1(E \otimes \Omega^1) \otimes \mathcal{O} \rightarrow H^1(E(-1)) \otimes \mathcal{O}(1).$$

If  $c_1(E) = 0$ , then  $h^1(E(-2)) = h^1(E(-1)) = c_2(E)$  by Riemann-Roch. In case  $E$  is orthogonal or symplectic (i.e. we have a nondegenerate symmetric or skew bilinear form on  $E$ ), one can give the bundles in terms of linear algebra. Let  $H$  and  $K$  be complex vector spaces of dimension  $n$  and  $2n + r$ .  $K$  should be equipped with an orthogonal or symplectic nondegenerate form.  $GL(H) \times O(K)$  acts on the linear mappings  $L(H, K)$  by

$$(f, g) \cdot \varphi = g \varphi f^{-1}.$$

Using the above description of bundles by monads it is easy to show that the isomorphism classes of orthogonal (symplectic) holomorphic  $r$ -bundles on  $\mathbb{P}_2 = \mathbb{P}(V)$  with  $H^0(\mathbb{P}_2, E(-1)) = 0$  and  $c_2(E) = n$  correspond one to one to the orbits of  $GL(H) \times O(K)$  on the set of all linear maps  $\alpha : V \rightarrow L(H, K)$  with

- (i)  $\alpha(v)$  is injective for all  $v \neq 0$
- (ii)  $\alpha(v)(H)$  is for all  $v \in V$  a totally isotropic subspace of  $K$ .

Remark.-  $H^0(E) = 0$  is equivalent to the surjectivity of the map  $H \otimes V \rightarrow K$  induced by  $\alpha$ .

2) Let  $E$  be a holomorphic  $r$ -bundle on  $\mathbb{P}_2 = \mathbb{P}(V)$  with  $H^0(\mathbb{P}_2, E) = H^0(\mathbb{P}_2, E^*(-1)) = 0$ . Then  $E$  comes from a monad

$$H^1(E(-2)) \otimes \mathcal{O}(-1) \xrightarrow{a} H^1(E(-1)) \otimes \Omega^1(1) \xrightarrow{b} H^1(E) \otimes \mathcal{O}.$$

One can make explicit the maps  $a$  and  $b$  [37]:

for  $z \in V^* = \Gamma(\mathbb{P}_2, \mathcal{O}(1))$  denote the maps

$$H^1(E(-2)) \rightarrow H^1(E(-1)) \quad \text{and} \quad H^1(E(-1)) \rightarrow H^1(E)$$

given by the multiplication with  $z$  by  $\alpha(z)$  and  $\beta(z)$ . At the point  $x \in \mathbb{P}_2$  the map  $a$  is given by

$$(z' \wedge z'') \otimes h \rightarrow z'' \otimes \alpha(z')h - z' \otimes \alpha(z'')h.$$

Here  $z', z'' \in \Omega^1(1)_x$  (note that  $\mathcal{O}(-1) = \det \Omega^1(1)$ ). The map  $b$  is given at  $x \in \mathbb{P}_2$  by

$$z \otimes k \mapsto \beta(z)k.$$

The injectivity of  $\alpha$  is equivalent to :

for each nonzero  $h \in H^1(E(-2))$  the map  $z \mapsto \alpha(z)h$  from  $V^*$  to  $H^1(E(-1))$  has rank at least 2 .

Now let  $E$  be of rank 2 and  $c_1(E) = -1$  . Serre-duality gives a symmetric nondegenerate form on  $H^1(E(-1))$  and an isomorphism  $H^1(E(-2))^* \simeq H^1(E)$  . In this case  $\beta(z) = \alpha(z)^t$  ,  $z \in V^*$  . From this one can deduce as in 1) a bijective correspondence (see [37]) between the isomorphism classes of holomorphic 2-bundles  $E$  on  $\mathbb{P}_2$  with  $c_1(E) = -1$  ,  $H^0(E) = 0$  ,  $c_2(E) = n$  and the orbits of  $GL(H) \times O(K)$  on the set of all linear maps  $\alpha : V^* \rightarrow L(H, K)$  satisfying

- (i)  $\alpha(z')^t \alpha(z'') = \alpha(z'')^t \alpha(z')$  for  $z' , z'' \in V^*$
- (ii) the map  $z \mapsto \alpha(z)h$  from  $V^*$  to  $K$  is for all nonzero  $h \in H$  of rank at least 2 .

Here  $H$  and  $K$  are complex vector spaces of dimension  $n - 1$  and  $n$  . Furthermore  $K$  is equipped with a nondegenerate symmetric bilinear form.

The case  $c_1(E) = 0$  is different. Here Serre-duality gives

$$H^1(\mathbb{P}_2, E(-2))^* \simeq H^1(\mathbb{P}_2, E(-1))$$

and for  $z \in V^*$  the map

$$\alpha(z) : H^1(E(-2)) \rightarrow H^1(E(-2))^*$$

is symmetric. It takes some work (see [5], [37]) to show that the isomorphism classes of 2-bundles  $E$  with  $c_1(E) = 0$  ,  $H^0(E) = 0$  and  $c_2(E) = n$  are in bijective correspondence with the orbits of  $GL(H)$  acting on the set of all linear maps  $\alpha : V^* \rightarrow S^2 H^*$  satisfying

- (i) the map  $z \mapsto \alpha(z)h$  from  $V^*$  to  $H^*$  is for all nonzero  $h \in H$  of rank at least 2
- (ii) there is a base  $(z_0, z_1, z_2)$  of  $V^*$  such that  $\alpha(z_0)$  is invertible and the map  $H \rightarrow H^*$  given by  $\alpha(z_1)\alpha(z_0)^{-1}\alpha(z_2) - \alpha(z_2)\alpha(z_0)^{-1}\alpha(z_1)$  is of rank 2 .

Here  $H$  is a complex vector space of dimension  $n$  ( $\geq 2$ ) . Monads of this type have been used by Barth [5] to classify stable 2-bundles on  $\mathbb{P}_2$  with  $c_1 = 0$  .

3) Let  $E$  be a holomorphic  $r$ -bundle on  $\mathbb{P}_3$  with  $H^0(E(-1)) = 0$  ,  $H^1(E(-2)) = 0$  ("instanton condition"),  $E \simeq E^*$  and  $c_2(E) = n$  . Then  $E$  comes from a monad

$$H^1(E(-3) \otimes T) \otimes \mathcal{O}(-1) \rightarrow H^1(E \otimes \Omega^1) \otimes \mathcal{O} \rightarrow H^1(E(-1)) \otimes \mathcal{O}(1) .$$

In particular this shows that  $H^1(\mathbb{P}_3, E(-v)) = 0$  for all  $v \geq 2$  . Using the notation of the first application one gets in the same way a bijection between isomorphism classes of orthogonal (symplectic)  $r$ -bundles on  $\mathbb{P}_3 = \mathbb{P}(V)$  satisfying the

conditions  $H^0(E(-1)) = 0$ ,  $H^1(E(-2)) = 0$ ,  $c_2(E) = n$  and the orbits of  $GL(H) \times O(K)$  acting on the linear maps  $\alpha : V \rightarrow L(H, K)$  with

- (i)  $\alpha(v) : H \rightarrow K$  is injective for all  $v \neq 0$
- (ii)  $\alpha(v)(H)$  is for all  $v \in V$  a totally isotropic subspace of  $K$ .

Remark. - The condition  $H^0(P_3, E) = 0$  is equivalent to the surjectivity of the map  $H \otimes V \rightarrow K$  induced by  $\alpha$ .

Monads of this type have been used to describe instantons [1], [22].

4) Let  $E$  be a holomorphic  $r$ -bundle on  $\mathbb{P}_3$  with  $H^0(E) = H^1(E(-2)) = 0$  and  $E \simeq E^*$ . Then  $E$  comes from a monad

$$H^2(E(-3)) \otimes \mathcal{O}(-1) \rightarrow H^1(E(-1)) \otimes \Omega^1(1) \rightarrow H^1(E) \otimes \mathcal{O}.$$

### 3. Stable bundles

DEFINITION 3.1.- A holomorphic  $r$ -bundle  $E$  on  $\mathbb{P}_n$  is said to be stable if for all proper coherent subsheaves  $\mathcal{F}$  of  $E$  of rank  $s$  we have the inequality

$$\frac{c_1(\mathcal{F})}{s} < \frac{c_1(E)}{r}.$$

If we have only " $\leq$ " instead of " $<$ " then  $E$  is called semi-stable. A bundle which is not semi-stable is usually called unstable.

Remarks. - 1) This definition is due to Mumford and Takemoto [56]. Recently Gieseker [17] suggested a slightly different definition. He calls  $E$  stable if

$$\frac{p_{\mathcal{F}}(m)}{s} < \frac{p_E(m)}{r}$$

for  $m \gg 0$ . Here  $p_{\mathcal{F}}(m) = \chi(\mathbb{P}_n, \mathcal{F}(m))$  is the Hilbert polynomial of  $\mathcal{F}$ . With this definition one generally gets more stable but fewer semi-stable bundles than before.

2) It is straightforward [56] that stable bundles  $E$  are always simple, i.e.  $H^0(E^* \otimes E) = \mathbb{C}$ , and therefore indecomposable.

3)  $T_{\mathbb{P}_n}$  is stable [35].

PROPOSITION 3.2 [4].- The stable 2-bundles on  $\mathbb{P}_n$  are precisely the simple ones.

Proof. Assume  $E$  to be simple. We can choose  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$  minimal with  $H^0(E(k)) \neq 0$ . Take a nonzero  $\sigma \in H^0(E(k))$  and put  $Y = \{\sigma = 0\}$ .  $Y$  is of codimension 2 and we get an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O} \xrightarrow{\sigma} E(k) \rightarrow J_Y(c_1(E) + 2k) \rightarrow 0.$$

If  $c_1 + 2k \leq 0$  we get a "non-trivial" endomorphism of  $E(k)$  by composing

$$E(k) \rightarrow J_Y(c_1 + 2k) \hookrightarrow \mathcal{O}(c_1 + 2k) \hookrightarrow \mathcal{O} \xrightarrow{\sigma} E(k).$$

Hence  $c_1 + 2k > 0$ .

Now let  $\mathcal{O}(\ell)$  be a subsheaf of  $E$ . By minimality of  $k$  we get  $-\ell \geq k$  and therefore  $\ell < c_1/2$ . This shows the stability of  $E$ .

Remark.- It is easy to see that a 2-bundle  $E$  on  $\mathbb{P}_n$  is stable if and only if  $H^0(\mathbb{P}_n, E_{\text{norm}}) = 0$ . For 3-bundles with  $c_1 = 0$  stability is equivalent to  $H^0(E) = H^0(E^*) = 0$ .

Problem 2. Give a similar criterion of stability for bundles of higher rank.

Schwarzenberger has shown [52] that Riemann-Roch implies that the Chern classes of a stable 2-bundle on  $\mathbb{P}_2$  have to satisfy  $c_1^2 - 4c_2 < 0$  (for a semi-stable 2-bundle one has  $c_1^2 - 4c_2 \leq 0$ ). In fact  $c_1^2 - 4c_2 = -4$  cannot occur for a stable 2-bundle on  $\mathbb{P}_2$  [38].

It is a general fact, proved by Maruyama [43], that the restriction of a semi-stable  $r$ -bundle on  $\mathbb{P}_n$ ,  $r < n$ , to a general hyperplane is semi-stable again (Barth [4] showed the same to be true for stable 2-bundles on  $\mathbb{P}_n$ ,  $n \geq 3$ , with the exception of the Null-correlation bundle). Hence for a semi-stable 2-bundle  $E$  on  $\mathbb{P}_n$  we have

$$c_1^2 - 4c_2 \leq 0$$

and for stable 2-bundles one necessarily has

$$c_1^2 - 4c_2 < 0.$$

Problem 3. Determine similar necessary conditions for stable (semi-stable) holomorphic bundles of higher rank.

We show next how stability of a 2-bundle  $E$  on  $\mathbb{P}_n$  coming from a locally complete intersection  $Y \subset \mathbb{P}_n$  of codimension 2 is reflected by  $Y$ .

Let  $Y \subset \mathbb{P}_n$ ,  $n \geq 2$ , be a locally complete intersection of codimension 2 and  $\det N_{Y|\mathbb{P}_n} = \mathcal{O}_Y(k)$ . Then we can find an extension  $E$  of  $N_{Y|\mathbb{P}_n}$  as in 2.2.1.

**PROPOSITION 3.3** (see [25]).-  $E$  is stable if and only if  $k > 0$  and  $Y$  is not contained in any hypersurface of degree  $d \leq k/2$ .

Proof. We have an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O} \rightarrow E \rightarrow J_Y(k) \rightarrow 0.$$

If  $E$  is stable then  $c_1(E) = k > 0$ .

Assume  $k$  to be even. The sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(-k/2) \rightarrow E_{\text{norm}} \rightarrow J_Y(k/2) \rightarrow 0$$

gives

$$H^0(E_{\text{norm}}) \xrightarrow{\sim} H^0(J_Y(k/2)).$$

Stability of  $E$  is equivalent to  $H^0(E_{\text{norm}}) = 0$ . Therefore  $H^0(J_Y(k/2)) = 0$ , which is equivalent to the fact that  $Y$  is not contained in any hypersurface of degree  $\leq k/2$ . Assume on the other hand  $k > 0$  and  $H^0(J_Y(k/2)) = 0$ . This gives  $H^0(E_{\text{norm}}) = 0$  which is the stability of  $E$ . The case  $c_1$  odd is treated in a similar way.

Using this criterion we re-examine the examples of 2.1.

examples.- 1) If  $E$  comes from  $d$  simple points in  $\mathbb{P}_2$ ,  $E$  is stable if and only if the points do not all lie on a line. This shows the existence of stable 2-bundles on  $\mathbb{P}_2$  with  $c_1 = 0$ ,  $c_2 \geq 2$ .

2) If  $E$  comes from  $d$  disjoint lines in  $\mathbb{P}_3$  then  $E$  is stable if and only if these lines are not contained in a plane. This is the case for  $d \geq 2$ . This gives stable 2-bundles on  $\mathbb{P}_3$  with  $c_1 = 0$ ,  $c_2 \geq 1$ ,  $\alpha = 0$ .

3) For bundles coming from disjoint nonsingular conics we have the same result as in 2). One gets stable bundles with  $c_1 = -1$ ,  $c_2 \geq 2$  even.

4) If  $E$  comes from a plane cubic and a disjoint elliptic curve of degree  $d$  then  $E$  is stable if  $d \geq 4$ . This gives stable bundles on  $\mathbb{P}_3$  with

$$c_1 = 0, \quad c_2 \geq 5, \quad \alpha = 1.$$

5) The 2-bundle of Horrocks and Mumford on  $\mathbb{P}_4$  is stable since an abelian surface  $Y$  can neither lie in some  $\mathbb{P}_3$  (because of  $\pi_1(Y) \neq 0$ ) nor in some hyperquadric  $Q$  (consider normal bundles).

Here we wish to draw the attention of the reader to an example of a stable 3-bundle on  $\mathbb{P}_5$  constructed by Horrocks [30] using representation theory.

Let us close this section by giving the following

Conjecture.- Each 2-bundle on  $\mathbb{P}_n$ ,  $n \geq 5$ , which is not stable is a direct sum of line bundles.

In [20] a "proof" for this was given even for  $n \geq 4$ . Unfortunately there is a gap in that paper.

The conjecture has nice consequences [20], [50] :

1) Each topological 2-bundle on  $\mathbb{P}_n$ ,  $n \geq 5$ , which is not the direct sum of two line bundles and satisfying  $c_1^2 - 4c_2 \geq 0$  cannot have an analytic structure. By [46],

[54], [55] there are many topological 2-bundles with  $c_1^2 - 4c_2 \geq 0$  and which do not split.

2) Each holomorphic 2-bundle on  $\mathbb{P}_5$  which can be extended topologically to  $\mathbb{P}_n$ ,  $n$  arbitrarily large, is the direct sum of line bundles.

This sharpened the theorem of Barth and Van de Ven [9] on Babylonian vector bundles (see also [48], [61]).

3) Each nonsingular submanifold  $Y \subset \mathbb{P}_n$  of codimension 2 is a complete intersection if  $n \geq 6$  and  $n \geq \frac{1}{3}\sqrt{\deg(Y)} + 1$ . This would improve some results in [3].

One can even show, for example, that a nonsingular 4-dimensional submanifold  $Y \subset \mathbb{P}_6$  is a complete intersection if  $\deg Y \leq 514$ .

4) Furthermore one could improve the results of Barth and Van de Ven in [10].

4. Moduli of stable bundles

So far we commented the points I and II of the introduction. To deal with III one would like to introduce on the set of isomorphism classes of stable holomorphic r-bundles on  $\mathbb{P}_n$  with fixed topological type a "good" analytic structure.

Consider the functor

$$\Sigma(c_1, \dots, c_r) : \underline{\text{An}} \longrightarrow \underline{\text{Ens}}$$

from analytic spaces to sets given by

$$\Sigma(c_1, \dots, c_r)(S) := \{ \text{bundles } E \text{ on } \mathbb{P}_n \times S \text{ of fixed rank with } E(s) \text{ stable and } c_i(E(s)) = c_i \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, r \text{ and } s \in S \} / \sim$$

Here  $E_2 \sim E_1$  if  $E_2 \cong \text{pr}_S^*(L) \otimes E_1$  for a holomorphic line bundle  $L$  on  $S$ .

$\Sigma$  is contravariant in an obvious way.

DEFINITION 4.1.-  $M = M(c_1, \dots, c_r) \in \underline{\text{An}}$  is a coarse moduli space for  $\Sigma(c_1, \dots, c_r)$  if there is a morphism of functors

$$\Sigma \longrightarrow \text{Hom}(-, M)$$

with

$$\Sigma(\text{pt}) \xrightarrow{\sim} M.$$

Furthermore  $M$  should be minimal with respect to these properties, i.e. if  $N$  is another analytic space satisfying the above then there should be a unique morphism  $M \rightarrow N$  making the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Sigma & \longrightarrow & \text{Hom}(-, M) \\ & \searrow & \swarrow \\ & & \text{Hom}(-, N) \end{array}$$

commutative.

If a coarse moduli space exists one has put in a functorial way an analytic structure onto the stable bundles on  $\mathbb{P}_n$  with fixed Chern classes and fixed rank.

If  $M$  represents  $\Sigma$  then  $M$  is said to be a fine moduli space. This is equivalent to the existence of a universal family over  $M \times \mathbb{P}_n$ .

It seems much easier to construct a coarse moduli space  $M$  in the analytic category than to do it in the algebraic category. In the algebraic category the existence was proved by Maruyama [39], [40], [41] by using Mumford's geometric invariant approach. Maruyama could not show that  $M$  is always of finite type. For  $n = 2$  and arbitrary rank this was shown to be true by Gieseker [17]. For arbitrary  $n$  and rank  $\leq 4$  it was verified recently by Maruyama [43].

These authors also study compactifications of  $M$  and it turns out that one has not only to admit semi-stable bundles but also semi-stable torsion free coherent sheaves.

Our object here is only to mention some specific results for the moduli spaces  $M$  of bundles over  $\mathbb{P}_2$  and  $\mathbb{P}_3$ .

By deformation theory the Zariski tangent space of  $M$  at  $m$  is  $H^1(\text{End}(E))$  if  $E$  is the bundle corresponding to  $m$ . If  $H^2(\text{End}(E)) = 0$  then  $M$  is smooth at  $m$ . In particular the moduli spaces of stable bundles on  $\mathbb{P}_2$  are nonsingular. By Riemann-Roch we get

$$\dim M_{\mathbb{P}_2}(c_1, c_2, r) = (1-r)c_1^2 + 2rc_2 - r^2 + 1.$$

For rank 2 we get

$$\dim M_{\mathbb{P}_2}(c_1, c_2) = 4c_2 - c_1^2 - 3.$$

Let us summarize the properties of  $M_{\mathbb{P}_2}(c_1, c_2)$ .

**THEOREM 4.2.-**  $M_{\mathbb{P}_2}(c_1, c_2)$  is a smooth, quasi-projective manifold of dimension  $4c_2 - c_1^2 - 3$ .  $M$  is connected and rational.  $M$  is a fine moduli space if and only if  $4c_2 - c_1^2 \neq 0$  (8).

**Remarks.-** The rationality and connectedness was proved by Barth [5] for  $c_1$  even and by Hulek [33] for  $c_1$  odd using monads. Maruyama [42] showed that  $M$  is connected, unirational (and in some cases rational) and that  $M$  is a fine moduli space if  $4c_2 - c_1^2 \neq 0$  (8). Le Potier [37] proved the nonexistence of a universal family for  $4c_2 - c_1^2 \equiv 0$  (8) using monads. He showed that in this case there are topological obstructions to the existence of the universal family. In doing this he calculated

$$\pi_1(M(0, c_2)) = \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} & \text{for } c_2 = 2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



$$\pi_2(M(0, c_2)) = \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} & \text{for } c_2 = 2 \\ \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z} & \text{for } c_2 > 2, c_2 \text{ even} \\ \mathbb{Z} & \text{for } c_2 \text{ odd.} \end{cases}$$

To conclude this section we give the simplest examples of moduli spaces on  $\mathbb{P}_2$  and  $\mathbb{P}_3$  which can be deduced quickly from the description of bundles by monads.

Examples.- 1)  $M_{\mathbb{P}_2}(-1, 1) = \{\Omega^1(1)\}$ .

This follows immediately from Application 2 of 2.3.

2)  $M_{\mathbb{P}_2}(-1, 2) = S^2\mathbb{P}_2 \setminus \Delta$  (see [37]).

The application 2 of 2.3 shows that

$$M(-1, 2) = \{\alpha : V^* \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^2 \text{ linear and surjective}\} \text{ modulo the action of } \mathbb{C}^* \times O(\mathbb{C}^2).$$

Here  $\mathbb{C}^2$  is equipped with a nondegenerate symmetric bilinear form. A linear algebraic calculation identifies the righthand side to  $(\mathbb{P}(V) \times \mathbb{P}(V)) \setminus \Delta$  modulo  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ . This finally gives  $M(-1, 2) \simeq S^2\mathbb{P}_2 \setminus \Delta$ .

3)  $M_{\mathbb{P}_2}(0, 2) = \{\text{nonsingular conics in } \mathbb{P}_2\}$ , [5].

By application 2 of 2.3 one has

$$M(0, 2) = \text{Isom}(V^*, S^2H^*) / \text{GL}(H).$$

$H$  is of dimension 2. Let  $C := \{q \in S^2(H^*) : \det q = 0\}$ ; for  $\alpha \in \text{Isom}(V^*, S^2H^*)$  the inverse image  $\alpha^{-1}(C)$  will be a nonsingular conic.  $\alpha', \alpha \in \text{Isom}(V^*, S^2H^*)$  with  $\alpha^{-1}(C) = \alpha'^{-1}(C)$  differ by an automorphism  $\gamma \in \text{Aut}(S^2H^*)$  with  $\gamma(C) = C$ . But these  $\gamma$ 's come from automorphisms of  $H$ . This proves our claim.

4)  $M_{\mathbb{P}_3}(0, 1) = \text{PGL}(3, \mathbb{C}) / \text{Sp}(2, \mathbb{C})$  (see [4]).

By application 3 of 2.3 we have

$$M(0, 1) = \text{Isom}(\mathbb{C}^4, \mathbb{C}^4) / \mathbb{C}^* \times \text{Sp}(2, \mathbb{C}) = \text{PGL}(3, \mathbb{C}) / \text{Sp}(2, \mathbb{C}).$$

In particular  $\text{PGL}(3)$  operates transitively on  $M(0, 1)$ . The Null-correlation bundle belongs to  $M(0, 1)$ .

Hartshorne [25] gives a description of  $M_{\mathbb{P}_3}(0, 2)$ . In particular  $M_{\mathbb{P}_3}(0, 2)$  is still connected. For  $c_2 \geq 3$  the space  $M_{\mathbb{P}_3}(0, c_2)$  will be divided into 2 components by the  $\alpha$ -invariant. The following example due to Barth and Hulek [8] (see also [25]) shows that  $M_{\mathbb{P}_3}(0, c_2)$  is reducible if  $c_2$  is odd and at least 5.

Consider the monad

$$\mathcal{O}(-m - 1) \xrightarrow{a} \mathcal{O}(m) \oplus \mathcal{O} \oplus \mathcal{O} \oplus \mathcal{O}(-m) \xrightarrow{b} \mathcal{O}(m + 1)$$

on  $\mathbb{P}_3$ . The map  $a \in H^0(\mathcal{O}(2m + 1) \oplus \mathcal{O}(m + 1) \oplus \mathcal{O}(m + 1) \oplus \mathcal{O}(1))$  has to be chosen such that the  $a_i$  have no common zero. On  $\mathcal{O}(m) \oplus \mathcal{O} \oplus \mathcal{O} \oplus \mathcal{O}(-m)$  take the symplectic form

$$q = \begin{pmatrix} & & & 1 \\ & 0 & & \\ & & 1 & \\ -1 & & & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

and put  $b = a^t$ .

The stable 2-bundles defined by these monads have Chern classes  $c_1 = 0$ ,  $c_2 = 2m + 1$ .

This family of bundles depends effectively on

$$\#a\text{'s} - \dim(\mathbb{C}^* \times \mathcal{O}(q))$$

parameters (compare 2.3).

One checks that  $\dim \mathcal{O}(q) = 4 + 2\binom{m+3}{3} + \binom{2m+3}{3}$  and thus gets that the family depends on

$$3m^2 + 10m + 8$$

parameters.

For  $m \geq 2$  this number is bigger than  $16m + 5 = 8c_2 - 3$  which is the dimension of the Zariski-open smooth part of bundles  $E$  with  $H^2(\mathbb{P}_3, \text{End}(E)) = 0$ .

Questions.- 1) Are  $M_{\mathbb{P}_3}(0,3)$  and  $M_{\mathbb{P}_3}(0,4)$  nonsingular and do they have only two components (given by  $\alpha$ ) ?

2) What can be said about  $M(0, c_2)$ ,  $c_2^-$  even ?

3) Is the Zariski-open part of mathematical instanton bundles of  $M_{\mathbb{P}_3}(0, c_2)$ , i.e. the bundles  $E$  with  $H^1(\mathbb{P}_3, E(-2)) = 0$ , nonsingular ?

5. Jumping lines and uniform bundles

If  $E$  is a holomorphic  $r$ -bundle on  $\mathbb{P}_n$  the restriction of  $E$  to a projective line  $L \subset \mathbb{P}_n$  is by the theorem of Grothendieck of the form

$$E|_L \simeq \mathcal{O}(a_1) \oplus \dots \oplus \mathcal{O}(a_r).$$

The integers  $a_i$  depend on  $L$  but are the same for the general line  $L$ . Lines for which  $E|_L$  is different from the generic form are called jumping lines. The set of jumping lines will be denoted by  $S(E)$ . It is a closed analytic subset of  $\text{Gr}(1,n)$ .

One of the main tools in studying stable 2-bundles on  $\mathbb{P}_n$  is the theorem of Grauert and Müllich [18], [4].

**THEOREM 5.1.**- For a stable normalized 2-bundle  $E$  on  $\mathbb{P}_n$  the restriction of  $E$  to the general line is

$$E|L \simeq \begin{cases} \mathcal{O} \oplus \mathcal{O} & \text{for } c_1 = 0 \\ \mathcal{O} \oplus \mathcal{O}(-1) & \text{for } c_1 = -1. \end{cases}$$

To study stable bundles of higher rank it would be desirable to solve the following

**Problem 4.** Let  $E$  be a stable  $r$ -bundle on  $\mathbb{P}_n$ . Is it true that for the general line  $L$  one has

$$E|L \simeq \mathcal{O}(a_1) \oplus \dots \oplus \mathcal{O}(a_r) .$$

with  $a_1 \geq a_2 \geq \dots \geq a_r$ ,  $a_{i-1} - a_i \leq 1$  for  $i = 2, \dots, r$  ?

For  $r = 2$  it is true by the Grauert-Müllich theorem. For  $r = 3$  and  $n = 2$  it is true by [43].

For stable 2-bundles  $E$  with  $c_1$  even one can say more about  $S(E)$ . The Grauert-Müllich theorem implies for a normalized stable 2-bundle  $E$  on  $\mathbb{P}_n$ :

$$S(E) = \{L : H^0(L, E(-1)|L) \neq 0\} .$$

Suppose now  $n = 2$  and  $c_1 = 0$ . The exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow H^0(E(-1)|L) \rightarrow H^1(E(-2)) \xrightarrow{\alpha(L)} H^1(E(-1))$$

shows that

$$S(E) = \{L \in \mathbb{P}_2^* : \det \alpha(L) = 0\} ,$$

because  $h^1(E(-2)) = h^1(E(-1)) = c_2(E)$ . Hence  $S(E)$  is a curve of degree  $c_2(E)$ . Barth [4] has shown that this remains true if  $n > 2$ , i.e.  $S(E)$  is a divisor of degree  $c_2(E)$  in  $\text{Gr}(1, n)$ .

For  $c_1$  odd  $S(E)$  is not a hypersurface. For example look at  $E \in M_{\mathbb{P}_2}(-1, 2) = S^2\mathbb{P}_2 \setminus \Delta$ . If  $E$  corresponds to 2 different points  $p_1, p_2 \in \mathbb{P}_2$  then there is only one jumping line: the line containing  $p_1$  and  $p_2$ . In order to associate geometric objects to  $M_{\mathbb{P}_2}(-1, c_2)$  Hulek [33] gives the following

**DEFINITION 5.2.**- Let  $E$  be a normalized 2-bundle on  $\mathbb{P}_2$ . A line  $L \subset \mathbb{P}_2$  is called a jumping line of the second kind if  $H^0(E|L^2) \neq 0$ . Here  $L^2$  denotes the first infinitesimal neighborhood of  $L$  in  $\mathbb{P}_2$ .

Hulek shows that for stable 2-bundles on  $\mathbb{P}_2$  with  $c_1 = -1$  the set  $C(E)$  of jumping lines of the second kind is a curve in  $\mathbb{P}_2^*$  of degree  $2c_2(E) - 2$ .

Furthermore

$$S(E) \subset \text{Sing } C(E)$$

and in general one has equality.

Holomorphic bundles  $E$  on  $\mathbb{P}_n$  with  $S(E) = \emptyset$  are called uniform. Van de Ven [63] showed that a uniform 2-bundle on  $\mathbb{P}_n$  either splits into line bundles or is of the form  $T_{\mathbb{P}_2}^{\otimes k}$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . This was generalized by Sato [47] to  $r$ -bundles on  $\mathbb{P}_n$  with  $r \leq n$ . Elencwajg [14] proved that uniform 3-bundles  $E$  on  $\mathbb{P}_2$  (and therefore on  $\mathbb{P}_n$  for all  $n$  by Sato's result) are homogeneous, i.e.  $\sigma^*E \simeq E$  for all  $\sigma \in \text{PGL}(n)$ . This gave much evidence to the old conjecture [51] that uniform bundles of arbitrary rank on  $\mathbb{P}_n$  are homogeneous.

Recently Elencwajg [15] gave an example of a uniform 4-bundle on  $\mathbb{P}_2$  which is not homogeneous. In fact he uses a monad of the type described in application 2 of 2.3.

Problem 5. Does every uniform unstable bundle on  $\mathbb{P}_n$  split?

For rank two this is true (and easy to see).

Finally we recommend to consult a recent problem list (26 problems) on vector bundles on  $\mathbb{P}_n$  compiled by Hartshorne [26]. There one can especially find many problems related to instantons which we have almost completely neglected due to limited space and knowledge.

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