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BRIDGELAND STABILITY CONDITIONS ON THREEFOLDS I: BOGOMOLOV-GIESEKER TYPE INEQUALITIES

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ABSTRACT. We construct new t-structures on the derived category of coherent sheaves on smooth projective threefolds. We conjecture that they give Bridgeland stability conditions near the large volume limit. We show that this conjecture is equivalent to a Bogomolov-Gieseker type inequality for the third Chern character of certain stable complexes. We also conjecture a stronger inequality, and prove it in the case of projective space, and for various examples.

Finally, we prove a version of the classical Bogomolov-Gieseker inequality, not involving the third Chern character, for stable complexes.

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1. INTRODUCTION

In this paper, we give a conjectural construction of Bridgeland stability conditions on the derived category of any projective threefold X . The construction depends on a conjectural Bogomolov-Gieseker type inequality for objects in the derived category that are stable with

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respect to “tilt-stability”, which is an auxiliary stability condition for two-term complexes on X .

1.1. The existence problem. Spaces of Bridgeland stability conditions have turned out to be extremely interesting. However, we do not know a single example of a Bridgeland stability condition on a projective Calabi-Yau threefold, which is likely to be the most interesting case. The main obstacle is the failure to solve the following question:

Problem 1.1.1. Given a projective threefold X , find a heart $\mathcal{A} \subset D^b(X)$ of a bounded t-structure, and a group homomorphism (called central charge) $Z: K(D^b(X)) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ defined over \mathbb{Q} , such that¹

$$(1) \quad 0 \neq E \in \mathcal{A} \implies Z(E) \in \{re^{i\phi} : r > 0, 0 < \phi \leq 1\}.$$

We will restrict our attention to central charges Z that are “numerical”, i.e., Z factors via the Chern character map $\text{ch}: K(D^b(X)) \rightarrow \text{Num}_{\mathbb{Q}}(X)$ to the group $\text{Num}_{\mathbb{Q}}(X)$ of cycles up to numerical equivalence, tensored by \mathbb{Q} .

Condition (1) is a highly non-trivial positivity property. For example, it cannot possible be satisfied when X is projective of dimension ≥ 2 , and $\mathcal{A} = \text{Coh } X$ is the heart of the standard t-structure (cf. [Tod09a, Lemma 2.7]). Further, the construction of stability conditions for surfaces (see [Bri08, ABL07]) needs the Bogomolov-Gieseker inequality for slope-stable bundles and the Hodge Index theorem. The methods of [BM11] imply an even closer relationship: knowing the set of possible numerical central charges Z for which skyscraper sheaves of points $k(x)$ are stable is essentially *equivalent* to knowing the set of Chern characters of slope-semistable bundles for any polarization of X .

Motivated by the construction of π -stability in string theory (see e.g. [Asp05]), and by the case of curves and surfaces, one can be even more precise. Given an ample class $\omega \in \text{NS}_{\mathbb{Q}}(X)$ and a “B-field” $B \in \text{NS}_{\mathbb{Q}}(X)$, we define a central charge $Z_{\omega, B}$ by

$$(2) \quad \begin{aligned} Z_{\omega, B}(E) &= - \int_X e^{-B-i\omega} \text{ch}(E) \\ &= \left(-\text{ch}_3^B(E) + \frac{\omega^2}{2} \text{ch}_1^B(E) \right) + i \left(\omega \text{ch}_2^B(E) - \frac{\omega^3}{6} \text{ch}_0^B(E) \right). \end{aligned}$$

where ch^B denotes the twisted Chern character $\text{ch}^B(E) = e^{-B} \text{ch}(E)$.

Conjecture 1.1.2. *There exists a heart $\mathcal{A}_{\omega, B} \subset D^b(X)$ of a bounded t-structure, such that the pair $(Z_{\omega, B}, \mathcal{A}_{\omega, B})$ is a stability condition on $D^b(X)$ for which skyscraper sheaves $k(x)$ of points $x \in X$ are stable.*

¹The assumption that Z is defined over \mathbb{Q} is necessary, in practice, to prove the existence of Harder-Narasimhan filtrations for the induced notion of Z -stability on \mathcal{A} .

For $\omega = m\omega_0$ and $m \gg 0$, these would be stability conditions near the “large-volume limit”. As indicated above, the corresponding conjecture is known when $\dim X \leq 2$. In fact when $\dim X = 1$, we can take $\mathcal{A}_{\omega,B}$ to be $\text{Coh } X$. When $\dim X = 2$, we need to tilt (cf. Section 2.3) the abelian category $\text{Coh } X$ to construct $\mathcal{A}_{\omega,B}$. We will recall its construction in Proposition 3.1.3. On the other hand, with very few exceptions (varieties for which $D^b(X)$ admits a complete exceptional collection), the above conjecture is still open in higher dimension.

1.2. Our approach. Given ω, B as above, we construct a candidate $\mathcal{A}_{\omega,B}$ for Conjecture 1.1.2 as a double tilt of $\text{Coh } X$:

- We first use classical slope-stability on $\text{Coh } X$ to define $\mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$ as a *tilt* of $\text{Coh } X$ with respect to a torsion pair.
- We define an analogue of slope-stability on $\mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$, and then similarly define $\mathcal{A}_{\omega,B}$ as a tilt of $\mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$.

We now give a sketch of our construction; the details will be given in Section 3. Consider the classical slope-stability with respect to the polarization ω , twisted by B : here the slope of a sheaf \mathcal{F} is given by $\mu_{\omega,B}(\mathcal{F}) = \frac{\omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(\mathcal{F})}{\omega^3 \text{ch}_0(\mathcal{F})}$. Let $\mathcal{T}_{\omega,B} \subset \text{Coh } X$ be the category generated, via extensions, by slope-semistable sheaves of slope $\mu_{\omega,B} > 0$ (where torsion sheaves are considered slope-semistable of slope $\mu_{\omega,B} = +\infty$); and similarly, let $\mathcal{F}_{\omega,B}$ the subcategory generated by slope-semistable sheaves of slope $\mu_{\omega,B} \leq 0$. Following Bridgeland’s construction for K3 surfaces in [Bri08], we define $\mathcal{B}_{\omega,B} \subset D^b(X)$ by

$$\mathcal{B}_{\omega,B} := \langle \mathcal{F}_{\omega,B}[1], \mathcal{T}_{\omega,B} \rangle$$

where $[1]$ denotes the shift and $\langle _ \rangle$ the extension-closure; see Section 2.3 for alternative descriptions of the tilted heart.

We then define the following slope-function on $\mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$:

$$\nu_{\omega,B}(E) = \frac{\Im Z_{\omega,B}(E)}{\omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(E)} = \frac{\omega \text{ch}_2^B(E) - \frac{\omega^3}{6} \text{ch}_0^B(E)}{\omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(E)}.$$

We show that this produces a notion of slope-stability on $\mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$, which we call *tilt-stability*. Using tilt-stability, we can define a torsion pair $\mathcal{T}'_{\omega,B}, \mathcal{F}'_{\omega,B}$ in the category $\mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$ exactly as in the case of slope-stability for $\text{Coh } X$ above. Tilting at this torsion pair produces a heart $\mathcal{A}_{\omega,B}$.

We also give a second construction of the same heart in Section 4, starting from a category Coh^p of perverse coherent sheaves, and using polynomial stability conditions rather than slope-stability. It is less concrete, but is inherently well-behaved with respect to the derived dualizing functor $\mathbf{R}\mathcal{H}om(_, \mathcal{O}_X)$. In Section 5.1, we show that the two constructions agree.

1.3. Conjectures and Results. We propose the following conjecture.

Conjecture 3.2.6. *Suppose that X is a smooth projective threefold over \mathbb{C} . Then the pair $(Z_{\omega,B}, \mathcal{A}_{\omega,B})$ is a stability condition on $D^b(X)$.*

At this moment we are not able to show the above conjecture when X is a Calabi-Yau threefold. As a first evidence for the conjecture, we prove:

Theorem 8.2.1. *Conjecture 3.2.6 holds for $X = \mathbb{P}^3$, $B = 0$ and $\omega^3 < 3\sqrt{3}$.*

Our method also works for other threefolds with complete exceptional collections.

By construction of $\mathcal{A}_{\omega,B}$, it is immediate that $\Im Z_{\omega,B}(E) \geq 0$ for any $E \in \mathcal{A}_{\omega,B}$. Thus, to show that condition (1) holds, we only need to consider objects with $Z_{\omega,B}(E) \in \mathbb{R}$, and have to show that in fact $Z_{\omega,B}(E) < 0$ in this case. As in the case of surfaces, this comes down to a Bogomolov-Gieseker type inequality for tilt-stable objects in $\mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$:

Conjecture 3.2.7. *For any tilt-stable object $E \in \mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$ satisfying $\nu_{\omega,B}(E) = 0$, i.e.,*

$$\frac{\omega^3}{6} \text{ch}_0^B(E) = \omega \text{ch}_2^B(E),$$

we have the following inequality:

$$\text{ch}_3^B(E) < \frac{\omega^2}{2} \text{ch}_1^B(E).$$

In fact, with Corollary 5.2.4 we show that Conjecture 3.2.6 and Conjecture 3.2.7 are equivalent. The essential ingredient is Proposition 5.2.2, which shows that the abelian category $\mathcal{A}_{\omega,B}$ is Noetherian.

Such a strong Bogomolov-Gieseker type inequality for ch_3 is not available for slope-semistable sheaves; in fact even for \mathbb{P}^3 , the best possible results are much worse (see, for example, [Sch80] for explicit examples). Thus Theorem 8.2.1 shows that such slope-semistable sheaves become unstable with respect to tilt-stability.

In fact, we suggest an even stronger inequality:

Conjecture 1.3.1. *Any tilt-stable object $E \in \mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$ with $\nu_{\omega,B}(E) = 0$ satisfies*

$$(3) \quad \text{ch}_3^B(E) \leq \frac{\omega^2}{18} \text{ch}_1^B(E).$$

Just as in the case of the classical Bogomolov-Gieseker inequality for slope-stability, we have equality when ω and B are scalar multiples of the class of an ample line bundle L , and $E = L^{\otimes n}$ is a tensor power of L . We prove this conjecture in the following situations:

Section 8.2: For any complex on \mathbb{P}^3 when $B = 0$ and $\omega^3 < 3\sqrt{3}$.

Section 7.1: Restrictions of torsion-free sheaves to an ample divisor proportional to ω .

Section 7.4: Slope-semistable vector bundles \mathcal{F} with vanishing discriminant $\Delta(\mathcal{F}) = 0$ and $c_1(\mathcal{F})$ proportional to ω . (Such sheaves are also stable with respect to tilt-stability.)

Example 7.2.4: Sheaves of the form $\mathcal{O}_X(1) \otimes I_C$ for a curve C on a hypersurface $X \subset \mathbb{P}^4$, in which case the inequality is related to Castelnuovo’s classical bound for the genus of curves of fixed degree.

If true, the inequality (3) would be quite strong. For example, it would give strong Hodge type inequalities for tilt-stable line bundles when the Néron-Severi group has rank > 1 . Moreover, in a forthcoming paper [BBMT11] we show that Conjecture 1.3.1 implies a Reider-type theorem for threefolds, and a statement towards Fujita’s conjecture on very ampleness of adjoint line bundles (including, for example, Fujita’s conjecture for Calabi-Yau threefolds). The approach is based on ideas and questions in [AB11].

As a first step towards proving an inequality for ch_3 in the general case, it seems worthwhile to generalize the classical Bogomolov-Gieseker for $\text{ch}_0, \text{ch}_1, \text{ch}_2$ from sheaves to complexes. Indeed, it is an ingredient in any proof of inequalities for ch_3 of slope-stable sheaves; see [Lan09a] for a survey of such inequalities. Theorem 7.3.1 and its Corollaries give various forms of inequalities for tilt-stable complexes similar to Bogomolov-Gieseker; for example:

Corollary 7.3.4. *Suppose that X is a smooth projective threefold with Néron-Severi group $\text{NS}(X)$ of rank one. Then any tilt-semistable object $E \in \mathcal{B}_{\omega, B}$ satisfies*

$$\omega(\text{ch}_1(E)^2 - 2 \text{rk}(E) \text{ch}_2(E)) \geq 0.$$

Stability conditions at the large-volume limit had been previously constructed in [Bay09] and [Tod09a] as “polynomial” or “limit” stability condition. As an additional confirmation that the heart $\mathcal{A}_{\omega, B}$ seems to give the right construction, we prove:

Proposition 1.3.2 (Lemma 6.2.1 and Lemma 6.2.2). *The limit of $\mathcal{A}_{m\omega, B}$ for $m \rightarrow +\infty$ agrees with the heart of polynomial or limit stability conditions at the large-volume limit.*

We also prove a compatibility of stability for large m and stability at the limit, see Proposition 6.2.3.

1.4. Relation to existing work. Our construction of $\mathcal{B}_{\omega, B}$ is directly adopted from Bridgeland’s construction of stability conditions on K3 surfaces in [Bri08]. To prove that $\nu_{\omega, B}$ defines a slope function, we use the Bogomolov-Gieseker inequality and the Hodge Index Theorem just as in the case of general projective surfaces treated by Arcara, Bertram and Lieblich in [ABL07]. Our notion of tilt-stability on $\mathcal{B}_{\omega, B}$ is very similar to the notion of “ μ_{s+it} -stability” by Arcara and Bertram, see [AB11].

In Section 8.2, we rely on the construction of “algebraic stability conditions” for varieties with complete exceptional collections (cf. [Mac04]). However, even in the case of \mathbb{P}^3 , our construction includes stability conditions that are not algebraic.

For large ω , our conjectural stability conditions $(Z_{\omega,B}, \mathcal{A}_{\omega,B})$ should live in a neighborhood of the large volume limit. Evidently, our approach is motivated by the string theory construction of π -stability at the large-volume limit, see e.g. [Dou02, AD02, AL01, Asp05]. In particular, our central charge (2) is borrowed from the mathematical physics literature [AD02, equation (2.9)], with the modification that our formula omits quantum corrections and a factor of $\sqrt{\text{td } X}$. This change partly is motivated by the surface case, where one obtains stability conditions for *every* ample class ω in this way.

We also refer to [DRY06] for a conjectural approach to *sufficient* rather than *necessary* Bogomolov-Gieseker type inequalities on Calabi-Yau threefolds.

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1.6. Notation and Convention. We work over the complex numbers. For a set of objects S in a triangulated category \mathcal{D} , we denote by $\langle S \rangle$ the additive category generated by S via extensions. If X is smooth and projective variety, we will denote by \mathbb{D} the local dualizing functor on its derived category $D^b(X)$ given by

$$\mathbb{D}(_) := (_)^\vee[1] := \mathbf{R}\mathcal{H}om(_, \mathcal{O}_X[1]).$$

Given a coherent sheaf \mathcal{F} , we write $\dim \mathcal{F}$ for the dimension of its support. We write $\text{Coh}^{\leq d} X = \{\mathcal{F} : \dim \mathcal{F} \leq d\} \subset \text{Coh } X$ for the subcategory of sheaves supported in dimension $\leq d$, and $\text{Coh}^{\geq d+1} X \subset \text{Coh } X$ for the subcategory of sheaves that have no subsheaf supported in dimension $\leq d$. Given a bounded t-structure on $D^b(X)$ with heart \mathcal{A} and an object $E \in D^b(X)$, we write $H_{\mathcal{A}}^j(E)$, $j \in \mathbb{Z}$, for the cohomology objects with respect to \mathcal{A} . When $\mathcal{A} = \text{Coh}(X)$, we simply write $H^j(E)$.

For a complex number $z \in \mathbb{C}$, we denote its real and imaginary part by $\Re z$ and $\Im z$, respectively. We write $m \gg 0$ to mean “for *all* sufficiently large m ”.

We write $\text{Num}(X)$ for the group of cycles $A(X)$ up to numerical equivalence, and $\text{NS}(X) = \text{NS}(X, \mathbb{Z}) = \text{Num}^1(X)$ for the Néron-Severi group of divisors up to numerical equivalence. We also write $\text{Num}_{\mathbb{Q}}(X)$, $\text{NS}_{\mathbb{Q}}(X)$, $\text{Num}_{\mathbb{R}}(X)$, etc. for $\text{Num}(X) \otimes \mathbb{Q}$, etc.

We will use the terms “slope-stability” and “ $\mu_{\omega,B}$ -stability”, as well as “tilt-stability” and “ $\nu_{\omega,B}$ -stability” interchangeably when the choice of ω, B is clear in context.

2. BACKGROUND ON STABILITY CONDITIONS

2.1. Motivation. The notion of stability condition on triangulated categories has been introduced by Bridgeland [Bri07], motivated by Douglas’s work on Π -stability [Dou02]. We briefly recall the definition:

Definition 2.1.1. A (full numerical) stability condition on $D^b(X)$ is a pair (Z, \mathcal{A}) , where $\mathcal{A} \subset D^b(X)$ is the heart of a bounded t-structure and $Z: K(D^b(X)) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ a group homomorphism, satisfying the following properties:

- (a) Z satisfies the positivity property of equation (1).
- (b) For the induced notion of stability on \mathcal{A} , every non-zero $E \in \mathcal{A}$ has a Harder-Narasimhan filtration in semistable objects in \mathcal{A} .
- (c) Z factors via the Chern character $\text{ch}: K(D^b(X)) \rightarrow \widehat{\text{Num}}_{\mathbb{Q}}(X)$.
- (d) (\mathcal{A}, Z) satisfies the “support property”.

The support property will be discussed in the next section. The set $\text{Stab}(X)$ of stability conditions is a finite-dimensional complex manifold. In the case where X is a Calabi-Yau threefold, it is expected to contain the stringy Kähler moduli space. More precisely, it should contain an $\text{Aut } D^b(X)$ -invariant subspace \mathcal{N} that is isomorphic to the Teichmüller space of complex structures on the mirror \widehat{X} ; the quotient $\mathcal{N}/\text{Aut } D^b(X)$ gets identified with the moduli space of complex structures on \widehat{X} . Thus the notion of stability conditions on $D^b(X)$ adds a very geometric picture to Kontsevich’s homological mirror symmetry [Kon95].

The space $\text{Stab}(X)$ has been explicitly studied in several situations. For instance, see [Bri07, Mac07, Oka06] for $\dim X = 1$, and [Bri08, HMS08] for K3 surfaces. The space $\text{Stab}(X)$ can also be described when X is a local Calabi-Yau variety, e.g. the total space of the canonical bundle of a surface. For instance, see [Bri06, BM11, IUU10, Tod08, Tod09b]. The case of non-projective complex tori has been studied in [Mei07].

However, there is no known example of a stability condition on a projective Calabi-Yau threefold, nor any candidate (Z, \mathcal{A}) expected to be a stability condition. One of the issues is that we have few methods or ideas to construct hearts of a bounded t-structures $\mathcal{A} \subset D^b(X)$ for which the positivity condition (1) could be satisfied.

In principle, one should expect Bridgeland stability conditions for any dimension. Consider the following central charge, where X is a projective variety of any dimension:

$$(4) \quad Z_{\omega,B}(E) = - \int_X e^{-i\omega} \text{ch}^B(E) \\ = \sum_{j \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^{j+1}}{(2j)!} \omega^{2j} \text{ch}_{d-2j}^B(E) + i \left(\sum_{j \geq 0} \frac{(-1)^j}{(2j+1)!} \omega^{2j+1} \text{ch}_{d-2j-1}^B(E) \right),$$

Conjecture 2.1.2. *There exists a heart $\mathcal{A}_{\omega,B} \subset \text{D}^b(X)$ of a bounded t-structure such that $(Z_{\omega,B}, \mathcal{A}_{\omega,B})$ are a Bridgeland stability condition.*

One could apply our method iteratively to construct $\mathcal{A}_{\omega,B}$ as a $(n-1)$ -fold tilt of $\text{Coh } X$. However, this would involve proving a Bogomolov-Gieseker type inequality at every step.

2.2. Support property. We require our stability conditions (Z, \mathcal{A}) to satisfy the following additional technical condition:

Support property: There is a constant $C > 0$ such that for any Z -semistable object $E \in \mathcal{A}$, we have

$$\|\text{ch}(E)\| \leq C|Z(E)|,$$

where $\|\ast\|$ is a fixed norm on $\text{Num}_{\mathbb{R}}(X)$.

The support property for numerical stability conditions is equivalent (cf. [BM11, Proposition B.4]) to the notion of a “full” stability condition introduced in [Bri08]; in particular:

Theorem 2.2.1 ([Bri07, KS08]). *There is a natural topology on $\text{Stab}(X)$ such that the map*

$$\text{Stab}(X) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(\text{Num}_{\mathbb{Q}}(X), \mathbb{C}), \quad (Z, \mathcal{A}) \mapsto Z,$$

is a local homeomorphism.

The support property is also essential to ensure that there is a well-behaved wall-crossing phenomenon for stability of objects under deformation of the stability condition:

Proposition 2.2.2. *Given $E \in \text{D}^b(X)$, the set of $(Z, \mathcal{A}) \in \text{Stab}(X)$ for which E is (Z, \mathcal{A}) -stable is an open subset of $\text{Stab}(X)$. Further, there exists a chamber decomposition of $\text{Stab}(X)$ by a locally finite set of walls, such that in the open part of every chamber, the Harder-Narasimhan filtration of E is constant.*

This statement is proved by the methods of [Bri08, Section 9].

2.3. Tilting. Our strategy for the construction of $\mathcal{A}_{\omega,B}$ on threefolds is to take a double tilt starting from $\text{Coh } X$ or the category of perverse coherent sheaves on X .

Definition 2.3.1 ([HRO96]). Let \mathcal{A} be the heart of a bounded t-structure on a triangulated category \mathcal{D} . A pair of subcategories $(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{F})$ is called a *torsion pair* if the following conditions hold:

- (a) For any $T \in \mathcal{T}$ and $F \in \mathcal{F}$, we have $\text{Hom}(T, F) = 0$.
- (b) For any $E \in \mathcal{A}$, there is an exact sequence $0 \rightarrow T \rightarrow E \rightarrow F \rightarrow 0$ in \mathcal{A} , with $T \in \mathcal{T}$ and $F \in \mathcal{F}$.

Given a torsion pair $(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{F})$ as above, its *tilt* \mathcal{A}^\dagger is the subcategory of \mathcal{D} defined by

$$\mathcal{A}^\dagger = \langle \mathcal{F}[1], \mathcal{T} \rangle \subset \mathcal{D}.$$

If $\mathcal{D} = \text{D}^b(\mathcal{A})$, then we can identify \mathcal{A}^\dagger with the subcategory of two-term complexes $E^{-1} \xrightarrow{d} E^0$ with $\ker d \in \mathcal{F}$ and $\text{cok } d \in \mathcal{T}$. The following statements are all well-known:

- Proposition 2.3.2.** (a) *The category \mathcal{A}^\dagger defined above is the heart of a bounded t-structure on \mathcal{D} .*
- (b) *Whenever the heart \mathcal{A}^\dagger of a bounded t-structure on \mathcal{D} satisfies $\mathcal{A}^\dagger \subset \langle \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A}[1] \rangle$, then $\mathcal{T} = \mathcal{A} \cap \mathcal{A}^\dagger$, $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{A} \cap \mathcal{A}^\dagger[-1]$ is a torsion pair in \mathcal{A} , and \mathcal{A}^\dagger is obtained as the tilt of \mathcal{A} at $(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{F})$.*
- (c) *Given two torsion pairs $(\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{F}_1)$ and $(\mathcal{T}_2, \mathcal{F}_2)$ in \mathcal{A} , denote the corresponding tilts by \mathcal{A}_1^\dagger and \mathcal{A}_2^\dagger , respectively. If $\mathcal{T}_2 \subset \mathcal{T}_1$, then there is a torsion pair $\mathcal{T} = \langle \mathcal{F}_1[1], \mathcal{T}_2 \rangle$, $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{F}_2 \cap \mathcal{T}_1$ in \mathcal{A}_1^\dagger , and \mathcal{A}_2^\dagger is obtained as the tilt of \mathcal{A}_1^\dagger at this torsion pair.*

The first statement is [HRO96, Proposition 2.1]. For the second, see e.g. [Pol07, Lemma 1.1.2], and the third statement follows directly from the second.

3. FIRST CONSTRUCTION

Let X be a smooth projective threefold over \mathbb{C} . In this section, we give the first construction of the heart $\mathcal{A}_{\omega, B}$ of a bounded t-structure on $\text{D}^b(X)$ as a double tilt starting from $\text{Coh } X$, and state our main conjecture.

3.1. Tilt of $\text{Coh } X$. First we start with the case of arbitrary dimension. Let X be a n -dimensional smooth projective variety over \mathbb{C} , and take $B \in \text{NS}_{\mathbb{Q}}(X)$ and an ample class $\omega \in \text{NS}_{\mathbb{Q}}(X)$. We use the twisted Chern character $\text{ch}^B = \text{ch} \cdot e^{-B}$. Notice that, in particular, we have the following explicit expressions:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ch}_0^B &= \text{ch}_0 = \text{rk} \\ \text{ch}_1^B &= \text{ch}_1 - B \text{ch}_0 \\ \text{ch}_2^B &= \text{ch}_2 - B \text{ch}_1 + \frac{B^2}{2} \text{ch}_0. \end{aligned}$$

The twisted slope $\mu_{\omega,B}$ on $\text{Coh } X$ is defined as follows. If $E \in \text{Coh } X$ is a torsion sheaf, we set $\mu_{\omega,B}(E) = +\infty$. Otherwise we set

$$\mu_{\omega,B}(E) = \frac{\omega^{n-1} \text{ch}_1^B(E)}{\text{ch}_0^B(E)}.$$

The above slope function satisfies the weak see-saw property, i.e., for any exact sequence $0 \rightarrow F \rightarrow E \rightarrow E/F \rightarrow 0$ in $\text{Coh } X$ with $F, E/F \neq 0$, one of the following conditions holds,

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_{\omega,B}(F) &\leq \mu_{\omega,B}(E) \leq \mu_{\omega,B}(E/F), \\ \mu_{\omega,B}(F) &\geq \mu_{\omega,B}(E) \geq \mu_{\omega,B}(E/F). \end{aligned}$$

(To prove this, observe that if $\text{ch}_0^B(F) = 0$, then F is a torsion sheaf with $\omega^{n-1} \text{ch}_1^B(F) = \omega^{n-1}(\text{ch}(F)) \geq 0$, and similarly for E/F .)

We define $\mu_{\omega,B}$ -stability on $\text{Coh } X$ in the following way: $E \in \text{Coh } X$ is $\mu_{\omega,B}$ -(semi)stable if, for any $0 \neq F \subsetneq E$, we have

$$(5) \quad \mu_{\omega,B}(F) < (\leq) \mu_{\omega,B}(E/F).$$

Remark 3.1.1. Classically, $E \in \text{Coh } X$ is defined to be $\mu_{\omega,B}$ -(semi)stable if E is torsion free and we have the inequality $\mu_{\omega,B}(F) < (\leq) \mu_{\omega,B}(E)$ for any subsheaf $0 \neq F \subsetneq E$ with E/F torsion free. Our definition coincides with the classical definition if E has positive rank. An inequality similar to (5) is used to define weak stability conditions in [Tod10, Section 2].

It is well-known that the $\mu_{\omega,B}$ -stability has the Harder-Narasimhan property, i.e., there is a filtration

$$0 = E_0 \subset E_1 \subset \cdots \subset E_N = E,$$

such that each $F_i = E_i/E_{i-1}$ is $\mu_{\omega,B}$ -semistable with $\mu_{\omega,B}(F_i) > \mu_{\omega,B}(F_{i+1})$ for all i . We set

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_{\omega,B;\min}(E) &= \mu_{\omega,B}(F_N), \\ \mu_{\omega,B;\max}(E) &= \mu_{\omega,B}(F_1). \end{aligned}$$

Let $(\mathcal{T}_{\omega,B}, \mathcal{F}_{\omega,B})$ be the torsion pair on $\text{Coh } X$ defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{T}_{\omega,B} &= \{E \in \text{Coh } X : \mu_{\omega,B;\min}(E) > 0\} \\ \mathcal{F}_{\omega,B} &= \{E \in \text{Coh } X : \mu_{\omega,B;\max}(E) \leq 0\}. \end{aligned}$$

Definition 3.1.2. We define the abelian category $\mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$ to be the tilt of $\text{Coh } X$ with respect to $(\mathcal{T}_{\omega,B}, \mathcal{F}_{\omega,B})$, namely

$$\mathcal{B}_{\omega,B} = \langle \mathcal{F}_{\omega,B}[1], \mathcal{T}_{\omega,B} \rangle.$$

Let $Z_{\omega,B}$ be a stability function given by (4). By [ABL07], we have the following result (the case of K3 surfaces was proved earlier in [Bri08]).

Proposition 3.1.3 ([ABL07, Bri08]). *If $\dim X = 2$, then $(Z_{\omega,B}, \mathcal{B}_{\omega,B})$ is a stability condition on $D^b(X)$.*

The key fact in the proof of the above proposition is the following constraint on numerical classes of slope-semistable sheaves, known as *Bogomolov-Gieseker inequality* (see [Rei78, Bog78, Gie79] and [HL10, Section 3.4]).

Theorem 3.1.4 (Bogomolov, Gieseker). *Let X be a n -dimensional smooth projective variety over \mathbb{C} and let ω be an ample divisor on X . For any torsion free $\mu_{\omega,B}$ -semistable sheaf E , we have the following inequality:*

$$\omega^{n-2}(\mathrm{ch}_1^B(E))^2 - 2 \mathrm{ch}_0^B(E) \mathrm{ch}_2^B(E) \geq 0.$$

3.2. Tilt of $\mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$. From now on, we focus on the case $\dim X = 3$; as stated in equation (2), the central charge is then given by

$$Z_{\omega,B}(E) = \left(-\mathrm{ch}_3^B(E) + \frac{\omega^2}{2} \mathrm{ch}_1^B(E) \right) + i \left(\omega \mathrm{ch}_2^B(E) - \frac{\omega^3}{6} \mathrm{ch}_0^B(E) \right).$$

The abelian category $\mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$ satisfies the following property:

Lemma 3.2.1. *For any non-zero object $E \in \mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$, one of the following conditions holds:*

- (a) $\omega^2 \mathrm{ch}_1^B(E) > 0$.
- (b) $\omega^2 \mathrm{ch}_1^B(E) = 0$ and $\Im Z_{\omega,B}(E) > 0$.
- (c) $\omega^2 \mathrm{ch}_1^B(E) = \Im Z_{\omega,B}(E) = 0$ and $-\Re Z_{\omega,B}(E) > 0$.

Proof. By the construction of $\mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$, we have $\omega^2 \mathrm{ch}_1^B(E) \geq 0$. Suppose that $\omega^2 \mathrm{ch}_1^B(E) = 0$. Then $H^0(E) \in \mathrm{Coh}^{\leq 1} X$ and $H^{-1}(E)$ is $\mu_{\omega,B}$ -semistable torsion free sheaf with $\mu_{\omega,B}(E) = 0$. By the Hodge Index Theorem and the Bogomolov-Gieseker inequality, we have

$$0 \geq \omega \mathrm{ch}_1^B(H^{-1}(E))^2 \geq 2\omega \mathrm{ch}_0^B(H^{-1}(E)) \mathrm{ch}_2^B(H^{-1}(E)),$$

which implies $\omega \mathrm{ch}_2^B(H^{-1}(E)) \leq 0$. Since $\mathrm{ch}_0^B(E) \leq 0$ and $\omega \mathrm{ch}_2^B(H^0(E)) \geq 0$, we obtain the inequality $\Im Z_{\omega,B}(E) \geq 0$. Finally suppose that $\omega^2 \mathrm{ch}_1^B(E) = \Im Z_{\omega,B}(E) = 0$. Then the above argument shows that $H^{-1}(E) = 0$ and $E = H^0(E)$ has zero-dimensional support; hence the inequality $-\Re Z_{\omega,B}(E) > 0$ holds. \square

Remark 3.2.2. The above lemma implies that the vector $(\omega^2 \mathrm{ch}_1^B, \Im Z_{\omega,B}, -\Re Z_{\omega,B})$ for objects of $\mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$ behaves like the vector $(\mathrm{ch}_0, \mathrm{ch}_1, \mathrm{ch}_2)$ for coherent sheaves on a surface. The subcategory of $E \in \mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$ satisfying $\omega^2 \mathrm{ch}_1^B(E) = 0$ is an analogue of the subcategory of torsion sheaves; we can also describe it as the extension-closure

$$(6) \quad \langle \mathrm{Coh}^{\leq 1} X, F[1] \text{ for all } \mu_{\omega,B}\text{-stable } F \text{ with } \mu_{\omega,B}(F) = 0 \rangle.$$

In case $B = 0$, the above category contains the heart of the category of D0-D2-D6 bound states constructed in [Tod10].

We define a slope $\nu_{\omega,B}$ on $\mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$ as follows. If $E \in \mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$ satisfies $\omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(E) = 0$, we set $\nu_{\omega,B}(E) = +\infty$. Otherwise we set

$$(7) \quad \nu_{\omega,B}(E) := \frac{\Im Z_{\omega,B}(E)}{\omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(E)} = \frac{\omega \text{ch}_2^B(E) - \frac{1}{6}\omega^3 \text{ch}_0^B(E)}{\omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(E)}.$$

By Lemma 3.2.1, the slope $\nu_{\omega,B}$ also satisfies the weak see-saw property. Therefore an analogue of slope stability on $\mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$ is defined in the following way:

Definition 3.2.3. An object $E \in \mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$ is $\nu_{\omega,B}$ -(semi)stable if, for any non-zero proper subobject $F \subset E$ in $\mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$, we have the inequality

$$\nu_{\omega,B}(F) < (\leq) \mu_{\omega,B}(E/F).$$

Similarly to $\mu_{\omega,B}$ -stability, we have the following result.

Lemma 3.2.4. *The Harder-Narasimhan property holds with respect to $\nu_{\omega,B}$ -stability, i.e., for any $E \in \mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$, there is a filtration in $\mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$*

$$(8) \quad 0 = E_0 \subset E_1 \subset \cdots \subset E_N = E,$$

such that each $F_i = E_i/E_{i-1}$ is $\nu_{\omega,B}$ -semistable with $\nu_{\omega,B}(F_i) > \nu_{\omega,B}(F_{i+1})$ for all i .

Proof. First we note that $\mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$ is a noetherian abelian category. This is essentially proved in [Bri08] when X is a K3 surface, and almost the same proof works in the general case. Indeed, we only need to modify the argument of [Bri08, Prop. 7.1] in the following way. In the notation of [Bri08, Prop. 7.1], the sheaves $H^0(L_i)$ turned out to be the finite length sheaves in the K3 surface case. In our 3-fold situation, the sheaves $H^0(L_i)$ are at most one dimensional, so may not be of finite length. However, since the codimensions of the supports of $H^0(L_i)$ are at least two, we obtain a chain

$$H^{-1}(E_1) \subset H^{-1}(E_2) \subset \cdots \subset Q^{**},$$

in the notation of [Bri08, Prop. 7.1]. Instead of bounding the length of $H^0(L_i)$, we can terminate the above chain as $\text{Coh}(X)$ is noetherian. This proves that $\mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$ is noetherian.

Since B and ω are rational, we can then apply the same arguments as in [BM11, Prop. B.2] to show the Harder-Narasimhan property. \square

For an object $E \in \mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$ with Harder-Narasimhan filtration (8) we set

$$\begin{aligned} \nu_{\omega,B;\min}(E) &= \nu_{\omega,B}(F_N), \\ \nu_{\omega,B;\max}(E) &= \nu_{\omega,B}(F_1), \end{aligned}$$

and the torsion pair $(\mathcal{T}'_{\omega,B}, \mathcal{F}'_{\omega,B})$ on $\mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$ is defined by

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{T}'_{\omega,B} &= \{E \in \mathcal{B}_{\omega,B} : \nu_{\omega,B;\min}(E) > 0\} \\ \mathcal{F}'_{\omega,B} &= \{E \in \mathcal{B}_{\omega,B} : \nu_{\omega,B;\max}(E) \leq 0\}.\end{aligned}$$

Definition 3.2.5. We define the abelian category $\mathcal{A}_{\omega,B}$ to be the tilt of $\mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$ with respect to $(\mathcal{T}'_{\omega,B}, \mathcal{F}'_{\omega,B})$, namely

$$\mathcal{A}_{\omega,B} = \langle \mathcal{F}'_{\omega,B}[1], \mathcal{T}'_{\omega,B} \rangle.$$

By the construction of $\mathcal{A}_{\omega,B}$, it is obvious that $\Im Z_{\omega,B}(E) \geq 0$, for all $E \in \mathcal{A}_{\omega,B}$. We propose the following conjecture.

Conjecture 3.2.6. *The pair $(Z_{\omega,B}, \mathcal{A}_{\omega,B})$ is a stability condition on $D^b(X)$.*

The above conjecture in particular implies that, for any $\nu_{\omega,B}$ -semistable object $E \in \mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$ with $\nu_{\omega,B}(E) = 0$, we have $\Re Z_{\omega,B}(E) > 0$. More precisely, Conjecture 3.2.6 immediately implies the following conjecture.

Conjecture 3.2.7. *For any $\nu_{\omega,B}$ -semistable object $E \in \mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$ satisfying*

$$\frac{\omega^3}{6} \text{ch}_0^B(E) = \omega \text{ch}_2^B(E),$$

we have

$$\text{ch}_3^B(E) < \frac{\omega^2}{2} \text{ch}_1^B(E).$$

In Section 5.2 we will show that the two conjectures are equivalent, by showing that $\mathcal{A}_{\omega,B}$ is Noetherian.

3.3. Support property for tilt-stability. To show that there is a well-behaved notion of wall-crossing for tilt-stability of objects $E \in D^b(X)$, we need some form of boundedness of potentially destabilizing subobjects. This boundedness follows from a form of the “support property” discussed in Section 2.2. To set this up, define a central charge $\overline{Z}_{\omega,B} : K(D^b(X)) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ corresponding to the slope function $\nu_{\omega,B}$:

$$\overline{Z}_{\omega,B}(E) = \frac{1}{2}\omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(E) + i\Im Z_{\omega,B}(E).$$

Remark 3.3.1. By (6), we have $\overline{Z}_{\omega,B}(E) \in \{r e^{i\pi\phi} : r > 0, -\frac{1}{2} < \phi \leq \frac{1}{2}\}$ for every non-zero $E \in \mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$ except if E is a zero-dimensional torsion sheaf. As, for such objects, the slope induced by $\overline{Z}_{\omega,B}$ agrees with $\nu_{\omega,B}$, an object $k(x) \neq E \in \mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$ is tilt-stable if and only if $\text{Hom}(k(x), E) = 0$ and there are no destabilizing subobjects with respect to $\overline{Z}_{\omega,B}$.

Lemma 3.3.2. *Fix a norm $\|\cdot\|$ on $\text{Num}_{\mathbb{Q}}(X)$. There exists a constant $C > 0$ such that, for every tilt-stable object $E \in \text{D}^b(X)$, $E \neq k(x)[n]$, we have*

$$(9) \quad \|\text{ch}(E)\| \leq C |\overline{Z}_{\omega,B}(E)|$$

Proof. We give a sketch of the argument; the complete proof is in [Tod12, Sections 3.6 & 3.7]. Using the same methods as in the proof of the support property for surface, given in [BM11, Section 4], we will show (9) only for the semi-norm $\|\text{ch}\|' := \|(\text{ch}_0, \omega^2 \text{ch}_1, \omega \text{ch}_2, \text{ch}_3)\|$, which will be enough for all applications (in particular in section 7.3). The full statement can then be deduced from Theorem 7.3.1.

For any torsion-free slope-stable sheaf \mathcal{F} , define $x_{\omega,B}(\mathcal{F}), y_{\omega,B}(\mathcal{F}) \in \mathbb{R}$ by

$$x_{\omega,B} + iy_{\omega,B} = \frac{\overline{Z}_{\omega,B}(\mathcal{F})}{\text{rk } \mathcal{F}}.$$

Using the classical Bogomolov-Gieseker inequality and the Hodge inequality as in the proof of Lemma 3.2.1, one shows that

$$(10) \quad y_{\omega,B} = -\frac{\omega^3}{6} + \frac{\omega \text{ch}_2^B(\mathcal{F})}{\text{rk}(\mathcal{F})} \leq -\frac{\omega^3}{6} + \frac{\omega \text{ch}_1^B(\mathcal{F})^2}{2 \text{rk}(\mathcal{F})^2} \leq -\frac{\omega^3}{6} + \frac{2x^2}{\omega^3} =: f_{\omega}(x)$$

We define a function S_{\min} of ω, B by

$$S_{\min}(\omega, B) = \inf \{|x + if_{\omega}(x)| : x \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

The function S_{\min} is continuous, and by (10) it satisfies

$$0 < S_{\min}(\omega, B) \leq \inf \left\{ \left| \frac{\overline{Z}_{\omega,B}(\mathcal{F})}{r(\mathcal{F})} - it \right| : t \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}, \mathcal{F} \text{ torsion-free slope-stable sheaf} \right\}.$$

Using exactly the same arguments as in [BM11, Lemma 4.5] one then deduces the claim for objects where either $H^0(E)$ or $H^{-1}(E)$ have positive rank. Using the openness of the ample cone, the claim also follows for torsion sheaves. \square

We could also formulate tilt-stability completely in the formalism of weak stability conditions introduced in [Tod10]. Then the support property would be satisfied for every stable object, including $k(x)$. Since we are not interested in deforming the slope of skyscraper sheaves of points, the above Lemma is sufficient for our purposes:

Corollary 3.3.3. *Denote by $U \subset \text{NS}_{\mathbb{R}}(X) \times \text{NS}_{\mathbb{R}}(X)$ the set of pairs (ω, B) where ω is ample. The notion of tilt-stability can be extended to all pairs $(\omega, B) \in U$. For every object, the set of $(\omega, B) \in U$ for which E is tilt-stable is an open subset of U . Further, there is a chamber decomposition of U , given by a locally finite set of walls, such that the Harder-Narasimhan filtration of E is constant on every chamber.*

Proof. The first claim follows from Bridgeland's deformation result recalled in Theorem 2.2.1. As in Proposition 2.2.2, it follows that there is a chamber decomposition for stability with respect to $\overline{Z}_{\omega,B}$. Combined with Remark 3.3.1, this implies the claim. \square

4. SECOND CONSTRUCTION

The second construction of the heart $\mathcal{A}_{\omega, B}$ starts from perverse coherent sheaves rather than sheaves, and uses polynomial stability conditions rather than slope-stability. We will compare the two constructions in Section 5.1.

4.1. Polynomial stability conditions. The notion of polynomial stability condition has been introduced in [Bay09]. We refer to *loc. cit.* for all basic definitions. We will repeatedly construct polynomial stability conditions by using the following proposition/definition - which is stated slightly differently in [Bay09], but the proof is the same.

Proposition and Definition 4.1.1. *Let \mathcal{D} be a triangulated category. Giving a polynomial stability condition on \mathcal{D} is equivalent to giving a heart of a bounded t -structure $\mathcal{A} \subset \mathcal{D}$, and a central charge $Z: K(\mathcal{D}) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}[m]$ such that*

- (a) *For every $0 \neq E \in \mathcal{A}$, and for some fixed $a \in \mathbb{R}$, the leading coefficient of $Z(E)$ is contained in the semi-closed half plane*

$$\mathbb{R}_{>0} \cdot e^{i\pi(a, a+1]}.$$

- (b) *Harder-Narasimhan filtrations exist for the stability condition on \mathcal{A} induced by Z .*

We say that Z is a *stability function* with respect to the interval $(a, a + 1]$ if it satisfies condition (a). In this case, we can define a “polynomial phase function” for every $E \in \mathcal{A}$: it is a continuous function germ $\phi(E): (\mathbb{R} \cup +\infty, +\infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by

$$\phi(E)(m) = \frac{1}{\pi} \arg Z(E)(m)$$

for sufficiently large m , such that

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow +\infty} \phi(E)(m) \in (a, a + 1].$$

For two such functions ϕ, ϕ' we say $\phi \succ \phi'$ if $\phi(m) > \phi'(m)$ for $m \gg 0$. This defines a notion of stability for objects in \mathcal{A} , by comparing its polynomial phase function with that of its subobjects, and condition (b) of Definition 4.1.1 refers to HN-filtrations with respect to this notion of stability.

For a polynomial stability condition (Z, \mathcal{P}) , the *slicing* \mathcal{P} gives the set of semistable objects for every polynomial phase functions ϕ . We let $\widehat{\mathcal{P}}$ be the induced \mathbb{R} -valued slicing given by

$$\widehat{\mathcal{P}}(\phi) = \langle \{\mathcal{P}(\phi(m)) : \phi(+\infty) = \phi\} \rangle.$$

More concretely, in the setting of Proposition 4.1.1, and for $\phi \in (a, a + 1]$, the subcategory $\widehat{\mathcal{P}}(\phi) \subset \mathcal{A}$ is extension-closure generated by Z -semistable objects E with

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{\pi} \arg Z(E)(m) = \phi.$$

The key input of polynomial stability conditions is that, having constructed a polynomial (Z, \mathcal{P}) from a heart \mathcal{A} as above, we get new t-structures by setting $\mathcal{A}' := \widehat{\mathcal{P}}((b, b+1])$ for any $b \in \mathbb{R}$. The category \mathcal{A}' could also be described as (the shift of) a tilt of \mathcal{A} .

We will repeatedly use the following lemma, which is established in the proof of [Tod09a, Theorem 2.29]. We refer to [Bri07, Section 4] for the notion of quasi-abelian categories.

Lemma 4.1.2. *Let \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{F} be a torsion pair in \mathcal{A} , and Z a polynomial stability function for \mathcal{A} . Write $\phi(E)$ for the polynomial phase functions induced by Z on \mathcal{A} . Assume that*

- (a) *If $T \in \mathcal{T}, F \in \mathcal{F}$, then $\phi(T) \succ \phi(F)$.*
- (b) *HN-filtrations exist for Z on the quasi-abelian categories \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{F} .*

Then HN-filtrations exist for Z on \mathcal{A} .

In this situation, an object $E \in \mathcal{A}$ is Z -stable if and only if $E \in \mathcal{T}$ or $E \in \mathcal{F}$, and it is Z -stable in the respective quasi-abelian category with respect to strict inclusions.

Finally, we recall the notion of “dual stability condition”: We say that the polynomial stability conditions (Z', \mathcal{P}') and (Z, \mathcal{P}) are dual to each other if $\mathcal{P}'(\phi) = \mathbb{D}(\mathcal{P}(-\phi))$, and if $Z'(\mathbb{D}(E))$ is the complex conjugate of $Z(E)$. Recall that we included a shift by one in the definition $\mathbb{D}(E) = E^\vee[1]$ of our dualizing functor. Hence if skyscraper sheaves $k(x)$ are stable with respect to \mathcal{P} of phase 1, then the corresponding statement holds for \mathcal{P}' :

$$\mathbb{D}(k(x)) = k(x)[-2] \in \mathcal{P}(-1) = \mathcal{P}'(1).$$

4.2. Perverse stability. The starting point is a polynomial stability condition on the category of perverse coherent sheaves:

Definition 4.2.1. We define the category of perverse coherent sheaves Coh^p to be

$$\text{Coh}^p = \langle \text{Coh}^{\geq 2} X[1], \text{Coh}^{\leq 1} X \rangle,$$

and the central charge $Z_p^{\omega, B}: K(X) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}[m]$ to be

$$(11) \quad Z_p^{\omega, B}(E) := -\text{ch}_3^B(E) + mi\omega \text{ch}_2^B(E) + m^2 \left(\frac{\omega^2}{2} \text{ch}_1^B(E) - i\frac{\omega^3}{6} \text{ch}_0^B(E) \right).$$

Our strategy, also indicated in Figure 1, is as follows: first we show that $(Z_p^{\omega, B}, \text{Coh}^p)$ gives a polynomial stability condition whose heart corresponds to the upper half plane. The central charge is dominated by the ch_0^B and ch_1^B -terms; in other words, this stability condition is a refinement of slope-stability. In the next step, we rescale the contribution of ch_2^B to have the same weight of m^2 ; as this only changes the imaginary part of the central charge, this is done after switching to the tilt $\mathcal{B}^{\omega, B}$ of Coh^p , which is the heart corresponding to the right half-plane. The resulting stability is closely related to tilt-stability.

In the final (and conjectural step), we rescale the contribution of ch_3^B ; since that only changes the real part of the central charge, we first switch to the tilt $\mathcal{A}^{\omega, B}$ that corresponds to the upper half plane.

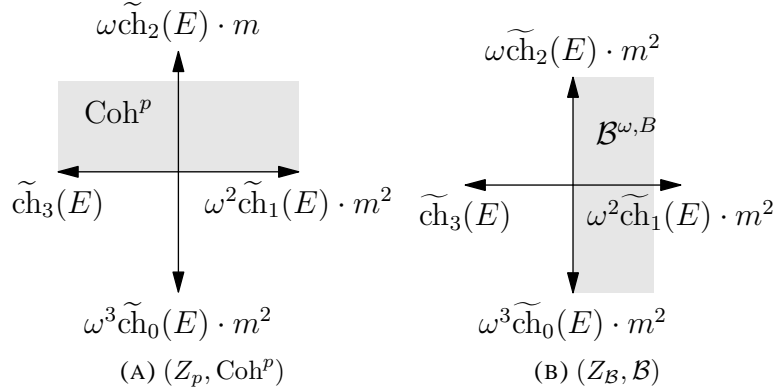


FIGURE 1. The auxiliary polynomial stability conditions

To show $(Z_p^{\omega, B}, \text{Coh}^p)$ is a stability condition, we follow the method of [Tod09a, Theorem 2.29]; more precisely, we will use the following results about a torsion pair in Coh^p :

Lemma 4.2.2 ([Tod09a, Lemma 2.16, Lemma 2.17 and Lemma 2.19]). *There exists a torsion pair $(\mathcal{A}_1^p, \mathcal{A}_{1/2}^p)$ in Coh^p defined as follows:*

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}_1^p &= \langle F[1], k(x) : F \text{ is pure two-dimensional, } x \in X \rangle, \\ \mathcal{A}_{1/2}^p &= \{E \in \text{Coh}^p : \text{Hom}(\mathcal{A}_1^p, E) = 0\}. \end{aligned}$$

Each of the quasi-abelian categories \mathcal{A}_1^p and $\mathcal{A}_{1/2}^p$ is of finite length with respect to strict inclusions and strict epimorphisms.

Additionally, they satisfy $\mathbb{D}(\mathcal{A}_1^p) = \mathcal{A}_1^p[-2]$ and $\mathbb{D}(\mathcal{A}_{1/2}^p) = \mathcal{A}_{1/2}^p[-1]$.

Proposition 4.2.3. $Z_p^{\omega, B}$ is a stability function for Coh^p , and HN-filtrations exist.

Proof. If $H^{-1}(E)$ for an object $E \in \mathcal{A}_{1/2}^p$ does not vanish, then $H^{-1}(E)$ is purely three-dimensional; hence E has negative rank, and the leading term of $Z_p^{\omega, B}(E)$ has positive imaginary part. Similarly, if $H^{-1}(E) = 0$, then $H^0(E)$ is purely one-dimensional, and the same conclusion holds. On the other hand, for an object $E \in \mathcal{A}_1^p$ the leading term evidently has a negative real coefficient.

This shows that $Z_p^{\omega, B}$ is a stability function on Coh^p with respect to the interval $(0, 1]$, and at the same time that $(\mathcal{A}_1^p, \mathcal{A}_{1/2}^p)$ satisfies the condition (a) in Lemma 4.1.2. Since \mathcal{A}_1^p and $\mathcal{A}_{1/2}^p$ are of finite length, the existence of HN-filtrations for each of them is also satisfied, and the conclusion follows from Lemma 4.1.2. \square

Let $\mathcal{P}_p^{\omega, B}$ be the induced slicing with values in “polynomial phase functions”, and $\widehat{\mathcal{P}}_p^{\omega, B}$ the induced \mathbb{R} -valued slicing as defined above.

Proposition 4.2.4. *The stability condition $(Z_p^{\omega,B}, \mathcal{P}_p^{\omega,B})$ is dual to the stability condition $(Z_p^{\omega,-B}, \mathcal{P}_p^{\omega,-B})$.*

Proof. The Chern characters of E and $\mathbb{D}(E)$ differ by a sign in ch_0 and ch_2 , and agree for ch_1 and ch_3 ; the same holds for $\text{ch}(E)e^B$ and $\text{ch}(\mathbb{D}(E))e^{-B}$. Thus

$$(12) \quad \overline{Z_p^{\omega,-B}(\mathbb{D}(E))} = Z_p^{-\omega,-B}(\mathbb{D}(E)) = Z_p^{\omega,B}(E).$$

Furthermore, in the proof of Proposition 4.2.3, we identified \mathcal{A}_1^p with $\widehat{\mathcal{P}}_p^{\omega,B}(1)$ and $\mathcal{A}_{1/2}^p$ with $\widehat{\mathcal{P}}_p^{\omega,B}((0, 1))$. Combined with the last statement of Lemma 4.2.2, this implies that

$$\mathbb{D}(\widehat{\mathcal{P}}_p^{\omega,B}(1)) = \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_p^{\omega,-B}(-1), \quad \mathbb{D}(\widehat{\mathcal{P}}_p^{\omega,B}((0, 1))) = \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_p^{\omega,-B}((-1, 0)).$$

As the \mathbb{D} turns strict inclusions in these quasi-abelian categories into strict epimorphisms, and vice versa, equation (12) also implies that E is $Z_p^{\omega,B}$ -stable if and only if $\mathbb{D}(E)$ is $Z_p^{\omega,-B}$ -stable. \square

4.3. Surface-like stability. We use polynomial stability condition $(Z_p^{\omega,B}, \mathcal{P}_p^{\omega,B})$ to define the heart $\mathcal{B}^{\omega,B}$.

Definition 4.3.1. Let $\mathcal{B}^{\omega,B} := \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_p^{\omega,B}((-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}])$ and

$$Z_{\mathcal{B}}^{\omega,B} := -\text{ch}_3^B(E) + m^2 \left(\frac{1}{2}\omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(E) + i \left(\omega \text{ch}_2^B(E) - \frac{1}{6}\omega^3 \text{ch}_0^B(E) \right) \right).$$

In other words, $\mathcal{B}^{\omega,B}[1]$ is the tilt of Coh^p at the torsion pair $(\widehat{\mathcal{P}}_p^{\omega,B}((\frac{1}{2}, 1]), \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_p^{\omega,B}((0, \frac{1}{2}]))$.

Proposition 4.3.2. $Z_{\mathcal{B}}^{\omega,B}$ is a stability function for $\mathcal{B}^{\omega,B}$ with respect to the interval $(-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}]$ and HN-filtrations exist.

To prove Proposition 4.3.2 we need a more detailed understanding of the cohomology sheaves for objects in $\mathcal{B}^{\omega,B}$ (a more precise result will be Lemma 5.1.2):

Lemma 4.3.3. *The cohomology sheaves of any $Z_p^{\omega,B}$ -stable object $E \in \mathcal{B}^{\omega,B}$ either vanish, or satisfy the following conditions:*

- (a) $H^1(E)$ is a zero-dimensional torsion sheaf.
- (b) $H^{-1}(E)$ is a slope-stable torsion-free sheaf of slope $\mu_{\omega,B} \leq 0$.
- (c) $H^0(E)$ is either a slope-semistable torsion-free sheaf of slope $\mu_{\omega,B} > 0$, or a torsion sheaf. Moreover, if $H^0(E)$ has a zero-dimensional subsheaf, then $H^{-1}(E)$ is also non-zero.

Proof. This follows from the following statements about $Z_p^{\omega,B}$ -stable objects $E \in \text{Coh}^p$:

- If $H^0(E)$ has one-dimensional support, then $E \in \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_p^{\omega,B}((0, \frac{1}{2}])$.

- If $H^{-1}(E) \neq 0$, then either $E \in \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_p^{\omega,B}(1)$ and $H^{-1}(E)$ is a purely two-dimensional sheaf, or $H^{-1}(E)$ is slope-semistable. Its slope $\mu_{\omega,B}$ satisfies $\mu_{\omega,B} \leq 0$ if and only if $E \in \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_p^{\omega,B}((0, \frac{1}{2}])$.

Indeed, there is a surjection $E \twoheadrightarrow H^0(E)$ in Coh^p , which destabilizes E unless the first claim holds. To show the second claim, first assume that $H^{-1}(E) \in \text{Coh}^{\geq 2}$ is purely three-dimensional but not slope-semistable, and let $A \subset H^{-1}(E)$ be a destabilizing subsheaf. Then the composition $A[1] \hookrightarrow H^{-1}(E)[1] \hookrightarrow E$ is an inclusion in Coh^p that destabilizes E . The same argument deals with the case where $H^{-1}(E)$ is not purely three-dimensional. This shows directly (a) and (b). To prove (c), we only need to observe that, if $H^0(E)$ has a torsion subsheaf of dimension zero, then this destabilizes E unless $H^{-1}(E)$ is also non-zero. \square

Proof. (Proposition 4.3.2) To prove that $Z_B^{\omega,B}$ is a stability function first note that $\Re Z_B^{\omega,B} = \Re Z_p^{\omega,B}$, and that if the leading coefficient of $Z_p^{\omega,B}(E)$ has positive real part, then the same holds for $Z_B^{\omega,B}(E)$. In particular, if $E \in \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_p^{\omega,B}((-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}))$, then $Z_p^{\omega,B}(E)$ has leading coefficient with positive real part, and so $Z_B^{\omega,B}(E)$ satisfies the required property.

In the remaining case we have $E \in \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_p^{\omega,B}(\frac{1}{2})$. If $H^{-1}(E) \neq 0$, then it is a slope-semistable sheaf of slope $\mu_{\omega,B} = 0$. From the Bogomolov-Gieseker inequality it follows that $\omega \cdot \text{ch}_2^B(H^{-1}(E)) \leq 0$. Additionally, for any $E \in \text{Coh}^p$ with $\text{ch}_0^B(E) = \text{ch}_1^B(E) = 0$, we have that $\omega \cdot \text{ch}_2^B(E) \geq 0$. It follows that the leading coefficient of $Z_B^{\omega,B}(E)$ is a positive imaginary number.

To prove the existence of HN-filtrations, first note that the torsion pair given by $\mathcal{T} = \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_p^{\omega,B}(\frac{1}{2})$, $\mathcal{F} = \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_p^{\omega,B}((-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}))$ satisfies condition (a) of Lemma 4.1.2. Due to the rationality of ω and of t , the imaginary part of $Z_B^{\omega,B}$ is discrete, and thus $\widehat{\mathcal{P}}_p^{\omega,B}(\frac{1}{2})$ has finite length. By the following Lemma, the quasi-abelian category $\mathcal{F} = \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_p^{\omega,B}((-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}))$ is also of finite length, and thus our claim follows from Lemma 4.1.2. \square

Lemma 4.3.4. *The quasi-abelian category $\widehat{\mathcal{P}}_p^{\omega,B}((-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}))$ has finite length.*

Proof. As above, we denote this category by \mathcal{F} . By Proposition 4.2.4, the dual $\mathbb{D}(\mathcal{F})$ is of the same form as \mathcal{F} itself (with B replaced by $-B$); thus, it is enough to check that there are no infinite chains $\dots \hookrightarrow E_3 \hookrightarrow E_2 \hookrightarrow E_1$ of strict subobjects in \mathcal{F} . By the rationality of ω and s , we may assume that the real part of the m^2 -coefficient of $Z_B^{\omega,B}(E_j)$ is constant. But then the imaginary part of the m^2 -coefficient must also be constant, as the quotient Q_j of $E_{j+1} \hookrightarrow E_j$ could otherwise not lie in $\widehat{\mathcal{P}}_p^{\omega,B}((-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}))$. In particular, $Z_B^{\omega,B}(Q_j)$ is a constant polynomial.

From the proof above of the fact that $Z_B^{\omega,B}$ is a stability function it follows that this is only possible if $Z_p^{\omega,B}(Q_j)$ already was a constant polynomial, which means that Q_j is the shift $T[-1]$ of a zero-dimensional skyscraper sheaf. Hence the long exact cohomology

sequence induces a sequence of inclusions $H^1(E_{j+1}) \hookrightarrow H^1(E_j)$ of zero-dimensional torsion sheaves, which must terminate. \square

For later use, we also show a partial converse to Lemma 4.3.3:

Lemma 4.3.5. *If T is a torsion sheaf of dimension zero, then $T[-1] \in \mathcal{B}^{\omega, B}$. Moreover, if $E \in \mathcal{B}^{\omega, B}$, then the exact triangle*

$$(13) \quad Q \rightarrow E \rightarrow H^1(E)[-1]$$

gives an exact sequence in $\mathcal{B}^{\omega, B}$, where Q is the extension

$$H^{-1}(E)[1] \rightarrow Q \rightarrow H^0(E).$$

Proof. Let T be a torsion sheaf of dimension zero. Then $T[-1]$ belongs to $\mathcal{B}^{\omega, B}$ since it is stable of phase 0 with respect to $Z_p^{\omega, B}$.

By Lemma 4.3.3, by looking at the long exact sequence for the cohomology sheaves, an object $M \in \mathcal{B}^{\omega, B}$ is a subobject of $T[-1]$ if and only if $M[1]$ is a torsion sheaf of dimension zero and $M[1] \hookrightarrow T$ in $\text{Coh}(X)$: for an exact sequence in $\mathcal{B}^{\omega, B}$

$$0 \rightarrow M \rightarrow T[-1] \rightarrow N \rightarrow 0,$$

we have

$$0 \rightarrow H^0(N) \rightarrow H^1(M) \rightarrow T \rightarrow H^1(N) \rightarrow 0,$$

and $H^{-1}(N) \cong H^0(M)$, which is impossible unless

$$H^{-1}(N) = H^0(N) = H^{-1}(M) = H^0(M) = 0.$$

To show that (13) gives an exact sequence in $\mathcal{B}^{\omega, B}$ it is enough to observe that, if the non-zero map $E \rightarrow H^1(E)[-1]$ is not surjective in $\mathcal{B}^{\omega, B}$, then, by what we just proved, it must factorize through a torsion subsheaf of $H^1(E)$, which is clearly a contradiction. \square

We write $(Z_{\mathcal{B}}^{\omega, B}, \mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{B}}^{\omega, B})$ for the induced polynomial stability condition, and $\widehat{\mathcal{P}}_{\mathcal{B}}^{\omega, B}$ for the corresponding \mathbb{R} -valued slicing.

Proposition 4.3.6. *The stability condition $(Z_{\mathcal{B}}^{\omega, B}, \mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{B}}^{\omega, B})$ is dual to the stability condition $(Z_{\mathcal{B}}^{\omega, -B}, \mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{B}}^{\omega, -B})$.*

Proof. Observe that, by the construction of $\mathcal{B}^{\omega, B}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_{\mathcal{B}}^{\omega, B} \left(\pm \frac{1}{2} \right) &= \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_p^{\omega, B} \left(\pm \frac{1}{2} \right), \\ \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_{\mathcal{B}}^{\omega, B} \left(\left(-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \right) \right) &= \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_p^{\omega, B} \left(\left(-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \right) \right). \end{aligned}$$

Also by Lemma 4.2.4, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{D} \left(\widehat{\mathcal{P}}_p^{\omega, B} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) \right) &= \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_p^{\omega, B} \left(-\frac{1}{2} \right), \\ \mathbb{D} \left(\widehat{\mathcal{P}}_p^{\omega, B} \left(\left(-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \right) \right) \right) &= \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_p^{\omega, B} \left(\left(-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \right) \right). \end{aligned}$$

Then the claim follows with the same arguments as Proposition 4.2.4. \square

4.4. The threefold heart.

Definition 4.4.1. We define $\mathcal{A}^{\omega, B}$ to be the heart

$$\mathcal{A}^{\omega, B} := \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_B^{\omega, B}((0, 1])$$

of the slicing $\widehat{\mathcal{P}}_B^{\omega, B}$.

Note that since $\mathcal{B}^{\omega, B} = \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_B^{\omega, B}((-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}])$, one could also define $\mathcal{A}^{\omega, B}$ as the tilt of $\mathcal{B}^{\omega, B}$ at the torsion pair $\mathcal{T} = \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_B^{\omega, B}((0, \frac{1}{2}])$, $\mathcal{F} = \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_B^{\omega, B}((-\frac{1}{2}, 0])$.

Let $Z_{\omega, B}$ be the central charge defined by (2). By construction, the imaginary part of $Z_{\omega, B}$ and $\frac{1}{m^2} Z_B^{\omega, B}$ agree; thus we automatically have

$$\Im Z_{\omega, B}(E) \geq 0, \quad E \in \mathcal{A}^{\omega, B}.$$

To show that $Z_{\omega, B}$ is a stability function on $\mathcal{A}^{\omega, B}$, we would have to show that objects $E \in \mathcal{A}^{\omega, B}$ with $\Im Z_{\omega, B}(E) = 0$ satisfy $\Re Z_{\omega, B}(E) < 0$; equivalently, if $E \in \mathcal{B}^{\omega, B}$ is $Z_B^{\omega, B}$ -stable of phase 0, then $\Re Z_{\omega, B}(E) > 0$. In the next section, we will prove that $\mathcal{A}^{\omega, B}$ equals $\mathcal{A}_{\omega, B}$, and so this claim is equivalent to Conjecture 3.2.7.

Remark 4.4.2. Let $E \in \mathcal{B}^{\omega, B}$ be a $Z_B^{\omega, B}$ -stable object of phase 0, which is not isomorphic to $k(x)[-1]$. Then E is quasi-isomorphic to a two-term complex $E^{-1} \rightarrow E^0$ of vector bundles. Indeed, as $k(x)[-1]$ is stable of the same phase, we have $\text{Hom}(E, k(x)[n]) = 0$ for $n \leq -1$ and (using Serre duality) for $n \geq 2$; then the claim follows by [BM02, Corollary 5.6].

Remark 4.4.3. If the stability condition $(\mathcal{A}^{\omega, B}, Z^{\omega, B})$ exists, then it is dual to $(\mathcal{A}^{\omega, -B}, Z^{\omega, -B})$; the proof is the same as for Proposition 4.3.6.

5. COMPARISON AND NOETHERIAN PROPERTY

5.1. Comparing the two constructions. The goal of this section is to prove the following result:

Proposition 5.1.1. *We have $\mathcal{A}_{\omega, B} = \mathcal{A}^{\omega, B}$.*

The proof consists of a detailed analysis of the various steps in the two constructions.

Step 1. (Coh^p versus Coh X) By definition, Coh^p is the tilt of Coh X with respect to the torsion pair

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{T}_0 &= \text{Coh}^{\leq 1} X \\ \mathcal{F}_0 &= \text{Coh}^{\geq 2} X.\end{aligned}$$

Step 2. ($\mathcal{B}^{\omega, B}$ versus $\mathcal{B}_{\omega, B}$) By Lemma 4.3.3 and Lemma 4.3.5, the skyscraper sheaves $k(x)[-1] \in \mathcal{B}^{\omega, B}$ and, for all $E \in \mathcal{B}^{\omega, B}$, $H^1(E)$ is torsion of dimension 0. Define a torsion pair in $\mathcal{B}^{\omega, B}$ by

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{T}_1 &= \{E \in \mathcal{B}^{\omega, B} : H^1(E) = 0\} \\ \mathcal{F}_1 &= \{E \in \mathcal{B}^{\omega, B} : E \cong H^1(E)[-1]\}.\end{aligned}$$

Notice that, by its own definition, $\mathcal{F}_1[1] = \text{Coh}^{\leq 0} X$ consists of zero-dimensional sheaves. The fact that this is a torsion pair follows immediately from Lemma 4.3.5. Let \mathcal{B}_1 be the tilt with respect to this torsion pair, i.e.,

$$\mathcal{B}_1 = \langle \mathcal{F}_1[1], \mathcal{T}_1 \rangle.$$

Lemma 5.1.2. *We have $\mathcal{B}_1 = \mathcal{B}_{\omega, B}$.*

Proof. We only need to show that $\mathcal{B}_{\omega, B} \subseteq \mathcal{B}_1$. Let $M \in \mathcal{B}_{\omega, B}$. By construction of $\mathcal{B}_{\omega, B}$, both of its cohomology sheaves $H^0(M)$ and $H^{-1}(M)[1]$ belong to $\mathcal{B}_{\omega, B}$. By further using their Harder-Narasimhan filtrations with respect to $\mu_{\omega, B}$ -stability, it is sufficient to consider the following cases:

- (a) $M = \Gamma$ is a torsion sheaf.
- (b) $M = \Gamma$ is a torsion-free slope-stable sheaf with slope $\mu_{\omega, B}(\Gamma) > 0$,
- (c) $M = \Gamma[1]$ is the shift of a torsion-free slope-stable sheaf Γ with slope $\mu_{\omega, B}(\Gamma) \leq 0$,

For case (a), we can assume Γ is pure and so we can distinguish three sub-cases, according to the dimension of the support of Γ :

$\dim(\Gamma) = 0$: In this case, $\Gamma[-1] \in \mathcal{F} \subset \mathcal{B}^{\omega, B}$ and $\Gamma \in \mathcal{B}_1$ by construction of \mathcal{B}_1 .

$\dim(\Gamma) = 1$: The limit phase with respect to $Z_p^{\omega, B}$ is $\frac{1}{2}$. Assume, for a contradiction, that $\Gamma \notin \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_p^{\omega, B}((0, \frac{1}{2}])$. Then there exists an exact sequence in Coh^p

$$A \rightarrow \Gamma \rightarrow B$$

where A is $Z_p^{\omega, B}$ -semistable with limit phase $\overline{\phi}_p(A) > \frac{1}{2}$. Passing to cohomology, we have

$$0 \rightarrow H^{-1}(B) \rightarrow H^0(A) \rightarrow \Gamma \rightarrow H^0(B) \rightarrow 0.$$

Since $\dim(H^{-1}(B)) \geq 2$ and $\dim(H^0(A)) \leq 1$, we have $H^{-1}(B) = 0$. Hence $A \cong H^0(A)$ must be pure of dimension 1 and its limit phase $\overline{\phi}_p(A)$ is precisely $\frac{1}{2}$, a contradiction.

$\dim(\Gamma) = 2$: The limit phase of $\Gamma[1] \in \text{Coh}^p$ with respect to $Z_p^{\omega,B}$ is 1. If $A \hookrightarrow \Gamma[1] \rightarrow B$ is an exact sequence in Coh^p , then the long exact cohomology sequence shows that $B[-1]$ is a sheaf, and in fact that it is a sheaf with 2-dimensional support. Thus any quotient of $\Gamma[1]$ also has limit phase 1, and so $\Gamma[1] \in \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_p^{\omega,B}(1)$. But then $\Gamma \in \mathcal{B}^{\omega,B} \cap \text{Coh } X \subset \mathcal{B}_1$.

In case (b) we have $\Gamma[1] \in \text{Coh}^p = \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_p^{\omega,B}((0, 1])$. Assume that $\Gamma[1] \notin \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_p^{\omega,B}((\frac{1}{2}, 1])$. Then there exists an exact sequence in Coh^p

$$A \rightarrow \Gamma[1] \rightarrow B$$

where B is $Z_p^{\omega,B}$ -semistable and has limit phase $\overline{\phi}_p(B) \leq \frac{1}{2}$. Passing to cohomology, we have

$$0 \rightarrow H^{-1}(A) \rightarrow \Gamma \xrightarrow{\phi} H^{-1}(B) \rightarrow H^0(A) \rightarrow 0.$$

Hence $B \cong H^{-1}(B)[1]$. By Lemma 4.3.3, $H^{-1}(B)$ is torsion-free and $\mu_{\omega,B}$ -semistable with slope $\mu_{\omega,B}(H^{-1}(B)) \leq 0$. But then $\phi = 0$ and $H^{-1}(B) \cong H^0(A) = 0$.

This contradiction proves that $\Gamma[1] \in \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_p^{\omega,B}((\frac{1}{2}, 1])$. Hence, $\Gamma \in \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_p^{\omega,B}((-\frac{1}{2}, 0]) \subset \mathcal{B}^{\omega,B}$, and clearly it is contained in $\mathcal{T}_1 \subset \mathcal{B}_1$.

Finally we treat case (c). Consider the exact sequence in Coh^p

$$(14) \quad A \rightarrow \Gamma[1] \rightarrow B$$

with $A \in \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_p^{\omega,B}((\frac{1}{2}, 1])$ and $B \in \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_p^{\omega,B}((0, \frac{1}{2}])$. Passing to cohomology, we have

$$0 \rightarrow H^{-1}(A) \rightarrow \Gamma \xrightarrow{\phi} H^{-1}(B) \rightarrow H^0(A) \rightarrow 0.$$

If $H^{-1}(A)$ is non-zero, then its slope satisfies $\mu_{\omega,B}(H^{-1}(A)) \leq \mu_{\omega,B}(\Gamma) \leq 0$. Since $H^0(A)$ is a torsion sheaf of dimension ≤ 1 , we have $\overline{\phi}_p(A) = \overline{\phi}_p(H^{-1}(A)) \leq \frac{1}{2}$, which is a contradiction; hence $A = H^0(A)$. If $H^0(A)$ has dimension 1, its limit phase is $\overline{\phi}_p(H^0(A)) = \frac{1}{2}$, which is again a contradiction. Hence $T_0 := H^0(A)$ is a 0-dimensional torsion sheaf. Thus the exact sequence (14) becomes

$$T_0 \rightarrow \Gamma[1] \rightarrow \Lambda[1],$$

where Λ is a sheaf; in particular, $\Lambda[1] \in \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_p^{\omega,B}((0, \frac{1}{2}]) \subset \mathcal{B}^{\omega,B}$ is contained in the torsion-part of $\mathcal{B}^{\omega,B}$ and thus $\Lambda[1] \in \mathcal{B}_1$. We already proved that $T_0 \in \mathcal{B}_1$ in part (a), and thus we also have $\Gamma[1] \in \mathcal{B}_1$. \square

Step 3. ($\mathcal{A}^{\omega,B}$ versus $\mathcal{A}_{\omega,B}$) It will be enough to show that $\mathcal{A}_{\omega,B} \subseteq \mathcal{A}^{\omega,B}$. Of course, the key point will be that the slope of the m^2 -coefficient of $Z_B^{\omega,B}$ is, up to normalization, given by $\nu_{\omega,B}$.

By Step 2 and Lemma 4.3.5, there is a torsion pair $(\mathcal{T}_2, \mathcal{F}_2)$ in $\mathcal{B}_{\omega, B}$ where $\mathcal{T}_2 = \mathcal{F}_1[1] = \text{Coh}^{\leq 0} X$ consists of zero-dimensional skyscraper sheaves; then $\mathcal{F}_2 = \mathcal{B}_{\omega, B} \cap \mathcal{B}^{\omega, B}$ is given as the right-orthogonal

$$\mathcal{F}_2 = \{E \in \mathcal{B}_{\omega, B} : \text{Hom}(k(x), E) = 0, \text{ for all } x \in X\}$$

Evidently $\mathcal{T}_2 \subset \mathcal{A}^{\omega, B}$. Recall that $\nu_{\omega, B}(k(x)) = +\infty$. Hence if $E \in \mathcal{B}_{\omega, B}$ is tilt-semistable, then either $\nu_{\omega, B}(E) = +\infty$ and the short exact sequence $T \hookrightarrow E \twoheadrightarrow E'$ with $T \in \mathcal{T}_2$ and $E' \in \mathcal{F}_2$ has E' also tilt-semistable with $\nu_{\omega, B}(E') = +\infty$, or E itself is already in \mathcal{F}_2 . It follows that it is sufficient to show for every tilt-stable object $E \in \mathcal{F}_2$:

- (a) If $\nu_{\omega, B}(E) \leq 0$, then $E \in \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_B^{\omega, B}((-\frac{1}{2}, 0])$.
- (b) If $\nu_{\omega, B}(E) > 0$, then $E \in \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_B^{\omega, B}((0, \frac{1}{2}])$.

Indeed, by definition, $\mathcal{A}^{\omega, B} = \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_B^{\omega, B}((0, 1])$, and thus the claim implies $\mathcal{T}'_{\omega, B} \subset \mathcal{A}^{\omega, B}$ and $\mathcal{F}'_{\omega, B}[1] \subset \mathcal{A}^{\omega, B}$.

Consider such an E . By Step 2, we have $E \in \mathcal{T}_1 \subset \mathcal{B}^{\omega, B}$. Consider any short exact sequence

$$A \hookrightarrow E \twoheadrightarrow B$$

in $\mathcal{B}^{\omega, B}$ that destabilizes E with respect to $Z_B^{\omega, B}$. Consider the short exact sequence $T \hookrightarrow A \twoheadrightarrow A/T$ given by the torsion pair $(\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{F}_1)$ in $\mathcal{B}^{\omega, B}$. If T is non-trivial, then the limiting phases of $Z_B^{\omega, B}(T)$ and $Z_B^{\omega, B}(A)$ agree (as $Z_B^{\omega, B}(A/T)$ is a constant polynomial). On the other hand, consider the induced short exact sequence

$$T \hookrightarrow E \twoheadrightarrow E/T.$$

As $T, E \in \mathcal{T}_1$, and as $\mathcal{T}_1 \subset \mathcal{B}^{\omega, B}$ is closed under quotients, this is also a short exact sequence in $\mathcal{B}_{\omega, B}$. By the tilt-stability of E we have $\nu_{\omega, B}(T) < \nu_{\omega, B}(E)$. This is a contradiction unless $T = 0$.

Hence either E is stable with respect to $Z_B^{\omega, B}$, or its Harder-Narasimhan filtration has just two steps $0 \hookrightarrow E_1 \hookrightarrow E_2$ with $E_1 \in \mathcal{F}_1 = \text{Coh}^{\leq 0}[-1]$ being the shift of a zero-dimensional skyscraper sheaf.

In case (a), the limiting phase of $Z_B(E)(m)$ satisfies $\phi(E)(+\infty) = \phi(E_2/E_1)(+\infty) \in (-\frac{1}{2}, 0]$; together with $\phi(k(x)[-1]) = 0$ this shows our claim. In the other case (b), we have $\phi(E)(+\infty) \in (0, \frac{1}{2}]$. In particular, $\phi(E) \succ \phi(E_1) = \phi(k(x)[-1]) = 0$, a contradiction unless $E_1 = 0$. Thus E is $Z_B^{\omega, B}$ -stable with $E \in \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_B^{\omega, B}((0, \frac{1}{2}])$.

This finishes the proof of Proposition 5.1.1. We also have the following more precise result, which will be used in [BBMT11]:

Proposition 5.1.3. *(a) Assume $E \in \mathcal{B}_{\omega, B} \cap \mathcal{B}^{\omega, B}$ satisfies either $\nu_{\omega, B}(E) \geq 0$ or $\text{Hom}(k(x)[-1], E) = 0$. Then E is $\nu_{\omega, B}$ -semistable if and only if it is $Z_B^{\omega, B}$ -semistable.*

(b) Assume $E \in \mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$ satisfies $\nu_{\omega,B;\max}(E) < +\infty$. Then $\mathbb{D}(E)$ fits into an exact triangle $\tilde{E} \rightarrow \mathbb{D}(E) \rightarrow T_0[-1]$ for an object $\tilde{E} \in \mathcal{B}_{\omega,-B}$ and a zero-dimensional torsion sheaf T_0 . Further, E is $\nu_{\omega,B}$ -semistable if and only if \tilde{E} is $\nu_{\omega,-B}$ -semistable.

Proof. The first claim follows from the proof of Step 3. For the second claim, first note that $\nu_{\omega,B;\max}(E) < +\infty$ implies $\text{Hom}(k(x), E) = 0$ and thus $E \in \mathcal{B}_{\omega,B} \cap \mathcal{B}^{\omega,B}$. Combined with the first part, this gives the even stronger statement $E \in \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_B^{\omega,B}((-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}))$. Proposition 4.3.6 then implies $\mathbb{D}(E) \in \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_B^{\omega,-B}((-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})) \subset \mathcal{B}^{\omega,-B}$, and Lemma 5.1.2 implies the existence of an exact triangle as stated above.

If E is not $\nu_{\omega,B}$ -stable, then it has a destabilizing quotient $E \twoheadrightarrow B$ with $\nu_{\omega,B;\max}(B) < +\infty$. Applying the same construction to B produces an injection $\tilde{B} \hookrightarrow \tilde{E}$ in $\mathcal{B}_{\omega,-B}$. As $\nu_{\omega,B}(E) = -\nu_{\omega,-B}(\tilde{E})$ etc., this will destabilize \tilde{E} with respect to $\nu_{\omega,-B}$. So E unstable implies \tilde{E} unstable, and the converse follows similarly. \square

5.2. Noetherian property. The goal of this section is to show that the heart of our t-structure is Noetherian.

Lemma 5.2.1. *There is a torsion pair $(\mathcal{T}^1, \mathcal{F}^{(0,1)})$ in $\mathcal{A}_{\omega,B}$ whose torsion part is given by*

$$E \in \mathcal{T}^1 \iff \Im Z_{\omega,B}(E) = 0.$$

The category \mathcal{T}^1 is an abelian category of finite length which is closed in $\mathcal{A}_{\omega,B}$ under subobjects and quotients.

Proof. Using the second construction $\mathcal{A}^{\omega,B} = \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_B^{\omega,B}((0, 1])$, we can define a torsion pair $\mathcal{T}^1 := \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_B^{\omega,B}(1)$ and $\mathcal{F}^{(0,1)} = \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_B^{\omega,B}((0, 1))$. Evidently $E \in \mathcal{T}^1$ if and only if the leading coefficient of $Z_B^{\omega,B}(E)$ is real, which happens if and only if $Z_{\omega,B}(E)$ is real.

To prove the second assertion, notice that \mathcal{T}^1 is by definition a subcategory of the quasi-abelian category $\widehat{\mathcal{P}}_B^{\omega,B}((\frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2}))$. By construction of $(Z_B^{\omega,B}, \mathcal{P}_B^{\omega,B})$, we have $\widehat{\mathcal{P}}_B^{\omega,B}((\frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2})) = \widehat{\mathcal{P}}_p^{\omega,B}((\frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2}))$, and the latter is of finite length by Lemma 4.3.4. \square

Proposition 5.2.2. *The abelian category $\mathcal{A}_{\omega,B}$ is Noetherian.*

Proof. Suppose that there is an infinite sequence of surjections in $\mathcal{A}_{\omega,B}$

$$(15) \quad E_1 \twoheadrightarrow E_2 \twoheadrightarrow \cdots .$$

We are going to show that the above sequence terminates. Since ω and B are rational and $\Im Z_{\omega,B}(E) \geq 0$ for any $E \in \mathcal{A}_{\omega,B}$, we may assume that

$$(16) \quad \Im Z_{\omega,B}(E_1) = \Im Z_{\omega,B}(E_i),$$

for all i . Consider the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow L_i \rightarrow E_1 \rightarrow E_i \rightarrow 0$$

in $\mathcal{A}_{\omega,B}$. By equation (16) we have $\mathfrak{S}Z_{\omega,B}(L_i) = 0$ and so $L_i \in \mathcal{T}^1$. Thus every L_i is a subobject of the torsion part T of E_1 . Replacing E_1 by T and E_i by the quotient T/L_i , we get an infinite sequence (15) with $E_i \in \mathcal{T}^1$. This sequence terminates by the second part of Lemma 5.2.1. \square

Remark 5.2.3. If $(Z_{\omega,B}, \mathcal{A}_{\omega,B})$ is a stability condition, then $\mathcal{A}_{\omega,B}$ must be Noetherian as shown in [AP06, Proposition 10.1]. Hence Proposition 5.2.2 gives some evidence for Conjecture 3.2.6.

Corollary 5.2.4. *Conjecture 3.2.6 and Conjecture 3.2.7 are equivalent.*

Proof. It is obvious that Conjecture 3.2.6 implies Conjecture 3.2.7. Suppose that Conjecture 3.2.7 is true. Then $Z_{\omega,B}$ is a stability function on $\mathcal{A}_{\omega,B}$. Since $\mathcal{A}_{\omega,B}$ is Noetherian by Proposition 5.2.2, we can apply [BM11, Prop. B.2] to conclude that $(Z_{\omega,B}, \mathcal{A}_{\omega,B})$ has the Harder-Narasimhan property. \square

6. LARGE VOLUME LIMIT

In this section we show that if the stability conditions $(\mathcal{A}_{\omega,B}, Z_{\omega,B})$ exist, then their limit as ω goes to infinity is exactly given by the notion of “polynomial stability condition at the large-volume limit” of [Bay09, Section 4] or “limit stability” of [Tod09a]. The precise statement is given in Proposition 6.2.3.

6.1. Stability condition at the large volume limit. Let $Z_{\infty\omega,B}: K(X) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}[m]$ be a polynomial valued central charge, given by

$$Z_{\infty\omega,B}(E)(m) = Z_{m\omega,B}(E).$$

(Note that the only difference to $Z_p^{\omega,B}$ of equation (11) is given by the $\text{ch}_0^B(E)$ -term, which has weight m^3 rather than m^2 .) Let Coh^p be the category of perverse coherent sheaves, given in Definition 4.2.1. Recall that, as in Section 4.2, by [Bay09] the pair $(Z_{\infty\omega,B}, \text{Coh}^p)$ defines a polynomial stability condition on $\text{D}^b(X)$. Let \mathcal{Q}^p be the associated slicing depending on polynomial phase functions. The central charge $Z_{\infty\omega,B}$ is a stability function on Coh^p with respect to the interval $(1/4, 5/4)$ (see [Tod09a, Lemma 2.20]), hence we have $\text{Coh}^p = \mathcal{Q}^p((1/4, 5/4))$.

Definition 6.1.1. We define $\mathcal{C}^p := \mathcal{Q}^p((0, 1])$.

We give a precise description of the abelian category \mathcal{C}^p . Note that there is an analogue of slope stability on $\text{Coh}^{\leq 2} X$. Namely, for an object $E \in \text{Coh}^{\leq 2} X$, we set $\widehat{\mu}_{\omega,B}(E) = +\infty$ if $E \in \text{Coh}^{\leq 1} X$, and otherwise we set

$$(17) \quad \widehat{\mu}_{\omega,B}(E) = \frac{\omega \text{ch}_2^B(E)}{\omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(E)}.$$

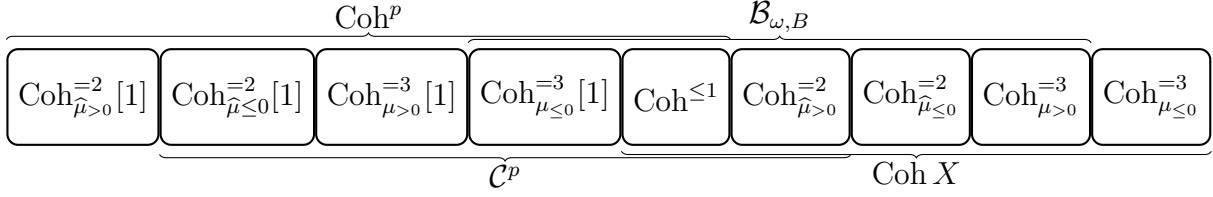


FIGURE 2. Relating the various t-structures

The $\widehat{\mu}_{\omega, B}$ -stability on $\text{Coh}^{\leq 2} X$ is defined in a similar way to $\mu_{\omega, B}$ -stability. We define the torsion pair $(\mathcal{T}^p, \mathcal{F}^p)$ on $\text{Coh}(X)$ to be

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{T}^p &= \{E \in \text{Coh}^{\leq 2} X : \widehat{\mu}_{\omega, B; \min}(E) > 0\} \\ \mathcal{F}^p &= \{E \in \text{Coh} X : \text{Hom}(\mathcal{T}^p, E) = 0\}.\end{aligned}$$

Lemma 6.1.2. *The abelian category \mathcal{C}^p is the tilt of $\text{Coh} X$ with respect to $(\mathcal{T}^p, \mathcal{F}^p)$,*

$$\mathcal{C}^p = \langle \mathcal{F}^p[1], \mathcal{T}^p \rangle.$$

Proof. It is enough to show that the RHS is contained in the LHS. To see this, it is enough to check that

- (a) Any $\widehat{\mu}_{\omega, B}$ -stable sheaf $E \in \text{Coh}^{\leq 2} X$ with $\widehat{\mu}_{\omega, B}(E) > 0$ (resp. $\widehat{\mu}_{\omega, B}(E) \leq 0$) satisfies $E \in \mathcal{C}^p$ (resp. $E[1] \in \mathcal{C}^p$).
- (b) Any torsion free sheaf $E \in \text{Coh} X$ satisfies $E[1] \in \mathcal{C}^p$.

Let $(\mathcal{A}_1^p, \mathcal{A}_{1/2}^p)$ be the torsion pair on Coh^p , defined in Lemma 4.2.2. It is shown in [Tod09a, Lemma 2.27] that an object $E \in \text{Coh}^p$ is $Z_{\infty\omega, B}$ -semistable if and only if $E \in \mathcal{A}_i^p$ for $i = 1$ or $1/2$ and it is $Z_{\infty\omega, B}$ -semistable in the quasi-abelian category \mathcal{A}_i^p .

Suppose that $E \in \text{Coh}^{\leq 2} X$ is $\widehat{\mu}_{\omega, B}$ -stable with $\widehat{\mu}_{\omega, B}(E) > 0$. If E has two-dimensional support, then $E[1] \in \mathcal{A}_1^p$ and it is $Z_{\infty\omega, B}$ -stable in \mathcal{A}_1^p . Since $\Im_{Z_{m\omega, B}}(E[1]) < 0$ for $m \gg 0$, we have $E[1] \in \mathcal{Q}^p(> 1)$, hence $E \in \mathcal{C}^p$. If E is pure of dimension one, then $E \in \mathcal{A}_{1/2}^p \subset \mathcal{C}^p$; and if $E \cong k(x)$ is the skyscraper sheaf of a point $x \in X$, then it is $Z_{\infty\omega, B}$ -stable of phase 1. A similar argument shows that if $\widehat{\mu}_{\omega, B}(E) \leq 0$, then $E[1] \in \mathcal{C}^p$.

Next, take a torsion free sheaf $E \in \text{Coh} X$. Then $E[1] \in \mathcal{A}_{1/2}^p$, and its Harder-Narasimhan factors with respect to the polynomial stability function $Z_{\infty\omega, B}$ are contained in $\mathcal{A}_{1/2}^p$. Since any object in $\mathcal{A}_{1/2}^p$ has limit phase $1/2$, we have $E[1] \in \mathcal{C}^p$. \square

The diagram in Figure 2 schematically shows the relations between the different t-structures. Each heart in the figure is the extension-closure of the corresponding blocks.

6.2. Comparison of $\mathcal{A}_{\omega, B}$ and \mathcal{C}^p .

Lemma 6.2.1. *For an object $E \in \text{D}^b(X)$, suppose that $E \in \mathcal{A}_{m\omega, B}$ for $m \gg 0$. Then $E \in \mathcal{C}^p$.*

Proof. Note that we have $\mathcal{B}_{\omega,B} = \mathcal{B}_{m\omega,B}$ for $m \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$. We denote by $H_{\mathcal{B}}^i(_)$ the i -th cohomology functor with respect to the t-structure $\mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$. Also, for simplicity, we write $\mathcal{T}'_{m\omega,B}$, $\mathcal{F}'_{m\omega,B}$ and $\mathcal{A}_{m\omega,B}$ as \mathcal{T}'_m , \mathcal{F}'_m and \mathcal{A}_m respectively. Suppose that $E \in \mathrm{D}^b(X)$ satisfies $E \in \mathcal{A}_m$ for $m \gg 0$. This implies that

$$(18) \quad H_{\mathcal{B}}^{-1}(E) \in \mathcal{F}'_m \quad \text{and} \quad H_{\mathcal{B}}^0(E) \in \mathcal{T}'_m,$$

for $m \gg 0$. We have the following exact sequences in $\mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$:

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \rightarrow E_1[1] \rightarrow H_{\mathcal{B}}^{-1}(E) \rightarrow E_2 \rightarrow 0, \\ 0 \rightarrow E_3[1] \rightarrow H_{\mathcal{B}}^0(E) \rightarrow E_4 \rightarrow 0, \end{aligned}$$

for $E_i \in \mathrm{Coh} X$. By the construction of $\mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$, we have $E_1, E_3 \in \mathcal{F}_{\omega,B}$ and $E_2, E_4 \in \mathcal{T}_{\omega,B}$. Since $(\mathcal{T}'_m, \mathcal{F}'_m)$ is a torsion pair on $\mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$, (18) implies that $E_1[1] \in \mathcal{F}'_m$ and $E_4 \in \mathcal{T}'_m$ for $m \gg 0$. In particular we have $\nu_{m\omega,B}(E_1[1]) \leq 0$ and $\nu_{m\omega,B}(E_4) > 0$ for $m \gg 0$, which imply that

$$-\frac{1}{6}m^3\omega^3 \mathrm{ch}_0^B(E_i) + m\omega \mathrm{ch}_2^B(E_i) \geq 0,$$

for $i = 1, 4$ and $m \gg 0$. This implies that $\mathrm{ch}_0^B(E_1) = \mathrm{ch}_0^B(E_4) = 0$, hence $E_1 = 0$ and E_4 is a torsion sheaf.

From what we have proved above, the object E is concentrated on $[-1, 0]$. Since $E_3 \in \mathcal{F}^p$, it is enough to check that

$$E_2 \in \mathcal{F}^p \quad \text{and} \quad E_4 \in \mathcal{T}^p,$$

to conclude $E \in \mathcal{C}^p$. Let $E_{2,\mathrm{tor}} \subset E_2$ be the torsion part of E_2 , and $F \subset E_{2,\mathrm{tor}}$ be the $\widehat{\mu}_{\omega,B}$ -semistable factor of $E_{2,\mathrm{tor}}$ with $\widehat{\mu}_{\omega,B}$ maximum. Then $F \in \mathcal{F}'_m$ for $m \gg 0$, as F is a subobject of $H_{\mathcal{B}}^{-1}(E)$ in $\mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$, therefore $\nu_{m\omega,B}(F) \leq 0$ for $m \gg 0$. This implies that F is a pure two-dimensional sheaf with $\widehat{\mu}_{\omega,B}(F) \leq 0$, hence $E_2 \in \mathcal{F}^p$ follows. Similarly for a $\widehat{\mu}_{\omega,B}$ -semistable factor $E_4 \twoheadrightarrow F'$ such that $\widehat{\mu}_{\omega,B}$ is minimum, we have $F' \in \mathcal{T}'_m$ for $m \gg 0$, hence $\mu_{\omega,B}(F') > 0$ and $E_4 \in \mathcal{T}^p$ follows. \square

Lemma 6.2.2. *For an object $E \in \mathcal{C}^p$, we have $E \in \mathcal{A}_{m\omega,B}$ for $m \gg 0$.*

Proof. Let us take an object $E \in \mathcal{C}^p$ and an exact sequence in \mathcal{C}^p

$$0 \rightarrow H^{-1}(E)[1] \rightarrow E \rightarrow H^0(E) \rightarrow 0.$$

The sheaf $H^{-1}(E)$ fits into the short exact sequence of sheaves

$$0 \rightarrow T_1 \rightarrow H^{-1}(E) \rightarrow T_2 \rightarrow 0,$$

with $T_1 \in \mathcal{T}_{\omega,B}$ and $T_2 \in \mathcal{F}_{\omega,B}$. By the above two sequences, we obtain the exact sequences in \mathcal{C}^p

$$(19) \quad 0 \rightarrow T_1[1] \rightarrow E \rightarrow U \rightarrow 0,$$

$$(20) \quad 0 \rightarrow T_2[1] \rightarrow U \rightarrow H^0(E) \rightarrow 0,$$

for some $U \in \mathcal{C}^p$. Since $T_1 \in \mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$ and $U \in \mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$ by the sequence (20), the sequence (19) implies

$$H_B^{-1}(E) = T_1 \quad \text{and} \quad H_B^0(E) = U.$$

In order to conclude $E \in \mathcal{A}_{m\omega,B}$ for $m \gg 0$, it is enough to show that

$$\nu_{m\omega,B;\min}(T_1) \leq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \nu_{m\omega,B;\min}(U) > 0,$$

for $m \gg 0$. We only show that $\nu_{m\omega,B;\min}(U) > 0$. The inequality $\nu_{m\omega,B;\min}(T_1) \leq 0$ is similarly proved, and we omit the proof.

Let $U^m \in \mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$ be the $\nu_{m\omega,B}$ -semistable factor of U such that

$$\nu_{m\omega,B;\min}(U) = \nu_{m\omega,B}(U^m).$$

We have the exact sequence in $\mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$

$$0 \rightarrow U'^m \rightarrow U \rightarrow U^m \rightarrow 0,$$

and the long exact sequence of coherent sheaves

$$(21) \quad \begin{aligned} 0 \rightarrow H^{-1}(U'^m) \rightarrow T_2 \rightarrow H^{-1}(U^m) \\ \rightarrow H^0(U'^m) \rightarrow H^0(E) \rightarrow H^0(U^m) \rightarrow 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since $H^0(E) \in \mathcal{T}^p$, the sheaf $H^0(U^m)$ also satisfies $H^0(U^m) \in \mathcal{T}^p$. This implies the inequality

$$(22) \quad \nu_{m\omega,B}(H^0(U^m)) > 0, \quad m > 0.$$

Next we see that $\nu_{m\omega,B}(H^{-1}(U^m)[1])$ is positive for $m \gg 0$. The sequence (21) gives rise to two short exact sequences of coherent sheaves

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \rightarrow K \rightarrow H^{-1}(U^m) \rightarrow K' \rightarrow 0, \\ 0 \rightarrow K' \rightarrow H^0(U'^m) \rightarrow K'' \rightarrow 0. \end{aligned}$$

Note that there is a surjection $T_2 \rightarrow K$, hence $\mu_{\omega,B;\min}(K)$ is bounded below, i.e., there is a constant c which does not depend on m such that $\mu_{\omega,B;\min}(K) \geq c$. Also since K'' is a subsheaf of $H^0(E)$, it is a torsion sheaf and its first Chern class is bounded above. This fact, together with $\mu_{\omega,B;\min}(H^0(U'^m)) > 0$, easily implies that $\mu_{\omega,B;\min}(K')$ is bounded below. Therefore $\mu_{\omega,B;\min}(H^{-1}(U^m))$ is also bounded below.

Let A_1, \dots, A_N be the set of $\mu_{\omega, B}$ -semistable factors of $H^{-1}(U^m)$. From what we have proved above, there is a constant $c > 0$, which does not depend on m such that

$$0 \geq \mu_{\omega, B}(A_1) > \dots > \mu_{\omega, B}(A_N) \geq -c.$$

By replacing c if necessary, the Hodge Index Theorem and the Bogomolov-Gieseker inequality imply the following bound:

$$\omega \cdot \frac{\text{ch}_2^B(A_i)}{\text{ch}_0^B(A_i)} \leq \omega \cdot \frac{\text{ch}_1^B(A_i)^2}{2 \text{ch}_0^B(A_i)^2} \leq c.$$

Hence we have

$$(23) \quad \omega \cdot \frac{\text{ch}_2^B H^{-1}(U_m)}{\text{ch}_0^B H^{-1}(U_m)} \leq c.$$

Now we have

$$\frac{\Im Z_{m\omega, B}(H^{-1}(U^m)[1])}{\text{ch}_0^B(H^{-1}(U^m))} = \frac{1}{6} m^3 \omega^3 - m\omega \frac{\text{ch}_2^B H^{-1}(U^m)}{\text{ch}_0^B H^{-1}(U^m)},$$

which is positive for $m \gg 0$ by (23). This implies the inequality

$$(24) \quad \nu_{m\omega, B}(H^{-1}(U^m)[1]) > 0, \quad m \gg 0.$$

By the inequalities (22) and (24), we obtain $\nu_{m\omega, B}(U^m) > 0$ for $m \gg 0$. \square

Let us denote $\sigma_m = (Z_{m\omega, B}, \mathcal{A}_{m\omega, B})$. We have the following proposition.

Proposition 6.2.3. *Suppose that σ_m are stability conditions. If an object $E \in \text{D}^b(X)$ is σ_m -semistable for $m \gg 0$, then E is semistable with respect to the polynomial stability condition $(Z_{\infty\omega, B}, \mathcal{C}^p)$.*

Proof. We may assume that $E \in \mathcal{A}_{m\omega, B}$ for $m \gg 0$. By Lemma 6.2.1, we have $E \in \mathcal{C}^p$. Suppose that E is not semistable w.r.t. $Z_{\infty\omega, B}$. Then there is an exact sequence in \mathcal{C}^p

$$(25) \quad 0 \rightarrow E' \rightarrow E \rightarrow E'' \rightarrow 0,$$

such that $\arg Z_{m\omega, B}(E') > \arg Z_{m\omega, B}(E'')$ for $m \gg 0$. However, by Lemma 6.2.2, the sequence (25) is also an exact sequence in $\mathcal{A}_{m\omega, B}$, for $m \gg 0$. This implies that (25) destabilizes E w.r.t. σ_m for $m \gg 0$, which is a contradiction. \square

7. BOGOMOLOV-GIESEKER TYPE INEQUALITIES

In this section we discuss bounds on the set of numerical classes of $\nu_{\omega, B}$ -semistable objects in $\mathcal{B}_{\omega, B}$.

7.1. Torsion sheaves. We consider Conjecture 3.2.6 in the case of torsion sheaves. For simplicity, we assume that

$$\mathrm{Pic}(X) = \mathbb{Z}[\mathcal{O}_X(H)],$$

for an ample divisor H . We denote $d = H^3 \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ and $\omega = \alpha H$ for $\alpha \in \mathbb{Q}_{>0}$. We take a smooth divisor

$$S \in |mH|,$$

for $m \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 1}$ and consider semistable sheaves on S . Notice that

$$\mathrm{Coh} S \subset \mathcal{B}_{\omega,B},$$

is an abelian subcategory, and for $E \in \mathrm{Coh} S$, we have $\nu_{\omega,B}(E) = \widehat{\mu}_{\omega,B}(E)$, where $\widehat{\mu}_{\omega,B}$ is as defined in equation (17). Hence if $E \in \mathrm{Coh} S$ is $\nu_{\omega,B}$ -(semi)stable in $\mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$, then it is also $\widehat{\mu}_{\omega,B}$ -(semi)stable in $\mathrm{Coh} S$. Let us discuss Conjecture 3.2.6 for objects in $\mathrm{Coh} S$.

Let $E \in \mathrm{Coh}(S)$ be a $\widehat{\mu}_{\omega,B}$ -semistable sheaf with

$$\mathrm{ch}^B(E) = (r, l, s) \in H^0(S) \oplus H^2(S) \oplus H^4(S),$$

where ch^B on S is nothing but $\mathrm{ch} \cdot e^{-B|_S}$. Let $i: S \hookrightarrow X$ denote the inclusion. By the Grothendieck Riemann-Roch formula, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{ch}^B(i_*E) &= \left(0, rS, -\frac{r}{2}S^2 + i_*l, \frac{r}{6}S^3 - \frac{1}{2}S \cdot i_*l + s \right) \\ &\in H^0(X) \oplus H^2(X) \oplus H^4(X) \oplus H^6(X). \end{aligned}$$

The condition $\nu_{\omega,B}(i_*E) = 0$ is equivalent to $i_*l = rS^2/2$; hence we have

$$\mathrm{ch}^B(i_*E) = \left(0, rS, 0, s - \frac{1}{12}rS^3 \right).$$

On the other hand, the Bogomolov-Gieseker inequality $l^2 \geq 2rs$ implies the inequality

$$(26) \quad s \leq \frac{1}{8}rS^3 = \frac{1}{8}drm^3.$$

Therefore we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Re Z_{\omega,B}(i_*E) &= -s + \frac{1}{12}rS^3 + \frac{1}{2}\alpha^2rH^2S \\ &\geq \frac{rdm}{24}(12\alpha^2 - m^2). \end{aligned}$$

If $m > 2\sqrt{3}\alpha$, we cannot conclude that $\Re Z_{\omega,B}(i_*E)$ is positive. This implies that $\widehat{\mu}_{\omega,B}$ -stability and the Bogomolov-Gieseker inequality on S are not sufficient to conclude Conjecture 3.2.6, and we need to investigate $\nu_{\omega,B}$ -stability in more detail.

Suppose, for instance, that there exists a $\mu_{\omega,B}$ -semistable torsion free sheaf F on X such that $F|_S \cong E$. For example, when $E = \mathcal{O}_S(mH/2)$ for an even number m , we can take $F = \mathcal{O}_X(mH/2)$. We have

$$\mu_{\omega,B}(F) = \frac{\alpha^2}{2}md > 0, \quad \mu_{\omega,B}(F(-S)) = -\frac{\alpha^2}{2}md < 0.$$

Then the sequence

$$F \rightarrow E \rightarrow F(-S)[1]$$

is an exact sequence in $\mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$. If E is $\nu_{\omega,B}$ -semistable, we have $\nu_{\omega,B}(F) \leq 0$. Therefore we have

$$(27) \quad s \leq \frac{1}{6}rdm\alpha^2.$$

Note that, when m is big, (27) is a stronger inequality than (26). Using (27) instead of (26), we obtain

$$\Re Z_{\omega,B}(i_*E) \geq \frac{rdm}{12}(4\alpha^2 + m^2) > 0.$$

By considering at the same time the two inequalities (26) and (27), we obtain the inequality of Conjecture 1.3.1 in this case:

Proposition 7.1.1. *Let X be a smooth projective threefold with $\text{Pic}(X) = \mathbb{Z}[\mathcal{O}_X(H)]$. Let $S \in |mH|$ be a smooth divisor, $i: S \hookrightarrow X$. Let $E \in \text{Coh}(S)$ be such that:*

- i_*E is $\nu_{\omega,B}$ -semistable with $\nu_{\omega,B}(i_*E) = 0$, and
- there exists a torsion-free $\mu_{\omega,B}$ -semistable sheaf $F \in \text{Coh}(X)$ with $F|_S \cong E$.

Then

$$(28) \quad \text{ch}_3^B(i_*E) \leq \frac{\omega^2}{18} \text{ch}_1^B(i_*E).$$

Proof. First of all, when $3m^2 \leq 4\alpha^2$, we use (26), and we have

$$\text{ch}_3^B(i_*E) = s - \frac{1}{12}rm^3d \leq \frac{rm^3d}{24} \leq \frac{r\alpha^2md}{18} = \frac{\omega^2}{18} \text{ch}_1^B(i_*E).$$

Similarly, when $3m^2 \geq 4\alpha^2$, we use (27), and (28) is proved. \square

7.2. Semistable objects in $\mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$. Here we fix $B \in \text{NS}_{\mathbb{Q}}(X)$ and use the twisted Chern character $\text{ch}^B(E) = \text{ch}(E) \cdot e^{-B}$. For an ample divisor $\omega \in \text{NS}_{\mathbb{Q}}(X)$, let $\mathcal{D} \subset \mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$ denote the set of objects $E \in \mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$ satisfying one of the following conditions:

- (a) $H^{-1}(E) = 0$ and $H^0(E)$ is a pure sheaf of dimension ≥ 2 that is slope-semistable with respect to ω .
- (b) $H^{-1}(E) = 0$ and $H^0(E)$ is a sheaf of dimension ≤ 1 .

(c) $H^{-1}(E)$ is a torsion-free slope-semistable sheaf and $H^0(E) \in \text{Coh}^{\leq 1} X$. If $\mu_{\omega,B}(H^{-1}(E)) < 0$, we have

$$(29) \quad \text{Hom}(\text{Coh}^{\leq 1} X, E) = 0.$$

Lemma 7.2.1. *If an object $E \in \mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$ is $\nu_{m\omega,B}$ -semistable for $m \gg 0$ then $E \in \mathfrak{D}$.*

Proof. The proof is given by the same argument as in [Bay09, Lemma 4.2]. \square

The set of objects \mathfrak{D} is also obtained as $\nu_{\omega,B}$ -semistable objects E with small $\omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(E)$. Because of the rationality of B and ω , we can take $c \in \mathbb{Q}_{>0}$ to be

$$(30) \quad c := \min \{ \omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(E) > 0 : E \in \mathcal{B}_{\omega,B} \}.$$

Lemma 7.2.2. *For an object $E \in \mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$, suppose that $\omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(E) \leq c$. Then E is $\nu_{\omega,B}$ -semistable if and only if $E \in \mathfrak{D}$.*

Proof. The assumption implies that $\omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(E) = 0$ or c , and the first case is obvious. So assume $\omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(E) = c$. Given any short exact sequence

$$(31) \quad A \hookrightarrow E \twoheadrightarrow B$$

in $\mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$, we always have either $\omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(A) = 0$ or $\omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(B) = 0$. In the former case, we have $\nu_{\omega,B}(A) = +\infty > \nu_{\omega,B}(E) \neq \infty$ and thus E is unstable. In the latter case, we have $\nu_{\omega,B}(E) = +\infty > \nu_{\omega,B}(E)$, and thus the short exact sequence (31) cannot destabilize E .

So E is stable if and only if there is no subobject $A \hookrightarrow E$ with $\omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(A) = 0$, i.e. A is contained in the subcategory described in (6). This condition is invariant under replacing ω by a scalar multiple $m\omega$ for $m \in \mathbb{R}$. In particular, if E is $\nu_{\omega,B}$ -semistable, then it is $\nu_{m\omega,B}$ -semistable for $m \gg 0$, and $E \in \mathfrak{D}$ by Lemma 7.2.1.

Conversely, assume $E \in \mathfrak{D}$ has a subobject A with $\omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(A) = 0$. If $H^{-1}(A) \neq 0$, then it has slope $\mu_{\omega,B}(H^{-1}(A)) = 0$. Also, $H^{-1}(E)$ is non-trivial, and thus E satisfies condition (c) in the definition of \mathfrak{D} . As $\omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(E) > 0$, we have $\mu_{\omega,B}(H^{-1}(E)) < 0$; but $H^{-1}(A)$ is a subobject of $H^{-1}(E)$, in contradiction to the slope-semistability of E .

On the other hand, if $H^{-1}(A) = 0$, then $A \in \text{Coh}^{\leq 1} X$, in contradiction to (29). \square

In particular, Conjecture 1.3.1 includes the following conjecture for $\mu_{\omega,B}$ -stable sheaves:

Conjecture 7.2.3. *Let X be a smooth projective threefold and take $B, \omega \in \text{NS}_{\mathbb{Q}}(X)$ with ω ample. Let E be a $\mu_{\omega,B}$ -stable sheaf satisfying $\omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(E) = c$, where c is defined by (30). Suppose that E satisfies*

$$(32) \quad \frac{\omega \text{ch}_2^B(E)}{\omega^3 \text{ch}_0^B(E)} = \frac{1}{6}.$$

Then we have

$$(33) \quad \frac{\text{ch}_3^B(E)}{\omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(E)} \leq \frac{1}{18}.$$

Example 7.2.4. In the situation of Conjecture 7.2.3, suppose that $\text{Pic}(X)$ is generated by an ample line bundle L on X with $D = L^3$. Setting $\omega = tL$ for $t \in \mathbb{Q}_{>0}$ and $B = 0$, we have $c = Dt^2$. For a curve $C \subset X$ of degree $d = L \cdot C$, let I_C be the ideal sheaf of C . Then the object $E = L \otimes I_C$ is $\mu_{\omega,0}$ -stable with $\omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(E) = c$, and satisfies (32) if $d < \frac{D}{2}$ and

$$\frac{t^2}{6} = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{d}{D}.$$

Then the Conjecture states that

$$\text{ch}_3(E) = \frac{D}{6} - d - \text{ch}_3(\mathcal{O}_C) \leq \frac{t^2 D}{18} = \frac{D}{6} - \frac{d}{3}$$

or, equivalently,

$$(34) \quad -\text{ch}_3(\mathcal{O}_C) \leq \frac{2}{3}d.$$

For instance, if $X \subset \mathbb{P}^4$ is a hypersurface of degree D , Hirzebruch-Riemann-Roch relates $\text{ch}_3(\mathcal{O}_C)$ to the arithmetic genus g of C by

$$1 - g = \chi(\mathcal{O}_C) = \text{ch}_3(\mathcal{O}_C) + \frac{d}{2}(4 - D).$$

Thus the inequality (34) becomes $g \leq \frac{d}{2}D - \frac{4}{3}d + 1$. Since $d < \frac{D}{2}$, this follows from Castelnuovo's classical inequality $g \leq \frac{1}{2}(d-1)(d-2)$, which does hold in our situation: it has been shown for singular curves $C \subset \mathbb{P}^3$ in [OS85] and [Har94]; and since $C \subset X$ is contained in a smooth hypersurface in \mathbb{P}^4 , the curve C will map isomorphically into \mathbb{P}^3 under a generic projection.

On the other hand, already when $X \subset \mathbb{P}^{N+3}$ is a complete intersection of codimension N , the inequality (34) seems stronger than known Castelnuovo inequalities: it becomes

$$g \leq \frac{D_1 + \cdots + D_N}{2}d - \frac{N+3}{2}d + \frac{2}{3}d + 1$$

for any curve of genus g and degree $d < \frac{1}{2}D_1 \cdot D_2 \cdots D_N$ on a complete intersection of degree (D_1, \dots, D_N) . The statement would be similar to the case of space curves lying on a surface of given degree, treated e.g. in [Har80].

7.3. Bogomolov-Gieseker type inequality without ch_3 . In this section we establish a Bogomolov-Gieseker type inequality for $\nu_{\omega,B}$ -semistable objects in $\mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$ which does not involve ch_3 . For $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$, we set $f_{a,b}: \text{NS}_{\mathbb{Q}}(X) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ to be

$$f_{a,b}(x) := a\omega^3 \cdot x^2\omega + b(x\omega^2)^2.$$

Recall that the discriminant $\Delta(E) \in A_{\mathbb{Q}}^2(X)$ of an object $E \in D^b(X)$ is defined by

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta(E) &= \text{ch}_1(E)^2 - 2 \text{ch}_0(E) \text{ch}_2(E) \\ &= \text{ch}_1^B(E)^2 - 2 \text{ch}_0^B(E) \text{ch}_2^B(E).\end{aligned}$$

We have the following result.

Theorem 7.3.1. *For a smooth projective threefold X and $\omega \in \text{NS}_{\mathbb{Q}}(X)$, take $a \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq -1}$ and $b \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $f_{a,b}$ satisfies the following conditions:*

- (a) $f_{a,b}(x) \geq 0$, for any $x \in \text{NS}_{\mathbb{Q}}(X)$.
- (b) $f_{a+1,b}(x) \geq 0$, for any effective class $x \in \text{NS}_{\mathbb{Q}}(X)$.

Then, for any $\nu_{\omega,B}$ -semistable object $E \in \mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$, we have the following inequality:

$$(35) \quad \omega^3 \cdot \omega \Delta(E) + f_{a,b}(\text{ch}_1^B(E)) \geq 0.$$

Proof. We prove the inequality (35) by induction on $\omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(E)$. Observe that the Bogomolov-Gieseker inequality and the condition (a) imply (35) for torsion free slope-semistable sheaves. Also, condition (b) implies the inequality (35) for torsion sheaves. Therefore (35) holds for any object $E \in \mathcal{D}$; hence it also holds if $\omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(E) \leq c$, by Lemma 7.2.2.

Assume that (35) holds for all $\nu_{\omega,B}$ -semistable $F \in \mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$ with $\omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(F) < \omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(E)$. By the previous argument, we may assume that $E \notin \mathcal{D}$. Then, by Lemma 7.2.1, the object E is not $\nu_{m\omega,B}$ -semistable for sufficiently large m . Hence we can take $m_0 \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$ to be

$$m_0 = \sup\{m \in \mathbb{R}_{>0} : E \text{ is } \nu_{m\omega,B}\text{-semistable}\}.$$

By Corollary 3.3.3, there is a filtration in $\mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$

$$0 = E_0 \subset E_1 \subset \cdots \subset E_N = E,$$

such that the following holds.

- E_{\bullet} is a Harder-Narasimhan filtration of E with respect to $\nu_{(m_0+\varepsilon)\omega,B}$ -stability for $0 < \varepsilon \ll 1$. In particular, subquotients $F_i = E_i/E_{i-1}$ satisfy

$$(36) \quad \nu_{(m_0+\varepsilon)\omega,B}(F_1) > \nu_{(m_0+\varepsilon)\omega,B}(F_2) > \cdots > \nu_{(m_0+\varepsilon)\omega,B}(F_N).$$

- The subquotients F_i are $\nu_{m_0\omega,B}$ -semistable with

$$(37) \quad \nu_{m_0\omega,B}(F_1) = \nu_{m_0\omega,B}(F_2) = \cdots = \nu_{m_0\omega,B}(F_N).$$

We set a_i, b_i and c_i as follows:

$$a_i = \frac{\omega^3 \text{ch}_0^B(F_i)}{\omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(F_i)}, \quad b_i = \frac{\omega \text{ch}_2^B(F_i)}{\omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(F_i)}, \quad c_i = \frac{\text{ch}_1^B(F_i)}{\omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(F_i)}.$$

Note that we have $\omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(F_i) < \omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(E)$; hence F_i satisfies the inequality (35) by the inductive assumption. The inequality (35) for F_i is written as

$$(38) \quad (a+1)\omega^3 \cdot \omega c_i^2 - 2a_i b_i + b \geq 0.$$

By setting $c = m_0^2/6 > 0$, the equality (37) implies

$$(39) \quad -ca_1 + b_1 = -ca_2 + b_2 = \cdots = -ca_N + b_N.$$

Combined with (36), we obtain the inequalities

$$(40) \quad a_1 < a_2 < \cdots < a_N.$$

Then (39) and (40) imply the following inequalities:

$$(41) \quad b_1 < b_2 < \cdots < b_N.$$

We can calculate as

$$\begin{aligned} & \omega^3 \cdot \omega \Delta(E) + f_{a,b}(\text{ch}_1^B(E)) \\ &= \omega^3 \cdot \omega \left(\left(\sum_{i=1}^N \text{ch}_1^B(F_i) \right)^2 - 2 \left(\sum_{i=1}^N \text{ch}_0^B(F_i) \right) \left(\sum_{i=1}^N \text{ch}_2^B(F_i) \right) \right) \\ & \quad + a\omega^3 \cdot \omega \left(\sum_{i=1}^N \text{ch}_1^B(F_i) \right)^2 + b \left(\sum_{i=1}^N \omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(F_i) \right)^2 \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^N \omega^3 \cdot \omega \Delta(F_i) + f_{a,b}(\text{ch}_1^B(F_i)) \\ & \quad + 2 \sum_{i < j} \omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(F_i) \cdot \omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(F_j) \left((a+1)\omega^3 \cdot \omega c_i c_j - a_i b_j - a_j b_i + b \right). \end{aligned}$$

The first term of the last equation is non-negative by the inductive assumption. As for the second term, note that (38) implies

$$b \geq -\frac{1}{2}(a+1)\omega^3 \cdot (\omega c_i^2 + \omega c_j^2) + a_i b_i + a_j b_j.$$

Therefore we have

$$(42) \quad \begin{aligned} & (a+1)\omega^3 \cdot \omega c_i c_j - a_i b_j - a_j b_i + b \\ & \geq (a_j - a_i)(b_j - b_i) - \frac{1}{2}(a+1)\omega^3 \cdot \omega (c_i - c_j)^2. \end{aligned}$$

Note that since $\omega^2(c_i - c_j) = 0$, the Hodge Index Theorem implies $\omega(c_i - c_j)^2 \leq 0$. Combined with $a \geq -1$, (40) and (41), we conclude that (42) ≥ 0 . By induction, we obtain the desired inequality (35). \square

Corollary 7.3.2. *Let X be a smooth projective threefold and take $B, \omega \in \text{NS}_{\mathbb{Q}}(X)$ with ω ample. Then, for any $\nu_{\omega, B}$ -semistable object $E \in \mathcal{B}_{\omega, B}$, we have*

$$\overline{\Delta}_{\omega}(E) := (\omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(E))^2 - 2\omega^3 \text{ch}_0^B(E) \cdot \omega \text{ch}_2^B(E) \geq 0.$$

Proof. We take $a = -1$ and $b = 1$ in Theorem 7.3.1. The condition (a) is satisfied by the Hodge Index Theorem, and (b) is obvious. Therefore the result follows from Theorem 7.3.1. \square

Corollary 7.3.3. *Under the previous assumptions, there is a constant $C_{\omega} \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$, which depends only $[\omega] \in \mathbb{P}(\text{NS}_{\mathbb{Q}}(X))$, such that any $\nu_{\omega, B}$ -semistable object $E \in \mathcal{B}_{\omega, B}$ satisfies the following inequality:*

$$\omega^3 \cdot \omega \Delta(E) + C_{\omega} (\omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(E))^2 \geq 0.$$

Proof. We set $a = 0$ and want to find $b = C_{\omega} \geq 0$ such that the conditions (a) and (b) are satisfied. The condition (a) is obviously satisfied for any $b \geq 0$, so it is enough to deal with (b): it requires that for any effective divisor D , we have

$$(43) \quad \omega^3 \cdot D^2 \omega + C_{\omega} (D\omega^2)^2 \geq 0$$

holds for any effective divisor D .

Fix a norm $\|\cdot\|$ on $H^2(X, \mathbb{R})$. Then there is a constant A_{ω} such that

$$\omega^3 \cdot \omega D^2 \leq A_{\omega} \|D\|^2$$

for every $D \in H^2(X, \mathbb{R})$. On the other hand, due to the openness of the ample cone, there is a constant B_{ω} such that

$$\omega^2 D \geq B_{\omega} \|D\|$$

for every effective divisor class D . Setting $C_{\omega} := \frac{A_{\omega}}{B_{\omega}^2}$, we obtain (43) as required. \square

Corollary 7.3.4. *Let X be a smooth projective threefold such that $\text{NS}(X)$ has rank one. Then for any $\nu_{\omega, B}$ -semistable object $E \in \mathcal{B}_{\omega, B}$, we have*

$$\omega \Delta(E) \geq 0.$$

Proof. If $\text{NS}(X)$ is of rank one, then we can take $a = b = 0$ in Theorem 7.3.1. \square

7.4. Stability of vector bundles with trivial discriminant. As an application of Corollary 7.3.2, we have the following result which generalizes [AB11, Prop. 3.6].

Proposition 7.4.1. *Let E be a $\mu_{\omega, B}$ -stable vector bundle on X with $\overline{\Delta}_{\omega}(E) = 0$. Then E is $\nu_{\omega, B}$ -stable.*

Proof. By Proposition 4.3.6 and Section 5.1, we may replace E by its dual, and thus may assume $\omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(E) \leq 0$; in particular, $E[1] \in \mathcal{B}_{\omega, B}$. Assume, for a contradiction, $E[1]$ is not $\nu_{\omega, B}$ -stable. Then $\omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(E) < 0$, and there exists a destabilizing sequence

$$M \rightarrow E[1] \rightarrow N[1],$$

with N a $\nu_{\omega,B}$ -semistable sheaf such that

$$(44) \quad \nu_{\omega,B}(N[1]) \leq \nu_{\omega,B}(E[1]).$$

Expanding (44), by using the assumption that $\overline{\Delta}_{\omega}(E) = 0$, we deduce the inequality

$$\frac{2\omega \operatorname{ch}_2^B(N)}{\omega^2 \operatorname{ch}_1^B(N)} - \frac{\omega^3 \operatorname{rk}(N)}{3\omega^2 \operatorname{ch}_1^B(N)} \leq \frac{\omega^2 \operatorname{ch}_1^B(E)}{\omega^3 \operatorname{rk}(E)} - \frac{\omega^3 \operatorname{rk}(E)}{3\omega^2 \operatorname{ch}_1^B(E)}.$$

Now, $\omega^2 \operatorname{ch}_1^B(N) < 0$ and Corollary 7.3.2 give

$$\frac{\omega^2 \operatorname{ch}_1^B(N)}{\omega^3 \operatorname{rk}(N)} - \frac{\omega^3 \operatorname{rk}(N)}{3\omega^2 \operatorname{ch}_1^B(N)} \leq \frac{\omega^2 \operatorname{ch}_1^B(E)}{\omega^3 \operatorname{rk}(E)} - \frac{\omega^3 \operatorname{rk}(E)}{3\omega^2 \operatorname{ch}_1^B(E)}.$$

Therefore, we get the inequality

$$\frac{1}{\omega^3} (\mu_{\omega,B}(E) - \mu_{\omega,B}(N)) \geq \frac{\omega^3}{3} \left(\frac{\mu_{\omega,B}(N) - \mu_{\omega,B}(E)}{\mu_{\omega,B}(N)\mu_{\omega,B}(E)} \right).$$

But $\mu_{\omega,B}(E) < \mu_{\omega,B}(N)$: Indeed, otherwise, the $\mu_{\omega,B}$ -stability of E would imply that $\operatorname{Hom}(H^0(M), Q) \neq 0$, where Q is a $\mu_{\omega,B}$ -stable quotient of N with slope $\leq \mu_{\omega,B}(E)$, violating Lemma 4.3.3. This gives a contradiction, since ω^3 and $\mu_{\omega,B}(N)\mu_{\omega,B}(E)$ are both positive. \square

In particular, by Proposition 7.4.1, all (shifts of) line bundles with $\overline{\Delta}_{\omega} = 0$ are $\nu_{\omega,B}$ -stable in $\mathcal{B}_{\omega,B}$. When $\operatorname{NS}(X)$ is of rank one, this is true for all line bundles on X .

Proposition 7.4.1 gives also a further evidence for Conjecture 1.3.1 (and so for Conjecture 3.2.6). More precisely, following Drézet (see e.g. [Lan09a, Sect. 3.5]), we introduce the higher discriminants $\overline{\Delta}_{\omega,i}$ as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{\Delta}_{\omega,1} &= \omega^2 \operatorname{ch}_1^B \\ \overline{\Delta}_{\omega,2} &= \overline{\Delta}_{\omega} \\ \overline{\Delta}_{\omega,3} &= 2 \left(3(\omega^3 \operatorname{rk})^2 \operatorname{ch}_3^B - 3(\omega^3 \operatorname{rk})(\omega^2 \operatorname{ch}_1^B)(\omega \operatorname{ch}_2^B) + (\omega^2 \operatorname{ch}_1^B)^3 \right). \end{aligned}$$

Notice that these higher discriminants are invariant under tensoring by line bundles whose numerical class is a multiple of ω .

Proposition 7.4.2. *Let E be a $\mu_{\omega,B}$ -stable vector bundle on X with $\overline{\Delta}_{\omega,2}(E) = 0$. Then $\overline{\Delta}_{\omega,3}(E) = 0$.*

Proof. First of all, since E is $\mu_{\omega,B}$ -stable, we have $\omega\Delta(E) = 0$ and so $(\omega^2 \operatorname{ch}_1^B(E))^2 = \omega^3(\omega \operatorname{ch}_1^B(E))^2$. Hence, by taking a finite cover and a tensor by a line bundle, we can reduce to the case $\omega^2 \operatorname{ch}_1^B(E) = 0$. Our assumptions then give $\omega \operatorname{ch}_2^B(E) = 0$ and

$$\overline{\Delta}_{\omega,3}(E) = 6(\omega^3 \operatorname{rk}(E))^2 \operatorname{ch}_3^B(E).$$

We want to prove that $\text{ch}_3^B(E) = 0$. Again, by taking a finite cover, we can assume that B is the numerical class of a line bundle L . Consider the μ_ω -stable vector bundle $F = E \otimes L^\vee$. Then $\text{ch}(F) = \text{ch}^B(E)$. In particular, we have

$$\omega^2 \text{ch}_1(F) = \omega \text{ch}_2(F) = 0.$$

By [Sim92, Thm. 2] (see also [Lan09b, Thm. 4.1] for an algebraic proof), $\text{ch}_3(F) = 0$, and so $\text{ch}_3^B(E) = 0$, as wanted. \square

Let E be as in the Proposition, and assume $\Im Z_{\omega,B}(E) = 0$ and $\omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(E) > 0$. Then Conjecture 3.2.7 is satisfied and the inequality of Conjecture 1.3.1 becomes an equality:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ch}_3^B(E) - \frac{\omega^2}{2} \text{ch}_1^B(E) &< \text{ch}_3^B(E) - \frac{\omega^2}{18} \text{ch}_1^B(E) \\ &= \frac{1}{6(\omega^3 \text{rk}(E))^2} (\overline{\Delta}_{\omega,3}(E) - 2\overline{\Delta}_{\omega,1}(E)\overline{\Delta}_{\omega,2}(E)) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

8. EXAMPLES

In this section we discuss Conjecture 3.2.6 in some examples, focusing on the case of the projective space.

8.1. A technical result. Let X be a smooth projective threefold and let $B, \omega \in \text{NS}_{\mathbb{Q}}(X)$ with ω ample. We consider slightly more central central charges on $\mathcal{A}_{\omega,B}$: for $s \in \mathbb{Q}$, define

$$Z_{\omega,B,s}(-) := (-\text{ch}_3^B(-) + s\omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(-)) + i \left(\omega \text{ch}_2^B(-) - \frac{\omega^3}{6} \text{ch}_0^B(-) \right).$$

We have $Z_{\omega,B} = Z_{\omega,B,1/2}$.

Proposition 8.1.1. *Let $\mathcal{C} \subset \text{D}^b(X)$ be a heart of a bounded t -structure with the following properties:*

(a) *there exist $\phi_0 \in (0, 1)$ and $s_0 \in \mathbb{Q}$ such that*

$$Z_{\omega,B,s_0}(\mathcal{C}) \subset \{r \exp(\pi\phi i) : r \geq 0, \phi_0 \leq \phi \leq \phi_0 + 1\}.$$

(b) *$\mathcal{C} \subset \langle \mathcal{A}_{\omega,B}, \mathcal{A}_{\omega,B}[1] \rangle$.*

(c) *for all $x \in X$, we have $k(x) \in \mathcal{C}$ and, for all proper subobjects $C \hookrightarrow k(x)$ in \mathcal{C} , $\Im Z_{\omega,B}(C) > 0$.*

Then the pair $(Z_{\omega,B,s}, \mathcal{A}_{\omega,B})$ is a stability condition on $\text{D}^b(X)$, for all $s > s_0$.

Proof. To simplify the notation, we put $Z_s = Z_{\omega,B,s}$ and $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}_{\omega,B}$. By Corollary 5.2.4 and Lemma 5.2.1, to prove that (Z_s, \mathcal{A}) is a stability condition it will be enough to prove that $\Re Z_{s_0}(\mathcal{T}^1) < 0$, where \mathcal{T}^1 is the abelian subcategory of \mathcal{A} , defined in Lemma 5.2.1, of objects in \mathcal{A} with $\Im Z_{\omega,B} = 0$. Assume, for a contradiction, this is not the case. Then, by Lemma 5.2.1, there exists a simple object $F \in \mathcal{T}^1$ with $\Re Z_{s_0}(F) \geq 0$. If $\Re Z_{s_0}(F) = 0$,

then, from $\omega^2 \text{ch}_1^B(F) < 0$, we deduce that $\Re Z_s(F) < 0$, for all $s > s_0$. Hence, we can assume that there exists $F \in \mathcal{T}^1$ with $\Re Z_{s_0}(F) > 0$.

By Proposition 2.3.2, assumption (b) implies that \mathcal{C} is a tilt of \mathcal{A} . Consider the torsion pair on \mathcal{A} induced by \mathcal{C} :

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{T} &:= \mathcal{A} \cap \mathcal{C} \\ \mathcal{F} &:= \mathcal{A} \cap (\mathcal{C}[-1]).\end{aligned}$$

By assumption (a), for all simple objects $E \in \mathcal{T}^1$ with $Z_{s_0}(E) \neq 0$, we have

- $E \in \mathcal{T}$ if and only if $\Re Z_{s_0}(E) < 0$.
- $E \in \mathcal{F}$ if and only if $\Re Z_{s_0}(E) > 0$.

Indeed, by Lemma 5.2.1, a simple object in \mathcal{T}^1 has no proper subobject in \mathcal{A} , and so it belongs either to \mathcal{T} or to \mathcal{F} .

Hence, $F \in \mathcal{F} \cap \mathcal{T}^1$. Since F is simple, $\text{Hom}(F, k(x)) = \text{Hom}(k(x), F) = 0$. By Proposition 4.3.6 and Remark 4.4.2, up to replacing F with $F^\vee[3]$ (and B with $-B$), we can assume that $\text{Hom}(k(x), F[1]) \neq 0$, for all $x \in D$, where D is a divisor in X . Consider a non-zero morphism $f: k(x) \rightarrow F[1]$ and $\ker(f), \text{cok}(f), \text{im}(f) \in \mathcal{C}$. By assumption (c), if $\ker(f) \neq 0$, then $\Im Z_{s_0}(\ker(f)) > 0$. Hence, $\Im Z_{s_0}(\text{im}(f)) < 0$, and so $\Im Z_{s_0}(\text{cok}(f)) > 0$. Since \mathcal{C} is a tilt of \mathcal{A} , \mathcal{A} is a tilt of \mathcal{C} as well. Consider the induced torsion pair on \mathcal{C} :

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{T}' &:= \mathcal{C} \cap (\mathcal{A}[1]) \\ \mathcal{F}' &:= \mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{A}.\end{aligned}$$

Then $F[1] \in \mathcal{T}'$. But \mathcal{T}' is closed under quotients. This gives $\text{cok}(f) \in \mathcal{T}'$, and so $\Im Z_{s_0}(\text{cok}(f)) \geq 0$, a contradiction.

Therefore, we have an exact sequence in \mathcal{C}

$$0 \rightarrow k(x) \rightarrow F[1] \rightarrow Q_0[1] \rightarrow 0,$$

for some $Q_0[1] \in \mathcal{C}$. Since Q_0 is then an extension of $k(x)$ by F , it also belongs to \mathcal{A} . Hence, $Q_0 \in \mathcal{A} \cap (\mathcal{C}[-1]) = \mathcal{F}$ and $Z_{s_0}(Q_0) = Z_{s_0}(F) - 1$. But, for $y \in D$, $y \neq x$, we have $\text{Hom}(k(y), Q_0[1]) \neq 0$. We can repeat the previous argument and construct a sequence of $Q_m \in \mathcal{F}$, $m \in \mathbb{N}$, with

$$Z_{s_0}(Q_m) = Z_{s_0}(Q_{m-1}) - 1 = \dots = Z_{s_0}(F) - m - 1.$$

But, for $m \gg 0$, $Z_{s_0}(Q_m) < 0$, a contradiction to $Q_m \in \mathcal{F}$. \square

In the next section, we will apply Proposition 8.1.1 together with Proposition 7.4.1 to give some examples in which Conjecture 3.2.6 is verified.

8.2. The projective space. Consider the projective space \mathbb{P}^3 . For simplicity, let us fix $B = 0$, so that $\text{ch}^B = \text{ch}$. Identifying $\text{Num}_{\mathbb{Q}}(\mathbb{P}^3)$ with $\mathbb{Q}^{\oplus 4}$ in the obvious way, we define the central charge $Z^{s,t}$ for $s \in \mathbb{Q}, t \in \mathbb{Q}_{>0}$ by

$$Z^{s,t}(-) = (-\text{ch}_3(-) + s \text{ch}_1(-)) + i(\text{ch}_2(-) - t \text{rk}(-)).$$

The central charge $Z_{\omega,0}$ of equation (2) corresponds to the choices of $t = \frac{\omega^2}{6}$ $s = \frac{\omega^2}{2}$, up to an overall multiplication of the imaginary part of $Z_{\omega,B}$ by ω^{-1} . (The last operation is part of the $\widetilde{\text{GL}}_2(\mathbb{R})$ -action on the set of stability conditions defined in [Bri07], and does not affect the set of stable objects.)

Given $t \in \mathbb{Q}$, consider the abelian category $\mathcal{A}_t = \mathcal{A}_{\omega,0}$ for $t = \frac{\omega^2}{6}$ constructed as before—the only difference is that we only assume ω^2 to be a rational number. Conjecture 3.2.6 then reads as follows: The pair $(Z^{s,t}, \mathcal{A}_t)$ is a Bridgeland stability condition on $\text{D}^b(\mathbb{P}^3)$ for $s = 3t$. Our goal is to use Proposition 8.1.1 to prove a strengthening of Conjecture 3.2.6 in this case:

Theorem 8.2.1. *Let $s, t \in \mathbb{Q}$ be such that $0 < t < \frac{1}{2}$ and*

$$s > \frac{7t - 2}{6(t + 1)}.$$

Then the pair $(Z^{s,t}, \mathcal{A}_t)$ defines a stability condition on $\text{D}^b(\mathbb{P}^3)$.

Since $s = 3t$ satisfies the above inequality for $0 < t < \frac{1}{2}$, this proves Conjecture 3.2.6 for $\omega < \sqrt{3}$. Moreover:

Remark 8.2.2. The strong Conjecture 1.3.1 for given ω and $B = 0$ holds if and only if the pair $(Z^{s,t}, \mathcal{A}_t)$ defines a stability condition for $t = \frac{\omega^2}{6}$ and $s = \frac{t}{3}$. Indeed, with this choice, a tilt-stable objects $E \in \mathcal{B}_{\omega,0}$ with $\nu_{\omega,0}(E) = 0$ satisfy $Z^{s,t}(E) > 0$ if and only if $\text{ch}_3(E) < s \text{ch}_1(E) = \frac{\omega^2}{18} \text{ch}_1(E)$. Since $\frac{t}{3} > \frac{7t-2}{6(t+1)}$ for $t < \frac{1}{2}$, Theorem 8.2.1 actually proves the strong Conjecture for $\omega < \sqrt{3}$.

Notice that, for $(s, t) = (1/6, 1/2)$, we have $Z^{1/6, 1/2}(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^3}(1)) = 0$, and so, by Lemma 8.2.3 below, the function $Z^{1/6, 1/2}$ does not define a stability condition.

To prove Theorem 8.2.1, recall that, by a classical result of Beilinson, on $\text{D}^b(\mathbb{P}^3)$ we have a bounded t -structure with heart given by

$$\mathcal{C} := \langle \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^3}(-1)[3], \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^3}[2], \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^3}(1)[1], \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^3}(2) \rangle.$$

An easy computation shows the following:

Lemma 8.2.3. *Assume $0 < t < 1/2$ and*

$$(45) \quad \frac{7t - 2}{6(t + 1)} < s \leq 1/6.$$

Then the pair $\sigma_Q := (Z^{s,t}, \mathcal{P}_Q) = (Z^{s,t}, \mathcal{C})$ defines a stability condition on $D^b(\mathbb{P}^3)$. The skyscraper sheaves $k(x)$, $x \in \mathbb{P}^3$, are σ_Q -stable of phase 1.

Proof. (Theorem 8.2.1) Let s_0 be a rational number satisfying the inequalities (45). We want to apply Proposition 8.1.1 to $Z^{s_0,t}$, \mathcal{A}_t , and \mathcal{C} . First of all, assumptions (a) and (c) in Proposition 8.1.1 follow directly from Lemma 8.2.3, where $\phi_0 := \frac{1}{\pi} \arg Z^{s,t}(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^3}(1)) \in (0, 1)$ is the phase of $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^3}(1)$. Hence, we only need to show (b). But, as an easy consequence of Proposition 7.4.1, we have that the following objects are in \mathcal{A}_t :

- $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^3}(k)$, for $k \geq 1$,
- $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^3}[1]$,
- $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^3}(k)[2]$, for $k \leq -1$.

Hence, since \mathcal{C} is the category generated by extensions by $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^3}(-1)[3]$, $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^3}[2]$, $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^3}(1)[1]$, and $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^3}(2)$, we have

$$\mathcal{C} \subset \langle \mathcal{A}_t, \mathcal{A}_t[1] \rangle,$$

as wanted (see Figure 3). □

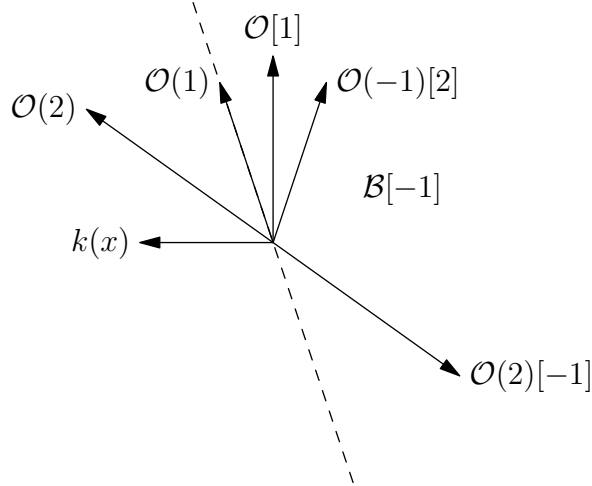


FIGURE 3. Tilting \mathcal{A} .

Remark 8.2.4. Notice that, if $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}_t$ denotes the tilt of \mathcal{C} given by

$$\tilde{\mathcal{A}}_t := \mathcal{P}_Q((0, 1]),$$

then, for $0 < t < 1/2$, we have $\mathcal{A}_t = \tilde{\mathcal{A}}_t$. Moreover, this shows the existence of stability conditions on $D^b(\mathbb{P}^3)$ for all irrational t and s satisfying inequalities (45).

Remark 8.2.5. The proof given in this section is in principle generalizable to other threefolds admitting a strong full exceptional collection. An example is the quadric threefold $i_Q : Q \hookrightarrow \mathbb{P}^4$. Denote by S the spinor vector bundle of [Kap88], defined by an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^4}(-1)^{\oplus 4} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^4}^{\oplus 4} \rightarrow (i_Q)_*S \rightarrow 0.$$

Then, for example, we have a strong full exceptional collection

$$\{\mathcal{O}_Q(-1), S(-1), \mathcal{O}_Q, \mathcal{O}_Q(1)\},$$

where $\mathcal{O}_Q(1) := \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^4}(1)|_Q$. Identify $\text{Pic}(Q) \cong \mathbb{Z}$ with generator the hyperplane section h_Q , and set $B = -\frac{1}{2}h_Q$. By considering the heart

$$\mathcal{C} := \langle \mathcal{O}_Q(-1)[3], S(-1)[2], \mathcal{O}_Q[1], \mathcal{O}_Q(1) \rangle,$$

we have, by Proposition 8.1.1, that $Z_{\omega, B}$ is a stability condition for $\omega^3 < \frac{1}{12\sqrt{3}}$. (Indeed, all line bundles belong to $\mathcal{A}_{\omega, B}$ up to shift by Proposition 7.4.1 and $S(-1)[1] \in \mathcal{A}_{\omega, B}$ by our choice of B . The rest is precisely the same argument as in Theorem 8.2.1.)

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