

STUDENT SEMINAR: MODULI OF VECTOR BUNDLES

XIAOXIANG ZHOU

Talk 1: Introduction.

Talk 2: Explicit constructions of semistable bundles on elliptic curves. In this talk, we introduce semistability of vector bundle on curves, and provide first non-trivial example of semistable vector bundles.

- Define slope stability [MS17, Definition 2.3]. State some basic properties, e.g., [MS17, Exercise 2.4], [Pol03, 14.1].
- Recall the classification of vector bundles on \mathbb{P}^1 , and determine when they are (semi)stable.
- Show the picture of Ford circles.¹ Fix an elliptic curve (E, p_0) . For each rational number $\mu = \frac{d}{r} > 0$, construct a stable vector bundle V_μ of rank r and degree d such that $\det V_\mu \cong \mathcal{O}_E(dp_0)$. [Pol03, 14.3]
- Verify the stability of V_μ by induction. Shows that

$$\dim \text{Hom}(V_{\mu_1}, V_{\mu_2}) = \dim \text{Ext}^1(V_{\mu_2}, V_{\mu_1}) = \begin{cases} d_2 r_1 - d_1 r_2, & \mu_1 < \mu_2 \\ 1, & \mu_1 = \mu_2 \\ 0, & \mu_1 > \mu_2. \end{cases}$$

Discuss further properties, including [Pol03, Corollary 14.11]. In particular, describe $H^\bullet(V_\mu)$.

- Fix an elliptic curve (E, p_0) . For each $r \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$, construct a semistable vector bundle F_r of rank r and degree 0 such that $\det F_r \cong \mathcal{O}_E$.
- Verify the semistability of F_r by induction. Shows that

$$\dim \text{Hom}(F_{r_1}, F_{r_2}) = \dim \text{Ext}^1(F_{r_2}, F_{r_1}) = 1.$$

Describe $H^\bullet(F_r)$. Using the Riemann–Roch for vector bundles and the “stability vanishing” (or by the tedious long exact sequences argument), show that

$$\dim \text{Hom}(F_{r'}, V_\mu) = \dim \text{Ext}^1(V_\mu, F_{r'}) = \begin{cases} 0, & \mu < 0 \\ 1, & \mu = 0 \\ dr', & \mu > 0, \end{cases}$$

$$\dim \text{Hom}(V_\mu, F_{r'}) = \dim \text{Ext}^1(F_{r'}, V_\mu) = \begin{cases} -dr', & \mu < 0 \\ 1, & \mu = 0 \\ 0, & \mu > 0. \end{cases}$$

- For each $r \geq 1$ and $\mathcal{L} \in \text{Pic}^0(E)$, construct a semistable vector bundle $V_{r,\mathcal{L}}$ of rank r with $\det V_{r,\mathcal{L}} \cong \mathcal{L}$.²
- Conclude the talk by stating [MS17, Example 2.7] as a theorem.³

Date: February 14, 2026.

¹Bonus question: is there any easy way to compute the distance between two circles?

²hint: You can find \mathcal{L}' satisfying $\mathcal{L}'^{\otimes r} \cong \mathcal{L}$.

³We will not prove this theorem in this talk. The uniqueness of V_μ will be established in the next talk.

Talk 3: Fourier–Mukai transform on elliptic curve. The goal is to complete the classification of vector bundles on elliptic curves via the Fourier–Mukai transform.

- Define Fourier–Mukai transform Φ_K [Pol03, Chapter 11].
- Describe $\Phi_K \circ \Phi_L$ and the right adjoint of Φ_K . Show that if A, B are abelian varieties of dimension n and $K \in \text{Pic}(A \times B)$ is a line bundle, then both adjoints of Φ_K are given by $\Phi_{K^{-1}[n]}$.
- (Skip this to save time) Sketch the proof of [Pol03, Theorem 11.4] in the case A, B are elliptic curves and $S = \{\ast\}$, i.e., show that

$$\Phi_K \circ \Phi_{K^{-1}[g]} \cong \text{Id}_{D^b(B)}$$

when the following conditions for K are satisfied: $K \in \text{Pic}(A \times B)$ is a biextension, and the maximal subscheme $S \subseteq B$ satisfying $K_{A \times S} \cong \mathcal{O}_{A \times S}$ is $\{\text{Id}_B\}$.

Assume A is an abelian variety of dimension n from now on.

- Define the Poincaré line bundle $\mathcal{P} \in \text{Pic}(A \times \hat{A})$ [BL04, before Theorem 2.5.1] and recall its basic properties [BL04, Proposition 2.5.2].
- Set $\mathcal{S} = \mathcal{S}_A = \Phi_{\mathcal{P}}$. List key properties of \mathcal{S} , e.g., [Pol03, (11.3.1)–(11.3.4), Theorem 11.6, Exercise 7 in p149], and the convolution identity

$$\mathcal{S}(\mathcal{F}) \otimes \mathcal{S}(\mathcal{G}) \cong \mathcal{S}(\mathcal{F} * \mathcal{G}) \quad [\text{Pol03, p141}]$$

- \mathcal{S} induces equivalences between subcategories of $D^b(A)$. Mention [Pol03, Proposition 11.8, Lemma 14.6, Theorem 14.7], and explain how they yield a classification of vector bundles on elliptic curves.
- Describe $\mathcal{S}(V_{r,\mathcal{L}})$ explicitly.
- Fix a non-degenerate line bundle $\mathcal{L} \in \text{Pic}(A)$. Discuss the $\widetilde{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$ -action on $D^b(A)$ and describe $\gamma(\mathcal{F})$ for special $\gamma \in \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$ and $\mathcal{F} \in D^b(A)$ [Pol03, 11.5]. Here, $\widetilde{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$ is the central extension of $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$ by \mathbb{Z} :

$$\widetilde{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}) = \left\langle \widetilde{S}, \widetilde{T}, c = [-1] \mid \widetilde{S}^4 = 2g \cdot c, (\widetilde{T}\widetilde{S})^3 = (i(\mathcal{L}) + n)c \right\rangle$$

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z} \longrightarrow \widetilde{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}) \longrightarrow SL_2(\mathbb{Z}) \longrightarrow 0$$

where $i(\mathcal{L}) \in \mathbb{Z}$ is the integer such that $H^{i(\mathcal{L})}(A; \mathcal{L}) \neq 0$.

If time is short, the speaker can focus on the elliptic curve case and skip all technical proofs.

Talk 4: Vector bundles on curves of genus ≥ 2 . [MS17, 2.3 & 2.5] In this talk, we describe the moduli space of vector bundles over a curve of genus ≥ 2 , focusing on some special cases [MS17, Examples 2.18–2.20].

- Begin by defining the moduli functor [MS17, Definition 2.9], and mention its representability [MS17, Theorem 2.10] [LLPZ24, Theorem 1.3] (you can also put mention about other properties of $M_C(r, d)$ in the end of the talk).
- Mention about the topological classification of vector bundles, see [LP97, Theorem 3.4.1].

Now fix a curve C of genus 2.

- Explain why $M_C(2, \mathcal{O}_C) \cong \mathbb{P}^3$.
- Sketch why $M_C(2, \mathcal{L}) \cong Q_1 \cap Q_2 \subset \mathbb{P}^5$, where \mathcal{L} is a line bundle of degree 1. Discuss the connection to semiorthogonal decompositions.
- If time permits, outline the relation between $M_C(3, \mathcal{O}_C)$ and the Coble cubic hypersurface.

Talk 5: Semistable sheaves of degree 0. [MS17, 2.4] This talk is centered on [MS17, Theorem 2.14] and its surrounding results. I regard it as the coherent counterpart of the Riemann–Hilbert correspondence.

- Present and prove [MS17, Theorem 2.14].
- Illustrate [MS17, Theorem 2.14] explicitly in the cases of elliptic curves and curves of genus 2.

- Briefly discuss the generalization in [NS65, Theorem 2].
- Discuss equivalent notions of stability for curves.

Talk 6: Stability manifold of \mathbb{P}^1 . This talk introduces Bridgeland stability conditions and discusses $\text{Stab}(\mathbb{P}^1)$ in detail. The standard reference is [Oka06, GKR04]; you may also consult my notes [2025.07.13].

- Define (locally finite) stability conditions on a triangulated category \mathcal{T} and denote the space by $\text{Stab}(\mathcal{T})$.
- Show that the usual slope stability on $\text{Coh}(\mathbb{P}^1)$ defines a stability condition $(Z_0, \mathcal{P}_0) \in \text{Stab}(\mathbb{P}^1)$.
- Discuss the \mathbb{C} action on $\text{Stab}(\mathcal{T})$. In the case of \mathbb{P}^1 , restrict to the orbit of (Z_0, \mathcal{P}_0) and describe how the heart changes. Note that semistability of objects remains unchanged under this action.
- Classify stability conditions where all line bundles and torsion sheaves are semistable.⁴ Describe the \mathbb{Z} action via tensoring with $\mathcal{O}(1)$, and the locus where \mathcal{O} is semistable but not stable.
- State [Oka06, Lemma 3.1(d)].⁵ Give a description of all remaining stability conditions.
- Define walls in $\text{Stab}(\mathbb{P}^1)$ and explain wall-crossing behavior.
- If time permits, briefly discuss stability conditions on other curves.

Talk 7: Equivariant vector bundles on Grassmannian. This talk aims to construct a family of vector bundles for later discussion.

- Realize the Grassmannian as GL_n/P and the flag variety as GL_n/B . More generally, denote by X a GL_n -homogeneous space.
- Introduce the character lattice $X^*(T)$, and for each $\chi \in X^*(T)$, construct a representation of B .
- Explain how a representation of G decomposes when restricted to T , and illustrate this via Lievis.
- Introduce the Weyl group $W = N(T)/T$ and show that $W \cong S_n$ in the case of GL_n . Define the Weyl chamber and illustrate it in examples.
- State the highest weight theorem:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \{\text{fin-dim irr reps of } \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{C})\} & \xleftrightarrow{1:1} & \{\text{dominant wts in } X^*(T)\} \\ & \longleftrightarrow & \{(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n) \in \mathbb{Z}^n \mid \lambda_1 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_n\} \\ V_\lambda & \longleftrightarrow & \lambda \end{array}$$

- Given $(\rho, V) \in \text{rep}(P)$, construct an associated vector bundle over GL_n/P . What is its rank? When $n = 2$, what is its degree?
- Define G -equivariant vector bundles over X , and exhibit an example over \mathbb{P}^2 that fails to be G -equivariant.
- Shows that

$$\text{rep}(P) \xleftrightarrow{1:1} \{G\text{-equiv vector bundles over } \text{Gr}(r, n)\}.$$

Identify the representations corresponding to the vector bundles $\mathcal{O}_{\text{Gr}(r, n)}$, \mathcal{S} , \mathcal{Q} , $\Omega_{\text{Gr}(r, n)}$, and $\omega_{\text{Gr}(r, n)}$.

- State the Borel–Weil–Bott theorem, and, if time allows, apply it to the aforementioned vector bundles.

⁴Hint: without loss of generality assume that $Z(\mathcal{O}(-1)) = 1$ and $\phi(\mathcal{O}(-1)) = 0$, show that

$$Z(\mathcal{O}) \in \mathcal{H} \sqcup \mathbb{R} \setminus \left(\left\{ 1 \pm \frac{1}{n} \mid n \in \mathbb{N}_{>0} \right\} \sqcup \{1\} \right).$$

⁵Bonus point if you prove this in your notes!

Talk 8: Chern characters. This talk introduces key numerical invariants—Chern characters, the Mukai vector, and exceptional/spherical sheaves—which will play a central role in the theory developed in the upcoming talks. You’re encouraged to compute examples from the previous talk or from my notes [2025.01.26].

- Introduce the invariants $c(E)$, $\text{ch}(E)$, and $\text{td}(E)$, and explain how they behave under short exact sequences and the six functors.
- State Grothendieck–Riemann–Roch (GRR), and derive Hirzebruch–Riemann–Roch (HRR), Riemann–Roch for surfaces, and Riemann–Roch for curves.
- Recall Serre duality.
- Compute these invariants for the skyscraper sheaf on a surface, and computes $\text{Ext}^i(\kappa_p, \mathcal{O}_X)$.
- Define the Mukai vector and Mukai pairing (see [Huy06, p133, p172], [MS17, p40] and [Bay18, p6]), and relate them to the Riemann–Roch formula.
- Define exceptional and spherical sheaves, and classify such sheaves on smooth projective curves.
- Explore how to compute these numerical invariants in practice using Macaulay2.

Talk 9: Exceptional vector bundles on \mathbb{P}^2 . [GR87] and [LZ19, §1.1] This talk explores the structure and classification of exceptional vector bundles on \mathbb{P}^2 .

- Recall the definition of an exceptional sheaf. Show that any exceptional vector bundle E on \mathbb{P}^2 satisfies

$$\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\text{ch}_1(E)}{\text{ch}_0(E)} \right)^2 - \frac{\text{ch}_2(E)}{\text{ch}_0(E)} = 0.$$

- Present the numerical results from [GR87, §4, §5]. In particular, show that for an exceptional pair (E_1, E_2) (see [GR87, Definition 1.2]),

$$\chi(E_2, E_1) = r_1 r_2 \left(1 + \frac{3}{2}(\mu_1 - \mu_2) + \frac{1}{2}(\mu_1 - \mu_2)^2 - \Delta_1 - \Delta_2 \right).$$

Relate this to the Markov equation.

- For each dyadic number $\frac{p}{2^m}$, construct a vector bundle $E\left(\frac{p}{2^m}\right)$ via induction. Show that $E\left(\frac{p}{2^m}\right)$ is exceptional. [GR87, Proposition 1.5]
- Show that all exceptional vector bundles on \mathbb{P}^2 arise as $E\left(\frac{p}{2^m}\right)$. [GR87, Propositions 4.4 & 4.6] Include a table of numerical invariants for representative examples.
- Compute $\text{Ext}^i\left(E\left(\frac{p}{2^m}\right), E\left(\frac{q}{2^n}\right)\right)$.
- Define the Le Potier curve C_{LP} and state [LZ19, Theorem 1.8].
- State the Bogomolov inequality and verify it for coherent sheaves on \mathbb{P}^2 .

Talk 10: Stability manifold of surfaces. [MS17, §3, §6, §7] This talk presents examples of Bridgeland stability conditions on surfaces and explicitly describes some walls. If the audience forget the definition of Bridgeland stability, we may consider an additional talk beforehand, focusing on [MS17, §4, §5].

- Introduce Gieseker stability and slope stability, and illustrate their distinction through an example.
- Recall the definition of Bridgeland stability, and explain why $\text{Coh}(X)$ cannot serve as the heart of a Bridgeland stability condition [MS17, Example 4.3(2)].
- Define the tilted heart and construct a stability condition on it. State [MS17, Theorem 6.10] to make sure that $\sigma_{\omega, B}$ is indeed a Bridgeland stability condition.
- Fix an ample class H and define a slice of $\text{Stab}(X)$ via $\sigma_{\alpha, \beta} = \sigma_{\alpha H, B_0 + \beta H}$. State [MS17, Proposition 6.22], and solve [MS17, Exercise 7.3] to compute walls in concrete examples.
- If time permits, present a proof of the Bogomolov inequality.

Talk 11: coherent sheaves on surfaces. There are definitely a lot of references about this topic, here is one note online: [generalized divisors and reflexive sheaves](#)

- Define torsion sheaves, the torsion filtration, pure and reflexive sheaves, and the reflexive hull $\mathcal{F}^{\vee\vee}$. Construct the exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}^{\text{tor}} \longrightarrow \mathcal{F} \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}^{\vee\vee} \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}^{\vee\vee}/\mathcal{F} \longrightarrow 0$$

and give an example in which this sequence does not split.

- Read the first answer in this [MO question](#). Give a proof that every reflexive sheaf on a smooth projective surface is locally free. Provide an explicit example of a reflexive sheaf on a smooth threefold that is not locally free.

Talk 12: coherent sheaves on threefolds.

Talk 13: TBA. This slot is open for anyone to present on any topic related to vector bundles. The seminar is not exhaustive, and my schedule may miss interesting aspects worth sharing.

REFERENCES

- [ABGO25] Daniele Agostini, Pietro Beri, Franco Giovenzana, and Ángel David Ríos Ortiz. Coble duality for Jacobian Kummer fourfolds. Preprint, arXiv:2505.14490 [math.AG] (2025), 2025.
- [Bay18] Arend Bayer. Wall-crossing implies Brill-Noether: applications of stability conditions on surfaces. In *Algebraic geometry: Salt Lake City 2015. 2015 summer research institute in algebraic geometry, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT, USA, July 13–31, 2015. Proceedings. Part 1*, pages 3–27. Providence, RI: American Mathematical Society (AMS); Cambridge, MA: Clay Mathematics Institute, 2018.
- [BL04] Christina Birkenhake and Herbert Lange. *Complex abelian varieties*, volume 302 of *Grundlehren Math. Wiss.* Berlin: Springer, 2nd augmented ed. edition, 2004.
- [GKR04] A. L. Gorodentsev, S. A. Kuleshov, and A. N. Rudakov. t -stabilities and t -structures on triangulated categories. *Izv. Math.*, 68(4):749–781, 2004.
- [GR87] A. L. Gorodentsev and A. N. Rudakov. Exceptional vector bundles on projective spaces. *Duke Math. J.*, 54:115–130, 1987.
- [Huy06] D. Huybrechts. *Fourier-Mukai transforms in algebraic geometry*. Oxford Math. Monogr. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 2006.
- [LLPZ24] Chunyi Li, Yinbang Lin, Laura Pertusi, and Xiaolei Zhao. Higher dimensional moduli spaces on Kuznetsov components of Fano threefolds. Preprint, arXiv:2406.09124 [math.AG] (2024), 2024.
- [LP97] Joseph Le Potier. *Lectures on vector bundles*, volume 54 of *Camb. Stud. Adv. Math.* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1997.
- [LZ19] Chunyi Li and Xiaolei Zhao. Birational models of moduli spaces of coherent sheaves on the projective plane. *Geom. Topol.*, 23(1):347–426, 2019.
- [MS17] Emanuele Macrì and Benjamin Schmidt. Lectures on Bridgeland stability. In *Moduli of curves. CIMAT Guanajuato, Mexico 2016. Lecture notes of a CIMPA-ICTP school, Guanajuato, Mexico, February 22 – March 4, 2016*, pages 139–211. Cham: Springer, 2017.
- [Oka06] So Okada. Stability manifold of p^1 . *J. Algebr. Geom.*, 15(3):487–505, 2006.
- [Pol03] Alexander Polishchuk. *Abelian varieties, theta functions, and the Fourier transform*, volume 153 of *Camb. Tracts Math.* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003.

INSTITUT FÜR MATHEMATIK, HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITÄT ZU BERLIN, BERLIN, 12489, GERMANY,
Email address: email:xiaoliang.zhou@hu-berlin.de