

# MODULI SPACES OF SEMISTABLE SHEAVES ON SINGULAR GENUS 1 CURVES

DANIEL HERNÁNDEZ RUIPÉREZ, ANA CRISTINA LÓPEZ MARTÍN,  
DARÍO SÁNCHEZ GÓMEZ, AND CARLOS TEJERO PRIETO

ABSTRACT. We find some equivalences of the derived category of coherent sheaves on a Gorenstein genus one curve that preserve the (semi)-stability of pure dimensional sheaves. Using them we establish new identifications between certain Simpson moduli spaces of semistable sheaves on the curve. For rank zero, the moduli spaces are symmetric powers of the curve whilst for positive rank there are only a finite number of non-isomorphic spaces. We prove similar results for the relative semistable moduli spaces on an arbitrary genus one fibration with no conditions either on the base or on the total space. For a cycle  $E_N$  of projective lines, we show that the unique degree 0 stable sheaves are the line bundles having degree 0 on every irreducible component and the sheaves  $\mathcal{O}(-1)$  supported on one irreducible component. We also prove that the connected component of the moduli space that contains vector bundles of rank  $r$  is isomorphic to the  $r$ -th symmetric product of the rational curve with one node.

## CONTENTS

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Introduction  | 2  |
| Acknowledgements  | 4  |
| 1. Fourier-Mukai transforms preserving stability                  | 4  |
| 1.1. A non-trivial Fourier-Mukai transform on genus one curves    | 4  |
| 1.2. Preservation of the absolute stability for some equivalences | 6  |
| 1.3. Relative moduli spaces                                       | 13 |
| 2. Moduli spaces of degree zero sheaves for $E_N$                 | 14 |
| 2.1. Coherent sheaves on reducible curves                         | 14 |
| 2.2. Indecomposable torsion free sheaves on $E_N$                 | 17 |
| 2.3. Locally free sheaves on cycles                               | 18 |
| 2.4. Stable sheaves of degree zero on $E_N$                       | 18 |
| 2.5. The biggest component of the moduli space                    | 22 |
| References  | 25 |

---

*Date:* January 13, 2009.

*2000 Mathematics Subject Classification.* Primary: 18E30; Secondary: 14F05, 14J27, 14E30, 13D22, 14M05.

*Key words and phrases.* Geometric integral functors, Fourier-Mukai, Cohen-Macaulay, fully faithful, elliptic fibration, equivalence of categories, moduli, singular curves.

Work supported by research projects MTM2006-04779 (MEC), SA001A07 (JCYL) and GR46 (JCYL). A.C. López is also partially supported by a “2007-José Castillejo” grant of the Spanish Ministry for Education and Science. D. Sánchez acknowledges as well support from the European Union through the FP6 Marie Curie RTN *ENIGMA* (Contract number MRTN-CT-2004-5652).

## INTRODUCTION

Elliptic fibrations have been used in string theory, notably in connection with mirror symmetry on Calabi-Yau manifolds and D-branes. The study of relative moduli spaces of semistable sheaves on elliptic fibrations, aside from its mathematical importance, provides a geometric background to string theory. In the case of integral elliptic fibrations, a complete description is already known and among the papers considering the problem we can cite [3, 7, 8, 21].

A study of these relative spaces for a more general class of genus one fibrations (for instance, with non-irreducible fibers and even singular total spaces) turns out to be an interesting problem.

On the one hand, for sheaves of rank 1 a fairly complete study of a class of these moduli spaces (compactified relative Jacobians), including those associated to relatively minimal elliptic surfaces, was carried out by one of the authors in [23, 24] (see also [11, 12]). On the other hand, nowadays it is well understood the efficient key idea of the "spectral cover construction" discovered for the first time by Friedman-Morgan-Witten in [15] and widely used later by many authors. The method shows how useful is the theory of integral functors and Fourier-Mukai transforms in the problem. The study developed by two of the authors in [19] and [20] on relative integral functors for singular fibrations gives a new insight in this direction.

From the results in that paper one gets new information about moduli spaces of relative semistable sheaves of higher rank for a *genus one fibration*  $p: S \rightarrow B$ , that is, a projective Gorenstein morphism whose fibers are curves of arithmetic genus one and trivial dualizing sheaf but without further assumptions on  $S$  or  $B$ .

The fiber of the relative moduli space over a point  $b \in B$  is just the absolute moduli space of semistable sheaves on  $S_b$ , so that in order to start with the relative problem one has to know in advance the structure of the absolute moduli spaces for the possible degenerations of an elliptic curve. There are some cases where the structure of the singular fibers is known. For smooth elliptic surfaces over the complex numbers, the classification was given by Kodaira [22] and for smooth elliptic threefolds over a base field of characteristic different from 2 and 3, they were classified by Miranda [25]. In both cases, the possible singular fibers are plane curves of the same type, the so-called Kodaira fibers. Nevertheless, in a genus one fibration non-plane curves can appear as degenerated fibers. So that our genus one fibrations may have singular fibers other than the Kodaira fibers. The study of the moduli spaces of vector bundles on smooth elliptic dates back to Atiyah [1] and Tu [37], who proved that for an elliptic curve  $X$  there is an isomorphism  $\mathcal{M}(r, d) \cong \text{Sym}^m X$ , where  $m = \text{gcd}(r, d)$ , between the moduli space of semistable sheaves of rank  $r$  and degree  $d$  and the symmetric product of the curve. A very simple way to prove this isomorphism is by using Fourier-Mukai transforms (cf. [29, 18]). This method has been generalized to irreducible elliptic curves (i.e., rational curves with a simple node or cusp) in [2, Chapter 6]) obtaining that  $\mathcal{M}(r, d) \cong \text{Sym}^m X$ , where  $m = \text{gcd}(r, d)$  also in this case.

In the case of singular curves, the moduli spaces of semistable torsion free sheaves were first constructed and studied by Seshadri [31]; his construction can now be seen as a particular case of the general construction of the moduli spaces of semistable pure sheaves due to Simpson [34]. The properties of these moduli spaces and their degeneration properties have been studied by many authors (see, for instance, [32, 26, 27, 11, 12, 23, 24]).

The paper is divided in two parts. In the first part, we consider  $X$  an arbitrary Gorenstein genus one curve with trivial dualizing sheaf. The group of all integral functors that are exact autoequivalences of  $D_c^b(X)$  is still unknown and a criterion characterizing those Fourier- Mukai transforms that preserve semistability for a non-irreducible curve of arithmetic genus 1 seems to be a difficult problem. Here we find some equivalences of its derived category  $D_c^b(X)$  of coherent sheaves that preserve the (semi)-stability of pure dimensional sheaves. One is given by the ideal of the diagonal and the other is provided by twisting by an ample line bundle (see Theorem 1.20). Our proof follows the ideas in [7, 29] where the result was proved for a smooth elliptic curve and in [2] for an irreducible singular elliptic curve. The results of this section allow to ensure that for rank zero, the moduli spaces are the symmetric powers of the curve whilst for positive rank there are only a finite number of non-isomorphic moduli spaces (see Corollary 1.25). Unlike the case of a smooth curve, moduli spaces of semistable sheaves on a curve with many irreducible components are not normal (even in the case where the rank is 1). Its structure depends very strongly on the particular configuration of every single curve. The difficulty in determining the stability conditions for a sheaf in this case points out the relevance of the identifications of Corollary 1.25. In fact, for a curve with two irreducible components endowed with a polarization of minimal degree, they reduce the study either to the case of rank 0 or degree 0. Coming back to the relative case, the section finishes with Corollary 1.28 which establishes new identifications between certain relative Simpson moduli spaces of (semi)stable sheaves for a genus one fibration.

In the second part, we focus our study in a curve of type  $E_N$  and in the case of degree 0 which is particularly interesting as in this case semistability does not depend on the polarization. Proposition 2.3 computes the Grothendieck group of coherent sheaves for any reduced connected and projective curve whose irreducible components are isomorphic to  $\mathbb{P}^1$ . The discrete invariants corresponding to the Grothendieck group behave well with respect to Fourier-Mukai transforms and are important tools for the analysis of the moduli spaces. Although a description of all torsion-free sheaves on a cycle of projective lines  $E_N$  is known, as we mentioned above, it is by no means a trivial problem to find out which of them are semistable. For instance, contrary to what happens for an elliptic curve, semistability is not guaranteed by the simplicity of the sheaf. For  $E_1$ , that is, a rational curve with one node, this was done in [9] for the degree zero case and in [10] otherwise. Using the description of indecomposable torsion-free sheaves on  $E_N$  given in [5] and the study of semistable torsion-free sheaves on  $E_N$  and on tree-like curves of [23], Theorem 2.11 proves that the only degree 0 stable sheaves that exist are the line bundles having degree 0 on every irreducible component of  $X$  and  $\mathcal{O}_{C_i}(-1)$  for some irreducible component  $C_i$ . Then Corollary 2.13 gives the possible Jordan-Holder factors of any degree 0 semistable sheaf. In the integral case, if the sheaf is indecomposable all Jordan-Hölder factors are isomorphic to each other. This is no longer the case for cycles of projective lines. Proposition 2.16 computes the graded object of any indecomposable semistable sheaf of degree 0. The structure of the connected component of the moduli space that contains vector bundles of rank  $r$  is given in Theorem 2.20. Namely, it is isomorphic to the  $r$ -th symmetric product  $Sym^r E_1$  of the rational curve with one node. Having studied the case of degree zero, the results of the first part of the paper allow to cover other cases (see Remark 2.21). In particular, the connected component of the moduli space that contains vector bundles

of rank  $r$  and degree  $rh$ , where  $h$  is the degree of the polarization, is also isomorphic to  $\text{Sym}^r E_1$ .

In this paper, scheme means separated scheme of finite type over an algebraically closed field  $k$  of characteristic zero. By a Gorenstein or a Cohen-Macaulay morphism, we understand a *flat* morphism of schemes whose fibers are respectively Gorenstein or Cohen-Macaulay. For any scheme  $X$  we denote by  $D(X)$  the derived category of complexes of  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules with quasi-coherent cohomology sheaves. This is the essential image of the derived category of quasi-coherent sheaves in the derived category  $D(\mathfrak{Mod}(X))$  of all  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules [6, Corollary 5.5]. Analogously  $D^+(X)$ ,  $D^-(X)$  and  $D^b(X)$  denote the derived categories of complexes which are respectively bounded below, bounded above and bounded on both sides, and have quasi-coherent cohomology sheaves. The subscript  $c$  will refer to the corresponding subcategories of complexes with coherent cohomology sheaves. By a point we always mean a closed point. As it is usual, if  $x \in X$  is a point,  $\mathcal{O}_x$  denotes the skyscraper sheaf of length 1 at  $x$ , that is, the structure sheaf of  $x$  as a closed subscheme of  $X$ , while the stalk of  $\mathcal{O}_X$  at  $x$  is denoted  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$ .

**Acknowledgements.** We thank I. Burban for pointing out a mistake in the first version of this paper and for showing us the example of a simple not WIT sheaf described in Remark 1.17. We also thank C.S. Seshadri for drawing to our attention Strickland's result [35] which implies Lemma 2.19, and U.N. Bhosle for pointing out some inaccuracies and mistakes. We are also very grateful to the anonymous referee for comments and suggestions that helped us to improve the paper. The second and the third author would like to thank respectively the Warwick Mathematics Institute and the Mathematical Institute of Oxford for hospitality and very stimulating atmosphere whilst this paper was written.

## 1. FOURIER-MUKAI TRANSFORMS PRESERVING STABILITY

**1.1. A non-trivial Fourier-Mukai transform on genus one curves.** Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be proper schemes. We denote the two projections of the direct product  $X \times Y$  to  $X$  and  $Y$  by  $\pi_X$  and  $\pi_Y$ .

Let  $\mathcal{K}^\bullet$  be an object in  $D_c^b(X \times Y)$ . The integral functor of kernel  $\mathcal{K}^\bullet$  is the functor  $\Phi_{X \rightarrow Y}^{\mathcal{K}^\bullet}: D(X) \rightarrow D(Y)$  defined as

$$\Phi_{X \rightarrow Y}^{\mathcal{K}^\bullet}(\mathcal{F}^\bullet) = \mathbf{R}\pi_{Y*}(\pi_X^* \mathcal{F}^\bullet \overset{\mathbf{L}}{\otimes} \mathcal{K}^\bullet)$$

and it maps  $D^-(X)$  to  $D^-(Y)$ .

In order to determine whether an integral functor maps bounded complexes to bounded complexes, the following notion was introduced in [19].

**Definition 1.1.** Let  $f: Z \rightarrow T$  be a morphism of schemes. An object  $\mathcal{E}^\bullet$  in  $D_c^b(Z)$  is said to be of *finite homological dimension over  $T$*  if  $\mathcal{E}^\bullet \overset{\mathbf{L}}{\otimes} \mathbf{L}f^* \mathcal{G}^\bullet$  is bounded for any  $\mathcal{G}^\bullet$  in  $D_c^b(T)$ .

The proof of the following lemma can also be found in [20, Proposition 2.7].

**Lemma 1.2.** *Assume that  $X$  is a projective scheme and let  $\mathcal{K}^\bullet$  be an object in  $D_c^b(X \times Y)$ . The functor  $\Phi_{X \rightarrow Y}^{\mathcal{K}^\bullet}$  maps  $D_c^b(X)$  to  $D_c^b(Y)$  if and only if  $\mathcal{K}^\bullet$  has finite homological dimension over  $X$ .  $\square$*

Let us suppose that  $X$  is a projective Gorenstein curve with arithmetic genus  $\dim H^1(X, \mathcal{O}_X) = 1$  such that its dualizing sheaf is trivial. This includes all the so-called Kodaira fibers, that is, all singular fibers of a smooth elliptic surface over the complex numbers (classified by Kodaira in [22]) and of a smooth elliptic threefold over a base field of characteristic different from 2 and 3 (classified by Miranda in [25]). In these two cases, all fibers are plane curves. Here, we do not need to assume that our curve  $X$  is a plane curve. Notice also that an irreducible curve of arithmetic genus one has always trivial dualizing sheaf, but this is no longer true for reducible curves. Therefore in [19] we defined a genus one fibration as a projective Gorenstein morphism  $p: S \rightarrow B$  whose fibers have arithmetic genus one and trivial dualizing sheaf.

Using the theory of spherical objects by Seidel and Thomas [30], we have the following

**Proposition 1.3.** *Let  $X$  be a projective Gorenstein curve with arithmetic genus 1 and trivial dualizing sheaf. Let  $\mathcal{I}_\Delta$  be the ideal sheaf of the diagonal immersion  $\delta: X \hookrightarrow X \times X$ . One has:*

- (1) *The ideal sheaf  $\mathcal{I}_\Delta$  is an object in  $D_c^b(X \times X)$  of finite homological dimension over both factors.*
- (2) *The functor  $\Phi = \Phi_{X \rightarrow X}^{\mathcal{I}_\Delta}: D_c^b(X) \rightarrow D_c^b(X)$  is an equivalence of categories.*
- (3) *The integral functor  $\widehat{\Phi} = \Phi_{X \rightarrow X}^{\mathcal{I}_\Delta^*}: D_c^b(X) \rightarrow D_c^b(X)$  where  $\mathcal{I}_\Delta^*$  is the dual sheaf is a shift of the quasi-inverse of  $\Phi$  with  $\widehat{\Phi} \circ \Phi \simeq [-1]$  and  $\Phi \circ \widehat{\Phi} \simeq [-1]$ .*

*Proof.* (1) Denote by  $\pi_i: X \times X \rightarrow X$  with  $i = 1, 2$  the two projections. By the symmetry, to see that  $\mathcal{I}_\Delta$  is of finite homological dimension over both factors it is enough to prove it over the first one. Using the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{I}_\Delta \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{X \times X} \rightarrow \delta_* \mathcal{O}_X \rightarrow 0,$$

it suffices to see that  $\delta_* \mathcal{O}_X$  has finite homological dimension over the first factor. We have then to prove that for any bounded complex  $\mathcal{F}^\bullet$  on  $X$ , the complex  $\delta_* \mathcal{O}_X \otimes \pi_1^* \mathcal{F}^\bullet$  is also a bounded complex and this follows from the projection formula for  $\delta$ .

(2) Since  $X$  is a projective Gorenstein curve of genus one and trivial dualizing sheaf,  $\mathcal{O}_X$  is a spherical object of  $D_c^b(X)$ . By [30] the twisted functor  $T_{\mathcal{O}_X}$ , along the object  $\mathcal{O}_X$ , is an equivalence of categories. Since  $\Phi \simeq T_{\mathcal{O}_X}[-1]$ , the statement follows.

(3) By [20, Proposition 2.9], the functor  $\Phi_{X \rightarrow X}^{\mathcal{I}_\Delta^{\vee[1]}}$  is the right adjoint to  $\Phi$  where  $\mathcal{I}_\Delta^\vee = \mathbf{R}\mathcal{H}om_{\mathcal{O}_{X \times X}}^\bullet(\mathcal{I}_\Delta, \mathcal{O}_{X \times X})$  is the dual in the derived category, then it is enough to prove that  $\mathcal{I}_\Delta^\vee$  is isomorphic to  $\mathcal{I}_\Delta^*$ , the ordinary dual. Indeed, one has to check that  $\mathcal{E}xt_{\mathcal{O}_{X \times X}}^i(\mathcal{I}_\Delta, \mathcal{O}_{X \times X}) = 0$  for  $i \geq 1$ . Let us consider the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{I}_\Delta \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{X \times X} \rightarrow \delta_* \mathcal{O}_X \rightarrow 0.$$

Taking local homomorphisms in  $\mathcal{O}_{X \times X}$ , we get an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{X \times X} \rightarrow \mathcal{I}_\Delta^* \rightarrow \mathcal{E}xt_{\mathcal{O}_{X \times X}}^1(\delta_* \mathcal{O}_X, \mathcal{O}_{X \times X}) \rightarrow 0$$

and isomorphisms

$$\mathcal{E}xt_{\mathcal{O}_{X \times X}}^{i-1}(\mathcal{I}_\Delta, \mathcal{O}_{X \times X}) \simeq \mathcal{E}xt_{\mathcal{O}_{X \times X}}^i(\delta_* \mathcal{O}_X, \mathcal{O}_{X \times X}) \quad \text{for all } i > 1,$$

which proves our claim because  $X$  is Gorenstein.  $\square$

We shall use the following notation: for an integral functor  $\Phi: D_c^b(X) \rightarrow D_c^b(X)$ ,  $\Phi_j^b$  denotes the  $j$ -th cohomology sheaf of  $\Phi$ , unless confusion can arise. Remember that a

sheaf  $\mathcal{E}$  on  $X$  is said to be  $\text{WIT}_i\text{-}\Phi$  if  $\Phi(\mathcal{E}) \simeq \Phi^i(\mathcal{E})[-i]$ . In this case, we denote the unique non-zero cohomology sheaf  $\Phi^i(\mathcal{E})$  by  $\widehat{\mathcal{E}}$ .

Note that in our particular situation, since  $\mathcal{I}_\Delta$  is flat over the first factor and the fibers of  $\pi_2$  are of dimension one, for any sheaf  $\mathcal{E}$  on  $X$  one has  $\Phi^j(\mathcal{E}) = 0$  unless  $0 \leq j \leq 1$ .

We now collect some well-known properties about WIT sheaves.

**Proposition 1.4.** *The following results hold:*

(1) *There exists a Mukai spectral sequence*

$$E_2^{p,q} = \widehat{\Phi}^p(\Phi^q(\mathcal{E})) \implies \begin{cases} \mathcal{E} & \text{if } p+q=1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

(2) *Let  $\mathcal{E}$  be a  $\text{WIT}_i\text{-}\Phi$  sheaf on  $X$ . Then  $\widehat{\mathcal{E}}$  is a  $\text{WIT}_{1-i}\text{-}\widehat{\Phi}$  sheaf on  $X$  and  $\widehat{\widehat{\mathcal{E}}} = \mathcal{E}$ .*

(3) *For every sheaf  $\mathcal{E}$  on  $X$ , the sheaf  $\Phi^0(\mathcal{E})$  is  $\text{WIT}_1\text{-}\widehat{\Phi}$ , while the sheaf  $\Phi^1(\mathcal{E})$  is  $\text{WIT}_0\text{-}\widehat{\Phi}$ .*

(4) *There exists a short exact sequence*

$$0 \longrightarrow \widehat{\Phi}^1(\Phi^0(\mathcal{E})) \longrightarrow \mathcal{E} \longrightarrow \widehat{\Phi}^0(\Phi^1(\mathcal{E})) \longrightarrow 0.$$

*Proof.* (1) and (2) follow from [2, Eq. 2.35 and Prop. 2.34]. (3) is a direct consequence of (1) and (4) is the exact sequence of lower terms of the Mukai spectral sequence.  $\square$

## 1.2. Preservation of the absolute stability for some equivalences.

1.2.1. *Pure sheaves and Simpson stability.* A notion of stability and semistability for pure sheaves on a projective scheme with respect to an ample divisor was given by Simpson in [34]. He also proved the existence of the corresponding moduli spaces.

Let  $X$  be a projective scheme of dimension  $n$  over an algebraically closed field  $k$  of characteristic zero and fix  $H$  a polarization, that is, an ample divisor on  $X$ . For any coherent sheaf  $\mathcal{E}$  on  $X$ , denote  $\mathcal{E}(sH) = \mathcal{E} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X}(sH)$ .

The *Hilbert polynomial* of  $\mathcal{E}$  with respect to  $H$  is defined to be the unique polynomial  $P_{\mathcal{E}}(s) \in \mathbb{Q}[s]$  given by

$$P_{\mathcal{E}}(s) = h^0(X, \mathcal{E}(sH)) \text{ for all } s \gg 0.$$

This polynomial has the form

$$P_{\mathcal{E}}(s) = \frac{r(\mathcal{E})}{m!} s^m + \frac{d(\mathcal{E})}{(m-1)!} s^{m-1} + \dots$$

where  $r(\mathcal{E}) \geq 0$  and  $d(\mathcal{E})$  are integer numbers and its degree  $m \leq n$  is equal to the dimension of the support of  $\mathcal{E}$ .

**Definition 1.5.** A coherent sheaf  $\mathcal{E}$  is *pure* of dimension  $m$  if the support of  $\mathcal{E}$  has dimension  $m$  and the support of any nonzero subsheaf  $0 \rightarrow \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$  has dimension  $m$  as well.

When  $X$  is integral, pure sheaves of dimension  $n$  are precisely torsion-free sheaves. We can then adopt the following definition.

**Definition 1.6.** A coherent sheaf  $\mathcal{E}$  on  $X$  is *torsion-free* if it is pure of dimension  $n = \dim X$ , and it is a *torsion* sheaf if the dimension of its support is  $m < n$ .

When  $X$  is a projective curve with a fixed polarization  $H$ , the Hilbert polynomial of a coherent sheaf  $\mathcal{E}$  on  $X$  is then

$$P_{\mathcal{E}}(s) = r(\mathcal{E})s + d(\mathcal{E}) \in \mathbb{Z}[s],$$

a polynomial with integer coefficients and at most of degree one. It is constant precisely for torsion sheaves.

The (Simpson) *slope* of  $\mathcal{E}$  is defined as

$$\mu_S(\mathcal{E}) = \frac{d(\mathcal{E})}{r(\mathcal{E})}.$$

This is a rational number if  $r(\mathcal{E}) \neq 0$  and it is equal to infinity for torsion sheaves. It allows us to define (Simpson)  $\mu$ -stability and  $\mu$ -semistability for pure sheaves as usual.

**Definition 1.7.** A sheaf  $\mathcal{E}$  on  $X$  is (Simpson)  $\mu_S$ -stable (resp.  $\mu_S$ -semistable) with respect to  $H$ , if it is pure and for every proper subsheaf  $\mathcal{F} \hookrightarrow \mathcal{E}$  one has  $\mu_S(\mathcal{F}) < \mu_S(\mathcal{E})$  (resp.  $\mu_S(\mathcal{F}) \leq \mu_S(\mathcal{E})$ ).

With these definitions any torsion sheaf on  $X$  is  $\mu_S$ -semistable and it is  $\mu_S$ -stable if and only if it has no proper subsheaves, that is, it is isomorphic to  $\mathcal{O}_x$ , the structure sheaf of a point  $x \in X$ . As a particular case of Simpson's work [34], we have the following existence result. Fixing a polynomial  $P(s) = rs + d \in \mathbb{Z}[s]$ , and a polarization  $H$  on  $X$ , if the class of  $\mu_S$ -semistable sheaves on  $X$ , with respect to  $H$ , with Hilbert polynomial equal to  $P$  is non-empty, then it has a coarse moduli space  $\mathcal{M}_X(r, d)$  which is a projective scheme over  $k$ . Rational points of  $\mathcal{M}_X(r, d)$  correspond to  $S$ -equivalence classes of  $\mu_S$ -semistable sheaves with Hilbert polynomial  $P(t) = rt + d$ .

*Remark 1.8.* When  $X$  is an integral curve and  $\mathcal{E}$  is a coherent sheaf on it, one has classical notions of rank of  $\mathcal{E}$ , as the rank at the generic point of  $X$ , and degree of  $\mathcal{E}$ , as  $\chi(\mathcal{E}) - \text{rk}(\mathcal{E})\chi(\mathcal{O}_X)$ . The Riemann-Roch theorem gives us what is the relation between the coefficients of the Hilbert polynomial and the usual rank and degree of  $\mathcal{E}$ , namely

$$\begin{aligned} r(\mathcal{E}) &= \text{deg}(X) \cdot \text{rk}(\mathcal{E}) \\ d(\mathcal{E}) &= \text{deg}(\mathcal{E}) + \text{rk}(\mathcal{E}) \cdot \chi(\mathcal{O}_X) \end{aligned}$$

where  $\text{deg}(X)$  is the degree of  $X$  defined in terms of the polarization  $H$ . In this case, the Simpson notions of  $\mu_S$ -stability and  $\mu_S$ -semistability are equivalent to the usual ones for torsion-free sheaves. Thus, for integral curves  $\mu_S$ -semistability does not depend on the polarization. This is no longer true for non-integral curves (see [23] for more details).  $\triangle$

1.2.2. *Invariants of the transforms and the WIT condition.* In the rest of this section we will assume that  $X$  is a projective Gorenstein curve of arithmetic genus 1 with trivial dualizing sheaf and  $H$  is a fixed polarization on it of degree  $h$ .

Since the curve  $X$  may be a singular curve, we will work with the Hilbert polynomial of a sheaf instead of its Chern characters that might not be defined. The following proposition computes the Hilbert polynomial of the transform of  $\mathcal{E}$  by the equivalences  $\Phi$  and  $\widehat{\Phi}$  of the previous subsection and by  $\Psi = \Phi_{X \rightarrow X}^{\delta_* \mathcal{O}_X(H)}$  and  $\widehat{\Psi} = \Phi_{X \rightarrow X}^{\delta_* \mathcal{O}_X(-H)}$ . Remember that for a bounded complex  $\mathcal{F}^\bullet$ , the Euler characteristic is defined to be the alternate sum

$$\chi(\mathcal{F}^\bullet) = \sum_i (-1)^i \chi(\mathcal{H}^i(\mathcal{F}^\bullet)).$$

and the Hilbert polynomial is by definition  $P_{\mathcal{F}^\bullet}(s) = \chi(\mathcal{F}^\bullet(sH))$ .

**Proposition 1.9.** *Let  $\mathcal{E}$  be a sheaf on  $X$  with Hilbert polynomial  $P_{\mathcal{E}}(s) = rs + d$ . Then*

- (1) *The Hilbert polynomial of the complex  $\Phi(\mathcal{E})$  (resp.  $\widehat{\Phi}(\mathcal{E})$ ) is equal to  $(dh - r)s - d$  (resp.  $(dh + r)s + d$ ).*
- (2) *The Hilbert polynomial of the sheaf  $\Psi(\mathcal{E})$  (resp.  $\widehat{\Psi}(\mathcal{E})$ ) is equal to  $rs + d + r$  (resp.  $rs + d - r$ ).*

*Proof.* (1) Denote  $\mathcal{O} = \mathcal{O}_{X \times X}$  and consider the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{I}_{\Delta} \rightarrow \mathcal{O} \rightarrow \delta_* \mathcal{O}_X \rightarrow 0.$$

In the derived category  $D_c^b(X)$ , this induces an exact triangle

$$(1.1) \quad \Phi(\mathcal{E}) \rightarrow \Phi_{X \rightarrow X}^{\mathcal{O}}(\mathcal{E}) \rightarrow \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \Phi(\mathcal{E})[1]$$

for any sheaf  $\mathcal{E}$  on  $X$ . Since the Euler characteristic is additive for exact triangles in the derived category, the Hilbert polynomial of the complex  $\Phi(\mathcal{E})$  is equal to

$$\chi(\Phi_{X \rightarrow X}^{\mathcal{O}}(\mathcal{E})(sH)) - (rs + d).$$

If  $p: X \rightarrow \text{Spec } k$  is the projection of  $X$  onto a point and  $\pi_i: X \times X \rightarrow X$  are the natural projections, the base-change formula for the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X \times X & \xrightarrow{\pi_1} & X \\ \pi_2 \downarrow & & \downarrow p \\ X & \xrightarrow{p} & \text{Spec } k \end{array}$$

shows that

$$(1.2) \quad \Phi_{X \rightarrow X}^{\mathcal{O}}(\mathcal{E}) = \mathbf{R}\pi_{2*}(\pi_1^* \mathcal{E}) \simeq p^* \mathbf{R}p_*(\mathcal{E}) \simeq p^* \mathbf{R}\Gamma(X, \mathcal{E}) = \mathbf{R}\Gamma(X, \mathcal{E}) \otimes_k \mathcal{O}_X.$$

Then  $\chi(\Phi_{X \rightarrow X}^{\mathcal{O}}(\mathcal{E})(sH)) = \chi(\mathbf{R}\Gamma(X, \mathcal{E}) \otimes_k \mathcal{O}_X(sH)) = \chi(\mathcal{E})\chi(\mathcal{O}_X(sH)) = d(sh)$ , and the result follows. The Hilbert polynomial of  $\widehat{\Phi}(\mathcal{E})$  is computed using that  $\Phi \circ \widehat{\Phi} \simeq [-1]$ .

(2) Since the equivalence  $\Psi$  (resp.  $\widehat{\Psi}$ ) is given by twisting by the line bundle  $\mathcal{O}_X(H)$  (resp.  $\mathcal{O}_X(-H)$ ), this part is immediate.  $\square$

*Remark 1.10.* Notice that if  $\mathcal{L}$  is an arbitrary line bundle on  $X$ , the second coefficient of the Hilbert polynomial of the transform  $\Phi_{X \rightarrow X}^{\delta_* \mathcal{L}}(\mathcal{E})$  is not in general a linear function of the coefficients  $r$  and  $d$  (see Example 2.2).  $\triangle$

Any sheaf  $\mathcal{E}$  on  $X$  is  $\text{WIT}_0\text{-}\Psi$  and  $\text{WIT}_0\text{-}\widehat{\Psi}$ . In order to prove the preservation of stability under the equivalence of  $D_c^b(X)$  defined by the ideal of the diagonal  $\mathcal{I}_{\Delta}$ , we shall need a description of semistable sheaves  $\text{WIT}_i$  with respect to the Fourier-Mukai transforms  $\Phi$  and  $\widehat{\Phi}$ .

**Corollary 1.11.** *Let  $\mathcal{E}$  be a non-zero sheaf on  $X$ .*

- (1) *If  $\mathcal{E}$  is  $\text{WIT}_0\text{-}\Phi$ , then  $\mu_S(\mathcal{E}) > 1/h$ .*
- (2) *If  $\mathcal{E}$  is  $\text{WIT}_1\text{-}\Phi$ , then  $\mu_S(\mathcal{E}) \leq 1/h$ .*
- (3) *If  $\mathcal{E}$  is  $\text{WIT}_0\text{-}\widehat{\Phi}$ , then  $\mu_S(\mathcal{E}) > -1/h$ .*
- (4) *If  $\mathcal{E}$  is  $\text{WIT}_1\text{-}\widehat{\Phi}$ , then  $\mu_S(\mathcal{E}) \leq -1/h$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $P_{\mathcal{E}}(s) = rs + d$  the Hilbert polynomial of  $\mathcal{E}$ . By Proposition 1.9, the Hilbert polynomial of  $\Phi(\mathcal{E})$  is  $P_{\Phi(\mathcal{E})}(s) = (dh - r)s - d$ . Suppose that  $\mathcal{E}$  is  $\text{WIT}_0\text{-}\Phi$ . Then  $\widehat{\mathcal{E}} = \Phi(\mathcal{E})$  and  $dh \geq r$ . If  $dh = r$ , the transform  $\widehat{\mathcal{E}}$  is a torsion sheaf of length



$-d = -r/h \leq 0$  and thus it is equal to zero. But this is absurd because  $\mathcal{E}$  is non-zero. The second statement follows straightforwardly and the proof for  $\widehat{\Phi}$  is similar.  $\square$

*Remark 1.12.* The following easy properties will be used in the rest of the section:

- (1) Torsion sheaves on  $X$  are  $\text{WIT}_0$  with respect to both equivalences  $\Phi$  and  $\widehat{\Phi}$ .
- (2) If a sheaf  $\mathcal{E}$  is  $\text{WIT}_1$  with Hilbert polynomial  $P_{\mathcal{E}}(s) = rs + d$ , then  $r \neq 0$ .

$\triangle$

**Proposition 1.13.** *If  $\mathcal{E}$  is a  $\mu_S$ -semistable sheaf on  $X$ , then*

- (1)  $\mathcal{E}$  is  $\text{WIT}_0$ - $\Phi$  if and only if  $\mu_S(\mathcal{E}) > 1/h$ .
- (2)  $\mathcal{E}$  is  $\text{WIT}_1$ - $\Phi$  if and only if  $\mu_S(\mathcal{E}) \leq 1/h$ .

*Proof.* If  $\mathcal{E}$  is a torsion sheaf, the result follows from Remark 1.12. Suppose then that  $\mathcal{E}$  is torsion-free and consider the short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \widehat{\Phi}^1(\Phi^0(\mathcal{E})) \longrightarrow \mathcal{E} \longrightarrow \widehat{\Phi}^0(\Phi^1(\mathcal{E})) \longrightarrow 0.$$

(1) The direct implication is given by Corollary 1.11. Let us prove the converse. If  $\mu_S(\mathcal{E}) > 1/h$  and  $\mathcal{E}$  is not  $\text{WIT}_0$ - $\Phi$ , by the above exact sequence  $\widehat{\Phi}^0(\Phi^1(\mathcal{E}))$  is a non-zero quotient of  $\mathcal{E}$  and  $\text{WIT}_1$ - $\Phi$ . By Corollary 1.11, its slope is  $\mu_S(\widehat{\Phi}^0(\Phi^1(\mathcal{E}))) \leq 1/h$  and consequently,  $\mu_S(\widehat{\Phi}^1(\Phi^0(\mathcal{E}))) > \mu_S(\mathcal{E})$ . This contradicts the semistability of  $\mathcal{E}$ . Thus,  $\mathcal{E}$  is  $\text{WIT}_0$ - $\Phi$ .

(2) The direct implication follows again from Corollary 1.11. For the converse we proceed as before. If  $\mu_S(\mathcal{E}) \leq 1/h$  and  $\mathcal{E}$  is not  $\text{WIT}_1$ - $\Phi$ , by the exact sequence  $\widehat{\Phi}^1(\Phi^0(\mathcal{E}))$  is a non-zero subsheaf of  $\mathcal{E}$  and  $\text{WIT}_0$ - $\Phi$ . By Corollary 1.11, its slope is  $\mu_S(\widehat{\Phi}^1(\Phi^0(\mathcal{E}))) > 1/h$  and this contradicts the semistability of  $\mathcal{E}$ . Thus,  $\mathcal{E}$  is  $\text{WIT}_1$ - $\Phi$ .  $\square$

There exists a similar result for  $\widehat{\Phi}$  whose proof is analogous.

**Proposition 1.14.** *If  $\mathcal{E}$  is a  $\mu_S$ -semistable sheaf on  $X$ , then*

- (1)  $\mathcal{E}$  is  $\text{WIT}_0$ - $\widehat{\Phi}$  if and only if  $\mu_S(\mathcal{E}) > -1/h$ .
- (2)  $\mathcal{E}$  is  $\text{WIT}_1$ - $\widehat{\Phi}$  if and only if  $\mu_S(\mathcal{E}) \leq -1/h$ .

$\square$

The following simple but useful result is known as the Parseval theorem (see for instance [2] for a proof).

**Proposition 1.15.** *Let  $\Phi: D(X) \rightarrow D(Y)$  be an exact fully faithful functor,  $\mathcal{F}$  a  $\text{WIT}_i$ - $\Phi$  sheaf and  $\mathcal{G}$  a  $\text{WIT}_j$ - $\Phi$  sheaf on  $X$ . Then for all  $k$ , one has*

$$\text{Ext}_X^k(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{G}) \simeq \text{Ext}_Y^{k+i-j}(\widehat{\mathcal{F}}, \widehat{\mathcal{G}})$$

*In particular if  $\mathcal{F}$  is a simple  $\text{WIT}$ - $\Phi$  sheaf, then the transform  $\widehat{\mathcal{F}}$  is also simple.  $\square$*

**Proposition 1.16.** *Let  $\mathcal{E}$  be a simple (resp. indecomposable) semistable sheaf on  $X$ . Then the transform  $\widehat{\mathcal{E}}$  with respect to both  $\Phi$  and  $\widehat{\Phi}$  is also a simple (resp. indecomposable) sheaf.*

*Proof.* By Propositions 1.13 and 1.14,  $\mathcal{E}$  is  $\text{WIT}$  with respect to both  $\Phi$  and  $\widehat{\Phi}$ . Then  $\widehat{\mathcal{E}}$  is indecomposable when  $\mathcal{E}$  is so. Moreover, if  $\mathcal{E}$  is simple,  $\widehat{\mathcal{E}}$  is simple by the Parseval formula (Proposition 1.15).  $\square$

1.2.3. *Preservation of (semi)stability.* If  $X$  is an irreducible curve of arithmetic genus one, the group of exact auto-equivalences of its derived category  $D_c^b(X)$  is described in [10]. As it happens for the smooth case, this group is generated by the trivial equivalences (twists by line bundles on  $X$ , automorphisms of  $X$  and the shift functor [1]) together with the Fourier-Mukai transform  $\Phi$  whose kernel is the ideal of the diagonal. Then, taking into account that on integral curves tensoring by line bundles preserves trivially the (semi)stability of sheaves, the fact that the non-trivial Fourier-Mukai functor  $\Phi$  transforms (semi)stable sheaves into (semi)stable sheaves (up to shift) and stable sheaves into stable ones (also up to shift) (cf. [2]) ensures that any auto-equivalence of the derived category  $D_c^b(X)$  preserves stability.

However, this is no longer true for non-irreducible curves. Actually, if  $X$  is a non-irreducible curve, there are examples of equivalences of  $D_c^b(X)$  that do not preserve semistability, and we can find examples of such equivalences among those of the most simple type, namely, among the equivalences  $\Phi_{X \rightarrow X}^{\delta_* \mathcal{L}}$  consisting of twisting by a line bundle  $\mathcal{L}$ .

Consider, for instance, a curve  $X$  of type  $E_2$ , that is, two rational curves meeting transversally at two points (cf. Figure 1).



FIGURE 1. The curve  $E_2$

Take a line bundle  $\mathcal{L}$  on  $X$  which has degree 2 in one irreducible component and degree  $-2$  in the other one. From Propositions 6.2 and 6.3 in [23],  $\mathcal{O}_X$  is a stable sheaf but  $\mathcal{L}$  is not even semistable. Then twisting by  $\mathcal{L}$  is a Fourier-Mukai transform which does not preserve semistability.

*Remark 1.17.* A straightforward computation shows that both  $H^0(X, \mathcal{L})$  and  $H^1(X, \mathcal{L})$  are one dimensional vector spaces. Using Equations (1.1) and (1.2) we deduce that  $\Phi(\mathcal{E})$  is a complex with two nonzero cohomology sheaves. This proves that simple (unstable) sheaves on  $X$  may fail to be WIT.  $\triangle$

Thus it is important to characterize the auto-equivalences of  $D_c^b(X)$  which preserve stability on a non-irreducible curve  $X$  of arithmetic genus 1. This seems to be a difficult task, and here we just provide non-trivial instances of such equivalences.

To begin with, note that twisting by the ample sheaf  $\mathcal{O}_X(H)$  trivially preserves stability, that is, the transform of a  $\mu_S$ -(semi)stable sheaf by the equivalences  $\Psi$  or  $\widehat{\Psi}$  is again  $\mu_S$ -(semi)stable (cf. Proposition 1.9).

In this section we prove that the non-trivial Fourier-Mukai functors  $\Phi$  and  $\widehat{\Phi}$  preserve semistability as well.

**Lemma 1.18.** *Let  $\mathcal{E}$  be a sheaf on  $X$  with Hilbert polynomial  $P_{\mathcal{E}}(s) = dhs + d$  and  $d > 0$ . Then  $\mathcal{E}$  is  $WIT_1$ - $\Phi$  if and only if  $\mathcal{E}$  is a torsion free  $\mu_S$ -semistable sheaf. Analogously if  $P_{\mathcal{E}}(s) = dhs - d$  with  $d > 0$ , then  $\mathcal{E}$  is  $WIT_1$ - $\widehat{\Phi}$  if and only if  $\mathcal{E}$  is a torsion free  $\mu_S$ -semistable sheaf.*

*Proof.* If  $\mathcal{E}$  is  $\text{WIT}_1\text{-}\Phi$ , then any subsheaf is  $\text{WIT}_1\text{-}\Phi$  as well. Since by Remark 1.12 torsion sheaves are  $\text{WIT}_0\text{-}\Phi$ , this proves that  $\mathcal{E}$  is torsion-free. Moreover, if  $\mathcal{F} \hookrightarrow \mathcal{E}$  is a subsheaf, by Corollary 1.11,  $\mu_S(\mathcal{F}) \leq 1/h = \mu_S(\mathcal{E})$ , so that  $\mathcal{E}$  is  $\mu_S$ -semistable. The converse is part of Proposition 1.13. The proof for  $\widehat{\Phi}$  is similar.  $\square$

**Proposition 1.19.** *Let  $\mathcal{T}$  a non-zero torsion sheaf on  $X$ . Then the transform  $\widehat{\mathcal{T}}$  with respect to both equivalences  $\Phi$  and  $\widehat{\Phi}$  is a torsion-free  $\mu_S$ -semistable sheaf.*

*Proof.* Since  $\mathcal{T}$  is a torsion sheaf,  $\mathcal{T}$  is  $\text{WIT}_0\text{-}\Phi$  and its Hilbert polynomial is  $P_{\mathcal{T}}(s) = d$  with  $d > 0$ . The transform  $\widehat{\mathcal{T}}$  is  $\text{WIT}_1\text{-}\widehat{\Phi}$  and, by Proposition 1.9, its Hilbert polynomial is  $P_{\widehat{\mathcal{T}}}(s) = dhs - d$ . We conclude by Lemma 1.18. The proof for  $\widehat{\Phi}$  is the same.  $\square$

We state now the result that ensures the preservation of semistability under the Fourier-Mukai transforms  $\Phi$  and  $\widehat{\Phi}$ .

**Theorem 1.20.** *Let  $X$  be a projective Gorenstein curve of arithmetic genus one and trivial dualizing sheaf. Fix a polarization  $H$  on  $X$ . Let  $\mathcal{E}$  be a pure dimensional sheaf on  $X$ . If  $\mathcal{E}$  is  $\mu_S$ -semistable with respect to  $H$ , then its transform  $\widehat{\mathcal{E}}$  with respect to both equivalences  $\Phi$  and  $\widehat{\Phi}$  is also  $\mu_S$ -semistable with respect to  $H$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $P_{\mathcal{E}}(s) = rs + d$  be the Hilbert polynomial of  $\mathcal{E}$  with respect to the fixed polarization  $H$  and, as before, denote by  $h$  the degree of  $H$ . If  $r = 0$ , the result is proved in Proposition 1.19, so that we can assume that  $\mathcal{E}$  is a torsion-free sheaf. Let us distinguish the following cases:

(1) If  $dh = r$ ,  $\widehat{\mathcal{E}}$  is a torsion sheaf and thus semistable.

(2) Suppose now that  $dh > r$ . By Proposition 1.13,  $\mathcal{E}$  is  $\text{WIT}_0\text{-}\Phi$ , so that  $\widehat{\mathcal{E}}$  is  $\text{WIT}_1\text{-}\widehat{\Phi}$ . The same argument as in Lemma 1.18 shows that  $\widehat{\mathcal{E}}$  is torsion-free. If  $\widehat{\mathcal{E}}$  is not  $\mu_S$ -semistable, there is an exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{F} \longrightarrow \widehat{\mathcal{E}} \longrightarrow \mathcal{G} \longrightarrow 0,$$

with  $\mu_S(\mathcal{G}) < \mu_S(\widehat{\mathcal{E}}) < \mu_S(\mathcal{F})$ . Moreover, the existence of Harder-Narasimhan filtrations allows us to assume that  $\mathcal{G}$  is a torsion-free  $\mu_S$ -semistable sheaf. Since  $\widehat{\mathcal{E}}$  is torsion-free and  $\text{WIT}_1\text{-}\widehat{\Phi}$ , by Proposition 1.13  $\mu_S(\widehat{\mathcal{E}}) < -1/h$  where the last inequality is strict because  $\mathcal{E}$  is torsion-free. Then  $\mathcal{G}$  is a  $\mu_S$ -semistable sheaf with  $\mu_S(\mathcal{G}) < -1/h$ , so that  $\mathcal{G}$  is  $\text{WIT}_1\text{-}\widehat{\Phi}$  by Proposition 1.14. By applying the inverse Fourier-Mukai transform one obtains that  $\mathcal{F}$  is  $\text{WIT}_1\text{-}\widehat{\Phi}$  as well and that there is an exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \widehat{\mathcal{F}} \longrightarrow \mathcal{E} \longrightarrow \widehat{\mathcal{G}} \longrightarrow 0.$$

Since  $\mathcal{E}$  is torsion-free, one has  $r(\widehat{\mathcal{F}}) \neq 0$  and  $1/h < \mu_S(\widehat{\mathcal{F}}) \leq \mu_S(\mathcal{E})$  where the first inequality is due to the fact that  $\widehat{\mathcal{F}}$  is  $\text{WIT}_0\text{-}\Phi$  and the second is by the  $\mu_S$ -semistability of  $\mathcal{E}$ . Since

$$\mu_S(\widehat{\mathcal{E}}) = \frac{\mu_S(\mathcal{E})}{1 - h\mu_S(\mathcal{E})} \quad \text{and} \quad \mu_S(\mathcal{F}) = \frac{\mu_S(\widehat{\mathcal{F}})}{1 - h\mu_S(\widehat{\mathcal{F}})},$$

one obtains  $\mu_S(\mathcal{F}) \leq \mu_S(\widehat{\mathcal{E}})$ ; this contradicts  $\mu_S(\mathcal{F}) > \mu_S(\widehat{\mathcal{E}})$ .

(3) Suppose finally that  $dh < r$ . Let us prove that  $\widehat{\mathcal{E}}$  is a torsion-free sheaf. Indeed, a torsion subsheaf  $\mathcal{T} \neq 0$  of  $\widehat{\mathcal{E}}$  should necessary be  $\text{WIT}_0\text{-}\widehat{\Phi}$  and  $\mu_S(\widehat{\mathcal{T}}) = 1/h$ . By

applying  $\widehat{\Phi}$  we obtain  $\widehat{\mathcal{T}} \hookrightarrow \mathcal{E}$  which contradicts the  $\mu_S$ -semistability of  $\mathcal{E}$ . If  $\widehat{\mathcal{E}}$  is not  $\mu_S$ -semistable, as in the previous case we can assume the existence of an exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{F} \longrightarrow \widehat{\mathcal{E}} \longrightarrow \mathcal{G} \longrightarrow 0$$

with  $\mathcal{F}$  torsion-free,  $\mathcal{G}$   $\text{WIT}_0\text{-}\widehat{\Phi}$  and  $\mu_S(\mathcal{F}) > \mu_S(\widehat{\mathcal{E}}) > \mu_S(\mathcal{G})$ . Moreover  $\widehat{\mathcal{E}}$  is  $\text{WIT}_0\text{-}\widehat{\Phi}$ , so that  $\mu_S(\mathcal{F}) > \mu_S(\widehat{\mathcal{E}}) > -1/h$ . Then  $\mathcal{F}$  is  $\text{WIT}_0\text{-}\widehat{\Phi}$ , by Proposition 1.14. Applying the inverse Fourier-Mukai transform we get the exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \widehat{\mathcal{F}} \longrightarrow \mathcal{E} \longrightarrow \widehat{\mathcal{G}} \longrightarrow 0.$$

Since  $\mu_S(\mathcal{F}) > \mu_S(\widehat{\mathcal{E}}) > -1/h$  we obtain

$$\mu_S(\widehat{\mathcal{F}}) = \frac{\mu_S(\mathcal{F})}{1 + h\mu_S(\mathcal{F})} > \frac{\mu_S(\widehat{\mathcal{E}})}{1 + h\mu_S(\widehat{\mathcal{E}})} = \mu_S(\mathcal{E}),$$

but this contradicts the fact that  $\mathcal{E}$  is  $\mu_S$ -semistable.

An analogous discussion proves the result for the Fourier-Mukai transform  $\widehat{\Phi}$ .  $\square$

The proof of the theorem implies the following consequences

**Corollary 1.21.** *Let  $\widehat{\mathcal{E}}$  be the transform of a  $\mu_S$ -semistable sheaf  $\mathcal{E}$  with respect to  $\Phi$  (resp.  $\widehat{\Phi}$ ). The following holds*

- (1) *If  $\mathcal{E}$  is a torsion-free sheaf and  $\mu_S(\mathcal{E}) \neq 1/h$  (resp.  $-1/h$ ), then  $\widehat{\mathcal{E}}$  is also torsion-free.*
- (2) *If  $\mu_S(\mathcal{E}) \neq 1/h$  (resp.  $-1/h$ ) and  $\mathcal{E}$  is  $\mu_S$ -stable, then  $\widehat{\mathcal{E}}$  is  $\mu_S$ -stable as well.*
- (3) *If  $\mu_S(\mathcal{E}) = 1/h$  (resp.  $-1/h$ ), then  $\widehat{\mathcal{E}}$  is  $\mu_S$ -stable if and only if  $d = 1$ .*

$\square$

*Remark 1.22.* Note that if  $\mathcal{E}$  is semistable with  $\mu_S(\mathcal{E}) = 1/h$ ,  $\widehat{\mathcal{E}}$  is a torsion sheaf and, even when the sheaf  $\mathcal{E}$  is stable, we can only ensure the stability of  $\widehat{\mathcal{E}}$  for  $d = 1$ . When  $d > 1$ , if  $\mathcal{E}$  is indecomposable (for instance, if it is stable), the transform  $\widehat{\mathcal{E}}$  is a torsion sheaf and it is indecomposable by Proposition 1.16; thus it is supported at a single point  $x \in X$ . If  $x$  is a smooth point, then  $\widehat{\mathcal{E}} \simeq \mathcal{O}_{X,x}/\mathfrak{m}_x^d$ . The structure of torsion sheaves supported at a singular point is much more complicated (see [9] for more details). Nevertheless, if  $\widehat{\mathcal{E}}$  is supported at a possibly singular point  $x$ , one can see by induction on the length  $d$  that  $\widehat{\mathcal{E}}$  is always  $S$ -equivalent to  $\bigoplus_d \mathcal{O}_x$ .  $\triangle$

Since the transform  $\widehat{\mathcal{O}}_x = \Phi(\mathcal{O}_x)$  is the ideal sheaf  $\mathfrak{m}_x$  of the point  $x$ , and  $\widehat{\Phi}(\mathcal{O}_x) = \mathfrak{m}_x^*$ , we deduce the following stability result.

**Corollary 1.23.** *If  $X$  is a polarized Gorenstein curve of arithmetic genus one and trivial dualizing sheaf, then the maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{m}_x$  for any point  $x \in X$  and its dual  $\mathfrak{m}_x^*$  are stable sheaves.*

*Remark 1.24.* When  $X$  is irreducible, this is a trivial fact. For Gorenstein reducible curves of arithmetic genus bigger or equal than 2, the semistability of  $\mathfrak{m}_x$  for an arbitrary point  $x$  of  $X$  has been recently proved in [13] using different techniques.  $\triangle$

The equivalences  $\Phi$  and  $\Psi$  define scheme isomorphisms between the corresponding moduli spaces:

**Corollary 1.25.** *Let  $(r, d)$  be a pair of integers with  $r \geq 0$ .*

- (1) *The Fourier-Mukai functors  $\Phi$  and  $\Psi$  induce scheme isomorphisms of moduli spaces*

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{M}_X(r, d) &\simeq \mathcal{M}_X(dh - r, -d) && \text{for } d/r > 1/h, \\ \mathcal{M}_X(r, d) &\simeq \mathcal{M}_X(-dh + r, d) && \text{for } d/r \leq 1/h, \text{ and} \\ \mathcal{M}_X(r, d) &\simeq \mathcal{M}_X(r, d + r).\end{aligned}$$

- (2) *The moduli space  $\mathcal{M}_X(r, d)$  is isomorphic either to  $\mathcal{M}_X(0, d_0) \simeq \text{Sym}^{d_0}(X)$  with  $d_0 > 0$ , or to  $\mathcal{M}_X(r_0, 0)$  with  $r_0 > 0$  or to  $\mathcal{M}_X(r_0, d_0)$  with  $2r_0/h \leq d_0 < r_0$ .*

*Proof.* For the first part see for instance [2, Corollary 2.65]. Let us prove the second one. By Remark 1.22 and arguing as in the proof of [2, Corollary 3.33], one proves that  $\mathcal{M}_X(0, d) \simeq \text{Sym}^d(X)$ . Consider the family  $B$  of all pairs of integers  $(r', d')$  with  $r' \geq 0$  that are related with  $(r, d)$  by the isomorphisms in (1). Take  $(r_0, d_0)$  in  $B$  such that  $r_0 \geq 0$  is the minimum  $r'$  among the pairs in  $B$ . If  $r_0 = 0$ , then  $d_0 > 0$  and  $\mathcal{M}_X(r, d) \simeq \mathcal{M}_X(0, d_0)$ . Assume then that  $r_0 > 0$ . Since by applying the equivalence  $\Psi$  it is possible to increase  $d$  and by applying  $\widehat{\Psi}$  to decrease it, if one considers now  $C$  as the family of all pairs in  $B$  with  $r' = r_0$ , one can choose  $d_0$  as the minimum  $d'$  among pairs in  $C$  such that  $0 \leq d_0 < r_0$ . If  $d_0 = 0$ , then  $\mathcal{M}_X(r, d) \equiv \mathcal{M}_X(r_0, 0)$ . If  $d_0 > 0$ , we claim that all the sheaves in  $\mathcal{M}_X(r_0, d_0)$  are  $\text{WIT}_0\text{-}\Phi$ . Indeed, otherwise  $r_0 \leq r_0 - d_0h$  by the choice of  $r_0$  and then  $d_0 < 0$  which contradicts our choice of  $d_0$ . Then, it has to be  $r_0 \leq d_0h - r_0$  so that  $2r_0/h \leq d_0 < r_0$  and the proof is complete.  $\square$

*Remark 1.26.* Notice that if  $X$  has only two irreducible components, as it happens for the Kodaira fibers  $E_2$  (cf. Figure 1) and  $III$ , and the polarization  $H$  has degree  $h = 2$ , Corollary 1.25 reduces the study of the moduli spaces  $\mathcal{M}_X(r, d)$  just to the case  $d = 0$ . Some results in this case can be found in the next section.  $\triangle$

*Remark 1.27.* If  $X$  is irreducible, we can take  $h = 1$ , so that  $r$  and  $d$  are the usual rank and degree. In this situation, the last case in (2) of Corollary 1.25 does not occur; moreover, there is an isomorphism  $\mathcal{M}(r_0, 0) \simeq \mathcal{M}_X(0, r_0)$ . We get then that  $\mathcal{M}(r, d) \simeq \text{Sym}^{r_0}(X)$ . Using the transforms  $\Phi$  and  $\Psi$  and the Euclid algorithm, one can see that  $r_0 = \text{gcd}(r, d)$ , as proven in [2, Chapter 6] by generalizing an argument described for smooth elliptic curves by Bridgeland [7] and Polishchuk [29]. A consequence is that there are no stable sheaves on  $X$  if  $\text{gcd}(r, d) > 1$ . As already mentioned in the introduction, a complete description of these moduli spaces can be found in [2, Chapter 6].  $\triangle$

**1.3. Relative moduli spaces.** Let  $p: S \rightarrow B$  a genus one fibration, that is, a projective Gorenstein morphism whose fibers are curves of arithmetic genus one and trivial dualizing sheaf but without further assumptions on  $S$ ,  $B$  or the fibers; in particular, non-reduced fibers are allowed. Consider the relative integral functor

$$\Phi = \Phi_{S \rightarrow S}^{\mathcal{I}_\Delta}: D_c^b(S) \rightarrow D_c^b(S),$$

with kernel the ideal sheaf  $\mathcal{I}_\Delta$  of the relative diagonal immersion  $\delta: S \hookrightarrow S \times_B S$ . By [20, Proposition 2.16], it is an equivalence of categories.

Fix a relative polarization  $\mathcal{H}$  on the fibers of  $p$  and denote  $\hat{p}: \mathcal{M}_{S/B}(r, d) \rightarrow B$  the relative coarse moduli space of  $\mu_S$ -semistable sheaves on the fibers (with respect to the induced polarization) that have Hilbert polynomial  $P(s) = rs + d$ . Closed points of the fiber  $\hat{p}^{-1}(b) = \mathcal{M}_{S_b}(r, d)$  represent  $S$ -equivalence classes of  $\mu_S$ -semistable sheaves

on the fiber  $S_b$  with Hilbert polynomial  $P(s) = rs + d$ . Denote also  $\Psi$  the relative auto-equivalence of  $D_c^b(S)$  given by twisting by the line bundle  $\mathcal{O}_{S/B}(\mathcal{H})$ .

Taking into account [2, Corollary 6.3] and Corollary 1.25, we get:

**Corollary 1.28.** *Let  $(r, d)$  be a pair of integers with  $r \geq 0$ .*

- (1) *The Fourier-Mukai functors  $\Phi$  and  $\Psi$  induce scheme isomorphisms of moduli spaces*

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M}_{S/B}(r, d) &\simeq \mathcal{M}_{S/B}(dh - r, -d) && \text{for } d/r > 1/h, \\ \mathcal{M}_{S/B}(r, d) &\simeq \mathcal{M}_{S/B}(-dh + r, d) && \text{for } d/r \leq 1/h, \text{ and} \\ \mathcal{M}_{S/B}(r, d) &\simeq \mathcal{M}_{S/B}(r, d + r). \end{aligned}$$

- (2) *The moduli space  $\mathcal{M}_{S/B}(r, d)$  is isomorphic either to  $\mathcal{M}_{S/B}(0, d_0) \simeq \text{Sym}^{d_0}(S/B)$  with  $d_0 > 0$ , or to  $\mathcal{M}_{S/B}(r_0, 0)$  with  $r_0 > 0$  or to  $\mathcal{M}_{S/B}(r_0, d_0)$  with  $2r_0/h \leq d_0 < r_0$ .*

□

## 2. MODULI SPACES OF DEGREE ZERO SHEAVES FOR $E_N$

In this section, we give a description of the connected component of the moduli space  $\mathcal{M}_X(r, 0)$  with  $r > 0$  containing vector bundles when  $X$  is a curve of type  $E_N$ , that is, a cycle of  $N$  projective lines (cf. Figure 2). The description is achieved by combining two different ingredients; the first one is the description of indecomposable torsion-free sheaves on cycles  $E_N$  given in [14, 5], and the second one is the description of (semi)stable line bundles on tree-like curves and cycles carried out by one of the authors in [24, 23].

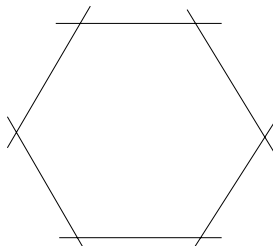


FIGURE 2. The curve  $E_6$

**2.1. Coherent sheaves on reducible curves.** We collect some results about coherent sheaves on reducible curves. Let  $X$  be any projective connected and reduced curve over an algebraically closed field  $k$ . Denote by  $C_1, \dots, C_N$  the irreducible components of  $X$  and by  $x_1, \dots, x_k$  the intersection points of  $C_1, \dots, C_N$ . Let  $\mathcal{E}$  a coherent sheaf on  $X$  and denote  $\mathcal{E}_{C_i} = (\mathcal{E} \otimes \mathcal{O}_{C_i})/\text{torsion}$  its restriction to  $C_i$  modulo torsion. Let  $r_i = r_i(\mathcal{E})$  and  $d_i = d_i(\mathcal{E})$  be the rank and the degree of  $\mathcal{E}_{C_i}$ .

**Definition 2.1.** The *multirank* and *multidegree* of a coherent sheaf  $\mathcal{E}$  on  $X$  are the  $N$ -tuples  $\underline{r}(\mathcal{E}) = (r_1, \dots, r_N)$  and  $\underline{d}(\mathcal{E}) = (d_1, \dots, d_N)$ .

Let  $H$  be a polarization on  $X$  of degree  $h$  and denote by  $h_i$  the degree of  $H$  on  $C_i$ . As in [31], for any pure dimension one sheaf  $\mathcal{E}$  on  $X$ , there is an exact sequence

$$(2.1) \quad 0 \rightarrow \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_{C_1} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathcal{E}_{C_N} \rightarrow T \rightarrow 0,$$

where  $T$  is a torsion sheaf whose support is contained in the set  $\{x_1, \dots, x_k\}$ . The first arrow in the sequence (2.1) is the composition of the canonical morphisms  $\mathcal{E} \rightarrow \pi_*(\pi^*\mathcal{E}) \rightarrow \pi_*(\pi^*\mathcal{E}/\text{tors})$ , where  $\pi$  is the normalization morphism of  $X$ .

Let  $P_{\mathcal{E}}(s) = rs + d$  be the Hilbert polynomial of  $\mathcal{E}$  with respect to  $H$ . Since the Hilbert polynomial is additive, from the above exact sequence, one obtains that

$$r = r_1 h_1 + \dots + r_N h_N.$$

Hence, there is a natural decomposition

$$(2.2) \quad \mathcal{M}_X(r, d) = \coprod_{\underline{r} \in \mathbb{Z}^N} \mathcal{M}_X(\underline{r}, d)$$

where  $\mathcal{M}_X(\underline{r}, d)$  is the moduli space of those semistable sheaves  $\mathcal{E}$  on  $X$  of multirank  $\underline{r}$  and the union runs over all  $N$ -tuples  $\underline{r} = (r_1, \dots, r_N)$  of non-negative integers such that  $r = r_1 h_1 + \dots + r_N h_N$ .

This decomposition becomes necessary in the analysis of some moduli spaces  $\mathcal{M}_X(r, d)$  because, as it was mentioned in Remark 1.10, if  $\Gamma$  is an equivalence of  $D_c^b(X)$  and  $\mathcal{E}$  is a WIT- $\Gamma$  sheaf, it is not true in general that the coefficients of the Hilbert polynomial of  $\Gamma(\mathcal{E})$  are linear functions of the coefficients of the Hilbert polynomial of  $\mathcal{E}$ . This means that the action of an arbitrary equivalence of  $D_c^b(X)$  does not send all connected components of the moduli space  $\mathcal{M}_X(r, d)$  into the same moduli space  $\mathcal{M}_X(r', d')$ . Here we have an example of this fact.

*Example 2.2.* Let  $X$  be a curve of type  $E_2$ , that is, two rational curves  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  meeting transversally at two points with a polarization  $H$  such that  $h_1 = h_2 = 1$  (Figure 1). Let  $\mathcal{L}$  be a line bundle on  $X$  with multidegree  $\underline{d}(\mathcal{L}) = (d_1, d_2)$  with  $d_1 \neq d_2$  and take  $\Gamma = \Phi_{X \rightarrow X}^{\delta_* \mathcal{L}}$  the equivalence defined by twisting by  $\mathcal{L}$ . If  $\mathcal{E}$  is a coherent sheaf on  $X$  with Hilbert polynomial  $P_{\mathcal{E}}(s) = rs + d$  and multirank  $\underline{r}(\mathcal{E}) = (r_1, r_2)$ , the Hilbert polynomial of  $\Gamma(\mathcal{E})$  is equal to  $rs + d + (r_1 d_1 + r_2 d_2)$ . Thus, the connected component  $\mathcal{M}_X((r, 0), d) \subseteq \mathcal{M}_X(r, d)$  is sent by  $\Gamma$  into the moduli space  $\mathcal{M}_X(r, d + r d_1)$  while the component  $\mathcal{M}_X((0, r), d)$  is mapped into  $\mathcal{M}(r, d + r d_2)$ .

The following proposition provides better invariants. If  $K(D_c^b(X))$  denotes the Grothendieck group of the triangulated category  $D_c^b(X)$  (cf. [17]), one has  $K(D_c^b(X)) \simeq K(\text{Coh}(X))$  and this group is usually denoted  $K_{\bullet}(X)$ .

**Proposition 2.3.** *Let  $X$  be any reduced connected and projective curve. If every irreducible component of  $X$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{P}^1$  the projective line, then there is an isomorphism  $K_{\bullet}(X) \simeq \mathbb{Z}^{N+1}$  where  $N$  is the number of irreducible components of  $X$ . Moreover the above isomorphism is defined by sending the class of any coherent sheaf  $[\mathcal{E}]$  in  $K_{\bullet}(X)$  to  $(\underline{r}(\mathcal{E}), \chi(\mathcal{E})) \in \mathbb{Z}^{N+1}$ .*

*Proof.* Let us denote by  $C_1, \dots, C_N$  the irreducible components of the curve  $X$ . Since the curve is connected and its irreducible components are isomorphic to  $\mathbb{P}^1$  we conclude that any two points are rationally equivalent, that is  $A_0(X) = \mathbb{Z}[x]$ , where  $[x]$  is the class of a point of  $X$ . On the other hand it is well known [16, Example 1.3.2] that the  $n$ -th Chow group of an  $n$ -dimensional scheme is the free abelian group on its  $n$ -dimensional irreducible components, therefore  $A_1 = \mathbb{Z}[C_1] \oplus \dots \oplus \mathbb{Z}[C_N]$ .

The normalization  $\pi: \tilde{X} \rightarrow X$  is a Chow envelope of  $X$ , thus  $\pi_*: K_{\bullet}(\tilde{X}) \rightarrow K_{\bullet}(X)$  is surjective [16, Lemma 18.3]. Since  $\tilde{X} = \tilde{C}_1 \amalg \dots \amalg \tilde{C}_N$  one has

$$K_{\bullet}(\tilde{X}) \simeq K_{\bullet}(\tilde{C}_1) \oplus \dots \oplus K_{\bullet}(\tilde{C}_N).$$

Taking into account that  $\tilde{C}_i \simeq \mathbb{P}^1$  we get  $K_\bullet(\tilde{X}) = \bigoplus_{i=1}^N \mathbb{Z}[\mathcal{O}_{\tilde{C}_i}] \oplus \mathbb{Z}[\mathcal{O}_{\tilde{x}_i}]$ , where  $\tilde{x}_i \in \tilde{C}_i$ . Given any two points  $\tilde{x}_i, \tilde{y}_i$  in  $\tilde{C}_i \simeq \mathbb{P}^1$  we know that  $[\mathcal{O}_{\tilde{x}_i}] = [\mathcal{O}_{\tilde{y}_i}]$ . Therefore, since  $X$  is connected, the surjectivity of  $\pi_*$  implies that  $K_\bullet(X)$  is generated by

$$[\mathcal{O}_{C_1}], \dots, [\mathcal{O}_{C_N}], [\mathcal{O}_x].$$

By the Riemann-Roch theorem for algebraic schemes [16, Theorem 18.3] there is a homomorphism  $\tau_X: K_\bullet(X) \rightarrow A_\bullet(X) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}$  with the following properties:

- (1) For any  $k$ -dimensional closed subvariety  $Y$  of  $X$ , one has  $\tau_X([\mathcal{O}_Y]) = [Y] +$  terms of dimension  $< k$ ,
- (2)  $(\tau_X)_{\mathbb{Q}}: K_\bullet(X) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q} \xrightarrow{\sim} A_\bullet(X) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}$  is an isomorphism.

Using the first property one easily sees that  $\{\tau_X([\mathcal{O}_{C_1}]), \dots, \tau_X([\mathcal{O}_{C_N}]), \tau_X([\mathcal{O}_x])\}$  is a basis of  $A_\bullet(X) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}$ . Taking into account that  $\{[\mathcal{O}_{C_1}], \dots, [\mathcal{O}_{C_N}], [\mathcal{O}_x]\}$  is a system of generators of  $K_\bullet(X)$ , the second property of  $\tau_X$  implies that it is also a basis.

The final statement follows now straightforwardly by applying the integer valued mapping  $(\underline{r}(-), \chi(-))$  to the basis of  $K_\bullet(X)$  above constructed.  $\square$

All the functions defining the isomorphism of Proposition 2.3, that is, the ranks  $r_i$  and the Euler characteristic  $\chi$ , are additive on exact triangles of  $D_c^b(X)$ . Hence, any equivalence  $\Gamma$  of  $D_c^b(X)$  induces a group automorphism  $\gamma$  of  $K_\bullet(X)$ , such that there is a commutative square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} D_c^b(X) & \xrightarrow{\Gamma} & D_c^b(X) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ K_\bullet(X) & \xrightarrow{\gamma} & K_\bullet(X) \end{array}$$

where the vertical arrows are the natural ones.

Note that if  $\mathcal{E}$  is a vector bundle on  $X$ , then  $\sum_{i=1}^N d_i = d$ . Thus, the category of vector bundles on  $X$  of rank  $r$  and degree  $d$  (whose Hilbert polynomial is  $P_{\mathcal{E}}(s) = rhs + d$ ) decomposes as

$$\text{VB}_X(r, d) \simeq \coprod_{\underline{d} \in \mathbb{Z}^N} \text{VB}_X(r, \underline{d}),$$

where now the union runs over all  $\underline{d} = (d_1, \dots, d_N) \in \mathbb{Z}^N$  such that  $\sum_{i=1}^N d_i = d$ . However, since for non-locally free sheaves it is not true that  $\sum_{i=1}^N d_i = d$ , there is not a similar decomposition for the moduli space  $\mathcal{M}_X(r, d)$ .

To finish this subsection, let us show how  $\mu_S$ -semistability behaves under direct and inverse images by Galois coverings of reducible curves. For non-singular projective and irreducible varieties, similar results were proved by Takemoto in [36].

**Lemma 2.4.** *Let  $X$  be a projective connected and reduced curve whose irreducible components are smooth. Let  $H$  be a polarization on  $X$  and let  $f: Y \rightarrow X$  be an étale Galois covering of degree  $n$  where  $Y$  is also connected.*

- (1) *If  $\mathcal{E}$  is a torsion-free sheaf on  $X$  such that  $f^*\mathcal{E}$  is  $\mu_S$ -semistable with respect to  $f^*H$ , then  $\mathcal{E}$  is  $\mu_S$ -semistable with respect to  $H$ .*
- (2) *A torsion-free sheaf  $\mathcal{F}$  on  $Y$  is  $\mu_S$ -semistable with respect to  $f^*H$  if and only if  $f_*(\mathcal{F})$  is  $\mu_S$ -semistable with respect to  $H$ .*



*Proof.* (1) By (2.1), if  $C_1, \dots, C_N$  are the irreducible components of  $X$ , there is an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_{C_1} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathcal{E}_{C_N} \rightarrow T \rightarrow 0,$$

where  $\mathcal{E}_{C_i}$  is a vector bundle on  $C_i$  for all  $i$  and  $T$  is a torsion sheaf. Because  $C_i$  is smooth, one has that  $P_{f^*\mathcal{E}_{C_i}}(s) = nP_{\mathcal{E}_{C_i}}(s)$ . Moreover, since  $f$  is flat,

$$0 \rightarrow f^*\mathcal{E} \rightarrow f^*\mathcal{E}_{C_1} \oplus \dots \oplus f^*\mathcal{E}_{C_r} \rightarrow f^*T \rightarrow 0$$

is also an exact sequence. Then the additivity of the Hilbert polynomial allow us to conclude that  $P_{f^*\mathcal{E}}(s) = nP_{\mathcal{E}}(s)$  where both polynomials are computed with the corresponding polarizations. Hence

$$(2.3) \quad \mu_S(f^*\mathcal{E}) = \mu_S(\mathcal{E})$$

and the result follows.

(2) By (1), to prove the direct implication it suffices to prove that  $f^*f_*(\mathcal{F})$  is semistable with respect to  $f^*H$ . Since any Galois étale covering with  $X$  and  $Y$  connected is trivialized by itself,  $f^*f_*(\mathcal{F}) = \bigoplus \rho^*\mathcal{F}$  where  $\rho$  runs over the Galois group of  $f$ . Then the result follows because any extension of two  $\mu_S$ -semistable sheaves with the same slope is  $\mu_S$ -semistable as well. The converse is true for any finite morphism.  $\square$

It is important to remark that Equation (2.3) is true because we are considering the Simpson's slope and not the usual slope, defined for a torsion-free sheaf as the quotient obtained by dividing the degree by the rank. For smooth varieties, it is a well-known fact (cf. [36]) that if  $f$  is an unramified covering then the relation between the usual slopes of  $\mathcal{E}$  and of  $f^*\mathcal{E}$  is given instead by  $\mu(f^*\mathcal{E}) = \deg f \cdot \mu(\mathcal{E})$ .

**2.2. Indecomposable torsion free sheaves on  $E_N$ .** The purpose of this subsection is just to state some known results about the classification of indecomposable vector bundles and torsion free sheaves on cycles  $E_N$  of projective lines that we shall use later. This classification was obtained for the first time by Drozd and Greuel in [14] for arbitrary base fields. Nevertheless, for algebraically closed base fields, one can find a geometric description of indecomposable torsion free sheaves on  $E_N$  in [5] that follows the classical description of vector bundles on elliptic curves given by Oda in [28] (see Theorem 2.6 below) and allows to study which of these sheaves are semistable.

Following the same argument that Atiyah used for smooth elliptic curves and taking into account that  $\text{Ext}^1(\mathcal{O}_{E_N}, \mathcal{O}_{E_N}) = k$ , it is possible to inductively prove the following result.

**Lemma 2.5.** *Let  $E_N$  be a cycle of  $N$  projective lines. For any integer  $m \geq 1$  there is a unique indecomposable vector bundle  $\mathcal{F}_m$  on  $E_N$  appearing in the exact sequence*

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_{m-1} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_m \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{E_N} \rightarrow 0, \quad \mathcal{F}_1 = \mathcal{O}_{E_N}.$$

$\square$

**Theorem 2.6.** [5, Theorem 19] *Let  $E_N$  be a cycle of  $N$  projective lines and  $I_k$  be a chain of  $k$  projective lines (cf. Figure 3). Let  $\mathcal{E}$  be an indecomposable torsion free sheaf on  $E_N$ . The following holds:*

- (1) *If  $\mathcal{E}$  is a vector bundle, there is an étale covering  $\pi_r: E_{rN} \rightarrow E_N$ , a line bundle  $\mathcal{L}$  on  $E_{rN}$  and a number  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  such that*

$$\mathcal{E} \simeq \pi_{r*}(\mathcal{L} \otimes \mathcal{F}_m).$$

The integers  $r, m$  are determined by  $\mathcal{E}$ . Moreover, when  $r > 1$  the multidegree  $\underline{d}(\mathcal{L})$  of the line bundle  $\mathcal{L}$  is non-periodic.

- (2) If  $\mathcal{E}$  is not locally free, then there exists a finite map  $p_k: I_k \rightarrow E_N$  (defined as the composition of some  $\pi_r$  and some closed immersion  $i: I_k \hookrightarrow E_{rN}$ ) and a line bundle  $\mathcal{L}$  on  $I_k$  such that  $\mathcal{E} \simeq p_{k*}(\mathcal{L})$ .

□

Remember that if  $\underline{d} = (d_1, \dots, d_N, d_{N+1}, \dots, d_{2N}, \dots, d_{(r-1)N}, \dots, d_{rN})$ , then the non-periodicity means that  $\underline{d} \neq \underline{d}[t]$  for  $t = 1, \dots, r-1$  where

$$\underline{d}[1] = (d_{N+1}, \dots, d_{2N}, \dots, d_{(r-1)N}, \dots, d_{rN}, d_1, \dots, d_N)$$

and  $\underline{d}[t] = (\underline{d}[t-1])[1]$ .

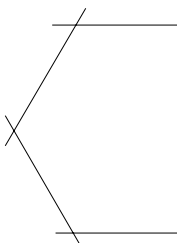


FIGURE 3. The curve  $I_4$

### 2.3. Locally free sheaves on cycles.

**Proposition 2.7.** *Let  $\mathcal{E}$  be a pure dimension one sheaf on  $E_N$ . Then*

$$\sum_{i=1}^N d_i(\mathcal{E}) - \chi(\mathcal{E}) \leq 0,$$

and  $\sum_{i=1}^N d_i(\mathcal{E}) - \chi(\mathcal{E}) = 0$  if and only if  $\mathcal{E}$  is locally free.

*Proof.* Since the function  $\sum_{i=1}^N d_i(\mathcal{E}) - \chi(\mathcal{E})$  is additive over direct sums of sheaves, we can assume that  $\mathcal{E}$  is indecomposable. We can then apply Theorem 2.6. If  $\mathcal{E}$  is not locally free, then  $\mathcal{E} \simeq p_{k*}(\mathcal{L})$ , where  $\mathcal{L}$  is a line bundle on a chain  $I_k$  of projective lines and  $p_k: I_k \rightarrow E_N$  is a finite morphism. One has  $\chi(\mathcal{E}) = \chi(\mathcal{L}) = 1 + \sum_D d(\mathcal{L}_D)$ , where the sum runs over the irreducible components  $D$  of  $I_k$ . Moreover  $\sum_D d(\mathcal{L}_D) = \sum_{i=1}^N d_i(\mathcal{E})$  and then  $\sum_{i=1}^N d_i(\mathcal{E}) - \chi(\mathcal{E}) = -1$ .

If  $\mathcal{E}$  is locally free, then  $\mathcal{E} \simeq \pi_{s*}(\mathcal{L} \otimes \mathcal{F}_m)$  for a finite morphism  $\pi_s: E_{sN} \rightarrow E_N$  and a line bundle  $\mathcal{L}$  on  $E_{sN}$ . Thus  $\chi(\mathcal{E}) = \chi(\mathcal{L} \otimes \mathcal{F}_m) = m\chi(\mathcal{L}) = m \sum_{j=1}^{sN} d(\mathcal{L}_{D_j})$ , where the sum runs over the irreducible components  $D_j$  of  $E_{sN}$ . Thus  $\sum_{i=1}^N d_i(\mathcal{E}) - \chi(\mathcal{E}) = 0$ . □

*Remark 2.8.* Proposition 2.7 is not true for the chain  $I_N$ . For any pure dimension one sheaf  $\mathcal{E}$  on  $I_N$  one has  $\sum_{i=1}^N d_i - \chi(\mathcal{E}) < 0$ . △

**2.4. Stable sheaves of degree zero on  $E_N$ .** Let  $X = E_N$  be as above, a cycle of projective lines. Suppose now that the number of irreducible components of  $X$  is  $N \geq 2$ . Fix a polarization  $H$  on  $X$  of degree  $h$  and let  $\mathcal{E}$  be a coherent sheaf on  $X$ . Since  $\chi(\mathcal{O}_X) = 0$ , the second coefficient of the Hilbert polynomial, that coincides with its Euler characteristic  $\chi(\mathcal{E})$ , can be seen in view of Remark 1.8 as its degree. Hence,

from now on, if the Hilbert polynomial of  $\mathcal{E}$  is  $P_{\mathcal{E}}(s) = rs$ , then we will refer to it as a degree 0 sheaf.

When  $r = h$ , the structure of the component  $\mathcal{M}_X((1, \dots, 1), 0) \subset \mathcal{M}_X(h, 0)$  was determined by one of the authors in [23] and [24]. There, one can find the following result.

**Lemma 2.9.** *Let  $\mathcal{E}$  be a pure dimension one sheaf on  $X$  of degree 0 and multirank  $\underline{r}(\mathcal{E}) = (1, \dots, 1)$ .*

- (1) *The (semi)stability of  $\mathcal{E}$  does not depend on the polarization.*
- (2)  *$\mathcal{E}$  is  $\mu_S$ -stable if and only if it is a line bundle and its multidegree is  $\underline{d}(\mathcal{E}) = (0, \dots, 0)$ .*
- (3) *If  $\mathcal{E}$  has multirank  $\underline{r}(\mathcal{E}) = (1, \dots, 1)$  and is strictly semistable, then its graded object is  $Gr(\mathcal{E}) \simeq \bigoplus_{i=1}^N \mathcal{O}_{C_i}(-1)$ , where  $C_1, \dots, C_N$  are the irreducible components of  $X$ .*

**Lemma 2.10.** *Let  $\mathcal{L}$  be a line bundle on  $X$ . For any integer  $m \geq 1$ , the vector bundle  $\mathcal{F}_m \otimes \mathcal{L}$  is  $\mu_S$ -semistable if and only if  $\mathcal{L}$  is  $\mu_S$ -semistable. For  $m > 1$ ,  $\mathcal{F}_m \otimes \mathcal{L}$  is never a  $\mu_S$ -stable sheaf.*

*Proof.* Using the exact sequences that define  $\mathcal{F}_m$  in Lemma 2.5 one gets that  $P_{\mathcal{F}_m \otimes \mathcal{L}}(s) = mP_{\mathcal{L}}(s)$  so that  $\mu_S(\mathcal{F}_m \otimes \mathcal{L}) = \mu_S(\mathcal{L})$  for any  $m \geq 1$ . Thus, the statement about the non-stability  $\mathcal{F}_m \otimes \mathcal{L}$  for  $m > 1$  is straightforward.

Assume that  $\mathcal{F}_m \otimes \mathcal{L}$  is  $\mu_S$ -semistable. If  $\mathcal{L}$  is not  $\mu_S$ -semistable, by Lemma 3.3 in [23], there exists a proper subcurve  $Z \subset X$  such that  $\mu_S(\mathcal{L}) > \mu_S(\mathcal{L}_Z)$  where  $\mathcal{L}_Z$  is the restriction of  $\mathcal{L}$  to  $Z$ . Since  $P_{\mathcal{F}_m \otimes \mathcal{L}_Z}(s) = mP_{\mathcal{L}_Z}(s)$ , the quotient  $\mathcal{F}_m \otimes \mathcal{L}_Z$  contradicts the semistability of  $\mathcal{F}_m \otimes \mathcal{L}$ . The converse is proved by induction on  $m$  taking into account that the category of semistable sheaves of fixed slope is closed under extensions.  $\square$

In analogy to what happens for smooth elliptic curves and irreducible projective curves of arithmetic genus one, the following theorem proves that there are no stable degree 0 sheaves of higher rank.

**Theorem 2.11.** *Let  $X$  be a polarized curve of type  $E_N$  with  $N \geq 2$ . Let  $\mathcal{E}$  be a sheaf of pure dimension 1 on  $X$  with Hilbert polynomial  $P_{\mathcal{E}}(s) = rs$  and multirank  $\underline{r}(\mathcal{E}) = (r_1, \dots, r_N)$ . If  $\mathcal{E}$  is  $\mu_S$ -stable, then either it is isomorphic to  $\mathcal{O}_{C_i}(-1)$  for some  $i = 1, \dots, N$  or it is a locally free sheaf with multirank  $\underline{r}(\mathcal{E}) = (1, \dots, 1)$  and multidegree  $\underline{d} = (0, \dots, 0)$ .*

*Proof.* Assume that  $\mathcal{E}$  is not isomorphic to any of the sheaves  $\mathcal{O}_{C_i}(-1)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, N$ . By (2.1), we have an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_{C_1} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathcal{E}_{C_N} \rightarrow T \rightarrow 0$$

where  $C_1, \dots, C_N$  denote the irreducible components of  $X$ . Let us consider a component  $C_i$  such that  $\mathcal{E}_{C_i} \neq 0$ . Then  $\mathcal{E}_{C_i}$  is a vector bundle on  $C_i \simeq \mathbb{P}^1$  of rank  $r_i$  and degree  $d_i$ , and the Grothendieck description of vector bundles on the projective line gives an isomorphism

$$\mathcal{E}_{C_i} \simeq \bigoplus_{j=1}^{r_i} \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^1}(\alpha_{i,j})$$

where the integers  $\alpha_{i,j}$  satisfy  $\sum_{j=1}^{r_i} \alpha_{i,j} = d_i$ . Moreover, since we are assuming that  $\mathcal{E}$  is not isomorphic to  $\mathcal{O}_{C_i}(-1)$ , the sheaf  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^1}(\alpha_{i,j})$  is a strict quotient of  $\mathcal{E}$  for every

$j = 1, \dots, r_i$ , and the stability of  $\mathcal{E}$  imposes that  $\alpha_{i,j} \geq 0$  so that  $d_i \geq 0$ . By Proposition 2.7,  $\mathcal{E}$  is a locally free sheaf.

It remains to show that  $r_i = 1$  for every  $i = 1, \dots, N$ . Suppose that the vector bundle  $\mathcal{E}$  has higher rank. Since any stable vector bundle is indecomposable, we can apply Theorem 2.6. Notice that we can exclude the case  $\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{L} \otimes \mathcal{F}_r$  because the sheaves  $\mathcal{L} \otimes \mathcal{F}_r$  are strictly semistable by Lemma 2.10. Then, there is an étale covering  $\pi_s: E_{sN} \rightarrow E_N$ , a line bundle  $\mathcal{L}$  on  $E_{sN}$  whose multidegree  $\underline{d}(\mathcal{L})$  is non-periodic, and a number  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ , such that

$$\mathcal{E} \simeq \pi_{s*}(\mathcal{L} \otimes \mathcal{F}_m).$$

If  $m > 1$ , the sheaf  $\pi_{s*}(\mathcal{L} \otimes \mathcal{F}_m)$  is not stable because its subsheaf  $\pi_{s*}(\mathcal{L} \otimes \mathcal{F}_{m-1})$  has the same slope. Hence,  $m = 1$  and  $\mathcal{E} \simeq \pi_{s*}(\mathcal{L})$ . Since  $\pi_s$  is a finite morphism,  $\chi(\mathcal{L}) = \chi(\mathcal{E}) = 0$ , and the stability of  $\mathcal{E}$  implies that  $\mathcal{L}$  has to be a stable line bundle. By Lemma 2.9, the multidegree of  $\mathcal{L}$  is  $\underline{d} = (0, \dots, 0)$  which contradicts the non-periodicity. Then,  $\mathcal{E}$  is a line bundle and we conclude the proof.  $\square$

This is related to the following result due to L. Bodnarchuck, presented by her in VBAC-2007: If  $\mathcal{E}$  is a simple vector bundle of rank  $r$ , multidegree  $\underline{d} = (d_1, \dots, d_N)$  and degree  $d$  on  $E_N$ , one has  $(r, d) = (r, d_1, \dots, d_N) = 1$ . Moreover, if these conditions are satisfied, the determinant gives an equivalence between the category of simple vector bundles of rank  $r$  and multidegree  $(d_1, \dots, d_N)$  on  $E_N$  and  $\text{Pic}^{\underline{d}}(E_N)$ . See [4, Thm. 1.2.2, Rem. 1.2.3] where the result is proved for Kodaira curves of type II, III and IV and stated for the cycles  $E_N$ ,  $N \leq 3$ .

Using the results on the moduli space  $\mathcal{M}_X^s((1, \dots, 1), 0)$  given in [24, Theorem 4.1] for  $r = h$ , we can summarize the structure of the open set of stable degree 0 sheaves as follows.

**Corollary 2.12.** *Let  $X$  be a curve of type  $E_N$  with  $N \geq 2$  and  $H$  a polarization on it of degree  $h$ . Let  $\mathcal{M}_X^s(r, 0)$  be the open subset of stable sheaves with Hilbert polynomial  $P(s) = rs$ . The following holds:*

- (1) *If  $r = h$ , all the components of  $\mathcal{M}_X^s(r, 0)$  given by (2.2) are empty except  $\mathcal{M}_X^s((1, \dots, 1), 0)$  which is isomorphic to the multiplicative group  $\mu = k^*$ . Moreover, the compactification of the component  $\mathcal{M}_X^s((1, \dots, 1), 0)$  is isomorphic to a rational curve with one node.*
- (2) *If  $r = h_i$  for some  $i = 1, \dots, N$ , then  $\mathcal{M}_X^s(r, 0)$  is a single point.*
- (3) *Otherwise,  $\mathcal{M}_X^s(r, 0)$  is empty.*

**Corollary 2.13.** *Let  $\mathcal{E}$  be a semistable sheaf on  $X$  with Hilbert polynomial  $P(\mathcal{E}) = rs$ . If  $\mathcal{F}$  is a Jordan-Hölder factor of  $\mathcal{E}$ , then  $\mathcal{F}$  is isomorphic either to one of the sheaves  $\mathcal{O}_{C_i}(-1)$ , where  $C_i$  are the irreducible components of  $X$ , or to a line bundle  $\mathcal{L}$  on  $X$  of multidegree  $\underline{d}(\mathcal{L}) = (0, \dots, 0)$ .*

Following the notions introduced in [10], this means that the shadows of any decomposable semistable sheaves of degree 0 contain at most 2 points.

**Corollary 2.14.** *Let  $\underline{r} = (r_1, \dots, r_N) \in \mathbb{Z}^N$  such that  $r = r_1 h_1 + \dots + r_N h_N$ . The dimension of the connected component  $\mathcal{M}((r_1, \dots, r_N), 0)$  is equal to the minimum of the  $r_i$  with  $i = 1, \dots, N$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $r_1$  is the minimum of the  $r_i$ 's. Any sheaf of the form

$$(2.4) \quad (\oplus_{i=1}^u \mathcal{L}_i) \oplus (\oplus_{j=1}^N \mathcal{O}_{C_j}(-1)^{\oplus v_j}),$$

where  $u$  is at most  $r_1$ ,  $\mathcal{L}_i$  are line bundles on  $X$  all of them of multidegree  $(0, \dots, 0)$  and  $u + v_j = r_j$  for all  $j$ , is a semistable sheaf that defines a point in  $\mathcal{M}((r_1, \dots, r_N), 0)$ . By Corollary 2.13, if  $\mathcal{E}$  is a semistable sheaf of degree 0 and multirank  $\underline{r}(\mathcal{E}) = (r_1, \dots, r_N)$ , its graded object is of the form given by Equation 2.4. Since the group of stable line bundles  $\text{Pic}_s^0(X)$  of degree 0 on  $X$  is determined by the exact sequence

$$1 \rightarrow \kappa^* \rightarrow \text{Pic}_s^0(X) \rightarrow \prod_{i=1}^N \text{Pic}^0(C_i) \rightarrow 1,$$

one gets that the dimension of this component is equal to  $r_1$ .  $\square$

In the case of a rational curve with one node or one cusp, as happens also for smooth elliptic curves, it is known [10] that all the Jordan-Hölder factors of any indecomposable sheaf are isomorphic to each other. This is no longer true for cycles  $X = E_N$  of projective lines, as we will now prove.

**Lemma 2.15.** *For  $m > 1$ , the graded object of the Atiyah indecomposable vector bundle  $\mathcal{F}_m$  is  $Gr(\mathcal{F}_m) = \oplus_{i=1}^m \mathcal{O}_X$*

*Proof.* This follows from the exact sequences that define  $\mathcal{F}_m$  in Lemma 2.5 and from the fact that the structural sheaf  $\mathcal{O}_X$  of any cycle  $X$  is stable by Lemma 2.9.  $\square$

**Proposition 2.16.** *Let  $\mathcal{E}$  be a strictly semistable indecomposable sheaf on  $X$  with Hilbert polynomial  $P(s) = rs$ . If  $\mathcal{E}$  is not locally free, its graded object is  $Gr(\mathcal{E}) \simeq \oplus_{i \in A} \mathcal{O}_{C_i}(-1)$  for a subset  $A \subseteq \{1, \dots, N\}$ . If  $\mathcal{E}$  is locally free of rank  $r$ , then  $Gr(\mathcal{E})$  is isomorphic either to  $\mathcal{L}^{\oplus r}$  for a line bundle  $\mathcal{L}$  of multidegree  $\underline{d}(\mathcal{L}) = (0, \dots, 0)$ , or to  $\oplus_{i=1}^N \mathcal{O}_{C_i}(-1)^{\oplus r}$ .*

*Proof.* If  $\mathcal{E}$  is not locally free, by Theorem 2.6,  $\mathcal{E} \simeq p_{k*}(\mathcal{L})$  where  $\mathcal{L}$  is a line bundle of degree -1 on  $I_k$  and  $k, p_k$  and  $\mathcal{L}$  are determined by  $\mathcal{E}$ . Since  $p_k = \pi_r \circ i$  for some Galois covering  $\pi_r$  and some closed immersion  $i$ , using Lemma 2.4 above and [23, Lemma 3.2], one has that  $\mathcal{E}$  is  $H$ -semistable if and only if  $\mathcal{L}$  is  $p_k^*(H)$ -semistable. By [23, Theorem 4.5], there are not stable line bundles of degree -1 on  $I_k$  and there is exactly one strictly semistable line bundle whose graded object is  $Gr(\mathcal{L}) \simeq \oplus_D \mathcal{O}_D(-1)$  where the sum runs over all the irreducible components  $D$  of  $I_k$ . Since  $p_k$  is a finite morphism,  $p_{k*}$  is an exact functor, and then the direct image by  $p_k$  of a Jordan-Hölder filtration for  $\mathcal{L}$  is a filtration for  $\mathcal{E}$ . Hence the graded object is also  $Gr(\mathcal{E}) \simeq \oplus_{i \in A} \mathcal{O}_{C_i}(-1)$  for a subset  $A \subseteq \{1, \dots, N\}$ .

Suppose now that  $\mathcal{E}$  is a vector bundle. Assume first that  $\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{L} \otimes \mathcal{F}_r$  for a line bundle  $\mathcal{L}$  of multidegree  $(0, \dots, 0)$ . By Lemma 2.10,  $\mathcal{L}$  is semistable; if it is stable, then  $Gr(\mathcal{E}) = \mathcal{L}^{\oplus r}$  by Lemma 2.15; if  $\mathcal{L}$  is strictly semistable, then its Jordan-Hölder factors are  $\mathcal{O}_{C_1}(-1), \dots, \mathcal{O}_{C_N}(-1)$  by Corollary 2.13, and again by Lemma 2.15, one has that  $Gr(\mathcal{E}) \simeq \oplus_{i=1}^N \mathcal{O}_{C_i}(-1)^{\oplus r}$ .

By Theorem 2.6, the only remaining case is when  $\mathcal{E} \simeq \pi_{s*}(\mathcal{L} \otimes \mathcal{F}_m)$  for an étale covering  $\pi_s: E_{sN} \rightarrow X = E_N$ , a line bundle  $\mathcal{L}$  on  $E_{sN}$  with degree zero and non-periodic multidegree, and a number  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ . By Lemmas 2.4 and 2.10,  $\mathcal{E}$  is  $H$ -semistable if and only if  $\mathcal{L}$  is  $\pi_r^*H$ -semistable. Using Lemma 2.9, we see that the line bundle  $\mathcal{L}$  is not stable because otherwise one would have  $\underline{d}(\mathcal{L}) = (0, \dots, 0)$  and this contradicts the non-periodicity of  $\underline{d}(\mathcal{L})$ . Proceeding as above one sees that the graded object of  $\mathcal{L} \otimes \mathcal{F}_m$  is  $\oplus \mathcal{O}_C(-1)^{\oplus m}$ , where the sum runs over all the irreducible components  $C$  of  $E_{sN}$ . Since  $\pi_s$  is a finite morphism, one sees that  $Gr(\mathcal{E}) \simeq \oplus_{i=1}^N \mathcal{O}_{C_i}(-1)^{\oplus r}$ .  $\square$

This shows that in this case there exist indecomposable vector bundles whose Jordan-Hölder factors are non-perfect.

**2.5. The biggest component of the moduli space.** In this subsection we describe completely the component  $\mathcal{M}_X((\bar{r}, \dots, \bar{r}), 0) \subset \mathcal{M}_X(r, 0)$  ( $r = \bar{r}h$ ) of semistable sheaves of multirank  $(\bar{r}, \dots, \bar{r})$  and degree zero for the curve  $E_N$  (cf. Figure 2) with respect to an arbitrary polarization  $H$ .

For any smooth elliptic curve or a rational curve with one node or one cusp, it is well known that the moduli space  $\mathcal{M}^s((1), 0)$  is isomorphic to the curve. This is no longer true for reducible fibers. In the particular case of  $E_N$ , the moduli space  $\mathcal{M}((1, \dots, 1), 0)$  is isomorphic to a rational curve with a node  $E_1$ . This was proved in [12] if  $N = 2$  and in [24] for any  $N \geq 2$ .

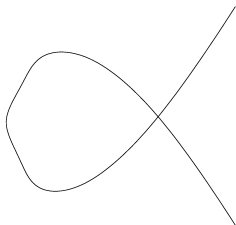


FIGURE 4. The rational curve with a node  $E_1$

Let us describe the isomorphism  $\mathcal{M}((1, \dots, 1), 0) \xrightarrow{\sim} E_1$ , following [24, Proposition 3.2], and the inverse isomorphism. Let  $C_1, \dots, C_N$  be the rational components of  $X = E_N$  ordered cyclically and let us denote by  $\gamma: X \rightarrow E_1$  the morphism which contracts  $C_2, \dots, C_N$  and gives an isomorphism  $C_1 - \{x_1, x_N\} \xrightarrow{\sim} E_1 - \{\bar{z}\}$ , where  $\{x_1, x_N\}$  are the intersection points of  $C_1$  with the other components and  $\bar{z}$  is the singular point of  $E_1$ . Let us consider the sheaf on  $X \times X$

$$(2.5) \quad \mathcal{E} = \mathcal{I}_\Delta^* \otimes \pi_1^* \mathcal{O}_X(-y_0),$$

where  $\mathcal{I}_\Delta$  is the ideal sheaf of the diagonal immersion  $\delta$ ,  $\pi_1$  is the canonical projection onto the first factor, and  $y_0$  is a fixed smooth point of  $C_1$ . For every point  $y \in X$  the restriction  $\mathcal{E}_y$  of  $\mathcal{E}$  to  $X \times \{y\}$  is a semistable pure dimension one sheaf of multirank  $(1, \dots, 1)$  and degree 0 [23, Proposition 3.2]. By [2, Corollary 2.65], the Fourier-Mukai functor  $\Phi_{X \rightarrow X}^{\mathcal{E}}$  induces a classifying morphism  $\varphi: X \rightarrow \mathcal{M}((1, \dots, 1), 0)$ . Moreover, for all points  $y \in C_2 \cup \dots \cup C_N$ , the sheaves  $\mathcal{E}_y$  are S-equivalent [24, Proposition 3.2], and then  $\varphi$  factors through a morphism

$$\bar{\varphi}: E_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{M}((1, \dots, 1), 0),$$

which one proves to be an isomorphism [24]. We shall give here a different proof (see Proposition 2.18).

The smooth points  $y \in C_1$  are mapped to stable line bundles  $\mathfrak{m}_y^* \otimes \mathcal{O}_X(-y_0)$  and all the remaining points are mapped to the strictly semistable sheaves, all of them S-equivalent to  $\mathcal{O}_{C_1}(-1) \oplus \dots \oplus \mathcal{O}_{C_N}(-1)$ .

Let us describe the action on  $D^b(X)$  of the quasi-inverse  $\Phi_{X \rightarrow X}^{\mathcal{E}^*[1]}$  of  $\Phi_{X \rightarrow X}^{\mathcal{E}}$ . Using the exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow \mathcal{I}_\Delta \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{X \times X} \rightarrow \delta_* \mathcal{O}_X \rightarrow 0$  and flat cohomology base-change, we

get for every complex  $\mathcal{F}^\bullet$  in  $D^b(X)$  an exact triangle

$$\Phi_{X \rightarrow X}^{\mathcal{E}^*[1]}(\mathcal{F}^\bullet) \rightarrow p^*(\mathbf{R}p_*(\mathcal{F}^\bullet \otimes \mathcal{O}_X(y_0)))[1] \rightarrow \mathcal{F}^\bullet \otimes \mathcal{O}_X(y_0)[1] \rightarrow \Phi_{X \rightarrow X}^{\mathcal{E}^*[1]}(\mathcal{F}^\bullet)[1],$$

where  $p$  is the projection of  $X$  onto one point. Applying this formula to the Jordan-Hölder factors  $\mathcal{O}_{C_i}(-1)$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_{X \rightarrow X}^{\mathcal{E}^*[1]}(\mathcal{O}_{C_1}(-1)) &= \mathcal{I}_{C_1}[1], \quad \mathcal{I}_{C_1} \text{ being the ideal sheaf of } C_1 \text{ in } X, \\ \Phi_{X \rightarrow X}^{\mathcal{E}^*[1]}(\mathcal{O}_{C_j}(-1)) &= \mathcal{O}_{C_j}(-1), \quad \text{for } j > 1. \end{aligned}$$

We now consider the integral functor  $D^b(X) \rightarrow D^b(E_1)$  obtained as the composition of the quasi-inverse  $\Phi_{X \rightarrow X}^{\mathcal{E}^*[1]}$  of  $\Phi_{X \rightarrow X}^{\mathcal{E}}$  and the derived push-forward  $\mathbf{R}\gamma_*: D^b(X) \rightarrow D^b(E_1)$ . This is the integral functor with kernel

$$(2.6) \quad \mathcal{K}^\bullet = \mathbf{R}(1 \times \gamma)_* \mathcal{E}^*[1].$$

**Lemma 2.17.** *If  $\mathcal{F}$  is a semistable sheaf on  $X$  of multirank  $(1, \dots, 1)$  and degree 0, then  $\Phi_{X \rightarrow E_1}^{\mathcal{K}^\bullet}(\mathcal{F}) = \mathcal{O}_z$  for a uniquely determined point  $z \in E_1$ . Moreover  $z$  is the singular point of  $E_1$  if and only if  $\mathcal{F}$  is strictly semistable.*

*Proof.* If  $\mathcal{F}$  is stable, then  $\mathcal{F} = \Phi_{X \rightarrow X}^{\mathcal{E}}(\mathcal{O}_y)$  for a smooth point  $y \in C_1$ , so that  $\Phi_{X \rightarrow E_1}^{\mathcal{K}^\bullet}(\mathcal{F}) = \mathcal{O}_{\gamma(y)}$ . Let us now compute the image of the Jordan-Hölder factors. If  $j > 1$ , the restriction of  $\gamma$  to  $C_j$  factors through the singular point  $\bar{z}$  of  $E_1$ , so that

$$\Phi_{X \rightarrow E_1}^{\mathcal{K}^\bullet}(\mathcal{O}_{C_j}(-1)) = \mathbf{R}\gamma_*(\mathcal{O}_{C_j}(-1)) = 0.$$

In the case  $j = 1$ , the ideal  $\mathcal{I}_{C_1}$  is supported on  $C_2 \cup \dots \cup C_N$  and one has  $H^0(X, \mathcal{I}_{C_1}) = 0$ ,  $\dim H^1(X, \mathcal{I}_{C_1}) = 1$ . As above, the restriction of  $\gamma$  to  $C_2 \cup \dots \cup C_N$  factors through the singular point  $\bar{z}$  of  $E_1$  and one has

$$\Phi_{X \rightarrow E_1}^{\mathcal{K}^\bullet}(\mathcal{O}_{C_1}(-1)) = \mathbf{R}\gamma_*(\mathcal{I}_{C_1})[1] = \mathcal{O}_{\bar{z}}.$$

It follows that if  $\mathcal{F}$  is strictly semistable, by applying  $\Phi_{X \rightarrow E_1}^{\mathcal{K}^\bullet}$  to a Jordan-Hölder filtration, one obtains  $\Phi_{X \rightarrow E_1}^{\mathcal{K}^\bullet}(\mathcal{F}) = \mathcal{O}_{\bar{z}}$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 2.18.** *The integral functor  $\Phi_{X \rightarrow E_1}^{\mathcal{K}^\bullet}$  induces a morphism*

$$\eta: \mathcal{M}((1, \dots, 1), 0) \rightarrow E_1,$$

*which is the inverse of  $\bar{\varphi}$ .*

*Proof.* The morphism  $\eta$  exists by Lemma 2.17 and [2, Corollary 2.65]. One checks directly that  $\eta \circ \bar{\varphi}$  coincides with the identity on the closed points. Since  $E_1$  is separated, the subscheme  $Z \hookrightarrow E_1$  of coincidences of  $\eta \circ \bar{\varphi}$  and the identity is closed; moreover the closed points are dense because  $E_1$  is projective, and thus,  $Z$  is topologically equal to  $E_1$ . Since  $E_1$  is reduced,  $Z$  is algebraically equal to  $E_1$  as well, so that  $\eta \circ \bar{\varphi}$  is equal to the identity. Taking into account that  $\mathcal{M}((1, \dots, 1), 0)$  is projective and reduced, the same argument proves that  $\bar{\varphi} \circ \eta$  is the identity as well.  $\square$

Our next aim is to find the relationship between the moduli space  $\mathcal{M}((\bar{r}, \dots, \bar{r}), 0)$  of semistable pure dimension one sheaves of multirank  $(\bar{r}, \dots, \bar{r})$  and degree 0 on a cycle  $E_N$ , and the symmetric product  $Sym^{\bar{r}} E_1$  of the rational curve with a node.

The following result is known but we could not find a suitable reference:

**Lemma 2.19.** *The moduli space  $\mathcal{M}((\bar{r}, \dots, \bar{r}), 0)$  is reduced.*  $\square$

A proof of Lemma 2.19 in the case  $\bar{r} = 2$  can be found in [31, Huitième partie, Théorème 18]. Seshadri shows also in [31] that the case  $\bar{r} > 2$  follows from a property of certain determinantal varieties, that was not proved at the time; however the property was established later by Strickland [35] and this completed the proof (cf. also [33]).

**Theorem 2.20.** *Assume  $\bar{r} > 1$ . There exists a scheme isomorphism*

$$\mathcal{M}((\bar{r}, \dots, \bar{r}), 0) \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{Sym}^{\bar{r}} E_1.$$

*Proof.* Using a smooth point  $y_0$  of  $C_1$  as above, we construct an isomorphism  $\bar{\varphi}: E_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{M}((1, \dots, 1), 0)$ . Since the direct sum of  $\bar{r}$  semistable sheaves of multirank  $(1, \dots, 1)$  and degree 0 is semistable of multirank  $(\bar{r}, \dots, \bar{r})$  and degree 0, we have a morphism

$$E_1 \times \overset{\bar{r}}{\cdots} \times E_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{M}((1, \dots, 1), 0) \times \overset{\bar{r}}{\cdots} \times \mathcal{M}((1, \dots, 1), 0) \xrightarrow{\oplus} \mathcal{M}((\bar{r}, \dots, \bar{r}), 0).$$

This morphism factors through the  $\bar{r}$ -th symmetric product  $\text{Sym}^{\bar{r}} E_1$  and then induces a morphism  $\bar{\varphi}_{\bar{r}}: \text{Sym}^{\bar{r}} E_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{M}((\bar{r}, \dots, \bar{r}), 0)$ , which is one-to-one on closed points by Corollary 2.13.

If  $\mathcal{F}$  is a semistable sheaf of multirank  $(\bar{r}, \dots, \bar{r})$  and degree 0, by Corollary 2.13, its graded object with respect to a Jordan-Hölder filtration is  $Gr(\mathcal{F}) = \mathcal{L}_1^{\oplus a_1} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathcal{L}_m^{\oplus a_m} \oplus (\bigoplus_{j=1}^N \mathcal{O}_{C_j}(-1))^{\oplus(\bar{r}-u)}$ , where  $\mathcal{L}_i$  are stable line bundles of degree 0 and  $u = a_1 + \dots + a_m$ . If  $\mathcal{K}^\bullet$  is the kernel defined by Equation (2.6), using a Jordan-Hölder filtration of  $\mathcal{F}$  as in the proof of Lemma 2.17, one sees that

$$\Phi_{X \rightarrow E_1}^{\mathcal{K}^\bullet}(\mathcal{F}) = \mathcal{O}_{Z_1} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathcal{O}_{Z_m} \oplus \mathcal{O}_{\bar{Z}},$$

where  $Z_i$  is a zero dimensional closed subscheme of  $E_1$  of length  $a_i$  supported at a smooth point  $z$  and  $\bar{Z}$  is a zero dimensional closed subscheme of length  $\bar{r} - u$  supported at the singular point  $\bar{z}$ . Then  $\Phi_{X \rightarrow E_1}^{\mathcal{K}^\bullet}(\mathcal{F})$  is a skyscraper sheaf of length  $\bar{r}$  on  $E_1$  and by [2, Corollary 2.65] there exists a morphism

$$\eta_r: \mathcal{M}((\bar{r}, \dots, \bar{r}), 0) \rightarrow \text{Sym}^{\bar{r}} E_1,$$

which is the inverse of  $\bar{\varphi}_{\bar{r}}$  on closed points. Since  $\text{Sym}^{\bar{r}} E_1$  is projective and reduced, proceeding as in the proof of Proposition 2.18 we see that  $\eta_r \circ \bar{\varphi}_{\bar{r}}: \text{Sym}^{\bar{r}} E_1 \rightarrow \text{Sym}^{\bar{r}} E_1$  is the identity. Since  $\mathcal{M}((\bar{r}, \dots, \bar{r}), 0)$  is reduced, a similar argument shows that  $(\bar{\varphi}_{\bar{r}}) \circ (\eta_r): \mathcal{M}((\bar{r}, \dots, \bar{r}), 0) \rightarrow \mathcal{M}((\bar{r}, \dots, \bar{r}), 0)$  is the identity as well.  $\square$

*Remark 2.21.* Arguing as in Proposition 1.9 and Corollary 1.25, one gets that the equivalences  $\Phi$  and  $\Psi$  in Section 1 induce isomorphisms

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M}((\bar{r}, \dots, \bar{r}), d) &\simeq \mathcal{M}((d - \bar{r}, \dots, d - \bar{r}), -d) && \text{for } d > \bar{r} \\ \mathcal{M}((\bar{r}, \dots, \bar{r}), d) &\simeq \mathcal{M}((\bar{r} - d, \dots, \bar{r} - d), d) && \text{for } d \leq \bar{r} \\ \mathcal{M}((\bar{r}, \dots, \bar{r}), d) &\simeq \mathcal{M}((\bar{r}, \dots, \bar{r}), \bar{r}h + d). \end{aligned}$$

Thus, for any integers  $\lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{Z}$ , one gets that the moduli spaces  $\mathcal{M}((\bar{r}, \dots, \bar{r}), d)$  where  $d = \lambda h \bar{r}$  and  $\mathcal{M}((r_0, \dots, r_0), d_0)$  where  $r_0 = \mu \lambda \bar{r} \pm \bar{r}$  and  $d_0 = \pm \lambda h \bar{r}$  are also isomorphic to the  $\bar{r}$ -th symmetric product  $\text{Sym}^{\bar{r}} E_1$  of the nodal curve.  $\triangle$

Using the results obtained so far, we give a complete description of all moduli spaces  $\mathcal{M}_X(r, d)$  of semistable sheaves on the curve  $E_2$  (cf. Figure 1) with respect to a polarization of the minimum possible degree  $h = 2$ . Note that if  $h = 2$ , the case  $2r_0/h \leq d_0 < r_0$  in Corollary 1.25 is not possible. One then has:



**Corollary 2.22.** *Let  $X$  be a curve of type  $E_2$  with a polarization  $H$  of degree  $h = 2$ , and let  $(r, d)$  be a pair of integers with  $r \geq 0$ . The moduli space  $\mathcal{M}_X(r, d)$  of semistable sheaves with Hilbert polynomial  $P(s) = rs + d$  on  $X$  is isomorphic either to the  $d_0$ -th symmetric power  $\text{Sym}^{d_0}(X)$  of the curve or to  $\mathcal{M}(r_0, 0)$ . Moreover, if  $r_0$  is even, then the biggest connected component of  $\mathcal{M}(r_0, 0)$  is isomorphic to the symmetric power  $\text{Sym}^{r_0/2}E_1$  of the nodal curve  $E_1$ .  $\square$*

## REFERENCES

- [1] M. F. ATIYAH, *Vector bundles over an elliptic curve*, Proc. London Math. Soc. (3), 7 (1957), pp. 414–452.
- [2] C. BARTOCCI, U. BRUZZO, AND D. HERNÁNDEZ RUIPÉREZ, *Fourier-Mukai and Nahm transforms in geometry and mathematical physics*. To appear in Progress in Mathematics, Birkhäuser, 2009.
- [3] C. BARTOCCI, U. BRUZZO, D. HERNÁNDEZ RUIPÉREZ, AND J. M. MUÑOZ PORRAS, *Mirror symmetry on K3 surfaces via Fourier-Mukai transform*, Comm. Math. Phys., 195 (1998), pp. 79–93.
- [4] L. BODNARCHUCK, *Vector bundles on degenerations of elliptic curves of types II, III and IV*, PhD thesis, Universität Kaiserslautern, 2008. Available on-line at <http://kluedo.uni-kl.de/volltexte/2008/2281/>.
- [5] L. BODNARCHUK, I. BURBAN, Y. DROZD, AND G.-M. GREUEL, *Vector bundles and torsion free sheaves on degenerations of elliptic curves*, in Global aspects of complex geometry, Springer, Berlin, 2006, pp. 83–128.
- [6] M. BÖKSTEDT AND A. NEEMAN, *Homotopy limits in triangulated categories*, Compositio Math., 86 (1993), pp. 209–234.
- [7] T. BRIDGELAND, *Fourier-Mukai transforms for elliptic surfaces*, J. Reine Angew. Math., 498 (1998), pp. 115–133.
- [8] T. BRIDGELAND AND A. MACIOCIA, *Fourier-Mukai transforms for K3 and elliptic fibrations*, J. Algebraic Geom., 11 (2002), pp. 629–657.
- [9] I. BURBAN AND B. KREUSSLER, *Fourier-Mukai transforms and semistable sheaves on nodal Weierstraß cubics*, J. Reine Angew. Math., 564 (2005), pp. 45–82.
- [10] ———, *Derived categories of irreducible projective curves of arithmetic genus one*, Compos. Math., 142 (2006), pp. 1231–1262.
- [11] A. CĂLDĂRARU, *Derived categories of twisted sheaves on Calabi-Yau manifolds*, PhD thesis, Cornell University, 2000.
- [12] ———, *Derived categories of twisted sheaves on elliptic threefolds*, J. Reine Angew. Math., 544 (2002), pp. 161–179.
- [13] L. CAPORASO, J. COELHO, AND E. ESTEVES, *Abel maps of Gorenstein curves*. Preprint arXiv:0712.1457v1 [math.AG].
- [14] Y. A. DROZD AND G.-M. GREUEL, *Tame and wild projective curves and classification of vector bundles*, J. Algebra, 246 (2001), pp. 1–54.
- [15] R. FRIEDMAN, J. W. MORGAN, AND E. WITTEN, *Vector bundles over elliptic fibrations*, J. Algebraic Geom., 8 (1999), pp. 279–401.
- [16] W. FULTON, *Intersection theory*, vol. 2 of Ergebnisse der Mathematik und ihrer Grenzgebiete (3) [Results in Mathematics and Related Areas (3)], Springer-Verlag, Berlin, 1984.
- [17] A. GROTHENDIECK, *Cohomologie  $l$ -adique et fonctions  $l$* , in Groupes de monodromie en géométrie algébrique. I, Springer-Verlag, Berlin, 1977, pp. 351–371. Séminaire de Géométrie Algébrique du Bois-Marie 1965–1966 (SGA 5), Exposé VIII. Dirigé par A. Grothendieck. Lecture Notes in Mathematics, Vol. 589.
- [18] G. HEIN AND D. PLOOG, *Fourier-Mukai transforms and stable bundles on elliptic curves*, Beiträge Algebra Geom., 46 (2005), pp. 423–434.
- [19] D. HERNÁNDEZ RUIPÉREZ, A. C. LÓPEZ MARTÍN, AND F. SANCHO DE SALAS, *Fourier-Mukai transform for Gorenstein schemes*, Adv. Math., 211 (2007), pp. 594–620.
- [20] ———, *Relative integral functors for singular fibrations and singular partners*, J. Eur. Math. Soc. (JEMS), (2009). To appear. Also arXiv:math/0610319.

- [21] D. HERNÁNDEZ RUIPÉREZ AND J. M. MUÑOZ PORRAS, *Stable sheaves on elliptic fibrations*, J. Geom. Phys., 43 (2002), pp. 163–183.
- [22] K. KODAIRA, *On compact analytic surfaces. II, III*, Ann. of Math. (2) 77 (1963), 563–626; *ibid.*, 78 (1963), pp. 1–40.
- [23] A. C. LÓPEZ MARTÍN, *Simpson Jacobians of reducible curves*, J. Reine Angew. Math., 582 (2005), pp. 1–39.
- [24] ———, *Relative Jacobians of elliptic fibrations with reducible fibers*, J. Geom. Phys., 56 (2006), pp. 375–385.
- [25] R. MIRANDA, *Smooth models for elliptic threefolds*, in The birational geometry of degenerations (Cambridge, Mass., 1981), vol. 29 of Progr. Math., Birkhäuser Boston, Mass., 1983, pp. 85–133.
- [26] D. S. NAGARAJ AND C. S. SESHADRI, *Degenerations of the moduli spaces of vector bundles on curves. I*, Proc. Indian Acad. Sci. Math. Sci., 107 (1997), pp. 101–137.
- [27] ———, *Degenerations of the moduli spaces of vector bundles on curves. II. Generalized Gieseker moduli spaces*, Proc. Indian Acad. Sci. Math. Sci., 109 (1999), pp. 165–201.
- [28] T. ODA, *Vector bundles on an elliptic curve*, Nagoya Math. J., 43 (1971), pp. 41–72.
- [29] A. POLISHCHUK, *Abelian varieties, theta functions and the Fourier transform*, Cambridge Tracts in Mathematics, vol. 153, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2003.
- [30] P. SEIDEL AND R. THOMAS, *Braid group actions on derived categories of coherent sheaves*, Duke Math. J., 108 (2001), pp. 37–108.
- [31] C. S. SESHADRI, *Fibrés vectoriels sur les courbes algébriques*, vol. 96 of Astérisque, Société Mathématique de France, Paris, 1982. Notes written by J.-M. Drezet from a course at the École Normale Supérieure, June 1980.
- [32] ———, *Degenerations of the moduli spaces of vector bundles on curves*, in School on Algebraic Geometry (Trieste, 1999), vol. 1 of ICTP Lect. Notes, Abdus Salam Int. Cent. Theoret. Phys., Trieste, 2000, pp. 205–265.
- [33] ———, *Moduli spaces of torsion free sheaves on nodal curves and generalisations - II*. preprint, 2008.
- [34] C. T. SIMPSON, *Moduli of representations of the fundamental group of a smooth projective variety. I*, Inst. Hautes Études Sci. Publ. Math., 79 (1994), pp. 47–129.
- [35] E. STRICKLAND, *On the conormal bundle of the determinantal variety*, J. Algebra, 75 (1982), pp. 523–537.
- [36] F. TAKEMOTO, *Stable vector bundles on algebraic surfaces. II*, Nagoya Math. J., 52 (1973), pp. 173–195.
- [37] L. W. TU, *Semistable bundles over an elliptic curve*, Adv. Math., 98 (1993), pp. 1–26.

*E-mail address:* ruiperez@usal.es, anacris@usal.es, dario@usal.es, carlost@usal.es

DEPARTAMENTO DE MATEMÁTICAS AND INSTITUTO UNIVERSITARIO DE FÍSICA FUNDAMENTAL Y MATEMÁTICAS (IUFFyM), UNIVERSIDAD DE SALAMANCA, PLAZA DE LA MERCED 1-4, 37008 SALAMANCA, SPAIN.