

## ALGEBRAIZATION OF BUNDLES ON NON-PROPER SCHEMES

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ABSTRACT. We study the algebraization problem for principal bundles with reductive structure groups on a non-proper formal scheme. When the formal scheme can be compactified by adding a closed subset of codimension at least 3, we show that any such bundle admits an algebraization. For codimension 2 we provide a necessary and sufficient condition.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

This work is a contribution toward an algebraic understanding of the Uhlenbeck compactification. Recall, cf. [DK], that for a complex projective surface  $S$  the moduli space  $M_n$  of semistable vector bundles with fixed rank, determinant and  $c_2 = n$  is non-compact, but the union  $Uhl_n = \coprod_{s \geq 0} M_{n-s} \times Sym^s S$  can be given a topology of a compact space (since one deals with semistable bundles for  $s \gg 0$  the space  $M_{n-s}$  will be empty). We will call  $Uhl_n$  the Uhlenbeck moduli space, although sometimes this name is reserved for the closure of  $M_n$  in  $Uhl_n$ .

Some time ago, see e.g. [Li], [BFG], [FGK], the Uhlenbeck moduli space started to appear in algebraic geometry and the higher dimensional Langlands Program. For instance, it is a convenient tool for the study of higher versions of Hecke correspondences which modify a vector bundle on  $S$  (more generally, a principal bundle) along a divisor, obtaining a new bundle. For several reasons, we would like to have the definition of  $Uhl_n$  as a “functor”; i.e. we want to be able to describe in geometric terms the set of maps  $F(T)$  (actually, a category of maps) from any test scheme  $T = Spec(A)$  to  $Uhl_n$ . First, that would allow us to define  $Uhl_n$  over any field  $k$  and not to require stability. Second, in the study of the cohomology of  $Uhl_n$  and the action of Hecke correspondences on it, one needs to deal with the phenomenon of unexpected dimension of  $Uhl_n$ . A possible approach involves defining a “derived moduli space”  $DUhl_n$  in the sense of [Lu] which would amount to considering more general “spaces”  $T$ . Thus, defining  $Uhl_n$  as a functor is a necessary preliminary step to constructing  $DUhl_n$ .

Very roughly, it is expected that a map  $T \rightarrow Uhl_n$  should be described by a vector bundle  $F$  on an open subset  $U \subset T \times S$  such that its complement  $Z$  is finite over  $T$ , a family  $\xi$  of effective zero cycles on  $S$  parameterized by  $T$  plus an agreement condition between  $\xi$  and  $F$ . Such a definition gives a “reasonable space”  $Uhl_n$  if it satisfies a criterion due to Artin, cf. [Ar], or its “derived” generalization proved in [Lu]. The most difficult part of Artin’s criterion is the effectiveness condition: if  $A$  is a complete noetherian local  $k$ -algebra with maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{m}$  and  $A_{\mathfrak{p}} = A/\mathfrak{m}^{p+1}$ ,

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one needs to show that  $F(\text{Spec}(A)) = \varprojlim F(\text{Spec}(A_p))$ . Ignoring the family of zero cycles  $\xi$  (as will be done in this paper), if  $X = \text{Spec}(A) \times_k S$  and  $\widehat{X}$  is its formal completion along the fiber over the closed point of  $\text{Spec}(A)$ , we try to find whether a bundle  $\mathcal{F}$  on an open subset  $\widehat{U} \subset \widehat{X}$  comes from a bundle  $F$  on an open subset  $U \subset X$ . Such an  $F$  is called an *algebraization* of  $\mathcal{F}$ .

In this paper we prove that, when  $S$  has arbitrary dimension and  $\widehat{U}$  has a complement of codimension  $\geq 3$ , algebraization always exists (for vector bundles and principal bundles over reductive groups). If  $\widehat{U}$  has a complement of codimension  $\geq 2$ , then algebraization exists only under an additional condition (which, in the Uhlenbeck functor case, is guaranteed by the presence of  $\xi$ ). For the codimension  $\geq 3$  case the algebraization result is used in [Ba] to show that the corresponding functor of bundles “away from codimension 3” is an algebraic stack.

Earlier similar questions were studied for coherent sheaves on proper schemes by Grothendieck, see [EGAIII], and in the case of Lefschetz type theorems by Grothendieck and Raynaud in [SGA2] and [R]. Although these results do not apply to our case directly, our proof is based on the tools developed in [EGAIII] and [SGA2].

In Section 2 we fix the notation, give examples illustrating some issues to be encountered, and prove algebraization results for vector bundles, summarized in Corollary 2.12. In Section 3 we formulate an algebraization criterion for principal bundles over reductive groups; see Theorem 3.1. Finally, Section 4 provides a categorical restatement of our results; see Theorem 4.2.

## 2. ALGEBRAIZATION FOR VECTOR BUNDLES

**2.1. Setup.** We refer the reader to Expose III in [SGA2] regarding basic properties of depth and its relation to local cohomology. Let  $S$  be an irreducible noetherian scheme of finite type over a field  $k$ . We will assume that  $S$  is proper and satisfies Serre’s  $S_2$  condition: for any  $s \in S$ ,  $\text{depth}_s \mathcal{O}_S \geq \min(\dim \mathcal{O}_{S,s}, 2)$ . Let  $V \subset S$  be an open subset with closed complement of codimension  $\geq 2$  in  $S$  and  $A$  a complete noetherian local  $k$ -algebra with residue field  $K = A/\mathfrak{m}$  and associated graded  $K$ -algebra  $gr(A) = \bigoplus_{p \geq 0} gr_p(A) = \bigoplus_{p \geq 0} \mathfrak{m}^p/\mathfrak{m}^{p+1}$ . Define  $X = S \times_k \text{Spec}(A)$  and

$$X_p = S \times_k \text{Spec}(A/\mathfrak{m}^{p+1}), \quad U_p = V \times_k \text{Spec}(A/\mathfrak{m}^{p+1}), \quad p \geq 0.$$

Let  $i_p : U_p \rightarrow X_p$  be the natural open embeddings. The completion  $\widehat{X}$  of  $X$  along  $X_0$  may be viewed at the limit of  $\{X_p\}_{p \geq 0}$ ; cf. Section 10.6 in [EGA1]. The limit of  $i_p$  gives an open formal subscheme  $\widehat{i} : \widehat{U} \rightarrow \widehat{X}$ . The ideal sheaf of  $X_0$  in  $X$  will be denoted by  $\mathcal{J}_X$  and the closed subset  $X_0 \setminus U_0$  by  $Z_0$ . Finally,  $f : X \rightarrow \text{Spec}(A)$  is the natural proper projection and, for any  $s \in \text{Spec}(A)$ ,  $X_s$  stands for the fiber  $f^{-1}(s)$ .

Observe that  $X$  may no longer satisfy the  $S_2$  condition (since we made no depth assumptions on  $A$ ). However, a particular case of Lemma 2 in [Ba] gives

**Lemma 2.1.** *For any  $x \in X$  with  $f(x) = s$ ,  $\text{depth } \mathcal{O}_{X,x} \geq \min(\dim \mathcal{O}_{X_s,x}, 2)$ .  $\square$*

Consider a vector bundle  $\mathcal{F}$  on  $\widehat{U}$ , i.e. a sequence of vector bundles  $F_p$  on  $U_p$  with isomorphisms

$$(2.1) \quad F_p|_{U_{p-1}} \simeq F_{p-1}, \quad p \geq 1.$$

**Definition 2.2.** We will say that a vector bundle  $\mathcal{F}$  on  $\widehat{U}$  admits an algebraization  $(U, F)$  if there exists an open subset  $U \subset X$  with  $U \cap X_0 = U_0$  and a vector bundle  $F$  on  $U$  such that  $\mathcal{F}$  is isomorphic to the completion of  $F$ ; i.e. for  $\mathcal{J}_U = \mathcal{J}_X|_U$  there exist isomorphisms  $F_p \simeq F/\mathcal{J}_U^{p+1}F$  compatible with (2.1). In Section 3 we apply similar terminology to principal bundles.

Let  $Z$  be the closed subset  $X \setminus U$  and  $i : U \hookrightarrow X$  the open embedding.

**Lemma 2.3.** Assume that  $\text{codim}_{X_0} Z_0 \geq 2$  and an open subset  $U \subset X$  satisfies  $U \cap X_0 = U_0$ . For any  $s \in \text{Spec}(A)$ , define  $Z_s = Z \cap X_s$ . Then  $\text{codim}_{X_s} Z_s \geq 2$  for all  $s \in \text{Spec} A$  and  $\text{codim}_X Z \geq 2$ .

*Proof.* Since  $f$  is proper, the image  $f(\overline{Z}_s)$  contains the unique closed point  $s_0 \in \text{Spec}(A)$ . Therefore  $\overline{Z}_s \cap X_0 \subset Z_0$  is not empty. By semicontinuity of dimensions in the fibers we have  $\text{codim}_{X_s} Z_s \geq \text{codim}_{X_0}(\overline{Z}_s \cap X_0) \geq \text{codim}_{X_0} Z_0 = 2$ . The second assertion of the lemma follows from the first.  $\square$

Below we repeatedly use the following results.

**Proposition 2.4.** In the notation introduced above

- (i) Completion along  $X_0$  induces an equivalence between the category of coherent sheaves on  $X$  and the category of coherent sheaves on the formal scheme  $\widehat{X}$ .
- (ii) For any locally free sheaf  $F$  (resp.  $F_0$ ) on  $U$  (resp.  $U_0$ ) its direct image  $i_*F$  (resp.  $(i_0)_*F_0$ ) is coherent. If  $\text{codim}_{X_0} Z_0 \geq 3$ , then  $R^1(i_0)_*F_0$  is also coherent.
- (iii) Let  $E$  be a coherent sheaf on  $X$  and  $\psi : E \rightarrow i_*i^*E$  the canonical morphism. Then  $\psi$  is an isomorphism if and only if  $\text{depth}_x E \geq 2$  for any point  $x \in Z = X \setminus U$ .

*Proof.* Part (i) follows from Corollary 5.1.6 in [EGAIII]. To check the coherence of  $i_*F$ , by Corollary VIII.2.3 in [SGA2] it suffices to check that  $\text{depth}_x F \geq 1$  for any point  $x \in U$  such that  $\overline{\{x\}} \cap Z$  has codimension 1 in  $\overline{\{x\}}$ . But Lemma 2.1 and local freeness of  $F$  imply that any  $x$  with  $\text{depth}_x F = 0$  must be generic in its fiber, and Lemma 2.3 implies that  $\overline{\{x\}} \cap Z$  would in fact have codimension 2 in  $\overline{\{x\}}$ . The same proof applies to  $(i_0)_*F_0$ . If  $\text{codim}_{X_0} Z_0 \geq 3$  then the above argument can also be applied to  $R^1(i_0)_*F_0$  once we show that  $\text{depth}_x F_0 \geq 2$  for any  $x \in U_0$  such that  $\overline{\{x\}} \cap Z_0$  has codimension 1 in  $\overline{\{x\}}$ . But by  $S_2$  condition  $\text{depth}_x F_0 \leq 1$  can only hold for points  $x$  of codimension  $\leq 1$  in  $U_0$ , which would imply that  $\overline{\{x\}} \cap Z_0$  has codimension  $\geq 2$  in  $\overline{\{x\}}$ . This proves (ii). Part (iii) is a particular case of Corollary II.3.5 in *loc.cit.*  $\square$

**2.2. Examples.** The first example with  $\text{codim}_{X_0} Z_0 = 3$  and  $K = k$  shows that one may not be able to take  $U = U_0 \times_k \text{Spec}(A)$ .

**Example 2.5.** Take  $S = X_0 = \mathbb{P}^3$  with homogeneous coordinates  $[x : y : z : w]$  and set  $V = U_0 = S \setminus [0 : 0 : 0 : 1]$ ,  $A = k[[t]]$  (formal power series in  $t$ ). Define vector bundles  $F_p$  as kernels of

$$\varphi_p : \mathcal{O}_{U_p}^{\oplus 3} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(1)_{U_p}; \quad (s_1 \oplus s_2 \oplus s_3) \mapsto s_1x + s_2y + s_3(z - tw).$$

Observe that  $\varphi_p$  is surjective since  $t$  is nilpotent on  $U_p$  and  $[0 : 0 : 0 : 1] \notin U_p$ .

**Lemma 2.6.** *The bundle  $\mathcal{F}$  admits no algebraization  $(U, F)$  with  $U = U_0 \times_k \text{Spec}(A)$ .*

*Proof.* Set  $F$  to be the kernel of morphism  $\varphi : \mathcal{O}^{\oplus 3} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(1)$  of vector bundles on  $U$ , given by the same formula as for  $\varphi_p$ . By definition,  $\varphi$  is not surjective only at  $P = [0 : 0 : t : 1] \in U$ , which projects to the generic point  $\xi = \text{Spec}(k[t^{-1}, t]) \in \text{Spec}(A)$ . The specialization at  $t = 0$  is not in  $U_0$ , hence  $P$  is closed in  $U$  and  $U \setminus P$  is an open subset containing  $U_0$ . Since on  $U \setminus P$  we have the short exact sequence of locally free sheaves

$$0 \rightarrow F \rightarrow \mathcal{O}^{\oplus 3} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(1) \rightarrow 0,$$

the restriction of  $F$  to each  $U_p$  is given by  $F_p$ , i.e.  $\mathcal{F}$  is indeed the completion of  $F$ . On the other hand,  $F$  is not locally free at  $P$ : from  $0 \rightarrow F \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_U^{\oplus 3} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_U \rightarrow k_P \rightarrow 0$  we immediately get  $\mathcal{E}xt^1(F, \mathcal{O}_U) \simeq \mathcal{E}xt^3(k_P, \mathcal{O}) \simeq k_P$  since the middle two terms are projective.

Suppose that  $E$  is a locally free sheaf on  $U$  with completion isomorphic to  $\mathcal{F}$ . We will see later in Proposition 2.11(ii) that in such a situation we must have  $\widehat{i_*E} \simeq \widehat{i_*\mathcal{F}} \simeq \widehat{i_*F}$ ; hence by Proposition 2.4(i),  $i_*F \simeq i_*E$ , which contradicts  $\mathcal{E}xt^1(F, \mathcal{O}_U) \neq 0$ .  $\square$

The second example illustrates that for  $\text{codim}_{X_0} Z_0 = 2$ , a pair  $(U, F)$  may not exist at all.

**Example 2.7.** Consider  $A = k[[t]]$  and  $S = X_0 = \mathbb{P}^2$  with homogeneous coordinates  $(x : y : z)$ . Let  $V = U_0 = X_0 \setminus P$ , where  $P = (0 : 0 : 1)$ , and define a rank 2 bundle  $F_p$  on  $U_p = U_0 \times_k \text{Spec}(k[t]/t^{p+1})$  as follows. The affine open subsets  $U_p^{(x)}$ ,  $U_p^{(y)}$  given by non-vanishing of  $x$ , resp.  $y$ , form a covering of  $U_p$ , and we can glue trivial rank 2 bundles on these open sets, using the transition function

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & \sum_{m=0}^p \left(\frac{tz^2}{xy}\right)^m \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

on  $U_p^{(x)} \cap U_p^{(y)}$ . Clearly  $F_p|_{U_{p-1}} \simeq F_{p-1}$  in a natural way, and we obtain a vector bundle  $\mathcal{F}$  on  $\widehat{U}$ .

**Lemma 2.8.** *There exists no vector bundle  $F$  on  $U = X \setminus Z$  with  $\widehat{F} \simeq \mathcal{F}|_{\widehat{U} \setminus (Z \cap U_0)}$  for any closed subset  $Z \subset X$  such that  $Z_0 \subset (Z \cap X_0)$  and  $\text{codim}_{X_0}(Z \cap X_0) \geq 2$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose otherwise, and take the direct image of  $F$  with respect to the open embedding  $i : U \rightarrow X$ . By Proposition 2.4,  $i_*F$  is coherent and has *depth*  $\geq 2$  at all codimension 2 points of  $X$ . Since modules of depth 2 over two-dimensional regular local rings are free by the Auslander-Buchsbaum formula,  $i_*F$  will be locally free in codimension two. Therefore by shrinking  $Z$  we can assume that  $Z$  has codimension 3 in  $X$ , which in our case means that  $Z$  is a finite set of points in  $X_0$ . Then the short exact sequence of sheaves on  $X \setminus Z$

$$0 \rightarrow F \xrightarrow{t^{p+1}} F \rightarrow F_p \rightarrow 0$$

(we identify  $F_p$  with its direct image on  $X \setminus Z$  abusing notation) gives a long exact sequence on  $X$ :

$$0 \rightarrow i_*F \xrightarrow{t^{p+1}} i_*F \rightarrow i_*F_p \rightarrow R^1i_*F \xrightarrow{t^{p+1}} R^1i_*F,$$

where  $R^1i_*F$  is coherent for the same reason as in Proposition 2.4(ii). Since  $R^1i_*F$  is supported at the finite set  $Z$  of closed points, it has finite length at each of them and the last arrow is zero for  $p \geq p_0$ . For such  $p$  we can write  $i_*F \rightarrow i_*F_p \rightarrow R^1i_*F \rightarrow 0$  which gives

$$i_*F \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} k(P) \rightarrow i_*F_p \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} k(P) \rightarrow R^1i_*F \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} k(P) \rightarrow 0.$$

To prove the lemma it suffices to show that  $\dim_k i_*F_p \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} k(P)$  is unbounded as  $p \rightarrow \infty$ .

To that end, replace  $X_0$  with the affine open subset  $\tilde{X}_0 \simeq \mathbb{A}^2$  given by the non-vanishing of  $z$ , with affine coordinates  $u = \frac{x}{z}$ ,  $v = \frac{y}{z}$ . Set  $W_0 = U_0 \cap \tilde{X}_0$  and similarly for  $\tilde{X}_p$ ,  $W_p$ ,  $W_p^{(x)}$  and  $W_p^{(y)}$ . Then  $i_*F_p|_{\tilde{X}_p}$  is the sheaf associated to  $H^0(W_p, F_p|_{W_p})$  viewed as a module over  $A(\tilde{X}_p) = k[u, v, t]/t^{p+1}$ . By its definition,  $F_p$  is an extension of  $\mathcal{O}_{U_p}$  with  $\mathcal{O}_{W_p}$  which leads to the long exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow H^0(W_p, \mathcal{O}_{W_p}) \rightarrow H^0(W_p, F_p|_{W_p}) \rightarrow H^0(W_p, \mathcal{O}_{W_p}) \rightarrow H^1(W_p, \mathcal{O}_{W_p}),$$

where the last arrow sends the constant function 1 to the class of the extension. Let  $M_p$  be the kernel of the last arrow. It suffices to show that  $\dim_k(M_p/\langle u, v, t \rangle M_p)$  is unbounded. Computing  $M_p$  via the affine covering  $\{W_p^{(x)}, W_p^{(y)}\}$ , we identify it with the kernel of

$$k[u, v, t]/t^{p+1} \xrightarrow{\pi_p \circ \psi_p} \frac{1}{uv} k[u^{-1}, v^{-1}, t]/t^{p+1},$$

where  $\psi_p$  is multiplication by  $\sum_{l=0}^p (\frac{t}{uv})^l$  (i.e. the upper right corner of the transition matrix in the definition of  $F_p$ ) and  $\pi_p$  is the natural projection

$$k[u, u^{-1}, v, v^{-1}, t]/t^{p+1} \rightarrow \frac{1}{uv} k[u^{-1}, v^{-1}, t]/t^{p+1}.$$

It follows that  $M_p$  is generated by the monomials  $t^p, t^i u^{p-i}, t^i v^{p-i}$  for  $i = 0, \dots, p-1$ ; thus

$$\dim_k(M_p/\langle u, v, t \rangle M_p) = 2p + 1 \rightarrow \infty \quad \text{as } p \rightarrow \infty.$$

□

**Example 2.9** (Suggested to the author by V. Drinfeld). The bundle in the previous example has trivial determinant, but if we don't insist on that, there is a rank one example: glue two trivial line bundles on  $U_p^{(x)}, U_p^{(y)}$  using the transition function  $\sum_{m=0}^p (\frac{tz^2}{xy})^m$ . The resulting line bundle admits no algebraization since again  $\dim_k(i_p)_*F_p \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} k(P)$  is not bounded as  $p \rightarrow \infty$ .

### 2.3. Algebraization of vector bundles.

**Theorem 2.10.** *In the notation of Section 2.1,*

- (i) *If  $\text{codim}_{X_0} Z_0 \geq 3$ , then  $\mathcal{F}$  admits an algebraization.*
- (ii) *If  $\text{codim}_{X_0} Z_0 \geq 2$  and the cokernel of the natural morphism  $(i_p)_*F_p|_{X_{p-1}} \rightarrow (i_{p-1})_*F_{p-1}$  is supported in codimension  $\geq 3$  for all  $p$  large enough, then  $\mathcal{F}$  admits an algebraization.*
- (iii) *In either of the two situations (codimension  $\geq 3$  or codimension  $\geq 2$  with the additional support assumption) the projective system  $\{(i_p)_*F_p\}_{p \geq 0}$  satisfies the Mittag-Leffler condition, and the direct image  $\hat{i}_*\mathcal{F}$  is coherent and isomorphic to  $\varprojlim (i_p)_*F_p$ .*

*Proof.* We split the proof of (i) and (ii) in a number of steps. Part (iii) will follow from Step 2.

*Step 1.* Suppose that  $\widehat{i}_*\mathcal{F}$  is coherent. By Proposition 2.4(i) there exists a unique coherent sheaf  $E$  on  $X$  such that  $\widehat{E} \simeq \widehat{i}_*\mathcal{F}$ . The subset  $U \subset X$  of points where  $E$  is locally free is open and contains  $U_0$  (e.g. by Nakayama's Lemma). Shrinking  $U$  if necessary we can achieve  $U \cap X_0 = U_0$ . Now set  $F = E|_U$ .

*Step 2.* Therefore (i) and (ii) are reduced to showing that, under the conditions stated,  $\widehat{i}_*\mathcal{F}$  is coherent. To that end we modify the argument of 0.13.7.7 in [EGAIII] which will also prove (iii). First, as in 0.13.7.2 of *loc. cit.*, we choose injective resolutions  $F_k \rightarrow L_k^\bullet$  such that  $L_{k+1}^\bullet/\mathcal{J}_U^{k+1}L_{k+1}^\bullet \simeq L_k^\bullet$  and the natural filtrations by  $\mathcal{J}_U^n(\dots)$  agree with those on  $F_k$ . Each  $\widehat{i}_*(L_k^\bullet)$  is a filtered complex and has a spectral sequence with the  $E_1$  term given by

$$E_1^{p,q} = R^{p+q}\widehat{i}_*(\mathcal{J}_U^p F_k / \mathcal{J}_U^{p+1} F_k).$$

As in 0.13.7.3 of *loc. cit.* we pass to the limit as  $k \rightarrow \infty$  and get a spectral sequence with

$$E_1^{p,q} = R^{p+q}\widehat{i}_*(F_p/F_{p+1}) \simeq R^{p+q}\widehat{i}_*(F_0) \otimes_K (\mathfrak{m}^p/\mathfrak{m}^{p+1}) = R^{p+q}\widehat{i}_*(F_0) \otimes_K gr_p(A).$$

We are interested in the components

$$E_1^0 = \bigoplus_{p+q=0} E_1^{p,q} = \widehat{i}_*(F_0) \otimes_K gr(A); \quad E_1^1 = \bigoplus_{p+q=1} E_1^{p,q} = R^1\widehat{i}_*(F_0) \otimes_K gr(A).$$

We would like to show that the spectral sequence converges at the  $E^0 = \bigoplus E^{p,-p}$  terms. Note that each  $E_{k+1}^1 = \bigoplus E_{k+1}^{p,1-p}$  is a quotient of a subsheaf in  $E_k^1$ , while each  $E_{k+1}^0$  is a subsheaf  $E_k^0$  (since  $E^{p,-1-p}$  terms are zero). Taking successive preimages of the boundaries in  $E_{r-1}, E_{r-2}, \dots, E_1$  we get a sequence of boundary subsheaves  $B_1 \subset B_2 \subset B_3 \subset \dots \subset E_1^1$ , and taking preimages of cycles in  $E_k$  we get a sequence of cycle subsheaves  $E_1^0 \supset Z_1 \supset Z_2 \supset Z_3 \supset \dots$ . By 0.13.7.6 in *loc. cit.* these are actually  $\mathcal{O}_{X_0} \otimes_K gr(A)$ -submodules.

Suppose that the sequence of cycles stabilizes; i.e. for some  $r_0$  one has  $Z_r = Z_{r_0}$  whenever  $r \geq r_0$ . Then by 0.13.7.4 in [EGAIII] the projective system  $\{\widehat{i}_*(F_k)\}_{k \geq 0}$  satisfies the Mittag-Leffler condition and the associated graded of  $\widehat{i}_*(\mathcal{F})$  is precisely  $Z_{r_0} \subset \widehat{i}_*(F_0) \otimes_K gr(A)$ . But  $\widehat{i}_*(F_0)$  is a coherent by Proposition 2.4(ii), hence the subsheaf  $gr(\widehat{i}_*\mathcal{F}) \subset \widehat{i}_*(F_0) \otimes_K gr(A)$  is a coherent  $\mathcal{O}_{X_0} \otimes_K gr(A)$ -module by the noetherian property of  $X_0$  and  $A$ . By *loc. cit.* 13.7.7.2,  $\widehat{i}_*\mathcal{F}$  is itself coherent on  $\widehat{X}$ . Also,  $\widehat{i}_*\mathcal{F} \simeq \varprojlim (i_p)_*F_p$  by 0.13.7.5.1 in *loc. cit.*

*Step 3.* Now the assertion of the theorem is reduced to showing that the sequence of cycles  $Z_1 \supset Z_2 \supset \dots$  stabilizes. By definition of  $Z_i$  this is equivalent to saying that the higher differentials of the spectral sequence  $d_r : E_r^0 \rightarrow E_r^1$  become zero for  $r \geq r_0$ . That in turn is equivalent to saying that the sequence of boundaries  $B_1 \subset B_2 \subset B_3 \subset \dots$  also stabilizes.

If  $\text{codim}_{X_0} Z_0 \geq 3$  by Proposition 2.4(ii),  $R^1(i_0)_*F_0$  is also coherent and  $\{B_r\}_{r \geq 1}$  stabilizes by the noetherian property of  $R^1(i_0)_*F_0 \otimes_K gr(A)$ , which proves (i). If  $\text{codim}_{X_0} Z_0 \geq 2$  we need to find a coherent subsheaf of  $R^1(i_0)_*F_0 \otimes_K gr(A)$  containing  $B_r$  for all  $r \geq 1$ .

*Step 4.* At this point we reduced (ii) to showing that, under the assumptions stated, there exists a coherent subsheaf  $G \subset R^1(i_0)_*F_0$  such that  $B_r \subset G \otimes_K gr(A)$  for all  $r$ . By 0.11.2.2 in [EGAIII] for  $r \geq p$ , the term  $B_r^{p,1-p}$  is the image of the connecting homomorphism

$$\widehat{i}_*F_p \rightarrow \widehat{i}_*F_{p-1} \xrightarrow{\rho_p} R^1\widehat{i}_*F_0 \otimes_K (\mathfrak{m}^p/\mathfrak{m}^{p+1})$$

in the long exact sequence obtained by applying  $R\widehat{i}_*$  to the short exact sequence on  $\widehat{U}$ :

$$0 \rightarrow F_0 \otimes_K (\mathfrak{m}^p/\mathfrak{m}^{p+1}) \rightarrow F_p \rightarrow F_{p-1} \rightarrow 0.$$

Observe that by our assumptions each  $Im(\rho_p)$  is coherent and supported in codimension  $\geq 3$  for  $p \gg 0$ . Therefore we are done once we show that the subsheaf of  $R^1(i_0)_*F_0$  formed by all sections with support in codimension  $\geq 3$  is coherent whenever  $codim_{X_0}Z_0 \geq 2$  and  $F_0$  is locally free on  $U_0$ .

*Step 5.* Set  $Q = (i_0)_*F_0$ , a coherent sheaf on  $X_0$  by Step 2. By the standard exact sequence we have  $\mathcal{H}_{Z_0}^2 Q = R^1(i_0)_*Q|_{U_0} = R^1(i_0)_*F_0$ , so it suffices to show that  $\mathcal{H}_{\geq 3}^0 \mathcal{H}_{Z_0}^2 Q$  is coherent where  $\mathcal{H}_{\geq 3}^0$  is the functor of sections supported in codimension  $\geq 3$ . Let  $\mathcal{H}_{\geq 3}^i$  be the higher derived functors.

First, the standard spectral sequence for the composition of functors  $R\mathcal{H}_{\geq 3}^0, R\mathcal{H}_{Z_0}^0$  has  $E_2^{p,q} = \mathcal{H}_{\geq 3}^p \mathcal{H}_{Z_0}^q Q$ . But  $\mathcal{H}_{Z_0}^i Q = 0$  for  $i = 0, 1$  by Proposition 2.4(iii), so

$$\mathcal{H}_{\geq 3}^0 \mathcal{H}_{Z_0}^2 Q \simeq \mathcal{H}_{\Phi}^2 Q,$$

where the local cohomology  $\mathcal{H}_{\Phi}^2$  has a family of supports

$$\Phi = \{\text{all } \text{codim} \geq 3 \text{ closed subsets in } Z_0\}.$$

*Step 6.* To show that  $\mathcal{H}_{\Phi}^2 Q$  is coherent note that by [Ha2] the scheme  $X_0$  has a dualizing complex  $\omega$  of the form

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{K}^0 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \mathcal{K}^{\dim_K X_0} \rightarrow 0$$

with  $\mathcal{K}^i = \bigoplus_{\dim \mathcal{O}_{X_0, x} = i} J(x)$  and each  $J(x)$  is the direct image of the injective envelope of the residue field  $k(x)$  with respect to the natural morphism  $i^x : Spec(\mathcal{O}_{X_0, x}) \rightarrow X_0$ . By definition of a dualizing complex, the double complex  $\mathcal{K}^{p,q} = \mathcal{H}om(\mathcal{H}om(Q, \mathcal{K}^{-q}), \mathcal{K}^p)$  has a total complex quasi-isomorphic to  $Q$ . Moreover, by Proposition IV.2.1 and the remark on page 123 in [Ha2], the total complex is a flasque resolution of  $Q$  and hence can be used to compute  $\mathcal{H}_{\Phi}^{\bullet}(Q)$ . This leads to a spectral sequence:

$$E_2^{p,q} = \mathcal{E}xt_{\Phi}^p(\mathcal{E}xt^{-q}(Q, \omega), \omega) \Rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{\Phi}^{p+q}(Q),$$

where  $\mathcal{E}xt_{\Phi}^p = R^p(\Gamma_{\Phi} \circ \mathcal{H}om)$  and the  $\mathcal{E}xt$  sheaves are understood in the sense of hypercohomology.

Only finitely many terms  $E_2^{p,q}$  with  $p + q = 2$  will be non-trivial: since  $\mathcal{K}^q$  are injective, the non-vanishing implies  $0 \leq (-q) \leq \dim_K X_0$ . Thus it suffices to show that  $E_2^{p,2-p} = \mathcal{E}xt_{\Phi}^p(\mathcal{E}xt^{p-2}(Q, \omega), \omega)$  is coherent for  $p \geq 2$ .

An important observation which we use below is that  $\mathcal{K}^p$  has no sections supported in codimension  $\geq p + 1$ .

*Step 7.* First observe that  $\mathcal{E}xt_{\Phi}^2(G, \omega) = 0$  for any quasi-coherent sheaf  $G$  since  $\mathcal{K}^2$  has no sections supported in codimension  $\geq 3$  and hence no sections with support in  $\Phi$ . Hence we can assume that  $p \geq 3$ .

We first claim that  $\text{codim}_{X_0} \text{Supp}(\mathcal{E}xt^{p-2}(Q, \omega)) = d \geq p \geq 3$ . In fact, let  $x \in \text{Supp}(\mathcal{E}xt^{p-2}(Q, \omega))$  be a point with  $\dim \mathcal{O}_{X_0, x} = d$ . By local duality, cf. V.6 in [Ha2], the non-vanishing of the stalk  $\mathcal{E}xt^{p-2}(Q, \omega)_x$  is equivalent to the non-vanishing of local cohomology  $\mathcal{H}_x^{d+2-p}(Q)$ , which implies  $d + 2 - p \geq 0$  and  $d \geq p - 2 \geq 1$ . If  $d = 1$ , then  $p = 3$  and also  $x \notin Z_0$ ; hence the stalk  $Q_x$  is free. Thus  $\mathcal{H}_x^0(\mathcal{O}) \neq 0$ , contradicting the  $S_2$  assumption. If  $d \geq 2$ , then applying the  $S_2$  condition when  $x \notin Z_0$  and Proposition 2.4(iii) when  $x \in Z_0$ , we actually have  $d + 2 - p \geq 2$ , so  $d \geq p$  as required.

By primary decomposition, the coherent sheaf  $\mathcal{E}xt^{p-2}(Q, \omega)$  admits a finite filtration by coherent subsheaves such that all successive quotients have irreducible supports of codimension  $\geq p$ . By the standard long exact sequence for  $\mathcal{E}xt_{\Phi}^{\bullet}(\cdot, \omega)$  it suffices to show that  $\mathcal{E}xt_{\Phi}^p(G, \omega)$  is coherent whenever  $p \geq 3$  and  $G$  is a coherent sheaf with irreducible support  $Y$  of codimension  $\geq p$ .

If  $Y \not\subseteq Z_0$  for any  $W$  in the family  $\Phi$ , the intersection  $Y \cap W$  is not equal to  $Y$  and therefore has codimension  $\geq p + 1$ . But then  $\mathcal{E}xt_{\Phi}^p(G, \omega) = 0$ , because any section  $\rho$  of  $\mathcal{H}om(G, \mathcal{K}^p)$  representing a class in  $\mathcal{E}xt_{\Phi}^p(G, \omega)$  has zero values since  $\mathcal{K}^p$  has no sections supported in codimension  $\geq p + 1$ . If  $Y \subseteq Z_0$ , then  $Y$  is an element of  $\Phi$  and  $\mathcal{E}xt_{\Phi}^p(G, \omega) \simeq \mathcal{E}xt^p(G, \omega)$  since all sections of  $\mathcal{H}om(G, \mathcal{K}^t)$  have support in  $\Phi$ . But  $\mathcal{E}xt^p(G, \omega)$  is coherent, which finishes the proof.  $\square$

The converse to Theorem 2.10 can be formulated as follows.

**Proposition 2.11.** *In the setting of Section 2.1, assume that  $\mathcal{F}$  admits an algebraization  $(U, F)$  and view each  $F_p$  as a sheaf on  $U$ . Then*

- (i) *The cokernel of  $i_*F_p \rightarrow i_*F_{p-1}$  is supported in codimension  $\geq 3$  for  $p \gg 0$ .*
- (ii) *The isomorphism  $\widehat{F} \simeq \mathcal{F}$  extends to direct images:  $i_*\widehat{F} \simeq i_*\mathcal{F}$ . In particular,  $i_*\mathcal{F}$  is coherent.*

*Proof.* To prove (i) observe that the cokernel of  $i_*F_p \rightarrow i_*F_{p-1}$  is annihilated by  $\mathcal{J}_X$ , being a subsheaf of  $R^1i_*F_0 \otimes_K gr_p(A)$ , and is therefore isomorphic to the cokernel of  $i_*F_p|_{X_0} \rightarrow i_*F_{p-1}|_{X_0}$ .

We will first show that the natural map  $i_*F_p|_{X_0} \rightarrow i_*F_0$  is an embedding of sheaves for all  $p$ . Considering the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{J}_X(i_*F_p) \rightarrow i_*F_p \rightarrow i_*F_p|_{X_0} \rightarrow 0$$

and its map to the first terms of the sequence

$$0 \rightarrow i_*(\mathcal{J}_U F_p) \rightarrow i_*F_p \rightarrow i_*F_0 \rightarrow R^1i_*(\mathcal{J}_U F_p) \rightarrow \dots,$$

we see that  $i_*F_p|_{X_0} \rightarrow i_*F_0$  is an embedding precisely when the natural map  $\mathcal{J}_X(i_*F_p) \rightarrow i_*(\mathcal{J}_U F_p)$  is an isomorphism. Observe that  $i_*\mathcal{O}_U = \mathcal{O}_X$ ; hence  $i_*\mathcal{J}_U$  is a sheaf of ideals in  $\mathcal{O}_X$ .

Using Lemma 2.1 and the Cohen-Macaulay assumption on  $X_0$ , we see that  $\mathcal{H}_Z^t \mathcal{O}_X = \mathcal{H}_{Z_0}^t \mathcal{O}_{X_0} = 0$  for  $t = 0, 1$ . By the short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow \mathcal{J}_X \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{X_0} \rightarrow 0$  we derive  $\mathcal{H}_Z^t \mathcal{J}_X = 0$  for  $t = 0, 1$ , and hence  $\mathcal{J}_X = i_*\mathcal{J}_U$  by Proposition 2.4(iii). Then

$$i_*(\mathcal{J}_U F_p) = (i_*\mathcal{J}_U)(i_*F_p) = \mathcal{J}_X i_*F_p,$$

as required. Similarly,  $i_*F|_{X_0} \rightarrow i_*F_0$  is an embedding. So for any  $p \geq 1$  we have the embeddings

$$i_*F|_{X_0} \hookrightarrow i_*F_p|_{X_0} \hookrightarrow i_*F_{p-1}|_{X_0} \hookrightarrow i_*F_0.$$

Consequently, the coherent sheaf  $\mathcal{K} = \text{Coker}(i_*(F)|_{X_0} \rightarrow i_*F_0)$  has a decreasing filtration by images of  $i_*F_p|_{X_0}$ , and each  $\text{Coker}(i_*F_p|_{X_0} \rightarrow i_*F_{p-1}|_{X_0})$  is its successive quotient. But  $\mathcal{K}$  is a coherent sheaf with  $\text{Supp}(\mathcal{K}) \subset Z_0$  and  $Z_0$  has at most finitely many points of codimension 2. Since for each point  $x \in X_0$  of codimension 2 the localization  $\mathcal{K}_x$  is a module of finite length, only finitely many successive quotients of the filtration of  $\mathcal{K}$  can be non-trivial in codimension 2, which proves (i).

To prove (ii) first observe that  $\widehat{i_*\mathcal{F}}$  and  $E = i_*F$  are coherent by Theorem 2.10(iii) and Proposition 2.4(ii), respectively. By Proposition 2.4(i) we can find a sheaf  $E'$  such that  $\widehat{E'} \simeq \widehat{i_*\mathcal{F}}$ . The isomorphism  $\widehat{E}|_{\widehat{U}} \simeq \widehat{\mathcal{F}} = \widehat{i^*i_*\mathcal{F}}$  extends uniquely to a morphism of sheaves  $\widehat{\phi} : \widehat{E} \rightarrow \widehat{i_*\mathcal{F}} = \widehat{E'}$ . By Proposition 2.4(i),  $\widehat{\phi}$  is the completion of a unique morphism  $\phi : E \rightarrow E'$  which by Corollary 10.8.14 in [EGA1] should be an isomorphism on an open subset  $W$  containing  $U_0$ . Shrinking  $W$  if necessary we can assume  $W \subset U$ . By Lemma 2.3, each point  $x \in U \setminus W$  has codimension  $\geq 2$  in its fiber; hence  $\text{depth}_xE \geq 2$  by Lemma 2.1. For  $x \in X \setminus U$  we still have  $\text{depth}_xE \geq 2$  by Proposition 2.4(iii). Applying the same result to  $j : W \hookrightarrow X$  instead of  $U$  we see that  $E = j_*j^*E$ . By adjunction of  $j^*$  and  $j_*$  the isomorphism  $(\phi|_W)^{-1} : j^*E' \rightarrow j^*E$  extends uniquely to a morphism  $\psi : E' \rightarrow j_*j^*E = E$ .

By construction, the composition  $\psi\phi : E \rightarrow E$  restricts to identity on  $W$ ; hence  $\psi\phi = \text{Id}_E$ , by the same adjunction. Similarly, the composition  $\widehat{\phi}\widehat{\psi} = \widehat{E'} \rightarrow \widehat{E'}$  restricts to identity on  $\widehat{U}$ , and since  $\widehat{E'} \simeq \widehat{i_*\mathcal{F}}$ , we must have  $\widehat{\phi}\widehat{\psi} = \text{Id}_{\widehat{E'}}$ , so  $\phi\psi = \text{Id}_{E'}$  by Proposition 2.4(i). We have proved that  $E = i_*F \simeq E'$ . Since  $\widehat{E'} = \widehat{i_*\mathcal{F}}$  we conclude that  $\widehat{i_*F} = \widehat{i_*\mathcal{F}}$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 2.12.** *The following conditions are equivalent:*

- (i) *The cokernel of  $(i_p)_*F_p|_{X_{p-1}} \rightarrow (i_{p-1})_*F_{p-1}$  is supported in codimension  $\geq 3$  for  $p \gg 0$ .*
- (ii) *The projective system  $\{\widehat{i_*F_p}\}_{p \geq 1}$  satisfies the Mittag-Leffler condition.*
- (iii) *The direct image  $\widehat{i_*\mathcal{F}}$  is coherent.*
- (iv) *The bundle  $\mathcal{F}$  admits an algebraization.*

*Proof.* The implications (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii) and (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iv) are established in the proof of Theorem 2.10. The implication (iv)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) is proved in Proposition 2.11. If the projective system  $\{\widehat{i_*F_p}\}_{p \geq 1}$  satisfies the Mittag-Leffler condition, by 0.13.3.1 in [EGAIII] the natural map  $\widehat{i_*\mathcal{F}} \rightarrow \varprojlim \widehat{i_*F_p}$  is an isomorphism. By the Mittag-Leffler condition we can replace  $\widehat{i_*F_p}$  by a system of subsheaves  $G_p \subset \widehat{i_*F_p}$  so that the property  $\widehat{i_*\mathcal{F}} \simeq \varprojlim G_p$  still holds and  $G_p|_{X_{p-1}} \rightarrow G_{p-1}$  is surjective. Since each  $G_p$  is coherent by the noetherian property of  $X_p$ , Proposition 10.11.3 in [EGA1] tells us that  $\varprojlim G_p$  is also coherent. Therefore, (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii).  $\square$

*Remark 2.13.* Suppose that  $X_0$  is a smooth projective surface over  $K$ ,  $\xi = k_1P_1 + \dots + k_lP_l$  an effective zero cycle and that  $F_0$  is a rank  $n$  vector bundle on  $U_0 = X_0 \setminus \{P_1, \dots, P_l\}$ . The pair  $(F_0, \xi_0)$  should define a point  $\text{Spec}(K) \rightarrow \text{Uhl}_n$  of the Uhlenbeck functor. Assume that  $(F, \xi) : \text{Spec}(A) \rightarrow \text{Uhl}_n$  extends  $(F_0, \xi_0)$ . Then it is expected that  $\text{Coker}(i_*F \rightarrow i_*F_0)$  can be supported only at the points  $P_1, \dots, P_l$ , with multiplicities bounded by  $k_1, \dots, k_l$ , respectively. (In the differential geometry picture, cf. [DK],  $\xi_0$  represents the singular part of a connection

which may be smoothed out by  $F$  but may not acquire any negative coefficients. Since the multiplicities of  $\text{Coker}(i_*F \rightarrow i_*F_0)$  measure the local change of  $c_2$ , one obtains the bound mentioned.) But the proof of Proposition 2.11 shows that the multiplicities of  $\text{Coker}(i_*F \rightarrow i_*F_0)$  give an upper bound for the total sum, over all  $p$ , of similar multiplicities for  $\text{Coker}((i_p)_*F_p|_{X_{p-1}} \rightarrow (i_{p-1})_*F_{p-1})$ . Hence the condition of Corollary 2.12(i) is rather natural from the point of view of Uhlenbeck spaces.

### 3. ALGEBRAIZATION OF PRINCIPAL BUNDLES

Let  $G$  be an affine algebraic group over  $k$ . We keep the notation of Section 2.1 and consider left principal  $G$ -bundles which are locally trivial in fppf topology. For such a  $G$ -bundle  $P$  (over  $\widehat{U}$  or an open subset  $U \subset X$ ) and any scheme  $Y$  over  $k$  with left  $G$ -action, denote by  $P_Y = G \backslash (Y \times_k P)$  the associated fiber bundle, i.e. the quotient by the left diagonal action of  $G$ . For instance, when  $\rho : G \rightarrow H$  is a homomorphism of linear algebraic groups over  $k$  we can consider a left  $G$ -action on  $H$  given by  $g \cdot h = h\rho(g)^{-1}$ , and then  $P_H$  is simply the principal  $H$ -bundle induced via  $\rho$ .

**Theorem 3.1.** *Assume that the identity component  $G^\circ$  is reductive. Then a principal  $G$ -bundle  $\mathcal{P}$  over the formal scheme  $\widehat{U}$  admits an algebraization if and only if for a fixed exact representation  $G \hookrightarrow GL(V)$  the associated vector bundle  $\mathcal{P}_V$  admits an algebraization, i.e. satisfies the conditions of Corollary 2.12.*

The “only if” part is obvious. Since by a result of Haboush, cf. Theorem 3.3 in [Hal], the quotient  $GL(V)/G$  is affine, the “if” part follows from the following general statement.

**Proposition 3.2.** *Let  $H$  be an affine algebraic group over  $k$  and let  $G$  be its closed subgroup such that  $H/G$  is affine. Suppose that  $\mathcal{P}$  is a principal  $G$ -bundle over  $\widehat{U}$  such that the associated principal  $H$ -bundle  $\mathcal{Q} = \mathcal{P}_H$  admits an algebraization. Then  $\mathcal{P}$  admits an algebraization.*

First we establish a preparatory result. As before,  $U \subset X$  is an open subset satisfying  $U \cap X_0 = U_0$ .

**Lemma 3.3.** *Let  $H$  be a linear algebraic group over  $k$ ,  $Q$  be a principal  $H$ -bundle on  $U$  and  $\widehat{Q}$  be its completion. Also let  $Y$  be an affine  $H$ -variety. Then for any section  $\widehat{s} : \widehat{U} \rightarrow \widehat{Q}_Y$  there exists a section  $s : W \rightarrow Q_Y$  on an open subset  $W \subset U$  containing  $U_0$ , with completion equal to  $\widehat{s}$ . If  $(W, s)$  and  $(W', s')$  are two such algebraizations, then  $s = s'$  on  $W \cap W'$ .*

*Proof.* One can find an  $H$ -invariant linear subspace  $V^\vee \subset k[Y]$  containing a set of generators of  $k[Y]$  as a  $k$ -algebra. Then the surjection  $\text{Sym}_k^*(V^\vee) \rightarrow k[Y]$  gives an  $H$ -equivariant closed embedding  $Y \hookrightarrow V$  into the dual space  $V$ . This induces closed embeddings  $Q_Y \hookrightarrow Q_V$  and  $\widehat{Q}_Y \hookrightarrow \widehat{Q}_V$ .

Therefore  $\widehat{s}$  becomes a section of the vector bundle  $\widehat{Q}_V$ . By Proposition 2.11(ii) the completion of the coherent sheaf  $i_*Q_V$  is isomorphic to  $\widehat{i}_*\widehat{Q}_V$ , and therefore by Proposition 2.4(i) there exists a unique section  $\widehat{s}$  of  $i_*Q_V$  with completion given by  $\widehat{i}_*\widehat{s}$ . Set  $s = \widehat{s}|_U$ .

It remains to show that  $s(W) \subset Q_V$  on some  $W$  as above. Let  $\mathcal{A} = \text{Sym}^*(Q_V^\vee)$  be the sheaf of symmetric algebras on  $U$  corresponding to  $Q_V$  and  $\mathcal{I} \subset \mathcal{A}$  be the

ideal sheaf of  $Q_Y$ . The section  $s$  gives the evaluation morphism  $\rho : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_U$ . The sheaf  $G = \rho(\mathcal{I})$  is coherent, being a subsheaf of  $\mathcal{O}_U$ . Since  $\widehat{s}$  takes values in  $\widehat{Q}_Y$ , the completion  $\widehat{G}$  is zero. By Corollary 10.8.12 in [EGAII] this implies  $Supp(G) \cap U_0 = \emptyset$ ; hence  $W = U \setminus Supp(G)$  satisfies the conditions of the lemma. The uniqueness of  $s$  follows from the uniqueness of  $\widehat{s}$ .  $\square$

*Proof of Proposition 3.2.* Let  $(U, Q)$  be an algebraization of  $\mathcal{Q}$ . In general, giving a principal  $G$ -bundle is equivalent to giving a principal  $H$ -bundle  $\mathcal{R}$  together with a reduction to  $G$ , i.e. a section of the associated bundle  $\mathcal{R}_{H/G}$  with the fiber  $H/G$ . Since  $\mathcal{Q}$  is induced from  $\mathcal{P}$ , we get a section  $\widehat{s} : \widehat{U} \rightarrow \mathcal{Q}_{H/G}$ , and by the above lemma there exists  $s : W \rightarrow Q_{H/G}$  such that  $\widehat{s}$  is equal to its completion. Then  $\mathcal{P}$  admits an algebraization  $(W, P)$  where  $P$  is the pullback of the principal  $G$ -bundle  $Q \rightarrow Q_{H/G}$  via  $s : W \rightarrow Q_{H/G}$ .  $\square$

4. CATEGORICAL FORMULATIONS

**Proposition 4.1.** *The functor  $F \mapsto \widehat{F}|_{\widehat{U}}$  induces an equivalence between the full subcategory of all coherent sheaves  $E$  on  $X$ , which are locally free at the points of  $U_0 \subset X$  and have  $depth_x E \geq 2$  at the points where  $E$  is not locally free, and the full subcategory of locally free sheaves on  $\widehat{U}$  admitting algebraization.*

*Proof.* Let  $(U, F)$  be an algebraization of  $\mathcal{F}$ . Then the sheaf  $E = i_* F$  satisfies  $E \simeq i_* i^* E$ ; hence by Proposition 2.4(iii)  $depth_x E \geq 2$  for all  $x \in Z = X \setminus U$ . We also observe that  $E$  is uniquely determined by  $\mathcal{F}$ , since by Propositions 2.4(i) and 2.11(ii) it is the unique coherent sheaf on  $X$  such that  $\widehat{E} \simeq \widehat{i}_* \mathcal{F}$ . Thus the functor described is essentially surjective on objects. For the morphisms, let  $\mathcal{F}_1, \mathcal{F}_2$  be a pair of vector bundles on  $\widehat{U}$  with algebraizations  $(U, F_1)$  and  $(U, F_2)$ , respectively, which we may assume to be defined on the same  $U$ . Denote by  $E_1 = i_* F_1, E_2 = i_* F_2$  the corresponding coherent sheaves on  $X$ . Then  $Hom_{\widehat{U}}(\mathcal{F}_1, \mathcal{F}_2) = Hom_{\widehat{X}}(\widehat{i}_* \mathcal{F}_1, \widehat{i}_* \mathcal{F}_2) = Hom_X(E_1, E_2)$ , where the first equality is by adjunction of  $i^*$  and  $i_*$  and the second by Propositions 2.4(i) and 2.11(ii).  $\square$

To formulate a result for principal bundles, let  $\mathcal{B}(G, U_0)$  be the groupoid category in which the objects are given by pairs  $(U, P)$ , where  $U \subset X$  is an open subset with  $U \cap X_0 = U_0$ , and  $P$  is a principal  $G$ -bundle on  $U$ . Morphisms from  $(U, P)$  to  $(U', P')$  are given by the set of equivalence classes of pairs  $(W, \psi)$ , where  $W \subset U \cap U'$  is an open subset with  $W \cap X_0 = U_0$  and  $\psi : P|_W \rightarrow P'|_W$  an isomorphism of  $G$ -bundles. Two such pairs  $(W, \psi)$  and  $(W, \psi')$  are equivalent if  $\psi = \psi'$  on  $W \cap W'$ . Also denote by  $Bun(G, \widehat{U})$  the groupoid category of  $G$ -bundles on the formal scheme  $\widehat{U}$ . Completion along  $U_0$  defines a functor  $\Psi : \mathcal{B}(G, U_0) \rightarrow Bun(G, \widehat{U})$ . The following statement summarizes our results on algebraization of principal bundles.

**Theorem 4.2.** *With the notation of Section 2.1,*

- (i) *For any affine algebraic group  $G$  over  $k$ ,  $\Psi : \mathcal{B}(G, U_0) \rightarrow Bun(G, \widehat{U})$  is full and strict.*
- (ii) *For  $G = GL_n(k)$  the essential image of  $\Psi$  is the full subcategory of rank  $n$  vector bundles  $\mathcal{F} = \varprojlim F_p$  on  $\widehat{U}$  which satisfy the equivalent conditions (i)-(iii) of Corollary 2.12.*

- (iii) Let  $G \hookrightarrow H$  be a closed embedding of affine algebraic groups over  $k$  such that  $H/G$  is affine. Then the natural functor from  $G$ -bundles to  $H$ -bundles induces an equivalence of categories

$$\mathcal{B}(G, U_0) \simeq \text{Bun}(G, \widehat{U}) \times_{\text{Bun}(H, \widehat{U})} \mathcal{B}(H, U_0).$$

*Proof.* To prove (i) suppose that  $\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{P}'$  are two principal bundles on  $\widehat{U}$  admitting algebraizations  $P, P'$ , respectively, which we may assume to be defined on the same  $U \subset X$ . Let  $\widehat{\psi} : \mathcal{P} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}'$  be an isomorphism. We need to prove that there exists (perhaps after shrinking  $U$ ) a unique isomorphism  $\psi : P \rightarrow P'$  with completion given by  $\widehat{\psi}$ . Let  $\text{Isom}(P, P')$  be the bundle of isomorphisms  $P \rightarrow P'$ . Considering graphs of isomorphisms, we can identify  $\text{Isom}(P, P') \simeq G \backslash (P \times_U P')$ . On the other hand,  $P \times_U P'$  is a principal bundle over  $G \times_k G$ . Define a left action of  $G \times_k G$  on  $G$  by  $(g, h) \cdot f = gfh^{-1}$ ; then  $G \backslash (P \times_U P') \simeq (P \times_U P')_G$ . Since  $\widehat{\psi}$  gives a section  $\widehat{s}$  of  $\text{Isom}(P, P')$ , applying Lemma 3.3 to  $H = G \times_k G$  and  $Y = G$ , we get a unique algebraization  $s : W \rightarrow (P \times_U P')_G \simeq \text{Isom}(P, P')|_W$ , which corresponds to the required isomorphism  $\psi$ . This proves (i).

The statement of (ii) for objects holds by Corollary 2.12 and for morphisms by (i).

For (iii) first observe that the compositions  $\mathcal{B}(G, U_0) \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(H, U_0) \rightarrow \text{Bun}(H, \widehat{U})$  and  $\mathcal{B}(G, U_0) \rightarrow \text{Bun}(G, \widehat{U}) \rightarrow \text{Bun}(H, \widehat{U})$  are canonically isomorphic; therefore one does get a functor

$$\mathcal{B}(G, U_0) \rightarrow \text{Bun}(G, \widehat{U}) \times_{\text{Bun}(H, \widehat{U})} \mathcal{B}(H, U_0).$$

On objects, this functor is an equivalence if for a  $G$ -bundle  $\mathcal{P}$  on  $\widehat{U}$ , an  $H$ -bundle  $Q$  on  $U \subset X$  and an isomorphism  $\phi : \mathcal{P}_H \simeq \widehat{Q}$ , there exists an open subset  $W \subset U$  with  $W \cap X_0 = U_0$ , a  $G$ -bundle  $P$  on  $W$  and isomorphisms  $\widehat{P} \simeq \mathcal{P}$  and  $P_H \simeq Q|_W$  which induce  $\phi$  in a natural way. This is equivalent to finding an algebraization of the section  $\widehat{s} : \widehat{U} \rightarrow \widehat{Q}_{H/G}$  induced by  $\phi$ , which was done in the proof of Proposition 3.2. On morphisms, without loss of generality it suffices to consider two  $G$ -bundles  $P, P'$  defined on the same open set  $U$ , and isomorphisms  $\psi : P_H \simeq P'_H$ ,  $\widehat{\phi} : \widehat{P} \rightarrow \widehat{P}'$  which have the same image in  $\text{Bun}(H, \widehat{U})$ . We need to show that there exists a unique isomorphism  $\phi : P \rightarrow P'$  inducing  $\widehat{\phi}$  and  $\psi$  in the natural sense. But by (i) there exists a unique  $\phi$  with completion equal to  $\widehat{\phi}$ . Since by assumption the isomorphisms  $\psi' = \phi_H$  and  $\psi$  are equal after completion,  $\psi' = \psi$  by part (i). This finishes the proof.  $\square$

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