

ACM VECTOR BUNDLES ON  
 $\mathbf{P}^{n-1} \times C$  WITH  $C$  A SMOOTH CURVE

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**Abstract:** Fix a smooth genus  $g > 0$  curve, an integral  $(n - 1)$ -dimensional variety  $Y$  and an ample  $H \in \text{Pic}(Y)$  such that  $h^i(Y, H^{\otimes t}) = 0$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n - 2$  and all  $t \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Let  $E$  be a vector bundle on  $X := Y \times C$ . We will say that  $E$  is ACM if  $h^i(X, E \otimes L) = 0$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$  and certain  $L \in \text{Pic}(X)$  constructed from  $H$  and  $\text{Pic}(C)$ . Here we study ACM vector bundles on  $X$ , mainly when  $Y = \mathbf{P}^{n-1}$  and  $\text{rank}(E) \leq n - 2$ .

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Fix an integer  $n \geq 2$ , an integral  $(n - 1)$ -dimensional projective variety  $Y$  and an ample line bundle  $H$  on  $Y$ . We make the following assumptions:

- (i)  $h^i(Y, H^{\otimes t}) = 0$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n - 2$  and all  $t \in \mathbb{Z}$ ;
- (ii)  $h^{n-1}(Y, H^{\otimes t}) = 0$  for all  $t \geq 0$ .

Hence condition (i) is empty if  $n = 2$ , while if  $n \geq 3$  it implies  $h^i(Y, \mathcal{O}_Y) = 0$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n - 2$ . Condition (ii) is equivalent to  $h^0(Y, \omega_Y \otimes H^{\otimes z}) = 0$  for all  $z \geq 0$  (use the case  $p = r$  of the theorem in the preface of [1]). Under

very mild assumptions (e.g. if  $h^0(Y, H) > 0$ ), condition (ii) is equivalent to  $h^0(Y, \omega_Y) = 0$ . Fix a smooth and connected projective curve  $C$  of genus  $q > 0$  and set  $X := Y \times C$ . Let  $\pi_1 : X \rightarrow Y$  and  $\pi_2 : X \rightarrow C$  denote the projections. Set  $\wp_X := \mathbb{Z}\pi_1^*(H) \otimes \pi_2^*(\text{Pic}(C)) \subseteq \text{Pic}(X)$ . If  $H$  is a generator of  $\text{Pic}(Y)$ , then  $\wp_X = \text{Pic}(X)$  (use that in this case any morphism  $Y \rightarrow C$  is constant and apply [4], Proposition 2). For any  $M \in \text{Pic}(C)$ , any  $t \in \mathbb{Z}$  and any coherent sheaf  $F$  on  $X$  set  $\mathcal{O}_X(t, M) := \pi_1^*(H^{\otimes t}) \otimes \pi_2^*(M)$  and  $F(t, M) := F \otimes \mathcal{O}_X(t, M)$ . Set  $\Phi := \{\mathcal{O}_X(t, M) \in \wp_X : \text{either } t \geq 0 \text{ and } \deg(M) \geq 0 \text{ or } t \leq 0 \text{ and } \deg(M) \leq 0\}$  and  $\tilde{\Phi} := \Phi \cup \bigcup_{P \in C} (0, -P)$ . Set  $\Psi := \{\mathcal{O}_X(t, M) \in \wp_X : \text{either } t > 0 \text{ and } \deg(M) > 0 \text{ or } t = \deg(M) = 0 \text{ or } t < 0 \text{ and } \deg(M) < 0\}$  and  $\tilde{\Psi} := \Psi \cup \bigcup_{P \in C} (0, -P)$ . We will say that the coherent sheaf  $F$  is ACM or that it is *arithmetically Cohen-Macaulay* (resp. WACM or *weakly arithmetically Cohen-Macaulay*, resp. SACM, resp. SWACM) with respect to  $\wp_X$  if  $h^i(X, F \otimes L) = 0$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$  and all  $L \in \Phi$  (resp. all  $L \in \Psi_X$ , resp. all  $L \in \tilde{\Phi}$ , resp. all  $L \in \tilde{\Psi}$ ). A vector bundle  $A$  on  $Y$  is said to be ACM or *arithmetically Cohen-Macaulay* if  $h^i(Y, A \otimes H^{\otimes t}) = 0$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n - 2$  and all  $t \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Here we work over an algebraically closed field  $\mathbb{K}$  and prove the following results and a few remarks for general  $Y$ .

**Theorem 1.** Assume  $\text{char}(\mathbb{K}) = 0$ ,  $Y = \mathbf{P}^{n-1}$  and  $n \geq 3$ . Let  $E$  be a  $\text{rank} r \leq n - 2$  ACM vector bundle on  $X$ . There are integers  $s > 0$ ,  $r_i > 0$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq s$ , such that  $r_1 + \dots + r_s = r$ ,  $t_1 > \dots > t_s$ ,  $\text{rank} r_i$  vector bundles  $A_i$  on  $C$  and an increasing filtration  $\{E_i\}_{0 \leq i \leq s}$  of  $E$  by subbundles such that  $E_0 = 0$ ,  $E_r = E$  and  $E_i/E_{i-1} \cong \pi_2^*(A_i)(t_i, \mathcal{O}_C)$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq r$ .

**Proposition 1.** Take  $Y = \mathbf{P}^{n-1}$ ,  $n \geq 4$ , an ACM  $\text{rank} r < n - 2$  vector bundles on  $X$  and  $s, t_i, r_i, E_i A_i$  as in the statement of Theorem 1. If  $s = 1$ , then  $A_1$  is as described in Example 1 below (case  $q = 1$ ) or Example 2 below (case  $q \geq 2$ ). Now assume  $s \geq 2$ . Then  $p_2^*(A_s)(t_s, \mathcal{O}_C)$  is ACM.

**Remark 1.** Assume  $\text{char}(\mathbb{K}) = 0$ ,  $Y = \mathbf{P}^{n-1}$  and  $n \geq 3$ . Let  $E$  be a  $\text{rank} r \leq n - 2$  ACM vector bundle on  $X$ . Since every vector bundle on a smooth curve is an iterated extension of lines bundles, there is an increasing filtration  $\{F_i\}_{0 \leq i \leq r}$  of  $E$  such that  $F_0 = 0$ ,  $F_r = E$  and  $F_i/F_{i-1} \in \text{Pic}(X)$ . The existence of such a filtration gives a strong restriction on the Chern classes of  $E$ . Fix any  $L \in \text{Pic}(X)$ . Künneth formula and Theorem 1 shows that  $h^i(X, E \otimes L) = 0$  for all  $2 \leq i \leq n - 2$ .

**Theorem 2.** Assume  $\text{char}(\mathbb{K}) = 0$ ,  $Y = \mathbf{P}^{n-1}$  and  $n \geq 3$ . Let  $E$  be a  $\text{rank} n - 1$  ACM vector bundle on  $X$ . Either  $E$  satisfies the thesis of Theorem 1 with respect to the integer  $r := n - 1$  or there are an integer  $z$ ,  $L \in \text{Pic}(X)$  and

a rank  $n$  vector bundle  $B$  on  $C$  such that  $E$  fits in one of the following exact sequences

$$0 \rightarrow L \rightarrow \pi_2^*(B)(z + 1, \mathcal{O}_C) \rightarrow E \rightarrow 0, \tag{1}$$

$$0 \rightarrow E \rightarrow \pi_2^*(B)(z - 1, \mathcal{O}_C) \rightarrow L \rightarrow 0. \tag{2}$$

If (1) occurs, then  $B \cong \pi_{2*}(E(-z - 1, \mathcal{O}_C))$  and  $L \cong \mathcal{O}_X(z, M)$  for some  $M \in \text{Pic}(C)$ . If (2) occurs, then  $B \cong \pi_{2*}(E^*(z - 1, \mathcal{O}_C))$  and  $L \cong \mathcal{O}_X(z, M)$  for some  $M \in \text{Pic}(C)$ .

**Remark 2.** Fix coherent sheaves  $A$  on  $Y$  and  $B$  on  $C$ . Set  $F := \pi_1^*(A) \otimes \pi_2^*(B)$ . Künneth formula gives  $h^0(X, F) = h^0(Y, A) \cdot h^0(C, B)$ ,  $h^i(X, F) = h^i(Y, A) \cdot h^0(C, B) + h^{i-1}(Y, A) \cdot h^1(C, B)$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$  and  $h^n(X, F) = h^{n-1}(Y, A) \cdot h^1(C, B)$ .

**Remark 3.** Any extension of two ACM (or WACM or SACM or SACM or ...) vectpr bundleas has the same property.

**Example 1.** Here we assume  $q = 1$  and use the characteristic free part of the classification of vector bundles on elliptic curves proved in [2], Part II. Fix an integer  $r \geq 1$  and a rank  $r$  vector bundle  $B$  on  $C$ . Set  $a := \text{deg}(B)$  and  $E_t := \pi_2^*(B)(t, \mathcal{O}_C)$ .  $E_0$  is ACM if and only if  $h^1(C, B \otimes M) = 0$  for all  $M \in \text{Pic}(C)$  with  $\text{deg}(M) \geq 0$  (and here it is sufficient to use the degree 0 line bundles  $M$ ) and  $h^0(C, B \otimes M) = 0$  for all line bundles  $M$  such that  $\text{deg}(M) < 0$  (use  $(t, M)$  with  $t \leq -2$  and Remark 2. Thus  $E_0$  is ACM if and only if it is WACM if and only if in the Harder-Narasimhan filtration of  $B$  all semistable graded subquotients of  $B$  have degree  $> 0$ . Now assume  $t > 0$ .  $E_t$  is ACM if and only if it is WACM if and only if in the Harder-Narasimhan filtration of  $B$  all semistable graded subquotients of  $B$  have slope  $> t$ , i.e. if and only if  $\mu_-(E) > t$ . Now assume  $t < 0$ .  $E_t$  is ACM if and only if it is WACM if and only if in the Harder-Narasimhan filtration of  $B$  all semistable graded subquotients of  $B$  have slope  $< t$ , i.e. if and only if  $\mu_+(E) < t$ .

In the case  $q \geq 2$  our results are less complete. Indeed, we may only prove the following almost tautological result.

**Example 2.** Assume  $q \geq 2$ . Fix an integer  $r \geq 1$  and a rank  $r$  vector bundle  $B$  on  $C$ . Set  $a := \text{deg}(B)$  and  $E_t := \pi_2^*(B)(t, \mathcal{O}_C)$ .  $E_0$  is ACM if and only if  $h^1(C, B \otimes M) = 0$  for all  $M \in \text{Pic}^0(C)$  and  $h^0(C, B \otimes M) = 0$  for all  $M \in \text{Pic}^{-1}(C)$  (use  $(t, M)$  with  $t \leq -2$  and Remark 2. Now assume  $t > 0$ .  $E_t$  is ACM if and only if it is WACM if and only if  $h^1(C, B \otimes M) = 0$  for all  $M \in \text{Pic}^0(C)$  and  $h^0(C, B \otimes M) = 0$  for all  $M \in \text{Pic}^{-1}(C)$ . Now assume  $t < 0$ .  $E_t$  is ACM if and only if it is WACM if and only if  $h^0(C, B \otimes M) = 0$  for all

$M \in \text{Pic}^0(C)$  and  $h^1(C, B \otimes M) = 0$  for all  $M \in \text{Pic}^1(C)$ . We will say that  $B$  is *positively balanced*, (resp. *negatively balanced* if  $h^1(C, B \otimes M) = 0$  for all  $M \in \text{Pic}^0(C)$  and  $h^0(C, B \otimes M) = 0$  for all  $M \in \text{Pic}^{-1}(C)$ ) (resp.  $h^0(C, B \otimes M) = 0$  for all  $M \in \text{Pic}^0(C)$  and  $h^1(C, B \otimes M) = 0$  for all  $M \in \text{Pic}^1(C)$ ).

As far as we know there is no previously defined invariant of  $A$  which captures the conditions listed in Example 2.

**Proposition 2.** *Let  $E$  be a SWACM vector bundle on  $X$ . Then  $E|Y \times \{P\}$  is ACM for all  $P \in C$ .*

*Proof.* Use the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow E(t, -P \otimes M) \rightarrow E(t, M) \rightarrow E(t, 0)|Y \otimes \{P\} \rightarrow 0. \tag{3}$$

In which  $M = \mathcal{O}_C$  if  $t = 0$ ,  $\deg(M) > 0$  if  $t > 0$  and  $\deg(M) < 0$  if  $t < 0$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 3.** *Let  $E$  be an ACM vector bundle on  $X$ . Fix any  $P \in C$ . Then  $h^i(Y \times \{P\}, E(t, 0)|Y \times \{P\}) = 0$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n - 2$  and all  $t \neq 0$ . Hence  $E|Y \times \{P\}$  is ACM (after the natural identification of  $Y \times \{P\}$  with  $Y$  induced by  $\pi_1$ ).*

*Proof.* Fix  $P \in C$ ,  $M \in \text{Pic}(C)$  and  $t \in \mathbb{Z}$  and consider the exact sequence (3) in which we identify. If  $t > 0$  take any  $M$  with  $\deg(M) > 0$ . If  $t < 0$  take any  $M$  with  $\deg(M) < 0$ . Since  $E$  is ACM, we get that  $h^i(Y, E(t, 0)|Y \otimes \{P\}) = 0$  if  $1 \leq i \leq n - 2$  and  $t \neq 0$ .  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 1.* Fix  $P \in C$ . Use Proposition 3 to show that we have  $h^i(Y \times \{P\}, E(t, 0)|Y \times \{P\}) = 0$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n - 2$  and all  $t \neq 0$ . By [3], Corollary 1.2, every indecomposable factor  $G_P$  of  $E|Y \times \{P\}$  is isomorphic to either a line bundle or to  $\Omega_Y^i$  for some  $1 \leq i \leq n - 2$ . Since  $r \leq n - 2$ , every irreducible factor of  $E|T \times \{P\}$  has rank one. Since  $n \geq 3$ , it is easy to check that (up to a permutation of the factors) the decomposition into irreducible factors of  $E|Y \times \{P\}$  does not depend from the choice of  $P$ . We get the existence of integers  $s > 0$ ,  $r_i > 0$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq s$ ,  $t_1 > \dots > t_s$ , such that  $r_1 + \dots + r_s = r$  and  $E|Y \times \{P\} \cong \bigoplus_{i=1}^s \mathcal{O}_{Y \times \{P\}}(t_i)^{\oplus r_i}$  for all  $P \in C$  (Harder-Narasimhan filtration). Hence  $p_{2*}(E(-t_1, 0))$  is a rank  $r_1$  vector bundles on  $C$ . Basing change shows that the natural map  $p_{2*}^*p_{2*}(E(-t_1, 0)) \rightarrow E(-t_1, 0)$  has constant rank  $r_1$ . Basing change shows the existence of  $s$  vector bundles  $A_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq s$ , on  $C$  and an increasing filtration  $E_i$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq s$ , of  $E$  by subbundles such that  $E_0 = 0$ ,  $E_s = E$  and  $E_i/E_{i-1} \cong \pi_2^*(A_i)((t_i, \mathcal{O}_C)$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq s$ .  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 2.* As in the proof of Theorem 1 we apply [3], Corollary 1.2. The new case occurs if there is  $P \in C$  and  $z \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that either  $E|Y \times \{P\} \cong \Omega_Y^1(z)$  or  $E|Y \times \{P\} \cong TY(z)$ . Looking at the Chern classes we see that

in the last two cases  $E|_Y \times \{Q\}$  does not depend from the choice of  $Q$ . First assume  $E|_Y \times \{P\} \cong TY(z)$ . Changing basis shows that  $\pi_{2*}(E(-z-1, \mathcal{O}_C))$  is a rank  $n$  vector bundle on  $C$  and that the natural map  $\pi_2^*(\pi_{2*}(E(-z-1, \mathcal{O}_C))) \rightarrow E(-z+1, \mathcal{O}_C)$  is surjective. Hence its kernel is a line bundle. Hence in this there is  $L \in \text{Pic}(X)$  fitting in the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow L \rightarrow \pi_2^*(\pi_{2*}(E(-z-1, \mathcal{O}_C))) \rightarrow E(-z-1, \mathcal{O}_C) \rightarrow 0. \quad (4)$$

Dually, if  $E|_Y \times \{P\} \cong \Omega_Y^1(z)$  for all  $P \in C$ , then there is  $L \in \text{Pic}(X)$  fitting in the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow L \rightarrow \pi_2^*(\pi_{2*}(E^*(z-1, \mathcal{O}_C))) \rightarrow E^*(z-1, \mathcal{O}_C) \rightarrow 0. \quad (5)$$

Taking dual we get the exact sequence (2).  $\square$

*Proof of Proposition 1.* The case  $s = 1$  was checked in Examples 1 and 2. Now assume  $s \geq 2$ . Recall that  $h^x(X, E \otimes L) = 0$  for all  $2 \leq x \leq n-2$  and all  $L \in \text{Pic}(X)$  (Remark 1). By induction on  $i$  as in the second part of Remark 1 we get  $h^x(X, E_i \otimes L) = 0$  for all  $2 \leq x \leq n-2$  and all  $L \in \text{Pic}(X)$ . Fix  $L \in \text{Pic}(X)$  such that  $h^1(X, E \otimes L) = 0$ . Since  $h^2(X, E_{s-1} \otimes L) = 0$ , we get  $h^1(X, \pi_2^*(A_s)(t_s, \mathcal{O}_C) \otimes L) = 0$ . Since  $E$  is ACM,  $\pi_2^*(A_s)(t_s, \mathcal{O}_C)$  is ACM.  $\square$

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