

# Frobenius stratification of moduli spaces of rank 3 vector bundles in positive characteristic 3, II

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*Dedicated to the memory of Professor Michel Raynaud.*

Let  $X$  be a smooth projective curve of genus  $g \geq 2$  over an algebraically closed field  $k$  of characteristic  $p > 0$ ,  $\mathfrak{M}_X^s(r, d)$  the moduli space of stable vector bundles of rank  $r$  and degree  $d$  on  $X$ . We study the Frobenius stratification of  $\mathfrak{M}_X^s(3, d)$  in terms of Harder-Narasimhan polygons of Frobenius pull-backs of stable vector bundles and obtain the irreducibility and dimension of each non-empty Frobenius stratum in the case  $(p, g) = (3, 2)$  with  $3 \nmid d$ .

## 1. Introduction

Let  $k$  be an algebraically closed field of characteristic  $p > 0$ ,  $X$  a smooth projective curve of genus  $g$  over  $k$ . The absolute Frobenius morphism  $F_X : X \rightarrow X$  is induced by  $\mathcal{O}_X \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X, f \mapsto f^p$ . Let  $\mathfrak{M}_X^s(r, d)$  be the moduli space of stable vector bundles of rank  $r$  and degree  $d$  on  $X$ .

For any vector bundle  $\mathcal{E}$  on  $X$ , by the Harder-Narasimhan filtration of  $\mathcal{E}$ , we can define the *Harder-Narasimhan Polygon*  $\text{HNP}(\mathcal{E})$ , which is a convex polygon in the coordinate plane of rank-degree (cf. [18, Section 3]).

Fix integers  $m$  and  $n$  with  $m > 0$ . Let  $\mathbf{ConPgn}(m, n)$  be the set of all convex polygons in the coordinate plane such that their vertexes have integral coordinates, start at the origin  $(0, 0)$  and end at the point  $(m, n)$ . Then there is a natural partial order structure, denoted by  $\succcurlyeq$ , on the set  $\mathbf{ConPgn}(m, n)$  (cf. [18, Section 3]).

In general, the semistability of vector bundles is possibly destabilized under the Frobenius pull-back  $F_X^*$  (cf. [3], [17]). Thus, there is a natural

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set-theoretic map

$$S_{\text{Frob}}^s : \mathfrak{M}_X^s(r, d)(k) \rightarrow \mathbf{ConPgn}(r, pd)$$

$$[\mathcal{E}] \mapsto \text{HNP}(F_X^*(\mathcal{E}))$$

For any  $\mathcal{P} \in \mathbf{ConPgn}(r, pd)$ , we denote

$$S_X(r, d, \mathcal{P}) := \{[\mathcal{E}] \in \mathfrak{M}_X^s(r, d) \mid \text{HNP}(F_X^*(\mathcal{E})) = \mathcal{P}\}.$$

$$S_X(r, d, \mathcal{P}^+) := \{[\mathcal{E}] \in \mathfrak{M}_X^s(r, d) \mid \text{HNP}(F_X^*(\mathcal{E})) \succneq \mathcal{P}\}.$$

Then we have a canonical stratification of  $\mathfrak{M}_X^s(r, d)$  in terms of Harder-Narasimhan polygons of Frobenius pull-backs of stable vector bundles. We call this the *Frobenius stratification* (cf. [6]). By [18, Theorem 3], the Frobenius stratum  $S_X(r, d, \mathcal{P}^+)$  is a closed subvariety of  $\mathfrak{M}_X^s(r, d)$  for any  $\mathcal{P} \in \mathbf{ConPgn}(r, pd)$ .

Some results about Frobenius stratification of moduli spaces of vector bundles are known in special cases for small values of  $p, g, r$  and  $d$ . Joshi-Ramanan-Xia-Yu [6] give a complete description of the Frobenius stratification of the moduli space  $\mathfrak{M}_X^s(2, d)$  if  $p = 2$  and  $g \geq 2$ . In [12] the author obtains the classification of Frobenius strata in  $\mathfrak{M}_X^s(3, 0)$  if  $p = 3$  and  $g = 2$ . It is easy to deduce the Frobenius stratification of  $\mathfrak{M}_X^s(3, d)$  if  $(p, g) = (3, 2)$  and  $3|d$ . The method used in this paper, as well as [12], is a variation of the idea introduced in [6]. In the higher rank case, Joshi and Pauly [5] study the properties of the Frobenius stratum consisting of stable vector bundles whose Frobenius pull-back has maximal Harder-Narasimhan polygon if  $d = 0$  and  $p > r(r - 1)(r - 2)(g - 1)$ . The author obtains the geometric properties of a special Frobenius stratum in  $\mathfrak{M}_X^s(r, d)$  if  $p|r$  and  $g \geq 2$  in [11][13]. Other results about Frobenius stratification of moduli spaces of vector bundles can be found in [2][7][8][9][10][16][22] for  $r = 2$  and [11][14][15][22] for  $r > 2$ .

In general, it is difficult to determine the  $\text{HNP}(F_X^*(\mathcal{E}))$  for some stable vector bundle  $\mathcal{E}$ . In the case  $(p, g, r) = (3, 2, 3)$ , we first show that there are 4 possible Harder-Narasimhan polygons  $\{\mathcal{P}_1(d), \mathcal{P}_2(d), \mathcal{P}_3(d), \mathcal{P}_4(d)\}$  for any Frobenius destabilized stable vector bundles of rank 3 and degree  $d$  (see Figure 1). We show that any Frobenius destabilized stable vector bundle  $[\mathcal{E}] \in \mathfrak{M}_X^s(3, d)(k)$  with  $\text{HNP}(F_X^*(\mathcal{E})) \in \{\mathcal{P}_2(d), \mathcal{P}_3(d), \mathcal{P}_4(d)\}$  can be embedded into  $F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})$  for some line bundle  $\mathcal{L}$  of degree  $d - 1$  on  $X$  (Proposition 3.3). Then we can determine  $\text{HNP}(F_X^*(\mathcal{E}))$  by analysing the intersection of  $F_X^*(\mathcal{E})$  with the canonical filtration of  $F_X^*F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})$ . This is the key point of our method. Moreover, we show that any rank 3 and degree  $d$  subsheaf  $\mathcal{E} \subset F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})$  is stable for any line bundle  $\mathcal{L}$  of degree

$d - 1$  with  $3 \nmid d$  (Proposition 3.4). Therefore we can obtain the geometric properties of Frobenius strata of  $\mathfrak{M}_X^s(3, d)$  from the geometric properties of Frobenius strata of  $\text{Quot}_X(3, d, \text{Pic}^{(-1)}(X))$  (see Section 4) by the morphism  $\theta : \text{Quot}_X(3, d, \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X)) \rightarrow \mathfrak{M}_X^s(3, d) : [\mathcal{E} \hookrightarrow F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})] \mapsto [\mathcal{E}]$ .

The main goal of the paper is to study the geometric properties of Frobenius strata of  $\mathfrak{M}_X^s(3, d)$  with  $3 \nmid d$ . The main result is the following Theorem.

**Theorem 1.1.** (*Theorem 5.2*) *Let  $k$  be an algebraically closed field of characteristic 3,  $X$  a smooth projective curve of genus 2 over  $k$ ,  $d$  an integer with  $3 \nmid d$ . Then  $S_X(3, d, \mathcal{P}_i^+(d)) = \overline{S_X(3, d, \mathcal{P}_i(d))}$ , and  $S_X(3, d, \mathcal{P}_i^+(d))$  (resp.  $S_X(3, d, \mathcal{P}_i(d))$ ) are irreducible projective (resp. irreducible quasi-projective) varieties for  $1 \leq i \leq 4$ ,*

$$\dim S_X(3, d, \mathcal{P}_i^+(d)) = \dim S_X(3, d, \mathcal{P}_i(d)) = \begin{cases} 5, & \text{if } i = 1 \\ 5, & \text{if } i = 2 \\ 4, & \text{if } i = 3 \\ 2, & \text{if } i = 4 \end{cases}$$

The method of this paper is similar to [12], and most proofs of [12] in the case  $(p, g, r, d) = (3, 2, 3, 0)$  can be applied to any degree  $d$  with little modification. However, for any line bundle  $\mathcal{L}$  of degree  $d - 1$  on  $X$  and any rank 3 and degree  $d$  subsheaf  $\mathcal{E} \subset F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})$ , the main difference between the cases  $3|d$  and  $3 \nmid d$  is that  $\mathcal{E}$  is stable if  $3 \nmid d$ , while semistable and possibly not stable if  $3|d$  (see [12, Proposition 3.4] and Proposition 3.4). As a consequence of this difference, the Frobenius strata  $S_X(3, d, \mathcal{P}_i^+(d)) (1 \leq i \leq 4)$  are irreducible projective varieties if  $3 \nmid d$ , and  $S_X(3, d, \mathcal{P}_i^+(d)) (1 \leq i \leq 4)$  are irreducible quasi-projective varieties if  $3|d$ .

In Section 2, we show that there are 4 possible Harder-Narasimhan polygons  $\{\mathcal{P}_1(d), \mathcal{P}_2(d), \mathcal{P}_3(d), \mathcal{P}_4(d)\}$  for the Frobenius pull-backs of Frobenius destabilized stable vector bundles of rank 3 and degree  $d$  in the case  $(p, g, r) = (3, 2, 3)$ .

In Section 3, we show that any Frobenius destabilized stable bundle  $[\mathcal{E}] \in \mathfrak{M}_X^s(3, d)(k)$  with  $\text{HNP}(F_X^*(\mathcal{E})) \in \{\mathcal{P}_2(d), \mathcal{P}_3(d), \mathcal{P}_4(d)\}$  can be embedded into  $F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})$  for some line bundle  $\mathcal{L}$  of degree  $d - 1$  on  $X$ . In addition, we show that for any line bundle  $\mathcal{L}$  of degree  $d - 1$  on  $X$ , each rank 3 and degree  $d$  subsheaf  $\mathcal{E} \subset F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})$  is stable if  $3 \nmid d$ .

In Section 4, we study the Frobenius stratification of the Quot scheme  $\text{Quot}_X(3, d, \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X))$  and obtain the smoothness, irreducibility and dimension of each stratum.

In Section 5, we study the Frobenius stratification of moduli space  $\mathfrak{M}_X^s(3, d)$  if  $(p, g) = (3, 2)$  with  $3 \nmid d$ . By the morphism

$$\theta : \text{Quot}_X(3, d, \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X)) \rightarrow \mathfrak{M}_X^s(3, d) : [\mathcal{E} \hookrightarrow F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})] \mapsto [\mathcal{E}],$$

we obtain the geometric properties of Frobenius strata of the moduli space  $\mathfrak{M}_X^s(3, d)$  from the Frobenius stratification structure of

$$\text{Quot}_X(3, d, \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X)).$$

## 2. Classification of Frobenius Harder-Narasimhan polygons

In this section, we will determine all of the possible Harder-Narasimhan polygons of  $F_X^*(\mathcal{E})$  for any Frobenius destabilized stable vector bundles  $[\mathcal{E}] \in \mathfrak{M}_X^s(3, d)(k)$ , where  $X$  is a smooth projective curve of genus 2 over an algebraically closed field  $k$  of characteristic 3.

**Theorem 2.1 (N. I. Shepherd-Barron [19] and V. Mehta, C. Pauly [15]).** *Let  $k$  be an algebraically closed field of characteristic  $p > 0$ ,  $X$  a smooth projective curve of genus  $g \geq 2$  over  $k$ ,  $\mathcal{E}$  a semistable vector bundle on  $X$ . Let  $0 = \mathcal{E}_0 \subset \mathcal{E}_1 \subset \dots \subset \mathcal{E}_{m-1} \subset \mathcal{E}_m = F_X^*(\mathcal{E})$  be the Harder-Narasimhan filtration of  $F_X^*(\mathcal{E})$ . Then  $\mu(\mathcal{E}_i/\mathcal{E}_{i-1}) - \mu(\mathcal{E}_{i+1}/\mathcal{E}_i) \leq 2g - 2$ , for any  $1 \leq i \leq m - 1$ .*

By Theorem 2.1, there are 4 possible Harder-Narasimhan polygons

$$\{\mathcal{P}_1(d), \mathcal{P}_2(d), \mathcal{P}_3(d), \mathcal{P}_4(d)\}$$

for Frobenius destabilized stable vector bundles in the case  $(p, g, r, d) = (3, 2, 3, d)$ .

## 3. Construction of stable vector bundles

**Definition 3.1.** ([6][20]) Let  $k$  be an algebraically closed field of characteristic  $p > 0$ ,  $X$  a smooth projective curve over  $k$ . For any coherent sheaf  $\mathcal{F}$  on  $X$ , let

$$\nabla_{\text{can}} : F_X^*F_{X*}(\mathcal{F}) \rightarrow F_X^*F_{X*}(\mathcal{F}) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} \Omega_X^1$$

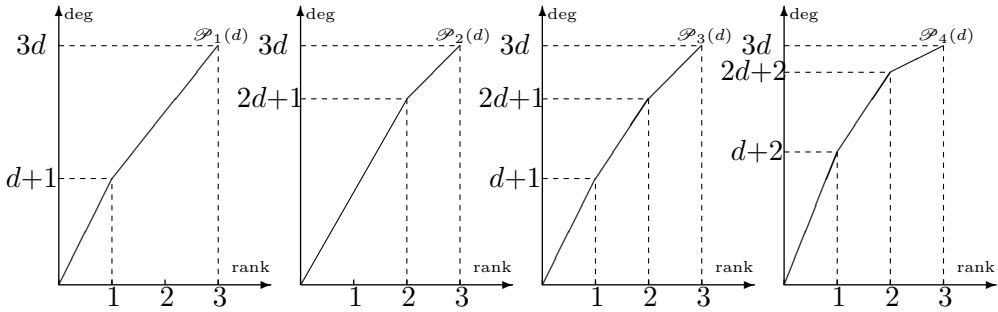


Figure 1: Classification of Harder-Narasimhan polygons if  $(p, g, r, d) = (3, 2, 3, d)$ .

be the canonical connection on  $F_X^*F_{X*}(\mathcal{F})$ . Set

$$V_1 := \ker(F_X^*F_{X*}(\mathcal{F}) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}),$$

$$V_{l+1} := \ker\{V_l \xrightarrow{\nabla_{\text{can}}} F_X^*F_{X*}(\mathcal{F}) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} \Omega_X^1 \rightarrow (F_X^*F_{X*}(\mathcal{F})/V_l) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} \Omega_X^1\}$$

The filtration  $\mathbb{F}_{\mathcal{F}}^{\text{can}} : F_X^*F_{X*}(\mathcal{F}) = V_0 \supset V_1 \supset V_2 \supset \dots$  is called the *canonical filtration* of  $F_X^*F_{X*}(\mathcal{F})$ .

**Theorem 3.2 (X. Sun [20]).** *Let  $k$  be an algebraically closed field of characteristic  $p > 0$ ,  $X$  a smooth projective curve of genus  $g$  over  $k$ ,  $\mathcal{E}$  a vector bundle on  $X$ . Then the canonical filtration of  $F_X^*F_{X*}(\mathcal{E})$  is*

$$0 = V_p \subset V_{p-1} \subset \dots \subset V_{l+1} \subset V_l \subset \dots \subset V_1 \subset V_0 = F_X^*F_{X*}(\mathcal{E})$$

such that

- (1)  $\nabla_{\text{can}}(V_{i+1}) \subset V_i \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} \Omega_X^1$  for  $0 \leq i \leq p - 1$ .
- (2)  $V_l/V_{l+1} \xrightarrow{\nabla_{\text{can}}} \mathcal{E} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} \Omega_X^{\otimes l}$  are isomorphic for  $0 \leq l \leq p - 1$ .
- (3) If  $g \geq 1$ , then  $F_{X*}(\mathcal{E})$  is semistable whenever  $\mathcal{E}$  is semistable. If  $g \geq 2$ , then  $F_{X*}(\mathcal{E})$  is stable whenever  $\mathcal{E}$  is stable.
- (4) If  $g \geq 2$  and  $\mathcal{E}$  is semistable, then the canonical filtration of  $F_X^*F_{X*}(\mathcal{E})$  is nothing but the Harder-Narasimhan filtration of  $F_X^*F_{X*}(\mathcal{E})$ .

**Proposition 3.3.** *Let  $k$  be an algebraically closed field of characteristic 3,  $X$  a smooth projective curve of genus 2 over  $k$ . Let  $\mathcal{E}$  be a rank 3 and degree*

*d* stable vector bundle on  $X$  with a non-trivial homomorphism  $F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \rightarrow \mathcal{L}$ , where  $\mathcal{L}$  is a line bundle of degree  $d - 1$  on  $X$ . Then the adjoint homomorphism  $\mathcal{E} \hookrightarrow F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})$  is an injection.

*Proof.* By adjunction, there is a non-trivial homomorphism  $\mathcal{E} \rightarrow F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})$ . Denote the image by  $\mathcal{G}$ . Suppose that  $1 \leq \text{rk}(\mathcal{G}) \leq 2$ , then by [21, Corollary 2.4] and the stability of  $F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})$ , we have

$$\mu(\mathcal{G}) - \mu(F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})) \leq -\frac{3 - \text{rk}(\mathcal{G})}{3}.$$

By Grothendieck-Riemann-Roch theorem, we have  $\deg(F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})) = d + 1$  (cf. [20, Lemma 4.2]), so

$$\mu(\mathcal{G}) \leq -\frac{3 - \text{rk}(\mathcal{G})}{3} + \mu(F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})) = \frac{\text{rk}(\mathcal{G}) + d - 2}{3}.$$

On the other hand, by stability of  $\mathcal{E}$ , we have  $\mu(\mathcal{G}) > \frac{d}{3}$ . This induces a contradiction. Hence,  $\text{rk}(\mathcal{G}) = 3$ . Therefore  $\mathcal{E} \cong \mathcal{G}$ , i.e. the adjoint homomorphism  $\mathcal{E} \hookrightarrow F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})$  is an injection. □

**Proposition 3.4.** *Let  $k$  be an algebraically closed field of characteristic 3,  $X$  a smooth projective curve of genus 2 over  $k$ . Let  $\mathcal{L}$  be a line bundle of degree  $d - 1$  on  $X$  with  $3 \nmid d$ ,  $\mathcal{E} \subset F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})$  a subsheaf with  $\text{rk}(\mathcal{E}) = 3$  and  $\deg(\mathcal{E}) = d$ . Then  $\mathcal{E}$  is a stable vector bundle.*

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{G} \subset \mathcal{E}$  be a subsheaf of  $\mathcal{E}$  with  $\text{rk}(\mathcal{G}) < \text{rk}(\mathcal{E}) = 3$ . By [21, Corollary 2.4] and the stability of  $F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})$ , we have

$$\mu(\mathcal{G}) - \mu(F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})) \leq -\frac{3 - \text{rk}(\mathcal{G})}{3}.$$

It follows that

$$\mu(\mathcal{G}) \leq -\frac{3 - \text{rk}(\mathcal{G})}{3} + \mu(F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})) = \frac{\text{rk}(\mathcal{G}) + d - 2}{3} \leq \frac{d}{3} = \mu(\mathcal{E}).$$

If  $\text{rk}(\mathcal{G}) = 1$ , then  $\mu(\mathcal{G}) < \mu(\mathcal{E})$ . If  $\text{rk}(\mathcal{G}) = 2$ , we have  $\mu(\mathcal{G}) \neq \frac{d}{3}$ , since  $3 \nmid d$ . Thus  $\mathcal{E}$  is a stable vector bundle. □

Any Frobenius destabilized stable bundle  $[\mathcal{E}] \in \mathfrak{M}_X^s(3, d)(k)$  with  $\text{HNP}(F_X^*(\mathcal{E})) \in \{\mathcal{P}_2(d), \mathcal{P}_3(d), \mathcal{P}_4(d)\}$  can be embedded into  $F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})$  for

some line bundle  $\mathcal{L}$  of degree  $d - 1$  on  $X$ . It can be seen from Proposition 3.3, Proposition 3.4 and the classification of Harder-Narasimhan polygons of the Frobenius pull-backs of Frobenius destabilized stable vector bundles in the case  $(p, g, r) = (3, 2, 3)$  with  $3 \nmid d$  (see Figure 1).

### 4. Geometric properties of quot schemes

Let  $k$  be an algebraically closed field of characteristic  $p > 0$ ,  $X$  a smooth projective curve of genus  $g$  over  $k$ ,  $F_X : X \rightarrow X$  the absolute Frobenius morphism,  $r$  and  $d$  integers with  $r > 0$ . Let  $\text{Pic}^{(t)}(X)$  be the Picard scheme parameterizes all line bundles of degree  $t$  on  $X$ ,  $[\mathcal{L}] \in \text{Pic}^{(t)}(X)(k)$  and  $\mathcal{P} \in \text{Con}\mathfrak{Bgn}(r, pd)$ . We first recall some notations of Quot schemes in [12, Section 4], such as  $\text{Quot}_X(r, d, \text{Pic}^{(t)}(X))$ ,  $\text{Quot}_X^\sharp(r, d, \text{Pic}^{(t)}(X))$  and so on. For simplicity, we describe these Quot schemes in the sense of closed points as the following

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Quot}_X(r, d, \text{Pic}^{(t)}(X))(k) \\ & := \{[\mathcal{E} \hookrightarrow F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})] \mid \text{rk}(\mathcal{E}) = r, \text{deg}(\mathcal{E}) = d, \mathcal{L} \in \text{Pic}^{(t)}(X)\}, \\ & \text{Quot}_X(r, d, \text{Pic}^{(t)}(X), \mathcal{P})(k) \\ & := \{[\mathcal{E} \hookrightarrow F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})] \in \text{Quot}_X(r, d, \text{Pic}^{(t)}(X))(k) \mid \text{HNP}(F_X^*(\mathcal{E})) = \mathcal{P}\}, \\ & \text{Quot}_X(r, d, \text{Pic}^{(t)}(X), \mathcal{P}^+)(k) \\ & := \{[\mathcal{E} \hookrightarrow F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})] \in \text{Quot}_X(r, d, \text{Pic}^{(t)}(X))(k) \mid \text{HNP}(F_X^*(\mathcal{E})) \succneq \mathcal{P}\}, \\ & \text{Quot}_X^\sharp(r, d, \text{Pic}^{(t)}(X))(k) \\ & := \left\{ [\mathcal{E} \hookrightarrow F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})] \left| \begin{array}{l} \text{rk}(\mathcal{E}) = r, \text{deg}(\mathcal{E}) = d, \mathcal{L} \in \text{Pic}^{(t)}(X), \\ \text{adjoint homomorphism } F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \rightarrow \mathcal{L} \\ \text{is surjective.} \end{array} \right. \right\}, \\ & \text{Quot}_X(r, d, \mathcal{L})(k) \\ & := \{[\mathcal{E} \hookrightarrow F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})] \mid \text{rk}(\mathcal{E}) = r, \text{deg}(\mathcal{E}) = d\}, \\ & \text{Quot}_X^\sharp(r, d, \mathcal{L})(k) \\ & := \left\{ [\mathcal{E} \hookrightarrow F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})] \in \text{Quot}_X(r, d, \mathcal{L})(k) \left| \begin{array}{l} \text{adjoint homomorphism} \\ F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \rightarrow \mathcal{L} \text{ is surjective.} \end{array} \right. \right\} \end{aligned}$$

In this section, we will study the Frobenius stratification of the Quot scheme  $\text{Quot}_X(3, d, \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X))$  in the case  $(p, g) = (3, 2)$  with  $3 \nmid d$ . In this

case, the scheme  $\text{Quot}_X(3, d, \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X))$  parameterizes all the rank 3 and degree  $d$  subsheaves of  $F_{X^*}(\mathcal{L})$  for any line bundle  $\mathcal{L}$  of degree  $d - 1$  on  $X$ . By Proposition 3.3 and Proposition 3.4, we know that these subsheaves are stable. This induces a natural morphism

$$\theta : \text{Quot}_X(3, d, \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X)) \rightarrow \mathfrak{M}_X^s(3, d) : [\mathcal{E} \hookrightarrow F_{X^*}(\mathcal{L})] \mapsto [\mathcal{E}].$$

Now, we analysis the Frobenius stratification of the Quot scheme  $\text{Quot}_X(3, d, \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X))$ . Let  $[\mathcal{E} \hookrightarrow F_{X^*}(\mathcal{L})]$  be a closed point of  $\text{Quot}_X(3, d, \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X))$ , where  $[\mathcal{L}] \in \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X)(k)$ . The non-trivial adjoint homomorphism  $F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \rightarrow \mathcal{L}$  implies that

$$\mu(F_X^*(\mathcal{E})) > \mu(\mathcal{L}) \geq \mu_{\min}(F_X^*(\mathcal{E})),$$

so  $\mathcal{E}$  is a Frobenius destabilized stable vector bundle.

**Theorem 4.1 (S. S. Shatz [18] Theorem 2 and Theorem 3).** *Let  $k$  be an algebraically closed field,  $X$  a smooth projective variety over  $k$ ,  $H$  an ample divisor on  $X$ . Consider the Harder-Narasimhan filtrations of torsion free sheaves on  $X$  in the sense of Mumford’s semistability with respect to  $H$ . Then*

- (1) *For any torsion free sheaf  $\mathcal{E}$  and any subsheaf  $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \mathcal{E}$ , we have the point  $(\text{rk}(\mathcal{F}), \text{deg}(\mathcal{F}))$  lies below  $\text{HNP}(\mathcal{E})$ .*
- (2) *Let  $\mathcal{E}$  be a flat family of torsion free sheaves of rank  $r$  and degree  $d$  on  $S \times_k X$  parameterized by a scheme  $S$  of finite type over  $k$ . Then for any convex polygon  $\mathcal{P} \in \mathbf{Con}\mathfrak{Bgn}(r, d)$ , the subset*

$$S_{\mathcal{P}} = \{s \in S \mid \text{HNP}(\mathcal{E}|_{\{s\} \times_k X}) \succcurlyeq \mathcal{P}\}$$

*is a closed scheme of  $S$ .*

**Proposition 4.2.** *Let  $k$  be an algebraically closed field of characteristic 3,  $X$  a smooth projective curve of genus 2 over  $k$ . Let  $\mathcal{L}$  be a line bundle of degree  $d - 1$  on  $X$  with  $3 \nmid d$ ,  $0 = E_3 \subset E_2 \subset E_1 \subset E_0 = F_X^*F_{X^*}(\mathcal{L})$  the canonical filtration of  $F_X^*F_{X^*}(\mathcal{L})$ . Let  $[\mathcal{E} \hookrightarrow F_{X^*}(\mathcal{L})] \in \text{Quot}_X(3, d, \mathcal{L})(k)$ . Then*

$$\text{HNP}(F_X^*(\mathcal{E})) \in \{\mathcal{P}_2(d), \mathcal{P}_3(d), \mathcal{P}_4(d)\}.$$

*Moreover, we have*



- (1)  $\text{HNP}(F_X^*(\mathcal{E})) = \mathcal{P}_4(d)$  if and only if  $\deg(F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_2) = d + 2$  if and only if the adjoint homomorphism  $F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \rightarrow \mathcal{L}$  is not surjective. In this case, the Harder-Narasimhan filtration of  $F_X^*(\mathcal{E})$  is

$$0 \subset F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_2 \subset F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_1 \subset F_X^*(\mathcal{E}).$$

- (2)  $\text{HNP}(F_X^*(\mathcal{E})) = \mathcal{P}_3(d)$  if and only if  $\deg(F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_2) = d + 1$ . In this case,  $[\mathcal{E} \hookrightarrow F_{X^*}(\mathcal{L})] \in \text{Quot}_X^\sharp(3, d, \mathcal{L})(k)$ , and the Harder-Narasimhan filtration of  $F_X^*(\mathcal{E})$  is

$$0 \subset F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_2 \subset F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_1 \subset F_X^*(\mathcal{E}).$$

- (3)  $\text{HNP}(F_X^*(\mathcal{E})) = \mathcal{P}_2(d)$  if and only if  $\deg(F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_2) = d$ . In this case,  $[\mathcal{E} \hookrightarrow F_{X^*}(\mathcal{L})] \in \text{Quot}_X^\sharp(3, d, \mathcal{L})(k)$ , and the Harder-Narasimhan filtration of  $F_X^*(\mathcal{E})$  is

$$0 \subset F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_1 \subset F_X^*(\mathcal{E}).$$

*Proof.* For any  $1 \leq i \leq 2$ , consider the commutative diagram of abelian sheaves

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 E_{i+1} & \xrightarrow{\nabla_{\text{can}}} & E_i \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} \Omega_X^1 & \searrow & \\
 \uparrow & \searrow & \uparrow & \nabla_{\text{can}} & E_{i-1} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} \Omega_X^1 \\
 F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_{i+1} & \xrightarrow{\nabla_{\text{can}}} & (F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_i) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} \Omega_X^1 & \searrow & \\
 \uparrow & \searrow & \uparrow & \nabla_{\text{can}} & (F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_{i-1}) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} \Omega_X^1 \\
 F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_i & \xrightarrow{\nabla_{\text{can}}} & (F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_{i-1}) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} \Omega_X^1 & \searrow & 
 \end{array}$$

we can get the commutative diagram of vector bundles

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 E_i/E_{i+1} & \xrightarrow{\cong} & (E_{i-1}/E_i) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} \Omega_X^1 \\
 \uparrow & & \uparrow \\
 (F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_i)/(F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_{i+1}) & \longrightarrow & (F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_{i-1})/(F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_i) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} \Omega_X^1.
 \end{array}$$

Thus  $(F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_i)/(F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_{i+1}) \hookrightarrow (F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_{i-1})/(F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_i) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} \Omega_X^1$  is injective for any  $1 \leq i \leq 2$ . Therefore we have the following inequalities

$$\deg(F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_2) \leq d + 3,$$

$$\begin{aligned} \deg\left(\frac{F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_1}{F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_2}\right) &\leq d + 1, \\ \deg\left(\frac{F_X^*(\mathcal{E})}{F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_1}\right) &\leq d - 1, \end{aligned}$$

$$(*) \quad \deg(F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_2) \leq \deg\left(\frac{F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_1}{F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_2}\right) + 2 \leq \deg\left(\frac{F_X^*(\mathcal{E})}{F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_1}\right) + 4,$$

$$(**) \quad \deg(F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_2) + \deg\left(\frac{F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_1}{F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_2}\right) + \deg\left(\frac{F_X^*(\mathcal{E})}{F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_1}\right) = 3d.$$

By computation, we can get

$$d \leq \deg(F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_2) \leq d + 2.$$

Suppose that  $[\mathcal{E} \hookrightarrow F_{X^*}(\mathcal{L})] \in \text{Quot}_X(3, d, \mathcal{L})(k)$  such that  $F_X^*(\mathcal{E})$  is semistable or HNP( $F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) = \mathcal{P}_1(d)$ ), then we have  $\mu_{\min}(F_X^*(\mathcal{E})) \geq \frac{2d-1}{2}$  by Figure 1. This contradicts to the fact  $\deg(F_X^*(\mathcal{E})/(F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_1)) \leq d - 1$ . Hence

$$\text{HNP}(F_X^*(\mathcal{E})) \in \{\mathcal{P}_2(d), \mathcal{P}_3(d), \mathcal{P}_4(d)\}.$$

(1). I. If  $\text{HNP}(F_X^*(\mathcal{E})) = \mathcal{P}_4(d)$ , there exists a unique maximal destabilizing sub-line bundle  $E' \subset F_X^*(\mathcal{E})$  with  $\deg(E') = d + 2$ . Suppose that  $E' \not\subset F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_1$ , then the composition

$$E' \hookrightarrow F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \hookrightarrow F_X^*F_{X^*}(\mathcal{L}) \twoheadrightarrow F_X^*F_{X^*}(\mathcal{L})/E_1 \cong \mathcal{L}$$

is non-trivial. This induces a contradiction since  $\deg(E') > \deg(\mathcal{L})$ . Suppose that  $E' \subset F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_1$  and  $E' \not\subset F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_2$ , then the composition

$$E' \hookrightarrow F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_1 \hookrightarrow E_1 \twoheadrightarrow E_1/E_2$$

is non-trivial. This induces a contradiction since  $\deg(E') > \deg(E_1/E_2)$ . Hence  $E' \subset F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_2$ . Thus  $\deg(F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_2) = d + 2$ . In fact  $E' = F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_2$ .

II. If  $\deg(F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_2) = d + 2$ , then by (\*) and (\*\*), we have

$$\deg\left(\frac{F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_1}{F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_2}\right) \geq d, \deg\left(\frac{F_X^*(\mathcal{E})}{F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_1}\right) \leq d - 2 < \deg(\mathcal{L}).$$

Hence the composition  $F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \twoheadrightarrow F_X^*(\mathcal{E})/(F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_1) \hookrightarrow F_X^*F_{X^*}(\mathcal{L})/E_1 \cong \mathcal{L}$  is not surjective.

III. If  $F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \rightarrow \mathcal{L}$  is not surjective, then  $\mu_{\min}(F_X^*(\mathcal{E})) \leq d - 2$ . Then we must have  $\text{HNP}(F_X^*(\mathcal{E})) = \mathcal{P}_4(d)$  by Figure 1.

Combining the proofs of I, II and III, we have  $\text{HNP}(F_X^*(\mathcal{E})) = \mathcal{P}_4(d)$  if and only if  $\deg(F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_2) = d + 2$  if and only if the adjoint homomorphism  $F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \rightarrow \mathcal{L}$  is not surjective. In this case, we have  $\deg((F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_1)/(F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_2)) = d$  and  $\deg(F_X^*(\mathcal{E})/(F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_1)) = d - 2$  by (\*) and (\*\*). Hence, the Harder-Narasimhan filtration of  $F_X^*(\mathcal{E})$  is

$$0 \subset F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_2 \subset F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_1 \subset F_X^*(\mathcal{E}).$$

(2). I. If  $\text{HNP}(F_X^*(\mathcal{E})) = \mathcal{P}_3(d)$ , then there exists a unique maximal destabilizing sub-line bundle  $E' \subset F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_1$  with  $\deg(E') = d + 1$ . Suppose that  $E' \not\subseteq F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_2$ , then the composition

$$E' \hookrightarrow F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_1 \hookrightarrow E_1 \twoheadrightarrow E_1/E_2$$

is non-trivial. This implies  $E' \cong E_1/E_2$  since  $E'$  and  $E_1/E_2$  are line bundles with same degree. Then  $E_1 = E' \oplus E''$  for some line bundle  $E''$  of degree  $d + 3$ . This induces a contradiction by Lemma 4.3. Hence  $E' \subseteq F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_2$ . Thus  $\deg(F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_2) = d + 1$ . In fact  $E' = F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_2$ .

II. If  $\deg(F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_2) = d + 1$ , then the adjoint homomorphism  $F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \rightarrow \mathcal{L}$  is surjective by (1), i.e.  $[\mathcal{E} \hookrightarrow F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})] \in \text{Quot}_X^\sharp(3, d, \mathcal{L})(k)$ . Moreover, by (\*) and (\*\*), we have

$$\mu(F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_2) = d + 1, \quad \mu\left(\frac{F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_1}{F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_2}\right) = d, \quad \deg\left(\frac{F_X^*(\mathcal{E})}{F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_1}\right) = d - 1.$$

Hence,  $\text{HNP}(F_X^*(\mathcal{E})) = \mathcal{P}_3(d)$  by Figure 1.

Combining the proofs of I and II, we have  $\text{HNP}(F_X^*(\mathcal{E})) = \mathcal{P}_3(d)$  if and only if  $\deg(F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_2) = d + 1$ . In this case, the Harder-Narasimhan filtration of  $F_X^*(\mathcal{E})$  is

$$0 \subset F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_2 \subset F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_1 \subset F_X^*(\mathcal{E}).$$

(3). By the proofs of (1) and (2), we can conclude that  $\text{HNP}(F_X^*(\mathcal{E})) = \mathcal{P}_2(d)$  if and only if  $\deg(F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_2) = d$ . In this case, the adjoint homomorphism  $F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \rightarrow \mathcal{L}$  is surjective by (1), i.e.

$$[\mathcal{E} \hookrightarrow F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})] \in \text{Quot}_X^\sharp(3, d, \mathcal{L})(k),$$

and the Harder-Narasimhan filtration of  $F_X^*(\mathcal{E})$  is

$$0 \subset F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_1 \subset F_X^*(\mathcal{E}). \quad \square$$

**Lemma 4.3 (A. Grothendieck, M. Raynaud).** *Let  $k$  be an algebraically closed field of characteristic  $p > 2$ ,  $X$  a smooth projective curve of genus  $g \geq 2$  over  $k$  and  $\mathcal{L}$  a line bundle on  $X$ . If  $p \nmid (g - 1)$ , we have*

$$F_X^* F_{X*}(\mathcal{L}) \cong (\Omega_X^{\otimes p-1} \otimes \mathcal{L}) \oplus (\Omega_X^{\otimes p-2} \otimes \mathcal{L}) \oplus \cdots \oplus (\Omega_X^1 \otimes \mathcal{L}) \oplus \mathcal{L}.$$

In particular, in the case  $p = 3$  and  $g = 2$ , we have

$$F_X^* F_{X*}(\mathcal{L}) \cong (\Omega_X^{\otimes 2} \otimes \mathcal{L}) \oplus (\Omega_X^1 \otimes \mathcal{L}) \oplus \mathcal{L}.$$

*Proof.* Suppose that

$$F_X^* F_{X*}(\mathcal{L}) \cong (\Omega_X^{\otimes p-1} \otimes \mathcal{L}) \oplus (\Omega_X^{\otimes p-2} \otimes \mathcal{L}) \oplus \cdots \oplus (\Omega_X^1 \otimes \mathcal{L}) \oplus \mathcal{L}.$$

For any  $0 \leq i \leq p - 1$ , the composition

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla|_{\Omega_X^{\otimes i} \otimes \mathcal{L}} : \Omega_X^{\otimes i} \otimes \mathcal{L} &\hookrightarrow F_X^* F_{X*}(\mathcal{L}) \\ &\xrightarrow{\nabla_{\text{can}}} F_X^* F_{X*}(\mathcal{L}) \otimes \Omega_X^1 \rightarrow (\Omega_X^{\otimes i} \otimes \mathcal{L}) \otimes \Omega_X^1 \end{aligned}$$

induces a connection on  $\Omega_X^{\otimes i} \otimes \mathcal{L}$ , whose  $p$ -curvature is zero. Then by Katz’s theorem, we know that  $\Omega_X^{\otimes i} \otimes \mathcal{L} \cong F_X^*(L_i)$  for some line bundle  $L_i$  on  $X$ , for any  $0 \leq i \leq p - 1$ . Hence  $p \mid \deg(\Omega_X^{\otimes i} \otimes \mathcal{L})$ , i.e.  $p \mid i(2g - 2) + \deg(\mathcal{L})$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq p - 1$ .

On the other hand, if  $p > 2$  and  $p \nmid (g - 1)$ , there exists some  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, p - 1\}$  such that  $p \nmid i(2g - 2) + \deg(\mathcal{L})$ . This contradicts to the assumption. Therefore,  $p > 2$  and  $p \nmid (g - 1)$  imply

$$F_X^* F_{X*}(\mathcal{L}) \cong (\Omega_X^{\otimes p-1} \otimes \mathcal{L}) \oplus (\Omega_X^{\otimes p-2} \otimes \mathcal{L}) \oplus \cdots \oplus (\Omega_X^1 \otimes \mathcal{L}) \oplus \mathcal{L}.$$

In particular, in the case  $p = 3$  and  $g = 2$ , we have

$$F_X^* F_{X*}(\mathcal{L}) \cong (\Omega_X^{\otimes 2} \otimes \mathcal{L}) \oplus (\Omega_X^1 \otimes \mathcal{L}) \oplus \mathcal{L}. \quad \square$$

**Proposition 4.4.** *Let  $k$  be an algebraically closed field of characteristic 3,  $X$  a smooth projective curve of genus 2 over  $k$ . Then*

$$\text{Quot}_X(3, d, \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X), \mathcal{P}_i^+(d))$$

are smooth irreducible projective varieties for  $2 \leq i \leq 4$ , and

$$\begin{aligned} & \dim \text{Quot}_X(3, d, \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X), \mathcal{P}_i^+(d)) \\ &= \dim \text{Quot}_X(3, d, \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X), \mathcal{P}_i(d)) = \begin{cases} 5, & \text{if } i = 2 \\ 4, & \text{if } i = 3 \\ 3, & \text{if } i = 4 \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* By [4], there is a morphism

$$\begin{aligned} \Pi : \text{Quot}_X(3, d, \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X)) &\rightarrow X \times \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X) \\ [\mathcal{E} \hookrightarrow F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})] &\mapsto (\text{Supp}(F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})/\mathcal{E}), \mathcal{L}). \end{aligned}$$

For any point  $x \in X(k)$  and any  $[\mathcal{L}] \in \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X)(k)$ , we denote the fiber of  $\Pi$  over  $(x, [\mathcal{L}])$  by  $\text{Quot}_X(3, d, x, \mathcal{L})$ . Then there is a one to one correspondence between the set of closed points  $[\mathcal{E} \hookrightarrow F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})]$  of  $\text{Quot}_X(3, d, x, \mathcal{L})(k)$  and the set of  $\mathcal{O}_x$ -submodules  $V$  of the stalk  $F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})_x$  such that

$$F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})_x/V \cong k,$$

the latter has a natural structure of algebraic variety which is isomorphic to projective space  $\mathbb{P}_k^2$ . Hence  $\Pi$  is surjective and  $\text{Quot}_X(3, d, \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X))$  is a smooth irreducible projective variety of dimension 5. Without loss of generality, we can assume that  $\mathcal{O}_x \cong k[[t^3]]$ , then  $F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})_x \cong k[[t]]$  endows with  $k[[t^3]]$ -module structure induced by injection  $k[[t^3]] \hookrightarrow k[[t]]$  and

$$F_X^* F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})_x \cong k[[t]] \otimes_{k[[t^3]]} k[[t]].$$

Suppose that the  $\mathcal{O}_x$ -submodule  $\mathcal{E}_x$  of  $F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})_x$  corresponds to the  $k[[t^3]]$ -submodule  $V_{\mathcal{E}}$  of  $k[[t]]$ , then the  $\mathcal{O}_x$ -submodule  $F_X^*(\mathcal{E})_x$  of  $F_X^* F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})_x$  corresponds to the  $k[[t]]$ -submodule  $V_{\mathcal{E}} \otimes_{k[[t^3]]} k[[t]]$  of  $k[[t]] \otimes_{k[[t^3]]} k[[t]]$ .

Consider the decomposition of  $k[[t]] = k[[t^3]] \oplus k[[t^3]] \cdot t \oplus k[[t^3]] \cdot t^2$  as a  $k[[t^3]]$ -module. Then the  $k[[t^3]]$ -submodule  $V_{\mathcal{E}} \subset k[[t]]$  with  $k[[t]]/V_{\mathcal{E}} \cong k$  implies that

$$k[[t^3]] \cdot t^3 \oplus k[[t^3]] \cdot t^4 \oplus k[[t^3]] \cdot t^5 \subset V_{\mathcal{E}}.$$

Now, we investigate the intersection of  $F_X^*(\mathcal{E})$  with the canonical filtration

$$0 \subset E_2 \subset E_1 \subset F_X^* F_{X*}(\mathcal{L}).$$

Locally, the stalk  $E_{1,x}$  has a basis  $\{t \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes t, (t \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes t)^2\}$  and  $E_{2,x}$  has a basis  $\{(t \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes t)^2\}$  as  $k[[t]]$ -submodules of

$$F_X^* F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})_x \cong k[[t]] \otimes_{k[[t^3]]} k[[t]]$$

by [20, Lemma 3.2]. Let  $[\mathcal{E} \hookrightarrow F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})] \in \text{Quot}_X(3, d, x, \mathcal{L})(k)$ , we claim that

- (a)  $(t \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes t)^2 \notin V_{\mathcal{E}} \otimes_{k[[t^3]]} k[[t]]$
- (b)  $(t \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes t)^2 t \in V_{\mathcal{E}} \otimes_{k[[t^3]]} k[[t]]$  if and only if  $\{t, t^2\} \subset V_{\mathcal{E}}$ .
- (c)  $(t \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes t)^2 t^2 \in V_{\mathcal{E}} \otimes_{k[[t^3]]} k[[t]]$  if and only if  $t^2 \in V_{\mathcal{E}}$ .
- (d)  $(t \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes t)^2 t^3 \in V_{\mathcal{E}} \otimes_{k[[t^3]]} k[[t]]$ .

Suppose that  $(t \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes t)^2 \in V_{\mathcal{E}} \otimes_{k[[t^3]]} k[[t]]$ , then we have  $F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_2 = E_2$  as  $F_X^*(\mathcal{E})_x \cap E_{2,x} = E_{2,x}$ . So  $\deg(F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_2) = d + 3$ , and it contradicts to Proposition 4.2. Therefore the claim of (a) is proved.

Since

$$\begin{aligned} (t \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes t)^2 t &= t^2 \otimes t - 2t \otimes t^2 + 1 \otimes t^3 \\ &= t^2 \otimes t - 2t \otimes t^2 + t^3 \otimes 1 \end{aligned}$$

and  $\{t^3\} \subset V_{\mathcal{E}}$  by  $k[[t^3]] \cdot t^3 \oplus k[[t^3]] \cdot t^4 \oplus k[[t^3]] \cdot t^5 \subset V_{\mathcal{E}}$ , then we have

$$(t \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes t)^2 t \in V_{\mathcal{E}} \otimes_{k[[t^3]]} k[[t]] \text{ iff } t^2 \otimes t - 2t \otimes t^2 \in V_{\mathcal{E}} \otimes_{k[[t^3]]} k[[t]],$$

which is equivalent to  $\{t, t^2\} \subset V_{\mathcal{E}}$ . Therefore the claim of (b) is proved.

Since

$$\begin{aligned} (t \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes t)^2 t^2 &= t^2 \otimes t^2 - 2t \otimes t^3 + 1 \otimes t^4 \\ &= t^2 \otimes t^2 - 2t^4 \otimes 1 + t^3 \otimes t \end{aligned}$$

and  $\{t^3, t^4\} \subset V_{\mathcal{E}}$  by  $k[[t^3]] \cdot t^3 \oplus k[[t^3]] \cdot t^4 \oplus k[[t^3]] \cdot t^5 \subset V_{\mathcal{E}}$ , then we have

$$(t \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes t)^2 t^2 \in V_{\mathcal{E}} \otimes_{k[[t^3]]} k[[t]] \text{ iff } t^2 \otimes t^2 \in V_{\mathcal{E}} \otimes_{k[[t^3]]} k[[t]],$$

which is equivalent to  $t^2 \in V_{\mathcal{E}}$ . Therefore the claim of (c) is proved.

Since

$$\begin{aligned} (t \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes t)^2 t^3 &= t^2 \otimes t^3 - 2t \otimes t^4 + 1 \otimes t^5 \\ &= t^5 \otimes 1 - 2t^4 \otimes t + t^3 \otimes t^2 \end{aligned}$$

and  $\{t^3, t^4, t^5\} \subset V_{\mathcal{E}}$  by  $k[[t^3]] \cdot t^3 \oplus k[[t^3]] \cdot t^4 \oplus k[[t^3]] \cdot t^5 \subset V_{\mathcal{E}}$ , then we have

$$(t \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes t)^2 t^3 \in V_{\mathcal{E}} \otimes_{k[[t^3]]} k[[t]].$$

Therefore the claim of (d) is proved.

In summary, by above claims, we have

$$1 \leq \dim E_{2x} / ((V_{\mathcal{E}} \otimes_{k[[t^3]]} k[[t]]) \cap E_{2x}) \leq 3,$$

$$\dim E_{2x} / ((V_{\mathcal{E}} \otimes_{k[[t^3]]} k[[t]]) \cap E_{2x}) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if and only if } \{t, t^2\} \subset V_{\mathcal{E}} \\ 2 & \text{if and only if } t \notin V_{\mathcal{E}} \text{ and } t^2 \in V_{\mathcal{E}} \\ 3 & \text{if and only if } t^2 \notin V_{\mathcal{E}}. \end{cases}$$

Consider the exact sequence of  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules

$$0 \rightarrow F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_2 \rightarrow E_2 \rightarrow \frac{E_2}{F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_2} \rightarrow 0.$$

Notice that  $E_2 / (F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_2) \cong E_{2x} / ((V_{\mathcal{E}} \otimes_{k[[t^3]]} k[[t]]) \cap E_{2x})$ . Therefore, by Proposition 4.2, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{HNP}(F_X^*(\mathcal{E})) = \mathcal{P}_2(d) &\Leftrightarrow \deg(F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_2) = d \\ &\Leftrightarrow \deg(E_{2x} / ((V_{\mathcal{E}} \otimes_{k[[t^3]]} k[[t]]) \cap E_{2x})) = 3 \\ &\Leftrightarrow t^2 \notin V_{\mathcal{E}}. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{HNP}(F_X^*(\mathcal{E})) = \mathcal{P}_3(d) &\Leftrightarrow \deg(F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_2) = d + 1 \\ &\Leftrightarrow \deg(E_{2x} / ((V_{\mathcal{E}} \otimes_{k[[t^3]]} k[[t]]) \cap E_{2x})) = 2 \\ &\Leftrightarrow t \notin V_{\mathcal{E}} \text{ and } t^2 \in V_{\mathcal{E}}. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{HNP}(F_X^*(\mathcal{E})) = \mathcal{P}_4(d) &\Leftrightarrow \deg(F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \cap E_2) = d + 2 \\ &\Leftrightarrow \deg(E_{2x} / ((V_{\mathcal{E}} \otimes_{k[[t^3]]} k[[t]]) \cap E_{2x})) = 1 \\ &\Leftrightarrow \{t, t^2\} \subset V_{\mathcal{E}}. \end{aligned}$$

For  $i = 2, 3, 4$ , we denote the closed subschemes  $\text{Quot}_X(3, d, x, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{P}_i^+(d))$  of  $\text{Quot}_X(3, d, x, \mathcal{L})$  consisting of closed points

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Quot}_X(3, d, x, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{P}_i^+(d))(k) \\ &= \{[\mathcal{E} \hookrightarrow F_{X^*}(\mathcal{L})] \in \text{Quot}_X(3, d, x, \mathcal{L})(k) \mid \text{HNP}(F_X^*(\mathcal{E})) \succcurlyeq \mathcal{P}_i(d)\} \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Quot}_X(3, d, x, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{P}_2^+(d)) \\ & \cong \{V \mid k[[t^3]]\text{-submodule } V \subset k[[t]], k[[t]]/V \cong k\} \cong \mathbb{P}_k^2, \\ & \text{Quot}_X(3, d, x, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{P}_3^+(d)) \\ & \cong \{V \mid k[[t^3]]\text{-submodule } V \subset k[[t]], k[[t]]/V \cong k, t^2 \in V_{\mathcal{E}}\} \cong \mathbb{P}_k^1, \\ & \text{Quot}_X(3, d, x, \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{P}_4^+(d)) \\ & \cong \{V \mid k[[t^3]]\text{-submodule } V \subset k[[t]], k[[t]]/V \cong k, \{t, t^2\} \subset V_{\mathcal{E}}\} \cong \{pt\}. \end{aligned}$$

So  $\text{Quot}_X(3, d, \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X), \mathcal{P}_i^+(d))$  are smooth irreducible projective varieties for  $2 \leq i \leq 4$ , and

$$\dim \text{Quot}_X(3, d, \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X), \mathcal{P}_i^+(d)) = \begin{cases} 5, & \text{if } i = 2 \\ 4, & \text{if } i = 3 \\ 3, & \text{if } i = 4. \end{cases}$$

By Theorem 4.1(2), it is easy to see that  $\text{Quot}_X(3, d, \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X), \mathcal{P}_i(d))$  is an open subvariety of  $\text{Quot}_X(3, d, \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X), \mathcal{P}_i^+(d))$  for any  $2 \leq i \leq 4$ . Therefore, for any  $2 \leq i \leq 4$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \overline{\text{Quot}_X(3, d, \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X), \mathcal{P}_i^+(d))} \\ &= \overline{\text{Quot}_X(3, d, \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X), \mathcal{P}_i(d))}, \\ & \dim \text{Quot}_X(3, d, \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X), \mathcal{P}_i^+(d)) \\ &= \dim \text{Quot}_X(3, d, \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X), \mathcal{P}_i(d)). \end{aligned}$$

□

### 5. Geometric properties of Frobenius strata

We now study the geometric properties of Frobenius strata in the moduli space  $\mathfrak{M}_X^s(3, d)$  with  $3 \nmid d$ , where  $X$  is a smooth projective curve of genus 2 over an algebraically closed field  $k$  of characteristic 3.



**Proposition 5.1.** *Let  $k$  be an algebraically closed field of characteristic 3,  $X$  a smooth projective curve of genus 2 over  $k$ . Let  $d$  be an integer with  $3 \nmid d$ . Then the image of the morphism*

$$\begin{aligned} \theta : \text{Quot}_X(3, d, \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X)) &\rightarrow \mathfrak{M}_X^s(3, d) \\ [\mathcal{E} \hookrightarrow F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})] &\mapsto [\mathcal{E}] \end{aligned}$$

is the subset

$$\{[\mathcal{E}] \in \mathfrak{M}_X^s(3, d)(k) \mid \text{HNP}(F_X^*(\mathcal{E})) \in \{\mathcal{P}_2(d), \mathcal{P}_3(d), \mathcal{P}_4(d)\}\}.$$

Moreover, the restriction  $\theta|_{\text{Quot}_X^\sharp(3, d, \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X))}$  is an injective morphism and the image of  $\theta|_{\text{Quot}_X^\sharp(3, d, \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X))}$  is the subset

$$\{[\mathcal{E}] \in \mathfrak{M}_X^s(3, d)(k) \mid \text{HNP}(F_X^*(\mathcal{E})) \in \{\mathcal{P}_2(d), \mathcal{P}_3(d)\}\}.$$

*Proof.* Let  $[\mathcal{E} \hookrightarrow F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})] \in \text{Quot}_X(3, d, \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X))(k)$ , then we have

$$\text{HNP}(F_X^*(\mathcal{E})) \in \{\mathcal{P}_2(d), \mathcal{P}_3(d), \mathcal{P}_4(d)\}$$

by Proposition 4.2. It follows that the image of  $\theta$  lies in the following subset

$$\{[\mathcal{E}] \in \mathfrak{M}_X^s(3, d)(k) \mid \text{HNP}(F_X^*(\mathcal{E})) \in \{\mathcal{P}_2(d), \mathcal{P}_3(d), \mathcal{P}_4(d)\}\}.$$

On the other hand, let  $[\mathcal{E}] \in \mathfrak{M}_X^s(3, d)(k)$  such that  $\text{HNP}(F_X^*(\mathcal{E})) = \mathcal{P}_i(d)$  for some  $2 \leq i \leq 4$ . Then  $F_X^*(\mathcal{E})$  has a quotient line bundle  $\mathcal{L}'$  of  $\text{deg}(\mathcal{L}') \leq d - 1$ . Embedding  $\mathcal{L}'$  into some line bundle  $\mathcal{L}$  of  $\text{deg}(\mathcal{L}) = d - 1$ , we can get the non-trivial homomorphism

$$F_X^*(\mathcal{E}) \twoheadrightarrow \mathcal{L}' \hookrightarrow \mathcal{L}.$$

Then the adjunction  $\mathcal{E} \hookrightarrow F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})$  is an injection by Proposition 3.3. Hence, the image of  $\theta$  is just the subset

$$\{[\mathcal{E}] \in \mathfrak{M}_X^s(3, d)(k) \mid \text{HNP}(F_X^*(\mathcal{E})) \in \{\mathcal{P}_2(d), \mathcal{P}_3(d), \mathcal{P}_4(d)\}\}.$$

Now, we will prove  $\theta|_{\text{Quot}_X^\sharp(3, d, \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X))}$  is an injective morphism. Let

$$e_i := [\mathcal{E}_i \hookrightarrow F_{X*}(\mathcal{L}_i)] \in \text{Quot}_X^\sharp(3, d, \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X))(k),$$

where  $[\mathcal{L}_i] \in \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X)(k)$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ . Suppose that

$$\theta(e_1) = \theta(e_2) \in \mathfrak{M}_X^s(3, d)(k)$$

, i.e.  $\mathcal{E}_1 \cong \mathcal{E}_2$ . Since  $\text{HNP}(F_X^*(\mathcal{E}_i)) \in \{\mathcal{P}_2(d), \mathcal{P}_3(d)\}$ , we have

$$\mu_{\min}(F_X^*(\mathcal{E}_i)) = d - 1, \quad i = 1, 2.$$

So the surjection  $F_X^*(\mathcal{E}_i) \rightarrow \mathcal{L}_i$  implies that  $\mathcal{L}_i$  is the quotient line bundle of  $F_X^*(\mathcal{E}_i)$  with minimal slope in the Harder-Narasimhan filtration of  $F_X^*(\mathcal{E}_i)$ . By the uniqueness of Harder-Narasimhan filtration, there exists an isomorphism  $\psi : \mathcal{L}_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{L}_2$  making the following diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} F_X^*(\mathcal{E}_1) & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{L}_1 & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ \phi \downarrow \cong & & \psi \downarrow \cong & & \\ F_X^*(\mathcal{E}_2) & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{L}_2 & \longrightarrow & 0 \end{array}$$

commutative, where the isomorphism  $\phi$  is induced from an isomorphism  $\mathcal{E}_1 \xrightarrow{\cong} \mathcal{E}_2$ . By adjunction, we have commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{E}_1 & \longrightarrow & F_{X*}(\mathcal{L}_1) \\ & & \downarrow \cong & & F_{X*}(\psi) \downarrow \cong \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{E}_2 & \longrightarrow & F_{X*}(\mathcal{L}_2) \end{array}$$

where the horizontal homomorphisms is the isomorphism

$$F_{X*}(\psi) : F_{X*}(\mathcal{L}_1) \xrightarrow{\cong} F_{X*}(\mathcal{L}_2).$$

This implies  $\mathcal{E}_1 = \mathcal{E}_2$  as subsheaves of  $F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})$ , where  $[\mathcal{L}] = [\mathcal{L}_1] = [\mathcal{L}_2] \in \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X)(k)$ . Thus,  $e_1$  and  $e_2$  are the same point in the

$$\text{Quot}_X^\sharp(3, d, \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X))(k).$$

Hence the morphism  $\theta|_{\text{Quot}_X^\sharp(3, d, \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X))}$  is injective.

Let  $[\mathcal{E}] \in \mathfrak{M}_X^s(3, d)(k)$  and  $\text{HNP}(F_X^*(\mathcal{E})) \in \{\mathcal{P}_2(d), \mathcal{P}_3(d)\}$ . Then  $F_X^*(\mathcal{E})$  has a quotient line bundle  $\mathcal{L}$  of degree  $d - 1$ . Then by Proposition 3.3, the adjoint homomorphism  $\mathcal{E} \hookrightarrow F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})$  is an injective homomorphism. Therefore

$$e := [\mathcal{E} \hookrightarrow F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})] \in \text{Quot}_X^\sharp(3, d, \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X))(k)$$

and  $\theta(e) = [\mathcal{E}]$ . Hence the image of  $\theta|_{\text{Quot}_X^\sharp(3, d, \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X))}$  is just the subset

$$\{[\mathcal{E}] \in \mathfrak{M}_X^s(3, d)(k) \mid \text{HNP}(F_X^*(\mathcal{E})) \in \{\mathcal{P}_2(d), \mathcal{P}_3(d)\}\}. \quad \square$$

**Theorem 5.2.** *Let  $k$  be an algebraically closed field of characteristic 3,  $X$  a smooth projective curve of genus 2 over  $k$ ,  $d$  an integer with  $3 \nmid d$ . Then*

$$S_X(3, d, \mathcal{P}_i^+(d)) = \overline{S_X(3, d, \mathcal{P}_i(d))},$$

and  $S_X(3, d, \mathcal{P}_i^+(d))$  (resp.  $S_X(3, d, \mathcal{P}_i(d))$ ) are irreducible projective (resp. irreducible quasi-projective) varieties for  $1 \leq i \leq 4$ ,

$$\dim S_X(3, d, \mathcal{P}_i^+(d)) = \dim S_X(3, d, \mathcal{P}_i(d)) = \begin{cases} 5, & \text{if } i = 1 \\ 5, & \text{if } i = 2 \\ 4, & \text{if } i = 3 \\ 2, & \text{if } i = 4 \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* The morphism

$$\begin{aligned} \theta : \text{Quot}_X(3, d, \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X)) &\rightarrow \mathfrak{M}_X^s(3, d) \\ [\mathcal{E} \hookrightarrow F_{X*}(\mathcal{L})] &\mapsto [\mathcal{E}] \end{aligned}$$

maps  $\text{Quot}_X(3, d, \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X), \mathcal{P}_i^+(d))$  onto  $S_X(3, d, \mathcal{P}_i^+(d))$  for  $2 \leq i \leq 4$ . Then by Proposition 4.4,  $S_X(3, d, \mathcal{P}_i^+(d))$  are irreducible projective varieties and

$$\overline{S_X(3, d, \mathcal{P}_i(d))} = S_X(3, d, \mathcal{P}_i^+(d))$$

for  $2 \leq i \leq 4$ , since  $S_X(3, d, \mathcal{P}_i(d))$  is an open subvariety of  $S_X(3, d, \mathcal{P}_i^+(d))$  by Thm. 4.1(2). Moreover, by Prop. 5.1, the injection  $\theta|_{\text{Quot}_X^\sharp(3, d, \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X))}$  maps  $\text{Quot}_X^\sharp(3, d, \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X), \mathcal{P}_i(d))$  onto  $S_X(3, d, \mathcal{P}_i(d))$  for  $i = 2, 3$ . Then by Proposition 4.4, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \dim S_X(3, d, \mathcal{P}_i^+(d)) &= \dim S_X(3, d, \mathcal{P}_i(d)) \\ &= \dim \text{Quot}_X^\sharp(3, d, \text{Pic}^{(d-1)}(X), \mathcal{P}_i(d)) \\ &= \begin{cases} 5, & \text{if } i = 2. \\ 4, & \text{if } i = 3. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

The isomorphism

$$\iota : \mathfrak{M}_X^s(3, d) \rightarrow \mathfrak{M}_X^s(3, -d) : [\mathcal{E}] \mapsto [\mathcal{E}^\vee]$$

maps  $S_X(3, d, \mathcal{P}_1(d))$  (resp.  $S_X(3, d, \mathcal{P}_1^+(d))$ ) onto  $S_X(3, -d, \mathcal{P}_2(-d))$  (resp.  $S_X(3, -d, \mathcal{P}_2^+(-d))$ ). So we have  $\overline{S_X(3, d, \mathcal{P}_1(d))} = S_X(3, d, \mathcal{P}_1^+(d))$  is an

irreducible projective variety and

$$\dim S_X(3, d, \mathcal{P}_1^+(d)) = \dim S_X(3, d, \mathcal{P}_1(d)) = 5.$$

Now we study the properties of subvariety  $S_X(3, d, \mathcal{P}_4(d))$ . By [11, Lemma 3.1], we know that any vector bundle  $[\mathcal{E}] \in S_X(3, d, \mathcal{P}_4(d))(k)$  has the form  $F_{X*}(\mathcal{L}')$  for some line bundle  $\mathcal{L}'$  of degree  $d - 2$  on  $X$ . Moreover, by [11, Theorem 2.5], the morphism

$$\begin{aligned} P_{\text{Frob}}^s : \mathfrak{M}_X^s(1, d - 2) &\rightarrow \mathfrak{M}_X^s(3, d) \\ [\mathcal{L}'] &\mapsto [F_{X*}(\mathcal{L}')] \end{aligned}$$

is a closed immersion and the image of  $P_{\text{Frob}}^s$  is just the  $S_X(3, d, \mathcal{P}_4(d))$ . Thus  $S_X(3, d, \mathcal{P}_4(d)) = S_X(3, d, \mathcal{P}_4^+(d))$  is isomorphic to Jacobian variety  $\text{Jac}_X$  of  $X$  which is a smooth irreducible projective variety of dimension 2.  $\square$

By Theorem 5.2, we know that the subvariety  $Z$  of Frobenius destabilized stable vector bundles is a reducible closed subvariety consisting two irreducible closed subvarieties of dimension 5 in  $\mathfrak{M}_X^s(3, d)$ . Notice that  $\dim \mathfrak{M}_X^s(3, d) = 10$ , we have  $\text{codim}_Z \mathfrak{M}_X^s(3, d) = 5$ .

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