

## Principal $G$ -bundles on nodal curves

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**Abstract.** Let  $G$  be a connected semisimple affine algebraic group defined over  $\mathbf{C}$ . We study the relation between stable, semistable  $G$ -bundles on a nodal curve  $Y$  and representations of the fundamental group of  $Y$ . This study is done by extending the notion of (generalized) parabolic vector bundles to principal  $G$ -bundles on the desingularization  $C$  of  $Y$  and using the correspondence between them and principal  $G$ -bundles on  $Y$ . We give an isomorphism of the stack of generalized parabolic bundles on  $C$  with a quotient stack associated to loop groups. We show that if  $G$  is simple and simply connected then the Picard group of the stack of principal  $G$ -bundles on  $Y$  is isomorphic to  $\bigoplus_m \mathbf{Z}$ ,  $m$  being the number of components of  $Y$ .

**Keywords.** Principal bundles; loop groups; parabolic bundles.

### 0. Introduction

Let  $G$  be a connected semisimple affine algebraic group defined over  $\mathbf{C}$ . Let  $Y$  be a reduced curve with only singularities ordinary nodes  $y_j$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, J$ . Let  $Y_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, I$  be the irreducible components of  $Y$  and  $C_i$  the desingularization of  $Y_i$ . Let  $C$  denote the disjoint union of all  $C_i$ . We introduce the notions of stability and semistability for principal  $G$ -bundles on  $Y$  (§2). If  $Y$  is reducible these notions depend on parameters  $a = (a_1, \dots, a_I)$ . The study of  $G$ -bundles on  $Y$  is done by extending the notion of (generalized) parabolic vector bundles [U1] to generalized parabolic principal  $G$ -bundles (called GPGs in short) on the curve  $C$  and using the correspondence between them and principal  $G$ -bundles on  $Y$  (2.4, 2.11). We study the relation between stable, semistable  $G$ -bundles and representations of the fundamental group  $\pi_1(Y)$  of  $Y$  in  $G$ . For  $i = 1, \dots, I$ , let  $f_i : \pi_1(Y_i) \rightarrow \pi_1(Y)$  be the natural maps,  $\rho_i = \rho \circ f_i$ .

**Theorem 1.** (I) *If  $Y$  is irreducible and  $\rho \mid \pi_1(C)$  is unitary (resp. irreducible unitary) then the principal  $G$ -bundle on  $Y$  associated to  $\rho$  is semistable (resp. stable). The converse is not true.*

(II) *If  $Y$  is reducible then there exist infinitely many  $I$ -tuples of positive rational numbers  $a_1, \dots, a_I$  with  $\sum a_i = 1$ , depending only on the graph of  $Y$  and  $g(C_i)$  such that for  $a = (a_1, \dots, a_I)$  the following statements are true.*

(1) *If  $\rho_{C_i} = \rho_i \mid \pi_1(C_i)$  are unitary representations for all  $i$ , then the principal  $G$ -bundle  $\mathcal{F}$  on  $Y$  associated to  $\rho$  is  $a$ -semistable.*

(2) If  $\rho_{C_i}$  are irreducible unitary representations for all  $i$ , then the principal  $G$ -bundle  $\mathcal{F}$  associated to  $\rho$  is a-stable.

Let  $Aff/k$  be the flat affine site over the base field  $k = \mathbf{C}$ , i.e. the category of  $k$ -algebras equipped with  $fppf$  topology. Let  $R$  denote a  $k$ -algebra,  $C_{i,R} := C_i \times \text{spec } R$  and  $C_R^* = C^* \times \text{spec } R$ . For each  $i$ , fix a point  $p_i \in C_i$  such that  $p_i$  maps to a smooth point of  $Y$ . Let  $q_i$  be a local parameter at the point  $p_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, I$ . Let  $L_{G,i}$  denote the  $k$ -group defined by associating to  $R$  the group  $G(R(q_i))$ . Let  $L_{G,i}^+$  (resp.  $L_G^{C_i}$ ) be the  $k$ -group defined by associating to  $R$  the group  $G(R[[q_i]])$  (resp.  $G(\Gamma(C_{i,R}^*, \mathcal{O}_{C_{i,R}^*}))$ ). Define  $L_G = \prod_i L_{G,i}$ ,  $L_G^+ = \prod_i L_{G,i}^+$ ,  $L_G^C = \prod_i L_G^{C_i}$ . Let

$$Q_{G,C} = L_G / L_G^+ = \prod_i L_{G,i} / L_{G,i}^+, \quad Q_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}} = Q_{G,C} \times \prod_j G(\mathbf{C}).$$

The indgroup  $L_G^C$  acts on  $Q_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}$ . Let  $L_G^C \backslash Q_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}$  be the quotient stack. Let  $\text{Bun}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}$  denote the stack of GPGs on  $C$  (this is isomorphic to the stack of principal  $G$ -bundles on  $Y$ .)

**Theorem 2.** *There exists a canonical isomorphism of stacks*

$$\pi_{\text{par}} : L_G^C \backslash Q_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}} \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{Bun}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}.$$

Moreover the projection map  $Q_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}} \rightarrow \text{Bun}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}$  is locally trivial for etale topology.

**Theorem 3.** *If  $G$  is a simple, connected and simply connected affine algebraic group then*

(1)

$$\text{Pic}(\text{Bun}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}) \approx \bigoplus_i \mathbf{Z}.$$

(2) *If  $Y$  is irreducible and  $C$  has genus  $\geq 2$ , then*

$$\text{Pic}(\text{Bun}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}})^{\text{ss}} \approx \mathbf{Z},$$

where  $^{\text{ss}}$  denotes semistable points.

The moduli spaces of principal  $G$ -bundles on singular curves are not complete. In case  $G = GL(n)$  (resp.  $G = O(n)$ ,  $Sp(2n)$ ) the compactifications of these moduli spaces were constructed as moduli spaces of torsionfree sheaves (resp. orthogonal or symplectic sheaves) on  $Y$ . For a general reductive group  $G$  neither the moduli spaces nor the compactifications have been constructed on  $Y$  yet. One way to construct (normal) compactifications of these moduli spaces is to use GPGs on  $C$ , for this one needs a good compactification of  $G$ . In case  $G$  is  $GL(n)$ ,  $SL(n)$ ,  $O(n)$  or  $Sp(2n)$  we use a compactification  $F$  of  $G$  obtained by using the natural representation and construct the normal compactifications of moduli spaces ([U1, U2, U4]). In case  $G$  is of adjoint type we use the good compactification  $F$  of  $G$  defined by Deconcini and Procesi. We define ‘a compactification’  $\overline{\text{Bun}}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}$  of  $\text{Bun}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}$  using  $F$  and show that it is isomorphic to the quotient stack  $L_G^C \backslash Q_{G,C} \times \prod_j F$ . We prove that if further  $G$  is simple and simply connected then  $\text{Pic } \overline{\text{Bun}}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}} \approx \bigoplus_i \mathbf{Z} \oplus \bigoplus_j \text{Pic } F$  (Theorem 4).

## 1. Quasiparabolic bundles

1.1. *Notations.* Let the base field be  $\mathbf{C}$  (or an algebraically closed field of characteristic 0). Let  $I, J$  be natural numbers. Let  $Y$  be a connected reduced (projective) curve with

ordinary nodes as singularities. Let  $Y_i, i = 1, \dots, I$  be the irreducible components of  $Y$ . Let  $Y' = Y - \{\text{singular set of } Y\}$ ,  $Y'_i = Y' \cap Y_i$  for all  $i$ . Let  $C$  be the partial desingularization of  $Y$  obtained by blowing up nodes  $y_j, j = 1, \dots, J$ . Assume that  $C = \bigsqcup_1^I C_i$  (a disjoint union). Let  $C'_i = C_i - \text{sing}(C_i)$ . Fix an orientation of the (dual) graph of  $Y$ . In the graph of  $Y$ ,  $y_j$  corresponds to an edge. The initial and terminal points of the edge correspond to curves  $Y_{i(j)}$  and  $Y_{t(j)}$  respectively, one has  $i(j) = t(j)$  if the edge is a loop. Let  $x_j \in C_{i(j)}$  and  $z_j \in C_{t(j)}$  be the two points of  $C$  mapping to  $y_j \in Y$  and  $D_j = x_j + z_j, j = 1, \dots, J$ . For each  $j$ ,  $D_j$  is an effective Cartier divisor on  $C$  supported outside the singular set of  $C$ . We remark that the parabolic structure we shall define in 1.2, 1.4 depends only on these divisors and not on the choice of orientation. Let  $G$  denote an affine connected semisimple algebraic group over  $\mathbf{C}$  (or an algebraically closed field of characteristic zero). Let  $\mathbf{g}$  denote the Lie algebra of  $G$ ,  $n = \dim \mathbf{g}$ . A principal  $G$ -bundle  $E$  on  $C$  is an  $I$ -tuple  $(E_i)$ ,  $E_i$  being a principal  $G$ -bundle on  $C_i$ .

#### DEFINITION 1.2

A quasiparabolic structure  $\sigma_j$  on  $E$  over the divisor  $D_j$  consists of a  $G$ -isomorphism  $\sigma_j : E_{i(j), x_j} \rightarrow E_{t(j), z_j}$  where  $E_{i,x}$  denotes the fibre of  $E_i$  at  $x$ . Let  $\sigma$  be the  $J$ -tuple  $(\sigma_j)_j$ , then  $(E, \sigma)$  is called a quasiparabolic  $G$ -bundle, called a QPG in short.

*Remark 1.3.* A family  $(\mathcal{E}, (\sigma_j))$  of QPGs consists of a family of principal  $G$ -bundles  $\mathcal{E} \rightarrow C \times T$  together with an isomorphism of  $G$ -bundles  $\sigma_j : \mathcal{E} \mid_{x_j \times T} \rightarrow \mathcal{E} \mid_{z_j \times T}$  for each  $j = 1, \dots, J$ . Given a family of QPGs  $(\mathcal{E}, (\sigma_j)) \rightarrow C \times T$  and a representation  $\rho : G \rightarrow GL(V)$  one can associate to it a family  $(\mathcal{E}(V), F_j(V)) \rightarrow C \times T$  of generalized parabolic vector bundles [U1] as follows.  $\mathcal{E}(V) = \mathcal{E} \times_{\rho} V$  is a family of vector bundles. For each  $j$ ,  $\sigma_j$  induces  $\sigma_{V,j} : \mathcal{E}(V) \mid_{x_j \times T} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}(V) \mid_{z_j \times T}$ . Let  $F_j(V) = \text{graph of } \sigma_{V,j}$  in  $\mathcal{E}(V) \mid_{x_j \times T} \oplus \mathcal{E}(V) \mid_{z_j \times T}$ . Then  $F_j(V)$  and  $Q_j(V) = (\mathcal{E}(V) \mid_{x_j \times T} \oplus \mathcal{E}(V) \mid_{z_j \times T})/F_j(V)$  are vector bundles on  $T$  of rank  $= \dim V$ .

1.4. Let  $\alpha$  be a real number,  $0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$ . Taking  $\rho$  the adjoint representation of  $G$  we get the associated vector bundle  $E(\mathbf{g})$ . Then  $E(\mathbf{g})$  is the adjoint bundle of  $E$  and we often denote it by  $\text{Ad}E$ . The isomorphism  $\sigma_j$  gives an isomorphism  $E(\mathbf{g})_{x_j} \rightarrow E(\mathbf{g})_{z_j}$  and hence determines an  $n$ -dimensional subspace of  $E(\mathbf{g})_{x_j} \oplus E(\mathbf{g})_{z_j} = \mathbf{g} \oplus \mathbf{g}$  again denoted by  $\sigma_j$ . Let  $\tau_j \in \text{End}_{\mathbf{C}}(\mathbf{g} \oplus \mathbf{g})$  such that  $\tau_j$  acts on  $\sigma_j$  by  $\alpha \cdot \text{Id}$  and  $\tau_j$  restricted to a complement of  $\sigma_j$  in  $\mathbf{g} \oplus \mathbf{g}$  is zero. With respect to a suitable basis,  $\tau_j = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha I_n & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $I_n$  being the unit matrix of rank  $n$ . We fix a conjugacy class of  $\tau_j$ . (This is an analogue of weights in case of (generalized) parabolic vector bundles, the weights in this case being  $(0, \alpha)$  for the vector bundle  $E(\mathbf{g})$  with induced (generalized) parabolic structure).

We want to define the notions of stability and semistability for QPGs. Since the definitions are rather complicated in the general case, we first define these notions on an irreducible smooth curve  $C$  (1.5, 1.6) and later extend these notions to the general case (1.7, 1.8, 1.9).

Assume that  $C$  is a nonsingular irreducible curve. Let  $P$  be a maximum parabolic subgroup of  $G$  and  $\mathbf{p}$  its Lie algebra. Let  $E/P = E(G/P)$  be the associated fibre bundle with fibres isomorphic to  $G/P$ . Let  $s : C \rightarrow E/P$  be a section i.e. a reduction of the structure group to the maximum parabolic subgroup  $P$ . Let  $Q_j$  be the stabilizer in

$GL(\mathbf{g} \oplus \mathbf{g})$  of the subspace  $E(\mathbf{p})_{x_j} \oplus E(\mathbf{p})_{z_j} = \mathbf{p} \oplus \mathbf{p} \subset \mathbf{g} \oplus \mathbf{g} = E(\mathbf{g})_{x_j} \oplus E(\mathbf{g})_{z_j}$ . Let  $\mu_j$  denote the determinant of the action of  $Q_j$  on  $\mathbf{g}/\mathbf{p} \oplus \mathbf{g}/\mathbf{p}$ . Let  $\bar{\mu}_j$  be the form on the Lie algebra  $L(Q_j)$  of  $Q_j$  corresponding to  $\mu_j$ . Let  $\bar{\tau}_j$  be a conjugate of  $\tau_j$  in  $L(Q_j)$ .

#### DEFINITION 1.5

A QPG  $(E, (\sigma_j))$  is  $\alpha$ -stable (resp.  $\alpha$ -semistable) if for every maximum parabolic  $P$  of  $G$  and every reduction  $s : C \rightarrow E/P$ , one has

$$\text{degree } s^*T(G/P) + \sum_j \bar{\mu}_j(\bar{\tau}_j) > (\text{resp. } \geq) \alpha J. \text{rank } s^*T(G/P). \quad (*1)$$

Here  $T(G/P)$  is the tangent bundle along the fibres of  $E/P \rightarrow C$ .

*Lemma 1.6.* *With the above notations, the condition (\*1) is equivalent to the following*

$$\text{par deg } E(\mathbf{p}) < (\text{resp. } \leq) \alpha J. \text{rank } E(\mathbf{p}), \quad (*2)$$

where  $\text{par deg } E(\mathbf{p})$  denotes the parabolic degree of the subbundle  $E(\mathbf{p})$  of the (generalized) parabolic vector bundle  $(E(\mathbf{g}), (\sigma))$  with weights  $(0, \alpha)$ , each weight being of multiplicity  $n$ .

*Proof.* One has  $s^*T(G/P) = E(\mathbf{g}/\mathbf{p})$ ,  $\sum_j \bar{\mu}_j(\bar{\tau}_j) =$  parabolic weight of the quotient bundle  $E(\mathbf{g}/\mathbf{p})$  of  $(E(\mathbf{g}), (\sigma_j))$ . Thus (\*1) can be restated as  $\text{par deg } E(\mathbf{g}/\mathbf{p}) > (\text{resp. } \geq) \alpha J \text{rank } E(\mathbf{g}/\mathbf{p})$ . Since  $G$  is semisimple,  $\deg E(\mathbf{g}) = 0$  ([R1], Remark 2.2) and hence  $\text{par deg } E(\mathbf{g}) = \alpha J \text{rank } E(\mathbf{g})$ . The result now follows from the exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow E(\mathbf{p}) \rightarrow E(\mathbf{g}) \rightarrow E(\mathbf{g}/\mathbf{p}) \rightarrow 0$  using the additivity of parabolic degrees for exact sequences.

**1.7. Semistable QPGs on reducible curves.** Let the notation be as in 1.1. We consider QPGs  $(E, (\sigma_j))$  on  $C$  with parabolic structure over  $D_j = x_j + z_j$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, J$ . Let  $\{\sigma_j\}, \{\tau_j\}, a, \alpha$  be as in 1.4. For  $i = 1, \dots, I$  let  $P_i$  denote either a maximum parabolic subgroup of  $G$  or the trivial group  $e$  or the group  $G$  itself. We need to consider the cases  $P = \{e\}$  or  $G$  also, because a sub-object  $N = (N_i)$  of  $E = (E_i)$  may have the property that for some  $i$ ,  $N_i = E_i$  or  $N_i$  is trivial. For an  $I$ -tuple  $P = (P_1, \dots, P_I)$ , let  $r_i = \dim \mathbf{p}_i, n_i = \dim \mathbf{g}/\mathbf{p}_i$  for all  $i$ . For  $j = 1, \dots, J$  denote by  $Q_j$  the stabilizer in  $GL(\mathbf{g} \oplus \mathbf{g})$  of the subspace  $\mathbf{p}_{i(j)} \oplus \mathbf{p}_{t(j)} \subseteq \mathbf{g} \oplus \mathbf{g}$ . Let  $\mu_j$  be the determinant of the action of  $Q_j$  on  $\mathbf{g}/\mathbf{p}_{i(j)} \oplus \mathbf{g}/\mathbf{p}_{t(j)}$  and  $\bar{\mu}_j$  the form on the Lie algebra  $L(Q_j)$  of  $Q_j$  corresponding to  $\mu_j$ . Let  $\bar{\tau}_j$  be a conjugate of  $\tau_j$  in  $L(Q_j)$ . Let  $C'_i = C_i - \text{sing}(C_i), s_i : C'_i \rightarrow E(G/P_i) \mid C'_i$  any section,  $s = (s_1, \dots, s_I)$ . Let  $S_{s_i} =$  the largest subsheaf of  $\text{Ad } E \mid C_i$  such that  $S_{s_i} \mid C'_i = s_i^*(E(\mathbf{p}_i)) \mid C'_i$ . Let  $S_s = (S_{s_1}, \dots, S_{s_I}), \chi(S_s) = \sum_i \chi(S_{s_i}), \chi(\text{Ad } E) = \sum_i \chi(\text{Ad } E \mid C_i)$ . Let  $Q_{s_i}$  be the (smallest) torsion free quotient sheaf of  $\text{Ad } E \mid C_i$  with  $Q_{s_i} \mid C'_i = s_i^*(E(\mathbf{g}/\mathbf{p}_i)) \mid C'_i$ . Let  $Q_s = (Q_{s_i})_i, \chi(Q_s) = \sum_i \chi(Q_{s_i})$ .

#### DEFINITION 1.8.

A QPG  $(E, (\sigma_j))$  is  $(a, \alpha)$ -semistable (resp.  $(a, \alpha)$ -stable) if for every reduction  $s$  of the structure group to  $P$  such that  $P_i \neq G$  for all  $i$  and  $P_i \neq \{e\}$  for all  $i$  one has

$$\left[ \chi(Q_s) + \sum_j \bar{\mu}_j(\bar{\tau}_j) - \alpha \sum_j (n_{i(j)} + n_{t(j)}) \right] \Big/ \sum_i a_i n_i \geq (>) \chi(\text{Ad } E)/n - \alpha J. \quad (*1')$$

*Lemma 1.9.* (a) *The condition  $(*1')$  above is equivalent to the following condition*

$$\left[ \chi(S_s) - \alpha \sum_j q_j(S_s) \right] \Big/ \sum_i a_i r_i \leq (<) \chi(\text{Ad } E)/n - \alpha J, \quad (*2')$$

where  $q_j(S_s) = r_{i(j)} + r_{t(j)} - \dim(\sigma_j \cap ((S_s)_{i(j), x_j} \oplus (S_s)_{t(j), z_j}))$ .

(b) *If  $C$  is irreducible and smooth, then  $(*2')$  is same as  $(*2)$ .*

*Proof.* (a) The quotient  $Q_s$  of  $E(\mathbf{g})$  has induced parabolic structure over  $D_j$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, J$  given by  $(Q_s)_{x_j} \oplus (Q_s)_{z_j} \supset F_j(Q_s) \supset 0$  with weights  $(0, \alpha)$ , where  $F_j(Q_s)$  is the image of the  $n$ -dimensional subspace  $\sigma_j$  of  $(E(\mathbf{g})_{x_j} \oplus E(\mathbf{g})_{z_j})$  in  $((Q_s)_{x_j} \oplus (Q_s)_{z_j})$ . Let  $f_j(Q_s) = \dim F_j(Q_s)$ . By definition, the parabolic weight of  $Q_s = \alpha \sum_j f_j(Q_s)$ . Define  $q_j(Q_s) = n_{i(j)} + n_{t(j)} - f_j(Q_s)$ , it is additive for exact sequences. Then one has

$$\begin{aligned} \text{parabolic weight of } Q_s &= \alpha \sum_j (n_{i(j)} + n_{t(j)} - q_j(Q_s)) \\ &= \alpha \sum_j (n_{i(j)} + n_{t(j)} - q_j(\text{Ad } E) + q_j(S_s)) \\ &= \alpha \sum_j (n_{i(j)} + n_{t(j)} - n + q_j(S_s)). \end{aligned}$$

Note that since  $Q_s \approx E(\mathbf{g}/\mathbf{p})$  outside  $\text{sing}(C)$  and all  $D_j$  avoid  $\text{sing}(C)$ , one has parabolic weight of  $Q_s = \text{the parabolic weight of } E(\mathbf{g}/\mathbf{p}) = \sum_j \bar{\mu}_j(\bar{\tau}_j)$ . Hence,  $\sum_j \bar{\mu}_j(\bar{\tau}_j) - \sum_j \alpha(n_{i(j)} + n_{t(j)}) = \alpha \sum_j q_j(S_s) - \alpha J n$ . Using this equality and  $\sum a_i r_i = n - \sum a_i n_i$  the first part of the Lemma follows.

(b) If  $C$  is a smooth irreducible curve then one has  $I = 1$ ,  $S_s = E(\mathbf{p})$ ,  $Q_s = E(\mathbf{g}/\mathbf{p})$ ,  $\sum a_i r_i = r_1$ ,  $\chi(S_s) = \deg(E(\mathbf{p})) + r_1(1 - g)$ ,  $\sum_j \alpha q_j(S_s) = \sum_j \alpha(2r_1 - \dim F_j(S_s)) = 2\alpha J r_1 - \text{parabolic weight}(S_s)$ . Hence the left hand side of  $(*2')$  becomes equal to  $\text{par deg } E(\mathbf{p})/\text{rank } E(\mathbf{p}) - 2\alpha J + (1 - g)$ . The right hand side of  $(*2') = (1 - g) - \alpha J$ . Hence the result follows.

## 2. Principal $G$ -bundles on a singular curve $Y$

2.1. We want to introduce the notions of stability and semistability for principal  $G$ -bundles on singular curves. On a smooth curve there are different definitions of stability and semistability of a principal  $G$ -bundle, but they all coincide [R1]. The problem is that this is not true on a singular curve. The choice of a representation of  $G$  used to define semistability does not matter on a smooth curve essentially because the associated bundles (tensor products etc.) of semistable vector bundles (in characteristic 0) are semistable. This fails if the curve has singularities. For example, if  $F_1$  is the semistable vector bundle of rank 2, degree 0 (on an irreducible nodal curve  $Y$ ) constructed in Proposition 2.7 of

[U3] then  $F_1 \otimes F_1$  and  $S^2 F_1$  are not semistable [U5]. This is seen by checking that the corresponding generalized parabolic vector bundles on  $C$  are not semistable. Similarly one can show that if  $F_2$  is the stable vector bundle of rank  $2m$  constructed in Proposition 2.9, [U3] then  $F_1 \otimes F_2$  is not semistable for all  $m \geq 2$  [U5].

We give here a notion of semistability for principal  $G$ -bundles on singular curves (see Definitions 2.2, 2.3, 2.9, 2.10) which is intrinsic and seems most useful. We first assume that  $Y$  is irreducible (the case of a reducible curve will be dealt with later). Let  $Y' = Y - \{\text{singular set of } Y\}$ ,  $i : Y' \rightarrow Y$  inclusion map. Let  $G$  be a connected reductive algebraic group. Let  $P$  be a maximum parabolic subgroup of  $G$  and  $\mathbf{p}$  the Lie algebra of  $P$ . Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a principal  $G$ -bundle on  $Y$  and  $\mathcal{F}/P = \mathcal{F}(G/P)$  the associated fibre bundle with fibres isomorphic to  $G/P$ . Let  $s' = Y' \rightarrow (\mathcal{F}/P) |_{Y'}$  be a reduction of the structure group to  $P$  (i.e. a section of  $\mathcal{F}/P$  restricted to  $Y'$ ). Let  $T(G/P)$  denote the tangent bundle along the fibres of  $\mathcal{F}/P \rightarrow Y$ . Let  $Q_{s'}$  be a torsion free quotient of  $\mathcal{F}(\mathbf{g})$  such that  $Q_{s'} |_{Y'} \cong (s')^*(T(G/P)) |_{Y'}$  and no further quotient of  $Q_{s'}$  has this property. Let  $S_{s'}$  be the maximum subsheaf of  $\mathcal{F}(\mathbf{g})$  containing  $(s')^*\mathcal{F}(\mathbf{p})$ .

#### DEFINITION 2.2

$\mathcal{F}$  is *stable* (resp. *semistable*) if for every reduction  $s'$  of the structure group to a maximum parabolic  $P$  (over  $Y'$ ), one has degree  $Q_{s'} > 0$  (resp.  $\geq 0$ ).

*Lemma 2.3.* *The above definition is equivalent to the following:  $\mathcal{F}$  is stable (resp. semistable) if for every  $s'$  as above, degree  $S_{s'} < 0$  (resp.  $\leq 0$ ).*

*Proof.* The exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow \mathbf{p} \rightarrow \mathbf{g} \rightarrow \mathbf{g}/\mathbf{p} \rightarrow 0$  gives an exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow s^*\mathcal{F}(\mathbf{p}) \rightarrow \text{Ad}\mathcal{F} |_{Y'} \rightarrow s'^*T(G/P) \rightarrow 0$  and hence  $0 \rightarrow S_{s'} \rightarrow \text{Ad}\mathcal{F} \rightarrow Q_{s'} \rightarrow 0$ . Noting that  $\text{Ad } \mathcal{F}$  has degree zero, the lemma follows.

We now assume that  $Y$  has only ordinary nodes  $y_1, \dots, y_J$  as singularities and  $p : C \rightarrow Y$  is the normalization map,  $D_j = p^{-1}(y_j) = x_j + z_j$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, J$ . Then giving a principal  $G$ -bundle  $\mathcal{F}$  on  $Y$  is equivalent to giving the principal  $G$ -bundle  $p^*\mathcal{F} = E$  on  $C$  together with a  $G$ -isomorphism  $\sigma_j$  of the fibres  $E_{x_j}$  and  $E_{z_j}$  of  $E$  for each  $j$ . The isomorphisms  $\sigma_j$  induce isomorphisms  $E(\mathbf{g})_{x_j} \rightarrow E(\mathbf{g})_{z_j}$ . We denote the graph of these isomorphisms also by  $\sigma_j$ .

#### PROPOSITION 2.4

$(E, (\sigma_j))$  is 1-stable (resp. 1-semistable) if and only if the corresponding  $G$ -bundle  $\mathcal{F}$  on  $Y$  is stable (resp. semistable).

*Proof.* Suppose that  $\mathcal{F}$  is stable (resp. semistable). Let  $s : C \rightarrow E/P$  be a reduction to a maximum parabolic subgroup  $P$ . Since  $C - \cup_j D_j \approx Y - \cup_j y_j$ , under  $p$  and  $E \approx p^*\mathcal{F}$ , the section  $s$  gives a reduction  $s' : Y' = Y - \cup_j y_j \rightarrow (\mathcal{F}/P) |_{Y'}$ . One has the exact sequences  $0 \rightarrow \mathcal{F}(\mathbf{g}) \rightarrow p_*s^*E(\mathbf{g}) \rightarrow \bigoplus_j Q_j E(\mathbf{g}) \rightarrow 0$ ,  $0 \rightarrow S_{s'} \rightarrow p_*s^*E(\mathbf{p}) \rightarrow \bigoplus_j Q_j E(\mathbf{p}) \rightarrow 0$  where  $Q_j(E(\mathbf{g})) = (s^*E(\mathbf{g})_{x_j} \oplus s^*E(\mathbf{g})_{z_j})/\sigma_j$ ,  $Q_j E(\mathbf{p}) = (s^*E(\mathbf{p})_{x_j} \oplus s^*E(\mathbf{p})_{z_j})/(\sigma_j \cap (s^*E(\mathbf{p})_{x_j} \oplus s^*E(\mathbf{p})_{z_j}))$ . Note that the quotient of  $\mathcal{F}(\mathbf{g})$  by  $S_{s'}$  is the torsion free sheaf obtained from  $s^*E(\mathbf{g}/\mathbf{p})$  with induced parabolic structure (viz. the image of  $\sigma_j$  in  $E(\mathbf{g}/\mathbf{p})_{x_j} \oplus E(\mathbf{g}/\mathbf{p})_{z_j}$ ,  $\forall j$ ). The second sequence implies that  $\text{par deg } s^*E(\mathbf{p}) - J \text{ rank}$

$s^* E(\mathbf{p}) = \deg(S_{s'})$ . Since  $\mathcal{F}$  is stable,  $\deg(S_{s'}) < 0$ . The result follows from Lemma 1.6. The converse follows similarly working backwards in the above argument. One has only to note that if  $s' : Y' \rightarrow (\mathcal{F}/P) |_{Y'}$  is a reduction to a maximum parabolic  $P$ , then  $s'$  gives a reduction  $s : C \rightarrow E/P$  (as  $G/P$  is complete). In case of semistability one has to replace strict inequalities in the above proof by inequalities.

## 2.5 Bundles associated to representations

The fundamental group  $\pi_1(Y)$  of  $Y$  is isomorphic to  $H = \pi_1(C) * \mathbf{Z} * \dots * \mathbf{Z}$ , a free product of  $\pi_1(C)$  and  $J$  copies of  $\mathbf{Z}$  (3.5, [U3]). To a representation  $\rho : H \rightarrow G$  we associate a QPG  $(E_\rho, (\sigma_j))$  as follows.  $E_\rho$  is the principal  $G$ -bundle on  $C$  associated to the representation  $\rho_C = \rho \upharpoonright \pi_1(C)$ . If  $\tilde{C}$  is the universal covering of  $C$ , then  $E_\rho = \tilde{C} \times_{\rho} G$ . Fixing suitably points  $x'_j, z'_j$  of  $\tilde{C}$  lying over  $x_j, z_j$  respectively, the fibres  $(E_\rho)_{x_j}$  and  $(E_\rho)_{z_j}$  can be identified to  $G$ . Let  $g_j = \rho(1_j)$ ,  $1_j$  denoting the generator of the  $j$ th factor  $\mathbf{Z}$  in  $H$ . Then  $g_j$  gives an isomorphism  $h'_j : (E_\rho)_{x_j} \cong (E_\rho)_{z_j}$  and hence  $h_j : (E_\rho(\mathbf{g}))_{x_j} \cong (E_\rho(\mathbf{g}))_{z_j}$ . Define  $\sigma_j = \text{graph of } h_j$ . If  $\mathcal{F}$  is the principal  $G$ -bundle on  $Y$  obtained by identifying fibres of  $E_\rho$  at  $x_j$  and  $z_j$  by  $g_j \forall j$ , then one has  $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{F}_\rho$ , the  $G$ -bundle associated to the representation  $\rho$  of  $\pi_1(Y)$  and  $E_\rho = p^* \mathcal{F}_\rho$ .

### PROPOSITION 2.6

If  $\rho_C$  is irreducible unitary (resp. unitary) then  $\mathcal{F}_\rho$  is stable (resp. semistable).

*Proof.* If  $\rho_C$  is unitary, so is  $\text{Ad} \circ \rho_C$  and hence  $\mathcal{F}_{\text{Ad} \circ \rho} = \mathcal{F}_\rho(\mathbf{g})$  is semistable ([U3], Proposition 2.5). Therefore  $\mathcal{F}_\rho$  is semistable.

If  $\rho_C$  is irreducible unitary, then by Theorem 7.1 of [R1] (in our case  $E(\rho, c) = E_\rho, c = \text{Id}$ )  $E_\rho$  is a stable  $G$ -bundle. We check below that  $(E_\rho, (\sigma_j))$  is 1-stable, then  $\mathcal{F}_\rho$  is stable by Proposition 2.4. Let  $s$  be a reduction of the structure group of  $E_\rho$  to a maximum parabolic subgroup  $P$ . The stability of  $E_\rho$  implies that  $\deg(s^* E_\rho(\mathbf{p})) < 0$ . Note that  $\sigma_j$  maps isomorphically onto  $(E_\rho)_{x_j}, j = 1, \dots, J$ . Hence  $\sigma_j(E_\rho(\mathbf{p})) = \sigma_j \cap (E_\rho(\mathbf{p})_{x_j} \oplus E_\rho(\mathbf{p})_{z_j})$  maps injectively into  $E_\rho(\mathbf{p})_{x_j}$ . Therefore  $\dim \sigma_j(E_\rho(\mathbf{p})) \leq \text{rank}(E_\rho(\mathbf{p}))$  for all  $j$ . It follows that  $\text{par deg}(s^* E_\rho(\mathbf{p})) = \deg(s^* E_\rho(\mathbf{p})) + \sum_j \dim \sigma_j(E_\rho(\mathbf{p})) < J \text{rank}(E_\rho(\mathbf{p}))$ . Thus  $(E_\rho, (\sigma_j))$  is 1-stable.

*Remark 2.7.* There may exist stable principal  $G$ -bundles on  $Y$  which are not associated to any representations of  $\pi_1(Y)$ . For examples in case  $G = GL(n)$  see [U3], similar examples can be constructed in case  $G = O(n), Sp(2n)$  also.

## Principal $G$ -bundles on a reducible curve $Y$

*Notations 2.8.* Let the notation be as in 1.1. Assume further that  $Y$  has nodes  $y_j, j = 1, \dots, J$  as only singularities. Let  $\Gamma$  be the graph obtained from the (dual) graph of  $Y$  by omitting loops. Let  $y_1, \dots, y_K$  be the nodes of  $Y$  such that each  $y_j$  lies on two different components of  $Y$ . Then  $K =$  the number of edges of  $\Gamma$ ,  $I =$  the number of vertices of  $\Gamma$ .

For  $i = 1, \dots, I$ , let  $P_i$  denote either a maximum parabolic subgroup of  $G$  or the trivial group  $\{e\}$  or the group  $G$  itself. Let  $\mathcal{F}$  denote a principal  $G$ -bundle on  $Y$ . For each  $i$ , let  $s'_i : Y'_i \rightarrow \mathcal{F}(G/P_i) |_{Y'_i}$  be a section. Let  $P = (P_i)_i, s' = (s'_i)_i$  be  $I$ -tuples. We call  $s'$  a *reduction of the structure group to  $P$  over  $Y'$* . Let  $T(G/P_i)$  denote the tangent

bundle along the fibres of  $\mathcal{F}(G/P_i) \mid_{Y_i}$ . If  $P_i = \{e\}$  then  $s_i'^*(T(G/P_i)) \approx \text{Ad } \mathcal{F} \mid_{Y_i'}$ . If  $P_i = G$ , then  $\mathcal{F}(G/P_i) \mid_{Y_i} \approx Y_i$  and the Euler characteristic  $\chi(s_i'^*(T(G/P_i))) = 0$ . Let  $Q_{s'}$  be the smallest torsionfree quotient of  $\text{Ad } \mathcal{F}$  such that  $Q_{s'} \mid_{Y_i'} \approx s_i'^*(T(G/P_i)) \mid_{Y_i'}$  for all  $i$ . Let  $\mathbf{p}_i$  denote the Lie algebra of  $P_i$  and  $\mathcal{F}(\mathbf{p}_i)$ ,  $\mathcal{F}(\mathbf{g})$ ,  $\mathcal{F}(\mathbf{g}/\mathbf{p}_i)$  the fibre bundles (with fibres  $\mathbf{p}_i$ ,  $\mathbf{g}$ ,  $\mathbf{g}/\mathbf{p}_i$  respectively) associated to the  $P_i$ -bundle  $\mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}(G/P_i)$  via the adjoint representation. Thus  $s_i'^*\mathcal{F}(\mathbf{g}) = \text{Ad } \mathcal{F} \mid_{Y_i'}$ ,  $s_i'^*\mathcal{F}(\mathbf{g}/\mathbf{p}_i) = s_i'^*T(G/P_i)$ . Let  $S_{s'}$  be the maximum subsheaf of  $\text{Ad } \mathcal{F}$  such that  $S_{s'} \mid_{Y_i'} \approx s_i'^*\mathcal{F}(\mathbf{p})$ . Let  $a = (a_1, \dots, a_I)$ , where  $\{a_i\}$  are positive rational numbers with  $\sum a_i = 1$ . Recall that for a vector bundle  $V$  on  $Y$ ,  $a$ -rank  $V = \sum_i a_i \text{rank}(V \mid_{Y_i})$ .

### DEFINITION 2.9

The principal  $G$ -bundle  $\mathcal{F}$  on  $Y$  is  $a$ -semistable (resp.  $a$ -stable) if for every reduction  $s'$  of the structure group to  $P$  with  $P_i \neq \{e\}$  for all  $i$  and  $P_i \neq G$  for all  $i$  one has (in the notations of 2.8)

$$\chi(Q_{s'})/a - \text{rank } Q_{s'} \geq (\text{resp. } >) \chi(\text{Ad } \mathcal{F})/a - \text{rank } \text{Ad } \mathcal{F}.$$

*Lemma 2.10.*  $\mathcal{F}$  is  $a$ -semistable (resp.  $a$ -stable) if for every reduction  $s'$  as above,

$$\chi(S_{s'})/a - \text{rank } S_{s'} \leq (\text{resp. } <) \chi(\text{Ad } \mathcal{F})/a - \text{rank } \text{Ad } \mathcal{F}.$$

*Proof.* As in Lemma 2.3, we have the exact sequences  $0 \rightarrow s_i'^*\mathcal{F}(\mathbf{p}) \rightarrow \text{Ad } \mathcal{F} \mid_{Y_i'} \rightarrow s_i'^*T(G/P) \rightarrow 0$  for all  $i$  and so  $0 \rightarrow S_{s'} \rightarrow \text{Ad } \mathcal{F} \rightarrow Q_{s'} \rightarrow 0$ . The lemma follows using the fact that both the Euler characteristic and  $a$ -rank are additive for an exact sequence.

### PROPOSITION 2.11

For  $i = 1, \dots, I$ , let  $C_i$  be a partial desingularization of  $Y_i$  and  $C = \coprod C_i$ . Suppose that  $C$  is obtained by blowing up nodes  $y_1, \dots, y_{J'}$ ,  $J' \leq J$  of  $Y$ . Let  $(E, (\sigma_j))$  denote a QPG with quasi-parabolic structure  $\sigma_j$  over  $D_j$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq J'$ . Then a QPG  $(E, (\sigma_j))$  is  $(a, 1)$ -stable (resp.  $(a, 1)$ -semistable) if and only if the corresponding principal  $G$ -bundle on  $Y$  (obtained by identifying fibres of  $E$  by  $\sigma_j$ ) is  $a$ -stable (resp.  $a$ -semistable).

*Proof.* The proof is exactly on same lines as that of Proposition 2.4. Starting with  $\mathcal{F}$   $a$ -stable (resp. semistable) and a reduction  $s'$  to  $P$ , one gets an exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow S_{s'} \rightarrow p_*S_s \rightarrow \bigoplus_j Q_j(S_s) \rightarrow 0$ , with  $q_j(S_s) = \dim Q_j(S_s)$ . Then Lemma 1.9 gives  $(a, 1)$ -stability (resp. semistability) of  $(E, (\sigma_j))$ . The converse is proved by reversing the argument.

### 2.12. $G$ -bundles associated to representations

Let  $\rho : \pi_1(Y) \rightarrow G$  be a representation of the fundamental group  $\pi_1(Y)$  of  $Y$  in  $G$ . For  $i = 1, \dots, I$ , let  $f_i : \pi_1(Y_i) \rightarrow \pi_1(Y)$  be the natural maps,  $\rho_i = \rho \circ f_i$ . Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be the  $G$ -bundle on  $Y$  associated to  $\rho$ . Let  $p^*\mathcal{F} = E = (E_i)_i$ . Then  $E_i$  is the  $G$ -bundle on  $Y_i$  associated to  $\rho_i$ . The principal  $G$ -bundle  $\mathcal{F}$  corresponds to a QPG  $(E, (\sigma_j))$  on  $\coprod_i Y_i$  where  $\{\sigma_j\}$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, K$  are  $G$ -isomorphisms of fibres of  $E$ . Finally let  $C_i$  denote the

desingularization of  $Y_i$ ,  $g_i$  = arithmetic genus of  $Y_i$ ,  $g(C_i)$  = genus of  $C_i$ ,  $g(C_i) \geq 1$ . Our aim is to prove the following Theorem.

**Theorem 1.** *There exist positive rational numbers  $a_1, \dots, a_I$  with  $\sum a_i = 1$ , depending only on  $\Gamma$  and  $g_i$ , such that for  $a = (a_1, \dots, a_I)$  the following statements are true.*

- (1) *If  $\rho_{C_i} = \rho_i \mid \pi_1(C_i)$  are unitary representations for all  $i$ , then the principal  $G$ -bundle  $\mathcal{F}$  on  $Y$  associated to  $\rho$  is a-semistable.*
- (2) *If  $\rho_{C_i}$  are irreducible unitary representations for all  $i$ , then the principal  $G$ -bundle  $\mathcal{F}$  associated to  $\rho$  is a-stable.*

For the proof of the theorem, we need the following combinatorial result.

#### PROPOSITION 2.13

Let  $\Gamma$  be a connected graph without loops. Let  $I$  be the number of vertices and  $K$  the number of edges of  $\Gamma$ ,  $K = I + m$ ,  $m \geq -1$ . Fix integers  $r \geq 1$ ,  $g_i \geq 1$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, I$  and  $g = \sum g_i$ . Then there exist positive rational numbers  $a_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, I$  with  $\sum a_i = 1$  such that for every  $I$ -tuple  $\underline{r} = (r_1, \dots, r_I)$  of integers  $r_i$  with  $0 \leq r_i \leq r$  and for every  $K$ -tuple of integers  $\underline{q} = (q_1, \dots, q_K)$  with  $\max(r_{i(j)}, r_{t(j)}) \leq q_j \leq r$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, K$ , one has

$$\sum_{i=1}^I r_i(g_i - 1) + \sum_{j=1}^K q_j \geq (g + m) \left( \sum_{i=1}^I a_i r_i \right). \quad (\text{SS})$$

If in addition  $r_i = 0$  for some  $i$ ,  $0 \neq \sum_i r_i$ , then the inequality (SS) is a strict inequality.

*Proof.* We prove the result by induction on  $m$ .

*Case  $m = -1$ :*  $\Gamma$  is a tree in this case. Let  $a_i = g_i/g$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, I$ . Let  $r_{i_0} = \min_i r_i$ . Since  $K = I - 1$  and  $q_j \geq \max(r_{i(j)}, r_{t(j)})$ , one has  $\sum_j q_j \geq \sum_{i \neq i_0} r_i = \sum_i r_i - r_{i_0}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{L.H.S. of (SS)} &= \sum_i r_i g_i - \sum_i r_i + \sum_j q_j \\ &\geq \sum_i r_i g_i - r_{i_0} = \sum_i r_i g_i - \sum_i (g_i r_{i_0})/g \\ &\geq \sum_i r_i g_i - \sum_i g_i r_i/g \\ &= (g - 1) \sum_i r_i g_i/g \\ &= (g - 1) \sum_i a_i r_i. \end{aligned}$$

If  $0 \neq \sum r_i$  and  $r_i = 0$  for some  $i$ , then  $r_{i_0} = 0$  and

$$\text{L.H.S. of (SS)} \geq \sum r_i g_i = g \sum_i a_i r_i > (g - 1) \sum a_i r_i.$$

*Case  $m \geq 0$ :* If  $m \geq 0$ , then  $\Gamma$  contains a cycle. By removing a suitable edge, say  $e_\ell$ , from this cycle in  $\Gamma$ , we get a connected subgraph  $\Gamma'$  of  $\Gamma$  such that  $K(\Gamma') - I(\Gamma') = m - 1$ . By induction, there exist positive rational numbers  $a'_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, I$  with  $\sum a'_i = 1$ , such

that for all  $\underline{r}$  and  $\underline{q} = (q_1, \dots, \widehat{q}_\ell, \dots, q_j)$  satisfying the given conditions, one has

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_i r_i(g_i - 1) + \sum_{j \neq \ell} q_j &\geq (g + m - 1)(\sum_i a'_i r_i) \\ &= \sum_i b'_i r_i, \quad b'_i = a'_i(g + m - 1), \\ \text{L.H.S. of (SS)} &= \sum_i r_i(g_i - 1) + \sum_{j=1}^{\ell} q_j \\ &\geq \sum_i b'_i r_i + (r_{i(\ell)} + r_{t(\ell)})/2 \\ &= \sum_i b_i r_i, \end{aligned}$$

where  $b_i = b'_i$  if  $i \neq i(\ell), t(\ell)$  and  $b_i = b'_i + \frac{1}{2}$  if  $i = i(\ell)$  or  $t(\ell)$ . Take  $a_i = b_i/(g + m)$  for all  $i$ , then (SS) holds. The assertion about strict inequality follows by induction similarly.

*Remark 2.14.* (1) Note that if both  $a, a'$  satisfy (SS) then for  $0 \leq t \leq 1$ ,  $a^t = ta + (1-t)a'$  also satisfies (SS). Thus the set of solutions  $a$  of (SS) is a convex set.

(2) Given  $i_1, i_2, , 1 \leq i_1, i_2 \leq I$ , take  $a'_i = (g_i - \frac{1}{2})/(g-1)$  for  $i = i_1, i_2$  and  $a'_i = g_i/(g-1)$  for  $i \neq i_1, i \neq i_2$ . Then in case  $\Gamma$  is a tree (i.e.  $m = -1$ ) the inequality (SS) holds (though the strict inequality may not be true eg. for  $r_{i_1} = r_{i_2} = 0$ ). For  $K - I \geq 0$ , the inductive proof of Proposition 2.13 then gives new  $a' = (a'_1, \dots, a'_I)$  satisfying the inequality (SS). It follows that the inequality holds for  $a^t$ ,  $0 \leq t \leq 1$ .

### PROPOSITION 2.15

*Theorem 1 is true for  $G = GL(r)$ .*

- (1) *If  $\rho_i \mid \pi_1(C_i)$  are unitary representations for all  $i$ , then the vector bundle  $F$  on  $Y$  associated to  $\rho$  is  $a$ -semistable.*
- (2) *If  $\rho_i \mid \pi_1(C_i)$  are irreducible unitary for all  $i$ , then  $F$  is  $a$ -stable.*

*Proof.*

(1) As in Propositions 3.9 and 3.7(3) of [U2], it can be seen that the vector bundle  $F$  on  $Y$  corresponds to a QPG  $\underline{E} = (E, F_j(E))$  on  $\coprod Y_i$  and  $F$  is  $a$ -semistable (resp.  $a$ -stable) if and only if  $\underline{E}$  is  $(a, 1)$ -semistable (resp.  $(a, 1)$ -stable). Note that  $E = \coprod E_i$  is the pull-back of  $F$  to  $\coprod Y_i$ . By Theorem 2, [U3], the vector bundles  $E_i$  on  $Y_i$  associated to  $\rho_i$  are semistable for all  $i$ . Hence, for any subsheaf  $N_i$  of  $E_i$ , one has  $\chi(N_i) \leq r_i(1 - g_i)$ ,  $r_i = \text{rank } N_i$  (note that  $\text{degree}(E_i) = 0$ ). Thus

$$S_N = \left[ \sum_i \chi(N_i) - \sum_j q^j(N) \right] \Bigg/ \sum_i a_i r_i \leq \sum_i r_i(1 - g_i) - \sum_j q^j(N) / \sum_i a_i r_i,$$

where the summation over  $j$  is taken for  $1 \leq j \leq K$ . For the choice of  $\{a_i\}$  made in Proposition 2.13, we get

$$S_N \leq I - K - \sum g_i = \left( \sum_i \chi(E_i) - rK \right) \Bigg/ r.$$

Thus  $(E, F_j(E))$  is  $(a, 1)$ -semistable and hence  $F$  is  $a$ -semistable.

(2) We need to consider two cases. With the notations in the proof of (1) if  $r_i = 0$  for some  $i$  then by Proposition 2.13, we have  $S_N < I - K - \sum g_i$ . If  $r_i \neq 0$  for all  $i$ , then there exists an  $i_0$  such that  $0 \neq r_{i_0} \neq r$ . Since  $E_{i_0}$  is stable by Theorem 2 [U3], we have  $\chi(N_{i_0}) < r_{i_0}(1 - g_{i_0})$ . Therefore,  $S_N < \sum_i r_i(1 - g_i) - \sum_j q^j(N)/\sum_i a_i r_i \leq I - K - \sum g_i$  (by Proposition 2.13). Thus  $(E, F_j(E))$  is  $(a, 1)$ -stable and so  $F$  is  $a$ -stable.

*Remark 2.16.* The proof of Proposition 2.13 shows that there exist curves  $Y^m, m = 0, \dots, n+1$  such that (1)  $Y^0 = Y$ , (2)  $Y^{n+1}$  is a curve with ordinary nodes such that the dual graph of  $Y^{n+1}$  is a tree after omitting loops (3)  $Y^{m+1}$  is obtained from  $Y^m$  by blowing up a node which lies on two different components. For  $m = 0, \dots, n$ , let  $\varphi_m = Y^{m+1} \rightarrow Y^m$  be the natural surjective maps. Let  $F$  denote a unitary (resp. irreducible unitary) vector bundle on  $Y$ . The proofs of Propositions 2.13 and 2.15 together show how the ‘polarization’  $a = (a_1, \dots, a_l)$  for which the vector bundles  $\varphi_m^* F$  are  $a$ -semistable (resp.  $a$ -stable) varies as we go down the tower of curves  $\{Y^m\}$ .

*Proof of Theorem 1.*

- (1) If  $\rho_{C_i}$  is unitary, so is  $\text{Ad} \circ \rho_{C_i} = (\text{Ad} \circ \rho)_{C_i}$ . Therefore there exist positive rational numbers  $a_1, \dots, a_l$  with  $\sum a_i = 1$  (depending only on  $\Gamma$  and  $g_i$ ) such that the vector bundle  $\mathcal{F}_{\text{Ad} \circ \rho} \approx \text{Ad } \mathcal{F}$  associated to  $\text{Ad} \circ \rho$  is  $a$ -semistable (Proposition 2.15). Hence  $\mathcal{F}$  is  $a$ -semistable.
- (2) By Proposition 2.6, the principal  $G$ -bundles  $E_i$  on  $Y_i$  associated to  $\rho_i$  are stable for all  $i$ . We claim that for the choices of  $\{a_i\}_i$  as in the proof of (1), the QPG  $(E, (\sigma_j))$  corresponding to  $\mathcal{F}$  is  $(a, 1)$ -stable. The result follows from the claim in view of Proposition 2.11. To prove the claim we check that the condition  $(*2')$  of Lemma 1.9 is satisfied for any reduction  $s$  of the structure group to  $P$ . Let  $r_i$  be the rank of  $S_{s_i}$ . Since  $S_s$  is a proper subsheaf of  $E(\mathbf{g})$ ,  $\sum r_i \neq nI$ . Since  $E_i$  are stable, by Lemma 2.3,  $\chi(S_{s_i}) \leq r_i(1 - g_i)$  and the inequality is strict if  $0 < r_i < n$ . By Proposition 2.13, for the choices of  $\{a_i\}$  as in (1), one has

$$\chi(S_s) - \sum_j q_j(S_s) \left/ \sum_j a_i r_i \right. < I - K - \sum_i g_i (= \chi(\text{Ad } E)/n - K)$$

if  $r_{i_0} = 0$  for some  $i_0$  and  $0 \neq \sum r_i$ . If  $r_i \neq 0$  for all  $i$ , since  $\sum r_i \neq nI$ , there exists an  $i_0$  such that  $0 < r_{i_0} < n$ . Then  $\chi(S_s) < \sum_i r_i(1 - g_i)$  and so

$$\begin{aligned} \chi(S_s) - \sum_j q_j(S_s) &< \sum_i r_i(1 - g_i) - \sum_j q_j(S_s) \\ &\leq (I - K - \sum g_i) \left( \sum_i a_i r_i \right), \text{ by Proposition 2.13,} \\ &= (\chi(\text{Ad } E)/n - K) \sum_i a_i r_i. \end{aligned}$$

This proves the claim.

### 3. The Picard group of the stack of QPGs

In this section  $Y$  denotes a reduced connected projective curve with ordinary nodes  $\{y_j\}$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, J$  as only singularities. Let  $\{Y_i\}$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, I$  be the irreducible components of  $Y$  and  $C_i$  the desingularization of  $Y_i$ . Let  $C = \coprod_i C_i$  be the desingularization of  $Y$ . For convenience of notation, we fix an orientation of the dual graph of  $Y$ . For  $1 \leq j \leq J$ , let  $i(j), t(j)$  denote the initial and terminal points of  $j$  in the dual graph. They correspond to curves  $C_{i(j)}, C_{t(j)}$  intersecting at  $y_j$ . Let  $x_j \in C_{i(j)}$  and  $z_j \in C_{t(j)}$  be the two points of  $C$  mapping to  $y_j \in Y$  and  $D_j = x_j + z_j$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, J$ . Let  $G$  denote an affine simply connected simple algebraic group over  $\mathbf{C}$  (or an algebraically closed field of characteristic zero). For  $i = 1, \dots, I$ , fix points  $p_i \in C_i$ ,  $p_i$  not mapping to a singular point of  $Y$ . Let  $C_i^* = C_i - \{p_i\}$ ,  $C^* = C - \cup_i p_i$ .

The results of this section were inspired by [LS]. If  $G$  is semisimple, then a principal  $G$ -bundle on a smooth curve  $C$  is trivial on the complement of a point in  $C$ . This no longer holds if  $C$  is replaced by a nodal curve  $Y$ . The results of [LS] cannot be generalized directly to  $G$ -bundles on  $Y$ . Hence we work with QPGs on  $C$ . Though we closely follow the ideas in [LS], the generalization to QPGs is not straightforward. All the functors involved have to be defined carefully to take care of the additional structure (generalized parabolic structure). Unlike the usual parabolic structure which is supported on isolated points, the generalized parabolic structure is supported on divisors, so one has the action of  $G \times G$  rather than  $G$ .

#### 3.1 The stack $\mathcal{Q}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}$ and the stack $\text{Bun}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}$

Let  $\text{Aff}/k$  be the flat affine site over the base field  $k = \mathbf{C}$ , i.e. the category of  $k$ -algebras equipped with  $fppf$  topology. Let  $R$  denote a  $k$ -algebra,  $C_{i,R} := C_i \times \text{spec } R$  and  $C_R^* = C^* \times \text{spec } R$ . Let  $q_i$  be a local parameter at the point  $p_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, I$ . Let  $L_{G,i}$  denote the  $k$ -group defined by associating to  $R$  the group  $G(R(q_i))$ . Let  $L_{G,i}^+$  (resp.  $L_G^{C_i}$ ) be the  $k$ -group defined by associating to  $R$  the group  $G(R[[q_i]])$  (resp.  $G(\Gamma(C_{i,R}^*, \mathcal{O}_{C_{i,R}^*}))$ ).

Define  $L_G = \prod_i L_{G,i}$ ,  $L_G^+ = \prod_i L_{G,i}^+$ ,  $L_G^C = \prod_i L_G^{C_i}$ . Let

$$\mathcal{Q}_{G,C} = L_G / L_G^+ = \prod_i L_{G,i} / L_{G,i}^+, \quad \mathcal{Q}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}} = \mathcal{Q}_{G,C} \times \prod_j G.$$

The indgroup  $L_G^C$  acts on  $\mathcal{Q}_{G,C}$ . For each  $j$ , the evaluation at  $x_j$  and  $z_j$  gives an evaluation map  $e_j : L_G^C \rightarrow G \times G$ .  $G \times G$  acts on  $G$  by  $(g_1, g_2)g = g_1^{-1}g_2g$ . Thus we have a natural action of  $L_G^C$  on  $\mathcal{Q}_{G,C}$ . Let  $L_G^C \backslash \mathcal{Q}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}$  be the quotient stack.

To an object  $R \in \text{Aff}/k$ , associate the groupoid whose objects are families of QPGs  $(E, (\sigma_j))$  on  $C$  parametrized by  $\text{spec } R$  and whose arrows are isomorphisms of the families of QPGs i.e. isomorphisms of  $E$  which preserve the parabolic structures  $(\sigma_j)$ . For any morphism  $R \rightarrow R'$  we have a natural functor between the associated groupoids. Thus we get a  $k$ -stack of (generalized) quasiparabolic  $G$ -bundles on  $C$ . We denote this stack by  $\text{Bun}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}$ .

**Theorem 2.** *There exists a canonical isomorphism of stacks*

$$\overline{\pi}_{\text{par}} : L_G^C \backslash \mathcal{Q}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}} \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{Bun}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}.$$

*The projection  $\pi_{\text{par}} : \mathcal{Q}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}} \rightarrow \text{Bun}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}$  is locally trivial in etale topology.*

*Proof.*  $Q_{G,C}$  represents the functor which associates to every  $k$ -algebra  $R$  the set of isomorphism classes of pairs  $(E, \rho)$  where  $E$  is a  $G$ -bundle over  $C_R$  and  $\rho$  is a trivialization of  $E$  over  $C_R^*$  ([LS], Proposition 3.10). Hence  $Q_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}$  represents the functor  $P_G$  which associates to  $R$  the isomorphism classes of triples  $(E, \rho, \mathbf{s})$  with  $(E, \rho)$  as above and  $\mathbf{s} \in \prod_j G(R)$ ,  $\mathbf{s} = (s_1, \dots, s_j)$ ,  $s_j \in G(R) = \text{Mor}(\text{Spec } R, G)$ ,  $G$  being the  $j$ th factor in  $\prod_j G$ . Such a triple gives a family of QPGs  $(E, (\sigma_j))$  parametrized by  $S = \text{Spec } R$  as follows. Let  $\bar{s}_j : S \times x_j \times G \rightarrow S \times z_j \times G$  be given by  $\bar{s}_j(s, x_j, g) = (s, z_j, gs_j(s))$  for  $s \in S, g \in G$ . Define  $\sigma_j : E|_{S \times x_j} \xrightarrow{\sim} E|_{S \times z_j}$  by  $\sigma_j = \rho|_{S \times z_j}^{-1} \circ \bar{s}_j \circ \rho|_{S \times x_j}$ . Thus we get a universal QPG over  $Q_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}} \times C$ , giving a map  $\pi_{\text{par}} : Q_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}} \rightarrow \text{Bun}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}$ . Being  $L_G^C$ -invariant, this map induces a morphism of stacks  $\bar{\pi}_{\text{par}} : L_G^C \setminus Q_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}} \rightarrow \text{Bun}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}$ .

To define a morphism  $\text{Bun}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}} \rightarrow L_G^C \setminus Q_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}$ , for each  $R$  and  $(E, (\sigma_j)) \in \text{Bun}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}(R)$  we have to give a  $L_G^C$ -bundle  $T(R)$  on  $\text{Bun}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}(R)$  together with an  $L_G^C$ -equivariant map  $T(R) \rightarrow Q_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}(R)$ . Take  $(E, (\sigma_j)) \in \text{Bun}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}(R)$ . For any  $R$ -algebra  $R'$ , let  $\text{Spec } R' = S'$  and  $T(R') = \text{the set of isomorphism classes of pairs } (\rho_{R'}, \sigma')$  where  $\rho_{R'}$  is a trivialization of  $E_{R'}$  over  $C_{R'}^*$  and  $\sigma' = (\sigma'_j)_j$ ,  $\sigma'_j : E|_{S' \times x_j} \approx E|_{S' \times z_j}$  is the  $G$ -isomorphism which is the pull back of  $\sigma_j$  to  $R'$ . This defines an  $R$ -space  $T$  with the action of the group  $L_G^C$  (acting on  $\rho_{R'}$ ). It is an  $L_G^C$ -bundle ([DS]; also [LS], Theorem 3.11). As  $Q_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}$  represents the functor  $P_G$ , to every element  $(\rho_{R'}, \sigma')$  of  $T(R')$  corresponds an element of  $Q_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}(R')$  giving a  $L_G^C$ -equivariant map  $T \rightarrow Q_{G,C}^{\text{par}}$ . Hence we get a morphism of stacks  $\text{Bun}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}} \rightarrow L_G^C \setminus Q_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}$  which is clearly the inverse of  $\bar{\pi}_{\text{par}}$ .

To check the local triviality of  $\pi_{\text{par}}$  in etale topology, we have to show that for any morphism  $f$  from a scheme  $S$  to  $\text{Bun}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}$  the pull back of the fibration  $\pi_{\text{par}}$  to  $S$  is etale locally trivial i.e. admits local sections for the etale topology. Such a morphism corresponds to a QPG  $(E, (\sigma_j))$  over  $S \times C$ . For  $s \in S$ , we can find an etale neighbourhood  $U$  of  $s$  and a trivialization  $\rho$  of  $E|_{U \times C^*}$  ([DS]). Using  $\rho$ , the  $G$ -isomorphism  $\sigma_j$  gives a morphism  $s_j : U \rightarrow G$ . The triple  $(E, \rho, (s_j))$  defines a morphism  $f' : U \rightarrow Q_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}$  such that  $\pi_{\text{par}} \circ f' = f$ ; i.e. the section over  $U$  of the fibration  $\pi_{\text{par}}$ . This completes the proof of Theorem 2.

### PROPOSITION 3.2

One has

- (1)  $\text{Pic } Q_{G,C} \approx \bigoplus_i \mathbf{Z} \mathcal{O}_{Q_{G,C_i}}(1)$
- (2)  $\text{Pic } (Q_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}) \approx \bigoplus_i \mathbf{Z} \mathcal{O}_{Q_{G,C_i}}(1)$ .

*Proof.* (1) It is known that each  $Q_{G,C_i}$  is an ind-scheme which is an inductive limit of reduced projective Schubert varieties  $X_{i,w}$ , this ind-scheme structure coincides with the one by Kumar and Mathieu ([LS], Proposition 4.7). One has  $H^1(X_{i,w}, \mathcal{O}) = 0$  ([KN, M]). It follows that  $\text{Pic } Q_{G,C} \approx \bigoplus_i \text{Pic } Q_{G,C_i}$ . It is known that  $\text{Pic } (Q_{G,C_i}) = \mathbf{Z} \mathcal{O}_{Q_{G,C_i}}(1)$  for all  $i$  ([LS], 4.10; [M]; [NRS], 2.3) The first assertion follows.

(2) Since  $\prod_j G$  is a simply connected affine algebraic group  $\text{Pic } (\prod_j G)$  is trivial. The ind-scheme  $Q_{G,C_i}$  is the inductive limit of integral projective reduced (generalized) Schubert varieties  $X_{i,w_i}$  with  $H^1(X_{i,w_i}, \mathcal{O}) = 0$ . By III, Exer. 12.6 [H] it follows that  $\text{Pic } (X_{1,w_1} \times \prod_j G) \approx \text{Pic } (X_{1,w_1})$  ([H], III, Exer. 12.6) and therefore by induction on  $i$  one sees that

$$\mathrm{Pic} \left( \prod_i X_{i,w_i} \times \prod_j G \right) \approx \bigoplus_i \mathrm{Pic}(X_{i,w_i}) \approx \bigoplus_i \mathbf{Z} \mathcal{O}_{X_{i,w_i}}(1).$$

Since  $(Q_{G,C}^{\mathrm{gpar}})$  is the inductive limit of  $\prod_i X_{i,w_i} \times \prod_j G$  and the restriction  $\mathcal{O}_{Q_{G,C_i}}(1)|_{X_{i,w_i}} \approx \mathcal{O}_{X_{i,w_i}}(1)$  it follows that  $\mathrm{Pic}(Q_{G,C}^{\mathrm{gpar}}) \approx \bigoplus_i \mathbf{Z} \mathcal{O}_{Q_{G,C_i}}(1)$ .

The following result must be well-known, we are including a proof since we could not find a reference.

*Lemma 3.3.* *Let  $G$  be a connected semisimple algebraic group. Then any invertible regular function on  $G$  is constant.*

*Proof.* We remark first that the only regular invertible functions on  $SL_2$  and the additive group  $G_a$  are constant functions. Let  $f : G \rightarrow G_m$  be a regular function.

*Claim.* For any  $x$  in a 1-parameter unipotent subgroup  $U$  of  $G$ , one has  $f(gx) = f(g)$  for all  $g \in G$ .

*Proof of the claim.* Consider the function  $U \rightarrow G_m$  defined by  $x \rightarrow f(gx)$ . Since  $U \approx G_a$ , this function is constant i.e.  $f(gx) = f(g)$  for all  $g \in G$ .

Since  $G$  is semisimple,  $G$  is generated by  $X_\alpha$ ,  $\alpha$  varying over roots of  $G$  ([Sp], 9.4.1). Therefore, in view of the claim, one has  $f(g) = f(h_{\alpha_1} \dots h_{\alpha_r})$  with  $h_{\alpha_i} \in \mathrm{Im}SL_2$ . The function  $SL_2 \rightarrow G_m$  defined by  $x \rightarrow f(h_{\alpha_1} \dots h_{\alpha_{r-1}}x)$  is constant. Hence  $f(h_{\alpha_1} \dots h_{\alpha_r}) = f(h_{\alpha_1} \dots h_{\alpha_{r-1}})$ . Repeating this process the result follows.

3.4. For each  $i$ , there are morphisms of stacks  $\pi_i : Q_{G,C_i} \rightarrow \mathrm{Bun}_{G,C_i}$  inducing isomorphisms  $\pi_i^* : \mathrm{Pic}(\mathrm{Bun}_{G,C_i}) \rightarrow \mathrm{Pic}(Q_{G,C_i})$ . If  $L'_i$  denotes the generator of  $\mathrm{Pic}(\mathrm{Bun}_{G,C_i})$  as well as its pull back to  $\mathrm{Bun}_{G,C}$ , then  $\pi_i^* L'_i = \mathcal{O}_{Q_{G,C_i}}(1)$  ([LS, So, T]). Hence if we denote the pull back of  $\mathcal{O}_{Q_{G,C_i}}(1)$  to  $Q_{G,C}$  by  $\mathcal{O}_{Q_{G,C_i}}(1)$  again, we have  $\pi^*(L'_i) = \mathcal{O}_{Q_{G,C_i}}(1)$ . Since  $\mathrm{Pic}(Q_{G,C}) = \bigoplus_i \mathbf{Z} \mathcal{O}_{Q_{G,C_i}}(1)$  it follows that  $\pi^*$  is surjective. Similar argument using Proposition 3.2 shows that  $\pi_{\mathrm{par}}^*$  is surjective. One has  $\pi_{\mathrm{par}}^*(L_i) = \mathcal{O}_{Q_{G,C_i}}(1)$ , where  $L_i$  denotes the pull back of  $L'_i$  under the forgetful morphism  $\mathrm{Bun}_{G,C}^{\mathrm{gpar}} \rightarrow \mathrm{Bun}_{G,C}$ . Note that we have a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathrm{Pic}(\mathrm{Bun}_{G,C}) & \xrightarrow{\pi^*} & \mathrm{Pic}(Q_{G,C}) \\ \Phi^* \downarrow & & \downarrow \approx \\ \mathrm{Pic}(\mathrm{Bun}_{G,C}^{\mathrm{gpar}}) & \xrightarrow{\pi_{\mathrm{par}}^*} & \mathrm{Pic}(Q_{G,C}^{\mathrm{gpar}}). \end{array}$$

We now check that  $\pi_{\mathrm{par}}^*$  is injective, the injectivity of  $\pi^*$  follows similarly. Denote by  $\mathrm{Pic}^{L_G^C}(Q_{G,C}^{\mathrm{gpar}})$  the group of  $L_G^C$ -linearized line bundles on  $Q_{G,C}^{\mathrm{gpar}}$ . Since  $\pi_{\mathrm{par}}$  is locally trivial (Theorem 2), for any line bundle  $L$  on  $\mathrm{Bun}_{G,C}^{\mathrm{gpar}}$ ,  $\pi_{\mathrm{par}}$  induces an isomorphism between the sections of  $L$  and  $L_G^C$ -invariant sections of  $\pi_{\mathrm{par}}^* L$ . Therefore we have an injection  $\mathrm{Pic}(\mathrm{Bun}_{G,C}^{\mathrm{gpar}}) \rightarrow \mathrm{Pic}^{L_G^C}(Q_{G,C}^{\mathrm{gpar}})$  induced by  $\pi_{\mathrm{par}}^*$ . The kernel of the forgetful morphism

$\text{Pic}^{L_G^C}(Q_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}) \rightarrow \text{Pic}(Q_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}})$  is the set of  $L_G^C$ -linearizations of the trivial line bundle. Any such linearization is given by an invertible (regular) function  $h$  on  $L_G^C \times Q_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}$  satisfying a cocycle condition.  $Q_{G,C}$  being an inductive limit of integral projective schemes ([LS], 4.6) has no non constant regular functions. Since  $G$  is simple,  $\prod_j G$  has no invertible nonconstant regular functions (Lemma 3.3). Hence  $h$  is the pull back of an invertible function on  $L_G^C$ . Since it satisfies a cocycle condition, it is in fact a character on  $L_G^C$ . By [LS], Lemma 5.2,  $h$  is trivial. Thus the forgetful morphism is injective. Hence the composite  $\pi_{\text{par}}^* : \text{Pic}(\text{Bun}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}) \rightarrow \text{Pic}^{L_G^C}(Q_{G,C}^{\text{par}}) \rightarrow \text{Pic}(Q_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}})$  is injective. Thus  $\pi_{\text{par}}^*$  is an isomorphism. Similarly  $\pi^*$  is an isomorphism and hence  $\Phi^*$  is also an isomorphism. We have proved the following theorem.

**Theorem 3.** *Let  $G$  be a simple simply connected affine algebraic group over  $\mathbf{C}$ . Then we have the following isomorphisms.*

$$(1) \quad \text{Pic}(\text{Bun}_{G,C}) \approx \bigoplus_{i=1}^I \mathbf{Z} L'_i,$$

$$(2) \quad \text{Pic}(\text{Bun}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}) \approx \bigoplus_{i=1}^I \mathbf{Z} L_i,$$

where  $L'_i$  and  $L_i$  are the pullbacks of the generator of  $\text{Pic}(\text{Bun}_{G,C_i})$  to  $\text{Bun}_{G,C}$  and  $\text{Bun}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}$  respectively.

*Remark 3.5.* For  $G = GL(n)$ ,  $SL(n)$ ,  $Sp(2n)$ , the moduli stack (resp. moduli space) of bundles on  $Y$  is isomorphic to the moduli stack (resp. moduli space) of QPGs on  $C$  ([U1, U2, U4]). Hence we have

$$\text{Pic}(\text{Bun}_{G,Y}) \approx \bigoplus_i \mathbf{Z}$$

for  $G = GL(n)$ ,  $SL(n)$  or  $Sp(2n)$ .

### PROPOSITION 3.6

Assume that  $C$  is irreducible and  $G$  as in Theorem 3. Let  $(\text{Bun}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}})^{\text{ss}}$  denote the substack corresponding to  $\alpha$ -semistable QPGs. Then

$$\text{Pic}(\text{Bun}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}})^{\text{ss}} \approx \mathbf{Z}.$$

*Proof.* We claim that a QPG  $(E, \sigma)$  is  $\alpha$ -semistable (resp. stable) for any  $\alpha$ ,  $0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$  if the underlying bundle  $E$  is semistable (resp. stable). The semistability (resp. stability) of  $E$  implies that  $\deg E(\mathbf{p}) \leq$  (resp.  $<$ ) 0. Since  $\sigma_j$  is an isomorphism, the subspace  $\sigma_j$  of  $E(\mathbf{g})_{x_j} \oplus E(\mathbf{g})_{z_j}$  maps isomorphically onto  $E(\mathbf{g})_{x_j}$  under the projection map. Hence  $\sigma_j \cap (E(\mathbf{p})_{x_j} \oplus E(\mathbf{p})_{z_j})$  maps injectively into  $E(\mathbf{p})_{x_j}$  and hence has  $\dim \leq \text{rank } E(\mathbf{p})$ . It follows that  $\text{pardeg } E(\mathbf{p}) \leq$  (resp.  $<$ )  $\alpha J \text{rank } E(\mathbf{p})$ . The claim now follows from Lemma 1.6.

The morphism  $\phi : \text{Bun}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}} \rightarrow \text{Bun}_{G,C}$  (forgetting the quasiparabolic structure) is a surjective morphism with isomorphic fibres. It follows from the claim that  $\phi^{-1}(\text{Bun}_{G,C} - \text{Bun}_{G,C}^{\text{ss}}) \supseteq \text{Bun}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}} - (\text{Bun}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}})^{\text{ss}}$ . Hence  $\text{codim}_{\text{Bun}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}}(\text{Bun}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}} - (\text{Bun}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}})^{\text{ss}}) \geq \text{codim}_{\text{Bun}_{G,C}}(\text{Bun}_{G,C} - \text{Bun}_{G,C}^{\text{ss}})$ . Since the latter is  $\geq 2$  for  $g \geq 2$  ([L-S], 9.3) the same is true for the former. The result now follows from Theorem 3.

### 3.7. Results in case $G = GL(n), SL(n)$

In case of vector bundles we have the following results on Picard groups of moduli spaces ([U5, U6]). Let  $Y$  denote an irreducible reduced curve over  $\mathbf{C}$  with at most ordinary nodes as singularities. Let  $\mathcal{L}$  be a line bundle on  $Y$ . Let  $U'_Y(n, d)$  (resp.  $U'_{\mathcal{L}}(n, d)$ ) denote the moduli space of semistable vector bundles of rank  $n$  and degree  $d$  (resp. with fixed determinant  $\mathcal{L}$ ) on  $Y$ . Let  $U'^s_Y(n, d)$  (resp.  $U'^s_{\mathcal{L}}(n, d)$ ) denote the open subset of  $U'_Y(n, d)$  (resp.  $U'_{\mathcal{L}}(n, d)$ ) consisting of stable vector bundles. Let  $g_C$  (resp.  $g_Y$ ) denote the geometric (resp. arithmetic) genus of  $Y$ .

I. Assume that  $g_C \geq 2$ . Then, except possibly for  $g_C = 2, n = 2, d$  even, one has

1.  $\text{Pic } U'^s_{\mathcal{L}}(n, d) \approx \text{Pic } U'_{\mathcal{L}}(n, d) \approx \mathbf{Z}$ .
2.  $\text{Pic } U'^s(n, d) \approx \text{Pic } U'(n, d) \approx \text{Pic } J \oplus \mathbf{Z}$ , where  $J$  denotes the Jacobian of  $Y$ .

II. Assume that  $g_Y = 2, n = 2$ . Then

$$\text{Pic } U'_{\mathcal{L}}(2, d) \approx \mathbf{Z}.$$

### 4. Compactifications

In general, the moduli spaces  $M_G$  of principal  $G$ -bundles on a nodal curve  $Y$  are not complete. In case  $G = GL(n)$  a compactification of  $M_G$  is given by the moduli space of torsionfree sheaves of rank  $n$  (and fixed degree) on  $Y$ , this compactification is not normal. A normal compactification of  $M_G$  is obtained as the moduli space of (generalized) parabolic bundles on the desingularization  $C$  of  $Y$  ([U1, U2]). This can be done for other classical groups  $G = O(n), SO(n), Sp(2n)$  also, we briefly describe the main result (Theorem 5). The details will appear elsewhere [U4]. To construct a normal compactification of  $M_G$ , one needs a good compactification of  $G$  and hence a good representation of  $G$ . In case of classical groups we use their natural representations. For a general group  $G$ , a natural choice is the adjoint representation. Unfortunately it gives a compactification of  $G$  only if  $G$  is of adjoint type ([DP], §6; [S]; [D]). Using this compactification we give a more general definition of QPGs in case  $G$  has *trivial centre*. For classical groups and adjoint groups we ‘compactify’ the stack  $\text{Bun}_{G, C}^{\text{par}}$  and also compute the Picard group of the compactification. In case of classical groups, the compactifications of moduli spaces obtained are complete normal varieties (see Theorem 5). We do not prove that the ‘compactification’ is a proper stack in case of adjoint groups. It will be useful to know a natural (canonically defined) compactification of  $G$  in the general case.

4.1. Let the notations be as in §3. We further assume that  $G$  is a semisimple algebraic group with trivial centre. Let  $\mathbf{g}$  denote the Lie algebra of  $G$ ,  $n = \dim \mathbf{g}$ .  $G \times G$  acts on  $\mathbf{g} \oplus \mathbf{g}$  (via adjoint representation) and hence on the Grassmannian  $\text{Gr}(n, \mathbf{g} \oplus \mathbf{g})$  of  $n$ -dimensional subspaces of  $\mathbf{g} \oplus \mathbf{g}$ . Let  $\Delta G$  denote  $G$  embedded in  $G \times G$  diagonally. Since  $G$  has trivial centre the adjoint representation is faithful. Hence  $G \approx G \times G / \Delta G$  gets embedded in  $\text{Gr}(n, \mathbf{g} \oplus \mathbf{g})$  as  $G \times G$ -orbit of  $\Delta \mathbf{g} \in \text{Gr}(n, \mathbf{g} \oplus \mathbf{g})$ . Let  $F$  be the closure of the  $G \times G$  orbit of  $\Delta \mathbf{g}$  in  $\text{Gr}(n, \mathbf{g} \oplus \mathbf{g})$ .

Given a principal  $G$ -bundle  $E$  and disjoint divisors  $D_j = x_j + z_j$  on  $C$ , define

$$E^j = E_{x_j} \times E_{z_j} \cong G \times G, E^j(F) = E^j \times_{(G \times G)} (F), j = 1, \dots, J.$$

A QPG (quasiparabolic  $G$ -bundle) is a pair  $(E, (\sigma_j))$  where  $E$  is a principal  $G$ -bundle and  $\sigma_j \in E^j(F)$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, J$ .

#### DEFINITION 4.2

QPGs  $(E, (\sigma_j))$  and  $(E', (\sigma'_j))$  are isomorphic if there is an isomorphism  $f : E \rightarrow E'$  of principal  $G$ -bundles which maps  $\sigma_j$  to  $(\sigma'_j)$  i.e. for the isomorphism  $f_F^j : E^j(F) \rightarrow E'^j(F)$  one has  $f_F^j(\sigma_j) = \sigma'_j$ .

4.3. A family of QPGs  $(\mathcal{E}, (\sigma_j)) \rightarrow C \times T$  is a family of  $G$ -bundles  $\mathcal{E} \rightarrow C \times T$  together with a section  $\sigma_j : T \rightarrow \mathcal{E}^j(F)$ .

*Remark 4.4.* (1) The following diagram commutes

$$\begin{array}{ccc} G \times G & \xrightarrow{h_1} & F = \overline{G \times G / \Delta G} \\ t_2 \downarrow & & \downarrow t_1 \\ GL(\mathbf{g}) \times GL(\mathbf{g}) & \xrightarrow{h_2} & \text{Gr}(n, \mathbf{g} \oplus \mathbf{g}). \end{array}$$

Here  $t_1$  is inclusion,  $t_2$  = product of adjoint representations of  $G$  in  $\mathbf{g}$ ,  $h_2(f_1, f_2) =$  subspace of  $\mathbf{g} \oplus \mathbf{g}$  generated by  $\{(f_1 v, f_2 v), v \in \mathbf{g}\}$  and  $t_1 \circ h_1$  is the map inducing the Demazure embedding of  $G$  (by identifying  $G$  with  $G \times G / \Delta G$ ).

(2) Recall that a (generalized) quasiparabolic structure (over  $D_j = x_j + z_j$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, J$ ) on a vector bundle  $N$  of rank  $n$  is given by an  $n$ -dimensional subspace of  $N_{x_j} \oplus N_{z_j}$ ,  $j \in J$  i.e. by an element of  $\prod_j \text{Gr}(n, N_{x_j} \oplus N_{z_j})$  [U1]. Given a family of QPGs  $\mathcal{E} \rightarrow C \times T$ , let  $\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{g})$  be the family of vector bundles of rank  $n$  associated to  $\mathcal{E}$  via the adjoint representation of  $G$  in  $\mathbf{g}$ . It follows from the above commutative diagram that  $\sigma$  composed with the injection  $\prod_j \mathcal{E}^j(F) \rightarrow (\prod_j \mathcal{E}^j(\text{Gr}(n, \mathbf{g} \oplus \mathbf{g})))$  gives a quasi parabolic structure on  $\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{g})$ .

#### 4.5 The stack $\overline{\mathcal{Q}}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}$ and the stack $\overline{\text{Bun}}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}$

Let the notations be as in 3.1. Let  $\overline{\mathcal{Q}}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}} = \mathcal{Q}_{G,C} \times \prod_j F$ . The ind-scheme  $\mathcal{Q}_{G,C}$  is indproper, so is  $\overline{\mathcal{Q}}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}$ . The indgroup  $L_G^C$  acts on  $\mathcal{Q}_{G,C}$ . For each  $j$ , the evaluation at  $x_j$  and  $z_j$  gives an evaluation map  $e_j : L_G^C \rightarrow G \times G$ .  $G \times G$  acts on  $F$  naturally. Thus we have a natural action of  $L_G^C$  on  $\overline{\mathcal{Q}}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}$ . Let  $L_G^C \backslash \overline{\mathcal{Q}}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}$  be the quotient stack.

As in 3.1, we define the  $k$ -stack of (generalized) quasiparabolic  $G$ -bundles on  $C$  (with extended definition of the parabolic structure using  $F$ ). We denote this stack by  $\overline{\text{Bun}}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}$ . It contains  $\text{Bun}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}$  as an open substack.

**Theorem 4.** (1) *There exists a canonical isomorphism of stacks*

$$\overline{\pi}_{\text{par}} : L_G^C \backslash \overline{\mathcal{Q}}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}} \xrightarrow{\sim} \overline{\text{Bun}}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}.$$

Moreover the projection map  $\overline{\mathcal{Q}}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}} \rightarrow \overline{\text{Bun}}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}$  is locally trivial for étale topology.

(2) *Let  $G$  be a simple, simply connected affine algebraic group over  $\mathbf{C}$ . Then there exists an isomorphism*

$$\mathrm{Pic}(\overline{\mathrm{Bun}}_{G,C}^{\mathrm{gpar}}) \approx \bigoplus_i \mathbf{Z}L_i \oplus \bigoplus_j \mathrm{Pic}F,$$

where  $L_i$  are line bundles coming from  $\mathrm{Bun}_{G,C_i}$ .

*Proof.* The proof is on similar lines as that of Theorem 2 and Theorem 3, we omit some details to avoid repetition.

(1)  $\overline{\mathcal{Q}}_{G,C}^{\mathrm{gpar}}$  represents the functor  $\overline{P}_G$  which associates to every  $k$ -algebra  $R$  the set of isomorphism classes of triples  $(E, \rho, \mathbf{s})$  where  $E$  is a principal  $G$ -bundle on  $C_R$ ,  $\rho$  is a trivialization of  $E$  over  $C_R^*$  and  $\mathbf{s} \in \mathrm{Mor}(\mathrm{Spec} R, \prod_j F)$ . Then  $\mathbf{s} = (s_1, \dots, s_J)$ ,  $s_j \in \mathrm{Mor}(\mathrm{Spec} R, F)$  for all  $j$ . We can associate to such a triple a QPG  $(E, (\sigma_j))$  on  $C_R$ . We only need to define for each  $j$ , morphism  $\sigma_j : S \rightarrow E^j(F)$ ,  $S = \mathrm{Spec} R$ . The restriction of  $\rho^{-1}$  gives isomorphisms  $S \times x_j \times G \approx E|_{S \times x_j}$ ,  $S \times z_j \times G \approx E|_{S \times z_j}$  and hence an isomorphism of  $G \times G$ -bundles  $S \times G \times G = (S \times x_j \times G) \times_S (S \times z_j \times G) \approx E|_{S \times x_j} \times_S E|_{S \times z_j} = E^j$ . Therefore we have an isomorphism of associated fibre bundles  $\rho_j(F) : S \times F \xrightarrow{\sim} E^j(F)$ . Define  $\sigma_j$  by  $\sigma_j(s) = \rho_j(F)(s, s_j(s))$ . It follows that  $\overline{\mathcal{Q}}_{G,C}^{\mathrm{gpar}} \times C$  has a universal QPG and we have an  $L_G^C$ -equivariant morphism of stacks  $\pi_{\mathrm{par}} : \overline{\mathcal{Q}}_{G,C}^{\mathrm{gpar}} \rightarrow \overline{\mathrm{Bun}}_{G,C}^{\mathrm{gpar}}$ . This induces the morphism  $\overline{\pi}_{\mathrm{par}}$  on the quotient stack.

To define the inverse of  $\overline{\pi}_{\mathrm{par}}$ , let  $(E, (\sigma_j)) \in \overline{\mathrm{Bun}}_{G,C}^{\mathrm{gpar}}(R)$ . Let  $R'$  be an  $R$ -algebra,  $S' = \mathrm{Spec} R'$ . Let  $T(R')$  be the set of pairs  $(\rho_{R'}, \sigma')$  where  $\rho_{R'}$  is a trivialization of  $E_{R'}$ ,  $\sigma' = (\sigma'_1, \dots, \sigma'_J)$  where  $\sigma'_j$  is a pull back of  $\sigma_j \forall j$ . This defines a  $T$ -space with an action of  $L_G^C$  (via  $\rho_{R'}$ ), it is an  $L_G^C$ -bundle [DS]. We now define a  $L_G^C$ -equivariant map  $T \rightarrow \overline{\mathcal{Q}}_{G,C}^{\mathrm{gpar}}$ . Given  $(\rho_{R'}, \sigma') \in T(R')$ , we define  $s'_j : S' \rightarrow F$  by  $s'_j = pr_F \circ ((\rho_{R'})_j(F))^{-1} \circ \sigma'_j$ . Then  $(E_{R'}, \rho_{R'}, (s'_j)) \in \overline{P}_G(R')$ . Since  $\overline{\mathcal{Q}}_{G,C}^{\mathrm{gpar}}$  represents the functor  $\overline{P}_G$ , this defines a map  $\alpha : T \rightarrow \overline{\mathcal{Q}}_{G,C}^{\mathrm{gpar}}$ , it is  $L_G^C$ -equivariant. The  $L_G^C$ -bundle  $T$  together with  $\alpha$  give a morphism of stacks from  $\overline{\mathrm{Bun}}_{G,C}^{\mathrm{gpar}}$  to the quotient stack  $L_G^C \backslash \overline{\mathcal{Q}}_{G,C}^{\mathrm{gpar}}$  which is easily seen to be the inverse of  $\overline{\pi}_{\mathrm{par}}$ .

The assertions about local triviality of  $\overline{\pi}_{\mathrm{par}}$  follow similarly as in Theorem 2.

(2) Using the facts that each  $\mathcal{Q}_{G,C_i}$  is an inductive limit of reduced projective varieties  $X_{i,w}$  with  $H^1(X_{i,w}, \mathcal{O}) = 0$  and  $F$  is a projective variety with  $H^1(F, \mathcal{O}) = 0$ , it can be proved that  $\mathrm{Pic}(\overline{\mathcal{Q}}_{G,C}^{\mathrm{gpar}}) \approx \bigoplus_i \mathbf{Z}\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{Q}_{G,C_i}}(1) \oplus \bigoplus_j \mathrm{Pic}F$  (similarly as Proposition 3.2). The injectivity of  $\pi_{\mathrm{par}}^*$  follows exactly as in Theorem 3. Note that  $F$  being a projective variety  $\overline{\mathcal{Q}}_{G,C}^{\mathrm{gpar}}$  is an inductive limit of integral projective schemes and hence has no nonconstant regular functions.

We now check the surjectivity of  $\pi_{\mathrm{par}}^*$ . We have a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathrm{Pic}(\mathrm{Bun}_{G,C}) & \xrightarrow{\pi^*} & \mathrm{Pic}(\mathcal{Q}_{G,C}) = \bigoplus \mathbf{Z}\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{Q}_{G,C_i}}(1) \\ \varphi^* \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \mathrm{Pic}(\overline{\mathrm{Bun}}_{G,C}^{\mathrm{gpar}}) & \xrightarrow{\pi_{\mathrm{par}}^*} & \bigoplus_j \mathrm{Pic}F \oplus \mathbf{Z}\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{Q}_{G,C_i}}(1) \end{array}$$

with  $\varphi$  the forgetful morphism and the right vertical arrow is the inclusion as direct summand. Hence one has  $\pi_{\mathrm{par}}^*(\varphi^* L'_i) = \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{Q}_{G,C_i}}(1)$ ,  $L'_i$  being the pull back of the generator of  $\mathrm{Pic}(\mathrm{Bun}_{G,C_i})$  to  $\mathrm{Pic}(\mathrm{Bun}_{G,C})$ . Thus for the surjectivity of  $\pi_{\mathrm{par}}^*$  it suffices to show that there exist line bundles  $\{L'_{i,j}\}$  on  $\overline{\mathrm{Bun}}_{G,C}^{\mathrm{gpar}}$  which pullback to the generators of  $\bigoplus_j \mathrm{Pic}F$ .

From the construction and results in [S], it follows that  $\text{Pic } F$  is a lattice of rank  $r$  generated by  $L'_i, i = 1, \dots, r, r = \text{rank of } G$ . For each  $i$ , there exists a  $G \times G$  module  $W_i$  and a  $G \times G$  equivariant embedding  $F \rightarrow P(W_i)$  such that  $\mathcal{O}_{P(W_i)}(1)$  restricts to  $L'_i$  on  $F$ . Given a family of QPGs  $(E, (\sigma_j))$  on  $C \times \text{Spec } R$  one has  $E^j(F) \subset E^j(P(W_i))$ . Let  $L'_{ij}$  denote the line bundle on  $E^j(P(W_i))$  (and also its restriction to  $E^j(F)$ ) which restricts to  $\mathcal{O}_{P(W_i)}(1)$  on each fibre. The pull-back of  $L'_{ij}$  by  $\sigma_j: \text{Spec } R \rightarrow E^j(F)$  is a line bundle  $L'_{ij,R}$  on  $\text{Spec } R$ . This construction can be done for any  $R$ . Hence  $\{L'_{ij,R}\}$  define a line bundle  $L'_j$  on the stack  $\overline{\text{Bun}}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}$ . By construction,  $\pi_{\text{par}}^*(L'_j)$  is the generator of the  $j$ th factor  $\text{Pic } F$  in  $\text{Pic } (\overline{\mathcal{Q}}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}})$ .

#### Case of classical groups

For the simple and simply connected classical groups  $SL(n)$  and  $Sp(2n)$  the compactifications  $F$  of  $G$  are defined using natural representations (described below). We claim that Theorem 4 holds in these cases also. The existence of the isomorphism  $\overline{\pi}_{\text{par}}$  and injectivity of  $\overline{\pi}_{\text{par}}^*$  can be seen exactly as in the proof of the Theorem 4. We only need to check the surjectivity of  $\overline{\pi}_{\text{par}}^*$ , this is done below.

**4.6. Case  $G = SL(n)$ .** For  $G = SL(n)$ , the compactification  $F$  of  $G$  using natural representation of  $G$  ([U1, U4]) can be described as follows.  $SL(n) \times SL(n)$  is embedded diagonally in  $SL(2n) \subset GL(2n)$ . Let  $G \rightarrow GL(V)$  be the natural representation. Let  $P \subset SL(2n)$  be the stabilizer of the diagonal in  $V \oplus V$ ;  $P$  is a maximum parabolic subgroup. The Grassmannian  $\text{Gr} = SL(2n)/P$  is embedded in  $\mathbf{P}(\wedge^n(V \oplus V))$  by Plücker embedding. Let  $\{P_{i_1, \dots, i_n}\}$  denote the Plücker coordinates. Let  $F$  be the hyperplane section of  $\text{Gr}$  defined by  $P_{1, \dots, n} = P_{n+1, \dots, 2n}$ . Then  $F$  can be regarded as a compactification of  $SL(n)$  with  $SL(n)$  identified with the subset of  $F$  defined by  $P_{1, \dots, n} \neq 0$ . The generator of  $\text{Pic } \text{Gr} \approx \mathbf{Z}$  is the line bundle associated to the character  $w_n$  on  $P$  and its restriction to  $F$  is the generator  $L'$  of  $\text{Pic } F \approx \mathbf{Z}$ .  $F - SL(n)$  is a divisor  $D'$  in  $F$  to which  $L'$  is associated. Given a family of QPGs  $(E, (\sigma_j))$  on  $C \times \text{Spec } R$ , one has  $E^j(F) \subset E^j(\text{Gr})$ . Let  $L'_j$  be the line bundle on  $E^j(\text{Gr})$  associated to the  $P$ -bundle  $E^j(SL(2n)) \rightarrow E^j(\text{Gr})$  via the character  $w_n$ . The pull back of  $L'_j$  by  $\sigma_j: \text{Spec } R \rightarrow E^j(F) \subset E^j(\text{Gr})$  is a line bundle  $L'_{j,R}$  on  $\text{Spec } R$ ,  $L'_{j,R}$  define a line bundle  $L'_j$  on the stalk  $\overline{\text{Bun}}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}}$ . By construction,  $\pi_{\text{par}}^*(L'_j)$  is the generator of the  $j$ th factor  $\text{Pic } F$  in  $\text{Pic } (\overline{\mathcal{Q}}_{G,C}^{\text{gpar}})$ . Hence the morphism in Theorem 4(2) is a surjection and thus an isomorphism for  $G = SL(n)$  and  $F$  as above.

**4.7. Case  $G = Sp(2n)$ .** In case  $G = Sp(2n)$  also one can use the natural representation of  $G$  to define  $F$  ([§5, U4]). Let  $G \rightarrow GL(V)$  be the natural representation. We regard  $Sp(2n)$  as the group  $Sp(q, V)$  of automorphisms of  $V$  preserving a symplectic form (nondegenerate alternating form)  $q$  on  $V$ . Then  $F$  is the variety of maximum isotropic subspaces for  $q \oplus (-q)$  on  $V \oplus V$ . The group  $Sp(2n) \times Sp(2n) = Sp(q, V) \times Sp(-q, V)$  is embedded in  $Sp(q \oplus (-q), V \oplus V) = Sp(4n)$  diagonally. Then  $F \approx Sp(4n)/P$ ,  $P$  being the maximum parabolic subgroup of  $Sp(4n)$  which is the stabilizer of the maximum isotropic subspace  $\Delta_V$  of  $V \oplus V$ ,  $\text{Pic } F = \mathbf{Z}L'$ ,  $L'$  being the line bundle associated to the fundamental weight  $w_{2n}$ . Given a family of QPGs  $(E, (\sigma_j))$  on  $C$  parametrized by  $S = \text{Spec } R$ ,  $\sigma_j: S \rightarrow E^j(F)$ , one has  $E^j(F) = E^j(Sp(4n)/P)$  and  $E^j(Sp(4n)) \rightarrow E^j(F)$  is a  $P$ -bundle. Let  $L'_j$  denote the

line bundle on  $E^j(F)$  associated to this  $P$ -bundle via the character  $w_{2n}$ . Let  $L'_{j,R}$  denote the line bundle on  $S$  which is the pullback of this line bundle by  $\sigma_j$ . This construction being valid for any  $R$ , it defines a line bundle  $L'_j$  on the stack  $\overline{\mathrm{Bun}}_{G,C}^{\mathrm{gpar}}$ . Clearly,  $\pi_{\mathrm{par}}^*(L'_j)$  is the generator of  $\mathrm{Pic} F$ , the  $j$ th factor. It follows that the injection in Theorem 4(2) is an isomorphism for  $G = Sp(2n)$  with  $F$  defined as above.

The following definitions and results are stated for  $O(n)$ -bundles, they hold for  $Sp(2n)$ -bundles also with orthogonal replaced by symplectic and  $n$  replaced by  $2n$ .

#### DEFINITION 4.8

An orthogonal bundle  $(E, q)$  on  $C$  is an  $I$ -tuple of vector bundles  $E = (E_1, \dots, E_I)$ ,  $E_i =$  a vector bundle on  $Y_i$  with a nondegenerate quadratic form  $q_i$  and  $q = (q_1, \dots, q_I)$ . We assume that  $\mathrm{rank} E_i = n$  for all  $i$ , we call  $n$  the rank of  $E$ . For a closed point  $x \in C$ , let  $q_x$  denote the induced quadratic form on the fibre  $E_x$ .

#### DEFINITION 4.9

A generalized quasiparabolic orthogonal bundle (*orthogonal QPB* in short) on  $C$  is an orthogonal bundle  $(E, q)$  of rank  $n$  together with  $n$ -dimensional vector subspaces  $F_1^j(E)$  of  $E_{x_j} \oplus E_{z_j}$  which are totally isotropic for  $q_{x_j} \oplus (-q_{z_j})$ .

**Theorem 5.** *Assume further that  $Y$  is irreducible. Then there is a coarse moduli space  $M$  for  $\alpha$ -semistable orthogonal QPBs of rank  $n$ ,  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  being rational.  $M$  is normal and complete.*

Let  $\mathcal{U}$  be the moduli space of orthogonal sheaves of rank  $n$  on  $Y$ . Assume that  $0 < \alpha < 1$ ,  $\alpha$  is close to 1. Then

- (1) there exists a morphism  $f : M \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$ .
- (2) Let  $\mathcal{U}_n^s$  be the subset of  $\mathcal{U}$  corresponding to stable orthogonal bundles. Then the restriction of  $f$  to  $f^{-1}(\mathcal{U}_n^s)$  is an isomorphism onto  $\mathcal{U}_n^s$ .

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