

# Bridgeland stability conditions with massless objects

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January, 2022

# Plan

- 1 Overview and motivation
- 2 Degenerate stability conditions
- 3 Partial compactifications
- 4 Related constructions
- 5 Two-dimensional examples

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# Background

## Set up

- $\mathcal{T}$  triangulated category
- $\Lambda$  finite rank free quotient of  $K(\mathcal{T})$
- $\text{Aut}_\Lambda(\mathcal{T})$  subgroup of autoequivalences descending to  $\Lambda$

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Stability spaces are conjecturally contractible (when non-empty) and to simplify the exposition I assume they are connected!

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## Approach

Allow stability conditions with massless objects!

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- 4 for each  $t$  there are  $s_j \in \mathcal{P}(\varphi_j)$  with  $\varphi_0 > \dots > \varphi_n$  and a filtration

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 0 & \longrightarrow & t_0 & \longrightarrow & \cdots & \longrightarrow & t_{n-1} & \longrightarrow & t_n & \stackrel{=}{=} & t \\
 & & \downarrow & & & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
 & & & & & & s_0 & & & & s_n
 \end{array}$$

$\swarrow$  (dashed)       $\swarrow$  (dashed)

# Stability conditions and spaces

## Support property

A **stability condition**  $(\mathcal{P}, Z)$  is a pre-stability condition such that

$$\inf \left\{ \frac{m(t)}{\|t\|} : t \text{ semistable} \right\} > 0$$

where  $\|\cdot\|$  is (any) norm on  $\Lambda \otimes \mathbb{R}$ . This implies  $\mathcal{P}(I)$  is a quasi-abelian **length** category whenever  $|I| < 1$ , in particular  $\mathcal{P}$  is a locally-finite slicing.

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## Stability spaces

The **Bridgeland stability space**

$$\text{Stab}_\Lambda(\mathcal{D}) \subset \text{Slice}(\mathcal{T}) \times \text{Hom}(\Lambda, \mathbb{C})$$

is the subset of stability conditions with the subspace topology.



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- ② The slicing  $\mathcal{P}$  is not necessarily locally-finite.
- ③ Any  $(\mathcal{P}, Z)$  in  $\overline{\text{Stab}}_{\Lambda}(\mathcal{T})$  is a degenerate **pre-stability condition**.

# Massless subcategories and quotient stability conditions

## Proposition

Let  $(\mathcal{P}, Z)$  be a degenerate stability condition. Then

- 1 The *massless subcategory*  $\mathcal{M} = \{t \in \mathcal{T} : m(t) = 0\}$  is thick

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- ④  $\mathcal{P}$  descends to a slicing  $\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{T}/\mathcal{M}}$  of  $\mathcal{T}/\mathcal{M}$ .

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## Corollary

Let  $\Lambda_{\mathcal{M}}$  be the saturation of the image of  $K(\mathcal{M}) \rightarrow K(\mathcal{T}) \rightarrow \Lambda$ . Then

$$(\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{T}/\mathcal{M}}, Z) \in \text{Stab}_{\Lambda/\Lambda_{\mathcal{M}}}(\mathcal{T}/\mathcal{M})$$

Roughly, a degenerate stability condition consists of a massless part, a slicing on  $\mathcal{M}$ , and a massive part, a stability condition on  $\mathcal{T}/\mathcal{M}$ .

# Glueing slicings

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*Suppose  $\mathcal{M} \subset \mathcal{T}$  is thick and  $(\mathcal{Q}, \mathcal{R}) \in \text{Slice}(\mathcal{M}) \times \text{Slice}(\mathcal{T}/\mathcal{M})$ .*

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- Local-finiteness is required in order to construct the Harder–Narasimham filtrations for the glued slicing  $\mathcal{P}$ .
- This is the key to lifting deformations of the charge  $Z$  to deformations of degenerate stability conditions.

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# The space of degenerate stability conditions

## Theorem

- ① *There is a real manifold with boundary*

$$\text{DStab}_\Lambda(\mathcal{T}) \subset \overline{\text{Stab}_\Lambda(\mathcal{T})}$$

*with a decomposition*

$$\text{DStab}_\Lambda(\mathcal{T}) \cong \text{Stab}_\Lambda(\mathcal{T}) \cup \bigcup_{\mathcal{M} \in M} \mathbb{R} \times \text{Stab}_{\Lambda/\Lambda_{\mathcal{M}}}(\mathcal{T}/\mathcal{M})$$

*where  $M$  is the set of massless subcategories  $\mathcal{M}$  with  $\text{rk } \Lambda_{\mathcal{M}} = 1$ .*

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*where  $M$  is the set of massless subcategories  $\mathcal{M}$  with  $\text{rk } \Lambda_{\mathcal{M}} = 1$ .*

- ② *The boundary component where objects in  $\mathcal{M}$  are massless has a deleted neighbourhood isomorphic to*

$$\text{Stab}_{\Lambda_{\mathcal{M}}}(\mathcal{M}) \times \text{Stab}_{\Lambda/\Lambda_{\mathcal{M}}}(\mathcal{T}/\mathcal{M}) \cong \mathbb{C} \times \text{Stab}_{\Lambda/\Lambda_{\mathcal{M}}}(\mathcal{T}/\mathcal{M}).$$

# The space of quotient stability conditions

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## Definition

Forgetting the phases of massless objects we obtain the **space of quotient stability conditions**

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whose charge map is a local homeomorphism on each stratum. We recover  $\text{DStab}_\Lambda(\mathcal{T})$  by performing a real blowup along each boundary stratum.

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The actions of  $\text{Aut}_\Lambda(\mathcal{T})$  and  $G$  extend to  $\text{DStab}_\Lambda(\mathcal{T})$  and  $\text{QStab}_\Lambda(\mathcal{T})$ .

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# Alternative approaches

## Metric completion (Bolognese '19)

Under certain conditions, Bolognese constructs a metric completion of  $\text{Stab}_\Lambda(\mathcal{T})$  whose boundary points correspond to stability conditions on quotients of  $\mathcal{T}$  by thick subcategories. This should be closely related to  $\text{QStab}_\Lambda(\mathcal{T})$ , but it is difficult to compare our notion of support with her notion of 'limiting support'.

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## Thurston compactification (Bapat, Deopurkar, Licata '20)

Bapat, Deopurkar and Licata construct a 'Thurston compactification' of  $\text{Stab}_\Lambda(\mathcal{T})/\mathbb{C}$  for  $\mathcal{T} = \mathcal{D}(\Gamma_2 Q)$  by embedding it into projective space using the mass functionals. They conjecture that the closure of the image is a compact manifold with boundary and interior  $\text{Stab}_\Lambda(\mathcal{T})/\mathbb{C}$ . This holds in the  $A_2$  case and our partial compactification embeds in it.



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# Two-dimensional stability spaces

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- *$s$  massless stable  $\iff s$  simple in heart  $\mathcal{H}$  with  $\mathcal{H}_s^b, \mathcal{H}, \mathcal{H}_s^\sharp$  algebraic.*

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*$\text{Stab}_\Lambda(\mathcal{T})/\mathbb{C} \cong \mathbb{D}$  with Bridgeland metric descending to Poincaré metric.*

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## Examples

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# Dense phase case

## Proposition

*The following are equivalent:*

- *some  $\sigma \in \text{Stab}_\Lambda(\mathcal{T})$  has dense phases*
- *all  $\sigma \in \text{Stab}_\Lambda(\mathcal{T})$  have dense phases*
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- ②  $\text{Stab}(Q)$  where  $Q$  is a 2-vertex quiver with oriented loops  
[Dimitrov, Haiden, Katzarkov and Kontsevich '14]

# Non-dense phase case

Suppose there is  $\sigma \in \text{Stab}_\Lambda(\mathcal{T})$  with non-dense phases. Equivalently  $\mathcal{T}$  has an algebraic heart. Assume  $\Lambda = K(\mathcal{T}) \cong \mathbb{Z}^2$ .

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- no two walls intersect
- each chamber is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{D}$ .

# Speiser graphs

- The 'dual graph'  $\Gamma_{\mathcal{T}}$  of  $G$ -orbit structure is the Speiser graph of

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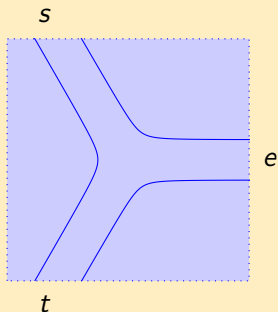
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- It is recurrent if vertices of  $\Gamma_{\mathcal{T}}$  embed in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  with bounded below pairwise distances and bounded above edge lengths [Doyle, Snell '84].

## The simplest interesting example...

 $\mathcal{T} = \mathcal{D}(A_2)$  [King '00s; Qiu '11]


Random walk recurrent so  $\text{Stab}(A_2)/\mathbb{C} \cong \mathbb{C}$ ; Serre functor rotates.

## ... and its 2-Calabi–Yau cousin

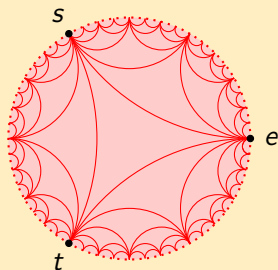
$\mathcal{T} = \mathcal{D}(\Gamma_2 A_2)$  [Thomas '06; Bridgeland '09; Qiu '11; Bridgeland, Qiu, Sutherland '20]

Spherical twists about simples  $s$  and  $t$  of the standard heart generate subgroup  $\mathrm{Br}_3$  of automorphisms. There is a free  $\mathrm{Br}_3$  orbit of chambers.

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Walk transient so  $\mathrm{Stab}(\Gamma_2 A_2)/\mathbb{C} \cong \mathbb{D}$ ; twists act by ideal rotations.



# A discrete derived category

$\mathcal{T} = \mathcal{D}(Q_{1,2,0})$  [W '18; Broomhead, Pauksztello, Ploog '16]

The bounded derived category of the quiver with relations

$$Q_{1,2,0} : \bullet \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{\alpha} \\ \xrightarrow{\beta} \end{array} \bullet \quad \alpha\beta = 0$$

is discrete. One simple module  $s$  is spherical, the other  $t_0$  is exceptional.

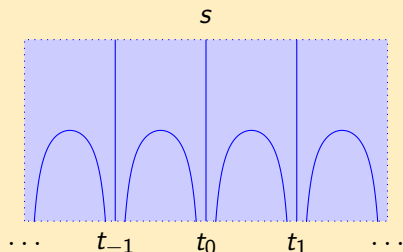
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Walk recurrent so  $\text{Stab}(Q_{1,2,0})/\mathbb{C} \cong \mathbb{C}$ ; twist acts by translation.

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