

# Canonical metrics on reflexive sheaves

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# Outline

- 1 Stability and the Harder-Narasimhan-Seshadri filtration
- 2 Hermitian-Einstein metric and Donaldson-Uhlenbeck-Yau theorem
- 3 Bando-Siu Conjecture
  - Main idea of the proof

# Stability of Bundles

Let  $M$  be a Kähler manifold ( $C^n$ ), with the Kähler form  $\omega$ .

Let  $E$  be a holomorphic vector bundle on  $M$  (we simply call it bundle in the following).

At each point  $x \in M$ ,  $H_x = C^r$ .

Suppose  $\{U_\alpha, \alpha \in I\}$  is a covering of  $M$ , locally  $E = U_\alpha \times C^r$ , if  $U_\alpha \cap U_\beta \neq \emptyset$ ,  $\phi_{\alpha\beta} : U_\alpha \times C^r \rightarrow U_\beta \times C^r$  is holomorphic.

Let  $H$  be a Hermitian metric on  $E$ . It means at each point  $x \in M$ ,  $H_x$  is a Hermitian metric on  $E_x$ , and  $H$  is smooth.

Associated to  $H$  there is a Chern connection  $A_H$ , and its curvature is defined by  $F_H = DA_H$ .

The degree of  $E$  is defined by

$$\deg(E) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_M \text{Tr} F_H \wedge \omega^{n-1}.$$

The stability of bundles was a well established concept in algebraic geometry.

A holomorphic vector bundle  $E$  is called **stable** (semi-stable), if for every subbundle  $E' \hookrightarrow E$  of lower rank, it holds:

$$\mu(E') = \frac{\deg(E')}{\text{rank}E'} < (\leq) \mu(E) = \frac{\deg(E)}{\text{rank}E}. \quad (1.1)$$

Here the degree of  $E$  is defined as follow

$$\deg(E) = \int_M C_1(E) \wedge \omega^{n-1},$$

where  $C_1(E)$  is the first chern class of  $E$

# The Harder-Narasimhan filtration

- Let  $E$  be a bundle. Then there is a filtration of  $E$  by subbundles

$$0 = E_0 \subset E_1 \subset \cdots \subset E_l = E,$$

called the Harder-Narasimhan filtration of bundle  $E$  (abbr, HN-filtration), such that  $Q_i = E_i/E_{i-1}$  is semistable. Moreover,  $\mu(Q_i) > \mu(Q_{i+1})$ , and the associated graded object  $Gr^{hn}(E) = \bigoplus_{i=1}^l Q_i$  is uniquely determined by the isomorphism class of  $E$ .

# Seshadri filtration

- Let  $V$  be a semistable bundle, then there is a filtration of  $V$  by subbundles

$$0 = V_0 \subset V_1 \subset \cdots \subset V_l = V,$$

called the Seshadri filtration of  $V$ , such that  $V_i/V_{i-1}$  stable.

Moreover,  $\mu(V_i/V_{i-1}) = \mu(V)$  for each  $i$ , and the associated graded object  $Gr^s V = \bigoplus_{i=1}^l V_i/V_{i-1}$  is uniquely determined by the isomorphism class of  $V$ .

## The Harder-Narasimhan-Seshadri filtration

- Let  $E$  be a bundle. Then there is a double filtration, called a Harder-Narasimhan-Seshadri filtration of bundle  $E$  (abbr, HNS-filtration), with the following properties: if  $\{E_i\}_{i=1}^l$  is the HN filtration of  $E$ , then

$$E_{i-1} = E_{i,0} \subset E_{i,1} \subset \cdots \subset E_{i,l_i} = E_i$$

and the successive quotient  $Q_{i,j} = E_{i,j}/E_{i,j-1}$  are stable subbundles. Moreover,  $\mu(Q_{i,j}) = \mu(Q_{i,j+1})$  and  $\mu(Q_{i,j}) > \mu(Q_{i+1,j})$ , the associated graded object:

$$Gr^{hns}(E, \bar{\partial}_E) = \bigoplus_{i=1}^l \bigoplus_{j=1}^{l_i} Q_{i,j}$$

is uniquely determined by the isomorphism class of  $E$ .



# Harder-Narasimhan-Seshadri filtration

Let  $E$  be a bundle. There is a filtration of  $E$  by subbundles

$$0 = \mathcal{E}_0 \subset \mathcal{E}_1 \subset \cdots \subset \mathcal{E}_l = \mathcal{E},$$

called the Harder-Narasimhan-Seshadri filtration of  $E$  (abbr, HNS-filtration), such that the quotient sheaf  $Q_i = \mathcal{E}_i / \mathcal{E}_{i-1}$  is stable. Moreover,  $\mu(Q_i) \geq \mu(Q_{i+1})$ , and the associated graded object

$$Gr^{hns}(\mathcal{E}) = \bigoplus_{i=1}^l Q_i$$

is uniquely determined by the isomorphism class of  $\mathcal{E}$ .

## Harder-Narasimhan type

We then have  $R$ -tuple of numbers

$$\vec{\mu}(E) = (\mu_1, \dots, \mu_R) \quad (1.2)$$

from the HNS-filtration by setting:  $\mu_i = \mu_\omega(Q_j)$ , for  $\text{rank}(\mathcal{E}_{j-1}) + 1 \leq i \leq \text{rank}(\mathcal{E}_j)$ . We call  $\vec{\mu}(E)$  the Harder-Narasimhan type of  $E$ .

## Chern connection

Let  $(E, \bar{\partial}_E)$  be a holomorphic vector bundle over a complex manifold  $M$ , and  $H$  be a Hermitian metric on  $E$ , then there exists a unique connection  $D_H$ , which is called the **Chern connection** which satisfies the following two conditions:

- $D_H$  is compatible with the Hermitian metric  $H$ ;
- Its  $(0, 1)$ -part coincides to the holomorphic structure, i.e.  
 $D_H^{0,1} = \bar{\partial}_E$ .

# Hermitian-Einstein metric

A Hermitian metric  $H$  in  $E$  is called a Hermitian-Einstein metric, if the curvature  $F_H$  of the chern connection  $A_H$  satisfies the Einstein condition:

$$\sqrt{-1}\Lambda_\omega F_H = \lambda Id_E, \quad (2.1)$$

where  $\Lambda_\omega$  denotes the contraction of differential forms by Kähler form  $\omega$ , and the real constant  $\lambda$  is given by  $\lambda = \frac{2\pi}{Vol(M)rank(E)}deg(E)$ .

# Donaldson-Uhlenbeck-Yau theorem

D-U-Y theorem states that a holomorphic bundle is poly-stable if and only if it admits a Hermitian-Einstein metric.

A short history of the theorem:

- Narasimhan and Seshadri (1965) for Riemann surface.
- Donaldson (1985) for algebraic surfaces, and (1986) for algebraic manifolds.
- Uhlenbeck and Yau (1986) for Kähler manifolds.

Atiyah and Bott (1982) conjectured that the asymptotic behavior of the Yang-Mills flow on a Riemann surface at infinity is decided by the HNS filtration.

## Some interesting generalizations

- Li and Yau ( 1987) for Hermitian manifolds with Gauduchon metric (i.e.  $\partial\bar{\partial}(\eta^{n-1}) = 0$ ).
- Hitchin (1987), Simpson (1988) for Higgs bundle.
- Bando and Siu (1994) for reflexive sheaf.
- Bartolomeis and Tian (1996) for complex vector bundle on almost Hermitian manifold.
- Biquard (1996), Li-Narasimhan (1999), Li (2000) for parabolic bundle.
- Jost-Zuo, harmonic map and representation.
- Zuo, Sheng, Xu, algebraic version.

## Donaldson's heat flow

Donaldson's heat flow for Hermitian metrics on the bundle  $E$  with initial metric  $H_0$ :

$$H^{-1} \frac{\partial H}{\partial t} = -2(\sqrt{-1} \Lambda_{\omega} F_H - \lambda Id_E). \quad (2.2)$$

In the following, we denote  $\Phi(H) = \sqrt{-1} \Lambda_{\omega} F_H - \lambda Id_E$  for simplicity.

## Donaldson's heat flow

- The flow exists globally;
- If the bundle is stable, the flow converges to a H-E metric, proved by Donaldson.
- Li-Zhang-Zhang (2017) (for Higgs sheaves) show that under semi-stability assumption, we have  $\|\Phi(H(t))\|_{L^\infty} \rightarrow 0$  along the heat flow, solve a conjecture by Kobayashi (1986).



# sheaves

A sheaf  $\mathcal{F}$  on  $M$  associates to each open set  $U \subset M$  a module (or group, other algebraic structures)  $\mathcal{F}(U)$ , called the sections of  $\mathcal{F}$  over  $U$ , and to each pair  $U \subset V$  of open sets a map  $r_{V,U} : \mathcal{F}(V) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}(U)$ , called the restriction map, satisfying

- If  $U \subset V \subset W$ , we have

$$r_{W,U} = r_{W,V} \cdot r_{V,U}.$$

- For any open sets  $U, V \subset M$  and sections  $\sigma \in \mathcal{F}(U)$ ,  $\tau \in \mathcal{F}(V)$  such that

$$\sigma|_{U \cap V} = \tau|_{U \cap V},$$

then there is a section  $\rho \in \mathcal{F}(U \cup V)$  with

$$\rho|_U = \sigma, \quad \rho|_V = \tau.$$

- If  $\rho \in \mathcal{F}(U \cup V)$  and

$$\rho|_U = \rho|_V = 0,$$

then  $\rho = 0$ .

For examples, the sheaf of holomorphic functions on the complex manifold  $M$  denoted by  $\mathcal{O}_M$ , the sheaf of holomorphic sections on bundles.

A  $\mathcal{O}_M$ -module sheaf is called an analytic sheaf.

An analytic sheaf  $\mathcal{F}$  is said to be **Coherent** if for each point  $x \in M$ , there is a neighborhood  $U$  of  $x$  such that there is an exact sequence of sheaves over  $U$ ,

$$\mathcal{O}^p|_U \rightarrow \mathcal{O}^q|_U \rightarrow \mathcal{F}|_U \rightarrow 0 \quad (3.1)$$

for some  $p < q$ .

In other words, if for any point  $x_0 \in M$ , there is a neighborhood  $U_{x_0}$  of  $x_0$  and finite many sections  $\{f_1, \dots, f_K\}$  of  $\mathcal{F}|_{U_{x_0}}$  that generate each  $\mathcal{O}_x$ -module  $\mathcal{F}_x$  ( $x \in U_{x_0}$ ), and if moreover the relations among these generators are also finitely generated over  $U_{x_0}$ .

Coherent sheaves can be seen as a generalization of holomorphic vector bundles.

- A coherent sheaf  $\mathcal{F}$  is said to **locally free** if for each point  $x \in M$  there exists a neighborhood  $U$  such that

$$\mathcal{F}|_U \cong \mathcal{O}^p. \quad (3.2)$$

- There is a one-to-one correspondence between (isomorphism classes of ) holomorphic bundles over  $M$  and locally free coherent sheaves.

The dual of a coherent sheaf  $\mathcal{F}$  is defined to be the coherent sheaf

$$\mathcal{F}^* = \text{Hom}(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{O}). \quad (3.3)$$

There is a natural homomorphism  $\sigma$  of  $\mathcal{F}$  into its double dual  $\mathcal{F}^{**}$

$$\sigma : \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}^{**}. \quad (3.4)$$

- If  $\sigma$  is injective, then  $\mathcal{F}$  will be called **torsion-free**.
- If  $\sigma$  is bijective, then  $\mathcal{F}$  will be called **reflexive**.

One can check that every locally-free sheaf must be reflexive. The converse is not right. In the following, we denote the set of **singularities** where  $\mathcal{F}$  is not locally free by  $\Sigma$  (i.e. outside  $\Sigma$ ,  $\mathcal{F}$  can be seen as a bundle). It is well known:

- If  $\mathcal{F}$  is torsion-free, the singular set  $\Sigma$  is an analytic subset of codimension at least 2.
- If  $\mathcal{F}$  is reflexive, the singular set  $\Sigma$  is an analytic subset of codimension at least 3.

## Regularization

A **regularization on the reflexive sheaf**  $\mathcal{E}$  (by Hironaka's flattening theorem): take blowing up finitely many times  $\pi_i : M_i \rightarrow M_{i-1}$ , where  $i = 1, \dots, k$  and  $M_0 = M$ , so that the pull-back of  $\mathcal{E}$  to  $M_k$  is locally free and

$$\pi = \pi_1 \circ \dots \circ \pi_k : M_k \rightarrow M \quad (3.5)$$

is biholomorphic outside  $\Sigma \subset M$ .

We denote  $M_k$  by  $\tilde{M}$ , the exceptional divisors  $\pi^{-1}\Sigma$  by  $\tilde{\Sigma}$ , and the holomorphic vector bundle  $\pi^*\mathcal{E}$  by  $E$ .

Since  $\mathcal{E}$  is locally free outside  $\Sigma$ , the holomorphic bundle  $E$  is isomorphic to  $\mathcal{E}$  on  $\tilde{M} \setminus \tilde{\Sigma}$ .

## Stability of coherent sheaves

Let  $(M, \omega)$  be a compact Kähler manifold, and  $\mathcal{E}$  be a torsion-free coherent sheaves over  $M$ .

The stability was a well established concept in algebraic geometry. A torsion-free coherent sheaves  $\mathcal{E}$  is called **stable** (semi-stable) (in the sense of Mumford-Takemoto), if for every saturated coherent sub-sheaf  $\mathcal{F} \hookrightarrow \mathcal{E}$  of lower rank, it holds:

$$\mu(\mathcal{F}) = \frac{\deg(\mathcal{F})}{\text{rank } \mathcal{F}} < (\leq) \mu(\mathcal{E}) = \frac{\deg(\mathcal{E})}{\text{rank } \mathcal{E}}. \quad (3.6)$$



# Harder-Narasimhan-Seshadri filtration

Let  $\mathcal{E}$  be a torsion-free coherent sheaf on a compact Kähler manifold  $(M, \omega)$ . There is a filtration of  $\mathcal{E}$  by coherent sub-sheaves

$$0 = \mathcal{E}_0 \subset \mathcal{E}_1 \subset \cdots \subset \mathcal{E}_l = \mathcal{E},$$

called the Harder-Narasimhan-Seshadri filtration of the reflexive sheaf  $\mathcal{E}$  (abbr, HNS-filtration), such that the quotient sheaf  $Q_i = \mathcal{E}_i / \mathcal{E}_{i-1}$  is torsion-free and stable. Moreover,  $\mu(Q_i) \geq \mu(Q_{i+1})$ , and the associated graded object

$$Gr^{hns}(\mathcal{E}) = \bigoplus_{i=1}^l Q_i$$

is uniquely determined by the isomorphism class of  $\mathcal{E}$ .

## Harder-Narasimhan type

For a reflexive sheaf  $\mathcal{E}$  of rank  $R$  over a compact Kähler manifold  $(M, \omega)$ , construct a nonincreasing  $R$ -tuple of numbers

$$\vec{\mu}(\mathcal{E}) = (\mu_{1,\omega}, \dots, \mu_{R,\omega}) \quad (3.7)$$

from the HN-filtration by setting:  $\mu_{i,\omega} = \mu_{\omega}(Q_j)$ , for  $\text{rank}(\mathcal{E}_{j-1}) + 1 \leq i \leq \text{rank}(\mathcal{E}_j)$ . We call  $\vec{\mu}(\mathcal{E})$  the Harder-Narasimhan type of  $\mathcal{E}$ .

# Admissible Hermitian metric

- The admissible Hermitian metric on a coherent sheaf was introduced by Bando and Siu (1994).

Let  $\Sigma$  be the set of singularities where  $\mathcal{E}$  is not locally free. A Hermitian metric  $H$  on the holomorphic bundle  $\mathcal{E}|_{M \setminus \Sigma}$  is called **admissible** if

- (1)  $|F_H|_{H, \omega}$  is square integrable;
- (2)  $|\Lambda_\omega F_H|_H$  is uniformly bounded.

## Bando and Siu's theorem

Bando and Siu extended the Donaldson-Uhlenbeck-Yau theorem to reflexive sheaves:

- If a reflexive sheaf  $\mathcal{E}$  on a compact Kähler manifold  $(M, \omega)$  is stable, then it admits an admissible Hermitian-Einstein metric.

## Choosing an initial Hermitian metric

It is well known that  $\tilde{M}$  is also Kähler. Fix a Kähler metric  $\eta$  on  $\tilde{M}$  and set

$$\omega_\varepsilon = \pi^* \omega + \varepsilon \eta \quad (3.8)$$

for any small  $0 < \varepsilon \leq 1$ .

Given a smooth Hermitian metric  $\hat{H}$  on the bundle  $E$ , it is easy to see that there exists a constant  $\hat{C}_0$  such that

$$\int_{\tilde{M}} (|\Lambda_{\omega_\varepsilon} F_{\hat{H}}|_{\hat{H}}) \frac{\omega_\varepsilon^n}{n!} \leq \hat{C}_0, \quad (3.9)$$

for all  $0 < \varepsilon \leq 1$ .

# Uniform bound of heat kernels

Let  $K_\varepsilon(t, x, y)$  be the heat kernel with respect to the Kähler metric  $\omega_\varepsilon$ . Bando and Siu obtained a uniform Sobolev inequality for  $(\tilde{M}, \omega_\varepsilon)$ , using Cheng and Li's estimate, they got a uniform upper bound of the heat kernels  $K_\varepsilon(t, x, y)$ . Furthermore, combining Grigor'yan's result, we have

- For any  $\tau > 0$ , there exists a constant  $C_K(\tau)$  which is independent of  $\varepsilon$ , such that

$$0 \leq K_\varepsilon(x, y, t) \leq C_K(\tau) \left( t^{-n} \exp\left(-\frac{(d_{\omega_\varepsilon}(x, y))^2}{(4 + \tau)t}\right) + 1 \right) \quad (3.10)$$

for every  $x, y \in \tilde{M}$  and  $0 < t < +\infty$ , where  $d_{\omega_\varepsilon}(x, y)$  is the distance between  $x$  and  $y$  with respect to the metric  $\omega_\varepsilon$ .

## The Hermitian-Yang-Mills flow

We consider the following Hermitian-Yang-Mills flow on holomorphic bundle  $E$  with the fixed initial metric  $\hat{H}$  and with respect to the Kähler metric  $\omega_\varepsilon$ ,

$$\begin{cases} H_\varepsilon(t)^{-1} \frac{\partial H_\varepsilon(t)}{\partial t} = -2(\sqrt{-1} \Lambda_{\omega_\varepsilon}(F_{H_\varepsilon(t)}) - \lambda_\varepsilon Id_E), \\ H_\varepsilon(0) = \hat{H}, \end{cases} \quad (3.11)$$

where  $\lambda_\varepsilon = \frac{2\pi}{\text{Vol}(M, \omega_\varepsilon)} \mu_{\omega_\varepsilon}(E)$ .

## Taking the limit $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$

- We obtain uniform local  $C^\infty$ -estimates for  $H_\varepsilon(t)$ .
- Taking the limit as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ , we have a long time solution  $H(t)$  of the following evolution equation on  $M \setminus \Sigma \times [0, +\infty)$ , i.e.  $H(t)$  satisfies:

$$\begin{cases} H(t)^{-1} \frac{\partial H(t)}{\partial t} = -2(\sqrt{-1} \Lambda_\omega(F_{H(t)}) - \lambda Id_{\mathcal{E}}), \\ H(0) = \hat{H}. \end{cases} \quad (3.12)$$

Here  $H(t)$  can be seen as a Hermitian metric defined on the locally free part of  $\mathcal{E}$ , i.e. on  $M \setminus \Sigma$ .



## Taking the limit $t \rightarrow +\infty$

Following Simpson's argument for the non-compact manifolds case, Bando-Siu proved:

- If the reflexive sheaf  $\mathcal{E}$  is stable, by choosing a sequence,  $H(t)$  converges to an admissible Hermitian-Einstein metric  $H_\infty$ .

## Bando and Siu's question

If the reflexive sheaf  $\mathcal{E}$  is  $\omega$ -stable, it is well known that the pulling back holomorphic bundle  $E$  is also  $\omega_\varepsilon$ -stable for sufficiently small  $\varepsilon$ .

- By Donaldson-Uhlenbeck-Yau theorem, there exists an  $\omega_\varepsilon$ -Hermitian-Einstein metric  $H_\varepsilon$  for every small  $\varepsilon$ .
- Bando and Siu (1994) point out whether it is possible to get an  $\omega$ -Hermitian-Einstein metric  $H$  on the reflexive sheaf  $\mathcal{E}$  as a limit of  $\omega_\varepsilon$ -Hermitian-Einstein metric  $H_\varepsilon$  of bundle  $E$  on  $\tilde{M}$  as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ .

## Our result

We (Li-Zhang-Z, 2016) solve this problem and generalize it to the **Higgs sheaf** case. We proved that:

### Theorem 1

*Let  $(\mathcal{E}, \phi)$  be a stable Higgs sheaf on a compact Kähler manifold  $(M, \omega)$ , and  $H_\varepsilon$  be an  $\omega_\varepsilon$ -Hermitian-Einstein metric on the Higgs bundle  $(E, \phi)$ , by choosing a subsequence and rescaling it,  $H_\varepsilon$  must converge to an  $\omega$ -Hermitian-Einstein metric  $H$  in local  $C^\infty$ -topology outside the exceptional divisor  $\tilde{\Sigma}$  as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ .*

# The Hermitian-Yang-Mills flow on non-stable reflexive sheaves

Bando and Siu have proved the existence of long time solution of the Hermitian-Yang-Mills flow on a reflexive sheaf  $\mathcal{E}$ , i.e. there is a family of metrics  $H(t)$  on  $M \setminus \Sigma \times [0, +\infty)$  such that  $H(t)$  satisfies:

$$\begin{cases} H(t)^{-1} \frac{\partial H(t)}{\partial t} = -2(\sqrt{-1} \Lambda_{\omega}(F_{H(t)}) - \lambda Id_{\mathcal{E}}), \\ H(0) = H_0. \end{cases} \quad (3.13)$$

# Non-stable reflexive sheaves

Bando and Siu (1994) proved that: there exists a subsequence  $H(t_i)$  such that  $\int_M |\nabla \Lambda_\omega F_{H(t_i)}| \rightarrow 0$ . By Uhlenbeck's theorem, taking suitable gauge transformations one can take a subsequence so that Chern connections

$$A(t_i) \rightarrow A_\infty$$

weakly in  $W^{1,2}$ -topology outside a closed subset  $\Sigma_{an} \subset M$  of Hausdorff codimension at least 4.

# Non-stable reflexive sheaves

One can show that  $\sqrt{-1}\Lambda_{\omega}F_{H(t_{\infty})} = \sqrt{-1}\theta_{\infty}$  is parallel, we can decompose  $E_{\infty}$  according to the eigenvalues of  $\sqrt{-1}\theta_{\infty}$  on  $M \setminus (\Sigma_{\mathcal{E}} \cup \Sigma_{an})$ , and obtain a nonincreasing  $R$ -tuple of numbers

$$\vec{\lambda}(\sqrt{-1}\theta_{\infty}) = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_R). \quad (3.14)$$

We also obtain a holomorphic orthogonal decomposition

$$E_{\infty} = \bigoplus_{i=1}^l E_{\infty}^i, \quad (3.15)$$

every  $E_{\infty}^i$  admits Hermitian-Einstein metric.

## Bando-Siu conjecture

- Bando and Siu (1994) asked: does

$$\bigoplus_{i=1}^l E_{\infty}^i \cong \bigoplus_{i=1}^l Q_i ? \quad (3.16)$$

$$\vec{\lambda}(\sqrt{-1}\theta_{\infty}) = \vec{\mu}(E) = (\mu_1, \dots, \mu_R)$$

- Atiyah and Bott (1982) raised the question for Riemann surface case, and this was proved by Daskalopoulos (1992).
- Li-Zhang-Zhang (2018) proved Bando-Siu conjecture.

# Our result

## Theorem 2

*(Li-Zhang-Zhang) Bando-Siu conjecture is true.*



# Outline

- 1 Stability and the Harder-Narasimhan-Seshadri filtration
- 2 Hermitian-Einstein metric and Donaldson-Uhlenbeck-Yau theorem
- 3 Bando-Siu Conjecture
  - Main idea of the proof

## The Yang-Mills flow

Donaldson has shown that the Hermitian-Yang-Mills flow (3.13) is formally gauge-equivalent to the Yang-Mills flow, i.e. we have:

- There is a family of complex gauge transformations  $\sigma(t) \in \mathbf{G}^{\mathbb{C}}$  satisfying  $\sigma^{*\hat{H}}(t)\sigma(t) = h(t) = \hat{H}^{-1}H(t)$ , where  $H(t)$  is the long time solution of the Hermitian-Yang-Mills flow (3.12) with the initial metric  $\hat{H}$ , such that  $A(t) = \sigma(t)(\hat{A})$  is a long time solution of the Yang-Mills flow with the initial connection  $\hat{A}$  on the Hermitian vector bundle  $(\mathcal{E}|_{M \setminus \Sigma_{\mathcal{E}}}, \hat{H})$ , i.e. it satisfies:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial A(t)}{\partial t} = -D_{A(t)}^* F_{A(t)}, \\ A(0) = \hat{A}. \end{cases} \quad (3.17)$$

## Key estimates

For simplicity, set

$$\theta(A(t), \omega) = \sqrt{-1} \Lambda_{\omega} F_{A(t)} - \lambda_{\mathcal{E}, \omega} Id, \quad (3.18)$$

and

$$I(t) = \int_M |D_{A(t)} \theta(A(t), \omega)|_{\hat{H}}^2 \frac{\omega^n}{n!} = \int_M |D_{H(t)} \theta(H(t), \omega)|_{H(t)}^2 \frac{\omega^n}{n!}. \quad (3.19)$$

We prove:

- Let  $H(t)$  be the long time solution of the Hermitian-Yang-Mills flow (3.13) with the initial metric  $\hat{H}$ , then  $I(t) \rightarrow 0$  as  $t \rightarrow +\infty$ .

When  $\mathcal{E}$  is locally free, i.e.  $\Sigma_{\mathcal{E}} = \emptyset$ , this was prove by Donaldson and Kronheimer . In our case that  $\mathcal{E}$  is only reflexive, we need new arguments because the base manifold  $M \setminus \Sigma_{\mathcal{E}}$  is non-compact.

## blow-up set

Using Hong-Tian's  $\varepsilon$ -regularity theorem on the Yang-Mills flow (3.17), and modifying Hong-Tian's argument to the non-compact case, we have

- Let  $A(t)$  be the long time solution of the Yang-Mills flow (3.17) with initial connection  $\hat{A}$  on the Hermitian vector bundle  $(\mathcal{E}|_{M \setminus \Sigma_\varepsilon}, \hat{H})$  over  $(M \setminus \Sigma_\varepsilon, \omega)$ . Then for every sequence  $t_k \rightarrow +\infty$ , there exists a subsequence  $\{t_j\}$  such that as  $t_j \rightarrow +\infty$ ,  $A(t_j)$  converges, modulo gauge transformations, to a solution  $A_\infty$  of the Yang-Mills equation on a Hermitian vector bundle  $(E_\infty, H_\infty)$  in  $C_{loc}^\infty$ -topology outside  $\Sigma \subset M$ , where  $\Sigma$  is a closed set of Hausdorff complex codimension at least 2 and  $\Sigma_\varepsilon \subset \Sigma$ .

## blow-up set

We set

$$d_x = \text{dist}(x, \Sigma_{\mathcal{E}}), \quad U_d = \{x \in M : d_x < d\}, \quad (3.20)$$

$$\hat{\Sigma}_{k,j,i} = \{x \in M \setminus U_{r_j} : r_i^{4-2n} \int_{B_{r_i}(x)} |F_{A(t_k)}|_{\hat{H}, \omega}^2(\cdot) \frac{\omega^n}{n!} \geq \varepsilon_1\}, \quad (3.21)$$

for any  $k \geq 1$  and  $i \geq j \geq 1$ . By the standard diagonal process, we can choose a subsequence which is also denoted by  $\{t_k\}$  such that for each  $j \leq i$ ,  $\hat{\Sigma}_{k,j,i}$  converges to a closed subset  $\Sigma_{j,i}$  as  $k \rightarrow +\infty$ . Define

$$\Sigma_j = \bigcap_i \Sigma_{j,i}, \quad \Sigma_{an} = \bigcup_j \Sigma_j, \quad \Sigma = \Sigma_{\mathcal{E}} \cup \Sigma_{an}. \quad (3.22)$$

## blow-up set

We can prove:

- $\Sigma$  is closed.
- The Hausdorff codimension of  $\Sigma$  is at least 4.

## The limiting connection

Furthermore, we have

$$D_{A_\infty} \theta(A_\infty, \omega) = 0, \quad (3.23)$$

i.e.  $\theta(A_\infty, \omega)$  is parallel. We can decompose  $E_\infty$  according to the eigenvalues of  $\sqrt{-1}\theta(A_\infty, \omega)$  and obtain a holomorphic orthogonal decomposition:  $E_\infty = \bigoplus_{i=1}^l E_\infty^i$  on  $M \setminus \Sigma$ . Let  $\lambda_i$  be the eigenvalues of  $\sqrt{-1}\theta(A_\infty, \omega)$ , we a nonincreasing  $R$ -tuple of numbers

$$\vec{\lambda}(A_\infty) = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_R). \quad (3.24)$$

## Main idea of the proof

- We prove that

$$\vec{\lambda}(A_\infty) = \vec{\mu}(\mathcal{E}), \quad (3.25)$$

i.e. the limiting sheaf has the same HN type of the initial one.



## The limiting sheaf

Since the singularity set  $\Sigma$  is of Hausdorff codimension at least 4,  $F_{A_\infty} \in L^2$  and  $\Lambda_\omega F_{A_\infty} \in L^\infty$ , by Bando and Siu's extension theorem, we know that every  $(E_\infty^i, \bar{\partial}_{A_\infty^i})$  can be extended to the whole  $M$  as a reflexive sheaf (which is also denoted by  $(E_\infty^i, \bar{\partial}_{A_\infty^i})$  for simplicity), and  $H_\infty^i$  can be smoothly extended over the place where the sheaf  $(E_\infty^i, \bar{\partial}_{A_\infty^i})$  is locally free. Therefore, we proved:

- The limiting  $(E_\infty, \bar{\partial}_{A_\infty})$  can be extended to the whole  $M$  as a reflexive sheaf with a holomorphic orthogonal splitting

$$(E_\infty, \bar{\partial}_{A_\infty}, H_\infty) = \bigoplus_{i=1}^l (E_\infty^i, \bar{\partial}_{A_\infty^i}, H_\infty^i), \quad (3.26)$$

and  $H_\infty^i$  is an admissible Hermitian-Einstein metric on the reflexive sheaf  $(E_\infty^i, \bar{\partial}_{A_\infty^i})$  for any  $1 \leq i \leq l$ .

**Thank you for your attention!**