

COMPUTATION OF THE GROTHENDIECK AND PICARD GROUPS OF A TORIC DM STACK \mathcal{X} BY USING A HOMOGENEOUS COORDINATE RING FOR \mathcal{X}

S. PAUL SMITH

Department of Mathematics, Box 354350, University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195, USA
e-mail: smith@math.washington.edu

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Abstract. We compute the Grothendieck and Picard groups of a smooth toric DM stack by using a suitable category of graded modules over a polynomial ring. The polynomial ring with a suitable grading and suitable irrelevant ideal functions is a homogeneous coordinate ring for the stack.

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1. Introduction.

1.1. Toric Deligne–Mumford (DM) stacks were introduced in the seminal paper of Borisov et al. [2]. A toric DM stack is a particular kind of quotient stack $\mathcal{X} := [(V - Z)/G]$ for an abelian affine algebraic group G acting on a scheme $V - Z$ that is the complement to a suitable union of G -stable subspaces Z in a rational representation V of G .

The appendix to Vistoli’s paper [8, Example 7.21] shows that $\text{Qcoh}\mathcal{X}$ is equivalent to the category of G -equivariant sheaves on $V - Z$. The analysis of toric DM stacks in [2], and in subsequent papers such as the framework developed by Fantechi et al. [5], is carried out in the context of G -equivariant sheaves on $V - Z$. In particular, the computation of the Grothendieck group $K_0(\mathcal{X})$ by Borisov and Horja [3, Theorem 4.10] is couched in the language of G -equivariant sheaves.

In this paper, we offer a different approach that is arguably more elementary.

1.2. Let Γ be the rational character group of G . It is a finitely generated abelian group, and may have torsion. It is well known that

- (1) the category of G -equivariant \mathcal{O}_V -modules is equivalent to $\text{Gr}(\mathcal{O}(V), \Gamma)$, the category of Γ -graded $\mathcal{O}(V)$ -modules, and
- (2) the category of G -equivariant \mathcal{O}_{V-Z} -modules is equivalent to the quotient of $\text{Gr}(\mathcal{O}(V), \Gamma)$ by the localising subcategory generated by the coherent G -equivariant \mathcal{O}_V -modules that are supported on Z .

It follows that there is an equivalence of categories

$$\text{Qcoh}\left[\frac{V - Z}{G}\right] \cong \frac{\text{Gr}(\mathcal{O}(V), \Gamma)}{\mathbb{T}}, \quad (1.1)$$

where \mathbb{T} is the localising subcategory described in (2). This is an equivalence of monoidal categories: the tensor product of $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{X}}$ -modules corresponds to the tensor

product of graded $\mathcal{O}(V)$ -modules where one uses the tensor product grading, $\deg(M_\alpha \otimes N_\beta) = \alpha + \beta$.

The graded ring $(\mathcal{O}(V), \Gamma)$ is analogous to Cox's homogeneous coordinate ring of a toric variety.

1.3. In this paper, we use the quotient of the graded module category in (1.1) to study a toric DM stack. We prove two results. We compute the Grothendieck group $K_0(\mathcal{X}) := K_0(\text{coh}\mathcal{X})$ of the category of coherent sheaves on \mathcal{X} in Theorem 2.1 and the Picard group $\text{Pic}(\mathcal{X})$ in Theorem 4.4. The result on the Picard group is proved in somewhat greater generality.

1.4. In Section 3 we introduce the notion of a homogeneous coordinate ring for certain stacks. It consists of a triple $(A, \Delta, \mathfrak{a})$ consisting of a commutative ring graded by an arbitrary finitely generated abelian group Δ and an irrelevant graded ideal \mathfrak{a} . The idea is to mimic Cox's homogeneous coordinate ring for toric varieties. The homogeneous coordinate ring for the stacks we are interested in is particularly accessible and allows one to avoid certain local-to-global arguments and to avoid some of the more technical aspects of stacks.

We extend the definition of a connected graded ring to this setting, i.e. when the grading group is arbitrary, and use that to prove more widely applicable versions of some standard results for connected graded rings (modelled on those for commutative local rings). For example, we prove a version of Nakayama's lemma, and as a consequence show that every finitely graded projective module is a direct sum of free modules in a unique way (Lemma 2.2).

This allows us to show that for certain stacks \mathcal{X} every coherent $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{X}}$ -module has a finite resolution in which each term is a finite direct sum of invertible $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{X}}$ -modules (Proposition 3.1).

1.5. One of the main motivations for the introduction and study of toric DM stacks is that they are a source of nice ambient spaces for the orbifolds that arise in string theory. The stringy cohomology groups for toric DM stacks are particularly accessible. Like the cohomology and Grothendieck groups of toric varieties, the cohomological invariants of toric DM stacks can be computed and studied explicitly in terms of the combinatorial data, the stacky fan, that is used to define the stack. That combinatorial data is encoded in the homogeneous coordinate ring.

1.6. The author would like to thank Lev Borisov for pointing out that the Grothendieck group results in an earlier version of this paper applied only to complete toric stacks. That prompted the author to extend the result to other toric stacks. The author also thanks Paul Horja for pointing out a serious error in an earlier version of Section 2.9.

2. The Grothendieck group of \mathcal{X} .

2.1. Let G be a closed subgroup of a torus $(\mathbb{G}_m)^r$ and write $\Gamma := \text{Hom}(G, \mathbb{G}_m)$ for its rational character group.

Let V be a finite-dimensional rational representation of G . We introduce the following notation:

- (1) Λ is a set indexing a basis $\{x_\rho \mid \rho \in \Lambda\}$ for V^* consisting of G -eigenvectors (in applications to a toric stack Λ will be the set of one-dimensional rays in the fan);
- (2) $\Lambda_1, \dots, \Lambda_n$ are subsets of Λ ;
- (3) $L_m, 1 \leq m \leq n$, is the common zero locus of $\{x_\rho \mid \rho \in \Lambda_m\}$;
- (4) $Z := L_1 \cup \dots \cup L_n$;
- (5) \mathcal{X} is the stack-theoretic quotient $[(V - Z)/G]$;
- (6) For each $\alpha \in \Gamma$,
 - (a) t^α is the corresponding basis element of the integral group ring $\mathbb{Z}\Gamma$, and
 - (b) $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{X}}(\alpha)$ denotes the $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{X}}$ -module that is \mathcal{O}_{V-Z} endowed with its canonical G -equivariant structure twisted by the character α ;
- (7) $S :=$ the polynomial ring $k[x_\rho \mid \rho \in \Lambda] = \mathcal{O}(V)$ is endowed with the *right* G -action defined by $f^g(v) := f(gv)$ for $f \in S, g \in G$, and $v \in V$;
- (8) S is made into a Γ -graded k -algebra with homogeneous components

$$S_\alpha := \{f \mid f^g = \alpha(g)f \text{ for all } g \in G\}.$$

- (9) if $\rho \in \Lambda$, we define the character $|\rho| : G \rightarrow \mathbb{G}_m$ by $(x_\rho)^g := |\rho|(g)x_\rho$ for $g \in G$; thus $x_\rho \in S_{|\rho|}$.

THEOREM 2.1. *The map $\Gamma \rightarrow \text{coh}\mathcal{X}, \alpha \mapsto [\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{X}}(\alpha)]$, induces a ring isomorphism*

$$K_0(\text{coh}\mathcal{X}) \cong \frac{\mathbb{Z}\Gamma}{(q_1, \dots, q_n)},$$

where

$$q_m := \prod_{\rho \in \Lambda_m} (1 - t^{|\rho|}). \tag{2.1}$$

2.2. Temporary hypothesis We first prove Theorem 2.1 under the following equivalent hypotheses:

- (1) the only Zariski-closed G -orbit in V is $\{0\}$;
- (2) the invariants $\mathcal{O}(V)^G$ consist of the constant functions;
- (3) $S_0 = k$.

This hypothesis applies from now through Section 2.7. In Section 2.8, there is an example where the hypothesis fails but we show how to side-step the problem for that example. Section 2.9 shows the hypothesis can be removed for all toric DM stacks.

2.3. We write $\text{Gr}(S, \Gamma)$ for the category of Γ -graded $\mathcal{O}(V)$ -modules with degree-preserving homomorphisms, and $\text{gr}(S, \Gamma)$ for the full subcategory of finitely generated modules. Vistoli’s result [8, Example 7.21] establishes an equivalence

$$\text{Qcoh}\mathcal{X} \equiv G\text{-equivariant quasi-coherent } \mathcal{O}_{V-Z}\text{-modules} \equiv \frac{\text{Gr}(S, \Gamma)}{\text{T}(\mathfrak{a})},$$

where $\text{T}(\mathfrak{a})$ is the full subcategory consisting of direct limits of finitely generated modules whose support is contained in Z .

We write \mathfrak{a}_m for the ideal in S generated by $\{x_\rho \mid \rho \in \Lambda_m\}$ and

$$\mathfrak{a} := \bigcap_{m=1}^n \mathfrak{a}_m.$$

Each \mathfrak{a}_m is a prime ideal, \mathfrak{a} is a radical ideal, L_m is equal to the zero locus of \mathfrak{a}_m , and Z , which is defined in Section 2.1(4), is equal to the zero locus of \mathfrak{a} .

We define

$$q(t) := \prod_{\rho \in \Lambda} (1 - t^{|\rho|}) \in \mathbb{Z}\Gamma.$$

2.4. Hilbert series The hypothesis that $\{0\}$ is the only G -stable closed subvariety of V implies that $S_0 = k$. It follows that every homogeneous component of S has finite dimension. To prove this, consider the ideal \mathfrak{b} generated by a homogeneous component S_β . Then \mathfrak{b} is generated by a finite number of elements w_1, \dots, w_r belonging to S_β . If w is any element in S_β , then $w \in \mathfrak{b}$ so $w = w_1 z_1 + \dots + w_r z_r$ for some z_i s in S . Taking the degree-zero component of each z_i , it follows that $w \in kw_1 + \dots + kw_r$. Hence $\dim S_\beta < \infty$.

Let M be a finitely generated Γ -graded S -module. Then each homogeneous component $M_\alpha, \alpha \in \Gamma$, has finite dimension so we may define the Hilbert series of M to be the formal expression

$$H_M(t) := \sum_{\alpha \in \Gamma} (\dim_k M_\alpha) t^\alpha.$$

For the twist $M(\beta)$ we have $H_{M(\beta)}(t) = t^{-\beta} \cdot H_M(t)$. If U and V are Γ -graded vector spaces so is their tensor product and $H_{U \otimes V}(t) = H_U(t) \cdot H_V(t)$ provided the homogeneous components of all these vector spaces have finite dimension. Since

$$S \cong \bigotimes_{\rho \in \Lambda} \mathbb{C}[x_\rho],$$

it follows that

$$H_S(t) = \prod_{\rho \in \Lambda} (1 + t^{|\rho|} + t^{2|\rho|} + \dots) = q(t)^{-1}.$$

Since M has a projective resolution in $\text{Gr}(S, \Gamma)$ involving only a finite number of direct sums of twists $S(\alpha)$ of the free module S ,

$$H_M(t) = f(t)H_S(t)$$

for some $f(t) \in \mathbb{Z}\Gamma$. Therefore, $H_M(t)q \in \mathbb{Z}\Gamma$ and $H_M(t)$ is not just a formal expression but a well-defined element of the localised group ring $\mathbb{Z}\Gamma[q^{-1}]$.

2.5. An aside on projectives. The following lemma is ‘well known’ when the graded algebra is assumed to be connected. However, the word ‘connected’ is usually applied

to algebras graded by a free abelian group and we are *not* making that restriction in this paper. We therefore include a proof.

LEMMA 2.2. *Let k be a field and (S, Γ) a graded k -algebra such that $S_0 = k$. Suppose the only homogeneous units in S are the elements in $k - \{0\}$. Then*

- (1) $\mathfrak{m} := \sum_{\alpha \neq 0} S_\alpha$ is the unique maximal graded ideal of S ;
- (2) if M is a finitely generated graded S -module such that $\mathfrak{m}M = M$, then $M = 0$;
- (3) if P is a finitely generated projective graded S -module, then P is isomorphic to a direct sum of graded free modules $S(\alpha)$ for various α s in Γ ;
- (4) two graded free modules $P := S(\alpha_1) \oplus \dots \oplus S(\alpha_m)$ and $Q := S(\beta_1) \oplus \dots \oplus S(\beta_n)$ are isomorphic if and only if there is an equality of multi-sets $\{\{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m\} = \{\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n\}\}$.

Proof. We do not assume S is commutative in this proof.

(1) By hypothesis, $S = \mathfrak{m} \oplus k$ so, if \mathfrak{m} failed to be a left ideal, $S\mathfrak{m}$ would contain k . In particular, $S_\alpha \mathfrak{m}_{-\alpha}$ would be non-zero for some $\alpha \in \Gamma$, so there would be elements $x \in S_\alpha$ and $y \in \mathfrak{m}_{-\alpha}$ such that $xy \neq 0$. Without loss of generality $xy = 1$. Now yx is also in k . It cannot be zero because then $0 = x(yx) = (xy)x = x$ which is absurd. Hence x has a left and a right inverse, so $xy = yx = 1$. That contradicts the hypothesis about the homogeneous units in S so we conclude that $S\mathfrak{m} = \mathfrak{m}$. By a similar argument \mathfrak{m} is a right ideal.

To see that \mathfrak{m} is the unique maximal graded left ideal suppose J is a graded left ideal that is not contained in \mathfrak{m} . Then $\mathfrak{m} + J = S$, from which it follows that $k \subset J$ and $J = S$.

(2) Suppose $\mathfrak{m}M = M$. Because M is finitely generated, if it were non-zero it would have a non-zero graded cyclic quotient module, \bar{M} say. Suppose \bar{M} is isomorphic to S/J (with some shift in the grading). Then $J \subset \mathfrak{m}$ by (1), so $\mathfrak{m}(S/J) \neq S/J$. Hence $\mathfrak{m}\bar{M} \neq \bar{M}$. But this contradicts the fact that $\mathfrak{m}M = M$. We deduce that $M = 0$.

(3) Let P be a non-zero finitely generated graded projective left S -module. Then $\mathfrak{m}P \neq P$. Let V be a graded subspace of P such that $P = V \oplus \mathfrak{m}P$. Then $SV = P$ because $\mathfrak{m}(P/SV) = P/SV$. There is therefore a surjective degree-preserving homomorphism $\psi : S \otimes_k V \rightarrow P$, $\psi(s \otimes v) = sv$. Let $K = \ker \psi$. Because P is projective applying $S/\mathfrak{m} \otimes_S -$ to the exact sequence $0 \rightarrow K \rightarrow S \otimes V \rightarrow P \rightarrow 0$ produces an exact sequence. It follows then that $K/\mathfrak{m}K = 0$, so $K = 0$ by (2) and we deduce that $P \cong S \otimes V$, as required.

(4) It follows from the argument in (3) that $P \cong Q$ if and only if the graded vector spaces $P/\mathfrak{m}P$ and $Q/\mathfrak{m}Q$ are isomorphic. But isomorphism of those two graded vector spaces is obviously equivalent to the condition in (4). □

2.5.1. Remarks. Given the result in Lemma 2.2, it might be sensible to say that a graded k -algebra (A, Γ) is **connected** if $A_0 = k$ and the only homogeneous units in A are the elements in $k - \{0\}$.

Suppose (A, Γ) is noetherian and connected in this sense and has finite global dimension. Let \mathbb{T} be any localising subcategory of $\text{Gr}(A, \Gamma)$. Let \mathcal{F} be the image of a finitely generated graded A -module in $\text{Gr}(A, \Gamma)/\mathbb{T}$. Then \mathcal{F} has a finite resolution in $\text{Gr}(A, \Gamma)/\mathbb{T}$ in which each term is a direct sum of various twists of \mathcal{O} , where \mathcal{O} denotes the image of A in $\text{Gr}(A, \Gamma)/\mathbb{T}$.

This remark is applied to certain DM stacks in Proposition 3.1 in Section 3.

2.6. We now return to the main line of the proof, so S once more denotes the polynomial ring $\mathcal{O}(V)$ which is assumed to satisfy the hypotheses stated at the beginning of Section 2.

PROPOSITION 2.3. *There are mutually inverse \mathbb{Z} -algebra isomorphisms*

$$K_0(\text{gr}S) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}\Gamma, \quad [M] \mapsto H_M(t)q \tag{2.2}$$

and

$$\mathbb{Z}\Gamma \rightarrow K_0(\text{gr}S), \quad t^\alpha \mapsto [S(-\alpha)].$$

Proof. Let \mathbf{P} denote the full subcategory of $\text{gr}(S, \Gamma)$ consisting of the projective modules. By Lemma 2.2, every finitely generated projective graded S -module is isomorphic to a unique finite direct sum of various $S(\alpha)$ s, so the map $t^\alpha \mapsto [S(-\alpha)]$ is an isomorphism from $\mathbb{Z}\Gamma$ to $K_0(\mathbf{P})$. This is an isomorphism of rings because $S(\alpha) \otimes_S S(\beta) \cong S(\alpha + \beta)$.

Every $M \in \text{gr}(S, \Gamma)$ has a finite resolution by finitely generated projective graded S -modules so the inclusion functor $\mathbf{P} \rightarrow \text{gr}(S, \Gamma)$ induces an isomorphism of Grothendieck groups $K_0(\mathbf{P}) \rightarrow K_0(\text{gr}S)$. We therefore have a ring isomorphism

$$\Psi : \mathbb{Z}\Gamma \rightarrow K_0(\text{gr}S), \quad \Psi(t^\alpha) := [S(-\alpha)].$$

If $0 \rightarrow L \rightarrow M \rightarrow N \rightarrow 0$ is exact in $\text{gr}S$, then $H_M = H_N + H_L$, so the universal property of K_0 ensures here is a well-defined group homomorphism

$$\Phi : K_0(\text{gr}S) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}\Gamma, \quad \Phi([M]) = H_M(t)q.$$

In particular, $\Phi([S(\alpha)]) = H_{S(\alpha)}(t)q = t^{-\alpha} = \Psi^{-1}([S(\alpha)])$. Since $\mathbb{Z}\Gamma$ is spanned by the t^α s, $\Phi = \Psi^{-1}$. □

For an arbitrary pair of modules $M, N \in \text{gr}S$, the usual argument shows that $[M] \cdot [N] = \sum_{i \geq 0} (-1)^i \text{Tor}_i^S(M, N)$ where the Tor-groups are computed as graded S -modules.

2.7. Proof of Theorem 2.1. Let $\mathbf{T} = \mathbf{T}(\mathfrak{a}) \cap \text{gr}S$. Thus \mathbf{T} is the full subcategory of $\text{gr}S$ consisting of those modules supported on Z , i.e. the finitely generated graded modules annihilated by a suitably large power of \mathfrak{a} .

The localisation sequence for K -theory gives an exact sequence

$$K_0(\mathbf{T}) \xrightarrow{\iota} K_0(\text{gr}S) \longrightarrow K_0(\text{coh}\mathcal{X}) \longrightarrow 0. \tag{2.3}$$

If $M \in \mathbf{T}$ so is $M(\alpha)$ for all $\alpha \in \Gamma$ so $K_0(\mathbf{T})$ is a $\mathbb{Z}\Gamma$ -module under the action $t^\alpha \cdot [M] = [M(-\alpha)]$. The arrow ι in (2.3) is induced by the inclusion $\mathbf{T} \rightarrow \text{gr}S$ so is a $\mathbb{Z}\Gamma$ -module homomorphism. Therefore, after identifying $K_0(\text{gr}S)$ with $\mathbb{Z}\Gamma$ as in Proposition 2.3, $K_0(\text{coh}\mathcal{X})$ is isomorphic to $\mathbb{Z}\Gamma$ modulo the ideal generated by the images of a set of $\mathbb{Z}\Gamma$ -module generators for $K_0(\mathbf{T})$.

By definition, \mathbf{T} consists of the modules annihilated by a power of \mathfrak{a} so, by dévissage, the natural map $K_0(\text{gr}S/\mathfrak{a}) \rightarrow K_0(\mathbf{T})$ is an isomorphism, even an isomorphism of $\mathbb{Z}\Gamma$ -modules. Since \mathfrak{a} is the intersection of the \mathfrak{a}_m s every $M \in \text{gr}(S/\mathfrak{a})$ has a finite filtration

$M = M_0 \supset M_1 \supset \dots \supset M_r = 0$ such that each slice M_i/M_{i+1} a finitely generated graded S/\mathfrak{a}_m -module for some m . Since S/\mathfrak{a}_m is a polynomial ring, M_i/M_{i+1} has a finite resolution as an S/\mathfrak{a}_m -module in which all the terms are direct sums of various twists $(S/\mathfrak{a}_m)(\alpha)$. It follows that $K_0(\text{gr}S/\mathfrak{a})$, and hence $K_0(\mathbb{T})$, is generated as a $\mathbb{Z}\Gamma$ -module by the classes $[S/\mathfrak{a}_m]$, $1 \leq m \leq n$.

The image of $[S/\mathfrak{a}_m]$ under the first map in (2.3) is $[S/\mathfrak{a}_m]$. Since S/\mathfrak{a}_m is the polynomial ring on the indeterminates $\{x_\rho \mid \rho \in \Lambda - \Lambda_m\}$,

$$H_{S/\mathfrak{a}_m}(t) = \prod_{\rho \in \Lambda - \Lambda_m} (1 - t^{|\rho|})^{-1}.$$

Under the isomorphism in (2.2), the image of $[S/\mathfrak{a}_m]$ in $\mathbb{Z}\Gamma$ is therefore

$$H_{S/\mathfrak{a}_m}(t)q = q \prod_{\rho \in \Lambda - \Lambda_m} (1 - t^{|\rho|})^{-1} = \prod_{\rho \in \Lambda_m} (1 - t^{|\rho|}).$$

This completes the proof of Theorem 2.1. □

2.8. Example. This example was prompted by a question of Lev Borisov.

Let $Bl_{(0,0)}\mathbb{C}^2$ denote the blowup of \mathbb{C}^2 at the origin. The usual fan for this toric variety is that spanned by $(1, 0)$, $(1, 1)$ and $(0, 1)$. Cox’s homogeneous coordinate ring is $(\mathbb{C}[x_0, x_1, x_2], \mathbb{Z}, (x_0, x_2))$ where the grading is given by $\deg x_i = (-1)^i$. Since $\mathbb{C}[x_0, x_1, x_2]_0 \neq \mathbb{C}$, Theorem 2.1 does not apply.

However, Theorem 2.1 *does* apply if we present $Bl_{(0,0)}\mathbb{C}^2$ as an open subscheme of the Hirzebruch surface \mathbb{F}_1 because then $Bl_{(0,0)}\mathbb{C}^2$ has homogeneous coordinate ring $\mathbb{C}[t_0, t_1, x_0, x_1]$ with \mathbb{Z}^2 -grading $\deg t_0 = \deg t_1 = (1, 0)$, $\deg x_0 = (-1, 1)$, and $\deg x_1 = (0, 1)$ with irrelevant ideal $x_1(t_0, t_1)$, and $\mathbb{C}[t_0, t_1, x_0, x_1]_{(0,0)} = \mathbb{C}$. The locus Z is the union of the subspaces $x_1 = 0$ and $t_0 = t_1 = 0$. The group algebra $\mathbb{Z}\Gamma$ is $\mathbb{Z}[u^{\pm 1}, v^{\pm 1}]$ with $(1, 0) = u$ and $(0, 1) = v$ so

$$K_0(Bl_{(0,0)}\mathbb{C}^2) = \frac{\mathbb{Z}[u^{\pm 1}, v^{\pm 1}]}{(1 - v, (1 - u)^2)}.$$

For the first presentation of $Bl_{(0,0)}\mathbb{C}^2$ as $\mathbb{C}^3 - Z(x_0, x_2)/\mathbb{C}^\times$ there are non-trivial closed orbits such as $x_0x_1 = x_2x_1 = 1$. However, for the second presentation of $Bl_{(0,0)}\mathbb{C}^2$ as $(\mathbb{C}^4 - Z(x_1t_0, x_1t_1))/\mathbb{C}^\times \times \mathbb{C}^\times$ the only closed orbit is the origin.

2.9. Removing the temporary hypothesis. Let $\mathcal{X} = [(V - Z)/G]$ be as described at the beginning of Section 2.1, but *do not assume* that $\{0\}$ is the only closed G -orbit. We will show there is alternative data V', Z', G' such that

- (1) the stack $\mathcal{X}' := [(V' - Z')/G']$ is isomorphic to \mathcal{X} and
- (2) $\{0\}$ is the only closed orbit for the G' action on V' .

We will do this by showing that the data $(S, \Gamma, \mathfrak{a})$, which determines and is determined by (V, G, Z) , may be replaced by data $(S', \Gamma', \mathfrak{a}')$ such that the degree zero component of S' is k and

$$\frac{\text{Gr}(S, \Gamma)}{\mathbb{T}(\mathfrak{a})} \equiv \frac{\text{Gr}(S', \Gamma')}{\mathbb{T}(\mathfrak{a}')}.$$

Let (A, Υ) be a graded ring. If $\tilde{\Upsilon}$ is a quotient of Υ , then A becomes a $\tilde{\Upsilon}$ -graded ring with respect to the grading

$$A_\delta := \sum_{i \in \delta} A_i$$

for each coset $\delta \in \tilde{\Upsilon}$. An ideal I in A that is not graded for the Υ -grading might be graded with respect to the $\tilde{\Upsilon}$ -grading, and in that case the natural homomorphisms to the quotients give a morphism of graded rings $(\psi, \theta) : (A, \Upsilon) \rightarrow (A/I, \tilde{\Upsilon})$. This idea is used in the next result.

PROPOSITION 2.4. [7, Section 2]. *Let (A, Υ) be a graded ring having central homogeneous units z_1, \dots, z_d and define*

$$\bar{A} := \frac{A}{(z_1 - 1, \dots, z_d - 1)}.$$

Suppose that the subgroup Σ generated by $\{\deg z_i \mid 1 \leq i \leq d\}$ is free of rank d . If there is a subgroup $\Gamma \subset \Upsilon$ such that $\Upsilon = \Gamma \oplus \Sigma$, there is an equivalence of categories

$$F^* : \text{Gr}(A, \Upsilon) \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{Gr}(\bar{A}, \Upsilon/\Sigma), \quad F^*M := \bar{A} \otimes_A M.$$

COROLLARY 2.5. *Let $(S, \Gamma) = k[x_\rho \mid \rho \in \Lambda]$ be a graded polynomial ring as in Section 2.1. Let*

$$\tilde{S} = S \otimes_k k[z^{\pm 1}],$$

where the z is a central indeterminate and give \tilde{S} a $\Gamma \times \mathbb{Z}$ grading by declaring that

$$\deg z := (0, 1) \quad \text{and} \quad \deg_{\tilde{S}} x_\rho := (\deg_S x_\rho, 1).$$

Then $\text{Gr}(S, \Gamma) \cong \text{Gr}(\tilde{S}, \Gamma \times \mathbb{Z})$.

Proof. This follows from Proposition 2.4 with $\Upsilon = \Gamma \times \mathbb{Z}$, $\Sigma = (0, \mathbb{Z})$, $\Gamma = (\Gamma, 0)$, \tilde{S} playing the role of A , and S playing the role of \bar{A} . □

PROPOSITION 2.6. *Retain the notation in Corollary 2.5. Let S' be the subring $S[z]$ of \tilde{S} . Suppose that \mathfrak{a} is a graded ideal in (S, Γ) and let $\mathfrak{a}' := S' \mathfrak{a} z$. Then*

$$\frac{\text{Gr}(S, \Gamma)}{\mathbb{T}(\mathfrak{a})} \cong \frac{\text{Gr}(S', \Gamma \times \mathbb{Z})}{\mathbb{T}(\mathfrak{a}')}.$$

Furthermore, $S'_{(0,0)} = k$.

Proof. For any graded ring $(S', \Upsilon, \mathfrak{a}')$ having a central homogeneous regular element z such that $\mathfrak{a}' \subset zS'$ the induction functor $S'[z^{-1}] \otimes_{S'} -$ from $\text{Gr}(S', \Upsilon)$ to $\text{Gr}(S'[z^{-1}], \Upsilon)$ induces an equivalence

$$\frac{\text{Gr}(S', \Upsilon)}{\mathbb{T}(\mathfrak{a}')} \cong \frac{\text{Gr}(S'[z^{-1}], \Upsilon)}{\mathbb{T}(\mathfrak{a}'[z^{-1}])}.$$

(This is an analogue of the fact that if R is a commutative ring with an ideal \mathfrak{a} contained in a principal ideal zR , then $\text{Spec } R - Z(\mathfrak{a}) = \text{Spec } R[z^{-1}] - Z(\mathfrak{a}[z^{-1}])$.)

Applying this to the case of interest with $\Upsilon = \Gamma \times \mathbb{Z}$,

$$\frac{\text{Gr}(S', \Upsilon)}{\mathbb{T}(\mathfrak{a}')} \cong \frac{\text{Gr}(S'[z^{-1}], \Upsilon)}{\mathbb{T}(\mathfrak{a}'[z^{-1}])} = \frac{\text{Gr}(\tilde{S}, \Upsilon)}{\mathbb{T}(\tilde{S}\mathfrak{a}')} = \frac{\text{Gr}(\tilde{S}, \Upsilon)}{\mathbb{T}(\tilde{S}\mathfrak{a})}.$$

Under the equivalence in Corollary 2.5, the graded S -modules annihilated by a power of \mathfrak{a} correspond to the graded \tilde{S} -modules annihilated by a power of $\tilde{S}\mathfrak{a}$, so the equivalence in Corollary 2.5 induces an equivalence

$$\frac{\text{Gr}(S, \Gamma)}{\mathbb{T}(\mathfrak{a})} \cong \frac{\text{Gr}(\tilde{S}, \Upsilon)}{\mathbb{T}(\tilde{S}\mathfrak{a})}$$

between the quotient categories. This completes the proof of the claimed equivalence of categories.

The degree zero component of S' with its $\Gamma \times \mathbb{Z}$ -grading is spanned by the homogeneous elements xz^s such that x is a word of length r in the letters x_ρ and

$$\text{deg}_{\tilde{S}}(xz^s) = (\text{deg}_S x, r) + (0, s) = (0, 0) \in \Gamma \times \mathbb{Z}.$$

It follows that $S'_{(0,0)} = k$. □

We now define $V' = \text{Spec } S'$, $Z' = Z(\mathfrak{a}')$, and $G' = \text{Spec } k\Gamma'$ where $\Gamma' = \Gamma \times \mathbb{Z}$. Because $S' = S \otimes_k k[z]$, $V' = V \times k$. Because $\mathfrak{a}' = S'az$,

$$Z' = (Z \times k) \cup (V \times \{0\})$$

We write the group ring for Γ' as

$$\mathbb{Z}\Gamma' = \mathbb{Z}\Gamma[t^{\pm 1}],$$

where $t = \text{deg}_{S'} z$. Because the degree zero component of S' is k , Theorem 2.1 gives

$$K_0(\mathcal{X}') \cong \frac{\mathbb{Z}\Gamma'}{(q_1, \dots, q_m, q)},$$

where q_1, \dots, q_m have the same meaning as before, and $q = 1 - t$. Therefore

$$K_0(\mathcal{X}') \cong \frac{\mathbb{Z}\Gamma}{(q_1, \dots, q_m)}.$$

The equivalence of categories in Proposition 2.6 says that $\mathcal{X} \cong \mathcal{X}'$, but one can also see this geometrically because

$$\left[\frac{V' - Z'}{G'} \right] = \left[\frac{(V - Z) \times (k - \{0\})}{G \times \mathbb{G}_m} \right].$$

Let $\eta \in \mathbb{G}_m$. The $\Gamma \times \mathbb{Z}$ -grading on S' defined in Corollary 2.5 is such that the action of $(1, \eta) \in G'$ on a point in $(v, \lambda) \in V' = V \times k$ is given by

$$(1, \eta).(v, \lambda) = (\eta v, \eta \lambda).$$

It is now clear that the origin of V' is in the closure of every G' -orbit on V' .

3. Homogeneous coordinate rings for some stacks. Let k be a field, \mathcal{X} a stack over $\text{Spec } k$, and suppose we have data $(A, \Delta, \mathfrak{a})$ consisting of

- (1) an abelian group Δ ,
- (2) a Δ -graded commutative k -algebra A , and
- (3) a graded ideal \mathfrak{a} .

Let G be the affine group scheme $\text{Spec } k\Delta$ where $k\Delta$ is given its natural Hopf algebra structure. Let $Z(\mathfrak{a})$ denote the zero locus of \mathfrak{a} . We call $(A, \Delta, \mathfrak{a})$, or simply A if the other data is clear from the context, a homogeneous coordinate ring¹ of \mathcal{X} if

$$\mathcal{X} \cong \left[\frac{\text{Spec } A - Z(\mathfrak{a})}{G} \right].$$

If $(A, \Delta, \mathfrak{a})$ is a homogeneous coordinate ring for \mathcal{X} , Vistoli’s result [8, Example 7.21] tells us there is an equivalence of monoidal categories

$$\text{Qcoh } \mathcal{X} \cong \frac{\text{Gr}(A, \Delta)}{\text{T}(\mathfrak{a})}, \tag{3.1}$$

where $\text{T}(\mathfrak{a})$ is the localising subcategory consisting of the graded modules M such that $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^0(M) = M$.

Let

$$\pi^* : \text{Gr}(A, \Delta) \rightarrow \text{Qcoh } \mathcal{X}$$

be the functor inducing the equivalence in (3.1). The functor π^* is analogous to the functor

$$M \rightsquigarrow \tilde{M}$$

that is used in the classical case for schemes of the form $\text{Proj } A$ where A is an \mathbb{N} -graded commutative ring generated as an A_0 -algebra by A_1 . Indeed, when A satisfies those hypotheses and $\mathfrak{a} = A_{\geq 1}$, then π^* is the functor $M \rightsquigarrow \tilde{M}$.

Because $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{X}}$ and π^*A are neutral objects for the internal tensor product on the two categories in (3.1) we can replace π^* by its composition with a suitable auto-equivalence of $\text{Qcoh } \mathcal{X}$ and so assume that $\pi^*A = \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{X}}$. We will assume this has been done.

The general results on quotient categories in [6] tell us that π^* is exact and has a right adjoint that we will denote by π_* . Furthermore, the counit is an isomorphism $\pi^*\pi_* \cong \text{id}_{\text{Qcoh } \mathcal{X}}$ and the unit fits into an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow H_{\mathfrak{a}}^0(M) \rightarrow M \rightarrow \pi_*\pi^*M \rightarrow H_{\mathfrak{a}}^1(M) \rightarrow 0$$

that is functorial in M .

The following conditions on a graded A -module M are equivalent:

- (1) $M \in \text{T}(\mathfrak{a})$;
- (2) $\pi^*M = 0$;
- (3) $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^0(M) = M$;
- (4) the support of every finitely generated submodule of M is contained in $Z(\mathfrak{a})$.

¹The idea of using $(\mathcal{O}(V), \Gamma)$ as a “homogeneous coordinate ring” of a stack is developed more fully in [7] although the main focus there is on homogeneous coordinate rings of non-commutative schemes.

We call M a **torsion module** if it satisfies (1)–(4). Always $H_a^0(M)$ is the largest submodule of M that π^* sends to zero. We say M is **torsion-free** if $H_a^0(M) = 0$.

3.0.1. Resolutions by direct sums of invertible $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{X}}$ -modules. The following is an immediate consequence of Lemma 2.2 and the remarks in Section 2.5.1.

PROPOSITION 3.1. *Let \mathcal{X} be a stack and $\mathcal{F} \in \text{coh}\mathcal{X}$. Suppose that \mathcal{X} has a homogeneous coordinate ring $(A, \Delta, \mathfrak{a})$ such that A is noetherian, has finite global dimension, and is connected in the sense of the remark in Section 2.5.1. Then \mathcal{F} has a finite resolution in which every term is a direct sum of invertible $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{X}}$ -modules of the form $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{X}}(\alpha)$ for various α in Δ .*

4. The Picard group when \mathcal{X} has a homogeneous coordinate ring. In this section, we compute the Picard group $\text{Pic } \mathcal{X}$ which is, by definition, the group of isomorphism classes of invertible $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{X}}$ -modules with group operation given by \otimes .

4.1. Graded domains. Suppose (A, Δ) is a **graded-domain**, i.e. every non-zero homogeneous element is regular, i.e. not a zero-divisor. Then (A, Δ) embeds in its graded ring of fractions

$$K := \{ab^{-1} \mid a \text{ and } b \text{ are homogeneous and } b \neq 0\}$$

with grading given by $\deg(ab^{-1}) = \deg a - \deg b$.

Every Δ -graded K -module is isomorphic to a direct sum of various twists $K(\alpha)$, $\alpha \in \Delta$. Furthermore, $K(\alpha) \cong K$ if and only if $K_{\alpha} \neq 0$.²

A non-zero homogeneous non-unit $a \in A$ is said to be **graded-irreducible** if in every factorisation $a = bc$ in which b and c are homogeneous either b or c is a unit. A non-zero homogeneous non-unit $a \in A$ is said to be **graded-prime** if whenever a divides a product bc of homogeneous elements a divides either b or c . We say that (A, Δ) is **graded-factorial** if every homogeneous element is a product of graded-prime elements. If A is graded factorial and noetherian, then every non-zero homogeneous element is either a unit or a product of graded-irreducible elements in a unique way; the notion of *greatest common homogeneous divisor* for a set of homogeneous elements of A therefore makes sense.

We say A is **graded-noetherian** if every graded ideal of A is finitely generated.

4.2. Invertible $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{X}}$ -modules. In all the results in this section we assume that $(A, \Delta, \mathfrak{a})$ satisfies conditions (1)–(3) at the beginning of Section 3 and that it is a homogeneous coordinate ring for a stack \mathcal{X} .

LEMMA 4.1. *Suppose $(A, \Delta, \mathfrak{a})$ is a homogeneous coordinate ring for \mathcal{X} . Suppose further that A is a graded-noetherian, graded-factorial, graded-domain such that $H_a^0(A) = H_a^1(A) = 0$. Let M and N be finitely generated graded A -modules, and suppose there is a degree-preserving homomorphism $\phi : M \otimes_A N \rightarrow A$ such that $\pi^*\phi$ is an isomorphism. Then $\pi^*M \cong \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{X}}(\alpha)$ and $\pi^*N \cong \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{X}}(-\alpha)$ for some $\alpha \in \Delta$.*

²We will not need this fact, but $\text{Gr}(K, \Delta)$ is equivalent to the category of locally unital modules over the direct sum $K_0^{\oplus|\Delta/\Gamma|}$ where $\Gamma = \{\alpha \in \Delta \mid K_{\alpha} \neq 0\}$. The subgroup Γ is generated by $\{\alpha \mid A_{\alpha} \neq 0\}$.

REMARK 4.2. The hypothesis $H_a^0(A) = H_a^1(A) = 0$ implies that the natural map $A(\alpha) \rightarrow \pi_*\pi^*A(\alpha) = \pi_*(\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{X}}(\alpha))$ is an isomorphism for all $\alpha \in \Delta$. We will write $A(\alpha) = \pi_*\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{X}}(\alpha)$ to denote this fact.

Proof. Because $\pi^*\phi$ is an isomorphism, $\ker \phi$ and $\text{coker } \phi$ are both torsion.

First we prove the result under the assumption that $H_a^0(M) = H_a^0(N) = 0$.

The result is vacuous if $a = 0$, so we assume $a \neq 0$. Every non-zero homogeneous element in K is a unit so $aK = K$. It follows that the functor $K \otimes_A -$ sends all torsion modules to zero. In particular, $K \otimes_A -$ kills the kernel and cokernel of ϕ . But $K \otimes_A -$ is an exact functor so ϕ induces an isomorphism $(M \otimes_A K) \otimes_K (N \otimes_A K) \rightarrow K$. Since every homogeneous element in $K - \{0\}$ is a unit, there is an element $\alpha \in \Delta$ such that $M \otimes_A K \cong K(\alpha)$ and $N \otimes_A K \cong K(-\alpha)$. Let f and g be the obvious compositions $M \rightarrow M \otimes_A K \rightarrow K(\alpha)$ and $N \rightarrow N \otimes_A K \rightarrow K(-\alpha)$, respectively.

Let μ be the restriction to $fM \otimes_A gN$ of the multiplication map $K(\alpha) \otimes_A K(-\alpha) \rightarrow K$ and consider the not-necessarily-commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M \otimes_A N & \xrightarrow{\phi} & A \\ f \otimes g \downarrow & & \downarrow \iota \\ fM \otimes_A gN & \xrightarrow{\mu} & K \end{array}$$

where $\iota : A \rightarrow K$ is the inclusion. Since $K \otimes_A M \otimes_A N \cong K$, $\text{Hom}_A(M \otimes_A N, K) \cong K$. Hence there is some $c \in K_0$ such that $c\iota \circ \phi = \mu \circ (f \otimes g)$. Now replace f by $c^{-1}f$ so that $\iota \circ \phi = \mu \circ (f \otimes g)$, and replace M and N by fM and gN , so that M and N are graded A -submodules of $K(\alpha)$ and $K(-\alpha)$ respectively, and ϕ is the restriction of the multiplication map. The image of ϕ is therefore the product MN . But $\pi^*(\text{coker } \phi) = 0$ so A/MN is torsion.

Because $MN \subset A$, there is a non-zero homogeneous element $a \in A$ such that $Ma \subset A$. Hence $Ma = \sum_{j=1}^n Ab_j$ for some homogeneous elements $b_j \in A$, $1 \leq j \leq n$. Let d be the greatest common homogeneous divisor of the b_j s. Then $\{q \in K \mid Maq \subset A\} = Ad^{-1}$. Therefore $a^{-1}N \subset Ad^{-1}$ and

$$MN = Maa^{-1}N \subset Mad^{-1}A \subset A.$$

It follows that $A/ad^{-1}M$ is torsion, whence $\pi^*M \cong \mathcal{O}(\text{deg } a - \text{deg } d)$.

This completes the proof when M and N are torsion-free. Now we deal with the general case. The map $\phi : M \otimes_A N \rightarrow A$ factors as a composition

$$M \otimes_A N \xrightarrow{\phi_1} \frac{M}{\tau M} \otimes_A \frac{N}{\tau N} \xrightarrow{\phi_2} A.$$

Since $\pi^*\phi$ is an isomorphism, $\pi^*\phi_1$ is monic; but ϕ_1 is epic so $\pi^*\phi_1$ is epic too; hence $\pi^*\phi_1$, and therefore $\pi^*\phi_2$, is an isomorphism. By the first part of the proof applied to ϕ_2 , $\pi^*(M/\tau M) \cong \mathcal{O}(\alpha)$ for some $\alpha \in \Delta$. But $\pi^*M \cong \pi^*(M/\tau M)$, so $\pi^*M \cong \mathcal{O}(\alpha)$. \square

LEMMA 4.3. *Suppose $(A, \Delta, \mathfrak{a})$ is a homogeneous coordinate ring for the stack \mathcal{X} . Suppose further that A is graded-noetherian graded-factorial graded-domain such that $H_a^0(A) = H_a^1(A) = 0$. Then $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{X}}(\alpha) \cong \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{X}}(\beta)$ if and only if $A_{\alpha-\beta}$ contains a unit.*

Proof. Multiplication by a unit $u \in A_{\alpha-\beta}$ produces an isomorphism $g : A(\beta) \rightarrow A(\alpha)$ of graded A -modules. Applying π^* to g produces an isomorphism $\pi^*g : \mathcal{O}(\beta) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(\alpha)$.

Conversely, suppose that $f : \mathcal{O}(\beta) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(\alpha)$ is an isomorphism. Since $\pi^*\pi_* \cong \text{id}$, applying π^* to the map $\pi_*f : \pi_*\mathcal{O}(\beta) \rightarrow \pi_*\mathcal{O}(\alpha)$ produces f again. The kernel and cokernel of π_*f are therefore torsion. But $\pi_*\mathcal{O}(\beta) = A(\beta)$, so $\ker(\pi_*f) = 0$. However, $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^0(\text{coker}(\pi_*f)) = \text{coker}(\pi_*f)$ and $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^1(A(\beta)) = 0$ so $\text{Ext}_A^1(\text{coker}(\pi_*f), A(\beta)) = 0$. Consequently, the exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow A(\beta) \xrightarrow{\pi_*f} A(\alpha) \longrightarrow \text{coker}(\pi_*f) \longrightarrow 0$$

splits. But $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^0(A(\alpha)) = 0$ so we conclude that $\text{coker}(\pi_*f) = 0$. Hence π_*f is an isomorphism. But every Δ -graded A -module homomorphism $A(\beta) \rightarrow A(\alpha)$ is multiplication by an element of $A_{\alpha-\beta}$, so the required unit exists. \square

THEOREM 4.4. *Suppose $(A, \Delta, \mathfrak{a})$ is a homogeneous coordinate ring for the stack \mathcal{X} . Suppose further that A is a graded-noetherian, graded-factorial, graded-domain such that $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^0(A) = H_{\mathfrak{a}}^1(A) = 0$. Define*

$$\Delta_u := \langle \alpha \in \Delta \mid A_{\alpha} \text{ contains a unit} \rangle.$$

The map $\alpha \mapsto \mathcal{O}(\alpha)$ induces an isomorphism

$$\Delta/\Delta_u \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{Pic}(\mathcal{X}).$$

Proof. If $M \in \text{Gr}(A, \Delta)$ is invertible so is π^*M , so the rule $\alpha \mapsto \mathcal{O}(\alpha)$ is a homomorphism $\Delta \rightarrow \text{Pic} \mathcal{X}$. By Lemma 4.3, the kernel of this map is Δ_u . It remains to show that the $\mathcal{O}(\alpha)$ s are the only invertible $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{X}}$ -modules up to isomorphism.

To this end, suppose $\mathcal{M} \otimes \mathcal{N} \cong \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{X}}$. Suppose $\mathcal{M} = \pi^*M$ and $\mathcal{N} = \pi^*N$. By adjointness, the isomorphism $\mathcal{M} \otimes \mathcal{N} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{X}}$ is induced by a map $\phi : M \otimes_A N \rightarrow \pi_*\pi^*A$ whose kernel and cokernel are torsion. But $\pi_*\pi^*A = A$ so $\phi : M \otimes_A N \rightarrow A$. The result now follows from Lemma 4.1. \square

PROPOSITION 4.5. *Suppose $(A, \Delta, \mathfrak{a})$ is a homogeneous coordinate ring for the stack \mathcal{X} . Suppose further that A is a graded-noetherian, graded-factorial, graded-domain such that $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^0(A) = H_{\mathfrak{a}}^1(A) = 0$. Let f be a homogeneous element in A of degree α and let $\mathcal{Z} \subset \mathcal{X}$ be the zero locus of f . Then there is an exact sequence*

$$\mathbb{Z} \longrightarrow \text{Pic} \mathcal{X} \longrightarrow \text{Pic}(\mathcal{X} - \mathcal{Z}) \longrightarrow 0,$$

where the first map is $n \mapsto \mathcal{O}(n\alpha)$.

Proof. Write $\mathcal{U} = \mathcal{X} - \mathcal{Z}$ and let $\iota : \mathcal{U} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$ be the inclusion. Then

$$\text{Qcoh} \mathcal{U} \cong \frac{\text{Gr}(A[f^{-1}], \Delta)}{\mathbb{T}'},$$

where \mathbb{T}' is the full subcategory consisting of $A[f^{-1}]$ -modules with the property that the support of all their finitely generated submodules is contained in $\mathcal{Z}(\mathfrak{a}[f^{-1}])$.

The inclusion ι is induced by the natural map $A \rightarrow A[f^{-1}]$.

But $A[f^{-1}]$ is graded factorial because A is, so there is a commutative diagram

$$\begin{CD} \Delta/\Delta_u @>>> \Delta/\langle \Delta_u, \alpha \rangle \\ @VVV @VVV \\ \text{Pic } \mathcal{X} @>{t^*}>> \text{Pic } \mathcal{U} \end{CD}$$

in which the vertical maps are isomorphisms. Since the upper horizontal arrow is surjective so is the lower one. The result now follows from the fact that kernel of the upper arrow is the map $\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \Delta/\Delta_u, 1 \mapsto \alpha$. □

5. Some examples.

5.1. Stacky weighted projective spaces. Let $Q = (q_0, \dots, q_n)$ be a sequence of positive integers. The weighted projective space $\mathbb{P}(Q)$ is the scheme $\text{Proj } A$ where A is the weighted polynomial ring

$$A = k[x_0, \dots, x_n], \quad \deg x_i = q_i.$$

If the characteristic of k does not divide any of the q_i s, then $\mathbb{P}(Q)$ can be expressed as the quotient of \mathbb{P}^n modulo the coordinate-wise action of

$$\mu_Q := \mu_{q_0} \times \dots \times \mu_{q_n},$$

where μ_q denotes the group of q^{th} roots of 1 in k^\times .

The stack-theoretic weighted projective space

$$\mathbb{P}[Q] = \mathbb{P}[q_0, \dots, q_n]$$

is defined to be the stack-theoretic quotient

$$\left[\frac{\mathbb{A}^{n+1} - \{0\}}{\mathbb{G}_m} \right]$$

where $\xi \in \mathbb{G}_m$ acts by

$$\xi \cdot (x_0, \dots, x_n) = (\xi^{q_0} x_0, \dots, \xi^{q_n} x_n).$$

Let $\mathfrak{m} = (x_0, \dots, x_n)$. Then $(A, \mathbb{Z}, \mathfrak{m})$ is a homogeneous coordinate ring for $\mathbb{P}[Q]$.

THEOREM 5.1. *Suppose $n \geq 1$. With the above notation,*

$$\text{Pic } \mathbb{P}[q_0, \dots, q_n] \cong \mathbb{Z}.$$

Proof. Because A is a unique factorization domain in the usual sense it is graded factorial. Because $n \geq 1$, $H_{\mathfrak{m}}^1(A) = 0$ so the result follows from Theorem 4.4. □

5.1.1. When $n = 0$, $\mathbb{P}[q]$ is the classifying stack $B(\mu_q)$. In that case, rather than using $(k[x], \mathbb{Z}, (x))$ as a homogeneous coordinate ring for $\mathbb{P}[q]$, we may use $(k[x, x^{-1}], \mathbb{Z}, 0)$ as the homogeneous coordinate ring. The hypotheses of

Theorem 4.4 are satisfied by $(k[x, x^{-1}], \mathbb{Z}, 0)$ and $k[x, x^{-1}]$ has a unit of degree nq for all n , so $\text{Pic } \mathbb{P}[q] \cong \mathbb{Z}/q\mathbb{Z}$.

5.1.2. Let $\mathcal{M}_{1,1}$ be the fine moduli space of pointed elliptic curves over \mathbb{C} , and $\bar{\mathcal{M}}_{1,1}$ its usual compactification. It is well known that $\bar{\mathcal{M}}_{1,1} \cong \mathbb{P}[4, 6]$. Because $\mathcal{M}_{1,1} = \bar{\mathcal{M}}_{1,1} - \{p\}$ where p is the zero locus of a degree 12 element, Proposition 4.5 gives

$$\text{Pic } \mathcal{M}_{1,1} \cong \frac{\mathbb{Z}}{12\mathbb{Z}}.$$

5.2. Rugby balls. Fix positive integers p and q . The orbifold whose underlying manifold is the Riemann sphere endowed with the groupoid structure given by cyclic groups of orders p and q at the north and south poles is called a **rugby ball**. If p or q is 1, it is called a **teardrop**, sometimes Thurston’s **teardrop**.

Let

$$G := \{(\lambda_1, \lambda_2) \in \mathbb{C}^\times \times \mathbb{C}^\times \mid \lambda_1^p = \lambda_2^q\}$$

act on \mathbb{C}^2 by component-wise multiplication and define the (p, q) -**rugby ball** to be the stack

$$\mathbb{F}[p, q] := \left[\frac{\mathbb{C}^2 - \{0\}}{G} \right].$$

Give the polynomial ring $S := \mathbb{C}[x, y]$ a grading by the group $\Gamma := \langle e, e' \mid pe = qe' \rangle$ by declaring $\deg x := e$ and $\deg y := e'$. Let $\mathfrak{m} = (x, y)$. Then $(S, \Gamma, \mathfrak{m})$ is a homogeneous coordinate ring for $\mathbb{F}[p, q]$.

The group homomorphisms

$$\mathbb{C}^\times \xrightarrow{\xi \mapsto (\xi^q, \xi^p)} \Gamma \xrightarrow{(\lambda_1, \lambda_2) \mapsto \lambda_1^p = \lambda_2^q} \mathbb{C}^\times \tag{5.1}$$

induce homomorphisms

$$\mathbb{Z} \xleftarrow{\phi'} \Gamma \xleftarrow{\psi'} \mathbb{Z} \tag{5.2}$$

between the rational character groups where $\phi'(ae + be') = aq + bp$ and $\psi'(1) = pe = qe'$. The group homomorphisms in (5.1) induce morphisms

$$\mathbb{P}[q, p] \xrightarrow{\bar{\phi}} \mathbb{F}[p, q] \xrightarrow{\bar{\psi}} \mathbb{P}^1 \tag{5.3}$$

between the corresponding stack-theoretic quotients. The morphisms $\bar{\psi}$ and $\bar{\psi}\bar{\phi}$ are the natural morphisms to the coarse moduli spaces, and $\bar{\phi}$ is an isomorphism if and only if $(p, q) = 1$ (if and only if Γ is torsion-free).

The homomorphisms in (5.2) can also be interpreted as the natural maps

$$\text{Pic}(\mathbb{P}[q, p]) \xleftarrow{\bar{\phi}^*} \text{Pic}(\mathbb{F}[p, q]) \xleftarrow{\bar{\psi}^*} \text{Pic}(\mathbb{P}^1)$$

between the Picard groups. Similarly, the homomorphisms in (5.2) induce the natural maps between the Grothendieck groups

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 K_0(\mathbb{P}[q, p]) & \xleftarrow{\bar{\phi}^*} & K_0(\mathbb{F}[p, q]) & \xleftarrow{\bar{\psi}^*} & K_0(\mathbb{P}^1) \\
 \parallel & & \parallel & & \parallel \\
 \frac{\mathbb{Z}[i^{\pm 1}]}{((1-t^p)(1-t^q))} & & \frac{\mathbb{Z}[s^{\pm 1}, t^{\pm 1}]}{((1-s)(1-t), s^q - t^p)} & & \frac{\mathbb{Z}[v^{\pm p}]}{(v^p - 1)^2} \\
 \\
 (t^p, t^q) & \longleftarrow & (s, t), \quad t^p = s^q & \longleftarrow & v
 \end{array}$$

The morphisms in (5.3), and their associated inverse and direct image functors, are induced by morphisms

$$(\mathbb{C}[x, y], \mathbb{Z}, m) \xleftarrow{(\phi, \phi')} (\mathbb{C}[x, y], \Gamma, m) \xleftarrow{(\psi, \psi')} (\mathbb{C}[x^p, y^q], \mathbb{Z}, (x^p, y^q))$$

between their homogeneous coordinate rings where

- $\phi = \text{id}_{\mathbb{C}[x, y]}$ and ψ is the inclusion $\mathbb{C}[x^p, y^q] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}[x, y]$,
- ϕ' and ψ' are the homomorphisms between the grading groups in (5.2),
- the \mathbb{Z} -grading on $\mathbb{C}[x^p, y^q]$ is given by setting $\text{deg } x^p = \text{deg } y^q = 1$ and
- the \mathbb{Z} -grading on $\mathbb{C}[x, y]$ is given by setting $\text{deg } x = q$ and $\text{deg } y = p$.

We call the point where x vanishes **north pole**. The closed substack there is isomorphic to $B\mu_p$. We write \mathcal{O}_n for the skyscraper sheaf at the north pole with the trivial equivariant structure. It fits into an exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{F}[p, q]}(-e) \xrightarrow{x} \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{F}[p, q]} \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}_n \longrightarrow 0 \tag{5.4}$$

and in terms of graded modules

$$\mathcal{O}_n = \pi^* \left(\frac{\mathbb{C}[x, y]}{(x)} \right). \tag{5.5}$$

By (2.2), (2.3) and (5.5), the class $[\mathcal{O}_n]$ in $K_0(\mathbb{F}[p, q])$ is

$$[\mathcal{O}_n] = H_{\mathbb{C}[x, y]/(x)} \cdot H_{\mathbb{C}[x, y]}^{-1} = 1 - t.$$

The other equivariant structures on \mathcal{O}_n are given by the modules

$$\mathcal{O}_n(i e) = \pi^* \left(\frac{\mathbb{C}[x, y]}{(x)} \right)(i e), \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, p - 1,$$

and $[\mathcal{O}_n(-i e)] = t^i(1 - t)$. The class in K_0 of a non-stacky point, say $\mathcal{O}_\lambda = \pi^*(\mathbb{C}[x, y]/(\lambda x^p - y^q))$, $\lambda \neq 0$, is $1 - t^p = 1 - s^q$. We note that

$$[\mathcal{O}_\lambda] = \sum_{i=0}^{p-1} [\mathcal{O}_n(-i e)].$$

Because $1 - t^p = t(1 - t^p) = t(1 - t^p)$ in K_0 , twisting the structure sheaf of a non-stacky point does not change it.

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