1. Introduction

Let $X$ be a smooth projective curve over an algebraically closed field $k$ of characteristic 0. Then the moduli stack $\text{Bun}_r$ is defined to be the $k$-stack whose fiber over a $k$-scheme $T$ consists of the groupoid of vector bundles, or equivalently locally free sheaves, of rank $r$ on $X \times T$. The geometric Langlands program studies the correspondence between $\mathcal{D}$-modules on $\text{Bun}_r$ and local systems on $X$, and this correspondence has deep connections to both number theory and quantum physics (see [Fre10]). It is therefore important to understand the moduli problem of vector bundles on families of curves. As vector bundles of rank $r$ correspond to $\text{GL}_r$-bundles, we naturally extend our study to $G$-bundles for an algebraic group $G$. Since $G$-bundles may have very large automorphism groups, the natural setting for understanding their moduli problem is the moduli stack (as opposed to the coarse moduli space).

Let $X \to S$ be a morphism of schemes over an arbitrary base field $k$. We focus our attention on the $S$-stack $\text{Bun}_G$ whose fiber over an $S$-scheme $T$ consists of the groupoid of principal
$G$-bundles over $X \times_S T$. Artin’s notion of an algebraic stack provides a nice framework for our study of $\text{Bun}_G$. The goal of this paper is to give an expository account of the geometric properties of the moduli stack $\text{Bun}_G$. The main theorem concerning $\text{Bun}_G$ is the following:

**Theorem 1.0.1.** For a flat, finitely presented, projective morphism $X \to S$, the $S$-stack $\text{Bun}_G$ is an algebraic stack locally of finite presentation over $S$, with a schematic, affine diagonal of finite presentation. Additionally, $\text{Bun}_G$ admits an open covering by algebraic substacks of finite presentation over $S$.

The proof that $\text{Bun}_G$ is algebraic has been known to experts for some time, and the result follows from [Ols06] (see also [Beh91], [Bro10], and [Sor00]). To our knowledge, however, there is no complete account in the literature of the proof we present, which gives more specific information for the case of an algebraic group $G$.

We now summarize the contents of this paper. In §2, we introduce the stack quotient $[Z/G]$ of a $k$-scheme $Z$ by a $G$-action, which is a fundamental object for what follows. We show that these quotients are algebraic stacks, and we discuss the relations between two different quotients. In order to study $\text{Bun}_G$, we prove several properties concerning Hom stacks in §3. The key result in this section is that the sheaf of sections of a quasi-projective morphism $E$ is representable over $S$, with a schematic, affine diagonal of finite presentation. Additionally, $\text{Bun}_G$ admits an open covering by algebraic substacks of finite presentation over $S$.

Theorem 1.0.1 is proved in §4. In §5, we define a level structure on $\text{Bun}_G$ using nilpotent thickenings of an $S$-point of $X$. This provides an alternative presentation of a quasi-compact open substack of $\text{Bun}_G$. Lastly in §6, we prove that $\text{Bun}_G$ is smooth over $S$ if $G$ is smooth over $k$ and $X \to S$ has fibers of dimension 1.

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1.2. **Notation and terminology.** We fix a field $k$, and we will mainly work in the category $\text{Sch}_k$ of schemes over $k$. For two $k$-schemes $X$ and $Y$, we will use $X \times Y$ to denote $X \times_{\text{Spec} k} Y$. We will consider a scheme as both a geometric object and a sheaf on the site $\text{Sch}_{fpqc}$ without distinguishing the two. For $k$-schemes $X$ and $S$, we denote $X(S) = \text{Hom}_k(S,X)$. For two morphisms of schemes $X \to S$ and $Y \to S$, we use $\text{pr}_1 : X \times_S Y \to X$ and $\text{pr}_2 : X \times_S Y \to Y$ to denote the projection morphisms when there is no ambiguity. Suppose we have a morphism of schemes $p : X \to S$ and an $\mathcal{O}_X$-module $\mathcal{F}$ on $X$. For a morphism $T \to S$, we will use the notation $X_T = X \times_S T$ and $p_T = \text{pr}_2 : X_T \to T$, which will be clear from the context. In the same manner, we denote $\mathcal{F}_T = \text{pr}_1^*\mathcal{F}$ (this notation also applies when $X = S$). For a point $s \in S$, we let $k(s)$ equal the residue field. Then using the previous notation, we call the fiber $X_s = X_{\text{Spec}(k(s))}$ and $\mathcal{F}_s = \mathcal{F}_{\text{Spec}(k(s))}$. For a locally free $\mathcal{O}_X$-module $\mathcal{E}$ of finite rank, we denote the dual module $\mathcal{E}' = \mathcal{H}om_{\mathcal{O}_X}(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{O}_X)$, which is also locally free of finite rank.

We will use Grothendieck’s definitions of quasi-projective [EGAII, 5.3] and projective [EGAII, 5.5] morphisms. That is, a morphism $X \to S$ of schemes is quasi-projective if it is of finite type and there exists a relatively ample invertible sheaf on $X$. A morphism $X \to S$ is projective if there exists a quasi-coherent $\mathcal{O}_S$-module $\mathcal{E}$ of finite type such that $X$ is $S$-isomorphic to a closed subscheme of $\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{E})$. We say that $X \to S$ is locally quasi-projective (resp. locally projective) if there exists an open covering $(U_i \subset S)$ such that the morphisms $X_{U_i} \to U_i$ are quasi-projective (resp. projective). Following [AK80], a morphism $X \to S$ is strongly quasi-projective (resp. projective) if it is finitely presented and there exists a locally free $\mathcal{O}_S$-module $\mathcal{E}$ of constant finite rank such that $X$ is $S$-isomorphic to a retrocompact (resp. closed) subscheme of $\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{E})$.
We will use $G$ to denote an algebraic group over $k$, by which we mean an affine group scheme of finite type over $k$ (note that we do not require $G$ to be reduced). For a $k$-scheme $S$, we say that a sheaf $\mathcal{P}$ on $(\text{Sch}_{/S})_{\text{fppf}}$ is a right $G$-bundle over $S$ if it is a right $G|_S$-torsor (see [DG70], [Gir71] for basic facts on torsors). Since affine morphism of schemes are effective under fpqc descent [FGI+05, Theorem 4.33], the $G$-bundle $\mathcal{P}$ is representable by a scheme affine over $S$. As $G \to \text{Spec } k$ is fppf, $\mathcal{P}$ is in fact locally trivial in the fppf topology. If $G$ is smooth over $k$, then $\mathcal{P}$ is locally trivial in the étale topology.

For a sheaf of groups $\mathcal{G}$ on a site $\mathcal{C}$ and $S \in \mathcal{C}$, we will use $g \in \mathcal{G}(S)$ to also denote the automorphism of $\mathcal{G}|_S$ defined by left multiplication by $g$. This correspondence gives an isomorphism of sheaves $\mathcal{G} \simeq \text{Isom}(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{G})$, where the latter consists of right $\mathcal{G}$-equivariant morphisms.

We will use pseudo-functors, instead of fibered categories, in our formal setup of descent theory. The reasoning is that this makes our definitions more intuitive, and pseudo-functors are the 2-category theoretic analogue of presheaves of sets. See [FGI+05, 3.1.2] for the correspondence between pseudo-functors and fibered categories. By a stack we mean a pseudo-functor satisfying the usual descent conditions. We will implicitly use the 2-Yoneda lemma, i.e., for a pseudo-functor $\mathcal{Y}$ and a scheme $S$, an element of $\mathcal{Y}(S)$ corresponds to a morphism $S \to \mathcal{Y}$. We say that a morphism $X \to \mathcal{Y}$ of pseudo-functors is representable (resp. schematic) if for any scheme $S$ mapping to $\mathcal{Y}$, the 2-fibered product $X \times_\mathcal{Y} S$ is isomorphic to an algebraic space (resp. a scheme).

We use the definition of an algebraic stack given in [Sta]: an algebraic stack $\mathcal{X}$ over a scheme $S$ is a stack in groupoids on $(\text{Sch}_{/S})_{\text{fppf}}$ such that the diagonal $\mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{X} \times_S \mathcal{X}$ is representable and there exists a scheme $U$ and a smooth surjective morphism $U \to \mathcal{X}$. We call such a morphism $U \to \mathcal{X}$ a presentation of $\mathcal{X}$. Note that this definition is weaker than the one in [LMB00] as there are less conditions on the diagonal. We will use the definitions of properties of algebraic stacks and properties of morphisms between algebraic stacks from [LMB00] and [Sta].

2. Quotient stacks

In this section, fix a $k$-scheme $Z$ with a right $G$-action $\alpha : Z \times G \to Z$. All schemes mentioned will be $k$-schemes.

**Definition 2.0.1.** The stack quotient $[Z/G]$ is the pseudo-functor $(\text{Sch}_{/k})^{\text{op}} \to \text{Gpd}$ with

$$[Z/G](S) = \{\text{Right } G \text{-bundle } \mathcal{P} \to S \text{ and } G \text{-equivariant morphism } \mathcal{P} \to Z\}$$

where a morphism from $\mathcal{P} \to Z$ to $\mathcal{P}' \to Z$ is a $G$-equivariant morphism $\mathcal{P} \to \mathcal{P}'$ over $S \times Z$.

For $\cdot = \text{Spec } k$ with the trivial $G$-action, we call $BG = [\cdot/G]$.

By considering all of our objects as sheaves on $(\text{Sch}_{/k})_{\text{fppc}}$, we observe that $[Z/G]$ is an fpqc stack. The main result of this section is that $[Z/G]$ is an algebraic stack:

**Theorem 2.0.2.** The $k$-stack $[Z/G]$ is an algebraic stack with a schematic, separated diagonal. If $Z$ is quasi-separated, then the diagonal $\Delta_{[Z/G]}$ is quasi-compact. If $Z$ is separated, then $\Delta_{[Z/G]}$ is affine.

**Remark 2.0.3.** In fact, the proof will show that Theorem 2.0.2 holds if $G$ is a group scheme affine, flat, and of finite presentation over a base scheme $S$ and $Z$ is an $S$-scheme with a right $G$-action, in which case $[Z/G]$ is an algebraic $S$-stack. We choose to work over the base $\text{Spec } k$ in this section because some results in §2.4 do not hold in greater generality.
2.1. Characterizing \([Z/G]\). It will be useful in the future to know when a stack satisfying some properties is isomorphic to \([Z/G]\). In particular, we show the following (the conditions for a morphism from a scheme to a stack to be a \(G\)-bundle will be made precise later).

**Lemma 2.1.1.** Suppose \(\mathcal{Y}\) is a \(k\)-stack and \(\sigma_0 : Z \to \mathcal{Y}\) is a \(G\)-bundle. Then there is an isomorphism \(\mathcal{Y} \to [Z/G]\) of stacks such that the triangle

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\sigma_0 \\
\downarrow \\
\alpha \circ Z \times G \to Z \\
\downarrow \\
\mathcal{Y} \quad \sim \quad [Z/G]
\end{array}
\]

is 2-commutative.

**Remark 2.1.2.** Lemma 2.1.1 in particular shows that if \(X\) is a scheme and \(Z \to X\) is a \(G\)-bundle over \(X\), then \(X \simeq [Z/G]\). Therefore these two notions of a quotient, as a scheme and as a stack, coincide.

The rest of this subsection will be slightly technical. We first define the notion of a \(G\)-invariant morphism to a stack, which then naturally leads to the definition of a morphism being a \(G\)-bundle. We then introduce two lemmas, which we use to prove Lemma 2.1.1.

2.1.3. \(G\)-invariant morphisms to a stack. Let \(\mathcal{Y}\) be a \(k\)-stack and \(\sigma_0 : Z \to \mathcal{Y}\) a morphism of stacks. We say \(\sigma_0\) is \(G\)-invariant if the following conditions are satisfied:

1. The diagram

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
Z \times G & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & Z \\
\downarrow \pr_1 & & \downarrow \\
Z & \xrightarrow{\rho} & \mathcal{Y}
\end{array}
\]

is 2-commutative. This is equivalent to having a 2-morphism \(\rho : \pr_1^* \sigma_0 \to \alpha^* \sigma_0\).

2. For a scheme \(S\), if we have \(z \in Z(S)\) and \(g \in G(S)\), then we let \(\rho_{z,g}\) denote the corresponding 2-morphism

\[
z^* \sigma_0 \simeq (z,g)^* \pr_1^* \sigma_0 \xrightarrow{(z,g)^* \rho} (z,g)^* \alpha^* \sigma_0 \simeq (z,g)^* \sigma_0.
\]

The \(\rho_{z,g}\) must satisfy an associativity condition. More precisely, for \(z \in Z(S)\) and \(g_1, g_2 \in G(S)\), we require

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
z^* \sigma_0 & \xrightarrow{\rho_{z,g_1}} & (z,g_1)^* \sigma_0 \\
\downarrow \rho_{z,g_1,g_2} & & \downarrow \\
(z.(g_1g_2))^* \sigma_0 & \xrightarrow{\rho_{z,g_1,g_2}} & ((z,g_1).g_2)^* \sigma_0
\end{array}
\]

to commute.

For a general treatment of group actions on stacks, we refer the reader to \([\text{Rom05}]\).

Suppose that \(\sigma_0 : Z \to \mathcal{Y}\) is a \(G\)-invariant morphism of stacks. For any scheme \(S\) with a morphism \(\sigma : S \to \mathcal{Y}\), the 2-fibred product \(Z \times_\mathcal{Y} S\) is a sheaf of sets. We show that \(Z \times_\mathcal{Y} S\) has an induced right \(G\)-action such that \(Z \times_\mathcal{Y} S \to S\) is \(G\)-invariant and \(Z \times_\mathcal{Y} S \to Z\) is \(G\)-equivariant. By the definition of the 2-fibred product, for a scheme \(T\) we have

\[
(\overset{Z \times S}{\mathcal{Y}})(T) = \{ \langle a, b, \phi \rangle \mid a \in Z(T), b \in S(T), \phi : a^* \sigma_0 \to b^* \sigma_0 \}.
\]
We define a right $G$-action on $Z \times_\mathcal{Y} S$ by letting $g \in G(T)$ act via
\[(a, b, \phi) \cdot g = (a \cdot g, b, \phi \cdot \rho_{z,g}^{-1}).\]

Since $\rho_{a, g_1, g_2} \circ \rho_{a, g_1} = \rho_{a, g_1, g_2}$, this defines a natural $G$-action. From this construction, it is evident that $Z \times_\mathcal{Y} S \to S$ is $G$-invariant and $Z \times_\mathcal{Y} S \to Z$ is $G$-equivariant.

2.1.4. $G$-bundles over a stack. Let $\mathcal{Y}$ be a stack and $\sigma_0 : Z \to \mathcal{Y}$ a $G$-invariant morphism of stacks. We say that $Z \to \mathcal{Y}$ is a $G$-bundle if for any scheme $S$ mapping to $\mathcal{Y}$, the induced $G$-action on $Z \times_\mathcal{Y} S \to S$ gives a $G$-bundle. In particular, $\sigma_0$ is schematic.

2.1.5. Let $\tau_0 \in [Z/G](Z)$ correspond to the trivial $G$-bundle $pr_1 : Z \times G \to Z$ with the $G$-equivariant morphism $\alpha : Z \times G \to Z$.

**Lemma 2.1.6.** The diagram

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
Z \times G & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & Z \\
pr_1 \downarrow & & \downarrow \tau_0 \\
Z & \xrightarrow{\tau_0} & [Z/G]
\end{array}
\]

is a 2-Cartesian square, and $\tau_0$ is a $G$-invariant morphism.

**Proof.** Suppose for a scheme $S$ we have $z, z' \in Z(S)$ and $\phi : z^* \tau_0 \simeq z^* \tau_0$. Then $\phi$ corresponds to $g \in G(S)$ such that

\[
S \times G \xrightarrow{g} S \times G
\]

commutes. This implies that $z \cdot g = z'$. Conversely, $z \in Z(S)$ and $g \in G(S)$ uniquely determine $z' = z \cdot g$ and a $G$-equivariant morphism $z^* \tau_0 \to z^* \tau_0$ corresponding to $g$. Therefore the morphism

\[(\alpha, pr_1) : Z \times G \to Z \times [Z/G]
\]

is an isomorphism. Taking $S = Z \times G$ and $id_{Z \times G}$ gives an isomorphism

\[\rho^{-1} : \alpha^* (\tau_0) = (pr_1 \cdot pr_2)^* (\tau_0) \to pr_1^*(\tau_0),\]

which is defined explicitly by $Z \times G \times G \to Z \times G \times G : (z, g_1, g_2) \mapsto (z, g_1, g_1 g_2)$. From this we see that for a scheme $S$ and $z \in Z(S), g \in G(S)$, the morphism $\rho_{z,g}$ corresponds to the morphism of schemes $S \times G \to S \times G : (s, g_0) \mapsto (s, g(s)^{-1} g_0)$. Therefore $g_2^{-1} g_1^{-1} = (g_1 g_2)^{-1}$ implies $\tau_0$ is a $G$-invariant morphism. □

**Remark 2.1.7.** Now that we know $\tau_0$ is $G$-invariant, $Z \times [Z/G]$ has an induced $G$-action as a sheaf of sets. The morphism $(\alpha, pr_1) : Z \times G \to Z \times [Z/G]$ induces $(z, g) \mapsto (z, g, z \cdot \rho_{z,g}^{-1})$ on $S$-points, so the associativity condition on $\rho$ implies that $(\alpha, pr_1)$ is a $G$-equivariant morphism of sheaves of sets.

**Lemma 2.1.8.** Let $\tau = (f : \mathcal{P} \to Z) \in [Z/G](S)$ for a scheme $S$, and suppose $\mathcal{P}$ admits a section $s \in \mathcal{P}(S)$. Then the $G$-equivariant morphism $\tilde{s} : S \times G \to \mathcal{P}$ induced by $s$ gives an isomorphism $(f \circ s)^* \tau_0 \to \tau \in [Z/G](S)$. 


Proof. Let \( a = f \circ s : S \to \mathcal{P} \to Z \). We have a Cartesian square

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
S \times G & \xrightarrow{a \times \text{id}} & Z \times G \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
S & \xrightarrow{a} & Z
\end{array}
\]

so \( a^* \tau_0 = (\alpha(a \times \text{id}) : S \times G \to Z) \). The diagram

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
S \times G & \xrightarrow{\tilde{s}} & \mathcal{P} \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
Z & \xrightarrow{f} & Z
\end{array}
\]

is commutative by \( G \)-equivariance, since the morphisms agree after composing by the section \( S \to S \times G \) corresponding to \( 1 \in G(S) \). Therefore \( \tilde{s} \) is a morphism in \([Z/G](S)\). \( \square \)

We are now ready to prove the claimed characterization of \([Z/G]\).

Proof of Lemma 2.1.1. We define the morphism \( F : \mathcal{Y} \to [Z/G] \) by sending \( \sigma \in \mathcal{Y}(S) \) to

\[
F(\sigma) = Z \times S \xrightarrow{\mathcal{Y}} Z
\]

for any scheme \( S \). Since \( Z \to \mathcal{Y} \) is a \( G \)-bundle, \( Z \times_{\mathcal{Y}} S \to Z \) is indeed an object of \([Z/G](S)\) (see §2.1.4). For \( \sigma, \sigma' \in \mathcal{Y}(S) \), let \( \mathcal{P} = Z \times_{\mathcal{Y}, \sigma} S \) and \( \mathcal{P}' = Z \times_{\mathcal{Y}, \sigma'} S \) be the fibered products. We have \( \mathcal{P}(T) = \{(a, b, \phi)\} \) following the notation of (2.1.3.1). A morphism \( \psi : \sigma \to \sigma' \) induces a \( G \)-equivariant morphism \( \mathcal{P} \to \mathcal{P}' \) over \( S \times Z \) by sending

\[(a, b, \phi) \mapsto (a, b, b^* \psi \circ \phi).\]

This endows \( F \) with the structure of a morphism of stacks \( \mathcal{Y} \to [Z/G] \).

We will first show 2-commutativity of the triangle. Then we prove that \( F \) is fully faithful and essentially surjective to deduce that it is an isomorphism.

Step 1. Showing the triangle is 2-commutative is equivalent to giving a morphism \( \tau_0 \to F(\sigma_0) \) in \([Z/G](Z)\). The discussion of Remark 2.1.7 shows that

\[
(\alpha, \text{pr}_1) : Z \times G \to Z \times Z
\]

gives a \( G \)-equivariant morphism of sheaves over \( Z \times Z \), and this gives the desired morphism \( \tau_0 \to F(\sigma_0) \) in \([Z/G](Z)\).

Step 2. We show that \( F \) is fully faithful. Since \( \mathcal{Y}, [Z/G] \) are stacks, \( F \) is fully faithful if and only if for any fixed scheme \( S \) and \( \sigma, \sigma' \in \mathcal{Y}(S) \), the induced morphism of sheaves of sets

\[
F : \text{Isom}_{\mathcal{Y}(S)}(\sigma, \sigma') \to \text{Isom}_{[Z/G](S)}(F(\sigma), F(\sigma'))
\]

on \( \text{Sch}_{/S} \) is an isomorphism. Let \( \mathcal{P} = Z \times_{\mathcal{Y}, \sigma} S \) and \( \mathcal{P}' = Z \times_{\mathcal{Y}, \sigma'} S \). By restricting to an fppf covering \((S_i \to S)\), we reduce to the case where \( \mathcal{P}, \mathcal{P}' \) are both trivial bundles. Let \( \Psi : \mathcal{P} \to \mathcal{P}' \) be a \( G \)-equivariant morphism over \( S \times Z \). Since \( \mathcal{P} \) is trivial, there is a section \( s \in \mathcal{P}(S) \) corresponding to \( (a, \text{id}_S, \phi : a^* \sigma_0 \to \sigma) \) with \( a \in Z(S) \). Then \( \Psi \) sends \( s \) to some element \( (a, \text{id}_S, \phi' : a^* \sigma_0 \to \sigma') \in \mathcal{P}'(S) \). We define a morphism of sets

\[
L : \text{Hom}_{[Z/G](S)}(F(\sigma), F(\sigma')) \to \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{Y}(S)}(\sigma, \sigma').
\]
by \( L(\Psi) = \phi' \circ \phi^{-1} : \sigma \to \sigma' \).

It remains to check that \( F, L \) are mutually inverse (here by \( F \) we really mean the morphism \( F_S \) of \( \text{Hom} \) sets). Starting with \( \psi : \sigma \simeq \sigma' \), we have from (2.1.8.1) that \( F(\psi) \) sends \( s \) to \((a, \text{id}_S, \psi \circ \phi) \in \mathcal{P}'(S)\). Thus \( LF(\psi) = (\psi \circ \phi) \circ \phi^{-1} = \psi \). If we instead start with \( \Psi : \mathcal{P} \to \mathcal{P}' \), then \( L(\Psi) = \phi' \circ \phi^{-1} \) induces \[
FL(\Psi) : s \mapsto (a, \text{id}_S, (\phi' \circ \phi^{-1}) \circ \phi) \in \mathcal{P}'(S)
\]
again by (2.1.8.1). A \( G \)-equivariant morphism of trivial bundles \( \mathcal{P} \to \mathcal{P}' \) over \( S \) is determined by the image of the section \( s \in \mathcal{P}(S) \); hence \( \Psi = FL(\Psi) \). We conclude that \( F \) is fully faithful.

**Step 3.** We now prove that \( F \) is essentially surjective and hence an isomorphism of stacks. Let \( \tau = (f : \mathcal{P} \to \mathcal{Z}) \in [\mathcal{Z}/G](S) \). Choose an fppf covering \((j_i : S_i \to S)\) trivializing \( \mathcal{P} \). Then we have sections \( s_i \in \mathcal{P}(S_i) \). Let \( f_i \) denote the restriction of \( f \) to \( \mathcal{P}_{S_i} \). Lemma 2.1.8 gives an isomorphism \((f_i \circ s_i)^* \tau_0 \simeq j_i^* \tau \). We already know that \( \tau_0 \simeq F(\sigma_0) \) from Step 1. Therefore

\[
F((f_i \circ s_i)^* \sigma_0) \simeq (f_i \circ s_i)^* F(\sigma_0) \simeq (f_i \circ s_i)^* \tau_0 \simeq j_i^* \tau.
\]

By [Sta, Lemma 046N], we conclude that \( F \) is an isomorphism. \( \square \)

**2.2. Twisting by torsors.** In this subsection, we review a construction that will come up in many places. Let \( \mathcal{C} \) be a subcanonical site with a terminal object and a sheaf of groups \( \mathcal{G} \). For \( S \in \mathcal{C} \), let \( \mathcal{P} \) be a right \( \mathcal{G} | S \)-torsor over \( S \). Suppose we have a sheaf of sets \( \mathcal{F} \) on \( \mathcal{C} \) with a left \( \mathcal{G} \)-action. Then \( \mathcal{G} | S \) acts on \( \mathcal{P} \times \mathcal{F} \) from the right by \((p, z) \cdot g = (p \cdot g, g^{-1} \cdot z)\). We have a presheaf \( \mathcal{Q} \) on \( \mathcal{C}/S \) defined by taking \( \mathcal{G} \)-orbits \( \mathcal{Q}(U) = (\mathcal{P}(U) \times \mathcal{F}(U)) / \mathcal{G}(U) \). We define the sheaf

\[
\mathcal{P}_F = (\mathcal{P} \times \mathcal{F}) / \mathcal{G} = \mathcal{P} \times^\mathcal{G} \mathcal{F}
\]

obtained by twisting \( \mathcal{F} \) by \( \mathcal{P} \) to be the sheafification of \( \mathcal{Q} \).

Since sheaves on \( \mathcal{C} \) form a stack, we give an alternative description of \( \mathcal{P}_F \) by providing a descent datum. Let \((S_i \to S)\) be a covering such that \( \mathcal{P} | S_i \simeq \mathcal{G} | S_i \). Then \((\mathcal{G} | S_i, g_{ij})\) give a descent datum of \( \mathcal{P} \), for some \( g_{ij} \in \mathcal{G}(S_i \times_S S_j) \). Note that

\[
(\mathcal{P} | S_i \times \mathcal{F}) / \mathcal{G} \simeq (\mathcal{G} | S_i \times \mathcal{F}) / \mathcal{G} \simeq \mathcal{F} | S_i,
\]

and \( \mathcal{Q} | S_i \simeq \mathcal{F} | S_i \) is already a sheaf. By the definition of the group action on \( \mathcal{P} \times \mathcal{F} \), we see that the transition morphism \( \varphi_{ij} : (\mathcal{F} | S_j)(S_i \times_S S_j) \to (\mathcal{F} | S_i)(S_i \times_S S_j) \) is given by the left action of \( g_{ij} \). Since sheafification commutes with the restriction \( \mathcal{C}/S_i \to \mathcal{C}/S \), we conclude that

\[
(\mathcal{F} | S_i, \varphi_{ij})
\]

gives a descent datum for \( \mathcal{P}_F \).

If \( \mathcal{F} \) is instead a sheaf with a right \( \mathcal{G} \)-action, we will use \( \mathcal{P}_F \) to denote the twist of \( \mathcal{F} \) considered with the inverse left \( \mathcal{G} \)-action.

We will use the above twisting construction for the big site \( \mathcal{C} = (\text{Sch}/k)_{fppf} \). Let \( V \) be a \( G \)-representation. Then \( V \) can be considered as an abelian fppf sheaf via pullback (see [Sta, Lemma 03DT]) with a left \( G \)-action. Then for a right \( G \)-bundle \( \mathcal{P} \) over \( S \), we have a quasi-coherent sheaf \( \mathcal{P}_V \) on \( S \) by descent [FGI+05, Theorem 4.2.3].

For a \( k \)-scheme \( Y \) with a left or right \( G \)-action and \( \mathcal{P} \) a right \( G \)-bundle over \( S \), we can form the associated fiber bundle \( \mathcal{P}_Y \) over \( S \) and ask when it is representable by a scheme. This will be a key topic in the next subsection.
2.3. Change of space. Let $\beta : Z' \to Z$ be a $G$-equivariant morphism of schemes with right $G$-action. Then there is a natural morphism of stacks $[Z'/G] \to [Z/G]$ defined by sending $$(P \to Z') \mapsto (P \to Z' \xrightarrow{\beta} Z).$$ The next lemma shows that under certain conditions, this morphism is schematic.

**Lemma 2.3.1.** The morphism $[Z'/G] \to [Z/G]$ is representable. If the morphism of schemes $Z' \to Z$ is affine (resp. quasi-projective with a $G$-equivariant relatively ample invertible sheaf), then the morphism of quotient stacks is schematic and affine (resp. quasi-projective). If $Z' \to Z$ has a property that is fppf local on the target, then so does the morphism of quotient stacks.

First, we need a formal result on 2-fibered products of quotient stacks.

**Lemma 2.3.2.** Let $\beta_i : Z_i \to Z$ be $G$-equivariant morphisms of schemes with right $G$-action for $i = 1, 2$. Then the square $$(\mathbb{Z}_1 \times \mathbb{Z}_2)/G \to [Z_1/G]$$ induced by the $G$-equivariant projections $\mathbb{Z}_1 \times_Z \mathbb{Z}_2 \to \mathbb{Z}_i$ is 2-Cartesian.

**Proof.** For a scheme $S$, we have $$(\mathbb{Z}_1/G \times _{\mathbb{Z}_2/G} \mathbb{Z}_2/S)(S) = \left\{ f_1 : P_1 \to Z_1, f_2 : P_2 \to Z_2 \mid f_1, f_2 \text{ G-equivariant morphism } \phi : P_1 \to P_2 \text{ over } S \times Z \right\}.$$ Observe that we have a morphism from $(P_1, f_1, f_2, \phi) \to (P_1, f_1, P_1, f_2 \circ \phi, \id_{P_1})$ via $\id_{P_1}, \phi^{-1}$. The latter is the image of $(P_1, (f_1, f_2 \circ \phi) : P_1 \to Z_1 \times Z \mathbb{Z}_2) \in ([Z_1 \times _Z \mathbb{Z}_2)/G](S)$. Hence the functor $$F : ([Z_1 \times Z \mathbb{Z}_2)/G](S) \to ([Z_1/G] \times _{\mathbb{Z}_2/G} [Z_2/G])(S)$$ is essentially surjective.

Take $(f : P \to \mathbb{Z}_1 \times_Z \mathbb{Z}_2) \in ([Z_1 \times _Z \mathbb{Z}_2)/G](S)$ and let $f_1 : P \to Z_1, f_2 : P \to Z_2$ be the morphisms corresponding to $f$. Then the image of $(P, f)$ under $F$ is $\tau = (P, f_1, f_2, f, \id_P)$. We similarly associate to $(P', f') \in ([Z_1 \times Z \mathbb{Z}_2)/G](S)$ the corresponding $f'_1, f'_2$ and $\tau'$. A morphism $\tau \to \tau'$ is then a pair of $G$-equivariant morphisms $\gamma_1 : P \to P'$ over $S \times Z_1$ and $\gamma_2 : P \to P'$ over $S \times Z_2$ intertwining $\id_P$ and $\id_{P'}$. The last condition implies $\gamma_1 = \gamma_2$. Thus $\gamma_1$ is a $G$-equivariant morphism over $S \times (Z_1 \times \mathbb{Z}_2)$, i.e., a morphism $(P, f) \to (P', f')$. We conclude that $F$ is fully faithful and hence an isomorphism. \hfill \square

**Proof of Lemma 2.3.1.** For a scheme $S$, take $(f : P \to Z) \in [Z/G](S)$. Remark 2.1.2 gives an isomorphism $S \simeq [P/G]$. Hence by Lemma 2.3.2 we have a Cartesian square $$(\mathbb{Z}'\times_Z P)/G \to [Z'/G]$$ We prove that $([Z' \times_Z P]/G)$ is representable by an algebraic space. Remark 2.1.2 implies that $[P/G](T)$ is an equivalence relation for any scheme $T$. It follows that $([Z' \times_Z P]/G)(T)$ is an
equivalence relation, so \([Z' \times_Z \mathcal{P}] / G\) is isomorphic to a sheaf of sets. Pick an fpqc covering \((S_i \to S)\) so that each \(\mathcal{P}_{S_i}\) admits a section \(s_i \in \mathcal{P}(S_i)\). Note that we have a morphism \(S_i \times G \to \mathcal{P}_{S_i} \to Z\). There is a \(G\)-equivariant isomorphism
\[
\gamma_i : \left( \frac{Z'}{Z, f_{os_i}} \times S_i \right) \times G \to Z' \times (S_i \times G)
\]
or over \(S_i\) where on the left hand side \(G\) acts as a trivial bundle over \(Z' \times_{Z, f_{os_i}} S_i\), while on the right hand side \(G\) acts on \(Z'\) and \(S_i \times G\). The morphism is defined by sending \((a, g) \mapsto (a, g, g)\) for \(a \in Z'(T), g \in G(T)\) and \(T\) an \(S_i\)-scheme. Applying Remark 2.1.2 again, we have an isomorphism
\[
\Phi_i : Z' \times_{Z, f_{os_i}} S_i \simeq \left( \frac{Z' \times_{Z, f_{os_i}} S_i}{Z} \right) \times G / G \xrightarrow{\gamma_i} \left( \frac{Z' \times (S_i \times G)}{Z} \right) / G \xrightarrow{id \times \tilde{\gamma}_i} \left( \frac{Z' \times \mathcal{P}_{S_i}}{Z} \right) / G
\]
or over \(S_i\) defined explicitly on \(T\)-points by sending \(a \in (Z' \times_{Z, f_{os_i}} S_i)(T)\) to
\[
\begin{array}{c}
T \times G \xrightarrow{a \times id} \left( \frac{Z' \times_{Z, f_{os_i}} S_i}{Z} \right) \times G \\
\downarrow^{\gamma_i} \\
\frac{Z' \times (S_i \times G)}{Z} \xrightarrow{id \times \tilde{\gamma}_i} Z' \times \mathcal{P}
\end{array}
\]
Therefore after restricting to an fpqc covering, \(\left( \frac{Z' \times_Z \mathcal{P}}{Z} \right) / S \cup \left( Z' \times Z \mathcal{P} \right)_{S_i} \) becomes representable by a scheme. Since algebraic spaces satisfy descent [Sta, Lemma 04SK], we deduce that \(\left( Z' \times_Z \mathcal{P} \right) / Z\) is representable by an algebraic space. Before proving when \(\left( Z' \times_Z \mathcal{P} \right) / Z\) is representable by a scheme, we give a description of its descent datum.

**Descent datum of \(\left( \frac{Z' \times_Z \mathcal{P}}{Z} \right) / G\).** Let \(S_{ij} = S_i \times_S S_j\). There are \(g_{ij} \in G(S_{ij})\) such that \(s_j = s_i g_{ij} \in \mathcal{P}(S_{ij})\) (we slightly abuse notation and omit restriction signs when the context is clear). Then the action of \(g_{ij}^{-1}\) on \(Z'\) induces an isomorphism
\[
\varphi_{ij} : Z' \times_{Z, f_{os_j}} S_{ij} \to Z' \times_{Z, f_{os_i} g_{ij}^{-1}} S_{ij} = Z' \times_{Z, f_{os_i}} S_{ij}.
\]
It follows from the definitions that for \(a \in (Z' \times_{Z, f_{os_j}} S_{ij})(T)\), the square
\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
T \times G & \xrightarrow{(id \times \tilde{\gamma}_i) \circ \varphi_{ij} \circ (a \times id)} & Z' \times_Z \mathcal{P}_{S_{ij}} \\
\downarrow^{g_{ij}} & & \downarrow^{id} \\
T \times G & \xrightarrow{(id \times \tilde{\gamma}_i) \circ (a \times id)} & Z' \times_Z \mathcal{P}_{S_{ij}}
\end{array}
\]
is commutative. Therefore \(\Phi_j(a)\) and \((\Phi_i \circ \varphi_{ij})(a)\) are isomorphic in \(\left( Z' \times_Z \mathcal{P}_{S_{ij}} \right) / G\). We conclude that \(Z' \times_{Z, f_{os_i}} S_i, \varphi_{ij}\) is a descent datum of \(\left( Z' \times_Z \mathcal{P} \right) / Z\) with respect to the covering \((S_i \to S)\).

If \(Z' \to Z\) is affine, then so is \(Z' \times_{Z, f_{os_i}} S_i \to S_i\). Affine morphisms are effective under descent [FGI+05, Theorem 4.33], so in this case \(\left( Z' \times_Z \mathcal{P} \right) / Z\) is representable by a scheme affine over \(S\). Next suppose that \(Z' \to Z\) is quasi-projective with a \(G\)-equivariant relatively ample invertible \(\mathcal{O}_{Z'}\)-module \(\mathcal{L}\). From our description of the descent datum of \(\left( Z' \times_Z \mathcal{P} \right) / Z\),
we have a commutative square

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
Z' \times_{Z, f} S_{ij} & \xrightarrow{\text{pr}_{1,j}} & Z' \\
\varphi_{ij} & & \downarrow g_{ij}^{-1} \\
Z' \times_{Z, f} S_{ij} & \xrightarrow{\text{pr}_{1,i}} & Z'
\end{array}
\]

Therefore the $G$-equivariant structure of $L$ gives an isomorphism

\[\varphi_{ij}^* \text{pr}_{1,i}^* L \simeq \text{pr}_{1,j}^* L\]

of invertible sheaves relatively ample over $S_{ij}$. Since the $g_{ij}$ satisfy the cocycle condition, the associativity property of $G$-equivariance implies that the above isomorphisms satisfy the corresponding cocycle condition. We therefore have a descent datum of relatively ample invertible sheaves. By descent [SGA1, VIII, Proposition 7.8], we conclude that $[(Z' \times_Z \mathcal{P})/G]$ is representable by a scheme quasi-projective over $S$. \[\square\]

**Corollary 2.3.3.** For a $k$-scheme $Z$ with a right $G$-action and a right $G$-bundle $\mathcal{P}$ over a $k$-scheme $S$, there is an isomorphism $pZ \simeq [(Z \times \mathcal{P})/G]$ over $S$.

**Proof.** The proof of Lemma 2.3.1 shows that $[(Z \times \mathcal{P})/G]$ has a descent datum $(Z \times S_i, \varphi_{ij})$. This is the same descent datum as $pZ$, proving the claim. This additionally implies that

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
pZ & \xrightarrow{(p \times \text{id})} & [Z/G] \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
S & \xrightarrow{p} & BG
\end{array}
\]

is a Cartesian square. \[\square\]

**Corollary 2.3.4.** Given $\tau = (p: \mathcal{P} \to S, f: \mathcal{P} \to Z) \in [Z/G](S)$ for a $k$-scheme $S$,

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
\mathcal{P} & \xrightarrow{f} & Z \\
p & \downarrow & \tau_0 \\
S & \xrightarrow{\tau} & [Z/G]
\end{array}
\]

is a Cartesian square. In particular, $Z \to [Z/G]$ is schematic, affine, and fppf.

**Proof.** By Lemma 2.3.2, we have a Cartesian square

\[
(2.3.4.1) \quad \begin{array}{ccc}
[(Z \times G) \times_{\alpha, Z, f} \mathcal{P})/G] & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & [Z \times G/G] \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
[\mathcal{P}/G] & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & [Z/G]
\end{array}
\]

where $Z \times G$ is the trivial $G$-bundle over $Z$. There is a $G$-equivariant morphism

\[(f \times \text{id}, \alpha p): \mathcal{P} \times G \to (Z \times G) \times_{\alpha, Z, f} \mathcal{P}\]
where $\mathcal{P} \times G$ is the trivial $G$-bundle over $\mathcal{P}$. Action and projection induce a $G$-equivariant morphism $\mathcal{P} \times G \to \mathcal{P} \times S\mathcal{P}$ over $\mathcal{P} \times \mathcal{P}$. Therefore we see that the diagram

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
S & \xrightarrow{p} & \mathcal{P} \\
\downarrow \text{id: } \mathcal{P} \to \mathcal{P} & \downarrow & \downarrow \text{id: } \mathcal{P} \times G \to \mathcal{P} \times G \\
\mathcal{P} \times G/G & \xrightarrow{f} & Z \\
\downarrow \text{\quad (f \times \text{id}_{\alpha P})} & \downarrow & \downarrow \text{id: } \mathcal{Z} \times G \to \mathcal{Z} \times G \\
[\mathcal{P}/G] & \longleftarrow & [\{(Z \times G) \times P\}/G] \to [Z \times G/G]
\end{array}
\]

is 2-commutative. Applying Remark 2.1.2 multiple times, we deduce that (2.3.4.1) is isomorphic to the desired Cartesian square of the claim. Moreover, we see that the morphism $f^*\tau_0 \to p^*\tau$ is defined by the action and first projection morphisms. $\square$

Remark 2.3.5. Let $Z$ be a $k$-scheme and give it the trivial $G$-action. Lemma 2.1.6 implies that $\cdot \to BG$ is $G$-invariant, so by base change $Z \to BG \times Z$ is also $G$-invariant. For any morphism $(\mathcal{P}, u): S \to BG \times Z$, the fibered product $Z \times_{BG \times Z} S \simeq \cdot \times_{BG} S$ is isomorphic to $\mathcal{P}$ by Corollary 2.3.4, and the morphism $\mathcal{P} \to Z$ is $\mathcal{P} \to S$ composed with $u$. Lemma 2.1.1 then gives an isomorphism $BG \times Z \simeq [Z/G]$. This isomorphism implies that for a $G$-bundle $\mathcal{P}$ on $S$, any $G$-invariant morphism $\mathcal{P} \to Z$ factors through a unique morphism $S \to Z$.

2.4. Change of group. Let $H \hookrightarrow G$ be a closed subgroup of $G$. We want to show the following relation between $BH$ and $BG$.

Lemma 2.4.1. The morphism $BH \to BG$ sending $\mathcal{P} \mapsto \mathcal{P}G$ is schematic, finitely presented, and quasi-projective.

Here we are twisting $G$ by the left $H$-action. As we shall see, $\mathcal{P} \mapsto \mathcal{P}G$ gives a well-defined morphism of stacks $BH \to BG$.

By [DG70, III, §3, Théorème 5.4], the fppf sheaf $H\backslash G$ of left cosets is representable by a quasi-projective $k$-scheme with a $G$-equivariant, ample invertible sheaf. The morphism $H \times G \to G \times_{H\backslash G} G$ induced by multiplication and projection is an isomorphism by [DG70, III, §1, 2.4]. Therefore the projection $\pi: G \to H\backslash G$ is a left $H$-bundle. Note that there is an obvious analogue of our previous discussion of quotient stacks for schemes with left actions instead of right actions. We use $[H\backslash G]$ to denote the stack quotient by the left action. Then Remark 2.1.2 implies that $id: G \to G$ induces an isomorphism $H\backslash G \to [H\backslash G]$.

Lemma 2.4.2. The left $H$-bundle $G \to H\backslash G$ defines a right $G$-bundle $H\backslash G \to [H\backslash \cdot]$.

Proof. Let $\mu: G \times G \to G$ denote the group multiplication. We have an $H$-equivariant morphism $(\text{pr}_1, \mu): G \times G \to G \times G$ where $H$ acts on the first coordinate on the left hand side, and $H$ acts diagonally on the right hand side. We have 2-commutative squares

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
H\backslash G & \xrightarrow{\text{pr}_1} & H\backslash G \times G \\
\downarrow \text{id: } G \to G & \downarrow \text{(pr}_1, \mu): G \to G \times G & \downarrow \text{id: } G \to G \\
[H\backslash G] & \xrightarrow{\text{pr}_1} & [H\backslash (G \times G)] \xrightarrow{\text{pr}_2} [H\backslash G]
\end{array}
\]
where the 2-morphisms are just \( \text{id}_{G \times G} \). Thus we have a 2-commutative square

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
H \backslash G \times G & \xrightarrow{\pi} & H \backslash G \\
p_{12} & & \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
H \backslash G & \xrightarrow{} & [H \backslash \cdot]
\end{array}
\]

with 2-morphism \( \text{id}_{G \times G} \), which gives \( H \backslash G \to [H \backslash \cdot] \) the structure of a right \( G \)-invariant morphism. Take a left \( H \)-bundle \( \mathcal{P} \in [H \backslash \cdot](S) \) and an fpf covering \( (S_i \to S) \) trivializing \( \mathcal{P} \). From the proof of Lemma 2.3.1, we find that

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
S_i \times G & \longrightarrow & [H \backslash G] \\
p_i & & \\
\downarrow & & \\
S_i & \longrightarrow & [H \backslash \cdot]
\end{array}
\]

is Cartesian, the top arrow corresponds to \( H \times S_i \times G \to G : (h, a, g) \to hg \), and the associated 2-morphism is \( \text{id}_{H \times S_i \times G} \). Observe that the morphism \( S_i \times G \to [H \backslash G] \simeq H \backslash G \) equals \( \pi \circ p_2 \), which is \( G \)-equivariant. Therefore \( S_i \times G \to H \backslash G \times [H \backslash \cdot], H \times S_i \) \( S_i \simeq (H \backslash G \times [H \backslash \cdot], \mathcal{P}) \times_S S_i \) is a \( G \)-equivariant isomorphism. Thus \( H \backslash G \times [H \backslash \cdot], \mathcal{P} \) \( S \) is a right \( G \)-bundle, which proves that \( H \backslash G \to [H \backslash \cdot] \) is also a right \( G \)-bundle.

Now Lemmas 2.1.1 and 2.4.2 give an isomorphism \( [H \backslash \cdot] \simeq [(H \backslash G)/G] \) sending a left \( H \)-bundle \( \mathcal{P} \) over \( S \) to \( H \backslash G \times [H \backslash \cdot], \mathcal{P} \to H \backslash G \). Left \( H \)-bundles are equivalent to right \( H \)-bundles using the inverse action, so \( BH \simeq [H \backslash \cdot] \). By keeping track of left and right actions and applying Corollary 2.3.3, we observe that the morphism \( BH \simeq [H \backslash \cdot] \simeq [(H \backslash G)/G] \to BG \) sends a right \( H \)-bundle \( \mathcal{P} \) to the associated fiber bundle \( pG \), where \( G \) is twisted by the left \( H \)-action. The right \( G \)-action on \( pG \) is induced by multiplication on the right by \( G \).

**Proof of Lemma 2.4.1.** Applying Corollary 2.3.3 to the morphism \( [(H \backslash G)/G] \to BG \), we get a 2-Cartesian square

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
\varepsilon(H \backslash G) & \longrightarrow & BH \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
S & \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} & BG
\end{array}
\]

Since \( H \backslash G \) is quasi-projective with a \( G \)-equivariant ample invertible sheaf over \( \text{Spec} \, k \), we have that \( \varepsilon(H \backslash G) \) is representable by a scheme quasi-projective and of finite presentation over \( S \) by Lemma 2.3.1. \( \square \)

2.5. **Proving \([Z/G]\) is algebraic.** We now prove Theorem 2.0.2.

**Lemma 2.5.1.** For algebraic groups \( G, G' \), the morphism \( BG \times BG' \to B(G \times G') \) sending a \( G \)-bundle \( \mathcal{P} \) and a \( G' \)-bundle \( \mathcal{P}' \) over \( S \) to \( \mathcal{P} \times_S \mathcal{P}' \) is an isomorphism.

**Proof.** Take \( (\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{P}') \in (BG \times BG')(S) \) and choose an fpf covering \( (S_i \to S) \) on which both \( \mathcal{P} \) and \( \mathcal{P}' \) are trivial. Then we have descent data

\[
(S_i \times G, g_{ij}), \ (S_i \times G', g'_{ij})
\]

for \( g_{ij} \in G(S_i \times_S S_j), g'_{ij} \in G'(S_i \times_S S_j) \), corresponding to \( \mathcal{P}, \mathcal{P}' \), respectively. Then

\[
(S_i \times G \times G', (g_{ij}, g'_{ij}))
\]
gives a descent datum for $\mathcal{P} \times_S \mathcal{P}'$. Conversely, any such descent datum with $(g_{ij}, g_{ij}')$ satisfying the cocycle condition implies that $g_{ij}$ and $g_{ij}'$ satisfy the cocycle condition separately. Since $BG \times BG'$ and $B(G \times G')$ are both stacks, we deduce that $(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{P}') \to \mathcal{P} \times_S \mathcal{P}'$ gives an isomorphism. From the descent data, we see that an inverse to this morphism is the morphism sending $E \mapsto (\varepsilon G, \varepsilon G')$, where $G \times G'$ acts by the projections on $G, G'$.

**Lemma 2.5.2.** The $k$-stack $BG$ is an algebraic stack with a schematic, affine diagonal. Specifically, for right $G$-bundles $\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{P}'$ over $S$, there is an isomorphism

$$\text{Isom}_{BG(S)}(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{P}') \simeq \mathcal{P} \times_S \mathcal{P}'(G)$$

as sheaves of sets on $\text{Sch}_S$, where $G \times G$ acts on $G$ from the right by $g.(g_1, g_2) = g_1^{-1}g_2$.

**Proof.** For a scheme $S$ and $\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{P}' \in BG(S)$, we have a Cartesian square

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
\text{Isom}_{BG(S)}(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{P}') & \to & BG \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
S & \overset{s \cdot s'}{\longrightarrow} & BG \times BG
\end{array}$$

Observe that there is an isomorphism $G \backslash (G \times G) \simeq G$ by sending $(g_1, g_2) \mapsto g_1^{-1}g_2$. The induced right action of $G \times G$ on $G$ is then $g.(g_1, g_2) = g_1^{-1}g_2$. The proof works similarly to the proof of Lemma 2.4.1 and 2.5.1, with the additional information that $G$ is affine over $k$, the associated fiber bundle $\mathcal{P} \times_S \mathcal{P}'(G)$ is representable by a scheme affine over $S$. Since $G$ is affine over $k$, the associated fiber bundle $\mathcal{P} \times_S \mathcal{P}'(G)$ is representable by a scheme affine over $S$. Hence the diagonal $BG \to BG \times BG$ is schematic and affine. As a special case of Lemma 2.3.4, the morphism $\cdot \to BG$ is schematic, affine, and fppf. By Artin’s Theorem [LMB00, Théorème 10.1], $BG$ is an algebraic stack (if $G$ is smooth over $k$, the last step is unnecessary). \qed

**Proof of Theorem 2.0.2.** Fix a scheme $S$ and $(\mathcal{P} \to Z) \in [Z/G](S)$. Then by Remark 2.1.2 and Lemma 2.3.1, the morphism $S \simeq [\mathcal{P}/G] \to [Z/G]$ is representable. Therefore the diagonal $\Delta_{[Z/G]}$ is representable. By Lemma 2.5.2, there exists a scheme $U$ and a smooth surjective morphism $U \to BG$. The change of space morphism $f : [Z/G] \to BG$ is representable by Lemma 2.3.1, so $U \times BG[Z/G]$ is representable by an algebraic space. Therefore there exists a scheme $V$ with an étale surjective morphism $V \to U \times BG[Z/G]$. The composition $V \to [Z/G]$ thus gives a presentation. This shows that $[Z/G]$ is an algebraic stack.

The diagonal $\Delta_{[Z/G]}$ is by composition of the maps

$$[Z/G] \xrightarrow{\Delta_f} [Z/G] \times_{BG}[Z/G] \to [Z/G] \times [Z/G].$$

We have a 2-Cartesian square

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
[Z/G] \times_{BG}[Z/G] & \to & [Z/G] \times [Z/G] \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
BG & \longrightarrow & BG \times BG
\end{array}$$

and we know the diagonal $\Delta_{BG}$ is schematic and affine by Lemma 2.5.2. By base change, this implies $[Z/G] \times_{BG}[Z/G] \to [Z/G] \times [Z/G]$ is also schematic and affine. Since $f$ is representable, [Sta, Lemma 04YQ] implies that $\Delta_f$ is schematic and separated. If $Z$ is quasi-separated, then by descent $\mathcal{P} \to S$ is quasi-separated for any $\mathcal{P} \in BG(S)$. Thus Corollary 2.3.3 implies that $f$ is quasi-separated, and [Sta, Lemma 04YT] shows that $\Delta_f$ is quasi-compact. If $Z$ is separated, we deduce by the same reasoning that $f$ is separated. Hence by [Sta, Lemma 04YS],
the relative diagonal $\Delta_f$ is a closed immersion. Composition of the two morphisms $\Delta_f$ and $[Z/G] \times_{BG} [Z/G] \to [Z/G] \times [Z/G]$ now gives the claimed properties of $\Delta_{[Z/G]}$. □

3. Hom stacks

For a base scheme $S$, let $X$ be an $S$-scheme and $\mathcal{Y} : (\text{Sch}_S)^{\text{op}} \to \text{Gpd}$ a pseudo-functor. Then we define the Hom 2-functor $\mathcal{H}om_S(X, \mathcal{Y})$ by

$$\mathcal{H}om_S(X, \mathcal{Y})(T) = \mathcal{H}om_T(X_T, \mathcal{Y}_T) = \mathcal{H}om_S(X_T, \mathcal{Y}),$$

sending an $S$-scheme $T$ to the 2-category of groupoids. By the 2-Yoneda lemma, we have a natural equivalence of categories $\mathcal{H}om_S(X, \mathcal{Y}) \simeq \mathcal{Y}(X_T)$. From this we deduce that if $\mathcal{Y}$ is an fpqc $S$-stack, then $\mathcal{H}om_S(X, \mathcal{Y})$ is as well.

The main example of a Hom stack we will be concerned with is $\text{Bun}_G$:

**Definition 3.0.3.** Let $S$ be a $k$-scheme. Then for an $S$-scheme $X$, we define the moduli stack of $G$-bundles on $X \to S$ by $\text{Bun}_G = \mathcal{H}om_S(X, BG \times S)$.

As we remarked earlier, $\text{Bun}_G$ is an fpqc stack since $BG$ is. Explicitly, for an $S$-scheme $T$, $\text{Bun}_G(T)$ is the groupoid of right $G$-bundles on $X_T$.

In this section, we prove some properties on morphisms between Hom stacks. As a corollary, we show that the diagonal of $\text{Bun}_G$ is schematic and affine under certain conditions. These properties reduce to understanding the sheaf of sections associated to a morphism of schemes, which we now introduce.

3.1. Scheme of sections. Let $S$ be a base scheme and $X \to S$ a morphism of schemes. Given another morphism of schemes $Y \to X$, we define the presheaf of sets $\text{Sect}_S(X, Y)$ on $\text{Sch}_S$ to send

$$(T \to S) \mapsto \text{Hom}_X(X_T, Y_T) = \text{Hom}_X(X_T, Y).$$

Since schemes represent fpqc sheaves, the presheaf $\text{Sect}_S(X, Y)$ is an fpqc sheaf of sets. Here is the main result of this subsection:

**Theorem 3.1.1.** Let $X \to S$ be a flat, finitely presented, projective morphism, and let $Y \to X$ be a finitely presented, quasi-projective morphism. Then $\text{Sect}_S(X, Y)$ is representable by a disjoint union of schemes which are finitely presented and locally quasi-projective over $S$.

**Example 3.1.2.** Observe that if $X$ and $Z$ are schemes over $S$, then taking the first projection $X \times_S Z \to X$ gives an equality $\text{Sect}_S(X, X \times_S Z) = \mathcal{H}om_S(X, Z)$.

We first consider when $Y \to X$ is affine, which will be of independent interest because we get a stronger result. We then prove the theorem by considering the cases where $Y \to X$ is an open immersion and a projective morphism separately.

**Lemma 3.1.3.** Let $p : X \to S$ be a flat, finitely presented, proper morphism and $\mathcal{E}$ a locally free $\mathcal{O}_X$-module of finite rank. Then $\text{Sect}_S(X, \text{Spec}_X \text{Sym}_{\mathcal{O}_X} \mathcal{E})$ is representable by a scheme affine and finitely presented over $S$.

**Proof.** By [EGAV, 0, Corollaire 4.5.5], we can take an open covering of $S$ and reduce to considering the case where $S$ is affine. Since any ring is an inductive limit of finitely presented $\mathbb{Z}$-algebras, by [EGAIV3, §8] there exist an affine scheme $S_1$ of finite type over Spec $\mathbb{Z}$ with a morphism $S \to S_1$, a flat proper morphism $X_1 \to S_1$, and a locally free $\mathcal{O}_{X_1}$-module $\mathcal{E}_1$ such that $X_1, \mathcal{E}_1$ base change to $X, \mathcal{E}$ under $S \to S_1$. Therefore

$$\text{Sect}_S(X, \text{Spec}_X \text{Sym}_{\mathcal{O}_X} \mathcal{E}) \simeq \text{Sect}_{S_1}(X_1, \text{Spec}_{X_1} \text{Sym}_{\mathcal{O}_{X_1}} \mathcal{E}_1) \times S$$
over $S$. Replacing $S$ by $S_1$, we can assume that $S$ is affine and noetherian.

Let $F = E'$, which is a locally free $\mathcal{O}_X$-module. From [EGAIII2, Théorème 7.7.6, Remarques 7.7.9], there exists a coherent $\mathcal{O}_S$-module $Q$ equipped with natural isomorphisms

\[(3.1.3.1) \quad \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{O}_T}(Q, \mathcal{O}_T) \cong \Gamma(T, p_T^* F_T) = \Gamma(X_T, F_T)\]

for any $S$-scheme $T$. A section $X_T \to (\text{Spec}_X \text{Sym} E) \times_S T$ over $X_T$ is equivalent to a morphism of $\mathcal{O}_{X_T}$-modules $E_T \to \mathcal{O}_{X_T}$. The latter is by definition a global section of $\Gamma(X_T, E'_T)$. Since $E$ is locally free, we have a canonical isomorphism $F_T \cong E'_T$. The isomorphism of $(3.1.3.1)$ therefore shows that an element of $\text{Sect}_S(X, \text{Spec}_X \text{Sym} E)(T)$ is naturally isomorphic to a morphism in $\text{Hom}_S(T, \text{Spec}_S \text{Sym}_{\mathcal{O}_S} Q) \cong \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{O}_T}(Q, \mathcal{O}_T)$. We conclude that

$$\text{Sect}_S(X, \text{Spec}_X \text{Sym}_{\mathcal{O}_X} E) \cong \text{Spec}_S \text{Sym}_{\mathcal{O}_S} Q$$

as sheaves over $S$. \hfill \Box

**Lemma 3.1.4.** Let $p : X \to S$ be a flat, finitely presented, projective morphism. If $Y \to X$ is affine and finitely presented, then $\text{Sect}_S(X, Y)$ is representable by a scheme affine and finitely presented over $S$.

**Proof.** We make the same reductions as in the proof of Lemma 3.1.3 to assume $S$ is affine and noetherian, and $X$ is a closed subscheme of $P^r_S$ for some integer $r$. Since $Y$ is affine over $X$, it has the form $Y = \text{Spec}_X A$ for a quasi-coherent $\mathcal{O}_X$-algebra $A$. By finite presentation of $Y$ over $X$ and quasi-compactness of $X$, there are finitely many local sections of $A$ that generate it as an $\mathcal{O}_X$-algebra. By extending coherent sheaves [EGAII, Corollaire 9.4.3], there exists a coherent $\mathcal{O}_X$-module $F \subset A$ that contains all these sections. From [Har77, II, Corollary 5.18], there exists a locally free sheaf $\mathcal{E}_1$ on $X$ surjecting onto $F$. This induces a surjection of $\mathcal{O}_X$-algebras $\text{Sym}_{\mathcal{O}_X} \mathcal{E}_1 \to A$. Let $I \subset \mathcal{E}_1$ be the ideal sheaf. Apply the same argument again to get a locally free sheaf $\mathcal{E}_2$ on $X$ and a morphism $\mathcal{E}_2 \to I$ whose image generates $I$ as a $\text{Sym}_{\mathcal{O}_X} \mathcal{E}_1$-module. Therefore we have a Cartesian square

$$Y = \text{Spec}_X A \quad \longrightarrow \quad X$$

$$\downarrow \quad \quad \quad \downarrow$$

$$\text{Spec}_X \text{Sym} \mathcal{E}_1 \quad \longrightarrow \quad \text{Spec}_X \text{Sym} \mathcal{E}_2$$

over $X$, where $X \to \text{Spec}_X \text{Sym} \mathcal{E}_2$ is the zero section. By the universal property of the fibered product, we have a canonical isomorphism

$$\text{Sect}_S(X, Y) \cong \text{Sect}_S(X, X) \times_{\text{Sect}_S(X, \text{Spec}_X \text{Sym} \mathcal{E}_2)} \text{Sect}_S(X, \text{Spec}_X \text{Sym} \mathcal{E}_1).$$

Note that $S \cong \text{Sect}_S(X, X)$. By Lemma 3.1.3, all three sheaves in the fibered product are representable by schemes affine and finitely presented over $S$. Therefore $\text{Sect}_S(X, Y)$ is representable by a scheme. The morphism $S \cong \text{Sect}_S(X, X) \to \text{Sect}_S(X, \text{Spec}_X \text{Sym} \mathcal{E}_2)$ sends $T \to S$ to $0 \in \Gamma(X_T, (\mathcal{E}_2)^\vee_T)$, using the correspondence in Lemma 3.1.3. Therefore

$$S \to \text{Sect}_S(X, \text{Spec}_X \text{Sym} \mathcal{E}_2) \cong \text{Spec}_S \text{Sym} Q_2$$

is the zero section, where $Q_2$ is as in Lemma 3.1.3. In particular, it is a closed immersion. By base change, $\text{Sect}_S(X, Y) \to \text{Sect}_S(X, \text{Spec}_X \text{Sym} \mathcal{E}_1)$ is also a closed immersion. Therefore $\text{Sect}_S(X, Y)$ is affine and finitely presented over $S$. \hfill \Box

**Remark 3.1.5.** If $Y \to X$ is a finitely presented closed immersion, then note that we can take $\mathcal{E}_1 = 0$ in the proof of Lemma 3.1.4. It follows that $\text{Sect}_S(X, Y) \to S$ is a closed immersion.
Lemma 3.1.6. Let $p : X \to S$ be a proper morphism. For any morphism $Y \to X$ and $U \to Y$ an open immersion, $\text{Sect}_S(X,U) \to \text{Sect}_S(X,Y)$ is schematic and open.

Proof. For an $S$-scheme $T$, suppose we have a morphism $f : X_T \to Y$ over $S$ corresponding to a morphism of sheaves $T \to \text{Sect}_S(X,Y)$ by the Yoneda lemma. Then the fibered product

$$T \times_{\text{Sect}_S(X,Y)} \text{Sect}_S(X,U)$$

is a sheaf on $\text{Sch}_T$ sending $T' \to T$ to a singleton set if $X_{T'} \to X_T \to Y$ factors through $U$ and to the empty set otherwise. We claim that this sheaf is representable by the open subscheme

$$T - p_T(X_T - f^{-1}(U))$$

of $T$, where $p_T(X_T - f^{-1}(U))$ is a closed subset of $T$ by properness of $p_T$. Suppose that the image of $T' \to T$ contains a point of $p_T(X_T - f^{-1}(U))$. In other words, there are $t' \in T'$ and $x \in X_T$ mapping to the same point of $T$, and $f(x) \notin U$. Then the composition field of $\kappa(t'), \kappa(x)$ over $\kappa(p_T(x))$ gives a point of $X_{T'}$ mapping to $t', x$. This shows that $X_{T'} \to Y$ does not factor through $U$. For the converse, suppose that there is a point $x' \in X_{T'}$ with image outside of $U$. Then the image $x \in X_T$ is not in $f^{-1}(U)$, so $p_T(x')$ maps to $p_T(x) \in p_T(X_T - f^{-1}(U))$. We conclude that $T' \to T$ factors through $T - p_T(X_T - f^{-1}(U))$ if and only if $X_{T'} \to Y$ factors through $U$. Therefore $T \times_{\text{Sect}_S(X,Y)} \text{Sect}_S(X,U)$ is representable by this open subscheme of $T$. \hfill \Box

Lemma 3.1.7. Let $S$ be a noetherian scheme, and let $p : X \to S$ and $Z \to S$ be flat proper morphisms. Suppose there is a morphism $\pi : Z \to X$ over $S$. Then there exists an open subscheme $S_1 \subset S$ with the following universal property. For any locally noetherian $S$-scheme $T$, the base change $\pi_T : Z_T \to X_T$ is an isomorphism if and only if $T \to S$ factors through $S_1$.

Proof. Since $X$ and $Z$ are both proper over $S$, we deduce that $\pi$ is a proper morphism. By [FGA05, Theorem 5.22(a)], we can assume that $\pi$ is flat. From Chevalley’s upper semi-continuity theorem for dimension of fibers [EGAIV3, Corollaire 13.1.5], the set of $x \in X$ such that $\pi^{-1}(x)$ is finite form an open subset $U_1 \subset X$. The restriction $\pi : \pi^{-1}(U_1) \to U_1$ is a flat, finite morphism by [EGAIII1, Proposition 4.4.2]. Therefore $\pi_*\mathcal{O}_{\pi^{-1}(U_1)}$ is a locally free $\mathcal{O}_{U_1}$-module. Let $U$ be the set of $x \in U_1$ where $\mathcal{O}_{U_1} \otimes \kappa(x) \to \pi_*\mathcal{O}_{\pi^{-1}(U_1)} \otimes \kappa(x)$ is an isomorphism. Since $\mathcal{O}_{U_1} \to \pi_*\mathcal{O}_{\pi^{-1}(U_1)}$ is a morphism between locally free $\mathcal{O}_{U_1}$-modules, $U$ is the maximal open subscheme of $X$ on which this morphism is an isomorphism, which is equivalent to being the maximal open such that $\pi^{-1}(U) \to U$ is an isomorphism. Since the property of being an isomorphism is fpqc local on the base, the same argument as in the proof of Lemma 3.1.6 shows that $S_1 = S - p(X - U)$ is the open subscheme with the desired universal property. \hfill \Box

Suppose we have a proper morphism $X \to S$ and a separated morphism $Y \to X$. Then for a section $f \in \text{Sect}_S(X,Y)(T)$, the graph of $f$ over $X_T$ is a closed immersion $X_T \to X_T \times_{X_T} Y_T$. The isomorphism $X_T \times_{X_T} Y_T \to Y_T$ implies $f$ is a closed immersion. Therefore $f : X_T \to Y_T$ represents an element of $\text{Hilb}_Y/S(T)$. Therefore we have defined an injection of sheaves

$$(3.1.7.1) \quad \text{Sect}_S(X,Y) \to \text{Hilb}_Y/S.$$ 

Lemma 3.1.8. Let $p : X \to S$ and $Y \to S$ be finitely presented, proper morphisms, and suppose that $p$ is flat. Then (3.1.7.1) is an open immersion.

Proof. The assertion is Zariski local on the base, so we can use [EGAIV3, §8] as in the proof of Lemma 3.1.3 to assume $S$ is affine and noetherian. Let $T \to \text{Hilb}_Y/S$ represent $Z \subset Y_T$, a closed subscheme flat over an affine $S$-scheme $T$. We may assume $T$ is noetherian by [EGAIV3, §8]. Applying Lemma 3.1.7 to the composition $Z \to X_T$, we deduce that there exists an
open subscheme \( U \subset T \) such that for any locally noetherian scheme \( T' \to T \), the base change \( Z_{T'} \to X_{T'} \) is an isomorphism if and only if \( T' \to T \) factors through \( U \). Observe that an isomorphism \( Z_{T'} \to X_{T'} \) corresponds uniquely to a section \( X_{T'} \to Y_{T'} \). The locally noetherian hypothesis on \( T' \) can be removed as usual. Therefore \( T \times_{\text{Hilb}_{Y/S}} \text{Sect}_S(X,Y) \) is represented by \( U \).

**Proof of Theorem 3.1.1.** Let \( L \) be an invertible \( \mathcal{O}_Y \)-module ample relative to \( \pi : Y \to X \) and \( K \) an invertible \( \mathcal{O}_X \)-module ample relative to \( p : X \to S \). Choose an integer \( \chi_{n,m} \) for every pair of integers \( n,m \). Define the subfunctor
\[
\text{Hilb}_{Y/S}(\chi_{n,m}) \subset \text{Hilb}_{Y/S}
\]
to have \( T \)-points the closed subschemes \( Z \in \text{Hilb}_{Y/S}(T) \) such that for all \( t \in T \), the Euler characteristic \( \chi((\mathcal{O}_Z \otimes \mathcal{L}^\otimes n \otimes \pi^*(K^\otimes m))_t) = \chi_{n,m} \). We claim that the \( \text{Hilb}_{Y/S}(\chi_{n,m}) \) form a disjoint open cover of \( \text{Hilb}_{Y/S} \). This can be checked Zariski locally on \( S \), so we can assume \( S \) is noetherian using [EGAIV3, §8]. Then \( \text{Hilb}_{Y/S} \) is representable by a locally noetherian scheme [AK80, Corollary 2.7]. Since the Euler characteristic is locally constant [EGAII2, Théorème 7.9.4] and the connected components of a locally noetherian scheme are open [EGAI, Corollaire 6.1.9], we deduce the claim.

Now it suffices to show that for any choice of \( (\chi_{n,m}) \), the functor
\[
\text{Sect}_S(X,Y) \cap \text{Hilb}_{Y/S}(\chi_{n,m})
\]
is representable by a scheme finitely presented and locally quasi-projective over \( S \). The assertion is Zariski local on \( S \) [EGAG, 0, Corollaire 4.5.5], so we can assume that \( S \) is affine and noetherian. Now by [EGAII, Propositions 4.4.6, 4.6.12, 4.6.13], there exists a scheme \( \overline{Y} \) projective over \( X \), an open immersion \( Y \hookrightarrow \overline{Y} \), an invertible module \( \mathcal{L} \) ample relative to \( \overline{Y} \to S \), and positive integers \( a,b \) such that
\[
\mathcal{L}^\otimes a \otimes \pi^*(K^\otimes b) \simeq \mathcal{E}|_Y.
\]
Let \( \Phi \in \mathbb{Q}[\lambda] \) be a polynomial such that \( \Phi(n) = \chi_{na,nb} \) for all integers \( n \) (if no such polynomial exists, then \( \text{Hilb}_{Y/S}(\chi_{n,m}) \) is empty). Lemmas 3.1.6 and 3.1.8 and [AK80, Theorem 2.6, Step IV] imply that \( \text{Sect}_S(X,Y) \cap \text{Hilb}_{Y/S}(\chi_{n,m}) \) is an open subfunctor of \( \text{Hilb}_{Y/S}^{(\chi_{n,m})} \). The claim now follows from [AK80, Corollary 2.8] as an open immersion to a noetherian scheme is finitely presented. \( \square \)

**3.2. Morphisms between Hom stacks.** The goal of this subsection is to use our results on the scheme of sections to deduce that the diagonal of \( \text{Bun}_G \) is schematic when \( X \) is flat, finitely presented, and projective over \( S \).

**Lemma 3.2.1.** Suppose that \( X \to S \) is flat, finitely presented, and projective. Let \( F : \mathcal{Y}_1 \to \mathcal{Y}_2 \) be a schematic morphism between pseudo-functors. If \( F \) is quasi-projective (resp. affine) and of finite presentation, then the corresponding morphism
\[
\text{Hom}_S(X,\mathcal{Y}_1) \to \text{Hom}_S(X,\mathcal{Y}_2)
\]
is schematic and locally of finite presentation (resp. affine and of finite presentation).

Before proving the lemma, we mention the corollaries of interest.

**Corollary 3.2.2.** Suppose that \( X \to S \) is flat, finitely presented, and projective. Then the diagonal of \( \text{Bun}_G \) is schematic, affine, and finitely presented.
Proof. By Lemma 2.5.1, we deduce that the canonical morphism \( \text{Bun}_G \times G \to \text{Bun}_G \times \text{Bun}_G \) is an isomorphism. Applying Lemmas 2.5.2 and 3.2.1 to \( BG \to B(G \times G) \), we deduce that \( \text{Bun}_G \to \text{Bun}_{G \times G} \) is schematic, affine, and finitely presented, which proves the claim. \( \square \)

Remark 3.2.3. In line with Remark 2.0.3, we note that Corollary 3.2.2 holds if \( G \) is a group scheme affine and of finite presentation over a base \( S \).

Corollary 3.2.4. Let \( H \hookrightarrow G \) be a closed subgroup of \( G \). If \( X \to S \) is flat, finitely presented, and projective, then the corresponding morphism \( \text{Bun}_H \to \text{Bun}_G \) is schematic and locally of finite presentation.

Proof. This follows from Lemmas 2.4.1 and 3.2.1. \( \square \)

Proof of Lemma 3.2.1. Let \( \tau_2 : X_T \to Y_2 \) represent a morphism from \( T \to \text{Hom}_S(X, Y_2) \). Since \( F \) is schematic, the 2-fibered product \( Y_1 \times_{Y_2, \tau_2} X_T \) is representable by a scheme \( Y_T \). Let

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
Y_T & \xrightarrow{\tau_1} & Y_1 \\
\downarrow{\pi} & & \downarrow{F} \\
X_T & \xrightarrow{\tau_2} & Y_2
\end{array}
\]

be the 2-Cartesian square, with a 2-morphism \( \gamma : F(\tau_1) \simeq \pi^* \tau_2 \). Now for a \( T \)-scheme \( T' \), suppose that \( \tau_1' : X_{T'} \to Y_1 \) is a 1-morphism such that the square

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
X_{T'} & \xrightarrow{\tau_1'} & Y_1 \\
\downarrow{pr_1} & & \downarrow{F} \\
X_T & \xrightarrow{\tau_2} & Y_2
\end{array}
\]

is 2-commutative via a 2-morphism \( \gamma' : F(\tau_1') \simeq pr_1^* \tau_2 \). By the definition of 2-fibered products and the assumptions on \( Y_T \), there exists a unique morphism of schemes \( f : X_{T'} \to Y_T \) over \( X_T \) and a unique 2-morphism \( \phi : f^* \tau_1 \simeq \tau_1' \) such that

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
F(f^* \tau_1) & \sim & f^* F(\tau_1) \\
\downarrow{F(\phi)} & & \downarrow{f^* \pi^* \tau_2} \\
F(\tau_1') & \sim & pr_1^* \tau_2
\end{array}
\]

commutes. On the other hand, we have that

\[
(Hom_S(X, Y_1) /_{Hom_S(X, Y_2)} T)(T') = \{(T' \to T, \tau_1' : X_{T'} \to Y_1, \gamma' : F(\tau_1') \simeq pr_1^* \tau_2)\}
\]

by the 2-Yoneda lemma. Thus for a fixed \( T \)-scheme \( T' \) and a pair \( (\tau_1', \gamma') \), there is a unique \( f \in \text{Hom}_{X_T}(X_{T'}, Y_T) = \text{Sect}_T(X_T, Y_T)(T') \) such that

\[
(f^* \tau_1, f^* \gamma : F(f^* \tau_1) \simeq pr_1^* \tau_2) \in \left( Hom_S(X, Y_1) /_{Hom_S(X, Y_2)} T \right)(T')
\]
and there is a unique 2-morphism \((f^*\tau_1, f^*\gamma) \simeq (\tau'_1, \gamma')\) induced by \(\phi\). Therefore we have a Cartesian square

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
\text{Sect}_T(X_T, Y_T) & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{H}om_S(X, \mathcal{V}_1) \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
T & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{H}om_S(X, \mathcal{V}_2)
\end{array}
\]

We have that \(Y_T \rightarrow X_T\) is finitely presented and quasi-projective (resp. affine). By Lemma 3.1.4 and Theorem 3.1.1, we deduce that \(\text{Sect}_T(X_T, Y_T) \rightarrow T\) is schematic and locally of finite presentation (resp. affine and of finite presentation). \(\square\)

4. Presentation of \(\text{Bun}_G\)

Recall the definition of \(\text{Bun}_G\) from Definition 3.0.3. In this section, we prove Theorem 1.0.1. To do this, we embed \(G\) in \(\text{GL}_r\) and reduce to giving a presentation of the moduli stack of locally free modules of rank \(r\).

4.1. Proving \(\text{Bun}_G\) is algebraic. The general technique we use to prove results on \(G\)-bundles is to reduce to working with \(\text{GL}_r\)-bundles, which are particularly nice because \(\text{GL}_r\)-bundles are in fact equivalent to locally free modules, or vector bundles, of rank \(r\).

**Lemma 4.1.1.** The morphism from the \(k\)-stack

\[B_r : T \mapsto \{\text{locally free } \mathcal{O}_T\text{-modules of rank } r\} + \{\text{isomorphisms of } \mathcal{O}_T\text{-modules}\}\]

to \(\text{BGL}_r\) sending \(\mathcal{E} \mapsto \text{Isom}_T(\mathcal{O}_T^r, \mathcal{E})\) is an isomorphism.

**Proof.** First observe that \(B_r\) is an fpqc stack because QCoh is an fpqc stack [FGI+05, Theorem 4.2.3] and local freeness of rank \(r\) persists under fpqc morphisms [EGAIV2, Proposition 2.5.2]. There is a canonical simply transitive right action of \(\text{GL}_r\) on \(\text{Isom}_T(\mathcal{O}_T^r, \mathcal{E})\) by composition. Take a Zariski covering \((T_i \subset T)\) trivializing \(\mathcal{E}\). Then \(\mathcal{E}\) has a descent datum \((\mathcal{O}_T^r, g_{ij})\) for \(g_{ij} \in \text{GL}_r(T_i \cap T_j)\). Since \(\text{Isom}_T(\mathcal{O}_T^r, \mathcal{O}_T^r) \simeq T_i \times \text{GL}_r\), we have a descent datum \((T_i \times \text{GL}_r, g_{ij})\) corresponding to \(\text{Isom}_T(\mathcal{O}_T^r, \mathcal{E})\). Conversely, for any \(\mathcal{P} \in \text{BGL}_r(T)\), there exists a descent datum \((T_i \times \text{GL}_r, g_{ij})\) for \(\mathcal{P}\) over some fppf covering \((T_i \rightarrow T)\). For \(V\) the standard \(r\)-dimensional representation of \(\text{GL}_r\), we have that the twist \(pV\) is a module in \(B_r(T)\). By construction, \(pV\) has a descent datum \((\mathcal{O}_T^r, g_{ij})\). By comparing descent data, we deduce that \(\mathcal{E} \mapsto \text{Isom}_T(\mathcal{O}_T^r, \mathcal{E})\) is an isomorphism with inverse morphism \(\mathcal{P} \mapsto pV\). \(\square\)

Note that Lemma 4.1.1 implies that any \(\text{GL}_r\)-bundle is Zariski locally trivial. We will henceforth implicitly use the isomorphism \(B_r \simeq \text{BGL}_r\) to pass between locally free modules and \(\text{GL}_r\)-bundles.

Fix a base \(k\)-scheme \(S\) and let \(p : X \rightarrow S\) be a flat, strongly projective morphism. Fix a very ample invertible sheaf \(\mathcal{O}(1)\) on \(X\). Lemma 4.1.1 implies that \(\text{Bun}_{\text{GL}_r} \simeq \text{Bun}_r\), where \(\text{Bun}_r(T)\) is the groupoid of locally free \(\mathcal{O}_{X_T}\)-modules of rank \(r\). We say that an \(\mathcal{O}_{X_T}\)-module \(\mathcal{F}\) is relatively generated by global sections if the counit of adjunction \(p_T^* p_{\mathcal{F}} \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}\) is surjective.

Let \(\mathcal{F}\) be a quasi-coherent sheaf on \(X_T\), flat over \(T\). We say that \(\mathcal{F}\) is cohomologically flat over \(T\) in degree \(i\) (see [FGI+05, 8.3.10]) if for any Cartesian square

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
X_T & \xrightarrow{\nu} & X_T \\
\downarrow p_T & & \downarrow p_T \\
T' & \xrightarrow{u} & T
\end{array}
\]
the canonical morphism \( u^* R^i p_{T*} \mathcal{F} \to R^i p_{T*} (v^* \mathcal{F}) \) from \([FGI^+05, 8.2.19.3]\) is an isomorphism.

**Lemma 4.1.2.** For an \( S \)-scheme \( T \), let \( \mathcal{F} \) be a quasi-coherent sheaf on \( X_T \), flat over \( T \). If \( p_{T*} \mathcal{F} \) is flat and \( R^i p_{T*} \mathcal{F} = 0 \) for \( i > 0 \), then \( \mathcal{F} \) is cohomologically flat over \( T \) in all degrees. For this lemma, we only need \( p_T \) to be separated.

**Proof.** Consider the Cartesian square (4.1.1.1). To check that \( u^* R^i p_{T*} \mathcal{F} \to R^i p_{T*} (v^* \mathcal{F}) \) is an isomorphism, it suffices to restrict to an affine subset of \( T' \) lying over an affine subset of \( T \). By the base change formula \([FGI^+05, Theorem 8.3.2]\), we have a canonical quasi-isomorphism

\[
Lu^* R p_{T*} \mathcal{F} \sim R p_{T*} (v^* \mathcal{F})
\]

in the derived category \( D(T') \) of \( O_{T'} \)-modules. Since \( R^i p_{T*} \mathcal{F} = 0 \) for \( i > 0 \), truncation gives a quasi-isomorphism \( p_{T*} \mathcal{F} \sim R p_{T*} \mathcal{F} \). By flatness of \( p_{T*} \mathcal{F} \), we have \( Lu^* p_{T*} \mathcal{F} \sim u^* p_{T*} \mathcal{F} \).

Therefore \( u^* p_{T*} \mathcal{F} \sim R p_{T*} (v^* \mathcal{F}) \) in the derived category, and applying \( H^i \) gives

\[
u^* R^i p_{T*} \mathcal{F} \sim R^i p_{T*} (v^* \mathcal{F}),
\]

which is the canonical morphism of \([FGI^+05, 8.3.2.3]\). By \([FGI^+05, Theorem 8.3.2]\), this morphism is equal to the base change morphism of \([FGI^+05, 8.2.19.3]\). \( \square \)

**Proposition 4.1.3.** For an \( S \)-scheme \( T \), let

\[
\mathcal{U}_n(T) = \left\{ \mathcal{E} \in \text{Bun}_S(T) \mid \exists p_{T*} (\mathcal{E}(n)) = 0 \text{ for all } i > 0, \mathcal{E}(n) \text{ is relatively generated by global sections} \right\}
\]

be the full subgpoid of \( \text{Bun}_S(T) \). For \( \mathcal{E} \in \mathcal{U}_n(T) \), the direct image \( p_{T*} (\mathcal{E}(n)) \) is flat, and \( \mathcal{E}(n) \) is cohomologically flat over \( T \) in all degrees. In particular, the inclusion \( \mathcal{U}_n \hookrightarrow \text{Bun}_S \) makes \( \mathcal{U}_n \) a pseudo-functor.

**Proof.** For \( \mathcal{E} \in \mathcal{U}_n(T) \), let \( \mathcal{F} = \mathcal{E}(n) \). To prove \( p_{T*} \mathcal{F} \) is flat, we may restrict to an open affine of \( T \). Assuming \( T \) is affine, \( X_T \) is quasi-compact and separated. Thus we can choose a finite affine cover \( \mathfrak{U} = (U_j)_{j=1,...,N} \) of \( X_T \). Since \( X_T \) is separated, \([EGAIII1, Proposition 1.4.1]\) implies there is a canonical isomorphism

\[
\tilde{H}^i(\mathfrak{U}, \mathcal{F}) \sim H^i(X_T, \mathcal{F}).
\]

Since \( R^i p_{T*} \mathcal{F} \) is the quasi-coherent sheaf associated to \( H^i(X_T, \mathcal{F}) \) by \([EGAIII1, Proposition 1.4.10, Corollaire 1.4.11]\), we deduce that \( \tilde{H}^i(\mathfrak{U}, \mathcal{F}) = 0 \) for \( i > 0 \). Therefore we have an exact sequence

\[
0 \to \Gamma(X_T, \mathcal{F}) \to \check{C}^0(\mathfrak{U}, \mathcal{F}) \to \cdots \to \check{C}^{N-1}(\mathfrak{U}, \mathcal{F}) \to 0.
\]

Since \( \mathcal{F} \) is \( T \)-flat, \( \check{C}^i(\mathfrak{U}, \mathcal{F}) = \prod_{j_0 < ... < j_i} \Gamma(U_{j_0} \cap \cdots \cap U_{j_i}, \mathcal{F}) \) is also \( T \)-flat. By induction, we conclude that \( \Gamma(X_T, \mathcal{F}) \) is flat on \( T \). Therefore \( p_{T*} \mathcal{F} \) is \( T \)-flat. Consequently, Lemma 4.1.2 implies that \( \mathcal{F} \) is cohomologically flat over \( T \) in all degrees.

Now we wish to show that for a \( T \)-scheme \( T' \), the pullback \( \mathcal{F}_{T'} \) is relatively generated by global sections. This property is local on the base, so we may assume \( T \) and \( T' \) are affine. In this case, there exists a surjection \( \bigoplus O_{X_T} \to \mathcal{F} \), so pulling back gives a surjection \( \bigoplus O_{X_{T'}} \to \mathcal{F}_{T'} \), which shows that \( \mathcal{F}_{T'} \) is generated by global sections. We conclude that \( \mathcal{E}_{T'} \in \mathcal{U}_n(T') \), so \( \mathcal{U}_n \) is a pseudo-functor.

**Remark 4.1.4.** Suppose \( S \) is affine. Then \( \Gamma(S, O_S) \) is an inductive limit of finitely presented \( k \)-algebras, so by \([EGAIV3, \S 8]\) there exists an affine scheme \( S_1 \) of finite presentation over \( \text{Spec} \, k \), a morphism \( S \to S_1 \), and a flat projective morphism \( p_1 : X_1 \to S_1 \) which is equal to \( p \) after base change. We can then define all of our pseudo-functors with respect to \( p_1 : X_1 \to S_1 \) from \( \text{Sch}_{/S_1}^{op} \to \text{Gpd} \). The corresponding pseudo-functors for \( p \) are then obtained by the
4.1.4

Har77

4.1.3

EGAIV3

Corollary 4.1.6. Suppose $U$ is a scheme locally of finite type over $S$. Then $T \to T'$ factors through $U_n$.

Lemma 4.1.5. The pseudo-subfunctors $(\mathcal{U}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$ form an open cover of $\text{Bun}_r$.

Proof. Take an $S$-scheme $T$ and a locally free $\mathcal{O}_{X_T}$-module $\mathcal{E} \in \text{Bun}_r(T)$. Then the 2-fibered product $U_n \times_{\text{Bun}_r} T : (\text{Sch}/T)^{\text{op}} \to \text{Gpd}$ sends $T' \to T$ to the equivalence relation

$$\{ (\mathcal{E}' \in \mathcal{U}_n(T'), \mathcal{E}' \simeq \mathcal{E}_T) \} + \text{isomorphisms}.$$ 

Therefore we must prove that for each $n$, there exists an open subscheme $U_n \subset T$ with the universal property that $T' \to T$ factors through $U_n$ if and only if $R^i p_{T*}(\mathcal{E}_T(n)) = 0$ in degrees $i > 0$ and $\mathcal{E}_T(n)$ is relatively generated by global sections over $T'$.

The assertions are Zariski local on $S$, so by Remark 4.1.4 we can assume that $S$ is the spectrum of a finitely generated $k$-algebra (and hence an affine noetherian scheme).

We can assume $T$ is affine and express it as a projective limit $\varprojlim T_\lambda$ of spectra of finitely generated $\Gamma(S, \mathcal{O}_S)$-algebras. Since $X \to S$ is proper, $X$ is quasi-compact and separated. The fibered products $X_{T_\lambda}$ are affine over $X$. Therefore applying [EGAIV3, Théorème 3.2.1], Proposition 8.5.5] to $X_T = \varprojlim X_{T_\lambda}$, we find that there exists $\lambda$ and a locally free $\mathcal{O}_{X_T}$-module $\mathcal{E}_\lambda$ that pulls back to $\mathcal{E}$. Hence $T \to \text{Bun}_r$ factors through $T_\lambda$. Replacing $T$ with $T_\lambda$, we can assume that $T$ is affine and noetherian.

Set $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{E}(n)$. Let $U_n \subset T$ be the subset of points $t \in T$ where $H^i(X_t, \mathcal{F}_t) = 0$ for $i > 0$ and $\Gamma(X_t, \mathcal{F}_t) \otimes \mathcal{O}_{X_t} \to \mathcal{F}_t$ is surjective. By coherence of $\mathcal{F}$ and Nakayama’s lemma, the set of points where $\Gamma(X_t, \mathcal{F}_t) \otimes \mathcal{O}_{X_t} \to \mathcal{F}_t$ forms an open subset of $T$. Since $X$ is quasi-compact, it can be covered by $N$ affines. Base changing, we have that $X_t$ can also be covered by $N$ affines. Since $X_t$ is quasi-compact and separated, $H^i(X_t, \mathcal{F}_t)$ can be computed using Čech cohomology, from which we see that $H^i(X_t, \mathcal{F}_t) = 0$ for $i \geq N$ and all $t \in T$. For fixed $i$, the set of $t \in T$ where $H^i(X_t, \mathcal{F}_t) = 0$ is an open subset by [Har77, III, Theorem 12.8]. By intersecting finitely many open subsets, we conclude that $U_n$ is an open subset of $T$. For $t \in U_n$, we have by [Har77, III, Theorem 12.11] that $R^i p_{T*} \mathcal{F} \otimes \kappa(t) = 0$ for $i > 0$. Since $p$ is proper, $R^i p_* \mathcal{F}$ is coherent [EGAIII1, Théorème 3.2.1]. By Nakayama’s lemma, this implies that

$$R^i p_{U_n*}(\mathcal{F}_{U_n}) \simeq (R^i p_{T*} \mathcal{F})|_{U_n} = 0.$$ 

We also have by Nakayama’s lemma that $\mathcal{F}_{U_n}$ is relatively generated by global sections over $U_n$. Therefore $\mathcal{F}_{U_n} \subset U_n(U_n)$.

Now suppose there is a morphism $u : T' \to T$ such that $R^i p_{T'*} \mathcal{F}_{T'} = 0$ for $i > 0$ and $\mathcal{F}_{T'}$ is relatively generated by global sections. Take $t' \in T'$ and set $t = u(t')$. By Proposition 4.1.3, we have that $H^i(X_{t'}, \mathcal{F}_{t'}) = 0$ for $i > 0$. Since $\text{Spec } \kappa(t') \to \text{Spec } \kappa(t)$ is faithfully flat, [Har77, III, Proposition 9.3] implies that

$$H^i(X_t, \mathcal{F}_t) \otimes \kappa(t') \simeq H^i(X_{t'}, \mathcal{F}_{t'}) = 0,$$ 

and therefore $H^i(X_t, \mathcal{F}_t) = 0$ for $i > 0$. We also have from Proposition 4.1.3 and faithful flatness that $\Gamma(X_{t'}, \mathcal{F}_{t'}) \otimes \mathcal{O}_{X_{t'}} \to \mathcal{F}_{t'}$ implies $\Gamma(X_t, \mathcal{F}_t) \otimes \mathcal{O}_{X_t} \to \mathcal{F}_t$. This proves that $u$ factors through $U_n$.

By [Har77, III, Theorem 5.2(b)], there exists an $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $R^i p_{T*}(\mathcal{E}(n)) = 0$ for $i > 0$ and $\mathcal{E}(n)$ is generated by global sections. Therefore the collection $(U_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$ form an open cover of $T$. □

Corollary 4.1.6. Suppose $S$ is affine and $T$ is an affine scheme mapping to $U_n$. Then $T \to U_n$ factors through a scheme locally of finite type over $S$. 

\footnote{By an equivalence relation, we mean a groupoid whose only automorphisms are the identities.}
Proof. From the proof of Lemma 4.1.5, the composition $T \to \text{Bun}_r$ factors through a scheme $T_1$ of finite type over $S$. Thus $T \to \mathcal{U}_n$ factors through $\mathcal{U}_n \times_{\text{Bun}_r} T_1$, which is representable by an open subscheme of $T_1$ by Lemma 4.1.5. \hfill \Box

Remark 4.1.7. For an $S$-scheme $T$ and $\mathcal{E} \in \mathcal{U}_n(T)$, we claim that the direct image $p_{T,*}(\mathcal{E}(n))$ is a locally free $\mathcal{O}_T$-module of finite rank. The claim is Zariski local on $T$, so we can assume both $S$ and $T$ are affine. We reduce to the case where $S$ is noetherian by Remark 4.1.4. By Corollary 4.1.6, there exists a locally noetherian $S$-scheme $T_1$, a Cartesian square

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}
X_T & \xrightarrow{v} & X_{T_1} \\
\downarrow p_T & & \downarrow p_{T_1} \\
T & \xrightarrow{u} & T_1
\end{array}
$$

and $\mathcal{E}_1 \in \mathcal{U}_n(T_1)$ such that $v^*\mathcal{E}_1 \simeq \mathcal{E}$. The direct image $p_{T,*}(\mathcal{E}_1(n))$ is flat and coherent by Proposition 4.1.3 and [EGAIII, Théorème 3.2.1], hence locally free of finite rank. By cohomological flatness of $\mathcal{E}_1(n)$, we have $p_{T,*}(\mathcal{E}(n)) \simeq u^*p_{T_1,*}(\mathcal{E}_1(n))$, which proves the claim.

For a polynomial $\Phi \in \mathbb{Q}[\lambda]$, define a pseudo-subfunctor $\text{Bun}_r^\Phi \subset \text{Bun}_r$ by letting

$$\text{Bun}_r^\Phi(T) = \{ \mathcal{E} \in \text{Bun}_r(T) \mid \Phi(m) = \chi(\mathcal{E}_t(m)) \text{ for all } t \in T, m \in \mathbb{Z} \}$$

be the full subgroupoid. For a locally noetherian $S$-scheme $T$ and $\mathcal{E} \in \mathcal{U}_n(T)$, the Hilbert polynomial of $\mathcal{E}_t$ is a locally constant function on $T$ by [EGAIII2, Théorème 7.9.4]. Therefore we deduce from Remark 4.1.4 and the proof of Lemma 4.1.5 that the $(\text{Bun}_r^\Phi)_{\Phi \in \mathbb{Q}[\lambda]}$ form a disjoint open cover of $\text{Bun}_r$. Let

$$\mathcal{U}_n^\Phi = \mathcal{U}_n \cap \text{Bun}_r^\Phi,$$

so that $(\mathcal{U}_n^\Phi)_{\Phi \in \mathbb{Q}[\lambda]}$ give a disjoint open cover of $\mathcal{U}_n$. For a general $S$-scheme $T$ and $\mathcal{E} \in \mathcal{U}_n^\Phi(T)$, the direct image $p_{T,*}(\mathcal{E}(n))$ is locally free of finite rank by Remark 4.1.7. By cohomological flatness of $\mathcal{E}(n)$ and the assumption that $\mathcal{R}^i p_{T,*}(\mathcal{E}(n)) = 0$ for $i > 0$, we find that $H^0(X_t, \mathcal{E}_t(n)) \simeq p_{T,*}(\mathcal{E}(n)) \otimes \kappa(t)$ is a vector space of dimension $\Phi(n)$. Hence $p_{T,*}(\mathcal{E}(n))$ is locally free of rank $\Phi(n)$.

Since $\text{Bun}_r$ is an fpqc stack, [Sta, Lemma 05UN] shows that all the pseudo-functors defined in the previous paragraph are in fact also fpqc stacks.

Our goal now is to find schemes with smooth surjective morphisms to the $\mathcal{U}_n^\Phi$. To do this, we will introduce a few additional pseudo-functors.

We define the pseudo-functors $\mathcal{Y}_n^\Phi : (\mathbf{Sch}_S)^{\text{op}} \to \mathbf{Gpd}$. For an $S$-scheme $T$, let

$$\mathcal{Y}_n^\Phi(T) = \left\{ (\mathcal{E}, \phi, \psi) \mid \mathcal{E} \in \mathcal{U}_n^\Phi(T), \phi : \mathcal{O}_{X_T}^{\Phi(n)} \to \mathcal{E}(n) \text{ is surjective,} \right. \left. \text{the adjoint morphism } \psi : \mathcal{O}_T^{\Phi(n)} \to p_{T,*}(\mathcal{E}(n)) \text{ is an isomorphism} \right\},$$

where a morphism $(\mathcal{E}, \phi, \psi) \to (\mathcal{E}', \phi', \psi')$ is an isomorphism $f : \mathcal{E} \to \mathcal{E}'$ satisfying $f_n \circ \phi = \phi'$, for $f_n = f \otimes \text{id}_{\mathcal{O}(n)} : \mathcal{E}(n) \simeq \mathcal{E}'(n)$. The latter condition is equivalent to $p_{T,*}(f_n) \circ \psi = \psi'$, by adjunction. An isomorphism $\psi$ is the same as specifying $\Phi(n)$ elements of $\Gamma(X_T, \mathcal{E}(n))$ that form a basis of $p_{T,*}(\mathcal{E}(n))$ as an $\mathcal{O}_T$-module. Note that $\mathcal{Y}_n^\Phi(T)$ is an equivalence relation.

Lemma 4.1.8. Suppose we have a Cartesian square

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}
X_T & \xrightarrow{v} & X_T \\
\downarrow p_{T'} & & \downarrow p_T \\
T' & \xrightarrow{u} & T
\end{array}
$$

...
Let $\mathcal{M}$ be an $\mathcal{O}_T$-module, $\mathcal{N}$ an $\mathcal{O}_{X_T}$-module, and $\phi: p_T^*\mathcal{M} \to \mathcal{N}$ a morphism of $\mathcal{O}_{X_T}$-modules. If $\psi: \mathcal{M} \to p_T\mathcal{N}$ is the adjoint morphism, then the composition of $u^*(\psi)$ with the base change morphism $u^* p_T \mathcal{N} \to p_T^* \mathcal{N}$ corresponds via adjunction of $p_T^*, u^*$ to $v^*(\phi): p_T^* u^* \mathcal{M} \simeq v^* p_T^* \mathcal{M} \to v^* \mathcal{N}$.

**Proof.** Take $v^*(\phi): v^* p_T^* \mathcal{M} \to v^* \mathcal{N}$. The isomorphism $p_T^* u^* \mathcal{M} \simeq v^* p_T^* \mathcal{M}$ follows by adjunction from the equality $u_{pT} = pTv$. Therefore it suffices to show that the two morphisms in question are equal after adjunction as morphisms $\mathcal{M} \to p_Tv^* \mathcal{N} = u_{pT}v^* \mathcal{N}$. On the one hand, the adjoint of $v^*(\phi)$ under $v$, $v^*$ is the composition $p_T^* \mathcal{M} \to v_* v^* p_T^* \mathcal{M} \to v_* v^* \mathcal{N}$. By naturality of the unit of adjunction, this morphism is equal to the composition $p_T^* \mathcal{M} \to \mathcal{N} \to v_* v^* \mathcal{N}$. By adjunction under $p_T, p_T^*$, this morphism corresponds to

$$\mathcal{M} \to p_T^* \mathcal{N} \to p_Tv^* \mathcal{N}.$$ 

On the other hand, the adjoint of $u^* \mathcal{M} \to u^* p_T \mathcal{N} \to p_T^* v^* \mathcal{N}$ under $u, u^*$ is equal to $\mathcal{M} \to p_{T*} \mathcal{N} \to u_* p_{T*} v^* \mathcal{N} = p_{Tv} v^* \mathcal{N}$. By definition of the base change morphism [FGI⁺05, 8.2.19.2-3], the latter morphism $p_{Tv} \mathcal{N} \to p_{T*} v^* \mathcal{N}$ is $p_{Tv}$ applied to the unit morphism. Hence the two morphisms under consideration are the same. □

Letting $M = \mathcal{O}_{X_T}^Q(n)$ and $N = \mathcal{E}(n)$ in Lemma 4.1.8, we see that the pullbacks of $\phi$ and $\psi$ are compatible. Thus $\mathcal{O}_{X_T}^Q$ has the structure of a pseudo-functor in an unambiguous way.

**Lemma 4.1.9.** For $\Psi \in \mathbb{Q}[\lambda]$, define the pseudo-functor $W^\Psi : (\text{Sch}/S)^{op} \to \text{Gpd}$ by

$$W^\Psi(T) = \{(F, \phi) \mid F \in \text{Bun}_{\mathcal{E}}^\Psi(T), \phi: \mathcal{O}_{X_T}^{\Psi(0)} \to F\}$$

where a morphism $(F, \phi) \to (F', \phi')$ is an isomorphism $f: F \to F'$ satisfying $f \circ \phi = \phi'$. Then $W^\Psi$ is representable by a strongly quasi-projective $S$-scheme.

**Proof.** Note that the $W^\Psi(T)$ are equivalence relations, so by considering sets of equivalence classes, $W^\Psi$ is isomorphic to a subfunctor

$$W^\Psi \subset \text{Quot}_{\mathcal{O}_{X_T}^{\Psi(1)}}^{\mathcal{O}_{X_T}^{\Psi(0)} / X/S} =: Q.$$ 

[AK80, Theorem 2.6] shows that $Q$ is representable by a scheme strongly projective over $S$. We show that $W^\Psi \to Q$ is schematic, open, and finitely presented, which will imply that $W^\Psi \simeq W^\Psi$ is representable by a strongly quasi-projective $S$-scheme. The claim is Zariski local on $S$, so by [EGAG, 0, Corollaire 4.5.5] and Remark 4.1.4, we can assume $S$ is noetherian.

Let $T$ be an $S$-scheme and $(F, \phi) \in Q(T)$. Let $U \subset X_T$ be the set of points $x$ where the stalk $F \otimes \mathcal{O}_{X_T,x}$ is free. Since $F$ is coherent, $U$ is an open subset. In particular, it is the maximal open subset such that $F|_U$ is locally free. We claim that the open subset

$$T - p_T(X_T - U) \subset T$$

represents the fibered product $W^\Psi \times_Q T$. This is equivalent to saying that a morphism $T' \to T$ lands in $T - p_T(X_T - U)$ if and only if $F_{T'}$ is locally free. If $T' \to T$ lands in $T - p_T(X_T - U)$, then $X_{T'} \to X_T$ lands in $U$, which implies $F_{T'}$ is locally free. Conversely, suppose we start with a morphism $T' \to T$ such that $F_{T'}$ is locally free. Assume for the sake of contradiction that there exists $t' \in T$ and $x \in X_T$ that morphism to the same point $t \in T$ such that $F \otimes \mathcal{O}_{X_T,x}$ is not free. We have Cartesian squares

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
(X_T)_t & \to & (X_T)_{t'} \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
\text{Spec } \kappa(t') & \to & \text{Spec } \kappa(t) \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
T & \to & T
\end{array}$$
where Spec $\kappa(t') \to \Spec \kappa(t)$ is faithfully flat. Then $F_{r'} \simeq F_t \otimes_{\kappa(t)} \kappa(t')$ is a flat $O_{X_{r'}}$-module.

By faithful flatness, this implies that $F_t$ is flat over $O_{X_t}$. Recall from the definition of $O_{X_t}$ that $F$ is assumed to be $T$-flat. Therefore $F \otimes O_{X_t,x}$ is $O_{T,t}$-flat and $F_t \otimes O_{X_t,x}$ is $O_{X_t,x}$-flat. By [Mat80, 20.6], we conclude that $F \otimes O_{X_t,x}$ is $O_{X_t,x}$-flat and hence a free module. We therefore have a contradiction, so $T' \to T$ must factor through $T - p_T(X_T - U)$. Letting $T = Q$, we have shown that $\mathcal{W}^\Phi$ is representable by an open subscheme of $Q$. Since $S$ is noetherian, $Q$ is also noetherian. Therefore $\mathcal{W}^\Phi \to Q$ is finitely presented. 

\[ \textbf{Lemma 4.1.10.} \] The pseudo-functor $\mathcal{Y}_n^\Phi$ is representable by a scheme $Y_n^\Phi$ which is strongly quasi-projective over $S$.

\[ \textbf{Proof.} \] Define the polynomial $\Psi \in \mathbb{Q}[\lambda]$ by $\Psi(\lambda) = \Phi(\lambda + n)$. Let $W^\Phi$ be the pseudo-functor of Lemma 4.1.9. Then there is a morphism $W^\Phi \to \text{Bun}^\Phi_{\mathbb{Q}}$ by sending $(F, \phi) \mapsto F(-n)$. The corresponding 2-fibered product $U^\Phi_n \times_{\text{Bun}^\Phi_{\mathbb{Q}}} W^\Phi$ is isomorphic to the pseudo-functor $Z_n^\Phi : (\mathbf{Sch}/S)^{op} \to \mathbf{Gpd}$ defined by

$$Z_n^\Phi(T) = \{ (\mathcal{E}, \phi) \mid \mathcal{E} \in U_n^\Phi(T), \phi : O_{X_{\mathcal{E}}} \to \mathcal{E}(n) \}$$

where a morphism $(\mathcal{E}, \phi) \to (\mathcal{E}', \phi')$ is an isomorphism if $f : \mathcal{E} \to \mathcal{E}'$ satisfying $f_n \circ \phi = \phi'$. By Lemma 4.1.5, the morphism $Z_n^\Phi \to W^\Phi$ is schematic and open, so Lemma 4.1.9 implies that $Z_n^\Phi$ is representable by an open subscheme $Z_n^\Phi$ of $W^\Phi$. We claim that $Z_n^\Phi \to W^\Phi$ is finitely presented. By Remark 4.1.4, we can reduce to the case where $S$ is noetherian, and now the assertion is trivial. Therefore $Z_n^\Phi$ is strongly quasi-projective over $S$.

Next we show that the morphism $\mathcal{Y}_n^\Phi \to Z_n^\Phi$ sending $(\mathcal{E}, \phi, \psi) \mapsto (\mathcal{E}, \phi)$ is schematic, open, and finitely presented. By [EGAG, 0, Corollaire 4.5.5] and Remark 4.1.4, we assume $S$ is noetherian.

Take $(\mathcal{E}, \phi) \in Z_n^\Phi(T)$ and let $\psi$ be the adjoint morphism $O_T^{\Phi(n)} \to p_{T*}(\mathcal{E}(n))$. Define the open subscheme $U \subset T$ to be the complement of the support of $\text{coker}(\psi)$. By Nakayama’s lemma and faithful flatness of field extensions, a morphism $u : T' \to T$ lands in $U$ if and only if the pullback $u^*(\psi)$ is a surjection. Since $O_T^{\Phi(n)}$ and $p_{T*}(\mathcal{E}(n))$ are locally free $O_T$-modules of the same rank, $u^*(\psi)$ is surjective if and only if it is an isomorphism. Recall from Proposition 4.1.3 that the base change morphism $u^*p_{T*}(\mathcal{E}(n)) \to p_{T*}(\mathcal{E}(n))$ is an isomorphism. Thus the compatibility assertion of Lemma 4.1.8 shows that $u^*(\psi)$ is an isomorphism if and only if the adjoint of $v^*(\phi)$ is an isomorphism, for $v : X_{\mathcal{E}} \to X_T$. Thus $U$ represents the fibered product $\mathcal{Y}_n^\Phi \times_{Z_n^\Phi} T$. Taking $T = Z_n^\Phi$, which is noetherian, we deduce that $\mathcal{Y}_n^\Phi \to Z_n^\Phi$ is schematic, open, and finitely presented. Therefore $\mathcal{Y}_n^\Phi$ is representable by a strongly quasi-projective $S$-scheme.

\[ \textbf{Lemma 4.1.11.} \] There is a canonical right $\text{GL}_{\Phi(n)}$-action on $Y_n^\Phi$ such that the morphism $Y_n^\Phi \to U_n^\Phi$ sending $(\mathcal{E}, \phi, \psi) \mapsto \mathcal{E}$ is a $\text{GL}_{\Phi(n)}$-bundle. Lemma 2.1.1 gives an isomorphism

$$U_n^\Phi \simeq [Y_n^\Phi/\text{GL}_{\Phi(n)}]$$

sending $\mathcal{E} \in U_n^\Phi(T)$ to a $\text{GL}_{\Phi(n)}$-equivariant morphism $\text{Isom}_T(O_{\mathcal{E}(n)}^{\Phi(n)}, p_{T*}(\mathcal{E}(n))) \to Y_n^\Phi$.

\[ \textbf{Proof.} \] We define an action morphism $\alpha : \mathcal{Y}_n^\Phi \times \text{GL}_{\Phi(n)} \to \mathcal{Y}_n^\Phi$ by sending

$$((\mathcal{E}, \phi, \psi), g) \mapsto (\mathcal{E}, \phi \circ p_T^*(g), \psi \circ g)$$

over an $S$-scheme $T$. Then the diagram

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
\mathcal{Y}_n^\Phi \times \text{GL}_{\Phi(n)} & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & \mathcal{Y}_n^\Phi \\
\downarrow p_T & & \downarrow \\
\mathcal{Y}_n^\Phi & \xrightarrow{p_T} & U_n^\Phi
\end{array}
\]
is 2-commutative where the 2-morphism is just the identity. Then \( \alpha \) induces a right \( GL_{\Phi(n)}^- \) action on \( Y_n^\Phi \) by taking equivalence classes, i.e., we have a 2-commutative square

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
Y_n^\Phi \times GL_{\Phi(n)}^- & \longrightarrow & Y_n^\Phi \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
Y_n^\Phi \times GL_{\Phi(n)}^- & \underset{\alpha}{\longrightarrow} & Y_n^\Phi
\end{array}
\]

and the associated 2-morphism must satisfy the associativity condition of 2.1.3(2) because \( Y_n^\Phi(T) \) is an equivalence relation. We deduce that \( Y_n^\Phi \rightarrow U_n^\Phi \) is \( GL_{\Phi(n)}^- \)-invariant.

For an \( S \)-scheme \( T \), let \( \mathcal{E} \in U_n^\Phi(T) \). Then the direct image \( \Phi^\bullet \mathcal{E} \) is the right \( GL_n \)-equivariant invertible sheaf on \( X_n \). Since \( Y_n^\Phi \) is the right \( GL_n \)-equivariant invertible sheaf on \( X_n \), it follows that for any \( \mathcal{E} \), we have an isomorphism

\[
\phi \circ \mathcal{E} \cong \Phi^\bullet \mathcal{E}.
\]

In fact, we can say a little more about the structure of \( Y_n^\Phi \), and this will be useful in \( \S 5 \).

**Lemma 4.1.12.** There exists a \( GL_{\Phi(n)}^- \)-equivariant invertible sheaf on \( Y_n^\Phi \) that is very ample over \( S \).

**Proof.** Define the polynomial \( \Psi(\lambda) = \Phi(\lambda+n) \) and let \( Q = \text{Quot}^{\Psi(\lambda+n)}_{\mathcal{O}_X(n)/X/S} \). By [AK80, Theorem 2.6], there exists an integer \( m \) and a closed immersion

\[
Q \hookrightarrow \mathbb{P} \left( \bigwedge_{n} p_{\ast}(\mathcal{O}_X^{\Phi(n)}(m)) \right).
\]

Let \( \mathcal{O}_Q(1) \) be the very ample invertible \( \mathcal{O}_Q \)-module corresponding to this immersion. [AK80, Theorem 2.6] also implies that for a morphism \( q : T \rightarrow Q \) corresponding to \( \mathcal{O}_{X_T}^{\Phi(n)} \rightarrow \mathcal{F} \), we have a canonical isomorphism \( q^\ast(\mathcal{O}_Q(1)) \cong \bigwedge_{n} p_{\ast}(\mathcal{F}(m)) \). From Lemmas 4.1.9 and 4.1.10, we have an immersion

\[
Y_n^\Phi \hookrightarrow Q : (\mathcal{E}, \phi, \psi) \mapsto (\phi \circ \mathcal{E} \cong \Phi^\bullet \mathcal{E})
\]

Thus for any morphism \( \gamma : T \rightarrow Y_n^\Phi \) corresponding to \( \mathcal{E}, \phi, \psi \), there exists a canonical isomorphism

\[
y^\ast(\mathcal{O}_Q(1)|_{Y_n^\Phi}) \cong \bigwedge_{n} \Phi^\bullet(\mathcal{E}(n+m)).
\]

Therefore \( y^\ast(\mathcal{O}_Q(1)|_{Y_n^\Phi}) \) only depends on the image of \( y \) in \( U_n^\Phi(T) \). Since \( Y_n^\Phi \rightarrow U_n^\Phi \) is \( GL_{\Phi(n)}^- \)-invariant, it follows that for any \( g \in GL_{\Phi(n)}^- \),
there is a canonical isomorphism $y^*(\mathcal{O}_Q(1)|_{\mathcal{Y}_n^\Phi}) \simeq (y.g)^*(\mathcal{O}_Q(1)|_{\mathcal{Y}_n^n})$. This gives the very ample invertible sheaf $\mathcal{O}_Q(1)|_{\mathcal{Y}_n^n}$ a $\text{GL}_{\Phi(n)}$-equivariant structure. \hfill $\square$

**Proof of Theorem 1.0.1.** We know the diagonal of $\text{Bun}_G$ is schematic, affine, and finitely presented by Corollary 3.2.2. For any affine algebraic group $G$, there exists an integer $r$ such that $G \subset \text{GL}_r$ is a closed subgroup [DG70, II, §2, Théorème 3.3].

First, we prove the theorem for $\text{GL}_r$. Lemma 4.1.11 implies that the morphisms $\mathcal{Y}_n^\Phi \to \mathcal{U}_n^\Phi$ are smooth and surjective. By taking an open covering of $S$ and using [EGAG, 0, Corollaire 4.5.5] and Lemma 4.1.10, we see that each $\mathcal{Y}_n^\Phi$ is representable by a scheme $\mathcal{Y}_n^\Phi$ of finite presentation over $S$. The morphism

$$Y = \bigsqcup_{n \in \mathbb{Z}, \Phi \in \mathbb{Q}[\lambda]} \mathcal{Y}_n^\Phi \to \text{Bun}_r$$

is then smooth and surjective by Lemma 4.1.5, where $Y$ is locally of finite presentation over $S$. Therefore $\text{Bun}_r$ is an algebraic stack locally of finite presentation over $S$. It follows from [Sta, Lemma 05UN] that all $\mathcal{U}_n^\Phi \subset \text{Bun}_r$ are algebraic stacks, and they are of finite presentation over $S$ since the $\mathcal{Y}_n^\Phi$ are.

By Corollary 3.2.4, the morphism $\text{Bun}_G \to \text{Bun}_r$ corresponding to $G \subset \text{GL}_r$ is schematic and locally of finite presentation. Consider the Cartesian squares

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
\tilde{Y}_n^\Phi & \to & \tilde{U}_n^\Phi \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
Y_n^\Phi & \to & U_n^\Phi \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
\text{Bun}_G & \to & \text{Bun}_r
\end{array}$$

where by base change, the morphisms $\tilde{Y}_n^\Phi \to \tilde{U}_n^\Phi$ are smooth and surjective, and the $\tilde{U}_n^\Phi$ form an open covering of $\text{Bun}_G$. From Theorem 3.1.1 and Corollary 3.2.4, we deduce that $\tilde{Y}_n^\Phi$ is representable by a disjoint union of schemes of finite presentation over $S$. Applying [Sta, Lemma 05UP] to the smooth surjective morphism $\tilde{Y}_n^\Phi \to \tilde{U}_n^\Phi$, we conclude that $\text{Bun}_G$ is covered by open substacks of finite presentation over $S$. \hfill $\square$

### 4.2. Examples

We can say a little more about the properties of $\text{Bun}_G$ after imposing extra conditions on $G$ and $X \to S$. In this subsection we discuss a few such examples.

#### 4.2.1. Case of a curve

In the following example, assume $S = \text{Spec} k$ and $k$ is algebraically closed. Let $X$ be a smooth projective integral scheme of dimension 1 over $k$. We mention some examples concerning the previous constructions in this situation.

First we show that for a locally free $\mathcal{O}_X$-module $\mathcal{E}$ of rank $r$, the Hilbert polynomial is determined by $\deg \mathcal{E}$. Let $K(X)$ denote the Grothendieck group of $X$. By [Man69, Corollary 10.8], the homomorphism

$$K(X) \to \text{Pic}(X) \oplus \mathbb{Z}$$

sending a coherent sheaf $\mathcal{F} \in \text{Coh}(X)$ to $(\det \mathcal{F}, \text{rk} \mathcal{F})$ is an isomorphism, and the inverse homomorphism sends $(\mathcal{L}, m) \mapsto [\mathcal{L}] + (m - 1)|\mathcal{O}_X|$. Therefore $[\mathcal{E}] = [\det \mathcal{E}] + (r - 1)|\mathcal{O}_X|$ in $K(X)$. Tensoring by $\mathcal{O}(n)$, we deduce that

$$[\mathcal{E}(n)] = [(\det \mathcal{E}) \otimes \mathcal{O}(n)] + (r - 1)|\mathcal{O}(n)|.$$ 

Applying $\deg$ to this equality, we find that $\deg \mathcal{E}(n) = \deg \mathcal{E} + r \deg \mathcal{O}(n)$, or equivalently $\chi(\mathcal{E}(n)) = \deg \mathcal{E} + r \chi(\mathcal{O}(n))$. Therefore $\text{Bun}_r$ is a disjoint union of $(\text{Bun}_r^d)_{d \in \mathbb{Z}}$, the substacks of locally free sheaves of rank $r$ which are fiber-wise of degree $d$, and the previous results hold with $\text{Bun}_r^d$ replaced by $\text{Bun}_r^d$. We also note that since $\dim X = 1$, for any $\mathcal{O}_X$-module $\mathcal{F}$, the higher
cohomologies $H^i(X, \mathcal{F}) = 0$ for $i > 1$ by [Tôhoku, Théorème 3.6.5]. Therefore the substacks $U_n$ are characterized by relative generation by global sections and vanishing of $R^ip_{T*}$.

Theorem 1.0.1 says that $\text{Bun}_r$ is locally of finite type over $k$, so the stack is a disjoint union of connected components (take the images of the connected components of a presentation using [Sta, Lemma 05UP]). By considering degrees, $\text{Bun}_r$ has infinitely many connected components, so it is not quasi-compact. One might ask if the connected components of $\text{Bun}_r$ are quasi-compact. The following example shows that this should not be expected to be the case in general.

**Example 4.2.2.** There exists a connected component of $\text{Bun}_2$ that is not quasi-compact. First we show that there exists $n_0$ such that $\mathcal{O}_X^2$ and $\mathcal{O}(-n) \oplus \mathcal{O}(n) \in \text{Bun}_2(k)$ all lie in the same connected component of $\text{Bun}_2$ for $n \geq n_0$. By Serre’s Theorem [Har77, II, Theorem 5.17], there exists $n_0$ such that $\mathcal{O}_X^2(n)$ is generated by finitely many global sections for $n \geq n_0$. Fix such an $n$. Using the fact that $\dim X = 1$, it follows from a lemma of Serre [Mum66, pg. 148] that there exists a section $s \in \Gamma(X, \mathcal{O}_X^2(n))$ that is nonzero in $\mathcal{O}_X^2(n) \otimes \kappa(x)$ for all closed points $x \in X(k)$. This gives a short exact sequence of $\mathcal{O}_X$-modules

$$0 \to \mathcal{O}(-n) \to \mathcal{O}_X^2 \to \mathcal{L} \to 0$$

where $\mathcal{L}$ is locally free of rank 1. From the definition of the determinant, we have

$$\mathcal{L} \simeq \det \mathcal{L} \simeq \bigwedge^2 (\mathcal{O}_X^2) \otimes \mathcal{O}(n) \simeq \mathcal{O}(n).$$

Therefore $\mathcal{O}_X^2$ is an extension of $\mathcal{O}(n)$ by $\mathcal{O}(-n)$. By [Tôhoku, Corollaire 4.2.3], we have $\text{Ext}^1_{\mathcal{O}_X}(\mathcal{O}(n), \mathcal{O}(-n)) \simeq H^1(X, \mathcal{O}(-2n))$, which is a finite dimensional $k$-vector space [Har77, III, Theorem 5.2]. Let

$$\mathbf{V} = \text{Spec} \text{Sym}_k(H^1(X, \mathcal{O}(-2n))^\vee).$$

For an affine noetherian $k$-scheme $T = \text{Spec} A$, we have $\text{Hom}_k(T, \mathbf{V}) \simeq H^1(X, \mathcal{O}(-2n)) \otimes_k A$. By cohomology and flat base change [Har77, III, Proposition 9.3], this gives

$$\text{Hom}_k(T, \mathbf{V}) \simeq H^1(X_T, \mathcal{O}_{X_T}(-2n)) \simeq \text{Ext}^1_{\mathcal{O}_{X_T}}(\mathcal{O}_{X_T}(n), \mathcal{O}_{X_T}(-n)).$$

The identity morphism $\text{id}_T$ corresponds to some extension of $\mathcal{O}_{X_T}(n)$ by $\mathcal{O}_{X_T}(-n)$, which must be a locally free $\mathcal{O}_{X_T}$-module of rank 2. This defines a morphism $T \to \text{Bun}_2$. We have that $\mathcal{O}_X^2$ and $\mathcal{O}(-n) \oplus \mathcal{O}(n)$ both correspond to $k$-points of $\mathbf{V}$. Since $\mathbf{V}$ is connected, this implies that these two points lie in the same connected component of $\text{Bun}_2$. Now suppose there exists a quasi-compact scheme $Y^o$ with a surjective morphism to the connected component of $\text{Bun}_2$ in question. The morphism $Y^o \to \text{Bun}_2$ corresponds to a locally free sheaf $\mathcal{E}$ of rank 2 on $X_{Y^o}$. We can assume $Y^o$ is noetherian by [EGAIV3, §8]. Then by [Har77, II, Theorem 5.17], there exists an integer $n \geq n_0$ such that $\mathcal{E}(n)$ is relatively generated by global sections. By Nullstellensatz, there must exists a $k$-point of $Y^o$ mapping to the isomorphism class of $\mathcal{O}(-n+1) \oplus \mathcal{O}(n+1) \in \text{Bun}_2(k)$. Therefore we have that $\mathcal{O}(-1) \oplus \mathcal{O}(2n+1)$ is generated by global sections. In particular, $\mathcal{O}(-1)$ is generated by global sections, which is a contradiction since $\Gamma(X, \mathcal{O}(-1)) = 0$ by [Har77, IV, Lemma 1.2, Corollary 3.3].

4.2.3. **Picard scheme and stack.** In the previous example we considered locally free sheaves of rank 2 on a dimension 1 scheme. As the next example shows, if we consider locally free sheaves of rank 1, then the connected components of $\text{Bun}_1$ will in fact be quasi-compact. Assume for the moment that $X \to S = \text{Spec} k$ is a curve as in §4.2.1.

**Example 4.2.4.** Let $g$ be the genus of $X$. Then for any integer $d$, we have $U^d_n = \text{Bun}_n^d$ for $n \geq 2g - d$. Take $Y \to \text{Bun}_1$ a smooth surjective morphism with $Y$ a scheme locally of finite
type over \( k \). It suffices to show that \( U^d_n \times_{\text{Bun}_1^d} Y \rightarrow Y \) is surjective. Since \( k \) is algebraically closed, it is enough to check surjectivity on \( k \)-points. Suppose we have \( L \in \text{Bun}_1^d(k) \). Then \( \deg L(n) \geq 2g \) since \( \deg O(1) > 0 \) by [Har77, IV, Corollary 3.3]. Therefore [Har77, IV, Example 1.3.4, Corollary 3.2] and Serre duality imply that \( H^1(X, L(n)) = 0 \) and \( L(n) \) is generated by global sections. We conclude that \( U^d_n = \text{Bun}_1^d \) for \( n \geq 2g - d \), and in particular, \( \text{Bun}_1^d \) is quasi-compact.

Now suppose \( p : X \rightarrow S \) is a separated morphism of finite type between schemes such that the fpfp sheaf \( \text{Pic}_{X/S} \) is representable by a scheme. This is satisfied, for example, when \( S \) is locally noetherian and \( p \) is flat and locally projective with geometrically integral fibers [FGI+05, Theorem 9.4.8]. Additionally assume that the unit morphism \( \mathcal{O}_T \rightarrow p_T^* \mathcal{O}_{X_T} \) is an isomorphism for all \( S \)-schemes \( T \). By [FGI+05, Exercise 9.3.11], this holds when \( S \) is locally noetherian and \( p \) is proper and flat with geometric fibers that are reduced and connected.

The stack \( \text{Bun}_1 \) has the special property that the associated coarse space (see [LMB00, Remarque 3.19]) is the Picard scheme \( \text{Pic}_{X/S} \). We will use properties of \( \text{Pic}_{X/S} \) to deduce properties of \( \text{Bun}_1 \). We thank Thanos D. Papaioannou for suggesting this approach.

**Proposition 4.2.5.** Suppose \( X \rightarrow S \) admits a section. Then there is an isomorphism

\[
\text{BG}_m \times \text{Pic}_{X/S} \rightarrow \text{Bun}_1
\]

over \( S \) such that the morphism to the coarse space is the second projection.

**Proof.** Since \( p \) has a section, we have that \( \text{Pic}_{X/S}(T) = \text{Pic}(X_T)/\text{Pic}(T) \) by [FGI+05, Theorem 9.2.5]. For an invertible sheaf \( L \in \text{Pic}(X_T) \), we consider the Cartesian square

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
\mathcal{F} & \rightarrow & \text{Bun}_1 \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
T & \rightarrow & \text{Pic}_{X/S}
\end{array}
\]

where \( \mathcal{F} : (\text{Sch}/T)^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Gpd} \) is the stack sending

\[
(T' \rightarrow T) \mapsto \{ M \in \text{Pic}(X_{T'}) \mid \text{there exists } N \in \text{Pic}(T'), M \simeq L_{T'} \otimes p_{T'}^* N \}
\]

and a morphism \( M \rightarrow M' \) is an isomorphism of \( \mathcal{O}_{X_{T'}} \)-modules. We define the morphism \( \text{BG}_m \times T \rightarrow \mathcal{F} \) by sending an invertible \( \mathcal{O}_{X_{T'}} \)-module \( N \) to \( L_{T'} \otimes p_{T'}^* N \). Now [FGI+05, Lemma 9.2.7] shows that \( p_{T'}^* \) is fully faithful from the category of locally free sheaves of finite rank on \( T' \) to that on \( X_{T'} \). Therefore the previous morphism is an isomorphism. Taking \( T = \text{Pic}_{X/S} \) and considering the identity morphism on \( \text{Pic}_{X/S} \) proves the claim. \( \square \)

**Corollary 4.2.6.** The morphism \( \text{Bun}_1 \rightarrow \text{Pic}_{X/S} \) is smooth, surjective, and of finite presentation.

**Proof.** The claim is fpfp local on \( S \), so we assume \( S \) is connected and \( X \) nonempty. The image of \( p \) is open and closed since \( p \) is flat and proper, and hence \( p \) is an fpfp morphism. The base change \( X \times_S X \rightarrow X \) admits a section via the diagonal. Then Proposition 4.2.5 implies that the morphism \( \text{Bun}_1 \times_X X \rightarrow \text{Pic}_{X 	imes_S X} \) is smooth, surjective, and of finite presentation because \( \text{BG}_m \rightarrow \cdot \) has these properties (\( \cdot \rightarrow \text{BG}_m \) is a smooth presentation by Lemma 2.5.2 since \( G_m \) is smooth). \( \square \)

For \( L \in \text{Bun}_1(T) \), the automorphisms of \( L \) are given by \( \Gamma(X_T, \mathcal{O}_{X_T})^* \simeq \Gamma(T, \mathcal{O}_T^*) \) by our assumption on \( \mathcal{O}_T \rightarrow p_T^* \mathcal{O}_{X_T} \). Thus \( \text{Isom}(L, L) \simeq \mathbb{G}_m \times T \). We note that the smoothness and surjectivity of \( \text{Bun}_1 \rightarrow \text{Pic}_{X/S} \) then follow from the proof of [LMB00, Corollaire 10.8].
Example 4.2.7. Let $S$ be locally noetherian and $X \to S$ flat and projective with geometrically integral fibers. Then the connected components of $\text{Bun}_1$ are of finite type over $S$. Indeed, the connected components of $\text{Pic}_{X/S}$ are of finite type over $S$ by [FGI+05, Theorem 9.6.20], so their preimages under $\text{Bun}_1 \to \text{Pic}_{X/S}$ are also of finite type over $S$ by Corollary 4.2.6.

5. Level structure

Let $p : X \to S$ be a separated morphism of schemes over $k$. Suppose we have a section $x : S \to X$ over $S$. Then the graph $\Gamma_x : S \to S \times_S X$ is a closed immersion, which implies $x$ is a closed immersion. Let $I_x$ be the corresponding ideal sheaf. For any positive integer $n$, define $i_n : (nx) \to X$ to be the closed immersion corresponding to the ideal sheaf $I^n$. We assume that $X$ is infinitesimally flat in $x$ (see [Jan03, I, 7.4]), i.e., we require that $\pi_n : (nx) \to S$ is finite and locally free for all $n$.

Remark 5.0.8. We discuss two cases where the condition of infinitesimal flatness is automatic. First, suppose $S$ is the spectrum of a field. Then $x$ is a closed point, and $(nx) = \text{Spec} \mathcal{O}_{X,x}/m^n_x$ is the spectrum of an artinian ring, where $m_x$ is the maximal ideal of $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$. Thus $(nx)$ is finite and free over $S$.

Next suppose that $x$ lands in the smooth locus $X_{\text{sm}} \subset X$ of $p : X \to S$. Pick a point $s \in S$. By assumption, $p$ is smooth at $x(s)$. Therefore by [EGAIV, Théorème 17.12.1], there exists an open neighborhood $U$ of $s$ where $I_x/I^n_x|_U$ is a locally free $\mathcal{O}_U$-module, and the canonical morphism $\text{Sym}^\bullet_{\mathcal{O}_U}(I_x/I^n_x|_U) \to \text{Gr}^\bullet(x|_U)$ is an isomorphism. This is true for all $s \in S$, so we can take $U = S$ in the above. Now we have short exact sequences of $\mathcal{O}_X$-modules

$$0 \to x_*(\text{Gr}^n(x)) \to \mathcal{O}_X/I^{n+1}_x \to \mathcal{O}_X/I^n_x \to 0,$$

where $\text{Gr}^n(x)$ is a locally free $\mathcal{O}_S$-module. We know that $\mathcal{O}_X/I_x \simeq x_*\mathcal{O}_S$ is a free $\mathcal{O}_S$-module. By induction we find that the above sequence is locally split exact, and hence $\mathcal{O}_X/I^n_x$ is a locally free $\mathcal{O}_S$-module for all $n$. The closed immersion $S \simeq (x) \to (nx)$ is an isomorphism on topological spaces, so we deduce that $(nx) \to S$ is finite and locally free.

Define the pseudo-functor $\text{Bun}^{(nx)}_G : (\text{Sch}_{/S})^{\op} \to \text{Gpd}$ by

$$\text{Bun}^{(nx)}_G(T) = \{(P, \phi) \mid P \in \text{Bun}_G(T), \phi \in \text{Hom}_{BG((nx)_T)}((nx)_T \times G, i^n_*(P))\}$$

where a morphism $(P, \phi) \to (P', \phi')$ is a $G$-equivariant morphism $f : P \to P'$ over $X_T$ such that $i^n_*(f) \circ \phi = \phi'$. Since $BG$ and $\text{Bun}_G$ are fpqc stacks, we observe that $\text{Bun}^{(nx)}_G$ is also an fpqc stack.

The main result of this section is the following:

Theorem 5.0.9. Suppose $p : X \to S$ is a flat, finitely presented, projective morphism with geometrically integral fibers. Let $\mathcal{V} \subset \text{Bun}_G$ be a quasi-compact open substack. There exists an integer $N_0$ such that for all $N \geq N_0$, the 2-fibered product $\text{Bun}^{(nx)}_G \times_{\text{Bun}_G} \mathcal{V}$ is representable by a quasi-compact scheme which is locally of finite presentation over $S$.

In the proofs that follow, we will abuse notation and use $i_n$ and $\pi_n$ to denote the corresponding morphisms under a change of base $T \to S$.

The following proposition shows that Theorem 5.0.9 is useful in providing a smooth presentation of a quasi-compact open substack of $\text{Bun}_G$ when $G$ is smooth.

Proposition 5.0.10. The projection $\text{Bun}^{(nx)}_G \to \text{Bun}_G$ sending $(\mathcal{E}, \phi) \mapsto \mathcal{E}$ is schematic, surjective, affine, and of finite presentation. If $G$ is smooth over $k$, then the projection is also smooth.
Proof. For an $S$-scheme $T$, let $\mathcal{P} \in \Bun_G(T)$. Then the fibered product on $(\text{Sch}_T)^{op} \to \text{Gpd}$ is given by

$$\left( \Bun_{G}^{(nx)} \times_{\Bun_G} T \right)(T') = \{ (\mathcal{E}, \phi, \gamma) \mid (\mathcal{E}, \phi) \in \Bun_{G}^{(nx)}(T'), \gamma : \mathcal{E} \to \mathcal{P}_{T'} \}$$

where a morphism $(\mathcal{E}, \phi, \gamma) \to (\mathcal{E}', \phi', \gamma')$ is a $G$-equivariant morphism $f : \mathcal{E} \to \mathcal{E}'$ such that $i_n^*(f) \circ \phi = \phi'$ and $\gamma' \circ f = \gamma$. We observe that the above groupoids are equivalence relations, and $\Bun_{G}^{(nx)} \times \Bun_G T$ is isomorphic to the functor $F : (\text{Sch}_T)^{op} \to \text{Set}$ sending

$$(T' \to T) \mapsto \text{Hom}_{BG((nx)T')}((nx)T' \times G, i_n^*(\mathcal{P}_{T'})).$$

There is a canonical simply transitive right action of $\pi_{nx} G_{(nx)T}$ on $F$ over $T$ (here the direct image $\pi_{nx}$ of a functor is defined as in [BLR90, 7.6]). Since $G_{(nx)T}$ is affine and finitely presented over $(nx)T$, [BLR90, 7.6, Theorem 4, Proposition 5] show that $\pi_{nx} G_{(nx)T}$ is representable by a group scheme which is affine and finitely presented over $T$. If $G$ is smooth over $k$, then $\pi_{nx} G_{(nx)T}$ is also smooth over $T$. Let $(T'_i \to (nx)_T)$ be an fppf cover trivializing $i_n^* \mathcal{P}$. Then the refinement $(T'_i \times (nx)_{T} \to (nx)_T)$ also trivializes $i_n^* \mathcal{P}$. Since $(nx)_T \to T$ is fppf, the compositions $(T'_i \to (nx)_T \to T)$ give an fppf cover trivializing $F$, which shows that $F$ is a $\pi_{nx} G_{(nx)T}$-torsor. We conclude that $F \to T$ has the desired properties by descent theory. \hfill $\square$

Remark 5.0.11. Proposition 5.0.10 shows that if $\Bun_G$ is an algebraic stack, then $\Bun_{G}^{(nx)}$ is also algebraic by [Sta, Lemma 05UM].

For positive integers $m < n$, we have the nilpotent thickening $i_{m,n} : (mx) \hookrightarrow (nx)$.

Proposition 5.0.12. Suppose that $G$ is smooth over $k$. For positive integers $m < n$, the morphism $\Bun_{G}^{(nx)} \to \Bun_{G}^{(mx)}$ sending $(\mathcal{P}, \phi) \mapsto (\mathcal{P}, i_{m,n}^*(\phi))$ is schematic, surjective, affine, and of finite presentation.

Proof. For an $S$-scheme $T$, let $(\mathcal{P}, \psi) \in \Bun_{G}^{(mx)}(T)$. By similar considerations as in the proof of Proposition 5.0.10, we see that the fibered product $\Bun_{G}^{(nx)} \times_{\Bun_{G}^{(mx)}} T$ is isomorphic to the functor $F : (\text{Sch}_T)^{op} \to \text{Set}$ sending

$$(T' \to T) \mapsto \{ \phi : (mx)_{T'} \times G \to \mathcal{P}_{T'} \mid i_{m,n}^*(\phi) = \psi_{T'} \}.$$

The pullback $i_{m,n}^*$ defines a natural morphism

$$\pi_{nx} G_{(nx)T} \to \pi_{mx} G_{(mx)T}.$$  

Let $N_{m,n}$ denote the kernel of this morphism. By [BLR90, 7.6, Theorem 4, Proposition 5], the Weil restrictions are representable by group schemes affine and of finite presentation over $T$. Then $N_{m,n}$ is a finitely presented closed subgroup of $\pi_{nx} G_{(nx)T}$ (the identity section of $\pi_{mx} G_{(mx)T}$ is a finitely presented closed immersion). Hence $N_{m,n}$ is representable by a scheme affine and of finite presentation over $T$. A $T'$-point of $N_{m,n}$ is an element $g \in G((nx)_{T'})$ such that $i_{m,n}(g) = 1$. From this description, it is evident that composition defines a canonical simply transitive right $N_{m,n}$-action on $F$. We show that $F$ is an $N_{m,n}$-torsor.

From the proof of Proposition 5.0.10, we can choose an fppf covering $(T_i \to T)$ such that $i_n^* \mathcal{P}$ admits trivializations $\gamma_i : (nx)_T \times G \simeq i_n^* \mathcal{P}_T$. Since $(mx)_T, (nx)_T$ are finite over $T$, we may additionally assume that $(mx)_T, (nx)_T$ is a nilpotent thickening of affine schemes. Since $G$ is smooth, by the infinitesimal lifting property for smooth morphisms [BLR90, 2.2, Proposition 6], we have a surjection

$$G((nx)_T) \twoheadrightarrow G((mx)_T).$$
Therefore there exists automorphisms \( \phi_i \) of \( (nx)_T \times G \) such that
\[
i^*_m,n(\phi_i) = i^*_m,n(\gamma_i^{-1}) \circ \psi_i.
\]
We have shown that \( \gamma_i \circ \phi_i \in F(U_i) \neq \emptyset \). It follows that \( F \) is an \( N_{m,n} \)-torsor, and \( F \to T \) has the desired properties by descent theory.

Once again, our plan for proving Theorem 5.0.9 is to reduce to considering \( GL_r \)-bundles. The following lemma makes this possible.

**Lemma 5.0.13.** Let \( H \hookrightarrow G \) be a closed subgroup of \( G \). There is a finitely presented closed immersion \( \text{Bun}_{H}^{(nx)} \hookrightarrow \text{Bun}_{G}^{(nx)} \times_{\text{Bun}_{G}} \text{Bun}_{H} \).

**Proof.** The change of group morphism \( (-)G : BH \to BG \) of Lemma 2.4.1 induces a 2-commutative square

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
\text{Bun}_{H}^{(nx)} & \longrightarrow & \text{Bun}_{G}^{(nx)} \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
\text{Bun}_{H} & \longrightarrow & \text{Bun}_{G}
\end{array}
\]

The 2-fibered product \( \text{Bun}_{G}^{(nx)} \times_{\text{Bun}_{G}} \text{Bun}_{H} \) is isomorphic to the stack \( F : (\text{Sch}/S)^{\text{op}} \to \text{Gpd} \) defined by
\[
F(T) = \{(P, \phi) \mid P \in \text{Bun}_{H}(T), \phi : (nx)_T \times G \to (i^*_n P)G\},
\]
where a morphism \( (P, \phi) \to (P, \phi') \) is an \( H \)-equivariant morphism \( f : P \to P' \) satisfying \( (i_n^* f) \psi = \phi' \). We show that the morphism \( \text{Bun}_{H}^{(nx)} \to F \) induced by the 2-commutative square is a finitely presented closed immersion. Fix an \( S \)-scheme \( T \) and take \( (P, \phi) \in F(T) \). We have a 2-commutative square

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
(nx)_T & \longrightarrow & (nx)_T \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
B_H & \longrightarrow & BG
\end{array}
\]
via \( \phi \). From the proof of Lemma 2.4.1, we know that \( (nx)_T \times_{BG} BH \simeq (nx)_T \times (H\setminus G) \). This implies that
\[
\begin{array}{c}
(nx)_T \\
B_H
\end{array}
\]
is representable by a finitely presented closed subscheme \( T_0 \subset (nx)_T \). From the definition of the 2-fibered product, we have that \( \text{Hom}(T', T_0) \) consists of the morphisms \( u : T' \to (nx)_T \) such that there exists a \( \psi : T' \times H \to u^* i_n^* P \) with \( (\psi)G = u^*(\phi) \). If such a \( \psi \) exists, then it must be unique by definition of the 2-fibered product and the fact that \( T_0 \) is a scheme. From this description, we observe that
\[
B_{H}^{(nx)} \times_{F} T \simeq \pi_{n*} T_0.
\]
Then [BLR90, 7.6, Propositions 2, 5] imply that \( \pi_{n*} T_0 \) is a finitely presented closed subscheme of \( \pi_{n*} (nx)_T \simeq T \).

Lemma 4.1.1 implies that \( \text{Bun}_{GL_r}^{(nx)} \simeq \text{Bun}_{r}^{(nx)} \), where \( \text{Bun}_{r}^{(nx)}(T) \) is the groupoid of pairs \( (E, \phi) \) for \( E \) a locally free \( \mathcal{O}_{X_T} \)-module of rank \( r \) and an isomorphism
\[
\phi : \mathcal{O}_{(nx)_T} \simeq i_n^* E
\]
of \( \mathcal{O}_{(nx)_T} \)-modules. We show that the projections \( \text{Bun}_r^{(nx)} \to \text{Bun}_r \) give smooth presentations of the open substacks \( \mathcal{U}_n^\Phi \to \text{Bun}_r \) defined in §4.

**Theorem 5.0.14.** Suppose \( p : X \to S \) is a flat, strongly projective morphism with geometrically integral fibers over a quasi-compact base scheme \( S \). For any integer \( n \) and polynomial \( \Phi \in \mathbb{Q}[\lambda] \), there exists an integer \( N_0 \) such that for all \( N \geq N_0 \), the 2-fibered product \( \text{Bun}_r^{(nx)} \times_{\text{Bun}_r} \mathcal{U}_n^\Phi \) is representable by a finitely presented, quasi-projective \( S \)-scheme.

Given Theorem 5.0.14, let us deduce Theorem 5.0.9.

**Proof of Theorem 5.0.9.** Embed \( G \) into some \( \text{GL}_r \). Take an open covering \( (S_i \subset S)_{i \in I} \) by affine subschemes such that the restrictions \( X_{S_i} \to S_i \) are strongly projective. Let \( J' = I \times \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Q}[\lambda] \), and for \( j = (i, n, \Phi) \in J' \), denote \( \mathcal{U}_j = \mathcal{U}^\Phi_n \times_{S_i} S_j \). Theorem 5.0.14 implies that for any \( j \in J' \), there exists an integer \( N_{j,0} \) such that for all \( N \geq N_{j,0} \), the 2-fibered product \( \text{Bun}_r^{(nx)} \times_{\text{Bun}_r} \mathcal{U}_j \) is representable by a scheme. Let \( \tilde{\mathcal{U}}_j = \text{Bun}_G \times_{\text{Bun}_r} \mathcal{U}_j \). By quasi-compactness of \( \mathcal{V} \), there exists a finite set \( J \subset J' \) such that

\[
\mathcal{V} \subset \bigcup_{j \in J} \tilde{\mathcal{U}}_j
\]

is an open immersion [Sta, Lemmas 05UQ, 05UR]. Letting \( N_0 \) equal the maximum of the \( N_{j,0} \) over all \( j \in J \), we have that for all \( N \geq N_0, j \in J \), the 2-fibered product \( \text{Bun}_r^{(nx)} \times_{\text{Bun}_r} \mathcal{U}_j \) is representable by a scheme. Corollary 3.2.4 implies that \( \text{Bun}_G \to \text{Bun}_r \) is schematic, and Lemma 5.0.13 shows that \( \text{Bun}_G^{(nx)} \to \text{Bun}_r^{(nx)} \times_{\text{Bun}_r} \text{Bun}_G \) is a closed immersion. Therefore by base change we deduce that

\[
\text{Bun}_G^{(nx)} \times_{\text{Bun}_r} \tilde{\mathcal{U}}_j
\]

is representable by a scheme. Now it follows from [Sta, Lemma 05WF] that \( \text{Bun}_G^{(nx)} \times_{\text{Bun}_G} \mathcal{V} \) is representable by an \( S \)-scheme.

From Theorem 1.0.1 we know that \( \mathcal{V} \) is a quasi-compact algebraic stack locally of finite presentation over \( S \). Proposition 5.0.10 implies that \( \text{Bun}_G^{(nx)} \to \text{Bun}_G \) is schematic and finitely presented, so we deduce that \( \text{Bun}_G^{(nx)} \times_{\text{Bun}_G} \mathcal{V} \) is represented by a quasi-compact scheme locally of finite presentation over \( S \). \( \square \)

The rest of this section is devoted to proving Theorem 5.0.14.

**Lemma 5.0.15.** Suppose \( S \) is the spectrum of a field \( k' \), and \( X \) is integral and proper. For a locally free \( \mathcal{O}_X \)-module \( \mathcal{F} \) of finite rank, there exists an integer \( N_0 \) such that for all integers \( N \geq N_0 \), the unit morphism

\[
\eta_N : \Gamma(X, \mathcal{F}) \to \Gamma(X, i_N^* i_N^* \mathcal{F}) \cong \Gamma(X, \mathcal{F} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} \mathcal{I}_x^N)
\]

is injective.

**Proof.** Let \( N \) be an arbitrary positive integer. Since \( \mathcal{F} \) is \( X \)-flat, we have a short exact sequence

\[
0 \to \mathcal{F} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} \mathcal{I}_x^N \to \mathcal{F} \to \mathcal{F} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} \mathcal{I}_x^N \to 0.
\]

Thus the kernel of \( \eta_N \) is \( \Gamma(X, \mathcal{F} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} \mathcal{I}_x^N) \). Since \( X \) is proper, \( \Gamma(X, \mathcal{F} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} \mathcal{I}_x^N) \) is a finite dimensional \( k' \)-vector space for each \( N \), and we have a descending chain

\[
\cdots \supset \Gamma(X, \mathcal{F} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} \mathcal{I}_x^N) \supset \Gamma(X, \mathcal{F} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} \mathcal{I}_x^{N+1}) \supset \cdots
\]
and this chain must stabilize. Suppose the chain does not stabilize to 0. Then there is a nonzero

\( f \in \Gamma(X, \mathcal{F}) \) lying in \( \Gamma(X, \mathcal{F} \otimes \mathcal{I}_X^N) \) for all \( N \). Thus the image of \( f \) in

\[ \Gamma(X, \mathcal{F}) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_x \rightarrow \hat{\mathcal{F}}_x \]

is 0. Since \( X \) is assume integral, \( \Gamma(X, \mathcal{F}) \) is injective. By Krull’s intersection theorem

[Mat80, 11.D, Corollary 3], the morphism \( \mathcal{F}_x \rightarrow \hat{\mathcal{F}}_x \) is injective. Therefore \( f = 0 \), a contra-
diction. We conclude that there exists \( N_0 \) such that for all \( N \geq N_0 \) for some \( N_0 \), the kernel

\[ \ker \eta_N = \Gamma(X, \mathcal{F} \otimes \mathcal{I}_X^N) = 0. \]

\[ \square \]

**Lemma 5.0.16.** Suppose \( p : X \rightarrow S \) is a flat, strongly projective morphism with geometrically

integral fibers. For a quasi-compact \( S \)-scheme \( T \), let \( \mathcal{E} \in \mathcal{U}_c(T) \). Then there exists an integer

\( N_0 \) such that for all integers \( N \geq N_0 \), the dual of the unit morphism

\[ (p_{!*}i_N^*\mathcal{E}(n))' \rightarrow (p_{!*}(\mathcal{E}(n))') \]

is a surjective morphism of locally free \( \mathcal{O}_T \)-modules.

**Proof.** Let \( \mathcal{F} = \mathcal{E}(n) \). From Proposition 4.1.3, we know that \( p_{!*}\mathcal{F} \) is flat, and \( \mathcal{F} \) is cohomologically flat over \( T \) in all degrees. Let \( N \) be an arbitrary positive integer. By the projection formula, \( i_N^*\mathcal{I}_N^N \mathcal{F} \simeq \mathcal{F} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{X}_T}} i_N^*\mathcal{O}_{(N x)_{\mathcal{T}}} \). Since \( \pi_N : (N x)_{\mathcal{T}} \rightarrow T \) is finite and locally free, \( i_N^*\mathcal{O}_{(N x)_{\mathcal{T}}} \) is \( T \)-flat. We deduce that \( i_N^*\mathcal{I}_N^N \mathcal{F} \) is \( T \)-flat because \( \mathcal{F} \) is locally free on \( X_T \). Additionally, \( p_{!*}i_N^*\mathcal{F} = \pi_N^*i_N^*\mathcal{F} \) is locally free on \( T \) because \( i_N^*\mathcal{F} \) and \( \pi_N \) are locally free. By the Leray spectral sequence, we have quasi-isomorphisms

\[ R^p_{!*}i_N^*\mathcal{F} \simeq R^p\pi_N^*i_N^*\mathcal{F} \simeq \pi_N^*i_N^*\mathcal{F} \]

in the derived category \( D(T) \) of \( \mathcal{O}_T \)-modules, since \( \pi_N \) is affine. Now Lemma 4.1.2 implies

\( i_N^*\mathcal{F} \) is cohomologically flat over \( T \) in all degrees. Remark 4.1.7 implies \( p_{!*}\mathcal{F} \) is locally free, so \( p_{!*}\mathcal{F} \rightarrow p_{!*}i_N^*\mathcal{F} \) is a morphism of locally free \( \mathcal{O}_T \)-modules. Take a point \( t \in T \).

By Lemma 5.0.15, there exists an integer \( N_t \) such that for all \( N \geq N_t \), the unit morphism

\( \Gamma(X_t, \mathcal{F}_t) \rightarrow \Gamma(X_t, i_N^*\mathcal{F}_t) \)

of finite dimensional \( \kappa(t) \)-vector spaces is injective. By coho-
mological flatness, this implies

\[ (p_{!*}\mathcal{F}) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_T} \kappa(t) \rightarrow (p_{!*}i_N^*\mathcal{F}) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_T} \kappa(t) \]

is injective (observe that \( i_N^* \) commutes with base change). Since taking duals commutes with base change for locally free modules, we have that \( (p_{!*}i_N^*\mathcal{F})' \otimes \kappa(t) \rightarrow (p_{!*}\mathcal{F})' \otimes \kappa(t) \) is

surjective. By Nakayama’s lemma, there exists an open subscheme \( U_t \subset T \) containing \( t \) on which the restriction \( (p_{!*}i_N^*\mathcal{F})'|_{U_t} \rightarrow (p_{!*}\mathcal{F})'|_{U_t} \) is surjective. By quasi-compactness, we can cover \( T \) by finitely many \( U_t \). Taking \( N_0 \) to be the maximum of the corresponding \( N_t \) proves the claim.

\[ \square \]

**Lemma 5.0.17.** Suppose \( p : X \rightarrow S \) is a flat, strongly projective morphism with geometrically

integral fibers over a quasi-compact base scheme \( S \). For any integer \( n \) and polynomial \( \Phi \in \mathbb{Q}[\lambda] \),

there exists an integer \( N_0 \) such that for all \( N \geq N_0 \), the morphism \( (5.0.16.1) \) is a surjective

morphism of locally free \( \mathcal{O}_T \)-modules for any \( S \)-scheme \( T \) and \( \mathcal{E} \in \mathcal{U}_c(T) \).

**Proof.** From Theorem 1.0.1 we get a quasi-compact scheme \( Y_n^\Phi \) and a schematic, smooth, surjective morphism \( Y_n^\Phi \rightarrow \mathcal{U}_c^\Phi \). By the 2-Yoneda lemma, the previous morphism corresponds to a locally free sheaf \( \mathcal{E}_0 \in \mathcal{U}_c^\Phi(Y_n^\Phi) \). By Lemma 5.0.16, there exists \( N_0 \) such that for all \( N \geq N_0 \),
the morphism (5.0.16.1) is surjective for $E_0$. Now for any $S$-scheme $T$ and $E \in \mathcal{U}_n^\Phi(T)$, let

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}
T' & \rightarrow & T \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
Y_n^\Phi & \xrightarrow{E_0} & \mathcal{U}_n^\Phi
\end{array}
$$

be 2-Cartesian, where $T'$ is a scheme and $T' \rightarrow T$ is smooth and surjective (and hence faithfully flat). Thus there is an isomorphism $(E_0)_{T'} \cong E_{T'}$. From the proof of Lemma 5.0.16, we know that $i_{N,\ast} i_N^\ast (O_X(n))$ and $E_0(n)$ are cohomologically flat over $Y_n^\Phi$, and the analogous assertion is true for $E$ over $T$. Therefore pulling back along $T' \rightarrow Y_n^\Phi$ implies that (5.0.16.1) is surjective for $E_{T'} \in \mathcal{U}_n^\Phi(T')$. Since $T' \rightarrow T$ is faithfully flat, we deduce that (5.0.16.1) is surjective for $E \in \mathcal{U}_n^\Phi(T)$.

**Proof of Theorem 5.0.14.** Let $N_0$ be an integer satisfying the assertions of Lemma 5.0.17. Fix an integer $N \geq N_0$, and consider the coherent sheaf $M = (\pi_{N,\ast} i_N^\ast (O_X(n)))^\vee$, which is locally free of finite rank since $i_N^\ast (O_X(n))$ and $\pi_N$ are. By [EGAG, Proposition 9.7.7, 9.8.4], the Grassmannian functor $\text{Grass}(\mathcal{M}, \Phi(n))$ is representable by a strongly projective $S$-scheme. We have a morphism

$$
\text{Grass}(\mathcal{M}, \Phi(n)) \rightarrow BGL_{\Phi(n)} \times S
$$

sending a $T$-point $\mathcal{M}_T \rightarrow \mathcal{F}$ to $\mathcal{F}^\vee$. From Lemmas 2.1.1 and 4.1.11, we have an isomorphism $\mathcal{U}_n^\Phi \cong [Y_n^\Phi/GL_{\Phi(n)}]$ which sends $E \in \mathcal{U}_n^\Phi(T)$ to $\text{Isom}_T (O_T^\Phi(n), p_{T,\ast}(E(n))) \rightarrow Y_n^\Phi$, where the $GL_{\Phi(n)}$-bundle corresponds to the locally free $O_T$-module $p_{T,\ast}(E(n))$. Therefore the change of space morphism $[Y_n^\Phi/GL_{\Phi(n)}] \rightarrow [S/GL_{\Phi(n)}]$ is isomorphic to the morphism $\mathcal{U}_n^\Phi \rightarrow BGL_{\Phi(n)} \times S$ sending $E \rightarrow p_{T,\ast}(E(n))$ by Remark 2.3.5. By Lemmas 2.3.1 and 4.1.12, we deduce that the morphism $\mathcal{U}_n^\Phi \rightarrow BGL_{\Phi(n)} \times S$ is schematic, quasi-projective, and finitely presented. We have a Cartesian square

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}
F_0 & \rightarrow & \text{Grass}(\mathcal{M}, \Phi(n)) \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
\mathcal{U}_n^\Phi & \rightarrow & BGL_{\Phi(n)} \times S
\end{array}
$$

where $F_0$ is a functor $(\textbf{Sch}/S)^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Set}$ sending

$$(T \rightarrow S) \mapsto \{(E, q) | E \in \mathcal{U}_n^\Phi(T), q : M \rightarrow (p_{T,\ast}(E(n)))^\vee \}/\sim$$

where $(E, q) \sim (E', q')$ if there exists (a necessarily unique) isomorphism $f : E \simeq E'$ such that $(p_{T,\ast}(f_n))^\vee \circ q' = q$. Note that $F_0$ is representable by a scheme finitely presented and quasi-projective over grass$(\mathcal{M}, \Phi(n))$. By [EGAII, Proposition 5.3.4(ii)], we find that $F_0$ is finitely presented and quasi-projective over $S$.

For an $S$-scheme $T$, let $(E, \phi), (E', \phi') \in \text{Bun}_r^{(N_X)}(T)$ such that $E, E' \in \mathcal{U}_n^\Phi(T)$. Suppose we have a morphism $f : (E, \phi) \rightarrow (E', \phi')$ in $\text{Bun}_r^{(N_X)}$. Then Lemma 5.0.16 gives us a commutative diagram

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}
\mathcal{M}_T & \xrightarrow{(\pi_{N,\ast}(\phi_n^{-1}))^\vee} & \left( p_{T,\ast} i_N^\ast i_N^\ast (E'(n)) \right)^\vee \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
\mathcal{M}_T & \xrightarrow{(\pi_{N,\ast}(\phi_n^{-1}))^\vee} & \left( p_{T,\ast} i_N^\ast i_N^\ast (E(n)) \right)^\vee
\end{array}
$$

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}
\mathcal{M}_T & \xrightarrow{(pr_{T,\ast}(f_n))^\vee} & \left( p_{T,\ast} i_N^\ast i_N^\ast (E'(n)) \right)^\vee \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
\mathcal{M}_T & \xrightarrow{(pr_{T,\ast}(f_n))^\vee} & \left( p_{T,\ast} i_N^\ast i_N^\ast (E(n)) \right)^\vee
\end{array}
$$
where the horizontal arrows $q', q$ are surjections. Observe that $f$ gives an equivalence $(\mathcal{E}, q) \sim (\mathcal{E}', q')$ in $F_0(T)$, and consequently $f$ must be unique. Therefore $\text{Bun}_r^{(N_x)} \times_{\text{Bun}_s} \mathcal{U}_n^\psi$ is isomorphic to the functor $F : (\text{Sch}/S)^{op} \to \text{Set}$ sending

$$(T \to S) \mapsto \{ (\mathcal{E}, \phi) \mid \mathcal{E} \in \mathcal{U}_n^\psi(T), \phi : \mathcal{O}_{(N_x)}^{\mathcal{E}} \simeq i_N^*(\mathcal{E}) \}/\sim.$$  

By the previous discussion, we have a morphism $F \to F_0$ by sending $(\mathcal{E}, \phi) \mapsto (\mathcal{E}, q)$. We show that this morphism is a finitely presented, locally closed immersion, which will then imply that $F$ is representable by a finitely presented, quasi-projective $S$-scheme.

The claim is Zariski local on $S$, so we reduce to the case where $S$ is noetherian by Remark 4.1.4. Let $T$ be an $S$-scheme and $(\mathcal{E}, q) \in F_0(T)$. Then $\mathcal{R} = \pi_N^* \mathcal{O}_{(N_x)}$ is a coherent $\mathcal{O}_T$-algebra on $T$, and since $\pi_N$ is affine, [EGAII, Proposition 1.4.3] implies that

$$\pi_N^* : \text{QCoh}(\mathcal{O}_T) \to \text{QCoh}(T)$$

is a faithful embedding to the subcategory of quasi-coherent $\mathcal{O}_T$-modules with structures of $\mathcal{R}$-modules, and morphisms are those of $\mathcal{R}$-modules. Since $\mathcal{E}(n)$ is relatively generated by global sections, the counit $p^\psi_{\mathcal{R}^\mathcal{E}} : p_{\mathcal{R}^\mathcal{E}}(\mathcal{E}(n)) \to \mathcal{E}(n)$ is surjective. Applying $i_N^*$ gives a surjection $\pi_N^* p_{\mathcal{R}^\mathcal{E}}(\mathcal{E}(n)) \to i_N^*(\mathcal{E}(n))$. As $\pi_N^*$ is exact on quasi-coherent sheaves, we have a surjection

$$\text{id}_\mathcal{R} \otimes \eta : \mathcal{R} \otimes p_{\mathcal{R}^\mathcal{E}}(\mathcal{E}(n)) \twoheadrightarrow \pi_N^* \pi_N^* p_{\mathcal{R}^\mathcal{E}}(\mathcal{E}(n)) \to \pi_N^* i_N^*(\mathcal{E}(n)),$$

and this is the morphism of $\mathcal{R}$-modules induced by the unit $\eta : p_{\mathcal{R}^\mathcal{E}}(\mathcal{E}(n)) \to p_{\mathcal{R}^\mathcal{E}} i_N^*(\mathcal{E}(n))$.

Now the dual morphism $q^\mathcal{R} : p_{\mathcal{R}^\mathcal{E}}(\mathcal{E}(n)) \to \mathcal{M}_T^\mathcal{R}$ also induces a morphism of $\mathcal{R}$-modules

$$\text{id}_\mathcal{R} \otimes q^\mathcal{R} : \mathcal{R} \otimes p_{\mathcal{R}^\mathcal{E}}(\mathcal{E}(n)) \to \mathcal{M}_T^\mathcal{R} \simeq \pi_N^* i_N^*(\mathcal{O}_T^{\mathcal{E}}(n)).$$

If $(\mathcal{E}, q)$ is the image of some $(\mathcal{E}, \phi) \in F(T)$, then the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
\pi_N^* i_N^*(\mathcal{O}_T^{\mathcal{E}}(n)) & \xrightarrow{\pi_N^* \phi_n} & \pi_N^* i_N^*(\mathcal{E}(n)) \\
\text{id}_\mathcal{R} \otimes \eta \downarrow & & \downarrow \text{id}_\mathcal{R} \otimes q^\mathcal{R} \\
\mathcal{R} \otimes p_{\mathcal{R}^\mathcal{E}}(\mathcal{E}(n)) & \xrightarrow{\pi_N^* \phi_n} & \pi_N^* i_N^*(\mathcal{E}(n))
\end{array}$$

is commutative. In this case, $\text{id}_\mathcal{R} \otimes q^\mathcal{R}$ is surjective. Since $\pi_N^*$ is faithful, (5.0.17.1) implies that if such a $\phi$ exists, then it is unique. Conversely, if $\text{id}_\mathcal{R} \otimes q^\mathcal{R}$ is surjective and a factorization as in (5.0.17.1) exists, then such a $\phi$ does exist. Indeed, any morphism

$$\pi_N^* i_N^*(\mathcal{O}_T^{\mathcal{E}}(n)) \to \pi_N^* i_N^*(\mathcal{E}(n))$$

making the triangle commute is necessarily a surjective morphism of $\mathcal{R}$-modules. Therefore it is in the image of $\pi_N^*$. Tensoring by $i_N^*(\mathcal{O}(\mathcal{E}))$ gives the desired $\phi$, which is an isomorphism since it is a surjection of locally free $\mathcal{O}_{(N_x)}$-modules of rank $r$. Define the open subscheme $U \subset T$ to be the complement of the support of $\text{coker}(\text{id}_\mathcal{R} \otimes q^\mathcal{R})$. By cohomological flatness (see Lemma 5.0.16), the morphisms $\eta, q^\mathcal{R}$ commute with pullback along a morphism $T' \to T$. We also have $\mathcal{R}_{T'} \simeq \pi_N^* \mathcal{O}_{(N_x)_{T'}}$ since $\pi_N$ is affine. Therefore $\text{id}_\mathcal{R} \otimes \eta, \text{id}_\mathcal{R} \otimes q^\mathcal{R}$ commute with pullback along $T' \to T$. By Nakayama’s lemma and faithful flatness of field extensions, we deduce that $\text{id}_\mathcal{R} \otimes q^\mathcal{R}$ is surjective if and only if $T' \to T$ lands in $U$. Let

$$\mathcal{K} = \ker(\text{id}_\mathcal{R} \otimes q^\mathcal{R}|_U),$$

which is a coherent $\mathcal{O}_U$-module. By [EGAII, Lemme 9.7.9.1], there exists a closed subscheme $V \subset U$ with the universal property that a morphism $u : T' \to U$ factors through $V$ if and only if $u^*(\text{id}_\mathcal{R} \otimes q^\mathcal{R})(\mathcal{K}_{T'}) = 0$. Since $\text{id}_\mathcal{R} \otimes q^\mathcal{R}|_U$ is surjective and $\pi_N^* i_N^*(\mathcal{O}_T^{\mathcal{E}}(n))|_U$ is $U$-flat, we have $\mathcal{K}_{T'} \simeq \ker(u^*(\text{id}_\mathcal{R} \otimes q^\mathcal{R}))$. Therefore $u$ factors through $V$ if and only if the diagram (5.0.17.1)
admits a factorization on $T'$. We conclude that $V$ represents the fibered product $F \times_{F_0} T$. Taking $T = F_0$, which is noetherian, we see that $F \to F_0$ is a finitely presented immersion. □

6. Smoothness

We have already seen that $\text{Bun}_G$ is locally of finite presentation. We now show that $\text{Bun}_G$ is smooth over $S$ when $G$ is smooth and $X \to S$ is a relative curve.

Proposition 6.0.18. Suppose $G$ is smooth over $k$ and $p : X \to S$ is a flat, finitely presented, projective morphism of $k$-schemes with fibers of dimension 1. Then $\text{Bun}_G$ is smooth over $S$.

We remind the reader that, following [LMB00, Définition 4.14], an algebraic $S$-stack $\mathcal{X}$ is smooth over $S$ if there exists a scheme $U$ smooth over $S$ and a smooth surjective morphism $U \to \mathcal{X}$.

6.1. Infinitesimal lifting criterion. We first provide an infinitesimal lifting criterion for smoothness of an algebraic $S$-stack. The next lemma in fact follows from the proofs of [BLR90, 2.2, Proposition 6] and [LMB00, Proposition 4.15], but we reproduce the proof to emphasize that we can impose a noetherian assumption.

Lemma 6.1.1. Let $S$ be a locally noetherian scheme and $\mathcal{X}$ an algebraic stack locally of finite type over $S$ with a schematic diagonal. Suppose that for any affine noetherian scheme $T$ and a closed subscheme $T_0$ defined by a square zero ideal, given a 2-commutative square

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
T_0 & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{X} \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
T & \longrightarrow & S
\end{array}
\]

of solid arrows, there exists a lift $T \to \mathcal{X}$ making the diagram 2-commutative. Then $\mathcal{X} \to S$ is smooth.

Proof. Let $U$ be a scheme locally of finite type over $S$ with a smooth surjective morphism to $\mathcal{X}$. We want to show $U \to S$ is smooth. This is local on $S$, so we may assume $S = \text{Spec } R$ is an affine noetherian scheme. Suppose we have a morphism $T_0 \to U$ over $S$. Then the hypothesis allows us to find a lift $T \to \mathcal{X}$. We have a 2-commutative diagram

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
T_0 & \longrightarrow & U \times_\mathcal{X} T \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
T & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{X}
\end{array}
\]

where $U \times_\mathcal{X} T \to T$ is isomorphic to a smooth morphism of scheme. By [BLR90, 2.2, Proposition 6], there exists a section $T \to U \times_\mathcal{X} T$. This shows that

\[(6.1.1.1) \quad \text{Hom}_S(T, U) \to \text{Hom}_S(T_0, U)\]

is surjective. Note that $(6.1.1.1)$ still holds if we replace $U$ by an open subscheme, since $T_0$ and $T$ have the same underlying topological space. Since smoothness is local on the source, we can assume $U = \text{Spec } B$ is affine. Then $U \to S$ of finite type implies that $U$ is a closed subscheme of $\mathbb{A}^n_S$. Let $A = R[t_1, \ldots , t_n]$ and $I \subset A$ the ideal corresponding to $U \hookrightarrow \mathbb{A}^n_S$. By [SGA1, II, Théorème 4.10], it suffices to show that the canonical sequence

\[0 \to T/T^2 \to \Omega_{\mathbb{A}^n_S/S} \otimes \mathcal{O}_U \to \Omega_{U/S} \to 0\]

is locally split exact (we know a priori that the sequence is right exact). Note that $A$ is noetherian, and $I/I^2$ is the coherent sheaf corresponding to $I/I^2$. Since $A/I^2$ is noetherian, by (6.1.1.1) the $R$-morphism
\[
id : A/I \to A/I = (A/I^2)/(I/I^2)
\]
lifts to a morphism $\varphi : A/I \to A/I^2$ of $R$-algebras. This implies that the short exact sequence
\[
0 \to I/I^2 \to A/I^2 \xrightarrow{\varphi} A/I \to 0
\]
splits since $\pi \circ \varphi = \id_{A/I}$. Let $\delta = \id_{A/I^2} - \varphi \circ \pi : A/I^2 \to A/I^2$ be a left inverse to $\iota$. Since $\delta(a)\delta(b) = 0$ for all $a, b \in A/I^2$, we have
\[
\delta(ab) = ab - (\varphi \circ \pi)(ab) + (a - (\varphi \circ \pi)(a))(b - (\varphi \circ \pi)(b)) = a\delta(b) + b\delta(a)
\]
using the fact that $\varphi \circ \pi$ is a morphism of $R$-algebras. Thus $\delta$ gives an $R$-derivation $A \to I/I^2$, which corresponds to a morphism $\Omega_{A/I^2} \to I/I^2$ of $A$-modules. Since $\delta \circ \iota = \id_{A/I^2}$, this morphism defines a left inverse $\Omega_{A/I^2} \otimes A B \to I/I^2$, which shows that
\[
0 \to I/I^2 \to \Omega_{A/I^2} \otimes A B \to \Omega_{B/R} \to 0
\]
is split exact. We conclude that $U \to S$ is smooth. \hfill \Box

6.2. Lifting gerbes. Our aim is to prove Proposition 6.0.18 by showing that $\text{Bun}_G$ satisfies the lifting criterion of Lemma 6.1.1. In other words, we want to lift certain torsors. To discuss when torsors lift, we will need to use the categorical language of a gerbe over a Picard stack.

We refer the reader to [DG02, 3] or [Gir71] for the relevant definitions.

Let $\mathcal{C}$ be a subcanonical site and $X$ a terminal object of $\mathcal{C}$. Suppose we have a short exact sequence of sheaves of groups
\[
1 \to \mathcal{A} \to \mathcal{G} \xrightarrow{\delta} \mathcal{G}_0 \to 1
\]
on $\mathcal{C}$, where $\mathcal{A}$ is abelian. Then $\mathcal{G}$ acts on $\mathcal{A}$ via conjugation, which induces a left action of $\mathcal{G}_0$ on $\mathcal{A}$, since $\mathcal{A}$ is abelian. Fix a right $\mathcal{G}_0$-torsor $\mathcal{P}$ over $X$. Then the twisted sheaf $\mathcal{P} \mathcal{A}$ is still a sheaf of abelian groups because the $\mathcal{G}_0$-action is induced by conjugation. We define a stack $Q_{\mathcal{P}} : \mathcal{C} \to \text{Gpd}$ by letting
\[
Q_{\mathcal{P}}(U) = \{(\tilde{\mathcal{P}}, \phi) \mid \tilde{\mathcal{P}} \in \text{Tors}(\mathcal{G})(U), \phi : \mathcal{P}|_U \to \tilde{\mathcal{P}}\mathcal{G}_0\}
\]
where $\phi$ is $\mathcal{G}_0$-equivariant, and a morphism $(\tilde{\mathcal{P}}, \phi) \to (\tilde{\mathcal{P}}', \phi')$ in the groupoid is a $\mathcal{G}$-equivariant morphism $f : \tilde{\mathcal{P}} \to \tilde{\mathcal{P}}'$ such that $f\mathcal{G}_0 \circ \phi = \phi'$.

**Lemma 6.2.1.** The stack $Q_{\mathcal{P}}$ of liftings of $\mathcal{P}$ to $\mathcal{G}$ is a gerbe over the Picard stack $\text{Tor}(\mathcal{P} \mathcal{A})$.

**Proof.** We first describe the action of $\text{Tors}(\mathcal{P} \mathcal{A})(U)$ on $Q_{\mathcal{P}}(U)$ for $U \in \mathcal{C}$. Let $\mathcal{T}$, $(\tilde{\mathcal{P}}, \phi)$ be objects in the aforementioned categories, respectively. We can pick a covering $(U_i \to U)$ trivializing $\mathcal{P}|_U$, $\mathcal{T}$, and $\tilde{\mathcal{P}}$. This in particular implies that $\mathcal{T}|_{U_i} \simeq \mathcal{A}|_{U_i}$. Denote $U_{ijk} = U_i \times_U U_j \times_U U_k$ for indices $i, j, k$. Let
\[
(\mathcal{G}_0|_{U_{ijk}}, g_{ijk})
\]
be a descent datum for $\mathcal{P}|_U$, where $g_{ijk} \in \mathcal{G}_0(U_{ijk})$. Then $\mathcal{P} \mathcal{A}$ has a descent datum $(\mathcal{A}|_{U_{ijk}}, \gamma_{ijk})$ with $\gamma_{ijk}(a) = g_{ijk}ag_{ijk}^{-1}$. Now since $\mathcal{T}$ is a $\mathcal{P} \mathcal{A}|_U$-torsor, the transition morphisms in a descent datum for $\mathcal{T}$ are $\mathcal{P} \mathcal{A}|_U$-equivariant. Thus $\mathcal{T}$ has a descent datum $(\mathcal{A}|_{U_{ijk}}, \psi_{ijk})$ where
\[
\psi_{ijk}(a) = \gamma_{ijk}(a_{ijk}a) = g_{ijk}a_{ijk}ag_{ijk}^{-1}
\]
for $a_{ij} \in \mathcal{A}(U_{ij})$ under the group operation of $\mathcal{G}$ (we omit restriction symbols). Now let $(\mathcal{G}|_{U_{ij}}, h_{ij})$ be a descent datum for $\mathcal{P}$, where $h_{ij} \in \mathcal{G}(U_{ij})$. The cocycle condition says that $h_{ij}h_{jk} = h_{ik} \in \mathcal{G}(U_{ijk})$. Now $\phi$ corresponds to a morphism of descent data

$$(\phi_i) : (\mathcal{G}|_{U_i}, g_{ij}) \to (\mathcal{G}|_{U_i}, \pi(h_{ij})).$$

By possibly refining our cover further, we may assume that $\phi_i = \pi(c_i)$ for $c_i \in \mathcal{G}(U_i)$. Set $\tilde{g}_{ij} = c_i^{-1}h_{ij}c_j \in \mathcal{G}(U_{ij})$. Now $\tilde{g}_{ij}g_{jk} = g_{ik}$ and $\pi(\tilde{g}_{ij}) = g_{ij}$. Therefore the cocycle condition $\psi_{ij} \circ \psi_{jk} = \psi_{ik}$ is equivalent to

$$\tilde{g}_{ij}a_{ij}\tilde{g}_{jk}a_{jk}\tilde{g}_{ik}^{-1} = \tilde{g}_{ik}a_{ik}\tilde{g}_{ik}^{-1} \iff h_{ij}c_ja_{ij}c_j^{-1}h_{jk}c_ka_{jk} = h_{ik}c_ka_{ik}.$$ 

Therefore $(\mathcal{G}|_{U_i}, h_{ij}c_ja_{ij}c_j^{-1})$ defines a descent datum. Note that $c_ja_{ij}c_j^{-1}$ does not depend on our choice of $c_i$. Therefore this descent datum defines a canonical $\mathcal{G}|_{U_i}$-torsor $\mathcal{P} \otimes \mathcal{T}$. Since $\pi(h_{ij}c_ja_{ij}c_j^{-1}) = \pi(h_{ij})$, we see that $\phi$ defines a morphism $\mathcal{P}|_{U} \to (\mathcal{P} \otimes \mathcal{T})\mathcal{G}$.

Suppose we have a morphism of descent data

$$(f_i) : (\mathcal{G}|_{U_i}, h_{ij}) \to (\mathcal{G}|_{U_i}, h'_{ij}), f_i \in \mathcal{G}(U_i)$$

corresponding to a morphism $(\mathcal{P}, \phi) \to (\mathcal{P}', \phi')$ in $\mathcal{Q}_P(U)$. We refine the cover to assume $\phi_i = \pi(c_i)$ and $\phi'_i = \pi(c'_i)$ (notation as in the previous paragraph). Then from the definitions we have $h'_if_j = f_ih_{ij}$ and $\pi(f_ic_i) = \pi(c'_i)$. Thus

$$h'_ia'_ja_{ij}c_j^{-1}f_j = h'_if_jc_ja_{ij}c_j^{-1} = f_ih_{ij}c_ja_{ij}c_j^{-1}.$$ 

Therefore $(f_i)$ defines a morphism $(\mathcal{P} \otimes \mathcal{T}, \phi) \to (\mathcal{P}' \otimes \mathcal{T}, \phi')$.

Let $(b_i) : (\mathcal{A}|_{U_i}, \psi_{ij}) \to (\mathcal{A}|_{U_i}, \psi'_{ij}), b_i \in \mathcal{A}(U_i)$ be a morphism of descent data corresponding to a morphism $\mathcal{T} \to \mathcal{T}'$ in $\text{Tors}(\mathcal{P}\mathcal{A})(U)$. Here $\psi_{ij}, \psi'_{ij}$ are defined with respect to $a_{ij}, a'_{ij} \in \mathcal{A}(U_{ij})$, respectively, as described above. The compatibility condition $\psi'_{ij}(b_j) = b_i\psi_{ij}(1)$ required for $(b_i)$ to be a morphism of descent data is equivalent to

$$g_{ij}a'_{ij}b_jg_{ij}^{-1} = b_ih_{ij}c_ja_{ij}c_j^{-1} \iff h_{ij}c_ja'_{ij}c_j^{-1}c_jb_jc_j^{-1} = c_bi^{-1}h_{ij}c_ja_{ij}c_j^{-1}. $$

Therefore $(c_bi^{-1})$ defines a morphism $(\mathcal{P} \otimes \mathcal{T}, \phi) \to (\mathcal{P}' \otimes \mathcal{T'}, \phi')$.

We have now defined an action of $\text{Tors}(\mathcal{P}\mathcal{A})$ on $\mathcal{Q}_P$. To check that $\mathcal{Q}_P$ is a gerbe over $\text{Tors}(\mathcal{P}\mathcal{A})$, we show that for a fixed $(\mathcal{P}, \phi) \in \mathcal{Q}_P(U)$, the functor

$$\text{Tors}(\mathcal{P}\mathcal{A})(U) \to \mathcal{Q}_P(U) : \mathcal{T} \mapsto (\mathcal{P} \otimes \mathcal{T}, \phi)$$

is an equivalence of groupoids. We use the notation for descent data from the preceding paragraphs. First, we show fully faithfulness. Let $f_i \in \mathcal{G}(U_i)$ correspond to a morphism $(\mathcal{P} \otimes \mathcal{T}, \phi) \to (\mathcal{P} \otimes \mathcal{T'}, \phi')$. The compatibility conditions require that $\pi(f_i) = \pi(1)$ and

$$h_{ij}c_ja'_{ij}c_j^{-1}f_j = f_ih_{ij}c_ja_{ij}c_j^{-1} \iff \psi'_{ij}(c_j^{-1}f_jc_j) = (c^{-1}_ib_ic_i)\psi_{ij}(1).$$

Therefore $b_i = c^{-1}_ib_i \in \mathcal{A}(U_i)$ corresponds bijectively to a morphism $\mathcal{T} \to \mathcal{T}'$.

Next, let us show essential surjectivity of the functor. Take $(\mathcal{P}', \phi') \in \mathcal{Q}_P(U)$. We have $\pi(c^{-1}_ih_{ij}c_j) = \pi(c'^{-1}_ih'^{-1}_{ij}c'_{ij}) = g_{ij}$. Thus there exist unique $a_{ij} \in \mathcal{A}(U_{ij})$ such that

$$c^{-1}_ih'^{-1}_{ij}c'_{ij} = c^{-1}_ih_{ij}c_ja_{ij}.$$ 

Since the $h'_{ij}$ satisfy the cocycle condition, (6.2.1.1) shows that the transition morphisms $\psi_{ij}$ associated to $a_{ij}$ satisfy the cocycle condition. Therefore $(\mathcal{A}|_{U_i}, \psi_{ij})$ defines a descent datum, which corresponds to a torsor $\mathcal{T} \in \text{Tors}(\mathcal{P}\mathcal{A})(U)$, and $(c'^{-1}_ic^{-1}_i)$ corresponds to a morphism of
descent data for $(\tilde{P} \otimes T, \phi) \to (\tilde{P}', \phi')$. Therefore the functor in question is an equivalence, and we conclude that $Q_P$ is a gerbe over $\text{Tors}(P,A)$.

6.3. Proving smoothness.

Proof of Proposition 6.0.18. Smoothness is local on $S$, so we may assume $S$ is noetherian by Remark 4.1.4. We will prove $\text{Bun}_G \to S$ is smooth by showing that it satisfies the conditions of Lemma 6.1.1. Let $T = \text{Spec } A$ be an affine noetherian scheme and $T_0$ a closed subscheme defined by a square zero ideal $I \subset A$. Suppose we have a $G$-bundle $P$ on $X_{T_0}$ corresponding to a morphism $T_0 \to \text{Bun}_G$. Since $X_{T_0} \to X_T$ is a homeomorphism of underlying topological spaces, [EGA1, I, Théorème 8.3] implies that base change gives an equivalence of categories between small étale sites

$$(X_T)_{\text{et}} \to (X_{T_0})_{\text{et}} : U \mapsto U_0 = U \times_T T_0.$$  

Using this equivalence, we define two sheaves of groups $G_0, G$ on $(X_{T_0})_{\text{et}}$ by

$$G_0(U_0) = \text{Hom}_k(U_0, G)$$

Since $G$ is smooth, infinitesimal lifting [BLR90, 2, Proposition 6] implies that $G \to G_0$ is a surjection of sheaves. Additionally, smoothness of $G$ implies that $P$ is étale locally trivial. Thus $P$ is a $G_0$-torsor on $(X_{T_0})_{\text{et}}$, and a lift of $P$ to a $G$-bundle on $X_T$ is the same as a $G$-torsor inducing $P$. This is equivalent to an element of the lifting gerbe $Q_P(X_{T_0})$.

Consider the short exact sequence of sheaves of groups

$$1 \to A \to G \to G_0 \to 1.$$  

We give an explicit description of $A$. Suppose $U = \text{Spec } B$ is affine and $U_0 = \text{Spec } B/IB$ for an $A$-algebra $B$. We will use the notation $k[G] = \Gamma(G, \mathcal{O}_G)$. Let $\varepsilon : k[G] \to k$ be the morphism of $k$-algebras corresponding to $1 \in G(k)$. Then $A(U_0)$ consists of the $\varphi \in \text{Hom}_k(k[G], B)$ such that the compositions $k[G] \xrightarrow{\varphi} B \to B/IB$ and $k[G] \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} k \to B/IB$ coincide. Define the morphism $\delta = \varphi - \varepsilon : k[G] \to IB$ of $k$-modules. Observe that for $x, y \in k[G]$, we have $\delta(x)\delta(y) = 0$ since $I^2 = 0$. Thus

$$\varphi(xy) - \varphi(x)\varphi(y) = \delta(xy) - \varepsilon(x)\delta(y) - \varepsilon(y)\delta(x) = 0,$$

which implies that $\varphi$ corresponds bijectively to a derivation

$$\delta \in \text{Der}_k(k[G], IB) \simeq \text{Hom}_k(m_1/m_1^2, IB),$$

where $IB$ is a $k[G]$-module via $\varepsilon$ and $m_1 = \ker \varepsilon$ is the maximal ideal. Since $U \to X_T \to T$ is flat, $B$ is an $A$-flat. Therefore $IB = I \otimes_A B$. Noting that $m_1/m_1^2 = g^\vee$, we have

$$A(U_0) \simeq \text{Hom}_k(g^\vee, IB) \simeq (g \otimes_A I) \otimes B \simeq (g \otimes_A I/A_{/I}) \otimes B/IB$$

since $I^2 = 0$ makes $I$ into an $A/I$-module. Let $\mathcal{I}$ be the ideal sheaf corresponding to $X_{T_0} \to X_T$, which is coherent because we assume $T$ is noetherian. We have shown that $A$ is the abelian sheaf corresponding to $g \otimes_k \mathcal{I} \subset \text{Coh}(X_{T_0})$ (see [Sta, Lemma 03DT]). Since $G_0$ acts on $A$ by conjugation, we see from the above isomorphisms that $G_0$ acts on $g \otimes_k \mathcal{I}$ via the adjoint representation on $g$. Therefore

$$\mathcal{P}A \simeq \mathcal{P}(g) \otimes \mathcal{I},$$

which is a coherent sheaf by quasi-coherent descent [FGI+05, Theorem 4.2.3] and persistence of finite presentation under fpqc morphisms [EGAIV2, Proposition 2.5.2].
There is a bijection between equivalence classes of gerbes over \( \text{Tors}(\mathcal{P}) \) and the étale cohomology group \( H^2((X_{T_0})_{\text{et}}, \mathcal{P}) \) by [Gir71, Théorème 3.4.2]. Since \( \mathcal{P} \) is in fact quasi-coherent, [EGAIV, VII, Proposition 4.3] gives an isomorphism

\[
H^2(X_{T_0}, \mathcal{P}) \simeq H^2((X_{T_0})_{\text{et}}, \mathcal{P}),
\]

where the left hand side is cohomology in the Zariski topology. By assumption, the fibers of \( X \to S \) are of dimension 1. It follows from [EGAIV2, Corollaire 4.1.4] that \( X_{T_0} \to T_0 \) also has fibers of dimension 1. Now since \( \mathcal{P} \) is coherent, [Tôhoku, Théorème 3.6.5] and [FGI+05, 8.5.18] imply that \( H^2(X_{T_0}, \mathcal{P}) = 0 \). Therefore by Lemma 6.2.1, the lifting gerbe \( \mathcal{Q}_R \) is neutral, i.e., \( \mathcal{Q}_R(X_{T_0}) \) is nonempty.

**Example 6.3.1.** We mention that Proposition 6.0.18 need not be true if \( X \to S \) has fibers of higher dimension. If \( S = \text{Spec} \, k \) is the spectrum of an algebraically closed field of positive characteristic, [Igu55] shows that there exists a smooth surface \( X \) over \( k \) such that \( \text{Pic}^0 X / k \) is not reduced, and hence not smooth. Corollary 4.2.6 gives a smooth surjective morphism of algebraic stacks \( \text{Bun}_1 \to \text{Pic}^0 X / S \). Since the property of smoothness is local on the source in the smooth topology [EGAIV4, Théorème 17.11.1], we conclude that \( \text{Bun}_1 \) is not smooth over \( S \).

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