

Stability of Cubic 3-folds

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Introduction.

Hilbert's idea of *null forms* appeared again as the *stability* and plays an important role in constructing the moduli space and its compactification in Geometric Invariant Theory of Mumford [7]. By virtue of the numerical criterion, one can determine the stable objects explicitly. For example, Hilbert proved the following. (See [3, §19] and [8, p15].)

THEOREM. *Let S be a cubic surface in the projective space \mathbf{P}^3 .*

- (1) *S is stable if and only if it has only rational double points of type A_1 .*
- (2) *S is semi-stable if and only if it has only rational double points of type A_1 or A_2 .*
- (3) *The moduli of stable ones is compactified by adding one point corresponding to the semi-stable cubic $xyz + w^3 = 0$ with 3 A_2 singularities.*

The stability of quartic surfaces is studied by Shah [11]. In this paper applying the same criterion to cubic 3-folds, i.e. hypersurfaces of degree 3 in \mathbf{P}^4 , we prove the following.

MAIN THEOREM. *Let X be a cubic 3-fold.*

- (1) *X is stable if and only if it has only double points of type $A_n : v^2 + w^2 + x^2 + y^{n+1} = 0$ with $n \leq 4$.*
- (2) *X is semi-stable if and only if it has only double points of type A_n with $n \leq 5$, $D_4 : v^2 + w^2 + x^3 + y^3 = 0$ or $A_\infty : v^2 + w^2 + x^2 = 0$. And if a semi-stable cubic 3-fold has A_∞ singularity, then it is isomorphic to the secant 3-fold, that is, the secant variety of rational normal curve in \mathbf{P}^4 .*
- (3) *The moduli of stable ones is compactified by adding two components. One is isomorphic to \mathbf{P}^1 and the other is an isolated point corresponding to the semi-stable cubic 3-fold $xyz + v^3 + w^3 = 0$ with 3 D_4 singularities.*

We remark that Collino [1] studies the degeneration of intermediate Jacobians for a family of cubic 3-folds approaching to the secant 3-fold.

According to the numerical criterion for hypersurfaces in \mathbf{P}^n , in order to classify stable ones, it is enough to determine certain finite number of hyperplane sections in an n -dimensional simplex. In Hilbert's and Shah's cases, since the dimension n is 3, we can determine these hyperplanes by intuition. In our case $n = 4$, it becomes more difficult for us. The author determined such ones by aid of computer. In this paper, we use a combinatorial way to prove that without an assistant of computer.

As for the moduli of Fano 3-folds, we want to know whether it can be compactified by adding 3-folds with canonical singularities. (See [5] and [6, §8].) By (2) of Main Theorem, the answer is affirmative for cubic 3-folds. Moreover, by virtue of (3), except for one point corresponding to the secant 3-fold, the moduli is compactified by adding 3-folds with terminal singularities. Similar results are obtained for cubic 4-folds in [12].

This paper consists of 5 sections. In Section 1 we determine six 1-PS's characterizing the (semi-)stability by the numerical criterion. In Section 2 we show that, modulo $\mathrm{SL}(5)$ -action, two 1-PS's are maximal among them. In Section 3 we determine cubic 3-folds with a closed orbit in the space of cubic polynomials and prove (3) in Main Theorem. We note that Luna's criterion [4] is useful to prove it. In Section 4 we consider cubic 3-folds with A_∞ singularity and prove the latter half of (2) in Main Theorem. In Section 5 we translate two 1-PS's above into the analytic local condition, that is, we prove (1) and the first half of (2) in Main Theorem.

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1. Numerical criterion for cubic 3-folds.

(1.1) Numerical criterion of hypersurfaces. A one-parameter subgroup, 1-PS for short, of $\mathrm{SL}(n+1)$ is a homomorphism $\lambda : \mathbf{G}_m \rightarrow \mathrm{SL}(n+1)$ of algebraic groups. Such λ can always be diagonalized in a suitable basis:

$$\lambda(t) = \mathrm{diag}(t^{r_0}, t^{r_1}, \dots, t^{r_n}) \quad \text{and} \quad r_0 \geq r_1 \geq \dots \geq r_n.$$

It is simply expressed by $\lambda = [r_0, r_1, \dots, r_n]$. Since $[r_0, r_1, \dots, r_n] \neq [0, 0, \dots, 0]$, r_0 is positive and r_n is negative.

A hypersurface of degree d in \mathbf{P}^n defined by a homogeneous polynomial $f(x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n)$ of degree d is not stable (resp. semi-stable) if and only if there exists an element σ of $\mathrm{SL}(n+1)$ and a 1-PS $\lambda(t) = \mathrm{diag}(t^{r_0}, t^{r_1}, \dots, t^{r_n}) \in \mathrm{SL}(n+1)$ such that $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \lambda(t)(\sigma f)$ exists (resp. exists and is equal to 0). Expressing $\sigma f = \sum a_{ij\dots k} x_0^i x_1^j \dots x_n^k$, this is equivalent to the condition

$$\exists \text{ 1-PS } [r_0, r_1, \dots, r_n] \text{ s.t. } r_0 i + r_1 j + \dots + r_n k \geq 0 \quad (\text{resp. } > 0) \quad \text{if } a_{ij\dots k} \neq 0.$$

Let \mathbf{I} be the set of exponents of monomials $x_0^i x_1^j \dots x_n^k$, that is,

$$\mathbf{I} = \{(i, j, \dots, k) \in \mathbf{Z}^{n+1} \mid i, j, \dots, k \geq 0 \text{ and } i + j + \dots + k = d\}.$$

Then the determination of all non-stable (resp. unstable) hypersurfaces is reduced to that of the subsets in \mathbf{I}

$$\mathbf{M}^\oplus(\mathbf{r}) = \{\mathbf{i} \in \mathbf{I} \mid \mathbf{i} \cdot \mathbf{r} \geq 0\} \quad (\text{resp. } \mathbf{M}^+(\mathbf{r}) = \{\mathbf{i} \in \mathbf{I} \mid \mathbf{i} \cdot \mathbf{r} > 0\})$$

for all 1-PS $\mathbf{r} = [r_0, r_1, \dots, r_n]$. We seek for only maximal ones instead of all such subsets.

From now on, we suppose $n = 4$ and $d = 3$.

(1.2) THEOREM.

(1) *The maximal subsets of $\{\mathbf{M}^\oplus(\mathbf{r}) \mid \mathbf{r} \text{ is a 1-PS}\}$ are $\mathbf{M}^\oplus(\gamma^i)$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, 6$, where*

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma^1 &= [1, 1, 1, -1, -2], & \gamma^2 &= [2, 1, -1, -1, -1], & \gamma^3 &= [2, 1, 0, -1, -2], \\ \gamma^4 &= [1, 0, 0, 0, -1], & \gamma^5 &= [1, 1, 0, 0, -2], & \gamma^6 &= [2, 0, 0, -1, -1]. \end{aligned}$$

(2) *For a sufficiently small number $1 \gg \varepsilon > 0$ (e.g. $\varepsilon = 0.1$ is sufficient), the maximal subsets of $\{\mathbf{M}^+(\mathbf{r}) \mid \mathbf{r} \text{ is a 1-PS}\}$ are $\mathbf{M}^+(\lambda^i)$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, 6$, where*

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda^1 &= \gamma^1 + [1, 1, 1, -2, -1]\varepsilon, & \lambda^2 &= \gamma^2 + [3, 0, -1, -1, -1]\varepsilon, \\ \lambda^3 &= \gamma^3 + [7, 2, -3, -3, -3]\varepsilon, & \lambda^4 &= \gamma^4 + [1, 1, 1, 1, -4]\varepsilon, \\ \lambda^5 &= \gamma^5 + [0, 0, 2, -3, 1]\varepsilon, & \lambda^6 &= \gamma^6 + [2, 2, 2, -3, -3]\varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

To prove (1.2), we prepare Table. The symbols $+$, $-$, \oplus and \ominus mean $\mathbf{i} \cdot \mathbf{r} > 0$, $\mathbf{i} \cdot \mathbf{r} < 0$, $\mathbf{i} \cdot \mathbf{r} \geq 0$ and $\mathbf{i} \cdot \mathbf{r} \leq 0$ for $\mathbf{i} \in \mathbf{I}$, respectively.

We define the partial order of \mathbf{I} as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} (a, b, c, d, e) &\geq (a', b', c', d', e') \\ \stackrel{\text{def}}{\iff} (a, b, c, d, e)\mathbf{r} &\geq (a', b', c', d', e')\mathbf{r} \quad \text{for any 1-PS } \mathbf{r} (r_0 \geq r_1 \geq \dots \geq r_4) \\ \iff a \geq a', a + b &\geq a' + b', a + b + c \geq a' + b' + c', a + b + c + d \geq a' + b' + c' + d', \\ &a + b + c + d + e \geq a' + b' + c' + d' + e'. \end{aligned}$$

Put $\mathbf{M}^-(\mathbf{r}) = \mathbf{I} \setminus \mathbf{M}^\oplus(\mathbf{r})$ and $\mathbf{M}^\ominus(\mathbf{r}) = \mathbf{I} \setminus \mathbf{M}^+(\mathbf{r})$. Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{M}^\oplus(\mathbf{r}) \subset \mathbf{M}^\oplus(\gamma^i) &\iff \mathbf{M}^-(\gamma^i) \subset \mathbf{M}^-(\mathbf{r}) \\ &\iff \mathbf{i} \cdot \mathbf{r} < 0 \text{ for any } \mathbf{i} \in \mathbf{M}^-(\gamma^i) \\ &\iff \mathbf{i} \cdot \mathbf{r} < 0 \text{ for any maximal element } \mathbf{i} \in \mathbf{M}^-(\gamma^i). \end{aligned}$$

Hence we obtain the following:

(1.3) CRITERION. Let \mathbf{r} be an arbitrary 1-PS.

(1) $\mathbf{M}^\oplus(\mathbf{r}) \subset \mathbf{M}^\oplus(\gamma^i)$ if and only if $\mathbf{i} \cdot \mathbf{r} < 0$ for all the maximal elements $\mathbf{i} \in \mathbf{M}^-(\gamma^i)$.

(2) $\mathbf{M}^+(\mathbf{r}) \subset \mathbf{M}^+(\lambda^i)$ if and only if $\mathbf{i} \cdot \mathbf{r} \leq 0$ for all the maximal elements $\mathbf{i} \in \mathbf{M}^\ominus(\lambda^i)$.

We mark \dagger on the maximal elements of $\mathbf{M}^-(\gamma^i)$ and $\mathbf{M}^\ominus(\lambda^i)$ in Table. For example, the maximal element of $\mathbf{M}^-(\gamma^3)$ are $(0, 0, 2, 1, 0)$, $(0, 1, 0, 2, 0)$, $(0, 1, 1, 0, 1)$ and $(1, 0, 0, 1, 1)$, which are marked.

TABLE.

$\mathbf{i} \setminus \mathbf{r}$	γ^1	γ^2	γ^3	γ^4	γ^5	γ^6	λ^1	λ^2	λ^3	λ^4	λ^5	λ^6
(0, 0, 0, 0, 3)	-	-	-	-	-	-	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus
(0, 0, 0, 1, 2)	-	-	-	-	-	-	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus
(0, 0, 0, 2, 1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus
(0, 0, 0, 3, 0)	-	-	-	\oplus	\oplus	-	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus	+	\ominus	\ominus
(0, 0, 1, 0, 2)	-	-	-	-	-	-	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus
(0, 0, 1, 1, 1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus
(0, 0, 1, 2, 0)	-	-	-	\oplus	\oplus	-	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus	+	\ominus	\ominus
(0, 0, 2, 0, 1)	\oplus	-	-	-	-	-	+	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus
(0, 0, 2, 1, 0)	\oplus	-	$-\dagger$	\oplus	\oplus	-	+	\ominus	\ominus	+	+	+
(0, 0, 3, 0, 0)	\oplus	-	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	+	\ominus	\ominus	+	+	+
(0, 1, 0, 0, 2)	-	-	-	-	-	-	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus
(0, 1, 0, 1, 1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus
(0, 1, 0, 2, 0)	-	-	$-\dagger$	\oplus	\oplus	-	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus	+	+	\ominus
(0, 1, 1, 0, 1)	\oplus	-	$-\dagger$	-	-	-	+	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus
(0, 1, 1, 1, 0)	\oplus	-	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	-	+	\ominus	\ominus	+	+	+
(0, 1, 2, 0, 0)	\oplus	$-\dagger$	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	+	\ominus	+	+	+	+
(0, 2, 0, 0, 1)	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	$-\dagger$	\oplus	-	+	+	+	\ominus	+	\ominus
(0, 2, 0, 1, 0)	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	$-\dagger$	+	+	+	+	+	+
(0, 2, 1, 0, 0)	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	+	+	+	+	+	+
(0, 3, 0, 0, 0)	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	+	+	+	+	+	+
(1, 0, 0, 0, 2)	-	\oplus	-	$-\dagger$	-	\oplus	\ominus	+	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus
(1, 0, 0, 1, 1)	-	\oplus	$-\dagger$	\oplus	-	\oplus	\ominus	+	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus	\ominus
(1, 0, 0, 2, 0)	$-\dagger$	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\ominus	+	+	+	+	+
(1, 0, 1, 0, 1)	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	$-\dagger$	\oplus	+	+	+	\ominus	\ominus	+
(1, 0, 1, 1, 0)	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	+	+	+	+	+	+
(1, 0, 2, 0, 0)	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	+	+	+	+	+	+
(1, 1, 0, 0, 1)	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	+	+	+	\ominus	+	+
(1, 1, 0, 1, 0)	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	+	+	+	+	+	+
(1, 1, 1, 0, 0)	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	+	+	+	+	+	+
(1, 2, 0, 0, 0)	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	+	+	+	+	+	+
(2, 0, 0, 0, 1)	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	+	+	+	+	+	+
(2, 0, 0, 1, 0)	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	+	+	+	+	+	+
(2, 0, 1, 0, 0)	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	+	+	+	+	+	+
(2, 1, 0, 0, 0)	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	+	+	+	+	+	+
(3, 0, 0, 0, 0)	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	\oplus	+	+	+	+	+	+

(1.4) PROOF OF (1) OF (1.2). Assume that $\mathbf{M}^\oplus(\mathbf{r}) \not\subset \mathbf{M}^\oplus(\gamma^i)$ for any $i \neq 3$. It is enough to show that $\mathbf{M}^\oplus(\mathbf{r}) \subset \mathbf{M}^\oplus(\gamma^3)$, that is, $(0, 0, 2, 1, 0)\mathbf{r} < 0$, $(0, 1, 0, 2, 0)\mathbf{r} < 0$, $(0, 1, 1, 0, 1)\mathbf{r} < 0$ and $(1, 0, 0, 1, 1)\mathbf{r} < 0$ by (1.3). Since $\mathbf{M}^\oplus(\mathbf{r}) \not\subset \mathbf{M}^\oplus(\gamma^i)$ for $i = 1, 2, 5, 6$, we have $(1, 0, 0, 2, 0)\mathbf{r}$, $(0, 1, 2, 0, 0)\mathbf{r}$, $(1, 0, 1, 0, 1)\mathbf{r}$, $(0, 2, 0, 1, 0)\mathbf{r} \geq 0$ respectively by (1.3). We note that $r_i - r_j \leq 0$ for $i > j$, and $r_4 < 0$ by the assumption in (1.1). From

$$\begin{aligned} 4(1, 0, 0, 0, 2)\mathbf{r} + 2(0, 1, 2, 0, 0)\mathbf{r} + (0, 2, 0, 1, 0)\mathbf{r} &= (4, 4, 4, 1, 8)\mathbf{r} \\ &= (0, 0, 0, -3, 4)\mathbf{r} = 3(r_4 - r_3) + r_4 < 0, \end{aligned}$$

we obtain $(1, 0, 0, 0, 2)\mathbf{r} < 0$. Since $\mathbf{M}^\oplus(\mathbf{r}) \not\subset \mathbf{M}^\oplus(\gamma^4)$, we have $(0, 2, 0, 0, 1)\mathbf{r} \geq 0$. From

$$\begin{aligned} (0, 0, 0, 3, 0)\mathbf{r} + (0, 2, 0, 0, 1)\mathbf{r} + (1, 0, 1, 0, 1)\mathbf{r} &= (1, 2, 1, 3, 2)\mathbf{r} \\ &= (-1, 0, -1, 1, 0)\mathbf{r} = -r_0 + (r_3 - r_2) < 0, \end{aligned}$$

we deduce $(0, 0, 0, 3, 0)\mathbf{r} < 0$. From the equations

$$\begin{aligned} 3(0, 1, 0, 2, 0)\mathbf{r} + 3(1, 0, 1, 0, 1)\mathbf{r} - (0, 0, 0, 3, 0)\mathbf{r} &= (3, 3, 3, 3, 3)\mathbf{r} = 0, \\ 3(0, 1, 1, 0, 1)\mathbf{r} + 3(1, 0, 0, 2, 0)\mathbf{r} - (0, 0, 0, 3, 0)\mathbf{r} &= (3, 3, 3, 3, 3)\mathbf{r} = 0, \\ 3(0, 0, 2, 1, 0)\mathbf{r} + 6(1, 0, 1, 0, 1)\mathbf{r} + 6(1, 0, 0, 2, 0)\mathbf{r} + 6(0, 2, 0, 0, 1)\mathbf{r} \\ - (0, 0, 0, 3, 0)\mathbf{r} &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

we have $(0, 1, 0, 2, 0)\mathbf{r}$, $(0, 1, 1, 0, 1)\mathbf{r}$, $(0, 0, 2, 1, 0)\mathbf{r} < 0$, respectively. Hence from

$$\begin{aligned} 15(1, 0, 0, 1, 1)\mathbf{r} + 5(0, 2, 0, 0, 1)\mathbf{r} + 8(0, 1, 2, 0, 0)\mathbf{r} &= (15, 18, 16, 15, 20)\mathbf{r} \\ &= (-2, 1, -1, -2, 3)\mathbf{r} = -r_0 + (r_1 - r_0) + (r_4 - r_2) + 2(r_4 - r_3) < 0. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we have $(1, 0, 0, 1, 1)\mathbf{r} < 0$. \square

(1.5) PROOF OF (2) OF (1.2). Assuming $\mathbf{M}^+(\mathbf{r}) \not\subset \mathbf{M}^+(\lambda^i)$ for $1 \leq i \leq 5$, we show that $\mathbf{M}^+(\mathbf{r}) \subset \mathbf{M}^+(\lambda^6)$, that is,

$$(0, 1, 0, 2, 0)\mathbf{r} \leq 0, \quad (0, 2, 0, 0, 1)\mathbf{r} \leq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad (1, 0, 0, 1, 1)\mathbf{r} \leq 0.$$

For $\mathbf{M}^+(\mathbf{r}) \not\subset \mathbf{M}^+(\lambda^1)$, $\mathbf{M}^+(\lambda^2)$, $\mathbf{M}^+(\lambda^4)$, we have $(1, 0, 0, 2, 0)\mathbf{r}$, $(0, 1, 2, 0, 0)\mathbf{r}$, $(1, 1, 0, 0, 1)\mathbf{r} > 0$ respectively by (1.3). From

$$2(0, 0, 1, 2, 0)\mathbf{r} + 3(1, 1, 0, 0, 1)\mathbf{r} = (3, 3, 2, 4, 3)\mathbf{r} = (0, 0, -1, 1, 0)\mathbf{r} = r_3 - r_2 \leq 0,$$

we have $(0, 0, 1, 2, 0)\mathbf{r} < 0$, and since $\mathbf{M}^+(\mathbf{r}) \not\subset \mathbf{M}^+(\lambda^5)$, we obtain $(1, 0, 1, 0, 1)\mathbf{r} > 0$ by (1.3). From

$$\begin{aligned} 3(0, 1, 0, 2, 0)\mathbf{r} + 2(1, 1, 0, 0, 1)\mathbf{r} + (0, 1, 2, 0, 0)\mathbf{r} + 4(1, 0, 1, 0, 1)\mathbf{r} \\ = (6, 6, 6, 6, 6)\mathbf{r} = 0, \quad 3(1, 0, 0, 1, 1)\mathbf{r} + 2(0, 1, 2, 0, 0)\mathbf{r} = (3, 2, 4, 3, 3)\mathbf{r} \\ = (0, -1, 1, 0, 0)\mathbf{r} = r_2 - r_1 \leq 0, \end{aligned}$$

we deduce $(0, 1, 0, 2, 0)\mathbf{r}$ and $(1, 0, 0, 1, 1)\mathbf{r} < 0$ respectively. Because $\mathbf{M}^+(\mathbf{r}) \not\subset \mathbf{M}^+(\lambda^3)$ and $(1, 0, 0, 1, 1)\mathbf{r} \leq 0$, either $(0, 0, 3, 0, 0)\mathbf{r} > 0$ or $(0, 1, 1, 1, 0)\mathbf{r} > 0$ by (1.3). In any case,

from

$$\begin{aligned} & 3(0, 2, 0, 0, 1)\mathbf{r} + (0, 0, 3, 0, 0)\mathbf{r} + 3(1, 0, 0, 2, 0)\mathbf{r} + 3(1, 0, 1, 0, 1)\mathbf{r} \\ & = (6, 6, 6, 6, 6)\mathbf{r} = 0, \quad (0, 2, 0, 0, 1)\mathbf{r} + (0, 1, 1, 1, 0)\mathbf{r} \\ & + (1, 0, 0, 2, 0)\mathbf{r} + 2(1, 0, 1, 0, 1)\mathbf{r} = (3, 3, 3, 3, 3)\mathbf{r} = 0, \end{aligned}$$

Therefore we have $(0, 2, 0, 0, 1)\mathbf{r} < 0$. \square

2. Inclusion relations modulo $SL(5)$ -action.

In this section we prove the following proposition by writing the linear transformation of polynomials explicitly.

(2.1) PROPOSITION. *Modulo $SL(5)$ -action, there exist following inclusions.*

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \mathbf{M}^\oplus(\gamma^2) & \mathbf{M}^\oplus(\gamma^3) & \mathbf{M}^\oplus(\gamma^4) & = & \mathbf{M}^\oplus(\gamma^5) & \supset & \mathbf{M}^\oplus(\gamma^6) & \mathbf{M}^\oplus(\gamma^1) \\ \parallel & \cup & \cup & & \cup & & & \parallel \\ \mathbf{M}^+(\lambda^2) & \subset & \mathbf{M}^+(\lambda^3) & & \mathbf{M}^+(\lambda^4) & \subset & \mathbf{M}^+(\lambda^5) & \supset & \mathbf{M}^+(\lambda^6) & \supset & \mathbf{M}^+(\lambda^1). \end{array}$$

Here $M \subset N \bmod SL(5)$ means that $SL(5) \cdot M \subset SL(5) \cdot N$. Let $[1.k]$ and $[2.k]$ be linear combinations of monomials of $\mathbf{M}^\oplus(\gamma^k)$ and $\mathbf{M}^+(\lambda^k)$ respectively where $k = 1, 2, \dots, 6$. We take $(v:w:x:y:z)$ as a homogeneous coordinate system of \mathbf{P}^4 . Then we have the following list.

(2.2) List.

- [1.1] $yq_1(v, w, x) + zq_2(v, w, x) + c(v, w, x);$
- [1.2] $xq_1(v, w) + yq_2(v, w) + zq_3(v, w) + vq_4(x, y, z) + c(v, w);$
- [1.3] $a_1vy^2 + xyl_1(v, w) + yq_1(v, w) + zq_2(v, w) + a_2vxz + c(v, w, x);$
- [1.4] $vzl(v, w, x, y) + c(v, w, x, y);$
- [1.5] $zq(v, w) + c(v, w, x, y);$
- [1.6] $vyl_1(v, w, x) + vzl_2(v, w, x) + vq(y, z) + c(v, w, x);$

- [2.1] = [1.1];
- [2.2] = [1.2];
- [2.3] $avxz + vyl_1(x, y) + xq_1(v, w) + zq_2(v, w) + yq_3(v, w) + c(v, w) + x^2l_2(v, w);$
- [2.4] $av^2z + c(v, w, x, y);$
- [2.5] $y^2l(v, w) + yq_1(v, w, x) + zq_2(v, w) + c(v, w, x);$
- [2.6] $avy^2 + vzl(v, w, x) + yq(v, w, x) + c(v, w, x).$

The symbols l , q and c denote a linear, quadratic and cubic homogeneous polynomials respectively. By (2.1), modulo $SL(5)$ -action, all the maximal subsets among $\mathbf{M}^\oplus(\mathbf{r})$ are

$\mathbf{M}^\oplus(\gamma^3)$ and $\mathbf{M}^\oplus(\gamma^5)$, and all the maximal subsets among $\mathbf{M}^+(\mathbf{r})$ are $\mathbf{M}^+(\lambda^3)$ and $\mathbf{M}^+(\lambda^5)$. In other words:

(2.3) COROLLARY. *Let X be a cubic 3-fold defined by a homogeneous polynomial F .*

(1) *X is not stable if and only if F is either [1.3] or [1.5] for a suitable coordinate.*

(2) *X is unstable, i.e. not semi-stable, if and only if F is either [2.3] or [2.5] for a suitable coordinate.*

In particular, if a cubic 3-fold has a double point of rank 2 (resp. 1), then it is not stable (resp. not semi-stable).

We begin to prove (2.1). The following inclusions are obvious by List.

$$\mathbf{M}^+(\lambda^3) \subset \mathbf{M}^\oplus(\gamma^3), \quad \mathbf{M}^+(\lambda^4) \subset \mathbf{M}^\oplus(\gamma^4) \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{M}^+(\lambda^5) \subset \mathbf{M}^\oplus(\gamma^5).$$

Both [1.4] and [1.5] define all cubic 3-folds with a double point of rank < 3 , so we have:

$$(2.4) \text{ PROPOSITION. } \mathbf{M}^\oplus(\gamma^4) = \mathbf{M}^\oplus(\gamma^5) \text{ mod SL}(5).$$

Here $f \equiv g$ means that $f = \sigma g$ for some linear transformation σ .

$$(2.5) \text{ PROPOSITION. } \mathbf{M}^\oplus(\gamma^6) \subset \mathbf{M}^\oplus(\gamma^5) \text{ mod SL}(5).$$

PROOF. Since $q(y, z) \equiv y(c_1y + c_2z)$ by a suitable linear transformation $(y, z) \mapsto (a_1y + b_1z, a_2y + b_2z)$ by (2.6) below, we have

$$\begin{aligned} [1.6] &= vy l_1(v, w, x) + vz l_2(v, w, x) + vq(y, z) + c(v, w, x) \\ &\equiv vl_3(y, z)l_1(v, w, x) + vl_4(y, z)l_2(v, w, x) + vy(c_1y + c_2z) + c(v, w, x) \\ &= zv\{l'_1(v, w, x) + l'_2(v, w, x) + c_2y\} + vyl'_3(v, w, x) + vyl'_4(v, w, x) \\ &\quad + avy^2 + c(v, w, x) \end{aligned}$$

which has a double point $(0:0:0:1)$ of rank < 3 . Therefore $[1.6] \Rightarrow [1.5]$. \square

(2.6) LEMMA. *For a suitable linear transformation σ of (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) , $q(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \sigma q'(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ if and only if*

$$\text{rank } q(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \text{rank } q'(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n).$$

$$(2.7) \text{ PROPOSITION. } \mathbf{M}^+(\lambda^2) \subset \mathbf{M}^+(\lambda^3) \text{ mod SL}(5).$$

PROOF. Since $q_4(x, y, z) \equiv axz + yl_1(x, y)$ by a suitable linear transformation $(x, y, z) \mapsto (l'_1(x, y, z), l'_2(x, y, z), l'_3(x, y, z))$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} [2.2] &= xq_1(v, w) + yq_2(v, w) + zq_3(v, w) + c(v, w) + vq_4(x, y, z) \\ &\equiv xq_1(v, w) + zq_2(v, w) + yq_3(v, w) + c(v, w) + v\{axz + yl_1(x, y)\} \\ &\Rightarrow xq_1(v, w) + zq_2(v, w) + yq_3(v, w) + c(v, w) + v\{axz + yl_1(x, y)\} \\ &\quad + x^2l_2(v, w) \\ &= avxz + vyl_1(x, y) + xq_1(v, w) + zq_2(v, w) + yq_3(v, w) + c(v, w) \\ &\quad + x^2l_2(v, w) = [2.3]. \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

(2.8) PROPOSITION. $\mathbf{M}^+(\lambda^4) \subset \mathbf{M}^+(\lambda^5) \bmod \text{SL}(5)$.

PROOF. For any cubic form $c(w, x, y)$ there exist $a, q(w, x)$ and $c'(w, x)$ such that

$$\{c(w, x, y) = 0\} \equiv \{awy^2 + q(w, x)y + c'(w, x) = 0\} \quad \text{in } \mathbf{P}^2(w:x:y).$$

Hence $c(v, w, x, y) \equiv y^2l(v, w) + yq(v, w, x) + c'(v, w, x)$ by a suitable linear transformation $(w:x:y) \mapsto (l_1(w, x, y):l_2(w, x, y):l_3(w, x, y))$. So we have

$$\begin{aligned} [2.4] &= av^2z + c(v, w, x, y) \\ &\equiv av^2z + y^2l(v, w) + yq(v, w, x) + c'(v, w, x) \\ &= y^2l(v, w) + yq(v, w, x) + av^2z + c'(v, w, x) \\ &\Rightarrow y^2l(v, w) + yq_1(v, w, x) + zq_2(v, w) + c'(v, w, x) = [2.5]. \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

(2.9) PROPOSITION. $\mathbf{M}^+(\lambda^6) \subset \mathbf{M}^+(\lambda^5) \bmod \text{SL}(5)$.

PROOF. We put

$$[2.6] = avy^2 + vz(a_1v + a_2w + a_3x) + yq(v, w, x) + c(v, w, x).$$

If $a_2 = a_3 = 0$, then our proposition is obvious. In case $(a_2, a_3) \neq (0, 0)$, exchanging w and x if necessary, we may assume $a_2 \neq 0$. So we have

$$\begin{aligned} [2.6] &\equiv avy^2 + vz(a_1v + a_4w) + yq'(v, w, x) + c'(v, w, x) \quad \text{by } a_2w + a_3x \mapsto a_4w \\ &\Rightarrow y^2l(v, w) + zq_2(v, w) + yq_1(v, w, x) + c'(v, w, x) \\ &= y^2l(v, w) + yq_1(v, w, x) + zq_2(v, w) + c'(v, w, x) = [2.5]. \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

(2.10) PROPOSITION. $\mathbf{M}^+(\lambda^1) \subset \mathbf{M}^+(\lambda^6) \bmod \text{SL}(5)$.

PROOF. Let F be a polynomial of type [2.1]. Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} F &= yq_1(v, w, x) + zq_2(v, w, x) + c(v, w, x) \\ &\equiv y\{aq_1(v, w, x) + bq_2(v, w, x)\} + z\{a'q_1(v, w, x) + b'q_2(v, w, x)\} + c(v, w, x) \\ &\quad \text{by } (y, z) \mapsto (ay + a'z, by + b'z) \\ &= yq'_1(v, w, x) + zl_1(v, w, x)l_2(v, w, x) + c(v, w, x) \quad \text{by (2.11) below} \\ &\equiv yq'(v, w, x) + zvl'_2(v, w, x) + c'(v, w, x) \quad \text{by } l_1(v, w, x) \mapsto v \\ &\Rightarrow yq'(v, w, x) + zvl'_2(v, w, x) + c'(v, w, x) + avy^2 \\ &= avy^2 + zvl'_2(v, w, x) + yq(v, w, x) + c'(v, w, x) = [2.6]. \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

(2.11) LEMMA. For any pair of non-zero quadratic forms $q_1(v, w, x)$ and $q_2(v, w, x)$ there exists a pair of complex number a and b such that $aq_1(v, w, x) + bq_2(v, w, x) = l_1(v, w, x)l_2(v, w, x)$.

Now the proof of (2.1) has completed. A cubic 3-fold defined by any polynomial in List (2.2) is singular. We describe the geometric situation of (2.1) associating it with a space sextic curve.

(2.12) DEFINITION. Let p be a singular point of a cubic 3-fold X . We choose a homogeneous coordinate of \mathbf{P}^4 such that $p = (0:0:0:0:1)$. Then the defining equation of X is

$$q(v, w, x, y)z + c(v, w, x, y).$$

The projection $X \cdots \rightarrow \mathbf{P}^3$ from p is a birational map. The indeterminacy set of its inverse map is defined by

$$q(v, w, x, y) = c(v, w, x, y) = 0 \quad \text{in } \mathbf{P}^3(v:w:x:y),$$

which we denote by $\mathcal{I}(X, p)$. We note that $\dim \mathcal{I}(X, p) = 1$ if and only if X is irreducible and p is not a triple point.

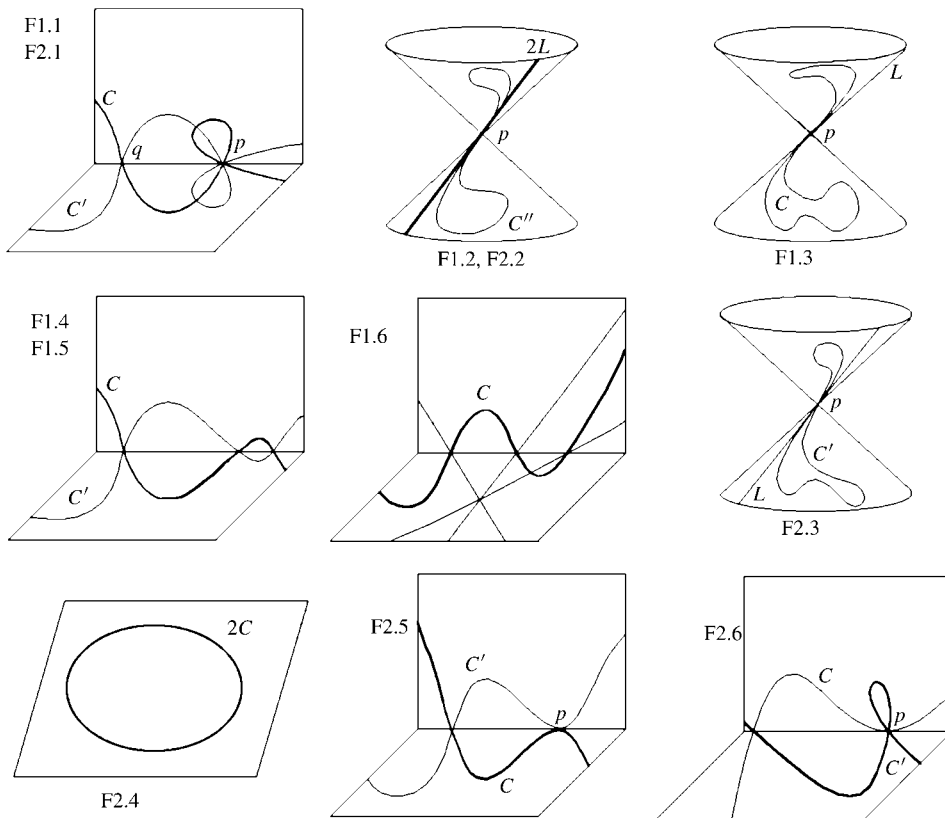


FIGURE.

(2.13) In Figure, the illustrations of the sextic curve $Fi.j$ are corresponding to general cubic 3-folds defined by $[i.j]$.

F1.4 and F1.5 are two plane cubics C and C' with common three points. F1.4 and F1.5 become F1.6 if C' degenerates the union of 3 lines. F1.4 and F1.5 become F2.4 if $C = C'$. F1.4 and F1.5 become F2.5 if C and C' touch at a point p . F2.5 becomes F2.6 if C is singular at p . F2.6 becomes F1.1 and F2.1 if C' is also singular at p .

F1.3 is a complete intersection C of a quadratic cone Q with a vertex q and a cubic surface S passing through q such the tangent cone of $Q \cap S$ at q is a double line L , and $L \cap S$ is a (triple) point. F1.3 becomes F2.3 if C degenerate the union of a line L and a curve C' with $L \cap C' = \{p\}$. F2.3 becomes F1.2 and F2.2 if $C' = L \cup C''$.

3. Closed orbits of cubic 3-folds.

In this section we consider cubic 3-fold with a closed orbit in $\text{Sym}^3 \mathbf{C}^5$ and prove the following theorem, where $\text{Sym}^d \mathbf{C}^n$ is the family of homogeneous polynomials in n variables of degree d . As a corollary we obtain (3) in Main Theorem.

(3.1) THEOREM. (1) *A semi-stable cubic 3-fold is contained in a closed orbit in $\text{Sym}^3 \mathbf{C}^5$ if and only if either it is stable or its defining equation is projectively equivalent to:*

$$[3.1] \quad \phi_{\alpha,\beta} = vy^2 + w^2z - vxz - \alpha wxy + \beta x^3 \quad \text{with } (\alpha, \beta) \neq (0, 0) \quad \text{or}$$

$$[3.2] \quad \varphi = vwz + x^3 + y^3.$$

(2) *Equations $\phi_{\alpha,\beta}$ and $\phi_{\alpha',\beta'}$ are equivalent under the $\text{SL}(5)$ -action if and only if $\alpha^2 : \beta = \alpha'^2 : \beta'$.*

First we show the ‘only if’ part of (1) in (3.1).

(3.2) PROPOSITION. *If a semi-stable cubic 3-fold X is contained in a closed orbit, then either it is stable or its defining equation is projectively equivalent to $\phi_{\alpha,\beta}$ or φ .*

PROOF. Since X is not stable, we may assume that the defining equation f is either [1.3] or [1.5] by (2.3). If $f = [1.5]$, then

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \gamma^5(t)(f) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \text{diag}(t, t, 1, 1, t^{-2})(f) = zq(v, w) + c(0, 0, x, y) \equiv vwz + x^3 + y^3 = \varphi$$

because X is semi-stable. If $f = [1.3]$, then

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \gamma^3(t)(f) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \text{diag}(t^2, t, 1, t^{-1}, t^{-2})(f) = a_1vy^2 + a_2w^2z + a_3vxz + a_4wxy + a_5x^3$$

which is projectively equivalent to $\phi_{\alpha,\beta}$ for some α and β by (3.3). \square

We put $\mathcal{S}(\sum a_{ij\dots k}v^i w^j \cdots z^k) = \{(i, j, \dots, k) \in \mathbf{I} \mid a_{ij\dots k} \neq 0\}$.

(3.3) LEMMA. *If a homogeneous cubic polynomial $f = a_1vy^2 + a_2w^2z + a_3vxz + a_4wxy + a_5x^3$ is semi-stable, then $f \equiv \phi_{\alpha,\beta}$ for some $(\alpha, \beta) \neq (0, 0)$.*

PROOF. We show that $a_1, a_2, a_3 \neq 0$ and $(a_4, a_5) \neq (0, 0)$. If $a_4 = a_5 = 0$, then

$$\mathcal{S}(f) = \{(0, 2, 0, 0, 1), (1, 0, 0, 2, 0), (1, 0, 1, 0, 1)\} \subset \mathbf{M}^+(\lambda^2),$$

so f is not semi-stable. Hence we must have that $(a_4, a_5) \neq (0, 0)$. Similarly $a_1, a_2, a_3 \neq 0$ follows from

$$\begin{aligned} \{(0, 0, 3, 0, 0), (0, 1, 1, 1, 0), (0, 2, 0, 0, 1), (1, 0, 1, 0, 1)\} &\subset \mathbf{M}^+(\lambda^1), \\ \{(0, 0, 3, 0, 0), (0, 1, 1, 1, 0), (1, 0, 0, 2, 0), (1, 0, 1, 0, 1)\} &\subset \mathbf{M}^+(\lambda^6), \\ \{(0, 0, 3, 0, 0), (0, 2, 0, 0, 1), (1, 0, 0, 2, 0), (1, 0, 1, 0, 1)\} &\subset \mathbf{M}^+(\lambda^5). \end{aligned}$$

Our lemma follows from (3.4) below immediately. \square

(3.4) LEMMA. *For any non-zero constant k , the diagonal transformation*

$$\text{diag}(k, (ka_2)^{-1/2}, (k^2a_3)^{-1}, (ka_1)^{-1/2}, k),$$

sends the polynomial $f = a_1vy^2 + a_2w^2z + a_3vxz + a_4wxy + a_5x^3$ to

$$vy^2 + w^2z + vxz + (k^{-3}a_1^{-1/2}a_2^{-1/2}a_3^{-1}a_4)wxy + (k^{-6}a_3^{-3}a_5)x^3.$$

The following Lemmas are useful to show (3.7).

(3.5) LEMMA (Luna's criterion [4] or [9, 6.17]). *Suppose that a reductive group G acts on an affine variety X , H is a reductive subgroup of G , and x belongs to the set X^H of fixed points of H . Then the following are equivalent:*

- (1) *the orbit Gx is closed;*
- (2) *the orbit $N_G(H)x$ over the normalizer is closed;*
- (3) *the orbit $Z_G(H)x$ over the centralizer is closed.*

(3.6) LEMMA ([9, 6.15]). *Suppose that T is an algebraic torus acting linearly on a finite-dimensional vector space V and $v \in V$ be a vector. Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (1) *the orbit Tv is closed in V ;*
- (2) *0 is an interior point of the set $\text{supp } v$ in $X(T) \otimes_{\mathbf{Z}} \mathbf{Q}$, where $X(T)$ is the group of character of T .*

In our case, $X(T)$ is $\mathbf{Z}^{\oplus 5}/\mathbf{Z}(1, 1, 1, 1, 1)$ and $\text{supp } \varphi$ is the convex hull of $\mathcal{S}(\varphi)$ in $X(T) \otimes_{\mathbf{Z}} \mathbf{Q}$. Obviously the composite $\mathbf{I} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{Z}^{\oplus 5} \rightarrow X(T)$ is injective. We begin to prove the 'if part' of (1) in (3.1).

(3.7) PROPOSITION. *The orbits of $\phi_{\alpha, \beta}$ and φ are closed. Hence they are semi-stable.*

PROOF. First we show that the orbit of φ is closed. Put

$$H = \{\text{diag}(t^2, t, \omega, \omega^2, t^{-3}) \mid t \in \mathbf{C}^*, \omega^3 = 1\}.$$

Then $\phi_{\alpha, \beta}$ is invariant under H and the center $Z_G(H)$ is the maximal torus

$$T = \{\text{diag}(t_0, t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4) \mid t_0t_1 \cdots t_4 = 1\}.$$

By Luna's criterion (3.5), it is enough to check that $T\varphi$ is closed, which is equivalent to that 0 is an interior point of the set $\text{supp } \varphi$ by (3.6). This is immediately from

$$\mathcal{S}(\varphi) = \{(1, 1, 0, 0, 1), (0, 0, 3, 0, 0), (0, 0, 0, 3, 0)\} \quad \text{and}$$

$$3(1, 1, 0, 0, 1) + (0, 0, 3, 0, 0) + (0, 0, 0, 3, 0) = (3, 3, 3, 3, 3) = 0 \quad \text{in } X(T).$$

The closedness of the orbit of $\phi_{\alpha, \beta}$ similarly follows if we put

$$H = \{\gamma^3 = \text{diag}(t^2, t, 1, t^{-1}, t^{-2}) \mid t \in \mathbf{C}^*\}. \quad \square$$

We complete the proof of (3.1). For the symbol $\mathcal{I}(X, p)$ refer to (2.12).

(3.8) PROOF OF (2) IN (3.1). If $\alpha_1^2 : \beta_1 = \alpha_2^2 : \beta_2$, then ϕ_{α_1, β_1} and ϕ_{α_2, β_2} are isomorphic by (3.4). To prove the converse, in view of (3.4), it is enough to show that if $\phi_{2, 1-t^2}$ and $\phi_{2, 1-s^2}$ are isomorphic then $t = \pm s$.

We note that singular points of cubic 3-fold X defined by $\phi_{2, 1-t^2}$ are only $p = (1:0:0:0:0)$ and $q = (0:0:0:0:1)$ for $t \neq 0$. Since $\mathcal{I}(X, p)$ is defined by $y^2 - xz = w^2z - 2wxy + (1 - t^2)x^3 = 0$, the projection from $\bar{q} = (0:0:0:1)$ is defined by the following polynomial in $\mathbf{P}^2(w:x:y)$

$$w^2y^2 - 2wxyx^2 + (1 - t^2)x^4 = \{wy - (1 + t)x^2\}\{wy - (1 - t)x^2\}.$$

Hence its image consists of two conics. If $\phi_{2, 1-t^2} \equiv \phi_{2, 1-s^2}$, then for a suitable linear transformation σ we have either:

$$(i) \begin{cases} \sigma\{wy - (1+t)x^2\} = wy - (1-s)x^2 \\ \sigma\{wy - (1-t)x^2\} = wy - (1+s)x^2 \end{cases} \quad \text{or} \quad (ii) \begin{cases} \sigma\{wy - (1+t)x^2\} = wy - (1+s)x^2(1) \\ \sigma\{wy - (1-t)x^2\} = wy - (1-s)x^2(2) \end{cases}$$

In case (ii) we have from $(1) \times (1 - t) - (2) \times (1 + t)$

$$-2t\sigma(wy) = -2twy + 2(t - s)x^2.$$

Since σ preserves the rank of a quadric form, we obtain $t = s$.

In case (i) we similarly have $t = -s$. \square

(3.9) If $\alpha^2 = 4\beta$, then the space sextic $\mathcal{I}(X, p)$ of $\phi_{\alpha, \beta}$ is a twisted cubic with a double structure and X is the secant variety of rational normal curve R_4 in \mathbf{P}^4 , it is called *the secant 3-fold* in [1]. Since the stabilizer group of X coincides with that of the rational curve R_4 , it is $\text{PGL}(2)$. If $\phi_{\alpha, \beta}$ defines the secant 3-fold, then its singular locus is the curve R_4 . Otherwise, its singular locus consists of 2 points $(1:0:0:0:0), (0:0:0:0:1)$.

4. Non-isolated singular loci of cubic 3-folds.

In this section we consider cubic 3-fold with non-isolated singular locus and prove the following theorem.

(4.1) THEOREM. *Let X be a cubic 3-fold with non-isolated singular locus. Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (i) X is semi-stable;
- (ii) X is the secant 3-fold;
- (iii) X has only double points of type $A_\infty : v^2 + w^2 + x^2 = 0$.

We begin to list up the defining equation of cubic 3-folds with non-isolated singular locus.

(4.2) PROPOSITION. *Let X be an irreducible cubic 3-fold.*

- (i) *If $\text{Sing}X$ contains a surfaces S , then S is a plane and X is defined by*

$$[4.0] \quad vq_1(y, z) + wq_2(y, z) + xq_3(y, z) + c(y, z).$$

(ii) *Assume that $\text{Sing}X$ does not contains a surface. If $\text{Sing}X$ contains a curve C , then it is either a line, a conic or a rational normal curve of degree 4 and X is defined by one of the following:*

$$[4.1] \quad vq_1(x, y, z) + wq_2(x, y, z) + c(x, y, z);$$

$$[4.2] \quad c(y, z) + vq_1(y, z) + wq_2(y, z) + xq_3(y, z) + l(y, z)q(v, w, x);$$

$$[4.3] \quad vy^2 + w^2z - vxz - 2wxy + x^3 \text{ (the secant 3-fold) .}$$

PROOF. (i) Put $d = \deg S \geq 1$. Cutting X by 2 general hyperplanes, we obtain an irreducible cubic curve with d singular points and $p_a = 1$. Since $d \leq p_a$, $d = 1$ and we have [4.0].

(ii) If C is a line $x = y = z = 0$, then we have [4.1] immediately. If C lies in a plane $P : y = z = 0$, then it is defined by $y = z = f(v, w, x) = 0$. If $\deg f > 2$, then we have $P \subset \text{Sing}X$, because $F_v, F_w, F_x, F_y, F_z \in (y, z, f(v, w, x))$. Hence we have $\deg f(v, w, x) = 2$. If we write

$$F = c_0(y, z) + vq_1(y, z) + wq_2(y, z) + xq_3(y, z) + yq_3(v, w, x) + zq_4(v, w, x) + c(v, w, x),$$

then we have $F_y = F_z = 0$ because $F_y = q_3(v, w, x)$, $F_z = q_4(v, w, x) \in (y, zf(v, w, x))$. Since the cubic curve $\{c(v, w, x) = 0\}$ in $\mathbf{P}^3(v:w:x)$ is singular along conic $\{f(v, w, x) = 0\}$, we have $c(v, w, x) = 0$. Hence we obtain $F = [4.2]$.

Assume C spans a 3-space, say, $z = 0$. We may suppose that C contains 4 points $(1:0:0:0), (0:1:0:0), (0:0:1:0), (0:0:0:1)$. So we can write

$$F = a_1vwx + a_2vwy + a_3vxy + a_4wxy + zq(v, w, x, y, z).$$

Since $a_4F_v - a_3F_w|_{z=0} = (a_1x + a_2y)(a_4w - a_3v)$, C is a plane curve. This is a contradiction.

Assume that C is a non-degenerate curve of degree d . Then we have $d \geq 4$. Since the general hyperplane section of X is a cubic surface with d singular points, we have $d = 4$ by (4.3) below and C is a rational normal curve of degree 4. Since a cubic 3-fold X contains the secant variety of $\text{Sing}X$, X is the secant 3-fold (of C). \square

(4.3) LEMMA (See [2, p.644] for example). *A cubic surfaces cannot contain more than 4 isolated singularities.*

In [13] we list up the defining equations of cubic n-folds X 's with $\text{codimSing}X \leq 3$.

(4.4) PROPOSITION. *Let X be a cubic 3-fold with non-isolated singular locus. If it is not the secant 3-fold, then it has a non-isolated double point of rank ≤ 2 . In particular, if $\text{Sing}X$ contains either a line or a conic, then X has a non-isolated double point of rank ≤ 2 .*

PROOF. If X is reducible, then we may assume $F = z\{vl(w, x, y, z) + q(w, x, y, z)\}$. Hence $p = (1:0:0:0)$ is a double point of rank < 3 and $p \in \text{Sing}X$.

Assume that X is irreducible. Then F is either [4.0], [4.1] or [4.2] according to (4.2). [4.0] has a non-isolated double point of rank 2 at $(1:0:0:0)$. [4.1] has a double point of rank 2 on the line $x = y = z = 0$ by (2.11).

We show [4.2] has a non-isolated double point of rank ≤ 2 . Since $vq_1(y, z) + wq_2(y, z) + xq_3(y, z) \equiv vq'_1(y, z) + wyl_1(y, z) + xyl_2(y, z)$ by a suitable linear transformation $(v, w, x) \mapsto (l(v, w, x), l'(v, w, x), l''(v, w, x))$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} F &\equiv c(y, z) + vq_1(y, z) + wq_2(y, z) + xq_3(y, z) + yq(v, w, x) \\ &\equiv c(y, z) + vq'_1(y, z) + wyl_1(y, z) + xyl_2(y, z) + yq(v, w, x) \\ &= c(y, z) + vq'_1(y, z) + y\{wl_1(y, z) + xl_2(y, z) + q(v, w, x)\} \\ &\equiv c(y, z) + vq'_1(y, z) + y\{wl'_1(y, z) + xl'_2(y, z) + awx + vl_3(v, w, x)\} \\ &\quad \text{by } (w, x) \mapsto (l_4(w, x), l_5(w, x)). \end{aligned}$$

Hence both $p = (0:1:0:0)$ and $q = (0:0:1:0)$ are double points of rank < 3 and

$$p, q \in \{y = z = awx + vl_3(v, w, x) = 0\} \subset \text{Sing}X. \quad \square$$

(4.5) PROOF OF (4.1). Since a non-isolated double point of rank 2 is of type $v^2 + w^2 + x^n$ ($n > 2$), (4.4) means that (iii) implies (ii) in (4.1). According to (3.9), the converse is obvious.

We show (i) and (ii) are equivalent. The secant 3-fold is semi-stable by (3.7). It is enough to check that any cubic 3-folds defined by [4.0], [4.1] and [4.2] is unstable from (4.2). Since

$$[4.0] \subset \mathbf{M}^+([-2, -2, -2, 3, 3]) \quad \text{and} \quad [4.1] \subset \mathbf{M}^+([-3, -3, 2, 2, 2]),$$

[4.0] and [4.1] are unstable. Since

$$[4.2] \equiv c(y, z) + vq_1(y, z) + wq_2(y, z) + xq_3(y, z) + zq(v, w, x) \subset \mathbf{M}^+([-3, -3, -3, 2, 7]),$$

[4.2] is also unstable. \square

5. Analytic local characterization of stability.

So far we characterized stability in terms of global equations. Now we translate them into local analytic conditions and prove Main Theorem. If F and G are analytically isomorphic, then we denote $F \sim G$.

Let X be a cubic 3-fold which has a double point at $p = (0:0:0:1)$. Then the defining affine equation at p is $F = q(v, w, x, y) + c(v, w, x, y)$. If the quadratic part q is of rank 4, then we have $F \sim v^2 + w^2 + x^2 + y^2$, and, p is called of type A_1 . If rank $q = 3$, then we

have $F \sim v^2 + w^2 + x^2 + ay^{n+1}$. When $a \neq 0$, p is of type A_n with $n \geq 2$. Otherwise p is of type A_∞ . As for simple singularity, we refer to [14, Ch. 3] for example.

First we describe [1.3] in terms of the curve $\mathcal{I}(X, p)$ defined in (2.12).

(5.1) PROPOSITION. *Let X be a singular cubic 3-fold which has no double points of rank < 3 . Assume $\mathcal{I}(X, p_0)$ is an intersection of a quadric Q and cubic surface S such that*

- (i) Q is a cone with a vertex p ,
- (ii) S passes through p ,
- (iii) the intersection of Q and the tangent space $T_p S$ of S at p is a (double) line L ,
- (iv) $L \cap S = \{p\}$.

Then X is defined by [1.3].

PROOF. We take coordinate $(v:w:x:y:z)$ such that $p_0 = (0:0:0:0:1)$ as in (2.12) and such that $L : v = w = 0$ and $p = (0:0:0:1)$. By (i), we have

$$Q : q(v, w, x) = 0, \quad S : c(v, w, x, y) = 0.$$

By (ii), $c(v, w, x, y)$ does not contain y^3 , that is,

$$Q : q(v, w, x) = 0, \quad S : y^2 l(v, w, x) + y q'(v, w, x) + c(v, w, x) = 0.$$

We note that $l(v, w, x) \neq 0$, otherwise $\text{Sing} X$ contains a line $v = w = x = 0$, which contradicts to our assumption by (4.4). Since $T_p S$ is $\{l(v, w, x) = 0\}$ and $Q \cap T_p S = L$ by (iii), we have

$$\{l(v, w, x) = q(v, w, x) = 0\} = \{v = w = 0\},$$

which implies that $l(v, w, x) = l(v, w)$ and $q(v, w, x) = q(v, w) + xl(v, w)$. By $l(v, w) \mapsto v$, we have

$$Q : q(v, w) + vx = 0, \quad S : vy^2 + yq'(v, w, x) + c(v, w, x) = 0. \quad (*)$$

By (iv), $q'(v, w, x)$ does not contain x^2 , that is, $q'(v, w, x) = xl'(v, w) + q'(v, w)$. Therefore, we have

$$Q : q(v, w) + xl(v, w) = 0, \quad S : y^2 l(v, w) + yxl'(v, w) + yq'(v, w) + c(v, w, x) = 0, \\ F = z\{q(v, w) + xl(v, w)\} + y^2 l(v, w) + yxl'(v, w) + yq'(v, w) + c(v, w, x) = [1.3]. \quad \square$$

Now we translate this into the analytic local condition.

(5.2) PROOF OF (1) IN MAIN THEOREM. Let X be a cubic 3-fold which has no double points of rank < 3 . By (5.4) and (5.3) below, X is not defined by [1.3] if and only if X has only the double points of type either A_1, A_2, A_3 or A_4 . Since [1.5] is equivalent to the existence of a double point of rank ≤ 2 , we have proved (1) in Main Theorem.

(5.3) LEMMA. *If X is not defined by [1.3], then any double point p of rank 3 on X is of type either A_2, A_3 or A_4 .*

PROOF. Let F be the affine defining equation of X at $p = (0:0:0:0:1)$. According to (5.1), all of (i) to (iv) do not hold. If (i) does not hold, then $q(v, w, x, y)$ is of rank 4. If (i)

holds but (ii) does not, then we have

$$\begin{aligned} F &= v^2 + w^2 + x^2 + y^3 + l(v, w, x)y^2 + q(v, w, x)y + c(v, w, x) \\ &\sim v^2 + w^2 + x^2 + y^3, \end{aligned}$$

which is of type A_2 . If (i) and (ii) hold but (iii) does not, then from (i) and (ii) we have

$$F = v^2 + w^2 + x^2 + 2(av + bw + cx)y^2 + q(v, w, x)y + c(v, w, x).$$

Since $\{v^2 + w^2 + x^2 = av + bw + cx = 0\}$ is not a (double) line by (iii), we obtain $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \neq 0$. Hence we have

$$\begin{aligned} F &= (v + ay^2)^2 + (w + by^2)^2 + (x + cy^2)^2 - (a^2 + b^2 + c^2)y^4 + q(v, w, x)y + c(v, w, x) \\ &\sim v^2 + w^2 + x^2 - (a^2 + b^2 + c^2)y^4 \quad \text{by } (v + ay^2, w + by^2, x + cy^2) \mapsto (v, w, x) \\ &\sim v^2 + w^2 + x^2 + y^4, \end{aligned}$$

which is of type A_3 .

Finally assume that (i), (ii) and (iii) hold but (iv) does not. Then from (i), (ii) and (iii), we have

$$F = \{q(v, w) + vx\}z + vy^2 + yq'(v, w, x) + c(v, w, x)$$

by (*) in the proof of (5.1). Since (iv) does not hold, $q'(v, w, x)$ contains x^2 . Hence we have

$$\begin{aligned} F &= \{w^2 + vl_0(v, w, x)\} + y^2v + \{yx^2 + yxl'(v, w) + yq'(v, w)\} + c(v, w, x) \\ &\equiv \{vx + w^2\} + vy^2 + xyl_1(v, w) + yq_1(v, w) + c(v, w, x) + x^2y \quad \text{by } l_0(v, w, x) \mapsto x \\ &= w^2 + v(x + y^2) + xyl_1(v, w) + yq_1(v, w) + c(v, w, x) + x^2y \\ &\sim w^2 + vx + (x - y^2)y l_1(v, w) + yq_1(v, w) + c(v, w, x - y^2) + (x - y^2)^2y \quad \text{by } x + y^2 \mapsto x \\ &\sim w^2 + vx + y^5 \sim v^2 + w^2 + x^2 + y^5, \end{aligned}$$

which is of type A_4 . \square

(5.4) LEMMA. *If X is defined by [1.3], then there exists a double point p of type A_n with $5 \leq n \leq \infty$.*

PROOF. Let F be the affine equation of [1.3] at $p = (0:0:0:1)$, that is

$$F \equiv w^2 + vx + a_0vy^2 + q(v, w)y + l(v, w)xy + c(v, w, x).$$

If $a_0 = 0$, then X is singular along the line $v = w = x = 0$. Hence X has a double point of rank < 3 by (4.4). If $a_0 \neq 0$, then we have

$$\begin{aligned} F &\equiv w^2 + vx + vy^2 + q(v, w)y + l(v, w)xy + c(v, w, x) \\ &= w^2 + v(x + y^2) + q(v, w)y + l(v, w)xy + c(v, w, x) \\ &\sim w^2 + vx + q(v, w)y + l(v, w)(x - y^2)y + c(v, w, x - y^2) \quad \text{by } x + y^2 \mapsto x \\ &\sim w^2 + vx + ay^{n+1} \sim v^2 + w^2 + x^2 + ay^{n+1} \end{aligned}$$

with $n \geq 5$. \square

Now we complete the proof of (1) in Main Theorem. Next we consider the analytic local condition of *semi-stability*.

(5.5) PROPOSITION. *Let X be a singular cubic 3-fold which has no double points of rank < 3 . Assume that $\mathcal{I}(X, p_0)$ is an intersection of a quadric Q and cubic surface S such that*

- (i) Q is a cone with vertex p ,
- (ii) $Q \cap S$ consists of a line L and a quintic C ,
- (iii) $C \cap L = \{p\}$.

Then X is defined by [2.3].

PROOF. We take coordinate $(v:w:x:y:z)$ such that $p = (0:0:0:0:1)$ $L : v = w = 0$ and $p = (0:0:0:1)$ as in the proof of (5.1). By (i), we have

$$Q : q(v, w, x) = 0, \quad S : c(v, w, x, y) = 0.$$

Since $L \subset S$ and $L \subset Q$ by (ii), we can write

$$Q : q(v, w) + vx = 0, \quad S : c(v, w) + xq_1(v, w) + yq_2(v, w) + vq_3(x, y) + wq_4(x, y) = 0.$$

Since $\text{Sing}(Q \cap S) = \{p\}$ by (iii), we have

$$\text{rank} \begin{pmatrix} Q_v & S_v \\ Q_w & S_w \\ Q_x & S_x \\ Q_y & S_y \end{pmatrix} \Big|_{v=w=0} = \text{rank} \begin{pmatrix} x & q_3(x, y) \\ 0 & q_4(x, y) \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} < 2 \Leftrightarrow x = 0.$$

Hence $q_4(x, y) = ax^2$ and

$$Q : q(v, w) + vx = 0, \quad S : c(v, w) + xq_1(v, w) + yq_2(v, w) + vq_3(x, y) + awx^2 = 0.$$

Therefore, we obtain

$$F = z\{q(v, w) + vx\} + c(v, w) + xq_1(v, w) + yq_2(v, w) + vq_3(x, y) + awx^2 = [2.3]. \quad \square$$

We translate this to the analytic local condition.

(5.6) PROPOSITION. *Let X be a cubic 3-fold which has no double points of rank < 3 . Then X is not defined by [2.3] if and only if X has only double points of type A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4, A_5 or A_∞ .*

PROOF. If X has only isolated double points, then our theorem follows (5.7) and (5.8) below immediately. Assume that X has non-isolated singular locus. Then it is not defined by [2.3] if and only if it is semi-stable by (2.3), which is also equivalent to that it has only A_∞ singular points by (4.4).

(5.7) LEMMA. *If it is not defined by [2.3], then any double point p of rank 3 on X is of type A_n ($n = 2, 3, 4, 5$ or ∞).*

PROOF. Let F be the affine defining equation of X at $p = (0:0:0:0:1)$. If (i) in (5.5) does not hold, then p is of rank 4.

Assume (i) holds but (ii) does not hold. By (i), we can put

$$\begin{aligned} F &= v^2 + w^2 + x^2 + c(v, w, x, y) \\ &= v^2 + w^2 + x^2 + a_0y^3 + (a_1v + a_2w + a_3x)y^2 + q_0(v, w, x)y + c_0(v, w, x). \end{aligned}$$

If $a_0 \neq 0$, then we have $F \sim w^2 + v^2 + x^2 + y^3$. If $a_0 = a_1 = a_2 = a_3 = 0$, then $\text{Sing}X$ contains a line $v = w = x = 0$, which is a contradiction by (4.4). If $a_0 = 0$ and $a_1^2 + a_2^2 + a_3^2 \neq 0$, then we have $F \sim v^2 + w^2 + x^2 + y^4$.

If $a_0 = 0$ and $a_1^2 + a_2^2 + a_3^2 = 0$, then we may assume $a_1 = 1$. By the linear transform $v + a_2w + a_3x \mapsto v$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} F &\equiv -(a_3w - a_2x)^2 + v(v - 2a_2w - 2a_3x) + v^2y + q_1(v, w, x) + c_1(v, w, x) \\ &\equiv w^2 - vx + vy^2 + q(v, w, x)y + c(v, w, x) \\ &= w^2 - v(x - y^2) + q(v, w, x)y + c(v, w, x) \\ &\sim w^2 - vx + q(v, w, x + y^2)y + c(v, w, x + y^2) \quad \text{by } x - y^2 \mapsto x \\ &\sim w^2 - vx + ay^{n+1} \sim v^2 + w^2 + x^2 + ay^{n+1}, \end{aligned}$$

where n is either 4 or 5 because $q(0, 0, x)y + c(0, 0, x) \neq 0$ by the assumption. We note that a can be 0. For example, in the case $F = w^2 - vx + vy^2 - 2wxy + x^3$, we have

$$F = (w - xy)^2 - (x - y^2)(v - x^2) \sim w^2 - vx \sim w^2 + v^2 + x^2.$$

Finally assume (i) and (ii) hold but (iii) does not hold. By (i) and (ii), we can write

$$F = w^2 - vx + l(v, w)y^2 + q(v, w, x)y + c(v, w, x)$$

where $q(0, 0, x) = c(0, 0, x) = 0$. If $l(v, w) = 0$, then $\text{Sing}X$ contains the line $\{v = w = x = 0\}$, hence $l(v, w) \neq 0$ by (4.4). If $l(v, w)$ contains w , then

$$\begin{aligned} F &\equiv w^2 - vx + 2wy^2 + \dots = (w - y^2)^2 - vx - y^4 + \dots \\ &\sim w^2 - vx - y^4 \sim w^2 + v^2 + x^2 + y^4. \end{aligned}$$

If $l(v, w) = v$, then $q(v, w, x)$ contains wx since (iii) does not hold. So we have

$$\begin{aligned} F &= w^2 - vx + vy^2 + 2wxy + \dots = (w + xy)^2 - v(x - y^2) - x^2y^2 + \dots \\ &\sim w^2 - vx + (x + y^2)^2y^2 + \dots \quad \text{by } (w + xy, x - y^2) \mapsto (w, x) \\ &\sim w^2 - vx + y^6 \sim w^2 + v^2 + x^2 + y^6. \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

(5.8) LEMMA. *If X is defined by [2.3], then there exists a double point is of type A_7 .*

PROOF. Since X has no double point of rank < 3 , we have

$$\begin{aligned} [2.3] &= z\{a_1w^2 + vl_1(v, w, x)\} + a_2vy^2 + \{q_1(v, w) + a_3vx\}y + c(v, w) + xq_2(v, w) + x^2l_2(v, w) \\ &\equiv z(w^2 - vx) + vy^2 + \{q'_1(v, w) + a'_2vx\}y + c'(v, w) + q'_2(v, w)x + (a'_3v + 2a'_4w)x^2. \end{aligned}$$

We claim $a_4 \neq 0$. Otherwise $\text{Sing}X$ contains a conic $v = w = -zx + y^2 + a_1xy + a_3x^2 = 0$, so X has a double point of rank 2 by (4.4). Put $z = 1$. Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} [2.3] &\equiv w^2 - vx + vy^2 + 2wx^2 + \dots \\ &= (w + x^2) - v(x - y^2)^2 - x^4 + \dots \\ &\sim w^2 - vx - (x + y^2)^4 + \dots \quad \text{by } (w + x^2, x - y^2) \mapsto (w, x) \\ &\sim w^2 - vx - y^8 \sim v^2 + w^2 + x^2 + y^8, \end{aligned}$$

which is of type A_7 . \square

Now we have completed the proof of (5.6). In the proof of (5.8), we have in fact proved the following:

(5.9) PROPOSITION. *If the double point $(0 : 0 : 0 : 0 : 1)$ on [2.3] is of rank 3, then it is of type either A_7 or A_∞ .*

Finally we prove (2) in Main Theorem.

(5.10) LEMMA. *Assume that a cubic 3-fold X has no double points of rank < 2 . Then X is not defined by [2.5] if and only if any double point p of rank 2 on X is of type D_4 .*

PROOF. Suppose X is not defined by [2.5]. Let p be an arbitrary double point of rank 2 on X . We may assume that $p = (0:0:0:0:1)$ and the defining equation of X is $F = zq'(v, w) + c'(v, w, x, y)$. Since X is not defined by

$$[2.5] = zq_2(v, w) + y^2l(v, w) + yq_1(v, w, x) + c(v, w, x),$$

then $c'(0, 0, x, y) = 0$ has no double roots. Since

$$\begin{aligned} F|_{z=1} &= v^2 + w^2 + c_0(v, w) + vq_3(x, y) + wq_4(x, y) + c'(0, 0, x, y) \\ &\sim v^2 + w^2 + c'(0, 0, x, y) + \dots, \end{aligned}$$

p is of type $D_4 : v^2 + w^2 + x^3 + y^3$.

If X is defined by [2.5], then $(0:0:0:0:1)$ is a double point of rank 2 and not of type D_4 . This shows 'if' part. \square

(5.11) PROOF OF (2) IN MAIN THEOREM. In view of (2.3), a cubic 3-fold X is semi-stable if and only if it is defined by neither [2.3] nor [2.5]. In the case that X has no double points of rank < 3 , X is semi-stable if and only if it has only double points of type A_n ($n = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$ or ∞) by (5.6).

In the case that X has no double points of rank < 2 , X is semi-stable if and only if X is not defined by [2.5] by (5.12) below. Hence the first half of (2) follows from (5.10). The latter half of (2) is already proved in (4.1).

(5.12) LEMMA. *If [2.3] has a double point of rank 2, then it is a special case of [2.5].*

PROOF. If $p = (0:0:0:0:1)$ is a double point of rank 2, then our claim is obvious. Suppose that there exists a double point $q \neq p$ of rank 2 on [2.5]. According to (5.13), the

defining equation F is either (i) or (ii). In the case (i), F is a special case of [2.5] by (5.10). In the case (ii), since $(0:0:0:0:1)$ is of type neither A_2 nor A_3 by (5.9), y^3 or wy^2 is not contained in $c(v, w, y)$. Hence F is a special case of [2.5] by (5.10). \square

(5.13) LEMMA. *If a cubic 3-fold has double points of rank 2 and 3, then its defining equation is projectively equivalent to either:*

$$(i) \quad wxz + vq(w, x, y) + c(w, x, y) \quad \text{or} \quad (ii) \quad (vx + w^2)z + c(v, w, y).$$

PROOF. Suppose $(1:0:0:0:0)$ and $(0:0:0:0:1)$ are double points of rank 2 and 3, respectively. Then the defining equation can be written

$$F = vq_1(w, x, y) + zq_2(w, x, y) + vz l_1(w, x, y) + c(w, x, y),$$

If $l_1(w, x, y) = 0$, then we have

$$vq_1(w, x, y) + zq_2(w, x, y) + c(w, x, y) \equiv wxz + vq'(w, x, y) + c'(w, x, y),$$

which is of type (i).

If $l_1(w, x, y) \neq 0$, then we may assume that $l(w, x, y) = x$. Since $\text{rank} \{q_1(w, x, y) + xz\} = 2$, we have $q_1(w, x, y) = xl_2(w, x, y)$. Since $\text{rank} \{q_2(w, x, y) + vx\} = 3$, we have $q_2(w, x, y) = xl_3(w, x, y) + l_4(w, x, y)^2$. Hence we have

$$\begin{aligned} F &= vx l_2(w, x, y) + z\{x l_3(w, x, y) + l_4(w, x, y)^2\} + vxz + c(w, x, y) \\ &= vx\{l_2(w, x, y) + z\} + z\{x l_3(w, x, y) + l_4(w, x, y)^2\} + c(w, x, y) \\ &\equiv vxz + z\{x l_3(w, x, y) + l_4(w, x, y)^2\} + c'(w, x, y) \quad \text{by } l_2(w, x, y) + z \mapsto z \\ &= xz\{v + l_3(w, x, y)\} + l_4(w, x, y)^2 z + c'(w, x, y) \\ &\equiv vxz + w^2 z + c''(w, x, y) \quad \text{by } (v + l_3(w, x, y), l_4(w, x, y)) \mapsto (v, w) \\ &= (vx + w^2)z + c''(w, x, y), \end{aligned}$$

which is of type (ii). \square

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