ON FUJITA'S CONJECTURE

STEFAN HELMKE

CONTENTS

1.	Introduction	201
2.	Log canonical singularities	203
	The induction procedure	
4.	The multiplicity of the minimal center	207
5.	Some further techniques	211
6.	Separation of points	213

1. Introduction. Let X be a smooth projective variety over an algebraically closed field k of characteristic 0. The aim of this paper is to find conditions for an ample divisor L such that there is a section of $\mathcal{O}_X(K_X + L)$ which does not vanish at a given point $x \in X$, where K_X denotes the canonical divisor. Let us illustrate this in two examples.

The first example is the case dim X = 1. Then the ideal sheaf \mathscr{I}_x of x is locally free of degree -1. Therefore, by Serre duality, the first cohomology of $\mathscr{I}_x(K_X + L)$ vanishes if deg L > 1, and from a long exact cohomology sequence, we find that $\mathscr{O}_X(K_X + L)$ is globally generated. By the same argument, we see that if $M = \{x\}$, so that deg M = 1, then x is a base point of $\mathscr{O}_X(K_X + M)$, which just means that there are no differential forms with one first-order pole because of the residue formula. In this case deg $(K_X + M) = 2g - 1$, where g is the genus of X. This example shows that there are divisors on curves of arbitrary high degree which are not globally generated. This is the reason for considering global generation of adjoint bundles $\mathscr{O}_X(K_X + L)$ rather than that of $\mathscr{O}_X(L)$ itself.

The second standard example is the projective space $X = \mathbf{P}^n(\mathbb{k})$. Then every divisor on X is linear equivalent to mH, where H is a hyperplane section. In particular, $K_X \equiv -(n+1)H$. Therefore $\mathcal{O}_X(K_X + mH)$ is globally generated if and only if m > n. Generalizing these two examples, T. Fujita raised in [7] the following conjecture.

CONJECTURE 1.1 (Fujita). Let X be a smooth projective variety of dimension n, and let H be an ample divisor on X. Then $\mathcal{O}_X(K_X + mH)$ is generated by its global sections if m > n or if m = n and $H^n > 1$.

As we have seen above, this is true for curves. But our argument depends

Received 10 May 1996. Revision received 17 June 1996. Author supported by Schweizerischer Nationalfonds.