# Ample vector bundles of small $c_1$ -sectional genera

#### By

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### Introduction

Let  $\mathscr{E}$  be a vector bundle of rank r on a compact complex manifold M of dimension n. Let  $P = \mathbf{P}(\mathscr{E})$  be the associated  $\mathbf{P}^{r-1}$ -bundle and let  $H = H(\mathscr{E})$  be the tautological line bundle  $\mathcal{O}(1)$  on P.  $\mathscr{E}$  is said to be ample if so is H on P. In this case  $A = \det(\mathscr{E})$  is also ample on M. The  $c_1$ -sectional genus g of  $\mathscr{E}$  is defined to be g(M, A), which is determined by the formula  $2g(M, A) - 2 = (K + (n - 1)A)A^{n-1}$ , where K is the canonical bundle of M. Then g(M, A) is a non-negative integer by [F5]. In this paper we establish a classification theory of the case  $g(M, A) \leq 2$ . The case r = 1 was treated in [F6] and we study here the case r > 1. In §1, we study the case g = 0 or 1. The case g = 2 is studied in §2. The main theorem is in (2.25). In §3, we give a classification according to the sectional genus of (P, H).

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We employ similar notation to that in our previous papers on polarized manifolds.

## §1. The case $g \leq 1$

(1.1) Throughout this paper let  $\mathscr{E}$ , M, P, H, A and K be as in the introduction. We further assume that  $n \ge 2$  and  $r \ge 2$ .

(1.2) The canonical bundle  $K^P$  of P is  $\pi^*(K + A) - rH$ , where  $\pi$  is the projection  $P \to M$ . So  $2g(P, H) - 2 = (K^P + (n + r - 2)H)H^{n+r-2} = (n-2)H^{n+r-1} + H^{n+r-2}\pi^*(K + A) = (n-2)s_n(\mathscr{E}) + (K + A)s_{n-1}(\mathscr{E})$ , where  $s_j(\mathscr{E})$  is the *j*-th Segre class of  $\mathscr{E}$ . The total Segre class  $s(\mathscr{E})$  is related to the Chern class by the formula  $s(\mathscr{E})c(\mathscr{E}^*) = 1$ . Thus, in particular, we have 2g(P, H) - 2 = (K + A)A = 2g(M, A) - 2 and g(P, H) = g(M, A) in case n = 2.

**Remark.** If M were a curve, both g(P, H) and g(M, A) would be equal to the genus of M. However, if  $n \ge 3$ ,  $g(P, H) \ne g(M, A)$  in general.

(1.3) Lemma.  $AC \ge r$  for any rational curve C in M.

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