

## AMPLE VECTOR BUNDLES AND DEL PEZZO MANIFOLDS

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### Abstract

Let  $\mathcal{E}$  be an ample vector bundle of rank  $r$  on a smooth complex projective manifold  $X$  of dimension  $n \geq r + 3$ . Pairs  $(X, \mathcal{E})$  as above are investigated under the assumption that  $\mathcal{E}$  has a regular section vanishing along a Fano manifold  $Z$  of index  $\dim Z - 1$  and Picard number  $\rho(Z) \geq 2$ .

### Introduction

Let  $X$  be a complex projective manifold of dimension  $n$  and let  $\mathcal{E}$  be an ample vector bundle of rank  $r \leq n - 2$  on  $X$  having a regular section, i.e. there exists a section  $s \in \Gamma(\mathcal{E})$  whose zero locus  $Z := (s)_0$  is a smooth subvariety of the expected dimension  $n - r$ . Triplets  $(X, \mathcal{E}, Z)$  as above have been investigated in several papers ([LM1], [LM2], [LM3], [dF], [LM4]) under the assumption that  $Z$  is some special variety. In particular the case when  $Z$  is a Fano manifold of index  $\dim Z - 1$  and Picard number  $\rho(Z) = 1$  was discussed in [LM1, (2.4)]. In this paper we focus on the case  $\rho(Z) > 1$ , assuming that  $\dim Z \geq 3$ . Actually as the results in [LPS] show, the same study when  $Z$  is a surface is far from being complete even in the case of divisors, i.e. when  $r = 1$ . We recall that extending several classification results known in the setting of ample divisors is the main motivation for investigating triplets  $(X, \mathcal{E}, Z)$  as above [LM1].

To relate our  $Z$  to the title note that Fano manifolds of index  $\dim Z - 1$  coincide with del Pezzo manifolds, with the only exception given by the pair  $(\mathbf{P}^3, \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}^3}(2))$ . So, having assumed that  $\dim Z \geq 3$ , according to the classification of del Pezzo manifolds, [F, Chapter I, §8],  $Z$  is one of the following:

$$(0.1) \quad \mathbf{P}^2 \times \mathbf{P}^2, \quad \mathbf{P}(T_{\mathbf{P}^2}), \quad B_q(\mathbf{P}^3), \quad \mathbf{P}^1 \times \mathbf{P}^1 \times \mathbf{P}^1,$$

where  $B_q(\mathbf{P}^3)$  stands for  $\mathbf{P}^3$  blown-up at a point  $q$ . Note that this threefold has

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