

THE INTERSECTION OF QUADRICS AND DEFINING EQUATIONS OF A PROJECTIVE CURVE

By

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Abstract. Let C be a complete nonsingular curve over an algebraically closed field K and L a very ample invertible sheaf on C . We denote by $\phi_L : C \rightarrow \mathbf{P}(H^0(L))$, the projective embedding of C by means of the vector space $H^0(C, L)$. There are two purposes in this paper. One is to the question: What is the intersection of quadrics through $\phi_L(C)$? The other is to answer the question: What degrees are the minimal generators of the associated homogeneous ideal?

0. Introduction

Let C be a complete nonsingular curve over an algebraically closed field K and L a very ample invertible sheaf on C . We denote by $\phi_L : C \rightarrow \mathbf{P}(H^0(L))$, the projective embedding of C by means of the vector space $H^0(C, L)$.

Several authors have answered the questions of when $\phi_L(C)$ for a given invertible sheaf L is projectively normal and when the associated homogeneous ideal $I(L)$ of the embedded curve $\phi_L(C)$ is generated by quadrics. (*see* [3], [4], [8], [9]) Since it is well-known that if $\deg L \geq 2g+2$, then $I(L)$ is generated by quadrics (*see* [2], [9], [10]), they have treated low degree invertible sheaves (*i.e.* $\deg L \leq 2g+1$). For example, Green and Lazarsfeld proved that if $\deg L = 2g$ and C is a hyperelliptic curve, then $\phi_L(C)$ is not projectively normal ([3]). Of course $I(L)$ is not generated by quadrics in this case. That is to say that $\phi_L(C)$ is not cut out by only quadrics. So two related questions arise:

- (I) What is the intersection of quadrics $Q(\phi_L(C))$?
- (II) What degrees are the minimal generators of $I(L)$?

For the questions above the theorem of Noether-Enriques-Petri (*cf.* [11]) is the answer for canonical sheaf ω of nonhyperelliptic curve. Serrano have reported some results about the first question ([12]), and Homma have answered for L on a curve of genus 3 ([6], [7]). In this paper, our purpose is to answer for

case of $g \geq 4$ (mainly $g = 4$).

First let C be a hyperelliptic curve. Our result about $Q(\phi_L(C))$ is as follows.

THEOREM 0.1. *Let C be a nonsingular hyperelliptic curve of genus g (≥ 3) and L a nonspecial very ample invertible sheaf of degree d . If (1) $d \leq 2g$ or (2) $d = 2g + 1$ and $h = h^0(C, L \otimes \omega_C^{-1}) \leq 1$, then $Q(\phi_L(C))$ coincides with rational ruled surface F_e embedded by $|D = C_0 + 1/2(d - g - 1 + e)F|$ for some invariant $e (< d - g - 1)$. (where C_0 is a minimal section, and F is a fiber.)*

Furthermore in case of (2) if $g = (3), 4, 5$, then $e = g - 4 + 2h$.

By (0.1), $I(L)$ is not generated by quadrics under the condition above. It is known that if L is normally generated and $H^1(C, L) = (0)$, then $I(L)$ is generated by I_2 and I_3 (cf. [6]) (where I_m is $\text{Ker}[S^m \Gamma(L) \rightarrow \Gamma(L^m)]$) If $\deg L \geq 2g + 1$, then L is normally generated ([9]). Therefore if $\deg L = 2g + 1$, then $I(L)$ is generated strictly by I_2 and I_3 . (we say that the homogeneous ideal $I(L)$ is generated strictly by its elements of degrees v_1, \dots, v_n if $I(L)$ is generated by its elements of degrees v_1, \dots, v_n and $I(L)$ is not generated by its elements of degrees $v_1, \dots, \hat{v}_j, \dots, v_n$ for any $v_j (1 \leq j \leq n)$, where \hat{v}_j means that v_j is omitted.) But if $\deg L \leq 2g$ and C is a hyperelliptic curve, then L is not normally generated. Therefore the question (II) arises. Our main results about $I(L)$ are the answers for the case of $\deg L = 2g, 2g - 1$.

THEOREM 0.2. *Let C be a nonsingular hyperelliptic curve of genus g and L a very ample invertible sheaf of degree $2g$. Then $I(L)$ is generated by I_2, I_3 and I_4 .*

THEOREM 0.3. *Let C be a nonsingular hyperelliptic curve of genus g and L a very ample invertible sheaf of degree $2g - 1$. Then $I(L)$ is generated by I_2, I_3, I_4 and I_5 (Furthermore if $g = 4$, then $I(L)$ is generated strictly by I_2 and I_5 . (see (2.6))*

Next let C be a nonhyperelliptic curve. Our results in this case are as follows.

THEOREM 0.4. *Let C be a nonsingular nonhyperelliptic curve of genus 4 and L a very ample invertible sheaf. If $\deg L$ is 8, then $Q(\phi_L(C))$ is a surface of degree 4 in P^4 . If $\deg L$ is 7, then $Q(\phi_L(C))$ coincides with P^3 (see (3.1) and (3.2))*

The organization of the paper is as follows. In the first section

(preliminaries), we summarize some facts about very ample invertible sheaves on C and rational scrolls. In the second section we prove theorems 0.1, 0.2 and 0.3. In the third section we prove theorem 0.4.

Notation. We fix an algebraically closed field K .

(1) For a finite dimensional vector space V over K , $S^m(V)$ means the m -th symmetric power of V . Let L be an invertible sheaf. The m -th tensor product of L (resp. $\Gamma(L)$) is denoted by L^m (resp. $\Gamma(L^m)$). For the vector space of global sections $\Gamma(L)$ we define $I_m(L)$ (or I_m) and $I(L)$, by

$$I_m(L) = \text{Ker}[S^m \Gamma(L) \rightarrow \Gamma(L^m)] \text{ and } I(L) = \bigoplus I_m(L).$$

We denote by ω_c the canonical invertible sheaf on C .

(2) If L is an invertible sheaf on a variety X which is generated by global sections, we may define a morphism $\phi_L: X \rightarrow \mathbf{P}(H^0(L))$ by means of the vector space $H^0(L)$.

(3) We denote by $\pi: F_e \rightarrow \mathbf{P}^1$, the geometrically rational ruled surface with invariant $e \geq 0$. A minimal section of π is denoted by C_0 and a fiber of π by F .

(4) Let X be a closed subvariety of a projective space \mathbf{P}^n . We denote by $Q(X)$ the intersection of quadrics through X .

1. Preliminaries

First, we shall recall facts about very ample invertible sheaves on a curve, especially, of genus 4.

Let L be an invertible sheaf on a curve C of genus g . If $\deg L \geq 2g+1$, then L is very ample. If $\deg L = 2g$, then L is not very ample if and only if L is isomorphic to $\omega_c(P+Q)$ for some points $P, Q \in C$ (may be $P=Q$). (see, for example, [1], I Exercises D-2) If $g \geq 2$, then C has a very ample invertible sheaf L of degree d with $h^1(L) = 0$ if and only if $d \geq g+3$ (Halphen's Theorem) see, for example, [5], IV Proposition 6.1)

LEMMA 1.1 *Let C be a curve of genus 4 and L an invertible sheaf of degree $d \leq 6$ on C . Then L is very ample if and only if C is nonhyperelliptic and $L \cong \omega_c$.*

PROOF. Let L be a very ample invertible sheaf of degree $d \leq 6$. By virtue of Halphen's Theorem, we have $h^1(L) > 0$. Hence we have that $h^0(L) \leq g = 4$ and equality occurs if and only if $L \cong \omega_c$. It is clear that $h^0(L) \geq 3$. In the case of $h^0(L) = 3$, C is a plane curve. It is a contradiction by the genus formula $g = 1/2(d-1)(d-2)$. Therefore L must be the canonical sheaf ω_c . On the other

hand, ω_C is very ample if and only if C is nonhyperelliptic. This completes the proof.

Secondly, we shall state several facts about rational scrolls associating to a hyperelliptic curve C of genus $g \geq 2$.

Let C be a hyperelliptic curve of genus $g \geq 2$ with a unique linear system g_2^1 of degree 2 and of projective dimension 1. We denote by M_0 the invertible sheaf corresponding to g_2^1 .

Let L be a nonspecial and very ample invertible sheaf on C . For every $y \in \mathbf{P}^1$ the linear span of the divisor $\phi^*(y)$ of C is a line $\ell_y \subseteq \mathbf{P}^{d-g} = \mathbf{P}(H^0(L))$. (where $\phi: C \rightarrow \mathbf{P}^1$ is a hyperelliptic double covering.) The union of these lines, $S = \bigcup \ell_y$, is a scroll in \mathbf{P}^{d-g} . S contains the curve $C \subseteq \mathbf{P}^{d-g}$ and, consequently, is nondegenerate. We call *the scroll associated to the double covering $\phi: C \rightarrow \mathbf{P}^1$ with respect to L* .

LEMMA 1.2. ([8], Lemma 3.1) *Let $\phi: C \rightarrow \mathbf{P}^1$ be a hyperelliptic double covering of genus g ($g \geq 2$) and L a nonspecial very ample line bundle of degree d on C . Then the scroll S associated to ϕ with respect to L is either a cone over a rational normal curve in \mathbf{P}^{d-g-1} or smooth of degree $d-g-1$ in \mathbf{P}^{d-g} .*

REMARK 1.3. *If $d \leq 2g$ or $d \geq 2g+3$ in Lemma 1.2, then S is smooth.*

PROOF. Suppose that S is a cone F . Let $\tilde{F} \rightarrow F$ be the blowing up with a center vertex. Then \tilde{F} coincides with the rational ruled surface F_{d-g-1} with invariant $d-g-1$. Let H be a hyperplane section on F and \tilde{H} the strict transform of H on \tilde{F} . Since $\tilde{H} \cdot F = 1$ and $\tilde{H} \cdot C_0 = 0$, we have $\tilde{H} - C_0 + (d-g-1)F$. Suppose that the strict transform \tilde{C} of $\phi_L(C)$ is linearly equivalent to $\alpha C_0 + \beta F$. Since $d = \deg \phi_L(C)$, we have

$$d = \tilde{C} \cdot \tilde{H} = \beta \tag{1}$$

On the other hand, using the adjunction formula, we have

$$\begin{aligned} 2g-2 &= (\tilde{C} + K_F) \cdot \tilde{C} \quad (\text{where } K_F \text{ is the canonical divisor on } F_{d-g-1}) \\ &= \alpha(\alpha-2)(-d+g+1) + \beta(\alpha-2) + \alpha(\beta-d+g-1). \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

Solving (1) and (2), we have that \tilde{C} is linearly equivalent to $2C_0 + dF$. Therefore we have $\tilde{C} \cdot C_0 = 2g+2-d$. Since $d \leq 2g$ or $d \geq 2g+3$, we have

$$\tilde{C} \cdot C_0 \geq 2, \tilde{C} \cdot C_0 \leq -1. \tag{3}$$

If the vertex of F does not lie on $\phi_L(C)$, then $\tilde{C} \cdot C_0 = 0$. If not, then $\tilde{C} \cdot C_0 = 1$.

This contradicts with (3). Therefore S is smooth in this condition.

REMARK 1.4. *If $d = 2g + 1$ ($g \geq 3$) and $h^0(L \otimes \omega_c^{-1}) \leq 1$, then S is smooth.*

PROOF. This result is owing to ([7], Theorem 3.1).

The following lemma will be used to calculate the dimension of $H^0(F_e, nC_0 + mF)$ in the second section.

LEMMA 1.5. *(see, for example, [7], Lemma 2.1) Let L be the invertible sheaf $\vartheta_F(nC_0 + mF)$ on F_e and $n \geq 0$ and $m \geq ne - 1$, then $h^1(L) = h^2(L) = 0$ and $h^0(L) = (n + 1)(m + 1) - 1/2n(n + 1)e$.*

2. Hyperelliptic case

LEMMA 2.1. *Let M and N be invertible sheaves on a curve C . If $h^1(N) \leq h^0(M) - 1$, then $h^1(N \otimes M) = 0$.*

PROOF. Suppose that $h^1(N \otimes M) \geq 1$. Then $h^0(M) \leq h^0(M) + h^1(N \otimes M) - 1 = h^0(M) + h^0(\omega_c \otimes N^{-1} \otimes M^{-1}) - 1 \leq h^0(M \otimes \omega_c \otimes N^{-1} \otimes M^{-1}) = h^1(N)$. It is a contradiction with the assumption.

THEOREM 2.2. *Let C be a nonsingular hyperelliptic curve of genus 4 and L a very ample invertible sheaf of degree 8. Then $\phi_L(C)$ lies on F_1 embedded by the complete linear system $|C_0 + 2F|$ in P^4 .*

In this case, $Q(\phi_L(C))$ coincides with F_1 .

PROOF. (Step 1) We shall claim that $h^1(L \otimes M_0^{-1}) = 0$ and $h^1(L \otimes M_0^{-2}) = 0$. In fact, since $h^1(L \otimes M_0^{-3}) = 1 \leq h^0(M_0) - 1$, we get $h^1(L \otimes M_0^{-2}) = 0$ by using Lemma 2.1. In the same way we have $h^1(L \otimes M_0^{-1}) = 0$.

(Step 2) We will consider the natural map $\eta: H^0(L \otimes M_0^{-1}) \otimes H^0(M_0) \rightarrow H^0(L)$. By the "base point free pencil trick" [11], $\dim \text{Ker } \eta = h^0(L \otimes M_0^{-2}) = 1$. Hence we have an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \text{Ker } \eta = H^0(L \otimes M_0^{-1}) \otimes H^0(M_0) \rightarrow H^0(L) \rightarrow 0.$$

Therefore we get the following commutative diagram.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 C & \hookrightarrow & P(H^0(L)) \cong P^4 \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 P(H^0(L \otimes M_0^{-1})) \times P(H^0(M_0)) & \xrightarrow{f} & P(H^0(L \otimes M_0^{-1}) \otimes H^0(M_0)), \\
 \parallel \S & & \parallel \S \\
 P^2 \times P^1 & & P^5
 \end{array}$$

where f is the Segre embedding.

Let F be an irreducible component of $P^2 \times P^1 \cap P^4$ containing $\phi_L(C)$. Since the Segre embedding of $P^2 \times P^1$ does not lie on any hyperplane in P^5 , we have $\dim F=2$. From the degree of the Segre embedding of $P^2 \times P^1$ and $\deg F \cong \text{codim } F+1=3$ we get $\deg F=3$. Varieties of degree 3 in P^n can be classified. (see [14])

By this fact, F is either F_1 or the cone over the 3-uple embedding of P^1 in P^3 . The latter case does not occur by (1.3). So F must coincide with F_1 .

(Step 3) Finally we will show that $I_2(L) = I_2(\mathcal{L})$ (where $\mathcal{L} = \vartheta_F(C_0 + 2F)$). If $I_2(L) = I_2(\mathcal{L})$, then $Q(\phi_L(C))$ coincides with F_1 .

Now we shall chase the following commutative diagram (for $n=2$).

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & & 0 & & & & \\
 & & \downarrow & & & & \\
 & 0 & \rightarrow & I_n(\mathcal{L}) & \rightarrow & S^n \Gamma(\mathcal{L}) & \rightarrow \Gamma(\mathcal{L}^n) \rightarrow 0 \\
 (2.2.1) & & & \downarrow \gamma_n & & \parallel \S & \downarrow \phi_n \\
 & 0 & \rightarrow & I_n(L) & \rightarrow & S^n \Gamma(L) & \rightarrow \Gamma(L^n) \quad (n=2,3,4).
 \end{array}$$

(Since \mathcal{L} is normally generated, $S^2 \Gamma(\mathcal{L}) \rightarrow \Gamma(\mathcal{L}^2)$ is surjective in this diagram.)

Let $\phi_L(C)$ be linearly equivalent to $\alpha C_0 + \beta F$ on F_1 . By using adjunction formula and $\phi_L(C) = 8$, we have $\alpha = 2$ and $\beta = 6$. Then $\text{Ker } \phi_2 = H^0(F_1, \mathcal{L}^2 \otimes \vartheta(-\phi_L(C))) = H^0(F_1, -2F) = (0)$. Therefore $\text{Coker } \gamma_2 = (0)$ by snake's lemma. Hence we get the required assertion that $I_2(L) = I_2(\mathcal{L})$. This completes the proof.

PROOF OF THEOREM 0.1. First $\phi_L(C)$ lies on F_e embedded by $|C_0 + 1/2(d - g - 1 + e)F|$ by (1.3) and (1.4), where e satisfies $d - g - 1 > e$. By the same argument in (Step 3) of (2.2) we have $\phi_L(C) \sim 2C_0 + (g + 1 + e)F$ and $\text{Ker}(\Gamma(\mathcal{L}^2) \rightarrow \Gamma(\mathcal{L}^2)) = H^0(F_e, (d - 2g - 2)F) = (0)$. Therefore we get similar results.

Next we shall apply the next lemmas to determining e uniquely in some cases.

LEMMA 2.3. ([13], Theorem 2.5) *We define the number $d_i (i \geq 0)$:*

$$d_i = h^0(L(-iD)) - h^0(L(-(i+1)D)) \quad (\text{where } D \in g_2^1).$$

Then $e = \#\{j \mid d_j = 1\}$.

In (2.3) we claim that $d_i \geq d_j$ for $i < j$. Therefore we have $e = h^0(L(-\alpha D))$, where $\alpha = \max \{i \mid h^1(L(-iD)) = 0\}$.

LEMMA 2.4. $h^1(L(-iD)) = 0$ for $i \leq d - 2g + 2 - h$ (where $h = h^0(L \otimes \omega_c^{-1})$).

PROOF. First we claim that $h^0(kD) = k + 1 (0 \leq k \leq g)$. Hence $h^0((g-1-i)D) - 1 = g - 1 - i \geq h - d + 3g - 3 = h^1(L \otimes \omega_c^{-1})$. By using (2.1) we get the above result.

If $d = 2g + 1$ and $h = 0$, then $h^1(L(-iD)) = 0 (i \leq 3)$ by (2.4). By using (2.3) we have that $e = 0$ (resp. 1) in the case of $g = 4$ (resp. 5). By the same way, if $d = 2g + 1$ and $h = 1$, then $e = 2$ (resp. 3) in the case of $g = 4$ (resp. 5). This completes the proof.

Next we shall study $I(L)$ by using above results of $Q(\phi_L(C))$.

LEMMA 2.5. ([6], COROLLARY 3.6) *Let L be a very ample invertible sheaf on an n -dimensional projective variety X . Assume that $H^i(X, L^i) = (0)$ for any integers $i, j > 0$. If $m = \text{Max}(n + 3, n(L) + 1)$, then $I(L)$ is generated by I_2, \dots, I_m , where $n(L) = \text{Min}\{n \in \mathbf{N} \mid \Gamma(L)^i \rightarrow \Gamma(L^i) \text{ is surjective for all } i \geq n\}$.*

PROOF OF THEOREM 0.2. First we shall show that $\beta_m : \Gamma(L)^m \rightarrow \Gamma(L^m)$ is surjective for all $m \geq 3$ by induction on m . For a given $m \geq 3$, we consider the following commutative diagram.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Gamma(L)^{m+1} & \xrightarrow{\beta_m \otimes 1} & \Gamma(L^m) \otimes \Gamma(L) \\ \downarrow \beta_{m+1} & \searrow \gamma_m & \\ \Gamma(L^{m+1}) & & \end{array}$$

By the induction hypothesis β_m is surjective, and also $\beta_m \otimes 1$ is surjective. By “generalized lemma of Castelnuovo” (see [9], Theorem 2) γ_m is surjective, and

also β_{m+1} is surjective. Therefore we have only to prove the surjectivity of β_3 . We shall chase the commutative diagram (2.2.1) (for $n=3$ and $\mathcal{L} = \vartheta_F(\mathbf{C}_0 + 1/2(g-1+e)\mathbf{F})$).

Since we recall $\phi_L(C) \sim 2\mathbf{C}_0 + (g+1+e)\mathbf{F}$ from the proof of (0.1), we have $\text{Ker } \phi_3 = H^0(F_e, \mathbf{C}_0 + 1/2(g-5+e)\mathbf{F})$. By (2.4) we have $h^1(L(-2D))=0$. Hence we get that $e \leq h^0(L(-2D)) = g-3$ (i.e. $1/2(g-5+e) \geq e-1$) by (2.3). Now using (1.5), we have $\dim \text{Ker } \phi_3 = g-3$. On the other hand, by the theorem of Riemann-Roch and (1.5), we have $\dim \Gamma(L^3) = 5g+1$ and $\dim \Gamma(\mathcal{L}^3) = 6g-2$. So we conclude that ϕ_3 and β_3 are surjective. Therefore we have $n(L)=3$. By using (2.5) $I(L)$ is generated by I_2, I_3 and I_4 .

PROOF OF THEOREM 0.3. First we shall show that $\beta_m : \Gamma(L)^m \rightarrow \Gamma(L^m)$ is surjective for all $m \geq 4$ by induction on m . By an argument similar to the proof of (0.2), we have only to prove the surjectivity of β_4 .

Secondly we claim that $h^1(L(-2D))=0$. Suppose that $h^1(L(-2D)) = h^0(\omega_C \otimes L^{-1}(2D)) > 0$. Then $\omega_C(2D) \cong L(P+Q+R)$ for some points P, Q, R on C . Hence we have that $\omega_C(P'+Q') \cong L(R)$ for some points P', Q' on C . That is to say $h^1(L(-P', -Q')) > 0$. Therefore $h^0(L) - h^0(L(-P' - Q')) \neq 2$. This contradicts with very ampleness of L .

Lastly we shall consider the commutative diagram (2.2.1) (for $n = 4$ and $\mathcal{L} = \vartheta_F(\mathbf{C}_0 + 1/2(g-2+e)\mathbf{F})$).

In the way similar to the proof of (0.2) we have $\text{Ker } \phi_4 = H^0(F_e, 2\mathbf{C}_0 + (g-5+e)\mathbf{F})$. By (2.3) and $h^1(L(-2D))=0$ we get $e \leq h^0(L(-2D)) = g-4$ (i.e. $(g-5+e) \geq 2e-1$). Hence, by using (1.5), we have $\dim \text{Ker } \phi_4 = 3g-12$. On the other hand we have $\dim \Gamma(L^4) = 7g-3$ and $\dim \Gamma(\mathcal{L}^4) = 10g-15$. So we conclude that ϕ_4 and β_4 are surjective. Hence we get $n(L)=4$. By (2.5) $I(L)$ is generated by I_2, I_3, I_4 and I_5 .

COROLLARY 2.6. *Let C be a nonsingular hyperelliptic curve of genus 4 and L a very ample invertible sheaf of degree 7. Then $I(L)$ is generated strictly by I_2 and I_5 .*

PROOF. From (0.3) $I(L)$ is generated by I_2, I_3, I_4 and I_5 . We recall $I_2(L) = I_2(\mathcal{L})$ in (0.1). Since $\phi_L(C)$ is of degree 7 and lies on a quadric surface, it does not lie on any irreducible cubic surface. Hence we have $I_3(L) = I_3(\mathcal{L})$. Furthermore, we have $I_4(L) = I_4(\mathcal{L})$ because ϕ_4 is an isomorphism in (0.3). By the way, I_2 don't generate $I(L)$. This completes the proof.

3. Nonhyperelliptic case

THEOREM 3.1. *Let C be a nonsingular nonhyperelliptic curve of genus 4 and L a very ample invertible sheaf of degree 8. Then $Q(\phi_L(C))$ is a surface of degree 4 in \mathbf{P}^4 .*

PROOF. By the projective normality of $\phi_L(C)$ (see [3], Corollary 1.4) we have $\dim I_2(L) = 2$, and hence we have distinct quadric hypersurfaces Q_1 and Q_2 in \mathbf{P}^4 . Since Q_i is irreducible, so $\dim Q_1 \cap Q_2 = 2$. Let F be an irreducible component of $Q_1 \cap Q_2$ containing $\phi_L(C)$. Then we have $\deg F = 3$ or 4 , since $\deg F \leq 4$ and since F is nondegenerate. So we have only to show that $\deg F = 4$. If $\deg F = 3$, then F is the rational ruled surface F_1 embedded by $|C_0 + 2F|$ or the cone over the rational normal curve in \mathbf{P}^3 . But F is not the cone over the rational normal curve in \mathbf{P}^3 by the argument of (1.3). Next if F coincides with F_1 , we have $\phi_L(C) \sim 2C_0 + 6F$ by the argument in (Step 3) of (2.2). Then C is hyperelliptic curve. It contradicts the assumption. Hence we have $\deg F = 4$ in \mathbf{P}^4 .

THEOREM 3.2. *Let C be a nonsingular nonhyperelliptic curve of genus 4 and L a very ample invertible sheaf of degree 7. Then $Q(\phi_L(C))$ coincides with \mathbf{P}^3 .*

PROOF. we have to show that $\phi_L(C)$ does not lie on a quadric hypersurface: including double plane. Indeed, obviously $\phi_L(C)$ does not lie on a union of planes; if $\phi_L(C)$ lies on a quadric cone, then $g = 6$, contradiction; if $\phi_L(C)$ lies on $\mathbf{P}^1 \times \mathbf{P}^1$, $\phi_L(C)$ is of type $(a, b) = (2, 5)$ in the Picard group of $\mathbf{P}^1 \times \mathbf{P}^1$ by considering degree and genus, *i.e.*, $\deg L = a + b$ and $g = (a - 1)(b - 1)$. This means that C is hyperelliptic, which is a contradiction.

The following is a summary of the case of genus 4.

degree d of L	h	$Q(\phi_L(C))$	
		C is hyperelliptic curve	C is nonhyperelliptic curve
$d \geq 10 (= 2g + 2)$	(a)	$\phi_L(C)$	
$d = 9 (= 2g + 1)$	$h=2$	(b) <i>the projective come in \mathbf{P}^5 over the rational normal curve</i>	(e) F_0 embedded by the linear system $ C_0 + 2F $ in \mathbf{P}^5
	$h=1$	(c) F_2 embedded by the complete linear system $ C_0 + 3F $ in \mathbf{P}^5	
	$h=0$	(d) F_0 embedded by the complete linear system $ C_0 + 2F $ in \mathbf{P}^5	(f) $\phi_L(C)$
$d = 8 (= 2g)$		(g) F_1 embedded by the linear system $ C_0 + 2F $ in \mathbf{P}^4	(h) <i>the surface of degree 4 in \mathbf{P}^4</i>
$d = 7 (= 2g - 1)$		(i) F_0 embedded by the linear system $ C_0 + F $ in \mathbf{P}^3	(j) \mathbf{P}^3
$d = 6 (= 2g - 2)$			(k) <i>an irreducible quadric surface in \mathbf{P}^3</i>

(where h is the dimension of the vector space $H^0(C, L \otimes \omega_C^{-1})$ over K)

Statements (b), (e) are Homma's results ([7]). Statement (k) is well-known. Statement (f) is Green-Lazersfeld's result ([4]).

degree of L	h	$I(L)$ is generated by I_n, I_{n+1}, \dots, I_m .	
		C is hyperelliptic curve	C is nonhyperelliptic curve
$d \geq 10 (= 2g + 2)$	(1)	$I(L)$ is generated strictly by I_2 .	
$d = 9 (= 2g + 1)$	$h=2$	(2) $I(L)$ is generated strictly by I_2 and I_3 .	(3) $I(L)$ is generated strictly by I_2 and I_3 .
	$h=1$		(4) $I(L)$ is generated strictly by I_2 and I_3 .
	$h=0$		(5) $I(L)$ is generated strictly by I_2 .
$d = 8 (= 2g)$		(6) $I(L)$ is generated by I_2, I_3 and I_4 .	(7) $I(L)$ is generated strictly by I_2 and I_3 .
$d = 7 (= 2g - 1)$		(8) $I(L)$ is generated strictly by I_2 and I_5 .	(9)
$d = 6 (= 2g - 2)$			(10) $I(\omega_c)$ is generated strictly by I_2 and I_3 .

“strictly” in statements (2), (3), and (7) follow from (b), (c), (d), (e), and (h).

Statements (4), (5) are Green-Lazarsfeld’s results ([4]). Statement (10) is well-known.

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