

## A lower bound for sectional genus of quasi-polarized manifolds

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### Introduction.

Let  $X$  be a smooth projective variety over  $C$  with  $\dim X = n$ , and  $L$  an ample (resp. a nef and big) Cartier divisor. Then  $(X, L)$  is called a polarized (resp. a quasi-polarized) manifold.

For this  $(X, L)$ , the sectional genus of  $L$  is defined to be a non negative integer valued function by the following formula ([Fj2]):

$$g(L) = 1 + \frac{1}{2}(K_X + (n-1)L)L^{n-1},$$

where  $K_X$  is the canonical divisor of  $X$ .

Then there is the following conjecture:

CONJECTURE 1 (p. 111 in [Fj3]). *Let  $(X, L)$  be a quasi-polarized manifold. Then  $g(L) \geq q(X)$ , where  $q(X) = h^1(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  (called the irregularity of  $X$ ).*

In [Fk1], we treat  $\dim X = 2$  case. But if  $\dim X \geq 3$ , the problem seems difficult. So we consider the following conjecture:

CONJECTURE 2. *Let  $(X, L)$  be a quasi-polarized manifold,  $Y$  a normal projective variety with  $1 \leq \dim Y < \dim X$ , and  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  a surjective morphism with connected fibers. Then  $g(L) \geq h^1(\mathcal{O}_{Y'})$ , where  $Y'$  is a resolution of  $Y$ .*

Of course Conjecture 2 follows from Conjecture 1. The hypothesis of Conjecture 2 is natural because  $X$  has a fibration in many cases (Albanese fibration, Iitaka fibration, etc.).

In this paper, we consider Conjecture 2. In particular, we study  $\dim Y = 1$  or some special cases of  $\dim Y \geq 2$ . Using some results with respect to Conjecture 2, we study Conjecture 1.

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### § 0. Notations and conventions.

In this paper, we shall study mainly a smooth projective variety  $X$  over  $C$ .

$\mathcal{O}(D)$ : invertible sheaf associated with a Cartier divisor  $D$  on  $X$ .

$\mathcal{O}_X$ : the structure sheaf of  $X$ .

$\chi(\mathcal{F})$ : Euler-Poincaré characteristic of a coherent sheaf  $\mathcal{F}$ .

$\chi(X) = \chi(\mathcal{O}_X)$

$h^i(\mathcal{F}) = \dim H^i(X, \mathcal{F})$  for a coherent sheaf  $\mathcal{F}$  on  $X$ .

$h^i(D) = h^i(\mathcal{O}(D))$  for a divisor  $D$ .

$D|_C$ : the restriction of  $D$  to  $C$ .

$|D|$ : the complete linear system associated with a divisor  $D$ .

$K_X$ : the canonical divisor of  $X$ .

$p_g(X)$  (or  $p_g$ ): the geometric genus  $h^0(K_X)$  of  $X$ .

$p_m(X)$  (or  $p_m$ ): the  $m$ -genus  $h^0(mK_X)$  of  $X$ .

$q(X)$  (or  $q$ ): the irregularity  $h^1(\mathcal{O}_X)$  of a smooth projective variety  $X$ .

If  $X$  is a normal projective variety over  $C$ , then we define  $q(X) = h^1(\mathcal{O}_{X'})$ , where  $X'$  is a resolution of  $X$ . We remark that  $q(X)$  is independent of a resolution of  $X$ .

$\kappa(D)$ : Iitaka dimension of a Cartier divisor  $D$  on  $X$ .

$\kappa(X)$ : Kodaira dimension of  $X$ .

$P_Y(\mathcal{E})$ : the  $P^{r-1}$ -bundle associated with a locally free sheaf  $\mathcal{E}$  of rank  $r$  over  $Y$ .

$\mathcal{O}_{P_Y(\mathcal{E})}(1)$ : the tautological invertible sheaf of  $P_Y(\mathcal{E})$ .

$\sim$  (or  $=$ ): linear equivalence.

$\equiv$ : numerical equivalence.

For  $r \in \mathbf{R}$ , we define  $[r] = \max\{t \in \mathbf{Z} : t \leq r\}$ ,  $\lceil r \rceil = -[-r]$ .

$(f, X, Y, L)$  is called a polarized (resp. quasi-polarized) fiber space if  $X$  is a smooth projective variety,  $Y$  is a smooth or normal projective variety with  $1 \leq \dim Y < \dim X$ ,  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is a surjective morphism with connected fibers, and  $L$  is an ample (resp. a nef and big) Cartier divisor on  $X$ .

We say that two quasi-polarized fiber spaces  $(f, X, Y, L)$  and  $(h, X, Y', L)$  are isomorphic if there is an isomorphism  $\delta: Y \rightarrow Y'$  such that  $h = \delta \circ f$ . In this case we write  $(f, X, Y, L) \cong (h, X, Y', L)$ .

We say that  $(f, X, Y, L)$  is a scroll if  $Y$  is smooth,  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is  $P^t$ -bundle, and  $L|_F = \mathcal{O}(1)$  where  $F$  is a fiber of  $f$  and  $t = \dim X - \dim Y$ .

We say that  $(X, L)$  has a structure of scroll over  $Y$  if there exists a surjective morphism  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  such that  $(F, L|_F) \cong (P^{n-m}, \mathcal{O}(1))$  for any fiber  $F$  of  $f$ , where  $\dim X = n$ , and  $\dim Y = m$ .

We say that a Cartier divisor  $D$  on a projective variety  $X$  is pseudo-effective if there is a big Cartier divisor  $H$  such that  $\kappa(mD+H) \geq 0$  for any natural number  $m$ .

A general fiber  $F$  of  $f$  for a quasi-polarized fiber space  $(f, X, Y, L)$  means a fiber of a point of the set which is intersection of at most countable many Zariski open sets.

Let  $D$  be an effective divisor on  $X$ . We call  $D$  a normal crossing divisor if  $D$  has regular components which intersect transversally.

§ 1.  $\dim Y=1$  case.

In this section, we consider a lower bound for  $g(L)$  under the following condition :

(\*) : Let  $(f, X, Y, L)$  be a (quasi-)polarized fiber space with  $\dim X=n$ , where  $Y$  is a smooth projective curve.

**1-1. The nefness of  $K_{X/Y}+tL$ .**

We study the nefness of  $K_{X/Y}+tL$  for  $t=n, n-1, n-2$ , where  $K_{X/Y}=K_X - f^*K_Y$ . Here Theorem A in Appendix plays an important role. (See Appendix for the statement of Theorem A and its proof.)

**THEOREM 1.1.1** (cf. Theorem 1 in [Fj2]). *Let  $(f, X, Y, L)$  be a polarized fiber space with  $\dim X=n \geq 2, \dim Y=1$ .*

*Then  $K_{X/Y}+nL$  is nef.*

**PROOF.** If  $K_{X/Y}+nL$  is not  $f$ -nef, there exists an extremal rational curve  $l$  such that  $(K_{X/Y}+nL) \cdot l < 0$  and  $f(l)=\text{point}$ . Let  $\varphi : X \rightarrow Z$  be the contraction morphism of  $l$ .

Then there exists a morphism  $g : Z \rightarrow Y$  such that  $f=g \circ \varphi$  (Theorem 3-2-1 in [KMM]). In particular  $\dim Z \geq \dim Y=1$ .

But by the proof of Theorem 1 in [Fj2],  $\dim Z=0$ . This contradicts  $\dim Z \geq \dim Y=1$ . Hence  $K_{X/Y}+nL$  is  $f$ -nef.

On the other hand,  $(K_{X/Y}+nL)-K_X$  is  $f$ -ample. By the base point free theorem (Theorem 3-1-1 in [KMM]),

$$(1.1.1.1) \quad f^*f_*\mathcal{O}(m(K_{X/Y}+nL)) \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}(m(K_{X/Y}+nL))$$

is surjective for any  $m \gg 0$ .

By Theorem A in Appendix,  $f_*\mathcal{O}(m(K_{X/Y}+nL))$  is semipositive ([Fj1]) and by (1.1.1.1)  $\mathcal{O}(m(K_{X/Y}+nL))$  is nef. Therefore  $K_{X/Y}+nL$  is nef. □

**THEOREM 1.1.2** (cf. Theorem 2 in [Fj2]). *Let  $(f, X, Y, L)$  be as in Theorem 1.1.1. Then  $K_{X/Y}+(n-1)L$  is nef unless  $(f, X, Y, L)$  is a scroll.*

PROOF. If  $K_{X/Y}+(n-1)L$  is not  $f$ -nef, there exists an extremal rational curve  $l$  such that  $(K_X+(n-1)L)\cdot l=(K_{X/Y}+(n-1)L)\cdot l<0$  and  $f(l)=\text{point}$ . Let  $\varphi: X\rightarrow Z$  be the contraction morphism of  $l$ .

Then there exists a morphism  $g: Z\rightarrow Y$  such that  $f=g\circ\varphi$ . In particular  $\dim Z\geq\dim Y=1$ .

By ((2.7) proof of Theorem 2 in [Fj2]),  $\varphi$  is not birational and  $\dim Z=1$ . Then  $(\varphi, X, Z, L)$  is a scroll by the proof of Theorem 2 in [Fj2]. On the other hand,  $Z\cong Y$  because  $f$  has connected fibers. Hence  $(f, X, Y, L)$  is a scroll.

If  $K_{X/Y}+(n-1)L$  is  $f$ -nef,  $K_{X/Y}+(n-1)L$  is nef by the same argument as in Theorem 1.1.1.  $\square$

THEOREM 1.1.3 (cf. Theorem 3 and 3' in [Fj2]). *Let  $(f, X, Y, L)$  be as in Theorem 1.1.1. Suppose that  $\dim X=n\geq 3$  and  $K_{X/Y}+(n-1)L$  is nef. Then  $K_{X/Y}+(n-2)L$  is nef except the following cases:*

(3-1) *There exist a smooth projective variety  $X'$ , a birational morphism  $\mu: X\rightarrow X'$ , and a surjective morphism with connected fibers  $f': X'\rightarrow Y$  such that  $f=f'\circ\mu$ ,  $\mu$  is blowing down of  $E\cong\mathbf{P}^{n-1}$ ,  $E|_E=\mathcal{O}(-1)$ , and  $L|_E=\mathcal{O}(1)$ .*

(3-2)  *$(f, X, Y, L)$  is  $\mathbf{P}^2$ -bundle and  $L|_F=\mathcal{O}(2)$  for any fiber  $F$  of  $f$ .*

(3-3)  *$F$  is a hyperquadric in  $\mathbf{P}^n$  and  $L|_F=\mathcal{O}(1)$ , where  $F$  is a general fiber of  $f$ .*

(3-4)  *$(F, L_F)$  is a scroll over a smooth curve, where  $F$  is a general fiber of  $f$ .*

PROOF. If  $K_{X/Y}+(n-2)L$  is  $f$ -nef, then  $K_{X/Y}+(n-2)L$  is nef by the same argument as in Theorem 1.1.1.

If  $K_{X/Y}+(n-2)L$  is not  $f$ -nef, there exists an extremal rational curve  $l$  such that  $(K_{X/Y}+(n-2)L)\cdot l<0$  and  $f(l)=\text{point}$ . Let  $\varphi: X\rightarrow Z$  be the contraction morphism of  $l$ . Then we have a morphism  $g: Z\rightarrow Y$  such that  $f=g\circ\varphi$ .

Case (A):  $\varphi$  is birational.

Then by the proof of Theorem 3' in [Fj2],  $\varphi$  is blowing down of  $E\cong\mathbf{P}^{n-1}$ ,  $E|_E=\mathcal{O}(-1)$  and  $L|_E=\mathcal{O}(1)$ . We put  $\mu=\varphi$ ,  $f'=g$ , and  $Z=X'$ . So (3-1) is obtained.

Case (B):  $\varphi$  is not birational.

We remark that  $\dim Z\geq\dim Y=1$ . By Theorem 3' in [Fj2], we have the following three types:

(1)  $\dim Z=1$ ,  $(F_\varphi, L|_{F_\varphi})=(\mathbf{P}^2, \mathcal{O}(2))$  for every fiber  $F_\varphi$  of  $\varphi$ .

(2)  $\dim Z=1$ ,  $F$  is hyperquadric and  $L|_F=\mathcal{O}(1)$ .

(3)  $\dim Z=2$ ,  $Z$  is smooth, and  $(\varphi, X, Z, L)$  is scroll.

Case (1)

In this case,  $Z\cong Y$  since every fiber of  $f$  is connected. So  $(f, X, Y, L)\cong$

$(\varphi, X, Z, L)$  and (3-2) is obtained.

Case (2)

By the same argument as in Case (1),  $(f, X, Y, L) \cong (\varphi, X, Z, L)$ . Hence (3-3) is obtained.

Case (3)

In this case, a general fiber  $F$  of  $f$  is scroll over a smooth curve. Hence (3-4) is obtained.  $\square$

**1-2.**  $g(L) \geq g(Y)$ .

Here we shall show that the following theorem.

**THEOREM 1.2.1.** *Let  $(f, X, Y, L)$  be a polarized fiber space with  $\dim Y=1$ . Then  $g(L) \geq g(Y)$ , where  $g(Y)$  is the genus of  $Y$ .*

**PROOF.** First since  $2(g(Y)-1)L^{n-1}F = f^*K_Y L^{n-1}$ , we have

$$(1.2.1.1) \quad g(L) = g(Y) + \frac{1}{2}(K_{X/Y} + (n-1)L)L^{n-1} + (g(Y)-1)(L^{n-1} \cdot F - 1),$$

where  $F$  is a general fiber of  $f$ .

Case (a):  $g(Y)=0$ .

$g(L) \geq g(Y)=0$  by Corollary 1 in [Fj2].

Case (b):  $g(Y) \geq 1$ .

In this case,

$$(1.2.1.2) \quad (g(Y)-1)(L^{n-1} \cdot F - 1) \geq 0$$

since  $L$  is ample.

Case (b)-1:  $K_{X/Y} + (n-1)L$  is nef.

By (1.2.1.1) and (1.2.1.2), we have  $g(L) \geq g(Y)$ .

Case (b)-2:  $K_{X/Y} + (n-1)L$  is not nef.

By Theorem 1.1.2,  $(f, X, Y, L)$  is a scroll. Let  $\mathcal{E}$  be a locally free sheaf of rank  $n$  over  $Y$  such that  $X = \mathbf{P}(\mathcal{E})$  and  $L = \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{E})}(1)$ . Then  $K_X = f^*(K_Y + \det \mathcal{E}) - \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{E})}(n)$  ((1.3) in [Fj3]). Hence  $g(L) = 1 + (K_X + (n-1)L)L^{n-1}/2 = 1 + (f^*(K_Y + \det \mathcal{E}) - L)L^{n-1}/2 = 1 + (1/2) \deg K_Y = g(Y)$ .

Therefore  $g(L) \geq g(Y)$  is obtained.  $\square$

**REMARK 1.2.2.** There exists an example of  $(f, X, Y, L)$  with  $g(L) = g(Y)$ . (For example, the case  $(f, X, Y, L)$  is scroll.)

In 1-4, we shall show that  $(f, X, Y, L)$  with  $g(L) = g(Y)$  has a structure of scroll over a smooth curve.

By Theorem 1.2.1, we have the following Corollary.

**COROLLARY 1.2.3.** *Let  $(X, L)$  be a polarized manifold. Assume that the image of the Albanese map ([U]) is a curve. Then  $g(L) \geq q(X)$ .*

PROOF. Let  $\alpha: X \rightarrow \text{Alb } X$  be the Albanese map of  $X$ . By assumption,  $\alpha(X)$  is a smooth curve of genus  $g(X)$  and  $\alpha: X \rightarrow \alpha(X)$  has connected fibers. Hence by Theorem 1.2.1,  $g(L) \geq g(\alpha(X)) = g(X)$ .  $\square$

**1-3.  $\kappa(X) \geq 0$ .**

Here we treat  $\kappa(X) \geq 0$  case.

LEMMA 1.3.1. *Let  $X$  be a projective variety with  $\dim X = n$  and  $D$  a pseudo effective Cartier divisor on  $X$ . Then  $DL^{n-1} \geq 0$  for any nef Cartier divisor  $L$ .*

PROOF. By definition of a pseudo effective Cartier divisor (see § 0 or (11.3) in [Mo]),  $\kappa(tD+H) \geq 0$  for any natural number  $t$  and a big Cartier divisor  $H$  over  $X$ . Since  $L$  is nef,  $mL+A$  is ample for any natural number  $m$  and an ample Cartier divisor  $A$  over  $X$ . Therefore

$$\left(D + \frac{1}{t}H\right)\left(L + \frac{1}{m}A\right)^{n-1} = \frac{1}{m^{n-1}t}(tD+H)(mL+A)^{n-1} \geq 0.$$

Tend  $t \rightarrow \infty$  and  $m \rightarrow \infty$ , we have  $DL^{n-1} \geq 0$ .  $\square$

REMARK 1.3.2.

(1) Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be smooth projective varieties over  $C$ , and  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  a surjective morphism with connected fibers. Let  $D$  be a Cartier divisor on  $X$  such that  $f_*\mathcal{O}(D) \neq 0$ . If  $f_*\mathcal{O}(D)$  is weakly positive (see Appendix), then  $D$  is pseudo effective.

(2) Let  $\mathcal{E}$  be a locally free sheaf on a normal projective variety  $X$ . If  $\mathcal{E}$  is semipositive ((5.1) in [Mo]), then  $\mathcal{E}$  is weakly positive.

PROOF.

The proof of (1)

By hypothesis, the natural map

$$f^*f_*\mathcal{O}(D) \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}(D)$$

is non-trivial. If  $\mathcal{O}(D-Z) = \text{Im}(f^*f_*\mathcal{O}(D) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(D))^{**}$ , where  $Z$  is an effective divisor on  $X$  and  $**$  is double dual, then  $f^*f_*\mathcal{O}(D) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(D-Z)$  is surjective in codimension 1. By Hironaka theory [Hi], there exists a birational morphism  $\mu: X' \rightarrow X$  such that

$$\mu^*f^*f_*\mathcal{O}(D) \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}(\mu^*(D-Z)-E)$$

is surjective, where  $X'$  is smooth and  $E$  is an exceptional effective divisor over  $X'$ .

By hypothesis,  $\mu^*f^*f_*\mathcal{O}(D)$  is weakly positive. Hence  $\mathcal{O}(\mu^*(D-Z)-E)$  is weakly positive. By definition,  $\mu^*(D-Z)-E$  is pseudo effective. Since  $Z$  and  $E$  are effective,  $\mu^*D$  is pseudo effective. Hence  $D$  is pseudo effective.

The proof of (2)

Since  $\mathcal{E}$  is semipositive,  $S^\alpha(\mathcal{E})$  is also semipositive for any positive integer  $\alpha$ . Let  $\mathcal{H}$  be an ample invertible sheaf on  $X$ . Then  $S^\alpha(\mathcal{E}) \otimes \mathcal{H}$  is an ample locally free sheaf ([Ha2]). Hence  $\mathcal{E}$  is weakly positive.  $\square$

**THEOREM 1.3.3.** *Let  $(f, X, Y, L)$  be a quasi-polarized fiber space with  $\dim Y=1$ ,  $g(Y) \geq 1$ , and  $\kappa(F) \geq 0$ , where  $F$  is a general fiber of  $f$ .*

*Then  $g(L) \geq g(Y) + \lceil ((n-1)/2)L^n \rceil$ .*

**PROOF.** Since  $\kappa(F) \geq 0$ , there exists a Zariski open set  $U$  of  $Y$  such that for any closed point  $y \in U$ ,

- (1)  $F_y = f^{-1}(y)$  is smooth
- (2)  $h^0(mK_{F_y})$  is constant and not zero for some fixed  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ .

By Grauert's theorem (see [Ha1]),  $f_*\mathcal{O}(mK_{X/Y}) \neq 0$ . Hence by Lemma 1.3.1, Remark 1.3.2 and the semipositivity of  $f_*\mathcal{O}(mK_{X/Y})$  ([Ka2], [V3]),  $K_{X/Y} \cdot L^{n-1} \geq 0$ .

By (1.2.1.1) in Theorem 1.2.1, we have

$$g(L) \geq g(Y) + \frac{n-1}{2}L^n + (g(Y)-1)(L^{n-1} \cdot F - 1).$$

Since  $L$  is nef and big,  $L_F$  is also nef and big. Hence  $L_F^{n-1} \geq 1$ .

By hypothesis,  $g(Y) \geq 1$ . Therefore

$$g(L) \geq g(Y) + \left\lceil \frac{n-1}{2}L^n \right\rceil$$

because  $g(L)$  is integer.  $\square$

**THEOREM 1.3.4.** *Let  $(X, L)$  be a quasi-polarized manifold with  $\kappa(X)=1$  and  $L^n \geq 2$ . Then  $g(L) \geq q(X)$ .*

**PROOF.** In general, there is the following fibration (called Iitaka fibration [Ii1]) if  $\kappa(X) \geq 1$ :

There exist a birational morphism  $\mu: X' \rightarrow X$  and a surjective morphism with connected fibers  $f: X' \rightarrow Y$  such that  $\dim Y = \kappa(X)$  and  $\kappa(F) = 0$  for a general fiber  $F$  of  $f$ , where  $X'$  and  $Y$  are smooth projective varieties.

We remark that  $q(X) = q(X')$  and  $g(L) = g(L')$ , where  $L' = \mu^*L$ .

So we may assume that there is a fibration  $f: X \rightarrow Y$ , where  $Y$  is a smooth projective variety.

Here  $\dim Y = 1$ .

If  $g(Y) \geq 1$ , then we apply Theorem 1.3.3 for this  $(f, X, Y, L)$ . Hence  $g(L) \geq g(Y) + \lceil ((n-1)/2)L^n \rceil$ . By hypothesis,  $\lceil ((n-1)/2)L^n \rceil \geq n-1$ . Since  $\kappa(F) = 0$ ,  $q(F) \leq \dim F = n-1$  by Kawamata's theorem ([Ka1]). So we have  $g(L) \geq g(Y) + (n-1) \geq g(Y) + q(F)$ .

On the other hand, by Theorem B in Appendix,  $q(F)+g(Y)\geq q(X)$ . Therefore  $g(L)\geq q(X)$ .

If  $g(Y)=0$ , then  $g(L)=1+(K_X+(n-1)L)L^{n-1}/2\geq 1+n-1\geq 1+q(F)>g(Y)+q(F)\geq q(X)$ . □

By Kawamata's theorem, we have the following theorem.

**THEOREM 1.3.5.** *Let  $(X, L)$  be a quasi-polarized manifold with  $\kappa(X)=0$  and  $L^n\geq 2$ . Then  $g(L)\geq q(X)$ .*

**PROOF.** Since  $\kappa(X)=0$ ,  $q(X)\leq \dim X=n$  by Kawamata's theorem.

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} g(L) &= 1 + \frac{1}{2}(K_X + (n-1)L)L^{n-1} \\ &\geq 1 + \frac{n-1}{2}L^n \\ &\geq n \\ &\geq q(X). \end{aligned} \quad \square$$

**1-4. Classification of  $(f, X, Y, L)$  with  $g(L)=g(Y)$ .**

Here we shall classify  $(f, X, Y, L)$  with  $\dim Y=1$  and  $g(L)=g(Y)$ .

**LEMMA 1.4.1.** *If  $f_*\mathcal{O}(D)$  is ample, then  $DL^{n-1}>0$  for any ample line bundle  $L$  on  $X$ .*

**PROOF.** By hypothesis, given any coherent sheaf  $\mathcal{F}$  on  $Y$ , there exists a natural number  $m_0$  such that for every  $m\geq m_0$ ,  $\mathcal{F}\otimes S^m(f_*(D))$  is generated by the global sections. Hence  $f^*\mathcal{F}\otimes S^m(f^*\circ f_*(D))$  is generated by the global sections. We put  $\mathcal{F}=\mathcal{O}(-A)$ , where  $\mathcal{O}(A)$  is an ample invertible sheaf on  $Y$ . Then  $mD-f^*A$  is effective and  $L^{n-1}(mD-f^*A)\geq 0$ . Hence  $L^{n-1}D>0$ . □

**THEOREM 1.4.2.** *Let  $(f, X, Y, L)$  be a polarized fiber space with  $\dim X=n\geq 3$  and  $\dim Y=1$ . Suppose that  $g(L)=g(Y)$ . Then  $(f, X, Y, L)$  is a scroll.*

**PROOF.** First we have

$$(1.4.2.1) \quad g(L) = g(Y) + \frac{1}{2}(K_{X/Y} + (n-1)L)L^{n-1} + (L^{n-1}F - 1)(g(Y) - 1).$$

**Case (1):  $g(Y)\geq 1$**

If  $f_*\mathcal{O}(K_{X/Y}+(n-1)L)\neq 0$ , then  $f_*\mathcal{O}(K_{X/Y}+(n-1)L)$  is ample by Theorem 2.4 and Corollary 2.5 in [E-V], so by Lemma 1.4.1,

$$(K_{X/Y}+(n-1)L)L^{n-1} > 0.$$

By (1.4.2.1),  $g(L)>g(Y)$ . Hence we may assume  $f_*\mathcal{O}(K_{X/Y}+(n-1)L)=0$ . If

$K_{X/Y}+(n-1)L$  is not nef, then  $(f, X, Y, L)$  is a scroll by Theorem 1.1.2. Hence we may assume that  $K_{X/Y}+(n-1)L$  is nef.

By hypothesis, there are two possible cases:

- (A)  $(K_{X/Y}+(n-1)L)L^{n-1} = 0, \quad g(Y) = 1$
- (B)  $(K_{X/Y}+(n-1)L)L^{n-1} = 0, \quad L^{n-1}F = 1$

Case (A)

Since  $g(L)=g(Y)=1$ , we have

- (A-1)  $(X, L)$  is a del Pezzo variety
- (A-2)  $(X, L)$  is a scroll over an elliptic curve

by Fujita's classification of  $g(L)=1$ . ([Fj2])

If  $(X, L)$  is the case (A-1), then since  $-K_X$  is ample,  $q(X)=0$ , which contradicts  $g(Y)\geq 1$ . Next we consider that  $(X, L)$  is the case (A-2). Let  $\pi: X \rightarrow C$  be a  $\mathbf{P}^{n-1}$ -bundle with  $L_F=\mathcal{O}(1)$ , where  $C$  is an elliptic curve and  $F$  is a fiber of  $f$ . Since  $\mathbf{P}^{n-1}$  has no fibration over a curve for  $n\geq 3$ , there is a morphism  $\mu: C \rightarrow Y$  such that  $f=\mu\circ\pi$  ((4.4) in [EGA] III). Since  $f$  has connected fibers,  $\mu$  is an isomorphism ((7.1) in [Mu]). Therefore  $(f, X, Y, L)$  is a scroll.

Case (B)

In this case we can exclude  $g(Y)=1$ , which implies  $g(Y)\geq 2$ . Since  $(K_{X/Y}+(n-2)L)L^{n-1}+L^n=0$ ,  $K_{X/Y}+(n-2)L$  is not nef. Hence we can apply Theorem 1.1.3 to this case.

Case (B-1):  $(f, X, Y, L)$  is the type (3-1) in Theorem 1.1.3.

This case cannot occur. Indeed, let  $E\cong\mathbf{P}^{n-1}$  be as in (3-1) in Theorem 1.1.3. Either  $E$  cannot be a fiber of  $f$ , or the restriction of  $f$  to  $E$  cannot be a surjection since  $\mathbf{P}^{n-1}$  has no fibration over a curve. If  $E$  is in a fiber of  $f$ , the fiber is not irreducible and  $L^{n-1}F>1$ , which is a contradiction.

Case (B-2):  $(f, X, Y, L)$  is the type (3-2) or the type (3-3) in Theorem 1.1.3.

In these cases,  $L^{n-1}F>1$  which are contradictions.

Case (B-3):  $(f, X, Y, L)$  is the type (3-4) in Theorem 1.1.3.

Let  $F=\mathbf{P}_C(\mathcal{E})$ ,  $L_F=\mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{E})}(1)$ , and  $\pi:\mathbf{P}_C(\mathcal{E})\rightarrow C$  the projection, where  $\mathcal{E}$  is a locally free sheaf of rank  $n-1$  over a smooth curve  $C$ .

We may assume that  $\mathcal{E}$  is ample.  $\det \mathcal{E}$  is also ample.

By Riemann-Roch formula on  $C$  and vanishing theorem,

$$\begin{aligned} h^0(K_C+\det \mathcal{E}) &= \chi(K_C+\det \mathcal{E}) \\ &= g(C)-1+\deg(\det \mathcal{E}). \end{aligned}$$

If  $h^0(K_C+\det \mathcal{E})=0$ , then we have  $g(C)=0$  and  $\deg(\det \mathcal{E})=1$ .

Then

$$\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{O}(a_1)\oplus\mathcal{O}(a_2)\oplus\cdots\oplus\mathcal{O}(a_{n-1})$$

by Grothendieck's theorem.

Since  $\mathcal{E}$  is ample,  $a_i > 0$  for any  $i$ . Hence

$$\deg(\det \mathcal{E}) \geq n-1 \geq 2$$

since  $n \geq 3$ . This contradicts  $\deg(\det \mathcal{E})=1$ .

Therefore by the formula  $K_{F/C} = \mathcal{O}_{P(\mathcal{E})}(-(n-1)) \otimes \pi^* \det \mathcal{E}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} h^0(K_F + (n-1)L_F) &= h^0(\pi^*(K_C + \det \mathcal{E})) \\ &= h^0(K_C + \det \mathcal{E}) > 0. \end{aligned}$$

But by Grauert's theorem,  $f_*\mathcal{O}(K_{X/Y} + (n-1)L) \neq 0$ .

This contradicts the assumption.

Therefore this case cannot occur.

Case (1) is complete.

Case (2):  $g(Y)=0$ , i.e.,  $Y \cong \mathbf{P}^1$

In this case,  $g(L)=0$ . So by Fujita's classification of  $(X, L)$  with  $g(L)=0$  ([Fj2]),  $(X, L)$  is one of the following three possible types:

- (A)  $(X, L) = (\mathbf{P}^n, \mathcal{O}(1))$ .
- (B)  $X$  is a hyperquadric in  $\mathbf{P}^{n+1}$ ,  $L = \mathcal{O}_X(1)$ .
- (C)  $(X, L)$  is a scroll over  $\mathbf{P}^1$ .

Note that  $X$  with  $\text{Pic } X \cong \mathbf{Z}$  has no fibration over a curve.

Case (A)

This case cannot occur since  $X$  has no fibration over a curve.

Case (B)

Since  $n \geq 3$ ,  $\text{Pic } X \cong \mathbf{Z}$  by Lefschetz's Theorem ((7.1) in [Fj3]). Hence this case cannot occur.

Case (C)

Let  $h: X \rightarrow \mathbf{P}^1$  be the structure morphism of scroll, and  $F_h (\cong \mathbf{P}^{n-1})$  any fiber of  $h$ , which has no fibration over a curve for  $n \geq 3$ .

Then  $\dim f(F_h) = 0$ .

Hence there is a morphism  $\mu: \mathbf{P}^1 \rightarrow Y$  such that  $f = \mu \circ h$  ((4.4) in [EGA] III).

Since  $f$  has connected fibers,  $\mu$  is isomorphism ((7.1) in [Mu]).

Therefore  $(f, X, Y, L)$  is a scroll. □

When  $\dim X = 2$ , we obtain the following.

**PROPOSITION 1.4.3.** *Let  $(f, X, Y, L)$  be a polarized fiber space,  $X$  a surface, and  $Y$  a curve. Assume that  $g(L) = g(Y)$  and  $(f, X, Y, L)$  is not a scroll.*

*Then  $(f, X, Y, L) \cong (\pi, \mathbf{P}^1 \times \mathbf{P}^1, \mathbf{P}^1, L)$  as a polarized fiber space, where  $\pi$  is one projection such that  $LF_\pi \geq 2$ , where  $F_\pi$  is a fiber of  $\pi$ .*

**PROOF.** Let  $F$  be a general fiber of  $f$ .

Case (1):  $g(Y) \geq 1$ .

Case (1)-1:  $g(F) \geq 2$ .

In this case, by Theorem 5.5 in [Fk1],  $g(L) \geq g(Y) + 1$ .

Hence this case is excluded.

Case (1)-2:  $g(F) = 1$ .

In this case,  $\kappa(X) \leq \kappa(F) + \dim Y = 1$  ([Ii1]). Let  $(f', X', C, L')$  be the relatively minimal model of  $(f, X, C, L)$  and  $\mu: X \rightarrow X'$  its birational morphism, where  $L' = \mu_* L$  in the sense of cycle theory. By the canonical bundle formula for elliptic fibrations ([BPV]),  $K_X \cdot L \geq K_{X'} \cdot L' \geq 2g(Y) - 2$ . Hence taking it into account that  $g(L)$  is an integer, we have  $g(L) \geq g(Y) + 1$ , which is a contradiction.

Case (1)-3:  $g(F) = 0$ .

In this case,  $\kappa(X) \leq \kappa(F) + \dim Y = -\infty$ . Then  $g(L) \geq q(X)$  ([Fk1]). Since  $g(L) = g(Y)$ , we have  $g(L) = g(Y) = q(X)$ . Thus by the classification [L-P] and [Fk1],  $(X, L)$  is one of the following two types.

(A)  $(\mathbf{P}^2, \mathcal{O}(r))$ ,  $r = 1$  or  $2$ .

(B)  $X$  is a  $\mathbf{P}^1$ -bundle over a smooth curve  $C$  and  $L|_{F'} = \mathcal{O}(1)$ , where  $F'$  is a fiber of the projection  $\pi: X \rightarrow C$ .

Case (A) is excluded, since  $\mathbf{P}^2$  has no fibration over a curve.

Case (B)

Since  $\pi$  is a  $\mathbf{P}^1$ -bundle and  $g(Y) \geq 1$ , there is a morphism  $\mu: C \rightarrow Y$  such that  $f = \mu \circ \pi$  ((4.4) in [EGA] III). Since  $f$  has connected fibers,  $\mu$  is isomorphism ((7.1) in [Mu]).

Hence  $(f, X, Y, L)$  is a scroll.

Case (2):  $g(Y) = 0$ .

By hypothesis,  $g(L) = g(Y) = 0$ . By the classification [L-P], [Fj2] and [Fj3],  $(X, L)$  is one of (A) and (B) of the previous Case (1)-3. Hence  $(X, L)$  has a structure of scroll, since (A) never becomes a polarized fiber space as remarked previously.

Let  $\pi_1: X \rightarrow C \cong \mathbf{P}^1$  be the  $\mathbf{P}^1$ -bundle such that  $(\pi_1, X, C, L)$  is a scroll. We put  $X = \mathbf{P}_C(\mathcal{E})$  and  $\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{O}_C \oplus \mathcal{O}_C(-e)$ , where  $e \geq 0$ . Let  $H$  be the  $-\infty$  section of  $\pi_1$  which is a member of the complete linear system associated to the tautological invertible sheaf  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{E})}(1)$  over  $X$  and  $F_1$  a fiber of  $\pi_1$ . We remark that  $H^2 = -e$  ([Ha1]). Let  $F_f$  be a fiber of  $f$ . Then we can write  $F_f \equiv aH + bF_1$  for some  $a, b \in \mathbf{Z}$ . Since  $F_f^2 = 0$ ,  $-a^2e + 2ab = 0$ . If  $a = 0$ ,  $F_f = bF_1$  and  $b > 0$ .  $f$  factors through  $\pi_1$ , which is an isomorphism since  $f$  has connected fibers. Hence we can prove  $(f, X, Y, L) \cong (\pi_1, X, C, L)$ , which is a scroll against hypothesis. Thus  $a \neq 0$ ,  $2b - ae = 0$  and  $F_f \equiv aH + (ae/2)F_1$ . Since  $F_f$  is nef, we have  $F_f \cdot F_1 = a > 0$  and  $H \cdot F_f = -ae/2 \geq 0$ . Therefore  $e = 0$ ,  $X \cong \mathbf{P}^1 \times \mathbf{P}^1$  and let  $\pi_1$  be one projection and  $\pi_2$  the other projection. Then  $H$  is a fiber of  $\pi_2$ . Since  $F_f \equiv aH$

for some  $a \in \mathbf{N}$ , there exists a morphism  $\theta: \mathbf{P}^1 \rightarrow Y$  such that  $f = \theta \circ \pi_2$ . Since  $f$  has connected fibers,  $\theta$  is an isomorphism. Hence  $(f, X, Y, L) \cong (\pi_2, \mathbf{P}^1 \times \mathbf{P}^1, \mathbf{P}^1, L)$ .  $\square$

EXAMPLE 1.4.4. Let  $X = \mathbf{P}^1 \times \mathbf{P}^1$ ,  $p_i: \mathbf{P}^1 \times \mathbf{P}^1 \rightarrow \mathbf{P}^1$  the  $i$ -th projection, and  $F_i$  a fiber of  $p_i$ . Then  $K_X \cong -2F_1 - 2F_2$ . We put  $L \cong 2F_1 + F_2$ . We remark that  $L$  is ample and  $g(L) = 0$ .

Then  $(p_1, X, \mathbf{P}^1, L)$  is a scroll, but  $(p_2, X, \mathbf{P}^1, L)$  is not a scroll.

## § 2. Some special cases of $\dim Y \geq 2$ .

In this section, we shall consider some special cases.

First by Lemma 1.3.1 we can prove the following lemma:

LEMMA 2.1. *Let  $(f, X, Y, L)$  be a quasi-polarized fiber space with  $\dim X > \dim Y \geq 1$  and  $\kappa(F) \geq 0$ , where  $F$  is a general fiber of  $f$ . Then  $K_{X/Y} L^{n-1} \geq 0$ .*

PROOF. Since  $\kappa(F) \geq 0$ , we have  $f_* \mathcal{O}(tK_{X/Y}) \neq 0$  for  $t \gg 0$ .

By Viehweg's theorem ([V3]),  $f_* \mathcal{O}(tK_{X/Y})$  is weakly positive. Hence by Lemma 1.3.1 and Remark 1.3.2,  $K_{X/Y} L^{n-1} \geq 0$ .  $\square$

THEOREM 2.2. *Let  $(f, X, Y, L)$  be a quasi-polarized fiber space with  $\kappa(X) \geq 0$  and  $\dim X = n \geq 3$ , where  $Y$  is a normal projective variety with  $\dim Y = m$  and  $\kappa(Y) = 0$  or 1. Then  $g(L) \geq q(Y) + \lceil ((n-1)/2)L^n \rceil - m + 1$ . In particular,  $g(L) \geq q(Y)$  holds if  $L^n \geq 2$ .*

PROOF. Note that a quasi-polarized fiber space  $(f, X, Y, L)$  with  $Y$  a normal projective variety can be replaced to a quasi-polarized fiber space  $(f', X', Y', L')$  with  $X'$  and  $Y'$  smooth projective varieties and with  $g(L) = g(L')$  and  $X'$  and  $Y'$  are birational to  $X$  and  $Y$ , respectively. Hence we omit the prime. Indeed, let  $\mu: Y' \rightarrow Y$  be a resolution of  $Y$ . By Hironaka theory [Hi], there exist a birational morphism  $\lambda: X' \rightarrow X$ , and a surjective morphism with connected fibers  $f': X' \rightarrow Y'$  such that  $f \circ \lambda = \mu \circ f'$ .

We remark that  $(f', X', Y', L')$  is a quasi-polarized fiber space and  $g(L) = g(L')$ , where  $L' = (\lambda)^* L$ .

Case (1):  $\kappa(Y) = 0$ .

By Kawamata's theorem,  $q(Y) \leq \dim Y = m$ .

Hence by Lemma 2.1,

$$\begin{aligned} g(L) &= 1 + \frac{1}{2} K_{X/Y}(L)^{n-1} + \frac{n-1}{2} (L)^n + \frac{1}{2} f^* K_{Y'}(L)^{n-1} \\ &\geq 1 + \frac{n-1}{2} (L)^n + \frac{1}{2} f^* K_{Y'}(L)^{n-1}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $f^*K_Y(L)^{n-1} \geq 0$ , and  $g(L) \in \mathbf{Z}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} g(L) &\geq m + \left\lceil \frac{n-1}{2} L^n \right\rceil - m + 1 \\ &\geq q(Y) + \left\lceil \frac{n-1}{2} L^n \right\rceil - m + 1. \end{aligned}$$

Case (2):  $\kappa(Y)=1$ .

By Iitaka theory ([Ii1]), there exists a fiber space  $g: Y \rightarrow C$  onto a curve  $C$  with a general fiber  $F$  of  $\kappa(F)=0$ .

By Theorem B in Appendix and Kawamata's theorem,  $q(Y) \leq g(C) + q(F) \leq g(C) + \dim F \leq g(C) + m - 1$ .

Hence if  $g(C)=0$ ,  $q(Y) \leq m - 1$ .

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} g(L) &\geq 1 + \left\lceil \frac{n-1}{2} L^n \right\rceil \\ &> m - 1 + \left\lceil \frac{n-1}{2} L^n \right\rceil - m + 1 \\ &\geq q(Y) + \left\lceil \frac{n-1}{2} L^n \right\rceil - m + 1. \end{aligned}$$

If  $g(C) \geq 1$ , applying Theorem 1.3.3 to  $(g \circ f, X, C, L)$ , we have  $g(L) \geq g(C) + \lceil ((n-1)/2)L^n \rceil$ , since  $\kappa(F) + \dim C \geq \kappa(X) \geq 0$  ([Ii1]).

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} g(L) &\geq g(C) + m - 1 + \left\lceil \frac{n-1}{2} L^n \right\rceil - m + 1 \\ &\geq q(Y) + \left\lceil \frac{n-1}{2} L^n \right\rceil - m + 1. \end{aligned} \quad \square$$

Next we prove that Conjecture 2 is true if  $\kappa(X) \geq 0$ ,  $\kappa(Y) \leq 1$ , and  $\dim Y = 2$ .

**THEOREM 2.3.** *Let  $(f, X, Y, L)$  be a quasi-polarized fiber space with  $\kappa(X) \geq 0$  and  $\dim X = n \geq 3$ , where  $Y$  is a normal projective surface over  $C$  with  $\kappa(Y) \leq 1$ . Then  $g(L) \geq q(Y) + \lceil ((n-1)/2)L^n \rceil - 1$ .*

**PROOF.** As in the proof of Theorem 2.2,  $(f, X, Y, L)$  is replaced by  $(f', X', Y', L')$ . If  $\kappa(Y) = 0$  or 1, then, by Theorem 2.2,  $g(L) \geq q(Y) + \lceil ((n-1)/2)L^n \rceil - 1$  holds.

So we may assume that  $\kappa(Y) = -\infty$ .

If  $q(Y) = 0$ , it is obviously proved. Since  $\kappa(X) \geq 0$  and  $g(L)$  is an integer,

$$g(L) \geq 1 + \left\lceil \frac{n-1}{2} L^n \right\rceil.$$

If  $q(Y) \geq 1$ , there exists an Albanese map  $\pi: Y \rightarrow C$  where  $C$  is a smooth curve of genus  $q(Y)$ . Hence  $h = \pi \circ f: X \rightarrow C$  is a fiber space. Since  $\kappa(F_h) + \dim C \geq \kappa(X) \geq 0$  and  $g(C) \geq 1$ , applying Theorem 1.3.3 to  $(\pi \circ f, X, C, L)$ , we have

$$g(L) \geq g(C) + \left\lceil \frac{n-1}{2} L^n \right\rceil > q(Y) - 1 + \left\lceil \frac{n-1}{2} L^n \right\rceil,$$

where  $F_h$  is a general fiber of  $h$ . □

### Appendix.

First we shall prove the following theorem by the same method as [V3].

**THEOREM A.** *Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be smooth quasi-projective varieties over  $\mathbb{C}$ ,  $\mathcal{L}$  a semiample invertible sheaf over  $X$ ,  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  a projective surjective morphism, and  $\omega_{X/Y} = \omega_X \otimes f^* \omega_Y^{-1}$ . Then for any positive integer  $k$ ,  $f_*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L})^{\otimes k})$  is weakly positive in the sense of Viehweg [V3].*

**REMARK.** If  $\mathcal{L}$  is semiample over  $f^{-1}(U)$  for an open set  $U \subset Y$ , then we can prove that for any positive integer  $k$ ,  $f_*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L})^{\otimes k})$  is weakly positive by the same method as the following argument.

We use the same notations as in [V3].

Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a torsion free coherent sheaf over  $Y$  and  $\mathcal{F}^{**}$  the double dual of  $\mathcal{F}$ . Let  $\hat{S}^\beta \mathcal{F}$  denote the double dual of the  $\beta$ -th symmetric power of  $\mathcal{F}$ .

**DEFINITION.** The sheaf  $\mathcal{F}$  is said to be generated over an open set  $U$  by global section if the canonical map

$$\mathcal{O}_U \otimes H^0(Y, \mathcal{F}) \longrightarrow \mathcal{F}_U$$

is a surjection and  $U$  is an open set dense in  $Y$ . An invertible sheaf  $\mathcal{L}$  is said to be semiample over  $U$  if some tensor power of  $\mathcal{L}$  is generated over  $U$  by global sections. Note that  $\mathcal{F} = 0$  is said to be generated over  $Y$  by global sections.  $\mathcal{F}$  is said to be weakly generated over an open set  $U$  if the double dual of some symmetric power of  $\mathcal{F}$  is generated over  $U$  by global sections.

Note that letting  $i: Y(\mathcal{F}) \subset Y$  be the biggest open set such that  $\mathcal{F}$  is locally free,  $\hat{S}^k(\mathcal{F}) = i_* S^k(i^* \mathcal{F})$ .

**DEFINITION (Viehweg [V3]).** The sheaf  $\mathcal{F}$  is said to be weakly positive if there exist an ample invertible sheaf  $\mathcal{H}$  over  $Y$  and an open set  $U$  such that for any positive integer  $\alpha$ ,  $S^\alpha(\mathcal{F}) \otimes \mathcal{H}$  is weakly generated over an open set  $U$  by global sections.

Note that  $\mathcal{F}=0$  is weakly positive and that since  $\mathcal{F}$  is torsion free,  $\mathcal{F}$  is locally free in codimension one. Hence  $H^0(Y, \hat{S}^\beta(\mathcal{F}))=H^0(Y(\mathcal{F}), S^\beta(\mathcal{F}))$ . Hence to prove  $f_*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L})^{\otimes k})$  is weakly positive, we may replace  $Y$  by  $Y-S$  over which  $f_*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L})^{\otimes k})$  is locally free with  $\text{codim}(Y-S) \geq 2$ .

At first we shall prove the following lemmata.

LEMMA A.1.  $f_*(\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L})$  is weakly positive.

PROOF. Since  $\mathcal{L}$  is semiample, for some  $N \geq 2$

$$\mathcal{L}^{\otimes N} = \mathcal{O}\left(\sum_j \nu_j D_j\right),$$

where  $D_j$  are non-singular prime divisors with  $\nu_j=1$ .

Let  $\mathcal{L}^{(i)} = \mathcal{L}^{\otimes i}(-\sum_j [i \cdot \nu_j / N] D_j)$ . By Lemma 5.1 in [V3],  $f_*(\mathcal{L}^{(i)} \otimes \omega_{X/Y})$  is weakly positive. But since  $N \geq 2$ , we have  $\mathcal{L}^{(1)} = \mathcal{L}$ . Therefore

$$f_*(\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L}^{(1)}) = f_*(\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L})$$

is weakly positive. □

LEMMA A.2. Let  $f, X, Y$  be as above and  $\mathcal{L}$  a semiample invertible sheaf over  $X$ .

(1) Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an invertible sheaf over  $X$  and  $\sum_j e_j E_j$  an effective divisor's irreducible decomposition such that for  $N > 0$ ,  $\mathcal{A}^{\otimes N} = \mathcal{O}_X(\sum_j e_j E_j)$ . Suppose that the support of  $\sum_j e_j E_j$  is normally crossing over  $f^{-1}(U)$  for a dense open set  $U \subset Y$ .

Then, for  $0 \leq i \leq N-1$ , the sheaf  $f_*(\mathcal{A}^{\otimes i}(-\sum_j [i \cdot e_j / N] E_j) \otimes \omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L})$  is weakly positive. (Therefore for  $0 \leq i \leq N-1$ , the sheaf  $f_*(\mathcal{A}^{\otimes i}(-\sum_j g_j E_j) \otimes \omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L})$  is weakly positive if

$$f_*\left(\mathcal{A}^{\otimes i}\left(-\sum_j \left[\frac{i \cdot e_j}{N}\right] E_j\right) \otimes \omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L}\right) \longrightarrow f_*\left(\mathcal{A}^{\otimes i}\left(-\sum_j g_j E_j\right) \otimes \omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L}\right)$$

is an isomorphism over a dense open subset of  $Y$ .)

(2) Let  $\mathcal{N}$  be an invertible sheaf over  $X$  which is generated over  $f^{-1}(U)$  by global sections for an open set  $U \subset Y$ . Then  $\mathcal{N} = \mathcal{O}_X(B + \sum_j d_j D_j)$  as the irreducible decomposition such that  $B$  is nonsingular over  $f^{-1}(U)$  and the support of  $\sum_j d_j D_j$  is contained in  $f^{-1}(Y-U)$ .

PROOF.

(1) We take a blowing up  $\mu: T \rightarrow X$  which is an isomorphism over  $f^{-1}(U)$  such that  $(\mu^* \mathcal{A})^{\otimes N} = \mathcal{O}_X(\sum_{j,k} f_{j,k} F_{j,k})$  with the support of the irreducible decomposition  $\sum_{j,k} F_{j,k}$  normally crossing. Note that  $e_j | f_{j,k}$ , and the centers of the blowing up never meet the points where  $\sum_j E_j$  is normally crossing. Let  $d$  be a composite of a desingularization  $Z \rightarrow \text{Spec}(\bigoplus_{i=0}^{N-1} (\mu^* \mathcal{A})^{-i})$  and the structure

morphism  $\text{Spec}(\bigoplus_{i=0}^{N-1}(\mu^*\mathcal{A})^{-i}) \rightarrow T$ . Then by (2.3) in [V3], we have

$$d_*\omega_{Z/Y} = \bigoplus_{i=0}^{N-1} ((\mu^*\mathcal{A})^{(i)} \otimes \omega_{T/Y}).$$

Hence

$$f_* \circ \mu_* \circ d_*(\omega_{Z/Y} \otimes d^* \circ \mu^* \mathcal{L}) = \bigoplus_{i=0}^{N-1} f_* \circ \mu_* ((\mu^*\mathcal{A})^{(i)} \otimes \omega_{T/Y} \otimes \mu^* \mathcal{L}).$$

By Lemma A.1,

$$f_* \circ \mu_* \circ d_*(\omega_{Z/Y} \otimes d^* \circ \mu^* \mathcal{L})$$

is weakly positive. Hence

$$f_* \circ \mu_* ((\mu^*\mathcal{A})^{(i)} \otimes \omega_{T/Y} \otimes \mu^* \mathcal{L}) = f_* \circ \mu_* ((\mu^*\mathcal{A})^{\otimes i} \left( - \sum_{j,k} \left[ \frac{i \cdot f_{j,k}}{N} \right] F_{j,k} \right) \otimes \omega_{T/Y} \otimes \mu^* \mathcal{L})$$

is weakly positive. The following natural map is an isomorphism over  $U$

$$\begin{aligned} & f_* \circ \mu_* ((\mu^*\mathcal{A})^{\otimes i} \left( - \sum_{j,k} \left[ \frac{i \cdot f_{j,k}}{N} \right] F_{j,k} \right) \otimes \omega_{T/Y} \otimes \mu^* \mathcal{L}) \\ & \rightarrow f_* \circ \mu_* ((\mu^*\mathcal{A})^{\otimes i} \left( - \sum' \left[ \frac{i \cdot f_{j,k}}{N} \right] F_{j,k} \right) \otimes \omega_{T/Y} \otimes \mu^* \mathcal{L}) \end{aligned}$$

if in the last term the sum  $\sum'$  tends over  $F_{j,k}$ 's intersecting on  $(f \circ \mu)^{-1}(U)$ . Hence the last term is weakly positive. On the other hand  $\mathcal{O}(\sum_j [i \cdot e_j / N] \mu^* E_j) = \mathcal{O}(\sum' [i \cdot f_{j,k} / N] F_{j,k})$  over  $(f \circ \mu)^{-1}(U)$ .

Hence over  $U$

$$\begin{aligned} & f_* \circ \mu_* ((\mu^*\mathcal{A})^{\otimes i} \left( - \sum' \left[ \frac{i \cdot f_{j,k}}{N} \right] F_{j,k} \right) \otimes \omega_{T/Y} \otimes \mu^* \mathcal{L}) \\ & = f_* \circ \mu_* ((\mu^*\mathcal{A})^{\otimes i} \left( - \sum_j \left[ \frac{i \cdot e_j}{N} \right] \mu^* E_j \right) \otimes \omega_{T/Y} \otimes \mu^* \mathcal{L}) \\ & = f_* (\mathcal{A}^{\otimes i} \left( - \sum_j \left[ \frac{i \cdot e_j}{N} \right] E_j \right) \otimes \omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L}) \end{aligned}$$

is weakly positive.

(2) Let  $\mathcal{N} = \mathcal{O}_X(B + \sum_i d_i D_i)$ , where  $D_i \subset f^{-1}(Y - U)$  for each  $i$ . Since  $\mathcal{N}$  is generated over  $f^{-1}(U)$  by global sections and  $\mathcal{N}|_{f^{-1}(U)} = \mathcal{O}_X(B)|_{f^{-1}(U)}$ , a general section  $B$  of  $\mathcal{N}|_{f^{-1}(U)}$  is nonsingular over  $f^{-1}(U)$  by Bertini's theorem.  $\square$

LEMMA A.3. *Let  $X, Y, f, \mathcal{L}$  be as above and  $\mathcal{A}$  an ample line bundle on  $Y$  such that for given  $k > 0$  and some  $\nu > 0$  the sheaf  $\hat{S}^\nu(f_*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L})^{\otimes k}) \otimes \mathcal{A}^{\otimes k})$  is generated over an open set  $U$  by global sections.*

*Then  $f_*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L})^{\otimes k} \otimes f^* \mathcal{A}^{\otimes k-1})$  is weakly positive.*

PROOF. By (1.3 iv) in [V3] we may replace  $Y$  by  $Y-S$ , as long as  $S$  is a closed subvariety of codimension  $\geq 2$ . Hence we may assume that  $f_*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L} \otimes f^*\mathcal{H})^{\otimes k})$  is locally free on  $Y$ .

We put

$$\mathcal{M} = \text{Im}(f^*(f_*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L} \otimes f^*\mathcal{H})^{\otimes k}))) \longrightarrow (\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L} \otimes f^*\mathcal{H})^{\otimes k} **,$$

where  $**$  denotes the double dual.

Then  $\mathcal{M}$  is a line bundle, i.e.,

$$\mathcal{M} = (\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L} \otimes f^*\mathcal{H})^{\otimes k} \otimes \mathcal{O}_X(-Z),$$

where  $Z$  is an effective divisor on  $X$ .

Then there exists a blowing up of  $X$ ,  $\rho_1: X' \rightarrow X$  such that

$$\rho_1^* \circ f^*(f_*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L} \otimes f^*\mathcal{H})^{\otimes k})) \longrightarrow \rho_1^*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L} \otimes f^*\mathcal{H})^{\otimes k}) \otimes \rho_1^*\mathcal{O}(-Z) \otimes \mathcal{O}(-E)$$

is surjective, where  $E$  is an exceptional effective divisor.

In order to have the support of  $\rho_2^*(\rho_1^*Z + E) = D$  in a normal crossing divisor, we take a blowing up  $\rho_2: X'' \rightarrow X'$ . Here we put  $\rho_1 \circ \rho_2 = \rho$  and  $f \circ \rho = g$ .

The pullback of the map above

$$\rho^* \circ f^*(f_*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L} \otimes f^*\mathcal{H})^{\otimes k})) \longrightarrow \rho^*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L} \otimes f^*\mathcal{H})^{\otimes k}) \otimes \mathcal{O}(-D)$$

is a surjection, whose image we denote by  $\mathcal{N}$ . Note that  $g_*\mathcal{N} \supset f_*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L} \otimes f^*\mathcal{H})^{\otimes k}) = g_*((\omega_{X''/Y} \otimes \rho^*\mathcal{L})^{\otimes k}) \otimes \mathcal{H}^{\otimes k}$  and that  $\rho_*\omega_{X''}^{\otimes k} = \omega_X^{\otimes k}$ . Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} g^*(f_*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L} \otimes f^*\mathcal{H})^{\otimes k})) &= g^*(f_*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L})^{\otimes k}) \otimes \mathcal{H}^{\otimes k}) \\ &= g^*(g_*((\omega_{X''/Y} \otimes \rho^*\mathcal{L})^{\otimes k}) \otimes \mathcal{H}^{\otimes k}). \end{aligned}$$

We remark that

$$f_*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L})^{\otimes k}) \otimes \mathcal{H}^{\otimes k} \cong g_*((\omega_{X''/Y} \otimes \rho^*\mathcal{L})^{\otimes k}) \otimes \mathcal{H}^{\otimes k},$$

and

$$S^\nu(f_*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L})^{\otimes k}) \otimes \mathcal{H}^{\otimes k}) \cong S^\nu(g_*((\omega_{X''/Y} \otimes \rho^*\mathcal{L})^{\otimes k}) \otimes \mathcal{H}^{\otimes k}).$$

Since

$$g^*(g_*((\omega_{X''/Y} \otimes \rho^*\mathcal{L})^{\otimes k}) \otimes \mathcal{H}^{\otimes k}) \longrightarrow \rho^*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L} \otimes f^*\mathcal{H})^{\otimes k}) \otimes \mathcal{O}(-D)$$

is surjective,

$$\begin{aligned} g^*S^\nu(g_*((\omega_{X''/Y} \otimes \rho^*\mathcal{L})^{\otimes k}) \otimes \mathcal{H}^{\otimes k}) &\longrightarrow S^\nu(\rho^*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L} \otimes f^*\mathcal{H})^{\otimes k}) \otimes \mathcal{O}(-D)) \\ &\cong \rho^*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L} \otimes f^*\mathcal{H})^{\otimes k\nu}) \otimes \mathcal{O}(-\nu D) \end{aligned}$$

is surjective.

Hence by hypothesis,  $\mathcal{N}^{\otimes \nu} = \rho^*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L} \otimes f^*\mathcal{H})^{\otimes k\nu}) \otimes \mathcal{O}(-\nu D)$  is generated over  $g^{-1}(U)$  for an open set  $U$  of  $Y$  by global sections.

Hence we apply Lemma A.2 to  $(\rho^*(\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L} \otimes f^*\mathcal{H}))^{\otimes k} = \mathcal{N} \otimes \mathcal{O}(D)$ .

Then  $g_*(\omega_{X''/Y} \otimes \rho^* \mathcal{L} \otimes (\rho^*(\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L} \otimes f^* \mathcal{H}))^{\otimes k-1}(-[\frac{(k-1)}{k}D]))$  is weakly positive.

Since  $\rho_* \omega_{X''} = \omega_X$ , we have

$$(1) \quad \begin{aligned} &g_*(\omega_{X''/Y} \otimes \rho^* \mathcal{L} \otimes (\rho^*(\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L} \otimes f^* \mathcal{H}))^{\otimes k-1}(-[\frac{k-1}{k}D])) \\ &\subset g_*(\omega_{X''/Y} \otimes \rho^* \mathcal{L} \otimes (\rho^*(\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L} \otimes f^* \mathcal{H}))^{\otimes k-1}) \\ &= f_*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L})^{\otimes k}) \otimes \mathcal{H}^{\otimes k-1}, \end{aligned}$$

and since  $\mathcal{O}([\frac{(k-1)}{k}D]) \subset \mathcal{O}(D)$  and  $\rho^* \omega_X \subset \omega_{X''}$ ,

$$(2) \quad \mathcal{N} \otimes g^* \mathcal{H}^{-1} \subset (\omega_{X''/Y} \otimes \rho^* \mathcal{L} \otimes \rho^*(\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L} \otimes f^* \mathcal{H})^{\otimes k-1})(-\left[\frac{k-1}{k}D\right]).$$

Since  $g_* \mathcal{N} \supset f_*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L})^{\otimes k})$ , we have by (1) and (2)

$$\begin{aligned} g_* \mathcal{N} \otimes \mathcal{H}^{-1} &\subset g_*(\omega_{X''/Y} \otimes \rho^* \mathcal{L} \otimes \rho^*(\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L} \otimes f^* \mathcal{H})^{\otimes k-1})(-\left[\frac{k-1}{k}D\right]) \\ &\subset f_*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L})^{\otimes k}) \otimes \mathcal{H}^{\otimes k-1} \end{aligned}$$

three of which all coincide and are weakly positive. □

LEMMA A.4. *Let  $f, X, Y, \mathcal{L}$  be as in Theorem A,  $Y'$  a smooth quasi-projective variety,  $\tau: Y' \rightarrow Y$  a flat projective morphism,  $S = X \times_Y Y'$ ,  $S'$  the normalization of  $S$ , and  $X'$  a desingularization of  $S'$ . We have the following diagram:*

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} X' & \xrightarrow{d} & S' & \xrightarrow{\sigma} & S & \xrightarrow{\tau_2} & X \\ f' \downarrow & & \downarrow h' & & \downarrow h & & \downarrow f \\ Y' & \xrightarrow{id} & Y' & \xrightarrow{id} & Y' & \xrightarrow{\tau} & Y \end{array}$$

We put  $\tau_1 = \tau_2 \circ \sigma$  and  $\tau' = \tau_1 \circ d$ .

Assume that  $S'$  has only rational singularities.

Then for any  $k \geq 0$  there exists a homomorphism

$$i: f'_*((\omega_{X'/Y'} \otimes (\tau')^* \mathcal{L})^{\otimes k+1}) \longrightarrow \tau^* \circ f_*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L})^{\otimes k+1})$$

which is an isomorphism over an open subvariety of  $Y'$ .

PROOF. By the proof of Lemma 3.2 in [V3],

$$\sigma_* \circ d_* (\omega_{X'/Y'}^{\otimes k+1}) \longrightarrow \tau_2^* (\omega_{X/Y}^{\otimes k+1})$$

is an isomorphism over  $h^{-1}(U)$  for an open subvariety  $U$  of  $Y'$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_* \circ d_*((\omega_{X'/Y'} \otimes (\tau')^* \mathcal{L})^{\otimes k+1}) &\cong \sigma_* \circ d_*((\omega_{X'/Y'}^{\otimes k+1}) \otimes \tau_2^* \mathcal{L}^{\otimes k+1}) \\ &\rightarrow \tau_2^*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L})^{\otimes k+1}) \end{aligned}$$

is an isomorphism over  $h^{-1}(U)$ .

Hence since  $\tau$  is a flat morphism, by the flat base change theorem ([Ha1]),

$$\begin{aligned} f'_*((\omega_{X'/Y'} \otimes (\tau')^* \mathcal{L})^{\otimes k+1}) &\longrightarrow h_* \circ \tau_2^*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L})^{\otimes k+1}) \\ &\cong \tau^* \circ f_*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L})^{\otimes k+1}) \end{aligned}$$

is an isomorphism over  $U$ . □

PROOF OF THEOREM A. Let  $\mathcal{H}$  be any ample line bundle on  $Y$ .

Only to prove Theorem A, by (1.3 iv) in [V3], we may assume that  $f_*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L})^{\otimes k})$  is locally free on  $Y$ .

$$r = \text{Min}\{s > 0 : f_*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L})^{\otimes k}) \otimes \mathcal{H}^{\otimes s k - 1} : \text{weakly positive}\}.$$

Then there exists a positive integer  $\nu$  such that

$$S^\nu(f_*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L})^{\otimes k})) \otimes \mathcal{H}^{\otimes \nu(\tau k - 1)} \otimes \mathcal{H}^{\otimes \nu}$$

is generated over an open set by global sections.

By Lemma A.3,  $f_*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L})^{\otimes k}) \otimes \mathcal{H}^{\otimes \tau(k-1)}$  is weakly positive. Then by the choice of  $r$ ,  $(r-1)k-1 < r(k-1)$ . Hence we have  $r \leq k$ . Hence for any surjective morphism and any  $\mathcal{H}$ ,  $f_*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L})^{\otimes k}) \otimes \mathcal{H}^{\otimes k^2 - k}$  is weakly positive.

Next we take  $\tau: Y' \rightarrow Y$ : a finite surjective morphism such that  $\tau^* \mathcal{H} = (\mathcal{H}')^{\otimes d}$  for a Cartier divisor  $\mathcal{H}'$ , where  $Y'$  is a smooth quasi-projective variety and  $d$  is given below. (We can take this. See [B-G], [Ka1], [V3].)

We use the same notations as in Lemma A.4.

We blow up  $X$  if necessary, so we may assume that the support of the ramification locus  $\Delta(S'/X)$  (see [V2]) is a normal crossing divisor. Then the assumption of Lemma A.4 is satisfied. (See [V1].)

By the same argument above for  $f': X' \rightarrow Y'$  and Lemma A.4, we can prove that  $\tau^* \circ f_*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L})^{\otimes k}) \otimes (\mathcal{H}')^{\otimes k^2 - k}$  is weakly positive.

Let  $\alpha$  be a positive integer, and we put  $d = 2(k^2 - k)\alpha + 1$ .

For a sufficiently big integer  $\beta$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} (1) \quad &S^{2\alpha\beta}(\tau^* \circ f_*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L})^{\otimes k}) \otimes (\mathcal{H}')^{\otimes k^2 - k}) \otimes (\mathcal{H}')^{\otimes \beta} \\ &\cong \tau^* S^{2\alpha\beta}(f_*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L})^{\otimes k})) \otimes (\tau^* \mathcal{H}')^{\otimes \beta} \end{aligned}$$

is generated over an open set by global sections.

Since the trace map  $\tau_* \mathcal{O}_{Y'} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_Y$  is surjective,

$$(2) \quad \tau_* \circ \tau^*(S^{2\alpha\beta}(f_*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L})^{\otimes k})) \otimes \mathcal{H}^{\otimes \beta}) \longrightarrow S^{2\alpha\beta}(f_*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L})^{\otimes k})) \otimes \mathcal{H}^{\otimes \beta}$$

is surjective.

By (1),

$$\oplus \mathcal{O}_{Y'} \longrightarrow \tau^* S^{2\alpha\beta}(f_*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L})^{\otimes k})) \otimes \tau^* \mathcal{H}^{\otimes \beta}$$

is surjective over a dense open set of  $Y'$ .

Since  $\tau$  is finite surjective,

$$\oplus \tau_* \mathcal{O}_{Y'} \longrightarrow \tau_* \circ \tau^*(S^{2\alpha\beta}(f_*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L})^{\otimes k})) \otimes \mathcal{H}^{\otimes \beta})$$

is surjective over a dense open set of  $Y$ .

Hence by (2)

$$(\oplus \tau_* \mathcal{O}_{Y'}) \otimes \mathcal{H}^{\otimes \beta} \longrightarrow S^{2\alpha\beta}(f_*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L})^{\otimes k})) \otimes \mathcal{H}^{\otimes 2\beta}$$

is surjective over a dense open set of  $Y$ .

For a sufficiently big integer  $\beta$ ,  $\tau_* \mathcal{O}_{Y'} \otimes \mathcal{H}^{\otimes \beta}$  is generated by global sections.

Hence  $S^{2\alpha\beta}(f_*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L})^{\otimes k})) \otimes \mathcal{H}^{\otimes 2\beta}$  is generated over an open set by global sections. Therefore  $f_*((\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L})^{\otimes k})$  is weakly positive.  $\square$

We can also prove the following theorem. (This theorem was pointed out by the referee.)

**THEOREM A'.** *Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be smooth quasi-projective varieties over  $\mathbb{C}$ ,  $\mathcal{L}$  a semiample invertible sheaf over  $X$ , and  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  a projective surjective morphism. Then for any positive integer  $k$  and  $i$ ,  $f_*(\omega_{X/Y}^{\otimes k} \otimes \mathcal{L}^{\otimes i})$  is weakly positive.*

**PROOF.** Let  $\eta: X' \rightarrow X$  be a finite cyclic covering defined by the nonsingular divisor  $B$  such that  $\mathcal{L}^{\otimes N} = \mathcal{O}(B)$ . Then  $\eta_* \omega_{X'/Y} = \bigoplus_{i=0}^{N-1} (\omega_{X/Y} \otimes \mathcal{L}^{\otimes i})$ . Since  $X'$  is nonsingular and  $\eta$  is affine,

$$(\eta_* \omega_{X'/Y})^{\otimes k} = \eta_*(\omega_{X'/Y}^{\otimes k}).$$

Hence we have

$$(f \circ \eta)_*(\omega_{X'/Y}^{\otimes k}) = \bigoplus_{t=0}^{k(N-1)} f_*(\omega_{X/Y}^{\otimes k} \otimes \mathcal{L}^{\otimes t})^{\oplus \alpha(t)},$$

which is weakly positive by Viehweg [V3], where  $(\sum_{i=0}^{N-1} x^i)^k = \sum_{t=0}^{k(N-1)} \alpha(t) x^t$ . Thus  $f_*(\omega_{X/Y}^{\otimes k} \otimes \mathcal{L}^{\otimes t})$  is also weakly positive for  $0 \leq t \leq k(N-1)$ . Tend  $N \rightarrow \infty$  and we complete the proof.  $\square$

**THEOREM B.** *Let  $(f, X, Y)$  be a fiber space with  $n = \dim X > \dim Y = s$ . Then  $q(X) \leq q(F) + q(Y)$ , where  $F$  is a general fiber of  $f$ .*

**PROOF.** Note that  $H^0(X, f^* \Omega_Y^1) = H^0(Y, \Omega_Y^1)$  since  $(f, X, Y)$  is a fiber space and that there exists the canonical restriction:  $H^0(X, \Omega_X^1) \rightarrow H^0(F, \Omega_F^1)$ ,  $\phi \rightarrow \phi_F$ . By the following claim proved soon, we can show the inequality

$$\dim H^0(X, \Omega_X^1) / H^0(X, f^* \Omega_Y^1) \leq \dim H^0(F, \Omega_F^1).$$

Indeed let  $(\phi_i)_{1 \leq i \leq q}$  be a basis of representative 1-forms of  $H^0(X, \Omega_X^1)/H^0(X, f^*\Omega_Y^1)$ . If there exist complex numbers  $(a_i)_{1 \leq i \leq q}$  such that  $(\sum_{i=1}^q a_i \phi_i)_F = 0$ , by the claim  $\sum_{i=1}^q a_i \phi_i = 0 \pmod{H^0(X, f^*\Omega_Y^1)}$ , which implies the image of the basis is linearly independent in  $H^0(F, \Omega_F^1)$ . It is enough to show the following claim:

CLAIM. *Let  $\varphi$  be an element of  $H^0(X, \Omega_X^1)$  such that  $\varphi_F = 0$  for a general fiber  $F$  of  $f$ . Then there is a  $\psi \in H^0(Y, \Omega_Y^1)$  such that  $\varphi = f^*\psi$ , where  $\Omega_X^1$  (resp.  $\Omega_Y^1$ ) is the sheaf of differentials of  $X$  (resp.  $Y$ ).*

Let  $Y_0$  be a Zariski open set such that  $f_0: X_0 = f^{-1}(Y_0) \rightarrow Y_0$  is smooth and  $\Sigma(f) = Y - Y_0$ . Let  $D$  be irreducible components of  $\Sigma(f)$  of codimension 1 in  $Y$  and  $D = \bigcup_{i=1}^t D_i$ . Then we may assume that  $D$  and  $f^{-1}(D)$  are normal crossing divisors. Indeed, if  $\bigcup_{i=1}^t D_i$  is not a normal crossing divisor, then by taking some blowing ups  $\mu_Y: Y_1 \rightarrow Y$ ,  $(\mu_Y^*(D))_{\text{red}}$  is a normal crossing divisor. Then there exist a birational morphism  $\mu_1: X_1 \rightarrow X$  and a surjective morphism  $f_1: X_1 \rightarrow Y_1$  with connected fibers such that  $\mu_Y \circ f_1 = f \circ \mu_1$ . Let  $\Sigma(f_1) = \mu_Y^{-1}(\Sigma(f))$  and  $Y_{1,0} = Y_1 - \Sigma(f_1)$ . Then  $Y_{1,0}$  is a Zariski open set such that  $f_1: f_1^{-1}(Y_{1,0}) = X_{1,0} \rightarrow Y_{1,0}$  is smooth. Let  $A$  be the union of irreducible components of  $\Sigma(f_1)$  of codimension 1 in  $Y_1$ . Then  $A$  is a normal crossing divisor. If  $(f_1^{-1}(A))_{\text{red}}$  is not a normal crossing divisor, then we take some blowing ups  $\mu_2: X_2 \rightarrow X_1$  such that  $((f_1 \circ \mu_2)^{-1}(A))_{\text{red}}$  is a normal crossing divisor. We remark that  $f_2 = f_1 \circ \mu_2: X_2 \rightarrow Y_1$  is a fiber space,  $q(X) = q(X_2)$ ,  $q(Y) = q(Y_1)$ , and  $q(F) = q(F_2)$ , where  $F$  (resp.  $F_2$ ) is a general fiber of  $f$  (resp.  $f_2$ ). If we can prove  $q(X_2) \leq q(F_2) + q(Y_1)$ , then  $q(X) \leq q(F) + q(Y)$  is proved.

(Step 1)

We remark that there is an exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow f_0^* \Omega_{Y_0}^1 \longrightarrow \Omega_{X_0}^1 \longrightarrow \Omega_{X_0/Y_0}^1 \longrightarrow 0,$$

where  $\Omega_{X_0/Y_0}^1$  is the sheaf of relative differentials of  $X_0$  over  $Y_0$ .

Hence

$$0 \longrightarrow H^0(X_0, f_0^* \Omega_{Y_0}^1) \xrightarrow{\alpha} H^0(X_0, \Omega_{X_0}^1) \xrightarrow{\beta} H^0(X_0, \Omega_{X_0/Y_0}^1)$$

is exact.

Let  $\varphi \in H^0(X, \Omega_X^1)$ . We assume that  $\varphi_{F_y} = 0$  for some  $y \in Y_0$ , where  $F_y$  is the fiber of  $f$  over  $y$ .

Note that

$$H^0(X_0, \Omega_{X_0/Y_0}^1) = H^0(Y_0, f_* \Omega_{X_0/Y_0}^1) \cong \text{Hom}(\mathcal{O}_{Y_0}, f_* \Omega_{X_0/Y_0}^1).$$

Hence there corresponds  $\Phi: \mathcal{O}_{Y_0} \rightarrow f_* \Omega_{X_0/Y_0}^1$  to the given  $\beta(\varphi_{X_0})$ .

By Hodge theory,  $\dim H^0(F_y, \Omega_{F_y}^1)$  is constant for any  $y \in Y_0$ . Thus  $f_* \Omega_{X_0/Y_0}^1 \otimes \mathcal{O}_y / m_y = H^0(F_y, \Omega_{F_y}^1)$  for any  $y \in Y_0$ . Hence  $\varphi_{F_y} = 0$  for some  $y \in Y_0$

implies the following composite map is zero;  $\mathcal{O}_{Y_0} \rightarrow f_* \Omega_{X_0/Y_0} \otimes \mathcal{O}_y/m_y$ . By NAK lemma, the map  $\mathcal{O}_{Y_0} \rightarrow f_* \Omega_{X_0/Y_0} \otimes \mathcal{O}_y$  is zero and  $\Phi: \mathcal{O}_{Y_0} \rightarrow f_* \Omega_{X_0/Y_0}$  is zero. Hence  $\beta(\varphi_{X_0})=0$ .

Therefore by the above exact sequence there exists  $\phi_0 \in H^0(X_0, f_*^* \Omega_{Y_0}^1) \cong H^0(Y_0, \Omega_{Y_0}^1)$  such that  $f_*^* \phi_0 = \varphi$  on  $X_0$ .

(Step 2)

Let  $A = Y - (D \cup Y_0)$  and  $Y_1 = A \cup Y_0$ . Then  $A$  is an analytic subspace of  $Y_1$  and  $\text{codim}(A) \geq 2$  in  $Y_1$ . Hence by Hartog's theorem, there exists  $\phi_1 \in H^0(X_1, f_*^* \Omega_X^1)$  such that  $f_*^* \phi_1 = \varphi$  on  $X_1 = f^{-1}(Y_1)$ .

(Step 3)

The following argument is the same as in the proof of Proposition 6.7 of [F-R] p. 975.

Let  $D = \bigcup_{i=1}^t D_i$ ,  $f^{-1}(D) = W = \bigcup_j W_j$  and for each  $D_i$  we take an irreducible component  $W_i$  of  $f^{-1}(D_i)$  such that  $f(W_i) = D_i$ .

Let  $M_i = \{x \in W_i \mid f_{W_i}: W_i \rightarrow D_i \text{ is of maximal rank at } x \in W \setminus \bigcup_{j \neq i} W_j \text{ and } f(x) \notin D_j \text{ for } j \neq i\}$ , and  $N_i = \{y \in D_i \mid y = f(x), x \in M_i\}$ . We remark that  $D_i$  and  $W_i$  are smooth by assumption. Let  $x \in M_i$ . Then we take a coordinate system  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  on  $X$  around  $x \in M_i$  and a coordinate system  $(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_s)$  on  $Y$  around  $y = f(x)$  such that  $W_i = \{x_1 = 0\}$ ,  $D_i = \{y_1 = 0\}$ , and  $f$  is defined by  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \rightarrow (x_1^\mu, x_2, \dots, x_s) = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_s)$  around  $x$ , where  $\mu \in \mathbb{N}$ . Let  $T_i(x)$  be the germ of manifold defined by  $x_{s+1} = \dots = x_n = 0$  around  $x$ . We will identify  $T_i(x)$  with a representing neighbourhood of  $x$ . Then  $U_i(y) = f(T_i(x))$  is a neighbourhood of  $y$  in  $Y$ . Let  $G$  be the group generated by  $g \in \text{Aut}(T_i(x))$ , where  $g: (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_s) \rightarrow (\rho x_1, x_2, \dots, x_s)$  with  $\rho = \exp(2\pi i/\mu)$ . Then  $f(T_i(x))$  is the quotient of  $T_i(x)$  by  $G$ . By (Step 2), we have  $\phi_{2,i}^y \in H^0(U_i(y) - D_i, \Omega_Y^1)$  such that  $\varphi = f_*^* \phi_{2,i}^y$  on  $f^{-1}(U_i(y)) - f^{-1}(D_i)$ . Hence  $\varphi_{T_i(x)} = g^* \varphi_{T_i(x)}$  off  $W_i$ , where  $\varphi_{T_i(x)}$  is the restriction of  $\varphi$  to  $T_i(x)$ . This implies that  $\varphi_{T_i(x)}$  is  $G$ -invariant as a holomorphic 1-form. Hence  $\varphi_{T_i(x)}$  is a pullback of a holomorphic 1-form  $(\phi_{2,i}^y)'$  on  $U_i(y) = f(T_i(x)) = T_i(x)/G$ . We remark that  $(\phi_{2,i}^y)'$  is an extension of  $\phi_{2,i}^y$ . Therefore  $\varphi = f_*^*((\phi_{2,i}^y)')$  on  $f^{-1}(U_i(y)) - f^{-1}(D_i)$ . Since  $\varphi$  and  $(\phi_{2,i}^y)'$  are holomorphic,  $\varphi = f_*^*((\phi_{2,i}^y)')$  on  $f^{-1}(U_i(y))$ .

(Step 4)

Let  $Y_2 = Y_1 \cup \bigcup_{i=1}^t (\bigcup_{y \in N_i} U_i(y))$ . Since  $\phi_1$  and  $(\phi_{2,i}^y)'$  are holomorphic, there exists  $\phi_2 \in H^0(Y_2, \Omega_{Y_2}^1)$  such that  $\varphi = f_*^* \phi_2$  on  $f^{-1}(Y_2)$  by the above argument. Because  $Y - Y_2$  is contained in an analytic subset  $B$  of  $Y$  with  $\text{codim}(B) \geq 2$  in  $Y$ , by Hartog's theorem, there exists  $\phi \in H^0(Y, \Omega_Y^1)$  such that  $\varphi = f_*^* \phi$  on  $f^{-1}(Y_2)$ . Since  $\varphi$  and  $\phi$  are holomorphic,  $\varphi = f_*^* \phi$  on  $X = f^{-1}(Y)$ .  $\square$

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