

## Pluricanonical systems on algebraic surfaces of general type

Dedicated to Professor S. Iyanaga on his 60th birthday

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By a minimal non-singular algebraic surface of general type we shall mean a non-singular algebraic surface free from exceptional curves (of the first kind) of which the bigenus  $P_2$  and the Chern number  $c_1^2$  are both positive, where  $c_1$  denote the first Chern class of the surface (see §3). Let  $S$  denote a minimal non-singular algebraic surface of general type defined over the field of complex numbers and let  $K$  be a canonical divisor on  $S$ . The number of non-singular rational curves  $E$  on  $S$  satisfying the equation:  $KE=0$  is smaller than the second Betti number of  $S$ , where  $KE$  denotes the intersection multiplicity of  $K$  and  $E$ . We define  $\mathcal{E}$  to be the union of all the non-singular rational curves  $E$  with  $KE=0$  on  $S$  and represent it as a sum:  $\mathcal{E} = \sum_{\nu} \mathcal{E}_{\nu}$  of its *connected components*  $\mathcal{E}_{\nu}$ . Obviously  $\mathcal{E}$  may be an empty set. Consider a holomorphic map  $\Phi: z \rightarrow \Phi(z)$  of  $S$  into a projective  $n$ -space  $\mathbf{P}^n$ . We shall say that  $\Phi$  is *biholomorphic modulo*  $\mathcal{E}$  if and only if  $\Phi$  is biholomorphic on  $S-\mathcal{E}$  and  $\Phi^{-1}\Phi(z) = \mathcal{E}_{\nu}$  for  $z \in \mathcal{E}_{\nu}$ . For any positive integer  $m$ , we let  $\Phi_{mK}$  denote the *rational map* of  $S$  into  $\mathbf{P}^n$  defined by the pluri-canonical system  $|mK|$ , where  $n = \dim |mK|$ . Note that, if  $|mK|$  has no base point, then  $\Phi_{mK}$  is a holomorphic map. D. Mumford proved that, for every sufficiently large integer  $m$ , the pluri-canonical system  $|mK|$  has no base point and  $\Phi_{mK}$  is biholomorphic modulo  $\mathcal{E}$  (see Mumford [6]; compare also Zariski [9], Matsusaka and Mumford [5]). His proof is based on results of Zariski [9] and covers the abstract case. On the other hand, it has been shown by Šafarevič [8] that  $\Phi_{9K}$  is a birational map. The main purpose of this paper is to prove the following theorem:

**THEOREM.** *For every integer  $m \geq 4$ , the pluri-canonical system  $|mK|$  has no base point and  $\Phi_{mK}$  is a holomorphic map. For every integer  $m \geq 6$ , the map  $\Phi_{mK}$  is biholomorphic modulo  $\mathcal{E}$ .*

§1. Notation.

Let  $S$  be a non-singular algebraic surface defined over the field  $\mathbf{C}$  of complex numbers. We shall denote by  $x, y, z$  points on  $S$ , by  $C, C_1, \dots, \Theta, \dots$  irreducible curves on  $S$ , by  $X, Y, D, D_1, \dots$  divisors on  $S$  and by  $m, n, h, i, j, k$  rational integers. We say that a divisor  $D = \sum_i n_i C_i$  is *positive* and write  $D > 0$  if the coefficients  $n_i$  are positive. For any divisors  $D$  and  $X$  on  $S$  we denote by  $DX$  the intersection multiplicity of  $D$  and  $X$ . We write  $D^2$  for  $DD$ . We indicate by the symbol  $\approx$  linear equivalence. We let  $[D]$  denote the complex line bundle over  $S$  determined by the divisor  $D$ .

Let  $F$  be a complex line bundle over  $S$ . By a local holomorphic section of  $F$  we shall mean a holomorphic section of  $F$  defined over an open subset of  $S$ . Let  $\varphi: z \rightarrow \varphi(z)$  be a local holomorphic section of  $F$ . We choose a sufficiently fine finite covering  $\{U_j\}$  of  $S$  and denote by  $\varphi_j(z)$  the fibre coordinate of  $\varphi(z)$  over  $U_j$ , provided that  $z \in U_j$ . Let  $x$  be a point on  $S$  and let  $(z_1, z_2)$  denote a local coordinate of the center  $x$  on  $S$ . We call  $x$  a *zero* of  $\varphi$  of order  $h$  if

$$\varphi_j(x) = 0, \quad (\partial^{m+n} \varphi_j / \partial z_1^m \partial z_2^n)(x) = 0 \quad \text{for } m+n \leq h-1$$

and if at least one partial derivative  $(\partial^h \varphi_j / \partial z_1^n \partial z_2^{h-n})(x)$  of order  $h$  does not vanish, provided that  $x \in U_j$ . We denote by  $\mathcal{O}$  the sheaf over  $S$  of germs of holomorphic functions and by  $\mathcal{O}(F)$  the sheaf over  $S$  of germs of holomorphic sections of  $F$ . Moreover we denote by the symbol

$$\mathcal{O}(F-hx-ky-\dots)$$

the subsheaf of  $\mathcal{O}(F)$  consisting of germs of those holomorphic sections of  $F$  of which the points  $x, y, \dots$  are zeros of respective orders  $\geq h, \geq k, \dots$ . We remark that  $\mathcal{O}(-x)$  is the sheaf of the ideals of the point  $x$  and that

$$\mathcal{O}(F-hx-ky-\dots) = \mathcal{O}(F) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}} \mathcal{O}(-x)^h \mathcal{O}(-y)^k \dots$$

Let  $\mathbf{C}^n$  denote the vector space of  $n$  complex variables. The stalks of the quotient sheaf  $\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O}(-x)^h$  are

$$(\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O}(-x)^h)_z = \begin{cases} \mathbf{C}^{h(h+1)/2}, & \text{if } z = x, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

To indicate this we write

$$\mathbf{C}_x^{h(h+1)/2} = \mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O}(-x)^h.$$

Then, for instance, we have

$$(1) \quad \mathcal{O}(F)/\mathcal{O}(F-hx-ky) \cong \mathbf{C}_x^{h(h+1)/2} \oplus \mathbf{C}_y^{k(k+1)/2}.$$

For any holomorphic section  $\psi$  of a complex line bundle over  $S$ , we denote

by  $(\phi)$  the divisor of  $\phi$ . Let  $D$  be a *positive divisor* on  $S$ . Obviously  $D$  is the divisor  $(\phi)$  of a holomorphic section  $\phi$  of the complex line bundle  $[D]$ . We say that  $x$  is a point of  $D$  and write  $x \in D$  if and only if  $x$  is a zero of  $\phi$ . We define the multiplicity of a point  $x$  of  $D$  to be  $m$  if  $x$  is a zero of  $\phi$  of order  $m$ . Moreover we call  $x$  a *simple point* or a *multiple point* of  $D$  according as  $m=1$  or  $m \geq 2$ . We shall say that a local holomorphic section  $\varphi$  of  $F$  defined on an open subset  $W \subset S$  is *divisible* by  $D$  if  $\varphi_j/\phi_j$  is holomorphic on  $U_j \cap W$  for every neighborhood  $U_j$ . We denote by  $\mathcal{O}(F-D)$  the sheaf over  $S$  of germs of those holomorphic sections of  $F$  which are divisible by  $D$ . We have the isomorphism:

$$\mathcal{O}(F-D) \cong \mathcal{O}(F-[D]).$$

We define

$$\mathcal{O}(F-D-hx-ky-\dots) = \mathcal{O}(F-D) \cap \mathcal{O}(F-hx-ky-\dots).$$

Note that, if  $x$  is a point of  $D$  of multiplicity  $m \geq h$ , then

$$(2) \quad \mathcal{O}(F-D-hx-ky-\dots) = \mathcal{O}(F-D-ky-\dots).$$

We denote by  $|F|$  the complete linear system consisting of the divisors  $(\varphi)$  of holomorphic sections  $\varphi \in H^0(S, \mathcal{O}(F))$ ,  $\varphi \neq 0$ , and define

$$\dim |F| = \dim H^0(S, \mathcal{O}(F)) - 1.$$

Note that  $|[D]| = |D|$ . Letting  $\{\varphi_0, \varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_n\}$  be a base of the linear space  $H^0(S, \mathcal{O}(F))$ , we define a *rational map*

$$\Phi_F: z \rightarrow \bar{\Phi}_F(z) = (\varphi_0(z), \varphi_1(z), \dots, \varphi_n(z))$$

of  $S$  into  $\mathbf{P}^n$ . We call  $z$  a *base point* of the complete linear system  $|F|$  if  $z \in D$  for all divisors  $D \in |F|$ . It is obvious that, if  $|F|$  has no base point, then  $\Phi_F$  is a holomorphic map. We let  $K$  denote *either* the canonical bundle of  $S$  *or* a canonical divisor on  $S$ . We denote by  $p_g$ ,  $P_m$  and  $q$ , respectively, the geometric genus, the  $m$ -genus and the irregularity of  $S$ . Note that

$$P_m = \dim |mK| + 1, \quad m = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

For any divisor  $X$  on  $S$  we let  $\pi(X)$  denote the virtual genus of  $X$  defined by the formula:

$$2\pi(X) - 2 = X^2 + KX.$$

Every complex line bundle  $F$  over  $S$  is determined by a divisor  $D$  on  $S$ :  $F = [D]$ . We let  $F^2 = D^2$ . Moreover, for any divisor  $X$  on  $S$ , we define

$$FX = DX, \quad F = [D].$$

§ 2. Vanishing theorems.

Let  $F$  be a complex line bundle over  $S$  and let  $C$  denote an irreducible curve on  $S$ . We define the restriction to  $C$  of the sheaf  $\mathcal{O}(F)$  to be the quotient sheaf:

$$\mathcal{O}(F)_C = \mathcal{O}(F) / \mathcal{O}(F - C).$$

For any element  $\varphi$  of  $\mathcal{O}(F)$  we denote by  $\varphi_C$  the element of  $\mathcal{O}(F)_C$  corresponding to  $\varphi$ .

Let  $\tilde{C}$  denote the non-singular model of  $C$  and let  $\mu$  be the holomorphic birational map of  $\tilde{C}$  onto  $C$ . Moreover let  $\mu^*F$  denote the complex line bundle over  $\tilde{C}$  induced from  $F$ . For any complex line bundle  $\mathfrak{f}$  over  $\tilde{C}$  we denote by  $c(\mathfrak{f})$  the Chern class of  $\mathfrak{f}$  which can be regarded as an integer. We have

$$c(\mu^*F) = FC.$$

Letting  $\mathfrak{d}$  be an effective divisor on  $\tilde{C}$ , we denote by  $\mathcal{O}(\mathfrak{f} - \mathfrak{d})$  the sheaf over  $\tilde{C}$  of germs of holomorphic sections of  $\mathfrak{f}$  which are divisible by  $\mathfrak{d}$ . Let  $c$  denote the conductor of  $C$  on  $\tilde{C}$ . We have the exact sequence

$$(3) \quad 0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}(\mu^*F - c) \xrightarrow{\mu} \mathcal{O}(F)_C \longrightarrow M \longrightarrow 0,$$

where  $M$  is a sheaf over  $C$  such that the stalk  $M_z$  is zero for every simple point  $z$  of  $C$ . In forming the exact sequence (3) we regard  $\mathcal{O}(\mu^*F - c)$  as a sheaf over  $C$  by means of the map  $\mu: \tilde{C} \rightarrow C$  (see [2], § 1).

In what follows we denote by  $\mathbf{C}\{t\}$  the ring of convergent power series in a variable  $t$  with coefficients in  $\mathbf{C}$ . Let  $x$  be a point of  $C$  of multiplicity  $m$ . The inverse image  $\mu^{-1}(x)$  consists of a finite number of points  $p_1, \dots, p_\lambda, \dots, p_r$  on  $\tilde{C}$ . We introduce a local coordinate  $(w, z)$  of the center  $x$  on  $S$  which is "general" with respect to  $C$  (we write  $w, z$  in place of  $z_1, z_2$ ). Then, for each point  $p_\lambda$ , we find a local uniformization variable  $t_\lambda$  of the center  $p_\lambda$  on  $\tilde{C}$  such that, in a neighborhood of  $p_\lambda$ , the map  $\mu$  takes the following form

$$\mu: t_\lambda \rightarrow (w, z) = (P_\lambda(t_\lambda), t_\lambda^{m_\lambda}), \quad P_\lambda(t_\lambda) \in t_\lambda^{m_\lambda} \mathbf{C}\{t_\lambda\},$$

where  $m_\lambda$  is a positive integer and  $t_\lambda^{m_\lambda} \mathbf{C}\{t_\lambda\}$  denotes the ideal of  $\mathbf{C}\{t_\lambda\}$  generated by  $t_\lambda^{m_\lambda}$ . It is clear that

$$R(w, z) = \prod_{\lambda=1}^r \prod_{k=0}^{m_\lambda-1} (w - P_\lambda(\varepsilon_\lambda^k z^{1/m_\lambda})), \quad \varepsilon_\lambda = e^{2\pi i/m_\lambda},$$

is a polynomial of the form

$$w^m + A_1(z)w^{m-1} + \dots + A_m(z), \quad A_k(z) \in z^k \mathbf{C}\{z\},$$

and the equation:

$$R(w, z) = w^m + A_1(z)w^{m-1} + \dots + A_m(z) = 0$$

is a minimal equation of  $C$  on a neighborhood of  $x$ . We let

$$B_h(w, z) = w^h + A_1(z)w^{h-1} + \dots + A_h(z).$$

We define

$$\sigma_\lambda dt_\lambda = d(t_\lambda^{m_\lambda}) / \partial_w R(P_\lambda(t_\lambda), t_\lambda^{m_\lambda}),$$

where  $\partial_w R(w, z) = \partial R(w, z) / \partial w$ . The exponent  $c_\lambda$  in the expansion

$$\sigma_\lambda = t_\lambda^{-c_\lambda} (a_{\lambda 0} + a_{\lambda 1} t_\lambda + a_{\lambda 2} t_\lambda^2 + \dots), \quad a_{\lambda 0} \neq 0,$$

is a non-negative integer and, by definition,

$$c = c_1 p_1 + \dots + c_\lambda p_\lambda + \dots + c_r p_r + \dots.$$

Since the complex line bundle  $F$  is locally trivial, the restriction to the point  $x$  of the exact sequence (3) is reduced to

$$0 \longrightarrow \bigoplus_{\lambda=1}^r \mathcal{O}(-c)_{p_\lambda} \xrightarrow{\mu} (\mathcal{O}_C)_x \longrightarrow M_x \longrightarrow 0.$$

For any convergent power series  $f = f(w, z)$  in  $w$  and  $z$ , we denote by  $f_C$  the restriction of  $f$  to  $C$ . Obviously the stalk  $(\mathcal{O}_C)_x$  consists of the restrictions  $f_C$  of elements  $f$  of  $\mathcal{O}_x$ . It is clear that  $\mathcal{O}(-c)_{p_\lambda} = t_\lambda^{c_\lambda} C\{t_\lambda\}$ . Hence an arbitrary element of the ring  $\bigoplus_{\lambda=1}^r \mathcal{O}(-c)_{p_\lambda}$  can be written in the form

$$\xi = \sum_{\lambda=1}^r \xi_\lambda(t_\lambda), \quad \xi_\lambda(t_\lambda) \in t_\lambda^{c_\lambda} C\{t_\lambda\}.$$

LEMMA 1. For any element  $\xi = \sum_{\lambda=1}^r \xi_\lambda(t_\lambda)$  of the ring  $\bigoplus_{\lambda=1}^r \mathcal{O}(-c)_{p_\lambda}$ , there exists one and only one element  $f$  of  $\mathcal{O}_x$  of the form

$$f = \sum_{h=0}^{m-1} f_h(z) w^{m-1-h}, \quad f_h(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f_{hn} z^n,$$

which satisfies the equation:

$$f_C = \mu \xi.$$

Moreover the coefficients  $f_{hn}$  of  $f$  are given by the formula

$$(4) \quad f_{hn} = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \sum_{\lambda=1}^r \oint \xi_\lambda(t_\lambda) B_h(P_\lambda(t_\lambda), t_\lambda^{m_\lambda}) t_\lambda^{-(n+1)m_\lambda} \sigma_\lambda dt_\lambda.$$

For a proof of this lemma, see [2], Appendix I.

For any integer  $h$ , we denote by  $h^+$  the positive part of  $h$ , i.e.,  $h^+ = \max\{h, 0\}$ .

LEMMA 2. Let  $k$  be a non-negative integer and let

$$d_x = \sum_{\lambda=1}^r (k - m + 1)^+ m_\lambda p_\lambda.$$

Then we have

$$(5) \quad \mu \bigoplus_{\lambda=1}^r \mathcal{O}(-c-d_x)_{p_\lambda} \subset (\mathcal{O}(-kx)_C)_x.$$

PROOF. We take an arbitrary element  $\xi$  of  $\bigoplus_{\lambda} \mathcal{O}(-c-d_x)_{p_\lambda}$  and, with the aid of the above lemma, determine an element  $f$  of  $\mathcal{O}_x$  satisfying the equation:  $f_C = \mu\xi$ . Let  $d_\lambda = (k-m+1)^+ m_\lambda$ . We then have

$$\xi = \sum_{\lambda=1}^r \xi_\lambda(t_\lambda), \quad \xi_\lambda(t_\lambda) \in t_\lambda^{c+d_\lambda} \mathbf{C}\{t_\lambda\}.$$

Since

$$\xi_\lambda(t_\lambda) B_h(P_\lambda(t_\lambda), t_\lambda^{m_\lambda}) t_\lambda^{-(n+1)m_\lambda} \sigma_\lambda \in t_\lambda^{(h-n-1)m_\lambda+d_\lambda} \mathbf{C}\{t_\lambda\}$$

and

$$(h-n-1)m_\lambda + d_\lambda \geq 0 \quad \text{for } m-1-h+n \leq k-1,$$

we infer from (4) that

$$f_{hn} = 0, \quad \text{for } m-1-h+n \leq k-1.$$

It follows that  $f \in \mathcal{O}(-kx)_x$ , q. e. d.

We remark that, in the case in which  $x$  is a simple point of  $C$ , the formula (5) is reduced to the equality

$$\mu \mathcal{O}(-d_x)_p = (\mathcal{O}(-kx)_C)_x, \quad p = \mu^{-1}(x).$$

**THEOREM 1.** *Let  $C$  be an irreducible curve on  $S$  and let  $F$  denote a complex line bundle over  $S$ . Moreover let  $x$  and  $y$  be distinct points of  $C$  with respective multiplicities  $m$  and  $n$  and let  $h$  and  $k$  denote non-negative integers. If*

$$FC - C^2 - KC > (h-m+1)^+ m + (k-n+1)^+ n,$$

*then the cohomology group  $H^1(C, \mathcal{O}(F-hx-ky)_C)$  vanishes.*

PROOF. In view of Lemma 2 and the above remark, we have the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(\mu^*F - c - d_x - d_y) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(F - hx - ky)_C \rightarrow M'' \rightarrow 0,$$

where  $d_x$  and  $d_y$  are effective divisors on  $\tilde{C}$  of respective degrees  $(h-m+1)^+ m$  and  $(k-n+1)^+ n$  and  $M''$  is a sheaf over  $C$  such that the stalk  $M''_z$  vanishes for every simple point  $z$  of  $C$ . Hence we obtain the exact sequence

$$\dots \rightarrow H^1(\tilde{C}, \mathcal{O}(\mu^*F - c - d_x - d_y)) \rightarrow H^1(C, \mathcal{O}(F - hx - ky)_C) \rightarrow 0.$$

Let  $\mathfrak{f}$  denote the canonical bundle of  $\tilde{C}$ . Since

$$\mathfrak{f} = \mu^*([C] + K) - [c]$$

(see [2], § 2), we have

$$c(\mu^*F - [c + d_x + d_y] - \mathfrak{f}) = FC - C^2 - KC - (h-m+1)^+ m - (k-n+1)^+ n > 0.$$

Hence, using the duality theorem, we infer that

$$H^1(\tilde{C}, \mathcal{O}(\mu^*F - c - d_x - d_y)) = 0.$$

Combining this with the above exact sequence, we conclude that

$$H^1(C, \mathcal{O}(F - hx - ky)_C) = 0,$$

q. e. d.

**THEOREM 2.** *Let  $F$  be a complex line bundle over  $S$  with  $F^2 > 0$ . If there exists a positive integer  $m$  such that the complete linear system  $|mF|$  has no base point, then the cohomology group  $H^1(S, \mathcal{O}(F+K))$  vanishes.*

**PROOF.** Let  $\{\varphi_0, \varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_n\}$  be a base of the linear space  $H^0(S, \mathcal{O}(mF))$ . Since, by hypothesis,  $|mF|$  has no base point,

$$\Phi : z \rightarrow \Phi(z) = (\varphi_0(z), \varphi_1(z), \dots, \varphi_n(z))$$

is a holomorphic map of  $S$  into a projective  $n$ -space  $\mathbf{P}^n$ . Suppose that the image  $\Phi(S)$  is a curve in  $\mathbf{P}^n$ . Then, for any pair of general hyperplanes  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  in  $\mathbf{P}^n$ , the intersection  $\Phi(S) \cap L_1 \cap L_2$  is empty. The inverse images  $D_1 = \Phi^{-1}(L_1)$  and  $D_2 = \Phi^{-1}(L_2)$  are divisors belonging to  $|mF|$ . It follows that  $m^2F^2 = D_1D_2 = 0$ . This contradicts that  $F^2 > 0$ . Thus we see that *the image  $\Phi(S)$  is a surface in  $\mathbf{P}^n$ .*

Let  $\{U_j\}$  be a finite covering of  $S$  by small open subsets  $U_j$ . The complex line bundle  $F$  is determined by a 1-cocycle  $\{f_{jk}\}$  composed of non-vanishing holomorphic functions  $f_{jk} = f_{jk}(z)$  with respective domains  $U_j \cap U_k$ . Let  $\varphi_{\lambda j}(z)$  denote the fibre coordinate of  $\varphi_\lambda(z)$  over  $U_j$  and let

$$a_j(z) = \left( \sum_{\lambda=0}^n |\varphi_{\lambda j}(z)|^2 \right)^{1/m}, \quad \text{for } z \in U_j.$$

Since  $|mF|$  has no base point,  $a_j(z)$  is positive. Moreover, since

$$\varphi_{\lambda j}(z) = f_{jk}(z)^m \varphi_{\lambda k}(z), \quad \text{on } U_j \cap U_k,$$

we have

$$a_j(z) = |f_{jk}(z)|^2 a_k(z), \quad \text{on } U_j \cap U_k.$$

We let

$$\gamma = -\frac{i}{2\pi} \sum_{\alpha, \beta=1}^2 \gamma_{\alpha\beta}(z) dz^\alpha \wedge d\bar{z}^\beta = -\frac{i}{2\pi} \partial \bar{\partial} \log a_j(z), \quad i = \sqrt{-1},$$

on each open set  $U_j \subset S$ . The real  $d$ -closed  $(1, 1)$ -form  $\gamma$  thus defined belongs to the Chern class  $c(F)$  of  $F$  (see [3], Lemma). The  $(1, 1)$ -form  $m\gamma$  is induced from a standard Kähler form on  $\mathbf{P}^n$  by the holomorphic map  $\Phi : S \rightarrow \mathbf{P}^n$ , while the image  $\Phi(S)$  is a surface. Consequently, there exists a proper analytic subset  $N$  of  $S$  such that the Hermitian matrix  $(\gamma_{\alpha\beta}(z))$  is positive definite for every point  $z \in S - N$ . Hence, applying a differential geometric method of [3], we infer that  $H^1(S, \mathcal{O}(F+K))$  vanishes (see Mumford [7]).

### § 3. Composition series of pluri-canonical divisors.

Let  $S$  be a non-singular algebraic surface and let  $K$  denote a canonical divisor on  $S$ .

DEFINITION. We call  $S$  a minimal non-singular algebraic surface of general type if and only if  $S$  is free from exceptional curves (of the first kind) and

$$(6) \quad P_2 = \dim |2K| + 1 \geq 1, \quad K^2 \geq 1.$$

We remark that, if  $S$  is free from exceptional curves of the first kind and if either  $P_2 = 0$  or  $K^2 \leq 0$ , then  $S$  is one of the following five types of surfaces: projective plane, ruled surface,  $K3$  surface, abelian variety, elliptic surface (see [4], Enriques [1], Šafarevič [8]).

In what follows in this paper we let  $S$  denote a minimal non-singular algebraic surface of general type.

By a *divisorial cycle* on  $S$  we shall mean a linear combination  $\sum r_i C_i$  of a finite number of irreducible curves  $C_i$  on  $S$  with *rational* coefficients  $r_i$ . We say that a divisorial cycle  $\sum r_i C_i$  is positive if the coefficients  $r_i$  are positive. We indicate by the symbol  $\sim$  homology with respect to rational coefficients. For any divisorial cycles  $\xi$  and  $\eta$  on  $S$  we denote by  $\xi\eta$  the intersection multiplicity of  $\xi$  and  $\eta$ . We write  $\xi^2$  for  $\xi\xi$ . Since, by hypothesis,  $K^2 \geq 1$ , the following lemma is an immediate consequence of Hodge's index theorem (see Zariski [9], § 6):

LEMMA 3. Let  $\zeta$  be a divisorial cycle on  $S$ . If  $K\zeta = 0$  and if  $\zeta \neq 0$ , then  $\zeta^2$  is negative.

In connection with this lemma, we note that every positive divisorial cycle on  $S$  is not homologous to zero.

We have the inequality:  $KC \geq 0$  for every irreducible curve  $C$  on  $S$ . Moreover the equality:  $KC = 0$  holds if and only if  $C$  is a non-singular rational curve with  $C^2 = -2$  (see Mumford [6]). In fact, since, by hypothesis,  $P_2 \geq 1$ , the bicanonical system  $|2K|$  contains a positive divisor  $D$ . If  $KC < 0$ , then  $DC < 0$  and therefore  $C^2$  is a negative integer, while  $C^2 + KC = 2\pi(C) - 2$ . Hence  $\pi(C) = 0$ ,  $C^2 = -1$  and thus  $C$  is an exceptional curve of the first kind. If  $KC = 0$ , then, by Lemma 3, we have

$$2\pi(C) - 2 = C^2 + KC = C^2 < 0.$$

This proves that  $\pi(C) = 0$  and  $C^2 = -2$ .

THEOREM 3. The number of those irreducible curves  $E$  on  $S$  which satisfy the equation:  $KE = 0$  is smaller than the second Betti number  $b_2$  of  $S$ .

PROOF. Let  $E_1, \dots, E_i, \dots, E_n$  be irreducible curves on  $S$  such that  $KE_i = 0$ . For our purpose it suffices to show that the curves  $E_i$  are homologically inde-

pendent. Assume a homology

$$\sum_{i=1}^k r_i E_i \sim \sum_{i=k+1}^n r_i E_i, \quad r_i \geq 0.$$

Then we have

$$\left(\sum_1^k r_i E_i\right)^2 = \left(\sum_{k+1}^n r_i E_i\right)^2 = \sum_{i=1}^k \sum_{j=k+1}^n r_i r_j E_i E_j \geq 0.$$

Hence we infer from Lemma 3 that the coefficients  $r_i$  vanish, q. e. d.

We denote by  $\mathcal{E}$  the sum of all the irreducible curves  $E_i$  on  $S$  satisfying  $KE_i = 0$ :

$$\mathcal{E} = E_1 + \dots + E_i + \dots + E_b, \quad b < b_2.$$

Obviously the vanishing of  $KE_i$  implies that *the canonical bundle  $K$  is trivial on the non-singular rational curve  $E_i$ .*

Let  $e$  be a positive integer such that  $\dim |eK| \geq 0$  and let  $D$  denote a pluri-canonical divisor belonging to the system  $|eK|$ .

LEMMA 4. *If  $D$  is a sum:  $D = X + Y$  of two positive divisors  $X$  and  $Y$ , then we have the inequality:*

$$XY \geq 1.$$

PROOF. We let

$$X = rK + \xi, \quad r = KX/K^2, \quad K\xi = 0,$$

$$Y = sK + \eta, \quad s = KY/K^2, \quad K\eta = 0,$$

where  $\xi$  and  $\eta$  are divisorial cycles. Since  $X + Y = D \approx eK$ , we have a homology:  $\xi + \eta \sim 0$ . Hence we obtain

$$XY = rsK^2 - \xi^2.$$

On the other hand,  $r$  and  $s$  are non-negative and, since the positive divisors  $X$  and  $Y$  are not homologous to zero, if  $\xi \sim 0$  then  $rs$  is positive. If  $\xi \not\sim 0$ , then, by Lemma 3,  $\xi^2$  is negative. Consequently,  $XY$  is a positive integer, q. e. d.

We represent the pluri-canonical divisor  $D$  as a sum:

$$D = \sum_{i=1}^n C_i = C_1 + \dots + C_i + \dots + C_n$$

of irreducible curves  $C_i$  and let

$$D_i = C_1 + C_2 + \dots + C_i.$$

We call the representation:  $\sum_{i=1}^n C_i$  a *composition series*. Since  $KD = eK^2 \geq K^2 \geq 1$ , at least one irreducible component  $\Theta$  of  $D$  satisfies the inequality:  $K\Theta \geq 1$ .

LEMMA 5. *Let  $\Theta$  be an irreducible component of  $D$  with  $K\Theta \geq 1$ . There exists a composition series  $D = \sum_{i=1}^n C_i$  with  $C_1 = \Theta$  satisfying the condition*

$$(\alpha) \quad KC_1 \geq 1, \quad D_{i-1}C_i \geq 1 \quad \text{for } i = 2, 3, \dots, n.$$

PROOF. We choose the components  $C_2, C_3, \dots$  of  $D$  successively by induction. Suppose that we have chosen  $C_1 = \emptyset, C_2, \dots, C_{i-1}$  such that

$$D_{j-1}C_j \geq 1, \quad \text{for } j = 2, 3, \dots, i-1,$$

and let

$$D = D_{i-1} + Z_i,$$

where  $D_{j-1} = C_1 + \dots + C_{j-1}$ . If  $Z_i > 0$ , then, by Lemma 4,  $D_{i-1}Z_i \geq 1$  and therefore at least one irreducible curve  $C \leq Z_i$  has  $D_{i-1}C \geq 1$ . Hence, letting  $C_i = C$ , we obtain

$$D_{i-1}C_i \geq 1,$$

q. e. d.

LEMMA 6. Let  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  be irreducible curves on  $S$  satisfying the condition that  $KE_1 = KE_2 = E_1E_2 = 0$ . If  $D$  is a sum:

$$D = X + Y + E_1 + E_2$$

of  $E_1, E_2$  and two positive divisors  $X, Y$  and if  $KX > 0, KY > 0$ , then  $XY$  is non-negative.

PROOF. We write

$$\begin{aligned} X &= rK + r_1E_1 + r_2E_2 + \xi, & K\xi &= E_1\xi = E_2\xi = 0, \\ Y &= sK + s_1E_1 + s_2E_2 + \eta, & K\eta &= E_1\eta = E_2\eta = 0, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\xi$  and  $\eta$  are divisorial cycles. Since  $E_1^2 = E_2^2 = -2$ , the coefficients  $r, s, r_\nu, s_\nu, \nu = 1, 2$ , are given by the formulae:

$$K^2r = KX, \quad K^2s = KY, \quad -2r_\nu = E_\nu X, \quad -2s_\nu = E_\nu Y.$$

The linear equivalence  $X + Y + E_1 + E_2 \approx eK$  implies that

$$1 + r_1 + s_1 = 0, \quad 1 + r_2 + s_2 = 0, \quad \xi + \eta \sim 0.$$

Hence we obtain

$$XY = rsK^2 - 2r_1s_1 - 2r_2s_2 + \xi\eta = rsK^2 + \sum_{\nu=1}^2 2r_\nu(r_\nu + 1) - \xi^2 \geq rsK^2 - 1 - \xi^2.$$

Since, by hypothesis,  $r$  and  $s$  are positive and, by Lemma 3,  $\xi^2 \leq 0$ , this proves that  $XY > -1$ , while  $XY$  is an integer. Consequently  $XY$  is non-negative, q. e. d.

We write the curve  $\mathcal{E} = E_1 + E_2 + \dots + E_b$  as a sum:

$$\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{E}_1 + \dots + \mathcal{E}_\nu + \dots + \mathcal{E}_\kappa$$

of connected components  $\mathcal{E}_\nu$ . We shall say that a positive divisor  $X$  meets  $D$  if there exists a point  $z$  such that  $z \in X, z \in D$ . Since  $DE_i = eKE_i = 0$ , if  $E_i$  meets  $D$ , then  $E_i$  is a component of  $D$ . Hence, if  $\mathcal{E}_\nu$  meets  $D$ , then  $\mathcal{E}_\nu < D$ .

LEMMA 7. If  $\varepsilon_\lambda + \varepsilon_\nu < D$ ,  $\lambda \neq \nu$ , then there exists a composition series  $D = \sum_{i=1}^n C_i$  with  $C_{n-1} < \varepsilon_\lambda$ ,  $C_n < \varepsilon_\nu$ , which satisfies the condition

$$(\beta) \quad D_{i-1}C_i \geq 0, \quad KC_i + D_{i-1}C_i \geq 1, \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

PROOF. We may assume that  $E_1 < \varepsilon_\lambda$ ,  $E_2 < \varepsilon_\nu$ . Suppose that we have chosen  $C_1, \dots, C_j, \dots, C_{i-1}$  satisfying

$$(\beta_j) \quad D_{j-1}C_j \geq 0, \quad KC_j + D_{j-1}C_j \geq 1, \quad \text{for } j = 1, 2, \dots, i-1,$$

in such a manner that

$$D = D_{i-1} + X_i + E_1 + E_2, \quad X_i \geq 0,$$

where  $D_{j-1} = C_1 + \dots + C_{j-1}$ . Then we have two alternatives: either  $KX_i = 0$  or there is an irreducible curve  $C \leq X_i$  satisfying the condition:

$$(7) \quad D_{i-1}C \geq 0, \quad KC + D_{i-1}C \geq 1.$$

In fact, since  $KD_{i-1} \geq KC_1 \geq 1$ , if  $KX_i > 0$ , then, by Lemma 6,  $D_{i-1}X_i$  is non-negative. It follows that either there is an irreducible curve  $C \leq X_i$  with  $D_{i-1}C \geq 1$  or every irreducible curve  $C \leq X_i$  satisfies the equation:  $D_{i-1}C = 0$ . If  $D_{i-1}C \geq 1$  for an irreducible curve  $C \leq X_i$ , then the curve  $C$  satisfies (7). The inequality:  $KX_i > 0$  implies that an irreducible curve  $C \leq X_i$  satisfies  $KC \geq 1$ . If  $D_{i-1}C = 0$ , then this curve  $C$  satisfies (7).

If there exists an irreducible curve  $C \leq X_i$  satisfying (7), then, letting  $C_i = C$  and  $D_i = D_{i-1} + C_i$ , we get

$$(\beta_i) \quad D_{i-1}C_i \geq 0, \quad KC_i + D_{i-1}C_i \geq 1,$$

and

$$D = D_i + X_{i+1} + E_1 + E_2, \quad X_{i+1} \geq 0.$$

Thus we choose  $C_1, \dots, C_i, \dots, C_h$  satisfying

$$D_{i-1}C_i \geq 0, \quad KC_i + D_{i-1}C_i \geq 1, \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, \dots, h,$$

where  $D_{i-1} = C_1 + \dots + C_{i-1}$ , such that

$$D = C_1 + \dots + C_h + X + E_1 + E_2, \quad X \geq 0, \quad KX = 0.$$

Now, with the aid of Lemma 4, we extend the series  $C_1 + \dots + C_h$  to a composition series

$$D = C_1 + \dots + C_h + C_{h+1} + \dots + C_n$$

such that

$$(8) \quad (C_1 + \dots + C_h + \dots + C_{i-1})C_i \geq 1, \quad \text{for } i = h+1, \dots, n.$$

Note that  $C_i < \varepsilon$  for  $i = h+1, \dots, n$ . If  $C_j C_{j+1} = 0$  for an integer  $j$ ,  $h < j < n$ , then the inequalities (8) are not affected by the permutation:  $C_j \rightarrow C_{j+1}$ ,  $C_{j+1} \rightarrow C_j$ .

Moreover  $E_1 < \mathcal{E}_\lambda$  and  $E_2 < \mathcal{E}_\nu$  appear among the irreducible components  $C_i$ ,  $i = h+1, \dots, n$ . Hence, by means of an appropriate permutation of the components  $C_{h+1}, C_{h+2}, \dots, C_n$ , we obtain a composition series  $D = \sum_{i=1}^n C_i$  satisfying the condition  $(\beta)$  such that  $C_{n-1} < \mathcal{E}_\lambda$ ,  $C_n < \mathcal{E}_\nu$ , q. e. d.

In a similar manner we obtain the following

LEMMA 8. *If  $\mathcal{E}_\lambda < D$ , then there exists a composition series:  $D = \sum_{i=1}^n C_i$  with  $C_n < \mathcal{E}_\lambda$  which satisfies the above condition  $(\beta)$ .*

#### § 4. Pluri-canonical systems.

In this section we denote by  $K$  the canonical bundle of  $S$ . Let  $e$  be a positive integer such that  $\dim |eK| \geq 0$  and let  $D$  be a member of  $|eK|$ . Moreover let  $m$  denote an integer  $> e$ . For any composition series:

$$D = C_1 + C_2 + \dots + C_i + \dots + C_n,$$

we let

$$Z_i = C_i + C_{i+1} + \dots + C_n, \quad Z_{n+1} = 0,$$

and define

$$F_i = mK - [Z_i].$$

Then, by a simple calculation, we obtain

$$(9) \quad F_{i+1}C_i - C_i^2 - KC_i = (m-e-1)KC_i + D_{i-1}C_i.$$

Let  $x$  and  $y$  be distinct points of  $D$  and let

$$\mathcal{E}_i = \mathcal{O}(mK - Z_i - hx - ky) = \mathcal{O}(mK - Z_i) \cap \mathcal{O}(mK - hx - ky),$$

where  $h$  and  $k$  are non-negative integers. We consider the ascending chain:

$$\mathcal{E}_1 \subset \mathcal{E}_2 \subset \dots \subset \mathcal{E}_i \subset \dots \subset \mathcal{E}_{n+1} = \mathcal{O}(mK - hx - ky).$$

We assume that the multiplicities of the points  $x$  and  $y$  of  $D$  are not smaller than  $h$  and  $k$ , respectively, and that

$$\mathcal{E}_{i+1}/\mathcal{E}_i \cong \mathcal{O}(F_{i+1} - h_i x - k_i y)_{C_i},$$

where  $h_i$  and  $k_i$  are non-negative integers.

LEMMA 9. *If*

$$(m-e-1)KC_i + D_{i-1}C_i > \frac{1}{4}(h_i+1)^2 + \frac{1}{4}(k_i+1)^2, \quad \text{for } i=1, 2, \dots, n,$$

then we have the inequalities

$$(10) \quad \dim H^1(S, \mathcal{O}((m-e)K)) \geq \dim H^1(S, \mathcal{E}_i), \quad i=2, 3, \dots, n+1.$$

PROOF. According as  $x \in C_i$  or  $x \notin C_i$ , we define  $m_i$  to be the multiplicity of the point  $x$  of  $C_i$  or zero. Similarly, according as  $y \in C_i$  or  $y \notin C_i$ , we define

$n_i$  to be the multiplicity of the point  $y$  of  $C_i$  or zero. Since

$$-\frac{1}{4}(h_i+1)^2 + \frac{1}{4}(k_i+1)^2 \geq (h_i-m_i+1)^+ m_i + (k_i-n_i+1)^+ n_i,$$

we infer from Theorem 1 and the formula (9) that

$$H^1(S, \mathcal{E}_{i+1}/\mathcal{E}_i) \cong H^1(C_i, \mathcal{O}(F_{i+1}-h_i x - k_i y)_{C_i}) = 0.$$

It follows that the sequences

$$H^1(S, \mathcal{E}_i) \rightarrow H^1(S, \mathcal{E}_{i+1}) \rightarrow 0$$

are exact, while

$$\mathcal{E}_1 = \mathcal{O}(mK - D) \cong \mathcal{O}((m-e)K).$$

Hence we obtain the inequalities (10), q. e. d.

LEMMA 10. *There exists an integer  $m_0$  such that*

$$(11) \quad \dim H^1(S, \mathcal{O}((m-e)K)) = \dim H^1(S, \mathcal{O}(mK)), \quad \text{for } m \geq m_0$$

(see Zariski [9]).

PROOF. With the aid of Lemma 5, we choose a composition series:

$D = \sum_{i=1}^n C_i$  satisfying the condition  $(\alpha)$  and let

$$\mathcal{E}_i = \mathcal{O}(mK - Z_i).$$

We have

$$\mathcal{E}_{i+1}/\mathcal{E}_i \cong \mathcal{O}(F_{i+1})/\mathcal{O}(F_{i+1}-C_i) = \mathcal{O}(F_{i+1})_{C_i}.$$

Assume that  $m \geq e+2$ . Then it follows from the condition  $(\alpha)$  that

$$(m-e-1)KC_i + D_{i-1}C_i \geq 1.$$

Hence, by Lemma 9, we have the inequality

$$\dim H^1(S, \mathcal{O}((m-e)K)) \geq \dim H^1(S, \mathcal{O}(mK)).$$

Hence we infer readily the existence of an integer  $m_0$  such that the equality (11) holds for  $m \geq m_0$ , q. e. d.

For any point  $x \in S$ , we have the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(mK-x) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(mK) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_x \rightarrow 0$$

(see (1)) and the corresponding exact cohomology sequence

$$(12) \quad \begin{aligned} 0 \rightarrow H^0(S, \mathcal{O}(mK-x)) \rightarrow H^0(S, \mathcal{O}(mK)) \rightarrow \mathcal{C} \\ \rightarrow H^1(S, \mathcal{O}(mK-x)) \rightarrow H^1(S, \mathcal{O}(mK)) \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow \dots \end{aligned}$$

THEOREM 4. *Let  $e$  be a positive integer such that  $P_e \geq 2$ ,  $eK^2 \geq 2$ . If  $m \geq e+2$  and if  $m \geq m_0$ , then, for every point  $x \in S$ , the sequence*

$$(13) \quad 0 \rightarrow H^0(S, \mathcal{O}(mK-x)) \rightarrow H^0(S, \mathcal{O}(mK)) \rightarrow \mathcal{C} \rightarrow 0$$

is exact.

PROOF. Since  $\dim |eK| = P_e - 1 \geq 1$ , we find a divisor  $D \in |eK|$  such that  $x \in D$ .

I) The case in which  $x \in \mathcal{E}$ . We choose a composition series:  $D = \sum_{i=1}^n C_i$  satisfying the condition  $(\alpha)$  and let

$$\mathcal{E}_i = \mathcal{O}(mK - Z_i - x).$$

We find an integer  $h$  such that  $x \in C_h, x \notin Z_{h+1}$ . Since  $C_h \not\prec \mathcal{E}$ , we have  $KC_h \geq 1$ . Moreover, we may assume that  $KC_h \geq 2$  if  $h = 1$ . In fact, since, by hypothesis,

$$KD = eK^2 \geq 2,$$

if  $KC_h = 1$ , then there exists an irreducible curve  $\Theta \leq D - C_h$  with  $K\Theta \geq 1$ . In view of Lemma 5, we may assume that  $C_1 = \Theta$ . It follows that  $h \geq 2$ .

Since  $x \in Z_i$  for  $i \leq h$ , we have

$$\mathcal{E}_i = \mathcal{O}(mK - Z_i), \quad \text{for } i \leq h.$$

We have the commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{O}(mK - Z_h) & \hookrightarrow & \mathcal{O}(mK - Z_{h+1} - x) \\ \parallel & & \parallel \\ \mathcal{O}(F_{h+1} - C_h) & \hookrightarrow & \mathcal{O}(F_{h+1} - x). \end{array}$$

Hence we obtain the isomorphism:

$$\mathcal{E}_{h+1}/\mathcal{E}_h \cong \mathcal{O}(F_{h+1} - x)_{C_h}.$$

Thus we infer that

$$\mathcal{E}_{i+1}/\mathcal{E}_i \cong \mathcal{O}(F_{i+1} - \delta_{ih}x)_{C_i},$$

where  $\delta_{ih}$  denotes Kronecker's delta. Since  $m - e \geq 2$  and  $KC_h \geq 1 + \delta_{h1}$ , it follows from the condition  $(\alpha)$  that

$$(m - e - 1)KC_i + D_{i-1}C_i \geq 1 + \delta_{ih}.$$

Hence, by Lemma 9, we have the inequality

$$\dim H^1(S, \mathcal{O}((m - e)K)) \geq \dim H^1(S, \mathcal{O}(mK - x)).$$

Combining this with (11) and (12), we infer the exactness of (13).

II) The case in which  $x \in \mathcal{E}_\lambda$ . With the aid of Lemma 8, we choose a composition series:  $D = \sum_{i=1}^n C_i$  with  $C_n < \mathcal{E}_\lambda$  which satisfies the condition  $(\beta)$  and let

$$\mathcal{E}_i = \mathcal{O}(mK - Z_i).$$

Since  $\mathcal{E}_{i+1}/\mathcal{E}_i \cong \mathcal{O}(F_{i+1})_{C_i}$  and

$$(m - e - 1)KC_i + D_{i-1}C_i \geq KC_i + D_{i-1}C_i \geq 1,$$

we have, by Lemma 9,

$$\dim H^1(S, \mathcal{O}((m-e)K)) \geq \dim H^1(S, \mathcal{E}_n).$$

Combined with (11), this proves that

$$(14) \quad \dim H^1(S, \mathcal{O}(mK)) \geq \dim H^1(S, \mathcal{O}(mK - C_n)).$$

Since  $K$  is trivial on  $C_n$ , we have the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(mK - C_n) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(mK) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{C_n} \rightarrow 0.$$

Moreover  $C_n$  is a non-singular rational curve. Hence we obtain the exact sequence

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \rightarrow H^0(S, \mathcal{O}(mK - C_n)) &\rightarrow H^0(S, \mathcal{O}(mK)) \rightarrow \mathcal{C} \\ &\rightarrow H^1(S, \mathcal{O}(mK - C_n)) \rightarrow H^1(S, \mathcal{O}(mK)) \rightarrow 0. \end{aligned}$$

Combining this with (14), we infer that the sequence

$$0 \rightarrow H^0(S, \mathcal{O}(mK - C_n)) \rightarrow H^0(S, \mathcal{O}(mK)) \rightarrow \mathcal{C} \rightarrow 0$$

is exact, while every holomorphic section  $\varphi \in H^0(S, \mathcal{O}(mK))$  is reduced to a constant on  $\mathcal{E}_\lambda$ . Hence the exactness of (13) follows.

**THEOREM 5.** *The cohomology group  $H^1(S, \mathcal{O}(mK))$  vanishes for every integer  $m \geq 2$ .*

**PROOF.** Let  $e$  be a positive integer such that  $P_e \geq 2$ ,  $eK^2 \geq 2$ . The existence of such an integer  $e$  is obvious by the Riemann-Rock theorem. Let  $k = m - 1$  and choose a positive integer  $n$  such that  $nk \geq e + 2 + m_0$ . By Theorem 4, the sequence

$$0 \rightarrow H^0(S, \mathcal{O}(nkK - x)) \rightarrow H^0(S, \mathcal{O}(nkK)) \rightarrow \mathcal{C} \rightarrow 0$$

is exact for every point  $x \in S$ . It follows that the complete linear system  $|nkK|$  has no base point, while  $(kK)^2 = k^2K^2 > 0$ . Hence, by Theorem 2,

$$H^1(S, \mathcal{O}(mK)) = H^1(S, \mathcal{O}(kK + K)) = 0,$$

q. e. d.

**COROLLARY.** *The pluri-genera  $P_m$ ,  $m \geq 2$ , are given by the formula:*

$$(15) \quad P_m = \frac{1}{2}m(m-1)K^2 + p_g - q + 1.$$

**THEOREM 6.** *Let  $e$  be a positive integer such that  $P_e \geq 2$ ,  $eK^2 \geq 2$ . If  $m \geq e + 2$ , then the pluri-canonical system  $|mK|$  has no base point and the map  $\Phi_{mK}$  is holomorphic.*

**PROOF.** It follows from Theorem 5 that  $m_0 = e + 2$ , where  $m_0$  is the integer appeared in (11). Hence we infer from Theorem 4 that, if  $m \geq e + 2$ , then  $|mK|$  has no base point and, consequently,  $\Phi_{mK}$  is a holomorphic map, q. e. d.

For any pair of distinct points  $x$  and  $y$  on  $S$ , we have the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(mK - x - y) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(mK) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_x \oplus \mathcal{C}_y \rightarrow 0$$

(see (1)) and the corresponding exact cohomology sequence

$$\dots \rightarrow H^0(S, \mathcal{O}(mK)) \rightarrow \mathbf{C}^2 \rightarrow H^1(S, \mathcal{O}(mK-x-y)) \rightarrow \dots$$

We shall say that  $x$  and  $y$  are *distinct modulo  $\mathcal{E}$*  if  $x$  and  $y$  are distinct and *not* contained in one and the same connected component of  $\mathcal{E}$ .

**THEOREM 7.** *Let  $e$  be a positive integer such that  $P_e \geq 3$ ,  $eK^2 \geq 2$ . If  $m \geq e+3$ , then, for any pair of points  $x$  and  $y$  on  $S$  which are distinct modulo  $\mathcal{E}$ , the sequence*

$$(16) \quad 0 \rightarrow H^0(S, \mathcal{O}(mK-x-y)) \rightarrow H^0(S, \mathcal{O}(mK)) \rightarrow \mathbf{C}^2 \rightarrow 0$$

is exact.

**PROOF.** Since  $\dim |eK| = P_e - 1 \geq 2$ , we find a divisor  $D \in |eK|$  such that  $x \in D$ ,  $y \in D$ .

I) The case in which  $x, y \in \mathcal{E}$ . With the aid of Lemma 5, we choose a composition series:  $D = \sum_{i=1}^n C_i$  satisfying the condition ( $\alpha$ ) and let

$$\mathcal{E}_i = \mathcal{O}(mK - Z_i - x - y).$$

We find  $h$  and  $j$  such that  $x \in C_h$ ,  $x \in Z_{h+1}$ ,  $y \in C_j$ ,  $y \in Z_{j+1}$ . Then we have

$$\mathcal{E}_{i+1}/\mathcal{E}_i \cong \mathcal{O}(F_{i+1} - \delta_{ih}x - \delta_{ij}y)_{C_i}.$$

Since  $C_h \not\prec \mathcal{E}$ ,  $C_j \not\prec \mathcal{E}$ , we have  $KC_h \geq 1$ ,  $KC_j \geq 1$  and, as was mentioned in the proof of Theorem 4, we may assume that  $KC_1 \geq 2$  if  $h$  is equal to 1. The condition ( $\alpha$ ) implies therefore that

$$(m-e-1)KC_i + D_{i-1}C_i \geq 1 + \delta_{ih} + \delta_{ij}.$$

Hence, by Lemma 9 and Theorem 5,  $H^1(S, \mathcal{E}_{n+1})$  vanishes. It follows that the sequence (16) is exact.

II) The case in which  $x \in \mathcal{E}_\lambda$ ,  $y \in \mathcal{E}_\nu$ ,  $\lambda \neq \nu$ . With the aid of Lemma 7, we choose a composition series:  $D = \sum_{i=1}^n C_i$  with  $C_{n-1} < \mathcal{E}_\lambda$ ,  $C_n < \mathcal{E}_\nu$  which satisfies the condition ( $\beta$ ) and let

$$\mathcal{E}_i = \mathcal{O}(mK - Z_i).$$

Since  $\mathcal{E}_{i+1}/\mathcal{E}_i \cong \mathcal{O}(F_{i+1})_{C_i}$  and

$$(m-e-1)KC_i + D_{i-1}C_i \geq KC_i + D_{i-1}C_i \geq 1,$$

we infer from Lemma 9 and Theorem 5 that

$$(17) \quad H^1(S, \mathcal{O}(mK - C_{n-1} - C_n)) = 0.$$

Since  $K$  is trivial on  $C_{n-1}$  and on  $C_n$ , we have the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(mK - C_{n-1} - C_n) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(mK) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{C_{n-1}} \oplus \mathcal{O}_{C_n} \rightarrow 0.$$

Combining this with (17), we infer that the sequence

$$0 \rightarrow H^0(S, \mathcal{O}(mK - C_{n-1} - C_n)) \rightarrow H^0(S, \mathcal{O}(mK)) \rightarrow \mathbf{C}^2 \rightarrow 0$$

is exact, while every holomorphic section  $\varphi \in H^0(S, \mathcal{O}(mK))$  is reduced to a constant on each connected component of  $\mathcal{E}$ . Hence the exactness of (16) follows.

III) The case in which  $x \notin \mathcal{E}, y \in \mathcal{E}_\lambda$ . We choose a composition series:  $D = \sum_{i=1}^n C_i$  with  $C_n < \mathcal{E}_\lambda$  satisfying the condition  $(\beta)$  and let

$$\mathcal{E}_i = \mathcal{O}(mK - Z_i - x).$$

We find  $h$  such that  $x \in C_h, x \notin Z_{h+1}$ . Then we have

$$\mathcal{E}_{i+1}/\mathcal{E}_i \cong \mathcal{O}(F_{i+1} - \delta_{ih}x)_{\mathcal{O}_i}.$$

Moreover, since  $KC_h \geq 1$ , we have

$$(m - e - 1)KC_i + D_{i-1}C_i \geq 1 + \delta_{ih}.$$

Hence, by Lemma 9 and Theorem 5, we get

$$H^1(S, \mathcal{O}(mK - C_n - x)) = 0.$$

Combining this with the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(mK - C_n - x) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(mK) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{C_n} \oplus \mathbf{C}_x \rightarrow 0,$$

we infer that the sequence

$$0 \rightarrow H^0(S, \mathcal{O}(mK - C_n - x)) \rightarrow H^0(S, \mathcal{O}(mK)) \rightarrow \mathbf{C}^2 \rightarrow 0$$

is exact. Hence the exactness of (16) follows, q. e. d.

Now we consider the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(mK - 2x) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(mK) \rightarrow \mathbf{C}_x^2 \rightarrow 0.$$

**THEOREM 8.** *Let  $e$  be a positive integer such that  $P_e \geq 4, eK^2 \geq 2$ . If  $m \geq e + 3$  and if  $x \notin \mathcal{E}$ , then the sequence*

$$(18) \quad 0 \rightarrow H^0(S, \mathcal{O}(mK - 2x)) \rightarrow H^0(S, \mathcal{O}(mK)) \rightarrow \mathbf{C}^2 \rightarrow 0$$

is exact.

**PROOF.** Since, by hypothesis,  $\dim |eK| = P_e - 1 \geq 3$ , we find a divisor  $D \in |eK|$  such that  $x$  is a multiple point of  $D$ . We choose a composition series:  $D = \sum_{i=1}^n C_i$  satisfying the condition  $(\alpha)$  and let

$$\mathcal{E}_i = \mathcal{O}(mK - Z_i - 2x).$$

We find  $h$  such that  $x \in C_h, x \notin Z_{h+1}$ . As was mentioned in the proof of Theorem 4, we may assume that  $KC_h \geq 2$  if  $h = 1$ . To prove the exactness of (18) it suffices to show the vanishing of  $H^1(S, \mathcal{E}_{n+1})$ .

i) If  $x$  is a multiple point of  $C_h$ , then

$$\mathcal{E}_i = \mathcal{O}(mK - Z_i), \quad \text{for } i \leq h,$$

and therefore

$$\mathcal{E}_{i+1}/\mathcal{E}_i \cong \mathcal{O}(F_{i+1} - 2\delta_{in}x)_{C_i}.$$

Since  $m - e \geq 3$  and  $KC_1 \geq 1 + \delta_{h1}$ , it follows from the condition  $(\alpha)$  that

$$(m - e - 1)KC_i + D_{i-1}C_i \geq 1 + 2\delta_{in}.$$

Hence, by Lemma 9 and Theorem 5,  $H^1(S, \mathcal{E}_{n+1})$  vanishes.

ii) If  $x$  is a simple point of  $C_h$ , then we find an integer  $j < h$  such that

$$x \in C_j, \quad x \notin C_{j+1} + C_{j+2} + \cdots + C_{h-1}.$$

Since  $x$  is a simple point of  $Z_{j+1}$ , we have the isomorphism:

$$\mathcal{O}(mK - Z_{j+1} - 2x) \cong \mathcal{O}(F_{j+1} - x).$$

Moreover we have the commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{O}(mK - Z_j) & \hookrightarrow & \mathcal{O}(mK - Z_{j+1} - 2x) \\ \wr & & \wr \\ \mathcal{O}(F_{j+1} - C_j) & \hookrightarrow & \mathcal{O}(F_{j+1} - x). \end{array}$$

Hence  $\mathcal{E}_{j+1}/\mathcal{E}_j$  is isomorphic to  $\mathcal{O}(F_{j+1} - x)_{C_j}$ . Thus we see that

$$\mathcal{E}_{i+1}/\mathcal{E}_i \cong \mathcal{O}(F_{i+1} - (\delta_{ij} + 2\delta_{in})x)_{C_i}.$$

Moreover, since  $KC_j \geq 1$ ,  $KC_n \geq 1$ , the condition  $(\alpha)$  implies that

$$(m - e - 1)KC_i + D_{i-1}C_i \geq 1 + \delta_{ij} + 2\delta_{in}.$$

Hence, by Lemma 9 and Theorem 5,  $H^1(S, \mathcal{E}_{n+1})$  vanishes, q. e. d.

Let  $\Phi$  be a holomorphic map of  $S$  into a complex manifold. We shall say that  $\Phi$  is *one-to-one modulo  $\mathcal{E}$*  if any only if

$$\Phi^{-1}\Phi(z) = \begin{cases} z, & \text{for } z \in S - \mathcal{E}, \\ \mathcal{E}_\lambda & \text{for } z \in \mathcal{E}_\lambda. \end{cases}$$

Moreover we say that  $\Phi$  is *biholomorphic modulo  $\mathcal{E}$*  if  $\Phi$  is one-to-one modulo  $\mathcal{E}$  and biholomorphic on  $S - \mathcal{E}$ .

**THEOREM 9.** *Let  $e$  be a positive integer such that  $P_e \geq 3$ ,  $eK^2 \geq 2$ . For every integer  $m \geq e + 3$ , the map  $\Phi_{mK}$  is holomorphic and one-to-one modulo  $\mathcal{E}$ .*

**PROOF.** We infer from Theorem 7 that  $\Phi_{mK}$  is holomorphic and  $\Phi_{mK}(x) \neq \Phi_{mK}(y)$  for any pair of points  $x, y$  on  $S$  which are distinct modulo  $\mathcal{E}$ . Moreover the image  $\Phi_{mK}(\mathcal{E}_\lambda)$  of each component  $\mathcal{E}_\lambda$  is a point, since  $K$  is trivial on  $\mathcal{E}_\lambda$ , q. e. d.

The exactness of the sequence (18) implies that  $\Phi_{mK}$  is biholomorphic in a neighborhood of  $x$  on  $S$ . Hence we infer from Theorems 8 and 9 the following

**THEOREM 10.** *Let  $e$  be a positive integer such that  $P_e \geq 4$ ,  $eK^2 \geq 2$ . For*

every integer  $m \geq e+3$ , the map  $\Phi_{mK}$  is holomorphic and biholomorphic modulo  $\mathcal{E}$ .

LEMMA 11. If  $p_g = 0$ , then  $q = 0$ .

PROOF. We have the Noether formula :

$$8q + K^2 + b_2 = 12p_g + 10,$$

where  $b_2$  denotes the second Betti number of  $S$ . Since  $K^2 \geq 1$ , this formula proves that, if  $p_g = 0$ , then  $q \leq 1$ . Suppose that  $q = 1$ . Then there exists a holomorphic map  $\Psi$  of  $S$  onto an elliptic curve  $\mathcal{A}$  such that the inverse image  $C = \Psi^{-1}(u)$  of any general point  $u \in \mathcal{A}$  is an irreducible non-singular curve. Since  $C^2 = 0$ ,  $C$  and  $K$  are homologically independent. It follows that  $b_2 \geq 2$ . This contradicts the Noether formula. Thus we infer that  $q = 0$ , q. e. d.

LEMMA 12. If  $K^2 = 1$ , then  $p_g \leq 2$  and  $q \leq 1$ .

PROOF. i) Assume that  $p_g \geq 2$ . Any general member of  $|K|$  is an irreducible non-singular curve of genus 2. To prove this we let  $D$  denote a general member of  $|K|$ . The general member  $D$  has an irreducible component  $C$  with  $C^2 \geq 0$ . Since  $KD = K^2 = 1$ , we have

$$D = C + X, \quad X \geq 0, \quad KC = 1, \quad KX = 0,$$

while

$$C^2 = 2\pi(C) - 2 - KC, \quad C^2 + CX = KC.$$

Hence we infer that  $CX = 0$  and therefore, by Lemma 4,  $X = 0$ . Thus we see that  $D = C$ . It follows that  $\pi(C) = 2$ . By a theorem of Bertini,  $C$  has no singular point outside the base points of  $|K|$ , while, since  $C^2 = 1$ , any base point of  $|K|$  is a simple point of  $C$ . Hence  $C$  is a non-singular curve. It is clear that

$$\dim H^0(C, \mathcal{O}([C])_C) \leq 1.$$

Combining this with the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow H^0(S, \mathcal{O}) \rightarrow H^0(S, \mathcal{O}(C)) \rightarrow H^0(C, \mathcal{O}([C])_C) \rightarrow \dots$$

we obtain the inequality

$$p_g = \dim H^0(S, \mathcal{O}(C)) \leq 2.$$

ii) Since  $P_2 \geq p_g$ , we infer from (15) that

$$q = K^2 + 1 + p_g - P_2 \leq 2.$$

iii) Now we assume that  $q = 2$  and derive a contradiction. There exist on  $S$  two linearly independent holomorphic 1-forms  $\varphi_1$  and  $\varphi_2$ .

If  $\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 = 0$ , then there exists a holomorphic map  $\Psi$  of  $S$  onto a non-singular algebraic curve  $\mathcal{A}$  of genus 2 such that the inverse image  $\Theta_u = \Psi^{-1}(u)$  of any general point  $u \in \mathcal{A}$  is an irreducible non-singular curve. Since, by Lemma 11,  $p_g \geq 1$ , the canonical system  $|K|$  contains a positive divisor  $D$ .

Since  $KD = K^2 = 1$ , we have a composition series :

$$D = C + \sum_{i=2}^n E_i, \quad KC = 1, \quad KE_i = 0.$$

Since  $\Theta_u^2 = 0$ ,  $K\Theta_u$  is positive, while  $K\Theta_u = 2\pi(\Theta_u) - 2$  is even. Moreover the projection  $\Psi(E_i)$  of each rational curve  $E_i$  is a point on  $\Delta$ . Hence  $C\Theta_u = K\Theta_u \geq 2$  and therefore  $C$  is a covering of  $\Delta$  with at least two sheets. It follows that

$$2\pi(C) - 2 \geq 4\pi(\Delta) - 4 \geq 4.$$

This contradicts that

$$2\pi(C) - 2 = C^2 + KC = 2KC - \sum_i CE_i \leq 2.$$

If  $\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \neq 0$ , then  $\varphi_1$  and  $\varphi_2$  define a holomorphic map  $\Phi$  of  $S$  onto the Albanese variety  $A$  attached to  $S$ . The canonical divisor  $(\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2)$  is an irreducible non-singular curve of genus 2. To prove this we let

$$(\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2) = C + X, \quad X \geq 0, \quad KC = 1, \quad KX = 0.$$

Suppose that the restrictions  $\varphi_{1C}$  and  $\varphi_{2C}$  of  $\varphi_1$  and  $\varphi_2$  to  $C$  are linearly dependent. Then  $\Phi(C)$  is either a point or an elliptic curve on  $A$ . If  $X > 0$ , then  $X$  is composed of non-singular rational curves  $E_i < \mathcal{E}$ . Hence  $\Phi(X)$  consists of a finite number of points on  $A$ . Consequently, there exists an irreducible non-singular curve  $I$  on  $A$  which meets neither  $\Phi(C)$  nor  $\Phi(X)$ . It follows that  $K\Phi^{-1}(I) = 0$  and therefore  $\Phi^{-1}(I)$  is composed of rational curves. This contradicts that  $\pi(I) \geq 1$ .

Thus  $\varphi_{1C}$  and  $\varphi_{2C}$  are linearly independent and therefore the genus of the non-singular model of  $C$  is not smaller than 2, while

$$2\pi(C) - 2 = C^2 + KC = 2 - CX$$

and, by Lemma 4,  $CX$  is positive if  $X > 0$ . Hence we infer that  $C$  is a non-singular curve of genus 2 and  $X = 0$ . It follows that  $(\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2) = C$ .

The Euler number of  $S$  is equal to the sum of the indices of the singular points of the covariant vector field  $\varphi_1$ . Since  $(\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2) = C$ , the vector field  $\varphi_1$  has no singular point outside  $C$ . We may assume that  $\varphi_{1C}$  has two simple zeros  $x$  and  $y$  on  $C$ . Since  $\varphi_{2C}$  does not vanish at  $x$ , we can choose a local coordinate  $(w, z)$  of the center  $x$  on  $S$  such that

$$\varphi_2 = dz, \quad \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 = wdw \wedge dz.$$

It follows that

$$\varphi_1 = wdw + \rho z dz, \quad \rho \neq 0,$$

where  $\rho$  is a holomorphic function of  $z$ . This shows that  $x$  is a singular point of  $\varphi_1$  of index 1. Thus the vector field  $\varphi_1$  has exactly two singular points of index 1 and therefore the Euler number  $\chi(S)$  of  $S$  is equal to 2. This con-

tradicts the Noether formula :

$$\chi(S)+K^2=12(p_g-q+1),$$

q. e. d.

THEOREM 11. *The bigenus of  $S$  is not smaller than two:  $P_2 \geq 2$ .*

PROOF. i) If  $p_g \geq 2$ , then it is obvious that  $P_2 \geq p_g \geq 2$ .

ii) If  $p_g = 1$ , then, by the Noether formula,  $q \leq 2$ . If, moreover,  $K^2 = 1$ , then, by Lemma 12,  $q \leq 1$ . Hence, using (15), we obtain

$$P_2 = K^2 + p_g - q + 1 \geq 2.$$

iii) If  $p_g = 0$ , then, by Lemma 11,  $q = 0$  and therefore

$$P_2 = K^2 + 1 \geq 2.$$

Thus we see that  $P_2 \geq 2$ . Moreover, using (15), we get

$$P_3 = 2K^2 + P_2 \geq 4.$$

Hence we infer from Theorems 6 and 10 the following

THEOREM 12. *For every integer  $m \geq 4$ , the pluricanonical system  $|mK|$  has no base point and the map  $\Phi_{mK}$  is holomorphic. For every integer  $m \geq 6$ , the map  $\Phi_{mK}$  is holomorphic and biholomorphic modulo  $\mathcal{E}$ .*

If  $p_g \geq 4$ , then, by Lemma 12,  $K^2 \geq 2$ . Hence we infer from Theorem 10 the following

THEOREM 13. *If  $p_g \geq 4$ , then, for every integer  $m \geq 4$ , the map  $\Phi_{mK}$  is holomorphic and biholomorphic modulo  $\mathcal{E}$ .*

## § 5. Birational embeddings.

It has been shown by Šafarevič [8] that, if  $p_g \geq 4$ , then  $\Phi_{3K}$  is a birational map. In this section we prove in the context of this paper that, if  $p_g \geq 4$ , then  $|3K|$  has no base point and  $\Phi_{3K}$  is a holomorphic birational map.

Let  $A$  denote the set of those irreducible curves  $C$  on  $S$  which satisfy the inequality:  $KC \leq 1$ .

LEMMA 13. *If  $K^2 \geq 2$ , then  $A$  is a finite set.*

PROOF. In view of Theorem 3 it suffices to consider the subset  $A_1$  of  $A$  consisting of irreducible curves  $C$  with  $KC = 1$ . We choose a base  $\{K, B_1, \dots, B_i, \dots, B_h\}$  of divisorial cycles on  $S$  such that  $B_1, \dots, B_i, \dots$  are divisors satisfying the conditions

$$B_i^2 < 0, \quad KB_i = 0, \quad B_i B_k = 0 \quad \text{for } i \neq k.$$

For each curve  $C \in A_1$ , we have a homology

$$C \sim r_0 K + \sum_{i=1}^h r_i B_i, \quad r_0 = 1/K^2, \quad r_i = B_i C / B_i^2.$$

We have

$$C^2 = 1/K^2 + \sum_{i=1}^h r_i^2 B_i^2 \leq 1/K^2 \leq 1/2$$

and

$$C^2 = 2\pi(C) - 2 - KC = 2\pi(C) - 3.$$

Hence we infer that  $C^2 = -1$  or  $-3$  and that

$$(19) \quad - \sum_{i=1}^n r_i^2 B_i^2 < 4.$$

The homology class of  $C$  contains no irreducible curve other than  $C$ . In fact, if  $\Theta$  is an irreducible curve on  $S$  and if  $\Theta \sim C$ , then  $\Theta C = C^2 < 0$  and therefore  $\Theta$  coincides with  $C$ . Moreover  $r_i B_i^2 = B_i C$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, h$ , are rational integers. Hence we infer from (19) the finiteness of the set  $A_1$ , q. e. d.

**THEOREM 14.** *If  $p_g \geq 4$ , then the tri-canonical system  $|3K|$  has no base point and  $\Phi_{3K}$  is a holomorphic birational map.*

**PROOF.** Since, by hypothesis,  $p_g \geq 4$ , we have, by Lemma 12,  $K^2 \geq 2$ . Hence, by Theorem 6, the tri-canonical system  $|3K|$  has no base point and  $\Phi_{3K}$  is a holomorphic map. Moreover, by Lemma 13,  $A$  is a finite set. Let  $\mathcal{C}$  denote the union of the curves  $C \in A$ . To prove that  $\Phi_{3K}$  is a birational map, it suffices to show that, for any pair of distinct points  $x, y \in S - \mathcal{C}$ , the sequence

$$(20) \quad 0 \rightarrow H^0(S, \mathcal{O}(3K - x - y)) \rightarrow H^0(S, \mathcal{O}(3K)) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}^2 \rightarrow 0$$

is exact.

We denote by  $|K - x - y|$  the linear subsystem of  $|K|$  consisting of those divisors  $D \in |K|$  which pass through  $x$  and  $y$  in the sense that  $x \in D, y \in D$ . It is obvious that

$$\dim |K - x - y| \geq p_g - 3 \geq 1.$$

Let  $D$  be a general member of  $|K - x - y|$ . We choose a composition series:

$$D = \sum_{i=1}^n C_i \text{ satisfying the condition } (\alpha) \text{ and let}$$

$$E_i = \mathcal{O}(3K - Z_i - x - y).$$

We find  $h$  and  $j$  such that  $x \in C_h, x \in Z_{h+1}, y \in C_j, y \in Z_{j+1}$ . Since, by hypothesis,  $x \notin \mathcal{C}, y \notin \mathcal{C}$ , we have  $KC_h \geq 2, KC_j \geq 2$ . Moreover, we may assume that  $KC_1 \geq 3$  if  $h = j = 1$ . To show this we suppose that  $h = j = 1$  for every composition series:  $D = \sum_{i=1}^n C_i$  satisfying the condition  $(\alpha)$ . Then, in view of Lemma 5,  $KC_i$  vanishes for  $i \geq 2$ . Thus the composition series has the form

$$D = C + E_2 + \dots + E_i + \dots + E_n, \quad E_i < \mathcal{C},$$

where  $C = C_1$ . Since  $D$  is a general member of  $|K - x - y|$  and since  $E_i^2 = -2$ ,

the sum:  $\sum_{i=2}^n E_i$  is the fixed component of  $|K-x-y|$ . Let  $C' + \sum_{i=2}^n E_i$  be another general member of  $|K-x-y|$ . Then  $C$  and  $C'$  intersect at  $x$  and  $y$  and therefore

$$KC = C^2 + \sum_{i=2}^n E_i C \geq C^2 = CC' \geq 2.$$

Suppose that  $KC=2$ . Then  $C^2 = CC' = 2$ , and, by Lemma 4,  $D=C$ . It follows that  $C \cap C' = x \cup y$ . By a theorem of Bertini, the general member  $C$  has no singular point outside the base points  $x$  and  $y$ , while, since  $CC'=2$ ,  $x$  and  $y$  are simple points of  $C$ . Thus  $C$  is a non-singular curve. It is clear that  $\pi(C) = 3$ . Thus  $C$  is non-rational and therefore

$$\dim H^0(C, \mathcal{O}(K)_C) \leq KC = 2.$$

Since, by hypothesis,  $p_g \geq 4$ , this contradicts the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow C \rightarrow H^0(S, \mathcal{O}(K)) \rightarrow H^0(C, \mathcal{O}(K)_C) \rightarrow \dots.$$

Thus we see that  $KC_1 \geq 3$ .

We have

$$\mathcal{E}_{i+1}/\mathcal{E}_i \cong \mathcal{O}(3K - \delta_{in}x - \delta_{ij}y)_{C_i}.$$

Since  $KC_n \geq 2$ ,  $KC_j \geq 2$  and  $KC_1 \geq 3$  if  $h=j=1$ , the condition ( $\alpha$ ) implies that

$$KC_i + D_{i-1}C_i \geq 1 + \delta_{ih} + \delta_{ij}.$$

Hence, by Lemma 9 and Theorem 5,  $H^1(S, \mathcal{E}_{n+1})$  vanishes and, consequently, the sequence (20) is exact, q. e. d.

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