

**ON THE STRUCTURE OF 4 FOLDS WITH A HYPERPLANE  
SECTION WHICH IS A  $P^1$  BUNDLE OVER A SURFACE  
THAT FIBRES OVER A CURVE**

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In this article we want to analyze the structure of a 4 dimensional projective variety  $X$  which has a smooth ample divisor  $A$  that is a  $P^1$  bundle  $\pi : A \rightarrow S$  over a smooth surface  $S$ .

In [Fa+So], as a consequence of a more general result, the first and third authors determined the structure of  $X$  in the case the base  $S$  of the  $P^1$  bundle  $A$  has a cover  $\tilde{S}$  with  $h^{2,0}(\tilde{S}) \neq 0$ . Here we look at the remaining cases except for those surfaces which are the projectivization of a stable rank two vector bundle over a curve (the result is obviously true for  $S$  rational).

The key point is to extend the morphism  $\pi : A \rightarrow S$  to a morphism  $\bar{\pi} : X \rightarrow S$ . If the surface  $S$  has a morphism  $\Psi : S \rightarrow C$  onto a smooth curve  $C$ , then the morphism  $\Psi \circ \pi : A \rightarrow C$  extends to a morphism  $\varphi : X \rightarrow C$  (see [So1], Proposition V). Moreover the general fibre  $X_c$  of  $\varphi$  turns out to be a  $P^2$  bundle over a curve contained in  $S$ . We now construct  $\bar{\pi} : X \rightarrow S$  geometrically. The idea is to take a general fibre  $P$  of the general  $P^1$  bundle  $X_c$  and look at all the deformations of  $P$  in  $X$ . Using the "universal" family of such deformations we will get our desired map.

The main result is the following

**THEOREM.** *Let  $X$  be a 4-dimensional projective variety which is a local complete intersection. Let  $A$  be an ample divisor on  $X$  which is a  $P^1$  bundle.  $\pi : A \rightarrow S$  over a smooth surface  $S$ . Assume that there is a surjective holomorphic map  $\Psi : S \rightarrow C$  with connected fibres, where  $C$  is a smooth curve. Then  $\pi$  can be extended to a holomorphic map  $\bar{\pi} : X \rightarrow S$  unless  $S = P_c(V)$  with  $V$  a stable rank two vector bundle on  $C$ . Moreover  $\bar{\pi} : X \rightarrow S$  is a  $P^2$*

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bundle.

The paper is organized as follows.

In Section 0 we recall some background material.

In Section 1 we study the structure of  $X$  in the case the surface  $S$ , base of the  $\mathbf{P}^1$  bundle  $A$  has a surjective morphism  $\mathcal{V} : S \rightarrow C$  onto a curve.

In Section 2 we completely determine the structure of  $X$  in the case  $S = \mathbf{P}^2$ . Also, for completeness, we determine the structure of those  $X$  with an ample divisor  $A$  which is a  $\mathbf{P}^1$  bundle over  $\mathbf{P}^n$ , with  $n \geq 3$ .

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## § 0. Background material

(0.1) Throughout this article the varieties considered will be projective and defined over  $C$ . Given a variety  $X$  we denote its structure sheaf by  $\mathcal{O}_X$ . We do not distinguish between a holomorphic vector bundle  $E$  on a variety  $X$  and its sheaf of germs of holomorphic sections. We denote the tautological line bundle of  $E$  by  $\zeta_E$  or  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}(E)}(1)$ , where  $\mathbf{P}(E) = E^v - \{\text{zero section}\}/C^*$  and  $E^v$  is the dual bundle of  $E$ . If  $Y$  is a subvariety of  $X$  we denote by  $E|_Y$  the restriction of  $E$  to  $Y$ . For more details on vector bundles see [Ok+Sc+Sp].

(0.2) Let  $p : X \rightarrow Y$  be a map of projective varieties. We will use interchangeably the word morphism and holomorphic map, as well as rational map and meromorphic map.

(0.3) Let  $X$  be a projective variety. Let  $D$  be an effective Cartier divisor on  $X$ . We denote by  $[D]$  or  $\mathcal{O}_X(D)$  the line bundle defined by  $D$ . If  $L$  is a line bundle on  $X$ , let  $|L|$  denote the linear system of all Cartier divisors associated to  $L$ .

(0.4) By  $F_r$  with  $r \geq 0$  we denote the  $r$ th Hirzebruch surface.  $F_r$  is the unique  $\mathbf{P}^1$  bundle  $\pi : F_r \rightarrow \mathbf{P}^1$  over  $\mathbf{P}^1$  with a section  $E$  satisfying  $E \cdot E = -r$ . By  $\tilde{F}_r$  with  $r \geq 1$  we denote the surface obtained from  $F_r$  by blowing down  $E$ .

The next result will be used often. We will state it for the convenience of the reader and refer to [So2], (0.6.1) for a proof.

(0.5) **LEMMA.** *Let  $X$  be a normal irreducible compact surface. Let  $L$  be an ample line bundle on  $X$ , with a smooth  $C \in |L|$  being a rational curve*

and  $C \subseteq X_{\text{reg}}$ . Then  $L$  is very ample and either

- a)  $X$  is  $F_r$  and  $L = [E] \otimes [f]^k$  with  $k \geq r+1$ , or
- b)  $X$  is  $\tilde{F}_r$  and  $p^*L = [E] \otimes [f]^r$  where  $p : F_r \rightarrow \tilde{F}_r$  is the map that blows down  $E$ . (Here  $f$  denotes a fibre of  $\pi : F_r \rightarrow \mathbf{P}^1$ ).

### § 1. Proof of the main theorem

(1.0) **THEOREM.** *Let  $X$  be a four dimensional projective variety which is a local complete intersection. Let  $A$  be an ample divisor on  $X$  which is a  $\mathbf{P}^1$  bundle,  $\pi : A \rightarrow S$  over a smooth surface  $S$ . Assume that there is a surjective holomorphic map  $\Psi : S \rightarrow C$  with connected fibres, where  $C$  is a smooth curve. Then  $\pi$  can be extended to a holomorphic map  $\bar{\pi} : X \rightarrow S$  unless  $S = \mathbf{P}_c(V)$  with  $V$  a stable rank two vector bundle on  $C$  (see Remark (1.0.1)). Moreover  $\bar{\pi} : X \rightarrow S$  is a  $\mathbf{P}^2$  bundle.*

(1.0.1) *Remark.* We do not need to assume that  $\Psi : S \rightarrow C$  has connected fibres and that  $C$  is smooth. In fact if otherwise we can Remmert-Stein factorize  $\Psi = s \circ r$  where  $r : X \rightarrow C'$  is a holomorphic map onto a smooth curve  $C'$  and  $s : C' \rightarrow C$  is a finite to one holomorphic map. Then the theorem is true unless  $S = \mathbf{P}_{C'}(V)$  where  $V$  is a stable rank two vector bundle on  $C'$ .

*Proof of the theorem.* We notice that  $\dim \text{Sing}(X) \leq 0$  since the ample divisor  $A$  on  $X$  is smooth. The holomorphic map  $\Psi \circ \pi$  extends to a holomorphic map  $\varphi : X \rightarrow C$ , see [Sol] Proposition V or [Fu]. Let  $X_c$  and  $A_c$  denote the general fibre of  $\varphi$  and  $\Psi \circ \pi$  respectively. Note that  $A_c$  is a geometrically ruled surface over  $\Psi^{-1}(c)$  and moreover  $A_c$  is an ample divisor on  $X_c$ . We claim that either

- $\alpha$ )  $X_c$  is a  $\mathbf{P}^2$  bundle over  $\Psi^{-1}(c)$  and  $[A_c]$  is the tautological line bundle on the  $\mathbf{P}^2$  bundle  $X_c$ , or
- $\beta$ )  $(\Psi \circ \pi)^{-1}(c) \simeq \mathbf{P}^1 \times \mathbf{P}^1$  and  $X_c$  is a  $\mathbf{P}^2$  bundle over  $\mathbf{P}^1$  with  $[A_c]$  the tautological line bundle on the  $\mathbf{P}^2$  bundle  $X_c$  where the canonical projection is not an extension of  $\pi : A_c \rightarrow \Psi^{-1}(c) (\simeq \mathbf{P}^1)$ . Note that the line bundle  $[A_c]_{|\mathbf{P}^1 \times \mathbf{P}^1} = \mathcal{O}(1, t)$  with  $t > 1$ .

*Proof of the claim.* The general fibre of  $\Psi$  is a smooth curve of genus  $g \geq 0$ . If  $g > 0$  or if  $g = 0$  and  $A_c \simeq F_r$  with  $r > 0$ , where  $F_r$  is as in (0.4), then using ([Ba2], [Ba3]), we conclude that  $X_c$  is a  $\mathbf{P}^2$  bundle over  $\Psi^{-1}(c)$  and  $A_c$  is the tautological line bundle on  $X_c$ . If  $g = 0$  and  $A_0 \simeq F_0 \simeq \mathbf{P}^1 \times \mathbf{P}^1$  then we will show that

$$(*) \quad \text{Pic}(X_c) \simeq \text{Pic}(A_c) \simeq Z \otimes Z .$$

Therefore the result will follow from [Ba1] once we know (\*).

*Proof of (\*).* From the following diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} H_2(A, \mathbf{Q}) & \longrightarrow & H_2(X, \mathbf{Q}) \\ \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ H_2(A_c, \mathbf{Q}) & \longrightarrow & H_2(X_c, \mathbf{Q}) \end{array}$$

we see that  $\dim H_2(X_c, \mathbf{Q})=1$  is possible only if the two rulings of  $A_c (\simeq F_0)$  get identified in  $X$ . But the two rulings were in different homology classes in  $A$  therefore they cannot go in the same homology class in  $X$ . Using Kronecker duality and the first Lefschetz theorem we conclude that  $\text{Pic}(X_p) \simeq \text{Pic}(A_c)$ . □

The proof of the theorem will be split up in two parts. We will treat case  $\alpha$ ) first and then the case  $\beta$ ).

*Case  $\alpha$ )* Fix a general  $P^2$  which is a fibre of  $X_c \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}^{-1}(c)$  and denote it by  $P$ . Using the fact that  $P \subseteq X_c \subseteq X$  and the exact sequence of normal bundles

$$0 \longrightarrow N_{P/X_c} \longrightarrow N_{P/X} \longrightarrow N_{X_c/X|P} \longrightarrow 0$$

it is straightforward to see that  $N_{P/X} = \mathcal{O}_P \oplus \mathcal{O}_P$ , where  $N_{P/X}$  is the normal bundle of  $P$  in  $X$ , and that  $H^1(P, N_{P/X}) = 0$ . Under the above assumption, using a basic result on Hilbert schemes, it follows that there exist irreducible projective varieties  $\mathcal{W}$  and  $\mathcal{Z}$  with the following properties:

- 1)  $\mathcal{W} \subseteq \mathcal{Z} \times X$  and the map  $p : \mathcal{W} \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}$  induced by the product projection is a flat surjection,
- 2) there is a smooth point  $a \in \mathcal{Z}$  with  $p$  of maximal rank in a neighborhood of  $p^{-1}(a)$  and  $p^{-1}(a)$  is identified with  $P \simeq P^2$  via  $q$ , where  $q : \mathcal{W} \rightarrow X$  is the map induced by the product projection.

(1.0.2) LEMMA. *There exists a Zariski open neighborhood  $U$  of  $a$ , where  $a$  is as in 2), such that for every  $z \in U$*

- i)  $p^{-1}(z) = \mathcal{W}_z$  is isomorphic to  $P^2$  and it is a fibre of  $X_c \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}^{-1}(c)$  for some  $c \in C$ ,
- ii)  $\mathcal{W}_z \cap A = f (\simeq P^1)$ , where  $f$  is a fibre of  $\pi$ .

*Proof.* From 2) above there exists a smooth neighborhood  $U$  of  $a$  in  $\mathcal{Z}$  such that  $p^{-1}(U) \rightarrow U$  and  $q^{-1}(A) \cap p^{-1}(U) \rightarrow U$  are smooth morphisms.

Note that  $A \cap \mathcal{W}_a = P^1$ . Moreover using the fact that small deformations of  $P^2$  and  $P^1$  are  $P^2$  and  $P^1$  respectively we conclude that the fibres of the maps  $p_{|_{P^{-1}(U)}}$  and  $q_{|_{(q^{-1}(A) \cap P^{-1}(U) )}}$  are  $P^2$  and  $P^1$  respectively. On the other hand a morphism  $\varphi$  from  $P^2 \subseteq X$  to  $C$  is constant. Hence any fibre of  $p_{|_{P^{-1}(U)}}$  is contained in a fibre of  $\varphi$ . Therefore the rest of (1.0.2) is obvious

(1.0.3) LEMMA. *The intersection number  $A \cdot A \cdot \mathcal{W}_z = 1$  for every  $z \in \mathcal{Z}$ . And if  $\mathcal{W}_z = \overline{\mathcal{W}}_z \cup \{\text{embedded part}\}$  then  $\overline{\mathcal{W}}_z$  is reduced and irreducible.*

*Proof.* By  $\alpha$ ) we have that  $\mathcal{O}_X(A)_{|_{P^2}} = \mathcal{O}_{P^2}(1)$ . Hence  $(A \cdot A \cdot P^2)_X = (\mathcal{O}_X(A)_{|_{P^2}} \cdot \mathcal{O}_X(A)_{|_{P^2}})_{P^2} = 1$ , which implies that  $A \cdot A \cdot \mathcal{W}_z = 1$  since the intersection number is preserved by flat maps. Clearly  $\overline{\mathcal{W}}_z$  is reduced and irreducible (since  $A \cdot A \cdot \mathcal{W}_z = 1$ ).

Note that the general fibre of the morphism  $\Psi : S \rightarrow C$  is either isomorphic to  $P^1$  or to a curve of positive genus.

(1.0.4) LEMMA. *For every  $z \in \mathcal{Z}$ ,  $\mathcal{W}_z \not\subseteq A$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $z \in \mathcal{Z}$  and let  $\{z_n\}$  be a sequence of points in  $\mathcal{Z}$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} z_n = z$  and  $\mathcal{W}_{z_n} \simeq P^2$  for every  $n$ . The above is possible by (1.0.2) Now use the fact that  $\varphi(\mathcal{W}_{z_n})$  is one point for every  $n$ , to conclude that  $\varphi(\mathcal{W}_z)$  is also one point. Assume that  $\mathcal{W}_z \subseteq A$ .

Since  $\pi : A \rightarrow S$  is a  $P^1$  bundle and since  $(\Psi \circ \pi)(\mathcal{W}_z) = c$ , with  $c$  a point in  $C$ , we get that  $\Phi = \pi_{|_{\overline{\mathcal{W}}_z}} : \overline{\mathcal{W}}_z \rightarrow \pi(\overline{\mathcal{W}}_z)$  is a  $P^1$  bundle, where  $\overline{\mathcal{W}}_z$  denotes the non-embedded part of  $\mathcal{W}_z$ . Note that  $\pi(\mathcal{W}_z) \subseteq \psi^{-1}(c)$ . To continue the proof of the lemma we distinguish two cases:

*Case 1.* The general fibre of  $\Psi$  is isomorphic to  $P^1$ . If  $\Psi^{-1}(c)$  with  $c$  as above is isomorphic to  $P^1$  then  $\mathcal{W}_z$  is a  $P^1$  bundle over  $P^1$ . Moreover there exists an ample line bundle  $([A]_{|_{\mathcal{W}_z}})$  on  $\mathcal{W}_z$  whose selfintersection is 1. This last fact is impossible.

If  $\Psi^{-1}(c)$  is singular then  $\Psi^{-1}(c) = \sum n_i C_i$  with  $C_i \simeq P^1$ . Also  $\pi(\overline{\mathcal{W}}_z) = C_i$  for some  $i$  otherwise we would get a contradiction with the fact that  $\overline{\mathcal{W}}_z$  is irreducible. Hence  $\mathcal{W}_z$  is a  $P^1$  bundle over  $P^1$  which is impossible as noticed earlier.

*Case 2.* The general fibre of  $\Psi$  is isomorphic to a curve of positive genus. Take a general fibre of  $\mathcal{W} \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}$  and consider all the lines on such fibre. Let  $T$  denote the irreducible component of the Hilbert scheme of  $X$  parametrizing such lines. Denote by  $M$  the universal family. Thus

$M \subseteq T \times X$ . Note that the non embedded part of every fibre of  $M$  is irreducible and reduced (since  $L \cdot M_t = L \cdot P^1 = 1$ , where  $M_t$  is a fibre of  $M$  over  $T$ ).

CLAIM *Every fibre of  $M \rightarrow T$  has  $P^1$  as normalization.*

*Proof of the claim.* Consider a curve  $B$  in  $T$  through a point  $t'$ . Also choose  $B$  of positive genus. Let  $M_B$  denote the inverse image of  $B$  under the natural projection  $M \rightarrow T$ . Note that most fibres of  $M_B \rightarrow B$  are linear  $P^1$ 's since  $B$  is chosen of positive genus. If we take a minimal model of a desingularization of  $\tilde{M}_B$ , where  $\tilde{M}_B$  denotes the normalization of  $M_B$ , we get a ruled surface over the normalization of  $B$ . This last conclusion follows from the fact that  $M_B$  has infinitely many  $P^1$ 's and from the fact that the genus of  $B$  is positive. Thus since going from  $M_B \rightarrow$  normalization  $\rightarrow$  desingularization  $\rightarrow$  minimal model does not destroy a positive genus curve and the normalization of  $M_t$ , goes in a fibre of a  $P^1$  bundle we conclude that every fibre of  $M \rightarrow T$  has  $P^1$  as a normalization.  $\square$

Now choose 2 points  $(a, b) \subseteq \mathcal{W}_z$  with  $\Phi(a) \neq \Phi(b)$ . Let  $(x_n, y_n) \subseteq \mathcal{W}_{z_n}$  be a sequence of pairs of points such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = a$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_n = b$ . Let  $M_{t_n}$  be a sequence of lines containing  $(x_n, y_n)$ . The limit of  $M_{t_n}$  is (maybe after passing to a subsequence) an irreducible curve  $M_t$  containing the  $(a, b)$  plus possibly some embedded points. As shown in our previous claim,  $M_t$  is birational to  $P^1$  and therefore  $\Phi(M_t)$  is birational to  $P^1$ . Thus the normalization,  $\mathcal{D}$ , of  $\mathcal{W}_z$  is a  $P^1$  bundle over  $P^1$  under the map induced by  $\Phi$ . But the pullback of  $[A]$  to  $\mathcal{D}$  is an ample bundle,  $\mathcal{L}$ , which satisfies  $\mathcal{L} \cdot \mathcal{L} = 1$  by (1.0.3). This is impossible for an ample line bundle on a  $P^1$  bundle over  $P^1$ .  $\square$

(1.0.5). LEMMA.  $\mathcal{W}_z \cap A = f$ , where  $f$  is fibre of  $\pi$ . (The equality here is only up to embedded points).

*Proof.* By (1.0.2) we can take a sequence of points  $\{z_n\}$  in  $\mathcal{Z}$  with  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} z_n = z$ , such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathcal{W}_{z_n} = \mathcal{W}_z$ ,  $\mathcal{W}_{z_n} \simeq P^2$  for all  $n$  and  $\mathcal{W}_{z_n} \cap A =$  fibre of  $\pi$ . Hence  $\mathcal{W}_z \cap A = f + C$ , where  $f$  is a fibre of  $\pi$  and  $C$  is a possibly empty effective 1-cycle. From (1.0.3) and the fact that  $A$  is ample it follows that  $C = \emptyset$ .  $\square$

Therefore we get a map  $v: \mathcal{Z} \rightarrow S$  which is a continuous and meromorphic and whose fibres are connected. Let  $\mathcal{W}'$  denote  $v \times i_X(\mathcal{W})$ , where  $i_X$  is the identity map on  $X$ .

(1.0.6) LEMMA.  $\mathcal{W}' \subseteq S \times X$  is a family with  $\bar{\mathcal{W}}'_s$  for every  $s \in S$  equal to  $\bar{\mathcal{W}}_z$  for some  $z \in \mathcal{Z}$ .

*Proof.* Assume otherwise. Then there is a curve  $Y = v^{-1}(s) \subseteq \mathcal{Z}$  such that for every  $y \in Y$ ,  $\mathcal{W}_y \supseteq f$ . Note that  $(\bigcup_{y \in Y} \mathcal{W}_y) \cap A = f$  by (1.0.5). On the other hand  $\bigcup_{y \in Y} \mathcal{W}_y$  is a divisor on  $X$ . Thus  $\dim((\bigcup_{y \in Y} \mathcal{W}_y) \cap A) \geq 2$ . This contradiction proves our lemma. □

From (1.0.5) it follows that  $\mathcal{W}' \xrightarrow{q'} X$  is one to one, where  $q'$  is the map induced by the product projection. Moreover  $X$  is normal. Therefore  $q' : \mathcal{W}' \rightarrow X$  is a biholomorphism. Hence  $\pi = p' \circ (q')^{-1} : X \rightarrow S$  is holomorphic.

Before passing to the case  $\beta$ ) we will show that the above  $\pi$  gives to  $X$  the structure of a  $\mathbf{P}^2$  bundle over  $S$ .

By construction the general fibre of  $\pi$  is  $\mathbf{P}^2$ . Also  $\mathcal{O}_X(A)_{|_{\mathbf{P}^2}} = \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}^2}(1)$ . As for the possible singular fibre  $F$  of  $\pi$ , we notice that  $F$  is reduced and irreducible since  $L \cdot L \cdot F = 1$ . Since  $\mathbf{P}^1$  is an hyperplane section of  $F$  it is well known, see (0.5) that  $F$  is either  $F_r$  with  $r \geq 0$  or  $\tilde{F}_r$  with  $r \geq 1$ , where  $F_r$  and  $\tilde{F}_r$  are as in (0.4). There are no  $F_r$  with an ample line bundle of degree 1. Among the  $\tilde{F}_r$  the only one with an ample line bundle of degree 1 is  $\tilde{F}_1 \simeq \mathbf{P}^2$ . Now we use a theorem of Hironaka ([Hi], Theorem 1.8) to conclude that  $\pi : X \rightarrow S$  is a  $\mathbf{P}^2$  bundle.

Let us now consider the case  $\beta$ ).

*Case  $\beta$ ).* Let  $c \in C$  be a general point. We take a general rational curve  $\ell$  in  $A_c = (\Psi \circ \pi)^{-1}(c) \simeq \mathbf{P}^1 \times \mathbf{P}^1$  such that  $\ell \cdot \ell = 0$  and  $\ell$  is not a fibre of  $\pi$ . From now on we denote by  $\ell$  the ruling of  $\mathbf{P}^1 \times \mathbf{P}^1$  which is not a fibre of  $\pi$ . It is straightforward to see that

$$N_{\ell/A} = \mathcal{O}_\ell \oplus \mathcal{O}_\ell \quad \text{and} \quad H^1(\ell, N_\ell, N_{\ell/A}) = 0.$$

Denote by  $S'$  the irreducible component of the Hilbert scheme of  $A$  parametrizing flat deformations of  $\ell$  in  $A$  and by  $\mathcal{Y}$  the universal family. Thus  $\mathcal{Y} \subseteq S' \times A$ . Denote by  $p : \mathcal{Y} \rightarrow S'$  and  $q : \mathcal{Y} \rightarrow A$  the maps induced by the product projections. Note that such deformations fill up the whole space  $A$ , i.e.,  $q(\mathcal{Y}) = A$ .

CLAIM 1.  $\Psi : S \rightarrow C$  is a geometrically ruled surface.

*Proof of claim 1.* Assume that there exists a point  $c_0 \in C$  such that  $\Psi^{-1}(c_0)$  is a singular fibre. Then the number of irreducible components

of  $\Psi^{-1}(c_0)$  is at least 2. Let  $\{c_n\}$  be a sequence of points in  $C$  approaching the point  $c_0$ . Let  $\{\ell_n\}$  be the corresponding sequence of lines in  $\mathcal{Y}$ . Thus  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \pi(\ell_n) = \Psi^{-1}(c_0)$ , where the equality is only setwise (Here we have identified  $\ell_n$  with  $q(\ell_n)$ ). But the above equality is impossible since by  $\beta$ )  $A \cdot \ell_n = 1$  for all  $n$ , while the number of irreducible components of  $\Psi^{-1}(c)$  is at least 2 and  $A$  is an ample divisor.  $\square$

We note that for every  $c \in C$ ,  $(\Psi \circ \pi)^{-1}(c) \simeq \mathbf{P}^1 \times \mathbf{P}^1$ . In fact since  $S$  is geometrically ruled it follows that for every  $c \in C$ ,  $(\Psi \circ \pi)^{-1}(c) \simeq F_r$  with  $r \geq 0$ . Assume that there exists a  $c_0 \in C$  such that  $(\Psi \circ \pi)^{-1}(c) \simeq F_r$  with  $r > 0$ .

By a slight variation of the argument used in the proof of the above claim it follows that for each  $x \in (\psi \circ \pi)^{-1}(c)$  there exists an irreducible curve  $\ell \subseteq (\psi \circ \pi)^{-1}(c)$  such that:

- 1)  $A \cdot \ell = 1$ ,
- 2) the image of  $\ell$  under  $\pi$  is  $\mathbf{P}^1$ .

A simple direct check shows that this is not possible on  $F_r$  unless  $r = 0$ .

Let  $S'$  and  $\mathcal{Y}$  be as before. We denote by  $\ell_s$  the fibre of  $\mathcal{Y}$  over  $s \in S'$ . Clearly the smooth fibres of the flat family  $\mathcal{Y}$  are isomorphic to  $\mathbf{P}^1$ . Recall that  $A \cdot \ell_s = 1$ . Hence the Hilbert polynomial  $\chi(\mathcal{O}_{\ell_s}(A|_{\ell_s})^{\otimes n})$  of  $\ell_s$  is equal to  $n + 1$ . Let  $s \in S'$  be such that  $\ell_s$  is singular. Denote by  $\bar{\ell}_s$  the one dimensional closed subscheme of  $\ell_s$  defined by removing the embedded points of  $\ell_s$ .

**CLAIM 2.**  $\ell_s = \bar{\ell}_s$  and  $S'$  is smooth.

*Proof of Claim 2.* Note that since  $\bar{\ell}_s$  is contained in a fibre of  $\Psi \circ \pi$  which is isomorphic to  $\mathbf{P}^1 \times \mathbf{P}^1$  and since  $A \cdot \bar{\ell}_s = 1$  it follows that  $\bar{\ell}_s$  is a fibre of  $\mathbf{P}^1 \times \mathbf{P}^1$ , so  $\bar{\ell}_s = \mathbf{P}^1$ . In order to see that  $\ell_s = \bar{\ell}_s$  we consider the following exact sequence

$$(1.0.7) \quad 0 \longrightarrow T \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\ell_s} \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\bar{\ell}_s} \longrightarrow 0$$

where the sheaf  $T$  is the torsion part of  $\mathcal{O}_{\ell_s}$ . Tensoring (1.0.7) with  $\mathcal{O}(A|_{\ell_s})^{\otimes n}$  and using the fact that the Euler characteristic is additive on a short exact sequence it follows that

$$\chi(\mathcal{O}_{\ell_s}(A|_{\ell_s})^{\otimes n}) = \chi(T \otimes \mathcal{O}_{\ell_s}(A|_{\ell_s})^{\otimes n}) + \chi(\mathcal{O}_{\bar{\ell}_s}(A|_{\bar{\ell}_s})^{\otimes n}).$$

Note that the Hilbert polynomial of  $\ell_s$  and of  $\bar{\ell}_s$  are equal. Thus  $T$  is the 0-sheaf. To see that  $S'$  is smooth note that  $N_{\ell_s/A} = \mathcal{O}_{\ell_s} \oplus \mathcal{O}_{\ell_s}$ . Therefore it follows that  $S'$  is smooth at  $s$ .



- (1.0.8) *Remark.* i)  $\mathcal{Y}$  is isomorphic to  $A$   
 ii)  $A$  is a  $\mathbf{P}^1$  bundle  $\sigma : A \longrightarrow S'$  over  $S'$ .

To see i) note that  $\mathcal{Y}$  is birational to  $A$ . Moreover  $\mathcal{Y}$  is in one to one correspondence with  $A$ , since for every  $a \in A$  there exists a unique  $\ell \subseteq A_c$  containing  $a$ , where  $c = (\Psi \circ \pi)(a)$ . Hence  $\mathcal{Y}$  is isomorphic to  $A$ . From i) it follows that there is a morphism  $\sigma = q \circ p^{-1}$  from  $A$  onto  $S'$  whose fibres are isomorphic to  $\mathbf{P}^1$ . Moreover  $\mathcal{O}_A(A)|_{\mathbf{P}^1} = \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}^1}(1)$ . Thus ii) is clear.

CLAIM 3.  $S'$  is geometrically ruled over  $C$ .

*Proof of Claim 3.* Let  $c \in C$  and let  $\sigma_c : A_c \rightarrow \mathbf{P}^1$  be the restriction of the map  $\sigma$  to  $A_c$ . Let  $f_c$  denote a fibre of the map  $\pi$  restricted to  $A_c (\cong \mathbf{P}^1 \times \mathbf{P}^1)$ . By the universality of the Hilbert scheme  $\sigma_c$  embeds  $f_c$  into  $S'$ ; we denote the smooth rational curve  $\sigma(f_c)$  in  $S'$  by  $f'_c$ . To show that there exists a morphism from  $S'$  onto  $C$  we will distinguish the case  $g(C) > 0$  and  $g(C) = 0$  where  $g(C)$  denotes the genus of  $C$ . In the case  $g(C) > 0$  it follows that  $H^1(S', \mathcal{O}_{S'}) \neq 0$ . We get the following diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 A & \xrightarrow{\Psi \circ \pi} & C & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{J}(C) \simeq \text{Alb}(A) \\
 \sigma \downarrow & & \downarrow j & & \downarrow | \\
 S' & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & \alpha(S') & \hookrightarrow & \text{Alb}(S')
 \end{array}$$

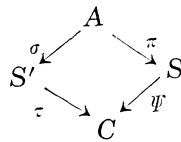
where  $\alpha$  is the Albanese map. In the above diagram we have used the fact that  $\text{Alb}(A) \simeq \text{Alb}(S) \simeq \mathcal{J}(C)$ . Note that  $\dim \alpha(S') = 1$ . We claim that  $j : C \rightarrow \alpha(S')$  is an isomorphism. Using the Riemann-Hurwitz formula the above claim is clear for  $g(C) > 1$ . For  $g(C) = 1$  we get that the morphism  $j$  is a covering map. But this is impossible by the commutativity of the first square diagram in \*). Therefore we get a morphism  $\tau : S' \rightarrow C$ , with  $\tau = j^{-1} \circ \alpha$ . Also  $f'_c$  (the closed subscheme induced in  $S'$  by  $f_c$ ) are fibres of  $\tau$ . Therefore  $S'$  is generically ruled over  $C$ . To see that  $S'$  is geometrically ruled we assume otherwise. Then there exists a fibre  $F = \sum_i n_i C_i$ . Let  $c = \tau(F)$ . Note that  $\sigma^{-1}(F) = \sum n_i F_i$ , where each  $F_i$  is a  $\mathbf{P}^1$  bundle over  $C_i$ . By the commutativity of the first square diagram in \*) we see that  $\sum n_i F_i = \sigma^{-1}(F) = \varphi^{-1}(c) = \mathbf{P}^1 \times \mathbf{P}^1$  which is impossible. If  $g(C) = 0$  then  $H^1(S', \mathcal{O}_{S'}) = 0$ . Thus there exists a line bundle  $L$  on  $S'$  such that the linear system  $|L|$  contains infinitely many  $f'_c$  where  $f'_c$  is the closed subscheme induced in  $S'$  by  $f_c$ . It follows immediately from

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}_{S'} \longrightarrow L \longrightarrow L|_{f'_c} \longrightarrow 0$$

that  $\dim |L| = 1$ . Also it can be easily seen that the linear system  $|L|$  is base point free. Hence it defines a morphism onto  $P^1$ . The general fibre of such morphism is isomorphic to  $P^1$ . Therefore by Noether's lemma  $S'$  is rational. The same argument as in the case  $g(C) > 0$ , shows that  $S'$  is geometrically ruled.

From the above proof it also follows that the elements of  $|L|$  are exactly  $\{f'_c\}_{c \in C}$ . □

Thus we have the following commutative diagram



We will now show that the case  $\beta$ ) cannot occur unless  $S = P_c(V)$  where  $V$  is a stable rank two vector bundle on  $C$ . (Obviously does not occur if  $S$  is rational ruled).

By the universality of the fibre product of  $S$  and  $S'$  over  $C$  we get a morphism  $A \rightarrow S \times_C S'$  which is an isomorphism by Zariski's Main Theorem. The surfaces  $S$  and  $S'$  are geometrically ruled over  $C$  and therefore there exist rank two vector bundles  $V$  and  $V'$  over  $C$  such that  $S = P(V)$  and  $S' = P(V')$ . For the quadruple

$$X, A, S', \text{ and } \pi' : A \rightarrow S'$$

the hypotheses of (1.0) are satisfied. If we were in case  $\beta$ ) with respect to  $X, A, S$ , and  $\pi$ , then we must be in case  $\alpha$ ) with respect to  $X, A, S', \pi'$ . To see this note that being in case  $\beta$ ) with respect to  $X, A, S$ , and  $\pi$ , then

$$[A_c] |_{P^1 \times P^1} = \mathcal{O}(1, t) \text{ with } t > 1,$$

i.e.  $[A]$  restricted to a fibre of  $\pi$  is of degree  $t > 1$ .  $\pi'$  restricted to  $A_c$  gives the ruling different from the ruling corresponding to  $\pi$  restricted to  $A_c$ . Therefore, with respect to  $X, A, S', \pi'$ , it follows that  $[A]$  restricted to a fibre of  $\pi'$  is of degree 1. Since this degree would have to be greater than 1 if we were in case  $\beta$ ) with respect to  $X, A, S', \pi'$  it follows that we are in case  $\alpha$ ) with respect to  $X, A, S', \pi'$ . Hence we conclude that the morphism  $\sigma : A \rightarrow S'$  extends to a morphism  $\tilde{\sigma} : X \rightarrow S'$  and that  $\tilde{\sigma} : X \rightarrow S'$  is a  $P^2$  bundle. Therefore we have the following exact sequence of vector bundles on  $S'$

$$(1.0.9) \quad 0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}_{S'} \longrightarrow E \xrightarrow{\gamma} F \longrightarrow 0$$

with  $X = P(E)$  and  $A = P(F)$  is embedded in  $X$  via the map  $\gamma$ . Since for every  $c \in C$   $(\tau \circ \sigma)^{-1}(c) \simeq P^1 \times P^1$  we have that  $F_{|\tau^{-1}(c)} = \mathcal{O}_{P^1}(a)_c \oplus \mathcal{O}_{P^1}(a_c)$ . It is an easy check to see that  $a_c$  is independent of  $c$  in  $C$ . Thus we can omit the subscript  $c$ . Consider the vector bundle  $F \otimes \xi^{-a}$  where  $\xi$  is the tautological line bundle of  $V'$ . By the base change theorem  $\tau_*(F \otimes \xi^{-a}) = \tilde{V}$  is a vector bundle on  $C$  of rank two. Thus (1.0.9) becomes

$$(1.0.10) \quad 0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}_{S'} \longrightarrow E \longrightarrow \tau^* \tilde{V} \otimes \xi^a \longrightarrow 0$$

$$(1.0.11) \quad \text{LEMMA. } S = P(\tilde{V}).$$

*Proof.* Note that  $A = P(F) = P(\tau^* V \otimes \xi^a) = P(\tau^* V)$ . Also  $A = S \times_c S' = P(V) \times_c S' = P(\tau^* \tilde{V})$ . Therefore there exists a line bundle  $\mathcal{L}$  on  $S'$  such that  $\tau^* \tilde{V} = \tau^* V \otimes \mathcal{L}$ . Taking the 0-th direct image via  $\tau$  on both sides of the equality we get that  $\tilde{V} = V \otimes \tau_* \mathcal{L}$ . Also  $\tau_* \mathcal{L}$  is a line bundle since  $\mathcal{L}_{|\tau^{-1}(c)}$  is trivial. Hence  $P(\tilde{V}) = P(V \otimes \tau_* \mathcal{L}) = P(V) = S$ .

(1.0.12) LEMMA. *If  $\tilde{V}$  is not a stable vector bundle on  $C$  then  $A$  not an ample divisor on  $X$ .*

*Proof.* It is enough to show that the sequence (1.0.10) splits. Since  $\tilde{V}$  is a vector bundle of rank 2 on the curve  $C$  which is not stable, there exists an exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow M \longrightarrow \tilde{V} \longrightarrow N \longrightarrow 0$$

such that  $\text{deg } M \geq \text{deg } N$ . If we pull back the above exact sequence via  $\tau$  and we tensor it with  $\xi^a$  we get

$$(1.0.13) \quad 0 \longrightarrow \tau^* M \otimes \xi^a \longrightarrow \tau^* \tilde{V} \otimes \xi^a \longrightarrow \tau^* N \otimes \xi^a \longrightarrow 0.$$

Note that  $\tau^* N \otimes \xi^a$  is ample. Hence  $\tau^* M \otimes \xi^a$  is ample since  $\text{deg } M \geq \text{deg } N$ . Therefore using the cohomology sequence associated to the dual sequence of (1.0.13), the ampleness of  $\tau^* N \otimes \xi^a$  and of  $\tau^* M \otimes \xi^a$  and the fact that  $a > 1$ , we conclude that  $H^1(S', (\tau^* \tilde{V} \otimes \xi^a)^\vee) = 0$ .

(Note that  $a = 1$  would imply that (1.0.10) splits). □

Thus we have shown that the case  $\beta$ ) does not occur unless  $S = P_c(V)$  with  $V$  a stable rank 2 vector bundle on  $C$ .

**§ 2.  $P^1$  bundles over  $P^n$  with  $n \geq 2$  as ample divisors**

(2.0) THEOREM. *Let  $X$  be a projective local complete intersection. Let*

*A be an ample divisor on X which is a  $\mathbf{P}^1$  bundle  $p : A \rightarrow \mathbf{P}^2$  over  $\mathbf{P}^2$ . Then X is a  $\mathbf{P}^2$  bundle over  $\mathbf{P}^2$  unless  $A \simeq \mathbf{P}^1 \times \mathbf{P}^2$ .*

*Proof.* We claim that the map  $p : A \rightarrow \mathbf{P}^2$  extends to a map  $\tilde{p} : X \rightarrow \mathbf{P}^2$  unless  $A \simeq \mathbf{P}^1 \times \mathbf{P}^2$ . Think of  $p$  as the map associated to the linear system  $|p^*\mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}^2}(1)|$ . To show that the map  $p$  extends it is enough to check that the sections of  $\Gamma(A, p^*\mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}^2}(1))$  can be extended to  $X$  as sections of  $\mathcal{L}$  where  $\mathcal{L}$  is the unique extension of  $p^*\mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}^2}(1)$  to  $X$ , see [So1]. Now to show that the sections extend it is sufficient to prove that  $H^1(X, \mathcal{L} \otimes [-A]) = 0$ . This is implied by  $H^1(A, (\mathcal{L} \otimes [-A]^t)_{|_A}) = 0$  for all  $t > 0$ , see [So1] or [Fa + So]. Let  $F \in |p^*\mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}^2}(1)|$ , i.e.,  $F = p^{-1}(\ell)$  where  $\ell$  is a linear hyperplane of  $\mathbf{P}^2$ . Using the long cohomology sequence associated to the following exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow K_A \otimes [A]^t \otimes [F]^{-1} \longrightarrow K_A \otimes [A]^t \longrightarrow (K_A \otimes [A]^t)_{|_F} \longrightarrow 0,$$

the Kodaira vanishing theorem and the fact that  $F$  is a  $\mathbf{P}^1$  bundle over  $\mathbf{P}^1$ , we get that  $H^1(A, \mathcal{L}_A \otimes [-A]^t_{|_A}) = 0$  for all  $t > 0$  unless  $F = F_0$ , with  $F_0$  as in (0.4).

Note that since  $A$  is a  $\mathbf{P}^1$  bundle over  $\mathbf{P}^2$  we have that  $A = \mathbf{P}(V)$ , where  $V$  is a rank 2 vector bundle on  $\mathbf{P}^2$ . In the case  $F = F_0$  we have that for every line  $\ell$  in  $\mathbf{P}^2$ ,  $V_{|\ell} = \mathcal{O}_\ell(a_\ell) \oplus \mathcal{O}_\ell(a_\ell)$ . Also it is easy to see that  $a_\ell$  is independent of  $\ell$ . Therefore the vector bundle  $V$  is uniform and so  $V = \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}^2}(a) \oplus \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}^2}(a)$ . Therefore  $A = \mathbf{P}(V) \simeq \mathbf{P}^1 \times \mathbf{P}^2$ . Thus the map  $p$  extends to a holomorphic map  $\tilde{p} : X \rightarrow \mathbf{P}^2$  unless  $A \simeq \mathbf{P}^1 \times \mathbf{P}^2$ . Now the same argument as in [Fa + So], (3.0) shows that  $X$  is a  $\mathbf{P}^2$  bundle over  $\mathbf{P}^2$ .  $\square$

(2.1) **THEOREM.** *Let X be a projective local complete intersection. Let A be an ample divisor on X which is a  $\mathbf{P}^1$  bundle  $p : A \rightarrow \mathbf{P}^n$  over  $\mathbf{P}^n$ . If  $n \geq 3$  then  $A \simeq \mathbf{P}^1 \times \mathbf{P}^n$  and hence X is a  $\mathbf{P}^{n+1}$  bundle over  $\mathbf{P}^1$ .*

*Proof.* Note that  $A = \mathbf{P}(V)$  for some rank 2 vector bundle  $V$  on  $\mathbf{P}^n$ . We can assume, without loss of generality that  $V$  is normalized. We will prove the theorem for  $n = 3$ . The same proof yields the general case also. Let  $F = p^{-1}(\mathbf{P}^2)$ , where  $\mathbf{P}^2$  is a hyperplane of  $\mathbf{P}^3$ . Let  $\mathcal{L} \in \text{Pic}(X)$  be such that  $\mathcal{L}_A = [F]$ . If  $\Gamma(X, \mathcal{L}) \rightarrow \Gamma(A, \mathcal{L}_A) \rightarrow 0$  then the map  $p$  extends to  $X$ . And we will have the contradiction that  $n \leq 2$ , see [So1], Proposition V. Thus we can assume that  $H^1(X, \mathcal{L} \otimes [A]^{-1}) \neq 0$ . This implies that  $H(A, \mathcal{L}_A \otimes [A]^{-t}_{|_A}) \neq 0$  for some  $t > 0$ . For such  $t$  we consider the following exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow K_A [A]^t \otimes [F]^{-1} \longrightarrow K_A \otimes [A]^t \longrightarrow K_F \otimes [A]_F^t \otimes [F]_F^{-1} \longrightarrow 0.$$

From the long exact cohomology sequence associated to the above sequence, Kodaira vanishing theorem and the fact that  $H^3(A, K_A \otimes [A]^t \otimes [F]^{-1}) \cong 0$  by hypothesis, it follows that  $H^2(F, K_F \otimes [A]_F^t \otimes [F]_F^{-1}) \cong 0$ .

Note that  $F$  is a  $P^1$  bundle  $p_F : F \longrightarrow P^2$  over  $P^2$ . Let  $\tilde{F} = p_{\tilde{F}}^{-1}(P^1)$ , where  $P^1$  is a hyperplane of  $P^2$ . We consider the sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow K_F \otimes [A]_F^t \otimes [\tilde{F}]^{-1} \longrightarrow K_F \otimes [A]_F^t \longrightarrow K_{\tilde{F}} \otimes [A]_{\tilde{F}}^t \otimes [F]_{\tilde{F}}^{-1} \longrightarrow 0.$$

And now, as above, we conclude that  $H^1(\tilde{F}, K_{\tilde{F}} \otimes [A]_{\tilde{F}}^t \otimes [F]_{\tilde{F}}^{-1}) \cong 0$ . This together with the fact  $\tilde{F}$  is a  $P^1$  bundle over  $P^1$  implies that  $F = F_0$ , where  $F_0$  is as in (0.4). Therefore we conclude that  $V_{|\ell}$  is trivial for all lines  $\ell \subseteq P^3$ , which implies that  $V$  is trivial. Thus  $A \simeq P^1 \times P^3$ . But  $A (\simeq P^1 \times P^3)$  is ample on  $X$ . Hence  $X$  is a  $P^{3+1}$  bundle, see [So1].  $\square$

*Note Added in Proof.* The main theorem of this paper which is stated in the introduction leaves open what the structure of the fourfold  $X$  is when  $S$  is the projectivization of a stable rank 2 vector bundle. This last open case has been settled by the second author E. Sato and H. Spindler in “On the structure of 4-folds with hyperplane section which is a  $P^1$  bundle over a ruled surface”, Springer Lecture Notes in Mathematics, **1194** (1986), 145–149.

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