

ON THE HYPERPLANE SECTIONS OF BLOW-UPS OF COMPLEX PROJECTIVE PLANE

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Introduction. Let L be a line bundle on a connected, smooth, algebraic, projective surface X . In this paper we have studied the following questions:

1) Under which conditions is L spanned by global sections? I.e., if $\phi_L : X \rightarrow \mathbf{P}^N$ denotes the map associated to the space $\Gamma(L)$ of the sections of L , when is ϕ_L a morphism?

2) Under which conditions is L very ample? I.e., when does ϕ_L give an embedding?

These problems arise naturally in the study, and in particular in the classification, of algebraic surfaces (see [8], [3], [5]).

In particular we have restricted our attention to the case in which X is gotten by blowing up s distinct points $x_1, \dots, x_s \in \mathbf{P}^2$. If we denote by P_1, \dots, P_s the corresponding exceptional curves then a line bundle L on X is of the form

$$L \equiv \pi^*O_{\mathbf{P}^2}(d) - \sum_{j=1, \dots, s} t_j P_j$$

where $\pi : X \rightarrow \mathbf{P}^2$ is the blowing up morphism with center x_1, \dots, x_s .

It was classically known that if

$$L \equiv \pi^*O_{\mathbf{P}^2}(3) - \sum_{j=1, \dots, s} P_j,$$

with x_1, \dots, x_s in sufficiently general position, then L is very ample if $s \leq 6$ and L is spanned by global sections if $s = 7$.

Partial answers to questions (1) and (2) are in [1] when $t_1 = \dots = t_s = 1$, in [7] when $s = 9$, in [9], [10], [11] when $h^0(L) = 5$.

Note that in our paper we obtain again the very ampleness of

$$L \equiv \pi^*O_{\mathbf{P}^2}(4) - \sum_{j=1, \dots, 10} P_j$$

which gives the Bordiga surface in \mathbf{P}^4 , see [13], [6], [9].

Further applications of our results can be found in [8].

In Section 0 we explain our notation and collect background material.

In Section 1 we give a modified version of the Beauville-Reider theorem.

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In Sections 2 and 3 we give sufficient conditions under which L is spanned or very ample.

The similar questions in the case of a ruled surface are examined in [2].

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0. Background material. (0.0) Let L be a line bundle on a smooth connected projective surface X . Let $M = L - K_X$, where K_X is the canonical line bundle on X .

(0.1) In order to simplify our notations we give the following definitions: Let X and L be as in (0.0).

1. We say that L is “0-very ample” if L is spanned by global sections;

2. We say that L is “1-very ample” if L is very ample.

THEOREM 0.2. *Let X, L and M be as in (0.0). Assume that*

1) M is big and nef

2) $M^2 \geq 5 + 4i, i = 0, 1$

3) L is not i -very ample.

Then there is an effective divisor E on X such that

$$M \cdot E - 1 - i \leq E^2 < M \cdot E / 2 < 1 + i.$$

Proof. See [12, Theorem 1, pg. 310].

1. Some implications of Reider’s method. (1.0) Let L be a line bundle on a smooth connected projective surface X . Let $M = L - K_X$.

Definition 1.0.1. For every $m \in \mathbb{N}$, denote by \mathcal{D}_m the set of all divisors $E \subseteq X$, such that $E \neq 0$ and mE is effective. Moreover we set

$$\mathcal{D} = \bigcup_{m \in \mathbb{N}} \mathcal{D}_m \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{D}_M = \{E \in \mathcal{D}_1 \mid M - 2E \in \mathcal{D}\}.$$

THEOREM 1.1. (Reider): *Let:*

1) $M \in \mathcal{D}$

2) $M^2 \geq 5 + 4i$

3) $(M - E) \cdot E \geq 2 + i$ for any $E \in \mathcal{D}_M$ and $i = 0, 1$.

Then L is i -very ample.

Proof. This is essentially the same as in Theorem (0.2).

(1.2) Let $E \in \mathcal{D}_1$. Then $E = E_1 + \cdots + E_k$ where $E_j, j = 1, \dots, k$ are all the irreducible and reduced components of E . Denote by $\mathcal{E}_i, i = 0, 1$, the set of all $E \in \mathcal{D}_1$ such that either $k = 1$ or if $k \geq 2$ then the following inequalities must be satisfied

$$(1.2.1) \quad \sum_{j=1, \dots, k} E_j \cdot (E - E_j) \geq (k - 1)(2 + i) + 1$$

and

$$(1.2.2) \quad E' \cdot E'' \geq 2 \quad \text{if } E = E' + E'' \text{ and } E', E'' \in \mathcal{D}_1.$$

LEMMA 1.2.3. *If any $E \in \mathcal{E}_i \cap \mathcal{D}_M, i = 0, 1$, verify the inequality*

$$(1.2.4) \quad (M - E) \cdot E \geq 2 + i$$

then (1.2.4) holds also for any $E \in \mathcal{D}_M$.

Proof. Let $E = E_1 + \dots + E_k \in \mathcal{D}_M$. where $E_j, j = 1, \dots, k$, are all the irreducible and reduced components of E . Then $E_j \in \mathcal{E}_i \cap \mathcal{D}_M$. Assume that $E \notin \mathcal{E}_i$. Then $k \geq 2$. If (1.2.1) is not satisfied then

$$\begin{aligned} (M - E) \cdot E &= \sum_{j=1, \dots, k} (M - E_j) \cdot E_j - \sum_{j=1, \dots, k} E_j \cdot (E - E_j) \\ &\geq k(2 + i) - (k + 1)(2 + i) \geq 2 + i, \quad i = 0, 1, \end{aligned}$$

i.e., (1.2.4) holds. Assume now that (1.2.2) does not hold. We proceed by induction on k . Let $k = 2$. If (1.2.1) is not satisfied then we are in the above case and thus (1.2.4) holds. Suppose that (1.2.1) is satisfied. Since for $k = 2$ (1.2.1) implies (1.2.2) then (1.2.4) is satisfied by assumption. We now assume that for any $k' \leq k - 1$ the statement is true. Since (1.2.2) is not satisfied there are $E', E'' \in \mathcal{D}_1$ such that $E' + E'' = E = E_1 + \dots + E_k$ and $E' \cdot E'' \leq 1$. Then E' and E'' satisfy (1.2.4) and we have

$$(M - E) \cdot E = (M - E') \cdot E' + (M - E'') \cdot E'' - 2E' \cdot E'' \geq 2 + 2i.$$

Thus E satisfies (1.2.4).

LEMMA 1.3. *Let $E \in \mathcal{E}_i, i = 0, 1$. Then $g(E) \geq 0$, where*

$$g(E) = 1 + (E + K_X) \cdot E / 2.$$

Proof. Let $E = E_1 + \dots + E_k \in \mathcal{D}_1$ where $E_j, j = 1, \dots, k$ are all the irreducible and reduced components of E . Assume that $g(E) < 0$. Then $k \geq 2$. Moreover, since

$$g(E) = \sum_{j=1, \dots, k} g(E_j) - (k - 1) + 1/2 \sum_{j=1, \dots, k} E_j \cdot (E - E_j)$$

where $g(E_j) \geq 0$ we have

$$\sum_{j=1, \dots, k} E_j \cdot (E - E_j) < 2(k - 1) \leq (k - 1)(2 + i)$$

which implies $E \notin \mathcal{E}_i$. Thus we have a contradiction.

Remark 1.3.1. Let $E \in \mathcal{D}_1$. Then

$$1) (M - E) \cdot E = L \cdot E - 2g(E) + 2$$

2) If $g(E) = 0$ then $E \in \mathcal{E}_i$ if and only if E is smooth. Moreover if L is i -very ample then $L \cdot E \geq i$.

LEMMA 1.3.2. Let $E \in \mathcal{D}_M$, $g(E) = 1$ and L be very ample. Then $L \cdot E \geq 3$.

Proof. Since L is very ample then $L \cdot E \geq 1$. If $L \cdot E = 1$ then E is a line relative to L while if $L \cdot E = 2$ then E is a conic relative to L . In both cases we have a contradiction since $g(E) = 1$.

(1.4) Let $E \in \mathcal{D}_M$. Since

$$(1.4.1) \quad M^2 = 4E \cdot (M - E) + (M - 2E)^2$$

then $E \cdot (M - E) \geq 2 + i$ if and only if $M^2 \geq 5 + 4i + (M - 2E)^2$. Moreover from (1.4.1) assuming

$$(1.4.2) \quad \begin{cases} M^2 \geq 5 + 4i \\ (M - E) \cdot E \leq 1 + i \end{cases}$$

then

$$(1.4.3) \quad (M - 2E)^2 \geq 1.$$

LEMMA 1.4.4. Let $E \in \mathcal{D}_M$, $i = 0, 1$. Assume that

$$(1.4.5) \quad E^2 \geq 0 \text{ and } (M - 2E) \cdot E \geq 0.$$

and that (1.4.2) holds. Then one of the following is satisfied

- 1) $i = 0, E^2 = 0, M \cdot E = 1$
- 2) $i = 1, E^2 = 0, M \cdot E = 1, 2$
- 3) $i = 1, E^2 = 1, M \equiv 3E$.

Proof. From (1.4.2) and (1.4.5) it follows that

$$0 \leq E \cdot (M - 2E) \leq 1 + i - E^2$$

which combined with Hodge Index Theorem, (1.4.5) and (1.4.3) gives

$$(1.4.6) \quad E^2 \leq E^2 \cdot (M - 2E)^2 \leq (E \cdot (M - 2E))^2 \leq (1 + i - E^2)^2.$$

Moreover

$$(1.4.7) \quad M \cdot E > 2E^2.$$

In fact if $M \cdot E = 2E^2$ then, by Hodge Index Theorem, $M - 2E \equiv \lambda E$ for some $\lambda \in \mathbf{Q}$. Thus $E^2 = 0$ and again, by Hodge Index Theorem, we get $M \equiv \mu E$ for some $\mu \in \mathbf{Q}$. Thus $M^2 = 0$ which contradicts (1.4.2). Applying now (1.4.6) and (1.4.7) we get the statement.

LEMMA 1.4.8. *Let $M^2 \geq 5 + 4i$ and let $E^2 \geq -1$ for any $E \in \mathcal{E}_i \cap \mathcal{D}_M$ such that $g(E) = 0$. If there is $E \in \mathcal{E}_i \cap \mathcal{D}_M$ such that $g(E) = 1, E^2 = 0$ and $1 \leq M \cdot E \leq 1 + i$, then L is not i -very ample.*

Proof. We have

$$M \cdot E = (M - E) \cdot E = L \cdot E - 2g(E) + 2 = L \cdot E.$$

If $i = 1$ the statement follows from (1.3.2). If $i = 0$ then $M \cdot E = L \cdot E = 1$. Let

$$E = E_1 + \dots + E_k \in \mathcal{E}_i \cap \mathcal{D}_M,$$

where $E_j, j = 1, \dots, k$ are all the irreducible and reduced components of E . We study the two cases $k = 1$ and $k \geq 2$. Let $k = 1$. If E is smooth it follows immediately that L is not spanned. If E is not smooth then there is a singular point $P \in E$. Since if P is a base point we are done, we can suppose that P is not a base point. We have

$$\dim|L - P| = \dim|L| - 1.$$

Furthermore $D' \cdot E \geq 2$ for any $D' \in |L - P|$. Hence $|L - P| = |L - E|$. If $D \in |L| - |L - P|$ then $Q \in D \cap E$ is a base point. Thus also in this case L is not spanned. Let $k \geq 2$. Since

$$\begin{aligned} 1 = g(E) &= \sum_{j=1, \dots, k} g(E_j) - (k - 1) + 1/2 \sum_{t=1, \dots, k} E_t \cdot (E - E_t) \\ &\geq \sum_{t=1, \dots, k} g(E_t) + 1 \end{aligned}$$

then $g(E_t) = 0$ for $t = 1, \dots, k$. Moreover

$$0 = E^2 = \sum_{t=1, \dots, k} E_t + \sum_{t=1, \dots, k} E_t \cdot (E - E_t) \geq -k + 2k = k > 1$$

which gives a contradiction.

2. Rational surfaces. (2.0) Let x_1, \dots, x_s be distinct points on \mathbf{P}^2 . Let $\pi : X \rightarrow \mathbf{P}^2$ express X as \mathbf{P}^2 with x_1, \dots, x_s blown up. Denote by $P_j = \pi^{-1}(x_j), j = 1, \dots, s$ the corresponding exceptional curves. We set

$$L = \pi^*(O_{\mathbf{P}^2}(d)) \otimes [P_1]^{-t_1} \otimes \dots \otimes [P_s]^{-t_s} \quad \text{and} \quad M = L \otimes K_X$$

where $t_1, \dots, t_S \in \mathbf{N}$. Without loss of generality we can assume that $t_1 \geq \dots \geq t_S$. If

$$r \in |\pi^*(O_{\mathbf{P}^2}(1))|$$

then

$$L \equiv dr - \sum_{j=1, \dots, s} t_j P_j \quad \text{and} \quad M \equiv (d+3)r - \sum_{j=1, \dots, s} (t_j + 1)P_j.$$

Throughout the rest of the paper we will suppose X, L and M being as in (2.0).

LEMMA 2.0.1. *Let $M^2 > 0$ and $d \geq 0$. Then $M \in \mathcal{D}$.*

Proof. From the Riemann-Roch Theorem it follows that

$$h^0(\alpha M) \geq \chi(O_X) + (1/2)(\alpha^2 M^2 - \alpha M \cdot K_X) > 0$$

for $\alpha \gg 0$, since

$$h^2(\alpha M) = h^0(K_X - \alpha M) = 0.$$

(2.1) Denote by \mathcal{D}^* the set of all divisors

$$E \equiv yr - \sum_{j=1, \dots, s} \alpha_j P_j$$

on X such that $y \geq 0$ and $\alpha_j \leq y$. Then $\mathcal{D}^* \supseteq \mathcal{D}$. Moreover if we write

$$\mathcal{D}'_M = \{E \in \mathcal{D}_1 \mid M - 2E \in \mathcal{D}^*\}$$

then $\mathcal{D}'_M \supseteq \mathcal{D}_M$. Let now

$$E \equiv yr - \sum_{j=1, \dots, s} \alpha_j P_j \in \mathcal{E}_i \cap \mathcal{D}_M, i = 0, 1$$

and let

$$M - 2E \equiv xr - \sum_{j=1, \dots, s} \lambda_j P_j,$$

i.e., $x = d + 3 - 2y, \lambda_j = t_j + 1 - 2\alpha_j$. Since $E, M - 2E \in \mathcal{D}^*$ then

$$0 \leq y \leq (d + 3)/2 \quad \text{and} \quad (t_j + 1 - x)/2 \leq \alpha_j \leq y.$$

Remark 2.1.1. In view of (1.4.3), if $M^2 \geq 5 + 4i$ and if $(M - E) \cdot E \leq 1 + i$, then $x \geq 1$.

LEMMA 2.1.2. Let $M^2 \geq 5 + 4i$ and let $E \in \mathcal{E}_i \cap \mathcal{D}_M$ such that $E^2 \geq 0$. If $E \cdot (M - E) \leq 1 + i$ then one of the following is verified:

- 1) $i = 0, E^2 = 0, M \cdot E = 1$
- 2) $i = 1, E^2 = 0, M \cdot E = 1, 2$
- 3) $i = 1, E^2 = 1, M \equiv 3E$.

Proof. By (1.4.4) we have to prove only that $E \cdot (M - 2E) \geq 0$. If

$$E \cdot (M - 2E) = xy - \sum_{j=1, \dots, s} \alpha_j \lambda_j < 0$$

then from (1.4.3) it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} x^2 y^2 &< \left(\sum_{j=1, \dots, s} \alpha_j \lambda_j \right)^2 \leq \left(\sum_{j=1, \dots, s} \alpha_j^2 \right) \left(\sum_{j=1, \dots, s} \lambda_j^2 \right) \\ &\leq (y^2 - E^2)(x^2 - 1) \end{aligned}$$

i.e.,

$$0 < E^2 - E^2 x^2 - y^2 = E^2 x^2 - \sum_{j=i, \dots, s} \alpha_j^2 \leq 0.$$

Hence we get a contradiction.

LEMMA 2.1.3. Let $M^2 \geq 5 + 4i$ and let

$$(2.1.4) \quad E_M \equiv [(d + 3)/2]r - \sum_{j=1, \dots, s} [(t_j + 1)/2]P_j.$$

If E_M is effective then

$$(2.1.5) \quad E_M \cdot (M - E_M) \geq 2 + i$$

if and only if one of the following holds:

- 1) $M^2 \geq 6 + 4i$
- 2) $d + 3$ is even
- 3) if η is the number of $j \in \{1, \dots, s\}$ such that t_j is even then $\eta \geq 1$.

Proof. From (1.4.1) it follows that

$$(2.1.6) \quad E_M \cdot (M - E_M) = (1/4)(M^2 - (M - 2E_M)^2).$$

Let $h = d + 3 - 2[(d + 3)/2]$ then

$$(2.1.7) \quad (M - 2E_M)^2 = h - \eta.$$

Thus, using (2.1.6) and (2.1.7), it follows that (2.1.5) is satisfied if and only if at least one among 1), 2), and 3) holds.

LEMMA 2.1.8. *Let $M^2 \geq 5 + 4i$ and let $x \geq 1$. Consider*

$$E \equiv yr - \sum_{j=1, \dots, s} \alpha_j P_j \in \mathcal{E}_i, i = 0, 1.$$

Then:

- 1) If $y = 0$ then $\sum_{j=1, \dots, s} \alpha_j = -1$ and $\alpha_j \leq 0, j = 1, \dots, s$
- 2) If $y \geq 1$ then $\alpha_j \geq 0, j = 1, \dots, s$
- 3) If $y \geq 2$ then $\alpha_j \leq y - 1, j = 1, \dots, s$
- 4) If $E^\wedge \equiv yr - \sum_{j=1, \dots, s} \beta_j P_j$ where $\beta_j = \text{Min} \{ \alpha_j, (t_j + 1)/2 \}$ then $E^\wedge \in \mathcal{E}_i$ and

$$(2.1.9) \quad E^\wedge \cdot (M - E^\wedge) \leq E \cdot (M - E).$$

Moreover if $(M - 2E) \in \mathcal{D}^*$ then also $(M - 2E^\wedge) \in \mathcal{D}^*$.

Proof. 1) Since E is effective and $E \neq 0$ then $\alpha_j \leq 0$. Moreover if

$$\sum_{j=1, \dots, s} \alpha_j \leq -2$$

then $g(E) < 0$ and from (1.3) it follows that $E \notin \mathcal{E}_i$. 2) If $\alpha_j < 0$ for some $j \in \{1, \dots, s\}$ then $E_1 = P_j$ and $E_2 = E - E_1$ are effective divisors such that $E_1 \cdot E_2 \leq 0$ and again $E \notin \mathcal{E}_i$. 3) If $\alpha_j = y$ for some $j \in \{1, \dots, s\}$ then $g(E) < 0$ and therefore by (1.3) we have $E \notin \mathcal{E}_i$. 4) It is easy to see that (2.1.9) is verified. It remains to prove that $E^\wedge \in \mathcal{E}_i$. If $\alpha_j = 1$ for $j = \{1, \dots, s\}$ then $\beta_j = \alpha_j$ and $E = E^\wedge$. Assume that $\alpha_t \geq 2$ for some $t \in \{1, \dots, s\}$ then:

$$(2.1.10) \quad E + P_t \in \mathcal{E}_i.$$

To prove (2.1.10) we have to prove that $E + P_t$ satisfies (1.2.1) and (1.2.2). Let $E_{k+1} = P_t$ and $E = E_1 + \dots + E_k$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=1, \dots, k+1} E_j \cdot (E + P_t - E_j) &= \sum_{j=1, \dots, k} E_j \cdot (E - E_j) + 2P_t \cdot E \\ &\geq (k - 1)(2 + i) + 1 + 2\alpha_t \geq k(2 + i) + 1. \end{aligned}$$

Thus (1.2.1) is satisfied. Let E' and E'' be effective divisors on X such that $E = E' + E''$. To show that $E + P_t$ verifies (1.2.2) it is enough to prove that

$$(2.1.11) \quad (E' + P_t) \cdot E'' \geq 2.$$

If $E'' \cdot P_t \geq 0$ then (2.1.11) is verified since $E' \cdot E \geq 2$. Assume that $E'' \cdot P_t < 0$. Let $F' = E' + P_t$ and $F'' = E'' - P_t$. Then F' and F'' are effective divisors such that $F' + F'' = E$ and therefore $F' \cdot F'' \geq 2$ since $E \in \mathcal{E}_t$. We have

$$(E' + P_t) \cdot E'' = F' \cdot (F'' + P_t) = F' \cdot F'' + F' \cdot P_t \quad \text{and}$$

$$E' \cdot P_t = \alpha_t - E'' \cdot P_t - 1 \geq 2.$$

Thus (2.1.11) is again verified and consequently (2.1.10) is satisfied too. By (2.1.10) and by induction on

$$n = \sum_{j=1, \dots, s} (\alpha_j - \beta_j),$$

we obtain that $E^\wedge \in \mathcal{E}_t$. Moreover since

$$(M - 2E^\wedge) \cdot P_j = \rho_j = t_j + 1 - 2\beta_j$$

then

$$\rho_j = \begin{cases} \lambda_j & \text{if } (t_j + 1)/2 \geq \alpha_j \\ 1 & \text{if } (t_j + 1)/2 < \alpha_j \text{ and } t_j \text{ is even} \\ 0 & \text{if } (t_j + 1)/2 < \alpha_j \text{ and } t_j \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$$

It is easy to check that $\rho_j \leq x$.

Denote by T_i the set of all

$$E \equiv yr - \sum_{j=1, \dots, s} \alpha_j P_j \in \mathcal{E}_i \cap \mathcal{D}_M \quad \text{such that } 1 \leq y \leq (d + 2)/2$$

and

$$\text{Max} \{0, (t_j + 2y - d - 2)/2\} \leq \alpha_j$$

$$\leq \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } y = 1 \\ \text{Min}\{y - 1, (t_j + 1)/2\} & \text{if } y \geq 2. \end{cases}$$

THEOREM 2.2. *Let $i = 0, 1$ and let:*

- 1) $d \geq 0$
- 2) $M^2 \geq 5 + 4i$
- 3) $(M - E) \cdot E \geq 2 + i$ for any $E \in T_i$ such that $E^2 < 0$.

Then L is i -very ample unless there is $E \in T_i$ such that either $E^2 = 0$ and $1 \leq M \cdot E \leq 1 + i$ or $i = 1, E^2 = 1$ and $M \equiv 3E$.

Proof. The theorem is a direct consequence of (1.1) and of (2.1.2). In fact since $d \geq 0$ and $M^2 \geq 5 + 4i$, by (2.0.1), we have $E \in \mathcal{D}$. Moreover applying

(1.2.3), (2.1.8) and (2.1.1), it follows that the condition 3) of (1.1) is satisfied if $(M - E) \cdot E \geq 2 + i$ for any $E \in T_i$. The theorem now follows applying (2.1.2).

THEOREM 2.3. *Let*

- 1) $2 \geq t_1 \geq \dots \geq t_s$
- 2) $M^2 \geq 5 + 4i, i = 0, 1$

Then L is i -very ample if for any y such that $1 \leq y \leq (d + 2)/2$ and for any $D \in |O_{\mathbb{P}^2}(y)|$, the following in equality holds:

$$(2.3.1) \quad \sum_{j \in \Lambda_\Delta} t_j \leq y(d + 3 - y) - 2 - i$$

where $\Lambda_\Delta = \{j \in [1, \dots, s] | x_j \in D\}$.

Proof. The statement follows easily from (2.2) and the fact that (2.3.1) is equivalent to

$$(2.3.2) \quad E \cdot (M - E) \geq 2 + i$$

for any $E \equiv yr - \sum_{j=1, \dots, s} \alpha_j P_j$ such that $1 \leq y \leq (d + 2)/2$ and $0 \leq \alpha_j \leq 1$.

Remark 2.3.3. When $t_1 = \dots = t_s = 1$, the above theorem improves the result in [1]. In particular if $d = 4$ we get that $L \equiv 4r - \sum_{j=1, \dots, s} P_j$ is i -very ample if $s \leq 11 - i, i = 0, 1$. This bound is sharp (see [1]). Hence when $s = 10, \phi_L$ embeds X in \mathbb{P}^4 provided that at most 3, 7 and 9 of the x_j lie respectively on a line, a conic and a cubic. In this case (X, L) is called “Bordiga Surface” (see [9], [10], [11], [6], [13]).

THEOREM 2.4. *If*

$$(2.4.1) \quad d \geq i + \sum_{j=1, \dots, s} t_j, i = 0, 1$$

then L is i -very ample.

Proof. We have to proof that:

- 1) $M^2 \geq 5 + 4i$
- 2) $(M - E) \cdot E \geq 2 + i$ for any $E \equiv yr - \sum_{j=1, \dots, s} \alpha_j P_j \in \mathcal{E}_i \cap \mathcal{D}_M$.

If $s = 0$ then (2.4.1) is trivially true. Assume that

$$\sum_{j=1, \dots, s} t_j \geq s \geq 1.$$

Since

$$\begin{aligned} M^2 &= (d + 3)^2 - \sum_{j=1, \dots, s} (t_j + 1)^2 \geq (4 + 2i) \sum_{j=1, \dots, s} t_j + (3 + i)^2 - s \\ &\geq (3 + 2i) \sum_{j=1, \dots, s} t_j + (3 + i)^2 \\ &\geq 12 + 9i > 5 + 4i, \end{aligned}$$

1) is proved. We want now to prove 2). We have

$$(M - E) \cdot E = y(d + 3 - y) - \sum_{j=1, \dots, s} \alpha_j(t_j + 1 - \alpha_j).$$

If $y = 0$ then $(M - E) \cdot E \geq 3$. If $y = 1, 2$ then $0 \leq \alpha_j \leq 1$ and

$$(M - E) \cdot E \geq (y - 1) \sum_{j=1, \dots, s} t_j + y(3 + i - y) \geq 2 + i.$$

Thus we assume $y \geq 3$. If $y \geq 3$ then by (2.1.8) we may assume

$$\alpha_j \leq \text{Min}\{y - 1, (t_j + 1)/2\}, j = 1, \dots, s \quad \text{and}$$

$$(M - E) \cdot E \geq -y^2 + (3 + i)y + \sum_{j=1, \dots, s} (yt_j - \alpha_j(t_j + 1\alpha_j)).$$

We need to consider two cases:

$$\text{a) } (t_j + 1)/2 < y - 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \text{b) } y - 1 \leq (t_j + 1)/2.$$

In case a)

$$yt_j - \alpha_j(t_j + 1 - \alpha_j) \geq t_j(t_j + 4)/2 - ((t_j + 1)/2)^2 > 0.$$

In case b)

$$yt_j - \alpha_j(t_j + 1 - \alpha_j) \geq yt_j - (y - 1)(t_j + 2 - y) = y^2 - 3y + 2 + t_j > 0.$$

If $(t_1 + 1)/2 \geq y - 1$, then

$$\begin{aligned} (M - E) \cdot E &\geq -y^2 + (3 + i)y + yt_1 - \alpha_1(t_1 + 1 - \alpha_1) \\ &\geq iy + 2 + t_1 \geq 2 + i. \end{aligned}$$

Assume now $(t_1 + 1)/2 < y - 1$, then

$$(t_j + 4)/2 \leq y, j = 1, \dots, s.$$

By (2.1.1) we may assume $y \leq (d + 2)/2$. Thus we have

$$\begin{aligned} (M - E) \cdot E &\geq (d + 4)y/2 - \sum_{j=1, \dots, s} ((t_j + 1)/2)^2 \\ &\geq y(i + 4)/2 + \left(\sum_{j=1, \dots, s} (2t_j y - (t_j + 1)^2) \right) / 4 \\ &\geq y(i + 4)/2 + \left(\sum_{j=1, \dots, s} (2t_j - 1) \right) / 4 \geq 2 + i. \end{aligned}$$

Remark 2.4.2. The bound (2.4.1) is sharp. It can be improved only under the condition that not all the points $x_j, j = 1, \dots, s$, lie on a line.

Remark 2.4.3. We like to point out that the above theorem is very useful in the investigation of the existence of surfaces whose minimal model is \mathbf{P}^2 , see [8]. However if

$$d < i + \sum_{j=1, \dots, s} t_j,$$

where $i = 0, 1$ in order to be able to answer to the question if L is i -very ample it is necessary a study of the position of the points x_1, \dots, x_s . A contribution to this problem is given in the following section.

3. General position.

Definition 3.0. We say that x_1, \dots, x_s are in general position with respect to L if for any $E \in |O_{\mathbf{P}^2}(y)|$ such that:

- 1) E is irreducible and reduced
- 2) $1 \leq y \leq (d + 2)/2$
- 3) $\mu_j(E_j) \leq (t_j + 1)/2, i = 1, \dots, s$.

Then

$$(3.0.1) \quad (1/2) \sum_{j=1, \dots, s} \mu_j(E)(\mu_j(E) + 1) \leq h^0(E) - 1 = y(y + 3)/2$$

where $\mu_j(E)$ denotes the multiplicity of E at x_j .

Remark 3.0.2. If $2 \geq t_1 \geq \dots \geq t_s$ then $\mu_j(E) \leq 1$ and (3.0.1) becomes

$$(3.0.3) \quad \sum_{j=1, \dots, s} \mu_j(E) \leq y(y + 3)/2$$

which means that there are no more than two points on a line, no more than five points on a conic, no more than nine points on a cubic, etc.

LEMMA 3.1. *Let x_1, \dots, x_s be in general position with respect to L . Let*

$$E \equiv yr - \sum_{j=1, \dots, s} \alpha_j P_j \in \mathcal{E}_i$$

be such that $y \leq (d + 2)/2$ and $\alpha_j \leq (t_j + 1)/2, j = 1, \dots, s$. Then

$$(3.1.1) \quad (1/2) \sum_{j=1, \dots, s} \alpha_j(\alpha_j + 1) \leq y(y + 3)/2.$$

Proof. If $y = 0$ then

$$\sum_{j=1, \dots, s} \alpha_j = -1 \quad \text{and} \quad \alpha_j \leq 0, j = 1, \dots, s,$$

hence (3.1.1) holds. Assume that $E = E_1 + \dots + E_k$, where $E_t, t = 1, \dots, k$ are all the irreducible and reduced components of E . Since $E_t, t = 1, \dots, k$ satisfies (3.1.1) we can assume $k \geq 2$. We claim that also E verifies (3.1.1). In fact if E does not satisfies (3.1.1) we get a contradiction since

$$0 > y(y + 3) - \sum_{j=1, \dots, s} \alpha_j(\alpha_j + 1) = \sum_{j=1, \dots, k} E_t \cdot (E_t - K_X) + \sum_{j=1, \dots, k} E_t \cdot (E - E_t) \geq (k - 1)(2 + i) \geq 2 + i.$$

Note. (3.1.1) is equivalent to

$$(3.1.2) \quad E \cdot (E - K_X) \geq 0.$$

PROPOSITION 3.2. Let $M^2 \geq 5 + 4i$ and let that x_1, \dots, x_s be in general position with respect to L . Consider

$$E \equiv yr - \sum_{j=1, \dots, s} \alpha_j P_j \in \mathcal{E}_i \cap \mathcal{D}_M$$

such that $g(E) \geq 1$. If $E \cdot (M - E) \leq 1 + i$ then either $g(E) = 1, E^2 = 0$ and $1 \leq M \cdot E \leq 1 + i$ or $i = 1, g(E) \leq 2, E^2 = 1$ and $M \equiv 3E$.

Proof. Since (3.1.2) and $g(E) \geq 1$ imply that

$$3.2.1. \quad E^2 \geq g(E) - 1 \geq 0$$

the statement follows easily from (2.1.2).

LEMMA (3.2.2) Let $M^2 \geq 5 + 4i$ and let x_1, \dots, x_s be in general position with respect to L . If there is an $E \in \mathcal{E}_i \cap \mathcal{D}_M$ such that $g(E) = 1, E^2 = 0$ and $1 \leq M \cdot E \leq 1 + i$, then L is not i -very ample.

Proof. We have

$$M \cdot E = (M - E) \cdot E = L \cdot E - 2g(E) + 2 = L \cdot E.$$

Thus when $i = 1$ the statement follows from (1.3.2). Assume that $i = 0$. Then $M \cdot E - L \cdot E = 1$. Moreover if there is $F \in \mathcal{E}_i \cap \mathcal{D}_M$ with $g(F) = 0$ then, since x_1, \dots, x_s are in general position with respect to $L, F^2 \geq -1$. So the statement follows from (1.4.8).

THEOREM 3.3. Let:

- 1) $M^2 \geq 5 + 4i$
- 2) x_1, \dots, x_s are in general position with respect to L

3) for any $E \in \mathcal{E}_i \cap \mathcal{D}_M$ such that $g(E) = 2$ then either $E^2 \neq 1$ or $M \not\cong 3E$. Then L is i -very ample if and only if for any $E \in \mathcal{E}_i \cap \mathcal{D}_M$ such that $0 \leq g(E) \leq 1$ we have $L \cdot E \geq 2g(E) + i$.

Proof. The statement follows from (1.3.2), (3.2) and (3.2.2).

THEOREM 3.4. Assume that:

- 1) x_1, \dots, x_s are in general position with respect to L
- 2) $M^2 \geq 5 + 4i, i = 0, 1$
- 3) for any $E \in \mathcal{E}_i \cap \mathcal{D}_M$ such that $g(E) = 2$ either $E^2 \neq 1$ or $M \not\cong 3E$.

Then L is i -very ample if $d \geq 3t_1 + 1$.

Proof. Assume that $d \geq 3t_1 + 1$ and that there is

$$E \equiv yr - \sum_{j=1, \dots, s} \alpha_j P_j \in \mathcal{E}_i \cap \mathcal{D}_M$$

such that $g(E) = 0, 1$ and

$$(3.4.1) \quad L \cdot E \leq 2g(E) - 1 + i.$$

Then $y \geq 1$. Moreover by the general position hypothesis on x_1, \dots, x_s it follows that

$$(3.4.2) \quad E \cdot K_X \leq g(E) - 1 \leq E^2.$$

Therefore

$$(L \cdot E + t_1 E \cdot K_X) = y(d - 3t_1) + \sum_{j=1, \dots, s} \alpha_j (t_1 - t_j) \geq y(d - 3t_1).$$

Combining (3.4.1) and (3.4.2) we get that

$$(L \cdot E + t_1 E \cdot K_X) \leq (2 + t_1)(g(E) - 1) + 1 + i.$$

Hence

$$d \leq 3t_1 + (A/y)$$

where

$$A = (2 + t_1)(g(E) - 1) + 1 + i.$$

If $g(E) = 0$ then $A < 0$. If $g(E) = 1$ then $y \geq 3$ and $A = 1 + i$. In both cases we get $d \leq 3t_1$ which gives a contradiction.

Remark 3.4.1. Let X, L and M be as in Theorem (3.4). Assume that $t_1 \leq 2$. Then L is i -very ample if $d \geq 7$. If $1 \leq d \leq 6$ a direct computation shows that L is i -very ample if it satisfies the conditions in the following table I:

i	d	L is i -very ample if
0, 1	1	$p = 0$ and $q \leq 1 - i$
0, 1	2	$p \leq 1 - i, 1 \leq 2 - i$ if $p = 1 - i$
0, 1	3	$p \leq 1, q \leq i - 1$ if $p = 2 - i$
1	4	$p \leq 1$
0	4	$p \leq 4, q = 0$ if $p = 4$
1	5	$p \leq 4$
0, 1	6	$p \leq 8 - i, q \leq i$ if $p = 8 - 1$

where $p, q \in \mathbf{Z}_+$ are such that $p + q = s$ and $t_1 = \dots = t_p = 2, t_{p+1} = \dots = t_s = 1$. Conversely if L is not as in table I, L is not i -very ample. (Remember that we are supposing $M^2 \geq 5 + 4i$). For example, consider

$$L_i = 6r - 2 \sum_{j=1, \dots, 7} P_j - (2 - i)P_8 - P_9, i = 0, 1$$

and let

$$E \equiv 3r - \sum_{j=1, \dots, 9} P_j \in \mathcal{D}_1.$$

Then $g(E) - 1, L \cdot E = 1 + i, E^2 = 0$. Therefore, from (3.3) it follows that L_i is not i -very ample.

Note. After this paper was written, R. Weinfurter, a student of K. Hulek, has generalized our results to the case of infinitesimally near points.

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