

## RIGIDITY THEOREMS FOR PRIMITIVE FANO 3-FOLDS

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### INTRODUCTION

A fundamental problem in the classification theory of algebraic manifolds is how many different projective structures can exist on a given manifold  $X_0$ . The answer may vary from only few structures to the existence of moduli spaces.

In case  $X_0$  is the projective space  $\mathbf{P}_n$ , it is known by Hirzebruch-Kodaira [HK] and Yau [Y] that any projective manifold homeomorphic to  $X_0$  is again  $\mathbf{P}_n$ . For  $n$  even this requires the existence of a Kähler-Einstein metric on the potential candidate  $X$  homeomorphic to  $\mathbf{P}_n$ . But already for the quadric  $Q_n$  the analogous result is known only in case  $n$  is odd (Brieskorn [Br]). Even the surface case is unsettled : there might be a surface of general type which is homeomorphic to  $\mathbf{P}_1 \times \mathbf{P}_1$ . The projective structures on  $\mathbf{P}_1 \times \mathbf{P}_1$  of Kodaira dimension  $\neq 2$  are just the ruled surfaces  $\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}_1} \oplus \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}_1}(-n))$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  even.

Unknown are also the possible projective structures on  $\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}_1} \oplus \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}_1}(-1))$  different from  $\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}_1} \oplus \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}_1}(-n))$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  odd, which again are suspected not to exist.

The next interesting surfaces to look at would be Fano surfaces  $X_0$  (i.e.  $-K_{X_0}$  is ample), which are classically called del Pezzo surfaces. It is well known that Barlow's surface (which is of general type) is homeomorphic to  $\mathbf{P}_2$  blown up in 8 points. But for instance it is unknown whether there is a surface of general type homeomorphic to  $\mathbf{P}_2$  blown up in, say, 2 points.

The aim of this paper is the study of projective structures on certain Fano 3-folds  $X_0$ . As we already saw in the surface case, difficulties arise to exclude possible  $X$  with  $K_X$  ample, or  $K_X$  nef ( $(K_X \cdot C) \geq 0$  for every curve  $C$ ). In the 3-fold case this can be excluded if we know that  $\chi(\mathcal{O}_X) > 0$  using a result

of Miyaoka. Of course,  $\chi(\mathcal{O}_{X_0}) = 1$ , so we ask whether  $\chi(\mathcal{O}_X)$  is a topological invariant for projective 3-folds.

Clearly  $\dim H^i(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  are topological invariants for  $i = 1, 2$  if  $b_2 \leq 2$  but whether  $\dim H^3(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  is also invariant is a deep unsolved problem. We can force  $H^3(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  to vanish by requiring  $b_3(X_0) = 0$ . So we deal only with Fano 3-folds with vanishing  $b_3$ . In case  $b_2(X_0) = 1$  those  $X_0$  are well understood and easy to deal with :  $X_0$  is  $\mathbf{P}_3, Q_3$ , one 3-fold of index 2 and a family of index 1 ; any  $X$  homeomorphic to  $X_0$  is again of the same type.

So we turn to the case  $b_2 \geq 2$  ; we will restrict ourselves here only to  $b_2 = 2$ , Fano 3-folds with  $b_2 \geq 2$  are classified by Mori-Mukai [MM 1,2], the most interesting case being  $b_2 = 2$  or 3. Such a  $X_0$  is called primitive if it is not the blow-up of another 3-fold along a smooth curve. In order not to overload the paper we will also restrict ourselves to primitive  $X_0$  ; but certainly similar results can be proved also in the imprimitive case using the same methods. Our result is now :

**Theorem.** *Let  $X_0$  be a primitive Fano 3-fold with  $b_2 = 2, b_3 = 0$ . Let  $X$  be a projective smooth 3-fold homeomorphic to  $X_0$ . Then either  $X \simeq X_0$ , or  $X \simeq \mathbf{P}(E)$  with a rank 2-vector bundle  $E$  on  $\mathbf{P}_2$  whose Chern classes  $(c_1, c_2)$  belong to the following set :  $\{(0,0), (-1,1), (-1,0), (0,-1), (0,3)\}$  or  $X = \mathbf{P}(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}_1}(a) \oplus \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}_1}(b) \oplus \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}_1}(c))$  with  $a + b + c \equiv 0(3)$ .*

In fact,  $X_0$  is by the Mori-Mukai classification of the form  $\mathbf{P}(V)$  with  $V$  a 2-bundle on  $\mathbf{P}_2$  of the form :

$\mathcal{O} \oplus \mathcal{O}(-n)$  with  $0 \leq n \leq 2$ ,  $T_{\mathbf{P}_2}$ , or  $V$  is given by an extension :

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}_2}(-2) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}_2}^3 \rightarrow V \rightarrow 0.$$

Now  $E$  is just a bundle topologically isomorphic to  $V$ , i.e. with the same Chern classes.

Using analogous methods, we are able in § 7 to answer a question asked in [C2] : if  $Z_0$  is a Moishezon non-projective twistor space, does there exist a projective threefold  $Z$  which is homeomorphic to  $Z_0$  ? The answer is no, at least when  $b_2$  is odd. Let us recall that such a  $Z_0$  is the first known example of a manifold of class  $\mathcal{C}$  (i.e. : bimeromorphic to a compact Kähler one)

admitting arbitrarily small deformations which are not in the class  $\mathcal{C}$ . This exhibits another pathology of these  $Z_0$ . However, it would be interesting to have an example of a Moishezon manifold  $Z_0$ , diffeomorphic to some projective  $Z$ , but admitting arbitrarily small deformations which are not in  $\mathcal{C}$ .

The relationship with the other investigations of this paper is that  $Z_0$  is nearly Fano in the sense that the Kodaira dimension of its anticanonical bundle is  $3 = \dim_{\mathbb{C}}(Z_0)$ .

### 1. BASIC MATERIAL ON FANO 3-FOLDS

Let  $X$  be a projective manifold with canonical bundle  $K_X$ .  $X$  is called Fano if  $-K_X$  is ample. Fano manifolds are simply connected and satisfy

$$H^q(X, \mathcal{O}_X) = 0, q \geq 1$$

by Kodaira's vanishing theorem.

**1.1.** In case  $b_2(X) = 1$  all Fano 3-folds are classified by Iskovskih, Shokurov and also Mukai [Is 1,2], [Mu]. Those with  $b_3(X) = 0$  can be listed as follows :

- (a)  $X = \mathbf{P}_3$ ,
- (b)  $X = Q_3$ , the 3-dimensional smooth quadric,
- (c)  $X$  is of index 2, i.e.  $-K_X = 2L$  with  $L \in \text{Pic}(X)$  the ample generator of  $\text{Pic}(X) \simeq \mathbf{Z}$ , and  $L^3 = 5$ .  $X$  is unique by these properties and usually called  $V_5$ .
- (d)  $X$  is of index one, i.e.  $-K_X = L$ ;  $L^3 = 22$ . These build up a family and we write  $X = A_{22}$ .

**1.2.** Fano 3-folds  $X$  with  $b_2 \geq 2$  are classified in [MM 1,2], we will only consider those with  $b_2 = 2$ . First recall that  $X$  is called primitive if it is not the blow-up of a 3-fold  $Y$  with  $b_2 = 1$  along a smooth curve. It is obvious that this is equivalent to saying that  $X$  is not the blow up of any 3-fold along a smooth curve. The classification heavily depends on Mori's theory of extremal rays, cone theorem etc. We will make freely use of this and refer e.g. to [KMM].  $X$  being Fano with  $b_2 = 2$  we have exactly two extremal maps  $R_i$  on  $X$  giving rise to contractions

$$\varphi_i : X \rightarrow Y_i.$$

Then  $\text{Pic}(Y_i) \simeq \mathbf{Z}$ , in fact  $Y_i$  are Fano with only terminal singularities with  $b_2 = 1$ , so fix ample generators  $L'_i$  on  $Y_i$  and put

$$L_i = \varphi_i^*(L'_i).$$

**Lemma 1.3.**  $\text{Pic}(X) = \mathbf{Z}.L_1 \oplus \mathbf{Z}.L_2$ .

*Proof.* [MM 1]  $\square$

**1.4.** We now give a table of all primitive (five) Fano 3-folds  $X$  with  $b_2(X) = 2$ ,  $b_3(X) = 0$  and their relevant numerical properties needed in this paper, according to [MM 1,2]. As to notations, let  $D_{2,1}$  denote a smooth divisor of bidegree  $(2, 1)$  in  $\mathbf{P}_2 \times \mathbf{P}_2$  and let  $W_4$  be the Veronese cone in  $\mathbf{P}_6$ .

The last column means the following :  $(a, b)$  is the pair determined by the equation (observe (1.3) !)  $-K_X = aL_1 + bL_2$ .

$X$	$Y_1$	$Y_2$	$-K_X^3$	$L_1^3$	$L_1^2 L_2$	$L_1 L_2^2$	$L_2^3$	$(a, b)$
$\mathbf{P}_1 \times \mathbf{P}_2$	$\mathbf{P}_1$	$\mathbf{P}_2$	54	0	0	1	0	(2, 3)
$\mathbf{P}(T_{\mathbf{P}_2})$	$\mathbf{P}_2$	$\mathbf{P}_2$	48	0	1	1	0	(2, 2)
$\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}_2} \oplus \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}_2}(-1))$	$\mathbf{P}_2$	$\mathbf{P}_3$	56	0	1	1	1	(2, 2)
$\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}_2} \oplus \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}_2}(-2))$	$\mathbf{P}_2$	$W_4$	62	0	1	2	4	(1, 2)
$D_{2,1}$	$\mathbf{P}_2$	$\mathbf{P}_2$	30	0	1	2	0	(1, 2)

**1.5.** The structure of a Mori contraction  $\varphi : X \rightarrow Y$  of an extremal ray on a smooth 3-fold  $X$  is completely determined by [Mo] and given in the following list :

- (a)  $\varphi$  is a modification. Then either  $\varphi$  is the blow-up of a smooth curve in the smooth 3-fold  $Y$ . Or there is an unique irreducible divisor  $E \subset X$  contracted by  $\varphi$  to a point and either
  - (a1)  $E \simeq \mathbf{P}_2$  with normal bundle  $N_E = \mathcal{O}(a)$ ,  $a = -1, -2$
  - (a2)  $E \simeq \mathbf{P}_1 \times \mathbf{P}_1$  with  $N_E = \mathcal{O}(-1, -1)$
  - (a3)  $E$  is a (singular) quadric cone with  $N_E = \mathcal{O}(-1)$ .
- (b)  $\dim Y = 2$ . Then  $\varphi$  is a  $\mathbf{P}_1$ -bundle or a conic bundle.
- (c)  $\dim Y = 1$ . Then  $\varphi$  is a  $\mathbf{P}_2$ -bundle, a quadric bundle, or the general fibre  $F$  of  $\varphi$  is a del Pezzo surface with  $1 \leq K_F^2 \leq 6$ .
- (d)  $\dim Y = 0$  and  $X$  is Fano with  $b_2 = 1$ .

**1.6.** We now describe the structures of  $\varphi_i$  in the table (1.4) according to (1.5) ; see again [MM 1,2].

In case  $X = \mathbf{P}_1 \times \mathbf{P}_2$  this is obvious ; for  $X = \mathbf{P}(T_{\mathbf{P}_2})$  we have two  $\mathbf{P}_1$ -bundle structures.  $\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{O} \oplus \mathcal{O}(-1))$  is a  $\mathbf{P}_1$ -bundle over  $\mathbf{P}_2$  and the blow up of a point in  $\mathbf{P}_3$ .  $\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{O} \oplus \mathcal{O}(-2))$  is a  $\mathbf{P}_1$ -bundle over  $\mathbf{P}_2$  and also the blow-up of the unique singular (quadruple) point on  $W_4$  ; the exceptional divisor  $D$  is  $\mathbf{P}_2$  with normal bundle  $\mathcal{O}(-2)$ . Finally  $D_{2,1}$  is a  $\mathbf{P}_1$ -bundle over  $Y_1 = \mathbf{P}_2$  via  $\varphi_1$  and a conic bundle over  $Y_2 = \mathbf{P}_2$  via  $\varphi_2$  (by our choice of  $(a, b)$  !) with  $\varphi_i$  being the restriction of the projection  $pr_i$  to  $\mathbf{P}_2$ .

The  $\mathbf{P}_1$ -bundle structure is given as  $\mathbf{P}(F)$  with  $F$  a 2-bundle on  $\mathbf{P}_2$  defined by an extension

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(-2) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}^3 \rightarrow F \rightarrow 0.$$

## 2. TOPOLOGICAL INVARIANTS

Let  $X_0$  be a smooth projective 3-fold with  $b_1 = 0, b_2 \leq 2$  and assume  $X$  to be another smooth projective 3-fold homeomorphic to  $X_0$ . By Hodge decomposition :

$$H^q(X, \mathcal{O}_X) = H^q(X_0, \mathcal{O}_{X_0}) = 0$$

for  $q = 1, 2$ .

Although  $b_3(X) = b_3(X_0)$ , the Hodge decomposition of  $H^3$  might a priori be quite different, so let us formulate :

**PROBLEM 2.1.** Is  $h^3(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  a topological invariant for projective 3-folds ? (Equivalently, we could ask for  $h^{2,1}$ , and the same can be asked also in general for  $h^{2,0}$ ).

Because of the unsolved problem (2.1) we will always assume  $b_3(X_0) = 0$ . Then clearly

$$H^3(X, \mathcal{O}_X) = H^3(X_0, \mathcal{O}_{X_0}) = 0,$$

and hence :

$$\chi(\mathcal{O}_X) = \chi(\mathcal{O}_{X_0}) = 1.$$

This vanishing has far-reaching consequences by the following result of Miyaoka [Mi], which is an immediate consequence of his inequality  $c_1^2 \leq 3c_2$ .

**Theorem 2.2.** *Let  $X$  be a projective 3-fold with  $K_X$  nef. Then  $\chi(\mathcal{O}_X) \leq 0$ .*

**Corollary 2.3.** *Let  $X_0$  be a Fano 3-fold with  $b_3 = 0$ ,  $X$  a projective 3-fold homeomorphic to  $X_0$ . Then  $K_X$  is not nef.*

In particular,  $X$  carries an extremal ray by [Mo] and we can use Mori theory to examine the structure of  $X$  (if  $b_2 \geq 2$ ). This will be done in § 4. If we don't assume  $b_3 = 0$  in (2.3) then there is no apparent reason why  $K_X$  could not be ample for instance.

We now come to an important method to determine  $K_X$  going back to Hirzebruch-Kodaira [HK]. Here let us suppose  $X_0$  to be a Fano 3 fold with  $b_2 \leq 2$  for simplicity. In case  $b_2 = 1$  we fix an ample generator  $L_0$  on  $X_0$ . In case  $b_2 = 2$  we let  $L_1, L_2$  be as in (1.3). Then if  $b_2 = 1$  we can write

$$c_1(X) = c_1(X_0) + 2sc_1(L), \quad s \in \mathbf{Z}$$

and for  $b_2 = 2$  :

$$c_1(X) = c_1(X_0) + 2(s_1c_1(L_1) + s_2c_1(L_2)).$$

Observe that the factor 2 comes from the invariance of the Stiefel-Whitney class  $w_2(X)$  which is the residue class of  $c_1(X)$  in  $H^2(X, \mathbf{Z}_2)$ . Then we have :

**Proposition 2.4.** *Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a holomorphic line bundle on  $X_0$ ,  $\tilde{\mathcal{G}}$  the corresponding one on  $X$ . Then*

- (a)  $\chi(X, \tilde{\mathcal{G}}) = \chi(X_0, \mathcal{G} \otimes L^s)$  if  $b_2(X_0) = 1$
- (b)  $\chi(X, \tilde{\mathcal{G}}) = \chi(X_0, \mathcal{G} \otimes L_1^{s_1} \otimes L_2^{s_2})$  if  $b_2(X_0) = 2$ .

The line bundle  $\tilde{\mathcal{G}}$  corresponding to  $\mathcal{G}$  means the following :  $\mathcal{G}$  can be viewed as a topological line bundle on  $X$  and since  $Pic(X) \simeq H^2(X, \mathbf{Z})$  by  $H^q(X, \mathcal{O}_X) = 0, q = 1, 2$ , its carries a unique holomorphic structure, namely  $\tilde{\mathcal{G}}$ .

*Proof.* We prove only (a), (b) being completely the same. By Riemann-Roch (see e.g. [Hi])

$$\chi(X, \tilde{\mathcal{G}}) = \left[ e^{\frac{1}{2}c_1(X) + c_1(\mathcal{G})} \cdot \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \hat{A}_i(p_1, p_2, \dots) \right]_3,$$

where  $p_i$  are the Pontrjagin classes of  $X$  and  $\hat{A}_i$  certain universal functions. Since  $p_i(X) = p_i(X_0)$  (Novikov) and since  $c_1(X) = c_1(X_0) + 2sc_1(L)$  by assumption, we obtain :

$$\begin{aligned}\chi(X, \tilde{\mathcal{G}}) &= \left[ e^{\frac{1}{2}c_1(X_0) + c_1(L^s) + c_1(\mathcal{G})} \cdot \sum \hat{A}_i(p_1(X_0), p_2(X_0), \dots) \right]_3 \\ &= \chi(X_0, \mathcal{G} \otimes L^s),\end{aligned}$$

again by Riemann-Roch.  $\square$

*Remark 2.5.* Of course the arguments above are independant of dimension 3 and of the Fano property of  $X_0$ . The only requirements we need are that  $c_1(X) - c_1(X_0)$  contains a holomorphic line bundle on  $X$ , that  $\mathcal{G}$  has a holomorphic structure  $\tilde{\mathcal{G}}$  on  $X$ , and that, moreover :  $\text{Pic}(X_0) = \mathbf{Z}$  or  $\mathbf{Z}^2$ . We finish this section by stating for later use the following well-known result :

**Proposition 2.6.** *Let  $S$  be an algebraic surface with  $\pi_1(S)$  finite and  $b_2(S) = 1$ . Then  $S \simeq \mathbf{P}_2$ .*

A proof can be found in [BPV, p. 135].

### 3. FANO 3-FOLDS WITH $b_2 = 1$

We are going to study 3-folds homeomorphic to Fano 3-folds with  $b_2 = 1$ . From (2.3) we immediately obtain :

**Theorem 3.1.** *If  $X$  is a projective 3-fold homeomorphic to the Fano 3-fold  $X_0$  with  $b_2 = 1, b_3 = 0$ , then  $X$  is again Fano and in fact  $X \simeq X_0$  resp. is of type  $A_{22}$  if  $X_0$  is of type  $A_{22}$ .*

*Proof.* By (2.3)  $K_X$  is not nef. Since  $\text{Pic}(X) \simeq \mathbf{Z}$ ,  $-K_X$  must be ample, so  $X$  is Fano. By the classification of Fano 3-folds it suffices now to prove  $c_1(X) = c_1(X_0)$ . Writing  $c_1(X) = c_1(X_0) + 2sc_1(L)$  ( $s \geq -\frac{1}{2}$  index  $(X_0)$ ),  $L$  the ample generator, we obtain from (2.4) :

$$\chi(L^s) = \chi(\mathcal{O}_X) = 1.$$

Using Riemann-Roch for instance it is easy to solve this equation to obtain  $s = 0$ .  $\square$

Of course (3.1) is known by [HK] for  $P_3$ , by [Br] for  $Q_3$  and in the other cases by [LS]. We should mention that the use of (2.3) can be avoided by solving

$$\chi(L^s) = \chi(\mathcal{O}_X) = 1$$

also for all  $s < 0$ . In fact  $\chi(L^s) = -h^3(\mathcal{O}_X)$  for  $s < 0$ , hence  $\chi(L^s) \neq 1$ .

This arguments works in all odd dimensions, on the other hand it is not known whether there is a projective n-fold  $X$ ,  $n$  even, homeomorphic to a quadric  $Q_n$ , with  $K_X$  ample.

*Remark 3.2.* If we don't assume  $b_3 = 0$  in (3.1) we cannot conclude  $\chi(\mathcal{O}_X) > 0$  and hence  $K_X$  could be ample. If  $K_X$  is known not to be ample or trivial, then clearly  $X$  is Fano and one can apply Iskovshih's classification to  $X$ . We exclude the case  $K_X = \mathcal{O}_X$  as follows. Assume  $K_X = \mathcal{O}_X$ . By the invariance of  $w_2$ ,  $X_0$  is a Fano 3-fold of index 2 or 4. Since  $X_0 \neq P_3$ ,  $X_0$  has in fact index 2. Hence in the equation

$$0 = c_1(X) = c_1(X_0) + 2sc_1(L)$$

we have  $s = -1$ .

Let  $\tilde{L} \in \text{Pic}(X)$  be the ample generator. By (2.4) we have

$$\chi(X, \tilde{L}^t) = \chi(X_0, L^{t-1}),$$

in particular

$$(1) \quad \chi(X, \tilde{L}) = \chi(\mathcal{O}_{X_0}) = 1.$$

By Riemann-Roch we get

$$(2) \quad \chi(X, \tilde{L}) = \frac{c_1(\tilde{L})^3}{6} + \frac{1}{12}c_1(\tilde{L}) \cdot c_2(X).$$

Myaoka's inequality  $c_1^2(X) \leq 3c_2(X)$  ([Mi]) yields  $c_1(\tilde{L}) \cdot c_2(X) \geq 0$ . We even must have strict inequality; if  $c_1(\tilde{L}) \cdot c_2(X) = 0$  we would get (by  $b_2(X) = b_4(X) = 1$ )  $c_2(X) = 0$ , so  $X$  would be covered by a torus [Y], contradiction.

Thus it is possible, using (1) and (2), to compute the pair  $(c_1(\tilde{L})^3, c_2(X))$ , since by Iskovskih,  $1 \leq c_2(\tilde{L})^3 = c_1(L)^3 \leq 4$  (observe  $b_3(X_0) > 0$ ).

Identifying  $H^2(X_0, \mathbf{Z})$  and  $H^4(X_0, \mathbf{Z})$  with  $\mathbf{Z}$ , the intersection product is just multiplication, and we obtain:  $(c_1(L)^3, c_2(X)) = (1, 10), (2, 8), (3, 6), (4, 4)$ . Now consider the Pontrjagin class

$$p_1(X) = c_1^2(X) = c_2(X).$$

$p_1(X)$  is a topological invariant. We compute easily in the four cases:  $p_1(X_0) = -8, -4, 0, 4$ . On the other hand  $p_1(X) = -c_2(X) = -10, -8, -6, -4$ , contradiction.

We can try to determine the type of  $K_X$  by (2.4). In fact, (2.4) gives, if we write  $c_1(X) = c_1(X_0) + 2sc_1(L)$  as in (2.4),

$$\chi(X, \mathcal{O}_X) = \chi(X_0, L^s).$$

Since  $\chi(X, \mathcal{O}_X) = 1 - h^3(\mathcal{O}_X)$  and  $h^3(\mathcal{O}_X) \leq \frac{b_3(X)}{2} = \frac{b_3(X_0)}{2}$ , we obtain :

$$\chi(X_0, L^s) \geq 1 - \frac{b_3(X_0)}{2}.$$

Observe that we may assume  $s < 0$ , otherwise  $X$  is already Fano. Now we can go to the list of Fano 3-folds  $X_0$  with  $b_2 = 1, b_3 > 0$  (of index 1 or 2);  $b_3$  being known, we can try to solve the above inequality using Riemann-Roch on  $X_0$ . Then we obtain setting  $c_1(X) = \mu c_1(L) = (2s + \tau)$ ,  $\tau$  the index of  $X_0$  :

index	$L^3$	$\frac{b_3}{2}$	$s$	$\mu$
(3.3)	2	1	$21 \quad -2 \geq s \geq -5$	$-2, -4, -6, -8$
	2	2	$10 \quad -2, -3$	$-2, -4$
	2	3	$5 \quad -2$	$-2$
	2	4	$2 \quad -2$	$-2$
	1	2	$52 \quad -1 \geq s \geq -5$	$-1, -3, \dots, -9$
	1	4	$30 \quad -1 \geq s \geq -3$	$-1, -3, -5$
	1	6	$20 \quad -1, -2$	$-1, -3$
	1	8	$14 \quad -1, -2$	$-1, -3$
	$1 \quad 8 < L^3 \leq 18$	...	$-1$	$-1$

In any case there are only finitely many possibilities for  $K_X$ ; in a lot of cases only the “dual” possibility  $c_1(X) = -c_1(X_0)$ . At least we can conclude that all the  $X$  homeomorphic to a given Fano 3-fold  $X_0$  with  $b_2 = 1$  form a bounded family.

4. STRUCTURE OF MORI CONTRACTIONS ON TOPOLOGICAL PRIMITIVE  
FANO 3-FOLDS WITH  $b_2 = 2, b_3 = 0$  AND THE MAIN RESULT

Let  $X_0$  always denote a Fano 3-fold with  $b_2 = 2, b_3 = 0$ . We assume that  $X_0$  is primitive, i.e.  $X_0$  is not the blow-up of a (Fano) 3-fold along a smooth curve. Let  $X$  be a projective smooth 3-fold homeomorphic to  $X_0$ . By (2.3) we know that  $K_X$  is not nef, so there is a contraction  $\varphi : X \rightarrow Y$  of an extremal ray on  $X$ .

We let  $\varphi_i : X_0 \rightarrow Y_i$  be the two contractions on  $X_0$  as on (1.2) and let  $L_i$  be as in (1.2) :

$$L_i = \varphi_i^*(L'_i)$$

for ample generators  $L'_i$  on  $Y_i$ .

The list of all possible  $X_0$  together with  $\varphi_i : X_0 \rightarrow Y_i$  is given in (1.4) and (1.5). In order to determine  $K_X$  we will make the following ansatz as in Section. 2 :

$$c_1(X) = c_1(X_0) + 2s_1c_1(L_1) + 2s_2c_1(L_2)$$

and we know that for any line bundle  $\mathcal{G}$  on  $X_0$ , with corresponding bundle  $\tilde{\mathcal{G}}$  on  $X$  (2.4 (b)) :

$$(4.1.1) \quad \chi(X, \tilde{\mathcal{G}}) = \chi(X_0, \mathcal{G} \otimes L_1^{s_1} \otimes L_2^{s_2}),$$

in particular

$$(4.1.2) \quad 1 = \chi(X, \mathcal{O}_X) = \chi(X_0, L_1^{s_1} \otimes L_2^{s_2});$$

often we will abbreviate  $L_1^a \otimes L_2^b$  by  $\mathcal{O}_{X_0}(a, b)$ .

**Proposition 4.2.** *Assume that  $\varphi$  contracts a divisor  $E$  to a point.*

*Then either  $X \simeq X_0 = \mathbf{P}(\mathcal{O} \oplus \mathcal{O}(-1))$  or  $X_0 = \mathbf{P}(\mathcal{O} \oplus \mathcal{O}(-2))$  and  $E^3 = 4$ .*

*Proof.* According to (1.3) write :

$$E = a_1L_1 + a_2L_2, \quad a_i \in \mathbf{Z}.$$

So  $E^3 = a_1^3L_1^3 + 3a_1^2a_2L_1^2L_2 + 3a_1a_2^2L_1L_2^2 + a_2^3L_2^3$ . On the other hand :  $E^3 = 1, 2$  or 4 by (1.5).

If  $X_0 = \mathbf{P}_1 \times \mathbf{P}_2$ ,  $\mathbf{P}(T_{\mathbf{P}_2})$  or  $D_{2,1}$  in (1.4), we conclude :

$$3(a_1^2 a_2 L_1^2 L_2 + a_1 a_2^2 L_1 L_2^2) = 1, 2, 4$$

which is impossible.

Hence  $X_0 = \mathbf{P}(\mathcal{O} \oplus \mathcal{O}(\alpha))$ ,  $\alpha = -1, -2$  (1.4).

(a) First assume  $\alpha = -1$ . Then we obtain :

$$3a_1^2 a_2 + 3a_1 a_2^2 + a_2^3 = 1, 2 \text{ or } 4.$$

Trivial calculations show that  $E^3 = 2$  or  $4$  are not possible, so  $E^3 = 1$  and  $\varphi$  is the blow-up of a simple point. In particular  $Y$  is smooth with  $Pic(Y) = \mathbf{Z}$ ,

$$K_X = \varphi^*(K_Y) + E,$$

and obviously  $Y$  is Fano. In order to determine it, we solve :

$$(4.1.2) \quad \chi(\mathcal{O}_{X_0}(s_1, s_2)) = 1;$$

it is an easy exercise to see e.g. via Riemann-Roch :  $s_1 = s_2 = 0$ . Hence  $c_1(X) = c_1(X_0)$ . So  $K_X^3 = K_{X_0}^3 = -56$ , hence  $-56 = K_Y^3 + 8E^3$  yields  $K_Y^3 = -64$  and by the classification we conclude  $Y \simeq \mathbf{P}_3$ ; so  $X \simeq X_0$ .

(b) Finally let  $\alpha = -2$ .

Then our equation reads :

$$3a_1^2 a_2 + 6a_1 a_2^2 + 4a_2^3 = 1, 2 \text{ or } 4.$$

The only solution for  $E^3 = 1$  is  $(a_1, a_2) = (-1, 1)$ ,  $E^3 = 2$  being impossible. So it is sufficient to exclude  $E^3 = 1$ . (In this case  $Y$  is Fano with  $b_2 = 1$ ,  $b_3 = 0$ , so  $Y = \mathbf{P}_3, Q_3, V_5$  or  $A_{22}$ ).

Using  $L = \varphi^*(\mathcal{O}_Y(1))$  we have  $L^2 \cdot E = 0$ , on the other hand writing  $c_1(L) = \alpha_1 c_1(L_1) + \alpha_2 c_1(L_2)$  :

$$\begin{aligned} L^2 \cdot E &= (\alpha_1 L_1 + \alpha_2 L_2)^2 \cdot (-L_1 + L_2) \\ &= (\alpha_1 + \alpha_2)^2 + 2(\alpha_1 - 2^2 - \alpha_2). \end{aligned}$$

Both equations imply  $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0$ , a contradiction.  $\square$

*Remark 4.3.* If  $X_0 = \mathbf{P}(\mathcal{O} \oplus \mathcal{O}(-2))$  in (4.2) then we will show in (4.8) that in this case  $X \simeq X_0$ , too.

**Proposition 4.4.**  *$\varphi$  is never the blow-up of a smooth curve in a smooth 3-fold  $Y$ .*

*Proof.* Assume that  $\varphi$  is the blow-up of the smooth curve  $C$  in  $Y$ . Since  $b_3(X) = 0$ , we conclude  $b_3(Y) = 0$  and  $C \simeq \mathbf{P}_1$ .  $Y$  being Fano with  $b_2 = 1$ , we have  $Y = \mathbf{P}_3, Q_3, V_5$  or  $A_{22}$ .

Let  $\mathcal{O}_Y(1)$  be the ample generator and  $L = \varphi^*(\mathcal{O}_Y(1))$ . Then  $L^3 = 1, 2, 5$  or 22, respectively. On the other hand, write again :

$$c_1(L) = a_1 c_1(L_1) + a_2 c_1(L_2).$$

Then we have the equation

$$3a_1^2 a_2 L_1^2 L_2 + 3a_1 a_2^2 L_1 L_2^2 + a_2^3 L_2^3 = 1, 2, 5 \text{ or } 22.$$

From table (1.4) we conclude that necessarily  $X_0 = \mathbf{P}(\mathcal{O} \oplus \mathcal{O}(\alpha))$  with  $\alpha = -1, -2$ , because otherwise the left hand side would be divisible by 3.

(a)  $\alpha = -1$ .

Then the only solutions are  $(0, 1)$  (with  $L^3 = 1$ ) and  $(-1, 2)$  (with  $L^3 = 2$ ).

If  $(a_1, a_2) = (0, 1)$  then  $c_1(L) = c_1(L_2)$ .

Let  $F, F_2$  be a general non-trivial fiber of  $\varphi$  resp.  $\varphi_2$ .

Then  $(-K_X \cdot F) = 1$ ,  $(-K_{X_0} \cdot F_2) = 2$ . Since  $c_1(X) = c_1(X_0) = 0$  (proof of (4.2)), it follows via  $c_1(L) = c_1(L_2)$  that  $[F_2]$  is an even multiple of  $[F_1]$  in  $H^4(X_0, \mathbf{Z})$ , i.e.  $[F]$  is divisible by 2 in  $H^4(X_0, \mathbf{Z})$  which is clearly false. So assume now  $(a_1, a_2) = (-1, 2)$ . Write  $E = \alpha_1 c_1(L_1) + \alpha_2 c_1(L_2)$ .

Then the equation  $L^2 E = 0$  yields  $\alpha_2 = 0$ , so  $E^3 = 0$ . On the other hand  $E^3 = -c_1(N_{C|Y})$  which is absurd since  $Y = Q_3$ .

(b)  $\alpha = -2$ .

Now the only solution is  $(a_1, a_2) = (-1, 1)$  with  $L^3 = 1$ , so  $Y \simeq \mathbf{P}_3$ . With  $E = \alpha_1 c_1(L_1) + \alpha_2 c_2(L_2)$  we obtain as in (a) :

$$0 = L^2 E = -3\alpha_2, \text{ hence } E^3 = 0$$

and we conclude  $c_1(N_{C|Y}) = 0$ , contradiction.  $\square$

From now on we may assume that  $\varphi$  is not a modification, hence  $\dim Y = 1$  or 2 and  $Y$  is smooth.

**Proposition 4.5.** *Assume  $\dim Y = 2$ . Then  $Y \simeq \mathbf{P}_2$  and either :*

- (c1)  $\varphi$  is a  $\mathbf{P}_1$ -bundle, or
- (c2)  $\varphi$  is a proper conic bundle over  $\mathbf{P}_2$  and  $X_0 = D_{2,1}$ , a divisor of bidegree  $(2,1)$  in  $\mathbf{P}_2 \times \mathbf{P}_2$ , moreover  $c_1(X) = c_1(X_0)$  and  $c_1(L) = c_1(L_2)$ .

*Proof.* Since  $\pi_1(Y) = 0$ ,  $X$  being simply connected, and since  $b_2(Y) = 1$ , we conclude  $Y \simeq \mathbf{P}_2$  by (2.6). So  $X$  is a  $\mathbf{P}_1$ -bundle or a conic bundle over  $\mathbf{P}_2$ . Let  $L = \varphi^*(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}_2}(1))$  and write

$$c_1(L) = a_1 c_1(L_1) + a_2 c_1(L_2).$$

We are going to solve the equation

$$(*) \quad 0 = L^3 = 3a_1^2 a_2 L_1^2 L_2 + 3a_1 a_2^2 L_1 L_2^2 + a_2^3 L_2^3.$$

But first we claim :

- (a) if  $a_2 = 0$  in case of  $X_0 \neq \mathbf{P}_1 \times \mathbf{P}_2$ ,  $X$  is a  $\mathbf{P}_1$ -bundle over  $Y$ .

So assume for the proof :  $a_2 = 0$ . If  $a_1 \neq \pm 1$ , then  $L$  would be divisible by some line bundle  $L'$  which necessarily has to be of the form  $\varphi^*(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}_2}(m))$ , which is absurd. So  $|a_1| = 1$ .

Assume  $\varphi$  is not a  $\mathbf{P}_1$ -bundle. Then let  $F$  a component of a reducible fiber of  $\varphi$ . We have

$$(-K_X \cdot F) = 1.$$

Now let  $F_1$  be a fiber of  $\varphi_1$ . Then  $c_1(L) = \pm c_1(L_1)$  yields  $[F] = \pm[F_1]$  in  $H^4(X_0, \mathbf{Z})$ .

Hence  $(-K_{X_0} \cdot F_1) = \pm(K_{X_0} \cdot F) \equiv 1(2)$  by the invariance of the Stiefel-Whitney class  $w_2$ . On the other hand,  $\varphi_1$  is a  $\mathbf{P}_1$ -bundle if  $X_0 \neq \mathbf{P}_1 \times \mathbf{P}_2$ , so

$$(-K_{X_0} \cdot F_1) = 2,$$

contradiction.

(b) Now let  $X_0 = \mathbf{P}(\mathcal{O} \oplus \mathcal{O}(+\alpha))$ ,  $\alpha = -1, -2$ . Then  $(*)$  gives immediately  $a_2 = 0$ , so we are done by (a).

- (c) If  $X_0 = \mathbf{P}_1 \times \mathbf{P}_2$  then  $(*)$  reads

$$3a_1 a_2^2 = 0, \text{ so } a_1 = 0 \text{ or } a_2 = 0.$$

If  $a_2 = 0$  we would have  $L^2 = 0$  which is impossible. So we can apply (a).

(d) For  $\mathbf{P}(T_{\mathbf{P}_2})$ , (\*) gives :

$$3(a_1^2 a_2 + a_1 a_2^2) = 0$$

so  $a_1 = 0$  or  $a_2 = 0$  or  $a_1 = -a_2$  and it is sufficient to exclude the latter possibility. But if  $a_1 = -a_2$ , then

$$L^2 = a_1^2(L_1 - L_2)^2.$$

Since  $L^2 = F$ , a fiber of  $\varphi$ , we obtain :

$$(-K_X \cdot F) = -2a_1^2$$

if we suppose  $c_1(X) = c_1(X_0)$ . Since  $-(K_X \cdot F) > 0$ , we have a contradiction. In order to verify :  $c_1(X) = c_1(X_0)$ , we write as usual :

$$c_1(X) = c_1(X_0) + 2s_1 c_1(L_1) + 2s_2 c_1(L_2)$$

and have (4.1.2) to solve the equation

$$\chi(\mathcal{O}_{X_0}(s_1, s_2)) = 1.$$

But  $X_0 = \mathbf{P}(T_{\mathbf{P}_2})$  can be viewed as divisor of bidegree (1,1) in  $\mathbf{P}_2 \times \mathbf{P}_2$ , hence

$$\chi(\mathcal{O}_{X_0}(s_1, s_2)) = \chi(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}_2 \times \mathbf{P}_2}(s_1, s_2)) - \chi(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}_2 \times \mathbf{P}_2}(s_1 - 1, s_2 - 1)) = 1.$$

Now compute, using :

$$\chi(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}_2}(t)) = \frac{(t+1)(t+2)}{2}$$

to get  $s_1 = s_2 = 0$ .

(e) It remains to treat  $X_0 = D_{2,1}$ .

In this case (\*) reads

$$3a_1^2 a_2 + 6a_1 a_2^2 = 0.$$

If  $a_2 = 0$ , then  $\varphi$  is a  $\mathbf{P}_1$ -bundle by (a) and we are done. So either  $a_1 = 0$  or  $a_1 = -2a_2$ .

First we want to exclude the later possibility. So assume  $a_1 = -2a_2$ . Using

$$c_1(X) = (1 + 2s_1)c_1(L_1) + (2 + 2s_2)c_1(L_2)$$

and

$$L^2 \cdot (-K_X) = F \cdot (-K_X) = 2,$$

we obtain :  $a_2^2 = 1$  ; moreover  $s_1 = -2s_2 - 3$ .

In order to determine  $(s_1, s_2)$ , we use :

$$\chi(\mathcal{O}_{X_0}(s_1, s_2)) = 1.$$

In fact,

$$\chi(\mathcal{O}_{X_0}(s_1, s_2)) = \chi(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}_2 \times \mathbf{P}_2}(s_1, s_2)) - \chi(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}_2 \times \mathbf{P}_2}(s_1 - 2, s_2 - 1))$$

is an explicit polynomial, and via the relation between  $s_1$  and  $s_2$ , we easily obtain :

$$s_1 = 0, s_2 = -3.$$

Now consider the equation (4.1.1)

$$\chi(X, L^t) = \chi(\mathcal{O}_{X_0}(-2t, t - 3)).$$

Clearly  $\chi(X, L^t) = \frac{(t+1)(t+2)}{2}$ . The right hand side is also easily computed (go again to  $\mathbf{P}_2 \times \mathbf{P}_2$ ), and it turns out that both polynomials are different, contradiction.

So we are left with the case  $a_1 = 0$ . Then we want to show that  $\varphi$  is a conic bundle, that  $c_1(X) = c_1(X_0)$  and  $c_1(L) = c_1(L_2)$ .

As before, by a divisibility argument we get  $|a_2| = 1$ , so  $c_1(L) = \pm c_1(L_2)$  also it is easy to see that  $\varphi_2$  cannot be a  $\mathbf{P}_1$ -bundle, hence must be a proper conic bundle. We have

$$c_1(X) = (1 + s_1)L_1 + (2 + s_2)L_2.$$

Since (general) fiber of  $\varphi$  and  $\varphi_2$  have the same cohomology class, we obtain by intersecting  $-K_X$  with a general fiber easily :  $s_1 = 0$ .

So by (4.1.1)

$$\chi(X, L^t) = \chi(X_0, \mathcal{O}_{X_0}(0, t + s_2)), \quad (\text{resp. } \chi(X_0, \mathcal{O}_{X_0}(-t + s_2))),$$

hence

$$\frac{(t+1)(t+2)}{2} = \frac{(t+s_2+1)(t+s_2+2)}{2} \quad (\text{resp. } \frac{(-t+s_2+1)(-t+s_2+2)}{2})$$

which gives  $s_2 = 0$ .

This ends the proof of (4.5)  $\square$

*Remark 4.6.* We will see in sect. 5 that in fact if  $X_0 = D_{1,2}$  and  $\varphi$  is a conic bundle then  $X \simeq X_0$ .

**Proposition 4.7.** *Assume  $\dim Y = 1$ . Then  $Y \simeq \mathbf{P}_1$ ,  $X$  is a  $\mathbf{P}_2$ -bundle over  $\mathbf{P}_1$  and  $X_0 \simeq \mathbf{P}_1 \times \mathbf{P}_2$ .  $X$  is of the form  $\mathbf{P}(E)$  with  $E = \mathcal{O}(a) \oplus \mathcal{O}(b) \oplus \mathcal{O}(c)$  with  $a + b + c \equiv 0(3)$ .*

*Proof.* Obviously  $Y$  is rational. Write again :

$$c_1(L) = a_1 c_1(L_1) + a_2 c_1(L_2).$$

Then from  $L_1 \cdot L^2 = 0$  and  $L^3 = 0$  we obtain  $a_2 = 0$  and hence

$$X_0 = \mathbf{P}(\mathcal{O} \oplus \mathcal{O}(-1))$$

and also easily :  $X$  is a  $\mathbf{P}_1$ -bundle, or the two equations :

$$\begin{aligned} 2a_1 L_1^2 L_2 + a_2 L_1 L_2^2 &= 0 \\ 3a_1^2 L_1^2 L_2 + 3a_1 a_2 L_1 L_2^2 + a_2^2 L_2^3 &= 0, \end{aligned} \quad \text{are satisfied.}$$

Now using table (1.4) it is trivial to obtain a contradiction in all cases but  $a_2 = 0$ . If  $a_2 = 0$  we proceed as above. So  $X = \mathbf{P}(E) \rightarrow \mathbf{P}_1$ , and the 3-bundle  $E$  has obviously the form as stated above.  $\square$

We are coming now back to a special situation to be still treated (see (4.3)).

**Proposition 4.8.** *Assume that  $\varphi$  contracts a divisor  $E \simeq \mathbf{P}_2$  with  $E^3 = 4$  to a point and assume  $X_0 = \mathbf{P}(\mathcal{O} \oplus \mathcal{O}(-2))$ . Then  $X \simeq X_0$ .*

*Proof.* Write

$$c_1(\mathcal{O}_X(E)) = \alpha_1 c_1(L_1) + \alpha_2 c_1(L_2).$$

Then solve the equation

$$4 = E^3 = \alpha_2(3\alpha_1^2 + 6\alpha_1\alpha_2 + 4\alpha_2^2) :$$

the solutions are  $(\alpha_1, \alpha_2) = (0, 1), (-1, 4)$  and  $(-2, 1)$ . Now put  $c_1(L) = a_1 c_1(L_1) + a_2 c_1(L_2)$  in to  $L^2 \cdot E = 0$ . Then this rules already  $(\alpha_1, \alpha_2) = (0, 1)$  resp.  $(-1, 4)$ .

So  $(\alpha_1, \alpha_2) = (-2, 1)$ . This gives by  $L^2 \cdot E = 0$  :  $(a_1, a_2) = (0, a_2)$ , hence by divisibility as usual :  $a_2 = 1$ . Moreover we see that lines in  $E$  and lines in

the exceptional divisor of  $\varphi_2$  have the same cohomology class. This implies by intersecting

$$c_1(X) = (1 + s_1)c_1(L_1) + (2 + s_2)c_1(L_2)$$

with such a line :

$$s_1 = 0, \quad \text{resp. } s_1 = 1 \text{ if } c_2 = -1.$$

The case  $s_1 = -1$ ,  $a_2 = -1$  is excluded as follows. From  $1 = \chi(\mathcal{O}_X) = \chi(\mathcal{O}_{X_0}(-1, s_2))$  we first see  $s_2 > 0$ . By Serre duality we obtain  $\chi(X_0, L_2^{-s_2-2}) = -1$ . Computing on the Veroese cone  $Y_2 = W_4$  we easily derive a contradiction. Now by (4.1.2) :

$$1 = \chi(X, \mathcal{O}_X) = \chi(X_0, \mathcal{O}_{X_0}(0, s_2))$$

and consequently  $s_2 = 0$ . So  $c_1(X) = c_1(X_0)$ . Let  $L' \in \text{Pic}(Y)$  with  $\varphi^*(L') = L$ .

We want to compute Fujita's  $\Delta$ -invariant :

$$\Delta(L') = 3 + L'^3 - h^\circ(L').$$

First note :  $L'^3 = L^3 = L_2^3 = 4$ .

In order to compute  $h^\circ(L') = h^\circ(L)$  we notice that because of  $c_1(X) = c_1(X_0)$  and because of the invariance of  $p_1(X) = c_1^2 - 2c_2$ , we have  $c_2(X) = c_2(X_0)$ , too, and hence by Riemann-Roch :

$$\chi(L) = \chi(L_2).$$

This  $\chi(L') = \chi(L) = 7$ .

Now  $Y$  is 2-Gorenstein (see [Mo]),  $\rho(Y) = 1$  and  $L'$  is the ample generator of  $\text{Pic}(Y) \simeq \mathbf{Z}$ . Moreover we compute easily :

$$-K_Y = \frac{3}{2}L'.$$

Hence we get

$$H^q(Y, L') = 0$$

by the vanishing theorem of Kawamata-Viehweg (see e.g. [KMM]), since  $L' - K_Y$  is ample. Consequently  $h^\circ(L') = 7$  and  $\Delta(L') = 0$ . By [Fj], the linear system  $|L'|$  is base point free and in fact defines an embedding :

$$Y \hookrightarrow \mathbf{P}_6.$$

Now the unique singular point  $y_0 \in Y$  is a quadruple point by [Mo], hence if  $l \subset \mathbf{P}_6$  is a line through  $y_0$ , then either  $l \cap Y = \{y_0\}$ , or  $l \subset Y$ .

This  $Y$  is the cone over the Veronese  $\mathbf{P}_2 \hookrightarrow \mathbf{P}_5$  with vertex  $y_0$ . But this is also exactly the description of  $Y_2 = W_4$ , then  $X \simeq X_0$ .  $\square$

Taking the results of sect. 5 for granted (see remark 4.6) we can rephrase the results of the section as follows.

**Theorem 4.9.** *Let  $X_0$  be a primitive Fano 3-fold with  $b_2 = 2$ ,  $b_3 = 0$ . Let  $X$  be a projective 3-fold homeomorphic to  $X_0$ . Then either  $X \simeq X_0$  or  $X = \mathbf{P}(\mathcal{O}(a) \oplus \mathcal{O}(b) \oplus \mathcal{O}(c))$  with  $a+b+c \equiv 0(3)$ .  $X \simeq \mathbf{P}(E)$  with  $E$  a rank 2-bundle on  $\mathbf{P}_2$  given in the following table (we normalise  $E$  such that  $c_1(E) = -1$  or 0).*

*In fact, every  $X_0$  has the form  $\mathbf{P}(V)$  (unique up to  $\mathbf{P}(T_{\mathbf{P}_2})$ ) over  $\mathbf{P}_2$  and  $c_i(E) = c_i(V)$  (i.e.  $E$  and  $V$  are topologically the same).*

	$X_0$	$c_1(E)$	$c_2(E)$
(4.9)	$\mathbf{P}_1 \times \mathbf{P}_2$	0	0
	$\mathbf{P}(T_{\mathbf{P}_2})$	0	1
	$\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{O} \oplus \mathcal{O}(-1))$	-1	0
	$\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{O} \oplus \mathcal{O}(-2))$	0	-1
	$D_{2,1}$	0	3

*Proof.* We consider our extremal contraction  $\varphi : X \rightarrow Y$ .

- (1) If  $\varphi$  is a modification, then by (4.2), (4.4) and (4.8) :  $X \simeq X_0$ .
- (2) If  $\dim Y = 2$ , then by (4.5) :  $Y \simeq \mathbf{P}_2$  and either  $X$  is a  $\mathbf{P}_1$ -bundle over  $\mathbf{P}_2$  or  $X_0 \simeq D_{2,1}$  and  $X$  is a conic bundle. In the latter case,  $X \simeq X_0$  by (5.1).

So assume  $X \simeq \mathbf{P}(E) \rightarrow \mathbf{P}_2$ .

Now write  $X_0 = \mathbf{P}(V)$  with  $V = \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}_2} \oplus \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}_2}(-n)$ ,  $n = 0, 1, 2$  or  $V = T_{\mathbf{P}_2}$  or  $c_1(V) = 0, c_2(V) = 3$  (in case  $X_0 = D_{2,1}$ ).

Then  $p_1(\mathbf{P}(E)) = p_1(\mathbf{P}(V))$ .

Since  $\varphi(p_1(\mathbf{P}(E))) = (c_1^2(E) - 4c_2(E))$  for the projection  $\varphi : X \rightarrow Y$  and since we know  $\varphi_* = \varphi_{i*}$  for  $i = 1$  or 2, we conclude

$$c_1^2(E) - 4c_2(E) = c_1^2(V) - 4c_2(V).$$

Since  $E$  is normalized and  $V$  is explicitly known we obtain our table.

(3) If  $\dim Y = 1$ , then apply (4.7).  $\square$

*Remark 4.10.* Of course if  $X = \mathbf{P}(E)$  as in the table, then  $X \simeq X_0$  topologically, since two rank 2-bundle on  $\mathbf{P}_2$  with the same Chern classes are topologically equivalent (see [OSS]).

Some words to the existence of  $E$  with  $c_i(E)$  as given on the table. There are always a lot of unstable 2-bundles  $E$  which can be constructed by the Serre correspondence (see [OSS]). But a semi-stable  $E$  (different from the original bundle) exists only in  $X_0 = D_{2,1}$ ; they are described by a moduli space of dimension 9.

## 5. THE PROPER CONIC BUNDLE CASE

After 4.5 and 4.6, the last remaining case is the following :

**Proposition 5.1.** *Let  $X$  be a threefold homeomorphic to  $X_0 = D_{2,1}$  (see 1.4 for notations).*

*Assume  $\varphi : X \rightarrow \mathbf{P}_2$  is a proper conic bundle, that  $c_1(X) = c_1(X_0) = L_1 + 2L_2$ , and  $L_2 = \varphi^*(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}_2}(1))$ , the identifications being obtained from the equalities :  $\text{Pic}(X) = H^2(X, \mathbf{Z}) = H^2(X_0, \mathbf{Z}) = \text{Pic}(X_0)$ .*

*Then  $X$  is analytically isomorphic to  $X_0$ .*

The proof of (5.1) will be prepared by several lemmata. We denote by  $l$  a general line in  $\mathbf{P}_2$  meeting the discriminant locus  $\Delta$  of the conic bundle transversally. Then  $S = S_l = \Phi^{-1}(l)$  is a smooth surface.

**Lemma 5.2.**  *$S$  is the blow-up of a ruled surface  $\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{O}_{P_1} \oplus \mathcal{O}_{P_1}(k))$  in three points.*

*Proof.* Clearly  $S$  is the blow-up of a ruled surface  $\mathbf{P}(\mathcal{O} \oplus \mathcal{O}(k))$  in say  $d$  points (with  $d = \deg \Delta$ ). Now  $K_S^2 = (K_X + L_2)^2 \cdot L_2 = (L_1 + L_2)^2 \cdot L_2 = 5$  (c.f. 1.4).

Hence  $d = 3$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 5.3.**

- (1)  $-K_S = L_1 + L_2$
- (2)  $\chi(S, L_1) = 3$
- (3)  $H^2(S, L_1) = 0, h^0(S, L_1) \geq 3$

- (4)  $L_1|S$  is generated by global sections.
- (5)  $h^0(S, L_1) = 3$ ,  $H^0(S, L - L_2) = 0$  and  $v : H^0(S, L_1) \rightarrow H^0(F, L_1)$  is an isomorphism, ( $F$  a fiber of the conic bundle).

*Proof.* (1) follows from  $K_X = -L_1 - 2L_2$  by adjunction.

(2) is clear by Riemann-Roch.

(3)  $H^2(S, L_1) = H^0(S, -2L_1 - L_2) = 0$ , since  $L_1|F = \mathcal{O}(2)$ , where  $F$  is a general fiber of  $\Phi|S$ . So by (2) :  $h^0(S, L_1) \geq 3$ .

(4) Here we use the results and notations of Sect. 7. By (7.2) the instability of the conic bundle  $X$  fulfills  $n(X) \leq \deg \Delta - 2$ , hence  $n(X) \leq 1$ . Thus  $n(X) = 1$ . Consequently  $S$  is  $\mathbf{F}_0$  or  $\mathbf{F}_1$  blown up in 3 points. In other words,  $S$  is  $\mathbf{P}_2$  blownup in 4 points. No 3 of them can be collinear, otherwise we would have a section  $C$  with  $C^2 = -2$ . So  $S$  is a del Pezzo surface and it follows easily that  $L_1|_S = -K_S - L_2$  is nef. The global generatedness can be deduced either directly or by computing Fujita's  $\Delta$ -genus:  $\Delta(S, L_1) \leq 0$  and by applying Fujita's fundamental results. Note that always  $\Delta \geq 0$ , hence  $\Delta(S, L_1) = 0$ , which gives already the first claim of (5).

(5) Use the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow H^0(S, L_1 - L_2) \rightarrow H^0(S, L_1) \rightarrow H^0(F, L_1)$$

with  $F$  a general fiber of  $\Phi$ . Then (4) together with  $L_1|F = \mathcal{O}(2)$  gives the claim.  $\square$

#### Lemma 5.4.

- (1)  $H^2(S, L_1 + \mu L_2) = 0$  for all  $\mu \in \mathbf{Z}$ .
- (2)  $H^1(S, L_1 + \mu L_2) = 0$  for all  $\mu \geq -1$ .
- (3)  $H^1(X, L_1 + \mu L_2) = 0$  for all  $\mu \geq -2$ .

*Proof.* (1)  $H^2(S, L_1 + \mu L_2) = H^0(S, -2L_1 - (\mu + 1)L_2) = 0$  for all  $\mu$ , since  $L_1|F$  is positive for a general fiber  $F$  of  $\Phi$ .

(2) Now let  $\mu \geq -1$ . From the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow (L_1 + \mu L_2)|S \rightarrow (L_1 + (\mu + 1)L_2)|S \rightarrow L_1|F \rightarrow 0$$

we see that it is sufficient to show surjectivity of  $H^0(S, L_1) \rightarrow H^0(L_1|F)$ . But this was already proved in 5.3 (5).

(3) Now use the exact sequence on  $X$

$$0 \rightarrow L_1 + \mu L_2 \rightarrow L_1 + (\mu + 1)L_2 \rightarrow (L_1 + (\mu + 1)L_2)|S \rightarrow 0.$$

By (1) and (2) we get for  $\mu \geq -2$

$$H^1(X, L_1 + \mu L_2) \simeq H^1(X, L_1 + (\mu + 1)L_2). \quad \square$$

Since  $H^1(X, L_1 + \mu L_2) \cong H^1(\mathbf{P}_2, \Phi_*(L_1) \otimes \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}_2}(\mu)) = 0$  for  $\mu \gg 0$ , we conclude.

*Proof of Proposition 5.1.* By Riemann-Roch and our assumptions :  $\chi(X, L_1) = \chi(X_0, L_1) = 3$ , so from 5.4 (3) we obtain  $h^0(X, L_1) \geq 3$ . Since  $h^0(S, L_1 - L_2) = 0$ , we conclude :

$$H^0(X, L_1 - L_2) = 0,$$

hence the restriction  $H^0(X, L_1) \xrightarrow{r} H^0(S, L_1)$  is injective. Since  $h^0(S, L_1) = 3$ , we conclude  $h^0(X, L_1) = 3$ , so  $r$  is an isomorphism. But this implies that  $L_1$  is nef : assume that there is a curve  $C \subset X$  with  $(L_1 \cdot C) < 0$ . Then for generic  $l \subset \mathbf{P}_2 : C \cap S_l = \emptyset$ , since otherwise we would find  $s \in H^0(X, L_1)$  such that  $s|C \neq 0$  (use 5.3 (4) and the fact that  $r$  is an isomorphism). Thus  $\Phi(C) \cap l = \emptyset$  which is absurd. Now  $L_1$  being nef,  $-K_X = L_1 + 2L_2$  is ample as sum of two nef line bundles generating  $\text{Pic}(X)$ . So  $X$  is Fano and consequently  $X \simeq X_0$  by Iskovskih's classification.  $\square$

## 6. MOISHEZON TWISTOR SPACES ARE NOT TOPOLOGICALLY PROJECTIVE

For  $X$  a compact complex manifold, let  $w_2(X) \in H^2(X, \mathbf{Z}/2\mathbf{Z})$  be its second Stiefel-Whitney class, whose vanishing means that  $K_X$  is divisible by two in  $\text{Pic}(X)$ .

**Theorem 6.1.** *Let  $X$  be a projective threefold. Then :  $b_1(X) = b_3(X) = w_2(X) = 0$  iff  $X$  is one of the following :*

- i) *Fano with  $b_2 = 1$ , of index  $r = 2$  or  $4$  (in this last case,  $X = \mathbf{P}_3$ ),*
- ii) *a  $\mathbf{P}_1$ -bundle  $\mathbf{P}(V)$  over a surface  $S$  with  $b_1(S) = 0$ , with  $V$  a 2-bundle over  $S$  such that  $(\det V + K_S)$  is divisible by 2 in  $\text{Pic}(S)$ .*
- iii) *obtained from the above manifolds by blowing-up finitely many points.*

*Remarks.* 1. It is obvious that the conditions  $b_1 = b_3 = w_2 = 0$  are necessary to belong to the above classes.

2. If one only assumes that  $X$  has at most terminal singularities, and that  $b_1 = b_3 = 0$ , it is still true that  $X$  is uniruled.

*Proof.* We have :  $h^{1,0} = h^{3,0} = 0$ , hence :  $\chi(\mathcal{O}_X) = 1 + h^{2,0} \geq 1$ . Thus :  $K_X$  is not nef (2.2). Let  $\varphi : X \rightarrow Y$  be the contraction of an extremal ray in  $X$ . By Mori's list and because  $K_X = 2L$ ,  $L \in \text{Pic}(X)$ , we see that if  $\varphi$  is a modification, it has to be the contraction of a smooth divisor  $E$  of  $X$ ,  $E$  isomorphic to  $\mathbf{P}_2$ , with normal bundle  $E|_E \cong \mathcal{O}_E(1)$  (because in all other cases, a curve  $C \subset E$  exists such that :  $(-K_X.C) = 1$ , contradicting  $w_2 = 0$ ). Thus :  $Y$  is smooth and satisfies the same conditions :  $b_1 = b_3 = w_2 = 0$  as  $X$ . We can thus assume that  $\dim(Y) \leq 2$ .

Assume first that  $Y = S$  is a surface ; then  $Y$  is smooth, and  $\varphi$  can't be a conic bundle, otherwise a curve  $C$  exists, which is contained in a fiber of  $\varphi$  such that  $(-K_X.C) = 1$ , again contradicting  $w_2 = 0$ . Hence  $\varphi$  is a  $\mathbf{P}_1$ -bundle, and  $b_1(S) = b_1(X) = 0$ . Moreover,  $K_X = \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}(V)}(-2) + \varphi^*(\det V + K_S)$ , if  $X = \mathbf{P}(V)$  for  $V$  a rank 2 bundle over  $S$ , so we are in case (ii). Assume now that  $Y = C$  is a curve. Let  $F$  be a smooth fiber of  $\varphi$  ; then  $F$  is a minimal Del Pezzo surface, otherwise, an exceptional curve of the first kind  $C_0$  on  $F$  would satisfy:  $1 = (-K_F.C_0) = (-K_X.C_0)$ , contradicting :  $w_2 = 0$ . Thus  $F$  is either  $\mathbf{P}_2$  or  $\mathbf{P}_1 \times \mathbf{P}_1$ . The case  $F = \mathbf{P}_2$  is again excluded, since :  $-K_{X|F} = -K_F = \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{P}}(3)$  in this case. The case  $F = \mathbf{P}_1 \times \mathbf{P}_1$  is also excluded by the proposition below.

The last possible case is :  $\dim Y = 0$ , so  $X$  is Fano with  $b_2(X) = 1$ , and  $r = 2, 4$  since  $w_2 = 0$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 6.2.** *There is no quadric bundle  $\varphi : X \rightarrow C \cong \mathbf{P}_1(\mathbf{C})$  with  $2 = b_2(X) ; b_3(X) = w_2(X) = 0$ .*

*Proof.* If  $\varphi$  were smooth, we would have  $b_2(X) = 3$ . The set  $\Delta$  of singular fibers of  $\varphi$ , which are isomorphic to the quadric cone in  $\mathbf{P}_3$  after [Mo] is thus nonempty.

Since :

$$\chi(X) = \chi(C)\cdot\chi(F) + \sum_{c \in \Delta} (\chi(X_c) - \chi(F))$$

where  $\chi$  is the topological Euler-Poincaré characteristic,  $F = \mathbf{P}_1 \times \mathbf{P}_1$ , and  $X_c := \varphi^{-1}(c)$ , we get from

$$\chi(X_c) = 3, \chi(F) = 4, \chi(X) = 6,$$

that  $\delta$  consists of exactly two points.  $\square$

On the other hand, we can embed  $X$  in a  $\mathbf{P}_3$ -bundle  $P := \mathbf{P}(E^*)$ , where  $E^*$  is a 4-bundle on  $C$  normalised in such a way that  $X \in |2L|$ , with  $L = \mathcal{O}_P(1)$ .

Let  $c_1 \in \mathbf{Z}$  be the degree of  $E$ . We have a quadrilinear symmetric map  $\Psi : S^2(E) \rightarrow S^2(\det E)$  which sends any quadratic form  $B$  on  $E$  to its discriminant.  $X$  is the zero locus of some  $s \in H^0(P, 2L)$ , and let  $\sigma := \Psi \circ s \in H^0(C, S^2(\det E)) = H^0(C, \mathcal{L})$ , where  $\mathcal{L}$  has degree  $2c_1$ . Then we conclude  $c_1 = 1$  since  $\{\sigma = 0\} = \Delta$ . We now compute :  $K_X = (K_p + 2L)|_X = (-4L + \varphi^*(c_1 - 2))|_X$ , and so  $w_2(X) \neq 0$  since  $c_1$  is odd. (Here :  $\text{Pic}(C)$  is identified with  $\mathbf{Z}$  in the usual way).

**Corollary 6.3.** *Let  $M^4$  be a compact connected anti-self dual Riemannian fourfold, and let  $\tau : Z \rightarrow M^4$  be its twistor space ([AHS]).*

*Assume that  $Z$  is Moishezon, but not projective. Then there is no projective threefold  $Z_0$  which is homeomorphic to  $Z$  if  $n \geq 3$  is even, with  $n = b_2(Z) - 1$ .*

Probably this remains true if  $n$  is odd, too. This answers a question (3.15) asked in [C2].

*Remarks.* Recall that  $\tau : Z \rightarrow M^4$  is a differentiable (non holomorphic) submersion whose fibers are holomorphic rational curves on  $Z$  with normal bundle  $\mathcal{O}(1) \oplus \mathcal{O}(1)$ , and that  $w_2(Z) = 0$ . Recall that if  $Z$  is Moishezon, it is “almost Fano”, ie : the Kodaira dimension of  $K_Z^{-1}$  is 3. ([P],[V]).

It is shown in [C] that  $M^4$  is homeomorphic to either  $S^4$  or the connected sum  $\#n\mathbf{P}_2(\mathbf{C})$  of  $n$  copies of  $\mathbf{P}_2(\mathbf{C})$  if  $Z$  is Moishezon. It is shown in [H] that if  $Z$  is projective, it is either  $\mathbf{P}_3(\mathbf{C})$  or  $\mathbf{P}(T_{\mathbf{P}_2(\mathbf{C})})$ , with  $M^4$  respectively  $S^4$  or  $\mathbf{P}_2(\mathbf{C})$  with metrics conformal to the usual ones. Examples with arbitrary  $n$  are known to exist ([P2] :  $n = 2$ ; [K] :  $n = 3$ ; [L] all  $n$ ). It is shown

in [C2], [L2] that small generic deformations of Kurke-Lebrun's examples are not in the class  $\mathcal{C}$ , thus showing that Kodaira-Spencer stability theorem is not true in the class of compact manifolds bimeromorphic to Kähler ones. The above corollary thus exhibits another difference between these  $Z$  and projective manifolds.

*Proof.* Let  $M = M^4$ , thus  $M$  is topologically  $\#n\mathbf{P}_2(\mathbf{C})$ , with  $n \geq 2$ . We describe  $H^2(X, \mathbf{Z})$  together with its bilinear intersection form. Let  $(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$  be an orthogonal basis of  $H^2(M, \mathbf{Z})$  (ie :  $\alpha_i \alpha_j = 0$  if  $i \neq j$ ,  $\alpha_i^2 = 1$ ). We identify  $\alpha_i$  and  $\tau^* \alpha_i$ . Let  $\tilde{c} = \frac{1}{2} c_1(Z)$ . A  $\mathbf{Z}$ -basis of  $H^2(Z, \mathbf{Z})$  is then :  $(c, \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$  where :  $c = \frac{1}{2}(\tilde{c} + \alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_n)$ , which is integral (see [P3]).

The intersection form is defined by :

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{c}^3 &= 2(4-n); \tilde{c}^2 \cdot \alpha_i = 0; \tilde{c} \cdot \alpha_i^2 = -2 \quad \text{for all } i, \text{ so} \\ c^3 &= 1-n; c^2 \cdot \alpha_i = -1; c \cdot \alpha_i^2 = -1 \quad \text{for all } i. \quad \square\end{aligned}$$

We now assume that  $Z_0$  is a projective threefold homeomorphic to  $Z$ .

**Lemma 6.4.**  *$Z_0$  is not blow-up in a point of any smooth projective threefold  $Z_1$ .*

*Proof.* Otherwise there would exist  $E$  and  $L \neq 0$  in  $\text{Pic}(Z_0)$  such that :  $E^3 = 1, E^2 \cdot L = E \cdot L^2 = 0$  (just take the class  $E$  of the exceptional divisor of the blow-up, and the class  $L$  of the lifting of any ample line bundle on  $Z_1$ ).

However, a direct computation shows that the equations :

$$(\epsilon c + \epsilon_1 \alpha_1 + \dots + \epsilon_n \alpha_n)^3 = 1 = \epsilon[\epsilon^2(1-n) - 3(\sum \epsilon_i^2 + \epsilon(\sum \epsilon_i))]$$

have no integer solutions  $(\epsilon, \epsilon_i), (\lambda, \lambda_i)$  if  $n \geq 3$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 6.5.**  *$Z_0$  is not a  $\mathbf{P}_1$ -bundle over any algebraic surface  $S$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\varphi_0 : Z_0 \rightarrow S$  be any such  $\mathbf{P}_1$ -bundle structure. Then  $(\varphi_0)^*(H^2(S, \mathbf{Z}))$  generates a sublattice of rank  $n$  in  $H^2(Z_0, \mathbf{Z})$  (which has rank  $(n+1)$ ), and consisting of classes  $L$  such that :  $L^3 = 0$ . Now, if

$$L = \lambda c_1 + \lambda_1 \alpha_1 + \dots + \lambda_n \alpha_n,$$

one has :

$$L^3 = \lambda[\lambda^2(1-n) - 3(\sum \lambda_i^2 + \lambda\lambda_i)] = \lambda.Q(\lambda, \lambda_i),$$

where  $Q$  is a definite negative quadratic form on  $\mathbf{R}^{n+1}$ . Thus  $\varphi_0^*(H^2(S, \mathbf{Z})) = \tau^*H^2(M^4, \mathbf{Z})$ . But this shows that the intersection form on  $S$  would be definite of rank  $n \geq 2$ , which is impossible if  $n$  is even by Hodge index theorem (which forces  $h^{1,1}(S) = 1$ ).  $\square$

(6.4) and (6.5) imply now together with theorem (6.1) that  $Z_0$  has  $b_2 = 1$ , contradiction.

## 7. A BOUND FOR THE DEGREE OF INSTABILITY OF A CONIC BUNDLE

**DEFINITION AND CONSTRUCTION** 7.1 (1) Let  $S$  be a smooth rational surface with a surjective holomorphic map  $\phi : S \rightarrow \mathbf{P}_1$ . Let  $C \subset S$  be a section of  $\phi$ .  $C$  is said to be **minimal** if its selfintersection number  $C^2$  is minimal with respect to all sections of  $\phi$ . We call

$$n(\phi) = -C^2,$$

where  $C$  is minimal, the **degree** of  $\phi$ . Loosely speaking, when it is clear which map  $\phi$  is meant, we put  $n(S) = n(\phi)$ .

(2) Let  $\Phi : X \rightarrow \mathbf{P}_2$  be a proper conic bundle, i.e. the discriminant locus  $\Delta \subset \mathbf{P}_2$  is not empty. Let  $d$  be the degree of  $\Delta$  which number we also call the degree of the conic bundle  $\Phi$ . Let  $G = \mathbf{P}_2^*$  be the variety of lines in  $\mathbf{P}_2$ . Let  $G^*$  be the Zariski open set in  $G$  consisting of those lines which meet  $\Delta$  in  $d$  distinct points transversely. Then for  $l \in G^*$ , the surface  $S_l = \Phi^{-1}(l)$  is a smooth surface and in fact a Hirzebruch surface  $\mathbf{F}_k = \mathbf{P}(\mathcal{O} \oplus \mathcal{O}(-e))$  blown up in  $d$  points. We denote by  $n(l) = n(\Phi|S_l)$  its degree of instability. Finally let  $n(X) = n(\Phi)$  be the minimum of all  $n(l), l \in G^*$ . We call  $n(X)$ , or better  $n(\Phi)$ , the **degree of instability** of the conic bundle  $X$ .

Our main result in this section is

**Theorem 7.2.** *Assume that the conic bundle  $\Phi : X \rightarrow \mathbf{P}_2$  is standard (i.e.  $\text{Pic}(X) = \mathbf{Z}K_X + \Phi^*(\text{Pic}(\mathbf{P}_2))$ ) and assume moreover that the degree of  $\Phi$  is  $d$ . Then*

$$n(X) \leq d - 2,$$

in particular  $n(X)$  is finite.

First let us show the following

**Proposition 7.3.** *Let  $\pi : S_0 \rightarrow \mathbf{P}_1$  be a ruled surface, i.e. a  $\mathbf{P}_1$ -bundle over  $\mathbf{P}_1$ . Let  $\sigma : S \rightarrow S_0$  be the blow-up of  $b \geq 3$  distinct points on  $S_0$ . Let  $n$  be the degree of instability of  $S \rightarrow \mathbf{P}_1$ . Assume that  $n \geq b - 1$ . Then there exists a unique minimal section of  $S$ .*

*Proof.* Write  $S_0 = \mathbf{P}(\mathcal{O} \oplus \mathcal{O}(-\nu))$  with  $\nu \geq 0$ . Then  $\nu$  is the degree of instability of  $S_0$ . Let  $C_0$  be a minimal section of  $S_0$ ; so  $C_0^2 = -\nu$ . If  $\nu > 0$ , then  $C_0$  is unique.

Assume first  $\nu \geq 2$ . Then we claim that the strict transform  $\overline{C_0}$  of  $C_0$  in  $S$  is the unique minimal section of  $S$ . In fact, take a section  $C$  of  $S_0$  such that the strict transform  $\overline{C}$  is minimal and assume of course that  $C \neq C_0$ , if also  $C_0$  is minimal. Since

$$C^2 \geq \nu$$

by the elementary theory of ruled surfaces, we have for the strict transform

$$\overline{C} = -n \geq \nu - b,$$

hence  $n \leq b - \nu \leq n + 1 - \nu$  by our assumption. This contradicts  $\nu \geq 2$  and settles the proposition in this case.

In case  $\nu \geq 1$  we see by the same construction, that we must have

$$C^2 = 1, \overline{C}^2 = \nu - b = 1 - b,$$

i.e. all  $b$  points have to be on  $C$ , if  $C \neq C_0$ . Observe that here we must have  $C \cap C_0 = \emptyset$ , hence none of the points to be blown up is on  $C_0$ . Now let  $\overline{C}'$  be another minimal section. Then by the same reasoning as for  $C$  all points to be blown up are on  $C'$ , too. But this contradicts  $C \cdot C' = C^2 = 1$ .

It remains to settle the case  $\nu = 0$ . But this is an obvious exercise.  $\square$

Coming back to our conic bundle  $\Phi : X \rightarrow \mathbf{P}_2$  and to the proof of (7.2), we assume that  $n(X) \geq d - 1$ . Then by (7.3) there exists for every  $l \in G^*$  a unique minimal section  $C_l$  of  $\Phi_l : S_l \rightarrow l$  (observe  $d \geq 3$ ). We want to show that the curves  $C_l$  form an algebraic family.

**Proposition 7.4.** *There exists a unique component  $T$  of the Chow scheme of curves in  $X$  and a bimeromorphic map  $\Phi_* : T \rightarrow G$  together with Zariski open sets  $T^* \subset T$ ,  $G^{**} \subset G^*$  such that for all  $t \in T^*$  :*

$$\{t\} = C_l \text{ with } l = \Phi_*(t),$$

where  $\{t\}$  denotes the curve parametrised by  $t$ .

Before giving the proof of (7.4) let us first show how (7.2) is proved by means of (7.4). Assume as before that  $n(X) \geq d - 1$ . Fix  $a \in \mathbf{P}_2 \setminus \Delta$  and let

$$P_a = \{l \in G | a \in l\}$$

be the pencil of lines through  $a$ . Let  $D$  be the Zariski closure of  $\bigcup C_l$ , where  $l$  runs over  $P_a \cap G^*$ .

By (7.4)  $D$  is a prime divisor in  $X$  such that  $\Phi|D : D \rightarrow \mathbf{P}_2$  is bimeromorphic. But this divisor is not a linear combination of  $K_X$  and  $\Phi^*(\mathcal{O}(1))$  : intersect with a general fiber of  $\Phi$  to obtain the contradiction. Hence  $\Phi$  is not a standard conic bundle, contradicting our assumption.

It remains to give the

*Proof of 7.4 .* (1) First we compute  $(-K_X.C_l)$  for  $l \in G^*$ . We have an exact sequence, namely the normal bundle sequence for the embeddings  $C_l \subset S_l \subset X$  :

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(-n(l)) \rightarrow N_{C_l|X} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(1) \rightarrow 0.$$

Here  $N = N_{C_l|X}$  is the normal bundle of  $C_l$  in  $X$ . We conclude  $c_1(N) = 1 - n(l)$ , hence

$$(-K_X.C_l) = 3 - n(l) \tag{*}.$$

(2) Thus the curves  $C_l$  form a bounded family and therefore there exists a component  $T$  of the Chow scheme containing all  $C_l$  for  $l$  in some nonempty Zariski open subset  $U$  of  $G^*$ . We have

$$\dim T \leq h^0(N) \leq 2,$$

thus  $\dim T = 2$ .

(3) For  $t \in T$  generic, we let

$$\Phi_*(t) = \Phi(C),$$

where  $C$  is the section determined by  $t$ . Clearly  $\Phi_*$  extends to a meromorphic map  $T \rightarrow G$ .

By construction there exists a Zariski open set  $G^{**} \subset G^+$  such that  $C_l \subset \Phi_*^{-1}(l)$  for  $l \in G^{**}$ . We have even  $C_l = \Phi_*^{-1}(l)$ : otherwise we would have some  $t \in T$  such that the curve  $B_t$  corresponding to  $t$  is contained in  $S_l$ . But  $B_t^2 = -n(l)$  by (\*), and because of the fact that  $(-K_X \cdot B_t)$  does not depend on  $t$ . Hence  $\Phi_*$  is bimeromorphic.  $\square$

Note that  $C_l^2 = -n(X)$  for all  $l \in G^{**}$ .

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