

# Reducible hyperplane sections, II

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## Abstract

Let  $\widehat{X}$  be a smooth connected subvariety of complex projective space  $\mathbb{P}^n$ . The question was raised in [2] of how to characterize  $\widehat{X}$  if it admits a reducible hyperplane section  $\widehat{L}$ . In the case in which  $\widehat{L}$  is the union of  $r \geq 2$  smooth normal crossing divisors, each of sectional genus zero, classification theorems were given for  $\dim \widehat{X} \geq 5$  or  $\dim X = 4$  and  $r = 2$ .

This paper restricts attention to the case of two divisors on a threefold, whose sum is ample, and which meet transversely in a smooth curve of genus at least 2. A finiteness theorem and some general results are proven, when the two divisors are in a restricted class including  $\mathbb{P}^1$ -bundles over curves of genus less than two and surfaces with nef and big anticanonical bundle. Next, we give results on the case of a projective threefold  $\widehat{X}$  with hyperplane section  $\widehat{L}$  that is the union of two transverse divisors, each of which is either  $\mathbb{P}^2$ , a Hirzebruch surface  $\mathbb{F}_r$ , or  $\widehat{\mathbb{F}}_2$ .

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## Introduction

This paper is a sequel of [2], which initiated the study of a connected submanifold  $\widehat{X}$  of complex projective space, which has a reducible hyperplane section  $\widehat{L}$ . As  $\dim \widehat{X}$  increases so does the simplicity of the characterization. In [2] a description is given of  $(\widehat{X}, \widehat{L})$  for which  $\widehat{L}$  decomposes as  $\widehat{A}_1 + \cdots + \widehat{A}_r$  into  $r \geq 2$  smooth components with normal crossings under the hypothesis that  $h^1(\mathcal{O}_{\widehat{A}_i})$  is equal to the sectional genus of  $\widehat{A}_i$  for each  $i$ . A complete result for the cases  $n = 4$  and  $r = 2$ ; and for  $n \geq 5$  was obtained. Further, in the case of  $n = 3$  and  $r = 2$  the situation in which the curve  $A_1 \cap A_2$  has genus at most 1 was thoroughly analyzed. Here we investigate the more delicate issues presented by the following specialization of the question.

**Problem.** *Let  $\widehat{L}$  be a very ample line bundle on a projective threefold  $\widehat{X}$ . Suppose that  $\widehat{L}$  decomposes as a divisor into a sum  $\widehat{L} = \widehat{A} + \widehat{B}$ , where  $\widehat{A}$  and  $\widehat{B}$  are smooth connected surfaces meeting transversely along a smooth curve  $h = \widehat{A} \cap \widehat{B}$ . Assume that each of  $\widehat{A}$ ,  $\widehat{B}$  is either  $\mathbb{P}^2$  or  $\mathbb{F}_r$ . Then describe  $(\widehat{X}, \widehat{L})$ .*

The curve  $h$  is connected [2, Corollary (2.3)]. We also call  $h$  the *hinge curve*.

In this paper we shall deal only with the situation when  $h$  has genus  $g(h) \geq 2$ : we refer to [2, Theorems (3.10), (3.11)] for the cases when  $g(h) \leq 1$ . We also refer to [2, 5, 7] for related results.

The organization of the paper is as follows. In §2, we present a general finiteness theorem for a threefold  $\widehat{X}$  with an ample divisor  $\widehat{L}$  of the form  $\widehat{A} + \widehat{B}$ , where  $\widehat{A}, \widehat{B}$  are in a restricted class  $\mathcal{C}$  of surfaces and meet transversely in a smooth curve of genus  $\geq 2$ . The class  $\mathcal{C}$  includes surfaces with nef and big anticanonical bundle; and  $\mathbb{P}^1$ -bundles over either  $\mathbb{P}^1$  or an elliptic curve. The finiteness theorem asserts that there is an  $\epsilon > 0$  such that the Kodaira dimension of  $K_{\widehat{X}} + \left(\frac{1}{2} + \epsilon\right) \widehat{L}$  is  $-\infty$ . By a result of Fujita, this implies that  $(\widehat{X}, \widehat{L})$  is a birational transform of members of an explicit list of very special pairs.

In §3, it was shown that if the divisors  $\widehat{A}, \widehat{B}$  are  $\mathbb{P}^2$  or scrolls over  $\mathbb{P}^1$ , then the restriction of the bundle  $K_{\widehat{X}} + \widehat{L}$  to the divisors is big.

In §4, the Hodge Index type theorem for reducible divisors leads to the elimination of the cases in which both  $\widehat{A}$  and  $\widehat{B}$  are among  $\mathbb{P}^2$  and the singular quadric with an isolated singularity  $\widetilde{\mathbb{F}}_2$ .

Finally, in §5 we study the case when  $\widehat{A}$  is  $\mathbb{P}^2$ , the Hirzebruch surface  $\mathbb{F}_r$ , or the singular quadric with isolated singularity  $\widetilde{\mathbb{F}}_2$ ; and  $\widehat{B} = \mathbb{F}_s$ , under the extra assumption that  $(\widehat{A}, \widehat{L}_{\widehat{A}}), (\widehat{B}, \widehat{L}_{\widehat{B}})$  are scrolls.

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## 1 Background Material

We work over the complex field  $\mathbb{C}$ . Throughout the paper we deal with projective varieties  $V$ , and follow the usual notation of algebraic geometry. The book [1] is a good reference for standard results and notation of adjunction theory.

For a line bundle  $L$  on an irreducible normal variety  $V$  of dimension  $n$  the *sectional genus*,  $g(L) = g(V, L)$ , of  $(V, L)$  is defined by  $2g(L) - 2 = (K_V + (n - 1)L) \cdot L^{n-1}$ .

By  $\mathbb{F}_r$  with  $r \geq 0$  we denote the unique  $\mathbb{P}^1$ -bundle over  $\mathbb{P}^1$  with a section  $E$  taking on the minimal self intersection  $E^2 = -r$  on the surface. By  $\widetilde{\mathbb{F}}_2$  we denote  $\mathbb{F}_2$  with the section, which has self intersection  $-2$ , blown down. Note that  $\widetilde{\mathbb{F}}_2$  is isomorphic to any quadric hypersurface  $Q \subset \mathbb{P}^3$ , which has a single isolated singularity.

Let  $V$  be a normal  $r$ -Gorenstein (i.e.,  $rK_V$  is a Cartier divisor) projective variety of dimension  $n$  and let  $D$  be a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -Cartier divisor on  $V$  such that  $\kappa(D) = n$ . We define the *unnormalized spectral value* of the pair  $(V, D)$  as

$$u(V, D) := \sup\{t \in \mathbb{Q} \mid \kappa(K_V + tD) = -\infty\}.$$

We refer to [1, §7.1] for details.

The following result follows immediately from [2, §2].

**Lemma 1.1** *Let  $\widehat{L}$  be an ample line bundle on a smooth projective 3-fold  $\widehat{X}$ . Assume that there are two smooth connected divisors  $\widehat{A}, \widehat{B}$  on  $\widehat{X}$ . Assume that  $\widehat{A} + \widehat{B} \in |\widehat{L}|$ , that  $\widehat{A}$  and  $\widehat{B}$  are rational, and that  $\widehat{A}, \widehat{B}$  intersect transversely in a smooth curve  $h$ . Then  $h$  is connected, and  $h^1(\mathcal{O}_{\widehat{X}}) = h^2(\mathcal{O}_{\widehat{X}}) = 0$ .*

## 2 A Finiteness Theorem

In this section we prove a general finiteness theorem for pairs  $(\widehat{X}, \widehat{L})$  consisting of an ample line bundle on a smooth projective threefold  $\widehat{X}$ , with  $|\widehat{L}|$  containing a divisor  $D = \widehat{A} + \widehat{B}$ , having two irreducible components from a large class  $\mathcal{C}$  of negative Kodaira dimension surfaces. The class  $\mathcal{C}$  consists of the normal connected Gorenstein projective surfaces  $S$  with the property, that given any smooth connected Cartier divisor  $C$  on  $S$ , it follows that either  $h^1(\mathcal{O}_C) \leq 1$  or  $K_S \cdot C \leq -1$ .

**Lemma 2.1** *The class  $\mathcal{C}$  includes:*

1. normal Gorenstein surfaces with  $-K_S$  nef and big; or
2.  $\mathbb{F}_r$ ,  $r \geq 0$ , the  $r$ -th Hirzebruch surface; or
3. a  $\mathbb{P}^1$  bundle over an elliptic curve.

*In cases 1) and 2), smooth connected Cartier divisors  $C$  with  $h^1(\mathcal{O}_C) \geq 2$  satisfy  $K_S \cdot C \leq -3$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $C$  be a smooth connected Cartier divisor of  $S$ , i.e., let  $C$  be a curve on  $S$  with  $C$  contained in  $S_{\text{reg}}$ , the smooth points of  $S$ . We assume that we are in the situation that  $h^1(\mathcal{O}_C) \geq 2$ , since otherwise there is nothing to show.

First assume that  $-K_S$  is nef and big, and that the result is false, i.e., that  $-K_S \cdot C \leq 2$ . We know that  $-K_S \cdot C = 0, 1, 2$ . If  $-K_S \cdot C = 0$ , then we conclude, using the Hodge Index Theorem, that  $C^2 \leq 0$ , which contradicts  $h^1(\mathcal{O}_C) \geq 2$ . If  $-K_S \cdot C = 1$ , then we conclude that  $C^2 \geq 3$ , which contradicts the Hodge Index Theorem, i.e.,  $C^2 \leq C^2 K_S^2 \leq 1$ . If  $-K_S \cdot C = 2$ , then we conclude that  $C^2 \geq 4$ , which gives equality in the Hodge Index Theorem, i.e.,  $4 \leq C^2 \leq C^2 K_S^2 \leq 4$ . This implies that numerically  $C \sim -K_S$ , which implies the contradiction  $K_S + C \sim 0$ .

For  $S$  a Hirzebruch surface the result is a straightforward check.

Assume finally that  $S$  is a  $\mathbb{P}^1$ -bundle over an elliptic curve  $Y$ . In this case the section  $\sigma$  of minimal self-intersection satisfies  $e := -\sigma^2 \geq -1$ , and  $K_S$  is numerically equal to  $-2\sigma - ef$  for a fiber of the induced projection  $\pi : S \rightarrow Y$ . Since we are assuming that

$h^1(\mathcal{O}_C) \geq 2$ , we know that numerically  $C = k\sigma + tf$  where  $k \geq 2$ . Moreover  $K_S \cdot C \geq 0$  gives  $ke - 2t = 2ke - ek - 2t \geq 0$ . Since  $C^2 = -ek^2 + 2kt$ , we have the absurdity that  $2 \leq 2g(C) - 2 = K_S \cdot C + C^2 = (1 - k)(ke - 2t) \leq 0$ . Q.E.D.

One main result of the paper is the Finiteness Theorem (2.2). This theorem shows that, if the hinge curve  $h$  has genus  $g(h) \geq 2$ , the pair  $(\widehat{X}, \widehat{L})$  belongs to an explicit list of very special cases described by Fujita (see [3, 4] and also [1, (7.8.1)]).

Note in the following that the hypothesis that  $h$  is connected is automatically satisfied if  $\widehat{A}$  and  $\widehat{B}$  are connected [2, Corollary (2.3)].

**Theorem 2.2 (Finiteness theorem)** *Let  $\widehat{L}$  be an ample line bundle on a smooth projective 3-fold  $\widehat{X}$ . Assume that there are two divisors  $\widehat{A}, \widehat{B}$  on  $\widehat{X}$  from the class  $\mathcal{C}$ . Assume that  $\widehat{A} + \widehat{B} \in |\widehat{L}|$  and that  $\widehat{A}, \widehat{B}$  intersect transversely in a smooth connected curve  $h$  of genus  $g(h) \geq 2$ . Then  $u(\widehat{X}, \widehat{L}) > \frac{1}{2}$ . In particular,  $\widehat{X}$  is of Kodaira dimension  $-\infty$ , and thus satisfies  $h^3(\mathcal{O}_{\widehat{X}}) = 0$ .*

*Proof.* For simplicity of notation, we omit  $\widehat{\phantom{x}}$ 's in this proof. The genus formula yields

$$(K_X + L) \cdot h = (K_X + A + B) \cdot A \cdot B = 2g(h) - 2, \quad (1)$$

or  $(K_A + B_A) \cdot B_A = 2g(h) - 2$ , and therefore, by definition of class  $\mathcal{C}$ , one has  $B_A \cdot B_A \geq 2g(h) - 1$ , and similarly  $A_B \cdot A_B \geq 2g(h) - 1$ . Then (1) gives

$$K_X \cdot h \leq -2g(h). \quad (2)$$

Now compute, for any real number  $\varepsilon$ ,  $0 < \varepsilon < \frac{1}{4g(h) - 2}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \left( K_X + \left( \frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon \right) L \right) \cdot h &= \left( K_X + L - \left( \frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon \right) L \right) \cdot h \\ &= 2g(h) - 2 - \left( \frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon \right) \cdot L \cdot h \\ &\leq 2g(h) - 2 - \left( \frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon \right) (4g(h) - 2) \\ &= -1 + \varepsilon(4g(h) - 2) < 0. \end{aligned}$$

Finally, for  $h = A \cap B$  on  $X$ , we have the normal bundle decomposition  $N_{h/X} = N_{h/A} \oplus N_{h/B}$  and  $\deg(N_{h/A}) = B^2 \cdot A = B_A \cdot B_A \geq 2g(h) - 1$  by the above. It follows that  $h^1(N_{h/A}) = 0$  and  $N_{h/A}$  has not identically zero sections. Similarly for  $N_{h/B}$ . Then  $N_{h/X}$  is generically spanned by its global sections and  $h^1(N_{h/X}) = 0$ . Thus general deformation theory implies that the union of the deformations of  $h$  on  $X$  contains an open set. Therefore the inequality  $(K_X + (\frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon)L) \cdot h < 0$  proved above, shows that  $u(X, L) > \frac{1}{2}$ , cf., [1, (7.6.4)]. Q.E.D.

A little more can be said on the case of  $\mathbb{P}^1$ -bundles over  $\mathbb{P}^1$  or surfaces with nef and big anticanonical bundle.

**Proposition 2.3** *Let  $\widehat{L}$  be an ample line bundle on a smooth projective 3-fold  $\widehat{X}$ . Assume that there are two smooth divisors  $\widehat{A}, \widehat{B}$  on  $\widehat{X}$  which are either  $\mathbb{P}^1$ -bundles over  $\mathbb{P}^1$  or surfaces with nef and big anticanonical bundle. Assume that  $\widehat{A} + \widehat{B} \in |\widehat{L}|$  and that  $\widehat{A}, \widehat{B}$  intersect transversely in a smooth connected curve  $h$ . Then  $H^0(K_{\widehat{X}} + \widehat{L}) \rightarrow H^0(K_h) \rightarrow 0$ .*

*Proof.* Tensor the Koszul complex

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\widehat{X}} \rightarrow \widehat{A} \oplus \widehat{B} \rightarrow \widehat{L} \rightarrow \widehat{L}_h \rightarrow 0$$

with  $K_{\widehat{X}}$ . Using the hypercohomology spectral sequence, we see that the desired result will follow if we show that  $H^2(K_{\widehat{X}}) = H^1(K_{\widehat{X}} + \widehat{A}) = H^1(K_{\widehat{X}} + \widehat{B}) = 0$ .

The assertion  $H^2(K_{\widehat{X}}) = 0$  follows from Lemma (1.1). To see that  $H^1(K_{\widehat{X}} + \widehat{A}) = 0$  consider the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow K_{\widehat{X}} \rightarrow K_{\widehat{X}} + \widehat{A} \rightarrow K_{\widehat{A}} \rightarrow 0.$$

Now use Lemma (1.1) and the fact that  $\widehat{A}$  is rational. The argument for  $H^1(K_{\widehat{X}} + \widehat{B}) = 0$  is identical. Q.E.D.

One consequence of Proposition (2.3) is that under the same hypotheses with the added assumption that  $g(h) \geq 2$ , it follows that the Kodaira dimension of  $K_{\widehat{X}} + \widehat{L}$  is at least one. This implies that the Kodaira dimension of  $K_{\widehat{X}} + 2\widehat{L}$  is three, and also that the restriction of  $K_{\widehat{X}} + 2\widehat{L}$  to  $\widehat{A}$  (or  $\widehat{B}$ ) is nontrivial. Therefore [2, Theorems (3.6), (3.8)] specialize to the following result.

**Theorem 2.4** *Let  $\widehat{L}$  be an ample line bundle on a smooth projective 3-fold  $\widehat{X}$ . Assume that there are two smooth divisors  $\widehat{A}, \widehat{B}$  on  $\widehat{X}$  which are either  $\mathbb{P}^1$ -bundles over  $\mathbb{P}^1$  or surfaces with nef and big anticanonical bundle. Assume that  $\widehat{A} + \widehat{B} \in |\widehat{L}|$  and that  $\widehat{A}, \widehat{B}$  intersect transversely in a smooth connected curve  $h$  of genus  $\geq 2$ . Then there is a surjective morphism  $\phi: \widehat{X} \rightarrow X$ , where  $X$  is a smooth projective 3-fold, such that:*

1.  $\phi$  expresses  $\widehat{X}$  as the blowup of  $X$  at a finite set  $\mathcal{F}$ , and there is an ample line bundle  $L$  on  $X$  such that  $\widehat{L} \cong \phi^*L - \phi^{-1}(\mathcal{F})$ ;
2.  $K_{\widehat{X}} + 2\widehat{L} \cong \phi^*(K_X + 2L)$  where  $K_X + 2L$  is ample;
3.  $K_X + L$  is either nef and big, or  $(X, L)$  is a conic fibration over a surface  $Y$  in the sense of adjunction theory [1], i.e., there exists a morphism  $\nu: X \rightarrow Y$  with  $K_X + L \cong \nu^*H$  for an ample line bundle  $H$  on a normal surface  $Y$ ;
4.  $\phi$  is an embedding in a neighborhood of  $h$ ; and
5.  $L = A + B$  where  $A := \phi(\widehat{A})$  and  $B := \phi(\widehat{B})$  are Cartier divisors meeting transversely in  $\phi(h)$  and each having at most one point contained in the set  $\mathcal{F}$ .

From now on we usually abuse notation, and let  $h$  to denote  $\phi(h)$ . We also write  $h_A$  (respectively  $h_B$ ) to emphasize that we view  $h$  as a curve on  $A$  (respectively on  $B$ ).

**Lemma 2.5** *Let  $(\widehat{X}, \widehat{L}), (X, L), \widehat{A}, \widehat{B}, A, B$  be as in (2.4). Then*

1.  $h^{i,0}(X) = 0$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3$ ;
2.  $h^i(K_X + A) = h^i(K_X + B) = 0$  for all  $i \geq 0$ ; and
3. the restriction map gives the following isomorphisms

$$H^0(K_X + L) \cong H^0(K_A + h_A) \cong H^0(K_B + h_B) \cong H^0(K_h).$$

*Proof.* Noting that the first reduction morphism,  $\phi$ , of Lemma (2.4) is birational, the first assertion follows immediately from Lemma (1.1) and Theorem (2.2).

To prove 2), consider the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow K_X + B \rightarrow K_X + L \rightarrow K_A \rightarrow 0.$$

By the assumption on  $A$ ,  $h^0(K_A) = h^1(K_A) = 0$ ,  $h^2(K_A) = 1$ ,  $h^3(K_A) = 0$ . Thus from the cohomology sequence associated to the sequence above we infer that  $h^i(K_X + B) = 0$  (and by symmetry  $h^i(K_X + A) = 0$ ) for all  $i \geq 0$ .

Item 3) follows immediately from the first two assertions. Q.E.D.

**Theorem 2.6** *Let  $\widehat{L}$  be an ample line bundle on a smooth projective 3-fold  $\widehat{X}$ . Assume that there are two smooth divisors  $\widehat{A}$ ,  $\widehat{B}$  on  $\widehat{X}$  which are either  $\mathbb{P}^1$ -bundles over  $\mathbb{P}^1$  or surfaces with nef and big anticanonical bundle. Assume that  $\widehat{A} + \widehat{B} \in |\widehat{L}|$  and that  $\widehat{A}$ ,  $\widehat{B}$  intersect transversely in a smooth connected curve  $h$  of genus  $g(h) \geq 2$ . Let  $X$ ,  $A$ ,  $B$ ,  $L$  be as in (2.4). Then  $H^0(K_X + L)$  spans  $K_X + L$  in a neighborhood of  $A + B$ .*

*Proof.* By Lemma (2.5), the desired spannedness of  $K_X + L$  will follow from the spannedness of  $K_A + h_A$  and  $K_B + h_B$ . From Theorem (2.4) we know that  $K_X + L$  is nef (and hence  $K_A + h_A$  and  $K_B + h_B$  are also).

First assume that  $\widehat{A}$  is a  $\mathbb{P}^1$ -bundle over  $\mathbb{P}^1$ . Either the map  $\phi$  of Theorem (2.4) is an isomorphism on  $\widehat{A}$ , in which case  $A$  is also a  $\mathbb{P}^1$ -bundle, or, by [2, Theorem (3.6), 2)],  $\phi_{\widehat{A}}$  expresses  $\widehat{A}$  as the blowup of  $A$  at one point. In this latter case,  $\widehat{A}$  is the Hirzebruch surface  $\mathbb{F}_1$ , and  $A := \phi(\widehat{A}) = \mathbb{P}^2$  (note that  $\mathbb{F}_1$  is the only Hirzebruch surface with a  $-1$  curve). Since  $K_X + L$  is nef,  $K_A + h_A$  is nef, and for either  $\mathbb{P}^2$  or  $\mathbb{P}^1$ -bundles over  $\mathbb{P}^1$ , nef line bundles are spanned.

Now assume that  $-K_{\widehat{A}}$  is nef and big. Note that  $-K_A$  is also nef and big. Indeed, going to the first reduction map we have a birational morphism  $\phi_{\widehat{A}} : \widehat{A} \rightarrow A$  where some disjoint  $-1$  curves are collapsed. Writing  $-K_{\widehat{A}} = K_{\widehat{A}} + 2(-K_{\widehat{A}})$ , we see from the basepoint free theorem that  $-NK_{\widehat{A}}$  is spanned for  $N \gg 0$ . Thus  $-NK_A$  is spanned off the finite set equal to the image of the exceptional curves. This implies  $-K_A$  is nef. Since  $K_A^2 > K_A^2$ , bigness is clear.

Consider the line bundle  $h_A$ . We would like to show by Reider's Theorem [6] that  $K_A + h_A$  is spanned. Note that  $h_A^2 = 2g(h_A) - 2 - K_A \cdot h_A \geq 2 + 3 = 5$  by the hypothesis  $g(h_A) \geq 2$  and Lemma (2.1). Since  $h_A$  is a smooth curve of positive genus, and  $K_A \cdot h_A < 0$ , we conclude that  $h_A$  is nef and big. Therefore by Reider's Theorem, either  $K_A + h_A$  is spanned, or there exists an effective Cartier divisor  $\ell \subset A$  such that either  $h_A \cdot \ell = 0$  with  $\ell^2 = -1$ , or  $h_A \cdot \ell = 1$  with  $\ell^2 = 0$ .

In the former case,  $K_A \cdot \ell < 0$ , since  $K_A \cdot \ell \leq 0$  and  $K_A \cdot \ell + \ell^2$  is even. This contradicts the nefness of  $K_A + h_A$ .

Finally consider the case  $h_A \cdot \ell = 1$  with  $\ell^2 = 0$ . Note that since  $\ell$  is effective, we cannot have  $-K_A \cdot \ell = 0$  by the usual Hodge index relation. Thus we have  $K_A \cdot \ell < 0$ . Since  $K_A \cdot \ell + \ell^2$  is even, we have that  $K_A \cdot \ell \leq -2$ . This implies that  $(K_A + h_A) \cdot \ell \leq -1$ , which contradicts nefness of  $K_A + h_A$ . Q.E.D.

### 3 Some Birationality Results

**3.1** (Working assumptions) Let  $\widehat{L}$  be a very ample line bundle on a 3-fold  $\widehat{X}$ . Assume that there are two smooth transverse divisors  $\widehat{A}, \widehat{B}$  on  $\widehat{X}$  with  $\widehat{A} + \widehat{B} \in |L|$  and  $\widehat{A}, \widehat{B} \in \{\mathbb{P}^2, \mathbb{F}_r\}$ . Assume that the hinge curve  $h = \widehat{A} \cap \widehat{B}$  has genus  $g(h) \geq 2$ .

From Theorem (2.4), we know that there exists the first reduction  $(X, L), \phi : \widehat{X} \rightarrow X$ , with  $K_X + 2L$  ample and  $K_X + L$  nef. If  $A = \phi(\widehat{A}), B = \phi(\widehat{B})$ , then  $A + B \in |L|$  and  $A, B \in \{\mathbb{P}^2, \mathbb{F}_r\}$ . Furthermore we know by 5) of Theorem (2.4), that neither  $\widehat{A}$  nor  $\widehat{B}$  is a fiber of  $\phi$  and that  $A, B$  meet transversely along the curve  $\phi(h)$  isomorphic to  $h$ .

**Lemma 3.2** *Assumptions and notation as in (3.1). The complete linear systems  $|K_A + h_A|$  and  $|K_B + h_B|$  maps  $h$  generically one-to-one. In particular,  $|K_A + h_A|, |K_B + h_B|$ , and  $K_X + L$  are nef and big.*

*Proof.* By Lemma (2.5) we see that showing complete linear systems  $|K_A + h_A|$  and  $|K_B + h_B|$  maps  $h$  generically one-to-one, shows that  $|K_X + L|$  maps  $h$  generically one-to-one.

We know from 3) of Theorem (2.4) that the restriction of  $K_X + L$  of one of the divisors  $A, B$  is nef and big (by ampleness of  $A + B$  either  $A$  or  $B$  surjects on the base). Assume for simplicity, that  $K_B + h_B \approx (K + L)_B$  is nef and big. If  $B = \mathbb{P}^2$  or  $\mathbb{F}_0$ , the line bundle  $K_B + h_B$  is ample, and indeed very ample.

Thus we may assume  $B = \mathbb{F}_r, r \geq 1$ . Let  $\mathcal{E} := E + rf$ . Then either  $K_B + h_B = a\mathcal{E} + bf$  is very ample or  $b = 0$  and  $K_B + h_B = a\mathcal{E}$ . Thus  $|K_B + h_B|$  maps  $h$  generically one-to-one.

Now looking at conclusion 3) of Theorem (2.4), we see that if  $K + L$  fails to be nef and big, then using the notation of Theorem (2.4), that  $\nu$  maps  $h$  two-to-one onto a curve  $\nu(h)$  with all restrictions of elements of  $H^0(K_X + L)$  to  $h$  the pullbacks of restrictions of sections of  $H_{\nu(h)}$ . This is a contradiction to the assertion that  $|K_X + L|$  maps  $h$  generically one-to-one onto its image.

Assume that  $(K_X + L)_A \approx K_A + h_A$  is not nef and big. Since the genus of the curve  $h_A$  is not 0, the map given by  $|K_A + h_A|$  cannot be generically one-to-one on  $h_A$ . Q.E.D.

The following is a corollary of the preceding lemma.

**Lemma 3.3** *Assumptions and notation as in (3.1). Assume  $A = \mathbb{F}_r$  and let  $h = aE + bf$  on  $A$ . Then  $a \geq 3$ .*

*Proof.* Note that  $a = h \cdot f \geq 0$ , and  $a \neq 1$  since  $g(h) > 0$ . Assume  $a = 2$ . Then  $(K_A + h_A) \cdot f = -2 + 2 = 0$  and hence  $|(K_X + L)_A| = |(K_A + h_A)|$  collapses  $A$  along the ruling  $f$ . This contradicts Lemma (3.2). Q.E.D.

## 4 The Cone Cases

The main result in this section is to showing that in the situation when we have a reducible ample divisor  $L = A + B$  with both of  $A$  and  $B$  are in  $\{\mathbb{P}^2, \widetilde{\mathbb{F}}_2\}$  is very restricted. The proof of this is based on the usual Hodge Index type theorem for ample divisors, which yields in our case

$$[(A + B) \cdot A \cdot A][(A + B) \cdot B \cdot B] \leq [(A + B) \cdot A \cdot B]^2 \quad (3)$$

with equality if and only if  $A$  is a rational multiple of  $B$  as homology class.

**Lemma 4.1** *Let  $L$  be an ample line bundle on a smooth connected projective threefold  $X$ . Assume that  $A, B$  are two reduced divisors on  $X$  which meet transversely in a smooth curve  $h$  of genus  $g(h)$ . Assume that  $A + B \in |L|$ , and that  $A, B \in \{\mathbb{P}^2, \widetilde{\mathbb{F}}_2\}$ . Then  $g(h) \leq 1$ .*

*Proof.* Assume without loss of generality that  $g := g(h) \geq 2$ . Note that in this case the degree of  $h$  on  $A, B$  are uniquely determined by  $g$ .

First let us do the case of  $A = B = \mathbb{P}^2$ . Then  $h_A \in |\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^2}(d)|$  and  $h_B \in |\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^2}(d)|$  where  $2g - 2 = d(d - 3)$ . Note that  $d^2 = h_A^2 = B \cdot B \cdot A = h_B \cdot N_{B/X}$ . Thus  $N_{B/X} = \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^2}(d)$ , and similarly  $N_{A/X} = \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^2}(d)$ . Plugging into Equation (3), we get equality. Thus  $A = \lambda B$  as homology classes for some  $\lambda \in \mathbb{Q}$ . Since  $A^2 \cdot B = d^2 = B^2 \cdot A$ , we see that  $\lambda = 1$ . Thus since  $L$  is ample and since  $L = 2A = 2B$  in homology, it follows that  $A, B$  are ample. The Lefschetz theorem yields  $\text{Pic}(X) = \text{Pic}(A) = \mathbb{Z}[\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^2}(1)]$ . Therefore  $K_X \approx \mathcal{O}_X(c)$ ,  $\mathcal{O}_X(A) \approx \mathcal{O}_X(a)$ , where  $a \geq 1$  by ampleness. Then  $(K_X + A)_A \approx K_A \approx \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^2}(-3)$  gives  $K_X + A \approx \mathcal{O}_X(c + a) \approx \mathcal{O}_X(-3)$ . Therefore  $1 + c \leq a + c = -3$ , or  $c \leq -4$ . Thus  $X = \mathbb{P}^3$  by the Kobayashi-Ochiai Theorem [1, (3.1.6)] and  $g = 0$ , contradicting the assumption  $g > 0$ .

The case of  $A = B = \widetilde{\mathbb{F}}_2$  proceeds in the same way, except that one of the possibilities allowed by the Kobayashi-Ochiai Theorem [1, (3.1.6)] is  $(X, L)$  is  $(\mathbb{P}^3, \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^3}(4))$ . In this case  $g = 1$ .

Finally, consider the case when one of  $A, B$  is  $\mathbb{P}^2$  and the other is  $\widetilde{\mathbb{F}}_2$ . By renaming if necessary we can assume that  $A = \mathbb{P}^2$  and  $B = \widetilde{\mathbb{F}}_2$ . Letting  $h_B = A_B = \mathcal{O}_B(\delta)$  and  $h_A = B_A = \mathcal{O}_A(d)$ , we have that  $A^2 \cdot B = 2\delta^2$ ,  $B^2 \cdot A = d^2$ . Also from  $d^2 = h_A^2 = B \cdot B \cdot A = h_B \cdot N_{B/X}$  we conclude that  $N_{B/X} = \mathcal{O}_B(d^2/2\delta)$ . Similarly we conclude that  $N_{A/X} = \mathcal{O}_A(2\delta^2/d)$ . Thus  $A^3 = \frac{4\delta^4}{d^2}$  and  $B^3 = \frac{d^4}{4\delta^2}$ . Plugging into Equation (3), we conclude again that  $A, B$  are positive multiples of  $L$  in homology and hence ample. Using the argument from the case when both are  $\mathbb{P}^2$ , we see that  $X = \mathbb{P}^3$ . In this case  $g = 0$ . Q.E.D.

## 5 The Cone and Scroll Cases

We keep again our working assumption as in (3.1). In this section we consider the remaining case when both  $A$  and  $B$  are Hirzebruch surfaces, under the *extra assumption* that  $(\widehat{A}, \widehat{L}_{\widehat{A}}), (\widehat{B}, \widehat{L}_{\widehat{B}})$  are scrolls, i.e.,  $\widehat{A}, \widehat{B}$  are both scrolls with respect to  $\widehat{L}$ .

We start with the following general lemma.

**Lemma 5.1** *Let  $\widehat{L}$  be a very ample line bundle on a 3-fold  $\widehat{X}$ . Let  $\widehat{A} + \widehat{B} \in |L|$ , where  $\widehat{A}, \widehat{B}$  are two smooth divisors on  $\widehat{X}$  meeting transversely in a smooth curve  $h$  of genus  $g(h) > 0$ . Assume that  $(\widehat{A}, \widehat{L}_{\widehat{A}})$  and  $(\widehat{B}, \widehat{L}_{\widehat{B}})$  are scrolls or cones (from a vertex not contained in  $h$ ) over smooth curves  $C_{\widehat{A}}, C_{\widehat{B}}$  with scroll (or cone) projections  $p_{\widehat{A}}: \widehat{A} \rightarrow C_{\widehat{A}}, p_{\widehat{B}}: \widehat{B} \rightarrow C_{\widehat{B}}$  respectively. Then  $\pi = (p_{\widehat{A}}, p_{\widehat{B}}): h \rightarrow C_{\widehat{A}} \times C_{\widehat{B}}$  maps  $h$  isomorphically onto a smooth curve.*

*Proof.* Let  $\xi \subset h$  be a subscheme of degree 2 (i.e., a pair of distinct points, or a tangent subscheme supported at a single point). We show that  $\pi$  separates  $\xi$ . If not,  $\xi$  is contained in a fiber of  $\pi$ . Hence  $\xi$  belongs to a fiber of  $p_{\widehat{A}}$  and one of  $p_{\widehat{B}}$ , in which case the same holds true for the line  $\ell$  spanned by  $\xi$ . But since the intersection  $\widehat{A} \cap \widehat{B}$  is transverse and connected, it follows that  $\widehat{A} \cap \widehat{B} = \ell$ . This contradicts the hypothesis that  $g(h) > 0$ . Q.E.D.

**Theorem 5.2** *Let  $\widehat{L}$  be a very ample line bundle on a smooth projective threefold  $\widehat{X}$ . Assume that there exists two irreducible divisors  $\widehat{A}, \widehat{B}$  on  $\widehat{X}$ , which meet transversely in a smooth curve  $h$ , and such that  $\widehat{A} + \widehat{B} \in |\widehat{L}|$ . Assume further that*

1.  $(\widehat{A}, \widehat{L}_{\widehat{A}})$  is  $(\mathbb{P}^2, \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^2}(1))$ , or  $(Q, \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^3}(1)_Q)$  with  $Q \subset \mathbb{P}^3$  the singular quadric  $\widetilde{\mathbb{F}}_2$ ; and
2.  $(\widehat{B}, \widehat{L}_{\widehat{B}})$  is a scroll over  $\mathbb{P}^1$ .

Then  $g(h) = 0$ .

*Proof.* We do the case where  $\widehat{A} = \mathbb{P}^2$ . The case of  $\widehat{A} = \widetilde{\mathbb{F}}_2$  is proved in a completely similar way. Let  $N_{\widehat{A}/\widehat{X}} = \widehat{A}_{\widehat{A}} \cong \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^2}(d)$  denote the normal bundle of  $\widehat{A}$  in  $\widehat{X}$ . Let  $h_{\widehat{A}} = \widehat{B}_{\widehat{A}} = \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^2}(\delta)$ . Letting  $E$  denote a section of  $\widehat{B}$  with  $E^2 = -r \leq 0$ , and letting  $\mathcal{E} = E + rf$  for a fiber  $f$  of the scroll projection, we have  $\widehat{B}_{\widehat{B}} = M\mathcal{E} + Nf$  and  $h_{\widehat{B}} = \widehat{A}_{\widehat{B}} = a\mathcal{E} + bf$  for integers  $M, N, a, b$ . Note that by Lemma (5.1) we have  $g := g(h) = (a-1)(\delta-1)$ . Note by the formulae for the genus on  $\widehat{A}$  and  $\widehat{B}$  we have the formulae  $2g = (\delta-1)(\delta-2)$  and  $2g = (a-1)(ar+2b-2)$ . Assuming that  $g \geq 1$ , and hence that  $\delta \geq 3, a \geq 2$ , immediately gives  $\delta = 2a$  and  $4a = ar + 2b$ .

Note that  $d\delta = \widehat{A}_{\widehat{A}} \cdot \widehat{B}_{\widehat{A}} = \widehat{B} \cdot \widehat{A}^2 = \widehat{A}_{\widehat{B}}^2 = a(ar+2b)$ . Combined with  $\delta = 2a$  and  $4a = ar + 2b$ , we conclude that  $d = \delta$ . Since  $\widehat{L}_{\widehat{A}} = \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^2}(d + \delta)$ , we get a contradiction to  $\widehat{L}_{\widehat{A}} \cong \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^2}(1)$ . Q.E.D.

Now let us specialize Lemma (5.1) to the case when  $\widehat{A} = \mathbb{F}_r, \widehat{B} = \mathbb{F}_s$ . Denote by  $\mathcal{E}_{\widehat{A}} = E_{\widehat{A}} + rf_{\widehat{A}}, E_{\widehat{A}}^2 = -r, f_{\widehat{A}}$  a fiber of the ruling  $\widehat{A} = \mathbb{F}_r \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1$ ; and similarly for  $\widehat{B}$ . Write

$$h_{\widehat{A}} = a(E_{\widehat{A}} + rf_{\widehat{A}}) + bf_{\widehat{A}}; \quad h_{\widehat{B}} = \alpha(E_{\widehat{B}} + sf_{\widehat{B}}) + \beta f_{\widehat{B}}, \quad (4)$$

on  $\widehat{A}, \widehat{B}$ , respectively,

Note that by Lemma (3.3) we may assume  $a \geq 3, \alpha \geq 3$ . Furthermore, since  $h$  is a positive genus curve on the Hirzebruch surfaces  $\widehat{A}, \widehat{B}$ , we may also assume  $b \geq 0, \beta \geq 0$ .

By Lemma (5.1),  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1}(\pi(h)) = \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1}(a, \alpha)$ , and hence

$$g(h) = (a-1)(\alpha-1). \quad (5)$$

The genus formula also yields

$$2g(h) - 2 = (a-1)(ar+2b-2).$$

Therefore, by using (5), we deduce that

$$2\alpha = ar + 2b. \quad (6)$$

Similarly we find

$$2a = \alpha s + 2\beta. \quad (7)$$

Combining (6) and (7), we have  $(4-rs)a\alpha = 4b\beta + 2(b\alpha s + \beta ar)$ .

$$2a\alpha = a(ar+2b) = \alpha(\alpha s + 2\beta). \quad (8)$$

Write

$$N_{\widehat{A}/\widehat{X}} = -\lambda(E_{\widehat{A}} + rf_{\widehat{A}}) + \rho f_{\widehat{A}}; \quad N_{\widehat{B}/\widehat{X}} = -\mu(E_{\widehat{B}} + sf_{\widehat{B}}) + \sigma f_{\widehat{B}},$$

for integers  $\lambda, \mu, \rho, \sigma$ .

Note that on  $\widehat{A}$  one has  $h_{\widehat{B}}^2 = \widehat{A}_{\widehat{B}}^2 = \widehat{A}^2 \cdot \widehat{B} = \widehat{A}_{\widehat{A}} \cdot \widehat{B}_{\widehat{A}} = N_{\widehat{A}/\widehat{X}} \cdot h_{\widehat{A}}$ . Since

$$h_{\widehat{B}}^2 = \alpha^2 s + 2\alpha\beta = \alpha(\alpha s + 2\beta) \quad \text{and} \quad N_{\widehat{A}/\widehat{X}} \cdot h_{\widehat{A}} = -a\lambda r - \lambda b + \rho a,$$

we find  $\alpha(\alpha s + 2\beta) = -a\lambda r - \lambda b + \rho a$ . Similarly, we find  $a(ar+2b) = -\alpha\mu s - \mu\beta + \sigma\alpha$ . Then by (8) we have

$$-a\lambda r - \lambda b + \rho a = -\alpha\mu s - \mu\beta + \sigma\alpha. \quad (9)$$

Since  $(\widehat{A}, \widehat{L}_{\widehat{A}})$  is a scroll, we also have  $\widehat{L}_{\widehat{A}} (= \widehat{A}_{\widehat{A}} + \widehat{B}_{\widehat{A}} = N_{\widehat{A}/\widehat{X}} + h_{\widehat{A}}) = E_{\widehat{A}} + jf_{\widehat{A}}$ . On the other hand, the coefficient of  $E_{\widehat{A}}$  in the expression for  $N_{\widehat{A}/\widehat{X}} + h_{\widehat{A}}$  is  $-\lambda + a$ . Therefore the last equality for  $\widehat{L}_{\widehat{A}}$  implies  $a - \lambda = 1$ . Similarly the scroll condition for  $(\widehat{B}, \widehat{L}_{\widehat{B}})$  gives  $\alpha - \mu = 1$ . So from (9) we have

$$-a(a-1)r - (a-1)b + \rho a = -\alpha(\alpha-1)s - (\alpha-1)\beta + \sigma\alpha.$$

Then in particular  $\rho = 2\alpha + (a-1)r + b + \frac{b}{a}$ . This implies  $\rho \geq 6$  (with  $\rho = 6$  giving  $r = b = 0$ ), as well as  $a$  divides  $b$ , say,  $b = ab'$ .

In the same way, we find  $\sigma = 2a + (a-1)s + \beta + \frac{\beta}{\alpha}$ . So  $\sigma \geq 6$  (with  $\sigma = 6$  giving  $s = \alpha = 0$ ), as well as  $\beta = \alpha\beta'$ .

Thus formulas (6) and (7) become  $2\alpha = a(r+2b')$  and  $2a = \alpha(s+2\beta')$ . From this we also find

$$4 = (r+2b')(s+2\beta'). \quad (10)$$

Since  $b', \beta' \geq 0$  it follows that  $rs \leq 4$  and hence  $r, s \in \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4\}$ .

The following theorem summarizes the discussion above.

**Theorem 5.3** *Let  $\widehat{L}$  be a very ample line bundle on a 3-fold  $\widehat{X}$ . Let  $\widehat{A} + \widehat{B} \in |L|$ , where  $\widehat{A}, \widehat{B}$  are two smooth divisors on  $\widehat{X}$  meeting transversely in a smooth curve  $h$  of genus  $g(h) > 0$ . Assume that  $\widehat{A} = \mathbb{F}_r, \widehat{B} = \mathbb{F}_s$  are Hirzebruch surfaces. Further assume that  $(\widehat{A}, \widehat{L}_{\widehat{A}})$  and  $(\widehat{B}, \widehat{L}_{\widehat{B}})$  are scrolls over smooth curves. Then  $r, s \in \{0, 1, 2, 4\}$  and the possible values of the coefficients  $b = ab', \beta = \alpha\beta'$  as in the expressions (4) of  $h$  as a curve of  $\widehat{A}, \widehat{B}$  respectively are listed in the table below.*

$s \setminus r$	0	1	2	3	4
0	$b' = \beta' = 1$	$b' = 0, \beta' = 2$	$b' = 0, \beta' = 1$	✓	✓
1	$b' = 2, \beta' = 0$	✓	$b' = 1, \beta' = 0$	✓	$b' = \beta' = 0$
2	$b' = 1, \beta' = 0$	$b' = 0, \beta' = 1$	$b' = \beta' = 0$	✓	✓
3	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
4	✓	$b' = \beta' = 0$	✓	✓	✓

*Proof.* A simply numerical check, by using (10) and the symmetry between  $r$  and  $s$ , gives the possible values for the integers  $r, s, b', \beta'$  in the table (the symbol “✓” means that the corresponding case does not occur). E.g., if  $r = 0$ , equality (10) gives  $2 = b'(s + 2\beta')$ . This leads to the cases  $(s, b', \beta') = (0, 1, 1), (1, 2, 0), (2, 1, 0)$  as in the first column. Thus we may assume  $r, s \geq 0$ . E.g., if  $r = 3$ , (10) gives  $4 = 3(s + 2\beta') + 2b'(s + 2\beta')$ , so that  $b' \neq 0$  and hence  $b' > 0$ , this giving again a numerical contradiction. Q.E.D.

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