# RATIONALLY INEQUIVALENT POINTS ON HYPERSURFACES IN $\mathbb{P}^n$

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ABSTRACT. We prove a conjecture of Voisin that no two distinct points on a very general hypersurface of degree 2n in  $\mathbb{P}^n$  are rationally equivalent.

## Contents

1. Introduction	2
Conventions	3
2. Relative cycle map	3
3. Positivity of the sheaf of holomorphic <i>N</i> -forms	6
3.1. A key lemma	6
3.2. Sheaf of holomorphic <i>N</i> -forms	8
3.3. Global generation of $T_X^2(1)$	11
3.4. Differential map $d\sigma$	13
3.5. Criterion for two fixed sections	14
3.6. Criterion for two varying sections	20
4. Hypersurfaces of degree $2n + 2$ in $\mathbb{P}^{n+1}$	23
4.1. Versal deformation of the Fermat hypersurface	23
4.2. A basis for $W_{X,b}$	25
4.3. An observation on $L_{\lambda}$	27
4.4. The space $H^0(I_Z(1)) \otimes \operatorname{Span} J_{d-1}$	28
4.5. Special case	30
4.6. Generic case	39
5. Notes on algebraic invariants	48
5.1. (Generalized) normal functions	50
5.2. The invariants	51
5.3. Example 5.5 revisited	52
References	53

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#### 1. INTRODUCTION

In [V1] and [V2], C. Voisin proved the following ([V1, Theorem 3.1] and [V2, Theorem 0.6])

**Theorem 1.1** (C. Voisin). Let X be a very general complete intersection in  $\mathbb{P}^{n+k}$  of type  $(d_1, d_2, ..., d_k)$ .

- If  $\sum (d_i 1) \ge 2n + 2$ , no two distinct points on X are  $\mathbb{Q}$ -rationally equivalent.
- If (n, k, d<sub>1</sub>) = (2, 1, 6), there are at most countably many points on X that are Q-rationally equivalent to a fixed point p for all p ∈ X.

The main purpose of this note is to generalize this result in two directions. First, we will make a minor improvement by replacing rational equivalence by Roĭtman's  $\Gamma$ -equivalence [R1]: fixing a smooth projective curve  $\Gamma$  and two points  $0 \neq \infty \in \Gamma$ , for every algebraic cycle  $\xi \in \mathbb{Z}^k(X \times \Gamma)$  with  $\operatorname{supp}(\xi)$ flat over  $\Gamma$ , the fibers  $\xi_0$  and  $\xi_\infty$  of  $\xi$  over 0 and  $\infty$  are  $\Gamma$ -equivalent, written as  $\xi_0 \sim_{\Gamma} \xi_\infty$ . We will prove

**Theorem 1.2.** For a fixed smooth projective curve  $\Gamma$  with two fixed points  $0 \neq \infty$ , no two distinct points on a very general complete intersection X in  $\mathbb{P}^{n+k}$  of type  $(d_1, d_2, ..., d_k)$  are  $\Gamma$ -equivalent over  $\mathbb{Q}$  if  $\sum (d_i - 1) \geq 2n + 2$ ,

Second, we will try to find the optimal bound for  $d_i$  where the result holds. Our most optimistic expectation is

**Conjecture 1.3.** For a very general complete intersection  $X \subset \mathbb{P}^{n+k}$  of type  $(d_1, d_2, ..., d_k)$  and every point  $p \in X$ ,

(1.1) 
$$\dim R_{X,p,\Gamma} \le 2n - \sum_{i=1}^{k} (d_i - 1)$$

where  $R_{X,p,\Gamma} = \{q \neq p \in X : N(p-q) \sim_{\Gamma} 0 \text{ for some } N \in \mathbb{Z}^+\}$  and  $\Gamma$  is a fixed smooth projective curve with two fixed points  $0 \neq \infty$ .

Note that  $R_{X,p,\Gamma}$  is a locally noetherian scheme.

The case  $\sum (d_i - 1) = n + 1$  follows from Roïtman's generalization of Mumford's famous theorem ([Mu], [R1] and [R2]). Of course, Voisin proved

(1.2) 
$$\dim R_{X,p,\mathbb{P}^1} \le 2n + 1 - \sum_{i=1}^k (d_i - 1)$$

for  $\sum (d_i - 1) \ge 2n + 2$  or  $(n, k, d_1) = (2, 1, 6)$ . Theorem 1.2 shows that (1.1) holds for  $\sum (d_i - 1) \ge 2n + 2$ .

If our conjecture holds,  $R_{X,p,\Gamma} = \emptyset$  when  $\sum (d_i - 1) \ge 2n + 1$ . So the "boundary" case is  $\sum (d_i - 1) = 2n + 1$ . For example, it is expected that  $R_{X,p,\Gamma} = \emptyset$  for a very general sextic surface  $X \subset \mathbb{P}^3$ . Voisin's theorem shows that dim  $R_{X,p,\Gamma} = 0$  for such surfaces X. This boundary case is quite challenging, even only for sextic surfaces. We claim the following:

**Theorem 1.4.** No two distinct points are  $\Gamma$ -equivalent over  $\mathbb{Q}$  on a very general hypersurface  $X \subset \mathbb{P}^{n+1}$  of degree 2n+2 for a fixed smooth projective curve  $\Gamma$  with two fixed points  $0 \neq \infty$ . That is, (1.1) holds for k = 1 and  $d_1 = 2n + 2$ .

Note that the bound  $d \geq 2n + 2$  is optimal for hypersurfaces of degree din  $\mathbb{P}^{n+1}$ : For a general hypersurface X of degree  $d \leq 2n + 1$  in  $\mathbb{P}^{n+1}$ , there exist two lines  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  in  $\mathbb{P}^{n+1}$  such that each  $L_i$  meets X at a unique point  $p_i$  with  $p_1 \neq p_2$ .

**Conventions.** We work exclusively over  $\mathbb{C}$ . Indeed, any two points on a variety over  $\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$  are rationally equivalent over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

#### 2. Relative cycle map

Voisin's proof consists of two major components. One is relative cycle map. For a relative Chow cycle  $Z \in \operatorname{CH}^n_{\operatorname{hom}}(X/B)$  for a smooth projective family  $\pi : X \to B$  of relative dimension n, if  $\operatorname{AJ}_n(Z_b) = 0$  under the Abel-Jacobi map on each fiber  $X_b$ , one can define some infinitesimal invariant  $\delta Z \in H^n(R^n\pi_*\mathbb{Q})$ . This invariant can be defined in a Hodge-theoretical way as in [V2]. Please see §5 for a comprehensive treatment along this line. Here we take a different approach: we define  $\delta Z$  directly by (2.2) (see below) and then we prove  $\delta Z$  is invariant under rational equivalence. This has the advantage of being elementary: no Hodge theory is involved in the definition of  $\delta Z$ . In addition, we will obtain for free that  $\delta Z$  is invariant under  $\Gamma$ -equivalence. Another advantage of this approach is that  $\delta Z$  is well defined for an arbitrary flat family  $\pi : X \to B$  without any extra hypotheses on X/B.

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $\pi : X \to B$  be a flat and surjective morphism of relative dimension n from X onto a smooth variety B of dim B = N. For a multi-section  $Z \subset X$ , we define

(2.1) 
$$\delta Z \in \operatorname{Hom}(\pi_*(\wedge^N \Omega_X), \wedge^N \Omega_B) = \operatorname{Hom}(\pi_*\Omega_X^N, K_B)$$

as follows:

(2.2) 
$$\delta Z = \operatorname{Tr}_{Z/B} \circ (d\sigma) : \pi_* \Omega_X^N \xrightarrow{d\sigma} (\pi \circ \sigma)_* \Omega_Z^N = (\pi \circ \sigma)_* K_Z \xrightarrow{\operatorname{Tr}_{Z/B}} K_B$$

where  $\operatorname{Tr}_{Z/B}$  is the trace map and  $\sigma: Z \hookrightarrow X$  is the embedding.

We can easily extend  $\delta$  to the free abelian group  $\mathcal{Z}^n(X/B)$  of algebraic cycles Z of pure codimension n in X whose support supp(Z) is flat over B. For  $Z = \sum m_i Z_i$  with  $Z_i$  multi-sections of  $\pi$ , we let  $\delta Z = \sum m_i \delta Z_i$ .

Remark 2.2. The definition (2.2) of  $\delta Z$  might need some further explanation. The differential map  $d\sigma$  is usually  $d\sigma : \sigma^* \Omega^N_X \to \Omega^N_Z$ . In (2.2), it is the composition of  $d\sigma$  and  $(\pi \circ \sigma)_*$ :

(2.3) 
$$\begin{aligned} \pi_*\Omega_X^N &\longrightarrow \pi_*(\Omega_X^N \otimes \mathcal{O}_Z) &\longrightarrow (\pi \circ \sigma)_*\Omega_Z^N \\ & & & \\ \pi_*(\sigma_*\sigma^*\Omega_X^N). \end{aligned}$$

The trace map  $\operatorname{Tr}_{Z/B}$  can be defined for  $\pi_*(\wedge^m \Omega_Z) \to \wedge^m \Omega_B$  under a generically finite map  $\pi : Z \to B$ . Obviously, it is well defined outside of the ramification locus of  $\pi$ . Since every meromorphic differential form in  $\wedge^m \Omega_B$ is regular if it is regular in codimension 1, it suffices to show that the image of a differential *m*-form on Z under the trace map can be extended to a regular *m*-form on B in codimension 1 [K, Proposition 5.77, p. 185]. Moreover, the trace map is well defined for B normal if we follow the convention to define  $\Omega_B$  to be the sheaf of differential forms regular in codimension 1. However,  $\operatorname{Tr}_{Z/B}$  cannot be defined for  $\pi_*(\Omega_Z^{\otimes m}) \to \Omega_B^{\otimes m}$  when  $m \geq 2$ , which is the reason why Mumford's argument cannot be generalized using pluri-canonical forms.

For  $Z \in \mathcal{Z}^n(X/B)$  and a morphism  $f : B' \to B$ , we clearly have the commutative diagram

(2.4) 
$$\begin{aligned} f^*\Omega^N_X &\longrightarrow \Omega^N_{X'} \\ & \downarrow f^*(\delta Z) & \downarrow \delta(f^*Z) \\ & f^*K_B &\longrightarrow K_{B'} \end{aligned}$$

where  $X' = X \times_B B'$  and we also use f to denote the map  $X' \to X$ .

**Lemma 2.3.** Let  $\pi : X \to B$  be a flat and projective morphism of relative dimension n from X onto a smooth variety B of dim B = N and let Z be a cycle in  $\mathcal{Z}^n(X/B)$ . If  $\pi_*\Omega_X^N$  is locally free and  $Z_b \sim_{\Gamma} 0$  for all  $b \in B$ , then  $\delta Z = 0$ , where  $\Gamma$  is a fixed smooth projective curve with two fixed points  $0 \neq \infty$ .

*Proof.* Since  $\pi_*\Omega_X^N$  is locally free,  $\delta Z = 0$  if and only if  $\delta Z = 0$  at a general point of B.

Using a Hilbert scheme argument, we can find a dominant and generically finite morphism  $f: B' \to B$  and a cycle  $Y \in \mathbb{Z}^n(X' \times \Gamma)$  such that  $\operatorname{supp}(Y)$ is flat over  $B' \times \Gamma$  and  $Y_0 - Y_\infty = f^*Z$ , where  $X' = X \times_B B'$ ,  $Y_t$  is the fiber of Y over  $t \in \Gamma$  and  $f^*Z$  is the pullback of Z under  $f: X' \to X$ . Obviously,  $\delta Z = 0$  if  $\delta f^*Z = 0$  by (2.4) and the fact that  $\pi_*\Omega_X^N$  is locally free. To simplify our notations, we replace (X, B) by (X', B').

For every  $t \in \Gamma$ ,  $Y_t \in \mathcal{Z}^n(X/B)$  and thus it induces a map

(2.5) 
$$\gamma: \Gamma \to \operatorname{Hom}(\pi_*\Omega^N_X, K_B)$$

by  $\gamma(t) = \delta Y_t$ . More precisely, since Y is flat over  $B \times \Gamma$ , we have

(2.6)  

$$\delta Y \in \operatorname{Hom}(\varepsilon_*\Omega_{X\times\Gamma}^{N+1}, K_{B\times\Gamma}) = \operatorname{Hom}(\eta_1^*\pi_*\Omega_X^{N+1} \oplus \eta_1^*\pi_*\Omega_X^N \otimes \eta_2^*K_{\Gamma}, \eta_1^*K_B \otimes \eta_2^*K_{\Gamma}) \\ \to \operatorname{Hom}(\eta_1^*\pi_*\Omega_X^N \otimes \eta_2^*K_{\Gamma}, \eta_1^*K_B \otimes \eta_2^*K_{\Gamma}) = \operatorname{Hom}(\eta_1^*\pi_*\Omega_X^N, \eta_1^*K_B)$$

where  $\varepsilon$ ,  $\eta_1$  and  $\eta_2$  are the projections  $\varepsilon : X \times \Gamma \to B \times \Gamma$ ,  $\eta_1 : B \times \Gamma \to B$ and  $\eta_2 : B \times \Gamma \to \Gamma$ , respectively. Clearly,  $\gamma(t)$  is the restriction of  $\delta Y$  to the point  $t \in \Gamma$ . It follows that  $\gamma$  is a morphism. And since  $\Gamma$  is projective, it must be constant. Therefore,  $\delta Z = \delta Y_0 - \delta Y_\infty = 0$ . We are done.  $\Box$ 

So, to show that  $\sigma_1(b) \not\sim_{\Gamma} \sigma_2(b)$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  at a general point  $b \in B$  for two sections  $\sigma_i : B \hookrightarrow X$  of X/B, we only need to find  $s \in H^0(U, \pi_*\Omega_X^N)$ satisfying

(2.7) 
$$(d\sigma_1)\sigma_1^*s - (d\sigma_2)\sigma_2^*s \neq 0$$

over some open dense subset  $U \subset B$ . The existence of such s is guaranteed if  $H^0(X_b, \Omega_X^N)$  is imposed independent conditions by  $\sigma_i(b)$  for  $b \in B$  general. This observation leads to the following:

**Proposition 2.4.** Let  $\pi : X \to B$  be a smooth and projective morphism from X onto a smooth variety B of dim B = N. Suppose that  $H^0(X_b, \Omega_X^N)$ is imposed independent conditions by all pairs of distinct points  $p \neq q \in X_b$ for  $b \in B$  general. Then  $R_{X_b,p,\Gamma} = \emptyset$  for  $b \in B$  very general and all  $p \in X_b$ , where  $\Gamma$  is a fixed smooth projective curves with two fixed points  $0 \neq \infty$ . More generally,

(2.8)  $R_{X_b,p,\Gamma} \subset \left\{ q \in X_b : q \neq p \text{ and } \{p,q\} \text{ does not impose independent} \\ \text{ conditions on } H^0(X_b,\Omega_X^N) \right\}$ 

for  $b \in B$  very general.

Here we say that a closed subscheme  $Z \subset X$  or its ideal sheaf  $I_Z \subset \mathcal{O}_X$ imposes independent conditions on a coherent sheaf  $\mathcal{F}$  or its global sections  $H^0(\mathcal{F})$  (resp. a linear series  $\mathcal{D} \subset H^0(\mathcal{F})$ ) on X if  $H^0(\mathcal{F}) \to H^0(\mathcal{F} \otimes \mathcal{O}_Z)$ (resp.  $\mathcal{D} \to H^0(\mathcal{F} \otimes \mathcal{O}_Z)$ ) is surjective.

Proof of Proposition 2.4. Suppose that there are a pair of points  $p \neq q$  on a general fiber  $X_b$  such that  $p \sim_{\Gamma} q$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  and  $\{p,q\}$  imposes independent conditions on  $H^0(X_b, \Omega^N_X)$ . By a base change and shrinking B to an affine variety, we may assume that

- there exists two disjoint sections P and  $Q \subset X$  of  $\pi : X \to B$  such that  $m(P_b Q_b) \sim_{\Gamma} 0$  for some  $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  and all  $b \in B$ ,
- $h^0(X_b, \Omega^N_X)$  is constant for all  $b \in B$  and
- $H^0(\Omega^N_X)$  is imposed independent conditions by  $P \sqcup Q$ .

Since  $P \sqcup Q$  imposes independent conditions on  $H^0(\Omega^N_X)$  and  $\Omega^N_X$  is locally free, the map

(2.9) 
$$H^0(\Omega^N_X \otimes I_P) \xrightarrow{\sigma^*_Q} H^0(\sigma^*_Q \Omega^N_X)$$

is a surjection, where  $\sigma_P$  and  $\sigma_Q : B \hookrightarrow X$  are the embeddings of P and Q to X, respectively. Combining (2.9) with the pullback map of  $\sigma_Q : B \hookrightarrow X$  on differentials, we have a composition of two surjections

(2.10) 
$$H^0(\Omega^N_X \otimes I_P) \xrightarrow{\sigma^*_Q} H^0(\sigma^*_Q \Omega^N_X) \xrightarrow{d\sigma_Q} H^0(\Omega^N_B)$$

where  $d\sigma_P$  and  $d\sigma_Q$  are the pullback maps induced by  $\sigma_P$  and  $\sigma_Q$  on the differentials, respectively. Therefore, there exists  $s \in H^0(\Omega_X^N)$  such that

(2.11) 
$$\sigma_P^* s = 0 \text{ and } (d\sigma_Q) \sigma_Q^* s \neq 0.$$

It follows that

(2.12) 
$$\langle \delta Z, s \rangle = (d\sigma_P)\sigma_P^*s - (d\sigma_Q)\sigma_Q^*s = -(d\sigma_Q)\sigma_Q^*s \neq 0$$

for Z = P - Q. On the other hand,  $\delta Z = 0$  by Lemma 2.3. Contradiction. The above argument shows that no irreducible component of

$$S_{X,\Gamma} = \left\{ (b, p, q) : b \in B \text{ and } p \neq q \in X_b \text{ satisfy that } p \sim_{\Gamma} q \text{ over } \mathbb{Q} \right.$$

$$(2.13) \qquad \text{and } \{p, q\} \text{ imposes independent conditions}$$

on 
$$H^0(X_b, \Omega_X^N)$$

dominates B via the projection  $\xi : S_{X,\Gamma} \to B$ . Note that  $S_{X,\Gamma}$  is a locally noetherian subscheme of  $X \times_B X$ . Therefore, for  $b \in B \setminus \xi(S_{X,\Gamma})$  very general, (2.8) holds.

*Remark* 2.5. Note that the right hand side (RHS) of (2.8) is a subscheme that does not depend on the choice of the triple  $(\Gamma, 0, \infty)$ .

#### 3. Positivity of the sheaf of holomorphic N-forms

3.1. A key lemma. Let us first review some basic notions on global generation and very ampleness of coherent sheaves. A coherent sheaf V on a variety X is globally generated (resp. very ample) if the map  $H^0(V) \to H^0(V \otimes \mathcal{O}_Z)$ is surjective for all 0-dimensional subschemes  $Z \subset X$  of length  $h^0(\mathcal{O}_Z) = 1$ (resp. 2), i.e., V is imposed independent conditions by all 0-subschemes of length 1 (resp. 2). More generally, we say that a linear series  $\mathcal{D} \subset H^0(V)$  is globally generated (resp. very ample) if the map  $\mathcal{D} \to H^0(V \otimes \mathcal{O}_Z)$  is surjective for all 0-dimensional subschemes  $Z \subset X$  of length  $h^0(\mathcal{O}_Z) = 1$  (resp. 2). The hypothesis in Proposition 2.4 that  $\Omega_X^N \otimes \mathcal{O}_{X_b}$  is imposed independent conditions by two distinct points is a weak version of very-ampleness, which is technically easier to treat and suffices for our purpose. We call V weakly very ample if  $H^0(V)$  is imposed independent conditions by all pairs of two distinct points on X. Let us go through some basic facts on these notions:

- A quotient of a globally generated (resp. (weakly) very ample) coherent sheaf is also globally generated (resp. (weakly) very ample). More generally, if a coherent sheaf V on a variety X is imposed independent conditions by a 0-dimensional subscheme  $Z \subset X$ , so is a quotient Q of V.
- For coherent sheaves V and W on a variety X, if V is globally generated and W is imposed independent conditions by a 0-dimensional subscheme  $Z \subset X$ , then  $V \otimes W$  is imposed independent conditions by Z. In particular,
  - if V is globally generated and W is globally generated (resp. (weakly) very ample),  $V \otimes W$  is also globally generated (resp. (weakly) very ample);
  - if V is globally generated (resp. (weakly) very ample), so are  $V^{\otimes N}$ , Sym<sup>N</sup> V and  $\wedge^{N} V$  for all  $N \geq 1$ .
- Let

$$(3.1) 0 \longrightarrow U \longrightarrow V \xrightarrow{\eta} W \longrightarrow 0$$

be a short exact sequence of coherent sheaves on a variety X, if the map  $\eta \circ \Gamma : \Gamma(V) \to \Gamma(W)$  induced by  $\eta$  is surjective and both U and W are imposed independent conditions by a 0-dimensional subscheme  $Z \subset X$ , the same is true for V. Thus, if  $\eta \circ \Gamma$  is surjective and both U and W are globally generated (resp. (weakly) very ample), V is also globally generated (resp. (weakly) very ample). Here we write  $\Gamma(A) = H^0(A)$ .

Basically, if we have a short exact sequence (3.1), the global generation (resp. very-ampleness) of V implies that of W; the global generation (resp. very-ampleness) of U and W implies that of V under the extra hypothesis that  $\eta \circ \Gamma$  is surjective. The hard question is how to tell whether a 0-dimensional scheme Z imposes independent conditions on U if it does on V. The following key lemma gives us a criterion for that.

#### Lemma 3.1. Let

$$(3.2) \qquad \begin{array}{c} 0 \longrightarrow A_1 \longrightarrow A_2 \xrightarrow{\eta} A_3 \\ & \downarrow^{\alpha_1} & \downarrow^{\alpha_2} & \downarrow^{\alpha_3} \\ 0 \longrightarrow B_1 \longrightarrow B_2 \longrightarrow B_3 \end{array}$$

be a commutative diagram of sheaves over a topological space X whose rows are left exact. Suppose the map  $\alpha_2 \circ \Gamma$  is surjective. Then the map  $\alpha_1 \circ \Gamma$  is surjective if and only if

(3.3) 
$$\eta(\ker(\alpha_2 \circ \Gamma)) = \eta \circ \Gamma(A_2) \cap \ker(\alpha_3 \circ \Gamma).$$

*Proof.* This follows from the diagram

and the snake lemma, where  $E = \ker(\alpha_2 \circ \Gamma)$ ,  $F = \eta \circ \Gamma(A_2) \cap \ker(\alpha_3 \circ \Gamma)$ and  $G = \eta \circ \Gamma(A_2)$ . Of course, this lemma can be formulated and proved in abelian categories for left exact functors.

A typical way to apply the above lemma is the following: if U, V and W are locally free in (3.1) and V is globally generated, then U is globally generated if and only if

(3.5) 
$$\eta \circ \Gamma(V \otimes I_p) = \eta \circ \Gamma(V) \cap \Gamma(W \otimes I_p)$$

for all  $p \in X$ .

3.2. Sheaf of holomorphic *N*-forms. The other component of Voisin's proof is the positivity of the sheaf of holomorphic *N*-forms. More precisely, we are considering the global generation and very-ampleness of the sheaf  $\wedge^N \Omega_X = \Omega_X^N$  when restricted to a general fiber of a family  $\pi : X \to B$  over *B* of dim B = N. Voisin proved [V1, Proposition 3.4] and [V2, Corollary 1.2]:

**Theorem 3.2** (C. Voisin). Let  $X \subset B \times \mathbb{P}^{n+k}$  be a versal family of complete intersections of type  $(d_1, d_2, ..., d_k)$  in  $\mathbb{P}^{n+k}$  over a smooth variety B of dim B = N. Then for a general point  $b \in B$ ,

(3.6) 
$$\Omega_X^N \otimes \pi^* K_B^{-1} \cong T_X^n \otimes K_{X/B}$$

is globally generated on  $X_b$  if  $\sum (d_i - 1) \ge 2n + 1$  and very ample on  $X_b$ if  $\sum (d_i - 1) \ge 2n + 2$ , where  $\pi$  is the projection  $X \to B$ ,  $T_X = \Omega_X^{\vee}$  is the holomorphic tangent bundle of X and  $T_X^n = \wedge^n T_X$ .

Let us go over Voisin's proof of the above theorem. The key fact is that  $T_X(1)$  is globally generated [V2, Proposition 1.1]:

**Theorem 3.3** (Clemens). For a versal family  $X \subset Y = B \times P$  of complete intersections in  $P = \mathbb{P}^{n+k}$  over a smooth variety B,  $T_X(1) = T_X \otimes \mathcal{O}_X(1)$ is globally generated on a general fiber  $X_b$ , where  $\mathcal{O}_P(1)$  is the hyperplane bundle on P. This theorem was originally due to Herbert Clemens [C]. We will give a proof following closely the argument of Lawrence Ein in [E1] and [E2].

*Proof of Theorem 3.3.* We have the so-called adjunction sequence

$$(3.7) 0 \longrightarrow T_X \longrightarrow T_Y \otimes \mathcal{O}_X \xrightarrow{\eta} \mathcal{N}_X \longrightarrow 0$$

associated to  $X \subset Y$ , where  $\mathcal{N}_X$  is the normal bundle of X in Y. By (3.3) in Lemma 3.1,  $T_X(1) \otimes \mathcal{O}_{X_b}$  is globally generated if

(3.8) 
$$T_Y(1) \otimes \mathcal{O}_{X_b}$$
 is globally generated

and

(3.9) 
$$\eta \circ \Gamma_b(T_Y(1) \otimes I_p) = \eta \circ \Gamma_b(T_Y(1)) \cap \Gamma_b(\mathcal{N}_X(1) \otimes I_p)$$

where we use the notation  $\Gamma_b$  for  $\Gamma_b(\mathcal{F}) = H^0(X_b, \mathcal{F})$ . Obviously, (3.8) follows immediately from the fact that

(3.10) 
$$T_P(1)$$
 and  $\mathcal{O}_P(1)$  are globally generated,

while (3.9) follows if we can prove that the map

(3.11) 
$$H^{0}(X_{b}, T_{Y}(1) \otimes I_{p}) \longrightarrow H^{0}(X_{b}, \mathcal{N}_{X}(1) \otimes I_{p})$$
$$H^{0}(\mathcal{N}_{X_{b}}(1) \otimes I_{p})$$

is surjective for all  $p \in X_b$ , where  $\mathcal{N}_{X_b}$  is the normal bundle of  $X_b$  in P.

The surjectivity of the map (3.11) comes from the surjectivity of two maps

(3.12) 
$$H^0(\mathcal{N}_{X_b}) \otimes H^0(\mathcal{O}_{X_b}(1) \otimes I_p) \longrightarrow H^0(\mathcal{N}_{X_b}(1) \otimes I_p)$$

and

(3.13) 
$$H^0(X_b, T_P) \oplus T_{B,b} = H^0(X_b, T_Y) \longrightarrow H^0(\mathcal{N}_{X_b})$$

via the diagram

where  $T_{B,b}$  is the holomorphic tangent space of B at b and the map (3.13) is induced by the Kodaira-Spencer map of the family  $X/B \subset Y/B$ .

Finally, (3.12) follows from the fact that

(3.15) 
$$H^0(\mathcal{O}_P(d)) \otimes H^0(\mathcal{O}_P(1) \otimes I_p) \longrightarrow H^0(\mathcal{O}_P(d+1) \otimes I_p)$$

is surjective for all  $p \in P$  and  $d \ge 0$  and (3.13) is a consequence of the hypothesis that X/B is versal.

To put it in a nutshell, the global generation of  $T_X(1) \otimes \mathcal{O}_{X_b}$  comes down to three easy-to-verify facts (3.10), (3.12) and (3.13). Thus, we can put Theorem 3.3 in a more general setting:

**Theorem 3.4.** Let P be a smooth projective variety, X be a smooth closed subvariety of  $Y = B \times P$  that is flat over a smooth variety B and let L be a line bundle on the fiber  $X_b$  of X/B over a point  $b \in B$ . Suppose that

 $(3.16) T_P \otimes L ext{ and } L ext{ are globally generated on } X_b,$ 

(3.17) 
$$H^0(\mathcal{N}_{X_b}) \otimes H^0(L \otimes I_p) \longrightarrow H^0(\mathcal{N}_{X_b} \otimes L \otimes I_p)$$

is surjective for all  $p \in X_b$  and the Kodaira-Spencer map

(3.18) 
$$T_{B,b} \longrightarrow H^0(\mathcal{N}_{X_b})/H^0(X_b, T_P)$$

is surjective. Then  $T_X \otimes L$  is globally generated on  $X_b$ . In addition,

(3.19) 
$$H^1(X_b, T_X \otimes L) = H^1(X_b, T_X \otimes L \otimes I_p) = 0$$

for all  $p \in X_b$  if  $H^1(X_b, T_P \otimes L) = H^1(X_b, L) = 0$ .

Note that the map (3.18) is the Kodaira-Spencer map associated to the family  $X/B \subset Y/B$ , as given in the following diagram

The surjectivity of (3.18) simply says that B dominates the versal deformation space of  $X_b \subset P$ .

Once we have the global generation of  $T_X(1)$ , Theorem 3.2 follows easily from the fact

(3.21) 
$$T_X^n \otimes K_{X/B} = \wedge^n (T_X(1)) \otimes \mathcal{O}_X \left( \sum (d_i - 1) - (2n + 1) \right).$$

Indeed, we can put Theorem 3.2 in a more general form as 3.4:

**Theorem 3.5.** Under the same hypotheses of Theorem 3.4,  $T_X^n \otimes K_{X/B}$  is globally generated (resp. very ample) on  $X_b$  if  $K_{X_b} \otimes L^{-n}$  is globally generated (resp. very ample).

Of course, combining Proposition 2.4 and Theorem 3.5, we arrive at the following:

**Theorem 3.6.** Under the same hypotheses of Theorem 3.4, we assume that (3.16), (3.17) and (3.18) hold and  $K_{X_b} \otimes L^{-n}$  is very ample for  $b \in B$  general and  $n = \dim X_b$ . Then  $R_{X_b,p,\Gamma} = \emptyset$  for  $b \in B$  very general and all  $p \in X_b$ , where  $\Gamma$  is a fixed smooth projective curve with two fixed points  $0 \neq \infty$ .

This implies Theorem 1.2.

3.3. Global generation of  $T_X^2(1)$ . In order to prove part of Conjecture 1.3, e.g., that no two points on a very general sextic surface are rationally equivalent, we need to show that

(3.22) 
$$\Omega_X^N \otimes \pi^* K_B^{-1} \cong T_X^n \otimes \mathcal{O}_X \left( \sum (d_i - 1) - (n+1) \right) \\ \cong T_X^n(n) \otimes \mathcal{O}_X \left( \sum (d_i - 1) - (2n+1) \right)$$

is imposed independent conditions by two distinct points on a general fiber  $X_b$  when  $\sum (d_i - 1) \geq 2n + 1$ . Namely, we need improve Voisin's theorem 3.3 to show that  $T_X^n(n)$  is weakly very ample. Of course, if this is true for  $T_X^m(m)$  for some  $m \leq n$ , it is true for  $T_X^n(n)$ . So we conjecture

**Conjecture 3.7.** Let  $X \subset B \times \mathbb{P}^{n+k}$  be a versal family of complete intersections of type  $(d_1, d_2, ..., d_k)$  in  $\mathbb{P}^{n+k}$  over a smooth variety B of dim B = N. Then for a general point  $b \in B$ ,  $H^0(X_b, T^2_X(2))$  is imposed independent conditions by all pairs of points  $p \neq q \in X_b$ .

Voisin actually had a stronger conjecture [V2, Question 2.1]:

**Conjecture 3.8.** Let  $X \subset B \times \mathbb{P}^{n+k}$  be a versal family of complete intersections of type  $(d_1, d_2, ..., d_k)$  in  $\mathbb{P}^{n+k}$  over a smooth variety B of dim B = N. Then for a general point  $b \in B$ ,  $T_X^2(1) = (\wedge^2 T_X) \otimes \mathcal{O}_X(1)$  is globally generated on  $X_b$  if  $X_b$  is of general type.

Clearly, Voisin's conjecture implies that  $T_X^2(2) = T_X^2(1) \otimes \mathcal{O}_X(1)$  is very ample on  $X_b$  and hence our conjecture 3.7. In addition, it implies that  $\Omega_X^N$  is globally generated when  $\sum (d_i - 1) \geq 2n$ . Unfortunately, both of the above conjectures fail.

Basically, we are considering whether  $T_X^m \otimes L$  is imposed independent conditions by a 0-dimensional subscheme  $Z \subset X_b$  for a line bundle L. Using Lemma 3.1 again, we can obtain the following criterion:

**Theorem 3.9.** Let Y be a smooth projective family of varieties over a smooth variety B, X be a smooth closed subvariety of Y that is flat over B, L be a line bundle on  $X_b$  for a point  $b \in B$  and Z be a 0-dimensional subscheme of  $X_b$ . Suppose that

(3.23)  $H^0(X_b, T_Y^m \otimes L)$  is imposed independent conditions by Z.

Then  $H^0(X_b, T_X^m \otimes L)$  is imposed independent conditions by Z if and only if (3.24)  $\eta_m \circ \Gamma(T_Y^m \otimes L \otimes I_Z) = \eta_m \circ \Gamma(T_Y^m \otimes L) \cap \Gamma(T_Y^{m-1} \otimes \mathcal{N}_X \otimes L \otimes I_Z),$ where  $\eta_m : T_Y^m \otimes \mathcal{O}_X \to T_Y^{m-1} \otimes \mathcal{N}_X$  is the map

(3.25) 
$$\eta_m(\omega_1 \wedge \omega_2 \wedge \ldots \wedge \omega_m) = \sum_{k=1}^m (-1)^{k+1} \eta(\omega_k) \otimes \bigwedge_{i \neq k} \omega_i$$

induced by  $\eta: T_Y \otimes \mathcal{O}_X \to \mathcal{N}_X$  with  $\mathcal{N}_X$  the normal bundle of X in Y.

*Proof.* By the adjunction sequence (3.7), we obtain a left exact sequence

$$(3.26) 0 \longrightarrow T_X^m \otimes L \longrightarrow T_Y^m \otimes L \xrightarrow{\eta_m} T_Y^{m-1} \otimes \mathcal{N}_X \otimes L$$

on  $X_b$ . Since  $T_Y^m \otimes L$  is imposed independent conditions by Z, we conclude the same for  $T_X^m \otimes L$  if and only if (3.24) holds by (3.3) in Lemma 3.1.  $\Box$ 

Note that  $\eta_m$  is actually the map in the generalized Koszul complex

(3.27) 
$$\wedge^{m} T_{Y} \otimes \mathcal{O}_{X} \xrightarrow{\eta_{m}} \wedge^{m-1} T_{Y} \otimes \mathcal{N}_{X} \to \wedge^{m-2} T_{Y} \otimes \operatorname{Sym}^{2} \mathcal{N}_{X} \\ \to \dots \to T_{Y} \otimes \operatorname{Sym}^{m-1} \mathcal{N}_{X} \to \operatorname{Sym}^{m} \mathcal{N}_{X} \to 0$$

of  $\wedge^{m-\bullet}T_Y \otimes \operatorname{Sym}^{\bullet} \mathcal{N}_X$  induced by  $\eta$ .

We are considering the very-ampleness of  $T_X^m(l)$  for  $X \subset Y = B \times P$  for  $P = \mathbb{P}^r$ . By the Euler sequence

on P, we have the diagram

where

$$\mathcal{E}_Y = \pi_B^* T_B \oplus \pi_P^* \mathcal{E}$$

with  $\pi_B : Y \to B$  and  $\pi_P : Y \to P$  the projections of Y onto B and P, respectively. Since  $T_X$  is a quotient of  $\mathcal{G}_X$ ,  $T_X^m(l)$  is imposed independent conditions by two distinct points on  $X_b$  if  $\mathcal{G}_X^m(l)$  is. Thus, we have the following easy corollary of Theorem 3.9:

**Corollary 3.10.** Let  $P = \mathbb{P}^r$ , X be a smooth closed subvariety of  $Y = B \times P$ flat over B, and Z be a 0-dimensional subscheme of  $X_b$  for a point  $b \in B$ . Suppose that

 $(3.31) Z imposes independent conditions on \mathcal{O}_P(l).$ 

Then Z imposes independent conditions on  $H^0(X_b, T_X^m(l))$  if

$$(3.32) \quad \xi_m \circ \Gamma_b(\mathcal{E}_Y^m(l) \otimes I_Z) = \xi_m \circ \Gamma_b(\mathcal{E}_Y^m(l)) \cap \Gamma_b(\mathcal{E}_Y^{m-1}(l) \otimes \mathcal{N}_X \otimes I_Z)$$

where  $\xi_m : \mathcal{E}_Y^m \otimes \mathcal{O}_X \to \mathcal{E}_Y^{m-1} \otimes \mathcal{N}_X$  is the map induced by  $\xi$ . In addition, the converse holds if

(3.33) 
$$H^1(X_b, T_X^{m-1}(l)) = 0$$

and Z imposes independent conditions on  $H^0(X_b, T_X^{m-1}(l))$ .

*Proof.* This follows directly from the diagram (3.29) and Theorem 3.9. The converse follows from the exact sequence

$$(3.34) 0 \longrightarrow T_X^{m-1}(l) \longrightarrow \mathcal{G}_X^m(l) \longrightarrow T_X^m(l) \longrightarrow 0.$$

For a versal family X of complete intersections, we have already proved (3.33) for m = 2 and  $l \ge 1$  by (3.19) in Theorem 3.4. So  $T_X^2(2)$  is weakly very ample if and only if

$$(3.35) \qquad \xi_2 \circ \Gamma_b(\mathcal{E}_Y^2(2) \otimes I_Z) = \xi_2 \circ \Gamma_b(\mathcal{E}_Y^2(2)) \cap \Gamma_b(\mathcal{E}_Y(2) \otimes \mathcal{N}_X \otimes I_Z)$$

for all  $Z = \{p_1 \neq p_2\} \subset X_b$  and  $T_X^2(1)$  is globally generated if and only if

$$(3.36) \qquad \xi_2 \circ \Gamma_b(\mathcal{E}_Y^2(1) \otimes I_p) = \xi_2 \circ \Gamma_b(\mathcal{E}_Y^2(1)) \cap \Gamma_b(\mathcal{E}_Y(2) \otimes \mathcal{N}_X \otimes I_p)$$

for all  $p \in X_b$ . Unfortunately, neither (3.35) nor (3.36) holds for hypersurfaces by a direct computation, although we will not go through the details here as it is not the main purpose of this paper.

3.4. Differential map  $d\sigma$ . Since  $T_X^2(2)$  fails to be weakly very ample, we cannot apply Proposition 2.4 to show that no two points on a general sextic surface are  $\Gamma$ -equivalent. It is very likely that  $T_X^n(n)$  fails to be weakly very ample for n > 2 as well. So we are unable to prove Conjecture 1.3 for  $\sum (d_i - 1) = 2n + 1$  in this way.

A closer examination of the proof of Proposition 2.4 shows that we do not really need  $\Omega_X^N$  to be weakly very ample on  $X_b$ . We only need find  $s \in H^0(U, \pi_*\Omega_X^N)$  satisfying (2.7). This is much weaker than the requirement that  $p_1 = \sigma_1(b)$  and  $p_2 = \sigma_2(b)$  impose independent conditions on  $H^0(X_b, \Omega_X^N)$  for *b* general. For one thing,  $(d\sigma_1)\sigma_1^*s - (d\sigma_2)\sigma_2^*s = 0$  imposes only one condition on  $\Gamma_b(\Omega_X^N) = H^0(X_b, \Omega_X^N)$ .

Let  $d\sigma_i \circ \Gamma_b$  be the map induced by  $d\sigma_i$  on  $\Gamma_b(\Omega_X^N)$  as in

(3.37) 
$$\Gamma_{b}(T_{X}^{n} \otimes K_{X}) \\ \| \\ \Gamma_{b}(\Omega_{X}^{N}) \xrightarrow{d\sigma_{1} \oplus d\sigma_{2}} \Gamma_{b}\left(K_{\sigma_{1}(B)}\right) \oplus \Gamma_{b}\left(K_{\sigma_{2}(B)}\right).$$

Clearly, (2.7) holds for some  $s \in H^0(U, \pi_*\Omega_X^N)$  if (3.38)  $\ker(d\sigma_1 \circ \Gamma_b) \neq \ker(d\sigma_2 \circ \Gamma_b)$  holds at a general point  $b \in B$ . More precisely, as long as (3.38) holds at a point  $b \in B$  such that  $h^0(X_t, \Omega_X^N)$  is locally constant for t in an open neighborhood of b, we can find a section  $s_b \in \Gamma_b(\Omega_X^N)$  with the property

$$(3.39) \qquad (d\sigma_1)s_b - (d\sigma_2)s_b \neq 0$$

and this  $s_b$  can be extended to a section  $s \in H^0(U, \pi_*\Omega_X^N)$  over an open neighborhood U of b satisfying (2.7).

Therefore, to show that  $\sigma_i(b)$  are not  $\Gamma$ -equivalent over  $\mathbb{Q}$  on a general fiber  $X_b$ , we just have to prove (3.38). Let us formalize this observation in the following proposition:

**Proposition 3.11.** Let X be a smooth projective family of varieties over a smooth variety B of dim B = N and let  $\sigma_i : B \to X$  be two disjoint sections of X/B for i = 1, 2. Then  $\sigma_1(b)$  and  $\sigma_2(b)$  are not  $\Gamma$ -equivalent over  $\mathbb{Q}$  on  $X_b$  for  $b \in B$  general if (3.38) holds at a point b where  $h^0(X_t, \Omega_X^N)$  is locally constant in t.

3.5. Criterion for two fixed sections. To apply Proposition 3.11, we need an explicit description of the differential maps  $d\sigma_i$ . They can be made very explicit if  $X \subset Y = B \times P$  is a family of varieties in a projective space P passing through two fixed points  $p_i \in P$  and  $\sigma_i(b) \equiv p_i$  for i = 1, 2. On the other hand, for an arbitrary family  $X \subset Y$  with two sections  $\sigma_i$  over B, we can always apply an automorphism  $\lambda \in B \times \operatorname{Aut}(P)$ , after a base change, fiberwise to Y/B such that  $\lambda \circ \sigma_i(b) \equiv p_i$  for two fixed points  $p_i \in P$ ; thus, to test (3.38) for a general fiber  $X_b$  of X/B, it suffices to test it for a general fiber  $\hat{X}_b$  of  $\hat{X}/B$ ,  $\hat{X} = \lambda(X)$  and  $\hat{\sigma}_i = \lambda \circ \sigma_i$ . Let us first consider families  $X \subset B \times P$  with two fixed sections  $\sigma_i(b) \equiv p_i$ .

To set it up, we let  $P = \mathbb{P}^r$  and fix two points  $p_1 \neq p_2$  in P. We let  $X \subset Y = B \times P$  be a closed subvariety of Y that is flat over B with fibers  $X_b$  containing  $p_1$  and  $p_2$  for all  $b \in B$ . We assume that X and B are smooth of dim X = N + n and dim B = N, respectively. We have two sections  $\sigma_i : B \to X$  sending  $\sigma_i(b) = p_i$  for all  $b \in B$  and i = 1, 2.

To state our next proposition on the differential map  $d\sigma$ , we need to introduce the filtration  $F^{\bullet}\Omega_X$  associated to the fibration X/B.

For a surjective morphism  $f: W \to B$  with B smooth, we have a filtration

(3.40) 
$$\Omega_W^m = F^0 \Omega_W^m \supset F^1 \Omega_W^m \supset \dots \supset F^{m+1} \Omega_W^m = 0$$
  
with  $\operatorname{Gr}_F^p \Omega_W^m = \frac{F^p \Omega_W^m}{F^{p+1} \Omega_W^m} = f^* (\wedge^p \Omega_B) \otimes \wedge^{m-p} \Omega_{W/E}$ 

for  $\Omega_W^m = \wedge^m \Omega_W$  derived from the short exact sequence

$$(3.41) 0 \longrightarrow f^*\Omega_B \longrightarrow \Omega_W \longrightarrow \Omega_{W/B} \longrightarrow 0.$$

Note that  $F^p$  is an exact functor.

For  $\pi_B: Y \to B$  with  $Y = B \times P$ ,  $F^p \Omega_Y^m$  is simply that

(3.42) 
$$F^{p}\Omega^{m}_{Y} = \bigoplus_{i \ge p} \pi^{*}_{B}\Omega^{i}_{B} \otimes \pi^{*}_{P}\Omega^{m-i}_{P}$$

and we have natural projections  $\Omega_Y^m \to F^p \Omega_Y^m$ .

**Proposition 3.12.** Let  $X \subset Y = B \times P$  be a smooth projective family of varieties in a smooth projective variety P passing through a fixed point  $p \in P$  over a smooth variety B with the section  $\sigma : B \to X$  given by  $\sigma(b) = p$  for  $b \in B$ . Then the diagram

commutes and has left exact rows, where  $N = \dim B$ ,  $k = \dim Y - \dim X$ ,  $\det(\mathcal{N}_X) = \wedge^k \mathcal{N}_X$  and the vertical maps in the second and third columns are induced by the projections  $\Omega_Y^{\bullet} \to F^N \Omega_Y^{\bullet}$  followed by the restrictions to  $\sigma(B)$ .

*Proof.* The rows of (3.43) are induced by Koszul complex (3.27) and hence left exact.

We want to point out that the diagram

$$(3.44) \qquad \qquad \Omega_Y^m \xrightarrow{\eta} \Omega_Y^{m+1} \otimes \mathcal{N}_X \\ \downarrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow \\ F^l \Omega_Y^m \longrightarrow F^l \Omega_Y^{m+1} \otimes \mathcal{N}_X \end{cases}$$

does not commute in general. However, it commutes when we restrict the bottom row to  $\sigma(B)$ . That is, we claim that the diagram

commutes. Of course, this implies that the right square of (3.43) commute. Let  $(x_1, x_2, ..., x_r)$  and  $(t_1, t_2, ..., t_N)$  be the local coordinates of P and B,

respectively. Let  $p = \{x_1 = x_2 = ... = x_r = 0\}$  and

(3.46) 
$$X = \{f_1(x,t) = f_2(x,t) = \dots = f_k(x,t) = 0\}$$

Then  $\eta$  is given by

(3.47) 
$$\eta(\omega) = (\omega \wedge df_1, \omega \wedge df_2, ..., \omega \wedge df_k).$$

Since  $p \in X_b$  for all  $b \in B$ , we have  $f_i(0, t) \equiv 0$ . Hence

(3.48) 
$$\frac{\partial f_i}{\partial t_j}\Big|_{x=0} = 0$$

for all t, i = 1, 2, ..., k and j = 1, 2, ..., N. It follows that

(3.49) 
$$\rho_{m+1} \circ \eta(\omega_1) = \rho_{m+1}(\omega_1 \wedge df_1, \omega_1 \wedge df_2, ..., \omega_1 \wedge df_k)$$
$$= (\rho_{m+1}(\omega_1 \wedge df_1), \rho_{m+1}(\omega_1 \wedge df_2), ..., \rho_{m+1}(\omega_1 \wedge df_k))$$
$$= 0 = \eta_\sigma \circ \rho_m(\omega_1)$$

for all local sections

(3.50) 
$$\omega_1 \in H^0(U, \bigoplus_{i < l} \pi_B^* \Omega_B^i \otimes \pi_P^* \Omega_P^{m-i}) \subset H^0(U, \Omega_Y^m),$$

where U is an open subset of Y. Every  $\omega \in H^0(U, \Omega_Y^m)$  can be written as

$$(3.51) \qquad \qquad \omega = \omega_1 + \omega_2$$

with  $\omega_1$  given in (3.50) and  $\omega_2 \in H^0(U, F^l\Omega_Y^m)$ . It is clear that

(3.52) 
$$\rho_{m+1} \circ \eta(\omega_2) = \eta_{\sigma} \circ \rho_m(\omega_2).$$

Combining (3.49) and (3.52), we conclude that

(3.53) 
$$\rho_{m+1} \circ \eta(\omega) = \eta_{\sigma} \circ \rho_m(\omega)$$

and hence the diagram (3.45) commutes. It remains to prove that the left square of (3.43) commutes. Note that  $\Omega_X^N$  can be identified with the image of the map

(3.54) 
$$\Omega_Y^N \otimes \mathcal{O}_X \xrightarrow{\theta} \Omega_Y^{N+k} \otimes \det(\mathcal{N}_X)$$

given by

(3.55) 
$$\theta(\omega) = \omega \wedge df_1 \wedge df_2 \wedge \dots \wedge df_k$$

By (3.48) again, we see that the diagram

$$(3.56) \qquad \begin{array}{c} \Omega_Y^N \otimes \mathcal{O}_X & \xrightarrow{\theta} & \Omega_Y^{N+k} \otimes \det(\mathcal{N}_X) \\ & \downarrow^{d\sigma} & \downarrow \\ & F^N \Omega_Y^N \otimes \mathcal{O}_X \Big|_{\sigma(B)} \longrightarrow F^N \Omega_Y^{N+k} \otimes \det(\mathcal{N}_X) \Big|_{\sigma(B)} \end{array}$$

commutes. Thus, the diagram

$$(3.57) \qquad \begin{array}{c} & & & & \\ \Omega_Y^N \otimes \mathcal{O}_X & & & \\ & & & & \\ & &$$

commutes.

Setting m = n and  $L = K_X$  in (3.26), we have (3.58)

where  $\det(\mathcal{N}_X) = \wedge^{r-n} \mathcal{N}_X.$ Note that

(3.59) 
$$F^N \Omega_Y^{N+1} = \pi_B^* \Omega_B^N \otimes \pi_P^* \Omega_P$$
 and  $F^N \Omega_Y^{N+2} = \pi_B^* \Omega_B^N \otimes \pi_P^* \Omega_P^2$ .

Combining (3.58), (3.43) and (3.59), we obtain commutative diagrams

$$(3.60) \qquad \begin{array}{c} T_X^n \otimes K_X & \longrightarrow T_Y^n \otimes K_X & \xrightarrow{\eta_n} & T_Y^{n-1} \otimes K_X \otimes \mathcal{N}_X \\ \downarrow^{d\sigma_i} & \downarrow^{\alpha_{n,i}} & \downarrow^{\alpha_{n-1,i}} \\ K_{\sigma_i(B)} & \longleftrightarrow & \pi_P^* T_P^n \otimes K_X \Big|_{\sigma_i(B)} \to & \pi_P^* T_P^{n-1} \otimes K_X \otimes \mathcal{N}_X \Big|_{\sigma_i(B)} \end{array}$$

with left exact rows for i = 1, 2. By the above diagram, we have

(3.61) 
$$\ker(d\sigma_i \circ \Gamma_b) = \ker(\alpha_{n,i} \circ \Gamma_b) \cap \ker(\eta_n \circ \Gamma_b)$$

for i = 1, 2. Therefore, (3.38) is equivalent to

(3.62) 
$$\ker(\alpha_{n,1}\circ\Gamma_b)\cap\ker(\eta_n\circ\Gamma_b)\neq\ker(\alpha_{n,2}\circ\Gamma_b)\cap\ker(\eta_n\circ\Gamma_b)$$

More explicitly, we can write  $\Gamma_b(T_Y^n \otimes K_X)$  as

(3.63) 
$$\Gamma_b(T_Y^n \otimes K_X) = \Gamma_b(\pi_P^* T_P^n \otimes K_X) \oplus \sum_{j < n} \Gamma_b(\pi_P^* T_P^j \otimes K_X) \otimes T_{B,b}^{n-j}.$$

Then the kernel of  $\alpha_{n,i} \circ \Gamma_b$  is

(3.64) 
$$\ker(\alpha_{n,i} \circ \Gamma_b) = \Gamma_b(\pi_P^* T_P^n \otimes K_X(-p_i)) \\ \oplus \sum_{j < n} \Gamma_b(\pi_P^* T_P^j \otimes K_X) \otimes T_{B,b}^{n-j}$$

for i = 1, 2, where  $K_X(-p_i) = K_X \otimes I_{p_i}$  for  $I_{p_i}$  the ideal sheaf of  $p_i$ . So (3.62) is equivalent to

$$\ker(\eta_n \circ \Gamma_b) \cap (\Gamma_b(\pi_P^* T_P^n \otimes K_X(-p_1)) \oplus \sum_{j < n} \Gamma_b(\pi_P^* T_P^j \otimes K_X) \otimes T_{B,b}^{n-j})$$
  

$$\neq \ker(\eta_n \circ \Gamma_b) \cap (\Gamma_b(\pi_P^* T_P^n \otimes K_X(-p_2)) \oplus \sum_{j < n} \Gamma_b(\pi_P^* T_P^j \otimes K_X) \otimes T_{B,b}^{n-j})$$

Combining it with Proposition 3.11, we obtain the following criterion:

**Proposition 3.13.** Let  $X \subset Y = B \times P$  be a smooth projective family of *n*-dimensional varieties in a projective space P passing through two fixed point  $p_1 \neq p_2 \in P$  over a smooth variety B. Then  $p_1$  and  $p_2$  are not  $\Gamma$ equivalent over  $\mathbb{Q}$  on  $X_b$  for  $b \in B$  general if (3.65) holds at a point b where  $h^0(X_t, T_X^n \otimes K_X)$  is locally constant in t.

Remark 3.14. Since  $X \subset B \times P$  is a family of varieties in P passing through  $p_i$ ,  $\eta(\mathbf{v})$  is a section in  $H^0(N_{X_b})$  vanishing at  $p_i$  for all tangent vectors  $\mathbf{v} \in T_{B,b}$  and i = 1, 2. It follows that

Let us apply Proposition 3.13 to complete intersections in  $P = \mathbb{P}^{n+k}$  of type  $(d_1, d_2, ..., d_k)$ . When  $\sum (d_i - 1) = 2n + 1$ , we have  $K_X = \mathcal{O}_X(n)$ . More general, let us consider a smooth projective family  $X \subset Y = B \times P$  of varieties of dimension n in P with  $K_X(-n)$  globally generated on each fiber  $X_b$ . In this case, we have the following corollary of Proposition 3.13.

**Corollary 3.15.** Let  $X \subset Y = B \times P$  be a smooth projective family of *n*-dimensional varieties in a projective space P passing through two fixed point  $p_1 \neq p_2 \in P$  over a smooth variety B and let  $W_{X,b}$  be the subspace of  $\Gamma_b(T_P(1))$  defined by

(3.67) 
$$W_{X,b} = \left\{ \omega \in \Gamma_b(T_P(1)) : \eta(\omega) \in \eta \big( \Gamma_b(\mathcal{O}(1)) \otimes T_{B,b} \big) \right\},$$

where the map  $\eta$  on  $\Gamma_b(T_P(1))$  and  $\Gamma_b(\mathcal{O}(1)) \otimes T_{B,b}$  are given by the diagram

Suppose that there exists a point  $b \in B$  such that  $h^0(X_t, T_X^n \otimes K_X)$  is constant for t in an open neighborhood of b, each point  $p_i$  imposes independent conditions on both  $K_{X_b}(-n)$  and  $T_X(1) \otimes \mathcal{O}_{X_b}$ , i.e., the maps

(3.69) 
$$\Gamma_b(K_X(-n)) \longrightarrow K_X(-n) \otimes \mathcal{O}_{p_i}$$
 and

(3.70) 
$$\Gamma_b(T_X(1)) \longrightarrow T_X(1) \otimes \mathcal{O}_{p_d}$$

are surjective for i = 1, 2 and

(3.71) 
$$\{\omega \in W_{X,b} : \omega(p_1) = 0\} \neq \{\omega \in W_{X,b} : \omega(p_2) = 0\}.$$

Then  $p_1$  and  $p_2$  are not  $\Gamma$ -equivalent over  $\mathbb{Q}$  on  $X_b$  for  $b \in B$  general.

*Proof.* By (3.71), there exists  $\omega \in W_{X,b}$  such that  $\omega(p_i) = 0$  and  $\omega(p_{3-i}) \neq 0$  for i = 1 or 2. Without loss of generality, let us assume that  $\omega_1(p_1) = 0$  and  $\omega_1(p_2) \neq 0$  for some  $\omega_1 \in W_{X,b}$ .

It is easy to see that  $W_{X,b}$  is the image of the projection from  $\Gamma_b(T_X(1))$  to  $\Gamma_b(T_P(1))$  via the diagram

where  $\Gamma_b(T_X(1))$  can be identified with ker $(\eta)$ . In other words, for every  $\omega \in W_{X,b}$ , there exists  $\tau \in \Gamma_b(\mathcal{O}(1)) \otimes T_{B,b}$  such that  $\eta(\omega + \tau) = 0$  and hence  $\omega + \tau \in \Gamma_b(T_X(1))$ .

By (3.70),  $\Gamma_b(T_X(1))$  generates the vector space  $T_X(1) \otimes \mathcal{O}_{p_2}$ . On the other hand, by the diagram

we see that the image of the projection  $T_X(1) \otimes \mathcal{O}_{p_2} \to T_P(1) \otimes \mathcal{O}_{p_2}$  is the same as the image of the map  $T_{X_b}(1) \otimes \mathcal{O}_{p_2} \to T_{Y_b}(1) \otimes \mathcal{O}_{p_2}$  and thus has dimension n. Therefore,

(3.74) 
$$\dim\{\omega(p_2):\omega\in W_{X,b}\}=n.$$

And since  $\omega_1(p_2) \neq 0$ , we can find  $\omega_2, ..., \omega_n \in W_{X,b}$  such that  $\{\omega_j(p_2)\}$  are linearly independent. On the other hand,  $\omega_1(p_1) = 0$  and hence  $\{\omega_j(p_1)\}$  are linearly dependent. In other words,

(3.75) 
$$\begin{cases} \omega_1(p_1) \wedge \omega_2(p_1) \wedge \dots \wedge \omega_n(p_1) = 0\\ \omega_1(p_2) \wedge \omega_2(p_2) \wedge \dots \wedge \omega_n(p_2) \neq 0 \end{cases}$$

Let  $\eta(\omega_j + \tau_j) = 0$  for some  $\tau_j \in \Gamma_b(\mathcal{O}(1)) \otimes T_{B,b}$  and j = 1, 2, ..., n. Then

(3.76) 
$$\bigwedge_{j=1}^{n} (\omega_j + \tau_j) \otimes s \in \ker(\eta_n \circ \Gamma_b)$$

for all  $s \in \Gamma_b(K_X(-n))$ . By (3.75), we have

(3.77) 
$$\bigwedge_{j=1}^{n} \omega_j \otimes s \in \Gamma_b(\pi_P^* T_P^n \otimes K_X(-p_1)) \text{ and} \\ \bigwedge_{j=1}^{n} \omega_j \otimes s \notin \Gamma_b(\pi_P^* T_P^n \otimes K_X(-p_2))$$

provided that  $s(p_2) \neq 0$ . The combination of (3.76) and (3.77) yields (3.65).

Since the validity of (3.71) is determined by the restriction of  $W_{X,b}$  to  $Z = \{p_1, p_2\}$ , we may let  $W_{X,b,Z}$  be the subspace of  $H^0(Z, T_P(1))$  given by

(3.78) 
$$W_{X,b,Z} = W_{X,b} \otimes H^0(\mathcal{O}_Z) \\ = \left\{ \omega \big|_Z : \omega \in \Gamma_b(T_P(1)) \text{ and } \eta(\omega) \in \eta \big( \Gamma_b(\mathcal{O}(1)) \otimes T_{B,b} \big) \right\}$$

and reformulate (3.71) as

$$(3.79) W_{X,b,Z} \cap H^0(Z,T_P(1) \otimes I_p) \neq 0$$

for some  $p \in \operatorname{supp}(Z) = \{p_1, p_2\}.$ 

3.6. Criterion for two varying sections. So far we have obtained the key criterion, Corollary 3.15, for the  $\Gamma$ -equivalence of two fixed sections of X/B in the ambient space P. To apply it to two arbitrary sections of X/B, we need to use an automorphism  $\lambda \in \operatorname{Aut}(Y/B)$  to move these two sections to two fixed points in P, as pointed out before. This line of argument leads to the following:

**Proposition 3.16.** Let  $X \subset Y = B \times P$  be a smooth projective family of n-dimensional varieties in a projective space P over the N-dimensional polydisk  $B = \text{Spec } \mathbb{C}[[t_j]]$  and let  $\sigma_i : B \to X$  be two disjoint sections of X/B with  $p_i = \sigma_i(b)$  at the origin  $b \in B$  for i = 1, 2. Let  $\lambda \in B \times \text{Aut}(P)$ be an automorphism of Y preserving the base B, satisfying that  $\lambda_b = id$  and  $\lambda(\sigma_i(t)) \equiv p_i$  for i = 1, 2 and all  $t \in B$  and given by

(3.80) 
$$\lambda \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_r \end{bmatrix} = \Lambda \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_r \end{bmatrix},$$

where  $(x_0, x_1, ..., x_r)$  are the homogeneous coordinates of P and  $\Lambda = \Lambda(t)$  is an  $(r+1) \times (r+1)$  matrix over  $\mathbb{C}[[t_j]]$  satisfying  $\Lambda(0) = I$ . Let  $W_{X,b,Z,\lambda}$  be the subspace of  $H^0(Z, T_P(1))$  defined by

(3.81) 
$$W_{X,b,Z,\lambda} = \left\{ \omega \Big|_{Z} + L_{\lambda}(\tau) : \omega \in \Gamma_{b}(T_{P}(1)), \tau \in \Gamma_{b}(\mathcal{O}(1)) \otimes T_{B,b}, \eta(\omega + \tau) = 0 \right\}$$

for  $Z = \{p_1, p_2\}$ , where  $L_{\lambda} : \pi_B^* T_{B,b} \to T_P \otimes \mathcal{O}_Z$  is the map given by

(3.82) 
$$L_{\lambda}\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t_{j}}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} x_{0} & x_{1} & \dots & x_{r} \end{bmatrix} \frac{\partial \Lambda^{T}}{\partial t_{j}} \Big|_{t=0} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{0}} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{1}} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{r}} \end{bmatrix}$$

Suppose that

- $h^0(X_t, T_X^n \otimes K_X)$  is constant over B,
- $K_{X_b}(-n)$  and  $T_X(1) \otimes \mathcal{O}_{X_b}$  are imposed independent conditions by each point  $p_i$  for i = 1, 2,
- *and*

(3.83) 
$$W_{X,b,Z,\lambda} \cap H^0(Z,T_P(1) \otimes I_p) \neq 0$$

for some  $p \in \text{supp}(Z)$ .

Then  $\sigma_1(t)$  and  $\sigma_2(t)$  are not  $\Gamma$ -equivalent over  $\mathbb{Q}$  on  $X_t$  for  $t \in B$  general.

*Proof.* Note that  $W_{X,b,Z,\lambda} = W_{X,b,Z}$  if  $L_{\lambda} = 0$ , i.e.,  $\sigma_i(t) \equiv p_i$ .

Let  $\widehat{X} = \lambda(X) \subset Y = B \times P$ . Obviously,  $\widehat{X}$  is a smooth projective families of *n*-dimensional varieties in *P* over *B* passing through the two fixed points  $p_1 \neq p_2$ .

We define the map  $\widehat{\eta}: T_Y \otimes \mathcal{O}_{\widehat{X}} \to \mathcal{N}_{\widehat{X}}$  and the space  $W_{\widehat{X},b} \subset \Gamma_b(T_P(1))$ for  $\widehat{X} \subset Y = B \times P$  in the same way as  $\eta$  and  $W_{X,b}$ . Note that since  $\lambda_b = \mathrm{id}$ ,  $X_b = \widehat{X}_b$  and we may use  $\Gamma_b(\bullet)$  to refer both  $H^0(X_b, \bullet)$  and  $H^0(\widehat{X}_b, \bullet)$ .

Let us consider the commutative diagram:

$$(3.84) \qquad \begin{array}{c} \Gamma_b(T_X(1)) & \longrightarrow & \Gamma_b(T_Y(1)) & \stackrel{\eta}{\longrightarrow} & \Gamma_b(\mathcal{N}_X(1)) \\ & \cong \downarrow (d\lambda)_* & \cong \downarrow (d\lambda)_* & \downarrow \\ & \Gamma_b(T_{\widehat{X}}(1)) & \longleftrightarrow & \Gamma_b(T_Y(1)) & \stackrel{\widehat{\eta}}{\longrightarrow} & \Gamma_b(\mathcal{N}_{\widehat{X}}(1)) \\ & & & & \downarrow^{\pi_{P,*}} \\ & & & & & \Gamma_b(T_P(1)) \end{array}$$

As pointed out in the proof of Corollary 3.15,  $W_{X,b}$  is simply the image of the projection from  $\Gamma_b(T_X(1))$  to  $\Gamma_b(T_P(1))$  when  $\Gamma_b(T_X(1))$  is identified with the kernel of  $\eta : \Gamma_b(T_Y(1)) \to \Gamma_b(\mathcal{N}_X(1))$ . The same holds for  $\widehat{X}$ . That is,  $W_{\widehat{X},b}$  is simply the image of the projection from  $\Gamma_b(T_{\widehat{X}}(1))$  to  $\Gamma_b(T_P(1))$ when  $\Gamma_b(T_{\widehat{X}}(1))$  is identified with the kernel of  $\widehat{\eta} : \Gamma_b(T_Y(1)) \to \Gamma_b(\mathcal{N}_{\widehat{X}}(1))$ .

We may regard  $W_{\widehat{X},b}$  as the image of  $\Gamma_b(T_X(1))$  under the map  $\pi_{P,*} \circ (d\lambda)_*$ in the above diagram. Note that  $\pi_{P,*} \circ (d\lambda)_*$  is not the same as the projection  $\pi_{P,*} : \Gamma_b(T_Y(1)) \to \Gamma_b(T_P(1))$ , i.e.,

(3.85) 
$$\pi_{P,*} \circ (d\lambda)_* \neq \pi_{P,*}.$$

Indeed, we have

(3.86) 
$$(d\lambda)_*(\omega+\tau) = (\omega+L_\lambda(\tau)) + \tau$$

for  $\omega \in \Gamma_b(T_P(1))$  and  $\tau \in \Gamma_b(\mathcal{O}(1)) \otimes T_{B,b}$ , where

(3.87) 
$$\widehat{L}_{\lambda}: \ \pi_B^* T_B \longrightarrow \pi_P^* T_P$$

is a homomorphism induced by  $(d\lambda)_*: T_Y \to T_Y$ . Thus,

(3.88) 
$$\pi_{P,*} \circ (d\lambda)_*(\omega + \tau) = \omega + \widehat{L}_{\lambda}(\tau) \neq \omega = \pi_{P,*}(\omega + \tau).$$

It follows that

(3.89)  

$$W_{\widehat{X},b} = \pi_{P,*} \circ d\lambda \circ \Gamma_b(T_X(1))$$

$$= \left\{ \omega + \widehat{L}_\lambda(\tau) : \omega \in \Gamma_b(T_P(1)), \tau \in \Gamma_b(\mathcal{O}(1)) \otimes T_{B,b}, \\ \eta(\omega + \tau) = 0 \right\}.$$

We claim that  $L_{\lambda}$  and  $W_{X,b,Z,\lambda}$  are exactly the restrictions of  $\widehat{L}_{\lambda}$  and  $W_{\widehat{X},b}$  to Z, respectively. Indeed, the differential map  $d\lambda: T_Y \to T_Y$  is given by

$$(d\lambda)_{*} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{i}}\right) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{i}}$$

$$(d\lambda)_{*} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t_{j}}\right) = \frac{\partial}{\partial t_{j}} + \hat{L}_{\lambda} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t_{j}}\right)$$

$$(3.90)$$

$$= \frac{\partial}{\partial t_{j}} + \begin{bmatrix} x_{0} & x_{1} & \dots & x_{r} \end{bmatrix} \frac{\partial \Lambda^{T}}{\partial t_{j}} \begin{bmatrix} \partial/\partial x_{0} \\ \partial/\partial x_{1} \\ \vdots \\ \partial/\partial x_{r} \end{bmatrix}$$

at b. Therefore,  $L_{\lambda}$  is the restriction of  $\widehat{L}_{\lambda}$  to Z and hence  $W_{\widehat{X},b,Z} = W_{X,b,Z,\lambda}$ .

In conclusion, the hypothesis (3.83) on  $W_{X,b,Z,\lambda}$  translates to

(3.91) 
$$\left\{\omega \in W_{\widehat{X},b} : \omega(p_1) = 0\right\} \neq \left\{\omega \in W_{\widehat{X},b} : \omega(p_2) = 0\right\}.$$

Then by Corollary 3.15,  $\sigma_1(t)$  and  $\sigma_2(t)$  are not  $\Gamma$ -equivalent over  $\mathbb{Q}$  on a general fiber  $X_t$  of X/B.

Remark 3.17. In the above proof, it is easy to see that

(3.92) 
$$\widehat{\eta}\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}\right) = \eta\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}\right) \text{ and } \widehat{\eta}\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t_j}\right) = \eta\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t_j} - \widehat{L}_\lambda\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t_j}\right)\right).$$

Since  $\widehat{X}_t$  passes through  $p_1$  and  $p_2$ ,  $\widehat{\eta}(\tau)$  vanishes at  $p_i$  and hence  $L_{\lambda}$  satisfies

(3.93) 
$$\eta(L_{\lambda}(\tau)) = \eta(\tau)\Big|_{Z} \text{ for all } \tau \in T_{B,b}.$$

There is a more intrinsic way to define  $L_{\lambda}$ : for every  $t \in B$ , we consider the line joining the two points  $\sigma_i(t)$ ; we may regard  $\sigma_i(t)$  as the image of two fixed points on  $\mathbb{P}^1$  mapped to this line and thus interpret  $L_{\lambda}$  in terms of the deformation of this map  $\mathbb{P}^1 \to P$ . We can put the above proposition in the following equivalent form. **Proposition 3.18.** Let  $X \subset Y = B \times P$  be a smooth projective family of *n*-dimensional varieties in a projective space P over a smooth variety B and let  $v : S = B \times \mathbb{P}^1 \hookrightarrow Y$  be a closed immersion preserving the base B such that  $v^*\mathcal{O}_Y(1) = \mathcal{O}_S(1)$  and there are two fixed points  $p_1 \neq p_2$  on  $\mathbb{P}^1$  with  $v_b(p_i) \in X_b$  for all  $b \in B$ . Let  $W_{X,b,Z,\lambda}$  be the subspace of  $H^0(Z, v_b^*T_P(1))$ defined by

(3.94)  

$$W_{X,b,Z,\lambda} = \left\{ v_b^* \omega \big|_Z + L_\lambda(v_b^* \tau) : \omega \in \Gamma_b(T_P(1)), \\ \tau \in \Gamma_b(\mathcal{O}(1)) \otimes T_{B,b}, \\ \eta(\omega + \tau) = 0 \right\}$$

for  $Z = \{p_1, p_2\}$ , where  $L_{\lambda} : \pi^*_{S,B}T_{B,b} \to v^*_bT_P \otimes \mathcal{O}_Z$  is the map induced by  $T_S \to v^*T_Y$  with  $\pi_{S,B}$  the projection  $S \to B$ .

Suppose that  $K_{X_b}(-n)$  and  $T_X(1) \otimes \mathcal{O}_{X_b}$  are imposed independent conditions by each point  $v_b(p_i)$  for i = 1, 2 and

$$(3.95) W_{X,b,Z,\lambda} \cap H^0(Z, v_b^* T_P(1) \otimes I_p) \neq 0$$

for some  $p \in Z$  and  $b \in B$  general. Then  $v_b(p_1)$  and  $v_b(p_2)$  are not  $\Gamma$ -equivalent over  $\mathbb{Q}$  on  $X_b$  for  $b \in B$  general.

Note that the hypothesis  $v^*\mathcal{O}_Y(1) = \mathcal{O}_S(1)$  simply means that v maps S/B fiberwise to lines in P.

Using Proposition 3.16 or 3.18, we obtain the following criterion for the  $\Gamma$ -inequivalence of all pairs of distinct points on  $X_b$ .

**Corollary 3.19.** Let  $X \subset Y = B \times P$  be a smooth projective family of *n*-dimensional varieties in a projective space P over a smooth variety Band let  $W_{X,b,Z,\lambda}$  be the subspace of  $H^0(Z, T_P(1))$  defined by (3.81) for a 0-dimensional subscheme  $Z \subset X_b$  and  $L_{\lambda} \in \text{Hom}(\pi_B^*T_{B,b}, T_P \otimes \mathcal{O}_Z)$ .

Suppose that  $K_{X_b}(-n)$  and  $T_X(1) \otimes \mathcal{O}_{X_b}$  are globally generated on  $X_b$ and (3.83) holds for a general point  $b \in B$ , <u>all</u> pairs  $Z = \{p_1, p_2\}$  of distinct points  $p_1 \neq p_2$  on  $X_b$ , <u>some</u>  $p \in \text{supp}(Z)$  and <u>all</u>  $L_\lambda \in \text{Hom}(\pi_B^*T_{B,b}, T_P \otimes \mathcal{O}_Z)$ satisfying (3.93). Then no two distinct points on  $X_b$  are  $\Gamma$ -equivalent over  $\mathbb{Q}$  for  $b \in B$  very general.

We believe that the above corollary will find application in the future. However, we will not use it to prove our main theorem 1.4; instead, we will apply Proposition 3.16 directly, i.e., apply it to families  $X \subset B \times \mathbb{P}^{n+1}$  of hypersurfaces of degree 2n + 2 in  $\mathbb{P}^{n+1}$ . In this case, both  $K_X(-n) = \mathcal{O}_X$ and  $T_X(1)$  are globally generated on  $X_b$  if X/B is versal. So it suffices to verify (3.83), which we will carry out in the next section.

# 4. Hypersurfaces of degree 2n+2 in $\mathbb{P}^{n+1}$

4.1. Versal deformation of the Fermat hypersurface. In this section, we are going to prove our main theorem 1.4 using the criteria developed in the previous section.

To start, let us choose a versal family of hypersurfaces in  $\mathbb{P}^{n+1}$ . Let  $X \subset Y = B \times P$  be the family of hypersurfaces of degree d in  $P = \mathbb{P}^{n+1}$  given by

(4.1) 
$$F(x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n, t_f) = x_0^d + x_1^d + \dots + x_{n+1}^d + \sum_{f \in J_d} t_f f = 0,$$

where  $(x_0, x_1, ..., x_{n+1})$  are the homogeneous coordinates of  $\mathbb{P}^{n+1}$ ,  $J_d$  is the set of monomials in  $x_i$  given by

(4.2)  
$$J_{d} = \left\{ x_{0}^{m_{0}} x_{1}^{m_{1}} \dots x_{n+1}^{m_{n+1}} : m_{0}, m_{1}, \dots, m_{n+1} \in \mathbb{N}, \\ m_{0} + m_{1} + \dots + m_{n+1} = d \text{ and} \\ m_{0}, m_{1}, \dots, m_{n+1} \leq d-2 \right\}$$

and  $(t_f)$  are the coordinates of the affine space  $B = \operatorname{Span}_{\mathbb{C}} J_d \cong \mathbb{A}^N$  for

(4.3) 
$$N = h^{0}(\mathcal{O}_{P}(d)) - h^{0}(T_{P}) - 1 = \binom{d+n+1}{n+1} - (n+2)^{2}.$$

We may regard X/B as a versal deformation of the Fermat hypersurface.

At a general point  $b \in B$ , X/B is obviously versal, i.e., the Kodaira-Spencer map

is an isomorphism, where  $\eta$  is the map in

$$(4.5) 0 \longrightarrow T_X \longrightarrow T_Y \otimes \mathcal{O}_X \xrightarrow{\eta} \mathcal{N}_X \longrightarrow 0.$$

More explicitly, (4.4) is equivalent to saying

(4.6) 
$$\operatorname{Span}\left\{x_i\frac{\partial F}{\partial x_j}\right\} \oplus \operatorname{Span} J_d = H^0(\mathcal{N}_{X_b}) = H^0(X_b, \mathcal{O}(d))$$

for  $b \in B$  general.

Let  $\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{O}_P(1)^{\oplus n+2}$  be the Euler bundle on P. Then

(4.7) 
$$H^{0}(T_{P}) \cong \frac{H^{0}(\mathcal{E})}{(\alpha)} = \operatorname{Span}\left\{x_{i}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{j}}\right\}/(\alpha)$$

by the Euler sequence (3.28) and

(4.8) 
$$\eta\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x_j}\right) = \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_j} \text{ and } \eta\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t_f}\right) = \frac{\partial F}{\partial t_f} = f$$

for j = 0, 1, 2, ..., n + 1 and  $f \in J_d$ , where

(4.9) 
$$\alpha = \sum_{i=0}^{n+1} x_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}.$$

We are going to show that no two distinct points on a very general fiber  $X_b$  of X/B are  $\Gamma$ -equivalent over  $\mathbb{Q}$  when  $d = 2n+2 \ge 6$ . To set it up, we fix a general point  $b \in B$ . Let us assume that there exist two disjoint sections  $\sigma_i : B \to X$  in an analytic open neighborhood of b such that  $\sigma_1(t)$  and  $\sigma_2(t)$  are  $\Gamma$ -equivalent over  $\mathbb{Q}$  for all t. We let  $\lambda \in B \times \operatorname{Aut}(P)$  be an automorphism of Y such that  $\lambda_b = \operatorname{id}$  and  $\lambda(\sigma_i(t)) \equiv p_i = \sigma_i(b)$  for i = 1, 2 and let  $L_{\lambda}$  be defined accordingly by (3.82). It comes down to the verification of (3.83).

**Definition 4.1.** Let Z be a 0-dimensional scheme of length 2 in  $P = \mathbb{P}^{n+1}$  with homogeneous coordinates  $(x_0, x_1, ..., x_{n+1})$ . We call Z generic with respect to the homogeneous coordinates  $(x_i)$  if

(4.10) 
$$H^0(\mathcal{O}_Z(1)) = \text{Span}\{x_j : j \neq i\}$$
 for every  $i = 0, 1, \dots, n+1$ .

Otherwise, we call Z special with respect to  $(x_i)$ . We call Z very special with respect to  $(x_i)$  if

(4.11) 
$$\#\{x_i : x_i \in H^0(I_Z(1))\} = n = h^0(\mathcal{O}_P(1)) - 2$$

where  $I_Z$  is the ideal sheaf of Z in P.

Remark 4.2. Clearly, these notions depend on the choice of homogeneous coordinates of P. More generally, we can define these terms with respect to a basis of  $H^0(L)$  for an arbitrary very ample line bundle L on P.

When the choice of homogeneous coordinates is clear, we simply say Z is generic (resp. special/very special).

Obviously, being very special implies being special.

There always exist  $i \neq j$  such that  $x_i$  and  $x_j$  span  $H^0(\mathcal{O}_Z(1))$  since  $\mathcal{O}_P(1)$ is very ample. Without loss of generality, we usually make the assumption that (i, j) = (0, 1), i.e.,

(4.12) 
$$H^{0}(\mathcal{O}_{Z}(1)) = \operatorname{Span}\{x_{0}, x_{1}\}.$$

Under the hypothesis of (4.12), Z is special if and only if

(4.13) 
$$\operatorname{Span}\{x_0, x_1\} = H^0(\mathcal{O}_Z(1)) \supseteq \operatorname{Span}\{x_1, x_2, ..., x_{n+1}\}.$$

Furthermore, by re-arranging  $x_2, ..., x_{n+1}$ , we may assume that there exists  $1 \le a \le n+1$  such that

(4.14) 
$$x_1, ..., x_a \notin H^0(I_Z(1)) \text{ and } x_{a+1}, ..., x_{n+1} \in H^0(I_Z(1)).$$

Of course, Z is very special if and only if a = 1.

We are considering two cases: with respect to  $(x_i)$ ,

Generic case:  $Z = \{\sigma_1(b), \sigma_2(b)\} = \{p_1, p_2\}$  is generic or Special case:  $Z = \{\sigma_1(b), \sigma_2(b)\}$  is special for all  $b \in B$ .

4.2. A basis for  $W_{X,b}$ . For convenience, we identify the tangent space  $T_{B,b}$  with Span  $J_d$ . Then  $\eta(f) = f$  for all  $f \in \text{Span } J_d$ .

We start the proof of (3.83) by studying the space  $W_{X,b}$  defined by (3.67). It has a basis given by: **Lemma 4.3.** Let  $P = \mathbb{P}^{n+1}$  and  $X \subset Y = B \times P$  be the family of hypersurfaces in P given by (4.1) over  $B = \text{Span } J_d$  for  $d \geq 3$ . Then

(4.15) 
$$\mathcal{W}_{X,b} = \left\{ \omega \in H^0(X_b, \mathcal{E}(1)) : \eta(\omega) \in \operatorname{Span} J_{d+1} \right\}$$
$$= \operatorname{Span} \left\{ \omega_{ijk} : 0 \le i, j, k \le n+1, \ i \le j \ and \ i, j \ne k \right\}$$

has dimension

(4.16) 
$$\dim \mathcal{W}_{X,b} = (n+2)\binom{n+2}{2}$$

for  $b = (t_f)$  in an open neighborhood of 0, where

(4.17) 
$$\omega_{ijk} = x_i x_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \text{ for } i \neq j \neq k \text{ and}$$
$$\omega_{iik} = x_i^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} - \sum_{j \neq i} c_{ijk} x_i x_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \text{ for } i \neq k$$

with

(4.18) 
$$c_{ijk} = \frac{d-1}{d!} \left( \frac{\partial^d F}{\partial x_i^{d-2} \partial x_j \partial x_k} \right) = \begin{cases} 2d^{-1}t_f & \text{if } i \neq j = k \\ d^{-1}t_f & \text{if } i \neq j \neq k \end{cases}$$

for  $f = x_i^{d-2} x_j x_k$ . Here we consider  $\eta$  as a map  $H^0(\mathcal{E}(1)) \to H^0(\mathcal{O}(d+1))$ given by (4.8).

*Proof.* We have

(4.19) 
$$\eta\left(x_i x_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}\right) = x_i x_j \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_k} = dx_i x_j x_k^{d-1} + \sum_{f \in J_d} t_f x_i x_j \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_k}.$$

It is easy to check that

(4.20) 
$$\eta(\omega_{ijk}) = x_i x_j \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_k} \in \operatorname{Span} J_{d+1}$$

for  $i \neq j \neq k$  and

(4.21) 
$$\eta(\omega_{iik}) = x_i^2 \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_k} - \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{d-1}{d!} x_i x_j \left( \frac{\partial^d F}{\partial x_i^{d-2} \partial x_j \partial x_k} \right) \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_i} \in \text{Span } J_{d+1}$$

for  $i \neq k$ . Hence  $\omega_{ijk} \in \mathcal{W}_{X,b}$  for all  $i, j \neq k$ .

To show that  $\{\omega_{ijk} : i \leq j \text{ and } i, j \neq k\}$  forms a basis of  $\mathcal{W}_{X,b}$  in an open neighborhood of 0, it suffices to verify this for b = 0: clearly,

(4.22) 
$$\left\{\omega_{ijk}\Big|_{b=0}: i \le j \text{ and } i, j \ne k\right\} = \left\{x_i x_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}: i \le j \text{ and } i, j \ne k\right\}$$

is a basis of  $\mathcal{W}_{X,0}$ . Therefore, (4.15) and (4.16) follow.

Clearly,  $W_{X,b}$  is the image of  $\mathcal{W}_{X,b}$  under the map

(4.23) 
$$H^0(X_b, \mathcal{E}(1)) \longrightarrow H^0(X_b, T_P(1)).$$

$$\Box$$

More precisely, let  $\widehat{W}_{X,b}$  be the lift of  $W_{X,b}$  in  $H^0(X_b, \mathcal{E}(1))$ . Then

(4.24) 
$$W_{X,b} = \mathcal{W}_{X,b} \oplus \alpha \otimes H^0(\mathcal{O}(1))$$

where  $\mathcal{W}_{X,b} \cap \alpha \otimes H^0(\mathcal{O}(1)) = 0$  because

(4.25) Span 
$$J_{d+1} \cap \eta \left( \alpha \otimes H^0(\mathcal{O}(1)) \right)$$
 = Span  $J_{d+1} \cap F \otimes H^0(\mathcal{O}(1)) = 0$ .

4.3. An observation on  $L_{\lambda}$ . We observe the following:

**Lemma 4.4.** Let  $P = \mathbb{P}^{n+1}$  and  $X \subset Y = B \times P$  be the family of hypersurfaces in P given by (4.1) over  $B = \text{Span } J_d$ . For  $b \in B$ , a 0-dimensional subscheme  $Z \subset X_b$  of length 2 and  $L_\lambda \in \text{Hom}(\pi_B^*T_{B,b}, T_P \otimes \mathcal{O}_Z)$ , if

(4.26) 
$$L_{\lambda}(f) \neq 0 \text{ for some } f \in H^0(I_Z(1)) \otimes \operatorname{Span} J_{d-1} \subset \operatorname{Span} J_d,$$

then (3.83) holds.

*Proof.* Obviously, (4.26) holds for some f = lg with  $l \in H^0(I_Z(1))$  and  $g \in J_{d-1}$ .

For each point  $p \in \text{supp}(Z)$ , we choose  $l_p \in H^0(\mathcal{O}_P(1))$  such that  $l_p(p) = 0$ and  $l_p \notin H^0(I_Z(1))$  and let

(4.27) 
$$\tau_p = l_p \otimes f - l \otimes l_p g \in H^0(\mathcal{O}_{X_b}(1)) \otimes T_{B,b}.$$

Then  $\eta(\tau_p) = 0$  so  $L_{\lambda}(\tau_p) \in W_{X,b,Z,\lambda}$ . Clearly,

(4.28) 
$$L_{\lambda}(\tau_p) = l_p L_{\lambda}(f) - l L_{\lambda}(l_p g) = l_p L_{\lambda}(f)$$

since  $l \in H^0(I_Z(1))$ . Then by our choice of  $l_p$ ,  $L_{\lambda}(\tau_p)$  vanishes at p. If  $L_{\lambda}(\tau_p) \neq 0$ , then (3.83) follows. Otherwise,

$$(4.29) l_p L_\lambda(f) = 0.$$

Since  $l_p \notin H^0(I_Z(1))$ , (4.29) implies that  $L_\lambda(f)$  vanishes at all  $p \in \text{supp}(Z)$ . If Z consists of two distinct points, then we must have

$$(4.30) L_{\lambda}(f) = 0,$$

which contradicts our hypothesis (4.26).

If Z is supported at a single point p, then  $L_{\lambda}(f)$  vanishes at p. Applying the same argument to  $\tau_q = l_q \otimes f - l \otimes l_q g$  for some  $l_q \in H^0(\mathcal{O}_P(1))$  satisfying  $l_q(p) \neq 0$ , we have

(4.31) 
$$L_{\lambda}(\tau_q) = l_q L_{\lambda}(f) - l L_{\lambda}(l_q g) = l_q L_{\lambda}(f) \in W_{X,b,Z,\lambda}$$

vanishing at p. Again, we have either (3.83) or (4.30) since  $l_q(p) \neq 0$ .

Let us assume that (4.30) holds for all  $f \in H^0(I_Z(1)) \otimes \text{Span } J_{d-1}$ . Otherwise, we are done by the above lemma. Then  $L_{\lambda} : T_{B,b} \to H^0(Z, T_P)$  factors through

(4.32) 
$$\frac{\operatorname{Span} J_d}{H^0(I_Z(1)) \otimes \operatorname{Span} J_{d-1}}$$

and it can be regarded as a map

(4.33) 
$$\frac{\operatorname{Span} J_d}{H^0(I_Z(1)) \otimes \operatorname{Span} J_{d-1}} \xrightarrow{L_{\lambda}} H^0(Z, T_P).$$

4.4. The space  $H^0(I_Z(1)) \otimes \text{Span } J_{d-1}$ . Let us figure out the space (4.32). Obviously,

(4.34)  $H^0(I_Z(1)) \otimes \operatorname{Span} J_{d-1} \subset \operatorname{Span} J_d \cap H^0(I_Z(1)) \otimes H^0(\mathcal{O}_P(d-1)).$ 

Furthermore, since  $H^0(I_Z(1)) \otimes H^0(\mathcal{O}_P(d-1))$  is the kernel of the map

we may write (4.34) as

(4.36) 
$$H^0(I_Z(1)) \otimes \operatorname{Span} J_{d-1} \subset \operatorname{Span} J_d \cap \ker(\xi).$$

Actually, this inclusion is an equality for Z generic:

**Lemma 4.5.** Let  $P = \mathbb{P}^{n+1}$ ,  $J_d$  be defined in (4.2) and Z be a 0-dimensional subscheme of P of length 2. If  $d \ge 4$  and Z is generic with respect to  $(x_i)$ , then

(4.37) 
$$\begin{aligned} H^0(I_Z(1)) \otimes \operatorname{Span} J_{d-1} &= \operatorname{Span} J_d \cap H^0(I_Z(1)) \otimes H^0(\mathcal{O}_P(d-1)) \\ &= \operatorname{Span} J_d \cap \ker(\xi). \end{aligned}$$

Or equivalently,  $H^0(I_Z(1)) \otimes \operatorname{Span} J_{d-1}$  is the kernel of the map

(4.38) 
$$\operatorname{Span} J_d \xrightarrow{\xi} \operatorname{Sym}^d H^0(\mathcal{O}_Z(1)).$$

In addition,

(4.39) 
$$\frac{\operatorname{Span} J_d}{H^0(I_Z(1)) \otimes \operatorname{Span} J_{d-1}} \xrightarrow{\xi} \operatorname{Sym}^d H^0(\mathcal{O}_Z(1))$$

is an isomorphism.

*Proof.* To prove (4.37), it suffices to find a subset  $S \subset J_d$  such that

(4.40) 
$$\operatorname{Span} J_d = H^0(I_Z(1)) \otimes \operatorname{Span} J_{d-1} + \operatorname{Span}(S)$$

and

(4.41) 
$$H^0(I_Z(1)) \otimes H^0(\mathcal{O}_P(d-1)) \cap \operatorname{Span}(S) = 0.$$

Let us assume (4.12). By (4.10),  $H^0(\mathcal{O}_Z(1)) = \text{Span}\{x_1, x_2, ..., x_{n+1}\}$  and hence there exists  $i \neq 0, 1$  such that

(4.42) 
$$H^0(\mathcal{O}_Z(1)) = \text{Span}\{x_1, x_i\}.$$

Similarly, we have  $H^0(\mathcal{O}_Z(1)) = \text{Span}\{x_0, x_2, ..., x_{n+1}\}$  and hence there exists  $j \neq 0, 1$  such that

(4.43) 
$$H^0(\mathcal{O}_Z(1)) = \text{Span}\{x_0, x_j\}.$$

Then we let

(4.44) 
$$S = \left\{ x_0^{d-3} x_i^3, x_0^{d-3} x_i^2 x_1, x_0^{d-3} x_i x_1^2, \\ x_0^{d-3} x_1^3, x_0^{d-4} x_1^4, \dots, x_0^3 x_1^{d-3}, \\ x_0^2 x_1^{d-3} x_j, x_0 x_1^{d-3} x_j^2, x_1^{d-3} x_j^3 \right\}$$

By (4.12), (4.42) and (4.43), for every k,

(4.45) 
$$x_{k} \in H^{0}(I_{Z}(1)) + \operatorname{Span}\{x_{0}, x_{1}\},$$
$$x_{k} \in H^{0}(I_{Z}(1)) + \operatorname{Span}\{x_{1}, x_{i}\}, \text{ and}$$
$$x_{k} \in H^{0}(I_{Z}(1)) + \operatorname{Span}\{x_{0}, x_{j}\}.$$

Then (4.40) follows.

To see (4.41), we just have to show that  $\ker(\xi) \cap \operatorname{Span}(S) = 0$ , which is equivalent to

(4.46) 
$$\xi \left( \operatorname{Span}(S) \right) = \operatorname{Sym}^{d} H^{0}(\mathcal{O}_{Z}(1))$$

since  $|S| = \dim \operatorname{Sym}^d H^0(\mathcal{O}_Z(1)) = d+1$ . Again it is easy to see from (4.12), (4.42) and (4.43) that

(4.47) 
$$\xi \left( \operatorname{Span}(S) \right) = \xi \left( \operatorname{Span}\{x_0^{d-k} x_1^k : k = 0, 1, \dots, d\} \right)$$
$$= \operatorname{Sym}^d H^0(\mathcal{O}_Z(1)).$$

This also proves that (4.39) is an isomorphism.

When Z is special,  $H^0(I_Z(1)) \otimes \text{Span } J_{d-1}$  is no longer the kernel of the map (4.38). Instead, we have the following result when Z is special but not very special.

**Lemma 4.6.** Let  $P = \mathbb{P}^{n+1}$ ,  $J_d$  be defined in (4.2) and Z be a 0-dimensional subscheme of P of length 2. Suppose that  $d \ge 4$ , Z satisfies (4.13) and  $\{x_2, ..., x_{n+1}\} \not\subset H^0(I_Z(1))$ . Then

(4.48)  

$$\operatorname{Span} J_d \cap \ker(\xi) = H^0(I_Z(1)) \otimes \operatorname{Span} J_{d-1} \\
+ \operatorname{Span} \left\{ x_0^{d-2} x_i (x_j - c_j x_1) : i \ge 1, j \ge 2 \\
and \ x_j - c_j x_1 \in H^0(I_Z(1)) \right\}.$$

*Proof.* We leave the verification of (4.48) to the readers.

4.5. **Special case.** Let us first prove (3.83) when Z is special for all b. Without loss of generality, let us assume that  $Z = \{p_1, p_2\}$  satisfies (4.13) and (4.14) for b general and some a.

We claim that  $L_{\lambda} : \pi_B^* T_{B,b} \to T_P \otimes \mathcal{O}_Z$  factors through a sub-sheaf  $\mathcal{G}_Z$  of  $T_P \otimes \mathcal{O}_Z$ , i.e.,  $L_{\lambda} \in \operatorname{Hom}(\pi_B^* T_{B,b}, \mathcal{G}_Z)$  for the sub-sheaf  $\mathcal{G}_Z$  of  $T_P \otimes \mathcal{O}_Z$  generated by the global sections

(4.49) 
$$H^{0}(\mathcal{G}_{Z}) = \operatorname{Span}\left\{x_{i}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{j}}: j = 0 \text{ or } 2 \leq i, j \leq a\right\}.$$

In addition, if  $x_0$  vanishes at one of  $p_i$  for b general,  $\mathcal{G}_Z$  is generated by

(4.50) 
$$H^{0}(\mathcal{G}_{Z}) = \operatorname{Span}\left\{x_{i}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{j}}: i = j = 0 \text{ or } 2 \leq i, j \leq a\right\}.$$

To see this, we notice that  $(1, 0, ..., 0) \notin X_b$  for all b. So

(4.51) 
$$x_1(p_i) \neq 0 \text{ for } i = 1, 2$$

Otherwise, if  $x_1 = 0$  at some  $p \in Z$ , then  $x_2 = x_3 = ... = x_{n+1} = 0$  at p by (4.13) and p = (1, 0, ..., 0).

Thus, we may choose  $\lambda$  to be given by

(4.52) 
$$\lambda \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_{n+1} \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} g_1(t) & g_2(t) & & \\ & 1 & \\ & & A(t) & \\ & & & I_{n-a+1} \end{bmatrix}}_{\Lambda} \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_{n+1} \end{bmatrix}$$

locally at b, for some  $g_1(t)$ ,  $g_2(t)$  and A(t) satisfying  $g_1(b) = 1$ ,  $g_2(b) = 0$ and  $A(b) = I_{a-1}$ , where  $I_m$  is the  $m \times m$  identity matrix. Then by (3.82),

$$(4.53) L_{\lambda}(\tau) \in H^0(\mathcal{G}_Z)$$

for all  $\tau \in T_{B,b}$  with  $\mathcal{G}_Z$  generated by (4.49).

When  $x_0$  vanishes at one of  $p_i$  for b general,  $g_2(t) \equiv 0$  in (4.52) and thus we have (4.50). This proves our claim that  $L_{\lambda}$  factors through  $\mathcal{G}_Z$  given by (4.49) or (4.50).

Let  $\Lambda \subset P$  be the line joining  $p_1$  and  $p_2$ . Then the map  $\xi$  in (4.35) is simply the restriction to  $\Lambda$  as in

(4.54) 
$$\begin{array}{c} H^{0}(\mathcal{O}_{P}(m)) \xrightarrow{\xi} H^{0}(\mathcal{O}_{\Lambda}(m)) \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & \\ & & & \\ & \\ & &$$

for  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ . We will use  $\operatorname{Sym}^m H^0(\mathcal{O}_Z(1))$  and  $H^0(\mathcal{O}_\Lambda(m))$  interchangeably under this setting. We also use  $\xi$  to denote the induced map

(4.55) 
$$H^{0}(\mathcal{O}_{X_{b}}(m)) \xrightarrow{\xi} \frac{H^{0}(\mathcal{O}_{\Lambda}(m))}{\xi(F) \otimes H^{0}(\mathcal{O}_{\Lambda}(m-d))}$$

where quotient by  $\xi(F)$  is necessary; otherwise it is not well defined as  $\xi(F)$  is not zero in  $H^0(\mathcal{O}_{\Lambda}(d))$  unless  $X_b$  contains the line  $\Lambda$ .

We further abuse the notations by using  $\xi$  for the maps induced by the restriction  $H^0(\mathcal{E}(m)) \to H^0(\Lambda, \mathcal{E}(m))$ :

for  $m \leq d-2$ , where we also abuse the notation  $\eta$  by using it for three different maps, all defined by (4.8).

Next, let us consider the images of the spaces  $\mathcal{W}_{X,b} \subset H^0(X_b, \mathcal{E}(1))$  and  $W_{X,b} \subset H^0(X_b, T_P(1))$  under  $\xi$ , where  $\xi(\mathcal{W}_{X,b})$  and  $\xi(W_{X,b})$  are considered as the subspaces of  $H^0(\Lambda, \mathcal{E}(1))$  and  $H^0(\Lambda, T_P(1))$ , respectively.

**Lemma 4.7.** Let  $P = \mathbb{P}^{n+1}$  and  $X \subset Y = B \times P$  be the family of hypersurfaces in P given by (4.1) over  $B = \text{Span } J_d$  for  $n \geq 2$  and  $d \geq 4$ . For  $b \in B$  general and <u>all</u> 0-dimensional subschemes  $Z \subset X_b$  of length 2 satisfying (4.13),

(4.57) 
$$\xi(\mathcal{W}_{X,b}) \supset \left\{ x_1^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \right\} \cup \left\{ x_0 x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} : j \ge 1 \right\}$$

and

(4.58) 
$$\xi(W_{X,b}) = H^0(\Lambda, T_P(1))$$

if  $\{x_2, ..., x_{n+1}\} \not\subset H^0(I_Z(1))$  and

(4.59) 
$$\xi \left( \mathcal{W}_{X,b} \right) = \operatorname{Span} \left\{ x_0 x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} : k \neq 0, 1 \right\}$$
$$\cup \left\{ x_0^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} - c_{01k} x_0 x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} : k \neq 0 \right\}$$
$$\cup \left\{ x_1^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} - c_{10k} x_0 x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} : k \neq 1 \right\} \subset H^0(\Lambda, \mathcal{E}(1))$$

if  $\{x_2, ..., x_{n+1}\} \subset H^0(I_Z(1))$ , where  $\Lambda \subset P$  is the line cutting out Z on  $X_b$ ,  $\xi$  is the map defined in (4.56) and  $c_{ijk}$  are the numbers given by (4.18).

*Proof.* Let us first deal with the case that  $\{x_2, ..., x_{n+1}\} \not\subset H^0(I_Z(1))$ , i.e., Z is special but not very special. Note that under the hypothesis of (4.13), all  $x_2, ..., x_{n+1}$  are multiples of  $x_1$  in  $H^0(\mathcal{O}_{\Lambda}(1))$ .

We write  $u_1 \equiv u_2$  if  $\xi(u_1 - u_2) \in \xi(\mathcal{W}_{X,b})$ . Of course,  $\omega_{ijk} \equiv 0$  for  $\omega_{ijk}$  given by (4.17). Under this notation, (4.57) is equivalent to

(4.60) 
$$x_1^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} \equiv x_1^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \equiv x_1^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} \equiv \dots \equiv x_1^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{n+1}} \\ \equiv x_0 x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \equiv x_0 x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} \equiv \dots \equiv x_0 x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{n+1}} \equiv 0.$$

Without loss of generality, let us assume that  $x_2 \notin H^0(I_Z(1))$ . Then  $x_2 = ax_1$  in  $H^0(\mathcal{O}_{\Lambda}(1))$  for some  $a \neq 0$ . Therefore,

(4.61)  
$$\omega_{01k} \equiv \omega_{12k} \equiv 0 \Rightarrow x_0 x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \equiv x_1 x_2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \equiv 0$$
$$\Rightarrow x_0 x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \equiv x_1^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \equiv 0$$

for  $k\geq 3$  and

(4.62)  
$$\omega_{120} \equiv \omega_{201} \equiv \omega_{012} \equiv 0 \Rightarrow x_1 x_2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} \equiv x_2 x_0 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \equiv x_0 x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} \equiv 0$$
$$\Rightarrow x_1^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} \equiv x_0 x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \equiv x_0 x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} \equiv 0.$$

We claim that (4.61) holds for all  $k \ge 1$ , i.e.,

(4.63)  

$$\begin{aligned} x_0 x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} &\equiv x_1^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \equiv 0 \text{ for all } k \ge 1 \text{ or equivalently} \\ x_i x_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} &\equiv 0 \text{ for all } j, k \ge 1. \end{aligned}$$
If  $\{x_3, ..., x_{n+1}\} \not\subset H^0(I_Z(1)), \text{ say } x_3 \not\in H^0(I_Z(1)), \text{ then}$ 

(4.64)  
$$\omega_{231} \equiv \omega_{132} \equiv 0 \Rightarrow x_2 x_3 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \equiv x_1 x_3 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} \equiv 0$$
$$\Rightarrow x_1^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \equiv x_1^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} \equiv 0$$

and together with (4.61) and (4.62), we see that (4.63) follows. Otherwise,  $\{x_3, ..., x_{n+1}\} \subset H^0(I_Z(1))$ . Then by

(4.65)  
$$\omega_{113} \equiv 0 \Rightarrow x_1^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_3} - (c_{103}x_0 + c_{123}x_2)x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \equiv 0$$
$$x_1^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_3} \equiv x_0 x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \equiv 0$$

we conclude that

(4.66) 
$$x_1 x_2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \equiv 0 \Rightarrow x_1^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \equiv 0$$

as long as  $c_{123} \neq 0$ , which is obvious for  $b \in B$  general. Similarly, by considering  $\omega_{223}$ , we obtain

(4.67) 
$$x_1^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} \equiv 0.$$

This concludes the proof of (4.63), which, combined with (4.62), yields (4.60) and hence (4.57).

Next, let us prove (4.58). Note that by (4.24), we have the diagram

(4.68)  
$$\begin{array}{cccc} \mathcal{W}_{X,b} & \stackrel{\xi}{\longrightarrow} & H^0(\Lambda, \mathcal{E}(1)) \\ & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ & & \downarrow \\ W_{X,b} & \stackrel{\xi}{\longrightarrow} & H^0(\Lambda, T_P(1)) \end{array}$$

and hence

(4.69) 
$$\xi(W_{X,b}) = \frac{\xi(\mathcal{W}_{X,b})}{\alpha \otimes H^0(\mathcal{O}_{\Lambda}(1))}$$

for  $\alpha$  given by (4.9).

Let us write  $u_1 \equiv u_2 \pmod{\alpha}$  if  $u_1 - u_2 \in \xi(W_{X,b})$ . Then (4.58) is equivalent to

(4.70) 
$$x_i x_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \equiv 0 \pmod{\alpha}$$

for all i, j, k. Since  $H^0(\mathcal{O}_{\Lambda}(1)) = \text{Span}\{x_0, x_1\}$ , it is enough to prove (4.70) for  $0 \le i, j \le 1$ .

Obviously,

(4.71) 
$$x_i \alpha \equiv 0 \pmod{\alpha} \Rightarrow x_i x_0 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} \equiv -x_i \sum_{j=1}^{n+1} x_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \pmod{\alpha}$$

for all i. Combining (4.62), (4.63) and (4.71), we obtain

(4.72) 
$$x_0^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} \equiv x_0 x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} \equiv x_1^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} \equiv 0 \pmod{\alpha} \Rightarrow x_i x_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} \equiv 0 \pmod{\alpha}$$

for all i, j.

Finally, by (4.72),

(4.73) 
$$\omega_{00k} \equiv 0 \Rightarrow x_0^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} - \sum_{j=1}^{n+1} c_{0jk} x_0 x_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} \equiv 0 \Rightarrow x_0^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \equiv 0 \pmod{\alpha}$$

for all  $k \ge 1$ . Combining (4.63), (4.72) and (4.73), we conclude (4.58).

When  $\{x_2, ..., x_{n+1}\} \subset H^0(I_Z(1))$ , i.e., Z is very special, (4.59) follows directly from the fact that  $\xi(\mathcal{W}_{X,b}) = \text{Span} \{\xi(\omega_{ijk})\}$ .

We want to call attention to the subtle difference and relation between  $\xi(\mathcal{W}_{X,b})$  and  $\xi(W_{X,b})$  in the above lemma and also Lemma 4.9 below. By (4.68),  $\xi(W_{X,b})$  is the image of  $\xi(\mathcal{W}_{X,b})$  under  $H^0(\Lambda, \mathcal{E}(1)) \to H^0(\Lambda, T_P(1))$ . However,  $\xi(\mathcal{W}_{X,b})$  is not necessarily the lift of  $\xi(W_{X,b})$  in  $H^0(\Lambda, \mathcal{E}(1))$ . In particular, when Z is special but not very special, we have (4.58) but it is easy to check that  $\xi(\mathcal{W}_{X,b}) \neq H^0(\Lambda, \mathcal{E}(1))$ .

Let us go back to the proof of (3.83) for Z special. Since  $x_0$  and  $x_1$  span  $H^0(\mathcal{O}_Z(1))$ , we can choose  $p \in Z$  such that  $x_0 \neq 0$  at p. To prove (3.83), let

us consider  $\omega \in \mathcal{W}_{X,b}$  such that  $\omega(p) = 0$ . Note that  $\eta(\omega) \in \text{Span } J_{d+1}$  by the definition of  $\mathcal{W}_{X,b}$  and  $\eta(\omega)$  also vanishes at p. We claim that

(4.74) 
$$\eta(\omega) \in H^0(I_p(1)) \otimes \operatorname{Span} J_d$$

This follows from the lemma below.

**Lemma 4.8.** Let  $P = \mathbb{P}^{n+1}$  and  $J_d$  be defined in (4.2) for  $d \geq 3$ . Then

(4.75) 
$$\operatorname{Span} J_{d+1} \cap H(I_p(d+1)) = H^0(I_p(1)) \otimes \operatorname{Span} J_d$$

for every point  $p \in P$  satisfying

$$(4.76) p \notin \{(1,0,...,0), (0,1,0,...,0), ..., (0,...,0,1)\}.$$

Furthermore, for every 0-dimensional subscheme  $Z \subset P$  of length 2, a point  $p \in \text{supp}(Z)$  satisfying (4.76) and  $s \in H^0(I_p(1)) \setminus H^0(I_Z(1))$ ,

(4.77) Span 
$$J_{d+1} \cap H(I_p(d+1)) = H^0(I_Z(1)) \otimes \text{Span } J_d + s \otimes \text{Span } J_d.$$

*Proof.* By (4.76), there exist  $i \neq j$  such that neither  $x_i$  nor  $x_j$  vanishes at p. Without loss of generality, let us assume that  $x_0 \neq 0$  and  $x_1 \neq 0$  at p. It is obvious that

It is obvious that

(4.78) 
$$\operatorname{Span} J_{d+1} \cap H(I_p(d+1)) \supset H^0(I_p(1)) \otimes \operatorname{Span} J_d \text{ and} \\ \dim \left(\operatorname{Span} J_{d+1} \cap H(I_p(d+1))\right) = \dim \operatorname{Span} J_{d+1} - 1.$$

Therefore, to show (4.75), it suffices to show that

(4.79) 
$$\operatorname{Span} J_{d+1} = H^0(I_p(1)) \otimes \operatorname{Span} J_d + \operatorname{Span} \left\{ x_0^2 x_1^{d-1} \right\}$$

which follows from the fact that

(4.80) 
$$x_k \in H^0(I_p(1)) + \text{Span}\{x_0\} \text{ and } x_k \in H^0(I_p(1)) + \text{Span}\{x_1\}$$
  
for all k.

To see (4.77), we observe that for all  $l \in H^0(I_p(1))$  and  $f \in \text{Span } J_d$ , lf can be written as

$$(4.81) lf = (l-cs)f + csf \in H^0(I_Z(1)) \otimes \operatorname{Span} J_d + s \otimes \operatorname{Span} J_d,$$

where c is a constant such that  $l - cs \in H^0(I_Z(1))$ .

Note that by (4.1),  $p \in Z$  always satisfies (4.76).

Suppose that a = 1 in (4.14), i.e., Z is very special. By Lemma 4.7,

(4.82) 
$$\begin{cases} x_0^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} - c_{01k} x_0 x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} \in \xi(\mathcal{W}_{X,b}) \\ x_1^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} - c_{10k} x_0 x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \in \xi(\mathcal{W}_{X,b}) \\ \Rightarrow (c_{10k} x_0^2 - c_{01k} x_1^2) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \in \xi(\mathcal{W}_{X,b}) \end{cases}$$

for k = 2, 3. Since  $x_2 = ... = x_{n+1} = 0$  at  $p \neq (1, 0, ..., 0), (0, 1, 0, ..., 0)$ , neither  $x_0$  nor  $x_1$  vanishes at p. Hence there exist numbers  $r_k$  such that  $c_{10k}x_0^2-c_{10k}x_1^2-r_kx_0x_1$  vanishes at p. For b general, the numbers  $c_{ijk}$  are general. In particular,

(4.83) 
$$\det \begin{bmatrix} c_{102} & c_{012} \\ c_{103} & c_{013} \end{bmatrix} \neq 0$$

Therefore, at least one of  $c_{102}x_0^2 - c_{102}x_1^2 - r_2x_0x_1$  and  $c_{103}x_0^2 - c_{103}x_1^2 - r_3x_0x_1$  does not vanish on Z. Without loss of generality, let us assume that

(4.84) 
$$(c_{102}x_0^2 - c_{102}x_1^2 - r_2x_0x_1)\Big|_Z \neq 0.$$

Therefore, we may choose  $\omega \in \mathcal{W}_{X,b}$  such that

(4.85) 
$$\xi(\omega) = \left(c_{102}x_0^2 - c_{102}x_1^2 - r_2x_0x_1\right)\frac{\partial}{\partial x_2},$$
$$\omega(p) = 0 \text{ and } \omega\Big|_Z \neq 0.$$

Let us write

(4.86) 
$$\xi(\omega) = \left(c_{102}x_0^2 - c_{102}x_1^2 - r_2x_0x_1\right)\frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} = s_1s_2\frac{\partial}{\partial x_2}$$

where  $s_1s_2$  is the factorization of  $c_{102}x_0^2 - c_{102}x_1^2 - r_2x_0x_1$  with  $s_i \in H^0(\mathcal{O}_P(1))$ satisfying  $s_1(p) = 0$  and  $s_1s_2 \neq 0$  on Z.

Since  $\omega(p) = 0$ ,  $\tau = \eta(\omega)$  vanishes at p as well. So by Lemma 4.8,  $\tau \in H^0(I_p(1)) \otimes \text{Span } J_d$ . When we regard  $\tau$  as a vector in  $H^0(I_p(1)) \otimes T_{B,b}$ , we have

(4.87) 
$$L_{\lambda}(\tau) = s_1 \gamma$$

for some

(4.88) 
$$\gamma \in H^0(\mathcal{G}_Z) = \operatorname{Span}\left\{x_0 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0}, x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0}\right\}$$

by (4.49). Then

(4.89) 
$$\omega - L_{\lambda}(\tau) = s_1 \left( s_2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} - \gamma \right) \in W_{X,b,Z,\lambda}.$$

Obviously,  $\omega - L_{\lambda}(\tau)$  vanishes at p. But since  $s_1s_2 \neq 0$  on Z and  $\gamma$  lies in the subspace (4.88) of  $H^0(Z, T_P)$ , it is easy to see that  $\omega - L_{\lambda}(\tau)$  does not vanish in  $H^0(Z, T_P(1))$ . This finishes the proof for (3.83) when Z is very special.

Suppose that  $2 \le a \le n$  in (4.14). Then by (4.58),  $\xi$  maps  $W_{X,b}$  surjectively onto  $H^0(\Lambda, T_P(1))$ . So we can choose  $\omega \in \mathcal{W}_{X,b}$  such that

(4.90) 
$$\xi(\omega) = sx_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{n+1}}$$

in  $H^0(\Lambda, T_P(1))$  for some  $s \in H^0(I_p(1)) \setminus H^0(I_Z(1))$ . Note that  $x_1$  does not vanish on either  $p_i \in Z$ , as explained for (4.51).

By the same argument as before, we have

(4.91) 
$$\omega - L_{\lambda}(\tau) = s \left( x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{n+1}} - \gamma \right) \in W_{X,b,Z,\lambda}$$

for some  $\gamma \in H^0(\mathcal{G}_Z)$ . Again,  $\omega - L_{\lambda}(\tau)$  vanishes at p and does not vanish in  $H^0(Z, T_P(1))$  for  $a \leq n$  by (4.49). This finishes the proof for (3.83) when  $a \leq n$ .

Suppose that  $a \ge 2$  and  $x_0$  vanishes at one of  $p_i$  for b general. Then we choose  $\omega \in \mathcal{W}_{X,b}$  such that

(4.92) 
$$\xi(\omega) = sx_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0}$$

in  $H^0(\Lambda, T_P(1))$  for some  $s \in H^0(I_p(1)) \setminus H^0(I_Z(1))$ . By the same argument as before, we have

(4.93) 
$$\omega - L_{\lambda}(\tau) = s \left( x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} - \gamma \right) \in W_{X,b,Z,\lambda}$$

for some  $\gamma \in H^0(\mathcal{G}_Z)$ . Again,  $\omega - L_\lambda(\tau)$  vanishes at p. Note that we choose p such that  $x_0 \neq 0$  at p. So  $x_0$  must vanish at  $Z \setminus \{p\}$ . By (4.50),

(4.94) 
$$\gamma \in H^0(\mathcal{G}_Z) = \operatorname{Span}\left\{x_0\frac{\partial}{\partial x_0}, x_1\frac{\partial}{\partial x_2}, ..., x_1\frac{\partial}{\partial x_a}\right\}$$

It follows that  $\omega - L_{\lambda}(\tau) \neq 0$  in  $H^0(Z, T_P(1))$ . This finishes the proof for (3.83) when  $a \ge 2$  and  $x_0$  vanishes at one of  $p_i$ .

It remains to verify (3.83) when a = n + 1 in (4.14) and  $x_0 \neq 0$  at both  $p_i$ . In this case,

(4.95)  
$$H^{0}(\mathcal{G}_{Z}) = \operatorname{Span}\left\{x_{i}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{j}}: j = 0 \text{ or } 2 \leq i, j \leq n+1\right\}$$
$$= \operatorname{Span}\left\{x_{1}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{j}}: j = 0, 1, ..., n+1\right\}$$

by (4.49).

Let us choose  $s_1 = x_0 - r_1 x_1$  and  $s_2 = x_0 - r_2 x_1$  for some constants  $r_i$ such that  $s_i(p_i) \neq 0$  and  $s_i(p_{3-i}) = 0$  for i = 1, 2. Clearly,  $r_1 \neq r_2 \neq 0$ . Fixing  $1 \le k \le n+1$ , we let

(4.96) 
$$u_k = x_0 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} - \sum_{j=1}^{n+1} c_{0jk} x_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0}.$$

Since  $\omega_{00k} = x_0 u_k$ ,  $\xi(x_0 u_k) \in \xi(\mathcal{W}_{X,b})$ . And by (4.57),  $\xi(x_1 u_k) \in \xi(\mathcal{W}_{X,b})$ . Therefore,  $\xi(su_k) \in \xi(\mathcal{W}_{X,b})$  for all  $s \in H^0(\mathcal{O}_P(1))$ . In particular, there exist  $w_{ik} \in \mathcal{W}_{X,b}$  such that

(4.97) 
$$w_{ik}\Big|_{\Lambda} = s_i u_k\Big|_{\Lambda}$$

36

in  $H^0(\Lambda, \mathcal{E}(1))$  for i = 1, 2. Then by Lemma 4.8,

(4.98) 
$$\eta(w_{ik}) - s_i \gamma_{ik} \in H^0(I_Z(1)) \otimes \operatorname{Span} J_d$$

for some  $\gamma_{ik} \in \text{Span } J_d$  and i = 1, 2. We may write

(4.99) 
$$\eta(w_{ik}) - s_i \gamma_{ik} = \sum l_j \tau_j$$

with 
$$l_j \in H^0(\mathcal{O}_P(1))$$
 and  $\tau_j \in H^0(I_Z(1)) \otimes \operatorname{Span} J_{d-1}$ . Then

$$(4.100) w_{ik} - s_i L_\lambda(\gamma_{ik}) - \sum l_j L_\lambda(\tau_j) = s_i \left( u_k - L_\lambda(\gamma_{ik}) \right) \in W_{X,b,Z,\lambda}$$

when restricted to Z, since  $L_{\lambda}$  vanishes on  $H^0(I_Z(1)) \otimes \text{Span } J_{d-1}$ . By the same argument as before, we conclude that

(4.101) 
$$(u_k - L_\lambda(\gamma_{ik}))\Big|_{p_i} = 0$$

for i = 1, 2; otherwise, (3.83) follows. By our choice of  $s_i$  and  $r_i$ , we see that

(4.102) 
$$L_{\lambda}(\gamma_{ik}) = r_{3-i}x_1\frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} - \sum_{j=1}^{n+1} c_{0jk}x_j\frac{\partial}{\partial x_0}$$

for i = 1, 2. In particular,

(4.103) 
$$L_{\lambda} \left( \gamma_{1k} - \gamma_{2k} \right) = (r_2 - r_1) x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \neq 0.$$

So  $x_1(\partial/\partial x_k)$  lies in the image of  $L_{\lambda}$  for all k = 1, 2, ..., n + 1. By (4.98),  $\eta(w_{ik}) - s_i \gamma_{ik} = 0$  in  $H^0(\mathcal{O}_{\Lambda}(d+1))$  and hence

(4.104) 
$$\begin{aligned} \xi(s_i\gamma_{ik}) &= \xi(\eta(w_{ik})) = \xi(\eta(s_iu_k)) = \xi(s_i\eta(u_k)) \\ \Rightarrow s_i(\gamma_{ik} - \eta(u_k))\Big|_{\Lambda} = 0 \Rightarrow (\gamma_{ik} - \eta(u_k))\Big|_{\Lambda} = 0 \\ \Rightarrow \xi(\gamma_{ik}) &= \xi(\eta(u_k)) \end{aligned}$$

for i = 1, 2. Therefore,  $\xi(\gamma_{1k} - \gamma_{2k}) = 0$  and hence

(4.105) 
$$\gamma_{1k} - \gamma_{2k} \in \operatorname{Span} J_d \cap \ker(\xi)$$

Combining (4.103) and (4.105), we conclude that

for each 
$$1 \le k \le n+1$$
, there exists  $\gamma_k \in \text{Span } J_d \cap \ker(\xi)$ 

(4.106) such that 
$$L_{\lambda}(\gamma_k) = x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}$$

On the other hand, we know that

(4.107) 
$$\operatorname{Span} J_d \cap \ker(\xi) = H^0(I_Z(1)) \otimes \operatorname{Span} J_{d-1} + V$$

by (4.48) in Lemma 4.6 for

(4.108) 
$$V = \operatorname{Span} \left\{ x_0^{d-2} x_i (x_j - c_j x_1) : i \ge 1, j \ge 2 \text{ and} \\ x_j - c_j x_1 \in H^0(I_Z(1)) \right\}.$$

And since  $L_{\lambda}$  vanishes on  $H^0(I_Z(1)) \otimes \text{Span } J_{d-1}$ , (4.106) is equivalent to saying that

(4.109) 
$$\left\{ x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} : k \ge 1 \right\} \subset L_{\lambda}(V).$$

Note that for  $x_0^{d-2}x_i(x_j - c_j x_1) \in V$ ,

(4.110) 
$$\eta \left( x_1 \otimes x_0^{d-2} x_i (x_j - c_j x_1) - (x_j - c_j x_1) \otimes x_0^{d-2} x_1 x_i \right) = 0$$

and hence

$$L_{\lambda}\left(x_{1} \otimes x_{0}^{d-2}x_{i}(x_{j}-c_{j}x_{1})-(x_{j}-c_{j}x_{1}) \otimes x_{0}^{d-2}x_{1}x_{i}\right)$$

$$(4.111) \qquad = x_{1}L_{\lambda}\left(x_{0}^{d-2}x_{i}(x_{j}-c_{j}x_{1})\right)-(x_{j}-c_{j}x_{1})L_{\lambda}\left(x_{0}^{d-2}x_{1}x_{i}\right)$$

$$= x_{1}L_{\lambda}\left(x_{0}^{d-2}x_{i}(x_{j}-c_{j}x_{1})\right) \in W_{X,b,Z,\lambda}.$$

It follows that  $x_1 L_{\lambda}(\gamma) \in W_{X,b,Z,\lambda}$  for all  $\gamma \in V$ . Consequently,

(4.112) 
$$\operatorname{Span}\left\{x_1^2\frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}:k\geq 1\right\}\subset W_{X,b,Z,\lambda}$$

by (4.109).

It remains to find  $u \in H^0(\Lambda, \mathcal{E})$  satisfying

(4.113) 
$$u \in \text{Span}\left\{x_1\frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} : k \ge 1\right\}, \ u \ne 0 \text{ and } x_0 u \in W_{X,b,Z,\lambda}.$$

If such u exists,  $u \neq 0$  at both  $p_i$ . Then combining (4.112) and (4.113), we see that  $(x_0 - r_1 x_1)u \in W_{X,b,Z,\lambda}$  vanishes at  $p_2$  but not  $p_1$ .

To construct u satisfying (4.113), let us consider

(4.114) 
$$\omega = c_{013} \left( \omega_{012} - \sum_{j=2}^{n+1} c_{02j} \omega_{1j0} \right) - c_{012} \left( \omega_{013} - \sum_{j=2}^{n+1} c_{03j} \omega_{1j0} \right)$$
$$= c_{013} \left( x_0 x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} - \sum_{j=2}^{n+1} c_{02j} x_1 x_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} \right)$$
$$- c_{012} \left( x_0 x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_3} - \sum_{j=2}^{n+1} c_{03j} x_1 x_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} \right)$$

in  $\mathcal{W}_{X,b}$ . We choose  $\omega$  in such a way that the expansion of  $\eta(\omega)$  does not contain monomials in  $J_{d+1}$  of degree d-1 in  $x_0$ . Thus, we can write

(4.115) 
$$\eta(\omega) = \sum_{i=1}^{n+1} x_i \tau_i$$

for some  $\tau_i \in \text{Span } J_d$ . Therefore, by the definition (3.81) of  $W_{X,b,Z,\lambda}$ ,

(4.116) 
$$\omega - \sum_{i=1}^{n+1} x_i L_\lambda(\tau_i) \in W_{X,b,Z,\lambda}$$

when restricted to Z. Combining it with (4.95) and (4.112), we conclude

(4.117) 
$$x_0 \left( c_{013} x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} - c_{012} x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_3} \right) - \beta_1 x_1^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} \in W_{X,b,Z,\lambda}$$

for some constant  $\beta_1$ . Similarly, we have

(4.118) 
$$x_0 \left( c_{023} x_2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} - c_{021} x_2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_3} \right) - \beta_2 x_1^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} \in W_{X,b,Z,\lambda}$$

for some constant  $\beta_2$  by switching  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ . Hence by (4.117) and (4.118),

(4.119) 
$$x_0 \Big( e_1 c_{013} x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} + e_2 c_{023} x_2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \\ - (e_1 c_{012} x_1 + e_2 c_{021} x_2) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_3} \Big) \in W_{X,b,Z,\lambda}$$

for constants  $e_1$  and  $e_2$ , not all zero, satisfying  $e_1\beta_1 + e_2\beta_2 = 0$ .

For  $b \in B$  general,  $c_{013}c_{023} \neq 0$  and hence  $e_1c_{013}$  and  $e_2c_{023}$  cannot both vanish. Therefore,

(4.120) 
$$u = e_1 c_{013} x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} + e_2 c_{023} x_2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} - (e_1 c_{012} x_1 + e_2 c_{021} x_2) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_3}$$

satisfies (4.113).

This finishes the proof of (3.83) for Z special. Thus, if  $Z = \{\sigma_1(b), \sigma_2(b)\}$  is special with respect to  $(x_i)$  for all  $b \in B$ , then  $\sigma_1(b)$  and  $\sigma_2(b)$  are not  $\Gamma$ -equivalent over  $\mathbb{Q}$  on  $X_b$  for  $b \in B$  general.

4.6. Generic case. Next we will try to finish the proof of our main theorem by proving (3.83) for Z generic. We start with a result on  $\xi(W_{X,b})$  for Z generic, similar to Lemma 4.7.

**Lemma 4.9.** Let  $P = \mathbb{P}^{n+1}$  and  $X \subset Y = B \times P$  be the family of hypersurfaces in P given by (4.1) over  $B = \text{Span } J_d$  for  $n \ge 2$  and  $d \ge 4$ . Then  $\xi$  is surjective when restricted to  $\mathcal{W}_{X,b}$ , i.e.,

(4.121) 
$$\xi(\mathcal{W}_{X,b}) = H^0(\Lambda, \mathcal{E}(1))$$

for  $b \in B$  general and <u>all</u> 0-dimensional subschemes  $Z \subset X_b$  of length 2 that are generic with respect to  $(x_i)$ , where  $\Lambda \subset P$  is the line cutting out Z on  $X_b$  and  $\xi$  is the restriction  $H^0(\mathcal{E}(1)) \to H^0(\Lambda, \mathcal{E}(1))$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\{\omega_{ijk}\}$  be the basis of  $\mathcal{W}_{X,b}$  given by (4.17) with  $c_{ijk}$  given by (4.18). For  $b \in B$  general,  $\{c_{ijk} : 0 \leq i \neq j, k \leq n+1\}$  is a general set of numbers satisfying  $c_{ijk} = c_{ikj}$ .

We write  $u_1 \equiv u_2$  if  $\xi(u_1 - u_2) \in \xi(\mathcal{W}_{X,b})$ . Of course, we have  $\omega_{ijk} \equiv 0$ and want to show that  $u \equiv 0$  for all  $u \in H^0(\mathcal{E}(1))$ . For starters, it is obvious that

(4.122) 
$$\omega_{ijk} \equiv 0 \Rightarrow x_i x_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \equiv 0 \text{ for all } i \neq j \neq k$$

and

(4.123) 
$$\omega_{iik} \equiv 0 \Rightarrow x_i^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} - \sum_{j \neq i} c_{ijk} x_i x_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \equiv 0 \text{ for all } i \neq k.$$

Without loss of generality, we assume (4.12). We discuss in two cases:

(1) Suppose that

(4.124) 
$$\operatorname{Span}\{x_0, x_1\} = \operatorname{Span}\{x_1, x_i\} = \operatorname{Span}\{x_i, x_0\} = H^0(\mathcal{O}_Z(1))$$

for some *i*. Without loss of generality, we may assume that i = 2. Namely, we have

(4.125) 
$$\operatorname{Span}\{x_0, x_1\} = \operatorname{Span}\{x_1, x_2\} = \operatorname{Span}\{x_2, x_0\} = H^0(\mathcal{O}_Z(1)).$$

(2) Otherwise, suppose that there does not exist  $x_i$  satisfying (4.124). Namely, for each  $x_i$ , either  $x_i \in \text{Span}\{x_0\}$  or  $x_i \in \text{Span}\{x_1\}$  in  $H^0(\mathcal{O}_Z(1))$ . And since Z is generic, there must exist  $i \neq j \neq 0, 1$  such that

(4.126) 
$$\operatorname{Span}\{x_0, x_i\} = \operatorname{Span}\{x_1, x_j\} = H^0(\mathcal{O}_Z(1)).$$

Without loss of generality, we may assume that i = 3 and j = 2. In summary, when (4.124) fails, we may assume that

(4.127) 
$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{Span}\{x_0, x_3\} &= \operatorname{Span}\{x_1, x_2\} = \operatorname{Span}\{x_0, x_1\} = H^0(\mathcal{O}_Z(1)) \text{ and} \\ \{x_2, \dots, x_{n+1}\} \subset \operatorname{Span}\{x_0\} \cup \operatorname{Span}\{x_1\} \text{ in } H^0(\mathcal{O}_Z(1)). \end{aligned}$$

In the first case, we assume (4.125). Then for all  $k \neq 0, 1, 2$  and all i, j,

(4.128) 
$$x_0 x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \equiv x_1 x_2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \equiv x_0 x_2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \equiv 0$$

and hence

(4.129) 
$$x_i x_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \equiv 0$$

since  $\{x_0x_1, x_1x_2, x_0x_2\}$  spans  $H^0(\mathcal{O}_{\Lambda}(2))$  by (4.125).

Suppose that  $x_k \neq 0$  in  $H^0(\mathcal{O}_Z(1))$  for some  $3 \leq k \leq n+1$ . Without loss of generality, suppose that  $x_3 \neq 0$  in  $H^0(\mathcal{O}_Z(1))$ . Then at least two pairs among  $\{x_0, x_3\}, \{x_1, x_3\}$  and  $\{x_2, x_3\}$  are linearly independent in  $H^0(\mathcal{O}_Z(1))$ . Without loss of generality, let us assume that

(4.130) 
$$\operatorname{Span}\{x_0, x_1\} = \operatorname{Span}\{x_1, x_3\} = \operatorname{Span}\{x_3, x_0\} = H^0(\mathcal{O}_Z(1)).$$

Then

(4.131) 
$$x_0 x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} \equiv x_1 x_3 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} \equiv x_0 x_3 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} \equiv 0 \Rightarrow x_i x_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} \equiv 0$$

for all i, j. That is, (4.129) holds for k = 2 as well. Thus, it holds for all  $k \neq 0, 1$ :

(4.132) 
$$x_i x_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \equiv 0 \text{ if } k \neq 0, 1.$$

It remains to prove (4.129) for k = 0, 1.

By (4.123) and (4.132), we see that

(4.133) 
$$x_k^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \equiv x_i \sum_{j \neq i} c_{ijk} x_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \equiv 0 \text{ for all } i = 0, 1 \text{ and } k \neq 0, 1$$

by (4.132). Setting i = 0 in (4.133) and combining it with (4.122), we have

(4.134) 
$$x_k^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} \equiv x_0 \sum_{j \neq 0} c_{0jk} x_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} \equiv x_k x_l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} \equiv 0 \text{ for all } k > l \ge 1.$$

If  $\text{Span}\{x_k, x_l\} = H^0(\mathcal{O}_Z(1))$  for some  $k > l \ge 2$ , then

(4.135) 
$$x_k^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} \equiv x_l^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} \equiv x_k x_l \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} \equiv 0 \Rightarrow x_i x_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} \equiv 0$$

for all i, j by (4.134). Otherwise,  $x_k$  and  $x_l$  are linear dependent in  $H^0(\mathcal{O}_Z(1))$ for all  $k > l \ge 2$ . This implies that

$$(4.136) x_3, \dots, x_{n+1} \in \text{Span}\{x_2\}$$

in  $H^0(\mathcal{O}_Z(1))$ . Thus

$$(4.137) \quad x_2^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} \equiv x_1 x_2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} \equiv 0 \Rightarrow x_0 x_2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} \equiv 0 \Rightarrow x_0 x_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} \equiv 0 \text{ for } j \ge 2$$

since  $x_0 \in \text{Span}\{x_1, x_2\}$ . So we may rewrite (4.134) as

(4.138) 
$$x_2^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} \equiv x_1 x_2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} \equiv c_{01k} x_0 x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} \equiv 0$$

for all  $k \geq 2$ . As long as  $c_{012} \neq 0$ , we have

(4.139) 
$$x_0 x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} \equiv 0 \Rightarrow x_1^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} \equiv 0$$

since  $x_0 = b_1 x_1 + b_2 x_2$  in  $H^0(\mathcal{O}_Z(1))$  for some  $b_i \neq 0$  by (4.125). Combining (4.138) and (4.139), we conclude that  $x_i x_j (\partial/\partial x_0) \equiv 0$  for all i, j. This proves (4.129) for k = 0. The same argument works for k = 1. This finishes the proof of the lemma if we have (4.125) and one of  $x_3, ..., x_{n+1}$  does not vanish in  $H^0(\mathcal{O}_Z(1))$ .

Otherwise, while we still have (4.125),  $x_3 = \ldots = x_{n+1} = 0$  in  $H^0(\mathcal{O}_Z(1))$ . Then we have a system of linear equations:

$$x_{0}x_{1}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{2}} \equiv x_{1}x_{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{0}} \equiv x_{0}x_{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{1}} \equiv 0$$

$$(c_{013}x_{0}x_{1} + c_{023}x_{0}x_{2})\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{0}} \equiv 0$$

$$(c_{103}x_{1}x_{0} + c_{123}x_{1}x_{2})\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{1}} \equiv 0$$

$$(c_{203}x_{2}x_{0} + c_{213}x_{2}x_{1})\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{2}} \equiv 0$$

$$x_{0}^{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{1}} - (c_{011}x_{0}x_{1} + c_{021}x_{0}x_{2})\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{0}} \equiv 0$$

$$x_{0}^{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{2}} - (c_{012}x_{0}x_{1} + c_{022}x_{0}x_{2})\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{0}} \equiv 0$$

$$x_{1}^{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{0}} - (c_{100}x_{1}x_{0} + c_{120}x_{1}x_{2})\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{1}} \equiv 0$$

$$x_{1}^{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{2}} - (c_{102}x_{1}x_{0} + c_{122}x_{1}x_{2})\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{1}} \equiv 0$$

$$x_{2}^{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{0}} - (c_{200}x_{2}x_{0} + c_{210}x_{2}x_{1})\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{2}} \equiv 0$$

$$x_{2}^{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{1}} - (c_{201}x_{2}x_{0} + c_{211}x_{2}x_{1})\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{2}} \equiv 0$$

Suppose that

$$(4.141) a_0 x_0 + a_1 x_1 + a_2 x_2 = 0$$

in  $H^0(\mathcal{O}_Z(1))$  for some constants  $a_0, a_1, a_2$ , not all zero. By our hypothesis (4.125),  $a_i \neq 0$  for i = 0, 1, 2.

Using (4.141), we can reduce (4.140) into a system of linear equations in  $x_i^2(\partial/\partial x_j)$  for  $0 \le i \ne j \le 2$ . For example,

$$(c_{013}x_0x_1 + c_{023}x_0x_2)\frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} \equiv 0 \\ x_1x_2\frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} \equiv 0 \\ (a_1x_1 + a_2x_2)(c_{013}x_1 + c_{023}x_2)\frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} \equiv a_1c_{013}x_1^2\frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} + a_2c_{023}x_2^2\frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} \\ \equiv 0.$$

In this way, we obtain a more manageable system of linear equations:

$$c_{013}\left(a_{1}x_{1}^{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{0}}\right) + c_{023}\left(a_{2}x_{2}^{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{0}}\right) \equiv 0$$

$$c_{103}\left(a_{0}x_{0}^{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{1}}\right) + c_{123}\left(a_{2}x_{2}^{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{1}}\right) \equiv 0$$

$$c_{203}\left(a_{0}x_{0}^{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{2}}\right) + c_{213}\left(a_{1}x_{1}^{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{2}}\right) \equiv 0$$

$$a_{0}x_{0}^{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{1}} + c_{011}\left(a_{1}x_{1}^{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{0}}\right) + c_{021}\left(a_{2}x_{2}^{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{0}}\right) \equiv 0$$

$$(4.143) \qquad a_{0}x_{0}^{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{2}} + c_{012}\left(a_{1}x_{1}^{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{0}}\right) + c_{022}\left(a_{2}x_{2}^{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{0}}\right) \equiv 0$$

$$a_{1}x_{1}^{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{0}} + c_{100}\left(a_{0}x_{0}^{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{1}}\right) + c_{120}\left(a_{2}x_{2}^{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{1}}\right) \equiv 0$$

$$a_{2}x_{2}^{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{0}} + c_{200}\left(a_{0}x_{0}^{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{2}}\right) + c_{210}\left(a_{1}x_{1}^{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{2}}\right) \equiv 0$$

$$a_{2}x_{2}^{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{1}} + c_{201}\left(a_{0}x_{0}^{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{2}}\right) + c_{211}\left(a_{1}x_{1}^{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{2}}\right) \equiv 0.$$

We may consider (4.143) as a system of homogeneous linear equations in  $a_i x_i^2(\partial/\partial x_j)$  for  $0 \le i \ne j \le 2$ . It is easy to show that (4.143) has only the trivial solution for  $c_{ijk}$  general. That is,

(4.144) 
$$a_i x_i^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \equiv 0 \Rightarrow x_i^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \equiv 0 \text{ for all } i \neq j.$$

Together with (4.122), we see that (4.129) holds for all i, j, k. This finishes the proof of the lemma in the first case.

In the second case, we assume (4.127). Note that under this hypothesis,  $\{x_0, x_2\}$  and  $\{x_1, x_3\}$  are linearly dependent in  $H^0(\mathcal{O}_Z(1))$ , respectively. Then for all  $k \neq 0, 1, 2, 3$ ,

(4.145)  
$$x_0 x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \equiv x_0 x_2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \equiv x_1 x_3 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \equiv 0$$
$$\Rightarrow x_0 x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \equiv x_0^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \equiv x_1^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \equiv 0.$$

And since  $\{x_0^2, x_0x_1, x_1^2\}$  spans  $H^0(\mathcal{O}_{\Lambda}(2))$ , we see that (4.129) holds for all  $k \geq 4$ . It remains to prove (4.129) for k = 0, 1, 2, 3. We argue in a similar way to the first case.

Suppose that one of  $x_4, ..., x_{n+1}$  does not vanish in  $H^0(\mathcal{O}_Z(1))$ . Without loss of generality, suppose that  $x_4 \neq 0$  in  $H^0(\mathcal{O}_Z(1))$ . By (4.127),  $x_4$  lies in either Span $\{x_0\}$  or Span $\{x_1\}$ . Without loss of generality, we may assume that  $x_4 \neq 0 \in \text{Span}\{x_0\}$  in  $H^0(\mathcal{O}_Z(1))$ . Then

(4.146)  
$$x_{1}x_{4}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{0}} \equiv x_{2}x_{4}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{0}} \equiv x_{1}x_{3}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{0}} \equiv 0$$
$$\Rightarrow x_{0}x_{1}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{0}} \equiv x_{0}^{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{0}} \equiv x_{1}^{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{0}} \equiv 0 \text{ and}$$
$$x_{0}x_{1}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{2}} \equiv x_{0}x_{4}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{2}} \equiv x_{1}x_{3}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{2}} \equiv 0$$
$$\Rightarrow x_{0}x_{1}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{2}} \equiv x_{0}^{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{2}} \equiv x_{1}^{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{2}} \equiv 0.$$

So (4.129) holds for k = 0, 2 and hence for all  $k \neq 1, 3$ .

Let us prove (4.129) for k = 1. If  $x_k \neq 0 \in \text{Span}\{x_1\}$  in  $H^0(\mathcal{O}_Z(1))$  for some  $k \geq 5$ , then we have (4.129) for k = 1, 3 by the same argument as above. Otherwise,  $x_k \in \text{Span}\{x_0\}$  for all  $k \neq 1, 3$ . Then

(4.147) 
$$x_0 x_2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \equiv x_0 x_3 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \equiv 0 \Rightarrow x_0^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \equiv x_0 x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \equiv 0$$

and

(4.148) 
$$x_1^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} - \sum_{j \neq 1} c_{1j0} x_1 x_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \equiv 0 \Rightarrow c_{130} x_1 x_3 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \equiv 0.$$

As long as  $c_{130} \neq 0$ , we have

(4.149) 
$$x_1 x_3 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \equiv 0 \Rightarrow x_1^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \equiv 0$$

which, together with (4.147), implies (4.129) for k = 1. The same argument works for k = 3. This proves the lemma if we have (4.127) and one of  $x_4, ..., x_{n+1}$  does not vanish in  $H^0(\mathcal{O}_Z(1))$ .

The only remaining case is that we have (4.127) and  $x_4 = \ldots = x_{n+1} = 0$ in  $H^0(\mathcal{O}_Z(1))$ . In this case, we have

(4.150) 
$$x_1 x_2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} \equiv x_1 x_3 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} \equiv 0 \Rightarrow x_0 x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} \equiv x_1^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} \equiv 0$$
$$x_0 x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} \equiv x_1 x_3 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} \equiv 0 \Rightarrow x_0 x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} \equiv x_1^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} \equiv 0$$

and

(4.151) 
$$\begin{aligned} x_0^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} - \sum_{j \neq 0} c_{0j2} x_0 x_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} &\equiv 0 \Rightarrow x_0^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} - c_{022} x_0 x_2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} &\equiv 0 \\ x_2^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} - \sum_{j \neq 2} c_{2j0} x_2 x_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} &\equiv 0 \Rightarrow x_2^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} - c_{200} x_0 x_2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} &\equiv 0. \end{aligned}$$

Suppose that  $x_2 = ax_0$  in  $H^0(\mathcal{O}_Z(1))$  for some  $a \neq 0$ . Then (4.151) becomes

(4.152) 
$$-ac_{022}\left(x_{0}^{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{0}}\right) + x_{0}^{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{2}} \equiv 0$$
$$a^{2}\left(x_{0}^{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{0}}\right) - ac_{200}\left(x_{0}^{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{2}}\right) \equiv 0.$$

For  $c_{022}c_{200} \neq 1$ , (4.152) has only the trivial solution as a system of homogeneous linear equations in  $x_0^2(\partial/\partial x_k)$  for k = 0, 2. That is,

(4.153) 
$$x_0^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} \equiv x_0^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} \equiv 0$$

which, combined with (4.150), implies (4.129) for k = 0, 2. Similarly, we can prove (4.129) for k = 1, 3. This finishes the proof of the lemma.

By the isomorphism (4.39),  $L_{\lambda}$  actually induces a map

As before, we choose  $s_i \in H^0(\mathcal{O}_P(1))$  such that  $s_i(p_i) \neq 0$  and  $s_i(p_{3-i}) = 0$ for i = 1, 2. For every  $u \in H^0(\mathcal{E})$ , by Lemma 4.9, there exist  $\omega_i \in \mathcal{W}_{X,b}$  such that

$$(4.155)\qquad \qquad \xi(\omega_i) = \xi(s_i u)$$

in  $H^0(\Lambda, \mathcal{E}(1))$  for i = 1, 2. Then as (4.98), we have

(4.156) 
$$\eta(\omega_i) - s_i \gamma_i \in H^0(I_Z(1)) \otimes \operatorname{Span} J_d$$

for some  $\gamma_i \in \text{Span } J_d$ . It follows that

$$(4.157) s_i \left( u - L_\lambda(\gamma_i) \right) \in W_{X,b,Z,\lambda}$$

for i = 1, 2, when restricted to Z. As before, we must have

(4.158) 
$$(u - L_{\lambda}(\gamma_i)) \Big|_{p_i} = 0$$

for i = 1, 2; otherwise, (3.83) follows.

By (4.156),  $\xi (\eta(\omega_i) - s_i \gamma_i) = 0$  and hence

$$\xi(s_i\gamma_i) = \xi\left(\eta(\omega_i)\right) = \xi\left(\eta(s_iu)\right) = \xi\left(s_i\eta(u)\right)$$

(4.159) 
$$\Rightarrow s_i(\gamma_i - \eta(u))\Big|_{\Lambda} = 0 \Rightarrow (\gamma_i - \eta(u))\Big|_{\Lambda} = 0 \Rightarrow \xi(\gamma_i) = \xi(\eta(u))$$

for i = 1, 2. Then  $\xi(\gamma_1) = \xi(\gamma_2)$  and  $\gamma_1 - \gamma_2 \in H^0(I_Z(1)) \otimes \text{Span } J_{d-1}$  by Lemma 4.5. Therefore,  $L_{\lambda}(\gamma_1) = L_{\lambda}(\gamma_2)$ . Combining this with (4.158), we conclude that

(4.160) 
$$u = L_{\lambda}(\gamma_1) = L_{\lambda}(\gamma_2)$$

in  $H^0(Z, T_P)$ . This implies that the map  $L_{\lambda}$  in (4.154) is onto. Indeed, the combination of (4.159) and (4.160) tells us exactly what  $L_{\lambda}$  is:

(4.161) 
$$\qquad \qquad \boxed{L_{\lambda}(\gamma) = u\Big|_{Z} \text{ if } \gamma\Big|_{\Lambda} = \eta(u)\Big|_{\Lambda} }$$

for  $\gamma \in T_{B,b} = \text{Span } J_d$  and  $u \in H^0(\mathcal{E})$ . Let us see the geometric implication of (4.161).

Let  $\hat{\eta}$  be the map given by the commutative diagram

(4.162) 
$$\begin{array}{ccc} H^{0}(\mathcal{E}) & \stackrel{\eta}{\longrightarrow} & H^{0}(\mathcal{O}_{P}(d)) \\ & \xi & & & & & \\ \xi & & & & & \\ H^{0}(\Lambda, \mathcal{E}) & \stackrel{\widehat{\eta}}{\longrightarrow} & H^{0}(\mathcal{O}_{\Lambda}(d)). \end{array}$$

Obviously,  $\hat{\eta}$  is the restriction of  $\eta$  to  $\Lambda$  and defined in the same way as  $\eta$  by

(4.163) 
$$\widehat{\eta}\left(x_i\frac{\partial}{\partial x_j}\right) = x_i\frac{\partial F}{\partial x_j}$$

for all  $0 \le i, j \le n+1$  with everything restricted to  $\Lambda$ . Since

(4.164) 
$$h^0(\Lambda, \mathcal{E}) - h^0(\mathcal{O}_{\Lambda}(d)) = 2(n+2) - (d+1) > 0$$

for d = 2n+2, there exists  $u \neq 0 \in h^0(\Lambda, \mathcal{E})$  such that  $\widehat{\eta}(u) = 0$ . By (4.161), u vanishes in  $H^0(Z, T_P)$ . That is, u lies in the kernel of the map

(4.165) 
$$H^0(\Lambda, \mathcal{E}) \xrightarrow{\rho} H^0(Z, T_P).$$

Obviously,  $\ker(\rho)$  is two dimensional and  $\alpha \in \ker(\rho)$  for  $\alpha$  given in (4.9).

We can make everything very explicit. If we identify  $\Lambda$  with  $\mathbb{P}^1$  and let  $p_1 = (0, 1), p_2 = (1, 0)$  and y be the affine coordinate of  $\Lambda \backslash p_2$ , then

(4.166) 
$$\widehat{\eta}\left(\ker(\rho)\right) = \operatorname{Span}\left\{f(y), yf'(y)\right\}$$

for  $f(y) = \hat{\eta}(\alpha) = \xi(F) \in H^0(\mathcal{O}_{\Lambda}(d))$ . Since  $u \neq 0 \in \ker(\rho)$  and  $\hat{\eta}(u) = 0$ , we conclude that f(y) and yf'(y) must be two linearly dependent polynomials in y. This can only happen if  $f(y) = cy^m$ , i.e.,  $\xi(F)$  vanishes only at  $p_1$  and  $p_2$ . Namely,  $X_b$  and  $\Lambda$  have no intersections other than  $p_1$  and  $p_2$ . So we have reached our key conclusion:

**Proposition 4.10.** If there are two points  $p_1 \neq p_2$  on a general hypersurface  $X \subset \mathbb{P}^{n+1}$  of degree 2n + 2 that are  $\Gamma$ -equivalent over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , then the line  $\Lambda$  joining  $p_1$  and  $p_2$  meets X only at  $p_1$  and  $p_2$ .

It remains to prove the following:

**Proposition 4.11.** Let  $P = \mathbb{P}^{n+1}$ ,  $\mathbb{G}(1, P)$  be the Grassmannian of lines in P and  $B = \mathbb{P}H^0(\mathcal{O}_P(d))$  be the parameter space of hypersurfaces in P of degree d = 2n + 2. For 0 < m < d, let  $W_m$  be the incidence correspondence

(4.167) 
$$W_m = \left\{ (X, \Lambda, p_1, p_2) : p_1 \neq p_2 \text{ and } X.\Lambda = mp_1 + (d - m)p_2 \right\}$$
$$\subset B \times \mathbb{G}(1, P) \times P \times P.$$

Then

- (1)  $W_m$  is irreducible.
- (2)  $W_m$  is generically finite over B via the projection  $\pi: W_m \to B$ .
- (3) For a general  $X \in B$ , the fiber  $\pi^{-1}([X])$  contains at least two points  $(X, \Lambda_i, p_{i1}, p_{i2})$  for i = 1, 2 such that  $p_{11} \neq p_{21}$  and the line joining  $p_{11}$  and  $p_{21}$  meet X at more than two points.

Let us see how the above proposition implies our main theorem. We consider the incidence correspondence

(4.168) 
$$W = \left\{ (X, \Lambda, p_1, p_2) : p_1 \neq p_2 \in X \cap \Lambda \text{ and } p_1 \sim_{\Gamma} p_2 \text{ over } \mathbb{Q} \right\}$$
$$\subset B \times \mathbb{G}(1, P) \times P \times P$$

for  $B = \mathbb{P}H^0(\mathcal{O}_P(d))$ . This is a locally noetherian scheme, a priori.

If no components of W dominate B, we are done. Otherwise, by Proposition 4.10 and 4.11, W must contain some  $W_m$  as an irreducible component. Then by Proposition 4.11 again, for  $X \in B$  general, there exist  $(X, \Lambda_i, p_{i1}, p_{i2}) \in W_m \subset W$  for i = 1, 2 such that  $p_{11} \neq p_{21}$  and the line joining  $p_{11}$  and  $p_{21}$  meet X at more than two points.

Since  $p_{i1} \sim_{\Gamma} p_{i2}$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  and  $X \cdot \Lambda_i = m p_{i1} + (d - m) p_{i2}$ , we have

$$(4.169) dp_{i1} \sim_{\Gamma} dp_{i2} \sim_{\Gamma} X.\Lambda_i$$

over  $\mathbb{Q}$  on X for i = 1, 2. It follows that all four points  $p_{ij}$  are  $\Gamma$ -equivalent over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Then by Proposition 4.10 again, the line joining  $p_{11}$  and  $p_{21}$  must meet X only at  $p_{11}$  and  $p_{21}$ , which is a contradiction.

It remains to prove Proposition 4.11.

Proof of Proposition 4.11. The proof of this statement is fairly standard. To see that  $W_m$  is irreducible of dim B, it suffices to project it to  $\mathbb{G}(1, P) \times P \times P$ . The fiber of  $W_m$  over  $(\Lambda, p_1, p_2)$  for  $p_1 \neq p_2 \in \Lambda$  is a linear subspace of B of dimension dim B - d. Therefore,  $W_m$  is irreducible of dimension

(4.170)  
$$\dim W_m = \dim \left\{ (\Lambda, p_1, p_2) : p_1 \neq p_2 \in \Lambda \right\} + (\dim B - d)$$
$$= \dim \mathbb{G}(1, P) + 2 - d + \dim B$$
$$= \dim B + (2n + 2 - d) = \dim B$$

for d = 2n + 2.

To show that  $W_m$  is generically finite over B, it suffices to exhibit a point  $(X, \Lambda, p_1, p_2) \in W_m$  such that  $\Lambda$  does not deform while preserving the tangency conditions with X. By that we mean there does not exist a one-parameter family of lines  $\Lambda_t$  such that  $\Lambda_0 = \Lambda$  and  $\Lambda_t$  meets X at two points with multiplicities m and d-m, respectively. Such deformation of  $\Lambda$  is governed by the standard exact sequence

$$(4.171) \quad 0 \longrightarrow T_{\Lambda}(-p_1 - p_2) \longrightarrow T_P(-\log X)\Big|_{\Lambda} \longrightarrow N \longrightarrow 0.$$

It is easy to find  $(X, \Lambda, p_1, p_2) \in W_m$  such that  $H^0(N) = 0$ . We leave the details to the readers.

Finally, to show (3), it again suffices to exhibit  $(X, \Lambda_i, p_{i1}, p_{i2}) \in W_m$  for i = 1, 2 with the required properties and neither  $\Lambda_1$  nor  $\Lambda_2$  deforms while preserving the tangency conditions with X. Again, it is easy to find such X and  $\Lambda_i$  and use the exact sequence (4.171) to show that  $\Lambda_i$  do not deform. We leave the details to the readers once more.

This finishes the proof of our main theorem 1.4.

## 5. Notes on Algebraic invariants

We explain here some algebraic invariants from Hodge theory, some of which are used in [V2], and show that these invariants are the same thing as de Rham invariants, the latter not involving Hodge theory. First some notation. For a Q-MHS V, we put  $\Gamma(V) := \hom_{MHS}(\mathbb{Q}(0), V)$  and accordingly  $J(V) := \operatorname{Ext}^{1}_{MHS}(\mathbb{Q}(0), V).$ 

To arrive at the invariants of interest, we must introduce a natural filtration on the Chow groups of X. Let  $\rho : \mathcal{X} \to S$  be a smooth and proper morphism of smooth quasi-projective varieties over a finitely generated subfield  $k/\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ , and let K = k(S). Fix an embedding  $K \hookrightarrow \mathbb{C}$  over k, and put  $X := X/\mathbb{C} = \mathcal{X}_{\eta_S} \times_K \mathbb{C}$ .

**Theorem 5.1** ([Lew1]). Let  $X := X/\mathbb{C}$  be smooth projective of dimension d. Then for all  $r \ge 0$ , there is a filtration, depending on  $k \subset \mathbb{C}$ ,

$$\operatorname{CH}^{r}(X;\mathbb{Q}) = F^{0} \supseteq F^{1} \supseteq \cdots \supseteq F^{\nu} \supseteq F^{\nu+1} \supseteq$$
$$\cdots \supseteq F^{r} \supseteq F^{r+1} = F^{r+2} = \cdots,$$

which satisfies the following

- (i)  $F^1 = \operatorname{CH}^r_{\operatorname{hom}}(X; \mathbb{Q}).$
- (ii)  $F^2 \subseteq \ker AJ \otimes \mathbb{Q} : \operatorname{CH}^r_{\operatorname{hom}}(X; \mathbb{Q}) \to J(H^{2r-1}(X(\mathbb{C}), \mathbb{Q}(r))).$

(iii)  $F^{\nu_1} \operatorname{CH}^{r_1}(X; \mathbb{Q}) \bullet F^{\nu_2} \operatorname{CH}^{r_2}(X; \mathbb{Q}) \subset F^{\nu_1 + \nu_2} \operatorname{CH}^{r_1 + r_2}(X; \mathbb{Q})$ , where  $\bullet$  is the intersection product.

(iv)  $F^{\nu}$  is preserved under the action of correspondences between smooth projective varieties over  $\mathbb{C}$ .

(v) Let  $\operatorname{Gr}_F^{\nu} := F^{\nu}/F^{\nu+1}$  and assume that the Künneth components of the diagonal class  $[\Delta_X] = \bigoplus_{p+q=2d} [\Delta_X(p,q)] \in H^{2d}(X \times X, \mathbb{Q}(d)))$  are algebraic over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Then

$$\Delta_X (2d - 2r + \ell, 2r - \ell)_* |_{\mathrm{Gr}_F^{\nu} \mathrm{CH}^r(X, m; \mathbb{Q})} = \delta_{\ell, \nu} \cdot \mathrm{Identity}.$$

[If we assume the conjecture that homological and numerical equivalence coincide, then (v) says that  $\operatorname{Gr}_{F}^{\nu}$  factors through the Grothendieck motive.] (vi) Let  $D^{r}(X) := \bigcap_{\nu} F^{\nu}$ , and  $k = \overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ . If the Bloch-Beilinson conjecture on the injectivity of the Abel-Jacobi map ( $\otimes \mathbb{Q}$ ) holds for smooth quasi-projective varieties defined over  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ , then  $D^{r}(X) = 0$ .

It is instructive to briefly explain how this filtration comes about. Consider a k-spread  $\rho : \mathcal{X} \to S$ , where  $\rho$  is smooth and proper. Let  $\eta$  be the generic point of S/k, and put  $K := k(\eta)$ . Write  $X_K := \mathcal{X}_{\eta}$ . From [Lew1] we introduced a decreasing filtration  $\mathcal{F}^{\nu} \operatorname{CH}^r(\mathcal{X}; \mathbb{Q})$ , with the property that  $Gr_{\mathcal{F}}^{\nu} \operatorname{CH}^r(\mathcal{X}; \mathbb{Q}) \hookrightarrow E_{\infty}^{\nu,2r-\nu}(\rho)$ , where  $E_{\infty}^{\nu,2r-\nu}(\rho)$  is the  $\nu$ -th graded piece of the Leray filtration on the lowest weight part  $\underline{H}_{\mathcal{H}}^{2r}(\mathcal{X}, \mathbb{Q}(r))$  of Beilinson's absolute Hodge cohomology  $H_{\mathcal{H}}^{2r}(\mathcal{X}, \mathbb{Q}(r))$  associated to  $\rho$ . That lowest weight part  $\underline{H}_{\mathcal{H}}^{2r}(\mathcal{X}, \mathbb{Q}(r)) \subset H_{\mathcal{H}}^{2r}(\mathcal{X}, \mathbb{Q}(r))$  is given by the image  $H_{\mathcal{H}}^{2r}(\overline{\mathcal{X}}, \mathbb{Q}(r)) \to H_{\mathcal{H}}^{2r}(\mathcal{X}, \mathbb{Q}(r))$ , where  $\overline{\mathcal{X}}$  is a smooth compactification of  $\mathcal{X}$ . There is a cycle class map  $\operatorname{CH}^r(\mathcal{X}; \mathbb{Q}) := \operatorname{CH}^r(\mathcal{X}/k; \mathbb{Q}) \to \underline{H}_{\mathcal{H}}^{2r}(\mathcal{X}, \mathbb{Q}(r))$ , which is conjecturally injective if  $k = \overline{\mathbb{Q}}$  under the Bloch-Beilinson conjecture assumption, using the fact that there is a short exact sequence:

$$0 \to J(H^{2r-1}(\mathcal{X}, \mathbb{Q}(r))) \to H^{2r}_{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{X}, \mathbb{Q}(r)) \to \Gamma(H^{2r}(\mathcal{X}, \mathbb{Q}(r))) \to 0.$$

(Injectivity would imply  $D^r(X) = 0$ .) Regardless of whether or not injectivity holds, the filtration  $\mathcal{F}^{\nu} \operatorname{CH}^r(\mathcal{X}; \mathbb{Q})$  is given by the pullback of the Leray filtration on  $\underline{H}^{2r}_{\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{X}, \mathbb{Q}(r))$  to  $\operatorname{CH}^r(\mathcal{X}; \mathbb{Q})$ . It is proven in [Lew1] that the term  $E_{\infty}^{\nu,2r-\nu}(\rho)$  fits in a short exact sequence:

$$0 \to \underline{E}_{\infty}^{\nu,2r-\nu}(\rho) \to E_{\infty}^{\nu,2r-\nu}(\rho) \to \underline{\underline{E}}_{\infty}^{\nu,2r-\nu}(\rho) \to 0,$$

where

0

$$\underline{\underline{E}}_{\infty}^{\nu,2r-\nu}(\rho) = \Gamma(H^{\nu}(S, R^{2r-\nu}\rho_*\mathbb{Q}(r))),$$
  

$$\underline{\underline{E}}_{\infty}^{\nu,2r-\nu}(\rho) = \frac{J(W_{-1}H^{\nu-1}(S, R^{2r-\nu}\rho_*\mathbb{Q}(r)))}{\Gamma(Gr_W^0 H^{\nu-1}(S, R^{2r-\nu}\rho_*\mathbb{Q}(r)))}$$
  

$$\subset J(H^{\nu-1}(S, R^{2r-\nu}\rho_*\mathbb{Q}(r))).$$

[Here the latter inclusion is a result of the short exact sequence:

$$\to W_{-1}H^{\nu-1}(S, R^{2r-\nu}\rho_*\mathbb{Q}(r)) \to W_0H^{\nu-1}(S, R^{2r-\nu}\rho_*\mathbb{Q}(r)) \to Gr^0_W H^{\nu-1}(S, R^{2r-\nu}\rho_*\mathbb{Q}(r)) \to 0. ]$$

One then has (by definition)

$$F^{\nu} \operatorname{CH}^{r}(X_{K}; \mathbb{Q}) = \lim_{\substack{\to \\ U \subset S/\overline{\mathbb{Q}}}} \mathcal{F}^{\nu} \operatorname{CH}^{r}(\mathcal{X}_{U}; \mathbb{Q}), \quad \mathcal{X}_{U} := \rho^{-1}(U)$$
$$F^{\nu} \operatorname{CH}^{r}(X_{\mathbb{C}}; \mathbb{Q}) = \lim_{\substack{\to \\ K \subset \mathbb{C}}} F^{\nu} \operatorname{CH}^{r}(X_{K}; \mathbb{Q})$$

Further, since direct limits preserve exactness,

$$Gr_F^{\nu} \operatorname{CH}^r(X_K; \mathbb{Q}) = \lim_{\substack{\to\\ U \subset S/\overline{\mathbb{Q}}}} Gr_F^{\nu} \operatorname{CH}^r(\mathcal{X}_U; \mathbb{Q}),$$

$$Gr_F^{\nu} \operatorname{CH}^r(X_{\mathbb{C}}; \mathbb{Q}) = \lim_{\substack{\to\\K\subset\mathbb{C}}} Gr_F^{\nu} \operatorname{CH}^r(X_K; \mathbb{Q})$$

5.1. (Generalized) normal functions. Let us now assume that with regard to the smooth and proper map  $\rho : \mathcal{X} \to S$  over a subfield  $k \subset \mathbb{C}$ , and after possibly shrinking S, that S is affine, with K = k(S). Let  $V \subset S(\mathbb{C})$ be smooth, irreducible, closed subvariety of dimension  $\nu - 1$  (note that Saffine  $\Rightarrow V$  affine). One has a commutative square

$$\begin{array}{rccc} \mathcal{X}_V & \hookrightarrow & \mathcal{X}(\mathbb{C}) \\ \rho_V \downarrow & & \downarrow \rho \\ V & \hookrightarrow & S(\mathbb{C}), \end{array}$$

and a commutative diagram

$$\xi \in \quad Gr_{\mathcal{F}}^{\nu} \operatorname{CH}^{r}(\mathcal{X}; \mathbb{Q}) \quad \mapsto \quad Gr_{F}^{\nu} \operatorname{CH}^{r}(X_{K}; \mathbb{Q})$$

 $\downarrow$ 

where  $\underline{\underline{E}}_{\infty}^{\nu,2r-\nu}(\rho_V) = 0$  follows from the weak Lefschetz theorem for locally constant systems over affine varieties. Thus for any  $\xi \in Gr_{\mathcal{F}}^{\nu} \operatorname{CH}^{r}(\mathcal{X};\mathbb{Q})$ , we have a "normal function"  $\eta_{\xi}$  with the property that for any such smooth irreducible closed  $V \subset S(\mathbb{C})$  of dimension  $\nu - 1$ , we have a value  $\eta_{\xi}(V) \in \underline{\underline{E}}_{\infty}^{\nu,2r-\nu}(\rho_V)$ . Here we think of V as a point on a suitable open subset of the Chow variety of dimension  $\nu - 1$  subvarieties of  $S(\mathbb{C})$  and  $\eta_{\xi}$  defined on that subset. For example if  $\nu = 1$ , then we recover the classical notion of normal functions.

**Definition 5.2.**  $\eta_{\xi}$  is called an arithmetic normal function.

Example 5.3. If S is affine of dimension  $\nu - 1$ . Then in this case V = S, and  $\xi \in Gr_{\mathcal{F}}^{\nu} \operatorname{CH}^{r}(\mathcal{X}; \mathbb{Q})$  induces a "single point" normal function

$$\eta_{\xi}(V) = \eta_{\xi}(S) \in J(H^{\nu-1}(S, R^{2r-\nu}\rho_*\mathbb{Q}(r))).$$

Now let  $\xi \in \mathcal{F}^{\nu} \operatorname{CH}^{r}(\mathcal{X}; \mathbb{Q})$  be given, and let  $[\xi] \in \underline{\underline{E}}_{\infty}^{\nu, 2r-\nu}(\rho)$  be its image via the composite

$$\mathcal{F}^{\nu} \operatorname{CH}^{r}(\mathcal{X}; \mathbb{Q}) \to E_{\infty}^{\nu, 2r-\nu}(\rho) \to \underline{\underline{E}}_{\infty}^{\nu, 2r-\nu}(\rho).$$

50

## 5.2. The invariants.

**Theorem 5.4** (see [K-L]). The class  $[\xi]$  depends only on  $\eta_{\xi}$ , and is called the topological invariant of  $\eta_{\xi}$ .

Let us assume that S is affine. Then

$$\mathcal{O}_S \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} R^i \rho_* \mathbb{C} \xrightarrow{\nabla} \Omega^1_S \otimes R^i \rho_* \mathbb{C} \xrightarrow{\nabla} \cdots,$$

is an acyclic resolution of  $R^{2r-\nu}\rho_*\mathbb{C}$  in the analytic topology, where  $\nabla := \partial \otimes Id$  is the Gauss-Manin connection. The corresponding cohomology  $H^{\nu}(S, R^{2r-\nu}\rho_*\mathbb{C})$  is given by  $H^0(S, -)$  of the middle cohomology in:

$$\Omega_S^{\nu-1} \otimes R^{2r-\nu} \rho_* \mathbb{C} \xrightarrow{\nabla} \Omega_S^{\nu} \otimes R^{2r-\nu} \rho_* \mathbb{C} \xrightarrow{\nabla} \Omega_S^{\nu+1} \otimes R^{2r-\nu} \rho_* \mathbb{C},$$

which is by definition the space of de Rham invariants, and is denoted by  $\nabla DR^{r,\nu}(\mathcal{X}/S)$ . As the map  $\underline{\underline{E}}_{\infty}^{\nu,2r-\nu}(\rho) \hookrightarrow \nabla DR^{r,\nu}(\mathcal{X}/S)$ , together with the regularity of  $\nabla$ , it follows that the de Rham invariant of an algebraic cycle is the same as the topological invariant. It turns out that  $H^i(S, R^j \rho_* \mathbb{Q}(r))$  defines a Q-MHS [Ar], hence its complexification carries a descending Hodge filtration  $F^{\bullet}H^i(S, R^j \rho_* \mathbb{C})$ . In particular,

$$\underline{\underline{E}}_{\infty}^{\nu,2r-\nu}(\rho) \hookrightarrow F^{r}H^{\nu}(S, R^{2r-\nu}\rho_{*}\mathbb{C}),$$

where the latter term maps to  $H^0(S, -)$  of the middle cohomology in:

(5.1) 
$$\Omega_{S}^{\nu-1} \otimes F^{r-\nu+1} R^{2r-\nu} \rho_{*} \mathbb{C} \xrightarrow{\nabla} \Omega_{S}^{\nu} \otimes F^{r-\nu} R^{2r-\nu} \rho_{*} \mathbb{C}$$
$$\xrightarrow{\nabla} \Omega_{S}^{\nu+1} \otimes F^{r-\nu-1} R^{2r-\nu} \rho_{*} \mathbb{C},$$

which is called the space of Mumford-Griffiths invariants, and is denoted by  $\nabla J^{r,\nu}(\mathcal{X}/S)$ . Note that there is a natural "forgetful" map  $\nabla J^{r,\nu}(\mathcal{X}/S) \rightarrow \nabla DR^{r,\nu}(\mathcal{X}/S)$ , which need not be injective. Having said this, it is clear from the above discussion that

$$\operatorname{Im}\left(\underline{\underline{E}}_{\infty}^{\nu,2r-\nu}(\rho) \to \nabla J^{r,\nu}(\mathcal{X}/S)\right) \to \operatorname{Im}\left(\underline{\underline{E}}_{\infty}^{\nu,2r-\nu}(\rho) \to \nabla DR^{r,\nu}(\mathcal{X}/S)\right),$$

is an isomorphism. Thus when it comes to the image of algebraic cycles, the de Rham and Mumford-Griffiths invariants coincide! (All of this is based on [L-S] and [MS].) Those cycles that have trivial Mumford-Griffiths invariant must therefore land in  $\underline{E}_{\infty}^{\nu,2r-\nu}(\rho)$ . In some instances, this can be an uncountable space. Note that

$$\Omega_{S}^{\nu-1} \otimes F^{r-\nu+2} R^{2r-\nu} \rho_{*} \mathbb{C} \xrightarrow{\nabla} \Omega_{S}^{\nu} \otimes F^{r-\nu+1} R^{2r-\nu} \rho_{*} \mathbb{C}$$
$$\xrightarrow{\nabla} \Omega_{S}^{\nu+1} \otimes F^{r-\nu} R^{2r-\nu} \rho_{*} \mathbb{C},$$

is a subcomplex of (5.1). The Mumford invariants are  $H^0(S, -)$  of the middle cohomology of the cokernel complex:

$$\Omega_{S}^{\nu-1} \otimes \mathcal{H}^{r-\nu+1,r-1}(\mathcal{X}/S) \xrightarrow{\nabla} \Omega_{S}^{\nu} \otimes \mathcal{H}^{r-\nu,r}(\mathcal{X}/S)$$
$$\xrightarrow{\tilde{\nabla}} \Omega_{S}^{\nu+1} \otimes \mathcal{H}^{r-\nu-1,r+1}(\mathcal{X}/S),$$

and where  $\tilde{\nabla}$  is induced from  $\nabla$ .

Example 5.5. Let us put  $N := \dim S$  and n the relative dimension of  $\rho$ , with r = n. In this case we are studying the relative 0-cycles on each fiber of  $\rho$ . This involves  $\mathcal{F}^n \operatorname{CH}^n(\mathcal{X}; \mathbb{Q})$ , where we set  $\nu = n$ . Then

$$H^0\left(S, \frac{\Omega^n_S \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_S} \mathcal{H}^{0,n}(\mathcal{X}/S)}{\tilde{\nabla}\left(\Omega^{n-1}_S \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_S} \mathcal{H}^{1,n-1}(\mathcal{X}/S)\right)}\right)$$

is the associated space of Mumford invariants. If n = 2, it also appears in [V2]. Note that in this case, we need  $\xi \in CH^2(\mathcal{X}; \mathbb{Q})$  to be Abel-Jacobi equivalent to zero fiberwise, in order that  $\xi \in \mathcal{F}^2 CH^2(\mathcal{X}; \mathbb{Q})$ .

**Question 5.6.** (i) Can one characterize this filtration in terms of arithmetic normal functions?

(ii) By choosing V sufficiently general, can one characterize this filtration in terms of the corresponding Abel-Jacobi map for a fixed general variety? E.g. we know that  $F^1 \operatorname{CH}^r(X; \mathbb{Q}) = \operatorname{CH}^r_{\mathrm{hom}}(X; \mathbb{Q})$  and

$$F^2 \operatorname{CH}^r(X; \mathbb{Q}) \subseteq \operatorname{CH}^r_{AJ}(X; \mathbb{Q}) := \ker AJ_X : \operatorname{CH}^r_{\operatorname{hom}}(X; \mathbb{Q}) \to J^r(X)_{\mathbb{Q}}.$$

Is it the case that  $F^2 \operatorname{CH}^r(X; \mathbb{Q}) = \operatorname{CH}^r_{AJ}(X; \mathbb{Q})$ ?

(ii)' What about the zero (or torsion) locus of such normal functions. I.e., are they sensitive to the field of definition of algebraic cycles?

**Remark 5.7.**  $\bullet_1$  Special cases of Question 5.6(i) are worked out in [K-L]. Further, if both X and S are defined over k, with  $\mathcal{X} = S \times_k X$ , with  $\rho = \Pr_1$ , then the answer is yes, as shown in [Lew2].

•<sub>2</sub> In the case where  $\nu = 1$ , (ii) and (ii)' can be shown to be equivalent. (See for example [Lew3].)

5.3. Example 5.5 revisited. Let us put  $N := \dim S$  and n the relative dimension of  $\rho$ .

Question 5.8. Does there exists a morphism of sheaves

$$\frac{\Omega^n_S \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_S} \mathcal{H}^{0,n}}{\tilde{\nabla} \left(\Omega^{n-1}_S \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_S} \mathcal{H}^{1,n-1}\right)} \to \mathcal{H}om_{\mathcal{O}_S} \left(\rho_*(\wedge^N \Omega_{\mathcal{X}}), \omega_S\right).$$

induced by

$$(a \otimes b, \rho_*(c)) \in \left(\Omega_S^n \otimes \mathcal{H}^{0,n}, \rho_*(\wedge^N \Omega_{\mathcal{X}})\right) \mapsto a \wedge \rho_*(\rho^*(b), c) = a \wedge \int_{\mathcal{X}_t} \rho^*(b) \wedge c \in \omega_{S,t},$$

where  $\omega_S$  is the canonical sheaf on S?

**Remark 5.9.** The answer is a yes if  $\mathcal{X} = S \times_k X$ , for in this case

$$\tilde{\nabla}(\Omega_S^{n-1} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_S} \mathcal{H}^{1,n-1}) = 0.$$

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