
FIBERED SURFACES*

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The fibered surfaces are shown to be finite branched coverings of products of algebraic curves. As a consequence, the fundamental group of a finite surface turns to be commensurable with a product of the fundamental groups of Riemann surfaces.

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The compact Kähler surface S is said to be fibered if there is a surjective holomorphic map $S \rightarrow C_g$ with connected fibers onto a curve C_g of genus $g \geq 2$. The work focuses on some properties of fibered surfaces S . The first section exhibits S as a finite ramified covering $S \rightarrow C_g \times C_h$, $g+h = h^{1,0}(S)$ of products of curves. As a consequence, the second section shows the commensurability of the fundamental group $\pi_1(S)$ of a fibered surface with the product $\pi_1(C_m) \times \pi_1(C_n)$ of fundamental groups of appropriate Riemann surfaces.

1. STRUCTURE RESULT

Proposition 1. *Any fibered surface $f_1 : S \rightarrow C_g$, $g \geq 2$, with non-isotropic $H^{1,0}(S)$ is a finite ramified covering $f = (f_1, f_2) : S \rightarrow C_g \times C_h$, $g + h \leq h^{1,0}(S)$.*

According to the Theorem of Castelnuovo de Franchis (cf. [1]), for any fibered surface $f_1 : S \rightarrow C_g$ the subspace $f_1^* H^{1,0}(C_g) \subset H^{1,0}(S)$ is isotropic, which means

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that the wedge product of any two forms from $f_1^* H^{1,0}(C_g)$ is zero. Let us start with the following

Lemma 2. *Let X be a compact complex manifold with functionally independent $\varphi_1, \varphi_2 \in H^{1,0}(X)$ and \mathbb{C} -linearly independent $\psi_1, \dots, \psi_m \in H^{1,0}(X)$. Suppose that with respect to some coordinate covering $X = \cup_{\alpha \in A} W^{(\alpha)}$ there hold $\psi_j = \sum_{i=1}^k \lambda_{ji}^{(\alpha)} \varphi_i$ for some local meromorphic functions $\lambda_{ji}^{(\alpha)} : W^{(\alpha)} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1$, $1 \leq j \leq m$, and $k = 1$ or 2 . Then there exist global holomorphic functions $b_i, d_j, f_j, g_j : X \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$, such that $\omega_i := \frac{\varphi_i}{b_i}$, $i = 1, 2$, are global holomorphic $(1,0)$ -forms, as well as $\psi_j = f_j \omega_1$ in the case of $k = 1$ and $d_j \psi_j = f_j \omega_1 + g_j \omega_2$ in the case of $k = 2$.*

Proof. The local rings $\mathcal{O}_{W^{(\alpha)}}$ of the holomorphic functions on $W^{(\alpha)}$ are factorial. Their fraction fields $\mathcal{M}_{W^{(\alpha)}}$ consist of the meromorphic functions on $W^{(\alpha)}$.

That allows to represent uniquely $\lambda_{ji}^{(\alpha)} = \frac{a_{ji}^{(\alpha)}}{c^{(\alpha)}_{ji}}$ as ratios of relatively prime $a_{ji}^{(\alpha)}, c_{ji}^{(\alpha)} \in \mathcal{O}_{W^{(\alpha)}}$. Since φ_i and ψ_j are globally defined, at $x \in W^{(\alpha)} \cap W^{(\beta)}$, one has $0 \equiv \psi_j^{(\alpha)}(x) - \psi_j^{(\beta)}(x) = \sum_{i=1}^k (\lambda_{ji}^{(\alpha)} - \lambda_{ji}^{(\beta)}) \varphi_i(x)$, which implies $\lambda_{ji}^{(\alpha)} = \lambda_{ji}^{(\beta)}$ due to the functional independence of φ_i .

One can represent the global meromorphic functions $\lambda_{ji} : X \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ by global holomorphic numerators and denominators. Indeed, on $W^{(\alpha)} \cap W^{(\beta)}$ the relation $a_{ji}^{(\alpha)} c_{ji}^{(\beta)} = a_{ji}^{(\beta)} c_{ji}^{(\alpha)}$ requires $a_{ji}^{(\beta)}$ to be divisible by $a_{ji}^{(\alpha)}$, according to $GCD(a_{ji}^{(\alpha)}, c_{ji}^{(\alpha)}) = 1$. Exchanging α with β , one obtains

$$a_{ji}^{(\alpha)}|_{W^{(\alpha)} \cap W^{(\beta)}} = u_{ji}^{(\alpha\beta)} a_{ji}^{(\beta)}|_{W^{(\alpha)} \cap W^{(\beta)}}, \quad c_{ji}^{(\alpha)}|_{W^{(\alpha)} \cap W^{(\beta)}} = u_{ji}^{(\alpha\beta)} c_{ji}^{(\beta)}|_{W^{(\alpha)} \cap W^{(\beta)}}$$

for some locally invertible $u_{ji}^{(\alpha\beta)}$. Due to the compactness of X , one can choose a finite coordinate covering and adjust all $u^{(\alpha\beta)}_{ji} = 1$. After fixing some $a_{ji}^{(\alpha)}$, one puts $a_{ji}^{(\beta)}|_{W^{(\alpha)} \cap W^{(\beta)}} = a_{ji}^{(\alpha)}|_{W^{(\alpha)} \cap W^{(\beta)}}$ for all $\beta \in \{\beta_1, \dots, \beta_k\}$ with $W^{(\alpha)} \cap W^{(\beta)} \neq \emptyset$ and extends holomorphically $a_{ji}^{(\beta)}$ over the simply connected $W^{(\beta)}$. The same procedure is applied to all β with $W^{(\beta)} \cap W^{(\beta_i)} \neq \emptyset$, $1 \leq i \leq k$, etc.

In the case $k = 2$ let us consider the greatest common divisors $d_j := GCD(c_{j1}, c_{j2})$ and introduce $b_{ji} := \frac{c_{ji}}{d_j}$ for all $1 \leq j \leq m$, $i = 1, 2$. Then $\theta_j :=$

$$d_j \psi_j = \sum_{i=1}^2 \frac{a_{ji}}{b_{ji}} \varphi_i. \text{ For future convenience let us put } b_{j1} := c_{j1}, \theta_j := \psi_j = \frac{a_{j1}}{b_{j1}} \varphi_1 \text{ for } k = 1.$$

Multiplying θ_j by $b_{j,3-i}$ for $i = 1, 2$ and bearing in mind that $GCD(a_{ji}, b_{ji}) = 1$, $GCD(b_{j,3-i}, b_{ji}) = 1$, one concludes that b_{ji} divide φ_i , i.e., $\frac{\varphi_i}{b_{ji}}$ are global holomorphic $(1,0)$ -forms. The same holds if $k = 1$. Then the least common multiples

$b_i := \text{LCM}(b_{ji} | 1 \leq j \leq m)$ divide φ_i and allow to define the global holomorphic $\omega_i := \frac{\varphi_i}{b_i}$. As a result, one obtains the representations $\theta_j = \sum_{i=1}^k a_{ji} \frac{b_i}{b_{ji}} \omega_i$ as \mathcal{O}_X -linear combinations of ω_i , Q.E.D.

Proof of Proposition 1. The subspace $U := f_1^* H^{1,0}(C_g) \subseteq H^{1,0}(S)$ is maximal isotropic, according to the connectedness of the fibers of f_1 . Therefore, any \mathbb{C} -basis u_1, \dots, u_g of U is of the form $u_i = \lambda_i^{(\alpha)} u_1$, $2 \leq i \leq g$, for some local meromorphic functions $\lambda_i^{(\alpha)} : W^{(\alpha)} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1$ on the coordinate charts $W^{(\alpha)} \subset S$. According to Lemma 2, there exist global holomorphic functions ξ_1, \dots, ξ_g and a global holomorphic $(1,0)$ -form $\omega_1 \in U$ such that $u_i = \xi_i \omega_1$, $1 \leq i \leq g$.

For a non-ruled fibered surface, $U := f_1^* H^{1,0}(C_g)$ is a proper subspace of $H^{1,0}(S)$. Any complement of U has a basis v_1, \dots, v_k , $k = h^{1,0}(S) - g$ with $\omega_1 \wedge v_j \neq 0$ for all $1 \leq j \leq k$. The functionally independent ω_1, v_1 on the surface S generate $H^{1,0}(S)$ over the fields $\mathcal{M}_{W^{(\alpha)}}$ of local meromorphic functions. That allows to represent $v_i = \sigma_i^{(\alpha)} \omega_1 + \tau_i^{(\alpha)} v_1$ on $W^{(\alpha)}$, $\sigma_i^{(\alpha)}, \tau_i^{(\alpha)} \in \mathcal{M}_{W^{(\alpha)}}$. The application of Lemma 2 yields global holomorphic functions $b_1, b_2, d_j, \lambda_j, \mu_j$, $1 \leq j \leq k$, such that $\widetilde{\omega}_1 := \frac{\omega_1}{b_1}$, $\omega_2 := \frac{v_1}{b_2}$ are global holomorphic $(1,0)$ -forms and $d_j v_j = \lambda_j \widetilde{\omega}_1 + \mu_j \omega_2$, $2 \leq j \leq k$. Let V_0 be the \mathbb{C} -span of $\varphi_1 = v_1 = b_2 \omega_2 = \mu_1 \omega_2$, $\varphi_j = d_j v_j - \lambda_j \widetilde{\omega}_1 = \mu_2 \omega_2$, $2 \leq j \leq k$, and V be a maximal isotropic subspace of $H^{1,0}(S)$, containing V_0 . Wedging by v_1 an arbitrary $v = \sum_{i=1}^g c_i \xi_i \omega_1 \in V \cap U$ and

bearing in mind that $\omega_1 \wedge v_1 \neq 0$, one infers $\sum_{i=1}^g c_i \xi_i = 0$. As far as $\xi_1 \omega_1, \dots, \xi_g \omega_1$ are \mathbb{C} -linearly independent, there follows $c_i = 0$ for all $1 \leq i \leq g$. In other words, $U \cap V = 0$ and there exist maximal isotropic subspaces U, V with $U \oplus V \subseteq H^{1,0}(S)$.

If $\dim_{\mathbb{C}} V \geq 2$, Castelnuovo-de Franchis' Theorem implies that there is a surjective holomorphic map $f_2 : S \rightarrow C_h$ with connected fibers, such that $f_2^* H^{1,0}(C_h) = V$. The holomorphic map $f = (f_1, f_2) : S \rightarrow C_g \times C_h$ is generically of $\text{rank}_{\mathbb{C}} df = 2$ since

$$f^* = f_1^* \oplus f_2^* : H^{1,0}(C_g \times C_h) = H^{1,0}(C_g) \oplus H^{1,0}(C_h) \rightarrow U \oplus V \subseteq H^{1,0}(S)$$

and f_1^*, f_2^* are injective. According to Remmert's Proper Mapping Theorem, $f(S)$ is a 2-dimensional complex analytic subspace of $C_g \times C_h$. Therefore $f(S) = C_g \times C_h$. The generic fiber of f is a compact complex analytic 0-dimensional subspace of S , i.e., finite number of points.

In the case of $V = \text{Span}_{\mathbb{C}}(v_1)$, let us consider the dual $V^* \subset H_1(S, \mathbb{C})$ and its quotient $E := V^*/V^* \cap H_1(S, \mathbb{Z})_{\text{free}}$ modulo the free part of $H_1(S, \mathbb{Z})$. As a closed subtorus of the compact Albanese variety $\text{Alb}(S) = H^{1,0}(S)^*/H_1(S, \mathbb{Z})_{\text{free}}$, E is an elliptic curve. For any fixed $s_0 \in S$ the holomorphic map $f_2' : S \rightarrow E$, $f_2'(S) := \int_{s_0}^s v_1 \text{ modulo } H_1(S, \mathbb{Z})_{\text{free}}$ is of $\text{rank}_{\mathbb{C}} df_2' = 1$, whereas surjective. Since the

fibers of f'_2 can be disconnected, we pass to Stein factorization $f_2 : S \rightarrow C_h$, $h \geq 1$. Then apply the rest of the proof for $\dim_{\mathbb{C}} V \geq 2$, Q.E.D.

Remark. *Generalization of Proposition 1 to higher dimensional compact Kähler manifolds.* Catanese has generalized in [3] the theorem of Castelnuovo-de Franchis. Let us say that the normal Kähler variety Y is of Albanese general type if the irregularity $h^{1,0}(Y) > \dim_{\mathbb{C}} Y$ and the image of Albanese map $\alpha : Y \rightarrow Alb(Y)$ is of $\dim_{\mathbb{C}} \alpha(Y) = \dim_{\mathbb{C}} Y$. The compact Kähler manifold X_n of $\dim_{\mathbb{C}} X_n = n$ is Albanese general type k -fibration if it admits a surjective holomorphic map $f_1 : X_n \rightarrow Y_k$ with connected fibers onto a normal k -dimensional Kähler variety of Albanese general type. Catanese has shown that a necessary and sufficient condition for the existence of an Albanese general type k -fibration $f_1 : X_n \rightarrow Y_k$ is the presence of a maximal subspace $U \subset H^{1,0}(X_n)$ with $\Lambda^{k+1}U = 0$, containing a subspace $U_0 \subseteq U$ of $\dim_{\mathbb{C}} U_0 \geq k + 1$, whose k -wedge $\Lambda^k U_0$ is embedded in $H^{k,0}(X_n)$. A slight modification of the proof of Proposition 1 establishes that if a compact Kähler n -dimensional manifold X_n admits an Albanese general type $(n - 1)$ -fibration $f_1 : X_n \rightarrow X_{n-1}$, whose generic fibers are different from \mathbf{P}_1 , then X_n is a finite ramified covering $f : X_n \rightarrow X_{n-1} \times X_1$ of the product of X_{n-1} and a Riemann surface X_1 of genus ≥ 1 . The study of the complements of Albanese general k -fibrations $f_1 : X_n \rightarrow X_k$ with an arbitrary k is obstructed by the condition $\Lambda^{n-k}U_0 \hookrightarrow H^{n-k,0}(X_n)$, which is not easy to be understood.

2. THE FUNDAMENTAL GROUP

Corollary 3. *If the surface S is a finite ramified covering $f = (f_1, f_2) : S \rightarrow C_g \times C_h$, $g \geq 2$, $h \geq 2$, then its fundamental group $\pi_1(S)$ is commensurable with $\pi_1(C_m) \times \pi_1(C_n)$ for some $m \geq g$, $n \geq h$.*

Proof. Campana has shown in [2] that for any surjective holomorphic map $X \rightarrow C$ of a compact Kähler manifold X onto a Riemann surface C there is a finite étale cover $r : \tilde{X} \rightarrow X$ such that the Stein factorization $\tilde{f} : \tilde{X} \rightarrow \tilde{C}$ of $f\tilde{r} : \tilde{X} \rightarrow C$ has no multiple fibers and there is a finite map $\rho : \tilde{C} \rightarrow C$ with $\rho\tilde{f} = f\tilde{r}$. The application of this result to $f_1 : S \rightarrow C_g$ yields a finite étale cover $r_1 : S_1 \rightarrow S$, a surjective holomorphic map $f'_1 : S_1 \rightarrow C_m$, $m \geq g$, without multiple fibers, and a finite map $\rho_1 : C_m \rightarrow C_g$ such that $f_1 r_1 = \rho_1 f'_1$. The subsequent application of the aforementioned result to $f_2 r_1 : S_1 \rightarrow C_h$ provides a finite étale cover $r_2 : Z \rightarrow S_1$, a holomorphic surjection $\varphi_2 : Z \rightarrow C_n$, $n \geq h$, without multiple fibers, and a finite map $\rho_2 : C_n \rightarrow C_h$ with $f_2 r_1 r_2 = \rho_2 \varphi_2$. Consequently, the composition $\varphi_1 := f'_1 r_2 : Z \rightarrow C_m$ of the unramified r_2 and f'_1 has no multiple fibers. The Cartesian product $\varphi = (\varphi_1, \varphi_2) : Z \rightarrow C_m \times C_n$ is a finite covering, as far as $r_1 r_2 : Z \rightarrow S$ is a finite étale, $f = (f_1, f_2) : S \rightarrow C_g \times C_h$ is finite and there is a projection $(\rho_1, \rho_2) : C_m \times C_n \rightarrow C_g \times C_h$. We claim that φ is unramified since the generic fibers of $\varphi_1 : Z \rightarrow C_m$ and $\varphi_2 : Z \rightarrow C_n$ have no self-intersections. Indeed, for appropriate ramified coverings $p_1 : C_m \rightarrow \mathbf{P}_1$ and $p_2 : C_n \rightarrow \mathbf{P}_1$ one obtains linear pencils of divisors $p_1 \varphi_1 : Z \rightarrow \mathbf{P}_1$ and $p_2 \varphi_2 : Z \rightarrow \mathbf{P}_1$. According

to Bertini's theorem, the generic fibers $(p_i\varphi_i)^{-1}(x) = \varphi_i^{-1}(p_i^{-1}(x))$, $i = 1, 2$, have no singularities outside the base locus. Thus, $Z \rightarrow C_m \times C_n$ is a finite unramified covering and $\pi_1(Z)$ is a finite index subgroup of $\pi_1(C_m) \times \pi_1(C_n)$. On the other hand, $r_1 r_2 : Z \rightarrow S$ is finite and unramified, so that $\pi_1(Z)$ is a finite index subgroup of $\pi_1(S)$. That justifies the commensurability of $\pi_1(S)$ and $\pi_1(C_m) \times \pi_1(C_n)$, Q.E.D.

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