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Let X be a general cubic fivefold, JX the associated intermediate Jacobian, F the Fano surface of the planes contained in X . We prove that the Abel-Jacobi map induces an isomorphism from the Albanese variety of F to JX .

Introduction. It is a standard fact (see [7] Exp. XI (2.9)) that the only smooth hypersurfaces X in \mathbf{P}^{2d+1} , $d > 0$, for which the intermediate Jacobian JX is an abelian variety are the quadrics, the cubic and the quartic threefolds in \mathbf{P}^4 , and the cubic fivefold in \mathbf{P}^6 . For a quadric $JX = 0$. In [5], Clemens and Griffiths proved that the Abel-Jacobi map

$$(+) \quad a: \text{Alb } F \rightarrow JX$$

is an isomorphism, where X is the smooth cubic threefold and F is the (smooth) Fano surface of the lines on X . Recently Letizia, [9], using a method which he credits Clemens for, [4], proved that (+) is an isomorphism also when X is a general smooth quartic threefold and F is the Fano surface of the conics on X .

Here we complete the picture, proving that (+) is an isomorphism also when X is a general smooth cubic fivefold, F being the surface of the planes on X . Our tool is the Clemens-Letizia method coupled with some ideal which originated from [6].

We work with varieties defined over the complex numbers field.

(I). Let T be a plane in \mathbf{P}^6 and let X be a cubic hypersurface containing it. We choose projective coordinates $(x_0 : x_1 : x_2 : \cdots : x_6)$ in \mathbf{P}^6 so that T has equations $x_0 = x_1 = x_2 = x_3 = 0$. The equation of X is then of the form

$$(1.1) \quad 0 = Q_0x_0 + Q_1x_1 + Q_2x_2 + Q_3x_3 + \sum (A_{ijk}x_ix_jx_k) \\ + B(x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3)$$

where $4 \leq k \leq 6$, $0 \leq i \leq j \leq 3$, B is homogeneous cubic and Q_i , $i = 0, \dots, 3$, are homogeneous polynomials of degree 2 in x_4, x_5, x_6 .

Let C_i be the conic on T of equation $Q_i = 0$, X is non-singular along T if and only if $\cap C_i = \emptyset$. In the following we shall assume that X is smooth along T , when it is not explicitly otherwise stated. We shall denote $F(X)$, or simply F , the variety of planes contained in X ; more precisely we take F to be the Hilbert scheme of the two-dimensional planes of X , [1]. In order to study F we need to compute $H^0(T, N(T, X))$, which is the tangent space to F at the point t representing T . When there is no confusion we shall write N for the normal bundle $N(T, X)$ and $h^0(N) = \dim H^0(T, N)$.

(1.2) PROPOSITION. $h^0(N) = 2 \leftrightarrow C_0, C_1, C_2, C_3$, are linearly independent.

Proof. We start from the exact sequence of sheaves on T

$$(1.3) \quad 0 \rightarrow N \rightarrow O(1)^{\oplus 4} \xrightarrow{f} O(3) \rightarrow 0,$$

where the middle sheaf is $N(T, \mathbf{P}^6)$ and $O(3)$ is $N(X, \mathbf{P}^6)|_T$. If one chooses conveniently the splitting of $N(T, \mathbf{P}^6)$ then f is given by the matrix (Q_0, Q_1, Q_2, Q_3) , hence: (a) $h^0(N) = 2 \leftrightarrow$ (b) $f: H^0(T, O(1)^{\oplus 4}) \rightarrow H^0(T, O(3))$ is surjective \leftrightarrow (c) given any homogeneous cubic polynomial $K(x_4, x_5, x_6)$ there are linear homogeneous polynomials L_0, L_1, L_2, L_3 such that (+): $K = \sum L_i Q_i$.

If the C_i are linearly dependent then f cannot be surjective on global sections, because the space of polynomials K in (+) has dimension 9 at most. We assume now that the C_i are linearly independent. Since the four conics have no common point, the general member of the web they span is non singular; without restriction we may assume that C_1 is smooth, so that $C_1 \cap C_2$ is finite and we may take C_3 in such a way that $C_1 \cap C_2 \cap C_3 = \emptyset$. In the ring $R = k[x_4, x_5, x_6]$ we let $I =$ the ideal (Q_1, Q_2, Q_3) , $R_3 =$ the vector space of homogeneous cubic polynomials, $I_3 = R_3 \cap I$. By a theorem of Macaulay, [8], the pairing $g: (R/I) \times (R/I) \rightarrow (R_3/I_3) \simeq \mathbf{C}$ is a perfect duality, where g is given by the product of representative of equivalence classes. It follows:

(i) I_3 has codimension 1 in R_3 , (ii) given Q_0 , since $Q_0 \notin I$ by hypothesis, there is L_0 such that $g(L_0 Q_0) \neq 0$, i.e. $L_0 Q_0 \notin I_3$. Therefore $I_3 + (L_0 Q_0) = R_3$, hence f is surjective on global sections.

(1.4) COROLLARY. F is a non-singular surface at the point t representing T if and only if C_0, \dots, C_3 are linearly independent.

Proof. $h^1(N) = 0 \leftrightarrow h^0(N) = 2 \leftrightarrow (C_0, \dots, C_3)$ are linearly independent.

We recall that in the preceding corollary we had the tacit assumption that X was smooth along T . For next definition we drop it.

(1.5) DEFINITION. Let T be a plane contained in X ; using the notations above we say that T is a *special plane* for X , or that X is *special* with respect to T , if C_0, \dots, C_3 are linearly dependent.

If X is non-singular along T then F is singular at t if and only if T is special; if X has an ordinary node on T we shall see that F is not normal at t , but we shall also see that if T is not special then on the normalization F^+ of F the points t_1 and t_2 , which map to t , are non-singular.

Let H be the Hilbert scheme parametrizing the totality of cubic hypersurfaces of \mathbf{P}^6 , H is naturally isomorphic to \mathbf{P}^{83} . We let $H^s =$ the subvariety of H of the cubics with special planes, $D =$ the subvariety of the singular cubics.

(1.6) LEMMA. (a) $\text{cod}(H^s, H) \geq 1$, (b) H^s is irreducible and $H^s \not\subset D$.

Proof. Let $H^T \simeq \mathbf{P}^{73}$ be the variety of the cubics containing T . Keeping the notations above (1.1) we note that X is special along T if there are b_0, \dots, b_3 with (+): $\sum b_i Q_i = 0$. Let \mathbf{A}^{24} be the affine space in the variables a_{ij}^k , the coefficients of the Q_k 's. Let (b_0, \dots, b_3) be homogeneous coordinates for \mathbf{P}^3 . Condition (+) gives six bilinear equations in $\mathbf{P}^3 \times \mathbf{A}^{24}$, let V be the determined variety. It is easy to see that $V \rightarrow \mathbf{P}^3$ is an \mathbf{A}^{18} fibration, further the projection $V \rightarrow \text{pr}(V) \hookrightarrow \mathbf{A}^{24}$ is birational to the image $\text{pr}(V)$, therefore $\text{pr}(V)$ is irreducible with $\dim = 21$. Let $H^{s,T}$ be the variety of the cubics which are special along T , because of our remark $\text{cod}(H^{s,T}, H^T) = 3$ and $H^{s,T}$ is irreducible. Let $G = G(2, 6)$ be the grassmannian of the planes in \mathbf{P}^6 , then $H^s = \bigcup_{T \in G} (H^{s,T})$, so that H^s is irreducible and $\dim H^s \leq 82$. In order to see that $H^s \not\subset D$ it suffices now to produce one cubic which is non-singular and contains a special plane. The Fermat cubic $\sum x_i^3 = 0$ has this property: let r be a third root of -1 , i.e. $r^3 = -1$, change coordinates $z_0 = x_0 - rx_5$, $z_1 = x_1 - rx_6$, $z_2 = x_2$, $z_3 = x_3 - rx_4$, $z_4 = x_4$, $z_5 = x_5$, $z_6 = x_6$, it is easy to see that the plane $z_0 = z_1 = z_2 = z_3$ is special for this cubic.

(1.7) in $G \times H$ we set $I = \{(T, X): T \subseteq X\}$, I is the incidence correspondence; I is a \mathbf{P}^{73} fibre bundle over G , so that $\dim I = 85$. Let $p: I \rightarrow G$ and $q: I \rightarrow H$ be the projections, the fibre $q^{-1}(x) = F(X)$, the Hilbert scheme of the planes contained in X , the hypersurface represented by x . Fix now a point (T, X) in I such that T is non-special for X and X is smooth along T (it follows from the proof of the lemma that there is such a couple) then $F(X)$ is a smooth surface at the point t representing T . Then the general $F(X)$ is a surface, non-singular because it does not contain special planes, moreover it is irreducible because of

(1.8) PROPOSITION. *For all X , $F(X)$ is connected.*

Proof. Following an idea of Barth and Van de Ven [2] we need only to check that the set $S = \{(T, X): F(X) \text{ is not a smooth surface at } T\}$ has codimension at least 2 in $p^{-1}(T)$. Now $F(X)$ is not a smooth surface at T only if either T is special for X or if X is singular at some points of T . The first case is covered by the proof of (1.6), indeed $p^{-1}(T) = H^T$ and we proved $\text{cod}(H^{s,T}, H^T) = 3$. On the other hand let $D^T = \{X \in H^T: X \text{ is singular at some point of } T\}$, by a similar argument as for $H^{s,T}$ one can see $\text{cod}(D^T, H^T) = 2$.

(1.9) REMARK. In $G \times H^s$ let $I^s = \{(T, X): T \text{ is special for } X\}$; it follows from the proof of (1.6) that $\dim I^s = 82$, hence either (a) $\dim H^s = 82$, so that in a general cubic which is special there is a finite number of special planes, or (b) $\dim H^s < 82$, so that given a general pencil of cubics none of the cubics is special.

Collecting the preceding results we see

(1.10) PROPOSITION. *Let $\{X_t\}$, $t \in \mathbf{P}^1$, be a general Lefschetz pencil of cubic fivefolds, let $\{F(X_t)\}$, $t \in \mathbf{P}^1$, be the associated family of Fano varieties, let t_1, \dots, t_N be such that X_t is smooth for $t \in \mathbf{P}^1 - \{t_1, \dots, t_N\}$. Then there exists t_{N+1}, \dots, t_{N+M} in \mathbf{P}^1 such that:*

(1) $F(X_t)$ is a smooth and irreducible surface for $t \in \mathbf{P}^1 - \{t_1, \dots, t_N, t_{N+1}, \dots, t_{N+M}\}$.

(2) The surface $F(X_{t_{N+J}})$ has only isolated singularities, $1 \leq J \leq M$.

(3) The surface $F(X_{t_j})$ has as only singularities the locus of the planes through the ordinary double point of X_{t_j} , $1 \leq j \leq N$.

In order to complete the program according to the Clemens-Letizia method [9] we still need to check that the Abel-Jacobi map $F \rightarrow JX$ is not constant, and also to prove the following

(1.11) THEOREM. *Let F_0 be the Fano surface of the planes on X_0 , general cubic hypersurface with one single singular point p_0 which is an ordinary node. Then the family D which represents the planes through p_0 is a smooth irreducible curve; $F_0 - D$ is non-singular; along D F_0 is analytically reducible in two smooth components meeting transversally.*

(II). This section is devoted to the proof of Theorem (1.11). We need some preliminary considerations.

Let $b: \mathbf{P}^+ \rightarrow \mathbf{P}^6$ be the blow up of \mathbf{P}^6 at p_0 , let $E = b^{-1}(p_0)$ be the exceptional divisor, let X^+ be the strict transform of X_0 , let $Q = X^+ \cap E$ be the exceptional quadric. As in [5] the linear projection $X_0 \dashrightarrow \mathbf{P}^5$ of centre p_0 induces a birational morphism $\lambda: X^+ \rightarrow \mathbf{P}^5$, which turns out to be the blow up of \mathbf{P}^5 along the threefold Y , the (2, 3) complete intersection of Q with a cubic K . More precisely let $p_0 = (0, \dots, 0, 1)$, let \mathbf{P}^5 be the hyperplane $x_6 = 0$, then the cubic X_0 has equation

$$(2.1) \quad 0 = Q(x_0, x_1, \dots, x_5)x_6 + K(x_0, \dots, x_5)$$

and in \mathbf{P}^5 the cubic and the quadric have equations $K = 0$ and $Q = 0$. The planes through p_0 are mapped via λ to the lines lying in Y and conversely; hence the family of planes through x_0 is in general a smooth irreducible curve, because such a curve is the family of the lines in a general Y , see [3].

(2.2) Let T be a plane in \mathbf{P}^6 , if $p_0 \notin T$ then the total transform $b^{-1}(T)$ is isomorphic to T and it is also the proper transform T^b of T . If $p_0 \in T$ then the proper transform T^b of T is the blowing up of T at p_0 . In this case T^b is not the correct transform with respect to the behaviour of the Hilbert scheme; in fact in both cases T^b is a complete intersection in \mathbf{P}^+ , but of different type.

(2.3) DEFINITION. We say that a variety Z in \mathbf{P}^+ is a *strict biplane* if $Z = T^b \cup B$, where B is a plane in E , $B \cap T^b = L$, where L is the exceptional line in T^b , proper transform of a plane T through p_0 .

It is easy to see that a strict-biplane Z is the same kind of complete intersection in \mathbf{P}^+ as it is a 'plane' T^b not meeting E . In the following we denote G^+ the Hilbert scheme of \mathbf{P}^+ of the complete intersections of the same type as a strict biplane. If $a \in G^+$ we let Z_a be the represented

scheme; we call Z_a a biplane and remark that there are only two possibilities: either Z_a is a strict biplane or $Z_a = T^b$, where T is a plane not containing p_0 . One can see easily that G^+ is non-singular of dimension 12, by explicitly computing the dimension of the tangent space to G^+ at a point representing a given biplane.

There is a more intuitive way to describe G^+ . Let S be the Schubert variety of the planes in \mathbf{P}^6 through p_0 , then S is smooth, being isomorphic to $G(1, 5)$. Let $\beta^*: G^* \rightarrow G$ be the blow up of $G = G(2, 6)$ along S . We have $G^* = G^+$. In fact there is a correspondence $\lambda': G \dashrightarrow G(2, 5)$ obtained by sending a plane from \mathbf{P}^6 to \mathbf{P}^5 by means of the linear projection λ of centre p_0 . The indeterminacy of λ' at S is solved by blowing up G , so to have $\lambda^*: G^* \rightarrow G(2, 5)$. Via (β^*, λ^*) G^* embeds in $G \times G(2, 5)$. Similarly there is a map $\beta^+: G^+ \rightarrow G$ and a map $\lambda^+: G^+ \rightarrow G(2, 5)$, obtained by setting $\beta^+(a) =$ the point representing $b(Z_a)$, $\lambda^+(a) =$ the point representing $\lambda(Z_a)$. Also G^+ embeds in $G \times G(2, 5)$ and it has the same image as G^* has. In this way we get a 1-1 correspondence between G^* and G^+ ; since they are both non-singular, then they are isomorphic.

We write $F^+ =$ the Fano scheme of the biplanes contained in X^+ and denote $\beta^+: F^+ \rightarrow F$ the map induced by restriction of $\beta^+: G^+ \rightarrow G$. Collecting previous remarks we note

(2.4) LEMMA. (1) $\beta^+: F^+ - \beta^{-1}(D) \rightarrow F - D$ is 1-1. (2) $(\beta^+)^{-1}(D) = D_1 \cup D_2$ where D_1 and D_2 are isomorphic to D via β^+ , $D_1 \cap D_2 = \emptyset$.

Proof. (1) is clear. For (2) let $t \in D$, then $a \in (\beta^+)^{-1}(t)$ means $Z_a \hookrightarrow X$, $b(Z_a) = T_t$ contains p_0 , $\lambda(Z_a)$ is a plane B_a contained in the quadric Q and passing through the exceptional line L in the proper transform T_t^b . In other words $Z_a = T_t^b + B_a$. Since Q is a four dimensional smooth quadric then for a fixed L in Q there are only two possible choices for B_a , one for each system of planes. Statement (2) follows easily.

Our next step is

(2.5) THEOREM. Let t represent the plane T , if X_0 is not special at T then F^+ is non singular at the points of $(\beta^+)^{-1}(t)$.

If X is smooth along T the theorem is Corollary (1.4). We assume therefore that $p_0 \in T$ and let $(\beta^+)^{-1}(t) = \{a, b\}$, $a \in D_1$, $b \in D_2$. We denote $N = N(Z_a, X)$ the dual of the conormal bundle of Z_a in X , our

program is to prove $h^0(N) = 2$, hence F^+ is a smooth surface at the point a .

For simplicity we write $T_t^b = A$, so that $A \cup B = Z_a$ and further we set $Z = Z_a$. The standard exact sequences of “normal” bundles for the triple (Z, X^+, \mathbf{P}^+) is

$$(2.6) \quad 0 \rightarrow N(Z, X^+) \rightarrow N(Z, \mathbf{P}^+) \xrightarrow{f} N(X^+, \mathbf{P}^+)|_Z \rightarrow 0.$$

(2.7) Let D_0, D_1, D_2, D_3 be four hypersurfaces in \mathbf{P}^+ which intersect completely in Z , then

$$N(Z, \mathbf{P}^+) = O(D_0)|_Z \oplus O(D_1)|_Z \oplus O(D_2)|_Z \oplus O(D_3)|_Z.$$

In the following (2.9) we fix such a splitting so that the restrictions of sequence (2.6) to A, B, L are respectively

$$\begin{array}{l} (s_A) \quad 0 \rightarrow N_A \rightarrow \oplus^3 O_A(H - L) \oplus O_A(H) \xrightarrow{f_A} O_A(3H - 2L) \rightarrow 0 \\ (s_B) \quad 0 \rightarrow N_B \rightarrow \oplus^3 O_B(1) \oplus O_B \xrightarrow{f_B} O_B(2) \rightarrow 0 \\ (s_L) \quad 0 \rightarrow N_L \rightarrow \oplus^3 O_L(1) \oplus O_L \xrightarrow{f_L} O_L(2) \rightarrow 0. \end{array}$$

Here H is the divisor on A which is the total transform of the line in T , L is the exceptional line in A . N_A, N_B and N_L are the restrictions of N to A, B, L .

(2.8) There is a standard Mayer-Vietoris sequence

$$0 \rightarrow H^0(Z, N) \rightarrow H^0(A, N_A) \oplus H^0(B, N_B) \rightarrow H^0(L, N_L);$$

in order to prove $h^0(Z, N) = 2$ we shall prove: (i) $H^0(B, N_B) \xrightarrow{\sim} H^0(L, N_L)$, (ii) $h^0(A, N_A) = 2$. We need first to compute f_A, f_B, f_L .

(2.9) Looking at the sequences above we remark that f_A is a global section in $H^0(A, \oplus^3 O_A(2H - L) \oplus O_A(2H - 2L))$, f_B is a global section in $H^0(B, \oplus^3 O_B(1) \oplus O_B(2))$, and f_L is in $H^0(L, \oplus^3 O_L(1) \oplus O_L(2))$. To compute f_A, f_B, f_L means to identify them as sections of the indicated sheaves, in particular both f_A and f_B are determined if we find their restrictions to $A - L$ and $B - L$ respectively.

We let $(x_0, \dots, x_6; y_0, \dots, y_5)$ be the bihomogeneous coordinates of $\mathbf{P}^6 \times \mathbf{P}^5$, then \mathbf{P}^+ is the subvariety determined by the equations $x_i y_j = x_j y_i, 0 \leq i, j \leq 5$. The biplane Z is the complete intersection in \mathbf{P}^+ of

equations $y_0 = y_1 = y_2 = x_3 = 0$. We let $D_i = \text{locus}(y_i = 0) \quad i = 0, 1, 2$; $D_3 = \text{locus}(x_3 = 0)$, cf. (2.7). If f_{A-L} denotes the restriction of f_A to $A - L = T - p_0$, then the same proof of (1.2) gives

$$(2.10) \quad f_{A-L} = (Q_0, Q_1, Q_2, Q_3)|_{A-L}.$$

Let C_i^- be the proper transform in A of the conic C_i and let $f_A = (f_A^0, f_A^1, f_A^2, f_A^3)$. We shall see below that one can choose the coordinates x_0, \dots, x_3 so that both C_0 and C_3 have a double point in p_0 , while C_1 and C_2 are smooth there. From this and (2.10) it follows

(2.11) **PROPOSITION.** $(C_0^- + L)$ is the divisor of the zeros of f_A^0 , C_1^- of f_A^1 , C_2^- of f_A^2 , C_3^- of f_A^3 .

With the notations above, the equations of the plane B in the exceptional divisor E of \mathbf{P}^+ are $y_0 = y_1 = y_2 = 0$, while the equations of T in \mathbf{P}^6 are as before $x_0 = x_1 = x_2 = x_3 = 0$. Since p_0 is a node the equations of the conics C_i are of type

$$(2.12) \quad Q_i = L_i(x_4, x_5)x_6 + Q_i^0(x_4, x_5)$$

cf. (1.1). In E the exceptional quadric Q of X^+ is therefore

$$(2.13) \quad y_0L_0(y_4, y_5) + y_1L_1(y_4, y_5) + y_2L_2(y_4, y_5) + y_3L_3(y_4, y_5) \\ + \sum (A_{ij6}y_iy_j) = 0, \quad 0 \leq i, j \leq 3.$$

Since B is contained in Q one has

$$(2.14) \quad A_{336} = 0, \quad L_3(y_4, y_5) = 0$$

so that C_3 has a node in p_0 . Next we use the hypothesis of the linear independence of the C_i to remark that, up to a linear change in x_0, x_1, x_2 , one may assume that also C_0 has a node in p_0 , i.e. $L_0(x_4, x_5) = 0$. Now we recall that the exceptional line L has equations $y_0 = y_1 = y_2 = y_3 = 0$ in E and that we have $Z_a = A + B$ with $B = B_a$ and also $Z_b = A + B_b$, where $A \cap B_b = L = A \cap B$. Without restriction we may require that B_b has equations $y_1 = y_2 = y_3 = 0$. The equation of Q in E is then

$$(2.15) \quad y_1L_1(y_4, y_5) + y_2L_2(y_4, y_5) + \sum A_{ij6}y_iy_j,$$

with $0 \leq i \leq j \leq 3$, and $A_{006} = A_{336} = 0$.

By hypothesis Q is of maximal rank, then by a linear change of coordinates we may assume $L_1(y_4, y_5) = y_4$, $L_2(y_4, y_5) = y_5$ and also note that $A_{036} \neq 0$.

(2.16) COROLLARY.

$$f_B = (A_{036}y_3, y_4 + A_{136}y_3, y_5 + A_{236}y_3, Q_3^0(y_4, y_5) + (\cdots)y_3)$$

(2.17) COROLLARY. $f_L = (0, y_4, y_5, Q_3^0(y_4, y_5))$.

Proof (2.16). We just outline the computation. It suffices to compute the restriction of f_B to the affine plane $B - L$ (i.e. the locus $y_3 \neq 0$), so we restrict everything to the affine space V which is the locus in \mathbf{P}^+ where $y_3 \neq 0, x_6 \neq 0$. There $B - L$ is the complete intersection $y_0 = y_1 = y_2 = x_3 = 0$. Now in V $y_0, y_1, y_2, x_3, y_4, y_5$ induce natural linear parameters which we write $y_0^0, y_1^0, y_2^0, x_3^0, y_4^0, y_5^0$. The equation of the restriction of X^+ to V is then of the form $M_0()y_0^0 + M_1()y_1^0 + M_2()y_2^0 + M_3()x_3^0 = 0$. It follows that the restriction of f_B to $B - L$ is equal to the restriction of (M_0, M_1, M_2, M_3) . An explicit computation of the M_i 's yields the result.

(2.18) COROLLARY. $h^0(B, N_B) = h^0(L, N_L) = 4$.

Proof. Obvious since $A_{036} \neq 0$.

Let $g: H^0(B, N_B) \rightarrow H^0(L, N_L)$ be the restriction map; using the short exact sequences of global sections associated with s_B and s_L and the snake lemma one finds

$$\text{Ker}(g) = \text{Ker}(h: \oplus^3 H^0(B, 0) \oplus H^0(B, 0(-1)) \rightarrow H^0(B, 0(1)))$$

where the matrix of h is just the matrix of f_B . So h is surjective and g and h are both isomorphisms.

(2.19) COROLLARY. $g: H^0(B, N_B) \xrightarrow{\sim} H^0(L, N_L)$.

We have proved part (i) in (2.8); next we show

(2.20) PROPOSITION. *If Q_0, Q_1, Q_2, Q_3 are linearly independent then $h^0(A, N_A) = 2$.*

Proof. Looking at the long exact sequence of cohomology associated with s_A we see $h^0(A, N_A) = 2 \leftrightarrow h^1(A, N_A) = 0 \leftrightarrow f_A$ is surjective on global sections. Let $P(x_4, x_5, x_6) = W(x_4, x_5)x_6 + V(x_4, x_5)$ be a cubic polynomial, to prove that f_A is surjective amounts to produce $L_0(x_4, x_5)$,

$L_1(x_4, x_5)$, $L_2(x_4, x_5)$, $L_3(x_4, x_5, x_6)$ linear polynomials in the indicated variables so that $\sum L_i Q_i = P$ where Q_i are the quadrics in (2.12). For later use we note that we shall in fact produce $L_3(x_4, x_5)$.

Using the simplifications established above we have $Q_0 = AB$, $Q_1 = x_4 x_6 + FG$, $Q_2 = x_5 x_6 + DE$, $Q_3 = CH$ with A, B, \dots, H linear homogeneous polynomials in x_4, x_5 . Using the hypothesis of the linear independence of Q_0, \dots, Q_3 we can assume $FG = 0$, up to a linear change of coordinates x_4, x_5 . We notice first that there are L_1 and L_2 such that $L_1 x_4 + L_2 x_5 = W(x_4, x_5)$ and that also $L'_1 = L_1 - \alpha x_5$, $L'_2 = L_2 + \alpha x_4$ satisfy the equation. So we need to find $L_0(x_4, x_5)$, $L_3(x_4, x_5)$ and a constant α such that

$$(+) \quad L_0 AB + (L_2 + \alpha x_4) DE + L_3 CH = V(x_4, x_5).$$

Equivalently for any $U(x_4, x_5)$ we look for L_0, L_3, α such that

$$(++) \quad L_0 AB + \alpha x_4 DE + L_3 CH = U.$$

in other words we want to show that the dimension of the vector space of polynomials in $(++)$ is 4. If AB and CH have no common factor a solution for $(++)$ exists with $\alpha = 0$, because of the theorem of Macaulay. If AB and CH have a common factor then it can be only a linear factor, because $AB = Q_0$ and $CH = Q_3$ are linearly independent by hypothesis. We assume then that $B = H$ and also that A and C are not proportional. In this case the linear system $\{(L_0 A + L_3 C)B\}$ has dimension 3 and the system $\{L_0 AB + L_3 CH + \alpha x_4 DE\}$ has dimension 4 if $x_4 DE \notin \{(L_0 A + L_3 C)B\}$; we need therefore to exclude that either (i) x_4 or (ii) D or (iii) E is proportional to B . In case (iii) or (ii) the point $x_6 = B = 0$ on T is a point in the intersection of the conics C_i , hence it is a second singular point on X_0 , which is a contradiction. In case (i) similarly the set $x_4 = Q_2 = 0$ contains another singular point on X_0 , again a contradiction.

(2.21) In order to complete the proof of (1.11) we show below that the differential of β^+ at the point a is injective and next that if a and b are the two points in the fibre $(\beta^+)^{-1}(t)$ then

$$\dim(d\beta^+(T_a(F^+)) \cap d\beta^+(T_b(F^+))) = 1.$$

PROPOSITION. $d\beta_a^+ : T_a(F^+) \rightarrow T_{\beta^+(a)}(G)$ is injective.

Proof. Recall $T_a(F^+) = H^0(Z_a, N) = H^0(A, N_a)$. From the long sequence of cohomology of the sequence (s_A) we get the upper exact row in the following diagram.

(D_a) :

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 0 \rightarrow T_a(F^+) & \xrightarrow{i_a} & H^0(A, O(H-E) \oplus O(H-E) \oplus O(H-E) \oplus O(H)) & \xrightarrow{j_a} & H^0(A, O(3H-2E)) & \rightarrow & 0 \\
 & & & & \downarrow J_a & & \\
 & & H^0(T, O(H) \oplus O(H) \oplus O(H) \oplus O(H)) & \rightarrow & H^0(T, O(3H)) & \rightarrow & 0 \\
 & & & & \parallel & & \\
 & & & & T_t(G) & &
 \end{array}$$

Now $d\beta_a^+ = j_a i_a$, hence $d\beta_a^+$ is injective.

In order to compute the intersection of $T_a(F^+)$ and $T_b(F^+)$ in $T_t(G)$ one has to recall that the given splitting of $T_t(G)$ depends on the ordered choice of x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3 , the equations of the plane T . If in the analogous diagram (D_b) we want to give the map j_b by means of the natural inclusion of the summands then the diagram is

(D_b) :

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 0 \rightarrow T_b(F^+) & \xrightarrow{i_b} & H^0(A, O(H) \oplus O(H-E) \oplus O(H-E) \oplus O(H-E)) & \rightarrow & H^0(A, O(3H-2E)) & \rightarrow & 0 \\
 & & & & \downarrow j_b & & \\
 & & H^0(T, O(H) \oplus O(H) \oplus O(H) \oplus O(H)) & \rightarrow & H^0(T, O(3H)) & \rightarrow & 0.
 \end{array}$$

Next we note that the following sequence is exact.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 0 \rightarrow T_a(F^+) \cap T_b(F^+) & \xrightarrow{i} & H^0(A, O(H-E)^{\oplus 4}) \\
 & & \xrightarrow{(C_0^-, C_1^-, C_2^-, C_3^-)} & H^0(A, O(3H-2E)) \rightarrow 0.
 \end{array}$$

The exactness follows from the proof of (2.20) and more precisely from the remark that one can produce a $L_3(x_4, x_5)$. The statement about the dimension of the intersection is then obvious. We remark that on the other hand if C_0, C_1, C_2, C_3 were not linearly independent then the above sequence could not be exact to the right, for simple reasons of rank, so that the analytical branches of F would not be transversal.

(III). In this section we complete the Clemens-Letizia program by proving that the Abel-Jacobi map is not constant on the Fano surface. Let X be a smooth cubic fivefold, we show that the Abel-Jacobi map $a: F \rightarrow JX$ is an immersion at a point t which represents a plane T if T is non-special in the sense of (1.5). Our method follows [10] p. 24.

The cotangent space of F at t is

$$(H^0(T, N(T, X)))^* \simeq H^2(T, N^*(-3));$$

the cotangent space to JX is $H^2(X, \Omega_X^3)$; the codifferential a^* turns out to be the map k in the following commutative diagram, which we explain in

a moment:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 H^0(X, \mathcal{O}_X(6) \otimes K_X) & \xrightarrow{f} & H^2(X, \Omega_X^3) \\
 \downarrow h & & \downarrow k \\
 H^0(T, \mathcal{O}_T(2)) & \xrightarrow{g} & H^2(T, N^*(-3)).
 \end{array}$$

We shall show that h and g are surjective, hence k is also surjective so that a is an immersion at t .

The top row is obtained as follows. Start from

$$(3.1) \quad 0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(-3)_X \rightarrow \Omega_{\mathbf{P}^6|X}^1 \rightarrow \Omega_X^1 \rightarrow 0$$

take then \wedge^5 and tensor with $\mathcal{O}(3)$ so to have

$$(3.2) \quad 0 \rightarrow \Omega_X^4 \rightarrow \Omega_{\mathbf{P}^6|X}^5(3) \rightarrow \Omega_X^5(3) \rightarrow 0.$$

Taking instead \wedge^4 one has

$$(3.3) \quad 0 \rightarrow \Omega_X^3(-3) \rightarrow \Omega_{\mathbf{P}^6|X}^4 \rightarrow \Omega_X^4 \rightarrow 0.$$

Putting (3.2) and (3.3) together and tensoring with $\mathcal{O}(3)$

$$(3.4) \quad 0 \rightarrow \Omega_X^3 \rightarrow \Omega_{\mathbf{P}^6|X}^4(3) \rightarrow \Omega_{\mathbf{P}^6|X}^5(6) \rightarrow \Omega_X^5(6) \rightarrow 0.$$

The top row comes from the (hyper)cohomology sequence associated with (3.4).

To find the bottom row in the diagram one starts from the usual sequence of conormal bundles for (T, X, \mathbf{P}^6) :

$$(3.5) \quad 0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(-3)_T \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_T(-1)^{\oplus 4} \rightarrow N^* \rightarrow 0$$

taking \wedge^3 and tensoring with $\mathcal{O}(3)$ it follows

$$(3.6) \quad 0 \rightarrow \wedge^3 N^* \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_T^{\oplus 4} \rightarrow \wedge^3 N^* \otimes \mathcal{O}(3) \rightarrow 0.$$

Since $c_1(N^*) = \wedge^3 N^*$, then $\wedge^3 N^* \otimes \mathcal{O}_T(3) = \mathcal{O}_T(2)$.

Taking \wedge^2 instead one has

$$(3.7) \quad 0 \rightarrow N^*(-3) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_T(-2)^{\oplus 6} \rightarrow \wedge^2 N^* \rightarrow 0.$$

Putting the sequences together we have the exact sequence

$$(3.8) \quad 0 \rightarrow N^*(-3) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_T(-2)^{\oplus 6} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_T^{\oplus 4} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_T(2) \rightarrow 0.$$

The bottom map g in the diagram is obtained by looking at the associated (hyper)cohomology sequence. To check the commutativity of the diagram is now a standard exercise, the main point is to provide a map from the restriction of (3.4) to T to sequence (3.8). We leave the details to

the reader, everything is based on the commutativity of

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & & 0 & & 0 & & \\
 & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
 0 & \rightarrow & \mathcal{O}_T(-3) & \rightarrow & \mathcal{O}_T(-3) & \rightarrow & 0 \\
 & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 0 & \rightarrow & \mathcal{O}_T(-1)^{\oplus 4} & \rightarrow & \Omega_{\mathbb{P}^6|T}^1 & \rightarrow & \Omega_T^1 \rightarrow 0 \\
 & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 0 & \rightarrow & N^* & \rightarrow & \Omega_{X|T}^1 & \rightarrow & \Omega_T^1 \rightarrow 0 \\
 & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 & & 0 & & 0 & & 0
 \end{array}$$

The map h in the diagram is obviously surjective, being the restriction map. The surjectivity of g is a simple consequence of the vanishing $h^2(\mathcal{O}_T(-2)) = 0 = h^1(\mathcal{O}_T)$.

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