

## ON THE DETERMINANT OF A DUAL PERIODIC SINGULAR FIBER

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**ABSTRACT.** Let  $F$  be a periodic singular fiber of genus  $g$  with dual fiber  $F^*$ , and let  $T$  (resp.  $T^*$ ) be the set of the components of  $F$  (resp.  $F^*$ ) by removing one component with multiplicity one. We give a formula to compute the determinant  $|\det T|$  of the intersect form of  $T$ . As a consequence, we prove that  $|\det T| = |\det T^*|$ . As an application, we compute the Mordell-Weil group of a fibration  $f : S \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1$  of genus 2 with two singular fibers.

### 1. Introduction

A family of curves of genus  $g$  over a smooth curve  $C$  is a holomorphic map  $f : S \rightarrow C$  whose general fibers  $F$  are smooth curves of genus  $g$ , where  $S$  is a smooth projective surface. We also call  $f$  a fibration of genus  $g$ . We always assume that  $f$  has a section  $O$  and is relatively minimal, i.e., there is no  $(-1)$ -curve in any fiber. In this paper, we work over an algebraically closed field of characteristic 0.

For each singular fiber  $F$  of  $f$ , we define  $T$  to be a negative-definite sublattice spanned by the irreducible components of  $F$ , say  $x_i$ 's, disjoint with the section  $O$ . The determinant of  $T$  is denoted to be  $\det T = \det(\langle x_i, x_j \rangle)$ , where  $x_i$ 's are the irreducible components of  $F$  disjoint  $O$ . Then the Mordell-Weil group of  $f$  is isomorphic to the quotient group of the Néron-Severi group by the subgroup generated by  $O$  and all of the components in the fibers (see [13, 14]).

In order to get the structure of the Mordell-Weil group, a necessary step is to compute  $\det T$  for any singular fiber  $F$ . Shioda [13] computed  $\det T$  directly for all elliptic singular fibers  $F$  based on the classification of Kodaira [9]. Oguiso-Shioda ([12]) use  $\det T$  to classify of the Mordell-Weil groups of the rational elliptic surfaces. Some authors are trying to generalize this computation to the higher genus case. In [7, 8, 16], the authors computed the Mordell-Weil groups of some hyperelliptic fibrations by  $\det T$ . In [3], the authors even used  $\det T$  to compute the Mordell-Weil groups of some non hyperelliptic fibrations. In [6],

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the authors discussed the arithmetic properties of the Mordell-Weil groups of some examples in [7, 8, 16].

From [13], one can find the following interesting fact on an elliptic singular fiber  $F$ ,

$$(1) \quad |\det T| = |\det T^*|,$$

where  $F$  is of type II, III, IV, and the dual fiber  $F^*$  is of type  $\text{II}^*$ ,  $\text{III}^*$ ,  $\text{IV}^*$  with the lattice  $T^*$ , respectively. Some authors are trying to generalize the notion  $F^*$  for fibers  $F$  of higher genus, and to verify the equality (1) for some fibers.

The second and the third authors introduced in [10] the so-called *dual fiber*  $F^*$  for any singular fiber  $F$  of arbitrary genus (see Section 2), which coincides with the notion in the case for elliptic fibration. For a relatively minimal fibration  $f : S \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1$  with two singular fibers  $F_1$  and  $F_2$ , one can find that  $F_1 = F_2^*$  and  $F_2 = F_1^*$  ([4]). In this case, S. Kitagawa conjectures that the equality (1) holds for  $F_i$ 's and for any section  $O$  of  $f$ .

For a periodic fiber  $F$ , the dual fiber  $F^*$  is also periodic. In this case, the minimal normal-crossing model  $\bar{F}$  (resp.  $\bar{F}^*$ ) of  $F$  (resp.  $F^*$ ) can be written as follows:

$$(2) \quad \bar{F} = nC_0 + \sum_{i=1}^b \Gamma_i \text{ (resp. } \bar{F}^* = nC_0^* + \sum_{i=1}^b \Gamma_i^*),$$

where  $\Gamma_i$ 's (resp.  $\Gamma_i^*$ ) are disjoint H-J branches with valencies  $(n/\lambda_i, \lambda_i, \sigma_i)$  (resp.  $(n^*/\lambda_i, \lambda_i, \sigma_i)$ ) and  $C_0$  (resp.  $C_0^*$ ) is a principal component meeting transversely each H-J branch at one point, respectively. Furthermore, one has  $\lambda_1^* = \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_b^* = \lambda_b$  (see [4] and [1, Sec. 3.3]). The above terminologies can be found in Section 2 or [1, Sec. 3.3].

Let  $T$  (resp.  $T^*$ ) be the lattice generated by the irreducible components of  $F$  (resp.  $F^*$ ) except one component with multiplicity 1. Then we have the following main result.

**Theorem 1.1.** *Let  $T$  follow the above definition. Then*

$$|\det T| = |\det T^*| = \frac{\prod_{j=1}^b \lambda_j}{n^2}.$$

*In particular,  $|\det T|$  is independent of the choice of the removed component with multiplicity one.*

From Theorem 1.1, we obtain again (1) in the elliptic case found by [13].

**Corollary 1.1.** *For a periodic elliptic fiber  $F$ , one has*

$F, F^*$	II, $\text{II}^*$	III, $\text{III}^*$	IV, $\text{IV}^*$	$\text{I}_0^*, \text{I}_0^*$
$ \det T $	1	2	3	4

As an application, we will compute the Mordell-Weil group of fibrations of genus 2 with two singular fibers.

**Theorem 1.2.** *Let  $f : S \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1$  be a relatively minimal fibration of genus  $g = 2$  with two singular fibers. Assume that  $S$  is a rational surface. Then the Mordell-Weil group of  $f$  is as follows:*

No.	Fibers' types in [NU]	Mordell-Weil group	$ \det T $
1	$I_{0-0-0}^*, I_{0-0-0}^*$	$\mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2$	16
3	III, III	$\mathbb{Z}_3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_3$	9
5	V, V*	$\mathbb{Z}_3$	3
6	VI, VI	$\mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2$	4
7	VII, VII*	$\mathbb{Z}_2$	2
8	VIII - 1, VIII - 4	0	1
9	VIII - 2, VIII - 3	0	1
10	IX - 1, IX - 4	$\mathbb{Z}_5$	5
11	IX - 2, IX - 3	$\mathbb{Z}_5$	5

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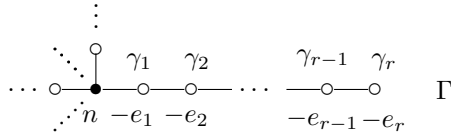
### 2. Preliminaries

Let  $f : S \rightarrow C$  be a relatively minimal fibration of genus  $g \geq 1$ . Each singular fiber  $F$  of  $f$  gives a *minimal normal-crossing* model  $\overline{F}$  by a partial resolution ([10, Definitions 2.1 and 2.2]), i.e.,  $\overline{F}$  is a normal-crossing curve in which there is no  $(-1)$ -curve meeting the other components at most two points.

The  $n$ -th root model of  $F$  is a relatively minimal model of the pulling-back fiber of  $F$  by a base change of degree  $n$  totally ramified over  $p = f(F)$  ([10, Definition 2.3]). Let  $M_F$  be the least common multiplicity of the coefficients of the irreducible components of  $\overline{F}$ . The *dual* (resp. *semistable*) model of  $F$  is the  $(M_F - 1)$ -th (resp.  $M_F$ -th) model of  $F$  ([10, Definitions 2.4 and 2.5]). We say  $F$  is a *periodic* fiber if the semistable model of  $F$  is a smooth curve.

An irreducible component of  $\overline{F}$  is said to be a *principal component* if it is either a smooth non-rational curve or a non-singular rational curve which intersects the other components transversally in 3 or more points. A *H-J branch*  $\Gamma$  of  $\overline{F}$  is a chain of smooth rational curves such that terminal curve intersects a principal component transversally in one point ([10, Definition 3.4]).

Let  $\Gamma = \gamma_1 C_1 + \dots + \gamma_r C_r$  be one of the H-J branches, where  $C_1$  intersects a principal component  $C_0$  with multiplicity  $n$  and  $C_k$  is a rational curve with multiplicity  $\gamma_k$  and  $C_k^2 = -e_k$  ( $k = 1, \dots, r$ ). We call  $C_r$  the end component of  $\overline{F}$  in  $\Gamma$ .



**Lemma 2.1.** Take  $\gamma_0 := n, \gamma_{r+1} := 0, \lambda := n/\text{gcd}(n, \gamma_r)$  and  $\sigma := \gamma_1/\text{gcd}(\gamma_1, \gamma_r)$ . For  $k = 1, \dots, r$ , we have

- (1)  $\gamma_{k+1} - e_k \gamma_k + \gamma_{k-1} = 0$ ;
- (2)  $n > \gamma_1 > \gamma_2 > \dots > \gamma_r > 0$ ;
- (3)  $\gamma_r = \text{gcd}(\gamma_k, \gamma_{k-1})$ ;
- (4)  $\frac{\gamma_{k-1}}{\gamma_k} = [e_k, \dots, e_r] := e_k - \frac{1}{e_{k+1} - \frac{1}{\dots - \frac{1}{e_r}}}$ .

In particular,  $\Gamma$  is determined by  $(n/\lambda, \lambda, \sigma)$ .

*Proof.* (1) is from Zariski’s Lemma. (2)-(4) are the corollaries of (1) (see also [2, Ch. III, Sec. 5]). □

**Definition 2.1.** We call  $(n/\lambda, \lambda, \sigma)$  the *valency* of  $\Gamma$  ([1, Sec. 3.3]).

The intersection matrix of the irreducible components in  $\Gamma$  is

$$M(\Gamma) := (C_i C_j)_{1 \leq i, j \leq r} = \begin{pmatrix} -e_1 & 1 & & & \\ 1 & -e_2 & 1 & & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & & 1 & -e_{r-1} & 1 \\ & & & & 1 & -e_r \end{pmatrix}.$$

From a straightforward computation and Lemma 2.1, we have

$$(3) \quad |\det M(\Gamma)| = \lambda.$$

### 3. Proof of Theorem 1.1

In what follows, we assume that  $f : S \rightarrow C$  has a section  $O$ . Let  $\sigma : (\overline{S}, \overline{F}) \rightarrow (S, F)$  be a minimal partial resolution of  $(S, F)$  for a periodic fiber  $F$  (namely,  $\overline{F}$  is the minimal normal-crossing model of  $F$ ) and  $\tilde{f} := f \sigma : \overline{S} \rightarrow C$  with a section  $\overline{O} = \sigma^* O$ . Let  $D$  be the irreducible component of  $F$  intersecting the section  $O$  and  $\overline{D}$  be the strict transform of  $D$  under  $\sigma$ . Let  $T$  (resp.  $\overline{T}$ ) be a negative-definite sublattice spanned by the irreducible components of  $F$  (resp.  $\overline{F}$ ) except  $D$  (resp.  $\overline{D}$ ).

We write

$$\overline{F} = n_1 C_1 + \dots + n_d C_d$$

and

$$\overline{F}_{\text{red}} = C_1 + \cdots + C_d,$$

where  $C_i$  runs over all irreducible components of  $\overline{F}$ . We denote by  $M_i$  the intersection matrix of  $\overline{F}_{\text{red}} - C_i$ .

We need the following key lemma.

**Lemma 3.1.** *For any  $i$  and  $j$ , we have*

$$\frac{n_i^2}{n_j^2} = \frac{\det M_i}{\det M_j}.$$

*Proof.* Without loss of generality, we assume that  $i = 1$  and  $j = 2$ . We have

$$\begin{pmatrix} C_1 \\ C_3 \\ \vdots \\ C_d \end{pmatrix} = P \begin{pmatrix} C_2 \\ C_3 \\ \vdots \\ C_d \end{pmatrix},$$

where

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{n_2}{n_1} & -\frac{n_3}{n_1} & \cdots & \cdots & -\frac{n_d}{n_1} \\ & 1 & \cdots & \cdots & 0 \\ & & 1 & \cdots & 0 \\ & & & \ddots & \vdots \\ & & & & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

So  $M_2 = PM_1P^T$ . Thus we get

$$\det M_2 = (\det P)^2 \det M_1 = \left(-\frac{n_2}{n_1}\right)^2 \det M_1.$$

The proof is completed. □

Consider the expression (2) of the H-J branch  $\overline{F}$ . Let  $\Gamma_{k1}$  be the end component of  $\Gamma_k$  ( $k = 1, \dots, b$ ) and  $\overline{M}_k$  be the intersection matrix of  $\overline{F}_{\text{red}} - \Gamma_{k1}$ .

**Corollary 3.1.** *Under the above assumptions and notations, we have*

$$|\det \overline{M}_k| = \frac{\prod_{i=1}^b \lambda_i}{\lambda_k^2} \quad \text{for } k = 1, 2, \dots, b.$$

*In particular, if the section  $\overline{O}$  intersecting  $\Gamma_{k1}$  for some  $k$ , then  $\lambda_k = n$  and hence*

$$|\det \overline{M}_k| = \frac{\prod_{i=1}^b \lambda_i}{n^2} = \frac{\lambda_1 \cdots \lambda_{k-1} \cdot \lambda_{k+1} \cdots \lambda_b}{n}.$$

*Proof.* Let  $\overline{M}_0$  be the intersection matrix of  $\overline{F}_{\text{red}} - C_0$ . Since all H-J branches  $\Gamma_i$  are disjoint,

$$\det \overline{M}_0 = \det M(\Gamma_1) \cdots \det M(\Gamma_b),$$

where  $M(\Gamma_i)$  is the intersection matrix of the irreducible components in  $\Gamma_i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, b$ ). By (3), we have

$$\det \bar{M}_0 = \prod_{i=1}^b \lambda_i.$$

Note that the multiplicity of  $\Gamma_{k1}$  (resp.  $C_0$ ) in  $\bar{F}$  is  $\frac{n}{\lambda_k}$  (resp.  $n$ ). From Lemma 3.1, we get

$$\frac{\det \bar{M}_k}{\det \bar{M}_0} = \frac{\left(\frac{n}{\lambda_k}\right)^2}{n^2}.$$

Thus  $|\det \bar{M}_k| = \frac{\prod_{i=1}^b \lambda_i}{\lambda_k^2}$ . □

Let  $F^*$  be the dual fiber of  $F$  with a minimal normal-crossing model  $\bar{F}^*$  as in (2). One has  $\lambda_1^* = \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_b^* = \lambda_b$  and  $n^* = n$  (see [4] and [1, Sec. 3.3]). From Corollary 3.1, we have:

**Corollary 3.2.** *Let  $\bar{T}^*$  be the lattice generated by the components of  $\bar{F}^*$  except one component with multiplicity one. Then*

$$|\det \bar{T}| = |\det \bar{T}^*| = \frac{\prod_{i=1}^b \lambda_i}{n^2}.$$

In order to complete our proof of Theorem 1.1, it's enough to claim that  $|\det T| = |\det \bar{T}|$  (similarly,  $|\det T^*| = |\det \bar{T}^*|$ ). For convenience, we can assume that the section  $\bar{O}$  intersects  $\Gamma_{b1}$ , i.e.,  $\bar{D} = \Gamma_{b1}$ . By Corollary 3.1, one has

$$(4) \quad |\det \bar{T}| = \lambda_1 \cdots \lambda_{b-1} / n.$$

We need to prove:

**Lemma 3.2.**  $|\det T| = |\det \bar{T}|$ .

*Proof.* Consider minimal partial resolution of  $(S, F)$  as follows:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} (\bar{S}, \bar{F}) & \xrightarrow{\sigma_{k+1}} & (S_k, F_k) & \xrightarrow{\sigma_k} & \cdots & \longrightarrow & (S_1, F_1) \xrightarrow{\sigma_1} (S, F) \\ \bar{f} \downarrow & & f_k \downarrow & & & & \downarrow f_1 & \downarrow f \\ C & \xlongequal{\quad} & C & \xlongequal{\quad} & \cdots & \xlongequal{\quad} & C & \xlongequal{\quad} & C \end{array}$$

where  $F_i$  is pulling-back fiber of  $F$  in the fibration  $f_i := \sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_i f : S_k \rightarrow C$  and  $\sigma = \sigma_{k+1} \cdots \sigma_1$ . Let  $T_i$  be a negative-definite sublattice spanned by the irreducible components of  $F_i$  except the strict transform of  $D$  in  $S_i$ .

It's enough to show that  $\det T_i = \det T_{i-1}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k + 1$  ( $T_0 := T$ ,  $T_{k+1} := \bar{T}$ ). Without loss of generality, we consider only the case for  $i = 1$ . Let  $D_0$  be the exceptional curve of  $\sigma_1$ ,  $\{D_i\}_{i=1}^l$ 's be the basis of  $T$  and  $D'_i : \sigma_1^* D_i - m_i D_0$  be the strict transform of  $D_i$ . Thus  $D'_0, \dots, D'_l$  are the basis of  $T_1$ .

Let  $M = (\langle D_i, D_j \rangle)_{1 \leq i, j \leq l}$  and  $M' = (\langle D'_i, D'_j \rangle)_{0 \leq i, j \leq l}$  be the intersection matrices of  $T, T_1$ . Take

$$V = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -m_1 & -m_2 & \cdots & -m_l \\ & 1 & & & \\ & & 1 & & \\ & & & \ddots & \\ & & & & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Thus one gets  $\det V = 1$  and

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & \\ & M \end{pmatrix} = V^T M' V.$$

It implies that  $|\det T| = |\det T_1|$ . □

*Proof of Theorem 1.1.* It's from Lemma 3.2 and (4). □

### 4. Application

As in [15], we denote by  $MW(f)$  the Mordell-Weil group of  $f : S \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1$  with  $s$  singular fibers  $F_1, \dots, F_s$ . Let  $T_i$  to be a negative-definite sublattice spanned by the irreducible components of  $F_i$  which do not intersect the section  $O$ .

$$MW(f) \cong NS(S) / \langle \oplus T_i, O, F \rangle.$$

It's well-known that the Mordell-Weil group is a finitely generated abelian group. From [15, Theorem 3], one has

$$\text{rank } MW(f) = \rho(S) - 2 - \sum_{i=1}^s (\ell(F_i) - 1),$$

where  $\rho(S) = \text{rank } NS(S)$  is the Picard number of  $S$ , and  $\ell(F_i)$  is the number of components of  $F_i$ .

What can we say about a fibration  $f : S \rightarrow C$  with  $\text{rank } MW(f) = 0$ ? It's a very interesting problem. It's obvious that such a group is finite. By using the results in [11], one can see that  $\text{rank } MW(f) = 0$  if  $f : S \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1$  has 2 singular fibers, or 3 singular fibers with 2 semistable ones ([4, 5]).

**Theorem 4.1** ([12], [16]). *Let  $n$  be the order of torsion subgroup  $MW_{\text{tor}}$ . If  $|\det NS(S)| = 1$ , then*

- (1)  $n^2$  divides  $\prod_i \det T_i$ .
- (2) If the rank of  $MW(f)$  is 0, then the order  $|MW(f)| = \sqrt{\prod_i \det T_i}$ .
- (3) The natural map  $MW_{\text{tor}} \rightarrow \oplus_i (T_i^\vee / T_i)$  is injective.

*Remark 4.1.* The dual lattice  $L^\vee$  of a lattice  $L$  is defined as

$$L^\vee := \{x \in L \otimes \mathbb{Q} : (x, y) \in \mathbb{Z}, \forall y \in L\}$$

(see [13, Sec. 6]).

*Proof of Theorem 1.2.* In [4], we have classified all fibrations  $f : S \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1$  of genus 2 with two singular fibers which are dual to each other. There are exactly 9 types of such fibrations containing at least one section. In this case,  $S$  is a rational surface. We have the following computation.

By Theorem 4.1 and Theorem 1.1, we have

$$|MW(f)| = |\det T_1| = |\det T_2|$$

and the following computation.

$F$	$I_{0-0-0}^*$	III	V	VI	VII	VIII - 1	VIII - 2	IX - 1	IX - 2
$F^*$	$I_{0-0-0}^*$	III	V*	VI	VII*	VIII - 4	VIII - 3	IX - 4	IX - 3
$ \det T $	16	9	3	4	2	1	1	5	5

If  $|MW(f)|$  is a prime, then  $MW(f)$  is a cyclic group. In what follows, we consider the cases where the orders are not a prime.

**Type  $(I_{0-0-0}^*, I_{0-0-0}^*)$ .** In this case,  $F_1$  is a normal-crossing divisor. The principal component is a  $(-3)$ -curve with multiplicity 2, there are 6 H-J branches and each branch consists of only one  $(-2)$ -curve with multiplicity 1. By removing one  $(-2)$ -curve, we get  $T_1$ . So the intersection matrix of  $T_1$  is  $-M$ , where

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$|\det T_1| = |\det T_2| = \det M = 16$ . One can compute easily that

$$M^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1/2 & 1/2 & 1/2 & 1/2 \\ 1 & 1/2 & 1 & 1/2 & 1/2 & 1/2 \\ 1 & 1/2 & 1/2 & 1 & 1/2 & 1/2 \\ 1 & 1/2 & 1/2 & 1/2 & 1 & 1/2 \\ 1 & 1/2 & 1/2 & 1/2 & 1/2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$2M^{-1}$  is an integral matrix. The basis of  $T_i^\vee$  is a linear combination of the basis of  $T_i$ , and  $M^{-1}$  is the presentation matrix. Thus  $2T_i^\vee \subset T_i$ . Because  $MW_{tor} \hookrightarrow \bigoplus_i (T_i^\vee/T_i)$ , the orders of all nonzero elements in Mordell-Weil group are 2, hence  $MW(f) \simeq \mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2$ .

The calculations of **Type (III, III)** and **Type (VI, VI)** are similar.  $\square$



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