

# A Characterization of Complex Projective Spaces by Sections of Line Bundles

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## Abstract

Let  $M$  be a  $n$ -dimensional compact irreducible complex space with a line bundle  $L$ . It is shown that if  $M$  is completely intersected with respect to  $L$  and  $\dim H^0(M, L) = n + 1$ , then  $M$  is biholomorphic to a complex projective space  $P^n$  of dimension  $n$ .

## Keywords

Complex Space, Projective Space, Line Bundle, Complete Intersected

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## 1. Introduction

Kobayashi and Ochiai [1] have given Characterizations of the complex projective spaces. Kobayashi-Ochiai Theorem [1] has been applied to obtain many important characterizations of the projective spaces, such as the proof of Frankel conjectures [2], the proof of Hartshorne conjecture [3], and many others [4]-[7]. In this note, we want to give a characterization of the complex projective spaces via sections of line bundles.

Results which can be found in [1] [8] and [9] are used freely often without explicit references. Let  $M$  be a complex space with a line bundle  $L$ .  $\mathcal{O}$  is the sheaf of germs of sheaf of holomorphic functions,  $\mathcal{O}(L)$  is the sheaf of germs of holomorphic sections of a line bundle  $L$ .  $H^0(M, L)$  means  $H^0(M, \mathcal{O}(L))$ .

## 2. Characterization of the Projective Spaces

In this paper, a characterization of the projective space will be given.

**Definition.** Let  $M$  be a compact complex space with a line bundle  $L$ .  $M$  is said to be completely intersected with respect to a line bundle  $L$ , provided that complex subspace  $V(\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_k)$  is irreducible for any linearly independent elements of  $\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_k$  of  $H^0(M, L)$ , where each  $\varphi_i$  is irreducible, and  $V(\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_k)$  is the

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common zeros of  $\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_k$ .

From the Lemma 1.1 [1] and the proof of theorem 16.2.1 [8], we have

**Lemma 1.** Let  $V$  be a compact irreducible complex space. Let  $F$  and  $L$  be line bundles over  $V$ . Let  $\varphi$  be an irreducible section of  $L$  and put  $S = V(\varphi) = \{x \in V; \varphi(x) = 0\}$ . The following sequence of sheaf homomorphisms is exact:

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{G}(F) \xrightarrow{\alpha} \mathcal{G}(F \otimes L) \xrightarrow{\beta} \mathcal{G}_S(F \otimes L) \rightarrow 0$$

where  $\mu$  is the multiplication by  $\varphi$ ,  $\mathcal{G}_S(F \otimes L)$  is the sheaf defined by  $\mathcal{G}_S(F \otimes L)|_S = \mathcal{G}(F \otimes L)|_S$  and  $\mathcal{G}_S(F \otimes L)|_{V-S} = 0$ ,  $\beta$  is the restriction map.

**Lemma 2.** Let  $M$  be a  $n$ -dimensional compact complex space with a line bundle  $L$ . Let  $\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_k$  be linear independent elements of  $H^0(M, L)$ , such that each  $\varphi_i$  is irreducible. If  $M$  is completely intersected with respect to  $L$ , then there is an exact sequence:

$$0 \rightarrow (\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_k) \rightarrow H^0(M, L) \xrightarrow{\beta} H^0(V_{n-k}, L)$$

where  $(\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_k)$  is the subspace of  $H^0(M, L)$  spanned by the sections  $\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_k$  ( $k \leq n$ ) and  $\beta$  is the restriction map.

**Proof.** The proof is by induction on  $k$ . The case  $k = 0$  is trivial. Since  $M$  is completely intersected with respect to  $L$ ,  $V_{n-k+1} = V(\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_{k-1})$  and  $V_{n-k} = V(\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_k)$  are irreducible. Assume the lemma for  $k-1$ , we have the exact sequence:

$$0 \rightarrow (\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_{k-1}) \rightarrow H^0(M, L) \xrightarrow{\beta} H^0(V_{n-k+1}, L)$$

If  $V(\varphi_k) \subset V_{n-k+1}$ , then  $\varphi_k \in (\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_{k-1})$  from which it follows that  $\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_k$  are linearly dependent, a contradiction. Thus,  $\varphi_k$  is nontrivial on  $V_{n-k+1}$ ; it follows that  $V_{n-k} = V_{n-k+1} \cup V(\varphi_k)$  defined as the set of zeros of  $\varphi_k$  on  $V_{n-k+1}$  is an irreducible divisor.

We apply Lemma 1 to  $V = V_{n-k+1}$ ,  $F = \mathcal{G}$ ,  $\varphi = \varphi_k$ . Then,  $S = V_{n-k}$ . The exact sequence in Lemma 1 induces the following exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow H^0(V_{n-k+1}, \mathcal{G}) \xrightarrow{\alpha} H^0(V_{n-k+1}, L) \xrightarrow{\beta} H^0(V_{n-k}, L)$$

This means that the kernel of the restriction map  $\beta$  is spanned by the restriction of  $\varphi_k$  to  $V_{n-k+1}$ . Combining this with the lemma for  $k-1$ , we obtain the lemma for  $k$ .

Now we give the main result of this paper.

**Theorem.** Let  $M$  be a  $n$ -dimensional compact irreducible complex space with a line bundle  $L$ . If  $\dim H^0(M, L) = n+1$  and  $M$  is completely intersected with respect to  $L$ , then  $M$  is biholomorphic to a complex space  $P^n$  of dimension  $n$ .

**Proof.** Since  $\dim H^0(M, L) = n+1$ , we can choose linearly independent sections  $\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_{n+1}$  from  $H^0(M, L)$  with each  $\varphi_i$  irreducible. Put  $D_i = V(\varphi_i) = \{x \in M | \varphi_i(x) = 0\}$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n+1$ .

Claim 1. Each  $D_i$  is an irreducible divisor of  $M$ .

First of all,  $D_i$  is nonempty. Indeed, if  $D_i = \emptyset$  for some  $i$ , then  $\varphi_i(x) \neq 0$  for all  $x \in M$ . Define map  $h: M \times \mathbb{C} \rightarrow L$  by  $h(x, c) = c\varphi_i(x)$ . It is clear that  $h$  is isomorphic, that is,  $L$  is a trivial line bundle over  $M$ . It follows that  $\dim H^0(M, L) = 1$ , which is contradictory to the hypothesis that  $\dim H^0(M, L) = n+1 \geq 2$ . Thus, each  $D_i = \emptyset$ . Since  $\varphi_i$  is irreducible,  $D_i$  is irreducible and  $\dim D_i = n-1$  by [Corollary 14, Ch II, 3] and [Theorem 11, Ch III, 3]. Hence,  $D_i$  is an irreducible divisor.

Let  $V_{n-i} = V(\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_i)$  be the common zeros of  $\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_i$ , then  $V_{n-i} = D_1 \cap \dots \cap D_i$ . By the hypothesis,  $M$  is completely intersected with respect to  $L$ ; each  $V_{n-i}$  is irreducible.

Claim 2.  $\dim V_{n-i} = n-i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ .

For  $i = 1$ ,  $V_{n-1} = D_1$  is an irreducible divisor by Claim 1, thus  $\dim V_{n-1} = n-1$ . Assume that  $\dim V_{n-i+1} = n-i+1$ . If  $V_{n-i+1} = V(\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_{i-1}) \subset D_i$ , then  $\varphi_i \in (\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_{i-1})$  by Lemma 2. This induces that  $\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_i$  are linearly dependent, a contradiction. Thus,  $\varphi_i$  is nontrivial on the irreducible complex subspace  $V_{n-i+1}$ . It follows by [Theorem 14, Ch. III, 3] that  $\dim V_{n-i} = \dim V_{n-i+1} \cap D_i = \dim V_{n-i+1} - 1 = n-i$ .

Claim 3.  $H^0(M, L)$  is base point free.

By Claim 2,  $V_{n-i}$  is an irreducible complex subspace of dimension  $n-i$ . In particular,  $V_0$  is one point. If  $\varphi_{n+1}$  vanishes at  $V_0$ , then  $\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_{n+1}$  are linearly dependent by Lemma 2. Since  $\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_{n+1}$  are defined as

linearly independent sections in the beginning of this proof, it is a contradiction. Thus,  $\varphi_{n+1}$  does not vanish at  $V_0$ . This shows that  $\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_{n+1}$  have no common zeros, that is,  $H^0(M, L)$  is base point free.

Since  $\dim H^0(M, L) = n+1$ , we may let  $P^n$  be the complex projective space of dimension  $n$  defined as the set of hyperplanes through the origin in  $H^0(M, L)$ . For any point  $x \in M$ , put  $\psi(x) = \{\varphi \in H^0(M, L) \mid \varphi(x) = 0\}$ . Since  $H^0(M, L)$  is base point free,  $\psi(x)$  is a hyperplane through the origin in  $H^0(M, L)$  and so  $\psi(x) \in P^n$ . We now obtain a holomorphic mapping  $\psi: M \rightarrow P^n$ .

Claim 4. The mapping  $\psi$  is bijective.

Giving a point  $y$  of  $P^n$ , it is a hyperplane through the origin in  $H^0(M, L)$ . Let  $t_1, \dots, t_n \in H^0(M, L)$  be a basis for this hyperplane with each  $t_i$  irreducible. Then,  $y$  is the complex subspace spanned by  $t_1, \dots, t_n$ , that is,  $(t_1, \dots, t_n) = y$ . Let  $T_i = V(t_i)$  be the set of zeros of  $t_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ . Since  $M$  is completely intersected with respect to  $L$ ,  $V(t_1, \dots, t_n)$  is irreducible and  $\dim V(t_1, \dots, t_n) = 0$  by Claim 2, that is,  $V(t_1, \dots, t_n)$  is a point. It follows that there exists a point  $x$  of  $M$ , such that  $t_1(x) = \dots = t_n(x) = 0$ .

Thus,  $t_1, \dots, t_n \in \psi(x) = \{\varphi \in H^0(M, L) \mid \varphi(x) = 0\}$ . By Lemma 2, we have the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow (t_1, \dots, t_n) \rightarrow H^0(M, L) \xrightarrow{\beta} H^0(V(t_1, \dots, t_n), L).$$

For any  $\varphi \in \psi(x)$ , we have  $\varphi(x) = 0$ . Since  $V(t_1, \dots, t_n) = \{x\}$  and the above sequence is exact, it follows that  $\varphi \in (t_1, \dots, t_n)$  and so  $\psi(x) = (t_1, \dots, t_n) = y$ . Thus,  $\psi$  is surjective.

On the other hand, let  $u$  and  $v$  be any two points of  $M$ .  $\psi(u)$  is a hyperplane through the origin in  $H^0(M, L)$ . Let  $s_1, \dots, s_n$  be a basis for  $\psi(u)$  with each  $s_i$  irreducible. By Claim 2,  $V(s_1, \dots, s_n)$  is a single point and this induces that  $V(s_1, \dots, s_n) = \{u\}$ . If  $\psi(u) = \psi(v)$ , then  $(s_1, \dots, s_n) = \psi(v)$ . It follows that  $v \in V(s_1, \dots, s_n) = \{u\}$ , that is,  $v = u$ . Thus  $\psi$  is injective.

Consequently, we have shown that  $M$  is biholomorphic to a complex projective space  $P^n$  of dimension  $n$ .

As an application of the theorem above, we give a proof for the famous Kobayashi-Ochiai Theorem [1].

**Corollary ([Theorem 1.1 [1]]).** Let  $M$  be a  $n$ -dimensional complex irreducible complex space with an ample line bundle  $F$ . If  $C_1(F)^n[M] = 1$  and  $\dim H^0(M, F) = n+1$ , then  $M$  is biholomorphic to a complex projective space  $P^n$  of dimension  $n$ .

**Proof.** By the theorem in this paper, it suffices to show that  $M$  is completely intersected with respect to  $F$ . Let  $\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_k$  be linearly independent elements of  $H^0(M, F)$  with each  $\varphi_i$  irreducible. Let  $V_{n-k} = V(\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_k)$  be the common zeros of  $\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_k$  on  $M$ .

Assume that  $V_{n-k}$  is reducible, then write  $V_{n-k} = V' + V''$  for some nontrivial  $V'$  and  $V''$ . Because  $\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_k$  are linearly independent elements of  $H^0(M, F)$  with each  $\varphi_i$  irreducible, there are no common zeros of  $\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_k$  on  $C_1(F)^k[M]$ . And due to the definition of  $V_{n-k}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} C_1(F)^n[M] &= C_1(F)^k C_1(F)^{n-k}[M] = C_1(F)^{n-k}[V_{n-k}] \\ &= C_1(F)^{n-k}[V' + V''] = C_1(F)^{n-k}[V'] + C_1(F)^{n-k}[V''] \end{aligned}$$

By the hypothesis,  $C_1(F)^n[M] = 1$ , and so

$$C_1(F)^{n-k}[V'] + C_1(F)^{n-k}[V''] = 1.$$

Since  $F$  is ample,  $C_1(F)^{n-k}[V']$  and  $C_1(F)^{n-k}[V'']$  are positive integers. Thus,  $C_1(F)^n[M] \geq 2$ , a contradiction. It follows that  $V_{n-k}$  is irreducible. By the theorem above,  $M$  is biholomorphic to  $P^n$ .

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