

On \mathbb{Q} -conic Bundles, II

By

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Abstract

A \mathbb{Q} -conic bundle germ is a proper morphism from a threefold with only terminal singularities to the germ $(Z \ni o)$ of a normal surface such that fibers are connected and the anti-canonical divisor is relatively ample. We obtain the complete classification of \mathbb{Q} -conic bundle germs when the base surface germ is singular. This is a generalization of [MP08], which further assumed that the fiber over o is irreducible.

§1. Introduction

This note is a continuation of our previous work [MP08] where we studied the local structure of \mathbb{Q} -conic bundles.

(1.1) Definition. A \mathbb{Q} -conic bundle is a projective morphism $f: X \rightarrow Z$ from a threefold with only terminal singularities to a surface such that

- (i) $f_*\mathcal{O}_X = \mathcal{O}_Z$ and all fibers are one-dimensional,
- (ii) $-K_X$ is f -ample.

For $f: X \rightarrow Z$ as above and for a point $o \in Z$, we call the analytic germ $(X, f^{-1}(o)_{\text{red}})$ a \mathbb{Q} -conic bundle germ.

In [MP08] we completely classified \mathbb{Q} -conic bundle germs over a singular base and such that the central fiber is irreducible. For convenience of quotations

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we reproduce briefly the classification. For more detailed explanations we refer to the original paper [MP08].

(1.2) Theorem. *Let $f: (X, C) \rightarrow (Z, o)$ be a \mathbb{Q} -conic bundle germ, where C is irreducible and (Z, o) is singular. Then we are in one of the following cases:*

Type	No.	singularities	(Z, o)
toroidal	(1.2.1)	$\frac{1}{n}(1, a, -a)$ and $\frac{1}{n}(-1, a, -a)$, $\gcd(n, a) = 1$	A_{n-1}
(IA)+(IA)	(1.2.2)	$\frac{1}{n}(a, -1, 1)$ and $\frac{1}{n}(a + 1, 1, -1)$, $n = 2a + 1$	A_{n-1}
(IE $^\vee$)	(1.2.3)	$\frac{1}{8}(5, 1, 3)$	A_3
(ID $^\vee$)	(1.2.4)	$cA/2$ or $cAx/2$	A_1
(IA $^\vee$)	(1.2.5)	$\frac{1}{4}(1, 1, 3)$ (+III)	A_1
(II $^\vee$)	(1.2.6)	$cAx/4$ (+III)	A_1

In this paper we consider the case where the base surface is singular and the central fiber is reducible. Our main result is the following.

(1.3) Theorem. *Let $f: (X, C) \rightarrow (Z, o)$ be a \mathbb{Q} -conic bundle germ. Assume that C is reducible and the base surface (Z, o) is singular. Then (Z, o) is Du Val of type A_1 and (X, C) is the μ_2 -quotient of the index-two \mathbb{Q} -conic bundle $f': (X', C') \rightarrow (Z', o')$ over a smooth base, where μ_2 acts on (Z', o') freely in codimension one. Moreover, C' has four irreducible components, μ_2 does not fix any of them and X has a unique non-Gorenstein point P . Furthermore, X' is given by the following two equations in $\mathbb{P}(1, 1, 1, 2)_{y_1, \dots, y_4} \times \mathbb{C}_{u, v}^2$*

$$\begin{cases} y_1^2 - y_3^2 = \psi_1(y_1, \dots, y_4; u, v), \\ y_2^2 - y_3^2 = \psi_2(y_1, \dots, y_4; u, v), \end{cases}$$

where μ_2 acts as follows:

$$(y_1, y_2, y_3, y_4; u, v) \mapsto (-y_1, -y_2, y_3, -y_4; -u, -v).$$

Here $\psi_i = \psi_i(y_1, \dots, y_4; u, v)$ are weighted quadratic in y_1, \dots, y_4 with respect to $\text{wt}(y_1, \dots, y_4) = (1, 1, 1, 2)$ and $\psi_i(y_1, \dots, y_4; 0, 0) = 0$. The following are the only possibilities:

(1.3.1) (X, P) is a cyclic quotient singularity of type $\frac{1}{4}(1, 1, -1)$ and for any component $C_i \subset C$ germ (X, C_i) is of type (IA $^\vee$),

(1.3.2) (X, P) is a singularity of type $cAx/4$ and for any component $C_i \subset C$ germ (X, C_i) is of type (II^\vee) .

Conversely, if the quotient $(X, C) = (X', C')/\mu_2$, where (X', C') and the action of μ_2 are as above, has only terminal singularities, then (X, C) is a conic bundle germ over $\mathbb{C}_{u,v}^2/\mu_2$ with reducible central fiber C .

(1.4) **Corollary (Reid’s general elephant conjecture).** Let $f: (X, C) \rightarrow (Z, o)$ be a \mathbb{Q} -conic bundle germ. Assume that (Z, o) is singular. Then a general member $F \in |-K_X|$ has only Du Val singularities. Moreover, in cases (1.3.1) and (1.3.2) F does not contain any component of C and is of type A_3 and D respectively.

Below are a series of explicit examples of \mathbb{Q} -conic bundles as in (1.3).

(1.5) **Example.** Consider the subvariety $X' \subset \mathbb{P}(1, 1, 1, 2) \times \mathbb{C}^2$ defined by the following two equations:

$$\begin{cases} y_1^2 - y_3^2 + u^{2k+1}y_4 + v^2y_2^2 = 0, \\ y_2^2 - y_3^2 + vy_4 = 0. \end{cases}$$

The projection $f': X' \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^2$ is a \mathbb{Q} -conic bundle of index 2 (cf. [MP08, 12.1.3]). Define the action of μ_2 on X' as follows

$$(y_1, y_2, y_3, y_4; u, v) \longmapsto (-y_1, -y_2, y_3, -y_4; -u, -v).$$

Then $X'/\mu_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^2/\mu_2$ is a \mathbb{Q} -conic bundle with a unique non-Gorenstein point P . The point P is of type (1.3.1) if $k = 0$ and of type (1.3.2) if $k \geq 1$.

The basic idea of the proof is to reduce the problem of classifying \mathbb{Q} -conic bundles (X, C) as in Theorem (1.3) to the case where the central fiber is irreducible by applying the MMP to a \mathbb{Q} -factorialization (X^q, C^q) . Then the resulting \mathbb{Q} -conic bundle (\bar{X}, \bar{C}) belongs to the list (1.2). We trace back from (\bar{X}, \bar{C}) to (X, C) . It turns out that in many cases the steps of the MMP do not affect the singularities of (\bar{X}, \bar{C}) . Here we use some results about divisorial contractions and flips (see §2) based on [KM92] and [Kaw96]. Then the base change trick allows us to show that (X, C) is a μ_2 -quotient of an index-two conic bundle, see §3.

§2. Preliminary Results on Extremal Contractions

(2.1) Let (E^\sharp, P^\sharp) be a Du Val singularity. (We assume that (E^\sharp, P^\sharp) is singular). Assume that μ_m acts on E^\sharp freely outside P^\sharp and the quotient

$(E, P) = (E^\sharp, P^\sharp)/\mu_m$ is also Du Val. Then there is a μ_m -equivariant embedding $(E^\sharp, P^\sharp) \subset (\mathbb{C}^3_{x,y,z}, 0)$ such that x, y, z and the equation of E^\sharp are semi-invariant. Let $F^\sharp \subset \mathbb{C}^3$ be the locus of points at which the action of μ_m is not free. By our assumption F^\sharp is a curve. Define the invariant $\varsigma(E^\sharp, P^\sharp, \mu_m)$ as the local intersection number $(E^\sharp \cdot F^\sharp)_0$. According to [Rei87, 4.10] we have only the following cases:

(2.1.1)

m	$(E^\sharp, P^\sharp) \rightarrow (E, P)$	$\varsigma(E^\sharp, P^\sharp, \mu_m)$
any	$A_{r-1} \rightarrow A_{mr-1}$	r
4	$A_{2r-2} \rightarrow D_{2r+1}$	$2r - 1$
2	$A_{2r-1} \rightarrow D_{r+2}$	2
3	$D_4 \rightarrow E_6$	2
2	$D_{r+1} \rightarrow D_{2r}$	r
2	$E_6 \rightarrow E_7$	3

(2.1.2) Let (W, P) be a three-dimensional terminal singularity of index $m > 1$ and let $E \in |-K_W|$ be a divisor having a Du Val singularity at P . Assume that (W, P) is not a cyclic quotient. Let $\pi: (W^\sharp, P^\sharp) \rightarrow (W, P)$ be the index-one μ_m -cover and let $(W^\sharp, P^\sharp) = \{\phi = 0\} \subset \mathbb{C}^4_{x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4}$ be a μ_m -equivariant embedding. Let $E^\sharp := \pi^{-1}(E)$ and $F^\sharp \subset \mathbb{C}^4$ be the locus of points at which the action of μ_m is not free. Since π is free in codimension two, F^\sharp is a curve. Recall that the local intersection number $(W^\sharp \cdot F^\sharp)_0$ is called the *axial multiplicity* of (W, P) [Mor88, 1a.5]. We denote it by $\text{am}(W, P)$. By the classification of terminal singularities we may assume that F^\sharp is the x_4 -axis, and either $\text{wt}(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, \phi) \equiv (1, -1, a, 0, 0) \pmod m$, or $m = 4$ and $\text{wt}(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, \phi) \equiv (1, -1, a, 2, 2) \pmod 4$, where $\text{gcd}(a, m) = 1$. Since (E^\sharp, P^\sharp) is a Du Val singularity, its Zariski tangent space at the origin is three-dimensional. Hence there is a μ_m -stable hypersurface $H^\sharp \subset \mathbb{C}^4$ such that $E^\sharp = H^\sharp \cap W^\sharp$ and H^\sharp is smooth.

(2.1.3) Claim. $F^\sharp \subset H^\sharp$.

Proof. Let ψ be the μ_m -semi-invariant equation of H^\sharp . Then $\text{wt } \psi \equiv a$. Hence ψ does not contain terms x_4^k and so it vanishes on F^\sharp . \square

(2.1.4) We define the invariant $\varsigma(W, E, P)$ as the local intersection number $(E^\sharp \cdot F^\sharp)_0$ inside H^\sharp . Clearly it coincides with $\varsigma(E^\sharp, P^\sharp, \mu_m)$ defined above.

(2.1.5) Lemma. *Assume that (W, P) is not a cyclic quotient singularity. The invariant $\zeta(W, E, P)$ does not depend on the choice of E and $\zeta(W, E, P) = \text{am}(W, P)$.*

Proof. Both sides of the equality coincide with the order of vanishing of $\phi|_{F\sharp}$. □

(2.1.6) Corollary. *Let (W, P) is a three-dimensional terminal singularity of index $m > 1$ which is not a cyclic quotient and let $E \in |-K_{(W,P)}|$ be a member having a Du Val singularity of A-type at P . Then E is isomorphic to a general member $E_{\text{gen}} \in |-K_{(W,P)}|$.*

Proof. By the above lemma we have $\zeta(E\sharp, P\sharp, \mu_m) = \zeta(E_{\text{gen}}\sharp, P\sharp, \mu_m) = \text{am}(W, P)$. Then the statement follows by the first line in (2.1.1). □

(2.2) Proposition. *Let $\varphi: (V, \Gamma) \rightarrow (W, o)$ be the analytic germ of a divisorial extremal contraction of threefolds with terminal singularities (in particular, W is \mathbb{Q} -Gorenstein) such that the central fiber $\Gamma := \varphi^{-1}(o)_{\text{red}}$ is one-dimensional and irreducible.*

- (i) *The point (W, o) cannot be of type $cAx/4$.*
- (ii) *If (W, o) is of type $cAx/2$, then (V, Γ) has a unique non-Gorenstein point which is of type (II^\vee) .*
- (iii) *If (W, o) is analytically isomorphic to*

$$(2.2.1) \quad \{x_1x_2 + x_3^2 + x_4^{2k} = 0\}/\mu_2(1, 1, 0, 1),$$

then (V, Γ) has a unique non-Gorenstein point P which is locally imprimitive of index 4 and splitting degree 2. Moreover, $P \in (V, \Gamma)$ is either of type (II^\vee) or (IA^\vee) and in the second case (X, P) is a cyclic quotient singularity.

Proof. For the proof we assume that (W, o) is of type $cAx/4$, $cAx/2$, or as in (2.2.1). We will use the classification [KM92, Th. 2.2]. Let m be the index of (W, o) . Then the canonical class K_W is an m -torsion element in $\text{Cl}^{\text{sc}}(W, o)$. Its pull-back φ^*K_W is a well-defined Cartier divisor on $V \setminus \Gamma$ such that $m(\varphi^*K_W) \sim 0$. Hence $\text{Cl}^{\text{sc}}(V, \Gamma)$ contains an m -torsion element, say ξ . By the classification [KM92, Th. 2.2] and by [Mor88, (1.10)] the group $\text{Cl}^{\text{sc}}(V, \Gamma)$ can contain a torsion only when (V, Γ) is of type (k1A) (with a point of type (IA^\vee)), (II^\vee) , or (k2A).

Assume that (V, Γ) is of type (k2A). Then by [KM92, Th. 2.2] a general member $D \in |-K_V|$ and its image $\varphi(D) \in |-K_W|$ have only Du Val singularities. Moreover, $(\varphi(D), o)$ is a singularity of type A_* and so (W, o) is of type $cA/*$. Clearly, the contraction $\varphi|_D: D \rightarrow \varphi(D)$ is crepant. By our assumptions (W, o) is a singularity given by (2.2.1). So, $\text{am}(W, o) = 2$. By Corollary (2.1.6) the singularity $(\varphi(D), o)$ is of type A_3 . Since $\varphi_D: D \rightarrow \varphi(D)$ is crepant and V has two singular points, the only possibility is that D has two singularities of type A_1 . But in this case V is of index two and then by [KM92, Th. 4.7] V has a unique non-Gorenstein point, a contradiction.

In the remaining cases (II^\vee) and (k1A), V has a unique non-Gorenstein point P . Then (V, Γ) is locally imprimitive at P and the splitting degree equals m . In particular, the index of P is $> m$ [Mor88, Cor. 1.16]. Thus if (V, Γ) is of type (II^\vee) , then we are in the case (ii) or (iii).

Assume that (V, Γ) is of type (k1A). Then by [KM92, Th. 2.2] a general member $D \in |-K_V|$ does not contain Γ , has only Du Val singularity at $P := \{D \cap \Gamma\}$, and $\varphi|_D: D \rightarrow \varphi(D)$ is an isomorphism. Hence $\varphi(D) \in |-K_W|$ has a Du Val singularity of type A at o . In this case, (W, o) cannot be of type $cAx/*$. Thus (W, o) is given by (2.2.1). By Corollary (2.1.6) $D \simeq \varphi(D)$ is of type A_3 . Since the index of (V, P) is > 2 , (V, P) must be a cyclic quotient singularity $\frac{1}{4}(1, 1, -1)$. So we are in the case (iii). This proves the proposition. \square

(2.3) Proposition. *Let $\chi: (V, \Gamma) \dashrightarrow (V^+, \Gamma^+)$ be a flip of threefolds with terminal singularities with irreducible flipping curve Γ . Then (V^+, Γ^+) contains none of the following configurations of singularities:*

- (i) *two cyclic quotient singularities P_1^+ and P_2^+ of indices m_1 and m_2 with $\text{gcd}(m_1, m_2) > 1$ such that (V^+, Γ^+) is locally primitive at P_1^+ and P_2^+ ;*
- (ii) *an imprimitive point P^+ of splitting degree $s > 1$.*

Proof. By [KM92, Cor. 13.4] Γ^+ is irreducible. Assume that one of the cases (i)-(ii) holds. As in [Mor88, Cor. 1.12] there is a d -torsion element $\xi^+ \in \text{Cl}^{\text{sc}} V^+$ for some $d > 1$. Its proper transform ξ on V is a d -torsion element in $\text{Cl}^{\text{sc}} V$. In [KM92] flips are classified into 6 types (k1A), (k2A), (cD/3), (IIA), (IC), (kAD) according to a general member of the anti-canonical linear system $|-K_V|$ [KM92, Th. 2.2]. The group $\text{Cl}^{\text{sc}} V$ can contain a torsion only in cases (k1A) and (k2A) (in all other cases the flipping variety is locally primitive and indices of non-Gorenstein points are coprime, cf. [Mor88, (1.10)]). The torsion

elements ξ and ξ^+ induce the following cyclic μ_d -coverings:

$$(2.3.1) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} (V', \Gamma') & \xrightarrow{\chi'} & (V^{+'}, \Gamma^{+'}) \\ \downarrow \pi & & \downarrow \pi^+ \\ (V, \Gamma) & \xrightarrow{\chi} & (V^+, \Gamma^+) \end{array}$$

Consider the flipping diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (V, \Gamma) & \overset{\chi}{\dashrightarrow} & (V^+, \Gamma^+) \\ \searrow \varphi & & \swarrow \varphi^+ \\ & (W, o) & \end{array}$$

By [Mor88, Th. 7.3, 9.10] and [KM92, Th. 2.2], a general member $D \in |-K_V|$ has only Du Val singularities. Since the restriction $\varphi_D: D \rightarrow \varphi(D)$ is crepant, the same holds for $\varphi(D) \in |-K_W|$. Further, if we put $D^+ = \chi(D)$, then $D^+ \in |-K_{V^+}|$ and D^+ also has only Du Val singularities. Since $K_{V^+} \cdot \Gamma^+ > 0$, $D^+ \supset \Gamma^+$.

(2.3.2) First we consider the case where our flip is of type (k1A). Then V has a unique non-Gorenstein point P and P is of type $cA/*$. In this case $D \cap \Gamma = \{P\}$ and $(\varphi(D), o) \simeq (D, P)$ is of type A_* . Since $\text{Cl}^{\text{sc}} V$ has a torsion, (V, Γ) is locally imprimitive at P .

(2.3.3) Assume that we are in the case (i). We claim that V^+ has at least one analytically non- \mathbb{Q} -factorial singular point ($\neq P_1^+, P_2^+$). Indeed, since the germ (V, Γ) has only one non-Gorenstein point, it is locally imprimitive and in the diagram (2.3.1) π is the splitting cover [Mor88, Cor. 1.12]. Here Γ' has exactly d components and $V^{+'}$ is the relative canonical model of V' . Since (V^+, Γ^+) is locally primitive at P_1^+ and P_2^+ , the curve $\Gamma^{+'}$ is irreducible. Now the map χ' can be decomposed as follows

$$\chi': V' = V'_0 \dashrightarrow V'_1 \dashrightarrow \cdots \dashrightarrow V'_n \rightarrow V^{+'},$$

where every $V'_i \dashrightarrow V'_{i+1}$ is a flip along an irreducible curve and $V'_n \rightarrow V^{+'}$ is a crepant small contraction (cf. [KM92, Proof of 13.5]). Every step $V'_i \dashrightarrow V'_{i+1}$ preserves the number of components of the central fiber. Hence the crepant contraction $V'_n \rightarrow V^{+'}$ is nontrivial and gives us an analytically non- \mathbb{Q} -factorial point $Q \in \Gamma^+ \subset V^+$ (because $V^{+'} \rightarrow V^+$ is étale outside of P_1^+ and P_2^+). This proves our claim. Thus the divisor D^+ has at least three singular points: P_1^+ ,

P_2^+ , and Q . But then $\varphi_D^+ : D^+ \rightarrow \varphi(D)$ contracts Γ^+ to a Du Val singularity of type D_* or E_* , a contradiction.

(2.3.4) Now we assume that we are in the case (ii). We claim that the log divisor $K_{D^+} + \Gamma^+$ is not plt at P^+ . Indeed, in the diagram (2.3.1) π^+ is the splitting cover (see [Mor88, Cor. 1.12.1]). In particular, π^+ is étale outside P^+ , $\pi^{+^{-1}}(P^+)$ is one point, and $\Gamma^{+'}$ has $s > 1$ irreducible components, all of them pass through $\pi^{+^{-1}}(P^+)$. Let $D^{+'} := \pi^{+^{-1}}(D^+)$. Since $\Gamma^{+'}$ is singular at $\pi^{+^{-1}}(P^+)$, the log divisor $K_{D^{+'}} + \Gamma^{+'}$ is not plt at this point. This proves our claim because the restriction $\pi_D^+ : D^{+'} \rightarrow D^+$ is étale in codimension one (see, e.g., [Kol92, Cor. 20.4]). Now since the contraction $D^+ \rightarrow \varphi(D)$ is crepant, D^+ is dominated by the minimal resolution D^{\min} of $\varphi(D)$: $D^{\min} \rightarrow D^+ \rightarrow \varphi(D)$. Since $K_{D^+} + \Gamma^+$ is not plt, the exceptional divisor of $D^{\min} \rightarrow \varphi(D)$ is not a chain of smooth rational curves. Hence $(\varphi(D), o)$ is not a singularity of type A_* , a contradiction.

(2.3.5) Finally, we consider the case where our flip is of type (k2A). These flips are described in [Mor02]. We will use notation of [Mor02]. By [Mor02, Th. 4.7] (V^+, Γ^+) is locally primitive. Hence we have the case (i). Moreover, V^+ has exactly two singular points and they are analytically isomorphic to germs of the following cA/m_i singularities:

$$\{\xi_i \eta_i = G_{k-i}(\zeta_i^{m_i}, u^{e(k+2-i)})\} / \mu_{m_i} \subset \mathbb{C}_{\xi_i, \eta_i, \zeta_i, u}^4 / \mu_{m_i}(1, -1, a_i, 0),$$

where k, a_i are some positive numbers and $e(j)$ is some function. Hence these points coincide with P_1^+ and P_2^+ . Since $P_i^+ \in \Gamma^+ \subset V^+$ are cyclic quotient singularities, we have $e(k) = e(k+1) = 1$ (u needs to be eliminated). If we put $\delta := a_1 m_2 + a_2 m_1 - m_1 m_2$, then $\delta \geq d$ and by definition [Mor02, Def. 3.2] we have $e(3) = 0$, $e(4) = \delta \alpha_1 \geq d > 1$, $e(5) = (\delta^2 \rho_2 - 1) \alpha_1 + \delta \alpha_2 \geq d > 1$ (see [Mor02, Rem. 3.6]). Thus, $k \geq 6$. On the other hand, by [Mor02, Lemma 3.5, Cor. 3.7] we have $k \leq 5$, a contradiction. □

(2.4) Proposition. *Let $\varphi : (V, \Gamma) \rightarrow (W, o)$ be the germ of a birational crepant contraction of threefolds with terminal singularities, where Γ is irreducible.*

- (i) (V, Γ) contains at most two non-Gorenstein points.
- (ii) If (V, Γ) is imprimitive at some point P , then (W, o) cannot be a singularity of type $cA/*$.

Proof. For the proof we assume that V is not Gorenstein. Since φ is crepant, the point (W, o) is not Gorenstein. Let m be its index. Let $D \in |-K_{(W,o)}|$ be a general member and let $S := \varphi^{-1}(D)$. Then $S \in |-K_{(V,\Gamma)}|$ and both S and D have only Du Val singularities. Moreover, the restriction map $\varphi_S: S \rightarrow D$ is crepant. Hence S is dominated by the minimal resolution D^{\min} of D and obtained from D^{\min} by contracting all but one exceptional curves.

First assume that (V, Γ) has at least three non-Gorenstein points, say $P, Q,$ and R . By the classification of Du Val singularities (D, o) is a singularity of type D_* or E_* and S is obtained from D by blowing up the exceptional curve corresponding to the central vertex in the Dynkin diagram. In this case exceptional curves on D^{\min} over $(S, P), (S, Q)$ and (S, R) form strings and the proper transform of Γ is adjacent to the ends of them. This means that the log divisor $K_S + \Gamma$ is plt. The latter implies that the germ (V, Γ) is locally primitive (cf. (2.3.4)). Now consider the index-one cover $\pi: (W^\sharp, o^\sharp) \rightarrow (W, o)$. It induces the following diagram

$$(2.4.1) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} (V^\sharp, \Gamma^\sharp) & \xrightarrow{v} & (V, \Gamma) \\ \downarrow \varphi^\sharp & & \downarrow \varphi \\ (W^\sharp, o^\sharp) & \xrightarrow{\pi} & (W, o) \end{array}$$

Since (V, Γ) is locally primitive, $\Gamma^\sharp = \varphi^{\sharp-1}(o^\sharp)$ is irreducible. The group μ_m naturally acts on $\Gamma^\sharp \simeq \mathbb{P}^1$ and has exactly two fixed points. Thus we may assume that $v^{-1}(R)$ contains no fixed points. But then $v^{-1}(R)$ consists of $m > 1$ non-Gorenstein points of the same index. By [Mor88, Cor. 1.12] there is a torsion element in $\text{Cl}^{\text{sc}}(V^\sharp, \Gamma^\sharp) \simeq \text{Cl}^{\text{sc}}(W^\sharp, o^\sharp)$. This contradicts the fact that $W^\sharp \setminus \{o^\sharp\}$ is simply connected. Thus (i) is proved.

Now assume that (V, Γ) contains an imprimitive point P . By the proof of (i) S has at most two singular points and the log divisor $K_S + \Gamma$ is not plt at P . On the other hand, assume that (D, o) is a point of type A_* . Then the exceptional curves of the minimal resolution $D^{\min} \rightarrow S$ and Γ form a chain. Hence $K_S + \Gamma$ is not plt, a contradiction. \square

(2.5) Proposition (cf. [Mor88, 1.14]). *Let $f: (X, C) \rightarrow (Z, o)$ be the germ of a contraction from a threefold with only terminal singularities to a surface such that*

- (i) $-K_X$ is nef and big,
- (ii) $C := f^{-1}(o)_{\text{red}}$ is a curve having at least three components,

(iii) each K_X -trivial component $C_j \subset C$ contains a non-Gorenstein point.

Then X has index > 1 at all singular points of C .

Proof. By the Kawamata-Viehweg vanishing theorem we have $R^1 f_* \mathcal{O}_X = 0$. Hence C is a union of \mathbb{P}^1 's whose configuration is a tree. Let $P \in C$ be a singular point and let $C_i \subset C$ be a component passing through P . We have $\text{gr}_{C_i}^0 \omega \simeq \mathcal{O}(-1)$. Indeed, take a positive integer m such that mK_X is Cartier. Then there is a natural embedding $(\text{gr}_{C_i}^0 \omega)^{\otimes m} \hookrightarrow \mathcal{O}_{C_i}(mK_X)$. Since $K_X \cdot C_i \leq 0$ we have $\deg \text{gr}_{C_i}^0 \omega \leq 0$. Moreover, if $K_X \cdot C_i < 0$, then $\deg \text{gr}_{C_i}^0 \omega < 0$. Assume that $K_X \cdot C_i = 0$. Since C_i contains a non-Gorenstein point, the above embedding is not an isomorphism and so again $\deg \text{gr}_{C_i}^0 \omega < 0$. On the other hand, C_i is contractible over Z . Hence, by the Grauert-Riemenschneider vanishing theorem we have $H^1(\text{gr}_{C_i}^0 \omega) = 0$. This shows $\text{gr}_{C_i}^0 \omega \simeq \mathcal{O}(-1)$.

Now let C_j be another component of C passing through P . As above, $\text{gr}_{C_j}^0 \omega \simeq \mathcal{O}(-1)$. Consider the following exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \text{gr}_{C_i \cup C_j}^0 \omega \longrightarrow \text{gr}_{C_i}^0 \omega \oplus \text{gr}_{C_j}^0 \omega \longrightarrow \mathcal{F} \longrightarrow 0,$$

where $\text{Supp } \mathcal{F} = P$. Since $C_i \cup C_j \neq C$, $C_i \cup C_j$ is contractible over Z and again by the Grauert-Riemenschneider vanishing $H^1(\text{gr}_{C_i \cup C_j}^0 \omega) = 0$. This implies $\text{gr}_{C_i \cup C_j}^0 \omega \simeq \text{gr}_{C_i}^0 \omega \oplus \text{gr}_{C_j}^0 \omega$. So $\text{gr}_{C_i \cup C_j}^0 \omega$ is not locally free at P and this point cannot be Gorenstein. \square

§3. The Proof of the Main Theorem

In this section we prove Theorem (1.3).

(3.1) Notation. Let $f: (X, C) \rightarrow (Z, o)$ be a \mathbb{Q} -conic bundle germ with reducible central fiber C . Then $\rho(X/Z) > 1$. Recall that according to [MP08, Th. 1.2.7] (Z, o) is either smooth or Du Val of type A (see also the construction (3.1.2) below). We assume that (Z, o) is singular of type A_{n-1} , $n \geq 2$.

(3.1.1) Lemma. *Notation as above.*

(i) If (X, C) has a point P such that either

- (a) P is of type $cAx/4$, or
- (b) for each component $C_i \subset C$ passing through P the germ (X, C_i) is locally imprimitive at P .

Then P is the only non-Gorenstein point on X .

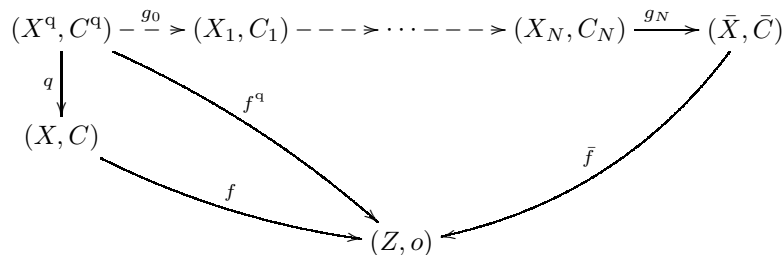
- (ii) *Conversely, if P is a unique non-Gorenstein point on X , then all the components $C_i \subset C$ pass through P and the germ (X, C_i) is locally imprimitive at P . If furthermore (X, P) is of index 4, then (X, C) is a quotient of an index two \mathbb{Q} -conic bundle germ (X', C') over a smooth base by μ_2 , where the action is free in codimension one, C' has four irreducible components and μ_2 does not fix any of them.*

Proof. Let $P \in X$ be a point as in (i). For each component $C_i \subset C$ passing through P the germ (X, C_i) is an extremal neighborhood and by [KM92, Th. 2.2] (X, C_i) has no non-Gorenstein point other than P . Since each singular point of C is not Gorenstein [Kol99, Prop. 4.2], [MP08, 4.4.2] and C is connected, P is the only non-Gorenstein point on the whole X .

Now assume that P is the only non-Gorenstein point. Consider the base change [MP08, 2.4]: $(X', C') \rightarrow (X, C)$. Here (X', C') is a conic bundle germ over a smooth base and $X' \rightarrow X$ is a μ_n -cover étale outside P . Thus $(X, C) = (X', C')/\mu_n$. If μ_n fixes a component $C'_i \subset C'$, then there are two μ_n -fixed points on C_i and they give us two non-Gorenstein points on X , a contradiction. So the first assertion of (ii) is proved.

Finally assume that (X, P) is of index 4. Since the index of (X, P) is divisible by n , $n = 4$ or 2 . If $n = 4$, then X' is Gorenstein. In this case, by [Pro97, Th. 2.4] C is irreducible, a contradiction. Thus $n = 2$ and (X', C') is of index 2. By the above, μ_2 does not fix any component of C' . On the other hand, C' has at most four components [MP08, Th. 12.1]. Hence C' has exactly four components. This proves the lemma. \square

(3.1.2) Let $q: X^q \rightarrow X$ be a \mathbb{Q} -factorialization. (It is possible that q is the identity map.) Run the MMP over Z : $X^q = X_0 \dashrightarrow X_{N+1} = \bar{X}$. Since X/Z is a rational curve fibration, X_{N+1} is not a minimal model over Z . Therefore, at the end we get an extremal contraction $\bar{f}: \bar{X} \rightarrow \bar{Z}$ of Fano type over Z . Since the composition $f^q: X^q \rightarrow Z$ has only one-dimensional fibers, $Z = \bar{Z}$ and $X^q \dashrightarrow \bar{X}$ is a sequence of flips and extremal divisorial contractions that contract a divisor to a curve which is not contained in the fiber over $o \in Z$. Thus we have the following diagram:



Here each X_k has a morphism $f_k: X_k \rightarrow Z$ with connected one-dimensional fibers and $C_k := f_k^{-1}(o)$ is the central fiber (with reduced structure). Since $\rho(\bar{X}/Z) = 1$, $\bar{f}: \bar{X} \rightarrow \bar{Z}$ is a \mathbb{Q} -conic bundle with irreducible central fiber \bar{C} . Since the base (Z, o) is singular, \bar{X} is not Gorenstein. So \bar{f} is classified in [MP08], see also (1.2).

(3.1.3) Note that each component of the central fiber C_k is contractible and the resulting variety is again projective over Z (because it has one-dimensional fibers over Z). Hence each component of C_k generates an extremal ray (not necessarily K -negative). This implies that all our flipping curves are irreducible and all the divisorial contractions have irreducible fibers. Note also that all the varieties X_k are analytically \mathbb{Q} -factorial at each point on C_k (again because $X_k \rightarrow Z$ has one-dimensional fibers, cf. [Mor88, Proof of 1.7]).

The following is the key argument in the proof.

(3.2) Proposition. *In the above notation one of the following holds.*

(3.2.1) *There is a component $C_0^q \subset C^q$ containing two cyclic quotient singularities P^q and Q^q of index n . No other components of C^q pass through P^q and Q^q .*

(3.2.2) *There is a point $P^q \in (X^q, C^q)$ of index $m > 1$ which is contained in only one component $C_0^q \subset C^q$ and such that (X^q, C_0^q) is locally imprimitive at P^q . The following are the possibilities for (n, m) : $(4, 8)$, $(2, 4)$, and $(2, 2)$.*

(3.2.3) *There is a point $P^q \in (X^q, C^q)$ which is contained in exactly two components $C_0^q, C_1^q \subset C^q$ and such that both germs (X^q, C_i^q) are locally imprimitive at P^q . The point (X^q, P^q) is of type $cAx/4$ or $\frac{1}{4}(1, 1, -1)$. Here $n = 2$.*

Moreover, there is an n -torsion element $\xi^q \in \text{Cl}^{\text{sc}}(X^q, C^q)$ which is not Cartier at P^q (and at Q^q is the case (3.2.1)).

Proof. Since (Z, o) is of type A_{n-1} , there is an n -torsion element $\eta \in \text{Cl}(Z, o)$. Put $\bar{\xi} := \bar{f}^*\eta$, $\xi_l := f_l^*\eta$, and $\xi^q := f^q*\eta$.

Assume that (\bar{X}, \bar{C}) is either toroidal of type (IA)+(IA). Let \bar{P}, \bar{Q} be the singular points of \bar{X} . Then $\bar{\xi}$ is not Cartier at \bar{P} and \bar{Q} . We claim that the map $\psi: \bar{X} \dashrightarrow X^q$ is an isomorphism near \bar{P} and \bar{Q} . Indeed, by induction, since \bar{P}, \bar{Q} are cyclic quotient singularities of index n , there is no divisorial contractions over these points by [Kaw96] and by Proposition (2.3) on each step the proper transform of \bar{C} cannot be a flipped curve. So if we put $P^q := \psi(\bar{P}), Q^q := \psi(\bar{Q})$, and $C_0^q := \psi(\bar{C})$, we get the case (3.2.1).

Now assume that (\bar{X}, \bar{C}) is of type $(\text{IE}^\vee), (\text{IA}^\vee),$ or (II^\vee) . Let \bar{P} be a (unique) non-Gorenstein point. Then (\bar{X}, \bar{P}) is either a cyclic quotient singularity or of type $cAx/4$ and again $\bar{\xi}$ is not Cartier at \bar{P} . Moreover, (\bar{X}, \bar{C}) is locally imprimitive at \bar{P} . As above, there is no divisorial contractions over \bar{P} by [Kaw96] and Proposition (2.2) and the proper transform of \bar{C} cannot be a flipped curve by Proposition (2.3). Put $P^q := \psi(\bar{P})$ and $C_0^q := \psi(\bar{C})$. We get the case (3.2.2).

Finally consider the case where (\bar{X}, \bar{C}) is of type (ID^\vee) . Then $n = 2$, i.e., (Z, o) is of type A_1 . Let \bar{P} be a (unique) non-Gorenstein point. Then (\bar{X}, \bar{C}) is locally imprimitive at \bar{P} and (\bar{X}, \bar{P}) is of type $cA/2$ or $cAx/2$. Moreover, in the first case, (\bar{X}, \bar{P}) is analytically isomorphic to a singularity given by (2.2.1). If there is no divisorial contractions over \bar{P} , we can argue as above and get the case (3.2.2). Otherwise on some step, the map $\psi_{k+1}: \bar{X} \dashrightarrow X_{k+1}$ is an isomorphism near \bar{P} and there is a divisorial contraction $g_k: X_k \rightarrow X_{k+1}$ which blows up a curve passing through $P_{k+1} := \psi_{k+1}(\bar{P})$. Let $C_{k,0} := g_k^{-1}(P_{k+1})$ and let $C_{k,1}$ be the proper transform of \bar{C} on X_k . By Proposition (2.2) X_k has exactly one non-Gorenstein point P_k on $C_{k,0}$. Moreover, P_k is either a cyclic quotient singularity $\frac{1}{4}(1, 1, -1)$ or of type $cAx/4$ and $(X_k, C_{k,0})$ is locally imprimitive at P_k of splitting degree 2. Note that $\xi_k = g_k^*\xi_{k+1}$ is not Cartier at some point of $C_{k,0}$. Since P_k is the only non-Gorenstein point on $C_{k,0}$, ξ_k is not Cartier at P_k . Now if $C_{k,1}$ does not pass through P_k , then as above we get the case (3.2.2). Assume that $C_{k,0} \cap C_{k,1} = \{P_k\}$.

We claim that $(X_k, C_{k,1})$ is locally imprimitive at P_k . Indeed, ξ_k defines the double cover $\pi_k: (X'_k, C'_k) \rightarrow (X_k, C_k)$ which is étale outside $\text{Sing } X_k$. Since ξ_k is not Cartier at P_k , π_k does not split over P_k . Hence, $C'_{k,1} := \pi_k^{-1}(C_{k,1})$ is connected. On the other hand, since (\bar{X}, \bar{C}) is locally imprimitive at \bar{P} , the curve $C'_{k,1}$ is reducible. This means that $C_{k,1}$ is locally imprimitive at P_k . Finally as above the map $X_k \dashrightarrow X^q$ is an isomorphism near P_k . We get case (3.2.3). \square

(3.3) Proposition. *Notation as in (3.1). Then (X, C) contains only one non-Gorenstein point P . This point is either a cyclic quotient $\frac{1}{4}(1, 1, -1)$ or of type $cAx/4$. Moreover, for each component $C_i \subset C$ the germ (X, C_i) is imprimitive at P and (Z, o) is of type A_1 .*

Proof. By Proposition (3.2) there is a component $C_0^q \subsetneq C^q$ as in (3.2.1), (3.2.2), or (3.2.3). First assume that C_0^q is not contracted by $q: X^q \rightarrow X$. Put $C_0 := q(C_0^q)$. Then (X, C_0) is an extremal neighborhood. In the case (3.2.1) it has two cyclic quotient singularities at $q(P^q)$ and $q(Q^q)$ and no other components of C pass through $q(P^q)$ and $q(Q^q)$. On the other hand, $C \neq C_0$ and intersection points $C_0 \cap (C - C_0)$ are non-Gorenstein [Kol99, Prop. 4.2], [MP08, 4.4.2]. Thus the extremal neighborhood (X, C_0) has at least three non-Gorenstein points. This contradicts [Mor88, Th. 6.2]. Similarly, in the case (3.2.2), (X, C_0) is locally imprimitive at $q(P^q)$ and no other components of C pass through $q(P^q)$. We get a contradiction by Lemma (3.1.1). Consider the case (3.2.3). If C_1^q is not contracted by q , then we are done by Lemma (3.1.1). If C_1^q is contracted by q , then $q(C_1)$ is a point of type $cAx/4$ by Proposition (2.4) and because P^q is of index 4. Then again the assertion follows by Lemma (3.1.1).

From now on we assume that q contracts C_0^q , i.e., $K_{X^q} \cdot C_0^q = 0$. In the case (3.2.3) by symmetry and by the above arguments we may assume that q contracts C_1^q . Consider the decomposition

$$q: X^q \xrightarrow{\varphi} X^\delta \xrightarrow{\delta} X,$$

where φ contracts all the K_{X^q} -trivial components of C^q except for C_0^q . Put $C^\delta := \varphi(C^q)$ and $C_0^\delta := \varphi(C_0^q)$. Thus $-K_{X^\delta}$ is nef and big over Z and C_0^δ is the only K_{X^δ} -trivial curve on X^δ/Z . Let $C^{\delta\delta} := C^\delta - C_0^\delta$. Then $C^{\delta\delta}$ has at least two components. Let $P := \delta(C_0^\delta)$ and $R^\delta = C^{\delta\delta} \cap C_0^\delta$. By Proposition (2.5) R^δ is not Gorenstein.

In the case (3.2.1), C_0^δ contains at least three non-Gorenstein points: R^δ , $P^\delta := \varphi(P^q)$, and $Q^\delta := \varphi(Q^q)$. This contradicts Proposition (2.4).

In the case (3.2.2), $P^\delta := \varphi(P^q)$ is a locally imprimitive point of (X^δ, C_0^δ) . By Proposition (2.4) the singularity $(X, P = \delta(C_0^\delta))$ is not of type $cA/*$. If the index of (X, P) is ≥ 4 , then (X, P) is of type $cAx/4$ and we can apply Lemma (3.1.1). Thus we assume that (X, P) is of index 2 and $n = 2$. Let $C_i \subset C$ be a component passing through P . By [Mor88, Cor. 1.16] (X, C_i) is primitive at P . Further, $\xi := f^*\eta = q_*\xi^q$ is a 2-torsion element of $\text{Cl}^{\text{sc}}(X, C)$ and is not Cartier at P . This defines a double étale in codimension one cover $(X', C'_i) \rightarrow (X, C_i)$ which does not split over P . Hence there is a point $Q \in (X, C_i)$ of even index.

This contradicts the classification [KM92, Th. 2.2] (cf. [Mor07]).

Consider the case (3.2.3). Then $P^\delta := \varphi(P^q)$ is a point of index ≥ 4 (because φ is a crepant contraction). Recall that φ contracts C_1^q by our assumption. Then by Proposition (2.4) (X^δ, P^δ) is a point of type $cAx/4$. As in the proof of Proposition (2.4), let $D \in |-K_{(X, \delta(P^\delta))}|$ be a general element and let $S := \delta^{-1}(D)$. Then both D and S have only Du Val singularities and the contraction $\delta_S: S \rightarrow D$ is crepant. Since (S, P^δ) is not of type A_* , the germ (D, P) also cannot be of type A_* . Hence, (X, P) is not of type $cA/*$ and so it is of type $cAx/4$ (because its index is ≥ 4). Then the assertion follows by Lemma (3.1.1). \square

(3.4) Explicit forms. By Proposition (3.3) and Lemma (3.1.1) $f: (X, C) \rightarrow (Z, o)$ is a quotient of an index-two \mathbb{Q} -conic bundle $f': (X', C') \rightarrow (Z', o')$ over a smooth base by μ_2 , where μ_2 acts on X' and Z' freely in codimension one. By [MP08, Prop. 12.1.10] there is a μ_2 -equivariant diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X' \hookrightarrow & \mathbb{P}(1, 1, 1, 2) \times \mathbb{C}^2 & \\ & \searrow f & \downarrow p \\ & & \mathbb{C}^2 \end{array}$$

where the actions of μ_2 on $(\mathbb{C}^2, 0) \simeq (Z', o')$ and $\mathbb{P}(1, 1, 1, 2)$ are linear. Further, we can make coordinates y_1, y_2, y_3, u, v in $\mathbb{P}(1, 1, 1, 2)$ and \mathbb{C}^2 to be semi-invariant. By [MP08, Th. 12.1] X' is given by two semi-invariant equations

$$\begin{cases} q_1(y_1, y_2, y_3) - \psi_1(y_1, \dots, y_4; u, v) = 0, \\ q_2(y_1, y_2, y_3) - \psi_2(y_1, \dots, y_4; u, v) = 0, \end{cases}$$

where ψ_i and q_i are weighted quadratic in y_1, \dots, y_4 with respect to $\text{wt}(y_1, \dots, y_4) = (1, 1, 1, 2)$ and $\psi_i(y_1, \dots, y_4; 0, 0) = 0$. Since the action of μ_2 on $Z \simeq \mathbb{C}^2$ is free outside 0, this action is given by $u \mapsto -u, v \mapsto -v$. Modulo multiplication on ± 1 and permutations of y_1, y_2, y_3 , we may assume also that $y_1 \mapsto -y_1, y_2 \mapsto -y_2, y_3 \mapsto y_3$. Otherwise all the points of $\{y_4 = 0\} \cap C'$ are fixed by μ_2 , while P is the only non-Gorenstein on X .

The central fiber C' is defined by $q_1 = q_2 = 0$. By Lemma (3.1.1) C' has exactly four components and μ_2 does not fix any of them. Thus we may assume that $C' = \cup C'_i, i = 1, 2, 3, 4$ and μ_2 interchanges C'_1 and C'_2 (resp. C'_3 and C'_4). For any two components $C'_i \neq C'_j$ of C' , there is a linear form $l_{i,j}(y_1, \dots, y_3)$ that vanishes along $C'_i \cup C'_j$. Then quadratic forms $l_{1,2}l_{3,4}, l_{1,3}l_{2,4}, l_{1,4}l_{2,3}$ vanish along C' . Hence they belong to the pencil $\lambda_1 q_1 + \lambda_2 q_2$ and semi-invariant. This

implies that the action of μ_2 on the pencil is trivial. Moreover, we can put $q_1 = l_{1,3}l_{2,4}$ and $q_2 = l_{1,4}l_{2,3}$. In view of the μ_2 -action we may assume that $l_{1,3} = y_1 + y_3$, $l_{2,4} = y_1 - y_3$, $l_{1,4} = y_2 + y_3$, $l_{2,3} = y_2 - y_3$ after some linear coordinate change of y_1, y_2, y_3 .

We claim that $y_4 \mapsto -y_4$. The arguments below are similar to ones in the proof of [MP08, Lemma 12.1.12]. Assume to the contrary that $y_4 \mapsto y_4$. Let $U \subset \mathbb{P}(1, 1, 1, 2)$ be the chart $y_4 \neq 0$. Then $U \simeq \mathbb{C}_{z_1, z_2, z_3}^3 / \mu_2(1, 1, 1)$. Let X^\sharp be the pull-back of $X \cap (U \times \mathbb{C}_{u, v}^2)$ on $\mathbb{C}_{z_1, z_2, z_3}^3 \times \mathbb{C}_{u, v}^2$ and let $P^\sharp \in X^\sharp$ be the preimage of P . Since the induced map $X^\sharp \rightarrow X$ is étale in codimension one, $(X^\sharp, P^\sharp) \rightarrow (X, P)$ is the index-one cover. Hence $(X^\sharp, P^\sharp) \rightarrow (X, P) / \mu_2$ is also the index-one cover of the terminal point $(X, P) / \mu_2$ of index 4 (the last is true because the action of μ_2 is free in codimension one). Hence the morphism is a μ_4 -covering by the structure of terminal singularities. However $(X, P) / \mu_2$ is the quotient of (X^\sharp, P^\sharp) by commuting μ_2 -actions:

$$(z_1, z_2, z_3, u, v) \mapsto (-z_1, -z_2, -z_3, u, v), (-z_1, -z_2, z_3, -u, -v)$$

This is a contradiction, and we have $y_4 \mapsto -y_4$ as claimed. This finishes the proof of Theorem (1.3).

Proof of Corollary (1.4). If C is irreducible, the assertion follows by [MP08, Proposition (1.3.7)], so we have to check only cases (1.3.1) and (1.3.2). Thus we assume that X has a unique non-Gorenstein point, say P , and C is reducible. For each component $C_i \subset C$, the germ (X, C_i) is an extremal neighborhood with a unique non-Gorenstein point. Let $F \in |-K_{(X, P)}|$ be a general member of the anti-canonical linear system of the germ (X, P) . The point (F, P) is Du Val by [Rei87, (6.4), (B)]. Further, F is also a member of $|-K_{(X, C_i)}|$ for each C_i , see [Mor88, Theorem (7.3)]. Hence $F \in |-K_X|$. \square

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