



Horrocks splitting on Segre–Veronese varieties

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Abstract

We prove an analogue of Horrocks’ splitting theorem for Segre–Veronese varieties building upon the theory of Tate resolutions on products of projective spaces.

Keywords Horrocks splitting · Segre–Veronese varieties · Tate resolutions

Mathematics Subject Classification 14F05 · 14M99

Introduction

Horrocks’ famous splitting theorem [3] on \mathbb{P}^n says that a vector bundle \mathcal{F} on \mathbb{P}^n splits into a direct sum of line bundles

$$\mathcal{F} \cong \bigoplus_j \mathcal{O}(k_j)$$

if and only if \mathcal{F} has no intermediate cohomology, i.e., if

$$H^i(\mathbb{P}^n, \mathcal{F}(k)) = 0 \quad \forall k \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ and } \forall i \text{ with } 0 < i < n.$$

In this note we prove a similar criterion for Segre–Veronese varieties

$$\mathbb{P}^{n_1} \times \dots \times \mathbb{P}^{n_t} \hookrightarrow \mathbb{P}^N$$

embedded by the complete linear system of a very ample line bundle $\mathcal{O}(H) = \mathcal{O}(d_1, \dots, d_t)$, so $N = \left(\prod_{j=1}^t \binom{n_j+d_j}{n_j}\right) - 1$.

Theorem 0.1 *Let $\mathcal{O}(H) = \mathcal{O}(d_1, \dots, d_t)$ be a very ample line bundle on a product of projective spaces $\mathbb{P} = \mathbb{P}^{n_1} \times \dots \times \mathbb{P}^{n_t}$ of dimension $m = n_1 + \dots + n_t$ with $t \geq 2$ factors. A torsion free sheaf \mathcal{F} on \mathbb{P} splits into a direct sum $\mathcal{F} \cong \bigoplus_j \mathcal{O}(k_j H)$ if and only if*

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$$\forall i \in \{1, \dots, m-1\} \quad H^i(\mathbb{P}, \mathcal{F}(a_1, \dots, a_i)) = 0$$

for all twists with $\mathcal{O}(a_1, \dots, a_i)$ such that the cohomology groups $H^i(\mathbb{P}, \mathcal{O}(kH) \otimes \mathcal{O}(a_1, \dots, a_i))$ vanish for all $i \in \{1, \dots, m-1\}$ and all $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.

We can rephrase the theorem as follows: *If a torsion free sheaf \mathcal{F} on a product $\mathbb{P}^{n_1} \times \dots \times \mathbb{P}^{n_t}$ has no intermediate cohomology in the range where the sheaves $\mathcal{O}(kH)$ have no intermediate cohomology, then it is a direct sum of these sheaves.*

Example 0.2 For $\mathbb{P} = \mathbb{P}^{n_1} \times \mathbb{P}^{n_2}$, the line bundle $\mathcal{O}(a_1, a_2)$ has a nonzero cohomology group

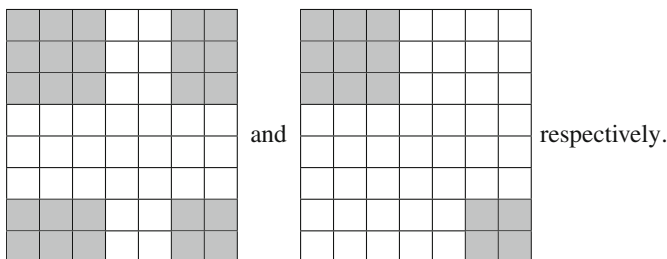
$$\begin{aligned} H^{n_1}(\mathcal{O}(a_1, a_2)) &\neq 0, & H^0(\mathcal{O}(a_1, a_2)) &\neq 0, \\ H^m(\mathcal{O}(a_1, a_2)) &\neq 0, & H^{n_2}(\mathcal{O}(a_1, a_2)) &\neq 0, \end{aligned}$$

for $a = (a_1, a_2)$ in the range

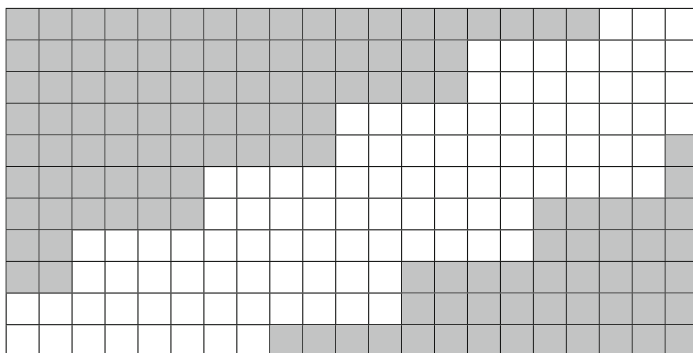
$$\begin{aligned} \{a_1 < -n_1, a_2 \geq 0\}, & \quad \{a_1 \geq 0, a_2 \geq 0\} \\ \{a_1 < -n_1, a_2 < -n_2\}, & \quad \{a_1 \geq 0, a_2 < -n_2\} \end{aligned}$$

respectively and is zero otherwise.

In particular for $\mathbb{P}^2 \times \mathbb{P}^3$ and the area $\{-5 \leq a_1 \leq 1, -5 \leq a_2 \leq 2\}$, nonzero cohomology and nonzero intermediate cohomology occur in the shaded regions



Thus for $\mathcal{O}(H) = \mathcal{O}(4, 2)$, the assumption of the theorem in this case is that the intermediate cohomology occurs only in a range as indicated in the area $\{-8 \leq a_1 \leq 12, -4 \leq a_2 \leq 6\}$ by the shaded region below:



Remark 0.3 For any coherent sheaf \mathcal{F} on \mathbb{P} the condition

$$H^i(\mathbb{P}, \mathcal{F}(kH)) = 0 \text{ for all } i \in \{1, \dots, m-1\} \text{ and all } k \in \mathbb{Z}$$

implies that \mathcal{F} is locally free unless \mathcal{F} has a zero dimensional subsheaf. The condition \mathcal{F} torsion free in Theorem 0.1 is only used to exclude such torsion subsheaves.

1 Preliminaries and notation

The Tate resolutions of a sheaf on products of projective spaces is a generalization of the Tate resolution on \mathbb{P}^n [2]. We recall from [1] the basic notation.

Let $\mathbb{P} = \mathbb{P}^{n_1} \times \dots \times \mathbb{P}^{n_t} = \mathbb{P}(W_1) \times \dots \times \mathbb{P}(W_t)$ be a product of t projective spaces over an arbitrary field K . Set $V_i = W_i^*$ and $V = \bigoplus_i V_i$. Let E be the \mathbb{Z}^t -graded exterior algebra on V , where elements of $V_i \subset E$ have degree $(0, \dots, 0, -1, 0, \dots, 0)$ with -1 in the i -th place.

For a sheaf \mathcal{F} on \mathbb{P} the Tate resolution $\mathbf{T}(\mathcal{F})$ is a minimal exact complex of graded E -modules with terms

$$\mathbf{T}(\mathcal{F})^d = \bigoplus_{a \in \mathbb{Z}^t} \text{Hom}_K(E, H^{d-|a|}(\mathbb{P}, \mathcal{F}(a))),$$

where the cohomology group $H^{d-|a|}(\mathbb{P}, \mathcal{F}(a))$ is regarded as a vector space concentrated in degree a , and $|a| = \sum_{j=1}^t a_j$ denotes the total degree.

Since $\omega_E = \text{Hom}_K(E, K)$ is the free E -module of rank 1 with socle in degree 0 and hence generator in degree $(n_1 + 1, \dots, n_t + 1)$, the differential of the complex $\mathbf{T}(\mathcal{F})$ is given by a matrix with entries in E . More precisely, the component $\text{Hom}_K(E, H^{d-|a|}(\mathbb{P}, \mathcal{F}(a))) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_K(E, H^{d+1-|b|}(\mathbb{P}, \mathcal{F}(b)))$ is given by a $h^{d+1-|b|}(\mathbb{P}, \mathcal{F}(b)) \times h^{d-|a|}(\mathbb{P}, \mathcal{F}(a))$ -matrix with entries in

$$\Lambda^{b-a} V := \Lambda^{b_1-a_1} V_1 \otimes \dots \otimes \Lambda^{b_t-a_t} V_t.$$

In particular, if $b_j < a_j$ for some j , then the corresponding block is zero. Moreover, all blocks corresponding to cases with $a = b$ are also zero, since $\mathbf{T}(\mathcal{F})$ is a minimal complex.

The complex $\mathbf{T}(\mathcal{F})$ has various exact free subquotient complexes: For $c \in \mathbb{Z}^t$ a degree and $I, J, K \subset \{1, \dots, t\}$ disjoint subsets we have the subquotient complex $T_c(I, J, K)$ with terms

$$T_c(I, J, K)^d = \sum_{\substack{a \in \mathbb{Z}^t \\ a_i < c_i \text{ for } i \in I \\ a_i = c_i \text{ for } i \in J \\ a_i \geq c_i \text{ for } i \in K}} \text{Hom}_K(E, H^{d-|a|}(\mathbb{P}, \mathcal{F}(a)))$$

By [1, Theorem 3.3 and Corollary 3.5] these complexes are exact as long as $I \cup J \cup K \subsetneq \{1, \dots, t\}$. The complexes $T_c(\emptyset, J, \emptyset)$ can be used to compute the direct image complex of $\mathcal{F}(c)$ along a partial projection $\pi_J : \mathbb{P} \rightarrow \prod_{j \notin J} \mathbb{P}^{n_j}$ [1, Corollary 0.3 and Proposition 3.6].

Lemma 1.1 *Let \mathcal{F} be a coherent sheaf on a product of projective spaces $\mathbb{P} = \mathbb{P}^{n_1} \times \dots \times \mathbb{P}^{n_t}$ and let $a = (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_t) = (a', a_t) \in \mathbb{Z}^t = \mathbb{Z}^{t-1} \times \mathbb{Z}$ and $n \in \mathbb{Z}$. If*

$$H^n(\mathcal{F}(a', a_t)) = H^{n-1}(\mathcal{F}(a', a_t + 1)) = \dots = H^{n-n_t}(\mathcal{F}(a', a_t + n_t)) = 0$$

then $H^n(\mathcal{F}(a', a_t - 1)) = 0$ as well. A similar statement holds for the cohomology along the j -th strand $T_a(\emptyset, \{1, \dots, t\} \setminus \{j\}, \emptyset)$.

Proof We consider the strand $T_a(\emptyset, \{1, \dots, t-1\}, \emptyset)$ of $\mathbf{T}(\mathcal{F})$. The differential starting at the summand $\mathrm{Hom}_K(E, H^n(\mathcal{F}(a', a_t - 1)) \subset T_a(\emptyset, \{1, \dots, t-1\}, \emptyset)$ maps in the strand to the summands

$$\mathrm{Hom}_K(E, H^n(\mathcal{F}(a', a_t))) \oplus \dots \oplus \mathrm{Hom}_K(E, H^{n-n_t}(\mathcal{F}(a', a_t + n_t))).$$

By assumption the target is zero. Since of $T_a(\emptyset, \{1, \dots, t-1\}, \emptyset)$ is minimal and exact, the source is zero as well.

The proof of the our main theorem uses the corner complexes $T_{rc}(\mathcal{F})$ which are defined as the cone of a map of complexes

$$\varphi_c : T_c(\{1, \dots, t\}, \emptyset, \emptyset)[-t] \rightarrow T_c(\emptyset, \emptyset, \{1, \dots, t\})$$

from the last quadrant complex to the first quadrant complex. The map φ_c is the composition of t maps

$$T_c(\{1, \dots, k\}, \emptyset, \{k+1, \dots, t\})[-k] \rightarrow T_c(\{1, \dots, k-1\}, \emptyset, \{k, \dots, t\})[-k+1]$$

each of which is obtained from the differential of $\mathbf{T}(\mathcal{F})$ by taking the terms with source in one quadrant and target in the next quadrant. The corner complexes are exact as well by [1, Theorem 4.3 and Corollary 4.5].

If we follow a path from the last quadrant to the first quadrant using a different order of the elements in the set $\{1, \dots, t\}$, we obtain an isomorphic complex. Indeed, all of these corner complexes are exact and their differentials

$$T_{rc}(\mathcal{F})^d \rightarrow T_{rc}(\mathcal{F})^{d+1}$$

coincide for sufficiently large cohomological degree d , since those differentials involve only terms from the first quadrant $T_c(\emptyset, \emptyset, \{1, \dots, t\})$.

2 Proof of the main result

We use the partial order $a \geq b$ on \mathbb{Z}^t defined by $a_j \geq b_j$ for $j = 1, \dots, t$ and write $a > b$ if $a \geq b$ and $a \neq b$.

Let \mathcal{F} be a coherent sheaf on $\mathbb{P} = \mathbb{P}^{n_1} \times \dots \times \mathbb{P}^{n_t}$. If $H^m(\mathbb{P}, \mathcal{F}(a)) \neq 0$ then $H^m(\mathbb{P}, \mathcal{F}(b)) \neq 0$ for all $b \leq a$ as we see from applying H^m to the surjection

$$H^0(\mathbb{P}, \mathcal{O}(a-b)) \otimes \mathcal{F}(b) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}(a).$$

An *extremal H^m -position* of \mathcal{F} is a degree $a \in \mathbb{Z}^t$ such that $H^m(\mathbb{P}, \mathcal{F}(a)) \neq 0$ but $H^m(\mathbb{P}, \mathcal{F}(c)) = 0$ for all $c > a$.

Proposition 2.1 *Let \mathcal{F} be a torsion free sheaf on $\mathbb{P}^{n_1} \times \dots \times \mathbb{P}^{n_t}$ satisfying the assumption of Theorem 0.1 with respect to $\mathcal{O}(H) = \mathcal{O}(d_1, \dots, d_t)$. There exists an extremal H^m -position for \mathcal{F} of the form*

$$(a_1, \dots, a_t) = (kd_1 - n_1 - 1, \dots, kd_t - n_t - 1)$$

for some $k \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Note that $\mathcal{O}(-n_1 - 1, \dots, -n_t - 1) \cong \omega_{\mathbb{P}}$ is the canonical sheaf on \mathbb{P} .

Proof Since \mathcal{F} is nonzero and torsion free, we have $H^m(\mathcal{F}(kH) \otimes \omega_{\mathbb{P}}) \neq 0$ for $k \ll 0$ and $H^m(\mathcal{F}(kH) \otimes \omega_{\mathbb{P}}) = 0$ for $k \gg 0$. Let k be the maximum such that $H^m(\mathcal{F}(kH) \otimes \omega_{\mathbb{P}}) \neq 0$. We claim that $(kd_1 - n_1 - 1, \dots, kd_t - n_t - 1)$ is an extremal H^m -position. Suppose it is not. Then there exists a maximal a in the range

$$(kd_1 - n_1 - 1, \dots, kd_t - n_t - 1) < a \leq ((k+1)d_1 - n_1 - 1, \dots, (k+1)d_t - n_t - 1)$$

such that $H^m(\mathcal{F}(a)) \neq 0$. At least for one i we have $kd_i - n_i - 1 < a_i$. Then for any $j \neq i$ we consider $J = \{1, \dots, t\} \setminus \{j\}$ and look at the j -th strand $T_a(\emptyset, J, \emptyset)$ through a . Lemma 1.1 implies $a_j = (k+1)d_j - n_j - 1$: If $a_j < (k+1)d_j - n_j - 1$, then we cannot reach the intermediate cohomology range of \mathcal{F} after at most $n_j + 1$ steps along this strand, contradicting the maximality of a . Starting with $kd_j - n_j - 1 < a_j = (k+1)d_j - n_j - 1$ and interchanging the role of i and j in the argument above, we deduce $a_i = (k+1)d_i - n_i - 1$ for all i . This is a contradiction to the maximality of k .

Proposition 2.2 *Let \mathcal{F} be a torsion free sheaf on $\mathbb{P}^{n_1} \times \dots \times \mathbb{P}^{n_t}$ satisfying the assumption of Theorem 0.1 with respect to $\mathcal{O}(H) = \mathcal{O}(d_1, \dots, d_t)$. If*

$$(kd_1 - n_1 - 1, \dots, kd_t - n_t - 1)$$

is an extremal H^m -position for \mathcal{F} , then

$$\mathcal{F} \cong \mathcal{O}(kH) \oplus \mathcal{F}'.$$

Proof We consider the corner complex $T_{\tilde{c}}(\mathcal{F})$ for $c = (kd_1 - n_1, \dots, kd_t - n_t)$. The first part of the corner map

$$T_c(\{1, \dots, t\}, \emptyset, \emptyset)[-t] \rightarrow T_c(\{1, \dots, t-1\}, \emptyset, \{t\})[-t+1]$$

with source $\text{Hom}_K(E, H^m(\mathcal{F}(kH) \otimes \omega_{\mathbb{P}}))$ is a map

$$\text{Hom}_K(E, H^m(\mathcal{F}(kH) \otimes \omega_{\mathbb{P}})) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_K(E, H^{m-n_t}(\mathcal{F} \otimes \omega_{\mathbb{P}} \otimes \mathcal{O}(0, \dots, 0, n_t+1)))$$

given by a matrix with entries in $\Lambda^{n_t+1}V_t$. Indeed, $H^m((\mathcal{F} \otimes \omega_{\mathbb{P}} \otimes \mathcal{O}(0, \dots, 0, 1)) = 0$ holds since $(kd_1 - n_1 - 1, \dots, kd_t - n_t - 1)$ is extremal. Since the map follows the strand $T_c(\emptyset, \{1, \dots, t-1\}, \emptyset)$, the group $H^{m-n_t}(\mathcal{F} \otimes \omega_{\mathbb{P}} \otimes \mathcal{O}(0, \dots, 0, n_t+1))$ is the first possible non-zero intermediate cohomology group by assumption. Composed with the second part of the corner complex

$$T_c(\{1, \dots, t-1\}, \emptyset, \{t\})[-t+1] \rightarrow T_c(\{1, \dots, t-2\}, \emptyset, \{t-1, t\})[-t+2]$$

the image is in

$$\text{Hom}_K(E, H^{m-n_t-n_{t-1}}(\mathcal{F} \otimes \omega_{\mathbb{P}} \otimes \mathcal{O}(0, \dots, 0, n_{t-1}+1, n_t+1)))$$

since $\Lambda^{n_t+2}V_t = 0$ and other possible intermediate cohomology groups in the strand $T_c(\emptyset, \{1, \dots, t-2\}, \emptyset)$ vanish by assumption. Repeating these arguments, we conclude that the corner map with source $\text{Hom}_K(E, H^m(\mathcal{F}(kH) \otimes \omega_{\mathbb{P}}))$ has an image only in $\text{Hom}_K(E, H^0(\mathcal{F}(kH)))$. It is given by an

$$h^0(\mathcal{F}(kH)) \times h^m(\mathcal{F}(kH) \otimes \omega_{\mathbb{P}})\text{-matrix}$$

with entries in the one-dimensional space

$$\Lambda^{m+t}V = \Lambda^{n_1+1}V_1 \otimes \dots \otimes \Lambda^{n_t+1}V_t.$$

Consider the submatrix of the differential in the corner complex with target equal to the summand $\text{Hom}_K(E, H^0(\mathcal{F}(kH)))$. The only other subspaces in the source which have this target come from H^0 -groups:

$$\text{Hom}_K(E, H^0(\mathcal{F}(kH)(-1, 0, \dots, 0)), \dots, \text{Hom}_K(E, H^0(\mathcal{F}(kH)(0, \dots, 0, -1))).$$

Thus this differential is given by an

$$h^0(\mathcal{F}(kH)) \times [(h^m(\mathcal{F}(kH) \otimes \omega_{\mathbb{P}}) + h^0(\mathcal{F}(kH) \otimes \mathcal{B}))]\text{-matrix}$$

with $\mathcal{B} = \mathcal{O}(-1, 0, \dots, 0) \oplus \dots \oplus \mathcal{O}(0, \dots, 0, -1)$. Note that $h^0(\mathcal{F}(kH)) \geq h^m(\mathcal{F}(kH) \otimes \omega_{\mathbb{P}})$, because otherwise a generator of $\text{Hom}_K(E, H^m(\mathcal{F}(kH) \otimes \omega_{\mathbb{P}}))$ would map to zero which is impossible because $T_{\mathbb{P}}^*(\mathcal{F})$ is exact and minimal. Thus in a suitable basis the matrix has shape

$$\varphi = \left(\begin{array}{cc|ccc} v & 0 & \ell_{1j} & \dots & \ell_{1n} \\ & \ddots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 0 & v & \ell_{rj} & \dots & \ell_{rn} \\ \hline & & \ell_{r+1j} & \dots & \ell_{r+1n} \\ & 0 & \vdots & & \vdots \\ & & \ell_{sj} & \dots & \ell_{sn} \end{array} \right)$$

with $v \in \Lambda^{m+t}V$ a fixed basis element and $\ell_{ij} \in V_1 \cup \dots \cup V_t$.

We claim now that ℓ_{1j} is a K -linear combination of $\ell_{r+1j}, \dots, \ell_{sj}$. Indeed if not, we could multiply the j -th column by a decomposable element $w \in \Lambda^{m+t-1}V$ which annihilates $\ell_{r+1j}, \dots, \ell_{sj}$ but does not annihilate ℓ_{1j} , so that $\ell_{1j}w = v$. This would give us a column

$$\left(\begin{array}{cc|c} v & 0 & v \\ & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & v & \lambda_r v \\ \hline & & 0 \\ & 0 & \vdots \\ & & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

for possibly zero scalars $\lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_r$, and the first column would be an E -linear combination of columns 2 to j . This is impossible since no generator can map to zero in $T_{\mathbb{P}}^*(\mathcal{F})$.

Let $r_1 - r$ denote the dimension of the linear span of $\ell_{r+1j}, \dots, \ell_{sj}$. Then after row operations we may assume that φ has the shape

$$\varphi = \left(\begin{array}{cc|cc} v & 0 & 0 & \dots & \ell_{1n} \\ & \ddots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 0 & v & \ell_{rj} & \dots & \ell_{rn} \\ \hline & & \ell_{r+1j} & \dots & \ell_{r+1n} \\ & 0 & \vdots & & \vdots \\ & & \ell_{r_1j} & \dots & \ell_{r_1n} \\ \hline & & \vdots & & \vdots \\ & & 0 & \dots & \ell_{sn} \end{array} \right)$$

with $\ell_{r+1j}, \dots, \ell_{r_1j}$ K -linearly independent.

Next we note that the columns of the matrix

$$\left(\begin{array}{cc|cc} v & 0 & & \ell_{1j+1} \\ & \ddots & 0 & \vdots \\ 0 & v & & \vdots \\ \hline & & v & 0 \\ & 0 & \ddots & \vdots \\ & & 0 & v \\ \hline & & & \ell_{r_1j+1} \\ & 0 & 0 & \vdots \\ & & & \ell_{r_1+1j+1} \\ & & & \vdots \\ & & & \ell_{sj+1} \end{array} \right)$$

are in the E -column span of φ . Arguing as before, we see that ℓ_{1j+1} is a linear combination of $\ell_{r_1+1j+1}, \dots, \ell_{sj+1}$, and repeating the arguments, we find that φ can be transformed by row operations into a matrix of type

$$\left(\begin{array}{c|ccc} v & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ & \ddots & \ell_{2j} & \dots & \ell_{2n} \\ 0 & v & \vdots & & \vdots \\ \hline & & \vdots & & \vdots \\ & 0 & \ell_{sj} & \dots & \ell_{sn} \end{array} \right) = \left(\begin{array}{c|c} v & 0 \\ 0 & \varphi' \end{array} \right)$$

We conclude that $T_{rc}(\mathcal{O}(kH))$ is a direct summand of the complex $T_{rc}(\mathcal{F})$, and

$$\mathcal{F} \cong \mathcal{O}(kH) \oplus \mathcal{F}',$$

since we can recover \mathcal{F} from its corner complex with the Beilinson functor \mathbf{U} applied to $T_{rc}(\mathcal{F})(a)[[a]]$ for a suitable $a \in \mathbb{Z}^t$ by [1, Theorem 0.1]. Indeed $\mathbf{U}(T_{rc}(\mathcal{F})(a)[[a]])$ and $\mathbf{U}(\mathbf{T}(\mathcal{F})(a)[[a]])$ coincide for $a \gg 0$.

Proof of Theorem. Let \mathcal{F} be a torsion free sheaf on $\mathbb{P}^{n_1} \times \dots \times \mathbb{P}^{n_t}$ with no intermediate cohomology where the sheaves $\mathcal{O}(kH)$ for $\mathcal{O}(H) = \mathcal{O}(d_1, \dots, d_t)$ have no intermediate cohomology. By Proposition 2.1 there is an extremal H^m -position of \mathcal{F} of the form

$$(k_1d_1 - n_1 - 1, \dots, k_1d_t - n_t - 1)$$

and by Proposition 2.2 we get a summand

$$\mathcal{F} \cong \mathcal{O}(k_1H) \oplus \mathcal{F}'.$$

If $\text{rank } \mathcal{F} = 1$, we are done: $\mathcal{F}' = 0$ since \mathcal{F} is torsion free. Otherwise we can argue by induction on the rank since \mathcal{F}' satisfies the assumption of the Theorem again. \square

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