# Rational curves and bounds on the Picard number of Fano manifolds 

Gianluca Occhetta<br>(joint work with Carla Novelli)

Projective Algebraic Geometry in Milano,
June 2009

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Moreover $X$ has an elemenary fiber type contraction.

## Families of rational curves

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\operatorname{Locus}(V)=i(U), V_{x}=\pi\left(i^{-1}(x)\right)
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$L \in \operatorname{Pic}(X)$ line bundle, $L \cdot V$ is the intersection number $L \cdot C$, with $C$ parametrized by $V$.
[ $V$ ] is the numerical class of a curve parametrized by $V$.

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If all the irreducible components of reducible cycles are numerically proportional we say that $\mathscr{V}$ is quasi-unsplit.

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Analogously we define $\operatorname{Locus}\left(\mathscr{W}^{1}, \ldots, \mathscr{W}^{k}\right)_{Y}$ for Chow families $\mathscr{W}^{1}, \ldots, \mathscr{W}^{k}$ of rational 1 -cycles.

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$X$ is $r c(\mathscr{V})$-connected if for some $m$ we have $X=\operatorname{ChLocus}_{m}(\mathscr{V})_{x}$.

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## Numerical equivalence - II

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$Y \subset X$ closed, $\mathscr{V}$ Chow family of rational 1-cycles.
Every curve contained in Locus $(\mathscr{V})_{Y}$ is numerically equivalent to a linear combination with rational coefficients of a curve in $Y$ and of irreducible components of cycles parametrized by $\mathscr{V}$ which meet $Y$.

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In particular, if $\mathscr{V}^{1}, \ldots, \mathscr{V}^{k}$ are quasi-unsplit families, then $\rho_{X} \leq k$

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## Main theorem

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The last assertion follows from

## Theorem (_)

A smooth complex projective variety $X$ of dimension $n$ is isomorphic to $\mathbb{P}^{n(1)} \times \cdots \times \mathbb{P}^{n(k)}$ iff $\exists V^{1}, \ldots, V^{k}$ unsplit and covering with $\Sigma-K_{X} \cdot V^{k}=n+k$ such that $\operatorname{dim}\left\langle\left[V^{1}\right], \ldots,\left[V^{k}\right]\right\rangle=k$ in $N_{1}(X)$.

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If for some $j$ the family $V^{j}$ is not unsplit we have $-K_{X} \cdot V^{j} \geq 2 i_{X}$ so this can happen for at most one $j$ and implies $k=1$.

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We can assume $-K_{X} \cdot V<3 i_{X}$, otherwise $C_{1}(x)=X$.

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$W$ family of deformations of $\gamma . W$ is unsplit, hence

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it is enough to prove that there is a divisor $D$ in $X$ with $\operatorname{dim} N_{1}(D, X) \leq 5$.

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