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Variation of the holomorphic determinant bundle. (English summary)

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The paper under review concerns the variation of the determinant bundle of the derived push-forward of a family of holomorphic vector bundles by a proper holomorphic submersive map between complex manifolds.

More precisely, let $f: X \rightarrow Y$ be a proper holomorphic submersion between complex manifolds and $\{\mathcal{E}_t \rightarrow X\}_{t \in \Delta}$ a family of holomorphic vector bundles parametrized by the complex unit disc.

The first result is the following “rational variation formula” in rational Deligne cohomology:

$$c_1(\det Rf_*\mathcal{E}_s) - c_1(\det Rf_*\mathcal{E}_t) = [f_*(\text{ch}(\mathcal{E}_s) - \text{ch}(\mathcal{E}_t)) \cdot \text{Td}(T_{X/Y})]^{(2)},$$

for any $s, t \in \Delta$, where the superscript on the right-hand side stands for the degree two component of the Grothendieck-Riemann-Roch-type term considered. The reader can find also an “integral variation” version of the above formula, under some assumption of separateness for $H^1(Y, \mathcal{O}_Y)$ and of countability for $H^1(Y, \mathbb{Q}_Y)$.

Finally, as an application towards the general Grothendieck-Riemann-Roch formula in Deligne cohomology, the author shows the following result: in the case where $X = Y \times F$, with F compact, for any $\mathcal{L} \in \text{Pic}^0(X)$ we have that

$$c_1(\det Rp_*\mathcal{L}) = p_*(c_1(\mathcal{L}) \cdot [q^*\text{Td}(F)]^{(\dim F)})$$

in the second rational Deligne cohomology group of Y , where p and q are respectively the first and the second projection. *Simone Diverio*

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