### K-POLYSTABILITY OF TWO SMOOTH FANO THREEFOLDS

IVAN CHELTSOV AND HENDRIK SÜSS

ABSTRACT. We give new proofs of the K-polystability of two smooth Fano threefolds. One of them is a smooth divisor in  $\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^2$  of degree (1, 1, 1), which is unique up to isomorphism. Another one is the blow up of the complete intersection

 $\left\{x_0x_3 + x_1x_4 + x_2x_5 = x_0^2 + \omega x_1^2 + \omega^2 x_2^2 + \left(x_3^2 + \omega x_4^2 + \omega^2 x_5^2\right) + \left(x_0x_3 + \omega x_1x_4 + \omega^2 x_2x_5\right)\right\} \subset \mathbb{P}^5$ 

in the conic cut out by  $x_0 = x_1 = x_2 = 0$ , where  $\omega$  is a primitive cube root of unity.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Let X be a smooth Fano threefold. Then X is contained in one of 105 families, which are explicitly described in [4], These families are labeled as  $\mathbb{N}_{1.1}$ ,  $\mathbb{N}_{1.2}$ , ...,  $\mathbb{N}_{9.1}$ ,  $\mathbb{N}_{10.1}$ , and members of each family can be parametrized by an irreducible rational variety.

 $\begin{array}{l} \textbf{Theorem 1.1 ([1]). Suppose that $X$ is a general member of the family $\mathcal{N}_{\mathcal{N}}$. Then} \\ X is $K$-polystable \iff $\mathcal{N} \notin \left\{ \begin{array}{l} 2.23, 2.262.28, 2.30, 2.31, 2.33, 2.35, 2.36, 3.14, \\ 3.16, 3.18, 3.21, 3.22, 3.23, 3.24, 3.26, 3.28, 3.29, \\ 3.30, 3.31, 4.5, 4.8, 4.9, 4.10, 4.11, 4.12, 5.2 \end{array} \right\}. \end{array}$ 

In the proof of this theorem, many explicitly given smooth Fano threefolds has been proven to be K-polystable. Among them are the two threefolds described in the abstract.

Let G be a reductive subgroup in Aut(X), and let  $f: \widetilde{X} \to X$  be a G-equivariant birational morphism with smooth  $\widetilde{X}$ , and let E be any G-invariant prime divisor in  $\widetilde{X}$ . We say that E is a G-invariant prime divisor over X, and we let  $C_X(E) = f(E)$ . Then

$$K_{\widetilde{X}} \sim f^*(K_X) + \sum_{i=1}^n a_i E_i$$

where  $E_1, \ldots, E_n$  are *f*-exceptional surfaces, and  $a_1, \ldots, a_n$  are strictly positive integers. If  $E = E_i$  for some  $i \in \{1, \ldots, n\}$ , we let  $A_X(E) = a_i + 1$ . Otherwise, we let  $A_X(E) = 1$ . The number  $A_X(E)$  is known as the log discrepancy of the divisor E. Then we let

$$S_X(E) = \frac{1}{(-K_X)^n} \int_0^\infty \operatorname{vol}(f^*(-K_X) - xE) dx$$

and  $\beta(E) = A_X(E) - S_X(E)$ . We have the following result:

**Theorem 1.2** ([3, 6, 9]). The smooth Fano threefold X is K-polystable if  $\beta(F) > 0$  for every G-invariant prime divisor F over X.

Now, we let

$$\alpha_G(X) = \sup \left\{ \epsilon \in \mathbb{Q} \mid \text{the log pair } \left( X, \frac{\epsilon}{m} \mathcal{D} \right) \text{ is log canonical for any } m \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0} \right\}$$
  
and every *G*-invariant linear subsystem  $\mathcal{D} \subset \left| -mK_X \right| \right\}$ 

This number, known as the global log canonical threshold [2], has been defined in [8] in a different way. But both definitions agree by [2, Theorem A.3]. If G is finite, then

$$\alpha_G(X) = \sup \left\{ \epsilon \in \mathbb{Q} \mid \text{ the log pair } (X, \epsilon D) \text{ is log canonical for every} \\ G\text{-invariant effective } \mathbb{Q}\text{-divisor } D \sim_{\mathbb{Q}} -K_X \right\}$$

by [1, Lemma 1.4.1]. We have the following result:

**Theorem 1.3** ([8, 1]). If  $\alpha_G(X) \ge \frac{3}{4}$ , then X is K-polystable.

In this short note, we give a new proof of the K-polystability of the threefolds described in the abstract using Theorems 1.2 and 1.3. This is done in Sections 2 and 3.

2. Smooth divisor in  $\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^2$  of degree (1, 1, 1)

Let X be the unique smooth Fano threefold in the family  $\mathbb{N}^3.17$ . Then X is the divisor

$$\left\{x_0y_0z_2 + x_1y_1z_0 = x_0y_1z_1 + x_1y_0z_1\right\} \subset \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^2$$

where  $([x_0:x_1], [y_0:y_1], [z_0:z_1:z_2])$  are coordinates on  $\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^2$ .

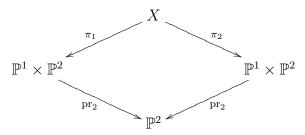
Let  $G = \operatorname{Aut}(X)$ . Then  $G \cong \operatorname{PGL}_2(\mathbb{C}) \rtimes \mu_2$ , where  $\mu_2$  is generated by an involution  $\iota$  that acts as

$$([x_0:x_1], [y_0:y_1], [z_0:z_1:z_2]) \mapsto ([y_0:y_1], [x_0:x_1], [z_0:z_1:z_2]).$$

and  $\operatorname{PGL}_2(\mathbb{C})$  acts on each factor via an appropriate irreducible  $\operatorname{SL}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -representation. More precisely, an element  $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in \operatorname{PGL}_2(\mathbb{C})$  acts as follows:

$$([x_0:x_1], [y_0:y_1], [z_0:z_1:z_2]) \mapsto ([ax_0 + cx_1:bx_0 + dx_1], [ay_0 + cy_1:by_0 + dy_1], [a^2z_0 + 2acz_1 + c^2z_2:abz_0 + (ad + bc)z_1 + cdz_2:b^2z_0 + 2bdz_1 + d^2z_2])$$

There are birational contractions  $\pi_1 \colon X \to \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^2$  and  $\pi_2 \colon X \to \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^2$  that contracts smooth irreducible surfaces  $E_1$  and  $E_1$  to smooth curves  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  of bi-degrees (1, 2). Moreover, there exists  $\mathrm{PGL}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -equivariant commutative diagram



where  $\operatorname{pr}_2$  is the projection to the second factor, the  $\operatorname{PGL}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -action on  $\mathbb{P}^2$  is faithful, and  $\operatorname{pr}_2(C_1) = \operatorname{pr}_2(C_2)$  is the unique  $\operatorname{PGL}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -invariant conic, which is given by  $z_0 z_2 - z_1^2 = 0$ .

By [1, Lemma 4.2.6], the threefold X is K-polystable. Let us give an alternative proof of this assertion.

Let  $\operatorname{pr}_1 \colon \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^2 \to \mathbb{P}^1$  be the projection to the first factor. Using  $\operatorname{pr}_1 \circ \pi_1$  and  $\operatorname{pr}_1 \circ \pi_2$ , we obtain a  $\operatorname{PGL}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -equivariant  $\mathbb{P}^1$ -bundle  $\phi \colon X \to \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$ , where the  $\operatorname{PGL}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -action on the surface  $\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$  is diagonal. Let  $C = E_1 \cap E_2$ . Then  $\phi(C)$  is a diagonal curve. Denote its preimage on X by R. Then  $C = R \cap E_1 \cap E_2$  and

$$-K_X \sim \frac{E_1 + E_2 + R}{2}.$$

Let  $H_1 = (\mathrm{pr}_1 \circ \pi_1)^*(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^1}(1))$ , let  $H_2 = (\mathrm{pr}_1 \circ \pi_2)^*(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^1}(1))$  and let  $H_L = (\mathrm{pr}_2 \circ \pi_2)^*(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^2}(1))$ . Then  $\operatorname{Pic}(X) = \langle H_1, H_L, E_1 \rangle, E_2 \sim 2H_L - E_1, R \sim H_1 + H_2 \sim 2H_1 + H_L - E_1$  and  $-K_X \sim 2H_1 + 3H_L - E_1.$ 

Observe that the curve C and the surface R are the only proper G-invariant irreducible subvarieties in X. This easily implies that  $\alpha_G(X) = \frac{2}{3}$ , so that we cannot apply Theorem 1.3 to prove that X is K-polystable. Let us apply Theorem 1.2 instead.

Let  $\eta: Y \to X$  be a G-equivariant birational morphism, let D be a prime G-invariant divisor in Y, let t be a non-negative real number, and let

$$S_X(D,t) = \frac{1}{-K_X^3} \int_0^t \operatorname{vol}(\eta^*(-K_X) - xD) dx.$$

Then we have  $S_X(D) = S(D,\infty)$  and  $\beta(D) = A_X(D) - S_X(D)$ . By Theorem 1.2, to prove that X is K-polystable it is enough to show that  $\beta(D) > 0$ . Let us first show this in the case when  $\eta$  is an identify map:

**Lemma 2.1.** One has  $S_X(R) = \frac{4}{9}$  and  $\beta(R) = \frac{5}{9}$ .

*Proof.* Since  $-K_X = E_1 + E_2 + R$ , the pseudoeffective threshold  $\tau(E)$  is 1, so that

$$S_X(R) = \frac{1}{-K_X^3} \int_0^1 (-K_X - xR)^3 dx =$$
  
=  $\int_0^1 -R^3 x^3 + R^2 (-K_X) x^2 - R(-K_X)^2 + (-K_X)^3 dx =$   
=  $\frac{1}{36} \int_0^1 12x^2 - 48x + 36 dx = \frac{4}{9}.$   
ence  $A_X(R) = 1$ , we have  $\beta(R) = \frac{5}{9}$ .

Since  $A_X(R) = 1$ , we have  $\beta(R) = \frac{5}{9}$ .

Let  $f: \widetilde{X} \to X$  be the blow-up of the curve C, let E be the exceptional surface of f, let  $\widetilde{R}$ ,  $\widetilde{E}_1$ ,  $\widetilde{E}_2$  be the proper transforms on  $\widetilde{X}$  of the surfaces R,  $E_1$ ,  $E_2$ , respectively. Then

$$\begin{cases} \widetilde{E}_1 \sim f^*(E_1) - E, \\ \widetilde{E}_2 \sim 2f^*(H_L) - f^*(E_2) - E, \\ \widetilde{R} \sim f^*(2H_1 + H_L - E_1) - E \end{cases}$$

**Lemma 2.2.** One has  $S_X(E) = \frac{11}{9}$  and  $\beta(E) = \frac{7}{9}$ . Moreover, if  $0 \leq t \leq 1$ , then

$$S_X(E,t) = \frac{1}{36} \int_0^t (36 - 18t + 4x^3) dx = \frac{1}{36}t^4 - \frac{1}{4}t^3 + t.$$

*Proof.* We have

$$f^*(-K_X) - xE \sim f^*(R + E_1 + E_2) - xE \sim \widetilde{R} + \widetilde{E}_1 + \widetilde{E}_2 + (3 - x)E.$$

so that  $\tau(E) = 3$ . If  $0 \leq x \leq 1$ , then  $f^*(-K_X) - xE$  is nef. Thus, if  $x \in [0,1]$ , then

$$\operatorname{vol}(f^*(-K_X) - xE) = \left(f^*(-K_X) - xE\right)^3 = f^*(-K_X)^3 + 3x^2 f^*(-K_X)E^2 - x^3E^3 = 36 - 18x^2 + 4x^3.$$

If 3 > x > 1, then both surfaces  $\widetilde{E}_1$  and  $\widetilde{E}_2$  lies in the asymptotic base locus of the big divisor  $f^*(-K_X) - xE$ . Moreover, if  $x \in [1, 2]$ , then its Zariski decomposition is

$$f^*(-K_X) - xE \sim_{\mathbb{R}} \frac{1}{2}(x-1)\left(\widetilde{E}_1 + \widetilde{E}_2\right) + \underbrace{\left(f^*(-K_X) - xE - \frac{1}{2}(x-1)\left(\widetilde{E}_1 + \widetilde{E}_2\right)\right)}_{\text{nef part}}.$$

Thus, if  $x \in [1, 2]$ , then we have

$$\operatorname{vol}(f^*(-K_X) + xE) = \left(f^*(-K_X) - xE - \frac{1}{2}(x-1)(\widetilde{E}_1 + \widetilde{E}_2)\right)^3 = 6x^2 - 36x + 52.$$

If  $x \in (2,3)$ , then the nef part of the Zariski decomposition of  $f^*(-K_X) - xE$  is

$$f^*(-K_X) - xE - \frac{1}{2}(x-1)(\widetilde{E}_1 + \widetilde{E}_2) + (x-2)\widetilde{R}.$$

Thus, if  $x \in [2, 3]$ , then

$$\operatorname{vol}(f^*(-K_X) - xE) = \left(f^*(-K_X) - xE - \frac{1}{2}(x-1)(\widetilde{E}_1 + \widetilde{E}_2) + (x-2)\widetilde{R}\right)^3 = 4(3-x)^3.$$

Summarizing and integrating, we see that

$$S_X(E) = \frac{1}{36} \int_0^1 (36 - 18x^2 + 4x^3) dx + \frac{1}{36} \int_1^2 (6x^2 - 36x + 52) dx + \frac{1}{36} \int_2^3 4(3 - x)^3 dx = \frac{11}{9},$$
  
which gives  $\beta(E) = \frac{7}{2}$ , because  $A_X(E) = 2$ . Similarly, we compute  $S_X(E, t)$ .

ves  $\beta(E) = \frac{1}{9}$ , because  $A_X(E)$ = 2. Similarly, we compute  $S_X(E,t)$ 

The action of the group G lift to the threefold  $\widetilde{X}$ , and  $E \cap \widetilde{R}$  is a G-invariant irreducible curve, which is contained in the pencil  $|\widetilde{R}|_{E}$ . Therefore, using [7, Theorem 5.1], we see that the group  $\operatorname{PGL}_2(\mathbb{C})$  must act trivially on the fibers of the natural projection  $E \to C$ . Since the curves  $\widetilde{E}_1|_E$  and  $\widetilde{E}_1|_E$  are swapped by G, we see conclude that  $|\widetilde{R}|_E|$  contains exactly two G-invariant curves:  $E \cap \widetilde{R}$  and another curve, which we denote by C'.

Now, let  $g: \widehat{X} \to \widetilde{X}$  be the blow up of the curve C', let R' be the f-exceptional surface, let  $\hat{E}_1, \hat{E}_2, \hat{E}, \hat{R}$  be the proper transforms on  $\hat{X}$  of the surfaces  $E_1, E_2, E, \tilde{R}$ , respectively. Then we have

$$(f \circ g)^*(-K_X) \sim_{\mathbb{R}} \widehat{E}_1 + \widehat{E}_2 + \widehat{R} + 3\widehat{E} + 3R',$$

which implies that the pseudoeffective threshold  $\tau(R') = 3$ . On the other hand, we have

# Lemma 2.3. One has $\beta(R') \ge \frac{5}{9}$ .

*Proof.* Let x be a non-negative real number such that x < 3. Then  $\widehat{E}$  lies in the stable base locus of the divisor  $(f \circ g)^*(-K_X) - xF$ , and the positive part of the Zariski decomposition of this divisor has the following form:

$$(f \circ g)^*(-K_X) - \frac{t}{2}\widehat{E} - xR' - D$$

for an effective  $\mathbb{R}$ -divisor D. Indeed, if  $\ell$  is a general fiber of the projection  $\widehat{E} \to C$ , then

$$\left( (f \circ g)^* (-K_X) - xR' \right) \cdot \ell = -x$$

and  $\widehat{E} \cdot \ell = -2$ , which implies the required assertion. Thus, we have

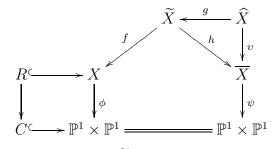
$$S_X(F) \leqslant 2S_X(E) = \frac{22}{9},$$

because  $S_X(E) = \frac{11}{9}$  by Lemma 2.2. Then

$$\beta(F) = A_X(F) - S_X(F) = 3 - S_X(F) \ge 3 - \frac{22}{9} = \frac{5}{9}$$

as required.

The action of the group G lifts to  $\hat{X}$ , and the surfaces R',  $\hat{E}$  and  $\hat{R}$  are G-invariant. Remark 2.4. There exists the following G-equivariant commutative diagram:



where h is the contraction of the surface  $\widetilde{R}$ , v is the contraction of the surfaces R' and  $\widehat{R}$ , and  $\psi$  is a  $\mathbb{P}^1$ -bundle. Moreover, one can show that  $\overline{X} \cong \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1}(2,0) \oplus \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1}(0,2))$ , so that there is an involution  $\sigma \in \operatorname{Aut}(\overline{X})$  such that  $\sigma$  swaps the curves v(R') and  $v(\widehat{R})$ . Then  $\sigma$  lifts to  $\widehat{V}$  and swaps the divisors R' and  $\widehat{R}$ .

The threefold  $\widetilde{X}$  contains two *G*-invariant irreducible curves: the curves  $E \cap \widetilde{R}$  and C'. The threefold  $\widehat{X}$  also contains just two *G*-invariant irreducible curves:  $\widehat{E} \cap \widehat{R}$  and  $\widehat{E} \cap R'$ , which are swapped by the involution  $\sigma$  from Remark 2.4. Blowing up one of the curves, we obtain a new threefold that contains exactly three *G*-invariant irreducible curves that can be described in a very similar manner. Now, iterating this process, we obtain infinitely many *G*-invariant prime divisors over *X*, which can be described using weighted blow ups.

**Definition 2.5.** Let V be a smooth threefold that contains two smooth irreducible distinct surfaces A and B that intersect transversally along a smooth irreducible curve Z, and let  $\theta: U \to V$  be the weighted blow up with weights (a, b) of the curve Z with respect to the local coordinates along Z that are given by the equations of the surfaces A and B, and let F be the exceptional surface of the weighted blow up  $\theta$ . Then

- the morphism  $\theta$  is said to be an (a, b)-blowup between A and B,
- the surface F is said to be an (a, b)-divisor between A and B.

Observe that (1, 1)-blow up in this construction is the usual blow up of the intersection curve. To proceed, we need the following well-known result:

**Lemma 2.6.** In the assumptions of Definition 2.5 and notations introduced in this definition, suppose that (a, b) = (1, 1) and  $Z \cong \mathbb{P}^1$ . Let  $n = |\alpha - \beta|$ , where  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  be integers such that

$$Z^{2} = \begin{cases} \alpha \text{ on the surface } A, \\ \beta \text{ on the surface } B. \end{cases}$$

Denote by  $\widetilde{A}$  and  $\widetilde{B}$  the proper transforms on U of the surfaces A and B, respectively. Then  $F \cong \mathbb{F}_n$ , the surfaces  $\widetilde{A}$  and  $\widetilde{B}$  are disjoint,  $\widetilde{A}|_E$  and  $\widetilde{B}|_E$  are sections of the natural projection  $F \to Z$  such that  $(\widetilde{A}|_E)^2 = (\beta - \alpha)$  and  $(\widetilde{B}|_E)^2 = (\alpha - \beta)$ .

*Proof.* Left to the reader.

Now, we are ready to prove

**Lemma 2.7.** All *G*-invariant prime divisors over *X* can be described as follows:

- (1) the surfaces R, E or R',
- (2) an (a, b)-divisor between E and R,
- (3) an (a, b)-divisor between  $\widehat{E}$  and R'.

*Proof.* Let F be a G-invariant prime divisor over X such that F is different from R, E, R'. Then its center on  $\widetilde{X}$  is one of the curves  $E \cap \widetilde{R}$  or C'. Keeping in mind Remark 2.4, we may assume that its center on  $\widetilde{X}$  is  $E \cap \widetilde{R}$ . Let us show that F is an exceptional divisor of a weighted blow up between the surfaces E and  $\widetilde{R}$ ,

Let  $V_0 = X$  and  $Z_0 = E \cap R$ . Then there exists a sequence of G-equivariant blow ups

$$V_m \xrightarrow{\theta_m} V_{m-1} \xrightarrow{\theta_{m-1}} \cdots \xrightarrow{\theta_2} V_1 \xrightarrow{\theta_1} V_0$$

such that  $\theta_1$  is the blow up of the curve  $Z_0$ , the surface F is the  $\theta_m$ -exceptional surface, the morphism  $\theta_k$  is a blow up of a G-invariant irreducible smooth curve  $Z_{k-1} \subset V_{k-1}$  such that the curve  $Z_{k-1}$  is contained in the  $\theta_{k-1}$ -exceptional surface provided that  $k \ge 2$ .

For every  $k \in \{1, \ldots, m\}$ , let  $F_k$  be the  $\theta_k$ -exceptional surface, so that we have  $F = F_m$ . To prove that  $F = F_m$  is an exceptional divisor of a weighted blow up between E and  $\tilde{R}$ , it sufficient to prove the following assertion for every k:

- the surface  $F_k$  contains exactly two  $\mathrm{PGL}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -invariant irreducible curves,
- the two  $\mathrm{PGL}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -invariant irreducible curves in  $F_k$  are disjoint,
- if  $\mathscr{C}$  is a  $\operatorname{PGL}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -invariant irreducible curve in  $F_k$ , then  $\mathscr{C}$  is cut out by the strict transform of one of the following surfaces:
  - the surface  $F_r$  for some  $r \in \{1, \ldots, m\}$  such that  $r \neq k$ ,
  - the surface E,
  - the surface R.

Clearly, it is enough to prove this assertion only for k = m. Let us do this.

Let  $F_0 = E$  and  $F_{-1} = \tilde{R}$ . For every  $k \in \{-1, 0, 1, \dots, m-1\}$ , let  $\overline{F}_k$  be the proper transform of the surface  $F_k$  on the threefold  $V_m$ . We claim that

- (i)  $F_m \cong \mathbb{F}_n$  for some n > 0;
- (ii) the surface  $F_m$  contains exactly two  $PGL_2(\mathbb{C})$ -invariant irreducible curves,
- (iii) the two  $\mathrm{PGL}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -invariant irreducible curves in  $F_m$  are disjoint,
- (iv) if  $\mathscr{C}$  is a  $\mathrm{PGL}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -invariant irreducible curve in  $F_m$ , then  $\mathscr{C}^2 \in \{-n, n\}$ ,
- (v) if  $\mathscr{C}$  is a  $\mathrm{PGL}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -invariant irreducible curve in  $F_m$ , then

$$\mathscr{C} = F_m \cap \overline{F}_r$$

for some  $r \in \{-1, 0, 1, \dots, m-1\}$  and the following assertions hold:

- if 
$$\mathscr{C}^2 = n$$
 on the surface  $F_m$ , then  $\mathscr{C}^2 \leq 0$  on the surface  $F_r$ 

- if  $\mathscr{C}^2 = -n$  on the surface  $\overline{F}_m$ , then  $\mathscr{C}^2 > 0$  on the surface  $\overline{F}_r$ .

Let us prove this (stronger than we need) statement by induction on m.

Suppose that m = 1. We already know that  $F_0 = E \cong \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$  and  $F_{-1} = \widetilde{R} \cong \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$ . Moreover, we have  $Z_0^2 = 0$  on the surface  $F_0$ , and we have  $Z_0^2 = 2$  on the surface  $F_{-1}$ . Then  $F_1 \cong \mathbb{F}_2$  by Lemma 2.6. Moreover, since  $\mathrm{PGL}_2(\mathbb{C})$  acts faithfully on the curve  $Z_0$ , it acts faithfully on the surface  $F_1$ . Furthermore, if  $\mathscr{C}$  is a  $\mathrm{PGL}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -invariant irreducible curve in  $F_1$ , then it follows from [7, Theorem 5.1] that either  $\mathscr{C} = \overline{F}_0 \cap F_1$  or  $\mathscr{C} = \overline{F}_{-1} \cap F_1$ . Using Lemma 2.6 again, we see that

- if  $\mathscr{C} = \overline{F}_0 \cap F_1$ , then  $\mathscr{C}^2 = 2$  on the surface  $F_1$ , and  $\mathscr{C}^2 = 0$  on the surface  $\overline{F}_0$ , if  $\mathscr{C} = \overline{F}_{-1} \cap F_1$ , then  $\mathscr{C}^2 = -2$  on the surface  $F_1$ , while  $\mathscr{C}^2 = 2$  on the surface  $\overline{F}_0$ .

Thus, we conclude that our claim holds for m = 1. This is the base of induction.

Suppose that our claim holds for  $m \ge 1$ . Let us show that it holds for m+1 blow ups. Let  $\mathscr{C}$  be a  $\mathrm{PGL}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -invariant irreducible curve in  $F_m$ , let  $\Theta: \mathcal{V} \to V_m$  be its blow up, and let  $\mathcal{F}$  be the  $\Theta$ -exceptional surface. By induction, we know that  $F_m \cong \mathbb{F}_n$  for n > 0. Moreover, we also know that

$$\mathscr{C} = F_m \cap \overline{F}_r$$

for some  $r \in \{-1, 0, 1, \dots, m-1\}$ . Furthermore, one of the following two assertions holds:

- either  $\mathscr{C}^2 = n > 0$  on the surface  $F_m$ , and  $\mathscr{C}^2 \leq 0$  on the surface  $\overline{F}_r$ ,
- or  $\mathscr{C}^2 = -n < 0$  on the surface  $F_m$ , and  $\mathscr{C}^2 > 0$  on the surface  $\overline{F}_r$ .

Let  $\mathcal{F}_m$  and  $\mathcal{F}_r$  be the strict transforms on  $\mathcal{V}$  of the surfaces  $F_m$  and  $\overline{F}_r$ , respectively. Then  $\mathcal{F} \cap \mathcal{F}_m$  and  $\mathcal{F} \cap \mathcal{F}_r$  are disjoint  $\mathrm{PGL}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -invariant irreducible curves that are sections of the projection  $\mathcal{F} \to \mathscr{C}$ . Let  $\gamma$  be the self-intersection  $\mathscr{C}^2$  on the surface  $\overline{F}_r$ . Then it follows from Lemma 2.6 that  $F_{m+1} \cong \mathbb{F}_s$  for

$$s = n + |\gamma| > 0.$$

Thus, by [7, Theorem 5.1], the curves  $\mathcal{F} \cap \mathcal{F}_m$  and  $\mathcal{F} \cap \mathcal{F}_r$  are the only  $\mathrm{PGL}_2(\mathbb{C})$ -invariant irreducible curves in the surface  $\mathcal{F}$ . Let  $\mathcal{C}_1 = \mathcal{F} \cap \mathcal{F}_m$  and  $\mathcal{C}_2 = \mathcal{F} \cap \mathcal{F}_r$ .

Suppose that  $\mathscr{C}^2 = n$  on the surface  $F_m$ . In this case, we have  $\gamma \leq 0$  and  $s = n - \gamma > 0$ . By Lemma 2.6, we have  $C_1^2 = n > 0$  on the surface  $\mathcal{F}_m$ , and  $C_1^2 = -s$  on the surface  $\mathcal{F}$ . Similarly, we see that  $C_2^2 = \gamma \leq 0$  on the surface  $\mathcal{F}_r$ , and  $C_2^2 = s > 0$  on the surface  $\mathcal{F}$ . Thus, we see that the required claim holds for m + 1 blow ups in this case.

Finally, we suppose that  $\mathscr{C}^2 = -n$  on the surface  $F_m$ . Then  $\gamma > 0$  and  $s = n + \gamma > 0$ . By Lemma 2.6, we have  $C_1^2 = -n < 0$  on the surface  $\mathcal{F}_m$ , and  $C_1^2 = s$  on the surface  $\mathcal{F}$ . Similarly, we have  $C_2^2 = \gamma > 0$  on the surface  $\mathcal{F}_r$ , and  $C_2^2 = -s < 0$  on the surface  $\mathcal{F}$ . Therefore, we proved that the required claim holds for m + 1 blow up also in this case. Hence, it holds for any number of blow ups (by induction). 

By Lemmas 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, we have  $\beta(R) > 0$ ,  $\beta(E) > 0$ ,  $\beta(R') > 0$ , respectively. Thus, to prove that X is K-polystable, it is enough to check that  $\beta(F) > 0$  in the following cases:

- (1) when F is the (a, b)-divisor between E and  $\widetilde{R}$ ,
- (2) when F is the (a, b)-divisor between  $\widehat{E}$  and R'.

We start with the first case.

**Proposition 2.8.** Let  $\nu: Y \to \widetilde{X}$  be the (a, b)-blow up between the surfaces E and  $\widetilde{R}$ , and let F be the  $\nu$ -exceptional surface. Then  $\beta(F) > 0$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\overline{E}_1, \overline{E}_2, \overline{E}, \overline{R}$  be the proper transforms on Y of the surfaces  $E_1, E_2, E, \widetilde{R}$ , respectively. Take a non-negative real number x. Put  $\eta = f \circ \nu$ . Then

$$\eta^*(-K_X) - xF \sim_{\mathbb{R}} \overline{E}_1 + \overline{E}_2 + \overline{R} + 3\overline{E} + (a+3b-x)F$$

so that the pseudoeffective threshold  $\tau = \tau(F)$  is at least a + 3b.

Suppose that  $x < \tau$ . Then  $\overline{E}$  lies in the stable base locus of the divisor  $\eta^*(-K_X) - xF$ . Moreover, we claim that the positive part of the Zariski decomposition of this divisor has the following form:

$$\eta^*(-K_X) - \frac{t}{a+b}\overline{E} - xF - D$$

for an effective  $\mathbb{R}$ -divisor D. Indeed, if  $\ell$  is a general fiber of the projection  $\overline{E} \to C$ , then

$$\left(\eta^*(-K_X) - xF\right) \cdot \ell = -\frac{x}{a}$$

because  $\eta^*(-K_X) \cdot \ell = 0$  and  $F \cdot \ell = \frac{1}{a}$ . On the other hand, we have  $\overline{E} \cdot \ell = -\frac{a+b}{a}$ , which implies the required claim. Thus, if 7b > 2a, then

$$S_X(F) \leqslant (a+b)S_X(E) = \frac{11}{9}(a+b),$$

because  $S_X(E) = \frac{11}{9}$  by Lemma 2.2. Thus, if  $\frac{b}{a} > \frac{2}{7}$ , then

$$\beta(F) = A_X(F) - S_X(F) = a + 2b - S_X(F) \ge a + 2b - \frac{11}{9}(a+b) = \frac{7b - 2a}{9} > 0$$

as required. Hence, we may assume that  $\frac{b}{a} \leq \frac{2}{7}$ .

If x > 2b, then the surface  $\overline{R}$  lies in the stable base locus of the divisor  $\eta^*(-K_X) - xF$ . Moreover, in this case, the Zariski decomposition of this divisor has the following the form:

$$\eta^*(-K_X) - \frac{t}{a+b}\overline{E} - \frac{t-2b}{a+b}\overline{R} - xF - D$$

for some effective  $\mathbb{R}$ -divisor D (supported in  $\overline{E}_1, \overline{E}_2, \overline{E}, \overline{R}, F$ ). Indeed, if  $\ell$  is a general fiber of the natural projection  $\overline{R} \to \phi(C)$ . Then  $\overline{R} \cdot \ell = -\frac{a+b}{b}$  and

$$\left(\eta^*(-K_X) - xF\right) \cdot \ell = 2 - \frac{x}{b},$$

which implies that the Zariski decomposition has the required form for x > 2b. Then

$$S_X(F) \leq \frac{1}{36} \int_0^{2b} \operatorname{vol}\left(\varphi^*(-K_X) - \frac{t}{a+b}E\right) dt + \frac{1}{36} \int_{2b}^\infty \operatorname{vol}\left(\varphi^*(-K_X) - \frac{t-2b}{a+b}R\right) dt = \\ = (a+b) \cdot S\left(E, \frac{2b}{a+b}\right) + (a+b) \cdot S(R) < \frac{5}{9}(a+b) + \frac{4}{9}(a+b) = a+b.$$

because we have  $S(R) = \frac{4}{9}$  by Lemma 2.1, and we have  $S(E, \frac{2b}{a+b}) < \frac{5}{9}$  by Lemma 2.2. This gives  $\beta(F) > 0$ , since  $A_X(F) = a + 2b$ .

Finally, we deal with (a, b)-divisors between  $\widehat{E}$  and R'.

**Proposition 2.9.** Let  $\nu: Y \to \widehat{X}$  be the (a, b)-blow up between the surfaces  $\widehat{E}$  and R', and let F be the  $\nu$ -exceptional surface. Then  $\beta(F) > 0$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\overline{E}_1, \overline{E}_2, \overline{E}, \overline{R}, \overline{R}'$  be the proper transforms on Y of  $E_1, E_2, E, \widetilde{R}, R'$ , respectively. Take a non-negative real number x. Put  $\eta = f \circ g \circ \nu$ . Then

$$\eta^*(-K_X) - xF \sim_{\mathbb{R}} \overline{E}_1 + \overline{E}_2 + \overline{R} + 3\overline{E} + 3\overline{R}' + (3a+3b-x)F,$$

so that the pseudoeffective threshold  $\tau = \tau(F)$  is at least 3a + 3b.

Suppose that  $x < \tau$ . Then  $\overline{E}$  lies in the stable base locus of the divisor  $\eta^*(-K_X) - xF$ . Moreover, we claim that the positive part of the Zariski decomposition of this divisor has the following form:

$$\eta^*(-K_X) - \frac{t}{2a+b}\overline{E} - xF - D$$

for an effective  $\mathbb{R}$ -divisor D. Indeed, if  $\ell$  is a general fiber of the projection  $\overline{E} \to C$ , then

$$\left(\eta^*(-K_X) - xF\right) \cdot \ell = -\frac{x}{a}$$

because  $\eta^*(-K_X) \cdot \ell = 0$  and  $F \cdot \ell = \frac{1}{a}$ . On the other hand, we have  $\overline{E} \cdot \ell = -\frac{2a+b}{a}$ , which implies the required claim. Thus, we have

$$S_X(F) \le (2a+b)S_X(E) = \frac{11}{9}(2a+b),$$

because  $S_X(E) = \frac{11}{9}$  by Lemma 2.2. Then

$$\beta(F) = A_X(F) - S_X(F) = 3a + 2b - S_X(F) \ge 3a + 2b - \frac{11}{9}(a+b) = \frac{5a+7b}{9} > 0$$
  
required.

as required.

Thus, we see that  $\beta(F) > 0$  for every G-invariant prime divisor F over the threefold X. Then X is K-polystable by Theorem 1.2.

### 3. Blow up of a complete intersection of two quadrics in a conic

Let  $Q_1 = \{f = 0\} \subset \mathbb{P}^5$ , where  $f = x_0x_3 + x_1x_4 + x_2x_5$ , and let  $Q_2 = \{g = 0\} \subset \mathbb{P}^5$ , where  $g = x_0^2 + \omega x_1^2 + \omega^2 x_2^2 + (x_3^2 + \omega x_4^2 + \omega^2 x_5^2) + (x_0x_3 + \omega x_1x_4 + \omega^2 x_2x_5)$ , and  $\omega$  is a primitive cubic root of unity. Let  $V_4 = Q_1 \cap Q_2$ . Then  $V_4$  is smooth. Let G be a subgroup in Aut( $\mathbb{P}^5$ ) such that  $G \cong \mu_2^2 \rtimes \mu_3$ , where the generator of  $\mu_3$  acts by

$$[x_0:x_1:x_2:x_3:x_4:x_5] \mapsto [x_1:x_2:x_0:x_4:x_5:x_3]$$

the generator of the first factor of  $\mu_2^2$  acts by

$$[x_0:x_1:x_2:x_3:x_4:x_5] \mapsto [-x_0:x_1:-x_2:-x_3:x_4:-x_5],$$

and the generator of the second factor of  $\mu_2^2$  acts by

$$[x_0:x_1:x_2:x_3:x_4:x_5] \mapsto [-x_0:-x_1:x_2:-x_3:-x_4:x_5].$$

Then  $G \cong \mathfrak{A}_4$ , and  $\mathbb{P}^5 = \mathbb{P}(\mathbb{U}_3 \oplus \mathbb{U}_3)$ , where  $\mathbb{U}_3$  is the unique (unimodular) irreducible three-dimensional representation of the group G. Note that  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$  are G-invariant, so that  $V_4$  is also G-invariant. Thus, we may identify G with a subgroup in Aut $(V_4)$ .

Let  $\tau$  be an involution in Aut( $\mathbb{P}^5$ ) that is given by

$$[x_0:x_1:x_2:x_3:x_4:x_5] \mapsto [x_3:x_4:x_5:x_0:x_1:x_2].$$

Then  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$  are  $\tau$ -invariant, so that  $V_4$  is also  $\tau$ -invariant.

The group G does not have fixed points in  $\mathbb{P}^5$ , and there are no G-invariant lines in  $\mathbb{P}^5$ . Moreover, every G-invariant plane in  $\mathbb{P}^5$  is given by

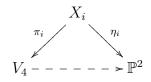
$$\begin{cases} \lambda x_0 + \mu x_3 = 0, \\ \lambda x_1 + \mu x_4 = 0, \\ \lambda x_2 + \mu x_5 = 0, \end{cases}$$

where  $[\lambda : \mu] \in \mathbb{P}^1$ . Using this, we see that  $V_4$  contains exactly four *G*-invariant conics. These conics are cut out on  $V_4$  by the following *G*-invariant planes: the plane  $\Pi_1$  given by  $x_0 = x_1 = x_2 = 0$ , the plane  $\Pi_2 = \tau(\Pi_1)$ , the plane  $\Pi_3$  given by

$$\begin{cases} x_0 = \omega x_3, \\ x_1 = \omega x_4, \\ x_2 = \omega x_5, \end{cases}$$

and the plane  $\Pi_4 = \tau(\Pi_3)$ . We let  $C_1 = V_4 \cap \Pi_1$ ,  $C_2 = V_4 \cap \Pi_2$ ,  $C_3 = V_4 \cap \Pi_3$ ,  $C_4 = V_4 \cap \Pi_4$ . Then the conics  $C_1$ ,  $C_2$ ,  $C_3$ ,  $C_4$  are pairwise disjoint,  $C_2 = \tau(C_1)$  and  $C_4 = \tau(C_3)$ ,

For every  $i \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ , we let  $\pi_i \colon X_i \to V_4$  be the blow up of the conic  $C_i$ , and we denote by  $E_i$  the exceptional surface of the blow up  $\pi_i$ . Then  $X_1 \cong X_2$  and  $X_3 \cong X_4$  are smooth Fano threefolds No.16, and the action of the group G lifts to its action on them. For every  $i \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ , we have the following G-equivariant diagram:



where the dashed arrow is a linear projection from the plane  $\Pi_i$ , and  $\eta_i$  is a conic bundle that is given by the linear system  $|\pi_i^*(H) - E_i|$ , where H is a hyperplane section of the threefold  $V_4$ . In each case, we have  $\mathbb{P}^2 = \mathbb{P}(\mathbb{U}_3)$ .

**Lemma 3.1.** One has  $E_1 \cong E_2 \cong E_3 \cong E_4 \cong \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$ .

Proof. One has  $E_i \cong \mathbb{F}_n$  for some integer  $n \ge 0$ . We have  $-E_i|_{E_i} \sim s_{E_i} + af_{E_i}$  where  $s_{E_i}$  is a section of the projection  $E_i \to C_i$  such that  $s_{E_i}^2 = -n$ , and  $f_{E_i}$  is a fiber of this projection. Since  $E_i^3 = 2 + K_{V_4} \cdot C_i = -2$ , we have  $-2 = (s_{E_i} + af_{E_i})^2 = -n + 2a$ , so that  $a = \frac{n-2}{2}$ . On the other hand, we have  $(\pi_i^*(H) - E_i)|_{E_i} \sim s_{E_i} + \frac{n+2}{2}f_{E_i}$ . Since  $|\pi_i^*(H) - E_i|$  is base point free, we have  $\frac{n+2}{2} \ge n$ , so that either n = 0 or n = 2. If n = 2, then  $s_{E_i}$  is contracted by  $\eta_i$  to a point, which is impossible, since G does not have fixed points in  $\mathbb{P}^2$ . Hence, we see that n = 0, so that  $E_i \cong \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$ .

For each  $i \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ , let  $\Delta_i$  be the discriminant curve in  $\mathbb{P}^2$  of the conic bundle  $\eta_i$ . Then  $\Delta_i$  is a (possibly reducible) quartic curve with at most ordinary double points.

**Lemma 3.2.** The curves  $\Delta_1$ ,  $\Delta_2$ ,  $\Delta_3$ ,  $\Delta_4$  are smooth.

*Proof.* If i = 1, then the linear projection  $V_4 \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^2$  from the plane  $\Pi_1$  is given by

$$[x_0: x_1: x_2: x_3: x_4: x_5] \mapsto [x_0: x_1: x_2].$$

Using this, one can deduce that  $\Delta_1$  is given by  $4x_0^4 - x_0^2x_1^2 - x_0^2x_2^2 + 4x_1^4 - x_1^2x_2^2 + 4x_2^4 = 0$ . This curve is smooth. Thus, the curve  $\Delta_2 \cong \Delta_1$  is also smooth.

Let  $y_0 = x_0 - \omega x_3$ ,  $y_1 = x_1 - \omega x_4$ ,  $y_2 = x_2 - \omega x_5$ ,  $y_3 = x_3$ ,  $y_4 = x_4$ ,  $y_5 = x_5$ . In new coordinates, the linear projection  $V_4 \dashrightarrow \mathbb{P}^2$  from the plane  $\Pi_3$  is given by

$$[y_0: y_1: y_2: y_3: y_4: y_5] \mapsto [y_0: y_1: y_2].$$

Then  $\Delta_3$  is given by  $4x_0^4 - \omega x_0^2 x_1^2 + (\omega + 1)x_2^2 x_0^2 - 4(\omega + 1)x_1^4 - x_1^2 x_2^2 + 4\omega x_2^4$ . This curve is smooth, so that  $\Delta_4 \cong \Delta_3$  is also smooth.

Observe that  $\mathbb{P}^2 = \mathbb{P}(\mathbb{U}_3)$  has three *G*-invariant conics. Denote them by  $\mathcal{C}_1$ ,  $\mathcal{C}_2$  and  $\mathcal{C}_3$ , and denote by  $F_{1,i}$ ,  $F_{2,i}$  and  $F_{3,i}$  their preimages on  $X_i$  via  $\eta_i$ , respectively. Then

$$F_{1,i} \sim F_{2,i} \sim F_{3,i} \sim \pi_i^*(2H) - 2E_i$$

For every  $i \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  and  $j \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ , let  $\overline{F}_{j,i} = \pi_i(F_{j,i})$ ). Then  $\overline{F}_{j,i}$  is an irreducible surface in |2H| that is singular along the conic  $C_i$ . Without loss of generality, we may assume that  $\overline{F}_{1,1}$  is cut out on  $V_4$  by the equation  $f_{1,1} = 0$  for  $f_{1,1} = x_0^2 + x_1^2 + x_3^2$ , and the surface  $\overline{F}_{2,1}$  is cut out on  $V_4$  by the equation  $f_{2,1} = 0$  for  $f_{2,1} = x_0^2 + \omega x_1^2 + \omega^2 x_3^2$ . Then the surface  $\overline{F}_{3,1}$  is cut out on  $V_4$  by the equation  $f_{3,1} = 0$ , where  $f_{3,1} = x_0^2 + \omega^2 x_1^2 + \omega x_3^2$ . Using the involution  $\tau$ , we also see that  $\overline{F}_{1,2} = \tau(\overline{F}_{1,1})$ ,  $\overline{F}_{2,2} = \tau(\overline{F}_{2,1})$  and  $\overline{F}_{3,2} = \tau(\overline{F}_{3,1})$ , so that we let  $f_{1,2} = \tau^*(f_{1,1})$ ,  $f_{2,2} = \tau^*(f_{2,1})$  and  $f_{3,2} = \tau^*(f_{3,1})$ . Then  $\overline{F}_{1,3}$  is cut out by  $f_{1,3} = 0$ , where  $f_{1,3} = (x_0 - \omega x_3)^2 + (x_1 - \omega x_4)^2 + (x_2 - \omega x_5)^2$ . Likewise, the surface  $\overline{F}_{2,3}$  is cut out by  $f_{3,3} = 0$ , where  $f_{2,3} = (x_0 - \omega x_3)^2 + \omega(x_1 - \omega x_4)^2 + \omega^2(x_2 - \omega x_5)^2$ , Similarly,  $\overline{F}_{3,3}$  is cut out by  $f_{3,3} = 0$ , where  $f_{3,3} = (x_0 - \omega x_3)^2 + \omega^2(x_1 - \omega x_4)^2 + \omega(x_2 - \omega x_5)^2$ . Finally, we conclude that  $\overline{F}_{1,4} = \tau(\overline{F}_{1,3})$ ,  $\overline{F}_{2,4} = \tau(\overline{F}_{2,3})$  and  $\overline{F}_{3,4} = \tau(\overline{F}_{3,3})$ , so that we let  $f_{1,4} = \tau^*(f_{1,3})$ ,  $f_{2,4} = \tau^*(f_{2,3})$  and  $f_{3,4} = \tau^*(f_{3,3})$ .

Remark 3.3. The incidence relation between the surfaces  $\overline{F}_{1,1}$ ,  $\overline{F}_{2,1}$ ,  $\overline{F}_{3,1}$ ,  $\overline{F}_{1,2}$ ,  $\overline{F}_{2,2}$ ,  $\overline{F}_{3,2}$ ,  $\overline{F}_{1,3}$ ,  $\overline{F}_{2,3}$ ,  $\overline{F}_{3,3}$ ,  $\overline{F}_{1,4}$ ,  $\overline{F}_{2,4}$ ,  $\overline{F}_{3,4}$  and the conics  $C_1$ ,  $C_2$ ,  $C_3$ ,  $C_4$  is described in the following table:

	$\overline{F}_{1,1}$	$\overline{F}_{2,1}$	$\overline{F}_{3,1}$	$\overline{F}_{1,2}$	$\overline{F}_{2,2}$	$\overline{F}_{3,2}$	$\overline{F}_{1,3}$	$\overline{F}_{2,3}$	$\overline{F}_{3,3}$	$\overline{F}_{1,4}$	$\overline{F}_{2,4}$	$\overline{F}_{3,4}$
$C_1$	Node	Node	Cusp	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
$C_2$	No	Yes	No	Node	Node	Cusp	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
$C_3$	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No	Node	Node	Cusp	Yes	No	No
$C_4$	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No	Node	Node	Cusp

Here, No means that the surface does not contains the conic, and in all other cases the surface contains the conic. Likewise, Node means the the surface has an ordinary double point in general point of the conic, and Cusp means that the surface has an ordinary cusp in general point of the conic. In all remaining cases the surface is smooth at general point of the conic (we will see later that it is smooth along this conic).

**Corollary 3.4.** For every  $i \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ , one has  $\alpha_G(X_i) \leq \frac{3}{4}$ .

*Proof.* Observe that  $F_{3,i} + E_i \sim -K_{X_i}$ . Moreover, it follows from Remark 3.3 that the surface  $F_{3,i}$  is tangent to  $E_i$  along a section of the projection  $E_i \to C_i$ . Thus, we conclude that  $\alpha_G(X_i) \leq \operatorname{lct}(X_i, F_{3,i} + E_i) \leq \frac{3}{4}$  as required.

Recall that the group  $G \cong \mu_2^2 \rtimes \mu_3$  has three different one-dimensional representations: the trivial representation with the character  $\chi_0$ , the non-trivial representation with the character  $\chi_1$  that sends the generator of  $\mu_3$  to  $\omega$ , and the non-trivial representation with the character  $\chi_2$  that sends the generator of  $\mu_3$  to  $\omega^2$ . On the other hand, the polynomials  $f, g, f_{1,1}, f_{2,1}, f_{3,1}, f_{1,2}, f_{2,2}, f_{3,2}, f_{1,3}, f_{2,3}, f_{3,3}, f_{1,4}, f_{2,4}, f_{3,4}$  are semi-invariants of the group G considered as a subgroup in  $SL_6(\mathbb{C})$ . These polynomials split into three groups with respect to the characters  $\chi_0, \chi_1$  and  $\chi_2$  as follows:

- $(\chi_0)$  f, f<sub>1,1</sub>, f<sub>1,2</sub>, f<sub>1,3</sub>, f<sub>1,4</sub> are G-invariants;
- $(\chi_1) f_{3,1}, f_{3,2}, f_{3,3}, f_{3,4}$  are *G*-semi-invariants with character  $\chi_1$ ;
- $(\chi_2)$  g,  $f_{2,1}$ ,  $f_{2,2}$ ,  $f_{2,3}$ ,  $f_{2,4}$  are G-semi-invariants with character  $\chi_2$ .

Note that  $f_{1,4} = -(\omega+2)f_{1,1} + (\omega+2)f_{1,2} + f_{1,3}$  and  $(\omega+1)f_{1,1} - \omega f_{1,2} - (\omega+1)f_{1,3} + 2f = 0$ , which implies that  $\overline{F}_{1,1}, \overline{F}_{1,2}, \overline{F}_{1,3}, \overline{F}_{1,4}$  generate a pencil on  $V_4$ , which we denote by  $\mathcal{P}_0$ . Similarly, we have  $f_{3,4} = -(\omega+2)f_{3,1} + (\omega+2)f_{3,2} + f_{3,3}$ , and the surfaces  $\overline{F}_{3,1}, \overline{F}_{3,2}, \overline{F}_{3,3}, \overline{F}_{3,4}$  generate two-dimensional linear system (net), which we denote by  $\mathcal{M}_1$ . This linear system  $\mathcal{M}_1$  contains four pencils, which we denote by  $\mathcal{P}_{1,1}, \mathcal{P}_{1,2}, \mathcal{P}_{1,3}$  and  $\mathcal{P}_{1,4}$ , that consist of surfaces containing the conics  $C_1, C_2, C_3$  and  $C_4$ , respectively. Likewise, we have  $f_{2,4} = -(\omega+2)f_{2,1} + (\omega+2)f_{2,2} + f_{2,3}$  and  $(\omega-1)f_{2,1} - (\omega+2)f_{2,2} - (\omega+1)f_{2,3} + 2g = 0$ , so that  $\overline{F}_{2,1}, \overline{F}_{2,2}, \overline{F}_{2,3}, \overline{F}_{2,4}$  generates a pencil on  $V_4$ , which we denote by  $\mathcal{P}_2$ .

For every  $i \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ , denote by  $\mathcal{P}_0^i, \mathcal{P}_{1,1}^i, \mathcal{P}_{1,2}^i, \mathcal{P}_{1,3}^i, \mathcal{P}_{1,4}^i$  and  $\mathcal{P}_2^i$  the strict transforms on  $X_i$  of the pencils  $\mathcal{P}_0, \mathcal{P}_{1,1}, \mathcal{P}_{1,2}, \mathcal{P}_{1,3}, \mathcal{P}_{1,4}$  and  $\mathcal{P}_2$ . Then

$$\mathcal{P}_{1,1}^1 \sim \mathcal{P}_2^1 \sim -K_{X_1},$$
  

$$\mathcal{P}_{1,2}^2 \sim \mathcal{P}_2^2 \sim -K_{X_2},$$
  

$$\mathcal{P}_{1,3}^3 \sim \mathcal{P}_0^3 \sim -K_{X_3},$$
  

$$\mathcal{P}_{1,4}^4 \sim \mathcal{P}_0^4 \sim -K_{X_4}.$$

Moreover, we have  $F_{3,1} + E_1 \in \mathcal{P}_{1,1}^1$ ,  $F_{2,1} + E_1 \in \mathcal{P}_2^1$ ,  $F_{3,2} + E_2 \in \mathcal{P}_{1,2}^2$ ,  $F_{2,2} + E_2 \in \mathcal{P}_2^2$ ,  $F_{3,3} + E_3 \in \mathcal{P}_{1,3}^3$ ,  $F_{1,3} + E_3 \in \mathcal{P}_0^3$ ,  $F_{3,4} + E_4 \in \mathcal{P}_{1,4}^4$ ,  $F_{1,4} + E_3 \in \mathcal{P}_0^4$ . Thus, we see that the restrictions  $\mathcal{P}_{1,1}^1|_{X_1}$ ,  $\mathcal{P}_2^1|_{X_1}$ ,  $\mathcal{P}_{1,2}^2|_{X_2}$ ,  $\mathcal{P}_2^2|_{X_2}$ ,  $\mathcal{P}_{3,3}^3|_{X_3}$ ,  $\mathcal{P}_0^3|_{X_3}$ ,  $\mathcal{P}_{1,4}^4|_{X_4}$ ,  $\mathcal{P}_0^4|_{X_4}$  are *G*invariant curves in  $E_1$ ,  $E_2$ ,  $E_3$ ,  $E_4$ , respectively. Denote them by  $Z_1$ ,  $Z_1'$ ,  $Z_2$ ,  $Z_2'$ ,  $Z_3$ ,  $Z_3'$ ,  $Z_4$ ,  $Z_4'$ , respectively. Observe that  $Z_1 \neq Z_1'$ ,  $Z_2 \neq Z_2'$ ,  $Z_3 \neq Z_3'$  and  $Z_4 \neq Z_4'$ . This follows from the exact sequence of *G*-representations

$$0 \to H^0\Big(\mathcal{O}_{X_i}\big(-K_{X_i}-E_i\big)\Big) \to H^0\Big(\mathcal{O}_{X_i}\big(-K_{X_i}\big)\Big) \twoheadrightarrow H^0\Big(\mathcal{O}_{E_i}\big(-K_{X_i}\big|_{E_i}\big)\Big),$$

where the surjectivity of the last map follows from Kodaira vanishing. Alternatively, one can show this using the explicit equations of the pencils  $\mathcal{P}_0$ ,  $\mathcal{P}_{1,1}$ ,  $\mathcal{P}_{1,2}$ ,  $\mathcal{P}_{1,3}$ ,  $\mathcal{P}_{1,4}$  and  $\mathcal{P}_2$ .

Recall that  $E_1 \cong E_2 \cong E_3 \cong E_4 \cong \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$  by Lemma 3.1. For every  $i \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ , let  $s_{E_i}$  be a section of the projection  $E_i \to C_i$  such that  $s_{E_i}^2 = 0$ , and let  $f_{E_i}$  be a fiber of this projection. Then  $-E_i|_{E_i} = s_{E_i} - f_{E_i}$ , so that  $-K_{X_i} \sim s_{E_i} + 3f_{E_i}$ . Hence, we see that  $Z_i \sim Z'_i \sim s_{E_i} + 3f_{E_i}$ , which immediately implies that both curve  $Z_i$  and  $Z'_i$  are irreducible, because  $C_i$  does not have *G*-orbits of lengths 1, 2 and 3.

For each  $i \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ , the conic bundle  $\eta_i$  gives a double cover  $E_i \to \mathbb{P}^2$ , whose branching curve is  $\mathcal{C}_3$ . Indeed, one has  $F_{3,i} \sim \pi_i^*(2H) - 2E_i$ , and  $\overline{F}_{3,i}$  has a cusp at general point of the conic  $C_i$ . Since  $F_{3,i}|_{E_i} \sim 2s_{E_i} + 2f_{E_i}$ , we have  $\overline{F}_{3,i}|_{E_i} = 2C_i^i$  for some irreducible curve  $C_i^i \in |s_{E_i} + f_{E_i}|$ . Since the double cover  $E_i \to \mathbb{P}^2$  is given by a linear subsystem in  $|s_{E_i} + f_{E_i}|$ , we conclude that  $\eta_i(C_i^i)$  is the branching curve of this double cover. But  $\eta_i(C_i^i) = \mathcal{C}_3$ , since  $F_{3,i}$  is the preimage of the curve  $\mathcal{C}_3$  via  $\eta_i$ .

For every *i* and *j* in  $\{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  such that  $j \neq i$ , denote by  $C_j^i$  the strict transform of the conic  $C_j$  on the threefold  $X_i$ . Then  $-K_{X_i} \cdot C_1^i = -K_{X_i} \cdot C_2^i = -K_{X_i} \cdot C_3^i = -K_{X_i} \cdot C_4^i = 4$  and  $-K_{X_i} \cdot Z_i = -K_{X_i} \cdot Z_i' = 6$ . Observe also that  $C_1^i$ ,  $C_2^i$ ,  $C_3^i$ ,  $C_4^i$ ,  $Z_i$ ,  $Z_i'$  are smooth rational curves. Moreover, we have the following result:

**Lemma 3.5.** Let C be an irreducible G-invariant curve in  $X_i$  such that  $C \cong \mathbb{P}^1$  and  $-K_{X_i} \cdot C < 8$ . Then C is one of the curves  $C_1^i, C_2^i, C_3^i, C_4^i, Z_i, Z_i'$ .

*Proof.* The proof is the same for every  $i \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ . Thus, for simplicity of notations, we assume that i = 1. Suppose that C is not one of the curves  $C_1^1$ ,  $C_2^1$ ,  $C_3^1$ ,  $C_4^1$ ,  $Z_1$ ,  $Z_1'$ . Let us seek for a contradiction.

First, we suppose that  $C \subset E_1$ . Then  $C \sim as_{E_1} + bf_{E_1}$  for some non-negative integers a and b. Since  $-K_{X_1}|_{E_1} \sim s_{E_1} + 3f_{E_1}$ , we see that  $3a + b = -K_{X_i} \cdot C < 8$ . Moreover, since  $C_1^1 \cdot C = a + b$ , we conclude that  $a + b \ge 4$  and  $a + b \ne 5$ , because  $C_1^1$  does not have G-orbits of lengths 1, 2, 3 and 5. Thus, since C is irreducible, we conclude that a = 1 and b = 3.

Let us describe the action of G on the surface  $E_1 \cong \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$ . Since G acts faithfully on  $C_1 \cong \mathbb{P}^1$ , this action is given by the unique (unimodular) irreducible two-dimensional representation of the central extension  $2.G \cong \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{F}_3)$  of the group G, which we denote by  $\mathbb{W}_3$ . Since  $|s_{E_1} + f_{E_1}|$  contains a G-invariant curve, and the projection  $E_1 \to C_1$ is G-equivariant, and we deduce that the action of G on the surface  $E_1$  is given by the identification  $E_1 = \mathbb{P}(\mathbb{W}_2) \times \mathbb{P}(\mathbb{W}_2)$ . Thus, the G-invariant curves in  $|s_{E_1} + 3f_{E_1}|$ corresponds to one-dimensional subrepresentations of the group 2.G in  $\mathbb{W}_2 \otimes \mathrm{Sym}^3(\mathbb{W}_2)$ . Using the following GAP script, we conclude that there are two such subrepresentations:

G:=Group("SL(2,3)"); R:=IrreducibleModules(G,CyclotomicField(3)); M:=TensorProduct(R[4],SymmetricPower(R[4],3)); IndecomposableSummands(M);

These subrepresentations corresponds to the curves  $Z_1$  and  $Z'_1$ , so that C must be one of them, which is impossible by assumption.

Thus, we see that C is not contained in  $E_1$ . Let  $\overline{C} = \pi_1(C)$ . Then  $\pi_1^*(H) \cdot C = H \cdot \overline{C} \ge 2$ . Moreover, if  $H \cdot \overline{C} = 2$ , then  $\overline{C}$  is one of the conics  $C_1, C_2, C_3$  or  $C_4$ , because these are the only G-invariant conics in  $V_4$ . Since  $C \not\subset E_1$  and C is not one of the curves  $C_2^1, C_3^1, C_4^1$ , we see that  $H \cdot \overline{C} \ne 2$ , so that  $\pi_1^*(H) \cdot C \ge 3$ .

Note also that  $\eta_1(C)$  is a curve, because G does not have fixed points in  $\mathbb{P}^2$ . Similarly, we see that  $\eta_1(C)$  is not a line. Hence, we conclude that  $(\pi_1^*(H) - E_1) \cdot C \ge \deg(\eta_1(C)) \ge 2$ . One the other hand, we have  $E_1 \cdot C$  must be even since C does not have G-orbits of odd length. Moreover, we have

$$7 \ge -K_{X_1} \cdot C = \left(\pi_1^*(2H) - E_1\right) \cdot C = \pi_1^*(H) \cdot C + \left(\pi_1^*(H) - E_1\right) \cdot C \ge 5,$$

so that  $-K_{X_1} \cdot C = 6$ ,  $\pi_1^*(H) \cdot C = 3$  and  $(\pi_1^*(H) - E_1) \cdot C = 3$ , which gives  $E_1 \cdot C = 0$ . Hence, we see that  $\overline{C}$  is a smooth rational cubic curve, and  $\eta_1(C)$  is a singular cubic curve. This is impossible, since G does not have fixed points in  $\mathbb{P}^2$ .

**Lemma 3.6.** Let S be a G-invariant surface such that  $-K_{X_i} \sim_{\mathbb{Q}} aS + \Delta$  for a rational number a and an effective G-invariant  $\mathbb{Q}$ -divisor  $\Delta$  on  $X_i$ . Then  $a \leq 1$ .

Proof. If  $S = E_i$ , then  $2 = -K_{X_i} \cdot \mathscr{C} = aS \cdot \mathscr{C} + \Delta \cdot \mathscr{C} \ge aE_i \cdot \mathscr{C} = 2a$  for a general fiber  $\mathscr{C}$  of the conic bundle  $\nu_i$ . Thus, we may assume that  $S \ne E_i$ . Then  $\pi_i(S)$  is a surface in  $V_4$ , and  $2H \sim_{\mathbb{Q}} a\pi_i(S) + \pi_i(\Delta)$ . Hence, if a > 1, then  $\pi_i(Z) \sim H$ , which is impossible, because  $\mathbb{P}^5$  does not contain G-invariant hyperplanes.  $\Box$ 

Now we are ready to state the main technical result of this section:

**Lemma 3.7.** Let a and  $\lambda$  be positive rational numbers such that  $a \ge 1$  and  $\lambda < \frac{3}{4}$ , and let D be an effective G-invariant  $\mathbb{Q}$ -divisor on  $X_i$  such that  $D \sim_{\mathbb{Q}} \pi_i^*(2H) - aE_i$ . Then  $E_i, C_i^i, Z_i$  and  $Z_i'$  are not log canonical centers of the log pair  $(X_i, \lambda D)$ .

Let us use this result to prove

# **Proposition 3.8.** One has $\alpha_G(X_1) = \alpha_G(X_2) = \alpha_G(X_3) = \alpha_G(X_4) = \frac{3}{4}$ .

Proof. Suppose that  $\alpha_G(X_i) < \frac{3}{4}$ . Let us seek for a contradiction. Since  $X_i$  does not have G-fixed points, it follows from [1, Lemma A.4.8] and Lemma 3.6 that there exists a G-invariant  $\mathbb{Q}$ -divisor D on the threefold  $X_i$  such that  $D \sim_{\mathbb{Q}} -K_{X_i}$ , the log pair  $(X_i, \lambda D)$  is strictly log canonical for some positive rational number  $\lambda < \frac{3}{4}$ , and the only center of log canonical singularities of this log pair is an irreducible G-invariant smooth irreducible rational curve  $Z \subset X_i$  such that  $-K_{X_i} \cdot Z < 8$ . Then it must be one of the curves  $C_1^i, C_2^i, C_3^i, C_4^i, Z_i, Z_i'$  by Lemma 3.5. On the other hand, it follows from Lemma 3.7 that Z is not one of the curves  $C_i^i, Z_i, Z_i'$ , so that  $Z = C_i^i$  for some  $j \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  such that  $j \neq i$ .

Let  $\nu: V \to X_i$  be the blow up of the curve Z, let F be the  $\nu$ -exceptional surface, let  $\widetilde{D}$  be strict transform of the divisor D via  $\nu$ , and let  $m = \text{mult}_Z(D)$ . Then  $m \ge \frac{1}{\lambda}$  and

$$K_V + \lambda \widetilde{D} + (\lambda m - 1)F \sim_{\mathbb{Q}} \nu^* (K_{X_i} + \lambda D).$$

Thus, either  $\lambda m - 1 \ge 1$  or the surface F contains an irreducible G-invariant smooth rational curve  $\widetilde{Z}$  such that  $\nu(\widetilde{Z}) = Z$ , the curve  $\widetilde{Z}$  is a section of the projection  $F \to Z$ , and  $\widetilde{Z}$  is a center of log canonical singularities the log pair  $(V, \lambda \widetilde{D} + (\lambda m - 1)F)$ .

Let  $v: V \to X_j$  be the birational contraction of the strict transform of the surface  $E_i$ , and let  $\overline{D} = v(\widetilde{D})$ . Then  $v(F) = E_j$  and  $\overline{D} \sim_{\mathbb{Q}} \pi_j(2H) - mE_j$ , so that

$$\overline{D} + \left(m - \frac{1}{\lambda}\right) E_j \sim_{\mathbb{Q}} \pi_j(2H) - \frac{1}{\lambda} E_j$$

Then the surface  $E_j$  and the curves  $C_j^j$ ,  $Z_j$  and  $Z'_j$  are not log canonical centers of the log pair  $(X_j, \lambda \overline{D} + (\lambda m - 1)E_j)$  by Lemma 3.7. In particular, we see that  $\lambda m - 1 < 1$ , so that the surface  $E_j$  contains an irreducible *G*-invariant smooth rational curve  $\overline{Z}$  such that  $\pi_j(\overline{Z}) = Z$ , the curve  $\overline{Z}$  is a section of the projection  $E_j \to C_j$ , and  $\overline{Z}$  is a center of log canonical singularities of the log pair  $(X_j, \lambda \overline{D} + (\lambda m - 1)E_j)$ . Let us repeat that the curve  $\overline{Z}$  is not one of the curves  $C_j^j$ ,  $Z_j$  and  $Z'_j$  by Lemma 3.7.

Recall that  $E_j \cong \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$ . Write  $\overline{D}|_{E_j} = \delta Z + \Upsilon$ . where  $\delta$  is a non-negative rational number, and  $\Upsilon$  is an effective  $\mathbb{Q}$ -divisor on  $E_j$  such that its support does not contain the curve Z. Then  $\delta \geq \frac{1}{\lambda} > \frac{4}{3}$  by [5, Theorem 5.50]. But

$$\overline{D}\big|_{E_j} \sim_{\mathbb{Q}} \left( \pi_j(2H) - mE_j \right) \big|_{E_j} \sim_{\mathbb{Q}} 4f_{E_j} + m(s_{E_j} - f_{E_j}) = ms_{E_j} + (4 - m)f_{E_j},$$

and  $Z \sim s_{E_i} + k f_{E_i}$  for some non-negative integer k. This gives

$$\Upsilon \sim_{\mathbb{Q}} m s_{E_j} + (4-m) f_{E_j} - \delta \big( s_{E_j} + k f_{E_j} \big) = (m-\delta) s_{E_j} + (4-m-\delta k) f_{E_j}.$$

Since  $m \ge \frac{1}{\lambda} > \frac{4}{3}$  and  $\delta > \frac{4}{3}$ , we get k = 0 or k = 1, so that  $Z = C_j^j$  by Lemma 3.5, which is impossible by Lemma 3.7.

By Proposition 3.8 and Theorem 1.3, the smooth Fano threefolds  $X_1 \cong X_2$  and  $X_3 \cong X_4$  are K-polystable. However, to complete the proof of Proposition 3.8, we have to prove

technical Lemma 3.7. Note that it is enough to prove this lemma for  $X_1$  and  $X_3$ , so that we will assume in the following that either i = 1 or i = 3.

Fix rational numbers a and  $\lambda$  such that  $a \ge 1$  and  $0 < \lambda < \frac{3}{4}$ . Let D be a G-invariant effective  $\mathbb{Q}$ -divisor on the threefold  $X_i$  such that  $D \sim_{\mathbb{Q}} \pi_i^*(2H) - aE_i$ . Then we must show that  $E_i, C_i^i, Z_i$  and  $Z_i'$  are also not log canonical centers of the pair  $(X_i, \lambda D)$ . Replacing D by  $D + (a-1)E_i$ , we may assume that a = 1, so that  $D \sim_{\mathbb{Q}} -K_{X_i}$ . Write  $D = \varepsilon E_i + \Delta$ , where  $\varepsilon \in \mathbb{Q}_{\ge 0}$ , and  $\Delta$  is effective  $\mathbb{Q}$ -divisor on  $X_i$  whose support does not contain  $E_i$ . Then  $\varepsilon \le 1$  by Lemma 3.6, so that  $E_i$  is not a log canonical center of the log pair  $(X_i, \lambda D)$ .

**Lemma 3.9.** Neither  $Z_i$  nor  $Z'_i$  is a log canonical center of the pair  $(X_i, \lambda D)$ .

Proof. Denote by Z one of the curves  $Z_i$  or  $Z'_i$ . Let  $m_\Delta = \operatorname{mult}_Z(\Delta)$  and  $m = \operatorname{mult}_Z(D)$ . Then  $m = m_\Delta + \varepsilon$ . Let us bound m. To do this, write  $\Delta|_{E_i} = \delta Z + \Upsilon$ , where  $\delta$  is a rational number such that  $\delta \ge m_\Delta$ , and  $\Upsilon$  is an effective Q-divisor on the surface  $E_i \cong \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$  such that its support does not contain Z. Observe that

$$\Delta\big|_{E_i} \sim_{\mathbb{Q}} \Big(\pi_i(2H) - (1+\varepsilon)E_i\Big)\big|_{E_i} \sim_{\mathbb{Q}} 4f_{E_i} + (1+\varepsilon)(s_{E_i} - f_{E_i}) = (1+\varepsilon)s_{E_i} + (3-\varepsilon)f_{E_i}$$

and  $Z \sim s_{E_i} + 3f_{E_i}$ . This gives  $\Upsilon \sim_{\mathbb{Q}} (1 + \varepsilon - \delta)s_{E_i} + (3 - \varepsilon - 3\delta)f_{E_i}$ , which gives  $\delta \leq 1 - \frac{\varepsilon}{3}$ . In particular, we get  $m = m_{\Delta} + \varepsilon \leq \delta + \varepsilon \leq 1 + \frac{2\varepsilon}{3} \leq \frac{5}{3}$ .

Let  $\nu: V \to X_i$  be the blow up of the curve Z, and let F be the  $\nu$ -exceptional surface. Then the action of the group G lifts to the threefold V, since Z is G-invariant.

Recall that Z is cut out on  $E_i$  by a G-invariant surface in  $|-K_{X_i}|$ . Since  $Z \cong \mathbb{P}^1$ , this gives  $\mathcal{N}_{Z/X_i} \cong \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^1}(6) \oplus \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^1}(-2)$ , because  $-K_{X_i} \cdot Z = 6$ , and  $Z^2 = 6$  on the surface  $E_i$ . Thus, we have  $F \cong \mathbb{F}_8$ . Moreover, since  $F^3 = -4$ , we deduce that  $-F|_F \sim s_F + 2f_F$ , where  $s_F$  is a section of the projection  $F \to Z$  such that  $s_F^2 = -8$ , and  $f_F$  is a fiber of this projection. Let  $\widetilde{E}_i$  and  $\widetilde{D}$  be the proper transforms of the divisors  $E_i$  and D on the threefold V, respectively. Then  $\widetilde{E}_i|_F \sim (\nu^*(E_i) - F)|_F \sim s_F$ , since  $E \cdot Z = -2$ . Thus, we see that  $\widetilde{E}_i|_F = s_F$ . Similarly, we get  $\widetilde{D}|_F \sim_{\mathbb{Q}} ms_F + (2m+6)f_F$ .

Now we suppose that Z is a log canonical center of the pair  $(X_i, \lambda D)$ . Let us seek for a contradiction. Since  $\lambda m - 1 < 1$  and  $K_V + \lambda \tilde{D} + (\lambda m - 1)F \sim_{\mathbb{Q}} \nu^*(K_{X_i} + \lambda D)$ , the surface F contains an irreducible G-invariant smooth rational curve  $\tilde{Z}$  such that  $\nu(\tilde{Z}) = Z$ , the curve  $\tilde{Z}$  is a section of the projection  $F \to Z$ , and  $\tilde{Z}$  is a center of log canonical singularities the log pair  $(V, \lambda \tilde{D} + (\lambda m - 1)F)$ . Write  $\tilde{D}|_F = \theta \tilde{Z} + \Omega$ , where  $\theta$  is a non-negative rational number, and  $\Omega$  is an effective Q-divisor on F such that its support does not contain the curve  $\tilde{Z}$ . Then using [5, Theorem 5.50], we get  $\theta \ge \frac{1}{\lambda} > \frac{4}{3}$ . On the other hand, we have  $\tilde{Z} \sim s_F + kf_F$  for some non-negative integer k such that either k = 0 or  $k \ge 8$ . Thus, we have  $\Omega \sim_{\mathbb{Q}} (m - \theta)s_F + (2m + 6 - \theta k)f_F$ . Hence, if  $k \ne 0$ , then  $0 \le 2m + 6 - \theta k \le 2m + 6 - 8\theta < 2m + 6 - \frac{32}{3} = \frac{6m - 14}{3}$ , so that  $m > \frac{7}{3}$ , which is impossible, since  $m \le \frac{5}{3}$ . Then k = 0, so that  $\tilde{Z} = s_F = \tilde{E}_i \cap F$ .

Recall that  $D = \varepsilon E_i + \Delta$ , where  $\varepsilon$  is a non-negative rational number such that  $\varepsilon \leq 1$ , and  $\Delta$  is an effective Q-divisor on the threefold  $X_i$  whose support does not contain  $E_i$ . Denote by  $\widetilde{\Delta}$  the proper transform of this divisor on the threefold V. Then  $\widetilde{Z}$  is a center of log canonical singularities the log pair  $(V, \lambda \varepsilon \widetilde{E}_i + \lambda \widetilde{\Delta} + (\lambda m_\Delta + \lambda \varepsilon - 1)F)$ , where  $m_\Delta = \text{mult}_Z(\Delta)$ . Using [5, Theorem 5.50] again, we see that  $\widetilde{Z}$  is a center of log canonical singularities the log pair  $(\widetilde{E}_i, \lambda \widetilde{\Delta}|_{\widetilde{E}_i} + (\lambda m_\Delta + \lambda \varepsilon - 1)F|_{\widetilde{E}_i})$ , where  $F|_{\widetilde{E}_i} = \widetilde{Z}$ . This simply means that  $\lambda \widetilde{\Delta}|_{\widetilde{E}_i} + (\lambda m_{\Delta} + \lambda \varepsilon - 1)F|_{\widetilde{E}_i} = c\widetilde{Z} + \Xi$  for some rational number  $c \ge 1$ , where  $\Xi$  is an effective  $\mathbb{Q}$ -divisor on  $\widetilde{E}_i$  whose support does not contain the curve  $\widetilde{Z}$ .

Now, let us compute the numerical class of the restriction  $\widetilde{\Delta}|_{\widetilde{E}_i}$ . Observe that  $\widetilde{E}_i \cong E_i$ . Denote by  $s_{\widetilde{E}_i}$  and  $f_{\widetilde{E}_i}$  the strict transforms on  $\widetilde{E}_i$  of the curves  $s_{E_i}$  and  $f_{E_i}$ , respectively. Then  $\widetilde{\Delta}|_{\widetilde{E}_i} \sim_{\mathbb{Q}} (1+\varepsilon)s_{\widetilde{E}_i} + (3-\varepsilon)f_{\widetilde{E}_i} - m_{\Delta}\widetilde{Z} = (1+\varepsilon-m_{\Delta})s_{\widetilde{E}_i} + (3-\varepsilon-3m_{\Delta})f_{\widetilde{E}_i}$ . Thus, we see that

$$c(s_{\widetilde{E}_{i}}+3f_{\widetilde{E}_{i}})+\Xi\sim_{\mathbb{Q}}\lambda\widetilde{\Delta}\big|_{\widetilde{E}_{i}}+(\lambda m_{\Delta}+\lambda\varepsilon-1)F\big|_{\widetilde{E}_{i}}\sim_{\mathbb{Q}}\\\sim_{\mathbb{Q}}\lambda(1+\varepsilon-m_{\Delta})s_{\widetilde{E}_{i}}+\lambda(3-\varepsilon-3m_{\Delta})f_{\widetilde{E}_{i}}+(\lambda m_{\Delta}+\lambda\varepsilon-1)\widetilde{Z}\sim_{\mathbb{Q}}\\\sim_{\mathbb{Q}}(\lambda+2\lambda\varepsilon-1)s_{\widetilde{E}_{i}}+(3\lambda+2\lambda\varepsilon-3)f_{\widetilde{E}_{i}},$$

so that  $\Xi \sim_{\mathbb{Q}} (\lambda + 2\lambda\varepsilon - 1 - c)s_{\tilde{E}_i} + (3\lambda + 2\lambda\varepsilon - 3 - 3c)f_{\tilde{E}_i}$ , which gives  $3\lambda + 2\lambda\varepsilon - 3 - 3c \ge 0$ . Since  $c \ge 1$  and  $\lambda < \frac{3}{4}$ , we deduce that  $\varepsilon \ge \frac{3}{\lambda} - \frac{3}{2} > 4 - \frac{3}{2} = \frac{5}{2}$ . But  $\varepsilon \le 1$ . The obtained contradiction completes the proof of the lemma.

To complete the proof of Lemma 3.7, we must show that  $C_i^i$  is not a log canonical center of the log pair  $(X_i, \lambda D)$ . Let  $Z = C_i^i$ . Suppose that Z is a log canonical center of the pair  $(X_i, \lambda D)$ . Let us seek for a contradiction. Observe that  $\operatorname{mult}_Z(D) \ge \frac{1}{\lambda} > \frac{4}{3}$ . Observe also that Z is not a log canonical center of the log pair  $(X_i, \lambda(F_{3,i} + E_i))$  and  $D \sim_{\mathbb{Q}} F_{3,i} + E_i$ . Thus, replacing D by a divisor  $(1 + \mu)D - \mu(F_{3,i} + E_i)$  for an appropriate non-negative rational number  $\mu$ , we may assume that either the surface  $F_{3,i}$  or the surface  $E_i$  is not contained in the support of the Q-divisor D. Then we conclude that  $F_{3,i}$  is not contained in the support of the Q-divisor D, because

**Lemma 3.10.** The surface  $E_i$  is contained in the support of the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -divisor D.

*Proof.* Let  $\mathscr{C}$  be a general fiber of the projection  $E_i \to Z$ . If the surface  $E_i$  is contained in the support of the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -divisor D, then  $1 = -K_{X_i} \cdot \mathscr{C} = D \cdot \mathscr{C} \ge \text{mult}_Z(D) \ge \frac{1}{\lambda} > \frac{4}{3}$ , which is absurd.

Let  $\nu: V \to X_i$  be the blow up of the curve Z, let F be the  $\nu$ -exceptional surface, and let  $\widetilde{E}_i$  be the strict transform of the surface F via  $\nu$ . Then  $F \cong \mathbb{F}_n$  for some integer  $n \ge 0$ , and  $F|_F \sim -s_F + af_F$  for some integer a, where  $s_F$  is a section of the projection  $F \to Z$ such that  $s_F^2 = -n$ , and  $f_F$  is a fiber of this projection. Since  $-K_{X_i} \cdot Z = 4$ , we conclude that  $F^3 = -2$ . Thus, we have  $-2 = F^3 = (-s_F + af_F)^2 = -n - 2a$ , so that  $a = \frac{2-n}{2}$ . On the other hand, we have  $\widetilde{E}_i|_F \sim s_F + \frac{n-2}{2}f_F$ , since  $E_i \cdot Z = (-s_{E_i} + f_{E_i}) \cdot (s_{E_i} + f_{E_i}) = 0$ . But  $\widetilde{E}_i|_F$  is an irreducible curve, which implies that n = 2, since  $\frac{n-2}{2} < n$ . Thus, we see that  $F \cong \mathbb{F}_2$  and  $-F|_F \sim \widetilde{E}_i|_F = s_F$ . Observe also that the action of the group G lifts to the threefold V, since Z is G-invariant.

Remark 3.11. The divisor  $-K_V$  is nef and big. Indeed, the linear system  $|\pi_i^*(2H) - 2E_i|$  is base point free. Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be its strict transform on V. Then  $\mathcal{M} + \widetilde{E}_i$  is a linear subsystem of the linear system  $|-K_V|$ , so that the base locus of the linear system  $|-K_V|$  is contained in  $\widetilde{E}_i$ . But  $\widetilde{E}_i \cong E_i$  and  $-K_V|_{\widetilde{E}_i} \sim 2f_{\widetilde{E}_i}$ , where  $f_{\widetilde{E}_i}$  is a strict transform of the curve  $f_{E_i}$ on the surface  $\widetilde{E}_i$ . Then  $-K_V|_{\widetilde{E}_i}$  is nef, so that  $-K_V$  is also nef. Since  $-K_V^3 = 12$ , we see that  $-K_V$  is big. Let  $m = \text{mult}_Z(D)$ , and let  $\widetilde{D}$  be the proper transform of the divisor D via  $\nu$ . Then

$$\widetilde{D}\big|_F \sim_{\mathbb{Q}} \left(\nu^*(-K_{X_i}) - mF\right)\big|_F \sim_{\mathbb{Q}} ms_F + 4f_F.$$

Let  $\mathscr{C}$  be a sufficiently general fiber of the conic bundle  $\nu_i$  that is contained in  $F_{3,i}$ , and let  $\widetilde{\mathscr{C}}$  be its strict transform on the threefold V. Then  $\mathscr{C}$  is an irreducible curve that is not contained in the support of the divisor D, because we assumed that  $F_{3,i} \not\subset \text{Supp}(D)$ . Moreover, the curve  $\mathscr{C}$  intersects the curve Z, because  $F_{3,i}|_{E_i} = 2Z$ . Thus, we have

$$2 - m = 2 - mF \cdot \widetilde{\mathscr{C}} = \left(\nu^*(-K_{X_i}) - mF\right) \cdot \widetilde{\mathscr{C}} = \widetilde{D} \cdot \widetilde{\mathscr{C}} \ge 0,$$

so that  $m \leq 2$ . Since  $\lambda m - 1 < 1$  and  $K_V + \lambda \widetilde{D} + (\lambda m - 1)F \sim_{\mathbb{Q}} \nu^*(K_{X_i} + \lambda D)$ , the surface F contains an irreducible G-invariant smooth curve  $\widetilde{Z}$  such that  $\nu(\widetilde{Z}) = Z$ , the curve  $\widetilde{Z}$  is a section of the projection  $F \to Z$ , and  $\widetilde{Z}$  is a center of log canonical singularities the log pair  $(V, \lambda \widetilde{D} + (\lambda m - 1)F)$ . Let  $\widetilde{m} = \text{mult}_{\widetilde{Z}}(\widetilde{D})$ . Then

(3.12) 
$$m + \widetilde{m} \ge \frac{2}{\lambda} > \frac{8}{3}$$

because the multiplicity of the divisor  $\lambda \widetilde{D} + (\lambda m - 1)F$  at the curve  $\widetilde{Z}$  must be at least 1.

**Lemma 3.13.** Either  $\widetilde{Z} = s_F$  or  $\widetilde{Z} \sim s_F + 2f_F$ .

Proof. Write  $\widetilde{D}|_F = \theta \widetilde{Z} + \Omega$ , where  $\theta$  is a non-negative rational number, and  $\Omega$  is an effective  $\mathbb{Q}$ -divisor on F such that its support does not contain  $\widetilde{Z}$ . Using [5, Theorem 5.50], we get  $\theta \ge \frac{1}{\lambda} > \frac{4}{3}$ . But  $\widetilde{Z} \sim s_F + kf_F$  for  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that k = 0 or  $k \ge 2$ . Thus, we have

$$\Omega \sim_{\mathbb{Q}} ms_F + 4f_F - \theta Z \sim_{\mathbb{Q}} (m - \theta)s_F + (4 - \theta k)f_F$$

Hence, if  $k \neq 0$ , then  $0 \leq 4 - \theta k < 4 - \frac{4}{3}k$ , so that k = 2. Then  $\widetilde{Z} = s_F$  or  $\widetilde{Z} \sim s_F + 2f_F$ .  $\Box$ 

Let  $\widetilde{F}_{3,i}$  be the proper transform on V of the surface  $F_{3,i}$ . If  $\widetilde{Z} = s_F$ , then  $\widetilde{Z} = \widetilde{E}_i \cap \widetilde{F}_{3,i}$ , because  $F_{3,i}$  is tangent to  $E_i$  along the curve Z and  $\widetilde{E}_i \cap |_F = \widetilde{Z}$ . Using this, we get

# Lemma 3.14. One has $\widetilde{Z} \neq s_F$ .

*Proof.* If  $\widetilde{Z} = s_F$ , then  $\widetilde{\mathscr{C}}$  intersects the curve  $\widetilde{Z}$ , so hat  $2 - m \ge 2 - mF \cdot \widetilde{\mathscr{C}} = \widetilde{D} \cdot \widetilde{\mathscr{C}} \ge \widetilde{m}$ , which contradicts (3.12).

Thus, we see that  $\widetilde{Z} \sim s_F + 2f_F$ .

Remark 3.15. The curve  $\widetilde{Z}$  is unique *G*-invariant curve in the linear system  $|s_F + 2f_F|$ , because  $(s_F + 2f_F) \cdot \widetilde{Z} = 2$ , and  $\widetilde{Z}$  does not have *G*-orbits of length less than 4.

Let  $\rho: Y \to V$  be the blow up of the curve  $\widetilde{Z}$ , and let R be the  $\rho$ -exceptional surface. Then  $-K_Y^3 = 2$ .

## **Lemma 3.16.** The divisor $-K_Y$ is nef.

*Proof.* Let  $\widehat{F}_{3,i}$ ,  $\widehat{E}_i$ ,  $\widehat{F}$  be the strict transforms of the surfaces  $F_{3,i}$ ,  $E_i$ , F, respectively. Then  $|-K_Y|$  contains the divisor  $\widehat{F}_{3,i} + \widehat{E}_i + \widehat{F}$ . Therefore, to prove the required assertion, it is enough to prove that the restrictions  $-K_Y|_{\widehat{F}_{3,i}}$ ,  $-K_Y|_{\widehat{E}_i}$  and  $-K_Y|_{\widehat{F}}$  are nef.

The nefness of the restriction  $-K_Y|_{\widehat{E}_i}$  follows from the nefness of the restriction  $-K_V|_{\widetilde{E}_i}$ , because  $\widetilde{Z}$  is disjoint from the surface  $\widetilde{E}_i$ . To check the nefness of the restriction  $-K_Y|_{\widehat{F}}$ , note that  $\widetilde{Z} \sim s_F + 2f_F$  and  $-K_V|_F \sim s_F + 4f_F$ , so that  $-K_Y|_{\widehat{F}}$  is rationally equivalent to the sum of two fibers of the projection  $\widehat{F} \to \mathbb{P}^1$ . Hence, the restriction  $-K_Y|_{\widehat{F}}$  is nef.

Thus, we must prove that  $-K_Y|_{\widehat{F}_{3,i}}$  is nef. To do this, recall that  $F_{3,i}$  is a preimage via the conic bundle  $\eta_i$  of a *G*-invariant conic in  $\mathbb{P}^2$ , which we denoted earlier by  $\mathcal{C}_3$ . Using explicit equation of the surface  $F_{3,i}$ , one can check that this conic intersects the discriminant curve  $\Delta_i$  by four points that form a *G*-orbit of length 4, so that  $\mathcal{C}_3$  has simple tangency with  $\Delta_i$  at every intersection point. Denote the points in  $\mathcal{C}_3 \cap \Delta_i$  by  $P_1$ ,  $P_2$ ,  $P_3$  and  $P_4$ . For each  $k \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ , we have  $\eta_i^{-1}(P_k) = \ell_k + \ell'_k$ , where  $\ell_k$  and  $\ell'_k$  are smooth rational curve that intersect transversally at one point. Thus, in total we obtain eight smooth rational curves  $\ell_1$ ,  $\ell'_1$ ,  $\ell_2$ ,  $\ell'_2$ ,  $\ell_3$ ,  $\ell'_4$ ,  $\ell'_4$ . Denote their images in  $V_4$  by  $\overline{\ell}_1$ ,  $\overline{\ell}_1'$ ,  $\overline{\ell}_2$ ,  $\overline{\ell}_2'$ ,  $\overline{\ell}_3$ ,  $\overline{\ell}_3'$ ,  $\overline{\ell}_4$ ,  $\overline{\ell}_4'$ , respectively. Then these eight curves are lines, which we will describe later. Similarly, denote their strict transforms on V by  $\widetilde{\ell}_1$ ,  $\widetilde{\ell}_1'$ ,  $\widetilde{\ell}_2$ ,  $\widetilde{\ell}_3'$ ,  $\widetilde{\ell}_4$ ,  $\widetilde{\ell}_4'$ , respectively. Then, by construction, we have

$$-K_V \cdot \widetilde{\ell}_1 = -K_V \cdot \widetilde{\ell}_1 = -K_V \cdot \widetilde{\ell}_2 = -K_V \cdot \widetilde{\ell}_2 = -K_V \cdot \widetilde{\ell}_3 = -K_V \cdot \widetilde{\ell}_3 = -K_V \cdot \widetilde{\ell}_4 = -K_V \cdot \widetilde{\ell}_4 = 0$$

Finally, let us denote the strict transforms on Y of these eight curves by  $\hat{\ell}_1$ ,  $\hat{\ell}'_1$ ,  $\hat{\ell}_2$ ,  $\hat{\ell}'_2$ ,  $\hat{\ell}_3$ ,  $\hat{\ell}_4$ ,  $\hat{\ell}'_4$ , respectively. For every  $k \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ , we have  $-K_Y \cdot \hat{\ell}_k = -R \cdot \hat{\ell}_k$  and  $-K_Y \cdot \hat{\ell}'_k = -R \cdot \hat{\ell}'_k$ . Therefore, if  $\tilde{Z}$  intersects a curve  $\hat{\ell}_k$  or  $\hat{\ell}'_k$ , then  $-K_Y$  is not nef, because in these case we have  $-K_Y \cdot \hat{\ell}_k < 0$  or  $-K_Y \cdot \hat{\ell}'_k < 0$ , respectively.

First, let us show that the curves  $\hat{\ell}_1$ ,  $\hat{\ell}_1$ ,  $\hat{\ell}_2$ ,  $\hat{\ell}_2$ ,  $\hat{\ell}_3$ ,  $\hat{\ell}_4$ ,  $\hat{\ell}_4$  are the only curves in  $\hat{F}_{3,i}$  that a priori may have negative intersections with the divisor  $-K_Y$ . After thus, we will explicitly check that  $\tilde{Z}$  does not intersects any of the curves  $\tilde{\ell}_1$ ,  $\tilde{\ell}_1'$ ,  $\tilde{\ell}_2$ ,  $\tilde{\ell}_2'$ ,  $\tilde{\ell}_3$ ,  $\tilde{\ell}_4'$ ,  $\tilde{\ell}_4'$ , which would imply that  $-K_Y$  is indeed nef.

By construction, the curves  $\ell_1$ ,  $\ell'_1$ ,  $\ell_2$ ,  $\ell'_2$ ,  $\ell_3$ ,  $\ell'_3$ ,  $\ell_4$ ,  $\ell'_4$  form two *G*-irreducible curves each consisting of four irreducible components. Without loss of generality, we may assume that  $\ell_1 + \ell_2 + \ell_3 + \ell_4$  is one of these curves, and  $\ell'_1 + \ell'_2 + \ell'_3 + \ell'_4$  is another curve.

Observe that  $\widetilde{F}_{3,i}|_F \sim s_F + 4f_F$  and the intersection  $\widetilde{F}_{3,i} \cap F$  contains the curve  $s_F$ . This implies that  $\widetilde{F}_{3,i}|_F = s_F + e_1 + e_2 + e_3 + e_4$ , where  $e_k$  is a fiber of the projection  $F \to Z$ such that  $\nu(e_k) = \ell_k \cap \ell'_k$ . Since  $\widetilde{F}_{3,i}|_{\widetilde{E}_i} = s_F$ , we see that  $\widetilde{F}_{3,i}$  is smooth. Moreover, we have  $(s_F \cdot s_F)_{\widetilde{F}_{3,i}} = -2$ , because  $\widetilde{E}_i^2 \cdot \widetilde{F}_{3,i} = -2$ . Now, using this and  $F^2 \cdot \widetilde{F}_{3,i} = -2$ , we conclude that  $(e_1 \cdot e_1)_{\widetilde{F}_{3,i}} = (e_2 \cdot e_2)_{\widetilde{F}_{3,i}} = (e_3 \cdot e_3)_{\widetilde{F}_{3,i}} = (e_4 \cdot e_5)_{\widetilde{F}_{3,i}} = -2$ . Thus, we conclude that  $F_{3,i}$  has an ordinary double point at each point  $\ell_k \cap \ell'_k$ , and the birational morphism  $\nu$  induces the minimal resolution of singularities  $\widetilde{F}_{3,i} \to F_{3,i}$ , which contracts the curve  $e_k$ to the point  $\ell_k \cap \ell'_k$ .

The composition  $\eta_i \circ \nu$  induces a conic bundle  $\widetilde{F}_{3,i} \to \mathcal{C}_3$ . The curve  $s_F$  is its section, and its (scheme) fibers over the points  $P_1$ ,  $P_2$ ,  $P_3$ ,  $P_4$  are  $e_1 + \tilde{\ell}_1 + \tilde{\ell}'_1$ ,  $e_2 + \tilde{\ell}_1 + \tilde{\ell}'_2$ ,  $e_3 + \tilde{\ell}_1 + \tilde{\ell}'_3$ ,  $e_4 + \tilde{\ell}_1 + \tilde{\ell}'_4$ , respectively. Thus, for every  $k \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ , the curves  $\tilde{\ell}_k$  and  $\tilde{\ell}'_k$  are disjoint (-1)-curves on the surface  $\tilde{F}_{3,i}$ , which both do not intersect the section  $s_F$ , because  $s_F$ intersects the (-2)-curve  $e_k$ . Moreover, we have

$$-K_V \Big|_{\widetilde{F}_{3,i}} \sim s_F + \sum_{k=1}^4 \left( e_k + \widetilde{\ell}_k + \widetilde{\ell}'_k \right),$$

because  $-K_V \sim \nu^*(F_{3,i}) + \widetilde{E}_i$  and  $\widetilde{E}_i|_{\widetilde{F}_{3,i}} = s_F$ .

The curve  $\widetilde{Z}$  intersects the surface  $\widetilde{F}_{3,i}$  transversally by a *G*-orbit of length 4, because it intersects the (reducible) curve  $s_F + e_1 + e_2 + e_3 + e_4$  transversally by the points  $\widetilde{Z} \cap e_1$ ,  $\widetilde{Z} \cap e_2, \widetilde{Z} \cap e_3, \widetilde{Z} \cap e_4$ , which form one *G*-orbit. Thus, the morphism  $\rho$  induces a birational morphism  $\rho: \widehat{F}_{3,i} \to \widetilde{F}_{3,i}$  that is a a blow up of this *G*-orbit. Using this, we see that

$$-K_{Y}|_{\widehat{F}_{3,i}} \sim \varrho^{*} \left( s_{F} + \sum_{k=1}^{4} \left( e_{k} + \widetilde{\ell}_{k} + \widetilde{\ell}_{k}' \right) \right) - r_{1} - r_{2} - r_{3} - r_{4}$$

where  $r_k$  is the exceptional curve of  $\rho$  that is contracted to the point  $\widetilde{Z} \cap e_k$ . Observe that these four points  $\widetilde{Z} \cap e_1$ ,  $\widetilde{Z} \cap e_2$ ,  $\widetilde{Z} \cap e_3$ ,  $\widetilde{Z} \cap e_4$  are not contained in the curve  $s_F$ , because the curves  $\widetilde{Z}$  and  $s_F$  are disjoint. Moreover, we have three mutually excluding options:

- (1) the G-orbit  $\widetilde{Z} \cap \widetilde{F}_{3,i}$  is contained in the curve  $\widetilde{\ell}_1 + \widetilde{\ell}_2 + \widetilde{\ell}_3 + \widetilde{\ell}_4$ ;
- (2) the *G*-orbit  $\widetilde{Z} \cap \widetilde{F}_{3,i}$  is contained in the curve  $\widetilde{\ell}'_1 + \widetilde{\ell}'_2 + \widetilde{\ell}'_3 + \widetilde{\ell}'_4$ ;
- (3) the *G*-orbit  $\widetilde{Z} \cap \widetilde{F}_{3,i}$  is contained in the curves  $\widetilde{\ell_1} + \widetilde{\ell_2} + \widetilde{\ell_3} + \widetilde{\ell_4}$  and  $\widetilde{\ell'_1} + \widetilde{\ell'_2} + \widetilde{\ell'_3} + \widetilde{\ell'_4}$ .

As we already mentioned, the divisor  $-K_Y$  is not nef in the first two cases. In the third case, we have

$$-K_Y\big|_{\widehat{F}_{3,i}} \sim \widehat{s}_F + \sum_{k=1}^4 \left(\widehat{e}_k + \widehat{\ell}_k + \widehat{\ell}'_k\right),$$

where  $\hat{s}_F$  and  $\hat{e}_k$  are strict transforms of the curves  $s_F$  and  $e_k$  on the surface  $\hat{F}_{3,i}$ . Moreover, in this case, we have  $\hat{s}_F \cdot \hat{s}_F = -2$ ,  $\hat{s}_F \cdot \hat{e}_k = 1$ ,  $\hat{e}_k = 1 \cdot \hat{e}_k = -1$ ,  $\hat{e}_k \cdot \hat{e}_k = -3$ ,  $\hat{e}_k \cdot \hat{\ell}_k = 1$ ,  $\hat{e}_k \cdot \hat{\ell}'_k = 1$  on the surface  $\hat{F}_{3,i}$ , and all other intersections are zero. This immediately implies that the divisor  $-K_Y|_{\hat{F}_{3,i}}$  is nef in the third case, so that  $-K_Y$  is also nef.

Therefore, we proved that the divisor  $-K_Y$  is nef if and only if the curve  $\widetilde{Z}$  does not intersect the curves  $\widetilde{\ell}_1 + \widetilde{\ell}_2 + \widetilde{\ell}_3 + \widetilde{\ell}_4$ , and  $\widetilde{\ell}_1 + \widetilde{\ell}_2 + \widetilde{\ell}_3 + \widetilde{\ell}_4$ . Observe that these curves intersects the  $\nu$ -exceptional surface F by two (distinct) G-orbits of length 4, respectively. Denote these G-orbits by  $\Theta$  and  $\Theta'$ , respectively. Hence, to complete the proof, it is enough to check that neither  $\Theta$  nor  $\Theta'$  is contained in the curve  $\widetilde{Z}$ .

We have  $h^0(\mathcal{O}_V(-K_V)) = 9$  by the Riemann–Roch formula and the Kawamata–Viehweg vanishing, since  $-K_V$  is big and nef by Remark 3.11. Moreover, we have  $-K_V|_F \sim s_F + 4f_F$  and  $h^0(\mathcal{O}_F(s_F + 4f_F)) = 8$ . Furthermore, we have  $h^0(\mathcal{O}_V(-K_V - F)) = 1$ , since the linear system  $|-K_V - F|$  contains unique effective divisor:  $\widetilde{F}_{3,i} + \widetilde{E}_i$ . This gives the following exact sequence of *G*-representations:

$$(3.17) \ 0 \longrightarrow H^0\Big(\mathcal{O}_V\big(\widetilde{F}_{3,i} + \widetilde{E}_i\big)\Big) \longrightarrow H^0\Big(\mathcal{O}_V\big(-K_V\big)\Big) \longrightarrow H^0\Big(\mathcal{O}_F\big(s_F + 4f_F\big)\Big) \longrightarrow 0.$$

Here, the kernel of the third map is the one-dimensional G-representation generated by the section vanishing on the divisor  $\widetilde{F}_{3,i} + \widetilde{E}_i + F$ .

Note that  $s_F \cong \mathbb{P}^1$  and  $(s_F + 4f_F) \cdot s_F = 2$ . Thus, the Riemann-Roch formula and the Kawamata-Viehweg vanishing give the following exact sequence of *G*-representations:

$$0 \longrightarrow H^0(\mathcal{O}_F(4f_F)) \longrightarrow H^0(\mathcal{O}_F(s_F + 4f_F)) \longrightarrow H^0(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^1}(2)) \longrightarrow 0$$

Since  $s_F$  does not have *G*-orbits of length 2, we have  $H^0(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^1}(2)) \cong \mathbb{U}_3$ , where  $\mathbb{U}_3$  is the unique irreducible three-dimensional representation of the group *G*. Similarly, since

Z has exactly two G-orbits of length 4, we have  $H^0(\mathcal{O}_F(4f_F)) \cong \mathbb{U}_1 \oplus \mathbb{U}'_1 \oplus \mathbb{U}_3$ , where  $\mathbb{U}_1$ and  $\mathbb{U}'_1$  are different one-dimensional representations of the group G. Thus, one has

$$H^0\Big(\mathcal{O}_F\big(s_F+4f_F\big)\Big)\cong\mathbb{U}_1\oplus\mathbb{U}_1'\oplus\mathbb{U}_3\oplus\mathbb{U}_3$$

We may assume that  $\mathbb{U}_1$  is generated by a section that vanishes at  $s_F + e_1 + e_2 + e_3 + e_4$ .

Let  $\mathbb{V}$  and  $\mathbb{V}'$  be sub-representations in  $H^0(\mathcal{O}_F(s_F + 4f_F))$  that consist of all sections vanishing at the *G*-orbits  $\Theta$  and  $\Theta'$ , respectively. Then dim $(\mathbb{V}) = \dim(\mathbb{V}') = 4$ , so that

$$\mathbb{V}\cong\mathbb{V}'\cong\mathbb{U}_1\oplus\mathbb{U}_3,$$

since both G-orbits  $\Theta$  and  $\Theta'$  are contained in  $s_F + e_1 + e_2 + e_3 + e_4$  by construction. Let  $\widetilde{\mathbb{V}}$  and  $\widetilde{\mathbb{V}}'$  be the preimages in  $H^0(\mathcal{O}_V(-K_V))$  via the restriction map in (3.17) of the sub-representations  $\mathbb{V}$  and  $\mathbb{V}'$ , respectively. Then, as G-representations, we have

$$\widetilde{\mathbb{V}}\cong\widetilde{\mathbb{V}}'\cong\mathbb{U}_1\oplus\mathbb{U}_1'\oplus\mathbb{U}_3.$$

where  $\mathbb{U}_1''$  is a one-dimensional representation of the group G. Since  $\widetilde{\mathbb{V}}$  and  $\widetilde{\mathbb{V}}'$  contain unique three-dimensional subrepresentation of the group G, these (two) three-dimensional subrepresentations define two G-invariant linear subsystems  $\mathcal{M}_V$  and  $\mathcal{M}'_V$  of the linear system  $|-K_V|$ , respectively. They can be characterized as (unique) three-dimensional G-invariant linear subsystems in  $|-K_V|$  that contains G-orbits  $\Theta$  and  $\Theta'$ , respectively. Then  $\mathcal{M}_V|_F$  and  $\mathcal{M}'_V|_F$  are (unique) three-dimensional G-invariant linear subsystems of the linear system  $|s_F + 4f_F|$  that contain  $\Theta$  and  $\Theta'$ , respectively. Thus, if  $\Theta \subset \widetilde{Z}$ , then

$$\mathcal{M}_V\big|_F = \widetilde{Z} + |2f_F|,$$

so that  $\widetilde{Z} \subseteq Bs(\mathcal{M}_V)$ . Similarly, if  $\Theta' \subset \widetilde{Z}$ , then  $\mathcal{M}'_V|_F = \widetilde{Z} + |2f_F|$ , so that  $\widetilde{Z} \subseteq Bs(\mathcal{M}'_V)$ .

Let  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $\mathcal{M}'$  be strict transforms on  $V_4$  of the linear systems  $\mathcal{M}_V$  and  $\mathcal{M}'_V$ , respectively. Then  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $\mathcal{M}'$  are linear subsystems in |2H|, so that they do not have fixed components, because |H| does not have G-invariant divisors. Let  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  be two distinct surfaces in  $\mathcal{M}$ . If  $\Theta \subset \widetilde{Z}$ , then

(3.18) 
$$\left(M_1 \cdot M_2\right)_{C_i} \ge 3.$$

Similarly, if  $\Theta' \subset \widetilde{Z}$ , then

(3.19) 
$$\left(M_1' \cdot M_2'\right)_{C_i} \ge 3,$$

where  $M'_1$  and  $M'_2$  are two surfaces in  $\mathcal{M}'$ . Both conditions (3.18) and (3.19) are easy to check provided that we know generators of the linear system  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $\mathcal{M}'$ .

Observe that the curve  $\tilde{\ell}_1 + \tilde{\ell}_2 + \tilde{\ell}_3 + \tilde{\ell}_4$  is contained in the base locus of the linear system  $\mathcal{M}_V$ . Indeed, one has  $\mathcal{M}_V \subset |-K_V|$  and  $-K_V \cdot \tilde{\ell}_i = 0$  for every  $i \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ , while  $\Theta \subseteq \operatorname{Bs}(\mathcal{M}_V)$  by construction, and  $\Theta$  is contained in  $\tilde{\ell}_1 + \tilde{\ell}_2 + \tilde{\ell}_3 + \tilde{\ell}_4$  by definition. Likewise, we see that  $\tilde{\ell}'_1 + \tilde{\ell}'_2 + \tilde{\ell}'_3 + \tilde{\ell}'_4$  is contained in the base locus of the linear system  $\mathcal{M}'_V$ . Hence, the *G*-irreducible curves  $\bar{\ell}_1 + \bar{\ell}_2 + \bar{\ell}_3 + \bar{\ell}_4$  and  $\bar{\ell}'_1 + \bar{\ell}'_2 + \bar{\ell}'_3 + \bar{\ell}'_4$  are contained in the base loci of the linear systems  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $\mathcal{M}'$ , respectively. Moreover, the base loci of these linear systems also contain the conic  $C_i$ . Using these linear conditions, we can find the generators of these linear systems, and check the conditions (3.18) and (3.19).

Since  $X_1 \cong X_2$  and  $X_3 \cong X_4$ , it is enough to consider only the cases i = 1 and i = 3. First, we deal with the case i = 1. In this case, the curves  $\overline{\ell}_1 + \overline{\ell}_2 + \overline{\ell}_3 + \overline{\ell}_4$  and  $\overline{\ell}'_1 + \overline{\ell}'_2 + \overline{\ell}'_3 + \overline{\ell}'_4$ can be described as follows: up to a swap and a reshuffle, we may assume that

- $\overline{\ell}_1$  is the line  $[\lambda : \omega \lambda : -(\omega + 1)\lambda : \mu (\omega + 2)\lambda : \mu : \mu + (\omega 1)\lambda]$ ,
- $\overline{\ell}_2$  is the line  $[\lambda : -\omega\lambda : -(\omega+1)\lambda : -\mu (\omega+2)\lambda : \mu : -\mu + (\omega-1)\lambda]$ ,  $\overline{\ell}_3$  is the line  $[\lambda : \omega\lambda : (\omega+1)\lambda : \mu (\omega+2)\lambda : \mu : -\mu + (-\omega+1)\lambda]$ ,  $\overline{\ell}_4$  is the line  $[\lambda : -\omega\lambda : (\omega+1)\lambda : -\mu (\omega+2)\lambda : \mu : \mu + (-\omega+1)\lambda]$ ,

and

- $\begin{array}{l} \bullet \ \overline{\ell}_1' \ \text{is the line } [\lambda:\omega\lambda:-(\omega+1)\lambda:\mu+(2\omega+1)\lambda:\mu:\mu+(\omega+2)\lambda], \\ \bullet \ \overline{\ell}_2' \ \text{is the line } [\lambda:-\omega\lambda:-(\omega+1)\lambda:-\mu+(2\omega+1)\lambda:\mu:-\mu+(\omega+2)\lambda], \\ \bullet \ \overline{\ell}_3' \ \text{is the line } [\lambda:\omega\lambda:(\omega+1)\lambda:\mu+(2\omega+1)\lambda:\mu:-\mu-(\omega+2)\lambda], \\ \bullet \ \overline{\ell}_4' \ \text{is the line } [\lambda:-\omega\lambda:(\omega+1)\lambda:-\mu+(2\omega+1)\lambda:\mu:\mu-(\omega+2)\lambda], \end{array}$

where  $[\lambda : \mu] \in \mathbb{P}^1$ . Therefore, the linear subsystem in |2H| that consists of all surfaces containing the conic  $C_1$  and the curve  $\overline{\ell}_1 + \overline{\ell}_2 + \overline{\ell}_3 + \overline{\ell}_4$  is five-dimensional. Moreover, it is generated by the *G*-invariant surfaces  $\overline{F}_{1,1}$ ,  $\overline{F}_{3,1}$ ,  $\overline{F}_{2,3}$ , and the *G*-invariant two-dimensional linear subsystem (net) that is cut out on  $V_4$  by

$$(3.20) \quad \lambda \Big( (1-\omega)x_0x_5 - (2\omega+1)x_2x_3 + 3x_0x_2 \Big) + \\ \qquad + \mu \Big( (\omega+1)x_1x_3 + (2\omega+1)x_0x_1 + x_4x_0 \Big) + \\ \qquad + \gamma \Big( (\omega+2)x_1x_2 - \omega x_1x_5 + x_2x_4 \Big) = 0,$$

where  $[\lambda : \mu : \gamma] \in \mathbb{P}^2$ . Therefore, we conclude that (3.20) defines the linear system  $\mathcal{M}$ . It follows from (3.20) that the base locus of this linear system consists of the conic  $C_1$ , the curve  $\overline{\ell}_1 + \overline{\ell}_2 + \overline{\ell}_3 + \overline{\ell}_4$ , and the conic  $C_3$ . Similarly, we see that  $\mathcal{M}'$  is given by

$$\lambda \Big( (2\omega+1)x_0x_5 + (\omega+2)x_2x_3 + 3x_0x_2 \Big) + \\ + \mu \Big( (\omega+1)x_1x_3 + (1-\omega)x_0x_1 + x_4x_0 \Big) + \\ + \gamma \Big( (2\omega+1)x_1x_2 + \omega x_1x_5 - x_2x_4 \Big) = 0,$$

where  $[\lambda : \mu : \gamma] \in \mathbb{P}^2$ . We also see that the base locus of the linear system  $\mathcal{M}'$  consists of the conic  $C_1$ , the curve  $\overline{\ell}'_1 + \overline{\ell}'_2 + \overline{\ell}'_3 + \overline{\ell}'_4$ , and the conic  $C_4$ . Now one can check that neither (3.18) nor (3.19) holds. Thus, if i = 1 or i = 2, then  $-K_Y$  is nef.

Finally, we consider the case i = 3. Now, up to a swap, the linear system  $\mathcal{M}$  is again given by (3.20), and the linear system  $\mathcal{M}'$  is given by

$$\begin{split} \lambda \Big( (\omega+1)x_1x_5 + x_4x_2 - (\omega-1)x_4x_5 \Big) + \\ &+ \mu \Big( \omega x_0x_5 - x_3x_2 + (2\omega+1)x_3x_5 \Big) + \\ &+ \gamma \Big( \omega x_0x_5 - x_3x_2 + (2\omega+1)x_3x_5 \Big) = 0, \end{split}$$

where  $[\lambda : \mu : \gamma] \in \mathbb{P}^2$ . Note that the base locus of the net  $\mathcal{M}'$  consists of the conic  $C_3$ , the curve  $\overline{\ell}'_1 + \overline{\ell}'_2 + \overline{\ell}'_3 + \overline{\ell}'_4$ , and the conic  $C_2$ . As above, one can check that neither (3.18) nor (3.19) holds. Thus, the divisor  $-K_Y$  is nef.

Let  $\widehat{D}$  be the proper transform of the divisor D on the threefold Y. Then

$$\widehat{D} \sim_{\mathbb{Q}} \sim (\pi_i \circ \nu \circ \rho)^* (2H) - (\nu \circ \rho)^* (E_i) - m\rho^*(F) - \widetilde{m}R.$$

Since  $-K_Y$  is nef, we see that  $-K_Y^2 \cdot \widehat{D} \ge 0$ . To compute  $-K_Y^2 \cdot \widehat{D}$ , observe that

$$\begin{aligned} H^{3} &= 4, \pi_{i}^{*}(H) \cdot E^{2} = -2, (\pi_{i} \circ \nu)^{*}(H) \cdot F^{2} = -2, \\ & (\pi_{i} \circ \nu \circ \rho)^{*}(H) \cdot R^{2} = -2, E^{3} = -2, F^{3} = -2, R^{3} = -2, \end{aligned}$$

and other intersections involved in the computation  $-K_Y^2 \cdot \hat{D}$  are all zero. This gives

$$0 \leqslant -K_Y^2 \cdot \widehat{D} = \left( (\pi_i \circ \nu \circ \rho)^* (2H) - (\nu \circ \rho)^* (E_i) - \rho^* (F) - R \right)^2 \cdot \widehat{D} = 14 - 6(m + \widetilde{m}).$$

so that  $m + \tilde{m} \leq \frac{7}{3}$ , which is impossible by (3.12). The obtained contradiction completes the proof of Lemma 3.7, which completes the proof of Proposition 3.8. Thus, we see that the threefolds  $X_1, X_2, X_3$  and  $X_4$  are K-polystable.

### References

- C. Araujo, A.-M. Castravet, I. Cheltsov, K. Fujita, A.-S. Kaloghiros, J. Martinez-Garcia, C. Shramov, H. Süß, N. Viswanathan, *The Calabi problem for Fano threefolds*, MPIM preprint 2021-31.
- [2] I. Cheltsov, C. Shramov, Log canonical thresholds of smooth Fano threefolds, Russ. Math. Surv. 63 (2008), 71–178.
- [3] K. Fujita, A valuative criterion for uniform K-stability of Q-Fano varieties, J. Reine Angew. Math. 751 (2019), 309–338.
- [4] V. Iskovskikh, Yu. Prokhorov, Fano varieties, Encyclopaedia of Mathematical Sciences 47 (1999) Springer, Berlin.
- [5] J. Kollár, S. Mori, Birational geometry of algebraic varieties, Cambridge University Press (1998).
- [6] C. Li, K-semistability is equivariant volume minimization, Duke Math. J. 166 (2017), 3147–3218.
- [7] T. Mabuchi, On the classification of essentially effective  $SL_n(\mathbb{C})$ -actions on algebraic n-folds, Osaka J. Math. **16** (1979), 745–758.
- [8] G. Tian, On Kähler-Einstein metrics on certain Kähler manifolds with  $c_1(M) > 0$ , Invent. Math. 89 (1987), 225–246.
- [9] Z. Zhuang, Optimal destabilizing centers and equivariant K-stability, preprint, arXiv:2004.09413 (2020).

Ivan Cheltsov University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland I.CheltsovQed.ac.uk

Hendrik Süβ University of Manchester, Manchester, England suess@sdf-eu.org