HIGHER DIRECT IMAGES OF LOGARITHMIC STRUCTURE SHEAVES

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1. Introduction

In [CR11] Chatzistamatiou and Rülling prove the following theorem:

Theorem 1.1 ([CR11, Thm. 3.2.8]). Let k be a perfect field and let S be a separated scheme of finite type over k. Suppose X and Y are two separated finite type S-schemes which are

- (i) smooth over k and
- (ii) *properly birational* over S in the sense that there is a commutative diagram



with r and s proper birational morphisms.

Set $n = \dim X = \dim Y = \dim Z$. Then there are natural morphisms of sheaves

$$\operatorname{cl}_{Z}^{j}: R^{j} f_{*} \Omega_{X}^{i} \to R^{j} g_{*} \Omega_{Y}^{i} \text{ for all } i,$$
 (1.3)

which are isomorphisms if i = 0, n.

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In the special case char k=0 this is a consequence of Hironaka's resolution of singularities [Hir64]. Analysis of the proof shows that the morphisms of 1.3 are obtained from morphisms of *complexes*

$$\operatorname{cl}_Z: Rf_*\Omega_X^i \to Rg_*\Omega_Y^i$$
 for all i ,

(for the cases i = 0, n this is observed in [CR12; Kov19]).

One of the primary applications of Theorem 1.1 was to extend foundational results on rational singularities from characteristic zero to arbitrary characteristic.

Definition 1.4 ([Kol13, Def. 2.76]). Let *S* be a reduced, separated scheme of finite type over a field k. A **rational resolution** $f: X \to S$ is a proper birational morphism such that

- (i) X is smooth over k,
- (ii) $\mathcal{O}_S = Rf_*\mathcal{O}_X$ and
- (iii) $R^i f_* \omega_X = 0$ for i > 0.

The scheme *S* is said to have **rational singularities** if and only if it has a rational resolution.

Corollary 1.5 ([CR11, Cor. 3.2.10]). *If* S *has a rational resolution, then every resolution of* S *is rational. In particular if* S *is smooth then it has rational singularities.*

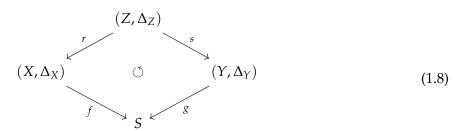
This article concerns analogues of Theorem 1.1 for pairs.

Convention 1.6. In what follows a **pair** (X, Δ_X) will mean a reduced, equidimensional separated scheme X of finite type over k together with a reduced, effective divisor Δ_X on X. A pair (X, Δ_X) will be called a **simple normal crossing (snc) pair** if and only if X is smooth and X is a simple normal crossing divisor on X.

As observed in [Kol13, §2.5], to generalize Corollary 1.5 to pairs we must restrict attention to a special class of *thrifty resolutions* (Definition 3.5).

Theorem 1.7. Let k be a perfect field and let S be a separated scheme of finite type over k. Let (X, Δ_X) and (Y, Δ_Y) be simple normal crossing pairs over S.

Suppose (X, Δ_X) , (Y, Δ_Y) are properly birational over S in the sense that there is a commutative diagram



where r, s are proper and birational morphisms, and $\Delta_Z = r_*^{-1} \Delta_X = s_*^{-1} \Delta_Y$. Set $n = \dim X = \dim Y = \dim Z$. If r, s are thrifty then there are quasi-isomorphisms

$$Rf_*\mathcal{O}_X(-\Delta_X) \simeq Rg_*\mathcal{O}_Y(-\Delta_Y)$$
 and $Rf_*\omega_X(\Delta_X) \simeq Rg_*\omega_Y(\Delta_Y)$. (1.9)

Definition 1.10 ([Kol13, Def. 2.78]). Let (S, Δ_S) be a pair as in Convention 1.6, and suppose S is normal. A **rational resolution of** (S, Δ_S) is a proper birational morphism $f: X \to S$ such that if $\Delta_X = f_*^{-1} \Delta_S$ then

- (*i*) The pair (X, Δ_X) is snc,
- (ii) The natural map $\mathcal{O}_S(-\Delta_S) \to Rf_*\mathcal{O}_X(-\Delta_X)$ is a quasi-isomorphism, and
- (iii) $R^i f_* \omega_X(\Delta_X) = 0$ for i > 0.

Remark 1.11 (description of the natural map in (ii)). Since Δ_X is the strict transform of Δ_S , so in particular $\Delta_X \subset f^{-1}(\Delta_S)$, there is a containment of ideal sheaves $\mathcal{I}_{f^{-1}(\Delta_S)} \subset \mathcal{I}_{\Delta_X} = \mathcal{O}_X(-\Delta_X)$ providing a morphism

$$f^*\mathcal{O}_S(-\Delta_S) = f^*\mathcal{I}_{\Delta_S} \to \mathcal{I}_{f^{-1}(\Delta_S)} \subset \mathcal{I}_{\Delta_X} = \mathcal{O}_X(-\Delta_X).$$

Taking the adjoint gives a morphism $\mathcal{O}_S(-\Delta_S) \to f_*\mathcal{O}_X(-\Delta_X)$, and composing with the natural map $f_*\mathcal{O}_X(-\Delta_X) \to Rf_*\mathcal{O}_X(-\Delta_X)$ gives (ii).

As a straightforward corollary of Theorem 1.7, one obtains:

Corollary 1.12. Let (S, Δ_S) be a pair, with Δ_S reduced and effective. If (S, Δ_S) has a thrifty rational resolution $f:(X,\Delta_X)\to (S,\Delta_S)$, then every thrifty resolution $g:(Y,\Delta_Y)\to (S,\Delta_S)$ is rational. In particular, if (S,Δ_S) is snc then it is a rational pair.

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2. Dual complexes

Definition 2.1 (cf. [dFKX14]). Let $Z = \bigcup_{i \in I} Z_i$ be a scheme with irreducible components Z_i . Say Z is an **expected-dimensional crossing scheme** if and only if

- (i) Z is pure dimensional and the components Z_i are normal, and
- (ii) For any $J \subset I$, set $Z_J := \bigcap_{j \in J} Z_j$. If $\hat{Z}_J \neq \emptyset$ every connected component of Z_J is irreducible and of codimension |J| 1 in Z.

A **stratum** of an expected-dimensional crossing scheme Z is an irreducible (or equivalently connected) component of $Z_I = \bigcap_{i \in I} Z_i$ for some $J \subset I$.

The main case of Definition 2.1 considered here will be the case $\Delta = \Delta_X$ where (X, Δ_X) is a simple normal crossing pair, in which case all strata of Δ_X are smooth.

Let (X, Δ_X) be a simple normal crossing pair, and write $\Delta_X = \bigcup_{i \in I} D_i$ with D_i the irreducible components of Δ_X . For $J \subset I$, let $D_J = \bigcap_{j \in J} D_j$, and write $D_J = \bigcup_k D_J^k$ where the D_J^k are irreducible. Observe that $(\Delta_X - \sum_{i \in J} D_i)|_{D_J^k}$ is a (possibly empty) simple normal crossing divisor on each stratum D_I^k .

Definition 2.2 (strata as pairs).

$$\Delta_{D_J} := (\Delta_X - \sum_{i \in J} D_i)|_{D_J}$$
 and $\Delta_{D_J^k} := (\Delta_X - \sum_{i \in J} D_i)|_{D_J^k}$

Definition 2.3. For an expected-dimensional crossing scheme $Z = \bigcup_{i \in I} Z_i$, the **dual complex** $\mathcal{D}(Z)$ is a Δ -complex [Hat02, §2.1] that can be described as follows: assume the index set I has been totally ordered. For each $d \in \mathbb{N}$, the d-simplices of $\mathcal{D}(Z)$ correspond to the irreducible components $Z_J^k \subset Z_J = \cap_{j \in J} Z_j$ where $J \subset I$ ranges over all subsets of size |J| = d + 1. Let σ_J^k be the d-simplex associated to Z_I^k .

If $j \in J$ write $\hat{J}(j) := J \setminus \{j\}$ – we have inclusions $Z_J \subset Z_{\hat{J}(j)}$, and the connected components of $Z_{\hat{J}(j)}$ are irreducible, for each component Z_J^k there is a *unique* component $Z_{\hat{J}(j)}^l \subset Z_{\hat{J}(j)}$ such that $Z_J^k \subset Z_{\hat{J}(j)}^l$. The face maps of $\mathcal{D}(Z)$ are obtained by setting

$$\partial_j \sigma_J^k = \sigma_{\hat{J}(j)}^l$$

Remark 2.4. In particular, $\mathcal{D}(Z)$ has

- 0-simplices σ_i corresponding to the irreducible components $Z_i \subset Z$,
- 1-simplices σ_{ij}^k corresponding to the components $Z_{ij}^k \subset Z_{ij} = Z_i \cap Z_j$ where i < j, with face maps ∂_0 , ∂_1 corresponding to the inclusions $Z_{ij}^k \subset Z_i$, $Z_{ij}^k \subset Z_j$ respectively,

and so on.

Remark 2.5. From the description above one can see that $\mathcal{D}(Z)$ is a **regular** Δ-complex, meaning that if $\sigma \subseteq \mathcal{D}(Z)$ is a *d*-simplex, the corresponding map $\sigma \colon \Delta^d \to \mathcal{D}(Z)$ is injective. Indeed, if

$$\partial_j \sigma_I^k = \partial_{j'} \sigma_I^k$$

for $j \neq j'$, then $Z_{\hat{J}(j)} \cap Z_{\hat{J}(j')} = Z_J$ would contain a component of codimension d-1, violating (ii) of Definition 2.3.

Dual complexes have been extensively studied; to paraphrase Arapura, Bakhtary, and Włodarczyk, $\mathcal{D}(Z)$ governs the *combinatorial part* of the topology of Z [ABW13]. One underlying reason for this is

Lemma 2.6 (Special case of [Fri83, Prop. 1.5]¹). *If* Δ *is a simple normal crossing scheme and* $n = \dim \mathcal{D}(\Delta)$, then there is a quasi-isomorphism

$$\mathcal{O}_{\Delta} \simeq \left[\prod_{\sigma \in \mathcal{D}(\Delta)^0} \mathcal{O}_{D(\sigma)} \xrightarrow{d^1} \prod_{\sigma \in \mathcal{D}(\Delta)^1} \mathcal{O}_{D(\sigma)} \xrightarrow{d^2} \cdots \rightarrow \prod_{\sigma \in \mathcal{D}(\Delta)^n} \mathcal{O}_{D(\sigma)}\right] =: \check{C}(\Delta, \mathcal{O}) \ in \ D^+(\Delta_X)$$

where the differential d^i : $\prod_{\sigma \in \mathcal{D}(\Delta)^{i-1}} \mathcal{O}_{D(\sigma)} \to \prod_{\sigma \in \mathcal{D}(\Delta)^i} \mathcal{O}_{D(\sigma)}$ has σ th coordinate

$$\prod_{\sigma \in \mathcal{D}(\Delta)^{i-1}} \mathcal{O}_{D(\sigma)} \to \prod_{j=0}^i \mathcal{O}_{D(\partial^j \sigma)} \xrightarrow{\sum_{j=0}^i (-1)^j \mathrm{res}_j} \mathcal{O}_{D(\sigma)}$$

and where $\operatorname{res}_j: \mathcal{O}_{D(\partial^j \sigma)} \to \mathcal{O}_{D(\sigma)}$ is the natural map restricting functions.

Corollary 2.7. If (X, Δ_X) is a simple normal crossing pair let $n = \dim \mathcal{D}(\Delta_X)$, then there is a quasi-isomorphism

$$\mathcal{O}_X(-\Delta_X)\simeq [\mathcal{O}_X \xrightarrow{d^0} \prod_{\sigma\in\mathcal{D}(\Delta)^0} \mathcal{O}_{D(\sigma)} \xrightarrow{d^1} \prod_{\sigma\in\mathcal{D}(\Delta)^1} \mathcal{O}_{D(\sigma)} \xrightarrow{d^2} \cdots o \prod_{\sigma\in\mathcal{D}(\Delta)^n} \mathcal{O}_{D(\sigma)}]=:\check{C}(X,\Delta_X,\mathcal{O})$$

in $D^+(X)$.

Proof. We must show that the sequence

$$\mathcal{O}_X(-\Delta_X) \to \mathcal{O}_X \xrightarrow{d^0} \prod_{\sigma \in \mathcal{D}(\Delta)^0} \mathcal{O}_{D(\sigma)} \xrightarrow{d^1} \prod_{\sigma \in \mathcal{D}(\Delta)^1} \mathcal{O}_{D(\sigma)} \xrightarrow{d^2} \cdots \to \prod_{\sigma \in \mathcal{D}(\Delta)^n} \mathcal{O}_{D(\sigma)}$$

is exact – Lemma 2.6 already implies $\ker d^i = \operatorname{im} d^{i-1}$ for i > 1 and $\ker d^1 = \mathcal{O}_\Delta$. Exactness of the sequence $0 \to \mathcal{O}_X(-\Delta_X) \to \mathcal{O}_X \to \mathcal{O}_{\Delta_X} \to 0$ tells us that $\mathcal{O}_X \to \mathcal{O}_{\Delta_X}$ is surjective with kernel $\mathcal{O}_X(-\Delta_X)$. Hence defining d^0 to be the composition

$$\mathcal{O}_X \xrightarrow{d^0} \mathcal{O}_{\Delta_X} \longrightarrow \prod_{\sigma \in \mathcal{D}(\Delta)^0} \mathcal{O}_{D(\sigma)}$$
 (2.8)

ensures that $\ker d^1 = \operatorname{im} d^0$ and that $\ker d^0 = \mathcal{O}_X(-\Delta_X)$, as desired.

¹The cited proposition is stated over C, but the proof works in arbitrary characteristic.

2.1. **Morphisms of Dual Complexes.** One can extract from the literature on dual complexes the following slogan:

Morphisms of pairs induce morphisms of dual complexes. Moreover, there is a "dictionary" relating properties of a morphism of pairs with corresponding properties of the induced morphism of dual complexes.

To precisify the slogan, we include a foundational result providing a weak sort of functoriality.

Lemma 2.9 (cf. [Wlo16, Def. 2.0.6]). Let $Z = \bigcup_{i \in I} Z_i$ and $W = \bigcup_{j \in J} W_j$ be expected -dimensional crossing schemes and let $f: Z \dashrightarrow W$ be a rational morphism defined at the generic point of each stratum of Z. Then up to homotopy equivalence there is a unique induced morphism of Δ -complexes

$$\mathcal{D}(f):\mathcal{D}(Z)\to\mathcal{D}(W)$$

such that if $\sigma \subset \mathcal{D}(Z)$ is a simplex and η_{σ} is the generic piont of the corresponding stratum of Z, and if $\tau \subset \mathcal{D}(W)$ is the simplex corresponding to the unique minimal stratum $D(\tau) \subset W$ containing $f(\eta_{\sigma})$, then $\mathcal{D}(f)(\sigma) \subset \tau$.

Proof in the case f is defined everywhere. Since $f(D(\sigma))$ is irreducible it is contained in some stratum of W (in particular, $f(D(\sigma)) \subset W_i$ for some i). Let

$$W_J := \cap \{W_j \subset W \mid f(D(\sigma)) \subset W_j\}$$

By (ii) of Definition 2.1, the connected components of W_J are irreducible, and hence $f(D(\sigma))$ is contained in exactly one of them – let $\tau \subset \mathcal{D}(W)$ be the corresponding simplex. If dim $\sigma = 0$ let $\mathcal{D}(f)(\sigma)$ be an interior point of τ .

One can now show by induction on $\dim \sigma$ that $\mathcal{D}(f)$ extends over all of $\mathcal{D}(Z)$ – so, assume $\dim \sigma > 1$. For each face $\sigma' \subset \sigma$ with corresponding stratum $D(\sigma') \subset Z$, let $D(\tau') \subset W$ be the smallest stratum containing $f(D(\sigma'))$. Now

$$f(D(\sigma)) \subset f(D(\sigma'))$$
 forces $D(\tau) \subset D(\tau')$

and this gives an inclusion $\iota_{\tau'}: \tau' \to \tau$. By induction a map $\mathcal{D}(f)|_{\sigma'}: \sigma' \to \tau'$ has already been defined, so composing with ι one obtains

$$\sigma' \xrightarrow{\mathcal{D}(f)|_{\sigma'}} \tau' \xrightarrow{\iota} \tau$$
 for each face $\sigma' \subset \sigma$

which together give a map $\partial \sigma \to \tau$, and as τ is contractible this map must extend over σ . Uniqueness up to homotopy equivalence follows from Lemma 2.10.

Lemma 2.10. If $f,g: X \to Y$ are 2 maps of regular Δ -complexes such that for each simplex $\sigma \subseteq X$ there is a unique minimal simplex $\tau_{\sigma} \subseteq Y$ such that $f(\sigma), g(\sigma) \subseteq \tau_{\sigma}$ then there is a homotopy $h: X \times I \to Y$ from f to g such that $h(\sigma \times I) \subseteq \tau_{\sigma}$ for each simplex $\sigma \subset X$.

Proof. We proceed by induction over the skeleta $X^d \subseteq X$. For the case d=0 let $v \in X^0$ be a vertex. By hypothesis there's a unique minimal simplex $\tau_v \subseteq Y$ so that $f(v), g(v) \in \tau_v \subseteq Y$, so we may choose a path $\gamma_v \colon I \to \tau_v \subseteq Y$ with $\gamma_v(0) = f(v), \gamma_v(1) = g(v)$. Then the map

$$h^0 \colon X^0 \times I \to Y$$
 defined by $h^0(v,t) = \gamma_v(t)$

is a homotopy between $f|_{X^0}$ and $g|_{X^0}$ with $h^0(\{v\} \times I) \subseteq \tau_v$ for all v.

Suppose by inductive hypothesis that d>0 and we have constructed a homotopy $h^{d-1}\colon X^{d-1}\times I\to Y$ from $f|_{X^{d-1}}$ to $g|_{X^{d-1}}$ with $h^{d-1}(\sigma\times I)\subseteq \tau_\sigma$ for all simplices $\sigma\subseteq X^{d-1}$. Let $\sigma\subset X$ be a d-simplex, and observe that if $\sigma'\subset \sigma$ is a face then $f(\sigma')\subseteq f(\sigma)\subseteq \tau_\sigma$, and similarly $g(\sigma')\subseteq \tau_\sigma$. By hypothesis this implies $\tau_{\sigma'}\subseteq \tau_\sigma$, so that the homotopy $h^{d-1}|_{\sigma'}\colon \sigma'\times I\to Y$ factors through τ_σ . We

conclude that the map $\gamma \tilde{|}_{\sigma} : \sigma \times 0, 1 \cup \partial \sigma \rightarrow Y$ defined by

$$(x,t) \mapsto \begin{cases} f(x) & \text{if } t = 0, \\ g(x) & \text{if } t = 1, and \\ h(x,t), & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

factors through τ_{σ} ; since Y is regular τ_{σ} is contractible, and so $\tilde{\gamma}|_{\sigma}$ extends to a morphism $\gamma_{\sigma} : \sigma \times I \to Y$. As σ varies over the d-simplices of X, the γ_{σ} provide an extension of h^{d-1} to a homotopy

$$h^d: X^d \times I \to Y$$
 from $f|_{X^d}$ to $g|_{X^d}$.

3. THRIFTY MORPHISMS OF PAIRS

Let (S, Δ_S) be a pair (as in Convention 1.6).

Definition 3.1. The **snc locus of** (S, Δ_S) is the largest open $U \subset S$ so that $(U, \Delta_S|_U)$ is a simple normal crossing pair – it will be denoted $\operatorname{snc}(S, \Delta_S)$. We also set

$$non-snc(S, \Delta_S) := S \setminus snc(S, \Delta_S)$$
(3.2)

Remark 3.3. When *S* is normal, non-snc(S, Δ_S) has codimension ≥ 2 in *S*.

In their work on dual complexes of Calabi-Yau pairs, introduced a natural generalization of thrifty resolutions to a class of *thrifty morphisms* where the domain is no longer required to be smooth.

Definition 3.4 ([KX16, Def. 9]). A crepant proper birational morphism of log canonical pairs $f: (X, \Delta_X) \dashrightarrow (S, \Delta_S)$ is **Kollár-Xu-thrifty** (KX-thrifty for short) if and only if there are closed subsets $Z_X \subset X$, $Z_S \subset S$ of codimension ≥ 1 so that

- Z_X contains no log canonical centers of (X, Δ_X) , and similarly for Z_S , and
- f restricts to an isomorphism $X \setminus Z_X \stackrel{f}{\underset{\sim}{\simeq}} S \setminus Z_S$.

Since rational pairs are not log canonical in general, for example since they are not necessarily Q-Gorenstein², we adopt a slightly different definition of thrifty morphisms (see Lemma 3.8 for a comparison).

Let (S, Δ_S) be a pair and let $f: X \to S$ be a proper birational morphism. Set $\Delta_X := f_*^{-1} \Delta_S$ (the strict transform).

Definition 3.5. The morphism *f* is **thrifty** if and only if

- (i) f is an isomorphism *over* the generic point of every stratum of $\operatorname{snc}(S, \Delta_S)$ and
- (ii) f is an isomorphism at the generic point of every stratum of $\operatorname{snc}(X, \Delta_X)$.

If in addition *X* is smooth and $f^{-1}(\Delta_S) \cup E$ is a simple normal crossing divisor (with *E* the exceptional locus) then *f* is called a **thrifty resolution**.

Remark 3.6. Equivalently, if $Ex(f) \subset X$ is the exceptional locus of f, then

- (i) f(Ex(f)) contains no stratum of $Snc(S, \Delta_S)$ and
- (ii) Ex(f) contains no stratum of snc(X, Δ_X).

Remark 3.7. Hence when X is smooth and $f^{-1}(\Delta_S) \cup E$ is a simple normal crossing divisor Definition 3.5 reduces to [Kol13, Def. 2.79].

Lemma 3.8. Let $f: (X, \Delta_X) \to (S, \Delta_S)$ be a crepant proper birational morphism between dlt pairs. Then f is KX-thrifty (Definition 3.4) if and only if it is thrifty (Definition 3.5).

The cone over $\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1 \subseteq \mathbb{P}^{mn+m+n}$ embedded using the complete linear system $|\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1}(m,n)|$ is rational for all m, n > 0, Q-Gorenstein if and only if m = n.

Proof. The map f is crepant, so $K_X + \Delta_X \sim_{\mathbb{Q}} f^*(K_S + \Delta_S)$ – equivalently,

$$\Delta_X \sim_{\mathbb{Q}} f_*^{-1}(\Delta_S) - \sum_i a_i E_i$$

where $a_i := a(E_i, S, \Delta_X)$ and the sum runs over all f-exceptional divisors $E_i \subset X$. Writing $\Delta_S = \sum_i c_i D_i$, we see that $\Delta_S^{=1} = \sum_{c_i=1} D_i$ and that $\Delta_X^{=1} = \sum_{c_i=1} f_*^{-1} D_i + \sum_{a_i=-1} E_i$. Both pairs are dlt, so the log canonical centers of (X, Δ_X) are the strata of the expected-dimensional crossing scheme $\Delta_X^{=1}$, and their generic points lie in $\operatorname{snc}(X, \Delta_X)$ – similarly for (S, Δ_S) [Fuj07]. Moreover, if $a_i = -1$ then $f(E_i) \subset S$ is a log canonical center, so it must be a stratum of $\Delta_S^{=1}$.

Suppose f is KX-thrifty and let $Z_X \subset X$, $Z_S \subset S$ be closed sets as guaranteed in Definition 3.4. Then f is an isomorphism over $S \setminus Z_S$ and Z_S contains no stratum of $\Delta_S^{=1}$, giving condition (i) of Definition 3.5. Also, we must have $a_i > -1$ for all i, and so $\Delta_X^{=1} = \sum_{c_i=1} f_*^{-1} D_i = f_*^{-1} \Delta_S^{=1}$. Since Z_X contains no stratum of $\Delta_X^{=1}$, we obtain (ii) of Definition 3.5.

In the next lemma we use a definition of a birational map general enough to encompass reducible schemes [Sta19, Tags 0A20, 0BX9]: a rational map $f: X \longrightarrow Y$ between schemes with finitely many irreducible components is *birational* if and only if it is an isomorphism in the category with

- objects the schemes with finitely many irreducible components, and with
- morphisms the dominant rational maps between them.

When Y is locally of finite presentation over a field (as it will be in all cases considered here), the map f is birational if and only if it induces a bijection between the generic points of irreducible components of X and Y, and for each generic point of an irreducible component $\eta \in X$ the induced morphism $\mathcal{O}_{Y,f(\eta)} \to \mathcal{O}_{X,\eta}$ is an isomorphism.

Lemma 3.9. Let $Z = \bigcup_{i=1}^{N} Z$ and $W = \bigcup_{j=1}^{N} W_j$ be expected-dimensional crossing schemes and let $f: Z \dashrightarrow W$ be a birational map defined at the generic point of each stratum of Z.

- (i) If f is an isomorphism at the generic point of every stratum $D(\sigma) \subset Z$, then $\mathcal{D}(f)$ can be realized as a subcomplex inclusion.
- (ii) If f is an isomorphism over the generic point of every stratum $D(\tau) \subset W$ then it is an isomorphism at the generic point of every stratum of Z, and D(f) can be realized as an isomorphism of Δ -complexes.

Proof. In the case of (i), as f is birational it induces a bijection between the generic points of Z and W and hence a bijection on 0-skeleta

$$\mathcal{D}(f)_0: \mathcal{D}(Z)_0 \xrightarrow{\simeq} \mathcal{D}(W)_0$$

Without loss of generality we may assume f restricts to a birational maps $f_i: Z_i \dashrightarrow W_i$ for i = 1, ..., N. Let $n = \dim Z = \dim W$.

Let $\sigma \subset \mathcal{D}(Z)$ be a simplex with corresponding stratum $D(\sigma) \subset Z$ – without loss of generality we may assume $D(\sigma) \subset Z_1$, and that $D(\sigma) \subseteq \cap_{j=1}^r Z_j$. Letting $\eta_{\sigma} \in D(\sigma)$ be the generic point, we see that $f(\eta_{\sigma}) \subset \cap_{j=1}^r W_j$. Because f is an isomorphism at η_{σ} , it must be that $f(\eta_{\sigma})$ is a generic point of a component $D(\tau) \subseteq \cap_{j=1}^r W_j$ corresponding to a simplex $\tau \subseteq \mathcal{D}(W)$. Let $\eta_{\tau} \in D(\tau)$ be the generic point; we have $\eta_{\tau} = f(\eta_{\sigma})$.

At this point the only concern is that there could be another r-1-simplex σ' such that $\mathcal{D}(f)(\sigma')=\tau$; any such σ' would correspond to another stratum $D(\sigma')\subseteq \cap_{j=1}^r Z_j$, hence another point $\eta_{\sigma'}\in Z_1$ of dimension r-1 with $f(\eta'_{\sigma})=f(\eta_{\tau})$. One can show this is impossible, using the normality of W_1 and Zariski's main theorem as follows.

The map f is an isomorphism at the generic point $n_{\sigma} \in D(\sigma)$, so its restriction $f|_{Z_1} \colon Z_1 \to W_1$ is also an isomorphism at n_{σ} . The scheme W_1 is normal and $f|_{Z_1}$ is birational by hypothesis, so by Zariski's main theorem [Sta19, Tag 05K0] $f|_{Z_1}$ is in fact an isomorphism *over* η_{τ} .

For (ii), observe that $f^{-1}: W \dashrightarrow Z$ satisfies the hypotheses of (i) and hence both $\mathcal{D}(f): \mathcal{D}(Z) \to \mathcal{D}(W)$ and $\mathcal{D}(f^{-1}): \mathcal{D}(W) \to \mathcal{D}(W)$ may be realized as subcomplex inclusions; from the proof of

(i), this can be done in such a way that $\mathcal{D}(f) \circ \mathcal{D}(f^{-1}) = \mathrm{id}_{\mathcal{D}(W)}$. In particular this implies $\mathcal{D}(f)$ is a surjective subcomplex inclusion, hence an isomorphism.

Corollary 3.10. Let (S, Δ_S) be a pair and let $f: X \to S$ be a proper birational morphism and set $\Delta_X := f_*^{-1} \Delta_S$. Then f induces morphisms of Δ -complexes

$$\mathcal{D}(\operatorname{snc}\Delta_X) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{D}(f|_{\Delta})} \mathcal{D}(\operatorname{snc}\Delta_S) \text{ and } \mathcal{D}(\operatorname{snc}(X,\Delta_X)) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{D}(f)} \mathcal{D}(\operatorname{snc}(S,\Delta_S))$$

which are isomorphisms if f is thrifty.

Proof. The induced morphisms come from Lemma 2.9; to see that they are isomorphisms when f is thrifty we may apply Definition 3.5 and Lemma 3.9.

3.1. **Thrifty proper birational equivalences.** If *S* is a separated scheme of finite type over *k* and $f: X \to S$, $g: Y \to S$ are separated schemes of finite type over *S*, a **proper birational equivalence of** *X*, *Y* **over** *S* is a commutative diagram



where r, s are proper birational morphisms.

Definition 3.12. Suppose (X, Δ_X) , (Y, Δ_Y) are pairs over S, with X and Y normal and Δ_X, Δ_Y reduced and effective. A **thrifty proper birational equivalence of** (X, Δ_X) **and** (Y, Δ_Y) **over** S is a proper birational equivalence as in diagram 3.11, where r and s are thrifty.

Remark 3.13. By Corollary 3.10, a thrifty proper birational equivalence $X \xleftarrow{r} Z \xrightarrow{s} Y$ between (X, Δ_X) and (Y, Δ_Y) induces an isomorphism $\mathcal{D}(\Delta_X) \simeq \mathcal{D}(\Delta_Y)$.

Proposition 3.14. *Let* (S, Δ_S) *be a pair with* Δ_S *reduced and effective, and let* $f: X \to S$, $g: Y \to S$ *be* 2 *thrifty resolutions of* (S, Δ_S) . *Then there is a thrifty proper birational equivalence of* X *and* Y *over* S.

Proof. Let $U \subset S$ be an open set such that both f and g are isomorphisms over U; then we have an isomorphism

$$g^{-1} \circ f : f^{-1}(U) \to g^{-1}(U)$$

Set

$$Z := \overline{\Gamma_{g^{-1} \circ f}} \subset X \times_S Y$$

and let $p: Z \to X$, $s: Z \to Y$ be the projections. The claim is that $X \xleftarrow{r} Z \xrightarrow{s} Y$ is a thrifty proper birational equivalence over S. It is birational by design, and proper since X, Y and hence $X \times_Y Z$ are proper over S and Z is closed in $X \times_S Y$. It remains to show that r, s are thrifty.

Lemma 3.15. *Let* Ex(r), $Ex(s) \subset Z$ *be the exceptional loci of r, s respectively; let* $Ex(f) \subset X$, $Ex(g) \subset Y$ *be the exceptional loci of f and g. Then*

$$r(\operatorname{Ex}(r)) \subset f^{-1}(g(\operatorname{Ex}(g)))$$
 and $s(\operatorname{Ex}(s)) \subset g^{-1}(f(\operatorname{Ex}(f)))$

Proof of Lemma 3.15. Let $U \subset S$ and $V \subset Y$ be a maximal pair of open sets such that $g|_V : V \xrightarrow{\simeq} U$ is an isomorphism; note that since g is an honest morphism $\operatorname{Ex}(g) = Y \setminus V$ and $g(\operatorname{Ex}(g)) = S \setminus U$. Then $W := f^{-1}(U) \subset X$ is an open set such that $g^{-1} \circ f : X \dashrightarrow Y$ is defined on W. This implies

the projection $\Gamma_{g^{-1} \circ f} \xrightarrow{r} X$ is an isomorphism over W, but what we need to know is that the same is true for $Z = \bar{\Gamma}_{g^{-1} \circ f} \xrightarrow{r} X$. For this, note that

$$\overline{\Gamma}_{g^{-1}\circ f}\cap r^{-1}(W)=\overline{\Gamma_{g^{-1}\circ f}\cap r^{-1}(W)}=\overline{\Gamma_{g^{-1}\circ f|_{W}}}\subset W\times_{S}Y$$

Since W and Y are both separated over S, the graph $\Gamma_{g^{-1}\circ f|_W}$ is already closed, so we conclude $\bar{\Gamma}_{g^{-1}\circ f}\cap r^{-1}(W)=\Gamma_{g^{-1}\circ f|_W}$.

Now suppose $W \subset X$ is a stratum of (X, Δ_X) – we must show r is an isomorphism over the generic point $\eta \in W$. First, f is an isomorphism at η by hypothesis, and so by the proof of Lemma 3.9, $f(\eta)$ is the generic point of a stratum of $\mathrm{snc}(S, \Delta_S)$. Then g is an isomorphism over $f(\eta)$ by hypothesis, so in particular $f(\eta) \notin g(\mathrm{Ex}(g))$. By Lemma 3.15 we conclude that $\eta \notin r(\mathrm{Ex}(r))$, as desired.

Finally we show that s is an isomorphism at the generic point of every stratum of $\Delta_Z := r_*^{-1} f_*^{-1} \Delta_S$, using a more general lemma:

Lemma 3.16. Let $r: (Z, \Delta_Z) \to (X, \Delta_X)$ be a proper birational morphism. If (X, Δ_X) is a simple normal crossing pair, then r is thrifty if and only if it satisfies condition (i) of Definition 3.5. Explicitly, r is thrifty if and only if it is an isomorphism over every stratum of Δ_X .

Proof of Lemma 3.16. In this situation there is an honest morphism $\operatorname{snc}(\Delta_Z) \to \Delta_X$, so the hypotheses of Lemma 3.9 are satisfied. We then apply Lemma 3.9 (ii).

Remark 3.17. In the case where the morphism $r: Z \to X$ of Lemma 3.16 is projective, [Har77, Thm. 7.17] implies that r is the blowup of some sheaf of ideals $\mathcal{I} \subseteq \mathcal{O}_X$ such that $V(\mathcal{I}) \subset X$ contains no stratum of Δ_X . If in addition $V(\mathcal{I})$ has simple normal crossings with Δ_X [Kol07, Def. 3.24], Lemma 3.16 can be obtained from known results on the effect of blowing up on dual complexes [Ste06, §2], [dFKX14, §9], [Wlo16, Prop. 2.1.6].

4. STRUCTURE SHEAVES OF STRATA AND THEIR DIRECT IMAGES

In this section we prove weak functoriality statements about the quasi-isomorphisms in Theorem 1.1, or alternatively those of [Kov19].

Lemma 4.1. Let S be scheme over a field k and let $f: X \to S$, $g: Y \to S$ are S-schemes that are smooth over k. Suppose $X \stackrel{r}{\leftarrow} Z \stackrel{s}{\to} Y$ is a proper birational equivalence over S such that both r and s are projective. Let C(Z) denote the category with objects the pairs $(E \subseteq X, F \subseteq Y)$ of smooth closed subschemes of X and Y such that

- (i) r and s are isomorphisms over the generic points of E and F respectively, and
- (ii) the birational map $s \circ r^{-1} \colon X \dashrightarrow Y$ sends the generic point of E to the generic point of F, and with morphisms $(E_1, F_1) \to (E_2, F_2)$ given by inclusions $E_1 \subseteq E_2$, $F_1 \subseteq F_2$. If $K \subset C(Z)$ is a finite subcategory, then there are proper birational equivalences $E \xleftarrow{r'} W \xrightarrow{s'} F$ compatible with Z in the sense that

$$E \xleftarrow{r'} W \xrightarrow{s'} F$$

$$\downarrow \circlearrowleft \qquad \downarrow_k \circlearrowleft \qquad \downarrow$$

$$X \xleftarrow{r} Z \xrightarrow{s} Y$$

$$(4.2)$$

commutes, and commutative diagrams

$$Rf_{*}\mathcal{O}_{X} \xrightarrow{\gamma_{X,Y}} Rf_{*}\mathcal{O}_{Y}$$

$$\downarrow \qquad \circlearrowleft \qquad \text{in } D^{+}(S).$$

$$Rf_{*}\mathcal{O}_{E} \xrightarrow{\gamma_{E,F}} Rf_{*}\mathcal{O}_{F}$$

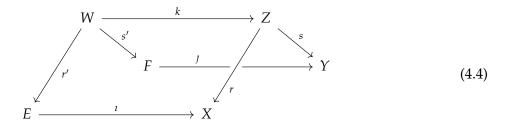
$$(4.3)$$

defining a natural transformation of functors $K^{op} \to D^+(S)$.

Proof. We proceed by descending induction over the poset K.

For each object $(E,F) \in \mathrm{Ob}(\mathcal{K})$, since X is smooth and r is an isomorphism over the generic point $\xi \in E$ we see that if $\tilde{E} \subseteq Z$ is the strict transform of E then $\tilde{E} \not\subset \mathrm{Sing}(Z)$, so in particular if non-CM $(Z) \subseteq Z$ is the non-Cohen-Macaulay locus then $\tilde{E} \not\subset \mathrm{non-CM}(Z)$ – similarly for F. By a theorem of Česnavičius, there exists $Macaulay fication \ \pi \colon \tilde{Z} \to Z$ such that π is an isomorphism over $Z \setminus \mathrm{non-CM}(Z)$ – explicitly, \tilde{Z} is Cohen-Macaulay and π is a projective birational morphism [Ces18, Thm. 1.6] (see also [Kaw00, Thm. 5.1]). It follows that $F \cap T$ and $F \cap T$ are projective and isomorphisms over the generic points of $F \cap T$ and $F \cap T$ and $F \cap T$ are projective and we may assume $F \cap T$ is Cohen-Macaulay.

Now suppose $(E, F) \in Ob(\mathcal{K})$ is *maximal* (categorically final), and let $W \subseteq Z \times_{X \times Y} E \times F$ be the component dominating E and F, and form the commutative diagram of S-schemes



Replacing W with a Macaulayfication $\pi' \colon \tilde{W} \to W$ if necessary, we may assume W is Cohen-Macaulay. Now by functoriality we have commutative diagrams

in D(X) and D(Y) respectively. The vertical arrows are isomorphisms since X, Y, E and F are all smooth, so in particular they have rational singularities, and W and Z are Cohen-Macaulay, so we

may apply [Kov19, Thm. 8.6]. Finally, pushing forward along f and g we obtain

$$Rf_{*}\mathcal{O}_{X} \xrightarrow{Rf_{*}i^{\sharp}} R(f \circ i)_{*}\mathcal{O}_{E}$$

$$Rf_{*}r^{\sharp} \downarrow \simeq \qquad \simeq \downarrow R(f \circ i)_{*}r'^{\sharp}$$

$$R(f \circ r)_{*}\mathcal{O}_{Z} \xrightarrow{R(f \circ r)_{*}k^{\sharp}} R(f \circ r \circ k)_{*}\mathcal{O}_{W} = R(f \circ i \circ r')_{*}\mathcal{O}_{W}$$

$$\parallel \qquad \qquad \parallel$$

$$R(g \circ s)_{*}\mathcal{O}_{Z} \xrightarrow{R(g \circ s)_{*}k^{\sharp}} R(g \circ s \circ k)_{*}\mathcal{O}_{W} = R(g \circ j \circ s')_{*}\mathcal{O}_{W}$$

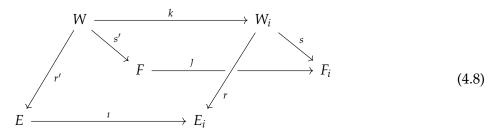
$$\cong \uparrow Rg_{*}s^{\sharp} \qquad \circlearrowleft \qquad R(g \circ j)_{*}s'^{\sharp} \uparrow \simeq$$

$$Rg_{*}\mathcal{O}_{Y} \xrightarrow{Rg_{*}j^{\sharp}} R(g \circ j)_{*}\mathcal{O}_{F}$$

$$(4.6)$$

For the inductive step, suppose $(E,F) \in \mathrm{Ob}(\mathcal{K})$ and let $\alpha_i \colon (E,F) \to (E_i,F_i)$, $i=1,\ldots,r$ be the morphisms in \mathcal{K} with source (E,F). By inductive hypothesis, for each i we have a Cohen-Macaulay S-scheme W_i and a projective birational equivalence $E_i \stackrel{r_i}{\leftarrow} W_i \stackrel{s_i}{\rightarrow} F_i$ inducing a morphism $\gamma_{E_i,F_i} \colon Rf_*\mathcal{O}_{E_i} \to Rg_*\mathcal{O}_{F_i}$ – using the above construction, we can ensure that for any \mathcal{K} -morphism $(E',F') \to (E_i,F_i)$ the map r_i is an isomorphism over E', and similarly for F_i . Consider the cartesian diagram

and let $W \subseteq (E \times_S F) \times_{\prod_{S,i=1}^r (E_i \times F_i)} \prod_{S,i=1}^r W_i$ be the component dominating E and F. Note that r',s' are projective since $\prod_{S,i} (r_i \times_S s_i)$ is projective by hypothesis. As above, we may replace W by a projective Macaulayfication while retaining the property that r',s' are isomorphisms over the generic points of $E' \subset E$, $F' \subset F$ for every K-morphism $(E',F') \to (E,F)$. Now by design for each i there is a commutative diagram



and arguing as in the base case we obtain from (4.8) a commutative diagram in $D^+(S)$ of the form

$$Rf_{*}\mathcal{O}_{E_{i}} \xrightarrow{\gamma_{E_{i}}, F_{i}} Rf_{*}\mathcal{O}_{F_{i}}$$

$$\downarrow \qquad \circlearrowleft \qquad \downarrow \qquad \qquad (4.9)$$

$$Rf_{*}\mathcal{O}_{E} \xrightarrow{\simeq} Rf_{*}\mathcal{O}_{F}$$

Corollary 4.10. Let S be a scheme over a field k and let (X, Δ_X) and (Y, Δ_Y) be simple normal crossing pairs over k with morphisms $f: X \to S$ and $g: Y \to S$. Suppose $X \xleftarrow{r} Z \xrightarrow{s} Y$ is a thrifty proper birational

equivalence over S such that both r and s are projective. Let \mathcal{D} be the common dual complex of Δ_X and Δ_Y (see Remark 3.13) and for a simplex $\sigma \subseteq \mathcal{D}$ let $D_X(\sigma) \subseteq X$, $D_Y(\sigma) \subseteq Y$ be the corresponding strata. In this situation there is a natural transformation of functors $Face(\mathcal{D}) \to D^+(S)$ from $Rf_*\mathcal{O}_{D_X(\sigma)}$ to $Rg_*\mathcal{O}_{D_Y(\sigma)}$, compatible with restrictions from $Rf_*\mathcal{O}_X$ and $Rg_*\mathcal{O}_Y$, and hence a commutative diagram in $D^+(S)$ of the form

$$Rf_{*}\mathcal{O}_{X} \to \prod_{\sigma \in \mathcal{D}^{0}} Rf_{*}\mathcal{O}_{D_{X}(\sigma)} \to \prod_{\sigma \in \mathcal{D}^{1}} Rf_{*}\mathcal{O}_{D_{X}(\sigma)} \to \prod_{\sigma \in \mathcal{D}^{2}} Rf_{*}\mathcal{O}_{D_{X}(\sigma)} \to \cdots$$

$$\downarrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow \gamma^{0} \qquad \qquad \downarrow \gamma^{1} \qquad \qquad \downarrow \gamma^{2}$$

$$Rg_{*}\mathcal{O}_{Y} \to \prod_{\sigma \in \mathcal{D}^{0}} Rg_{*}\mathcal{O}_{D_{Y}(\sigma)} \to \prod_{\sigma \in \mathcal{D}^{1}} Rg_{*}\mathcal{O}_{D_{Y}(\sigma)} \to \prod_{\sigma \in \mathcal{D}^{2}} Rg_{*}\mathcal{O}_{D_{Y}(\sigma)} \to \cdots$$

$$(4.11)$$

Proof. We apply Lemma 4.1 to the finite subcategory $\mathcal{K} \subset \mathcal{C}(Z)$ with objects $(D_X(\sigma), D_Y(\sigma))$ for $\sigma \subseteq \mathcal{D}$. Evidently, this \mathcal{K} is equivalent to Face (\mathcal{D}) .

5. A MORPHISM OF RESTRICTION TRIANGLES

The main result of this section is

Lemma 5.1. Let S be a base scheme over a field k and let and let (X, Δ_X) and (Y, Δ_Y) be simple normal crossing schemes over k with morphisms $f: X \to S$, $f: Y \to S$. If $X \xleftarrow{r} Z \xrightarrow{s} Y$ is a thrifty proper birational equivalence over S then there is an isomorphism of distinguished triangles

$$Rf_{*}\mathcal{O}_{X}(-\Delta_{X}) \longrightarrow Rf_{*}\mathcal{O}_{X} \longrightarrow Rf_{*}\mathcal{O}_{\Delta_{X}} \xrightarrow{+1} \cdots$$

$$\downarrow^{\gamma'} \qquad \qquad \downarrow^{\gamma'} \qquad \qquad in \ D^{+}(S).$$

$$Rg_{*}\mathcal{O}_{Y}(-\Delta_{Y}) \longrightarrow Rg_{*}\mathcal{O}_{Y} \longrightarrow Rg_{*}\mathcal{O}_{\Delta_{Y}} \xrightarrow{+1} \cdots$$

$$(5.2)$$

For the most part, this consists of combining Corollaries 2.7 and 4.10 to obtain the isomorphisms γ and γ'' – after that, the existence of γ' is guaranteed since $D^+(S)$ is triangulated, and the fact that γ' is an isomorphism follows from the 5-lemma.

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