# NORMAL GENERATION OF NONSPECIAL LINE BUNDLES ON ALGEBRAIC CURVES

Seonja Kim † and Young Rock Kim ‡

ABSTRACT. In this paper, we classify  $(C, \mathcal{L})$  such that a smooth curve C of genus g has a nonspecial very ample line bundle  $\mathcal{L}$  of deg  $\mathcal{L} = 2g - 2 - a$  failing to be normally generated, in terms of the number a.

## 1. Introduction

Let C be a smooth irreducible algebraic curve of genus g over an algebraically closed field of characteristic 0. A smooth curve C in  $\mathbb{P}^r$  is said to be projectively normal if the morphism  $H^0(\mathbb{P}^r, \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^r}(m)) \to H^0(C, \mathcal{O}_C(m))$  is surjective, i.e.,  $H^1(C, \mathcal{I}_{C/\mathbb{P}^r}(m)) = 0$  for each nonnegative integer m. We say that a very ample line bundle  $\mathcal{L}$  on C is normally generated if the embedded curve  $\phi_{\mathcal{L}}(C) \subset$  $\mathbb{P}H^0(C, \mathcal{L})$  is projectively normal. It is known that every line bundle  $\mathcal{L}$  of deg  $\mathcal{L} > 2g$  is normally generated ([3], [13]), and C admits a very ample line bundle  $\mathcal{L}$  of degree 2g failing to be normally generated if and only if C is hyperelliptic ([5]).

We can see that any nonspecial line bundle  $\mathcal{L}$  on a general k-gonal curve C with  $\deg \mathcal{L} \geq 2g + 3 - \operatorname{gon}(C)$  is normally generated by Theorem 1 in [5], since  $\operatorname{Cliff}(C) = \operatorname{gon}(C) - 2$  for a general k-gonal curve ([2], [7]) and so  $\deg \mathcal{L} \geq 2g + 1 - \operatorname{Cliff}(C) + 2h^1(C, \mathcal{L})$ . For any curve C, nonspecial line bundles  $\mathcal{L}$  with  $\deg \mathcal{L} \geq 2g + 4 - \operatorname{gon}(C)$  are normally generated since  $\operatorname{Cliff}(C) \geq \operatorname{gon}(C) - 3$  by Secant theorem in [4]. Here,  $\operatorname{Cliff}(C) := \min\{\operatorname{Cliff}(\mathcal{L}) = \deg \mathcal{L} - 2h^0(C, \mathcal{L}) + 2 \mid h^0(C, \mathcal{L}) \geq 2, h^1(C, \mathcal{L}) \geq 2\}$  and  $\operatorname{gon}(C) := \min\{n \mid \text{there is a } g_n^1 \text{ on } C\}$ .

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Received May 18, 2009; Revised September 17, 2009.

<sup>2010</sup> Mathematics Subject Classification. 14H45, 14H10, 14C20.

Key words and phrases. algebraic curve, linear series, line bundle, projectively normal, normal generation.

 $<sup>\</sup>dagger$  This work was supported by the Korea Research Foundation Grant funded by the Korean Government (KRF-2008-314-C00011).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>‡</sup> This research was supported by Basic Science Research Program through the National Research Foundation of Korea(NRF) funded by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (331-2008-1-C00012).

The second author appreciated KIAS for warm hospitality when he was an associate member in KIAS.

On the other hand, a general k-gonal curve C with  $k \leq \frac{g+1}{2}$  has a nonspecial very ample line bundle  $\mathcal{L}$  with deg  $\mathcal{L} = 2g + 2 - \text{gon}(C)$  which fails to be normally generated. In fact, for a general divisor  $\sum_{i=1}^{4} P_i$  of degree 4,  $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - g_k^1 + \sum_{i=1}^{4} P_i$  is nonspecial, very ample and not normally generated. Hence we may expect that for a smooth curve having line bundles of degree  $\leq 2g$  which fail to be normally generated is closely related to the existence of some special kinds of linear series.

The purpose of this work is investigating nonspecial very ample line bundles of degree  $\leq 2g$  which fail to be normally generated. In fact, Kato, Keem, and Ohbuchi in [10] determined the conditions for non-special very ample line bundles of degree 2g - 2, 2g - 3 failing to be normally generated. Also the conditions for the cases of degree 2g - 4, 2g - 5 are known in [9]. In this paper we classify such pairs  $(C, \mathcal{L})$  with deg  $\mathcal{L} = 2g - 2 - a > \frac{3g-3}{2}$  in terms of a that  $\mathcal{L}$  is a nonspecial very ample line bundle on C failing to be normally generated. And we obtain a result for the case deg  $\mathcal{L} = 2g - 6$  as its corollary and apply this result to the known cases of  $2g - 5 \leq \deg \mathcal{L} \leq 2g - 2$  ([9], [10]).

Here we denote  $\mathcal{K}_C$  by  $\mathcal{K}$ . Also we use  $\mathcal{L} - D$  to  $\mathcal{L}(-D)$  and  $\mathcal{L} - g_d^n$  to  $\mathcal{L}(-D)$  where  $D \in g_d^n$ . For the detailed notations in this paper refer to [1], [6].

### 2. Preliminaries

Let *C* be a smooth curve of genus *g* and  $\mathcal{L}$  a very ample line bundle on *C* with  $h^1(C, \mathcal{L}) = s$  and  $\deg \mathcal{L} > \frac{3g-3}{2} + \epsilon$ , where  $\epsilon = 0$  if  $\mathcal{L}$  is special,  $\epsilon = 2$  if  $\mathcal{L}$  is nonspecial. Suppose  $\mathcal{L}$  is not normally generated, then due to Theorem 3 in [5] there exists a line bundle  $\mathcal{A} \simeq \mathcal{L}(-R)$ , R > 0 such that

$$\operatorname{Cliff}(\mathcal{A}) \leq \operatorname{Cliff}(\mathcal{L}), \ \deg \mathcal{A} \geq \frac{g-1}{2}, \ h^0(C, \mathcal{A}) \geq 2, \ h^1(C, \mathcal{A}) \geq h^1(C, \mathcal{L}) + 2.$$

Note that  $\operatorname{Cliff}(C) \leq \operatorname{Cliff}(\mathcal{A}) \leq a - 2s + 2$  if  $\deg \mathcal{L} = 2g - 2 - a$ ,  $a \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ . We will frequently use the following.

Setting up: Assume C has a line bundle  $\mathcal{L}$  failing to be normally generated with deg  $\mathcal{L} = 2g - 2 - a > \frac{3g-3}{2} + \epsilon$ . Let  $\mathcal{A}, R$  be the same as above. Set  $g_d^n = |\mathcal{K} \otimes \mathcal{A}^{-1}(-B_b)|$ , then  $\mathcal{L} \cong \mathcal{K} - g_d^n - B_b + R$ , where  $B_b \in C_b$  is the base locus of  $\mathcal{K} \otimes \mathcal{A}^{-1}$ . Here we may assume that  $\operatorname{Supp}(B_b) \cap \operatorname{Supp}(R) = \emptyset$ . Let  $\phi$ be the morphism associated with  $g_d^n$ .

Remark 2.1. If n = 1, then  $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - g_m^1 - B_{a+4-m} + R_4, m \le a+4, h^1(C, \mathcal{L}) = 0$  by Lemma 2.6 in [9].

For dealing with  $n \geq 2$ , we need the followings:

**Proposition 2.2** (Castelnuovo genus bound, [1]). Let  $g_d^r(r \ge 2)$  be a birationally very ample linear series on a smooth curve of genus g. Let  $m = \left\lfloor \frac{d-1}{r-1} \right\rfloor$  and  $\epsilon = d - 1 - m(r-1)$ . Then,  $g \le \pi(d, r) := \frac{m(m-1)}{2}(r-1) + m\epsilon$ .

**Lemma 2.3.** Suppose  $\mathcal{L}$  fails to be normally generated with  $h^1(C, \mathcal{L}) = s$ . Let  $g_d^n$  and R be in the Setting up. If  $g_d^n$  is birationally very ample with  $n \ge 3$  and  $g > \max\{\pi(a-2s+2+2r,r), 6(a-2s)+9\}$  for some  $r \le n$ , then C is trigonal and

$$\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{O}_C(lg_3^1 + R), \ |lg_3^1| = g_{3l}^l, \ l = \frac{2g - 2 - d}{3} \ge \frac{g - 1}{6}$$

*Proof.* Suppose  $d \leq g-1$ . Then  $d \geq 3n-2$  using Castelnuovo's genus bound. Then we can use Castelnuovo number's property  $\pi(d-2, r-1) \geq \pi(d, r)$  in Lemma 6 in [8], and so  $\text{Cliff}(g_d^n) \leq a-2s+2$  yields that

$$g \le \pi(d, n) \le \pi(d - 2n + 2r, r) \le \pi(a - 2s + 2 + 2r, r)$$

for  $r \leq n$ , which cannot occur by the genus condition.

If  $d \ge g$ , then  $n \le \frac{2d-g+1}{3}$  by Castelnuovo's genus bound. If  $n \le \frac{2d-g}{3}$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} a - 2s - b + 2 &\geq & \operatorname{Cliff}(\mathcal{K} \otimes \mathcal{A}^{-1}) - b = \operatorname{Cliff}(g_d^n) \\ &\geq & \frac{(2g - 2 - d) + 2}{3} = \frac{\deg \mathcal{A} + 2}{3} \\ &\geq & \frac{g + 3}{6}, \end{aligned}$$

which is absurd. Thus we have  $n = \frac{2d-g+1}{3}$  and C is an extremal curve. Note that C is nonhyperelliptic since C has a special birationally very ample  $g_d^n$ . By (2.6) Corollary in Chapter III of [1], C is a trigonal curve and  $g_d^n = |\mathcal{K} \otimes \mathcal{A}^{-1}| = |\mathcal{K}(-lg_3^1)|, |lg_3^1| = g_{3l}^l, l = \frac{2g-2-d}{3}$ . Thus we have  $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{O}_C(lg_3^1 + R)$  since  $\mathcal{A} \simeq \mathcal{L}(-R)$ .

Remark 2.4. For the very ampleness of a nonspecial line bundle  $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - g_d^n - B_b + R$ , we need to have the condition deg  $R \ge n+3$ .

Also we have known the following on the normal generation of nonspecial line bundles on trigonal curves or double coverings of a curve. For the later use we state the following propositions.

**Proposition 2.5** (Martens and Schreyer [12], Corollary 1). Let C be a trigonal curve of genus g > 4. Let  $\mathcal{L}$  be a nonspecial very ample line bundle of degree 2g-k with  $0 \le k \le M$  where M is the Maroni invariant of the curve C. Then  $\mathcal{L}$  is not normally generated if and only if  $\mathcal{L}$  is isomorphic to  $\mathcal{O}(\mathcal{K} - kg_3^1 + D_{2k+2})$  for some effective divisor  $D_{2k+2} \in C_{2k+2}$ .

**Proposition 2.6** (Lange and Martens [11]). Let C be a double covering of genus g of a smooth curve C' of genus p. Let j be an integer such that  $3p+1 \leq j \leq g-4$  if  $p \geq 2, 4 \leq j \leq g-3$  if p = 1 and  $j \geq 1$  if p = 0. Then C admits no nonspecial normally generated line bundle of degree 2g + 1 - j.

### 3. Main results

In this work we deal with the normal generation of nonspecial line bundles of degree  $\leq 2g-2$ . Recall that the normal generation of nonspecial line bundles  $\mathcal{L}$  of deg  $\mathcal{L} \geq 2g-5$  has known by several authors. Here, using Lemma 2.3, we get our main theorem. As an application of the theorem, we obtain a new result on the normal generation of nonspecial line bundles  $\mathcal{L}$  with deg  $\mathcal{L} \leq 2g-6$  and previous results with  $2g-5 \leq \deg \mathcal{L} \leq 2g-2$ .

**Theorem 3.1.** Let C be a smooth curve of genus g and  $\mathcal{L}$  a nonspecial very ample line bundle with deg  $\mathcal{L} = 2g - 2 - a > \frac{3g+1}{2}$ . If  $\mathcal{L}$  fails to be normally generated, then

 $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - g_d^n - B_b + R_{d+b-a} \simeq \mathcal{K} - g_l^0 - B_b + R,$  $\operatorname{Supp}(g_l^0 + B_b) \cap \operatorname{Supp}(R) = \emptyset, \ \operatorname{deg} R \ge 3, \ 3 + a + n \le d + b \le 2 + a + 2n,$ 

for a base point free complete  $g_d^n$  and a complete  $g_l^0 \leq g_d^n$  with  $B_b \in C_b, R \leq R_{d+b-a} \in C_{d+b-a}$ , whose precise form is one of the following;

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(i)	$\phi: C \xrightarrow{m:1} \mathbb{P}^1$ with $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - g_m^1 - B_{a+4-m} + R_4$ for $2 \le m \le a+4$ .
(ii)	$\phi: C \xrightarrow{\simeq} C' \subset \mathbb{P}^n, \ g_d^n :=  \mathcal{O}_{C'}(1) ,$
	$\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - g_d^n - B_b + R_{d+b-a}, \ 3+a+n \le d+b \le 2+a+2n.$
	If $g > \max\{\pi(a+8,3), 6a+9\}$ , then either C' is a plane curve or
	C is a trigonal curve with $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - (a+2)g_3^1 + R_{2a+6}$ .
(iii)	$\phi: C \xrightarrow{m:1} C' \subset \mathbb{P}^n, \ g_f^n :=  \mathcal{O}_{C'}(1) , \ H^1(\mathcal{O}_{C'}(1)) \neq 0,$
	$\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - \phi^* g_f^n - B_b + R_{mf+b-a},$
	$2n(m-1) \le 2+a, \ 2n \le f \le \frac{2+a+2n}{m}, \ b \le 2+a+2n-mf.$
(iv)	$\phi: C \xrightarrow{2:1} C' \subset \mathbb{P}^n, \ g_{n+p}^n :=  \mathcal{O}_{C'}(1) ,$
	$\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - \phi^* g_{n+p}^n - B_b + R_{2(n+p)+b-a},$
	$p \le 1 + \frac{a}{2}, n \le \frac{3g-3}{4} - p, 0 \le b \le a + 2(1-p).$
(v)	$\phi: C \xrightarrow{m:1} C' \subset \mathbb{P}^n, \ m \ge 3, \ g_{n+p}^n :=  \mathcal{O}_{C'}(1) ,$
	$\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - \phi^* g_{n+p}^n - B_b + R_{m(n+p)+b-a},$
	$m(p+2) \le 6+a, n \le \frac{2+a-mp}{m-2}, b \le 2+a-mp-(m-2)n.$

Here,  $\phi$  is the morphism associated to  $g_d^n$  and p is the genus of C' and  $n \ge 2$  in (ii)-(v). For the convenience we identify C' with the smooth model of C'.

*Proof.* Assume  $\mathcal{L}$  is not normally generated, then by the Setting up in Section 2

$$\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - g_d^n - B_b + R_{d+b-a}$$

for a base point free complete  $g_d^n$  and some  $B_b \in C_b, R_{d+b-a} \in C_{d+b-a}$ . Note that

 $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - g_d^n - B_b + R_{d+b-a} \simeq \mathcal{K} - g_l^0 - B_b + R$ 

for some  $g_l^0 \leq g_d^n$  with  $h^0(C, g_l^0) = 1$ , and some  $R \leq R_{d+b-a}$  with deg  $R \leq d+b-a-n$ ,  $\operatorname{Supp}(g_l^0+B_b) \cap \operatorname{Supp}(R) = \emptyset$ . By the very ampleness of  $\mathcal{L}$ , we have deg  $R \geq 3$ , and hence  $d+b-a-n \geq 3$ . Also we obtain  $d \leq 2+a+2n-b$  from  $\operatorname{Cliff}(g_d^n) \leq 2+a-b$ . Therefore we have  $3+a+n \leq d+b \leq 2+a+2n$ .

Let  $\phi$  be the morphism associated with  $g_d^n$  and C' the image curve  $\phi(C)$ . For the convenience, we identify C' with the smooth model of C'. Then we have  $g_d^n = |\phi^* \mathcal{O}_{C'}(1)|$ .

If n = 1, then  $g_d^1 = g_m^1$  and  $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - g_m^1 - B_{a+4-m} + R_4$  for  $m \le a+4$  by Remark 2.1. Thus we get (i). Therefore we may assume  $n \ge 2$ .

If  $g_d^n$  is birationally very ample, then *C* is birationally isomorphic to *C'* of degree *d* in  $\mathbb{P}^n$ . If we assume  $g > \max\{\pi(a+8,3), 6a+9\}$ , then n = 2 or *C* is a trigonal curve by Lemma 2.3. Moreover, by Proposition 2.5 we have  $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - (a+2)g_3^1 + R_{2a+6}$  since the Maroni invariant of *C* is no less than a+2. Thus we get (ii).

Suppose  $g_d^n$  is not birationally very ample. Consider the morphism

$$\phi: C \to C' \subset \mathbb{P}^n.$$

Set  $m := \deg \phi \ge 2$ , p := g(C'). Then  $|\mathcal{O}_{C'}(1)| = g_{\frac{d}{m}}^n$ ,  $g_d^n = \phi^* g_{\frac{d}{m}}^n$ , and

$$\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - \phi^* g_{\frac{d}{m}}^n - B_b + R_{d+b-a}.$$

If  $H^1(C', \mathcal{O}_{C'}(1)) \neq 0$ , then by Clifford's theorem and  $\operatorname{Cliff}(g_d^n) \leq 2 + a - b$ 

$$2n \le \frac{d}{m} \le \frac{2+a-b+2n}{m} \le \frac{2+a+2n}{m}.$$

Accordingly  $2n(m-1) \le 2+a$ ,  $0 \le b \le 2+a+2n-\frac{d}{m} \cdot m$ . Thus we have (iii).

Assume  $H^1(C', \mathcal{O}_{C'}(1)) = 0$ , then  $|\mathcal{O}_{C'}(1)| = g_{n+p}^n$ ,  $n = \frac{d}{m} - p$  and

$$\frac{m-2)d}{m} + 2p = \operatorname{Cliff}(g_d^n) \le 2 + a - b.$$

Therefore

$$(m-2)(p+2) \le (m-2)(p+n) = (m-2)\frac{d}{m} \le 2+a-b-2p.$$

If m = 2, then  $p \le 1 + \frac{a}{2}$ ,  $0 \le b \le a + 2(1 - p)$  and

$$\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - \phi^* g_{n+p}^n - B_b + R_{2(n+p)+b-a}.$$

Here,  $2 \le n \le \frac{3g-3}{4} - p$ , since deg  $\mathcal{A} \ge \frac{g-1}{2}$  and  $d \le 2g - 2 - \deg \mathcal{A}$ . Hence we get (iv).

If  $m \ge 3$ , then  $m(p+2) \le 6+a$ ,  $n \le \frac{2+a-mp}{m-2}$ ,  $0 \le b \le 2+a-mp-(m-2)n$ , and

$$\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - \phi^* g_{n+p}^n - B_b + R_{m(n+p)+b-a}.$$

Therefore we obtain (v). In all, we obtain the results.

Remark 3.2. (1) In Theorem 3.1, the line bundle  $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - g_d^n - B_b + R_{d+b-a}$ can have another representation as follows. Consider  $g_d^n(-R_k)$  for some  $R_k \leq$  $R_{d+b-a}, \deg R_k = k \le n$ . Then  $g_d^n(-R_k) = g_{d'}^{n'} + B_{d'}, n' \ge n - k \ge 0$ , where  $g_{d'}^{n'}$  is base point free and  $B_{d'}$  is the base locus of  $g_d^n(-R_k)$ . Consequently  $\mathcal{L}$ can be also written by  $\mathcal{L} \sim \mathcal{K} - g_{d'}^{n'} - (B_{b'} + B_b) + (R_{d+b-a} - R_k).$ (2) For m = 3 in Theorem 3.1 (i), we have the following:

$$\mathcal{K} - g_3^1 - B_{a+1} + R_4 \simeq \mathcal{K} - g_3^1 - (B_{a+1} + g_{2a+2}^0) + g_{2a+2}^0 + R_4 \simeq \mathcal{K} - (a+2)g_3^1 + D_{2a+6}, \ D_{2a+6} := g_{2a+2}^0 + R_4,$$

where we choose  $g_{2a+2}^0$  to be  $|B_{a+1} + g_{2a+2}^0| = |(a+1)g_3^1|$  (such a choice is always possible). Consequently, this case is collapsed with Theorem 3.1(iii). Thus the converse of the case m = 3 in Theorem 3.1(i) with  $a \leq \frac{g-10}{3}$  also holds by Proposition 2.5.

From Theorem 3.1, we have the following:

**Corollary 3.3.** Let C be a smooth curve of genus g > 33 and  $\mathcal{L}$  a nonspecial very ample line bundle with deg  $\mathcal{L} = 2g - 6$ . If  $\mathcal{L}$  fails to be normally generated, then  $(C, \mathcal{L})$  falls into one of following cases;

(i)	$\phi: C \xrightarrow{m:1} \mathbb{P}^1$ with $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - g_m^1 - B_{8-m} + R_4$ for $2 \le m \le 8$ .
(ii)	C is either a plane curve of degree 10 with $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - g_{10}^2 + R_6$ ,
	or a trigonal curve with $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - 6g_3^1 + R_{14}$ .
(iii)	$\phi: C \xrightarrow{2:1} C' \subset \mathbb{P}^n, \ 2 \le n \le 3, \ b \le 6 + 2n - mf,$
	$\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - \phi^* g_f^n - B_b + R_{2f+b-4}, \ g_f^n :=  \mathcal{O}_{C'}(1) ,$
	C' is either a smooth plane quartic curve with $g_f^n = g_4^2$ ,
	or a plane quintic curve with $g_f^n = g_5^2$ ,
	or a canonical space curve of degree 6 with $g_f^n = g_6^3$ .
(iv)	$\phi: C \xrightarrow{2:1} C' \subset \mathbb{P}^n, \ 0 \le p \le 3, \  \mathcal{O}_{C'}(1)  = g_{n+p}^n,$
	$\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - \phi^* g_{n+p}^n - B_b + R_{2(n+p)-4+b}, \ 2 \le n \le \frac{3g-3}{4} - p, \ b \le 6 - 2p.$
(v)	$(C,\mathcal{L})$ is one of the followings;
	$\phi: C \xrightarrow{3:1} C' \simeq \mathbb{P}^1, \mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - 6g_3^1 + R_{14}$ by Proposition 2.5,
	$\phi: C \xrightarrow{3:1} C', g(C') = 1, \ n = 2, 3, \ b \le 3 - n,$
	$\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - \phi^* g_{n+1}^n - B_b + R_{3(n+1)+b-4},$
	$\phi: C \xrightarrow{4:1} C' \simeq \mathbb{P}^1, \ n = 2, 3, b \le 6 - 2n,$
	$\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - \phi^* g_n^n - B_b + R_{4n+b-4},$
	$\phi: C \xrightarrow{5:1} C' \simeq \mathbb{P}^1, \mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - \phi^* g_2^2 + R_6.$

This box corresponds to the one in Theorem 3.1.

*Proof.* If we plug a = 4 in the result of Theorem 3.1, then we get the following: (i) C is a m-fold covering of  $\mathbb{P}^1$  and  $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - g_m^1 - B_{8-m} + R_4$  for  $m \leq 8$ .

(ii) Since  $g > 6a + 9 = 33 > \pi(a + 8, 3) = 25$ , *C* is birational to a curve  $C' \subset \mathbb{P}^2$  of degree 10 and  $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - g_{10}^2 + R_6$  or *C* is a trigonal curve and  $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - 6g_3^1 + R_{14}$ .

(iii) From the condition  $2n(m-1) \leq 2+a$ , we have m = 2 and  $2 \leq n \leq 3$ , which yields  $4 \leq f \leq 5$  for n = 2 and f = 6 for n = 3, since  $2n \leq f \leq \frac{6+2n}{2}$ . In particular, if n = 2 and f = 4, then C' is smooth since  $H^1(C', \mathcal{O}_{C'}(1)) \neq 0$ . Assume n = 3, f = 6, then  $p \leq 4$  by Castelnuovo genus bound. Note that  $\deg C' \leq 2g(C') - 2$  for  $H^1(C', \mathcal{O}_{C'}(1)) \neq 0$ , whence  $6 = \deg C' \leq 2p - 2$  and then  $p \geq 4$ . Therefore p = 4 and  $\deg C' = 2p - 2 = 6$  with  $H^1(C', \mathcal{O}_{C'}(1)) \neq 0$ , and so  $\mathcal{O}_{C'}(1) \simeq K_{C'}$ .

(iv) C is a double covering of a curve  $C' \subset \mathbb{P}^n$  of genus  $p \leq 3$  with  $H^1(C', \mathcal{O}_{C'}(1)) = 0$  and  $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - \phi^* g_{n+p}^n - B_b + R_{2(n+p)-a+b}$  for  $2 \leq n \leq \frac{3g-3}{4} - p$  and  $b \leq 6 - 2p$ .

(v)  $\overset{-}{C}$  is a *m*-fold covering of  $C' \subset \mathbb{P}^n$  such that  $H^1(C', \mathcal{O}_{C'}(1)) = 0, \mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - \phi^* g_{n+p}^n - B_b + R_{m(n+p)+b-4}, 3 \leq m \leq 5, 0 \leq p \leq \frac{10}{m} - 2, n \leq \frac{6-mp}{m-2}, b \leq 6 - mp - (m-2)n.$ 

Consider the case for m = 3. First if p = 0, in other words, C is a trigonal curve, then by Proposition 2.5 we get  $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - 6g_3^1 + R_{14}$  since the Maroni invariant of C is no less than  $\frac{g-4}{3}$ . If p = 1, then  $n = 2, 3, b \leq 3 - n$ , and we have  $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - \phi^* g_{n+1}^n - B_b + R_{3(n+1)+b-4}$ .

have  $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - \phi^* g_{n+1}^n - B_b + R_{3(n+1)+b-4}^n$ . If m = 4, then we obtain  $p = 0, n = 2, 3, b \le 6 - 2n$ , and  $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - \phi^* g_n^n - B_b + R_{4n+b-4}^n$ .

If m = 5, then we have p = 0, n = 2, b = 0, and  $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - \phi^* g_2^2 + R_6$ .

For the cases with  $0 \le a \le 3$ , we have the following remarks.

*Remark* 3.4. For the case a = 0 in Theorem 3.1 with g > 9 in this paper we have:

(i)	$\phi: C \xrightarrow{m:1} \mathbb{P}^1$ with $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - g_m^1 - B_{4-m} + R_4$ for $2 \le m \le 4$ .
(ii)	$C$ is a smooth plane curve of degree 6 with $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - g_6^2 + R_6$ ,
	or C is a trigonal curve with $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - 2g_3^1 + R_6$ .
(iii)	This case cannot happen since $4(m-1) \le 2n(m-1) \le 2$ is impossible.
(iv)	$\phi: C \xrightarrow{2:1} C' \subset \mathbb{P}^n, \ 0 \le p \le 1, \ \mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - \phi^* g_{n+p}^n - B_b + R_{2(n+p)+b},$
	$2 \le n \le \frac{3g-3}{4} - p, \ b \le 2 - 2p.$
(v)	C is a trigonal curve and $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - 2g_3^1 + R_6$ by Proposition 2.5.

This box also corresponds to the one in Theorem 3.1.

Comparing this result to:

**Proposition 3.5** ([10], Theorem 3.1). Let X be a smooth irreducible projective algebraic curve of genus  $g \ge 15$ . Let  $\mathcal{L}$  be a very ample nonspecial line bundle of degree 2g - 2. Then  $\mathcal{L}$  fails to be normally generated if and only if either:

- (a) X is hyperelliptic;
- (b) X is bielliptic and  $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} \pi^* g_2^1 + D_4$  for some  $D_4 \in X_4$ ;

(c) X is bielliptic and  $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - \pi^* g_{n+1}^n + D_{2n+2}, \pi_*(D_{2n+2}) \not\sim 2g_{n+1}^n$  for

some  $2 \le n \le g - 6$  and  $D_{2n+2} \in X_{2n+2}$ ;

(d) X is trigonal and  $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - 2g_3^1 + D_6$  for some  $D_6 \in X_6$  or

(e) X is simple 4-gonal and  $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - g_4^1 + D_4$  for some  $D_4 \in X_4$ .

Then we see the similarities except case (ii); the plane curve case in (ii) does not appear in Proposition 3.5 since they assumed  $g \ge 15 > \pi(6, 2)$ . Also, we can easily see that the converse holds by the existence of four collinear points or Proposition 2.5 or Proposition 2.6.

*Remark* 3.6. For the case a = 1 in Theorem 3.1 with q > 15 in this paper we have

(i)	$\phi: C \xrightarrow{m:1} \mathbb{P}^1$ with $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - g_m^1 - B_{5-m} + R_4$ for $2 \le m \le 5$ .
(ii)	$C$ is a trigonal curve with $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - 3g_3^1 + R_8$ .
(iii)	This case cannot occur since $4(m-1) \le 2n(m-1) \le 3$ is absurd.
(iv)	$\phi: C \xrightarrow{2:1} C' \subset \mathbb{P}^n, \ 0 \le p \le 1, \ \mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - \phi^* g_{n+p}^n - B_b + R_{2(n+p)-1+b},$
	$2 \le n \le \frac{3g-3}{4} - p, \ b \le 3 - 2p.$
(v)	$C$ is a trigonal curve with $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - 3g_3^1 + R_8$ by Proposition 2.5.

This box also corresponds to the one in Theorem 3.1.

Comparing this result to:

**Proposition 3.7** ([10], Theorem 3.2). Let X be a smooth irreducible projective algebraic curve of genus  $g \geq 17$ . Let  $\mathcal{L}$  be a very ample nonspecial line bundle of degree 2g - 3. Then  $\mathcal{L}$  fails to be normally generated if and only if either:

- (a) X is hyperelliptic;
- (b) X is bielliptic and  $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} \pi^* g_{n+2}^{n+1} + D_{2n+3}$  for some  $1 \le n \le g 7$ ;
- (c) X is trigonal and  $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} 3g_3^1 + D_8$  for some  $D_8 \in X_8$ ; (d) X is simple 4-gonal and  $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} g_4^1 + D_3$  for some  $D_3 \in X_3$  or
- (e) X is 5-gonal and  $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} g_5^1 + D_4$  for some  $D_4 \in X_4$ .

The case (d) in Proposition 3.7 does not appear at the box of Remark 3.6 since  $h^0(C, \mathcal{L}) - h^0(\mathcal{L}(-D_3)) = 1$  and so  $\mathcal{L}$  is not very ample. Also, we can see that the converse for the other cases holds by the existence of four collinear points or Proposition 2.5 or Proposition 2.6.

*Remark* 3.8. For the cases a = 2, 3 in Theorem 3.1 with g > 6a + 9 in this paper we have the followings:

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(i)	$\phi: C \xrightarrow{m:1} \mathbb{P}^1$ with $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - g_m^1 - B_{a+4-m} + R_4$ for $2 \le m \le a+4$ .
(ii)	C is a plane curve C' of degree 9 with $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - g_9^2 + R_6$ with $a = 3$ .
	or C is a trigonal curve with $\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - (a+2)g_3^1 + R_{2a+6}$ .
(iii)	Since $2n(m-1) \le a+2$ , we get $m = 2, n = 2$ .
	$C$ is a double covering of smooth plane quartic curve $C^\prime$
	$\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - \phi^* g_4^2 - B_b + R_{8+b-a}, \ 0 \le b \le a - 2.$
(iv)	$\phi: C \xrightarrow{2:1} C' \subset \mathbb{P}^n, \ 0 \le p \le 2, \ \mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - \phi^* g_{n+p}^n - B_b + R_{2(n+p)-a+b},$
	$2 \le n \le \frac{3g-3}{4} - p, \ b \le 2 + a - 2p.$
(v)	$\phi: C \xrightarrow{m:1} C' \subset \mathbb{P}^n, \ m \ge 3, \ m(p+2) \le 6+a,$
	$\mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - \phi^* g_{n+p}^n - B_b + R_{m(n+p)+b-a},$
	$n \le \frac{2+a-mp}{m-2}$ and $b \le 2+a-mp-(m-2)n$ .
	Consequently, $C$ is one of the followings;
	$\phi: C \xrightarrow{3:1} \mathbb{P}^1, \mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{K} - (2+a)g_3^1 + R_{2a+6}$ by Proposition 2.5,
	$\phi: C \xrightarrow{3:1} C', g(C') = 1, a = 3, \text{ and } \mathcal{L} \cong \mathcal{K} - \phi^* g_3^2 + R_6,$
	$\phi: C \xrightarrow{4:1} \mathbb{P}^1$ and $\mathcal{L} \cong \mathcal{K} - \phi^* g_2^2 - B_b + R_{8+b-a}, b \le a-2.$

This box also corresponds to the one in Theorem 3.1.

This result is exactly same as Proposition 3.9 except case (ii). In fact, the plane curve case in (ii) does not appear in Proposition 3.9, since they assumed  $g > \frac{(4+a)(5+a)}{2}.$ 

**Proposition 3.9** ([9], Theorem 1.1). Let C be a smooth curve of genus g and L be a nonspecial very ample line bundle on C with deg L = 2g - 2 - a, a = 2, 3and  $g > \frac{(4+a)(5+a)}{2}$ . If L fails to be normally generated, then either

(a) C is a double covering of a genus p curve C',  $0 \le p \le 2$  and

 $\mathcal{L} \cong \mathcal{K} - \phi^* g_{n+p}^n - B_b + R_{2(n+p)-a+b}, \ 0 \le b \le a+2-2p, \ 2 \le n \le \frac{3g-3}{4} - p;$ (b) C is trigonal and  $\mathcal{L} \cong \mathcal{K} - (2+a)g_3^1 + R_{2a+6};$ (c) C is a triple covering of an elliptic curve C' and  $a = 3, \mathcal{L} \cong \mathcal{K} - \phi^* g_3^2 + R_6;$ 

(d) C is 4-gonal and  $\mathcal{L} \cong \mathcal{K} - 2g_4^1 - B_b + R_{8-a+b}, 0 \le b \le a-2;$ (e) C has a  $g_{4+a}^1$  and  $\mathcal{L} \cong \mathcal{K} - g_{4+a}^1 + R_4$  or

(f) C is a double covering of a smooth plane quartic curve C' and

$$\mathcal{L} \cong \mathcal{K} - \phi^* g_4^2 - B_b + R_{8-a+b}, \quad 0 \le b \le a-2.$$

Here we mean that  $B_b \in C_b$ ,  $R_i \in C_i$  and  $\phi$  is a covering morphism from C to C'. The converse holds for (a) with p = 0, 1, (b) and (e).

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SEONJA KIM DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS CHUNGWOON UNIVERSITY CHUNGNAM 350-701, KOREA *E-mail address*: sjkim@chungwoon.ac.kr

Young Rock Kim Department of Mathematics Education Graduate School of Education Hankuk University of Foreign Studies Seoul 130-791, Korea *E-mail address:* rocky777@hufs.ac.kr