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Throughout this lecture, divisors will mean effective Cartier divisors. An effective divisor (i.e. an effective Cartier divisor)  $D$  of a scheme  $X$  is therefore a closed subscheme  $D$  of  $X$  such that the ideal sheaf  $\mathcal{I}$  of  $D$  is invertible. As is standard, in this situation, if  $\mathcal{F}$  is any quasi-coherent  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -module, we set

$$\mathcal{F}(nD) := \mathcal{F} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} \mathcal{I}^{-n} \quad n \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

In particular

$$\mathcal{O}_X(-D) = \mathcal{O}_X \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} \mathcal{I} = \mathcal{I},$$

and we have an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X(-D) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_D \rightarrow 0$$

whence an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X(D) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_D(D) \rightarrow 0.$$

The map  $\mathcal{O}_X \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X(D)$  gives rise to a section. This is not just any section, but one that induces an injective map, and as such, is called a regular section. This motivates:

Definition: If  $L$  is any line bundle on  $X$ , a section  $s \in \Gamma(X, L)$  is said to be regular if the map  $\mathcal{O}_X \xrightarrow{s} L$  is injective, or equivalently,  $L^{-1} \xrightarrow{s} \mathcal{O}_X$  is injective.

The image of  $L$  under  $s$  in the above Defn. is clearly an invertible ideal sheaf, and hence gives rise to an effective divisor  $D$ . Note  $L \cong \mathcal{O}_X(D)$ . If  $\Gamma(X, L)_{\text{reg}}$  denotes the set of sections in  $\Gamma(X, L)$  which are regular, and  $|L|$  the set of effective divisors  $D$  s.t.  $\mathcal{O}_X(D) \cong L$  (i.e. the complete linear system associated to  $L$ ) then from our discussions, clearly

$$|L| \cong \Gamma(X, L)_{\text{reg}} / \Gamma(X, \mathcal{O}_X^*)$$

(2)

where, of course,  $\mathcal{O}_x^*$  is the sheaf of units of the sheaf of rings  $\mathcal{O}_x$ .

Defn: Let  $X$  be an  $S$ -scheme. A relative effective (Cartier) divisor on  $X/S$  is an effective divisor  $D$  of  $X$  which is flat over  $S$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 D & \xhookrightarrow{\text{closed}} & X \\
 \text{flat} \searrow & & \downarrow \\
 & & S.
 \end{array}
 \quad (\text{ideal } \mathcal{I} \text{ of } D \subset X \text{ invertible}).$$

(\*) Theorem: Let  $x \in \text{Sch}/S$  and  $D$  a closed subscheme of  $X$ .

Let  $x \in D$ , and let its image in  $S$  be denoted  $s$ . TFAE:

- (a)  $D$  is an effective relative divisor at  $x$  (i.e. in an open nbhd of  $x$ ).
- (b)  $X$  and  $D$  are flat over  $S$  at  $x$ , and the fibre  $D_s$  is an effective divisor in the fibre  $X_s$ .
- (c)  $X$  is flat at  $x$ , and  $D$  is cut out in a nbhd. of  $x$  by a single element which gives an effective divisor of  $X_s$  (i.e.  $D_s$  is an effective divisor of  $X_s$ ).

Proof: Can be found in Matsunuma, in the language of commutative algebra.

### Examples

1. Let  $A$  be a ring and  $a \in A$  an element. The map
 
$$A \rightarrow A \quad \text{"multiplication by } a \text{"}$$

is injective if and only if  $a$  is a nonzero divisor in  $A$ . Such elements are called regular elements.

In this case,  $xA$  is a free rank one module, and defines an effective divisor  $D$  of  $\text{Spec } A$ . Moreover,

if  $A$  is integral, then by what we've said above, every non-zero element of  $A$  is necessarily a regular element.

(b) From the local example above, if  $X$  is an integral scheme,  $L$  a line bundle on  $X$ , and  $s \in \Gamma(X, L)$  a non-zero element, then  $s$  is a regular section. Thus for an integral scheme  $X$

$$\Gamma(X, L)_{\text{reg}} = \Gamma(X, L) - \{0\}.$$

Definition: Let  $X \in \text{Sch}/S$ . Define, for any  $T \in \text{Sch}/S$ ,

$$\text{Div}_{X/S}(T) = \left\{ D \mid \begin{array}{l} D \text{ is a relative effective divisor} \\ \text{for } X_T \rightarrow T. \end{array} \right\}$$

Theorem: Let  $f: X \rightarrow S$  be strongly projective and flat.

Then  $\text{Div}_{X/S}$  is representable.

Proof: Let  $H = \text{Hilb}_{X/S}$  and  $W \subset X_{X_S} H = X_H$  the universal flat family over  $H$ . Let  $V \subset W$  be the open set of points  $w$  such that  $W$  is a relative effective divisor at  $w$  over  $H$ .

$V \subset W \subset X_H$  Let  $Z = W - V$ .  $Z$  is closed, whence so is

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & & f_{\#}(Z). \\ \downarrow & \swarrow f_{\#} & \\ H & & \end{array} \quad \text{Define}$$

$$U = H - f_{\#}(Z).$$

Note that if  $h \in H$  is such that  $W_h$  is an effective divisor of  $X_h$ , then  $h \in U$ , for, if not, then  $h \in f_{\#}(Z)$ , which means  $h = f_{\#}(z)$  for some  $z \in W - V$ . Now

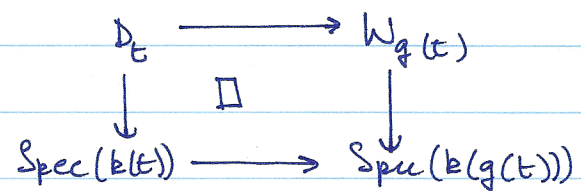
$z \in f_{\#}^{-1}(h) = X_h$ , whence  $z \in (W - V) \cap X_h = W_h - V_h$ . This means  $z \in W_h$ , and  $W_h$  is not an effective divisor at  $z$ . This contradicts the fact that  $W_h$  is an effective divisor <sup>in</sup>  $X_h$ .

We now check that  $U$  represents  $\text{Div}_{X/S}$ . Indeed if

$D \in \text{Div}_{X/S}$ , then  $D$  is flat over  $T$ , whence  $\exists!$  map

$$g: T \rightarrow H$$

such that  $(g^* D)^{-1}(W) = D$ . We have to show  $g$  takes values in  $U$ . Let  $t \in T$ . We have a cartesian diagram



Since  $D_t$  is an effective divisor and the above base change is faithfully flat,  $W_{g(t)}$  is an effective divisor of  $X_{g(t)}$ . It follows that  $g(t) \in U$ .

Proposition: Suppose  $f: X \rightarrow S$  is strongly projective, flat, with integral fibres. Suppose  $L$  is a line bundle on  $X$  such that  $R^i f_* L = 0$  for  $i \geq 1$ . Let  $\sigma \in \Gamma(X, L) = \Gamma(S, f_* L)$ . The following are equivalent.

- (a) The section  $\sigma$  of  $L$  is a regular section of  $L$  and the such that the corresponding effective divisor  $D_\sigma$  of  $X$  is a relative effective divisor for  $f: X \rightarrow S$ .
- (b) Regarding  $\sigma$  as a section of  $f_* L$ , for every  $s \in S$ ,  $\sigma(s) \neq 0$ . Here, with  $\underline{m}_s$  the maximal ideal of  $\mathcal{O}_{S,s}$ , and  $(f_* L)_s$  the stalk of the coherent sheaf  $f_* L$  at  $s \in S$ ,  $\sigma(s)$  is element  $\sigma \otimes k(s) \in (f_* L)_s / \underline{m}_s (= f_* L \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_s} k(s))$  induced by  $\sigma$ .

Proof:

~~Since~~ By semi-continuity we have (a)  $\iff$  for arbitrary base changes  $u: T \rightarrow S$ , the natural map  $u^* R^i f_* L \rightarrow R^i f_{*T} L_T$

is an isomorphism for  $i \geq 0$  (note that  $i=0$  is included) and (b)  $f_* L$  is a locally free  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -module.

Suppose  ~~$\sigma \in$~~   $\sigma$  is a regular section of  $L$ , and the associated effective divisor  $D_\sigma^\sigma$  in  $X$  is flat over  $S$ . Let  $s \in S$  be any point. Then  $D_s^\sigma \subset X_s$  is an effective divisor of  $X_s$ . On the other hand, identifying (via the base change  $\text{Spk}(s) \rightarrow S$ )  $f_* L \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_S} k(s)$  with  $\Gamma(X_s, L|_{X_s})$ , we see that  $D_s^\sigma$  is the divisor given by ~~the vanishing of~~  $\sigma(s)$ . Thus  ~~$\sigma$  is~~ the section  $\sigma(s) \in \Gamma(X_s, L|_{X_s})$ . Thus  $\sigma(s) \neq 0$ , for  $D_s^\sigma$  is an effective divisor.

Conversely, suppose  $\sigma(s) \neq 0$  for any  $s \in S$ . Then let  $D_\sigma^\sigma \subset X$  be the closed subscheme defined locally by the locus where  $\sigma$  (thought of as a section of  $L$ ) vanishes, i.e. the closed subscheme whose ideal is the image of  $L^{-1}$  under the map  $\sigma: L^{-1} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X$ . Then  $D_\sigma^\sigma$  is locally cut out by a single equation, and  $D_s^\sigma = D_\sigma^\sigma \cap X_s$  for any  $s \in S$  is given by the vanishing of  $\sigma(s) \in \Gamma(X_s, L|_{X_s})$ . Now  $\sigma(s) \neq 0$  by hypothesis, and  $X_s$  is integral. Hence  $D_s^\sigma$  is an ~~effective~~ effective divisor of  $X_s$ . By our earlier theorem, it follows that  $D_\sigma^\sigma$  is a relative effective divisor, whence  $\sigma$  is a regular section of  $L$ .  ~~$\square$~~

Remark: The last requires slight elaboration. Recall that if  $A$  is a ring and  $F$  is a flat  $A$ -module, and that  $0 \rightarrow M \rightarrow F_k \rightarrow F_{k-1} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow F_1 \rightarrow F \rightarrow 0$  is an exact sequence of  $A$ -modules with  $F_i, i=1, \dots, k$  flat, then  $M$  must be flat. This easily seen by breaking up



the exact sequence into short exact sequences, hence reducing to the case  $k=1$ . Now we have

$$0 \rightarrow M \rightarrow F_1 \rightarrow F \rightarrow 0$$

is exact. Let  $N$  be any module. Tensoring the above sequence considering the long exact sequence involving  $\text{Tor}_i^A(-, N)$ , and using the fact that  $\text{Tor}_i^A(F, N) = \text{Tor}_i^A(F_1, N)$  for  $i \geq 1$ , we see that  $\text{Tor}_i^A(M, N) = 0$  for all  $i \geq 1$ , i.e.  $M$  is flat.

Now suppose  $K = \ker(\mathcal{O}_X \xrightarrow{\sigma} L)$ . We have an exact sequence

$$(E): 0 \rightarrow K \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_X \xrightarrow{\sigma} L \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^r}(D^\sigma) \rightarrow 0$$

and we have proven that  $D^\sigma$  is flat over  $S$ . Now  $(E)$  is an exact sequence of  $\mathcal{O}_X$ -modules which are flat over  $S$ , except possibly  $K$ . By arguing with stalks and using the result on  $A$ -modules just proved,  $K$  is also flat over  $S$ . It follows that  $(E) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_{S,s}} k(s)$  is also exact for every  $s \in S$ , or more precisely, if  $x \in X$  and  $s \in S$  is its image, then  $(E)_x \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_{S,s}} k(s)$  is exact. In particular, since  $\sigma(s) \neq 0$ ,  $K_x \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_{S,s}} k(s) = 0$ . Thus  $K_x = 0$  by Nakayama, whence  $K = 0$ , and  $\sigma: \mathcal{O}_X \rightarrow L$  is injective. This proves  $\sigma$  is regular. //

Perhaps better to say  $\sigma(s) \neq 0 \Leftarrow X_s$  integral  
 $\mathcal{O}_{X_s} \xrightarrow{\sigma(s)} L_s$  is injective  $\Rightarrow K = 0$   
 $\Rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{X_s} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_{S,s}} k(s) = 0$  for every  $s$

Definition: Let  $f: X \rightarrow S$  be an  $S$ -scheme and  $L$  a line bundle on  $X$ . Define a (contravariant) set-valued functor  $\text{Div}_{X/S}^L$  on  $\text{Sch}_S$  by

~~$$\text{Div}_{X/S}^L(T) = \{ D \in \text{Div}_{X/S} \mid \mathcal{O}_T(D) \simeq L_T \otimes f_T^* N \text{ for some line bundle } N \text{ on } T \}$$~~

$$\text{Div}_{X/S}^L(T) = \left\{ D \in \text{Div}_{X/S} \mid \mathcal{O}_T(D) \simeq L_T \otimes f_T^* N \text{ for some line bundle } N \text{ on } T \right\}$$

Theorem : Let  $f: X \rightarrow S$  be strongly projective, flat, with fibres which are geometrically integral. Let  $L$  be a line bundle on  $X$  such that  $R^i f_* L = 0$  for  $i \geq 1$ . Then  $\text{Div}_{X/S}^L$  is representable by  $\mathbb{P}(f_* L)$ . In particular  $\text{Div}_{X/S}^L$  is smooth and strongly projective over  $S$ .

Proof : By semi-continuity,  $f_* L$  is locally free and commutes with arbitrary base changes  $T \rightarrow S$ , as do all higher direct images (we are using the hypothesis that  $R^i f_* L = 0$  for  $i \geq 1$  for ~~both~~ <sup>all</sup> assertions). In particular our hypotheses are stable under arbitrary base changes. Since  $f_* L$  is locally free,  $\mathbb{P}(f_* L)$  is smooth and strongly projective over  $S$ .

Let  $V = f_* L$ ,  $\mathbb{P} = \mathbb{P}(V)$ , and  $\pi: \mathbb{P} \rightarrow S$  the resulting map. Let  $V' = f^* V$ ,  $\mathbb{P}' = \mathbb{P}(V')$ , and  $\pi': \mathbb{P}' \rightarrow X$  the resulting map. One checks easily that

$$\mathbb{P}' = X \times_S \mathbb{P}. \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$\text{Moreover, } \pi'^* V' = f_{\mathbb{P}}^* \pi^* V. \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

We have a cartesian sq.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X \times_S \mathbb{P} & = & \mathbb{P}' & \xrightarrow{\pi'} & X \\ \downarrow f_{\mathbb{P}} & & \downarrow & \square & \downarrow f \\ \mathbb{P} & \xrightarrow{\pi} & S & & S \end{array}$$

Now if

$$E: 0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}}(-1) \rightarrow \pi^* V \rightarrow \mathcal{Q} \rightarrow 0$$

is the universal exact sequence on  $\mathbb{P} = \mathbb{P}(V)$  and

$$E': 0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}'}(-1) \rightarrow \pi'^* V' \rightarrow \mathcal{Q}' \rightarrow 0$$

the universal exact sequence on  $\mathbb{P}' = \mathbb{P}(V')$ , then

one checks easily that

$$E' = f_P^* E,$$

under the standard identification  $f_P^*(\mathcal{O}_P(-1)) = \mathcal{O}_{P'}(-1)$ .

In fact the identification ① in the last page is through the map  $\pi'$  and the map  $P' \rightarrow P$  obtained from  $E'$  and the exact sequence universal property of  $P$ , and identification ②.

On  $P$  we have (by looking at the exact sequence  $E(1)$ ):  
a section

$$(**) \quad \sigma: \mathcal{O}_P \longrightarrow \pi^* V \otimes \mathcal{O}_P(1).$$

Now, as  $f_{P*}$  commutes with arbitrary base change, therefore

$$\pi^* V = f_{P*} L_P.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Thus } \pi^* V \otimes \mathcal{O}_P(1) &= f_{P*} (L_P \otimes f_P^* \mathcal{O}_P(1)) \\ &= f_{P*} (L_P \otimes \mathcal{O}_{P'}(1)). \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now } \sigma \in \Gamma(P, \pi^* V \otimes \mathcal{O}_P(1)) &= \Gamma(P, f_{P*} (L_P \otimes \mathcal{O}_{P'}(1))) \\ &= \Gamma(P', L_P \otimes \mathcal{O}_{P'}(1)). \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $\sigma$  is a section of  $L_P \otimes \mathcal{O}_{P'}(1)$ , and thought as a section of  $f_{P*} (L_P \otimes \mathcal{O}_{P'}(1))$  on  $P$ , it is nowhere vanishing, since in its avatar as an ~~map~~ injective map  $\mathcal{O}_P \rightarrow \pi^* V \otimes \mathcal{O}_P(1)$  (see (\*\*)) it has a vector bundle as the cokernel, namely  $\mathcal{O}(1)^\perp$ . By the previous Proposition, the associated divisor  $D^\sigma \subset P' = X \times_P P$  is



a relative effective divisor for  $f_P: X \times_S P \rightarrow P$ .

We claim  $(P, D^\circ)$  represents  $\text{Div}_{X/S}^L$ .

To that end, suppose  $D \in \text{Div}_{X/S}(T)$ , for  $u: T \rightarrow S$ . Then there exists a line bundle  $N$  on  $T$  such that

$$\mathcal{O}_{X_T}(D) \cong L_T \otimes f_T^* N.$$

Consider  $f_{T*}(L_T \otimes f_T^* N)$

$$= f_{T*}(L_T) \otimes N$$

$$= u^* V \otimes N.$$

since  $f_* L = V$  commutes with formation of arbitrary base changes. Then we have an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{X_T} \xrightarrow{s} \mathcal{O}_{X_T}(D) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_D(D) \rightarrow 0$$

where  $s$  is the <sup>regular</sup> section arising from the relative effective divisor  $D$ . Since  $D$  is a relative effective divisor, by our previous result,  $s$  when regarded as a section of  $f_* \mathcal{O}_{X_T}(D)$ , is nowhere vanishing on  $T$ . (we are using the fact that the fibres of  $X_T \rightarrow T$  are integral, since those of  $X \rightarrow S$  are geometrically integral). Thus  $s$  gives an injective map  $\mathcal{O}_T \xrightarrow{s} f_* \mathcal{O}_{X_T}(D)$  whose cokernel is locally free, since  $s \otimes k(t) \neq 0$  for any  $t$ , and  $f_* \mathcal{O}_{X_T}(D)$  is locally free. We thus have an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_T \rightarrow f_* \mathcal{O}_{X_T}(D) \rightarrow W_T \rightarrow 0$$

$$u^* V \otimes N.$$

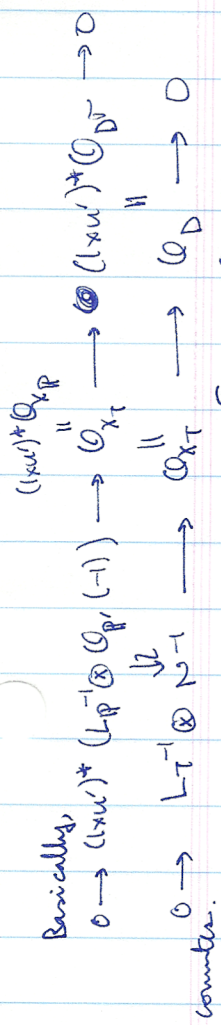
This gives an exact sequence of vector ~~bundles~~ bundles

$$(+) \quad 0 \rightarrow N^{-1} \rightarrow u^*V \rightarrow W_T \rightarrow 0,$$

whence, by the universal property of  $P = \mathbb{P}(V)$ , an  $S$ -map  $u': T \rightarrow P = \mathbb{P}(V)$ , and  $u'$  is the unique map such that  $(+)$  is equivalent to the exact sequence  $u'^*(E)$ , i.e. we have a commutative diagram of exact sequences with vertical arrows as isomorphisms:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 u'^*(E): & 0 & \rightarrow & u'^* \mathcal{O}_P(-1) & \rightarrow & u'^* \pi^* V & \rightarrow & u'^* Q & \rightarrow & 0 \\
 & & & \downarrow \cong & & \parallel & & \downarrow \cong & & \\
 (+): & 0 & \rightarrow & N^{-1} & \rightarrow & u^* V & \rightarrow & W_T & \rightarrow & 0
 \end{array}$$

~~In particular~~ Thus the isomorphism  $\mathcal{O}_{X_T}(D) \cong L_T \otimes f_T^* N$  yields, via  $L_T \otimes f_T^* N \cong (1 \times u')^*(L_P \otimes f_P^* \mathcal{O}(1))$ , an isomorphism  $\mathcal{O}_{X_T}(D) \cong (1 \times u')^* \mathcal{O}_P(D^\sigma)$ , since  $L_P \otimes f_P^* \mathcal{O}(1) \cong \mathcal{O}_P(D^\sigma)$ . It is not difficult to then see that  $(1 \times u')^{-1}(D^\sigma) = D$ . Thus  $(P^\sigma, D^\sigma)$  represents  $\text{Div}_{X/S} L$ .  $\square$



Finally, we give a end with a proposition we could have proven a few lectures ago.

Proposition: Let  $f: X \rightarrow S$  <sup>be proper</sup> and finitely presented, such that the natural map  $\mathcal{O}_S \rightarrow f_* \mathcal{O}_X$  is an isomorphism, ~~for~~ and this holds universally (i.e.  $\mathcal{O}_T \xrightarrow{\cong} f_{T*} \mathcal{O}_{X_T}$  for every  $S$ -scheme  $T$ ). If  $L$  is a line bundle on  $X$  such that  $L$  represents the trivial element in  $(\text{Pic}_{X/S})(\text{fppf})$  (resp.  $(\text{Pic}_{X/S})(\text{ét})$ ), then  $L \cong f^* N$  for some line bundle  $N$  on  $S$ .

P.T.O. |

Remarks (a) Recall, from the lecture on sheafifications,  $L$  represents the trivial element in  $(\text{Pic}_{X/S})_{(\text{top})}$  ( $\text{top} \in \{\text{fppf}, \text{ét}\}$ ) if and only if for some member  $\mathcal{G}$  of  $\mathcal{M}_{\text{top}}$ , the pullback  $L_T$  on  $X_T$  is the trivial line bundle.

(b) The proposition asserts that if  $\mathcal{O}_S \xrightarrow{\sim} f_* \mathcal{O}_X$  holds universally, then the natural map (with  $\text{top} \in \{\text{ét}, \text{fppf}\}$ )

$$(*) \quad \text{Pic}_{X/S}(\mathcal{T}) \longrightarrow (\text{Pic}_{X/S})_{(\text{top})}(\mathcal{T})$$

is surjective for  $\mathcal{T} \in \text{Sch}/S$ .

(c) If in addition to the hyp. of the Prop<sup>n</sup>, if  $f: X \rightarrow S$  has a section, then  $(*)$  above is an isomorphism.

(d) When  $f$  is propr and finitely presented, the hypothesis that  $\mathcal{O}_S \rightarrow f_* \mathcal{O}_X$  is an isomorphism holds universally if  $f$  has geometrically connected fibres.

Proof: Let  $T \rightarrow S$  be an fppf-map (resp. étale surjective map) such that  $L_T \simeq \mathcal{O}_{X_T}$ . By our hypothesis  $\mathcal{O}_T \xrightarrow{\sim} f_{T*} \mathcal{O}_{X_T}$ , whence the natural map

$$f_T^* f_{T*} \mathcal{O}_{X_T} \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}_{X_T}$$

is an isomorphism. Now the map  $f_T^* f_{T*} \rightarrow \text{identity}$  is functorial, whence the natural map

$$f_T^* f_{T*} L_T \longrightarrow L_T$$

is an isomorphism. Since  $X_T \rightarrow X$  is faithfully flat, it follows that the natural map

$$f^* f_* L \longrightarrow L$$

is an isomorphism. Set  $N = f_* L$ , to get the result. ▮