

# NAKAI-MOISHEZON CRITERION FOR ADELIC $\mathbb{R}$ -CARTIER DIVISORS

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ABSTRACT. We prove a Nakai-Moishezon criterion for adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisors, which is an arithmetic analogue of a theorem of Campana and Peternell. Our main result answers a question of Burgos Gil, Philippon, Moriwaki and Sombra. We deduce it from the case of adelic Cartier divisors (due to Zhang) by continuity arguments and reductions involving a generalization of Zhang's theorem on successive minima.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

In algebraic geometry, the Nakai-Moishezon criterion asserts that a Cartier divisor  $D \in \text{Div}(X)$  on a projective variety  $X$  over an algebraically closed field is ample if and only if  $D^{\dim Y} \cdot Y > 0$  for every subvariety  $Y \subseteq X$ . By a theorem of Campana and Peternell [CP90], this statement remains valid when  $D \in \text{Div}(X)_{\mathbb{R}} = \text{Div}(X) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{R}$  is a  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisor. In [Zha95a], Zhang started the study of arithmetic ampleness in the context of Arakelov geometry, and proved an arithmetic Nakai-Moishezon criterion for adelic metrized line bundles ([Zha95a, Theorem 4.2]). Our purpose is to extend this result to adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisors (in the sense of Moriwaki [Mor16]), thus proving an arithmetic analogue of Campana and Peternell's theorem.

Let  $X$  be a normal and geometrically integral projective scheme over a number field  $K$ . An adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisor  $\overline{D} = (D, (g_v)_v)$  on  $X$  is a pair consisting of a  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisor  $D \in \text{Div}(X)_{\mathbb{R}}$  and a suitable collection of Green functions  $(g_v)_v$  on the analytifications  $X_v^{\text{an}}$  of  $X$ , where  $v$  runs over the set of places of  $K$  (see Definition 3.1). The set  $\widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{R}}$  of adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisors is a  $\mathbb{R}$ -vector space; it contains the set of adelic Cartier divisors  $\widehat{\text{Div}}(X)$ , defined by

$$\widehat{\text{Div}}(X) = \{(D, (g_v)_v) \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{R}} \mid D \in \text{Div}(X)\} \subseteq \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{R}}.$$

To any adelic Cartier divisor  $\overline{D} \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)$  we can associate an adelic metrized line bundle  $(\mathcal{O}_X(D), (\|\cdot\|_v^{\overline{D}})_v)$  in the sense of Zhang [Zha95b], and a global section  $s \in H^0(X, D)$  of  $\mathcal{O}_X(D)$  is called strictly small if  $\sup_{x \in X_v^{\text{an}}} \|s\|_v^{\overline{D}}(x) \leq 1$  for every place  $v$ , with strict inequality at archimedean places. We say that an adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisor  $\overline{D}$  is ample if it is semi-positive (see Definition 3.4) and if it can be written as a finite sum

$$\overline{D} = \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} \lambda_i \overline{A}_i$$

where for each  $i \in \{1, \dots, \ell\}$ ,  $\lambda_i \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$  and  $\overline{A}_i = (A_i, (g_{i,v})_v) \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)$  is an adelic Cartier divisor such that  $A_i \in \text{Div}(X)$  is ample and  $H^0(X, mA_i)$  has a  $K$ -basis consisting of strictly small sections for every  $m \gg 1$ . This definition of ampleness for adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisors coincides with the one used in [BGMPS16] (see Remark 6.5). For any semi-positive  $\overline{D} = (D, (g_v)_v) \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{R}}$  and for any

subvariety  $Y \subseteq X$ , we denote by  $h_{\overline{D}}(Y)$  the height of  $Y$  with respect to  $\overline{D}$  (see section 3.2). The main result in this paper is the following (see Corollary 6.4).

**Theorem 1.1.** *Let  $\overline{D} = (D, (g_v)_v)$  be a semi-positive adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisor on  $X$ . Then  $\overline{D}$  is ample if and only if  $h_{\overline{D}}(Y) > 0$  for every subvariety  $Y \subseteq X$ .*

This theorem gives an affirmative answer to a question of Burgos Gil, Moriwaki, Philippon and Sombra [BGMP16, Remark 3.21]. To our knowledge, it was known only under one of the following additional assumptions up to now:

- $\overline{D}$  is an adelic Cartier divisor (Zhang's arithmetic Nakai-Moishezon criterion [Zha95a, Theorem 4.2], [Mor15, Corollary 5.1], [CM18, Theorem 1.2]);
- $\overline{D}$  is a toric metrized  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisor ([BGMP16, Corollary 6.3]);
- $X$  has dimension one ([Iko21, Corollary A.4]).

Given a semi-positive adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisor  $\overline{D} = (D, (g_v)_v)$  on  $X$  and a subvariety  $Y \subseteq X$  with  $\deg_D(Y) := D^{\dim Y} \cdot Y \neq 0$ , the normalized height of  $Y$  with respect to  $\overline{D}$  is defined by

$$\widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(Y) = \frac{h_{\overline{D}}(Y)}{(\dim Y + 1) \deg_D(Y)}.$$

We also let  $\zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D}) = \inf_{x \in X(\overline{K})} \widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(x)$ . The following theorem is our second main result, which plays an important role in this paper and might be of independent interest.

**Theorem 1.2.** *Let  $\overline{D} = (D, (g_v)_v)$  be a semi-positive adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisor on  $X$ . If  $D$  is ample, there exists a subvariety  $Y \subseteq X$  such that*

$$\zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D}) = \widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(Y) = \min_{Z \subseteq X} \widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(Z),$$

where the minimum is over the subvarieties  $Z \subseteq X$ .

In other words, the infimum of the normalized heights of subvarieties  $Z \subseteq X$  is attained at a subvariety  $Y$ , which moreover satisfies  $\widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(Y) = \zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D})$ . Our proof of Theorem 1.2 is based on Zhang's theorem on successive minima [Zha95a, Theorem 5.2]. Although the latter does not appear in the literature for adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisors, we shall prove that it remains valid in this context thanks to a continuity property for successive minima (see Lemma 4.1 and Theorem 4.3). This approach also provides additional information on the subvariety  $Y \subseteq X$  of Theorem 1.2 (see Theorem 5.1). Our proof of Theorem 1.1 is very direct, and goes roughly as follows. Let  $\overline{D} = (D, (g_v)_v) \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{R}}$  be semi-positive, with  $D$  ample. Given a real number  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ , we define an adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisor  $\overline{D}(t)$  by rescaling the metrics at archimedean places to have  $\widehat{h}_{\overline{D}(t)}(Y) = \widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(Y) - t$  for every subvariety  $Y \subseteq X$  (see Definition 3.3 and Lemma 3.7). In view of Theorem 1.2, it suffices to prove that

$$\sup\{t \in \mathbb{R} \mid \overline{D}(t) \text{ is ample}\} = \zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D}).$$

We denote by  $\theta(\overline{D})$  the supremum on the left hand side. We first observe that Zhang's arithmetic Nakai-Moishezon criterion [Zha95a, Theorem 4.2] implies that  $\theta(\overline{D}) = \zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D})$  provided that  $\overline{D}$  is an adelic Cartier divisor. We simply deduce the general case (Theorem 6.1) by slightly perturbing  $\overline{D}$  and by applying a continuity property for the invariants  $\zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D})$  and  $\theta(\overline{D})$  (see Lemmas 4.1 and 6.2).

**Organization of the paper.** We fix some notation in section 2. In section 3 we recall the definition of adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisors and of height of subvarieties. We also study some basic properties of ample adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisors. We define successive minima in section 4, and we establish a continuity property allowing us to extend Zhang's theorem on minima to adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisors (Lemma 4.1 and

Theorem 4.3). We prove Theorem 1.2 in section 5 (Theorem 5.1) and Theorem 1.1 in section 6 (Corollary 6.4).

## 2. CONVENTIONS AND TERMINOLOGY

2.1. We say that a scheme is integral if it is reduced and irreducible. Given a Noetherian integral scheme  $X$ , we denote by  $\text{Div}(X)$  the group of Cartier divisors on  $X$  and by  $\text{Rat}(X)$  the field of rational functions on  $X$ . If  $\mathbb{K}$  denotes  $\mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\mathbb{Q}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$ , we let  $\text{Div}(X)_{\mathbb{K}} = \text{Div}(X) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{K}$ . The elements of  $\text{Div}(X)_{\mathbb{K}}$  are called  $\mathbb{K}$ -Cartier divisors on  $X$ . If  $X$  is normal, we denote by  $\text{Supp } D$  the support of a  $\mathbb{K}$ -Cartier divisor  $D$  (see [Mor16, section 1.2] for details). It is a Zariski-closed subset of  $X$ . We let  $(\phi)$  be the Cartier divisor associated to a rational function  $\phi \in \text{Rat}(X)^{\times}$ .

2.2. Let  $X$  be a projective variety over a field  $K$ , i.e.  $X$  is an integral projective scheme on  $\text{Spec } K$ . A subvariety  $Y \subseteq X$  is an integral closed subscheme of  $X$ . Given an integer  $r \in \{0, \dots, \dim X\}$ , a  $r$ -cycle is a formal linear combination with integer coefficients of  $r$ -dimensional subvarieties in  $X$ . Given a  $\mathbb{K}$ -Cartier divisor  $D$  on  $X$ , we define the degree of a  $r$ -cycle  $Z$  with respect to  $D$  by  $\deg_D(Z) = D^{\dim Z} \cdot Z$ . In particular, if  $x \in X(\overline{K})$  is a closed point (considered as a subvariety of  $X$ ), then  $\deg_D(\{x\}) = [K(x) : K]$  is the degree over  $K$  of the residue field  $K(x)$  of  $x \in X$ .

2.3. Throughout this text, we fix a number field  $K$  and an algebraic closure  $\overline{K}$  of  $K$ . We denote by  $\Sigma_K$  the set of places of  $K$  and by  $\Sigma_{K,\infty} \subset \Sigma_K$  the set of archimedean places. For each  $v \in \Sigma_K$ , we let  $K_v$  be the completion of  $K$  with respect to  $v$  and we denote by  $|\cdot|_v$  the unique absolute value on  $K_v$  extending the usual absolute value  $|\cdot|_v$  on  $\mathbb{Q}_v : |p|_v = p^{-1}$  if  $v$  is a non-archimedean place over a prime number  $p$ , and  $|\cdot|_v = |\cdot|$  is the usual absolute value on  $\mathbb{R}$  if  $v$  is archimedean.

2.4. Let  $X$  be a scheme on  $\text{Spec } K$ . For each  $v \in \Sigma_K$ , we let  $X_v = X \times_K \text{Spec } K_v$  be the base change of  $X$  to  $K_v$ , and we denote by  $X_v^{\text{an}}$  the analytification of  $X_v$  in the sense of Berkovich (see [Mor16, section 1.3] for a short introduction). Given a closed point  $x \in X_v$ , we let  $x^{\text{an}} \in X_v^{\text{an}}$  be the point corresponding to the unique absolute value on  $K_v(x)$  extending  $|\cdot|_v$ .

2.5. Let  $X$  be a normal projective variety on  $\text{Spec } K$ . Let  $D \in \text{Div}(X)_{\mathbb{R}}$ ,  $v \in \Sigma_K$  and let  $D_v \in \text{Div}(X_v)_{\mathbb{R}}$  be the pullback of  $D$  to  $X_v$ . We consider an open covering  $X_v = \cup_{i=1}^{\ell} U_i$  such that  $D_v$  is defined by  $f_i \in \text{Rat}(X_v)^{\times} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{R}$  on  $U_i$  for each  $i \in \{1, \dots, \ell\}$ . A continuous  $D$ -Green function on  $X_v^{\text{an}}$  is a function

$$g_v : X_v^{\text{an}} \setminus (\text{Supp } D_v)^{\text{an}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

such that  $g_v + \ln |f_i|_v^2$  extends to a continuous function on the analytification  $U_i^{\text{an}}$  of  $U_i$  for each  $i \in \{1, \dots, \ell\}$ . When  $v$  is archimedean, we say that  $g_v$  is smooth (respectively plurisubharmonic) if the extension of  $g_v + \ln |f_i|_v^2$  to  $U_i^{\text{an}}$  is smooth (respectively plurisubharmonic) for each  $i \in \{1, \dots, \ell\}$ . We refer the reader to [Mor16, sections 1.4 and 2.1] for more details on Green functions.

2.6. Let  $X$  be a normal projective variety on  $\text{Spec } K$ . Let  $D \in \text{Div}(X)_{\mathbb{K}}$  and let  $U \subseteq \text{Spec } \mathcal{O}_K$  be a non-empty open subset, where  $\mathcal{O}_K$  is the ring of integers of  $K$ . A normal model  $\mathcal{X}$  of  $X$  over  $U$  is an integral normal scheme  $\mathcal{X}$  together with a projective dominant morphism  $\pi_{\mathcal{X}} : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow U$  with generic fiber  $X$ . If  $\mathcal{D}$  is a  $\mathbb{K}$ -Cartier divisor on  $\mathcal{X}$  such that the restriction of  $\mathcal{D}$  to  $X$  is equal to  $D$ , we say that  $(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{D})$  is a normal model of  $(X, D)$  over  $U$ . For each non-archimedean place  $v \in U$ , we denote by  $g_{\mathcal{D},v}$  the  $D$ -Green function on  $X_v^{\text{an}}$  induced by  $\mathcal{D}$  (see [Mor16, section 0.2] for details on this construction).

3. ADELIC  $\mathbb{R}$ -CARTIER DIVISORS

In the rest of the text, we consider a normal and geometrically integral projective variety  $X$  over the number field  $K$ . We define adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisors in subsection 3.1. We then recall the notion of semi-positive adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisors and we define heights of subvarieties in subsection 3.2. Subsection 3.3 contains basic facts concerning ample adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisors.

**3.1. Definitions.** In this paragraph,  $\mathbb{K}$  denotes either  $\mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\mathbb{Q}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$ .

**Definition 3.1.** An adelic  $\mathbb{K}$ -Cartier divisor on  $X$  is a pair  $\overline{D} = (D, (g_v)_{v \in \Sigma_K})$  consisting of a  $\mathbb{K}$ -Cartier divisor  $D$  on  $X$  and of a continuous  $D$ -Green function  $g_v$  on  $X_v^{\text{an}}$  for each  $v \in \Sigma_K$ , satisfying the following condition: there exist a dense open subset  $U$  of  $\text{Spec } \mathcal{O}_K$  and a normal model  $(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{D})$  of  $(X, D)$  over  $U$  such that  $g_v = g_{\mathcal{D}, v}$  for all  $v \in U$ .

The set of adelic  $\mathbb{K}$ -Cartier divisors on  $X$  is a  $\mathbb{K}$ -module, denoted by  $\widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{K}}$ . Since  $X$  is normal, the natural map  $\text{Div}(X) \rightarrow \text{Div}(X)_{\mathbb{K}}$  is injective. It follows that  $\widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{Z}} \subset \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{Q}} \subset \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{R}}$ . In the sequel, the elements of  $\widehat{\text{Div}}(X) := \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{Z}}$  will be called adelic Cartier divisors for simplicity.

Let  $\overline{D} = (D, (g_v)_{v \in \Sigma_K})$  be an adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisor on  $X$ . We consider the  $K$ -vector space

$$H^0(X, D) := \{\phi \in \text{Rat}(X)^\times \mid D + (\phi) \geq 0\} \cup \{0\}.$$

For any  $\phi \in (\text{Rat}(X)^\times \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{R}) \cup \{0\}$  and any  $v \in \Sigma_K$ , we let  $\phi_v$  be the pullback of  $\phi$  on  $X_v^{\text{an}}$  and we consider the function  $\|\phi\|_v^{\overline{D}} := |\phi_v|_v \exp(-g_v/2)$ , defined on an open subset of  $X_v^{\text{an}}$ . If  $\phi \in H^0(X, D)$ , the function  $\|\phi\|_v^{\overline{D}}$  extends to a continuous function on  $X_v^{\text{an}}$  (see [Mor16, Propositions 1.4.2 and 2.1.3]). In that case, we let  $\|\phi\|_{v, \text{sup}}^{\overline{D}} := \sup_{x \in X_v^{\text{an}}} \|\phi\|_v^{\overline{D}}(x)$ . We also define the set of strictly small sections of  $\overline{D}$  by

$$\widehat{H}^0(X, \overline{D}) := \{\phi \in H^0(X, D) \mid \|\phi\|_{v, \text{sup}}^{\overline{D}} \leq 1 \ \forall v \in \Sigma_K, \ \|\phi\|_{v, \text{sup}}^{\overline{D}} < 1 \ \forall v \in \Sigma_{K, \infty}\}.$$

**Remark 3.2.** Let  $\overline{D} \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)$  be an adelic Cartier divisor. With the above notation, the pair  $(\mathcal{O}_X(D), (\|\cdot\|_v^{\overline{D}})_{v \in \Sigma_K})$  is an adelic metrized line bundle in the sense of Zhang [Zha95b, (1.2)]. One can see that every adelic metrized line bundle  $\overline{L} = (L, (\|\cdot\|_v)_{v \in \Sigma_K})$  on  $X$  can be obtained in this way by considering the Cartier divisor  $D = \text{div}(s)$  associated to a trivialization  $s$  of  $L$  and the  $D$ -Green functions  $g_v = -\ln \|s_v\|_v^2$  for every  $v \in \Sigma_K$ , where  $s_v$  is the pullback of  $s$  to  $X_v^{\text{an}}$ .

We end this paragraph with the definition of twists of adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisors, which we shall use frequently in the rest of the text.

**Definition 3.3.** Let  $\overline{D} \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{R}}$ . For any real number  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ , we define the  $t$ -twist of  $\overline{D}$  by

$$\overline{D}(t) = \overline{D} - t\overline{\xi}_\infty \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{R}},$$

where  $\overline{\xi}_\infty = (0, (\xi_v)_{v \in \Sigma_K})$  is the adelic Cartier divisor on  $X$  given by  $\xi_v = 2$  if  $v$  is archimedean, and  $\xi_v = 0$  otherwise.

It follows from the definitions that for any  $\phi \in H^0(X, D)$ , we have  $\|\phi\|_v^{\overline{D}(t)} = e^t \|\phi\|_v^{\overline{D}}$  for every  $v \in \Sigma_{K, \infty}$  and  $\|\phi\|_v^{\overline{D}(t)} = \|\phi\|_v^{\overline{D}}$  for every  $v \in \Sigma_K \setminus \Sigma_{K, \infty}$ .

**3.2. Semi-positivity and heights of subvarieties.** Let us first define the height of a point  $x \in X(\overline{K})$  with respect to an adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisor  $\overline{D}$  on  $X$ . Let  $\phi \in \text{Rat}(X)^\times \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{R}$  be a function with  $x \notin \text{Supp}(D + (\phi))$  and let  $K(x)$  be the function field of  $x \in X$ . For each place  $w \in \Sigma_{K(x)}$ , we fix a  $K$ -embedding  $\sigma_w : K(x) \hookrightarrow \overline{K}_v$ , where  $v$  denotes the restriction of  $w$  to  $K$  (note that there are exactly  $[K(x)_w : K_v]$  such embeddings). The pair  $(x, \sigma_w)$  determines uniquely a point  $x_w \in X_v$ , and the quantity  $\|\phi\|_{\overline{D}}^w(x) := \|\phi\|_v^{\overline{D}}(x_w^{\text{an}})$  does not depend on the choice of  $\sigma_w$ . The normalized height of  $x$  with respect to  $\overline{D}$  is the real number

$$\widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(x) = - \sum_{w \in \Sigma_{K(x)}} \frac{[K(x)_w : \mathbb{Q}_w]}{[K(x) : \mathbb{Q}]} \ln \|\phi\|_{\overline{D}}^w(x).$$

This definition does not depend on the choice of  $\phi$  by [Mor16, (4.2.1)]. Moreover, if  $\phi \in H^0(X, D) \setminus \{0\}$  then it follows from the definitions that

$$(3.1) \quad \widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(x) \geq - \sum_{v \in \Sigma_K} \frac{[K_v : \mathbb{Q}_v]}{[K : \mathbb{Q}]} \ln \|\phi\|_{v, \text{sup}}^{\overline{D}}.$$

In order to define the height of higher dimensional subvarieties, we need the notion of semi-positive adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisors which we recall below.

**Definition 3.4.** Let  $\overline{D} = (D, (g_v)_{v \in \Sigma_K}) \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{R}}$ . We say that  $\overline{D}$  is semi-positive if there exists a sequence  $(\mathcal{X}_n, \mathcal{D}_n, (g_{n,v})_{v \in \Sigma_K})_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  such that :

- for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $(\mathcal{X}_n, \mathcal{D}_n)$  is a normal Spec  $\mathcal{O}_K$ -model for  $(X, D)$  with  $\mathcal{D}_n$  relatively nef,
- for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $g_{n,v}$  is a smooth plurisubharmonic  $D$ -Green function if  $v \in \Sigma_{K, \infty}$  and  $g_{n,v} = g_{\mathcal{D}_n, v}$  for every non-archimedean  $v \in \Sigma_K$ ,
- for every  $v \in \Sigma_K$ ,  $(g_{n,v})_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  converges uniformly to  $g_v$ .

**Remark 3.5.**

- (1) It follows from the definition that the sum of semi-positive adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisors is semi-positive. Moreover, if  $\overline{D} \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{R}}$  is semi-positive then  $\overline{D}(t)$  is semi-positive for any  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ .
- (2) An adelic Cartier divisor  $\overline{D} \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)$  is semi-positive if and only if the associated line bundle  $(\mathcal{O}_X(D), (\|\cdot\|_v^{\overline{D}})_{v \in \Sigma_K})$  of Remark 3.2 is semi-positive in the sense of Zhang [Zha95b, (1.3)] (see [BGMPS16], (1) page 229).

Following [BGMPS16], we say that an adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisor  $\overline{D}$  on  $X$  is DSP if  $\overline{D} = \overline{D}_1 - \overline{D}_2$  is the difference of two semi-positive  $\overline{D}_1, \overline{D}_2 \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{R}}$ . Let  $\overline{D}$  be a DSP adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisor on  $X$  and let  $Y \subseteq X$  be a  $r$ -dimensional subvariety, where  $0 \leq r \leq \dim X$  is an integer. For any place  $v \in \Sigma_K$ , we define a measure  $c_1(\overline{D})^{\wedge \dim Y} \wedge \delta_{Y_v^{\text{an}}}$  on  $X_v^{\text{an}}$  as in [BGMPS16, page 225]. It is obtained by multilinearity from the corresponding measures associated to semi-positive adelic Cartier divisors defined in [BGPS14, Definition 1.4.6]. The measure  $c_1(\overline{D})^{\wedge \dim Y} \wedge \delta_{Y_v^{\text{an}}}$  is supported on  $Y_v^{\text{an}} \subseteq X_v^{\text{an}}$  and has total mass  $\deg_D(Y)$ .

Let  $\Phi = (\phi_0, \dots, \phi_r) \in (\text{Rat}(X)^\times \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{R})^{\oplus r}$  be a family intersecting  $Y$  properly in the following sense: for every  $I \subseteq \{0, \dots, r\}$ ,

$$Y \cap \left( \bigcap_{i \in I} \text{Supp}((\phi_i) + D) \right)$$

is of pure dimension  $r - \#I$ . The local height  $h_{\overline{D}, \Phi, v}(Y)$  of  $Z$  at  $v$  with respect to  $(\overline{D}, \Phi)$  is defined inductively as follows. We put  $h_{\overline{D}, \Phi, v}(\emptyset) = 0$ , and

$$(3.2) \quad h_{\overline{D}, \Phi, v}(Z) = h_{\overline{D}, (\phi_1, \dots, \phi_r), v}(Y \cdot (D + (\phi_0))) - \int_{X_v^{\text{an}}} \ln \|\phi_0\|_v^{\overline{D}} c_1(\overline{D})^{\wedge \dim Y} \wedge \delta_{Y_v^{\text{an}}}.$$

It follows from [BGPS14, Proposition 1.5.14] that  $h_{\overline{D}, \Phi, v}(Y) = 0$  for all except finitely many places  $v \in \Sigma_K$ . The height of  $Y$  with respect to  $\overline{D}$  is the real number

$$h_{\overline{D}}(Y) = \sum_{v \in \Sigma_K} \frac{[K_v : \mathbb{Q}_v]}{[K : \mathbb{Q}]} h_{\overline{D}, \Phi, v}(Y);$$

it does not depend on the choice of  $\Phi$ . If  $Y \subseteq X$  is a subvariety with  $\deg_D(Y) \neq 0$ , the normalized height of  $Y$  with respect to  $\overline{D}$  is the real number

$$\widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(Y) = \frac{h_{\overline{D}}(Y)}{(\dim Y + 1) \deg_D(Y)}.$$

**Remark 3.6.**

- (1) If  $Y = \{x\}$  is a closed point in  $X$ , then  $\widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(Y)$  coincides with the normalized height  $\widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(x)$  of  $x$ .
- (2) The height function is continuous in the following sense: for any DSP adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisor  $\overline{D}'$  on  $X$ , we have

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} h_{\overline{D} + t\overline{D}'}(Y) = h_{\overline{D}}(Y).$$

If moreover  $\deg_D(Y) \neq 0$ , then  $\deg_{\overline{D} + t\overline{D}'}(Y) \neq 0$  for any sufficiently small  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  and we have  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \widehat{h}_{\overline{D} + t\overline{D}'}(Y) = \widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(Y)$ .

- (3) Assume that  $\overline{D} \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{R}}$  is semi-positive, and let

$$(\mathcal{X}_n, \mathcal{D}_n, (g_{n,v})_{v \in \Sigma_K})_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$$

be a sequence as in Definition 3.4. Given  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $\overline{D}_n = (D, (g_{n,v})_{v \in \Sigma_K})$ . Then we have  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} h_{\overline{D}_n}(Y) = h_{\overline{D}}(Y)$ , and moreover  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \widehat{h}_{\overline{D}_n}(Y) = \widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(Y)$  if  $\deg_D(Y) \neq 0$ .

- (4) Assume that  $\overline{D} = (D, (g_v)_{v \in \Sigma_K}) \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)$  is a semi-positive adelic Cartier divisor such that there exists a Spec  $\mathcal{O}_K$ -model  $(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{D})$  of  $(X, D)$  with  $g_v = g_{\mathcal{D}, v}$  for every non-archimedean place  $v \in \Sigma_K$ . Then

$$\overline{\mathcal{L}} = (\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{X}}(\mathcal{D}), (\|\cdot\|_v)_{v \in \Sigma_K, \infty})$$

is a semi-positive hermitian line bundle in the sense of [Zha95a] and we have  $h_{\overline{D}}(Y) = c_1(\overline{\mathcal{L}}|_{\mathcal{Y}})^{\dim \mathcal{Y}}$ , where  $\mathcal{Y}$  is the Zariski-closure of  $Y$  in  $\mathcal{X}$  (see [Zha95a, (1.2)] for the definition of  $c_1(\overline{\mathcal{L}}|_{\mathcal{Y}})^{\dim \mathcal{Y}}$ ).

We have the following lemma concerning the behaviour of heights with respect to twists of adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisors (see Definition 3.3).

**Lemma 3.7.** *Let  $\overline{D} = (D, (g_v)_{v \in \Sigma_K})$  be a DSP adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisor on  $X$  and let  $Y \subseteq X$  be a subvariety. For any  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ , we have*

$$h_{\overline{D}(t)}(Y) = h_{\overline{D}}(Y) - t(\dim Y + 1) \deg_D(Y).$$

*In particular, if  $\deg_D(Y) \neq 0$  then  $\widehat{h}_{\overline{D}(t)}(Y) = \widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(Y) - t$ .*

*Proof.* The result follows from (3.2) by induction on  $\dim Y$ . □

Let  $r \in \{0, \dots, \dim X\}$  and let  $Z$  be a  $r$ -cycle in  $X_{\overline{K}} = X \times_K \text{Spec } \overline{K}$ . There exists a finite extension  $K'$  of  $K$  such that  $Z$  is defined over  $K'$ , i.e.  $Z$  is a  $r$ -cycle in  $X_{K'} = X \times_K \text{Spec } K'$ : there exists integers  $a_1, \dots, a_\ell$  and subvarieties  $Y_1, \dots, Y_\ell$  of  $X_{K'}$  such that  $Z = \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} a_i Y_{i, \overline{K}}$ . Given a DSP  $\overline{D} \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{R}}$ , we define a DSP adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisor  $\overline{D}_{K'}$  by pulling back  $\overline{D}$  to  $X_{K'}$ . The height of  $Z$  with respect to  $\overline{D}$  is then defined by  $h_{\overline{D}}(Z) = \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} a_i h_{\overline{D}_{K'}}(Y_i)$ . This definition does not depend on the choice of  $K'$  by [BGPS14, Proposition 1.5.10].

**Lemma 3.8.** *Let  $\overline{D}$  be a DSP adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisor on  $X$ . The following conditions are equivalent:*

- (1)  $h_{\overline{D}}(Y) > 0$  for every subvariety  $Y \subseteq X$ ;
- (2)  $h_{\overline{D}}(Y) > 0$  for every subvariety  $Y \subseteq X_{\overline{K}}$ .

*Proof.* The implication (2)  $\implies$  (1) is clear. Assume that (1) holds and let  $Y \subseteq X_{\overline{K}}$  be a subvariety. Let  $\text{Gal}(\overline{K}/K)$  be the set of  $K$ -automorphisms  $\sigma: \overline{K} \rightarrow \overline{K}$ . For any  $\sigma \in \text{Gal}(\overline{K}/K)$ , we denote by  $Y^\sigma$  the pullback of  $Y$  by the automorphism of  $X_{\overline{K}}$  induced by  $\sigma$ ; it is a subvariety of  $X_{\overline{K}}$ . We consider the set

$$O(Y) = \{Y^\sigma \mid \sigma \in \text{Gal}(\overline{K}/K)\}.$$

It follows easily from the definitions that  $h_{\overline{D}}(Y') = h_{\overline{D}}(Y)$  for any  $Y' \in O(Y)$  (alternatively, this fact is a direct consequence of [BGPS14, Theorem 1.5.11]). By [BG06, A.4.13],

$$Z_Y = \bigcup_{Y' \in O(Y)} Y'$$

is a subvariety of  $X$  (i.e. its image in  $X$  is an irreducible Zariski closed subset of  $X$ , which we still denote by  $Z_Y$ ). Therefore  $h_{\overline{D}}(Z_Y) > 0$  by assumption. Let  $K'$  be a finite extension such that every  $Y' \in O(Y)$  is a subvariety of  $X_{K'}$ . Let  $(Z_Y)_{K'}$  be the cycle in  $X_{K'}$  associated to  $Z_Y$ : we have

$$(Z_Y)_{K'} = \sum_{Y' \in O(Y)} n_{Y'} Y',$$

where  $n_{Y'}$  is a positive integer for every  $Y' \in O(Y)$ . By [BGPS14, Proposition 1.5.10], we have  $h_{\overline{D}}((Z_Y)_{K'}) = h_{\overline{D}}(Z_Y) > 0$ . On the other hand, we have

$$h_{\overline{D}}((Z_Y)_{K'}) = \sum_{Y' \in O(Y)} n_{Y'} h_{\overline{D}}(Y') = h_{\overline{D}}(Y) \times \sum_{Y' \in O(Y)} n_{Y'},$$

and therefore  $h_{\overline{D}}(Y) > 0$ .  $\square$

We end this paragraph with a sufficient condition for the ampleness of the underlying divisor of an adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisor.

**Lemma 3.9.** *Let  $\overline{D} = (D, (g_v)_{v \in \Sigma_K}) \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{R}}$  be semi-positive. Assume that  $h_{\overline{D}}(Y) > 0$  for every subvariety  $Y \subseteq X$ . Then  $D$  is ample.*

We want to combine Campana and Peternell's Nakai-Moishezon criterion for  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisors [CP90] with Moriwaki's generalized Hodge index theorem [Mor16, Theorem 5.3.2] applied to subvarieties of  $X$ . We must pay attention to the fact that [Mor16, Theorem 5.3.2] applies only to normal and geometrically integral subvarieties.

*Proof.* Let  $Y \subseteq X_{\overline{K}}$  be a subvariety and let  $K'$  be a finite extension of  $K$  such that  $Y$  is defined over  $K'$ . We consider the adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisor  $\overline{D}_{K'} = (D_{K'}, (g_w)_{w \in \Sigma_{K'}})$  defined by pulling back  $\overline{D}$  to  $X_{K'}$ . Let  $f: Y' \rightarrow Y$  be the normalization of  $Y$  and let  $\phi \in \text{Rat}(X_{K'})^\times \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{R}$  be such that  $Y \not\subseteq \text{Supp}(D_{K'} + (\phi))$ . Note that  $Y'$  is normal and geometrically integral. We define a semi-positive adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisor  $\overline{D}_{Y'} = (D_{Y'}, (g_{Y',w})_{w \in \Sigma_{K'}})$  on  $Y'$  as follows:  $D_{Y'} = f^*(D_{K'} + (\phi))|_Y$  and for each  $w \in \Sigma_{K'}$ , the  $D_{Y'}$ -Green function  $g_{Y',w}$  is the pullback of  $(g_w - 2 \ln |\phi|_w)|_{Y_w^{\text{an}}}$  to  $(Y'_w)^{\text{an}}$ . By [BGPS14, Theorem 1.5.11 (2)], we have  $h_{\overline{D}_{Y'}}(Y') = h_{\overline{D}_{K'}}(Y)$ . Therefore our assumption together with Lemma 3.8 implies that  $h_{\overline{D}_{Y'}}(Y') = h_{\overline{D}_{K'}}(Y) > 0$ . It follows from [Mor16, Theorem 5.3.2] that  $\overline{D}_{Y'}$  is big in the sense of [Mor16, Definition 4.4.1]. In particular,  $D_{Y'}$  is big. Since  $D_{Y'}$

is also nef by semi-positivity, we have  $D_{K'}^{\dim Y} \cdot Y = D_{Y'}^{\dim Y'} \cdot Y' > 0$ . Therefore  $D$  is ample by [CP90, Theorem 1.3].  $\square$

**3.3. Ample adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisors.** We now define ample adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisors and study some of their properties.

**Definition 3.10.** Let  $\bar{D} = (D, (g_v)_{v \in \Sigma_K})$  be an adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisor. We say that  $\bar{D}$  is

- weakly ample (w-ample for short) if  $\bar{D} = \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} \lambda_i \bar{A}_i$  is a  $\mathbb{R}$ -linear combination of adelic Cartier divisors  $\bar{A}_i \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)$  such that for each  $i \in \{1, \dots, \ell\}$ ,  $\lambda_i > 0$ ,  $A_i$  is ample and for every  $m \gg 1$ ,  $H^0(X, mA_i)$  has a  $K$ -basis consisting of strictly small sections;
- ample if it is w-ample and semi-positive.

The terminology of weakly ample adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisors is due to Ikoma [Iko21]. We end this section with three lemmas concerning basic properties of w-ample adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisors.

**Lemma 3.11.** *Let  $\bar{D}, \bar{D}' \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{R}}$ . If  $\bar{D}$  is w-ample, there exists a real number  $\varepsilon > 0$  such that  $\bar{D} + t\bar{D}'$  is ample for any  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $|t| \leq \varepsilon$ .*

*Proof.* Without loss of generality, we only consider the case where  $\bar{D}' \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)$  and  $t \geq 0$ . If  $\bar{D}$  is w-ample,  $\bar{D} = \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} \lambda_i \bar{A}_i$  is a  $\mathbb{R}$ -linear combination with positive coefficients of adelic Cartier divisors  $\bar{A}_i \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)$  such that for each  $i \in \{1, \dots, \ell\}$ ,  $A_i$  is ample and  $H^0(X, mA_i)$  has a  $K$ -basis consisting of strictly small sections for  $m \gg 1$ . By [Iko16, Proposition 5.4 (5)], there exists a  $\delta > 0$  such that  $\bar{A}_1 + \delta\bar{D}'$  is w-ample. Let  $\varepsilon = \delta\lambda_1$ . Then for every real number  $t \in [0, \varepsilon]$ ,

$$\bar{D} + t\bar{D}' = \frac{t}{\delta}(\bar{A}_1 + \delta\bar{D}') + (\lambda_1 - \frac{t}{\delta})\bar{A}_1 + \sum_{i=2}^{\ell} \lambda_i \bar{A}_i$$

is w-ample.  $\square$

**Remark 3.12.** By Lemma 3.11 and [Mor16, Lemma 1.1.1], an adelic Cartier divisor  $\bar{D} = (D, (g_v)_{v \in \Sigma_K}) \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)$  on  $X$  is w-ample if and only if  $D$  is ample and  $H^0(X, mD)$  has a  $K$ -basis consisting of strictly small sections for every  $m \gg 1$ .

**Lemma 3.13.** *Let  $\bar{D}$  be a w-ample adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisor on  $X$ . Then*

$$\inf_{x \in X(\bar{K})} \widehat{h}_{\bar{D}}(x) > 0.$$

*Proof.* By definition, we can write  $\bar{D} = \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} \lambda_i \bar{A}_i$  where for each  $i \in \{1, \dots, \ell\}$ ,  $\lambda_i$  is a positive real number,  $\bar{A}_i$  is an adelic Cartier divisor such that  $A_i$  is ample, and  $H^0(X, mA_i)$  has a  $K$ -basis consisting of strictly small sections for every  $m \gg 1$ . Let  $m \geq 1$  be an integer such that for each  $i \in \{1, \dots, \ell\}$ , there exists a set of functions  $\phi_{i,1}, \dots, \phi_{i,k_i} \in \widehat{H}^0(X, mA_i)$  with

$$\bigcap_{j=1}^{k_i} \text{Supp}(mA_i + (\phi_{i,j})) = \emptyset.$$

Letting

$$\Lambda_i := - \max_{1 \leq j \leq k_i} \sum_{v \in \Sigma_K} \frac{[K_v : \mathbb{Q}_v]}{[K : \mathbb{Q}]} \ln \|\phi_{i,j}\|_{v, \text{sup}}^{m\bar{A}_i} > 0,$$



we have  $\widehat{h}_{\overline{A}_i}(x) \geq \Lambda_i/m$  for every  $x \in X(\overline{K})$  (see (3.1)). Therefore we have

$$\inf_{x \in X(\overline{K})} \widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(x) \geq \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} \lambda_i \inf_{x \in X(\overline{K})} \widehat{h}_{\overline{A}_i}(x) \geq \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} \lambda_i \Lambda_i/m > 0.$$

□

**Lemma 3.14.** *Let  $\overline{D} = (D, (g_v)_{v \in \Sigma_K})$  be an adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisor. If  $D$  is ample, there exists a real number  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $\overline{D}(t)$  is  $w$ -ample.*

*Proof.* Since  $D$  is ample, there exists an ample  $\overline{A} \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{R}}$  such that  $\overline{D} - \overline{A} \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{Q}}$  and  $D - A$  is ample. For a sufficiently large and divisible integer  $m$ ,  $m(D - A)$  is a very ample Cartier divisor on  $X$ . Let  $(\phi_1, \dots, \phi_{\ell})$  be basis of  $H^0(X, m(D - A))$  such that  $\|\phi_i\|_{v, \text{sup}}^{m(\overline{D} - \overline{A})} \leq 1$  for every  $i \in \{1, \dots, \ell\}$  and every non-archimedean place  $v \in \Sigma_K$ . Let  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  be a real number such that

$$t < -\max_{1 \leq i \leq \ell} \max_{v \in \Sigma_{K, \infty}} \ln \|\phi_i\|_{v, \text{sup}}^{m(\overline{D} - \overline{A})}.$$

Then  $\phi_i \in \widehat{H}^0(X, m(\overline{D} - \overline{A})(t))$  for every  $i$ , and it follows that  $\overline{A}'_t := (\overline{D} - \overline{A})(t) = \overline{D}(t) - \overline{A}$  is ample. Therefore  $\overline{D}(t) = \overline{A} + \overline{A}'_t$  is ample. □

#### 4. ZHANG'S THEOREM ON SUCCESSIVE MINIMA

In this section we recall the notion of successive minima for adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisors, which was first introduced by Zhang for hermitian line bundles [Zha95a, section 5]. We then prove a continuity property which allows to extend Zhang's theorem on minima [Zha95a, Theorem 5.2] to the case of adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisors (see Lemma 4.1 and Theorem 4.3 below).

Let  $\overline{D} \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{R}}$  and let  $Z \subseteq X$  be a subvariety. For any  $i \in \{1, \dots, \dim Z + 1\}$ , we define the  $i$ -th successive minimum of  $\overline{D}$  on  $Z$  by

$$\zeta_i(\overline{D}, Z) = \sup_{\substack{Y \subseteq Z \\ \dim Y < i-1}} \inf_{x \in Z(\overline{K}) \setminus Y} \widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(x) \in \mathbb{R} \cup \{-\infty\},$$

where the supremum is over all the Zariski-closed subsets  $Y \subseteq Z$  of dimension  $\dim Y < i - 1$ . We obtain a chain of real numbers

$$\zeta_{\dim Z + 1}(\overline{D}, Z) \geq \zeta_{\dim Z}(\overline{D}, Z) \geq \dots \geq \zeta_1(\overline{D}, Z).$$

Successive minima satisfy the following properties.

**Lemma 4.1.** *Let  $\overline{D} = (D, (g_v)_{v \in \Sigma_K}) \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{R}}$ . Let  $Z \subseteq X$  be a subvariety and let  $1 \leq i \leq \dim Z + 1$  be an integer.*

(1) *For any  $\overline{D}' \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{R}}$ , we have*

$$\zeta_i(\overline{D} + \overline{D}', Z) \geq \zeta_i(\overline{D}, Z) + \zeta_i(\overline{D}', Z).$$

(2) *Let  $\overline{D}_1, \dots, \overline{D}_{\ell} \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{R}}$ . If  $D$  is ample, then*

$$\lim_{\max\{|t_1|, \dots, |t_{\ell}|\} \rightarrow 0} \zeta_i(\overline{D} + t_1 \overline{D}_1 + \dots + t_{\ell} \overline{D}_{\ell}, Z) = \zeta_i(\overline{D}, Z).$$

*Proof.* (1) We may assume that  $\zeta_i(\overline{D}, Z) > -\infty$  and  $\zeta_i(\overline{D}', Z) > -\infty$ . Let  $t < \zeta_i(\overline{D}, Z)$  and  $t' < \zeta_i(\overline{D}', Z)$  be real numbers. By definition, there exist two closed subsets  $Y, Y' \subseteq Z$  of dimension  $< i - 1$  such that for any  $x \in Z(\overline{K}) \setminus (Y \cup Y')$ , we have

$$\widehat{h}_{\overline{D} + \overline{D}'}(x) = \widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(x) + \widehat{h}_{\overline{D}'}(x) \geq t + t'.$$

Since  $\dim(Y \cup Y') < i - 1$ , we have

$$\zeta_i(\overline{D} + \overline{D}', Z) \geq \inf_{x \in Z(\overline{K}) \setminus (Y \cup Y')} \widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(x) \geq t + t',$$

and we conclude by letting  $t$  and  $t'$  tend to  $\zeta_i(\overline{D}, Z)$  and  $\zeta_i(\overline{D}', Z)$ .

(2) If we replace  $\overline{D}$  by  $\overline{D}(t)$  for some real number  $t$ , both sides of the equality differ by  $-t$ . By Lemma 3.14, we may therefore assume that  $\overline{D}$  is w-ample. Let  $\varepsilon > 0$  be a real number. For  $t_1, \dots, t_\ell \in \mathbb{R}$  small enough, the adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisors

$$(1 + \varepsilon)\overline{D} - (\overline{D} + t_1\overline{D}_1 + \dots + t_\ell\overline{D}_\ell) = \varepsilon\overline{D} - (t_1\overline{D}_1 + \dots + t_\ell\overline{D}_\ell)$$

and

$$\overline{D} + t_1\overline{D}_1 + \dots + t_\ell\overline{D}_\ell - (1 - \varepsilon)\overline{D} = \varepsilon\overline{D} + (t_1\overline{D}_1 + \dots + t_\ell\overline{D}_\ell)$$

are w-ample by Lemma 3.11. Combining (1) and Lemma 3.13, we have

$$(1 + \varepsilon)\zeta_i(\overline{D}, Z) \geq \zeta_i(\overline{D} + t_1\overline{D}_1 + \dots + t_\ell\overline{D}_\ell, Z) \geq (1 - \varepsilon)\zeta_i(\overline{D}, Z)$$

and the result follows.  $\square$

**Remark 4.2.** Let  $\overline{D} = (D, (g_v)_{v \in \Sigma_K}) \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{R}}$  be semi-positive. We consider a sequence  $(\mathcal{X}_n, \mathcal{D}_n, (g_{n,v})_{v \in \Sigma_K})_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  associated to  $\overline{D}$  as in Definition 3.4. For each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $\overline{D}_n = (D, (g_{n,v})_{v \in \Sigma_K})$ . Then we have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \zeta_i(\overline{D}_n, Z) = \zeta_i(\overline{D}, Z)$$

for any subvariety  $Z \subseteq X$  and any  $i \in \{1, \dots, \dim Z + 1\}$ . Indeed, the sum

$$\varepsilon_n := 2 \sum_{v \in \Sigma_K} \frac{[K_v : \mathbb{Q}_v]}{[K : \mathbb{Q}]} \sup_{z \in X_v^{\text{an}}} |g_v(z) - g_{n,v}(z)|$$

is finite for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and the sequence  $(\varepsilon_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  converges to zero. By construction, we have

$$\widehat{h}_{\overline{D}_n}(x) - \varepsilon_n \leq \widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(x) \leq \widehat{h}_{\overline{D}_n}(x) + \varepsilon_n.$$

for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $x \in X(\overline{K})$ . It follows that

$$\zeta_i(\overline{D}_n, Z) - \varepsilon_n \leq \zeta_i(\overline{D}, Z) \leq \zeta_i(\overline{D}_n, Z) + \varepsilon_n$$

as in the proof of Lemma 4.1 (1), and we conclude by letting  $n$  tend to infinity.

The following theorem was originally proved by Zhang for adelic Cartier divisors equipped with Green functions induced by a fixed model [Zha95a, Theorem 5.2]. Thanks to the continuity property of Lemma 4.1, it remains valid for adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisors.

**Theorem 4.3.** *Assume that  $\overline{D} = (D, (g_v)_{v \in \Sigma_K}) \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{R}}$  is semi-positive and that  $D$  is ample. For any subvariety  $Z \subseteq X$ , we have*

$$\zeta_{\dim Z + 1}(\overline{D}, Z) \geq \widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(Z) \geq \frac{1}{\dim Z + 1} \sum_{i=1}^{\dim Z + 1} \zeta_i(\overline{D}, Z).$$

*Proof.* Since  $D$  is ample, we can write  $D = \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} \lambda_i A_i$  where for each  $i \in \{1, \dots, \ell\}$ ,  $\lambda_i \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$  and  $A_i \in \text{Div}(X)$  is an ample Cartier divisor on  $X$ . Let  $(g_{i,v})_{v \in \Sigma_K}$  be a collection of  $A_i$ -Green functions such that  $\overline{A}_i = (A_i, (g_{i,v})_{v \in \Sigma_K})$  is a semi-positive adelic Cartier divisor on  $X$ . Given a  $\ell$ -tuple of real numbers  $\mathbf{t} = (t_1, \dots, t_\ell) \in \mathbb{R}^\ell$ , we denote by  $\overline{D}_{\mathbf{t}} = (D_{\mathbf{t}}, (g_{\mathbf{t},v})_{v \in \Sigma_K})$  the adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisor

$$\overline{D}_{\mathbf{t}} = \overline{D} + \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} t_i \overline{A}_i = \left( \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} (\lambda_i + t_i) A_i, (g_v + \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} t_i g_{i,v})_{v \in \Sigma_K} \right).$$

Let  $\varepsilon > 0$  be a real number. We can choose  $\mathbf{t} \in [0, \varepsilon]^\ell$  such that  $\overline{D}_{\mathbf{t}} \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{Q}}$ . Note that  $\overline{D}_{\mathbf{t}} \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{Q}}$  is semi-positive. We consider a sequence

$$(\mathcal{X}_{\mathbf{t},n}, \mathcal{D}_{\mathbf{t},n}, (g_{\mathbf{t},n,v})_{v \in \Sigma_K})_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$$

associated to  $\overline{D}_{\mathbf{t}}$  as in Definition 3.4, and we let  $\overline{D}_{\mathbf{t},n} = (D_{\mathbf{t},n}, (g_{\mathbf{t},n,v})_{v \in \Sigma_K}) \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{Q}}$ . Let  $m$  be a positive integer such that  $mD_{\mathbf{t},n} \in \text{Div}(X)$ . By [Mor15, Theorem 0.2], the hermitian metrized line bundle  $\overline{\mathcal{L}}_{m,\mathbf{t},n}$  associated to  $m\overline{D}_{\mathbf{t},n}$  in Remark 3.6 (4) is semiample metrized in the sense of [Zha95a, section 5]. Therefore we can apply [Zha95a, Theorem 5.2] to the restriction of  $\overline{\mathcal{L}}_{m,\mathbf{t},n}$  to the closure of  $Z$  in  $\mathcal{X}_{\mathbf{t},n}$ . We obtain

$$(4.1) \quad \zeta_{\dim Z+1}(m\overline{D}_{\mathbf{t},n}, Z) \geq \widehat{h}_{m\overline{D}_{\mathbf{t},n}}(Z) \geq \frac{1}{\dim Z + 1} \sum_{i=1}^{\dim Z+1} \zeta_i(m\overline{D}_{\mathbf{t},n}, Z)$$

for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  (see Remark 3.6 (4)). On the other hand we have  $\widehat{h}_{m\overline{D}_{\mathbf{t},n}}(Z) = m\widehat{h}_{\overline{D}_{\mathbf{t},n}}(Z)$  and  $\zeta_i(m\overline{D}_{\mathbf{t},n}, Z) = m\zeta_i(\overline{D}_{\mathbf{t},n}, Z)$  for any  $i \in \{1, \dots, \dim Z + 1\}$ , and therefore (4.1) remains true for  $m = 1$ . Letting  $n$  tend to infinity, we obtain

$$\zeta_{\dim Z+1}(\overline{D}_{\mathbf{t}}, Z) \geq \widehat{h}_{\overline{D}_{\mathbf{t}}}(Z) \geq \frac{1}{\dim Z + 1} \sum_{i=1}^{\dim Z+1} \zeta_i(\overline{D}_{\mathbf{t}}, Z)$$

by Remarks 3.6 (3) and 4.2. Letting  $\varepsilon$  tend to zero, the result follows from the continuity of normalized heights and successive minima given by Remark 3.6 (2) and Lemma 4.1 (2).  $\square$

## 5. ABSOLUTE MINIMUM AND HEIGHT OF SUBVARIETIES

For any  $\overline{D} \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{R}}$ , we call  $\zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D}) := \zeta_1(\overline{D}, X) = \inf_{x \in X(\overline{K})} \widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(x)$  the absolute minimum of  $\overline{D}$ . The goal of this section is to prove the following statement, which refines Theorem 1.2 in the introduction.

**Theorem 5.1.** *Let  $\overline{D} = (D, (g_v)_{v \in \Sigma_K})$  be a semi-positive adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisor on  $X$ . If  $D$  is ample, there exists a subvariety  $Y \subseteq X$  such that*

$$\zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D}) = \widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(Y) = \min_{Z \subseteq X} \widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(Z),$$

where the minimum is over the subvarieties  $Z \subseteq X$ . Moreover,  $\zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D}) = \zeta_i(\overline{D}, Y)$  for any  $i \in \{1, \dots, \dim Y + 1\}$ .

We begin with two preliminary lemmas.

**Lemma 5.2.** *Let  $\overline{D} = (D, (g_v)_{v \in \Sigma_K})$  be a semi-positive adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisor on  $X$ . Assume that  $D$  is ample. Then for any subvariety  $Z \subseteq X$ , the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (1)  $\widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(Y) > 0$  for every subvariety  $Y \subseteq Z$ ;
- (2)  $\zeta_1(\overline{D}, Z) > 0$ .

*Proof.* (1)  $\implies$  (2): If  $Z = \{x\}$  is a point, then  $\zeta_1(\overline{D}, Z) = \widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(x) > 0$ . We assume by induction that  $\dim Z > 0$  and that  $\zeta_1(\overline{D}, Y) > 0$  for every subvariety  $Y \subsetneq Z$ . Since  $\widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(Z) > 0$ , it follows from Theorem 4.3 that there exists a closed subset  $Y \subsetneq Z$  such that  $\inf_{x \in Z(\overline{K}) \setminus Y} \widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(x) > 0$ . On the other hand, if  $Y_1, \dots, Y_\ell$  are the irreducible components of  $Y$  then

$$\inf_{x \in Z(\overline{K}) \cap Y} \widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(x) = \min_{1 \leq i \leq \ell} \zeta_1(\overline{D}, Y_i) > 0$$

by the induction hypothesis. Therefore we have

$$\zeta_1(\overline{D}, Z) = \min\left\{\inf_{x \in Z(\overline{K}) \setminus Y} \widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(x), \inf_{x \in Z(\overline{K}) \cap Y} \widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(x)\right\} > 0.$$

(2)  $\implies$  (1): Let  $\zeta = \zeta_1(\overline{D}, Z) > 0$ . Note that  $\overline{D}(\zeta) = \overline{D} - \zeta \overline{\xi}_\infty$  is semi-positive and  $\zeta_1(\overline{D}(\zeta), Z) = \zeta_1(\overline{D}, Z) - \zeta = 0$ . For any subvariety  $Y \subseteq Z$  we have

$$\widehat{h}_{\overline{D}(\zeta)}(Y) \geq \zeta_1(\overline{D}(\zeta), Y) \geq \zeta_1(\overline{D}(\zeta), Z) = 0,$$

where the first inequality is given by Theorem 4.3 and the second one follows from the definitions. By Lemma 3.7, we have

$$\widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(Y) = \widehat{h}_{\overline{D}(\zeta)}(Y) + \zeta > \widehat{h}_{\overline{D}(\zeta)}(Y) \geq 0.$$

□

**Lemma 5.3.** *Let  $\overline{D} = (D, (g_v)_{v \in \Sigma_K})$  be a semi-positive adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisor on  $X$  with  $D$  ample. Then*

$$\zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D}) = \inf_{Z \subseteq X} \widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(Z),$$

where the infimum is over the subvarieties  $Z \subseteq X$ .

*Proof.* By Zhang's Theorem 4.3, we have

$$\widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(Z) \geq \zeta_1(\overline{D}, Z) \geq \zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D})$$

for any subvariety  $Z \subseteq X$ , and we deduce one inequality of the lemma by taking the infimum on  $Z$ . The converse inequality follows directly from the definition of  $\zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D})$ .

□

We are now ready to prove Theorem 5.1.

*Proof of Theorem 5.1.* Let  $\zeta = \zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D}) \in \mathbb{R}$ . Note that  $\overline{D}(\zeta)$  is semi-positive and  $\zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D}(\zeta)) = \zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D}) - \zeta = 0$ . By Theorem 4.3, we have

$$\widehat{h}_{\overline{D}(\zeta)}(Y) \geq \zeta_1(\overline{D}(\zeta), Y) \geq \zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D}(\zeta)) = 0$$

for every subvariety  $Y \subseteq X$ . By Lemma 5.2 applied to  $Z = X$ , there exists a subvariety  $Y \subseteq X$  such that  $\widehat{h}_{\overline{D}(\zeta)}(Y) = 0$ . Therefore Lemma 3.7 gives

$$\zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D}) = \widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(Y) - \widehat{h}_{\overline{D}(\zeta)}(Y) = \widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(Y).$$

The fact that  $\zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D})$  coincides with the minimum in the theorem follows from Lemma 5.3. Finally, we observe that  $\zeta_1(\overline{D}, Y) \geq \zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D}) = \widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(Y)$ . Therefore Zhang's Theorem 4.3 implies that  $\zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D}) = \zeta_i(\overline{D}, Y)$  for every integer  $1 \leq i \leq \dim Y + 1$ .

□

## 6. PROOF OF THEOREM 1.1

Given an adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisor  $\overline{D}$  on  $X$ , we introduce the invariant

$$\theta(\overline{D}) := \sup\{t \in \mathbb{R} \mid \overline{D}(t) \text{ is w-ample}\} \in \mathbb{R} \cup \{-\infty\}$$

(with the convention that  $\sup \emptyset = -\infty$ ). The main result of this section is the following theorem, from which we shall deduce Theorem 1.1 (see Corollary 6.4 below).

**Theorem 6.1.** *Let  $\overline{D} = (D, (g_v)_{v \in \Sigma_K})$  be a semi-positive adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisor on  $X$ . If  $D$  is ample, then  $\zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D}) = \theta(\overline{D})$ .*

Before proving this theorem, we gather some basic properties satisfied by the invariant  $\theta(\overline{D})$  in the following lemma.

**Lemma 6.2.** *Let  $\overline{D} = (D, (g_v)_{v \in \Sigma_K}) \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{R}}$ .*

(1) *For any  $\overline{D}' \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{R}}$ , we have*

$$\theta(\overline{D} + \overline{D}') \geq \theta(\overline{D}) + \theta(\overline{D}').$$

(2)  *$D$  is ample if and only if  $\theta(\overline{D})$  is finite.*

(3) *Let  $\overline{D}_1, \overline{D}_2, \dots, \overline{D}_\ell \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{R}}$ . If  $D$  is ample, then*

$$\lim_{\max\{|t_1|, \dots, |t_\ell|\} \rightarrow 0} \theta(\overline{D} + t_1 \overline{D}_1 + \dots + t_\ell \overline{D}_\ell) = \theta(\overline{D}).$$

*Proof.* (1) Clearly we may assume that  $\theta(\overline{D}) > -\infty$  and  $\theta(\overline{D}') > -\infty$ . It suffices to observe that the sum of two w-ample adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisors is w-ample.

(2) If  $\theta(\overline{D})$  is finite, then clearly  $D$  is ample. Conversely, assume that  $D$  is ample. By Lemma 3.14, there exists  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $\overline{D}(t)$  is w-ample. Therefore  $\theta(\overline{D}) \geq t$  is finite.

(3) If we replace  $\overline{D}$  by  $\overline{D}(t)$  for some real number  $t$ , both sides of the equality differ by  $-t$ . By Lemma 3.14, we may therefore assume that  $\overline{D}$  is w-ample. Let  $\varepsilon > 0$  be a real number. For sufficiently small real numbers  $t_1, \dots, t_\ell$ , the adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisors

$$(1 + \varepsilon)\overline{D} - (\overline{D} + t_1 \overline{D}_1 + \dots + t_\ell \overline{D}_\ell) = \varepsilon \overline{D} - (t_1 \overline{D}_1 + \dots + t_\ell \overline{D}_\ell)$$

and

$$\overline{D} + t_1 \overline{D}_1 + \dots + t_\ell \overline{D}_\ell - (1 - \varepsilon)\overline{D} = \varepsilon \overline{D} + (t_1 \overline{D}_1 + \dots + t_\ell \overline{D}_\ell)$$

are w-ample by Lemma 3.11. In particular,

$$\theta(\varepsilon \overline{D} - (t_1 \overline{D}_1 + \dots + t_\ell \overline{D}_\ell)) \geq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \theta(\varepsilon \overline{D} + (t_1 \overline{D}_1 + \dots + t_\ell \overline{D}_\ell)) \geq 0$$

by definition of  $\theta$ . By (1), we infer that

$$(1 + \varepsilon)\theta(\overline{D}) \geq \theta(\overline{D} + t_1 \overline{D}_1 + \dots + t_\ell \overline{D}_\ell) \geq (1 - \varepsilon)\theta(\overline{D}),$$

and the result follows.  $\square$

Let us now prove Theorem 6.1. We shall combine Zhang's arithmetic Nakai-Moishezon criterion [Zha95a, Theorem 4.2] and the continuity property given by Lemma 6.2 (3).

*Proof of Theorem 6.1.* Since  $D$  is ample, we have  $\theta(\overline{D}) > -\infty$  by Lemma 6.2 (2). Let  $t < \theta(\overline{D})$  be a real number. By definition,  $\overline{D}(t)$  is w-ample and Lemma 3.13 gives

$$\zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D}) - t = \zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D}(t)) > 0.$$

By letting  $t$  tend to  $\theta(\overline{D})$ , we conclude that  $\zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D}) \geq \theta(\overline{D})$ .

For the converse inequality, let us first assume that  $\overline{D} \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{Q}}$ . By homogeneity of  $\theta(\overline{D})$  and  $\zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D})$ , we may assume that  $\overline{D}$  is an adelic Cartier divisor without loss of generality. Let  $t < \zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D})$  be a real number. Since  $\zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D}(t)) = \zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D}) - t > 0$ , we have

$$h_{\overline{D}(t)}(Y) > 0$$

for any subvariety  $Y \subseteq X$  by Lemma 5.2. By [Zha95b, Theorem 1.7] (see also [Zha95b, Proof of Theorem 1.8]), for any subvariety  $Y \subseteq X$  there exists an integer  $n > 0$  such that  $\widehat{H}^0(Y, n\overline{D}(t)|_Y) \neq 0$ . By [CM18, Theorem 1.2],  $\overline{D}(t)$  is w-ample. Therefore  $\theta(\overline{D}) \geq t$ , and we conclude by letting  $t$  tend to  $\zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D})$ .

Let us now prove the equality  $\zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D}) = \theta(\overline{D})$  in full generality. Since  $D$  is ample, we can write  $D = \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} \lambda_i A_i$  where for each  $i \in \{1, \dots, \ell\}$ ,  $\lambda_i \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$  and  $A_i$  is an ample Cartier divisor on  $X$ . For each  $i \in \{1, \dots, \ell\}$ , we equip  $A_i$  with a collection

of  $A_i$ -Green functions  $(g_{i,v})_{v \in \Sigma_K}$  such that  $\overline{A}_i = (A_i, (g_{i,v})_{v \in \Sigma_K}) \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)$  is semi-positive. For any  $\varepsilon > 0$ , we can find a  $\ell$ -tuple of real numbers  $\mathbf{t} = (t_1, \dots, t_\ell) \in [0, \varepsilon]^\ell$  such that

$$\overline{D}_{\mathbf{t}} := \overline{D} + \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} t_i \overline{A}_i = \left( \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} (\lambda_i + t_i) A_i, (g_v + \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} t_i g_{i,v})_{v \in \Sigma_K} \right) \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{Q}}$$

is an adelic  $\mathbb{Q}$ -Cartier divisor. Note that  $\overline{D}_{\mathbf{t}}$  is semi-positive. By the above, we have  $\zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D}_{\mathbf{t}}) = \theta(\overline{D}_{\mathbf{t}})$ . Letting  $\varepsilon$  tend to zero, we find that  $\zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D}) = \theta(\overline{D})$  by continuity of  $\zeta_{\text{abs}}$  and  $\theta$  (Lemma 4.1 (2) and Lemma 6.2 (3)).  $\square$

**Remark 6.3.** In the proof of Theorem 6.1, we used a particular case of a theorem of Chen and Moriawaki [CM18], which generalizes Zhang's arithmetic Nakai-Moishezon criterion [Zha95a, Theorem 4.2]. Using Zhang's original result would have required extra work since it involves stronger assumptions on the metrics.

We now deduce a refinement of Theorem 1.1 from Theorems 5.1 and 6.1.

**Corollary 6.4.** *Let  $\overline{D} = (D, (g_v)_{v \in \Sigma_K})$  be a semi-positive adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisor on  $X$ . The following conditions are equivalent:*

- (1)  $\overline{D}$  is ample;
- (2)  $h_{\overline{D}}(Y) > 0$  for every subvariety  $Y \subseteq X$ ;
- (3)  $D$  is ample and  $\inf_{Y \subseteq X} \widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(Y) > 0$ , where the infimum is over all subvarieties  $Y \subseteq X$ ;
- (4)  $D$  is ample and  $\zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D}) > 0$ .

*Proof.* The assertion (2)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (3)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (4) is given by Lemma 3.9 and Theorem 5.1. The implication (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (4) is Lemma 3.13, so it only remains to prove (4)  $\Rightarrow$  (1). If (4) holds, then  $\theta(\overline{D}) = \zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D}) > 0$  by Theorem 6.1 and therefore  $\overline{D}$  is w-ample by definition of  $\theta(\overline{D})$ . Since  $\overline{D}$  is also semi-positive, it is ample.  $\square$

**Remark 6.5.** In [BGMPS16, Definition 3.18 (2)], the authors defined arithmetic ampleness by using the notion of metrized divisors generated by small  $\mathbb{R}$ -sections. It is straightforward to check that if  $\overline{D} \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{R}}$  is ample in the sense of Definition 3.10, then it is ample in the sense of [BGMPS16]. On the other hand, if  $\overline{D}$  is ample in the sense of [BGMPS16], then clearly  $\zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D}) > 0$ . Therefore, Corollary 6.4 implies that our definition of arithmetic ampleness coincides with the one of [BGMPS16, Definition 3.18 (2)].

We conclude this article with two direct consequences of our results.

**Corollary 6.6.** *Let  $\overline{D} = (D, (g_v)_{v \in \Sigma_K}) \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{R}}$  be semi-positive and let  $\overline{A} \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{R}}$  be w-ample. The following assertions are equivalent:*

- (1)  $\overline{D}$  is ample;
- (2)  $D$  is ample and there exists a real number  $\varepsilon > 0$  such that  $\widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(x) \geq \varepsilon \widehat{h}_{\overline{A}}(x)$  for any  $x \in X(\overline{K})$ .

*Proof.* (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2): By Lemma 3.11, there exists a real number  $\varepsilon > 0$  such that  $\overline{D} - \varepsilon \overline{A}$  is w-ample. By Lemma 3.13, we have

$$\widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(x) - \varepsilon \widehat{h}_{\overline{A}}(x) = \widehat{h}_{\overline{D} - \varepsilon \overline{A}}(x) > 0$$

for any  $x \in X(\overline{K})$ .

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1): Since  $\overline{A}$  is w-ample,  $\zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{A}) > 0$  by Lemma 3.13. Assumption (2) therefore implies that  $\zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D} - \varepsilon' \overline{A}) > 0$  for any  $\varepsilon' \in (0, \varepsilon)$ . By Lemma 4.1 (1), it follows that

$$\zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D}) \geq \zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D} - \varepsilon' \overline{A}) + \zeta_{\text{abs}}(\varepsilon' \overline{A}) > 0,$$

and therefore  $\overline{D}$  is ample by Corollary 6.4.  $\square$

**Corollary 6.7.** *Let  $\overline{D} = (D, (g_v)_{v \in \Sigma_K}) \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{R}}$  be semi-positive. The following assertions are equivalent:*

- (1)  $\zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D}) \geq 0$ ;
- (2)  $\overline{D} + \overline{A}$  is ample for any ample  $\overline{A} \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{R}}$ .

*Proof.* (1)  $\implies$  (2): Let  $\overline{A} \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{R}}$  be ample. Then the underlying divisor  $A$  of  $\overline{A}$  is ample. Since  $D$  is nef by semi-positivity of  $\overline{D}$ ,  $D + A$  is ample. Moreover we have

$$\zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D} + \overline{A}) \geq \zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D}) + \zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{A}) \geq \zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{A}) > 0,$$

where the last inequality is given by Lemma 3.13. By Corollary 6.4,  $\overline{D} + \overline{A}$  is ample.

(2)  $\implies$  (1): Let  $x \in X(\overline{K})$  be a closed point. We want to prove that  $\widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(x) \geq 0$ . Let  $\overline{A} \in \widehat{\text{Div}}(X)_{\mathbb{R}}$  be ample and semi-positive and let  $\varepsilon > 0$  be a real number. Since  $\overline{D} + \varepsilon\overline{A}$  is ample, we have

$$\widehat{h}_{\overline{D}}(x) + \varepsilon\widehat{h}_{\overline{A}}(x) = \widehat{h}_{\overline{D} + \varepsilon\overline{A}}(x) > 0,$$

and we conclude by letting  $\varepsilon$  tend to zero.  $\square$

A semi-positive adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisor satisfying  $\zeta_{\text{abs}}(\overline{D}) \geq 0$  is usually called nef in the literature [Mor16, Definition 4.4.1]. Roughly speaking, Corollary 6.7 asserts that an adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisor is nef if and only if it is the limit of a sequence of ample adelic  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisors.

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