Einstein Metrics,

Weyl Curvature, and

Conformally Kähler Geometry

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# Einstein Metrics, Harmonic Forms, and Symplectic Four-Manifolds Ann. Global An. Geom. 48 (2015) 75–85

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Bach-Flat Kähler Surfaces

arXiv:1702.03840 [math.DG]

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J. Geom. Analysis, to appear.

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"... the greatest blunder of my life!"

— A. Einstein, to G. Gamow

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As punishment ...

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Has same sign as the *scalar curvature* 

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Central Question.

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Central Question. Which smooth compact manifolds  $M^n$  admit Einstein metrics h?

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Central Question. Which smooth compact manifolds  $M^n$  admit Einstein metrics h? When they exist, what are their moduli?

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On oriented 
$$(M^4, g)$$
,  $\Longrightarrow$ 

$$\Lambda^2 = \Lambda^+ \oplus \Lambda^-$$

 $\Lambda^+$  self-dual 2-forms  $\Lambda^-$  anti-self-dual 2-forms

A laboratory for exploring Einstein metrics.

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Narrow Question. If  $(M^4, \omega)$  is a symplectic 4-manifold, when does  $M^4$  admit an Einstein metric h (unrelated to  $\omega$ )?

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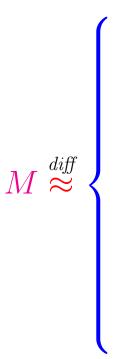
Narrow Question. If  $(M^4, \omega)$  is a symplectic 4-manifold, when does  $M^4$  admit an Einstein metric h (unrelated to  $\omega$ )? What if we also require  $\lambda > 0$ ?

**Theorem** (L '09).

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```
M \stackrel{diff}{\approx} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \mathbb{CP}_2 \# k \overline{\mathbb{CP}}_2, & 0 \leq k \leq 8, \\ \\ M \approx \end{array} \right.
```

 $\overline{\mathbb{CP}}_2$  = reverse oriented  $\mathbb{CP}_2$ .

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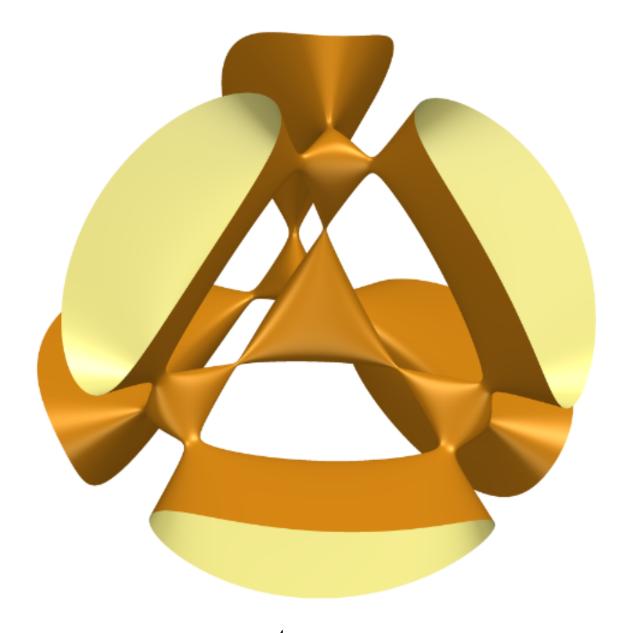
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\begin{array}{c} \text{ ..anifol} \\ \text{ ..are } \omega. \text{ Then I} \\ \text{ ..tric } h \text{ with } \lambda \geq 0 \text{ if c} \\ \\ \mathbb{CP}_2 \# k \overline{\mathbb{CP}_2}, \quad 0 \leq k \leq 8, \\ S^2 \times S^2, \\ \\ M \stackrel{\textit{diff}}{\approx} \end{array}
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K3 = underlying  $M^4$  of a generic quartic in  $\mathbb{CP}_3$ .

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Theorem (L 09). Suppose that 
$$M$$
 is compact oriented 4-manifold which symplectic structure  $\omega$ . Then  $M$  also Einstein metric  $h$  with  $\lambda \geq 0$  if and of  $\mathbb{CP}_2\#k\overline{\mathbb{CP}_2}, \quad 0 \leq k \leq 8,$   $S^2 \times S^2,$   $K3,$   $K3/\mathbb{Z}_2,$ 

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Instein metric it with X = \mathbb{R} and X = \mathbb{R}  \begin{cases} \mathbb{CP}_2 \# k \overline{\mathbb{CP}_2}, & 0 \leq k \leq 8, \\ S^2 \times S^2, & K3, \\ K3, & K3/\mathbb{Z}_2, & T^4, \\ T^4/\mathbb{Z}_2, T^4/\mathbb{Z}_3, T^4/\mathbb{Z}_4, T^4/\mathbb{Z}_6, & T^4/(\mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2), T^4/(\mathbb{Z}_3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_3), \text{ or } T^4/(\mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_4). \end{cases}
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Del Pezzo surfaces,

K3 surface, Enriques surface, Abelian surface, Hyper-elliptic surfaces.

```
mattern metric g when X = \mathbb{Z} \begin{cases} \mathbb{CP}_2 \# k \overline{\mathbb{CP}_2}, & 0 \leq k \leq 8, \\ S^2 \times S^2, \\ K3, \\ K3/\mathbb{Z}_2, \\ T^4, \\ T^4/\mathbb{Z}_2, T^4/\mathbb{Z}_3, T^4/\mathbb{Z}_4, T^4/\mathbb{Z}_6, \\ T^4/(\mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2), T^4/(\mathbb{Z}_3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_3), \text{ or } T^4/(\mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_4). \end{cases}
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No others: Hitchin-Thorpe  $2\chi + 3\tau \ge 0$ 

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Existence: Yau, Tian, Page, Chen-L-Weber, ....

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Constructed Einstein metrics all conformally Kähler:

$$h = u^2 g$$
,  $g$  Kähler.

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Constructed Einstein metrics all conformally Kähler.

Key to construction: Weyl functional.

On Riemannian *n*-manifold (M, g),  $n \geq 3$ ,

$$\mathcal{R}^{ab}{}_{cd} = W^{ab}{}_{cd} + \frac{4}{n-2} \mathring{r}^{[a}{}_{[c} \delta^{b]}_{d]} + \frac{2}{n(n-1)} s \delta^{a}{}_{[c} \delta^{b]}_{d]}$$

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 where

s = scalar curvature

 $\mathring{r}$  = trace-free Ricci curvature

W =Weyl curvature

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 $W^a_{bcd}$  unchanged if  $g \rightsquigarrow \hat{g} = u^2 g$ .

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Proposition. Assume  $n \ge 4$ . Then  $(M^n, g)$  locally conformally flat  $\iff W \equiv 0$ .

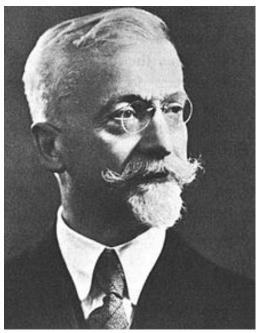
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For metrics on fixed  $M^n$ ,

 $\mathscr{W}:\mathcal{G}_M\longrightarrow\mathbb{R}$ 

$$\mathcal{W}(g) = \int_{M} |W_g|^{n/2} d\mu_g$$

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Basic problems: For given smooth compact M,

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- Can we classify them?

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Of course, conformally Einstein good enough!

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has degenerate Euler-Lagrange equation

$$|W_g|^{(n-4)/2}(\nabla\nabla\nabla\cdot W + \cdots) = 0$$

when n > 4.

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Einstein metrics are usually not critical points.

Calabi-Yau  $\times$  flat on  $K3 \times T^{\ell}$  never critical

when  $\ell > 0$ , because  $\mathcal{W} \propto \operatorname{Vol}(T^{\ell})!$ 

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No!

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No! Anti-self-dual 4-manifolds are also Bach-flat.

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 $W_{+} := \frac{1}{2}(W + \star W)$  called self-dual Weyl tensor.

If  $(M^4, [g])$  is Bach-flat, is it conformally Einstein?

No! Anti-self-dual 4-manifolds:  $\Leftrightarrow W = -\star W$ .

 $W_{+} := \frac{1}{2}(W + \star W)$  called self-dual Weyl tensor.

If  $(M^4, [g])$  is Bach-flat, is it conformally Einstein?

No! Anti-self-dual 4-manifolds:  $\Leftrightarrow W = W_{-}$ .

 $W_{-} := \frac{1}{2}(W - \star W)$  is anti-self-dual Weyl tensor.

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Thom-Hirzebruch signature formula:

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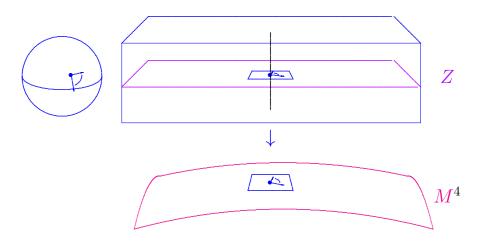
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Violate Hitchin-Thorpe, so  $\not\equiv$  Einstein on such M.

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**L-Singer '93, Kim-L-Pontecorovo '97** Any rational/ruled (M, J) has blow-ups admitting SFK.

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 with  $df \neq 0$  along  $f^{-1}(0) \neq \emptyset$ .

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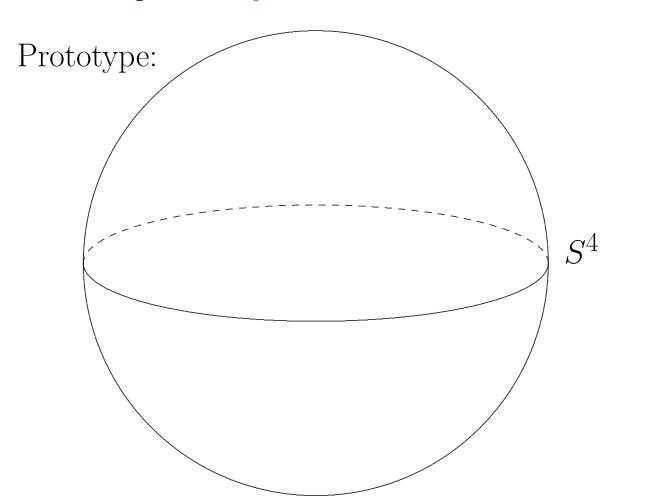
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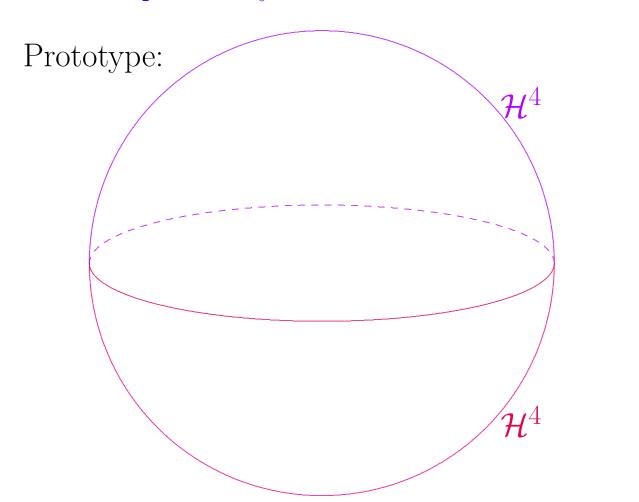
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But  $\exists$  genuine examples that aren't.

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But no compact counter-examples are known!

Today:

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Bach-flat Kähler

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$$\bar{\partial}\nabla^{1,0}s = 0$$

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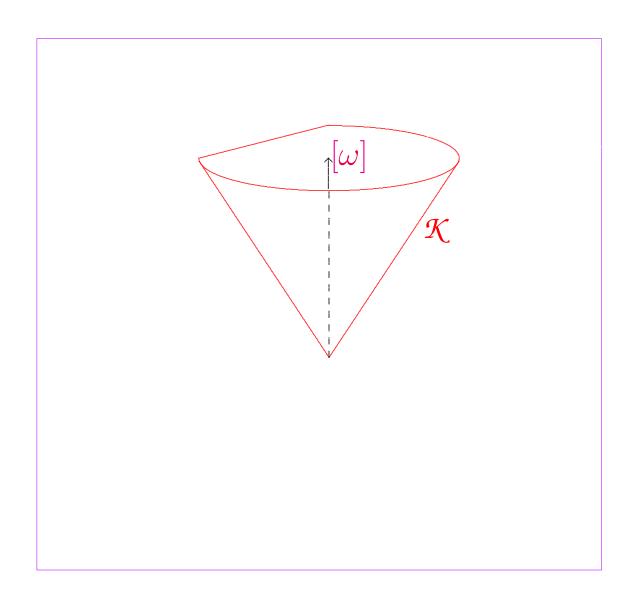
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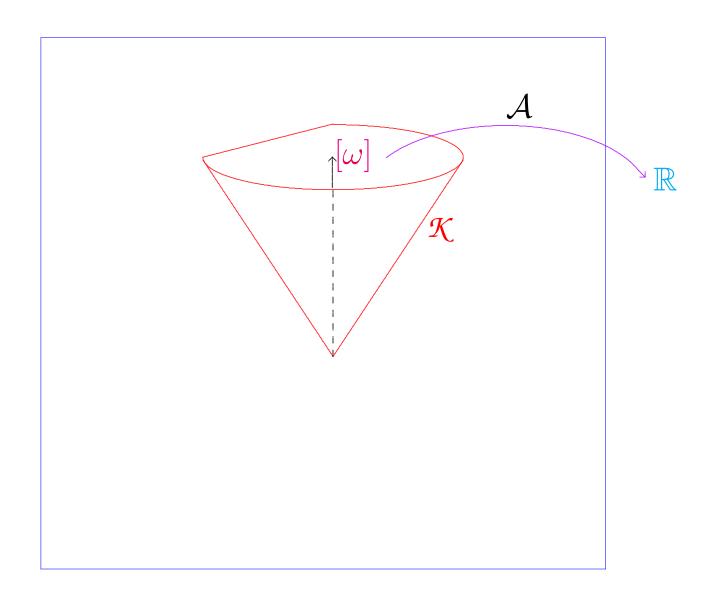
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On set where  $s \neq 0$ , the metric  $s^{-2}g$  is Einstein.



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For any extremal Kähler  $(M^4, g, J)$ ,

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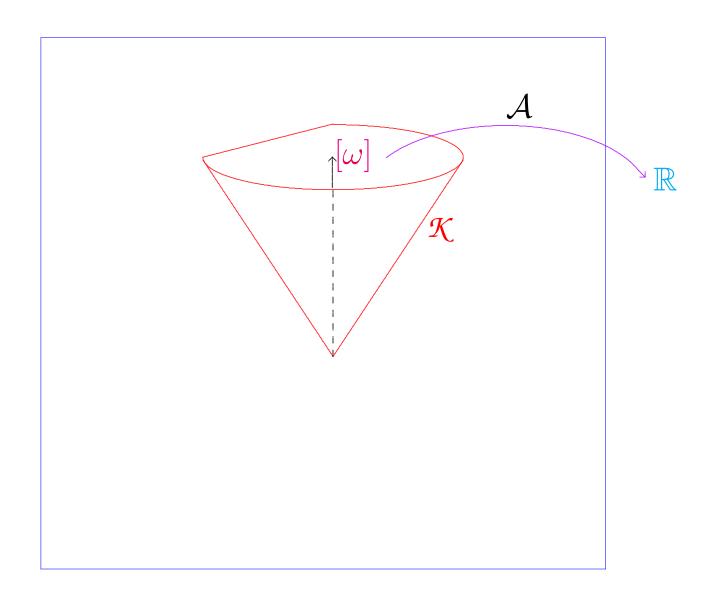
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- g is an extremal Kähler metric; and
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Bach-flat Kähler  $\Longrightarrow$  one of these three types.

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Theorem A. Let  $(M^4, g, J)$  be compact connected Bach-flat Kähler surface.

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- III. s < 0 somewhere. Then
  - (a) (M, g, J) Kähler-Einstein,  $\lambda < 0$ ; or else
  - (b)  $(M, s^{-2}g)$  double Poincaré-Einstein. Here, s = 0 defines smooth connected  $\mathbb{Z}^3$ , and  $M \mathbb{Z}$  has exactly two components.

If **not** Kähler-Einstein:

I. s is positive. Then

$$(M, s^{-2}g)$$
 Einstein,  $\lambda > 0$ ,  $Hol = SO(4)$ .

- II. s is zero. Then (M, g, J) SFK, but not Ricci-flat.
- III. s changes sign. Then

 $(M, s^{-2}g)$  double Poincaré-Einstein. Here, s = 0 defines smooth connected  $\mathbb{Z}^3$ , and  $M - \mathbb{Z}$  has exactly two components.

- I.  $\min s > 0$ . Then
  - (a) (M, g, J) Kähler-Einstein,  $\lambda > 0$ ; or else
  - (b)  $(M, s^{-2}g)$  *Einstein*,  $\lambda > 0$ , Hol = SO(4).
- II.  $s \equiv 0$ . Then
  - (a) (M, g, J) Kähler-Einstein,  $\lambda = 0$ ; or else
  - (b) (M, g, J) anti-self-dual, but not Einstein.
- III.  $\min s < 0$ . Then
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This happens  $\iff (M^4, J)$  is a Del Pezzo surface.

 $(M^4, J)$  for which  $c_1$  is a Kähler class  $[\omega]$ .

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Blow-up of  $\mathbb{CP}_2$  at k distinct points, in general position,

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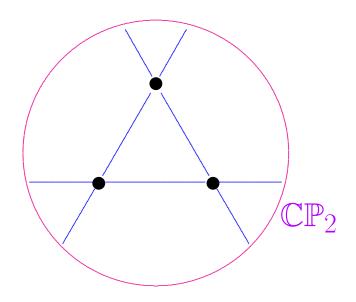
Blow-up of  $\mathbb{CP}_2$  at k distinct points,  $0 \le k \le 8$ , in general position,

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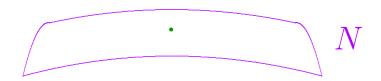
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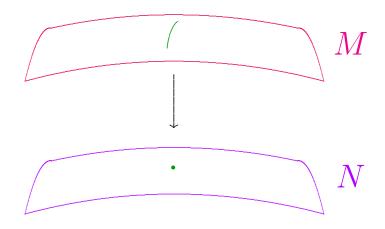
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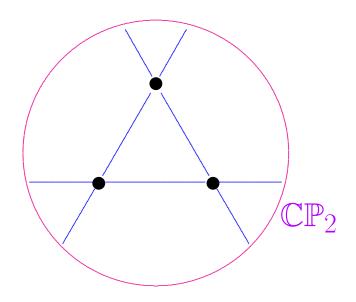
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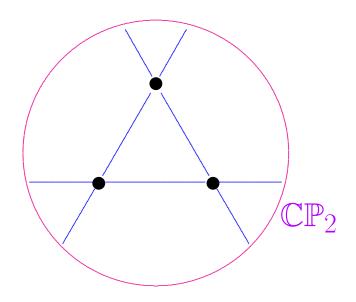
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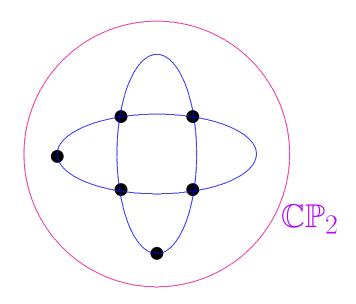
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No 3 on a line,

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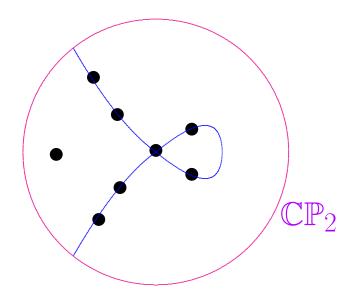
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Blow-up of  $\mathbb{CP}_2$  at k distinct points,  $0 \le k \le 8$ , in general position, or  $\mathbb{CP}_1 \times \mathbb{CP}_1$ .



No 3 on a line, no 6 on conic, no 8 on nodal cubic.

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**Theorem.** Each Del Pezzo  $(M^4, J)$  admits a compatible conformally Kähler Einstein metric, and this metric is unique up to automorphisms.

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Existence: Tian, Odaka-Spotti-Sun, Chen-L-Weber...

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**Theorem.** Each Del Pezzo  $(M^4, J)$  admits a compatible conformally Kähler Einstein metric, and this metric is unique up to automorphisms.

Existence: Tian, Odaka-Spotti-Sun, Chen-L-Weber...

Uniqueness: Bando-Mabuchi, L'12...

 $(M^4, J)$  for which  $c_1$  is a Kähler class  $[\omega]$ . Shorthand: " $c_1 > 0$ ."

Blow-up of  $\mathbb{CP}_2$  at k distinct points,  $0 \le k \le 8$ , in general position, or  $\mathbb{CP}_1 \times \mathbb{CP}_1$ .

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Moduli space of such  $(M^4, J)$  is connected.

#### Del Pezzo surfaces:

 $(M^4, J)$  for which  $c_1$  is a Kähler class  $[\omega]$ . Shorthand: " $c_1 > 0$ ."

Blow-up of  $\mathbb{CP}_2$  at k distinct points,  $0 \le k \le 8$ , in general position, or  $\mathbb{CP}_1 \times \mathbb{CP}_1$ .

For each topological type:

Moduli space of such  $(M^4, J)$  is connected.

Just a point if  $b_2(M) \leq 5$ .

Theorem A. Let  $(M^4, g, J)$  be compact connected Bach-flat Kähler surface. Then exactly one holds:

- I.  $\min s > 0$ . Then
  - (a) (M, g, J) Kähler-Einstein,  $\lambda > 0$ ; or else
  - (b)  $(M, s^{-2}g)$  *Einstein*,  $\lambda > 0$ , Hol = SO(4).
- II.  $s \equiv 0$ . Then
  - (a) (M, g, J) Kähler-Einstein,  $\lambda = 0$ ; or else
  - (b) (M, g, J) anti-self-dual, but not Einstein.
- III.  $\min s < 0$ . Then
  - (a) (M, g, J) Kähler-Einstein,  $\lambda < 0$ ; or else
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This happens  $\iff (M^4, J)$  is a Del Pezzo surface.

(a) when  $Aut_0(M, J)$  reductive.

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This happens  $\iff (M^4, J)$  is a Del Pezzo surface.

- (a) when  $Aut_0(M, J)$  reductive.
- (b) when  $M = \mathbb{CP}_2 \# \overline{\mathbb{CP}}_2$  or  $\mathbb{CP}_2 \# 2 \overline{\mathbb{CP}}_2$ .

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- (a) (M, g, J) Kähler-Einstein,  $\lambda = 0$ ; or else
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Previously discussed this case:  $W_{+} = 0$ .

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Main point: if  $\min s = 0$ , then  $s \equiv 0$ .

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(a)  $\Longrightarrow$  Kod (M, J) = 0.

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Previously discussed this case:  $W_{+} = 0$ .

(a) 
$$\Longrightarrow$$
 Kod  $(M, J) = 0$ .

(b) 
$$\Longrightarrow$$
 Kod  $(M, J) = -\infty$ .

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If  $\min s < 0$ , then s either constant, or changes sign.

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$$(a) \Longrightarrow \operatorname{Kod}(M, J) = 2.$$

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- (a)  $\Longrightarrow$  Kod (M, J) = 2. (b)  $\Longrightarrow$  Kod  $(M, J) = -\infty$ .

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# Examples of (b): Hwang-Simanca, Tønnesen-Friedman

Lemma. Suppose  $(M^4, g, J)$  Bach-flat Kähler, with s non-constant.

**Lemma.** Suppose  $(M^4, g, J)$  Bach-flat Kähler, with s non-constant. Then  $s: M \to \mathbb{R}$  is a Morse-Bott function, with critical submanifolds either complex curves, or isolated points.

**Lemma.** Suppose  $(M^4, g, J)$  Bach-flat Kähler, with s non-constant. Then  $s: M \to \mathbb{R}$  is a Morse-Bott function, with critical submanifolds either complex curves, or isolated points.

Define

$$\kappa := -6s\Delta s - 12|\nabla s|^2 + s^3,$$

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$$\kappa := -6s\Delta s - 12|\nabla s|^2 + s^3,$$

where  $\Delta = -\nabla^a \nabla_a$ .

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**Lemma.** The function  $\kappa$  is constant, and has the same sign (+, -, 0) as min s.

**Lemma.** Suppose  $(M^4, g, J)$  Bach-flat Kähler, with s non-constant. Then  $s: M \to \mathbb{R}$  is a Morse-Bott function, with critical submanifolds either complex curves, or isolated points.

Define

$$\kappa := -6s\Delta s - 12|\nabla s|^2 + s^3.$$

**Lemma.** The function  $\kappa$  is constant, and has the same sign (+,-,0) as min s. On set where  $s \neq 0$ , the metric  $h = s^{-2}g$  is Einstein, with scalar curvature  $\kappa$ .

Same as saying that  $\kappa = 0$ .

Same as saying that  $\kappa = 0$ .

Want to show that *s* is constant.

Same as saying that  $\kappa = 0$ .

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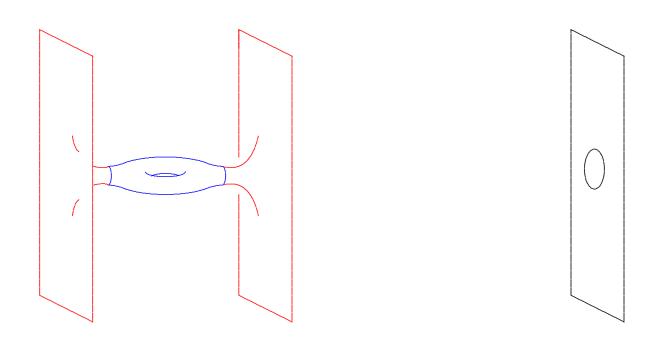
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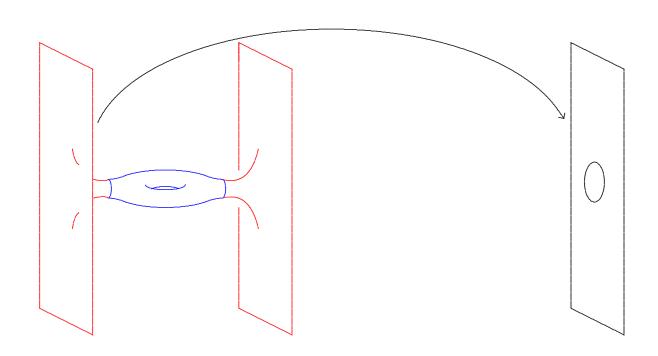
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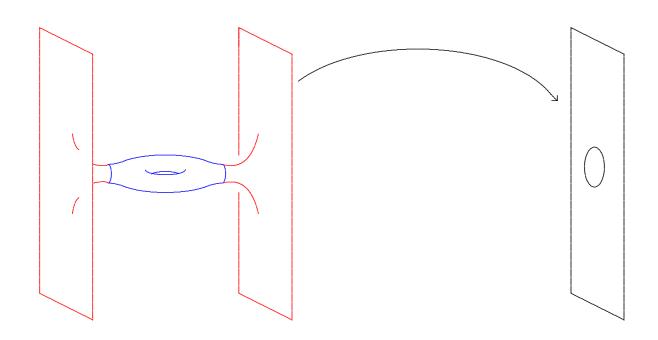
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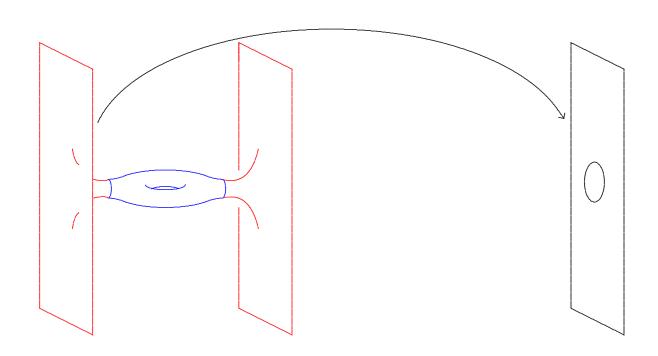
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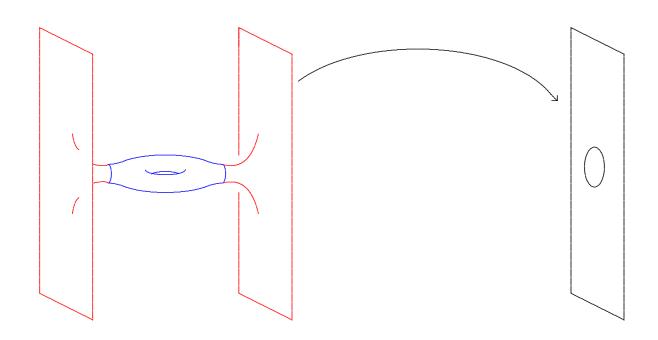
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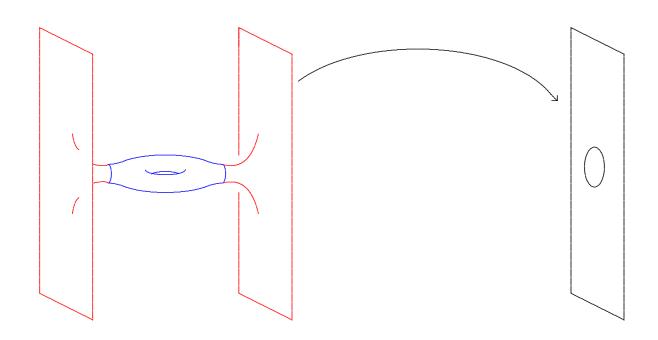
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Contradiction! So  $s \equiv 0$ .

Theorem A. Let  $(M^4, g, J)$  be compact connected Bach-flat Kähler surface. Then exactly one holds:

- I.  $\min s > 0$ . Then
  - (a) (M, g, J) Kähler-Einstein,  $\lambda > 0$ ; or else
  - (b)  $(M, s^{-2}g)$  *Einstein*,  $\lambda > 0$ , Hol = SO(4).
- II.  $s \equiv 0$ . Then
  - (a) (M, g, J) Kähler-Einstein,  $\lambda = 0$ ; or else
  - (b) (M, g, J) anti-self-dual, but not Einstein.
- III.  $\min s < 0$ . Then
  - (a) (M, g, J) Kähler-Einstein,  $\lambda < 0$ ; or else
  - (b)  $(M, s^{-2}g)$  double Poincaré-Einstein. Here, s = 0 defines smooth connected  $\mathcal{Z}^3$ , and  $M \mathcal{Z}$  has exactly two components.

**Theorem** (L '09). Suppose that M is a smooth compact oriented 4-manifold which admits a symplectic structure  $\omega$ . Then M also admits an Einstein metric h with  $\lambda \geq 0$  if and only if

```
Instein metric it with X = \mathbb{R} and X = \mathbb{R}  \begin{cases} \mathbb{CP}_2 \# k \overline{\mathbb{CP}_2}, & 0 \leq k \leq 8, \\ S^2 \times S^2, & K3, \\ K3, & K3/\mathbb{Z}_2, & T^4, \\ T^4/\mathbb{Z}_2, T^4/\mathbb{Z}_3, T^4/\mathbb{Z}_4, T^4/\mathbb{Z}_6, & T^4/(\mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2), T^4/(\mathbb{Z}_3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_3), \text{ or } T^4/(\mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_4). \end{cases}
```

```
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## Definitive list ...

```
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### Below the line:

Every Einstein metric is Ricci-flat Kähler.

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Moduli space  $\mathscr{E}(M)$ 

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Moduli space  $\mathscr{E}(M) = \{\text{Einstein } h\}/(\text{Diffeos} \times \mathbb{R}^+)$ 

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Moduli space  $\mathscr{E}(M)$  completely understood.

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## Below the line:

Every Einstein metric is Ricci-flat Kähler.

Know an Einstein metric on each manifold.

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Moduli space  $\mathscr{E}(M) \neq \varnothing$ .

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 $\forall h$ ,  $\exists$ ! self-dual harmonic 2-form  $\omega$ :

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everywhere on M.

 $W_{+}(\omega,\omega)$  is non-trivially related

 $W_{+}(\omega, \omega)$  is non-trivially related to scalar curv s,

$$0 = \nabla^* \nabla \omega - 2W_+(\omega, \cdot) + \frac{s}{3}\omega$$

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on average. But we will need this everywhere.

If 
$$h \rightsquigarrow u^2 h$$
, then  $W_+(\omega, \omega) \rightsquigarrow u^{-6} W_+(\omega, \omega)$ 

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Much simpler than scalar curvature!

In particular, if h satisfies

$$W_{+}(\omega,\omega) > 0$$

so does every other metric  $\tilde{h}$  in conformal class [h].

## Theorem B.

**Theorem B.** Let (M, h) be a smooth compact

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$$W_{+}(\omega,\omega) > 0$$

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everywhere on M, then h is conformally Kähler

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everywhere on M, then h is conformally Kähler and has Einstein constant  $\lambda > 0$ .

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everywhere on M, then h is conformally Kähler and has Einstein constant  $\lambda > 0$ . Moreover, M is diffeomorphic to a Del Pezzo surface.

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$$W_{+}(\omega,\omega) > 0$$

everywhere on M, then h is conformally Kähler and has Einstein constant  $\lambda > 0$ . Moreover, M is diffeomorphic to a Del Pezzo surface. Conversely, every Del Pezzo surface admits Einstein metrics with these properties.

In fact, all known Einstein metrics on Del Pezzo surfaces have these properties

$$W_{+}(\omega,\omega) > 0$$

everywhere on M, then h is conformally Kähler and has Einstein constant  $\lambda > 0$ . Moreover, M is diffeomorphic to a Del Pezzo surface. Conversely, every Del Pezzo surface admits Einstein metrics with these properties.

In fact, all known Einstein metrics on Del Pezzo surfaces have these properties. These known metrics are all conformal to Bach-flat Kähler metrics.

For  $M^4$  a Del Pezzo surface, set

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 $\mathscr{E}(M) = \{ \text{Einstein } h \text{ on } M \} / (\text{Diffeos} \times \mathbb{R}^+)$ 

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Theorem C.

$$\mathscr{E}(M) = \{ \text{Einstein } h \text{ on } M \} / (\text{Diffeos} \times \mathbb{R}^+)$$

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Theorem C.  $\mathscr{E}^+_{\omega}(M)$  is connected.

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Theorem C.  $\mathscr{E}_{\omega}^{+}(M)$  is connected. Moreover, if  $b_2(M) \leq 5$ ,

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Theorem C.  $\mathscr{E}^+_{\omega}(M)$  is connected. Moreover, if  $b_2(M) \leq 5$ , then  $\mathscr{E}^+_{\omega}(M) = \{point\}$ .

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Theorem C.  $\mathscr{E}^+_{\omega}(M)$  is connected. Moreover, if  $b_2(M) \leq 5$ , then  $\mathscr{E}^+_{\omega}(M) = \{point\}$ .

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Corollary.  $\mathscr{E}^+_{\omega}(M)$  is exactly one connected component of  $\mathscr{E}(M)$ .

A few words about the proof...

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$$0 = \int_{M} \left( -sW_{+}(\omega, \omega) + 8|W_{+}|^{2} - 4|W_{+}(\omega)^{\perp}|^{2} \right) f d\mu.$$

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**Proposition.** If compact almost-Kähler  $(M^4, g, \omega)$  satisfies  $\delta(fW_+) = 0$  for some f > 0, then

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If  $W_{+}(\omega, \omega) > 0$ , we thus conclude that g is Kähler!