

# Exotic symplectic structures on an orbifold K3 surface

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## Contact manifolds.

**Definition:** Let  $M$  be a smooth manifold,  $\dim M = 2n - 1$ , and  $\omega$  a symplectic form on  $M \times \mathbb{R}^{>0}$ . Suppose that  $\omega$  is **automorphic**:  $\Psi_q^* \omega = q^2 \omega$ , where  $\Psi_q(m, t) = (m, qt)$ . Then  $M$  is called **contact**.

**DEFINITION: The contact form** on  $M$  is defined as  $\theta = i_v \omega$ , where  $v = t \frac{d}{dt}$ . Then  $d\theta = \{d, i_v\} \omega = \text{Lie}_v \omega = \omega$ . Therefore, **the form  $(d\theta)^{n-1} \wedge \theta = \frac{1}{n} \text{Lie}_v \omega^n$  is non-degenerate on  $M \times \{t_0\} \subset M \times \mathbb{R}^{>0}$ .**

**Remark:** Usually, a contact manifold is defined as a  $(2n - 1)$ -manifold with 1-form  $\theta$  such that  $d\theta^{n-1} \wedge \theta$  is nowhere degenerate.

**Example: An odd-dimensional sphere  $S^{2n-1}$  is contact.** Indeed, its cone  $S^{2n-1} \times \mathbb{R}^{>0} = \mathbb{R}^{2n} \setminus 0$  has the standard symplectic form  $\sum_{i=1}^n dx_{2i-1} \wedge dx_{2i}$  which is obviously homogeneous.

**Contact geometry is an odd-dimensional counterpart to symplectic geometry**

**DEFINITION: The Reeb field** on a contact manifold  $(M, \theta)$  is a field  $R \in TM$  such that  $d\theta(R, \cdot) = 0$  and  $\langle \theta, R \rangle = 1$ .

## Reeb field and almost complex structures

**DEFINITION:** An almost complex structure  $I$  is **compatible with a symplectic structure**  $\omega$  if  $\omega(Ix, Iy) = \omega(x, y)$  and  $\omega(x, Ix) > 0$  for any  $x \neq 0$ . **In this case,  $g(x, y) := \omega(x, Iy)$  is a positive definite scalar product.**

**PROPOSITION 1:** Let  $S$  be a contact manifold and  $(C(S), \omega)$  its symplectic cone, equipped with the symplectic homothety diffeomorphism  $\Psi_t$ . Consider an  $\Psi_t$ -invariant almost complex structure  $I$  on  $C(S)$ . Assume that the vector field  $d/dt$  satisfies  $|d/dt| = 1$  and is orthogonal to  $S \subset C(S)$  embedded as  $S \times \{r\}$ . **Then the Reeb field can be expressed as  $R = I(d/dt)$ ,** where  $t$  is the coordinate on  $\mathbb{R}^{>0}$ , considered as a function on  $C(S) = S \times \mathbb{R}^{>0}$ .

**Proof:** For any  $x \in TC(S)$ , we have  $x \in TS$  if and only if  $x \perp \frac{d}{dt}$ . Therefore, the symplectic orthogonal to  $TS$  is  $I(d/dt)$ ; this vector field clearly has constant length. ■

## Boothby-Wang theorem

*W. M. Boothby, H. C. Wang, On Contact Manifolds Annals of Mathematics, Second Series, Vol. 68, No. 3 (Nov., 1958), pp. 721-734.*

**DEFINITION:** A contact manifold  $(M, \theta)$  is **normal** if it is equipped with an  $S^1$ -action preserving  $\theta$  and tangent to the Reeb field.

**REMARK:** Let  $(M, \theta)$  be a contact manifold. **Then the form  $d\theta$  is non-degenerate on the bundle  $\ker \theta \subset TM$ .**

### **THEOREM: (Boothby-Wang, 1958)**

Let  $(M, \theta)$  be a normal contact manifold. **Then its space  $X$  of Reeb orbits is symplectic and the natural projection  $\pi : M \rightarrow X$  induces a symplectic isomorphism  $d\pi : \ker \theta|_x \rightarrow T_{\pi(x)}X$ .**

### **THEOREM: (Boothby-Wang, 1958)**

Let  $(M, \theta)$  be a normal contact manifold, and  $(X, \omega)$  the symplectic manifold obtained as its space of Reeb orbits. **Then the cohomology class of  $\omega$  is integral.** Conversely, for any symplectic manifold  $(X, \omega)$  with  $[\omega] \in H^2(X, \mathbb{Z})$ , **there exists a principal  $S^1$ -bundle  $L$  with  $c_1(L) = [\omega]$  and a normal contact structure on  $M := \text{Tot}(L)$  such that the corresponding Boothby-Wang projection coincides with the natural map  $M \rightarrow X$ .**

## Geodesic flow on a Riemannian manifold as a Hamiltonian flow

**REMARK:** Recall that a **Hamiltonian vector field** on a symplectic manifold  $M$  is a vector field  $v$  which is symplectically dual to  $dH$ , where  $H$  is a smooth function, called **the Hamiltonian** of  $v$ .

**DEFINITION:** Let  $M$  be a complete Riemannian manifold,  $(m, v) \in TM$  a point in its tangent space, and  $\gamma_{(m,v)}(t)$  the geodesic starting in  $m$  and tangent to  $v$ . **The geodesic flow** is a diffeomorphism flow  $\Psi_t, t \in \mathbb{R}$  on the tangent bundle  $TM$  taking  $(m, v) \in TM$  to  $(\gamma_{(m,v)}(t), \dot{\gamma}_{(m,v)}(t)) \in T_{\gamma_{(m,v)}(t)}M$ .

**CLAIM:** Let  $M$  be a Riemannian manifold. We use the Riemannian metric to identify  $TM$  and  $T^*M$ . This identification gives a symplectic structure on  $TM$ . Denote by  $H$  the function  $H(v) = |v|^2$ . **Then the geodesic flow on  $TM$  is the Hamiltonian flow associated with the function  $H$ .**

**Proof:** See *V. I. Arnold, Mathematical Methods of Classical Mechanics*. ■

**PROPOSITION:** In the above assumptions, the Reeb field of  $ST^*M$  is equal to the symplectic dual of  $dH$ , that is, **it is the vector field generating the geodesic flow.**

## Weinstein normal neighbourhood theorems

### THEOREM: (Weinstein Lagrangian neighbourhood theorem)

Let  $X \subset M$  be a compact Lagrangian submanifold in  $(M, \omega)$ . Then **there exists a neighbourhood  $U$  of  $X \subset M$  which is symplectomorphic to a neighbourhood of  $X$  in  $X \subset T^*X$ .**

If  $X \subset M$  is a symplectic submanifold, the normal bundle  $NX$  is equipped with a natural symplectic structure. This is used to state another normal neighbourhood theorem

### THEOREM: (Weinstein symplectic neighbourhood theorem)

Let  $M_1, M_2$  be symplectic manifolds,  $X_1 \subset M_1, X_2 \subset M_2$  be symplectic submanifolds. Consider the normal bundles  $NX_i$  with the induced symplectic structure. Assume that there exists a symplectomorphism  $\nu : X_1 \rightarrow X_2$  such that the symplectic vector bundle  $\nu^*NX_2$  is isomorphic to  $NX_1$ . Then **a neighbourhood of  $X_1$  is symplectomorphic to a neighbourhood of  $X_2$ .**

Both results are due to A. Weinstein, *Alan Weinstein, Symplectic manifolds and their lagrangian submanifolds, Advances in Mathematics, Vol. 6 (3), June 1971, pp. 329-346*

## The Reeb field on $S^3$ and Weinstein neighbourhood of $S^2$

Let  $S$  be  $S^3$  with  $SU(2)$ -invariant contact structure. Then the Reeb field is also  $SU(2)$ -invariant, and its orbits are translations of 1-parametric subgroups. Since **all 1-parametric subgroups in  $S(2)$  are closed, the Reeb foliation coincides with the Hopf foliation.**

**COROLLARY:** Consider the left and right  $SU(2)$ -action on  $S^3 = SU(2)$ . A left  $SU(2)$ -invariant contact structure on  $S^3$  **is unique up to the right  $SU(2)$ -action.** It can be obtained as an orthogonal complement to the tangent space to Hopf foliation. ■

**COROLLARY:** Let  $L \subset M$  be a Lagrangian 2-sphere in a symplectic 4-manifold. **Then  $L$  has a symplectic neighbourhood with a boundary which is contact equivalent to  $\mathbb{R}P^3$ .**

**Proof:** From the description above, it is clear that there exists a normal neighbourhood of  $L$  which admits an  $U(2)$ -action by symplectomorphisms, extending the  $U(2)$ -action on  $\mathbb{C}P^1$ . Since  $T^*\mathbb{C}P^1 = \frac{\text{Tot}(\mathcal{O}(-1))}{\pm 1}$ , which is a blow-up of  $\mathbb{C}^2$ , the boundary of a unit ball in  $T^*\mathbb{C}P^1$  is  $S^3 / \pm 1$ . **An  $U(2)$ -invariant contact structure on  $\mathbb{R}P^3$  is unique up to a  $U(2)$ -action,** as shown above. ■

## Hypersurfaces of contact type

**DEFINITION:** A vector field  $v$  on a symplectic manifold  $(M, \omega)$  is called **Liouville** if  $\text{Lie}_v \omega = \omega$ . We say that a smooth hypersurface  $S \subset M$  is a **hypersurface of contact type** if there exists a Liouville vector field  $v \in TM$  defined in a neighbourhood  $U \supset S$  and transversal to  $S$ .

**CLAIM: A hypersurface of contact type is contact**, with the contact form given by  $\alpha := i_v \omega|_S$ .

**Proof. Step 1:** Since  $v$  is transversal to  $S$ , its orbit space is  $S$ . This can be used to identify its tubular neighbourhood  $U$  with  $S \times I$ , where  $I$  is an interval, in such a way that the shift in  $I$  multiplies the symplectic form  $\omega$  by a scalar.

**Step 2:** We write  $\omega = t dt \wedge \alpha + t^2 \omega_0$ , where  $\omega_0$  is a 2-form on  $S$  and  $t$  the coordinate on  $I$ . In these notations,  $v = t \frac{d}{dt}$ . Then  $t^2 \alpha = i_v \omega$ . Therefore,  $d\omega = 0$  implies that  $d\alpha = -\omega_0$ , hence  $i_v \omega^n = \alpha \wedge (\omega_0)^n = \alpha \wedge (d\alpha)^n$  is non-degenerate on  $S$ . ■

**REMARK: Gray stability theorem** claims that **a smooth deformation of a compact contact manifold  $S$  is contactomorphic to  $S$** . The space of Liouville vector fields in a neighbourhood of  $S \subset M$  is convex, hence contractible. This implies that **the contact structure on a hypersurface of contact type is unique** up to a contact diffeomorphism.



## Contact manifold associated with the cotangent bundle

**CLAIM:** Let  $M$  be a smooth manifold, and  $\omega$  the Hamilton symplectic form on  $T^*M$ . Then **the set  $ST^*M := \{v \in T^*M \mid |v| = 1\}$  is a hypersurface of contact type.**

**Proof:** In coordinates the form  $\omega$  can be written as  $\sum dp_i \wedge dq_i$ , where  $p_i$  are coordinates on  $M$  and  $q_i$  the corresponding coordinates on the fibers of the bundle  $T^*M \rightarrow M$ . The fiberwise homothety vector field  $\sum q_i d/dq_i$  is a Liouville field, transversal to  $ST^*M$ . ■

## Gluing symplectic manifolds over contact hypersurfaces

**DEFINITION:** Let  $S \subset M$  be a contact-type boundary hypersurface in a symplectic manifold. We say that  $S$  is **convex** if the Liouville field is directed from  $M$  to  $S$ , and **concave** otherwise.

**PROPOSITION:** Let  $S_1 \subset M_1$  be a concave component of a boundary of a symplectic manifold, and  $S_2 \subset M_2$  a convex component. Assume that  $S_1$  is isomorphic to  $S_2$  as contact manifold. **Then one can glue  $M_1$  to  $M_2$  by taking an appropriate contact diffeomorphism, identifying  $S_1$  with  $S_2$ .**

**Proof:** Since  $M_i$  is symplectomorphic to a symplectic cone in a neighbourhood of  $S_i$ , **it would suffice to pick a contactomorphism  $S_1 \rightarrow S_2$  which can be extended to a cone.** However, **any contactomorphism can be extended to a cone,** by definition. ■

## Example: the conifold transform on K3 surfaces

Consider the complex manifold  $T^*\mathbb{C}P^1$ , and let  $\varphi(v) := |v|^2$ . It is not hard to see that  $dId\varphi$  is a Kähler metric outside of the zero section, and the level set  $S$  of  $\varphi$  is contact. Since  $T^*\mathbb{C}P^1 = \frac{\text{Tot}(\mathcal{O}(-1))}{\pm 1}$ , which is a blow-up of  $\mathbb{C}^2$ , we obtain that  $S$  is a contact manifold which is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{R}P^3$  with the standard contact structure.

**COROLLARY:** By Weinstein symplectic neighbourhood theorem, **any symplectic  $S^2$  in a symplectic 4-manifold  $M$  with  $c_1(M) = 0$  admits a neighbourhood with the boundary of contact type contact isomorphic to  $\mathbb{R}P^3$ .**

**DEFINITION:** Let  $S$  be a Lagrangian sphere in a K3 surface. Using the previous arguments, we can replace a Weinstein neighbourhood  $U$  of  $S$  by a neighbourhood of symplectic  $S^2$  and glue it in place of  $U$ . This construction is an example of a **conifold transform**, defined below in full generality.

## Zoll manifolds and contact manifolds

**DEFINITION:** A compact Riemannian manifold  $M$  is called **Zoll** if all its geodesics are compact and the geodesics have constant length

**PROPOSITION:** Let  $M$  be a compact Riemannian manifold, and  $ST^*M$  the manifold of unit cotangent vectors, considered as a contact manifold. **Then  $ST^*M$  is a normal contact manifold if and only if  $M$  is Zoll.**

**Proof. Step 1:** Let  $Z$  be a Riemannian manifold equipped with a rank 1 foliation  $\mathcal{F}$  with compact fibers, and  $Z \rightarrow Z/\mathcal{F}$  be the projection to the leaf space. **Then  $Z/\mathcal{F}$  is smooth if and only if length of an orbit is a continuous function on  $Z/\mathcal{F}$ .** This is left as an exercise.

**Step 2:** We apply this observation to the geodesic flow on  $ST^*M$ . If  $M$  is Zoll, this implies that the the projection from  $ST^*M$  to the space of Reeb orbits is smooth, hence  $ST^*M$  is normal; converse follows from Wadsley theorem. ■

## The conifold transition, a general definition

**DEFINITION:** Let  $M$  be a symplectic manifold,  $L \subset M$  a Lagrangian submanifold admitting a Zoll metric. Consider a Weinstein neighbourhood  $U_L$  with normal (in Boothby-Wang sense) contact boundary. Denote by  $Z_L$  the corresponding singular complex variety,  $\partial Z_L = \partial U_L$ , and let  $V_L$  be a complex (or symplectic) partial resolution of singularities for the cone  $Z_L$ . **The direct conifold transform** is obtained by replacing  $U_L$  with  $V_L$ ; it replaces a Lagrangian submanifold by a symplectic submanifold.

**DEFINITION:** Its inverse is defined in a similar way: given a smooth symplectic submanifold  $X \subset M$ , isomorphic to the preimage of the singularity in the resolution map  $V_L \rightarrow Z_L$ , with normal bundle isomorphic to the normal bundle of  $X \subset V_L$ , **the inverse conifold transform uses the Weinstein neighbourhood theorem to replace  $V_L$  with  $U_L$ .**

## Lagrangian blow-up and Lagrangian blow-down

**DEFINITION:** Let  $S \subset M$  be a Lagrangian 2-sphere in a symplectic 4-manifold, and  $B/\pm 1$  denote a quotient of a symplectic 4-ball, considered as a symplectic orbifold. Take a Weinstein neighbourhood  $U_S$  of  $S$  with contact boundary isomorphic to the standard contact  $\mathbb{R}P^3$ . Using the conifold transition, we replace  $U_S$  by  $B/\pm 1$ . This gives a symplectic orbifold, called **the Lagrangian blow-down of  $M$** .

**DEFINITION:** This construction can be reversed. Consider a symplectic orbifold  $\check{M}$  with an isolated double point  $p$ . Using Darboux theorem, we find a neighbourhood  $U_p$  of  $p$  which is symplectomorphic to a quotient  $B/\pm 1$  of a symplectic ball  $B$ . Using the conifold transition, we replace the interior of  $U_p$  by a Weinstein neighbourhood of  $S^2$  in  $T^*S^2$ , obtaining a symplectic manifold  $M$ . This construction is called **the Lagrangian blow-up**.

**PROPOSITION:** Let  $(\check{M}, \check{\omega})$  be a symplectic orbifold  $\check{M}$  with an isolated double point, and  $\pi : M \rightarrow \check{M}$  the Lagrangian blow-up. **Then the symplectic form  $\omega$  on  $M$  is obtained as a pullback of  $\check{\omega}$ :  $\omega = \pi^*\check{\omega}$ .**

**Proof:** Use the hyperkähler rotation. ■

## Teichmüller space for symplectic structures

For a K3 surface, this construction replaces a Lagrangian sphere by a symplectic sphere, in a way which is almost (but not quite) functorial. To make sense of it functorially, we define the symplectic Teichmüller spaces.

**DEFINITION:** Let  $\Gamma(\Lambda^2 M)$  be the space of all 2-forms on a manifold  $M$ , and  $\text{Symp} \subset \Gamma(\Lambda^2 M)$  the space of all symplectic 2-forms. We equip  $\Gamma(\Lambda^2 M)$  with  $C^\infty$ -topology of uniform convergence on compacts with all derivatives. **Then  $\Gamma(\Lambda^2 M)$  is a Fréchet vector space, and  $\text{Symp}$  a Fréchet manifold.**

**DEFINITION:** Consider the group of diffeomorphisms, denoted  $\text{Diff}$ , as a Fréchet Lie group, and denote its connected component (“group of isotopies”) by  $\text{Diff}_0$ . The quotient group  $\Gamma := \text{Diff} / \text{Diff}_0$  is called **the mapping class group** of  $M$ .

**DEFINITION:** **Teichmüller space of symplectic structures on  $M$**  is defined as a quotient  $\text{Teich}_s := \text{Symp} / \text{Diff}_0$ .

## Moser theorem

**DEFINITION:** Two symplectic structures are called **isotopic** if they lie in the same orbit of  $\text{Diff}_0$ .

**DEFINITION:** Define **the period map**  $\text{Per} : \text{Teich}_s \rightarrow H^2(M, \mathbb{R})$  mapping a symplectic structure to its cohomology class.

### **THEOREM: (Moser, 1965)**

The **Teichmüller space**  $\text{Teich}_s$  **is a manifold** (possibly, non-Hausdorff), and the **period map**  $\text{Per} : \text{Teich}_s \rightarrow H^2(M, \mathbb{R})$  **is locally a diffeomorphism.**



## Teichmüller space for Lagrangian submanifolds

**DEFINITION:** Fix a symplectic manifold  $(M, \omega)$ , and let  $L \subset M$  be a Lagrangian submanifold with. Denote by  $\text{Symp}_L$  an infinite-dimensional space of symplectic forms  $\omega$  on  $M$  such that  $\omega|_L = 0$ . We define **the Teichmüller space of pairs  $(\omega, L)$**  as the quotient  $\text{Symp}_L / \text{Diff}_L^0$ , where  $\text{Diff}_L^0$  is the group of diffeomorphisms of  $M$  which preserve  $L \subset M$ , and  $\text{Diff}_L^0$  its connected component.

**REMARK:** The space  $\text{Symp}_L / \text{Diff}_L^0$  is always smooth, but it is harder to prove this when  $b_1(L) > 0$ , because the period map is more difficult to define. Therefore, we restrict ourselves with the case  $b_1(L) = 0$ .

## Moser theorem for the Teichmüller space of Lagrangian subvarieties

**THEOREM:** Let  $W \subset H^2(M, \mathbb{R})$  be the space of all cohomology classes on  $M$  which vanish on  $L$ , and  $\text{Per}_L : \text{Symp}_L / \text{Diff}_L^0 \rightarrow W$  take  $(M, \omega)$  to the cohomology class of  $\omega$ . **Then Per is locally a diffeomorphism.**

**Proof. Step 1:** It would suffice to prove that a small deformation  $\omega_1$  of a symplectic form  $\omega$  which is Lagrangian on  $L$  is isotopic to a form which is also Lagrangian on  $L$ , assuming that  $\omega_1$  is exact on  $L$ . **This is equivalent to constructing a Lagrangian submanifold  $L_1$  of  $(M, \omega_1)$  which can be isotopically mapped to  $L$ , and proving it is unique up to isotopy.**

**Step 2:** Take a Weinstein neighbourhood  $U_L$  of  $L$  in  $(M, \omega)$ . Then  $\omega_1 = \omega - d\theta$ , where  $\theta$  is a 1-form. Denote by  $L_1$  the graph of  $\theta$  in  $T^*L$ . For  $\omega_1$  sufficiently close to  $\omega$  and  $\theta$  sufficiently small, we may assume that  $L_1$  belongs to  $U_L$ . On a graph of a map  $\theta : L \rightarrow T^*L$ , the form  $\omega$  is equal to  $d\theta$ , hence  $L_1 \subset U_L$  is Lagrangian. **This shows that the period map  $\text{Per}_L : \text{Symp}_L / \text{Diff}_L^0 \rightarrow W$  is locally a surjection.**

**Step 3:** The period map is locally injective, because  $b_1(L) = 0$ , hence any closed 1-form is exact, **which implies that all Lagrangian sections of  $T^*L \rightarrow L$  are Hamiltonian isotopic.** ■

## Orbifolds

**REMARK:** Unlike Lagrangian spheres, **the symplectic spheres have a numeric invariant:** the symplectic volume. If we obtain a symplectic sphere as a result of the conifold transform, its volume depends on the choice of the Weinstein neighbourhood  $U_L$ , which is arbitrary for small volumes, but not for big volumes. **It is more convenient to blow down the sphere, and consider an orbifold.**

**DEFINITION:** A **smooth orbifold** is a topological space equipped with a covering by open sets of form  $B_i/\Gamma_i$ , where  $B_i$  is an open ball, and  $\Gamma_i$  a finite group acting on  $B_i$ , in such a way that the transition maps  $\phi_{ij} : B_i/\Gamma_i \rightarrow B_j/\Gamma_j$  are naturally lifted to smooth maps  $\tilde{\phi}_{ij} : B_i \rightarrow B_j$ .

**DEFINITION:** A **symplectic (complex, Kähler, etc) orbifold** is an orbifold  $(M, \{B_i/\Gamma_i\})$  such that every ball  $B_i$  is symplectic (complex, Kähler, etc), the action of  $\Gamma_i$  preserves the symplectic (complex, Kähler, etc) structure, and the transition maps  $\tilde{\phi}_{ij} : B_i \rightarrow B_j$  are compatible with the symplectic (complex, Kähler, etc) structure.

## Orbifold K3 surfaces

### EXAMPLE: (symplectic blowdown on a K3 surface)

Consider a symplectic 2-sphere  $S$  in a K3 surface. Using Weinstein neighbourhood theorem, we may assume that  $S$  has a neighbourhood  $V_S$  isomorphic to a neighbourhood of  $S$  in  $T^*S$ . The boundary of  $V_S$  is contactomorphic to  $\mathbb{R}P^3$  with the standard contact structure. Using the conifold transform, we replace  $V_S$  by  $B/\pm 1$ , where  $B$  is a ball in  $\mathbb{C}^2$  with the standard symplectic structure. This gives an orbifold, called **an orbifold K3 surface**.

**DEFINITION:** This correspondence (or the same operation applied to a collection of non-intersecting Lagrangian subvarieties) is called **the orbifold conifold transform**.

**DEFINITION:** More generally, consider a symplectic or complex orbifold  $M$  with all singularities of form  $B/\Gamma$ , where  $\Gamma \subset SU(2)$  is a finite subgroup. Assume that after the symplectic or complex blow-up,  $M$  is diffeomorphic to a K3 surface. Then  $M$  is called **an orbifold symplectic or complex K3 surface**.

**REMARK:** Let  $\Gamma$  be a finite group acting on a complex K3 surface  $M$  by holomorphic symplectic automorphisms. It is possible to show that  $M/\Gamma$  is an orbifold K3 surface. However, **not all orbifold K3 surfaces are obtained this way**.

## Conifold transition for K3 surfaces

**THEOREM:** Let  $L_1, \dots, L_n$  be a collection of Lagrangian 2-spheres in a K3 surface  $M$ , and  $\text{Teich}_{L_1, \dots, L_n}$  the corresponding symplectic Teichmüller space. Consider an orbifold K3 surface  $M_1$  obtained from the orbifold conifold transform, and let  $\text{Teich}_{M_1}$  be its symplectic Teichmüller space. **The orbifold conifold transform defines a diffeomorphism  $\text{Teich}_{L_1, \dots, L_n} \longrightarrow \text{Teich}_{M_1}$ .**

**Proof:** It would suffice to show that the result of direct and inverse transform is independent from the choice of Weinstein neighbourhood, but the group of Hamiltonian symplectomorphisms acts on the set of sufficiently small Weinstein neighbourhoods of given volume transitively. ■

## Donaldson's conjecture is false for orbifold K3 surfaces

### CONJECTURE: (Donaldson)

All symplectic structures on a K3 surface are compatible with a Kähler structure.

This conjecture is still open. However, an orbifold version of this conjecture is false, which is implied by the conifold transform.

**THEOREM:** There exists an orbifold symplectic K3 surface  $M$  with a single double point **not admitting an orbifold Kähler structure**.

**Proof. Step 1:** As follows from a result of Amerik-V. (2015), the Teichmüller space of symplectic structures compatible with a Kähler structure is Hausdorff and connected (the same argument works for Kähler K3 orbifolds). Suppose, on contrary, that any orbifold symplectic K3 surface with a single double point admits a Kähler structure. This would imply that the Teichmüller space  $\text{Teich}_L$  is connected, **and, indeed, that in each homotopy class of 2-spheres on a K3 surface there exists at most one (up to a Lagrangian isotopy) Lagrangian sphere**.

**Step 2:** This is impossible, by a result of P. Seidel (2000): **for some Lagrangian 2-sphere in a symplectic K3 surface there exists infinitely many Lagrangian spheres in the same smooth isotopy class**, which are not Lagrangian isotopic. ■

## Lagrangian spheres which are not special Lagrangian

**THEOREM:** Let  $S \subset M$  be a Lagrangian sphere in a K3 surface, and  $\pi : (M, \omega) \longrightarrow (\tilde{M}, \tilde{\omega})$  the corresponding Lagrangian blow-down map. **Then  $S$  is Lagrangian isotopic to a special Lagrangian sphere if and only if the symplectic form  $\tilde{\omega}$  is of Kähler type.**

**Proof. Step 1:** Let  $S \subset M$  be a special Lagrangian sphere on a hyperkähler K3 surface  $(M, I, J, K)$ . Without restricting the generality we may assume that  $S \subset (M, K)$  is a complex curve. Consider the complex analytic blow-down map  $\pi : (M, K) \mapsto (M_1, K)$ , taking  $M$  to a complex orbifold with a double point. Then  $M_1$  is the Lagrangian blow-down of  $(M, \omega_I)$ . However,  $(M_1, K)$  is a complex orbifold, and the symplectic form on  $M_1$  obtained from  $\omega_I$  by Lagrangian blow-down is of Kähler type. **This proves that the Lagrangian blow-down of  $(M, \omega_I)$  is of Kähler type.**

**Step 2:** Conversely, assume that  $(\tilde{M}, \tilde{\omega})$  is an orbifold symplectic K3 of Kähler type, and  $(M, \pi^*\tilde{\omega})$  its Lagrangian blow-up. **The exceptional sphere of the projection  $\pi : M \longrightarrow \tilde{M}$  is holomorphic in  $(M, K)$ ,** hence it is special Lagrangian in  $(M, I)$ . ■