

# **Symplectic packing and hyperkähler geometry**

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**Joint work with Misha Entov**

**Motivation: dominating maps to hyperkähler manifolds**

**DEFINITION:** A complex  $n$ -manifold  $M$  is **dominated by  $\mathbb{C}^n$**  if there exists a holomorphic map  $\mathbb{C}^n \rightarrow M$  with non-zero Jacobian at some point.

**THEOREM: (Buzzard, Lu)**

**Kummer K3 surfaces are dominated by  $\mathbb{C}^2$ .**

**REMARK:** We know now that the hyperkähler manifolds admit many entire curves.

**QUESTION:** Are all  $2n$ -dimensional holomorphic symplectic manifolds dominated by  $\mathbb{C}^{2n}$ ?

**REMARK:** This is unknown even for a K3.

**QUESTION:** What is the largest  $r$  such that a holomorphic symplectic ball of radius  $r$  can be embedded to a given compact holomorphically symplectic manifold of volume  $V$ ?

**REMARK:** This number is essentially deformational invariant, by ergodicity.

## Full symplectic packing

**DEFINITION:** A **symplectic ball** is a ball of radius  $r$  in  $\mathbb{R}^{2n}$ , equipped with a standard symplectic structure  $\omega = \sum dp_i \wedge dq_i$ .

**DEFINITION:** Let  $M$  be a compact symplectic manifold of volume  $V$ . We say that  $M$  **admits a full symplectic packing** if for any disconnected union  $S$  of symplectic balls of total volume less than  $V$ ,  $S$  admits a symplectic embedding to  $M$ .

**DEFINITION:** A symplectic structure  $\omega$  on a torus is called **standard** if there exists a flat torsion-free connection preserving  $\omega$ .

**THEOREM: (Latschev, McDuff, Schlenk, 2011)**

**All 4-dimensional tori with standard symplectic structures admit full symplectic packing.**

## Main result

**DEFINITION:** Let  $M$  be a compact symplectic manifold of volume  $V$ . We say that  $M$  **admits a full symplectic packing** if for any disconnected union  $S$  of symplectic balls of total volume less than  $V$ ,  $S$  admits a symplectic embedding to  $M$ .

**DEFINITION:** A symplectic structure  $\omega$  on a torus is called **standard** if there exists a flat torsion-free connection preserving  $\omega$ . A symplectic structure  $\omega$  on a hyperkähler manifold is called **standard** if  $\omega$  is a Kähler form for some hyperkähler structure.

**REMARK:** Any known symplectic structure on a hyperkähler manifold or a torus is of this type. **It was conjectured that non-standard symplectic structures don't exist.**

**THEOREM:** (Entov-V.)

Let  $M$  be a compact even-dimensional torus, or a hyperkähler manifold (such as a K3 surface), and  $\omega$  a standard symplectic form. **Then  $(M, \omega)$  admits a full symplectic packing.**

**REMARK:** In this talk, **all tori are compact, even-dimensional, and satisfy  $\dim_{\mathbb{R}} M \geq 4$ .**

## Motivation: Gromov Capacity

**DEFINITION:** Let  $M$  be a symplectic manifold. Define **Gromov capacity**  $\mu(M)$  as the supremum of radii  $r$ , for all symplectic embeddings from a symplectic ball  $B_r$  to  $M$ .

**DEFINITION:** Define **symplectic volume** of a symplectic manifold  $(M, \omega)$  as  $\int_M \omega^{\frac{1}{2} \dim_{\mathbb{R}} M}$ .

**REMARK:** Gromov capacity is obviously bounded by the symplectic volumes: a manifold of Gromov capacity  $r$  has volume  $\geq \text{Vol}(B_r)$ . However, **there are manifolds of infinite volume with finite Gromov capacity.**

### THEOREM: (Gromov)

Consider **a symplectic cylinder**  $C_r := \mathbb{R}^{2n-2} \times B_r$  with the product symplectic structure. Then the Gromov capacity of  $C_r$  is  $r$ .

**REMARK:** This result was used by Gromov to study symplectic packing in  $\mathbb{C}P^2$ . He proved that **there is no full symplectic packing**, and found precise bounds.

## Symplectic packing in $\mathbb{C}P^2$ (Gromov, McDuff, Polterovich, Biran)

**THEOREM:** Let  $\nu_N$  be a supremum of number  $V$  such that a collection of  $N$  equal symplectic balls of total volume  $V$  can be embedded to symplectic  $\mathbb{C}P^2$  of volume 1. Then

$N$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	$N > 9$
$\nu_N$	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	1	$\frac{20}{25}$	$\frac{24}{25}$	$\frac{63}{64}$	$\frac{288}{289}$	1	1

The first few numbers are due to Gromov, last to Biran, the rest are McDuff-Polterovich.

**REMARK:** These numbers are related to Nagata conjecture, which is still unsolved (Biran used Taubes' work on Seiberg-Witten invariants to avoid proving it).

**CONJECTURE:** Suppose  $p_1, \dots, p_r$  are very general points in  $\mathbb{C}P^2$  and that  $m_1, \dots, m_r$  are given positive integers. Then for any  $r > 9$  any curve  $C$  in  $\mathbb{P}^2$  that passes through each of the points  $p_i$  with multiplicity  $m_i$  must satisfy  $\deg C > \frac{1}{\sqrt{r}} \sum_{i=1}^r m_i$ .

**REMARK:** Nagata conjecture was known already to Nagata when  $r$  is a full square, and unknown for all other  $r$ , even when  $p_1, \dots, p_r$  are generic.

## Ekeland-Hofer theorem

### THEOREM: (Ekeland-Hofer)

Let  $M, N$  be symplectic manifolds, and  $\varphi : M \rightarrow N$  a diffeomorphism. Suppose that for all sufficiently small, convex open sets  $U \subset M$ , Gromov capacity satisfies  $\mu(U) = \mu(\varphi(U))$ . **Then  $\varphi$  is a symplectomorphism.**

**REMARK:** This can be used to define  $C^0$ - (continuous) symplectomorphisms.

**REMARK:** Ekeland-Hofer theorem implies a theorem of Gromov-Eliashberg: **symplectomorphism group is  $C^0$ -closed in the group of diffeomorphisms.**

## McDuff and Polterovich for Kähler manifolds

**DEFINITION:** Let  $M$  be a symplectic manifold,  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in M$  distinct points, and  $r_1, \dots, r_n$  a set of positive numbers. We say that  $M$  **admits symplectic packing** with centers  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  and radii  $r_1, \dots, r_n$  if there exists a symplectic embedding from a disconnected union of symplectic balls of radii  $r_1, \dots, r_n$  to  $M$  mapping centers of balls to  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ .

### **THEOREM: (McDuff, Polterovich, 1995)**

Let  $(M, \omega)$  be a Kähler manifold,  $\tilde{M} \xrightarrow{\nu} M$  its blow-up in  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ ,  $E_i$  the corresponding exceptional divisors, and  $[E_i]$  their fundamental classes. Assume that the class  $\nu^*\omega - \sum_i c_i [E_i]$  is Kähler, for some  $c_i > 0$ . **Then  $M$  admits a symplectic packing with radii  $r_i = \pi^{-1} \sqrt{c_i}$ .**



## McDuff and Polterovich for tamed manifold

**DEFINITION:** An almost complex structure  $I$  on  $M$  is tamed by a symplectic form  $\omega \in \Lambda^2 M$  if  $\omega(x, Ix) > 0$  for any non-zero tangent vector  $x \in TM$ .

**THEOREM:** (McDuff-Polterovich, 1995) Let  $(M, \omega)$  be a compact symplectic manifold,  $\tilde{M} \xrightarrow{\nu} M$  its symplectic blow-up in  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ ,  $E_i$  the corresponding exceptional divisors,  $[E_i]$  their fundamental classes, and  $r_1, \dots, r_k$  a collection of positive numbers. Assume there exists an almost complex structure  $I$  of on  $M$  tamed by  $\omega$  and a symplectic form  $\tilde{\omega}$  on  $\tilde{M}$  taming the pullback almost complex structure  $\tilde{I}$  so that  $[\tilde{\omega}] = \nu^*[\omega] - \pi \sum_{i=1}^k r_i^2 [E_i]$ . **Then  $(M, \omega)$  admits a symplectic embedding of  $\bigsqcup_{i=1}^k B^{2n}(r_i)$ .** ■

## Hyperkähler manifolds

**DEFINITION:** A **hyperkähler structure** on a manifold  $M$  is a Riemannian structure  $g$  and a triple of complex structures  $I, J, K$ , satisfying quaternionic relations  $I \circ J = -J \circ I = K$ , such that  $g$  is Kähler for  $I, J, K$ .

**REMARK:** This is equivalent to  $\nabla I = \nabla J = \nabla K = 0$ : the parallel translation along the connection preserves  $I, J, K$ .

**COROLLARY:** The group  $SU(2)$  of orthogonal quaternions acts on triples  $(I, J, K)$  producing new hyperkähler structures.

**DEFINITION:** Let  $M$  be a Riemannian manifold,  $x \in M$  a point. The subgroup of  $GL(T_x M)$  generated by parallel translations (along all paths) is called **the holonomy group** of  $M$ .

**REMARK:** A hyperkähler manifold can be defined as a manifold which has holonomy in  $Sp(n)$  (the group of all endomorphisms preserving  $I, J, K$ ).

## Calabi-Yau and Bogomolov decomposition theorem

**REMARK:** A hyperkähler manifold is holomorphically symplectic:  $\omega_J + \sqrt{-1}\omega_K$  is a holomorphic symplectic form on  $(M, I)$ .

**THEOREM:** (Calabi-Yau) A compact, Kähler, holomorphically symplectic manifold **admits a unique hyperkähler metric in any Kähler class.**

**CLAIM:** A compact hyperkähler manifold  $M$  **has maximal holonomy of Levi-Civita connection  $Sp(n)$**  if and only if  $\pi_1(M) = 0$ ,  $h^{2,0}(M) = 1$ .

**THEOREM:** (Bogomolov decomposition)

**Any compact hyperkähler manifold has a finite covering isometric to a product of a torus and several maximal holonomy hyperkähler manifolds.**

## Campana simple manifolds

**DEFINITION:** A complex manifold  $M$ ,  $\dim_{\mathbb{C}} M > 1$ , is called **Campana simple** if the union  $\mathcal{U}$  of all complex subvarieties  $Z \subset M$  satisfying  $0 < \dim Z < \dim M$  has measure 0. A point which belongs to  $M \setminus \mathcal{U}$  is called **generic**.

**REMARK: Campana simple manifolds are non-algebraic.** Indeed, a manifold which admits a globally defined meromorphic function  $f$  is a union of zero divisors for the functions  $f - a$ , for all  $a \in \mathbb{C}$ , and the zero divisor for  $f^{-1}$ . Hence **Campana simple manifolds admit no globally defined meromorphic functions.**

**EXAMPLE: A general complex torus has no non-trivial complex subvarieties,** hence it is Campana simple.

**EXAMPLE:** Let  $(M, I, J, K)$  be a hyperkähler manifold, and  $L = aI + bJ + cK$ ,  $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 1$  be a complex structure induced by quaternions. Then for all such  $(a, b, c)$  outside of a countable set, **all complex subvarieties  $Z \subset (M, L)$  are hyperkähler, and (unless  $M$  a finite quotient of a product)  $\cup_Z Z \neq M$**  (V., 1994, 1996). **Therefore,  $(M, L)$  is Campana simple.**

**CONJECTURE:** (Campana)

Let  $M$  be a Campana simple Kähler manifold. **Then  $M$  is bimeromorphic to a finite quotient of a hyperkähler orbifold or a torus.**

## Demailly-Paun theorem

**REMARK:** Let  $M$  be a compact Kähler manifold. Recall that the cohomology space  $H^2(M, \mathbb{C})$  is decomposed as  $H^2(M, \mathbb{C}) = H^{2,0}(M) \oplus H^{1,1}(M) \oplus H^{0,2}(M)$  with  $H^{1,1}(M)$  identified with the space of  $I$ -invariant harmonic 2-forms, and  $H^{2,0}(M) \oplus H^{0,2}(M)$  the space of  $I$ -antiinvariant harmonic 2-forms. This decomposition is called **Hodge decomposition**. The space  $H^{1,1}(M)$  is a complexification of a real space  $H^{1,1}(M, \mathbb{R}) = \{\nu \in H^2(M, \mathbb{R}) \mid I(\nu) = \nu\}$ .

**THEOREM:** (Demailly-Păun, 2002)

Let  $M$  be a compact Kähler manifold, and  $\hat{K}(M) \subset H^{1,1}(M, \mathbb{R})$  a subset consisting of all  $(1,1)$ -forms  $\eta$  which satisfy  $\int_Z \eta^k > 0$  for any  $k$ -dimensional complex subvariety  $Z \subset M$ . **Then the Kähler cone of  $M$  is one of the connected components of  $\hat{K}(M)$ .** ■

## Kähler cone for blow-ups of Campana simple manifolds

**Theorem 2:** Let  $M$  be a Campana simple compact Kähler manifold, and  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  distinct generic points of  $M$ . Consider the blow-up  $\tilde{M}$  of  $M$  in  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ , let  $E_i$  be the corresponding blow-up divisors, and  $[E_i] \in H^2(M, \mathbb{Z})$  its fundamental classes. Decompose  $H^{1,1}(\tilde{M}, \mathbb{R})$  as  $H^{1,1}(\tilde{M}, \mathbb{R}) = H^{1,1}(M, \mathbb{R}) \oplus \bigoplus \mathbb{R}[E_i]$ . Assume that  $\eta_0$  is a Kähler class on  $M$ . **Then for any  $\eta = \eta_0 + c_i[E_i]$ , the following conditions are equivalent.**

- (i)  $\eta$  is Kähler on  $\tilde{M}$ .
- (ii) all  $c_i$  are negative, and  $\int_M \eta^{\dim_{\mathbb{C}} M} > 0$ .

### Proof of (ii) $\Rightarrow$ (i). Step 1:

All proper complex subvarieties of  $\tilde{M}$  are either contained in  $E_i$ , or do not intersect  $E_i$ . The condition “ $\eta_0$  is Kähler on  $M$ ” implies  $\int_Z \eta^k > 0$  for all subvarieties not intersecting  $E_i$ . Since  $[E_i]$  restricted to  $E_i$  is  $-\omega_{E_i}$ , where  $\omega_{E_i}$  is the Fubini-Study form,  $c_i < 0$  implies that  $\int_Z \eta^k > 0$  for all subvarieties which lie in  $E_i$ . Finally, the integral of  $\eta$  over  $\tilde{M}$  is positive by the assumption  $\int_M \eta^{\dim_{\mathbb{C}} M} > 0$ . **Therefore, the condition (ii) implies that  $\eta \in \hat{K}(\tilde{M})$ .**

## Kähler cone for blow-ups of Campana simple manifolds (cont.)

**Theorem 2:** Let  $M$  be a Campana simple compact Kähler manifold, and  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  distinct generic points of  $M$ . Consider the blow-up  $\tilde{M}$  of  $M$  in  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ , let  $E_i$  be the corresponding blow-up divisors, and  $[E_i] \in H^2(M, \mathbb{Z})$  its fundamental classes. Decompose  $H^{1,1}(\tilde{M}, \mathbb{R})$  as  $H^{1,1}(\tilde{M}, \mathbb{R}) = H^{1,1}(M, \mathbb{R}) \oplus \bigoplus \mathbb{R}[E_i]$ . Assume that  $\eta_0$  is a Kähler class on  $M$ . **Then for any  $\eta = \eta_0 + c_i[E_i]$ , the following conditions are equivalent.**

- (i)  $\eta$  is Kähler on  $\tilde{M}$ .
- (ii) all  $c_i$  are negative, and  $\int_M \eta^{\dim_{\mathbb{C}} M} > 0$ .

### Proof of (ii) $\Rightarrow$ (i). Step 2:

The form  $\eta_0$  is Kähler on  $M$ , hence it lies on the boundary of the Kähler cone of  $\tilde{M}$ , and  $\eta_0$  can be obtained as a limit

$$\eta_0 = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \eta_0 + \varepsilon c_i [E_i]$$

of forms which lie in the same connected component of  $\hat{K}(\tilde{M})$ . Therefore,  $\eta$  **belongs to the same connected component of  $\hat{K}(\tilde{M})$  as a Kähler form.** By Demailly-Păun, this implies that  $\eta$  is Kähler.

### Proof of (i) $\Rightarrow$ (ii).

The numerical conditions of (ii) mean that  $\eta \in \hat{K}(\tilde{M})$ , hence they are satisfied automatically, as follows from Step 1. ■

## Campana simple manifolds and symplectic packings

**DEFINITION:** Let  $M$  be a compact symplectic manifold of volume  $V$ . We say that  $M$  **admits a full symplectic packing** if for any disconnected union  $S$  of symplectic balls of total volume less than  $V$ ,  $S$  admits a symplectic embedding to  $M$ .

**Theorem 3:** Let  $(M, I, \omega_0)$  be a Kähler, compact, Campana simple manifold. **Then  $M$  admits a full symplectic packing.**

**Proof. Step 1:** Let  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  distinct generic points of  $M$ . Consider the blow-up  $\tilde{M}$  of  $M$  in  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ , let  $E_i$  be the corresponding blow-up divisors, and  $[E_i] \in H^2(M, \mathbb{Z})$  their fundamental classes. As follows from McDuff-Polterovich, existence of full symplectic packing on  $M$  is implied by existence of a Kähler form  $\omega(c_1, \dots, c_n)$  on  $\tilde{M}$  with cohomology class  $[\omega(c_1, \dots, c_n)] = [\omega_0] - \sum c_i [E_i]$  for all  $(c_1, \dots, c_n)$  satisfying  $\int_{\tilde{M}} ([\omega_0] - \sum c_i [E_i])^n > 0$

**Step 2:** Such a form exists by Theorem 2. ■



## Symplectic packing on hyperkähler manifolds and compact tori with irrational symplectic form

**DEFINITION:** A symplectic form is called **irrational** if its cohomology class is irrational, that is, lies in  $H^2(M, \mathbb{R}) \setminus \mathbb{R} \cdot H^2(M, \mathbb{Q})$ .

**THEOREM:** Let  $M$  be a hyperkähler manifold or a compact torus,  $\omega$  an irrational, standard symplectic form, and  $\mathcal{T}$  the set of complex structures for which  $\omega$  is Kähler. **Then the set  $\mathcal{T}_0 \subset \mathcal{T}$  of Campana simple complex structures is dense in  $\mathcal{T}$  and has full measure in the corresponding moduli space.**

**Proof:** The Hodge loci of hyperkähler manifolds admitting a non-hyperkähler subvariety have positive codimension, and deformations of hyperkähler subvarieties never cover  $M$ . ■

**COROLLARY:** Let  $M$  be a hyperkähler manifold or a compact torus, equipped with a standard, irrational symplectic form  $\omega$ . **Then  $M$  admits full symplectic packing.**

**Proof:** By definition of a standard symplectic form, there exists a complex structure  $I$  such that  $\omega$  is Kähler. Deforming  $I$  in  $\mathcal{T}$ , we obtain a Campana simple complex structure for which  $\omega$  is Kähler. Then  $(M, \omega)$  admits full symplectic packing by Theorem 3. ■

## Symplectic cone and Kähler cone

**DEFINITION:** An almost complex structure  $I$  **tames** a symplectic structure  $\omega$  if  $\omega_I^{1,1}$  is a Hermitian form on  $(M, I)$ .

**PROPOSITION:** Let  $(M, I, \omega)$  be an almost complex tamed symplectic manifold, and  $\eta \in \Lambda^{2,0+0,2}(M, \mathbb{R})$  a closed real  $(2,0) + (0,2)$ -form. **Then  $\omega + \eta$  is also a symplectic form.** Moreover, **the complex structure  $I$  is tamed by  $\omega + \eta$ .**

**Proof. Step 1:** Since  $I(\eta) = -\eta$  for each  $(2,0) + (0,2)$ -form  $\eta$ , one has  $\omega(x, Ix) = \omega^{1,1}(x, Ix) > 0$  for each non-zero  $x$ .

**Step 2:** Since  $\eta^{1,1} = 0$ , one has  $\omega + \eta(x, Ix) = \omega^{1,1}(x, Ix) > 0$  for each non-zero  $x$ . Therefore,  $\omega + \eta$  is non-degenerate. ■

**DEFINITION:** A **symplectic class** of a manifold  $M$  is a cohomology class of a symplectic form on  $M$ . **Symplectic cone** of a symplectic manifold  $M$  is a set  $\text{Symp}(M) \subset H^2(M, \mathbb{R})$  of all symplectic classes. **Taming cone** of  $(M, I)$  is a cone of symplectic classes of all symplectic form taming an almost complex structure  $I$ .

**Corollary 1:** Let  $M$  be a Kähler manifold, and  $\text{Kah}(M)$  its Kähler cone. **Then the taming cone of  $M$  contains  $\text{Kah}(M) + H^{2,0+0,2}(M, \mathbb{R})$ .** ■

## Symplectic cone for blown-up tori and hyperkähler manifolds

**Theorem 4:** Let  $(M, I, \omega_I)$  be a compact Kähler manifold obtained as a limit of Campana simple manifolds. **Then  $(M, \omega_I)$  admits full symplectic packing.**

**Proof. Step 1:** Let  $B$  be an open neighbourhood of  $I$  in the moduli space of complex structures on  $M$ , and  $B \xrightarrow{\varphi} H^2(M, \mathbb{R})$  a map putting  $J$  to  $(\omega_I)_J^{1,1}$ . By Kodaira stability theorem,  $\varphi(J)$  is a Kähler class for  $J$  sufficiently close to  $I$ . Therefore, **there exists a Campana simple complex structure  $J$  such that  $\omega_J := (\omega_I)_J^{1,1}$  is Kähler, arbitrarily close to  $I$  in  $B$ .**

**Step 2:** By Theorem 3,  $\eta_J := \omega_J + \sum c_i [E_i]$  is a Kähler class on a blow-up of  $(M, J)$ , with blow-up points generic. Indeed, the condition  $\int_M \eta_J^{\dim_{\mathbb{C}} M} > 0$  remains true for  $J$  sufficiently close to  $I$ .

**Step 3:** Now,  $\omega_I - \omega_J$  is by definition a  $(2, 0) + (0, 2)$ -cohomology class on  $(M, J)$ . Therefore,  $\eta = \omega_I + \sum c_i [E_i]$  is obtained from a Kähler form  $\eta_J$  by adding a  $(2, 0) + (0, 2)$ -form on  $(M, J)$ . This implies that  **$\eta$  belongs to taming cone**, and Theorem 4 follows from the taming version of McDuff-Polterovich.

■

## Further directions

1. We explored symplectic packing by symplectic balls. What about a packing by other subsets  $K \subset \mathbb{R}^{2n}$ ?

1A. Define a packing number  $\nu(K, M)$  of  $(K, \omega)$  to  $M$  as a supremum of all  $\varepsilon$  for which  $(K, \varepsilon\omega)$  admits a symplectic embedding to  $M$ . This function is obviously semicontinuous on  $K$  and  $M$ . When  $K$  is a union of symplectic balls, and  $M$  a hyperkähler manifold or a torus,  $\nu(K, M) = \frac{\text{Vol}(M)}{\text{Vol}(K)}$ . Using ergodicity, it is possible to show that  $\frac{\nu(K, M)}{\text{Vol}(M)}$  is constant for irrational symplectic structures on such  $M$ . Is it equal to 1? If so, we have “full packing by  $K$ ”.

2. Replacing blow-ups by orbifold blow-ups and balls by symplectic ellipsoids with rational axis length, our argument would give full packing by ellipsoids.

3. Let  $\text{Symp}$  be the infinite-dimensional Frechet manifold of all symplectic forms on  $M$ , and  $\text{Diff}$  the diffeomorphism group. The full packing phenomena seems to be related to ergodicity of  $\text{Diff}$ -action on  $\text{Symp}$ : the packing defines a semi-continuous,  $\text{Diff}$ -invariant function on  $\text{Symp}$ , which should be a posteriori constant on the set of all symplectic structures with dense  $\text{Diff}$ -orbits. One could study other semi-continuous quantities in relation to  $\text{Diff}$ -action and ergodicity.

**APPENDIX: WON'T BE SHOWN**

**unless demanded**

## Complex manifolds

**DEFINITION:** Let  $M$  be a smooth manifold. An **almost complex structure** is an operator  $I : TM \rightarrow TM$  which satisfies  $I^2 = -\text{Id}_{TM}$ .

The eigenvalues of this operator are  $\pm\sqrt{-1}$ . The corresponding eigenvalue decomposition is denoted  $TM = T^{0,1}M \oplus T^{1,0}(M)$ .

**DEFINITION:** An almost complex structure is **integrable** if  $\forall X, Y \in T^{1,0}M$ , one has  $[X, Y] \in T^{1,0}M$ . In this case  $I$  is called **a complex structure operator**. A manifold with an integrable almost complex structure is called **a complex manifold**.

**THEOREM:** (Newlander-Nirenberg)

**This definition is equivalent to the usual one.**

## Kähler manifolds

**DEFINITION:** A Riemannian metric  $g$  on an almost complex manifold  $M$  is called **Hermitian** if  $g(Ix, Iy) = g(x, y)$ . In this case,  $g(x, Iy) = g(Ix, I^2y) = -g(y, Ix)$ , hence  $\omega(x, y) := g(x, Iy)$  is skew-symmetric.

**DEFINITION:** The differential form  $\omega \in \Lambda^{1,1}(M)$  is called **the Hermitian form** of  $(M, I, g)$ .

**THEOREM:** Let  $(M, I, g)$  be an almost complex Hermitian manifold. **Then the following conditions are equivalent.**

- (i) The complex structure  $I$  is integrable, and the Hermitian form  $\omega$  is closed.
- (ii) One has  $\nabla(I) = 0$ , where  $\nabla$  is the Levi-Civita connection

$$\nabla : \text{End}(TM) \longrightarrow \text{End}(TM) \otimes \Lambda^1(M).$$

**DEFINITION:** A complex Hermitian manifold  $M$  is called **Kähler** if either of these conditions hold. The cohomology class  $[\omega] \in H^2(M)$  of a form  $\omega$  is called **the Kähler class** of  $M$ . The set of all Kähler classes is called **the Kähler cone**.

## Kähler structure on a blow-up

**DEFINITION:** Let  $S$  be a total space of a line bundle  $\mathcal{O}(-1)$  on  $\mathbb{C}P^n$ , identified with a space of pairs  $(z \in \mathbb{C}P^n, t \in z)$ , where  $t$  is a point on a line  $z \subset \mathbb{C}^{n+1}$  representing  $z$ . The forgetful map  $\pi : S \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^{n+1}$  is called **a blow-up of  $\mathbb{C}^{n+1}$  in  $0$** . Given an open ball  $B \subset \mathbb{C}^{n+1}$ , the map  $\pi : \pi^{-1}(B) \rightarrow B$  is called **a blow-up of  $B$  in  $0$** . To blow up a point in a complex manifold  $M$ , we remove a ball  $B$  around this point, and replace it with a blown-up ball  $\tilde{B}$ , gluing  $B \setminus x \subset \tilde{B}$  with  $B \setminus x \subset M$ .

**PROBLEM:** Suppose that  $M$  is Kähler, and  $\tilde{M}$  is its blow-up. **Find a Kähler metric on  $\tilde{M}$  and write it explicitly.**

**Answer: Symplectic blow-up!**

**REMARK:** In this talk, I would often drop all  $\pi$  and other constants from the equations.



## Symplectic quotient

**DEFINITION:** Let  $\rho$  be an  $S^1$ -action on a symplectic manifold  $(M, \omega)$  preserving the symplectic structure, and  $\vec{v}$  its unit tangent vector. Cartan's formula gives  $0 = \text{Lie}_{\vec{v}}\omega = d(\omega \lrcorner \vec{v})$ , hence  $\omega \lrcorner \vec{v}$  is a closed 1-form. **Hamiltonian**, or **moment map** of  $\rho$  is an  $S^1$ -invariant function  $\mu$  such that  $d\mu = \omega \lrcorner \vec{v}$ , and **symplectic quotient**  $M //_c S^1$  is  $\mu^{-1}(c)/S^1$ .

**REMARK:** In these assumptions, restriction of the symplectic form  $\omega$  to  $\mu^{-1}(c)$  vanishes on  $\vec{v}$ , hence it is **obtained as a pullback of a closed 2-form  $\omega_{//}$  on  $M //_c S^1$** .

**THEOREM:** **The form  $\omega_{//}$  is a symplectic form on  $M //_c S^1$** . In other words, **the symplectic quotient is a symplectic manifold**.

**REMARK:** If, in addition,  $M$  is equipped with a Kähler structure  $(I, \omega)$ , and  $S^1$ -action preserves the complex structure, the symplectic quotient  $M //_c S^1$  inherits the Kähler structure. In this case it is called **a Kähler quotient**. Whenever the  $S^1$ -action can be integrated to holomorphic  $\mathbb{C}^*$ -action, **the Kähler quotient is identified with an open subset of its orbit space**.

**REMARK:** The moment map is defined by  $d\mu = \omega \lrcorner \vec{v}$  uniquely up to a constant. However, the symplectic quotient  $M //_c S^1 = \mu^{-1}(c)/S^1$  **depends heavily on the choice of  $c \in \mathbb{R}$** .

## Symplectic blow-up

**CLAIM:** Consider the standard  $S^1$ -action on  $\mathbb{C}^n$ , and let  $W \subset \mathbb{C}^n$  be an  $S^1$ -invariant open subset. Consider the product  $V := W \times \mathbb{C}$  with the standard symplectic structure and take the  $S^1$ -action on  $\mathbb{C}$  opposite to the standard one. **Then its moment map is  $w - t$ , where  $w(x) = |x|^2$  is the length function on  $W$  and  $r(t) = |t|^2$  the length function on  $\mathbb{C}$ .**

**DEFINITION: Symplectic cut** of  $W$  is  $(W \times \mathbb{C}) //_c S^1$ .

**REMARK:** Geometrically, the symplectic cut is obtained as follows. Take  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ , and let  $W_c := \{w \in W \mid |w|^2 \leq c\}$ . Then  $W_c$  is a manifold with boundary  $\partial W_c$ , which is a sphere  $|w|^2 = c$ . Then  $(W \times \mathbb{C}) //_c S^1 = (W_c \times \mathbb{C}) //_c S^1$  is obtained from  $W_c$  by gluing each  $S^1$ -orbit which lies on  $\partial W_c$  to a point. Combinatorially,  $(W \times \mathbb{C}) //_c S^1$  is  $\mathbb{C}^n$  with 0 replaced with  $\mathbb{C}P^{n-1}$ .

**DEFINITION:** In these assumptions, **symplectic blow-up** of radius  $\lambda = \sqrt{c}$  of  $W$  in 0 is  $(W \times \mathbb{C}) //_c S^1$ . **Symplectic blow-up** of a symplectic manifold  $M$  is obtained by removing a symplectic ball  $W$  and gluing back a blown-up symplectic ball  $(W \times \mathbb{C}) //_c S^1$ .

**REMARK:** The **symplectic form  $\omega_c$  on the blow-up  $(W \times \mathbb{C}) //_c S^1$  depends on  $c$  as follows:**  $\int_l \omega_c = c$ , where  $l \subset E$  is a rational line on an exceptional divisor  $E := \pi^{-1}(c)$ .

## McDuff and Polterovich: symplectic packing from symplectic blow-ups

**DEFINITION:** Let  $M$  be a symplectic manifold,  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in M$  distinct points, and  $r_1, \dots, r_n$  a set of positive numbers. We say that  $M$  **admits symplectic packing** with centers  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  and radii  $r_1, \dots, r_n$  if there exists a symplectic embedding from a disconnected union of symplectic balls of radii  $r_1, \dots, r_n$  to  $M$  mapping centers of balls to  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ .

**REMARK:** The choice of  $x_i$  is irrelevant, because **the group of symplectic automorphisms acts on  $M$  infinitely transitively**.

**Theorem 1:** (McDuff-Polterovich)

Let  $(M, \omega)$  be a symplectic manifold,  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in M$  distinct points, and  $c_1, \dots, c_n$  a set of positive numbers. Let  $\pi : \tilde{M} \rightarrow M$  be a symplectic blow-up with centers in  $x_i$ , and  $E_i \in H^2(\tilde{M}, \mathbb{Z})$  the fundamental classes of its exceptional divisors. Then the following conditions are equivalent.

(i)  $M$  **admits a symplectic packing with radii**  $r_i = \pi^{-1} \sqrt{c_i}$

(ii) For any  $\varepsilon \in [0, 1]$ , **there exists a form**  $\omega_\varepsilon(c_1, \dots, c_n)$  **cohomologically equivalent to**  $\pi^* \omega - \sum \varepsilon \pi c_i E_i$ , symplectic for  $\varepsilon > 0$ , smoothly depending on  $\varepsilon$ , and satisfying  $\omega_0(c_1, \dots, c_n) = \pi^* \omega$ . ■

## McDuff and Polterovich for Kähler manifolds

**REMARK:** In Kähler situation, the smooth dependence condition is **trivial**, because for any two Kähler forms  $\omega, \omega'$ , straight interval connecting  $\omega$  to  $\omega'$  consists of Kähler forms (indeed, **the set of Kähler forms is convex**). This brings the following corollary.

**Corollary 1:** Let  $(M, \omega)$  be a Kähler manifold,  $\tilde{M} \xrightarrow{\pi} M$  its blow-up in  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ ,  $E_i$  the corresponding exceptional divisors, and  $[E_i]$  their fundamental classes. Assume that the class  $\pi^*\omega - \sum_i c_i [E_i]$  is Kähler, for some  $c_i > 0$ . **Then  $M$  admits a symplectic packing with radii  $r_i = \pi^{-1} \sqrt{c_i}$ .**