

Teichmüller space of symplectic packings

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Symplectic packings

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: **Symplectic embedding** from a ball to M is an injective map which is compatible with the symplectic structure and smoothly extends to the boundary.

DEFINITION: **Symplectic packing**, or **symplectic packing by balls of radii** r_1, \dots, r_n is a symplectic embedding from a disconnected sum of symplectic balls of radii r_1, \dots, r_n to a symplectic manifold M .

QUESTION: Group of symplectomorphisms $\text{Symp}(M)$ acts on the set of all symplectic packings. **What are its orbits?**

QUESTION: Fix radii r_1, \dots, r_n , and consider the set $\mathfrak{P}_{r_1, \dots, r_n}$ of all symplectic packings with these radii. **Is the action of Symp transitive on $\mathfrak{P}_{r_1, \dots, r_n}$?**

Teichmüller space for symplectic structures

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^∞ -topology of uniform convergence on compacts with all derivatives. Then $\Gamma(\Lambda^2 M)$ is a Frechet vector space, and Symp a Frechet manifold.

DEFINITION: Consider the group of diffeomorphisms, denoted Diff or $\text{Diff}(M)$ as a Frechet Lie group, and denote its connected component (“group of isotopies”) by 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 $\text{Teich}_s := \text{Symp} / \text{Diff}_0$. The quotient $\text{Teich}_s / \Gamma = \text{Symp} / \text{Diff}$, is called **the moduli space of symplectic structures**.

REMARK: In many cases Γ acts on Teich_s with dense orbits, hence **the moduli space is not always well defined**.

DEFINITION: Two symplectic structures are called **isotopic** if they lie in the same orbit of Diff_0 , and **diffeomorphic** if they lie in the same orbit of Diff .

Moser's theorem

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

THEOREM: (Moser, 1965)

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

The proof is based on another theorem of Moser.

Theorem 1: (Moser)

Let $\omega_t, t \in S$ be a smooth family of symplectic structures, parametrized by a connected manifold S . Assume that the cohomology class $[\omega_t] \in H^2(M)$ is constant in t . **Then all ω_t are diffeomorphic.**

The proof of Moser's theorem

THEOREM: (Moser)

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

Proof. Step 1: We can locally find a section S for the Diff_0 -action on Symp , producing a local decomposition $\text{Symp} = O \times S$, where O is a Diff_0 -orbit. Here O and S are both Frechet manifolds.

Step 2: The period map $P : U \rightarrow H^2(M, \mathbb{R})$ is a smooth submersion. By Theorem 1, the fibers of P are 0-dimensional. Therefore, P is locally a diffeomorphism. ■

Non-Hausdorff points on symplectic Teichmüller space

Example of D. McDuff found in Salamon, Dietmar, *Uniqueness of symplectic structures*, Acta Math. Vietnam. 38 (2013), no. 1, 123-144.

Let $M = S^1 \times Z^1 \times S^2 \times S^2$ with coordinates $\theta_1, \theta_2 \in S^1 \subset \mathbb{C}^*$ and $z_1, z_2 \in S^2$. Let $\varphi_{\theta, z} : \mathbb{C}P^1 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}P^1$ be a rotation around the axis $z \in \mathbb{C}P^1$ by the angle θ . **Consider the diffeomorphism $\Psi : M \rightarrow M$ mapping $(\theta_1, \theta_2, z_1, z_2)$ to $(\theta_1, \theta_2, z_1, \varphi_{\theta_1, z_1}(z_2))$.**

THEOREM: Let ω_λ be the product symplectic form on $M = T^2 \times \mathbb{C}P^1 \times \mathbb{C}P^1$ obtained as a product of symplectic forms of volume 1, 1, λ on $T^2, \mathbb{C}P^1, \mathbb{C}P^1$. **The form $\Psi^*(\omega_1)$ is homologous, but not diffeomorphic to ω_1 .** However, **the form $\Psi^*(\omega_\lambda)$ is diffeomorphic to ω_λ for any $\lambda \neq 1$.**

(D. McDuff, *Examples of symplectic structures*, Invent. Math. 89 (1987), 13-36.)

Space of symplectic packings

DEFINITION: Let \mathfrak{P} be the space of all symplectic packing of n balls in M , equipped with a natural Frechet manifold structure (with topology of uniform convergence of derivatives). There is an action of $\text{Symp}(B)^n \times \text{Symp}(M)$, where $\text{Symp}(B)$ is the group of symplectomorphisms of a ball. Denote by $\text{Symp}_0(B)$, $\text{Symp}_0(M)$ their connected components (groups of **symplectic isotopies**). **Teichmüller space of symplectic packings** Teich_{ba} is $\frac{\mathfrak{P}}{\text{Symp}_0(B)^n \times \text{Symp}_0(M)}$.

LEMMA: Let $\varphi_1, \varphi_2 : B \rightarrow M$ be two balls of the same radius in M . **Then φ_1, φ_2 correspond to the same point of Teich_{ba} ,** for φ_1, φ_2 sufficiently close.

Proof: Consider symplectic structure $\omega_M - \omega_B$ on $M \times B$. The map φ_i is a symplectomorphism if and only if its graph in $M \times B$ is Lagrangian. However, in a neighbourhood of a Lagrangian subvariety $L \subset N$, symplectic manifold is symplectomorphic to T^*L (Weinstein), and Lagrangian subvarieties of T^*L which project bijectively to L are given by closed forms on L . Finally, all exact forms are related by a Hamiltonian diffeomorphism of T^*L . ■

COROLLARY: Consider a map $\text{Per} : \text{Teich}_{ba} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$, mapping a packing of radii r_1, \dots, r_n to $(r_1, \dots, r_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$. **Then Per is locally a diffeomorphism.** ■

Space of symplectic packings in \mathbb{R}^n .

THEOREM: (“Alexander’s trick”) Let $\varphi_1 : B \rightarrow M$ be two balls of the same radius in \mathbb{R}^{2n} . **Then φ_1, φ_2 correspond to the same point of Teich_{ba} .**

Proof. Step 1: Using parallel transport and a linear map, we may assume that $d\varphi_1|_0 = d\varphi_2|_0$. From the above argument it follows that there exists a Hamiltonian isotopy mapping φ_1 to φ_2 in a small neighbourhood of 0. Therefore, we may assume that $\varphi_1 = \varphi_2$ in a small neighbourhood of 0.

Step 2: Assume that φ_1 is the standard ball. Take the map $\psi_t := t\varphi_2(x/t)$. For small values of t it is the standard ball φ_1 , for $t = 1$ it is φ_2 . We constructed an isotopy from φ_1 to φ_2 . ■

COROLLARY: Let $\text{Teich}_{ba}(\mathbb{R}^{2k})$ be the Teichmüller space of 1 ball in \mathbb{R}^{2k} , and $\text{Per} : \text{Teich}_{ba} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ the period map. **Then Per is a diffeomorphism.** ■

Star-shaped manifolds.

DEFINITION: Let H be a multiplicative semigroup of real numbers in $]0, 1]$, and H^n its n -th power. We say that H^n **acts semi-transitively** on a manifold M if for all points $x, y \in M$ there exist $h_1, h_2 \in H^n$ such that $h_1(x) = h_2(y)$.

Star-shaped manifold is a manifold (not necessarily Hausdorff) with locally free, semi-transitive action of H^n .

EXAMPLE: Any interval $]0, k[$ with action of H putting λ, z to λz is star-shaped.

EXAMPLE: Let a, b, c be positive numbers, with $c < a, b$, and let M be a non-Hausdorff manifold obtained from $]0, a[$ and $]0, b[$ by gluing an interval $]0, c[\subset]0, a[$ to $]0, c[\subset]0, b[$. **Then M is a star-shaped manifold**, with the action of H as above.

CLAIM: All 1-dimensional star-shaped manifolds are given by rooted metric trees, with orientation facing away from the origin (designated as 0), glued together as above.

Teich_{ba} is star-shaped

Let M be a symplectic manifold, and Teich_{ba} the the Teichmüller space of n symplectic balls in M . Consider the action of $(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n) \in H^n$ which replaces the balls of radii r_1, \dots, r_n by the balls of radii $\lambda_1 r_1, \dots, \lambda_n r_n$ replacing the map $\varphi_i : B_{r_i} \rightarrow M$ by its restriction to $B_{\lambda_i r_i} \subset B_{r_i}$.

THEOREM: This action defines the structure of star-shaped manifold on Teich_{ba} .

Proof. Step 1: The action ρ of H^n is locally free, because Teich_{ba} is equipped with an etale projection to $(\mathbb{R}^{>0})^n$, and **this projection commutes with the star-shaped structure on $(\mathbb{R}^{>0})^n$.**

Step 2: It remains to show that the H^n -action is semitransitive. Let's start by making a symplectomorphism putting centers of balls in the packing \mathfrak{x} to centers of balls in $\mathfrak{\eta}$. Prove that the group of symplectomorphisms acts transitively on n -tuples of distinct points on M **(an exercise).**

Step 3: Sufficiently small balls in M of the same radius are symplectically isotopic, because they are isotopic in \mathbb{R}^{2k} , hence for $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n, \lambda'_1, \dots, \lambda'_n$ small enough, $\rho(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)(\mathfrak{x}) = \rho(\lambda'_1, \dots, \lambda'_n)(\mathfrak{\eta})$ for any points \mathfrak{x} and $\mathfrak{\eta} \in \text{Teich}_{ba}$ such that the corresponding balls have radii r_1, \dots, r_n and $\frac{r_1 \lambda_1}{\lambda'_1}, \dots, \frac{r_n \lambda_n}{\lambda'_n}$. ■

Hausdorff star-shaped manifolds

CLAIM: Let M be a Hausdorff star-shaped manifold, equipped with an H^n -equivariant map Ψ to $(\mathbb{R}^{>0})^n$. **Then Ψ is an open embedding.**

Proof: Clearly, Ψ is locally a diffeomorphism. Suppose that Ψ is not injective, and let $\Psi(x) = \Psi(y)$. Then, for some $\lambda \in H^n$, one has $\lambda(x) = \lambda(y)$. Consider λ as a point on one-parametric semigroup $\lambda_t := te^{\log \lambda}$, $t \in]0, 1]$. Let t_0 be the supremum of all t such that $\lambda_t(x) = \lambda_t(y)$. Since λ_t is locally a diffeomorphism, $\lambda_{t_0}(x) = \lambda_{t_0}(y)$ implies that $\lambda_{t_0+\varepsilon}(x) = \lambda_{t_0+\varepsilon}(y)$, for sufficiently small ε . Therefore, $\lambda_{t_0}(x) \neq \lambda_{t_0}(y)$ while $\lambda_{t_0-\varepsilon}(x) \neq \lambda_{t_0-\varepsilon}(y)$ for all $\varepsilon > 0$. Then M is not Hausdorff. ■

COROLLARY: Suppose that Teich_{ba} is Hausdorff. Then all symplectic packing by balls of radius r_1, \dots, r_n are isotopic. ■

REMARK: The same is true if we take the quotient by all symplectomorphisms instead of symplectic isotopies. **The Hausdorffness of the space of symplectic packing up to symplectomorphisms would imply uniqueness of packing by balls of given radii up to symplectomorphisms.**

Symplectic quotient

DEFINITION: Let ρ be an S^1 -action on a symplectic manifold (M, ω) 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 ρ is an S^1 -invariant function μ 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 ω 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, ω) , 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 ∂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 ∂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 $(W \times \mathbb{C}) //_c S^1$.

Symplectic blow-down

DEFINITION: Let $E \subset M$ be a submanifold diffeomorphic to $\mathbb{C}P^{k-1}$. Fix the diffeomorphism $E \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathbb{C}P^{k-1}$. We say that a symplectic structure ω on M is **framed at $\mathbb{C}P^{k-1}$** if $\omega|_E$ is proportional to the Fubini-Study symplectic form on E , and the symplectic normal bundle to E has $c_1(NE) = -[H]$, where $[H]$ is the hyperplane class. The notation $c_1(NE)$ makes sense because NE is an oriented 2-dimensional real vector bundle. We say that ω is **weakly framed** if $(\omega|_E)^{1,1}$ is Hermitian and $c_1(NE) = -[H]$.

THEOREM: (Weinstein) Let $M_1 \subset M$ be a symplectic submanifold. Then there exists a neighbourhood of M_1 in M which is symplectomorphic to a neighbourhood of the zero section in the total space of the normal bundle NM_1 equipped with the standard symplectic structure making NM_1 locally a product of M_1 and the fibers of the projection $NM_1 \rightarrow M_1$.

Symplectic blow-down (2)

REMARK: Using the condition $c_1(NE) = -[H]$ and Weinstein's theorem, we obtain immediately that **a small neighbourhood of E is symplectomorphic to a small neighbourhood of a blow-up of a point in a complex space.**

DEFINITION: Let E_1, \dots, E_n be the set of submanifolds in a $2n$ -dimensional manifold, diffeomorphic to $\mathbb{C}P^{k-1}$, and ω a symplectic structure framed in E_1, \dots, E_n . Remove a neighbourhood of each E_i such that a neighbourhood of its boundary is symplectomorphic to a neighbourhood of a sphere in \mathbb{R}^{2k} , and glue a symplectic ball inside. We obtain a symplectic manifold, equipped with a symplectic packing, which is called **symplectic blow-down of (M, E_1, \dots, E_n) .**

Framed Teichmüller space

DEFINITION: Let E_1, \dots, E_n be the set of submanifolds in a $2n$ -dimensional manifold \tilde{M} , diffeomorphic to $\mathbb{C}P^{k-1}$, and Teich_{fr} the **Teichmüller space of weakly framed symplectic structures**, that is, the quotient of the set of symplectic structures by the set of isotopies acting trivially on E_i . Consider the symplectic blow-down M of \tilde{M} with its symplectic form ω . This gives a natural map $B : \text{Teich}_{\text{fr}} \rightarrow \text{Teich}(M)$, where $\text{Teich}(M)$ is the Teichmüller space of symplectic structures on M , called **the blow-down map**.

REMARK: The map B is a smooth submersion. Indeed, the symplectic Teichmüller spaces are equipped with the charts given by cohomology, and on cohomology B is just a forgetful map.

Exercise: Using Weinstein theorem and Moser, prove that **the space Teich_{fr} with weak framing is equal to Teich_{fr} with framing**.

McDuff-Polterovich Teichmüller space

REMARK: The map $B : \text{Teich}_{\text{fr}} \longrightarrow \text{Teich}(M)$ has partial inverse: given a set of open balls in M which lie in a non-intersecting Darboux charts, **we can always use the symplectic cut construction giving the symplectic blow-up of M** , with n exceptional divisors corresponding to the n balls.

DEFINITION: The McDuff-Polterovich Teichmüller space of blow-ups Teich_{bu} associated with (M, ω) is $\Psi^{-1}(\omega) \subset \text{Teich}_{\text{fr}}$.

REMARK: The symplectic blow-down map maps a (weakly) framed symplectic structure $\tilde{\omega}$ on \tilde{M} to a set of symplectic balls on M . This defines a map $MP : \text{Teich}_{bu} \longrightarrow \text{Teich}_{ba}$.

THEOREM: (McDuff-Polterovich) The map $MP : \text{Teich}_{bu} \longrightarrow \text{Teich}_{ba}$ is a diffeomorphism.

Proof: To produce the inverse, we take a symplectic packing, and glue the fibers of the Hopf map on a boundary of each ball. After gluing these circles, the boundary of a ball becomes $E = \mathbb{C}P^{k-1}$, with weak framing, and the symplectic structure naturally restricts to E giving a symplectic structure here. ■

McDuff-Polterovich construction for Kähler manifolds

DEFINITION: Let (M, ω) be a Kähler manifold, and $\tilde{M} \xrightarrow{\pi} M$ its blow-up in n points. Define Teich_{bu}^K as the space of all Kähler classes on \tilde{M} of form $\pi^*\omega - \sum c_i E_i$. We call this space **the Teichmüller space of Kähler blow-ups**.

REMARK: The period map $\text{Per} : \text{Teich}_{bu}^K \rightarrow H^2(M)$ is injective. Indeed, any two Kähler forms with the same cohomology class are connected by a path $t\omega + (1-t)\omega'$ consisting of forms in the same cohomology class. In particular, **Teich_{bu}^K is a priori Hausdorff**.

REMARK: Since Teich_{bu} is connected, **to show that it is Hausdorff it would suffice to prove that $\text{Teich}_{bu}^K = \text{Teich}_{bu}$** .

Closure of the Kähler cone

PROPOSITION: (M, ω) be a Kähler manifold, $\tilde{M} \xrightarrow{\pi} M$ its blow-up in n points, and $\text{Teich}_{bu}^k \subset \text{Teich}_{bu}$ the Teichmüller spaces constructed above. Suppose that the closure $\overline{\text{Teich}_{bu}^K}$ in Teich_{bu} is Hausdorff, and $\text{Per}(\text{Teich}_{bu}^K) = \text{Per}(\text{Teich}_{bu})$, where Per maps a class $\pi^*\omega - \sum c_i E_i$ to c_1, \dots, c_n (this is the same period map as we considered for Teich_{ba}). **Then Teich_{bu} is Hausdorff.**

Proof: Let x be a point in the closure of $\text{Teich}_{bu} \setminus \text{Teich}_{bu}^K$ contained in Teich_{bu}^K ; such a point exists because Teich_{bu} is connected. Assume that $x = \lim x_i$, where $x_i \in \text{Teich}_{bu}^K$. Then $\text{Per}(x) = \lim \text{Per}(x_i)$. Since $\text{Per}|_{\text{Teich}_{bu}^K}$ is a diffeomorphism, this implies that x_i converge to a point $x' \in \text{Teich}_{bu}^K$ with the same periods. Then $x \in \overline{\text{Teich}_{bu}^K}$, and this space is non-Hausdorff. ■

CSC Kähler metrics

DEFINITION: **CSC Kähler metric** is a Kähler metric of constant scalar curvature.

THEOREM: (Chen-Tian) CSC Kähler metric is unique, up to a holomorphic automorphism, in each Kähler class.

THEOREM: Let \tilde{M} be a Kähler manifold, and $K_1 \subset \text{Kah}(M)$ a closed subset of its Kähler cone. Assume that M has compact group of complex automorphisms, and for each $\eta \in \text{Kah}(M)$, η can be represented by the (a posteriori, unique) CSC metric. **Then the closure of K_1^\perp in symplectic Teichmüller space is Hausdorff.**

Proof: Let η_i be a sequence of Kähler forms in K_1 converging to a symplectic form η , and η'_i the corresponding CSC Kähler forms. Since the map $\eta_i \rightarrow \eta'_i$ is continuous, η'_i converge to a CSC Kähler form, and the limit is unique, because CSC forms uniformly depend on the Kähler class. ■

COROLLARY: Let \tilde{M} be a blow-up of a generic deformation of a hyperkähler manifold (M, ω) or a torus, and K_1 the set of Kähler classes $\pi^*\omega - \sum c_i E_i$. **If each $\eta \in K_1$ can be represented by a CSC form, then Teich_{ba} is Hausdorff.**