

# **Complex subvarieties in homogeneous complex manifolds**

Misha Verbitsky

**August 10, 2014**

**Topology of Torus Actions  
and Applications to Geometry and Combinatorics,**

**Daejeon, Korea.**

## Homogeneous complex manifolds

**DEFINITION:** A complex manifold  $M$  is called **homogeneous** if its automorphism group acts transitively.

### Examples of compact homogeneous manifolds:

0. Flag spaces and partial flag spaces.
1. Calabi-Eckmann and Hopf manifolds.
2. Tori.
3. Let  $G$  be a compact, even-dimensional Lie group. Then  $G$  **admits a left-invariant complex structure** (H. Samelson, 1953).

## Hopf surface

**The (classical) Hopf surface.** Fix  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $|\alpha| > 1$ . Consider the quotient  $H = (\mathbb{C}^2 \setminus 0) / \langle \mathbb{Z} \rangle$ , with  $\mathbb{Z}$  acting on  $\mathbb{C}^2$  by  $(x, y) \rightarrow (\alpha x, \alpha y)$ . It is called **the Hopf surface**. Topologically the Hopf surface is isomorphic to  $S^1 \times S^3$  (hence, non-Kähler). The elliptic curve  $T^2 = \mathbb{C}^* / \langle \alpha \rangle$  acts on  $H$  by  $t, (x, y) \rightarrow (tx, ty)$ . This action is free, and its quotient is  $\mathbb{C}P^1$ . The Hopf surface is a **principal elliptic fibration**. Topologically, it's a product of a Hopf fibration  $S^3 \rightarrow S^2$  and a circle.

## Calabi-Eckmann manifolds

Fix  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $\alpha$  non-real,  $|\alpha| > 1$ . Consider a subgroup

$$G := \{e^t \times e^{\alpha t} \subset \mathbb{C}^* \times \mathbb{C}^*, \quad t \in \mathbb{C}\} \subset \mathbb{C}^* \times \mathbb{C}^*$$

within  $\mathbb{C}^* \times \mathbb{C}^*$ . It is clearly co-compact and closed, with  $\mathbb{C}^* \times \mathbb{C}^*/G$  being an elliptic curve  $\mathbb{C}^*/\langle \alpha \rangle$ .

Now, let  $M := (\mathbb{C}^n \setminus 0) \otimes (\mathbb{C}^m \setminus 0)/G$ , with  $G \subset \mathbb{C}^* \times \mathbb{C}^*$  acting on  $(\mathbb{C}^n \setminus 0) \otimes (\mathbb{C}^m \setminus 0)$  by  $(t_1, t_2)(x, y) \longrightarrow (t_1 x, t_2 y)$ . Clearly,  $M$  is fibered over

$$\mathbb{C}P^{n-1} \times \mathbb{C}P^{m-1} = (\mathbb{C}^n \setminus 0) \otimes (\mathbb{C}^m \setminus 0)/\mathbb{C}^* \times \mathbb{C}^*$$

with a fiber  $\mathbb{C}^* \times \mathbb{C}^*/G$ , which is an elliptic curve. Then  $M$  is called **the Calabi-Eckmann manifold**. It is diffeomorphic to  $S^{2n-1} \times S^{2m-1}$ . The group  $U(n) \times U(m)$  acts on  $M$  transitively.

**We obtained a homogeneous complex structure on  $S^{2n-1} \times S^{2m-1}$ .**

It is non-Kähler, because  $H^2(M) = 0$ .

## Principal toric fibrations

**DEFINITION:** A complex principal toric fibration  $M$  is a complex manifold equipped with a free holomorphic action of a compact complex torus  $T$ .

Such a manifold is fibered over  $M/T$ , with fiber  $T$ .

It is a principal  $T$ -bundle: all fibers are identified with  $T$ , with  $T$  acting on fibers freely.

To trivialize a principal group bundle it means to find a section.

## Borel-Remmert-Tits theorem

**Borel-Remmert-Tits theorem:** Let  $M$  be a compact, complex, simply connected homogeneous manifold. Then  $M$  is a principal toric fibration, with a base which is a homogeneous, rational projective manifold.

**Proof:** Let  $K^{-1} = \Lambda_{\mathbb{C}}^{\dim M}(TM)$  be the anticanonical class of  $M$ . Since  $TM$  is globally generated, the same is true for  $K^{-1}$ . This gives a  $G$ -invariant morphism

$$M \xrightarrow{\pi} \mathbb{P}H^0(K^{-1}).$$

**The fibers  $F$  of  $\pi$  are homogeneous with trivial canonical class, and its base is homogeneous and projective (hence, rational).** The fundamental group of  $F$  is a quotient of  $\pi_2(X)$ , as follows from the long exact sequence of homotopy groups for a Serre's fibration:

$$\pi_2(X) \longrightarrow \pi_1(F) \longrightarrow \pi_1(M) = 0$$

Therefore,  $\pi_1(F)$  is abelian. **It remains to show that it is a torus.**

## Homogeneous manifolds with trivial canonical class

**LEMMA:** Let  $F$  be a compact, complex, homogeneous manifold with  $\pi_1(F)$  abelian and a trivial anticanonical class  $K^{-1}$ . **Then  $F$  is a torus.**

**Proof:** The sheaf of holomorphic vector fields on  $M$  is globally generated. Taking a vector field  $v_1$  and multiplying it by general vector fields  $v_2, \dots, v_n$ , we obtain a section of  $K^{-1}$ , which is non-zero for general  $v_i$ , and therefore non-degenerate. We obtain that  $v_i$  are linearly independent everywhere. Taking the corresponding flows of diffeomorphisms, we obtain that  $F$  is a quotient of a holomorphic Lie group  $G$  by a cocompact lattice. **Since  $\pi_1(F)$  is abelian,  $G$  is commutative, and  $T$  is a torus. ■**

## Positive elliptic fibrations

**DEFINITION:** Let  $M \xrightarrow{\pi} X$  be an elliptic fibration,  $M$  compact. We say that  $M$  is a **positive elliptic fibration**, if for some Kähler class  $\omega$  on  $X$ ,  $\pi^*\omega$  is exact. (“Kähler class” is a cohomology class of a Kähler form.)

### Examples:

1. **Hopf manifold**,  $H^2(M) = 0$ , hence positive.
2. **Calabi-Eckmann manifold** (same).
3.  $SU(3)$  is elliptically fibered over the flag manifold  $F(2, 3)$ , also  $H^2(M) = 0$ .



## Subvarieties of positive elliptic fibrations

**Theorem:** Let  $M \xrightarrow{\pi} X$  be a positive elliptic  $T$  fibration, and  $Z \subset M$  be a subvariety, of positive dimension  $m$ . **Then  $Z$  is  $T$ -invariant.**

**Proof:** Let  $\omega_0 = \pi^*\omega$  be a pullback of a Kähler form which is exact. Then

$$\int_Z \omega_0^m = 0.$$

On the other hand, all eigenvalues of  $\omega_0|_Z$  are non-negative, and all are positive, unless  $Z$  is tangent to the action of  $T$ . In a point where  $Z$  is not tangent to  $T$ , the form  $\omega_0^m$  is positive, and **in this case the integral  $\int_Z \omega_0^m$  is also positive.**

## Positive toric fibrations

**DEFINITION:** Let  $M \xrightarrow{\pi} X$  be a complex principal toric fibration,  $M$  compact, with fiber  $T$ . We say that  $\pi$  is **convex** if  $\pi^*\omega$  is exact for some Kähler form  $\omega$ . We say that  $\pi$  is **positive** if for any proper complex subtorus  $T' \subset T$ , the corresponding quotient fibration  $M/T' \rightarrow X$  is convex.

**EXAMPLE:** Let  $M$  be a complex, compact homogeneous manifold with  $H^2(M) = 0$  (e.g. a Lie group), and  $M \xrightarrow{\pi} X$  the Borel-Remmert-Tits toric fibration. Assume that the fiber of  $\pi$  have no proper subtori (easy to insure by taking a generic invariant complex structure). **Then  $M$  is positive.**

## Subvarieties in principal toric fibrations

**THEOREM:** Consider an irreducible complex subvariety  $Z \subset M$  of a positive principal toric fibration  $M \xrightarrow{\pi} X$ , with fiber  $T$ . **Then  $Z$  is  $T$ -invariant, or is contained in a fiber of  $\pi$ .**

**Proof:** 1. For any positive-dimensional subvariety  $Z_0 \subset X$ , the restriction of  $\pi$  to  $Z_0$  **has no multisections** (because  $\int_{Z_0} \omega_0^m$  must vanish).

2. Given a Kähler manifold  $A$  with an action of  $T$ , consider an associated fiber bundle  $M \times_T A$  over  $X$ . Unless  $T$  acts on  $A$  trivially,  $M \times_T A$  is also convex, hence **admits no multisections**.

3. If  $Z \subset M$  is not  $T$ -invariant, it provides us with a multisection from  $X$  to  $M \times_T A$ , where  $A$  is the space of deformations of the fiber  $Z \cap \pi^{-1}(t_0)$ . It is convex (step 2). **Cannot have multisections!** Contradiction. ■

## Open questions

1. **THEOREM:** Let  $M \xrightarrow{\pi} X$ ,  $\dim_{\mathbb{C}} X > 1$ , be a positive elliptic  $T$  fibration, and  $F$  a stable reflexive sheaf on  $M$ . **Then  $F \cong L \otimes \pi^* F_0$ , where  $L$  is a line bundle, and  $F_0$  a stable coherent sheaf on  $X$ .**

Is there a similar result for positive torus fibrations?

2. Is it possible to define positivity for  $\mathbb{C}^n$ -fibrations? For  $\mathbb{C}$ -fibrations it is possible in terms of curvature; all subvarieties would be also  $\mathbb{C}$ -invariant.