#### On Four-Dimensional

Einstein Manifolds

Claude LeBrun Stony Brook University

Mathematics Colloquium, Brown University, Sept. 27, 2023 Let  $(M^n, g)$  be a Riemannian *n*-manifold,  $p \in M$ .

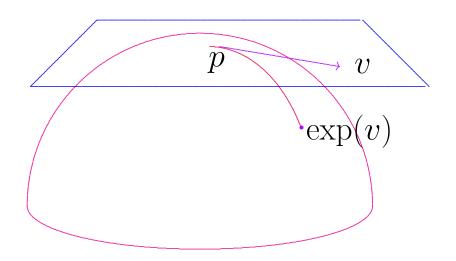
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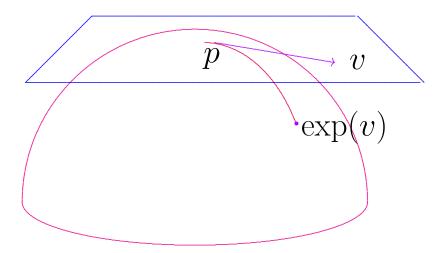
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Now choosing  $T_pM \stackrel{\cong}{\to} \mathbb{R}^n$  via some orthonormal basis gives us special coordinates on M.

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given by

$$v \longmapsto r(v,v).$$

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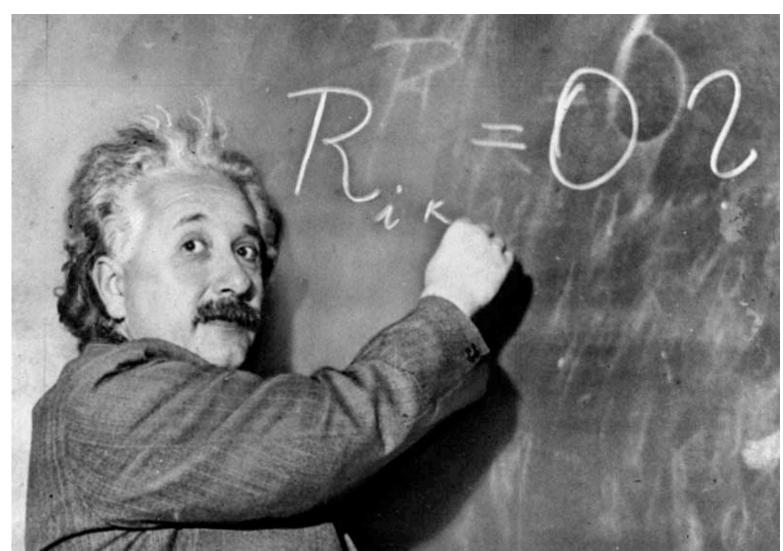
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"... the greatest blunder of my life!"

— A. Einstein, to G. Gamow

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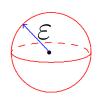
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$$\frac{\operatorname{vol}_g(B_{\varepsilon}(p))}{c_n \varepsilon^n} = 1 - s \frac{\varepsilon^2}{6(n+2)} + O(\varepsilon^4)$$



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[3 of the 8 Thurston geometries.]

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When n = 4, situation is more encouraging...

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By contrast, high-dimensional Einstein metrics too common; have little to do with geometrization.

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Thus  $(M^4, g)$  Einstein  $\iff$ 

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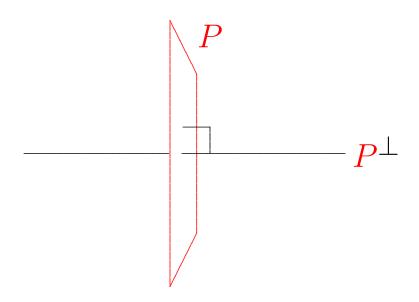
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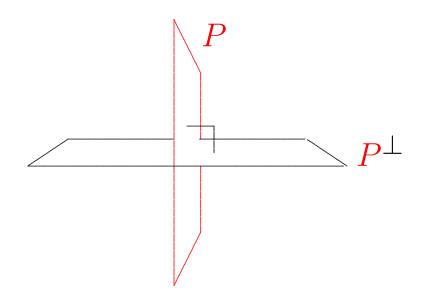
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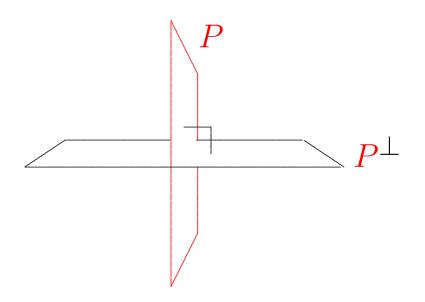
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$$K(P) = K(P^{\perp})$$

What's so special about dimension 4?

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On oriented 
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$$d\omega = 0, \qquad \exists \omega : TM \stackrel{\cong}{\to} T^*M.$$

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A laboratory for exploring Einstein metrics.

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Kähler geometry is a rich source of examples.

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Associated Kähler form:

$$\omega = i \sum_{j,k=1}^{m} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial z^j \partial \bar{z}^k} dz^j \wedge d\bar{z}^k$$

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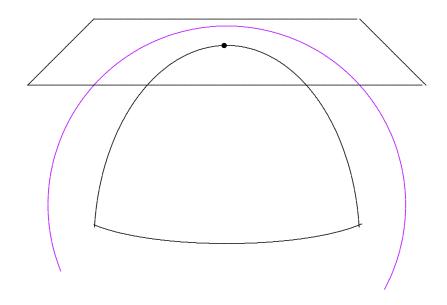
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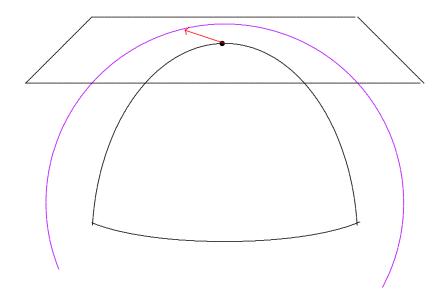
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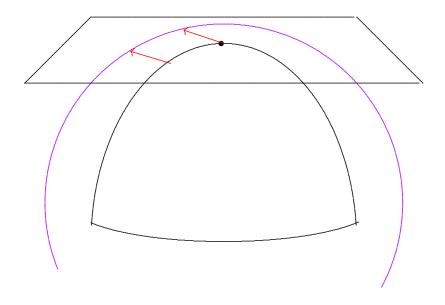
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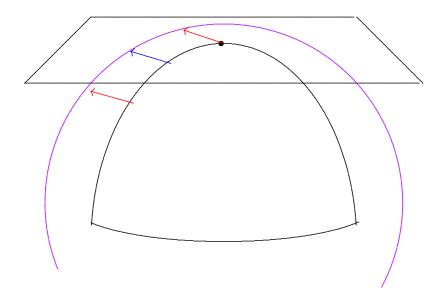
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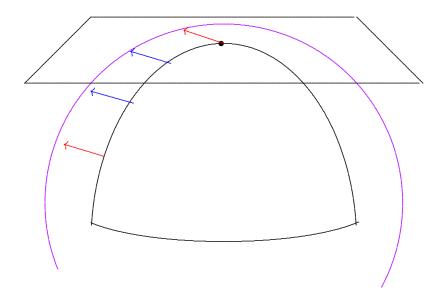
 $(M^{2m}, g)$  has holonomy  $\subset \mathbf{U}(m)$ .

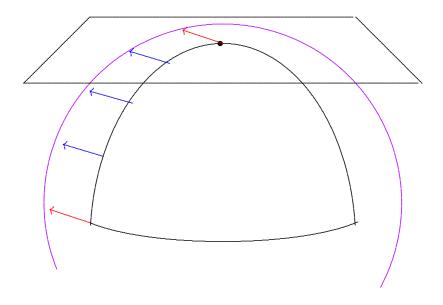


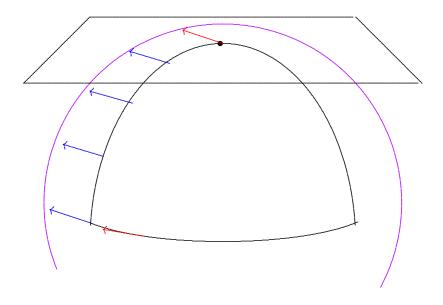


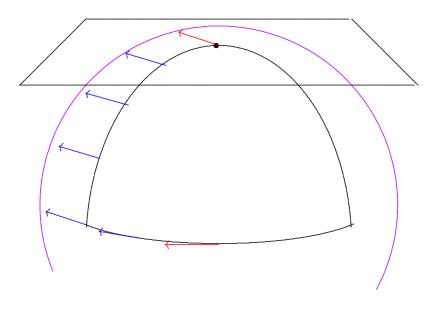


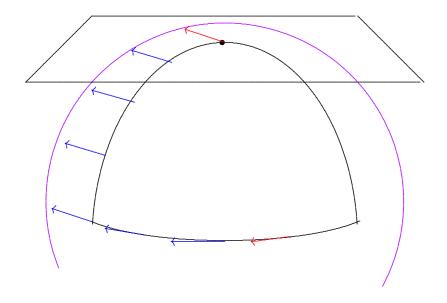


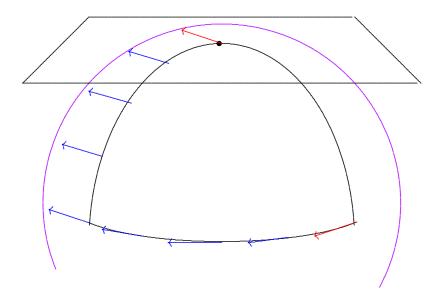


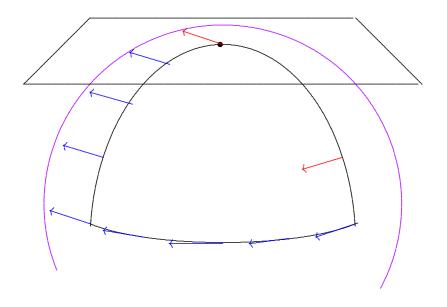


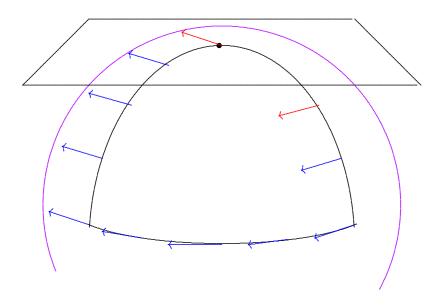


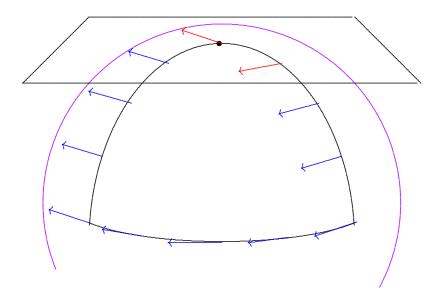


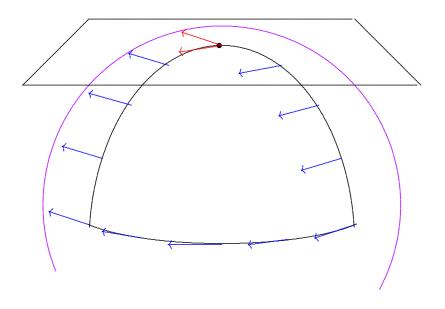


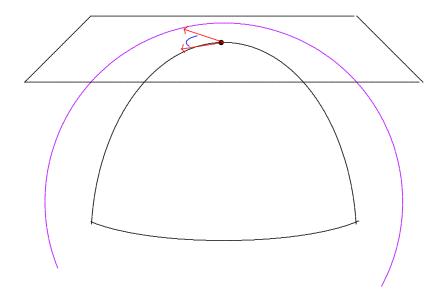




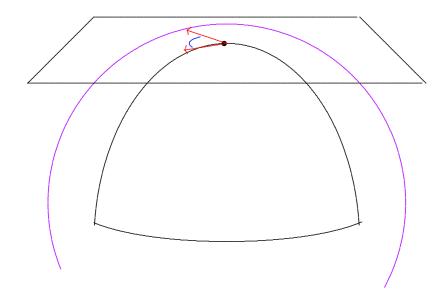






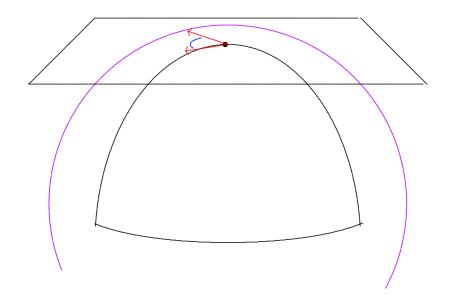


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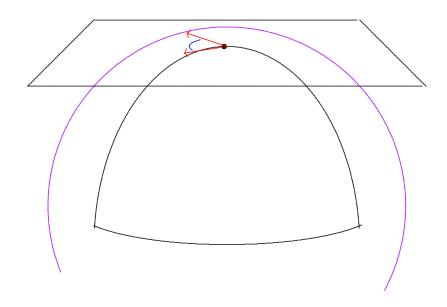
# Kähler metrics:

 $(M^{2m}, g)$ : holonomy



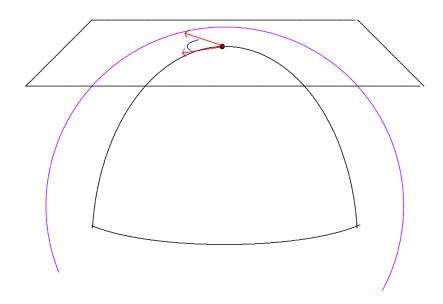
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 $\mathbf{U}(m) := \mathbf{O}(2m) \cap \mathbf{GL}(m, \mathbb{C})$ 

A laboratory for exploring Einstein metrics.

Kähler geometry is a rich source of examples.

If M admits a Kähler metric, it of course admits a symplectic form  $\omega$ .

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Some Suggestive Questions. If  $(M^4, \omega)$  is a symplectic 4-manifold, when does  $M^4$  admit an Einstein metric g (unrelated to  $\omega$ )?

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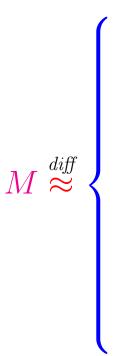
Some Suggestive Questions. If  $(M^4, \omega)$  is a symplectic 4-manifold, when does  $M^4$  admit an Einstein metric g (unrelated to  $\omega$ )? What if we also require  $\lambda \geq 0$ ?

**Theorem** (L '09).

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```
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\begin{array}{c} \text{ ... anifol} \\ \text{ ... are } \omega. \text{ Then } 1 \\ \text{ ... iric } g \text{ with } \lambda \geq 0 \text{ if } \epsilon. \\ \\ \mathbb{CP}_2 \# k \overline{\mathbb{CP}_2}, \quad 0 \leq k \leq 8, \\ S^2 \times S^2, \\ \\ M \overset{diff}{\approx} \end{array}
```



—André Weil, 1958

Simply connected complex surface with  $c_1 = 0$ .

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Only one deformation type.

Simply connected complex surface with  $c_1 = 0$ .

Only one diffeomorphism type.

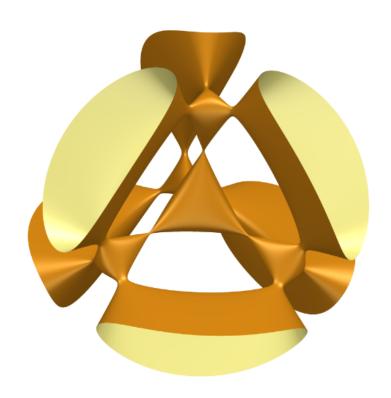
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Typical model: Smooth quartic in  $\mathbb{CP}_3$ .

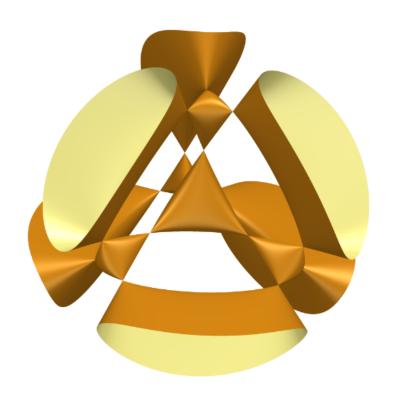
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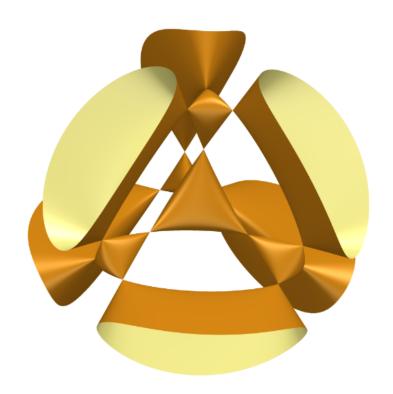
Kummer construction:

Kummer:  $T^4/\mathbb{Z}_2$ : Singular quartic in  $\mathbb{CP}_3$ .



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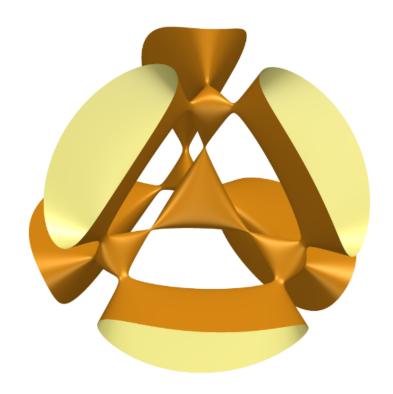
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 $T^4$  = Picard torus of curve of genus 2.

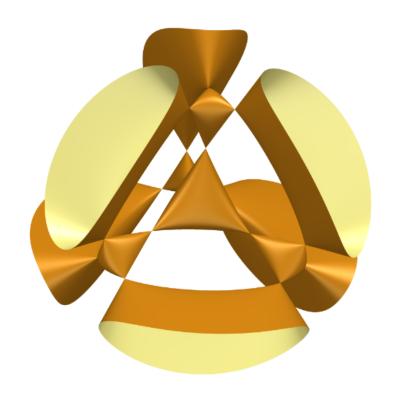
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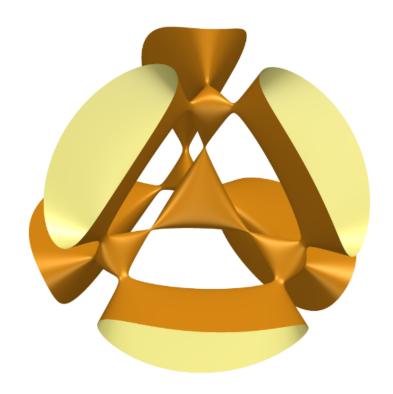
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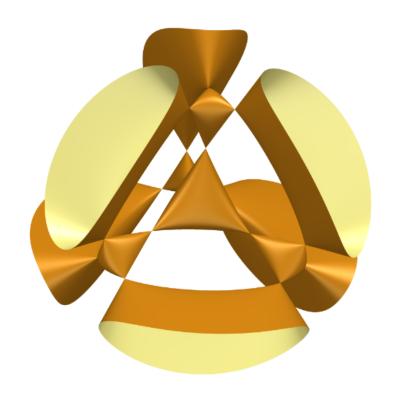
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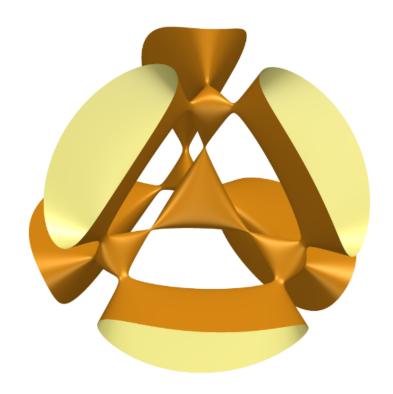
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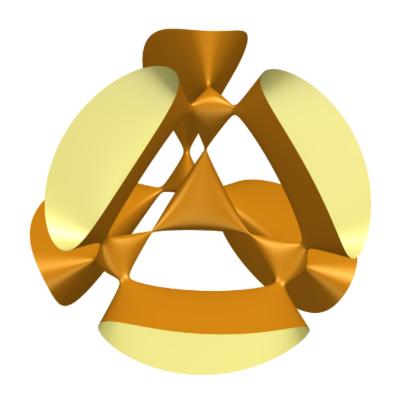
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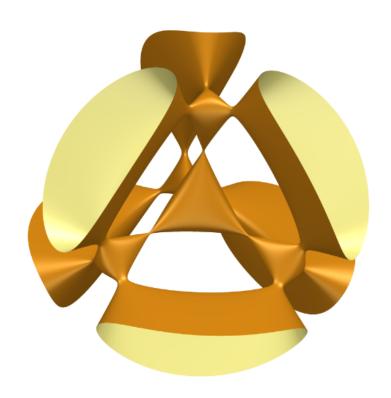
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Generic quartic is a K3 surface.

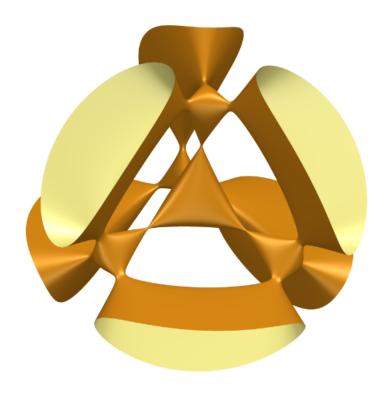
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Calabi/Yau: Admits Ricci-flat Kähler metrics.

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

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$$M \stackrel{diff}{\approx} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \mathbb{CP}_2 \# k \overline{\mathbb{CP}}_2, & 0 \leq k \leq 8, \\ S^2 \times S^2, & \\ K3, & \\ K3/\mathbb{Z}_2, & \\ T^4, & \\ T^4/\mathbb{Z}_2, T^4/\mathbb{Z}_3, T^4/\mathbb{Z}_4, T^4/\mathbb{Z}_6, \end{array} \right.$$

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Einstein metric 
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Del Pezzo surfaces, K3 surface, Enriques surface, Abelian surface, Hyper-elliptic surfaces.

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

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No others: Hitchin-Thorpe, Seiberg-Witten, ...

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Extensive results in  $\lambda < 0$  case, too.

Einstein metric 
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Extensive results in  $\lambda < 0$  case, too.

But that would be a topic for a different lecture!

**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 g with  $\lambda \geq 0$  if and only if

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

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## Below the line:

Every Einstein metric is Ricci-flat Kähler.

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

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 $T^4/\mathbb{Z}_2, T^4/\mathbb{Z}_3, T^4/\mathbb{Z}_4, T^4/\mathbb{Z}_6,$ 
 $T^4/(\mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2), T^4/(\mathbb{Z}_3 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_3), \text{ or } T^4/(\mathbb{Z}_2 \oplus \mathbb{Z}_4).$ 

## Below the line:

Every Einstein metric is Ricci-flat Kähler.

$$\mathbb{CP}_2 \# k \overline{\mathbb{CP}}_2, \quad 0 \le k \le 8,$$
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## Below the line:

Every Einstein metric is Ricci-flat Kähler.

Know an Einstein metric on each manifold.

$$\mathbb{CP}_{2} \# k \overline{\mathbb{CP}}_{2}, \quad 0 \leq k \leq 8, \\
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K3/\mathbb{Z}_{2}, \\
T^{4}, \\
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Moduli space  $\mathscr{E}(M) \neq \varnothing$ . But is it connected?

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## Below the line:

Every Einstein metric is Ricci-flat Kähler.

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

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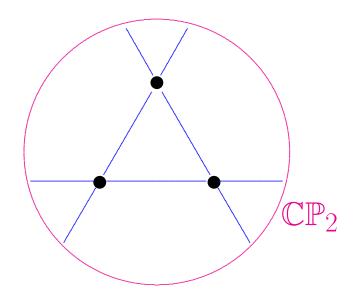
Blow-up of  $\mathbb{CP}_2$  at k distinct points,  $0 \le k \le 8$ , in general position,

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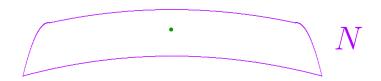
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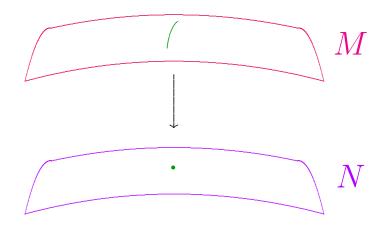
If N is a complex surface,



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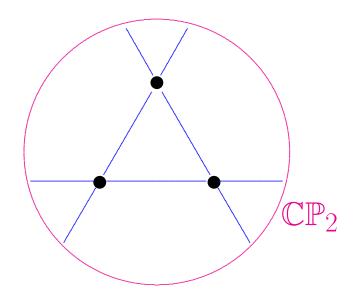
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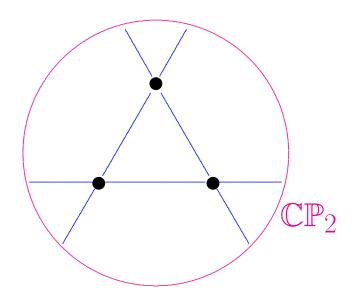
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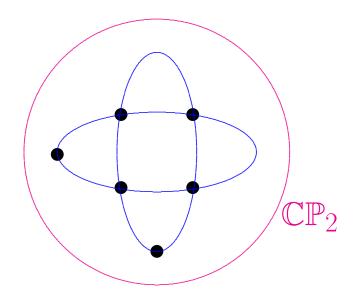
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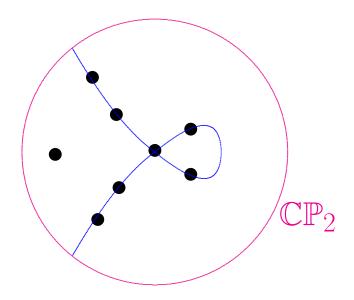
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No 3 on a line, no 6 on conic,

 $(M^4, J)$  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  $\mathbb{CP}_1 \times \mathbb{CP}_1$ .



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

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Theorem.

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

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**Theorem.** Each del Pezzo  $(M^4, J)$  admits a J-compatible

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Theorem. Each del Pezzo  $(M^4, J)$  admits a J-compatible conformally Kähler, Einstein metric,

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

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**Theorem.** Each del Pezzo  $(M^4, J)$  admits a J-compatible conformally Kähler, Einstein metric, and this metric is geometrically unique.

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Conformally Kähler:

$$g = u^2 h$$

 $\exists$  some Kähler metric h & some smooth function u.

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Conformally Kähler:

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where Kähler metric h is extremal &  $u = s_h^{-1}$ .

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#### Above the line:

Moduli space  $\mathscr{E}(M) \neq \varnothing$ . But is it connected?

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#### Below the line:

Every Einstein metric is Ricci-flat Kähler.

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

Understand all Einstein metrics on del Pezzos.

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Is Einstein moduli space connected?

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## Progress to date:

Nice characterizations of known Einstein metrics.

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Nice characterizations of known Einstein metrics.

Exactly one connected component of moduli space!

**Theorem** (L '15).

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Corollary. These known Einstein metrics on any del Pezzo  $M^4$  sweep out exactly one connected component of the Einstein moduli space  $\mathcal{E}(M)$ .

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$$\Longrightarrow \Lambda^+ = \mathbb{R}\omega \oplus \Re e\Lambda^{2,0}$$

$$W^+ = \text{trace-free part of} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \frac{s}{4} \end{bmatrix}$$

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for these metrics & conformal rescalings:

$$g \rightsquigarrow \mathbf{h} = u^2 g \implies \det(W^+) \rightsquigarrow u^{-6} \det(W^+).$$

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L (2021b): related classification result.

Theorem (L/Wu '21).

**Theorem** (L/Wu '21). Let (M, g) be a compact oriented Einstein 4-manifold,

Theorem (L/Wu '21). Let (M, g) be a simply-connected compact oriented Einstein 4-manifold,

 $W^+:\Lambda^+\to\Lambda^+$ 

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satisfies

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Corollary. Every simply-connected compact oriented Einstein  $(M^4, g)$  with  $det(W^+) > 0$  is diffeomorphic to a del Pezzo surface.

$$W^+:\Lambda^+\to\Lambda^+$$

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at every point of M. Then g is conformal to an orientation-compatible extremal Kähler metric h with scalar curvature s > 0 on M.

Corollary. Every simply-connected compact oriented Einstein  $(M^4, g)$  with  $\det(W^+) > 0$  is diffeomorphic to a del Pezzo surface. Conversely, every del Pezzo  $M^4$  carries Einstein g with  $\det(W^+) > 0$ ,

$$W^+:\Lambda^+\to\Lambda^+$$

satisfies

$$\det(W^+) > 0$$

at every point of M. Then g is conformal to an orientation-compatible extremal Kähler metric h with scalar curvature s > 0 on M.

Corollary. Every simply-connected compact oriented Einstein  $(M^4, g)$  with  $\det(W^+) > 0$  is diffeomorphic to a del Pezzo surface. Conversely, every del Pezzo  $M^4$  carries Einstein g with  $\det(W^+) > 0$ , and these sweep out exactly one connected component of moduli space  $\mathscr{E}(M)$ .

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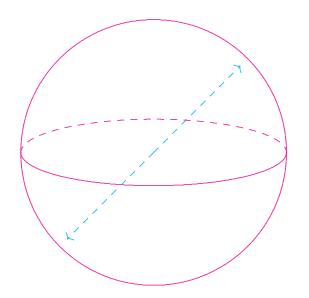
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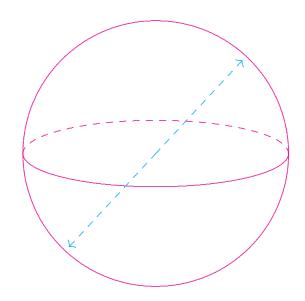
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Similar results govern moduli spaces in these cases.

Odaka-Spotti-Sun completely classified the  $\lambda > 0$  Kähler-Einstein orbifolds  $(X^4, g_{\infty})$  that can arise as Gromov-Hausdorff limits of sequences of smooth Kähler-Einstein manifolds  $(M^4, g_j)$ .

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Proof once again based on Wu's criterion.

## Thanks for the invitation!

# It's a pleasure to be here!

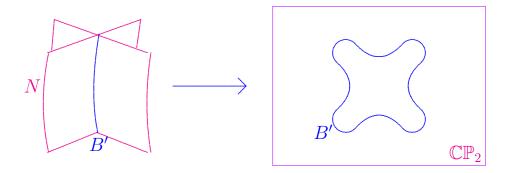


## Supplementary material:

The  $\lambda < 0$  case.

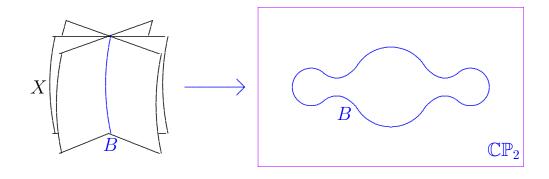
**Theorem.** Let M be the 4-manifold underlying a compact complex surface. Suppose that M an Einstein metric g. Then either M appears on list for  $\lambda \geq 0$ , or else M is a surface of general type, and is not too non-minimal, in the sense that it is obtained from its minimal model X by blowing up at  $k < c_1^2(X)/3$  points.

**Example.** Let N be double branched cover  $\mathbb{CP}_2$ , ramified at a smooth octic:



Aubin/Yau  $\Longrightarrow N$  carries Einstein metric.

Now let X be a triple cyclic cover  $\mathbb{CP}_2$ , ramified at a smooth sextic



and set

$$M = X \# \overline{\mathbb{CP}}_2.$$

Then 
$$\alpha^2(M) = c_1^2(X) = 3$$
,

$$(2\chi + 3\tau)(M) = c_1^2(M) = 2.$$

Theorem  $?? \implies no$  Einstein metric on M.