

# The Donaldson Flow on Symplectic 4-folds

## Agenda

- Motivating questions
- Setup + Observations
- Definition of Flow
- Derivation of Flow
- Summary of Results of Donaldson/Krom
- ~~Challenges + Ideas~~ Open Problems

All of talk material is in

- 1) The Donaldson Flow for Symplectic Four-manifolds [Krom + Salomon] <sup>Geometric</sup> 2015/2016
- 2) The DF is a locally smooth semiflow [Krom] 2015/2016

## Motivating Questions



Given symplectic manifold  $(M^{2n}, \omega)$ , when can we isotopy  $\omega$  to another symplectic  $\sigma$  on  $M^{2n}$ ?

Necessary:  $[\omega] = [\sigma] \in H^2(M^{2n})$ . Sufficient?

Conjecture: Yes.(?)

Consequences (if true):

- Moser Isotopy  $\Rightarrow [\sigma] = [\omega]$  are connected by diff-family:  $\exists \varphi_t: M \rightarrow M$  s.t.  $\varphi_0 = \text{Id}$  &  $\varphi_1^* \sigma = \omega$
- Gromov & Taubes results  $\Rightarrow \varphi \in \text{Diff}(M)$  isotopic to identity implies  $\varphi^*: H^*(M; \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow H^*(M; \mathbb{R})$  is identity. if  $M = \mathbb{C}P^n$

Setup + Observations: Find "Flow" (natural  $\omega_t$ ) which connects symp forms.

- Let  $(M, \omega, g, J)$  be symplectic mfd with choice of compatible triple.
- ~~If  $\dim M = 4$ ; then for any  $p$  symplectic on~~
- For any  $p$  symplectic, w/  $[p] = [\omega]$  say, we can define tensor  $R^p \in \text{End}(\Lambda^2 M, \Lambda^2 M)$  by:

$$R^p \tau := \tau - \frac{2\tau \wedge p}{p \wedge p} p = \tau - \frac{\tau \wedge p}{\text{dvol}_p} p$$

on 4-fold

- $R^p$  is an involution on  $\Lambda^2 M$  acting as 1 on  $\tau$  w/  $\tau \wedge p = 0$  & -1 on  $\mathbb{R}p$ .
- Linear Algebra fact: Given a volume form  $\text{vol} \in \Lambda^4 \mathbb{R}^4$  and a rank 3 positive bundle  $\Lambda^+ \subset \Lambda^2 \mathbb{R}^4$ ,  $\exists$  a unique metric w/

$$\begin{aligned} \tau \wedge \tau &= c \text{vol} \quad \forall \tau \in \Lambda^+ \\ \text{c} > 0 \end{aligned} \quad (1) \text{vol}_g = \text{vol}_p \quad + \quad (2) \Lambda_g^+ \mathbb{R}^4 = \Lambda^+$$

## Setup + Observations (cont):

- To  $p$ , we can associate unique Riemannian metric  $g_p$  s.t:

$$(1) \operatorname{dvol}_{g_p} = \operatorname{dvol}_g = \operatorname{dvol}_\omega \quad + \quad (2) \Lambda_{g_p}^+(M) = \mathbb{R}^p \Lambda_g^+(M)$$

- Imbues  $\infty$ -dim mfd  $\operatorname{Sym}(M, [\omega]) := \{ \text{space of symplectic } \xi_p \mid [p] = [\omega] \}$  <sup>use some Banach completion.</sup>  
w/  $\infty$ -dim Riemannian structure as so:

$$\mathcal{M} = \operatorname{Symp}(M, [\omega]) \stackrel{\text{open}}{\subset} [\omega] + d\Omega^1(M) \leftarrow \text{Affine Banach mfd.}$$

$$\Rightarrow T_p \operatorname{Symp}(M, [\omega]) = d\Omega^1(M)$$

$$\text{Metric defn: } \langle \hat{p}, \hat{\sigma} \rangle_p = \int \lambda \wedge *^p \xi \quad \text{w/ } d\lambda = \hat{p}, d\xi = \hat{\sigma} \\ d*^p \lambda = d*^p \xi = 0$$

Thus, have  $\infty$ -dim Riemannian mfd  $(\mathcal{M}, \langle, \rangle)$ .

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Definition of Flow: (Do on side board / save if possible)

- Consider energy functional:  $E: \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$E_\omega(p) = \int_M \frac{2|p^\sharp|^2}{|p^\sharp|^2 - |p^\flat|^2} \operatorname{dvol}_g = \int_M \frac{p^\sharp \wedge p^\sharp}{p \wedge p} \operatorname{dvol}_g$$

- Donaldson Flow is negative gradient flow of  $E$  w.r.t  $\langle, \rangle_p$

$$\partial_t p = d*^p d\Theta^p, \quad \Theta^p := * \frac{p}{\langle p, p \rangle} - \frac{1}{2} \left| \frac{p}{\langle p, p \rangle} \right|^2 p, \quad \langle p, p \rangle = \frac{\operatorname{dvol}_p}{\operatorname{dvol}_g}$$

## More Derivation

$$\phi^* \sum \hat{\phi} \omega$$

$$\text{Proof: } d\mu_i(\phi) \hat{\phi} = \frac{d\omega(\hat{\phi}, d\phi \cdot) \wedge \sigma}{d\text{vol}_\sigma}$$

$$d\mu_i: T\mathcal{M} \rightarrow T\Omega^0 = \Omega^0$$

$$\Omega_i(p_\phi(H), \hat{\phi}) = \langle H, \mu_i(\phi) \rangle_{L^2}?$$

$$\Omega_i(-d\phi \circ X_H, \hat{\phi}) = \int_M \omega_i(\hat{\phi}, d\phi \circ X_H) d\text{vol}_\sigma$$

$$= \int_M \iota_{X_H} d\omega_i(\hat{\phi}, d\phi \cdot) d\text{vol}_\sigma$$

$$= \int_M d\omega_i(\hat{\phi}, d\phi \cdot) \wedge \iota_{X_H} (d\text{vol}_\sigma)$$

$$= \int_M d\omega_i(\hat{\phi}, d\phi \cdot) \wedge dH \wedge \sigma$$

$$= \int_M H \wedge (d\omega_i(\hat{\phi}, d\phi \cdot) \wedge \sigma) \cdot \frac{d\text{vol}_\sigma}{d\text{vol}_\sigma}$$

$$= \langle H, d\mu_i(\phi) \hat{\phi} \rangle_{L^2}!$$

(Prop 2.1) in [S-K]

Yields energy function  $E$  on  $\mathcal{M}$ , namely:

$$E(\phi) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_i \|\mu_i\|_{L^2}^2, \quad E: \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

Gradient Flow of  $E$  w.r.t  $\langle, \rangle_{L^2}$ ?

$$dE(\phi) \hat{\phi} = \sum_i \langle d\mu_i \hat{\phi}, \mu_i \rangle_{L^2} \quad \text{defn of moment map}$$

$$= - \sum_i \Omega_i(\frac{d\phi}{d\phi} \circ X_{H_i}, \hat{\phi}) = - \sum_i \langle J_i d\phi \circ X_{H_i}, \hat{\phi} \rangle_{L^2}$$

$$\Omega_i = \langle J_i, \cdot \rangle$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla E = - \sum_i J_i d\phi \circ X_{H_i} \quad | \quad H_i := \frac{\phi^* \omega_i \wedge \sigma}{d\text{vol}_\sigma}$$

$$\Rightarrow \partial_t \phi_t = - \nabla E(\phi_t) = \sum_i J_i d\phi_t \circ X_{H_i}$$

is negative gradient flow!

Use  $p_t := (\phi_t^{-1})^* \sigma$  to get evolv of  $p_t$

$\Rightarrow$  Donaldson flow on  $p_t$ !

(No more derivations pls).

## Current Status / Results of Donaldson Kron

- 1) [Donaldson] Background  $\omega$  is unique absolute minimizer of  $E$ .
- 2) [Donaldson] All other critical pts are Index  $> 0$  in hyper Kähler case
- 3) [Kron] Donaldson Flow exists for short time  $\pi$  is ~~smooth~~ <sup>For short time?</sup> regular <sup>on  $W^{k,p}$  if</sup>  $k$  is big enough.

## Open Problems

1) Long-time existence:

(a)  $\text{vol } p_t \rightarrow \infty$  or 0

(b)  $\|w\|_{W^{k,p}} \rightarrow \infty$  in finite time in long-term.

2) Deal w/ saddle pts in general case



Derivation of Flow : How did Donaldson come up with this?

- Consider hyper-Kähler curve:

$$(H, g, \underbrace{\bar{\omega}}_{\bar{\omega}_1, \bar{\omega}_2, \bar{\omega}_3}, \underbrace{\bar{J}}_{J_1, J_2, J_3}) \quad \omega / J_i \text{ satisfying quaternionic relations}$$

(g, \omega\_i, J\_i) all Kähler.

- Look at mfd (∞-dim) of diffeomorphisms:

$$\left\{ \phi: (M, \sigma) \rightarrow (H, g, \bar{\omega}, \bar{J}) \mid \phi^*[\omega_i] = [\sigma] \right\} =: \mathcal{M}$$

$M \cong H$  diffeomorphic

↗ new M sorry!

-  $\mathcal{M}$  has "hyper-Kähler" structure pulled back from  $H$ .

-  $T_\phi \mathcal{M} = \Gamma(M, \phi^* TH)$ ;  $\hat{v}, \hat{w} \in T_\phi \mathcal{M}$  then define:

$$\Omega_i(\hat{v}, \hat{w})_\phi := \int_M \omega_i(\hat{v}, \hat{w}) \, d\text{vol}_\sigma, \quad \partial_i \hat{v}_\phi := J_i \hat{v}, \quad \langle \hat{v}, \hat{w} \rangle_\phi = \int_M \langle \hat{v}, \hat{w} \rangle_g \, d\text{vol}_\sigma$$

Symplectic

complex

Riemannian

([f] ↦ (f<sup>-1</sup>)<sup>\*</sup>ω)

$\phi \mapsto \phi \circ \psi^{-1}$  symplectomorphism

-  $\mathcal{M}$  has action by  $\text{SympMor}(M, \sigma) =: G_\sigma$ ;  $\mathcal{M}/G_\sigma \cong \text{Symp}(M, [\omega])$

Derivation continued:

- Action  $G_\sigma \curvearrowright \mathcal{M}$  is "Hamiltonian" almost:

- obviously  $\Omega_i$  is invariant under  $G_\sigma$  action. So is symplectic action.

- moreover,  $\mathfrak{g} = T_0 G_\sigma = \text{symplectic vector fields on } M$

- can restrict to  $\mathfrak{g}_0 = \text{Hamiltonian vector fields on } M$ .

- Thus  $\mathfrak{g}_0 \cong \mathfrak{d}\Omega^0(M) \cong \Omega^0(M)/\mathbb{R}$ , & we have infinitesimal action of  $\mathfrak{g}_0$  on  $\mathcal{M}$  realized by map:

$$\rho: \mathfrak{g}_0 \longrightarrow \text{Vect}(\mathcal{M}): \xi \in \Omega^0(M)/\mathbb{R} \longmapsto \left\{ \phi \mapsto -d\phi \circ \overset{\text{Hamiltonian v-field w.r.t } \sigma}{X_H^\sigma} \in \Gamma(M, \phi^* TH) = T_\phi \mathcal{M} \right\}$$

- Is action of  $\mathfrak{g}_0$  given by moment maps  $\mu_i: \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \Omega^0(M)$ ? Yes!

- Reminder: Moment map is  $\mu: M \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}^*$  s.t.  $\rho(\xi) = X_{d\langle \mu, \xi \rangle}$ .

- Map is:

$$\mu_i: \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \Omega^0(M), \quad \mu_i(\phi) := \frac{\phi^* \omega_i \wedge \sigma}{d\text{vol}_\sigma}$$