

# Cox rings of K3 surfaces

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# Outline

## 1 Cox rings

- Definition
- Relations

## 2 K3 surfaces

- Motivations
- K3 surfaces with finitely generated  $\text{NE}(X)$

## 3 Cox rings of K3 surfaces

- $\text{rk } \text{Pic}(X) = 2$
- Non symplectic involutions

# Cox rings

Let  $X$  be a smooth algebraic variety over  $\mathbb{C}$  and  $L_1, \dots, L_\rho$  be divisors whose classes freely generate  $\text{Pic}(X)$ .

The ***Cox ring*** of  $X$  is:

$$\text{Cox}(X) := \bigoplus_{a \in \mathbb{Z}^n} H^0(X, a_1 L_1 + \cdots + a_\rho L_\rho)$$

# Cox rings

**Observation.**  $\text{Cox}(X)$  is graded by  $\text{Pic}(X)$ :

$$\text{Cox}(X) \cong \bigoplus_{D \in \text{Pic}(X)} \text{Cox}(X)_D$$

- $\text{Cox}(X)_D = H^0(X, D)$ ,
- $\text{Cox}(X)_{D_1} \cdot \text{Cox}(X)_{D_2} \subseteq \text{Cox}(X)_{D_1 + D_2}$ .

# Cox rings

## Questions.

- When is  $\text{Cox}(X)$  finitely generated?
- How do we find its generators and relations?

$$0 \longrightarrow I_X \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_r] \longrightarrow \text{Cox}(X) \longrightarrow 0.$$

# Cox rings

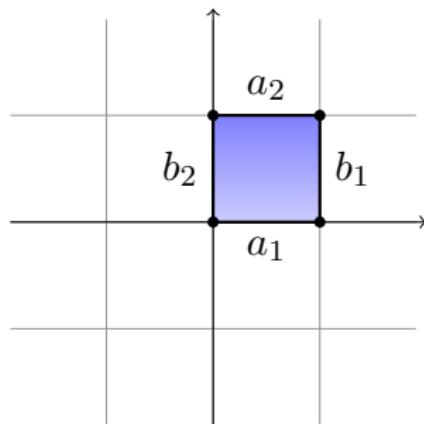
Theorem (D. Cox, 1992). Let  $X$  be a toric variety with  $E_1, \dots, E_r$  integral invariant divisors, then

$$\text{Cox}(X) = \mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_r]$$

where  $x_i$  is a defining section for  $E_i$ .

# Cox rings

Example: Let  $\mathbb{F}_0$  be a quadric surface:



$$\text{Cox}(X) \cong \mathbb{C}[a_1, a_2, b_1, b_2]$$

# Cox rings

Examples of smooth surfaces with finitely generated Cox ring:

- toric,
- Del Pezzo,
- blow-up of  $\mathbb{P}^2$  at points lying on a conic,
- some  $K3$  surfaces.

## Cox rings: relations

**Theorem (A. Laface, M. Velasco, 2007).** Let  $E_1, E_2$  be two generators of  $\text{Cox}(X)$  with  $E_1 \cdot E_2 = 0$ , if the map:

$$\begin{aligned} \bigoplus_{k=1}^2 H^0(X, D - E_k - E_i) &\longrightarrow H^0(X, D - E_i) \\ (a, b) &\longmapsto ax_1 + bx_2 \end{aligned}$$

is surjective for any  $i > 2$  then  $I_X$  has no generators in degree  $D$ .

**Observation.** This happens if

$$H^1(X, D - E_1 - E_2 - E_i) = 0 \quad \text{for each } i > 2.$$

# K3 surfaces

A K3 surface  $X$  is a

- *simply connected* compact complex surface

which admits

- a nowhere vanishing *holomorphic two form*  $\omega_X$ .

Examples:

- Quartic surfaces of  $\mathbb{P}^3$ .
- Double covers of Del Pezzo surfaces branched along  $B \in |-2K_Y|$ .

Remark:  $\text{Pic}(X)$  is a lattice.

## K3 surfaces

Given an integral divisor  $D \subset X$  on a K3 surface, the graded algebra:

$$R(X, D) := \bigoplus_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} H^0(X, iD)$$

is finitely generated by elements of degree  $i \leq 3$ .

Remark:

- $\text{Cox}(X)$  f.g implies that  $R(X, D)$  is f.g.

# K3 surfaces

Which K3's have a f.g. Cox ring?

- $\text{NE}(X)$  must be finitely generated.
- A theorem of Kovács (1994) describes the generators of  $\text{NE}(X)$ : either an ample class or rational curves with self-intersections 0 and  $-2$ .

# Cox rings of K3 surfaces (with J. Hausen and A. Laface)

We deal with two classes of K3 surfaces:

- with  $\text{rk } \text{Pic}(X) = 2$ ,
- admitting a non-symplectic involution.

## K3 surfaces with $\rho = 2$

$X$  is a K3 surface with  $\text{rk } \text{Pic}(X) = 2$  and cone of curves

$$\text{NE}(X) = \langle E_1, E_2 \rangle.$$

The intersection matrix of  $\text{Pic}(X)$  is:

- $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & k \\ k & 0 \end{pmatrix} = U(k)$  with  $k \geq 2$
- $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & k \\ k & -2 \end{pmatrix}$  with  $k \geq 1$
- $\begin{pmatrix} -2 & k \\ k & -2 \end{pmatrix}$  with  $k \geq 3$

## K3 surfaces with $\rho = 2$

**Theorem.** Let  $X$  be a K3 surface with  $\text{Pic}(X) \cong U(k)$  and  $k \geq 2$ , then the degrees of generators and relations of  $\text{Cox}(X)$  are:

$k$	deg. gen.	deg. rel.
2	(1, 0), (0, 1), (2, 2)	(4, 4)
$\geq 3$	(1, 0), (0, 1), (1, 1)	(2, 2)

## K3 surfaces with $\rho = 2$

Example. If  $X$  is a K3 surface with  $\text{Pic}(X) \cong U(2)$  then

$$\text{Cox}(X) \cong \frac{\mathbb{C}[a_1, a_2, b_1, b_2, c]}{(c^2 - f_{4,4}(a, b))}.$$

# K3 surfaces with non-symplectic involution

**Proposition.** Let  $(X, \sigma)$  be a generic pair of a K3 surface together with a non-symplectic involution and

$$\pi : X \longrightarrow X / \langle \sigma \rangle = Y$$

be the induced double cover. Then

- $Y$  is either smooth rational or an Enriques surface,
- $\pi^* \text{Pic}(Y)$  has index  $2^r$  in  $\text{Pic}(X)$ , where  $r - 1$  is the number of components of the branch locus of  $\pi$ .

# K3 surfaces with non-symplectic involution

Let  $R$  be the fixed locus of  $\sigma$  and  $B = \pi(R)$ .

**Lemma.** For any divisor  $D$  of  $Y$ :

$$H^0(X, \pi^*D) \cong \pi^*H^0(X, D) \oplus x_R \cdot \pi^*H^0(X, D - B/2)$$

where  $x_R$  is the section defining  $R$ .

# K3 surfaces with non-symplectic involution

**Theorem.** Let  $(X, Y, \sigma)$  as before. If the branch divisor  $B$  of  $\pi$  is irreducible then

$$\text{Cox}(X) \cong \frac{\text{Cox}(Y)[x_R]}{(x_R^2 - x_B)}.$$

**Corollary.**  $\text{Cox}(X)$  is known if  $Y$  is a Del Pezzo surface.

# K3 surfaces with non-symplectic involution

$\rho(X)$	$\text{Pic}(X)$	$Y$	Blow-up at:
2	$U$	$\mathbb{F}_4$	
	$U(2)$	$\mathbb{F}_0$	
	$(2) \oplus A_1$	$\mathbb{P}^2$	1 pt.
3	$U \oplus A_1$	$\mathbb{F}_4$	1 pt.
	$U(2) \oplus A_1$	$\mathbb{F}_0$	1 pt.
4	$U \oplus 2A_1$	$\mathbb{F}_4$	2 pts.
	$U(2) \oplus 2A_1$	$\mathbb{F}_0$	2 pts.
5	$U \oplus 3A_1$	$\mathbb{F}_4$	3 pts.
	$U(2) \oplus 3A_1$	$\mathbb{F}_0$	3 pts.
6	$U \oplus 4A_1$	$\mathbb{F}_4$	4 pts.
	$U(2) \oplus 4A_1$	$\mathbb{F}_0$	4 pts.
	$U \oplus D_4$	$\mathbb{F}_4$	
	$U(2) \oplus D_4$	$\mathbb{F}_0$	

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