

Unexpected fillings of links of rational surface singularities

Joint with Olga Plamenevskaya

Set up: Isolated complex surface singularity



Link of singularity:
3-manifold, contact structure
 (Y, ξ)

Consider:

Milnor fibers (smoothings) \subseteq ^{Minimal} Symplectic fillings of (Y, ξ) (the link)



Question: For which singularities are there symplectic fillings of the link which are NOT Milnor fibers or the resolution?
"unexpected fillings"

Prior results:

[Ohta-Ono]: Simple and simple elliptic singularities

[Lisca, Nemethi-Popescu-Pampu]: cyclic singularities

[Bhupal-Ono, Park-Park-Shin-Urzua]: quotient singularities

← No unexpected fillings

[Akhmedov-Ozbagci]: higher genus non rational examples



←] infinitely many symplectic fillings with $b_1 \neq 0$
Lots of unexpected fillings

What class of singularities should we expect has no unexpected fillings?

A nice class of singularities to consider: Rational with reduced fundamental cycle (RFC)

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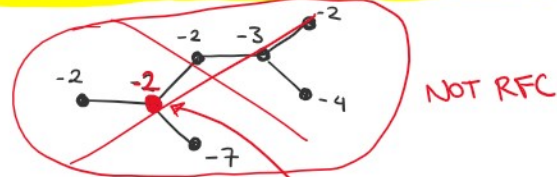
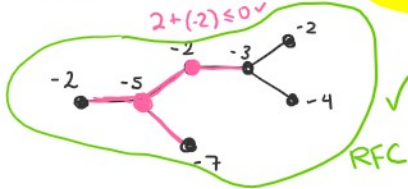
Artin's fundamental cycle $Z_{\min} = \sum a_v E_v$ reduced means all $a_v = 1$.

In terms of minimal good resolution dual graph:

the graph is a tree, each E_v genus 0

For each vertex v ,

$\# \text{edges adj. to } v + \text{normal Euler \#} \leq 0$



$3 + (-5) = -2 \leq 0$

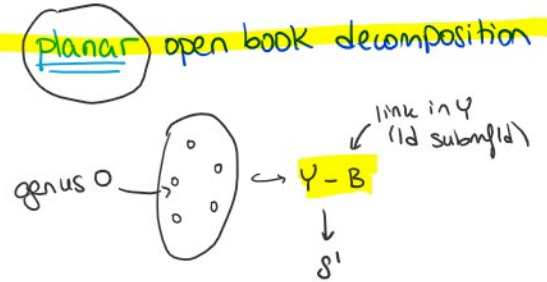
$3 + (-2) = 1 \not\leq 0$ bad vertices

Cyclic singularities \subset RFC singularities \subset Rational singularities

RFC singularities are also nice from contact/symplectic perspective:

Theorem [Ghiggini-Golla-Plamenevskaya]

A link of a normal surface singularity has a planar open book decomposition if and only if the singularity is RFC.



Theorem [Wendl] If (Y, ξ) has a planar open book decomposition with monodromy \mathcal{Q}

minimal symplectic fillings of $(Y, \xi) \xleftrightarrow{1:1}$ factorizations of \mathcal{Q} into positive Dehn twists

Every min sympl. filling of planar ct mfd has a planar Lefschetz fibration w/ bdr that open book.

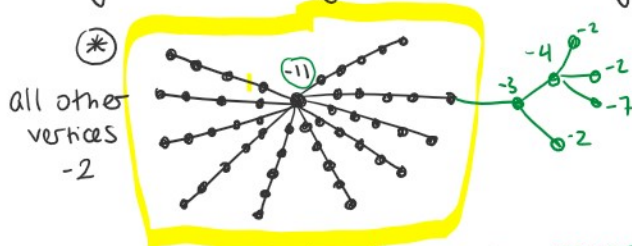
Symplectic fillings are more limited... are unexpected fillings possible here?

Theorem [Plamenevskaya-S.] There are RFC singularities with unexpected fillings!

For any $N > 0$, there exists an RFC singularity with $\geq N$ symplectic fillings which are not diffeomorphic rel boundary data to any Milnor fiber. (simply connected $b_1 = 0$)

How prevalent is this among RFC singularities?

If the min. good resolution graph has a subgraph \otimes there exists an unexpected filling



But many RFC singularities have no unexpected fillings:

Theorem [P-S] If all normal Euler numbers in min good res are ≤ -5 , there is a unique symplectic filling which is the resolution/Artin smoothing.

How to prove it?

① Understand Milnor fibers better:

② Prove a symplectic analogue:

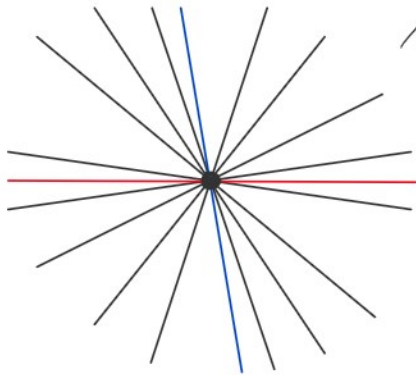
de Jong - van Straten :
 (sandwiched)
 Milnor fibers of an RFC singularity
 \updownarrow 1:1
 Certain complex deformations of a (degraded) complex plane curve singularity associated to the RFC singularity.

Plamenevskaya-S. :
Symplectic fillings of a link of an RFC sing
 \updownarrow 1:1
 Curves obtained by graphical homotopies from the associated decorated plane curve sing.

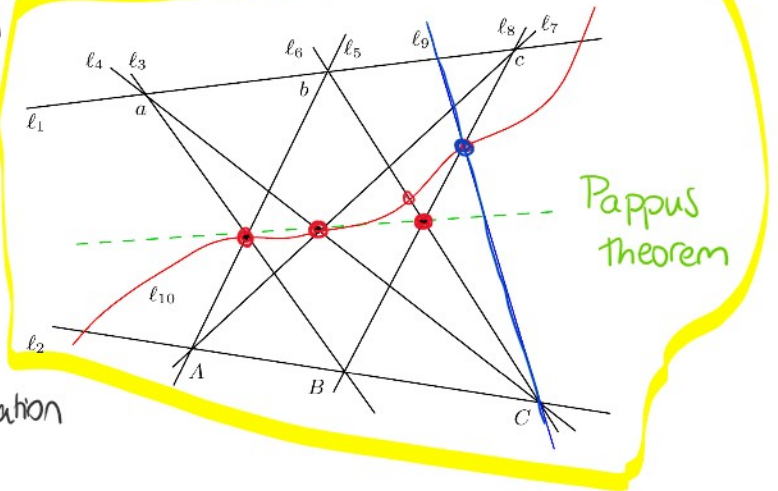
Example:

Plane curve sing.

\exists graphical homotopy



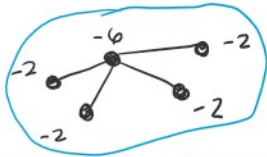
\nexists cx deformation



\rightsquigarrow gives rise to an RFC singularity with an unexpected filling

How to associate a decorated plane curve singularity to an RFC singularity: (dJVS)

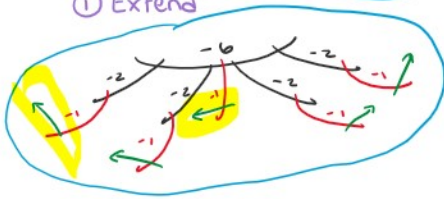
Example 1:



RFC singularity
min good resolution

Decorated plane curve
Singularity:

① Extend

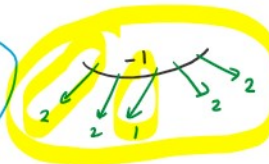


$\mathbb{C}^2 \# 10\overline{\mathbb{C}P}^2$

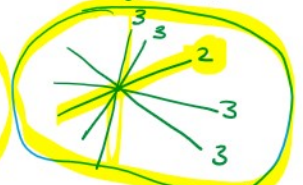
② Blow-down + decorate



$\mathbb{C}^2 \# 5\overline{\mathbb{C}P}^2$



$\mathbb{C}^2 \# \overline{\mathbb{C}P}^2$

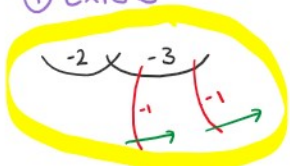


\mathbb{C}^2

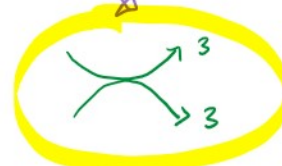
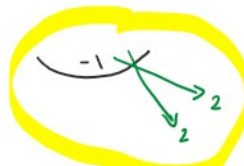
Example 2:



① Extend

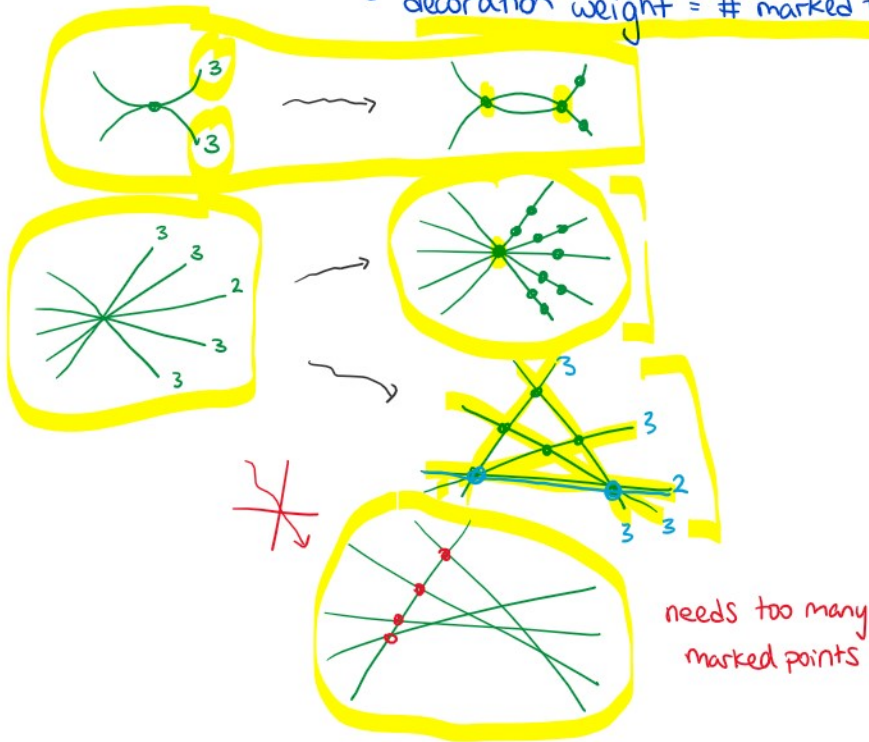


② Blow-down + decorate



Deformation rules: • Make all singularities transverse multi-points (marked points)

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- Make all singularities transverse multi-points (marked points)
 - decoration weight = # marked points (limits # of multipoints)



Complex deformations

cx analytic

immediate changes

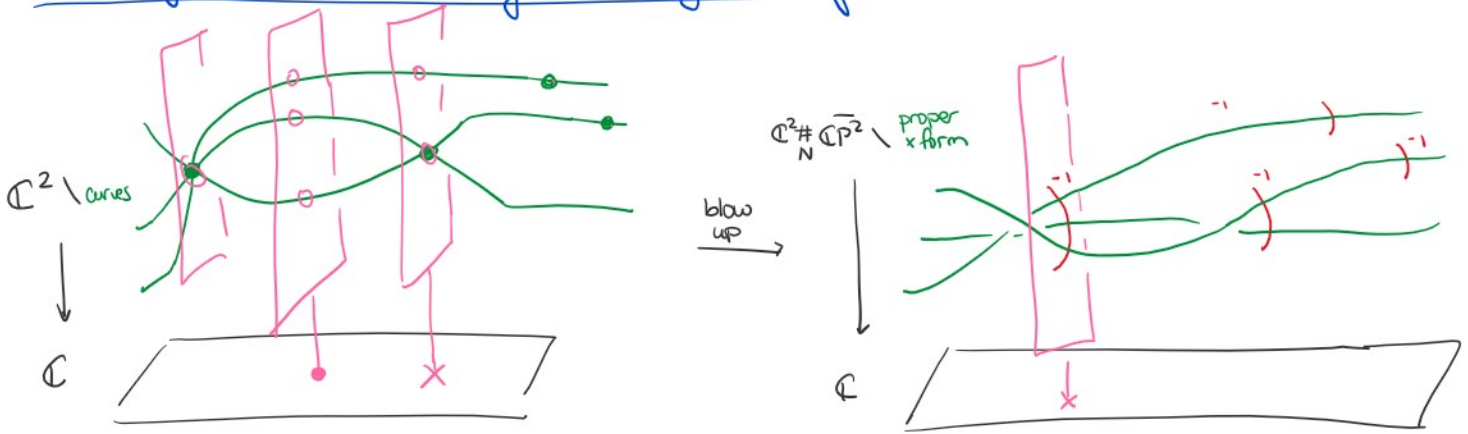
vs.

Graphical homotopies

smooth

can have different intermediate stages

How to get symplectic fillings from graphically homotoped curves?



A Lefschetz fibration yields a symplectic filling

check open book is independent of graphical homotopy

Converse: Mordell \rightarrow every sympl. filling has planar Lefschetz fibration

We reverse engineer a curve configuration from the Lefschetz fibration (braided wiring diag)

