

## THE MODULI SPACE OF $\mathbb{Q}$ -HOMOLOGY PROJECTIVE PLANES WITH 5 QUOTIENT SINGULAR POINTS

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ABSTRACT. We describe the moduli space of  $\mathbb{Q}$ -homology projective planes with 5 quotient singular points, the maximum possible case. In particular, we show that the moduli space has dimension 0.

We also present an Enriques surface having two different elliptic fibrations with a multi-section giving the same configuration of 9 smooth rational curves of Dynkin type  $3A_1 \oplus 2A_3$ .

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Throughout this paper, we work over the field  $\mathbb{C}$  of complex numbers.

A normal projective complex surface is called a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -homology projective plane if it has the same  $\mathbb{Q}$ -homology groups as the complex projective plane  $\mathbf{P}^2$ , i.e., if it has Betti numbers  $b_0 = b_2 = b_4 = 1$ ,  $b_1 = b_3 = 0$ . When a normal projective complex surface has only quotient singularities, it is a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -homology projective plane if and only if its second Betti number  $b_2$  is equal to 1 ([13], p. 2). If a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -homology projective plane is smooth, then it is isomorphic to either  $\mathbb{C}\mathbf{P}^2$  or a fake projective plane, a smooth surface of general type with  $p_g = q = 0$ ,  $K^2 = 9$  (cf. [9], [10]). All possible fundamental groups of fake projective planes have been recently classified by Prasad and Yeung [21], but little has been known about geometric construction of them.

$\mathbb{Q}$ -homology projective planes with nodes (conical double points) only were classified by Dolgachev, Mendes-Lopes and Pardini ([4], Theorem 3.3, Proposition 4.1, see also [11], Corollary 1.2). A complete list consists of a cone over a conic curve,  $\mathbf{P}^2$ , and fake projective planes.

It follows from the orbifold Bogomolov-Miyaoka-Yau inequality ([22], [16], [15], [12]) that a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -homology projective plane with quotient singularities has at most 5 singular points ([6], Corollary 3.4). In a previous paper joint with DongSeon Hwang [6], we completely settled the classification problem of  $\mathbb{Q}$ -homology projective planes with 5 quotient singularities. Namely, we proved that the case

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with 5 quotient singular points does occur, and must come from Enriques surfaces with a configuration of 9 smooth rational curves whose Dynkin diagram is of type  $3A_1 \oplus 2A_3$ . (By contracting the 9 curves we obtain a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -homology projective plane with 5 rational double points of type  $A_1, A_1, A_1, A_3, A_3$ , respectively.)

**Theorem 1.1.** [6] *Let  $S$  be a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -homology projective plane with quotient singularities. Assume that the canonical class  $K_S$  is nef. Then  $S$  has at most 4 singular points except the following case:*

*$S$  has 5 rational double points of type  $A_1, A_1, A_1, A_3, A_3$ , and its minimal resolution  $S'$  is an Enriques surface.*

The case where  $-K_S$  is ample was settled by G. B. Belousov [2]. He proved that Del Pezzo surfaces of Picard number 1 with quotient singularities have at most 4 singular points. Thus, Theorem 1.1 holds true without the nefness of  $K_S$ .

In this paper, we describe the moduli space of such Enriques surfaces, by using the description of the period domain for Enriques surfaces due to Horikawa [5]. In particular we prove that the moduli space has dimension 0 (Theorem 4.1). The moduli space seems to consist of a single point, but we do not know how to prove it.

We also present an Enriques surface having two different elliptic fibrations (one of them is given in [6]) with a multi-section which give the same configuration of 9 smooth rational curves of Dynkin type  $3A_1 \oplus 2A_3$  (Example 4.3).

The problem of determining the maximum number of singular points on  $\mathbb{Q}$ -homology projective planes with quotient singularities is related to the algebraic Montgomery-Yang problem ([17], [13]). See [7] and [8] for recent progress on this problem.

We remark that if a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -homology projective plane  $S$  is allowed to have rational singularities, then there is no bound for the number of singular points. In fact, there are examples of  $\mathbb{Q}$ -homology projective planes with an arbitrary number of rational singularities (see e.g., [6], Introduction).

### Notation

$K_Y$  the canonical class of  $Y$

$b_i(Y)$  the  $i$ -th Betti number of  $Y$

$q(X) := \dim H^1(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  the irregularity of a smooth surface  $X$

$p_g(X) := \dim H^2(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  the geometric genus of a smooth surface  $X$

$|G|$  the order of a finite group  $G$

A  $(-m)$ -curve is a smooth rational curve on a surface with self-intersection  $-m$ .

A  $(-2)$ -curve is called a nodal curve.

## 2. SOME BASICS FROM LATTICE THEORY

By a *lattice*  $L$  we mean a finitely generated free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module  $L$  equipped with a symmetric bilinear form  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  taking values in  $\mathbb{Z}$ . By  $\det(L)$  we denote the determinant of the symmetric matrix corresponding to the bilinear form with respect to a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -basis of  $L$ . A lattice with  $|\det(L)| = 1$  is called *unimodular*. For

a lattice  $L$ , we denote by  $L(m)$  the lattice obtained from  $L$  by multiplying its bilinear form by  $m$ . We extend the bilinear form on  $L$  to the one on  $L \otimes \mathbb{Q}$  taking values in  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Define

$$L^* := \text{Hom}(L, \mathbb{Z}).$$

Let  $L$  be a non-degenerate lattice. Then the canonical embedding

$$L \subset L^* \subset L \otimes \mathbb{Q}$$

defines a bilinear form on  $L^*$  taking values in  $\mathbb{Q}$ , and the factor group

$$\text{disc}(L) := L^*/L$$

is an abelian group of order  $|\det(L)|$ . We denote by  $l(L)$  the minimum number of generators of  $\text{disc}(L)$ .

An element  $v$  of an indefinite lattice is said to be *isotropic* if it has self-intersection 0, i.e.,  $v^2 = \langle v, v \rangle = 0$ .

If a lattice  $M$  has the same rank as  $L$  and contains  $L$ , then  $M$  is called an *over-lattice* of  $L$ .

Let  $L$  be a sublattice of a lattice  $M$ . The sublattice  $L$  is said to be *primitive* if the factor group  $M/L$  is torsion free. The minimal primitive sublattice of  $M$  containing  $L$  is called the *primitive closure* of  $L$ , and is denoted by  $\bar{L}$ . The orthogonal complement of  $L$  in  $M$  is denoted by  $L_M^\perp$ , or simply by  $L^\perp$ .

An *even* lattice is a lattice whose quadratic form induced from its bilinear form takes values in  $2\mathbb{Z}$ .

Let  $L$  be a non-degenerate even lattice. We define

$$q_L : \text{disc}(L) \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}/2\mathbb{Z}, \quad q_L(x + L) = x^2 + 2\mathbb{Z} \quad (x \in L^*).$$

We call  $q_L$  the *discriminant quadratic form* of  $L$ . A subgroup  $A$  of  $\text{disc}(L)$  is said to be *isotropic* if  $q_L|_A \equiv 0$ . The following is well known (see e.g. [19]).

**Lemma 2.1.** *Let  $L$  be a non-degenerate even lattice.*

- (1) *If an even lattice  $M$  is an over-lattice of  $L$ , then the factor group  $A := M/L$  is an isotropic subgroup of  $\text{disc}(L)$ , and  $\text{disc}(M) \cong A^\perp/A$ , where  $A^\perp$  is the orthogonal complement of  $A$  in  $\text{disc}(L)$ .*
- (2) *Conversely, every isotropic subgroup  $A$  of  $\text{disc}(L)$  defines a unique over-lattice  $M \subset L^*$  with  $\text{disc}(M) \cong A^\perp/A$ .*
- (3) *If  $L$  is primitive in a unimodular even lattice, then*

$$(\text{disc}(L^\perp), q_{L^\perp}) \cong (\text{disc}(L), -q_L).$$

The hyperbolic unimodular lattice of rank 2 is denoted by

$$H := \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

An element  $r$  of a negative definite even lattice is called a *root* if  $r^2 = \langle r, r \rangle = -2$ . A negative definite even lattice is called a *root lattice* if it is generated by its roots. By  $A_m$  ( $m \geq 1$ ),  $D_n$  ( $n \geq 4$ ),  $E_p$  ( $p = 6, 7, 8$ ), we denote the root lattices defined by the Dynkin diagrams of the corresponding type. Note that  $E_8$  is the negative definite even unimodular lattice of rank 8.

Consider a root lattice of rank 9

$$R := A_1 \oplus A_1 \oplus A_1 \oplus A_3 \oplus A_3 = 3A_1 \oplus 2A_3.$$

Let  $r_1, r_2, r_3$  be the roots corresponding to the sublattice  $A_1 \oplus A_1 \oplus A_1$  of  $R$ . For  $i = 1, 2, 3$ , we denote by  $M_i$  the orthogonal complement of  $r_i$  in  $R$ ,

$$M_i := r_i^\perp \cong A_1 \oplus A_1 \oplus A_3 \oplus A_3 = 2A_1 \oplus 2A_3.$$

**Lemma 2.2.** *Let  $\Lambda := H \oplus E_8$  be the even unimodular lattice of signature  $(1, 9)$ .*

- (1) *There is an embedding of  $R$  into  $\Lambda$ .*
- (2) *Given an embedding  $R \subset \Lambda$ , regard  $R, M_1, M_2, M_3$  as sublattices of  $\Lambda$ . Then the following hold true.*
  - (a)  $\overline{R}/R \cong (\mathbb{Z}/2) \times (\mathbb{Z}/4)$ .
  - (b)  $M_i^\perp$  is generated by a primitive isotropic element  $v_i$  and  $r_i$  with

$$\begin{pmatrix} v_i^2 & v_i r_i \\ v_i r_i & r_i^2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ 2 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \text{ or } \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$$

and  $\overline{M_i}/M_i \cong (\mathbb{Z}/4)$  in the first case,  $\overline{M_i}/M_i \cong (\mathbb{Z}/2) \times (\mathbb{Z}/4)$  in the second.

- (c) *The second case of (b) occurs for some  $M_i$ .*
- (d)  $\overline{R} \cong A_1 \oplus E_8$ .

*Proof.* (1) One can give an arithmetic proof by writing an explicit embedding of  $A_1 \oplus A_1 \oplus A_3 \oplus A_3$  into  $E_8$  (see e.g. [20], p337) and an obvious embedding of  $A_1$  into  $H$ . Also, a geometric proof is given by the existence of an Enriques surface yielding a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -homology projective plane with 5 singular points [6], since for an Enriques surface the Néron-Severi group modulo torsion has a lattice structure isomorphic to  $H \oplus E_8$ .

(2) Note that

$$\text{disc}(R) = \left( \bigoplus_{i=1}^3 (\mathbb{Z}/2)\langle e_i \rangle \right) \oplus \left( (\mathbb{Z}/4)\langle w_1 \rangle \right) \oplus \left( (\mathbb{Z}/4)\langle w_2 \rangle \right),$$

where  $\langle \cdot \rangle$  is the generator of the group, i.e.,  $e_i = \frac{r_i}{2}$  with  $e_i^2 = -\frac{1}{2}$  and each  $w_i$  is a generator of  $\text{disc}(A_3) \cong (\mathbb{Z}/4)$  with  $w_i^2 = -\frac{3}{4}$ .

(a) By Lemma 2.1(3),

$$l(\overline{R}) = l(R^\perp) = \text{rank} R^\perp = 1.$$

Now (a) follows from Lemma 2.1(1)(2).

(b) Since  $|\det(M_i)|$  is a square number, so is  $|\det(\overline{M_i})| = |\det(M_i^\perp)|$ . An integral quadratic form of signature  $(1, 1)$  represents 0 if and only if the absolute value of its determinant is a square number. Thus  $M_i^\perp$  contains an isotropic element. Let  $v_i \in M_i^\perp$  be a primitive isotropic element. We know  $r_i \in M_i^\perp$ . Let  $N_i$  be the sublattice of  $M_i^\perp$  generated by  $v_i$  and  $r_i$ . We omit the subscript  $i$  for simplicity. Let

$$c := vr.$$

We may assume that  $c > 0$  by replacing  $v$  by  $-v$  if necessary.

Assume that  $c$  is odd. We compute  $\text{disc}(N)$  which is generated by two elements  $v^*, r^* \in N^*$  satisfying  $v^*v = r^*r = 1$  and  $v^*r = r^*v = 0$ . It is easy to see that

$$v^* = \frac{2v + cr}{c^2} \quad \text{and} \quad r^* = \frac{v}{c}$$

modulo  $N$ . Since  $v^*$  has order  $c^2$ , the order of the group  $\text{disc}(N)$ ,  $\text{disc}(N)$  is a cyclic group generated by  $v^*$ . (In fact, if  $c = 2t + 1$ , then  $r^* = -2tr^* = -tcv^*$ , a multiple of  $v^*$ .) Since  $|\text{disc}(M)|$  is a power of 2, so does  $|\text{disc}(\overline{M})| = |\text{disc}(M^\perp)|$ . Considering the tower

$$N \subset M^\perp \subset (M^\perp)^* \subset N^*$$

we see that  $c$  divides the order of  $M^\perp/N$ . Thus  $cv^* \in M^\perp$ . Since  $cv^* = \frac{2v}{c}$  and  $v$  is primitive, we must have  $c = 1$ . It follows that  $N$  is unimodular, hence  $N = M^\perp$ , giving the second case.

Assume that  $c$  is even, say  $c = 2^t d$  for some  $t \geq 1$  and some odd  $d$ . In this case  $\text{disc}(N)$  is generated by two elements

$$v^* = \frac{v + 2^{t-1}dr}{2^{2t-1}d^2}, \quad r^* = \frac{v}{2^t d}$$

modulo  $N$ . Note that  $v^*$  has order  $2^{2t-1}d^2$ . Since  $2^t dv^* = 2r^*$ , the element  $2^{t-1}dv^* - r^* = \frac{r}{2}$  is of order 2. Thus

$$\text{disc}(N) = \langle v^* \rangle \oplus \langle \frac{r}{2} \rangle = \langle 2^{2t-1}v^* \rangle \oplus \langle d^2v^* \rangle \oplus \langle \frac{r}{2} \rangle.$$

The first factor  $\langle 2^{2t-1}v^* \rangle$  is a cyclic group of order  $d^2$ , so by the same reason as before

$$d2^{2t-1}v^* = \frac{v}{d} \in \text{disc}(M^\perp),$$

so  $d = 1$  by the primitivity of  $v$ . Now

$$\text{disc}(N) = \langle v^* \rangle \oplus \langle \frac{r}{2} \rangle$$

where the factor  $\langle v^* \rangle$  is a cyclic group of order  $2^{2t-1}$ . If  $t \geq 2$ , then  $\text{disc}(N)$  contains an element of order  $\geq 8$ . Since  $\text{disc}(M^\perp)$  contains no element of order  $> 4$ , it follows from the tower above that  $N \neq M^\perp$ , i.e., 2 divides the order of the factor group  $M^\perp/N$ , so the order 2 element  $2^{2t-2}v^* \in M^\perp$ . Since  $2^{2t-2}v^* = \frac{v}{2}$ , this contradicts the primitivity of  $v$ . Hence  $t \leq 1$ .

If  $t = 0$ , then  $N$  is unimodular, hence  $N = M^\perp$ .

If  $t = 1$ , then  $v^* = \frac{v+r}{2}$  and

$$\text{disc}(N) = \langle \frac{v+r}{2} \rangle \oplus \langle \frac{r}{2} \rangle \cong (\mathbb{Z}/2) \oplus (\mathbb{Z}/2).$$

This group has a unique isotropic element  $\frac{v}{2}$ . But  $\frac{v}{2} \notin M^\perp$  by the primitivity of  $v$ . Hence  $N = M^\perp$ , giving the first case.

It is obvious that in the second case,  $M^\perp$  is unimodular, hence  $\overline{M}_i/M_i \cong (\mathbb{Z}/2) \times (\mathbb{Z}/4)$ . In the first case,  $\det(M^\perp) = -4$ , hence  $\overline{M}_i/M_i \cong (\mathbb{Z}/2) \times (\mathbb{Z}/2)$

or  $(\mathbb{Z}/4)$ . To prove the second assertion of (b) we need to show that

$$\overline{M}_i/M_i \not\cong (\mathbb{Z}/2) \times (\mathbb{Z}/2)$$

for any  $M_i$ . Suppose that  $\overline{M}_j/M_j \cong (\mathbb{Z}/2) \times (\mathbb{Z}/2)$  for some  $M_j$ . We set  $M := M_j$  and omit the subscript  $j$  for simplicity. Let  $A := \overline{M}/M \subset \text{disc}(M)$ . Let

$$\text{disc}(M) \cong (\mathbb{Z}/2) \oplus (\mathbb{Z}/2) \oplus (\mathbb{Z}/4) \oplus (\mathbb{Z}/4)$$

be generated by  $e_1, e_2, w_1, w_2$  with  $e_1^2 = e_2^2 = -\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $w_1^2 = w_2^2 = -\frac{3}{4}$ . It has a unique isotropic subgroup isomorphic to  $(\mathbb{Z}/2)^2$ , which is generated by  $e_1 + e_2 + 2w_1$  and  $e_1 + e_2 + 2w_2$ . Thus  $A = \langle e_1 + e_2 + 2w_1, e_1 + e_2 + 2w_2 \rangle$ . By Lemma 2.1(1), it is easy to see that

$$\text{disc}(\overline{M}) = A^\perp/A = \langle e_1 + w_1 + w_2 = e_2 - w_1 + w_2, e_1 + e_2 = 2w_1 = 2w_2 \rangle,$$

hence

$$\text{disc}(\overline{M}) \cong \text{disc}(H(2)),$$

the even type quadratic space of dimension 2 over  $\mathbb{Z}/2$ . Thus  $\text{disc}(\overline{M})$  is not isomorphic to

$$-\text{disc} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ 2 & -2 \end{pmatrix},$$

a contradiction to Lemma 2.1(3).

(c) By (a),  $\overline{R}/R \cong (\mathbb{Z}/2) \times (\mathbb{Z}/4)$ . An isotropic element of order 4 of  $\text{disc}(R)$  is of the form  $e_i \pm v_1 \pm v_2$ , hence is unique up to a choice of  $e_i$  and sign of  $v_j$ . Let us assume that

$$x := e_1 + v_1 + v_2 \in \overline{R}/R.$$

There are exactly two isotropic subgroups, isomorphic to  $(\mathbb{Z}/2) \times (\mathbb{Z}/4)$ , of  $\text{disc}(R)$  containing  $x$ . They are  $\langle x, y \rangle$  and  $\langle x, z \rangle$  where

$$y := e_1 + e_2 + 2v_1, \quad z := e_1 + e_3 + 2v_1.$$

We may assume that  $\overline{R}/R = \langle x, y \rangle$ . Then it follows that  $\overline{M}_3/M_3 \cong (\mathbb{Z}/2) \times (\mathbb{Z}/4)$ . This proves (c).

(d) For any  $M_i$  satisfying  $\overline{M}_i/M_i \cong (\mathbb{Z}/2) \times (\mathbb{Z}/4)$ ,  $\overline{M}_i$  is unimodular, hence is isomorphic to  $E_8$ .  $\square$

### 3. PERIOD DOMAIN FOR ENRIQUES SURFACES

Let  $L := L_{K3}$  be the K3 lattice, that is,

$$L = H \oplus H \oplus H \oplus E_8 \oplus E_8.$$

We define an involution  $\theta : L \rightarrow L$  by

$$\theta(x_1, x_2, x_3, y, z) = (-x_1, x_3, x_2, z, y).$$

Its  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear extension to  $L \otimes \mathbb{C}$  is also denoted by  $\theta$ . The  $\theta$ -invariant sublattice and  $\theta$ -anti-invariant sublattice of  $L$  are

$$L^+ = \{v \in L \mid \theta(v) = v\}, \quad L^- = \{v \in L \mid \theta(v) = -v\}.$$

Then

$$L^+ \cong H(2) \oplus E_8(2), \quad L^- \cong H \oplus H(2) \oplus E_8(2).$$

The unimodular lattice  $L^+(\frac{1}{2})$  is isomorphic to  $\Lambda = H \oplus E_8$ , the cohomology lattice of an Enriques surface. We put

$$\begin{aligned}\Omega^- &= \{[\omega] \in \mathbf{P}(L^- \otimes \mathbb{C}) \mid \omega^2 = 0, \omega\bar{\omega} > 0\} \\ \Gamma &= \{g \in O(L) \mid g\theta = \theta g\}, \quad \Gamma^- = \Gamma|_{L^-} \\ \mathcal{E} &= \Omega^- / \Gamma^-\end{aligned}$$

**Lemma 3.1.** [5] *Let  $\pi : X \rightarrow Y$  be the universal cover of an Enriques surface  $Y$ , and let  $\tau : X \rightarrow X$  be the covering involution. Then there exists an isometry*

$$\phi : H^2(X, \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow L$$

such that

$$\phi\tau^* = \theta\phi.$$

In particular  $\phi$  induces an isomorphism

$$\phi^+ : H^2(X, \mathbb{Z})^{\tau^*} = \pi^*H^2(Y, \mathbb{Z}) = \pi^*Pic(Y) \rightarrow L^+.$$

A *marked Enriques surface* is a pair  $(Y, \phi)$  with  $Y$  an Enriques surface and an isometry  $\phi : H^2(X, \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow L$  such that  $\phi\tau^* = \theta\phi$ , as in Lemma 3.1. Let  $\omega_X$  be a non-zero holomorphic 2-form on  $X$ . Then  $\tau^*\omega_X = -\omega_X$  (there is no holomorphic 2-form on  $Y$ ). The period point  $[\omega_X]$  of the marked K3 surface belongs to  $\Omega^-$ . We call it the *period point* of  $(Y, \phi)$ .

The choice of  $\phi$ , as in Lemma 3.1, is unique modulo  $\Gamma$ . Thus the assignment

$$Y \longmapsto [\omega_X] \in \mathcal{E}$$

is well defined and called the *period map for Enriques surfaces*. Global Torelli theorem for Enriques surfaces [5] says that this map is injective. We put

$$\begin{aligned}\Omega_0^- &:= \{[\omega] \in \Omega^- \mid \omega d \neq 0 \text{ for any } d \in L^- \text{ with } d^2 = -2\} \\ \mathcal{E}_0 &:= \Omega_0^- / \Gamma^-\end{aligned}$$

E. Horikawa [5] showed that every point of  $\mathcal{E}_0$  is the period point of an Enriques surface, or equivalently, every point of  $\Omega_0^-$  is the period point of a marked Enriques surface.

#### 4. ENRIQUES SURFACES WITH 9 NODAL CURVES OF DYNKIN TYPE $3A_1 \oplus 2A_3$

Let  $Y$  be an Enriques surface with 9 nodal curves of Dynkin type  $3A_1 \oplus 2A_3$ , and let

$$C_1 \quad C_2 \quad C_3 \quad C_4 - C_5 - C_6 \quad C_7 - C_8 - C_9$$

be the dual graph of the 9 nodal curves  $C_i$ . Let  $\pi : X \rightarrow Y$  be the universal cover of  $Y$ ,  $\tau : X \rightarrow X$  be the covering involution, and  $\phi : H^2(X, \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow L$  be an isometry such that  $\phi\tau^* = \theta\phi$ . Let

$$H^2(X, \mathbb{Z})^+, \quad H^2(X, \mathbb{Z})^-$$

be the  $\tau^*$ -invariant, the  $\tau^*$ -anti-invariant sublattices of  $H^2(X, \mathbb{Z})$ . These sublattices are isomorphic to  $L^+$  and  $L^-$  respectively.

Let  $C_{i1}$  and  $C_{i2}$  ( $1 \leq i \leq 9$ ) be the two nodal curves on the K3 surface  $X$  lying over  $C_i$ . The 9 divisors

$$C_{i1} + C_{i2} \quad (1 \leq i \leq 9)$$

generate a sublattice of  $H^2(X, \mathbb{Z})^+$  isomorphic to  $3A_1(2) \oplus 2A_3(2)$ , and by Lemma 2.2(2-d) its primitive closure is isomorphic to  $A_1(2) \oplus E_8(2)$ . Thus the 9 divisors

$$C_{i1} - C_{i2} \quad (1 \leq i \leq 9)$$

generate a sublattice of  $H^2(X, \mathbb{Z})^-$  whose primitive closure is isomorphic to  $A_1(2) \oplus E_8(2)$  by Lemma 2.2(2-d), and hence its orthogonal complement  $T$  in  $L^-$  is isomorphic to the rank 3 even lattice  $H \oplus \langle 4 \rangle$ , i.e.

$$T := H \oplus \langle 4 \rangle \subset L^- = H \oplus H(2) \oplus E_8(2),$$

where the rank one lattice  $\langle 4 \rangle$  is contained in the second factor  $H(2)$  of  $L^-$  in an obvious way. The period  $\omega_X$  of the K3 surface  $X$  is orthogonal to the 18 classes  $[C_{ij}]$ . Thus

$$\omega_X \in T \otimes \mathbb{C}.$$

We put

$$\Omega^T := \{[\omega] \in \mathbf{P}(T \otimes \mathbb{C}) \mid \omega^2 = 0, \omega\bar{\omega} > 0\} \subset \Omega^-.$$

Let

$$\Omega_0^T := \Omega^T \cap \Omega_0^-$$

and  $\mathcal{M}$  be the image of  $\Omega_0^T$  under the map  $\Omega_0^- \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_0 = \Omega_0^-/\Gamma^-$ . Then the period  $[\omega_X]$  of the marked Enriques surface  $(Y, \phi)$  belongs to  $\mathcal{M}$ , i.e.

$$[\omega_X] \in \mathcal{M}.$$

We note that  $\mathcal{M}$  also contains the period point of an Enriques surface with 9 nodal curves of Dynkin type  $A_1 \oplus E_8$ .

**Theorem 4.1.** *Let  $\mathcal{M}'$  be the moduli space of Enriques surfaces with 9 nodal curves of Dynkin type  $3A_1 \oplus 2A_3$ . Then the following hold true.*

- (1)  $\mathcal{M}' \subset \mathcal{M}$ .
- (2)  $\mathcal{M}$  is irreducible and  $\dim \mathcal{M} = 1$ .
- (3) A general point of  $\mathcal{M}$  corresponds to an Enriques surface with 9 nodal curves of Dynkin type  $A_1 \oplus E_8$ .
- (4)  $\dim \mathcal{M}' = 0$ .

*Proof.* (1) The assertion follows from the above argument.

(2) Since  $\text{rank} T = 3$ ,  $\dim \Omega^T = 1$ . The orthogonal complement of  $T$  in  $L^-$  is isomorphic to  $A_1(2) \oplus E_8(2)$ , hence contains no  $(-2)$ -vector. This means that  $\Omega^T$  is not contained in the hyperplane in  $\Omega^-$  orthogonal to any  $(-2)$ -vector  $d \in L^-$ . Hence  $\dim \Omega_0^T = 1$  and the second assertion follows.

An explicit calculation shows that  $\Omega^T$  consists of two components obtained by removing a real plane conic curve (topologically a circle) defined by the condition  $\omega\bar{\omega} \leq 0$  from a plane conic curve (topologically a sphere) defined by the equation  $\omega^2 = 0$ . The two components are switched by the isometry  $\theta|_{L^-} \in \Gamma^-$ . This proves the first assertion.

(3) Consider the 1-dimensional family of Enriques surfaces of type I in [14]. These Enriques surfaces have only finitely many automorphisms [3] and have exactly 12 nodal curves, which contains 9 nodal curves of Dynkin type  $A_1 \oplus E_8$ . (These surfaces have an elliptic pencil with a singular fibre of type  $II^* = \tilde{E}_8$  and a 2-section.) Thus their period points are contained in  $\mathcal{M}$ .

(4) By [6], Example 7.3,  $\mathcal{M}$  is not empty. It is enough to show that none of the Enriques surfaces considered in (3) contains 9 nodal curves of Dynkin type  $3A_1 \oplus 2A_3$ . It is easy to see that the configuration of the 12 nodal curves (Figure 1.4, [14]) on such an Enriques surface contains no configuration of 9 nodal curves of Dynkin type  $3A_1 \oplus 2A_3$ . This proves (4)  $\square$

**Corollary 4.2.** *The moduli space of  $\mathbb{Q}$ -homology projective planes with 5 quotient singularities has dimension 0.*

*Proof.* Given an Enriques surface  $Y$ , the set  $\mathcal{N}$  of all nodal curves on  $Y$  is discrete (no nodal curve can move), so is the set  $\mathcal{C}$  of configurations of 9 nodal curves on  $Y$  of Dynkin type  $3A_1 \oplus 2A_3$ . Now the assertion follows from Theorem 4.1.  $\square$

**Question:** Is  $\mathcal{C}/\text{Aut}(Y)$  finite?

Note that  $\mathcal{C} \subset \mathcal{N}^9$ , so the finiteness would follow from the finiteness of  $\mathcal{N}^9/\text{Aut}(Y)$ . We know that  $\mathcal{N}/\text{Aut}(Y)$  is finite by [18], but this does not necessarily imply the finiteness of  $\mathcal{N}^9/\text{Aut}(Y)$ .

Let us discuss an explicit example of Enriques surface with 9 nodal curves of Dynkin type  $3A_1 \oplus 2A_3$ .

**Example 4.3.** Let  $Y_{III}$  be the Enriques surface of type III in [14]. It admits an elliptic pencil with 2 double fibres of type  $I_4$ , 2 fibres of type  $I_2$ , and a special 2-section intersecting only one component in each fibre. See [1] for Kodaira's notation for types of singular fibres. One can easily find 8 nodal curves among the components of singular fibres not meeting the 2-section, so can get a configuration of 9 nodal curves with Dynkin type  $3A_1 \oplus 2A_3$ . This was mentioned in [6], Example 7.3. For example, using the notation there, we take the elliptic pencil

$$|2(E_1 + E_2 + E_3 + E_9)| = |2(E_5 + E_6 + E_7 + E_{12})| = |E_{14} + E_{18}| = |E_{13} + E_{17}|$$

and a 2-section  $E_4$ . The 9 curves

$$E_2 - E_1 - E_9 \quad E_6 - E_7 - E_{12} \quad E_{14} \quad E_{13} \quad E_4$$

gives the configuration. If  $M$  is the sublattice of the cohomology lattice of  $Y_{III}$  generated by the first 8 curves, then  $M^\perp$  is generated by the class of the half elliptic pencil and the 2-section  $E_4$ , hence belongs to the second case of Lemma 2.2(2-b).

There is another elliptic pencil: an elliptic pencil with a fibre of type  $I_2^* = \tilde{D}_6$  and 2 double fibres of type  $I_2$ , e.g.,

$$|E_2 + E_9 + 2(E_1 + E_{10} + E_7) + E_6 + E_{12}| = |2(E_{11} + E_{13})| = |2(E_4 + E_{18})|$$

and a 4-section  $E_{14}$ . This gives the configuration

$$E_2 - E_1 - E_9 \quad E_6 - E_7 - E_{12} \quad E_{13} \quad E_4 \quad E_{14}$$

the same as above. This shows that different elliptic pencils with a multi-section may give the same configuration. In the latter case, if  $M$  is the sublattice of the cohomology lattice of  $Y_{III}$  generated by the first 8 curves, then  $M^\perp$  is generated by the class of the half elliptic pencil and the 4-section  $E_{14}$ , hence belongs to the first case of Lemma 2.2(2-b).

Also, one can check that all configurations on  $Y_{III}$  of 9 nodal curves with Dynkin type  $3A_1 \oplus 2A_3$  are conjugate under the automorphism group  $\text{Aut}(Y_{III})$ .

**Proposition 4.4.** *Let  $Y$  be an Enriques surface with 9 nodal curves of Dynkin type  $3A_1 \oplus 2A_3$ . Assume that there is an elliptic pencil on  $Y$  containing in its singular fibres eight of the 9 nodal curves of Dynkin type  $2A_1 \oplus 2A_3$ . Then the elliptic pencil must have singular fibres of type*

$$I_4 + I_4 + I_2 + I_2 \quad \text{or} \quad I_2^* + I_2 + I_2 \quad \text{or} \quad I_1^* + I_4,$$

where some fibres may be double fibres.

*Proof.* An elliptic pencil contains in its singular fibres a configuration of 8 nodal curves of Dynkin type  $2A_1 \oplus 2A_3$  if and only if its singular fibres are of type, one of the 3 above or  $III^* + I_2$  or  $III^* + III$ .

We will rule out the latter two cases by showing that there is no multi-section meeting none of the 8 nodal curves. Suppose that there is a multi-section  $S$  meeting none of the 8 nodal curves. The seven non-central components of the singular fibre of type  $III^*$  form a configuration of Dynkin type  $A_1 \oplus 2A_3$ . Thus  $S$  cannot meet any component other than the central component of the singular fibre of type  $III^*$ . Denote by  $B$  the central component. We know that  $B$  has multiplicity 4. Thus, by Lemma 2.2(2-b),  $SB = 1$ . Hence  $S$  is a 4-section. On the K3 cover  $X$  of  $Y$ , the 4-section  $S$  splits to give two 2-sections, both meeting the central component of each of the two fibres of type  $III^*$ . A contradiction.  $\square$

Each of the first two cases from Proposition 4.4 occurs, as we have seen in Example 4.3. But we do not know if the third case actually occurs.

**Question:** Does the moduli space  $\mathcal{M}'$  contain a point different from the point corresponding to the example given in 4.3? How many points does it have?

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