

# EXOTIC ANALYTIC STRUCTURES AND EISENMAN INTRINSIC MEASURES

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## ABSTRACT

Using Eisenman intrinsic measures we prove a cancellation theorem. This theorem allows to find new examples of exotic analytic structures on  $\mathbf{C}^n$  under which we understand smooth complex affine algebraic varieties which are diffeomorphic to  $\mathbf{R}^{2n}$  but not biholomorphic to  $\mathbf{C}^n$ . We also develop a new method of constructing these structures which enables us to produce exotic analytic structures on  $\mathbf{C}^3$  with a given number of hypersurfaces isomorphic to  $\mathbf{C}^2$  and a family of these structures with a given number of moduli.

## 1. Introduction

A smooth complex affine algebraic variety is called an exotic analytic (resp. algebraic) structure on  $\mathbf{C}^n$  if it is diffeomorphic to  $\mathbf{R}^n$  but not biholomorphic (resp. isomorphic) to  $\mathbf{C}^n$ . The famous theorem of Ramanujam says that there are no exotic structures on  $\mathbf{C}^2$  [R]. In his paper Ramanujam also constructed an example of a smooth complex contractible algebraic surface  $X$  which is not homeomorphic to  $\mathbf{C}^2$ . He mentioned that the direct product  $X \times \mathbf{C}$  was diffeomorphic to  $\mathbf{R}^6$  due to the  $h$ -cobordism theorem and asked if this product was biholomorphic to  $\mathbf{C}^3$ . Zaidenberg proved that the answer was negative [Z1], [Z2] and, thus, constructed the first example of exotic analytic structure on  $\mathbf{C}^3$ . His proof is based on the following analytic cancellation theorem: for every measure hyperbolic complex

manifold  $Y$  of dimension  $k$  the direct product  $Y \times \mathbf{C}^n$  cannot be biholomorphic to  $\mathbf{C}^{n+k}$ . The surface  $X$  in the example of Ramanujam has Kodaira logarithmic dimension 2 and, therefore, it is measure hyperbolic, by the Sakai theorem [Sa]. A weaker fact that  $X \times \mathbf{C}$  is an exotic algebraic structure on  $\mathbf{C}^3$  follows from the Iitaka–Fujita cancellation theorem proven earlier [IF].

In this paper we reprove the cancellation theorem of Zaidenberg using Eisenman intrinsic measures [E]. This theorem becomes a trivial corollary of the definition of Eisenman intrinsic measures and the answer to Ramanujam's question becomes a trivial corollary of Sakai's theorem. Moreover, these measures enable us to construct new examples of exotic analytic structures. In particular, we present an example of an exotic analytic structure  $M$  on  $\mathbf{C}^3$  which contains a given number of surfaces that are biholomorphic to  $\mathbf{C}^2$  (the author is grateful to M. Zaidenberg for the question about the existence of such examples). The reason for this question is the following nontrivial fact: every exotic analytic structure which is the direct product of a contractible algebraic surface of Kodaira logarithmic dimension 2 and a Euclidean space  $\mathbf{C}^n$  does not contain an algebraic hypersurface biholomorphic to  $\mathbf{C}^{n+1}$  [Z1]. Moreover we shall show that in this case there are no analytic hypersurfaces biholomorphic to  $\mathbf{C}^{n+1}$ . The exotic structure  $M$  mentioned above depends on a given number of parameters ("positions" of surfaces biholomorphic to  $\mathbf{C}^2$ ). In other words this is a family of exotic analytic structures on  $\mathbf{C}^3$  with a given number of moduli, since generic members of this family are not pairwise biholomorphic.

Examples of exotic algebraic structures on  $\mathbf{C}^3$  with similar properties are known. For instance, an example of an exotic algebraic structure on  $\mathbf{C}^3$  with a given number of moduli can be found in [FZ]. Another examples of exotic algebraic structures on  $\mathbf{C}^3$  which contain a surface biholomorphic to  $\mathbf{C}^2$  are presented in [PtD], [D], [Ka], [Ru]. But it is still unknown whether an exotic algebraic structure must be an exotic analytic structure. The only known examples of exotic analytic structures were constructed in [Z1] (it is also worth mentioning [W] where one can find an example of non-Stein algebraic variety which is diffeomorphic to  $\mathbf{R}^8$ ).

## 2. Preliminaries

First introduce notation:  $M$  is a complex manifold of dimension  $n$ ;  $TM$  is the holomorphic tangent bundle of  $M$ ;  $T_pM$  is the holomorphic tangent space at

$p \in M$ ;  $\Lambda^k T_p M$  (resp.  $\Lambda^k \text{TM}$ ) is the  $k$ -th exterior power of  $T_p M$  (resp.  $\text{TM}$ );  $D_p^k M$  is the set of decomposable elements in  $\Lambda^k T_p M$ . If  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  is a Hermitian metric on  $\text{TM}$ , then it can be extended to a Hermitian metric on  $\Lambda^k \text{TM}$  by putting

$$\langle \alpha, \beta \rangle \equiv \det\{\langle v_i, w_j \rangle\}$$

where  $\alpha = v_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge v_k$  and  $\beta = w_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge w_k$  from  $D_p^k M$  and extending this definition by linearity to arbitrary elements of  $\Lambda^k \text{TM}$ . Let  $\|\gamma\|$  be the Hermitian metric on  $\Lambda^k TB^k$  (where  $B^k$  is the unit ball in  $\mathbb{C}^k$ ) generated by the Bergman metric, and let  $o$  be the origin in  $B^k$ .

**Definition 2.1:** For every  $p \in M$  and every  $\alpha \in D_p^k M$  ( $1 \leq k \leq n$ ) the intrinsic Eisenman  $k$ -measure of  $\alpha$  is  $E_k^M(p, \alpha) \equiv \inf\{\|\gamma\|^2 \mid \gamma \in D_o^k B^k \text{ and there exists a holomorphic mapping } f: B^k \rightarrow M \text{ with } f(o) = p \text{ and } f_*(\gamma) = \alpha\}$ .

This definition immediately implies the following theorem.

**THEOREM 2.2 ([Ko]):** Let  $N$  be a complex manifold of dimension  $\geq k$ . Then for every holomorphic mapping  $f: M \rightarrow N$  we have  $f^* E_k^N(p, \alpha) \leq E_k^M(p, \alpha)$  for all  $p \in M$  and  $\alpha \in D_p^k M$ .

**THEOREM 2.3 ([GW] Product Formula):** Let  $M$  and  $N$  be complex manifolds of dimensions  $n$  and  $n'$  respectively, and let  $1 \leq k \leq n$ ,  $1 \leq \ell \leq n'$ . Let  $p \in M$ ,  $q \in N$ ,  $\alpha \in D_p^k M$ ,  $\beta \in D_q^\ell N$ . Put  $\gamma = \alpha \wedge \beta$ . Then

$$E_{k+\ell}^{M \times N}((p, q), \gamma) = E_k^M(p, \alpha) \cdot E_\ell^N(q, \beta).$$

**Remark:** We would also like to consider the case when  $k$  or  $\ell$  is 0. For  $k = 0$  we shall treat the vector  $\gamma$  as the image of  $\beta$  under the mapping generated by the embedding  $i_p: N \rightarrow M \times N$  given by  $x \rightarrow (p, x)$  (similarly for  $\ell = 0$ ). Put  $E_0^M \equiv 1$ , then Theorem 2.2 implies that the Product Formula also holds when  $k$  or  $\ell$  is 0.

For  $k = \dim M$  the Eisenman  $k$ -measure of  $M$  is called the Kobayashi–Eisenman pseudovolume. Recall that the manifold  $M$  is measure hyperbolic if its Kobayashi–Eisenman pseudovolume is not degenerate outside a subset of  $M$  of Hausdorff  $2n$ -measure 0. A smooth algebraic variety is of hyperbolic type if its dimension coincides with its Kodaira logarithmic dimension.

**THEOREM 2.4** ([Sa]): *If a smooth algebraic variety is of hyperbolic type, then it is measure hyperbolic.*

It is known (e.g., see [PtD]) that every smooth contractible complex algebraic surface  $X$  which is not  $\mathbf{C}^2$  has Kodaira logarithmic dimension either 1 or 2. In the second case  $X$  is measure hyperbolic, by Theorem 2.4.

**THEOREM 2.5** ([Z1]): *Let  $X$  be a smooth contractible complex algebraic surface of hyperbolic type (i.e. its Kodaira logarithmic dimension is 2). Then for every natural  $k$  there are no injective regular mappings  $\mathbf{C}^k \rightarrow X \times \mathbf{C}^{k-1}$ .*

*Remark:* As Zaidenberg mentions [Z1] a stronger fact holds for  $k = 1$ . Namely there is no proper holomorphic injection  $\mathbf{C} \rightarrow X$ . Indeed, every such injection can be extended to a holomorphic mapping of the Riemann sphere to a smooth completion of  $X$  [NS, Theorem 7]. By the Chow theorem this extended mapping is regular, but this contradicts Theorem 2.5.

We shall also need the following well-known corollary of the  $h$ -cobordism theorem (e.g., see [Ka]).

**THEOREM 2.6:** *Every smooth contractible affine algebraic variety of dimension  $n \geq 3$  is diffeomorphic to  $\mathbf{R}^{2n}$ .*

### 3. Main lemmas

Theorems 2.2, 2.3 and 2.6 immediately imply Zaidenberg's cancellation theorem in a stronger form.

**LEMMA 3.1:** *Let  $M_1, \dots, M_s$  be contractible smooth complex algebraic varieties. Suppose that  $\dim M_i = n_i$ ,  $l \geq 0$ ,  $m = \sum_{i=1}^s n_i + l$  and the Eisenman intrinsic  $k_i$ -measure is not trivial on  $M_i$ , where  $k_i \geq 0$  (for  $k_i = 0$  see the remark after Theorem 2.3). Let  $k = k_1 + \dots + k_s > 0$  and  $m \geq 3$ . Then  $M = M_1 \times \dots \times M_s \times \mathbf{C}^l$  is an exotic analytic structure on  $\mathbf{C}^m$ . Moreover, if the Eisenman intrinsic measure  $E_{k_i}^{M_i}$  does not vanish identically at some point  $p_i \in M_i$  for every  $i = 1, \dots, s$  then  $E_k^M$  does not vanish identically at  $p = p_1 \times \dots \times p_s \times z$  for every  $z \in \mathbf{C}^l$ .*

*Proof:* The statement about the Eisenman intrinsic measure  $E_k^M$  follows from Theorem 2.3. Since for  $k > 0$  the Eisenman intrinsic  $k$ -measure of  $\mathbf{C}^m$  is trivial,

$M$  cannot be biholomorphic to  $\mathbf{C}^m$ , by Theorem 2.2. On the other hand it is diffeomorphic to  $\mathbf{R}^{2m}$ , by Theorem 2.6. ■

The proof of the following proposition is mostly a repetition of some arguments of Fujita [F]. Nevertheless the fact should be formulated.

**PROPOSITION 3.2:** *Let  $M$  be a smooth complex algebraic variety whose first and second cohomology groups are trivial, and let  $\overline{M}$  be its smooth completion for which the divisor  $D = \overline{M} - M$  is of simple normal crossing type. Consider the algebra  $A(M)$  of regular functions on  $M$ , the multiplicative group  $A(M)^*$  of its invertible elements, the Neron–Severi group  $NS(\overline{M})$  and the Picard group  $\text{Pic}(\overline{M})$  of  $\overline{M}$ , and the free Abelian group  $G(D)$  with basis consisting of the prime components of  $D$ . Then*

- (i)  $A(M)^* = \mathbf{C}^*$ ;
- (ii)  $A(M)$  is a unique factorization domain;
- (iii) the Picard group  $\text{Pic}(M)$  of  $M$  is trivial;
- (iv) the groups  $\text{Pic}(\overline{M})$ ,  $NS(\overline{M})$  and  $G(D)$  are isomorphic.

*Proof:* By the universal coefficient formula,  $H_1(M) = 0$ . Clearly, the embedding  $M \rightarrow \overline{M}$  generates a surjective homomorphism of the first homology groups. Therefore,  $H_1(\overline{M}) = 0$ . Again, by the universal coefficients formula,  $H^1(\overline{M}) = 0$  and  $H^1(\overline{M}, \mathbf{C}) = 0$ . By Hodge theory,  $H^{0,1}(\overline{M}) \oplus H^{1,0}(\overline{M}) = H^1(\overline{M}, \mathbf{C})$  and, therefore,  $H^{0,1}(\overline{M}) = 0$ . This implies that the Picard manifold  $\text{Pic}_0(\overline{M}) = H^{0,1}(\overline{M})/H^1(\overline{M})$  is also trivial. Let  $NS(M)$  be the Neron–Severi group of  $M$ . Then we have the following exact sequences [F, (1.18)]

- (a)  $0 \rightarrow A(M)^*/\mathbf{C}^* \rightarrow G(D) \rightarrow \text{Pic}(\overline{M}) \rightarrow \text{Pic}(M) \rightarrow 0$ ,
- (b)  $0 \rightarrow \tilde{H}^1(M) \rightarrow G(D) \rightarrow NS(\overline{M}) \rightarrow NS(M) \rightarrow 0$ ,
- (c)  $0 \rightarrow NS(M) \rightarrow \hat{H}^2(M)$ ,
- (d)  $0 \rightarrow A(M)^*/\mathbf{C}^* \rightarrow \tilde{H}^1(M) \rightarrow \text{Pic}_0(\overline{M}) \rightarrow \text{Pic}_0(M) \rightarrow 0$ ,

where  $\hat{H}^q(M)$  (resp.  $\tilde{H}^q(M)$ ) is a subgroup (resp. a quotient group) of  $H^q(M)$ . Since the groups  $\hat{H}^q(M)$ ,  $\tilde{H}^q(M)$  (for  $q = 1$  and  $2$ ) and the group  $\text{Pic}_0(\overline{M})$  are trivial, one can see that  $A(M)^* \cong \mathbf{C}^*$  and  $\text{Pic}_0(M) = 0$ , by (d);  $NS(M) = 0$  by (c);  $G(D) \cong NS(\overline{M})$  by (b). Since  $NS(\overline{M}) = \text{Pic}(\overline{M})/\text{Pic}_0(\overline{M})$ , we have  $G(D) \cong \text{Pic}(\overline{M})$  and (a) implies that  $\text{Pic}(M) = 0$ . Then [F, (1.20)] implies that  $A(M)$  is a unique factorization domain. ■

LEMMA 3.3: *Let  $M$  be a smooth complex affine algebraic variety such that  $H^1(M) = H^2(M) = 0$  and let  $F$  be a hypersurface in  $M$ . Suppose that a smooth closed subvariety  $C$  of  $M$  is contained in the smooth part  $F^*$  of  $F$  and that  $\text{codim}_M C \geq 2$ . Consider the monoidal transformation  $\tau: \tilde{M} \rightarrow M$  with locus at  $C$ . Let  $\tilde{F}$  be the proper transform of  $F$ . Then the manifold  $N = \tilde{M} - \tilde{F}$  is affine.*

*Proof:* Let  $\overline{M}$  be a smooth completion of  $M$  for which the divisor  $D = \overline{M} - M$  is of simple normal crossing type. Denote by  $\overline{F}$  the closure of  $F$  in  $\overline{M}$ . Let  $G(D)$  be the free Abelian group with basis consisting of the prime components of  $D$  and let  $p: G(D) \rightarrow \text{Pic}(\overline{M})$  be the natural embedding. By Proposition 3.2,  $\text{Pic}(M) = 0$ . Since  $\text{Pic}(M) = \text{Pic}(\overline{M})/p(G(D))$ , this means that  $p$  is surjective. In particular, there exists a meromorphic function  $f$  on  $\overline{M}$  so that  $(f) - \overline{F} \in G(D)$ , where  $(f)$  is the divisor of  $f$ . Thus the restriction of  $f$  to  $M$  is regular,  $F = \{x \in M \mid f(x) = 0\}$ , and  $f$  has simple zeros on  $F^*$ . Let  $f_1, \dots, f_s$  be generators in the ideal of regular functions on  $M$  that vanish on  $C$  (suppose that  $f$  is one of them), and let  $x_1, \dots, x_m$  be a coordinate system of  $\mathbf{C}^m$  which contains  $M$  as a closed affine subvariety. Put  $g_i = \left(\frac{f_i}{f}\right) \circ \nu$  for  $i = 1, \dots, s$  where  $\nu$  is the restriction of  $\tau$  to  $N$ . Our aim is to show that these functions are regular on  $N$  and that the mapping  $\Phi = (x_1 \circ \nu, \dots, x_m \circ \nu, g_1, \dots, g_s): N \rightarrow \mathbf{C}^{m+s}$  is a proper embedding, i.e.  $N$  is affine. Let  $\tilde{E}$  be the exceptional divisor of the monoidal transformation  $\tau$  and let  $E = \tilde{E} - \tilde{F}$ . By construction,  $f_i \circ \nu$  has zeros on  $E$  and  $f \circ \nu$  has simple zeros on  $E$ . Therefore  $g_i$  is regular on  $N$ . Consider a small neighborhood  $U \subset M$  of a point  $c_0 \in C$ . One may suppose that in this neighborhood the germs of the submanifolds  $F$  and  $C$  are given in a local coordinate system  $(y_1, \dots, y_n)$  by  $y_{l+1} = 0$  and  $y_1 = \dots = y_{l+1} = 0$  respectively. Put  $V = \nu^{-1}(U)$  and  $z_i = (y_i/y_{l+1}) \circ \nu$ . Recall that  $\tau|_{\tilde{E}}: \tilde{E} \rightarrow C$  is a fibration with generic fiber  $\mathbf{CP}^\ell$ , where  $\ell = n - \dim C - 1$ . The intersection of  $\tilde{F}$  and each of these fibers is isomorphic to  $\mathbf{CP}^{\ell-1}$  and, thus,  $\nu|_E: E \rightarrow C$  is a fibration with generic fiber  $\mathbf{C}^\ell$ . Locally this means that for every  $c \in U \cap C$  the fiber  $\tau^{-1}(c)$  admits the homogeneous coordinate system  $y_1: \dots: y_{l+1}$  in which  $\tilde{F} \cap \tau^{-1}(c)$  is given by  $y_{l+1} = 0$ . Hence the functions  $z_i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, l$ ) are regular on  $V$  and can be viewed as coordinates for each fiber  $\nu^{-1}(c) \cong \mathbf{C}^l$  where  $c \in U \cap C$ . Hence the mapping  $(y_1 \circ \nu, \dots, y_n \circ \nu, z_1, \dots, z_l): V \rightarrow U \times \mathbf{C}^l$  is a proper embedding. Let  $J$  be the ideal of holomorphic functions on  $U$  generated by  $y_1, \dots, y_{l+1}$ . Using linear combinations, one may suppose that  $f_i - y_i \in J^2$

for  $i = 1, \dots, l$  and that  $f = f_{l+1} = y_{l+1}h$  where  $h$  is invertible holomorphic on  $U$ . This means that in our small neighborhood  $U$  one can replace the coordinate system  $(y_1, \dots, y_n)$  by the coordinate system  $(f_1, \dots, f_{l+1}, y_{l+2}, \dots, y_n)$ , for it has the same properties. In this last system  $g_i = z_i$  in  $V$  for  $i = 1, \dots, l$ . Hence  $(\hat{y}_1 \circ \nu, \dots, \hat{y}_n \circ \nu, g_1, \dots, g_s): V \rightarrow U \times \mathbb{C}^s$  is a proper embedding for every coordinate system  $(\hat{y}_1, \dots, \hat{y}_n)$  in  $U$ . Since the functions  $x_1, \dots, x_m$  distinguish the points of  $C$  the mapping  $\Phi$  is a proper embedding as well. ■

**LEMMA 3.4:** *Let  $M$  be a complex manifold and let  $F$  be an irreducible hypersurface in  $M$ . Suppose that a closed submanifold  $C$  of  $M$  is contained in the smooth part  $F^*$  of  $F$  and  $\text{codim}_M C \geq 2$ . Consider the monoidal transformation  $\tau: \tilde{M} \rightarrow M$  with locus at  $C$ . Let  $\tilde{F}$  be the proper transform of  $F$  and let  $N = \tilde{M} - \tilde{F}$ . Then the fundamental groups of  $N$  and  $M$  are isomorphic.*

*Proof:* Consider the natural embeddings  $i: M - F \rightarrow M$ ,  $j: M - F \rightarrow N$ , and the projection  $\nu = \tau|_N: N \rightarrow M$ . These mappings generate homomorphisms  $i_*$ ,  $j_*$ , and  $\nu_*$  of the fundamental groups  $\pi_1(M - F)$ ,  $\pi_1(M)$ , and  $\pi_1(N)$ . Clearly,  $i_*$ ,  $j_*$ , and  $\nu_*$  are surjective. We have to show that  $\nu_*$  is an isomorphism, i.e.  $\text{Ker } \nu_* = 0$ . Consider a small disc  $d \subset M$  which meets  $F$  normally at a point  $c_0 \in C$ . Suppose that a simple loop  $\gamma$  in  $d - c_0$  generates a subgroup  $\Gamma \subset \pi_1(M - F)$ . Let  $\Gamma_n$  be the smallest normal subgroup of  $\pi_1(M - F)$  that contains  $\Gamma$ . Since  $F$  is irreducible,  $\text{Ker } i_* = \Gamma_n$ . Let  $\tilde{d}$  be the proper transform of  $d$  and  $\tilde{\gamma} = \tau^{-1}(\gamma)$ . Note that  $\tilde{d}$  does not meet  $\tilde{F}$  and, in particular,  $\tilde{d} \subset N$ . Hence  $\tilde{\gamma}$  is contractible in  $N$  and  $\text{Ker } j_* \supset \Gamma_n$ . Since  $i_* = \nu_* \circ j_*$  we have  $\text{Ker } j_* = \Gamma_n$  and  $\text{Ker } \nu_* = 0$ . ■

**THEOREM 3.5:** *Let  $M$  be a smooth complex contractible affine algebraic variety of dimension  $\geq 2$ . Let  $F$  be an irreducible hypersurface in  $M$  such that either  $F$  is smooth contractible or  $F$  is homeomorphic to a Euclidean space. Suppose that a smooth closed contractible subvariety  $C$  of  $M$  is contained in the smooth part of  $F$  and  $\text{codim}_M C \geq 2$ . Consider the monoidal transformation  $\tau: \tilde{M} \rightarrow M$  with locus at  $C$ . Let  $\tilde{F}$  be the proper transform of  $F$ . Then the manifold  $N = \tilde{M} - \tilde{F}$  is affine and contractible. In particular,  $N$  is diffeomorphic to a Euclidean space when  $\dim M \geq 3$ , by Theorem 2.6.*

*Proof:* The algebraic manifold  $N$  is affine and has a trivial fundamental group, by Lemmas 3.3 and 3.4. We have to show now that the senior homology groups

of  $N$  are also trivial. Let  $\tilde{E}$  be the exceptional divisor of the monoidal transformation  $\tau$ , let  $E = \tilde{E} - \tilde{F}$ , and let  $\mu = \tau|_E$ . Recall that  $\mu: E \rightarrow C$  is a fibration with generic fiber  $\mathbf{C}^\ell$ . The exact homotopy sequence of this fibration and the Whitehead theorem imply that the hypersurface  $E \subset N$  is contractible. Let  $\dot{M}$  be a one-point compactification of  $M$  and let  $\dot{N}$  be a one-point compactification of  $N$ . Denote the closure of  $E$  in  $\dot{N}$  by  $\dot{E}$  and the closure of  $F$  in  $\dot{M}$  by  $\dot{F}$ . Note that  $\dot{E}$  and  $\dot{F}$  are homology  $(2n-2)$ -spheres and  $\dot{M}$  is a homology  $2n$ -sphere. Indeed, consider, for instance,  $\dot{E}$ . For  $n \neq 3$  this is true since  $E$  is diffeomorphic to  $(2n-2)$ -dimensional real Euclidean space, by Theorem 2.6 ( $E$  is affine since  $N$  is affine). Let  $n = 3$  then  $E$  is a contractible surface. Consider its smooth completion  $\hat{E}$  and the curve  $D = \hat{E} - E$ . By a theorem of Ramanujam [R],  $D$  is connected,  $\pi_1(\hat{E}) = \pi_1(D) = 0$ , and the embedding  $D \hookrightarrow \hat{E}$  generates an isomorphism of the second homology groups. By Poincaré duality, the third homology of  $\hat{E}$  is trivial. Taking into consideration the fact that  $\hat{E}/D = \dot{E}$  one can see from the exact homology sequence of the pair  $(\hat{E}, D)$  that the homology of  $\dot{E}$  coincides with the homology of a 4-dimensional sphere.

Since  $\dot{M}$  is a homology  $2n$ -sphere, the exact cohomology sequence of the pair  $(\dot{M}, \dot{F})$  implies  $H^{2n-1}(\dot{M}/\dot{F}) = H^{2n}(\dot{M}/\dot{F}) = \mathbf{Z}$  and all the other senior cohomology groups of  $\dot{M}/\dot{F}$  are trivial. Note that  $M-F = \dot{M}-\dot{F}$  is homeomorphic to  $N-E = \dot{N}-\dot{E}$  and, therefore,  $\dot{M}/\dot{F}$  and  $\dot{N}/\dot{E}$  are homeomorphic. Then the exact cohomology sequence of the pair  $(\dot{N}, \dot{E})$  implies that  $H^{2n}(\dot{N}) = \mathbf{Z}$ ,  $H^k(\dot{N}) = 0$  for  $0 < k \leq 2n-3$ , and the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow H^{2n-2}(\dot{N}) \rightarrow \mathbf{Z} \rightarrow \mathbf{Z} \rightarrow H^{2n-1}(\dot{N}) \rightarrow 0$$

holds. Put  $p = \dot{N} - N$ . By Poincaré duality,  $H_{2n-q}(N) = H_{\text{comp}}^q(\dot{N} - p) = H^q(\dot{N}, p) = \dot{H}^q(\dot{N})$ , where  $\dot{H}^q(\dot{N})$  is the reduced cohomology group. Hence the senior homology groups of  $N$ , except for possibly the first and second groups, are trivial. But the first group is trivial since the fundamental group of  $N$  is trivial. Thus we have the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow H_2(N) \rightarrow \mathbf{Z} \rightarrow \mathbf{Z} \rightarrow 0$$

from which follows that  $H_2(N)$  is also trivial. Hence  $N$  is contractible, by the Whitehead theorem. ■

*Remark:* The assumption that  $C \subset F^*$  is not essential in Lemma 3.3, but it makes the proof easier. It is essential in Lemma 3.4, as the following example



shows. Let  $M = \mathbf{C}^2$ ,  $F = \{x^2 - y^3 = 0\}$  (where  $(x, y)$  is a coordinate system in  $M$ ), and let  $C$  be the origin. Suppose that  $N$  is constructed from this data in the same way it was done in Lemma 3.4. Then one can check that the fundamental group of  $N$  is non-trivial. The procedure described in Theorem 3.5 is similar a “half point attachment” in [F]. When  $M = \mathbf{C}^2$  this procedure may generate contractible surfaces of Kodaira logarithmic dimension 1. For instance, consider again  $F = \{x^2 - y^3 = 0\}$ , but choose  $C$  to be a regular point on  $F$ . Then  $N$  is contractible of Kodaira logarithmic dimension 1 [PtD].

Recall that a complex manifold  $Y$  is Liouville if there is no bounded non-constant holomorphic functions on  $Y$ .

**LEMMA 3.6:** *Let  $X$  be a smooth contractible algebraic surface of Kodaira logarithmic dimension 2 and let  $Y$  be a Liouville simply connected manifold of dimension  $\geq k$  whose Eisenman intrinsic 2-measure is trivial at each point. Suppose that  $N$  is a complex manifold of dimension  $k-1$ , and suppose that  $f: Y \rightarrow X \times N$  is a proper holomorphic mapping. Let  $b \in N$  and let  $R = f^{-1}(X \times b)$  be non-empty. Then the restriction of  $f$  to  $R$  cannot be an injection.*

*Proof:* Let  $p_X: X \times N \rightarrow X$  be the natural projection and  $g = p_X \circ f$ . If  $\dim g(Y) = 2$  then one may suppose that  $g$  has rank 2 at some point  $q \in Y$  and the Kobayashi–Eisenman pseudovolume of  $X$  is non-trivial at  $g(q)$ . By Theorem 2.2, the Eisenman intrinsic 2-measure of  $Y$  is non-trivial at  $q$  which contradicts to the assumption of lemma. Thus  $\Lambda = g(Y)$  does not contain a two-dimensional complex manifold. Put  $G = f(R)$  and assume that  $f|_R: R \rightarrow X \times N$  is an injection. Since  $f$  is proper,  $G$  is a closed analytic subset of  $X \times b$ . The mapping  $p_X|_G: G \rightarrow \Lambda$  is an embedding and thus  $\dim R = \dim G \leq 1$ . Since the codimension of  $X \times b$  in  $X \times N$  is  $k-1$  the codimension of  $R$  in  $Y$  is  $\leq k-1$ , i.e.  $\dim R \geq 1$ . Hence  $R$  and  $G$  are curves. In particular,  $\Lambda$  contains a closed curve  $p_X(G)$ . Since  $Y$  is a connected manifold,  $\Lambda$  is irreducible. This implies that  $\Lambda = p_X(G)$ , i.e. the mapping  $p_X|_G: G \rightarrow \Lambda$  is biholomorphic. Every loop on  $R$  is contractible in  $Y$ , since  $Y$  is simply connected by the assumption of lemma. Hence the image of this loop in  $\Lambda = g(Y) = p_X(G)$  is contractible, i.e.  $\Lambda$  and, therefore,  $G$  and  $R$  are simply connected. Hence the normalization  $Q$  of  $\Lambda$  must be biholomorphic either to a disc or to  $\mathbf{C}$ . Suppose that  $Q$  is a disc, then every bounded non-constant holomorphic function on  $Q$  generates a bounded non-constant continuous function  $\varphi$  on  $\Lambda$  which is holomorphic on  $\Lambda - S$  where

$S$  is the set of the singular points of  $\Lambda$ . Note that  $\varphi \circ g$  is a bounded continuous nonconstant function on  $Y$  which is holomorphic on  $Y - g^{-1}(S)$ . Since  $g^{-1}(S)$  is a hypersurface,  $\varphi \circ g$  is actually holomorphic on  $Y$ . Hence the case of a disc must be cancelled, since  $Y$  is Liouville. The normalization  $Q$  of  $\Lambda$  cannot be biholomorphic to  $\mathbf{C}$  as well since otherwise we have a proper holomorphic injection  $Q \rightarrow \Lambda \subset X$  and this contradicts the remark after Theorem 2.5. Therefore the assumption that  $f|_R$  is an injection is wrong. ■

*Remark:* The original formulation of this lemma was weaker. This formulation appeared in discussion with M. Zaidenberg.

**COROLLARY 3.7:** *Let  $X$  be a smooth complex contractible algebraic surface of Kodaira logarithmic dimension 2. Then for every natural  $k$  there is no proper holomorphic injection  $\mathbf{C}^{k+1} \rightarrow X \times \mathbf{C}^k$ .*

#### 4. Examples

(a) In the case when all  $M_i$ 's are of hyperbolic type, Lemma 3.1 is one of the statements of the analytic cancellation theorem of Zaidenberg [Z1], otherwise this lemma presents other exotic analytic structures. For example, we may suppose that  $s = 2$ ,  $M_1$  is of hyperbolic type and  $M_2$  is a contractible algebraic surface of Kodaira logarithmic dimension 1.

*Problem:* The author does not know if Lemma 3.1 works in the case when all  $M_i$ 's are smooth contractible algebraic surfaces of Kodaira logarithmic dimension 1. We can reformulate this problem as follows. Is it true that every smooth contractible algebraic surface of Kodaira logarithmic dimension 1 has either a non-trivial Kobayashi–Eisenman pseudovolume or a nontrivial Kobayashi–Royden pseudometric?

(b) Let  $X$  be a smooth contractible algebraic surface of hyperbolic type. Put  $M = X \times \mathbf{C}$ ,  $F = X \times 0$ , let  $C$  be a point  $z \in F$ . Then  $M$  is an exotic analytic structure by Zaidenberg's theorem. The triple  $(M, F, C)$  satisfies the assumptions of Theorem 3.5. Let  $N$  and  $\tau$  be the same as in Theorem 3.5, then  $N$  is diffeomorphic to  $\mathbf{R}^6$ . Consider a generic point  $p \in X$ . The Kobayashi–Eisenman pseudovolume of  $X$  is non-trivial at  $p$  by Sakai's theorem. The Eisenman intrinsic 2-measure of  $M$  is non-trivial at point  $q = (p, 1)$ , by Theorem 2.2. Since the

mapping  $\tau|_N: N \rightarrow M$  is dominant the Eisenman intrinsic measure of  $N$  is non-trivial at  $\tau^{-1}(q)$ , again by Theorem 2.2. Hence  $N$  is an exotic analytic structure on  $\mathbf{C}^3$ . Note that this exotic structure contains a closed surface  $\tau^{-1}(z) \cap N$  which is isomorphic to  $\mathbf{C}^2$ .

The construction of an exotic analytic structure on  $\mathbf{C}^3$  with a given number of surfaces biholomorphic to  $\mathbf{C}^2$  is quite similar. Consider points  $a_1, \dots, a_n \in \mathbf{C}$  and put  $F(a_k) = X \times a_k$ . Choose points  $z_k \in F(a_k)$ , and consider the blow-up  $\pi: \tilde{M} \rightarrow M$  at the points  $z_1, \dots, z_n$ . Let  $\tilde{F}(a_k)$  be the proper transform of  $F(a_k)$ . Then  $\tilde{M} - \bigcup_{k=1}^n \tilde{F}(a_k)$  is diffeomorphic to  $\mathbf{R}^6$ , by Theorem 3.5. Same argument as above shows that  $\tilde{M} - \bigcup_{k=1}^n \tilde{F}(a_k)$  has a non-trivial Eisenman intrinsic 2-measure and thus it is an exotic analytic structure on  $\mathbf{C}^3$ . We denote this exotic structure by  $P(A, Z)$  in order to emphasize that it depends on the parameters  $A = (a_1, \dots, a_n) \in \mathbf{C}^n$  and  $Z = (z_1, \dots, z_n) \in X^n$ . Let  $E^k = \pi^{-1}(F(a_k)) - \tilde{F}(a_k)$ . Then each  $E^k$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbf{C}^2$ .

LEMMA 4.1: *Except for  $E^1, \dots, E^n$  there are no closed surfaces in  $P(A, Z)$  that are biholomorphic to  $\mathbf{C}^2$ .*

*Proof:* Assume that there is a proper holomorphic embedding  $f: \mathbf{C}^2 \rightarrow P(A, Z)$  for which  $f(\mathbf{C}^2)$  is not contained in  $\bigcup_{k=1}^n E^k$ . Consider  $g = \pi \circ f: \mathbf{C}^2 \rightarrow M$ . The restriction of  $g$  to  $\mathbf{C}^2 - g^{-1}(\bigcup_{k=1}^n F_k)$  is an embedding. But this contradicts Lemma 3.6 and our assumption is wrong. ■

LEMMA 4.2: *Let  $(A, Z) = (a_1, \dots, a_n, z_1, \dots, z_n)$  and  $(A', Z') = (a'_1, \dots, a'_n, z'_1, \dots, z'_n)$  be generic points in the space of parameters  $\mathbf{C}^n \times X^n$ . Then the exotic analytic structures  $P(A, Z)$  and  $P(A', Z')$  are not biholomorphic.*

*Proof:* Note that  $P(A, Z) - \bigcup_{k=1}^n E^k$  is biholomorphic to  $X \times (\mathbf{C} - A)$ . Suppose that  $\Phi: P(A, Z) \rightarrow P(A', Z')$  is a biholomorphism. Since  $\Phi$  maps every surface biholomorphic to  $\mathbf{C}^2$  onto a surface biholomorphic to  $\mathbf{C}^2$ , then, by Lemma 4.1, we obtain a biholomorphism  $\Psi: X \times (\mathbf{C} - A) \rightarrow X \times (\mathbf{C} - A')$ . Let  $p: X \times (\mathbf{C} - A') \rightarrow \mathbf{C} - A'$  be the natural projection, let  $i_z: \mathbf{C} - A \rightarrow X \times (\mathbf{C} - A)$  be the embedding given by  $w \rightarrow (z, w)$  where  $z \in X$  and  $w \in \mathbf{C} - A$ , and let  $\psi_z = p \circ \Psi \circ i_z: \mathbf{C} - A \rightarrow \mathbf{C} - A'$ . Consider the case  $n \geq 2$ . Suppose that  $\psi_z \neq \text{const}$  for some  $z$ . Since every non-constant mapping  $\mathbf{C} - A \rightarrow \mathbf{C} - A'$  is biholomorphic and the number of these mappings is finite we see that  $\psi_z = \psi$  does not depend on  $z$  and it can be viewed as a linear fractional transformation

of  $\mathbf{C}$  that maps  $A$  onto  $A'$ . When  $n > 2$  and  $A$  and  $A'$  are generic there is no linear fractional transformation of  $\mathbf{C}$  with this property.

Suppose that  $n = 2$ . If  $\psi_z$  does not depend on  $z$ , then  $\Psi(z, w) = (\varphi(z, w), \psi(w))$  where  $z \in X, w \in \mathbf{C} - A$  and for every  $w$  the mapping  $z \rightarrow \varphi(z, w)$  is a biholomorphism  $X \rightarrow X$ . Since the number of these biholomorphic mappings is finite [T], we see that  $\varphi(z, w) = \varphi(z)$  does not depend on  $w$ . One may suppose that  $\psi = id$ , then the equality  $\varphi(Z) = Z'$  must hold, i.e. in this case  $Z$  and  $Z'$  are not in a general position.

It remains to show that the functions  $\psi_z$  cannot be constant for every  $z \in X$ . Let  $j_w: X \rightarrow X \times (\mathbf{C} - A)$  be the embedding given by  $z \rightarrow (z, w)$  where  $z \in X$  and  $w \in \mathbf{C} - A$ . Consider  $\chi_w = p \circ \Psi \circ j_w: X \rightarrow \mathbf{C} - A'$ . Since the disc  $\Delta$  is the universal covering of  $\mathbf{C} - A'$  when  $n \geq 2$  and  $X$  is contractible,  $\chi_w$  generates a mapping from  $X$  to  $\Delta$  which must be constant. Hence  $\chi_w$  is constant, in other words the image of  $j_w(X)$  under the mapping  $p \circ \psi$  is constant. If for every  $z$   $\psi_z = \text{const}$ , i.e. the image of every set  $i_z(\mathbf{C} - A)$  under the mapping  $p \circ \Psi$  is constant then the image of  $X \times (\mathbf{C} - A)$  under this mapping is also constant. It is not true since  $\Psi$  is biholomorphic.

When  $n = 1$  one may suppose that  $A = A' = 0$  and  $\Psi$  is a biholomorphic mapping of  $X \times \mathbf{C}^*$  onto itself. Theorem 1.10 from [Z1] implies that  $\Psi$  has the form  $\Psi(z, w) = (\varphi(z), \psi(z, w))$  where  $(z, w) \in X \times \mathbf{C}^*$  and  $\varphi$  is a biregular automorphism of  $X$ . Hence  $\varphi(Z) = Z'$ . Now the statement of lemma follows from the fact that the number of automorphisms of  $X$  is finite [T]. ■

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