

Termination of flips

- ① Intro
- ② local
- ③ local-global
- ④ global.

6 mins  
2 page

Defn Let  $X$  be a variety. We say a  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier divisor  $D$  is nef if  $D \cdot C \geq 0$  for all curves  $C$ .

Let  $\pi: X \rightarrow U$  be a projective morphism.

$$\overline{NE}(X/U) = \left\{ \alpha \in H_2(X, \mathbb{R}) \mid \alpha = \sum a_i [C_i] \right. \\ \left. a_i \geq 0, \pi_* \alpha = 0 \right\}$$

$(X, \Delta)$  log pair  $X$  normal,  $\Delta = \sum a_i \Delta_i$   $a_i \geq 0$   
 $\uparrow$   
 $\mathbb{R}$

$K_X + \Delta$   $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier.

$f: Y \rightarrow X$  log resolution

$$K_Y + \tilde{\Delta} + \sum E_i = f^*(K_X + \Delta) + \sum a_i E_i$$

$$a_i = a(E_i | X, \Delta, E_i) = \text{log disc of } (E_i, \Delta)$$

$$a = \inf_i a_i = \text{log discrepancy. } \Gamma = \tilde{\Delta} + \sum E_i - \sum a_i E_i$$

$(X, \Delta)$  log canonical iff  $a \geq 0$

Kawamata log terminal iff  $a > 0$ .

$$\text{Nef}(K(X, \Delta)) = \text{image of } \Gamma \text{ in } \text{Div}(Y) \\ = \langle \Gamma \rangle$$

divisors of log discrepancy zero.

Intuition log discrepancy is

a measure of sing. worse sing smaller log discrepancy.

# MMP

- ① Start with a klt pair  $K_X + \Delta$ .
- ② Is  $K_X + \Delta$  nef.? If yes then STOP.  
If not then log terminal model.
- ③ If not there is an  $(K_X + \Delta)$ -external ray  $R$  of  $\overline{NE}(X/U)$ , and a contraction morphism  $\phi: X \rightarrow Z$  which contracts those curves which generate  $R$ ,  $-K_X$  ample /  $Z$ .
  - (a)  $\dim Z < \dim X$ . STOP Mori fibre space
  - (b)  $\phi$  birational.
    - (i)  $\phi$  contracts a divisor  $\rightarrow$  go to ②.
    - (ii)  $\phi$  is small.
 

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 X & \xrightarrow{f} & X^+ \\
 \phi \downarrow & & \swarrow \phi^+ \\
 & Z & 
 \end{array}$$

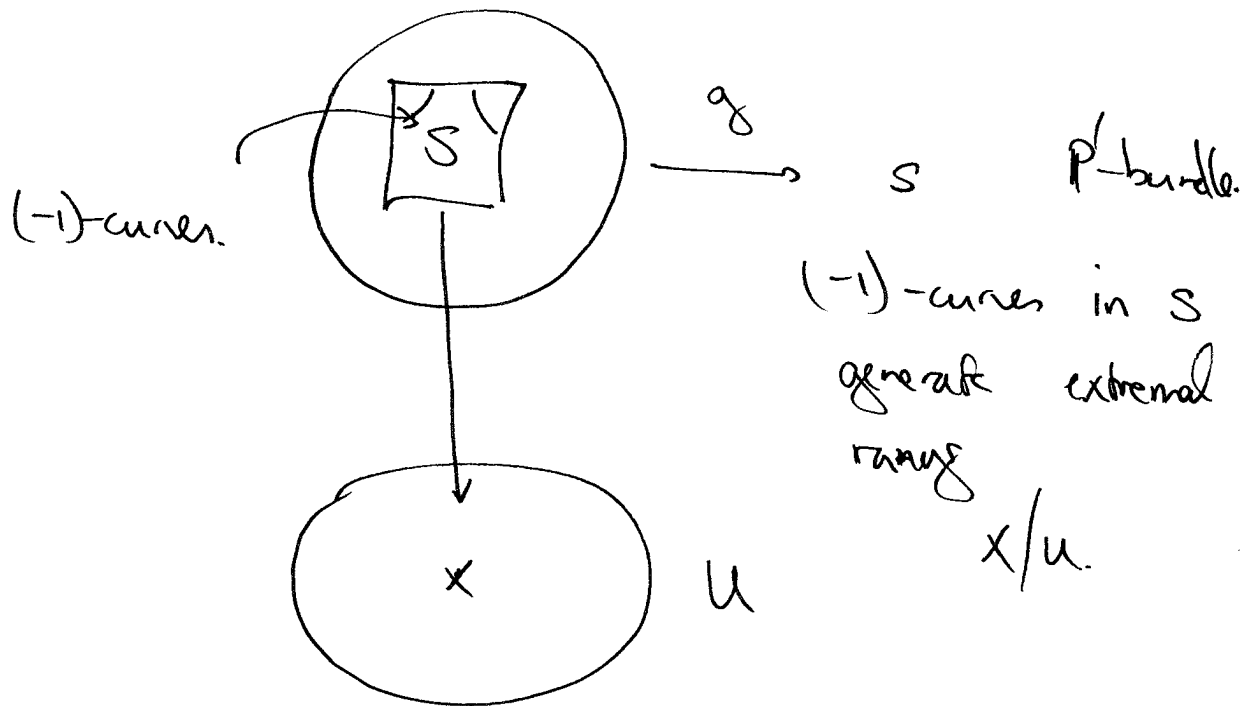
$f$  is iso in cod 1.  
 $\phi^+$  small  
 $\rho(X^+/Z) = \rho(X/U) = 1$   
 $K_{X^+}$  ample.

## Example

- $S \rightarrow \text{pt}$  smooth projective surface.
- $S \rightarrow C$   $\mathbb{P}^1$ -bundle
- $S \rightarrow T$  contract a  $(-1)$ -curve.

③ Let  $U = \text{cone over } S$ , a surface of general type.

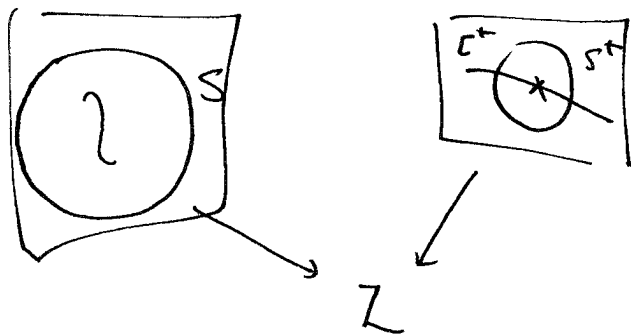
$X = \text{blow up, a threefold } / U$



$(K_X + S)$ -MMP /  $U$ .

Cannot contract  $S$ .

We must flip every  $(-1)$ -curve in  $S$ .



$S \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1 \times S^+$   
contracts a  $(-1)$ -curve

Thm (Special Termination). Assume flips terminate in dim  $n-1$ . Then any sequence of flips is eventually disjoint from nonklt.

④ Basic ideas.

Reduce to the case  $\text{rank} \mathbb{k}t$  is a divisor.

Let us suppose  $S$  irreducible.

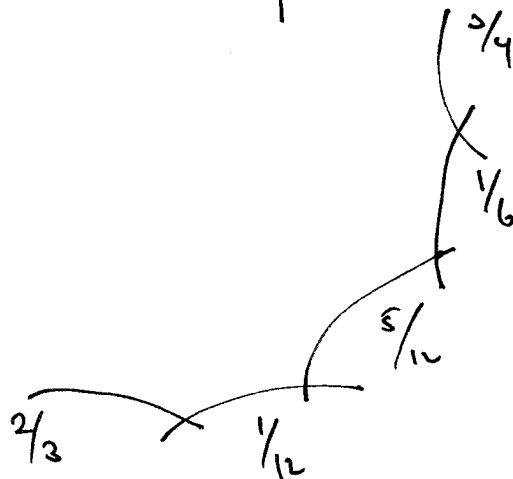
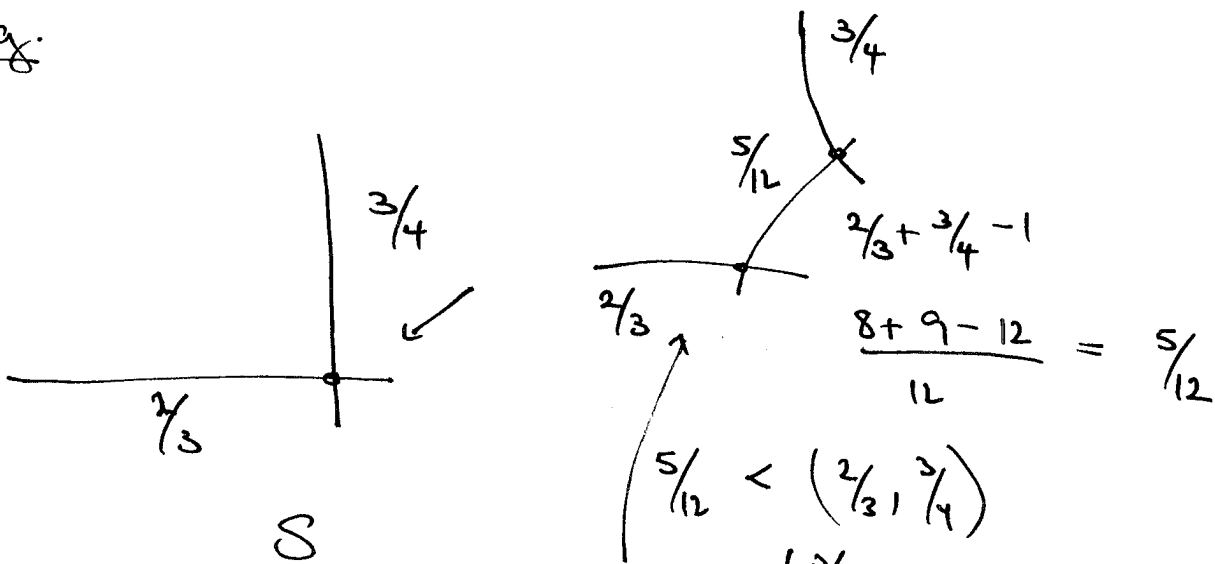
Now every flip which touches  $S$  is like a step of the  $(K_S + \mathbb{k}t)$ -MMP.

One problem

$S \dashrightarrow S^+$  might extract a divisor.

But the coeff of this divisor must be  $> 0$ .

E.g.



no more.

$(X, \delta)$  klt

there are only finitely many exceptions of  $\log \text{disc} < 1$ .

⑤

$$a(x, \Delta, V) = \inf_{\text{centre of } E_i = V} a_i$$

Conjecture <sup>ACC.</sup> Fix  $\dim n$ , a DCC set  $I$

$$\{ a(x, \Delta, x) \mid \text{coeff of } \Delta \text{ belong to } I, \dim X = n \}$$

satisfies ACC

Conjecture LSC.  $(X, \Delta)$  log pair.

$x \in X$   
pt. ~~curve~~  
~~(x, \Delta, V)~~

$$\forall x \in X \exists U \text{ nbhd of } x$$

$$\text{s.t. } a(x, \Delta, x) = \inf_{y \in U} a(x, \Delta, y)$$

"log discrepancy is a measure of how bad a singularity is"

Lemma  $LSC \iff a(x, \Delta, V) \leq a(x, \Delta, W) + \text{codim}(V, W)$

Thm (Shokurov)

Assume ACC, LSC.

Then any sequence of ~~flips~~ flips terminates.

Pf  $X_1 \dashrightarrow X_2 \dashrightarrow X_3 \dashrightarrow \dots$

$$\exists d, a \text{ s.t. } a = \inf \{ a(x, \Delta, V) \mid \dim V = d, a(x, \Delta, V) = da \}$$

and the locus  $N_i$  and the locus  $d$

(6)

$$W_i = \mathbb{R}^d \cup \left\{ V \subset X; \begin{array}{l} \dim V = d \\ a(X; \Delta_i; V) = a \end{array} \right\}$$

then  $W_i \dashrightarrow W_{i+1}$  is not an iso. in  $\dim \geq d$ .

Since  $a$  is the min, LSC  $\implies W_i$  is closed.

$W_i \dashrightarrow W_{i+1}$  does not extract any <sup>centres</sup> ~~divisors~~ of ~~any~~ ~~dimension~~  $d$ .  
 + big disc of any submanifold  $V$  of  $W$  of  $\dim d = a$ .

Eg  $\dim X = 6$

$\dim W = 4$

$a = ?$

$d = 2$ .

$W$  is swept out by surfaces  $S_t$ .

$W_i \dashrightarrow W_{i+1}$  : never introduces any new surfaces

And infinitely often  $W_i \dashrightarrow W_{i+1}$  collapses a surface to a pt or a curve.

⑦

klt.  $B \geq 0$  eff.

Birkar:  $(X, \Delta)$  log canonical threshold  
=  $\sup \{t \mid (X, \Delta + tB) \text{ is lc}\}$

Conjecture Fix  $n$ , a DCC set  $I$ .

$\{t \mid \exists (X, \Delta) \dim X = n, \Delta \text{ coeffs in } I, B \text{ integral, } t = \text{lct}(X, \Delta + tB)\}$

satisfies ACC. Thm (de Fernex, Ein, Mustata) True for  $X$  complete intersection.

Thm Assume MMP in dim  $n-1$ .

$(X, \Delta)$  projective  $K_X + \Delta \sim_{\mathbb{R}} B \geq 0$ .

Then any sequence of flips terminates

Pf Suppose  $X_1 \dashrightarrow X_2 \dashrightarrow X_3 \dashrightarrow \dots$

is an infinite sequence of flips.

Then this is an infinite sequence of flips for  $(X, \Delta + tB)$  any  $t \geq 0$ .

Let  $t_i = \text{lct}(X, \Delta + t_i B)$ .

Caroline Arango + Brian Lehmann

By S.T. only finitely many flips intersect

non klt. Throw away nonklt. Increase  $t_1$  to  $t_2$

and repeat. Throw away nonklt. Increase  $t_2$  to  $t_3$ ...

~~Must stop~~ Get increasing sequence of thresholds  $t_i$





Global

$(X, \Delta)$  klt.  $\Delta$  big  $A$  ample.

MMP with scaling terminates.

Bizarre consequence:

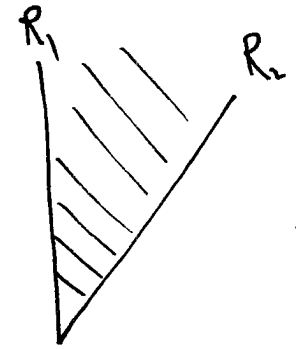
Lemma Let  $\pi: X \rightarrow U$  be a projective morphism.

$\rho(X/U) = 2.$

$K_X + \Delta$  klt. Then any sequence of flips terminates

Pf ~~3 cases~~

$NE(X/U) =$



3 cases

①  $(K_X + \Delta) \cdot R_i \geq 0, \quad i=1,2.$

It mod. stop.

②  $-(K_X + \Delta) \cdot R_i > 0 \quad i=1,2.$

$X$  is a Mori dream space.

There are only finitely many moduli. Done

③  $(K_X + \Delta) \cdot R_i \geq 0, \quad + (K_X + \Delta) \cdot R_{2-i} < 0.$

If we ever get to case ① or ② done or there are never any choices.

"Thm" ~~Q~~ Let  $(X, \delta)$  be a klt pair

$\pi: X \rightarrow U$ .  ~~$\delta$  or  $K_X + \delta$~~  Suppose  $(K_X + \delta)$  is pre.

$K_X + \delta + A$  is ample,  $A$  ample

Then the  $(K_X + \delta)$ -MMP with scaling of  $A$  terminates iff  $K_X + \delta$  has a lt model.

# Termination of Flips

1/8  
James McKernan  
Feb 27, 2009  
11AM - 12PM

- ① Intro
- ② local approach
- ③ local global
- ④ global

Defn Let  $X$  be a variety. We say an  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier  $D$  is nef if  $D \cdot C \geq 0 \quad \forall C$  curves.

Let  $\pi: X \rightarrow U$  be a projective morphism.

$$\overline{NE}(X/U) = \left\{ \alpha \in H_1(X, \mathbb{R}) : \alpha = \sum \lambda_i [C_i], \lambda_i \geq 0 \right\}$$

$$\pi_* \alpha = 0.$$

$(X, \Delta)$  log pairs,  $X$  normal,  $\Delta = \sum b_i \Delta_i$ ,  
 $b_i \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $b_i \geq 0$ ,  $K_X + \Delta$   $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier.  
(Why  $\mathbb{R}$ -Cartier? Want to work with  $\mathbb{R}$  coeff.)  
and want to consider the notion of homology

$f: Y \rightarrow X$  be a log resolution.

$$K_Y + \tilde{\Delta} + \sum E_i = f^*(K_X + \Delta) + \sum a_i E_i$$

strict transform of  $\Delta$                       exceptional divisor with coeff 1.

$a_i = a(X, \Delta, E_i) = \log \text{ discrepancy of } (X, \Delta) \text{ w.r.t. } E_i.$

$a = \inf_i a_i = \log \text{ discrepancy}$

$(X, \Delta)$  is log canonical if  $a \geq 0$   
Kawamata log terminal if  $a > 0$ .

$$K_Y + \Gamma = f^*(K_X + \Delta)$$

$$\Gamma = \tilde{\Delta} + \sum E_i - \sum a_i E_i$$

coeff. of  $\Gamma$       log canonical coeff  $\Gamma \leq 1$   
klt                      coeff  $\Gamma < 1$

Non klt  $(X, \Delta) = \text{image of divisors of } \log \text{ discrepancy} \leq 0$   
(i.e., coeff  $\geq 1$ ).

Intuition log discrepancy is a measure of the singularities.  
Smaller log disc.  $\leftrightarrow$  worse singularities

MMP

① Start with a klt pair (e.g.  $X$  smooth proj,  $\Delta = 0$ ).  
 $K_X + D$ ,  $\pi: X \rightarrow U$  (can take  $U = \text{pt}$ ).

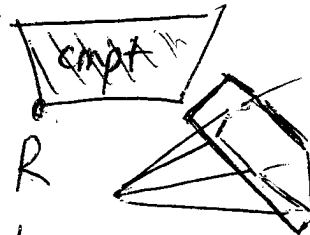
(2) Is  $K_X + \Delta$  nef? If yes, then stop.  
log terminal model (minimal model).

(3) If  $K_X + \Delta$  is not nef, then  $\exists$   
extremal ray of  $\overline{NE}(X/U)$   
and a contraction

$(K_X + \Delta) \cdot R < 0,$

$\phi: X \rightarrow Z$  s.t.

$C$  is contracted iff  $R = \mathbb{R}^+ \cdot C$ .



(a)  $\dim Z < \dim X$  Fibers are Fano var.  
Stop b/c Never nef.

(b)  $\phi$  is birational.

(i) Contract a divisor. Replace  $X$  by  $Z$ ,  
 ~~$\phi$~~  and return to (2).

(ii)  $\phi$  is small (birat'l but doesn't  
contract a divisor).  $K_{X^+ + \Delta^+}$  is ample.

There is an isom.  $X \xrightarrow{f} X^+ / Z$   
in codim 1.

$$f \searrow \swarrow f^+$$

$X^+$  is the flip of  $f$ .

Picard number  $\rho(X^+ / Z) = 1$

Replace  $X$  by  $X^+$ .

E.g.  $\dim X = 2$

$S = X$  sm proj. surface.

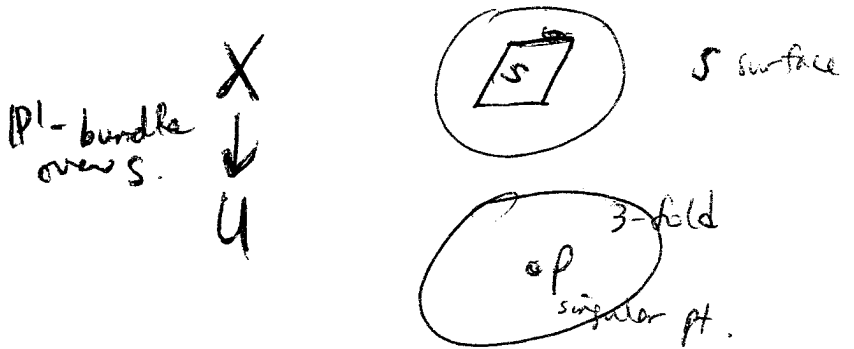
(a)  $Z = \text{pt}, S = X = \mathbb{P}^2,$

$Z = \text{curve}, S$  is a  $\mathbb{P}^1$ -bundle over  $Z$ .

(b) ( ~~$\phi$~~  flips for surfaces, so)

(i) contract a  $(-1)$ -curve.

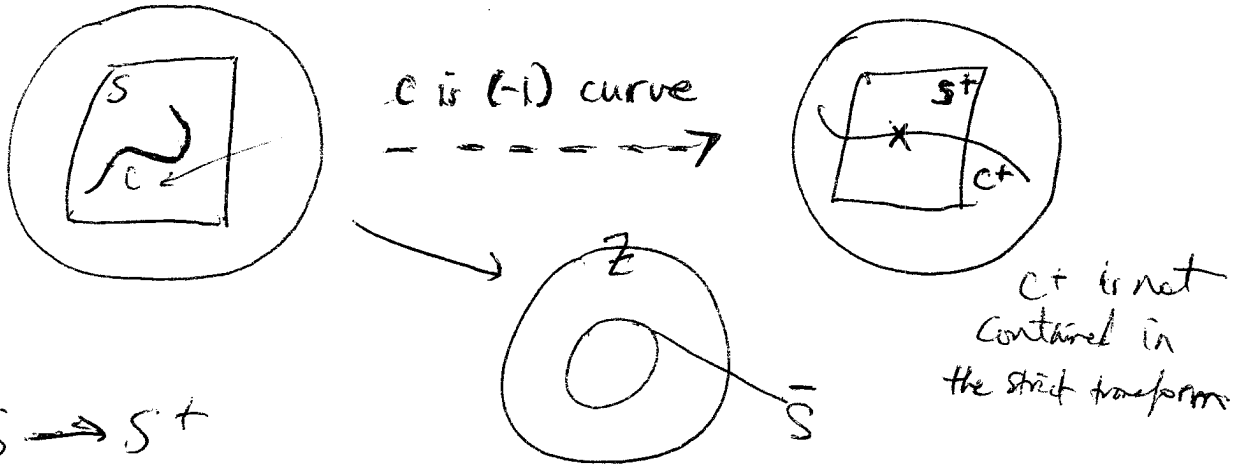
E.g. Take  $U = \text{cone}$  over  $S$ , general type.  
 $X = \text{blow up of the cone}$



adjunction formula

$$(K_X + S) - \text{MMP} / u. \quad (K_X + S) / S = K_S$$

This MMP will flip all the  $(-1)$ -curves in  $S$ .



$S \rightarrow S^+$   
 morph. which contracts the  $(-1)$ -curves.

What is known about MMP? 5/8

Flips exist, but it is not clear there could be an infinite sequence of flips.

Thm. (special Termination)

Assume flips terminate in dim  $n-1$ .

The sequence of flips for  $(K_X + \Delta)$ -MMP

$X_1 \dashrightarrow X_2 \dashrightarrow X_3 \dashrightarrow \dots$

then eventually the sequence does not meet  $\text{non klt}(X, \Delta)$ .

Sketch of proof

Basic idea: reduce to a model where  $\text{non klt}$  is a divisor<sup>s</sup>. Assume for simplicity this divisor is irreducible.

$(K_X + \Delta)$ -MMP on  $S = \lfloor \Delta \rfloor$

$(K_S + \Theta)$ -MMP for some  $\Theta$ .

Define  $\Theta$  by adjunction:

$$(K_X + \Delta)|_S = K_S + \Theta$$

One problem,  $S \dashrightarrow S^+$  might extract a divisor.

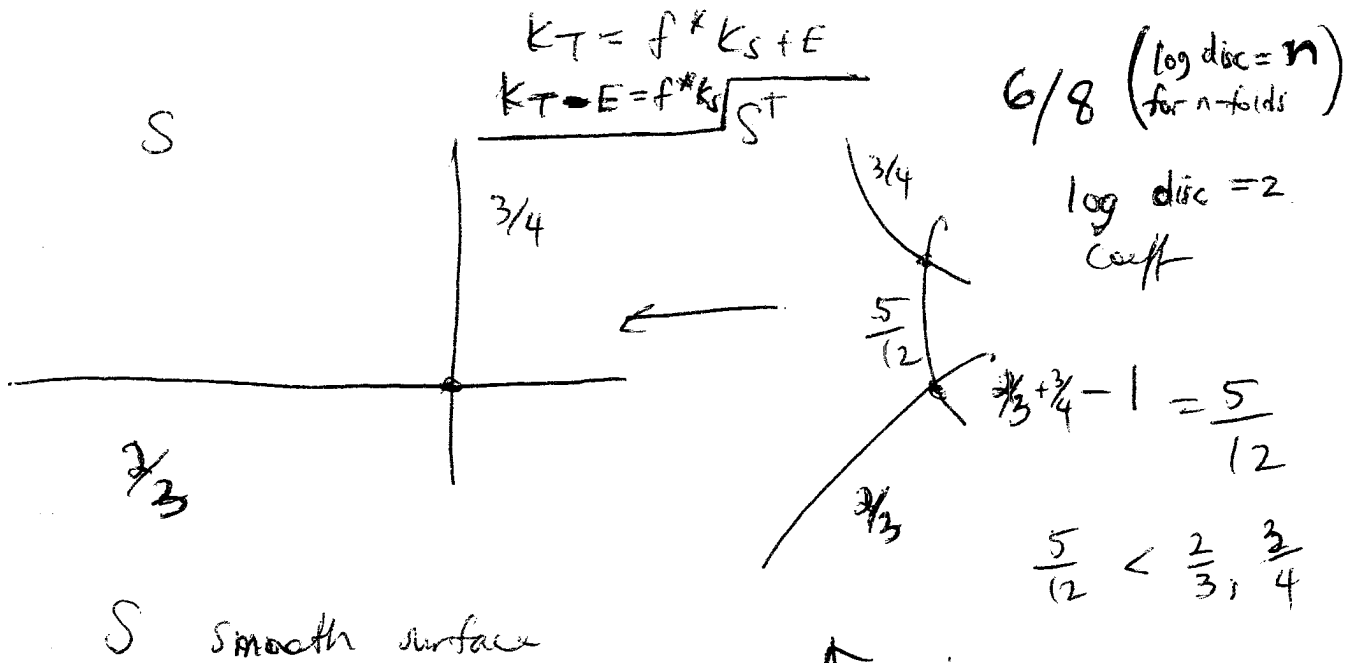


Key observation: the divisors we extract must have  $\log \text{disc.} < 1$  (coeff  $> 0$ ).

And  $\exists$  only finitely many such.

Extend defn of  $\log \text{disc.}$   $(X, \Delta)$ ,  $V$  subvariety.

$$a(X, \Delta, V) = \inf_i a_i(X, \Delta, E_i), \quad f(E_i) = V.$$



Conjecture (ACC)

Fix dim  $n$ . Fix  $I$  coeff set, satisfies DCC.  
 $\{ a(X, \Delta, x) : \text{coeffs of } \Delta \text{ belong to } I, \dim X = n \}$   
 $x \in X$  satisfies ACC.

Conjecture (LSC) lower semi continuity

$(X, \Delta)$  log pair,  $\forall x \in X, \exists$  nbhd  $U_x$   
 s.t.  $a(X, \Delta, x) = \inf_{y \in U_x} a(X, \Delta, y)$

"Log disc. is a measure of sing."

known in dim = 3.



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Thm (Shokurov) Assume ACC and LSC.  
 Then every sequence of klt flips terminates.

Lemma Assume LSC.  
 Suppose we have  $(X, \Delta)$ ,  $V \subseteq W$ . Then  

$$a \leq a(X, \Delta, V) \leq a(X, \Delta, W) + \text{codim}(V, W)$$

Observation  $(X, \Delta)$ ,  $W$  general  $V \subseteq W$ ,  
 then 
$$a(X, \Delta, V) = a(X, \Delta, W) + \text{cod}(V, W)$$

Proof Suppose not. Suppose we have  
 an infinite sequence of flips  

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} X_1 & \dashrightarrow & X_2 & \dashrightarrow & X_3 & \dashrightarrow & \dots \\ \Delta_1 & & \Delta_2 & & & & \end{array}$$
 Log discrepancies increase on the flips.

Assume ACC, then log discrepancy stabilizes  $a$ .

May assume  $\dim d$  stabilizes. Consider the locus  $W_i = \bigcup_{V_i \subseteq X_i} V_i$   
 $\dim(V_i) = d$   
 $a(X_i, \Delta_i, V_i) = a$

$W_i \dashrightarrow W_{i+1}$  is not an isomorphism

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$W_i$  is closed, and all subvarieties  $V$  of  $W$  of  $\overline{\dim} d$ ,  $a(X, \Delta, V) = a$ .  
So the map  $W_{i+1} \dashrightarrow W_i$  does not extract any  $\dim d$  or greater subvarieties.  
By intersection theory, no new cycles can be introduced.