

## WEAK FORM OF HOLZAPFEL'S CONJECTURE\*

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**Abstract.** Let  $\mathbb{B} \subset \mathbb{C}^2$  be the unit ball and  $\Gamma$  be a lattice of  $SU(2, 1)$ . Bearing in mind that all compact Riemann surfaces are discrete quotients of the unit disc  $\Delta \subset \mathbb{C}$ , Holzapfel conjectures that the discrete ball quotients  $\mathbb{B}/\Gamma$  and their compactifications are widely spread among the smooth projective surfaces. There are known ball quotients  $\mathbb{B}/\Gamma$  of general type, as well as rational, abelian, K3 and elliptic ones. The present note constructs three non-compact ball quotients, which are birational, respectively, to a hyperelliptic, Enriques or a ruled surface with an elliptic base. As a result, we establish that the ball quotient surfaces have representatives in any of the eight Enriques classification classes of smooth projective surfaces.

### 1. Introduction

In his monograph [4] Rolf-Peter Holzapfel states as a working hypothesis or a philosophy that “... up to birational equivalence and compactifications, all complex algebraic surfaces are ball quotients.” By a complex algebraic surface is meant a smooth projective surface over  $\mathbb{C}$ . These have smooth minimal models, which are classified by Enriques in eight types - rational, ruled of genus  $\geq 1$ , abelian, hyperelliptic, K3, Enriques, elliptic and of general type. The compact torsion free ball quotients  $\mathbb{B}/\Gamma$  are smooth minimal surfaces of general type. Ishida [10], Keum [11, 12] and Dzambic [1] obtain elliptic surfaces, which are minimal resolutions of the isolated cyclic quotient singularities of compact ball quotients. Hirzebruch [2] and then Holzapfel [3], [7], [9] have constructed torsion free ball quotient compactifications with abelian minimal models. In [9] Holzapfel provides a ball quotient compactification, which is birational to the Kummer surface of an abelian surface,

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i.e., to a smooth minimal K3 surface. Rational ball quotient surfaces are explicitly recognized and studied in [6], [8]. The present work constructs smooth ball quotients with a hyperelliptic or, respectively, a ruled model with an elliptic base. It provides also a ball quotient with one double point, which is birational to an Enriques surface. All of them are finite Galois quotients of a non-compact torsion free  $\mathbb{B}/\Gamma_{-1}^{(6,8)}$ , constructed by Holzapfel in [9] and having abelian minimal model of the toroidal compactification. As a result, we establish the following

**Theorem 1** (Weak Form of Holzapfel's Conjecture). *Any of the eight Enriques classification classes of complex projective surfaces contains a ball quotient surface.*

## 2. Ball Quotient Compactifications with Abelian Minimal Models

Let us recall that the **complex two-ball**

$$\mathbb{B} = \{(z_1, z_2) \in \mathbb{C}^2; |z_1|^2 + |z_2|^2 < 1\} = \mathrm{SU}(2, 1)/\mathrm{S}(\mathrm{U}(2) \times \mathrm{U}(1))$$

is an irreducible non-compact Hermitian symmetric space. The discrete biholomorphism groups  $\Gamma \subset \mathrm{SU}(2, 1)$  of  $\mathbb{B}$ , whose quotients  $\mathbb{B}/\Gamma$  have finite  $\mathrm{SU}(2, 1)$ -invariant measure are called ball lattices. The present section studies the image  $T$  of the toroidal compactifying divisor  $T' = (\mathbb{B}/\Gamma)' \setminus (\mathbb{B}/\Gamma)$  on the minimal model  $A$  of  $(\mathbb{B}/\Gamma)'$ , whenever  $A$  is an abelian surface. It establishes that for any subgroup  $H \subseteq \mathrm{Aut}(A, T)$  there is a ball quotient  $\mathbb{B}/\Gamma_H$ , birational to  $A/H$ .

**Lemma 1.** *If a ball quotient  $\mathbb{B}/\Gamma$  is birational to an abelian surface  $A$  then  $\mathbb{B}/\Gamma$  is smooth and non-compact.*

**Proof:** Assume that  $\mathbb{B}/\Gamma$  is singular. For a compact  $\mathbb{B}/\Gamma$  set  $U = \mathbb{B}/\Gamma$ . If  $\mathbb{B}/\Gamma$  is non-compact, let  $U = (\mathbb{B}/\Gamma)'$  be the toroidal compactification of  $\mathbb{B}/\Gamma$ . In either case  $U$  is a compact surface with isolated cyclic quotient singularities. Consider the minimal resolution  $\varphi : Y \rightarrow U$  of  $p_i \in U^{\mathrm{sing}}$  by Hirzebruch-Jung strings  $E_i = \sum_{t=1}^{\nu_i} E_i^t$ . The irreducible components  $E_i^t$  of  $E_i$  are smooth rational curves of self-intersection  $(E_i^t)^2 \leq -2$ . The birational morphism  $Y \dashrightarrow A$  transforms  $E_i^t$  onto rational curves on  $A$ . It suffices to observe that an abelian surface  $A$  does not support rational curves  $C$ , in order to conclude that  $\mathbb{B}/\Gamma$  is smooth. The compact smooth ball quotients are known to be of general type, so that  $\mathbb{B}/\Gamma$  is to be non-compact.

Assume that there is a rational curve  $C \subset A$ . Its desingularization  $f : \tilde{C} \rightarrow C$  can be viewed as a holomorphic map  $F : \tilde{C} \rightarrow A$ . Homotopy lifting property applies to  $F$  and provides a holomorphic immersion  $\tilde{F} : \tilde{C} \rightarrow \tilde{A} = \mathbb{C}^2$  in the universal cover  $\tilde{A}$  of  $A$ , due to simply connectedness of the smooth rational curve  $\tilde{C}$ . Its image

$\tilde{F}(\tilde{C})$  is a compact complex-analytic subvariety of  $\mathbb{C}^2$ , which maps to compact complex-analytic subvarieties  $\text{pr}_i(\tilde{F}(\tilde{C})) \subset \mathbb{C}$  by the canonical projections  $\text{pr}_i: \mathbb{C}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq 2$ . Thus,  $\text{pr}_i(\tilde{F}(\tilde{C}))$  and, therefore,  $\tilde{F}(\tilde{C})$  are finite. The contradiction justifies the non-existence of rational curves on  $A$ .  $\square$

The next lemma lists some immediate properties of the image  $T$  of the toroidal compactifying divisor  $T'$  of  $A' = (\mathbb{B}/\Gamma)'$  on its abelian minimal model  $A$ .

**Lemma 2.** *Let  $A' = (\mathbb{B}/\Gamma)'$  be a smooth toroidal ball quotient compactification,  $\xi: A' \rightarrow A$  be the blow-down of the  $(-1)$ -curves  $L = \sum_{j=1}^s L_j$  on  $A'$  to an abelian surface  $A$  and  $T'_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq h$  be the disjoint smooth elliptic irreducible components of the toroidal compactifying divisor  $T' = (\mathbb{B}/\Gamma)' \setminus (\mathbb{B}/\Gamma)$ . Then*

- i)  $T_i = \xi(T'_i)$  are smooth irreducible elliptic curves on  $A$
- ii)  $T^{\text{sing}} = \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq h} T_i \cap T_j = \xi(L)$
- iii)  $T_i \cap T^{\text{sing}} \neq \emptyset$  and the restrictions  $\xi: T'_i \rightarrow T_i$  are bijective for all  $1 \leq i \leq h$ .

**Proof:** i) According to the birational invariance of the genus, the curves  $T_i = \xi(T'_i)$  have smooth elliptic desingularizations. It suffices to show that any curve  $C \subset A$  of genus one is smooth. If  $C$  is singular then its desingularization  $\tilde{C}$  is a smooth elliptic curve. Therefore, the composition  $\tilde{C} \rightarrow C \hookrightarrow A$  of the desingularization map with the identical inclusion of  $C$  is a morphism of abelian varieties. In particular, it is unramified, which is not the case for  $\tilde{C} \rightarrow C$ . Therefore any curve  $C \subset A$  of genus one is smooth.

ii) The inclusion  $T^{\text{sing}} \subseteq \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq h} T_i \cap T_j$  follows from i). For the opposite inclusion, note that  $\xi|_{A' \setminus L} = \text{Id}_{(A' \setminus L)}: A' \setminus L \rightarrow A \setminus \xi(L)$  guarantees  $T_i = \xi(T'_i) \neq \xi(T'_j) = T_j$  and different elliptic curves on an abelian surface intersect transversally at any of their intersection points. Thus,  $T^{\text{sing}} = \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq h} T_i \cap T_j$ .

The disjointness of  $T'_i$  yields  $\sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq h} T_i \cap T_j \subseteq \xi(L)$ . Conversely, the Kobayashi hyperbolicity of  $\mathbb{B}/\Gamma$  requires  $\text{card}(L_j \cap T') \geq 2$  for all  $1 \leq j \leq s$ . However,  $\text{card}(L_j \cap T'_i) \leq 1$  by the smoothness of  $T_i = \xi(T'_i)$ , so that there exist at least two  $T'_i \neq T'_k$  with  $\text{card}(L_j \cap T'_i) = \text{card}(L_j \cap T'_k) = 1$ . In other words, the point  $\xi(L_j) \in T_i \cap T_k$ . That verifies the inclusion  $\xi(L) \subseteq \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq h} T_i \cap T_j$ , whereas the

coincidence  $\xi(L) = \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq h} T_i \cap T_j$ .

iii) If  $T_i \cap \xi(L) = \emptyset$  then the intersection numbers  $(T'_i)^2 = T_i^2$  coincide. By the Adjunction Formula

$$0 = -e(T_i) = T_i^2 + K_A.T_i = T_i^2 + \mathcal{O}_A.T_i = T_i^2$$

so that  $(T'_i)^2 = 0$ . That contradicts the contractibility of  $T'_i$  to the corresponding cusp of  $\mathbb{B}/\Gamma$  and justifies  $T_i \cap T^{\text{sing}} \neq \emptyset$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq h$ .

Note that  $\xi|_{T'_i \setminus L} = \text{Id}|_{T'_i \setminus L} : T'_i \setminus L \rightarrow T_i \setminus \xi(L)$  is bijective. In order to define  $\xi^{-1} : T_i \cap \xi(L) \rightarrow T'_i \cap L$ , let us recall that for any  $p \in \xi(L)$  the smooth rational curve  $\xi^{-1}(p)$  has  $\text{card}(\xi^{-1}(p) \cap T'_i) \leq 1$ . More precisely,  $\text{card}(\xi^{-1}(p) \cap T'_i) = 1$  if and only if  $p \in T_i$ , so that for any  $p \in T_i \cap \xi(L)$  there is a unique point  $\{q(p)\} = T'_i \cap \xi^{-1}(p)$ . That provides a regular morphism  $\xi^{-1}(p) = q(p)$  for all  $p \in T_i \cap \xi(L)$ . □

According to Lemma 2, the image  $T = \xi(T')$  of the toroidal compactifying divisor  $T' = (\mathbb{B}/\Gamma)' \setminus (\mathbb{B}/\Gamma)$  under the blow-down  $\xi : (\mathbb{B}/\Gamma)' \rightarrow A$  of the  $(-1)$ -curves is a multi-elliptic divisor, i.e.,  $T = \sum_{i=1}^h T_i$  has smooth elliptic irreducible components  $T_i$ , which intersect transversally. Note also that  $(A, T)$  determines uniquely  $(\mathbb{B}/\Gamma)'$  as the blow-up of  $A$  at  $T^{\text{sing}}$ .

**Definition 2.** A pair  $(A, T)$  of an abelian surface  $A$  and a divisor  $T \subset A$  is an abelian ball quotient model if there exists a torsion free toroidal ball quotient compactification  $(\mathbb{B}/\Gamma)'$ , such that the blow-down  $\xi : (\mathbb{B}/\Gamma)' \rightarrow A$  of the  $(-1)$ -curves on  $(\mathbb{B}/\Gamma)'$  maps the pair  $((\mathbb{B}/\Gamma)', T' = (\mathbb{B}/\Gamma)' \setminus (\mathbb{B}/\Gamma))$  onto  $(A, T)$ .

The next lemma explains the construction of non-compact ball quotients, which are finite Galois quotients of torsion free non-compact  $\mathbb{B}/\Gamma$ , birational to abelian surfaces.

**Lemma 3.** Let  $A' = (\mathbb{B}/\Gamma)' = (\mathbb{B}/\Gamma) \cup T'$  be a torsion free ball quotient compactification by a toroidal divisor  $T'$ ,  $\xi : A' \rightarrow A$  be the blow-down of the  $(-1)$ -curves on  $A'$  to the abelian minimal model  $A$  and  $T = \xi(T')$ . Then

- i)  $\text{Aut}(A, T) = \text{Aut}(A', T')$  is a finite group
- ii) any subgroup  $H \subseteq \text{Aut}(A, T)$  lifts to a ball lattice  $\Gamma_H$ , such that  $\Gamma$  is a normal subgroup of  $\Gamma_H$  with quotient group  $\Gamma_H/\Gamma = H$  and  $\mathbb{B}/\Gamma_H$  is a non-compact ball quotient, birational to  $X = A/H$ .

Moreover, if  $X = A/H$  is a smooth surface then  $\mathbb{B}/\Gamma_H$  is a smooth ball quotient.

**Proof:** i) If  $G = \text{Aut}(A, T)$ , then Lemma 2 ii) implies the  $G$ -invariance of  $\xi(L)$ . By the means of an arbitrary automorphism of the smooth projective line  $\mathbb{P}^1$ , one

extends the  $G$ -action to  $L$  and, therefore, to

$$A' = (A' \setminus L) \cup L = (A \setminus \xi(L)) \cup L.$$

The  $G$ -invariance of  $T' = \sum_{i=1}^h T'_i$  follows from Lemma 2 iii). That justifies the inclusion  $G \subseteq \text{Aut}(A', T')$ . For the opposite inclusion, note that the union  $L$  of the  $(-1)$ -curves is invariant under an arbitrary automorphism of  $A'$ . As a result, there arises a  $G$ -action on  $\xi(L)$  and  $A = (A \setminus \xi(L)) \cup \xi(L) = (A' \setminus L) \cup \xi(L)$ .

The multi-elliptic divisor  $T = \sum_{i=1}^h T_i$  is  $G$ -invariant according to Lemma 2 iii).

Consequently,  $\text{Aut}(A', T') \subseteq G$ , whereas  $G = \text{Aut}(A', T')$ .

In order to show that  $G$  is finite, let us consider the natural representation

$$\varphi : G \longrightarrow \text{Sym}(T_1, \dots, T_h) \simeq \text{Sym}_h$$

in the permutation group of the irreducible components  $T_i$  of  $T$ . It suffices to prove that the kernel  $\ker \varphi$  is finite, in order to assert that  $G$  is finite. For any  $g = \tau_p g_o \in \ker \varphi \subset \text{Aut}(A)$  with linear part  $g_o \in \text{GL}_2(\mathbb{C})$  and translation part  $\tau_p$ ,  $p \in A$ , we show that  $g_o$  and  $\tau_p$  take finitely many values. Note that the identical inclusions  $T_i \subset A$  are morphisms of abelian varieties. Thus, for any choice of an origin  $\check{o}_A \in T_i$  there is a  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear embedding  $\mathcal{E}_i : \tilde{T}_i = \mathbb{C} \hookrightarrow \mathbb{C}^2 = \tilde{A}$  of the corresponding universal covers. If  $\mathcal{E}_i(1) = (a_i, b_i)$  then

$$T_i = E_{a_i, b_i} = \{(a_i t, b_i t) \pmod{\pi_1(A)} ; t \in \mathbb{C}\} \subset A.$$

If the origin  $\check{o}_A \notin T_i$ , then for any point  $(P_i, Q_i) \in T_i$  the elliptic curve  $T_i = E_{a_i, b_i} + (P_i, Q_i)$ . In either case, all  $v_i = (a_i, b_i)$  are eigenvectors of the linear part  $g_o$  of  $g = \tau_p g_o \in \ker \varphi$ . We claim that there are at least three pairwise non-proportional  $v_i$ . Indeed, if all  $v_i$  were parallel, then  $T^{\text{sing}} = \emptyset$ , which contradicts  $T_i \cap T^{\text{sing}} \neq \emptyset$  for  $1 \leq i \leq h$  by Lemma 2 iii). Suppose that among  $v_1, \dots, v_h$  there are two non-parallel and all other  $v_i$  are proportional to one of them. Then after an eventual permutation there is  $1 \leq k \leq h-1$ , such that  $v_1, v_k$  are linearly independent,  $v_i = \mu_i v_1$  for  $\mu_i \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $2 \leq i \leq k$  and  $v_i = \mu_i v_{k+1}$  for  $\mu_i \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $k+2 \leq i \leq h$ . Holzapfel has proved in [9] that any abelian ball quotient model  $(A, T)$  is subject to  $\sum_{i=1}^h \text{card}(T_i \cap T^{\text{sing}}) = 4 \text{card}(T^{\text{sing}})$ . In the case under consideration

$$\text{card}(T^{\text{sing}}) = \sum_{i=1}^k \sum_{j=k+1}^h \text{card}(T_i \cap T_j)$$

$$\text{card}(T_i \cap T^{\text{sing}}) = \sum_{j=k+1}^h \text{card}(T_i \cap T_j) \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq k \quad \text{and}$$

$$\text{card}(T_j \cap T^{\text{sing}}) = \sum_{i=1}^k \text{card}(T_i \cap T_j) \quad \text{for } k+1 \leq j \leq h.$$

Therefore  $\sum_{i=1}^h \text{card}(T_i \cap T^{\text{sing}}) = 2\text{card}(T^{\text{sing}}) \neq 4\text{card}(T^{\text{sing}})$  and there are at least three pairwise non-proportional eigenvectors  $v_1, v_2, v_3$  of  $g_o$ . Let  $\lambda_i$  be the corresponding eigenvalues of  $v_i$  and  $v_3 = \rho_1 v_1 + \rho_2 v_2$  for some  $\rho_1, \rho_2 \in \mathbb{C}^*$ . Then  $\lambda_3 v_3 = g_o(v_3) = \rho_1 \lambda_1 v_1 + \rho_2 \lambda_2 v_2$  implies that  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_3 = \lambda_2$  and  $g_o = \lambda_o I_2$  is a scalar matrix. On the other hand,  $g(T_i) = g_o(T_i) + p = T_i$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq h$ , so that  $g_o$  permutes among themselves the parallel elliptic curves among  $T_1, \dots, T_h$ . Since  $T_i$  are finitely many, there is a natural number  $m$ , such that  $g_o^m \in \ker \varphi$ . Therefore,  $\lambda_o^m \in \text{End}(T_i)$  and  $\lambda_o^{-m} \in \text{End}(T_i)$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq h$ , due to  $(g_o^m)^{-1} = g_o^{-m} \in \ker \varphi$ . Recall that the units group  $\text{End}^*(T_i) = \mathbb{Z}^* = \{\pm 1\}$  for  $T_i$  without a complex multiplication. If the elliptic curve  $T_i$  has complex multiplication by an imaginary quadratic number field  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-d})$ ,  $d \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $\text{End}(T_i)$  is a subring of the integers ring  $\mathcal{O}_{-d}$  of  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-d})$ . The units groups  $\mathcal{O}_{-1}^* = \langle i \rangle$ ,  $\mathcal{O}_{-3}^* = \langle e^{\frac{2\pi i}{6}} \rangle$ , and  $\mathcal{O}_{-d}^* = \langle -1 \rangle$  for all  $d \neq 1, 3$  are finite cyclic groups. As a subgroup of  $\mathcal{O}_{-d}^*$ , the units group  $\text{End}^*(T_i)$  is a finite cyclic group. Therefore  $\lambda_o^m \in \text{End}^*(T_i)$  and  $g_o = \lambda_o I_2$  take finitely many values.

Concerning the translation part  $\tau_p$  of  $g \in \ker \varphi$ , one can always move the origin  $\check{o}_A$  of  $A$  at one of the singular points of  $T$ . Due to the  $G$ -invariance of  $T^{\text{sing}}$ , there follows  $g(\check{o}_A) = \tau_p g_o(\check{o}_a) = \tau_p(\check{o}_A) = p \in T^{\text{sing}}$ . Therefore  $p$  takes finitely many values and  $\ker \varphi$  is finite.

ii) Since  $\Gamma \subset \text{SU}(2, 1)$  is a torsion free lattice, any subgroup  $H$  of

$$G = \text{Aut}(A', T') \subseteq \text{Aut}(A' \setminus T') = \text{Aut}(\mathbb{B}/\Gamma)$$

lifts to a subgroup  $\Gamma_H \subset \text{Aut}(\mathbb{B}) = \text{SU}(2, 1)$ , which normalizes  $\Gamma$  and has quotient  $\Gamma_H/\Gamma = H$ . We claim that  $\Gamma_H$  is discrete. Indeed,  $\Gamma_H = \cup_{i=1}^k \gamma_i \Gamma$  is a finite disjoint union of cosets, relative to  $\Gamma$ . Suppose that  $\Gamma_H$  is not discrete and there is a sequence  $\{\nu_n\}_{n=1}^\infty \subset \Gamma_H$  with a limit point  $\nu_o \in \gamma_{i_o} \Gamma$ . Then pass to a subsequence  $\{\nu_{m_n}\}_{n=1}^\infty \subset \gamma_{i_o} \Gamma$ , converging to  $\nu_o$ . As a result  $\{\gamma_{i_o}^{-1} \nu_{m_n}\}_{n=1}^\infty \subset \Gamma$  converges to  $\gamma_{i_o}^{-1} \nu_o \in \Gamma$  and contradicts the discreteness of  $\Gamma$ . Thus,  $\Gamma_H \supseteq \Gamma$  is discrete and, therefore, a ball lattice. Straightforwardly,

$$A'/H = [(\mathbb{B}/\Gamma) / (\Gamma_H/\Gamma)] \cup (T'/H) = (\mathbb{B}/\Gamma_H) \cup (T'/H) = \overline{(\mathbb{B}/\Gamma_H)}$$

is the compactification of the ball quotient  $\mathbb{B}/\Gamma_H$  by the divisor  $T'/H$ . The  $H$ -Galois covers  $\zeta_H : A \rightarrow A/H$  and  $\zeta'_H : A' \rightarrow \overline{(\mathbb{B}/\Gamma_H)}$  fit in a commutative

diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A & \xleftarrow{\xi} & A' \\
 \zeta_H \downarrow & & \downarrow \zeta'_H \\
 A/H & \xleftarrow{\xi_H} & \overline{(\mathbb{B}/\Gamma_H)}
 \end{array}$$

with the contraction  $\xi_H$  of  $L/H$  to  $\xi(L)/H$ .

Note that  $X = A/H$  is smooth exactly when  $H$  has no isolated fixed points on  $A$ . The blow-up  $\xi : A' \rightarrow A$  replaces an arbitrary  $p_j = \xi(L_j)$  with stabilizer  $\text{Stab}_H(p_j)$  by a smooth rational curve  $L_j$  with  $\text{Stab}_H(q) = \text{Stab}_H(p_j)$  for all  $q \in L_j$ . Therefore the blow-up  $\xi$  does not create isolated  $H$ -fixed points on  $A'$  and  $A'/H = \overline{(\mathbb{B}/\Gamma_H)}$  is a smooth compactification. Its open subset  $\mathbb{B}/\Gamma_H$  is smooth. □

### 3. Explicit Constructions

The present section applies Lemma 3 to a specific abelian ball quotient model over the Gauss numbers  $\mathbb{Q}(i)$ , in order to provide ball quotient compactifications, which are birational to a hyperelliptic, Enriques or a ruled surface with an elliptic base.

**Theorem 3** (Holzapfel [9]). *Let us consider the elliptic curve  $E_{-1} = \mathbb{C}/(\mathbb{Z} + i\mathbb{Z})$  with complex multiplication by the Gauss numbers  $\mathbb{Q}(i)$ , its two-torsion points*

$$Q_0 = 0(\bmod \mathbb{Z} + i\mathbb{Z}), \quad Q_1 = \frac{1}{2}(\bmod \mathbb{Z} + i\mathbb{Z}), \quad Q_2 = iQ_1, \quad Q_3 = Q_1 + Q_2$$

the abelian surface  $A_{-1} = E_{-1} \times E_{-1}$ , the points

$$Q_{ij} = (Q_i, Q_j) \in A_{2\text{-tor}} \subset A_{-1}$$

and the divisor  $T_{-1}^{(6,8)} = \sum_{i=1}^8 T_i$  with smooth elliptic irreducible components

$$T_k = E_{i^k, 1} \quad \text{for } 1 \leq k \leq 4$$

$$T_{m+4} = Q_m \times E_{-1}, \quad T_{m+6} = E_{-1} \times Q_m \quad \text{for } 1 \leq m \leq 2.$$

Then  $(A_{-1}, T_{-1}^{(6,8)})$  is an abelian model of an arithmetic ball quotient  $\mathbb{B}/\Gamma_{-1}^{(6,8)}$ , defined over  $\mathbb{Q}(i)$ .

**Corollary 1** (Holzapfel [9]). *i) In the notations from Theorem 3, the multiplications  $I = \begin{pmatrix} i & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $J = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & i \end{pmatrix}$  by  $i \in \mathbb{Z}[i] = \text{End}(E_{-1})$  on the first,*

- respectively, the second elliptic factor  $E_{-1}$  of  $A_{-1}$  are automorphisms of  $(A_{-1}, T_{-1}^{(6,8)})$ .
- ii) If  $\Gamma_{K3,-1}^{(6,8)}$  is the ball lattice, containing  $\Gamma_{-1}^{(6,8)}$  as a normal subgroup with quotient  $\Gamma_{K3,-1}^{(6,8)}/\Gamma_{-1}^{(6,8)} = \langle -I_2 = I^2 J^2 \rangle \subset \text{Aut}(A_{-1}, T_{-1}^{(6,8)})$ , then the ball quotient  $\mathbb{B}/\Gamma_{K3,-1}^{(6,8)}$  is birational to the Kummer surface  $X_{K3}$  of  $A_{-1}$ .
- iii) If  $\Gamma_{\text{Rat},-1}^{(6,8)}$  is the ball lattice, containing  $\Gamma_{-1}^{(6,8)}$  as a normal subgroup with quotient  $\Gamma_{\text{Rat},-1}^{(6,8)}/\Gamma_{-1}^{(6,8)} = \langle I, J \rangle \subseteq \text{Aut}(A_{-1}, T_{-1}^{(6,8)})$ , then the ball quotient  $\mathbb{B}/\Gamma_{\text{Rat},-1}^{(6,8)}$  is a rational surface.

The entire automorphism group  $G_{-1}^{(6,8)} = \text{Aut}(A_{-1}, T_{-1}^{(6,8)})$  is described in the next lemma.

**Lemma 4.** *In the notations from Theorem 3, the group  $G_{-1}^{(6,8)} = \text{Aut}(A_{-1}, T_{-1}^{(6,8)})$  is generated by  $I = \begin{pmatrix} i & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $J = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & i \end{pmatrix}$ , the transposition  $\theta = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  of the elliptic factors  $E_{-1}$  of  $A_{-1}$  and the translation  $\tau_{33}$  by  $Q_{33}$ . The aforementioned generators are subject to the relations*

$$I^4 = \text{Id}, \quad J^4 = \text{Id}, \quad \theta^2 = \text{Id}, \quad \tau_{33}^2 = \text{Id}, \quad IJ = JI$$

$$\theta I = J\theta, \quad \theta J = I\theta, \quad I\tau_{33} = \tau_{33}I, \quad J\tau_{33} = \tau_{33}J, \quad \theta\tau_{33} = \tau_{33}\theta.$$

and  $G_{-1}^{(6,8)}$  is of order 64.

**Proof:** Any  $g \in G_{-1}^{(6,8)}$  leaves invariant

$$(T_{-1}^{(6,8)})^{\text{sing}} = \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq 8} T_i \cap T_j = \sum_{m=1}^2 \sum_{n=1}^2 Q_{mn} + Q_{00} + Q_{33}.$$

Thus,  $g(T_i) = T_j$  implies  $s_i = \text{card}(T_i \cap T^{\text{sing}}) = \text{card}(T_j \cap T^{\text{sing}}) = s_j$ , according to the bijectiveness of  $g$ . In the case under consideration,  $s_1 = s_2 = s_3 = s_4 = 4$  and  $s_5 = s_6 = s_7 = s_8 = 2$ , so that  $G_{-1}^{(6,8)}$  permutes separately  $T_1, \dots, T_4$  and  $T_5, \dots, T_8$ . In particular, the intersection  $\cap_{i=1}^4 T_i = \{Q_{00}, Q_{33}\}$  is  $G_{-1}^{(6,8)}$ -invariant and any  $g = \tau_{(U,V)} g_o \in G_{-1}^{(6,8)}$  transforms the origin  $\check{o}_{A_{-1}} = Q_{00}$  into  $g(\check{o}_{A_{-1}}) = (U_1, U_2) \in \{Q_{00}, Q_{33}\}$ . Straightforwardly,  $\tau_{33}(T_i) = T_i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq 4$  and  $\tau_{33}(T_{m+2n}) = T_{3-m+2n}$  for  $1 \leq m \leq 2$ ,  $2 \leq n \leq 3$  imply that  $\tau_{33} \in G_{-1}^{(6,8)}$ . Therefore  $G_{-1}^{(6,8)}$  is generated by  $G_{-1}^{(6,8)} \cap \text{GL}_2(\text{End}(E_{-1})) = G_{-1}^{(6,8)} \cap \text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}[i])$  and  $\tau_{33}$ . Note that  $\theta \in \text{Aut}(A_{-1})$  acts on  $T_{-1}^{(6,8)}$  and induces the permutation  $(T_1, T_3)(T_5, T_7)(T_6, T_8)$  of its irreducible components. Therefore

$\theta \in G_{-1}^{(6,8)}$  and  $\langle I, J, \theta \rangle$  is a subgroup of  $G_{-1}^{(6,8)} \cap \mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}[i])$ . On the other hand, any  $g = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ \gamma & \delta \end{pmatrix} \in G_{-1}^{(6,8)} \cap \mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}[i])$  acts on  $T_5, \dots, T_8$  and, therefore, on the set  $\{\widetilde{T}_5 = \widetilde{T}_6 = 0 \times \mathbb{C}, \widetilde{T}_7 = \widetilde{T}_8 = \mathbb{C} \times 0\}$  of the corresponding universal covers. If  $g(0 \times \mathbb{C}) = 0 \times \mathbb{C}$ ,  $g(\mathbb{C} \times 0) = \mathbb{C} \times 0$  then  $\beta = \gamma = 0$ , so that  $\alpha, \delta \in \mathrm{End}(E_{-1}) = \mathbb{Z}[i]$  and  $\det(g) = \alpha\delta \in \mathrm{End}^*(E_{-1}) = \langle i \rangle = \mathbb{C}_4$  imply  $g = I^k J^l$  for some  $0 \leq k, l \leq 3$ . Similarly, for  $g(0 \times \mathbb{C}) = \mathbb{C} \times 0$ ,  $g(\mathbb{C} \times 0) = 0 \times \mathbb{C}$  one has  $\alpha = \delta = 0$ , whereas  $\beta, \gamma \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$ ,  $\beta\gamma \in \mathbb{Z}[i]^* = \langle i \rangle$  and  $g = I^k J^l \theta$  for some  $0 \leq k, l \leq 3$ . Consequently,  $G_{-1}^{(6,8)} \cap \mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}[i]) = \langle I, J, \theta \rangle$  and  $G_{-1}^{(6,8)} = \langle I, J, \theta, \tau_{33} \rangle$ . The announced relations among  $\tau_{33}, I, J, \theta$  imply that

$$G_{-1}^{(6,8)} = \{\tau_{33}^n I^k J^l \theta^m ; 0 \leq k, l \leq 3, 0 \leq m, n \leq 1\}$$

is of order 64. □

**Theorem 4.** *In the notations from Lemma 3, Theorem 3 and Lemma 4, let us consider the subgroups  $H_{HE} = \langle \tau_{33} J^2 \rangle$ ,  $H_{\mathrm{Enr}} = \langle -I_2, \tau_{33} I^2 \rangle$ ,  $H_{\mathrm{Rul}} = \langle J^2 \rangle$  of  $G_{-1}^{(6,8)} = \mathrm{Aut}(A_{-1}, T_{-1}^{(6,8)})$ , their liftings  $\Gamma_{HE,-1}^{(6,8)}$ ,  $\Gamma_{\mathrm{Enr},-1}^{(6,8)}$ ,  $\Gamma_{\mathrm{Rul},-1}^{(6,8)}$  to ball lattices and the blow-up  $A_{2\text{-tor}} \widehat{\phantom{A_{-1}}}$  of  $A_{-1}$  at the two-torsion points  $A_{2\text{-tor}}$ . Then*

- i)  $\mathbb{B}/\Gamma_{HE,-1}^{(6,8)}$  is a smooth ball quotient, birational to the smooth hyperelliptic surface  $A_{-1}/H_{HE}$
- ii)  $\mathbb{B}/\Gamma_{\mathrm{Enr},-1}^{(6,8)}$  is a ball quotient with one double point  $\mathrm{Orb}_{H_{\mathrm{Enr}}}(Q_{03})$ , which is birational to the smooth Enriques surface  $A_{2\text{-tor}} \widehat{\phantom{A_{-1}}}/H_{\mathrm{Enr}}$
- iii)  $\mathbb{B}/\Gamma_{\mathrm{Rul},-1}^{(6,8)}$  is a smooth ball quotient, birational to the smooth trivial ruled surface  $A_{-1}/H_{\mathrm{Rul}} = E_{-1} \times \mathbb{P}^1$  with an elliptic base  $E_{-1}$ .

**Proof:** i) Recall that the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module  $\pi_1(E_{-1}) = \mathbb{Z} + i\mathbb{Z} = \mathbb{Z} + (1+i)\mathbb{Z}$  is generated by  $1, 1+i$  and  $Q_3 = \frac{1+i}{2} \pmod{\pi_1(E_{-1})}$ . The translation  $\tau_{Q_3} : E_{-1} \rightarrow E_{-1}$  is of order 2, as well as the morphism

$$\tau_{Q_3}(-1) : E_{-1} \longrightarrow E_{-1}$$

$$\tau_{Q_3}(-1)(P) = -P + Q_3$$

with four fixed points

$$\frac{1}{2}Q_3 + (E_{-1})_{2\text{-tor}} = \frac{1}{2}Q_3 + \{Q_i ; 0 \leq i \leq 3\}.$$

According to [5], the quotient  $A_{-1}/H_{HE}$  by the cyclic group

$$H_{HE} = \langle \tau_{Q_3} \times \tau_{Q_3}(-1) \rangle$$

of order 2 is a smooth hyperelliptic surface. Lemma 3 ii) implies that  $\mathbb{B}/\Gamma_{HE,-1}^{(6,8)}$  is a smooth ball quotient, birational to  $A_{-1}/H_{HE}$ .

ii) The quotient  $X_{K3} = A_{\widehat{2\text{-tor}}}/\langle -I_2 \rangle$  is a smooth K3 surface, called the Kummer surface of  $A_{-1}$ . We claim that the involution  $\tau_{33}I^2$  acts on  $A_{\widehat{2\text{-tor}}}$  and determines an unramified double cover

$$\zeta : X_{K3} = A_{\widehat{2\text{-tor}}}/\langle -I_2 \rangle \rightarrow A_{\widehat{2\text{-tor}}}/\langle -I_2, \tau_{33}I^2 \rangle = A_{\widehat{2\text{-tor}}}/H_{\text{Enr}}.$$

More precisely,  $\tau_{33}I^2 = \tau_{Q_3}(-1) \times \tau_{Q_3}$  leaves invariant the two-torsion points  $A_{2\text{-tor}} = \{Q_{ij} ; 0 \leq i, j \leq 3\}$  and any choice of an automorphism of  $\mathbb{P}^1$  extends  $\tau_{33}I^2$  to an automorphism of  $A_{\widehat{2\text{-tor}}}$ . Note that  $\tau_{33}I^2(-I_2) = (-I_2)\tau_{33}I^2$ , so that  $\tau_{33}I^2$  normalizes  $\langle -I_2 \rangle$  and there is a well defined quotient group  $H_{\text{Enr}}/\langle -I_2 \rangle = \langle \tau_{33}I^2 \rangle$  of order 2. That allows to define  $\zeta : X_{K3} \rightarrow A_{\widehat{2\text{-tor}}}/H_{\text{Enr}}$  as  $H_{\text{Enr}}/\langle -I_2 \rangle$ -Galois cover. We claim that  $\tau_{33}I^2$  is a fixed point free involution on  $X_{K3}$ , in order to conclude that  $A_{\widehat{2\text{-tor}}}/H_{\text{Enr}}$  is a smooth Enriques surface. More precisely, the fixed points of  $\tau_{33}I^2$  on the set  $X_{K3}$  of the  $\langle -I_2 \rangle$ -orbits on  $A_{\widehat{2\text{-tor}}}$  lift to  $\varepsilon$ -fixed points of  $\tau_{33}I^2$  on  $A_{\widehat{2\text{-tor}}}$  for  $\varepsilon = \pm 1$ . The  $\varepsilon$ -fixed points  $(P, Q) \in A_{-1}$  are subject to

$$\begin{aligned} -P + Q_3 &= \varepsilon P \\ Q + Q_3 &= \varepsilon Q. \end{aligned}$$

For  $\varepsilon = 1$  the equality  $Q + Q_3 = Q$  has no solution  $Q \in E_{-1}$ , while for  $\varepsilon = -1$  the equation  $-P + Q_3 = -P$  on  $P \in E_{-1}$  is inconsistent. Therefore  $\tau_{33}I^2$  has no  $\varepsilon$ -fixed points on  $A_{-1}$ . By the very definition of the  $\tau_{33}I^2$ -action on  $A_{\widehat{2\text{-tor}}}$ , there are no  $\varepsilon$ -fixed points for  $\tau_{33}I^2$  on  $A_{\widehat{2\text{-tor}}}$  and  $\tau_{33}I^2 : X_{K3} \rightarrow X_{K3}$  is a fixed point free involution. As a result,  $A_{\widehat{2\text{-tor}}}/H_{\text{Enr}}$  is a smooth Enriques surface.

Recall that the exceptional divisor  $\xi_{2\text{-tor}}^{-1}(A_{2\text{-tor}})$  of the blow-up

$$\xi_{2\text{-tor}} : A_{\widehat{2\text{-tor}}} \rightarrow A_{-1}$$

of  $A_{-1}$  at  $A_{2\text{-tor}}$  is  $H_{\text{Enr}}$ -invariant, so that  $\xi_{2\text{-tor}}$  descends to the contraction  $\bar{\xi}_{2\text{-tor}} : A_{\widehat{2\text{-tor}}}/H_{\text{Enr}} \rightarrow A_{-1}/H_{\text{Enr}}$  of  $\xi_{2\text{-tor}}^{-1}(A_{2\text{-tor}})/H_{\text{Enr}}$  to  $A_{2\text{-tor}}/H_{\text{Enr}}$ . In particular, the smooth Enriques surface  $A_{\widehat{2\text{-tor}}}/H_{\text{Enr}}$  is birational to  $A_{-1}/H_{\text{Enr}}$ . The singular locus  $(A_{-1}/H_{\text{Enr}})^{\text{sing}} \subseteq (A_{2\text{-tor}}/H_{\text{Enr}})$ , according to the smoothness of  $A_{\widehat{2\text{-tor}}}/H_{\text{Enr}}$ . On the other hand,  $\tau_{33}I^2$  has no fixed points on  $A_{2\text{-tor}}$ , so that  $A_{2\text{-tor}}/H_{\text{Enr}}$  consists of eight double points

$$\text{Orb}_{H_{\text{Enr}}}(Q_{ij}) = \text{Orb}_{H_{\text{Enr}}}(Q_{3-i,3-j}), \quad 0 \leq i, j \leq 3$$

and  $(A_{-1}/H_{\text{Enr}})^{\text{sing}} = A_{2\text{-tor}}/H_{\text{Enr}}$ . Note that

$$\left(T_{-1}^{(6,8)}\right)^{\text{sing}} = \{\text{Orb}_{H_{\text{Enr}}}(Q_{00}), \text{Orb}_{H_{\text{Enr}}}(Q_{11}), \text{Orb}_{H_{\text{Enr}}}(Q_{12})\}$$

is contained in  $(A_{-1}/H_{\text{Enr}})^{\text{sing}}$  and the birational morphism

$$\xi_{H_{\text{Enr}}} : \left( \overline{\mathbb{B}/\Gamma_{\text{Enr},-1}^{(6,8)}} \right) \rightarrow A_{-1}/H_{\text{Enr}}$$

resolves  $(T_{-1}^{(6,8)})^{\text{sing}}$  by smooth rational curves of self-intersection  $(-2)$ . Therefore  $\left( \overline{\mathbb{B}/\Gamma_{\text{Enr},-1}^{(6,8)}} \right)^{\text{sing}}$  consists of the following five double points:

$$\text{Orb}_{H_{\text{Enr}}}(Q_{01}), \text{Orb}_{H_{\text{Enr}}}(Q_{10}), \text{Orb}_{H_{\text{Enr}}}(Q_{02}), \text{Orb}_{H_{\text{Enr}}}(Q_{20}), \text{Orb}_{H_{\text{Enr}}}(Q_{03}).$$

Since

$$\text{Orb}_{H_{\text{Enr}}}(Q_{0,m}) \in \left[ T_{m+6} \setminus (T_{-1}^{(6,8)})^{\text{sing}} \right] / H_{\text{Enr}} = (T'_{m+6} \setminus L) / H_{\text{Enr}}$$

$$\text{Orb}_{H_{\text{Enr}}}(Q_{m,0}) \in \left[ T_{m+4} \setminus (T_{-1}^{(6,8)})^{\text{sing}} \right] / H_{\text{Enr}} = (T'_{m+4} \setminus L) / H_{\text{Enr}}$$

for all  $1 \leq m \leq 2$  belong to the compactifying divisor  $T'/H_{\text{Enr}}$ , the ball quotient  $\mathbb{B}/\Gamma_{\text{Enr},-1}^{(6,8)}$  has only one singular point

$$\left( \overline{\mathbb{B}/\Gamma_{\text{Enr},-1}^{(6,8)}} \right)^{\text{sing}} = \{\text{Orb}_{H_{\text{Enr}}}(Q_{0,3})\}.$$

iii) The quotient  $X = A_{-1}/H_{\text{Rul}} = E_{-1} \times [E_{-1}/\langle(-1)\rangle]$  of  $A_{-1}$  by the reflection  $J^2 = 1 \times (-1)$  is a smooth surface, birational to the smooth ball quotient  $\mathbb{B}/\Gamma_{\text{Rul},-1}^{(6,8)}$ . It is well known that  $C = E_{-1}/\langle(-1)\rangle$  is a smooth projective curve. More precisely, if

$$\mathfrak{p}(t) = \frac{1}{t^2} + \sum_{\lambda \in (\mathbb{Z} + i\mathbb{Z}) \setminus \{0\}} \left[ \frac{1}{(t - \lambda)^2} - \frac{1}{\lambda^2} \right]$$

is the **Weierstrass p-function**, associated with the lattice  $\mathbb{Z} + i\mathbb{Z} = \pi_1(E_{-1})$ , then the map

$$\psi : E_{-1} \setminus \{\check{o}_{E_{-1}}\} \longrightarrow \mathbb{P}^2$$

$$\psi(t + (\mathbb{Z} + i\mathbb{Z})) = [1 : \mathfrak{p}(t + (\mathbb{Z} + i\mathbb{Z})) : \mathfrak{p}'(t + (\mathbb{Z} + i\mathbb{Z}))] = [1 : \mathfrak{p}(t) : \mathfrak{p}'(t)]$$

extends by  $\psi(\check{o}_{E_{-1}}) = [0 : 0 : 1] = p_{\infty}$  to a projective embedding of  $E_{-1}$ . The image

$$\psi(E_{-1}) = \{[z : x : y] \in \mathbb{P}^2 ; zy^2 = (x - \mathfrak{p}(Q_1))(x - \mathfrak{p}(Q_2))(x - \mathfrak{p}(Q_3))\}$$

is a **cubic hypersurface** in  $\mathbb{P}^2$ . As far as  $\mathfrak{p}(t)$  is even and  $\mathfrak{p}'(t)$  is an odd function of  $t$ , the multiplication  $\mu_{-1}$  by  $-1$  on  $E_{-1}$  acts on  $\psi(E_{-1})$  by the rule

$$\mu_{-1}([z : x : y]) = [z : x : -y].$$

The fixed points of this action are  $p_\infty$  and  $p(Q_i)$  for  $1 \leq i \leq 3$ . The fibres of the projection

$$\begin{aligned} \Pi : \psi(E_{-1}) \setminus \{p_\infty\} &\longrightarrow \mathbb{P}^1 \setminus \{q_\infty = [0 : 1]\} \\ \Pi([z : x : y]) &= [z : x] \end{aligned}$$

are exactly the  $\mu_{-1}$ -orbits on  $\psi(E_{-1}) \setminus \{p_\infty\}$ , so that its image

$$\mathbb{P}^1 \setminus \{q_\infty\} = \Pi(\psi(E_{-1}) \setminus \{p_\infty\}) = (\psi(E_{-1}) \setminus \{p_\infty\}) / \langle \mu_{-1} \rangle$$

is the corresponding Galois quotient by the cyclic group  $\langle \mu_{-1} \rangle$  of order 2. Thus,

$$\psi(E_{-1}) / \langle \mu_{-1} \rangle = (\psi(E_{-1}) \setminus \{p_\infty\}) / \langle \mu_{-1} \rangle \cup \{p_\infty\} = (\mathbb{P}^1 \setminus \{q_\infty\}) \cup \{p_\infty\} = \mathbb{P}^1.$$

□

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