

15. Diffeomorphism Types of Elliptic Surfaces

By Yukio MATSUMOTO^{*)}

Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Science, University of Tokyo

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§ 1. Statement of results. The purpose of this note is to announce some results concerning diffeomorphism types of Kodaira's elliptic surfaces [2]. Elliptic surfaces we consider here will satisfy the following conditions :

- 1) No fiber contains an exceptional curve of the first kind ;
- 2) at least one singular fiber exists ;
- 3) there are no multiple singular fibers.

Theorem 1. *Let $\Phi_i: M_i \rightarrow B_i$ ($i=1, 2$) be elliptic surfaces satisfying the conditions 1), 2), 3). Then there exists an orientation preserving diffeomorphism $f: M_1 \rightarrow M_2$ if and only if $g(B_1)=g(B_2)$ and $e(M_1)=e(M_2)$, where $g(B)$ and $e(M)$ denote the genus of the base curve B and the Euler number of the total space M , respectively.*

This result extends Kas' theorem [1] which deals with the case $g(B_i)=0$. See also Moishezon [7].

If an elliptic surface $\Phi: M \rightarrow B$ satisfies the conditions 1), 2), 3), then by deforming the projection map Φ if necessary, we may (and will) assume that all the singular fibers are of type I_1 ([1], [7]). Let x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n be the singular loci. We choose a base point $x_0 \in B - \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ and a basis (e_1, e_2) of $H_1(\Phi^{-1}(x_0); \mathbf{Z})$. Then the monodromy representation

$$\rho: \pi_1(B - \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}, x_0) \longrightarrow SL(2, \mathbf{Z})$$

is well-defined.

We draw loops $L_1, M_1, \dots, L_n, M_n, g_1, g_2, \dots, g_n$ on $B - \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ as shown in Fig. 1 (in case $g=g(B)=2$), g_i being a loop based at x_0 which goes round x_i once.

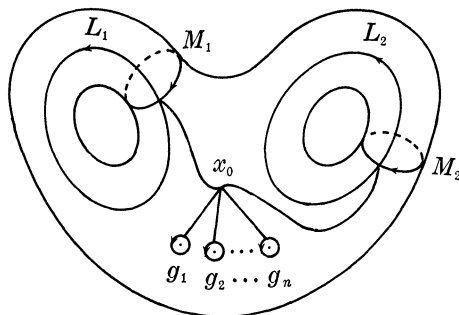


Fig. 1

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Obviously there is a relation in $\pi_1(B - \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}, x_0)$:

$$[L_1, M_1][L_2, M_2] \cdots [L_g, M_g] = g_1 g_2 \cdots g_n$$

where $[X, Y]$ denotes the commutator $X^{-1}Y^{-1}XY$.

Theorem 2. *There exists an orientation preserving homeomorphism $h : (B, \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}, x_0) \rightarrow (B, \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}, x_0)$ such that*

$$\rho h(L_i) = \rho h(M_i) = \cdots = \rho h(L_g) = \rho h(M_g) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

This theorem was conjectured by Mandelbaum and Harper [3], and independently by the author [5] (in a weak form). Mandelbaum and Harper announce the theorem for the case $g(B)=1$ and claim that an indirect algebraic-geometric argument exists provided $e(M) > 3g(B)$, [3]. Our method is similar to theirs in spirit, but inferring from the rough sketch of their proof in case $g(B)=1$, the details seem considerably different.

Theorem 2, together with Moishezon's normalizing theorem of local monodromies [7, p. 180], gives the following corollary. Theorem 1 follows from this.

Corollary 2.1. *There exists an orientation preserving homeomorphism $h : (B, \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}, x_0) \rightarrow (B, \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}, x_0)$ such that*

- 1) $\rho h(L_i) = \rho h(M_i) = \cdots = \rho h(L_g) = \rho h(M_g) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$
- 2) $\rho h(g_{2i-1}) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \rho h(g_{2i}) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, i = 1, \dots, n/2.$

§ 2. Operations. Let \mathcal{M} denote the mapping class group of all the orientation preserving homeomorphisms

$$h : (B, \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}, x_0) \longrightarrow (B, \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}, x_0).$$

The set \mathcal{S} of all the configurations of loops that look like Fig. 1 is parametrized by \mathcal{M} .

To be precise, we fix a particular configuration $C = (L_1, M_1, \dots, L_g, M_g; g_1, \dots, g_n)$, then $\mathcal{S} = \{hC \mid h \in \mathcal{M}\}$.

Define a *right* operation of \mathcal{M} on \mathcal{S} by the rule $\mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{M} \ni (hC, h') \mapsto hh'C \in \mathcal{S}$.

Now we list up the basic operations we use.

Local braids $\varepsilon_i, \varepsilon_i^{-1}, \dots, \varepsilon_{n-1}, \varepsilon_{n-1}^{-1}$, (cf. [7]): The operations $\varepsilon_i, \varepsilon_i^{-1}$ do not change $(L_1, M_1, \dots, L_g, M_g)$. ε_i changes $(g_1, \dots, g_i, g_{i+1}, \dots, g_n)$ into $(g_1, \dots, g_i g_{i+1} g_i^{-1}, g_i, \dots, g_n)$ and ε_i^{-1} $(g_1, \dots, g_i, g_{i+1}, \dots, g_n)$ into $(g_1, \dots, g_{i+1}, g_{i+1}^{-1} g_i g_{i+1}, \dots, g_n)$. These operations are realized by homeomorphisms which correspond to Artin's braids of n -strings.

Global braids $\mathcal{L}_i, \mathcal{M}_i, \mathcal{L}'_i, \mathcal{M}'_i$ ($i=1, 2, \dots, g$): These operate on \mathcal{S} as follows (\tilde{g}_1 being a certain conjugate of g_1):

- $$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_i : & (L_1, M_1, \dots, L_i, M_i, \dots, L_g, M_g; g_1, g_2, \dots, g_n) \\ & \rightarrow (L_1, M_1, \dots, \bar{L}_i, M_i, \dots, L_g, M_g; g_2, \dots, g_n, \tilde{g}_1) \\ & \text{where } \bar{L}_i = L_i [M_{i-1}, L_{i-1}] \cdots [M_1, L_1] g_1 [L_1, M_1] \cdots [L_{i-1}, M_{i-1}], \\ \mathcal{M}_i : & (L_1, M_1, \dots, L_i, M_i, \dots, L_g, M_g; g_1, g_2, \dots, g_n) \\ & \rightarrow (L_1, M_1, \dots, L_i, \bar{M}_i, \dots, L_g, M_g; g_2, \dots, g_n, \tilde{g}_1) \end{aligned}$$

where $\bar{M}_i = M_i L_i [M_{i-1}, L_{i-1}] \cdots [M_1, L_1] g_1 [L_1, M_1] \cdots [L_{i-1}, M_{i-1}] L_i^{-1}$,
 $\mathcal{L}'_i: (L_1, M_1, \dots, L_i, M_i, \dots, L_g, M_g; g_1, g_2, \dots, g_n)$
 $\rightarrow (L_1, M_1, \dots, \bar{L}_i, M_i, \dots, L_g, M_g; \tilde{g}_1, g_2, \dots, g_n)$
 where $\bar{L}_i = M_i L_i [M_{i-1}, L_{i-1}] \cdots [M_1, L_1] g_1^{-1} [L_1, M_1] \cdots$
 $[L_{i-1}, M_{i-1}] L_i^{-1} M_i^{-1} L_i$,
 $\mathcal{M}'_i: (L_1, M_1, \dots, L_i, M_i, \dots, L_g, M_g; g_1, g_2, \dots, g_n)$
 $\rightarrow (L_1, M_1, \dots, L_i, \bar{M}_i, \dots, L_g, M_g; \tilde{g}_1, g_2, \dots, g_n)$
 where $\bar{M}_i = L_i^{-1} M_i L_i [M_{i-1}, L_{i-1}] \cdots [M_1, L_1] g_1^{-1} [L_1, M_1] \cdots$
 $[L_{i-1}, M_{i-1}] [L_i, M_i]$.

The operations $\mathcal{L}_i, \mathcal{M}_i, \mathcal{L}'_i, \mathcal{M}'_i$ are realized by homeomorphisms which correspond to “global braids” of n -strings in $B - \{x_0\}$. For example \mathcal{L}_2 is realized as follows (Fig. 2).

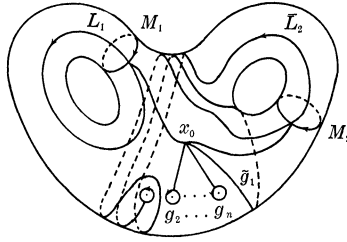


Fig. 2

Dehn twists $D(L_i), D(L_i^{-1}), D(M_i), D(M_i^{-1})$ ($i=1, 2, \dots, g$): These are the Dehn twists along the loops L_i, M_i , and their inverses.

Theorem 2 is proved by an inductive argument. Let $\pi: SL(2, \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow PSL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ be the projection onto the modular group and let a, b denote the images of $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$ under π , respectively. Then $PSL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ has the presentation $\langle a, b \mid a^3 = 1 = b^2 \rangle$. For an element g of $PSL(2, \mathbb{Z})$, the length $l(g)$ is defined to be that of the reduced word in a, a^2, b representing g . For example, $l(a^2 b a) = 3$. We set $l(1) = 0$.

To each element hC of \mathcal{S} , we attach three non-negative integers $\Lambda(hC), \beta(hC), \lambda(hC)$:

$$\begin{aligned} \Lambda(hC) &:= l(\pi \rho h(L_1)) + l(\pi \rho h(M_1)) + \cdots + l(\pi \rho h(L_g)) + l(\pi \rho h(M_g)), \\ \beta(hC) &:= \text{the number of } \pi \rho h(L_i)\text{'s and } \pi \rho h(M_i)\text{'s which equal to } b, \\ \lambda(hC) &:= \sum_{i=1}^n l(\pi \rho h(g_i)). \end{aligned}$$

The proof of Theorem 2 proceeds by induction on the lexicographic order of the triple $(\Lambda, \beta, \lambda)$. In fact, it is proved that if $\Lambda(hC) > 0$, one can find a finite sequence of operations from $\{\epsilon_1, \epsilon_1^{-1}, \dots, \epsilon_{n-1}, \epsilon_{n-1}^{-1}, \mathcal{L}_i, \mathcal{M}_i, \mathcal{L}'_i, \mathcal{M}'_i$ ($i=1, \dots, g$), $D(L_i), D(L_i^{-1}), D(M_i), D(M_i^{-1})$ ($i=1, \dots, g$)\} which reduces the order of $(\Lambda(hC), \beta(hC), \lambda(hC))$. At the final stage we must lift the result in $PSL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ to that in $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$. This is done using Moishezon’s normalizing theorem of local monodromies, [7].

Details will appear elsewhere.

The results of this note can be generalized to obtain a diffeomorphism classification of total spaces of torus fibrations ([4], [6]) over closed oriented surfaces with the simplest singular fibers (I_1^+ , I_1^-).

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