Algebraic non-hyperbolicity of hyperkähler manifolds with Picard rank greater than one

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Abstract. A projective manifold is algebraically hyperbolic if the degree of any curve is bounded from above by its genus times a constant, which is independent from the curve. This is a property which follows from Kobayashi hyperbolicity. We prove that hyperkähler manifolds are not algebraically hyperbolic when the Picard rank is at least 3, or if the Picard rank is 2 and the SYZ conjecture on existence of Lagrangian fibrations is true. We also prove that if the automorphism group of a hyperkähler manifold is infinite then it is algebraically non-hyperbolic.

1 Introduction

In [V1] M. Verbitsky proved that all hyperkähler manifolds are Kobayashi non-hyperbolic. It is interesting to inquire if projective hyperkähler manifolds are also algebraically non-hyperbolic (Definition 2.5). For a given projective manifold algebraic non-hyperbolicity implies Kobayashi non-hyperbolicity. We prove algebraic non-hyperbolicity for projective hyperkähler manifolds with infinite group of automorphisms.

Theorem 1.1: Let $M$ be a projective hyperkähler manifold with infinite automorphism group. Then $M$ is algebraically non-hyperbolic.

If a projective hyperkähler manifold has Picard rank at least three, we show that it is algebraically non-hyperbolic. For the case when the Picard rank equals to two we need an extra assumption in order to prove algebraic non-hyperbolicity. The SYZ conjecture states that a nef parabolic line bundle on a hyperkähler manifold gives rise to a Lagrangian fibration (Conjecture 2.4).

Theorem 1.2: Let $M$ be a projective hyperkähler manifold with Picard rank $\rho$. Assume that either $\rho > 2$, or $\rho = 2$ and the SYZ conjecture holds. Then $M$ is algebraically non-hyperbolic.

2 Basic notions

Definition 2.1: A hyperkähler manifold of maximal holonomy (or irreducible holomorphic symplectic) manifold $M$ is a compact complex Kähler manifold with $\pi_1(M) = 0$ and $H^{2,0}(M) = \mathbb{C}\sigma$, where $\sigma$ is everywhere non-degenerate. From

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now on we would tacitly assume that hyperkähler manifolds are of maximal holonomy.

Due to results of Matsushita, holomorphic maps from hyperkähler manifolds are quite restricted.

**Theorem 2.2:** (Matsushita, [Mat]) Let $M$ be a hyperkähler manifold and $f : M \to B$ a proper surjective morphism with a smooth base $B$. Assume that $f$ has connected fibers and $0 < \dim B < \dim M$. Then $f$ is Lagrangian and $\dim \mathcal{O} = n$, where $\dim \mathcal{O} = 2n$.

Following [Theorem 2.2] we call the surjective morphism $f : M \to B$ a Lagrangian fibration on the hyperkähler manifold $M$. A dominant map $f : M \dashrightarrow B$ is a rational Lagrangian fibration if there exists a birational map $\varphi : M \dashrightarrow M'$ between hyperkähler manifolds such that the composition $f \circ \varphi^{-1} : M' \to B$ is a Lagrangian fibration. J.-M. Hwang proved that if the base $B$ of a hyperkähler Lagrangian fibration is smooth, then $B \cong \mathbb{P}^n$ (see [Hw]).

**Definition 2.3:** Given a hyperkähler manifold $M$, there is a non-degenerate primitive form $q$ on $H^2(M, \mathbb{Z})$, called the Beauville-Bogomolov-Fujiki form (or the “BBF form” for short), of signature $(3, b_2 - 3)$, and satisfying the Fujiki relation

$$\int_M \alpha^{2n} = c \cdot q(\alpha)^n \quad \text{for } \alpha \in H^2(M, \mathbb{Z}),$$

with $c > 0$ a constant depending on the topological type of $M$. This form generalizes the intersection pairing on K3 surfaces. A detailed description of the form can be found in [Be], [Bog] and [F].

Notice that given a Lagrangian fibration $f : M \to \mathbb{P}^n$, if $h$ is the hyperplane class on $\mathbb{P}^n$, and $\alpha = f^* h$, then $\alpha$ belongs to the birational Kähler cone of $M$ and $q(\alpha) = 0$. The following SYZ conjecture states that the converse is also true.

**Conjecture 2.4:** (Tyurin, Bogomolov, Hassett-Tschinkel, Huybrechts, Sawon) If $L$ is a line bundle on a hyperkähler manifold $M$ with $q(L) = 0$, and such that $c_1(L)$ belongs to the birational Kähler cone of $M$, then $L$ defines a rational Lagrangian fibration.

For more reference on this conjecture, please see [HT], [Saw], [Hu3] and [V2]. This conjecture is known for deformations of Hilbert schemes of points on K3 surfaces (Bayer–Macrì [BM]; Markman [Mat]), and for deformations of the generalized Kummer varieties $K_n(A)$ (Yoshioka [Y]).

In [V1] M. Verbitsky proved that all hyperkähler manifolds are Kobayashi non-hyperbolic. In [KLV] together with S. Lu we proved that the Kobayashi...
pseudometric vanishes identically for K3 surfaces and for hyperkähler manifolds deformation equivalent to Lagrangian fibrations under some mild assumptions. In [De] Demailly introduced the following notion.

**Definition 2.5:** A projective manifold $M$ is **algebraically hyperbolic** if for any Hermitian metric $h$ on $M$ there exists a constant $A > 0$ such that for any holomorphic map $\varphi : C \to M$ from a curve of genus $g$ to $M$ we have that $2g - 2 \geq A \int_C \varphi^* \omega_h$, where $\omega_h$ is the Kähler form of $h$.

In this paper all varieties we consider are smooth and projective. For projective varieties, Kobayashi hyperbolicity implies algebraic hyperbolicity ([De]). Here we explore non-hyperbolic properties of projective hyperkähler manifolds. Algebraic non-hyperbolicity implies Kobayashi non-hyperbolicity.

### 3 Main Results

**Proposition 3.1:** Let $M$ be a hyperkähler manifold admitting a (rational) Lagrangian fibration. Then $M$ is algebraically non-hyperbolic.

**Proof:** We use the fact that the fibers of a Lagrangian fibrations are abelian varieties ([Mat]). The isogeny self-maps on an abelian variety provide curves of fixed genus and arbitrary large degrees, and therefore they are algebraically non-hyperbolic.

An alternative way of proving this proposition is by using the following result whose proof was suggested by Prof. K. Oguiso.

**Lemma 3.2:** If a hyperkähler manifold $M$ admits a Lagrangian fibration, then there exists a rational curve on $M$.

Indeed, in [HO] J.-M. Hwang and K. Oguiso give a Kodaira-type classification of the general singular fibers of a holomorphic Lagrangian fibration. All of the general singular fibers are covered by rational curves. The locus of singular fibers is non-empty (e.g., Proposition 4.1 in [Hw]), and therefore there is a rational curve on $M$.

According to Lemma 3.2 $M$ contains a rational curve, and therefore, $M$ is algebraically non-hyperbolic. This finishes the proof of Proposition 3.1.

**Lemma 3.3:** Let $M$ be a projective hyperkähler manifold with infinite automorphism group $\Gamma$. Consider the natural map $f : \Gamma \to \text{Aut}(H^{1,1}(M))$. Then the elements of the Kähler cone have infinite orbits with respect to $f(\Gamma)$.

**Proof:** See the discussion in section 2 of [O2].
Lemma 3.4: Let $M$ be a projective hyperkähler manifold, and $\Gamma$ its automorphism group. Consider the natural map $g : \Gamma \to \text{Aut}(H^2_{tr}(M)) \times \text{Aut}(H^{1,1}(M))$. Then $g(\Gamma)$ is finite in the first component $\text{Aut}(H^2_{tr}(M))$.

Proof: This has been proven by Oguiso, see [O1]. The idea is that the BBF form restricted to the transcendental part $H^2_{tr}(M)$ is of K3-type. Then we can apply Zarhin’s theorem (Theorem 1.1.1 in [Z]) to deduce that $g(\Gamma) \subseteq \text{Aut}(H^2_{tr}(M))$ is finite.

Theorem 3.5: Let $M$ be a projective hyperkähler manifold with infinite automorphism group. Then $M$ is algebraically non-hyperbolic.

Proof: In the notations introduced above, for any Kähler class $w$ on $M$, its $f(\Gamma)$-orbit is infinite by Lemma 3.3. Fix a polarization $w$ on $M$ with normalization $q(w) = 1$. For a given constant $C > 0$ consider the set

$$D_C = \{ x \in H^{1,1}(M, \mathbb{Z}) \mid q(x) \geq 0, \quad q(x, w) \leq C \}.$$ 

Notice that $D_C$ is compact. Indeed, $y = x - q(x, w)w$ is orthogonal to $w$ with respect to the BBF form $q$. The quadratic form $q$ is of type $(1, \rho - 1)$ on $H^{1,1}(M, \mathbb{Z})$ and since $q(w) > 0$, the restriction $q|_{w^\perp}$ is negative-definite. A direct computation shows that $q(y) = q(x) - 2q(x, w)^2 + q(x, w)^2q(w) = q(x) - q(x, w)^2 \geq -C^2$. The set $D_C$ is equivalent to the set of elements $\{ y \in w^\perp \mid q(y) \geq -C^2 \}$, which is compact because $q|_{w^\perp}$ is negative-definite. Since the set $D_C$ is compact, $\sup_{x \in \Gamma \cdot \eta} \deg x = \infty$, which means there is a class of a curve $\eta$ with $q(\eta) > 0$. However, all curves in the orbit $\Gamma \cdot \eta$ have constant genus. Since their degrees could be arbitrarily high, then $M$ is algebraically non-hyperbolic.

Lemma 3.6: Let $M$ be a hyperkähler manifold such that the positive cone does not coincide with the Kähler cone. Then $M$ contains a rational curve.

Proof: This is a classical result that Boucksom and Huybrechts knew in the early 2000’s [Bou, Hu2].

Theorem 3.7: Let $M$ be a hyperkähler manifold with Picard rank $\rho$. Assume that either $\rho > 2$ or $\rho = 2$ and the SYZ conjecture holds. Then $M$ is algebraically non-hyperbolic.

Proof: Notice that the Hodge lattice $H^{1,1}(M, \mathbb{Z})$ of a hyperkähler manifold has signature $(1, k)$. Therefore, for $\rho \geq 2$, the Hodge lattice contains a vector with positive square, and $M$ is projective ([Hu1]). First, consider the case when $\rho > 2$. If the Kähler cone coincides with the positive cone, then the automorphism group $\text{Aut}(M)$ is commensurable with the group of isometries $SO(H^2(M, \mathbb{Z}))$ (Theorem 2.17 in [AV]) preserving the Hodge type. By Lemma 3.4 this group
is commensurable with the group of isometries of the Hodge lattice $H^{1,1}(M,\mathbb{Z})$. By Borel and Harish-Chandra’s theorem ([BHC]), if $\rho > 2$, any arithmetic subgroup of $SO(1,\rho - 1)$ is a lattice. However, Borel density theorem implies that any lattice in a non-compact simple Lie group is Zariski dense ([Bo r]). Therefore, for $\rho > 2$, $SO(H^{1,1}(M,\mathbb{Z}))$ is infinite. In this case Aut($M$) is also infinite and we can apply Theorem 3.5. On the other hand, if the Kähler cone does not coincide with the positive cone, then by Lemma 3.6 there is a rational curve on $M$. Therefore, $M$ is algebraically non-hyperbolic.

Now let $\rho = 2$. Assume the positive cone and the Kähler cone coincide. If there is no $\eta \in H^{1,1}(M,\mathbb{Z})$ with $q(\eta) = 0$, then by Theorem 87 in [Di], $SO(H^{1,1}(M,\mathbb{Z}))$ is isomorphic to $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$. Therefore, both $SO(H^{1,1}(M,\mathbb{Z}))$ and Aut($M$) are infinite and we can apply Theorem 3.5. If there is $\eta \in H^{1,1}(M,\mathbb{Z})$ with $q(\eta) = 0$, then the SYZ conjecture implies that $\eta$ defines a rational fibration on $M$ and we could apply Proposition 3.1. If $\rho = 2$ and the positive and the Kähler cones are different (i.e., the positive cone is divided into Kähler chambers), then there is a nef class $\eta \in H^{1,1}(M,\mathbb{Z})$ with $q(\eta) = 0$. Since we assumed that the SYZ conjecture holds, the class $\eta$ defines a Lagrangian fibration on $M$. Applying Proposition 3.1 we conclude that $M$ is algebraically non-hyperbolic.

Remark 3.8: We conjecture that all projective hyperkähler manifolds are algebraically non-hyperbolic. However, our proof fails for manifolds with Picard rank 1.

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