

# A dichotomy in GK-dimension 5

Susan J. Sierra

University of Edinburgh

15 September 2011

- 1 The algebraic dichotomy
- 2 Example in detail
- 3 The geometric dichotomy
- 4 Proof sketch: geometric  $\Rightarrow$  algebraic

This is a report on work in progress. Conventions:

- $\mathbb{C}$  = ground field
- A connected graded ring  $R$  is:
  - $\mathbb{N}$ -graded:  $R = R_0 \oplus R_1 \oplus \cdots$  with  $R_i R_j \subseteq R_{i+j}$
  - connected:  $R_0 = \mathbb{C}$ .
  - In addition, we assume  $\dim_{\mathbb{C}} R_n < \infty$  for all  $n$ .

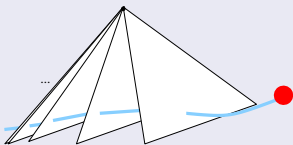
Let  $R$  be a  $\mathbb{C}$ -algebra. We study

$$\text{Spec}(R) = \{ \text{prime ideals of } R \}$$

under the Zariski topology.

### Theorem

*If  $R$  is a GK-dimension 5 birationally commutative projective surface, then  $\text{Spec } R$  is either*



*a very strange space*



*or just two points.*

# What is a GK-5 birationally commutative projective surface?

## Definition

Let  $A \subseteq B$  be an inclusion of graded Ore domains. Then  $A$  is a big subalgebra of  $B$  if  $Q_{\text{gr}}(A) = Q_{\text{gr}}(B)$ .

## Theorem (Rogalski)

Let  $K$  be a finitely generated field of transcendence degree 2 and let  $\sigma \in \text{Aut}(K)$ . Then every finitely generated big subalgebra  $R \subseteq K[t; \sigma]$  has the same GK-dimension,

$$d = d(\sigma) \in \{3, 4, 5, \infty\}.$$

Suppose  $d < \infty$ . Then  $d \in \{3, 5\} \iff$  there is a projective surface  $X$  with  $\mathbb{C}(X) = K$  and  $\sigma \in \text{Aut}(X)$ . (We say  $\sigma$  is geometric.)

## Definition

A GK-5 birationally commutative projective surface is:

- GK-5
- connected graded
- noetherian
- subalgebra of some  $K[t; \sigma]$ ,

where  $K$  is a finitely generated field of transcendence degree 2.

We will call this a GK-5 surface for short.

# Twisted homogeneous coordinate rings

Recall:

- $X$  a projective scheme
- $\sigma \in \text{Aut}(X)$
- $\mathcal{L}$  an invertible sheaf on  $X$

Then  $B(X, \mathcal{L}, \sigma)$  is defined by

$$B_n := H^0(X, \mathcal{L} \otimes \sigma^* \mathcal{L} \otimes \cdots \otimes (\sigma^{n-1})^* \mathcal{L}) = H^0(X, \mathcal{L}_n).$$

## Example

- $X = \mathbb{P}^2, \mathcal{L} = \mathcal{O}(1), \sigma$  arbitrary
- $B(\mathbb{P}^2, \mathcal{O}(1), \sigma) \cong \mathbb{C}[x_0, x_1, x_2]^\sigma =$

$$\mathbb{C}\langle x_0, x_1, x_2 \rangle / \left( x_i \sigma^{-1}(x_j) = x_j \sigma^{-1}(x_i) \right)_{i,j}$$

- That is,  $B_n = \{ n\text{-forms in 3-variables} \}$ , multiplication twisted by  $\sigma$ .

- This example has GK-dimension 3.
- To get GK-5 need a  $d = 5$  automorphism

### Example

Let  $E$  be an elliptic curve. Define

$$\begin{aligned}\tau : E \times E &\rightarrow E \times E \\ (x, y) &\mapsto (x, x + y)\end{aligned}$$

Then  $d(\tau) = 5$ .



## Theorem (Artin-Van den Bergh)

- *Let  $X$  be a projective surface and  $\sigma \in \text{Aut}(X)$ . One can read off  $d(\sigma)$  from the action of  $\sigma$  on  $\text{Pic}(X)$ . Both 3 and 5 occur.*
- *In particular,  $d(\tau) = 5$ .*
- *If  $d < \infty$ , and  $\mathcal{L}$  is any ample invertible sheaf on  $X$ , then  $B(X, \mathcal{L}, \sigma)$  is noetherian (with GK-dim  $d$ ).*

In fact, if we take  $\mathcal{M} := \mathcal{O}_{E \times E}(\Delta)$ , the theorem still applies. We will do that, to be more explicit.

## Example

Let  $S := B(E \times E, \mathcal{M}, \tau)$ . This is GK-5. We compute  $\text{Spec } S$ .

# Spec of a twisted homogeneous coordinate ring

Let  $B := B(X, \mathcal{L}, \sigma)$ .

- (Non-irrelevant) homogeneous ideals of  $B$  correspond to  $\sigma$ -invariant subschemes of  $X$
- So non-irrelevant homogeneous primes  $\longleftrightarrow$  reduced and “irreducible”  $\sigma$ -invariant subvarieties.
- (Bell-Rogalski-S.)  $\sigma$  has infinite order  $\Rightarrow$  the height 1 primes of  $B$  are homogeneous.
- (Bell-Rogalski-S.) If  $X$  is a curve or a surface, then a prime ideal  $P$  of  $B$  is primitive  $\iff P$  is locally closed in  $\text{Spec } B$ .

# Consequences for Spec $S$

Recall:

$$\tau : (x, y) \mapsto (x, x + y)$$

- Homogeneous primes of  $S$  correspond to  $\tau$ -invariant irreducible subvarieties of  $E \times E$ .
- In particular, for any  $x \in E$  there is a homogeneous prime

$$P_x \longleftrightarrow x \times E.$$

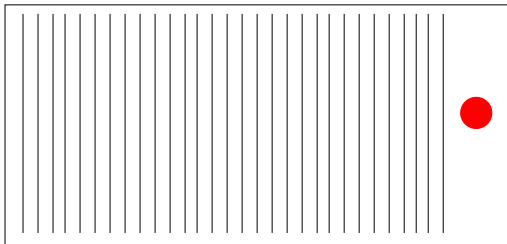
- Since

$$E \times E \supsetneq x \times E$$

there are no homogeneous primes between 0 and  $P_x$ .

- Since height 1 primes are homogeneous,  $P_x$  is height 1.

That is,  $\text{Spec } S$  is at least  $\{P_x\}$  (together with 0):



That is,  $\text{Spec } S \supseteq$



# What is $\text{Spec } S/P_x$ ?

$S/P_x \cong B(x \times E, \mathcal{M}_x, \tau_x)$ , where  $\tau_x = \tau|_{x \times E}$

- $\tau(x, y) = (x, x + y)$ , so  $\tau_x$  is translation by  $x$ .

Suppose  $x$  has infinite order.

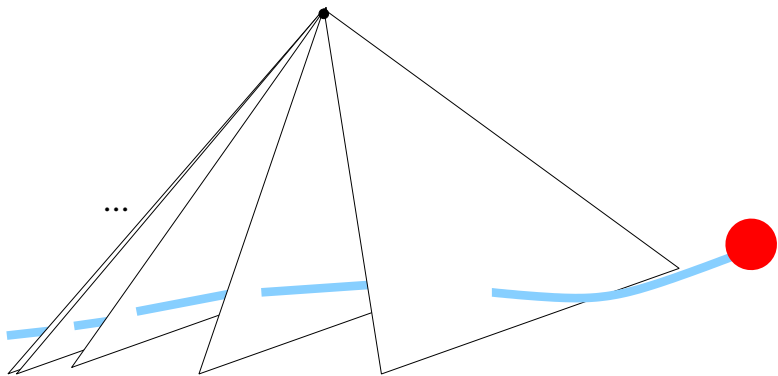
- $x \times E$  has no invariant subschemes
- This means  $\text{Spec}(S/P_x)$  is very small:

$$\text{Spec}(S/P_x) = \{P_x, S_+\} =$$

- $P_x$  is locally closed and thus primitive.

Suppose  $x$  has finite order.

- Then  $S/P_x \cong B(E, \mathcal{M}_x, \tau_x)$  is PI, of PI-degree  $n = \text{order of } x$ .
- $S/P_x$  is GK-2 and PI  $\Rightarrow$  there is a 2-dimensional space of maximal ideals containing  $P_x$ .
- This is one of the “sheets” in the picture.
- Countably many points of finite order  $\Rightarrow$  countably many co-PI height 1 primes.



# Why does $S$ have GK 5?

Riemann-Roch:

$$\dim S_n \sim \dim H^0(\mathcal{M}_n) \sim c(\Delta + \tau(\Delta) + \cdots + \tau^{n-1}(\Delta))^2.$$

- This is  $O(n^2) \cdot (\Delta \cap \tau^{n-1}(\Delta))$ .

- And  $\tau^{n-1}(\Delta) = \{(x, [n]x)\}$

- So

$$\Delta \cap \tau^{n-1}(\Delta) = \#\{x \mid [n]x = x\} = (n-1)^2.$$

- That is,  $\dim S_n$  is  $O(n^2) \cdot O(n^2) = O(n^4) \Rightarrow \text{GK-dim } S = 5$ .



## Theorem (Diller-Favre, Gizatullin)

Let  $X$  be a projective surface,  $\sigma \in \text{Aut}(X)$  with  $d(\sigma) = 5$ . Then  $X$  is an elliptic surface:

$$\begin{array}{c} X \\ \downarrow \\ C \end{array}$$

*fibers are (generically) elliptic curves*

Further,  $\sigma$  preserves the fibration:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{\sigma} & X \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ C & \xrightarrow{\sigma_C} & C. \end{array}$$

## Proposition

Let  $\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{\sigma} & X \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ C & \xrightarrow{\sigma_C} & C \end{array}$  be a  $d = 5$  automorphism of an elliptic surface  $X$ .

- If  $\sigma_C$  has infinite order then up to a finite cover we have  $X \cong E \times E$ , and

$$\sigma(x, y) = (x + p, x + y + q)$$

where  $p \in E$  has infinite order. Thus  $\sigma$  has no invariant subschemes at all!

- If  $\sigma_C$  has finite order then  $X$  has a 1-dimensional family of invariant curves, and points of arbitrarily large finite order.

Let  $R \subseteq K[t; \sigma]$  be a GK-5 birationally commutative projective surface.

- Since  $d(\sigma) = 5$ , there is a surface  $X$  with  $\sigma \in \text{Aut}(X)$ .

- We have 
$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{\sigma} & X \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ C & \xrightarrow{\sigma_C} & C \end{array}$$

Suppose  $\sigma_C$  has finite order.

~~Suppose  $\sigma_C$  has finite order.~~ Suppose  $\sigma_C = \text{Id}_C$ .

- The geometry of  $\sigma$  on  $X$  is very like the geometry of  $\tau$  on  $E \times E$ .
- We again have primes  $P_x$  corresponding to fibers
- Points of arbitrarily big order  $\Rightarrow R/P_x$  can have arbitrarily big PI-degree.
- Can show that  $R$  is actually a twisted homogeneous coordinate ring  $R = B(X', \mathcal{L}', \sigma')$ , where  $X'$  is very close to  $X$ .

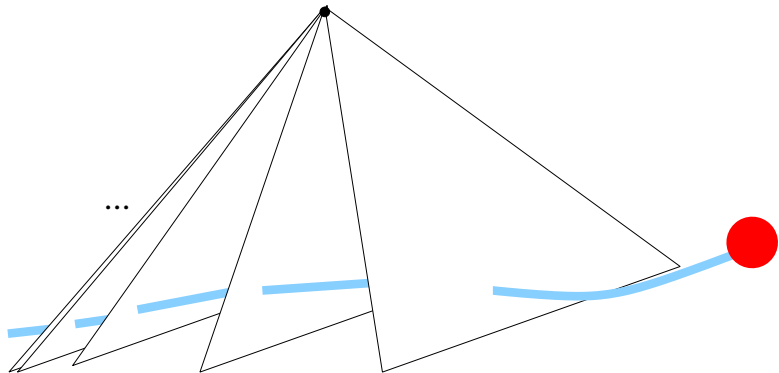
# Summary of the finite order case

## Theorem

*Let  $R$  be a GK-5 birationally commutative projective surface, and suppose that  $\sigma_C$  has finite order.*

- *$R$  is (up to finite dimension) a twisted homogeneous coordinate ring.*
- *$R$  has a 1-dimensional space of height 1 primes, all but countably many of which are primitive.*
- *The rest are co-PI, and the factors are GK-2 of arbitrarily large PI-degree.*

$\text{Spec } R =$



# Summary of the infinite order case

## Theorem

Let  $R$  be a GK-5 birationally commutative projective surface and suppose that  $\sigma_C$  has infinite order.

- $R$  is a subring of some  $B := B(E \times E, \mathcal{L}, \tau')$ , where

$$\tau'(x, y) = (x + p, x + y + q)$$

(for  $p \in E$  of infinite order) and  $Q_{\text{gr}}(R) \subseteq Q_{\text{gr}}(B)$  is a finite extension.

- $\text{Spec } R = \{(0), R_+\}$  is two points. ( $R$  is projectively simple)
- $R$  need not be a twisted homogeneous coordinate ring
- The possibilities for  $R$  can be enumerated (idealisers, naïve blowups, etc.)



$\text{Spec } R =$



# The classification of noncommutative surfaces

## Definition

A birationally commutative projective surface is a connected graded noetherian domain  $R$  so that  $Q_{\text{gr}}(R) = K[t^{\pm}; \sigma]$  for  $K$  a field of transcendence degree 2.

These have been (almost) classified, at least in the case of a geometric automorphism.

- If  $\sigma$  geometric and  $R$  generated in degree 1, classified (Rogalski-Stafford, 2006)
- If  $d(\sigma) = 3$ , classified (S., 2008)
- The classification of GK-5 surfaces not generated in degree 1 follows from the work in this talk.
- The only remaining noetherian case is GK-4, when the automorphism is not geometric (eg. recent work of Rogalski-S.)