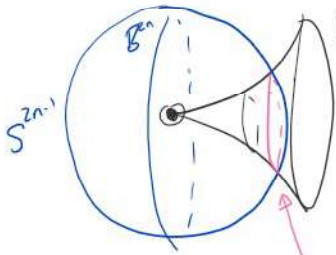




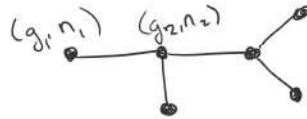
↑ see Olga's "Western Hemisphere Symplectic Seminar" talk in a few hours for different focus points

Isolated Complex surface singularity



$$S = \{ p_1 = \dots = p_n = 0 \}$$

Link =  $S \cap S^{2n-1}$  ← 3-manifold, contact structure



Smoothings (Milnor fibers)

Deform complex equations to nonsingular zero locus

Resolution

Blow-up to normal crossing divisor with plumbing neighborhood

symplectic fillings

smooth symplectic 4-manifold with contact boundary the same as the link

↑  
hard to classify in general

↑  
well understood

↑  
hard to classify in general

smoothings and resolutions are special cases of symplectic fillings

Question: Given an isolated complex surface singularity, does its link have symplectic fillings which are different from smoothings or resolutions?

(not disks or symplectic)

Prior results:

- rational
  - Simple singularities [Ohta-Ono '03]
  - elliptic → Simple elliptic singularities [Ohta-Ono '05]
  - Cyclic singularities [Lisca '08, Nemethi-Popescu-Pampu '10]
  - Quotient singularities [Bhupal-Ono '12, Park-Park-Shin-Urzua '18]

all symplectic fillings  
are diffeomorphic to  
resolution  
or a  
smoothing

Non-rational examples [AKhmedov-Ozbagci '14]



only many sympl fillings  
with  $b_1 > 0$  ← not smoothings

Our focus today:

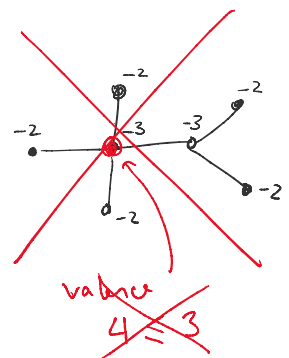
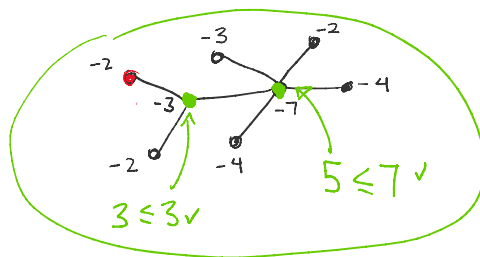
Rational surface singularities with reduced fundamental cycle (RFC)

← low complexity from alg geom standpoint

Resolution graph a tree of genus 0 components with

$$\text{valence}(v) \leq - (v \cdot v)$$

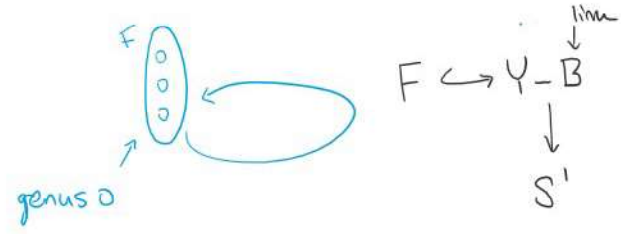
∀ vertices  $v$



~~4=3~~

[Golla-Ghiggini-Plamenevskaya]

→ Surface singularities whose contact link is planar



[Wendl] symplectic fillings of a planar contact manifold  
 ↓  
 factorizations of monodromy into positive Dehn twists

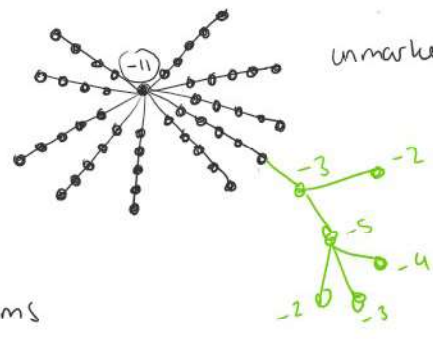
Theorem [Plamenevskaya-S.] For any  $N > 0$  there is an RFC singularity with at least  $N$  non-diffeomorphic unexpected symplectic fillings

(simply connected)

$b_1 = 0$

different from smoothings  
 + resolutions  
 not diffeomorphic rel boundary

1st case:



higher N: more + longer arms

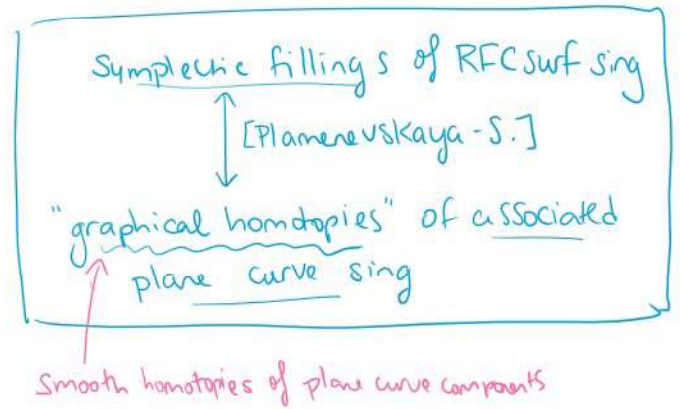
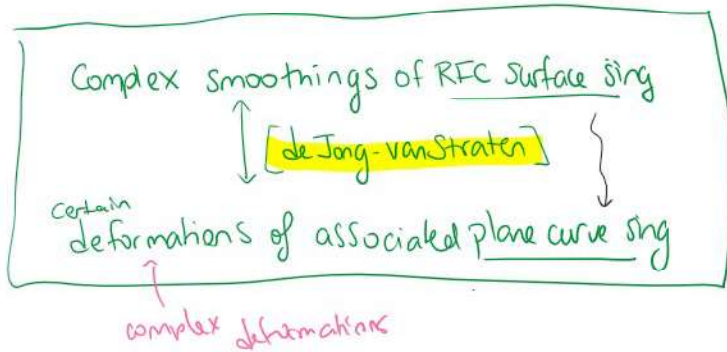
Generalizing: any graph with such a subgraph

Contrast:

Thm [Plamenevskaya-S.] If the resolution graph for an RFC sing has all Euler numbers  $\leq -5$ , then the only symplectic fillings are resolutions.

Euler numbers  $\leq -5$ , then the only symplectic fillings are resolutions.

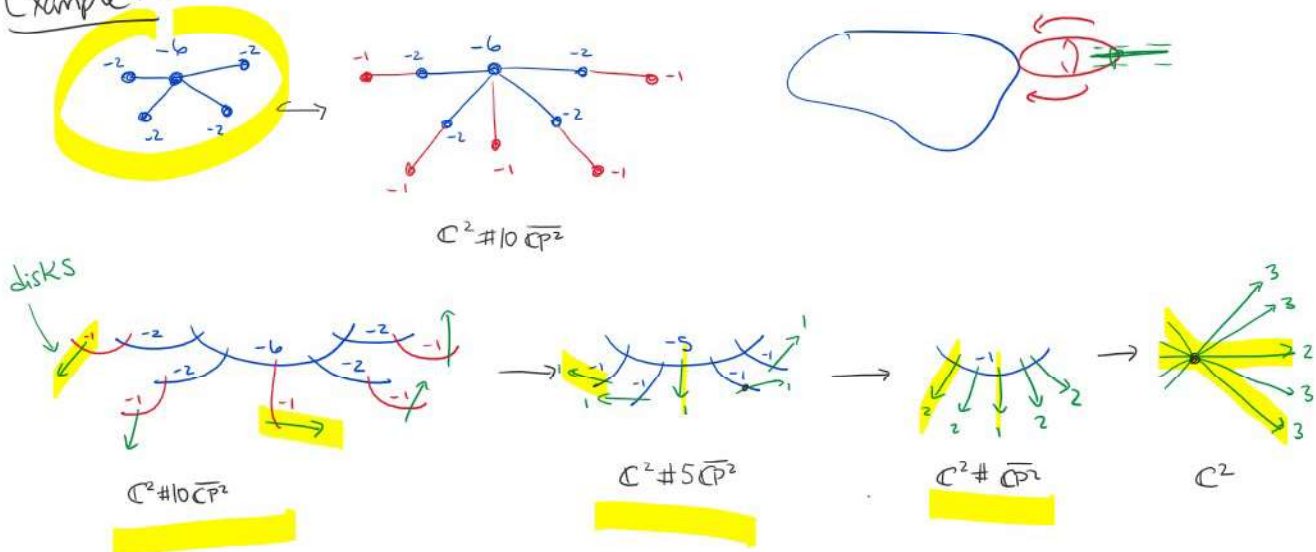
How do we prove these results?



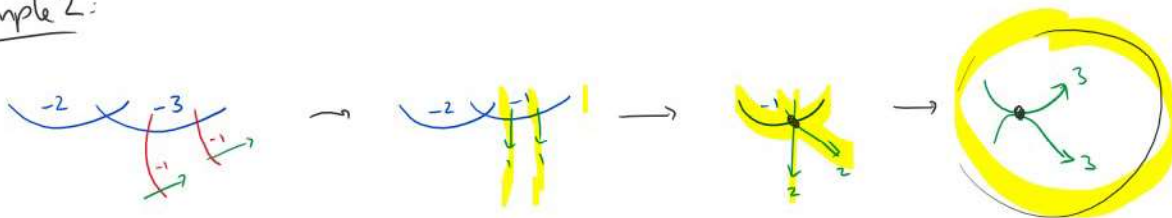
Unexpected fillings come from curve arrangements which are related to a plane curve singularity by graphical homotopy but not complex deformation.

RFC singularity  $\xrightarrow{\text{[de Jong-van Straten]}}$  plane curve singularity (weighted)

Example 1:

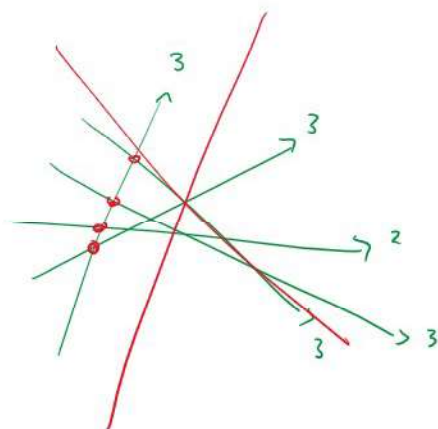
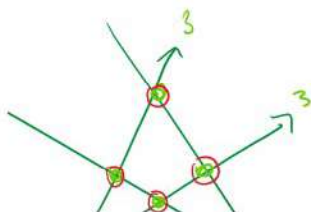
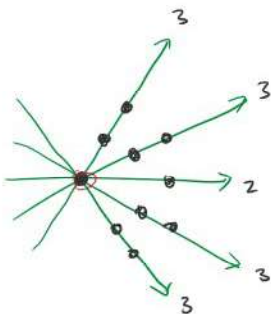
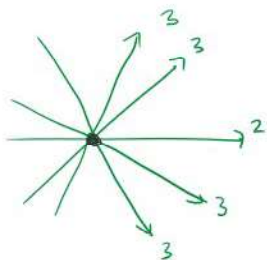
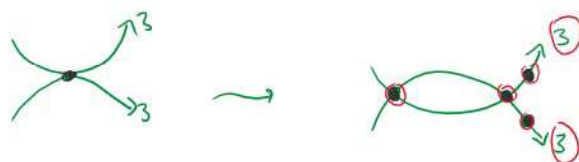


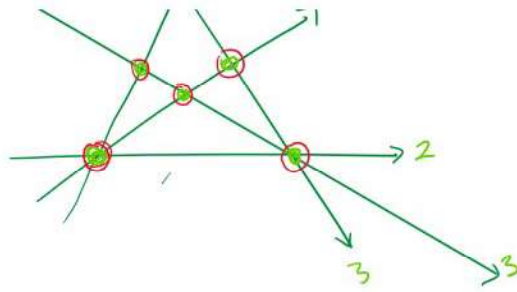
Example 2:



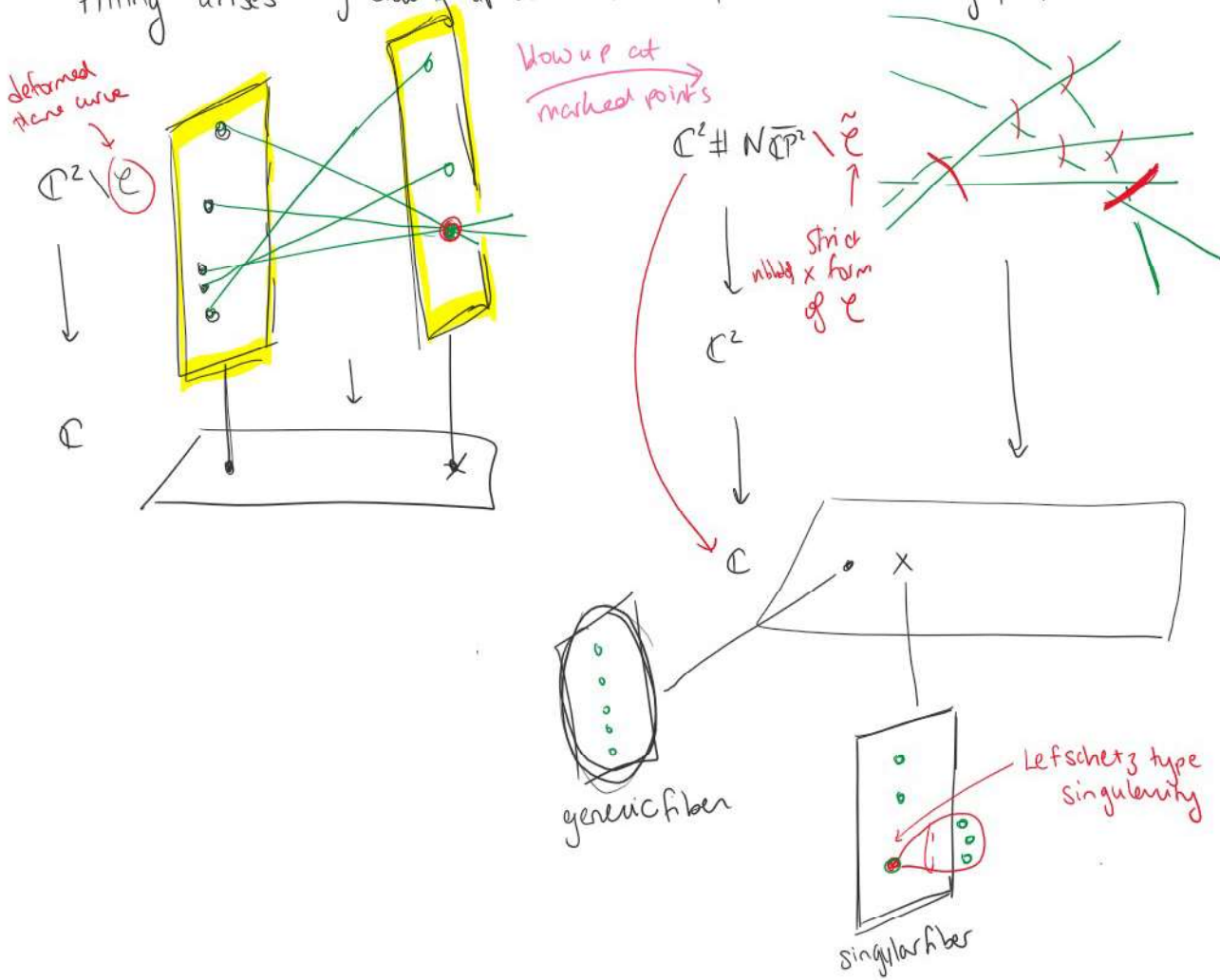
Complex smoothings  $\longleftrightarrow$  [DJVS] Complex deformations of the sing plane curve to one with only transverse intersections + weight condition

Symplectic fillings  $\longleftrightarrow$  [PS] graphical homotopies of the sing plane curve to one with only transverse intersections + weight condition

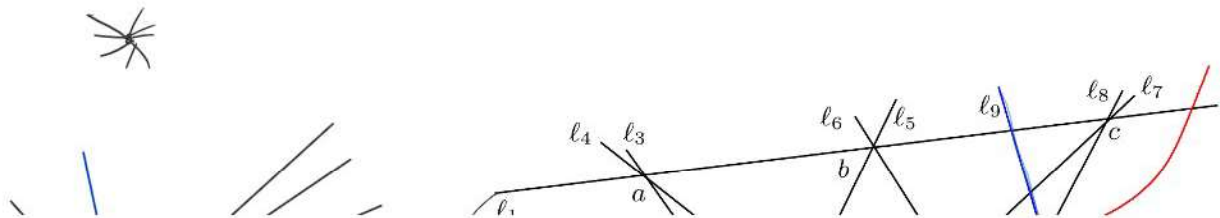


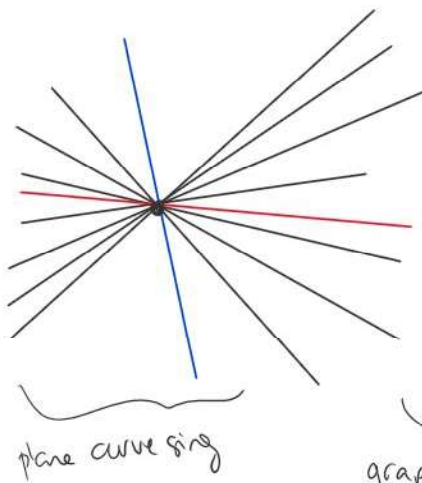


Filling arises by blowing up at marked points + removing proper xform:

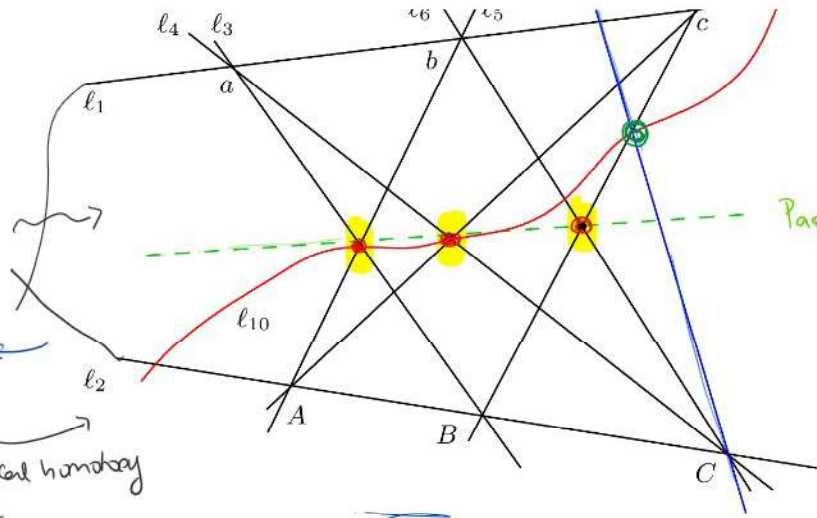


Unexpected fillings come from unexpected configurations



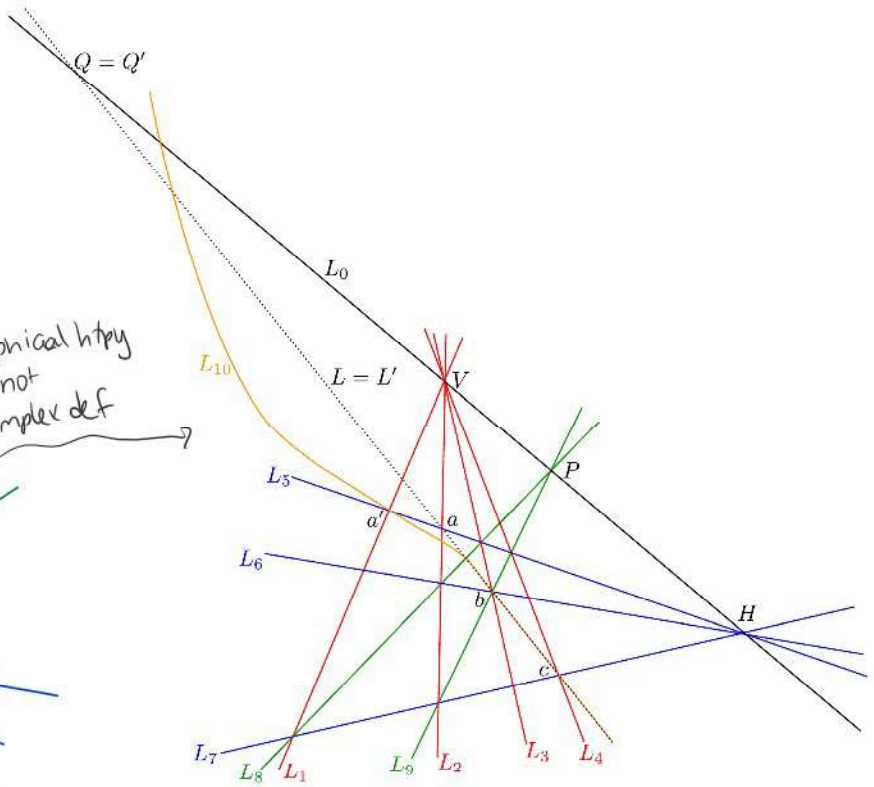


plane curve sing



Pappus theorem

graphical homotopy  
not  
complex deformation



graphical htpy  
not  
complex def

