

## ON MINIMAL RATIONAL ELLIPTIC SURFACES

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A smooth complex projective rational surface  $X$  equipped with an elliptic fibration  $\pi: X \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1$  is minimal if no prime component of a fiber is a  $(-1)$ -curve. It is known since [1, 5] that the Cox ring [3]  $\mathcal{R}(X)$  of  $X$  is finitely generated if and only if the classes of the prime components of the reducible fibers of  $\pi$  span a sublattice of  $\text{Pic}(X)$  of corank one. In this case a generating set for  $\mathcal{R}(X)$  is known [2] when the fibration  $\pi$  admits a section  $\sigma: \mathbb{P}^1 \rightarrow X$ , that is  $\pi \circ \sigma = \text{id}$ .

In general, that is without assuming that  $\pi$  admits a section, even the number of negative curves of  $X$  is not known. In this talk I intend to discuss a theorem about the number of  $(-1)$ -curves of  $X$ , showing that it equals the number of integer points of the Riemann-Roch polyhedron of a certain divisor of a toric variety canonically attached to  $X$ .

This is joint work in progress [4] with Damiano Testa.

### REFERENCES

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