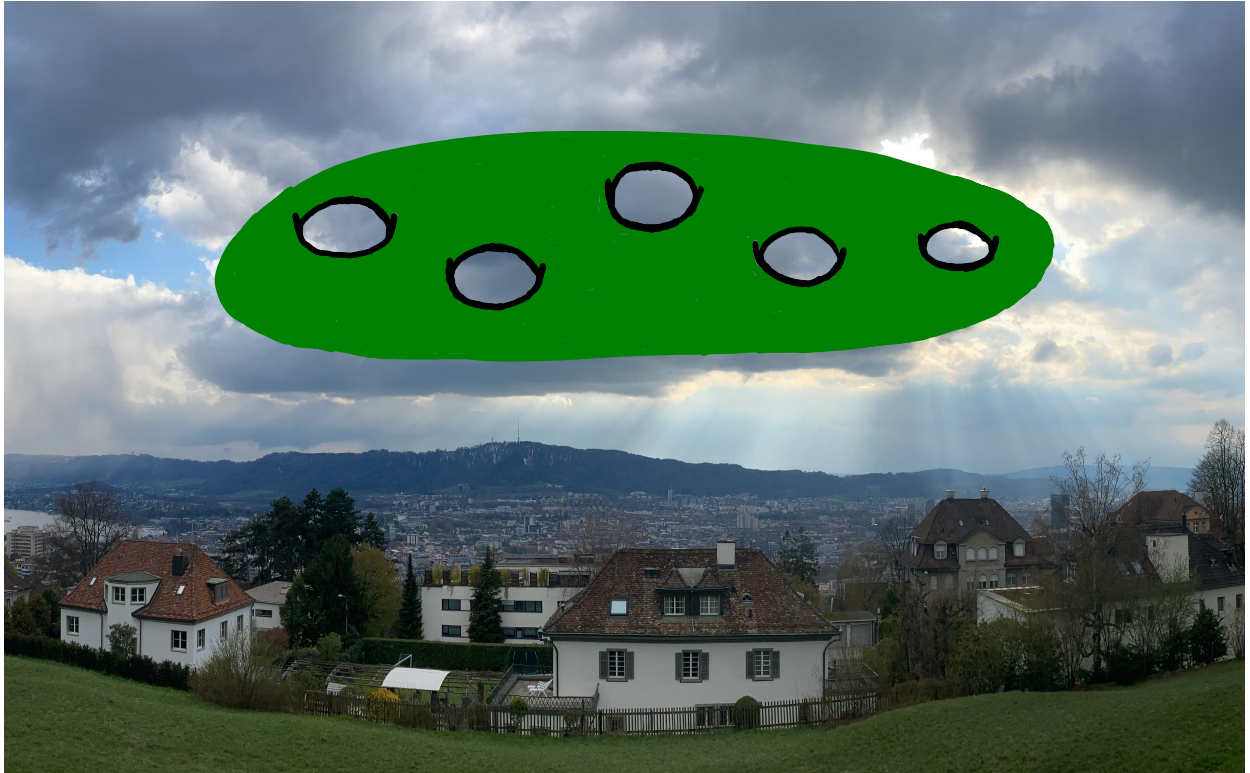


# Tevelev degrees and Hurwitz moduli spaces



Algebraic Geometry Seminar

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Rahul Pandharipande

ETH Zürich

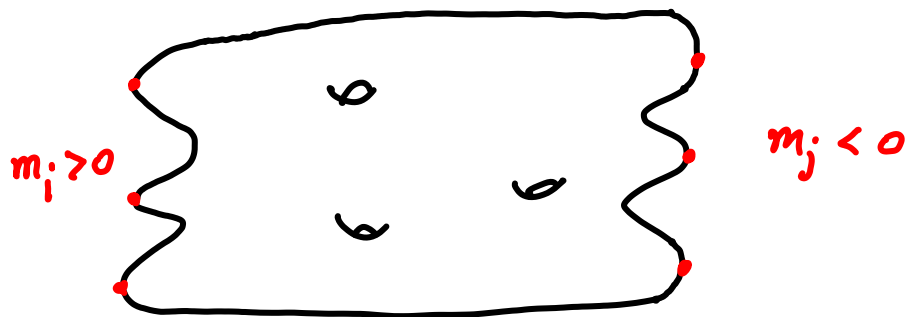
I. Start with the moduli space of stable maps to rubber:

$\bar{\mathcal{M}}_{g, \mu} (\mathbb{P}^1)^{\sim}$

domain genus  $\uparrow$   
 vector  $\uparrow$   
 $\mu = (m_1, \dots, m_l)$   
 $m_i \in \mathbb{Z}$   
 $\sum_{i=1}^l m_i = 0$

denotes  $\mathbb{C}^*$  scaling

moduli space of maps

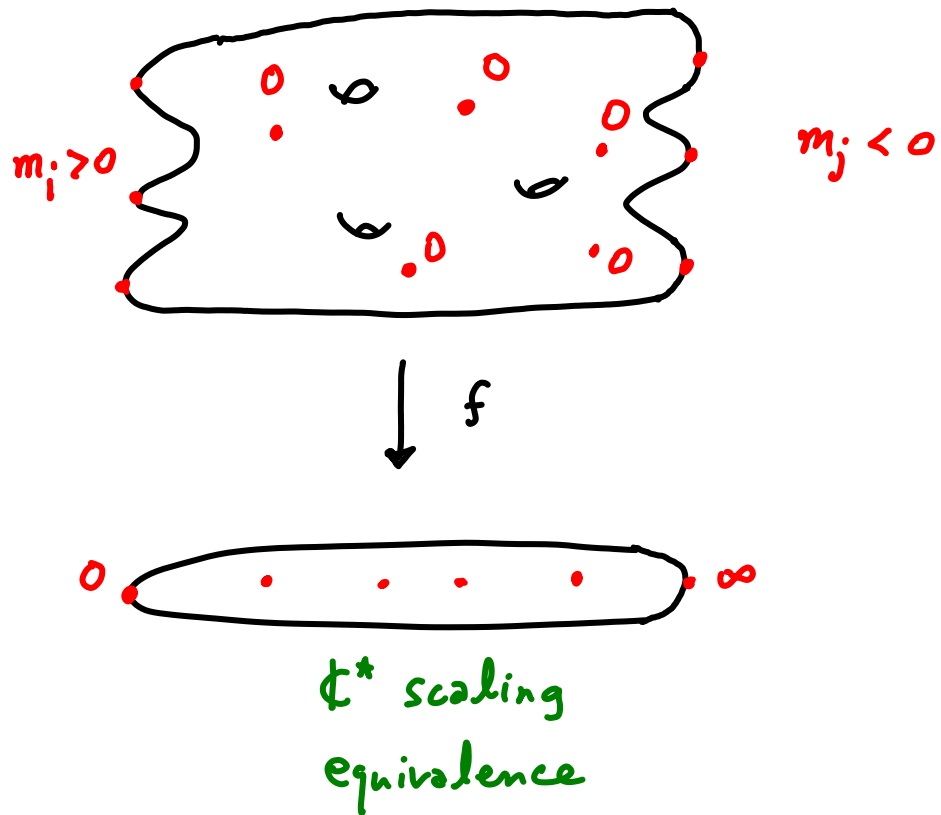


$\downarrow f$



$\mathbb{C}^*$  scaling  
 equivalence

We can include parts  $m = 0$



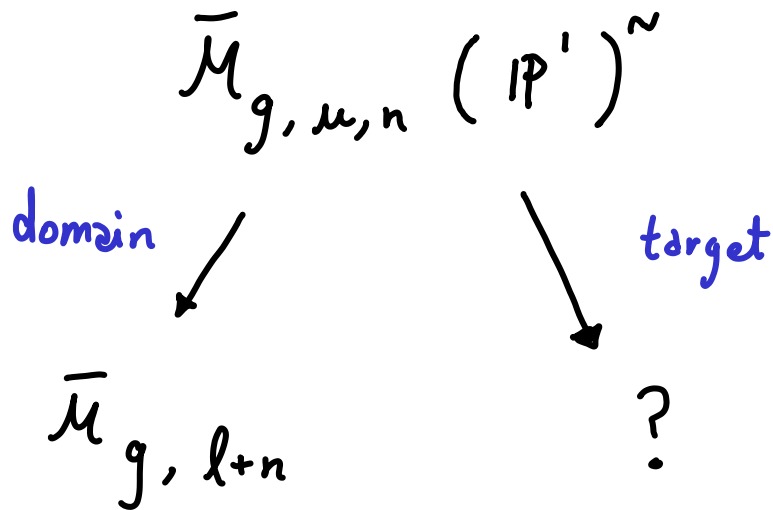
For clear notation:

$$\bar{\mathcal{M}}_{g, \mu, n} (\mathbb{P}^1)^{\sim}$$

$\nearrow$  domain genus  
 $\uparrow$  vector  
 $\mu = (m_1, \dots, m_\ell, \underbrace{0, \dots, 0}_n)$   
 $m_i \neq 0$

# of 0-parts

We obtain a correspondence



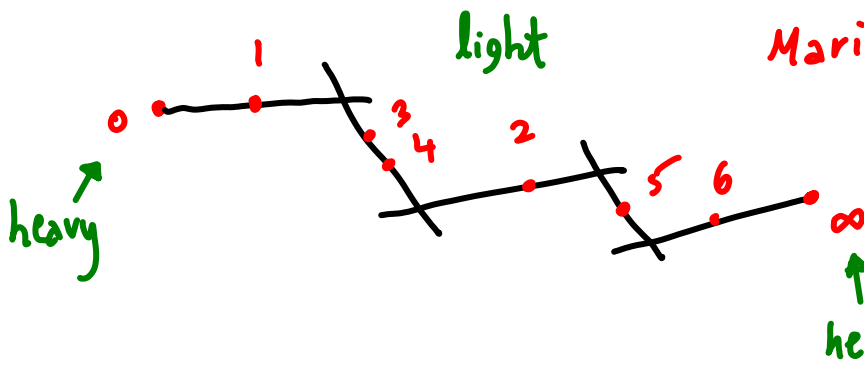
What is the target moduli space?

Answer:  $\bar{\mathcal{M}}_{0, 2|n}$  Losev-Marin Space, [arxiv/math/0001003](https://arxiv.org/abs/math/0001003)

the Hassett space with  
2 heavy  
n light

Notation from Stable Quotients

Marian-Oprea-P, [arxiv:0904.2992](https://arxiv.org/abs/0904.2992)



moduli of  
pointed chains

Claim : Chow /  $H^*$  of  $\bar{M}_{0,2|n}$

[almost trivial]

generated by strata

← chain type

The Betti Numbers of  $\bar{M}_{0,2|n}$  (by Losev-Marin) :

$$1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} y^n q^i \frac{h^{2i}(\bar{M}_{0,2|n})}{n!} = \frac{q-1}{q - e^{(q-1)y}}$$

in [Marin-Oprea-P], we calculate

$$\sum q^i h^{2i} \left( \bar{M}_{0,2|n} / \Sigma_n \right) = (1+q)^{n-1}$$

Strata freely generate

Correspondence:  $\left[ \bar{M}_{g,\mu,n} (\mathbb{P}^1)^{\sim} \right]^{\text{vir}}$

$\pi_d \swarrow$   
 $\bar{M}_{g,l+n}$

$\searrow \pi_+$   
 $\bar{M}_{0,2|n}$

dim  $3g-3+l+n$

dim  $n-1$

$[\bar{\mathcal{M}}_{g, \mu, n} (\mathbb{P}^1)^{\sim}]^{\text{vir}}$  algebraic cycle  
 class of dimension  
 $2g - 3 + l + n$

Question: Compute

$$(\pi_d \times \pi_t)_* [\bar{\mathcal{M}}_{g, \mu, n} (\mathbb{P}^1)^{\sim}]^{\text{vir}}$$

$\hat{=}$

$$H^*(\bar{\mathcal{M}}_{g, l+n} \times \bar{\mathcal{M}}_{0, 2l+n})$$

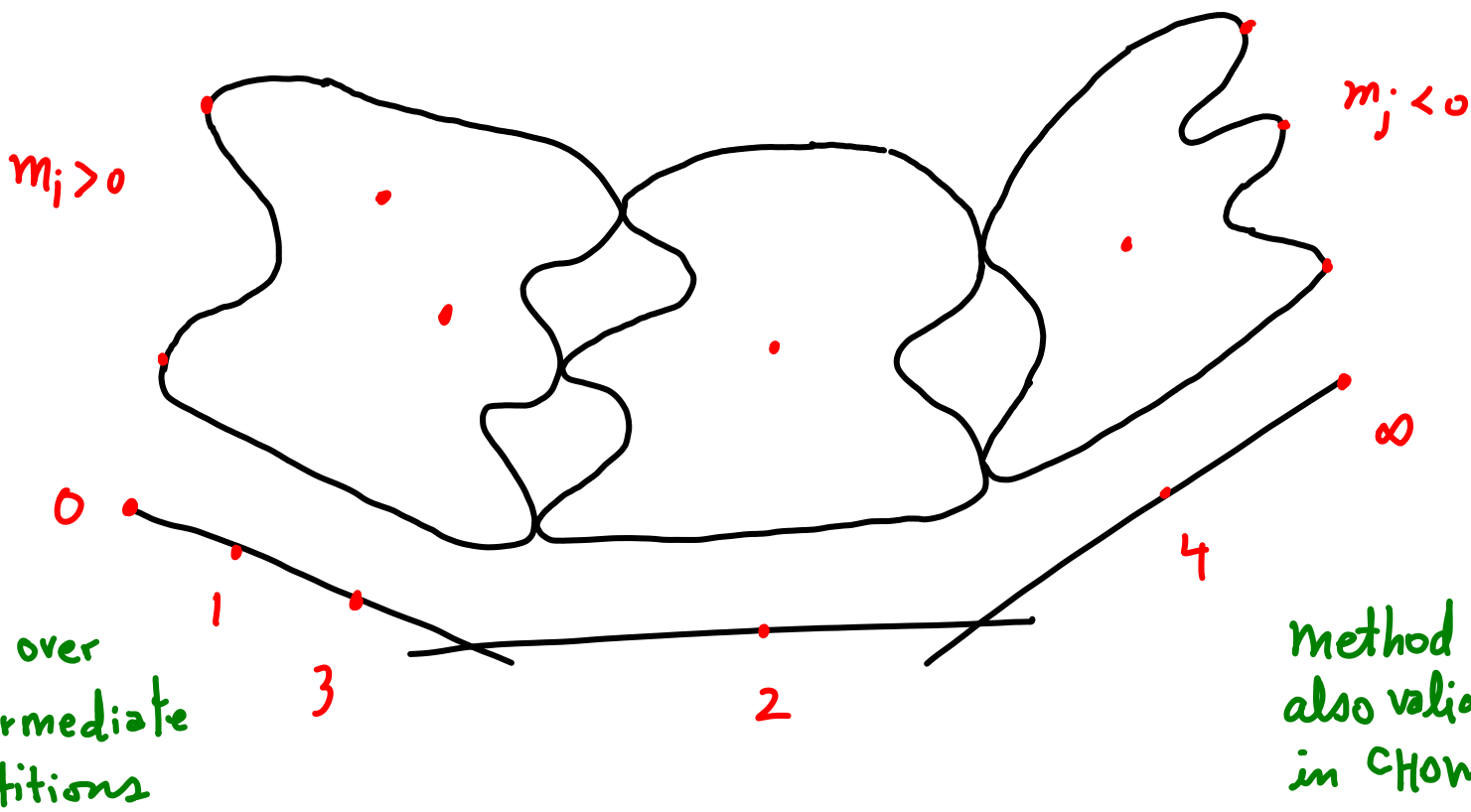
Complete solution via Pixton's formula  
 for the DR cycle.

Sketch: We must calculate

$$\pi_d^* \left( \left[ \bar{M}_{g, \mu, n} (IP')^{\sim} \right]^{\text{vir}} \cdot \pi_t^* (\text{Chain Stratum}) \right)$$



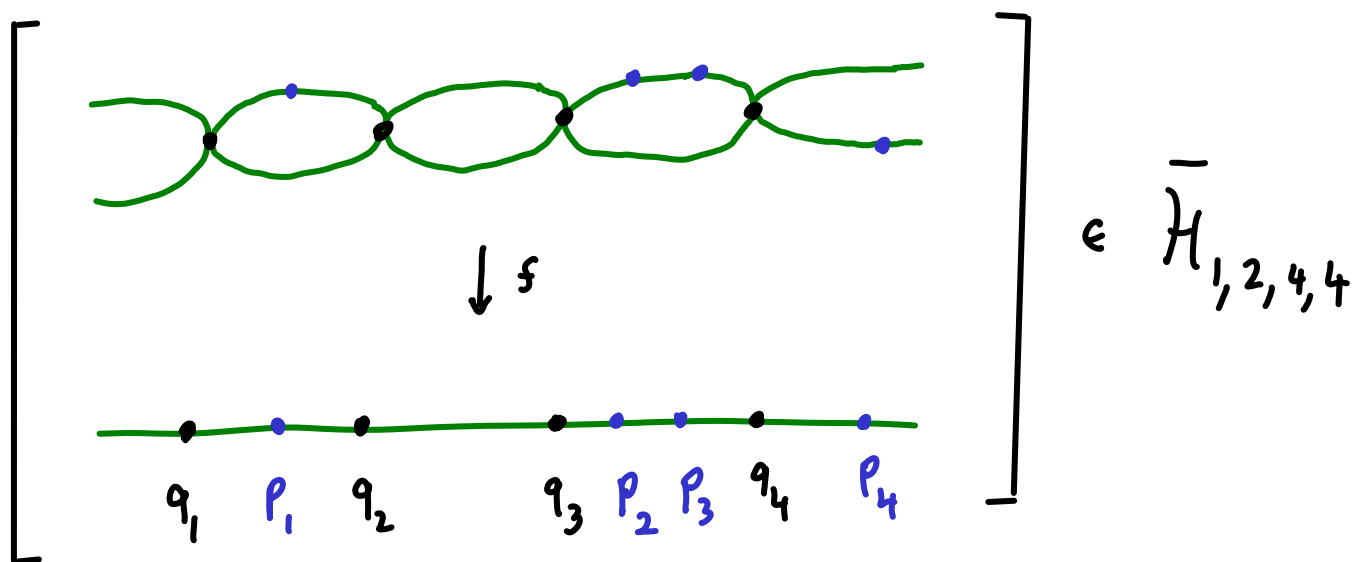
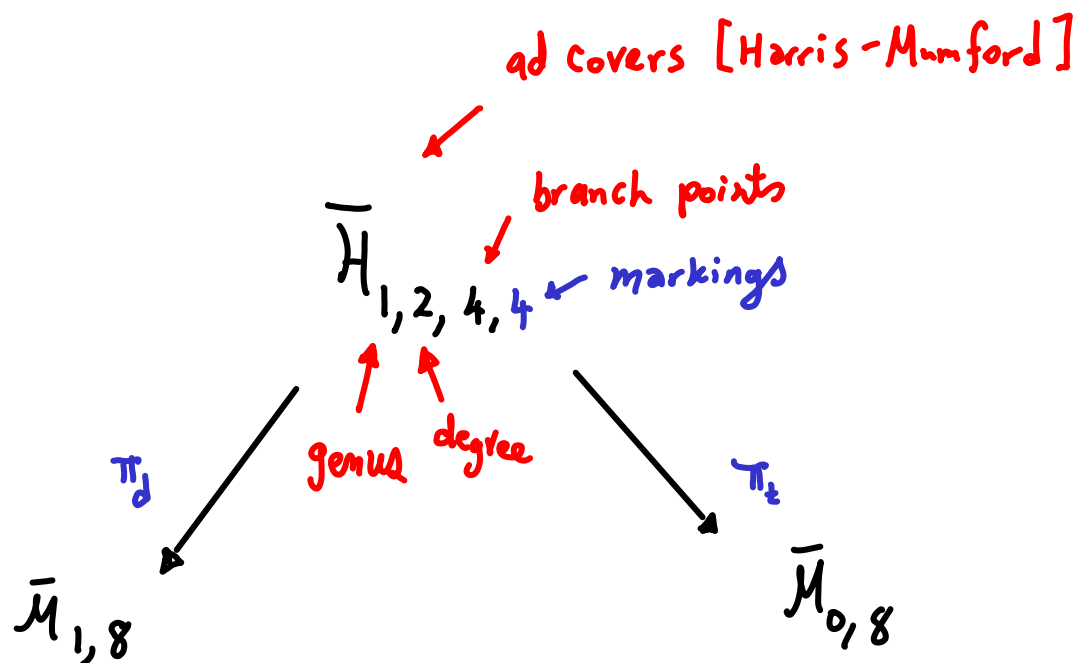
To each link,  
apply Pixton



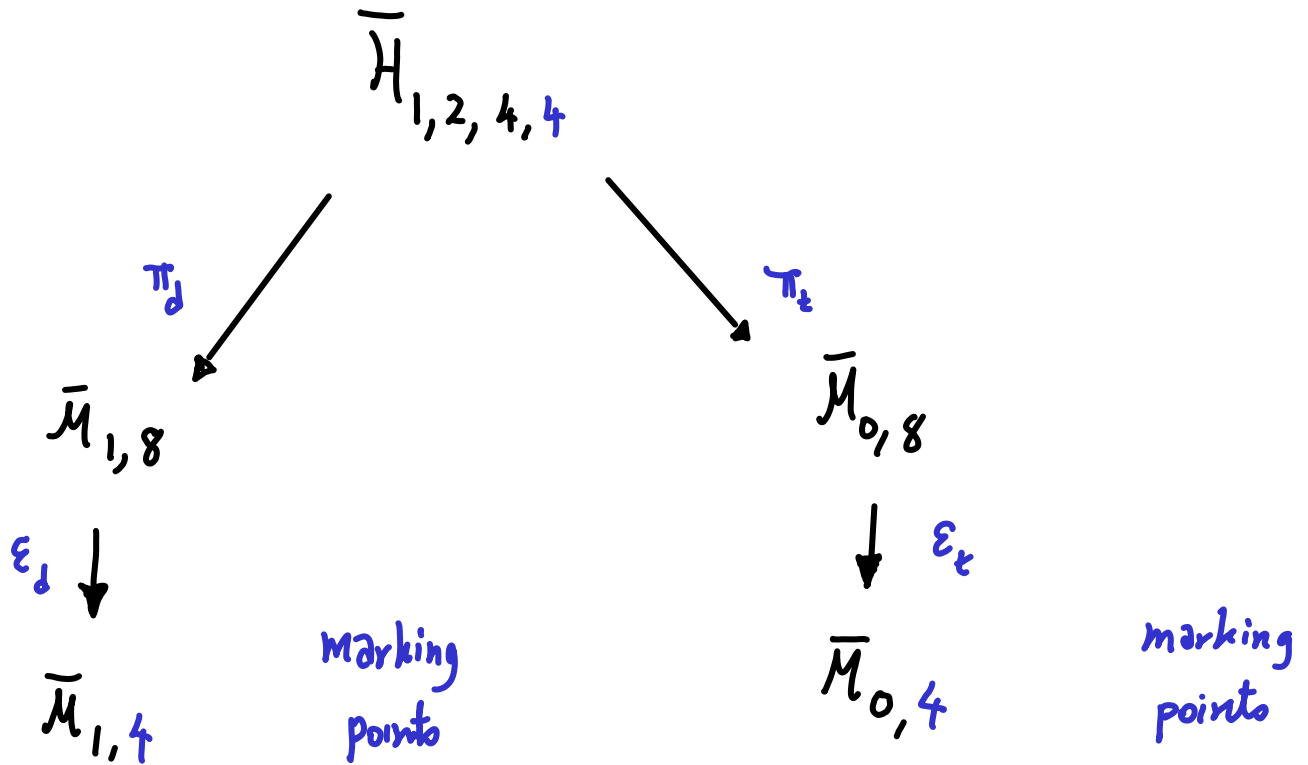
Question: Can we use the correspondence for relations in  $\bar{M}_{g, l+n}$ ?

## II. Hurwitz Correspondences

My first encounter was in 1997

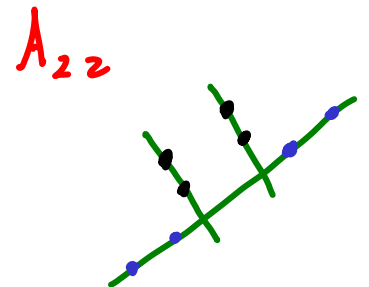






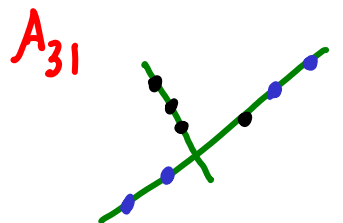
Take  $\zeta \in M_{0,4}$ ,

$$\varepsilon_{d*} \pi_{d*} \pi_t^{-1} \left( \varepsilon_t^{-1}(\zeta) \cap A_{22} \right)$$



proportional to

$$\varepsilon_{d*} \pi_{d*} \pi_t^{-1} \left( \varepsilon_t^{-1}(\zeta) \cap A_{31} \right)$$



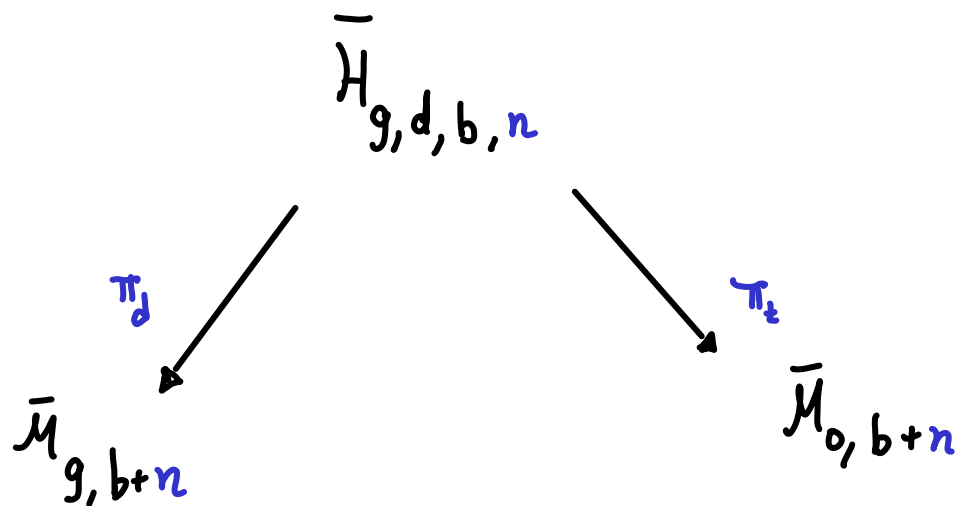
Outcome is an algebraic construction of

Getzler's relation:



$$\begin{aligned}
 & 12 \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 1} \\ \text{Diagram 2} \\ \text{Diagram 3} \end{array} \right] - 4 \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 4} \\ \text{Diagram 5} \\ \text{Diagram 6} \end{array} \right] - 2 \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 7} \\ \text{Diagram 8} \\ \text{Diagram 9} \end{array} \right] \\
 & + 6 \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 10} \\ \text{Diagram 11} \\ \text{Diagram 12} \end{array} \right] + \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 13} \\ \text{Diagram 14} \\ \text{Diagram 15} \end{array} \right] + \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 16} \\ \text{Diagram 17} \\ \text{Diagram 18} \end{array} \right] - 2 \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 19} \\ \text{Diagram 20} \\ \text{Diagram 21} \end{array} \right] \\
 & = 0 \in H^4(\bar{\mathcal{M}}_{1,4}) \\
 & \quad \uparrow \\
 & \text{also } A^2(\bar{\mathcal{M}}_{1,4})
 \end{aligned}$$

Speculation/Question (Later with Faber 2006)



Are all relations among tautological classes  
in higher genus generated by

$\pi_{d*} \pi_t^*$  (Relations in genus 0) ?

The question only makes sense  
if Hurwitz loci are tautological.

### III. Classes of Hurwitz loci

Theorem (Faber-P 2006)

$$(\pi_d \times \pi_t)_* \left[ \overline{H}_{g,d,b,n} \right] \in R^*(\overline{M}_{g,b+n}) \otimes R^*(\overline{M}_{0,b+n})$$

as an algebraic cycle class.

Sketch of proof:

We prove a more general claim:

- Consider arbitrary ramification profiles (not just simple ramification)

most interesting direction

- do not specify all ramifications
- include all cotangent line classes

The idea is simple:

Suppose we are interested

$${}^{GW} \mathcal{H}^{\sim} \left( g, \mu^1, \mu^2, \dots, \mu^k \right)$$

$$\mu^k = (m_1, m_2, \dots)$$

mixed space with  $k$  moving relative points and stable map geometry away

Then Consider

$${}^{GW} \mathcal{H}^{\mathbb{P}^1} \left( g, l, \mu^1, \mu^2, \dots, \mu^{k-1} \right)$$

stable map marking

+3 vir dim

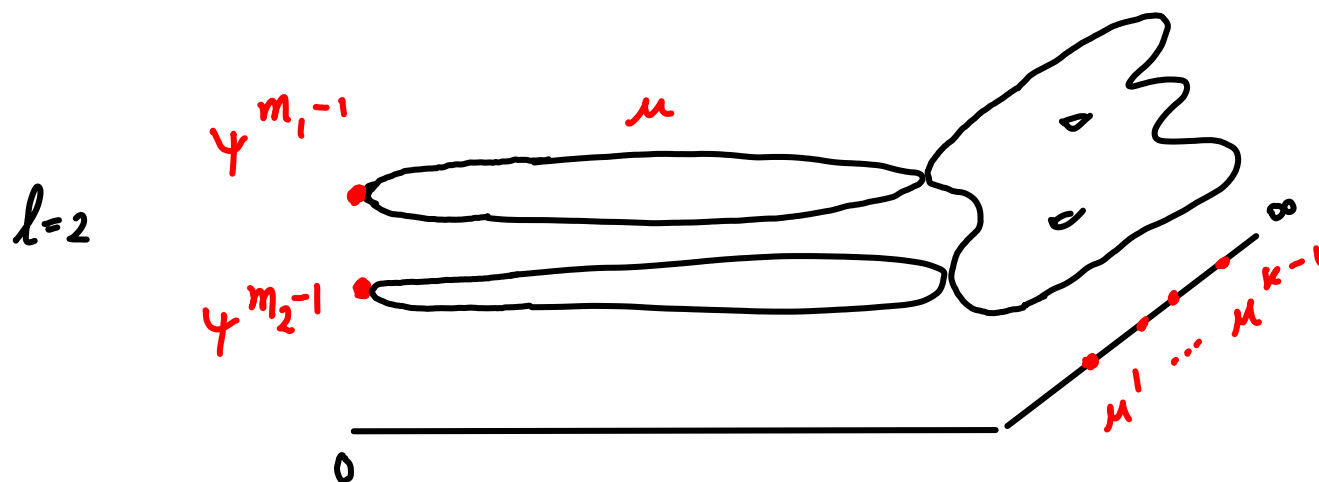
Calculate the following relation by virtual localization

$$\pi_{d*} \left( \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{forces} \\ \text{vanishing}}}{\text{ev}_1^{2+\delta}(\infty)} \prod_{i=1}^l \gamma_i^{m_i-1} \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{arrange} \\ \text{the dim}}}{\text{ev}_i(0)} \left[ {}^{GW} \mathcal{H}^{\mathbb{P}^1} \left( g, l, \mu^1, \mu^2, \dots, \mu^{k-1} \right) \right]^{\text{vir}} \right) = 0 \in A(\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g, \text{all}})$$

Massive induction...

Principal terms

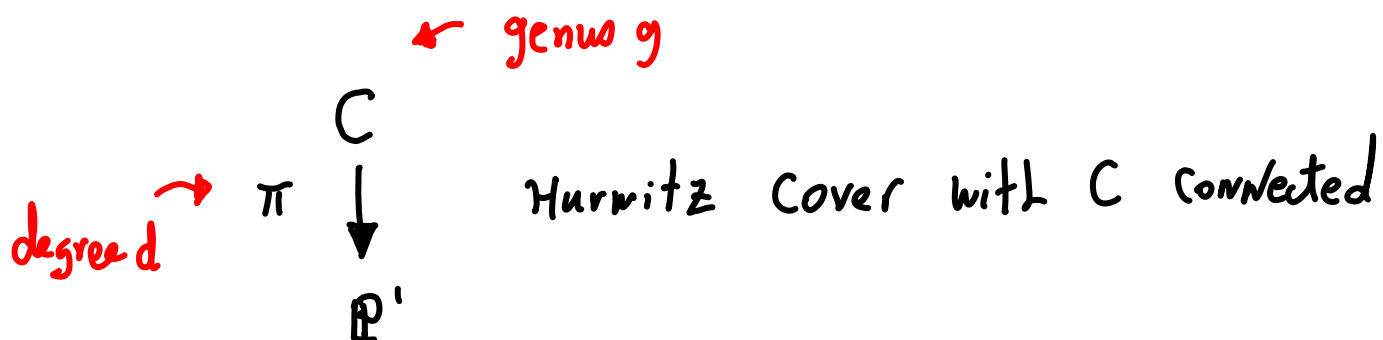
gens  $g$



Challenge: Prove the Hurwitz loci  
yield tautological classes  
without Gromov-Witten theory  
stable maps, virtual classes,  
localization.

Side remark: A lot of the above  
geometry used in the IPPZ  
study of the DR cycle.

# IV. Return to the Hurwitz Correspondence



ramification points  $\pi(y_i) = x_i$

$$(C, y_1, \dots, y_b, z_1, \dots, z_n)$$

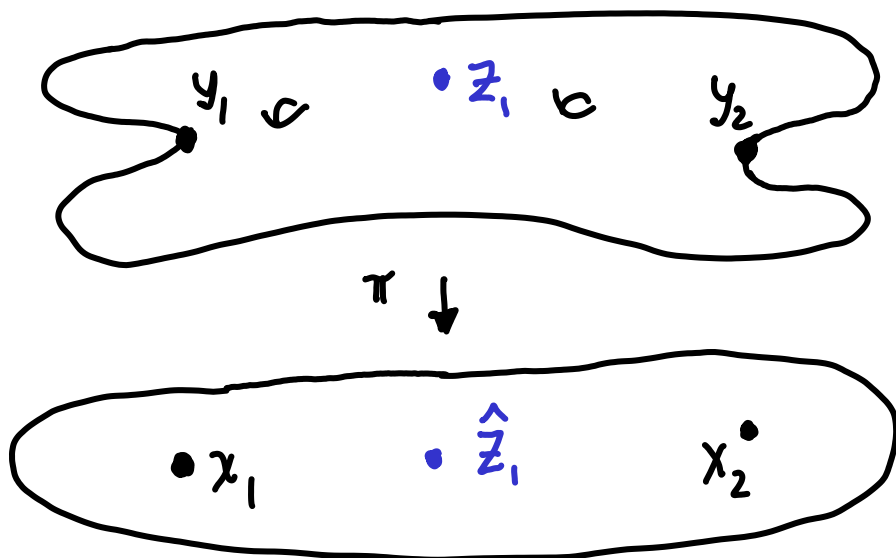
$\pi$  ↓

$$(\mathbb{P}^1, x_1, \dots, x_b, \hat{z}_1, \dots, \hat{z}_n)$$

← extra points satisfying

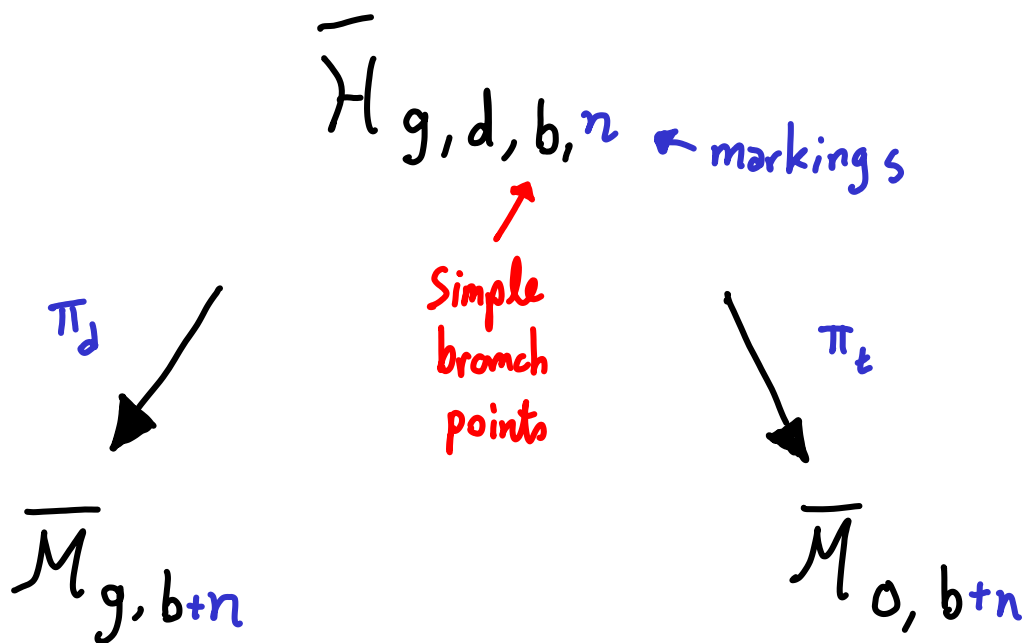
$$\pi(z_i) = \hat{z}_i$$

branch points



Admissible covers  
Harris - Mumford  
1980s

Hurwitz  
Correspondence:



↙ Connected Hurwitz number

- $$H_{g,d}^{\circ} = \frac{\deg(\pi_t)}{d^n}$$

[disregard  
the markings]

Hurwitz Numbers are a small part of  
the information of the correspondence



- For a glimpse of the correspondence from another angle :

$$\varepsilon: \overline{H}_{g,d,b,n} \rightarrow \overline{M}_{g,n} \times \overline{M}_{0,n}$$

disregard the  
branch points

$(\pi_g, \pi_t)$

followed by forgetting  
the  $b$  ramification and  
 $b$  branch points

$$\dim \overline{H}_{g,d,b,n} = 2g + 2d - 5 + n$$

$$\dim \overline{M}_{g,n} + \dim \overline{M}_{0,n} = 3g - 6 + 2n$$

dimensions usually different

Tevelev considered the case

$$d = g + 1, \quad n = g + 3$$



where both dimensions are  $5g$

Theorem (Tevelev, 2020) for  $d = g + 1, n = g + 3$

$$\frac{\deg(\varepsilon)}{(4g)!} = 2^g \quad [4g = b]$$

Motivated by study of Scattering amplitudes by

N. Arkani-Hamed, Bourjaily,  
Cachazo, Postnikov, Trnka

arXiv:1412.8475

See Tevelev's paper arXiv:2007.03831

A basic goal of the construction is to define a probability measure on  $\mathcal{M}_{0, g+3}$  via a canonical map

$$\gamma: \text{Pic}^{g+1}(C_g, P_1, \dots, P_{g+3}) \dashrightarrow \mathcal{M}_{0, g+3}$$



the translation invariant measure here

The first question about the construction concerns the degree

$$\text{which is } \deg_{\underline{(4g)!}}(\varepsilon) = 2^g$$

Most general case where image and range of

$$\varepsilon: \overline{H}_{g,d,b,n} \rightarrow \overline{M}_{g,n} \times \overline{M}_{0,n}$$

have the same dimension is

$$d = g + 1 + l, \quad n = g + 3 + 2l \quad \begin{cases} g \geq 0 \\ l \in \mathbb{Z} \end{cases}$$

We define  $T_{ev}{}_{g,l} = \frac{\deg(\varepsilon)}{b!}$

Tevelev's result is  $T_{ev}{}_{g,0} = 2^g$

In March, with Alessio Celo and Johannes Schmitt we have computed  $T_{g,l}$  in all cases.

Theorem (Cela, P, Schmitt, 2021):

arXiv:2103.14055

$$\text{Tev}_{g,l} = 0 \quad \text{unless} \quad g \geq -2l$$

$$\text{Tev}_{g,l} = 2^g - 2 \sum_{i=0}^{-l-2} \binom{g}{i} + (-l-2) \binom{g}{-l-1} + l \binom{g}{-l}$$

Proof uses excess intersection calculations in the boundary of  $\overline{\mathcal{H}}_{g,d,b,n}$

Other approaches:

Cavalieri-Markwig-Ranganathan

Farkas-Liaw

Historical Note: For  $h \geq 0$ ,



1885

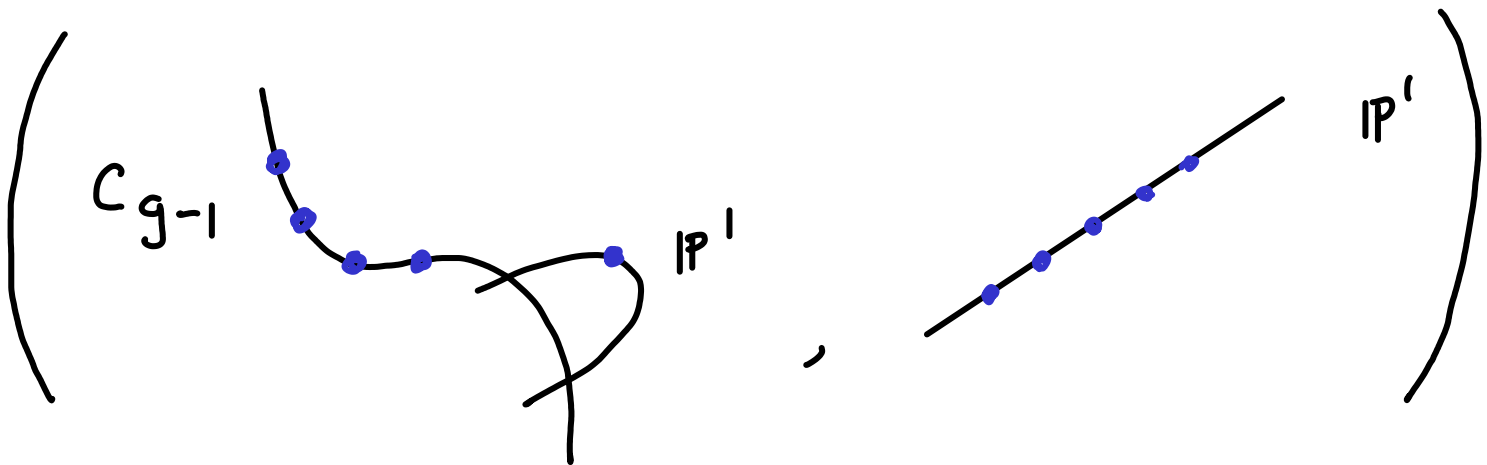
$\text{Tev}_{2h, -h} = \text{Castelnuovo's Count (1889)}$   
of linear series  $g'_{h+1}$  on  
a genus  $2h$  curve

$= \text{Catalan}(h)$

Strategy is to calculate the excess intersection determined by the fiber

$$\varepsilon: \overline{H}_{g,d,b,n} \rightarrow \overline{M}_{g,n} \times \overline{M}_{0,n}$$

over the point

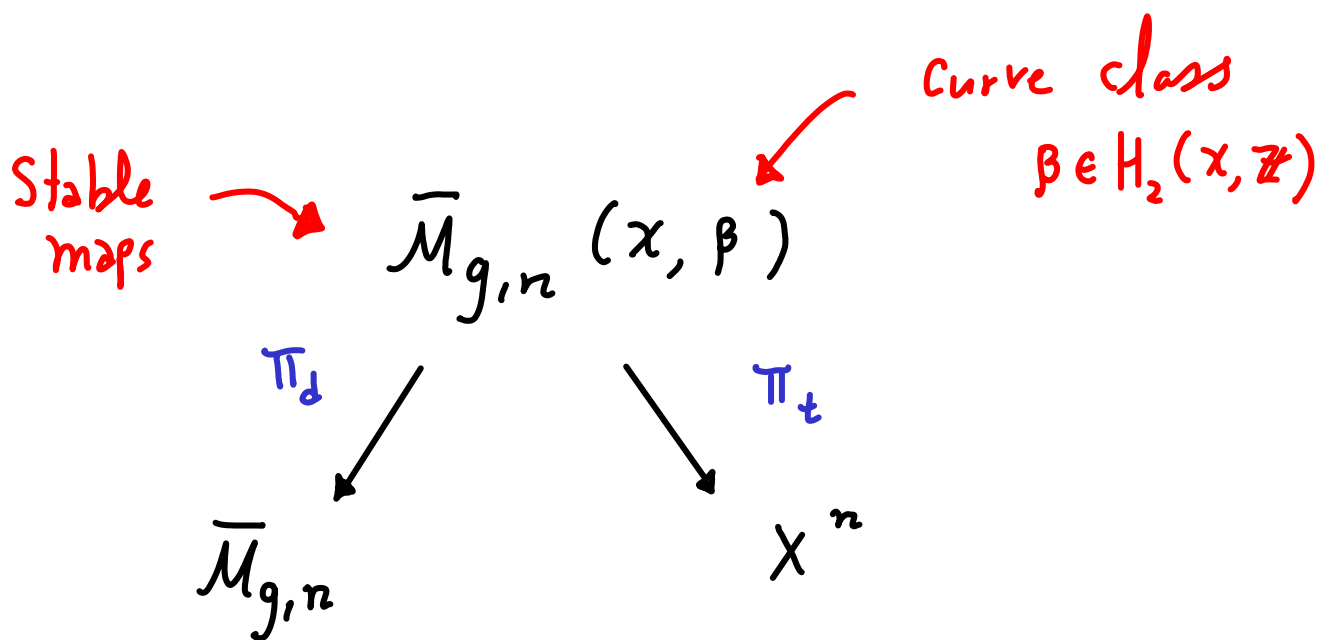


The result is a genus recursion which solves the problem (and also other problems with more refined Hurwitz data).

## V. General targets $X$

Hurwitz moduli spaces concern the target  $\mathbb{P}^1$

For the general case, let  $X$  be a nonsingular projective variety.



For the correspondence, we push-forward the virtual fundamental class

$$[\bar{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}(X, \beta)]^{\text{vir}}$$

The calculation of the push-forward  
in cohomology

$$(\pi_d \times \pi_t)_* [\bar{M}_{g,n}(x, \beta)]^{\text{vir}} \in H^*(\bar{M}_{g,n} \times \mathcal{X}^n)$$

is exactly the question of

Computing the CohFT  $(\mathcal{X})$ .

The Tevelev question here:

Compute  $\text{deg}^{\text{vir}}(\pi_d \times \pi_t)$

degree with  
respect to  
vir class

when the dimensions match,

$$\text{vir dim } \bar{M}_{g,n}(x, \beta) = \dim \bar{M}_{g,n} + n \cdot \dim \mathcal{X}$$

↑  
dim constraint



There is a perfect answer in GW theory.

Theorem: When the dimensions match,

$$\text{deg}^{\text{vir}}(\pi_d \times \pi_t) = \text{Quantum Product in } \mathcal{QH}^*(x)$$

$$\text{Coeff}_{q^{\beta} \cdot p} \left( P^{*n} * \Delta^{*g} \right)$$

Sketch: We have

$$P, \Delta \in \mathcal{QH}^*(x) \cong \mathcal{H}^*(x) \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \text{Nov}_{\mathbb{Q}}$$

$\nearrow$  point class  $p \in \mathcal{H}^{2\dim X}(x)$

$\nwarrow$  diagonal class  $\Delta = \sum_{ij} g^{ij} \tau_i * \tau_j$

$\nwarrow$   $\mathbb{Q}$ -vector

$\uparrow$  quantum  $*$

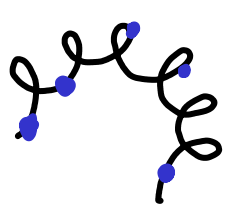
By usual applications of splitting axioms:

$$\text{deg}^{\text{vir}} (\pi_d \times \pi_t)$$

$$= \text{Coeff}_{q^{\beta} \cdot p} (P^{*n} * \Delta^{*g})$$

does not  
require  
convexity

use the  
Curve



g nodes

How to think about  $\Delta$ ?

$$\Delta = \sum_{ij} g^{ij} \tau_i * \tau_j$$

$$= \sum_{ij} g^{ij} \tau_i \cdot \tau_j + \text{quantum corrections}$$

$$= \chi_{\text{top}}(X) \cdot p + \dots$$

deformed Euler characteristic

Example (i):  $X = \mathbb{P}^1$

$$\Delta = P \star \text{Id} + \text{Id} \star P = 2P$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{QH}^*(\mathbb{P}^1) \Rightarrow P \star P &= q^1 \cdot \text{Id} \\ P \star P \star P &= q^1 \cdot P \end{aligned}$$

dimension match:  $2g+2d-2+n = 3g-3+n+n$

rewrite as:  $n+g = 2d+1$  **odd**

$$\text{Coeff}_{q^d \cdot P} \left( P^{\star n} \star \Delta^{\star g} \right) = 2^g$$

for  $n+g = 2d+1$

↑  
appears already  
in CohFT  
Study of  $\mathbb{P}^1$   
by Janda

Tenelev's original formula is

true in all cases in GW theory!

Exercise: Why is the answer of  
Cela-P-Schmitt different?

[Hint: virtual contributions 

Example (ii):  $X = \mathbb{P}^N$

dimension :  $(N+1)d + (3-N)(g-1) + n = 3g - 3 + n + Nn$

implies :  $Nn + Ng = (N+1)d + N$

We must calculate:

Coeff  $_{q^d \cdot p} \left( P^{*n} * \Delta^{*g} \right)$

for  $Nn + Ng = (N+1)d + N$

For  $\mathbb{P}^N$ , quantum corrections vanish here

$$\Delta = \sum_{ij} g^{ij} \tau_i * \tau_j = \sum_{ij} g^{ij} \tau_i \cdot \tau_j + \dots$$

$$= \chi_{\text{top}}(\mathbb{P}^N) \cdot \rho = (N+1) \cdot \rho$$

$$\text{Coeff}_{\rho^d \cdot \rho} \left( \rho^{*n} * \Delta^{*g} \right) =$$

$$\text{Coeff}_{\rho^d \cdot \rho} \left( \rho^{*(n+g)} \right) \cdot (N+1)^g$$

Answer is always  $(N+1)^g$

$$\text{for } N(n+Ng) = (N+1)d + N$$

- Farkas-Lian analyse the enumerative (non-virtual)  
arxiv:2105.09340 Count: result is  $(N+1)^g$  in a certain range.
- Bertram-Daskalopoulos-Wentworth  
arxiv:9306005 [used Quot scheme]

Example (iii): Grassmannians, flag varieties,  
 $G/P$ , etc.

$$\text{deg}^{\text{vir}} (\pi_d \times \pi_t) =$$

$$\text{Coeff}_{q^\beta \cdot p} \left( p^{*(n+g)} \right) \cdot \left( \chi_{\text{top}}(X) \right)^g$$

+ quantum correction terms  
 from  $\Delta$



$QH^*(X)$  known very well, so  
 the formula can be expanded explicitly.

Should equal enumerative count in  
 certain asymptotic ranges [where virtual  
 contributions vanish]

Argument by A. Buch  $\Rightarrow$

Coeff  $_{q^d \cdot p} \left( P^{*(n+g)} \right)$  is always  $\begin{cases} 1 \\ \text{or} \\ 0 \end{cases}$

for all Grassmannians  
when the dim constraint holds.

Also true for the cominuscule case

[P is a Seidel element]

$\uparrow$   
Answer  
depends  
modular  
condition

Sub Example :  $Gr(2,4)$

$$\triangle = 6P + 2q \text{ Id}$$

$\uparrow$   
 $\chi(G(2,4))_{\text{top}}$

$\uparrow$   
quantum  
correction

Buch's  
Calculator

Can we compute  $\text{Coeff}_{q^d \cdot p} \left( P^{*n} + \triangle^{*g} \right)$ ?

Use relation  $p^2 = q^2$ , two cases:

$n$  even

$$\text{Coeff}_{q^d} P \left( P^{*n} * \Delta^{*g} \right) = \sum_{\substack{0 \leq i \leq g \\ i \text{ odd}}} \binom{g}{i} 6^i 2^{g-i}$$

$n$  odd

$$\text{Coeff}_{q^d} P \left( P^{*n} * \Delta^{*g} \right) = \sum_{\substack{0 \leq i \leq g \\ i \text{ even}}} \binom{g}{i} 6^i 2^{g-i}$$

Theorem: For  $Gr(z, 4)$  and  $g, n, d$   
satisfying the dimension constraint  $d+1 = n+g$ ,

$$\text{deg}^{\text{vir}} = \sum_{0 \leq i \leq g, i \text{ odd}} \binom{g}{i} 6^i 2^{g-i} \quad \text{for } n \text{ even}$$

$$\text{deg}^{\text{vir}} = \sum_{0 \leq i \leq g, i \text{ even}} \binom{g}{i} 6^i 2^{g-i} \quad \text{for } n \text{ odd}$$

Open directions: virtual analysis / other Grassmannians



Buch explains that the quadric

$$Q^N \subset \mathbb{P}^{N+1} \quad \text{for } N \geq 3$$

is the simplest generalization of the  $\text{Gr}(2,4)$  case.

$$\Delta = \chi_N \cdot P + \delta_N \cdot \eta \cdot \text{Id}$$

$$\chi_N = \chi(\mathbb{Q}^N) = \begin{cases} N+2 & N \text{ even} \\ N+1 & N \text{ odd} \end{cases} \quad \delta_N = \begin{cases} N-2 & N \text{ even} \\ N-1 & N \text{ odd} \end{cases}$$

Theorem (Buch): For  $Q^{N \geq 3}$  and  $g, n, d$

satisfying dimension constraint  $d+1 = n+g$ ,

$$\text{deg}^{\text{vir}} = \sum_{0 \leq i \leq g, i \text{ odd}} \binom{g}{i} \chi_N^i \cdot \delta_N^{g-i} \quad \text{for } n \text{ even}$$

$$\text{deg}^{\text{vir}} = \sum_{0 \leq i \leq g, i \text{ even}} \binom{g}{i} \chi_N^i \cdot \delta_N^{g-i} \quad \text{for } n \text{ odd}$$

Question: Find the range where these degrees are enumerative [Genus 0 always enumerative for  $\mathbb{G}/\mathbb{P}$ ]

Exercise: What is the answer for  $Q^2 = \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$ ? [Answer  $4^g$ ]

Product rule for  $X \times Y$  :

Suppose we have  $g, n, \beta_x \in H_2(X, \mathbb{Z}), \beta_y \in H_2(Y, \mathbb{Z})$

Satisfying

$$\bullet \text{vir dim } \overline{M}_{g,n}(X, \beta_x) = \dim \overline{M}_{g,n} + n \cdot \dim X$$

$$\bullet \text{vir dim } \overline{M}_{g,n}(Y, \beta_y) = \dim \overline{M}_{g,n} + n \cdot \dim Y$$

Then we also have

$$\bullet \text{vir dim } \overline{M}_{g,n}(X \times Y, \beta_x + \beta_y) = \dim \overline{M}_{g,n} + n \cdot \dim(X \times Y)$$

And

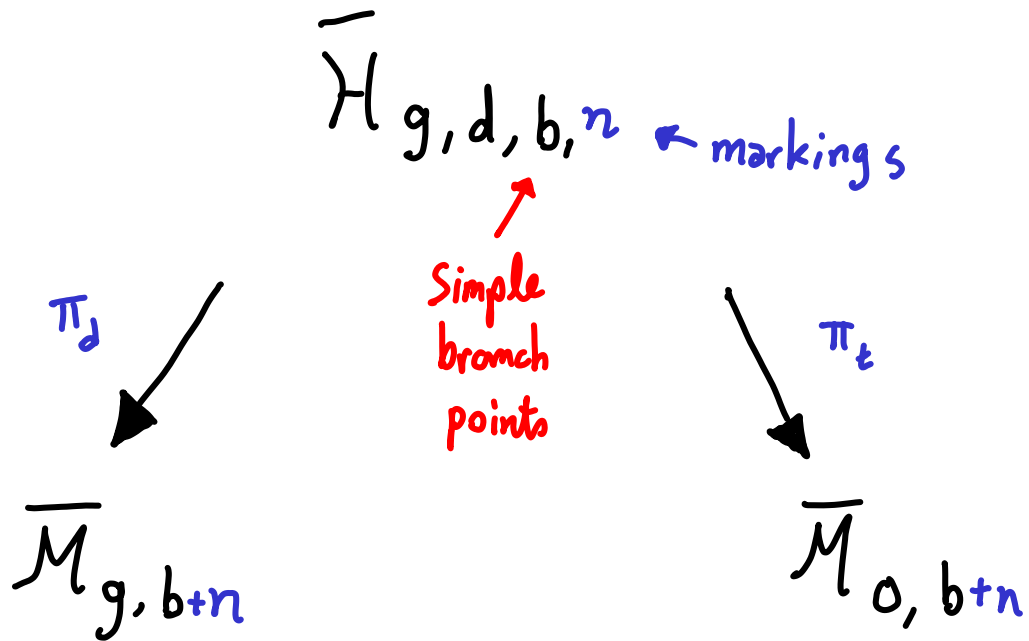
$$\deg_{X \times Y}^{\text{vir}} = \deg_X^{\text{vir}} \cdot \deg_Y^{\text{vir}}$$

Geometrically  
expected

Proof uses product formula in GW theory by

K. Behrend

# VI Descendent integrals



We can study numerical aspects of the correspondence via the integrals:

$$\int \pi_d^* \left( \prod_{i=1}^{b+n} \psi_i^{\alpha_i} \right) \cdot \pi_t^* \left( \prod_{i=1}^{b+n} \psi_i^{\alpha_i} \right)$$

$\overline{\mathcal{H}}(g, d, b, n)$

Can we compute?

Answer: Yes!

Sketch:

- Cotangent line classes on

$$\overline{\mathcal{H}}_{g,d,b,n} \quad \text{and} \quad \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{0,b+n}$$

differ only by ramification factors

- Cotangent line classes on

$$\overline{\mathcal{H}}_{g,d,b,n} \quad \text{and} \quad \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,b+n}$$

differ by boundary rules

↑  
painful

[ See Lian  
for a  
modern  
treatment

Using these two observations, we  
can reduce first to

$$\int \prod_{i=1}^{b+n} \psi_i^{\alpha_i}$$

$$\overline{H}_{g,d,b,n}$$

||

$$\left( \frac{d^n}{2^b} \right) \cdot H_{g,d}^0 \cdot \int \prod_{i=1}^{b+n} \psi_i^{\alpha_i}$$

$$\overline{M}_{0,b+n}$$

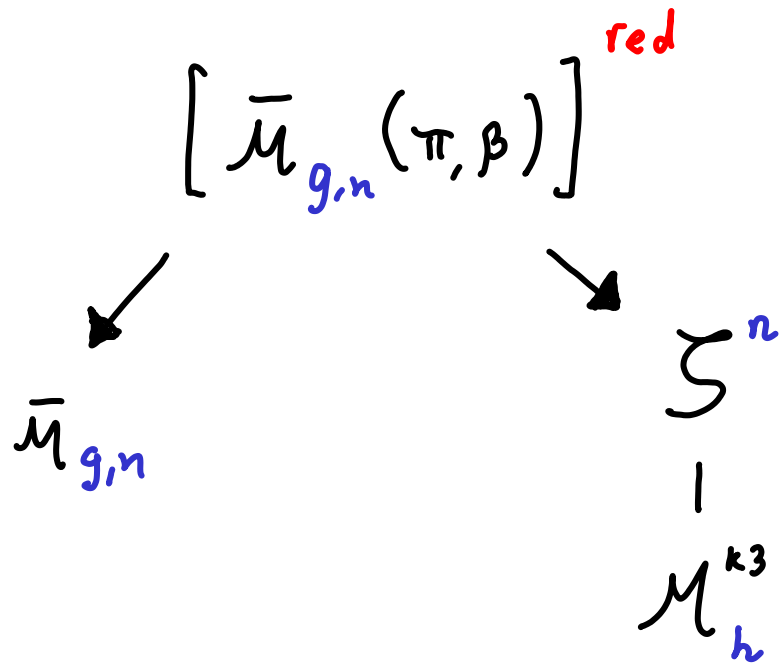
← easy

so Hurwitz numbers and genus 0  
descendants determine everything

Such a path has been  
known forever, but is awaiting  
application

see Costello

## VII Other moduli directions



where  $\pi: \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_h^{k3}$  universal family  
of  $k3$  surfaces

Correspondence is much harder to study  
than the Hurwitz correspondence.

Most questions open

[ P - Q. Yin low  
genus results  
for study of  $R^*(\mathcal{M}_h^{k3})$  ]

# The End



ETH archives 1913