

PIECEWISE POLYNOMIALS

&

the MODULI SPACE OF CURVES



w/ Sam Molcho

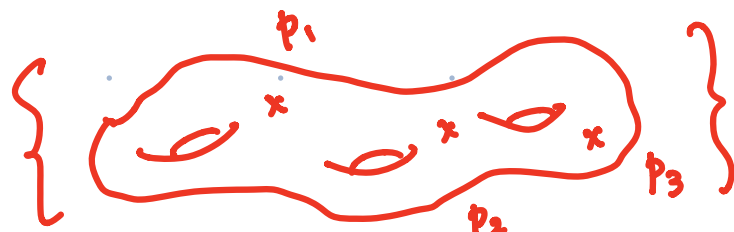
w/ Renzo Cavalieri
&
Hannah Markwig

LAGARTOS

JUNE 2021

LINE BUNDLES ON CURVES & $\mathcal{M}_{g,n}$

$$\text{Pic}_{g,n} \leftarrow \mathcal{M}_{g,n}$$



$(C, p_1, \dots, p_n)$



On each curve
two types of
line bundles

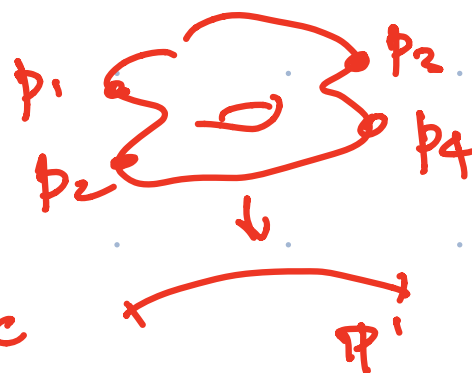
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} C \mapsto \omega_C^{\otimes k} \quad k \in \mathbb{Z} \\ C \mapsto \mathcal{O}_C(\sum a_i p_i) \quad a_i \in \mathbb{Z} \end{array} \right.$$

DOUBLE RAMIFICATIONS

Fix $A = (a_1, \dots, a_n)$ with $\sum a_i = 0$

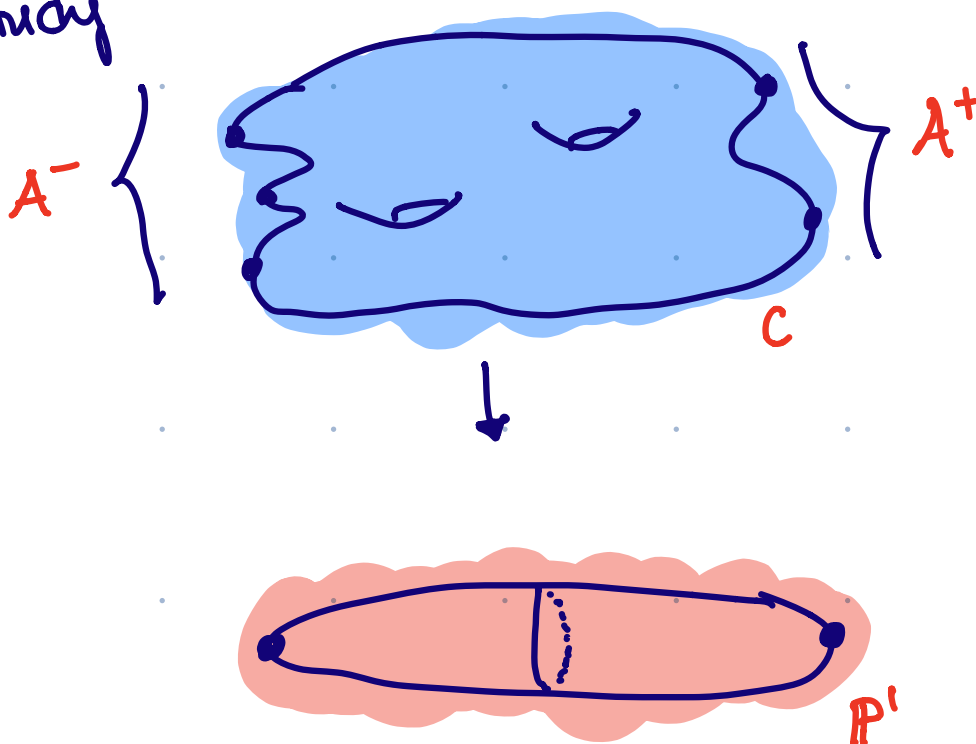
$$\boxed{\mathcal{DR}_g^0(A) \hookrightarrow \mathcal{M}_{g,n}}$$

$$g=1; A=(1,1,-1,-1)$$



Curves C with $\partial_C(\sum a_i p_i) = \partial_C$

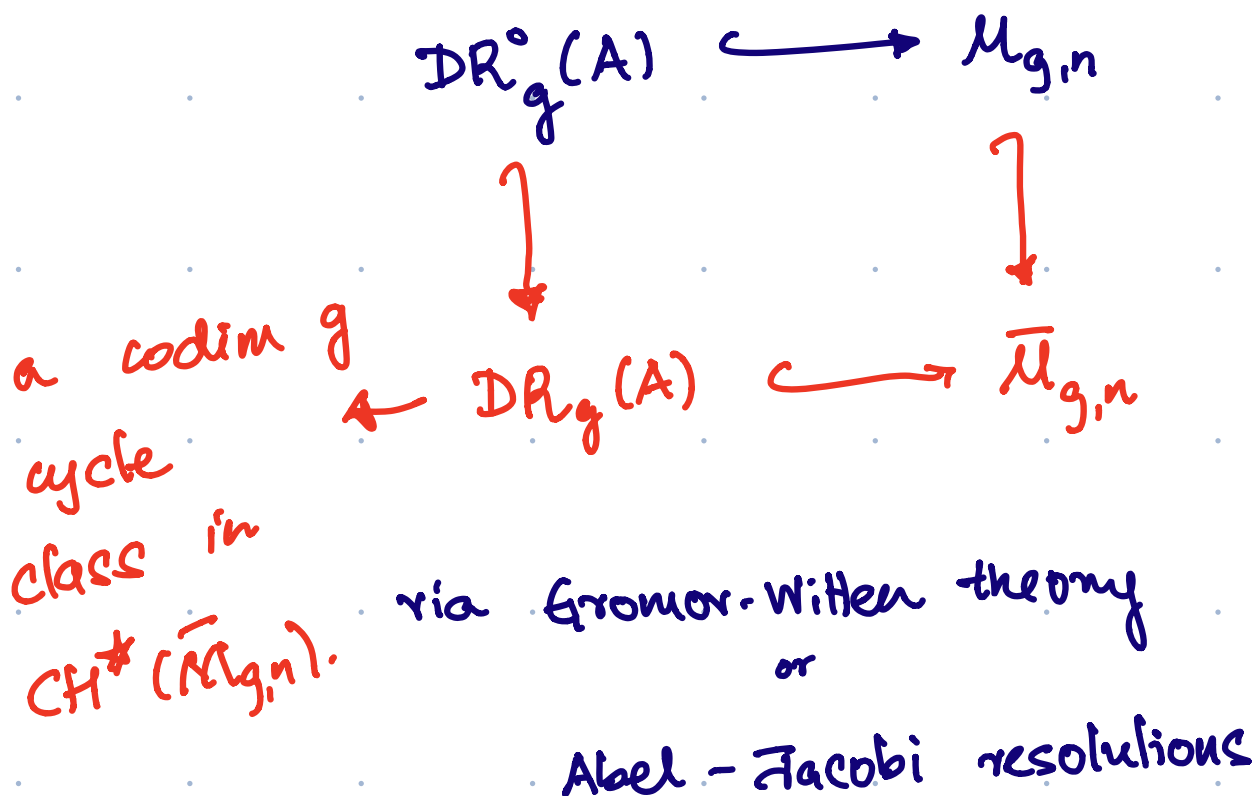
GW: study



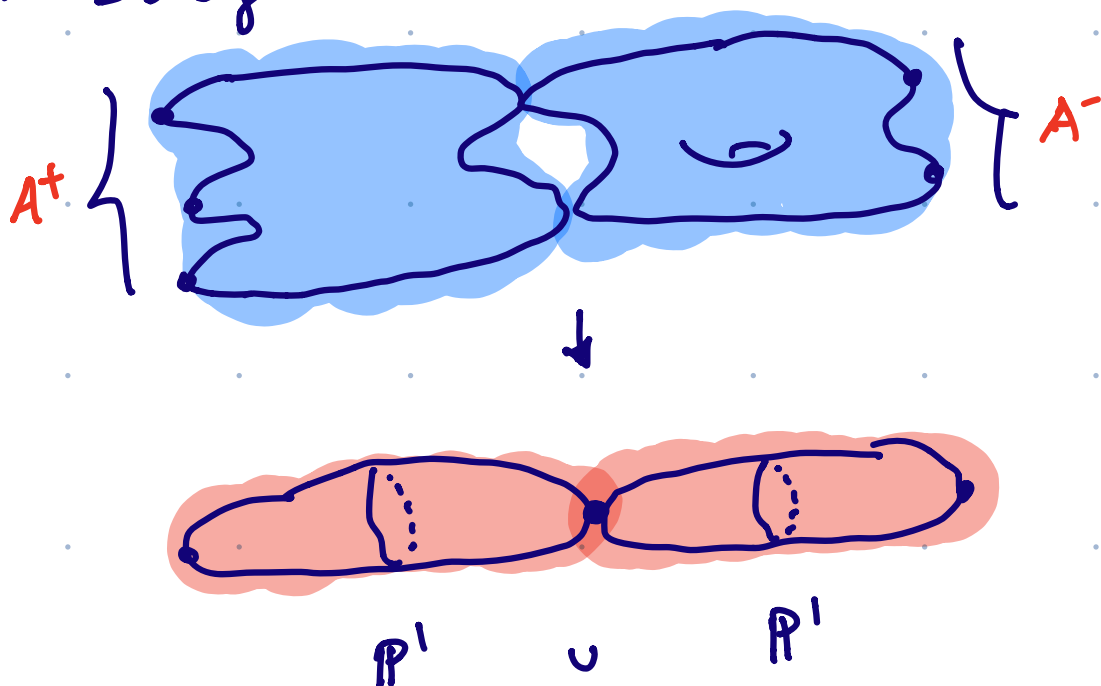
There are "twisted" versions.

COMPACTIFICATIONS :

We have



GW: Study



A TIMELINE:

$$[DR_g(A)] \in CH^g(\bar{U}_{g,n}; \mathbb{Q}).$$

2000 - 2010

- DEF'n OF CLASS (J. Li)
- $[DR_g(A)]$ is TAUTOLOGICAL in Chow (Faber - Pandharipande)
- Applications to $CH^*(\bar{U}_{g,n})$; THEOREM * (Graber - Vakil)
- Partial formulas (Hain, Grushevsky, Zakharov).

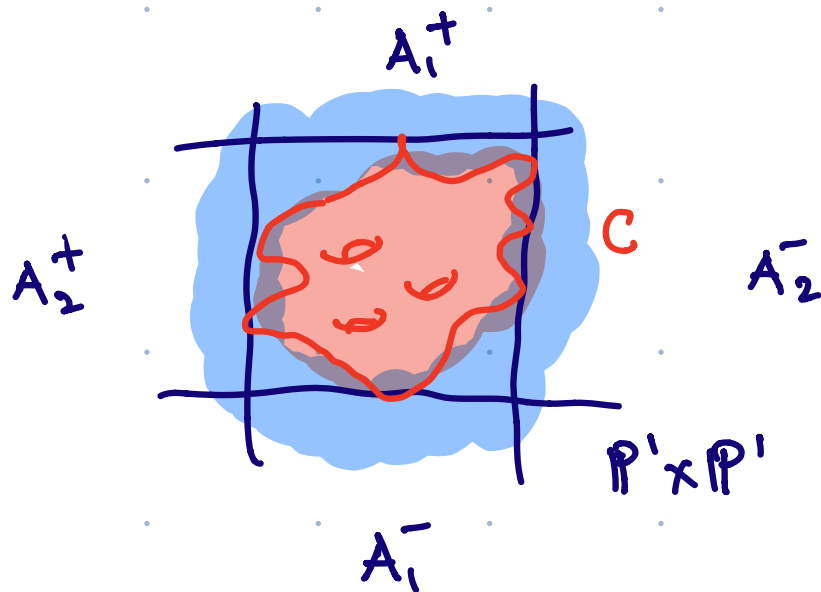
2010 - Now

- Full formula for $[DRCA]$ (Zonta - Pandharipande - Pixton - Zvonkine)
- Logarithmic Abel-Jacobi theory [Marcus, Mochizuki, Holmes, Guéré, Abreu - Pacini, ...]

SIGNS OF AN INCOMPLETE STORY

• How about maps to $\mathbb{P}' \times \mathbb{P}'$? or a TORIC VARIETY?

Fix $A_1 \in A_2$
length n :



TORIC CONTACT CYCLE

$TC_g^\circ(A_1 | A_2)$

$\subseteq \mathcal{M}_{g,n}$

(CODIM $2g$)

$\parallel$

$\{(C, p_1, \dots, p_n) \mid$

$C \rightarrow \mathbb{P}' \times \mathbb{P}'$ with
 specified contact orders $\}$

PRODUCT FORMULAS

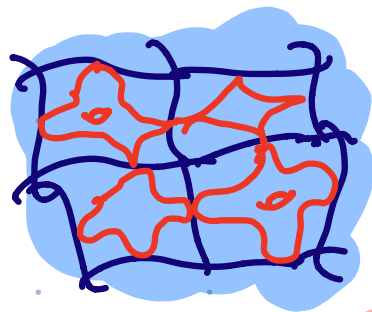
INTERIOR: $TC_g^{\circ}(A_1|A_2) = DR_g^{\circ}(A_1) \cap DR_g^{\circ}(A_2)$
in $CH^*(\mathcal{M}_{g,n})$.

FAILS ON $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}$!

$$TC_g(A_1|A_2) \neq DR_g(A_1) \cap DR_g(A_2).$$

in $CH^*(\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n})$.

DEFINED via log GW
theory:



maps to broken
toric varieties.

Abel-Jacobi: Holmes-Pirton-Schmitt

Gromov-Witten: $\mathbb{R}$

BASIC QUESTIONS

about $[TC_g(A_1|A_2)]$ in $CH^*(\bar{U}_{g,n})$

- Does it lie in the **TAUTOLOGICAL** ring in Chow?
- Why & how does the **product rule** fail?
- Can we compute **top intersections** against it?
- Can we find a **formula** for $TC_g(A_1|A_2)$?

Note: I didn't define $TC_g(A_1|A_2)$: if this bothers you ask now!

A FEW TAUTOLOGIES:

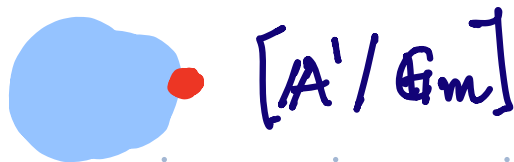
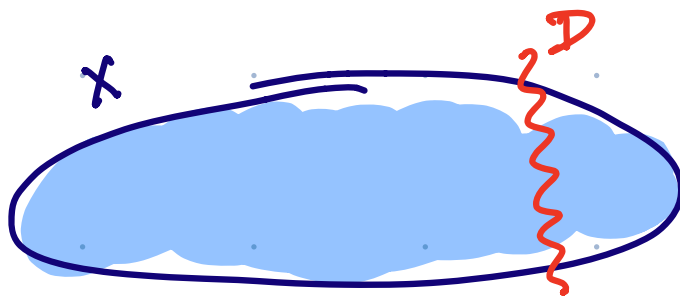
- $\mathcal{D} \subseteq X$ a Cartier divisor

 $X \longrightarrow [A'/G_m]$

"Artin fan"

- $\mathcal{D} = \mathcal{D}_1 + \dots + \mathcal{D}_k \subseteq X$

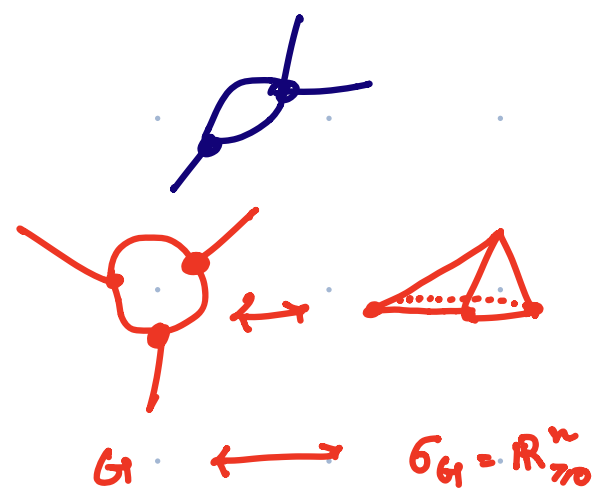
 $X \longrightarrow [A^k/G_m^k]$



MODULI OF TROPICAL CURVES

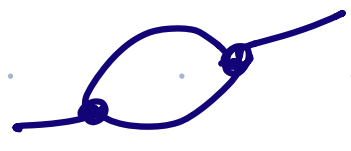
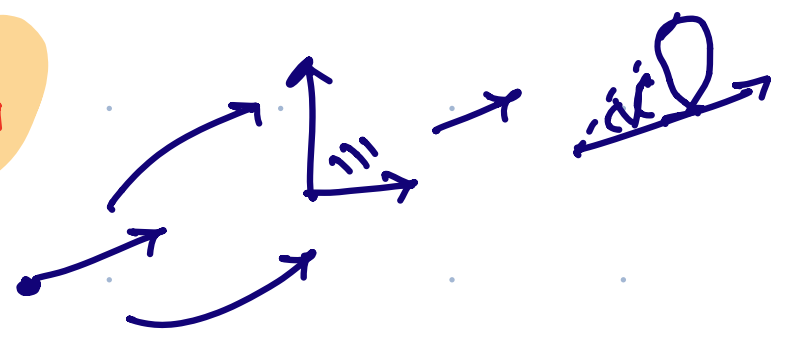
$$\mathcal{M}_{g,n}^{\text{trop}} \approx$$

Glued from
cones σ_G



"FAN" OF $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}$

$$\equiv \lim_{\rightarrow G} \sigma_G$$



ALGEBRAIC
STACKS

$$\lim_{\rightarrow} \mathcal{A}_G$$

If $\sigma_G = \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^n$
 $\mathcal{A}_G = [\mathbb{A}^n / G_m^n]$

Abramovich-Wise ; Caporaso-Payne ; Wirthsch ; Olsson ;
Chan-Cavalieri

$$\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n} \longrightarrow \mathcal{A}_{g,n}$$

THE ARTIN
FAN.

THE TAUTOLOGICAL RING (Mumford, ...)

$$R^*(\bar{M}_{g,n}) \subseteq CH^*(\bar{M}_{g,n}) \text{ or } H^*(-)$$

SUBRING

$$\bar{M}_{g,n} \xrightarrow{\pi} \mathcal{A}_{g,n} \simeq M_{g,n}^{\text{trop}}$$

$$\pi^*: CH^*(\mathcal{A}_{g,n}) \longrightarrow CH^*(\bar{M}_{g,n}).$$

and

cotangent line classes $\psi_1, \dots, \psi_n$

$$\bar{M}_{g,n} \hookrightarrow \bar{M}_{g,n+1}.$$

FACT: (Molcho - Pandharipande - Schmitt)

$\text{im}(\pi^*)$ & $\psi_1, \dots, \psi_n$ define the tautological ring.

what is $CH^*(A_{g,n})$?

THEOREM (Molcho - R; Molcho - Pandharipande - Schmitt)

$$CH^*(A_{g,n}) = PP^*(M_{g,n}^{\text{trop}})$$

RING OF PIECEWISE
POLYNOMIALS

More generally, if A is an ARTIN FAN

$$CH^*(A) = PP^*(\text{trop}(A))$$

[After Payne, Brion, ...]

[Uses Kresch, Kimura, Bae-Park]

TAUTOLOGICAL CLASSES ARE COMBINATORIAL
NOW!

THEOREM (Molcho - R '21 ; Holmes-Schwartz '21)

The classes $TC_g(A_1, A_2)$ lie in $R^*(\overline{M}_{g,n})$.
TAUTOLOGICAL

What is the geometry? Why does product rule fail?

If $\tilde{X} \xrightarrow{\pi} X$ is a blowup

then

$$\pi_* (\alpha \cdot \beta) \neq \pi_* (\alpha) \cdot \pi_* (\beta)$$

But if $\tilde{X} \rightarrow X$ is a "tropical blowup"
the failure is controlled via $PP^*(X^{\text{trop}})$.

TROPICAL DOUBLE RAMIFICATION :

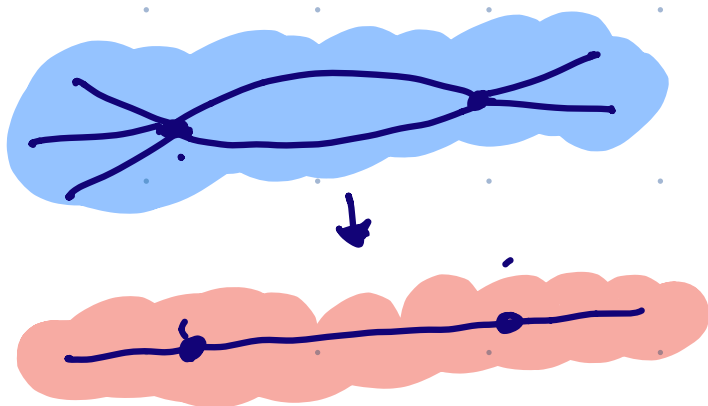
$$DR_g^{\text{trop}}(A) \subseteq \mathcal{M}_{g,n}^{\text{trop}}$$

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Ulirsch-Zakharov} \\ \text{Gvalieri-Markwig} \\ - R \end{array} \right.$

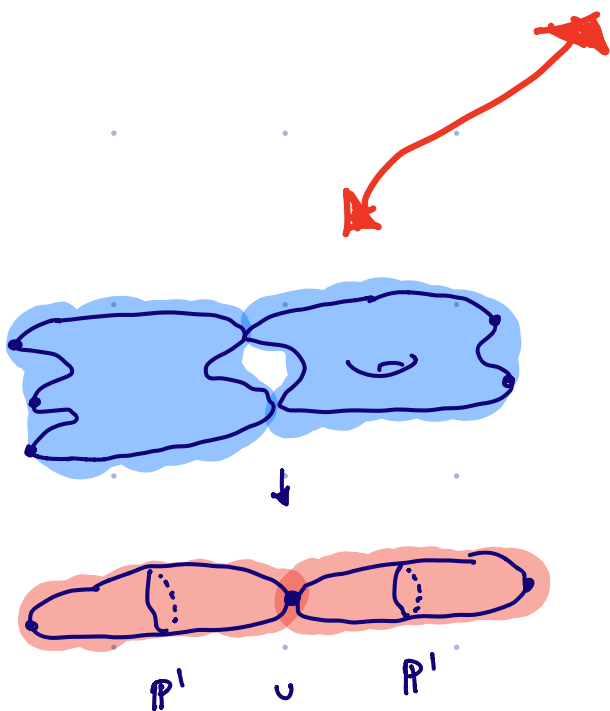
$\parallel$

$$\{ \tau \mid \sum a_i p_i \sim 0 \}$$

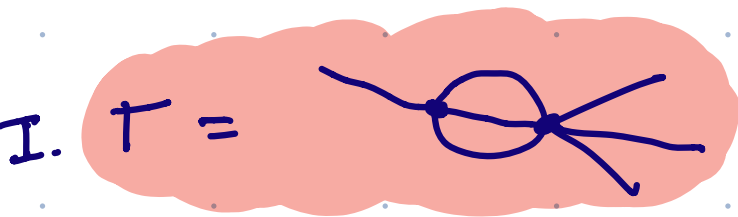
BALANCED
 $\S$
 CTS.



$$A = (2, 2, -4)$$

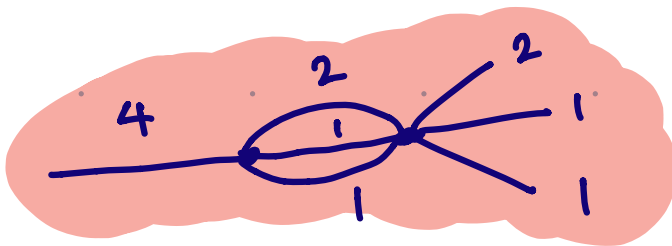


WHAT DOES $\text{DR}^{\text{trop}}(A)$ look like?



$$A = (4, -2, -1, -1)$$

II. Assign slopes by balancing



(not necessarily unique)

III. Solve for edge lengths that allow continuity

$$2l_1 = l_2 = l_3 \subseteq M_{2,4}^{\text{trop}}$$

JUST LIKE TORIC GEOMETRY:

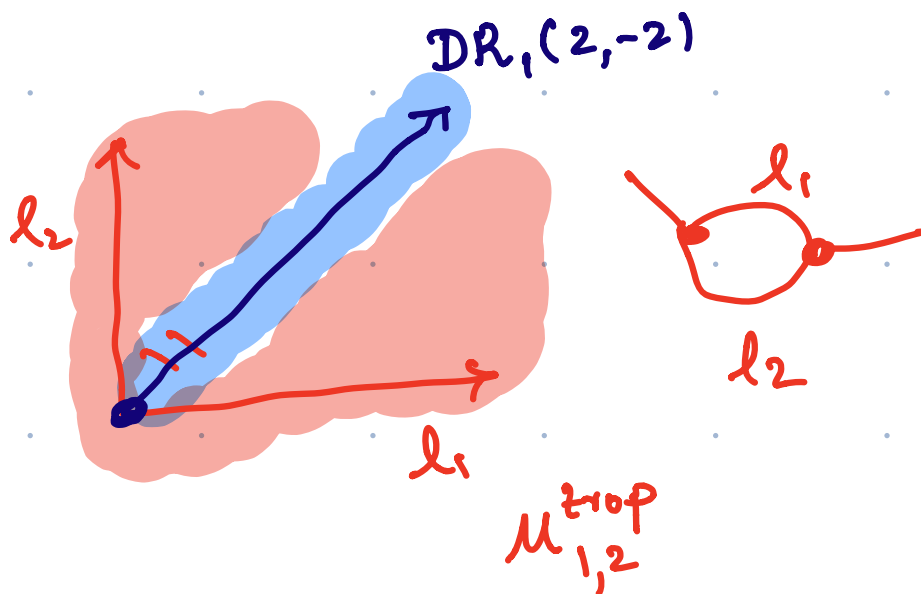
$$\text{DR}_g^{\text{trop}}(A) \subseteq \mathcal{M}_{g,n}^{\text{trop}}$$

SUBFAN



(OPEN
SUBSETS IN)

BLOWUPS OF $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}$



RECIPE

~~THEOREM~~ (Molcho - R (21)): To calculate

$$\underline{TC_g(A_1|A_2)} :$$

1. Intersect $DR_g^{\text{trop}}(A_1) \cap DR_g^{\text{trop}}(A_2) \subseteq M_{g,n}^{\text{trop}}$

2. Blowup accordingly

$$\tilde{M}_{g,n} \longrightarrow \bar{M}_{g,n}$$

3. Calculate the (VIRTUAL) strict transform

$$\tilde{DR}_g(A_1) \text{ \& \& } \tilde{DR}_g(A_2) .$$

4. Intersect there, pushforward.

THE VIRTUAL STRICT TRANSFORM:

Molcho - R. '21:

we explain what this is using:

- Fulton's blowup formula.
- Atiyah's formulas for Segre classes.
- Piecewise polynomials.

No formula yet...

or Cavalieri-Markwig: Explain how to compute
(combinatorially) calculate integrals.

$$\int_{\tilde{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}} \tilde{DR}_g(A) \cap [p] \quad \text{for } p \in PP^*(\tilde{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}^{\text{trop}}).$$

Includes tropical correspondence theorems & generalisations.

PLEASE SEE WORK OF

Molcho - Pandharipande - Schmitt

Holmes - Pixton - Schmitt

Holmes - Schwanz

Nabijou - R

& hopefully in a few weeks

Molcho - R

+ Cavalieri - Gross - Markwig

THANKS !

