

$$T_C \mathcal{M}_g \cong H^1(C, T_C)$$

$$\begin{aligned} h^1(C, T_C) &= h^1(C, \omega_C^\vee) \stackrel{\text{s.d.}}{=} h^0(C, (\omega_C^\vee)^\vee \otimes \omega_C) \\ &= h^0(C, \omega_C^{\otimes 2}) = \deg(\omega_C^{\otimes 2}) + 1 - g \\ &= 2 \cdot (2g - 2) + 1 - g = 3g - 3 \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

Some variants & extensions

Pointed curves

$$T_{(C, p_1, \dots, p_n)} \mathcal{M}_{g,n} \cong H^1(C, T_C(-p_1 - \dots - p_n))$$

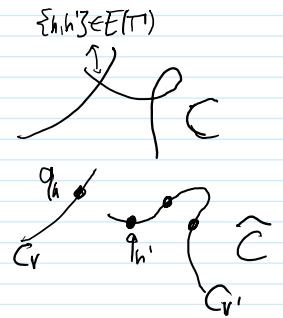
$$\hookrightarrow \dim = 3g - 3 + n$$

Stable curves

First order deform. of $C \cong \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{O}_C}^1(\Omega_C^1, \mathcal{O}_C)$

Γ stable graph of C and

$(C_v, (q_n)_{n \in H(v)})_{v \in V(\Gamma)}$ prim. of C under Σ_Γ



Then we have exact sequence:

$$0 \rightarrow \bigoplus_{v \in V(\Gamma)} H^1(C_v, T_{C_v}(-\sum_{h \in H(v)} q_h)) \rightarrow \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{O}_C}^1(\Omega_C^1, \mathcal{O}_C) \rightarrow \bigoplus_{\{h, h' \} \in E(\Gamma)} T_{q_h}(C_v) \otimes T_{q_{h'}}(C_{v'}) \rightarrow 0$$

locally triv. deform.
all deform. of C
deform. smoothing of nodes

$$0 \rightarrow T_{(C_v(q_n))_v} \bar{\mathcal{M}}_\Gamma \rightarrow T_C(\bar{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}) \rightarrow \bigoplus_{\{h, h' \} \in E(\Gamma)} \mathbb{L}_h^\vee \otimes \mathbb{L}_{h'}^\vee \Big|_{(C_v(q_n))_v}$$

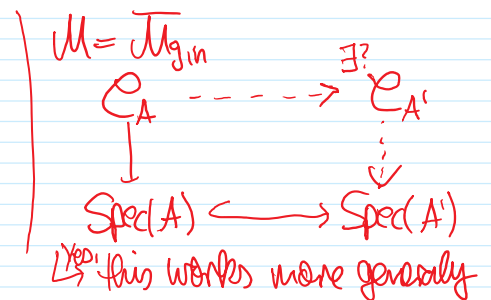
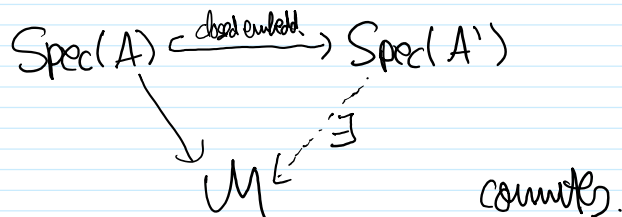
$\mathcal{N}_{\Sigma_\Gamma} \Big|_{(C_v(q_n))_v}$
line bundles on $\bar{\mathcal{M}}_\Gamma$

Higher order deformations and obstructions

Claim deform. over more general Artin. \mathbb{C} -alg. A allow us to detect smoothness

Def (Formal smoothness)

\mathcal{M} scheme (stack) over \mathbb{C} is formally smooth if
for every surjective map $A' \rightarrow A$ of Artinian local \mathbb{C} -algebras
with kernel $I \subseteq A'$ (s.t. $A = A'/I$) of dimension 1
and every map $\text{Spec}(A) \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ \exists map $\text{Spec}(A') \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ s.t.



For X smooth variety, such that $H^2(X, T_X) = 0$,
any deformation $\mathcal{X}_A \rightarrow \text{Spec}(A)$ can be extended to $\mathcal{X}_{A'} \rightarrow \text{Spec}(A')$. ✓ X is unobstructed.

$X = \mathbb{C}$ smooth curve $\Rightarrow H^2(\mathbb{C}, T_{\mathbb{C}}) = 0$ for dim. reasons
 $\Rightarrow \mathcal{M}_g$ is formally smooth at \mathbb{C} .

Infinitesimal automorphisms

$H^0(X, T_X) \longleftrightarrow$ infinit. automorph. of X

$H^1(X, T_X) \longleftrightarrow$ deformations of X

$H^2(X, T_X) \longleftrightarrow$ obstructions to deform. of X

$\text{Aut}(X) \xrightarrow{\varphi \mapsto (T_{\varphi} \cong X \times X)} \text{Hilb}(X \times X) \leftarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{embeds Aut}(X) \\ \text{as closed pts.} \\ \text{of subscheme of Hilb}(X \times X) \end{array}$

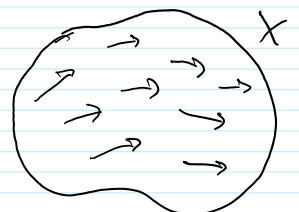
$\{ \varphi: X \rightarrow X \text{ automorph.} \}$

\Downarrow
 $\text{Aut}(X)$ scheme structure.

Then show (using def. th. of $\text{Hilb}(X \times X)$):

$$T_{\text{id}_X} \text{Aut}(X) = H^0(X, T_X) \leftarrow \text{infin. autom.}$$

connects to autom. gps of smooth curves:
 \mathbb{C} smooth genus g



Connects to autom. gps of smooth curves:
 C smooth genus g

$$\dim H^0(C, T_C) = \begin{cases} 3 & , g=0 \\ 1 & , g=1 \\ 0 & , g \geq 2 \end{cases} \begin{array}{l} \longleftrightarrow \text{Aut}(C) \cong \text{PGL}_2 \quad 3\text{-dim.} \\ \longleftrightarrow \text{Aut}(C) \cong C \text{ (add.)} \quad 1\text{-dim.} \\ \longleftrightarrow \text{Aut}(C) \text{ discrete} \quad 0\text{-dim.} \end{array}$$

Exerc. Use def. thg to compute $\dim \mathbb{P}^n = n$.

Exerc. $\dim_{\text{Pic}^0} \text{Jac}(C) = g$.
 C smooth curve, genus g

$\text{Pic}^0 C$

$\text{Jac}(C)$ algebraic group & char. 0

$\Rightarrow \text{Jac}(C)$ smooth.

$\Rightarrow \dim \text{Jac}(C) = g$

Density of locus \mathcal{M}_g of smooth curves & local stud. of boundary

Start with proving: $\mathcal{M}_{g,n} \subseteq \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}$ is open

Prop. Let $\pi: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow B$ be a family of stable curves, then
 locus $B_0 \subseteq B$ of $b \in B$ w/ C_b smooth is open in B

Proof Locus $\mathcal{C}^{\text{sm}} \subseteq \mathcal{C}$ of pts where π is smooth is open

$\leadsto \text{Sing}(\pi) = \mathcal{C} \setminus \mathcal{C}^{\text{sm}}$ is closed in \mathcal{C}

$\xrightarrow{\pi \text{ proper}} \pi(\text{Sing}(\pi)) \subseteq B$ closed

$\Rightarrow B_0 = B \setminus \pi(\text{Sing}(\pi))$ open. \square

Cor $i: \mathcal{M}_{g,n} \rightarrow \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}$ representable, open embed.

Pr

$\begin{array}{ccc} & \uparrow & \uparrow \\ & B_0 & \xrightarrow{i'} B \text{ scheme} \end{array}$

B_0 scheme \rightarrow
 $\leadsto i$ represent.

i' open embedding.
 $\Rightarrow i$ open embed. \square

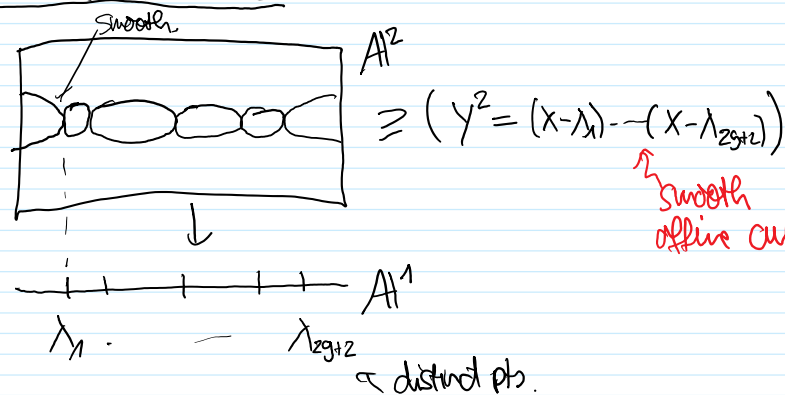
$\mathcal{M}_{g,n} \neq \emptyset$

If we show that $\forall g \geq 0 \exists C$ smooth curve of genus g

$\leadsto (C, p_1, \dots, p_n) \in \mathcal{M}_{g,n}$ $2g-2+n > 0$ (Fact. about automorph.)

To construct C

To construct C



$(y^2 = x)$ smooth at $(0,0)$

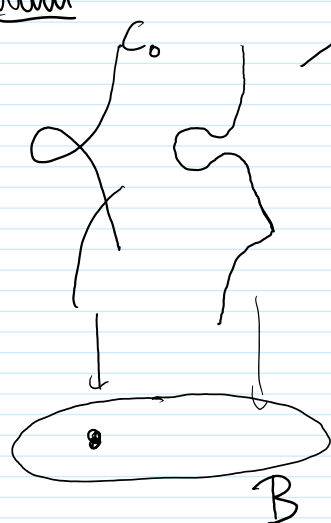
smooth affine curve $C_0 \cong C$ $\xrightarrow{\exists!}$ genus g hyperell. curve
smooth, projective curve

$\leadsto \mathcal{M}_{g,n} \subseteq \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}$ nonempty open subset

If we knew that $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}$ is irreducible $\Rightarrow \mathcal{M}_{g,n} \subseteq \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}$ is dense.

\uparrow try to show directly!

Want



want to approximate C_0 by smooth curves.

1 variant via ideas from deformation theory

$$\leadsto B = \text{Spec } \mathbb{C}[[t_1, \dots, t_{g-3}]]$$

\uparrow [Deligne-Mumford]

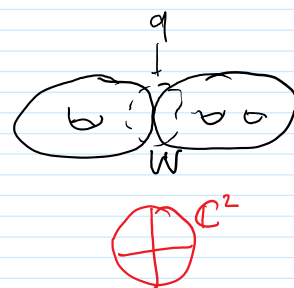
Explain story in complex-analytic language

Assume C_0 has single pole q

$\leadsto \exists$ open neighbourhood W of q of the form

def. of node

$$W \cong \{ (x,y) \in B_2(\mathbb{C}^2) \mid x \cdot y = 0 \}$$

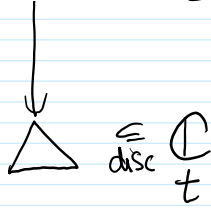
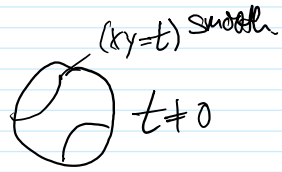


There exists a family

$(xy=t)$ smooth

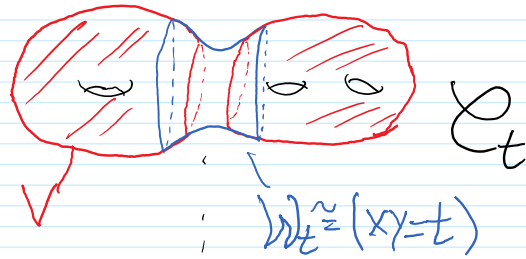
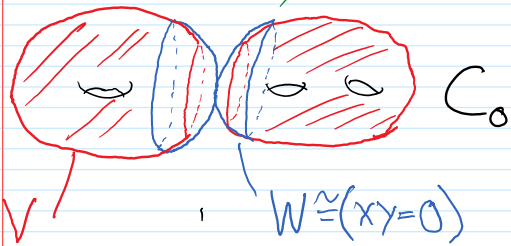
There exists a family

$$\mathcal{W} = \{ (x, y, t) \in \mathcal{B}_\epsilon(\mathbb{C}^2) \times \Delta \mid x \cdot y = t \}$$

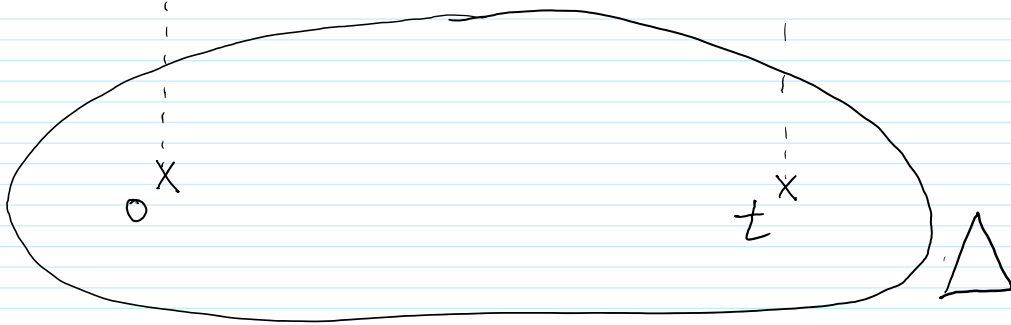


Family smoothing node q over Δ

overlap $V \cap W =$



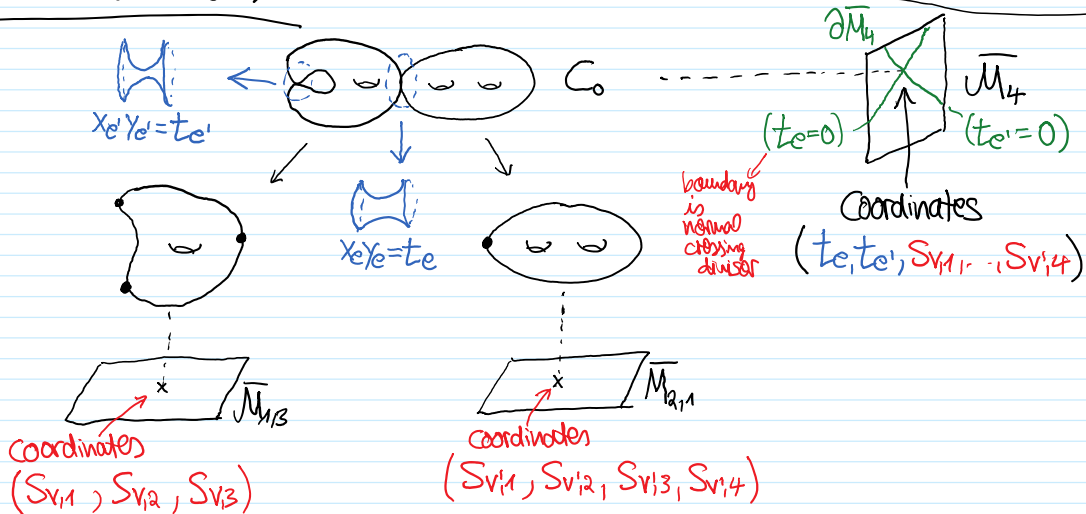
get global def. of C_0 over Δ



can upgrade this picture to get local (holom.) coordinates around each point

$$C_0 \in \bar{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}$$

For local coordinate:



Def The completed local ring $\hat{\mathcal{O}}_{C_0, \bar{M}_{g,n}}$ is the
 compl. loc. ring $\hat{\mathcal{O}}_{C', u}$ for $\begin{array}{ccc} U & \xrightarrow{\text{étale}} & \bar{M}_{g,n} \\ \uparrow \text{scheme} & & \uparrow \\ C' & \longrightarrow & C_0 \end{array}$

Theorem [DMJ]

$C_0 \in \bar{M}_{g,n}$ closed pt, $T = T'(C_0)$, $(C_v, (q_i))_v$ preim. of C_0
 under ξ_T

Then we have an isomorphism

$$\hat{\mathcal{O}}_{C_0, \bar{M}_{g,n}} \cong \mathbb{C}[[t_e, S_{r,j} : e \in E(T'), v \in V(T'), j=1, \dots, 3g(v)-3+n(v)]]$$

Under natural map $\text{Spec } \hat{\mathcal{O}}_{C_0, \bar{M}_{g,n}} \longrightarrow \bar{M}_{g,n}$
 $\bigcup_{e \in E(T')} V(t_e) \dashrightarrow \bigcup \bar{M}_{g,n}$

Union of
 coordinate
 hyperplanes.

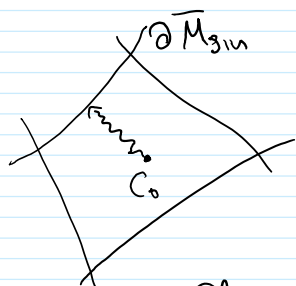
preim. of $M_{g,n}$
 = compl. of $\bigcup_e V(t_e)$
 \uparrow
 dense in $\text{Spec } \hat{\mathcal{O}}_{C_0, \bar{M}_{g,n}}$
 $\Rightarrow M_{g,n} \in \bar{M}_{g,n}$ is dense.

$\rightsquigarrow \partial \bar{M}_{g,n}$ is normal crossings divisor.

On the other hand, for $\xi_T : \bar{M}_T \longrightarrow \bar{M}_{g,n}$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Spec } \hat{\mathcal{O}}_{(C_v, (q_i)), \bar{M}_T} & \longrightarrow & \text{Spec } \hat{\mathcal{O}}_{C_0, \bar{M}_{g,n}} \\ \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ \text{(generators of } \hat{\mathcal{O}}_{(C_v, (q_i)), \bar{M}_{g,n}} & \longleftarrow & S_{r,j} \end{array}$$

Missing $\overline{M}_{g,n}$ is irreducible & proper
 $\overline{M}_{g,n}$ smooth: connected.



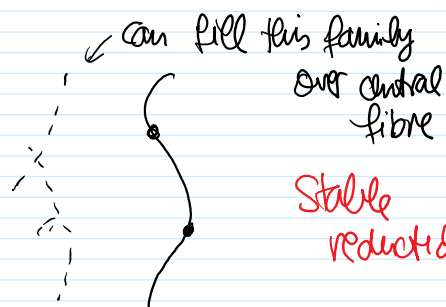
Show $C_0 \xrightarrow{\text{deg.}} C'_0 \in \partial \overline{M}_{g,n}$

induct.
 $\leadsto \partial \overline{M}_{g,n}$ connected

\uparrow
 $\pi \overline{M}_{g,n,n+1}$ connected

properness:

valuative criterion of properness



$\text{Spec } A$
 \uparrow
 Λ valuation ring

$\text{Spec } K$