

Thm ([DM69, Ku83]) Let $2g-2+n > 0$.

(a) There exist coarse moduli spaces $M_{g,n}$ and $\bar{M}_{g,n}$ for $\mathcal{M}_{g,n}$ and $\bar{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}$.

(b) They are normal alg. varieties of dimens. $3g-3+n$ and there exists inclus. $M_{g,n} \subset \bar{M}_{g,n}$ as nonempty open dense subvariety.

Zariski cover:
 V/G
 V affine smooth var.
 $G \curvearrowright V$ fin group.

(c) $\bar{M}_{g,n}$ is irreducible, projective and has quotient singularities.

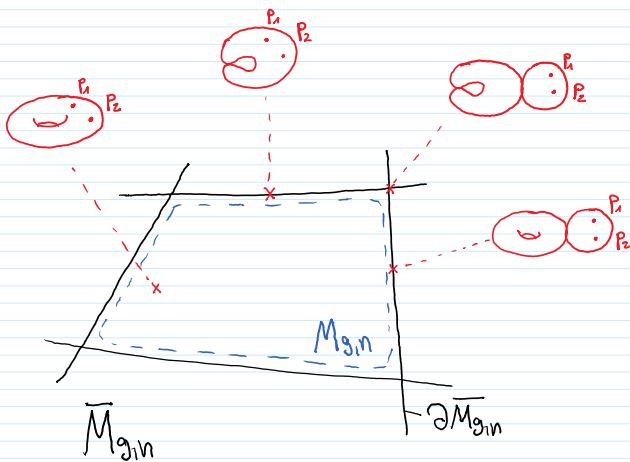
(d) The boundary $\partial \bar{M}_{g,n} = \bar{M}_{g,n} \setminus M_{g,n}$ is the locus of singular curves, and a (Weil) divisor.

(e) The locus $\bar{M}_{g,n}^{\circ} \subseteq \bar{M}_{g,n}$ of curves (C, p_1, \dots, p_n) with trivial aut. group

$$\text{Aut}(C, p_1, \dots, p_n) = \{id_C\}$$

is a fine moduli space for the functor $\bar{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}^{\circ}$ of st. curves without nontr. automorphisms. Thus \exists universal family

$$\begin{array}{c} \bar{\mathcal{C}}_{g,n}^{\circ} \\ \pi \downarrow \uparrow \\ \bar{M}_{g,n}^{\circ} \subseteq \bar{M}_{g,n} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \\ \uparrow \\ \uparrow \end{array} \begin{array}{c} p_1, \dots, p_n \\ p_1, \dots, p_n \\ p_1, \dots, p_n \end{array}$$



§4 Examples and basic constructions

§4.1 Smooth curves of genus 0

$$g=0 \rightsquigarrow 2g-2+n > 0 \Leftrightarrow n \geq 3$$

[n-2] 11 ... ?

[1:0] [1:1] Tn. 17

$n=3$ $M_{0,3} = ?$

$\begin{matrix} [1:0] & [1:1] & [0:1] \\ \uparrow & \uparrow & \uparrow \end{matrix}$

$(C, P_1, P_2, P_3) \cong (\mathbb{P}^1, P_1, P_2, P_3) \cong (\mathbb{P}^1, 0, 1, \infty)$

smooth genus 0

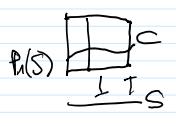
$PGL_2(\mathbb{C}) \cong \mathbb{P}^1(\mathbb{C})$
simply 3-frams.

↑ unique curve in $g=0, n=3$
up to isomorph.

↪ expect: $M_{0,3} = \text{pt} = \text{Spec } \mathbb{C}$

Prop 1 The variety $M_{0,3} = \text{pt}$ is a fine moduli space for $M_{0,3}$.

Idea Start w/ any family $\begin{matrix} C \\ \pi \downarrow \uparrow P_1 \uparrow P_2 \uparrow P_3 \\ S \end{matrix} \cong \begin{matrix} S \times \mathbb{P}^1 \\ \pi \downarrow \uparrow \uparrow \\ S \end{matrix} \begin{matrix} 0, 1, \infty \end{matrix}$
($g=0, n=3$)



Prop 2 Let $\pi: C \rightarrow S$ be a smooth, proper, surjective, loc. fin. presented morphism of rel. dim 1 w/ geometric fibers isom. to \mathbb{P}^1 .

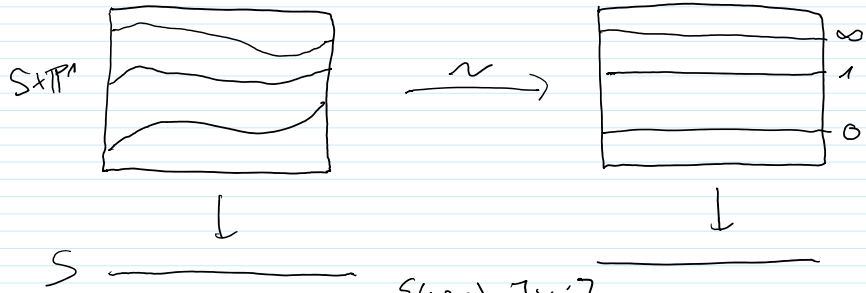
- If π admits $P_1: S \rightarrow C$ section, then \exists rank 2 vector bundle E on S s.t. $C \cong \mathbb{P}(E)$.
- If π has two disjoint sect. $P_1, P_2: S \rightarrow C$, then $E \cong \mathcal{L}_1 \oplus \mathcal{L}_2$, \mathcal{L}_i line bundles.
- If π has three disj. sect. $P_1, P_2, P_3: S \rightarrow C$ then $E \cong \mathcal{O} \oplus \mathcal{O} \rightsquigarrow C \cong \mathbb{P}(E) \cong S \times \mathbb{P}^1$.

Idea $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{O}_C(P_1)$
 $\pi^* \mathcal{L} = E$ rank 2
(on fibers: $\mathbb{P}^1, \mathcal{L}|_{\mathbb{P}^1} = \mathcal{O}(1) \cong \mathcal{O}(1)$)
2 dim sect. ~~✗~~

Proof of Prop 1

$\begin{matrix} C \\ \pi \downarrow \uparrow \uparrow \\ S \end{matrix} \xrightarrow{\text{Prop 2}} \begin{matrix} S \times \mathbb{P}^1 \\ \pi \downarrow \uparrow P_1 \uparrow P_2 \uparrow P_3 \\ S \end{matrix} \xrightarrow{\text{WANT}} \begin{matrix} S \times \mathbb{P}^1 \\ \downarrow \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow \\ S \end{matrix} \begin{matrix} \infty \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{matrix}$

$M_{0,3}(S) \cong h^0(S)$
 $\cong \left\{ \begin{matrix} S \times \mathbb{P}^1 \\ \downarrow \uparrow \uparrow \uparrow \\ S \end{matrix} \right\} \cong \{S \rightarrow \text{pt}\}$



$A = (P_1, P_2, P_3): S \rightarrow (\mathbb{P}^1)^3 \setminus \Delta \cong PGL_2$
 $\{ (q_1, q_2, q_3) : \exists i \neq j, q_i = q_j \}$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 S \times \mathbb{P}^1 & \longrightarrow & S \times \mathbb{P}^1 \\
 (S, q) & \longmapsto & (S, A(S), q) \\
 \begin{array}{c} p_1 \\ p_2 \\ p_3 \end{array} & \longmapsto & \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ 1 \\ \infty \end{array}
 \end{array}$$



$n \geq 4$

$$(C, p_1, \dots, p_n) \cong (\mathbb{P}^1, p_1, \dots, p_n) \cong (\mathbb{P}^1, 0, 1, \infty, p'_1, \dots, p'_n)$$

Prop

$$\Rightarrow M_{0,n} = \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{Possible} \\ p'_1, \dots, p'_n \end{array} \right\} = (\mathbb{P}^1 \setminus \{0, 1, \infty\})^{n-3} \setminus \Delta$$

\rightsquigarrow this is true is a fine moduli space for $M_{0,n}$.

unique, determine isomorphism class of (C, p_1, \dots, p_n)

$\uparrow \{p'_i\} \mid \sum_{i=1}^n p'_i = 0$

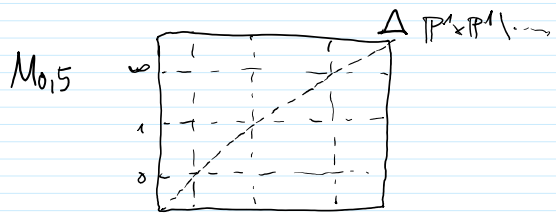
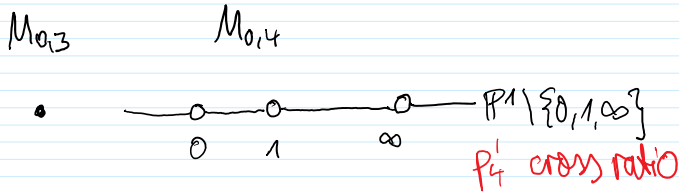
$\dim = n-3 = 3g-3+n$
 irreducible \checkmark normal \rightsquigarrow actually smooth

Exerc. Prove this Prop. by imitating proof of Prop. 1 above.

What is the universal family?

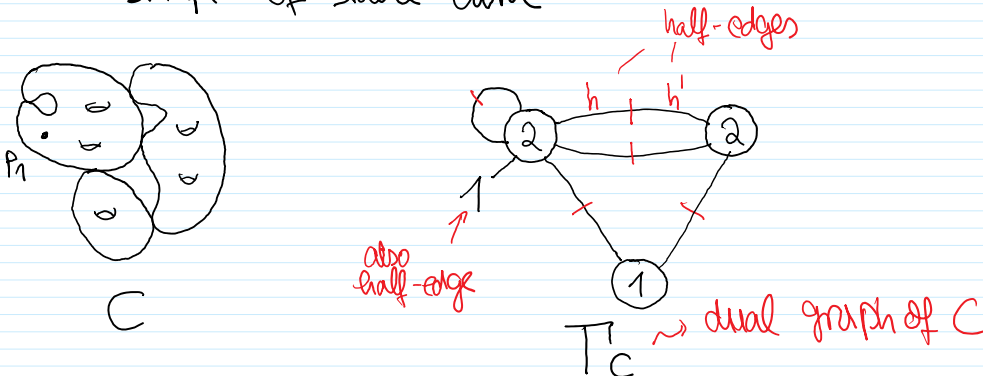
$$M_{0,n} \times M_{0,n} = M_{0,n} \Leftarrow \text{Aut}(C, p_1, \dots, p_n) = \{ \text{id}_C \}$$

Pictures



§4.2 Stable graphs and gluing morphisms

\rightsquigarrow Idea Find combinatorial tool to describe "shape" of stable curve



Def (Stable graph)

A stable graph T is a tuple

$$T = (V, H, L, g: V \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}, v: H \rightarrow V, \iota: H \rightarrow H, \ell: L \rightarrow \{1, \dots, n\})$$

where

→ $V = V(T)$ is a finite set (vertices of T) and $g: V \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ is a map associat. a genus $g(v)$ to each vertex.

→ $H = H(T)$ is a fin. set (half-edges of T). The map $v: H \rightarrow V$ associates to each half-edge $h \in H$ a vertex $v(h)$ (vertex incid. to h).

We denote by

$$H(v) = \{h \in H : v(h) = v\} \quad \text{half-edges at } v$$

$$n(v) = \# H(v)$$

The map $\iota: H \rightarrow H$ is an involution ($\iota \circ \iota = \text{id}_H$).

Thus H decomposes into pairs of half-edges exchanged by ι and fixed points of ι .

→ The pairs $e = \{h, h'\}$ w/ $h \neq h'$, $\iota(h) = h'$, $\iota(h') = h$, are called the edges $E(T)$ of T

→ The set $L = L(T) \subseteq H$ is the set of h fixed by ι . (legs of T), and $\ell: L \rightarrow \{1, \dots, n\}$ is a bijective map.

→ The graph T is connected, i.e. any two vertices can be connected by a path of edges. *→ Min-Ex: make this precise*

→ Stability condition $\forall v \in V$

$$2g(v) - 2 + n(v) > 0$$

An isomorphism $\phi: T \rightarrow T'$ of stable graphs is a pair of bijections

$$\psi_V: V \rightarrow V', \quad \psi_H: H \rightarrow H'$$

of their sets of vertices and half-edges st. they are compat. w/ all funct. above

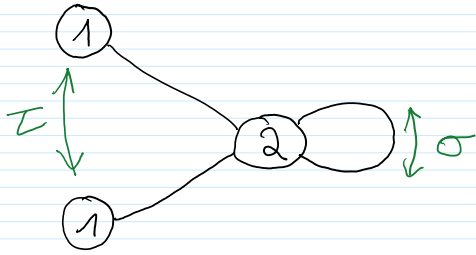
$$g'(\psi_V(v)) = g(v), \quad v'(\psi_H(h)) = \psi_V(v(h)),$$

$$\iota'(\psi_H(h)) = \psi_H(\iota(h)), \quad \ell'(\psi_H(h)) = \ell(h).$$

$$\text{Aut}(T) = \{ \varphi: T \rightarrow T \text{ isomorph.} \} \quad \leftarrow \text{Form a group under composition}$$

$$g(T) = \left(\sum_{v \in V(T)} g(v) \right) + \underbrace{1 + \#E(T) - \#V(T)}_{b_1(T) \quad \text{1st Betti number}}$$

$$n(T) = n = \#L(T).$$



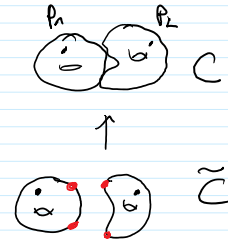
$\tau, \sigma \in \text{Aut}(T')$ commute

$$\text{Aut}(T') = \langle \tau, \sigma \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$$

Exercise Define what the stable graph T'_C associated to a stable curve $(C, p_1, \dots, p_n) \in \overline{M}_{g,n}$ is.

Easy Exercise Arithmetic genus of $C = g(T'_C)$

Exercise (C, p_1, \dots, p_n) st. curve, $(\tilde{C}_v, (q_n)_{n \in \text{set}(v)})_{v \in \text{Vert}(T)}$ normalized



$$0 \rightarrow \text{TT Aut}(\tilde{C}_v, (q_n)_n) \rightarrow \text{Aut}(C, p_1, \dots, p_n) \rightarrow \text{Aut}(T'_C)$$