

# Cycles on moduli spaces: K3 surfaces

Rahul Pandharipande  
ETHZ

Rainich Lectures at the University of Michigan

13 April 2023



3d print of a Kummer  $K_3$

I. What is a  $\mathbb{K}^3$  surface?

Projective Space  $\mathbb{C}P^3$  has

homogeneous coordinates

$$[x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3] \in \mathbb{C}P^3.$$

The zero set of a

homogeneous polynomial

$$P_d \in \mathbb{C}[x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3]$$

of degree  $d$  defines an

algebraic hypersurface  $S_d \subset \mathbb{C}P^3$ .

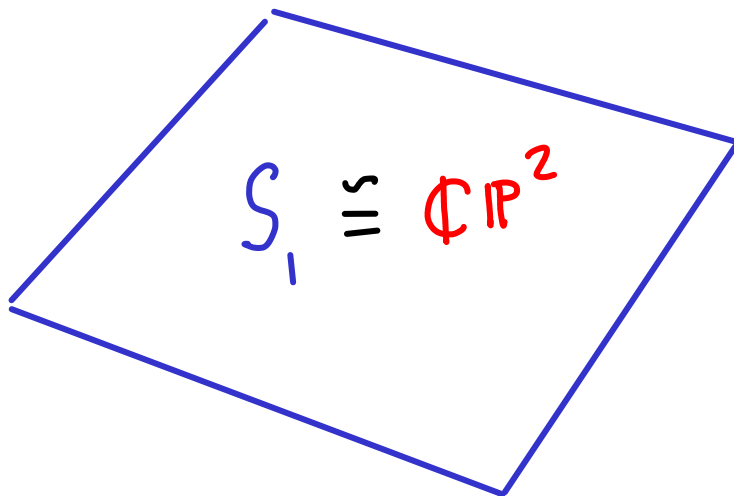
If the four degree  $d-1$  polynomials

$$\frac{\partial P_d}{\partial x_0}, \quad \frac{\partial P_d}{\partial x_1}, \quad \frac{\partial P_d}{\partial x_2}, \quad \frac{\partial P_d}{\partial x_3}$$

have **no common zeros**, then

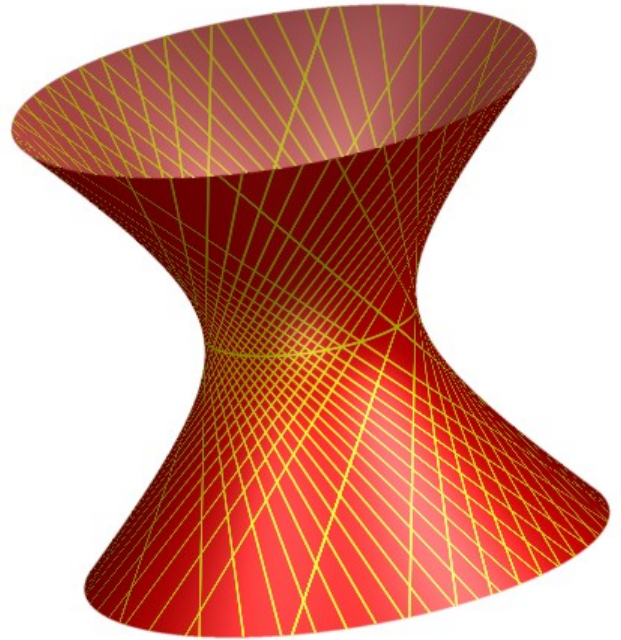
$S_d \subset \mathbb{C}P^3$  is a nonsingular  
algebraic surface.

$d=1 \Rightarrow S_1 \subset \mathbb{C}P^3$  is linear.



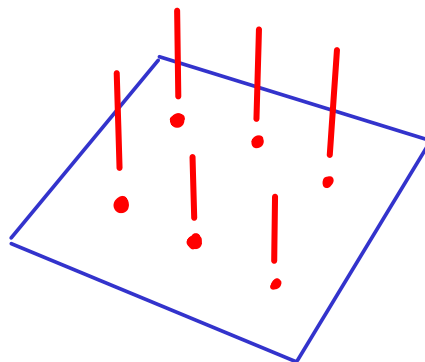
$d=2 \Rightarrow S_2 \subset \mathbb{C}P^3$  is a quadric.

$$S_2 \cong \mathbb{C}P^1 \times \mathbb{C}P^1$$



$d=3 \Rightarrow S_3 \subset \mathbb{C}P^3$  is a cubic surface

$S_3 \cong$  Blow-up of  $\mathbb{C}P^2$  at 6 points.





Cubic surface with 27 lines by  
Cayetano Ramirez Lopez

More interesting still,

$d=4 \Rightarrow S_4$  is a  $K3$  surface.

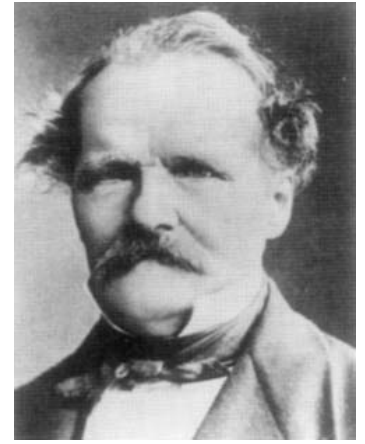
Example: The Fermat quartic

$$x_0^4 + x_1^4 + x_2^4 + x_3^4 = 0.$$

**Definition I**: a  $K3$  surface is a 2 dimensional complex manifold  $S$  which has the underlying topology of the quartic  $S_4$ .

**Definition II**: a  $K3$  surface is a simply connected 2 dimensional complex manifold  $S$  with  $H^2 \Omega_S^1 \cong \mathcal{O}_S$ .

André Weil named  $K3$  surfaces after



Kähler

Kodaira

Kummer

Et la belle montagne K2 au Cachemire :

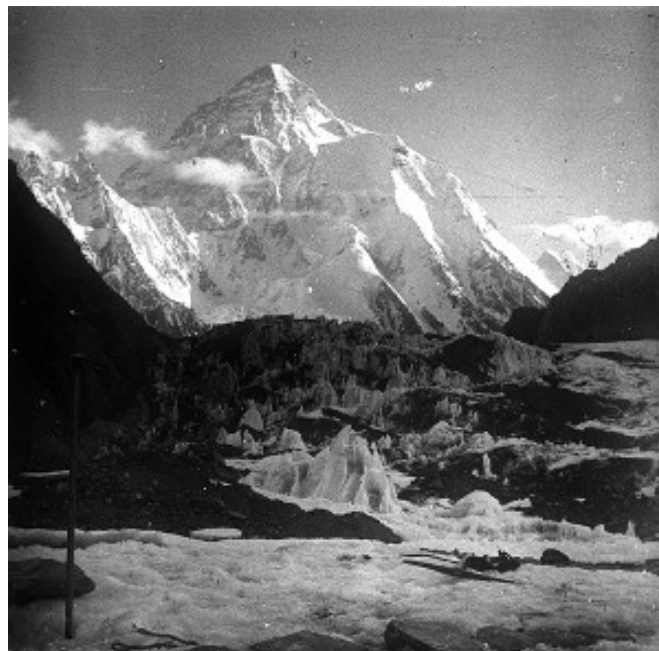


Photo by Jules Jacot-Guillarmod 1902



## II. Moduli of K3 surfaces

The moduli of all complex structures

is 20 dimensional :

k3 surface

$$\text{First order Def} = H^1(S, \text{Tan}_S)$$

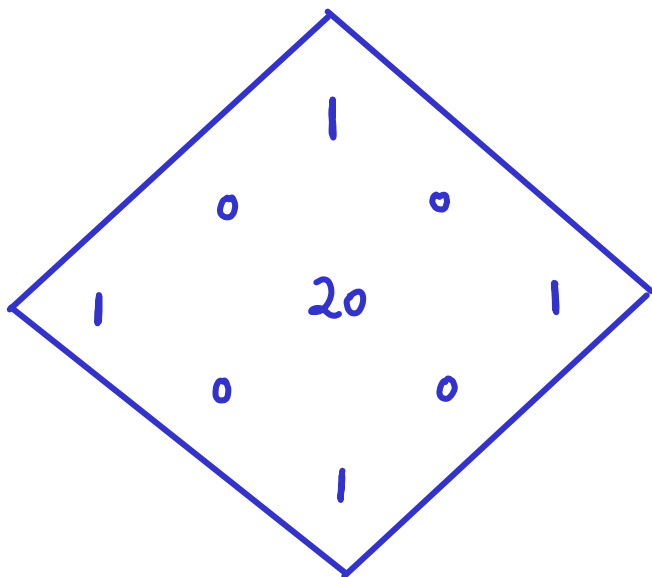
because

$$= H^1(S, \Omega'_S)$$

$$\Lambda^2 \Omega'_S \cong \Theta_S$$

dimension is the Hodge number  $H^{1,1}(S)$

The Hodge diamond of  $S$  is



$$H^{0,0}$$

$$H^{0,2}$$

$$H^{1,1}$$

$$H^{2,0}$$

$$H^{2,2}$$

- Most Complex  $K3$  surfaces are not algebraic.
- Moduli spaces of algebraic  $K3$  surfaces are indexed by  $g \geq 2$ .

$\mathcal{F}_g =$  moduli of  $(S, L)$

where  $L \rightarrow S$  is a

big + nef algebraic line bundle  
Primitive

19 dimensional,

Constructed

Via the Torelli map  
and Hodge Theory

$$\text{and } 2g-2 = \int_S c_1(L)^2.$$

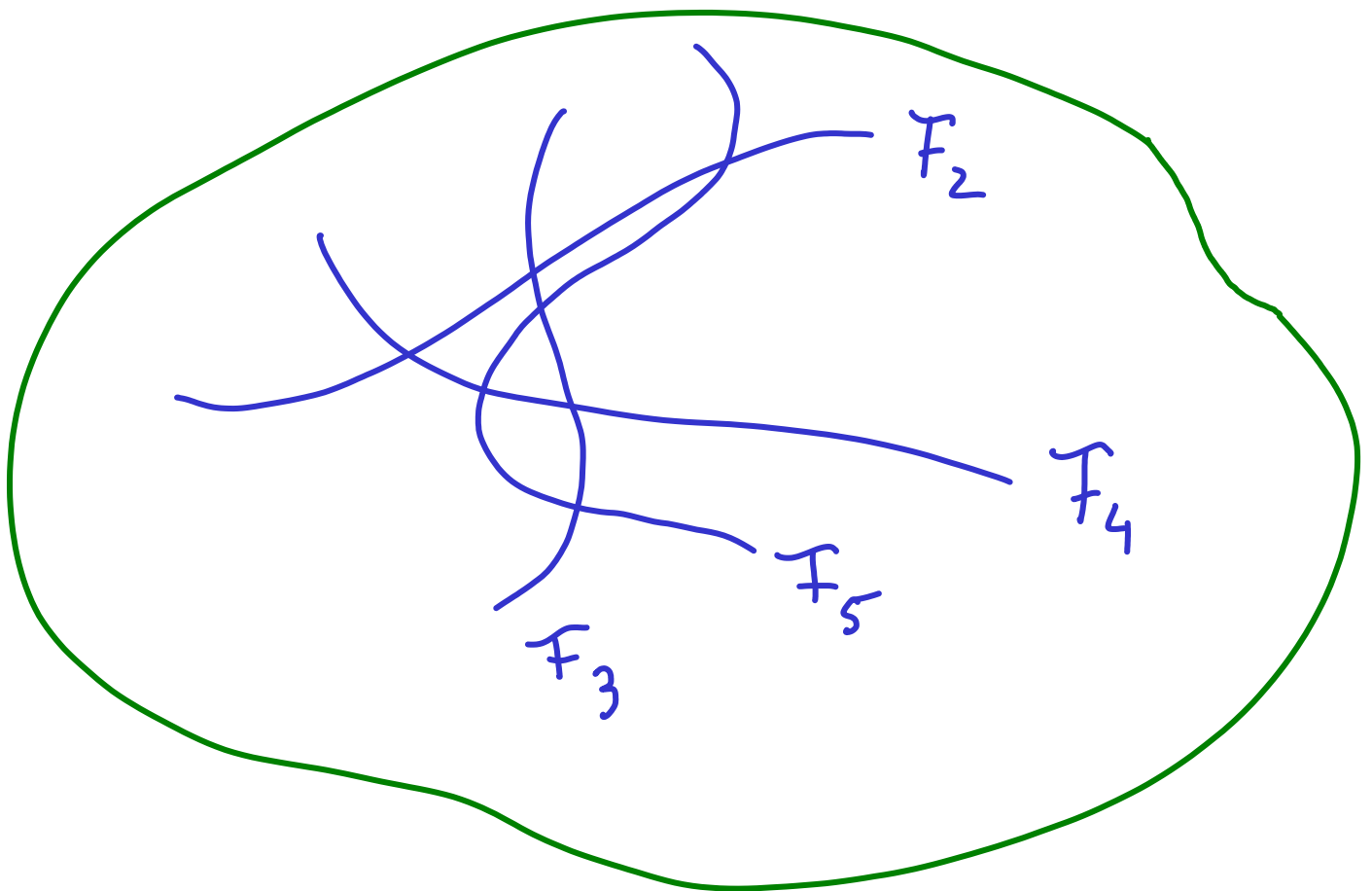
Picetetski-Shapiro, Shafarevitch (1971)

An excellent reference for the foundations is (2005) :

## Moduli spaces of K3 Surfaces and Complex Ball Quotients

Igor V. Dolgachev and Shigeyuki Kondō

- Moduli picture :



20 dimensional complex moduli

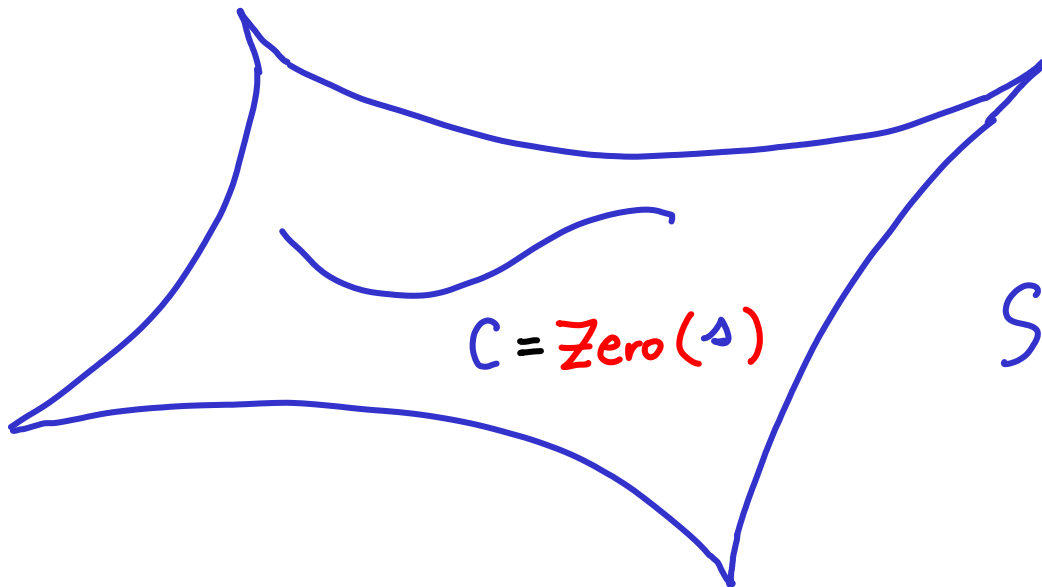
### III. Curves on K3 surfaces

A K3 surface  $(S, L) \in \mathcal{F}_g$  contains many algebraic curves.

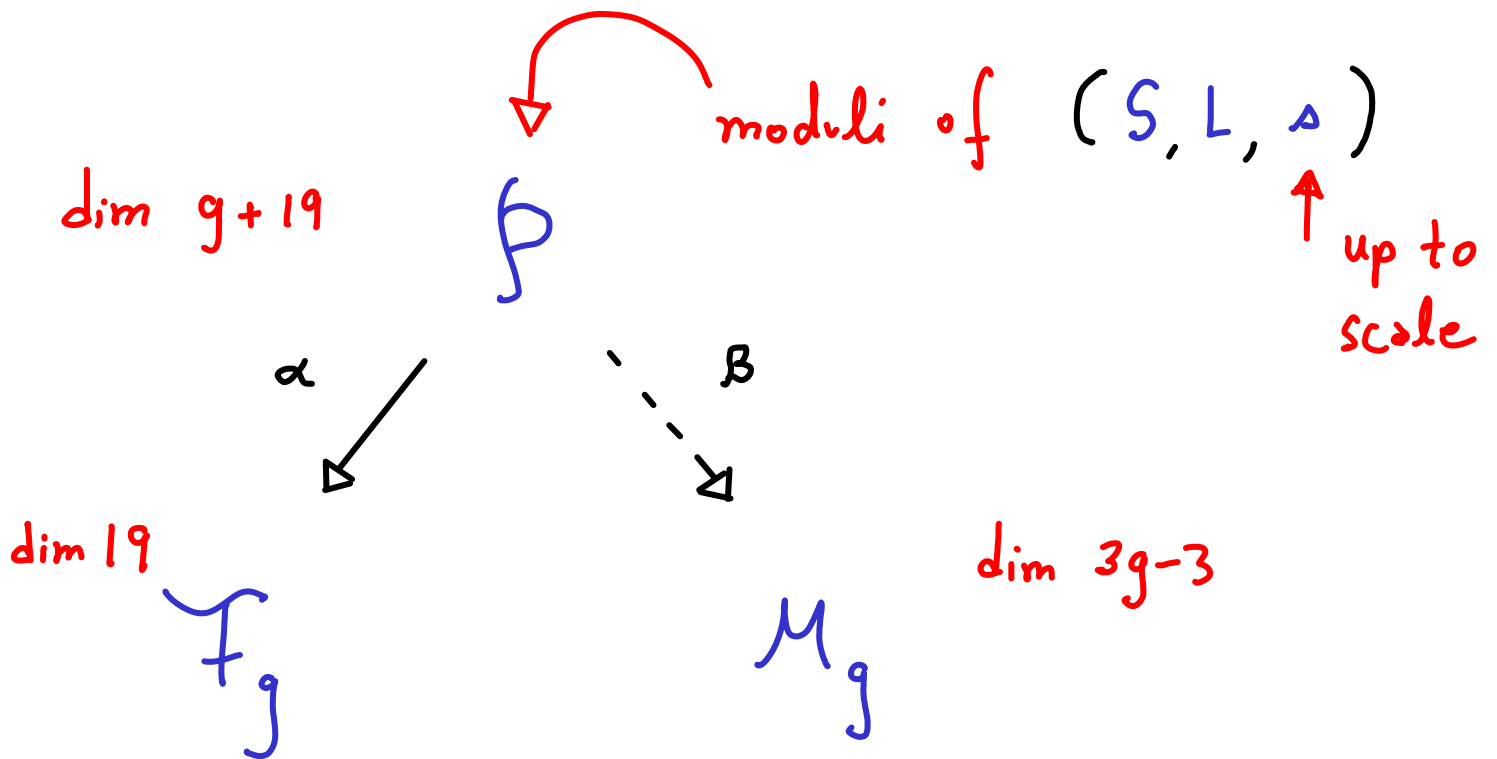
The simplest to consider are zero sections of  $L$ :

For generic  $(S, L) \in \mathcal{F}_g$  and generic  $\Delta \in H^0(S, L)$ , ↖ dim  $g+1$

the zero locus is a nonsingular algebraic curve of genus  $g$

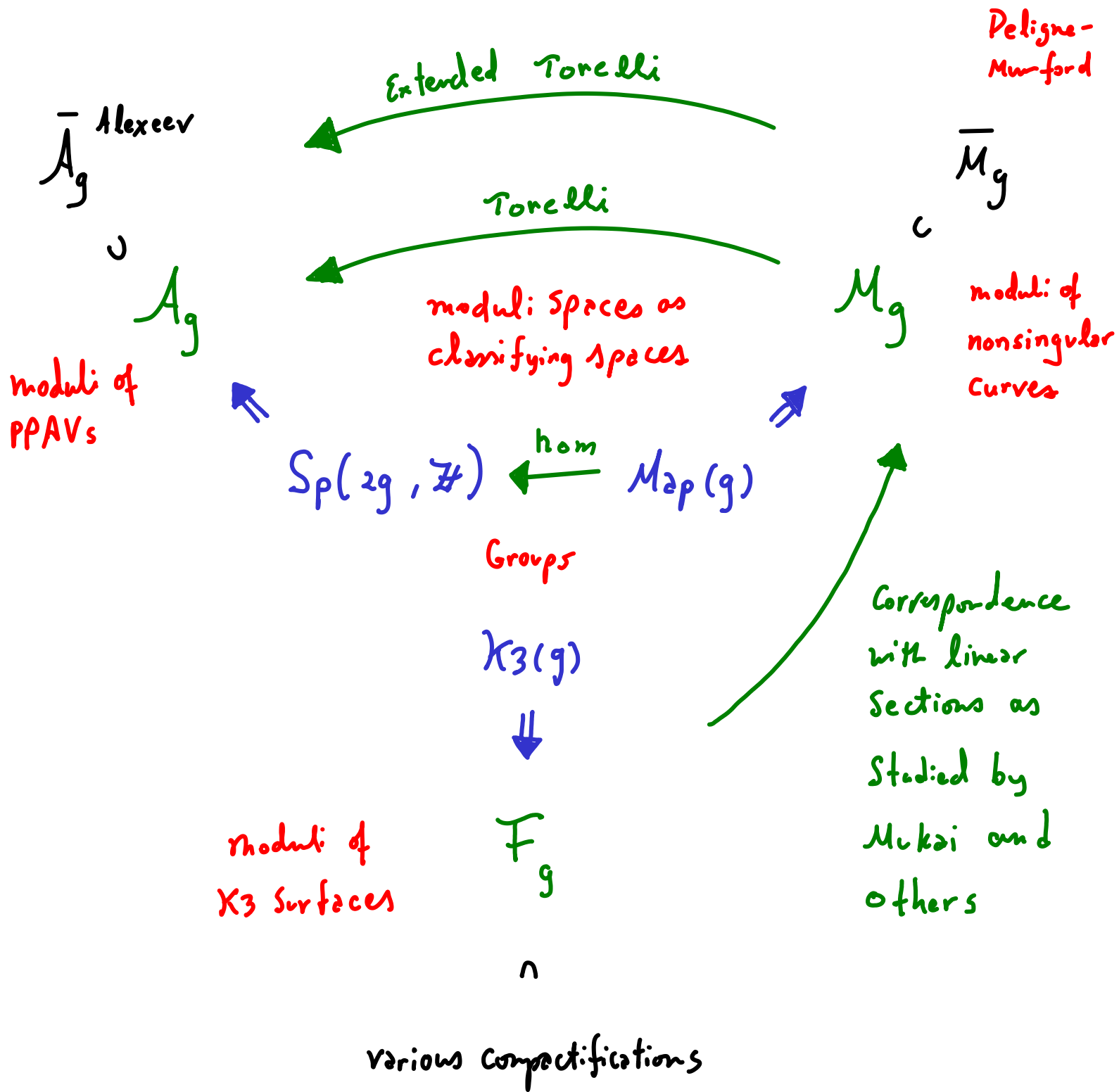


We obtain a fundamental correspondence:



Used by Mukai, Lazarsfeld, Voisin, Farkas - Popa, and others.

# Compactifications



$\dim g+1$

As  $\Delta \in H^0(S, L)$  varies, we find a  $g$ -dimensional family of genus  $g$  curves.



Since a node imposes 1 condition, we expect finitely many curves of genus 0 in the family.

$$\sum_{g \geq 0} N_{0,g} q^{g-1} = q^{-1} + 24 q^0 + 324 q^1 + 3200 q^2 + \dots$$
$$= \frac{1}{\Delta(q)} = \frac{1}{q \prod_{n \geq 1} (1 - q^n)^{24}}$$

Yau - Zaslow Conjecture (1996), proofs by Bryan - Leung, Beauville, and others.

## IV. Cycles on $\mathcal{F}_g$

The simplest cycle classes are divisors.

A geometric construction is via

Noether-Lefschetz loci:

Let  $(\Lambda, \langle, \rangle, l)$  be a polarized lattice of rank 2.

$\Lambda \cong \mathbb{Z}^2$

Symmetric bilinear form on  $\Lambda$

$l \in \Lambda$

$\langle l, l \rangle = 2g - 2$

Let  $NL_\Lambda \in CH^1(\mathcal{F}_g)$  ← always with  $\mathbb{Q}$ -coefficients

be the class of the closure of the locus of  $\mathcal{F}_g$  defined by:

$$(\text{Pic}(S), \langle, \rangle_S, L) \cong (\Lambda, \langle, \rangle, l).$$



Conjecture (Maulik-P 2007),

Theorem (Bergeron, Zhiyuan Li, Millson, Moeglin 2014)

The NL divisors generate  $CH^1(\mathcal{F}_g)$ .

↑ Could take  
also  $H^2(\mathcal{F}_g)$

The proof is difficult,

a lot of Shimura variety techniques.

By Borchers  $\Rightarrow$   $\dim CH^1(\mathcal{F}_g)$  is computed.

The results open the study of tautological  
classes on  $\mathcal{F}_g$ .

But what is the definition  
in higher codimension?

- In the first two lectures, I discussed tautological classes on  $M_g$  and  $A_g$ .
- Is there a parallel definition for  $F_g$ ?

$$R^*(F_g) \stackrel{\text{Def?}}{\subset} CH^*(F_g)$$

we can also  
consider  $H^*(F_g)$

- The situation for K3 surfaces is different:  
we can't turn to cohomological stability,

$$\lim_{g \rightarrow \infty} H^*(F_g) \text{ makes no sense.}$$

## V. Tautological classes on $\mathcal{F}_g$

Idea A: We have classes of Noether-Lefschetz loci for lattices of all ranks.

Let  $(\Lambda, \langle, \rangle, \ell)$  be a polarized lattice of rank  $r$ .

$\Lambda \cong \mathbb{Z}^r$

Symmetric bilinear form on  $\Lambda$

$\ell \in \Lambda$

$\langle \ell, \ell \rangle = 2g - 2$

Let  $NL_\Lambda \in CH^{r-1}(\mathcal{F}_g)$

be the class of the closure of locus of  $\mathcal{F}_g$  defined by:

$$(\text{Pic}(s), \langle, \rangle_s, L) \cong (\Lambda, \langle, \rangle, \ell).$$

### Definition A:

$$NL^*(\mathcal{F}_g) \subset CH^*(\mathcal{F}_g)$$

is the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -linear span of the classes  $NL_\Lambda$  of Noether-Lefschetz loci of all lattices  $\Lambda$ .

We can view the Noether-Lefschetz loci as analogous to the boundary of  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_g$ .

But there are also interior classes:

$$k_i \in R^*(\overline{\mathcal{M}}_g)$$

Interior classes are omitted in  $NL^*(\mathcal{F}_g)$ .


Idea B: Add *interior* classes analogous  
to the *Kappa* class for *curves*.

How do we do that?

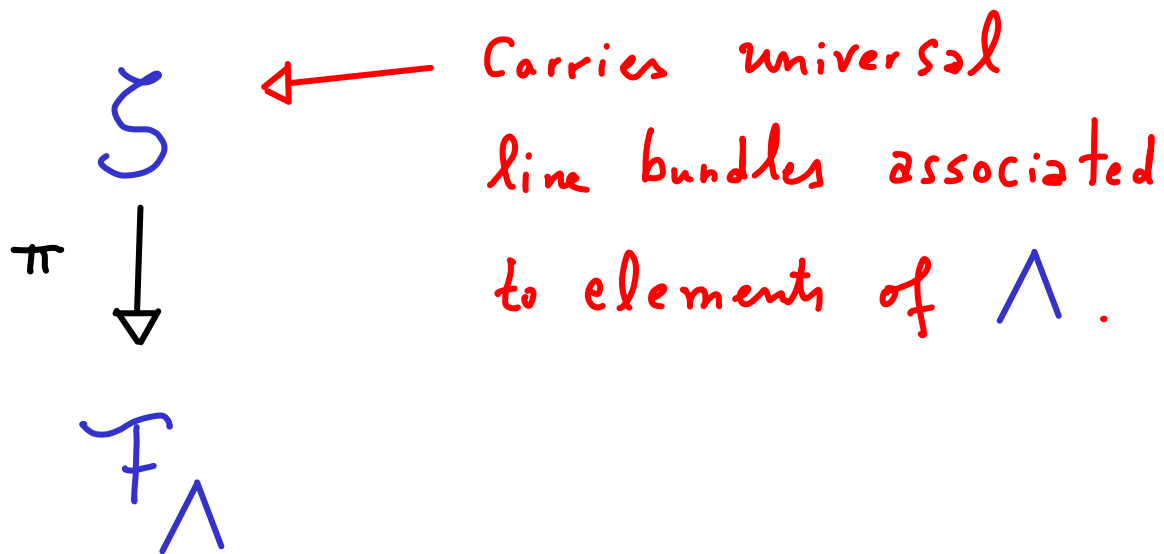
Let  $(\Lambda, \langle, \rangle, l)$  be a polarized  
lattice of rank  $r$

We have an associated morphism

$$\mathcal{F}_\Lambda \xrightarrow{i_\Lambda} \mathcal{F}_g$$

  
moduli of  
K3 surfaces  $S$   
with a  $\Lambda$  marking

Consider the universal family  
of  $K3$  surfaces:



Subtle issue: universal line bundles are  
only defined up to twisting  
by pull backs from  $\mathcal{F}_\Lambda$ .

Solution: use a normalized line bundle  
defined by rational curves.

## Definition B:

$$R^*(F_g) \subset CH^*(F_g)$$

is the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -linear span of the classes obtained from all push-forwards

$$i_{\Lambda*} \pi_* \left( c_1(\mathcal{L}_1)^{a_1} \cdots c_1(\mathcal{L}_k)^{a_k} \cdot c_1(T_{\pi})^{b_1} \cdot c_2(T_{\pi})^{b_2} \right)$$

$\cap$

$$CH^*(F_g),$$

where  $\mathcal{L}_i$  correspond to elements of  $\Lambda$

and  $T_{\pi}$  is the relative

tangent bundle of

$$\begin{array}{c} \zeta \\ \pi \downarrow \\ F_{\Lambda} \end{array}$$

from Marian - Oprea - P (2015)

Since **Definition B** includes all  
Noether-Lefschetz loci,

$$NL^*(\mathcal{F}_g) \subset \mathcal{R}^*(\mathcal{F}_g).$$

Theorem (Qizheng Yin - P 2016)

$$NL^*(\mathcal{F}_g) = \mathcal{R}^*(\mathcal{F}_g).$$

So either **A** or **B** can  
be taken to be the definition.

Theorem (Brunier-Ram 2014)

$$\dim_{\mathbb{Q}} NL^*(\mathcal{F}_g) < \infty.$$



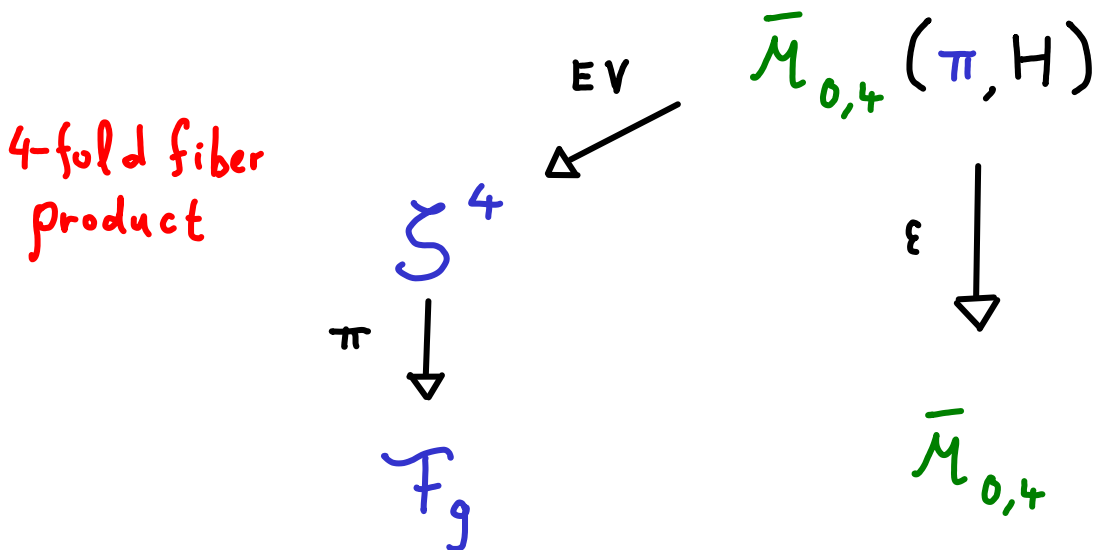
To prove  $NL^*(\mathcal{F}_g) = \mathcal{R}^*(\mathcal{F}_g)$ ,

We use correspondences with the moduli of curves:

- Genus 0

moduli of  $\pi$ -relative stable maps in the class of the polarization

$$H = \mathcal{O}_C(\mathcal{L})$$

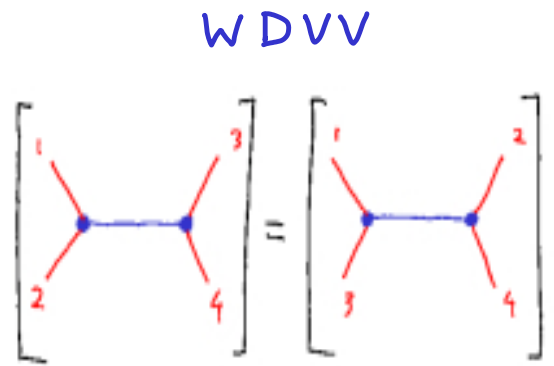


All maps are morphisms,

$\bar{M}_{0,4}(\pi, H)$  carries a

virtual fundamental class  $[\bar{M}_{0,4}(\pi, H)]^{\text{red}}$ .

How does this help?



$$E\nu_* \varepsilon^*(\text{WDVV}) \sim \left[ \bar{\mathcal{M}}_{0,4}(\pi, H) \right]^{\text{red}}.$$



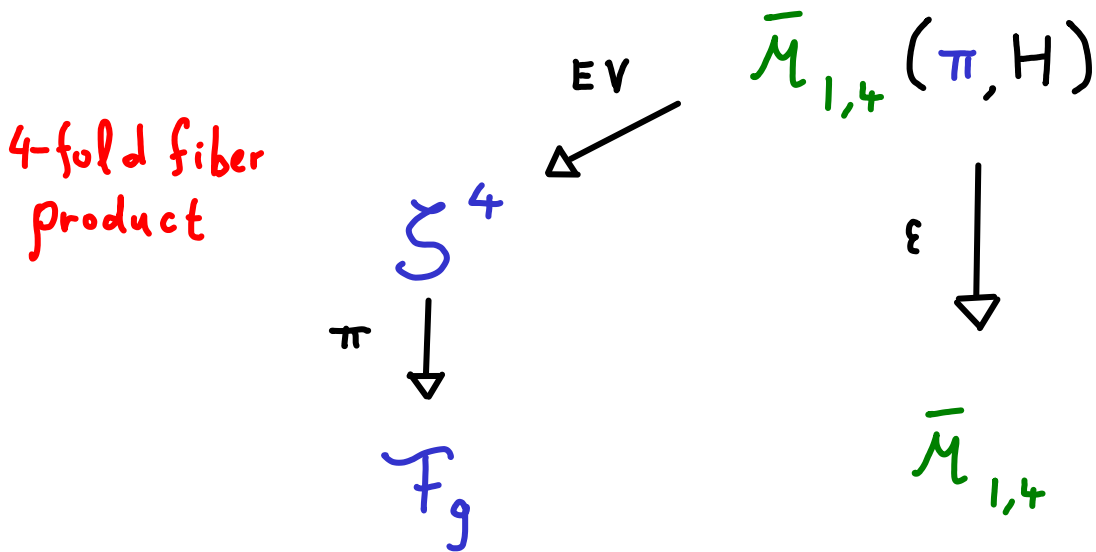
The result is a relation in  $CH^5(\mathcal{S}^4)$   
 which can be cut and pushed to  $\mathcal{F}_g$ .

To expand the relation, we use  
 the splitting axiom of GW theory,  
 You-Zaslow formula.

Not enough for the Theorem!

- Genus 1

moduli of  $\pi$ -relative  
Stable maps in the  
class of the polarization



We obtain a relation in  $CH^5(\zeta^4)$ :

$$EV_* \varepsilon^* (\text{GETZLER}) \sim \left[ \bar{\mathcal{M}}_{1,4}(\pi, H) \right]^{\text{red}}.$$

# GETZLER


$$\begin{aligned}
 & 12 \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{Y-shape} \\ | \\ \bullet_1 \\ | \\ \text{Y-shape} \end{array} \right] - 4 \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{Y-shape} \\ | \\ \bullet_1 \\ | \\ \text{Y-shape} \end{array} \right] - 2 \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{Y-shape} \\ | \\ \bullet_1 \\ | \\ \text{Y-shape} \end{array} \right] \\
 & + 6 \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{Y-shape} \\ | \\ \bullet_1 \\ | \\ \text{Y-shape} \end{array} \right] + \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{Y-shape} \\ | \\ \bullet_1 \\ | \\ \text{Y-shape} \end{array} \right] + \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{Y-shape} \\ | \\ \bullet_1 \\ | \\ \text{Y-shape} \end{array} \right] - 2 \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{Y-shape} \\ | \\ \bullet_1 \\ | \\ \text{Y-shape} \end{array} \right] \\
 & = 0 \in \text{CH}^2(\bar{\mathcal{M}}_{1,4})
 \end{aligned}$$

We can push-forward along

$$\pi_{123*} : \mathcal{S}^4 \longrightarrow \mathcal{S}^3$$

to obtain relations in  $\text{CH}^*(\mathcal{S}^3)$ .

Cut



$$\pi_{123}^* \left( H_4 \cdot \text{EV}_* \varepsilon^* (\text{GETZLER}) \sim \left[ \bar{\mathcal{M}}_{1,4}(\pi, H) \right]^{\text{red}} \right)$$

Relation in  $CH^4(\Sigma^3)$  yields  
 a universal Beauville-Voisin  
 diagonal decomposition:

$$\begin{aligned} (2g-2) \Delta_{123} &= H_1^2 \Delta_{23} + H_2^2 \Delta_{13} + H_3^2 \Delta_{12} \\ &\quad - H_1^2 \Delta_{12} - H_1^2 \Delta_{13} - H_2^2 \Delta_{23} \\ &\quad + \text{Corrections supported on} \\ &\quad \text{Noether-Lefschetz divisors.} \end{aligned}$$

↑

tautological classes

Conjecture (Qizheng Yin - P 2016)

Let  $(S, L) \in \mathcal{F}_g$ ,  $H = C_1(L)$

and consider

$$\bar{\mathcal{M}}_{h,n}(S, H) \xrightarrow{\text{Ev}} S^n$$

Then,  $\text{Ev}_* \left[ \bar{\mathcal{M}}_{h,n}(S, H) \right]^{\text{red}} \in \text{BV}^*(S^n)$

Beauville-Voisin subalgebra

$$\text{BV}^*(S^n) \subset \text{CH}^*(S^n)$$

is generated by all diagonals and

all pullbacks of  $\text{CH}^1(S)$  from

all factors.

## VI. An Example ( $g = 2$ )

For  $\mathcal{F}_2$ , the cycle calculations are complete.

For **generic**  $(S, L) \in \mathcal{F}_2$ :

$S$  is a double cover of  $\mathbb{P}^2$

$$S \xrightarrow{\mu} \mathbb{P}^2$$

branched along a **sextic plane curve**

and  $L \cong \mu^*(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}^2}(1))$ .

Shah (1980) constructs  $\mathcal{F}_2$

as an explicit blow-up of

a moduli space of **sextics**.

Theorem (Canning-Oprea - P 2023)

(i)  $\mathcal{R}^*(\mathbb{F}_2) = \text{CH}^*(\mathbb{F}_2)$

(ii) Betti Numbers of  $\mathcal{R}^*(\mathbb{F}_2)$  are

$$\begin{aligned} &1 + 2q + 3q^2 + 5q^3 + 6q^4 + 8q^5 \\ &+ 10q^6 + 12q^7 + 13q^8 + 14q^9 + 12q^{10} \\ &+ 10q^{11} + 8q^{12} + 6q^{13} + 5q^{14} + 3q^{15} \\ &+ 2q^{16} + q^{17} \end{aligned}$$

Related  
Cohomology  
Calculations  
by Kirwan  
Lee  
(1989)

(iii) Cycle class map is  
an isomorphism onto  
even cohomology.




## Observations

(a)  $\mathcal{R}^*(\mathbb{F}_2)$  is **not** generated by divisors.

$$(b) \mathcal{R}^{18}(\mathbb{F}_2) = \mathcal{R}^{19}(\mathbb{F}_2) = 0.$$

Conjecture (Oprea - P):  $\mathcal{R}^{18}(\mathbb{F}_g) = \mathcal{R}^{19}(\mathbb{F}_g) = 0$

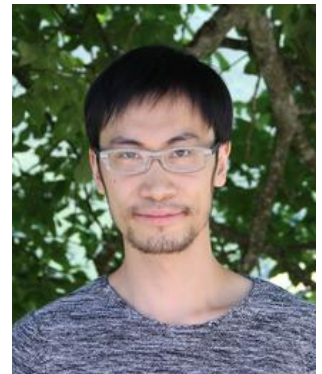
Petersen (2018) has proven **both**   
in cohomology.

$$(c) \mathcal{R}^{17}(\mathbb{F}_2) = \mathbb{Q}.$$

Conjecture (Oprea - P):  $\mathcal{R}^{17}(\mathbb{F}_g) = \mathbb{Q}$

(d) Poincaré duality does **not**  
hold with respect to the  
pairing into  $\mathcal{R}^{17}(\mathbb{F}_2) = \mathbb{Q}$ .

What about  $\mathbb{F}_3$ ?





*The End*