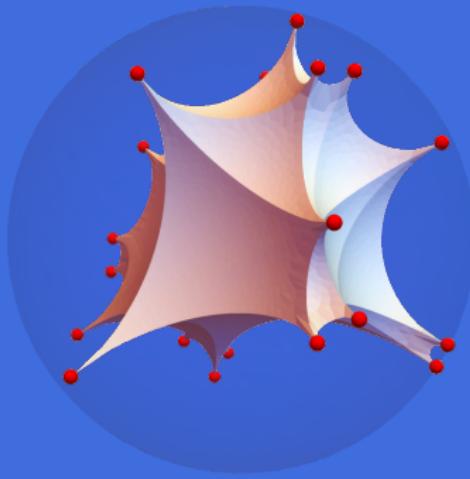
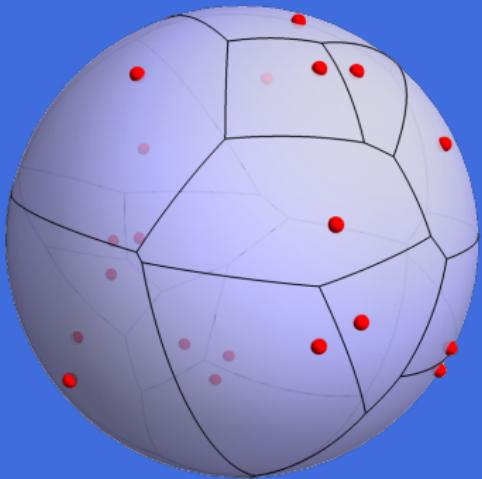


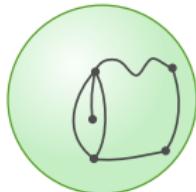
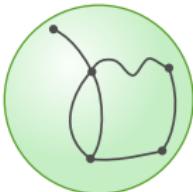
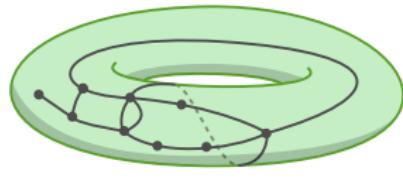
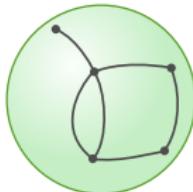
Essentially irreducible maps and Weil-Petersson volumes

Timothy Budd



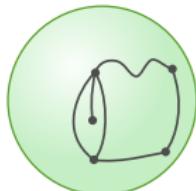
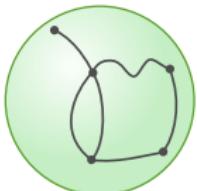
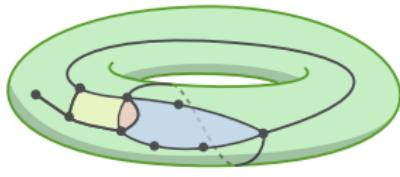
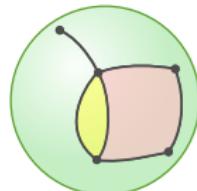
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- A **genus- g map** is a connected graph that is properly embedded in a surface of genus g modulo orientation-preserving homeomorphisms.

 \neq  $=$ 

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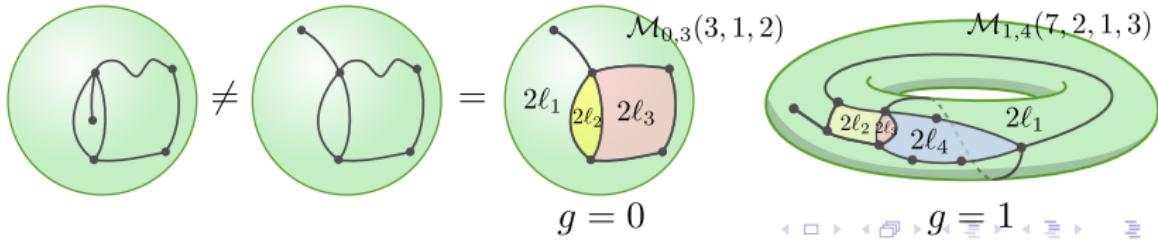
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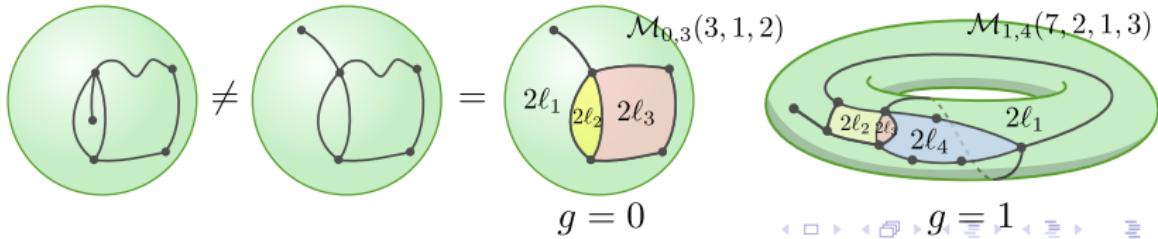
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$$\|\mathcal{M}_{g,n}(\ell)\| := \sum_{m \in \mathcal{M}_{g,n}(\ell)} \frac{1}{|\text{Aut}(m)|} = \frac{|\mathcal{M}_{g,n}^{\text{rooted}}(\ell)|}{2|\ell|} \quad (= |\mathcal{M}_{g,n}(\ell)| \text{ in most cases})$$



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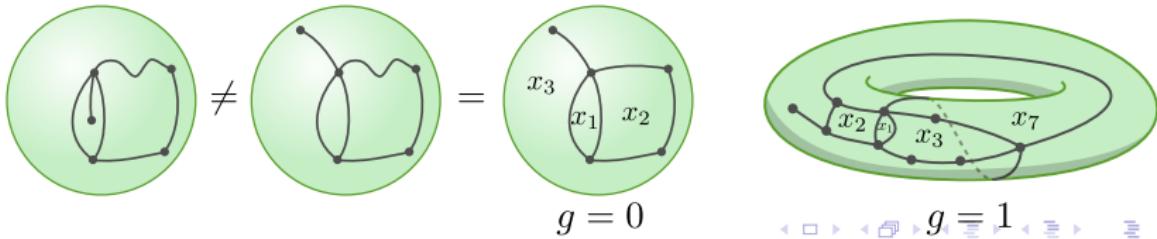
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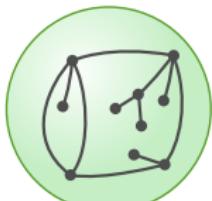
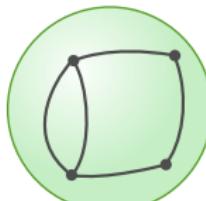
- Generating function of even maps: $\text{genus-}g$ partition function

$$F_g(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} \sum_{\ell \in \mathbb{Z}_+^n} \|\mathcal{M}_{g,n}(\ell)\| \prod_{i=1}^n x_{\ell_i}, \quad \mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2, \dots)$$



- Sometimes convenient to forbid vertices of degree 1:

$$\hat{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}(\ell) = \{\mathfrak{m} \in \mathcal{M}_{g,n}(\ell) : \text{all vertices of degree } \geq 2\}$$

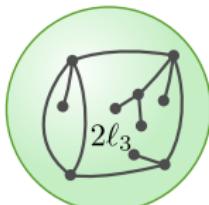

$$\mathcal{M}_{0,3}(2, 2, 7)$$

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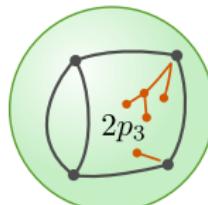
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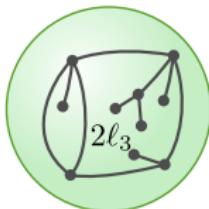
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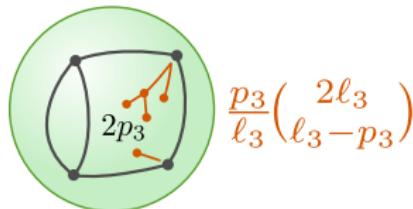
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- Similarly $\hat{F}_g(\hat{\mathbf{x}}) = F_g(\mathbf{x})$ by the substitution $\hat{x}_p = \sum_{\ell \geq p} \frac{p}{\ell} \binom{2\ell}{\ell-p} x_\ell$.



$\mathcal{M}_{0,3}(2, 2, 7)$



$\hat{\mathcal{M}}_{0,3}(2, 1, 2)$

► Simplest case:

$$\hat{\mathcal{M}}_{0,3}(\ell) = \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram 1: } \text{Red blob (1), Yellow blob (3), Green blob (2)} \\ \text{Condition: } \ell_3 > \ell_1 + \ell_2 \\ \text{Diagram 2: } \text{Red blob (3), Yellow blob (1), Green blob (2)} \\ \text{Condition: } \ell_2 > \ell_1 + \ell_3 \\ \text{Diagram 3: } \text{Yellow blob (2), Red blob (1), Green blob (3)} \\ \text{Condition: } \ell_1 > \ell_2 + \ell_3 \\ \\ \text{Diagram 4: } \text{Red blob (1), Green blob (2), Yellow blob (3)} \\ \text{Condition: } \ell_3 = \ell_1 + \ell_2 \\ \text{Diagram 5: } \text{Red blob (3), Green blob (1), Yellow blob (2)} \\ \text{Condition: } \ell_2 = \ell_1 + \ell_3 \\ \text{Diagram 6: } \text{Red blob (2), Green blob (1), Yellow blob (3)} \\ \text{Condition: } \ell_1 = \ell_2 + \ell_3 \\ \\ \text{Diagram 7: } \text{Red blob (3), Yellow blob (1), Green blob (2)} \\ \text{Condition: } \ell_3 < \ell_1 + \ell_2 \\ \ell_2 < \ell_1 + \ell_3 \\ \ell_1 < \ell_2 + \ell_3 \end{array} \right\}$$

► Simplest case:

$$\|\hat{\mathcal{M}}_{0,3}(\ell)\| = \mathbf{1}_{\{\ell_3 > \ell_1 + \ell_2\}} + \mathbf{1}_{\{\ell_2 > \ell_1 + \ell_3\}} + \mathbf{1}_{\{\ell_1 > \ell_2 + \ell_3\}}$$

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$$\|\hat{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}(\ell)\| = \sum_{\text{skeleton } \mathfrak{s}} \frac{|\{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{Z}_+^{\#\text{edges}(\mathfrak{s})} : \mathbf{A}_{\mathfrak{s}} \mathbf{x} = 2\ell\}|}{|\text{Aut}(\mathfrak{s})|}$$

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- Finitely many skeletons $\implies \|\hat{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}(\ell)\|$ is piecewise quasi-polynomial in ℓ .

Theorem (Norbury, '08)

$N_{g,n}(\ell) = \|\hat{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}(\ell)\|$ is a (symmetric) polynomial in $\ell_1^2, \dots, \ell_n^2$ of degree $3g - 3 + n$.

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The polynomials satisfy “string” and “dilaton” equations,

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- ▶ They completely determine $N_{g,n}(\ell)$ for $g = 0, 1$ once $N_{0,3}$ and $N_{1,1}$ are known. For $g \geq 2$ more “higher KdV equations” are necessary.

Essentially irreducible maps [Bouttier, Guitter, '13] [Bonichon, Fusy, Lévéque, '19]

- ▶ A planar map is ***d*-irreducible** if $\overbrace{\text{every simple cycle has length } \geq d \text{ with equality}}^{\text{has girth at least } d}$ only if the cycle bounds a face of degree d .

$\hat{\mathcal{M}}_{0,4}(3, 2, 2, 2)$



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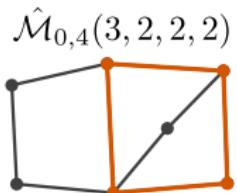


0-, 2-irreducible
~~4-irreducible~~

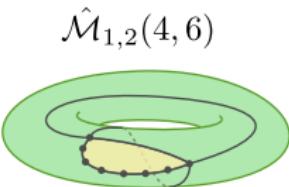
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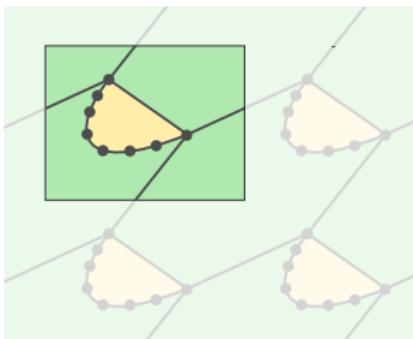
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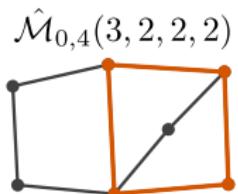
0-, 2-, 4-irreducible



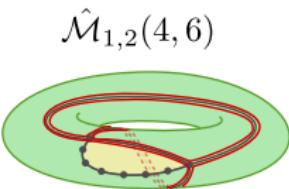
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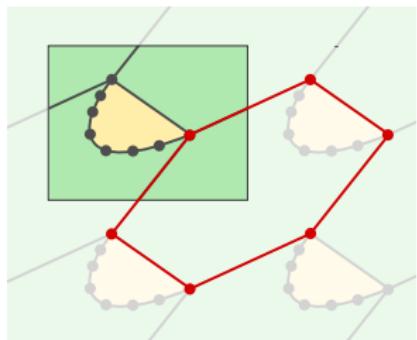
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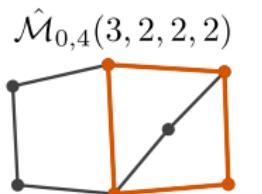


0-, 2-, 4-irreducible
6-irreducible

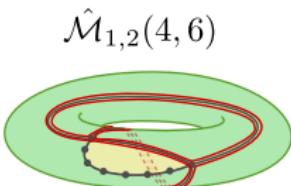


Essentially irreducible maps [Bouttier, Guitter, '13] [Bonichon, Fusy, Léveque, '19]

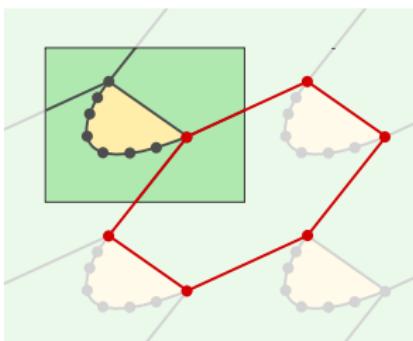
- ▶ A planar map is ***d*-irreducible** if every simple cycle has length $\geq d$ with equality only if the cycle bounds a face of degree d . has girth at least d
 - ▶ A genus- g map is (**essentially**) ***d*-irreducible** if its universal cover is *d*-irreducible
 \iff every contractible cycle that surrounds at least two faces and no face more than once has length $> d$.
 - ▶ Denote these maps by $\mathcal{M}_{g,n}^{(d)}(\ell)$ and $\hat{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}^{(d)}(\ell)$ (with resp. without degree-1 vertices), $\ell_i \geq d$. **Note:** $\hat{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}^{(0)}(\ell) = \hat{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}(\ell)$.



0-, 2-irreducible
~~4-irreducible~~



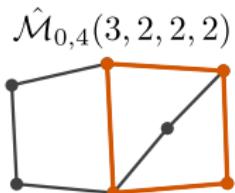
0-,2-,4-irreducible
~~6-irreducible~~



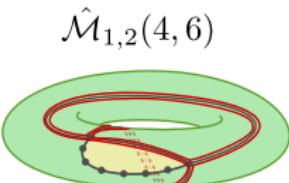
Essentially irreducible maps [Bouttier, Guitter, '13] [Bonichon, Fusy, Lévéque, '19]

has girth at least d

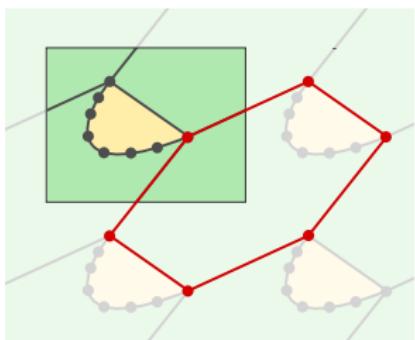
- ▶ A planar map is **d -irreducible** if every simple cycle has length $\geq d$ with equality only if the cycle bounds a face of degree d .
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 \iff every contractible cycle that surrounds at least two faces and no face more than once has length $> d$.
- ▶ Denote these maps by $\mathcal{M}_{g,n}^{(d)}(\ell)$ and $\hat{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}^{(d)}(\ell)$ (with resp. without degree-1 vertices), $\ell_i \geq d$. **Note:** $\hat{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}^{(0)}(\ell) = \hat{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}(\ell)$.
- ▶ For **even maps** only need to consider $d = 2b$ even.



0-, 2-irreducible
4-irreducible



0-, 2-, 4-irreducible
6-irreducible



- ▶ Enumeration again amounts to counting integer points in convex polyhedra:

$$\|\hat{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}^{(2b)}(\ell)\| = \sum_{\text{skeleton } \mathfrak{s}} \frac{|\{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{Z}_+^k : (\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{A}_{\mathfrak{s}} & 0 \\ \mathbf{B}_{\mathfrak{s}} & \mathbb{I} \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 2\ell \\ \sum \ell - b \end{pmatrix}\}|}{|\text{Aut}(\mathfrak{s})|}$$

$k = \#\text{edges}(\mathfrak{s}) + \#\text{cycles}(\mathfrak{s})$

$$\mathbf{A}_{\mathfrak{s}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

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- $\|\hat{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}^{(2b)}(\ell)\|$ is piecewise quasi-polynomial in b, ℓ . [Sturmfels, '95]

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- Example:

$$\hat{\mathcal{M}}_{0,4}^{(2b)}(2, 2, 2, 2) = \boxed{\begin{array}{c} \text{6 } \begin{array}{c} \text{hexagon with 3 green, 3 blue faces} \end{array} \quad \text{3 } \begin{array}{c} \text{triangle with 2 green, 1 blue face} \end{array} \quad \text{6 } \begin{array}{c} \text{triangle with 2 blue, 1 green face} \end{array} \\ \dots \dots \dots \\ b=0 \end{array}}$$

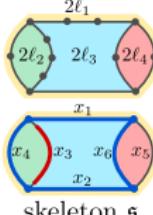
b	#
0	15
1	
2	

$$\hat{\mathcal{M}}_{0,4}^{(2b)}(3, 2, 2, 2) = \boxed{\begin{array}{c} \text{6 } \begin{array}{c} \text{square with 3 green, 3 blue faces} \end{array} \quad \text{6 } \begin{array}{c} \text{square with 2 green, 2 blue faces} \end{array} \quad \text{6 } \begin{array}{c} \text{square with 1 green, 3 blue faces} \end{array} \quad \text{2 } \begin{array}{c} \text{pentagon with 3 green, 2 blue faces} \end{array} \\ \dots \dots \dots \\ b=0 \end{array}}$$

b	#
0	20
1	
2	

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b	#
0	15
1	9
2	

$$\hat{\mathcal{M}}_{0,4}^{(2b)}(3, 2, 2, 2) = \begin{cases} 6 & b=0 \\ 6 & b=1 \\ 2 & b=2 \end{cases}$$

b	#
0	20
1	14
2	

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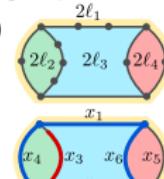
b	#
0	15
1	9
2	0

$$\hat{\mathcal{M}}_{0,4}^{(2b)}(3, 2, 2, 2) = \begin{cases} 6 & b = 0 \\ 6 & b = 1 \\ 2 & b = 2 \end{cases}$$

b	#
0	20
1	14
2	2

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b	#
0	15
1	9
2	0

$$\hat{\mathcal{M}}_{0,4}^{(2b)}(3, 2, 2, 2) = \begin{cases} 6 & b = 0 \\ 6 & b = 1 \\ 6 & b = 2 \end{cases}$$

b	#
0	20
1	14
2	2

- How about $\|\hat{\mathcal{M}}_{0,4}^{(2b)}(\ell)\| = \ell_1^2 + \ell_2^2 + \ell_3^2 + \ell_4^2 - 3b^2 - 3b - 1$?

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↑
k = #edges(\mathfrak{s}) + #cycles(\mathfrak{s})

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skeleton \mathfrak{s}

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b	#
0	15
1	9
2	-3

$$\hat{\mathcal{M}}_{0,4}^{(2b)}(3, 2, 2, 2) = \begin{cases} 6 & b=0 \\ 6 & b=1 \\ 6 & b=2 \end{cases}$$

b	#
0	20
1	14
2	2

- How about $\|\hat{\mathcal{M}}_{0,4}^{(2b)}(\ell)\| = \ell_1^2 + \ell_2^2 + \ell_3^2 + \ell_4^2 - 3b^2 - 3b - 1$? Almost...

Theorem (TB, '20)

$$N_{g,n}^{(2b)}(\ell) = \|\hat{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}^{(2b)}(\ell)\| - \mathbf{1}_{\{g=0, n \geq 4, \ell_1 = \dots = \ell_n = b\}} \frac{(n-1)!}{2} (-1)^n \quad (\ell_i \geq b \geq 0)$$

is polynomial in $b, \ell_1^2, \dots, \ell_n^2$ of degree $3g - 3 + n$ in $\ell_1^2, \dots, \ell_n^2$.

$$N_{0,3}^{(2b)} = 1, \quad N_{0,4}^{(2b)} = \ell_1^2 + \ell_2^2 + \ell_3^2 + \ell_4^2 - 3b^2 - 3b - 1$$

$$N_{1,1}^{(2b)} = \frac{1}{12}\ell_1^2 - \frac{1}{12}, \quad N_{1,2}^{(2b)} = \frac{1}{24}(\ell_1^4 + \ell_2^4) + \frac{1}{12}\ell_1^2\ell_2^2 - \frac{1}{8}(\ell_1^2 + \ell_2^2) - \frac{1}{24}(b^4 + 2b^3 - b^2 - 2b - 2).$$

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Theorem (TB, '20)

The polynomials satisfy “string” and “dilaton” equations,

$$N_{g,n+1}^{(2b)}(\ell, 1) = \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k=b+1}^{\ell_j} 2k N_{g,n}^{(2b)}(\ell)|_{\ell_j=k} - \sum_{j=1}^n \ell_j N_{g,n}^{(2b)}(\ell), \quad (\text{"string"})$$

$$N_{g,n+1}^{(2b)}(\ell, 1) - N_{g,n+1}^{(2b)}(\ell, 0) = (2g - 2 + n)N_{g,n}^{(2b)}(\ell). \quad (\text{"dilaton"})$$

Theorem (TB, '20)

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- As before they uniquely determine $N_{g,n}^{(2b)}$ for $g = 0, 1$.

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- ▶ As before they uniquely determine $N_{g,n}^{(2b)}$ for $g = 0, 1$.
- ▶ Note that when $b > 1$ a combinatorial interpretation of $\ell_{n+1} = 0, 1$ is problematic.

Proof outline: “generating functionology”

$$1. \|\hat{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}^{(2b)}(\ell)\| = \frac{\partial^n}{\partial \hat{x}_{\ell_1} \cdots \partial \hat{x}_{\ell_n}} \hat{F}_g^{(2b)}(\hat{\mathbf{x}}) \Big|_{\hat{\mathbf{x}}=0}$$

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2. Relate partition functions with/without degree-1 vertices via $F_g^{(2b)}(\mathbf{x}(\hat{\mathbf{x}})) = \hat{F}_g^{(2b)}(\hat{\mathbf{x}})$.

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[Bouttier, Guitter, '13]

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4. Extract $F_g^{(0)}(\mathbf{x})$ from **topological recursion**. [Eynard, '16]

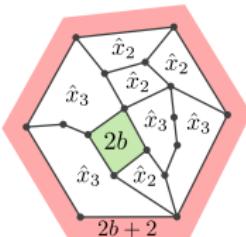
Proof outline: “generating functionology”

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 - Relate partition functions with/without degree-1 vertices via $F_g^{(2b)}(\mathbf{x}(\hat{\mathbf{x}})) = \hat{F}_g^{(2b)}(\hat{\mathbf{x}})$.
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[Bouttier, Guitter, '13]
 - Extract $F_g^{(0)}(\mathbf{x})$ from **topological recursion**. [Eynard, '16]
 - Combine and massage: $\hat{F}_g^{(2b)}(\hat{\mathbf{x}}) = \mathcal{F}_g^{(2b)}(\hat{R}^{(2b)}, \partial \hat{R}^{(2b)}, \partial \partial \hat{R}^{(2b)}, \dots)$ for $g \geq 1$, where $\partial \equiv \frac{\partial}{\partial \hat{x}_b}$ and $\hat{R}^{(2b)}(\hat{\mathbf{x}})$ is determined by

$$J(b; \hat{R}^{(2b)}) = \sum_{\ell \geq b} \hat{x}_\ell I(b, \ell; \hat{R}^{(2b)}), \quad J(b; r) = \sum_{p \geq 1} \frac{(-1)^{p+1} r^p}{p!(p-1)!} \prod_{0 \leq m < p-1} (b-m)(b-m-1)$$

$$I(b, \ell; r) = \sum_{p \geq 0} \frac{r^p}{(p!)^2} \prod_{0 \leq m < p} (\ell^2 - (b-m)^2)$$

$$\hat{R}^{(2b)}(\mathbf{x}) = \sum$$



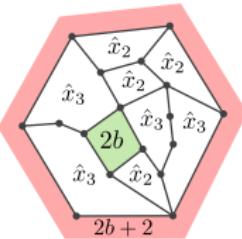
Proof outline: “generating functionology”

- $\|\hat{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}^{(2b)}(\ell)\| = \frac{\partial^n}{\partial \hat{x}_{\ell_1} \cdots \partial \hat{x}_{\ell_n}} \hat{F}_g^{(2b)}(\hat{\mathbf{x}})|_{\hat{\mathbf{x}}=0}$
- Relate partition functions with/without degree-1 vertices via $F_g^{(2b)}(\mathbf{x}(\hat{\mathbf{x}})) = \hat{F}_g^{(2b)}(\hat{\mathbf{x}})$.
- Substitution approach:** relate $F_g^{(2b)}(\mathbf{x})$ to partition function of arbitrary maps $F_g^{(0)}(\mathbf{x})$.
[Bouttier, Guitter, '13]
- Extract $F_g^{(0)}(\mathbf{x})$ from **topological recursion**. [Eynard, '16]
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- $\frac{\partial^n}{\partial \hat{x}_{\ell_1} \cdots \partial \hat{x}_{\ell_n}} \hat{R}^{(2b)}|_{\hat{\mathbf{x}}=0}$ is polynomial and $\hat{R}^{(2b)}$ satisfies differential “string and dilation” identities.

$$\hat{R}^{(2b)}(\mathbf{x}) = \sum$$



Substitution approach [Bouttier, Guitter, '13]

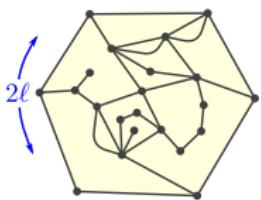
Proposition (Bouttier, Guitter, '13 & TB '20)

\exists formal power series $X_i^{(2b)}(x_b, x_{b+1}, \dots)$, $i = 1, \dots, b$, such that $(F_{0,\ell}^{(2b)} \equiv \frac{\partial}{\partial \hat{x}_\ell} F_0^{(2b)})$

$$g=0: \quad F_{0,\ell}^{(2b)}(x_b, x_{b+1}, \dots) = F_{0,\ell}^{(0)}(X_1^{(2b)}, X_2^{(2b)}, \dots, X_b^{(2b)}, x_{b+1}, x_{b+2}, \dots)$$

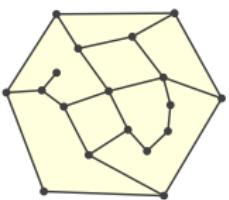
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2-irreducible



$$F_{0,\ell}^{(2b-2)}(\hat{x}_{b-1}, \hat{x}_b, \dots)$$

4-irreducible



$$F_{0,\ell}^{(2b)}(\hat{x}_b, \hat{x}_{b+1}, \dots)$$

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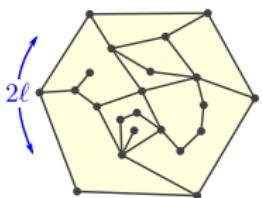
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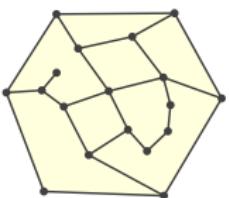
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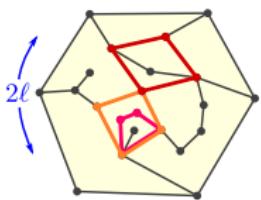
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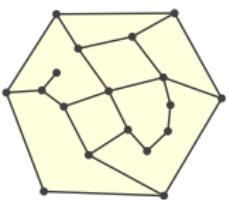
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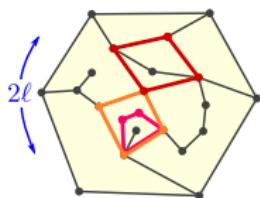
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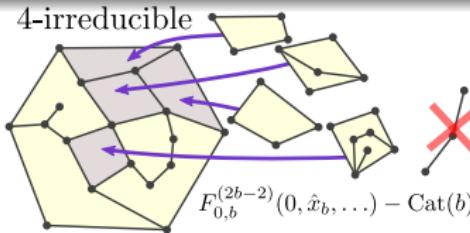
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4-irreducible



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Substitution approach [Bouttier, Guitter, '13]

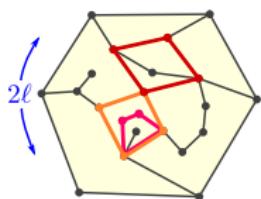
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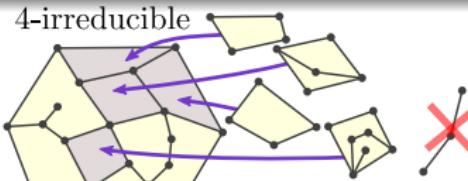
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2-irreducible



4-irreducible



$$F_{0,b}^{(2b-2)}(0, \hat{x}_b, \dots) - \text{Cat}(b)$$

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- Formal series inversion $F_{0,b}^{(2b-2)}(0, X_b^{(2b)}(\hat{x}_b, \hat{x}_{b+1}, \dots), \hat{x}_{b+1}, \dots) - \text{Cat}(b) = \hat{x}_b$ gives:

$$F_{0,\ell}^{(2b)}(\hat{x}_b, \hat{x}_{b+1}, \dots) = F_{0,\ell}^{(2b-2)}(0, X_b^{(2b)}(\hat{x}_b, \hat{x}_{b+1}, \dots), \hat{x}_{b+1}, \dots) = \dots$$

$$= F_{0,\ell}^{(0)}(X_1^{(2b)}, X_2^{(2b)}, \dots, X_b^{(2b)}, x_{b+1}, x_{b+2}, \dots).$$

Substitution approach [Bouttier, Guitter, '13]

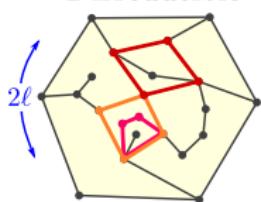
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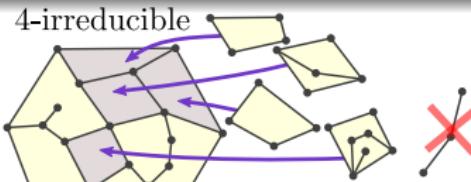
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$$F_{0,b}^{(2b-2)}(0, \hat{x}_b, \dots) - \text{Cat}(b)$$

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$$= F_{0,\ell}^{(0)}(X_1^{(2b)}, X_2^{(2b)}, \dots, X_b^{(2b)}, x_{b+1}, x_{b+2}, \dots).$$

- Substitution in higher genus is simpler: no need to distinguish a face to determine inside/outside of cycle,

$$F_g^{(2b)}(\hat{x}_b, \hat{x}_{b+1}, \dots) = F_g^{(2b-2)}(0, X_b^{(2b)}(\hat{x}_b, \hat{x}_{b+1}, \dots), \hat{x}_{b+1}, \dots).$$

- ▶ According to topological recursion $F_g^{(0)}(\mathbf{x})$ is expressed in terms of certain moments $M_p(\mathbf{x})$: [Ambjørn, Chekhov, Kristjansen, Mokeenko, '93] [Eynard, '16]

$$F_1^{(0)} = -\frac{1}{12} \log M_0, \quad F_g^{(0)} = \overbrace{P_g}^{\text{polynomial}} \left(\frac{1}{M_0}, \frac{M_1}{M_0}, \dots, \frac{M_{3g-3}}{M_0} \right) \quad (g \geq 2)$$

$$M_p = \mathbf{1}_{p=0} - \sum_{k \geq 1} \binom{2k+p+1}{2p+1} U_k R^{-k}, \quad U_k = \sum_{j>k} \binom{2j-1}{j+k} x_j R^{j+k}, \quad U_0 \stackrel{!}{=} R - 1$$

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- ▶ Substituting $\mathbf{x} \mapsto \mathbf{x}(\hat{\mathbf{x}})$ and $\hat{x}_i \mapsto X_i^{(2b)}$, $i = 1, \dots, b$:

Proposition (TB, '20)

The partition functions of $2b$ -irreducible maps with no degree-1 vertices are given by

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \hat{x}_{\ell_1}} \frac{\partial}{\partial \hat{x}_{\ell_2}} \hat{F}_0^{(2b)} = \int_0^{\hat{R}^{(2b)}} dr \frac{I(b, \ell_1, r) I(b, \ell_2, r)}{(1+r)^{2b+1}}$$

$$\hat{F}_1^{(2b)} = -\frac{1}{12} \log \hat{M}_0, \quad \hat{F}_g^{(2b)} = \widehat{P_g} \left(\frac{1}{\hat{M}_0}, \frac{\hat{M}_1}{\hat{M}_0}, \dots, \frac{\hat{M}_{3g-3}}{\hat{M}_0} \right) \quad (g \geq 2)$$

$$\hat{M}_p = \frac{\hat{R}^{1-b}}{(\partial \hat{R})^{2p+1}} \widehat{T_p} \left(b, \hat{R}, \partial \hat{R}, \dots, \partial^{p+1} \hat{R} \right), \quad (\hat{R} \equiv \hat{R}^{(2b)}, \partial \equiv \frac{\partial}{\partial \hat{x}_b})$$

$$T_0 = 1, \quad T_1 = \frac{2}{3} b(b-1) (\partial \hat{R})^2 - \frac{2}{3} \hat{R} \partial^2 \hat{R}, \quad T_2 = \dots$$

$$J(b; \hat{R}^{(2b)}) \stackrel{!}{=} \sum_{\ell \geq b} \hat{x}_\ell I(b, \ell; \hat{R}^{(2b)})$$

$$J(b; r) = \sum_{p \geq 1} \frac{(-1)^{p+1} r^p}{p!(p-1)!} \prod_{0 \leq m < p-1} (b-m)(b-m-1)$$

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String and dilaton equation

$$\hat{F}_1^{(2b)} = -\frac{1}{12} \log \hat{M}_0, \quad \hat{F}_g^{(2b)} = \overbrace{P_g}^{\text{polynomial}} \left(\frac{1}{\hat{M}_0}, \frac{\hat{M}_1}{\hat{M}_0}, \dots, \frac{\hat{M}_{3g-3}}{\hat{M}_0} \right) \quad (g \geq 2)$$

$$\hat{M}_p = \frac{\hat{R}^{1-b}}{(\partial \hat{R})^{2p+1}} \overbrace{T_p}^{\text{polynomial}}(b, \hat{R}, \partial \hat{R}, \dots, \partial^{p+1} \hat{R}), \quad J(b; \hat{R}^{(2b)}) \stackrel{!}{=} \sum_{\ell \geq b} \hat{x}_\ell I(b, \ell; \hat{R}^{(2b)})$$

- May formally extend $\hat{R}^{(2b)}$, \hat{M}_p , $\hat{F}_g^{(2b)}$ to include variables $\hat{x}_0, \dots, \hat{x}_{b-1}$:

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- Then the **string** and **dilaton** equations (for $g \geq 1$) are equivalent to

$$D^{\text{str}} \hat{F}_g^{(2b)} = 0, \quad (D^{\text{dil}} - 2g + 2) \hat{F}_g^{(2b)} = \text{const}$$

$$D^{\text{str}} := \frac{\partial}{\partial \hat{x}_1} - \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \hat{x}_\ell \left(-\ell \frac{\partial}{\partial \hat{x}_\ell} + \sum_{k=1}^{\ell} 2k \frac{\partial}{\partial \hat{x}_k} - \sum_{k=1}^b 2k \frac{\partial}{\partial \hat{x}_k} \right),$$

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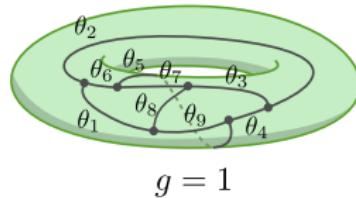
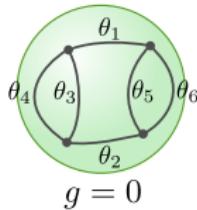
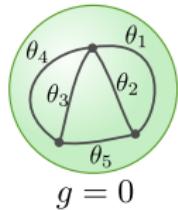
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- This is proved by explicit computation:

$$D^{\text{str}} \hat{R}^{(d)} = \hat{R}^{(d)}, \quad D^{\text{dil}} \hat{R}^{(d)} = 0, \quad D^{\text{str}} \hat{M}_p = 0, \quad D^{\text{dil}} \hat{M}_p = -\hat{M}_p.$$

Irreducible metric maps: the limit $b \rightarrow \infty$

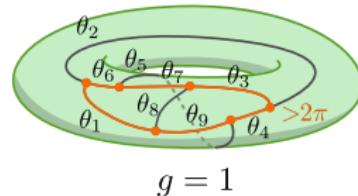
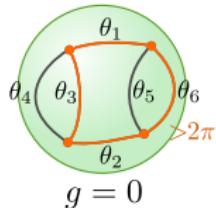
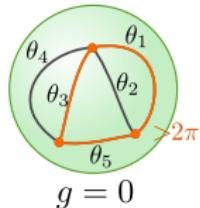
- A **metric map** is a map with vertices of degree ≥ 3 and **positive real lengths** $(\theta_e)_{e \in \text{Edges}}$ associated to its edges.



Irreducible metric maps: the limit $b \rightarrow \infty$

- ▶ A **metric map** is a map with vertices of degree ≥ 3 and **positive real lengths** $(\theta_e)_{e \in \text{Edges}}$ associated to its edges.
- ▶ A metric map is **(essentially) 2π -irreducible** if each contractible cycle has length $\geq 2\pi$ with equality only if it bounds a face of circumference 2π . Let

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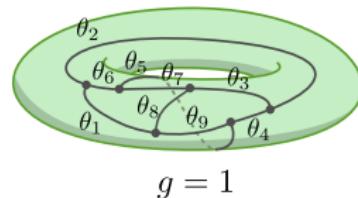
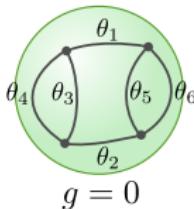
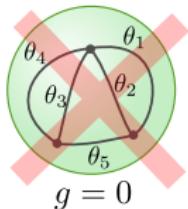


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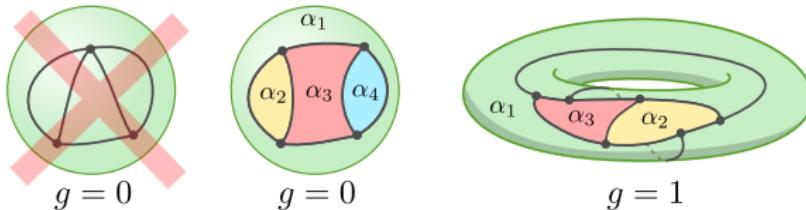
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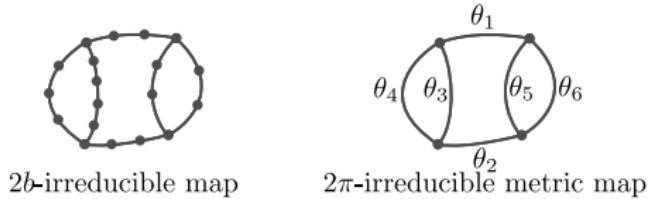
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- ▶ If $\text{Circ} : \mathcal{M}_{g,n}^{\text{met}} \rightarrow [2\pi, \infty)^n$ denotes the face circumferences, then

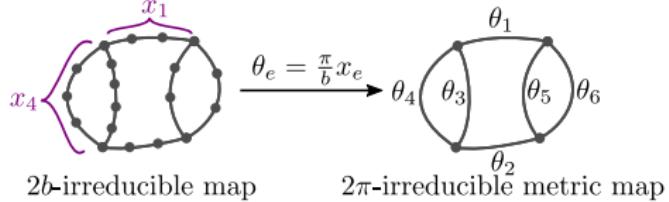
$$\text{Circ}_* \text{Leb} = \underbrace{V_{g,n}^{\text{met}}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)}_{\text{Lebesgue volume subject to face constraints}} d\alpha_1 \cdots d\alpha_n.$$



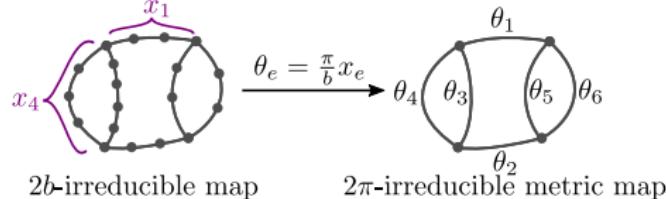
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- ▶ As $b \rightarrow \infty$ the counting measure approaches the Lebesgue measure, therefore

Proposition (TB, '20)

$$V_{g,n}^{\text{met}}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) = \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{2\pi}{b}\right)^{2n+6g-6} \hat{N}_{g,n}^{(2b)}\left(\frac{b}{2\pi}\alpha_1, \dots, \frac{b}{2\pi}\alpha_n\right).$$

In particular, it is a polynomial of degree $n + 3g - 3$ in $\alpha_1^2, \dots, \alpha_n^2$.

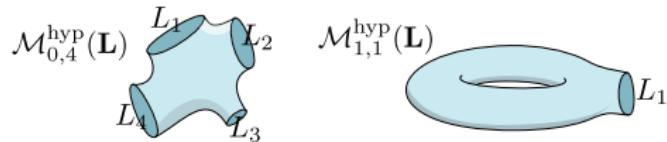
$$V_{0,3}^{\text{met}} = 1, \quad V_{0,4}^{\text{met}} = \alpha_1^2 + \alpha_2^2 + \alpha_3^2 + \alpha_4^2 - 12\pi^2,$$

$$V_{1,1}^{\text{met}} = \frac{1}{12}\alpha_1^2, \quad V_{1,2}^{\text{met}} = \frac{1}{24}(\alpha_1^2 + \alpha_2^2)^2 - \frac{2}{3}\pi^4.$$

Weil-Petersson volumes

- ▶ Consider the **Moduli space**

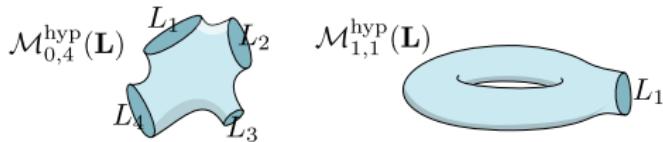
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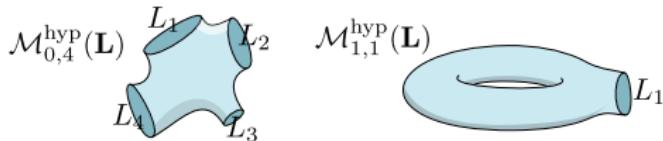


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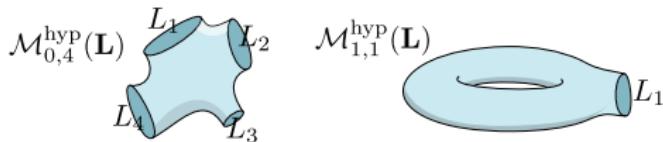


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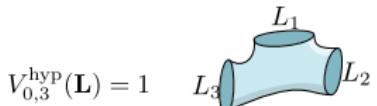
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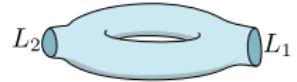
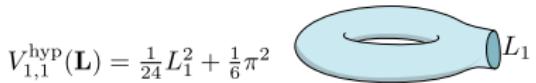
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- ▶ Fully settled by Mirzakhani in '05:

Theorem (Mirzakhani, '05)

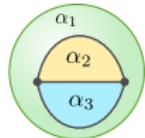
$V_{g,n}^{\text{hyp}}(\mathbf{L})$ satisfies a (topological) recursion formula. In particular, $V_{g,n}^{\text{hyp}}(\mathbf{L})$ is polynomial in L_1^2, \dots, L_n^2 of degree $n + 3g - 3$.



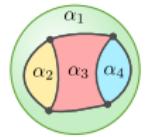
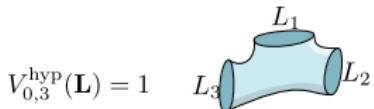
$$V_{0,4}^{\text{hyp}}(\mathbf{L}) = \frac{1}{2}(L_1^2 + L_2^2 + L_3^2 + L_4^2) + 2\pi^2$$



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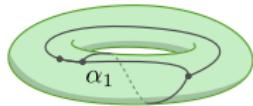
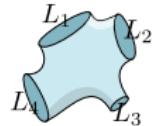


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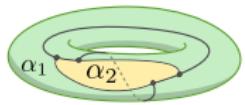
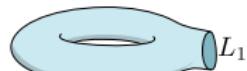
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- ▶ The Weil-Petersson volumes and 2π -irreducible metric map volumes look similar. Are they related?

- For $g = 0, 1$ the polynomials $V_{g,n}^{\text{met}}$ are determined by string and dilaton equations:

$$V_{g,n+1}^{\text{met}}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n, 0) = 2 \sum_{j=1}^n \int_{2\pi}^{\alpha_j} d\alpha_j \ \alpha_j V_{g,n}^{\text{met}}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$$

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- Conclusion:

Theorem (TB, '20)

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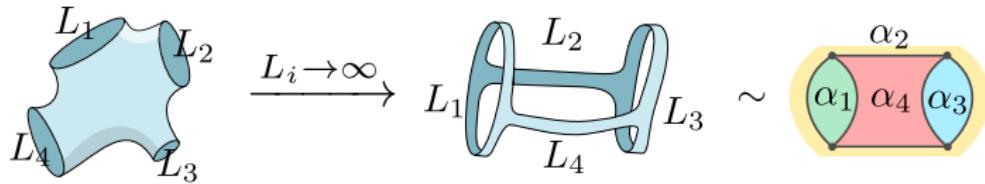
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- Unfortunately: **not valid for $g \geq 2$** . Can pinpoint precisely where deviation occurs in generating functions (in the moments \hat{M}_p for $p \geq 1$).

Bijective/geometric explanation?

$$V_{g,n}^{\text{met}}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) = 2^{n+4g-3} V_{g,n}^{\text{WP}} \left(\sqrt{\alpha_1^2 - 4\pi^2}, \dots, \sqrt{\alpha_n^2 - 4\pi^2} \right) \quad (g = 0, 1)$$

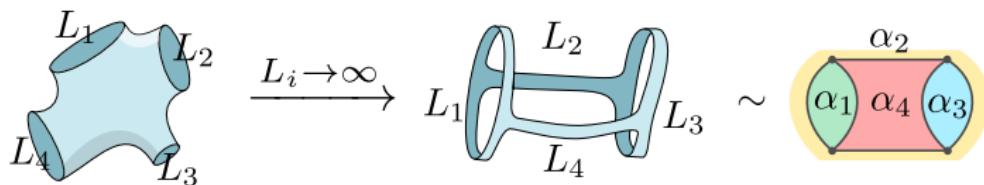
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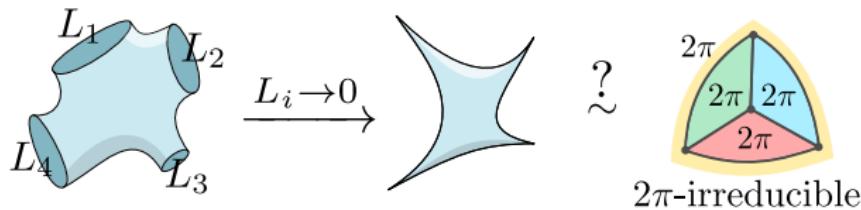
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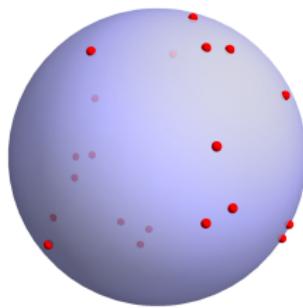
- ▶ How about $L_i \rightarrow 0$ and $g = 0$?



$$V_{0,n}^{\text{met}}(2\pi, \dots, 2\pi) = 2^{n-3} V_{0,n}^{\text{hyp}}(0, \dots, 0)$$

Bijection via ideal hyperbolic polyhedra [Rivin, '92 + '96] [Charbonnier, David, Eynard, '17]

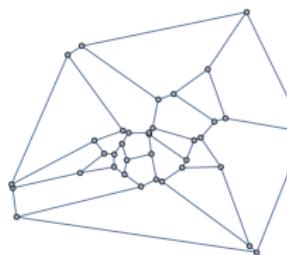
- ▶ Combining two bijections of Rivin . . .



n points on sphere modulo
Möbius transformations

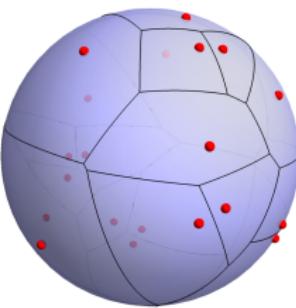
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2π -irreducible map with
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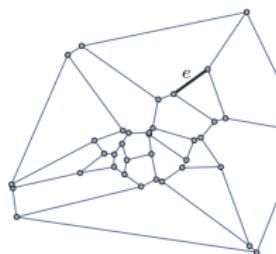
Voronoi
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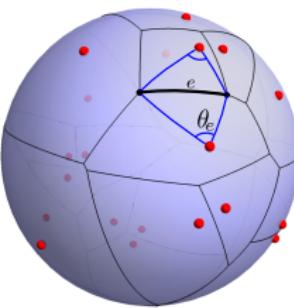
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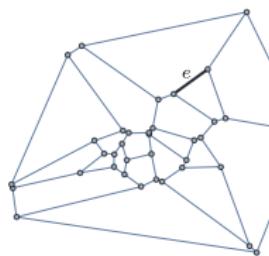
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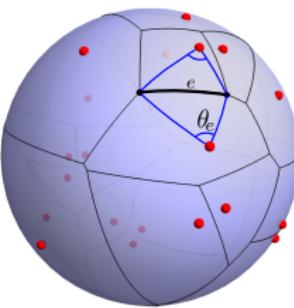
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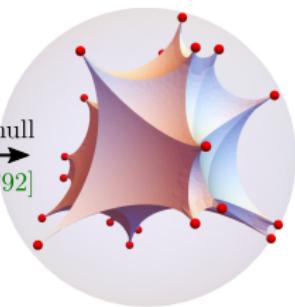
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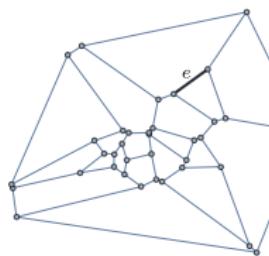
convex hull
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hyperbolic surface with n cusps

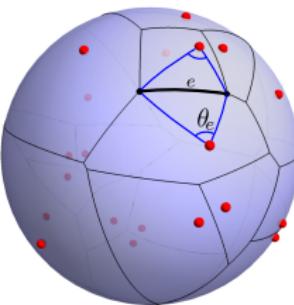
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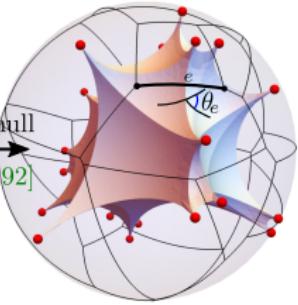
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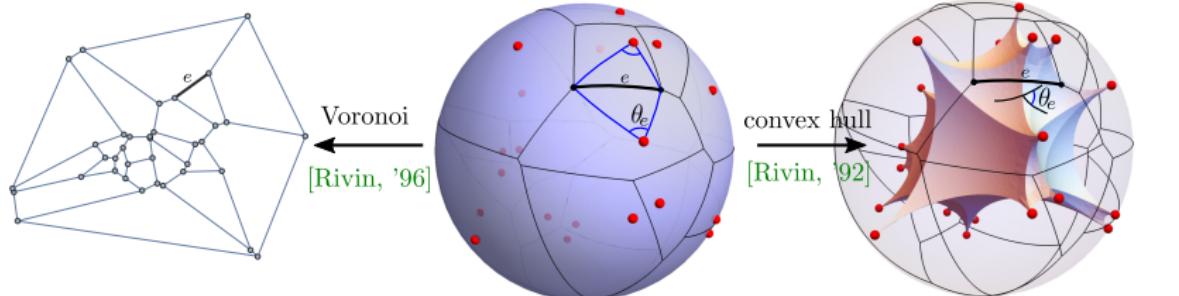
n points on sphere modulo
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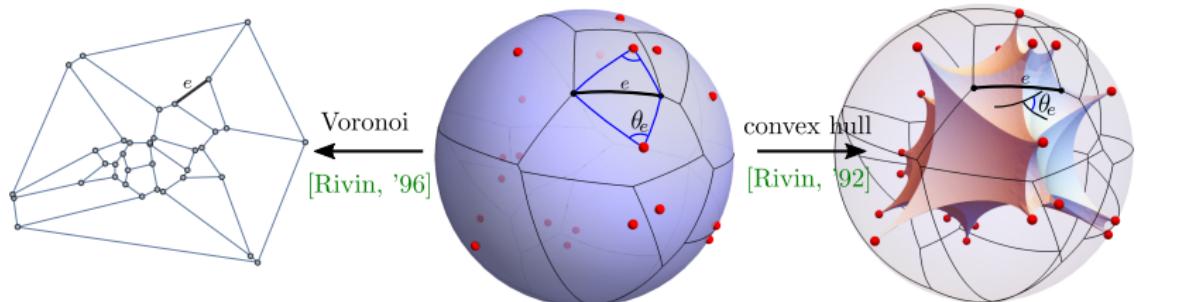
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- ▶ The Lebesgue measure on $\mathcal{M}_{0,n}^{\text{met}}(2\pi, \dots, 2\pi)$ agrees with the Weil-Petersson measure on $\mathcal{M}_{0,n}^{\text{hyp}}(0, \dots, 0)$. [Charbonnier, David, Eynard, '17] [TB, Charbonnier, '20+]

Bijection via ideal hyperbolic polyhedra [Rivin, '92 + '96] [Charbonnier, David, Eynard, '17]

- ▶ Combining two bijections of Rivin...



2π -irreducible map with
 n faces of circumference 2π

n points on sphere modulo
Möbius transformations

hyperbolic surface with n cusps

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- ▶ More to the story: **tree bijections** for irreducible planar maps [Bernardi, Fusy, '12] [Albenque, Poulalhon, '13] [Bouttier, Guitter, '13] have nice analogues for **irreducible planar metric maps** and **hyperbolic punctured spheres** [TB, Charbonnier, '20+].

Open questions

1. Both $V_{g,n}^{\text{hyp}}$ and $\hat{N}_{g,n}^{(0)}$ satisfy beautiful topological recursions [Mirzakhani, '05] [Eynard, Orantin, '07] [Norbury, '08]. Is there a **topological recursion** for $\hat{N}_{g,n}^{(2b)}$ or $V_{g,n}^{\text{met}}$?
2. Is there a **bijection explanation** for the relation between $V_{g,n}^{\text{met}}(\alpha)$ and $V_{g,n}^{\text{hyp}}(\mathbf{L})$ for $\mathbf{L} \in (0, \infty)^n$?
3. The coefficients of $V_{g,n}^{\text{hyp}}$ store **intersection numbers** on moduli spaces of curves. Is the same true for the coefficients of $V_{g,n}^{\text{met}}$?

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Thanks!

