

Why do we care?

PROPOSITION: Given a symplectic manifold  $(M, \omega)$  there exists a compatible almost complex structure  $J$  & moreover the space of compatible  $J$ 's is contractible.

Morally: we can study  $\omega$  via  $J$ .

Uses of ~~construction~~  $J$ -holomorphic curves:

~~directly~~ Pick a  $J$  & use it to construct curves, & directly use these curves.

~~Use~~ Use  $J$  to build invariants of  $(M, J)$ .  
check independence on  $J \Rightarrow$  gives us invariants of  $(M, \omega)$ .

DEFINITION: Given  $(M, J)$  an almost complex manifold, a  $J$ -holomorphic curve is a map

$$U: (\Sigma, j) \rightarrow (M, J)$$

where  $(\Sigma, j) = (\text{Riemann surface of genus } g, j)$  s.t.

$$J \circ dU = dU \circ j \quad (\text{like a holomorphic map})$$

OJO:

$J$ -holomorphic curve  
= pseudo-holomorphic curve

GOOD PROPERTIES OF J-HOLOMORPHIC CURVES:

- Unique continuation

$\{U_1(z) = U_2(z) \text{ \& all derivatives agree} \Rightarrow U_1 = U_2\}$

- $\text{crit}(U)$  is finite

- Either  
1)  $U$  factors through a (branched) holomorphic  $n$ -cover of

$\Sigma_g$  OR

2) set of points where  $U$  is injective is open & dense in  $\Sigma_g$ .

if (2) then we call it a simple curve.

The (Moduli) space of  $J$ -holomorphic curves:  
 we care about how these curves fit together, or  
 can we deform  $u$  and still get a pseudo holomorphic curve?  
 in how many directions can we deform  $u$ ?  
 can we look at a sequence of such curves & study  
 convergence of such a sequence?

~~QUESTION~~ DEFINITION:  $\mathcal{M}^*(M, J) = \{ \text{all simple } J\text{-holomorphic curves} \}$

Q: Is this space connected, compact, open, with boundary?

Add a restriction:

DEFINITION:  $\mathcal{M}(A, J) = \{ u: \Sigma_g \rightarrow M, J\text{-holomorphic s.t. } u_*[\Sigma] = A \}$

for  $A \in H_2(M)$

**TRANSVERSALITY** Is  $\mathcal{M}(A, J)$  a manifold?

Idea:  $\mathcal{M}^*(A, J) = \{ u: \Sigma \rightarrow M \mid \underbrace{J \cdot du - du \cdot j}_\text{functional } F(u) = 0 \}$

so  $\mathcal{M}(A, J)$  is a level set of  $\{ \text{smooth maps } f: \Sigma \rightarrow M \}$

Now question is:

~~Q~~ Is 0 a regular value of  $F$ ?

Intuition (from finite dimensional geometry) up to deforming  $f$ , 0 can be made a regular value.

THEOREM For a generic  $J$ , 0 is a regular value

$\Rightarrow \mathcal{M}^*(A, J)$  is a manifold.

(Virtual) dimension of  $\mathcal{M}^*(A, J)$  when  $J$  is regular, then

$$\dim \mathcal{M}^*(A, J) = \dim(\text{Ker}(D_u F)) = \text{Fred}(D_u)$$

Fredholm index

(assume  $D_u$  is onto)

$$\text{Fred}(D_u) = n(2-2g) + 2c_1(A) - \text{index}$$

This # is defined even if we do not have transversality but is then not nec = dimension.

AUTOMATIC TRANSVERSALITY: No need to deform  $J$

- $\dim = 4$
- Not all of  $\mathcal{M}^*(A, J)$ , only in a nhd of a point  $u \in \mathcal{M}^*(A, J)$  or some subset  $S \subseteq \mathcal{M}^*(A, J)$ .

THEOREM (McDuff) <sup>Assume  $u$  is ~~simplex~~ an embedding</sup>  $\{J\}$  is integrable in a neighborhood of  $\text{Im}(u) = C \subset M$  and  $C_1 > 2(g-1) \Rightarrow u$  is a regular point



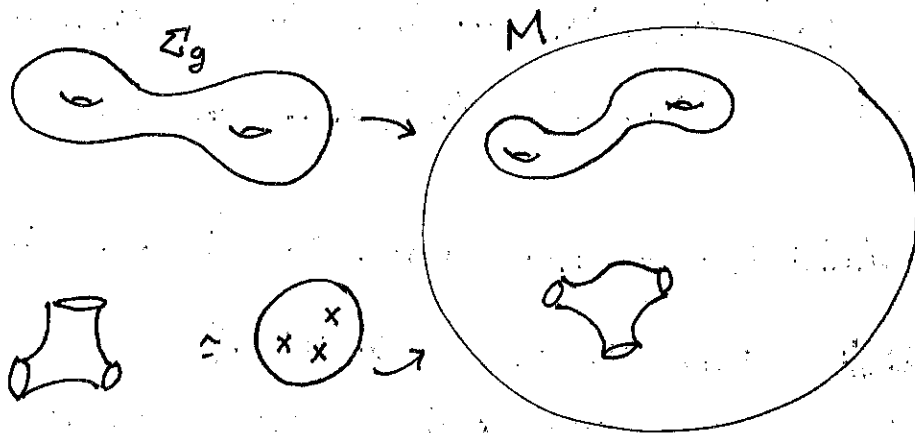
$$C_1 = c_1(TM|_C) = c_1(M) - [C]$$

Wendl:  $M = \text{symplectization}$

$u: (\Sigma_g, \text{some punctures}) \rightarrow M$  has ends on nondegenerate

Reeb orbits  $\Rightarrow u$  regular if  $2g - 2 + h_+ < \text{Fred index}$

$h_+ = \#$  of positive punctures.



there is a problem of reparametrization;

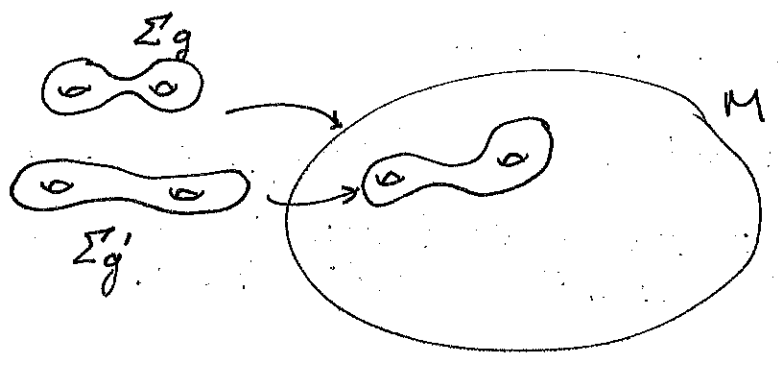
Consider  $\tilde{\mathcal{M}}(A, J) = \left\{ (\Sigma_g, u: \Sigma_g \rightarrow M) \right\} / G$   
 $= \mathcal{M}(A, J) / G$

$G = \{ \text{automorphisms of } \Sigma_g \}$

so  $U_1 \sim U_2$  if

$U_1 = U_2 \circ f$

$f: \Sigma_g \rightarrow \Sigma_g$  holomorphic.



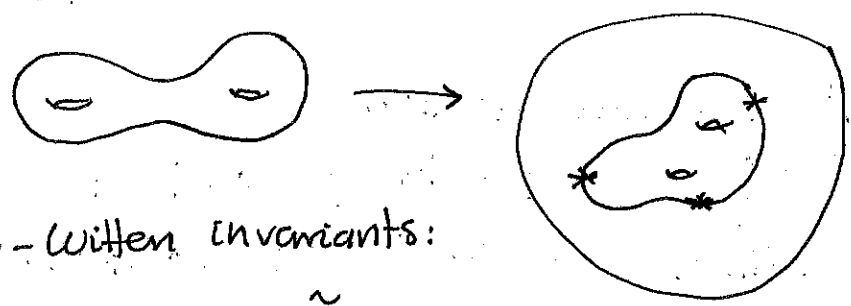
Evaluation Map:

Can't define on  $\tilde{M}$ , so instead we can define it on

$(\mathcal{M}(A, J) \times \Sigma_g) / G$

$ev(U, z) = U(z)$  well defined b/c  $(U, z) \sim (U \circ f^{-1}, f(z))$ .

$\mathcal{M}(A, J, z_1, \dots, z_k) = \{ \text{nonparametrized curves going thru } z_1, \dots, z_k \in M \}$



EXAMPLE: Gromov-Witten invariants:

$GW(A, J, z_1, \dots, z_k) = \# \tilde{\mathcal{M}}(A, J, z_1, \dots, z_k)$

provided  $\dim(\tilde{\mathcal{M}}(A, J, z_1, \dots, z_k)) = 0$

REMARK: Really only works if  $\tilde{\mathcal{M}}(\dots)$  is also compact.

~~REMARK~~ COMPACTNESS (GROMOV)

Is  $\tilde{\mathcal{M}}$  compact?  $\exists \epsilon$  what do sequences in  $\tilde{\mathcal{M}}(M, J)$  approach?

- Sequence can diverge if "energy" goes to  $\infty$  and

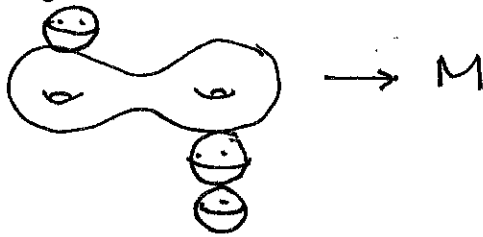
$$E = \int_{\Sigma_g} u^*(\omega) \quad \text{where } \omega \text{ is symplectic form compatible w/ } J$$

(in  $\tilde{\mathcal{M}}(A, J)$  energy is fixed).

- Otherwise (if energy is banded) there is a convergent subsequence, the limiting curve is allowed to have bubbles

~~$$u: \Sigma_g \rightarrow M$$~~

$$u: \Sigma_g \cup \mathbb{C}P^1 \cup \dots \cup \mathbb{C}P^1 \rightarrow M$$



So  $\tilde{\mathcal{M}}(A, J)$  is not compact

THEOREM  $\tilde{\mathcal{M}}(A, J) \cup \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{all} \\ u: \Sigma_g \cup \mathbb{C}P^1 \cup \dots \cup \mathbb{C}P^1 \rightarrow M \end{array} \right\}$  is compact.

Given  $u_1, u_2$   $J$  holomorphic in  $M$  of dimension 4

Granas-McDuff: the multiplicity of intersection is a positive number at each intersection point.

COROLLARY:  $C \cdot C = 0 \Leftrightarrow$  they are disjoint

