

Harvard-M.I.T. Algebraic Geometry Seminar

COMBINATORIAL AND TAUTOLOGICAL CLASSES ON THE MODULI SPACE OF CURVES

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Every presentation of the moduli space of curves gives rise to "natural" cohomology classes. The so-called tautological classes appear in the classical algebro-geometric setting. On the other side, the cellular decomposition of the moduli space via the ribbon graph complex allowed Witten to define some interesting cycles on it, which are called combinatorial. The aim of this talk is to illustrate the main ideas involved in the proof of the so-called Witten-Kontsevich conjecture: combinatorial classes are tautological.

Tuesday, October 5th, 2004

3:00 p.m.

Harvard Rm 507

<http://www-math.mit.edu/ags/>