

Harvard-M.I.T. Algebraic Geometry Seminar

VANISHING OF TAUTOLOGICAL CLASSES AND DEFORMATION THEORY OF ADMISSIBLE COVERS

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I will describe joint work with Ravi Vakil in which we prove that "natural" cohomology classes on the moduli space of pointed curves which have high codimension are supported on the locus of curves with many rational components. An inordinate amount of time will be spent discussing one particular issue which arises in our proof – the deformation theory of branched coverings of nodal curves.

Tuesday, March 2nd

3:00 p.m.

MIT Room 4-149

<http://www-math.mit.edu/~jstarr/04sem/>.